

## People Turn to the Internet

- 35% of U.S. adults now use social media for health and medical purposes <sup>1</sup>
- About half of U.S. adults online search for health information every month <sup>2, 3</sup>
- "Now thinking about all the sources you turn to when you need information or assistance in dealing with health or medical issues, please tell me if you use any of the following sources..." 2
  - 86% of all adults ask a health professional, such as a doctor.
  - 68% of all adults ask a friend or family member.
  - 57% of all adults use the internet.
  - 54% use books or other printed reference material.

- 1 Manhattan Research's Cybercitizen Health v9.0
- 2 Fox, S. (2009). The Social Life of Health Information.

  Pew Internet and American Life Project.
- 3 ComScore MediaMetrix, Aug 2009



## Where Online Do They Turn?

- Informational / Education Websites
- Online Patient Groups
- Applications (Apps) & Web 2.0 Tools



# **Educational/Support Sites**

- 197 M U.S. Internet users in Aug 09
- 90 M searched on Health websites <sup>1</sup>





- Developed in conjunction with MoodGYM by Australian Centre for Mental Health Research
- Focus of multiple research studies demonstrating efficacy

000	These treatments are very useful. They are strongly supported as effective by scientific evidence.
00	These treatments are useful. They are supported by scientific evidence as effective, but the evidence is not as strong.
☺	These treatments are promising and may be useful. They have some evidence to support them, but more evidence is needed to be sure they work.
⊕	On the available evidence, these treatments do not seem to be effective.
?	These treatments have not been properly researched. It is not possible to say whether they are useful or not.

## BluePages Home | Symptoms | Treatments Home Am I Depressed? Try our depression quiz $\odot\odot\odot$ Worried About $\odot\odot\odot$ Anxiety? Try our MoodGYM: Online Cognitive Behaviour Download: Relaxation Program How to Support friendly' Insurance Policies

### Medical Treatments Psychological Treatments

Depression Information

○ Bibliotherapy \*updated\*

Online Prevention | Depression Search | About BluePages | BlueBoard

©©© Cognitive behaviour therapy

Interpersonal psychotherapy

Hypnotherapy \*updated\*

© Psychodynamic psychotherapy

\*updated\*

© Reminiscence therapy

Supportive counselling

### Lifestyle & Alternative Treatments

- Acupuncture
- Alcohol avoidance

Help & Resources

Antidepressants

Oestrogen

Tranquillisers

Electroconvulsive therapy

Transcranial magnetic stimulation

- 9 Alcohol for relaxation
- Aromatherapy \*updated
  - ? Caffeine avoidance
  - Chocolate
  - 9 Colour therapy
- ? Dance & movement therapy \*updated\*
- Exercise \*updated\*
  - ? Fish Oils \*updated\*
- Ginkgo biloba
- 9 Ginseng \*updated\*
- 9 Glutamine
- 9 Homeopathy
- 9 Inneitel
- 9 Lemon balm
- (C)(C) Light therapy
- Massage therapy

- 9 Meditation
- Music
- 9 Natural progesterone
- Negative air ionisation
- Painkillers
- ? Pets & animal-assisted therapy \*updated\*
- 9 Phenylalanine
- Pleasant activities
- Relaxation therapy \*updated\*
- © SAMe
  - 9 Selenium
- St John's wort \*updated\*
  - Sugar avoidance
  - <u>Tryptophan</u>
  - <u>Tyrosine</u>
  - <u>Vervain</u>
  - Vitamins



## **Government/Nonprofits**

Self-Help & Psychoeducational Online Resources



Mental distress is a major issue of our time affecting young and old, rich and poor.

It can shatter lives, cause family and relationship breakdowns,

and it can happen to you, me or anyone.

- About Mind
- We now have a <u>new national number</u> for MindinfoLine
- For practical information: the award winning 'Understanding...' booklets.
- Browse selected passages from Mind Readings
- Find your nearest <u>Local Mind Association</u>
- Visit MindLink the service users network
- Take part in Mind's campaigns, events and other activities
- respect Time to end discrimination on mental health

Monthly <u>news flyer</u> online Contribute <u>your message of support</u>

- Discover Mind Cymru
- On the conference and training programme
- Sign up to give your donation to Mind
- Catch up on the news with the <u>latest press release</u>
- Get tips on how to <u>use this site</u>

1998

### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH



### Welcome to NIMH

Messages from the Director, general information about NIMH including mission statement and office/division organizational chart, employment information, telephone directories, legislative history, technology transfer, and information for NIMH Staff

### Public Information

Information on specific mental disorders, diagnosis and treatment, "Mental Illness in America", Consensus Conference proceedings plans & research reports, publications order forms, quicktime videos, information on the DEPRESSION Awareness, Recognition, & and the Panic Disorder Education Programs, and other resources

### News & Events

Press advisories, press office information, listing of mental health meetings and conferences through 1998, and announcements and upcoming conferences and meetings

### Grants, Contracts, & Committees

Information for scientists on NIMH contracts and grants programs including RFPs, grant application and review, RFAs, ongoing pr announcements, research training and career development, small business programs, rosters/schedules of advisory committees, boar groups, program analyses of NIMH extramural research grants & applications, access to NIH Grants policy, NIH Guide to Grants of CRISP database

### Research Activities

Clinical studies, conference and workshop summaries, AIDS Research, Clinical and Treatment Research, Epidemiology and Services Neuroscience and Behavioral Science Research, Human Brain Project, Suicide Research Consortium, and Technology Transfer Info

1997



## **Government/Nonprofits**



HELPGUIDE. ORG

# How we can help you

Mind home > How we can help you > Information and advice

### How we can help you

- Information and advice
- Diagnoses and conditions Treatments
- Rights and legislation
- Mental health statistics
- Support and social care
- Communities and social groups
- Society and environment

## Information

Mind publishes info which we group into treatments, mental and social groups,

Below is the full list website. If you are I browse the list below

Other top right of your scr

ADD / ADHD Bipolar Disorder Depression **Eating Disorders** 

Choose A Topic -

Abuse & Addictions

**Grief & Loss** Stress & Trauma

### Parenting Childhood Issues

Relationships

**Diet & Nutrition** Mind & Body

## **Empower Yourself** AND YOUR LOVED ONES

WITH KNOWLEDG

Laughter: The The Health Beni

Laughter »

In Memoru o

Helpguide's expe help you take ch make healthy ch



## National Institute of Mental Health

Home Newsletter About Us Help Us Site Map Search.

Health & Outreach

Understand, Prevent & Resolve Life's Challenges



Back to: NIMH Home » Health & Outreach » Mental Health Topics

### Depression

### What is Depression?

Depression is a serious medical illness; it's not something that you have made up in your head. It's more than just feeling "down in the dumps" or "blue" for a few days. It's feeling "down" and "low" and "hopeless" for weeks at a time. More about Depression »

Watch this 4-minute video to learn about signs, symptoms and research on depression.





Click on the play button to watch this video. Click on the following link to save this video to your computer (ZIP file, 6197 KB), (Visit the following link for instructions on opening ZIP files.)

00:00 EE 33 00:00

Suggested usage for the NIMH Depression Video

- New Approach to Reducing Suicide Attempts Among Depressed Teens
- · Combination Treatment for Psychotic Depression Holds Promise
- Brain Emotion Circuit Sparks as Teen Girls Size Up Peers

More Science News about Depression..

### Depression (Easy to Read)

An easy-to-read booklet on Depression that explains what it is, when it starts, how long it lasts, and how to get help. Date: 2007

También disponible en Español

### Real Men Real Depression (Easy-to-Read)

An estimated six million men in the United States have a depressive disorder-major depression, dysthymia (chronic, less severe depression), or bipolar disorder (manic-depressive illness) every

También disponible en Español

### Women and Depression: Discovering Hope

A booklet that describes the symptoms, treatment



## **Psych Central**

- Since 1995
- Run by mental health professionals
- Over 45 million visitors



Dashboard

Sep 8, 2009 - Oct 8, 2009 -

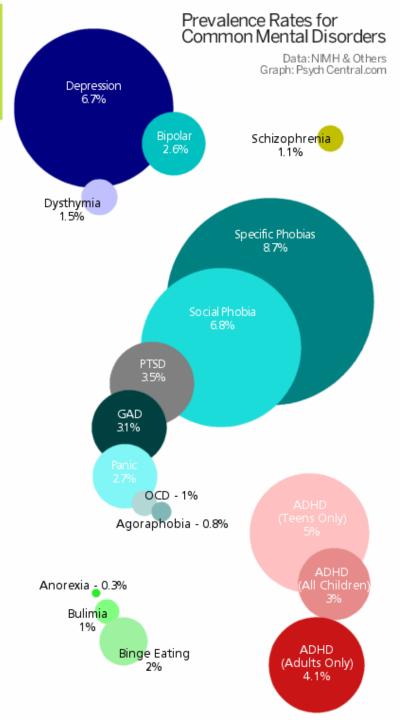


PsychCentral Psych

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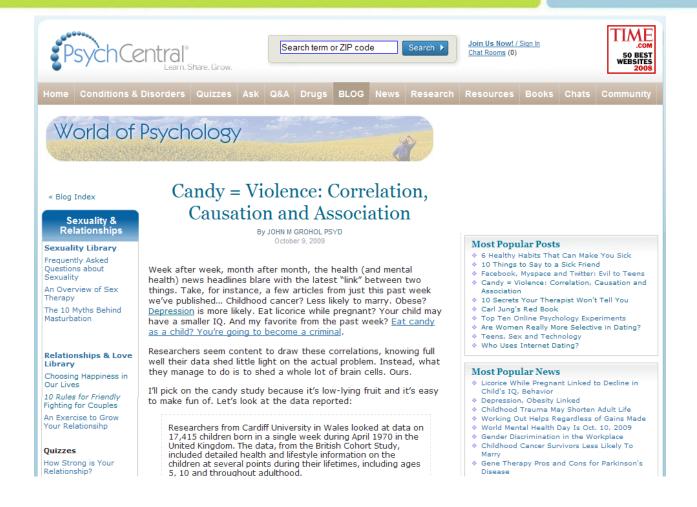
# Making Information Accessible

- Giving context to information
- Interpreting research findings
- Calling out questionable results





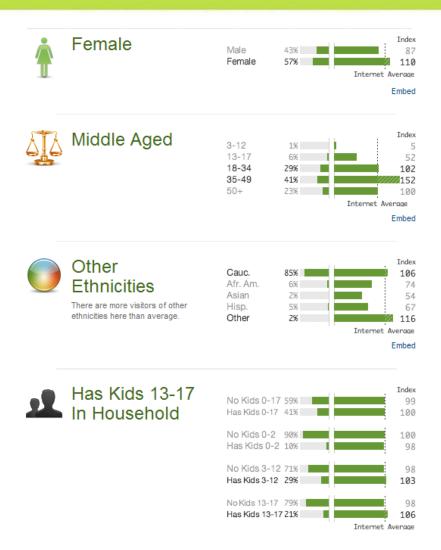
# **Example**





## Self-Help & Psychoeducational Online Resources

# **Psych Central**



| Country        | Uniques (Cookies) | Uniques % | Uniques Index | Visits % | Visits Index |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|----------|--------------|
| United States  | 672,659           | 74.04     | 152           | 74.38    | 128          |
| United Kingdom | 59,083            | 6.50      | 136           | 6.36     | 166          |
| Canada         | 45,578            | 5.02      | 145           | 5.23     | 153          |
| Australia      | 22,712            | 2.50      | 189           | 2.57     | 221          |
| India          | 10,458            | 1.15      | 62            | 1.01     | 93           |
| Philippines    | 8,850             | 0.97      | 94            | 0.87     | 90           |
| Ireland        | 5,219             | 0.57      | 156           | 0.56     | 234          |
| Germany        | 4,709             | 0.52      | 19            | 0.51     | 29           |
| New Zealand    | 4,361             | 0.48      | 205           | 0.49     | 235          |
| Singapore      | 3,496             | 0.38      | 82            | 0.39     | 55           |
| South Africa   | 3,445             | 0.38      | 179           | 0.38     | 219          |
| Malaysia       | 3,022             | 0.33      | 51            | 0.30     | 48           |
| Netherlands    | 3,015             | 0.33      | 37            | 0.36     | 53           |
| Brazil         | 2,830             | 0.31      | 13            | 0.30     | 18           |
| Turkey         | 2,290             | 0.25      | 18            | 0.22     | 27           |
| Sweden         | 2,074             | 0.23      | 48            | 0.24     | 53           |



## metanoia.org/suicide

Self-Help & Psychoeducational Online Resources

- Viewed nearly 8.3 million times
- Ongoing page survey(N = 62,822):
  - 29% helped
  - 24% did not help
  - 31% not sure

## if you are thinking about

## suicide... read this first

If you are feeling suicidal now, please stop long enough to read this. It will only take about five minutes. I do not want to talk you out of your bad feelings. I am not a therapist or other mental health professional - only someone who knows what it is like to be in pain.

I don't know who you are, or why you are reading this page. I only know that for the moment, you're reading it, and that is good. I can assume that you are here because you are troubled and considering ending your life. If it were possible, I would prefer to be there with you at this moment, to sit with you and talk, face to face and heart to heart. But since that is not possible, we will have to make do with this.

I have known a lot of people who have wanted to kill themselves, so I have some small idea of what you might be feeling. I know that you might not be up to reading a long book, so I am going to keep this short. While we are together here for the next five minutes, I have five simple, practical things I would like to share with you. I worn't argue with you about whether you should kill yourself. But I assume that if you are thinking about it, you feel pretty bad.

Well, you're still reading, and that's very good. I'd like to ask you to stay with me for the rest of this page. I hope it means that you're at least a tiny bit unsure, somewhere deep inside, about whether or not you really will end your life. Often people feel that, even in the deepest darkness of despair. Being unsure about dying is okay and normal. The fact that you are still alive at this minute means you are still a little bit unsure. It means that even while you want to die, at the same time some part of you still wants to live. So let's hang on to that, and keep going for a few more minutes.

Start by considering this statement:

## "Suicide is not chosen; it happens when pain exceeds resources for coping with pain."

That's all it's about. You are not a bad person, or crazy, or weak, or flawed, because you feel suicidal. It doesn't even mean that you really want to die - it only means that you have more pain than you can cope with right now. If I start piling weights on your shoulders, you will eventually collapse if I add enough weights... no matter how much you want to remain standing. Willpower has nothing to do with it. Of course you would cheer yourself up, if you could.

Don't accept it if someone tells you, "that's not enough to be suicidal about." There are many kinds of pain that may lead to suicide. Whether or not the pain is bearable may differ from person to person. What might be bearable to someone else, may not be bearable to you. The point at which the pain becomes unbearable depends on what kinds of coping resources you have. Individuals vary greatly in their capacity to withstand pain.





When pain exceeds pain-coping resources,

# **Online Groups**



### Crowdsourced Health Confirms Infertility-Asthma Finding

September 15th, 2009 Alexandra Carmichael Posted in Open Source Research, Research Findings | 2 Comments »

CureTogether Data Reveals Link Between Self-Reported Infertility and Asthma

Announced at Mayo Clinic <u>Transforming Healthcare Conference</u> on September 15: Patients at <u>CureTogether</u> who report infertility are 1.9x more likely to report having asthma than patients who don't report infertility.

This comes from an analysis of 324 patients. Within the 34 people reporting i asthma (the remaining 21 out of 34 specifically said they did NOT have asthm reporting "no infertility", 58 (20%) reported having asthma (the remaining 232 asthma).

This 38% vs. 20% relative risk is statistically significant, with a 95% confidence

# Results 1 – PD Patients gamble more than ALS patient



13% of Parkinson's patients report pathological gambling 3% of ALS patients report pathological gambling

- N=208 PD patients,
- N=236 ALS patients
- SOGS cutoff 5+
- K6 cutoff 13+
- Representative of PatientsLikeMe users
- Problem gamblers spent ~\$2,500 p.a.
  - Healthy population PG estimate: 0.25-1.7%



# Apps

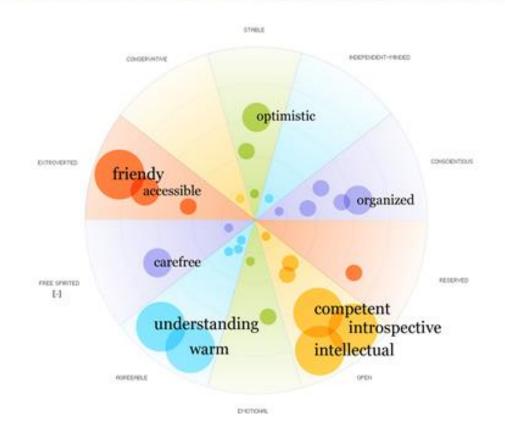
- Personality Patterns
- Happier.com
- eCBT iPhone app
- Sanity Score
- MoodGYM



## Self-Help & Psychoeducational Online Resources

# **Personality Patterns**

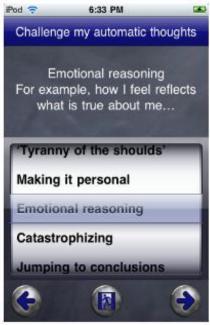
## 





# eCBT iPhone App









# Happier.com





# **Sanity Score**

- General mental health screening measure
- Subscales based upon existing, standardized quizzes
- **Encourages further** learning & recommends professional assistance when needed

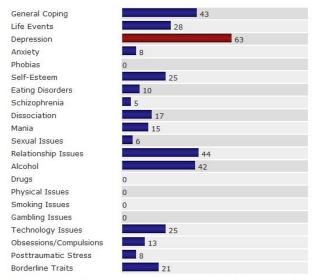


## Your Sanity Score

Based upon your answers, you appear to be in generally good mental health, with some specific concerns or issues in your life. Most people have such issues to varying degrees -- some seek outside help for them from a mental health professional like a psychologist, psychiatrist or psychotherapist, while others are happy with the way things are in their life. People with similar scores sometimes feel overwhelmed by the occasional stress in life, but usually recover and are

(The Sanity Score is based upon a scientific algorithm with scores ranging from 0 - 288.)

Your specific subscores are below (subscales range from 0 - 100). Under the graph of subscores, you will find additional information regarding the meaning of any significant scores or areas that may be of concern.



General Coping: People with similar scores as yours tend to feel a little overwhelmed by life at times. You appear to express some unhappiness with the way your life is going right now.

Life Events: You're experiencing events in your life that may be negatively affecting your overall mental health and your ability to cope with other things in your life. This may also affect your mood.

Depression: People with scores similar to yours are typically suffering from a moderate to severe depressive episode. This is also known as clinical depression or just plain depression. People who have answered similarly to you typically qualify for a diagnosis of major depression and have sought professional treatment for this disorder.

You should not take this as a diagnosis of any sort, or a recommendation for treatment. However, if would be advisable and likely beneficial for you to seek further diagnosis from a trained mental health professional soon to rule out a possible depressive disorder.

### Take Action for Depression:

- Learn About Depression
- · Read About Treatment Options · Join our Support Group
- Find a Therapist

Self-Esteem: People with scores similar to yours express some minor concerns with their self-esteem. Self-esteem is most often the product of our upbringing and personalities. It is

## MoodGYM

- Interactive online programs
  - MoodGYM
  - MasteringMyLife



### **◆ BACK NEXT →**

### EXERCISE: "Depression Quiz"

Do you feel happy, miserable, stressed, worried or nervous? Take the following quizzes to get an indication of your mood and anxiety levels. They measure the extent to which you may have thoughts or emotions that make you vulnerable to emotional upset. Once you have answered these questions (MoodGYM will provide a score for you) you can compare yourself with others.

NB These quizzes must be completed before you progress further in the Program. Please answer all questions.

Note that scores from these sets of questions have been validated both by our Centre and others around the world. This means that the scores accurately reflect levels of emotional feeling, in this case, feelings of depression and anxiety.

### DEPRESSION QUIZ

|                                               | Yes      | No |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------|----|
| Have you been lacking in energy?              | 0        | •  |
| Have you lost interest in things?             | •        | 0  |
| Have you lost confidence in yourself?         | 0        | •  |
| Have you felt hopeless?                       | 0        | •  |
| Have you had difficulty concentrating?        | •        | 0  |
| Have you lost weight (due to poor appetite)?  | 0        | •  |
| Have you been waking early?                   | •        | 0  |
| Have you felt slowed up?                      | 0        | •  |
| Have you tended to feel worse in the morning? | <b>©</b> | 0  |

### SUBMIT RESPONSES



## Conclusions

- Online resources used to learn/research health & mental health conditions
- Consumers nearly always start at Google (or equivalent)
- If it's not found there or recommended by their doctor, consumers won't find it



