

Epi Data Brief

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

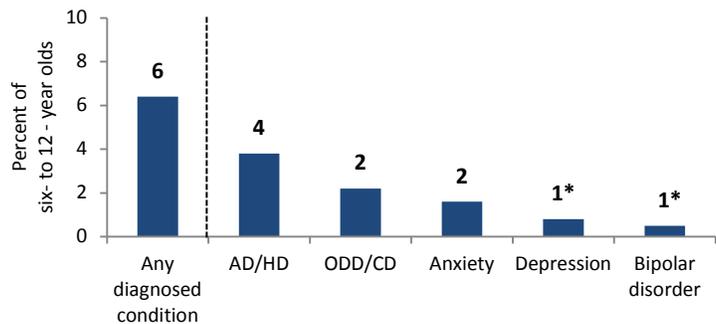
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Mental Health Conditions among Children Aged Six to 12 in NYC

Prevalence of mental health conditions, according to parent report

- Parents were asked in 2009 whether their child was ever or currently diagnosed by a doctor or other health care professional with any of the following mental health conditions: attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (AD/HD); oppositional defiant disorder, conduct disorder or any other behavioral disorder (ODD/CD); anxiety; depression; and bipolar disorder.
 - 9% of six- to 12-year-olds (60,000 children) ever had at least one of these mental health diagnoses.
 - 6% (44,000 children) currently had at least one of these diagnosed conditions.
- AD/HD was the most common current diagnosis (4% or 26,000 children) and ODD/CD was the second most common (2% or 15,000 children).
- The prevalence of a current diagnosis was three times higher among boys (9% or 33,000) than among girls (3% or 11,000).
- 14% of six- to 12-year-olds (101,000 children) did not have a current mental health diagnosis but were reported by parents to have difficulties with emotions, concentration, behavior or getting along with others.

Prevalence of currently diagnosed mental health conditions among six- to 12-year-olds, 2009



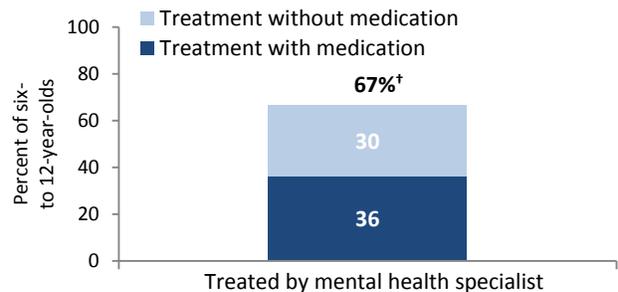
*Estimate should be interpreted with caution due to small sample size.
Source: NYC Child Community Health Survey 2009

Treatment by a mental health specialist

- Two thirds (67%) of NYC children with a current mental health diagnosis in 2009 had been treated by a mental health professional within the prior 12 months:¹ 36% of diagnosed children received treatment including medication, and 30% received treatment without medication.[†]
- Mental health specialists also treated 17% of children who did not have a diagnosed mental health condition but were reported by parents to have difficulties with emotions, concentration, behavior or getting along with others.

¹Children who were not treated by a mental health specialist may have received treatment from another type of health professional.

Percent of six- to 12-year-olds with a currently diagnosed condition treated by a mental health specialist in the past 12 months, 2009



[†]Percentages of types of treatment do not add to 67% due to rounding.
Source: NYC Child Community Health Survey 2009

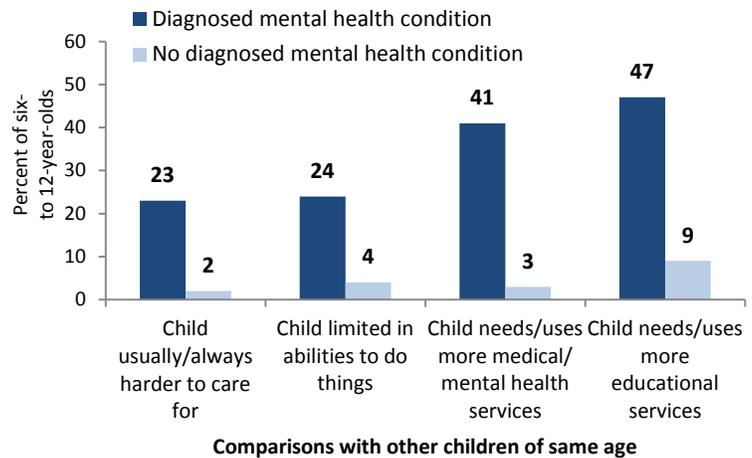
Data Sources

The New York City Child Community Health Survey was a population-based telephone survey conducted by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in 2009 with support from the Children's Health Fund. A parent, guardian or other knowledgeable adult (referred to as "parent," as 92% of respondents were either the child's mother or father) was interviewed about the health of one child aged 12 years or younger in the selected household for a sample of 3,002 children. The survey collected information on the health of the surveyed parent, but not on the non-surveyed parent or other adult(s) in the household. Survey data are weighted to the NYC population of children aged 12 years and younger. **Limitation:** Some children may have an undiagnosed mental health condition. Undiagnosed conditions were not captured in Child Community Health Survey data; therefore, prevalence estimates of mental health conditions include only diagnosed children and likely underestimate true rates of mental health conditions.

Challenges faced by parents of diagnosed children suggest need for parenting support and coordination among health, mental health and educational services

- Children with a currently diagnosed mental health condition as compared with children without one were more likely to be perceived by parents as harder to care for than other children their age (23% vs. 2%) and limited in their ability to do the things most children their age can do (24% vs. 4%). Moreover, they were more likely to be perceived by parents to need or use more medical/mental health services (41% vs. 3%) and more educational services (47% vs. 9%) than other children their age.
- The prevalence of a learning disability was six times greater among children with a current mental health diagnosis than among children without one (43% vs. 7%).
- Children with a currently diagnosed mental health condition were also twice as likely as other children to have ever been diagnosed with asthma (32% vs. 15%) and to not sleep through the night (18% vs. 8%).

Parent perceptions of his/her own child compared to other children of the same age, 2009



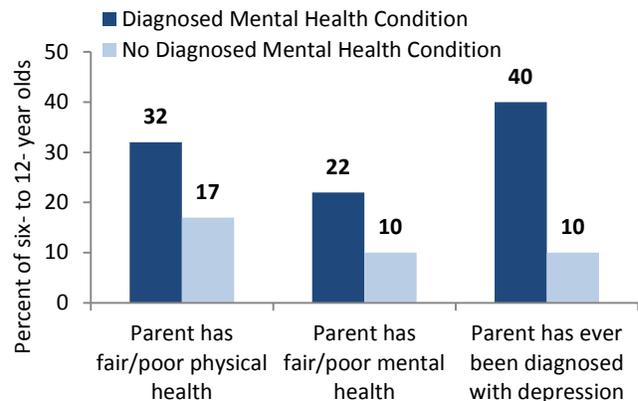
Source: NYC Child Community Health Survey 2009

Addressing the needs of children means also addressing the health and mental health needs of their parents†

- Children with a currently diagnosed mental health condition were more likely than children without one to have the surveyed parent describe his/her own physical health (32% vs. 17%) or mental health (22% vs. 10%) as poor or fair.
- Among children with a current diagnosis whose surveyed parent only sometimes, rarely or never had day-to-day support raising the child, half (50%*) had that parent describe his/her own mental health as fair or poor.
- Children with a current mental health diagnosis were three times more likely than children without a diagnosis to have a surveyed parent who reported ever being diagnosed with depression (40% vs. 11%).

*Estimate should be interpreted with caution due to small sample size.

Percent of children whose surveyed parent reported his/her own physical or mental health problem, 2009†



†Restricted to the 92% of six- to 12-year-olds whose parent responded to the survey (73% mothers, 19% fathers).

Source: NYC Child Community Health Survey 2009

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MORE New York City Health Data and Publications

- For complete tables of data prepared for this Brief, visit nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/epi/datatable25.pdf
- Visit EpiQuery – the Health Department’s online, interactive health data system at nyc.gov/health/EpiQuery

Data & Statistics at nyc.gov/html/doh/html/data/data.shtml