

Children's Mental Health in Westchester County

"...the challenges today's generation of young people face are unprecedented and uniquely hard to navigate. And the effect these challenges have had on their mental health is devastating."

*Dr. Vivek H. Murthy
Surgeon General of the United States*

Office of the Surgeon General (OSG), Protecting Youth Mental Health: The U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory [Internet]. Washington (DC): US Department of Health and Human Services; 2021. PMID: 34982518.



49%

of US youth ages 6-17 with a mental health disorder did not receive services in a given year.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (2016), <https://nami.org/mhstats>

Westchester Youth (10-19) represent **13%** of the county population...



US Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey, 5 Year Estimates, Table S0101

...yet they represent **42%** of emergency room visits for self-harm.



NYS Department of Health, NYS Health Connector, "Self-Harm Hospitalizations by County (2018)", <https://nysbc.health.ny.gov/web/nypd/suicides-in-new-york>

Westchester's Youngest Are More Vulnerable to Self-Harm

TWICE AS MANY

Westchester Children were likely to be hospitalized for mental health reasons compared to New York State children.

NYS Office of Mental Health, "Report 2: Trends for Population Rates of Average Daily Census for Psychiatric Inpatient Services in NYS (2020)," <https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/tablesw/county-profiles.html>

T H E R E I S O N E

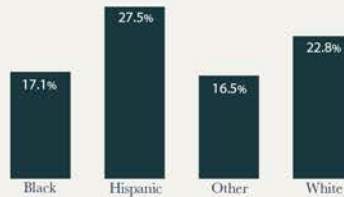
Security Guard for every 356 students	Psychologist for every 500 students	Social Worker for every 960 students
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Calculated with data from US Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Civil Rights Data Collection, 2017-18 School Year.



One out of Five NYS children & youth ages 3 to 16 have been reported to have mental, emotional, developmental, and/or behavioral problems.

2019-2020 National Survey of Children's Health, <https://www.childhealthdata.org>



Race Matters

Hispanic children in New York State reported mental, emotional, developmental or behavioral problems at a higher rate than their peers.

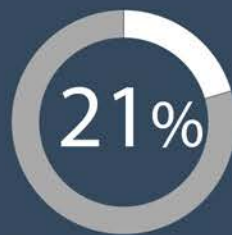
2019-2020 National Survey of Children's Health, <https://www.childhealthdata.org>



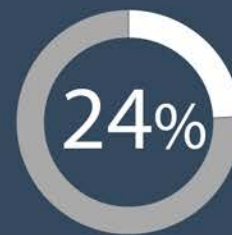
of US youth in the juvenile justice system have a diagnosable mental health condition.



of adolescents with substance use disorders had at least one co-occurring mental illness.



of Westchester public school 10th graders said yes to recent binge drinking when asked.



of Westchester public school 12th graders reported that they used marijuana in the last month.

Find out more at: wca4kids.org

Thank you to interns Mythri Galpotthawela and Kelly Deng for their assistance in creating this fact sheet.

WESTCHESTER CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION

Children's Champions Since 1914