



Discovering what kids need to succeed

General Overview of the *Youth and Program Strengths Survey*

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Youth and Program Strengths Survey Basics

What is the Youth and Program Strengths Survey?

- The Youth and Program Strengths survey is a tool that will bring youth perspectives to your program improvement strategies. The survey will shed light on how young people's perspectives vary by their level of program participation and examine how program quality correlates with youth levels of Developmental Assets, which are linked to academic, social-emotional, psychological, and behavioral well-being.
- The Youth and Program Strengths survey contains the full version of our Developmental Assets Profile, which measures the 8 categories of Developmental Assets (external supports and internal strengths) as well as additional items that focus on qualities, determined in research, to be integral to high-performing youth programs. These 8 elements are physical and psychological safety, providing appropriate structure, providing supporting relationships, providing opportunities to belong, building positive social norms, supporting efficacy and mattering, providing opportunities for skill building and integrating family, school, and community efforts.
- The Youth and Program Strengths survey shows youth perspectives across the contexts of their lives: personal, peers, family, school, program, and community.

How can the Youth and Program Strengths survey be used?

- Monitor youth supports and strengths in programs, coalitions, networks, and collective impact initiatives
- Baseline data for planning and improvement
- Trend monitoring and outcome evaluation
- Life planning/coaching with individual youth
- 'Make the case' with funders

Who can complete the Youth and Program Strengths survey?

- The Youth and Program Strengths survey is designed for young people ages 11 to 18.
- The average reading level is grade 6.

How long does it take?

- Most adolescents complete the 98-item Youth and Program Strengths survey in 20 minutes or less (average 15 minutes).
- For small group administration, allow 5-10 minutes setup and general instructions and 15-20 minutes for completion and collection (25-30 minutes total).
- Allow 30-60 minutes for oral administration to youth who cannot complete the Youth and Program Strengths survey independently.

How is the Youth and Program Strengths survey administered, scored, and interpreted?

- The Youth and Program Strengths survey may be used through our online survey interface or in a paper-and-pencil format. If paper surveys are needed, they will need to be entered into the online platform by the client.
- As part of the survey service, Search Institute will score, analyze, and provide a detailed report. The report will include scores by specific demographic cohorts (determined by sample size).
- Additional services and resources to support administration, interpretation, and use are available.

What is the cost for using the Youth and Program Strengths survey?

- The Youth and Program Strengths survey costs \$300 per report which includes up to 100 surveys. For current pricing please visit the website.

For additional information or to order the Youth and Program Strengths survey, please go to www.search-institute.org or email Survey Services, at surveys@search-institute.org.