



What are the 40 developmental assets?

Search Institute, an independent nonprofit organization, has identified 40 behavioral and attitudinal assets necessary for young people to develop into healthy, caring and responsible adults. The list of assets grew out of over 50 years of work among researchers.

Assets fall into eight categories: four external asset categories (things young people get from outside sources like family, friends and school) and four internal categories (competencies and values young people learn and internalize).

You can view the detailed list here: [Search Institute 40 Developmental Assets](http://www.search-institute.org/assets/forty.htm)
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Statistics from the La Crosse School District's 2008 survey:

Asset type	Asset name	Definition	Percent
Support	Positive family communication	Young person and his or her parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek parent(s') advice and counsel	26
Support	Other adult relationships	Young person receives support from three or more non-parent adults	46
Support	Caring neighborhood	Young person experiences caring neighbors	34
Support	Parent involvement in schooling	Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school	30

Empowerment	Community values youth	Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth	19
Empowerment	Youth as resources	Young people are given useful roles in the community	29
Boundaries and expectations	Adult role models	Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior	28
Positive values	Restraint	Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or other drugs	44
Social competencies	Planning and decision-making	Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices	33
Social competencies	Resistance skills	Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations	45

RISK BEHAVIOR

Percent of La Crosse youth reporting substance use related risk-taking behaviors:

Category	Definition	Grade 8	Grade 10	Grade 12
Alcohol	Used alcohol once or more in the last 30 days	16	34	53
Alcohol	Got drunk once or more in the last two weeks	10	26	34
Marijuana	Used marijuana once or more in the	9	31	40

	last 12 months			
Other drug use	Used other illicit drugs once or more in the last 12 months*	4	11	16
Driving and alcohol	Drove after drinking once or more in the last 12 months	3	12	30
Driving and alcohol	Rode (once or more in the last 12 months) with a driver who had been drinking	30	46	45

*Includes cocaine, LSD, PCP or angel dust, heroin, and amphetamines

Percent of La Crosse youth reporting other risk-taking behaviors:

Category	Definition	Grade 8	Grade 10	Grade 12
Sexual intercourse	Has had sexual intercourse one or more times	11	33	54
Anti-social behavior	Shoplifted once or more in the last 12 months	15	27	20
Anti-social behavior	Committed vandalism once or more in the last 12 months	15	20	15
Anti-social behavior	Got into trouble with police once or more in the last 12 months	23	31	30

Violence	Hit someone once or more in the last 12 months	34	35	23
Violence	Carried a weapon for protection once or more in the last 12 months	12	14	8
Violence	Threatened physical harm to someone once or more in the last 12 months	29	30	19
School truancy	Skipped school once or more in the last four weeks	14	17	18
Eating disorder	Has engaged in bulimic or anorexic behavior	14	16	19
Depression	Felt sad or depressed most or all of the time in the last month	14	16	13
Attempted suicide	Has attempted suicide one or more times	12	15	12