



Statistics

Mental Disorders

26.2 percent of Americans ages 18 and older — about one in four adults — suffer from a diagnosable mental disorder in a given year. (1)

Applied to the 2004 U.S. Census residential population estimate for ages 18 and older, the above figure translates to 57.7 million people. (18)

About 1 out of 5 American children suffer from a diagnosable mental illness during a given year. (2)

Bipolar disorder has been investigated by federally funded teams in children as young as age 6. (3)

Persons with serious mental illness die, on average, 25 years earlier than the general population. (4)

Bipolar disorder results in 9.2 years reduction in expected life span. (5)

About 6 percent of adults, or 1 in 17 — suffer from a serious mental illness. (1)

Many people suffer from more than one mental disorder at a given time. (1)

Nearly half (45 percent) of those with any mental disorder meet criteria for 2 or more disorders, with severity strongly related to comorbidity. (1)

An estimated 17 million adults (8 percent of the adult population) reported experiencing at least one major depressive episode during the past year. (6)

Twice as many Americans live with schizophrenia than with HIV/AIDS, but most Americans are unfamiliar with the disease. (20)

Suicide

Studies show a high incidence of psychiatric disorders in suicide victims at the time of their death with the total figure ranging from 98% (7) to 87.3% (8)

Every minute a suicide is attempted. (9)

A suicide is completed one every 18 minutes. (9)

In 2005, 32,637 (approximately 11 per 100,000) people died by suicide in the U.S. (9)

The suicide rate is higher than the annual mortality from homicide, AIDS, and most forms of cancer. (10)

Each year, about 1,600 American teenagers die by suicide, 1-million attempt it, and 1 in 5 consider it. (11)

Untreated bipolar disorder can be disastrous; 10 percent of sufferers commit suicide. (12)

Veterans

More people kill themselves each year than die from wars and murders combined, but most suicides could be prevented, according to two international suicide experts. (13)

Last year, 115 active-duty soldiers killed themselves, compared with 105 in 2006. Nearly a third of those deaths occurred in the combat zones of Iraq and Afghanistan. (14)

More than 6,250 American veterans took their own lives in 2005 alone. That comes to slightly more than 17 suicides every day. (15)



120 veterans commit suicide every week. (15)

1,000 veterans attempt suicide while in VA care every month. (15)

Nearly one in five service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan (approximately 300,000) have post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms or major depression. (15)

19 percent of post-Iraq and Afghanistan veterans have been diagnosed with possible traumatic brain injury. (15)

A higher percentage of these veterans suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder than from any previous war because of "stop loss" or an involuntary extension of service in the military (58,300), multiple tours, greater prevalence of brain injuries, etc. (15)

According to 2005 data, suicides in the U.S. outnumber homicides by nearly 2 to 1 and ranks as the 11th leading cause of death in the country, ahead of liver disease and Parkinson's disease. (16)

Economy

Mental disorders are the leading cause of disability in the U.S. and Canada for ages 15-44. (19)

The nation will spend roughly \$1.5 trillion cumulatively from 2003-2023 in treatment costs. (17)

Mental illness treatment costs exhibit the third-highest growth rate among the chronic diseases after prostate cancer treatment spending (90.8 percent) and "other cancers" (92.5 percent). (17)

In 2003 the total indirect impacts based on GDP amounted to \$170.9 billion. In 2023, the baseline scenario increases to \$568.5 billion. (17)

By 2023, studies project roughly 53.8 percent more mental health cases than in 2003. (17)

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