



THE HEALTHY MINDS STUDY

2021-2022 Data Report

ABOUT THE HEALTHY MINDS STUDY (HMS)



STUDY TEAM

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STUDY PURPOSE

The Healthy Minds Study provides a detailed picture of mental health and related issues in college student populations. Schools typically use their data for some combination of the following purposes: to identify needs and priorities; benchmark against peer institutions; evaluate programs and policies; plan for services and programs; and advocate for resources.

STUDY DESIGN

The Healthy Minds Study is designed to protect the privacy and confidentiality of participants. HMS is approved by Advarra. To further protect respondent privacy, the study is covered by a Certificate of Confidentiality from the National Institutes of Health.

SAMPLING

Each participating school provides the HMS team with a sample of currently enrolled students over the age of 18, either randomly selected or their entire student population. Schools with graduate students typically include both undergraduates and graduate students in the sample.

DATA COLLECTION

HMS is a web-based survey. Students are invited and reminded to participate in the survey via emails, which are timed to avoid, if at all possible, the first two weeks of the term, the last week of the term, and any major holidays. The data collection protocol begins with an email invitation, and non-responders are contacted up to three times by email reminders. Reminders are only sent to those who have not yet completed the survey. Each communication contains a URL that students use to gain access to the survey.

NON-RESPONSE ANALYSIS

A potential concern in any survey study is that those who respond to the survey will not be fully representative of the population from which they are drawn. In the HMS, we can be confident that those who are invited to fill out the survey are representative of the full student population because these students are randomly selected from the full list of currently enrolled students. However it is still possible that those who actually complete the survey are different in important ways from those who do not complete the survey. It is important to raise the question of whether the percentage of students who participated are different in important ways from those who did not participate. We address this issue by constructing non-response weights. The non-response weights adjust specifically for the fact that female students have consistently higher response rates than male students in our survey (and in most other survey studies). We construct the weights by comparing the female-male composition of our respondent sample to the reported female-male ratio for the full student population at each institution (which is typically available from basic enrollment statistics). If the respondent sample has a smaller percentage of males and larger percentage of females, as compared to the composition of the full student population, then male students in our sample are assigned a higher non-response weight value than female students. This means that weighted estimates are representative of the female-male distribution in the full student population. For students with nonbinary gender identities, we are not able to use this same process, however, because we are generally not able to obtain accurate statistics on the representation of these groups in the full student population. Therefore, rather than making assumptions, we assign a weight value to students with nonbinary identifiers that leaves their representation in the weighted sample the same as in the unweighted sample. In the future, if and when more reliable information becomes available at the full student population level, we will be able to incorporate that information into sample weights for groups other than female and male gender identities. Finally, note that these sample weights give equal aggregate weight to each school in the national estimates. An alternative would have been to assign weights in proportion to school size, but we decided that we did not want our overall national estimates to be dominated by schools in our sample with very large enrollments.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This data report provides descriptive statistics (percentages, mean values, etc.) from the national sample of respondents for a set of key measures.

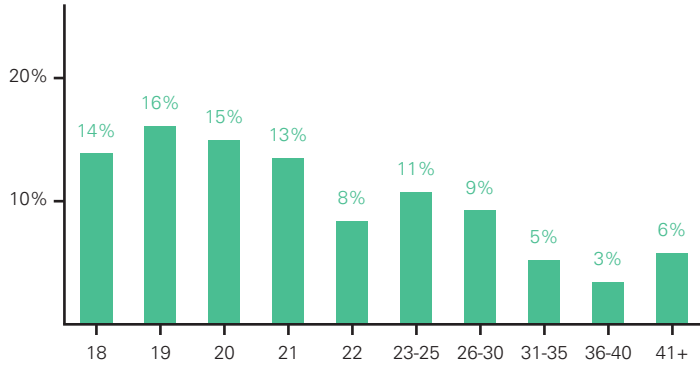
KEY FINDINGS

This section offers a quick look at results from key survey measures.

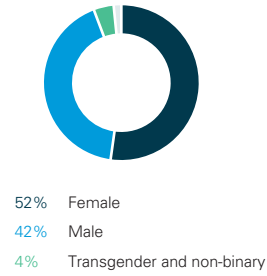
Estimated values of selected measures	Percentage of students
Major depression (positive PHQ-9 screen)	23%
Depression overall, including major and moderate (positive PHQ-9 screen)	44%
Anxiety disorder (positive GAD-7 screen)	37%
Eating disorder (positive SCOFF screen)	14%
Non-suicidal self-injury (past year)	28%
Suicidal ideation (past year)	15%
Lifetime diagnoses of mental disorders	47%
Psychiatric medication (past year)	29%
Mental health therapy/counseling (past year)	37%
Any mental health therapy/counseling and/or psychiatric medication among students with positive depression or anxiety screens (past year)	60%
Personal stigma: agrees with "I would think less of someone who has received mental health treatment."	6%
Perceived public stigma: agrees with "Most people would think less of someone who has received mental health treatment."	40%

SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS (N=95860)

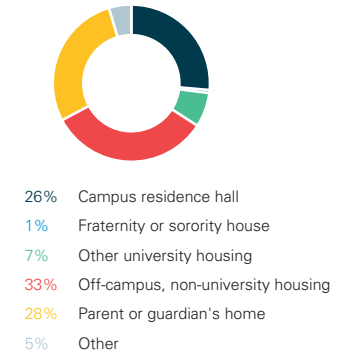
Age (years)



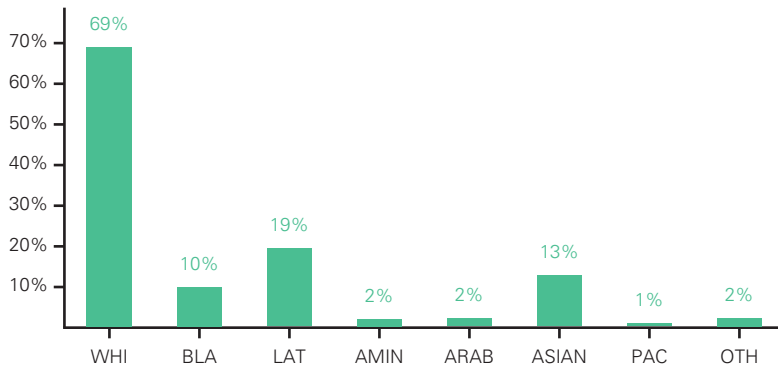
Gender



Living Arrangement

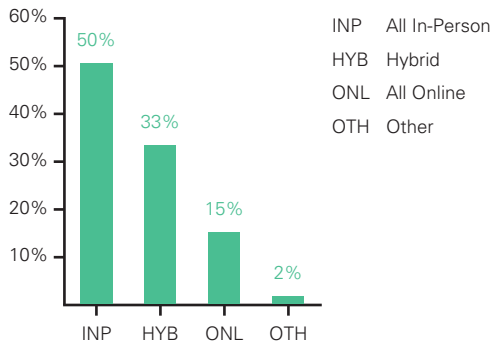


Race/ethnicity



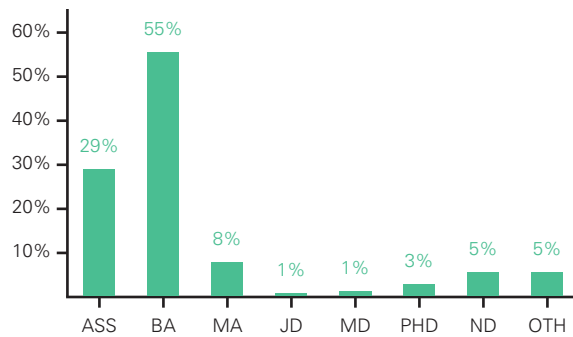
- WHI White or Caucasian
- BLA African American/Black
- LAT Hispanic/Latino
- AMIN American Indian/Alaskan Native
- ARAB Arab/Middle Eastern or Arab American
- ASIAN Asian/Asian American
- PAC Pacific Islander
- OTH Other

Class format



- INP All In-Person
- HYB Hybrid
- ONL All Online
- OTH Other

Degree program



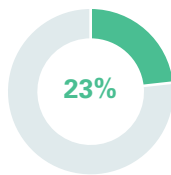
- ASS Associate's degree
- BA Bachelor's degree
- MA Master's degree
- JD JD
- MD MD
- PHD PhD or equivalent
- ND Non-degree student
- OTH Other

PREVALENCE OF MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

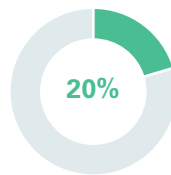
DEPRESSION SCREEN

Depression is measured using the Patient Health Questionnaire-9 (PHQ-9), a nine-item instrument based on the symptoms provided in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders for a major depressive episode in the past two weeks (Spitzer, Kroenke, & Williams, 1999). Following the standard algorithm for interpreting the PHQ-9, symptom levels are categorized as severe (score of 15+), moderate (score of 10-14), or mild/minimal (score <10).

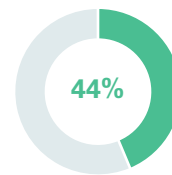
Severe depression



Moderate depression



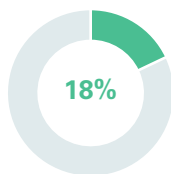
Any depression



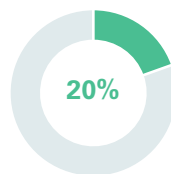
ANXIETY SCREEN

Anxiety is measured using the GAD-7, a seven-item screening tool for screening and severity measuring of generalized anxiety disorder in the past two weeks (Spitzer, Kroenke, Williams, & Lowe, 2006). Following the standard algorithm for interpreting the GAD-7, symptom levels are categorized as severe anxiety, moderate anxiety, or neither.

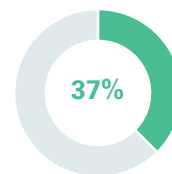
Severe anxiety



Moderate anxiety



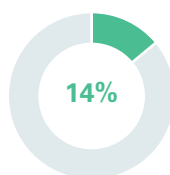
Any anxiety



EATING DISORDER SCREEN

Eating disorders are measured using the written U.S. version of the SCOFF, a five-item screening tool designed to identify subjects likely to have an eating disorder (Morgan, Reid, & Lacey, 1999).

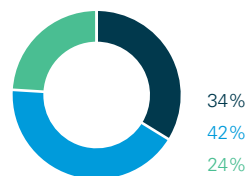
Eating disorders



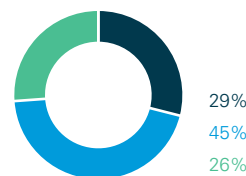
LONELINESS

How often do you feel...

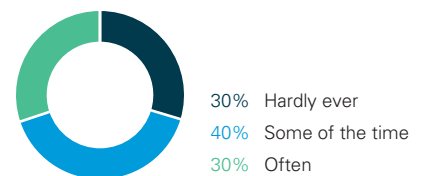
you lack companionship



left out

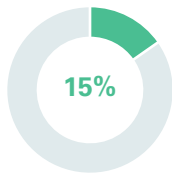


isolated from others

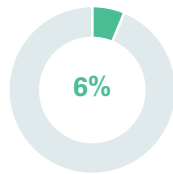


SUICIDALITY AND SELF-INJUROUS BEHAVIOR

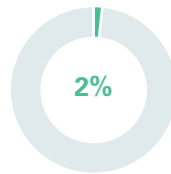
Suicidal ideation (past year)



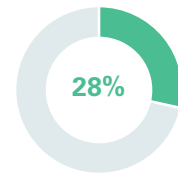
Suicide plan (past year)



Suicide attempt (past year)



Non-suicidal self-injury (past year)



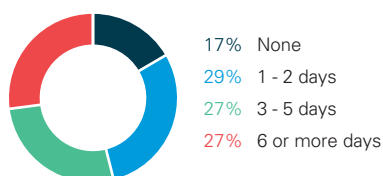
LIFETIME DIAGNOSES OF MENTAL DISORDERS

Have you ever been diagnosed with any of the following conditions by a health professional (e.g. primary care doctor, psychiatrist, psychologist, etc.)? (Select all that apply)

33%	Depression or other mood disorders (e.g., major depressive disorder, persistent depressive disorder)
4%	Bipolar (e.g., bipolar I or II, cyclothymia)
38%	Anxiety (e.g., generalized anxiety disorder, phobias)
4%	Obsessive-compulsive or related disorders (e.g., obsessive-compulsive disorder, body dysmorphia)
11%	Trauma and stressor related disorders (e.g., posttraumatic stress disorder)
11%	Neurodevelopmental disorder or intellectual disability (e.g., attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorder)
5%	Eating disorder (e.g., anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa)
1%	Psychosis (e.g., schizophrenia, schizo-affective disorder)
2%	Personality disorder (e.g., antisocial personality disorder, paranoid personality disorder, schizoid personality disorder)
3%	Substance use disorder (e.g., alcohol abuse, abuse of other drugs)
53%	No, none of these

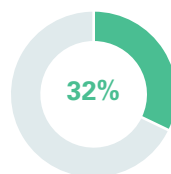
ACADEMIC IMPAIRMENT

In the past 4 weeks, how many days have you felt that emotional or mental difficulties have hurt your academic performance?



POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH

Positive mental health



Positive mental health (psychological well-being) is measured using The Flourishing Scale, an eight-item summary measure of the respondent's self-perceived success in important areas such as relationships, self-esteem, purpose, and optimism (Diener, Wirtz, Tov, Kim-Prieto, Choi, Oishi, & Biswas-Diener, 2009). The score ranges from 8-56, and we are using 48 as the threshold for positive mental health.

HEALTH BEHAVIORS AND LIFESTYLE

Drug use

Over the past 30 days, have you used any of the following drugs? (Select all that apply)

22%	Marijuana
1%	Cocaine (any form, including crack, powder, or freebase)
0%	Heroin
0%	Opioid pain relievers (such as Vicodin, OxyContin, Percocet, Demerol, Dilaudid, codeine, hydrocodone, methadone, morphine) without a prescription or more than prescribed
1%	Benzodiazepenes
0%	Methamphetamines (also known as speed, crystal meth, or ice)
1%	Other stimulants (such as Ritalin, Adderall) without a prescription or more than prescribed
0%	MDMA (also known as Ecstasy or Molly)
0%	Ketamine (also known as K, Special K)
1%	LSD (also known as acid)
2%	Psilocybin (also known as magic mushrooms, boomers, shrooms)
0%	Kratom
0%	Athletic performance enhancers (anything that violates policies set by school or any athletic governing body)
1%	Other drugs without a prescription
76%	No, none of these

Binge drinking

The following questions ask about how much you drink. A "drink" means any of the following:

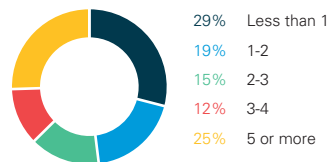
- A 12-ounce can or bottle of beer
- A 4-ounce glass of wine
- A shot of liquor straight or in a mixed drink

During the last two weeks, how many times have you had 4 (female), 5 (male), 4 or 5 (other gender) or more drinks in a row?



Exercise

In the past 30 days, about how many hours per week on average did you spend exercising? (include any exercise of moderate or higher intensity, where "moderate intensity" would be roughly equivalent to brisk walking or bicycling)

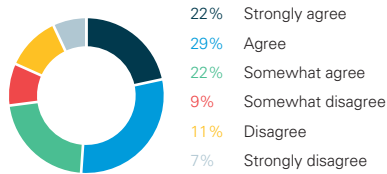


ATTITUDES AND BELIEFS ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

KNOWLEDGE

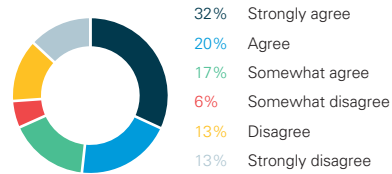
Knowledge of campus mental health resources

If I needed to seek professional help for my mental or emotional health, I would know where to go to access resources from my school.



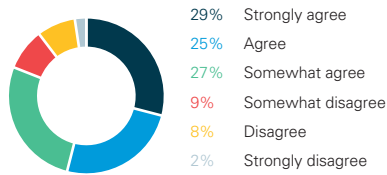
Perceived need (past year)

In the past 12 months, I needed help for emotional or mental health problems such as feeling sad, blue, anxious or nervous.



Perceived need (current)

I currently need help for emotional or mental health problems such as feeling sad, blue, anxious or nervous.



SCHOOL CLIMATE

Anti-racism

I believe my school actively works towards combating racism within the campus community.



85% Agree

USE OF SERVICES

Psychotropic medication use, all students (past year)

In the past 12 months have you taken any of the following types of medications? Please count only those you took, or are taking, several times per week. (Select all that apply)

7%	Psychostimulants (e.g., methylphenidate (Ritalin, or Concerta), amphetamine salts (Adderall), dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), etc.)
21%	Anti-depressants (e.g., fluoxetine (Prozac), sertraline (Zoloft), paroxetine (Paxil), escitalopram (Lexapro), venlafaxine (Effexor), bupropion (Wellbutrin), etc.)
2%	Anti-psychotics (e.g., haloperidol (Haldol), clozapine (Clozaril), risperidone (Risperdal), olanzapine (Zyprexa), etc.)
9%	Anti-anxiety medications (e.g., lorazepam (Ativan), clonazepam (Klonopin), alprazolam (Xanax), buspirone (BuSpar), etc.)
3%	Mood stabilizers (e.g., lithium, valproate (Depakote), lamotrigine (Lamictal), carbamazepine (Tegretol), etc.)
5%	Sleep medications (e.g., zolpidem (Ambien), zaleplon (Sonata), etc.)
3%	Other medication for mental or emotional health
71%	None

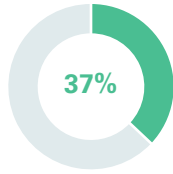
Psychotropic medication use among students with positive depression or anxiety screens (past year)

In the past 12 months have you taken any of the following types of medications? Please count only those you took, or are taking, several times per week. (Select all that apply)

10%	Psychostimulants (e.g., methylphenidate (Ritalin, or Concerta), amphetamine salts (Adderall), dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), etc.)
30%	Antidepressants (e.g., fluoxetine (Prozac), sertraline (Zoloft), paroxetine (Paxil), escitalopram (Lexapro), venlafaxine (Effexor), bupropion (Wellbutrin), etc.)
3%	Anti-psychotics (e.g., haloperidol (Haldol), clozapine (Clozaril), risperidone (Risperdal), olanzapine (Zyprexa), etc.)
13%	Anti-anxiety medications (e.g., lorazepam (Ativan), clonazepam (Klonopin), alprazolam (Xanax), buspirone (BuSpar), etc.)
5%	Mood stabilizers (e.g., lithium, valproate (Depakote), lamotrigine (Lamictal), carbamazepine (Tegretol), etc.)
7%	Sleep medications (e.g., zolpidem (Ambien), zaleplon (Sonata), etc.)
4%	Other medication for mental or emotional health
60%	None

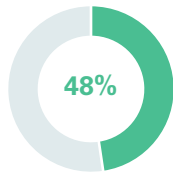
Mental health counseling/therapy, all students (past year)

In the past 12 months have you received counseling or therapy for your mental or emotional health from a health professional (such as psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, or primary care doctor)?



Mental health counseling/therapy among students with positive depression or anxiety screens (past year)

In the past 12 months have you received counseling or therapy for your mental or emotional health from a health professional (such as psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, or primary care doctor)?



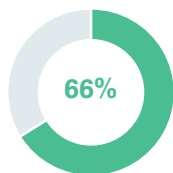
Mental health counseling/therapy, all students (lifetime)

Have you ever received counseling or therapy for mental health concerns?



Mental health counseling/therapy among students with positive depression or anxiety screens (lifetime)

Have you ever received counseling or therapy for mental health concerns?



Informal help-seeking

In the past 12 months have you received counseling or support for your mental or emotional health from any of the following sources? (Select all that apply)

15%	Roommate
43%	Friend (who is not a roommate)
31%	Significant other
39%	Family member
4%	Religious counselor or other religious contact
3%	Support group
1%	Other non-clinical source
32%	None of the above
5%	Faculty member/professor
2%	Staff member

Barriers to help-seeking

In the past 12 months, which of the following factors have caused you to receive fewer services (counseling, therapy, or medications) for your mental or emotional health than you would have otherwise received? (Select all that apply)

6%	I haven't had the chance to go but I plan to
33%	No need for services
21%	Financial reasons (too expensive, not covered by insurance)
25%	Not enough time
16%	Not sure where to go
12%	Difficulty finding an available appointment
21%	Prefer to deal with issues on my own or with support from family/friends
2%	Privacy concerns
5%	People providing services don't understand me
6%	Other
15%	No barriers

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MENTAL HEALTH SCREENS

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