



# CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

Every day, children across Georgia cope with mental health issues brought on by circumstances beyond their control. These issues affect a child's ability to reach developmental and emotional milestones, demonstrate healthy social skills, and solve problems.





**1 in 5** children ages 3 to 17 has a diagnosable mental health disorder.

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [2013]*



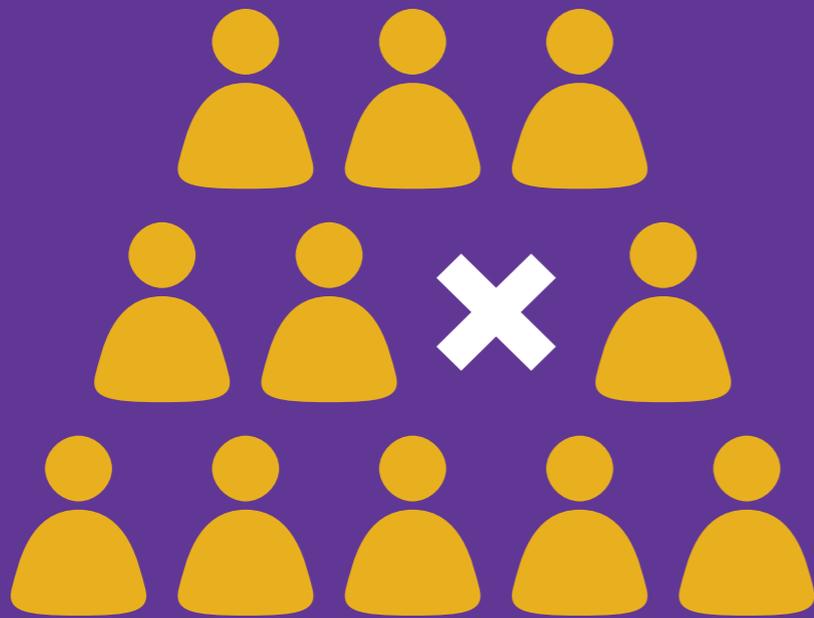
Children are being **expelled from child care** at a rate 3X that of grades K-12. Access to mental health consultation is linked to significantly lower rates of expulsion in child care.

*Journal of Child and Family Studies [2008]*



Quality child care is associated with **reduced risk of behavior problems** among 1- to 5-year-old children of mothers with maternal depression.

*Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry [2017];  
JAMA Psychiatry [2013]*



Children with untreated mental health problems miss as many as **22** days of school each year.

*Special Education Elementary Longitudinal Study [2004]*



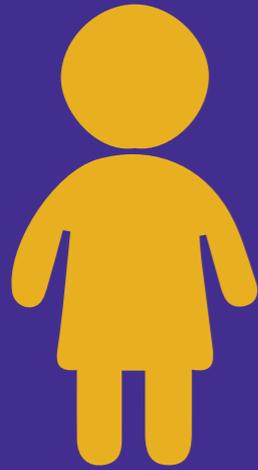
Children who are **visually impaired** are at significantly higher risk of developing mental health problems than their sighted peers.

*Journal of Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology [2016]*



**4 out of 5** children ages 5 to 13 with emotional and behavioral disorders have significant language deficits.

*Journal of the Council for Exceptional Children [2014]; Journal of Abnormal Psychology [2013]*



Up to **14.2%** of children under age 5 experience social-emotional problems that negatively impact their functioning, development, and school readiness.

*Public Health Reports [2006]*

Compared to their counterparts, children placed in foster care are:

**6X** more likely to exhibit behavior problems

**3X** more likely to have hearing and vision problems

**2X** more likely to suffer from language impairment

A positive **school climate** is associated with students' increased self-esteem, positive behavioral adjustment, and fewer depressive symptoms and psychiatric problems.

*Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Education [2017]*





In the earliest years, **mental health disorders** often result from problems in the child's primary attachment relationship.

*Zero to Three [2012]*