

# GREY BRUCE HEALTH UNIT



## BWDSB Annual Community Planning and Partnership Meeting

June 13th, 2017

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# Demographic Profile of Grey Bruce

*161,977 live in Grey Bruce*

- Low population growth: 2.1% (Ontario 4.6%)

## *Age structure*

- Older – average age: 45.1 (Ont. 41.0)
- More seniors 65+: 23.9% (Ont. 16.7%)
- Fewer children 0 to 14: 15.2% (Ont. 16.4%)

*Source: Statistics Canada – 2016 Census Profiles*

# Demographic Profile of Grey Bruce

Currently, just over 1,500 births per year

- *Birth rates are lower than the provincial average but have been stable over the last several years*
- *Slightly more births in Grey County than Bruce County*
- *Municipalities with more births are Owen Sound, Saugeen Shores, Kincardine*
- *Municipalities with the least births are North Bruce Peninsula, Blue Mountains, South Bruce Peninsula*

# In-School Services from Public Health

In 2015/16 school year, Health Unit staff held over 150 vaccine and over 3000 dental screenings in BWDSB schools

- *Space requirements will remain similar to this year.*
- *Space used for clinical services need to be private, easy to access and safe for both students and public health staff.*
  - Access to wifi, adult chairs and desks, plugs, sinks would be helpful
- *Flexible hours (outside of school time) would facilitate access for Public Health to meet with parents/professionals for consultation and/or program planning purposes.*

# Other Program Areas

- GBHU will continue to partner with users of school kitchens (school programs, Breakfast and Before & After School Programs)
  - *To help facilitate communication among users of the kitchen space to improve food safety practice*
  - *To share Best Practice resources*
- GBHU will continue to consult with us on issues related to smoking on school property, student illness absenteeism and infection control

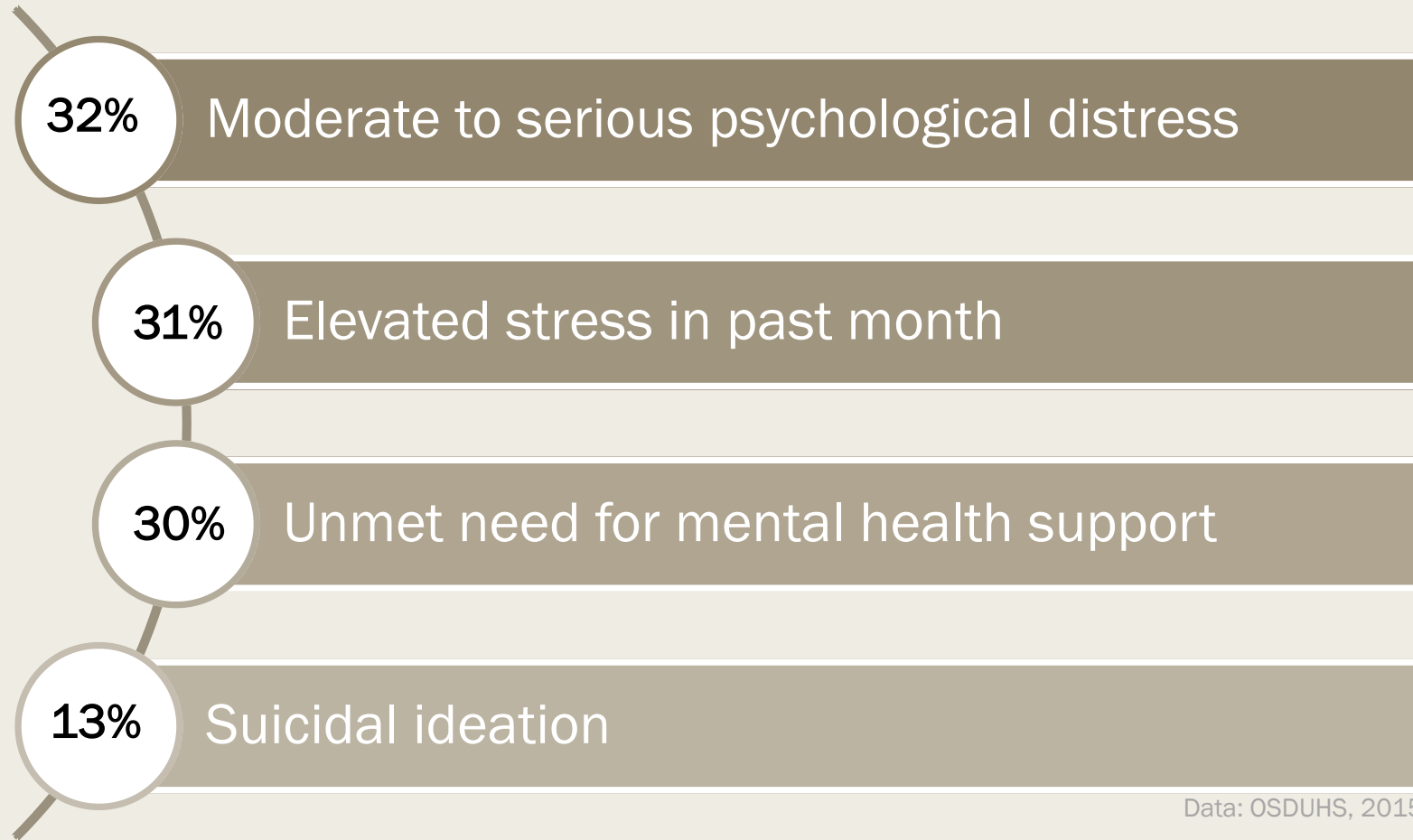
# The Health of our Children and Youth

- Grey Bruce School Readiness 2009-2013
  - *30.5% of children entering school considered vulnerable according to EDI (Early Development Instrument) [higher than Ont. 27.6%]*
- Overweight or Obese Youth – rates appear to be increasing locally and provincially

# The Health of our Children and Youth

- Limited local behaviour data on youth due to lack of regional participation in large surveys such as the Ontario Student Drug Use (& Mental Health, Well-being) Surveys or COMPASS by Propel Centre (U of Waterloo)
  - *What OSDUS (2015) showed for the Southwest & Erie St. Clair LHINs was students (gr 9-12):*
    - used alcohol (59%),
      - *binge drank alcohol in past month (23%),*
    - had used any drug incl. cannabis (31%).
      - *used cannabis (26%),*
    - smoked tobacco (Ont. 11%), used E-cigarettes (Ont. 15%)

# Children's Mental Health in South West Region



South West LHIN



# Working with you to create “Healthy Schools”

- Explore a rural model for Active Safe Routes to School to include an active transportation component
- Enhance Reciprocal Agreements so that outdoor and indoor school facilities are a community resource
- Maintain and establish “Tree Shade” within outdoor spaces for sun safety
- Allow for the provision of “safe spaces/community service rooms” for youth within each school and adopt best practice youth mental health strategies
- Maintain kitchen facilities within schools to support and enhance the provision of healthy food choices for school programming



THANK YOU

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