



**Treatment Admissions & Discharges
Adult System of Care
Department of Alcohol & Drug Services
July 1, 2002-June 30, 2003**

Introduction

This Annual Report covers outpatient and residential modalities of treatment in Adult System of Care for FY 2003. Excluded from this report are the following: Detoxification Services, Addiction Medicine, Transitional Housing & other ancillary services. This Annual Report is divided into two sections: Admissions and Discharges. The section on Admissions describes the substance abuse profiles of all adult treatment admissions during FY 2003. The section on Discharges describes length of stay and discharge status for all discharges during FY 2003. Note: Admissions during FY 2003 include clients discharged after FY 2003 and discharges during FY 2003 include clients admitted before the beginning of FY 2003.

Report Format

The four categories of criminal justice involvement used in this report are:

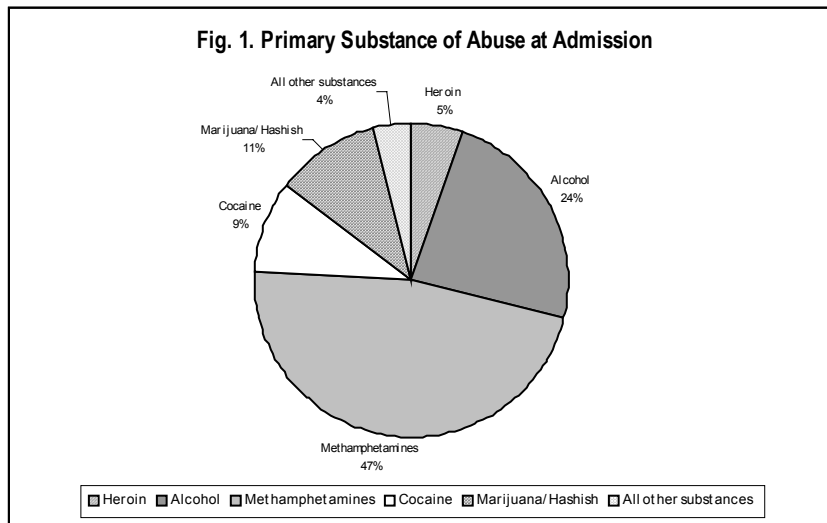
- SACPA (Substance Abuse Crime Prevention Act): Includes clients who were eligible for treatment under provisions of SACPA
- BASN (Bay Area Services Network): Parolees of the State of California Department of Corrections
- Criminal Justice Involvement: Clients referred to treatment from other criminal justice agencies, other parolees, probationers as identified in the department's legacy management information system (OSCAR)
- Not criminally involved: Clients referred to treatment by all other agencies, including self-referrals

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I. Substance use profile at admission

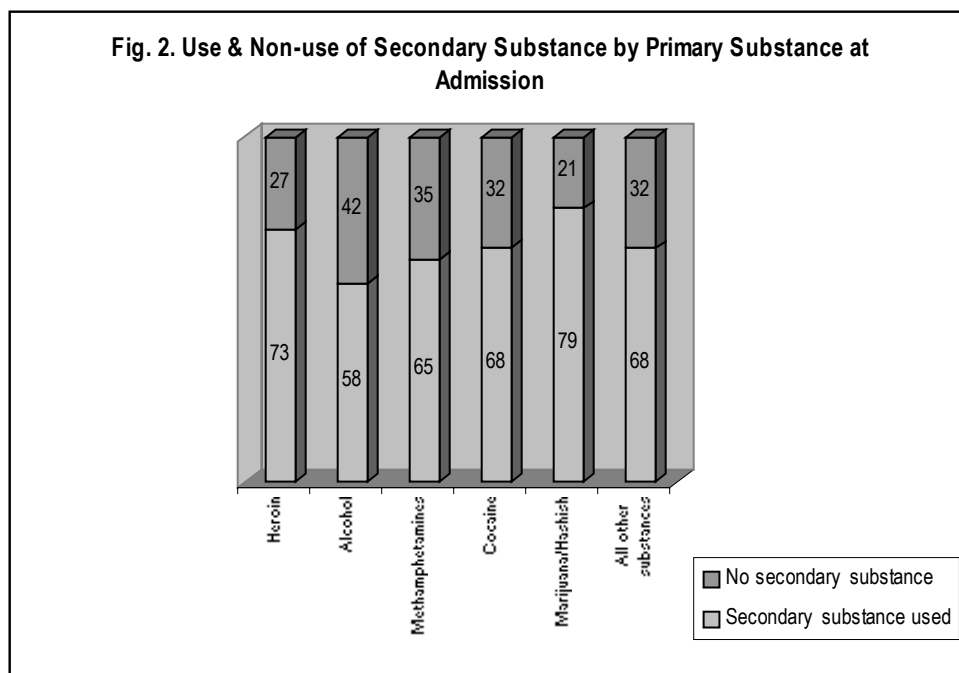
There were a total of 9358 adult admissions to outpatient and residential treatment facilities during FY 2003. (Please note: The term "admission" refers to duplicated client admissions).

Primary substance of abuse: Five primary substances accounted for 95% of treatment admissions- methamphetamines (including amphetamines) (47%), alcohol (24%), marijuana/hashish (11%), cocaine (10%) and heroin (5%). (See Figure 1) (Note: Due to the small number of amphetamine admissions (20 admissions) they were grouped together with methamphetamine admissions.



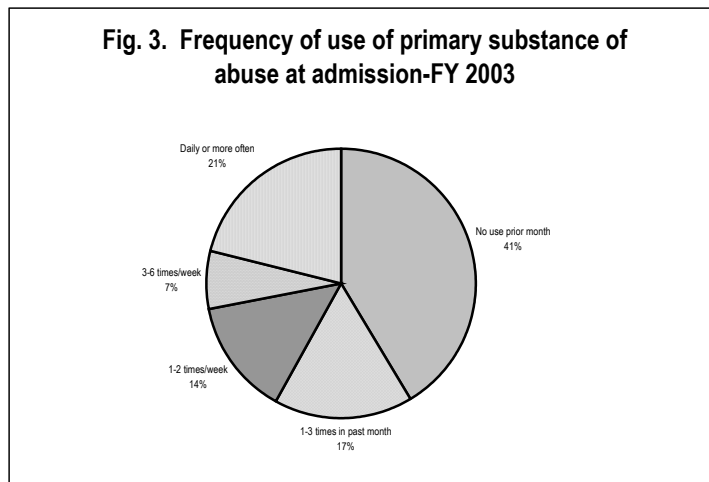
Secondary substance of abuse: The use of a secondary substance was reported for about two thirds (65%) treatment admissions.

- Marijuana/hashish users reported using a second substance the most frequently (79%), followed by methamphetamine users (See Figure 2)
- Alcohol users reported using a second substance the least (58%)

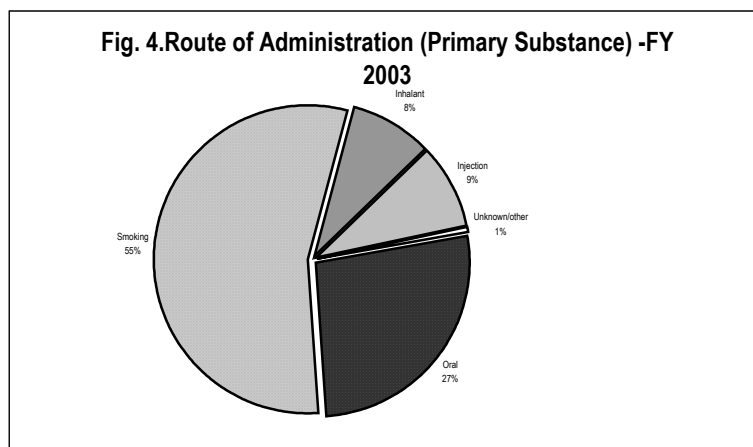


- Among methamphetamine users, the most common combinations involved marijuana/hashish, followed by alcohol.
- Among alcohol users, the most common combinations involved methamphetamines, followed by marijuana/hashish and cocaine.

Frequency of substance use: Only 21% of admissions reportedly involved daily or more frequent use of the primary substance of abuse. Heroin users were most likely to report daily use (38%). No substance use in the previous month was reported for 41% of admissions. Non-usage of substances may be reported if a client has been in jail or another treatment modality. (see Figure 3)



Route of administration: Smoking was the preferred route of administration for the primary substance in the majority of admissions(55%), followed by oral ingestion (26%). Smoking was the preferred method for the majority of methamphetamine, cocaine and marijuana/hashish admissions. (see Figure 4)

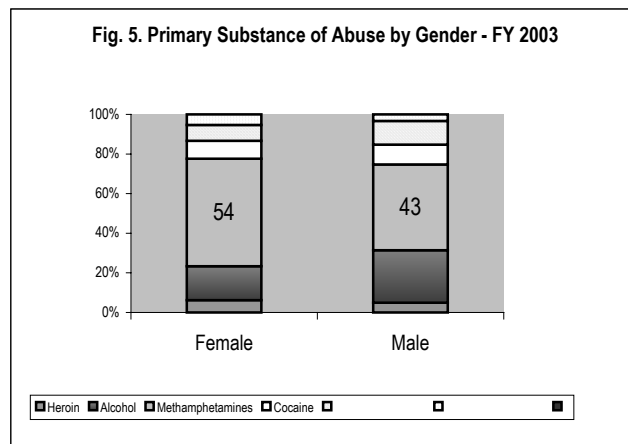


Injection drug use: The National Institute of Drug Abuse views daily injection use as a symptom of an exceptionally severe substance abuse problem. Only 9% of admissions involved injection use. Injection was the primary route of administration for heroin (89%) and also among 8% of methamphetamine admissions. Daily or more frequent injection drug users (of any substance) made up only 3% of all adult admissions during FY 2003.

II. Substance use profiles by gender, age, race/ethnicity & criminal justice involvement

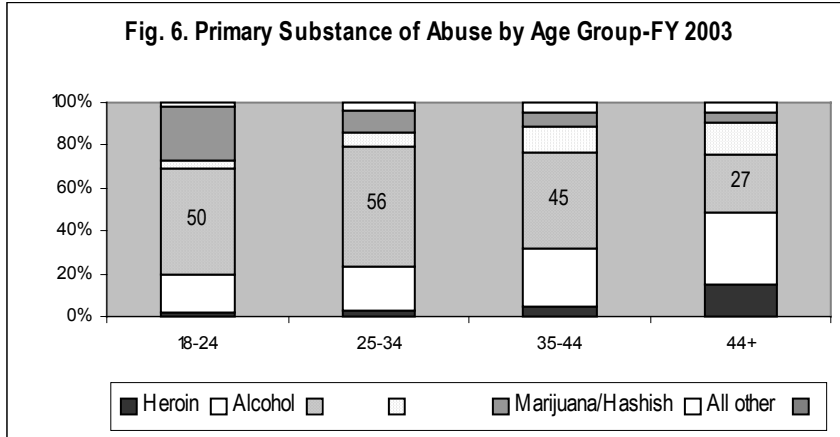
Substance use by gender: Women made up 33% of all treatment admissions and men, 67%. Gender differences in primary substance of abuse were evident from the admissions data.

- Methamphetamines accounted for over half of all admissions (54%) among women and 43% among men. (see Figure 5)
- Alcohol accounted for 17% of admissions for women and 27% of admissions for men.
- Cocaine was the third most frequent reason for admissions for both women and men – 9% and 10% respectively.



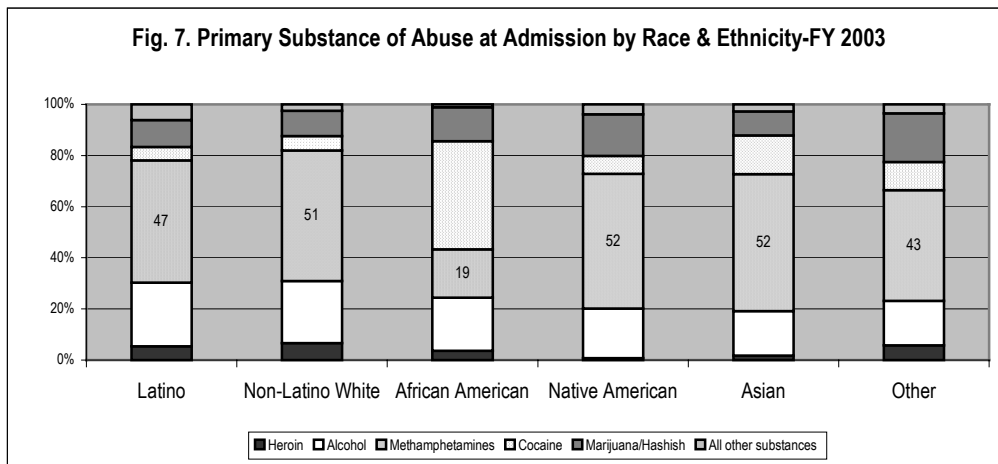
Substance abuse by age group: Age of clients at admission were grouped into four categories for comparison: 18 to 24 years (20% of admissions), 25 to 34 years (31%), 35 to 44 years (34%) and above 45 years (14%). The preferred substance of abuse differed by age group. (see Figure 6)

- Among 18 to 24 year old persons, the most frequently abused substance was methamphetamines (50% of admissions), followed by marijuana/hashish (24%). The least important substances were alcohol, heroin and cocaine.
- Among 24 to 34 year old persons, the most frequently abused substances were also methamphetamines. The least important substances were heroin and "other substances."
- Among 35 to 44 year old persons, no one substance was abused by the majority of clients, although methamphetamines were abused most frequently (46%) followed by alcohol (26%).
- Among persons above 45 years, alcohol accounted for the most admissions (33%), followed by methamphetamines (26%) followed by cocaine and heroin (16% & 15% respectively).



Substance use by race/ethnicity: Latinos made up 43% of all treatment admissions, Non-Latino Whites 38%, African-American 9% and Asian/Pacific Islander 7%, Native Americans 1.3% and other races 1.8% of all admissions. (See Figure 7)

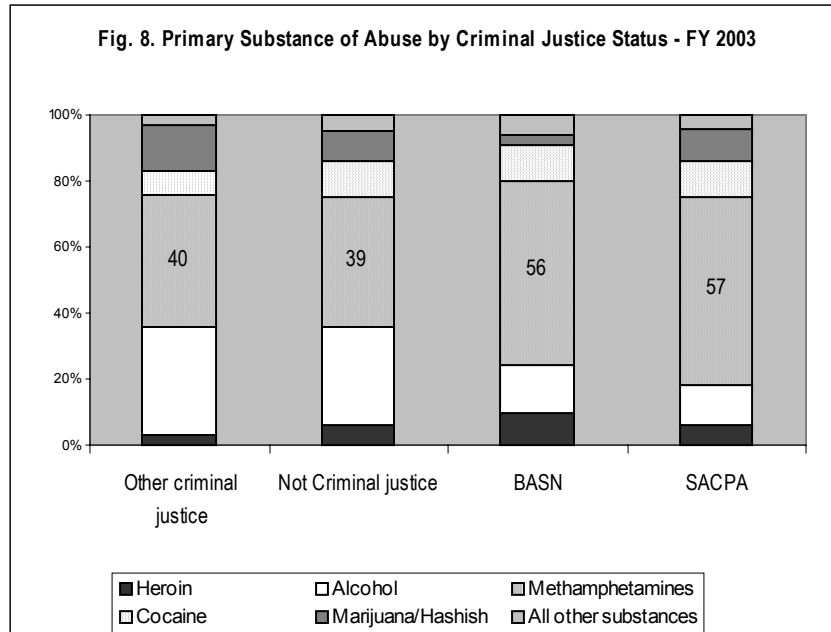
- Methamphetamines were the most frequently abused substance at admission among Latino (48%), Non-Latino White (51%) and Asian clients (53%).
- Cocaine was the most frequently abused substance at admission for African-American clients.



Substance use by criminal justice status: Criminal justice referrals accounted for 76% of treatment admissions and SACPA clients alone made up 36% of all admissions. Methamphetamine was the primary substance of abuse across all criminal justice-referred clients.

- Methamphetamines accounted for more than half of clients admitted under the BASN (56%) & SACPA program (57%) as compared to about 39% of general admissions. (See Figure 8)

- Overall, substances other than alcohol accounted for a larger percentage of criminal justice referred admissions than general admissions.

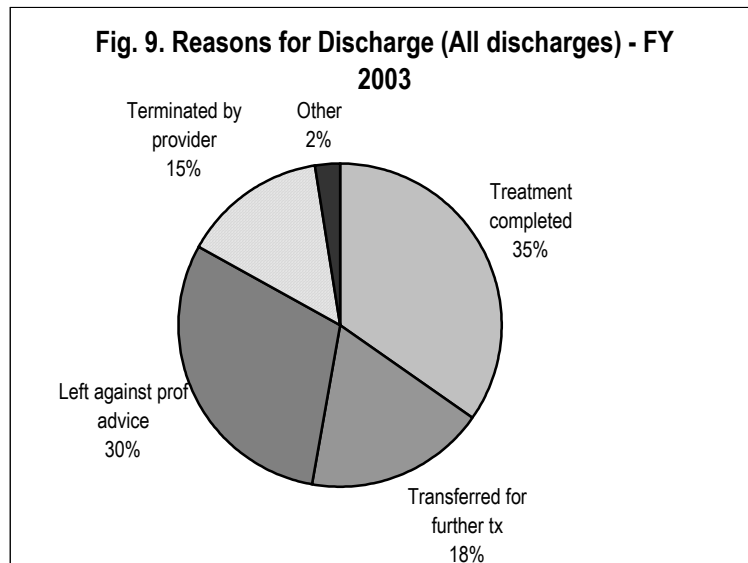


Section II – Discharge Status & Length of Stay

Discharge Status: Discharge status was grouped together into five categories used in SAMHSA’s Drug Abuse System Information Services (DASIS) reports on treatment discharges: 1) Completed treatment, 2) referred for further treatment, 3) left against professional advice, 4) terminated by provider and 5) other reasons for discharge (including incarceration). Satisfactory discharge refers to the first two categories: completed treatment and referred for further treatment.

Discharge status is compared by (a) Primary Substance of Abuse, (b) Gender, Age Group, Race/Ethnicity and (c) Criminal Justice Status. The following descriptions are based on duplicated client discharges.

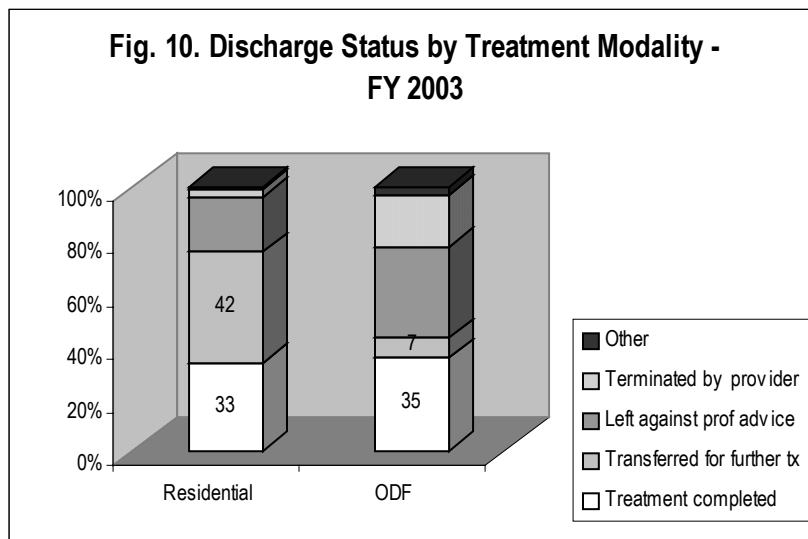
- There were a total of 10236 discharges from outpatient and residential treatment during FY 2003.
- Breakdown by reasons for discharge (discharge status):**
 - 53% of clients received satisfactory discharges (35% completed treatment & 18% were referred for further treatment) (See Figure 9)
 - 30% left against professional advice
 - 15% were terminated by the provider
 - 2% left for other reasons



Discharge status by treatment modality

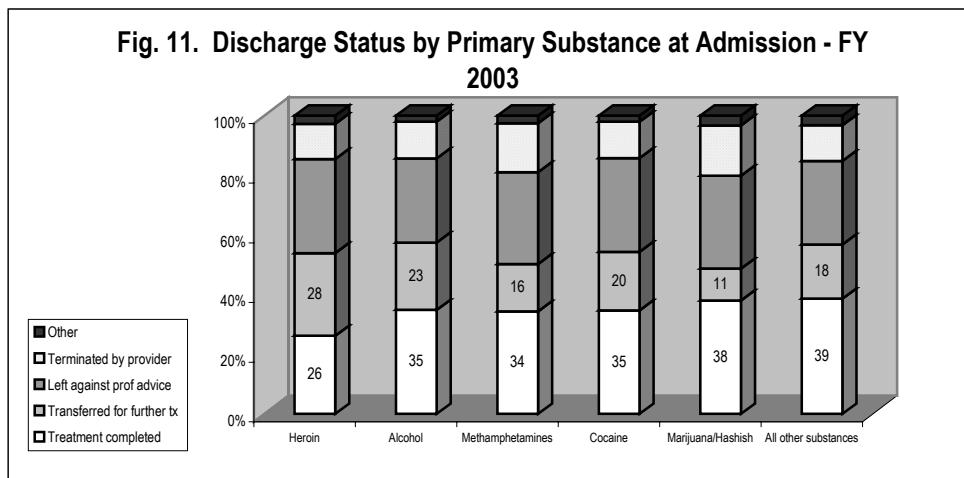
(Note: Satisfactory discharge refers to both treatment completion & transferred for further treatment categories)

- Outpatient discharges made up 69% of all discharges and residential discharges accounted for 31% of all discharges (see Figure 10)
- Seventy five percent of residential clients received satisfactory discharges compared with 42% of outpatient discharges
- More residential clients were transferred than outpatient clients (which is consistent with the continuum of care)
- A larger percentage of outpatient clients left treatment against professional advice (34%) than residential clients (21%)



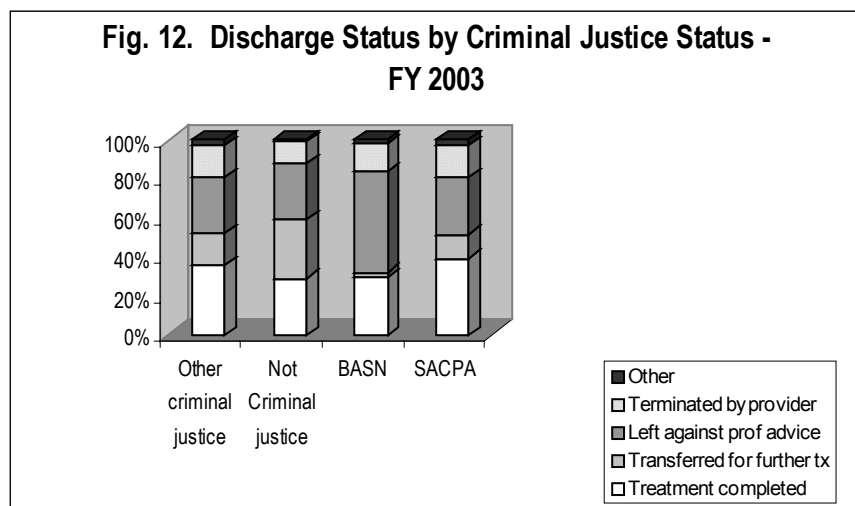
Discharge Status by Primary Substance of Abuse

- Admissions for alcohol abuse had the highest percentage of satisfactory discharges (58%), followed by Other substances (57%). (see Figure 11)
- Admissions for marijuana/hashish had the lowest rate of satisfactory discharges (49%)
- Admissions for heroin had the highest percentage of transfers to further treatment (28%) followed by alcohol admissions (24%).
- Admissions for marijuana/hashish had the smallest percentage of referrals for further treatment (11%)



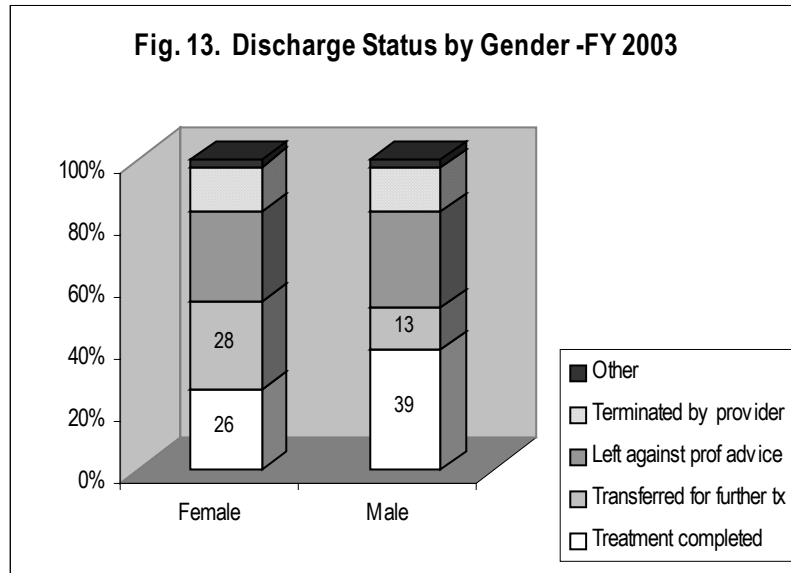
Discharge status by criminal justice status

- General admission clients had the highest percentage of satisfactory discharges (59%) & BASN clients, the lowest (32%). (see Figure 12)
- SACPA clients had the highest percentage of satisfactory discharges (51%) of all criminal justice groups
- SACPA clients had the largest percent of treatment completions (39%) of all criminal justice involved clients.
- Only 29% of general admissions completed treatment
- However, 30% of general admission clients were referred for further treatment as compared with only 14% of SACPA clients



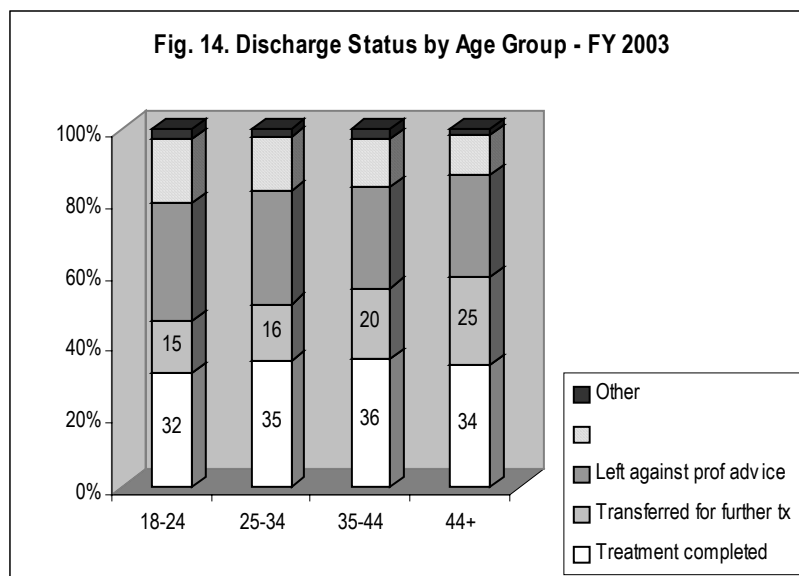
Discharge status by gender

- More women than men received satisfactory discharges (54% versus 51%) (see Figure 13)
- More women than men were transferred for further treatment 28% versus 13%



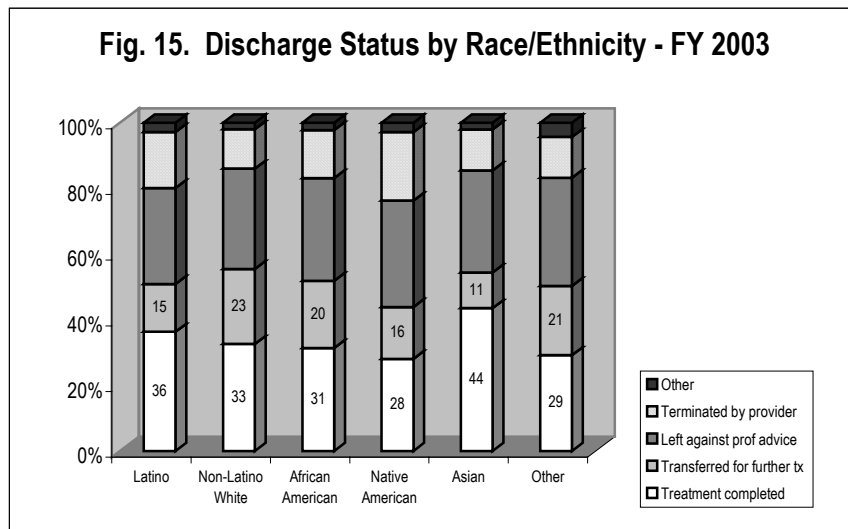
Discharge status by age group

- Clients above 44 years of age received the most satisfactory discharges 59% and the youngest clients in ages 18 to 24 years, the fewest, 47%. (see Figure 14)
- A higher percentage of clients 44 years & older were referred to further treatment (25%) than younger clients (15%).
- Nearly a third of the youngest clients also left treatment against professional advice as compared to 28% of older clients



Discharge status by age group

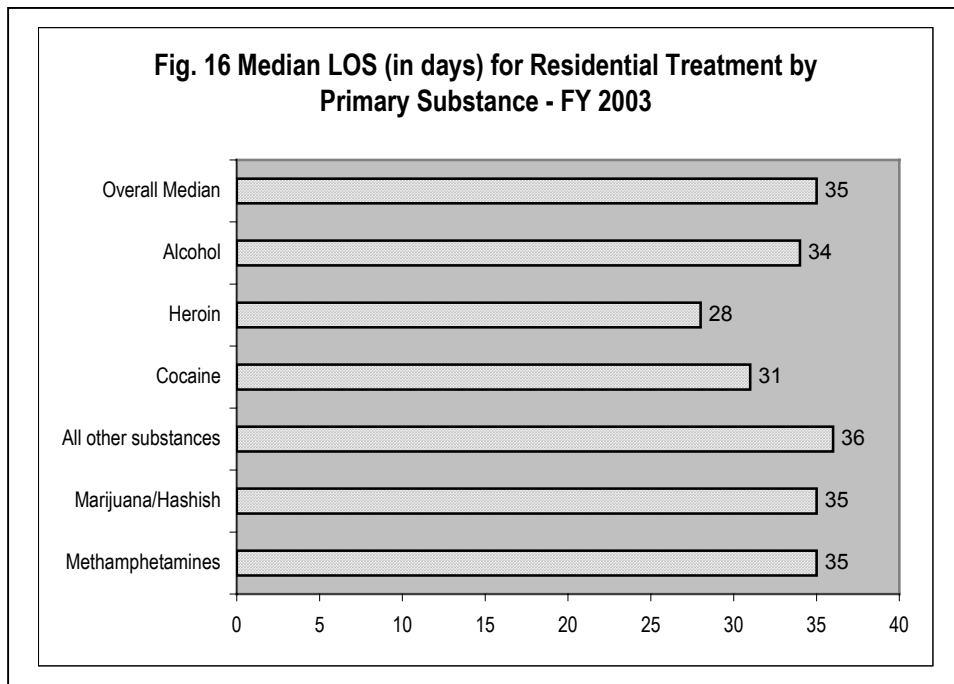
- Non-Latino white & Asian clients had the largest percent of satisfactory discharges (55%) (see Figure 1%0
- Native Americans the lowest percentage of satisfactory discharges (44%)
- The highest rate of treatment completion was found for Asian clients (44%) and lowest for Native American clients (28%)
- A slightly higher percentage clients other races left treatment against professional advice (33%) as compared to all clients (30%).



Length of stay in treatment

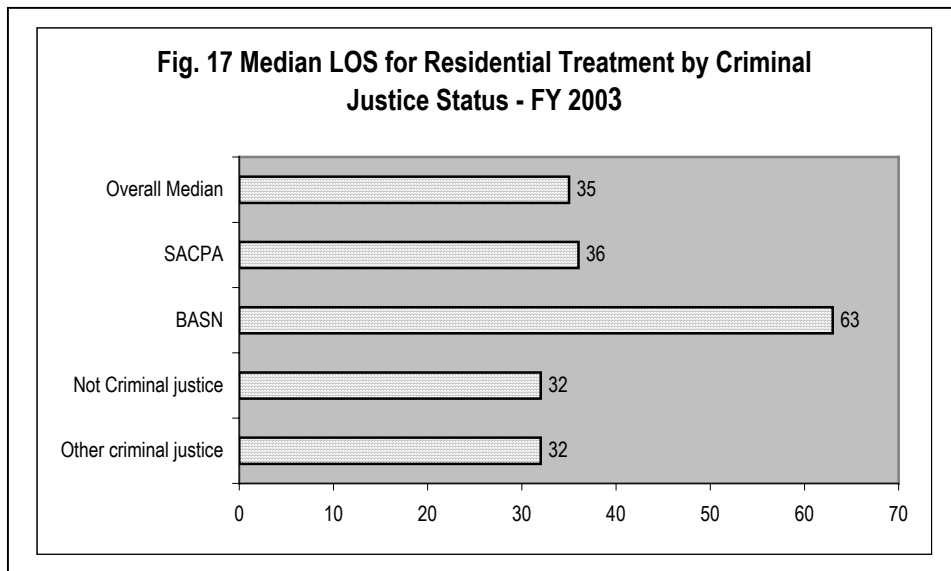
The median length of stay for outpatient and residential treatment was calculated for each substance of abuse, gender, age group, race/ethnicity and criminal justice status. The median length of stay refers to the value at which 50% of clients fall below it and 50% above it. The mean can be inflated by the presence of a few cases of long treatment stays, but the median is not. The length of stay is shown separately for residential and outpatient treatment.

Length of stay in residential treatment



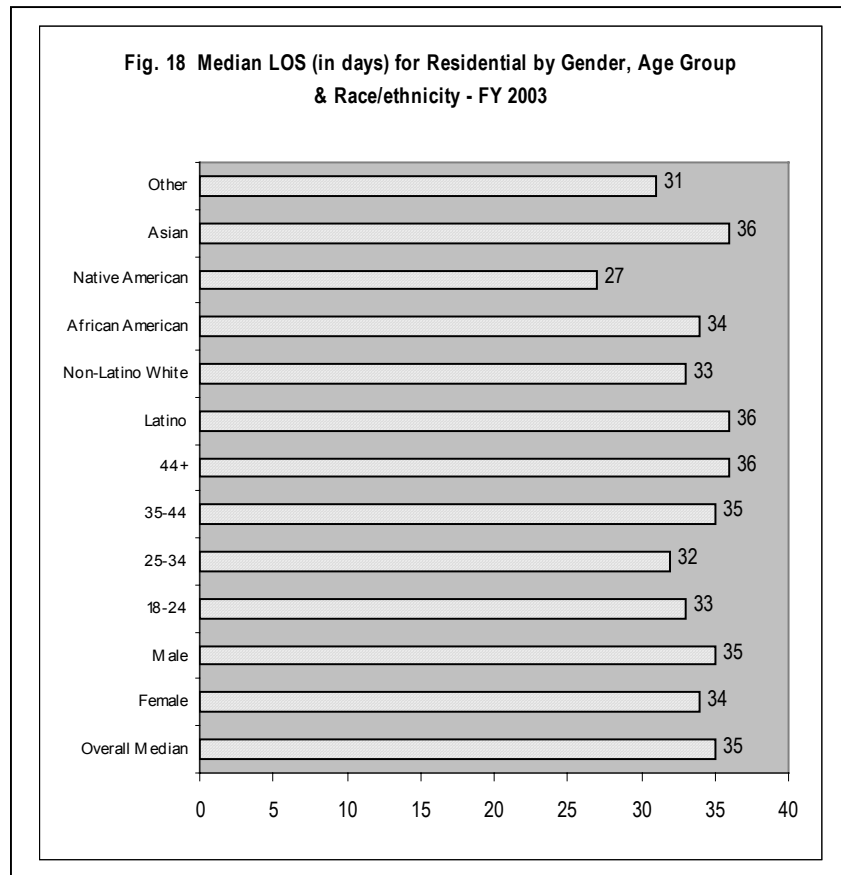
Median LOS in Residential Treatment by Primary Substance of Abuse

- The median LOS for residential treatment was 35 days. (see Figure 16)
- Admissions for other substances had the longest median LOS (36 days), followed by marijuana/hashish and methamphetamines with a median LOS (35 days)
- Heroin admissions had the shortest median LOS (28 days)



Median LOS in Residential Treatment by Criminal Justice Status

- The LOS was longest BASN clients (63 days) and shortest for "Other Criminal Justice" and "Non Criminal Justice" (32 days) (see Figure 17)



Median Length of Stay by Gender, Age Group & Race/Ethnicity

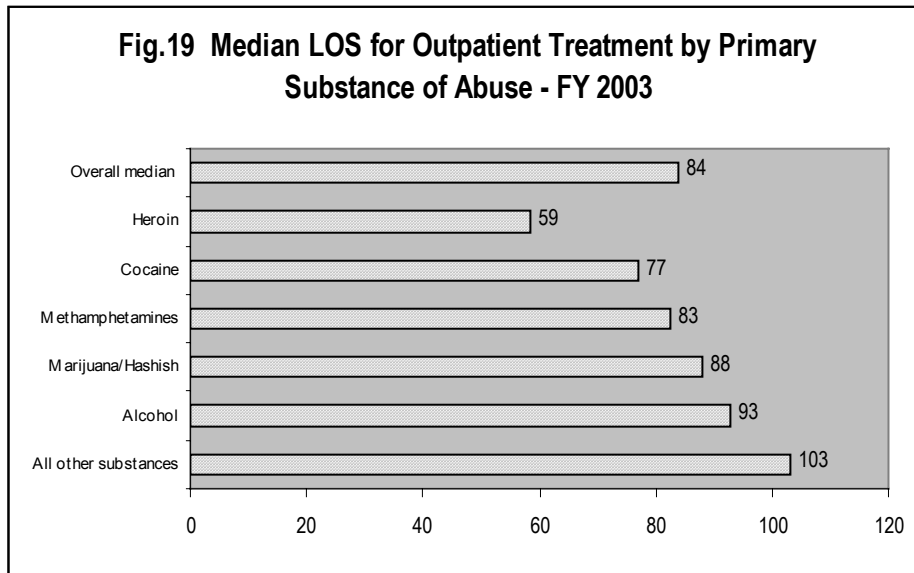
- Men & women had about the same median LOS in residential treatment (35 versus 34 days) (see Figure 18)
- Clients in the older age group (44+ years) had the longest median LOS in residential treatment of all age groups (36 days)
- Asian and Latino clients had the longest median LOS in residential treatment (36 days) and Native American clients the shortest (27 days)

Length of Stay in Outpatient Treatment

Median Length of Stay by Primary Substance of Abuse

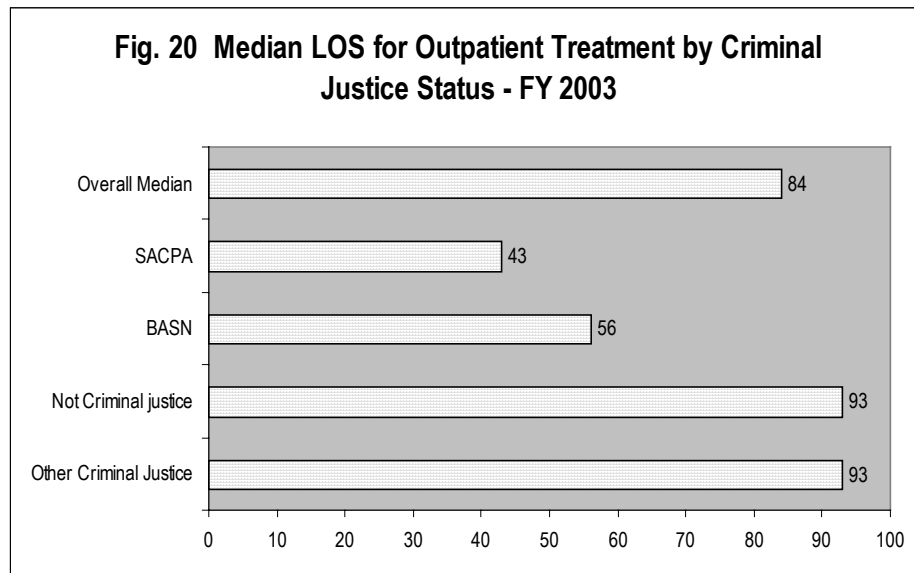
- The median length of stay for outpatient treatment for all substances was 84 days. That means 50% of clients stayed 84 days or more and 50% stayed less than 84 days. (see Figure 19)
- Clients who used substances other than methamphetamine, alcohol, marijuana/hashish, cocaine or heroin had the longest median LOS (103 days)

- Heroin users had the shortest LOS in outpatient treatment (58 days). (Note: This includes only clients for whom eligibility for the methadone program has not been established)



Median Length of Stay by Criminal Justice Status

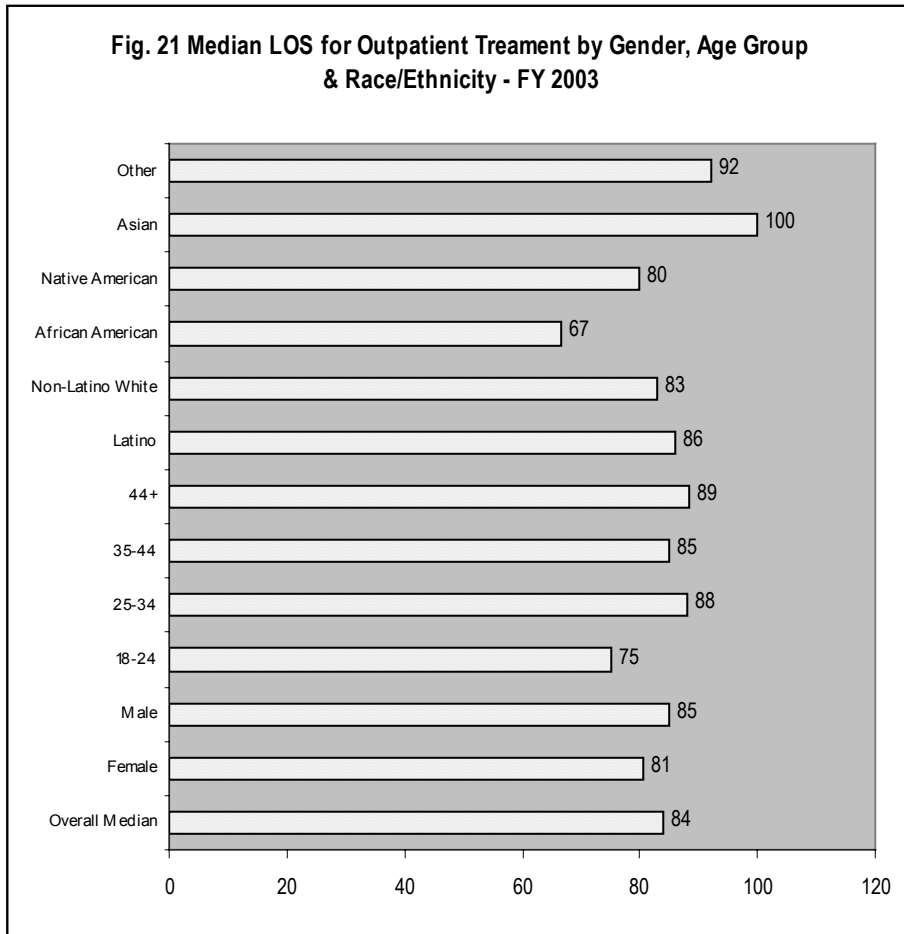
- BASN clients had the shortest median LOS (43 days) (see Figure 20)
- SACPA & other criminal justice clients the longest median (93 days)
- General admission clients had a median LOS of 56 days



Median Length of Stay by Gender, Age Group & Race/Ethnicity

- Men had slightly longer median LOS 85 days than women (81 days) (see Figure 21)
- Clients above 44 years of age had higher median LOS (89 days) than those in the 18-24 years group (75 days)

- Asians had the highest median LOS of any race/ethnic group (100 days) & African-Americans had the short median LOS (67 days)



Summary: Clients in the Adult Substance Abuse Treatment System – FY 2003

- Methamphetamine users made up the largest single category of admissions (47%)
- Daily injection use was relatively rare (3% of admissions)
- The typical client was a Latino or white male in the ages 25 to 44 years
- The overwhelming majority of clients entered treatment through the criminal justice system (75%)
- Over half the clients received satisfactory discharges (53%)
- The median length of stay for residential treatment was 22 days & outpatient treatment 84 days

