

Risk Factor Profile

Grades 6-12 by Percentage

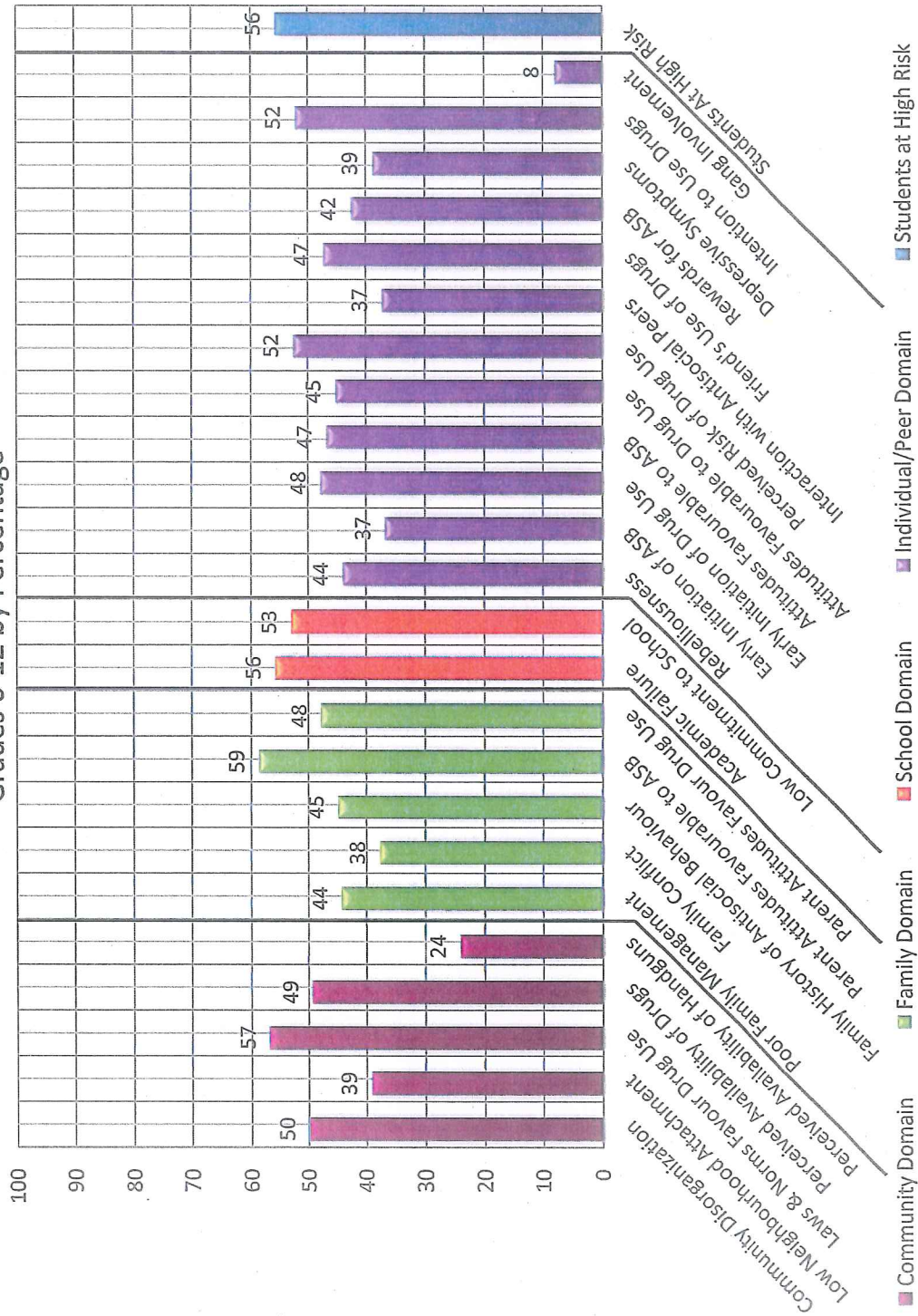


FIGURE 8: CTC YOUTH SURVEY – RISK FACTOR PROFILE

Protective Factor Profile

Grades 6 - 12 by Percentage

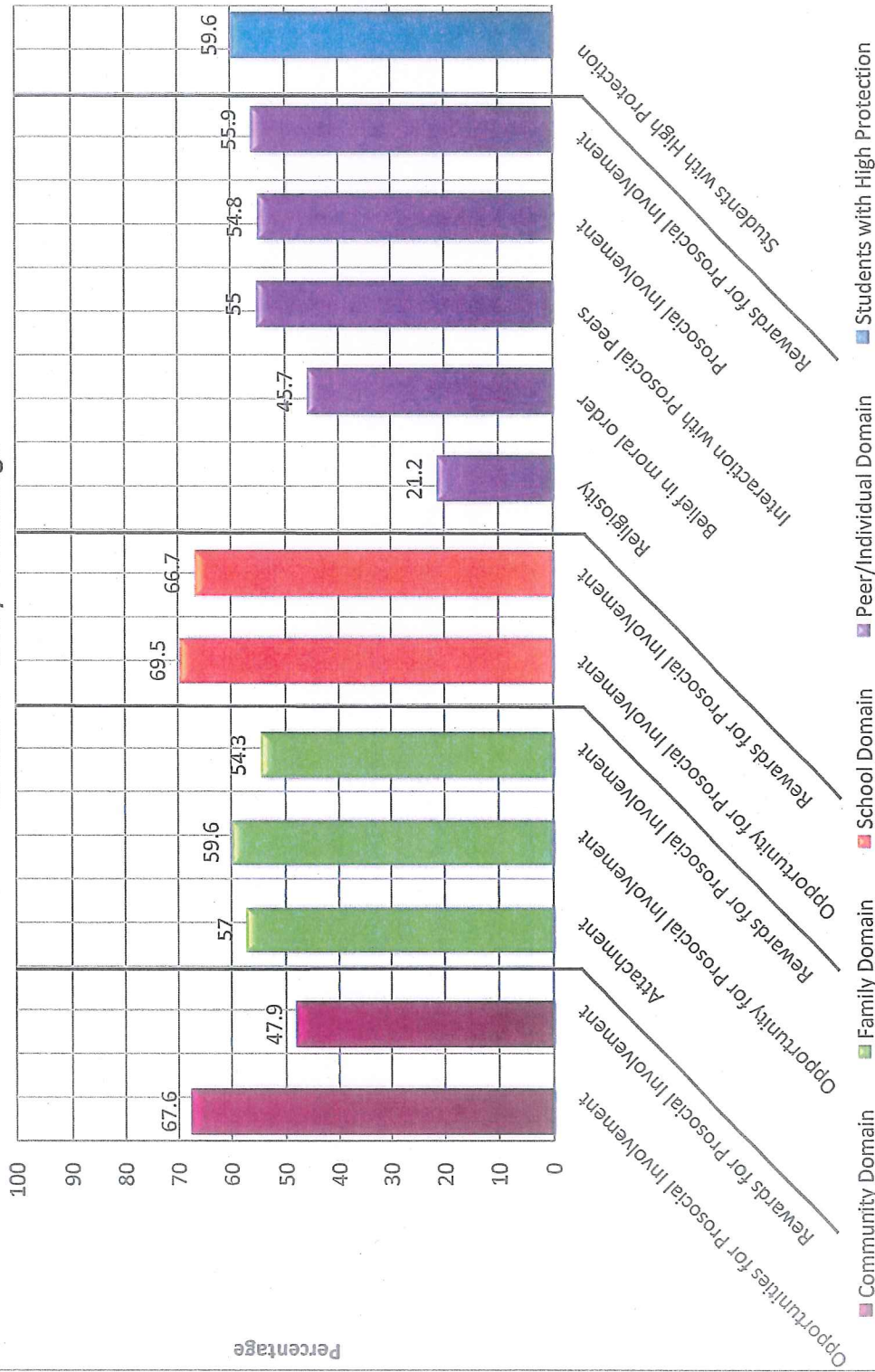


FIGURE 15: CTC YOUTH SURVEY – PROTECTIVE FACTOR PROFILE

PREVENTING, MONITORING AND MEASURING PROBLEM BEHAVIOURS

The CTC project is concerned with six key problem behaviours among youth. The focus on prevention targets risk factors that are shown to predict an increase in the likelihood that youth will be involved in those problem behaviours. As we move forward in the CTC project, it is important to understand both the data that measures the six behaviours and the data that measures the risk factors. While we do not have data at the community level for all behaviours, the following provides a summary of the benchmarks of both behaviours and prioritized risk factors.

		Current Benchmark	Level of Measurement	Source of Data
Problem Behaviours	Substance abuse	31.5% Grade 8 Students 30 day use	Williams Lake Schools	CTC Youth Survey
	Delinquency (crime)	10.3/1000 population serious juvenile crime	Local Health Area	BC Stats
	Violence	3.1/1000 violent juvenile crime rate	Local Health Area	BC Stats
		14.5% students attacked another person with the intent to cause harm	Williams Lake Schools	CTC Survey
	Teen pregnancy	23.9/1000 population age 15-17	Local Health Area	Interior Health
	School drop out	64% High school completion rate (within 6 years of starting grade eight)	Cariboo-Chilcotin School District	School District #27
Depression and anxiety	39% of students in all grades exhibit depressive symptoms	Williams Lake Schools	CTC Youth Survey	
Priority Risk Factors	Laws and Norms Favourable to Drug Use	57% reported that our community norms are favourable to drug use	Williams Lake Schools	CTC Youth Survey
	Parental Attitudes Favourable Toward Antisocial Behaviour and Drugs	59% of students reported parental attitudes favourable to antisocial behaviour and drug use	Williams Lake Schools	CTC Youth Survey
	Low Commitment to School	53% of students reported a low level of commitment to school	Williams Lake Schools	CTC Youth Survey
	Early Initiation of Antisocial Behaviour and Drug Use	37% of students anti-social behaviour and drug use at an early age	Williams Lake Schools	CTC Youth Survey

APPENDIX I – RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTOR DEFINITIONS

Community Domain Risk Factors	
Community Disorganization	Research has shown that neighbourhoods with high population density, lack of natural surveillance of public places, physical deterioration, and high rates of adult crime also have higher rates of juvenile crime and drug selling.
Low Neighbourhood Attachment	A low level of bonding to the neighbourhood is related to high levels of juvenile crime and drug selling
Laws & Norms Favourable Toward Drug Use	Research has shown that legal restrictions on alcohol and tobacco use such as raising the legal drinking age, restricting smoking in public places, and increased taxation have been followed by decreases in consumption. Moreover, U.S. surveys of high school seniors have shown that shifts in normative attitudes toward drug use have preceded changes in prevalence of use.
Perceived Availability of Drugs	The availability of cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana, and other illegal drugs has been related to the use of these substances by adolescents. The availability of handguns is also related to a higher risk of crime and substance use by adolescents.
Community Domain Protective Factors	
Opportunities for Positive Involvement	When opportunities are available in a community for positive participation, children are less likely to engage in substance use and other problem behaviours.
Rewards for Positive Involvement	Rewards for positive participation in activities helps children bond to the community, thus lowering their risk for substance use.

Family Domain Risk Factors	
Family History of Antisocial Behaviour	When children are raised in a family with a history of problem behaviours (e.g. violence) the children are more likely to engage in those behaviours.
Family Conflict	Children raised in families high in conflict, whether or not the child is directly involved in the conflict, appear at risk for both delinquency and drug use.
Parental Attitudes Favourable Toward Antisocial Behaviour & Drugs	In families where parents use illegal drugs, are heavy users of alcohol, or are tolerant of children's use, children are more likely to become drug abusers during adolescence. The risk is further to provide clear expectations and to monitor their children's behaviour makes it more likely that they will engage in drug abuse whether or not there are family drug problems.
Poor Family Management	Parent's use of inconsistent and/or unusually harsh or severe punishment with their children places them at higher risk for substance use and other problem behaviours. Also, parent's failure to provide clear expectations and to monitor their children's behaviour make it more likely that they will engage in drug abuse whether or not there are family drug problems

Family Domain Protective Factors	
<i>Family Attachment</i>	Young people who feel that they are a valued part of their family are less likely to engage in substance use and other problem behaviours.
<i>Opportunities for Positive Involvement</i>	Young people who are exposed to more opportunities to participate meaningfully in the responsibilities and activities of the family are less likely to engage in drug use and other problem behaviours.
<i>Rewards for Positive Involvement</i>	When parents, siblings, and other family members praise, encourage, and attend to things done well by their children, children are less likely to engage in substance use and problem behaviours.

School Domain Risk Factors	
<i>Low Commitment to School</i>	Surveys of high school seniors have shown that the use of (drugs) is significantly lower among students who expect to attend college than among those who do not. Factors such as liking school, spending time on homework and perceiving the coursework as relevant are also negatively related to drug use.
<i>Academic Failure</i>	Beginning in the late elementary grades academic failure increases the risk of both drug abuse and delinquency. It appears that the experience of failure itself, for whatever reasons, increases the risk of problem behaviours.
School Domain Protective Factors	
<i>Opportunities for Positive Involvement</i>	When young people are given more opportunities to participate meaningfully in important activities at school, they are less likely to engage in drug use and other problem behaviours.
<i>Rewards for Positive Involvement</i>	When young people are recognized and rewarded for their contributions at school, they are less likely to be involved in substance abuse and other problem behaviours.

Peer-Individual Risk Factors	
<i>Early Initiation of Antisocial Behaviour and Drug Use</i>	Early onset of drug use predicts misuse of drugs. The earlier the onset of any drug use, the greater the involvement in other drug use and the greater the frequency of use. Onset of drug use prior to the age of 15 is a consistent of drug use, and a later age of drug use has been shown to predict lower drug involvement and a greater probability of discontinuation of use.
<i>Attitudes Favourable Toward Antisocial Behaviour and Drug Use</i>	During the elementary school years, most children express anti-drug, anti-crime, and pro-social attitudes and have difficulty imagining why people use drugs or engage in antisocial behaviours. In middle school, as more youth are exposed to others who use drugs and engage in antisocial behaviours, their attitudes often shift toward greater acceptance of these behaviours. Youth who express positive attitudes toward drug use and antisocial behaviour are more likely to engage in a variety of problem behaviours, including drug use.
<i>Friends' Use of Drugs</i>	Young people who associate with peers who engage in alcohol or substance abuse are much more likely to engage in the same behaviour. Peer drug use has consistently been found to be among the strongest predictors of substance use among youth. Even when young people come from well-managed families and do not experience other risk factors, spending time with friends who use drugs greatly increases the risk of that problem

	developing.
<i>Interaction with Antisocial Peers</i>	Young people who associate with peers who engage in problem behaviours are at higher risk of engaging in antisocial behaviour themselves.
<i>Perceived Risk of Drug Use</i>	Young people who do not perceive drug use to be risky are far more likely to engage in drug use.
<i>Rewards for Antisocial Behaviour</i>	Young people who receive rewards for their antisocial behaviour are at higher risk for engaging in further antisocial behaviour and substance use.
<i>Rebelliousness</i>	Young people who do not feel part of society, are not bound by rules, don't believe in trying to be successful or responsible, or who take an active rebellious stance toward society, are at higher risk of using drugs. In addition, high tolerance for deviance, a strong need for independence and a lack of norms have all been linked with drug use.
<i>Intention to Use (Drugs)</i>	Many prevention programs focus on reducing the intention of participants to use (drugs) later in life. Reduction of intention to use (drugs) often follows successful prevention interventions.
<i>Depressive Symptoms</i>	Young people who are depressed are overrepresented in the criminal justice system and are more likely to use drugs. Survey research and other studies have shown a link between depression and other youth problem behaviours.
<i>Gang Involvement</i>	Youth who belong to gangs are more at risk for antisocial behaviour and drug use.

Peer and Individual Protective Factors	
<i>Religiosity</i>	Young people who regularly attend religious services are less likely to engage in problem behaviours.
<i>Belief in Moral Order</i>	Young people who have a belief in what is "right" or "wrong" are less likely to use drugs.
<i>Pro-social Involvement</i>	Participation in positive school and community activities helps provide protections for youth.
<i>Rewards for Pro-social Involvement</i>	Young people who view working hard in school and the community (positively) are less likely to engage in problem behaviour.
<i>Involvement with Pro-social Peers</i>	Young people who associate with peers who engage in prosocial behaviour are more protected from engaging in antisocial behaviour and substance abuse.