Public attitudes to mental illness 2013-2014

time to change
let's end mental health discrimination

2 million people have improved attitudes towards people with mental illness

Public attitudes towards people with mental health problems have improved significantly with the biggest annual improvement in the last decade taking place in 2013.

Since Time to Change started in 2007

6.4%
improvement in attitudes

Since phase two started in 2011

4.8%
improvement in attitudes

And in the last year (2012-2013)

2.8%
improvement in attitudes

> That's the biggest annual shift we've ever seen!

We are moving in the right direction...

In 2009 questions were added to the survey to ask people about their intended behaviour and since then we have seen a marked increase in the proportion of people who say they would be willing to continue a relationship with, work with, live nearby to and live with someone with a mental health problem:

7% rise in willingness to work with someone with a mental health problem (69% to 76%).

6% rise in willingness to continue a relationship with a friend with a mental health problem (82% to 88%).

5% rise in willingness to live nearby to someone with a mental health problem (72% to 77%).

5% rise in willingness to live with someone with a mental health problem (57% to 62%).

64% More people acknowledge that they **know someone with a mental health problem** (58% in 2009 to 64% in 2013).

79% believe that people with a mental illness have for too long been the **subject of ridicule**. 75% agreed in 2008.
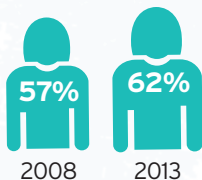
Only 13% of people now think that anyone with a history of mental health problems should be **excluded from public office**.
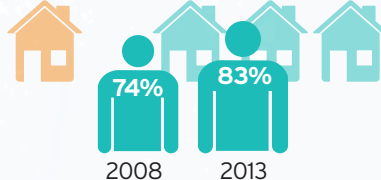
down from 21% in 2008

62% of people agreed that **people with a mental illness are far less of a danger than most people suppose.**

57% 2008   62% 2013

More people agree that **no one has the right to exclude people with a mental illness** from their neighbourhood.

74% 2008   83% 2013

There has been a significant drop in the number of people who agreed that **people with a mental illness should not be given any responsibility.**

15% 2008   only 10% 2013
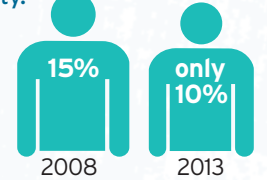
But we've still got a long way to go...

Only 28% of people in 2013 agree that **women who were once patients in a mental hospital can be trusted as babysitters.**

Nearly one in 10 adults **(7%)** in England think **people with mental health problems shouldn't have the same rights to a job** as anyone else.

NO   YES

Nearly half of people **(49%)** said they **would feel uncomfortable talking to an employer** about their mental health.

As long as these attitudes still exist, we have work to do. Join us at www.time-to-change.org.uk