**Title:** Association Between Level of Education Completed and Depressive Disorders in Adults

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**Purpose:** Higher education serves as a greater protective factor against depression when individuals come from disadvantaged backgrounds (Bauldry, 2015). This study investigates whether there is an association between level of education and depression within West Virginia.

**Method:** Two cross tabulations examining the prevalence of depression by level of education within two age groups: 18-64 and 65+, were conducted using 2018 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data.

**Results:** Among the 18-64 age group, 48.2% of adults who did not graduate high school reported depression, χ2 (3, *N* = 2999) = 50.24, p < 0.0001. Within the 65+ age group, 27.2% of adults who did not graduate high school reported depression, χ2 (3, *N* = 1827) = 10.01, p < 0.0185.

**Discussion/Conclusion:** The association between level of education completed and depression may inform further research on the effect of education and depression.