



# RDMC DATA SHEET

**SARG Data Category: 3. CONTRIBUTING**  
*intervening variables that contribute to problems*

**Title: FYSAS Protective Factors**

## FYSAS Protective Factors

### Indicator:

Protective factors or asset conditions that buffer Leon County youth from exposure to risk by either reducing the impact of the risk or changing the way that young people respond to risks.

### Commentary:

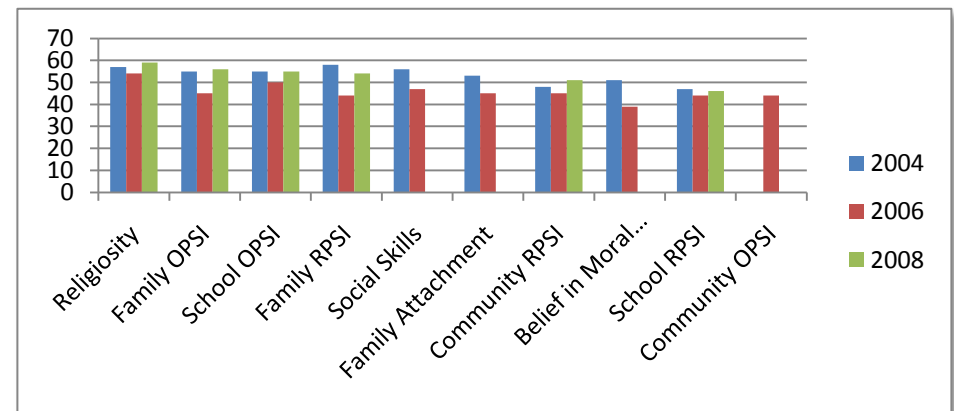
Religiosity is the most notable buffer protecting both middle and high school Leon County youth from potential risks. FYSAS reports, "There is a substantial amount of research showing that adolescents' exposure to a greater number of risk factors is associated with more drug use and delinquency ... (and) exposure to a number of protective factors is associated with lower prevalence of these problem behaviors." For middle school youth, family and school opportunities for pro-social involvement (OPSI) and family rewards for pro-social involvement (RPSI) are the best protective factors following religion. For high school youth, family and school are still important but social skills and belief in moral order are also significant.

### Source(s):

Florida Youth Substance Abuse Surveys (FYSAS), even years from 2004 to 2008, Leon County Reports, Risk and Protective Factors.  
<http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/mentalhealth/publications/fysas/>

*Note: FYSAS respondents identify what they consider risk and protective factors across four domains: peer and individual, school, family and community; in normative database percentile scores from 0 to 100.*

### Chart 1: Middle School Protective Factors



### Chart 2: High School Protective Factors

