

**Protective resources associated with
progression to substance use disorders
among youth exposed to family
psychopathology**

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Background

- Public health problem*
 - 25.5% of HS students reported episodic heavy drinking
 - 20.2% of HS students reported current marijuana use
 - 3.4% of HS students reported current cocaine use
- Individual Risk
 - accidental death
 - injury
 - mental health concerns
 - increased risk of engaging in violent crimes
 - unemployment
- Societal ramifications
 - High health care costs, educational difficulties, juvenile crime

* YRBSS, 2005

Risk Factors

- Individual/interpersonal environment
 - Individual (e.g. sensation-seeking, genetics)
 - Peer influences (e.g. behaviors and attitudes)
 - Family influences (e.g. parental psychopathology, behaviors, attitudes, parenting, relationships)

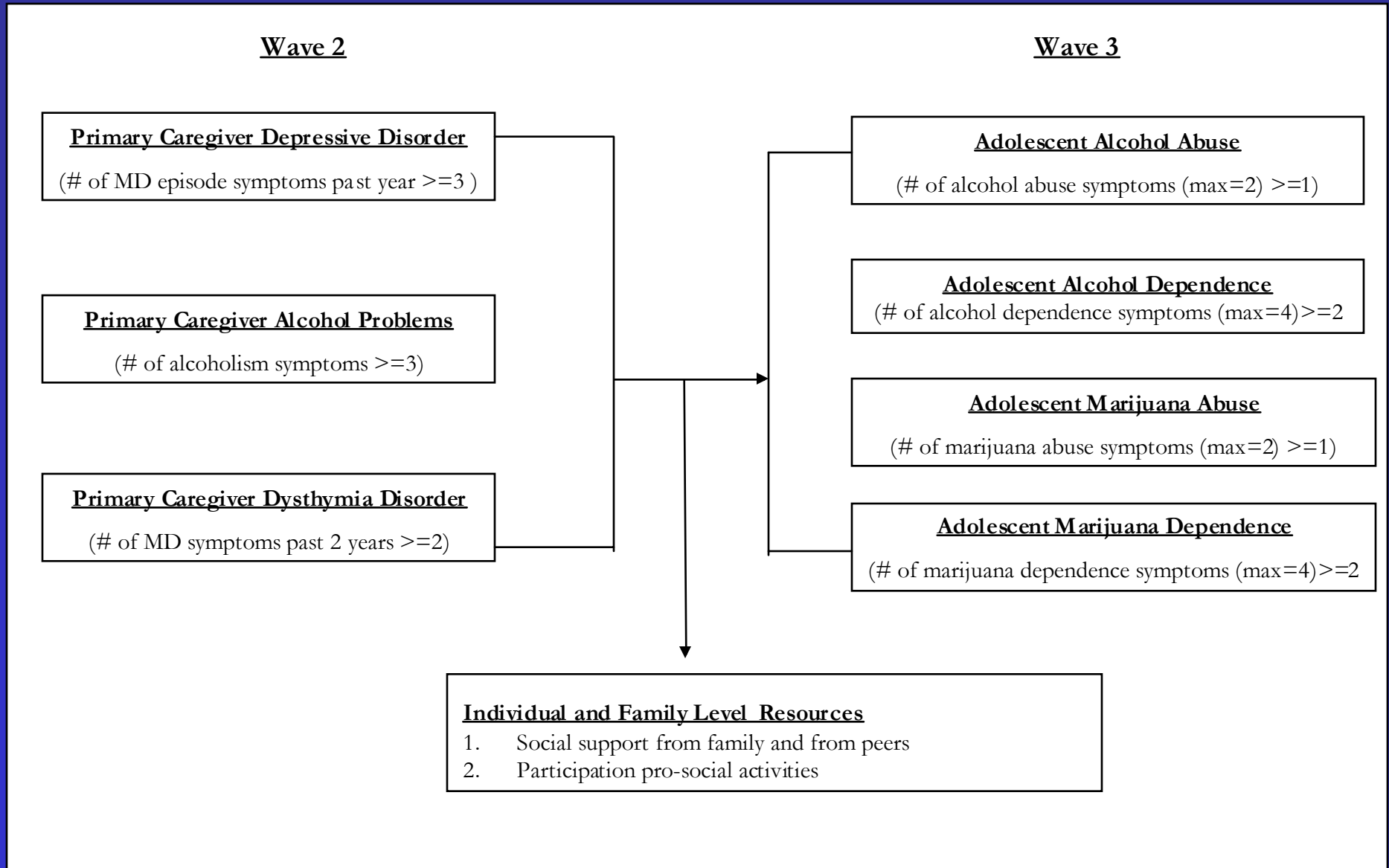
Protective Factors

- Child temperament
- Supportive family milieu
- Strong parental attachment/bond

Study Aims

- To understand the relationship between parental caregiver psychopathology and subsequent alcohol and marijuana abuse and dependence in adolescents.
- To identify protective factors at the individual, peer and family level which may moderate the association between parental caregiver risk and adolescent abuse and dependence.

Causal Model



Methodology

- Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods (PHDCN)
- Sampling
 - Screened 32,000 households in 80 neighborhoods (1994-95)
 - Selected approximately 1000 children in each of 7 age groups (0-1,3,6,9,12,15,18 years)
 - Conducted baseline home-based interviews with children & their primary caregivers (1995-1997)
 - Followed families for 7 years studying growth and development over 3 waves (1995-2001)
 - Study sample
 - Data from Waves 1, 2 and 3
 - Adolescents and caregivers in cohorts 12 and 15 (n=847)

Outcome Variable

Past year adolescent alcohol & marijuana abuse or dependence*

of alcohol abuse symptoms (max=2) ≥ 1
of alcohol dependence symptoms (max=4) ≥ 2
of marijuana abuse symptoms (max=2) ≥ 1
of marijuana dependence symptoms (max=4) ≥ 2

Coding

0=no abuse or dependence disorders

1= 1 or more abuse or dependence disorders

*Based on DSM-IV criteria

Predictor Variable

Main Predictor

Caregiver psychopathology

Major depressive disorder* = # of MD episode symptoms past year ≥ 3

Alcohol problems = # of alcoholism symptoms ≥ 3

Dysthymia disorder* = # of dysthymia symptoms past 2 years ≥ 2

Coding

0 = no major depressive disorder, dysthymia disorder, alcohol problems

1 = 1+ major depressive disorder, dysthymia disorder, alcohol problems

*Based on DSM-IV criteria,
using UM-CIDI short form

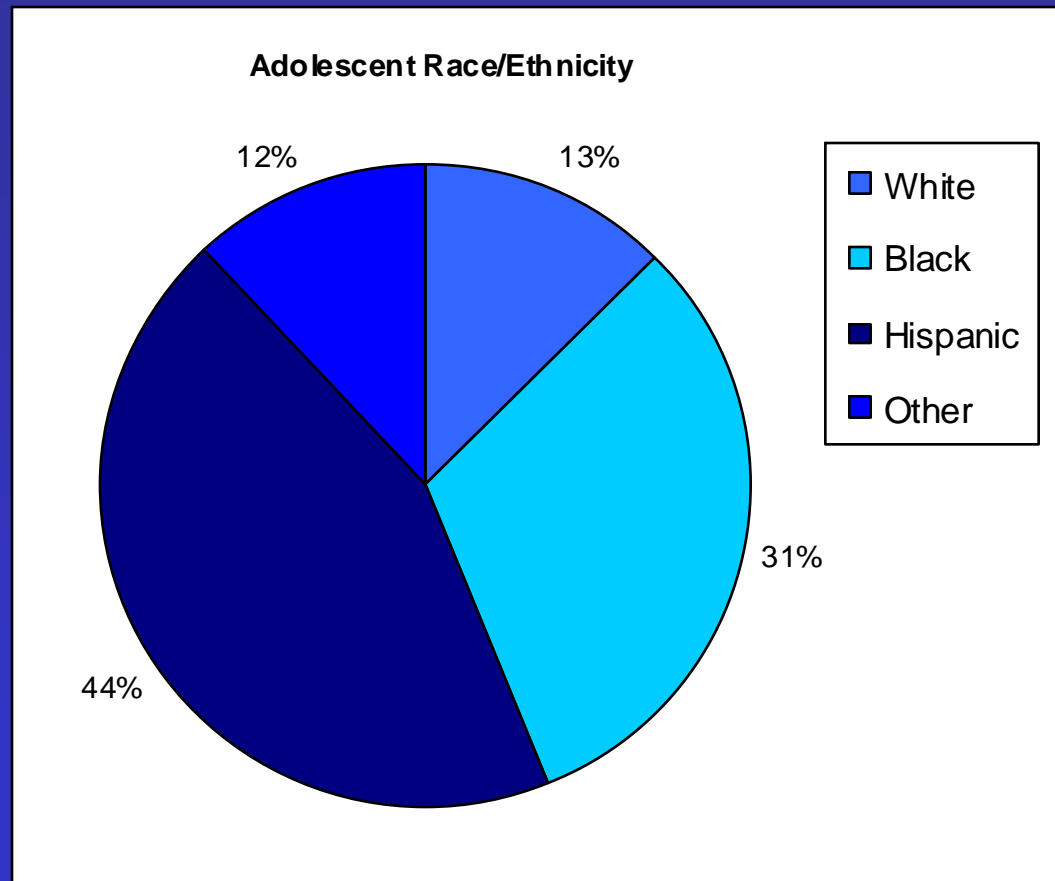
Moderators

- Provision of social relationships scale
 - Respondent's perception of support provided by friends and family
 - Family support: mean of 5 items
 - E.g. "People in my family have confidence in me."
 - Friend support: mean of 8 items
 - E.g. "When I'm with my friends I feel completely able to relax and be myself."
- Pro-social activities
 - Adolescent reporting participation in any pro-social activity (i.e. school sport)
 - 0 = 0 activities
 - 1 = 1-3 activities
 - 2 = 3-5 activities
 - 3 = 5 + activities

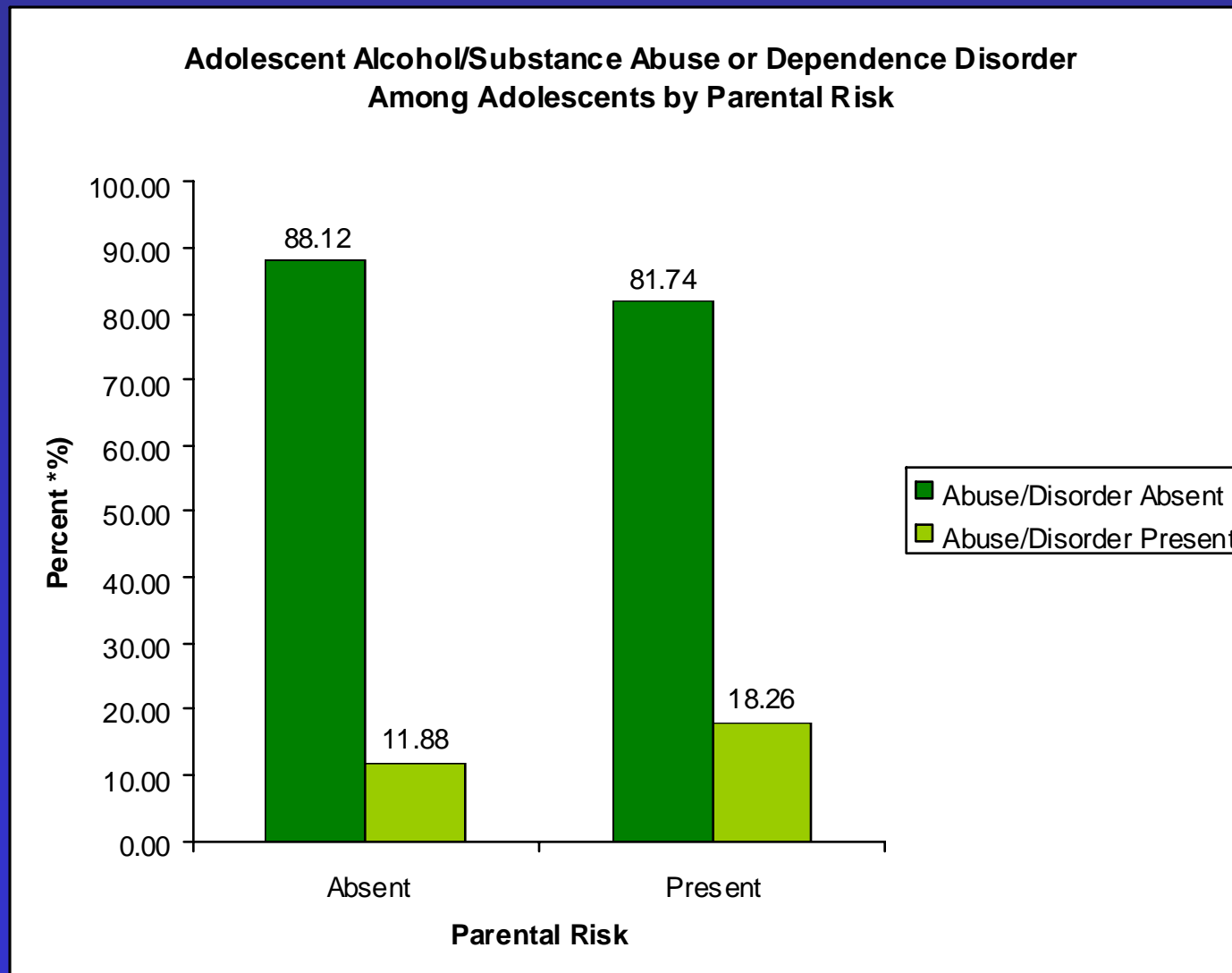
Analysis

- Descriptive Statistics
- Marginal Model (proc genmod)
 - Logistic models
 - Adolescents nested within neighborhoods
- Prospective Design
 - Parental psychopathology prior to wave 2 predicting adolescent substance use disorders at wave 3; covariates from wave 1

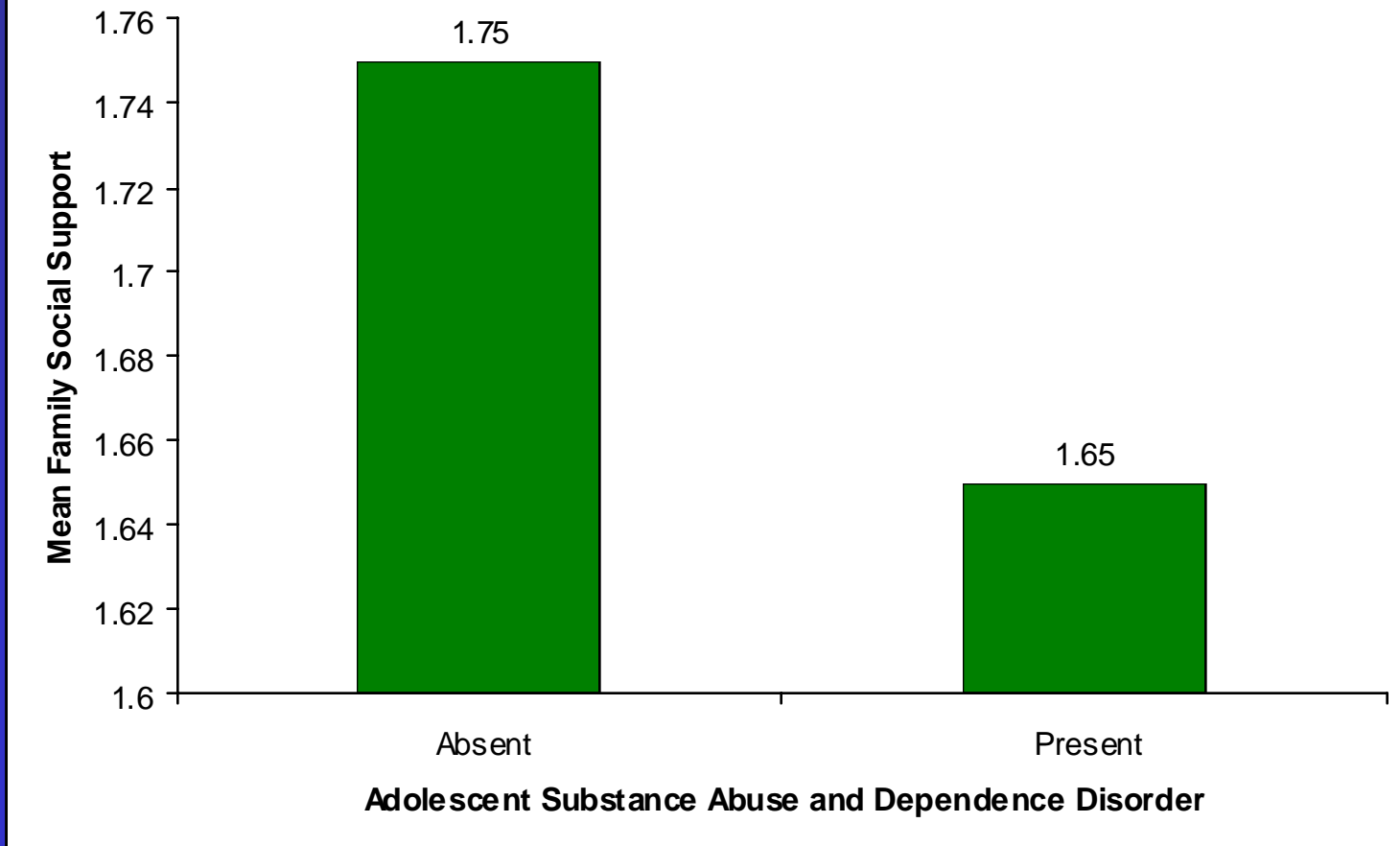
Demographics



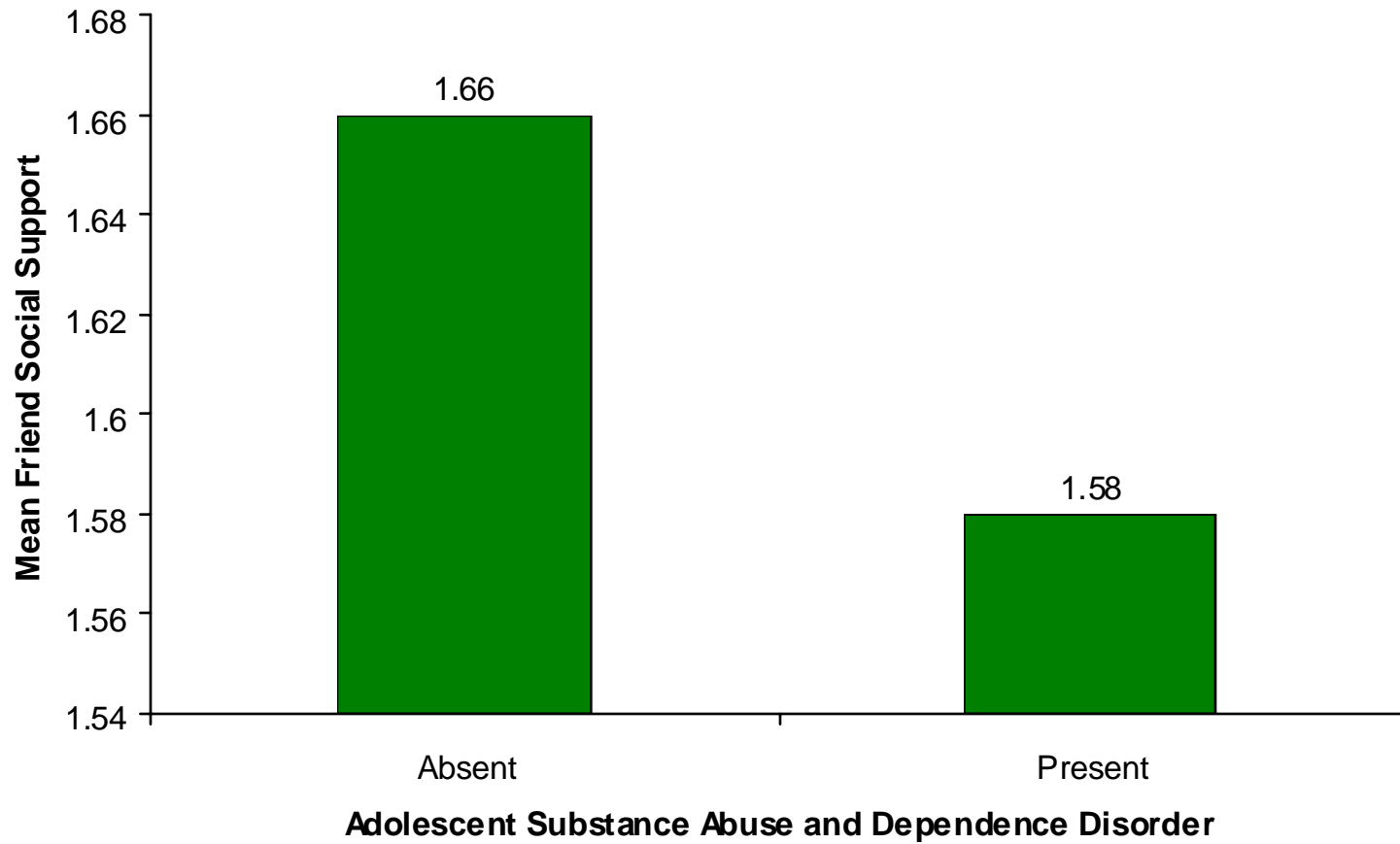
Prevalence of Alcohol and Marijuana Abuse/Dependence in PHDCN Wave 3, Cohorts 12, 15



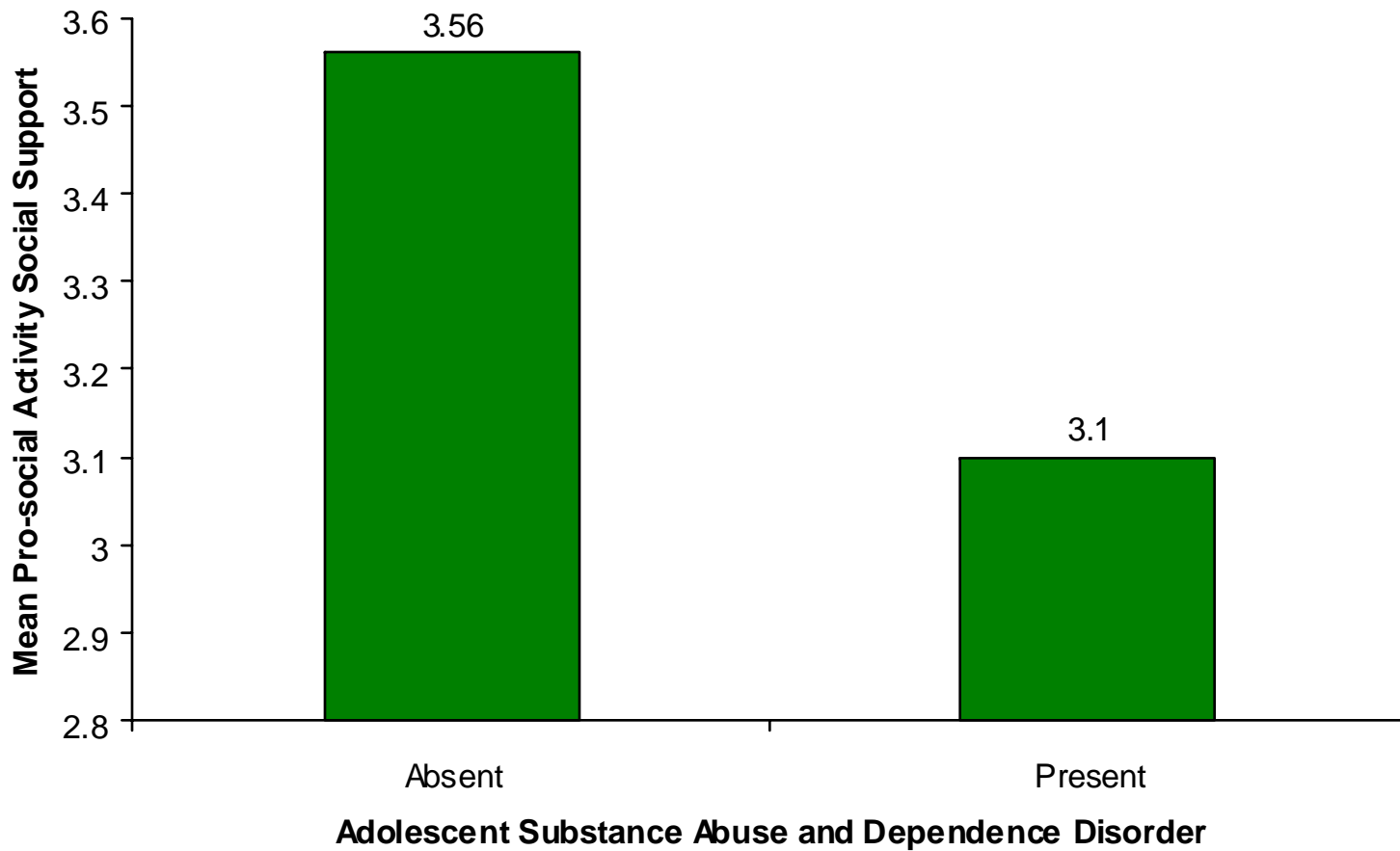
Mean Family Social Support by Adolescent Substance Abuse and Dependence Disorder



Mean Friend Social Support by Adolescent Substance Abuse and Dependence Disorder



Mean Pro-Social Activity Engagement by Adolescent Substance Abuse and Dependence Disorder



Models

	Model 1: Parental Risk	Model 2: Family Social Support & Parental Risk	Model 3: Peer Social Support & Parental Risk
	OR (95%CI)	OR (95%CI)	OR (95%CI)
Intercept	0.1 (.07-.24)	0.5 (.16-1.3)	0.5 (.2-1.6)
<i>Adolescent Characteristics</i>			
Parental Risk:			
No (ref)			
Yes	1.8 (1.2-2.7)	1.8 (1.2-2.7)	1.7 (1.1-2.6)
Sex:			
Female (ref)			
Male	2.01 (1.3-3.0)	2.1 (1.4-3.1)	1.9 (1.3-2.9)
<i>Resiliency Factors</i>			
Family Social Support:		0.5 (.3-.8)	
Peer Social Support:			0.5 (.3-.9)
All estimates are significant			

Models include cohort, ethnicity, SES

Conclusions

- Adolescents with parents who met criteria for major depression, dysthymia or alcohol problems were 1.8 times more likely to meet DSM-IV criteria for substance abuse or dependence.
- Adolescents reporting family or peer social support were half as likely to meet criteria for substance abuse or dependence.
- There was a protective effect of social support (peer and family) independent of parental psychopathology but no evidence of moderation.

Limitations

- Limited generalizability – findings from one urban community-based sample
- Retrospective recall of symptoms
- Limited range of diagnoses for parental psychopathology

Strengths

- Community-based sample of diverse adolescents
- Use of valid, reliable instruments
- Prospective design

Public Health Implications

- Substance abuse prevention and treatment efforts should be cognizant of the role of parental psychopathology in the development of substance use disorders in adolescents.
- Substance abuse prevention and intervention efforts should focus on increasing adolescents' social supports.