

Mental Health Care MATTERS

Mental health treatment — therapy, medication, self-care — have made recovery a reality for most people experiencing mental illness. Although taking the first steps can be confusing or difficult, it's important to start exploring options.

The average delay between symptom onset and treatment is

11 YEARS

PEOPLE WHO GET TREATMENT IN A GIVEN YEAR

45% of adults with mental illness

66% of adults with serious mental illness

51% of youth (6-17) with a mental health condition

Adults with a mental health diagnosis who received treatment or counseling in the past year

23% of Asian adults

33% of Black adults

34% of Hispanic or Latinx adults

43% of adults who report mixed/multiracial

49% of lesbian, gay and bisexual adults

50% of white adults

*For therapy to work, you have to be open to change. I'm proud to say that I changed.
Therapy saved my life.*

— NAMI Program Leader

Data from CDC, NIMH and other select sources. Find citations for this resource at nami.org/mhstats

NAMI HelpLine
800-950-NAMI (6264)

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You are NOT ALONE

Millions of people are affected by mental illness each year. Across the country, many people just like you work, perform, create, compete, laugh, love and inspire every day.



1 in 5 U.S. adults experience mental illness

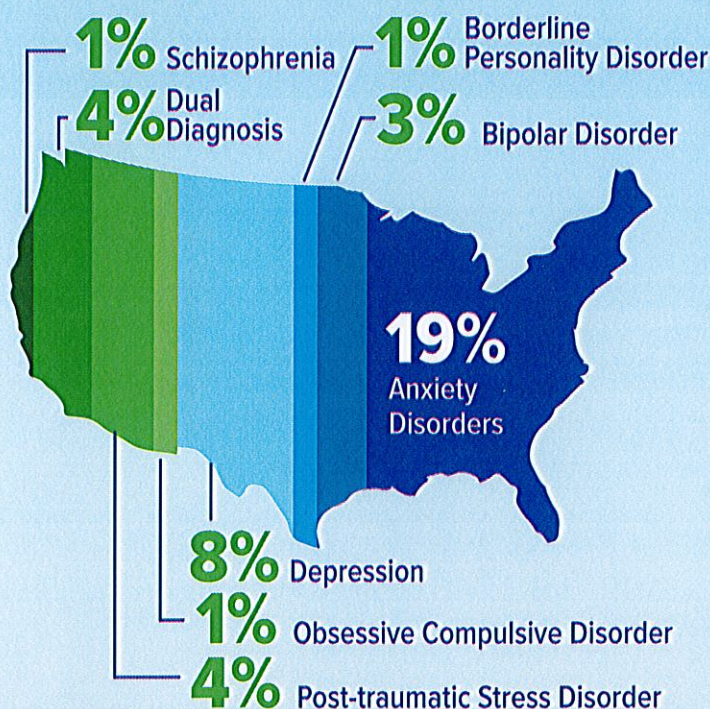
1 in 20

1 in 20 U.S. adults experience serious mental illness

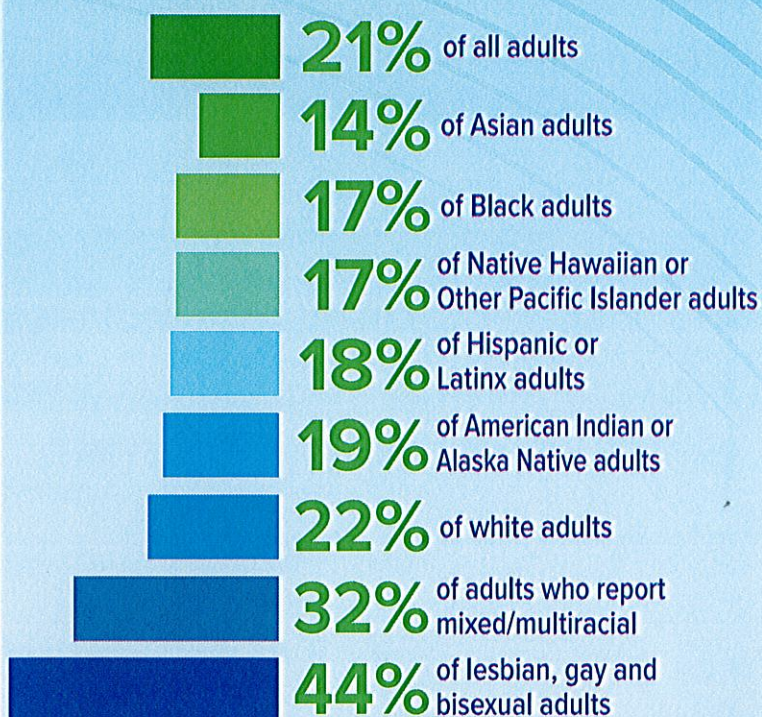
17%

of youth (6-17 years) experience a mental health disorder

12 MONTH PREVALENCE OF COMMON MENTAL ILLNESSES (ALL U.S. ADULTS)



12 MONTH PREVALENCE OF ANY MENTAL ILLNESS (ALL U.S. ADULTS)



WAYS TO REACH OUT AND GET HELP



Talk with a health care professional



Call the NAMI HelpLine at 800-950-NAMI (6264)



Connect with friends and family



Join a support group

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Common **WARNING SIGNS** of Mental Illness

Diagnosing mental illness isn't a straightforward science. We can't test for it the same way we can test blood sugar levels for diabetes. Each condition has its own set of unique symptoms, though symptoms often overlap. Common signs and/or symptoms can include:

- 
- ! Feeling very sad or withdrawn for more than two weeks
 - ! Trying to harm or end one's life or making plans to do so
 - ! Severe, out-of-control, risk-taking behavior that causes harm to self or others
 - ! Sudden overwhelming fear for no reason, sometimes with a racing heart, physical discomfort or difficulty breathing
 - ! Significant weight loss or gain
 - ! Seeing, hearing or believing things that aren't real*
 - ! Excessive use of alcohol or drugs
 - ! Drastic changes in mood, behavior, personality or sleeping habits
 - ! Extreme difficulty concentrating or staying still
 - ! Intense worries or fears that get in the way of daily activities

*Various communities and backgrounds might view this sign differently based on their beliefs and experiences. Some people within these communities and cultures may not interpret hearing voices as unusual.

WORRIED ABOUT YOURSELF OR SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT?



If you notice any of these symptoms, it's important to ask questions



Try to understand what they're experiencing and how their daily life is impacted



Making this connection is often the first step to getting treatment

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



Talk with a health care professional



Learn more about mental illness



Take a mental health education class



Call the NAMI HelpLine at 800-950-NAMI (6264)

50%
of all lifetime
mental illness
begins by age
14

75%
by age
24

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The RIPPLE EFFECT of Mental Illness

Having a mental illness can make it challenging to live everyday life and maintain recovery. Let's look at some of the ways mental illness can impact lives — and how the impact can ripple out.

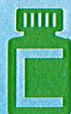


People with serious mental illness have an increased risk for chronic disease, like diabetes or cancer

PERSON



Rates of cardiometabolic disease are twice as high in adults with serious mental illness



18% of U.S. adults with mental illness also have a substance use disorder

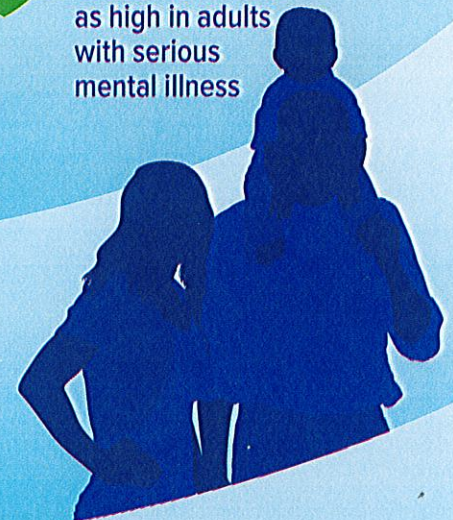


At least **8.4 million** Americans provide care to an adult with an emotional or mental illness

FAMILY



Caregivers spend an average of **32 hours** per week providing unpaid care



21% of people experiencing homelessness also have a serious mental illness



37% of people incarcerated in state and federal prison have a diagnosed mental condition



70% of youth in the juvenile justice system have at least one mental health condition



1 in 8 of all visits to U.S. emergency departments are related to mental and substance use disorders

COMMUNITY



WORLD



Depression is a leading cause of disability worldwide



Depression and anxiety disorders cost the global economy **\$1 trillion** each year in lost productivity

Data from CDC, NIMH and other select sources. Find citations for this resource at nami.org/mhstats

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It's Okay to Talk About **SUICIDE**

Thoughts of giving up and suicide can be frightening. Not taking these kinds of thoughts seriously can have devastating outcomes.

Suicide is **NOT** the answer.

2nd Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for people ages 10-34



The overall suicide rate has increased 35% since 1999



Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S.

46% of people who die by suicide have a diagnosed mental health condition

90% of people who die by suicide have experienced symptoms of a mental health condition

If you start thinking about suicide, seek help. Call or text a crisis line or a trusted friend.



Make an appointment with a health care professional to talk about what you're thinking or how you're feeling.



Suicidal thoughts are a symptom, just like any other — they can be treated, and they can improve over time.



HIGH RISK POPULATIONS

78% of all people who die by suicide are male



4x Lesbian, gay and bisexual youth are four times more likely to attempt suicide than straight youth

Transgender people are 12 times more likely to attempt suicide than the general population

12x



If you are concerned about suicide and don't know what to do, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

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