

# Community Needs Assessment

## 2013 Mental Health Report

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## Executive Summary

United Way of Denton County (UWDC) began collecting and compiling data and information on the mental health of Denton County in September 2012. During this process, there were many challenges regarding the availability of data. Data throughout the report will be updated annually or as it becomes available.

Data gathered along with relevant studies in the field of mental health generated the following key findings:

- **Texas ranks 50<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. spending on mental health (per capita)**
  - In 2010 Texas spent \$38.99 per capita (national average was \$126.56)
  - In 2012 Texas spent \$16.25 per capita, a 58.3% reduction in mental health funding across the state.
  - **In 2012, Denton County received the lowest funding per capita of all Texas Counties at \$11.11, which is 31.6% below the state average.**
  - In Texas, the unemployment rate for individuals with serious mental illness was estimated at 90%.
- **Annually, approximately 66,647 adults in Denton County may meet the criteria for a diagnosable mental illness based on estimates derived from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2005 National Comorbidity Survey Replication.**
- **In 2012 approximately 1 in 3 crisis screenings in Denton County were performed in Medical Hospital Emergency Rooms.**
- **Though Southern Denton County has 2/3 of the county's population, in 2012 DCMHMR completed twice as many crisis screenings in Northern Denton County.**
- **90% of screenings completed by DCMHMR are in response to suicidal ideation or suicide attempts.**
- **Denton County MHMR (designated the local mental health authority for Denton County by the Texas Department of State Health) is serving adults at 110-112% over funding level every month.**
- **Denton County MHMR is serving children at 215% over funding level every month.**
- **In 2012, DCMHMR's wait list ranged from 259-340 individuals (with diagnoses of Major Depression, Schizophrenia or Bi-Polar) per month.**

- **The Texas Department of State Health Services estimates that 13,408 adults meet the criteria for a Severe and Persistent Mental Illness. In 2012, DCMHMR had the capacity to serve 1,802 (13%).**
  
- **The Texas Department of State Health Services estimates that 4,976 Denton County Children meet the criteria for a Severe Emotional Disturbance. In 2012, DCMHMR had the capacity to serve 410 (8%).**
  
- **In 2012, 10,433 Denton County Children, ages 0-15, were reported as having ADD or ADHD. (*Cook Children's Healthcare System, 2012 Community-wide Children's Health Assessment and Planning Survey*)**
  
- **According to the 2010 Census, there are approximately 39,537 veterans living in Denton County, of which approximately 2,768 are in need of assistance for both a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).**

## Introduction

Texas currently ranks 50<sup>th</sup> in the nation for per capita state spending on mental health. In 2010, Texas spent a mere \$38.99 per capita, while the national average was \$120.56 per capita. This is extremely low compared to those states with the highest spending in 2010 such as Arizona (\$221.27 per capita) and Alaska (\$310.01 per capita)<sup>1</sup>.

Texas spending continued to decrease in 2012 to an average of \$16.25 per capita for mental health services. Within the state of Texas, Denton County receives the lowest funding per capita at \$11.11 in 2012. West Texas MHMR received the highest funding per capita 2012, at \$30.57 per capita<sup>2</sup>.

Denton County MHMR continues to receive the lowest funding while serving one of the nation's fastest growing communities.

In Texas, the unemployment rate for individuals with serious mental illness is estimated at 90%<sup>3</sup>. According to the Perry Group in collaboration with The Meadows Foundation, Texas business activity amounts to annual losses of:

- \$269 billion in spending
- \$1.7 million in permanent jobs
- \$136 billion on gross product
- \$83 billion on annual personal income
- \$61 billion on annual retail sales

This estimate excludes the costs associated with incarceration, homelessness and early mortality. In addition, the cost in terms of state tax dollars lost from the foregone activity and actual outlays (net of federal matching and reimbursement funds) total \$13 billion each year.

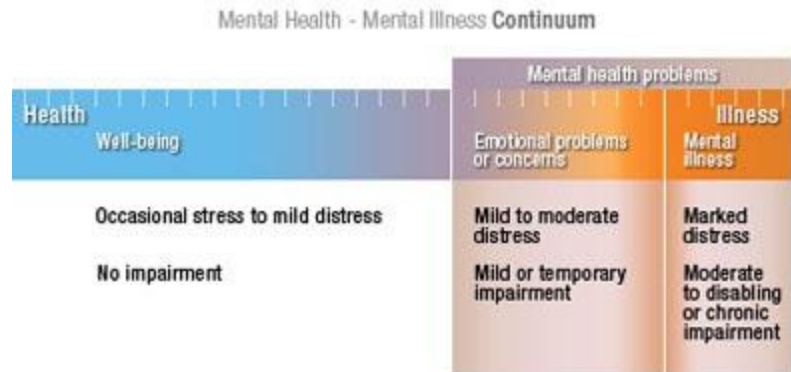
**If all of these costs and losses could be eliminated, the Texas economy would be approximately 10% larger than its current size<sup>3</sup>.**

Additionally, in 2009, 7% of the homeless population in Denton County reported mental illness as the reason for becoming homeless. (*Source: Denton County Homeless Coalition 2009 Point in Time Homeless Count*)

## Defining Mental Health

Mental Health is a term which refers to two ends of a continuum in a person’s cognitive and behavioral functioning: well-being on one end of the spectrum and mental illness on the opposite end. Mental well-being describes an individual who is able to adaptively cope with daily stressors and discomfort without impacting typical functioning such as eating, sleeping, or problem-solving. The occurrence of a serious problem may cause impairment in function and impact these domains. If the stressors or problems persist, changes may occur in thinking, mood, and/or behavior. Continued symptoms indicate that a mental illness may be present.

Mental illness is characterized by pronounced and/or prolonged alterations in mood, thinking, and behavior. These changes can be moderate to disabling, affecting every area of a person’s life, and even cause physical impairments.



Source:

[http://hr.umich.edu/mhealthv/programs/mental\\_emotional/understandinow/learn/mental\\_health.html](http://hr.umich.edu/mhealthv/programs/mental_emotional/understandinow/learn/mental_health.html)

For example, in conversion disorder a person may experience

blindness, without any medical cause, as a result of trauma. Mental illness can have a dramatic impact on a person’s social and professional functioning, as well as impacting domestic life.

Mental illnesses are also known as brain disorders. The term brain disorder refers to the imbalance of chemicals in the brain and attributing physical features of the illness. Many professionals are moving toward this term in lieu of mental illness due to the negative stigma that surrounds mental illness. Mental illnesses and/or brain disorders can be treated and managed by mental health professionals through the utilization of medication and therapy.

## Adult Mental Health

In assessing mental health needs, it is important to understand the pervasiveness of mental illness in the community. However, to date there has not been a study empirically describing the prevalence and incidence of mental illness in Denton County. Therefore, an estimate was created as an attempt to describe the degree of mental illness in the County (see Tables 1 and 2), for both lifetime and one-year prevalence. These estimates were created by applying the National Comorbidity Survey – Replication<sup>4</sup> (a study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health to assess the prevalence of mental illness in the nation) to Denton County 2010 Census population data. Of the current Denton County population, we estimate that 66,647 people will meet criteria for one diagnosis in a year.

Table 1.

*Estimated Lifetime Prevalence of Mental Illness in Denton County*  
(Ages 15-64 = 462,830 based off of the 2010 Census)

<b>Disorder</b>	<b>Lifetime Prevalence % (SE)</b>	<b>Estimated Number</b>	<b>Range (95% CI)</b>
<u>Anxiety Disorders</u>			
Any anxiety disorder	28.8 (0.9)	133,295	124,964 – 141,626
Panic disorder	4.7(0.2)	21,753	19,902 – 23,604
Agoraphobia without panic	1.4 (0.1)	6,480	5,554 – 7,405
Specific phobia	12.5 (0.4)	57,854	54,151 – 62,019
Social phobia	12.1 (0.4)	56,002	52,230 – 59,705
Generalized anxiety disorder	5.7 (0.3)	26,381	24,993 – 29,158
Obsessive-compulsive disorder	1.6 (0.3)	7,405	4,628 – 10,182
Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	6.8 (0.4)	31,472	27,770 – 35,175
<u>Mood Disorders</u>			
Any mood disorder	20.8 (0.6)	96,269	90,715 – 101,823
Major depressive disorder	16.6 (0.5)	76,830	72,201 – 81,458
Bipolar (I-II) disorder	3.9 (0.2)	18,050	16,199 – 19,902
<u>Substance Use Disorders</u>			
Any substance use disorder	14.6 (0.6)	67,573	62,019 – 73,127
Alcohol abuse	13.2 (0.6)	61,094	55,539 – 66,648
Alcohol dependence	5.4 (0.3)	24,993	22,216 – 27,770
Drug abuse	7.9 (0.4)	36,564	32,861 – 40,266
Drug dependence	3.0 (0.2)	13,885	12,034 – 15,736
<u>Eating Disorders</u>			
Anorexia nervosa	0.6 (0.2)	2,776	926 – 4,628
Bulimia nervosa	1.0 (0.2)	4,628	2,777 – 6,480
Binge eating disorder	2.8 (0.4)	12,959	926 – 16,662
<u>Any Disorder</u>			
1 Disorder	46.4 (1.1)	214,753	204,571 – 224,935
2 Disorders	27.7 (0.9)	128,204	119,873 – 136,535
≥3 Disorders	17.3 (0.7)	80,070	73,590 – 86,549

Source: Kessler, R.C., Berglund, P., Demler, O., Jin, R., Merikangas, K. R., & Walters, E. E. (2005). Lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset distributions of DSM-IV disorders in the national comorbidity survey replication. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 62, 593-602.

Table 2.

*Estimated 12-month Prevalence of Mental Illness in Denton County*  
(Ages 15-64 = 462,830 based off of the 2010 Census)

<b>Disorder</b>	<b>12-month Prevalence % (SE)</b>	<b>Estimated Number</b>	<b>Range (95% CI)</b>
<u>Anxiety Disorders</u>			
Any anxiety disorder	18.1 (0.7)	83,772	77,309 – 90,164
Panic disorder	2.7 (0.2)	12,496	10,645 – 14,348
Agoraphobia without panic	0.8 (0.1)	3,703	2,777 - 4,628
Specific phobia	8.7 (0.4)	40,266	36,564 – 43,969
Social phobia	6.8 (0.3)	31,472	28,695 – 34,249
Generalized anxiety disorder	3.1 (.02)	14,348	12,496 – 16,199
Obsessive-compulsive disorder	1.0 (0.3)	4,628	1,851 – 7,405
Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	3.5 (0.3)	16,199	13,422 – 18,976
<u>Mood Disorders</u>			
Any mood disorder	9.5 (0.4)	43,969	40,266 – 47,671
Major depressive disorder	6.7 (0.3)	31,009	28,233 – 33,787
Bipolar (I-II) disorder	2.6 (0.2)	12,034	10,282 – 13,885
<u>Substance Use Disorders</u>			
Any substance use disorder	3.8 (0.3)	17,588	14,811 – 19,439
Alcohol abuse	3.1 (0.3)	14,348	11,571 – 17,125
Alcohol dependence	1.3 (0.2)	6,017	4,165 – 7,868
Drug abuse	1.4 (0.1)	6,479	5,554 – 7,405
Drug dependence	0.4 (0.1)	1,851	926 – 2,777
<u>Eating Disorders</u>			
Anorexia nervosa	-	-	-
Bulimia nervosa	0.3 (0.1)	1,388	463 – 2,315
Binge eating disorder	1.2 (0.2)	5,554	3,703 – 7,405
<u>Any Disorder</u>			
1 Disorder	14.40 (0.6)	66,647	61,927 – 72,201
2 Disorders	5.8 (0.3)	26,844	24,067 – 29,621
≥ 3 Disorders	6.0 (0.3)	2,777	24,993 – 30,547

Source: Kessler, R.C., Chiu, W.T., Demler, O., & Walters, E.E.(2005). Prevalence, severity, and comorbidity of 12-month *DSM-IV* disorders in the National Comorbidity Survey Replication. *Archives of General Psychiatry*; 62; 617- 627.

Additionally, when an individual has a serious or extreme impairment in functioning, they can be described as having Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI). SPMI is described as having a cyclical nature which has varying symptom severity in relation to stress. An estimate of the number of individuals with SPMI is on Table 3.

Table 3.

*Estimate of Adults in Denton County Meeting Criteria for SPMI*

	<b>Population</b>	<b>Prevalence</b>	<b>Served</b>	<b>% Served</b>
2012 Denton County Population	515,696	13,408	1,802	13

Source: DSHS, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division, Decision Support Unit

The federal guidelines estimate that 2.6% of the population, 18 years or older, have Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI)<sup>6</sup>. The category of those served refers to individuals who received any type of mental health service at Denton County MHMR, the local mental health authority.

It is important to note that the population estimated to have SPMI makes up 20% of the estimated total population for Denton County that meets one diagnosable disorder in a 12 month period according to Table 2.

## Veterans Mental Health

According to the 2010 Census, there are approximately 39,537 veterans living in Denton County. The RAND Corporation did a study in 2010 which found that 20% of all Iraq and Afghanistan veterans suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or depression. Among those 7,907 soldiers in Denton County, only 50%, or approximately 3,954 veterans will seek treatment. Half of these are shown to receive minimally adequate treatment.

The study also indicated that 19% of veterans (approximately 7,512) in Denton County suffer from a traumatic brain injury (TBI), and 7% (approximately 2,768) are in need of assistance for both TBI and PTSD. In addition, military service doubles the likelihood that a person will commit suicide<sup>7</sup>. Furthermore, an individual diagnosed with both PTSD and Depression is 29 times more likely to commit suicide.

The PTSD distribution between services for Operation New Dawn (OND), Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), and Operations Enduring Freedom (OEF) is: Army 67% of cases, Air Force 9%, Navy 11%, and Marines 13%<sup>8</sup>.



## Children’s Mental Health

In 2012 Cook Children's Healthcare System completed the Community-wide Children's Health Assessment & Planning Survey (CCHAPS) which reported prevalence estimates on mental health for children in North Texas.

The 2010 Census reported there are 153,741 children and adolescents (between the ages 0 and 15) in Denton County. For the CCHAPS 2012 report, they sampled 2,107 respondents and their results are presented in Table 4. These results are contrasted with the 2008 CCHAPS report.

Table 4.

*Estimated Prevalence of Child and Adolescent Mental Illness from CCHAPS  
(Ages 0 – 15 = 153,741 based off 2010 census)*

<b>Diagnosis</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Estimated Number (2012)</b>
ADD or ADHD	4.09%	6.79%	10,433
Anxiety Problems	0.60%	1.79%	2,753
Autism/Asperger's Syndrome	0.48%	1.51%	2,318
Bipolar Disorder	0.24%	0.57%	869
Conduct Disorder	0.12%	0.57%	869
Eating Disorder	-	0.09%	145
Learning Disorder	0.96%	1.79%	2,753
Major or Severe Depression	0.12%	0.57%	869
Other mood disorder	0.12%	0.38%	580
PTSD	-	0.19%	290
Other	0.84%	1.70%	2,608
Dyslexia/Dysgraphia	0.36%	0.38%	580
None chosen	-	0.19%	290
No mental disorder	93.63%	89.63%	13,7802

Source: CCHAPS 2010 Survey Results

When a child’s ability to learn has been affected and they demonstrate atypical behaviors (in addition to other criteria), the child is said to have a Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED). These atypical behaviors include attention problems, internalizing problems, and externalizing problems. An estimate, according to federal guidelines, is that 5% of children and adolescents between the ages of 9 and 17 meet criteria for SED<sup>9</sup>. Table 5 reports estimates for Denton County. As with the estimates for the adult population, 20% of children experiencing mental illness are also experiencing SED.

Table 5.  
*Estimate of Children and Adolescents in Denton County Meeting  
Criteria for SED*

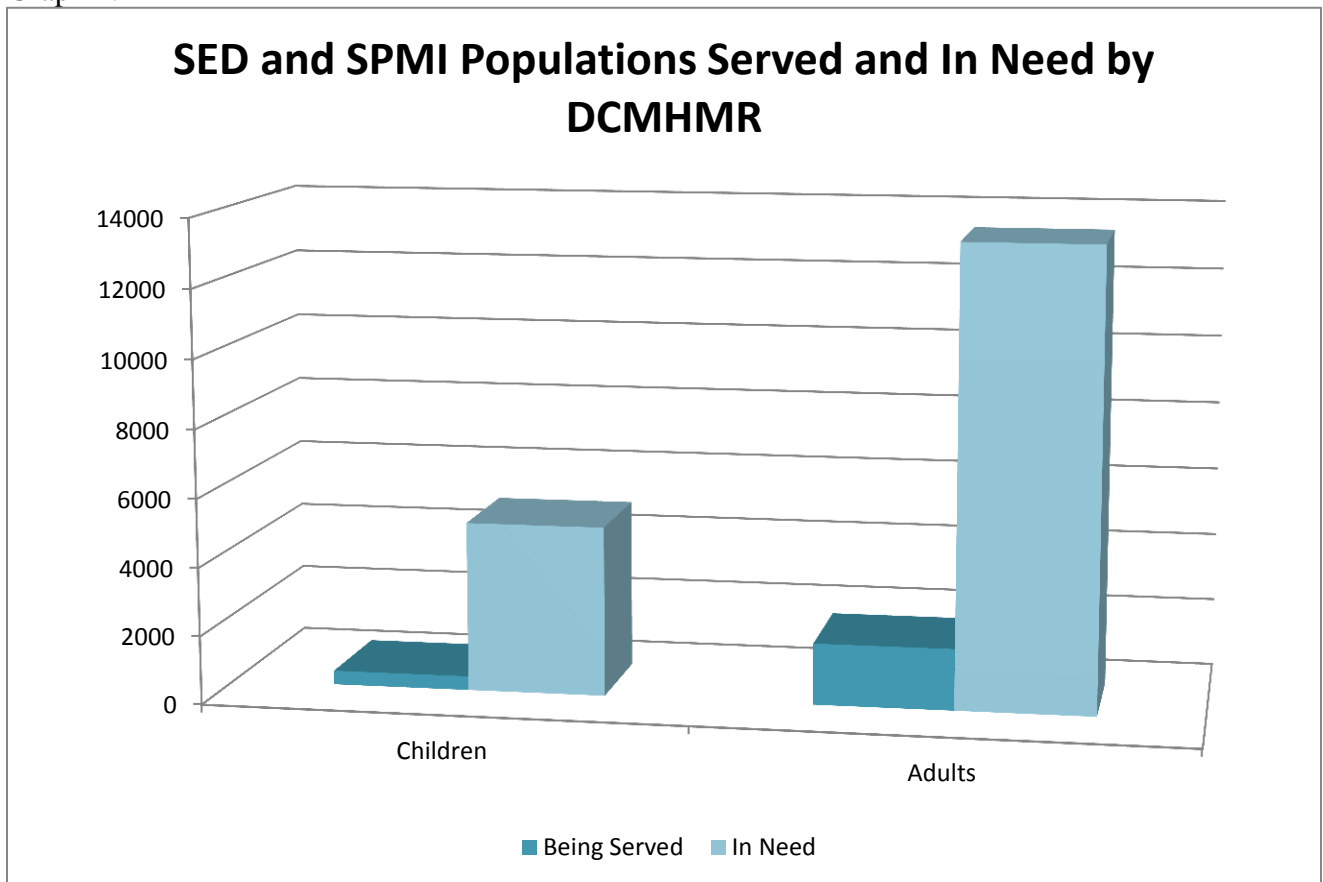
	Population	Prevalence	Served	% Served
2012 Denton County Population	99,515	4,976	410	8

Source: DSHS, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division, Decision Support Unit

As with Table 3, the number *Served* refers to those who received any service at Denton County MHMR.

A comparison of adults with SPMI and children with SED is shown in Graph 1. This illustrates the discrepancy between those in need of services and those who receive them. It is important to note that the SPMI and SED population are those experiencing the most severe mental illness, not all mental illness in general.

Graph 1.



Source: DSHS, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division, Decision

Children’s Advocacy Center for Denton County.

Data for this report was also provided by the Children’s Advocacy Center for Denton County. Table 6 describes the number of children and adults receiving therapy related to abuse, neglect, and trauma. It is interesting to note that while children’s services have increased over the past 15 years, adult services peaked in 2006.

Table 6.

*Children’s Advocacy Center for Denton County Service Report*

<b>Year</b>	<b>Kids in therapy</b>	<b>Adults in therapy</b>	<b>Total Clients in Therapy</b>	<b>Therapy Sessions Provided</b>
1997	124	113	237	457
1998	106	93	199	1,819
1999	156	142	298	3,104
2000	164	147	311	2,929
2001	204	141	345	3,346
2002	230	195	425	4,036
2003	239	200	439	4,078
2004	261	302	563	5,588
2005	287	350	637	6,173
2006	246	357	603	6,249
2007	328	272	600	7,240
2008	290	350	640	8,115
2009	312	347	659	8,653
2010	317	238	555	9,027
2011	321	285	606	9,087
2012	346	232	578	9,004

Source: Children’s Advocacy Center for Denton County Service Report

## Denton County MHMR

Denton County MHMR (DCMHMR) Center is designated the local mental health and intellectual and developmental disabilities authority for Denton County by the Texas Department of State Health. DCMHMR has an extensive waiting list, and serves the mental health community over their funded capacity. Adult mental health patients are treated on an average of 113% over capacity. DCMHMR does not have a waitlist for children, and does not turn children in need away, serving them at an average of 189% over capacity.

DCMHMR does not have: an in-patient mental health/substance abuse unit, a crisis stabilization residential program, housing programs, mental health residential programs. They do offer: limited in-home and family support programs, limited mental illness prevention programs for the indigent, limited out-patient mental health and substance abuse programs for the indigent and residential programs for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). Their waitlist, capacity, and target served are shown in Table 7.

Table 7.

*DCMHMR 2012 Served and Capacity with Adult Wait List*

	<b>Adult Wait List</b>	<b>Adult Served</b>	<b>% Capacity</b>	<b>Children Served</b>	<b>% Capacity</b>
Jan	301	1,306	115%	251	235%
Feb	259	1,308	116%	246	228%
Mar	275	1,300	115%	252	222%
Apr	292	1,320	117%	288	226%
May	308	1,290	114%	230	210%
Jun	307	1,278	113%	207	197%
Jul	340	1,270	112%	176	168%
Aug	294	1,264	112%	160	152%
Sep	320	1,244	110%	171	147%
Oct	334	1,270	112%	166	158%
Nov	298	1,252	111%	177	159%
Dec	283	1,230	109%	181	167%

Source: MHMR FY 2012 Service Numbers Report

DCMHMR may conduct mental health screenings anywhere, but are most often done at hospitals and county jails. DCMHMR receives funding for, and is mandated by the State of Texas to treat only the priority population. This population includes Bipolar I and II, Major Depression, and Schizophrenia. Bipolar I and II can be described as a mood disorder causing either cyclical manic behavior or both manic and depressive behaviors, specified by its severity, duration, and degree of depression and/or mania with or without the presence of psychotic features. Major Depression is described as a mood disorder specified by its severity, recurrence, and rarely presence of psychotic features. Schizophrenia is described as a psychotic disorder with symptoms which may include delusions, hallucinations, and/or disorganized behaviors and/or speech. All other diagnoses are not treated unless the patient is in crisis.

Table 8 reports the number of mental health patients served through DCMHMR.

Table 8.

*Diagnostic Breakdown of Services at DCMHMR*

<b>Diagnosis</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
<i>Priority Population</i>						
Major Depression	1,056	885	680	623	621	600
Bi-polar (I and II)	1,097	996	872	850	883	823
Schizophrenia	375	353	350	326	366	403
<i>Other (In Crisis)</i>						
Anxiety	3	1	3	7	8	5
Personality Disorders	-	-	3	2	3	3
Other Psychoses	4	4	1	1	7	4
Alcohol	1	1	-	-	2	2
Drug Addiction	2	1	1	2	4	2
Other Developmental	185	223	196	215	238	241
No Mental Disorder	-	1	-	1	-	1
Not Reported	6	1	2	56	40	30

Source: DSHS, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division, Decision Support Unit

DCMHMR conducts screenings at multiple locations, primarily at hospitals and their own offices. 90% of screenings completed by DCMHMR in are in response to suicidal ideation or suicide attempts. Medical Hospitals make up the largest location of screenings. Table 9 reports these numbers between 2009 and 2012.

Table 9.

*Number of Adult and Children Crisis Screenings by  
DCMHMR*

<b>Location</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
MHMR Office	429	865	708	527
County Jail	77	103	88	148
City Jail	33	17	33	36
Medical Hospitals	548	629	726	704
Psychiatric Hospital	13	146	137	157
Public Schools	12	19	44	26
JJAEP	19	26	11	17
Client Residence	79	73	47	99
At any PD	12	13	16	20
Other Location	34	20	24	59
MH Court	116	159	101	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,372</b>	<b>2,070</b>	<b>1,935</b>	<b>1,840</b>

Source: DCMHMR Crisis Statistics Worksheet

If these patients qualify, they are placed in outpatient, voluntary inpatient, or involuntary inpatient treatment. See Table 10 for report from 2009 – 2012.

Table 10.

*DCMHMR Client Placement 2009-2012*

<b>Placement</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Outpatient	839	1,229	1,135	1,045
Voluntary Inpatient	302	446	389	377
Involuntary Inpatient	322	365	411	433

Source: DCMHMR Crisis Statistics Worksheet

While there is an increase in the frequency of individuals being treated on an involuntary inpatient basis, this rate has remained relatively constant to the patient population as a whole. Table 11 reports the frequency and type of calls received by DCMHMR 2009-2012.

Table 11.

*DCMHMR Hotline Calls by Category*

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Crisis Calls	1,453	1,436	1,865	2,032
Supported Listening Calls	384	354	352	279
Intakes Scheduled	1,829	1,605	1,874	2,426
Information Calls	8,541	6,389	8,439	8,354
Misc Calls	2,158	1,929	2,503	2,581
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>14,365</b>	<b>11,713</b>	<b>15,033</b>	<b>15,672</b>

Source: DCMHMR Crisis Statistics Worksheet

Table 12 compares the number of screenings done between the northern and southern halves of Denton County.

Table 12.

*DCMHMR Comparison of Screenings within County*

<b>Location</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
North County	1,023	1,479	1,327	1,284
South County	451	596	608	572

Source: DCMHMR Crisis Statistics Worksheet

As can be seen from Table 12, the majority of screenings are taking place in the northern half of Denton County. This may be in part to the distribution of those living in poverty, and the assumed number of individuals able to pay for private services in Southern Denton County.

In 2009, 57% of those who were discharged were listed as those who did not finish treatment or never returned after screening. In 2012, that number dropped to 37% who did not return or complete services.

Suicide

As of 2009, suicide was one of the top ten causes of death in Denton County<sup>10</sup>. According to the Denton County Medical Examiner’s office the majority of suicides in Denton County are in the City of Denton, and the most common method is the use of prescription drugs or alcohol in combination with gunshot wounds. Toxicology reports revealed that 70% of suicide victims had these in their system at the time of death. The percentage of suicides that involve non-prescription narcotics, such opiates and methamphetamine, is low. Even though suicides have decreased in recent years, mental health screenings are rising within hospitals, schools, and jails.

Table 13 reports the number of suicides for Denton County as well as the number of suicides for Collin County, as a comparison.

Table 13.

*Suicide Rate Comparison 2009-2012*

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Denton County	64	58	66	66
Collin County	59	87	97	87
Johnson County	16	29	12	13
Parker County	10	18	25	15

Source: Tarrant County and Collin County Medical Examiners’ Office

## Denton State Supported Living Center (DSSLC)

Approximately 4,000 individuals in the State of Texas, who have mental and/or developmental disabilities, reside in State Supported Living Centers. Denton State Supported Living Center was established in 1960 and currently employs about 1,700 staff, is home to 490 individuals, and is the largest of 13 state supported living centers in Texas. Of the 490 residents on campus, there are approximately 300 residents who use wheelchairs and roughly 100 individuals who are listed as medically fragile. Due to the nature of the disorders and physical ailments, all individuals require diversity in medical support.

The Denton Chamber of Commerce learned in the late 1950's that the state was planning to build a mental retardation (now referred to as Intellectual of Developmental Disability) facility in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. Citizens donated money for the purchase of 200 acres of land, and the land was donated to the state with the stipulation that it be used to provide services to people with intellectual disabilities. Today it offers a central kitchen that prepares and serves all meals / snacks daily, a 30-bed infirmary, a café, cemetery, full medical and dental clinics, laundry facilities, a shopping center, a custom wheelchair shop, and much more. DSSLC is an environment in which the residents live independently while providing employment opportunities to any person who wants to earn money. DSSLC offers special programs such as horticulture in the greenhouse, pottery in the ceramics program, and jewelry / home décor in the creations program. A tiny shop on the square in Denton called Impressions sells one of a kind gifts made by DSSLC residents.

### *2013 DSSLC Demographics*

Population	490
Male	57%
Female	43%
Ages/Under 21	5
Ages/22-54	260
Ages/55+	225

### *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) at DSSLC*

Level of IDD Borderline	0%
Level of IDD Mild	8.98%
Level of IDD Moderate	12.04%
Level of IDD Severe	18.37%
Level of IDD Profound	59.19%
Level of IDD Unspecified	1.43%
Health Status Moderate	189
Health Status Severe	108



## Mental Health and Incarceration

Denton County does not have a public facility to provide forensic housing and has to transport these individuals out of County. Judicial proceedings must be conducted in Denton, causing interruption to treatment, and costing the county transportation and court costs.

The DCMHMR Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) has been developed to quickly respond to mental health crises. This team responds to crises 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. An appropriate protective response to such emergencies often requires that law enforcement, the Mental Health Sheriff’s deputies, make a detention without a commitment. These deputies work with MCOT and can travel to the location of screening. If, based on the recommendation of MCOT, the deputies agree that hospitalization is necessary; clients will be taken to a local hospital with psychiatric care facilities to await a competency hearing, usually the next day. This is so that necessary treatment can begin immediately.

Table 14 shows the average number of weekly psychiatric evaluations that are provided to inmates in the Denton County Jail.

Table 14.

*Denton County Jail Correctional Health Psychiatric Evaluations 2012*

	<b>Low Census</b>	<b>High Census</b>	<b>Average Evaluations</b>	<b>% of Low Census</b>	<b>% of High Census</b>
Jan	1,179	1,208	105	8.91%	8.69%
Feb	1,165	1,212	199	17.08%	16.42%
Mar	1,141	1,165	132	11.57%	11.33%
Apr	1,114	1,163	114	10.23%	9.80%
May	1,140	1,181	127	11.14%	10.75%
Jun	1,195	1,258	148	12.38%	11.76%
Jul	1,170	1,265	109	9.32%	8.62%
Aug	1,236	1,282	118	9.55%	9.20%
Sep	1,341	1,341	145	10.81%	10.81%
Oct	1,250	1,331	217	17.36%	16.30%
Nov	1,202	1,255	185	15.39%	14.74%
Dec	1,111	1,205	179	16.11%	14.85%

Source: Denton County Correctional Health, Jail Health Department

The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) does not track juvenile justice and criminal justice involvement. However, all the jails in the state report “bookings” to the Mental Health system. In 2012 there were 856 clients with exact matches (based on demographics) to clients that are being or have been served by DCMHMR in the past.

### Cited Sources

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- <sup>6</sup> Federal Register, Volume 64, Number 121, Thursday, June 24, 1999, Notices, pages 33890-33897
- <sup>7</sup> Tanielian, T., & Jaycox, L. H. RAND, Center for Military Health Policy Research. (2008). *Invisible wounds of war: Psychological and cognitive injuries, their consequences, and services to assist recovery*. Santa Monica, California: RAND Corporation.
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- <sup>10</sup> <http://soupfin.tdh.state.tx.us/death10.htm>
- <sup>11</sup> Parmer, E. District Attorney, Family Law Division. (2005). *Denton county criminal justice community plan fy2005*. Denton, Texas: District Attorney Family Law Division.