The latest survey conducted by the TAA shows just how much of an effect Tourette Syndrome, Tic Disorders, and associated conditions have on the lives of nearly 1 million Americans living with these conditions.

The hard truths are unsettling for children, adults and families.

Only together can we overcome these challenges to turn things around and improve lives.

50% of individuals are still undiagnosed.
72% have experienced physical pain because of their tics.

46% report being worried about being socially isolated due to their tics.

50% have felt discriminated against.

66% were forced to miss school or have extended absences.

63% take prescription medications to manage symptoms of their tics.

10% have tried 5 or more medications at some point in their life.

24% have considered suicide at some point in their lives.

10% have attempted suicide at least once during the past 12 months.

40% have participated in self-harming behaviors.

80% felt that tics negatively impacted their school experience.

70% have experienced bullying directly related to them having Tourette Syndrome (TS).
IMPACT on Adults

87% experience physical pain because of their tics.

36% said they consume alcohol to treat or cope with symptoms of their tics or associated conditions.

30% said they consumed alcohol or substances to the point where they sought medical help for this issue.

51% said that tics prevented them from forming meaningful friendships or romantic relationships.

60% believed their tics have prevented them from fulfilling their fullest potential.

36% noted that they have had to miss work due to their tics.

59% take prescription medications to manage symptoms of TS.

31% do not feel that their symptoms are adequately controlled by existing medicine.

72% have considered suicide at some point in their lives. 38% have attempted suicide at least once in the last 12 months.

58% have participated in self-harming behaviors.

42% reported one of the biggest challenges is dealing with co-occurring disorders and symptoms.

81% experienced social difficulties related to having tics.

72% have felt discriminated against.
IMPACT on Families

15% of parents lost their job or they aren’t able to work as often due to taking care of a child with tics.

6% are not able to afford medications or desired medical care for their child.

5% were forced to move due to the financial strain managing tic disorders had on their family.

39% of parents do not feel that their child’s symptoms are adequately controlled by existing medicine.

76% of parents noted their child having or having an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) or 504 plan in place at their school.

43% of parents reported that managing their children’s tics caused financial problems for their family.

28% struggle to cover high costs of services for their child such as counseling, appointments, and tutoring.

40% of parents/caregivers reported that their child has at some point disclosed to them intentions or thoughts of self-harm.

Impact Survey Disclaimer: The Tourette Association of American (TAA) conducted a web-based survey about the impact that Tourette Syndrome, Tic Disorders, and associated conditions have on individuals and families. Nearly 1,194 responses were collected. Participants were required to be 18 years or older to take this survey. For those under 18, a parent or caregiver was required to fill out the survey on the child’s behalf.