



NEGATIVE OUTCOMES

General Poor Mental Health (Youth)

INDICATOR

Percent of youth with poor mental health.

Numerator Number of students reporting "Yes"

Denominator High school youth (all grades)

DESCRIPTION

This is a proxy metric for poor mental health or depression found in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). This question asks youth, "During the past 12 months, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?"

IMPORTANCE

Self-reported feelings of sadness and hopelessness is a straight-forward indication of how youth in Wisconsin are fairing.

LIMITATIONS

- This is not a diagnostic tool for depression, simply one metric that may indicate presence of the disease.
- The following states are not included in the 2015 comparison: MN, AZ, CA, CO, IN, IA, MO, PA, UT.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSES

Wisconsin Analyses

Subpopulation	% Youth with Poor Mental Health
Black	31.0%
Hispanic	31.6%
White	25.3%
Multiple Races	34.0%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	58.4%
Heterosexual	22.9%

National Analyses

Subpopulation	% Youth with Poor Mental Health
Black	25.2%
Hispanic	35.3%
White	28.6%
Multiple Races	38.8%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	60.4%
Heterosexual	29.4%

YEAR:

WI: 2017 / US: 2015

WI	US	Best	Worst
27.0%*	29.9%	24.1% NE	34.2% AZ

PAST YEAR: 2013

WI	US
24.6%*	29.9%

* Indicates a statistically significant difference from the US value at $p < 0.05$.

SOURCE

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017). Wisconsin 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey Summary Tables. Retrieved from <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/yrbs>.

National data from the CDC YRBS Youth Online (2015), retrieved from <https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Default.aspx>.