

Keeping It In The Family

Survey 2009

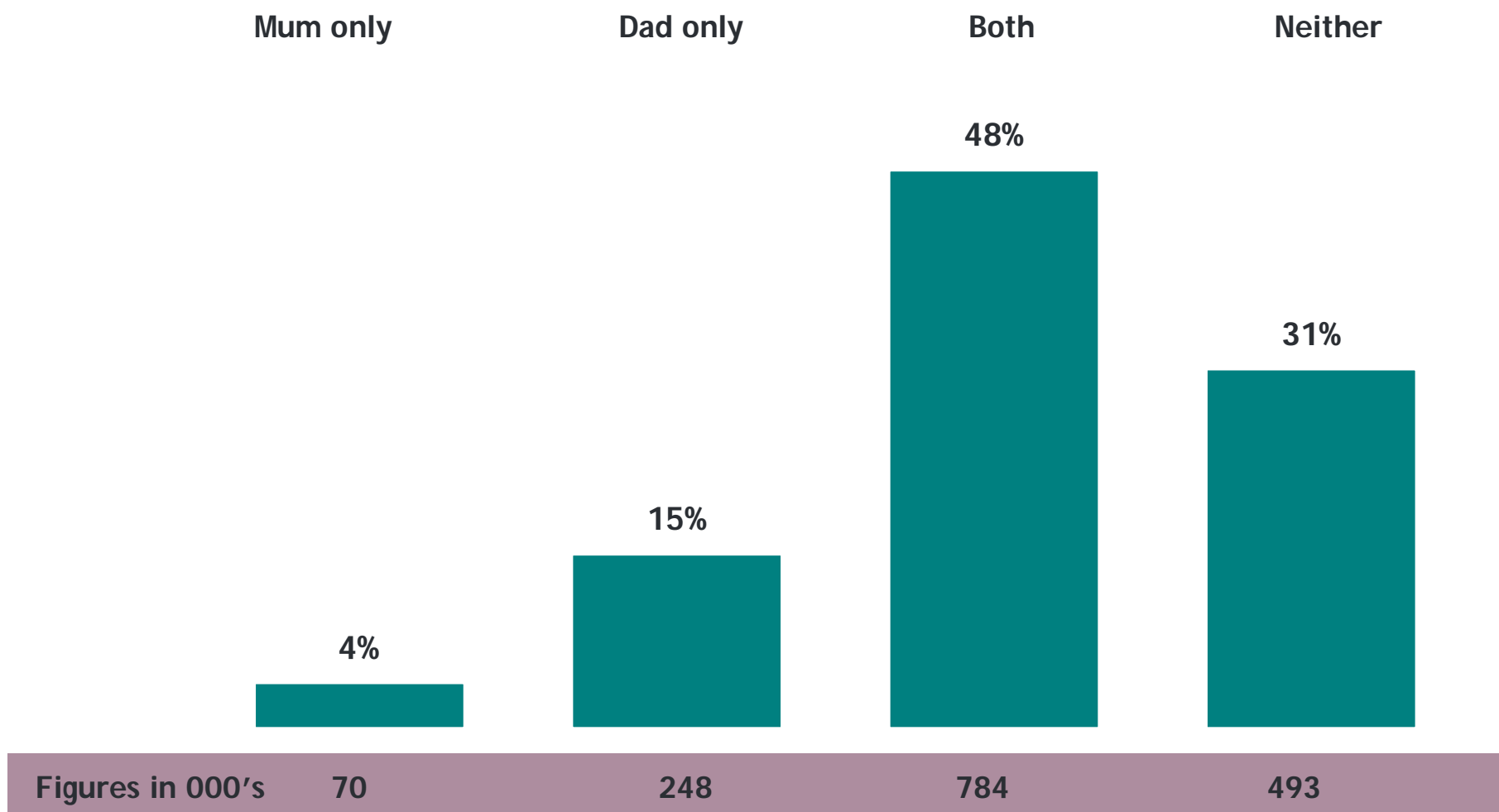
Parental drinking among 18-40 year olds:
prevalence and impact

Introduction

- Alcohol Action Ireland commissioned Behaviour and Attitudes to conduct market research to gauge the prevalence of, and attitudes to, parental drinking amongst 18 to 40-year-olds
- Fieldwork was conducted 3rd - 15th April 2009
- Quotas are set on gender, age and region to ensure that the results correctly reflect the known demographics of the Republic of Ireland
- The survey data is drawn from Telebarometer, a nationally representative survey of 1,000 adults and of this dataset 18 to 40-year-olds constituted 454

Prevalence of Mum or Dad Drinking Alcohol During Their Childhood

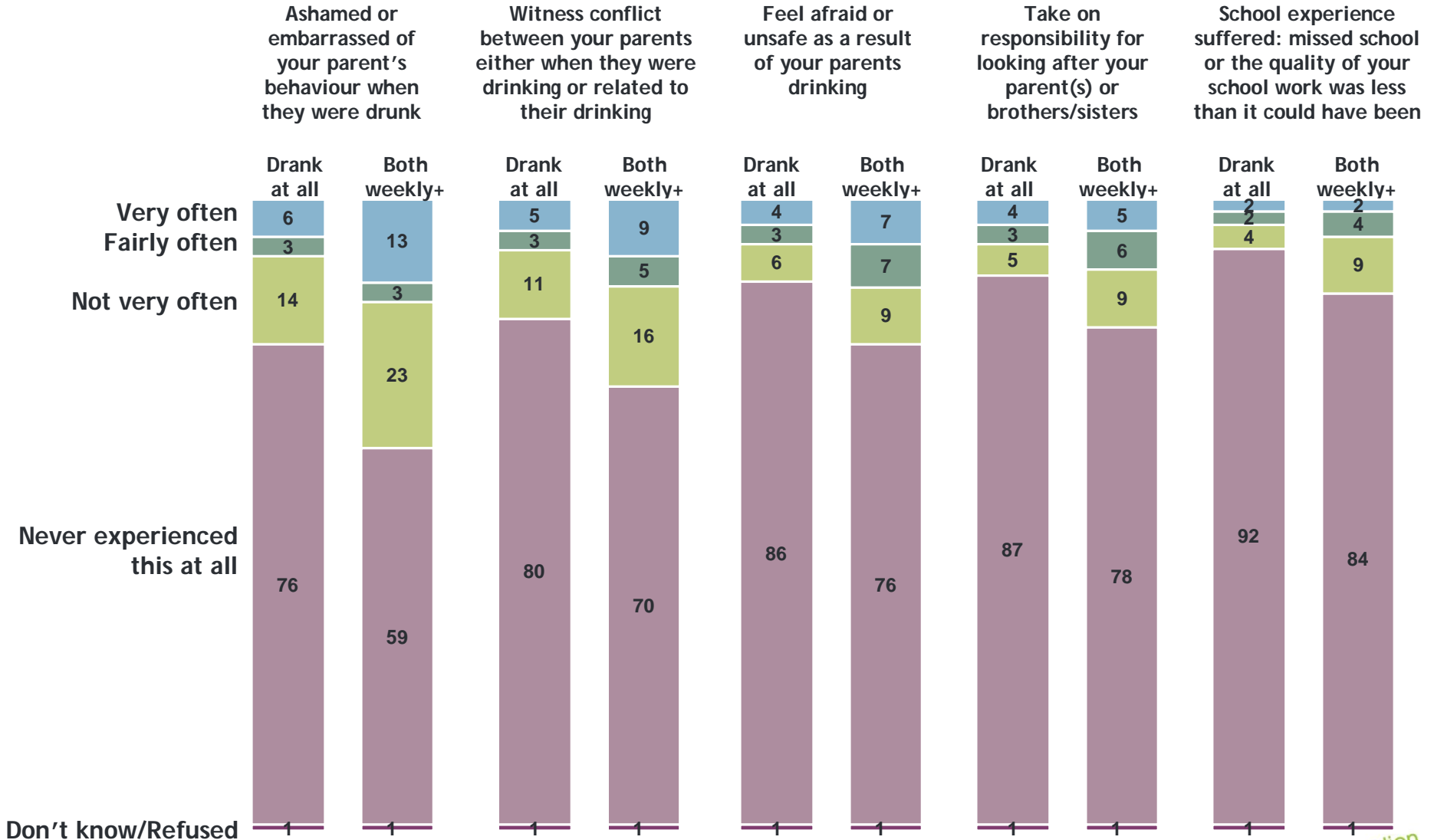
All adults aged 18-40s : 454 - 1,617,000



(Refused 1% - 22,000)

Impact of Parents' Drinking

All 18-40s with parents who drank alcohol at all during their childhood : 306 : 1,102,000



Key Findings

When parents drank...

- 71,000 18-40s said they often felt afraid or unsafe as a result of their parents' drinking
- 90,000 18-40s said they often witnessed conflict between their parents either when they were drinking or as a result of their drinking
- 71,000 said they often had to take responsibility for a parent or a sibling
- Impact of parental drinking did not differ according to socio-economic class

What needs to happen?

- Use/create opportunities
 - National Combined Substance Misuse Strategy is an opportunity to put children and families at the centre
 - Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA) has responsibility for ensuring all aspects of the public service work together at national and local levels to achieve more effective and efficient delivery of children's services. OMCYA could initiate a comprehensive examination of the extent and impact of parental alcohol problems on child welfare, and identify the implications for services, policy and legislation
- See and hear children in families affected by parental alcohol problems
 - Gather data on children affected by parental alcohol problems
 - Structure services to respond holistically to families