

School Protective Factors

- ⇒ Provides supportive, caring environment
- ⇒ Availability of adequate curriculum and instruction
- ⇒ Adequate fiscal and human resources
- ⇒ Encourages high student expectations
- ⇒ Small class size
- ⇒ Availability of social, health, and mental health support services
- ⇒ Provides consistent, fair rules for student behavior
- ⇒ Promotes tolerance and diversity
- ⇒ Ability to ensure reasonable student safety

School Risk Factors

- ⇒ Low academic skills and achievement, especially reading
- ⇒ Retention in grade (student has been retained once or more than once during school career)
- ⇒ Course failure (failed one or more courses during previous year)
- ⇒ Behavioral/disciplinary problems
- ⇒ Poor attendance (e.g., 20 or more absences during last school year)
- ⇒ Attendance at several schools within brief time frame
- ⇒ Large classes/large schools
- ⇒ Most students come from high poverty environment
- ⇒ School located in high violence/crime community
- ⇒ Inappropriate/ineffective instruction
- ⇒ Incompatible values with philosophy of school, curriculum, and teaching
- ⇒ Truancy
- ⇒ Excessive outside work
- ⇒ Two or more years older than other students in grade
- ⇒ Rebellious attitude toward authority figures

Figure 5. School Protective and Risk Factors.