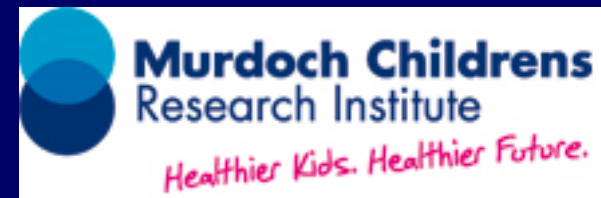




# Factors in socioeconomically diverse Australian communities that influence children's alcohol and tobacco use:

## The Healthy Neighbourhoods Study

Joanne Williams & John Toumbourou  
Centre for Adolescent Health  
Murdoch Childrens Research Institute





# Collaboration

- Centre for Adolescent Health
  - Royal Children's Hospital
  - Murdoch Childrens Research Institute
  - University of Melbourne
- Curtin University
- Griffith University



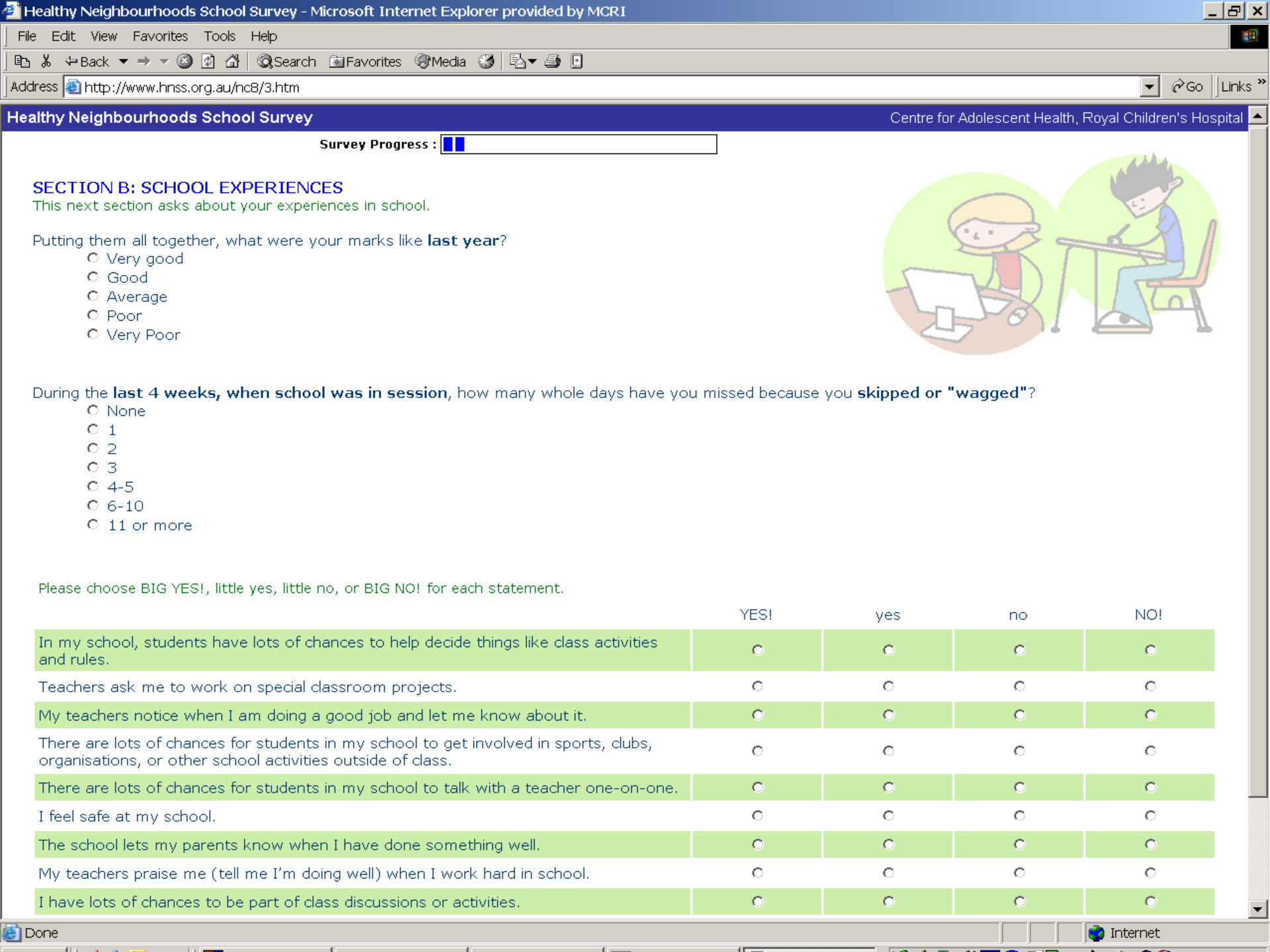
# Project Description

- 30 Communities across
  - 14 in Vic, 8 in Qld and WA
  - Communities had at least 17,000 residents
- Stratified by SES
- Urban and Regional
- School Surveys
  - Years 6 and 8
  - 231 schools surveyed
  - 8255 participants



# Primary Aim of Healthy Neighbourhoods

- Examine relationships between common adolescent health and behaviour problems across different socio-economic strata
  - substance abuse
  - sexual risk taking
  - depression
  - conduct problems
  - obesity



Survey Progress : [ ]

### SECTION B: SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

This next section asks about your experiences in school.



Putting them all together, what were your marks like **last year**?

- Very good
- Good
- Average
- Poor
- Very Poor

During the **last 4 weeks, when school was in session**, how many whole days have you missed because you **skipped or "wagged"**?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4-5
- 6-10
- 11 or more

Please choose **BIG YES!**, little yes, little no, or **BIG NO!** for each statement.

	YES!	yes	no	NO!
In my school, students have lots of chances to help decide things like class activities and rules.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teachers ask me to work on special classroom projects.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My teachers notice when I am doing a good job and let me know about it.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There are lots of chances for students in my school to get involved in sports, clubs, organisations, or other school activities outside of class.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There are lots of chances for students in my school to talk with a teacher one-on-one.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel safe at my school.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The school lets my parents know when I have done something well.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My teachers praise me (tell me I'm doing well) when I work hard in school.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have lots of chances to be part of class discussions or activities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



# Survey Measures

- Risk factor profile
- Protective factor profile
- Prevalence of problem behaviours
- Depression
- Puberty
- Eating behaviours & Physical Activity
- Height, weight and blood pressure
- Collector District of residence

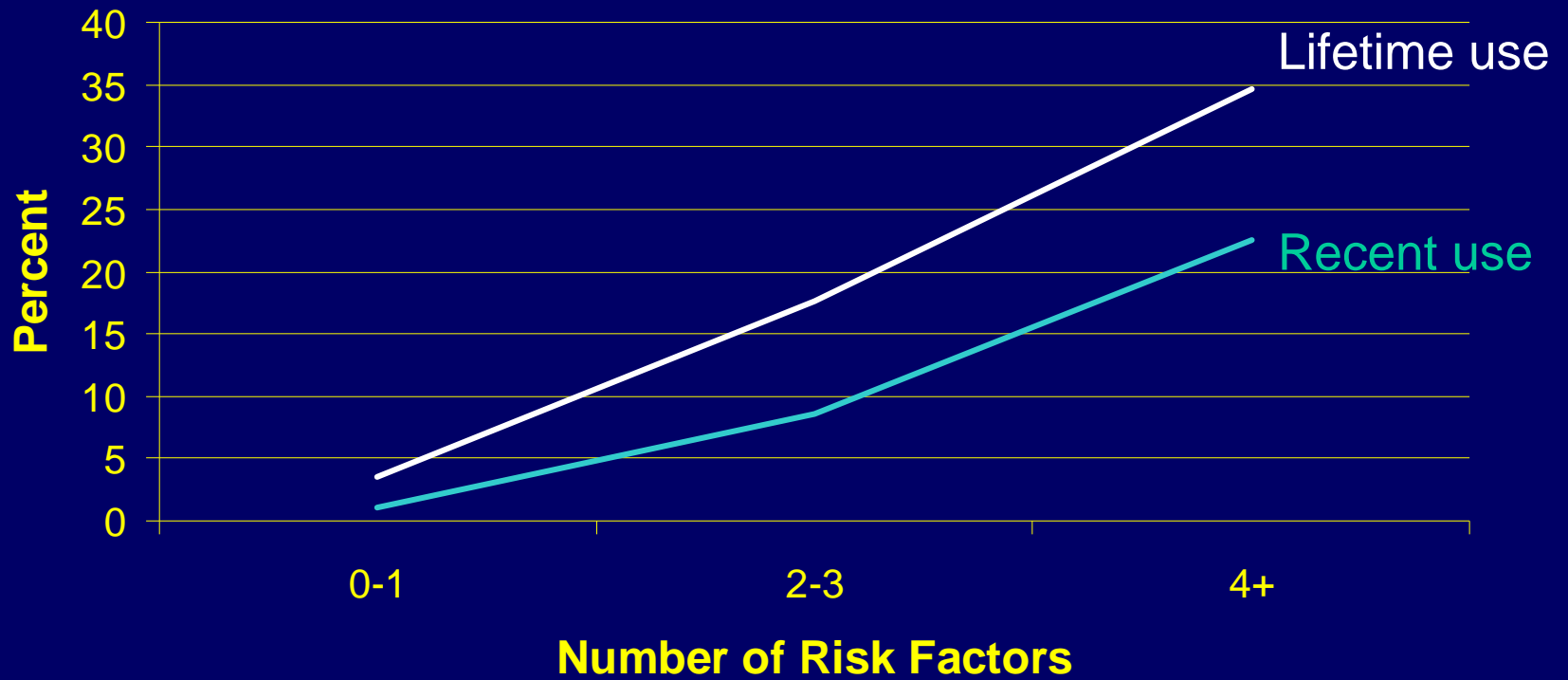


# Socioeconomic distribution

Population	SEIFA index of relative socio-economic disadvantage				
	Percentile				
	10 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	50 <sup>th</sup>	75 <sup>th</sup>	90 <sup>th</sup>
Australia	882	951	1013	1068	1110
Healthy Neighbourhoods sample	882	952	1011	1062	1092



# Risk Factors and Tobacco Use







# Lifetime Tobacco by SES

Quartile	Adj. Rate*	Comm. Range
1 - low	7.2	4.3 – 11.4
2	7.1	1.6 – 9.2
3	5.0	0.4 – 10.4
4 - high	3.1	1.9 – 9.9

\* Adjusted for age and gender

Communities  $p = 0.009$

SES Quartiles  $p = 0.46$



# Recent Tobacco by SES

Quartile	Adj. Rate*	Comm. Range
1 - low	2.8	1.2 – 8.7
2	2.8	0.3 – 4.0
3	2.2	0.2 – 6.1
4 - high	1.2	0.0 – 2.1

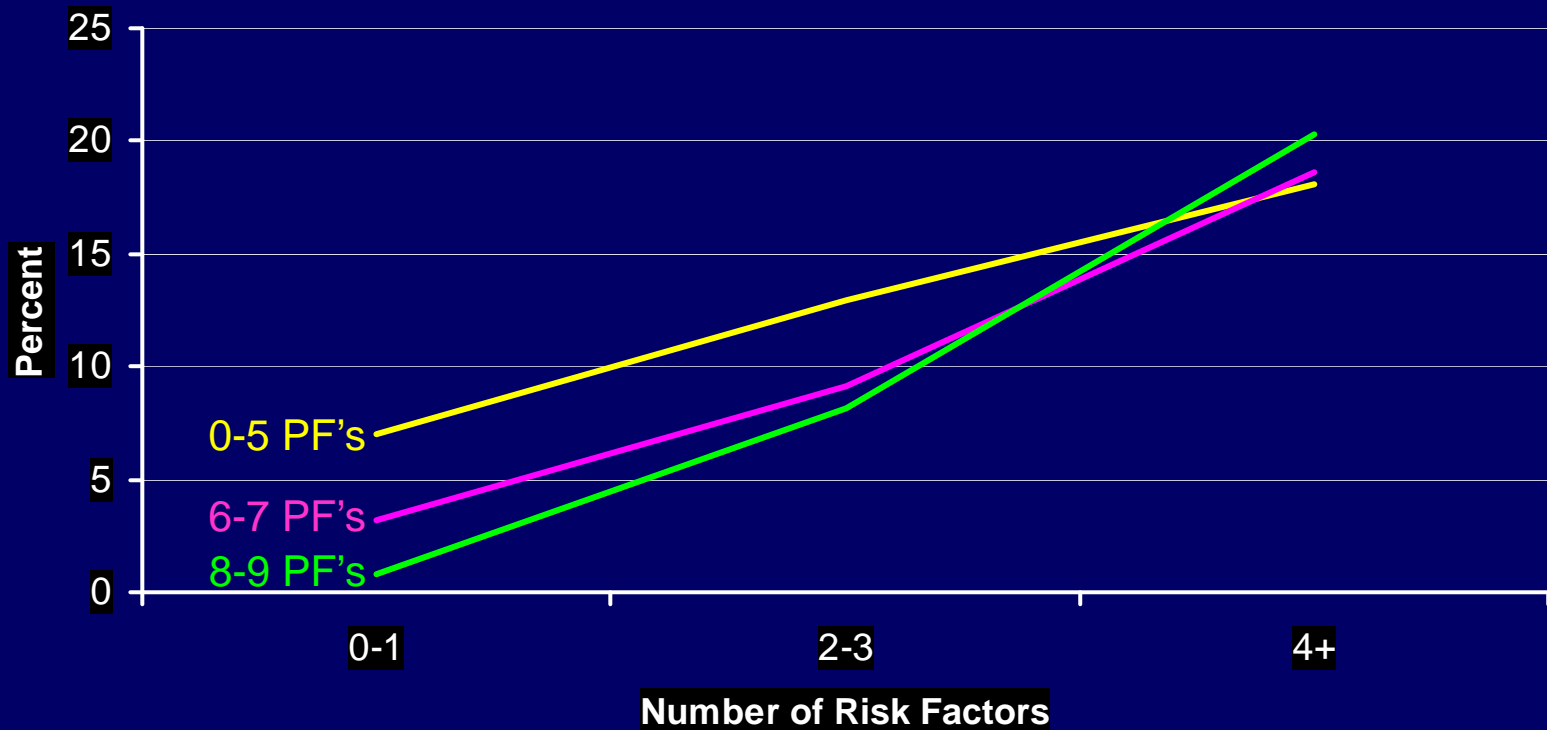
\* Adjusted for age and gender

Communities  $p = 0.001$

SES Quartiles  $p = 0.12$

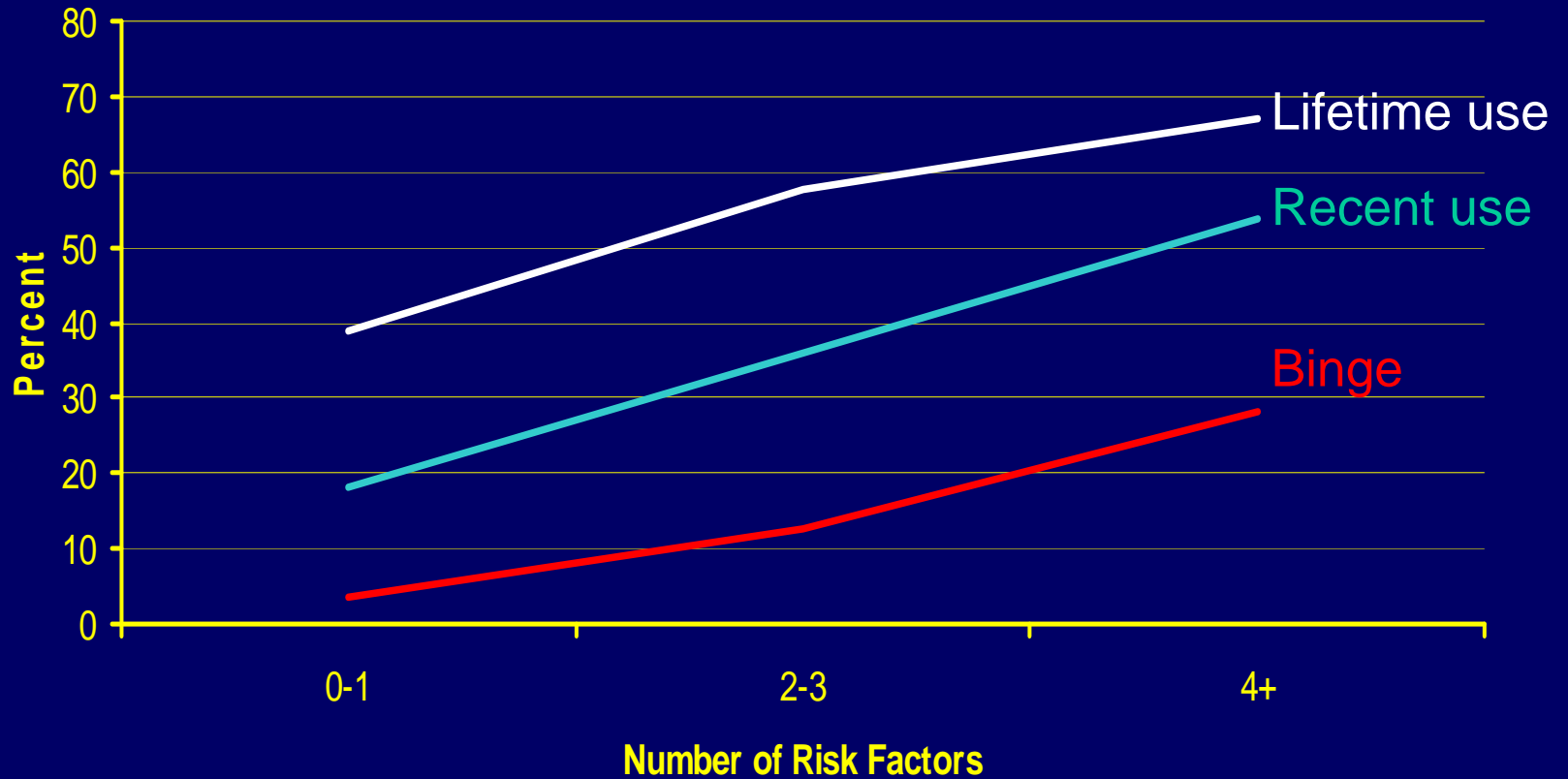


# Risk and Protective Factors and Recent Tobacco Use



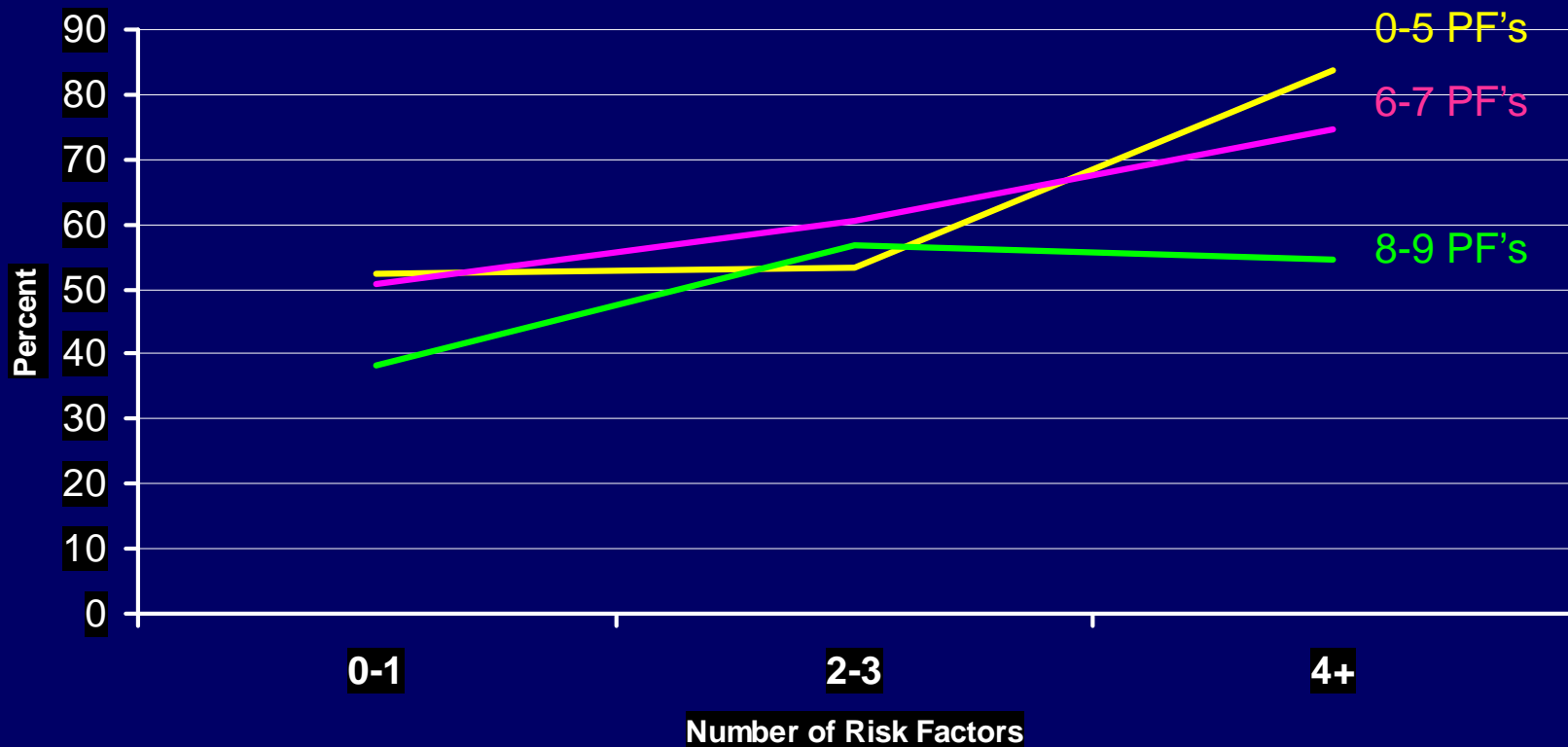


# Risk Factors and Alcohol Use



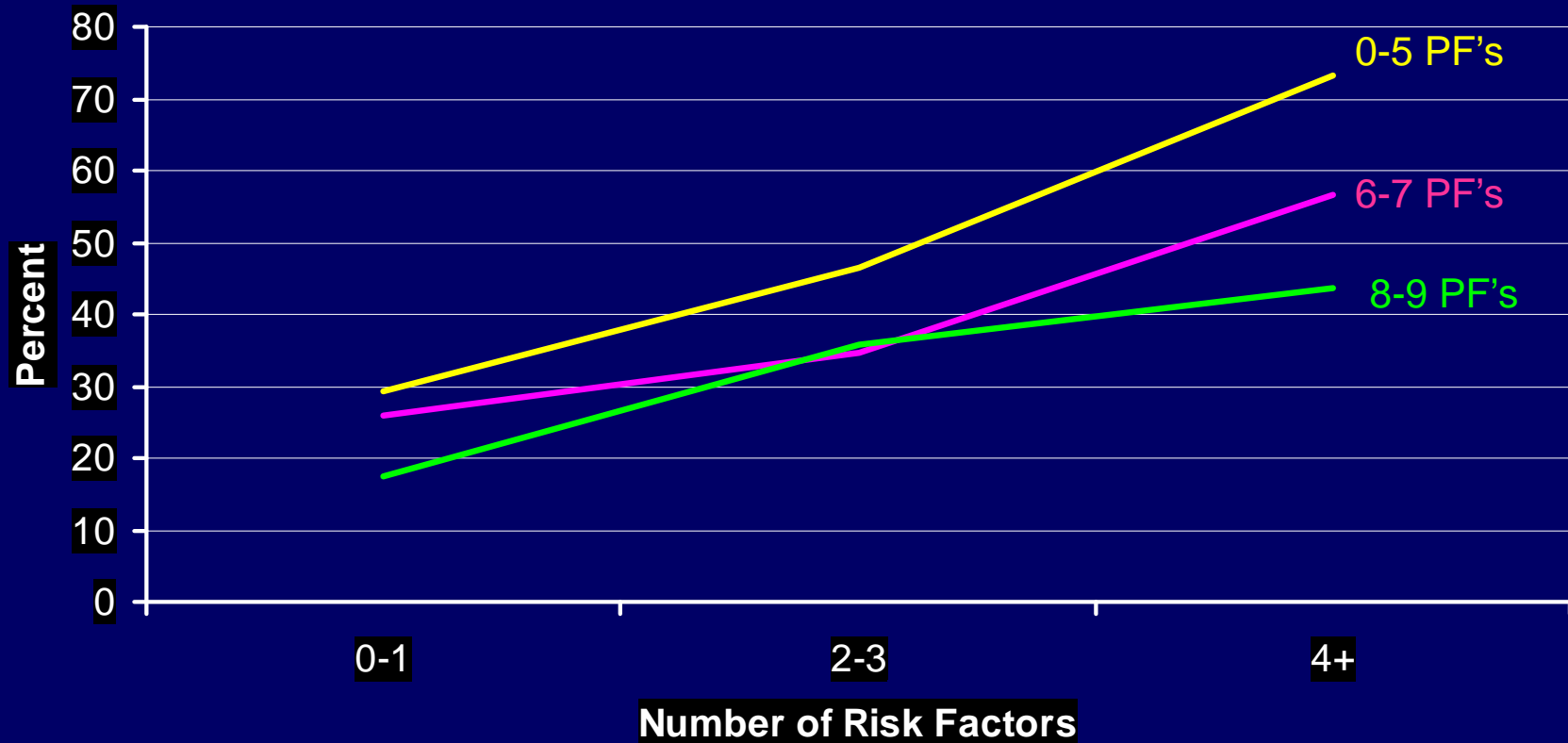


# Risk and Protective Factors and Lifetime Alcohol Use





# Risk and Protective Factors and Recent Alcohol Use





# Lifetime Alcohol by SES

Quartile	Adj. Rate*	Comm. Range
1 - low	36.2	22.2 – 42.7
2	40.8	31.4 – 45.1
3	39.7	30.5 – 41.3
4 - high	38.8	30.6 – 45.9

\* Adjusted for age and gender

Communities  $p < 0.000$

SES Quartiles  $p < 0.002$



# Binge Drinking by SES & Number of Risk Factors

	Risk Factors		
Quartile	0 or 1	2 or 3	4 or more
1 - low	2.9	12.4	23.6
2	4.6	14.0	37.6
3	4.4	9.8	34.6
4 - high	2.1	13.7	25.3

Quartiles  $p = 0.004$

Risk Factors  $p < 0.000$





# Key Issues

Risk and Protective factors are associated with adolescent health problems

Intervention strategies that reduce risk factors and/or increase protective factors could reduce these problems

Prevalence of risk and protective factors vary by community

Customised community intervention strategies could be more effective



# Acknowledgements

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