

## **Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project**

Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Department of Mental Health  
108 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project  
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Brennan Martin

DATE: August 03, 2007

RE: Children in DCF Custody Served by CMH programs

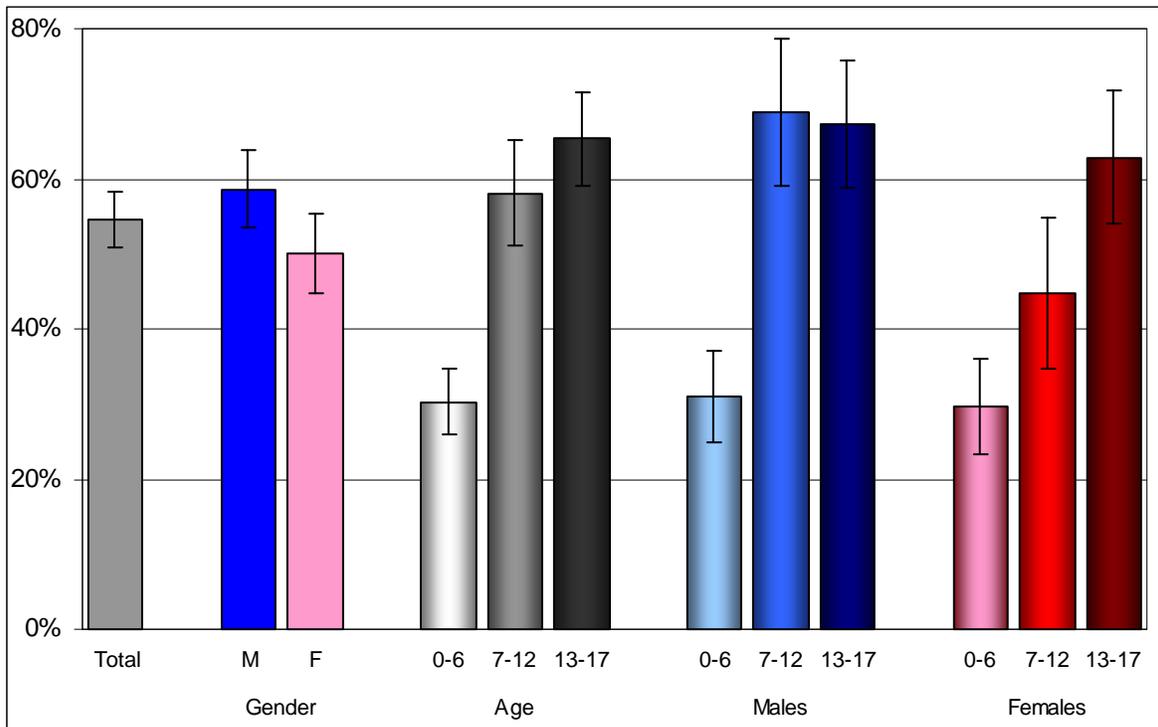
This brief report provides information on the proportion of children and adolescents in the custody of the Vermont Department of Children and Families (DCF) who also received Community Mental Health (CMH) services during FY2006. This analysis was requested by Charlie Biss (DMH Child, Adolescent and Family Program Director) in response to a request for information from Paul Cillo of the Public Assets Institute.

Two data sets were used in this analysis. One data set, provided by DMH-designated CMH programs, includes basic demographic information for all individuals assigned to children's services programs during FY2006. The second data set, provided by DCF, includes basic demographic information for all young people in state custody during the same year. Because these two data sets do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine the number of young people in state custody who also received community mental health services during the year under examination.

As you will see, more than half of the young people in DCF custody received community mental health services during FY2006. Young males in custody were somewhat more likely than young females to receive CMH services (59% vs. 50%). Utilization of CMH services increased with age, from 30% in the 0-6 age group to 58% in the 7-12 age group, and 65% in the 13 to 18 age group.

We look forward to your comments and your suggestions for further analysis of these data. Please forward your comments and suggestions to [pip@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:pip@vdh.state.vt.us) or 802.863.7249.

## Children in DCF Custody served by CMH Programs, FY06



|               | Total DCF  | DCF also in CMH Programs |           |
|---------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Total</b>  | 1,864 ± 29 | 1,019 ± 67               | 55% ± 4%  |
| <b>Male</b>   | 1,010 ± 22 | 592 ± 51                 | 59% ± 5%  |
| <b>Female</b> | 855 ± 19   | 427 ± 44                 | 50% ± 5%  |
| <b>Age</b>    |            |                          |           |
| <b>0-6</b>    | 485 ± 10   | 147 ± 21                 | 30% ± 4%  |
| <b>7-12</b>   | 401 ± 9    | 233 ± 28                 | 58% ± 7%  |
| <b>13-17</b>  | 978 ± 26   | 639 ± 58                 | 65% ± 6%  |
| <b>Male</b>   |            |                          |           |
| <b>0-6</b>    | 253 ± 8    | 78 ± 15                  | 31% ± 6%  |
| <b>7-12</b>   | 221 ± 7    | 152 ± 21                 | 69% ± 10% |
| <b>13-17</b>  | 536 ± 19   | 361 ± 44                 | 67% ± 8%  |
| <b>Female</b> |            |                          |           |
| <b>0-6</b>    | 232 ± 7    | 69 ± 15                  | 30% ± 6%  |
| <b>7-12</b>   | 181 ± 6    | 81 ± 18                  | 45% ± 10% |
| <b>13-17</b>  | 442 ± 17   | 278 ± 38                 | 63% ± 9%  |

Because data sets used in this analysis do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine caseload size and overlap (with 95% confidence intervals).

Children in Custody include those with DCF codes 'CC', 'DC', 'UC', and 'VC'.