



NC-TOPPS SNAPSHOT

Educational Performance among Adolescents in Mental Health Treatment

In many instances, the educational performance of adolescents in mental health treatment is negatively impacted by difficulties due to their mental health condition. Accordingly, education is a major area of intervention within treatment. This snapshot examines the educational success (passing grades and school attendance) of adolescent consumers ages 12 to 17 at their Initial Interview compared to the 3 Month and 6 Month Update Interviews during SFY 2007/08.

		Received Mostly A's, B's, C's			Missed School Due to Suspension		
		Initial	3 Month Update	6 Month Update	Initial	3 Month Update	6 Month Update
Overall N = 3,073		70%	76%	76%	29%	21%	21%
Males	African Am. N = 1,175	65%	71%	75%	40%	30%	30%
	Caucasian N = 452	66%	72%	71%	30%	22%	24%
	Other N = 158	67%	71%	71%	39%	30%	29%
Females	African Am. N = 855	76%	81%	83%	26%	19%	17%
	Caucasian N = 307	75%	80%	81%	16%	13%	12%
	Other N = 126	73%	78%	75%	25%	11%	14%

Table Description: The preceding table provides educational information for adolescents ages twelve to seventeen by gender in three racial/ethnic categories during SFY 2007/08. Of the 14,589 adolescents who participated in an NC-TOPPS Initial Interview, only 3,073 had data for the 3 and 6 Month Update Interviews and were enrolled in an academic K-12 school at all three time periods.

Received Mostly A's, B's, C's. Overall there was a six percentage point increase in the percentage of students who received A's, B's, & C's over a 6 month time period. All groups showed a general increase in percentage points of students whose grades improved, with African American male consumers showing the highest percentage point increase. In comparison to males, a greater average percentage of females received A's, B's, & C's at each time period. Overall, when compared to their younger peers, children ages six to eleven, the trend of improvement remains, but smaller percentages of older adolescents received mostly passing marks. (For children ages (6–11) SFY 2007/08 data see Issue 3, 2009 NC-TOPPS Snapshot.)

Missed School Due to Suspension. Overall there was an eight percentage point decrease in the percentage of students who missed school due to suspension over a 6 month time period. All groups showed a decrease in suspension percentage points by the 6 Month Update Interview. In comparison to males, a smaller percentage of females missed school due to suspension. Although Caucasian Males and Other Females had an increase in suspension between the 3 and 6 Month Update Interview; Other Females had the highest percentage point decrease in suspensions. Overall, when compared to their younger peers, the trend of improvement remains but greater percentages of older adolescents missed school due to suspension.

TIME PERIOD: INITIAL ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED JULY 2007–JUNE 2008 MATCHED TO THE 3 & 6 MONTH UPDATE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2008

SOURCE: NC-TOPPS ADOLESCENT (12 – 17) MENTAL HEALTH CONSUMERS – STATEWIDE