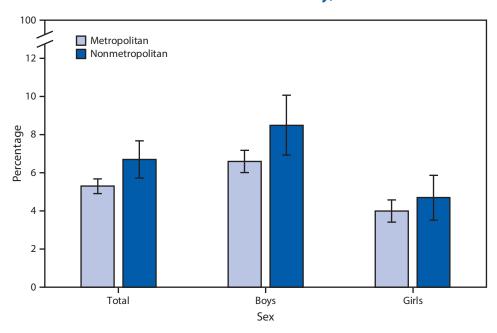
FROM THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Percentage* of Children and Adolescents Aged 4–17 Years with Serious Emotional or Behavioral Difficulties,† by Sex and Urbanization Level§ — National Health Interview Survey, 2016–2018¶



- * With 95% confidence intervals indicated by error bars.
- † Serious emotional or behavioral difficulties is determined by parents' response of "yes, definite difficulties" or "yes, severe difficulties" to the survey question "Overall, do you think that (child) has difficulties in any of the following areas: emotions, concentration, behavior, or being able to get along with people?"
- § Urbanization level is based on the Office of Management and Budget's February 2013 delineation of metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), in which each MSA must have at least one urbanized area of ≥50,000 inhabitants. Areas with <50,000 inhabitants are grouped into the nonmetropolitan category.
- ¶ Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian, noninstitutionalized U.S. population and are derived from the National Health Interview Survey's Sample Child component.

During 2016–2018, the percentage of children and adolescents aged 4–17 years with serious emotional or behavioral difficulties was higher among those living in nonmetropolitan areas (6.7%) than among those living in metropolitan areas (5.3%). Among boys, those living in nonmetropolitan areas (8.5%) were more likely to have serious emotional or behavioral difficulties than those living in metropolitan areas (6.6%), but the difference among girls was smaller and not significant. Among children and adolescents living in either metropolitan or nonmetropolitan areas, boys were more likely than girls to have serious emotional or behavioral difficulties.

Source: National Health Interview Survey, 2016–2018. https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/index.htm.

Reported by: Jessly Joy, oys4@cdc.gov, 301-458-4836; Deepthi Kandi, MS.