

Mental Health Atlas 2024

Country profile

Mauritania

Population (in millions; UN estimate 2023)¹: 5 WHO Region²: AFR

MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION

National mental health survey in last 10 years: No Nation-wide digital health records system: No
Mental health report published in last 2 years: No Unique service user identifiers in place: -

MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM GOVERNANCE AND FINANCING

Mental health policies and plans

Stand-alone policy or plan for mental health: No

(Year of policy / plan): -

Compliance of policy / plan with human rights (5-point checklist; 5 = fully in line)³: 0

Financial resources estimated and allocated for implementation of the policy/plan: No

Human resources estimated and allocated for implementation of the policy/plan: No

Specified indicators or targets against which its implementation can be monitored: No

Mental health legislation and standards

Stand-alone law for mental health: Yes

(Year of law): -

Compliance of law with human rights (5-point checklist; 5 = fully in line)⁴: 0

A functioning authority exists to assess compliance of mental health legislation with human rights standards: No

Redress mechanism to address grievances and other issues related to quality standards or human rights: Yes

A registry exists to record incidents of seclusion and restraints: No

Mental health policy/plans across the life-course

Stand-alone or integrated mental health policy or plan for children / adolescents: No Stand-alone or integrated mental health policy or plan for older adults: No

Policies and plans to prevent suicide and address stigma

Specific suicide prevention strategy: No Specific anti-stigma strategy: Yes

Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) in emergencies

MHPSS system exists for emergency preparedness and/or disaster risk management: No If yes, dedicated financial & human resources allocated for MHPSS components of emergency preparedness / disaster risk management: -

Financial protection policies for mental health

Mental health care and treatment included in publicly-funded financial protection schemes: What do majority of people with mental health conditions pay towards the cost of:

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-------------------------------------|---------|
| • Psychosis and bipolar disorder | No | • Mental health inpatient services | 51-100% |
| • Depression and anxiety | No | • Mental health outpatient services | 51-100% |
| Dedicated budget line for mental health? | Yes | • Psychotropic medicines | 51-100% |
| | | • Psychological therapies | 51-100% |

Mental health expenditure

Government mental health expenditure per capita (reported currency): 0.002 [MRU] Government expenditure on mental health (% of total government health expenditure): -

¹ **Population:** UN, 2023. World Population Prospects. <https://population.un.org/wpp/>

² **WHO Regions:** AFR – African; AMR – Americas; EMR – Eastern Mediterranean; EUR – European; SEAR – South-East Asia; WPR – Western Pacific.

³ **Policy/plan compliance with human rights instruments** includes 5 self-reported checklist items [5 = fully in line]: 1) community-based care; 2) protection of rights of users & at-risk groups; 3) full range of supports for independent living; 4) recovery & user-driven plans; 5) user participation in decision-making

⁴ **Law compliance with human rights instruments** includes 5 self-reported checklist items [5 = fully in line]: 1) community-based care; 2) protection of human rights & legal capacity; 3) Informed consent; 4) ≥2 of: voluntary admission protections / prevention of seclusion-restraint / complaints procedures; 5) Regular human rights inspections

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MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE

Mental health workers	No. per 100 000 population	Distribution of mental health workforce
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychiatrists Mental health nurses Psychologists Social workers Other mental health workers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0.2 0.4 0.1 - - 	<p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychiatrists (28.6%) Mental health nurses (57.1%) Psychologists (14.3%) </p>
Total mental health workers	0.7	

Mental health workers (child and adolescent)	No. per 100 000 population	Training of primary care workers in mental health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child and/or adolescent psychiatrists 	0.1	Primary care workers receive training on management of mental health conditions: No
Total child / adolescent mental health workers	0.1	Mental health specialists undertake training / supervision of primary care workers: No

MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

Mental health promotion and protection programmes			
School-based mental health programme	No	At least two functioning programmes (3 point checklist score; $\geq 2 = \text{Yes}$) ⁵	No
Work-related mental health programme	No		

Integration of mental health into primary health care			
Essential medications for mental health conditions available in primary care facilities	< 10%	Functional integration of mental health into primary care (5 self-reported checklist items; $\geq 4 = \text{functional integration}$) ⁶	0
Psychosocial interventions for mental health conditions available in primary care facilities	< 10%		

Outpatient care (total facilities)		Outpatient care (visits per 100 000 population)	
Mental health outpatient facilities attached to a hospital	1	Visits in last year to mental health outpatient facilities attached to a hospital	54.3
Community-based mental health outpatient facilities	-	Visits in last year to community-based mental health outpatient facility	-
Outpatient facilities specifically for children and adolescents	1	Visits in last year to outpatient facilities specifically for children and adolescents	-

Inpatient care (total facilities)		Inpatient beds / annual admissions (per 100 000 population)	
Psychiatric hospitals	-	Psychiatric hospital beds / admissions	- / -
Psychiatric units in general hospitals	1	General hospital psychiatric unit beds / admissions	0.4 / 18.5
Community residential facilities	-	Community residential beds / admissions	- / -
Inpatient facilities specifically for children and adolescents	-	Child and adolescent inpatient beds / admissions	- / -

Psychiatric hospitals		Psychiatric hospitals (length of stay)	
Total number of admissions	-	Inpatients staying less than 1 year	-
Involuntary admissions	-	Inpatients staying 1-5 years	-
Follow-up of people with mental health condition discharged from hospital in the last year (discharged persons seen within a month)	51%-75%	Inpatients staying more than 5 years	-
		Percentage of inpatients staying less than 1 year out of total number of inpatients	-

⁵ **Functional mental health promotion and prevention programmes** includes 3 self-reported checklist items [$\geq 2 = \text{functioning programme}$]: 1) dedicated financial & human resources; 2) defined plan for implementation; 3) documented evidence of progress and/or impact.

⁶ **Integration of mental health in primary care** includes 5 self-reported checklist items [$\geq 4 = \text{functional integration}$]: 1) national guidelines adopted; 2) psychoactive medications available in primary care; 3) psychosocial care available in primary care; 4) primary care workers trained; 5) specialists support training/supervision.