

Top Ten Social Issues	Areas of Concern	Strategic Focus
	Health	
Obesity	The overall percentage of overweight (31%) and obese (29%) individuals has increased from the 2002 and 1998 BRFSS surveys. 39% of adults and 63% of youth are at acceptable weight.	Health
Smoking	The smoking rate has been reduced from 26.5% in 1998, 25.1% in 2002, to 20.8% in 2006.	Health
Youth Alcohol Use	46% of 12 th graders had used alcohol in the month previous to the survey. There is a disconnect between this and the parent's understanding of the problem.	Health
	Poverty	
Transportation	The top unmet need of First Call For Help is related to transportation.	Self-Sufficiency
Poverty	The largest number of people living in poverty is in the city of Midland. Although there are pockets of poverty in Midland County the highest concentration of poverty exists in specific neighborhoods in the city.	Self-Sufficiency
Basic Needs	Over 75% of calls to First Call For Help, an information and referral service, were for basic services, and the demand has increased from 2004-2006. (Housing, Food, Utilities)	Self-Sufficiency
Homelessness	30% of homeless individuals are single adults and approximately 50% are in families with children.	Self-Sufficiency
Homeless Population	Of the single adult homeless population, 22% suffer from some form of severe and persistent mental illness, 22% have substance abuse issues.	Self-Sufficiency
	Family/Relation Dynamics	
Teen Violence/ Physical Abuse	30% of teenagers surveyed had experienced physical abuse and 29% had been victims of violence.	Education
Teen Depression & Suicide	Of teenage girls, 27% were frequently depressed or have attempted suicide. 16% of girls, 11% of boys have attempted suicide.	Education

Source: 2006 Midland County Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, 2006 Housing and Homeless Study, Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behavior; Legacy Center for Student Success Survey, Poverty in Midland : Seen and Unseen Study, (Issues are unranked)