



Minnesota Student Survey: 2025 Statewide Highlights

Seyma Birinci | MSS Specialist

Tai Do | Student Pathways Research Manager

Lana Peterson | Data Practices and Analytics Director

In this Presentation today

1. History and information about the Minnesota Student Survey
2. 2025 result highlights
3. Ideas and supports for utilizing the results locally

MSS Background



Est.
1989

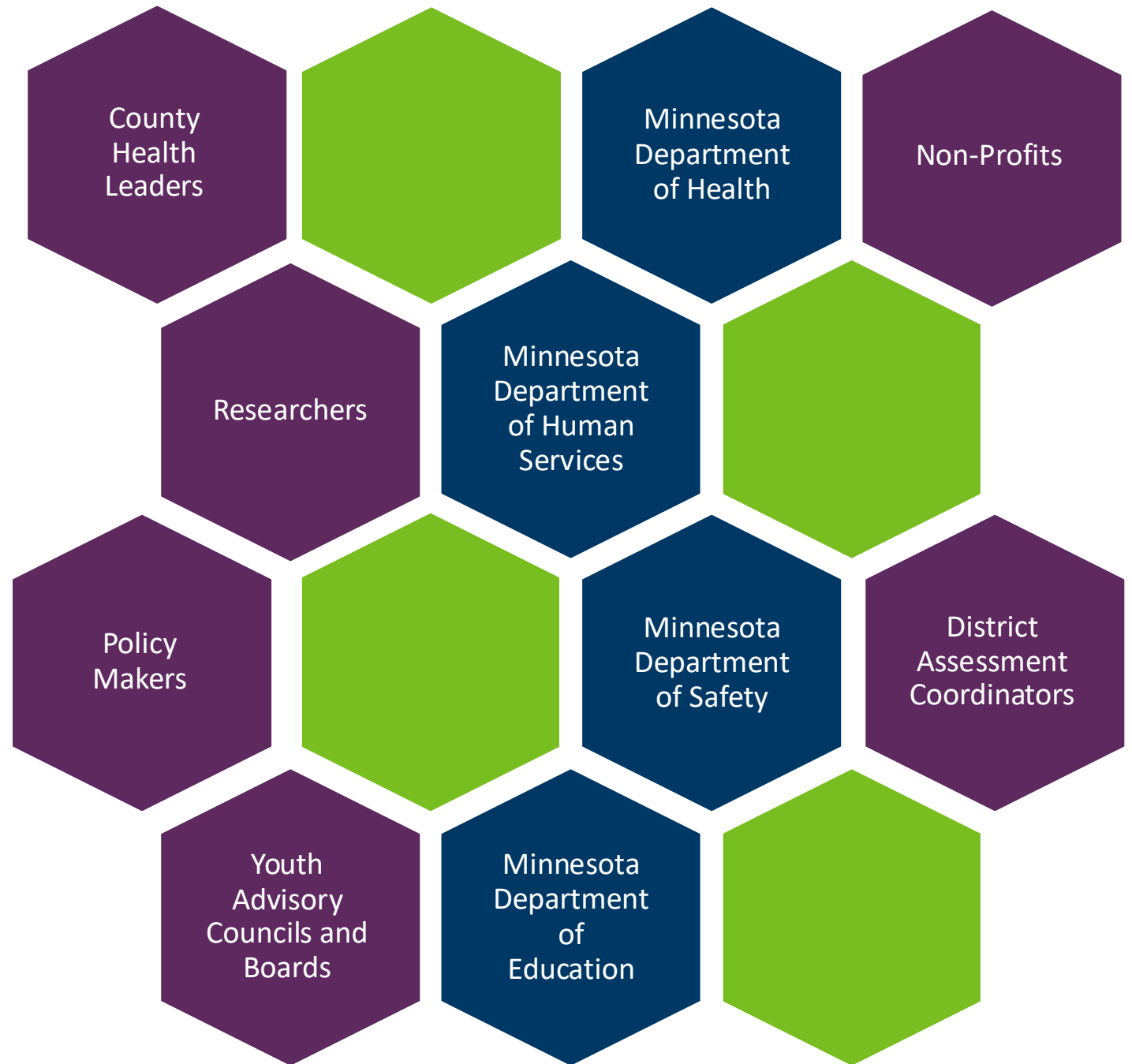
History of the Minnesota Student Survey:

- Conducted every three years
- Only statewide collection of youth behaviors and perceptions
- Three age-appropriate versions of the survey (5th, 8th, 11th grade)
- The results inform policy, programs, and funding at the state, county, and local level

Interagency collaborative



Statewide Community Supporters



MSS Content

Demographics

School Experiences

- School plans
- College and career support
- School attendance
- Educational engagement
- Supportive school environment
- Perceptions of safety
- Bullying/harassment
- School resource officer

Out-of-School Time Experiences

- Activity participation
- Quality of experiences

Social Emotional Learning

- Positive Identity
- Social Competence
- Empowerment
- Sense of Belonging

MSS Content

Health

- Physical health (BMI, chronic illness)
- Healthy eating
- Physical activity
- Mental health

Risk Factors (grade 8, 9 and 11)

- Self-inflicted injury
- Suicide (consideration and attempts)
- Relationship violence
- Adverse childhood experiences

Substance Use (grade 8, 9, 11)

- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Other Drugs
- Perceptions of risk

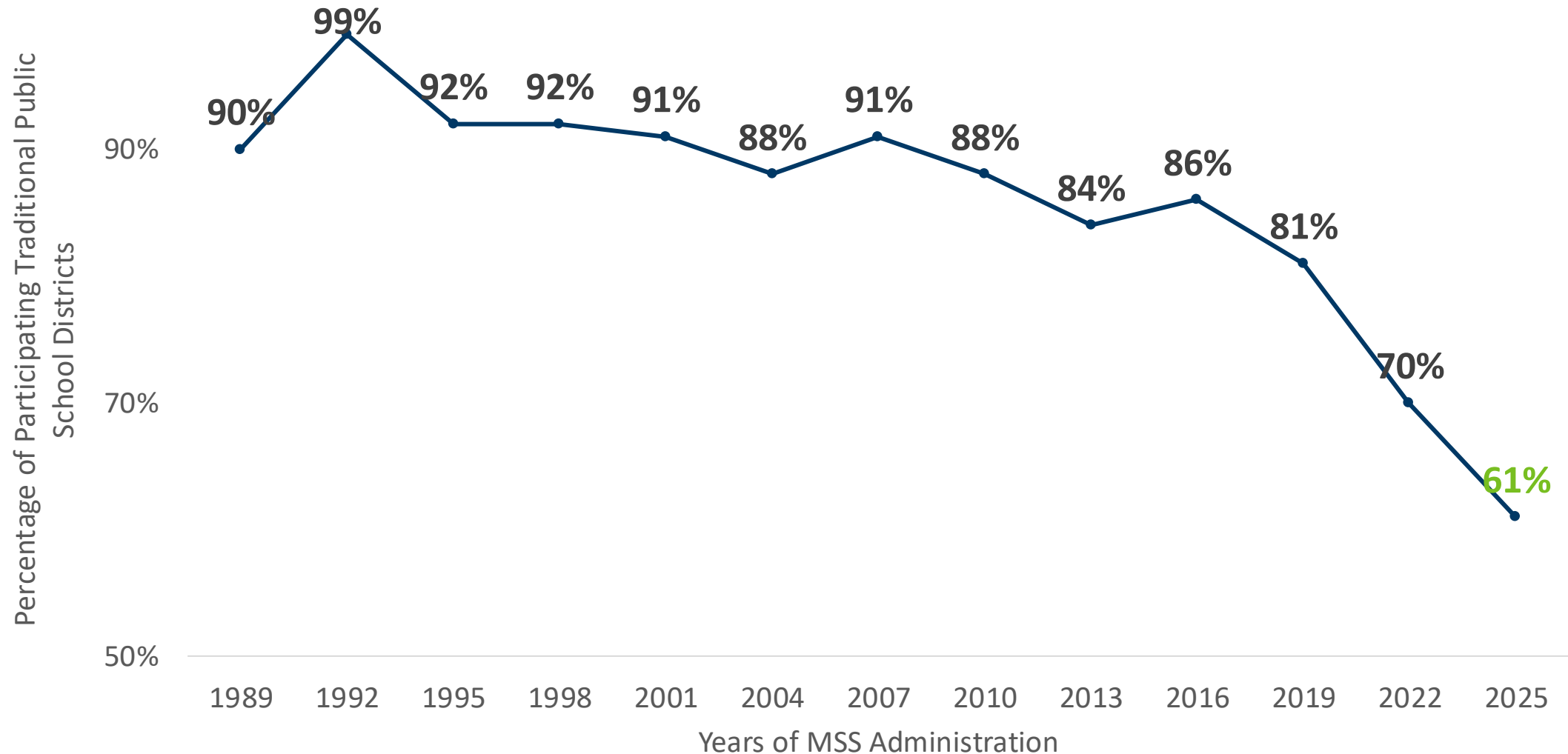
Sexual Health (grade 9, 11)

- Sexual intercourse
- Contraception

Participation and Representation



Traditional districts participation decreased in 2025.

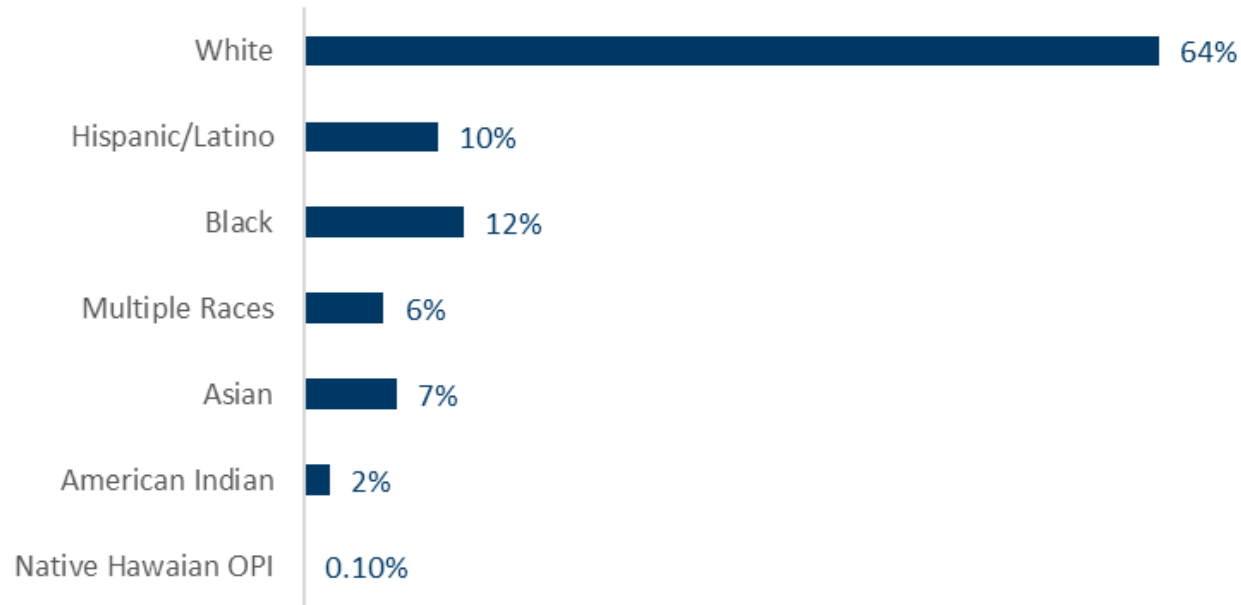


Public School Participants by Grade

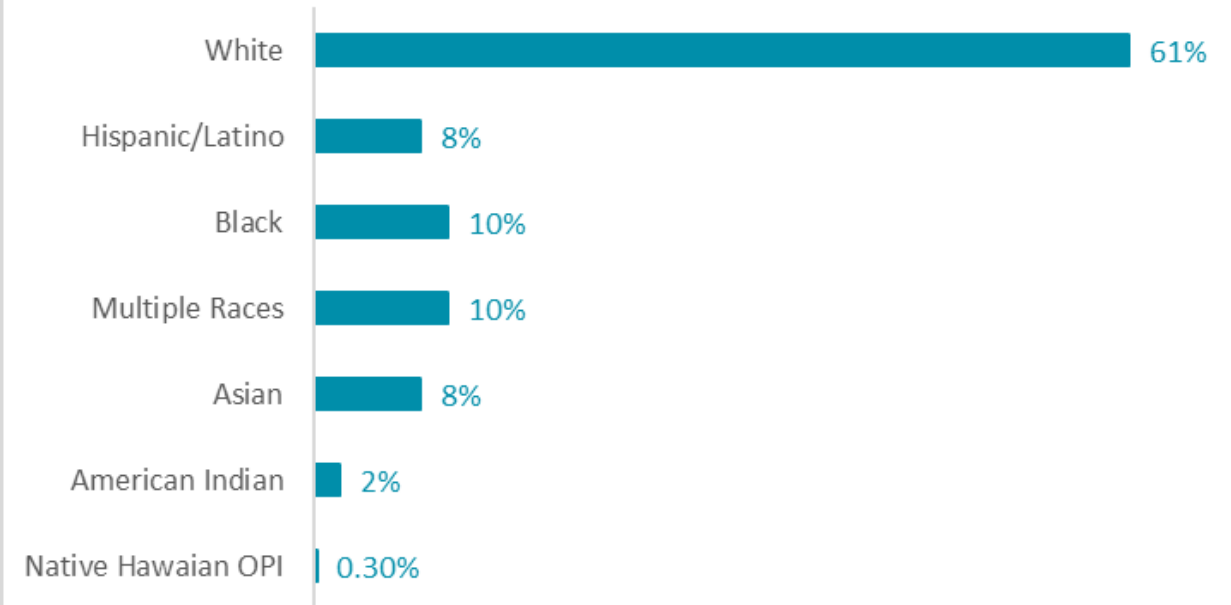
Grade-level	Number of students
5 th grade	31,801
8 th grade	32,070
9 th grade	31,023
11 th grade	24,795
Total	119,689

2025 MSS and State Student Race/Ethnicity Comparisons

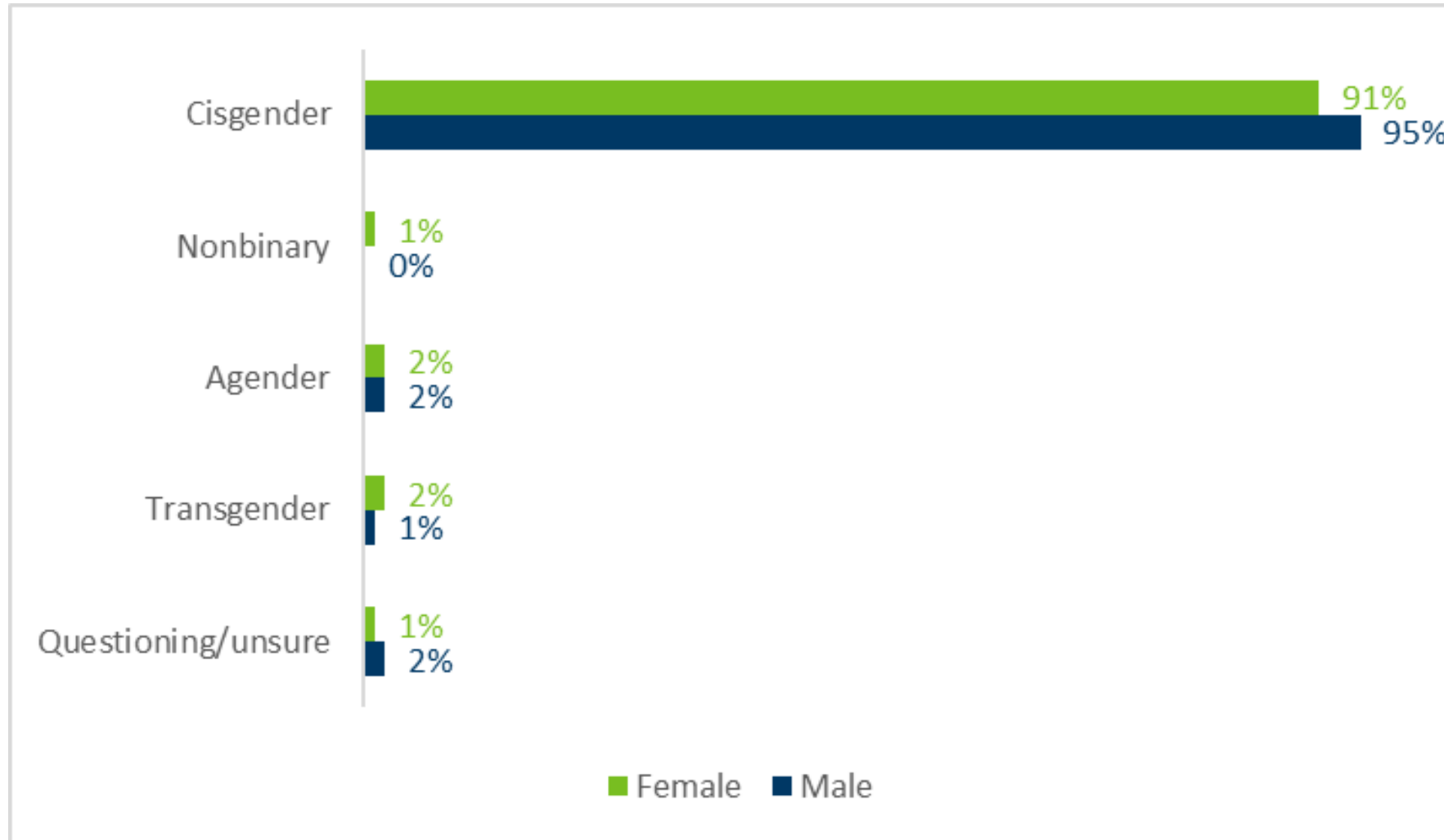
2025 Enrollment



2025 MSS Participation

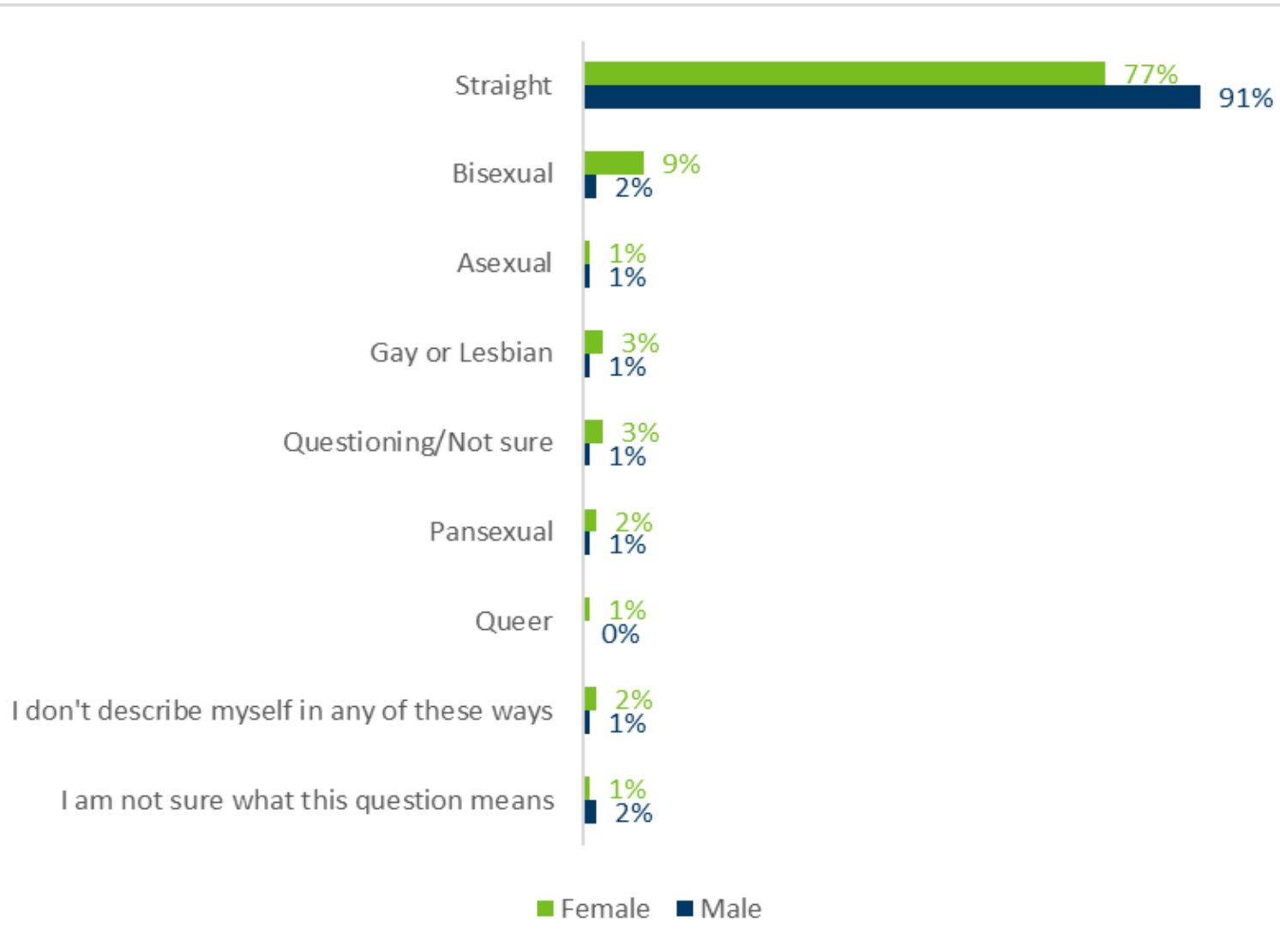


Female Students Slightly Reported Higher: Genderfluid, Nonbinary, Questioning, and Transgender. 2025 Gender Identity; Grade 9 by biological sex.



Note. Results shown by biological sex at birth

Sexual orientation for girls is more diverse than boys. Grade 9 in 2025.



Reliability and Representative

Analysis provided by Dr. Michael Rodriguez, Chancellor of University of Minnesota Morris

Sampling error is very small in MSS data.

With over 119,000 responses, the sampling error is about a quarter of a percent.

MSS results are far more reliable than most surveys.

Racial and ethnic distribution in MSS has been very stable

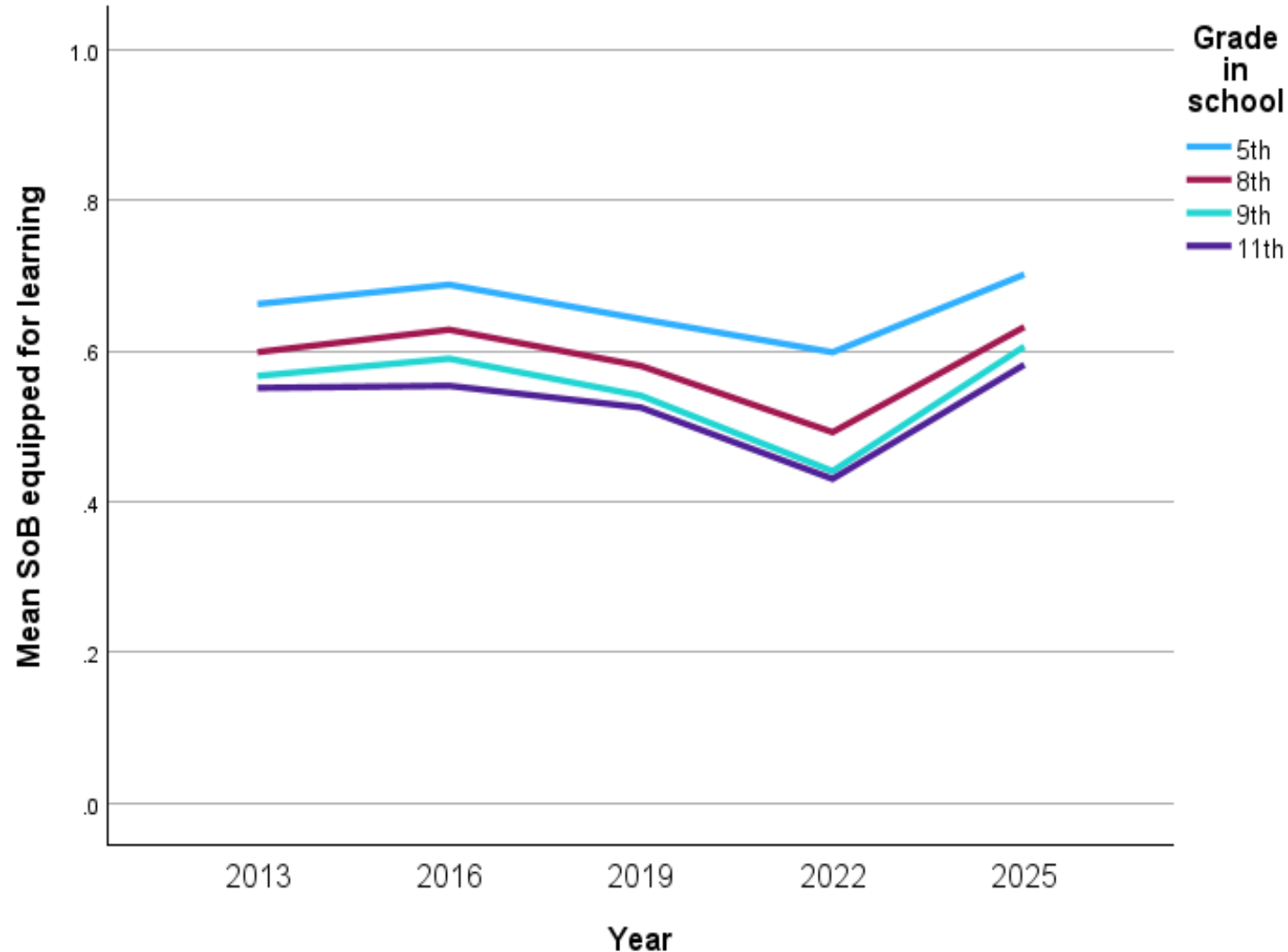
Participation by White students has declined to 61% which reflects the growing diversity in Minnesota Schools

Education Indicators



- Decrease in students missing school because of anxiety
- Increase in overall educational engagement
- Girls reported higher education aspirations than boys

Increase in students equipped with **sense of belonging** in 2025.



Sense of Belonging

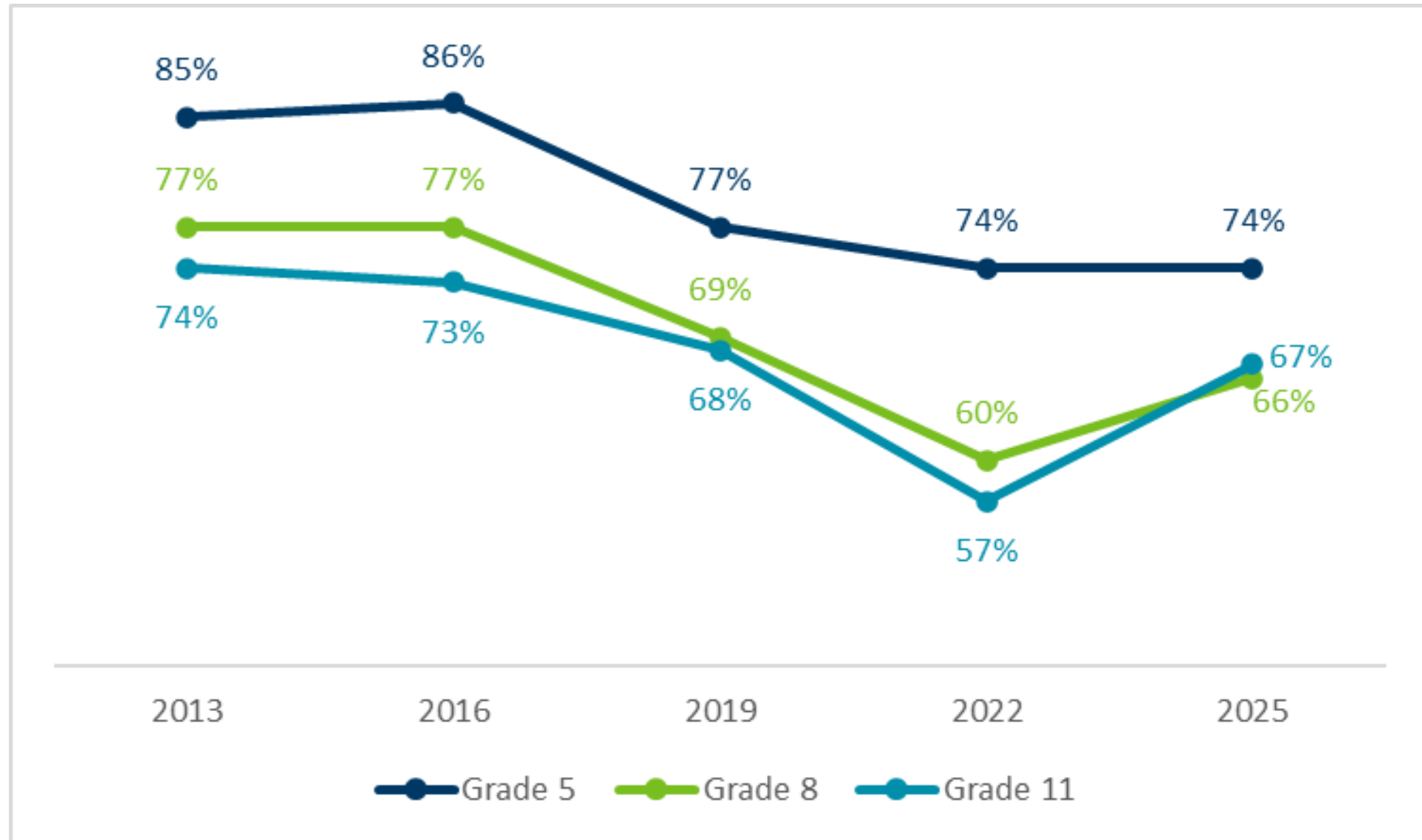
Means feeling cared for by parents, adults in the community, and friends; feeling in control of one's life and having influence in one's future; ability to build relationships; feeling valued and appreciated; and accepting others who are different.

Equipped for learning:

- Disposition/belief/behavior is more likely than not.

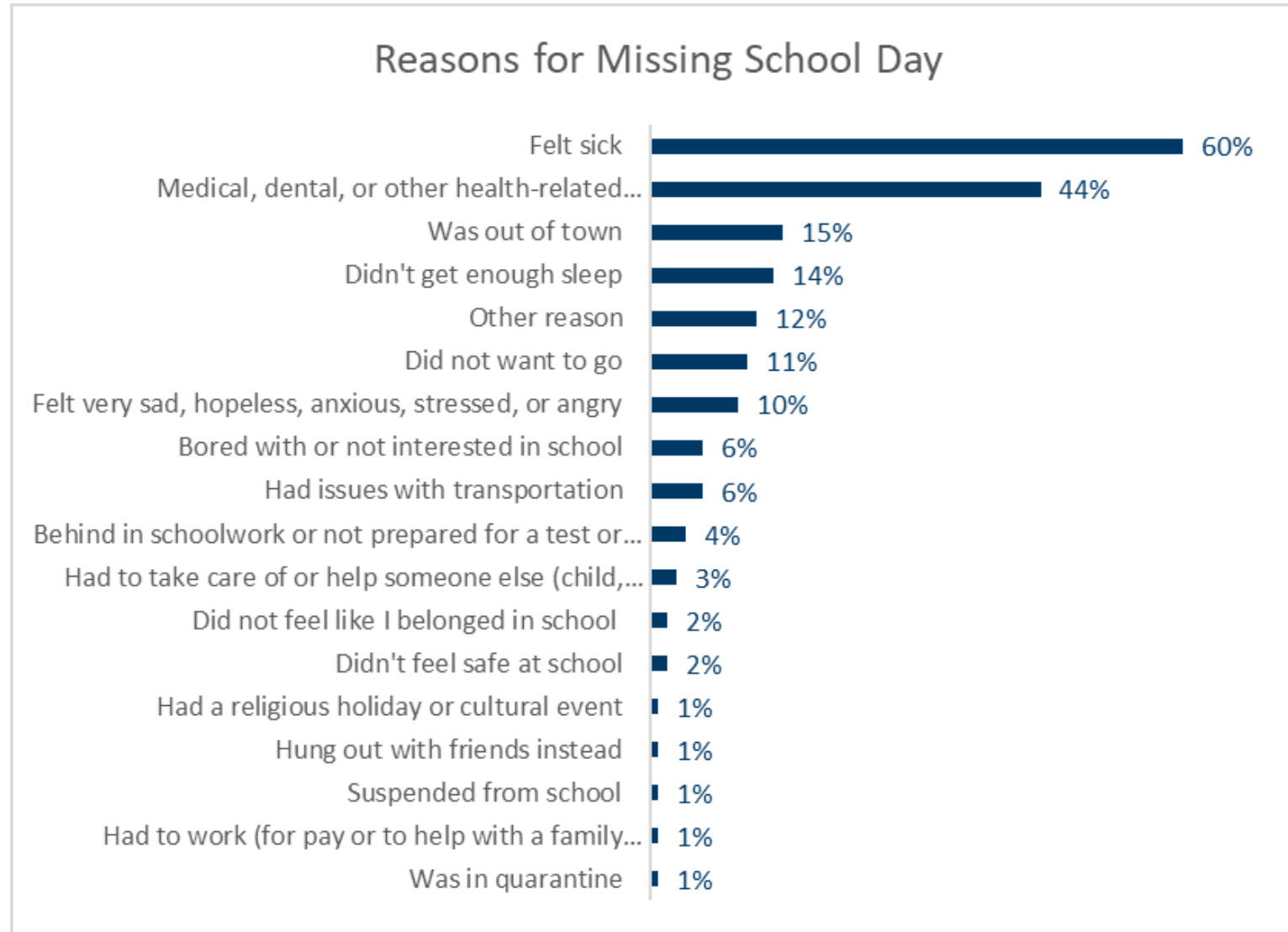
Source: Dr. Michael Rodriguez and the Minnesota Youth Development Research Group

Increase in grades 8, 9, and 11 on educational engagement in 2025.

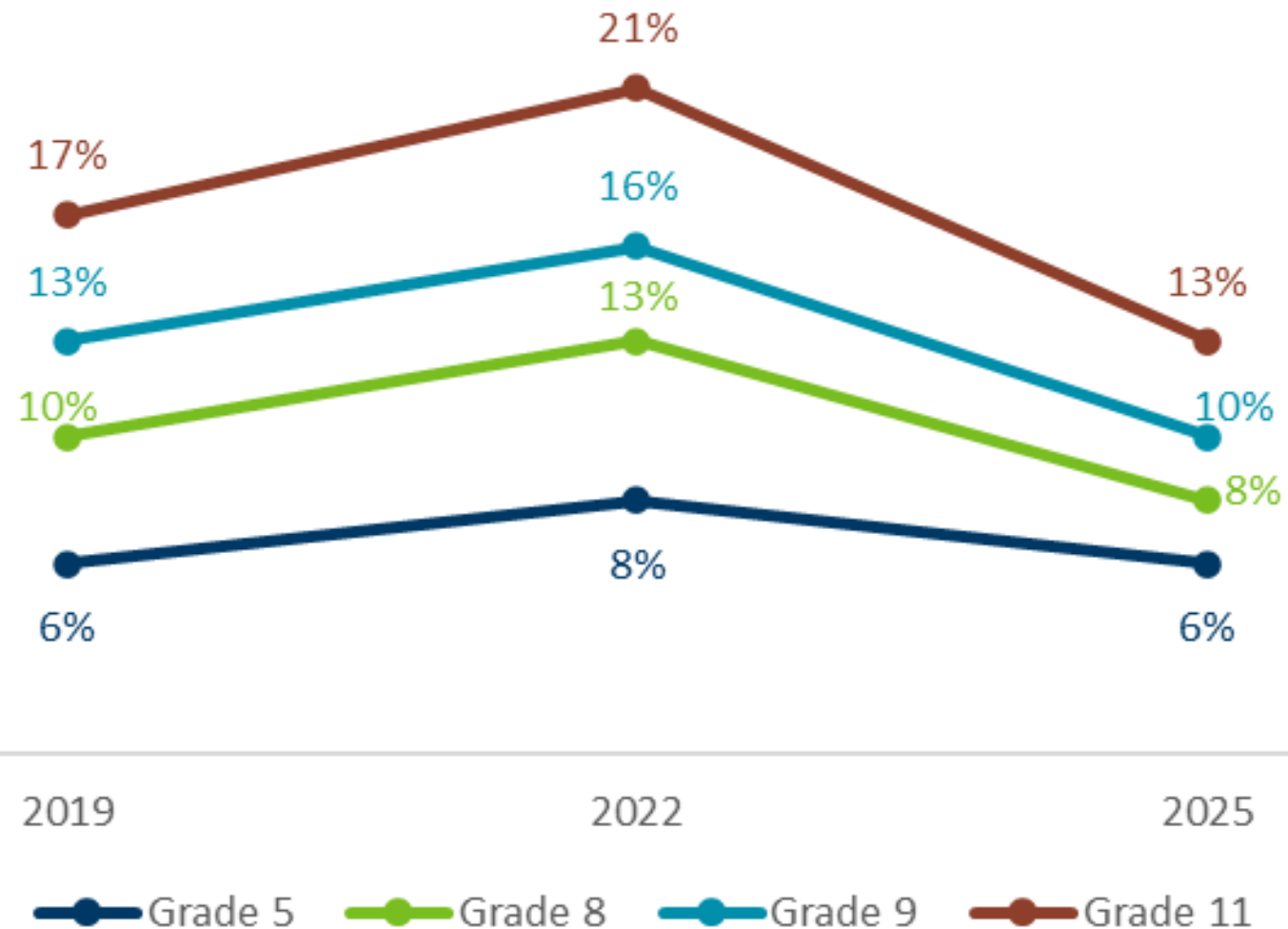


9th grader reasons for missing school.

Among those who missed full day of school in the last 30 days in 2025.

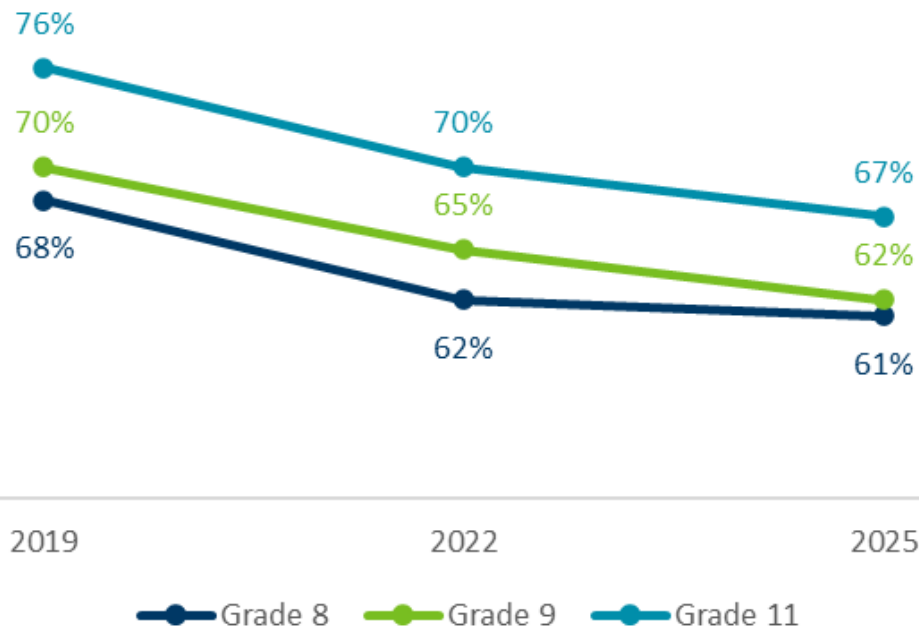


Decrease in missing school because students felt very sad, hopeless, anxious, stressed or angry in 2025.

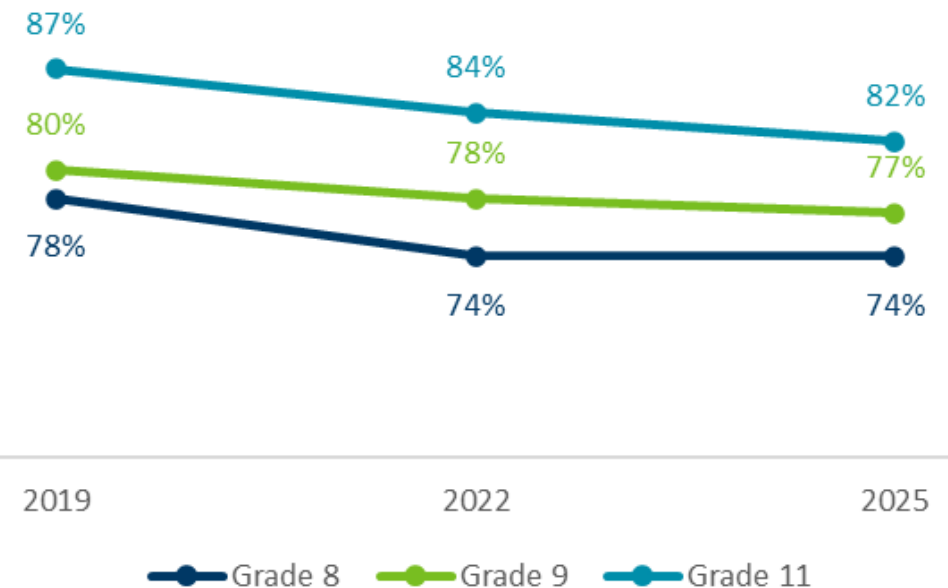


Rates decline for reporting plans for post-secondary education.

Male Students: Plan to Attend 2 or 4 Year College

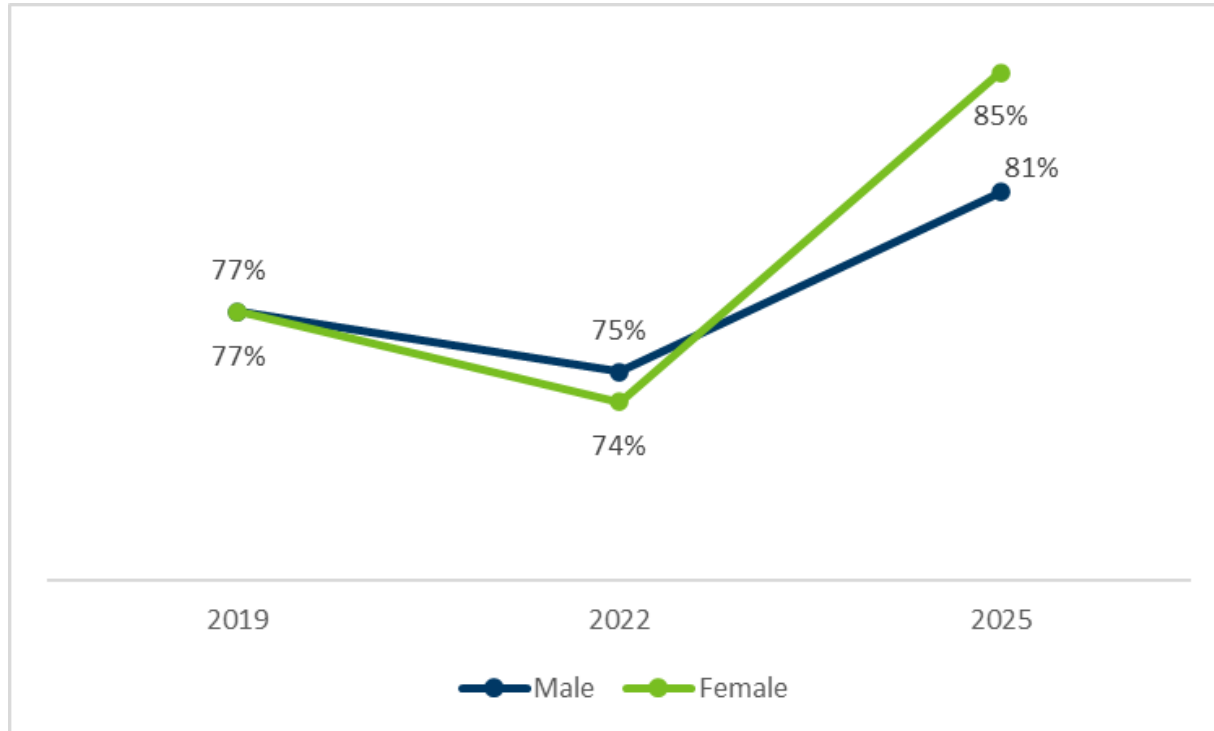


Female Students: Plans to Attend 2 or 4 Year College

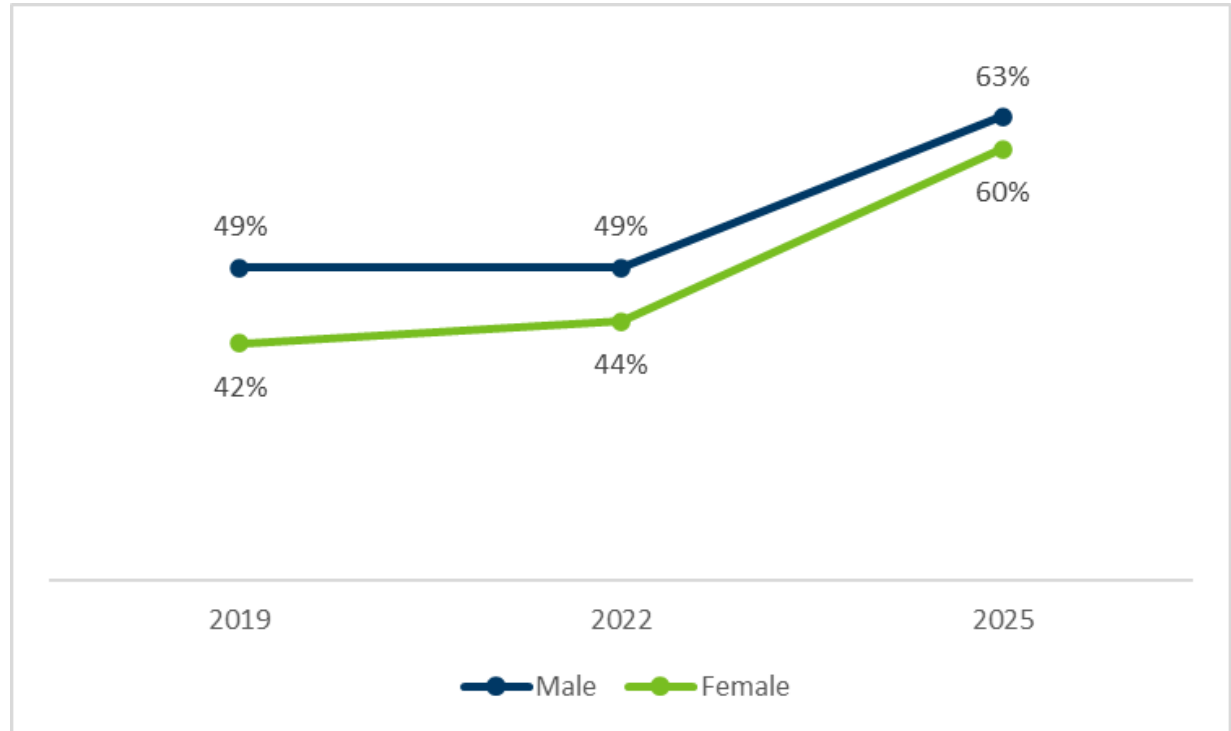


11th Graders reporting Support around Education Options After High School & Career-Focused Field Experiences in 2025.

An adult in school helped you think about education options for after high school (college or other training program).



Adult in school helped you find career-focused field experiences (job shadowing, work-based learning, service learning, career caps, apprenticeships).



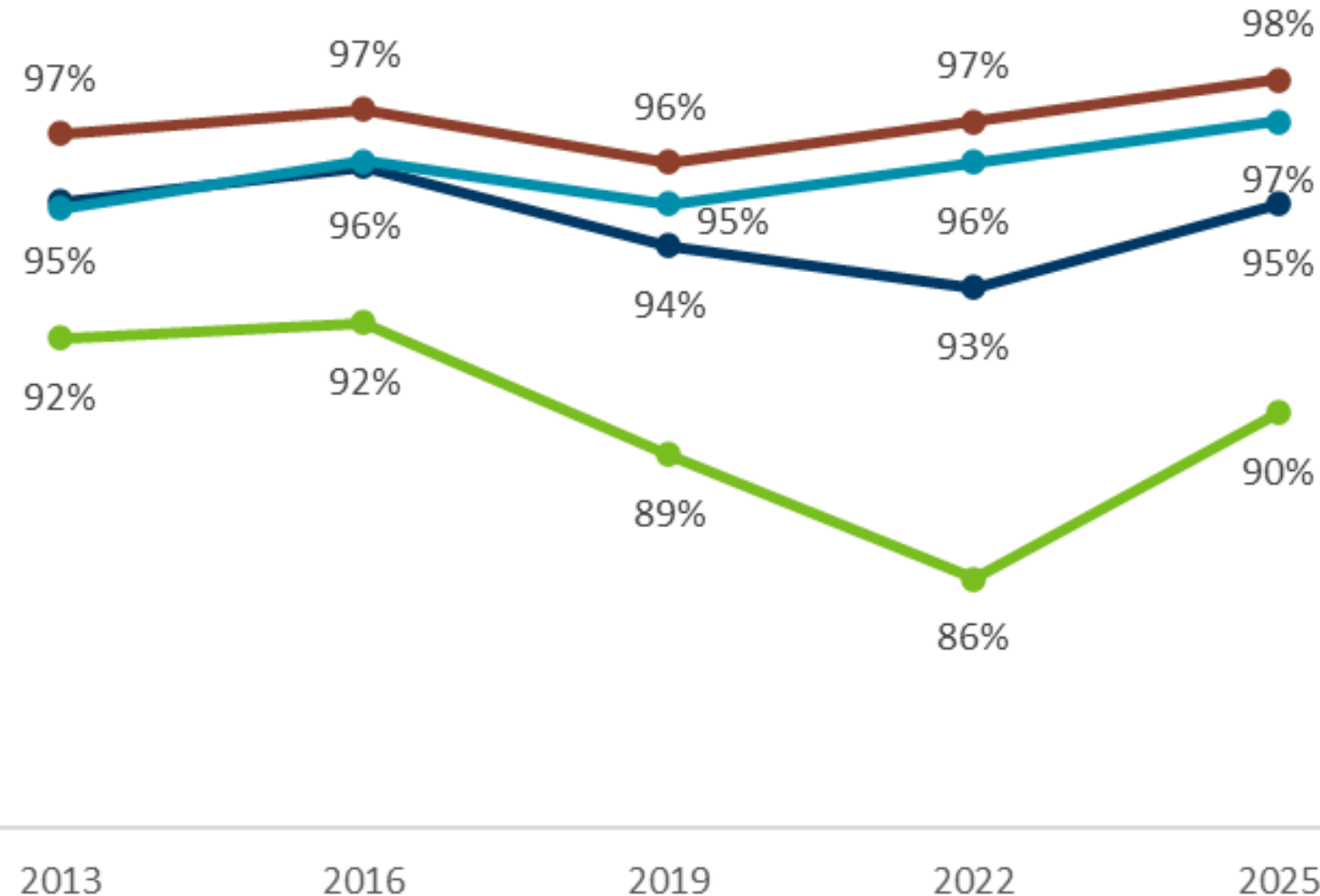
Supportive School Environment

- More students feel safe at school
- More bullying
- More students believe teachers care about them



Increase in 9th grade students feeling safe at school.

% that agree or strongly agree in 2025.



At home

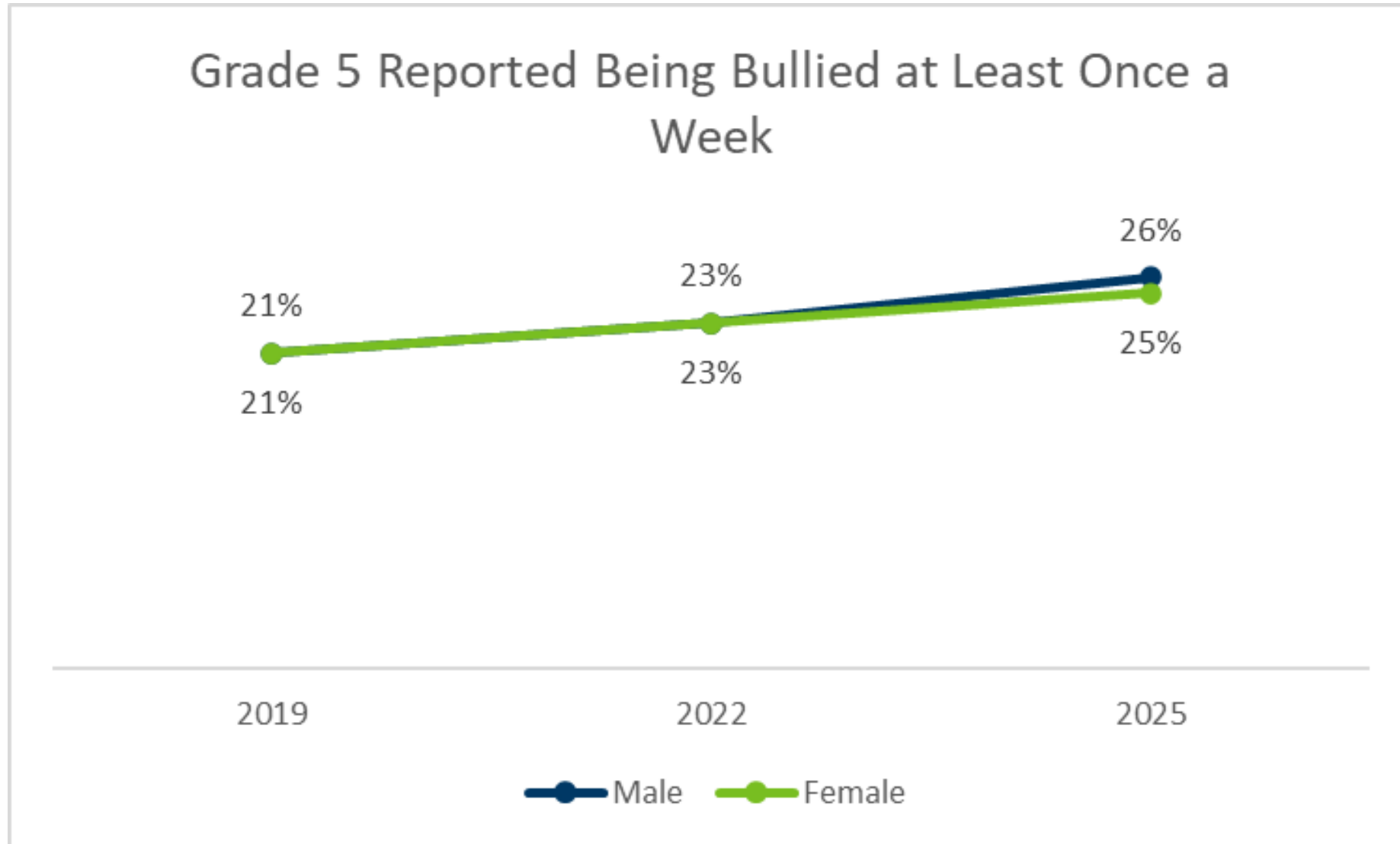
In my neighborhood

To and from school

At school

Rates of bullying increased over years for 5th Graders.

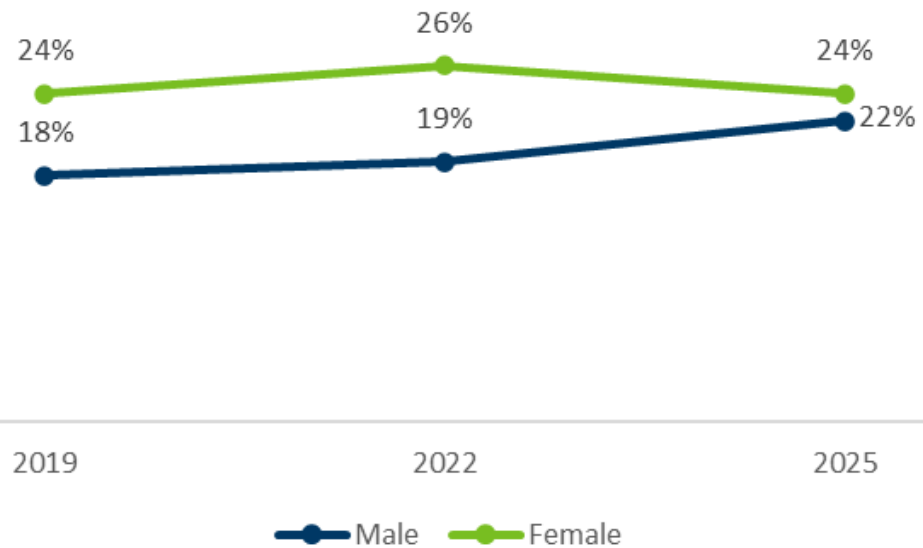
Bullied at least once a week or more in the last 30 days in 2025.



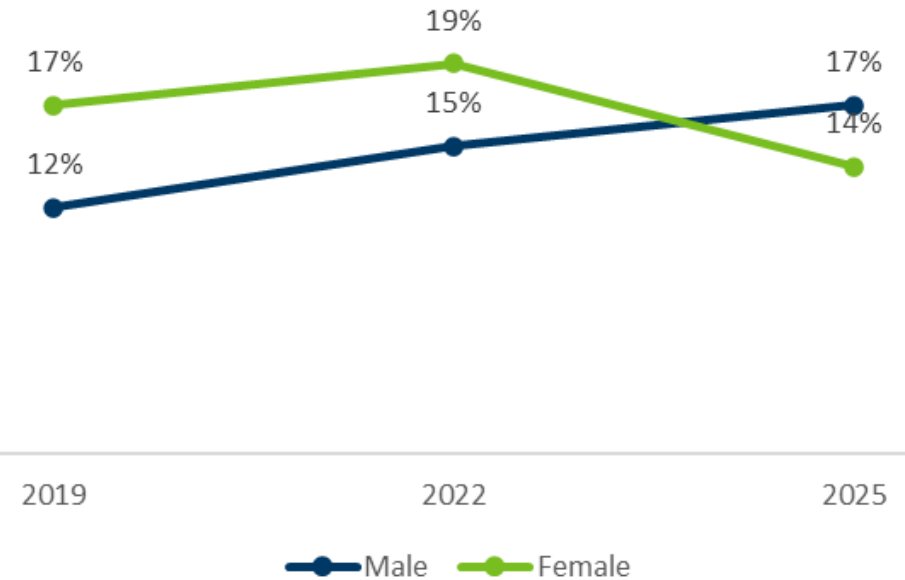
Rates of bullying decreased for female students in Grade 8, 9 and 11.

Bullied at least once a week or more in the last 30 days in 2025.

Grade 8 Reported Being Bullied at Least Once a Week

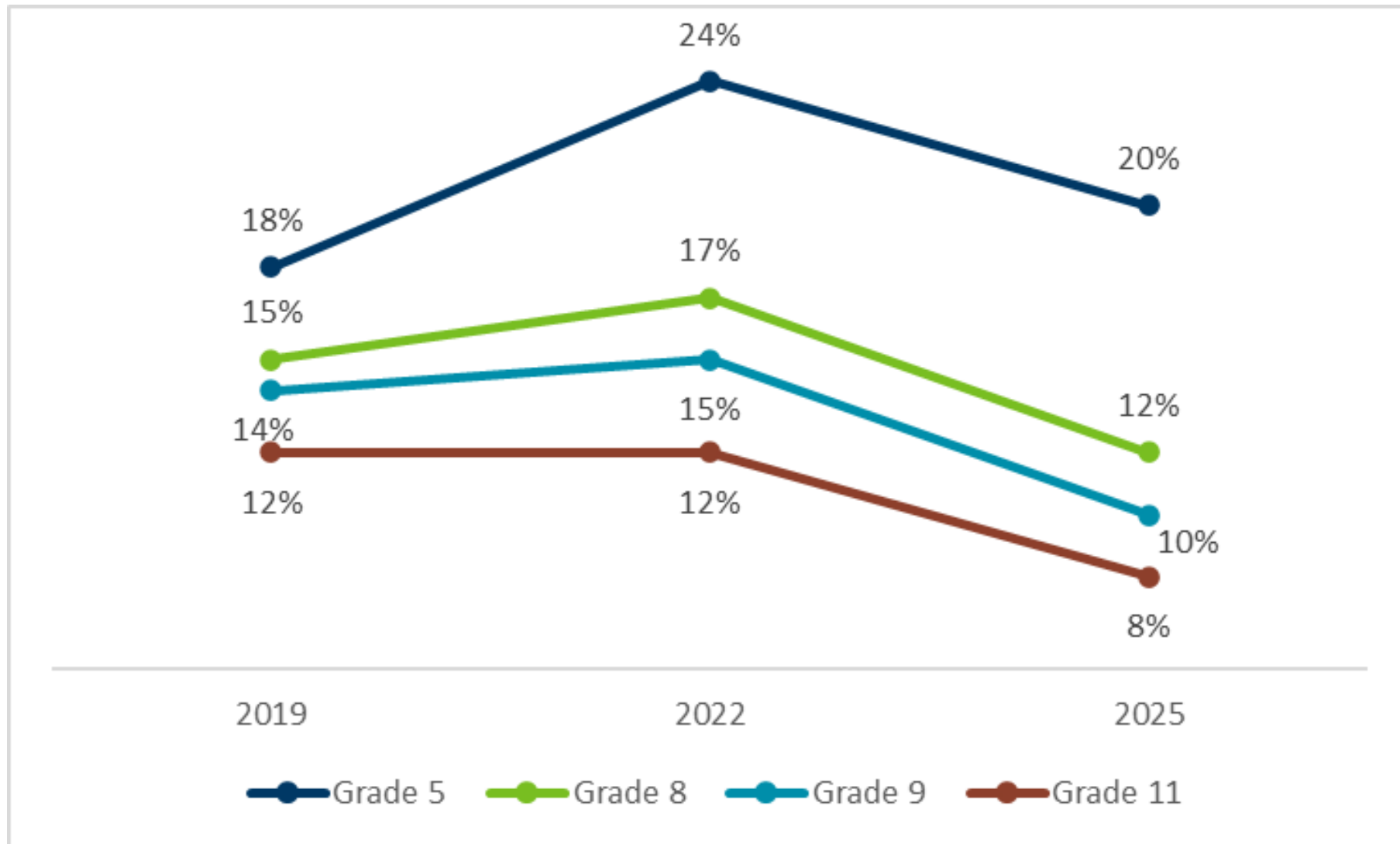


Grade 11 Reported Being Bullied at Least Once a Week

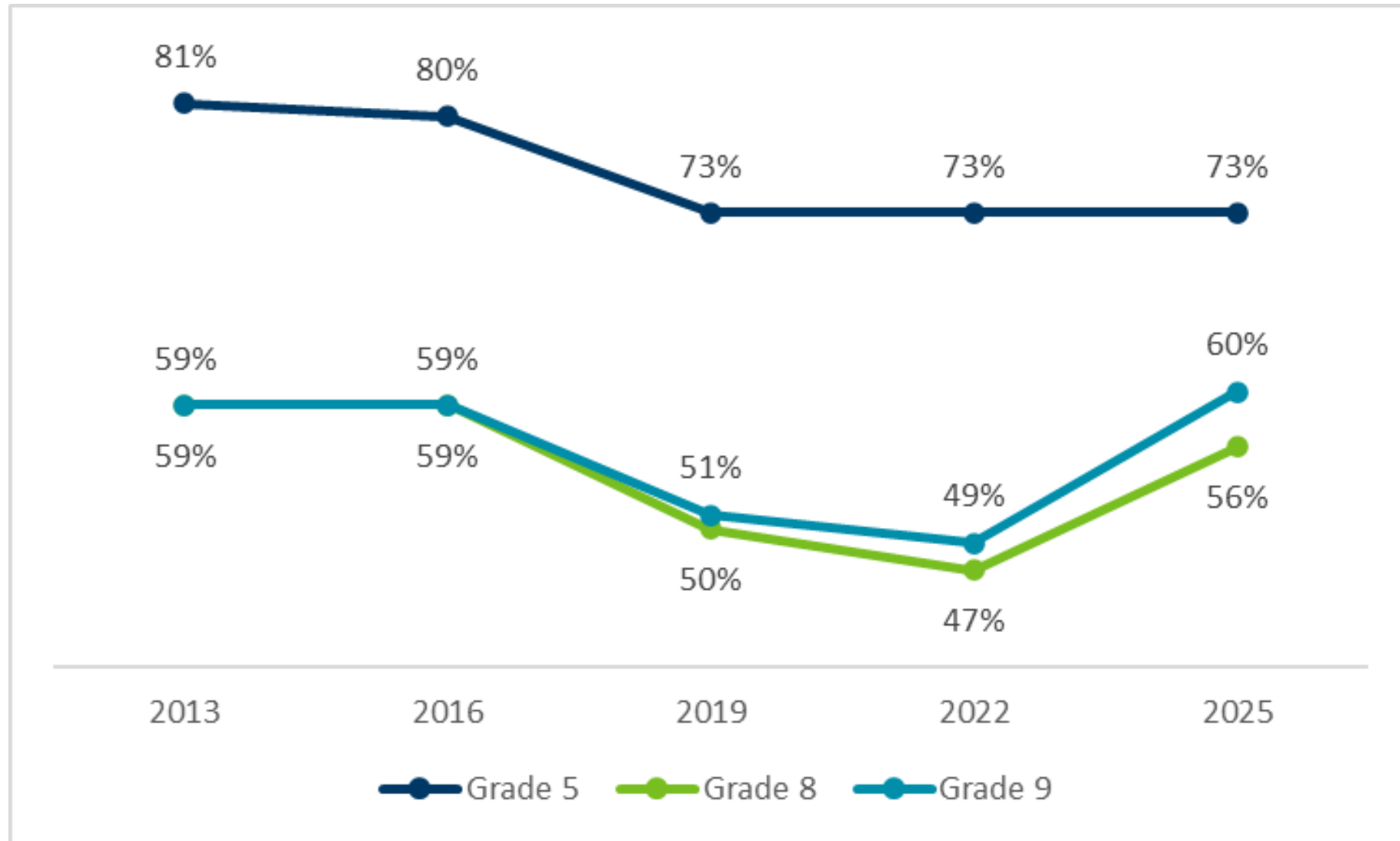


Cyberbullying decreased in 2025 for all grades.

Reported being cyberbullied at least once in the last 30 days.



Increase in feeling teacher and school support in 2025.



Grade 9 students' positive perceptions on outside of school activities increased in 2025.



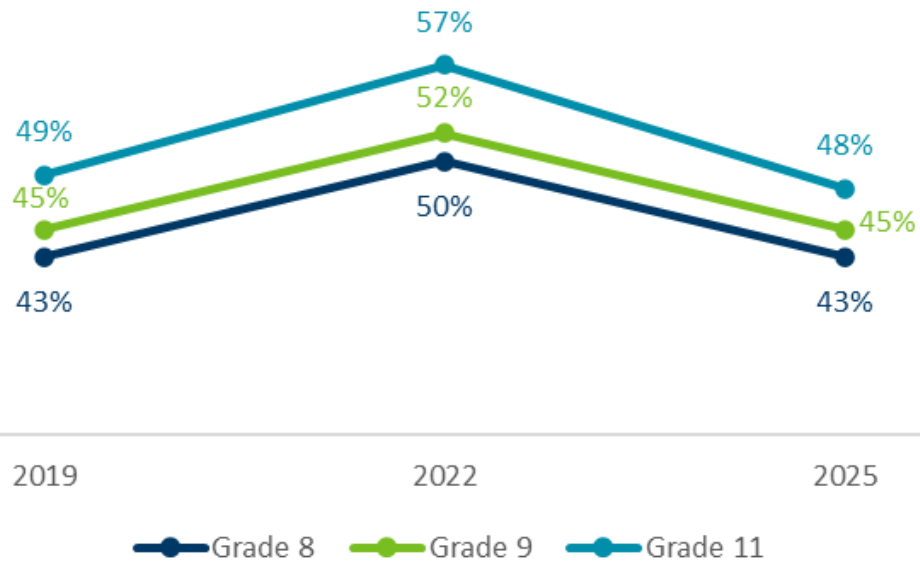
Health Indicators

- General health and mental status improved, similar to 2019 results
- Percentage of 11th grade students considering suicide was the lowest in more than a decade
- Gender disparities in mental health and physical activity
- Students not getting enough sleep, especially girls

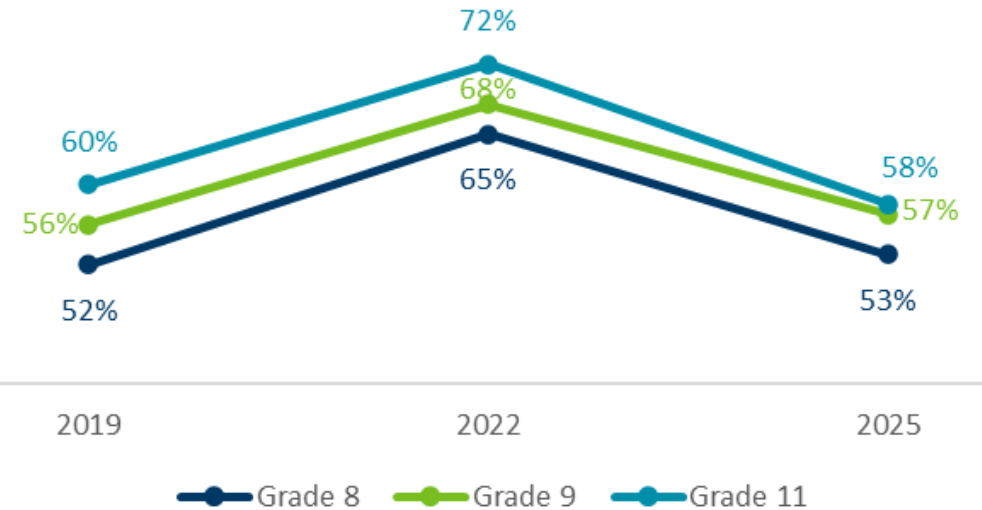


Symptoms of **depression** greater among girls; improved from 2022, similar results to 2019

Male Students: Felling little interest or pleasure in doing things

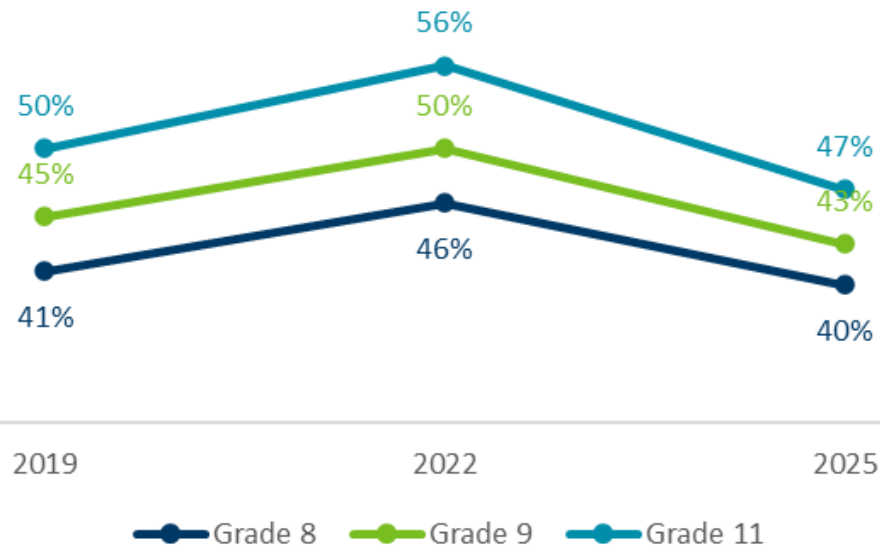


Female Students: Felling little interest or pleasure in doing things

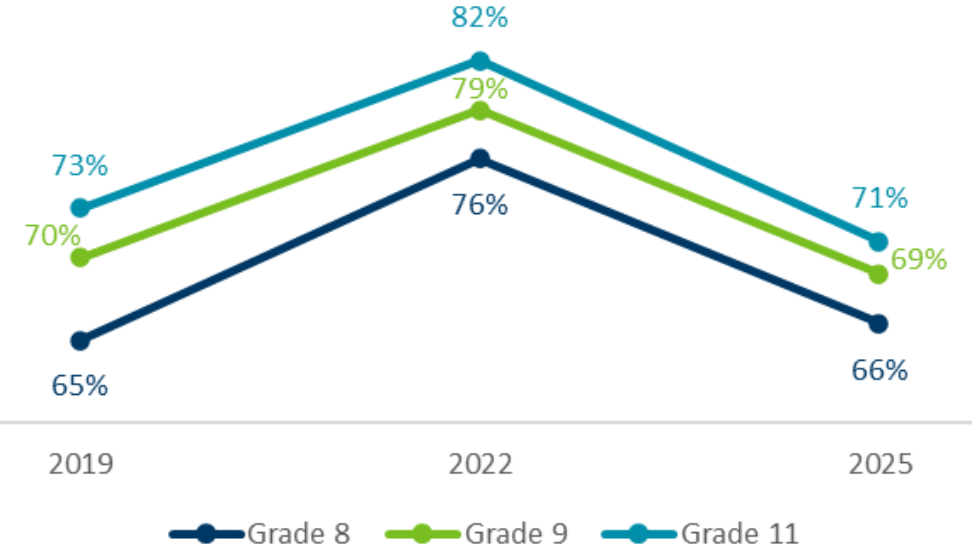


Symptoms of **anxiety** greater among girls; improved from 2022

Male Stdents: Feeling nervous, anxious, or on the edge

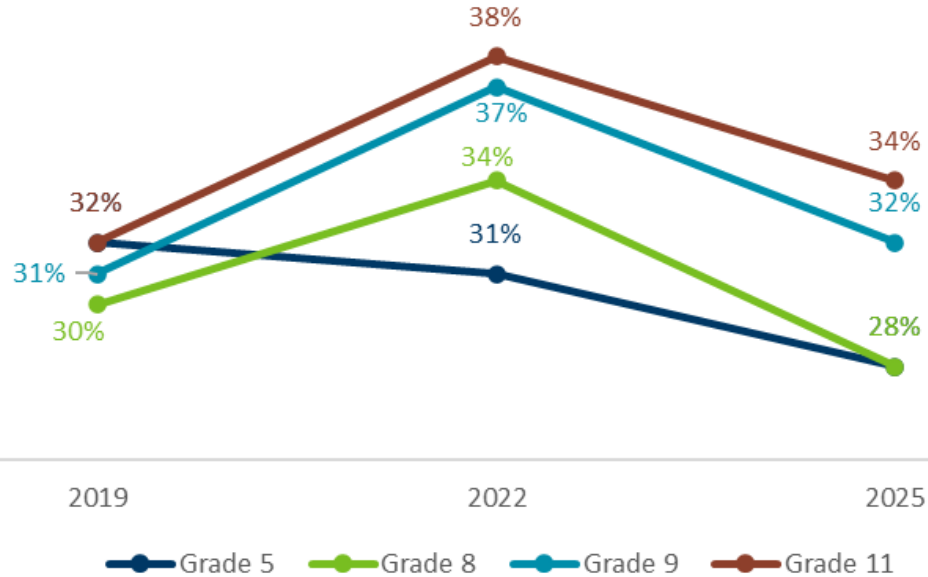


Female students: Feeling nervous, anxious, or on the edge

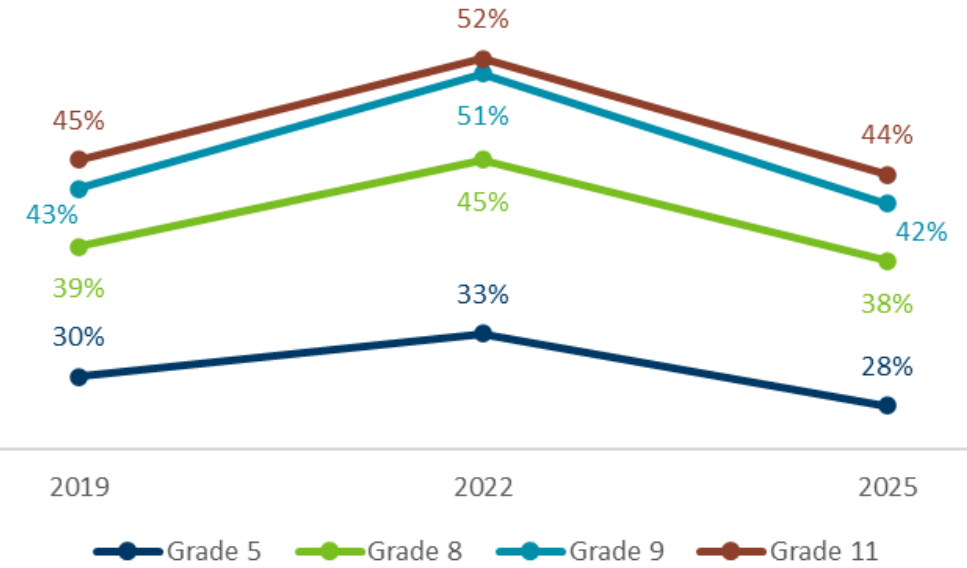


8th, 9th, and 11th grade girls are more likely than boys to describe their **general health** as merely good, fair, or poor

Male Students: Good, Fair, or Poor General Health

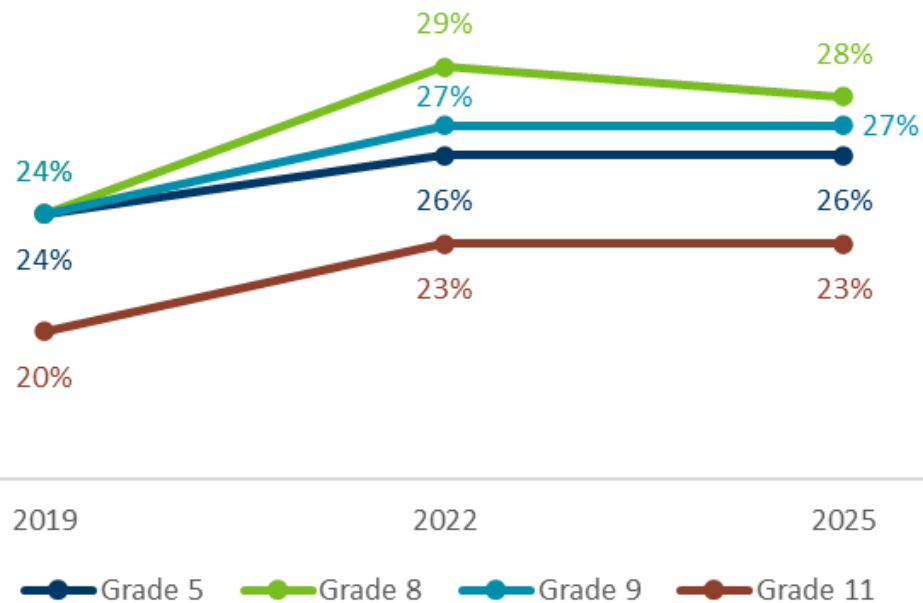


Female Students: Good, Fair, or Poor General Health

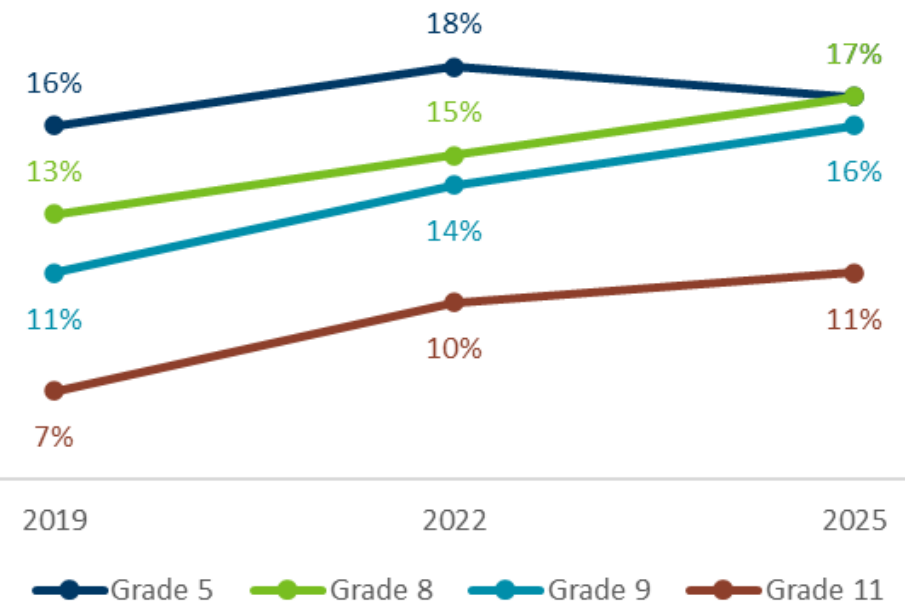


Gender disparity in being **physically active** for one hour every day persisted in 2025

Male Students' Physical Activity

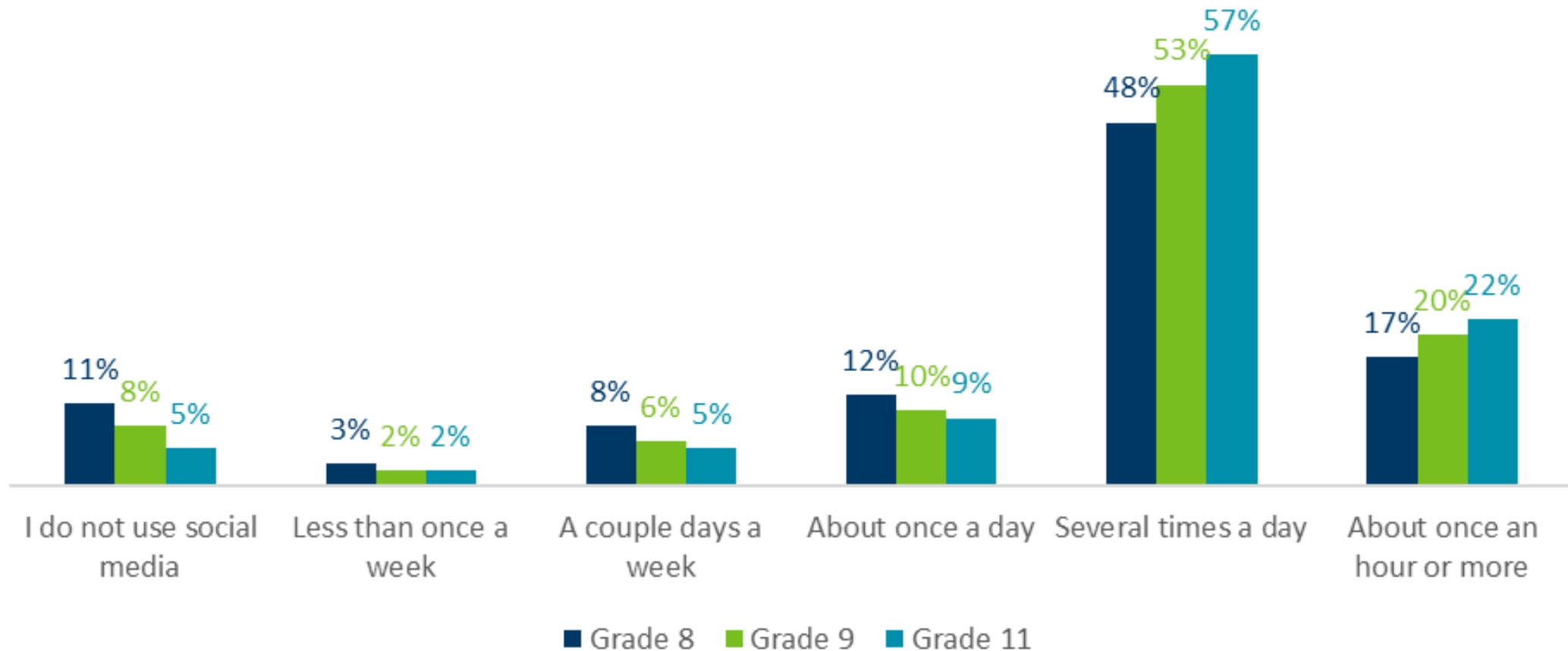


Female Students' Physical Activity



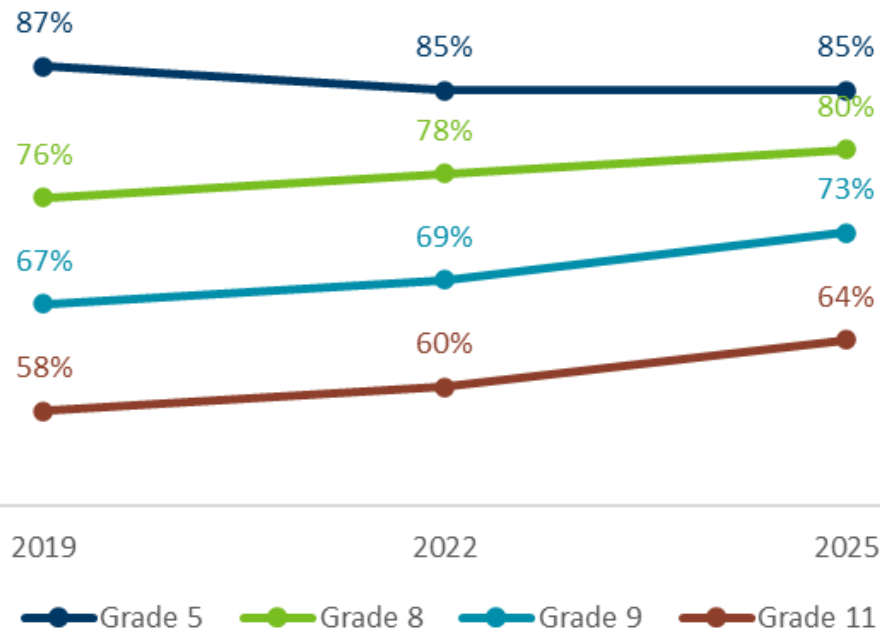
Social Media Usage reported by students in 2025

Social Media Use by Grade in 2025

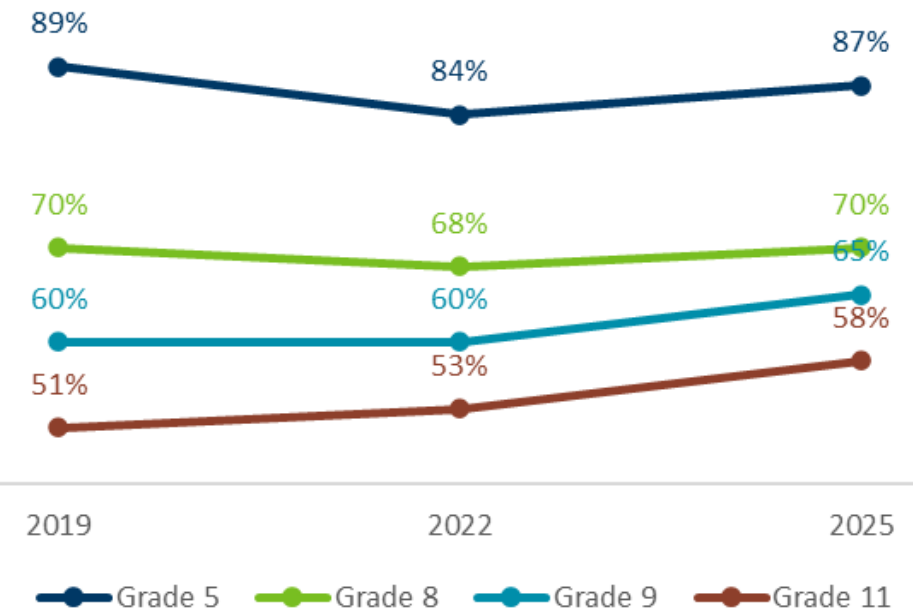


Older students are less likely to **sleep** 7 hours or more on a typical night; gender disparity begins in 8th grade

Male Students: Sleeping 7 hours or more



Female Students: Sleeping 7 hours or more



Next steps and partnerships

- District or school technical assistance for MSS results or use
- Co-planning and facilitation of MSS data summits
- Improvements to the MSS



How to Reach Out and Give Feedback

- Email address:
- Mde.studentsurvey@state.mn.us
- Feedback survey:
 - Survey Questions
 - Data reporting
 - Registration system
 - Survey administration
 - And other reasons



Thank you and Questions