Students' Perceptions of Eastern's Campus Climate: A Longitudinal Study

EIU's Office of Civil Rights and Diversity

Survey Methodology

Biennially from 2001 to 2013

Purpose / Goals of Research

- Describe campus climate at EIU
  - Racial/ethnic diversity
  - Gender
  - Disabilities
  - Sexual Orientation
  - Military Veterans
- Compare groups of students
- Provides information for policy planning and implementation
- Provides data for required IBHE report

Methodology: Population

- Sample Frame
  - Office of Institutional Planning & Research generated UG population lists
    - FA13 → 7,771 (have PEB label, not Int'l)
    - FA11 → 9,546
    - FA09 → 10,167
    - FA07 → 10,388
    - FA05 → 10,375
    - FA03 → 9,845
    - FA01 → 9,115
- Inclusion criteria
  - Were not international students
  - Had reported racial/ethnic category
    - In FA09 we sampled students w/o a reported PEB code (i.e., "Unknown/Not reported")
  - Had a local (217) phone number
    - In FA07 we sampled some students w long-distance #s
    - In FA09 we did not use phone # status in our inclusion criteria

Methodology: Sampling

- Major focus was on representativeness!
- Stratified, disproportionate, **random sampling**, with quota
  - Three strata: PEB (Predominant Ethnic Background), Gender, Academic Class Rank
  - Goal was 10% of non-minority students per stratum; 25% of minority students per stratum
- Over 10% of all students sampled each time
  - FA13: 1,080 → 13.9%
  - FA11: 1,609 → 16.9%
  - FA09: 1,884 → 18.5%
  - FA07: 1,334 → 12.8%
  - FA05: 1,240 → 11.95%
  - FA03: 1,135 → 11.53%
  - FA01: 1,064 → 11.67%

Methodology: Phone Interviews

- For the 2001, 2003, & 2005 surveys phone interviews were employed
  - Callers trained and supervised
  - Very specific guidelines; survey scripts followed
  - EIU Students
    - Both men and women, members of several racial/ethnic groups, various class ranks
- Interviews were conducted for at least 4 weeks from late October to mid-November
- To achieve quotas for each stratum, selected students were contacted numerous times before new randomly selected students were added to our contact lists

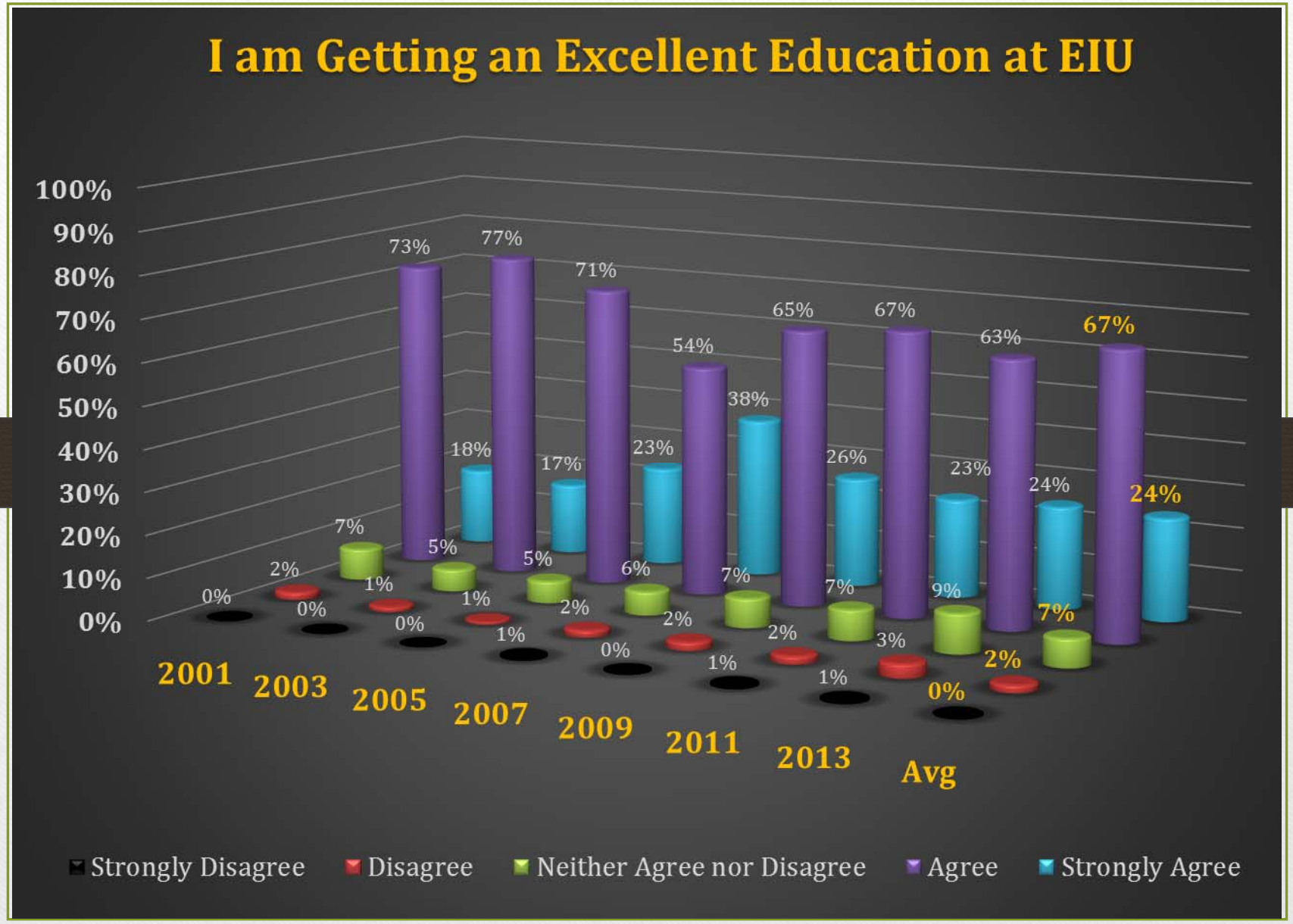
Methodology: Online Surveys

- 2007 was primarily an online administration
  - 5 'rounds' were employed—staggered groups of students contacted
    - Tracked participation; continued to follow-up w/email
    - Confidential
  - Up to 4 email invitations/reminders
  - Phone calls for additional participants
    - Followed previous phone interviewing protocol
- In 2009, 97.5% of participants completed our online survey
  - Contacted 5,088 (50% of the pop) students to achieve our desired quota
  - Phone calls for additional participants (2.5%)
    - Followed previous phone interviewing protocol
- The 2011 and 2013 surveys were completely online

	YEAR						
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Total EIU Undergrads	9115	9845	10375	10388	10167	9546	7771 Have PEB Not Int'l
% Minority	10.0%	10.2%	11.4%	13.0%	16.1%	20.0%	26.1%
w/ phones	5956	6420	5733	5515	--	--	--
% of total Undergrads w/ phones	65%	65%	55%	53%	--	--	--
Participated	1064	1135	1241	1334	1884	1609	1080
% of Total Undergrads that did the Survey	11.7%	11.5%	12.0%	12.8%	18.5%	16.9%	13.9%
% of all Minorities that Participated	30%	27%	29%	30%	39%	31%	25%
% of pop that participated: **American Indian/Alaskan Native**	35%	33%	32%	30%	36%	38%	33%
% of pop that participated: **Asian/Pacific Islander**	32%	28%	30%	32%	41%	32%	31%
% of pop that participated: **Hispanic**	26%	26%	30%	33%	45%	33%	24%
% of pop that participated: **Black, Non-Hispanic**	26%	27%	29%	30%	34%	30%	23%
% of pop that participated: **White, Non-Hispanic**	10%	10%	10%	11%	15%	13%	10%
% of pop that participated: **Unknown/Not Reported**	--	--	--	--	22%	13%	--
% **Women** in Sample	57.4%	57.8%	57.4%	58.2%	61.4%	59.5%	69.1%
% **Men** in Sample	42.6%	42.2%	42.6%	41.8%	38.6%	40.5%	30.9%
Online Response Rates					36%	30%	33%
Men	--	--	--	--	32%	26%	24.8%
Women	--	--	--	--	39%	37%	36.5%
Contact Form	Phone	Phone	Phone	~86% Online + Phone	~98% Online + Phone	100% Online	100% Online
Incentives	None	None	None	$100 GC	$300 GC	$300 GC + 2 $50 DD	$200 GC + 1 $100 DD + 2 $50 DD

Questions about…

EIU


I am Getting an Excellent Education at EIU
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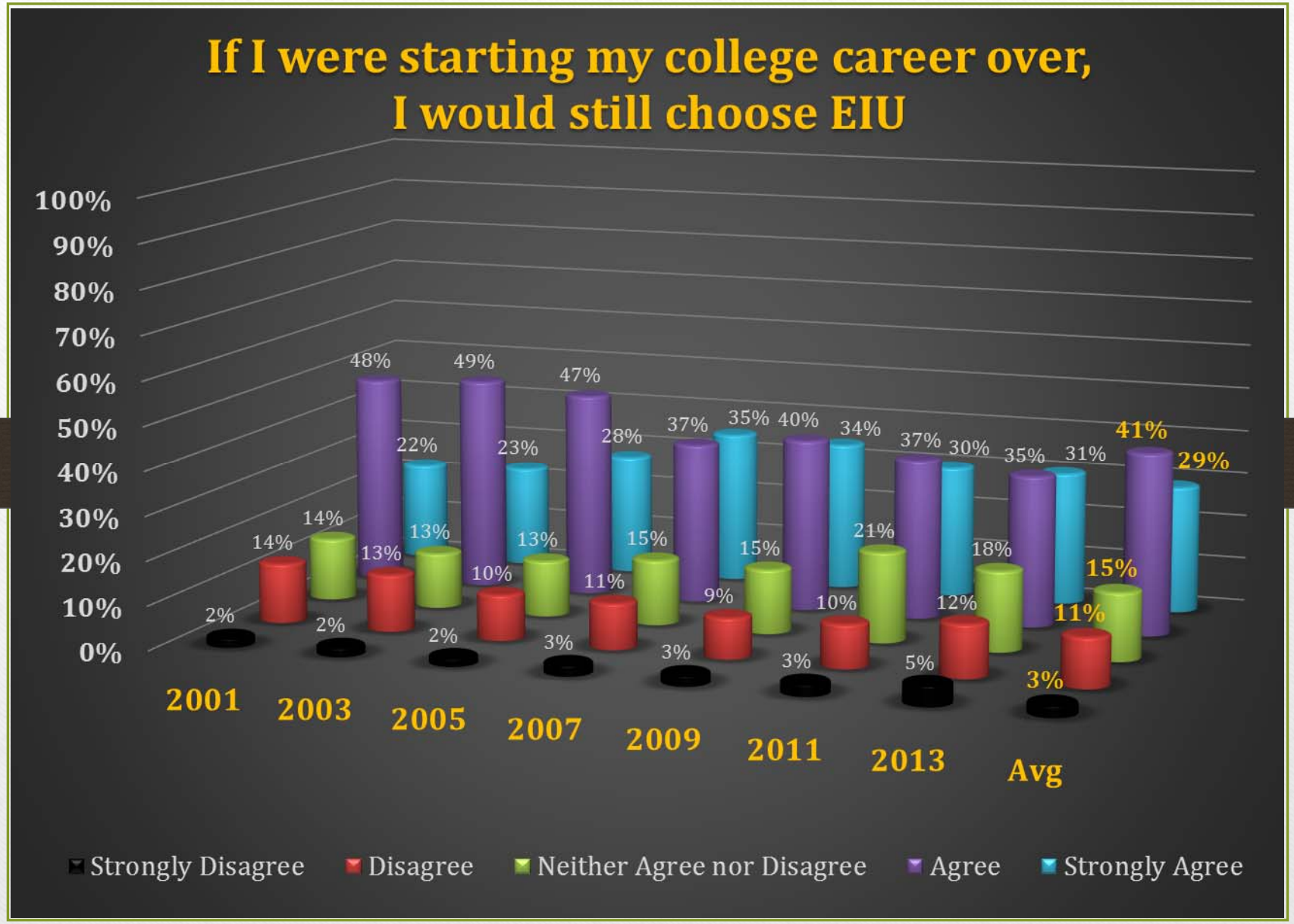
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


If I were starting my college career over, I would still choose EIU
100%
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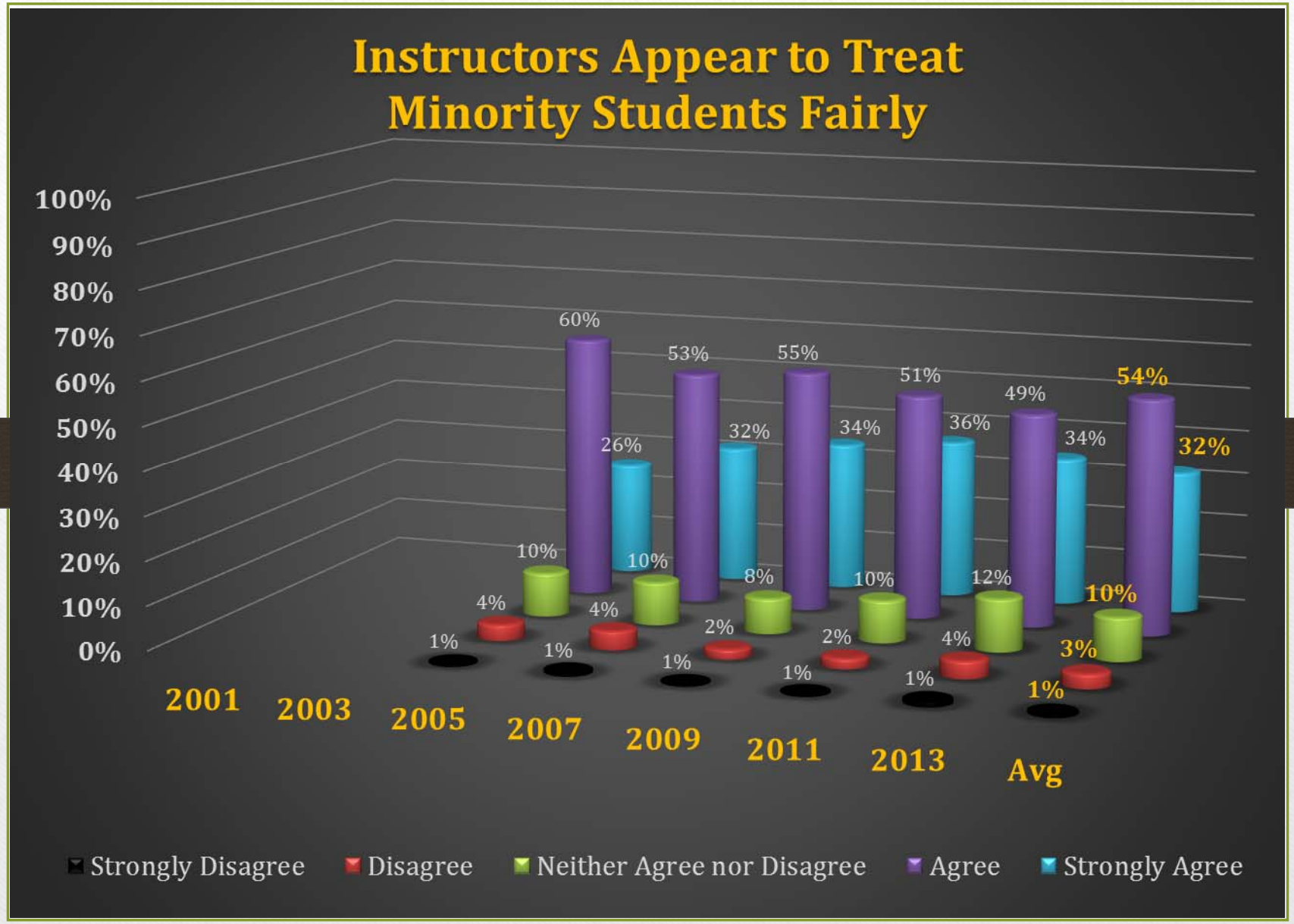
5% 12% 18% 35% 31%
3% 11% 15% 41% 29%
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree

Questions about…

the Treatment of Students in the Classroom


Instructors Appear to Treat Minority Students Fairly
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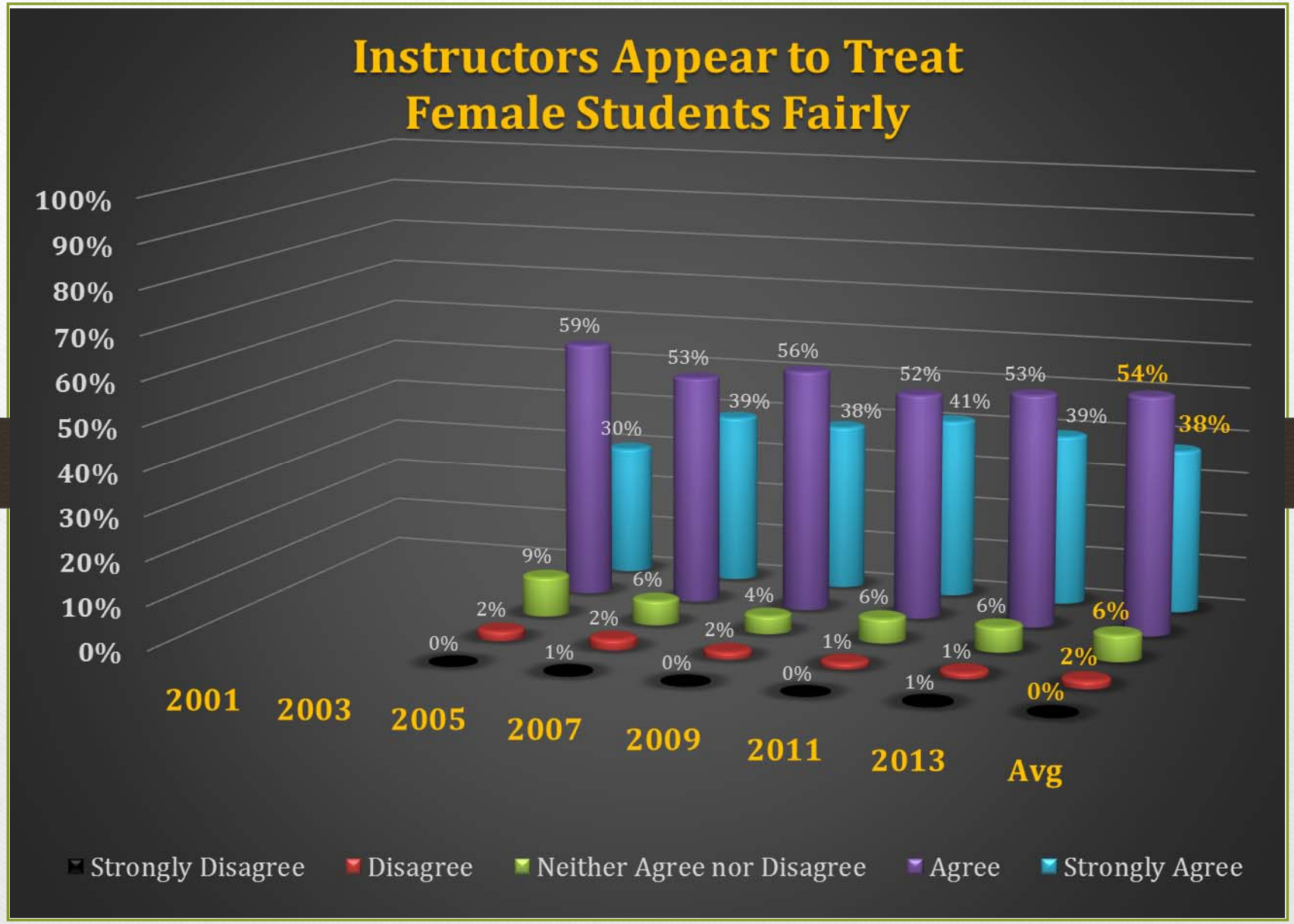
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


Instructors Appear to Treat Female Students Fairly
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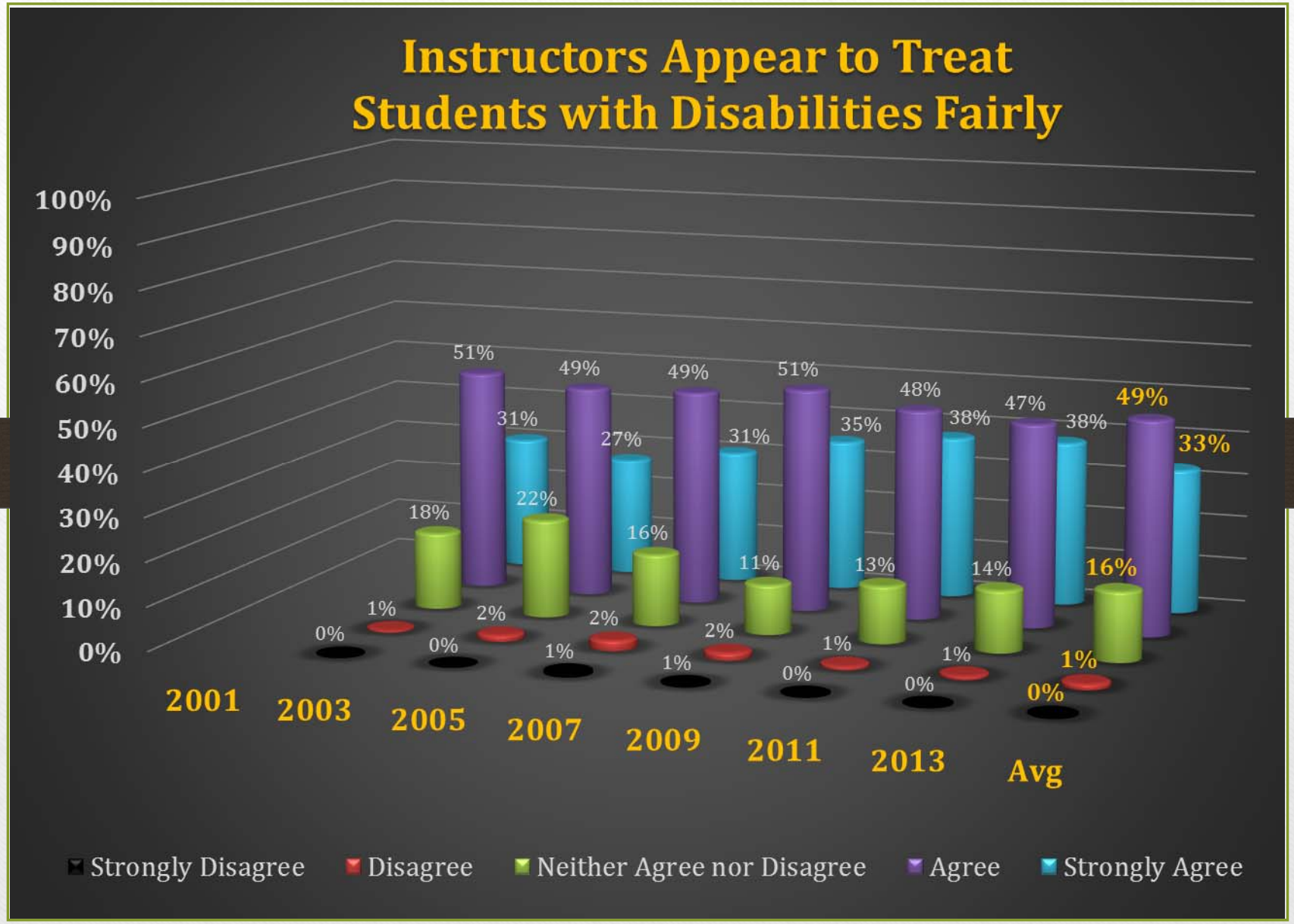
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


Instructors Appear to Treat Students with Disabilities Fairly
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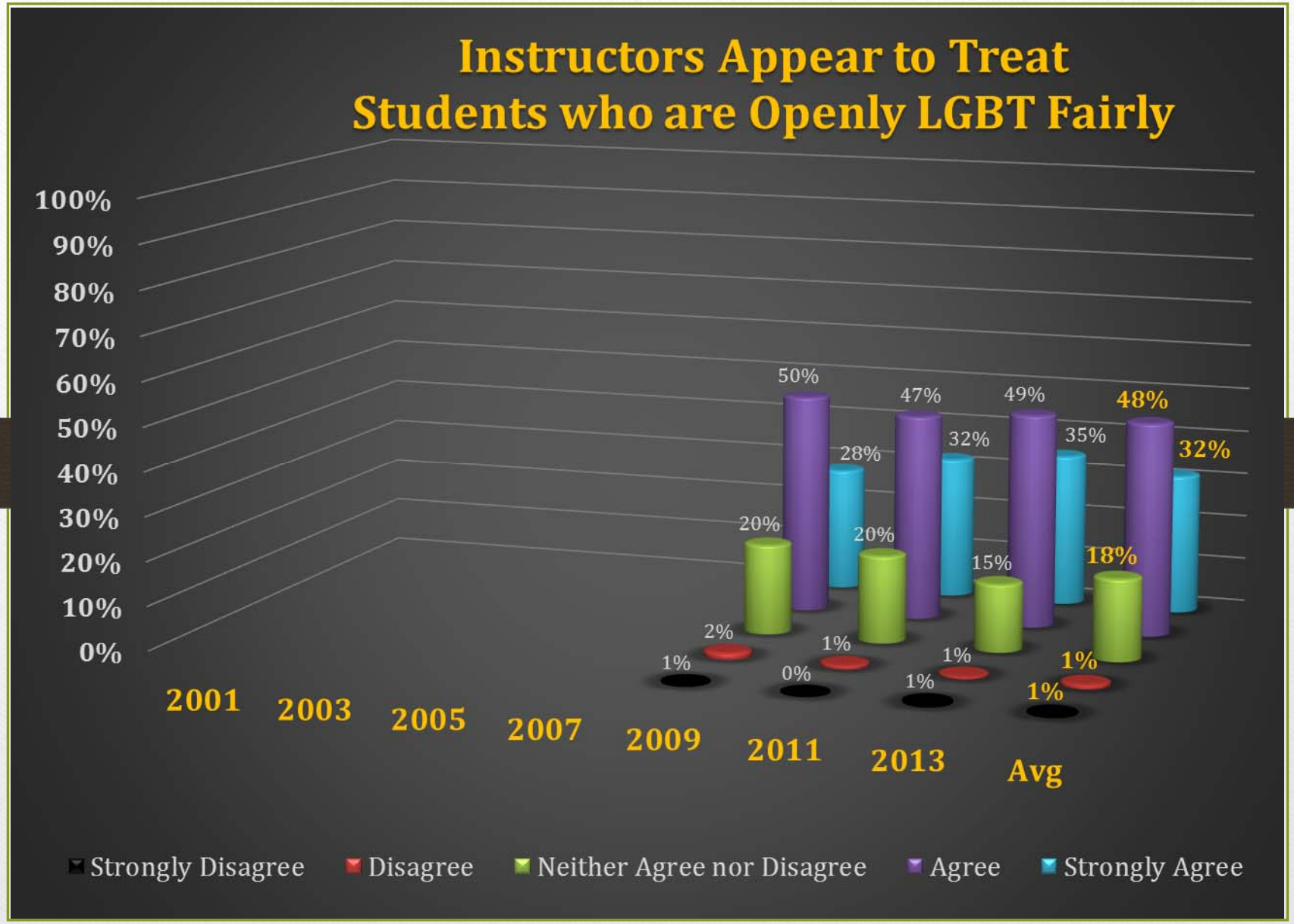
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


Instructors Appear to Treat Students who are Openly LGBT Fairly
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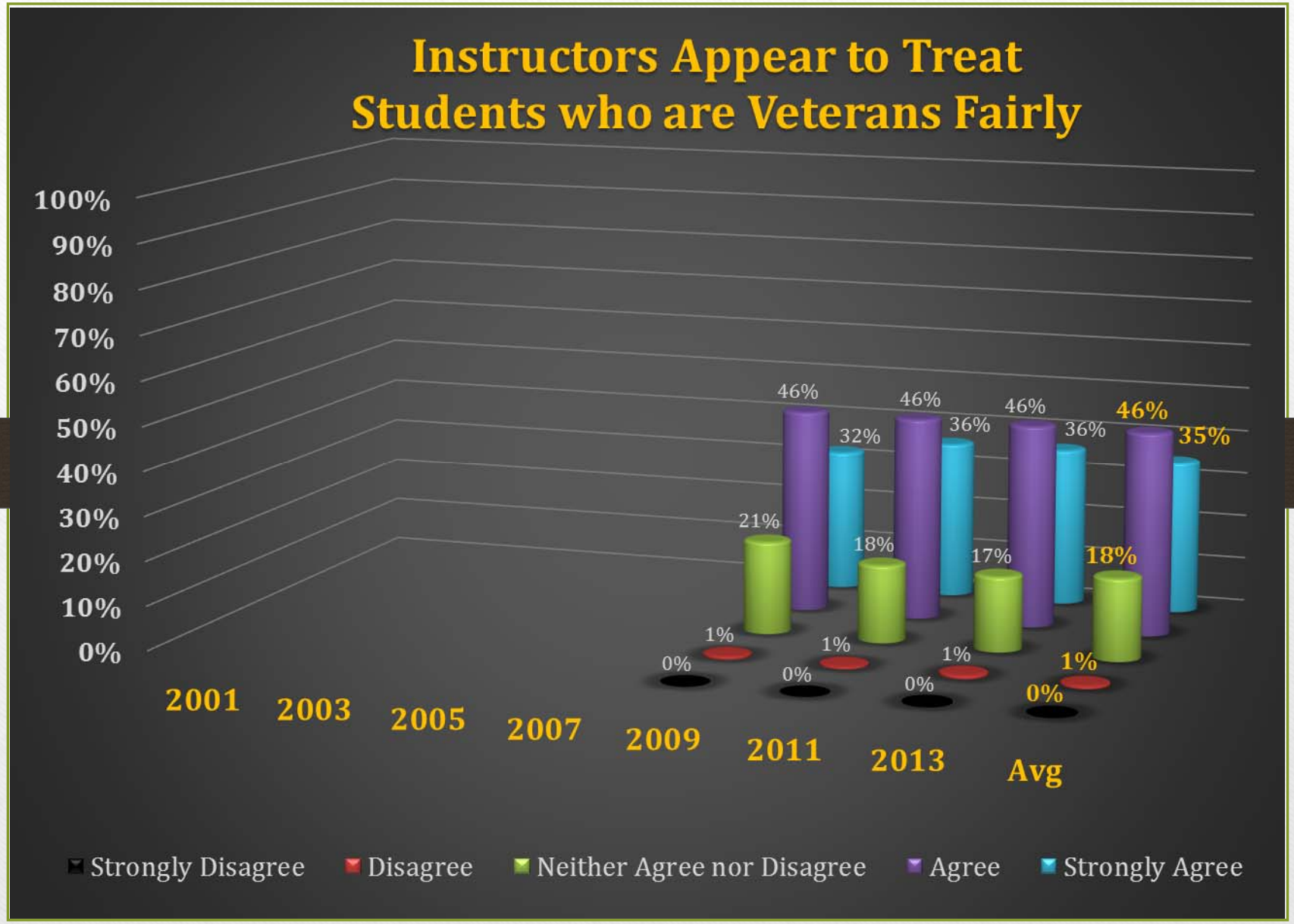
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


Instructors Appear to Treat Students who are Veterans Fairly
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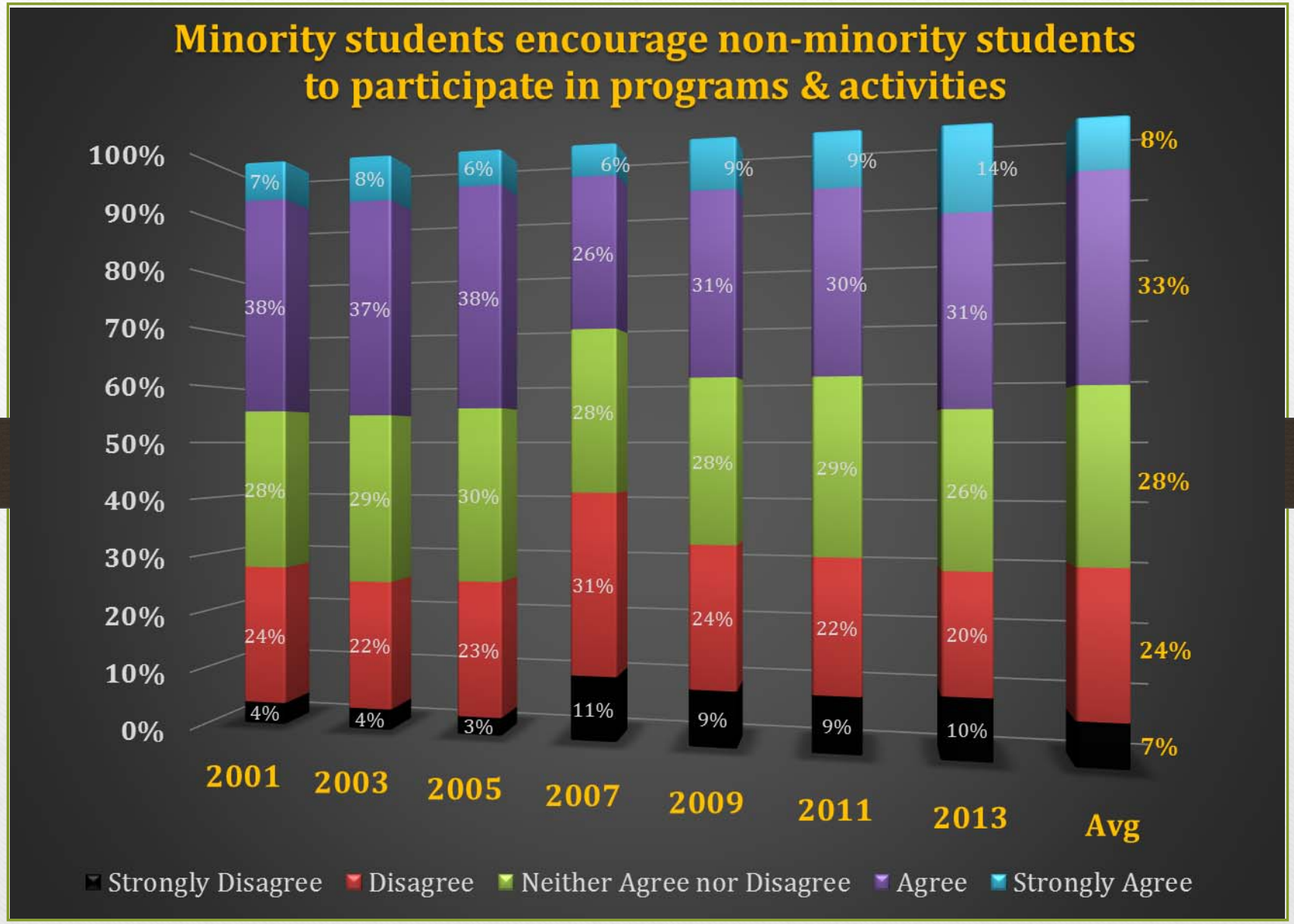
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree

Questions about…

Student Interactions


Minority students encourage non-minority students to participate in programs & activities
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Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
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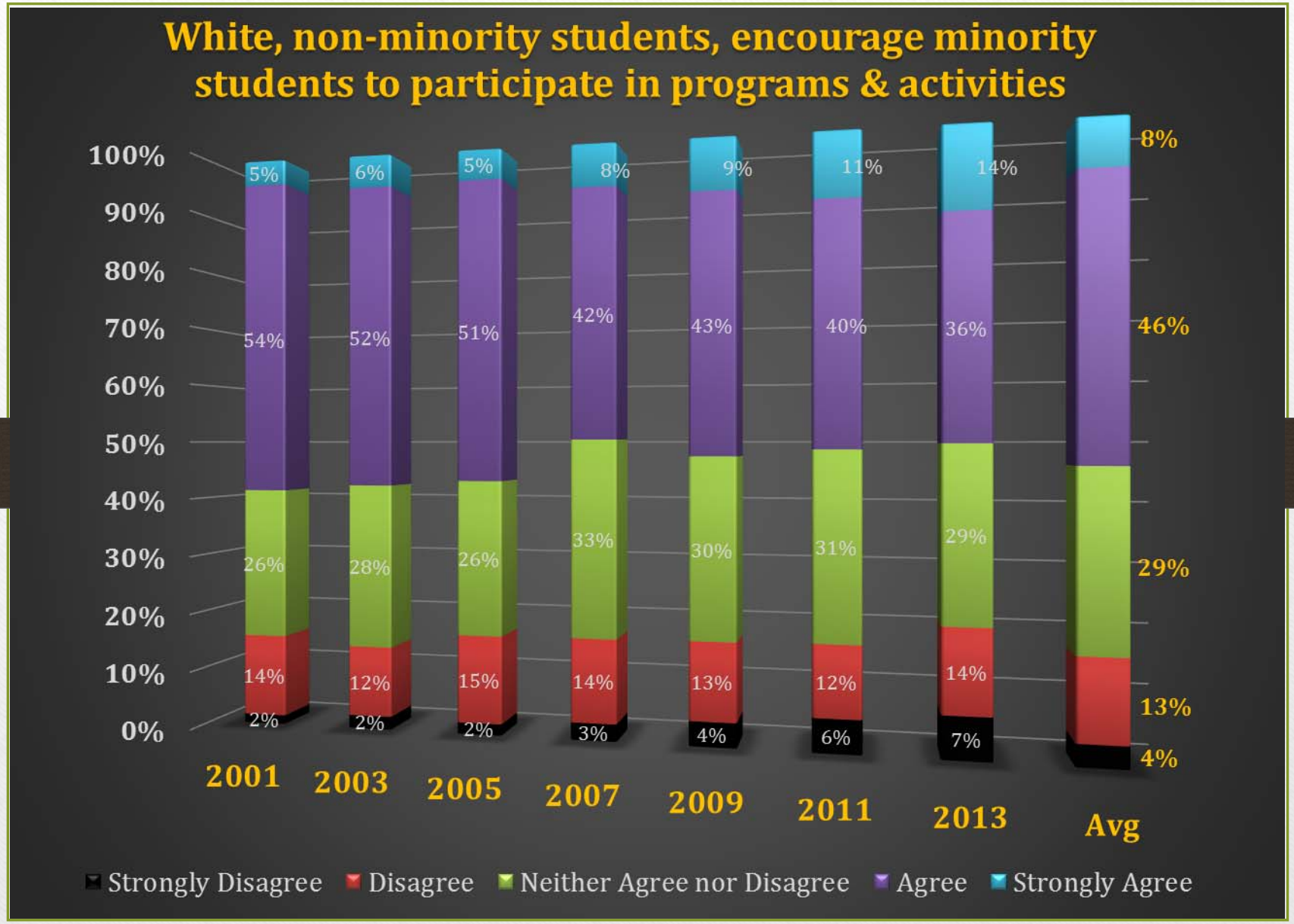
Strongly Agree


White, non-minority students, encourage minority students to participate in programs & activities
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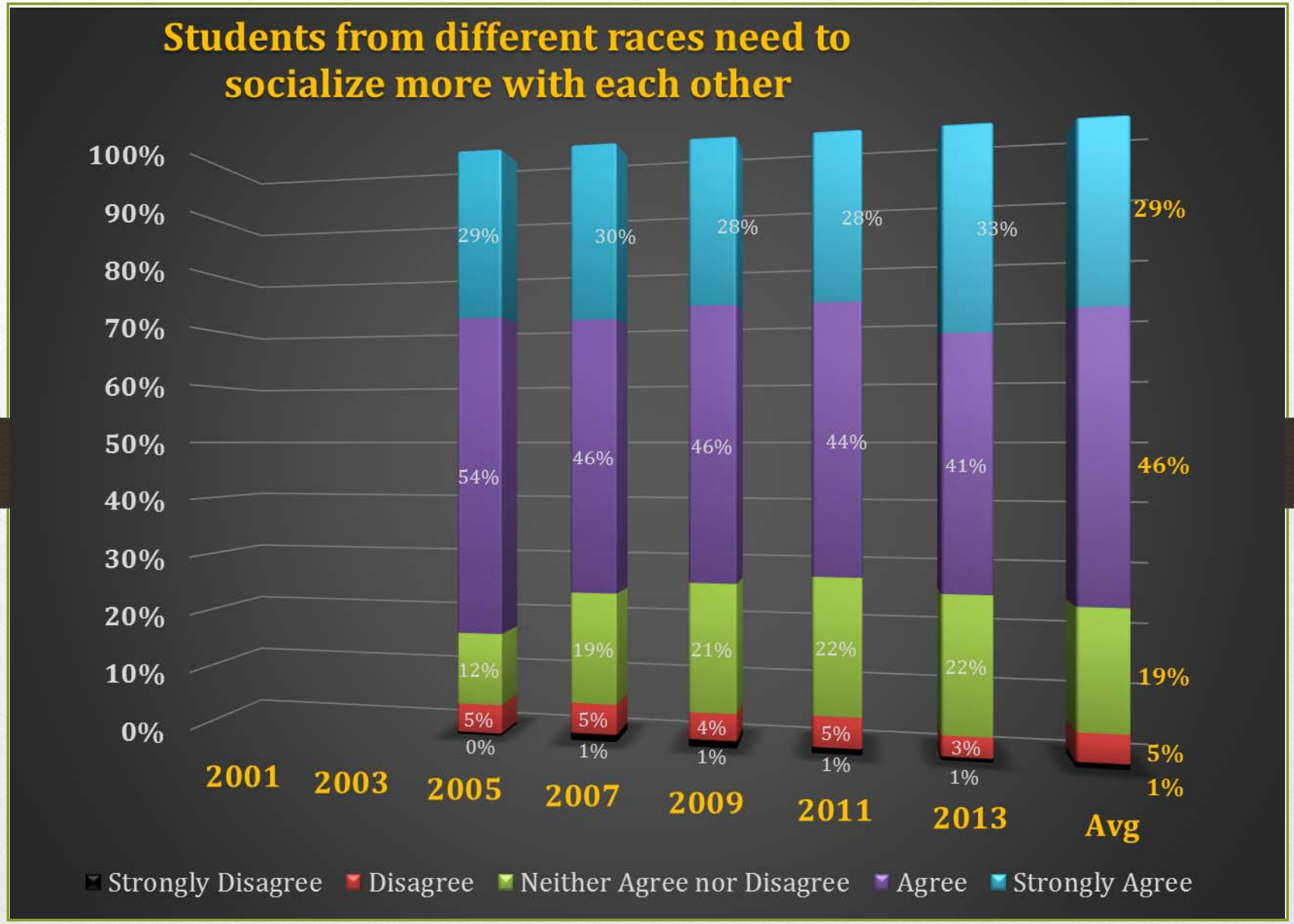
Agree
Strongly Agree


Students from different races need to socialize more with each other
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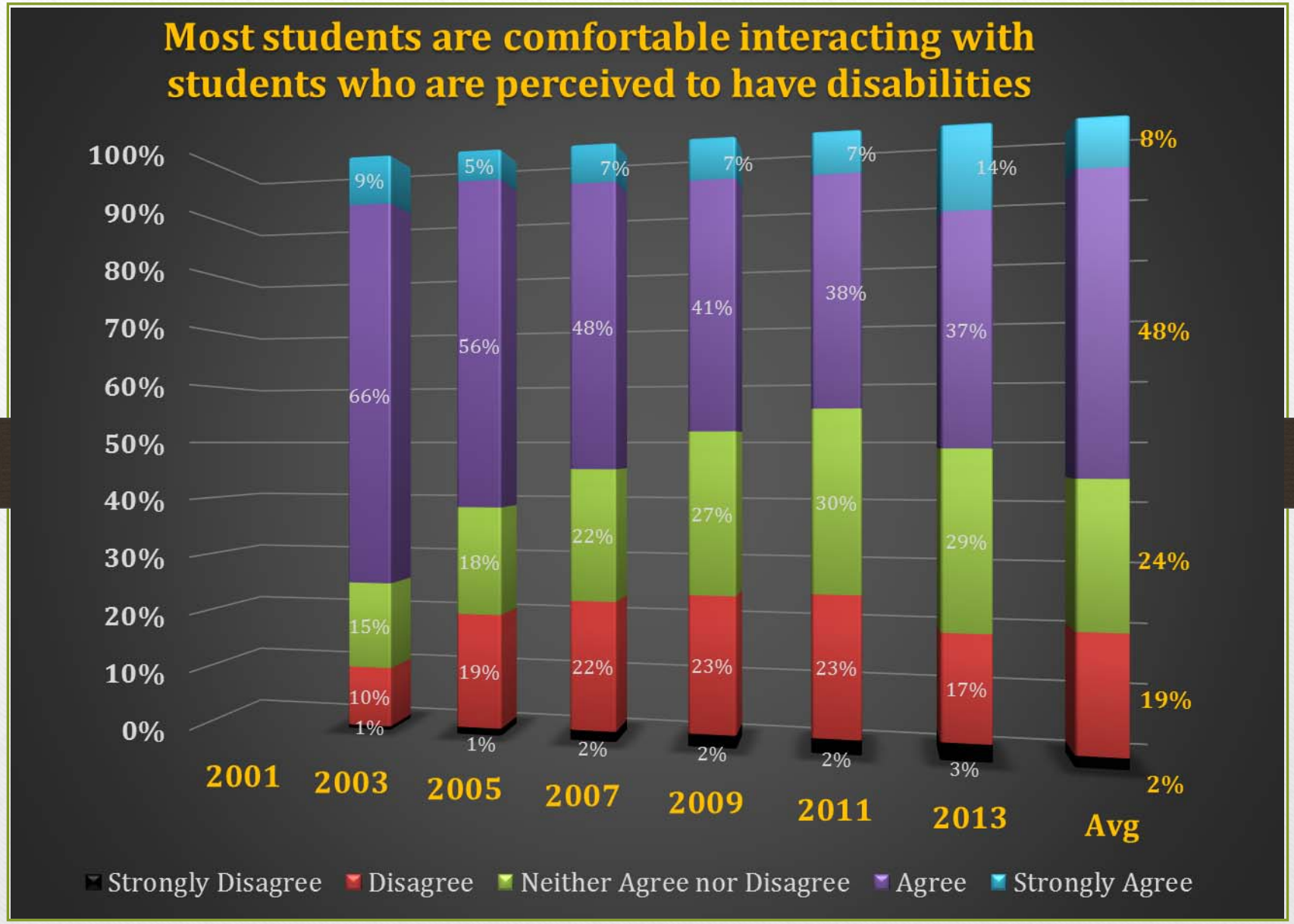
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


Most students are comfortable interacting with students who are perceived to have disabilities
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Strongly Disagree
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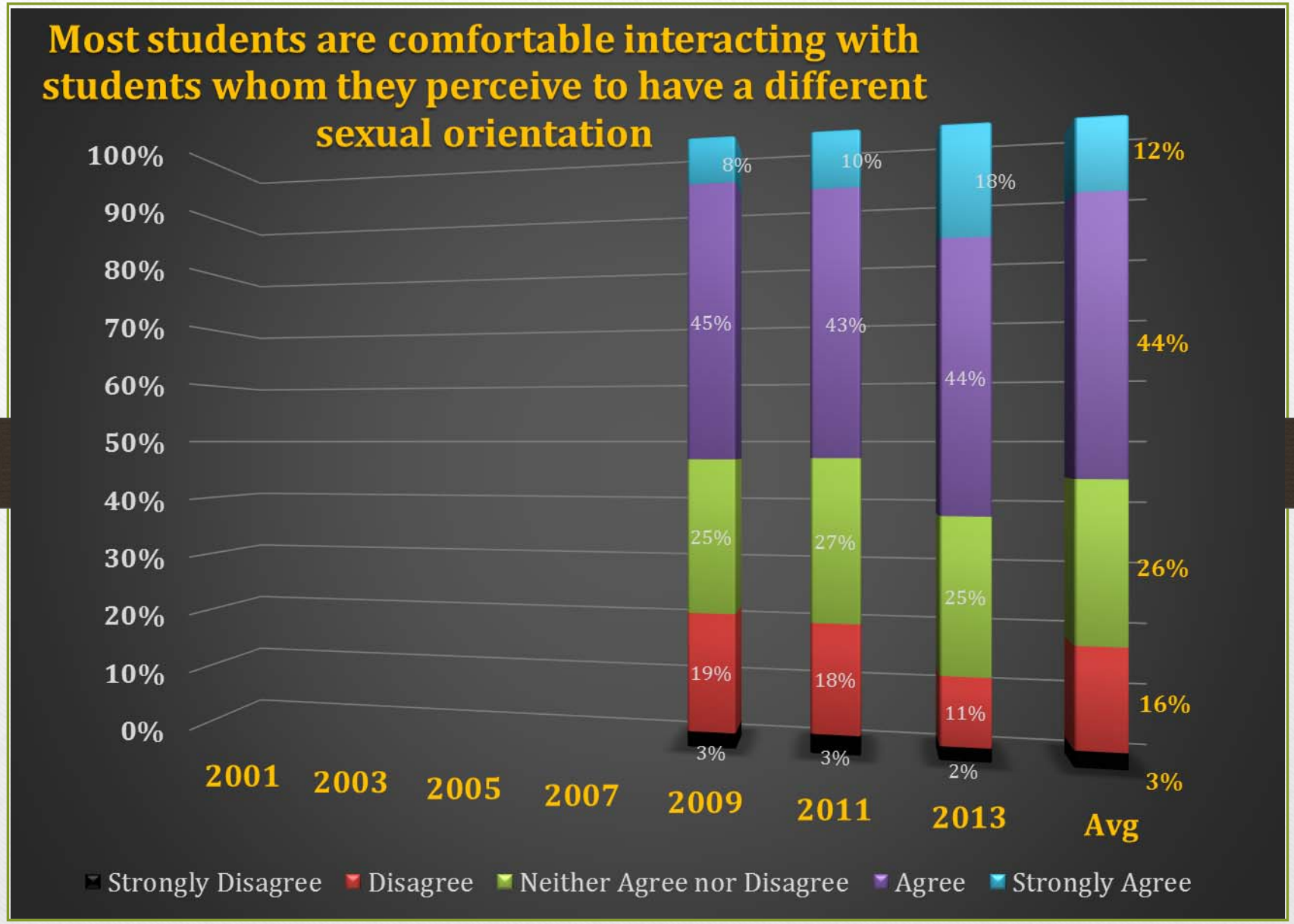
Agree
Strongly Agree


Most students are comfortable interacting with students whom they perceive to have a different sexual orientation
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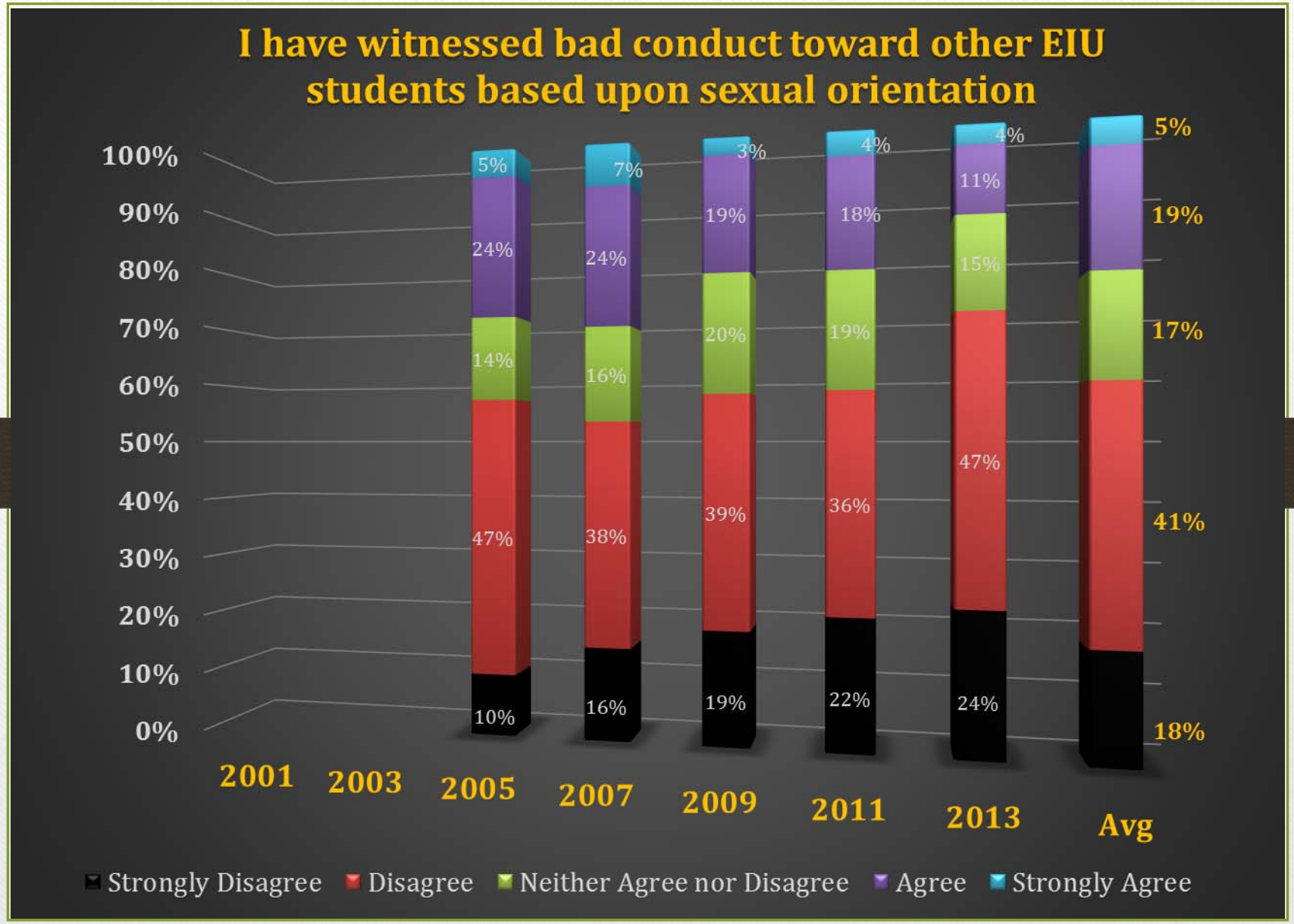
Agree
Strongly Agree


I have witnessed bad conduct toward other EIU students based upon sexual orientation
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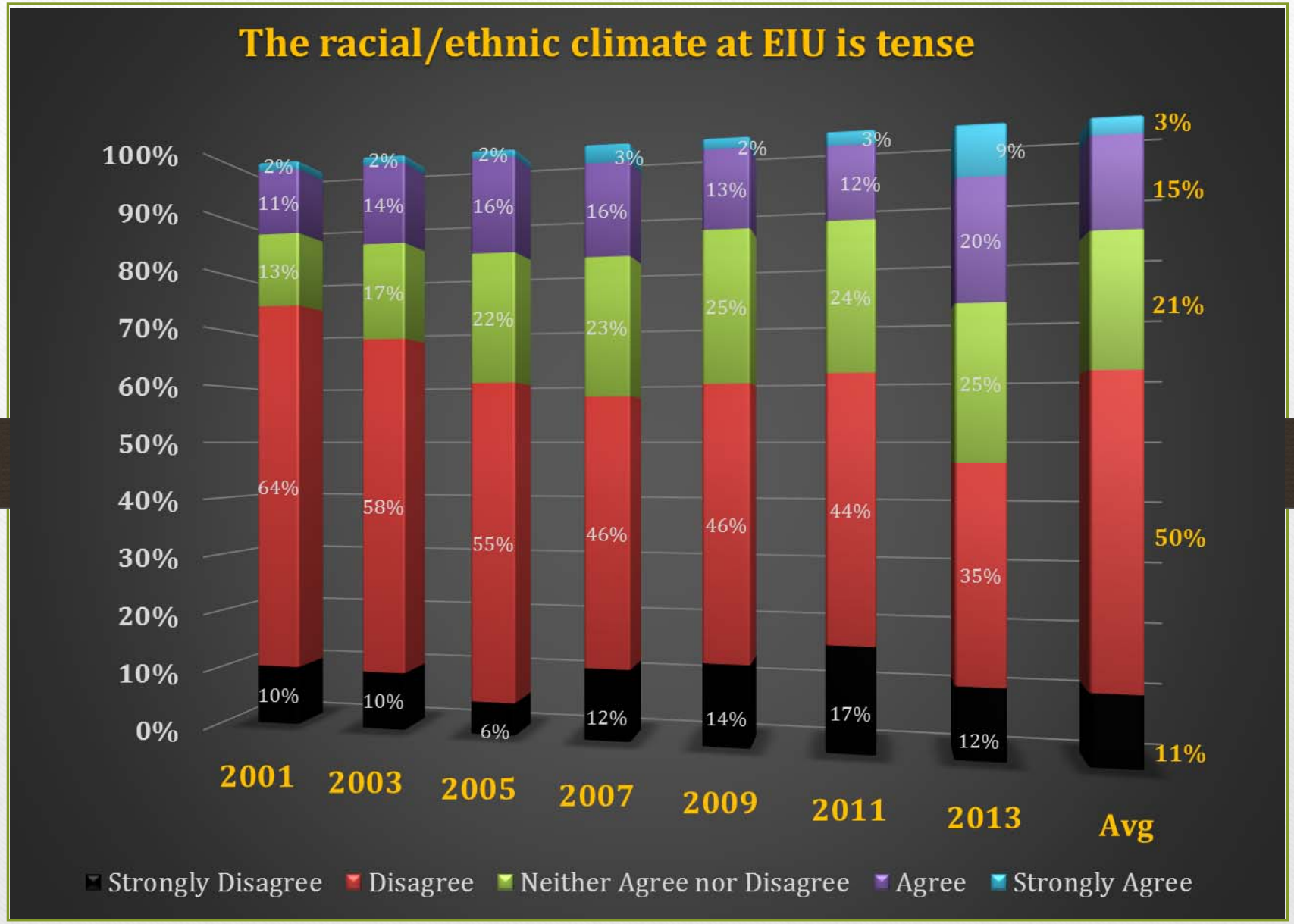
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree

Questions about…

General Campus Climate


The racial/ethnic climate at EIU is tense
100%
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2001
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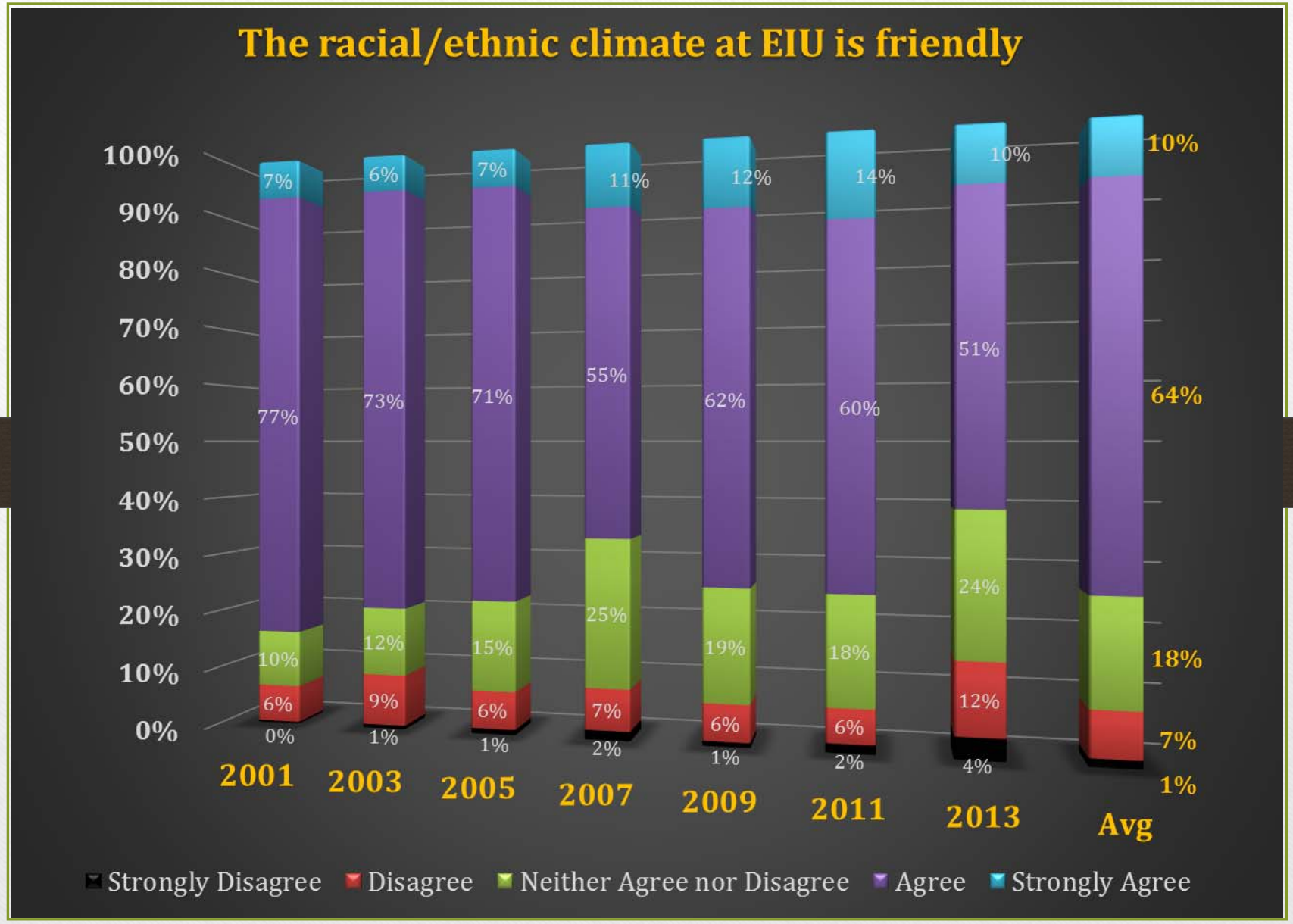
11%
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


The racial/ethnic climate at EIU is friendly
100%
90%
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10%
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64%
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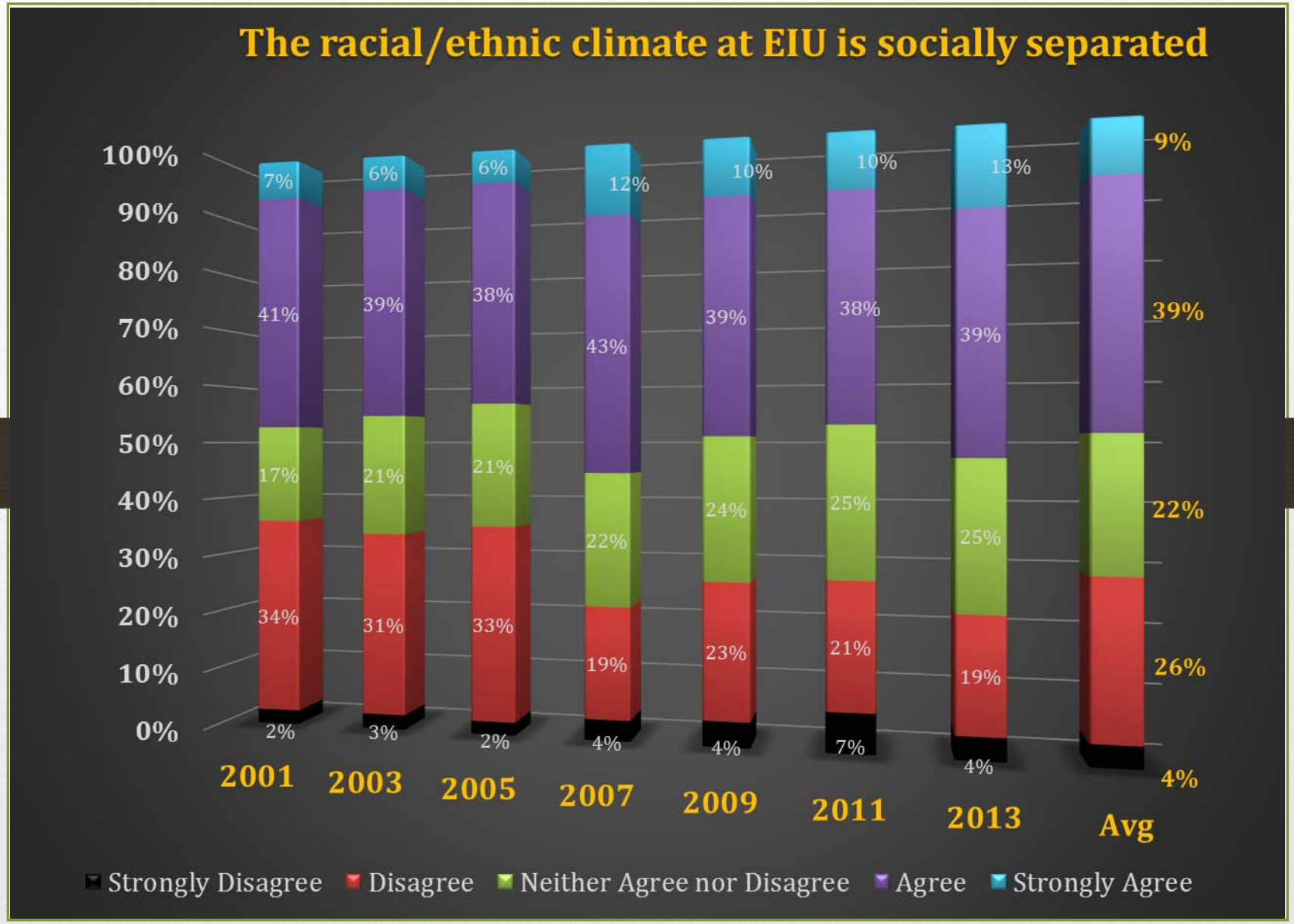
1%
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


The racial/ethnic climate at EIU is socially separated
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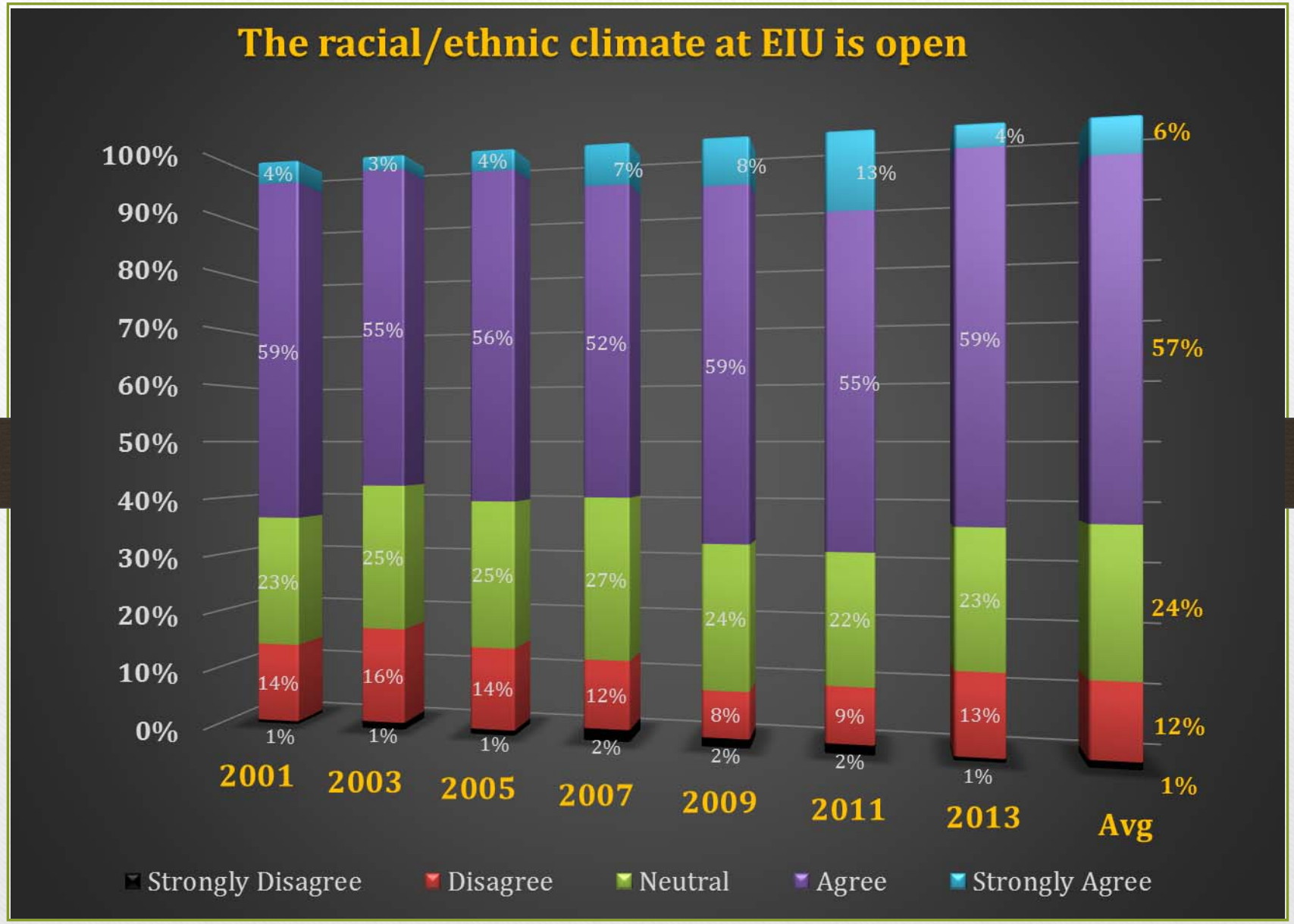
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


The racial/ethnic climate at EIU is open
100%
90%
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8%
59%
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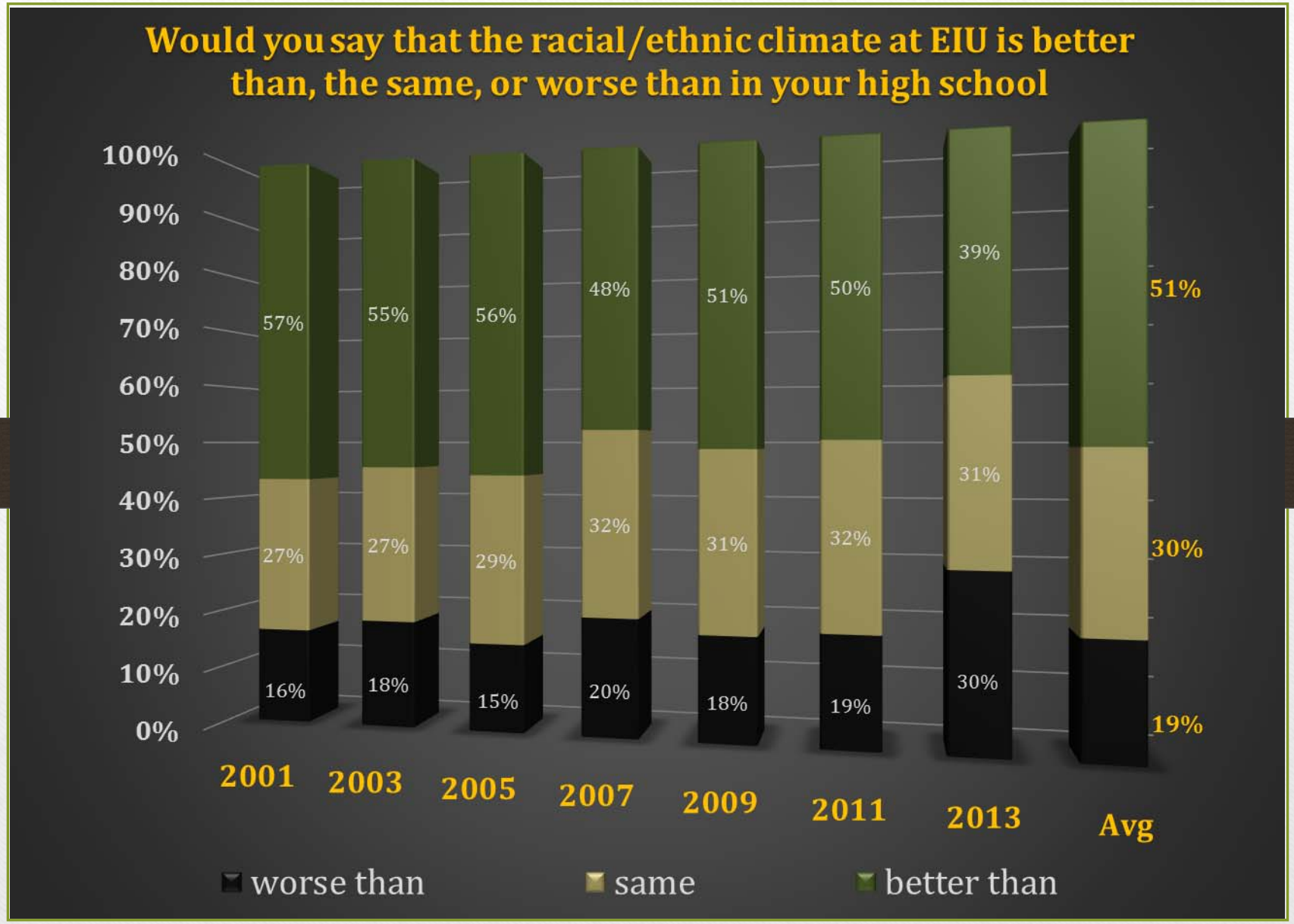
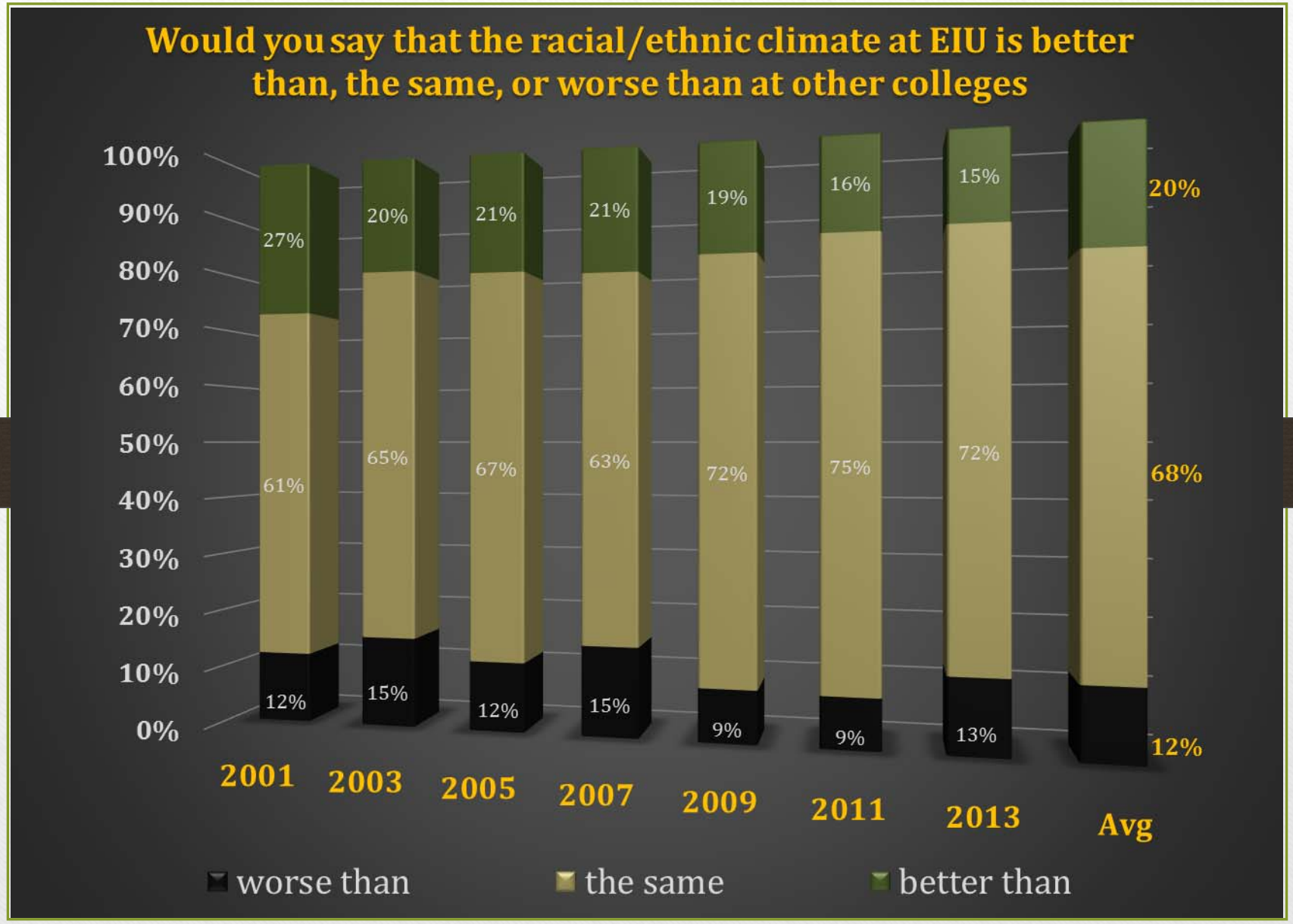
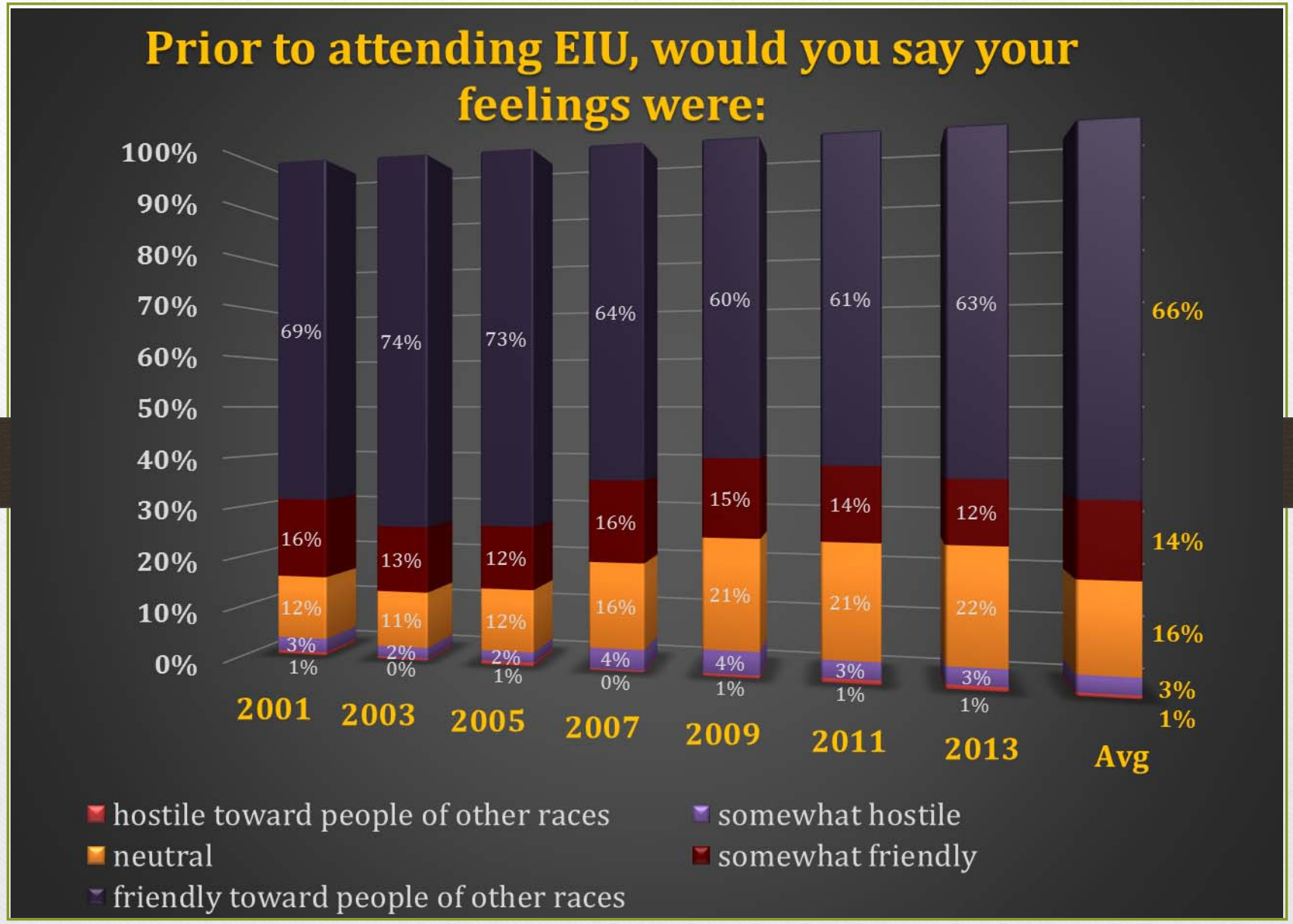
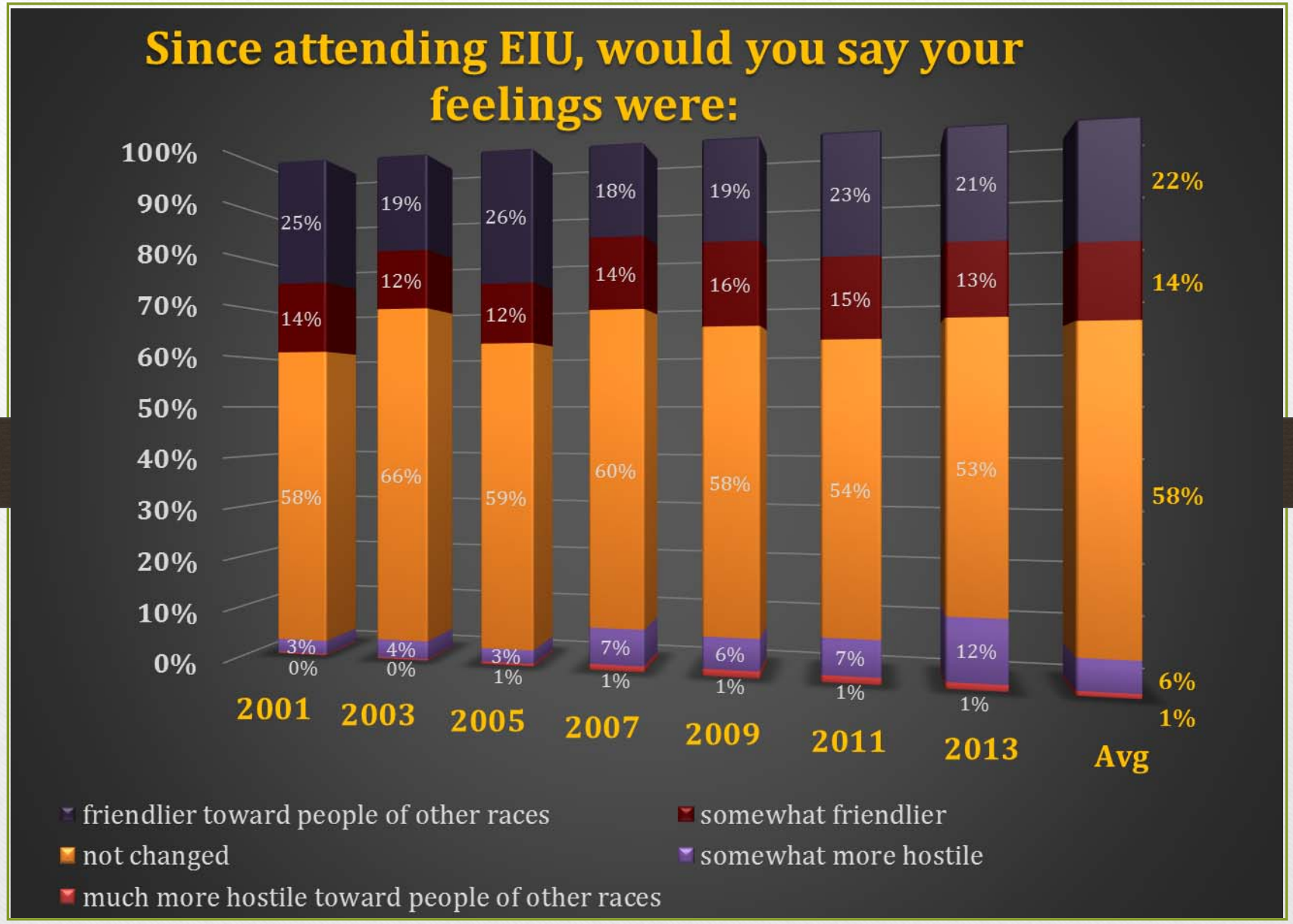
13%
55%
22%
9%
2%
4%
59%
23%
13%
1%
6%
57%
24%
12%
1%
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neutral
Agree
Strongly Agree


Would you say that the racial/ethnic climate at EIU is better than, the same, or worse than in your high school
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
57%
55%
56%
48%
51%
50%
39%
51%
27%
27%
29%
32%
31%
32%
31%
30%
16%
18%
15%
20%
18%
19%
30%
19%
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
2013
Avg
worse than
same
better than

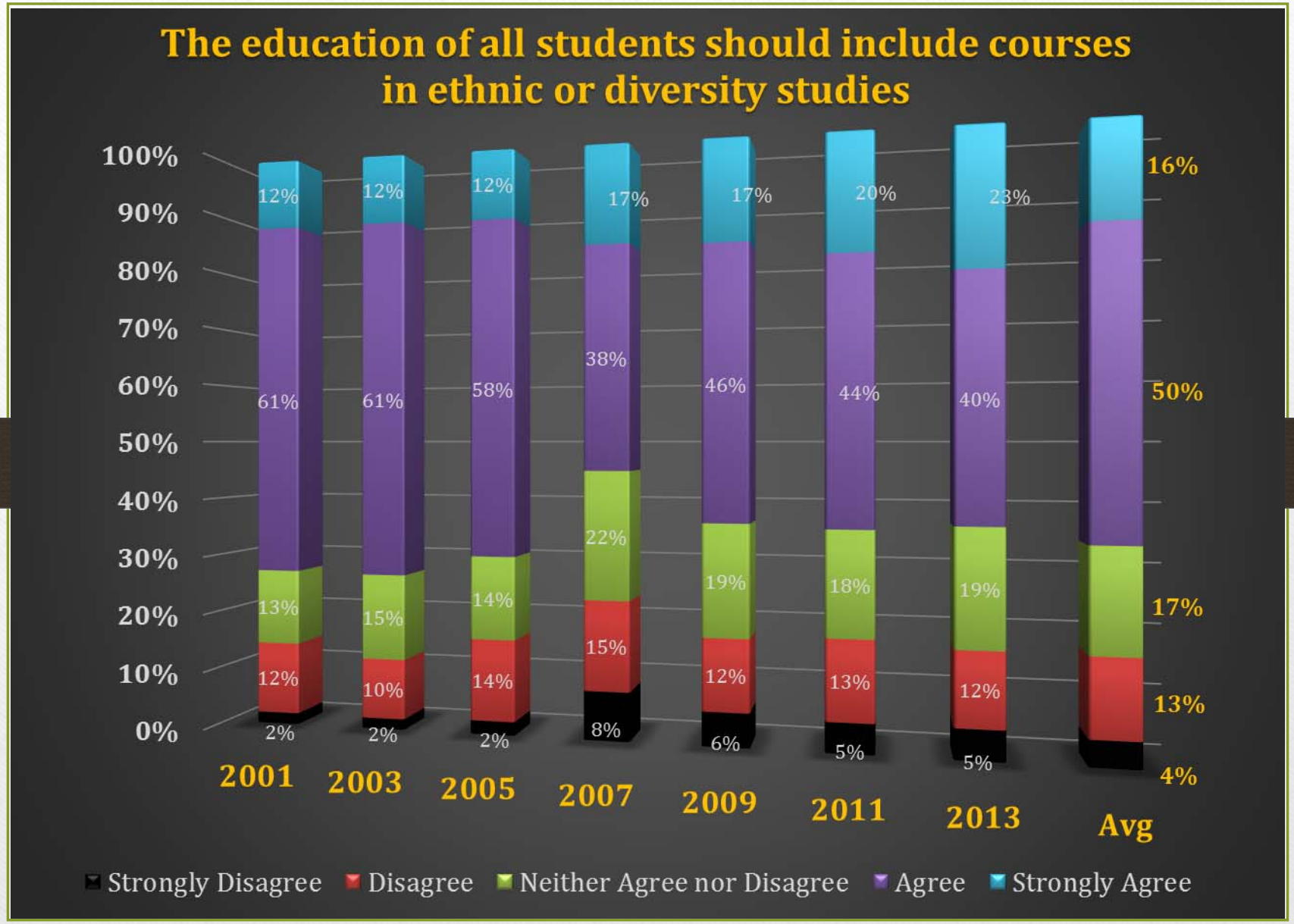

Would you say that the racial/ethnic climate at EIU is better than, the same, or worse than at other colleges
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
27%
20%
21%
21%
19%
16%
15%
20%
61%
65%
67%
63%
72%
75%
72%
68%
12%
15%
12%
15%
9%
9%
13%
12%
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
2013
Avg
worse than
the same
better than

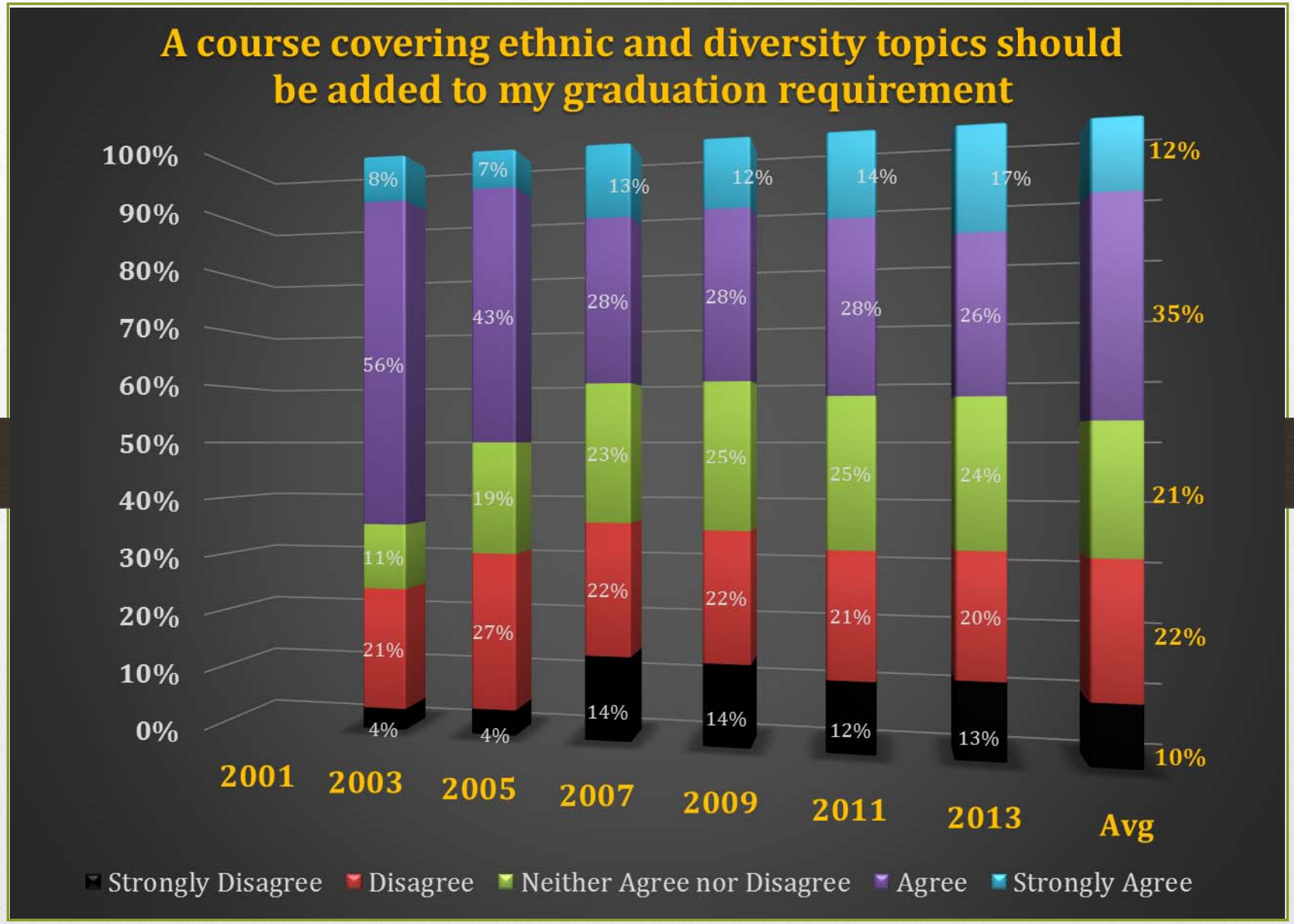

Prior to attending EIU, would you say your feelings were:
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
69%
74%
73%
64%
60%
61%
63%
66%
16%
13%
12%
16%
15%
14%
12%
14%
12%
11%
12%
16%
21%
21%
22%
16%
3%
2%
2%
4%
4%
3%
3%
3%
1%
0%
1%
0%
1%
1%
1%
1%
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
2013
Avg
hostile toward people of other races
somewhat hostile
neutral
somewhat friendly
friendly toward people of other races

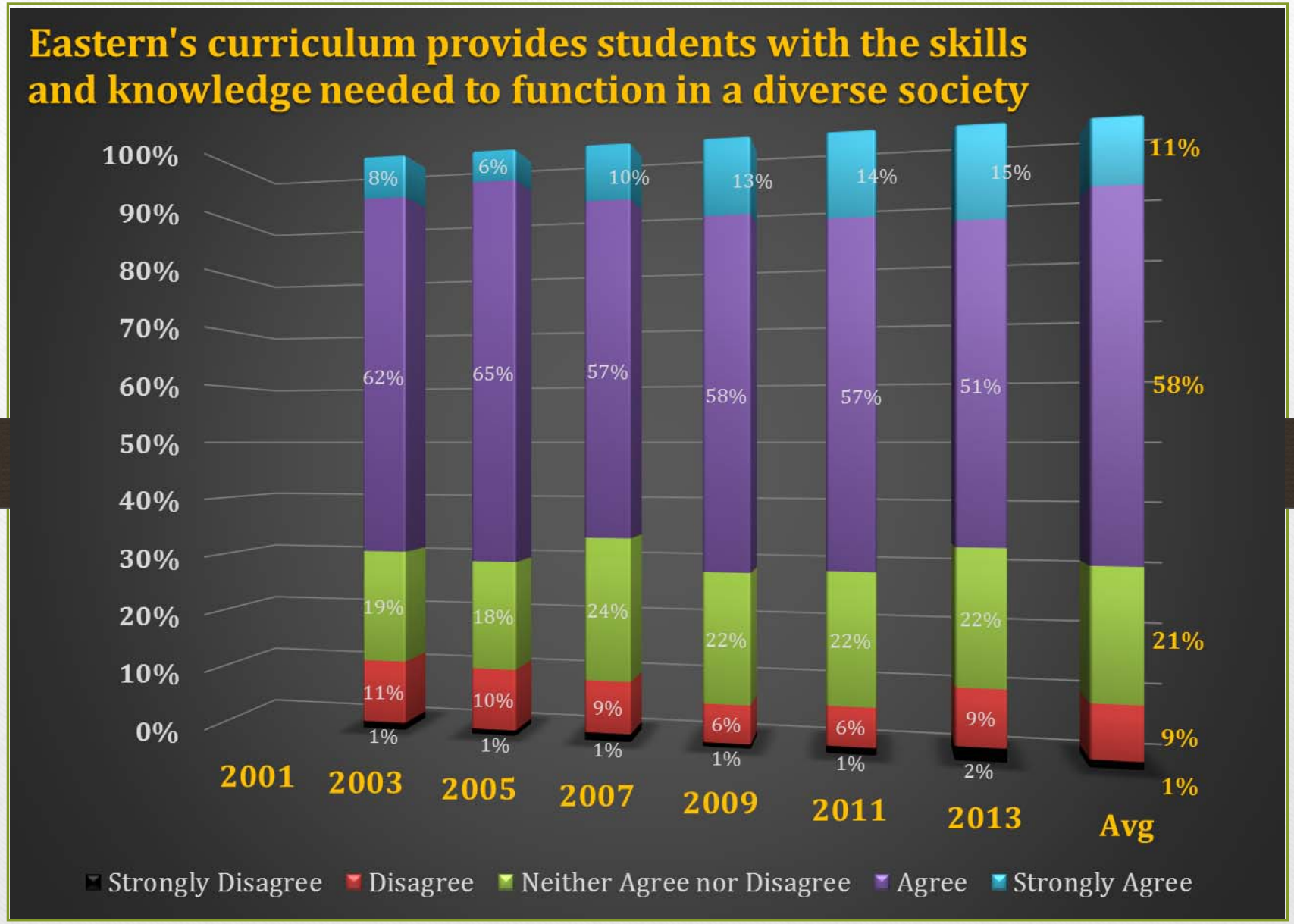

Since attending EIU, would you say your feelings were:
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
2013
Avg
25%
14%
58%
3%
0%
19%
12%
66%
4%
0%
26%
12%
59%
3%
1%
18%
14%
60%
7%
1%
19%
16%
58%
6%
1%
23%
15%
54%
7%
1%
21%
13%
53%
12%
1%
22%
14%
58%
6%
1%
friendlier toward people of other races
somewhat friendlier
not changed
somewhat more hostile
much more hostile toward people of other races

Questions about…

EIU's Role in the Campus Climate


The education of all students should include courses in ethnic or diversity studies
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
12%
61%
13%
12%
2%
12%
61%
15%
10%
2%
12%
58%
14%
14%
2%
17%
38%
22%
15%
8%
17%
46%
19%
12%
6%
20%
44%
18%
13%
5%
23%
40%
19%
12%
5%
16%
50%
17%
13%
4%
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
2013
Avg
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


A course covering ethnic and diversity topics should be added to my graduation requirement
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
2013
Avg
8%
56%
11%
21%
4%
7%
43%
19%
27%
4%
13%
28%
23%
22%
14%
12%
28%
25%
22%
14%
14%
28%
25%
21%
12%
17%
26%
24%
20%
13%
12%
35%
21%
22%
10%
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


Eastern's curriculum provides students with the skills and knowledge needed to function in a diverse society
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
2013
Avg
8%
62%
19%
11%
1%
6%
65%
18%
10%
1%
10%
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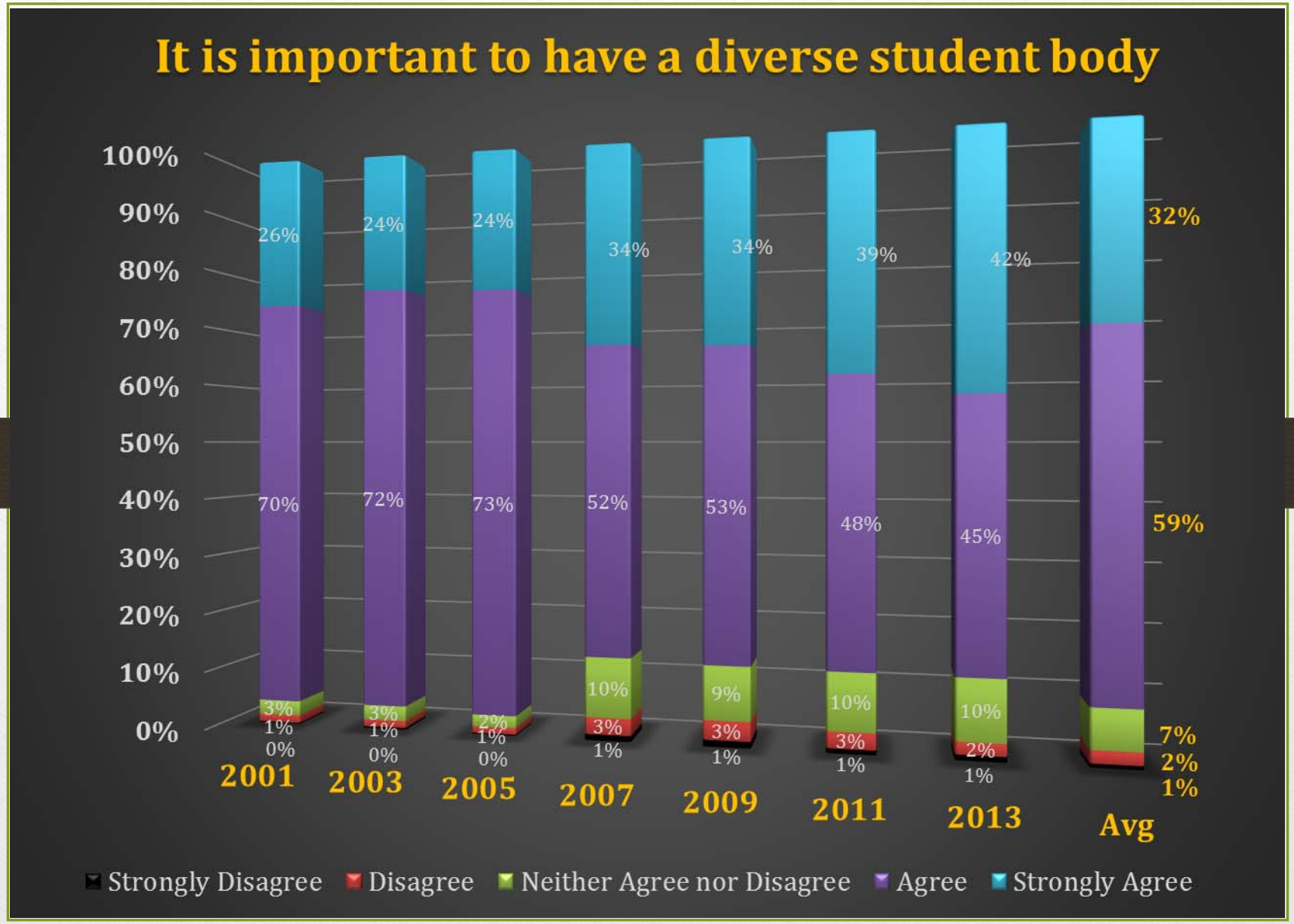
13%
58%
22%
6%
1%
14%
57%
22%
6%
1%
15%
51%
22%
9%
2%
11%
58%
21%
9%
1%
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree


It is important to have a diverse student body
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
26%
24%
24%
34%
34%
39%
42%
32%
70%
72%
73%
52%
53%
48%
45%
59%
3%
3%
2%
10%
9%
10%
10%
7%
1%
1%
1%
3%
3%
3%
2%
2%
0%
0%
0%
1%
1%
1%
1%
1%
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
2013
Avg
Strongly Disagree
Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Agree
Strongly Agree