

RYASAP – Search Institute Survey Results



Developmental Assets: A Profile of Your Youth

**Executive Summary and Complete Survey Report
Results from the Search Institute Survey**

Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors

**Fairfield Public Schools
Fairfield, CT
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What are Assets?



External assets are the positive developmental experiences that families, schools, neighborhoods, community groups, and other youth and family-serving organizations provide young people.

Internal assets are the positive commitments, skills, and values that form a young person's inner guidance system. Youth make personal choices and actions based upon the degree to which their internal assets are developed.

Why are assets important?



- The more assets kids have, the better. Youth with high asset levels are less likely to engage in high-risk behaviors (such as violence, sexual activity, drug use, and suicide), and more likely to engage in thriving behaviors (such as helping others, doing well in school, and taking on leadership roles).
- Fairfield students had 21.3 of 40 developmental assets on average
 - 24.7 in the 7th grade, 21.4 in the 9th grade, 20.3 in the 11th grade and 19.8 in 12th grade

2014 PROFILE OF YOUTH FAIRFIELD BREAKDOWN

928 youth surveyed

Racial and Ethnic Breakdown

77% White

7% Multi-racial

4% Hispanic

2% African American

6% Asian/Pacific

1% Native American

3% Other

Achieving Positive Results: Parents are delivering CLEAR messages

Parents would be very or extremely upset if they knew their kid had been drinking:

	2014	2008	
All Grades	73%	96%	
12 th Grade	32% *	88%	

* The converse was that 68% of our 2008 seniors perceived that their parents “did not really care if they were drinking” vs only 12% of our 2014 seniors

Achieving Positive Results: Kids say their parents are communicating better!



	2008	2014
Positive Communication with Parents	31%	72%
Parents Set Clear Rules	45%	74%
12 th Graders – Keep Talking!	55%	64%

- **80%** of our kids say they get along with their parents
- **83-89%** say their parents give them help and support when needed



Achieving Positive Results: ALL kids are drinking less! Most are NOT Drinking at all!

30 Day Usage

Getting Drunk (5+ Drinks)

	2008	2014	2008	2014
8 th Grade	17%	6%	8%	2%
9 th Grade	36%	18%	14%	11%
10 th Grade	49%	30%	26%	18%
11 th Grade	60%	43%	43%	27%
12 th Grade	69%	53%	50%	39%
overall	38%	25%	23%	16%

BUT...



9th grade

- Everyone is not drinking – BUT **18%** used alcohol in past 30 days
- **44%** have been to party where other kids were drinking
- **13%** used marijuana in the past 30 days
 - **41%** of students feel no or slight risk in using marijuana once or twice a week
- **20%** rode in car with a driver who had been drinking

AND...



By 12th grade

- 53% used alcohol in past 30 days
- 79% have been to a party where other kids were drinking
- 31% used marijuana in the past 30 days
 - 55% of students feel no or slight risk in using marijuana once or twice a week
- 21% drove after drinking
- 37% rode in a car with a driver who had been drinking

Other Risk-Taking Behaviors



By 12th grade

- 42% had sexual intercourse
- 38% had 5 or more drinks in a row in the past 2 weeks (binge drinking)
- 12% engaged in some type of violent behavior
- 32% had skipped school in the last month
- 31% had gambled in the last year
- 13% engaged in anorexic & 8% engaged bulimic behavior
- 17% reported feeling sad or depressed most of the time in the past month, 7% attempted suicide

Family Boundaries



What High School Students report:

- **23%** would talk to their parents if they had a serious concern about drugs, alcohol, sex or some other serious issue
- **68%** of their families have clear rules about what children can and cannot do
- **48%** of their parents monitor their whereabouts

Family Boundaries



What Parent's of High School Students report:

- **20%** feel their child would talk to them if they had a serious concern about drugs, alcohol, sex or some other serious issue
- My family has clear rules for discouraging use of:
 - Alcohol – **79%**
 - Marijuana – **91%**
- **68%** have talked to their child about the family rules concerning alcohol use 'recently and often'

What you can do



Tonight is about having those conversations to identify your family's expectations and rules!

