

Diagnoses of Common Mental Disorder

Outcome

Youth are healthy, safe and supported

Measure

Proportion of youth aged 15-24 years diagnosed with common mental disorder

Type

Contributory measure

Relationship(s) to other frameworks

This measure is included in the Youth Mental Health Project Outcomes Framework.

Details for this measure can be located via Superu's social sector outcome indicators catalogue for NZ government's priority programmes which is located at: http://www.superu.govt.nz/outcomes_catalogue

Data is sourced annually via the New Zealand Health Survey.

This measure also assimilates to indicators included in the Vulnerable Children Outcomes Framework (which is currently under review due to the establishment of the new Ministry) – specifically:

- Number and percentage of caregivers who are physically and mentally well

And the Family and Whānau with children aged 0 – 5 years Framework - specifically:

- Families and whānau are not affected by suicide or self harm
- Children are developing well physically, cognitively, and emotionally and meeting their milestones

Rationale

Adolescence is a period of extensive psychological and biological development coinciding with expected – and unexpected – life-course transitions associated with increased risk of mental health issues. These transitions include, for example, the shift from primary or intermediate school to secondary school, and leaving school to enter the workforce or tertiary study, as well as other transitions that can occur at any life stage, such as the loss of a close family member or friend (Fox, Southwell, Goodhue, Jackson, & Smith, 2015; Gluckman, 2011). Most youth in New Zealand successfully transition to adulthood but some do not, mainly due to a complex interplay of individual, family and community stressors and circumstances, or 'risk factors' (Fox et al., 2015).

According to a strategic evaluation of the Youth Mental Health Project, early identification of mild to moderate mental health issues in youth and subsequent support and treatment of those issues

will mean that some of these 'positively impacted' youth will experience better medium to long-term life outcomes (where 'positively impacted' refers to realised improvements in a youth's mental health or wellbeing).

Eligible population

Youth aged 15 to 24 years

Measure status

In development

Measure definition

Numerator

Number of youth who were diagnosed with common mental disorder in the last 12 months

Denominator

Number of youth who had a consultation in the last 12 months

National target

Local target

Milestones to be decided by Alliance

Data Sources

NZ Health Survey

Data extracted from data sources

Survey methodology and information can be located at: <http://www.health.govt.nz/nz-health-statistics/national-collections-and-surveys/surveys/current-recent-surveys/new-zealand-health-survey>

Data availability

Survey data is collected continuously but findings are reported annually.

Measure calculation process

Refer to 'Data extracted from data sources' note above.

Relationship(s) to other measures

This measure is one of a number of mental health indicators which form part of the Minister's Youth Mental Health Project. Examples include:

- Proportion of youth aged 15 – 24 years with a score of 12 or more on the K-10 (Kessler Psychological Distress Scale)
- Number of youth with positive change on HoNOSCA
- Number of youth with positive changes on the mental health assessment tool.

Measure development notes

Data is captured at individual, regional and national levels by ethnicity and gender.

Measure testing/piloting: This measure has been assigned a status of In Development for a period of 12 months during which time, the sector will ‘test/use’ the measure as it is currently defined and provide feedback to the SLM Team. Modifications to the measure definition may be made, prior to its status being updated to Active from 1 July 2018.

Implementation timeline: Measure is scheduled to move from a status of ‘in development’ to ‘active’ on 1 July 2018.

Reporting frequency: The Ministry will be responsible for gathering data and releasing information to Alliances.

Measure implementation group: TBC.