

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research University of Maryland, College Park

National Treatment Admissions for Opiates Other Than Heroin Continue to Increase; Surpass Admissions for Cocaine and Methamphetamine

The percentage of admissions to state-funded substance abuse treatment facilities citing opiates other than heroin as a primary substance of abuse continue to increase, according to recently released data from the national Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS). Admissions for the primary abuse of other opiates* have increased from 1.0% in 1997 to 10.1% in 2011 (the most recent year data are available). Opiates other than heroin are more likely than either cocaine (7.8%) or methamphetamine (5.6%) to be cited as a primary substance of abuse by treatment clients. Treatment admissions for the primary abuse of marijuana and heroin have remained relatively stable in recent years, at around 18% and 14%-15%, respectively.



Primary Substance of Abuse (Other Than Alcohol**) at Admission to U.S. State Licensed or Certified Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities, Ages 12 and Older, 1992 to 2011

NOTES: TEDS data are of admissions to treatment ages 12 and older for abuse of alcohol and/or drugs in facilities that report to State administrative data systems. Data include records for admissions that were received and processed through October 15, 2012. TEDS admissions do not represent individuals; an individual admitted to treatment twice within a calendar year would be counted as two admissions. Admissions can report up to three substances of abuse that led to the treatment episode.

*The category Other Opiates includes non-prescription methadone, buprenorphine, codeine, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, meperidine, morphine, opium, oxycodone, pentazocine, propoxyphene, tramadol, and any other drug with morphine-like effects.

**While the focus of this analysis is on treatment admissions for drugs other than alcohol, it should be noted that admissions for the primary abuse of alcohol decreased over the period from 59.3% in 1992 to 39.3% in 2011.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from the Office of Applied Studies, SAMHSA, *Treatment Episode Dataset (TEDS) Highlights—2011, National Admissions to Substance Abuse Treatment Services*, 2013. Available online at http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k13/TEDS2011/TEDS2011N.pdf.

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