

Underage Drinking

Research, Evaluation, and Related Efforts

Minor Consuming Alcohol Conference

April 4, 2014

Marny Rivera, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Justice Center, UAA

L. Diane Casto, MPA

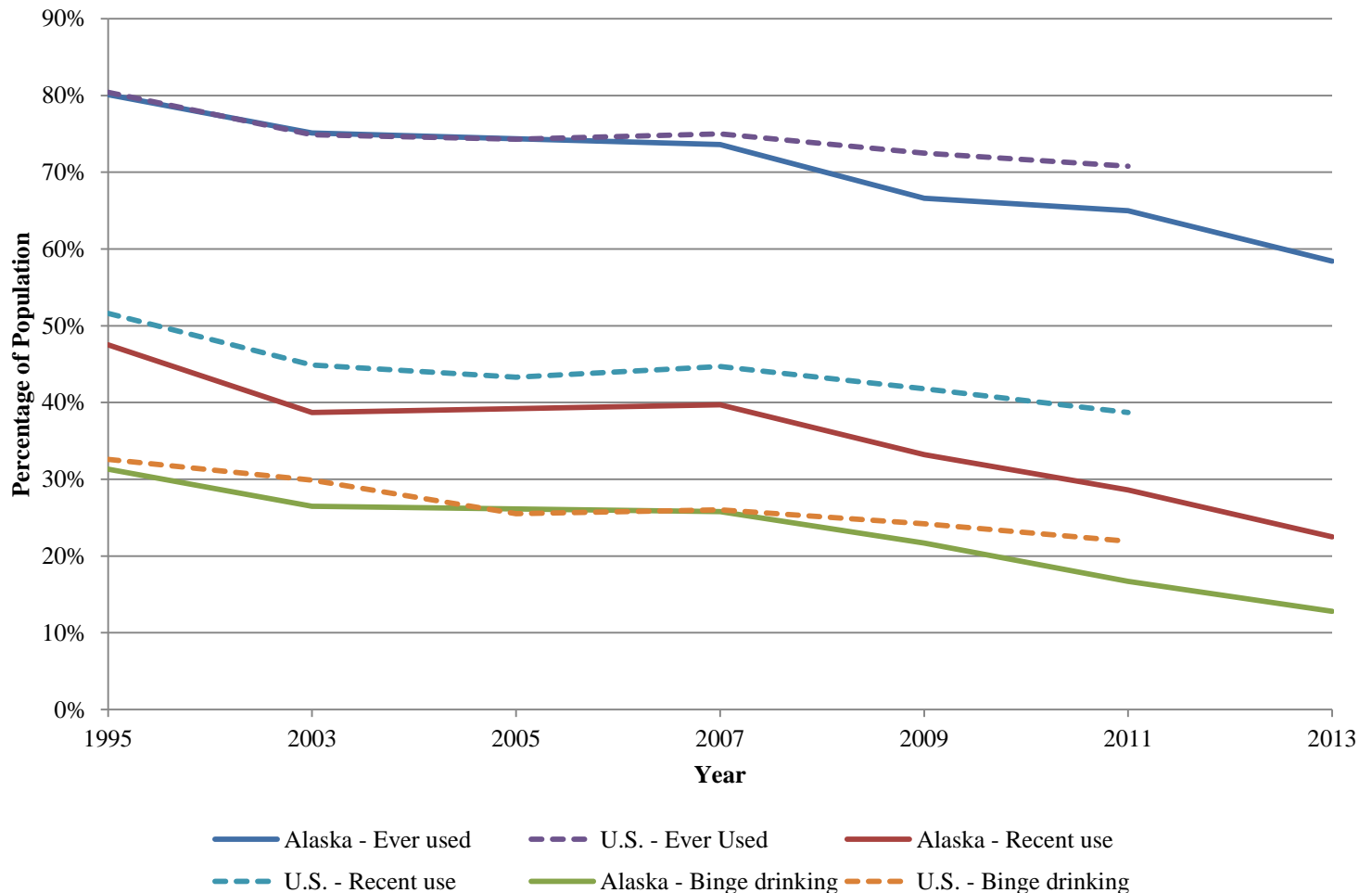
Prevention Manager, DHSS, Behavioral Health

Today's Topics

- Existing research on underage drinking in Alaska
- Value of researching minor consuming enforcement and response
- Related efforts in Alaska and nationwide
- Reducing underage drinking in Alaska

Student Alcohol Use in Alaska

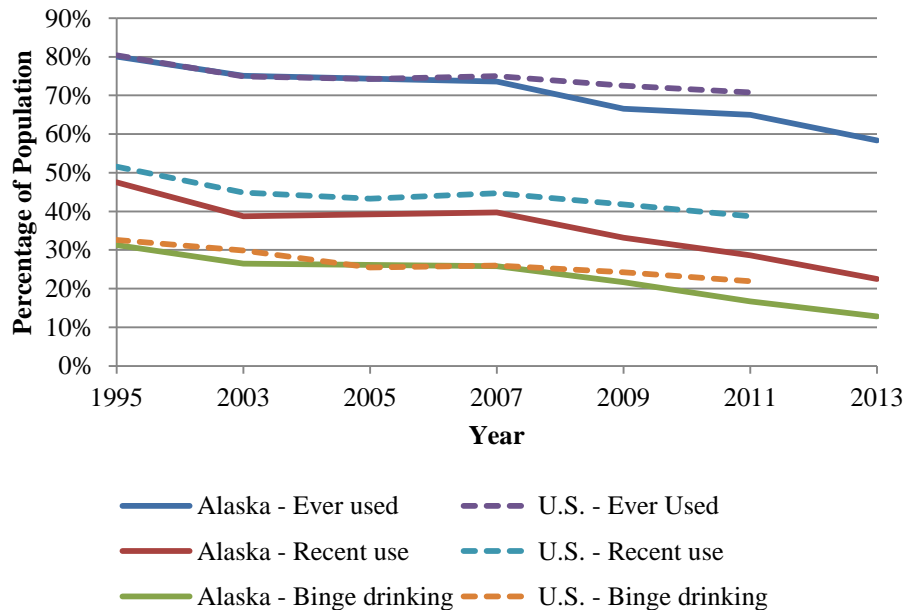
Alaska and U.S. Underage Alcohol Use
1995, 2003, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013



Student & Adult Alcohol Use in Alaska

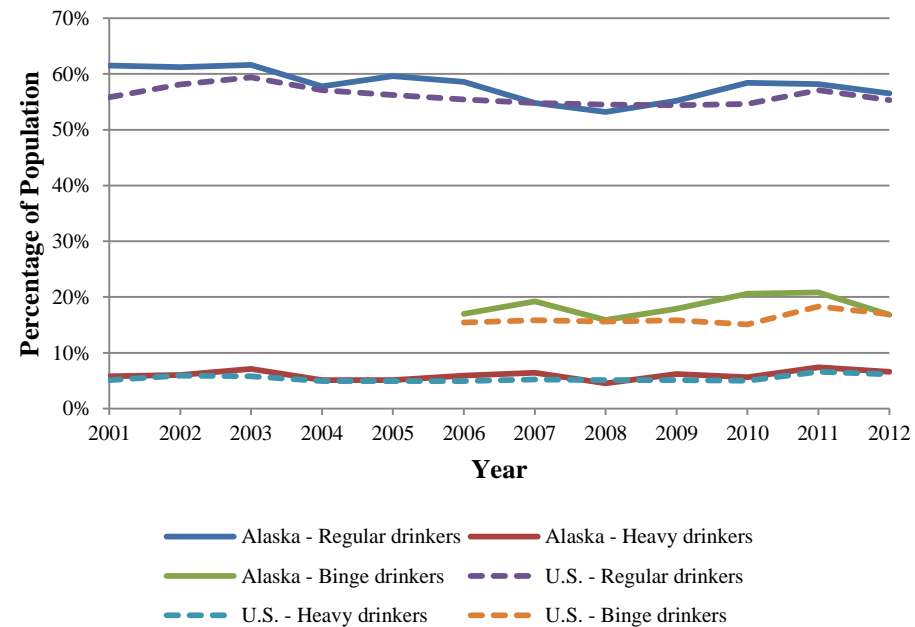
Underage

Alaska and U.S. Underage Alcohol Use
1995, 2003, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013



Adult

Alaska and U.S. Adult Alcohol Use
2001-2012



Youth Alcohol Indicators Report

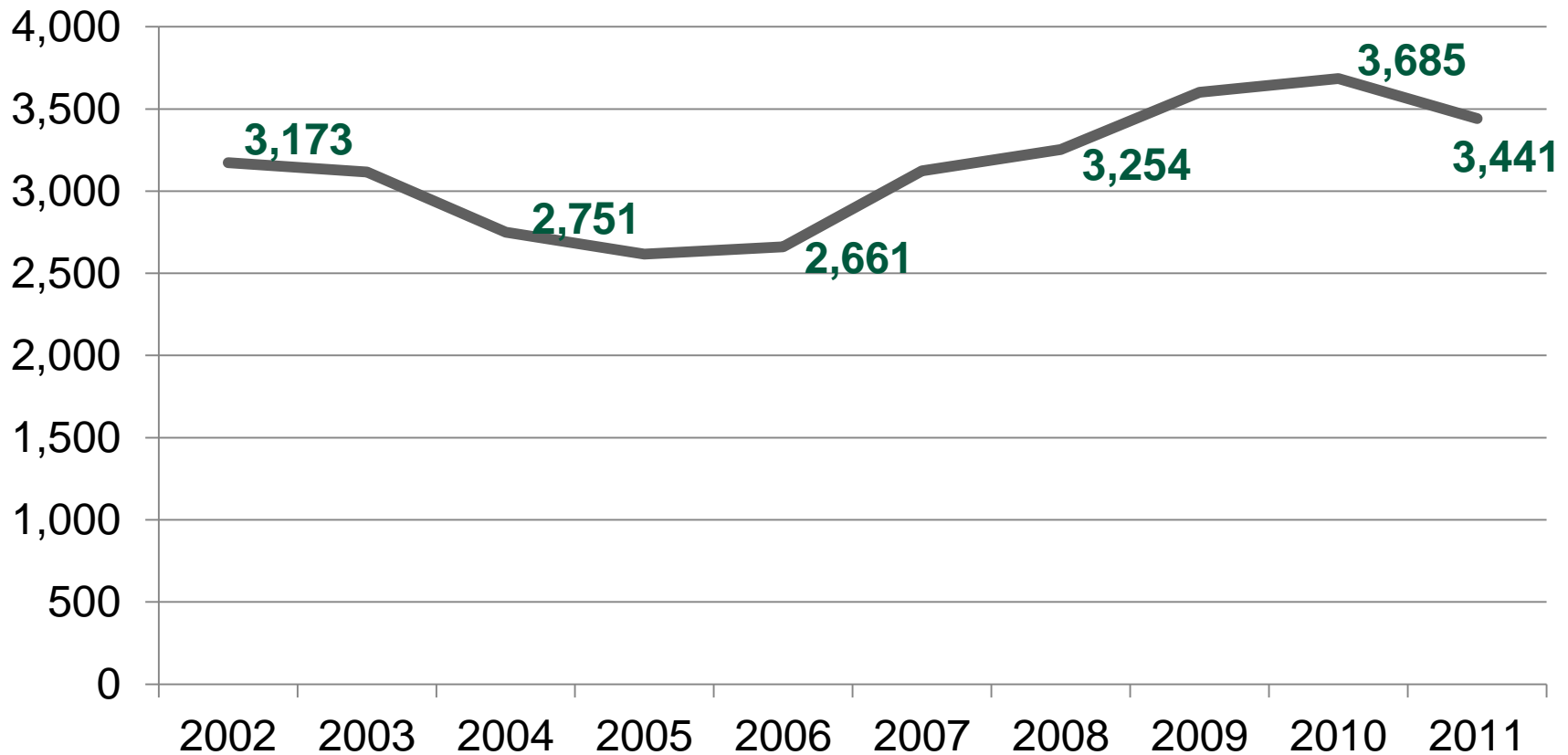
- Goals:
 - Comprehensive compilation of youth alcohol indicators that document the problem in Anchorage and/or Alaska
 - Ability to assess trends over time
- Areas
 - Access
 - Social Norms and Perceptions
 - Consumption
 - Consequences: School-related, risky behavior, legal, driving, treatment, health and safety, and economic
- Data gap analysis

Data Gaps & Limitations

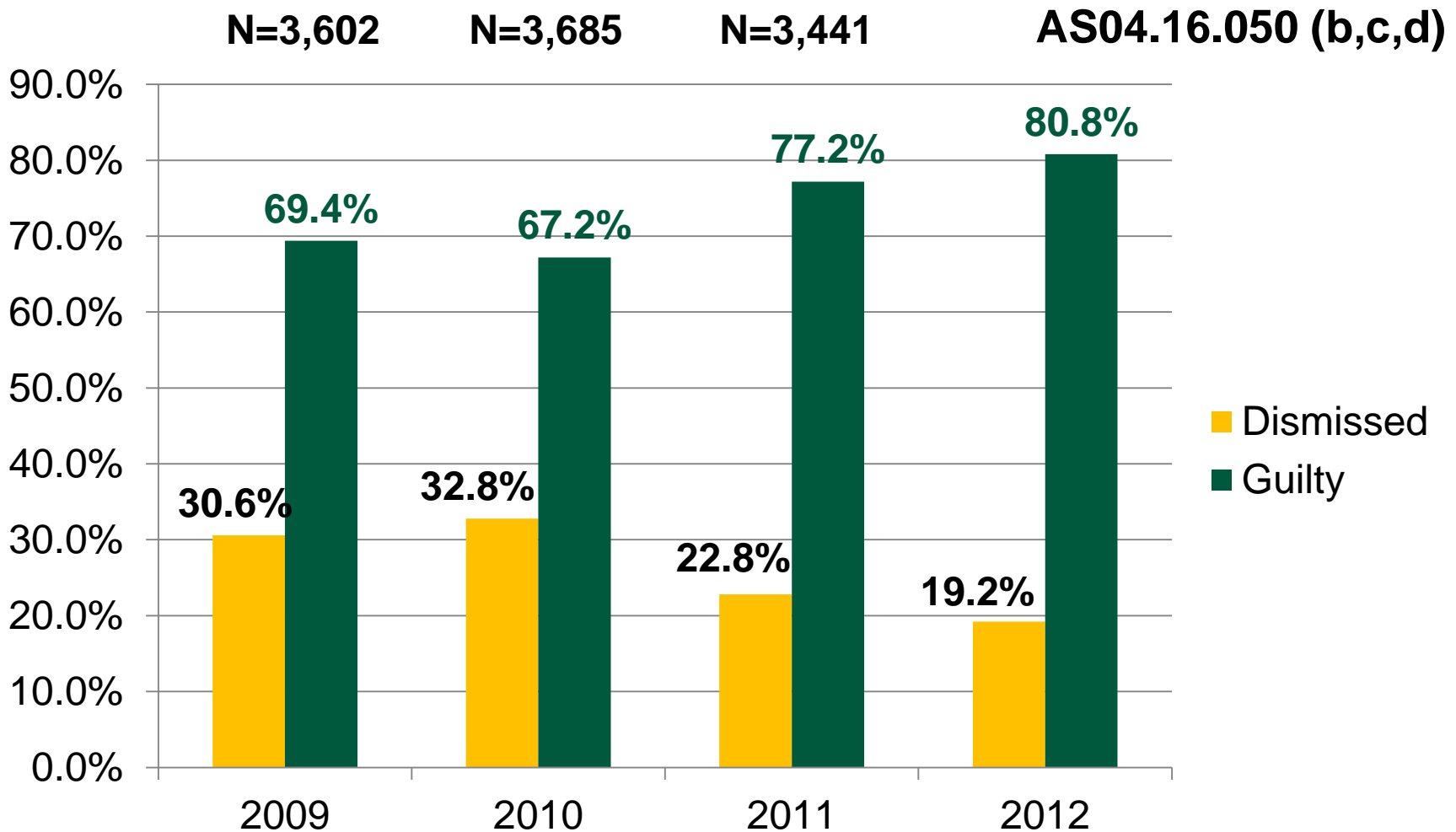
- General data problems:
 - Different time periods and cycles for collection (annual, biennial, multiple years collapsed)
 - Different designated age groups (12 to 17, 12 to 20, grade level, all students responding)
- Missing indicators of interest
- Few indicators available for Anchorage and Alaska available to examine trends over time
- Requires resources to update regularly

Minor Consuming Charges in Alaska (ACS)

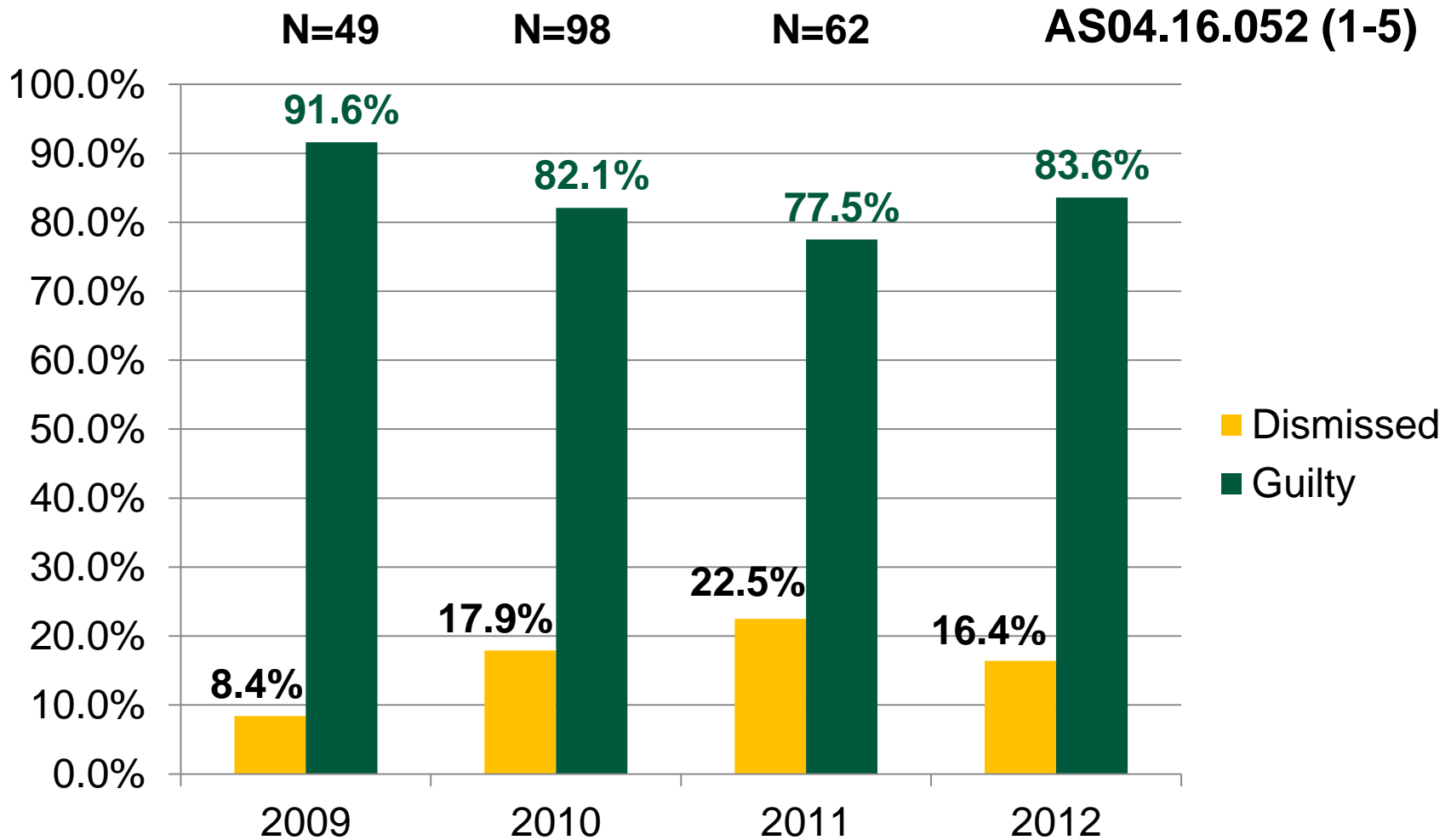
Minor consuming charges



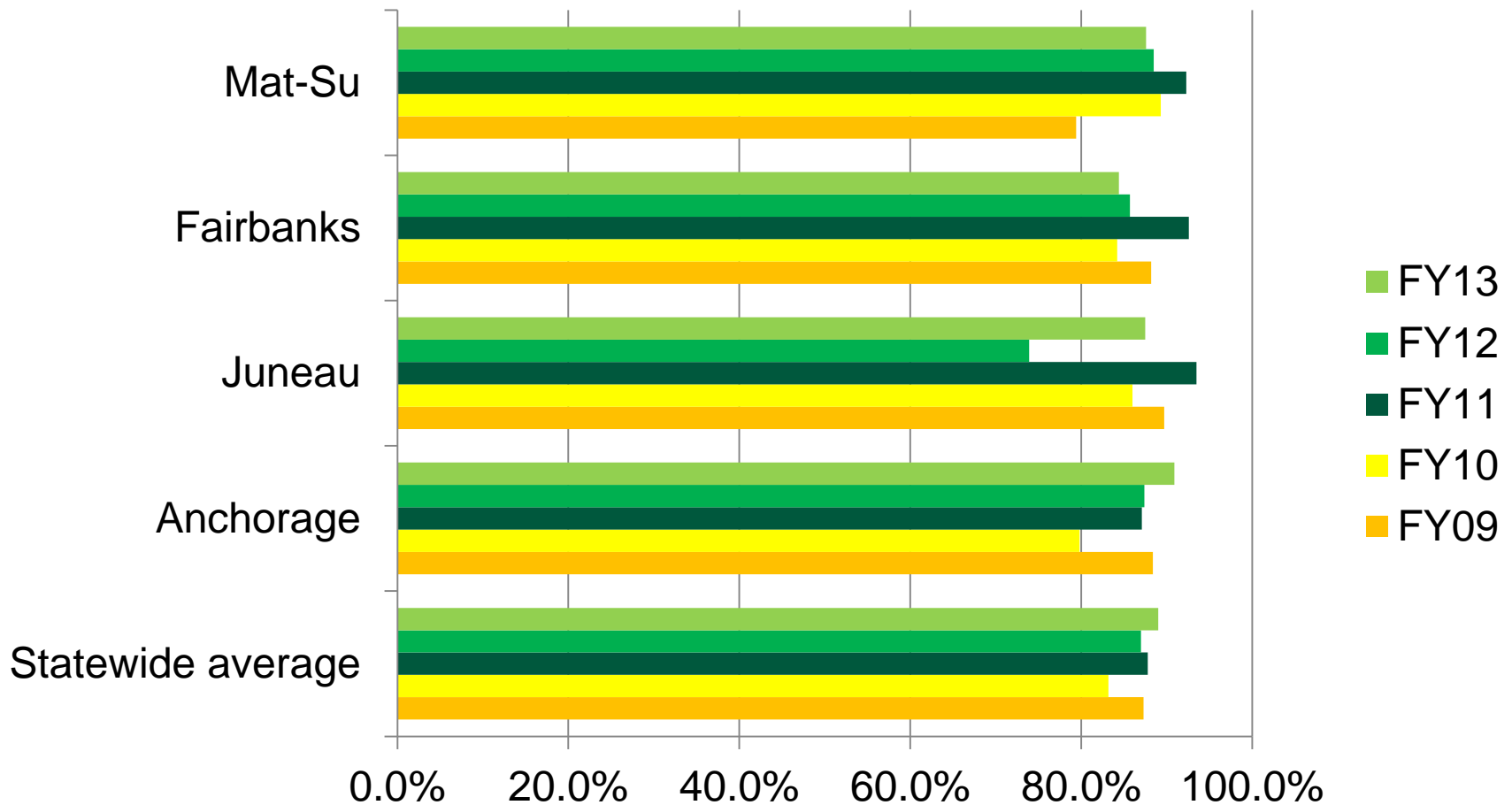
Minor Consuming Dispositions in Alaska (ACS)



Licensees Who Furnish/Deliver Alcohol to Minor Charges & Dispositions in Alaska



Licensee Compliance Rates in Alaska (ABC)

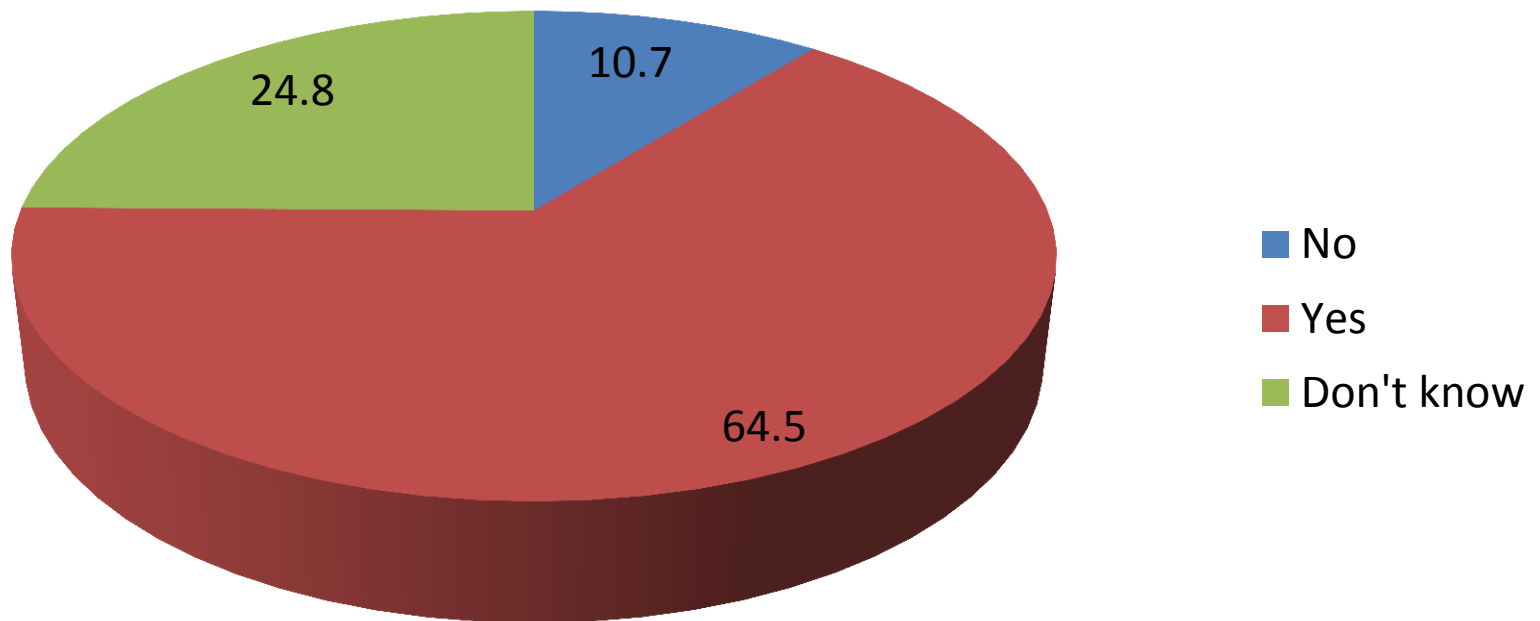


Anchorage Underage Drinking Survey

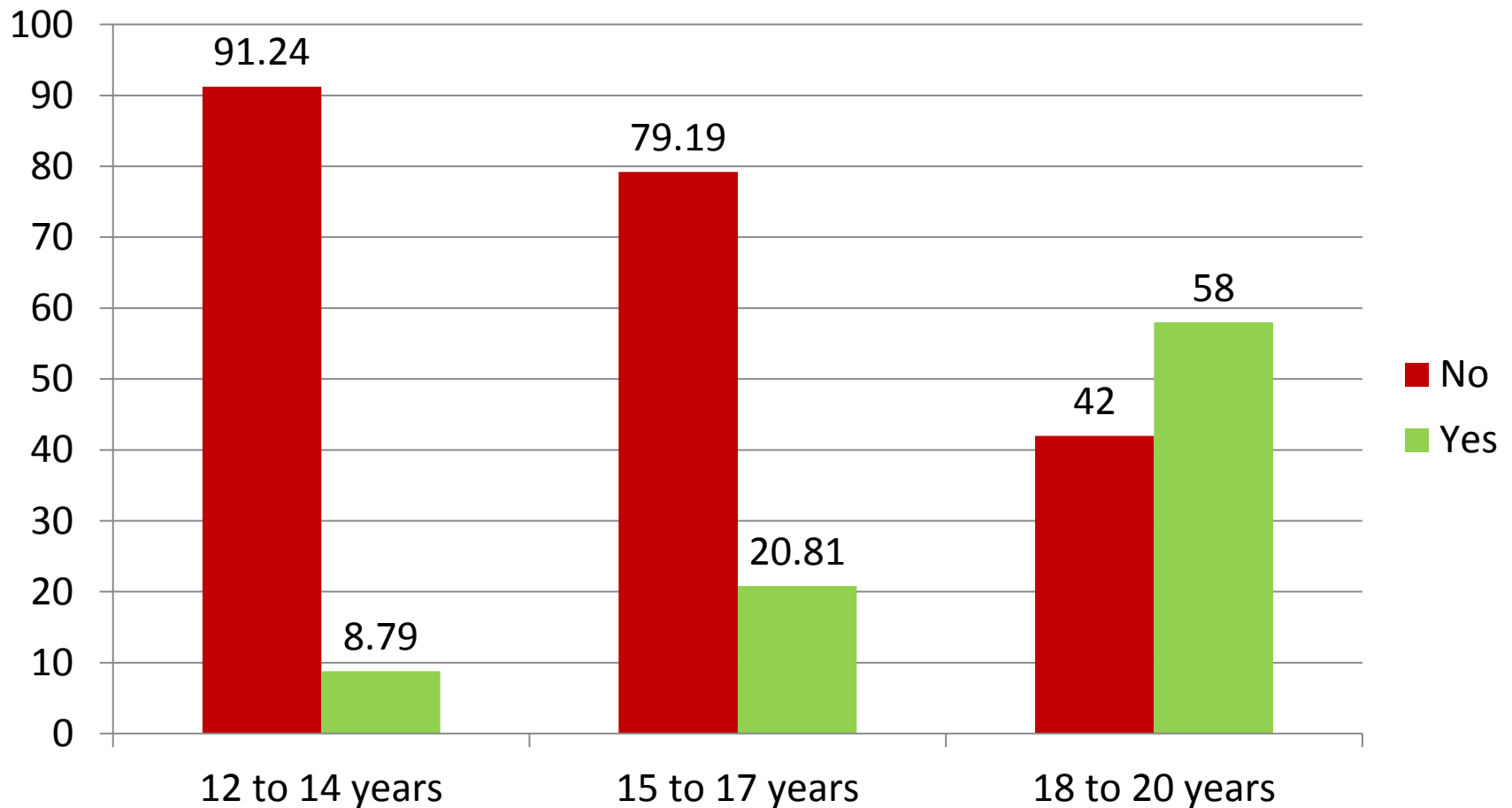
Survey Topics

- Problem of underage drinking
- Adult influences
- Consumption
- Responses
- Media exposure
- Background
- 113 questions
- Conducted 2010 - 2011
- Scientific survey of adult perceptions of underage drinking
- Random sample of adult Anchorage residents
- 1,516 completed surveys

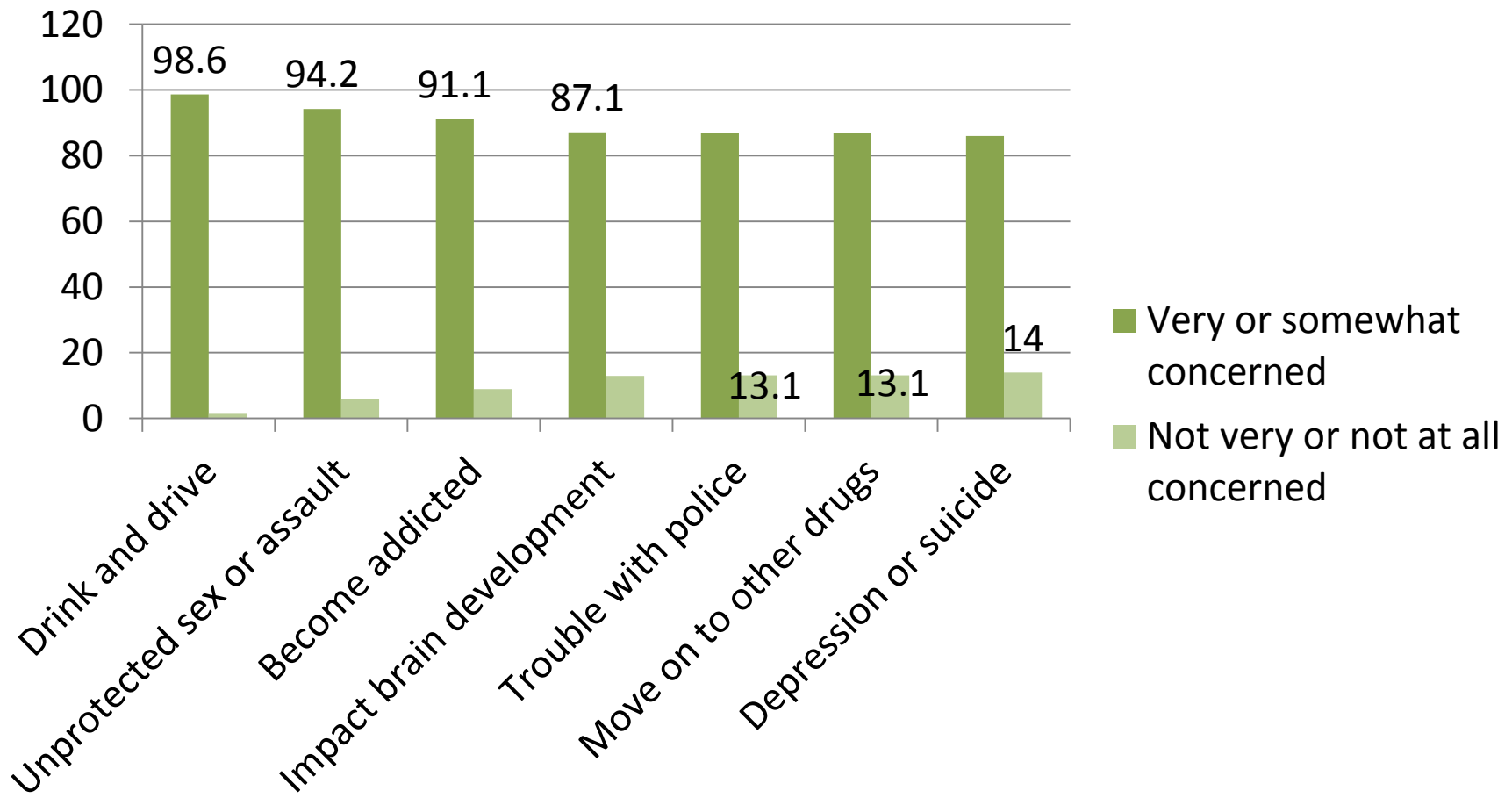
Underage Drinking is a Serious Problem in this Community



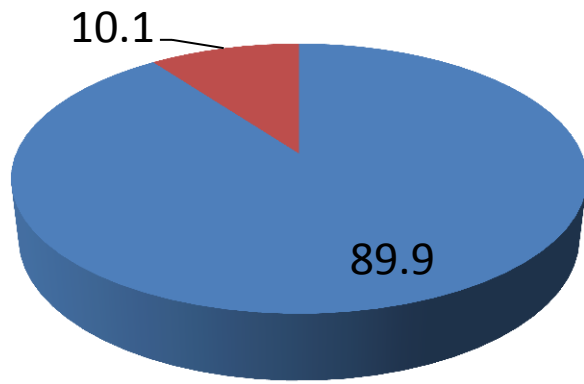
Acceptability of Drinking by People in Various Age Groups



Risks of Underage Drinking

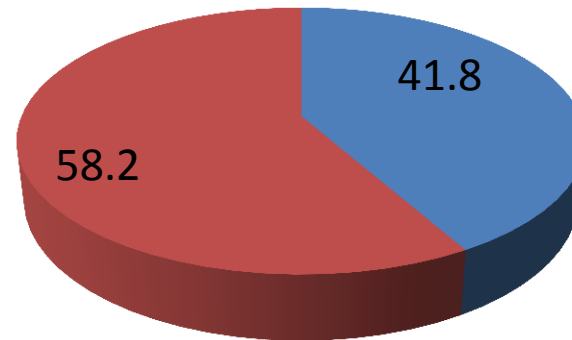


Knowledge of parents or adults who permit anyone under age 21 to consume alcohol under their supervision



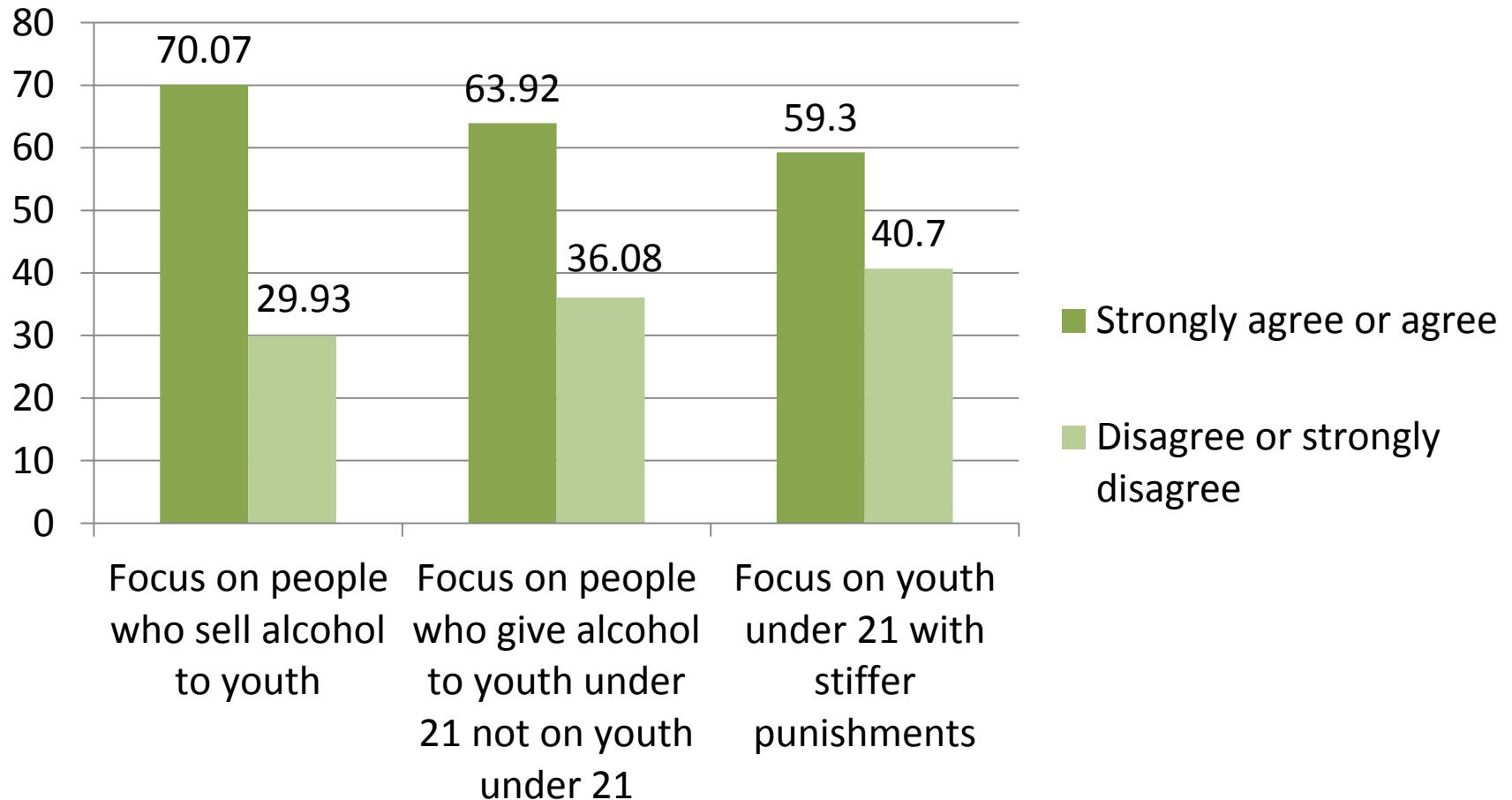
Knowledge of parents or adults who permit their own children under the age of 21 to consume alcohol under their supervision

■ No
■ Yes

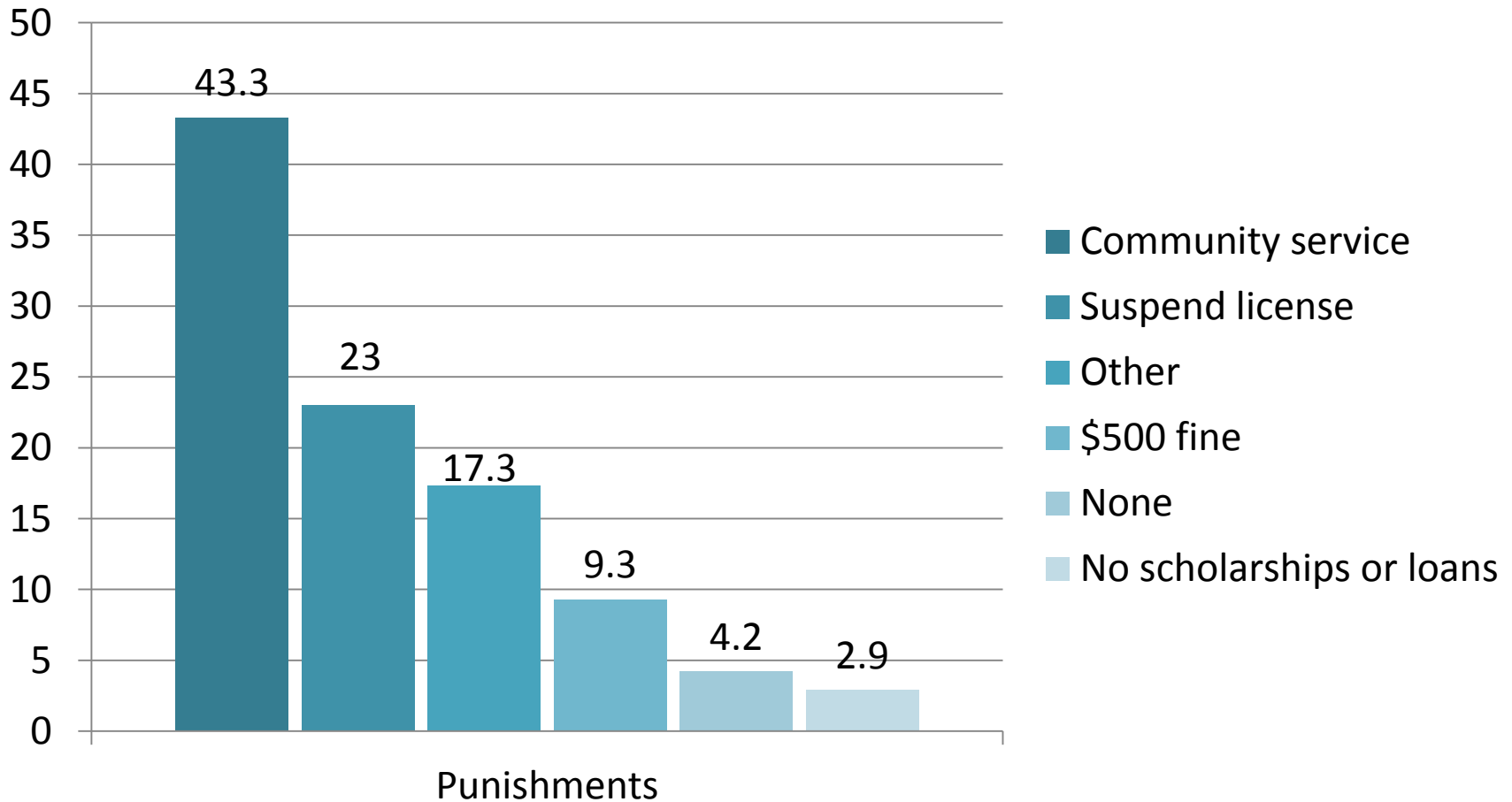


■ No
■ Yes

Focus of Underage Drinking Policies



Appropriate Punishment for Underage Drinking



Role of Courts in Reducing Underage Drinking & Consequences

- Capitalize on opportunity when minors consuming become involved in the CJS
 - Start early
 - Identify minors most at risk
 - Work with minor offenders in the system
 - Include tribal courts, youth courts, and other alternatives
- Participate in research and evaluation efforts

Studying Minor Consuming Alcohol Cases in Traditional & Alternative Courts

- Pervasive problem throughout Alaska
 - In both urban and rural communities
 - Can lead to more serious offenses
 - Requires compiling and evaluating effectiveness of traditional and alternative responses
- Change to MCA statutes or responses creates an opportunity for a natural experiment
 - Same offense across different courts
 - Large sample size yields generalizable results
 - Multiple sentencing options
 - Ability to track repeat offenders
 - Can modify research design as programs expand

Related Efforts in Alaska: ABC Board

- Proposals considered as part of ABC Board Title IV revision
 - Restore minor consuming to a true violation
 - Universal ID checks
 - Statewide keg registration
 - Increased compliance checks
 - Increased coordination and consistency of enforcement between public safety and prosecution of underage drinking cases

Other Related Efforts in Alaska

- Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG)
- Alaska Committee to Prevent Underage Drinking (ACPUUD)
- STOP Act project reporting in Alaska

Reducing Underage Drinking & Related Consequences

- Requires an approach that is:
 - Coordinated: Lead agency / organization
 - Comprehensive: Prevention, education, enforcement
 - Interdisciplinary: Families, schools, criminal justice, media
 - Evidence-based: Proven laws, policies, and practices
 - Rigorously evaluated: Infrastructure for monitoring and evaluation of trends and policies
- Focused on audience:
 - Underage drinkers
 - Near peers
 - Adult providers (retail and social)

Contact

Marny Rivera, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, UAA Justice Center

mriviera11@uaa.alaska.edu

L. Diane Casto, MPA

Prevention Manager, DHSS, Behavioral Health

L.Cast@alaska.gov