Mental Illness is Common

- Of New York’s approximately 19.5 million residents, close to 673,000 adults live with serious mental illness\(^{i}\) and about 204,000 children live with serious mental health conditions.\(^{ii}\)
- More than 1.4 million New Yorkers have co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders.\(^{iii}\)

Untreated Mental Illness has Deadly and Costly Consequences

- In 2007, 1,396 New Yorkers died by suicide.\(^{iv}\) Mental health diagnoses are generally associated with a higher rate of suicide.
- Nationally, we lose one life to suicide every 15.8 minutes. Suicide is the eleventh-leading cause of death overall and is the third-leading cause of death among youth and young adults aged 15-24.\(^{v}\)
- Fifty percent of people with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders receive no treatment, while only 10% receive evidence-based treatment for both conditions.\(^{vi}\)
- During the 2006-07 school year, approximately 50 percent of New York students aged 14 and older living with serious mental health conditions who receive special education services dropped out of high school.\(^{vii}\)
- In New York, a study of 10,000 homeless people found that homeless persons living with mental illness cost $40,449 per person in publicly funded services a year for use of emergency rooms, hospitals, shelters and incarceration.\(^{viii}\)

Public Mental Health Services are Inadequate to Meet Needs

- New York’s public mental health system provides services to only 57 percent of adults who live with serious mental illnesses in the state.\(^{ix}\)
- New York spent just $230.80 per capita on mental health agency services in 2008, or $4,492.60 million.\(^{x}\) This was just 3.9 percent of total state spending that year.
• In 2008, 69 percent of New York state mental health agency spending was on community mental health services; 27 percent was spent on state hospital care. Nationally, an average of 70 percent is spent on community mental health services and 28 percent on state hospital care.

Criminal Justice Systems Bear a Heavy Burden

• In 2006, 4,197 children were incarcerated in New York’s juvenile justice system.
• Nationally, approximately 70 percent of youth in juvenile justice systems experience mental health disorders, with 20 percent experiencing a severe mental health condition.
• In 2008, approximately 14,400 adults with mental illnesses were incarcerated in prisons in New York. Additionally, an estimated 31 percent of female and 14 percent of male jail inmates nationally live with serious mental illness.

Many Residents Rely on Public Services for Needed Care

• Approximately 21 percent of New Yorkers are enrolled in Medicaid.
• Approximately 12 percent of New Yorkers are enrolled in Medicare.
• Approximately 2,778,900 New Yorkers are uninsured.
• In 2008, New York had 339,576 non-elderly adults (aged 18-64) with disabilities receiving SSI benefits.

Housing is Unaffordable for People who Rely on SSI or SSDI

• The average rent for a studio apartment in New York is 129 percent of the average Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment, making housing unaffordable for adults living with serious mental illness who rely on SSI.
• The average rent for a one-bedroom apartment in New York is 141 percent of the average SSI payment.


http://www.nyshealthfoundation.org/section/resources/integrated_services_resources


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U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, Data Accountability Center, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Data, “State Rank-Ordered Tables,” Table 1.3b, Data Analysis System (DANS), (July 15, 2008), https://www.idea-data.org/StateRankOrderedTables.asp.


NASMHPD Research Institute, Inc. (NRI Inc.), "State Mental Health Agency Profiles Systems (Profiles) and Revenues Expenditures Study: Revenues and Expenditures Reports from 2008," National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors Research Institute, Inc., (2008), http://www.nri-inc.org/projects/Profiles/Prior_RE.cfm#2008


