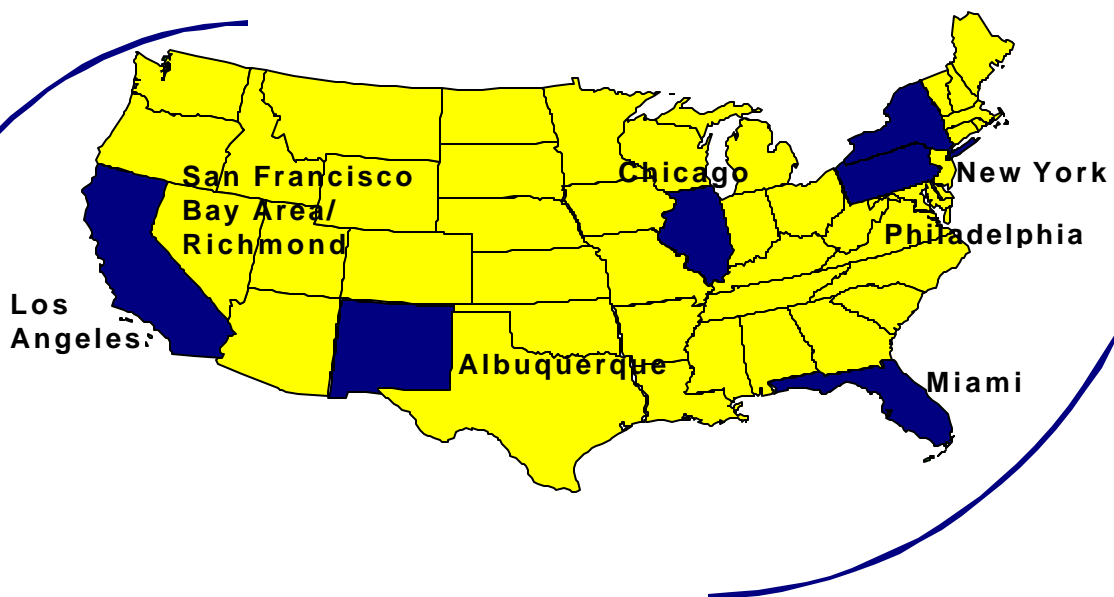


The Drug Evaluation Network System - DENS



**ONDCP - CTAC
End of Second Quarter 2001
(April 1, 2001 – June 30, 2001)
DENS Data Report**

ASI Data for Selected Comparison Groups

Reports were run using the ASI data collected in the following cities: Philadelphia, Chicago, New York, Albuquerque, San Francisco, Miami and Los Angeles, and includes data collected from programs using the DENS Software in the State of New Jersey. Data was broken into the following comparison groups: Males versus Females, Methadone Maintenance programs versus Non-Methadone Maintenance programs, and January-June 2000 data versus January-June 2001 data.

Males vs. Females

Sixty-five percent of the DENS data was collected on male clients, with thirty-five percent representing female clients. The males and females in the DENS data differ in many areas, particularly in medical status, psychiatric lifetime history and current status, employment status, legal status and drug and alcohol history and current status.

A greater percent of females (38.5%) report medical problems in the past 30 days, as compared to men (30.2%), and thirty-two percent of females report having been prescribed medication in the past months as compared to approximately twenty-four percent of males. Females also report more lifetime medical and psychiatric hospitalizations than males. Females report a higher incidence of suicide attempts, and physical and sexual abuse in their lifetime. In addition, they also report higher rates of experiencing serious depression, trouble with violence, and suicide attempts in the past month as compared to males. They also report more mean days of psychiatric problems in the past month (15.2 vs. 14.4).

Male clients entering drug and alcohol treatment at DENS sites report a significantly greater number of days paid working, earn significantly greater employment income, and report more problems on the job or while actively looking for work in the past month, than female clients. In regards to drug and alcohol treatment history, males report significantly more alcohol treatments than females. In addition, males report more mean years of alcohol (13.1) and heroin (4.9) abuse, as compared to females mean years of alcohol (10.0) and heroin (3.8) abuse. In regards to recent (past 30 days) drug and alcohol use, a greater percent of males report using alcohol and marijuana and males report more mean days of heroin and marijuana use, as compared with females. Males also report spending significantly more money on alcohol and drugs in the past 30 days. A greater percent of females than males report cocaine use, and females report significantly more mean days of alcohol and cocaine use.

Methadone Maintenance Programs vs. Non-Methadone Maintenance Programs

Fifteen percent of the ASI data in the DENS dataset are from clients presenting for treatment at methadone maintenance programs, as compared to seventy-seven percent from non-methadone maintenance programs. Clients presenting for treatment at these programs differ in regards to all areas covered by the ASI, including demographic characteristics, medical, psychiatric, employment, legal, family/social, and drug and alcohol history and status.

In regards to demographic characteristics, clients at participating DENS methadone maintenance programs are more likely to be male, are older, and have more years of education, compared with clients from DENS non-methadone maintenance programs. Methadone Maintenance clients report more medical hospitalizations in their lifetime, and a greater percent report medical problems and having been prescribed medication for a medical problem in the past month as compared to non-Methadone Maintenance clients. Conversely, Methadone Maintenance clients report less lifetime psychiatric issues as compared with non-Methadone Maintenance clients: fewer psychiatric hospitalizations, fewer lifetime suicide attempts, and lower rates of physical and sexual abuse.

In regards to employment, DENS methadone maintenance clients report working twice as many days in the past month as DENS non-methadone maintenance clients, report making more than double the monthly income, report more illegal income, and fewer report employment related problems. In the area of legal issues, although a greater percent of methadone maintenance clients report having been incarcerated in their lifetime (54.8%) as compared with non-methadone maintenance clients (50.6%), a lesser percent report recent legal problems. This includes approximately nine percent of methadone maintenance clients having been detained in the past month as compared with sixteen percent of non-methadone maintenance clients, and eight percent report currently awaiting charges, trial or sentencing as compared to nearly twice (14.8%) that amount for non-methadone maintenance clients. Also, clients presenting for methadone maintenance treatment report fewer conflicts with family members or other people in the past month than clients presenting for non-methadone maintenance treatment.

Finally, as expected, clients presenting for methadone maintenance treatment report more mean years of heroin use (12.6 versus 3.2), although less mean years of alcohol (9.7 versus 12.9) and cocaine (5.0 versus 7.5) use. They report less prior alcohol treatment (0.4 versus 1.3) but nearly twice as many prior drug treatments (4.2 versus 2.2). In regards to past month's use, a greater percent of clients presenting for methadone maintenance treatment report heroin use (87%) while a lesser percent report alcohol, amphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana use as compared to clients presenting for non-methadone maintenance treatment. In addition, for those reporting using a particular drug in the past month, clients presenting for methadone maintenance treatment report significantly fewer mean days of alcohol, cocaine, and marijuana use. They also report spending less money on alcohol in the past 30 days. They do report more mean days of heroin use (25.0 versus 17.3) in the past month and spending over twice the amount of money on drugs than clients presenting for non-methadone maintenance treatment.

January-June 2000 Data vs. January-June 2001 Data

In comparing clients presenting for treatment at participating DENS sites during the first six months of 2000 against clients presenting for treatment during the first six months of 2001, these two groups have few significant differences. The mean age for clients in 2001 is significantly higher (36.3) than that of clients in 2000 (35.8)

In the area of drug and alcohol use and history, a decrease is observed in regards to the mean years of alcohol use reported by clients presenting for treatment during the first two quarters of 2001, as compared to clients presenting for treatment during the first two quarters of 2000. A significant difference exists between the percent of 2001 clients reporting using cocaine in the past month, as compared with 2000 clients (43.1 vs. 48.4). Clients from 2001 are also reporting fewer mean days of cocaine (13.2) and heroin use (18.7), as compared with 2000 clients (15.0 and 20.2). Clients in 2001 are reporting more alcohol and drug abuse treatments, although fewer medical hospitalizations than clients in the same time period in 2000.

In regards to legal, family social and psychiatric issues, an increase is observed in regards to the percent of clients having ever been incarcerated (58% in 2001, versus 50% in 2000). A decrease is observed in regards to recent legal problems and family/social conflicts between 2000 and 2001. Finally, clients presenting for treatment during the first six months of 2001 report more mean days of psychiatric problems, although fewer report experiencing serious depression in the past month. These trends will continue to be watched closely throughout the rest of the year 2001.

ADDICTION SEVERITY INDEX (ASI) BACKGROUND DATA
FOR SELECTED COMPARISON GROUPS

July, 2001

	Male n= 13382	Female n= 7288	Methadone Maintenance n= 3044	Non- Methadone Maintenance n= 15892	Jan - June 2000 n= 2990	Jan - June 2001 n=3547
Mean Age	36.8	34.8*	39.0	35.7*	35.8	36.3*
Gender +						
% Male	N/A	N/A	69.7	63.8	60.2	64.8
% Female	N/A	N/A	30.3	36.2	39.8	35.2
Race+						
% White	25.7	23.6	36.1	21.8	24.9	25.4
% Black	48.1	60.4	42.5	55.6	57.5	53.4
Marital Status+						
% Married	16.5	11.8	21.3	13.8	13.4	13.4
% Widowed	1.6	3.6	3.2	2.2	2.6	1.9
% Never Married	55.4	59.7	46.4	59.0	59.5	61.0
% Divorced/Sep.	26.5	24.9	29.1	24.9	24.6	23.7
Mean Years of Education	11.7	11.5*	11.8	11.6*	11.7	11.6
Mean Years of:						
Alcohol Use	13.1	10.0*	9.7	12.9*	12.0	11.4*
Heroin Abuse	4.9	3.8*	12.6	3.2*	4.1	4.2
Cocaine Abuse	6.7	7.0*	5.0	7.5*	7.4	7.0
Mean # of Prior Treatments:						
Alcohol Abuse	1.2	1.0*	0.4	1.3*	1.0	1.2*
Drug Abuse	2.4	2.4	4.2	2.2*	2.1	2.5*
Medical Hospitalizations	2.0	2.4*	2.7	2.1*	2.2	1.9*
Psychiatric Percent Hospitalized	17.6	26.8*	19.1	22.0*	21.6	20.2
Percent ever:						
Attempted Suicide	12.5	24.8*	14.9	17.4*	15.5	15.1
Violent in Lifetime	22.1	22.2	23.2	21.7	19.9	21.5
Abused Physically	22.3	50.5*	24.9	33.9*	33.1	34.3
Abused Sexually	8.0	38.1*	11.7	20.3*	21.0	19.9
Incarcerated	59.5	39.7*	54.8	50.6*	50.3	57.8*
Current Medical Status						
% prescribed medications	23.5	32.3*	30.3	26.5*	27.8	29.5
% reporting problems	30.2	38.5*	35.6	32.9*	33.8	32.8

+ Significance tests not run.

* p<.05

**ADDICTION SEVERITY INDEX (ASI) CURRENT STATUS
FOR SELECTED COMPARISON GROUPS**

July, 2001

	Male n= 13382	Female n= 7288	Methadone Maintenance n= 3044	Non- Methadone Maintenance n= 15892	Jan - June 2000 n= 2990	Jan - June 2001 n=3547
Employment Status						
Mean days worked	6.4	2.8*	9.0	4.4*	5.0	4.7
Money earned	\$425	\$135*	\$639	\$260*	\$320	\$310
Illegal income reported	\$175	\$155	\$208	\$174*	\$123	\$153
% reporting problems	38.5	32.1*	28.4	38.4*	31.5	32.9
Drug & Alcohol Status (Past 30 Days)						
Percent Using any:						
Alcohol	54.9	48.9*	42.7	56.1*	52.7	51.8
Amphetamines	3.0	3.2	0.9	1.7*	3.0	2.7
Cocaine	41.4	53.1*	36.5	50.5*	48.4	43.1*
Heroin	28.9	28.9	86.5	19.9*	26.0	25.6
Marijuana	25.3	22.7*	23.5	24.7	24.6	23.3
Mean Days Used in Past 30 ¹						
Alcohol	11.8	12.5*	9.7	12.7*	12.7	11.6*
Amphetamines	7.8	8.4	8.4	9.3	7.3	9.3
Cocaine	12.7	14.6*	10.4	14.1*	15.0	13.2*
Heroin	21.0	20.0*	25.0	17.3*	20.2	18.7*
Marijuana	10.7	10.0*	9.1	10.9*	11.2	10.8
Money spent on ¹ Alcohol	\$52	\$29*	\$19	\$51*	\$40	\$41
Drugs	\$530	\$490*	\$1077	\$448*	\$479	\$496
Legal Status						
% detained past month	20.0	16.9*	9.3	16.2*	21.2	18.0*
% awaiting charges/trial	16.3	13.4*	8.0	14.8*	18.1	10.4*
Family Status (Past 30 days)						
% conflicts with family	28.5	33.6*	21.3	33.3*	29.4	25.6*
% conflicts with others	18.2	18.7	11.3	20.6*	19.0	15.4*
Psychiatric Status (Past 30 days) ²						
Mean days problems	14.4	15.2*	15.3	14.9	13.7	14.8*
% experienced depression	28.5	39.8*	31.9	33.1	33.0	29.8*
% trouble with violence	6.4	8.7*	7.2	7.3	7.5	6.4
% attempted suicide	1.4	2.5*	0.8	2.0*	1.5	1.2

+ Significance tests not run.

* p<.05

¹ Among those who reported use in the past 30 days.

² Among those who reported any days of psychiatric problems.