

The DASIS Report

January 30, 2003

Treatment Completion in the Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS)

In Brief

- About half (51 percent) of treatment episodes resulted in successful treatment outcomes
- The treatment completion rate was highest among episodes involving primary alcohol abuse (58 percent)
- The treatment completion rate was highest (73 percent) for episodes in residential short-term (30 days or less) and hospital settings

The Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) is a compilation of data on the demographic characteristics and substance abuse problems of those admitted for substance abuse treatment. TEDS data come primarily from facilities that receive some public funding. The goal of TEDS is to collect information on complete treatment episodes, therefore SAMHSA has expanded the TEDS system to include discharge data that can be linked to admissions data. Currently about 20 States submit discharge data.

States are asked to submit data for all discharges from substance abuse treatment. A total of about 348,000 records for clients discharged in 2000 were submitted by 18 States,¹ and 94 percent of these records could be linked to a TEDS admission record from 1998, 1999, or 2000. These 326,000 linked admission/discharge records are the basis for this report, and will be referred to as “treatment episodes.” Treatment episodes do not necessarily represent individuals, as a person may be admitted to treatment more than once.

Figure 1. Treatment Completion, by Age Group: TEDS Discharge Data Set 2000

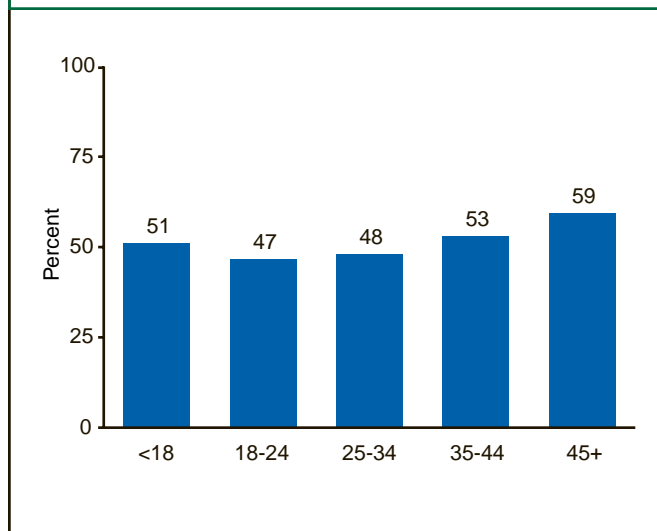
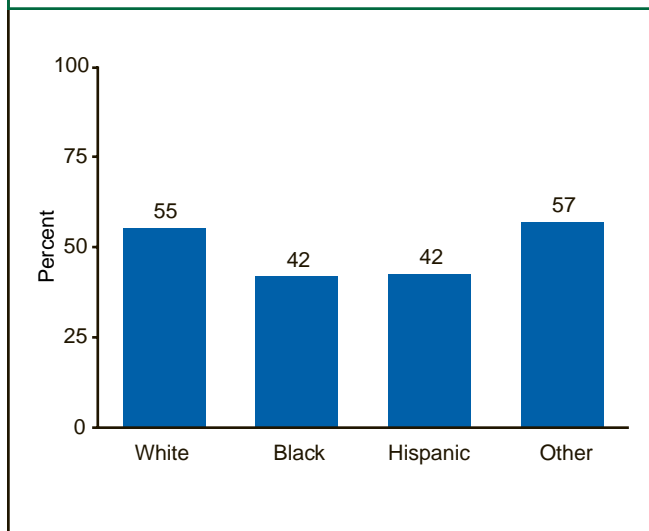


Figure 2. Treatment Completion, by Race/Ethnicity: TEDS Discharge Data Set 2000



Source: 2000 SAMHSA Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS).

About half (51 percent) of the treatment episodes resulted in successful treatment outcomes—42 percent involved individuals who had completed treatment and another 9 percent involved those who were transferred to another treatment program. These episodes are classified as “treatment completed” in this report. The 49 percent of episodes resulting in unsuccessful treatment outcomes involved discharges of clients who left against professional advice (24 percent), whose treatment was terminated by the facility (18 percent), or who were discharged for other reasons (7 percent).

Age Group

The treatment completion rate was 47 percent and 48 percent for admissions aged 18 to 24 and aged 25 to 34, respectively (Figure 1). About 51 percent of discharges younger than age 18 had successful treatment outcomes. The treatment completion rate increased with age

in the older age groups; 53 percent of discharges aged 35 to 44 and 59 percent of discharges aged 45 or older had successful treatment outcomes.

Sex Differences

Male discharges were more likely to have successful treatment outcomes than were female discharges (54 percent vs. 46 percent) (data not shown).

Race/Ethnicity

Successful treatment outcomes were least likely for episodes involving Blacks and Hispanics (42 percent each) (Figure 2). Some 55 percent of White episodes resulted in successful treatment outcomes, as did 57 percent of episodes involving other racial/ethnic groups.

Employment Status

Treatment episodes involving persons employed full-time were more likely to have successful treatment outcomes (58 percent) than episodes involving those who were unemployed (51 percent) or employed part-time (50 percent) or not in the labor force (48 percent) (data not shown).

Referral Source and Prior Treatment

There was little difference in completion rates by source of referral to treatment (data not shown). For the two most common referral sources, the criminal justice system and self- or individual referral, 52 percent of episodes from each source resulted in successful treatment outcomes.

The treatment completion rate was somewhat higher among discharges of those who had been in treatment previously (53 per-

Figure 3. Treatment Completion, by Primary Substance: TEDS Discharge Data Set 2000

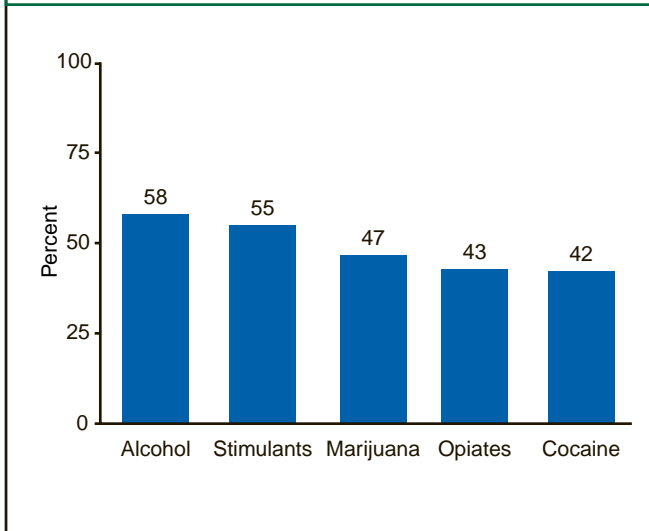
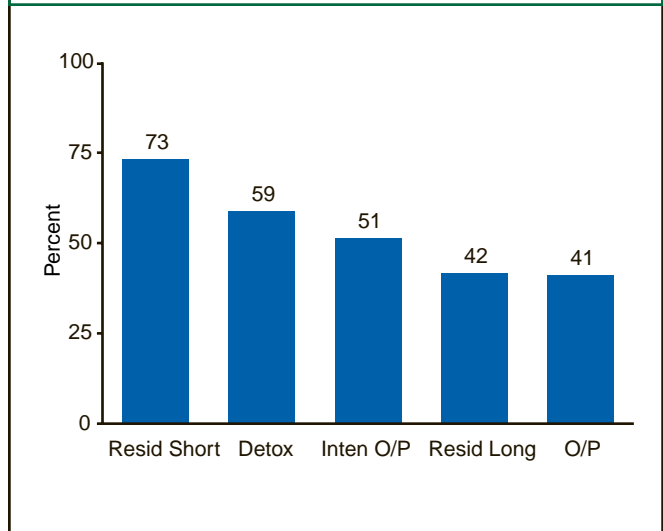


Figure 4. Treatment Completion, by Type of Service*: TEDS Discharge Data Set 2000



cent) than among discharges of those who had not been in treatment before (49 percent) (data not shown).

Primary Substance

The treatment completion rate was highest among episodes for primary alcohol abuse (58 percent) (Figure 3). Among episodes for stimulant (primarily methamphetamine) abuse, 55 percent resulted in successful treatment outcomes. Less than half (47 percent) of episodes for primary marijuana abuse resulted in successful treatment outcomes. The treatment completion rates were lowest among episodes involving opiate and cocaine abuse, at 43 percent and 42 percent, respectively.

Type of Service

The treatment completion rate was highest (73 percent) for episodes taking place in residential short-term (30 days or less) and hospital

settings (Figure 4). The completion rate for detoxification treatment episodes (either residential, hospital, or ambulatory) was 59 percent.

Completion rates were lower in longer-term and less structured settings. Some 51 percent of episodes in intensive outpatient treatment had successful outcomes. The completion rate for long-term (more than 30 days) residential treatment was 42 percent. The completion rate for outpatient treatment was 41 percent.

End Note

*States included are: California, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Utah, and Wyoming.

Figure Note

*Definitions:
 Resid Short = Short-term (30 days or less) or hospital residential
 Detox = Residential, hospital, or ambulatory detoxification
 Inten O/P = Intensive outpatient
 Resid Long = Long-term residential (more than 30 days)
 O/P = Outpatient

The Drug and Alcohol Services Information System (DASIS) is an integrated data system maintained by the Office of Applied Studies, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). One component of DASIS is the Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS). TEDS is a compilation of data on the demographic characteristics 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 then submitted to SAMHSA in a standard format. Approximately 1.6 million records are included in TEDS each year. TEDS records represent admissions rather than individuals, as a person may be admitted to treatment more than once.

The DASIS Report is prepared by the Office of Applied Studies, SAMHSA; Synectics for Management Decisions, Inc., Arlington, Virginia; and RTI, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

Information and data for this issue are based on data reported to TEDS through April 1, 2002.

Access the latest TEDS reports at: <http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/dasis.htm>
 Access the latest TEDS public use files at: <http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/SAMHDA.htm>
 Other substance abuse reports are available at: <http://www.DrugAbuseStatistics.samhsa.gov>



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