Baseline SAP Referrals Disparities Impact Statement

Across all 20 LEAs in the CSIU 16 Region
Academic Year: 2021-2022

Demographic	Total Enrollment	Number of Students with SAP Referral	Risk Index (% of Total Enrollment with SAP Referral)	Risk Ratio (Comparison to All Other Groups)
Female	14,821	1,032	7.0%	0.90
Male	16,048	1,235	7.7%	1.11
Asian	288	15	5.2%	0.71
Black/AA	713	145	20.3%	2.89
Hispanic	1,988	135	6.8%	0.92
Multi-Racial	1,042	53	5.1%	0.68
White	26,693	1,909	7.2%	0.83

General Interpretation of these Data to Inform the MHAT Quality Improvement Plan and Related Outreach with Schools and Community-partners Moving Forward:

- It is important to note that based on the generally acknowledged under-referral to SAP (in general) over the years coupled with the acknowledged degree of increasing concern regarding the mental health of school-age youth that most would agree that it would be desirable to realize increasing numbers of referrals (in general) of students to SAP in the commonwealth.
- Having noted the above, it appears that females were <u>slightly less likely</u> to be referred to SAP during this targeted time-frame as compared to male students while males were <u>slightly more likely</u> to be referred in comparison to their female classmates within the 20 LEAs in the CSIU region. This is noteworthy when considering that nationally adolescent females represent one population of youth that have seen the greatest degree of increase in mental health challenges including suicide (Center for Disease Control, 2023).
- Beyond male-female comparisons, the greatest degree of disproportionality in SAP referrals during this targeted time-frame appears to have been with Black/African American Students in that this population is close to 3 times <u>more</u> likely (risk ratio = 2.89) to be referred to SAP than all other student groups combined. To some degree this appears to parallel disproportionality related to school disciplinary procedures for this same population within the commonwealth albeit to a lesser degree (e.g., Black/African American students represents around 14% of students in Pennsylvania however received approximately half of out-of-school suspensions during this same targeted time-frame).
- Further beyond male-female comparisons, it would appear that students identified as either Multi-racial (risk ratio = .68) or Asian (risk ratio = .71) were <u>least likely</u> to be referred to SAP as compared with all other groups combined during the 2021-22 academic-year.