
Medicaid Highlights

Mental-Behavioral Health Data: 2001 NHIS

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These data highlights are based on analysis of the 2001 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) public use data (<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm>). NHIS is a multi-purpose survey conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. NHIS has been conducted continuously since 1957.

INTRODUCTION

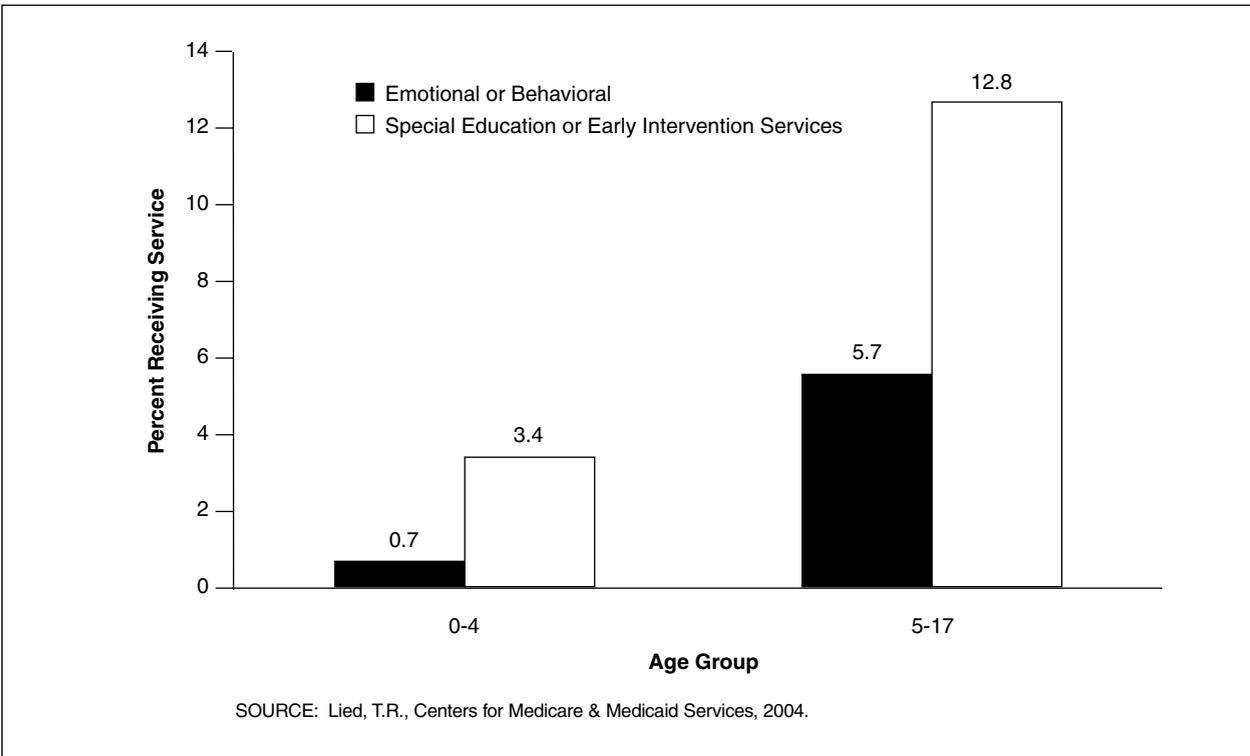
In 2001, there were more than 100,000 total NHIS person section respondents. Medicaid was mentioned as the

major source of health insurance by 9,230 persons from this survey (9.2 percent). Of the 9,230 persons for whom Medicaid was identified as the major source of health insurance, 5,137 or 55.7 percent were children under age 18, and 44.3 percent were adults age 18 or over at the time of the survey. Typically, an adult caretaker responded to the survey as a proxy for the child. A total of 11.7 percent of the surveyed children and 48.0 percent of the adults were limited in at least one way.

The author is with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The statements expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of CMS.

Figure 1

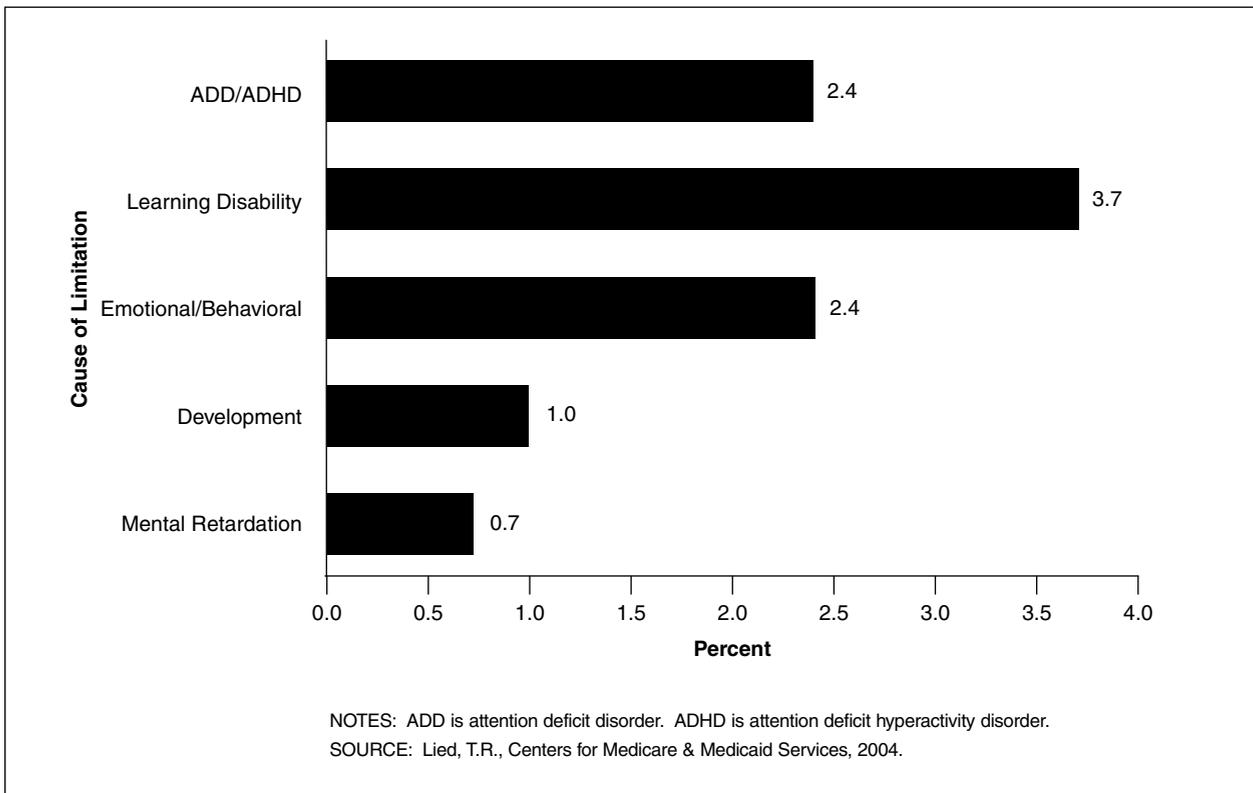
Medicaid Children Receiving Special Services for Emotional, Behavioral, or Learning Problems: 2001



- Less than 1 percent (0.7 percent) of children age group 0-4 received emotional or behavioral services.
- Close to 6 percent (5.7 percent) of children age group 5-17 received emotional or behavioral services.
- More than 3 percent (3.4 percent) of children age group 0-4, and nearly 13 percent (12.8 percent) of children age group 5-17 received special education or early intervention services.

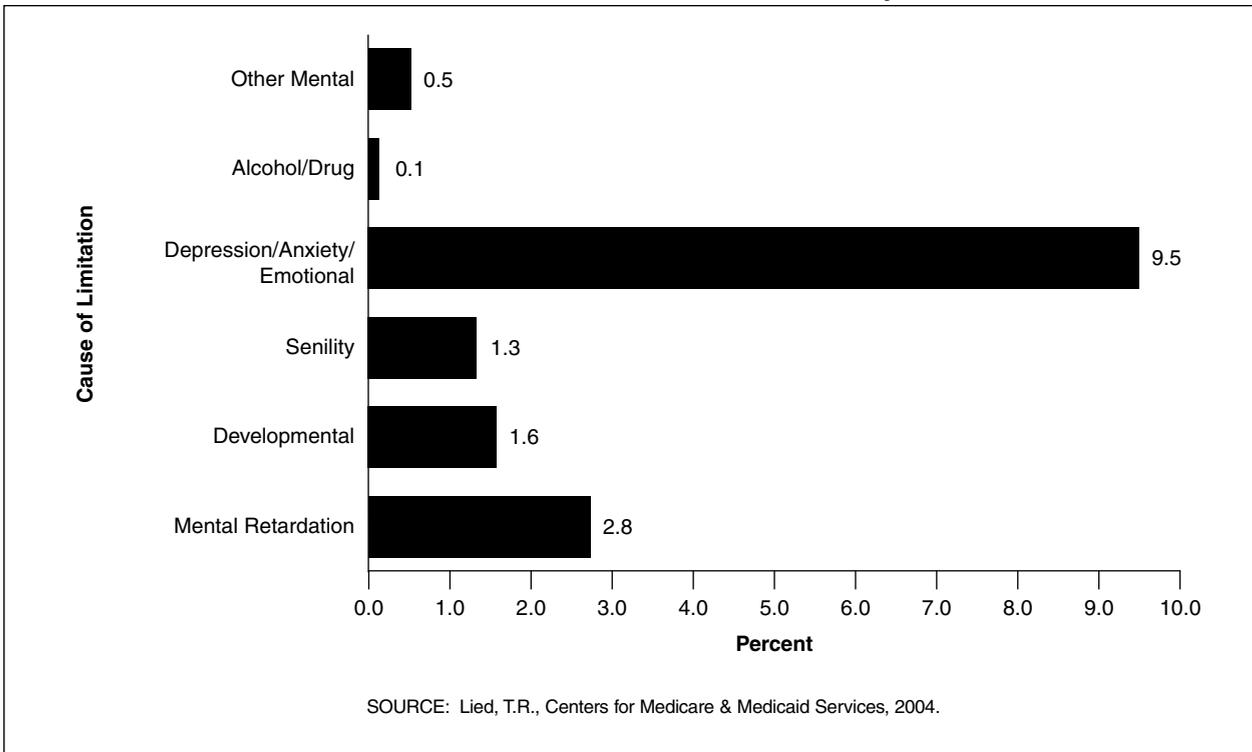
Figure 2

Percent of Medicaid Children with Mental, Learning, or Emotional Problems as a Cause of Limitation: 2001



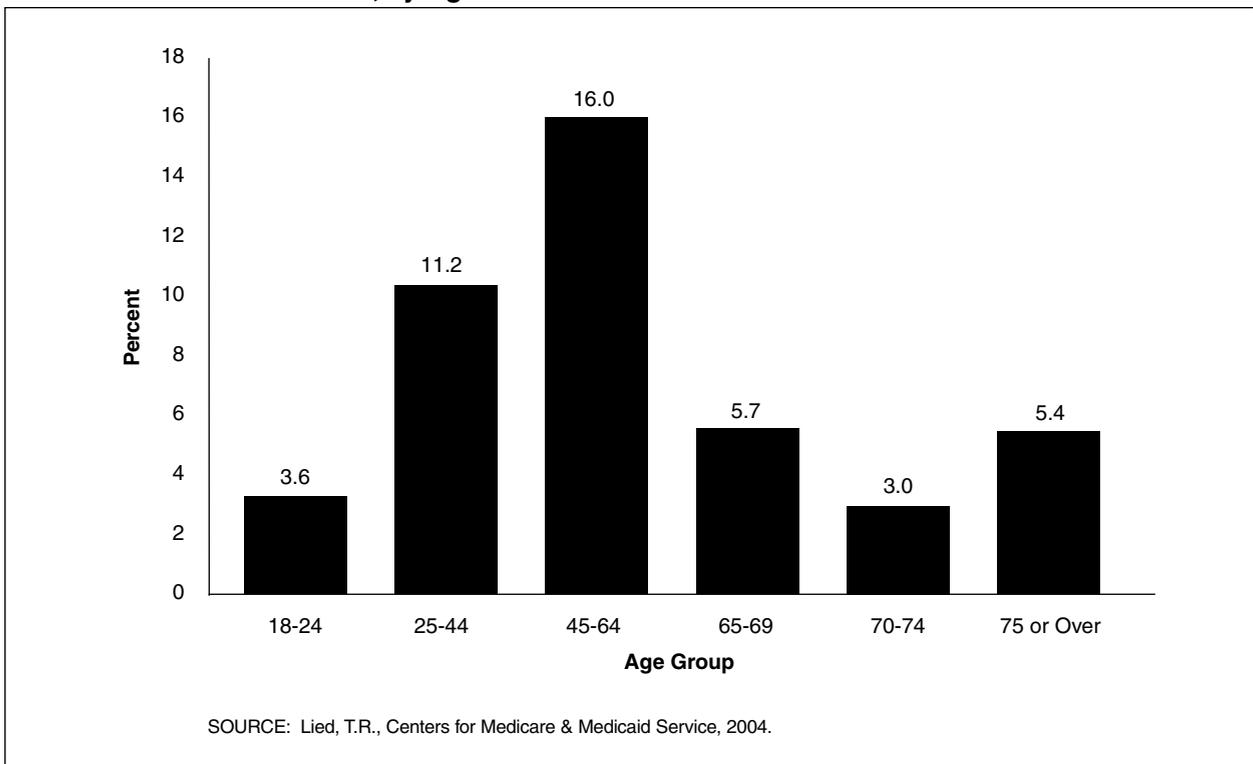
- Attention deficit disorder and/or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder caused 2.4 percent of children under age 18 to be limited in some way according to survey respondents.
- A learning disability caused 3.7 percent of children under age 18 to be limited in some way.
- Emotional/behavioral problems caused 2.4 percent of children under age 18 to be limited in some way.
- Developmental problems (1.0 percent) and/or mental retardation (0.7 percent) also contributed to limitations in Medicaid children.

Figure 3
Medicaid Adults with Mental-Behavioral Limitations, by Cause: 2001



- Depression, anxiety, and emotional problems caused 9.5 percent of adults age group 18 or over in Medicaid to be limited in some way.
- Sixteen percent of adults in the age group 45-64 and 11.2 percent of adults age group 25-44 had depression, anxiety, and emotional problems mentioned as a cause of limitations. In contrast, only 3 percent of adults age group 70-74 had these problems mentioned as a cause of limitations.
- Only 0.1 percent of adults, about 1 in 1,000, had alcohol or drug problems mentioned as a cause of limitations.

Figure 4
Medicaid Adults, by Age with Mental-Behavioral Health Limitations: 2001



- The adult age group 45-64 had the greatest percentage with depression, anxiety, or emotional problems causing limitations (16.0 percent).
- The age group 25-44 ranked second at 11.2 percent followed by adults age group 65-69, 5.7 percent, adults age group 75 or over, 5.4 percent, adults age group 18-24, 3.6 percent, and adults age group 70-74, 3.0 percent.

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