

Metro

BRIEF

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Albuquerque

Substance Abuse Treatment in Metropolitan Areas

Office of Applied Studies



This report is one in a series of reports that provide a snapshot of substance abuse treatment in various metropolitan areas nationwide. This report focuses on substance abuse treatment admissions and treatment facilities in the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)¹ of Albuquerque, New Mexico,² hereafter referred to as Albuquerque.

Data presented in this report are derived from the Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS),³ which collects information on the characteristics of persons admitted to substance abuse treatment, and the National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS),⁴ an annual survey of treatment facilities. Both TEDS and N-SSATS are conducted by the Office of Applied Studies, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Demographic Characteristics of Treatment Admissions

- In 2008, there were approximately 4,000 total substance abuse treatment admissions in Albuquerque: 62 percent were male and 38 percent were female.

The age and race/ethnicity of treatment admissions in Albuquerque are shown below in Figures 1 and 2.

Figure 1. Treatment Admissions by Age: Albuquerque: TEDS 2008

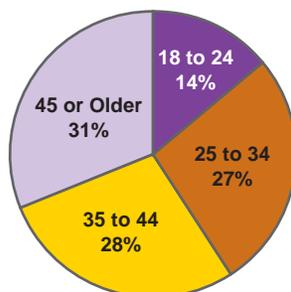
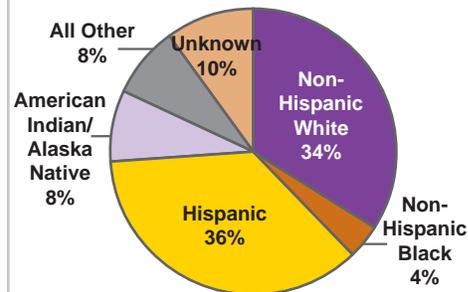


Figure 2. Treatment Admissions by Race/Ethnicity: Albuquerque: TEDS 2008



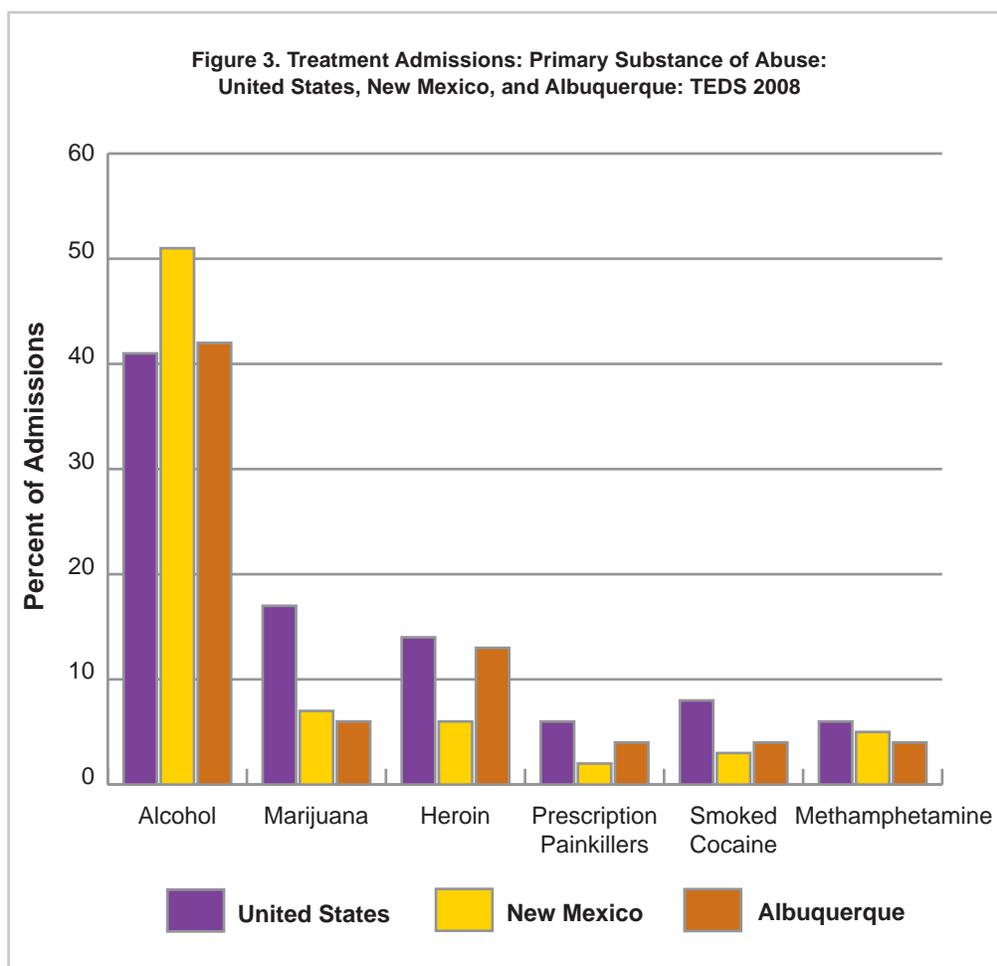
Source: Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) 2008



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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Primary Substance of Abuse⁵ Reported at Treatment Admission

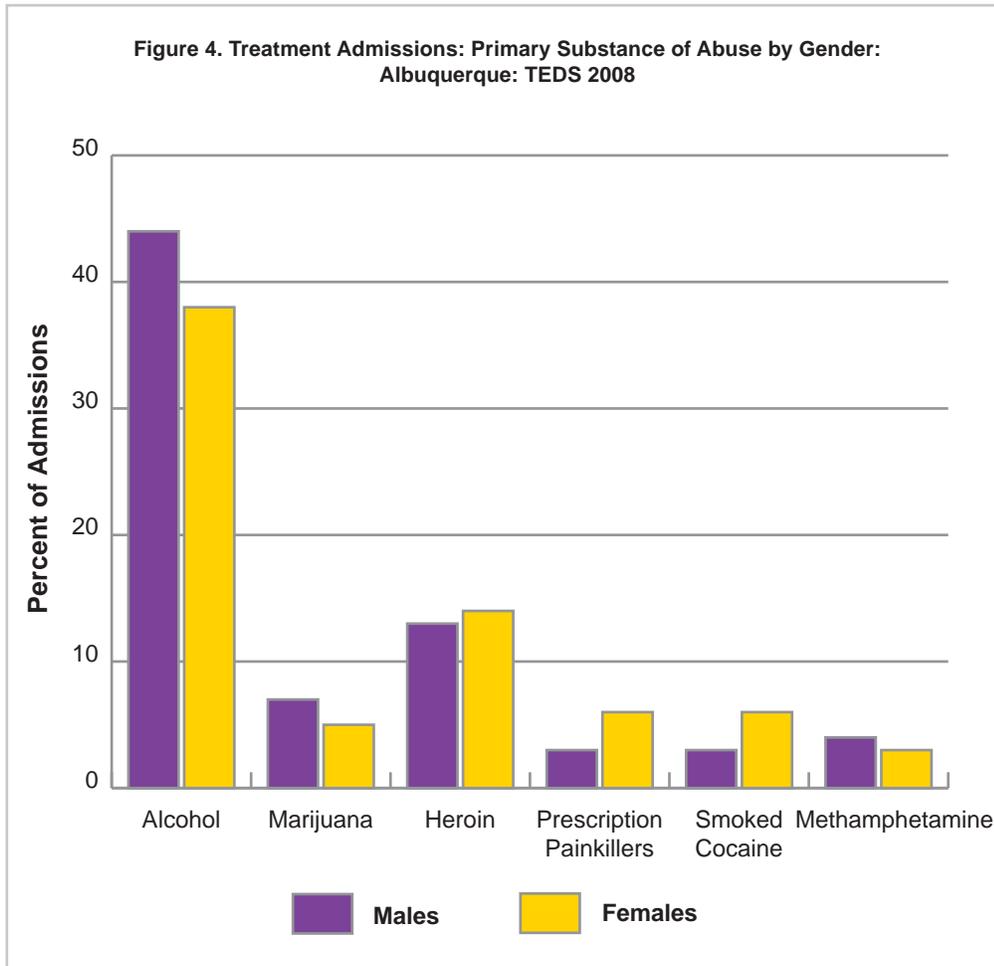
- Compared with the Nation as a whole and the State of New Mexico, treatment admissions in Albuquerque were:
 - equally likely as all U.S. admissions and less likely than New Mexico admissions as a whole to report primary alcohol,
 - less likely to report marijuana, and
 - more likely than New Mexico admissions as a whole and equally likely as all U.S. admissions to report heroin (Figure 3).



Source: Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) 2008

By Gender

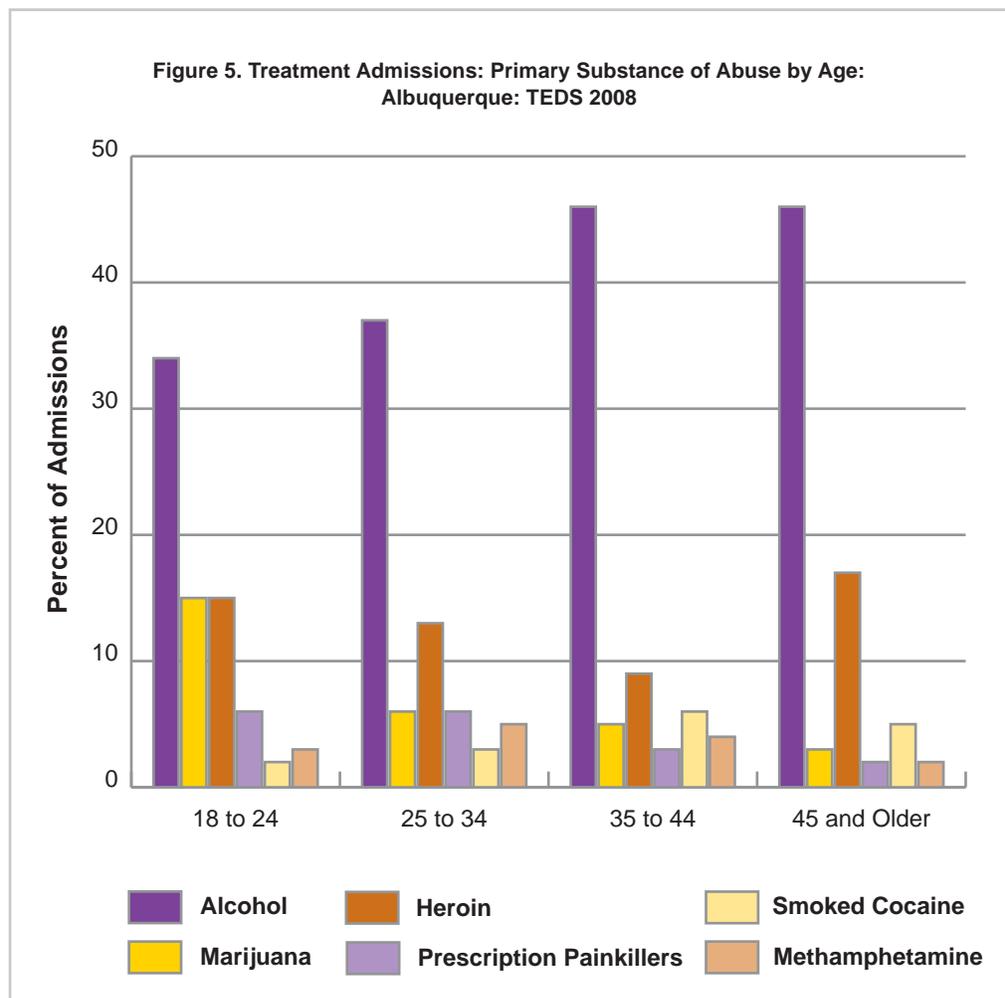
- Both males and females reported alcohol as their primary substance of abuse more often than other substances, followed by heroin.
- Compared with males, females were more likely to report primary smoked cocaine or prescription painkillers, but less likely to report alcohol or marijuana (Figure 4).



Source: Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) 2008

By Age

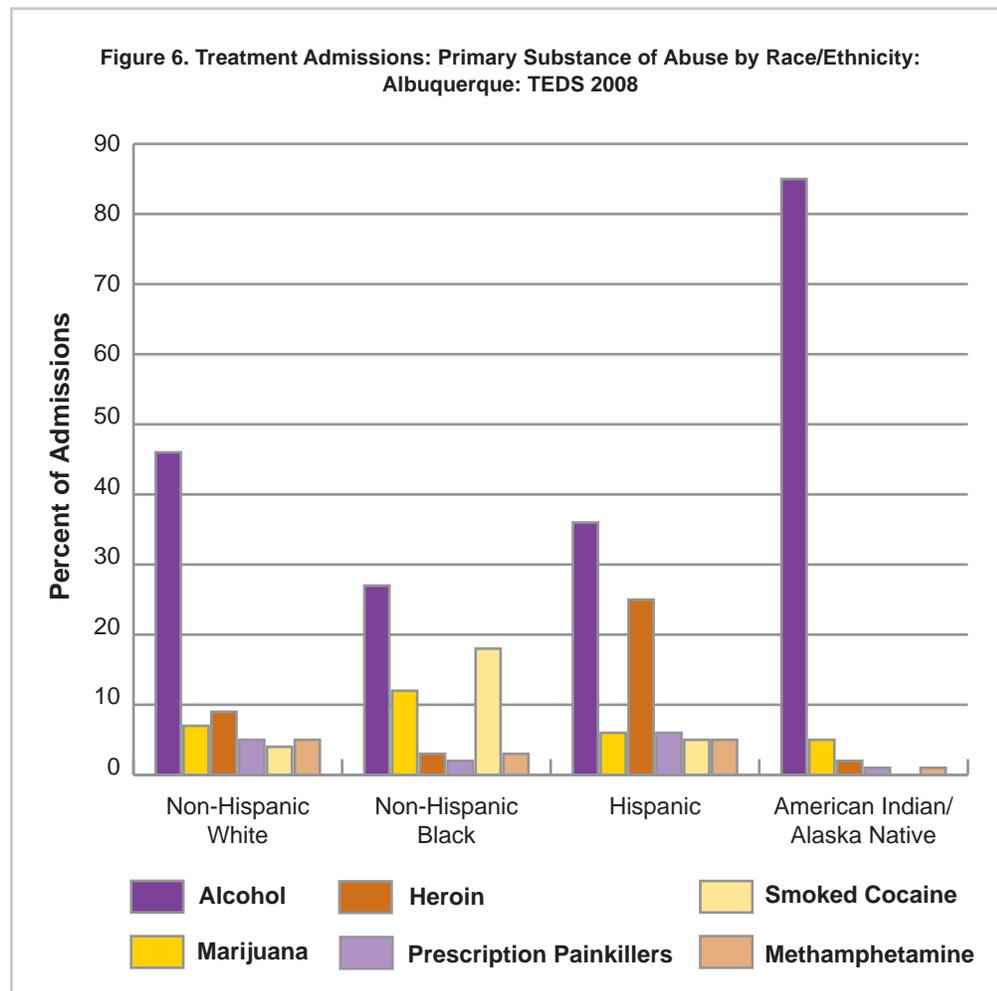
- Alcohol was the most prevalent primary substance of abuse among admissions 18 and older.
- Second to alcohol, admissions aged 18 to 24 reported marijuana and heroin most often as their primary substances of abuse, and those aged 25 and older reported heroin (Figure 5).



Source: Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) 2008

By Race/Ethnicity

- Admissions in all race/ethnic groups reported alcohol as their primary substance of abuse more often than other substances.
- Second to alcohol, non-Hispanic Black admissions most frequently reported smoked cocaine, and Hispanic admissions most frequently reported heroin.
- Among American Indian/Alaska Native admissions, substances other than alcohol accounted for very few admissions (Figure 6).



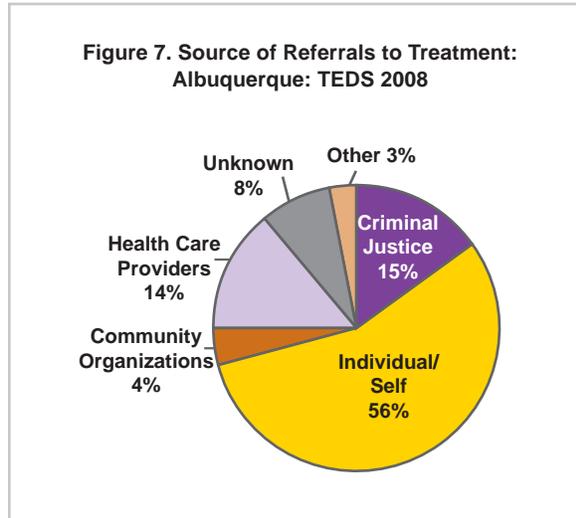
Source: Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) 2008

Injection Drug Use

- Of the total admissions in Albuquerque, 13 percent reported injection drug use.

Sources of Referral

- Individual/self-referrals were the most common source of referral to treatment in Albuquerque (56 percent), followed by the criminal justice system (15 percent), and health care providers (14 percent) (Figure 7).



Source: Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) 2008

Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities

Types of Care

- In 2008, 48 facilities in Albuquerque offered substance abuse treatment services: 40 facilities offered outpatient care, 9 facilities offered non-hospital residential care, and 1 facility offered hospital inpatient care. (Some facilities offered more than one type of care.)

Outpatient Care

- Of the 40 facilities that offered outpatient substance abuse care, 40 percent provided intensive outpatient services, and 15 percent offered day treatment/partial hospitalization.
- Regular outpatient treatment services were offered by 90 percent of outpatient facilities.

Residential Care

- Of the 9 residential facilities in Albuquerque, 100 percent offered long-term residential treatment (more than 30 days) and 22 percent offered short-term residential treatment (30 days or less).

Detoxification Programs

- A total of 13 facilities offered detoxification services. Of these facilities, 85 percent provided detoxification from opiates (heroin and prescription painkillers), 46 percent from alcohol, and 31 percent from cocaine.

Opioid Treatment Programs

Opioid treatment programs (OTPs) provide medication-assisted therapy with methadone and/or buprenorphine for the treatment of addiction to opiates such as heroin and prescription painkillers.

- In 2008, 7 of the 48 treatment facilities (15 percent) in Albuquerque operated OTPs. On a typical day,⁶ 2,522 clients at these OTPs were receiving medication-assisted opioid therapy with methadone or buprenorphine.⁷

References

U.S. Census Bureau. (2009). Metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas. Retrieved on December 2, 2009, from <http://www.census.gov/population/www/metroareas/metrodef.html>

End Notes

- ¹ MSAs are geographic entities used by Federal statistical agencies to collect, analyze, and publish Federal statistics, and are defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.
- ² The Albuquerque, New Mexico MSA includes the following counties: Torrance, Sandoval, Bernalillo, and Valencia.
- ³ The Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) is a compilation of data on the demographic and substance abuse problems of those admitted for substance abuse treatment. The information comes primarily from facilities that receive some public funding. Information on treatment admissions is routinely collected by State administrative systems and submitted to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in a standard format. TEDS records represent admissions rather than individuals, because a person may be admitted to treatment more than once. See the annual TEDS reports at <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/dasis.htm#teds3>.
- ⁴ The National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS) is designed to collect information from all facilities in the United States, both public and private, that provide substance abuse treatment. N-SSATS does not collect information from the following three types of facilities: non-treatment halfway houses; jails, prisons, or other organizations that treat incarcerated clients exclusively; and solo practitioners.
- ⁵ TEDS collects information on up to three substances of abuse that lead to the treatment episode. The main substance abused by the client is known as the “primary substance of abuse.”
- ⁶ N-SSATS collected information on the number of clients in treatment at each facility on the survey reference date of March 31, 2008.
- ⁷ It is possible that the number of clients receiving treatment at opioid treatment programs (OTPs) on the N-SSATS reference date will appear relatively large in comparison with the number of annual treatment admissions based on data from TEDS. Reasons for this include: (1) persons receiving medication-assisted opioid therapy often remain in treatment for extended periods of time and thus do not show up in an annual count of admissions to treatment; and (2) some private for-profit OTPs do not report to TEDS but are surveyed in the N-SSATS.