

Youth Asset Report

A Message to Our Community

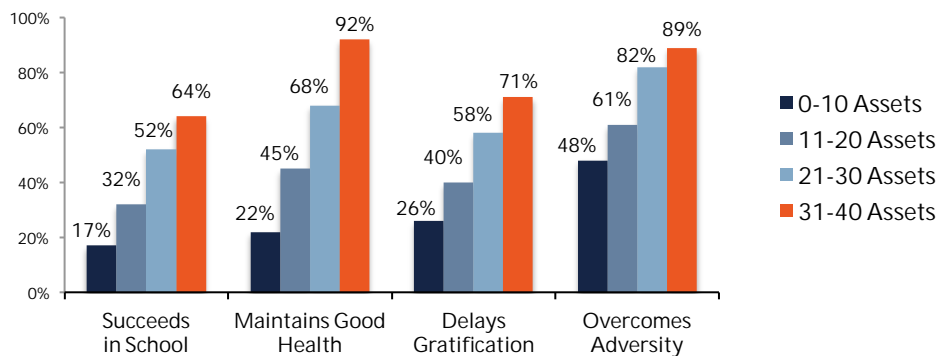
A teen recently told a group of adults, "We are the future so treat us how you want the future to be." While one person may not be able to entirely transform the future of a community, each one of us has the power to cultivate meaningful, sustained relationships with young people, which is one of the most important factors in ensuring their success.

This report reflects the perspectives of our youth using the *Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors*® survey created by Search Institute,® an applied research organization. They introduced Developmental Assets, now one of the most widely used frameworks in the world for youth development. Developmental Assets, or "Assets" for short, are building blocks of healthy development to help youth thrive.

Studies by Search Institute of more than 5 million young people consistently show the more Assets young people acquire, the better their chances of succeeding in school and becoming contributing members of their communities and society.

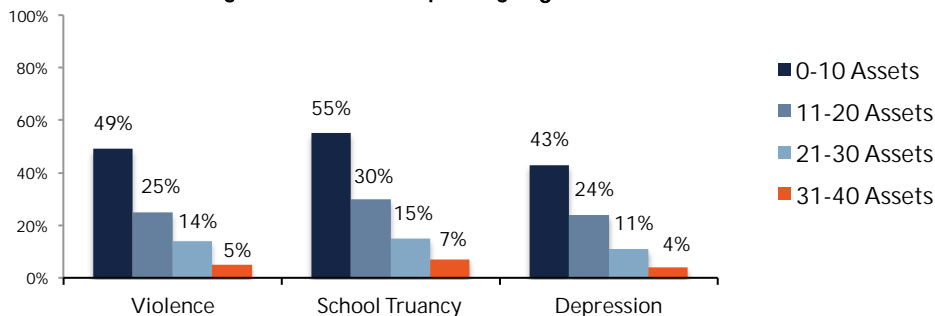
The charts below show the difference in thriving and high-risk indicators reported by our youth by Asset level. Notice the correlation between the number of Assets and the number of youth participating in, or experiencing, each indicator.

Percentage of Our Youth Reporting Thriving Indicators



The levels of Assets are better predictors of high-risk involvement and thriving than poverty, family structure or other demographic differences.

Percentage of Our Youth Reporting High Risk Indicators



What Are Assets?

Forty relationships, opportunities, experiences and characteristics - such as *Integrity* and *Caring Neighborhood* - that ALL kids need to thrive.

Based on Search Institute's extensive research, building Assets is a positive approach to working with children.

The Asset framework provides a common language and a shared vision for how all of us can help raise healthy youth!

Inside is a list of the 40 Assets

Who can be an Asset Builder?

Any person, youth or adult, who commits time, energy and/or resources to making a difference in the community by promoting healthy youth.

Ways to Build Assets

Individuals

- Model & talk about your family's morals and values
- Include youth in volunteer opportunities
- Know the names of youth you interact with regularly
- Listen to a young person to show you care. Just listen.

Organizations

- Develop flexible work schedules that allow adults to attend or participate in youth programs
- Seek ways to include youth in your business.

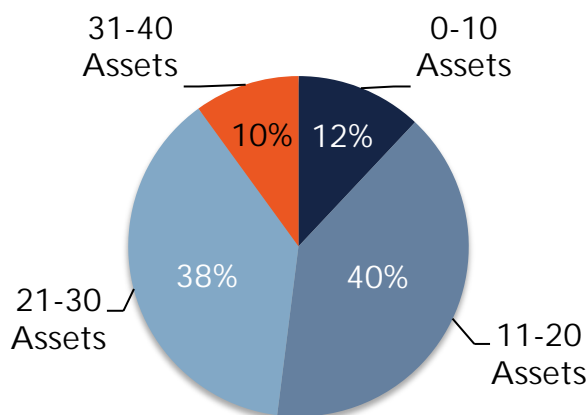
In 2014, 1,733 youth in the 8th, 10th and 12th grades were surveyed. It was the eighth time since 1997 that the survey had been administered in Marquette and Alger County School Districts. Historical data can be found at www.glycd.org or by contacting Great Lakes Center for Youth Development at (906) 228-8919.

While there is no magic number of Assets young people should have, youth with at least half of the 40 Assets are much less prone to risk-taking behavior. The chart below shows 48% of youth in Marquette and Alger Counties have 21 or more Assets and 12% of youth have 10 or fewer of the 40 Assets. Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Most Common Assets	
Integrity	77%
Achievement Motivation	75%
Positive Peer Influence	74%
Honesty	74%
Responsibility	74%

Least Common Assets	
Positive Family Communication	31%
Youth as Resources	29%
Community Values Youth	25%
Reading for Pleasure	24%
Creative Activities	16%

Percentage of our youth who experience each of four levels of Assets



Percentage of Our Youth Reporting Thriving Indicators



Category	Definition	Total	Gender		Grade		
			M	F	8	10	12
Helps Others	Helps friends and neighbors one or more hours per week	78%	77	79	79	76	78
Values Diversity	Places high importance on getting to know people of other racial/ethnic groups	54%	49	60	56	54	53
Exhibits Leadership	Has been a leader of a group or organization in the last 12 months	67%	66	68	67	62	71
Resists Danger	Avoids doing things that are dangerous	20%	16	24	21	19	20

Percentage of Our Youth Reporting Substance Use Related Risk-Taking Indicators

Category	Definition	Total	Gender		Grade		
			M	F	8	10	12
Alcohol	Used alcohol once or more in the last 30 days	24%	21	25	10	24	37
	Got drunk once or more in the last two weeks	14%	13	15	6	14	24
Tobacco	Smoked cigarettes once or more in the last 30 days	10%	9	10	5	11	14
Marijuana	Used marijuana once or more in the last 30 days	14%	14	14	6	15	21
Other Drug Use	Used heroin or other narcotics once or more in the last 12 months	3%	2	3	1	5	3
Driving and Alcohol	Rode (once or more in the last 12 months) with a driver who has been drinking	30%	26	32	29	30	29

40 Developmental Assets

Search Institute's Asset framework builds on young people's strengths, rather than emphasizing their problems and deficiencies. Percentages are for the 1,733 youth in the 8th, 10th and 12th grade at Marquette and Alger County schools who were surveyed in fall 2014.

- %** The percentage of our youth possessing this Asset
-  Assets that have increased by 5% or more since 1997
-  Assets that have decreased by 5% or more since 1997

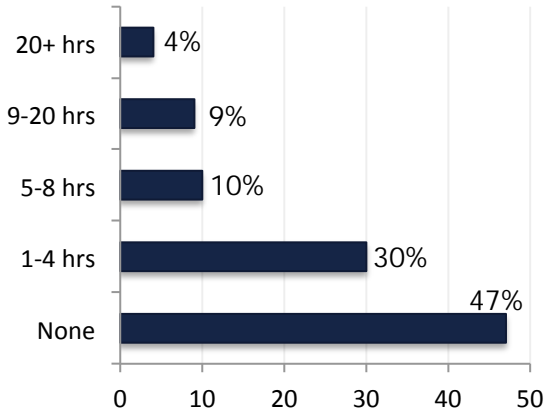
		Asset Type	Asset Name & Definition	Percentage
External Assets	Support	1. Family Support – Family Life provides high levels of love and support.	73%	
		2. Positive family communication – Young person and his or her parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek parent(s)' advice and counsel.	31%	
		3. Other adult relationships – Young person receives support from three or more nonparent adults.	55%	
		4. Caring neighborhood – Young person experiences caring neighbors.	35%	
		5. Caring school climate – School provides a caring, encouraging environment.	37%	
		6. Parent involvement in schooling – Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school.	35%	
	Empowerment	7. Community values youth – Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth.	25%	
		8. Youth as resources – Young people are given useful roles in the community.	29%	
		9. Service to others – Young person serves in the community one hour or more per week.	51%	
		10. Safety – Young person feels safe at home, school, and in the neighborhood.	56%	
	Boundaries and Expectations	11. Family boundaries – Family has clear rules and consequences, and monitors the young person's whereabouts.	51%	
		12. School boundaries – School provides clear rules and consequences.	57%	
		13. Neighborhood boundaries – Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring young people's behavior.	49%	
		14. Adult role models – Parents(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior.	32%	
		15. Positive peer influence – Young person's best friends model responsible behavior.	74%	
		16. High expectations – Both parent(s) and teachers encourage the young person to do well.	54%	
Constructive Use of Time	17. Creative activities – Young person spends three or more hours per week in lessons or practice in music, theater, or other arts.	16%		
	18. Youth programs – Young person spends three or more hours per week in sports, clubs or organizations at school and/or in community organizations.	61%		
	19. Religious community – Young person spends one or more hours per week in activities in a religious institution.	41%		
	20. Time at home – Young person is out with friends "with nothing special to do" two or fewer nights per week.	54%		
Internal Assets	Commitment to Learning	21. Achievement motivation – Young person is motivated to do well in school.	75%	
		22. School engagement – Young person is actively engaged in learning.	70%	
		23. Homework – Young person reports doing at least one hour of homework every school day.	48%	
		24. Bonding to school – Young person cares about his or her school.	61%	
		25. Reading for pleasure – Young person reads for pleasure three or more hours per week.	24%	
Positive Values	26. Caring – Young person places high value on helping other people.	52%		
	27. Equality and social justice – Young person places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty.	55%		
	28. Integrity – Young person acts on convictions and stands up for his or her beliefs.	77%		
	29. Honesty – Young person tells the truth even when it's not easy.	74%		
	30. Responsibility – Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility.	74%		
	31. Restraint – Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or other drugs.	42%		
Social Competencies	32. Planning and decision-making – Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices.	36%		
	33. Interpersonal competence – Young person has empathy, sensitivity, and friendship skills.	45%		
	34. Cultural competence – Young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds.	35%		
	35. Resistance skills – Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations.	47%		
	36. Peaceful conflict resolution – Young person seeks to resolve conflict nonviolently.	44%		
Positive Identities	37. Personal power – Young person feels he or she has control over "things that happen to me."	44%		
	38. Self-esteem – Young person reports having high self-esteem.	46%		
	39. Sense of purpose – Young person reports that "my life has a purpose."	59%		
	40. Positive view of personal future – Young person is optimistic about his or her personal future.	71%		

2014 Marquette and Alger County Sidebar Survey

The Sidebar Survey was developed locally by members of community organizations and agencies under the guidance of Great Lakes Center for Youth Development to collect additional information. More information is available at www.glycd.org.

Youth Employment and Career Preparation

Hours per week youth spend working for money



50%

of youth want to work but have not been able to find a job

39%

of youth not intending to attend college say it's because of cost

10%

of males plan on getting a technical/vocational certificate after high school

2%

of females plan on getting a technical/vocational certificate after high school

Post-secondary plans by grade

	8th	10th	12th
Full time student	41%	42%	60%
Full time employment (not planning on continuing education)	2%	3%	2%
Full time employment with hopes of continuing education later on	5%	8%	6%
Employment while going to school part time	15%	15%	13%
Military	9%	8%	8%
Undecided/Other	28%	25%	11%

Nutrition and Exercise

How would you describe your weight?

	Male	Female
Very Underweight	1%	1%
Underweight	10%	7%
About right	72%	69%
Overweight	15%	21%
Very Overweight	2%	2%

44% of females are trying to lose weight

40% of youth eat breakfast every day

Internet Use and Safety

93%

have an account on a social networking site

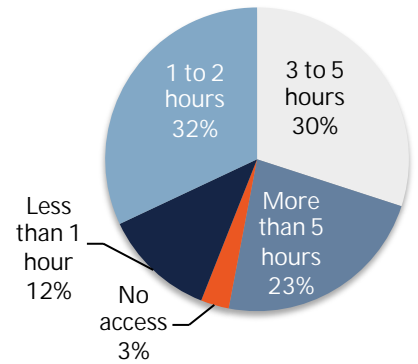
24%

of females have been threatened, embarrassed or harassed online

71%

have a smartphone

Average time per week spent online not doing homework

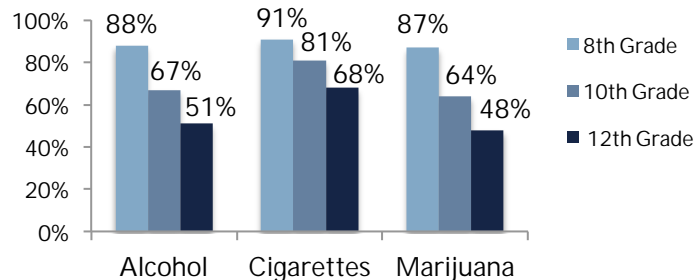


Access to Substances

37% of youth report it very easy to get alcohol

32% of youth got alcohol from someone they know, who is not a relative, over the age of 21

Percentage of youth reporting it's wrong or very wrong for someone their age to use:



10%

have used prescription drugs to get high in the last year



This report was prepared by Great Lakes Center for Youth Development, 712 Chippewa Square, Suite 200, Marquette, MI 49855; 906-228-8919. For more information, log onto www.glycd.org

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