

**Assessing the prevalence of dating violence using
national and state YRBS data from 1999-2009:**

**What we've learned, and how we might improve the
YRBS question going forward**

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Agenda

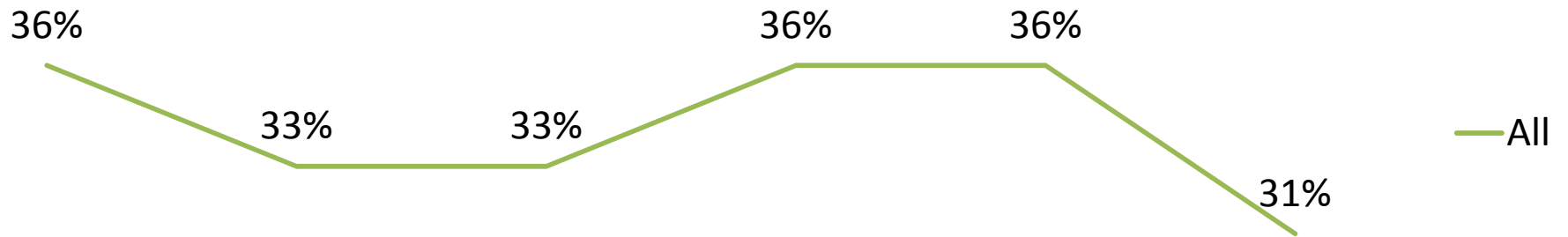
1. Trends over time in the prevalence of TDV as measured by national YRBS, by gender
2. Criticism of the YRBS TDV question and comparison with the wording of the YRBS dating violence question in Massachusetts
3. Revised questions that have been submitted to CDC for consideration & process we followed to submit those

What is the YRBSS?
Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System



- National school-based survey
- Conducted by CDC and local education and health agencies
- National YRBS data are representative of all public and private school students in grades 9-12 in the 50 states and the District of Columbia.
- N= ~ 16,000

**Percentage of US YRBS respondents who reported being in a physical fight
1+ times in the past year**



1999

2001

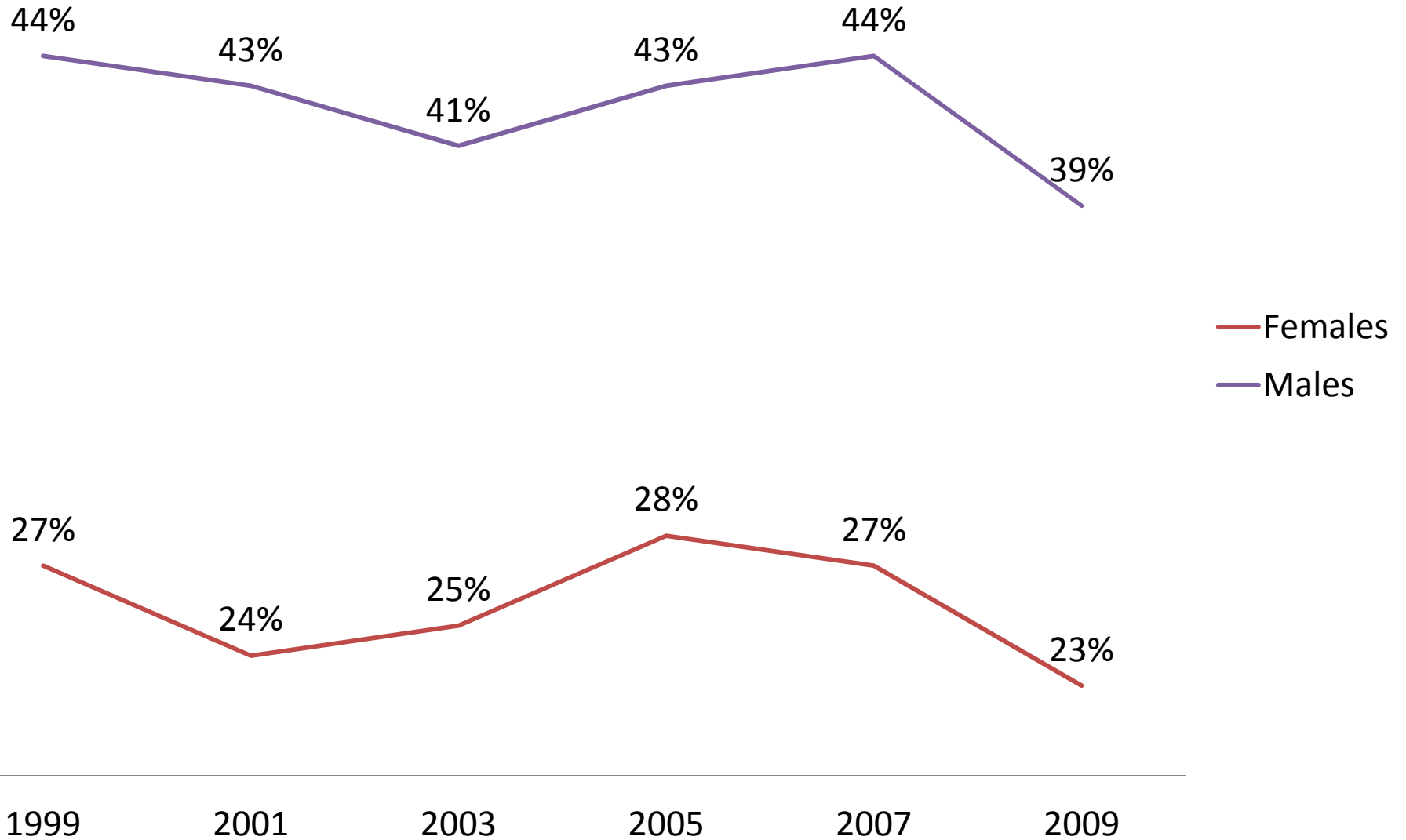
2003

2005

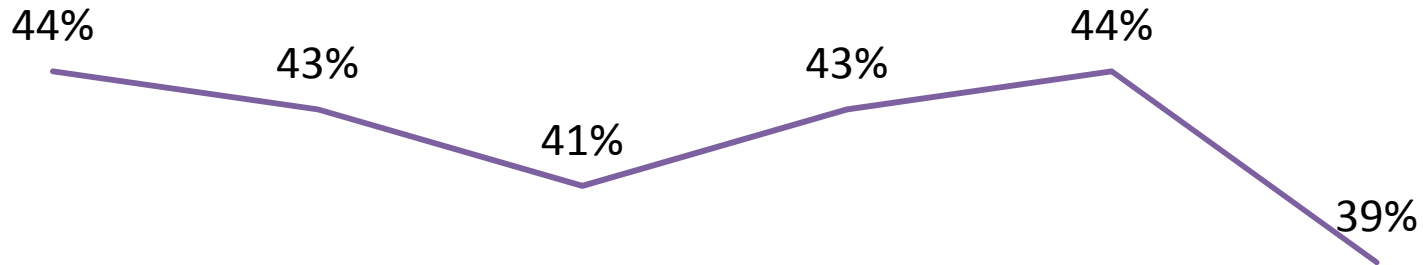
2007

2009

**Percentage of US YRBS respondents who reported being in a physical fight
1+ times in the past year**

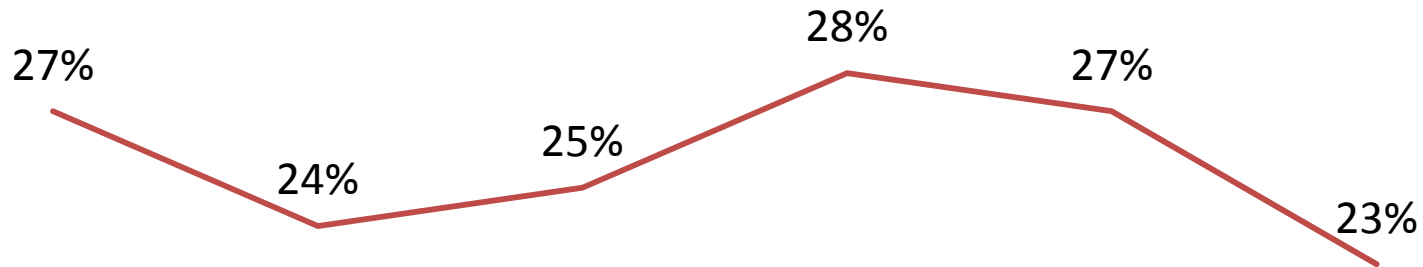


Percentage of US YRBS respondents who reported being in a physical fight 1+ times in the past year



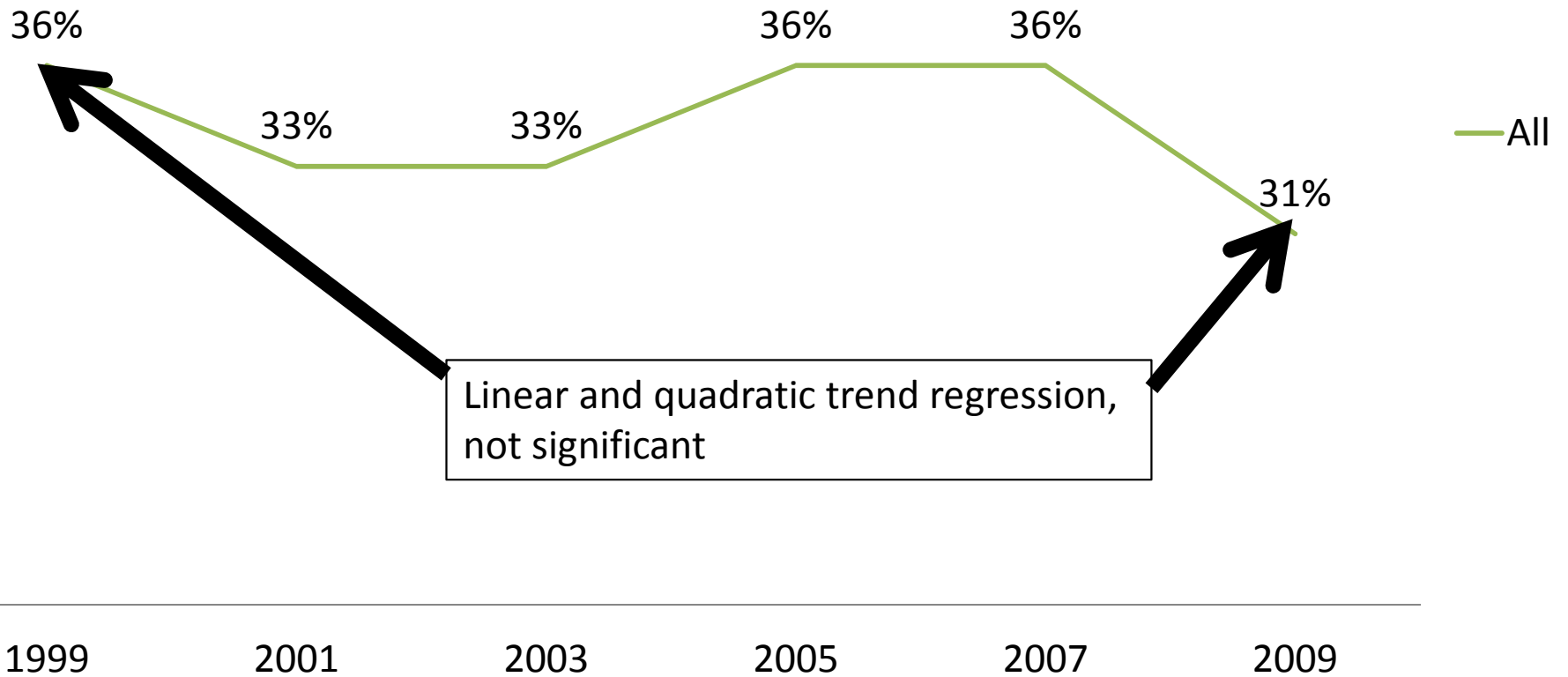
Chi-sq comparing males to females:
p<.0001 overall and every year

— Females
— Males



1999 2001 2003 2005 2007 2009

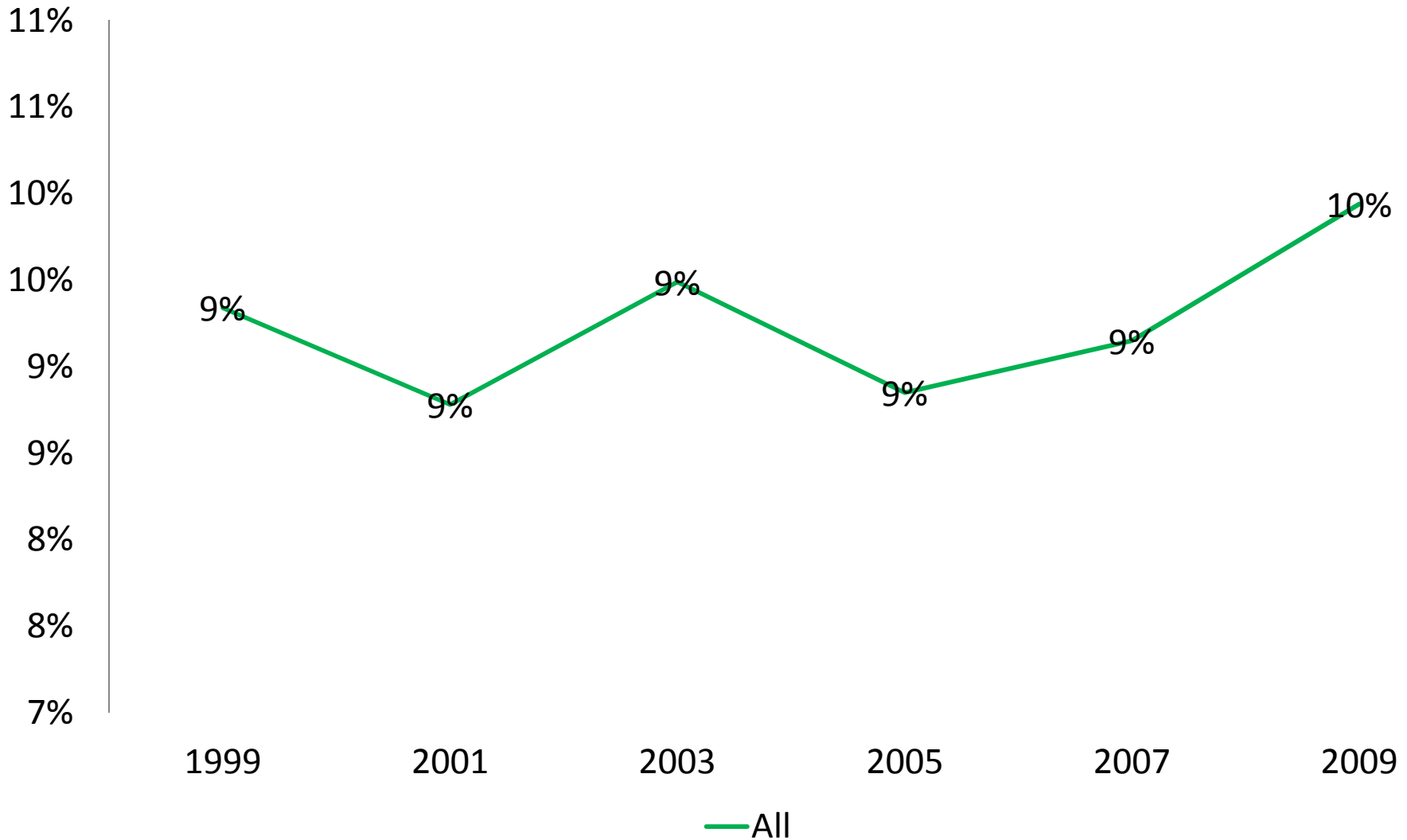
Percentage of US YRBS respondents who reported being in a physical fight 1+ times in the past year



Current YRBS question:

"During the past 12 months, did your boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap, or physically hurt you on purpose?"

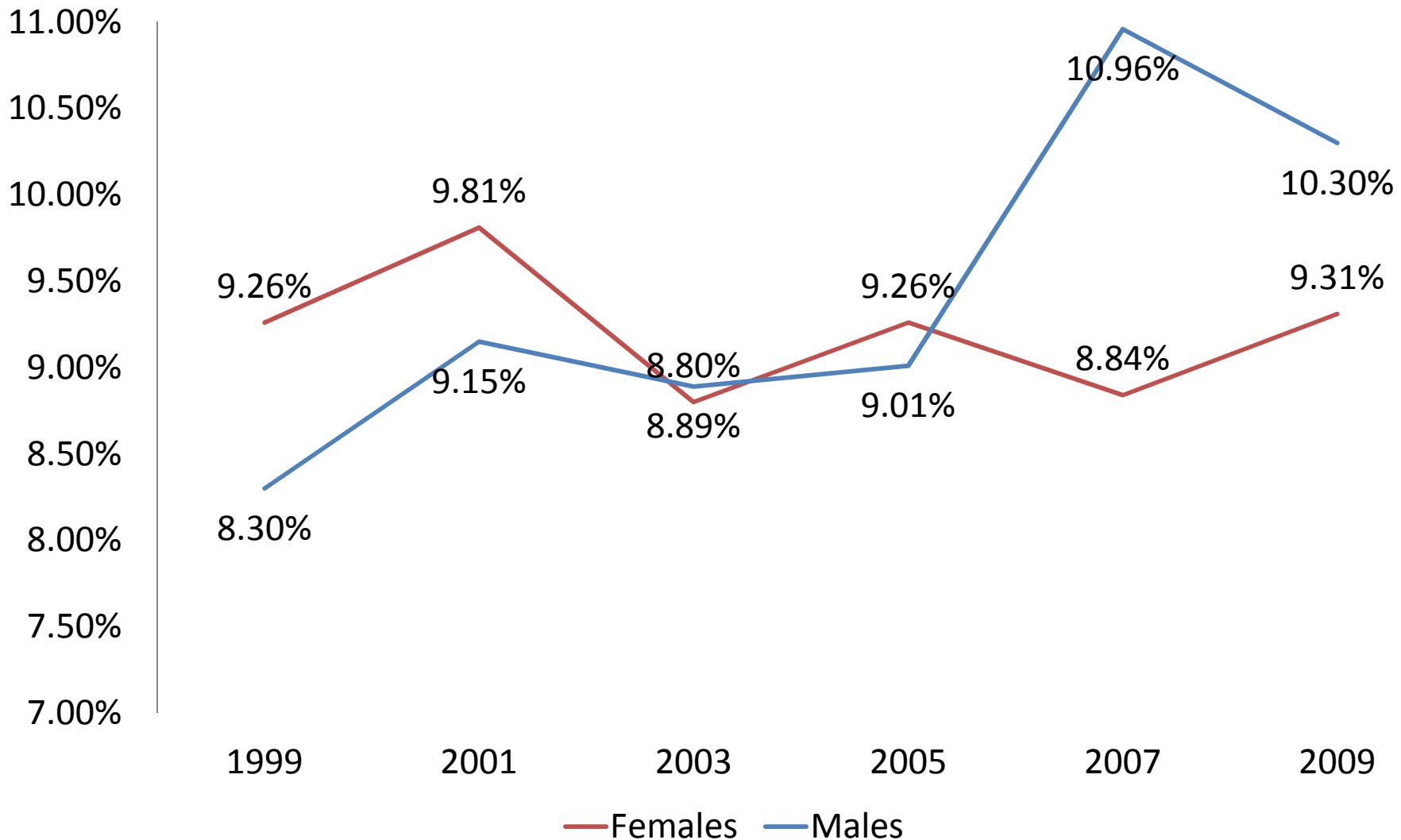
Percentage of US YRBS respondents who reported being “hit, slapped or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or a girlfriend” in the past year



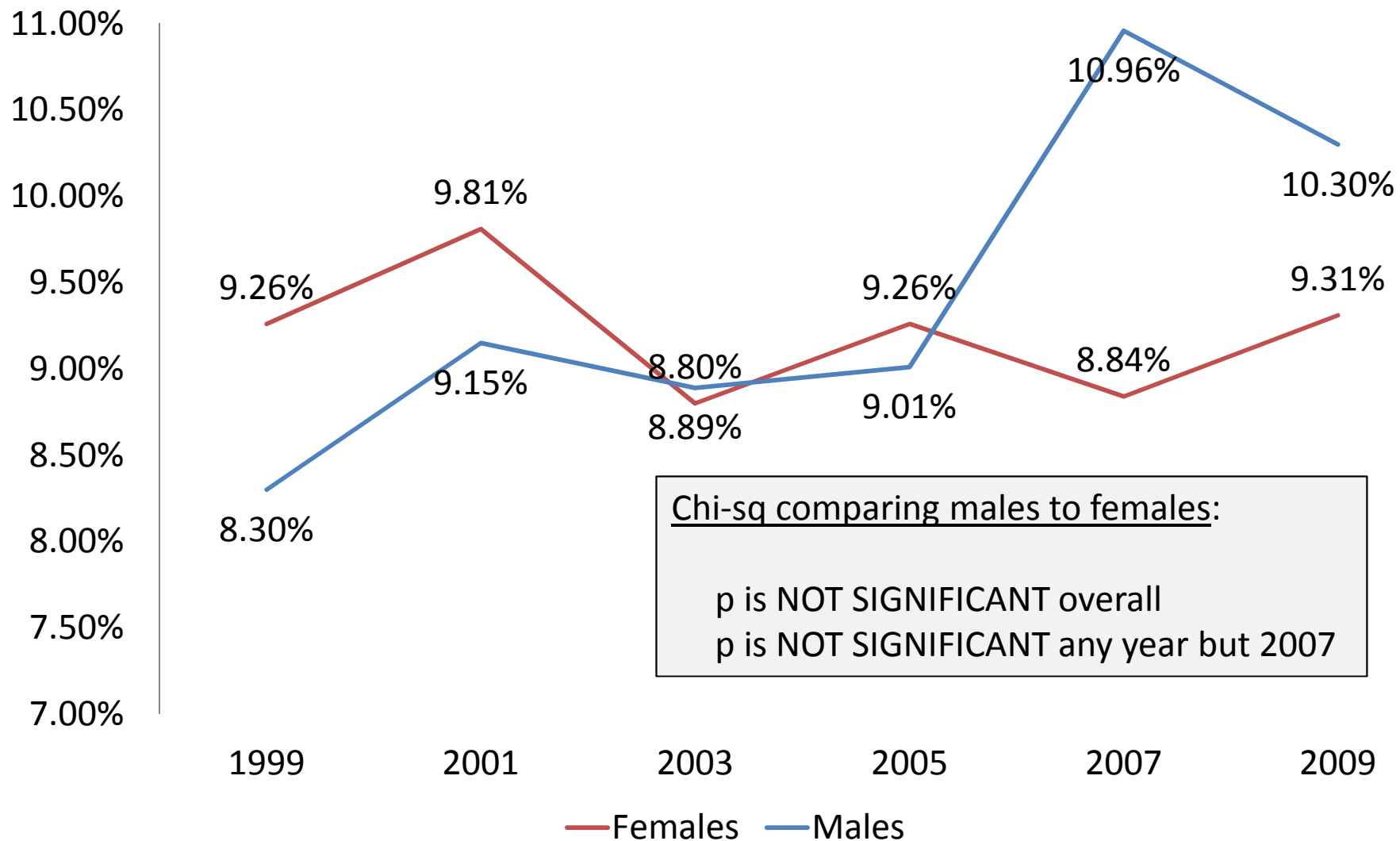
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Percentage of US YRBS respondents who reported being “hit, slapped or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or a girlfriend” in the past year



Review of what we just saw:

- Physical dating violence remained stable from 1999 to 2009
- Males appear to experience as much TDV as females

Criticisms of existing YRBS question

- No one knows/vague who invented original question, or how
- CDC staff asked for information:
 - Matt Breiding, PhD
 - Danice Eaton
 - Nancy Brener
 - Laura Kann, PhD

Criticisms of existing YRBS question

"During the past 12 months, did your boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap, or physically hurt you on purpose?"

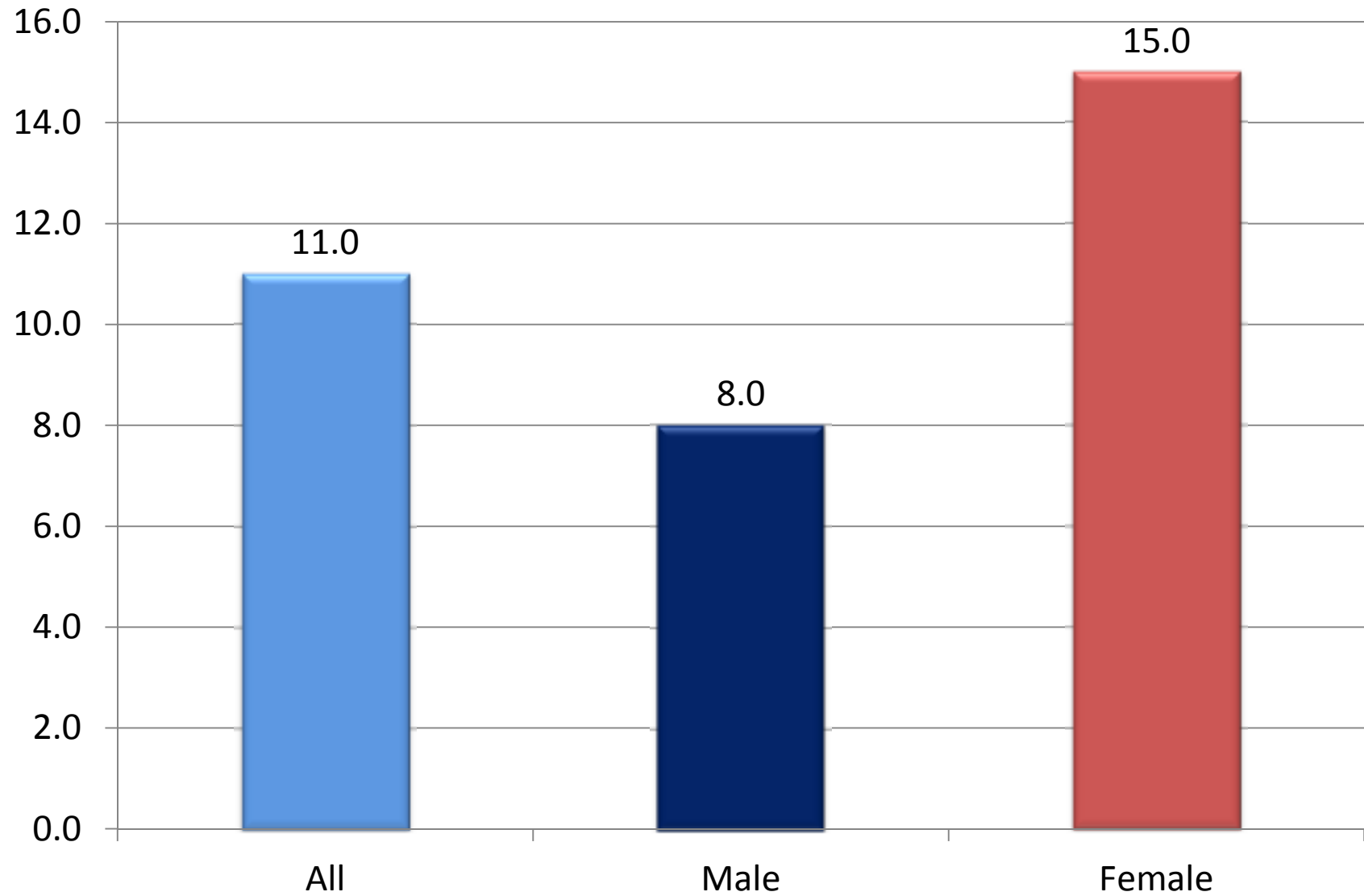
Issue	Explanation
Timeframe	Past year vs. ever
Type of violence	Physical only (no sexual)
Type of violence	Too few specified (choking? Punch?)
Relationship	"Boyfriend/girlfriend"

2011 Massachusetts question

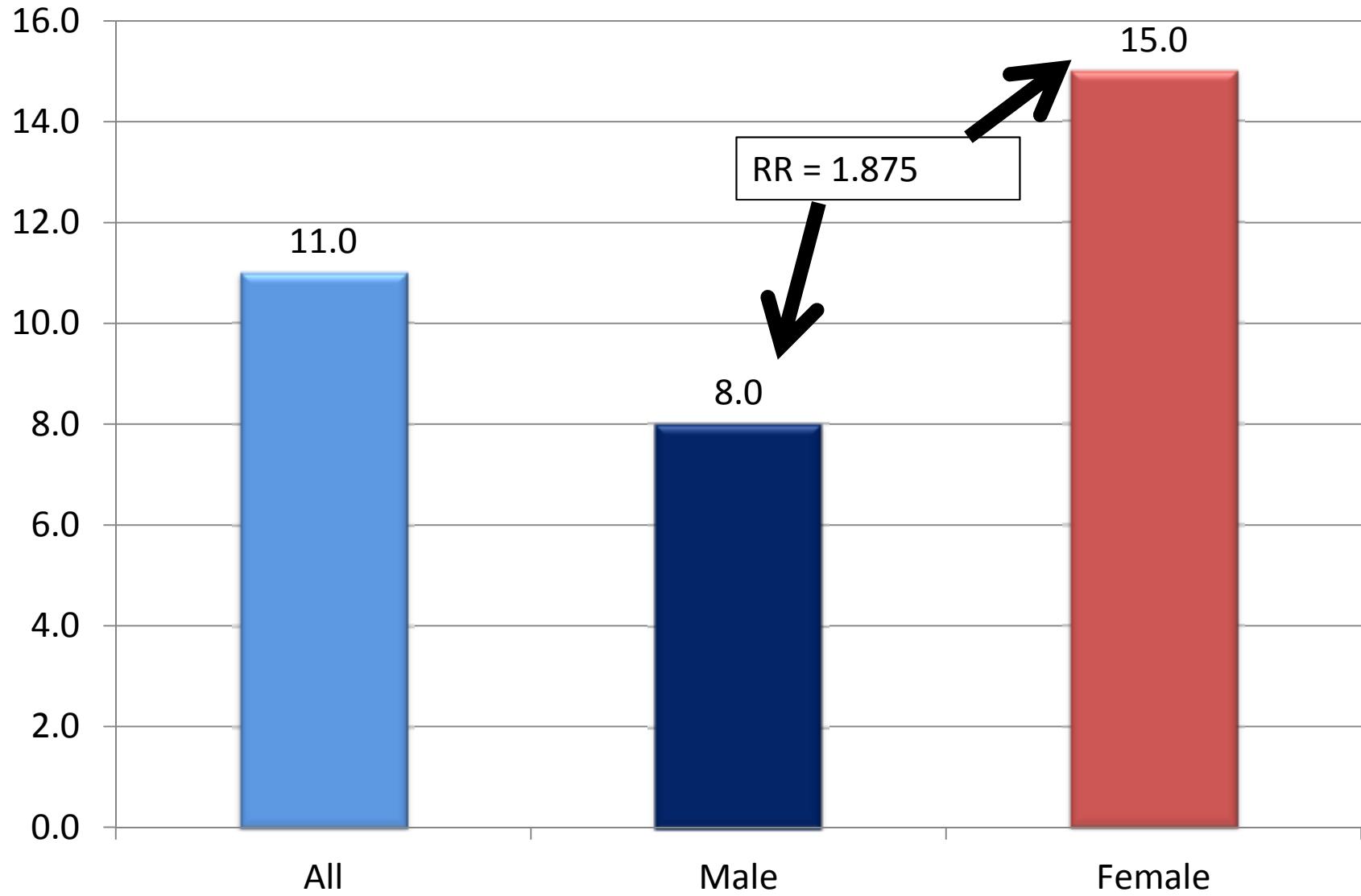
Have you ever been hurt physically by a date or someone you were going out with? (Include being hurt by being shoved, slapped, hit, or forced into any sexual activity.)?

Issue	How different from national question
Timeframe	Ever (not past year)
Type of violence	Physical and sexual
Type of violence	More specified
Relationship	“date or someone you were going out with”
Impact	“hurt” reiterated; OR “forced into any sexual activity”

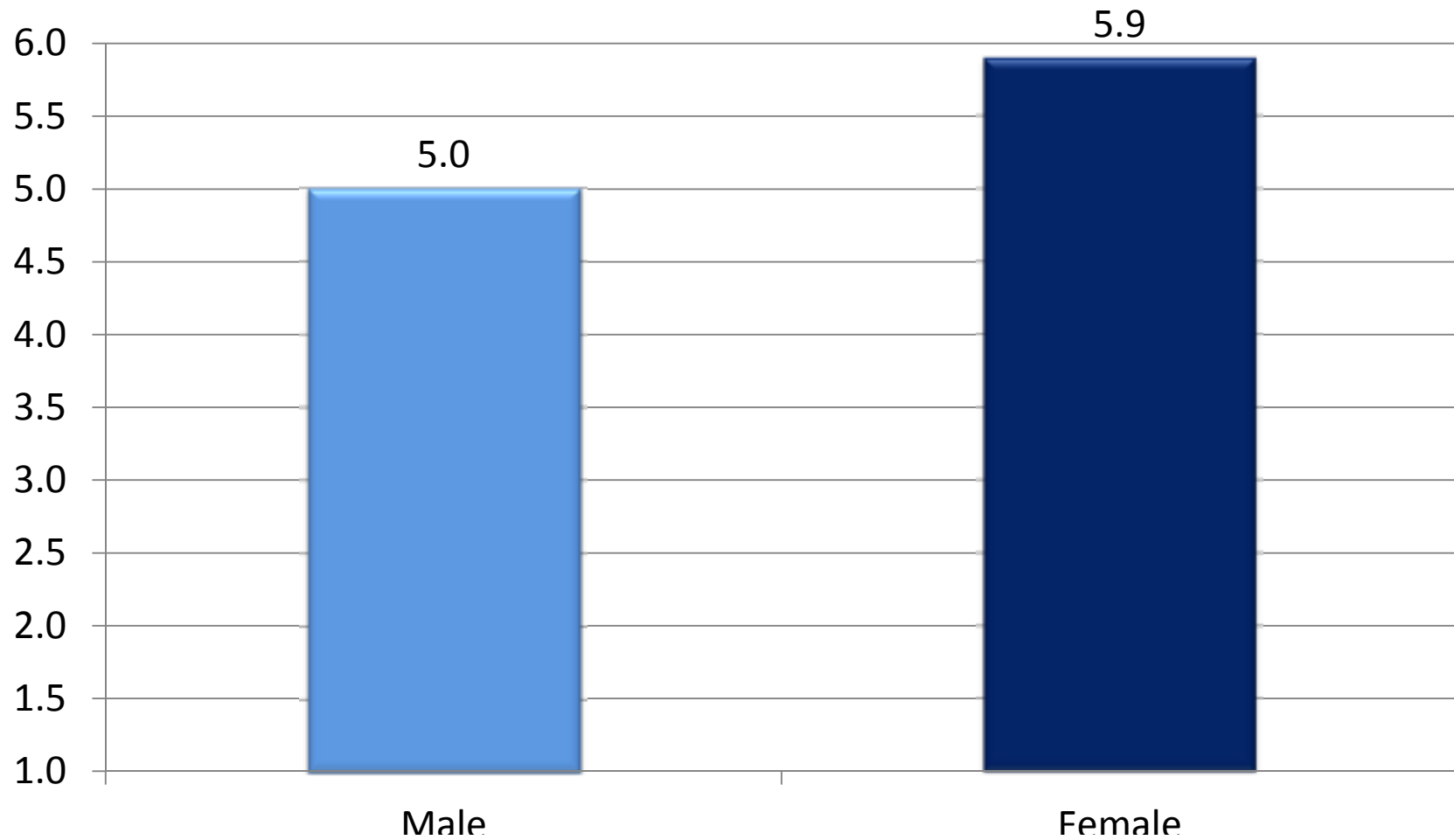
2011 Massachusetts YRBS TDV results



2011 Massachusetts YRBS TDV results



**National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey
(NISVS, 2010 Summary Report);
past year
rape, physical IPV, or stalking victimization by an intimate partner**



Members in the 2011 national dialogue

17 people

Karen Lane, Montana Coalition Against DSV
Lisa Fujie Parks, California Partnership to End DV
Megan H Bair-Merritt, MD, Johns Hopkins School of Med
Rebecca Cline, LISW-S, ACSW, Ohio DV Network
Marci Diamond, Mass. Dept of Public Health
Lucy Rios, Rhode Island CADV
Deb Debare, Rhode Island CADV
Debbie Lee, Futures Without Violence
Deinera Exner-Cortens, Doctoral student at Cornell

Sarah Roberts, MPH student, Boston Univ. School of PH
Elizabeth Miller, MD Chief, Division of Adolescent
Medicine, Pittsburgh Medical Center
Megan Ranney, MD, Brown University
Roberta Gealt, Associate Scientist, University of Delaware
Marguerite Grabarek, University of Michigan
Noel Duckworth, Delaware CADV
Leah Perkinson, North Carolina CADV
Tammy Lemmer, Michigan CADV

New question proposal #1

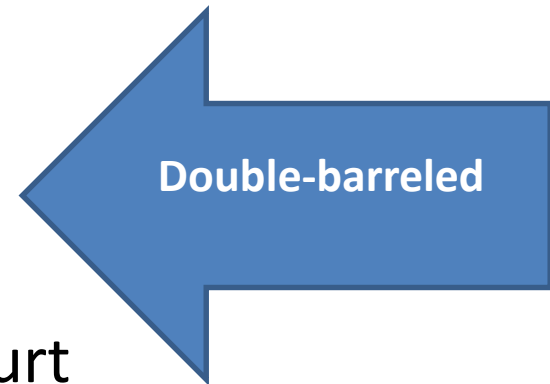
“During the past 12 months, have you been hurt physically or sexually by a date or someone you were going out with? (Include being hurt by being shoved, slapped, hit, punched, kicked, choked, wounded by a weapon or object, or forced into any type of sexual activity.)”

- (1) No
- (2) Yes, physically hurt
- (3) Yes, sexually hurt
- (4) Yes, both physically and sexually hurt
- (5) Don't know / can't remember
- (6) Refused

New question proposal #1

“During the past 12 months, have you been hurt physically or sexually by a date or someone you were going out with? (Include being hurt by being shoved, slapped, hit, punched, kicked, choked, wounded by a weapon or object, or forced into any type of sexual activity.)”

- (1) No
- (2) Yes, physically hurt
- (3) Yes, sexually hurt
- (4) Yes, both physically and sexually hurt
- (5) Don't know / can't remember
- (6) Refused



New question proposal #1

“During the past 12 months, have you been **physically** or **sexually** abused or harassed while you were going out with? (Including but not limited to being slapped, hit, punched, kicked, or thrown or thrown at with a weapon or object, or forced into any sexual act.)”

- (1) No
- (2) Yes, physically but not sexually
- (3) Yes, sexually but not physically
- (4) Yes, both physically and sexually
- (5) Don't know or don't remember
- (6) Refuse to answer

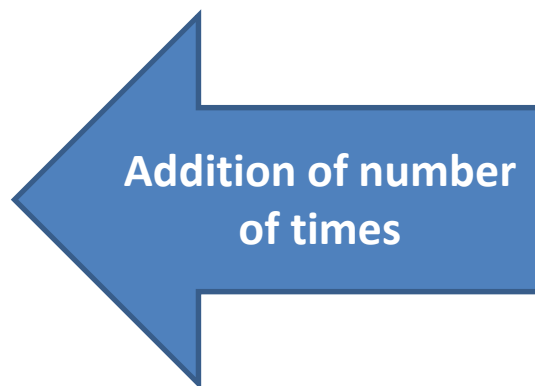


Double-barreled

New question proposal #2

During the past 12 months, how many times have you been **hurt physically or sexually** by a date or someone you were going out with? (Include being hurt by being shoved, slapped, hit, punched, kicked, choked, wounded by a weapon or object, or forced into any type of sexual activity.)

- A. I have not dated or gone out with anyone in the past 12 months.
- B. 0 times
- C. 1 time
- D. 2 or 3 times
- E. 4 or 5 times
- F. 6 or 7 times
- G. 8 or 9 times
- H. 10 or 11 times
- I. 12 or more times



In 2012, FWV consulted variety of additional partners

- Start Strong sites
- Barbara Ball at Safe Place Austin, TX
- Barri Rosenbluth at Safe Place Austin, TX
- Liz Claiborne
- Some state DV coalitions and health departments weighed in

Next coordinated with CDC Division of Violence Prevention

Including:

- Vagi, Kevin
- Basile, Kathleen
- Jenkins, Lynn
- Simon, Thomas
- Hertz, Marci F.
- Tharp, Andra
- Harrier, Sara
- Smith, Sharon G.
- Breiding, Matthew J.

1 – Proposed Revised Teen Dating Violence Question

“During the past 12 months, how many times did someone you were dating or going out with physically hurt you on purpose by doing such things as shoving, hitting, punching, kicking, slamming you into something, or wounding you with an object or weapon?”

- A. I have not dated or gone out with anyone in the past 12 months.
- B. 0 times
- C. 1 time
- D. 2-5 times
- E. 6-10 times
- F. 11 or more times

1 – Proposed Revised Teen Dating Violence Question

Not “boyfriend or girlfriend”

“During the past 12 months, how many times did someone you were dating or going out with physically hurt you on purpose by doing such things as shoving, hitting, punching, kicking, slamming you into something, or wounding you with an object or weapon?”

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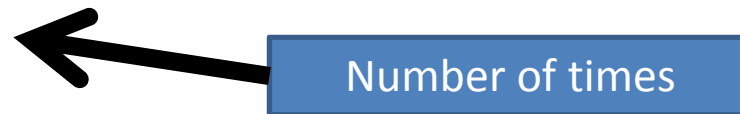


Example items expanded over just “hit, slap”

1 – Proposed Revised Teen Dating Violence Question

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- C. 1 time
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2 - New Teen Dating Violence

Question (involving Sexual Violence)

“During the past 12 months, how many times did *someone you were dating or going out with* force you to do sexual things that you did not want to do, such as touching your private areas, forcing you to touch their private areas, or physically forcing you to have sex with them?”

- A. I have not dated or gone out with anyone in the past 12 months.
- B. 0 times
- C. 1 time
- D. 2-5 times
- E. 6-10 times
- F. 11 or more times

3 – Question we propose dropping to make room for our new question

In order to make room for our newly proposed sexual violence TDV question, we propose dropping the following question:

“During the past 12 months, how many times has someone stolen or deliberately damaged your property such as your car, clothing, or books **on school property?**”

Next step

Waiting to hear back from CDC about their decision!

Contact information

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Boston University School of Public Health