

Isle of Wight Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: Core Dataset

2009

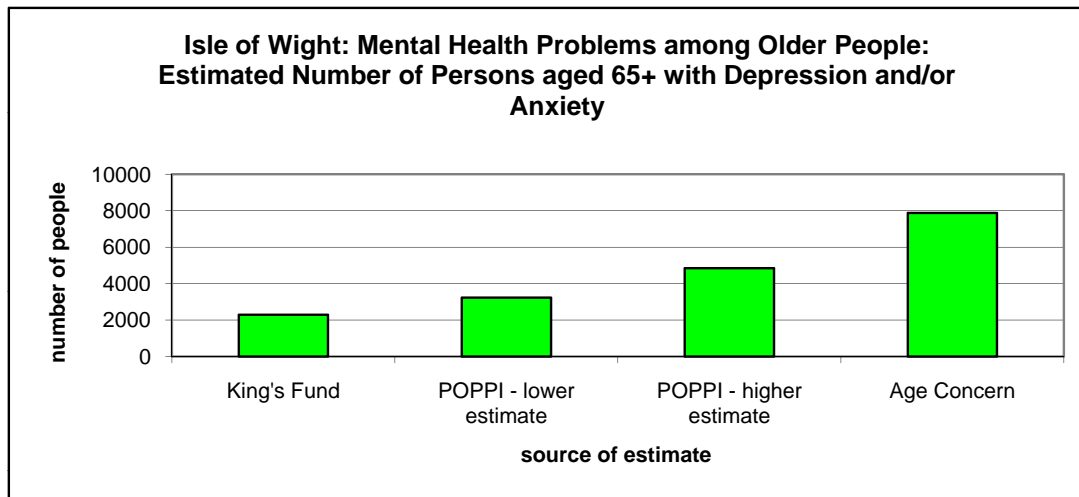


Domain: Burden of Ill Health
 Sub-Domain: Mental Health
 Sub-sub- Domain: Mental Illness

Indicator: Prevalence of Mental Ill Health: age 65+
 Indicator References: JSNA Core Dataset number 54
 Data Source: Various
 Indicator definition: [see below](#)

Isle of Wight: Estimated Number of People aged 65+ with Mental Health Problems (Depression and/or Anxiety)

Source of Estimate	IW: estimated persons aged 65+ with depression and/or anxiety	
	% of population aged 65+	number of people
King's Fund	7%	2,295
POPPI - lower estimate	10%	3,230
POPPI - higher estimate	15%	4,845
Age Concern	25%	7,875



COMMENTARY

While national surveys have measured the prevalence of mental health problems in the population aged 5 - 74 (see separate indicator), there is no equivalent survey data on mental health problems among people aged 75+. Though there are estimates derived from a range of small studies, findings will vary depending on the definitions of mental health problems used, the methods used to identify people with mental health problems and the population studied. There is therefore no definitive estimate of the prevalence of mental health problems among older people.

In order to estimate the number of older people with mental health problems on the Isle of Wight, the prevalence estimates used in a number of national reports and data sources have been extrapolated to the IW population (2007 Estimate) to produce a range of estimates. For this purpose older people have actually been defined as those aged 65+. The estimates are for the prevalence of depression and / or anxiety and do not include conditions such as dementia, for which see separate datasets.

The reports and data sources used are as follows:

- King's Fund (2008) 'Paying the Price: the Cost of Mental Health Care in England to 2026': draws on GP data about diagnosed depression and anxiety, adjusted to take account of survey data for people aged 16 - 74.
- Projecting Older People Population Information System (POPPI): uses an estimate of depression in older people taken from a specific study.
- Age Concern (2007) 'Improving Services and Support for Older People with Mental Health Problems': draws on a literature review which draws together various studies into the prevalence of mental health problems in the older population.

The data and chart above use these reports to show:

- A range of estimates for the number of IW residents aged 65+ with anxiety or depression. The numbers range from nearly 2,300 to nearly 8,000.
- The % of the IW population aged 65+ which each of these numbers represents. The percentages range from 7% to 25%.

The lowest estimate, from the King's Fund, is based to a significant extent on GP-diagnosed depression and anxiety, which would not include people who had not attended their GP or been diagnosed with these conditions. The highest estimate, from the Age Concern report, sets out to estimate the true prevalence of depression and anxiety in the population, and would include people whose condition is undiagnosed and potentially unknown to service providers.

INDICATOR DEFINITION

Indicator:	Prevalence of mental health problems in older people
Definition:	Estimated number of people aged 65+ with depression and/or anxiety
Numerator (number of people or events)	Estimated number of people aged 65+ with depression and/or anxiety
Denominator (total population or events)	Resident population for the specified years. Age 65+
Geographic Coverage	Local Authority
Time period	National report data extrapolated to 2007 Mid Year Population Estimate
Data Source(s)	Mental ill health prevalence extrapolations from: King's Fund (2008) 'Paying the Price: the Cost of Mental Health Care in England to 2026': Projecting Older People Population Information System (POPPI) http://www.poppi.org.uk/ Age Concern (2007) 'Improving Services and Support for Older People with Mental Health Problems'
Significance for Health	Higher numbers are associated with worse health. Lower numbers are associated with better health.
Factors that might affect the Accuracy of this Indicator	The figures shown are estimates and do not take into account any local factors which might affect the applicability of national survey data to the IW population.