



World Health
Organization

British Virgin Islands

GENERAL INFORMATION

British Virgin Islands have an approximate area of 0.15 thousand square kilometres (UNO, 2008) and a population of 23,276 (UNO, 2008). No information regarding literacy rates, life expectancies and government expenditures on health is available. Similarly, the suicide rates and estimated burden of disease of neuropsychiatric disorders in the British Virgin Islands is unknown.

GOVERNANCE

An officially approved mental health policy does not exist. However, mental health is specifically mentioned in the general health policy.

A mental health plan does not exist.

Dedicated mental health legislation exists and was initiated, or most recently revised, in 2000. Legal provisions concerning mental health are also covered in other laws (e.g. welfare, disability, general health legislation etc.).

FINANCING

Mental health expenditures by the government health department/ministry are 3.43% of the total health budget. Mental hospital expenditures are not available.

MENTAL HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

Primary Care

Prescription regulations authorize primary health care doctors to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines. In contrast, the department of health does not authorize primary health care nurses to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines. Similarly, official policy does not permit primary health care nurses to independently diagnose and treat mental disorders within the primary care system.

The majority of primary health care doctors and nurses have not received official in-service training on mental health within the last five years. Officially approved manuals on the management and treatment of mental disorders are not available in the majority of primary health care clinics. Official referral procedures for referring persons from primary care to secondary/tertiary care exist, as do referral procedures from tertiary/secondary care to primary care.

Mental Health Services

Availability of mental health facilities

	Total number of facilities/beds	Rate per 100,000 population	Number of facilities/beds reserved for children and adolescents only	Rate per 100,000 population
Mental health outpatient facilities	4	17.19	0	NA
Day treatment facilities	0	0.0	NA	NA
Psychiatric beds in general hospitals	2	8.59	UN	UN
Community residential facilities	0	0.0	NA	NA
Beds/places in community residential facilities	0	0.0	NA	NA
Mental hospitals	0	0.0	NA	NA
Beds in mental hospitals	0	0.0	NA	NA

Access to care

	Rates per 100,000 population)	Females (%)	Under age 18 (%)
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	1374.81	56%	20%
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	NA	NA	NA
Admissions to psychiatric beds in general hospitals	189.04	0.0	0.0
Persons staying in community residential facilities at the end of the year	NA	NA	NA
Admissions to mental hospitals	NA	NA	NA

Long term care in mental hospitals (% of persons staying):

Less than 1 year	NA
More than 1 and less than 5 years	NA
More than 5 years	NA

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

HUMAN RESOURCES

Workforce and training

	Health professionals working in the mental health sector Rate per 100,000	Training of health professions in educational institutions Rate per 100,000
Psychiatrists	4.3	0.0
Medical doctors, not specialized in psychiatry	12.89	0.0
Nurses	17.19	0.0
Psychologists	21.48	0.0
Social workers	4.3	0.0
Occupational therapists	4.3	0.0
Other health workers	30.07	NA

Informal human resources (Family and User Associations)

	User	Family
Present in the country/region?	No	No
Number of members	NA	NA
Participation in the formulation/implementation of policy/plan/legislation?	NA	NA

MEDICINES

Expenditures for medicines for mental and behavioral disorders

Type of Medicines	Expenditures per year and per 100,000 population (in USD)
All the psychotherapeutic medicines ¹	370,308
Medicines used for bipolar disorders ²	79,863
Medicines for psychotic disorders ³	241,098
Medicines used for general anxiety ⁴	7,007
Medicines used for mood disorders ⁵	47,001

¹ N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

² N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

³ N05A (excluding N05AN)

⁴ N05B & N05C

⁵ N06A

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

	Data on number of people/ activities are collected and reported	Data on age and gender are collected and reported	Data on patient's diagnosis are collected and reported
Persons with mental disorders treated in primary health care	Yes	No	No
Interventions (psychopharmacological and psychosocial) delivered in primary health care for people with mental disorders	Yes	No	No
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	No	No
Contacts in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	No	No
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	NA	NA	NA
Admissions in general hospitals with psychiatric beds	Yes	No	No
Admissions in mental hospitals	NA	NA	NA
Days spent in mental hospitals	NA	NA	NA
Admissions in community residential facilities	NA	NA	NA

Note: Mental health data (either on the public system, private system, or both) have been compiled for general health statistics in the last three years, but not in a specific mental health report.

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