

Youth Mental Health & Substance Abuse Statistics Alexandria, Virginia¹

Suicide

- **30% of middle school girls have seriously considered suicide; 20% made a suicide plan, and 15% report having actually attempted suicide.**
- **18% of high school girls reported a suicide attempt in the past year.**
- **36% of high school girls and 20% of boys report symptoms of depression.**

Percent of ACPS Youth Reporting External Assets²

<u>Asset Name – Definition</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Caring School Climate - School provides a caring, encouraging environment	29%
Parent Involvement in Schooling – Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school	29%
Community Values Youth – Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth	20%
Youth as Resources – Young people are given useful roles in the community	24%
Adult Role Models – Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior	27%

¹ During 2006-07, ACPS students in the 7th through 12th grades took the *Search Institute Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behavior* survey and the *Youth Risk Behavior Survey*. Full reports available at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/mes/reports/index.php>.

² Developmental Assets: A Profile of Your Youth, Executive Summary, Alexandria City Public Schools, March 2007, Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN. This survey was administered to 3,041 ACPS students in grades 7 – 12 in December 2006.