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# IMPACT

*Improving Mindsets, Policies, and  
Communities Together*



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# What is IMPACT?

- A committed and trained Prevention Specialist assigned to a school district to assist the community in developing a thorough prevention message that reaches all students, staff, parents, and community members.
  - Goshen
  - Highland Falls/Fort Montgomery
  - Middletown
  - Monroe Woodbury
  - Pine Bush
  - Port Jervis
  - Valley Central

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# ADAC's Mission

## A Positive Connection in Orange County

The Alcohol and Drug Awareness Council (ADAC) works to address the impact of substance use disorders by educating the general public to help reduce stigma, advocating on behalf of those suffering from the effects of those disorders and using the tools of education and information dissemination to help to prevent them from happening.

Maryalice Kovatch

Executive Director

Rebecca Al-awdi

Program Director

Grace Schembari

Prevention Specialist

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## How we help

Using Evidence-based programs and curriculum, we support healthy social and emotional development, increasing the student's protective factors and decreasing risk factors, leading them toward making healthy choices. We support school staff, parents, and the community.

Too Good for Drugs and Violence  
Teen Intervene

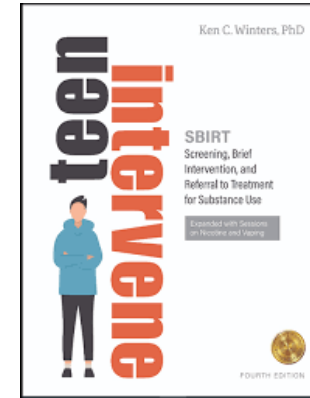
- Resources
- Presentations
- Lunch and Learns
- Annual Poster and Essay Contests
- Red Ribbon Week
- Community Capacity Building
- TGFD/TGFV
- Teen Intervene
- Strengthening Families
- Girl's Circle/Boy's Council Groups
- ADAC IMPACT
- Youth and Adult Peer Services
- CASAC: Credentialed Alcohol & Substance Abuse Counselor

- Family Support Navigator
- STOP DWI
- TASC
- PRC-Prevention Resource Center
- Team Awareness
- WISE
- CLYDE Survey





Too Good is a universal violence, and substance use prevention and character education program that promotes the development skills, attitudes and behaviors consistent with the positive, pro-social living to encourage healthy emotions management and actions, resistance to peer pressure and influence, and self-awareness to foster a drug-free lifestyle.



Teen Intervene is a SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment) for adolescents aged 12 to 19 with mild to moderate substance use. Three one-hour sessions, two with the youth and one with the parent. Parental permission is required. The sessions are confidential unless the youth is in danger of harm to self or others. Using motivational interviewing and stages of change to encourage the youth to learn healthy alternatives to using substances.

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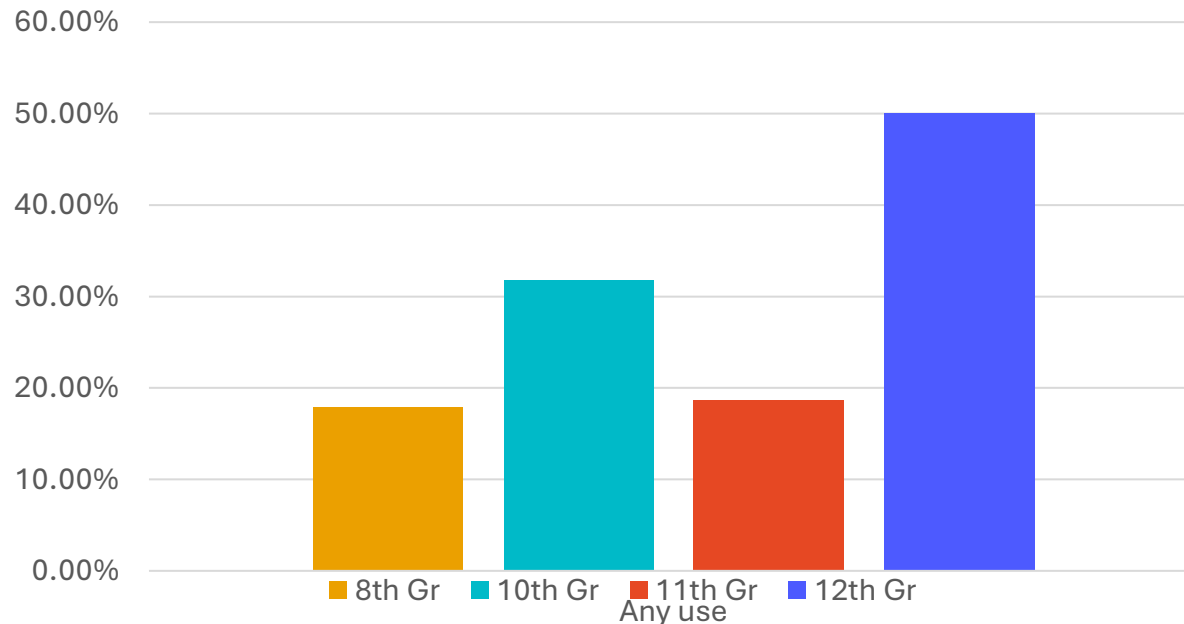
# Results



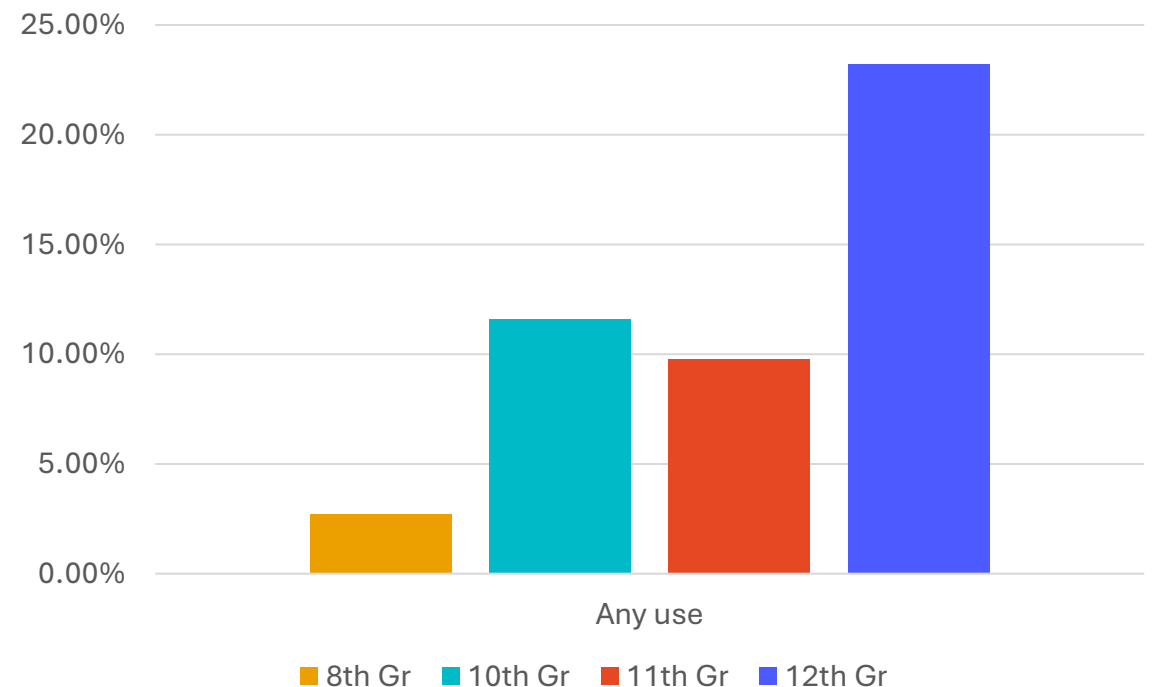
**CLYDE**  
SURVEY

# In your lifetime, on how many occasions (if any) have you...

had alcohol beverages (beer, wine, or hard liquor) to drink-more than just a few sips?

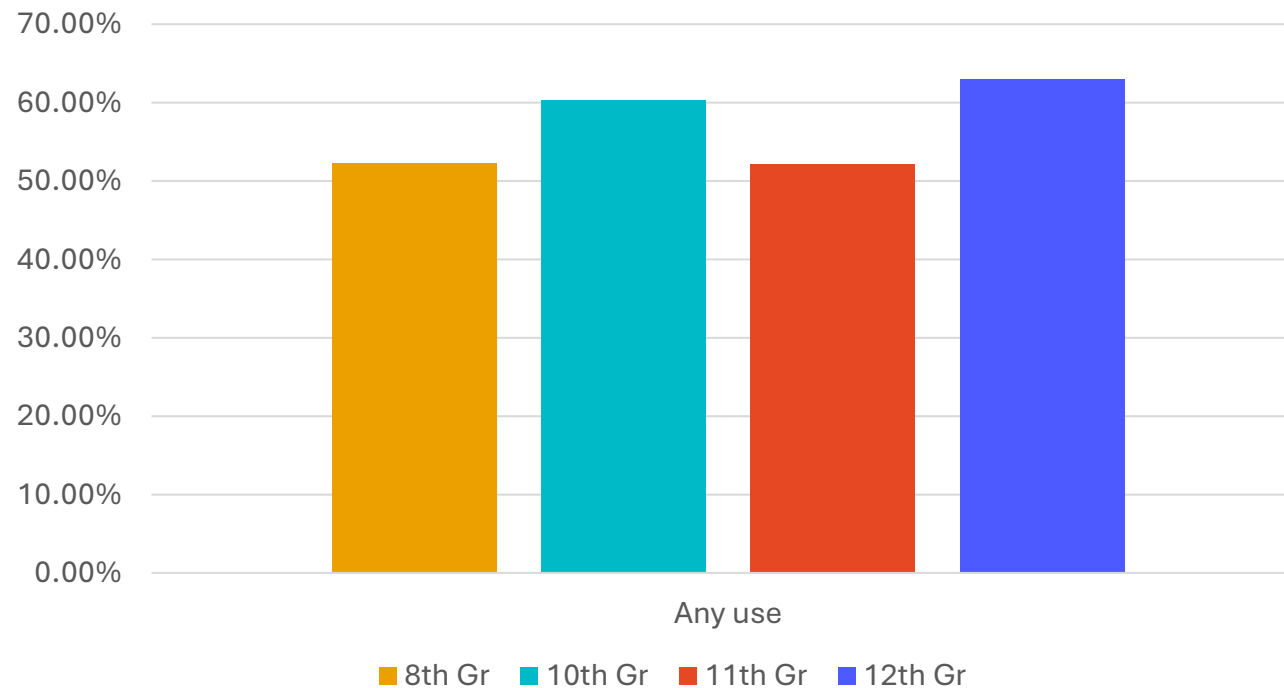


Used marijuana?



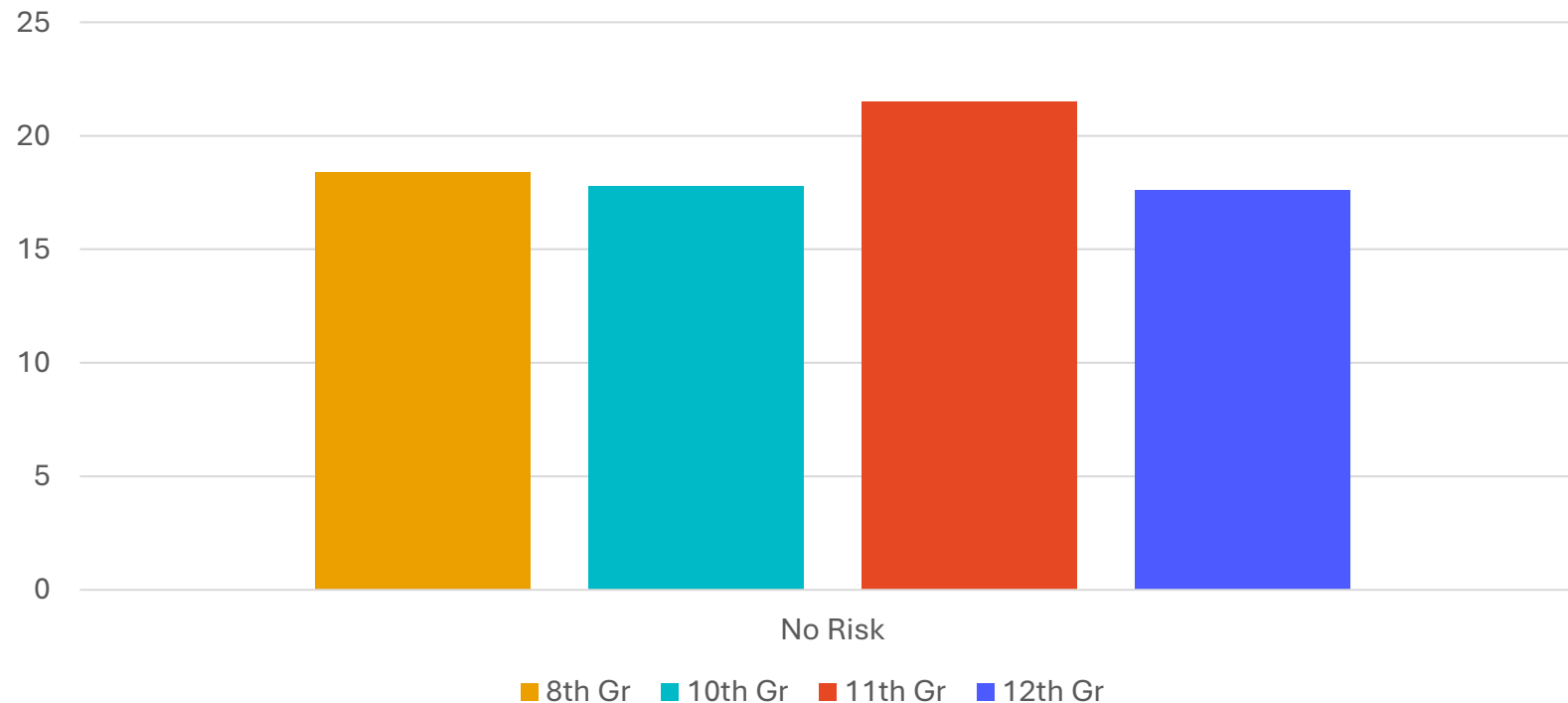
# In your lifetime, on how many occasions (if any) have you...

Drank energy drinks with caffeine (like Red Bull, Monster, Rockstar, or 5-Hour Energy)?



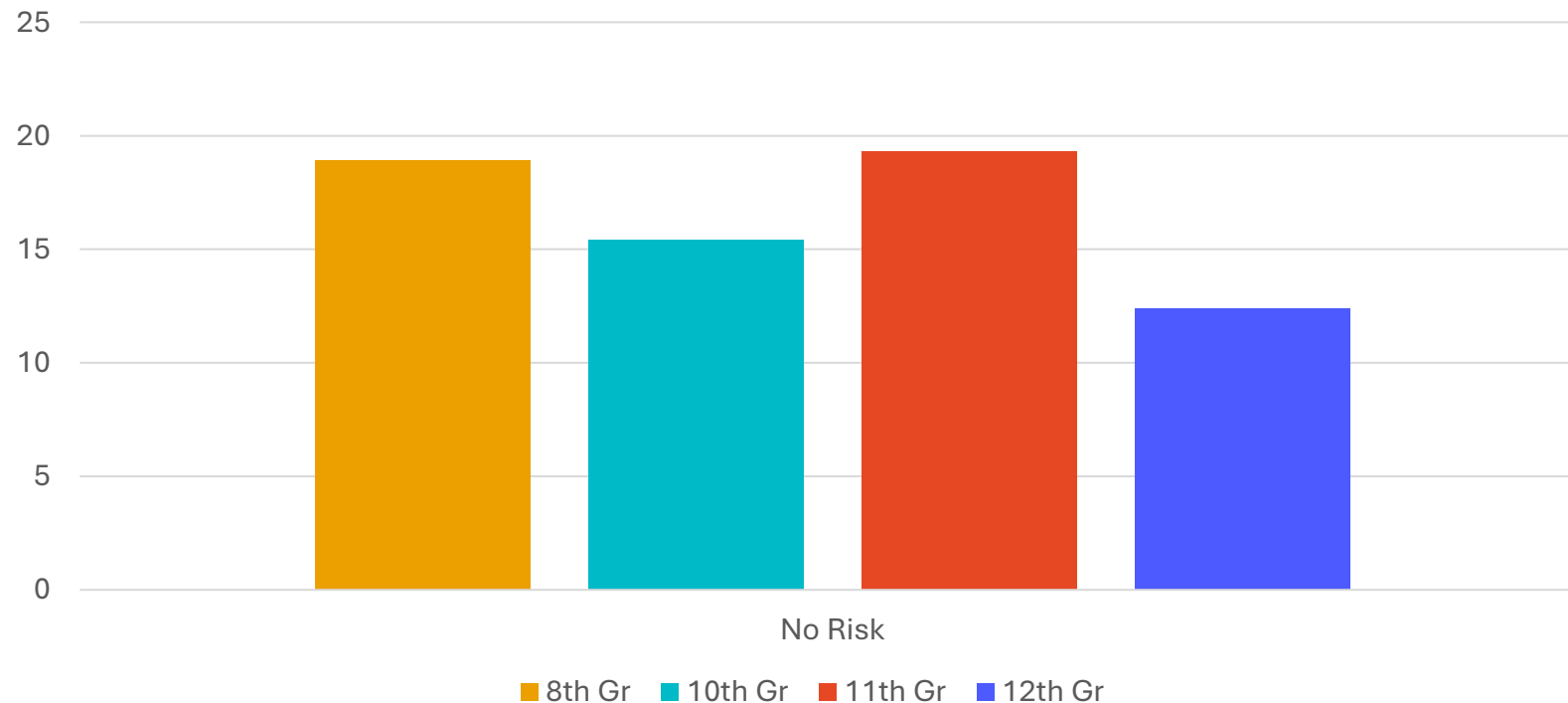
# How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they...

Smoke marijuana regularly (once or twice a week)?



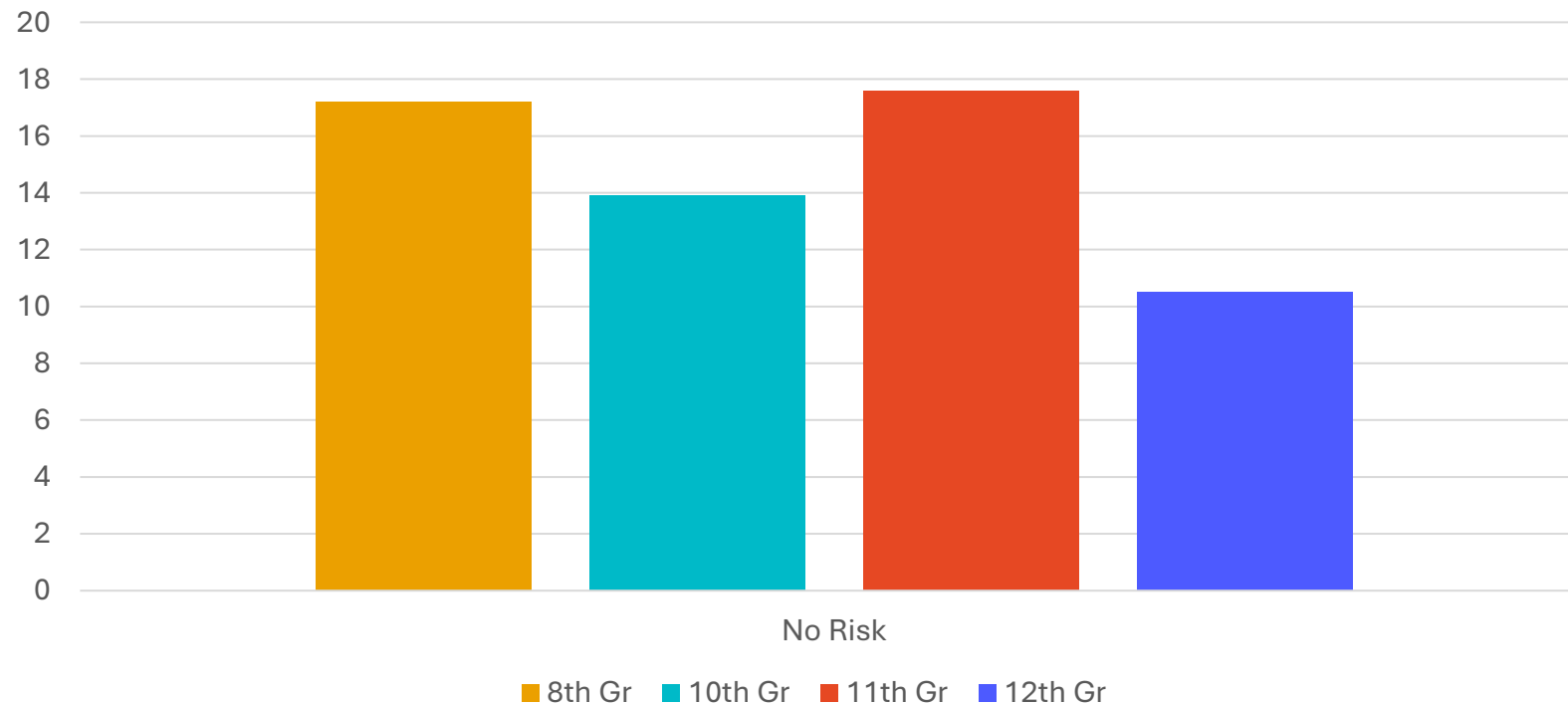
# How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they...

Take one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor) nearly every day?



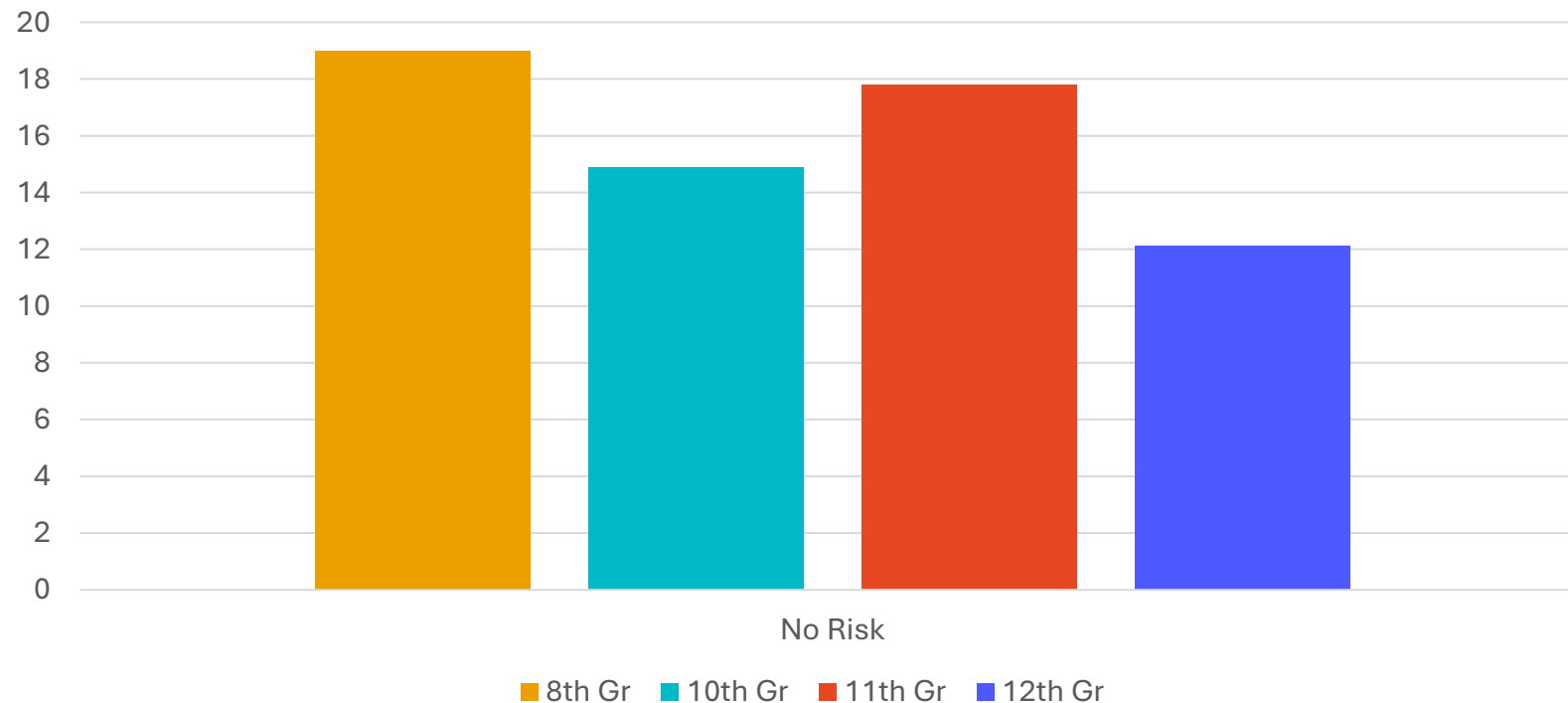
# How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they...

Use electronic cigarette, e-cigarettes, vape pens, SMOKs, or e-hookahs?



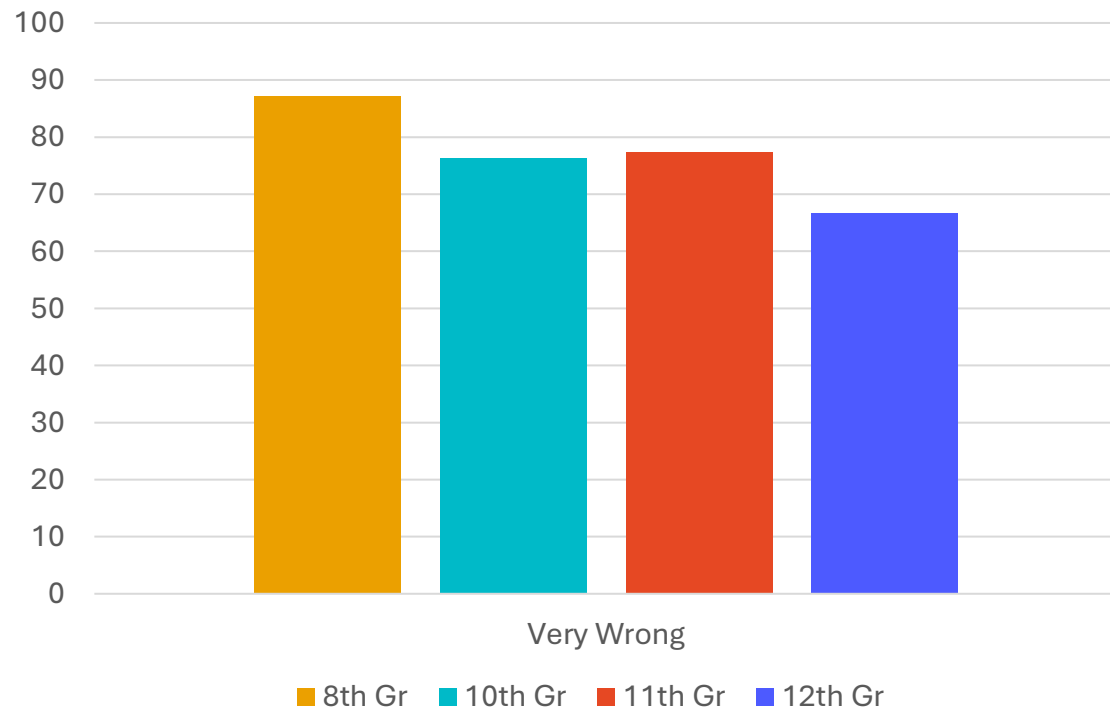
# How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they...

Have five or more drinks of an alcoholic beverage once or twice a week?

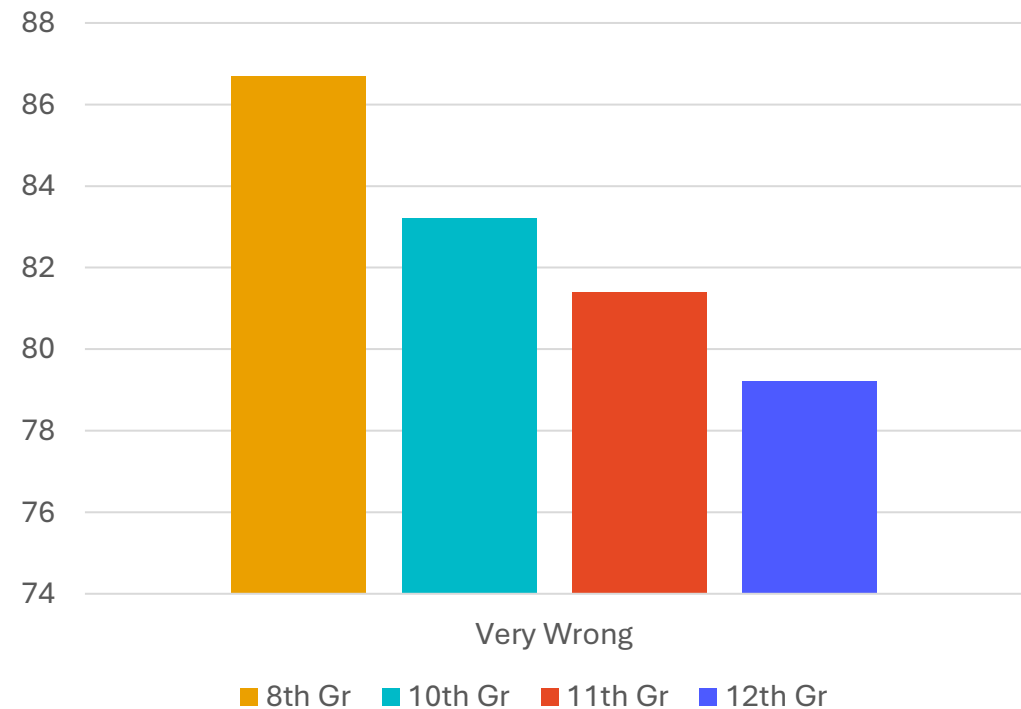


# How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to...

Smoke marijuana

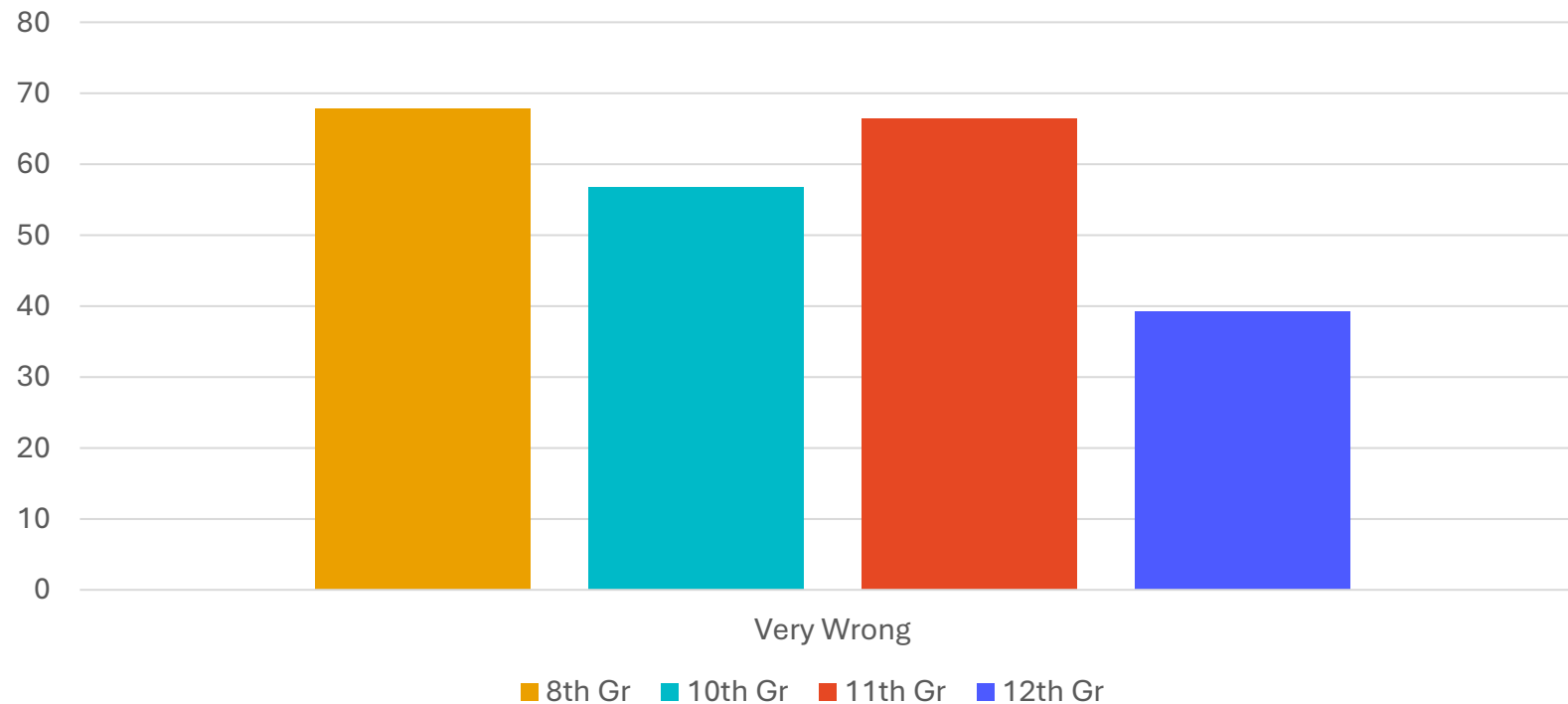


Use electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vape pens, SMOKs, or e-hookahs?



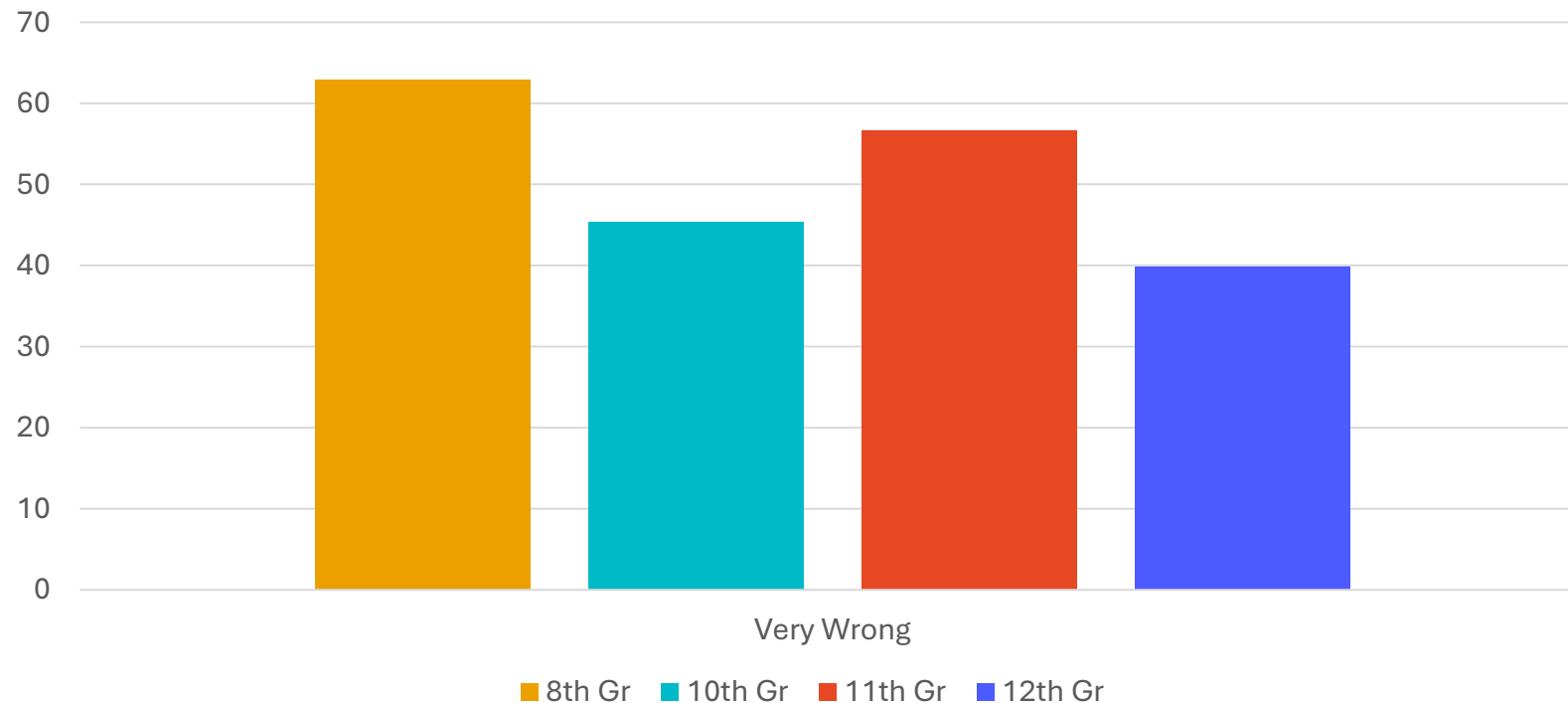
# How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to...

Drink beer, wine, or hard liquor (for example vodka, whiskey, or gin) regularly (at least once or twice a month)?



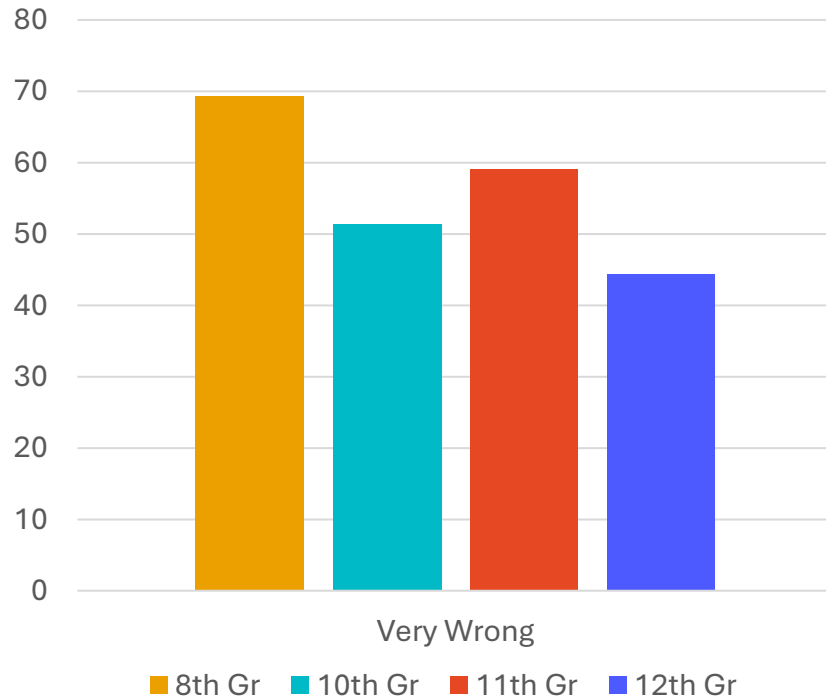
# How wrong do your friends feel it would be for you to...

Have one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day?

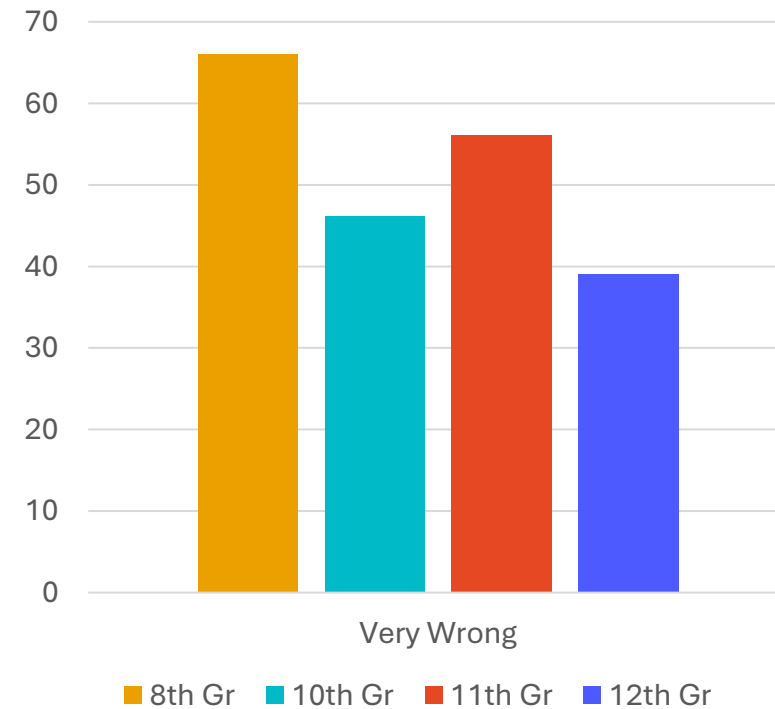


# How wrong do your friends feel it would be for you to...

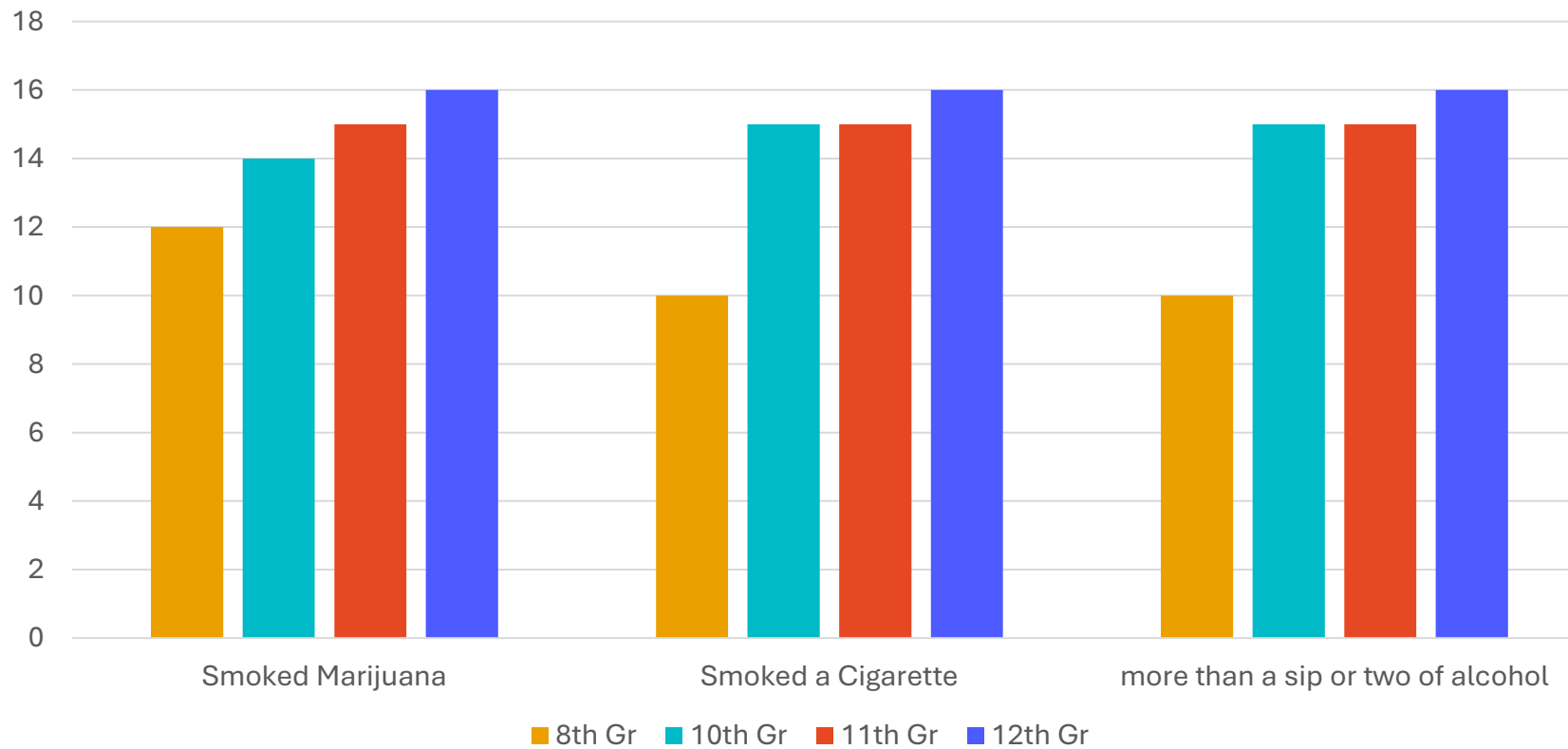
Smoke tobacco?



Use electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vape pens, SMOKs, or e-hookahs?

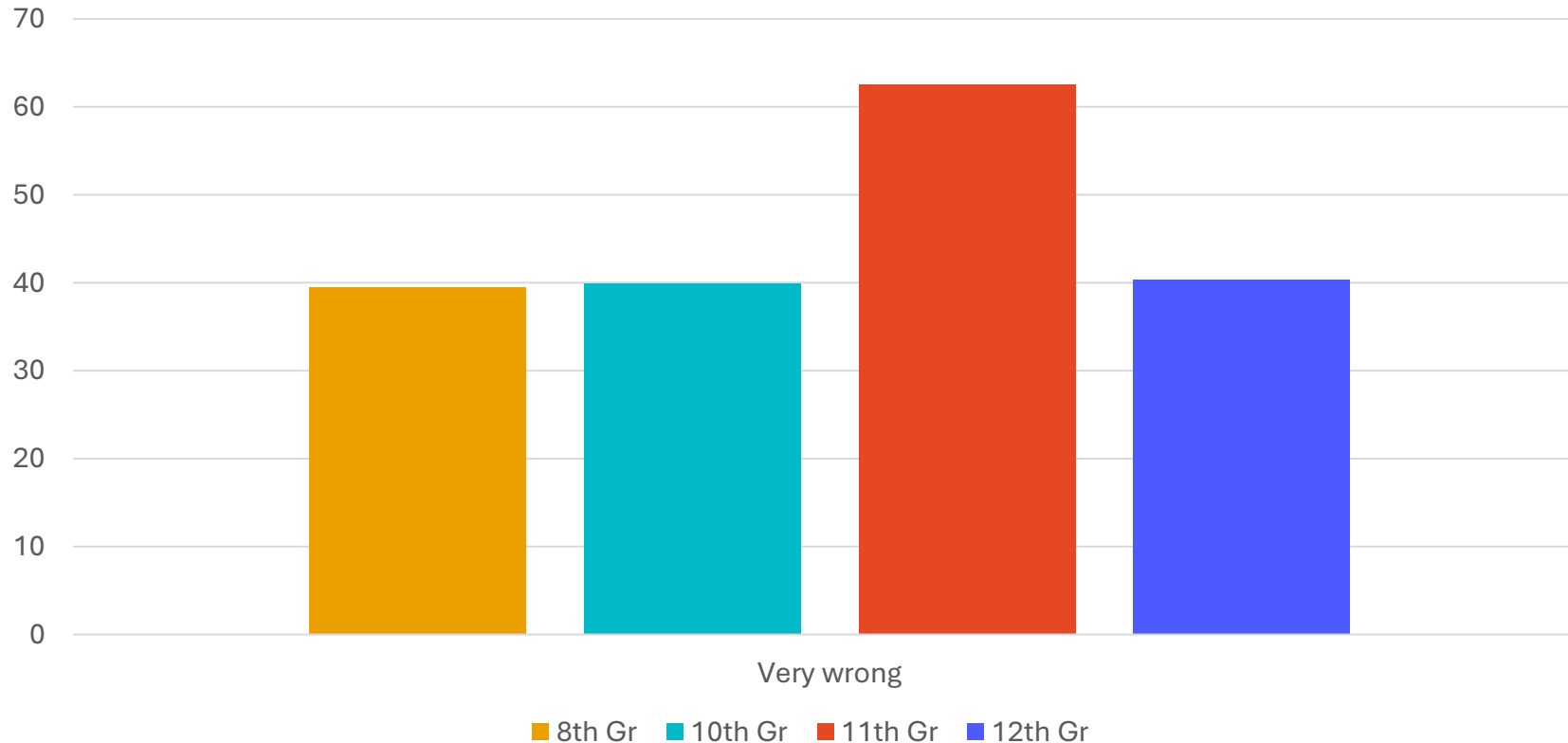


# How old were you when you first...



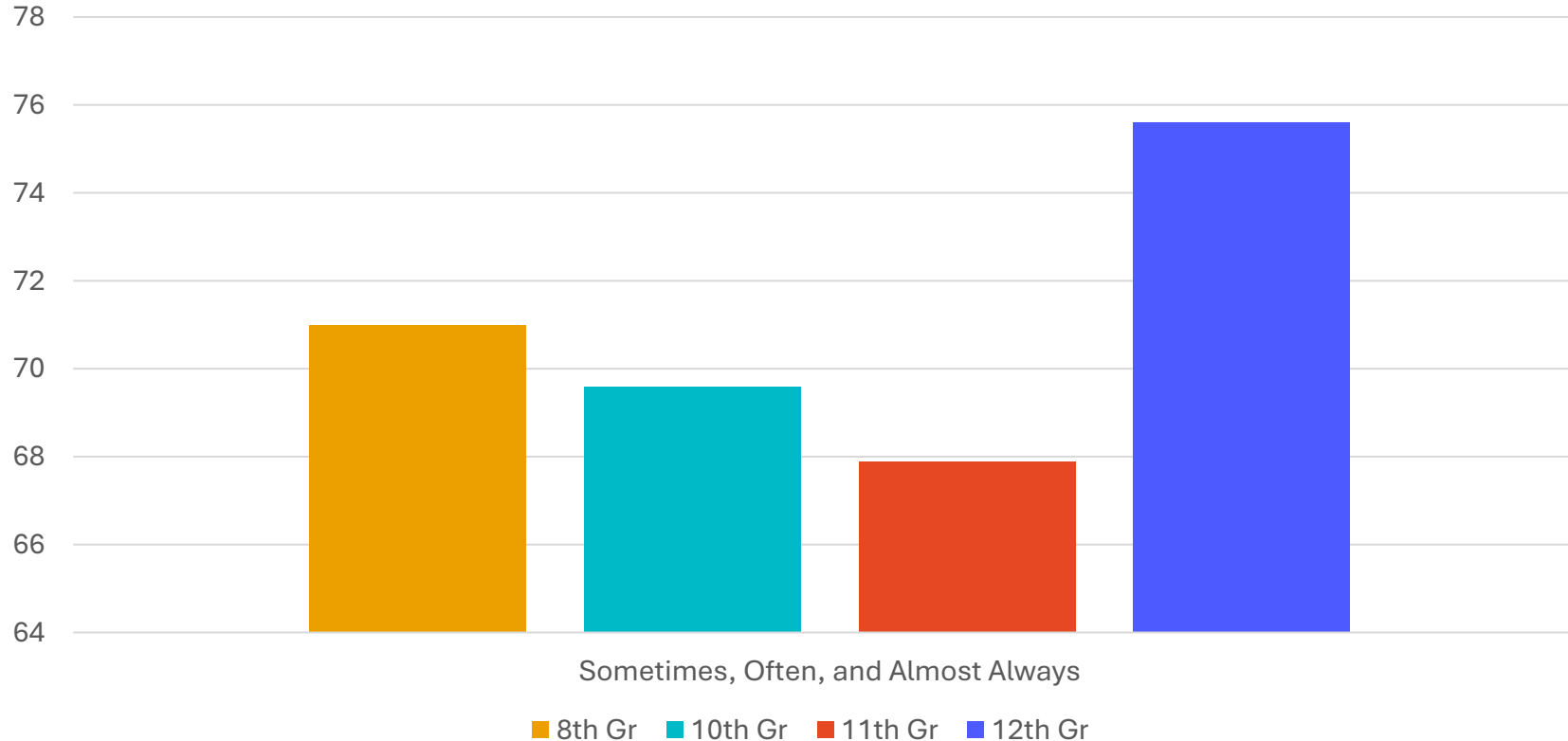
# How wrong do you think it is for someone for your age to...

Pick a fight with someone?

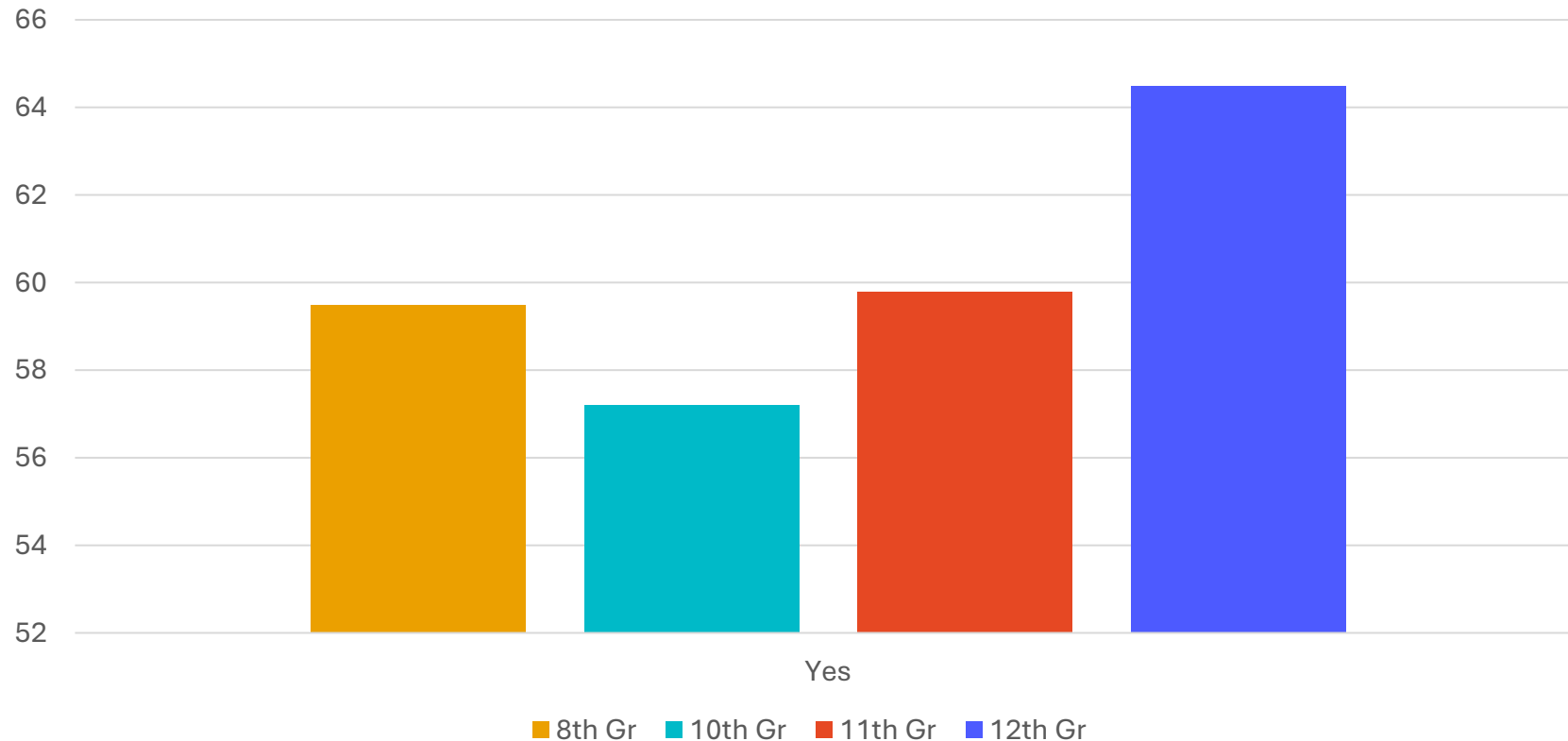


# Now, thinking back over the past year in school, how often did you...

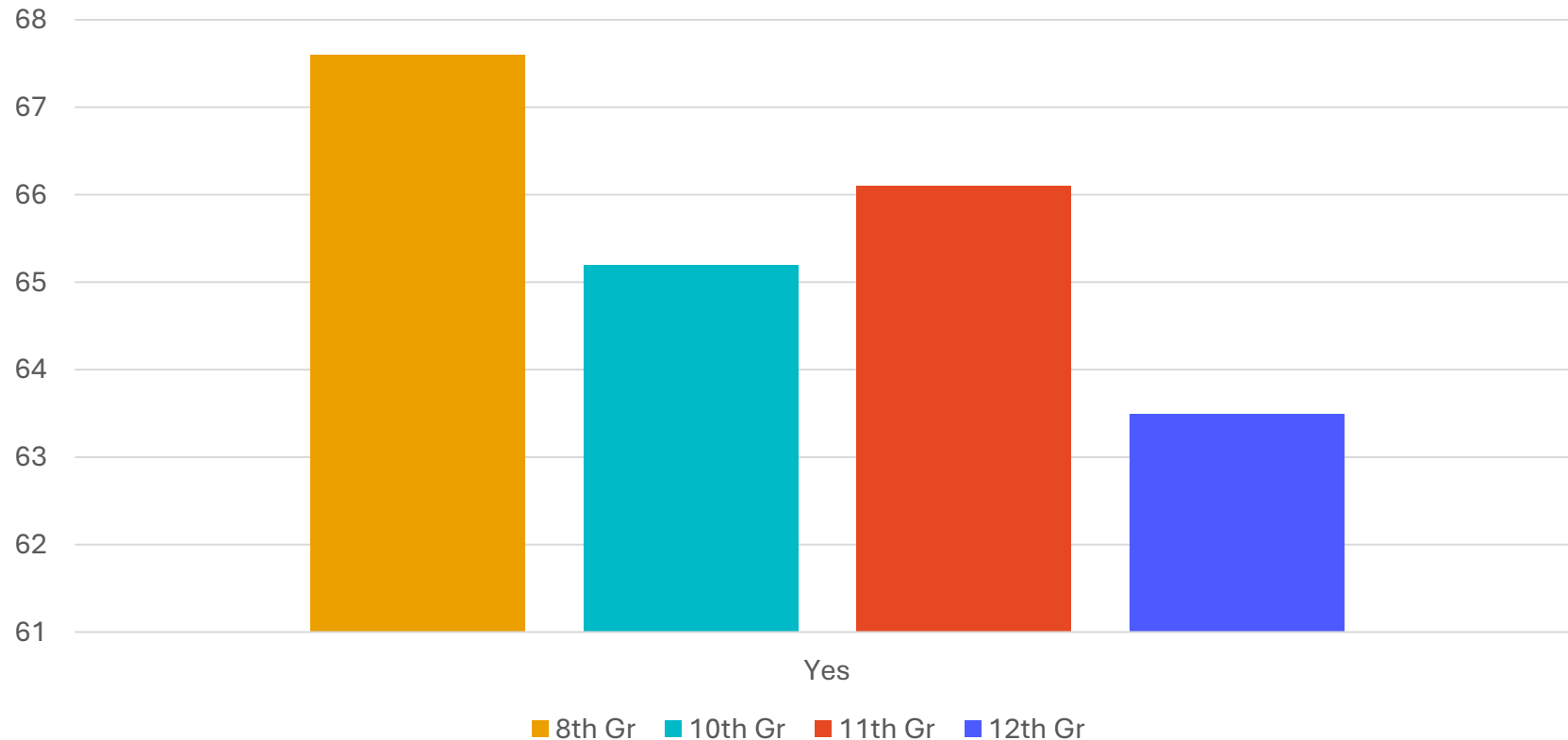
Enjoy being in school?



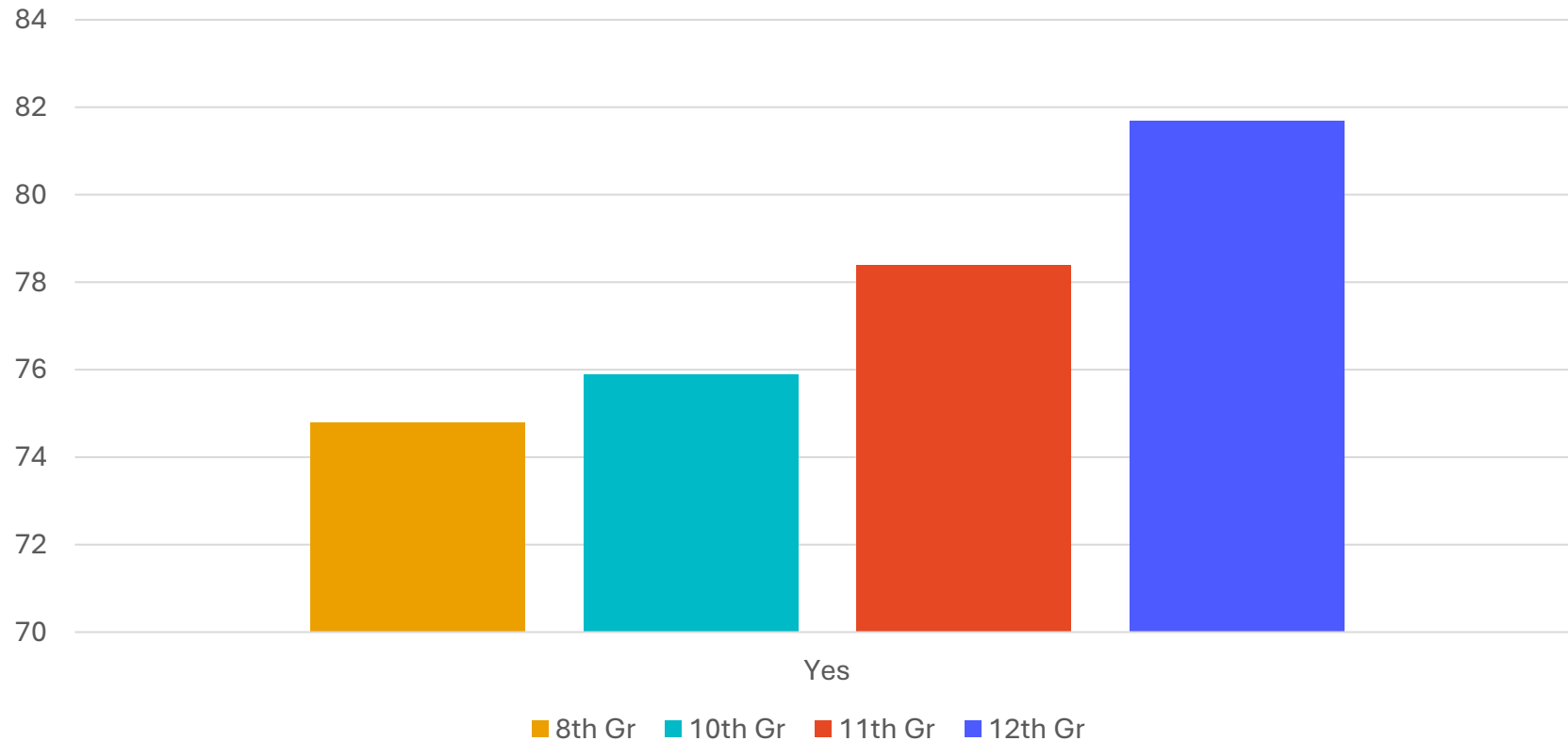
# Are there adults at your school you could talk to about problems with alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs?



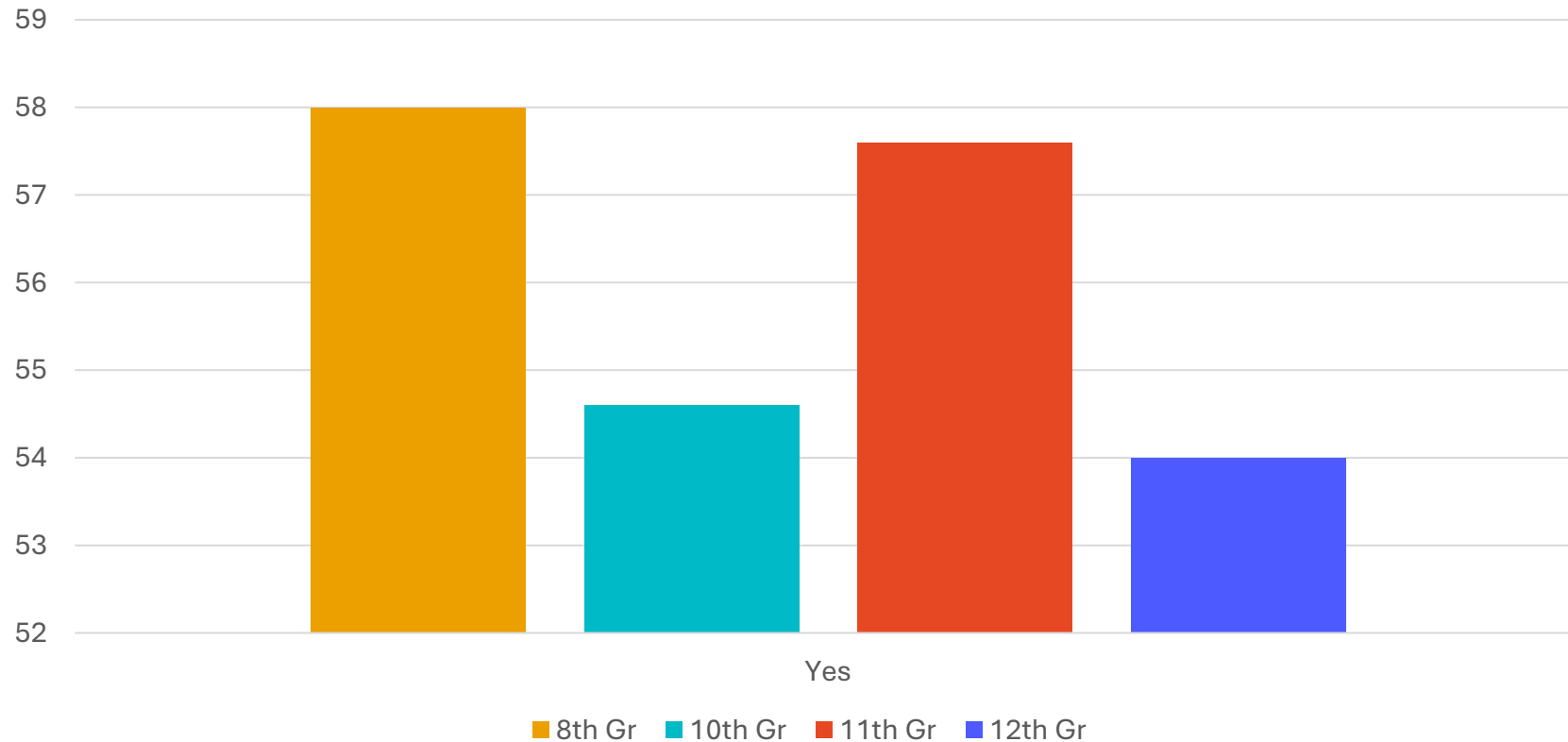
# My teacher(s) notices when I am doing a good job and lets me know about it.



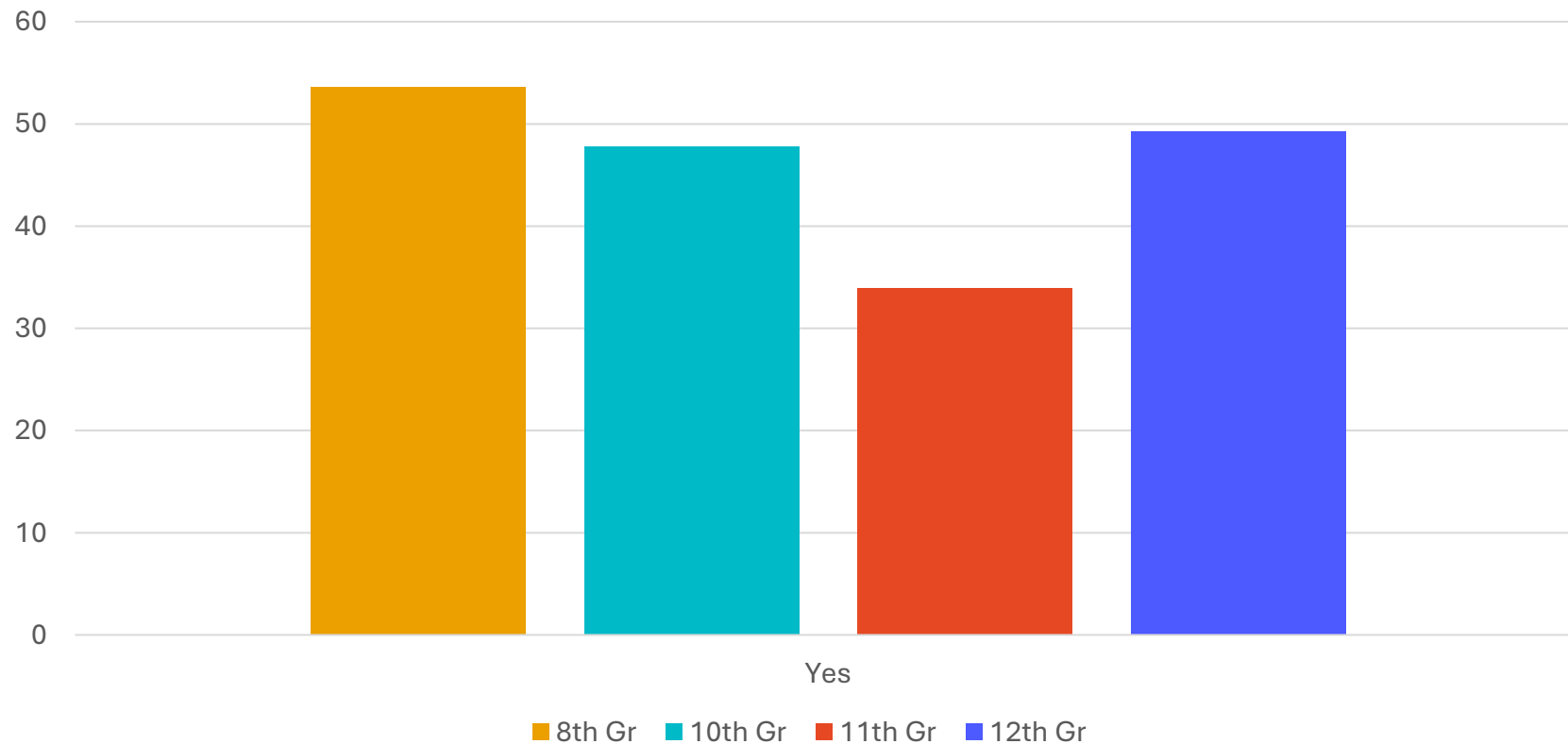
# I feel safe at my school.



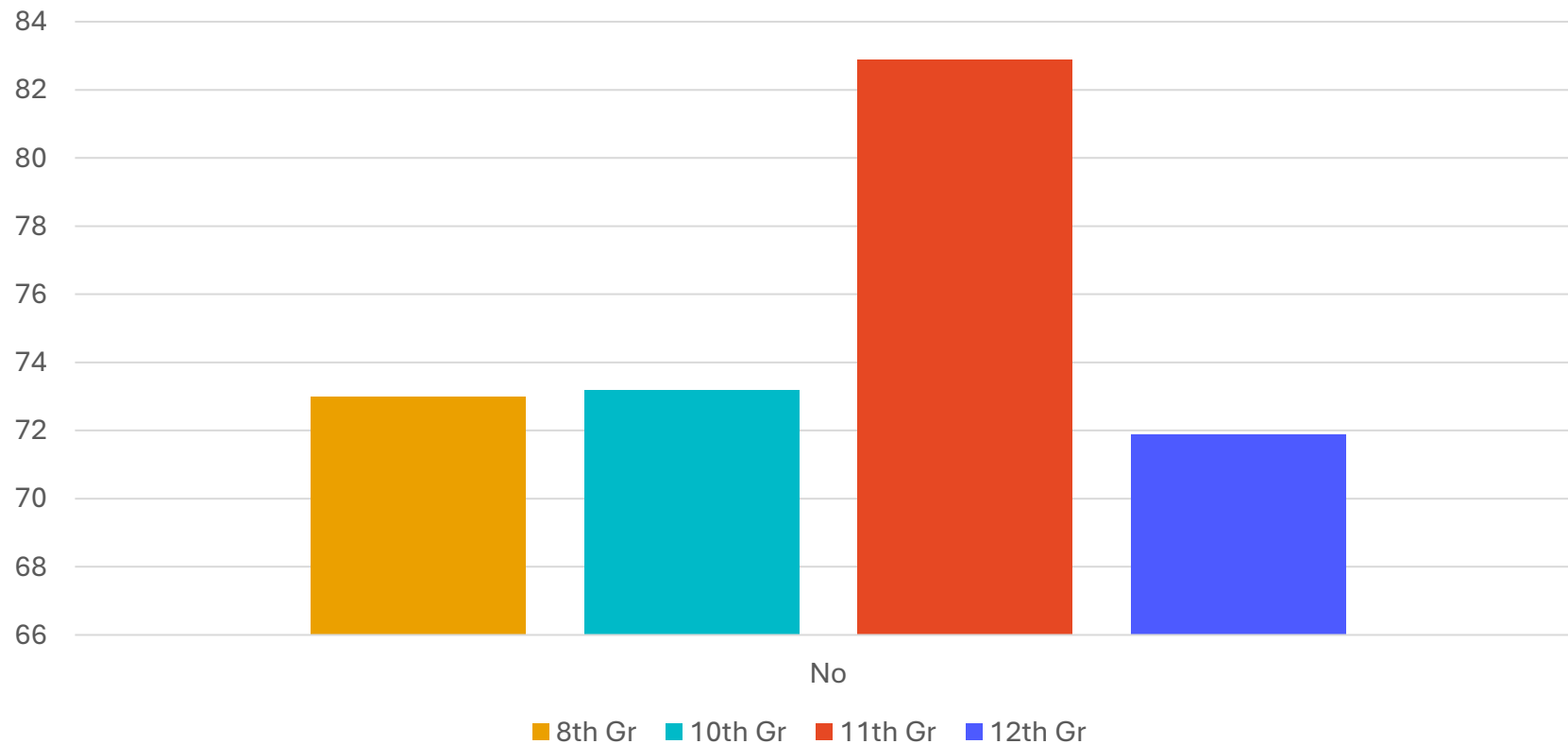
# My teachers praise me when I work hard in school.



# It is all right to beat up people if they start the fight.

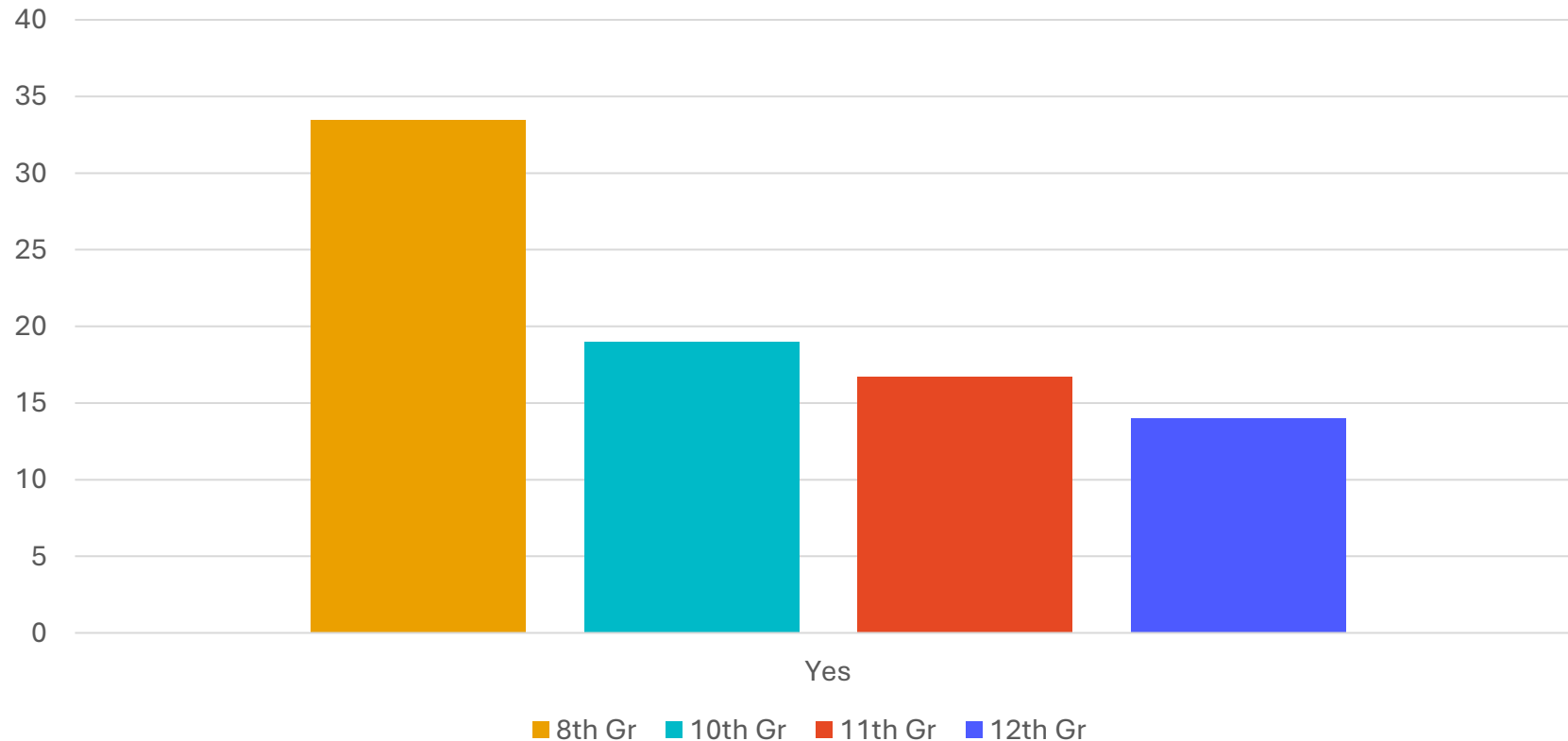


# Sometimes I think that life is not worth it.



# During the past year (12 months), have you ever...

- Been bullied on school property



# District Specific Program Numbers

July 2024 thru June 2025

Teen Intervene Referrals	53		
Small Group Events	124		
Information Awareness Events	96	# of Participants	4552
ATOD Presentations	16	# of Participants	696
EBP Groups	174	# of Participants	2823

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# Introducing your Prevention Specialist: Grace Schembari

- I have been working in the recovery, and now prevention, fields for over three years, and I am a Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor, Trainee (CASAC-T). I am also in the process of becoming a Certified Prevention Specialist, or CPS. I grew up just over Storm King Mountain in Cornwall, so I am a bit familiar with the HFFM community, and it is a blessing to be here!
- I got started in the addiction recovery field working at a women's sober home in Rockland County and knew early on I had found something very special to me. I went on to work in a 28-day medical detox and rehab facility before I became a substance abuse counselor. I have worked with a large variety of demographics, ranging from adolescents, young adults, individuals with military backgrounds, and elderly populations.
- Coming from a clinical background, the science and logic behind what is effective is incredibly important to me. I am frequently taking new trainings, reading new research studies, and checking the quarterly reports to keep my knowledge up to date, as the standard for care in both prevention and recovery is ever-changing.
- Academically, I plan to return to college over the summer to complete my bachelor's degree in clinical psychology, and then I will begin pursuing my Master's in Social Work. Previously while in college, I did various extensive studies and research projects on Autism Spectrum Disorder, Childhood Trauma and Behavioral Disorders, and the Science of Addiction. I believe that no individual can ever learn enough, and I am incredibly grateful for every opportunity I am presented with that allows me to learn and advance in my knowledge.



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**Thank you!**