

Associate Professor Simon Denny  
Department of Paediatrics: Child and Youth Health  
18<sup>th</sup> July

# PARENTING TEENAGERS



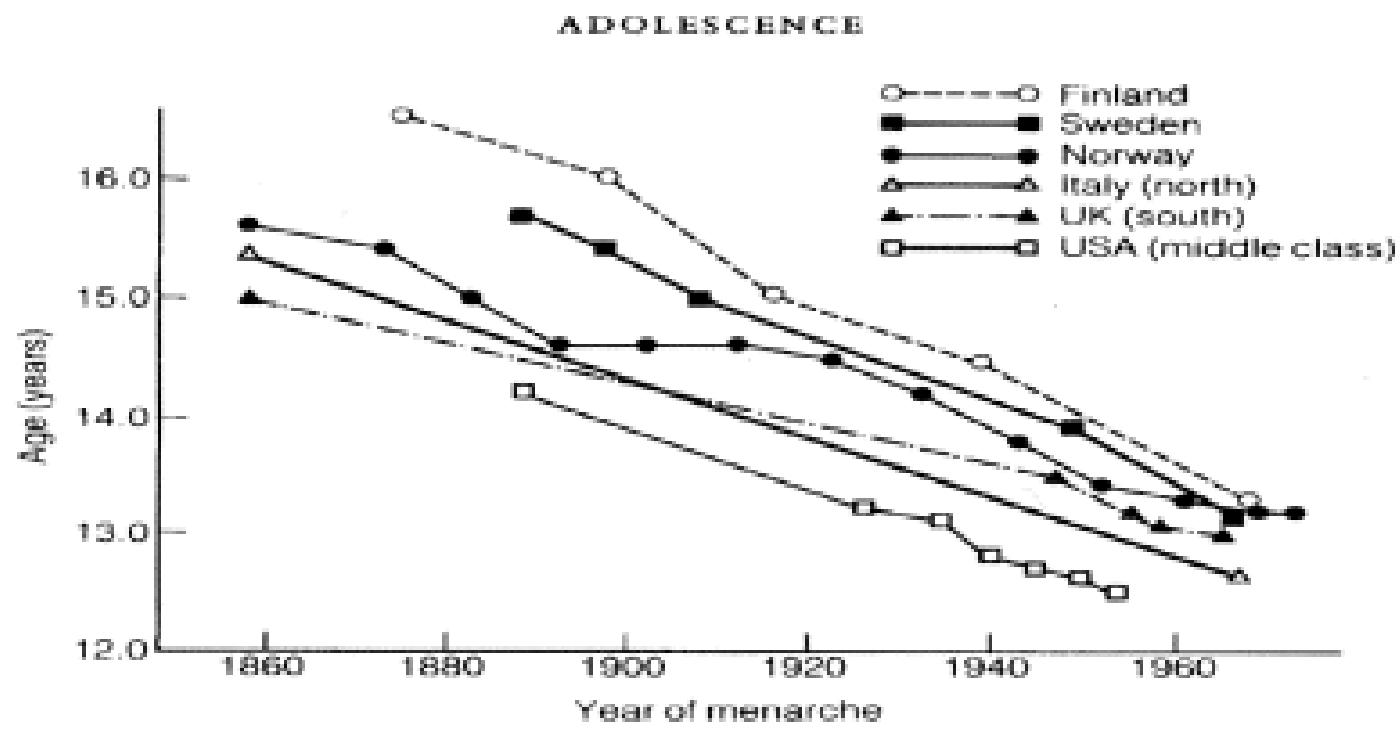
# What is adolescence?

Aristotle: “youth are heated by Nature as drunken men by wine”

Socrates: “inclined to contradict parents and tyrannize their teachers”

G.S. Hall (1904) a period of heightened “storm and stress”

1960s and 1970s: attempts to understand the problems as due to  
“raging hormones”



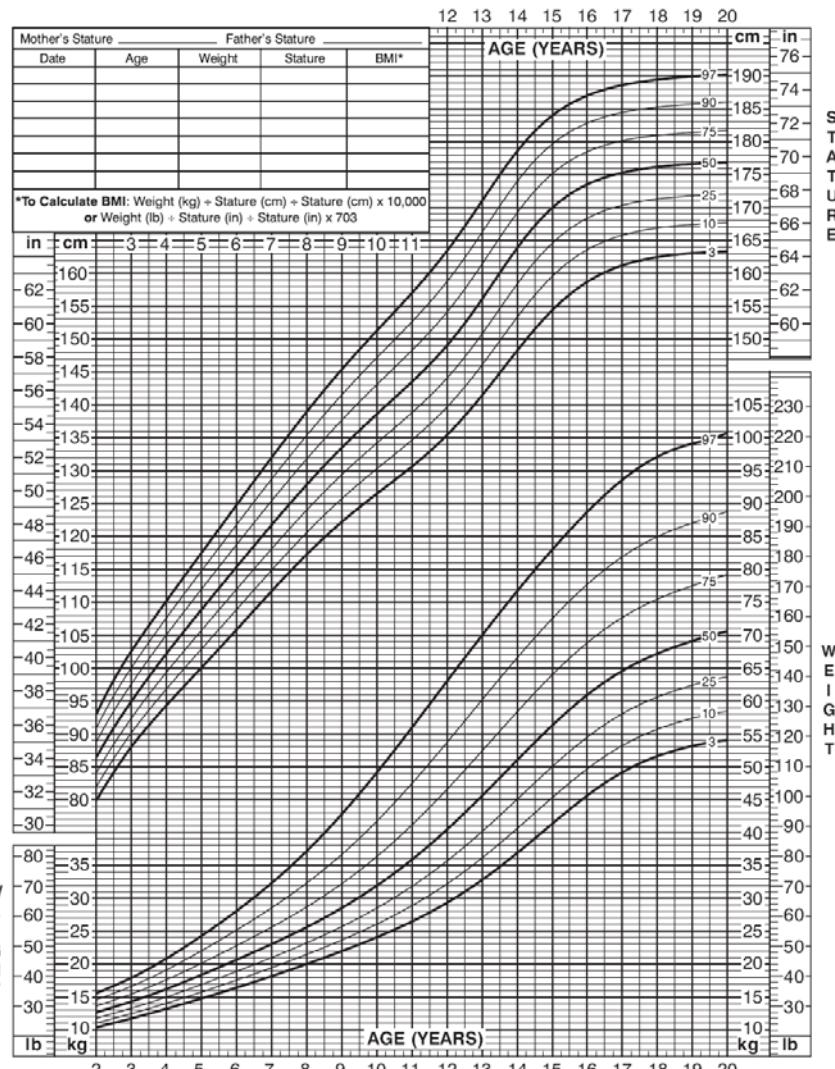
**FIGURE 2.** Age at menarche, 1860–1970. (Data from Tanner.<sup>9</sup>)

## 2 to 20 years: Boys

## Stature-for-age and Weight-for-age percentiles

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

RECORD # \_\_\_\_\_



Published May 30, 2000 (modified 11/21/00).

SOURCE: Developed by the National Center for Health Statistics in collaboration with the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (2000). <http://www.cdc.gov/growthcharts>

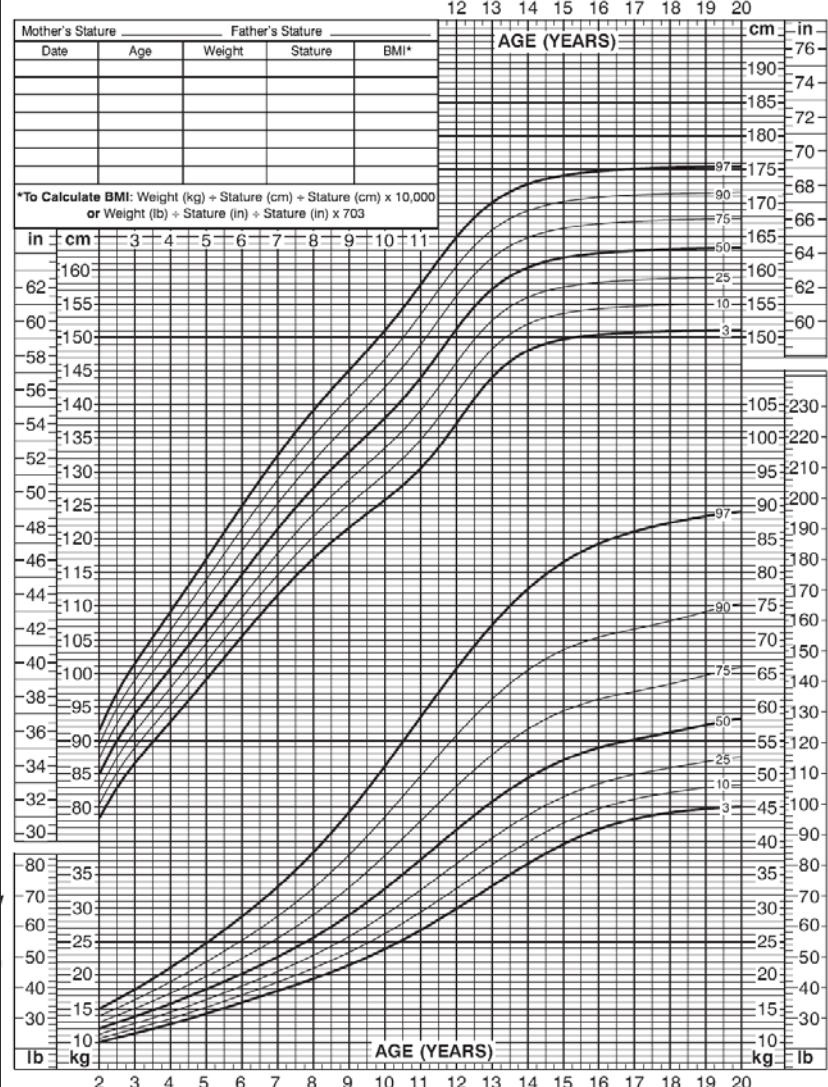
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## 2 to 20 years: Girls

## Stature-for-age and Weight-for-age percentiles

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

RECORD # \_\_\_\_\_



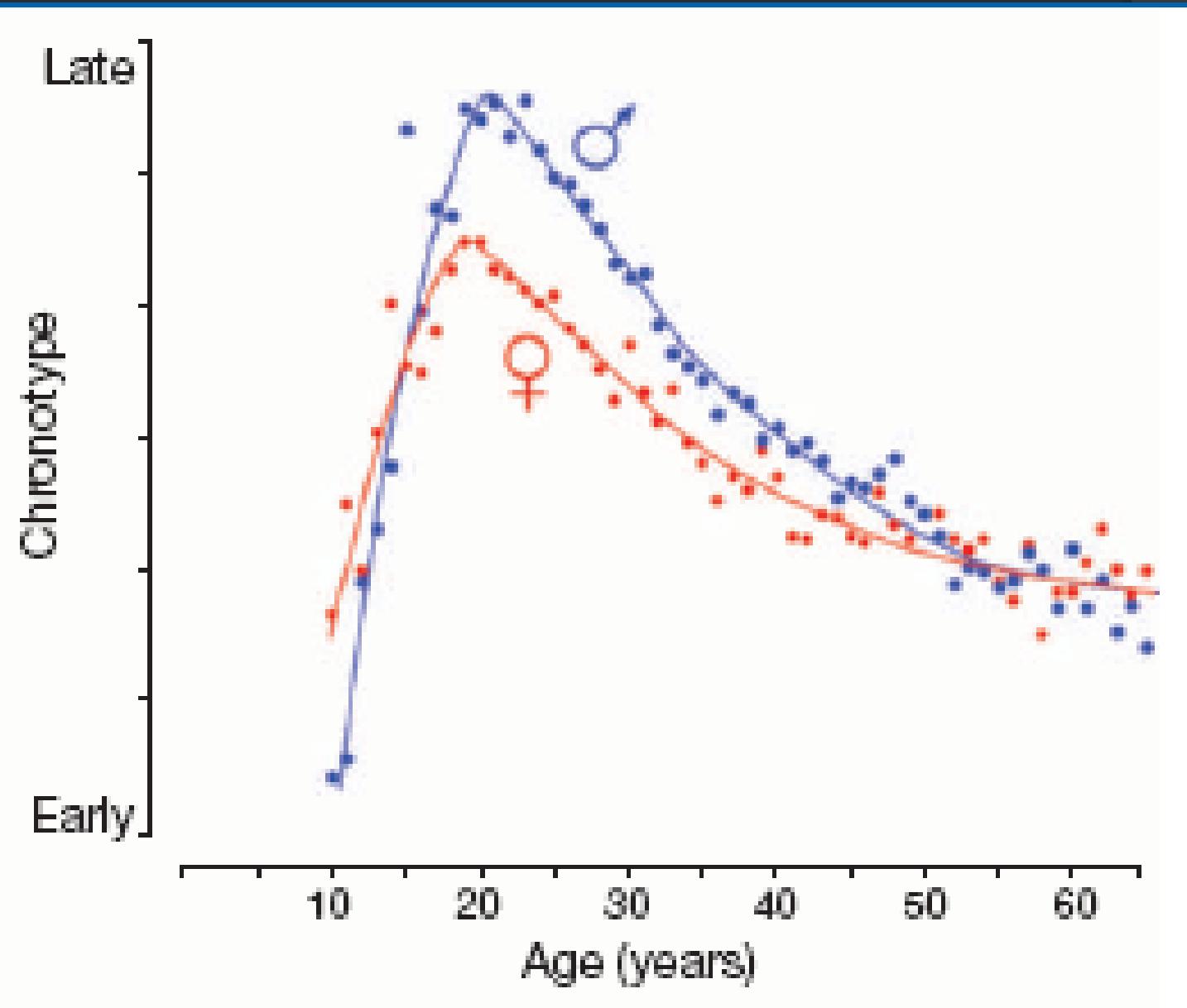
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**"At your age, Tommy, a boy's body goes through changes that are not always easy to understand."**



# Youth Development - Konopka

## Qualities of Adolescence

Drive to experiment mixed with inexperience → audacity and  
insecurity

Intense emotional experiences

Ambivalence and argumentative

Inconsistent expectations of adult behaviour

Strong peer group need

# Concrete → Formal Operational Thought

The ability to reason hypothetically

The ability to think about thinking

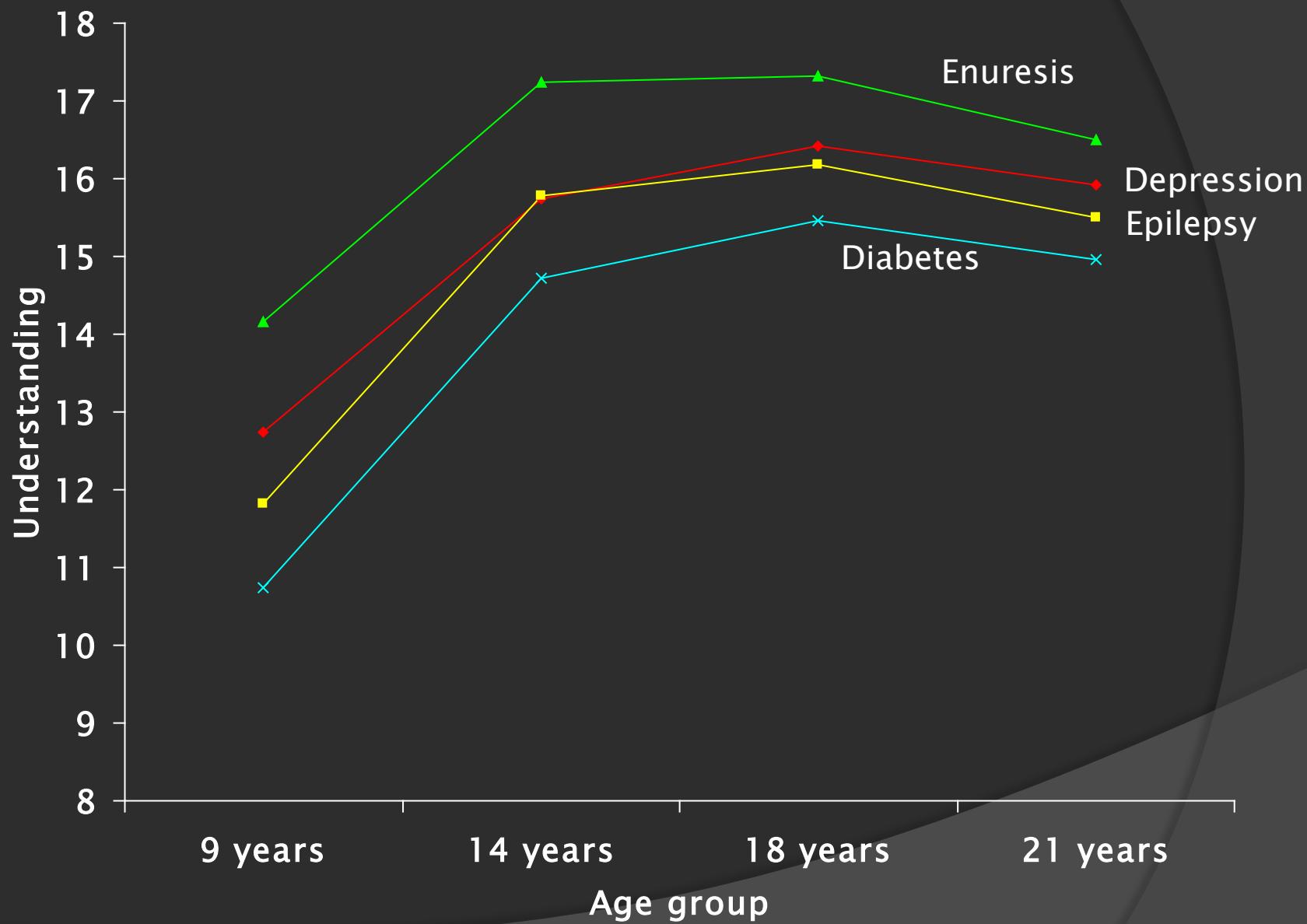
The ability to plan ahead

The ability to think beyond conventional limits

Cole and Cole 1993

50% adults operating in this stage most of the time

Kuhn 79; Arlin 75; Sloman 1996



Weithorn 1982

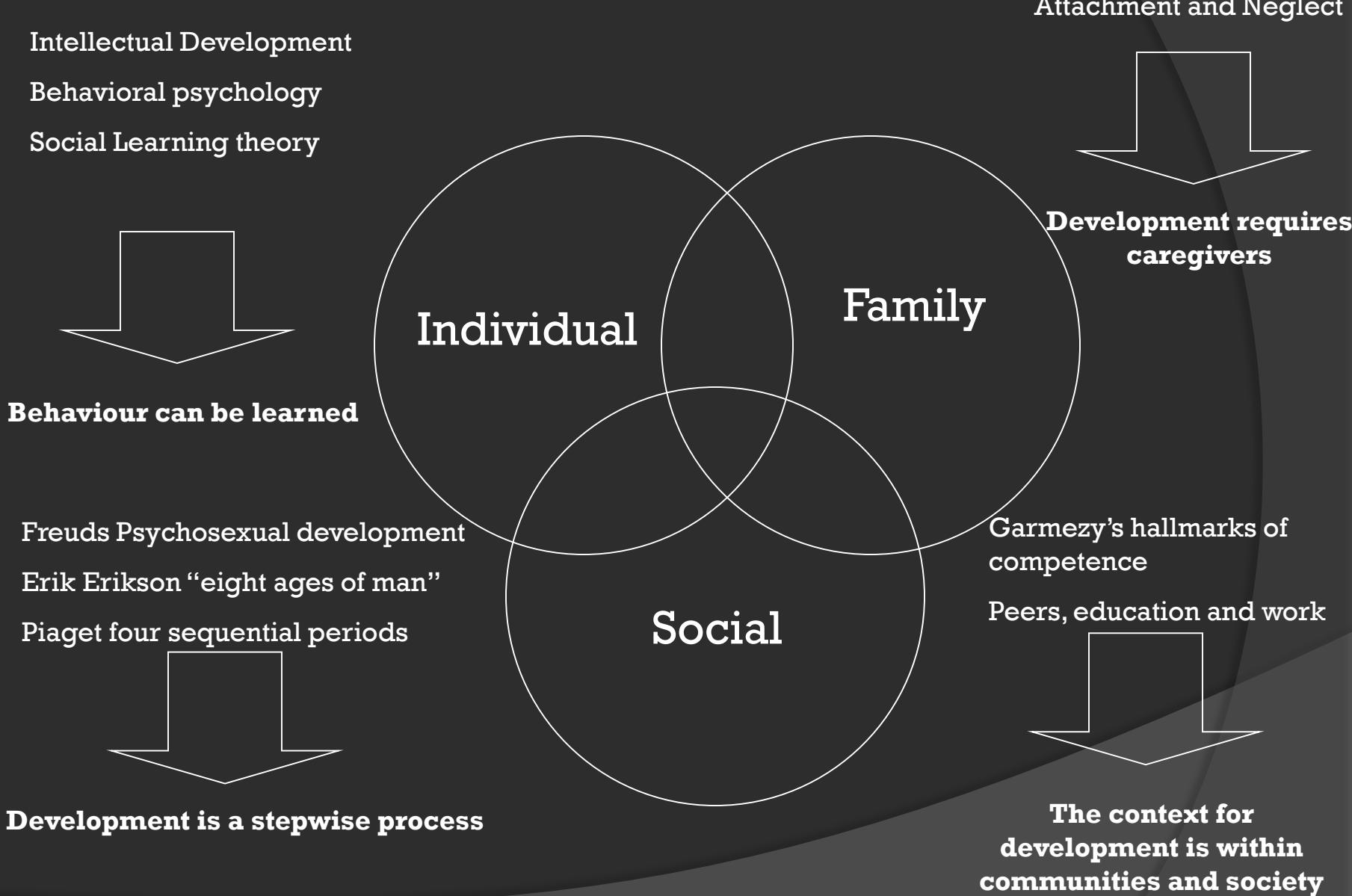
# Development

Human development takes place through processes of progressively more complex reciprocal interactions between the developing person and their environment

Bronfenbrenner

We believe adolescents are persons with specific qualities and characteristics who have a participatory and responsible role to play, tasks to perform, skills to develop at that particular time of life. The degree or extent to which an adolescent experiences such responsible participation will determine and maximise his human development

Konopka 1973



# Healthy Youth Development - Konopka

“Just as cruelty spurs cruelty, so does love breed love “

Key issues of adolescence

Experience of physical sexual maturity

Increasing autonomy → moving toward interdependence

Consciousness of self in interaction

Re-evaluation of values

Experimentation



# The Youth2000 Survey Series

## 1. National Secondary School Student Surveys

2001 - 9,699 adolescents

2007 - 9,107 adolescents

2012 - 8,500 adolescents

## 2. School Climate Surveys

2007 School Climate

2012/13 School Climate

## 3. Alternative Education Surveys

2009 - 335 adolescents

2000 – 268 adolescents

## 4. Teen Parent Unit Survey

2006 - 220 adolescents

## 5. Wharekura Survey

2007 – 22 kura and 677 taiohi\*

[www.youthresearch.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.youthresearch.auckland.ac.nz)

\*confidential report

	2001		2007		2012	
<b>Schools</b>	114 (86% response)		96 (84% response)		91 (73% response)	
<b>Decile</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
low	26	22.9	15	16.3	26	28.6
med	49	43.1	52	56.5	36	39.6
high	39	34.2	25	27.2	29	31.9
<b>Students</b>	9,567 (73% response)		9,107 (74% response)		8,500 (68% response)	
<b>Gender</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Male	4,414	46.1	4,911	54.0	3,874	45.6
Female	5,152	53.9	4,187	46.0	4,623	54.4
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Māori	2,325	24.7%	1,702	18.7%	1,701	20.0%
Pacific	768	8.2%	1,178	10.2%	1,201	14.1%
Asian	679	7.2%	1,310	12.4%	1,051	12.4%
NZ Euro	5,219	55.4%	6,871	52.8%	4,024	47.7%
Other	417	4.4%	817	5.8%	511	6.0%
<b>&gt;1 ethnic groups</b>	29%		39%		42%	



## INTRODUCTION

Intro 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Finish

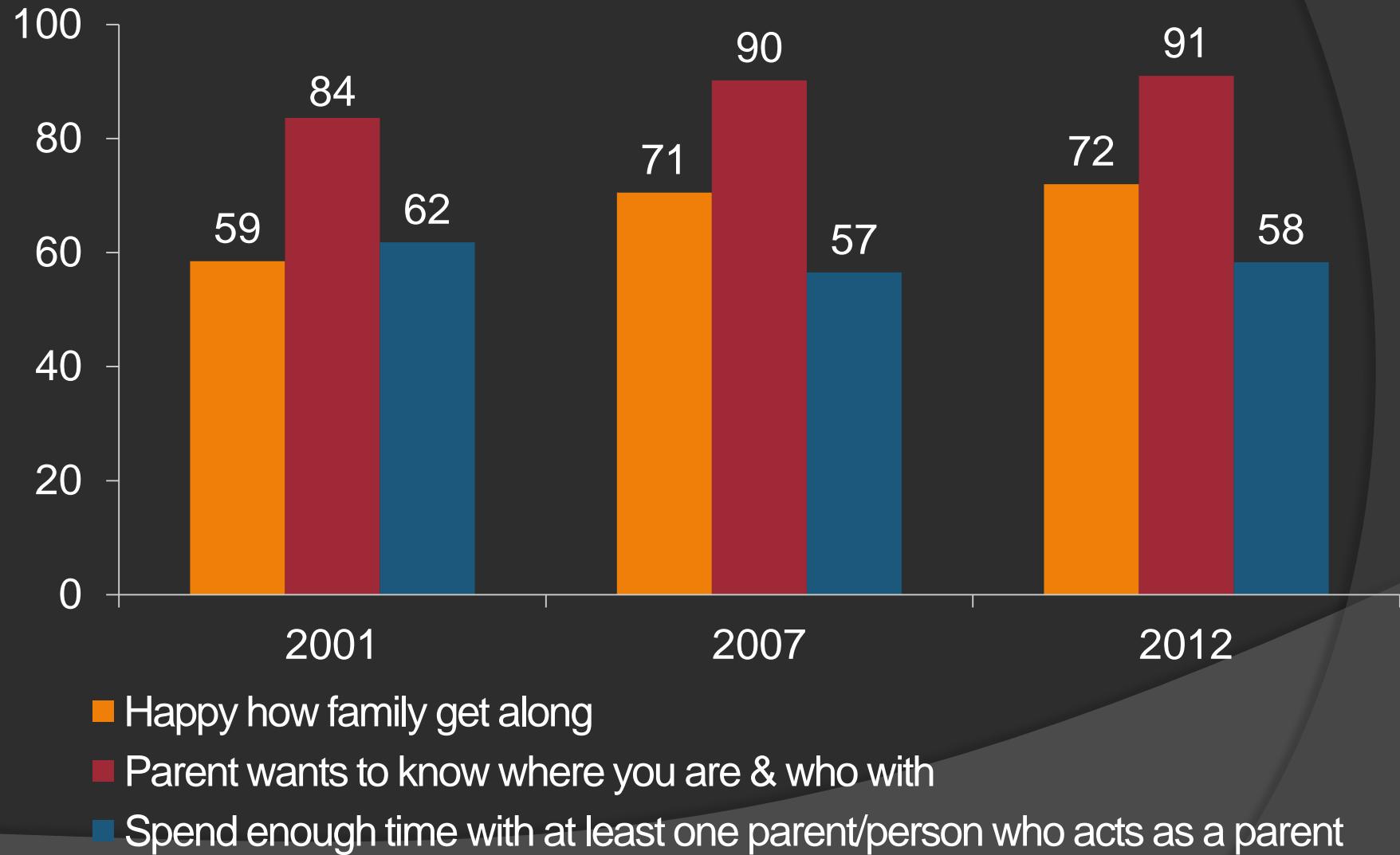
How old are you?

- under 12 years
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- over 19 years

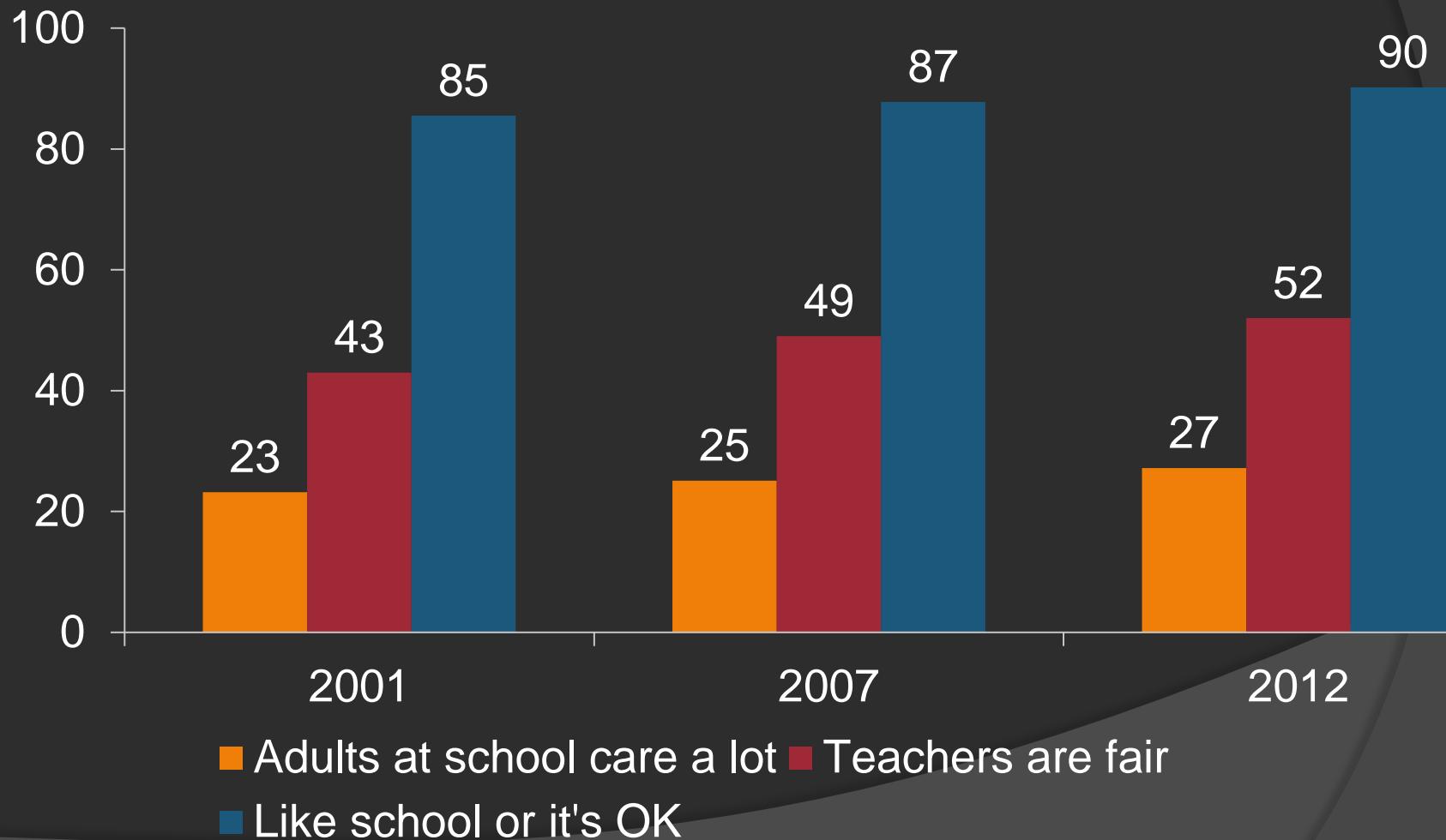


# Changes over time

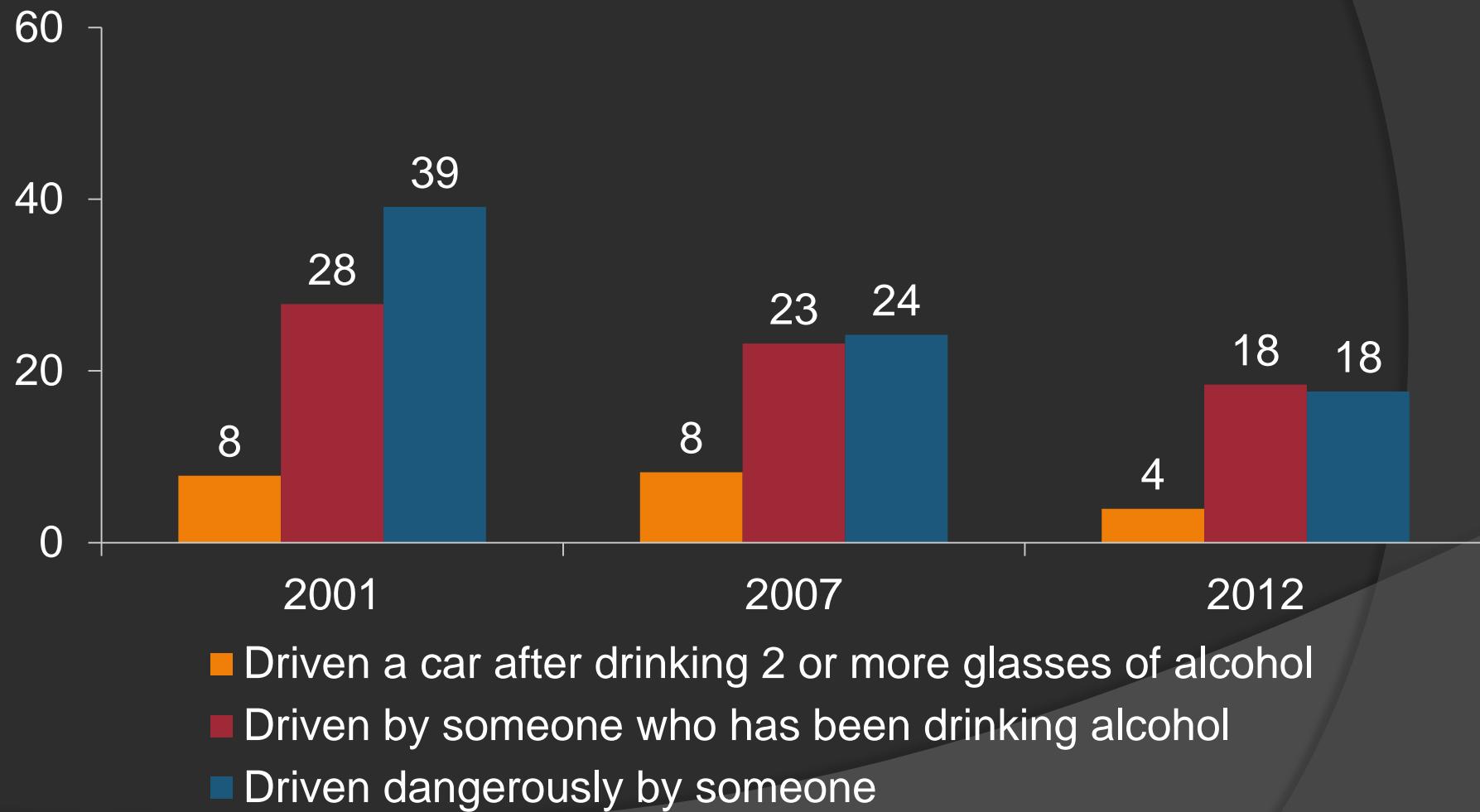
# Family Relationships



# School Relationships



# Risky driving behaviours

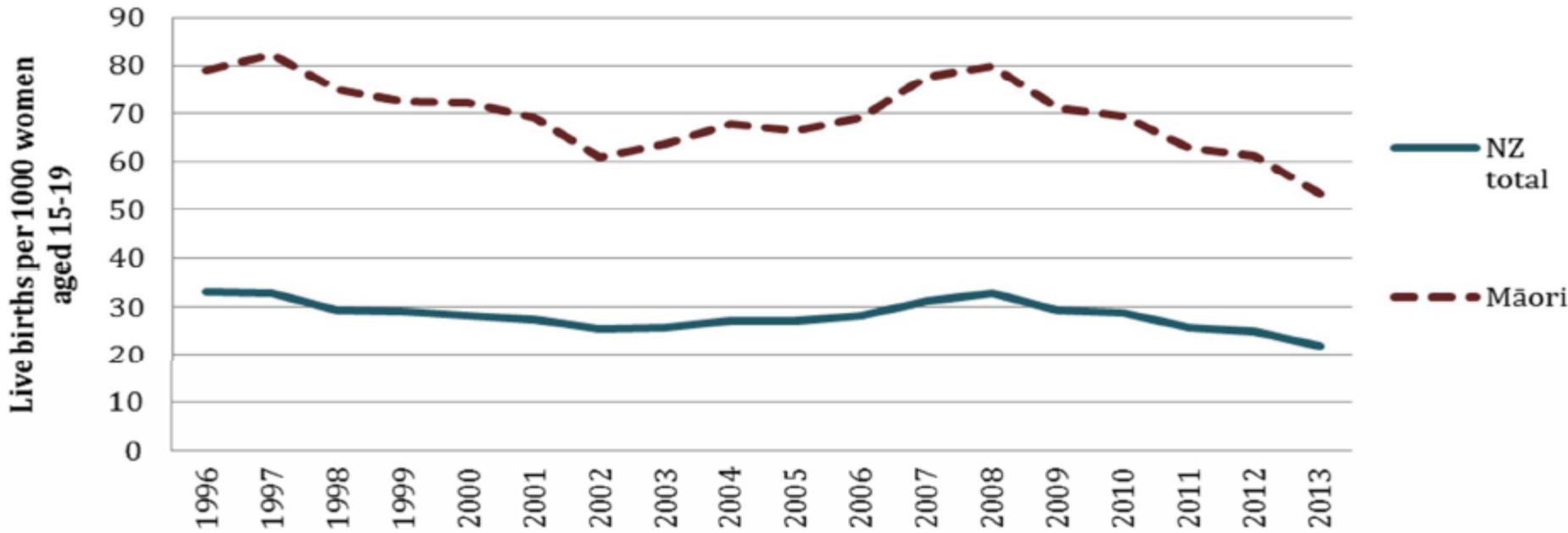


# Sexual and reproductive health



# New Zealand Teenage Birth Rates

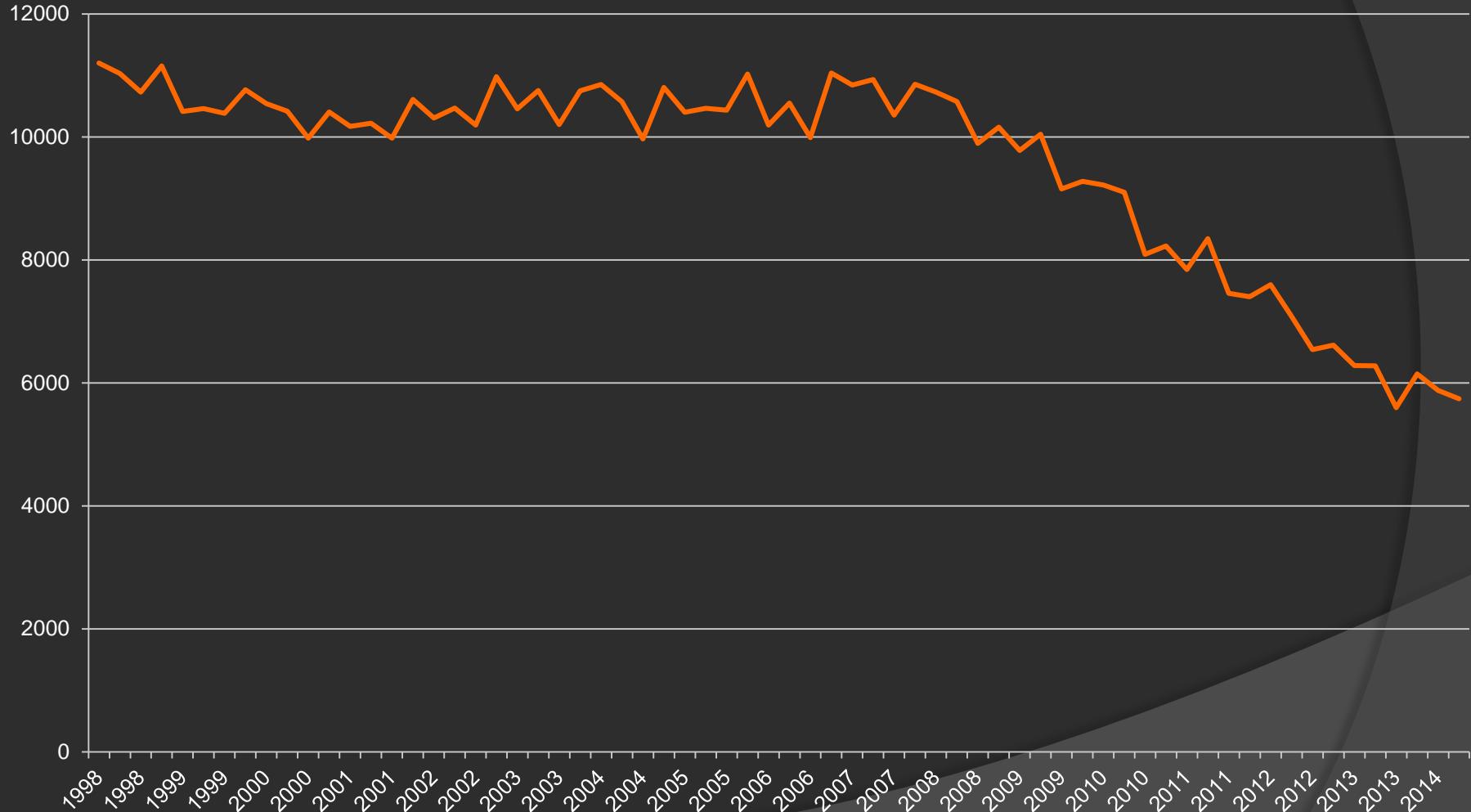
Total NZ and Maori aged 15 – 19 years



Source: Statistics New Zealand Vital Statistics annual data online through Infoshare.

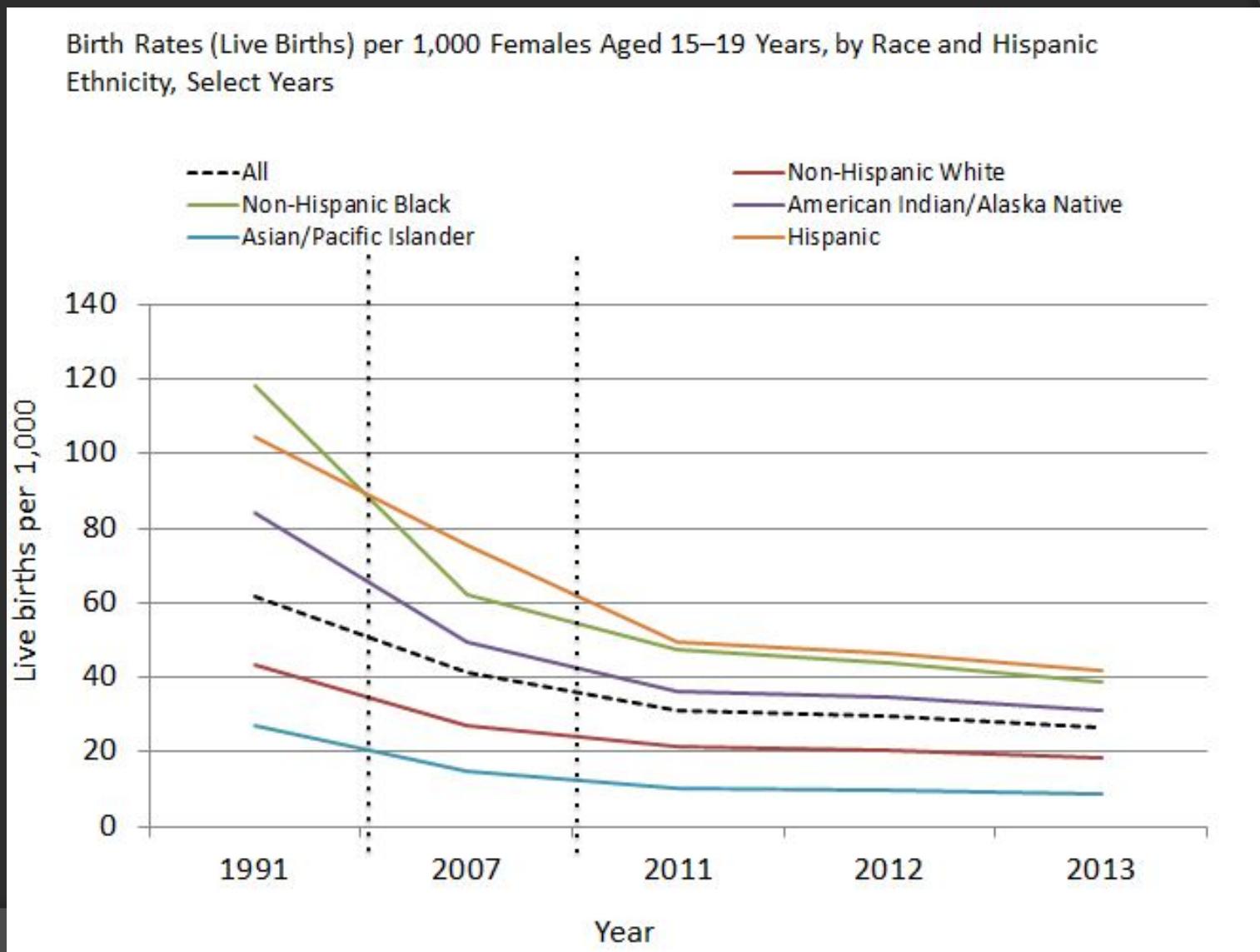
# England and Wales

## Quarterly conceptions to women aged under 18

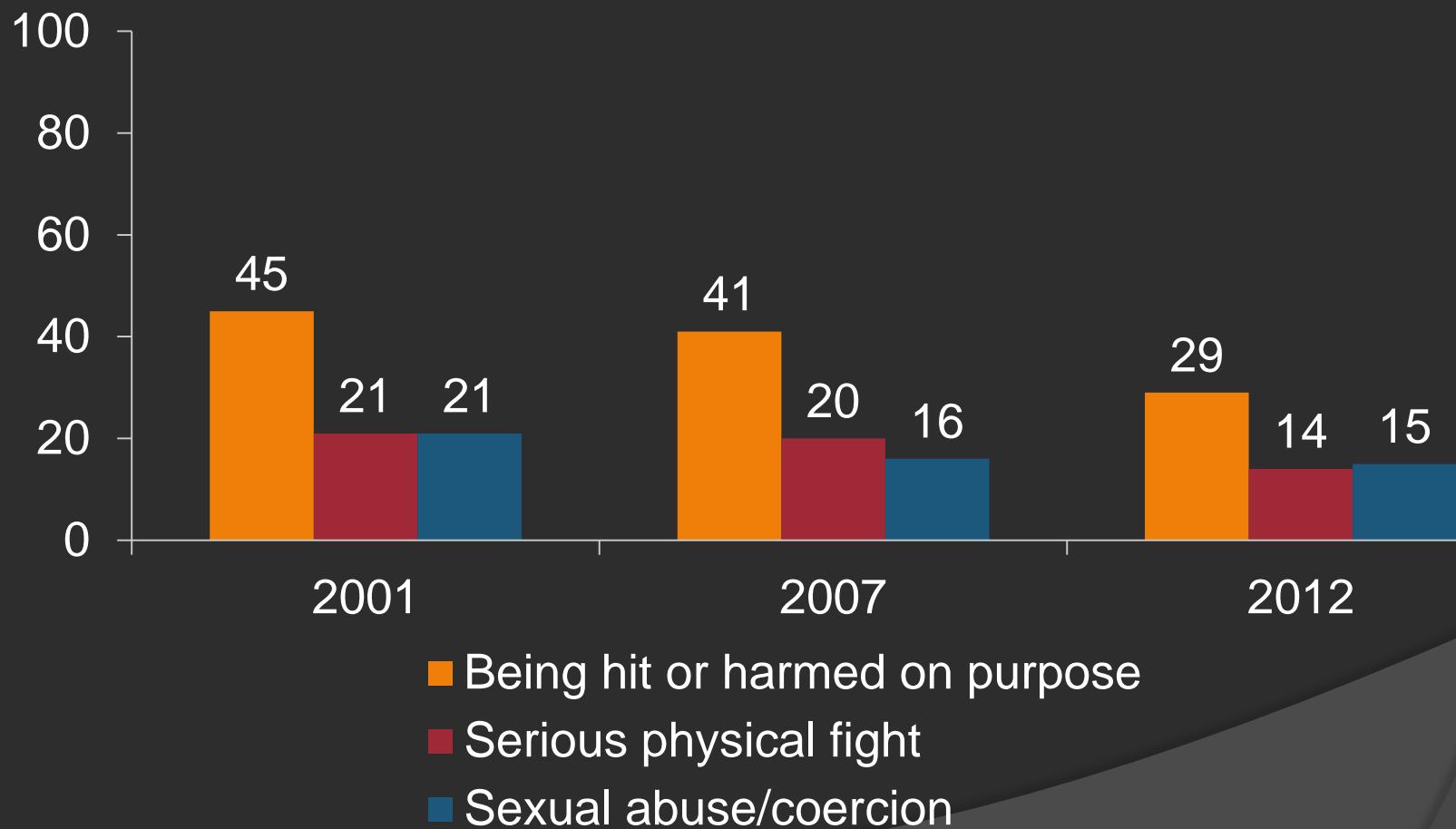


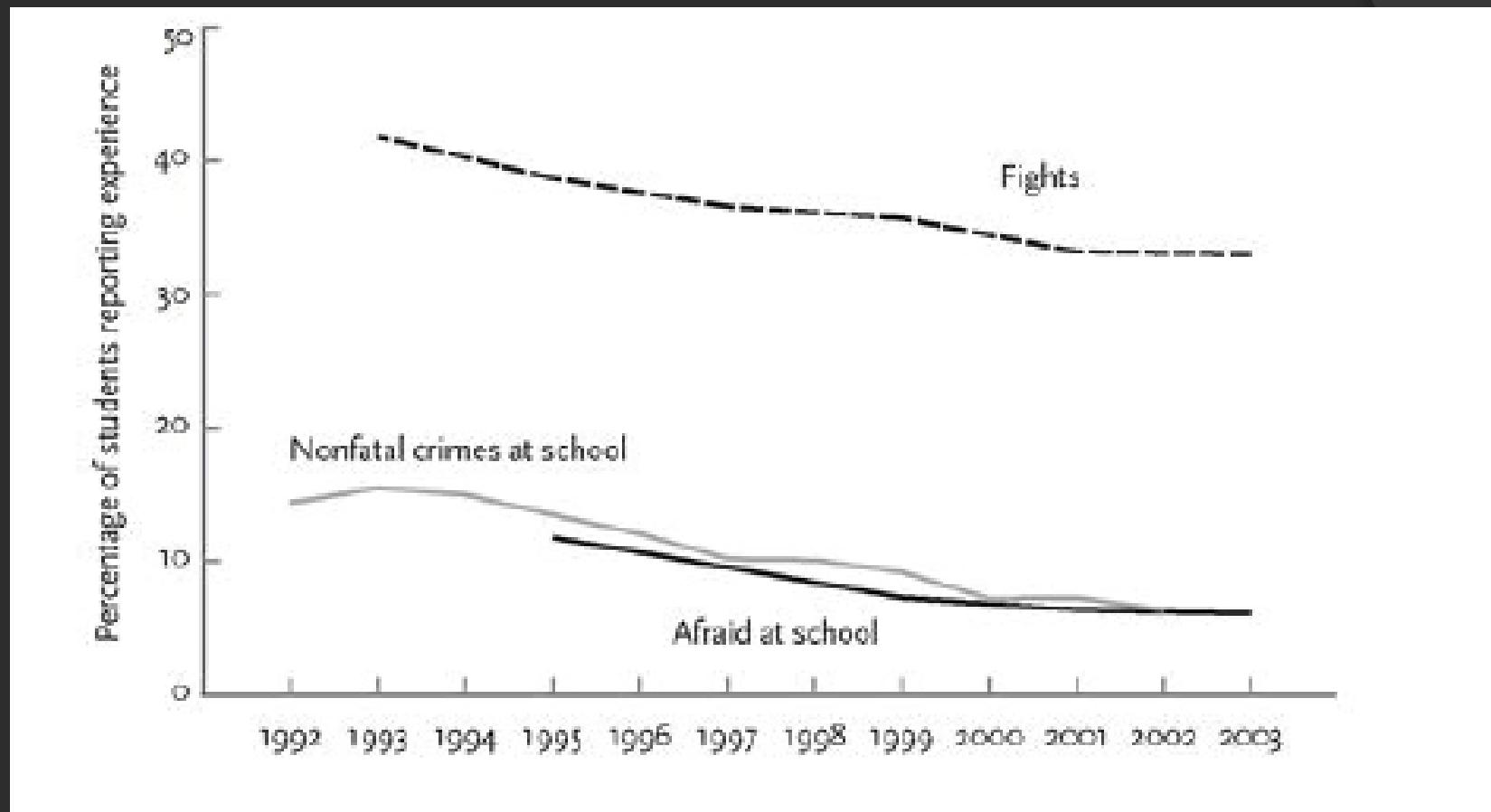
# US Teen Pregnancy Birth rates

Birth rates (live births) per 1,000 females aged 15 – 19 years



# Violence



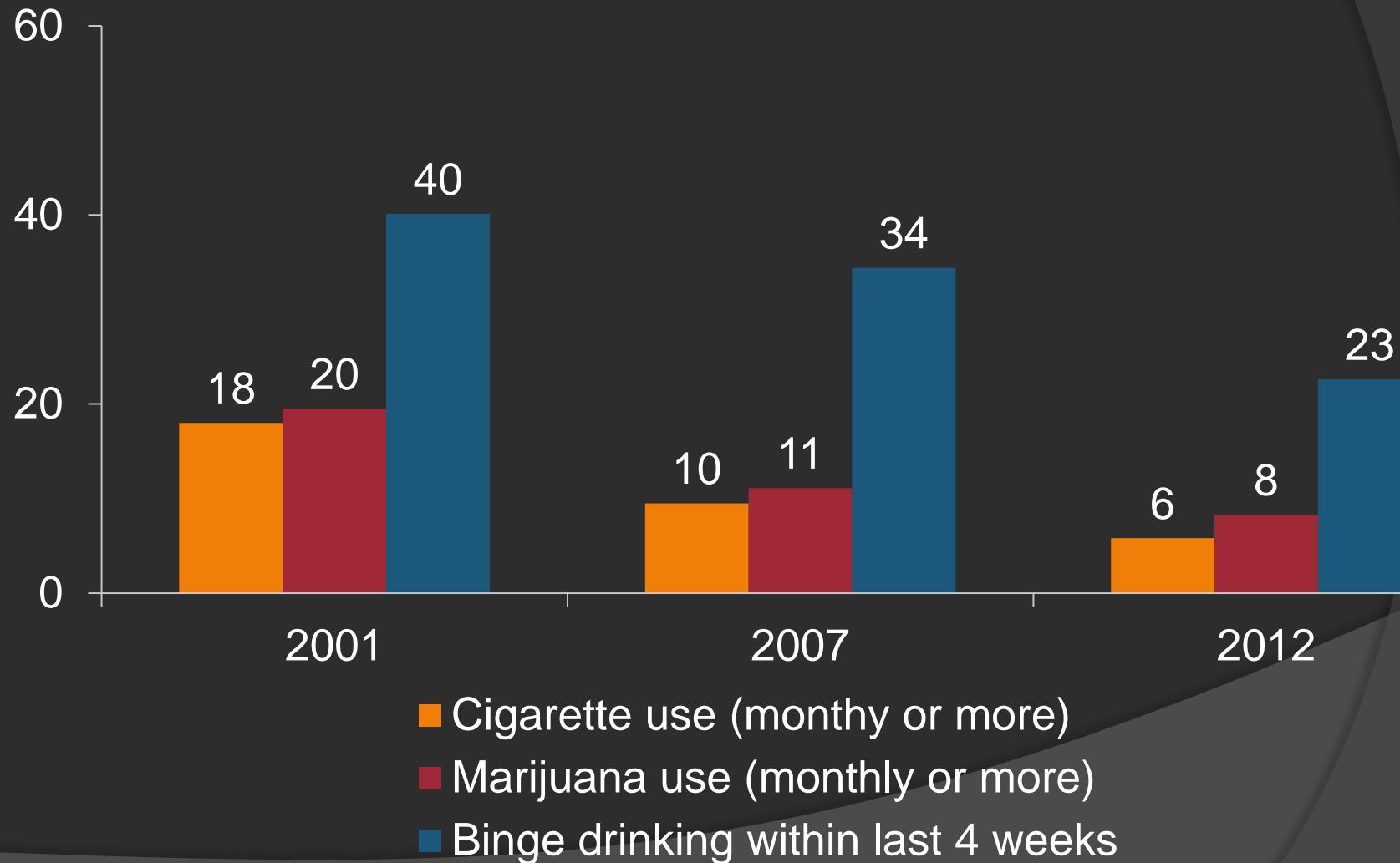


Violence against youth in the United States, 1992 – 2003

Source: Data from De Voe et al, 2004

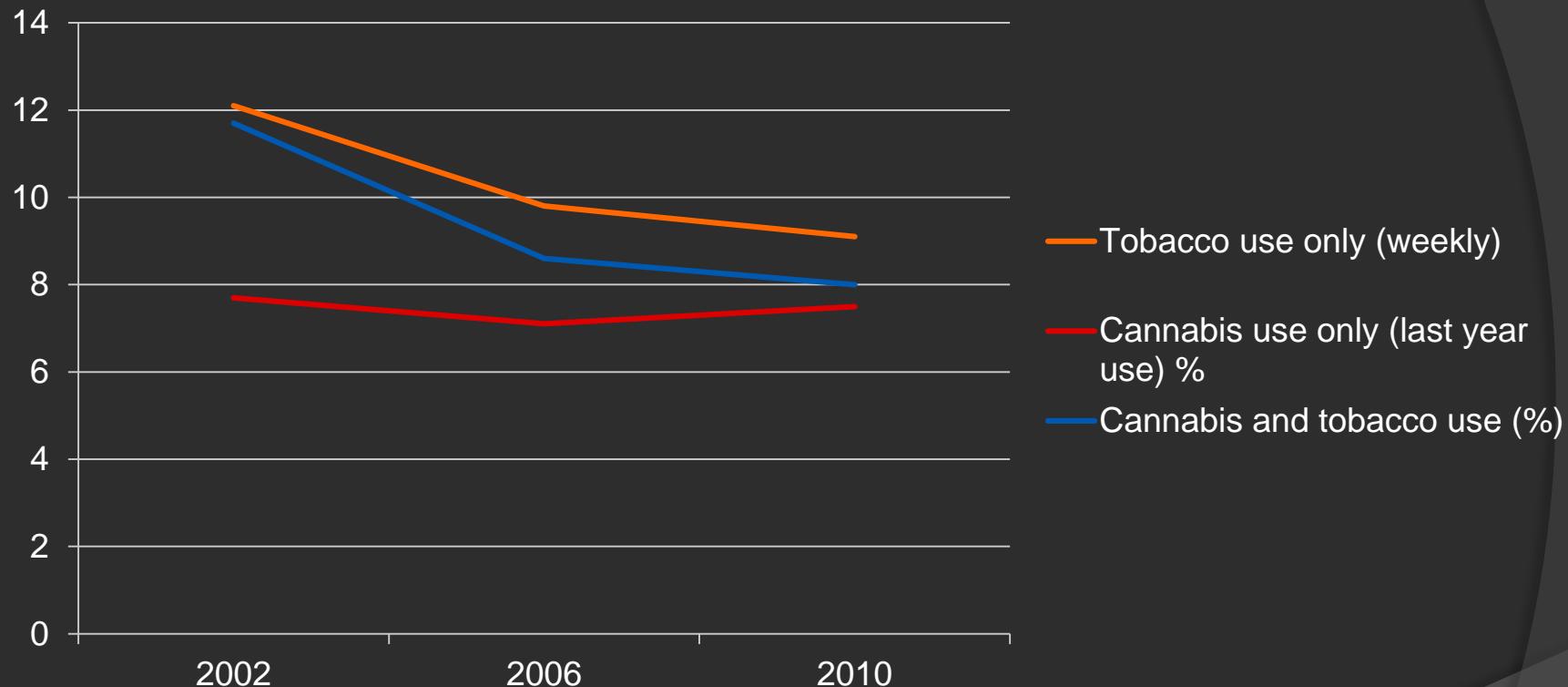
Pinker, 2001

# Substance use



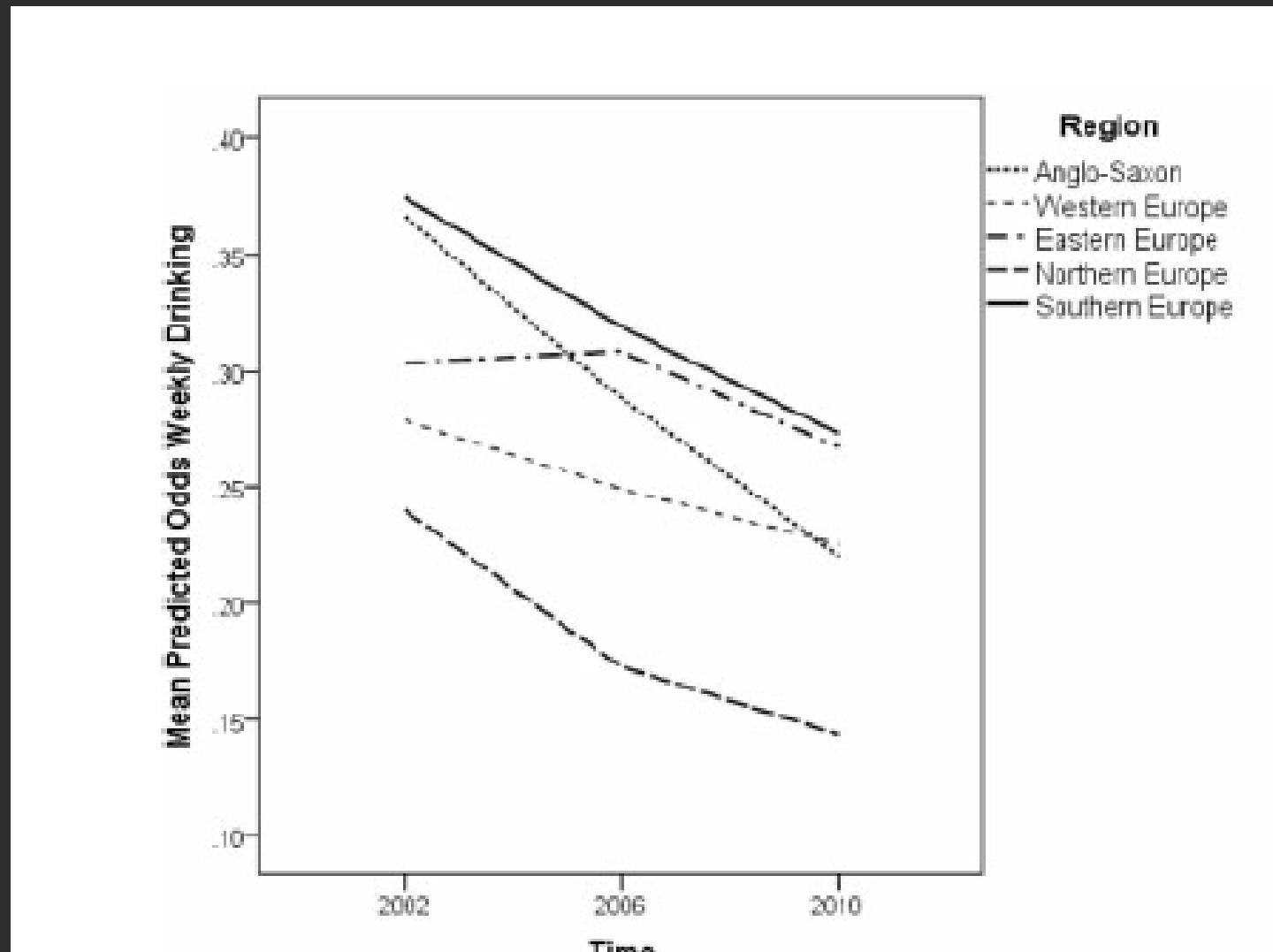
# Tobacco and Cannabis Use Trends

Source: Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children study

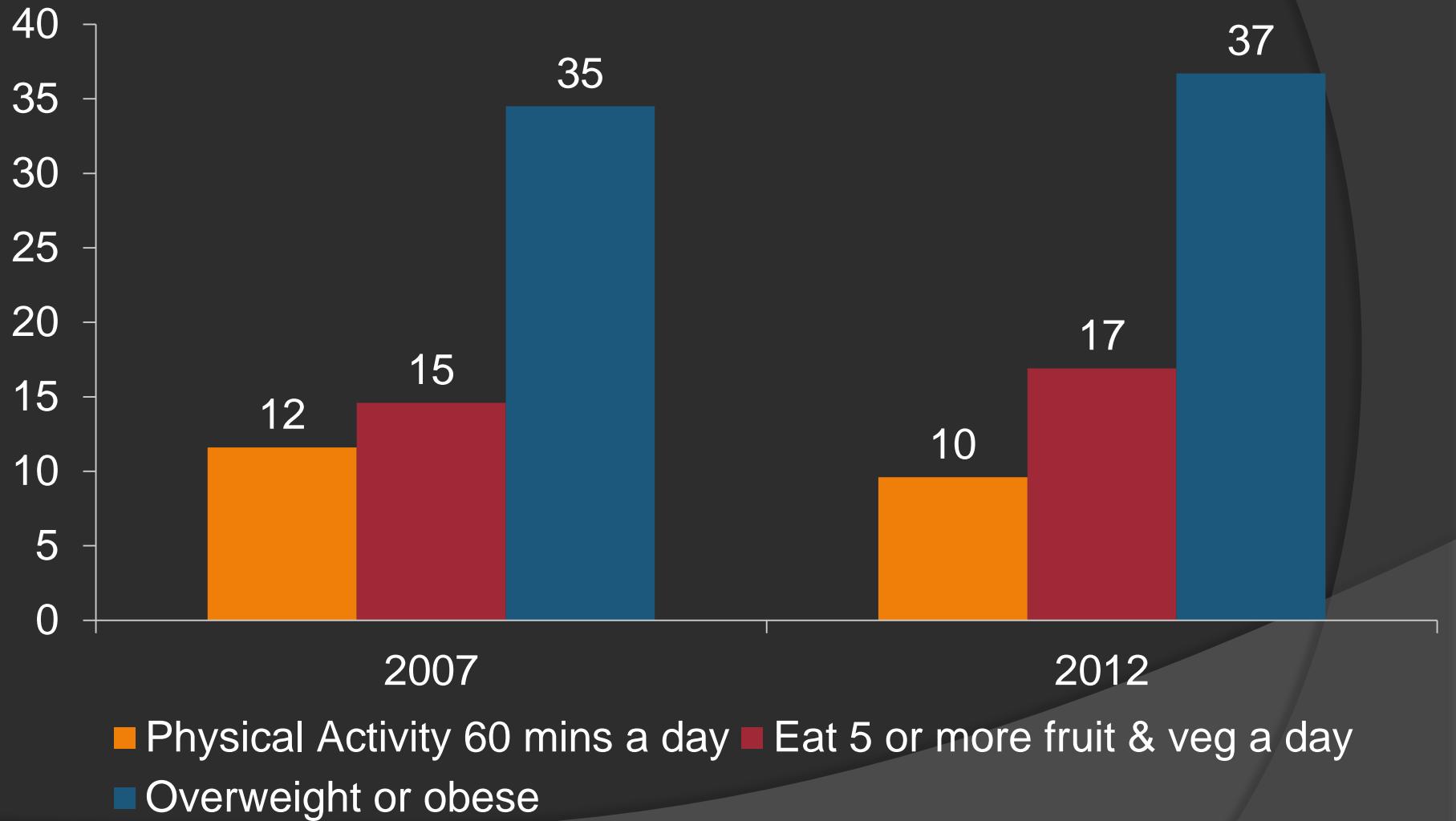


# Weekly drinking – evidence from 28 countries

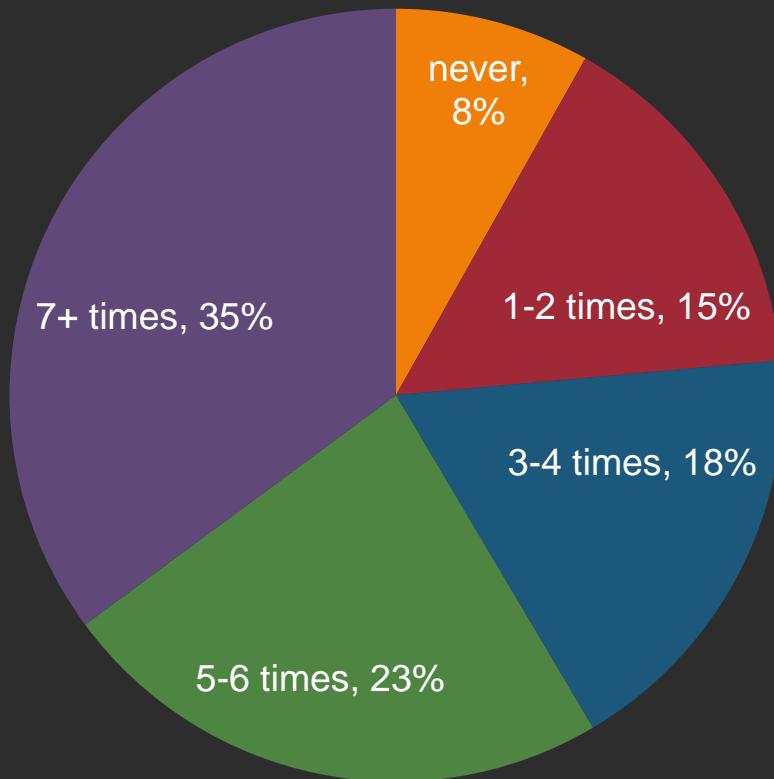
Source: Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children study



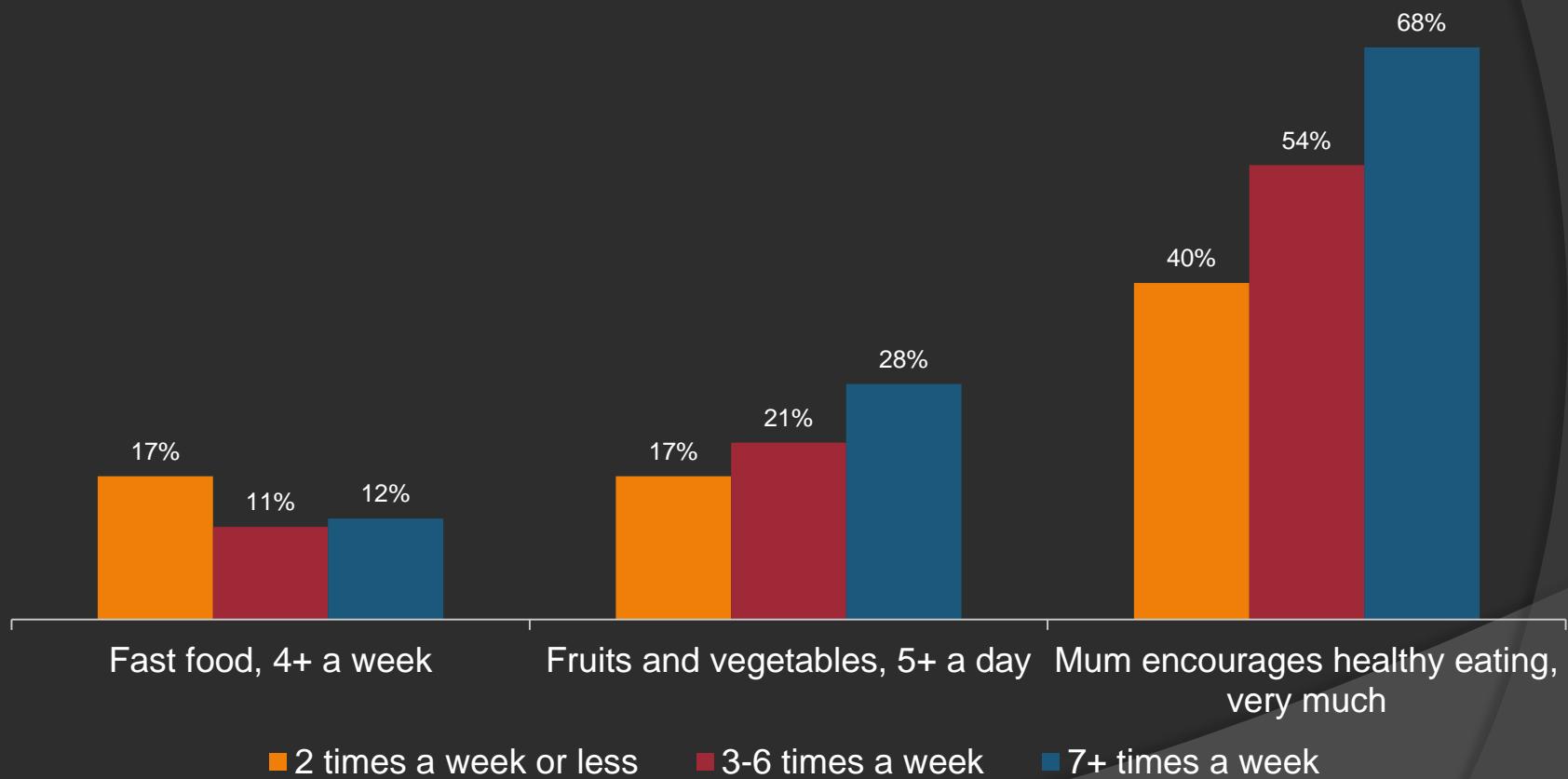
# Activity, food and body size



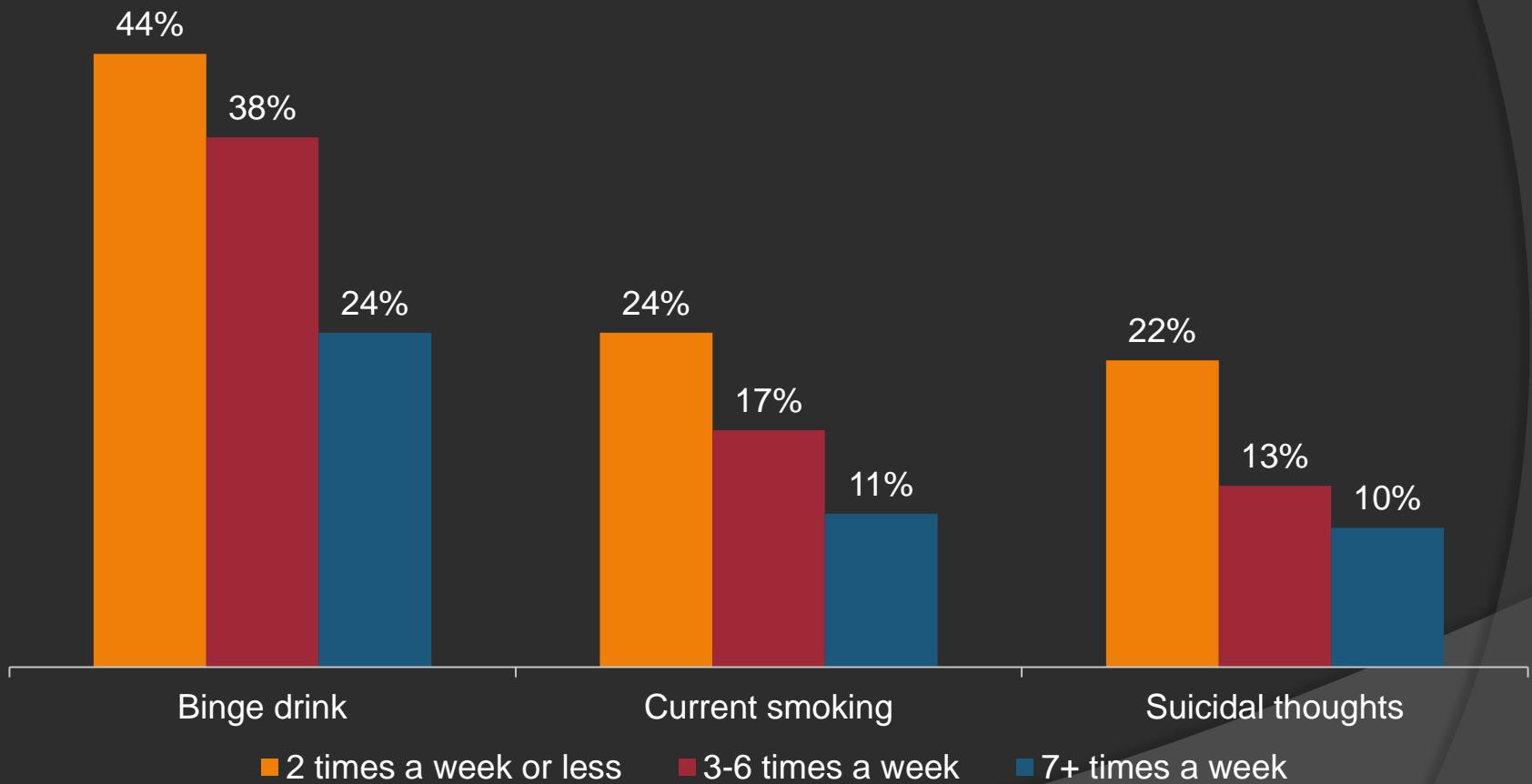
# Frequency of family meals



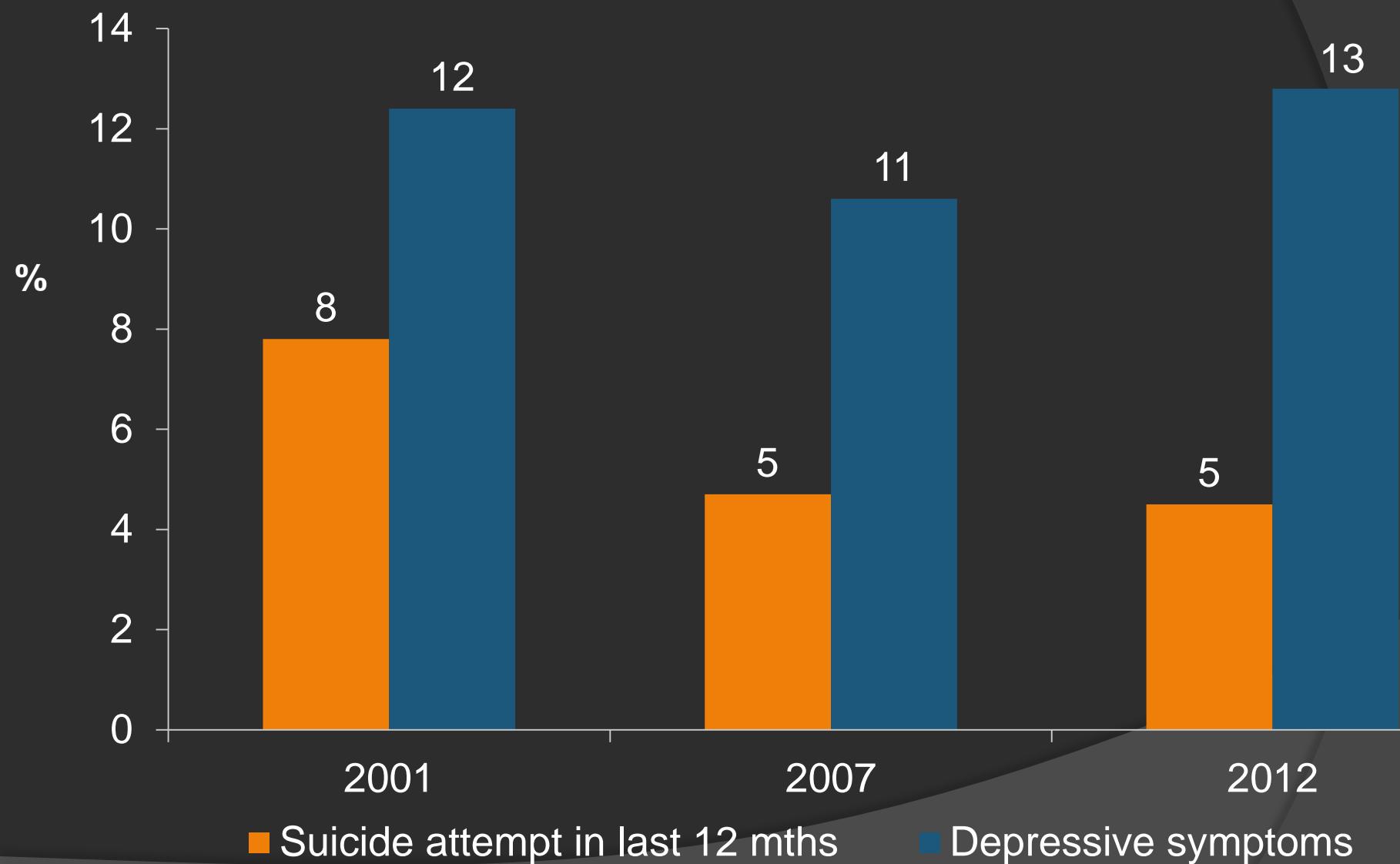
# Family meals and healthier eating



# Family meals and wellbeing

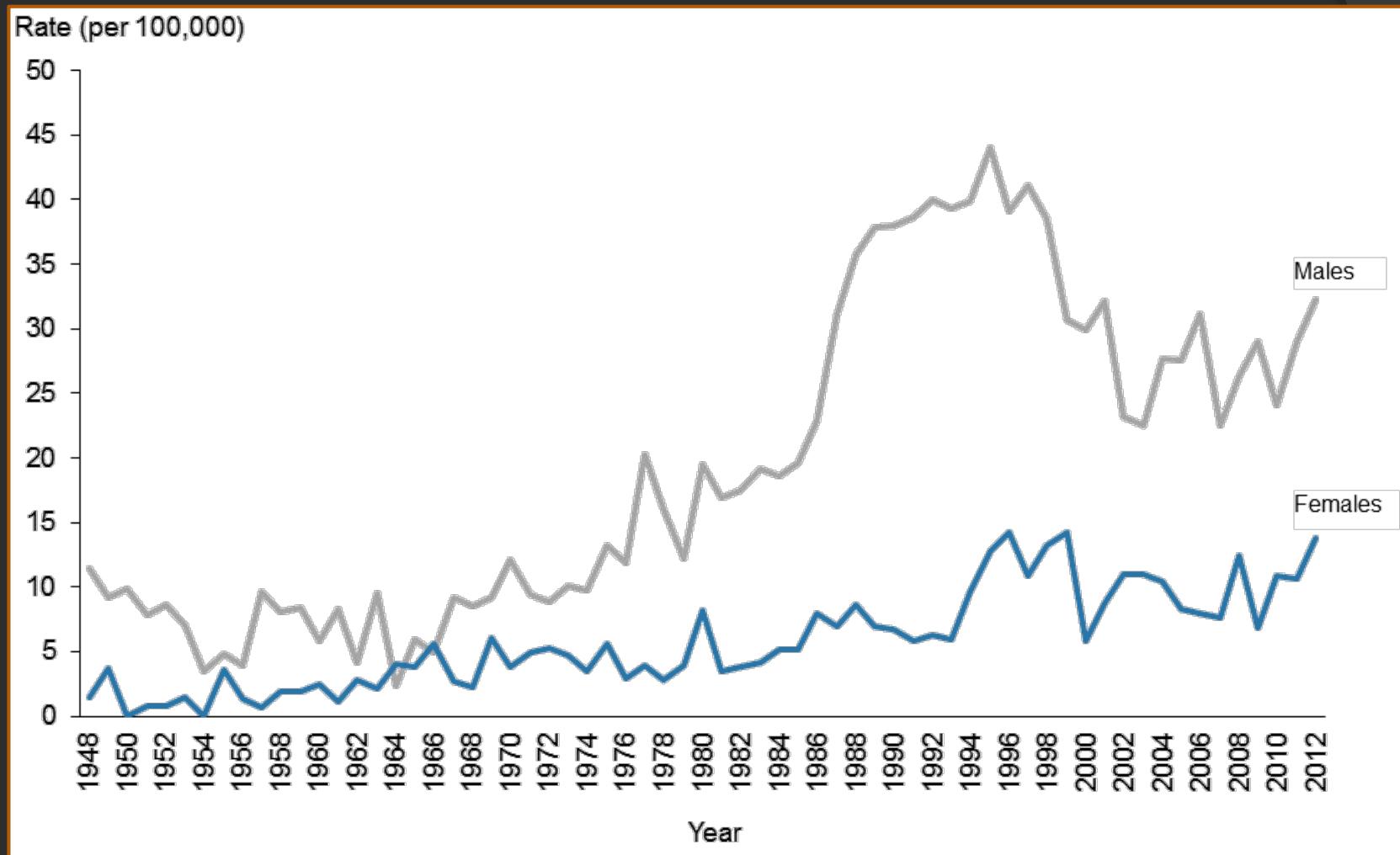


# Suicide attempts & depressive symptoms



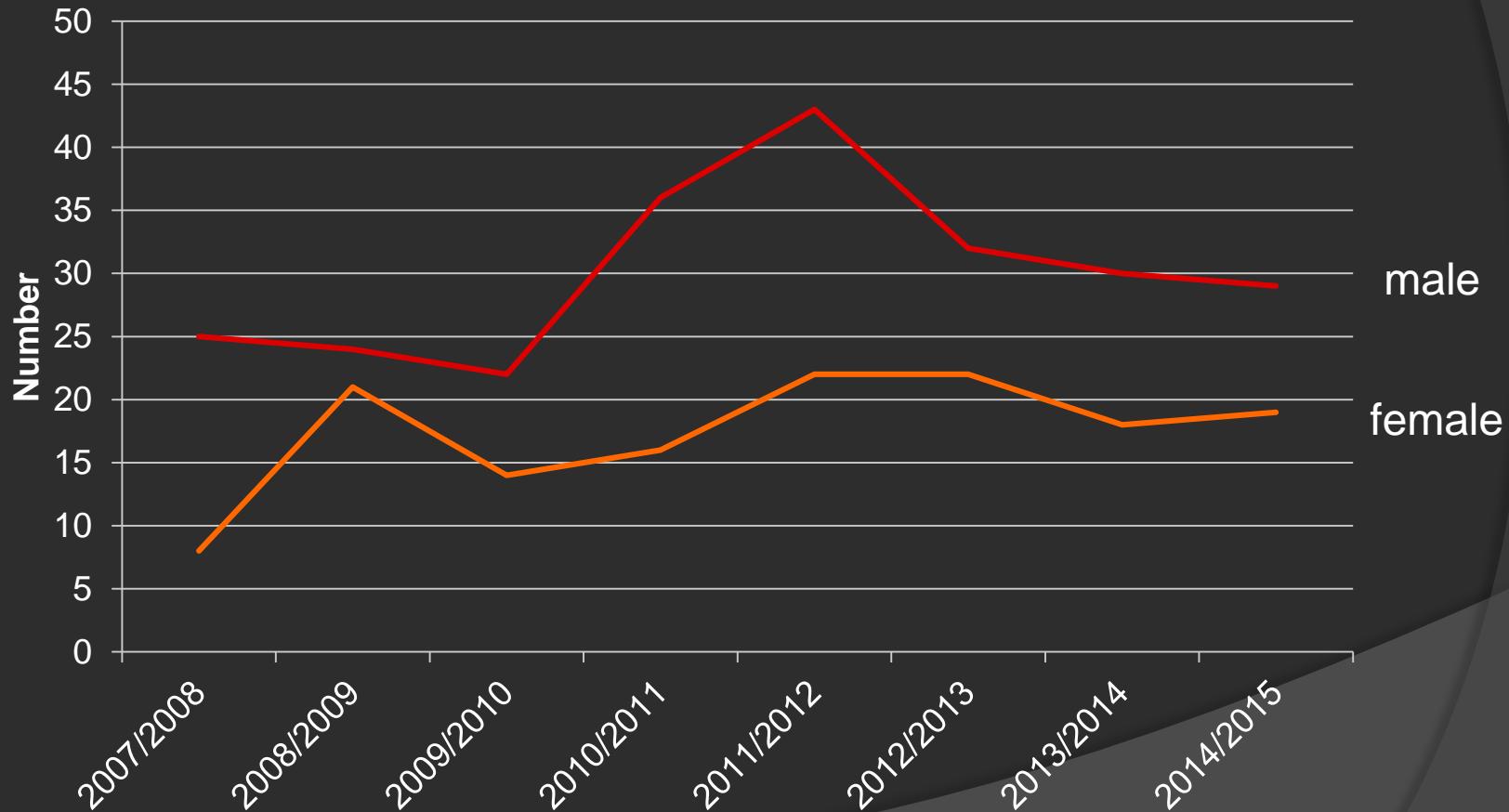
# New Zealand Youth suicide

Source: NZ Mortality Collection, ages 15–24 years, by sex, 1948–2012



# New Zealand Maori Youth Suicide Trends

Provisional Suicide deaths reported to the Coroner by Maori ethnicity between July 2007 and June 2015



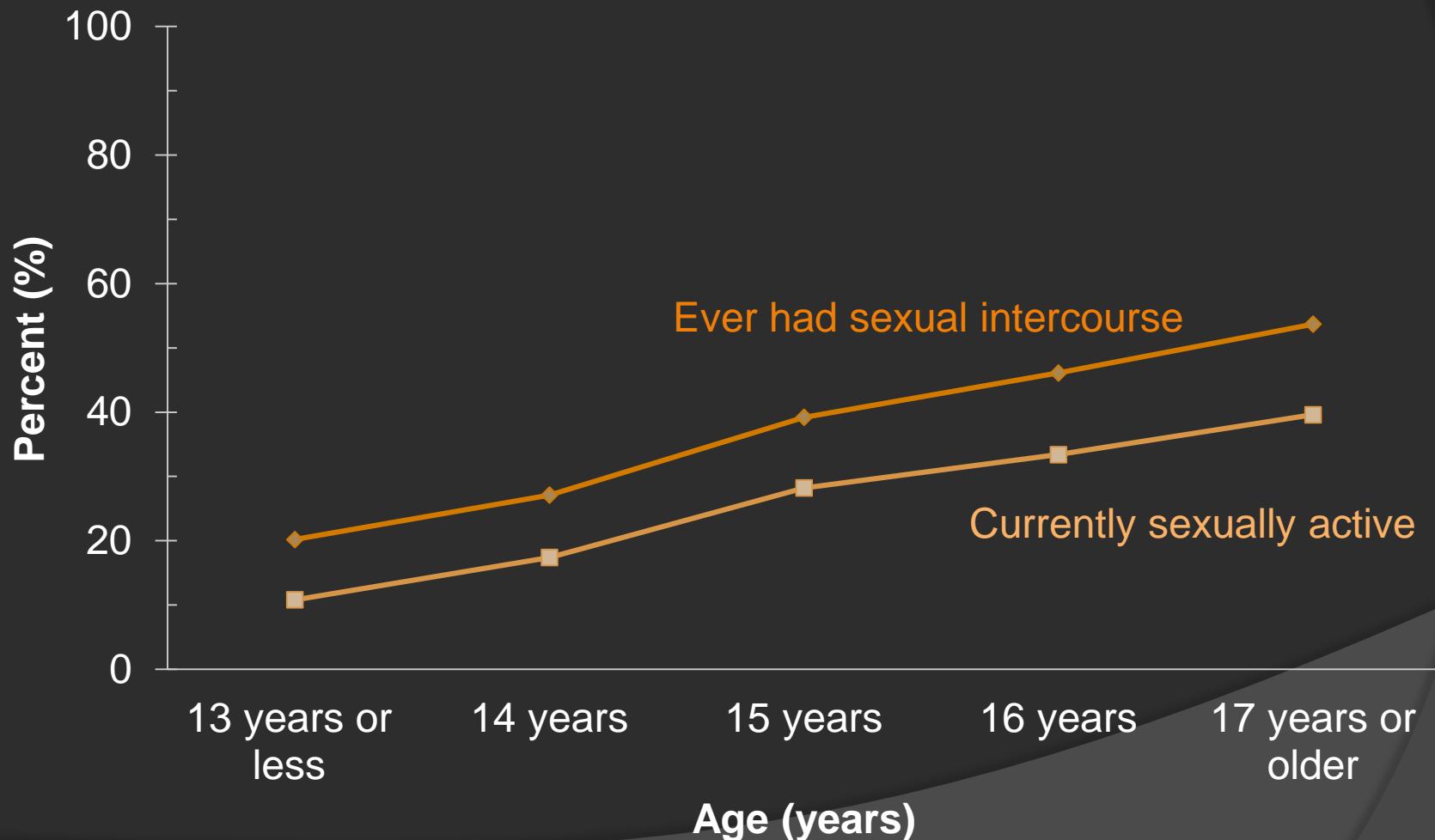
# Dispelling Myths

- ◉ “Young people are more violent and young women are becoming just as violent as young men”
- ◉ “The majority of adolescents are sexually active”
- ◉ ‘P’ use is widespread among young people

# Been in serious physical fight in the last 12 months 2001 and 2007



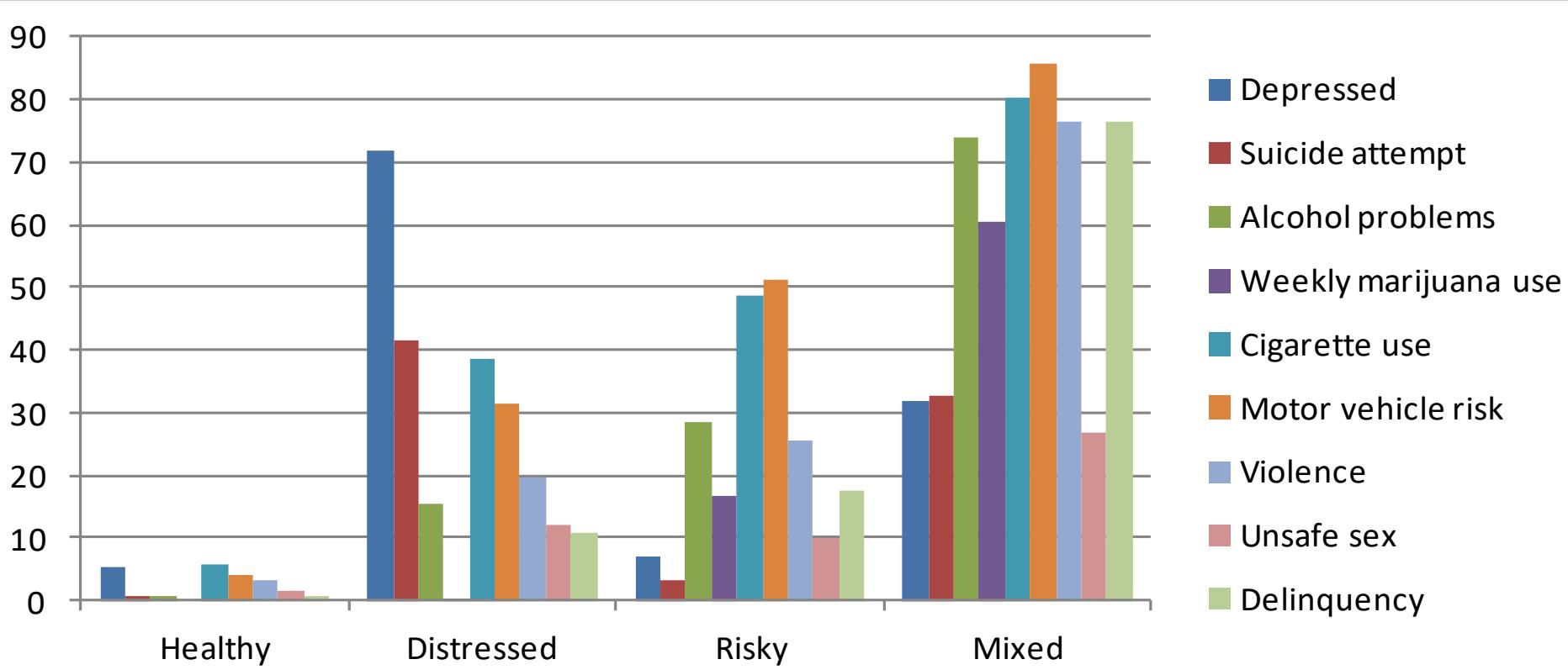
# Percentages of students who have had sex



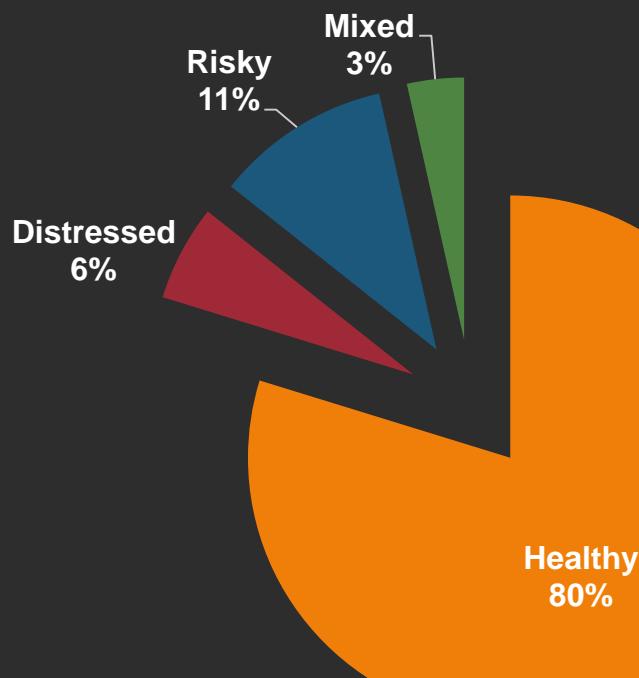
How do these issues  
cluster/ overlap with  
other health issues?

# Student health and wellbeing outcomes

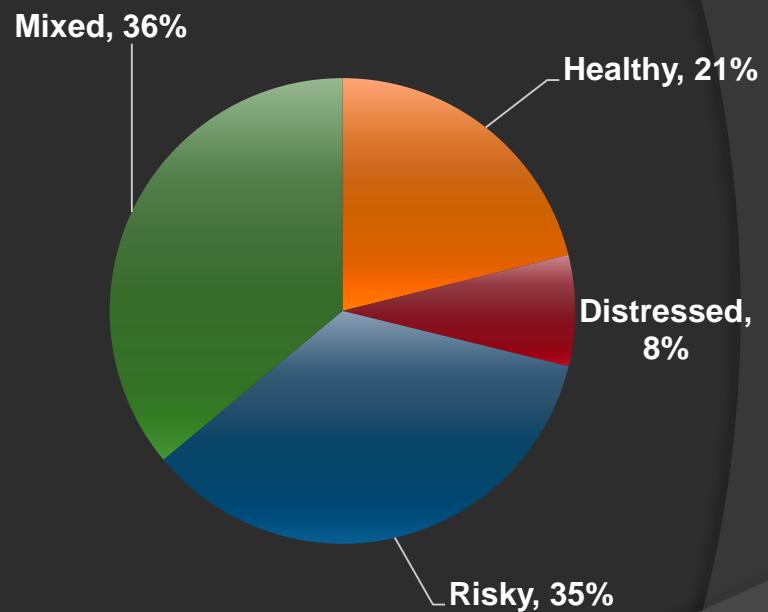
- Depression (10 items)
- Attempted suicide
- Motor vehicle risk behaviours
- Violence related behaviours
- Weekly marijuana use
- Smoking cigarettes
- Alcohol use risk
- Unsafe sexual health behaviours
- Delinquency



### Mainstream



### Alternative education



# Conditions for Youth Development - Konopka

Participate as citizens, as members of a household, as workers, as responsible members of society;

Gain experience in decision making;

Interact with peers, and acquire a sense of belonging;

Reflect on self, in relation to others, and discover self by looking outward as well as inward;

Discuss conflicting values and formulate one's own value system;

Experiment with one's own identity, with relationships to other people, with ideas; try out various roles without having to commit oneself irrevocably;

Develop a feeling of accountability in the context of a relationship among equals;

Cultivate a capacity to enjoy life.

# Strategies

- Family meals
- Find time to spend together
- Boundaries and rules
- Keep cool
- Hang in there
- Role model
- Monitoring
- Listen
- Honesty

# Acknowledgements

- Students, staff and schools participating with the youth2000 surveys
- Funders
  - Health Research Council, Department of Labour, Families Commission, ACC, SPARC, ALAC, and Ministries of Youth Development, Social Development, Justice and Health
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