

Who's at Risk for Disability: Lessons from Texas DMIE

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The Texas DMIE Study

Background

The Texas Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment (DMIE) is a study designed to examine whether or not working people with behavioral health conditions can remain independent and employed if they are provided with health benefits and employment services. The study began in April 2007 and will continue until September 2009.

State-Local Partnership

Texas DMIE is a partnership between the State and the Harris County Hospital District (HCHD), the fourth largest hospital district in the nation, which serves over 500,000 people each year. Over half of Harris County's population lives in the city of Houston.

Target Population

Participants in Texas DMIE are working adults under age 60 enrolled in HCHD's *Gold Card* program that provides discounted access to healthcare in the District. Over three-quarters of DMIE participants (compared to one-quarter of all Texans) lack private health insurance. The sample includes working people with serious mental illness (i.e., schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, or major depressive disorder), or other mental illness or substance abuse conditions coupled with a significant physical health problem that could potentially lead to disability status.

Data Collection

DMIE participants complete a telephone survey when they join the study (baseline) and annually after that through the study's end. Data in this poster come from the baseline survey, except for ICD-9 diagnoses, which come from participants' medical records.

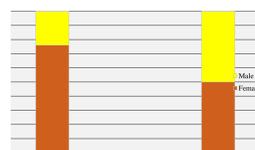
Additional data are also collected from medical and service provider records.

Services Offered

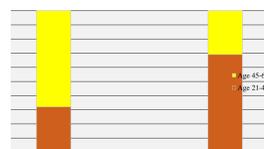
At study entry, Texas DMIE participants are randomly assigned to a *control group* that receives services normally available through HCHD, or an *intervention group* that receives case management, employment support services, substance abuse services, and additional medical, dental, and behavioral health services.

Who Are DMIE Participants?

Gender: Texas DMIE participants are predominantly female.



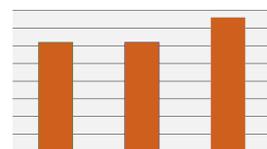
Age: By design, participants' age ranged from 21 to 60. Their average age is 47, with two-thirds in the 45-60 age range.



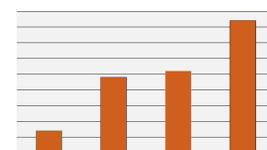
Race/Ethnicity: Three-quarters of Texas DMIE participants are African-American or Hispanic.



Educational Level: About 70% have a HS diploma or higher, and 38% have completed some college.



Marital Status: About three-quarters of DMIE participants are not currently married. Three-quarters of participants have children.



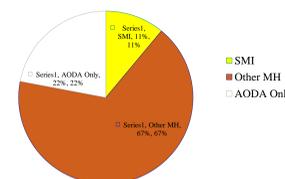
Income/Percent of Poverty: Participants' average household income is \$17,250. Average household size is 3.25. About 59% are at 100% of poverty or less and 81% are at 150% of poverty or less.

Poverty Threshold	Cumulative Percent
100%	59%
135%	78%
150%	81%
175%	87%
200%	90%
>200%	100%

Health Conditions

ICD-9 Diagnoses from Medical Records:

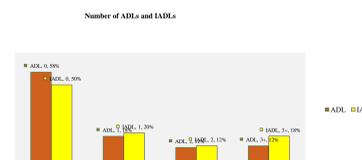
- 11% of participants have Serious Mental Illness, such as Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, or Major Depression.
- 67% have other mental health diagnoses accompanied by serious physical diagnoses.
- 22% have a substance abuse diagnosis only.



ADLs /IADLs:

Activities of Daily Living scale assesses difficulties with 1) Bathing; 2) Dressing; 3) Eating; 4) Getting in/out of bed/chairs; 5) Walking; 6) Getting Outside; 7) Toileting

Instrumental Activities of Daily Living scale assesses difficulties with 1) Meal Preparation; 2) Grocery Shopping; 3) Money Management; 4) Using Telephone; 5) Heavy Housework; 6) Light Housework; 7) Getting to Places Outside Walking Distance; 8) Managing Medic



SF-12:

Self rating of physical and mental health on a scale of 0 – 100 (50 is norm for general population, with a lower score indicating a higher degree of impairment)

- Texas DMIE participants rated
- 38 on overall physical health
 - 49 on overall mental health

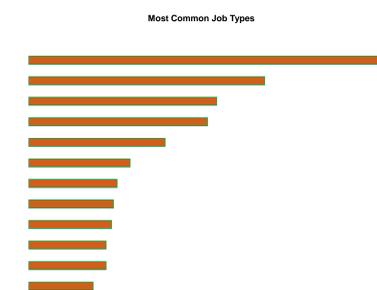
Patient Self-Reported Health Problems:

Self Reported Health Problems	Percentage
High Blood Pressure	58%
Allergies	52%
Depression	51%
Chronic fatigue	49%
Cholesterol	46%
Arthritis	45%
Chronic back/neck	45%
Chronic sleeping problems	41%
Anxiety	34%
Other chronic pain	34%
Migraine	32%
Chronic heartburn	31%
Diabetes	31%
Obesity	31%

Employment Characteristics

Job Types

Types of occupations held by DMIE participants



Work Hours:

DMIE participants worked an average of 1526 hours in the past year or approximately 30 hours per week

Received Public Assistance

38% received some kind of public assistance in the past year, such as TANF, food stamps, subsidized housing, Medicaid, vocational rehabilitation or unemployment assistance

Access to Health Insurance Through Work

Almost 80% of participants lacked access to health insurance at work

Work Motivation

Participants had positive work-related attitudes and expected to continue working over the next few years.

- Positive work attitudes 77%
- Negative work attitudes 9%
- Positive work goals 88%
- Positive work expectations 84%

Summary

DMIE participants are predominantly female, aged 45-60, African American or Hispanic. Three-quarters are not currently married and most have children. Most have at least a HS diploma. They tend to work in blue collar jobs, and average household income puts a majority at the poverty threshold. About 11% have a serious mental illness and the others have different behavioral diagnoses or substance abuse. Because so many are below 250% of poverty, few are able to purchase health insurance through their employer and about two-fifths have received some kind of public assistance in the past year. Despite these challenges, a large majority have positive work-related attitudes and expect to continue working over the next few years.