

Data Spotlight

National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services

March 13, 2012

Half of All Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities and More than Three Quarters of Those Owned by Tribal Governments Offer Outreach Services

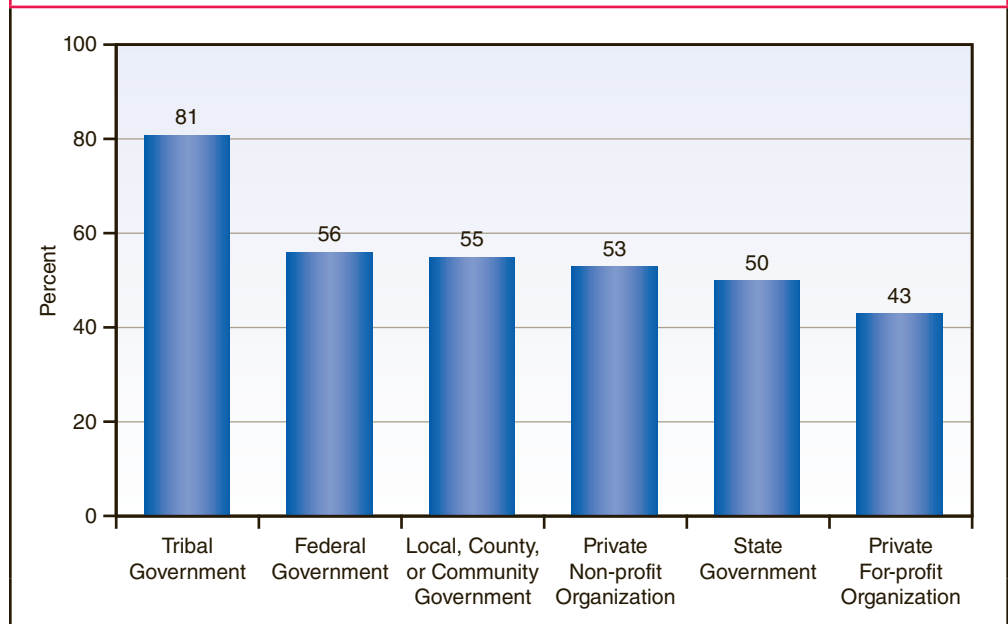
Outreach services provided by substance abuse treatment facilities are designed to educate the community about the consequences of substance use and help individuals in need of care access treatment services. Outreach services can be especially important for members of underserved populations such as homeless persons, persons living in rural areas, and members of particular racial, ethnic, or cultural groups. These individuals often face treatment barriers that include transportation difficulties, lack of insurance coverage, and a shortage of culturally appropriate treatment programs¹; effective outreach services can help to overcome these barriers.

According to the 2009 National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS), 51 percent of the 13,513 surveyed treatment facilities provided outreach services. However, the percentage conducting outreach varied by facility ownership type.² Notably, 81 percent of facilities operated by tribal governments offered outreach programs (Figure).

¹ Dickerson, D. L., Spear, S., Marinelli-Casey, P., Rawson, R., Li, L., & Hser, Y. (2011). American Indians/Alaska Natives and substance abuse treatment outcomes: Positive signs and continuing challenges. *Journal of Addictive Diseases*, 30(1), 63-74. doi: 10.1080/10550887.2010.531665

² Facility ownership type is defined as the type of entity responsible for operation of the facility, and includes the following options: private for-profit; private non-profit; Federal government; State government; local, county, or community government; and tribal government.

Percent of Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities That Conduct Community Outreach, by Ownership Type: 2009



Source: 2009 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS). N-SSATS is an annual survey of all substance abuse treatment facilities in the United States, both public and private, that are known to SAMHSA. N-SSATS is one component of the Drug and Alcohol Services Information System (DASIS), an integrated data system maintained by the Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, SAMHSA. Information and data for this report are based on data reported to N-SSATS for the survey reference date March 31, 2009. For more information on N-SSATS, see <http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/09nssats/nssats2k9web.pdf>.

