

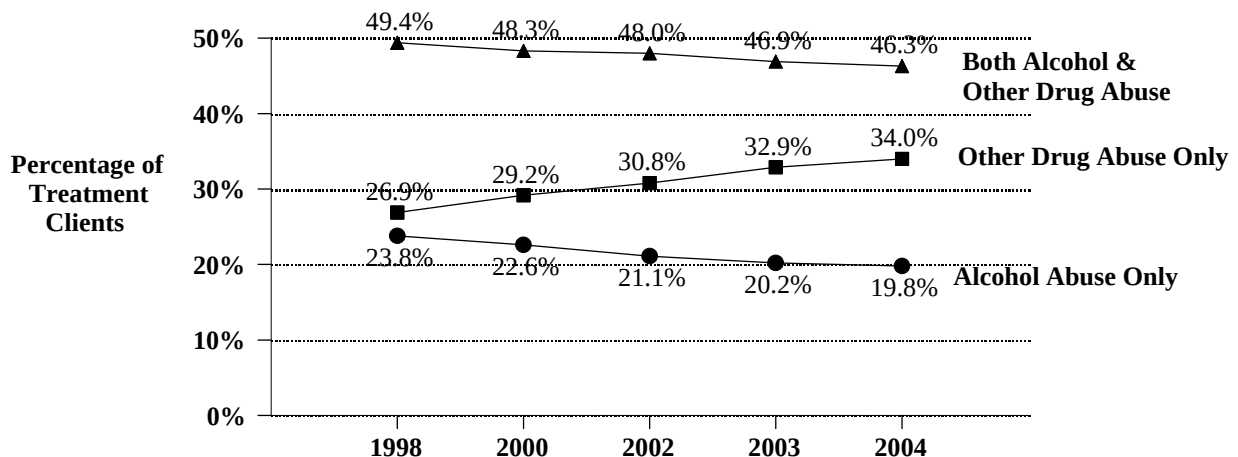
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

More People Being Treated for Drugs Other Than Alcohol

Substance abuse treatment clients are increasingly more likely to be treated for drugs other than alcohol, according to data from the National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS), an annual survey of all public and private substance abuse treatment facilities in the United States. The percentage of clients in treatment solely for the abuse of drugs other than alcohol increased from 26.9% in 1998 to 34.0% in 2004. At the same time, the percentage of clients in treatment for alcohol abuse only decreased from 23.8% to 19.8%. Declines also occurred for clients being treated for both alcohol and other drug abuse. According to the survey, there were more than one million people receiving treatment at the more than 14,000 substance abuse treatment facilities in 2004.* It is unclear whether these findings reflect actual changes in substance abuse and dependence or are a result of other factors, such as changes in insurance policies or access to treatment.

**Type of Substance Abuse Problem Treated Among Clients in
U.S. Treatment Facilities, 1998 to 2004**



*Clients in treatment were defined as: 1) hospital inpatient and non-hospital residential clients receiving substance abuse services at the facility on March 31, 2004; and 2) outpatient clients who were seen at the facility for a substance abuse treatment or detoxification service at least once during the month of March 2004 and who were still enrolled in treatment as of March 31, 2004.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS): 2004, 2005*. Available online at <http://oas.samhsa.gov/dasis.htm#nssats2>.

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