

The World of a Delaware 5th Grader

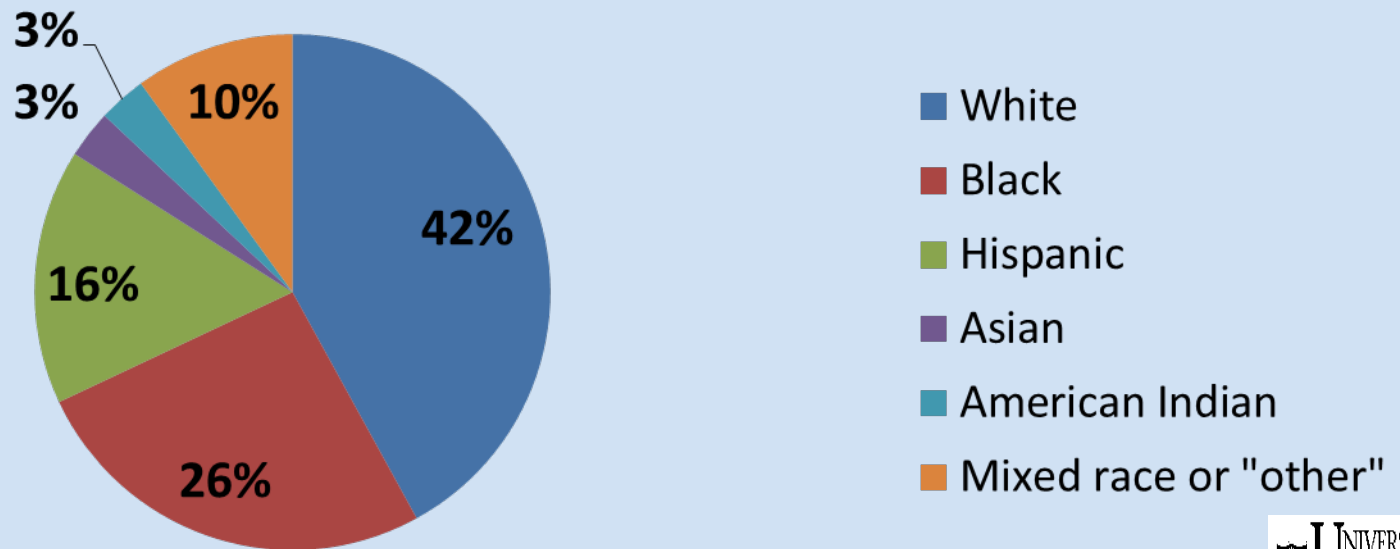
From the 2010 Delaware School Survey
University of Delaware Center for Drug
and Alcohol Studies

June 2010

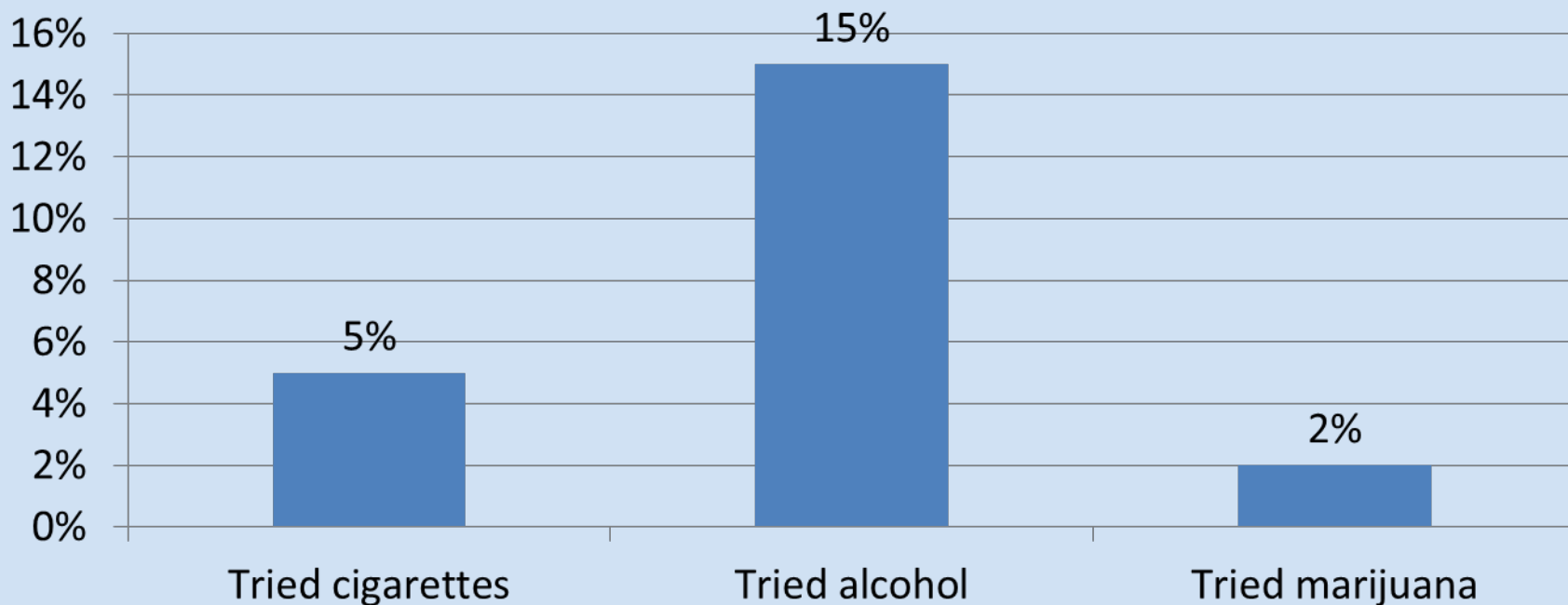
This is a **DRAFT** from the preliminary analyses of the
Delaware School Survey administered in the Spring semester of
2010 to 7,745 5th graders in Delaware public schools.



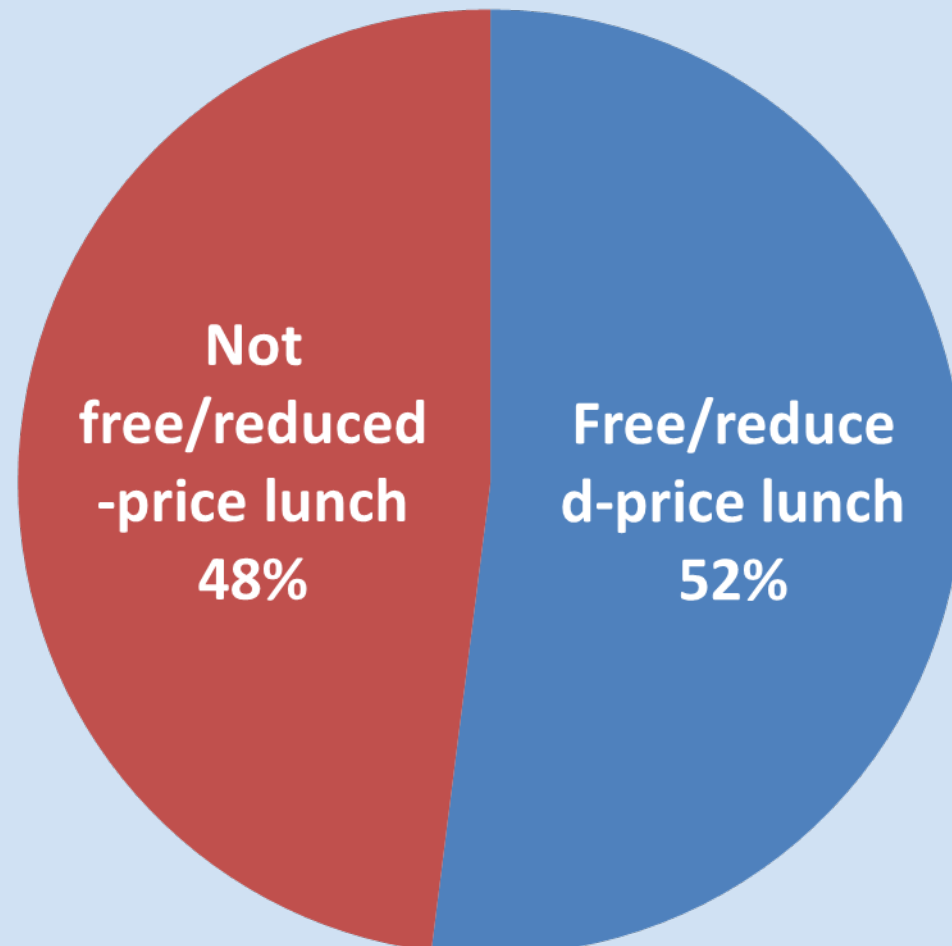
42% of Delaware 5th graders say that they are White, 25% Black, 16% Hispanic, 3% American Indian, 3% Asian, and the remainder either mixed-race or “other.”



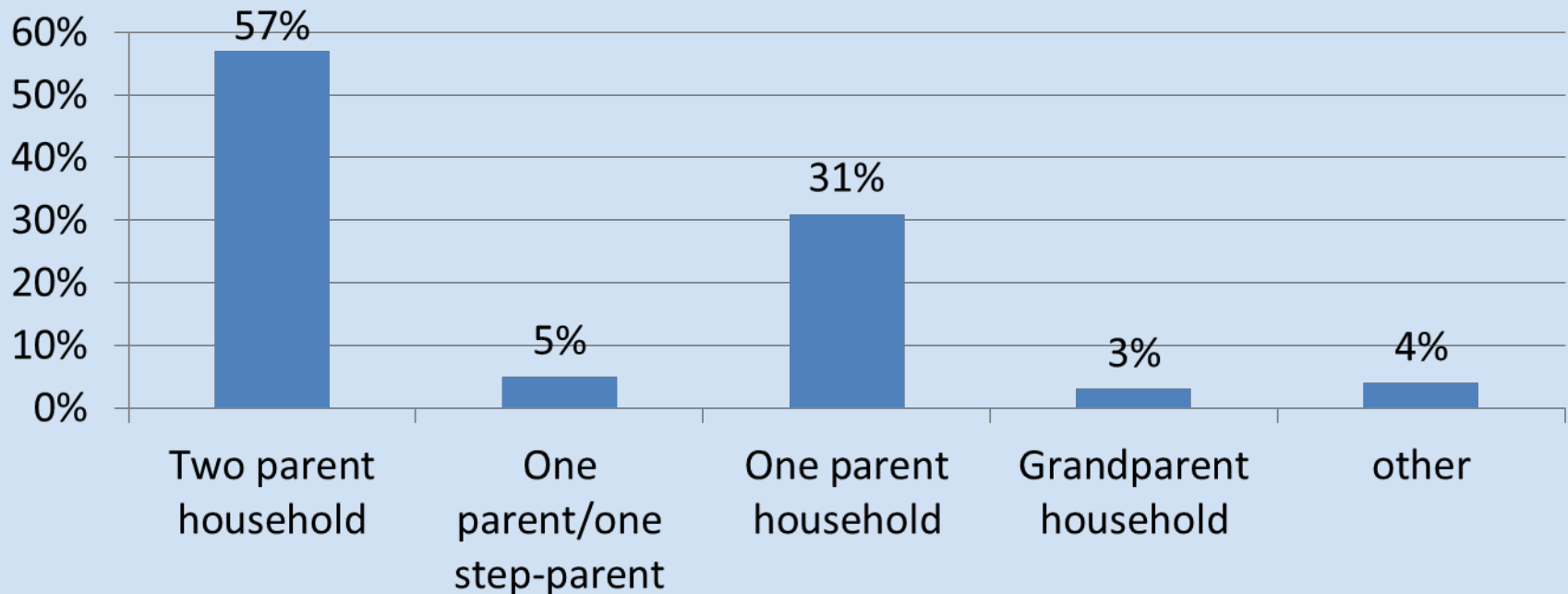
Not many 5th graders have tried cigarettes or marijuana. More have experimented with alcohol.



52% say they get a free or reduced-price lunch at school.

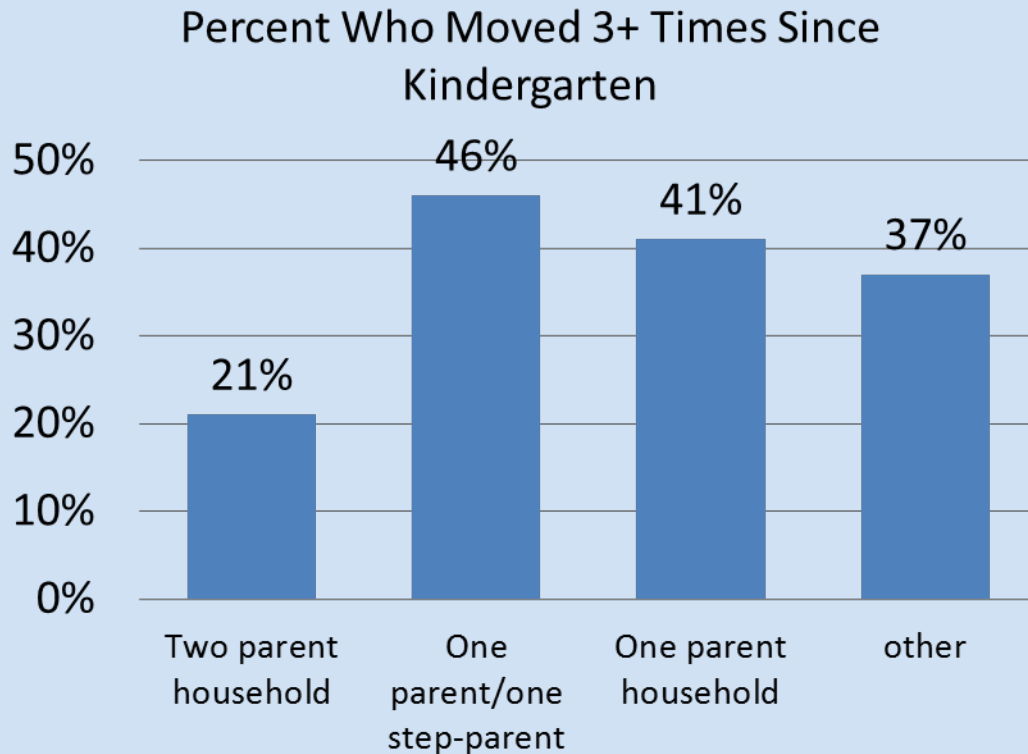


31% live in a one-parent household
(87% of which are headed by women),
and 3% live with a grandparent with
no parent in the home.





More than one in four 5th graders has moved 3 or more times since starting Kindergarten. This is twice as likely in one-parent households.



Most 5th graders feel safe in their neighborhood (84%). Most spend the after-school hours somewhere where there is an adult (84%). Those who don't are 50% more likely to have tried alcohol.



Almost all 5th
graders (91%)
feel safe at
school.





Two out of three Delaware 5th graders (66%) ride the bus to school and most (84%) feel that students feel safe on the bus. Only 8% walk to school.

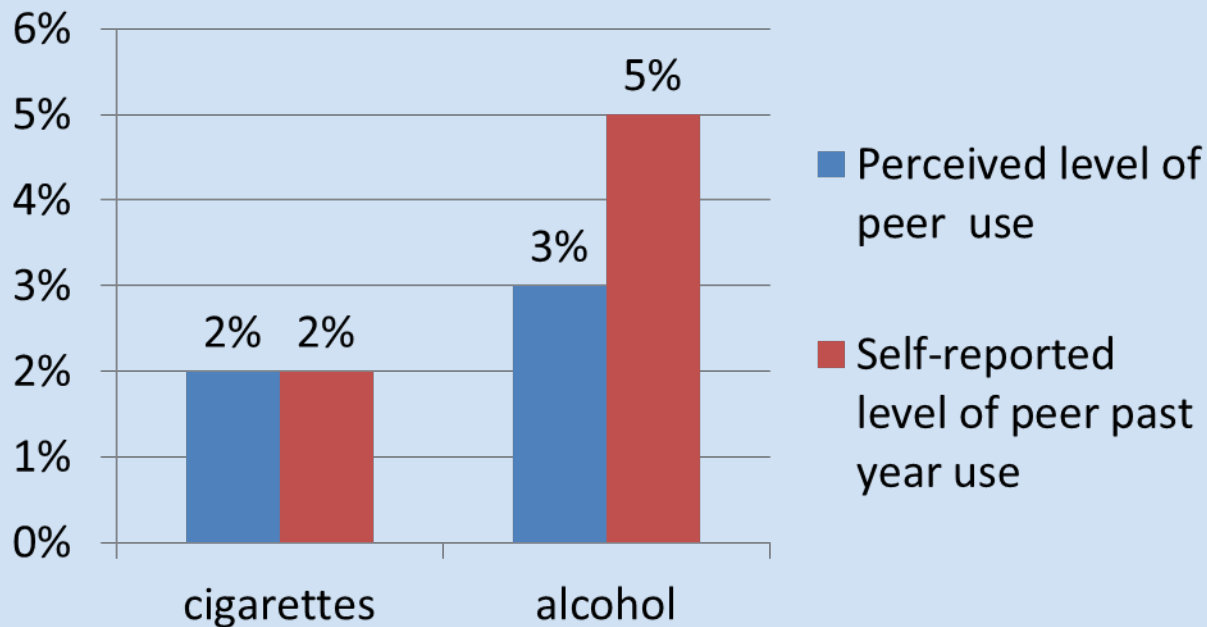


Three out of four (75%)
5th grade students feel
that most kids obey
their teachers, but two
out of three (66%) feel
that bad behavior keeps
teachers from teaching,
and 42% feel that
fighting is a problem in
their school.

One in five
Delaware 5th
graders says
they hit
someone with
the intention of
hurting them in
the past month.



Delaware 5th grade students have realistic estimates of how many of their peers smoke cigarettes and drink alcohol.

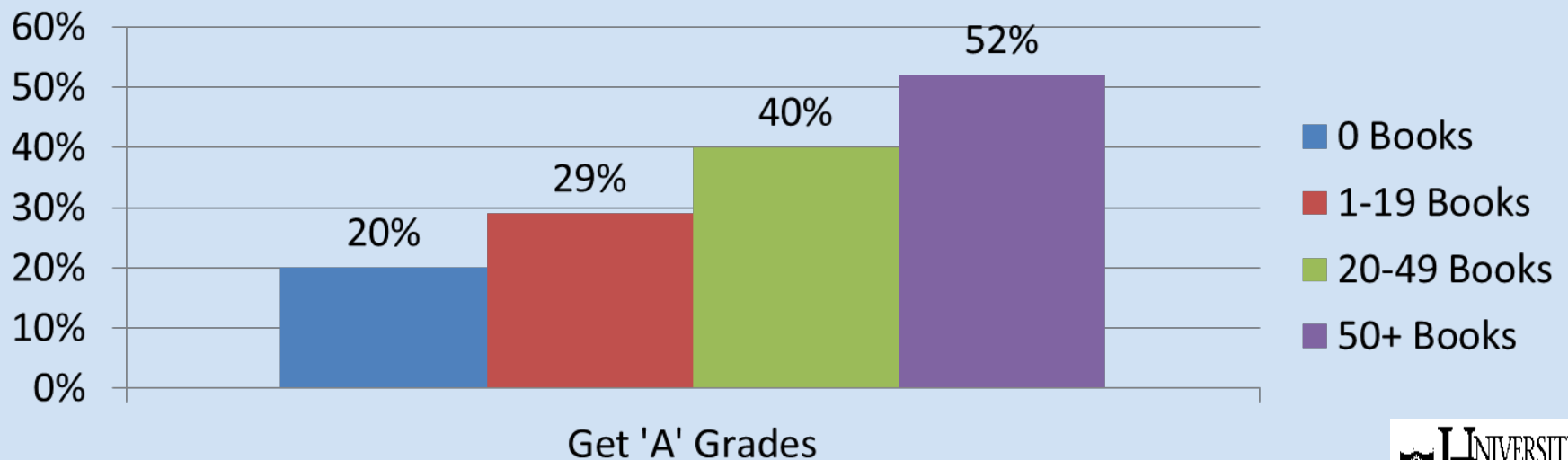


At home, students spend their time:

- Online/watching TV/playing video games
 - 30% spend ½ hour or less; 42% spend two hours or more
- Doing school work
 - 54% spend ½ hour or less; 12% spend two hours or more
- Physically playing or exercising
 - 18% spend ½ hour or less; 60% spend two hours or more



The number of books in a student's household also is associated with school performance and behavior—22% report having 20 or fewer books at home, while 55% have 50 or more.



Parents usually know where their 5th graders are (94%), although some lie to their parents about where they are (12%), and these students are **300% more likely** to report having experimented with alcohol, having stolen something, or having destroyed someone else's property.

Most students (95%) report that their parents ask if they have completed their homework, and most (89%) say their parents tell them when they have done a good job at school or at



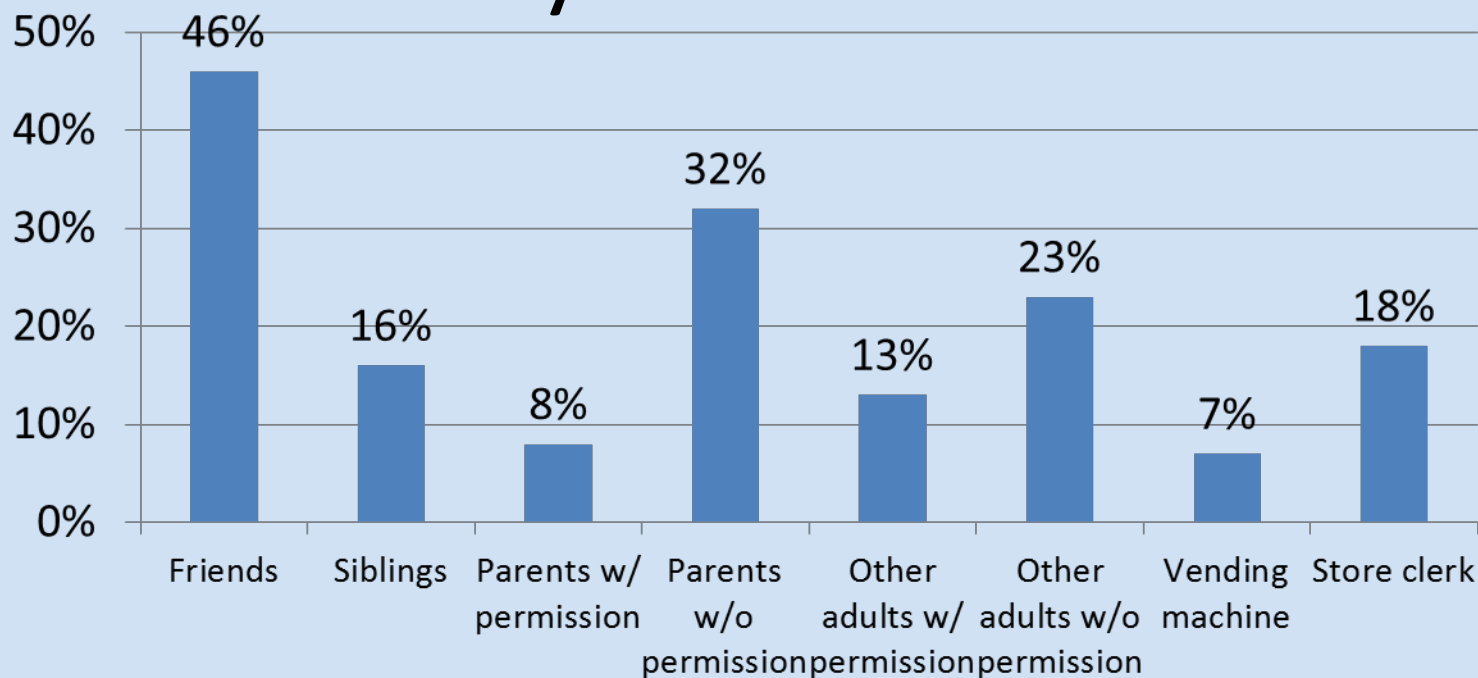
30% of 5th graders live with a parent who smokes. They are almost 3 times more likely to report having experimented with cigarettes.



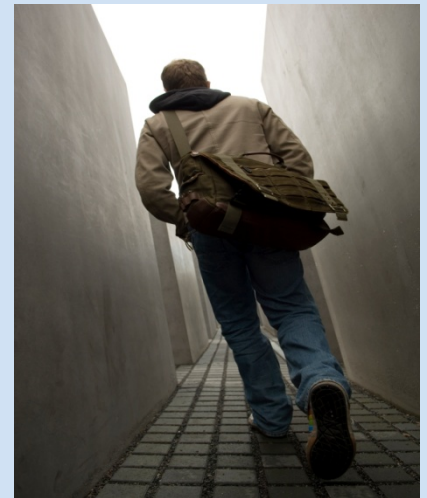
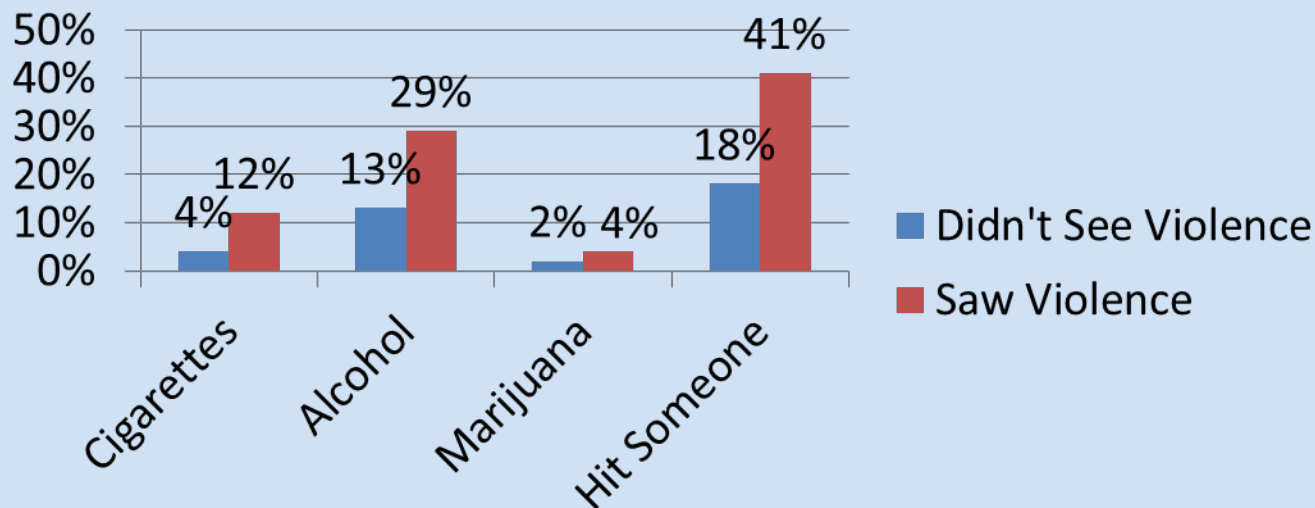
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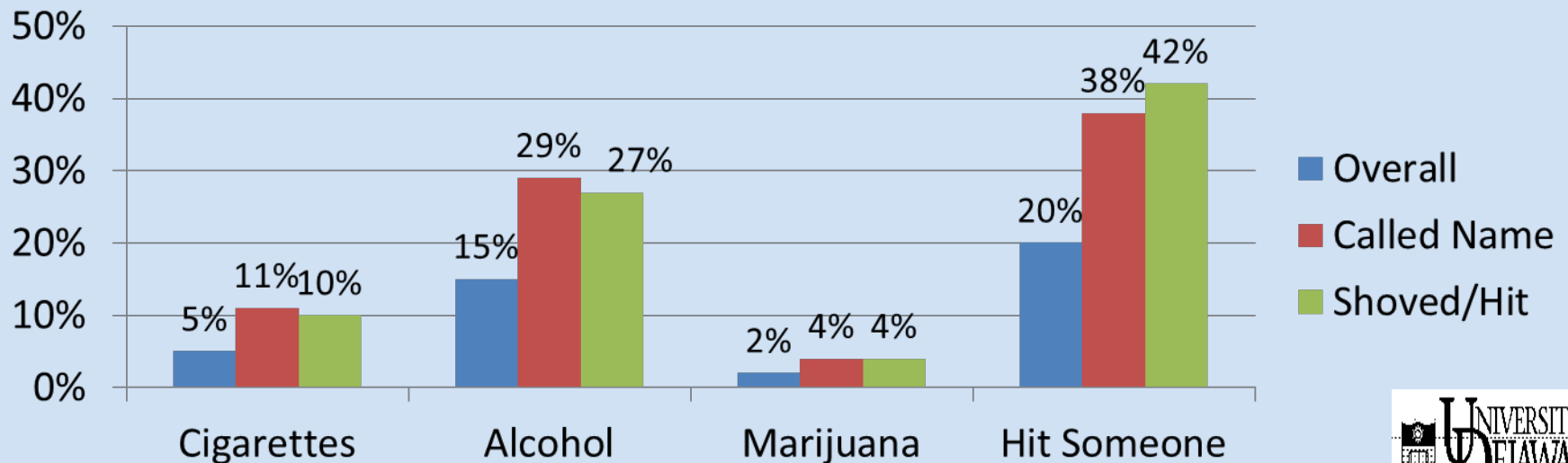
5th graders who smoke cigarettes are most likely to get them from friends. Parents are the second most likely source.



One in ten 5th graders reports having seen or heard adults in their household hurting each other in the past year. These students are more likely to experiment with cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana and more likely to hit someone else.



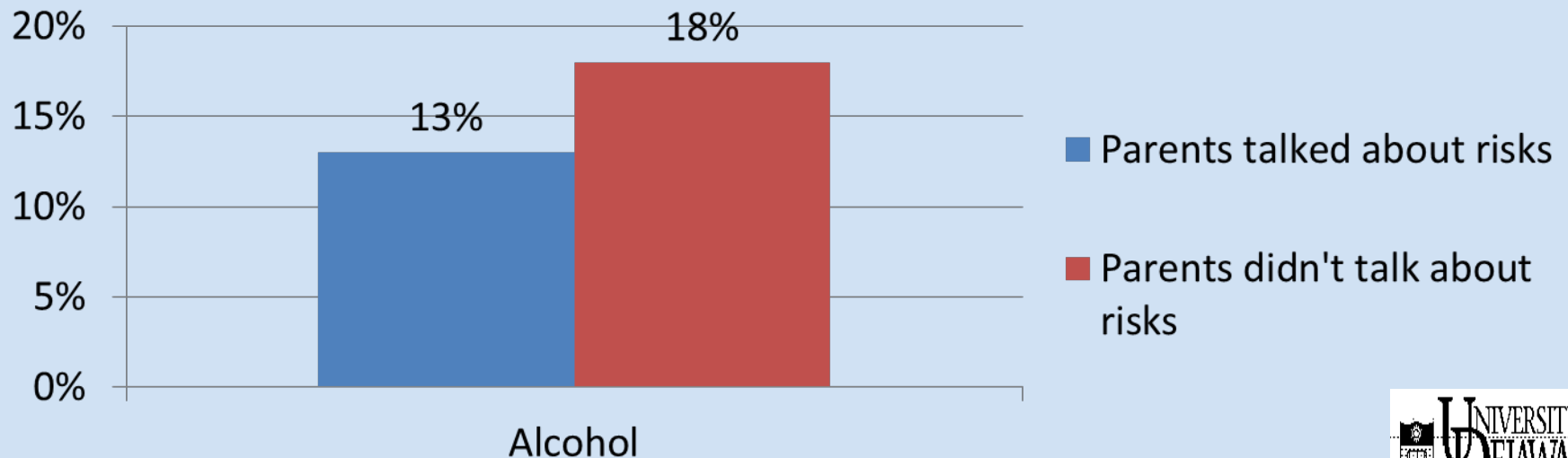
24% of 5th graders report their parents lost their temper with them weekly or more. 5% have been called names and 5% have been shoved, hit or kicked by a parent or step-parent. These students are more likely to use alcohol and more likely to hit others.



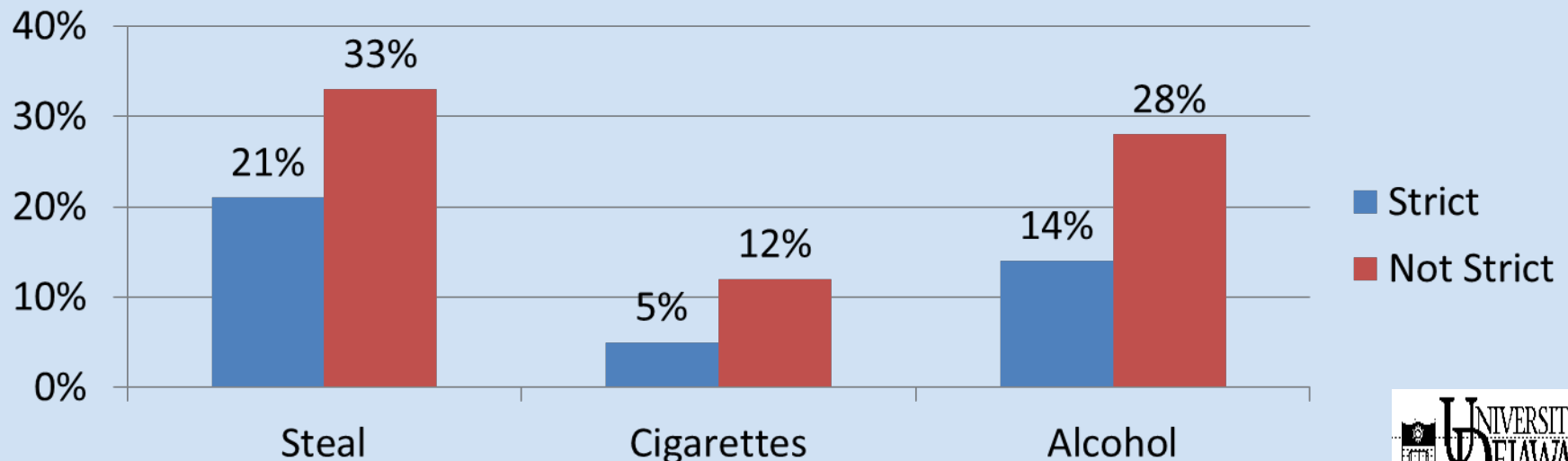
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Two out of three Delaware 5th graders (66%) say their parents have spoken to them about the risks of alcohol use, and (69%) say parents told them not to use alcohol. These students are less likely to have tried alcohol.



7% do not feel that rules are strictly enforced at home or at school. These students are more likely to steal and experiment with cigarettes and alcohol.



Source: 2010 Delaware School Survey, University of Delaware Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies

