



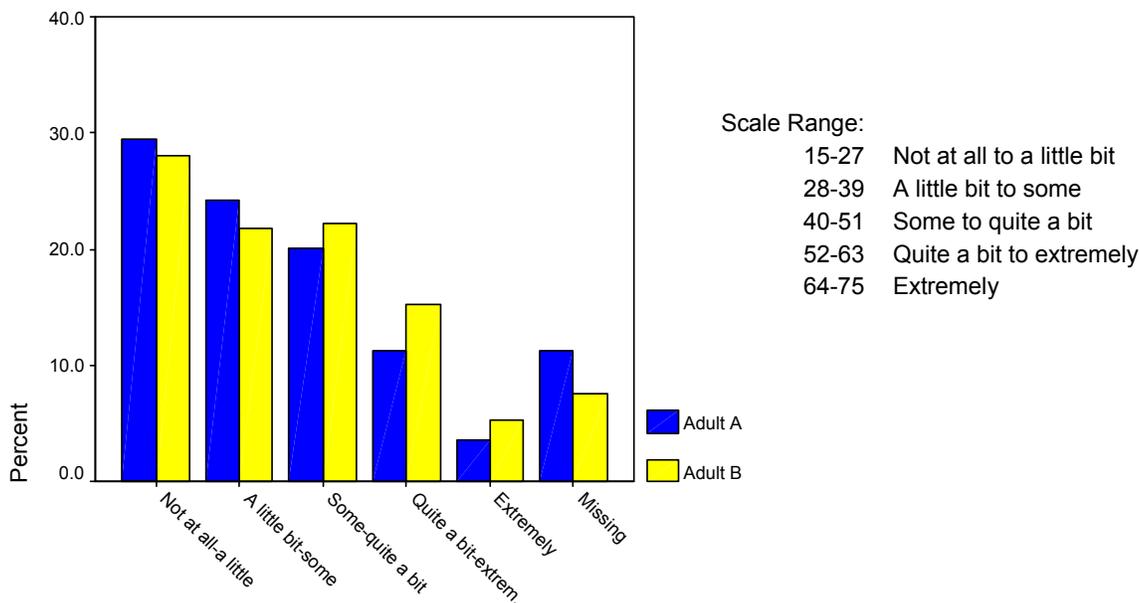
Ohio Mental Health Consumer Outcomes System Report 2: Adult Symptom Distress

The purpose of this report is to provide a closer look at symptom distress as measured by a scale included on Adult Consumer Form A (completed by adults with severe and persistent mental illness) and Adult Consumer Form B (completed by adults with less severe mental illnesses) of the Ohio Mental Health Consumer Outcomes System. As with the *Initial Statewide Report*¹, this report is intended to provide constituents in the mental health system with statewide data that they can use to compare an individual's scores or average agency or board area scores. At this time, approximately 30% of Adult A consumers, and slightly less than one-quarter of Adult B consumers, are represented in this report; therefore, data should be used with caution.

The Symptom Distress Scale is the sum of 15 items (Part 3, Questions 17-31) and was designed to measure the subjective amount of distress caused by psychiatric symptoms, not merely the objective presence of symptoms. Scale scores range from 15 to 75, with *higher scores* indicating *more* symptom distress.

Current Status

The following graph compares the most recent Adult Consumer Form A and B ratings in the statewide database as of May 12, 2003. A slightly larger percentage of individuals who completed Adult A forms (54%), as compared to individuals who completed Adult B forms (50%), have scale scores that indicate they experienced from no to some distress from psychiatric symptoms in the seven days prior to the time of the rating (i.e., the first two categories). Conversely, a larger percentage of individuals who completed Adult B forms (43%), than Adult A forms (35%), have scale scores that indicate they experienced from some to extreme amounts of distress (i.e., the last three categories).



The following table displays the mean (average) and median Symptom Distress Scale scores for the most recent Adult A and Adult B ratings in the statewide database. 17,334 individuals have at least one Adult Consumer Form A rating of Symptom Distress. The mean scale score for these individuals' most recent ratings is 36.2 (SD=14.4). The mean scale score for 12,275 individuals with Adult Consumer Form B ratings is 38.1 (SD=15.4). On average, Adult B scale scores are significantly higher (indicating more distress) than Adult A scores ($t(29,607)=-11.0, p<.001$).

	Number of Ratings	Mean	Median	SD
Adult A	17,334	36.2	35.0	14.4
Adult B	12,275	38.1	37.0	15.4

¹ The Initial Statewide Report is available via the Outcomes Web site: <http://www.mh.state.oh.us/initiatives/outcomes/outcomes.html>

In Relation to Approximate Number of Days between Date of Admission and Administration

The following two tables demonstrate the impact of time in treatment on Symptom Distress Scale scores as measured by the length of time between the date of agency admission and the date of Outcomes survey administration. For several categories of ratings, mean and median Symptom Distress Scale scores for each Adult Consumer Form A and B rating in the statewide Outcomes database are displayed.

Adult A

Over sixty percent of the Adult Consumer Form A ratings in the statewide database show a difference of at least two years between the date of admission to the agency and the administration of the Outcomes rating form. Average Symptom Distress scores decrease as the amount of time between the date of admission and administration increases.

	Number of Ratings	Mean	Median	SD
30 days	5,058	41.4	42.0	15.0
180 days	1,158	37.0	36.0	13.9
1 year	2,015	36.1	34.0	14.2
2-5 years	6,765	34.7	33.0	13.9
6-9 years	3,724	33.2	31.0	13.0
10-19 years	3,000	31.9	29.0	13.0
20 years+	548	29.3	27.0	11.5

Adult B

As expected, for over ninety percent of the ratings for adults with less severe mental illnesses in the statewide database, there is a difference of less than one year between the date of admission to the agency and the administration of the Outcomes rating form. For eighty percent of the ratings there is a difference of approximately 30 days. With the exception of the last two categories, "1 year" and "2 years+," average Symptom Distress scores decrease as the amount of time between the date of admission and administration increases.

	Number of Ratings	Mean	Median	SD
30 days	11,244	39.5	39.0	15.5
90 days	1,021	35.7	34.0	14.7
180 days	577	33.9	31.0	14.6
270 days	331	31.9	29.0	14.2
1 year	491	34.9	34.0	14.2
2 years+	306	34.4	33.0	13.8

In Relation to Demographics

The following tables display average Symptom Distress Scale scores for the most recent Adult Consumer Form A and B ratings in the statewide database for various demographic groups.

Gender

On average, females report significantly greater amounts of distress than males across both populations (Adult A: $t(16,083)=17.7, p<.001$; Adult B: $t(12,262)=22.5, p<.001$).

		Male	Female
<i>ADULT A</i>	# of Ratings	6,761	9,324
	Mean	33.5	37.6
	SD	13.7	14.6
<i>ADULT B</i>	# of Ratings	4,917	7,347
	Mean	34.4	40.7
	SD	15.4	14.9

Race

Considering Adult Consumer Form A ratings, Caucasians report more distress, on average, than African-Americans. However, for Adult Consumer Form B ratings, average scores for Caucasians and African-Americans are not significantly different. For both Adult A and B ratings, the average score for all other racial groups combined is significantly higher (indicating more distress) than the average scores for both Caucasians and African-Americans (Adult A: $F(2, 13,246)= 52.0, p<.001$; Adult B: $F(2, 10,431)=3.8, p=.02$).

		White/ Caucasian	Black/ African-Am	Hispanic/ Latino	Native Am/ Pacific Is	Asian	Multi-racial	Other
<i>ADULT A</i>	# of Ratings	8,281	3,070	146	142	59	1,379	172
	Mean	36.3	33.8	39.7	38.8	32.8	37.9	36.5
	SD	14.2	14.7	15.0	14.4	13.2	14.3	15.1
<i>ADULT B</i>	# of Ratings	8,353	1,411	124	96	26	341	83
	Mean	38.5	38.0	37.6	39.7	39.2	41.6	37.8
	SD	15.2	15.7	16.1	15.7	14.9	15.6	16.8

Age

On average, Adult A consumers in the oldest two age categories report less symptom distress than consumers in any of the other categories. In addition, individuals who are 45 to 54 years of age report less distress than individuals in both the 25-34 and 35-44 age categories ($F(5, 17,303)=65.3, p<.001$).

Adult B consumers in the oldest as well as the youngest age categories report less symptom distress than consumers in any of the other categories. Individuals who are 45 to 54 years of age report more distress than individuals in any other category ($F(5, 12,197)=33.2, p<.001$).

		18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
ADULT A	# of Ratings	1,780	3,035	4,908	4,537	2,042	1,007
	Mean	36.4	37.5	37.5	36.4	33.4	30.2
	SD	14.6	14.9	14.6	14.3	13.4	11.7
ADULT B	# of Ratings	2,558	3,849	3,218	1,697	569	312
	Mean	36.2	38.1	38.9	40.9	38.6	31.3
	SD	15.0	15.6	15.8	15.2	15.0	11.5

Diagnosis

Adult A consumers with a primary diagnosis in the “Schizophrenia & Other Psychotic Disorders” and “All Other Diagnoses” categories report less distress from psychiatric symptoms than consumers in any of the other diagnosis categories. Individuals with anxiety disorders report *more* distress than individuals in any other category. In addition, individuals with depressive disorders report greater amounts of distress than individuals in many of the other categories (i.e., Schizophrenia & Other Psychotic Disorders, Bipolar Disorders, Adjustment Disorders, Personality Disorders and All Other Diagnoses) ($F(8, 15,517)=188.6, p<.001$).

On average, for Adult B consumers, individuals with a primary diagnosis in the “All Other Diagnoses” category report less symptom distress than consumers in any of the other diagnosis categories. On the other hand, individuals with mood disorders (i.e., Depressive, Bipolar, All Other Mood Disorders) or anxiety disorders report more distress than individuals in all other diagnosis categories. Individuals in the “Schizophrenia & Other Psychotic Disorders” category report greater amounts of distress than individuals with substance-related or adjustment disorders, or individuals in the “All Other Diagnoses” category ($F(8, 11,355)=288.5, p<.001$).

		Subst-Related	Schiz & Other Psych	Depress	Bipolar	All Other Mood	Anxiety	Adjust	Person	All Other
ADULT A	# of Ratings	165	5,915	4,810	2,610	216	698	424	245	443
	Mean	37.3	31.0	40.3	36.2	38.9	43.6	36.4	36.4	32.1
	SD	14.6	12.9	14.1	14.2	15.3	14.3	14.4	14.2	12.9
ADULT B	# of Ratings	1,095	352	3,966	876	214	1,244	2,625	113	879
	Mean	30.8	34.6	43.6	43.6	42.5	43.9	31.7	34.7	27.9
	SD	15.5	15.3	13.8	14.6	13.3	14.4	13.6	15.3	13.0

In Relation to Education, Living Situation and Employment

Education

Both Adult A and B consumers with at least 4-year college degrees report less symptom distress than consumers with less education. In addition, Adult A individuals with high school diplomas or GEDs report less distress than individuals with less than a high school education or individuals in the “greater than HS Diploma/GED & less than 4-Year Degree” category (Adult A: $F(3, 15,676)=26.3, p<.001$; Adult B: $F(3, 12,075)=9.4, p<.001$).

		<HS Dip/GED	HS Dip/GED	>HS Dip/GED & <4-Yr Deg	4-Yr Degree+
ADULT A	# of Ratings	5,234	5,481	3,915	1,050
	Mean	36.8	35.3	36.2	32.9
	SD	14.9	14.4	14.0	12.7
ADULT B	# of Ratings	3,634	4,358	3,396	691
	Mean	38.7	38.1	38.1	35.3
	SD	16.3	15.5	14.7	13.7

Living Situation

Adult A consumers who reside in supervised living, nursing facilities, foster care and mental health treatment facilities report less distress from psychiatric symptoms than consumers in most of the other categories. Individuals who live in friends' homes, or who are homeless, report greater amounts of distress than individuals who live in their own houses/apartments, or who live in relatives' homes ($F(9, 15,361)=34.9, p<.001$).

Adult B consumers who reside in nursing facilities report less symptom distress than consumers in most of the other categories. On the other hand, individuals who live in mental health treatment facilities or are homeless, report more distress than individuals in most of the other categories. In addition, individuals who live in friends' homes report greater amounts of distress than individuals who live in their own houses/apartments, or who live in relatives' homes ($F(9, 12,131)=12.2, p<.001$).

		Your own house/apt	Friend's home	Relative's Home	Super Living	Nursing Facility	Foster Care	MH Tx Facility	Homeless	Correct Facility	Other
ADULT A	# of Ratings	8,334	927	3,024	1,656	175	39	205	379	51	581
	Mean	36.1	39.0	35.8	31.1	30.7	29.4	31.0	38.8	35.3	37.6
	SD	14.1	14.5	14.6	13.2	12.3	10.2	12.8	15.0	12.3	14.8
ADULT B	# of Ratings	6,473	1,089	2,898	432	154	10	91	171	78	745
	Mean	37.9	40.1	37.3	38.0	33.9	33.0	47.3	45.1	40.2	38.4
	SD	15.2	15.8	15.8	15.4	12.1	20.5	14.4	15.1	15.3	15.6

Employment Status

Across both populations, consumers who are employed full or part-time report significantly less distress than consumers who are not employed (Adult A: $t(15,215)=-11.2, p<.001$; Adult B: $t(12,147)=-23.8, p<.001$).

		Employed	Unemployed
ADULT A	# of Ratings	2,634	12,583
	Mean	32.8	36.2
	SD	13.1	14.4
ADULT B	# of Ratings	4,268	7,881
	Mean	33.7	40.5
	SD	14.4	15.5

In Relation to Other Scales and Key Individual Items

Relationships between Symptom Distress and other scales, as well as key individual items, were examined. For both Adult A and B consumers, lower symptom distress is associated with:

- higher quality of life² and satisfaction with finances³
- less interference from physical health conditions⁴
- fewer feelings of threat from others' reactions to their mental health problems⁵
- less ability to tell when mental or emotional problems are about to occur⁶
- greater ability to take care of these problems before they become worse⁷

In addition, for Adult A consumers, lower symptom distress is associated with higher empowerment⁸ and community functioning⁹.

SUMMARY

- Adults with less severe mental illnesses (Adult B) indicate they have more symptom distress than adults with severe and persistent mental illness (Adult A).
- Overall, slightly less than 30% of individuals have Symptom Distress Scale scores that indicate they experienced from no distress to a little bit of distress from psychiatric symptoms in the seven days prior to the time of the rating.
- In general, individuals who have been in treatment for longer periods of time report less symptom distress than individuals who have more recently started receiving services.
- Females report greater amounts of distress than males.
- While Adult A Caucasians report more distress than Adult A African-Americans, average Symptom Distress scores for Adult B Caucasians and African-Americans do not differ.
- For Adult A, older consumers report the least amount of distress. For Adult B, the oldest and youngest consumers report less distress than individuals between the ages of 25 and 64.
- Adult A consumers with diagnoses of schizophrenia report the least amount of distress, while individuals with anxiety or depressive disorders report the greatest amount of distress. Adult B consumers with diagnoses in the "All Other Diagnoses" category report the least symptom distress; Adult B consumers with mood or anxiety disorders report the greatest distress.
- Both Adult A and B consumers with at least 4-year college degrees report less symptom distress than consumers with less education.
- For both Adult A and B, individuals who live in their own houses/apartments or in relatives' homes report less distress from psychiatric symptoms than individuals who live in friends' homes or who are homeless. In addition, for Adult A, individuals who reside in supervised living report less distress than consumers in most other living situations.
- Employed consumers report less distress than unemployed consumers.

² Adult A: $r=-.59$; Adult B: $r=-.68$

³ Adult A: $r=-.42$; Adult B: $r=-.47$

⁴ Adult A: $r=-.40$; Adult B: $r=-.38$

⁵ Adult A: $r=-.39$; Adult B: $r=-.37$

⁶ Adult A: $r=.21$; Adult B: $r=.23$

⁷ Adult A: $r=-.23$; Adult B: $r=-.38$

⁸ Adult A: $r=-.40$

⁹ Adult A: $r=-.23$