



Mental Health Association in Texas

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A Factsheet from the TEXAS PARTNERS IN CRISIS INITIATIVE

- **Half** of all Americans will experience a mental disorder at some point in their lives.¹
- **4.3 million** Texans (3.1 million adults and 1.2 million children) had some form of diagnosable mental health disorder in 2002 (20%).²
- **1.5 million** Texans suffered *serious* mental illness, which impaired their ability to function at work, school, and in the community in 2002 (7%).³

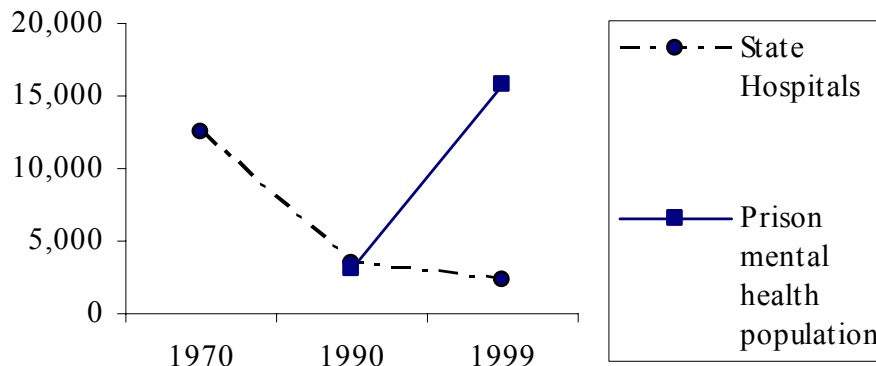
Due to budget constraints in 2002, only one in four children and one in three adults considered at risk and eligible for services were served by Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

Inadequate treatment and lack of community support transfers the burden of disease to our jails, hospitals, homeless shelters, foster homes, and mortuaries —at much higher cost to taxpayers—

Have Prisons and Jails become the ‘Asylums for the new Millenium’?

As the population of our state hospitals has declined, the prison mental health population has dramatically increased.⁴

The cost of sending an offender to residential treatment is 23.6% that of sending a prisoner to jail. Texas Department of Criminal Justice 1999



| | 1970 | 1990 | 1999 |
|---|--------|-------|-------|
| Average daily population in State Hospitals | 12,413 | 3,476 | 2,309 |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|--------|
| Prison mental health population* | 3,148 | 15,716 |
|----------------------------------|-------|--------|

Source: Texas Criminal Justice Policy Council.

*The prison numbers are from 1988 and 1998.

⇒ **3,776** prisoners received mental health services through TDCJ-CJAD in 2002.

⇒ **4,457** Adult probationers were provided mental health services.

⇒ **\$44 per day**= TDCJ-ID Adult confinement in the Institutional Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for capital offenses.⁵

⇒ **\$7.75 per day** = TDMHMR average per client in 2002.⁶

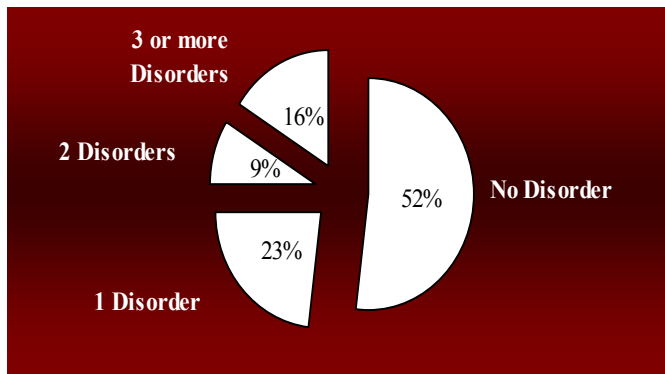
Nearly 75% of inmates with mental illness have a co-occurring substance abuse problem. Criminal Justice Mental Health Consensus Project

- A recent study identified 20 people who had been repeatedly hospitalized, jailed or admitted to detoxification centers; in the course of one year, providing these emergency services to these 20 individuals cost the county at least \$1.1 million or **\$55,000** each.⁷
- Inmates with mental illness in state prison were **2.5 times** as likely to have been **homeless** in the year preceding their arrest than inmates without a mental illness.
- On average, inmates with mental illness serve a longer portion of their sentence than inmates without mental illness.
- Nearly **50%** of the inmates in prison with a mental illness were incarcerated for committing a **nonviolent crime**.

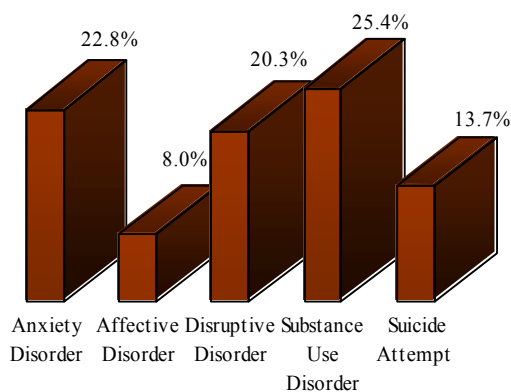
Children who do not get adequate mental health care end up being served in our juvenile justice system and emergency rooms.

Mental Health Disorders among Youth in Juvenile Justice System

- **2,585** youth in the Texas Youth Commission (50%) and nearly half referred to the Juvenile Probation Commission (48%) had a mental illness.⁸
- **\$151.28 per day**= juvenile incarceration in 2002.⁹
- **\$6.43 per day**= TDMHMR average cost per day in 2002.
- TYC further reported in 2002 that 21% of its institutional population was on psychotropic medication.¹⁰
- **12,737** youth on probation or paroled had mental illness in 2001. Only **3,976** (31%) were receiving mental health care either through MHMR or the justice system.¹¹



Mental Disorders among Juveniles Referred for Probation in 2002



*Untreated mental health problems put young people on a trajectory toward jail rather than college. Approximately **HALF** of youth in the Juvenile Justice System have at least one mental disorder.*
 Juvenile Probation Commission, 2003; and Criminal Justice Policy Council, 2003.

Without proper intervention, children’s mental, emotional and behavioral problems grow worse and often lead to far worse problems later on, including development of full blown mental illnesses and/or involvement in the juvenile justice system.

1 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General, 1999.
 2 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General, 1999; Criminal Justice Policy Council August 2000, Presentation to the House County Affairs Committee; DHHS, NIMH. This was calculated using 20% of current population estimates.
 3 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General, 1999; President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health, 2002. This was calculated using 7% (as a midpoint of the 5-9% quoted in the report) of current population estimates.
 4 Public Mental Health System in Texas and its relation to Criminal Justice. Criminal Justice Policy Council, 2000 p.11; p.18
 5 Mangos to Mangos: Comparing the Operational Costs of Juvenile and Adult Correctional Programs in Texas. Criminal Justice Policy Council, prepared for the 78th Legislative Session 2003.
 6 TDMHMR, This is an average of all clients, all funds.
 7 Criminal Justice Mental Health Consensus Project <http://consensusproject.org/topics/gp/ftn7#ftn7>
 8 Overview of the Enhanced Mental Health Services Initiative. Criminal Justice Policy Council, May 2002 p. 10; A study of 1300 juveniles randomly selected from the youth referred for probation during the 6 month time period between Jan.1 and Aug 28 2002 in eight counties (Bexar, Cameron, Dallas, El Paso, Harris, Hidalgo, Tarrant, and Travis. These counties comprise over half of the juvenile population in Texas. Mental Health and Juvenile Justice in Texas. Juvenile Probation Commission Feb. 2003.
 9 Mangos to Mangos: Comparing the Operational Costs of Juvenile and Adult Correctional Programs in Texas. Criminal Justice Policy Council, prepared for the 78th Legislative Session 2003.
 10 Financing Mental Health Services for Juvenile Offenders with Mental Illness. TDMHMR, 2003.
 11 Overview of the Enhanced Mental Health Services Initiative. Criminal Justice Policy Council, May 2002, p. 6