

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Agency of Human Services, Department of Mental Health
103 South Main Street, Waterbury, Vermont 05671

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

FROM: John Pandiani and Sheila Leno

DATE: December 24, 2010

RE: Diagnoses of Children Served 1985-2010

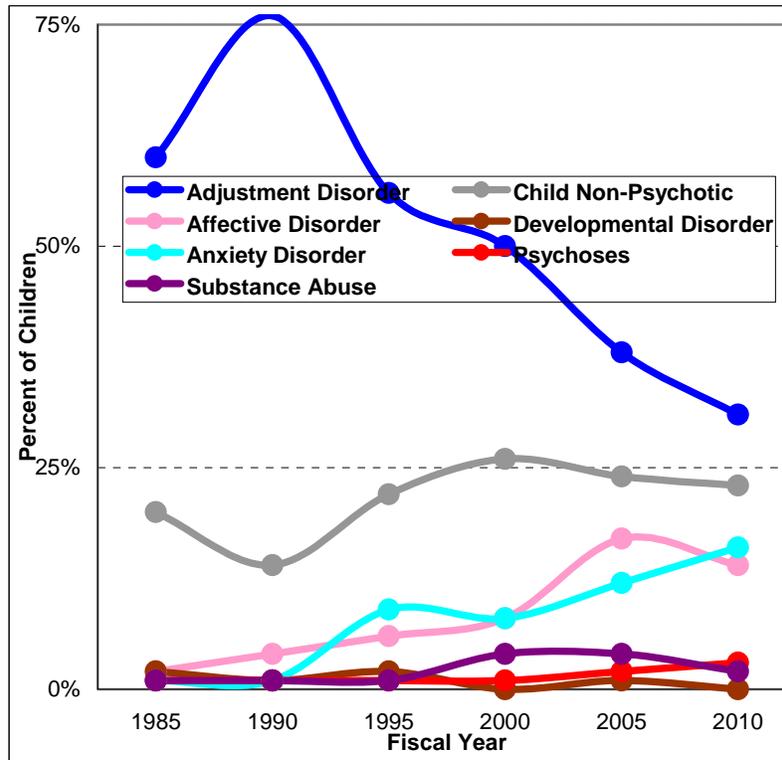
This week's brief report is the first in a series that will mark the 25th anniversary of the publication of the first DMH Annual Statistical Report by examining changes in various aspects of Vermont's mental health service delivery system during fiscal years 1985-2010. This report focuses on changes in the diagnoses of children and adolescents served by Community Mental Health Children's Services Programs during the study period.

The diagnostic data reported here are from standard client and service data reports submitted to the Vermont Department of Mental Health. The proportion of children and adolescents served who were identified with each of eight diagnostic categories during each year of the study period is provided. Children may receive more than one diagnosis. For this reason, the sum of the percents of children in each year could be greater than 100%.

As you will see, Adjustment Disorders was the most commonly applied diagnosis during every year of the study period, although the proportion of all children with this diagnosis declined substantially from a high of 76% in 1990 to 31% in 2010. Child Non-psychotic Disorders (including Attention Deficit, Conduct, and Anxiety disorders), second ranked among diagnoses during the study period, increased from 20% of children served in 1985 and 14% in 1990 to more than 24% and 23% in 2005 and 2010. The prevalence of Anxiety Disorders increased most dramatically, from 1% in 1985 and 1990, to 16% in 2005 and 14% in 2010, followed by Affective Disorders, which increased from 2% in 1985 and 4% in 1990 to 17% in 2005 and 14% in 2010. Diagnoses of Developmental Disorder, Psychoses, and Substance Abuse, were the least prevalent during the study period, although the assignment of Psychosis and Substance Abuse diagnoses to children and adolescents increased somewhat during the study period.

We look forward to your questions, comments, interpretation of these findings, and requests for further analyses. As always, we can be reached at pip@ahs.state.vt.us or 802-241-4049.

Diagnoses of Children Served FY1985 - FY2010



Diagnoses	Percent of Children					
	Fiscal Year					
	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
Adjustment Disorder	60%	76%	56%	50%	38%	31%
Child Non-Psychotic	20%	14%	22%	26%	24%	23%
Affective Disorder	2%	4%	6%	8%	17%	14%
Developmental Disorder	2%	1%	2%	0%	1%	0%
Anxiety Disorder	1%	1%	9%	8%	12%	16%
Psychoses	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%
Substance Abuse	1%	1%	1%	4%	4%	2%

Based on analysis of Quarterly and Monthly Service Report (MSR) data submitted to the Vermont Department of Mental Health by the designated agencies during FY1985 - FY2010. The percent of children in each diagnoses category is based on primary diagnosis reported.

Analysis conducted by the Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project