



**Stoneham Public
Schools**

Stoneham Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Results 2023



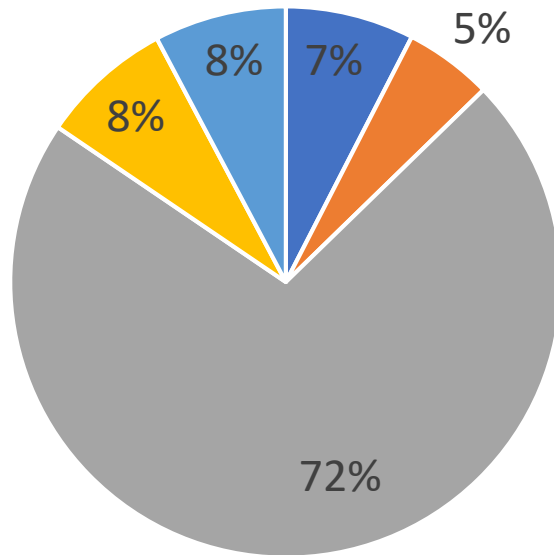
Methods and Measures:

- Survey was administered in April 2023 to SHS (all grades) and CMS (all grades).
- John Snow Inc. worked with Middlesex League Schools to design YRBS questions and evaluate findings.
- Risk factors examined include but not limited to substance use, mental health, sexual behavior, bullying and violence.
- Protective factors include but not limited to trusted relationships, sleep, physical activity, perceptions of harm.



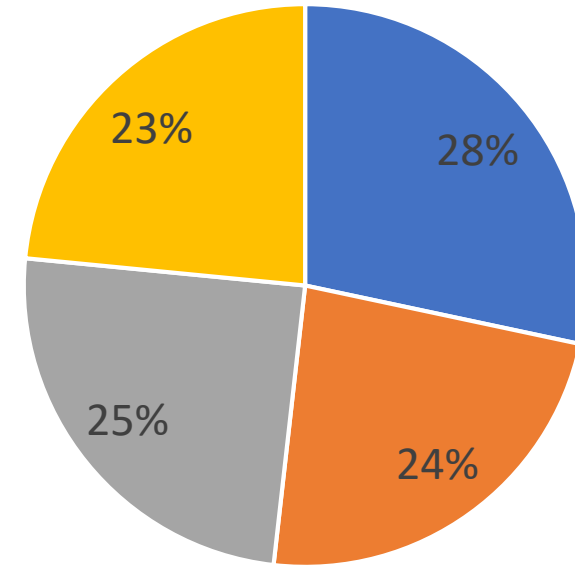
Understanding Our Students (High School):

Race



■ Asian ■ Black ■ White ■ Other ■ Multi-Racial

Grade Distribution (83% Participation)

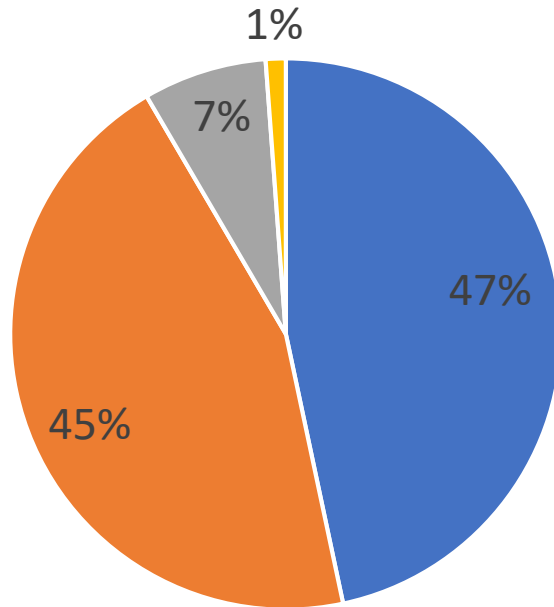


■ 9th ■ 10th ■ 11th ■ 12th



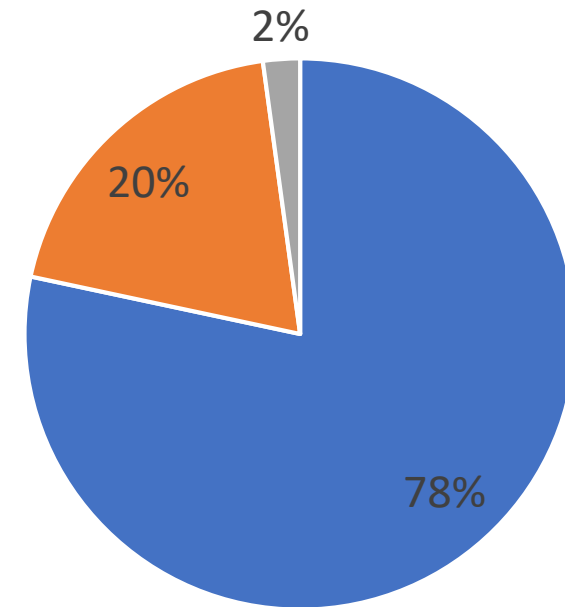
Understanding Our Students (High School):

Gender Identity



■ Male ■ Female ■ Transgender ■ Did not answer

Sexual Orientation

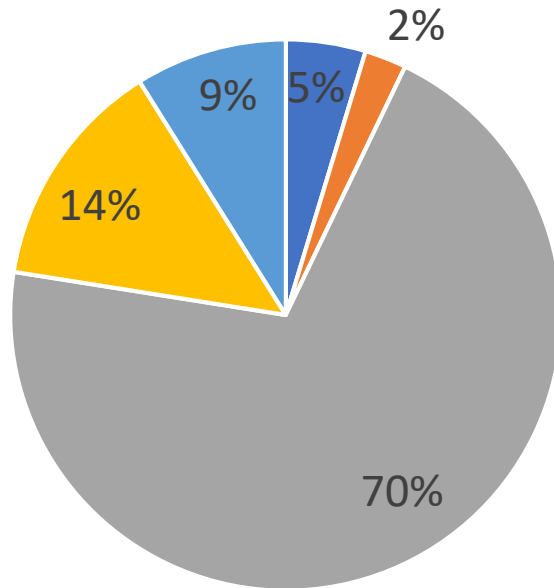


■ Heterosexual ■ LGBTQ+ ■ Did not answer



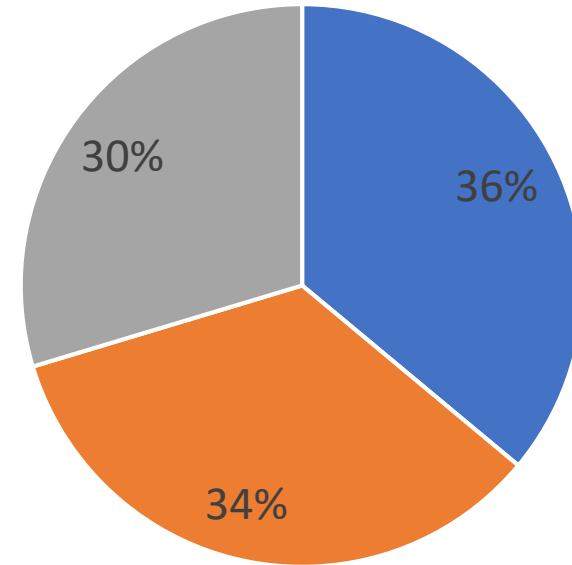
Understanding Our Students (Middle School):

Race



■ Asian ■ Black ■ White ■ Other ■ Multi-Racial

Grade Distribution (88% Participation)

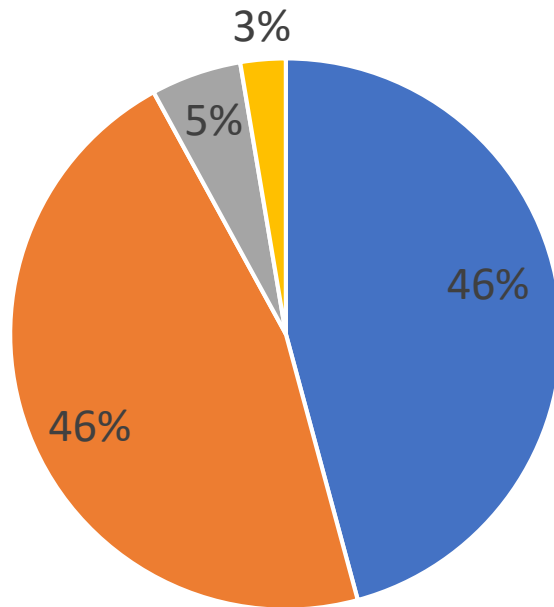


■ 6th ■ 7th ■ 8th ■



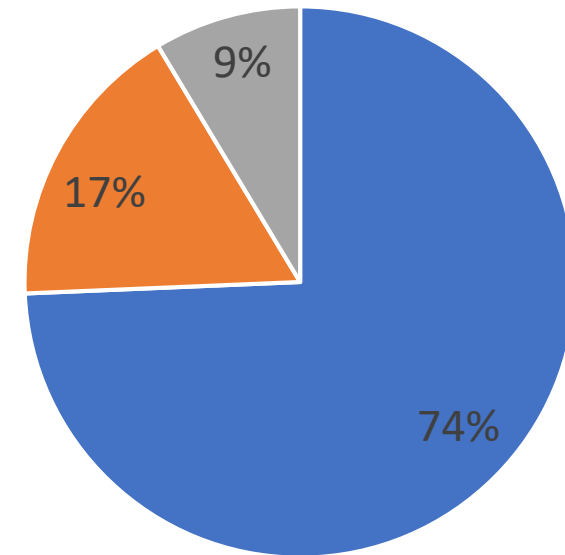
Understanding Our Students (Middle School):

Gender Identity



■ Male ■ Female ■ Transgender ■ Did not answer

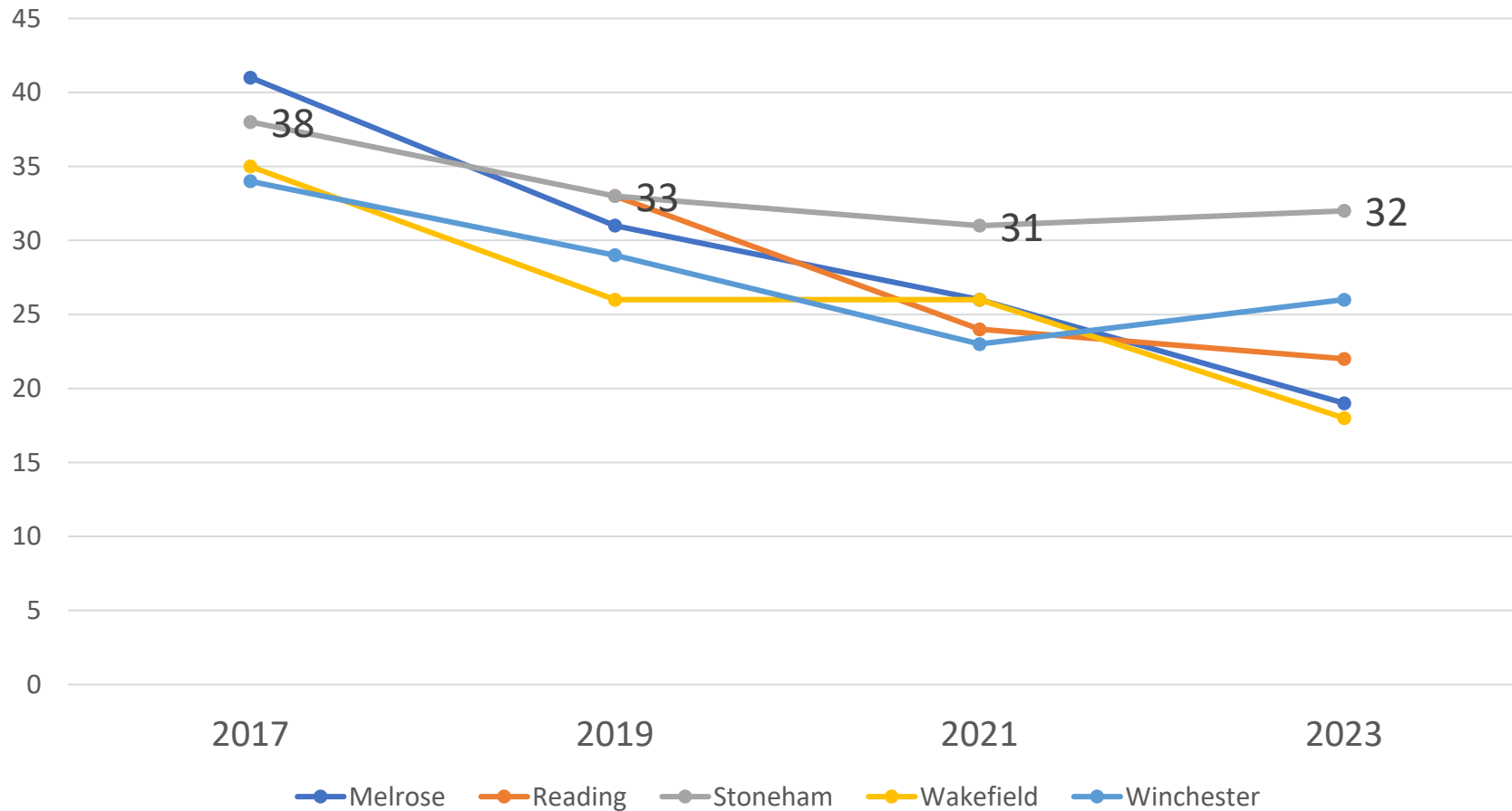
Sexual Orientation



■ Heterosexual ■ LGBTQ+ ■ Did not answer



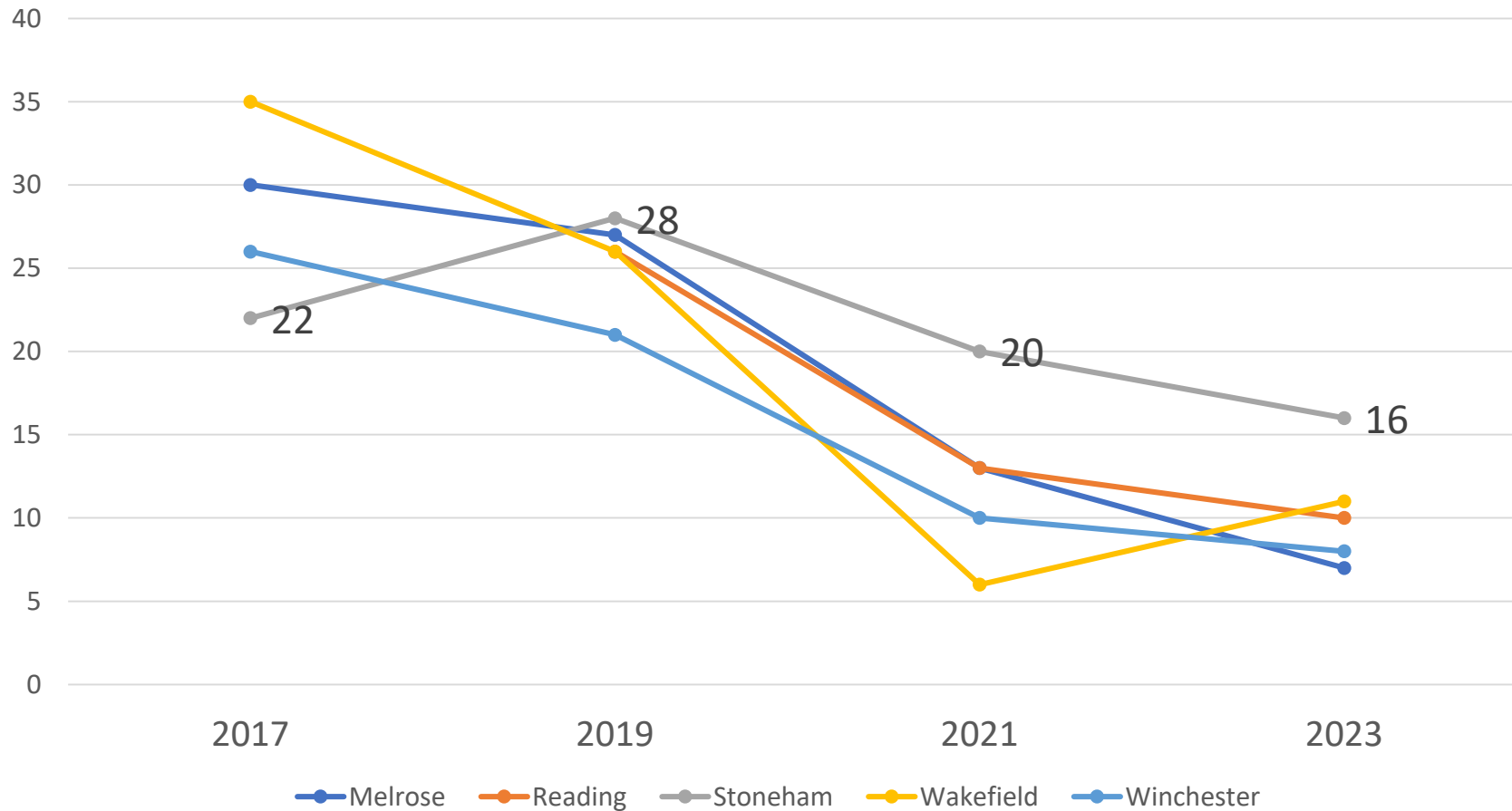
Current Alcohol Use Trend Percentage (High School):



- Alcohol use has relatively decreased since 2017.
- Use of alcohol and other substances remains a priority area to address.
- **60%** of SHS students perceive having one or two drinks of alcohol a day has moderate or great risk of harm.



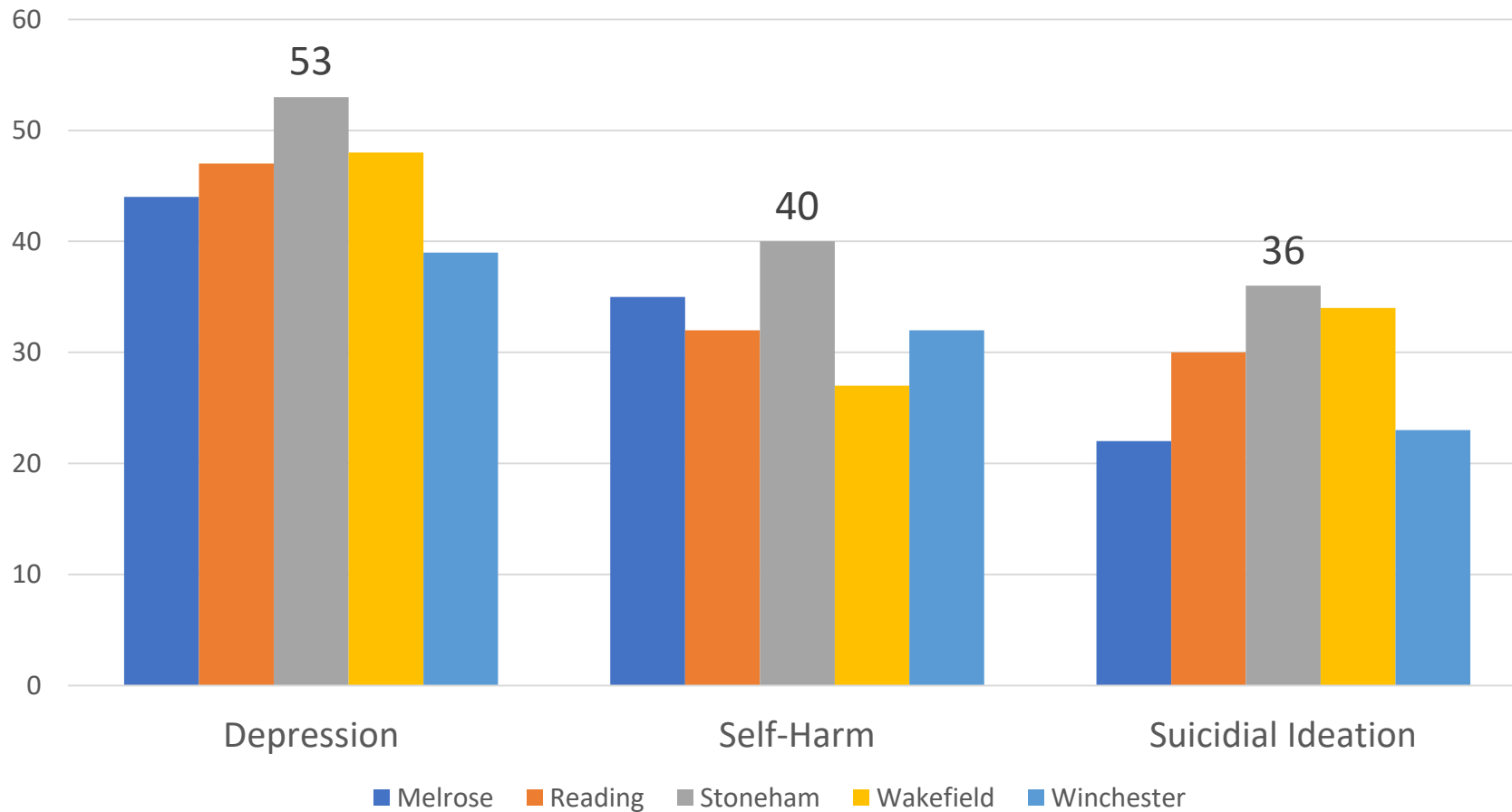
Current E-Vapor Use Trend Percentage (High School):



- Vape use has relatively decreased since 2017.
- Tobacco use remains a priority area to address.
- **77%** of SHS students perceive use of a vape product every day as having moderate or great risk of harm.



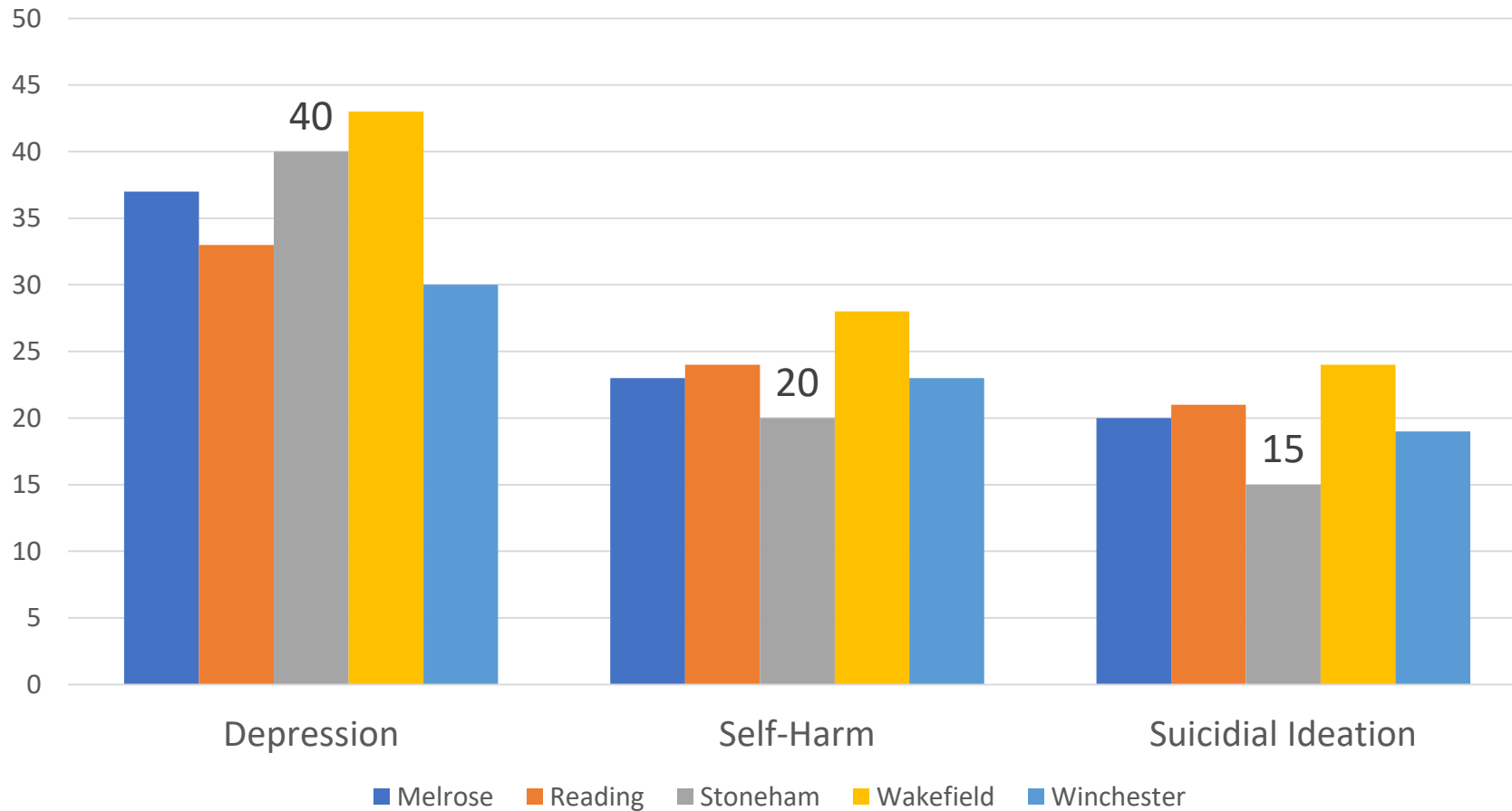
Experienced Bullying and Mental Health (High School):



- High school students who experienced bullying in the past 12 months were more likely than those who did not to experience depression, engage in self-harm, and seriously consider attempting suicide.



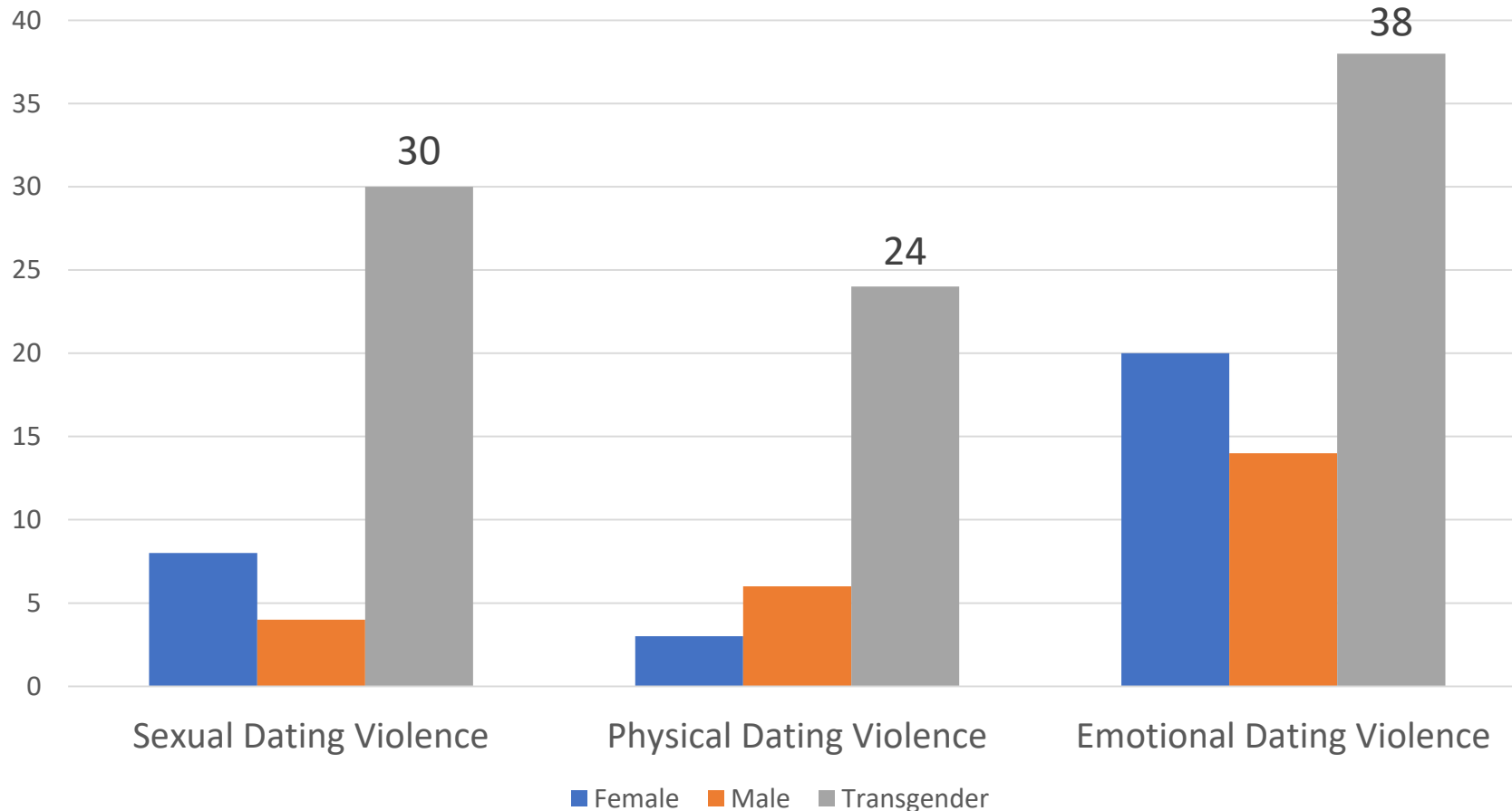
Experienced Bullying and Mental Health (Middle School):



- Middle school students who experienced bullying in the past 12 months were more likely than those who did not to experience depression, engage in self-harm, and seriously consider attempting suicide.



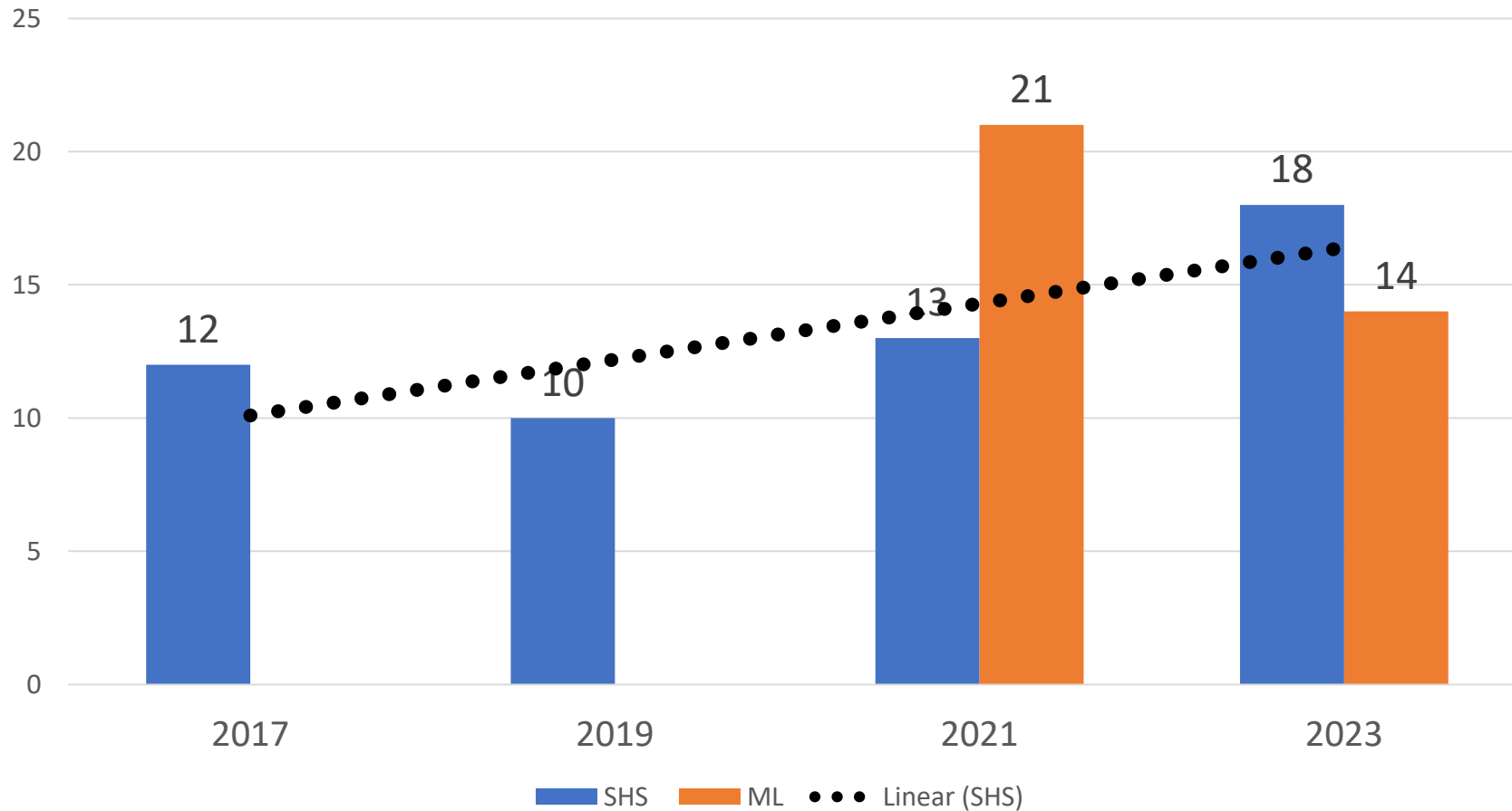
Dating Violence (High School):



- TGD students were significantly more likely than the average high school student to experience sexual dating violence. LGBTQ+ students were significantly more likely than heterosexual students to experience sexual dating violence.
- SHS '23 vs ML '23
 - 8% vs 4%
 - 6% vs 3%
 - 18% vs 11%



Self-Harm (High School):



- LGBTQ+ students were significantly more likely than heterosexual students to engage in self-harm in the past 12 months.
- Hispanic/Latino students were significantly more likely than non-Hispanic/Latino students to engage in self-harm in the past 12 months.



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Protective Factors and Next Steps:

- **Diversion Program:** An important step away from exclusionary discipline towards restorative practices. This helps create a sense of community and supporting our most vulnerable students.
- **STOP Violence Grant:** Nicole Robinson, Adjustment Counselor, has been a wonderful addition to the school district support team. She joins a great network of school psychologists, guidance counselors, adjustment counselors, and other staff support. In conjunction with school administration, the grant supports direct work with students as well as capacity building in the form of professional development opportunities through 2025.



Protective Factors and Next Steps:

- One of the most important things we can do is to increase education about areas including dating violence, mental health, and substance. Raising the collective perceptions of harm around substance use is key.
- Parents and caregivers are essential to this effort. More educational opportunities (ex. Hidden in Plain Sight) and parent question and answer sessions would increase access to information.