### Public Health Ontario

#### Santé publique Ontario

PARTENAIRES POUR LA SANTÉ

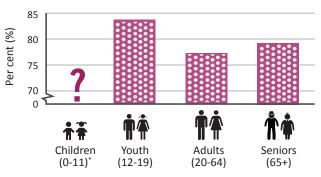
#### **MENTAL HEALTH**

PARTNERS FOR HEALTH

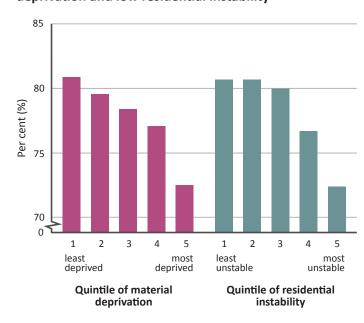
**Mental health:** the capacity to feel, think and act in ways that enhance our ability to enjoy life, realize our own potential, deal with challenges and contribute to society.<sup>1,2</sup>

Positive mental health is expressed through life satisfaction and subjective wellbeing.

# Self-reported positive mental health, Ontario, 2011-2012<sup>3</sup>



Self-reported positive mental health is more common in people from neighbourhoods with low material deprivation and low residential instability<sup>3†</sup>



\*Data on children is not available.

†Measured using the Ontario Marginalization Index.

# HEALTH MENTAL HEALTH WITHOUT WITHOUT MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health and mental illness – distinct but related concepts – are critically important to the health of Ontarians. The burden of poor mental health and mental illness begins in childhood and affects health across the life course.<sup>2</sup>

#### INTERCONNECTED ELEMENTS OF WELLBEING

Mental health, mental illness and physical health are interconnected elements of wellbeing that impact each other.<sup>4</sup>

#### Poor mental health and mental illnesses:4,5

- Are risk factors for some chronic diseases
- Contribute to intentional and unintentional injuries
- May increase the risk of transmission for some infectious diseases
- May delay seeking medical care
- May affect the quality of care received
- May affect adherence to treatment

Mental health and illness affect everyone, either directly or indirectly. The risk of both poor mental health and mental illness varies by gender and is associated with: 7,8



Educational attainment



Incom



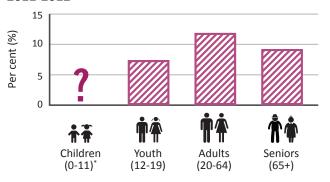
## **MENTAL ILLNESS**

**Mental illness:** alterations in thinking, mood or behaviour. Symptoms may range from mild to severe<sup>6</sup> and may be one-time, episodic or continuous.<sup>1</sup>

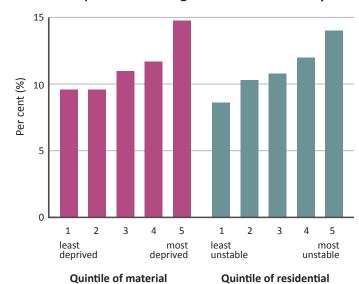
It is estimated that the burden of mental illness (the loss of health-adjusted life years) on Ontarians is:9

- 1.5x that of cancer
- 7x that of all infectious diseases

Self-reported mood and anxiety disorders, Ontario, 2011-2012<sup>3</sup>



Self-reported mood and anxiety disorders are more common in people from neighbourhoods with high material deprivation and high residential instability<sup>3†</sup>



#### Promoting positive mental health can impact overall wellbeing by:1

- Increasing resilienceDecreasing self-harm
- Helping to reduce the risk of developing mental illness
- Improving recovery in those already suffering from mental illness

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2. Government of Canada. The human face of mental health and mental illness in Canada. Ottawa, ON: Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada; 2006. Available from: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/human-humain06/pdf/human\_face\_e.pdf

3. Data source: Canadian Community Health Survey 2011/2012, Statistics Canada, Canada Share File, Distributed by Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

4. Canadian Institute for Health Information. Improving the health of Canadians: Exploring positive mental health. Ottawa, ON: CIHI; 2009. Available from: http://www.cpa.ca/cpasite/userfiles/Documents/Practice\_Page/positive\_mh\_en.pdf

5. Prince M, Patel V, Saxena S, Maj M, Maselko J, Phillips MR, et al. No health without mental health. Lancet. 2007;370(9590):859-77.

6. Langlois KA, Samokhvalov AV, Rehm J, Spence ST, Gorber SC. Health state descriptions for Canadians: Mental illnesses. Ottawa, ON: Statistics Canada; 2012. Available from: http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-619-m/82-619



deprivation



instability