Non-Hispanic Black Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions for Cocaine Decreased from 2000 to 2010

Cocaine was called “the drug of the 1980s and 1990s” because it was widely used during that time. In 1999, alcohol and cocaine were the most commonly reported primary substances of abuse for non-Hispanic Black or African American admissions for treatment.

The Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) shows that the percentage of Black admissions for cocaine has gone down since the 1990s. In 2010, 40 percent of Black admissions had a problem with cocaine. To compare, 55 percent did so in 2000. This change is 15 percentage points. For other races or ethnicities, 18 percent reported cocaine in 2010. In 2000, it was 23 percent. This change is only 5 percentage points.

The percentage of cocaine admissions has gone down over time. However, Black admissions have been twice as likely as other admissions to report having a problem with cocaine. This difference shows the continuing need for prevention, intervention, and treatment programs for this population. For more information, see http://www.samhsa.gov/obhe/african-american.aspx.


Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), 2010, based on data received through October 10, 2011. TEDS is a compilation of data on the demographic characteristics and substance abuse problems of admissions to substance abuse treatment facilities in the United States, primarily facilities that receive public funding. TEDS is one component of the Behavioral Health Services Information System (BHSIS), an integrated data system maintained by the Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, SAMHSA. For more information on the TEDS see http://www.samhsa.gov/data/DASIS.aspx#TEDS.

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