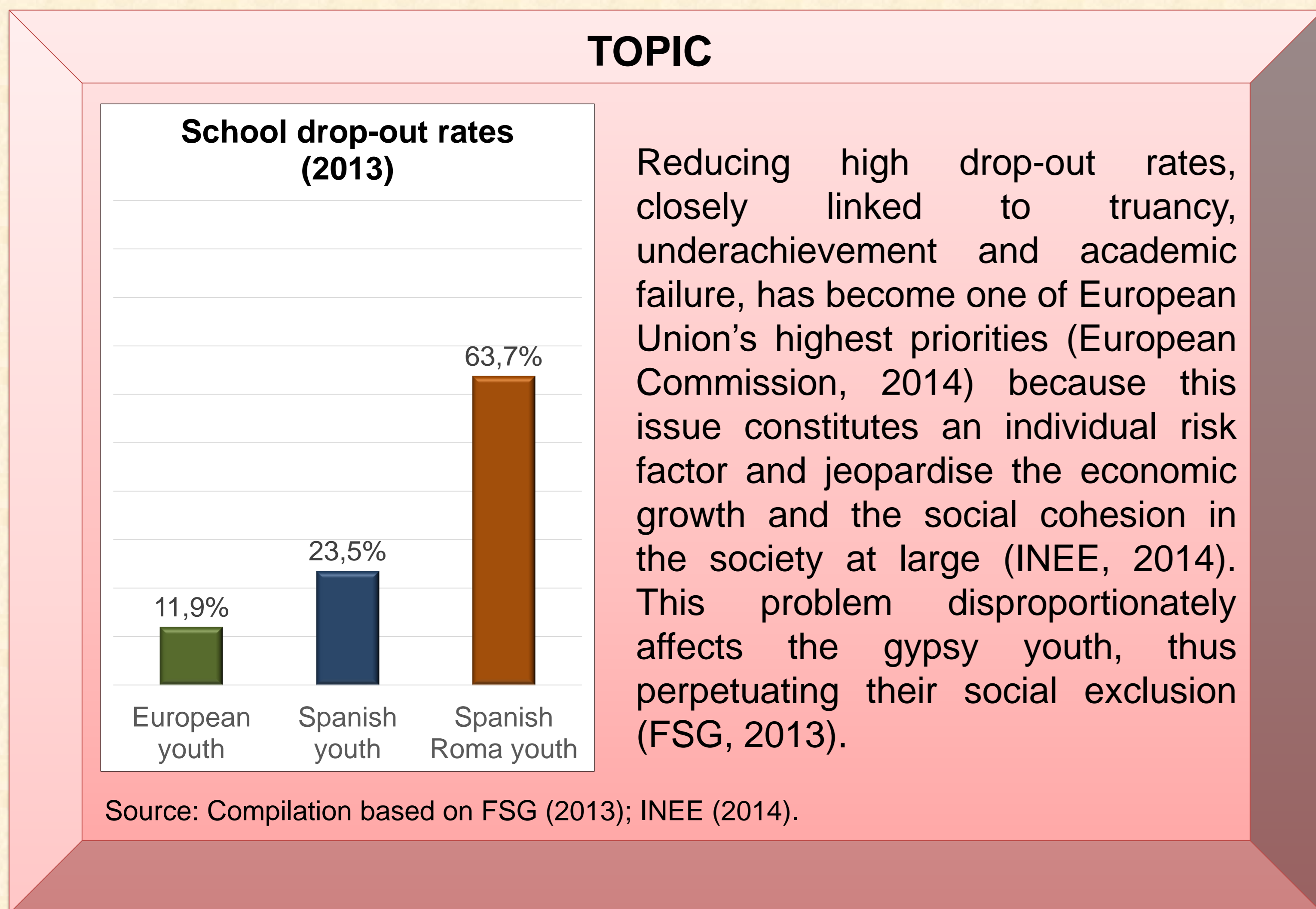




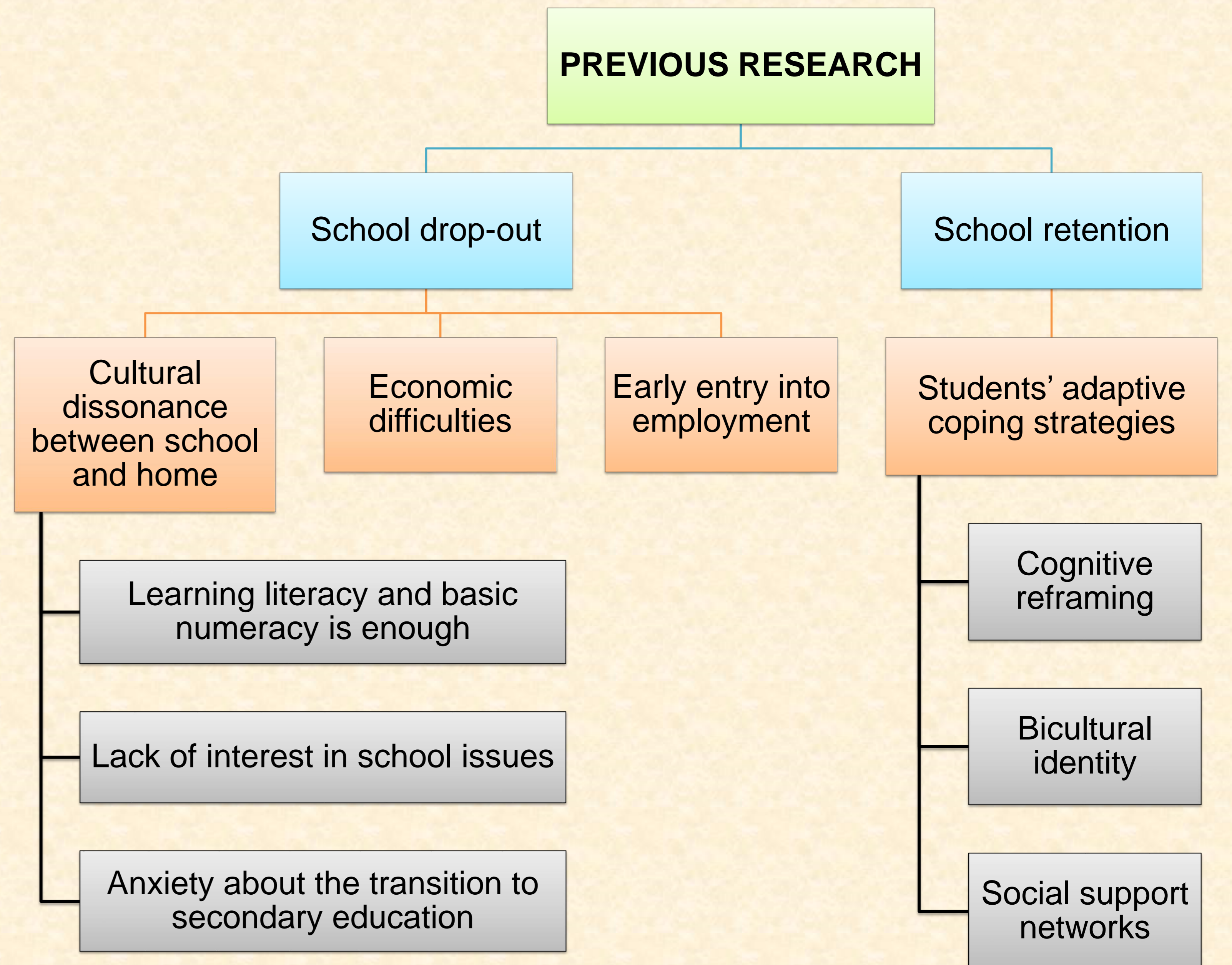
APPROACHING DROPOUTS AMONG GIPSY PUPILS: A STUDY OF THE SITUATION IN AN ASTURIAN MUNICIPALITY

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OBJECTIVE
 Identify the factors affecting school drop-out among the Roma ethnic students, named *çiganos*, enrolled in the school of an Asturian municipality (Spain).



METHOD
 Needs assessment

Semi-structured in-depth interviews designed, validated, applied to four practitioners (key informants), transcribed and classified on the basis of thematic criteria

Review of scientific literature and documentation and legal regulations

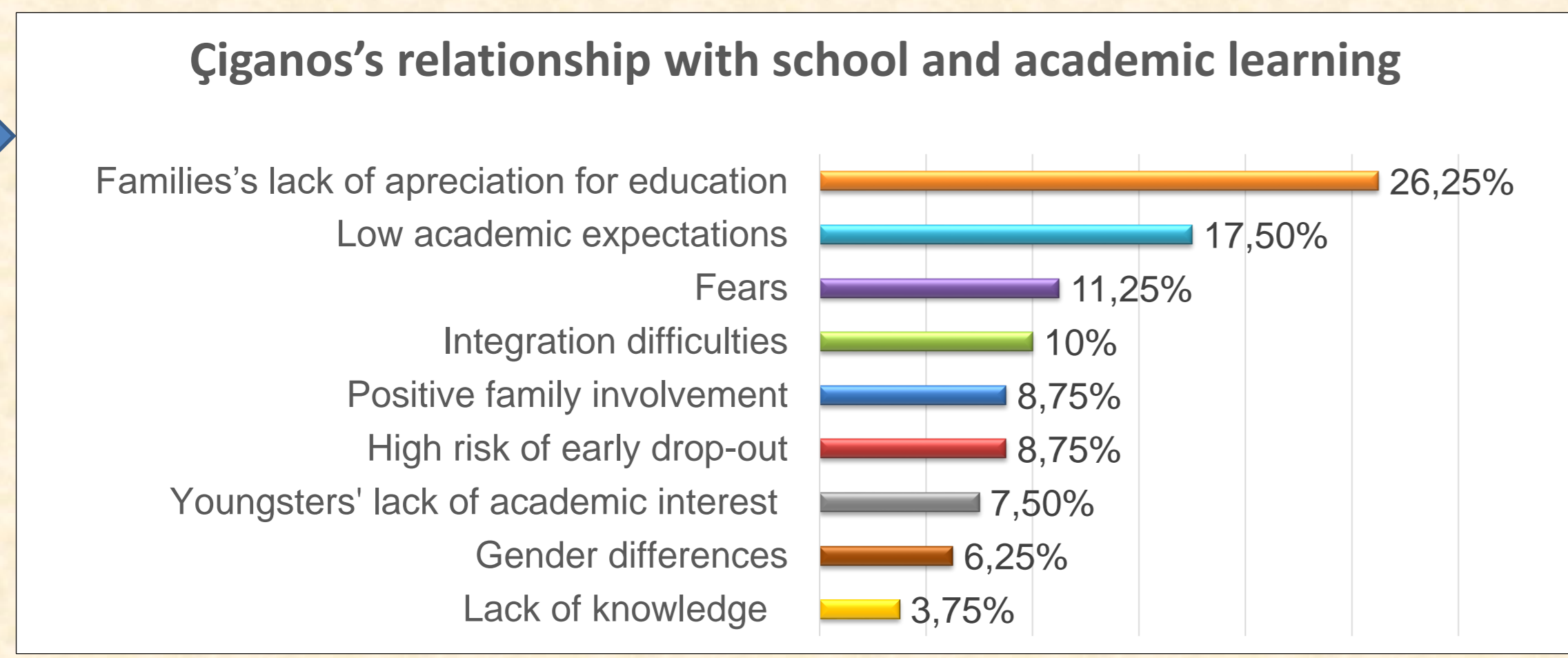
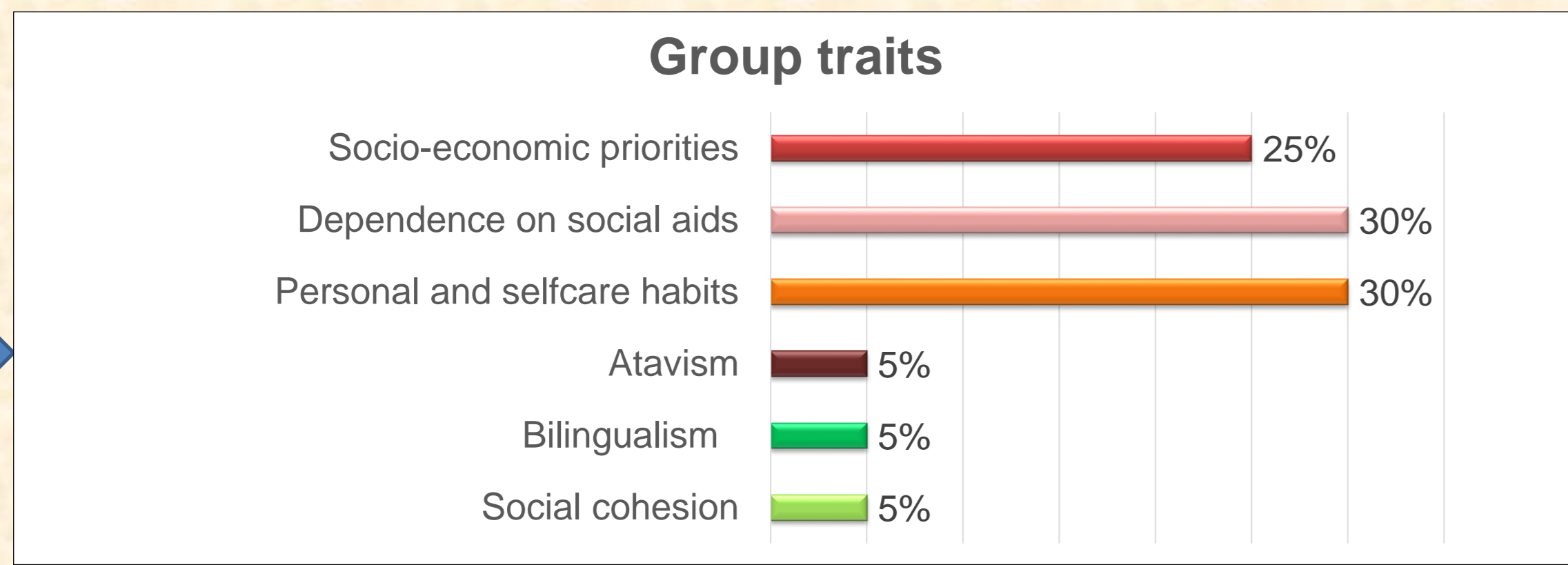
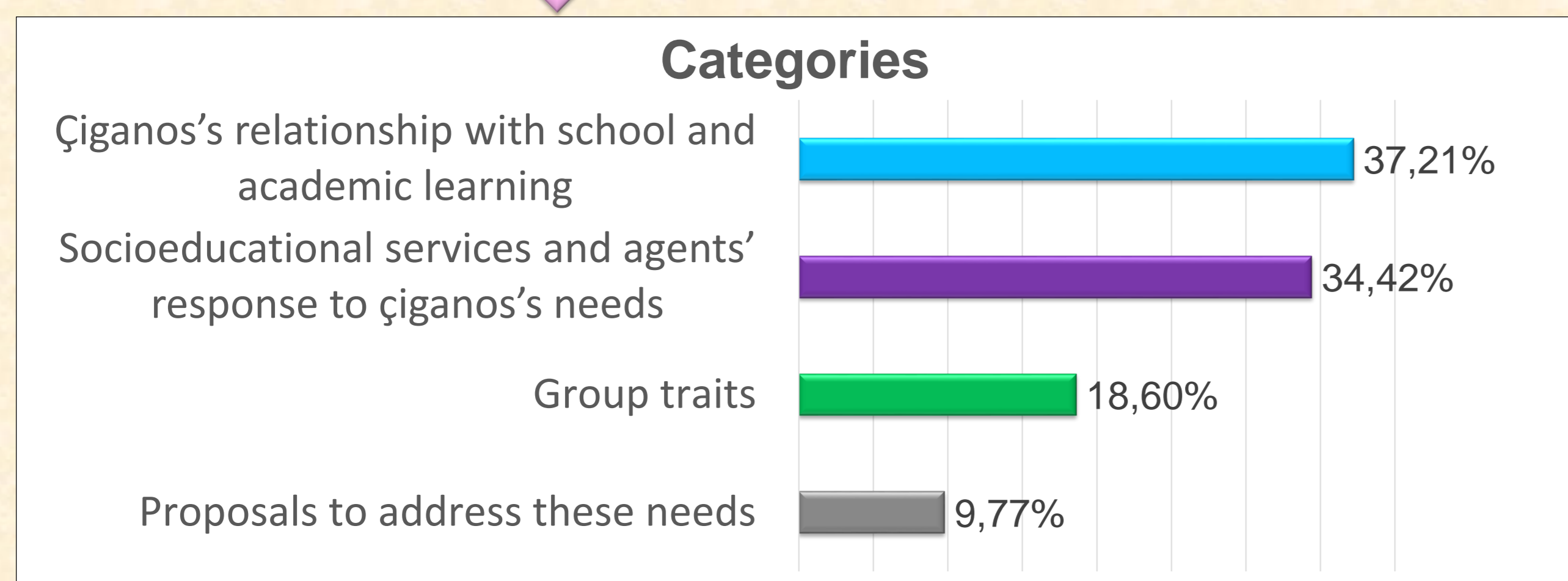
215 units of analysis
 4 categories

RESULTS

- Most of *çigano* children, youngsters and families' difficulties take place at school.
- They are related to retention in compulsory and upper secondary education.
- They are also associated with high levels of dependence on social aids, low levels of personal and selfcare habits, low academic expectations and early dropout of the school system.
- Influence of family's ideological barriers related to the value of education along with socioeconomic, cultural, educational and personal needs were uncovered and linked to early school-leaving.

WHAT CAN BE DONE

- School counsellors should develop their work in the school context from an inclusive perspective.
- They should constitute a linking element between schools, pupils and their families, other professionals who work with the latter more closely, and people who research on this topic at university, in order to become truly collaborative work teams, to find solutions and make preventive and intervention proposals, adapted to this group's needs.



STRENGTHS

- Consistency between the review and the interviews
- Triangulation in data collection and analysis
- Preliminary results consistent with other studies with larger samples

WEAKNESSES

- Small sample
- Assessment based on external view: reports and key informants

PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE

- More interviews and maybe focus groups
- Include students and families in the study
- Establish previous rapport with the students and families

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