

Assessment of the YouthBuild Mentoring Initiative

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Summary of Assessment Work Completed

- Assessment Period: May 2010 through May 2013
- Collaborative creation of three surveys to measure student perceptions of the role of mentors
- Ongoing administration of student surveys
- Ongoing creation of student survey database and administrative database
- Preliminary analysis of time-1 surveys

Description of the Survey

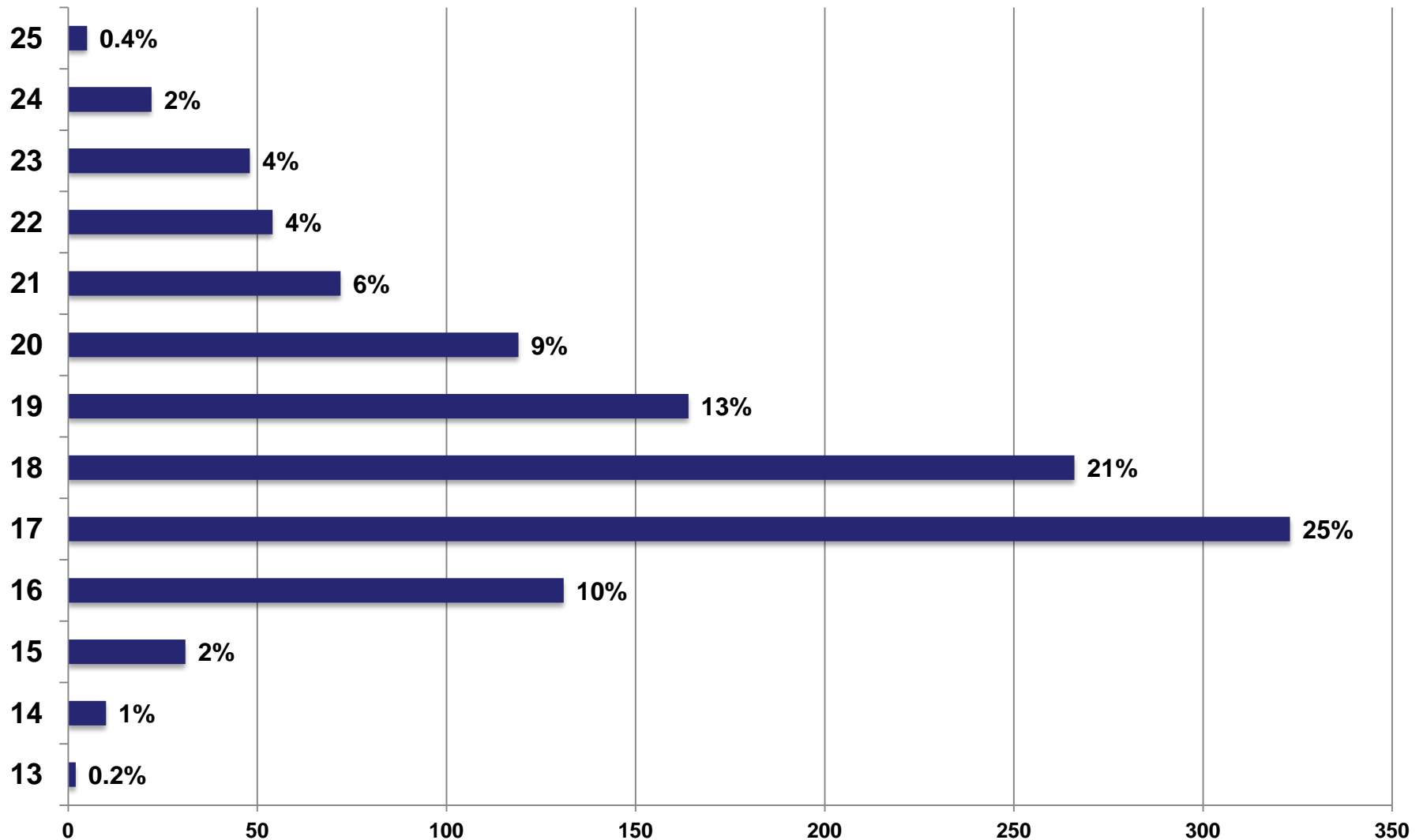
- 36 Opinion Questions on 7-point Likert scale ranging from “Disagree Strongly” to “Agree Strongly”
- Administered by YouthBuild staff on site at three different times – depending on the student
 - Time-1: All students at start of the program
 - Time-2: All students at graduation (9 months post)
 - Time-3: Matched Mentoring Students (15 months post)

Basic Sample Demographics

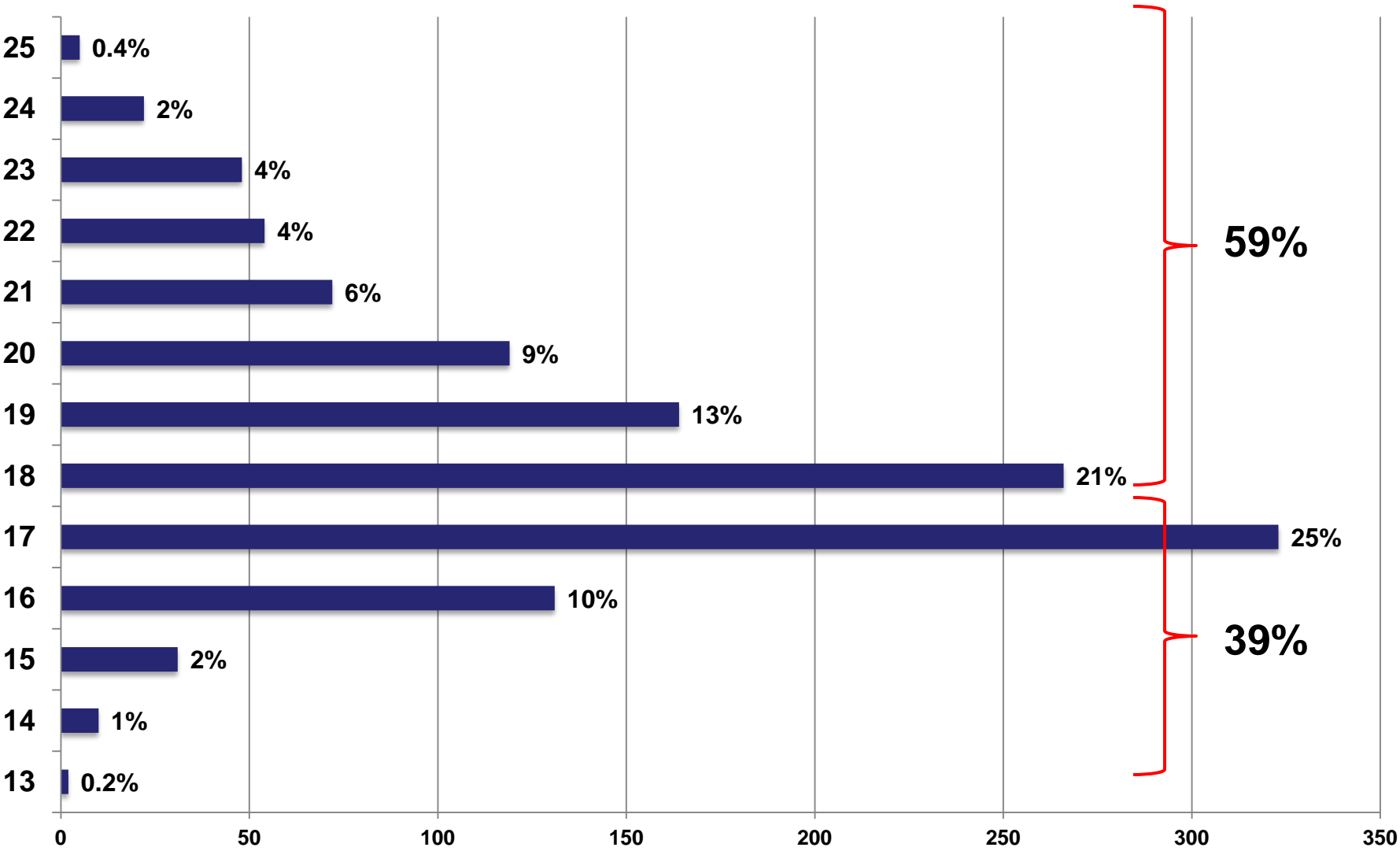
- Time-1 Surveys Analyzed: 1,277*
- Time-2 Surveys Collected: 30*
- Time-3 Surveys Collected: 0*
- Age Range: 13 to 25 years old
- Number of Sites: 42

* As of March 1st – Data collection continues to be ongoing

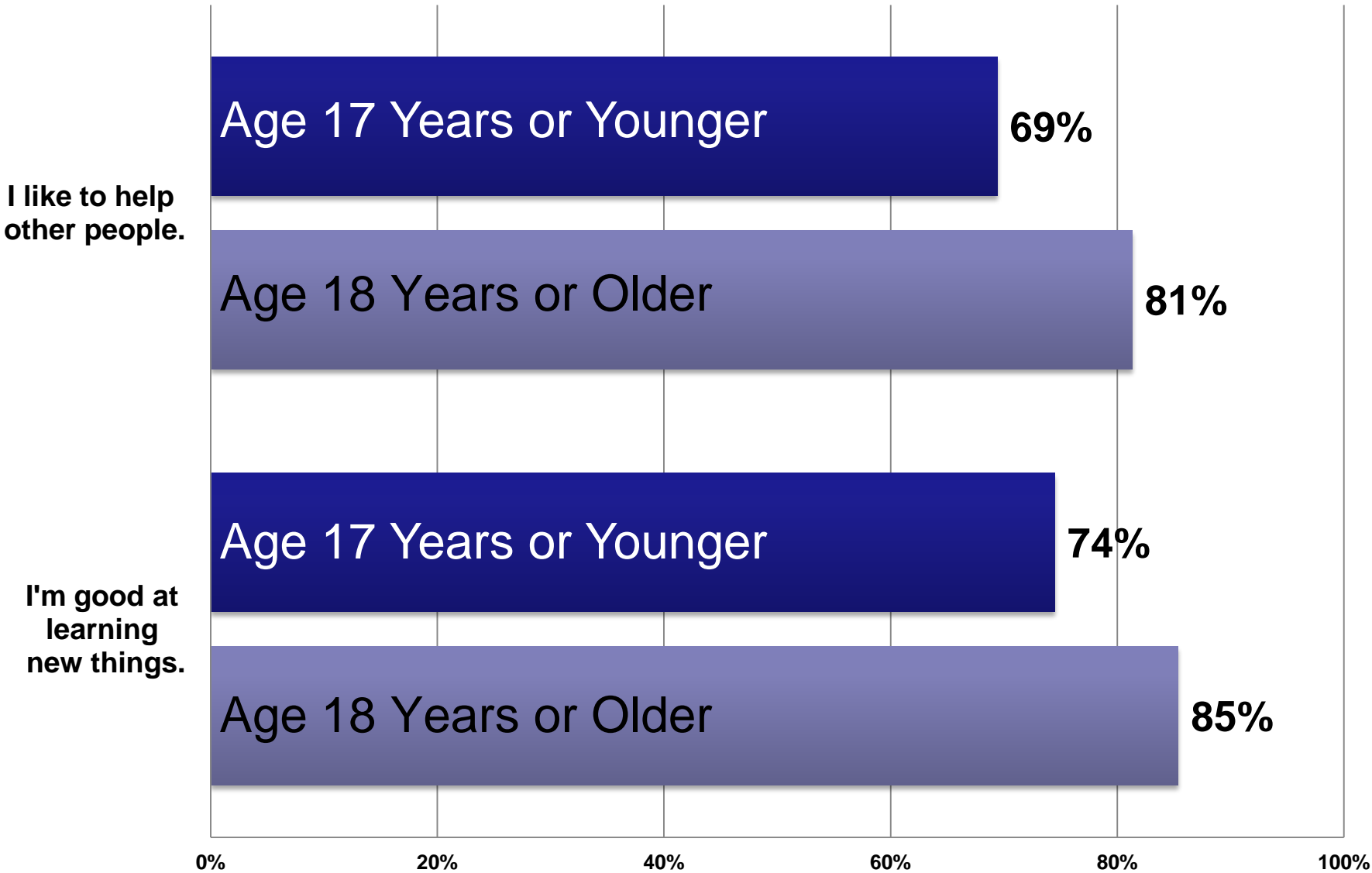
Age Distribution of Students – Survey Time-1



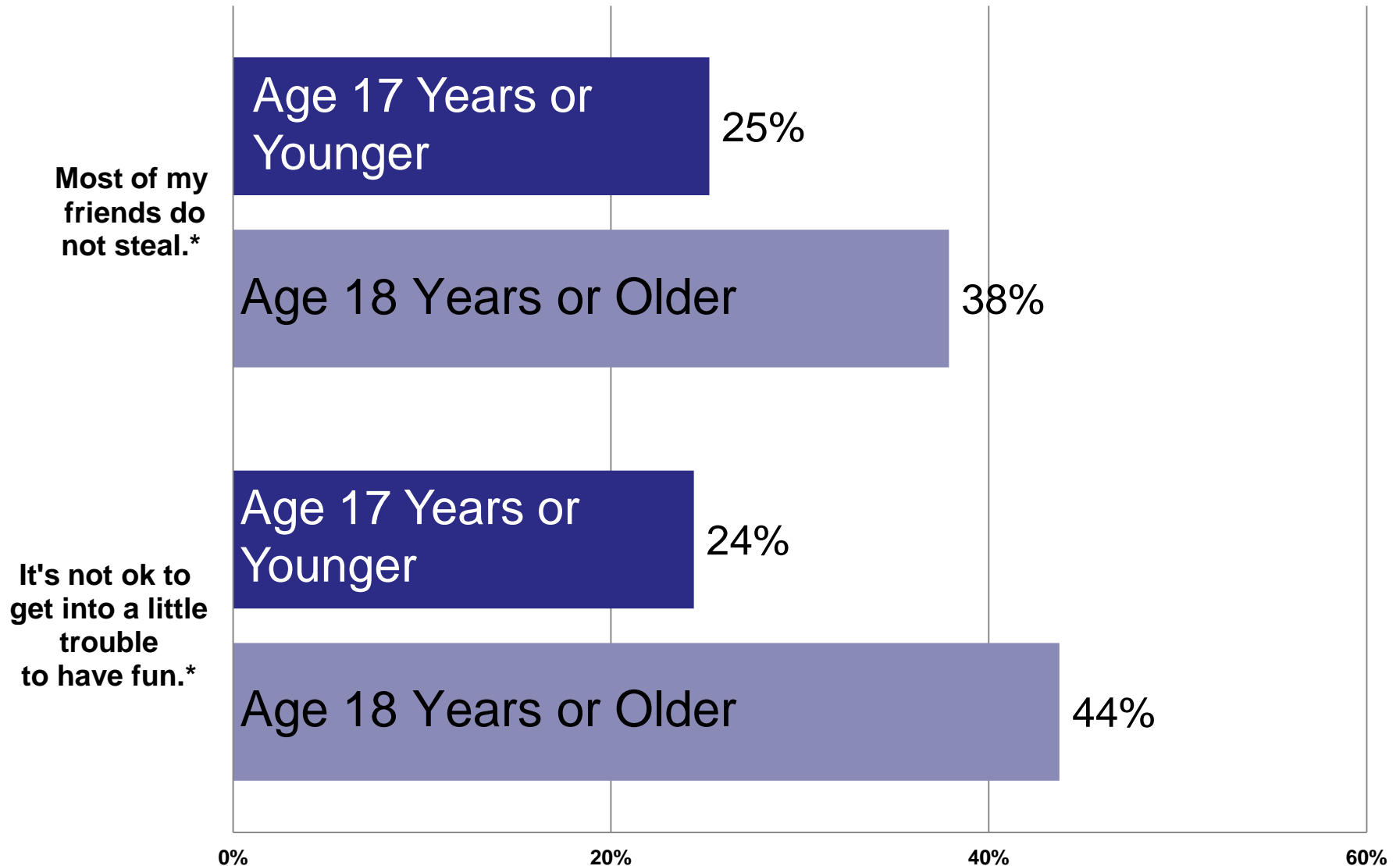
Age Distribution of Students – Survey Time-1



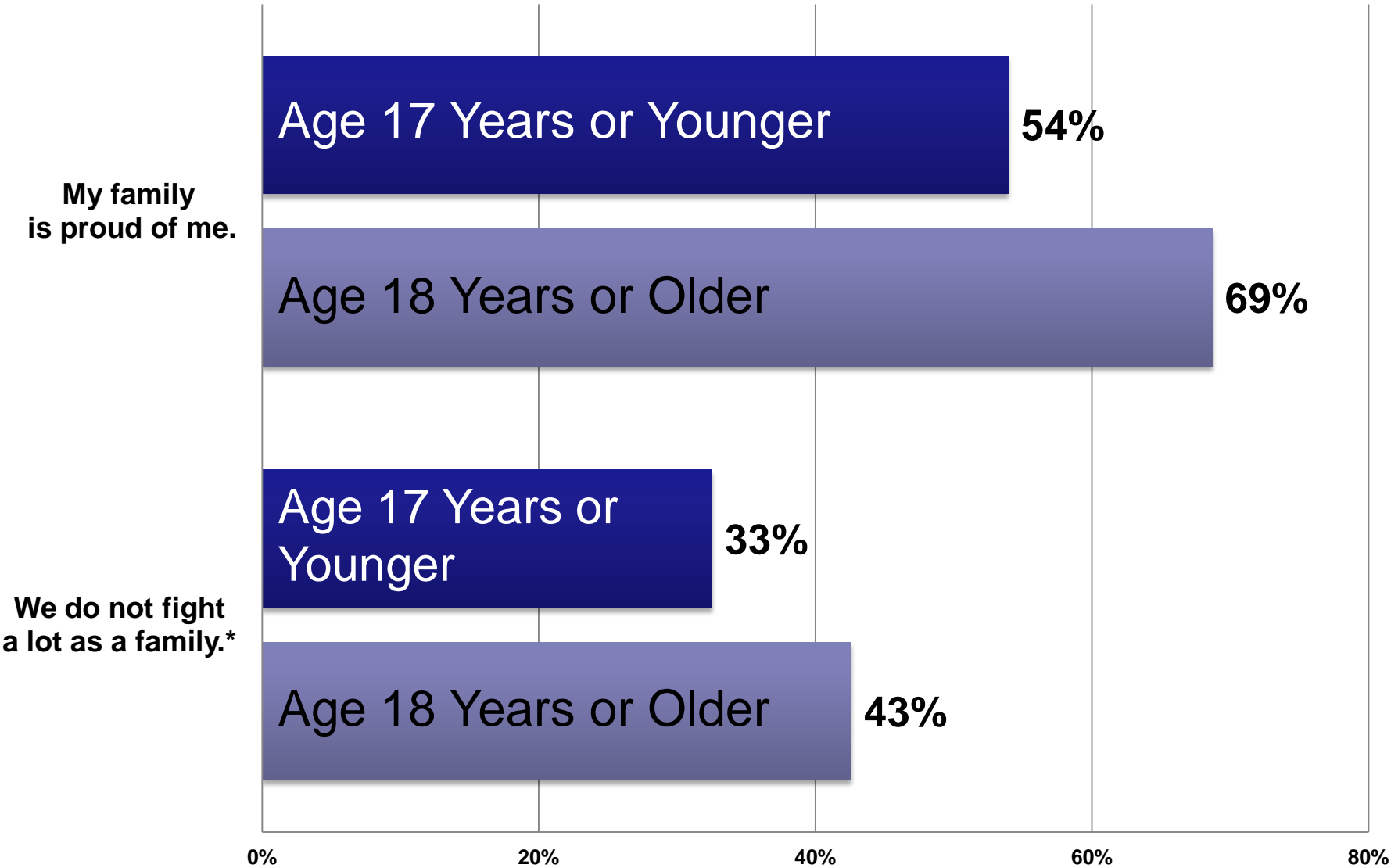
Pro-Social Attitudes by Age – Survey Time-1



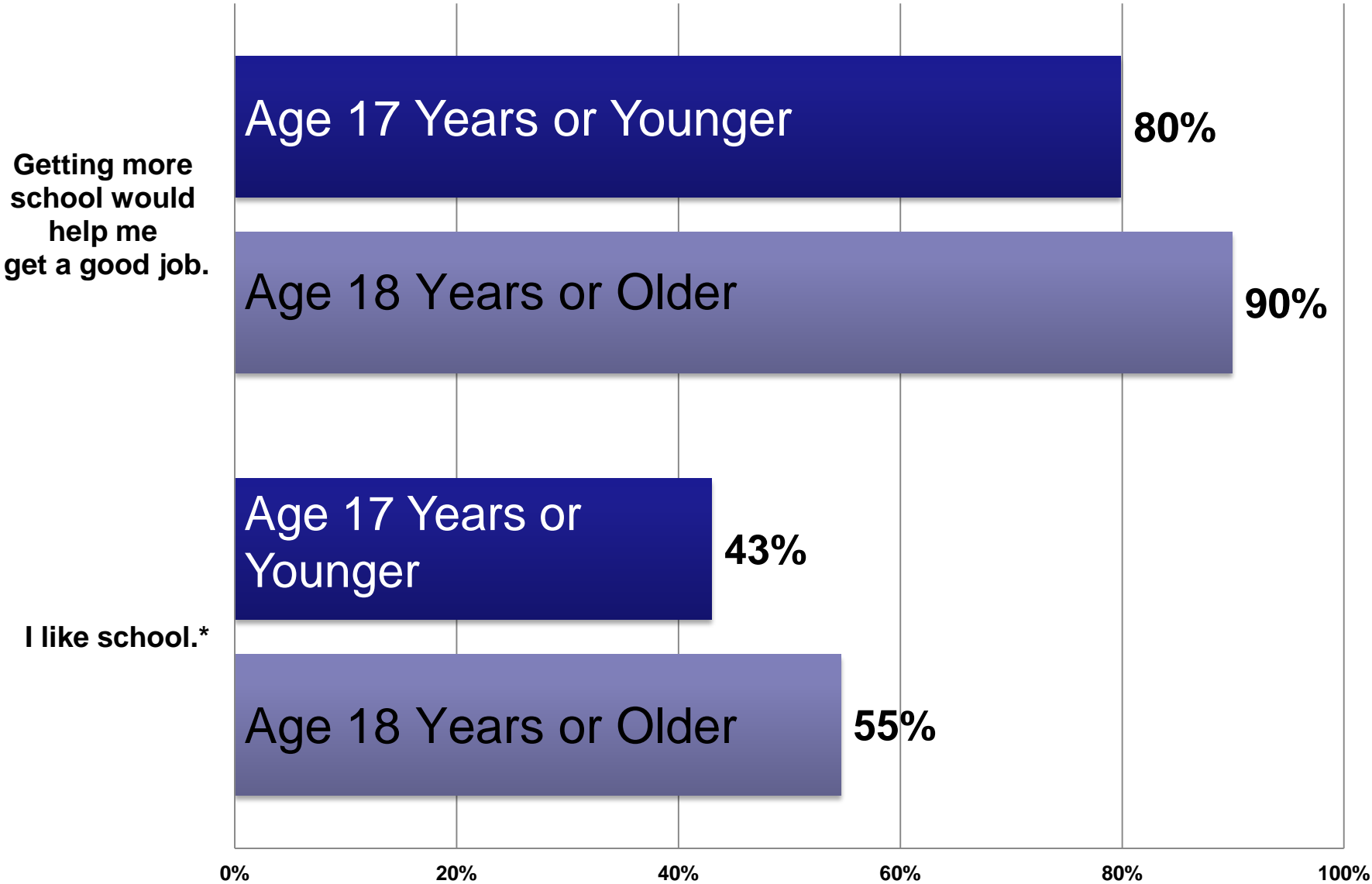
Pro-Social Peers by Age – Survey Time-1



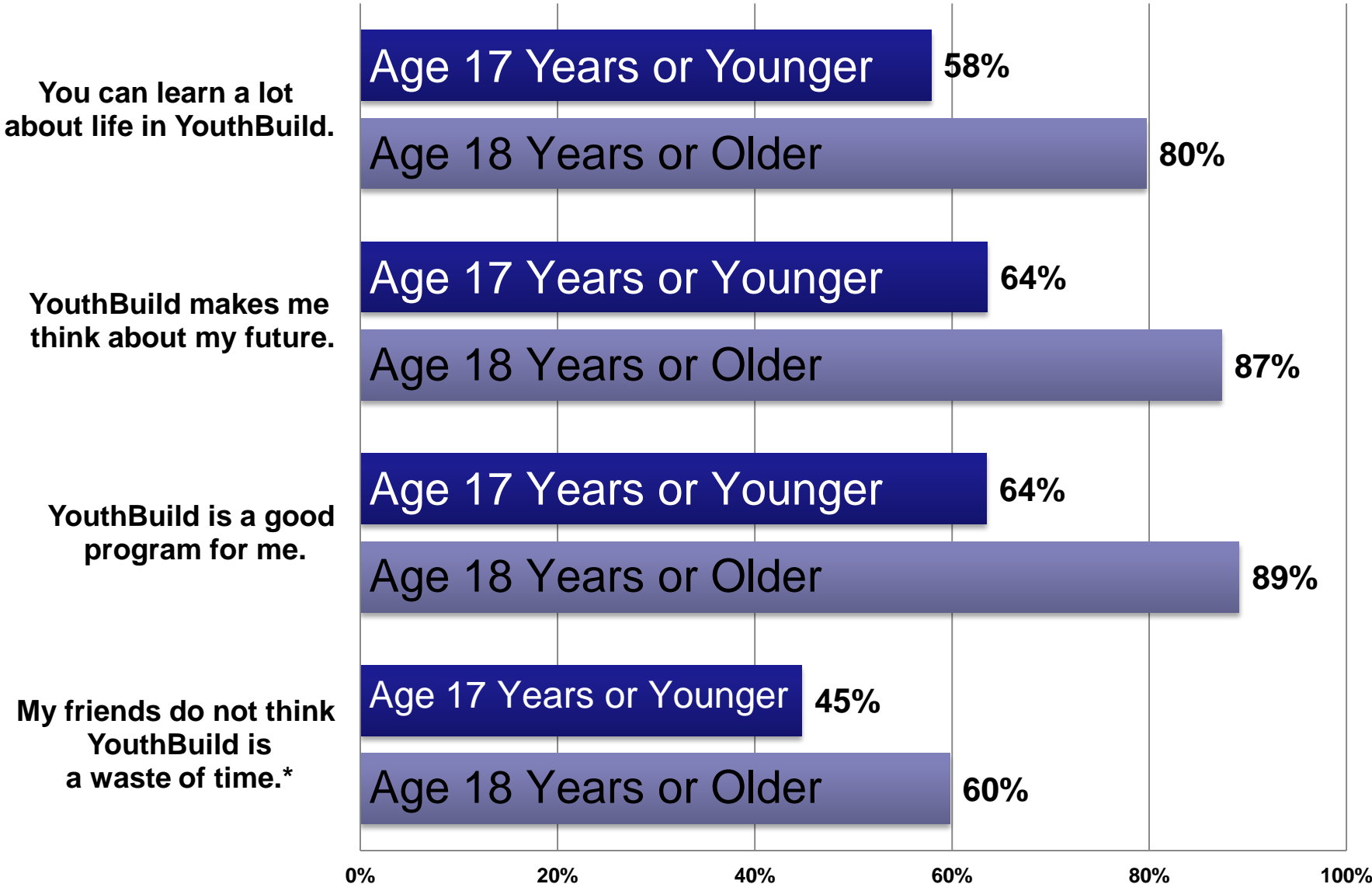
Family Bonds by Age – Survey Time-1



Attitudes Towards Education by Age – Survey Time-1



Attitudes Towards YouthBuild by Age – Survey Time-1



Factor Analysis

- Analysis that looks for patterns and relationships among items and then groups items based on these relationships
 - Reduces number of items
 - Combines information from many questions into a few
- Found 6 Factors (Groups) using Exploratory Factor Analysis
 - Different from the original eight groups the survey was created from
 - These six groups encompass 27 of the survey items
 - Nine survey items did not relate strongly to any of these six groups

Confirmed Factors

- Pro-Social Attitudes
 - I like to help people.
 - I'm the kind of person that other people trust.
 - I will achieve something important one day.
 - It makes a difference just knowing someone cares.
 - I learn things faster when someone helps me out.
 - I want to do something to help my neighborhood.
 - I will have a better life than my parents did.
 - Getting more school would help me get a good job.
 - Getting a good job is mainly about how hard you work.

Confirmed Factors

- Pro-Social Bonds
 - My family takes the time to really listen to me.
 - I can talk to my family about almost anything.
 - My family is proud of me.
 - I'm on my own; nobody really cares about me.
 - My family always knows where I am.

Confirmed Factors

- Pro-Social Peers
 - Most of my friends steal at least a little.
 - Most of my friends have used drugs at some point.
 - Most of my friends drink alcohol.
 - Most people shoplift from stores at least once.
 - My friends get into trouble more than I do.

Confirmed Factors

- Attitudes Towards YouthBuild
 - YouthBuild is a good program for me.
 - YouthBuild makes me think about my future.
 - You can learn a lot about life in YouthBuild.
- Attitudes Towards Education
 - Getting good grades is important to me.
 - I plan to get more education.
- Attitudes Towards Law Enforcement
 - Most police officers try to do the right thing.
 - Most police officers in my town do not like people my age.

Next Steps

- Continued administration of student surveys
- Continued collection of student surveys
- Finalization of administrative database
- Continued analysis, including
 - Factor analysis of time-2 and time-3 surveys
 - Change over time analysis
 - Cross-program analysis
 - Other comparative analyses
- Focus will be on changes in the combined factors as key outcomes

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