



Hawai'i KIDS COUNT

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IN THIS ISSUE

Homeless Service Utilization Report: Hawai'i 2015

The State of Preschool 2015

Suicide Replaces Homicide as Second-Leading Cause of Death Among U.S. Teenagers

Dr. Barbara DeBaryshe, Interim Director of the Center on the Family at University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HOMELESS SERVICE UTILIZATION REPORT: HAWAI'I 2015

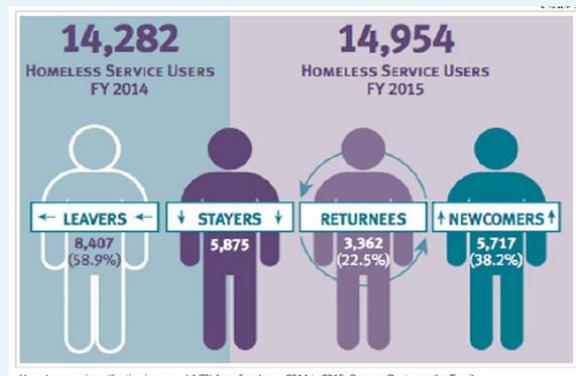
The 10th annual Homeless Service Utilization Report was released by the Center on the Family at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the Homeless Programs Office of the Hawai'i State Department of Human Services. The report provides the most current data on the utilization patterns of homeless services in the state for fiscal year 2015.

The report addresses overall patterns of inflow, outflow and return flow to the homeless service system and highlights factors associated with changes since the previous year. The report also provides a comparison of service outcomes among different homeless sub-populations, thematic maps that show geographic areas where people last resided before becoming homeless, and where outreach services achieved tangible outcomes.

Almost 15,000 people sought homeless services during the reporting period, the highest in the state's history, representing a nearly 5% increase from 2014. Two factors contributed to this increase. First, the rate of clients leaving the system did not keep up with the increase of incoming clients. Second, the influx of new clients into the system contributed to this increase.

The newcomers were more likely to be young children (under 6). The majority of new clients who accessed homeless outreach services were living in permanent housing or "doubling up" prior to accessing services. These households were over twice as likely to be family households with children.

Other child and family related data presented in this year's report include:



- Children comprised 23.3% of the client population, with a total of 3,489 served.
- Over half (51%) of children served were under six years old.
- Of the 10,014 households served, 39.3% included children.
- People in households with children had the highest rate (60.7%) of exiting services to permanent housing than did adult-only households (31.0%).

The report calls for a coordinated system of assessment and housing placement in order to sustain the gains made and achieve long-term results in effectively addressing the homeless problem in Hawai'i.

The report may be read in its entirety at

http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/publications/brochures/789af_HomelessServiceUtilization2015.pdf

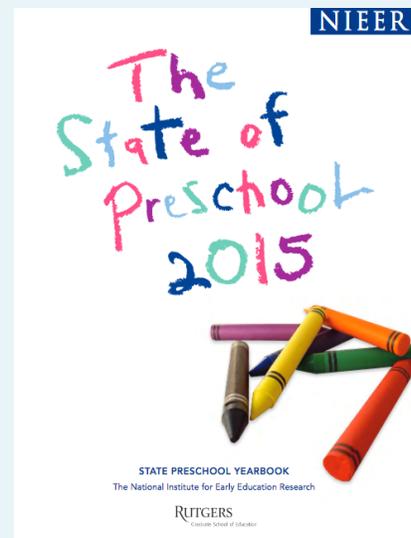
THE STATE OF PRESCHOOL 2015

The National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) released its report *The State of Preschool 2015*, which covers the 2014-2015 school year. The report reveals that many three- and four-year-old children still lack access to high-quality preschool education despite modest gains in enrollment, quality, and funding.

The State of Preschool provides objective state-by-state profiles and rankings of state-funded pre-K programs based on 10 benchmarks for minimum quality standards, which include: the presence of a qualified teacher and assistant; class size; teacher-to-student ratio; and length of instruction per day.

Hawai'i's Executive Office of Early Learning (EOEL) launched the state's first publicly funded pre-K program in 2014-2015, allowing the state to be included in NIEER's report for the first time. In its inaugural year the EOEL pre-K program was ranked 42nd for access to "at risk" 4-year-olds, serving 365 students in 20 classrooms across 18 public schools. Hawai'i's pre-K program did not provide services to 3-year-olds during the period examined.

Hawai'i met eight of ten benchmarks on NIEER's *Quality Standards Checklist*. The two that were not met were (1) pre-K specialized training and (2) minimum required hours of annual teacher in-service. However, NIEER also reports that Hawai'i's pre-K teachers participated in an average of 24 hours of professional development during the period examined, which exceeded the required benchmark of 15 hours.



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	Hawaii Teaching Standards Board License (K-6)	Specializing in pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	AA	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	None	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/referral and support services	Full physical exam; psychosocial/behavioral; developmental; and support services ¹	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Lunch	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

8

The State of Preschool 2015 may be read at <http://nieer.org/research/state-preschool-2015>

SUICIDE REPLACES HOMICIDE AS SECOND-LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG U.S. TEENAGERS

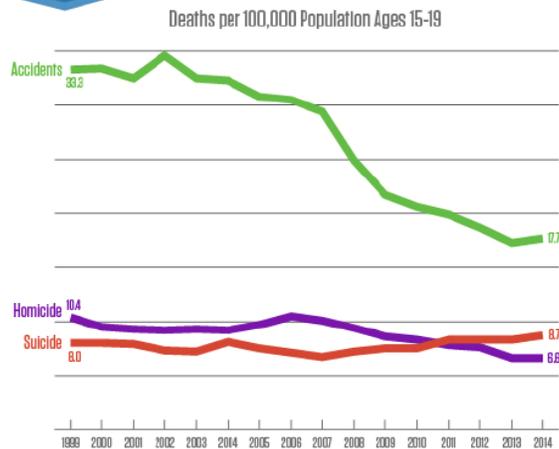
The Population Reference Bureau (PRB) recently analyzed mortality statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Their findings, recently published in an article, revealed that suicides have become the second-leading cause of death among teens in the U.S., up from 8 deaths per 100,000 in 1999 to 8.7 deaths per 100,000 in 2014. This increase was driven by the growth of suffocation as a method of suicide and the rising suicide rates among teenage girls.

At the national level, the share of teen suicide due to suffocation almost doubled in the past 15 years, increasing from more than one-fourth (27%) in 1999 to almost half (45%) in 2014. During that same time frame we saw the suicide rate among teen girls increase by 1.5 deaths per 100,000. In 2014 more than half of the suicides among teen girls were through suffocation.

Turning to local data from Hawai'i Health Matters:

- The suicide rate among Hawai'i's teens, ages 15-19, was 8.7 deaths per 100,000 population;¹
- Suicide was the most common cause of fatal injuries among residents, accounting for more than one-fourth of all fatal injuries between 2010 and 2014;²

SUICIDE SURPASSED HOMICIDE TO BECOME SECOND-LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH FOR TEENAGERS, AGES 15-19, IN THE UNITED STATES



Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "Underlying Cause of Death 1999-2014," CDC WONDER Online Database, accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/ucd-icd10.html>, on May 27, 2016.

- The suicide death rate went up from 10.8 deaths per 100,000 population in 2001 to 13.6 in 2014;
- The suicide rate of males was almost four-times higher than that of females (21.4 vs. 5.4, per 100,000 population);³ and
- The death rate due to suffocation dropped from 2.3 in 2000/2002 to 1.1 in 2012/2014.⁴

The rise in the nation's teen suicide rate indicates a growing public health concern that requires attention and action.

The PRB article may be read at <http://www.prb.org/Publications/Articles/2016/suicide-replaces-homicide-second-leading-cause-death-among-us-teens.aspx>

¹ (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.hawaiihealthmatters.org/modules.php?op=modload&name=NS-Indicator&file=indicator&iid=27411061&Submit=Go>

² (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://health.hawaii.gov/injuryprevention/home/suicide-prevention/information/>

³ (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.hawaiihealthmatters.org/modules.php?op=modload&name=NS-Indicator&file=indicator&iid=27411061&Submit=Go>

⁴ (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.hawaiihealthmatters.org/modules.php?op=modload&name=NS-Indicator&file=indicator&iid=27411039&Submit=Go>

DR. BARBARA DEBARYSHE, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER ON THE FAMILY AT UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa – Center on the Family is pleased to announce Dr. Barbara DeBaryshe as its Interim Director. An expert in early childhood development and program evaluation, Dr. DeBaryshe has recently published research that focuses on early literacy, preschool curriculum design, family engagement, and teacher professional development. Dr. DeBaryshe is the author of over 60 publications and has received numerous federal grants. During her 22 years as Center faculty, she has worked on projects relating to family resilience, youth development, and early childhood health. Dr. DeBaryshe feels privileged to support the Center's work on topics of social importance such as homelessness, child welfare, intergenerational relationships, and evidence-based family policy. She looks forward to being a liaison between the Center and its community partners and stakeholders. We hope you will join us in congratulating Dr. Barbara DeBaryshe in her new role as Interim Director of the Center on the Family.



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