

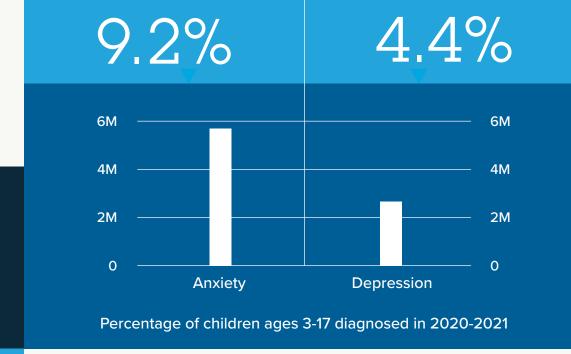
## Pediatric Mental & Behavioral Health in the United States



Experience a mental health disorder each year



**Social Determinants of Health** — like housing instability, food insecurity, and community violence contribute to prolonged stress, leading to mental and physical health issues



Children of low-income families are **twice as likely to face mental health challenges** and have limited access to care



## Medicaid

is a critical source of funding for pediatric mental health services, but **coverage and reimbursement rates vary widely by state**, affecting the availability of services

## **Making Progress**

Most states have made progress in integrating behavioral health services into Medicaid managed care contracts, but there are still gaps in service delivery, particularly for pediatric populations. Only a few states have managed to implement comprehensive reforms to ensure consistent coverage and access to necessary mental health services for children and adolescents.

## Access to mental health services varies significantly by location,

with children in rural areas facing more significant barriers, including transportation issues





Without proper mental health care, children are likely to experience academic difficulties, social isolation, and long-term mental health issues

