

### Determining rate of "mental health" by county

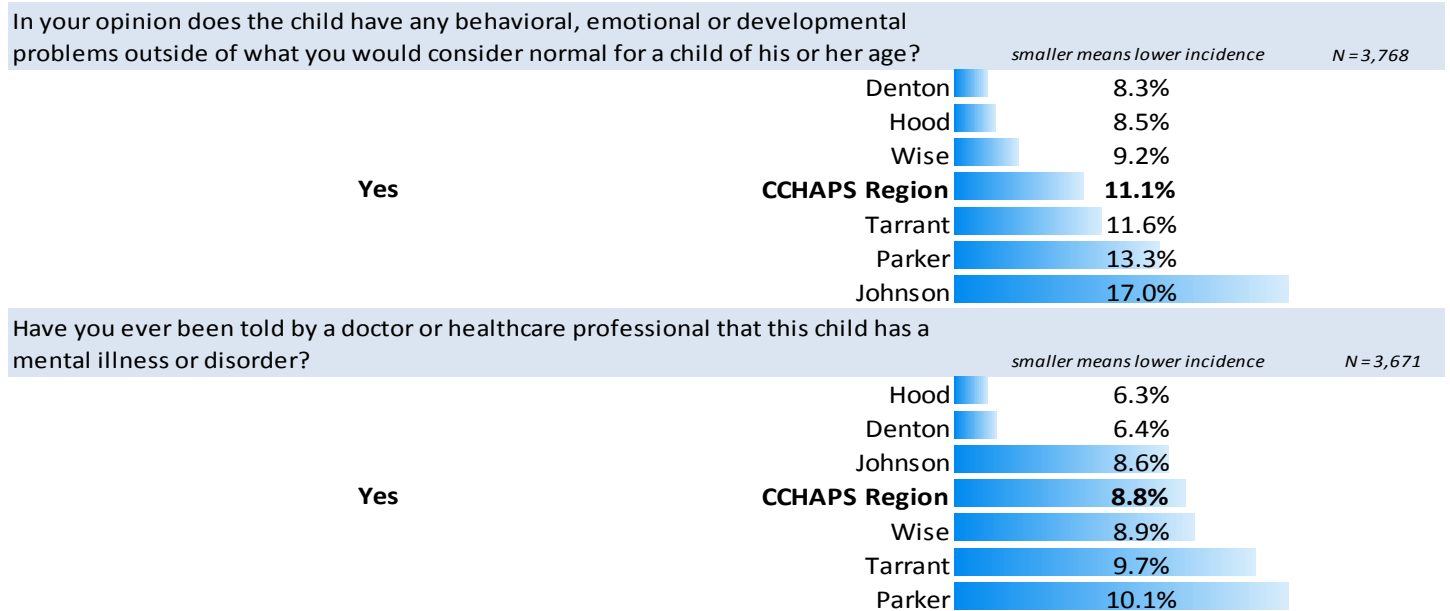
Denton, Hood, Johnson, Parker, Tarrant and Wise Counties, Texas

Number: 2

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While it is easy to tell if a child has a fever or does not feel well, parents often struggle with what is "normal" behavior or emotional development for their children. It is important to know how to spot likely mental health issues and when to ask for help. So, how well do parents do in judging the mental health of their children?

CCHAPS asked half of the parents surveyed their opinion about their child's behavior, emotion and development status and asked the other half to report mental health issues diagnosed by a doctor.



#### CONCLUSIONS:

Parents are very aware of their child's mental health as shown by how well they match the number of mental health issues diagnosed by doctors.

These results show three issues that need greater understanding:

1. Whether opinion or diagnosis, why are there twice as many mental health issues from the lowest to highest?
2. Why do Johnson County parents have more concerns about the mental health of their children than parents in other counties or the doctors do?
3. How does access to mental health services influence the parents' assessment or explain differences between the parent and doctor?

Source: CCHAPS 2008 at [www.cchaps.org](http://www.cchaps.org) accessed October 2009.

CCHAPS is a random household survey reporting responses from 7,439 families with a child aged 0 – 14

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