



Alcohol Use among Pregnant and Non-pregnant Women Aged 15 to 44: Results from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)

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NSDUH Design

- **Annual survey; conducted since 1971**
- **Representative nationally and in each State**
- **Civilian, noninstitutional population, age 12+**
- **Face-to-face interview**
- **Computer-assisted, self-administered**
- **68,000 respondents per year (oversample 12-25)**
- **Response rates 2002-2008:**
 - **90% of selected households completed screener**
 - **Over 80% of sampled females 15-44 completed interview**

NSDUH Questionnaire

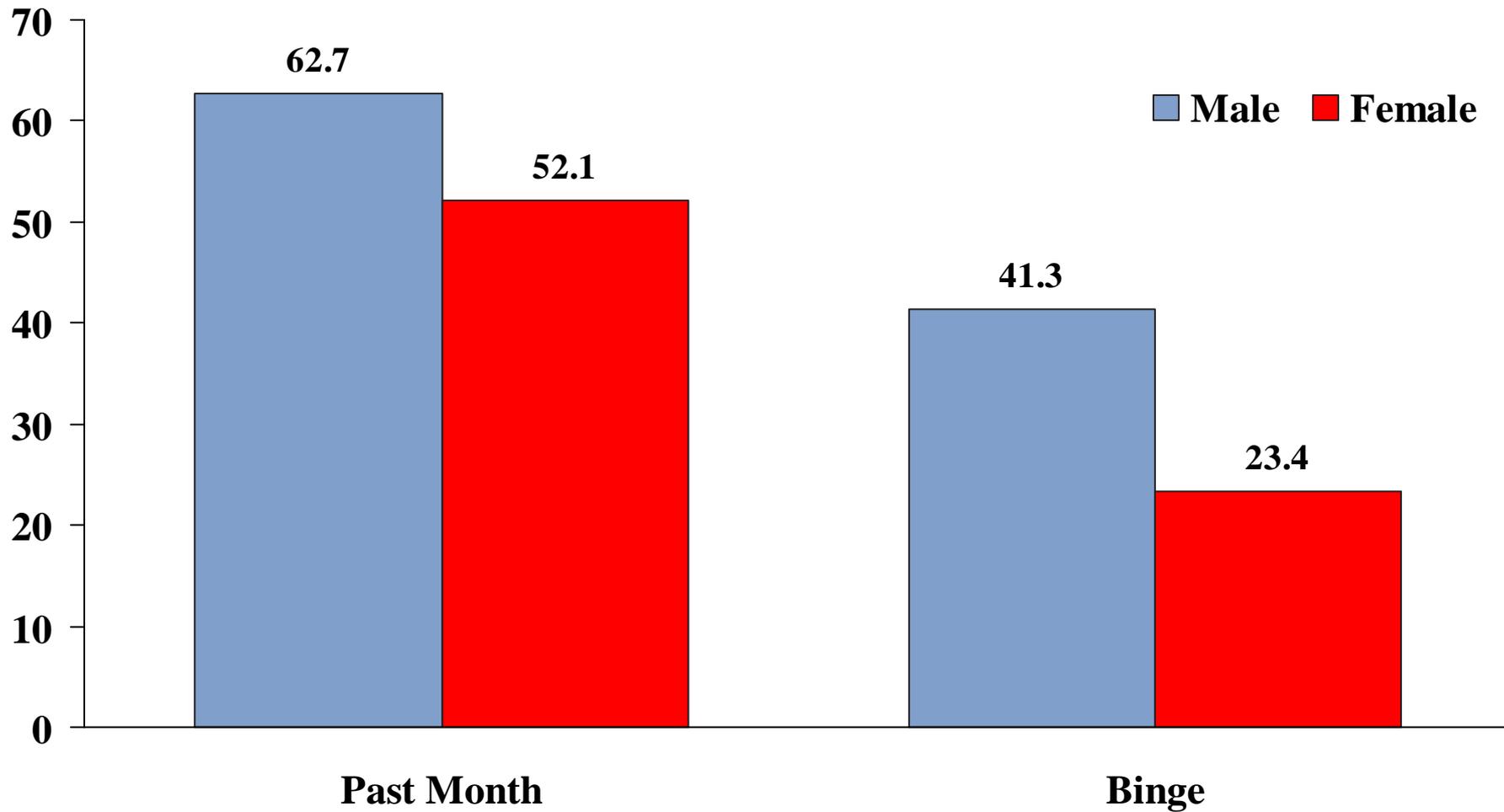
- **Use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs**
- **Substance use and mental disorders (DSM-IV)**
- **Substance use and mental health treatment**
- **Health conditions, service utilization**
- **Employment, income, program participation**
- **Demographics**
- **Pregnancy status**

NSDUH Alcohol Measures

- **Past Month Alcohol Use**: At least one drink in past 30 days
- **Binge Use**: 5 or more drinks on a single occasion at least once in the past 30 days
 - Rates are about 20% lower than when using 4+ definition
- **Frequency of Use**: Number of days used alcohol in the past 30 days
- **Quantity Used**: Number of drinks in past 30 days
 - #days used times avg. #drinks on those days

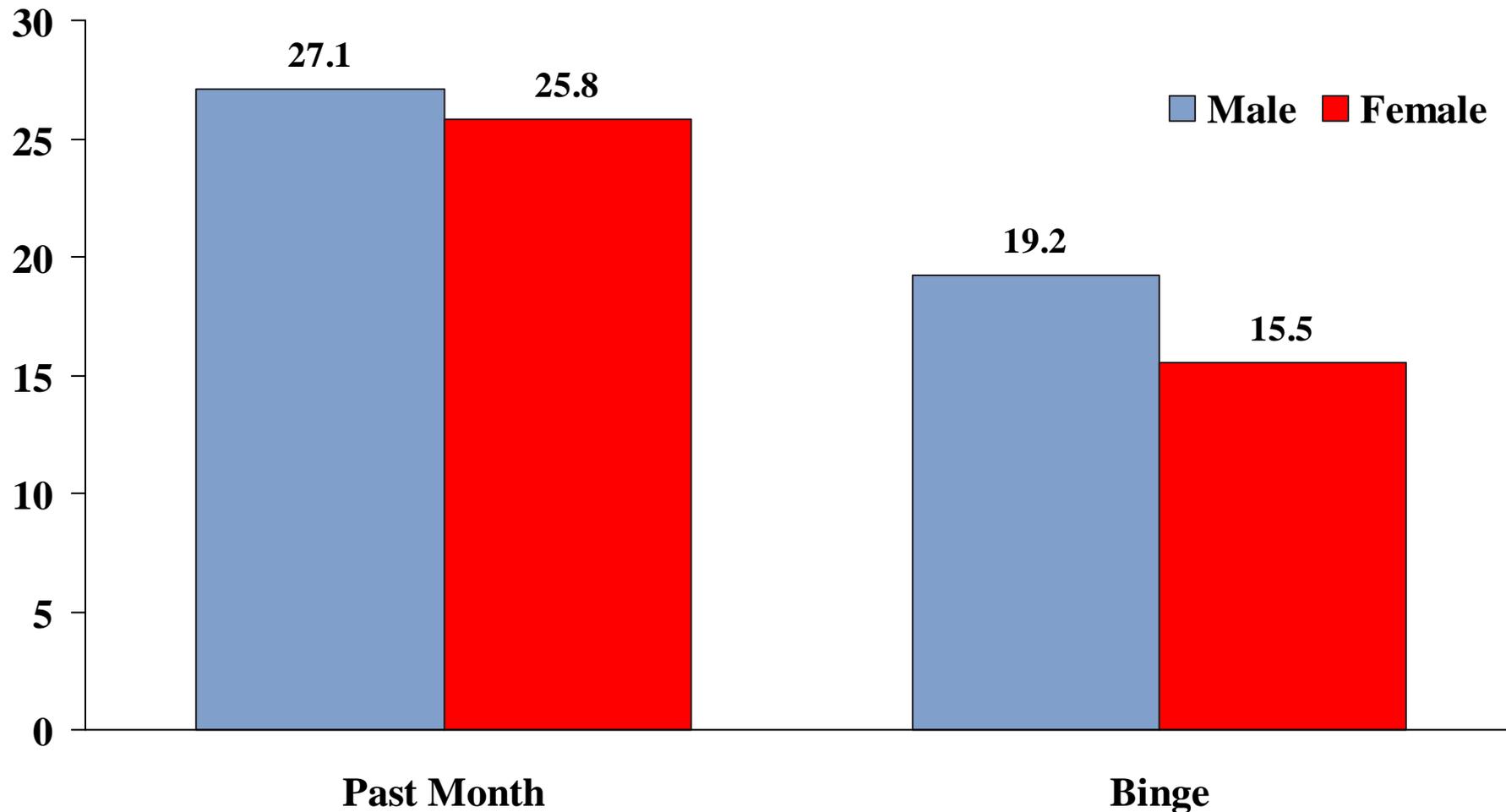
Past Month and Binge Alcohol Use, Age 15-44, by Gender: 2007-2008

Percent Using in Past Month

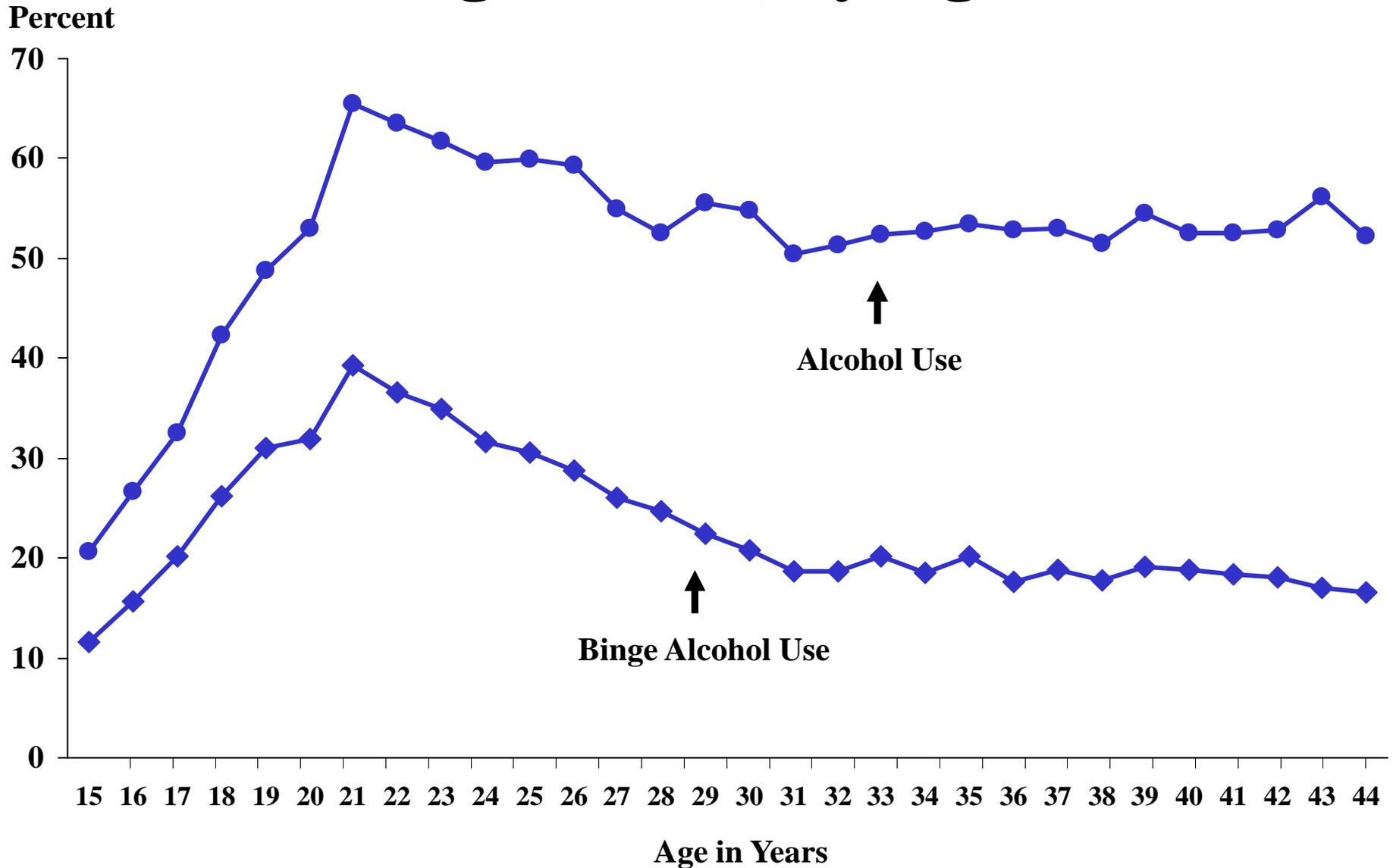


Past Month and Binge Alcohol Use, Age 12-20, by Gender: 2008

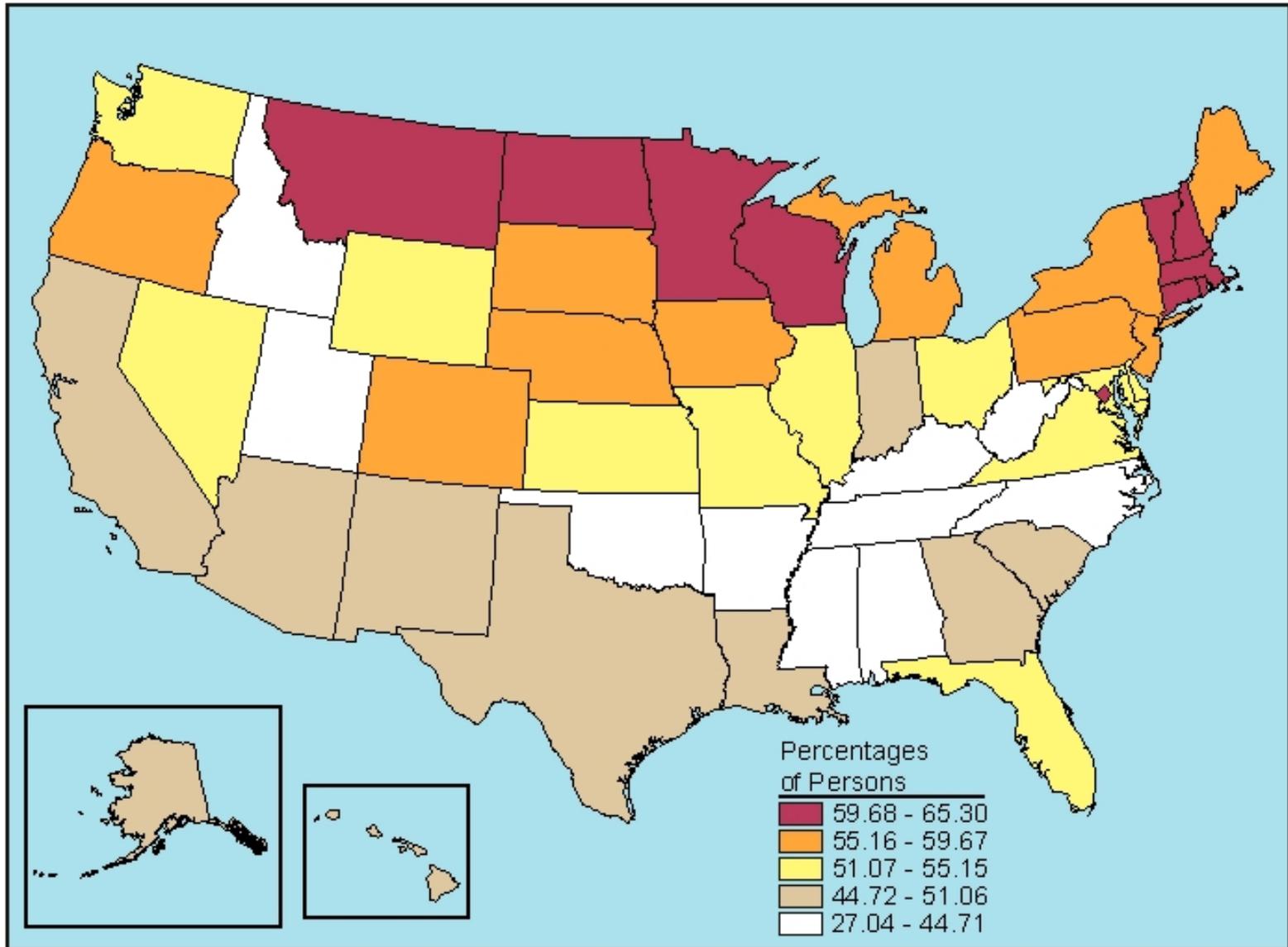
Percent Using in Past Month



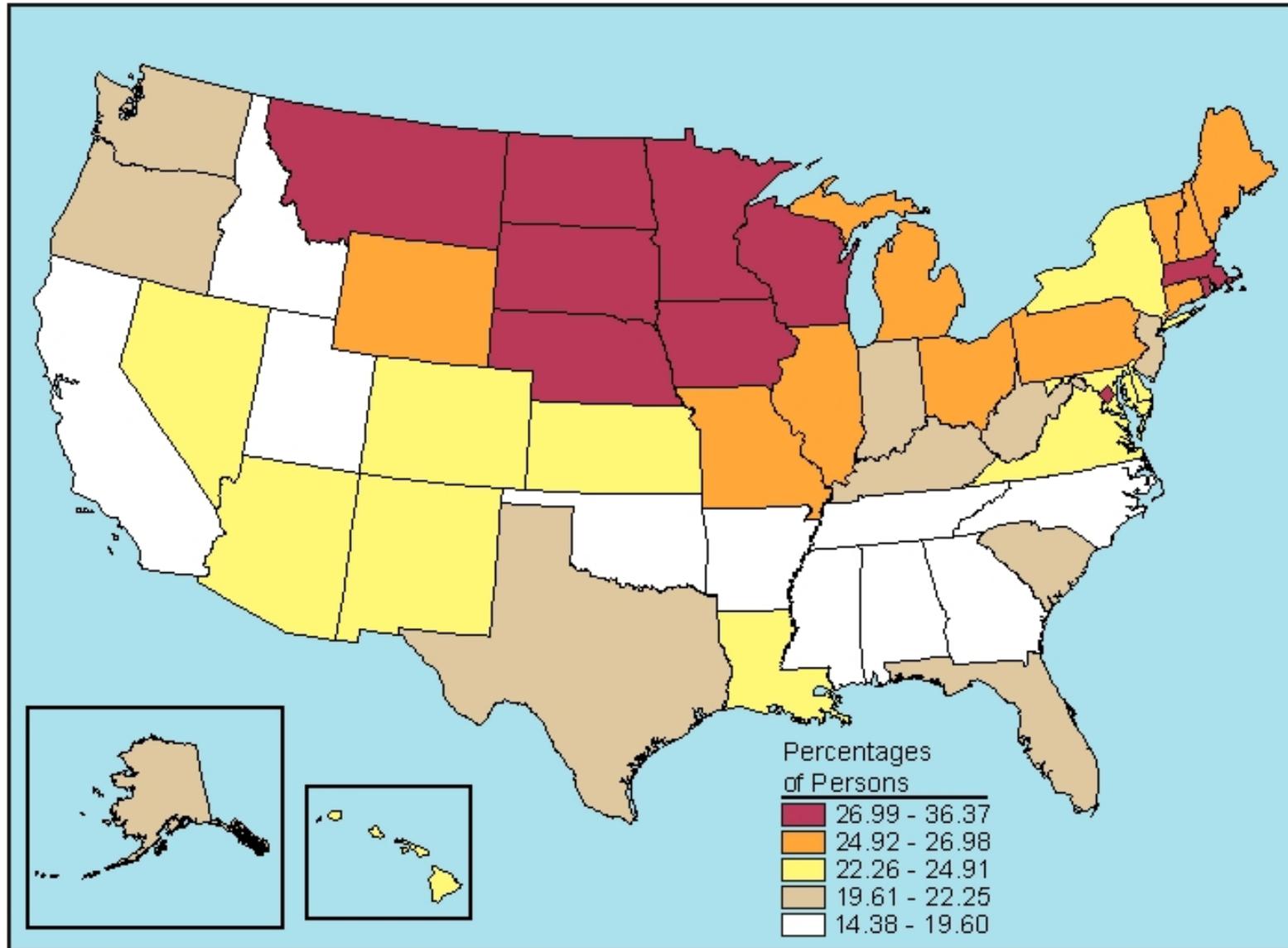
Past Month and Binge Alcohol Use, Females Aged 15-44, by Age: 2002-2008



Past Month Alcohol Use, Females Age 15-44, by State: 2002-2008



Binge Alcohol Use, Females Age 15-44, by State: 2002-2008



NSDUH Pregnancy Questions

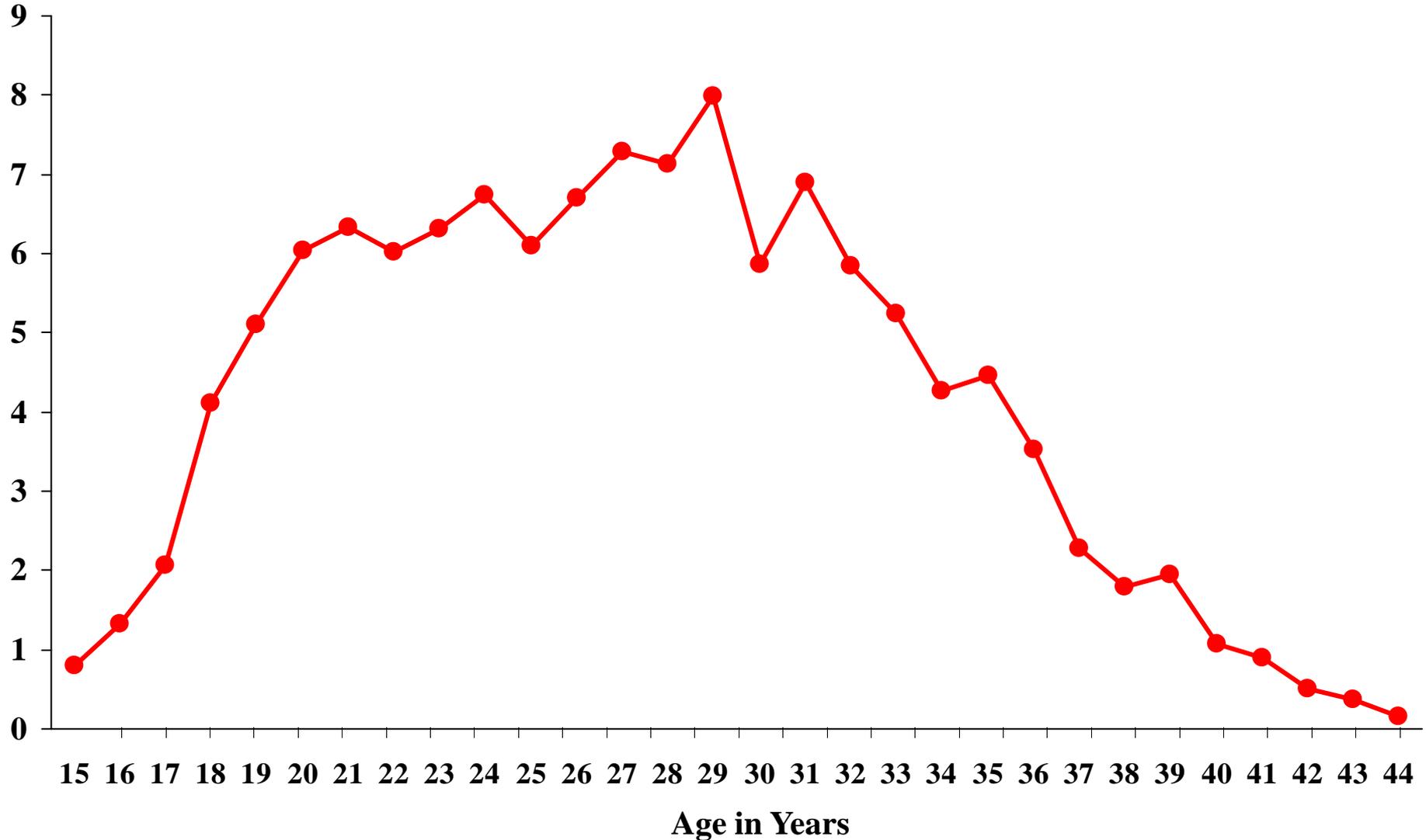
- **Female respondents age 15 to 44 are asked:**
 - *Are you currently pregnant?*
 - *How many months pregnant are you?*
- **Pregnancy questions are asked AFTER all substance use questions are completed, within self-administered portion of interview**

NSDUH Pregnancy Estimates

- **Sample of 7,600 women reported being pregnant (combined 2002-2008 data)**
- **Estimated 2.5 million women pregnant on an average day (4.0% of women 15-44)**
 - **Consistent with NCHS data (NSFG)**

Pregnancy Rates among Females Age 15-44, by Age: 2002-2008

Percent



“Use of Alcohol in Past Month”

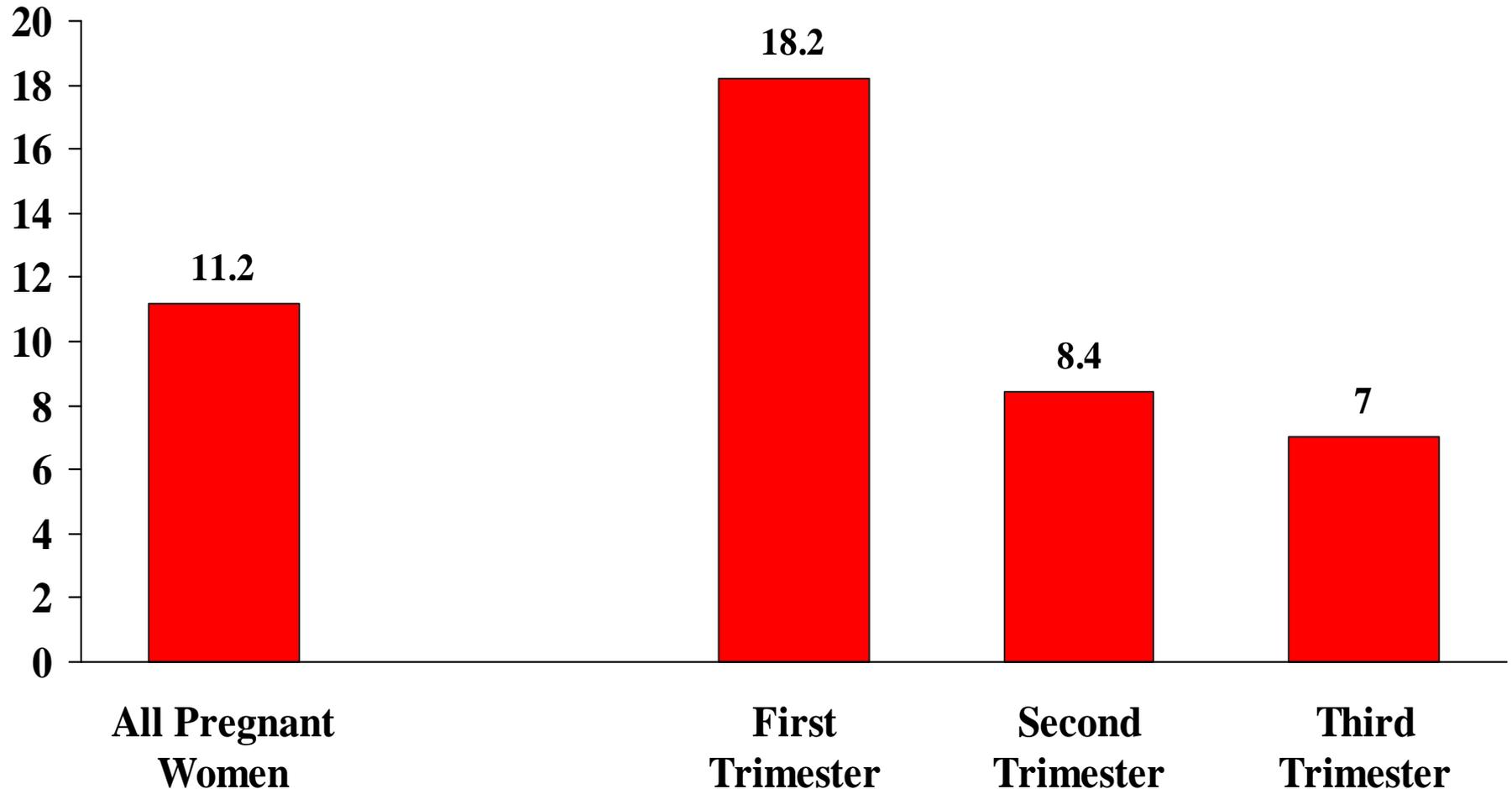
vs.

“Any Alcohol Use During Pregnancy”

- **Rates of past month alcohol use probably reflect a lower bound on rates of use during entire pregnancy**
 - **Past month rates are an average over all trimesters**
 - **Estimate of “Use at least once during pregnancy” would be at least as large as first trimester rate**

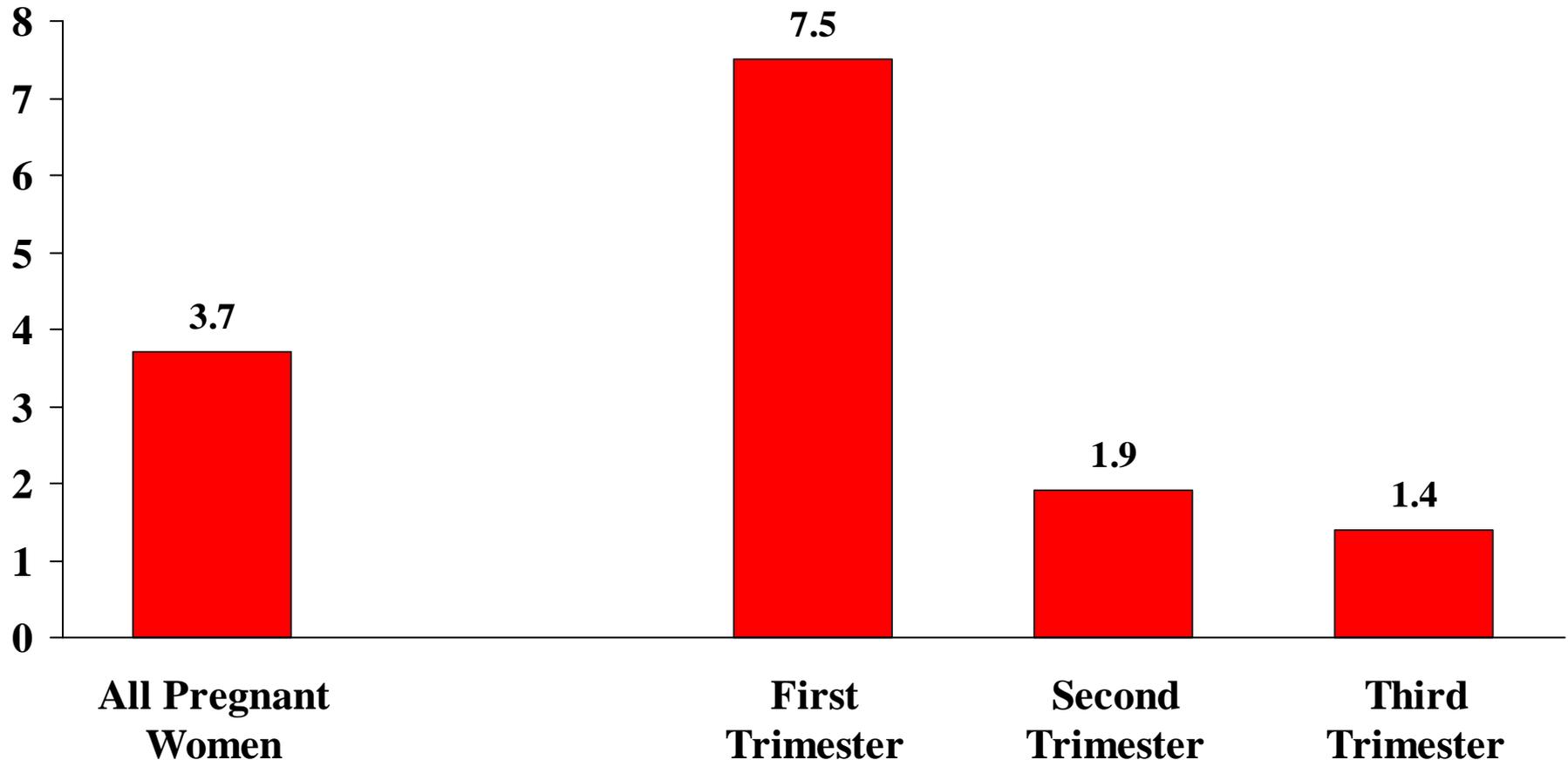
Past Month Alcohol Use, Pregnant Women Age 15-44, by Trimester: 2005-2008

Percent Using Alcohol



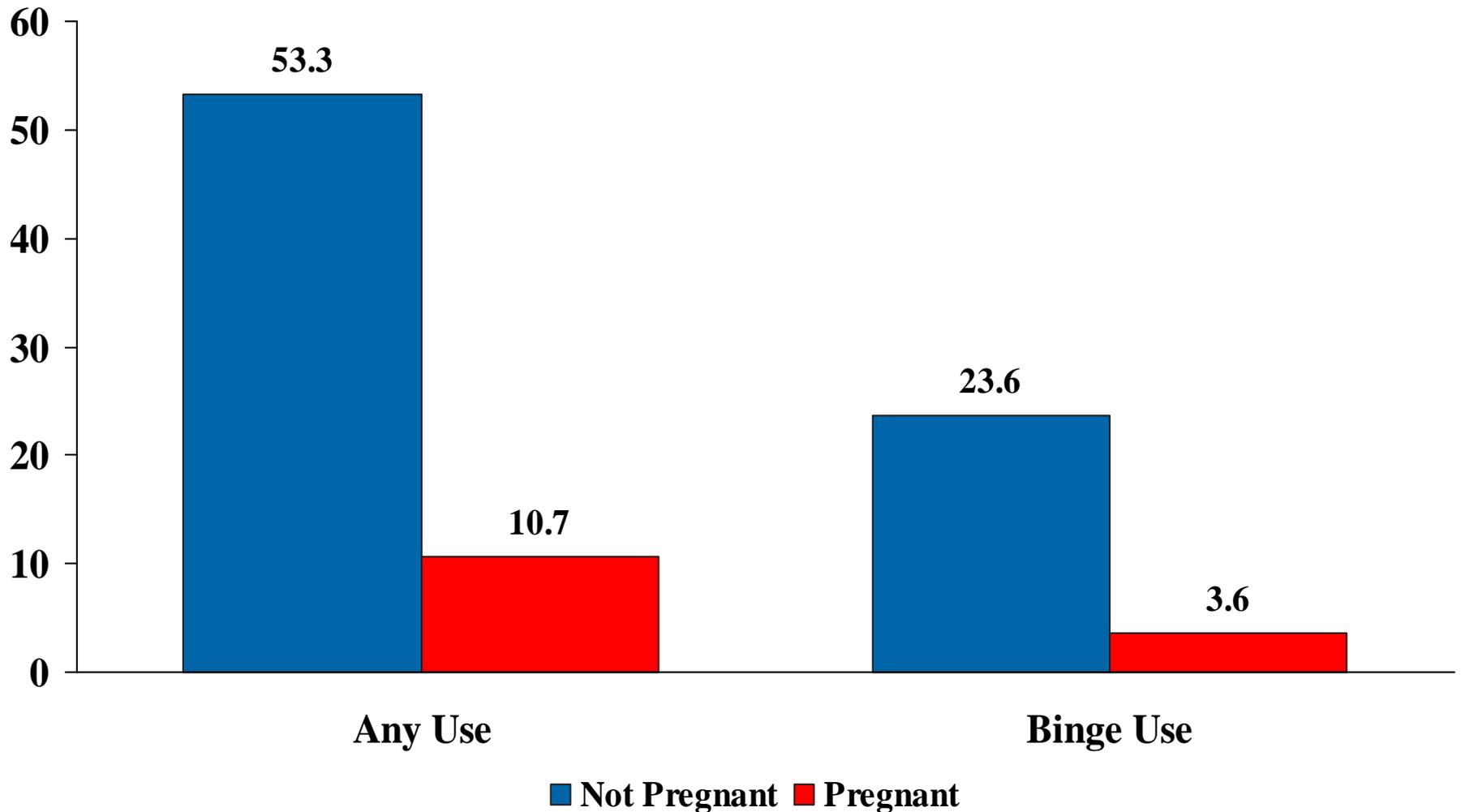
Binge Alcohol Use, Pregnant Women, Age 15-44, by Trimester: 2005-2008

Percent with Binge Alcohol Use



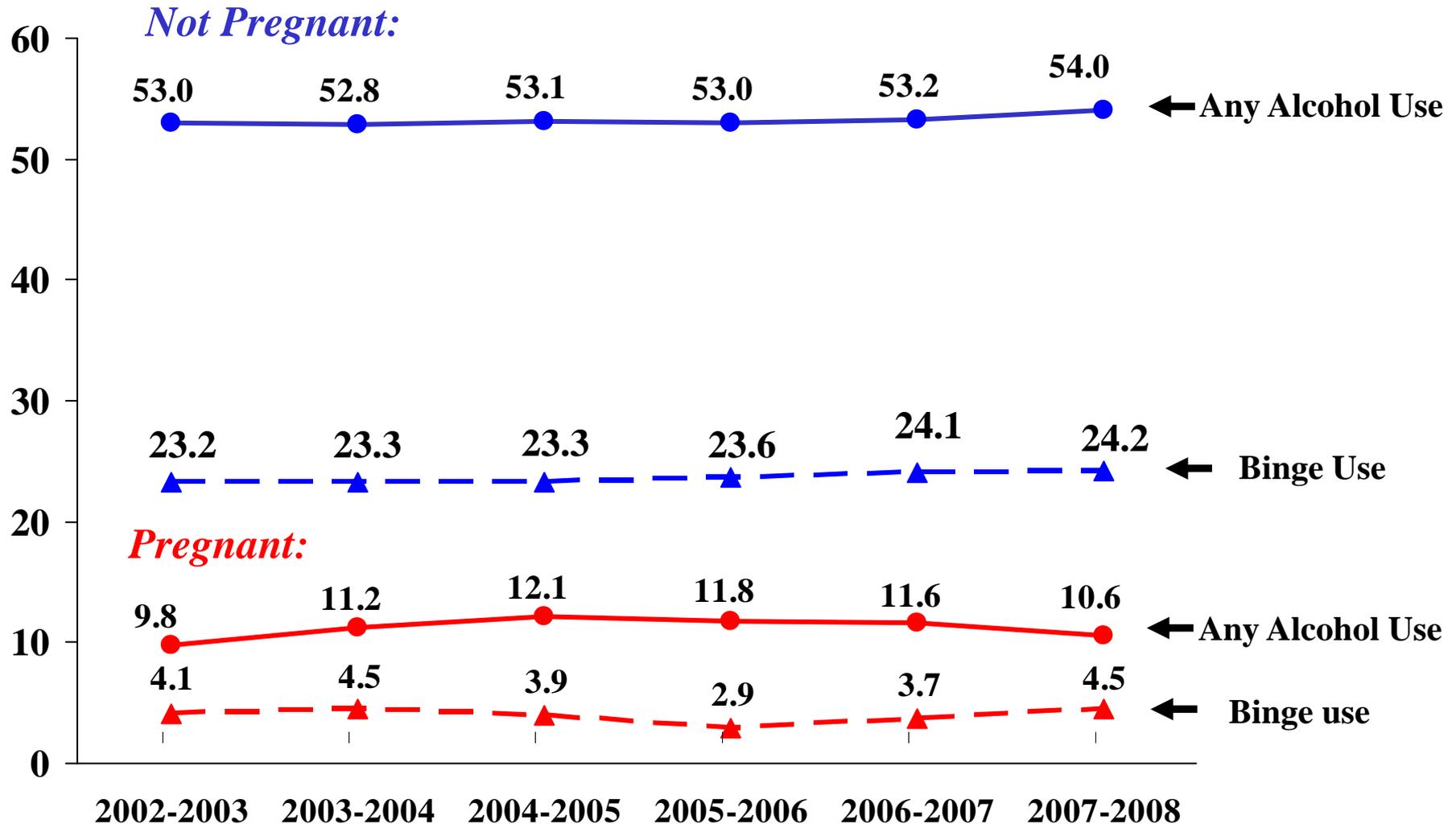
Past Month Alcohol Use, Females Age 15-44, by Pregnancy Status: 2002-2008

Percent Using Alcohol



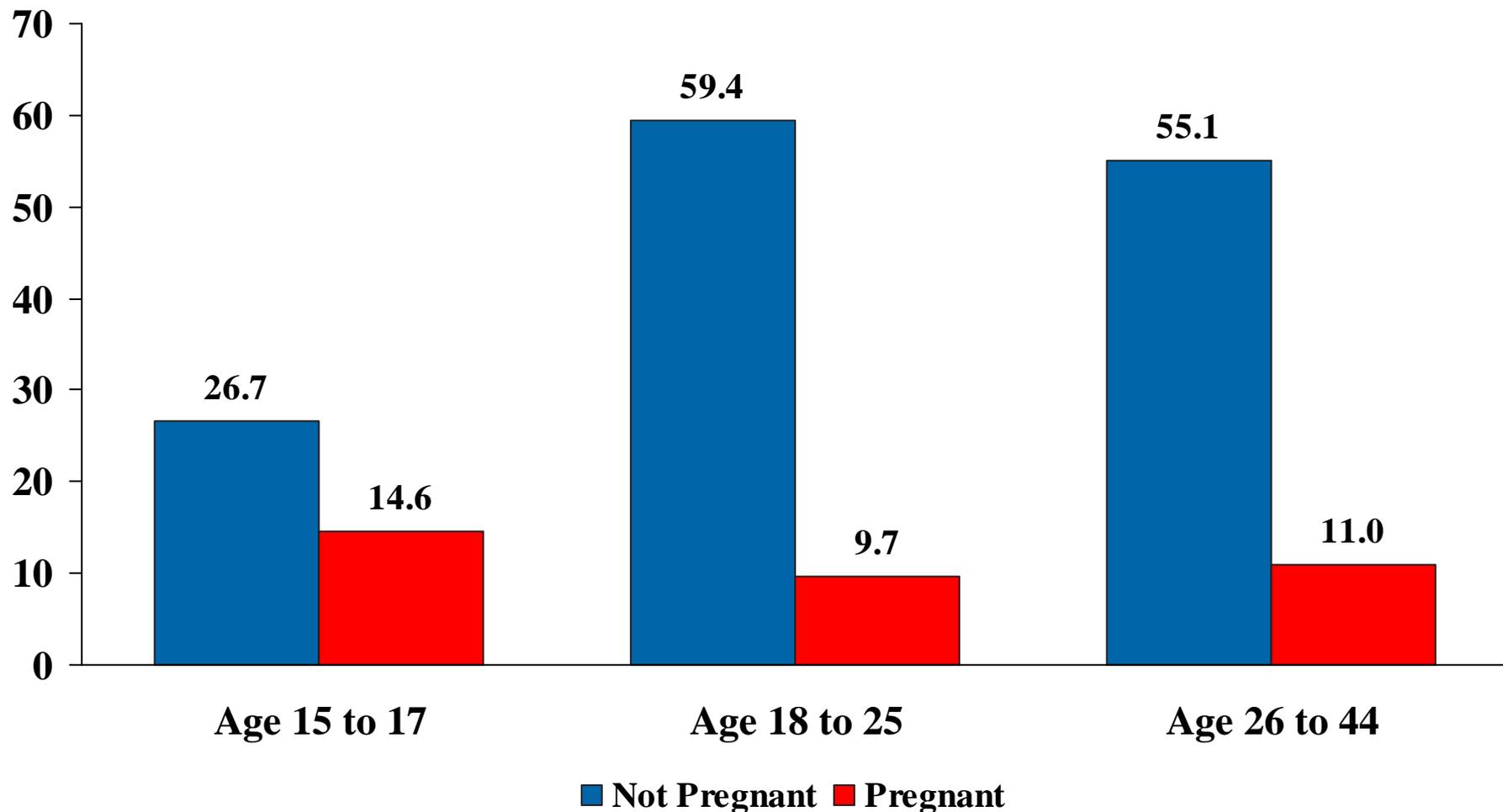
Trends in Alcohol Use, Women Age 15-44, by Pregnancy Status: 2002 to 2008

Percent Using in Past Month



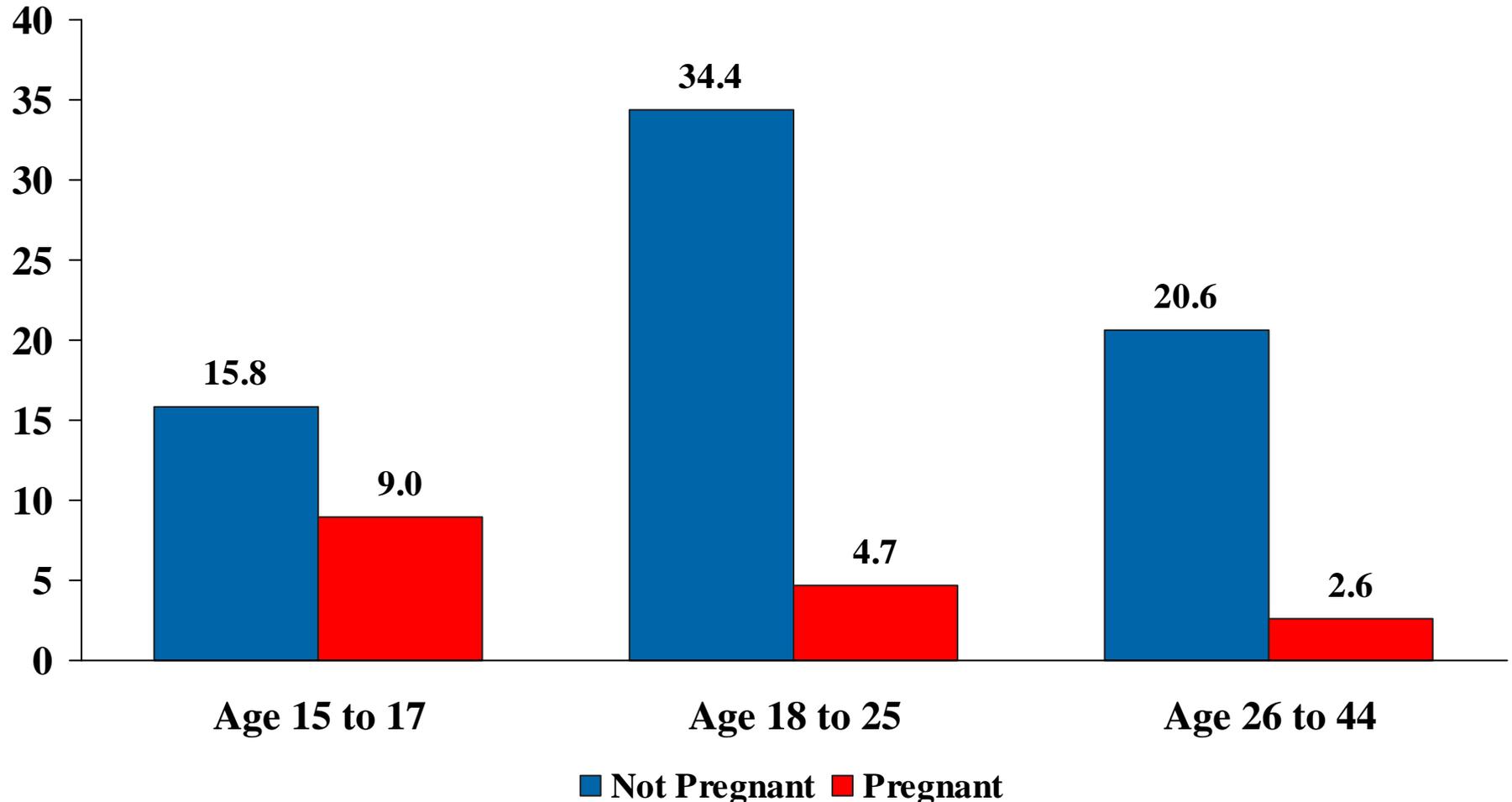
Past Month Alcohol Use, Females Age 15-44, by Age and Pregnancy Status: 2002-2008

Percent Using Alcohol



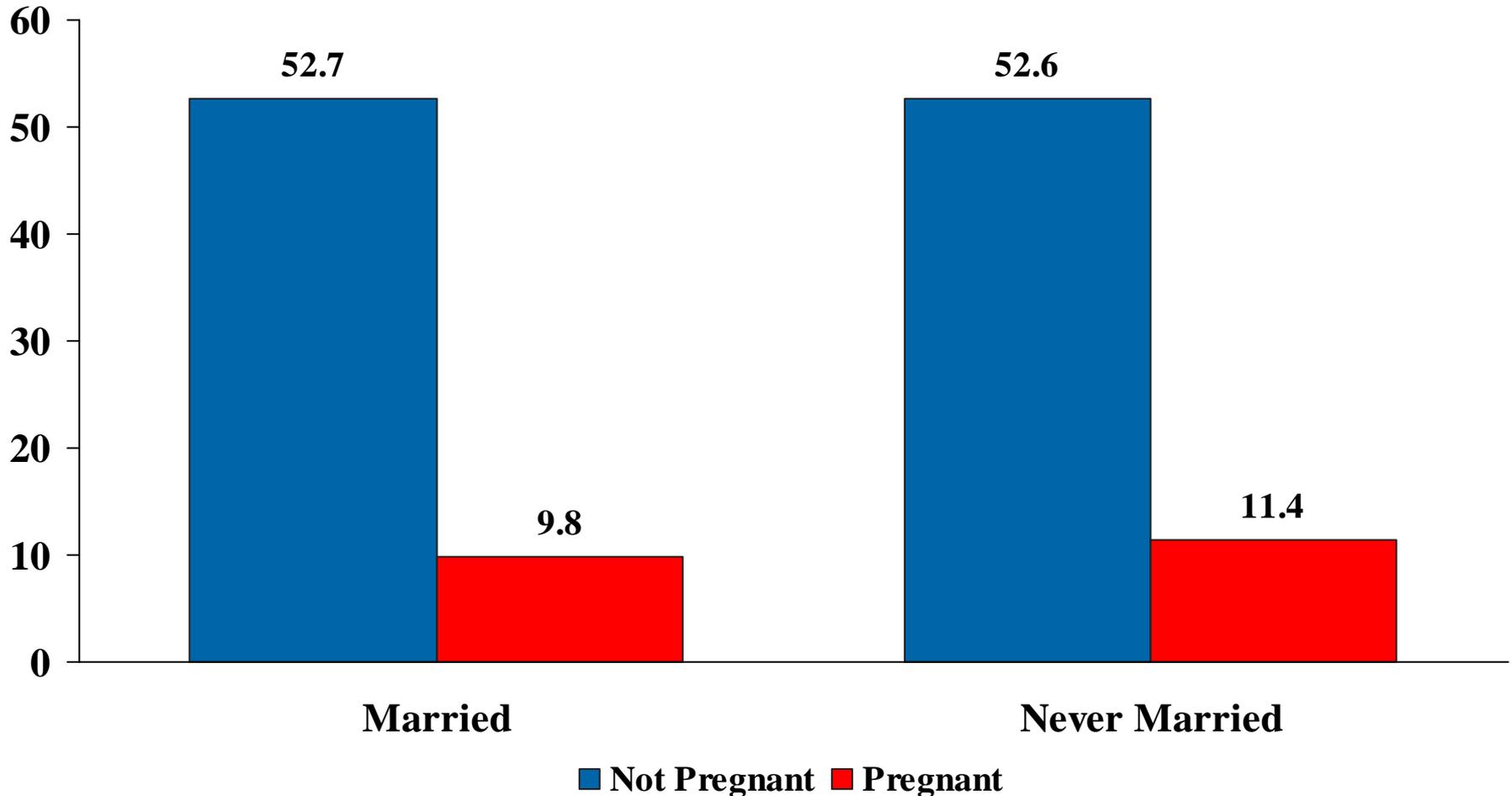
Binge Alcohol Use, Females Age 15-44, by Age and Pregnancy Status: 2002-2008

Percent with Binge Alcohol Use



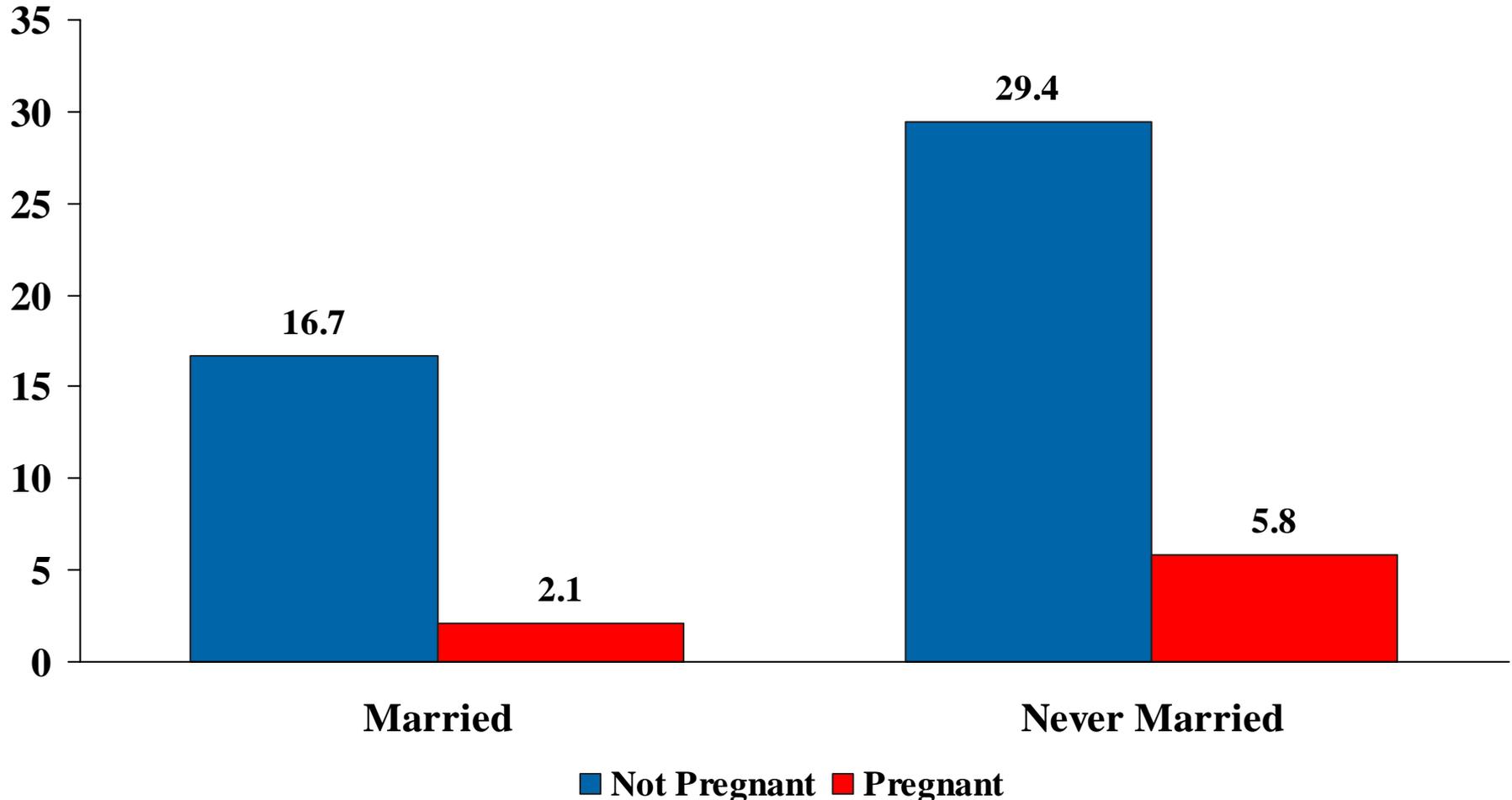
Past Month Alcohol Use, Females Age 15-44, by Marital and Pregnancy Status: 2002-2008

Percent with Alcohol Use



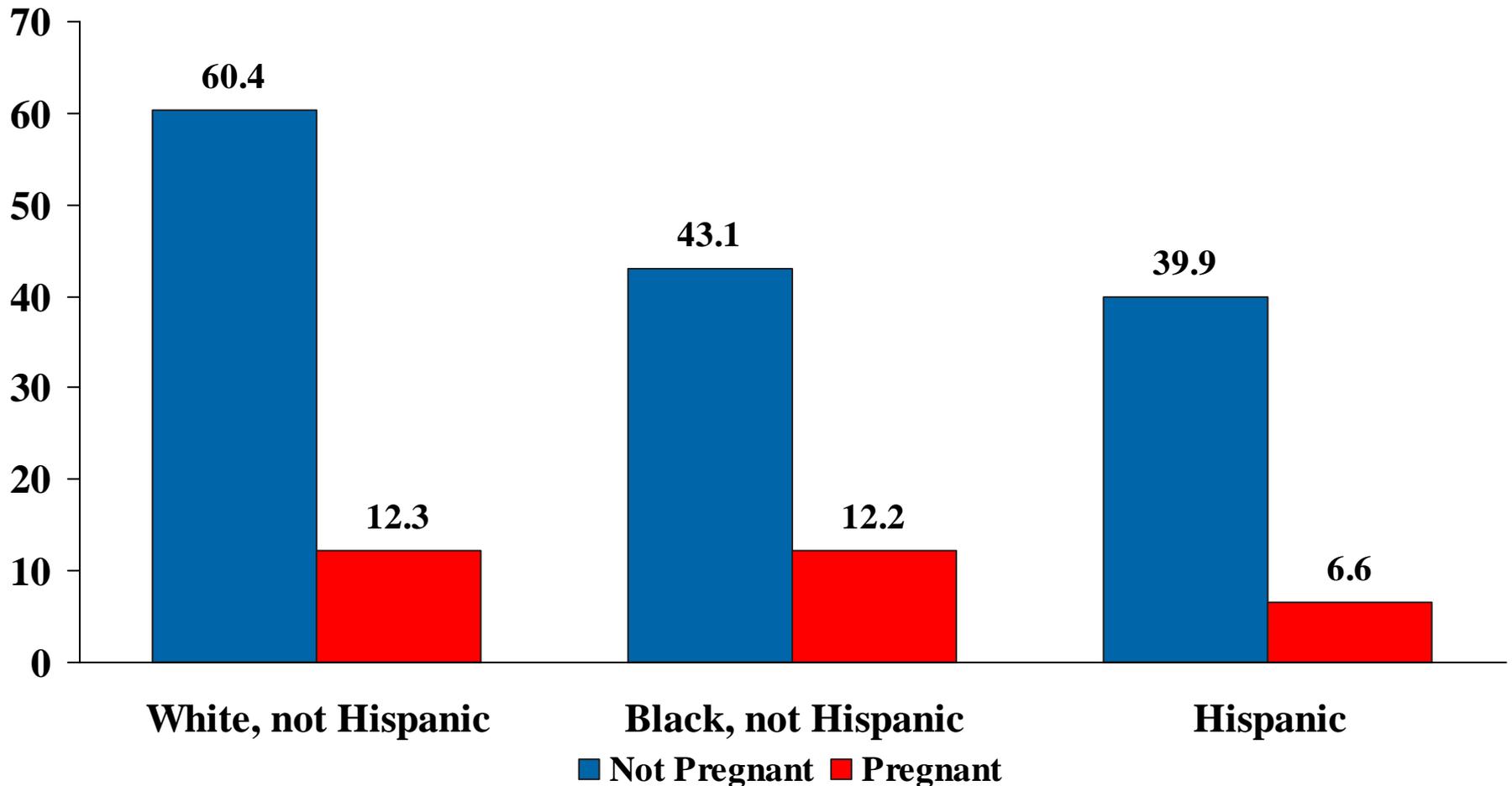
Binge Alcohol Use, Females Age 15-44, by Marital and Pregnancy Status: 2002-2008

Percent with Binge Alcohol Use



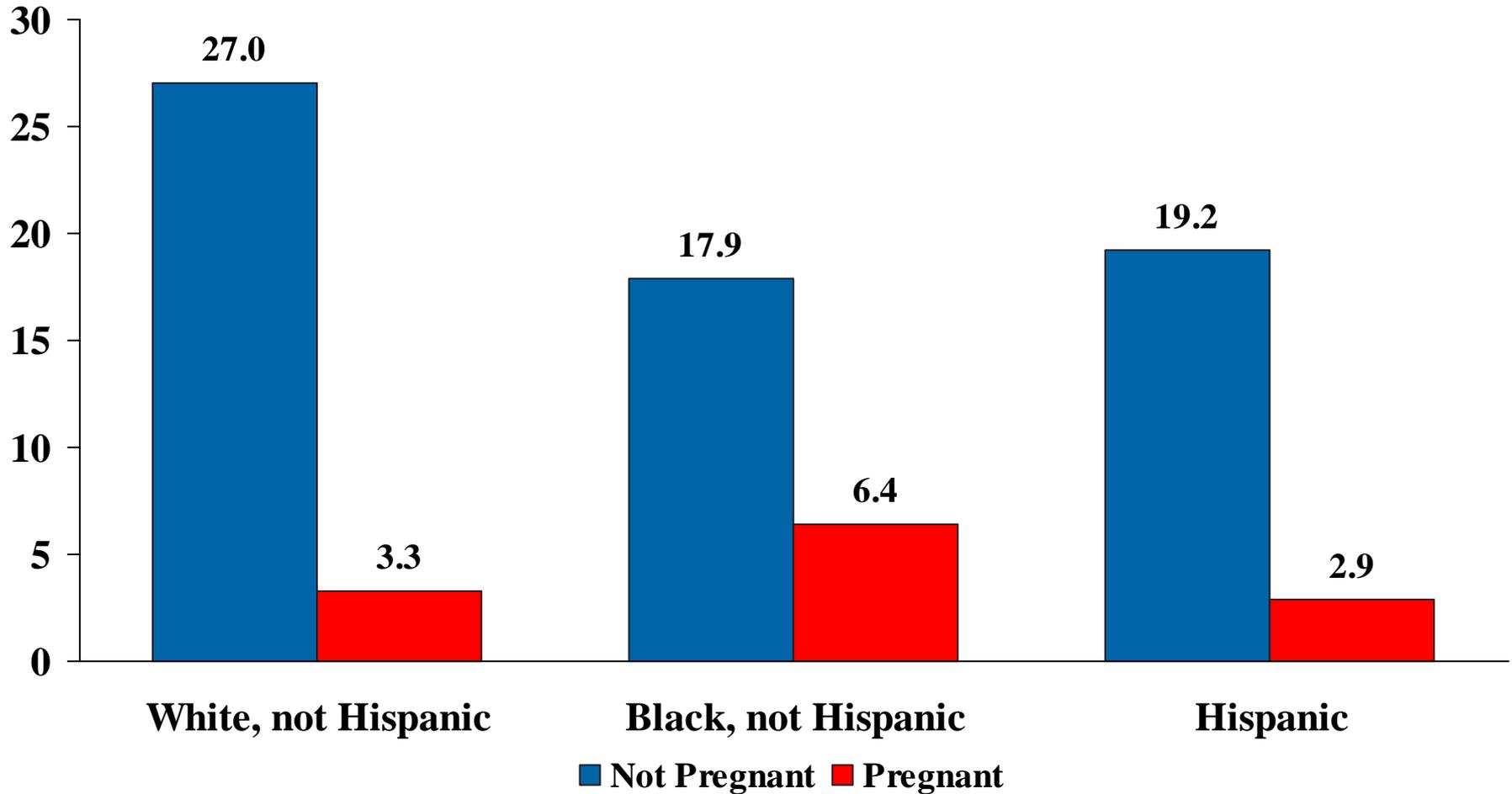
Past Month Alcohol Use, Females Age 15-44, by Race/Ethnicity and Pregnancy Status: 2002-2008

Percent with Alcohol Use



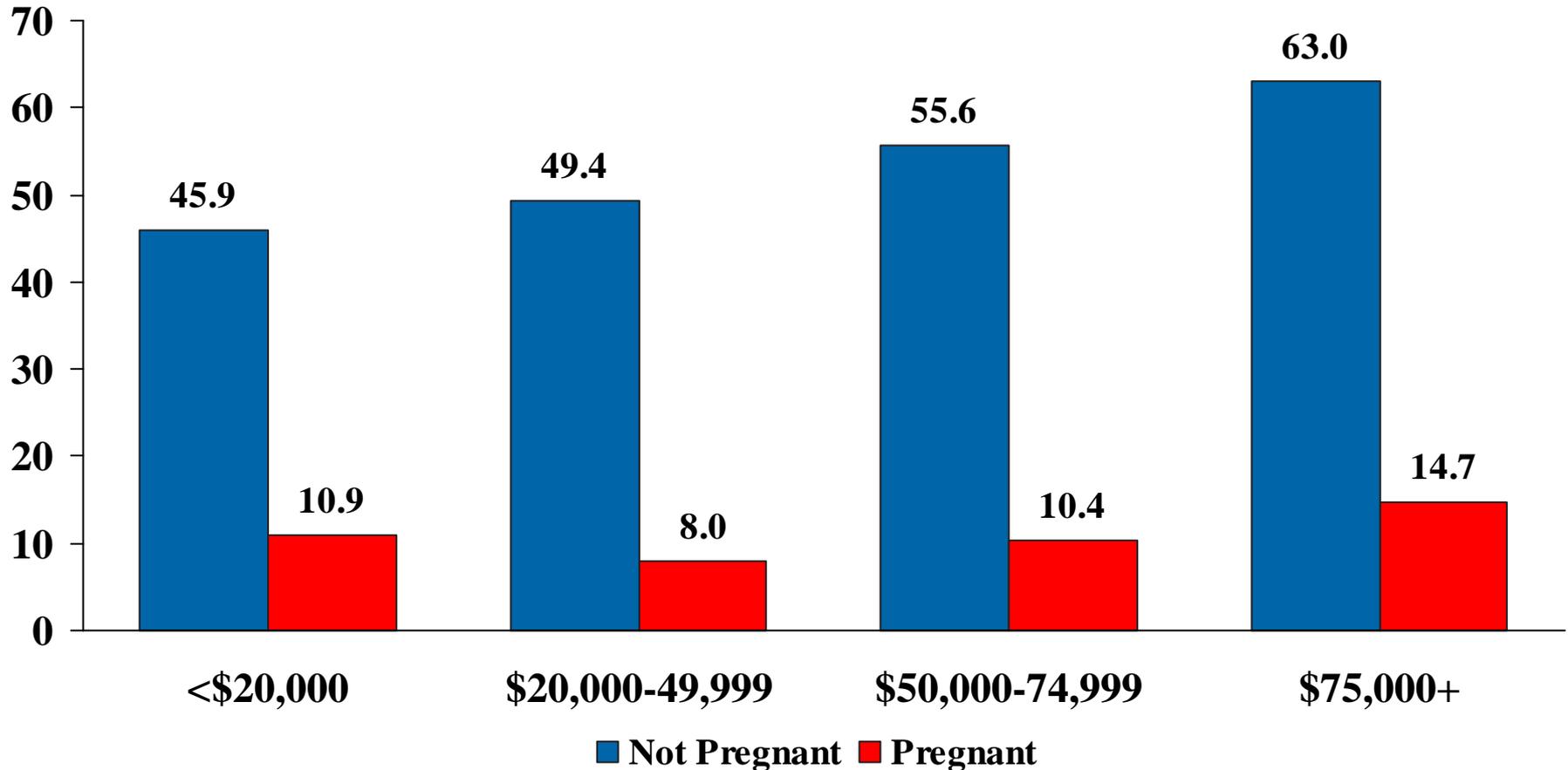
Binge Alcohol Use, Females Age 15-44, by Race/Ethnicity and Pregnancy Status: 2002-2008

Percent with Binge Alcohol Use



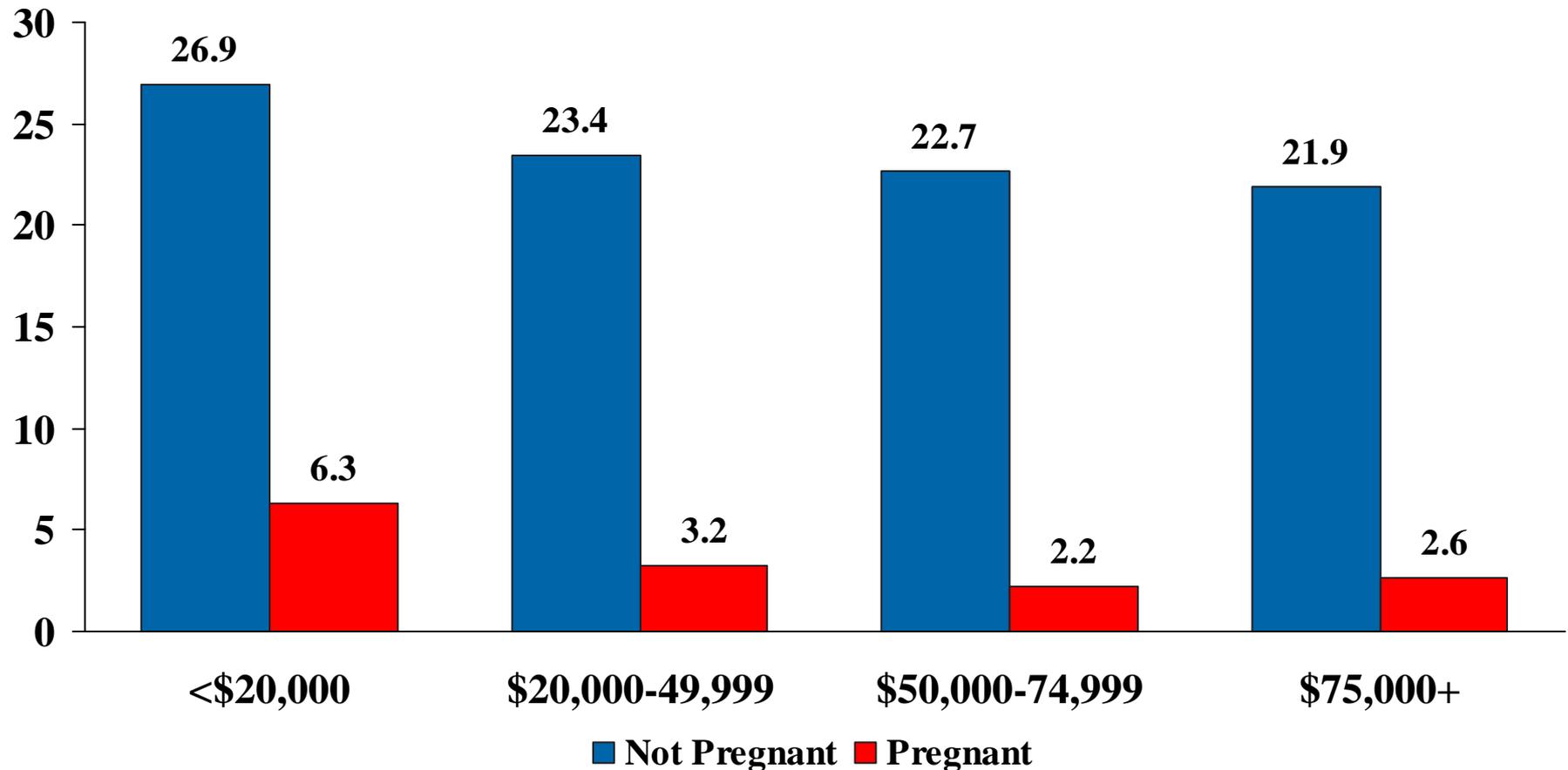
Past Month Alcohol Use, Women Age 15-44, by Pregnancy Status and Family Income: 2002-2008

Percent Using in the Past Month



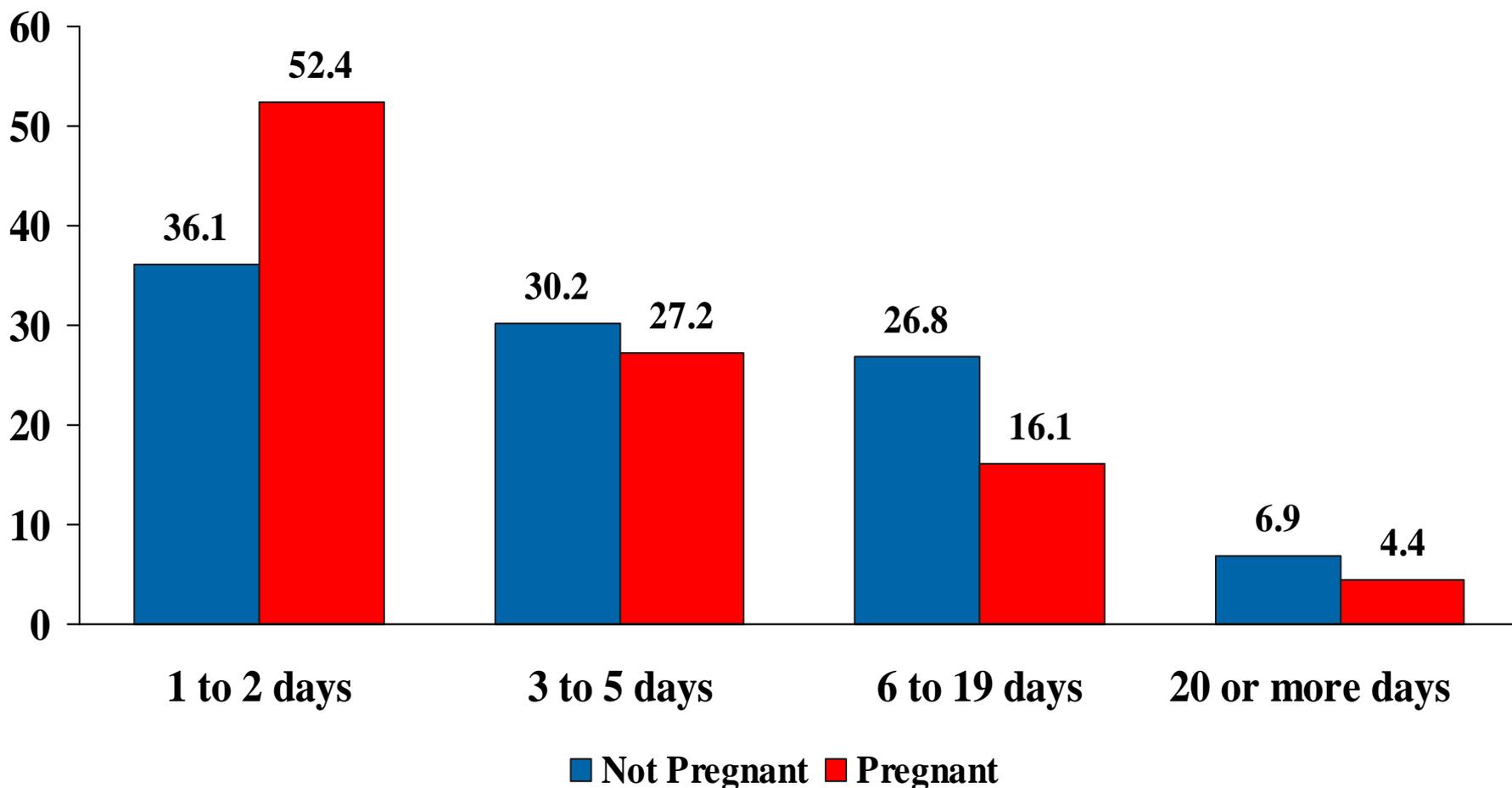
Binge Alcohol Use, Women Age 15-44, by Pregnancy Status and Family Income: 2002-2008

Percent Using in the Past Month



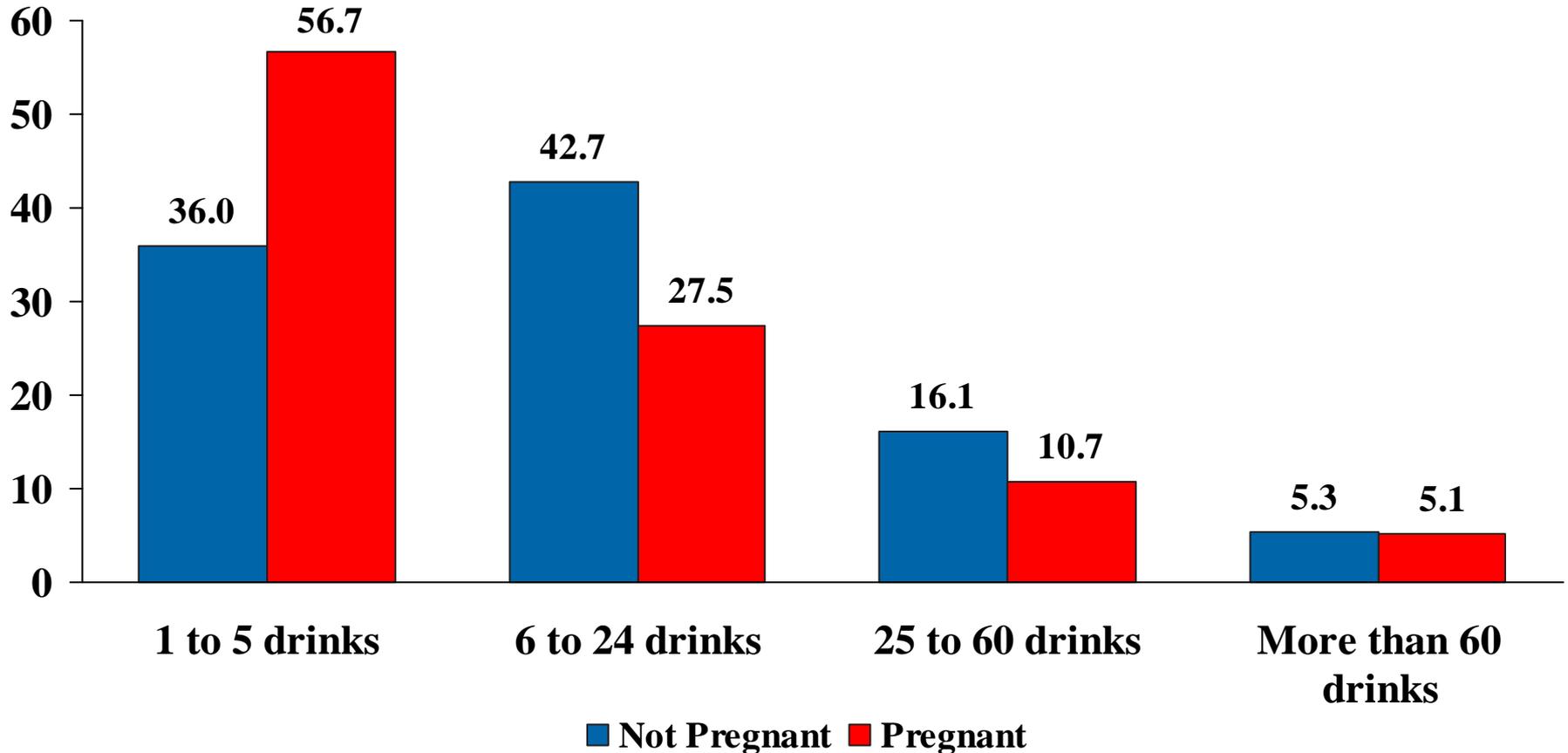
Frequency of Alcohol Use in Past Month, Women Age 15-44, by Pregnancy Status: 2002-2008

Percent of Past Month Users



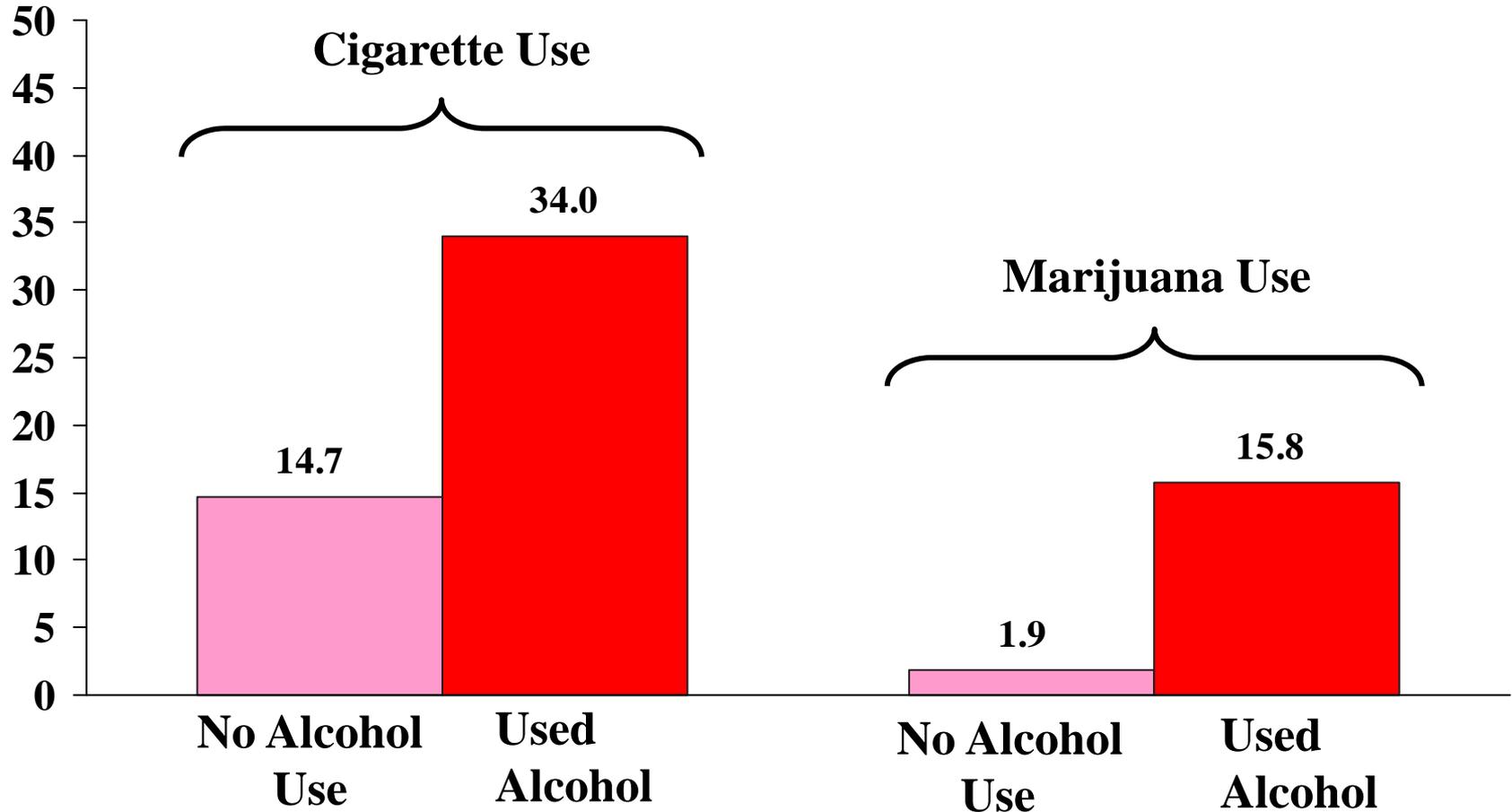
Quantity of Alcohol Used in Past Month, Women Age 15-44, by Pregnancy Status: 2002-2008

Percent of Past Month Users

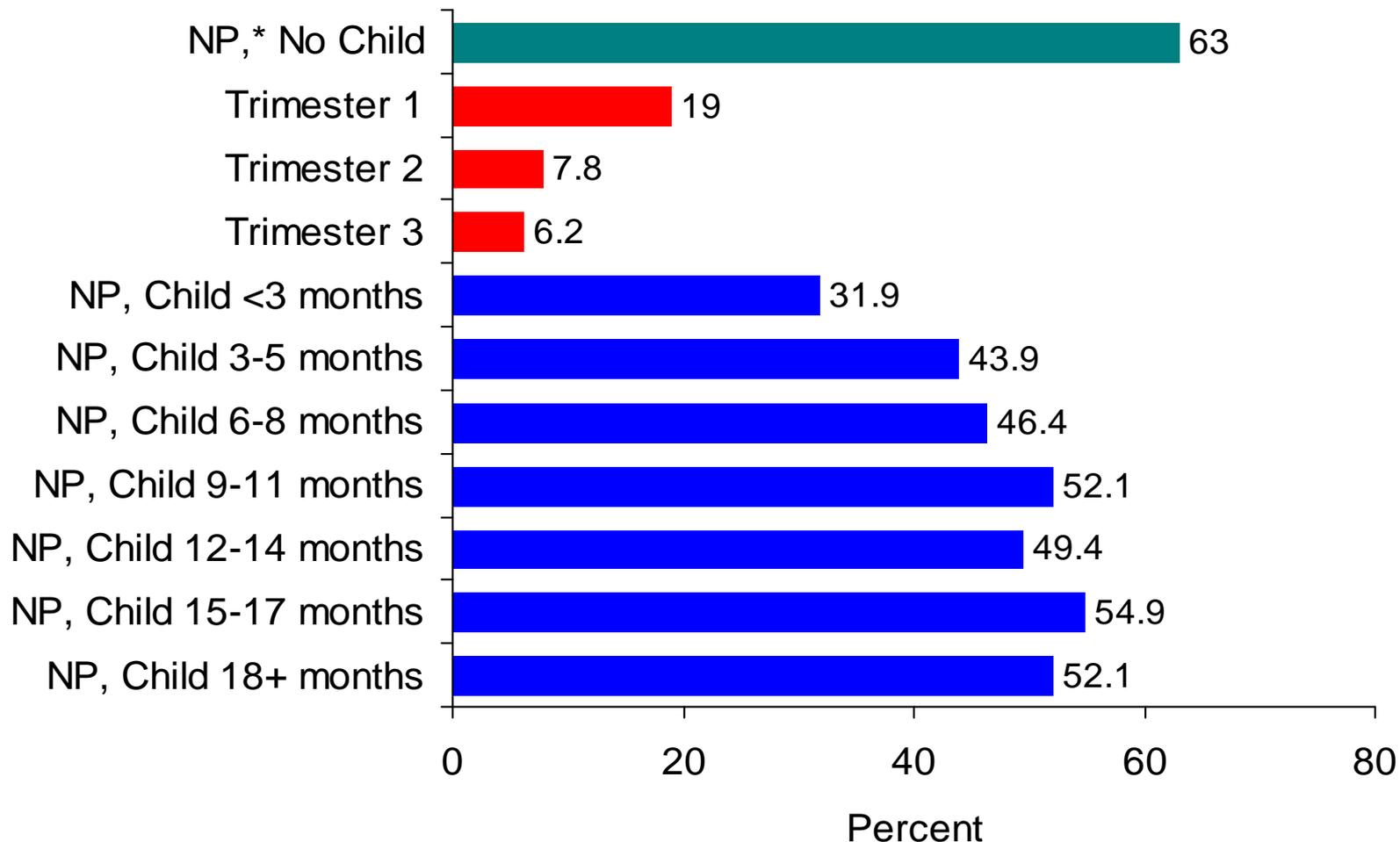


Cigarette and Marijuana Use, Pregnant Women Age 15-44, by Past Month Alcohol Use: 2002-2008

Percent Using in Past Month

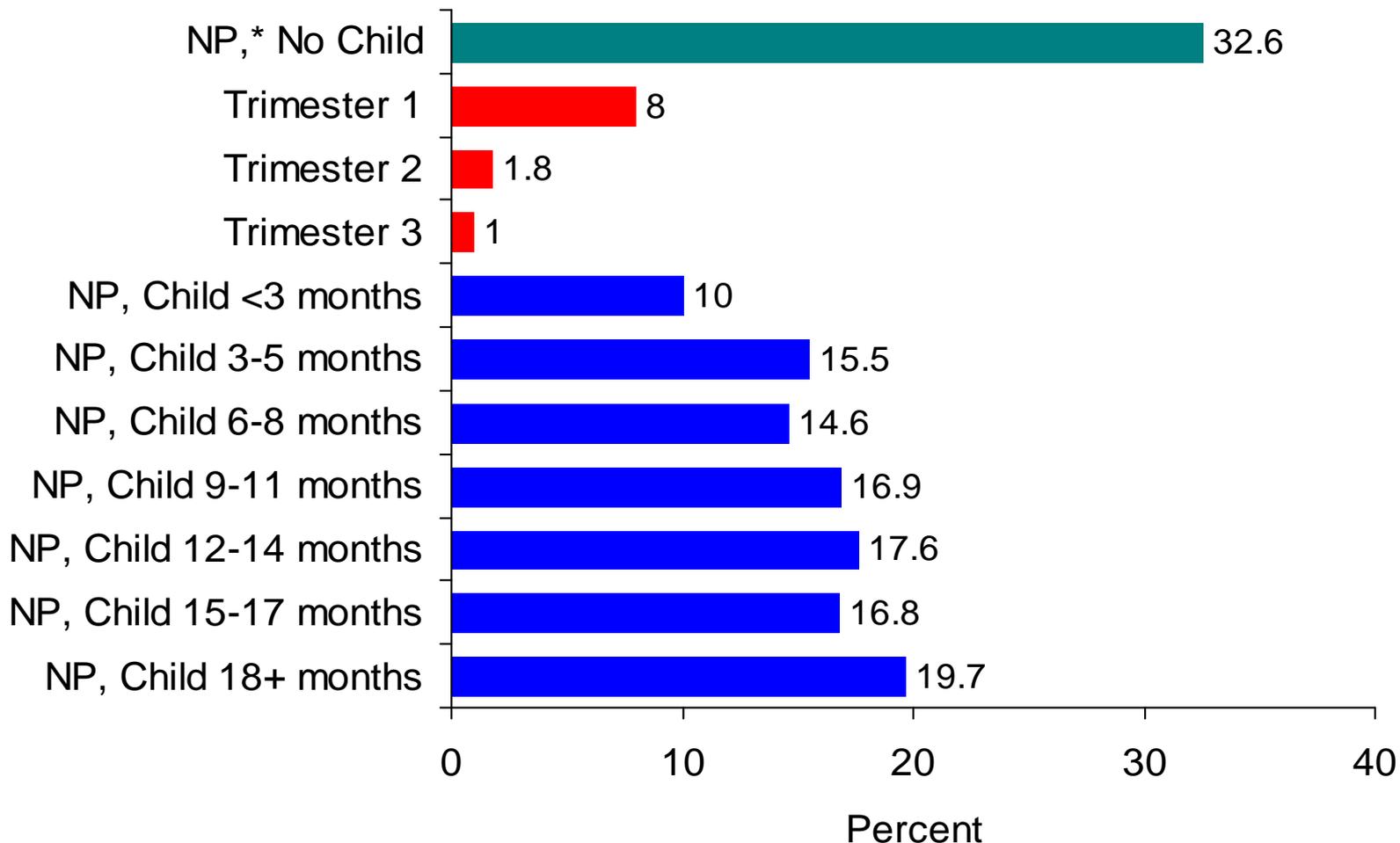


Women's (Aged 18 to 44 Years) Past Month Alcohol Use Rate by Pregnancy Trimester and Age of the Youngest Child in Household: 2002 to 2007



* NP = Nonpregnant

Women's (Aged 18 to 44 Years) Past Month Binge Alcohol Use Rate by Pregnancy Trimester and Age of the Youngest Child in Household: 2002 to 2007



* NP = Nonpregnant

Conclusions

- **Most alcohol-using women stop drinking when they become pregnant, but most resume shortly after childbirth**
- **Rates of alcohol use for pregnant and non-pregnant women have not changed since 2002**
- **Highest rates of alcohol use among women are among young adults, but among pregnant women rates are highest in 15-17**
- **Pregnant drinkers drink less often and lower amounts than nonpregnant drinkers**
- **Among pregnant women, higher likelihood of binge alcohol use: Northern states; Blacks; Low income; Never married**
- **Among pregnant women, alcohol users are more likely to be using cigarettes and marijuana than nondrinkers**