

# SACENDU

South African Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use

## JANUARY-JUNE 2021 | PHASE 50

### MONITORING ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT ADMISSIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA

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**PRESENTATIONS AT THE REGIONAL SACENDU REPORT BACK MEETINGS**  
 (Not included in this report but available on <https://www.samrc.ac.za/intramural-research-units/atod-sacendu>)

PRESENTATION	PRESENTED BY
Treatment Demand Data: Gauteng Data	Ms Siphokazi Dada
Treatment Demand Data: Northern Region	Mr Warren Lucas
Treatment Demand Data: Western Cape and Service Quality Measures Data	Ms Jodilee Erasmus & Ms Kim Johnson
Treatment Demand Data: KwaZulu-Natal	Ms Siphokazi Dada
Treatment Demand Data: Eastern Cape	Mr Roger Weimann
Community-based harm reduction service data from Gauteng	Mr Nkonzo Mngayi
Update on community-based harm reduction services in eThekweni	Ms Kalvanya Padayachee
Update on community-based harm reduction services in Port Elizabeth	Ms Ayanda Nyathi
Update on community-based harm reduction services in Cape Town	Ms Mildrett Stevens
COVID-19 - the demand and impact on substance use treatment provision in South Africa	Dr Nadine Harker
Fronto-temporal cortical atrophy in 'nyaope' combination heroin and cannabis use disorder	Dr Tanya Calvey
The nature and extent of codeine misuse in South Africa	Dr Siphokazi Dada
Increasing understanding and responses to opioid overdoses in SA	Mr MJ Stowe
Unnatural deaths, alcohol bans and curfews in South Africa: Evidence from a quasi-natural experiment during COVID-19	Prof Charles Parry
Familial contexts and home life experiences as risk factors for drug use among youth in the Western Cape	Dr Edna Rich

## SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

Ms Nancy Hornsby & Prof Nadine Harker

This report contains detailed data from specialist substance use treatment centres in all nine provinces that comprise the South African Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use in the Western Cape, KwaZulu-Natal (mostly Durban and Pietermaritzburg), Eastern Cape (Port Elizabeth and East London), Gauteng province, Mpumalanga and Limpopo provinces (now termed the Northern Region [NR]), and the Central Region (comprising of the Free State, Northern Cape and North West provinces [CR]). More recently, data from community-based harm reduction and health-related services provided by civil society organizations and academic institutions. TB HIV Care's Step Up Project operates in the Eastern Cape (Nelson Mandela Bay), KwaZulu-Natal (eThekweni and uMgungundlovu Districts) and the Western Cape (Cape Metro). The Department of Family Medicine at the University of Pretoria's Community Orientated Substance Use Programme (COSUP) operates across several regions of the City of Tshwane. COSUP is funded by the City of Tshwane. The HARMless Project, implemented by the Foundation for Professional Development operates in Gauteng (all regions within the City of Tshwane) and in Mpumalanga (Ehlanzeni district). Harmless is funded by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. Anova Health Institute's Jab Smart Project operates in sub-districts B, D, E, F and G of the City of Johannesburg and in Sedibeng. Tintswalo Home Based Care operates in the East, South and North sub-districts of the City of Ekurhuleni. The harm reduction services operated by Anova Health Institute, TB HIV Care and Tintswalo are funded by the Global Fund, through NACOSA.

The first half of 2021 (i.e., 2021a) saw a significant increase in the number of persons admitted for AOD treatment from **9 394 across 82 treatment centres in 2020b to 10 938 in 2021a** across **85 treatment centres/programmes**. During this period, Covid-19 restrictions were significantly eased, and treatment centres could accommodate more patients.

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS: SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT SERVICES**

This period saw a notable increase in the number of persons seeking treatment for **alcohol** in the WC, EC, and the CR (Table 1). The first half of 2021 saw further easing of COVID 19 restrictions which could possibly have contributed to this increase. Between 9% (GT) and 33% (KZN) of persons accessing AOD treatment services reported alcohol as their primary substance of use. Alcohol use in KZN were common reasons for admission to treatment centres for persons younger than 20 years. In the WC region, CTDCC-Mitchells Plain (17%), SANCA-Western Cape (17%), and Sultan Bahu (10%) treatment centres accounted for the highest number of treatment admissions (Table 2).

**Table 1: Primary substance of use by site (%)**

Site	Period	Alcohol	Cannabis	Cannabis/ Mandrax	Crack/ Cocaine	Heroin	Ecstasy	OTC/ PRE	Meth*	Other	Total
WC <sup>1</sup>	2017a	26.4	28.7	5.4	1.2	10.3	0.0	0.4	26.8	0.7	2902
	2017b	23.6	22.0	6.7	2.2	13.7	0.1	0.7	30.2	0.8	2541
	2018a	24.0	25.9	6.4	2.2	12.5	0.1	1.0	26.8	0.7	3182
	2018b	19.8	30.5	6.4	2.3	11.4	0.0	1.1	27.6	0.3	2719
	2019a	17.8	26.0	6.4	1.9	16.4	0.0	0.9	29.4	1.2	3013
	2019b	19.2	25.4	6.4	2.7	14.2	0.1	1.0	29.9	1.0	2654
	2020a	10.9	14.9	8.2	1.6	18.2	0.1	1.5	43.8	3.5	1323
	2020b	16.8	16.7	7.2	3.3	14.1	0.1	1.1	40.1	0.6	1890
	<b>2021a</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2433</b>
KZN <sup>2</sup>	2017a	33.6	32.1	3.3	6.2	9.9	0.4	1.0	0.9	12.4	1370
	2017b	36.9	28.8	2.5	5.9	9.9	0.3	2.2	0.9	12.6	1400
	2018a	28.9	28.5	2.6	6.7	27.7	0.2	2.1	0.9	20.5	1256
	2018b	29.2	29.0	2.4	7.7	26.2	0.5	2.1	0.9	19.0	993
	2019a	12.7	39.6	2.1	3.7	30.1	0.2	2.9	3.9	1.2	1291
	2019b	14.4	34.5	2.2	5.4	26.5	0.3	2.9	9.3	4.4	980
	2020a	14.3	34.9	2.1	6.0	25.5	0.5	3.0	8.5	5.1	565
	2020b	33.8	26.2	1.7	13.5	19.6	0.3	3.7	0.7	0.0	726
	<b>2021a</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>723</b>
EC <sup>3</sup>	2017a	45.2	17.6	6.8	5.5	3.1	0.0	3.8	16.2	1.9	425
	2017b	34.0	23.5	9.7	4.3	2.1	0.0	3.3	20.0	3.1	515
	2018a	35.0	20.9	6.9	2.9	2.7	0.2	4.6	24.3	3.1	517
	2018b	33.8	21.8	6.0	3.1	2.4	0.2	4.2	25.8	3.6	450
	2019b	26.3	22.9	3.2	3.4	18.3	0.0	3.8	20.8	1.3	475
	2019b	37.5	22.3	4.2	2.3	1.5	0.0	4.5	26.2	1.5	336
	2020a	21.4	29.8	1.4	3.3	13.5	0.0	3.7	16.7	5.1	215
	2020b	21.4	26.3	5.1	4.7	1.8	0.0	2.0	37.3	1.3	448
	<b>2021a</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>386</b>
GT	2017a	17.3	45.7	1.7	2.2	13.1	0.1	1.5	5.5	12.8	3870
	2017b	17.3	41.2	2.3	2.6	14.0	0.1	1.3	6.3	14.8	3414
	2018a	15.5	32.5	2.2	2.3	30.5	0.2	1.3	5.9	18.6	2734
	2018b	13.9	36.4	1.9	2.7	27.3	0.1	1.2	8.0	18.0	2937
	2019a	18.1	32.4	3.0	3.2	25.9	0.1	2.3	8.9	5.9	3148
	2019b	11.6	29.7	2.8	3.0	36.3	0.2	0.7	11.2	4.4	4226
	2020a	11.4	33.7	2.3	2.7	32.5	0.0	1.5	9.9	7.0	3279
	2020b	8.2	26.5	3.7	2.5	33.8	0.3	0.9	14.9	8.9	5059
	<b>2021b</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>6226</b>
NR <sup>4</sup>	2017a	14.6	45.5	0.9	5.3	28.3	0.1	0.3	0.6	4.2	1122
	2017b	15.7	41.9	0.3	3.9	27.3	0.0	0.6	1.6	8.7	1269
	2018a	14.5	39.2	1.8	2.7	30.8	0.0	1.0	9.3	16.5	1372
	2018b	17.3	38.3	0.5	2.1	33.7	0.1	0.9	2.1	16.2	1171
	2019a	16.7	36.3	3.4	4.1	23.5	0.2	1.4	9.1	5.4	1025
	2019b	15.3	40.2	0.3	3.3	32.8	0.1	0.8	3.7	1.3	1423
	2020a	15.1	31.1	2.5	4.7	28.3	0.1	1.8	9.1	7.3	768
	2020b	14.7	32.8	0.4	2.6	40.1	0.0	1.1	5.4	2.9	1024

Site	Period	Alcohol	Cannabis	Cannabis/ Mandrax	Crack/ Cocaine	Heroin	Ecstasy	OTC/ PRE	Meth*	Other	Total
	2021a	13.6	36.8	0.6	2.6	37.2	0.2	0.7	5.6	2.5	958
CR <sup>5</sup>	2017a	43.3	29.2	5.6	5.9	2.5	0.0	1.4	4.8	7.3	356
	2017b	45.4	30.6	4.9	3.1	2.9	0.0	1.4	6.3	5.4	350
	2018a	34.7	37.4	7.2	2.9	2.1	0.2	4.6	24.4	4.8	334
	2018b	38.4	24.1	6.0	4.2	7.4	0.0	0.9	11.1	7.9	216
	2019a	17.4	38.9	3.2	2.9	26.6	0.0	0.3	7.3	3.5	316
	2019b	38.6	35.9	2.7	2.7	4.8	0.0	2.1	11.6	1.6	189
	2020a	16.8	31.1	2.9	5.4	25.7	0.0	1.2	8.9	7.8	167
	2020b	24.7	28.7	6.1	5.7	12.6	0.0	1.6	15.8	4.9	247
	2021a	29.7	23.6	3.8	4.7	7.1	0.0	1.4	26.4	3.3	212

<sup>1</sup> Cape Town, Atlantis, Worcester; <sup>2</sup> Durban, South Coast, Pietermaritzburg; <sup>3</sup> Port Elizabeth and East London;

<sup>4</sup> Mpumalanga & Limpopo; <sup>5</sup> Free State, North West, Northern Cape

\*Methamphetamine

\*\*Includes SANCA George

Across sites, between 34% (WC) and 52% (NR) of persons attending specialist treatment centres had **cannabis** as their primary and secondary drug of use, compared to between 1% (NR) and 27% (WC) for the **cannabis/mandrax** (Methaqualone) combination (also known as 'white-pipe'). Cannabis was reported as the predominant primary substance of use by persons younger than 20 years across all sites. The second most common primary substance of use was **methamphetamine (MA aka 'tik')** in the EC (43%), CR (28%), WC (21%) and GT (16%), and **heroin** use in the KZN (16%) and the NR (9%). In the WC, cannabis (52%) was reported as the most common primary substance of use by persons younger than 20 years, followed by methamphetamine (21%).

Treatment admissions for **cocaine** showed a steady decrease over the past few reporting periods and have generally remained low across sites. Cocaine was often reported as a secondary substance of use. Between 3% (WC) and 37% (KZN) of persons in treatment have cocaine as a primary and secondary drug of use. Relatively few persons younger than 20 years are admitted for cocaine-related problems.

When compared to the previous period, treatment admissions for **heroin** as a primary drug of use decreased across all sites, except in KZN. A decrease was seen in persons reporting heroin as a primary substance of use in the NR (from 40% to 37%). Heroin was mostly smoked but where heroin was injected as a primary substance of use, reported rates were as follows: 23% in GT, 17% in WC, 7% in KZN, and 6% in NR. Compared to the previous period, the proportion of patients reporting injecting of heroin has decreased in GT (from 27% to 23%) and in the WC (from 19% to 17%), with no notable differences in other regions. Overall, between 9% (CR) and 46% (NR) of persons attending specialist treatment centres reported heroin as a primary and secondary substance of use.

Treatment admissions for **methamphetamine (MA aka 'tik')** as a primary substance of use was low except in the WC (40%) and the EC (36%). Additionally, MA use decreased from 40% in the previous reporting period to 35% in the current reporting period. The number of individuals reporting MA as a primary and secondary substance of use was the highest in the EC at 61%, showing a marked increase from 51% in the previous period. Across all sites, between 5% (KZN) and 50% (WC and EC) of persons attending specialist treatment centres had MA as their primary and secondary drug of use.

Treatment admissions for **ecstasy** and **LSD** remained low. Across all sites, only 1% of persons had ecstasy as a primary or secondary drug of use. Patients may not be seeking treatment for ecstasy use, which explains low admission rates although anecdotal reports suggest extensive recreational use.

**Methcathinone** (CAT) is an amphetamine-type stimulant and has effects similar to that of MA. CAT admissions were noted in most sites, especially in GT and the CR where 13% (both sites) had CAT as a primary and secondary substance of use.

The use of **over-the-counter and prescription (OTC/PRE) medicines** continues to be an issue across sites. Treatment admissions for OTC/PRE medicines as a primary and secondary drug of use were between 2% (NR) and 9% (KZN). During this reporting period, 252 (3%) persons across all sites reported the **non-medical use of codeine**, with most patients admitted to treatment centres residing in GT (n= 118), KZN (n = 59) and WC (n = 30). **Poly-substance use** remains high, with between 51% (NR) and 65% (WC) of persons indicating more than one substance of use.

During this period, the proportion of patients who reported use of **inhalant/solvent** ranged between <1% (WC) and 1% (NR). Inhalant use is common among the homeless and children who live on the streets. Community-based or regional studies are needed to explore the extent of inhalant use for youth, barriers to accessing specialist treatment services, and other services available to support and help this vulnerable population.

Overall, and across all regions, 15% of persons (n = 1 369) presented with a **dual diagnosis** at treatment admission. Most of these persons reported current mental health problems at the time of admission (49%), followed by hypertension (14%) and respiratory diseases (13%). A higher proportion of persons suffering from mental health problems were found in the WC, accounting for 19% of individuals with a dual diagnosis at admission, while a higher proportion of persons suffering from hypertension was found in GT, accounting for 6% of those reporting dual diagnosis.

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS: COMMUNITY HARM REDUCTION SERVICES**

A range of organisations are implementing community based harm reduction services for people who use drugs (PWUD), including people who inject drugs (PWID) as per the World Health Organization's guidelines 1. Services include: HIV, STI, viral hepatitis and TB prevention, testing and linkage to care; harm reduction behaviour change interventions; needle and syringe services; opioid substitution therapy (OST); monitoring of human rights violations and referral for other available substance use disorder treatment services. Routine hepatitis B (HBV) and hepatitis C (HCV) diagnostic and treatment services are limited due to resource constraints.

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<sup>1</sup> UNODC, UNAIDS, UNFPA, WHO, USAID, PEPFAR. Implementing Comprehensive HIV and HCV Programmes with People Who Inject Drugs. Practical guidance for collaborative interventions. (IDUIT). 2017; UNODC: Geneva.

## **Community-based harm reduction services – Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape**

Between January and June 2021, 3 805 unique PWID accessed the services (345 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 1 662 in eThekweni, 454 in uMgungundlovu, and 1 344 in the Cape Metro). Overall, 984 465 needles and syringes were distributed (71 91072 810 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 124 845199 215 in eThekweni, 26 61053 970 in Umgungundlovu, 475 980658 470 in the Cape Metro) with return rates of between 55% (in eThekweni/Durban) and 99% (in Nelson Mandela Bay NMB).

Among PWID who accessed additional health services: 801 tested for HIV (121 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 253 in eThekweni, 126 in uMgungundlovu and 301 in the Cape Metro), among whom 15% (123/801) tested HIV positive (10 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 68 in eThekweni, 31 in uMgungundlovu and 14 in the Cape Metro). Sixty people (out of 123, 49%) were started on antiretroviral therapy (ART) (9 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 31 in eThekweni, 13 in uMgungundlovu and 7 in the Cape Metro). HIV viral suppression was confirmed among 6 people (0 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 2 in eThekweni, 0 in uMgungundlovu and 4 in the Cape Metro). A total of 1 082 PWUD were screened for tuberculosis (TB) (142 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 444 in eThekweni, 126 in uMgungundlovu and 370 in the Cape Metro) with 75 being symptomatic, 20 with confirmed TB and 17 started on treatment.

No routine viral hepatitis testing was done in these districts during this period.

During the current reporting period, OST was only available in the following districts: (i) eThekweni with 63 persons starting OST and 47 remaining on OST; (ii) Cape Town with 81 PWID on OST at the beginning of the period, 54 new persons initiated, 2 re-initiated, 21 lost to follow-up, 1 exited, and 1 died and; (iii) Bellhaven, KZN with 260 persons on low-dose methadone at the beginning of June and 220 at the end of December.

One-hundred and eighty-seven (187) human rights violations were reported (15 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 116 in eThekweni, 13 in uMgungundlovu, and 43 in the Cape Metro). Forty-one (41) of the 187 human rights violations related to PWID clients being assaulted while 124 related to confiscation or destruction of injecting equipment.

During this reporting period, 187 human rights violations were reported (15 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 116 in eThekweni, 13 in uMgungundlovu and 43 in the Cape Metro), 41 of these related to PWID clients being assaulted and 124 related to confiscation or destruction of injecting equipment.

## **Community-based harm reduction services - Gauteng and Mpumalanga**

Between January and June 2021, 16 309 unique PWID accessed the services (7 113 in Johannesburg, 338 in Ekurhuleni, 7 790 in Tshwane, 609 in Sedibeng and 459 in Ehlanzeni). Overall, 1 415 630 needles and syringes were distributed (154 740 in Ekurhuleni, 545 715 in Johannesburg, 23 445 in Sedibeng, 671 886 in Tshwane and 19 864 Ehlanzeni) with return rates of 71%, 20%, 16%, 92% and 80%, respectively.

Among PWID who accessed additional health services: 3 229 tested for HIV (127 in Ekurhuleni, 1 673 in Johannesburg, 123 in Sedibeng, 1 080 in Tshwane and 226 Ehlanzeni), among whom 28% (889/3 229) tested HIV positive for the first time (13 in Ekurhuleni, 337 in Johannesburg, 37 in Sedibeng, 453 in Tshwane and 49 Ehlanzeni). 625 (70%) were started on ART (11 in Ekurhuleni, 164 in Johannesburg, 37 in Sedibeng, 370 in Tshwane and 10 Ehlanzeni). In addition, 3 317 PWUD were screened for tuberculosis (TB) (127 in Ekurhuleni, 1 746 in



Johannesburg, 146 in Sedibeng, 640 in Tshwane) with 49 being symptomatic, 0 with confirmed TB and 0 started on treatment.

Viral hepatitis testing was done through Sediba Hope Medical Centre and partners with 1 HCV PCRs conducted, 3 people started direct acting antiviral therapy and, 21 with confirmed sustained virological response.

During this period OST was only available in Johannesburg and Tshwane with reported rates as follows: (i) in Johannesburg, a total of 159 people was on OST at the beginning of the period 100 new people were initiated for the first time, 0 people were re-initiated, 40 people were lost to follow-up, 72 people exited, 0 died and 147 were on OST at the end of the period and; (ii) in Tshwane, a total of 887 people was on OST at the beginning of the period. During the current reporting period 122 new people were initiated for the first time, 12 people were re-initiated, 38 people were lost to follow-up, 143 exited, 7 people died, and 833 were on OST at the end of the period.

During the 2021a reporting period, 116 human rights violations were reported (18 in Ekurhuleni and 83 in Johannesburg, 2 in Ehlanzeni), 12 due to confiscated or destroyed needles and 57 due to assault. Human rights violations are not routinely collected in Tshwane.

Presentations made at the SACENDU regional meetings are available. These can be accessed online at <http://www.mrc.ac.za/intramural-research-units/ATOD-sacendu>. For any queries, please contact Jodilee Erasmus at [jodilee.erasmus@mrc.ac.za](mailto:jodilee.erasmus@mrc.ac.za) or 021-938-0313. For any queries specifically related to the Northern Region (Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces) please contact Nancy Hornsby at [nancy.hornsby@mrc.ac.za](mailto:nancy.hornsby@mrc.ac.za) or 021 938 0398. We hope you will find this report of value to you and your work. If you have any specific feedback or comments on the report, please contact us at [nancy.hornsby@mrc.ac.za](mailto:nancy.hornsby@mrc.ac.za), or [nadine.harker@mrc.ac.za](mailto:nadine.harker@mrc.ac.za), or call us on 021-938-0946. It remains for us to especially thank Dr Andrew Scheibe for his hard work in collating the data from organisations that provide community-based harm reduction services and all the provincial coordinators for their input and continued support (Sandra Pretorius in Gauteng, and Roger Weimann in the EC). Also, thanks to the various members of the network who have provided data, presentations or comments, and the Mental Health & Substance Use Directorate of the National Department of Health and the National Department of Health for their financial support of this project. Their support has, among other things, been used to collect treatment information on almost 20 000 treatment episodes annually to facilitate hosting regional meetings attended by approximately 200 persons every six months, and the preparation of the bi-annual reports that are sent to over 500 persons.

## SECTION 2: TREATMENT CENTRE DATA

### 2A: TREATMENT CENTRES: WESTERN CAPE

Ms Nancy Hornsby, Mr Warren Lucas & Ms Jodilee Erasmus

Data was collected monthly from 27 specialist treatment centres. Due to the emergence of COVID-19, some centres were not fully operational during the second half of 2020, regaining full operation in the first half of 2021. Regionally, 2 433 patients were treated across all treatment centres for the period (Table 2) January to June 2021 when compared to 1 890 in the previous six-month review period.

**Table 2: Proportion of treatment episodes (Western Cape)**

Treatment centre name	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-June 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
AKESO							
Kenilworth	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stepping Stones	5	6	5	7	6	7	4
Bowl Community Centre	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
CTDCC							
Observatory							
M/Plain	14	16	16	19	23	16	17
Atlantis							
Helderberg CARES	<1	<1	1	-	-	<1	<1
Help-me-network	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Hesketh	1	3	2	1	-	2	1
King							
King Youth	-	-	-	<1	-	-	-
Hope House	4	5	3	5	3	1	-
Hout Bay CARES	3	1	1	-	-	-	-
Ithemba Lobomi	-	-	-	1	-	2	<1
Ixande Recovery Centre	1	1	<1	-	-	1	<1
Kensington Treatment centre	2	2	2	1	2	1	2
Living Grace	2	2	2	2	2	-	-
Matrix							5
Albow Gardens							5
Delft							2
Eersterivier							5
Khayelitsha	14	15	24	24	29	31	1
Kraaifontein							2
Manenberg							5
Parkwood							6
Tafelsig Clinic							<1
Mudita Centre	2	2	1	1	1	<1	<1
Namaqua Rehab Centre	1	2	1	2	2	2	1
Nurture Harmony	3	2	-	1	-	2	1
PASCAP	-	<1	-	-	-	-	<1

Treatment centre name	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-June 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Ramot Rehab	5	4	4	4	2	5	5
SANCA WC*	15	11	11	9	6	8	17
Second Chances Restoration	-	-	-	2	1	1	-
Stikland Neuro D	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sultan Bahu	12	11	13	11	14	13	10
Tharagay Manor	-	-	-	1	2	1	1
Toevlug							
Rehab Centre	7	9	7	8	-	6	5
Toevlug Rehab Youth	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
<b>Total patients in treatment</b>	<b>3182</b>	<b>2719</b>	<b>3013</b>	<b>2654</b>	<b>1323</b>	<b>1890</b>	<b>2433</b>

In Table 3 'Yes' indicates a first-time admission and 'No' indicates a repeat admission. The proportion of new admissions was 73% in this period with the majority of individuals admitted for outpatient treatment (76%). See Table 4.

**Table 3: First time admissions (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-June 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Yes</b>	81	75	72	71	65	69	73
<b>No</b>	19	25	28	29	35	31	27

**Table 4: Treatment type received (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-June 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Inpatient</b>	31	29	28	33	17	30	24
<b>Outpatient</b>	69	79	72	67	83	70	76

During this review period, the proportion of referrals from 'self/family/friends' (50%) remained the most common type of referral for treatment, while referrals from increased by 5% from the previous period (Table 5).

**Table 5: Referral sources (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-June 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Self/family/friends</b>	43	40	43	43	54	55	50
<b>Work/employer</b>	6	7	7	6	4	5	7
<b>Doctor/psychiatrist/nurse</b>	6	5	5	4	4	3	4
<b>Religious body</b>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Hospital/clinic</b>	3	3	3	3	5	6	5
<b>Social services/welfare</b>	19	18	18	20	14	19	19
<b>Court/correctional services</b>	3	4	3	3	2	4	2
<b>School</b>	17	19	18	15	11	4	9
<b>Other e.g., radio</b>	2	3	2	5	4	5	3

Males (71%) continue to maintain increased access to treatment in comparison to their female counterparts (29%). A greater proportion of individuals were of Coloured descent (67%), followed by Black African (20%). A greater proportion of persons reported being unemployed (both less than and more than 6 months) upon admission during this period (57%), while 25% of persons were employed (both full-time and part-time). A greater proportion of individuals had completed secondary education (78%), and 10% had a tertiary education.

**Table 6: Population profile (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-June 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	72	73	73	71	69	73	71
Female	28	27	17	29	31	26	29
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>							
Black African	17	20	16	17	15	17	20
Indian	1	1	1	1	<1	1	1
Coloured	68	66	72	70	73	66	67
White	14	13	11	13	12	15	13
<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</b>							
Working full-time	20	20	16	18	16	21	19
Working part-time	5	4	4	5	5	5	6
Unemployed (< 6 months)	17	18	16	16	16	18	19
Unemployed (> 6 months)	30	30	41	38	49	46	38
Student/Apprentice/ internship	3	2	1	2	1	2	1
Learner at school	22	24	20	20	11	7	14
Pensioner/ Disabled/Housewife	3	<1	2	1	1	2	3
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL*</b>							
None	1	1	1	1	<1	2	1
Primary	9	8	6	10	14	12	11
Secondary	68	68	65	68	76	75	78
Tertiary	22	23	21	21	10	11	10

\*Level of education completed

The ages of persons in treatment ranged from 10 to 78 years. Almost a third of individuals accessing treatment in the Western Cape were under the age of 25 years old (27%).

**Table 7: Age distribution (Western Cape)**

Age in Years	Jan-Dec 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
5-9	-	-	3	<1	-	-	1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-14	236	7	-	-	181	6	199	8	69	5	38	2	82	3
15-19	571	18	223	8	548	18	437	16	194	15	157	9	344	14
20-24	330	10	552	20	270	9	289	11	140	11	243	13	248	10
25-29	509	16	272	10	488	16	402	15	191	14	320	17	346	14
30-34	583	18	445	16	578	19	484	18	258	20	409	22	466	19
35-39	361	11	493	18	387	13	346	13	236	18	354	19	414	17
40-44	203	6	305	11	224	7	210	8	103	8	170	9	227	9
45-49	150	5	162	6	147	5	121	5	59	4	96	5	139	6
50-54	109	3	122	4	80	3	78	3	43	3	46	2	73	3

Age in Years	Jan-Dec 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
55-59	51	2	79	3	48	2	111	4	30	2	32	2	41	2
60-64	25	1	37	1	42	2	17	1	-	-	11	1	23	1
65+	16	1	13	<1	24	1	14	<1	-	-	14	1	13	1

Seventy-three percent (73%) of persons reported that they had been tested for HIV. This proportion decreased appreciably compared to the previous reporting period. Of those tested, 53% had been tested in the past 12 months.

**Table 8: Prior testing for HIV (Western Cape)**

Tested for HIV	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, in the past 12 months	68	69	85	73	53
Yes, but not in past 12 months	-	-	-	-	20
No	23	24	12	17	19
Decline to answer	9	7	3	10	8

**Table 9: Place of residence (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>PROVINCES</b>														
Western Cape	3135	99	2652	97	2899	96	2553	96	1290	98	1819	96	2409	99
Mpumalanga	-	-	1	<1	-	-	1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Limpopo	-	-	2	<1	2	<1	1	<1	2	<1	-	-	1	<1
North West	-	-	1	<1	1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cape	4	<1	10	<1	53	2	13	<1	2	<1	1	<1	2	<1
Eastern Cape	-	-	15	1	8	<1	8	<1	2	<1	5	<1	5	<1
Free State	-	-	1	<1	1	<1	1	<1	1	<1	2	<1	-	-
KwaZulu-Natal	-	-	3	<1	7	<1	8	<1	-	-	6	<1	4	<1
Gauteng	-	-	14	1	8	<1	42	2	7	1	55	3	8	<1
<b>OTHER COUNTRIES</b>	47	1	33	1	34	1	26	1	19	1	2	<1	4	<1
<b>Total number on whom information was available</b>	<b>3182</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2719</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3013</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2654</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1323</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1890</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2433</b>	<b>100</b>

Methamphetamine (35%), cannabis (24%), alcohol (18%), and heroin/opiates (11%) remained the most common primary substances of use among persons admitted to specialist treatment centres for substance use disorders. When comparing previous periods, a slight decrease in the proportion of individuals reporting methamphetamine and heroin/opiates upon admission, and a slight increase in persons reporting alcohol as a primary substance of use were noted during this review period. All other categories remained fairly consistent when compared to the previous periods.

**Table 10: Primary substance of use (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	24	20	18	19	11	17	18
<b>Cannabis</b>	26	31	26	25	15	17	24
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax*</b>	6	6	6	6	8	7	8
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	2	2	2	3	2	3	3
<b>Heroin/Opiates**</b>	12	11	16	14	18	14	11
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	1	1	1	1	2	1	2
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	27	28	29	30	44	40	35
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	<1	<1	<1	1	<1	<1	<1
<b>Inhalants</b>	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	-	<1

\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

When considering the mode of usage of primary drugs, 21% of individuals reported swallowing their substances. When alcohol was excluded, 91% reported 'smoking' as their primary mode of use. Only 2% of persons reported that they injected substances (all substance variants). The proportion of individuals who specifically injected heroin, increased slightly during this period (Table 11).

**Table 11: Mode of usage of primary drug (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Swallowed</b>	21(2)	20(3)	22(3)	14(3)	18(2)	21(4)
<b>Snorted</b>	2(3)	3(3)	3(3)	1(2)	3(3)	3(3)
<b>Injected</b>	2(2)	3(4)	2(2)	2(3)	3(4)	2(3)
<b>Smoked</b>	75(93)	74(90)	73(92)	82(92)	76(91)	75(91)
<b>Injected Heroin</b>	12	17	12	12	19	17

Figures in brackets exclude alcohol

The majority of persons admitted to treatment reported that they used their primary substances on a daily basis. The substances that had the highest proportion of individuals reporting daily use were OTC/PRE (94%), heroin/opiates (84%), and cannabis/mandrax (61%). Refer to Table 12.

**Table 12: Primary substance by frequency of use (Western Cape)**

	Daily				2-6 days per week				Once per week or less often				Not used in the past month			
	%				%				%				%			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
<b>Alcohol</b>	44	44	43	44	44	35	34	44	8	10	13	7	4	10	11	6
<b>Cannabis</b>	55	58	60	48	30	32	29	31	10	5	5	13	5	5	5	8
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	72	64	62	61	20	27	26	28	3	6	4	5	5	4	8	6
<b>Crack/ Cocaine</b>	47	38	48	38	38	62	30	38	8	0	13	18	7	0	10	7
<b>Heroin/Opiates^</b>	92	86	91	84	5	7	4	10	1*	2	3	3	2	5	2	4

	Daily				2-6 days per week				Once per week or less often				Not used in the past month			
	%				%				%				%			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	52	49	51	52	34	34	31	35	4	7	7	6	10	9	11	7
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	70	60	65	94	15*	25*	25	6	11*	0	10*	0	4*	15*	0	0
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	36	50*	0	0*	57	17*	25*	20*	7*	33*	25*	20*	0	0	50*	0

\*N<5; \*\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone;

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

The overall mean age for this period was 32 years. An increase was seen in the mean age of individuals admitted for cannabis and methamphetamine, while decreases in mean age were seen for those persons admitted for alcohol, OTC/PRE and crack/cocaine. A noteworthy increase in mean age (from 19 years to 43 years) was seen for individuals reporting inhalants. The mean age for individuals with other substances remained fairly stable.

**Table 13: Mean age by primary substance of use (Western Cape)**

	Jul-Dec 2015	Jan-Jun 2016	Jul-Dec 2016	Jan-Jun 2017	Jul-Dec 2017	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
<b>Years</b>											
<b>Alcohol</b>	38	38	37	39	37	36	38	31	32	37	35
<b>Cannabis</b>	20	18	19	21	18	20	19	29	29	24	27
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	30	30	31	31	33	32	32	30	31	30	32
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	33	34	29	34	32	32	33	30	32	31	33
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	30	31	31	32	33	33	32	30	27	29	32
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	45	38	46	40	40	38	39	28	32	39	31
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	30	30	30	30	31	29	31	30	31	29	33
<b>Inhalants</b>	16*	21*	14	14	33*	15	18	-	-	19	43*
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	25	29*	26	29	27	29	29	29	22	28	28
<b>Overall mean age</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>32</b>

\*N < 5; \*\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

All substances were mostly used by males as indicated in Table 14 below. However, this period saw increases in the proportion of females who were treated for the use of crack/cocaine (from 24% to 36%), cannabis (from 17% to 27%), and heroin/opiates (from 15% to 26%), while a decrease was seen in females reporting OTC/PRE medication use (from 45% to 22%).

**Table 14: Primary substance of use by Gender (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
<b>Alcohol</b>	67	33	64	36	70	30	71	29	67	38	68	32	68	32
<b>Cannabis</b>	81	19	82	18	80	20	72	28	71	28	83	17	73	27
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	82	17	65	35	73	27	69	30	70	30	69	31	74	26
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	77	23	75	25	84	16	65	35	86	14	76	24	64	36
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	81	19	82	18	80	20	69	31	65	35	85	15	74	26
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	30	70	41	59	55	45	70	30	80	20*	55	45	78	22
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	63	37	67	33	64	36	71	29	71	29	69	31	69	31

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
<b>Inhalants</b>	100*	0	100*	0	80*	20*	100*	0	67*	33*	-	-	100*	-
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	77	23*	67*	33*	83	17*	86	14*	100	0	62*	38*	60*	40*

\*N<5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Cannabis/mandrax (33%), methamphetamine (25%), cannabis (18%) and alcohol (16%) were the most common secondary substances of use (Table 15).

**Table 15: Secondary substance of use (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	309	21	362	26	337	19	312	20	110	14	183	15	232	16
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	445	30	389	28	506	29	442	28	280	35	376	31	476	33
<b>Cannabis</b>	241	16	231	16	325	18	267	17	139	17	253	21	250	18
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	40	3	56	4	53	3	62	4	21	3	48	4	52	4
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	8	1	11	1	26	1	20	1	9	1	10	1	15	1
<b>Ecstasy</b>	13	1	3	<1	4	<1	7	<1	1	<1	5	<1	6	<1
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	39	3	36	3	59	3	61	4	23	3	42	3	32	2
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	4	<1	7	<1	14	1	11	1	4	1	13	1	4	<1*
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	382	25	306	22	412	23	347	22	199	25	289	24	351	25
<b>Inhalants</b>	3	<1	4	<1	9	1	3	<1	1	<1	-	-	-	-
<b>Other</b>	18	1	8	1	13	1	24	2	8	1	6	<1	6	<1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1504</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1413</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1758</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1556</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1227</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1424</b>	<b>100</b>

\*N<5; \*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

The overall proportion of primary and secondary substances of use is shown in Table 17 below. Methamphetamine (49%), cannabis (34%), alcohol (28%), and cannabis/mandrax (27%) were the most commonly used primary and secondary substances.

**Table 16: Primary and secondary substance of use (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%						
<b>Alcohol</b>	34	33	29	31	19	27	28
<b>Cannabis</b>	34	39	37	35	25	30	34
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	21	21	23	23	29	27	27
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	4	4	6	5	3	6	5
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	2	2	3	3	3	3	3
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	13	12	17	15	19	15	12
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	39	39	43	43	59	55	49
<b>Inhalants</b>	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	-	<1
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	1	<1	1	1	1	1	<1
<b>Other</b>	2	1	1	1	1	<1	<1

\*N<5 (small proportion of patients); \*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admissions category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance



Up to 58% of service users reported using more than one substance, decreasing from the last period.

**Table 17: Polysubstance use (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Ja-June 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Primary substance only	1635	51	1413	52	1758	58	1098	41	527	40	663	35	1009	42
Primary +2 <sup>nd</sup> substance	1253	49	1306	48	1255	42	1556	59	796	60	1227	65	1424	58
Total no. of patients	3182	100	2719	100	3013	100	2654	100	1323	100	1890	100	2433	100

Individuals admitted to treatment often report a combination of sources of funding for treatment. The category 'state' (85%) was the most common source of payment, followed by 'medical aid' (7%) and 'family/friends' (4%). 'Other' refers to a combination of sources paying for treatment for individuals.

**Table 18: Source of payment (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jul 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Self	6	3	3	3	1	3	2
Medical Aid	10	8	8	9	4	9	7
State	72	76	81	79	91	81	85
Family/friends	10	10	6	4	2	4	4
Work/employer	1	3	1	1	<1	1	<1
Unknown	<1	<1	<1	2	1	2	1
Other/combinations	1	1	1	2	-	1	<1

## DATA ON PATIENTS YOUNGER THAN 20 YEARS

The majority of individuals younger than 20 years were male (80%).

**Table 19: Gender and race profile of patients <20 years (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	78	77	79	76	77	71	80
Female	22	23	21	24	23	29	20
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>							
Black African	29	28	25	24	25	33	33
Coloured	69	69	73	74	72	65	64
Indian	<1	1	<1	-	-	-	1
White	2	2	2	2	3	2	3

A higher proportion of individuals <20 years were referred to treatment centres by the 'school' (49%), increasing from 32% in the previous period. This was followed by referrals from 'self/family/friends' (29%), and 'social services/welfare' (14%). The rest of the categories remained consistent.

**Table 20: Referral sources for patients younger than 20 years (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Self/Family/Friends	18	19	16	22	34	48	29
Work/Employer	<1	5	<1	<1	2	-	<1*
Health professional	1	2	2	2	2	2	3
Religious body	<1	<1	<1	<	<1	1	<1*
Hospital/Clinic	<1	1	1	1	2	4	3
Social Services/Welfare	13	14	11	13	7	11	14
Court/Correctional services	1	2	1	1	1	2	1*
School	66	55	69	58	51	32	49
Other	<1	1	<1	2	<1	1	1*

Most young persons were treated for the use of cannabis (52%), followed by methamphetamine (21%). A decrease was seen for cannabis use (from 60% to 52%), while reported rates for heroin increased from 2% in the previous period to 9% in the current period. This change in reported statistics points to the need for continuous surveillance and monitoring of patterns of substance use. Other categories remained stable.

**Table 21: Primary substance of use of patients <20 years (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Alcohol	111	14	102	13	68	9	99	16	25	10	23	12	44	10
Cannabis	620	77	578	75	571	75	211	33	61	23	117	60	220	52
Cannabis/Mx*	13	2	20	3	11	1	40	6	19	7	8	4	29	7
Crack /Cocaine	3	<1	4	1	2	<1	14	2	1	<1	2	1	4	1*
Heroin/Opiates^	5	1	5	1	48	6	82	13	50	19	3	2	36	9
OTC/PRE	2	<1	1	<1	2	<1	9	1	1	<1	-	-	5	1
Inhalants	-	-	3	<1	4	1	-	-	1	<1	-	-	-	-
Methcathinone ('CAT')	3	<1	-	-	4	1	5	1	3	1	1	1	-	-
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	51	6	61	8	49	6	170	27	105	40	41	21	87	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>100</b>

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

**Table 22: Mode of usage of primary substance of use for patients younger than 20 years (Western Cape)**

	Jul-Dec 2016	Jan-Jun 2017	Jul-Dec 2017	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Swallowed	10	11	14	5	14	12	18	11	12	12
Snorted	1	1	1	5	1	2	3	2	<1	1*
Injected	-	-	<1	2	<1	2	2	2	<1	2
Smoked	89	88	85	88	71	84	77	85	87	86

Across all substances, males continued to have the highest rates for access to specialist treatment facilities compared to females. However, marked reductions were noted in admission rates for females from the previous to the current review period. Specifically, admissions for females where alcohol was the primary substance of use decreased from 65% to 20%, admissions for cannabis/mandrax as the primary substance of use decreased from 37% to 10%, and lastly, a reduction in admissions for heroin as primary substance of use was noted from 33% to 11% (Table 23).

**Table 23: Primary substance of use by gender of patients <20 years (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	M	F	M	F	M	%	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
<b>Alcohol</b>	63	37	63	37	79	21	77	23	72	28	35	65	80	20
<b>Cannabis</b>	81	19	80	20	80	20	75	25	85	15	79	21	80	20
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	92	8	60	40	60	37	80	20	68	32	63	37*	90	10
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	67*	33*	50*	50*	50*	50*	93	7*	100*	0	0	100*	100*	0
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	80*	20*	80*	20*	78	22	77	23	71	29	67*	33*	89	11
<b>Inhalants</b>	-	-	100*	0	100*	0	-	-	0	100*	-	-	-	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	76	24	77	23	69	31	72	28	77	23	73	27	73	27
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	50*	50*	100*	0	50*	50*	78	22*	100*	0	-	-	80*	20*
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	66*	34*	-	-	100*	0	100*	0	100*	0	100*	0	-	-

\* N<5; \*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Alcohol (26%), cannabis/mandrax (25%), methamphetamine (22%), and cannabis (20%) were the most common secondary substances of use.

**Table 24: Secondary substance of use younger than <20 years old (Western Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	138	17	182	23	146	21	88	14	20	8	31	31	53	26
<b>Cannabis</b>	56	7	51	7	67	10	83	13	25	10	22	22	41	20
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	35	4	49	6	36	5	88	14	57	22	24	24	51	25
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	1	<1	3	<1	5	1	20	3	5	2	2	2	7	3
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	-	-	1	<1	8	1	4	1	1	<1	-	-	1	1*
<b>Inhalants</b>	1	<1	3	<1	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	3	<1	7	1	10	1	18	3	6	2	5	5	4	2*
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	-	-	-	-	5	1	5	1	2	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	33	4	38	5	34	5	80	13	33	13	16	16	44	22
<b>Other</b>	5	1	1	<1	4	1	5	1	1	<1	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>100</b>

## 2B: TREATMENT CENTERS: GAUTENG

Mr Warren Lucas, Ms Nancy Hornsby & Mrs Sandra Pretorius

Data was collected from 38 specialist treatment centres during this review period. A total of 6 226 individuals were treated at Gauteng treatment centres during the period January to June 2021.

**Table 25: Proportion of treatment episodes (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
CoJ Eldorado Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69	1	-	-
CoJ Joubert Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	<1	-	-
CoJ Tladi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	<1	53	1
CoJ Westbury	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	<1	9	<1
Eden Recovery Centre	13	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elim Clinic	246	9	239	8	239	8	75	2	46	1	48	1	144	2
Empilweni Tx Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66	1	4	<1
Fabian Ribeiro	219	8	226	8	192	6	65	2	41	1	39	1	116	2
Fetoga Rehabilitation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	<1
Freedom Recovery	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	2	20	1	33	1	66	1
Hope for the Hopeless	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	<1
Houghton House	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House of Mercy	78	3	84	3	-	-	68	2	122	4	72	1	97	2
Ithemba Clinic	-	-	-	-	-	-	76	2	60	2	97	2	179	3
Jamela Tx centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	73	2	74	2	24	<1	68	1
Life Esidimeni Randfontein	-	-	-	-	-	-	629	15	-	-	93	2	25	<1
Life Esidimeni Witpoort	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	514	8
Makukhanye Alcohol & Drug Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	1	73	1	97	2
Merafong Anti-Substance Abuse Centre (MASAC)	-	-	-	-	-	-	66	2	17	1	7	<1	112	2
Mighty Wings	23	1	45	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Open Disclosure Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	<1
SANCA Eastern Gauteng	443	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	<1	68	1
SANCA Central Rand	281	10	861	29	1014	32	1121	27	910	28	1067	21	1495	24
SANCA Johannesburg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	111	2	-	-
SANCA Nishtara	-	-	54	2	190	6	167	4	150	5	208	4	212	3
SANCA Vaal Triangle	419	15	388	13	279	9	150	4	56	2	173	3	118	2

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>SANCA Castle Carey</b>	104	4	7	<1	75	2	-	-	319	10	457	9	367	6
<b>SANCA Horizon Clinic</b>	326	12	298	10	455	14	329	8	182	6	251	5	211	3
<b>SANCA Thusong</b>	244	10	249	8	340	11	294	7	229	7	365	7	265	4
<b>SANCA Wedge Gardens</b>	82	3	112	4	107	3	85	2	73	2	129	3	82	1
<b>SANCA Soweto</b>	-	-	156	5	29	1	76	2	112	3	435	9	569	9
<b>SANCA Greater Heidelberg</b>	183	7	146	5	97	3	157	4	124	4	194	4	129	2
<b>SANCA Palm Ridge Clinic</b>	6	<1	-	-	-	-	78	2	-	-	153	3	274	3
<b>Sithuthukisa Bonke Crisis Centre</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	<1
<b>Stabilis Clinic</b>	67	4	70	2	131	4	-	-	162	5	191	4	221	4
<b>Sukuma Sakhe Development</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	<1
<b>Toughest Young Minds</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	3	132	3	57	1
<b>Westview Clinic</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	621	15	277	8	464	9	723	12
<b>Total number in treatment</b>	<b>2734</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2937</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3148</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4224</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3279</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5059</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6226</b>	<b>100</b>

Eighty-six percent (86%) of individuals were admitted to treatment for the first time during this period, remaining stable since the last period.

**Table 26: First time admissions (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jan-Jun 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Yes</b>	83	82	86	86	86	84	86
<b>No</b>	17	18	14	14	14	16	14

The proportion of individuals treated at outpatient centres remained fairly consistent at 62%, while 38% were treated at inpatient centres.

**Table 27: Type of treatment received (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Inpatient</b>	42	40	37	42	34	36	38
<b>Outpatient</b>	58	60	63	58	66	64	62

The proportion of referrals by 'self/family/friends' decreased from 76% to 68%, while referrals from social services/welfare increased from 13% to 17%. The number of individuals referred from 'school' increased from 2% to 6%. The increase in referrals from schools indicate that younger, school-going youths are increasingly being identified as individuals requiring substance use treatment. This development needs to be closely monitored. All other referral categories remained stable.

**Table 28: Referral sources (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Self/family/friends	59	53	61	51	65	76	68
Work/employer	6	5	4	5	4	2	2
Doctor/psychiatrist/nurse (health professional)	2	2	2	2	2	1	2
Religious body	<1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Hospital/clinic	2	1	1	1	1	2	1
Social services/welfare	14	17	15	25	14	13	17
Court/correctional services	7	12	5	3	2	2	2
School	10	8	9	12	10	2	6
Other, e.g., radio	1	1	1	1	1	1	<1

Over the last few review periods, very little change has been noted in the population profile of persons admitted to treatment in Gauteng. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of individuals in this cohort were unemployed. Most individuals had a secondary school education.

**Table 29: Population profile (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	86	86	86	86	86	87	86
Female	14	14	14	14	14	13	14
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>							
Black African	67	69	66	74	73	76	79
Indian	12	10	2	2	2	1	1
Coloured	2	15	18	18	15	14	11
White	19	7	14	7	10	9	8
<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</b>							
Working full-time	19	18	19	12	16	9	10
Working part-time	2	4	2	.3	3	9	3
Unemployed (< 6 months)	9	9	8	10	8	10	11
Unemployed (> 6 months)	46	43	43	47	46	62	58
Students/apprentice/ internship	4	3	2	2	2	2	2
Learner at school	18	21	25	20	25	13	17
Pensioner/ Disabled/Housewife	2	2	1	6	<1	1	>1
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b>							
None	<1	<1	1	3	1	1	<1
Primary	5	7	6	7	6	6	4
Secondary	81	80	79	76	87	88	91
Tertiary	13	12	14	14	6	5	4

The age of persons in treatment ranged between 8 and 81 years, with an overall mean age of 28 years. For this review period, the proportion of individuals in each age category remained fairly similar (Table 30).

**Table 30: Age distribution (Gauteng)**

Years	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
10-14	87	3	1	<1	145	5	178	4	108	3	113	2	181	3
15-19	543	20	110	4	611	19	863	20	617	19	781	16	1119	18
20-24	548	20	608	21	603	19	846	20	614	19	979	20	1235	20
25-29	549	20	584	20	665	21	990	24	753	23	1253	25	1386	22
30-34	417	15	614	21	453	14	664	16	570	17	949	19	1091	18
35-39	238	9	445	15	301	10	363	9	299	9	503	10	607	10
40-44	127	5	237	8	129	4	140	3	134	4	217	4	225	4
45-49	95	3	128	4	109	3	76	2	81	2	131	3	158	3
50-54	50	2	89	3	49	2	53	1	39	1	57	1	77	1
55-59	42	2	45	2	33	1	25	1	64	2	37	1	44	1
60-64	18	1	30	1	23	1	8	<1	-	-	20	<1	31	1
≥65	19	1	46	2	11	<1	7	<1	-	-	19	<1	12	<1
<b>Mean Age</b>	<b>28</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>26</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>28</b>	

Thirty-six percent (36%) of individuals indicated that they had been tested for HIV in the past 12 months, decreasing by 23% since the last period.

**Table 31: Prior testing for HIV (Gauteng)**

Tested for HIV	Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Yes, in past 12 months</b>	2393	56	2000	61	2981	59	2249	36
<b>Yes, but not in past 12 months</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
<b>No</b>	1374	33	954	29	1573	31	2141	34
<b>Declined to answer</b>	457	11	325	10	505	10	539	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4224</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3279</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5059</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6226</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 32: Place of residence (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	
<b>PROVINCE</b>															
<b>Gauteng</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6224	99.9
<b>Mpumalanga</b>	29	1	22	1	50	1	22	1	20	1	26	1	2	<1	
<b>Limpopo</b>	39	1	23	1	33	1	19	<1	16	<1	26	1	-	-	
<b>North West</b>	25	1	15	1	33	1	22	1	27	1	29	1	-	-	
<b>Northern Cape</b>	2	<1	-	-	1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Eastern Cape</b>	7	<1	1	<1	6	<1	3	<1	8	<1	4	<1	-	-	
<b>Free State</b>	13	<1	12	<1	18	1	18	<1	10	<1	8	<1	-	-	
<b>KwaZulu-Natal</b>	11	<1	11	<1	14	<1	6	<1	5	<1	1	<1	-	-	
<b>Western Cape</b>	2	<1	1	<1	2	<1	1	<1	3	<1	1	<1	-	-	
<b>OTHER COUNTRIES</b>	3	<1	2	<1	1	<1	3	<1	1	<1	5	<1	-	-	
<b>Total number on whom information was available</b>	<b>2734</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2937</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3148</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4224</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3279</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5059</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6226</b>	<b>100</b>	

The most common primary substance of use in Gauteng during the January-June 2021 period was heroin/opiates (29%). This was followed by cannabis (27%) and methamphetamine (17%). Other categories remained fairly stable (Table 33).

**Table 33: Primary substance of use (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	424	16	409	14	570	18	490	12	375	11	421	8	588	9
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	60	2	57	2	95	3	119	3	74	2	187	4	179	3
<b>Cannabis</b>	889	33	1070	36	1021	32	1253	30	1104	34	1342	27	1699	27
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	63	2	80	3	100	3	128	3	89	3	128	3	216	4
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	810	30	801	27	818	26	1534	36	1034	32	1710	34	1832	29
<b>Ecstasy</b>	6	<1	2	<1	2	<1	7	<1	1	<1	15	<1	16	<1
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	35	1	33	1	71	2	29	1	48	1	49	1	62	1
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	205	8	224	8	160	5	142	3	173	5	419	8	472	8
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	161	6	236	8	283	9	472	11	324	10	752	15	1083	17
<b>Inhalants</b>	21	1	15	1	22	1	19	<1	21	1	29	1	79	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2734</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2937</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3148</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4224</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3279</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5059</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6226</b>	<b>100</b>

\*\*White pipe<sup>^</sup> or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

When considering the mode of use of the primary substances, 10% of persons reported swallowing or snorting their substances, while 72% reported smoking their substances. When alcohol was excluded, 80% reported smoking as their mode of use. Only 8% of individuals reported injecting their substance of choice.

**Table 34: Mode of usage of primary substance (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Swallowed</b>	17(2)	16(2)	21(4)	14(2)	14(2)	10(2)	11 (2)
<b>Snorted**</b>	10(11)	10(12)	8(9)	6(6)	8(9)	10(11)	10 (11)
<b>Injected</b>	10(12)	8(9)	4(5)	6(7)	7(8)	9(10)	7 (8)
<b>Smoked</b>	63(75)	67(77)	67(81)	74(84)	72(81)	71(77)	72 (80)

\* If alcohol is not taken into account, the figures in brackets apply

\*\* Included with snorted are sniffed and inhaled



The majority of individuals reported that they used their primary substances on a daily basis. The substances that had the highest proportion of individuals reporting daily use was heroin/opiates (94%), followed by OTC/PRE (84%), cannabis (74%), and cannabis/mandrax and crack/cocaine (73% respectively). See Table 35.

**Table 35: Primary substance by Frequency of use (Gauteng)**

	Daily			2-6 days per week			Once per week or less often			Not used in the past month		
	%			%			%			%		
	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
<b>Alcohol</b>	55	62	59	25	24	26	15	10	11	4	4	3
<b>Cannabis</b>	73	75	74	18	15	17	6	6	7	3	4	3
<b>Cannabis/Mx*</b>	77	83	73	19	12	20	3*	4	6	1*	1	*2
<b>Crack/ Cocaine</b>	67	66	73	19	26	19	11	7	7	2*	2	1
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	94	95	94	6	4	4	<1	<1	2	<1	1	<1
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	60	59	57	28	28	28	8	11	13	4	2	2
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	85	88	84	10	8	13	2*	4	*2	2*	0	*2
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	52	57	56	33	34	33	12	9	9	3	1	2

\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

**Table 36: Mean age by Primary substance of use (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	Years/ Mean Age in years						
<b>Alcohol</b>	36	33	30	31	29	39	37
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	27	26	30	26	28	29	28
<b>Cannabis</b>	22	26	27	25	27	23	23
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	32	27	27	28	27	30	29
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	27	26	27	26	29	29	29
<b>Ecstasy</b>	28	22*	29*	30	-	26	30
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	30	27	28	26	27	27	28
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	30	25	28	25	26	27	27
<b>Inhalants</b>	27	22	28	23	26	19	17
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	36	31	30	26	28	43	37
<b>Nyaope/Whoonga</b>	31	28	28	27	27	29	28

\*N<5; \*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

Males continue to dominate admissions for substance use treatment. The distribution between males and females remained fairly constant since the last period, however, there was a notable increase in males accessing treatment for OTC/PRE (from 33% to 58%), while reduced rates were noted for females admitted to treatment for OTC/PRE medicine misuse (from 67% to 42%). A marked decrease was also seen for males with inhalants as primary substance of use (from 86% to 65%), while an increase was seen for females admitted for inhalant misuse (from 14% to 35%). Females were also more likely to be admitted to treatment for cannabis/mandrax use, increasing from 10% in the previous period to 18% in the current reporting period.

**Table 37: Primary substance of use by Gender (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jul 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
<b>Alcohol</b>	83	17	83	17	85	15	84	16	83	17	76	24	79	21
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	90	10	84	16	85	15	92	8	86	14	90	10	82	18
<b>Cannabis</b>	89	11	88	12	87	13	84	16	87	13	90	10	88	12
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	67	33	80	20	83	17	80	20	88	12	86	14	88	12
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>†</sup></b>	88	12	88	12	87	12	89	11	85	15	92	8	89	11
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	83	17	55	45	79	21	76	24	81	19	33	67	58	42
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	81	19	86	14	90	10	87	13	88	12	86	14	83	17
<b>Inhalants</b>	81	19*	100	0	86	14	89	11*	90	10*	86	14*	65	35
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	84	16	82	18	82	18	85	15	87	13	80	20	86	14

\*N<5; \*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>†</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Cannabis (34%), methamphetamine (17%), heroin/opiates (11%), and cannabis/mandrax (11%) were the most common secondary substances of use.

**Table 38: Secondary substance of use (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	119	11	147	13	198	15	251	13	186	11	186	7	212	7
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax*</b>	64	6	86	7	124	9	194	10	128	8	295	11	271	9
<b>Cannabis</b>	343	32	399	35	405	31	731	37	529	32	858	32	987	34
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	83	8	123	11	141	11	211	11	157	9	241	9	245	8
<b>Heroin/Opiates**</b>	155	14	89	8	89	7	156	8	217	13	318	12	331	11
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	64	6	16	1	79	6	58	3	44	3	79	3	61	2
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	146	14	142	12	124	9	136	7	140	8	233	9	287	10
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	81	8	121	11	135	4	186	9	196	12	398	15	488	17
<b>Inhalants</b>	4	<1	10	1	12	<1	16	1	10	1	12	<1	11	<1
<b>Other</b>	6	<1	11	1	8	1	26	1	28	2	31	1	2	<1*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1080</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1148</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1320</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1965</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1658</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2651</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2902</b>	<b>100</b>

\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

Consistent with previous review periods, cannabis (43%), heroin/opiates (35%), and methamphetamine (25%) remained the most common primary and secondary substances of use in this region. Rates for misuse of alcohol (13%) and CAT (12%) were comparable to the previous period. A 5% decrease in heroin use was also noted. Refer to Table 39.

**Table 39: Primary and secondary substance of use (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	543	20	556	19	768	24	741	18	561	17	607	12	800	13
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax*</b>	124	5	143	5	219	7	313	7	202	6	482	10	450	7
<b>Cannabis</b>	1232	45	1469	50	1426	45	1984	47	1633	50	2200	43	2685	43
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	146	5	203	7	241	8	339	8	246	8	369	7	461	7
<b>Heroin/Opiates**</b>	1273	47	1220	42	907	29	1690	40	1251	38	2028	40	2163	35
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	99	4	49	2	150	5	87	2	92	3	128	3	123	2

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	351	13	366	12	284	9	278	7	313	10	652	13	759	12
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	242	9	357	12	418	13	658	16	520	16	1150	23	1571	25
<b>Inhalants</b>	25	1	26	1	34	1	35	1	31	1	41	1	90	1
<b>Other</b>	35	1	20	1	21	1	64	2	88	3	53	1	24	<1

\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

Up to 47% of individuals reported using more than one substance.

**Table 40: Polysubstance use (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Primary substance only</b>	1654	60	1789	61	1828	58	2259	53	1621	49	2408	48	3324	53
<b>Primary +2<sup>nd</sup> substance</b>	1080	40	1148	39	1320	42	1965	47	1658	51	2651	52	2902	47
<b>Total no. of patients</b>	<b>2734</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2937</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3148</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4224</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3279</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5059</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6226</b>	<b>100</b>

A decrease in payments by the 'state' (from 67% to 63%), and an increase in payments by 'family/friends' (6% to 10%) were noticed in this period (Table 41).

**Table 41: Sources of payment (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>State</b>	70	58	40	58	49	67	63
<b>Medical Aid</b>	14	10	12	4	9	6	6
<b>Family/friends</b>	7	11	27	17	17	6	10
<b>Employer</b>	2	2	3	2	2	<1	<1
<b>Self</b>	4	6	9	7	7	3	3
<b>Other/Comb</b>	1	<1	1	11	<1	1	1
<b>Unknown</b>	2	13	9	1	17	17	17

## DATA ON PATIENTS YOUNGER THAN 20 YEARS

The predominant profile of persons admitted for treatment were males who had completed a secondary education.

**Table 42: Profile of patients younger than 20 years (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	85	84	87	85	86	85	85
Female	15	14	13	15	14	15	15
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>							
Black/African	77	76	75	78	83	85	86
Coloured	16	17	20	18	14	12	11
Indian	2	5	1	1	1	1	1
White	5	2	4	3	3	2	2
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b>							
None	<1	-	1	3	1	1	<1
Primary	13	17	7	13	14	16	7
Secondary	86	82	85	81	84	82	92
Any tertiary	1	1	6	3	1	1	1

A higher proportion of individuals <20 years were referred to treatment centres by 'self/family/friends' (59%), decreasing markedly from the previous period. This was followed by referrals from 'school' (27%). The increase in referrals by schools from 9% in the previous period to 27% in the current period signifies a rise in the number of school-aged youths accessing substance use treatment, pointing to a concerning trend over the past two years.

**Table 43: Referral sources for patients younger than 20 years (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jan-Jun 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Self/Family/Friends	42	56	40	52	60	72	59
Work/Employer	1	3	1	3	4	<1	1
Health professional	1	1	1	3	2	1	1
Religious body	-	<1	1	1	2	1	1
Hospital/Clinic	2	2	1	2	<1	1	1
Social Services/Welfare	8	17	14	16	11	13	9
Court/Correctional services	6	10	5	3	2	3	2
School	40	10	37	21	17	9	27
Other	-	<1	<1	<1	1	<1	<1*

The most common primary substance of use among young individuals was cannabis (55%), followed by methamphetamine (15%). Alcohol use increased marginally from 2% to 4%.

**Table 44: Primary substance of use for patients younger than 20 years (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Alcohol	26	4	56	8	135	18	62	6	78	11	21	2	47	4
Cannabis	458	73	289	40	285	38	485	44	285	39	561	63	712	55
Cannabis/Mx*	12	2	18	3	18	2	30	3	18	2	19	2	26	2
Crack/Cocaine	5	1	26	4	21	3	31	3	23	3	18	2	34	3
Heroin/Opiates**	69	11	178	25	187	25	250	24	161	22	65	7	144	11
OTC/PRE	3	<1	10	1	14	2	10	1	10	1	3	<1	6	1
Inhalants	14	2	5	1	3	<1	5	<1	4	<1	16	2	59	5
Methcathinone ('CAT')	17	3	53	7	39	5	46	4	47	6	50	6	70	5
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	20	3	82	11	51	7	142	14	92	13	140	16	202	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1041</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1300</b>	<b>100</b>

\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

**Table 45: Mode of usage of primary substance of use for patients younger than 20 years (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Swallowed	5	14	21	9	13	4	5
Snorted	5	1	7	7	9	7	10
Injected	2	<1	2	4	3	1	2
Smoked	88	71	69	79	74	87	83

This period saw an increase in young females accessing treatment services for all substances with the exception of alcohol, heroin and methamphetamine.

**Table 46: Primary substance of use by Gender for patients younger than 20 years (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Alcohol	65	35	87	13	79	21	79	21	81	19	76	24	77	23
Cannabis	88	12	88	12	80	20	84	16	87	13	88	12	88	12
Cannabis/Mx**	92	8	94	6*	64	36	90	10*	89	11*	89	11*	81	19
Crack/Cocaine	80*	20*	81	19	50*	50*	84	16	87	13*	72	28	94	6*
Heroin/Opiates^	88	12	83	17	77	23	84	16	89	11	80	20	81	19
Inhalants	79	21	100	0	100*	0	80*	20*	100*	0	87	13*	59	41
OTC/PRE	0	100*	70	30*	50*	50*	80	20*	80	20*	100*	0	100	0
Methcathinone ('CAT')	76	24*	81	19	100*	0	91	9*	87	13	90	10	81	19
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	65	35	74	26	69	31	87	13	85	15	74	26	85	15

\*N<5; \*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Across all ethnic groups, young people were more likely to be admitted for cannabis, methamphetamine and heroin/opiates.

**Table 47: Primary substance of use by Race for patients younger than 20 years (Gauteng)**

	BLACK/AFRICAN			COLOURED			INDIAN			WHITE		
	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	10	2	4	14	2	3	25*	0	14*	5*	0	0
<b>Cannabis</b>	40	62	54	37	75	57	25*	40*	64	45	52	56
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	3	2	2	1*	2*	1*	0	20*	0	5*	5*	0
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	3	2	3	7	0	1*	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	22	97	12	23	0	4	25*	1*	0	18*	2*	8*
<b>Inhalants</b>	1*	1	2	0	7	23	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	2	<1*	<1*	1*	1*	1*	0	0	7*	0	5*	0
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	7	6	5	6	8	6	0	0	0	0	0	8*
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	13	16	17	10	6	5	25*	20*	14*	18*	33	28

\*N<5; \*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

Cannabis (38%), methamphetamine (19%) and CAT (13%) were the most common secondary substances of use (Table 48).

**Table 48: Secondary substance of use for patients younger than 20 years (Gauteng)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	N	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	39	23	61	13	39	14	127	20	52	14	42	11	58	12
<b>Cannabis</b>	43	26	153	32	78	27	226	35	117	31	114	30	188	38
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax*</b>	6	4	35	7	28	10	63	10	34	9	27	7	24	5
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	6	4	48	10	30	10	44	7	36	9	20	5	20	4
<b>Heroin/Opiates**</b>	16	10	26	6	20	7	28	4	26	7	15	4	20	4
<b>Inhalants</b>	2	1	8	2	3	1	3	<1	3	1	8	2	6	1
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	14	8	9	2	17	6	31	5	18	5	33	9	23	5
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	21	13	68	14	37	13	56	9	44	12	44	12	62	13
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	18	11	59	13	34	12	63	10	42	11	74	20	91	19
<b>Other</b>	2	1	4	1	-	-	5	1	9	2	1	<1	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>100</b>

\*\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

## 2C: TREATMENT CENTRES: NORTHERN REGION

Ms Nancy Hornsby & Mr Warren Lucas

Data representing 958 individuals was collected from 7 treatment centres during the period January to June 2021, compared to 1 024 in the previous six-month period. In Mpumalanga data was collected from 733 persons, with most data coming from SANCA Witbank (n=391), followed by SANCA Lowveld (n=217). In Limpopo, data was collected from 225 individuals. No data was collected from the Centre of Hope, Swartfontein, Seshego, Healing Wings and Jahara during this period. See Table 49.

**Table 49: Number of treatment episodes (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	Number (n)					Number (n)				
Swartfontein	-	88	11	-	-					
MARC (Inpatient)	23	97	46	70	55					
MARC (Outpatient)										
Sanca Witbank	224	504	218	283	391					
Sanca Lowveld	297	267	154	300	217					
SANCA Thembisile	34	35	38	42	29					
Bread of Life	19	20	20	38	18					
Pace Rehab	28	26	25	26	23					
Healing Wings	14	33	12	-	-					
Healing Wings (Youth)	12	-	7	-	-					
SANCA Far North (Polokwane)						351	325	230	265	225
Jahara Centre						5	11	-	-	-
Seshego Centre						18	17	6	-	-
Centre of Hope						-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total number in treatment</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>1070</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>759</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>225</b>

In Table 50 'Yes' indicates a first-time admission and 'No' indicates a repeat admission. First time admissions made up most admissions across both provinces.

**Table 50: First Time Admissions (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%					%				
No	15	13	22	13	10	16	5	12	1	1
Yes	85	87	78	87	90	84	95	88	99	99

Table 51 indicates that in Mpumalanga (93%) and in Limpopo (100%) most or all individuals were treated on an outpatient basis.

**Table 51: Type of treatment received (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%					%				
<b>Inpatient</b>	36	17	42	10	7	37	10	36	-	-
<b>Outpatient</b>	64	83	58	90	93	63	90	64	100	100

The most common source of referral to specialist treatment centres in both provinces was 'self/family/friends', with 74% in Limpopo and 70% in Mpumalanga. This is followed by referral from the 'work/employer' in Mpumalanga (17%) and 'school' in Limpopo (14%) (Table 52).

**Table 52: Referral sources (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%					%				
<b>Self/family/friends</b>	65	50	66	70	70	67	65	69	81	74
<b>Work/employer</b>	8	12	3	11	17	3	7	4	2	5
<b>Health professional (Dr/psychiatrist/nurse)</b>	5	7	4	5	2	-	5	2	-	-
<b>Religious body</b>	1	1	2	1	<1*	<1	-	2	<1	-
<b>Hospital/clinic</b>	2	1	4	2	1	-	<1	2	-	-
<b>Social services/welfare</b>	5	11	12	3	4	4	5	8	6	6
<b>Court/correctional services</b>	1	2	2	2	1	-	1	4	-	<1*
<b>School</b>	13	16	7	6	5	25	16	9	11	14
<b>Other, e.g., radio</b>	<1	1	1	1	<1*	1	1	1	-	-

Males predominated across both provinces (88% in Mpumalanga and 96% in Limpopo). There was a 3% increase in the proportion of individuals who were 'employed' (full- and part-time) in Limpopo while a 5% decrease was noted in the proportion of individuals who were 'employed' (full- and part-time) in Mpumalanga. In both provinces, the majority of individuals had a secondary school education. See Table 53.



**Table 53: Population profile (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%									
<b>GENDER</b>										
Male	86	87	91	84	88	95	93	90	92	96
Female	14	13	9	16	12	5	7	10	8	4
<b>RACE</b>										
Black African	77	77	76	80	83	91	88	95	92	94
Coloured	2	4	2	2	2	5	5	2	5	4
Indian	1	2	1	<1	<1*	<1	<1	-	-	-
White	20	17	21	18	15	3	7	3	3	3
<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</b>										
Working full time	15	27	18	27	26	13	22	17	9	12
Working part time	3	8	2	8	4	3	7	4	-	-
Unemployed (<6 months)	6	7	9	12	9	10	6	7	1	<1
Unemployed (>6 months)	46	32	45	35	46	40	39	45	65	61
Student/Apprentice/internship	4	3	4	1	1	2	3	3	6	5
Pupil/learner at school	24	23	22	15	14	32	22	24	19	22
Medically boarded/Housewife/Pensioner	2	1	1	9	1	<1	1	-	-	-
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b>										
None	2	<1	<1	2	4	-	1	-	-	-
Primary	5	5	5	4	4	7	8	3	3	2
Secondary	79	75	84	83	83	81	73	91	83	86
Any tertiary	11	14	11	10	8	12	17	6	14	12

The average age of persons seen at treatment centres was 29 years in Mpumalanga and 26 years in Limpopo. The proportion of individuals younger than 20 years of age in Mpumalanga was 17% and 24% in Limpopo.

**Table 54: Age distribution (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%									
10-14	3	3	3	1	2	2	1	-	2	3
15-19	22	21	15	16	15	25	22	31	17	21
20-24	21	19	18	21	18	26	26	20	28	26
25-29	23	18	20	20	21	22	24	19	23	24
30-34	12	16	22	20	21	12	14	17	19	18
35-39	9	10	10	11	14	6	7	7	8	5
40-44	4	6	4	7	6	4	2	3	2	1
45-49	3	2	4	3	2	1	2	1	1	1
50-54	1	2	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	<1
55-59	2	1	2	2	1	<1	<1	-	-	<1
60-64	<1	1	1	2	<1	<1	<1	-	-	-
≥65	<1	<1	1	1	<1	<1	<1	-	-	-
Mean age (in years)	-	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	-	26

In Mpumalanga, there was a decrease in the proportion of individuals ever tested for HIV. The testing rates in Limpopo remained largely the same across reporting periods.

**Table 55: Prior HIV testing (Northern region)**

Tested for HIV	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, in past 12 months	53	55	57	74	39	56	45	49	2	0
Yes, but not in past 12 months	-	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	-	0
No	32	22	34	23	31	43	19	39	4	1
Decline to answer	15	23	9	3	1	1	36	12	94	99

**Table 56: Place of residence (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Limpopo	1	1	1	-	1	99	97	100	98	100
Mpumalanga	92	94	92	96	98	-	-	-	<1	-
Gauteng	5	3	5	3	1	1	2	-	<1	-
KwaZulu-Natal	1	<1	<1	<1	-	<1	<1	-	<1	-
Free State	-	-	<1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-
North West	<1	1	<1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Cape	-	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cape	-	-	-	-	<1*	-	-	-	<1	-
Western Cape	1	<1	1	<1	<1*	-	<1	-	-	-

In Mpumalanga heroin/opiates (38%) was the most commonly used primary substance of use among individuals in treatment while cannabis (39%) was the most common primary substance of use in Limpopo (Table 57).

**Table 57: Primary substance of use (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	20	15	15	15	13	11	16	15	14	14
<b>Cannabis</b>	31	41	31	32	36	46	38	31	35	39
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	4	<1	2	1	1	2	1	3	-	-
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	4	4	5	3	3	3	2	5	2	<1*
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	5	2	5	2	1	3	3	6	2	2*
<b>Heroin/Opiates^</b>	24	32	29	42	38	24	35	27	36	34
<b>Inhalants</b>	1	1	1	<1	1	1	1	2*	3	2
<b>OTC/ PRE</b>	2	1	2	1	1	1	-	3	1	1*
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	10	3	9	5	5	8	5	9	8	7

\*N < 5; \*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

When considering the mode of usage of primary drugs for the entire region, 17% of persons reported swallowing their substances. When alcohol was excluded, 89% reported smoking as their primary mode of use. Only 3% of individuals reported that they injected substances (all substance variants), a slight decrease from 5% in the previous period. The proportion of persons who injected heroin decreased from 11% to 6% (Table 58).

**Table 58: Mode of use for Primary Substance (Northern region)**

	Jul-Dec 2016	Jan-Jun 2017	Jul-Dec 2017	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Swallowed</b>	19(2)	16(2)	17(2)	12(2)	19(2)	19(3)	17(2)	18(4)	16(2)	17(4)
<b>Snorted</b>	5(2)	9(2)	3(3)	5(2)	6(3)	8(3)	6(7)	10(12)	7(8)	4(5)
<b>Injected</b>	1(1)	1(2)	1(2)	4(1)	4(2)	4(4)	2(3)	6(8)	5(6)	3(3)
<b>Smoked</b>	75(95)	74(94)	79(93)	79(95)	71(93)	69(90)	75(88)	66(76)	71(84)	77(89)
<b>Injected Heroin</b>	2	2	3	10	13	16	6	21	11	6

Figures in brackets exclude alcohol

The majority of persons admitted to treatment reported that they used their primary substances on a daily basis. The substances that had the highest number of individuals reporting daily use were heroin/opiates (88%), and OTC/PRE (86%). Daily usage of methamphetamine (Tik) also showed a considerable increase from 33% in the 2020b reporting period to 54% in the current period (similar to earlier rates reported for January to June 2020).

**Table 59: Primary substance by Frequency of use (Northern region)**

	Daily			2-6 days per week			Once per week or less often			Not used in the past month		
	%			%			%			%		
	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
<b>Alcohol</b>	69	42	38	15	39	42	12	15	15	4	3	5
<b>Cannabis</b>	67	49	35	23	32	31	8	13	28	3	6	7
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	95	75*	67*	5*	0	33*	0	25*	0	0	0	0

	Daily			2-6 days per week			Once per week or less often			Not used in the past month		
	%			%			%			%		
	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
<b>Crack/ Cocaine</b>	61	37	60	36	56	36	3*	4*	4*	0	4*	0
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	91	86	88	6	11	10	1	2	2	2	2	<1*
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	54	33	54	33	47	34	12	15	7*	1*	5*	5*
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	79	91	86	14*	0	0	7*	0	14*	0	9*	0
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	60	26	20*	33	39	50	8*	32	20*	0	5*	10*

\*N<5; \*\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Table 60 below depicts the mean age for different substances in Mpumalanga and Limpopo.

**Table 60: Mean age in years, by primary substance of use (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	Age in years									
<b>Alcohol</b>	27	28	31	37	36	27	28	27	31	31
<b>Cannabis</b>	27	28	28	24	26	26	26	24	23	23
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	28	21*	24	25	28	26	29*	22	-	-
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	26	27	27	32	32	26	26	23	29	27
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	26	27	30	31	31	29	23	27	25	22
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	28	27	30	28	29	24	27	27	26	26
<b>Inhalants</b>	24	26	27	21*	26	24*	22*	26	19	18
<b>OTC/ PRE</b>	30	28	35	41	43	25*	-	25	42	26
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	27	28	29	29	29	25	26	25	26	25

\*N<5; \*\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Consistent with previous findings, males outnumbered females in the NR. In Mpumalanga and Limpopo, a decrease was noted in females accessing treatment for alcohol misuse. A 25% increase in cannabis/mandrax use and a 23% increase in heroin use was observed among males accessing treatment in Mpumalanga (Table 61).

**Table 61: Primary substance of use by Gender (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga								Limpopo							
	Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	%								%							
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
<b>Alcohol</b>	86	14	85	15	75	25	79	21	89	11	94	6*	89	11*	94	6*
<b>Cannabis</b>	86	14	94	6	87	13	91	9	93	7	89	11	95*	5	100	-
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	100*	0	91	9	75*	25*	100	-	100*	0	100	0	-	-	-	-

	Mpumalanga								Limpopo							
	Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	%								%							
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
<b>Crack/ Cocaine</b>	83	13	92	8*	74	26	79	21	100	0	91	9*	100*	0	100*	-
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	87	13	88	12	70	30	93	7	93	7	89	11	97	3*	97	3*
<b>Inhalants</b>	86	14*	100	0	100*	0	89	11*	100*	0	100*	0	88	12*	80*	20*
<b>OTC/ PRE</b>	100	0	88	12*	25*	75	40*	60*	-	-	83	17*	33*	67*	50*	50*
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	91	9*	96	4*	64	36	50*	50*	89	11*	86	14*	60*	40*	100*	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	92	8*	96	4*	60	40	66	34	94	6*	86	14*	75	25	75	25*

\*N<5; \*\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Alcohol (32%), cannabis (31%) and heroin/opiates (17%) were the most common secondary substances of use. When considering the last three (3) reporting periods, a steady incline was noted for heroin/opiate use from 8% in 2020a, 10% in 2020b, and 17% in 2021a.

**Table 62: Secondary substance of use (Northern region)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	340	46	231	43	67	18	198	38	68	18	162	31	151	32
<b>Cannabis</b>	146	20	103	19	119	31	124	24	103	27	187	36	145	31
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax*</b>	18	2	3	1	27	7	8	2	24	6	7	1	4	1
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	47	6	56	10	41	11	59	11	47	13	40	8	39	8
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	67	9	52	10	20	5	43	8	31	8	51	10	80	17
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	15	2	7	1	15	4	13	3	18	5	7	1	4	1
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	27	4	33	6	33	9	24	5	31	8	24	5	11	2
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	14	2	31	6	46	12	36	7	37	10	31	6	31	7
<b>Inhalants</b>	65	9	21	4	2	<1	10	2	1	<1	7	1	5	1
<b>Other</b>	5	1	5	1	10	3	5	1	16	4	2	<1	3	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>100</b>

\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

The overall proportion of primary and secondary substances of use is shown in Table 66 below. Cannabis, heroin/opiates, methamphetamine and alcohol were the most common substances used in both provinces.

**Table 63: Primary and secondary substance of use (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga								Limpopo							
	Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	317	30	132	25	260	34	237	32	98	28	52	22	52	20	44	20
<b>Cannabis</b>	530	50	241	45	320	42	336	46	166	47	101	43	203	77	162	72
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	8	1	24	5	8	1	8	1	4	1	19	8	3	1	2	1*
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	83	8	59	11	59	8	53	7	23	7	24	10	8	3	11	5
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	43	4	49	9	36	5	15	2	12	3	22	9	8	3	6	3
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	376	35	176	33	347	46	333	45	134	38	72	31	115	43	104	46
<b>Inhalants</b>	15	1	7	1	5	<1	12	2	6	2	5	2	12	5	7	3
<b>OTC/ PRE</b>	23	2	13	2	15	2	9	1	2	1	12	5	3	1	2	1*
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	63	6	74	14	52	7	48	7	26	7	32	14	34	13	37	16

\*\*White pipe<sup>^</sup> or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

In Limpopo, the majority of individuals (67%) reported more than one substance of use, while in Mpumalanga, most individuals (56%) reported using only one substance (Table 64).

**Table 64: Polysubstance use (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga				Limpopo			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%			
<b>Primary substance only</b>	63	49	55	56	66	56	49	33
<b>Primary +2<sup>nd</sup> substance</b>	37	51	45	44	34	44	51	67
<b>Total no. of patients</b>	<b>1070</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>759</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>225</b>

During this period, the most common source of payment for treatment of substance use in both provinces was 'family/friends' (37% Mpumalanga and 73% Limpopo), followed by 'self' in Mpumalanga (37%) and 'state' in Limpopo (16%).

**Table 65: Source of payment (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>State</b>	39	24	38	21	20	75	19	37	11	16
<b>Medical aid</b>	10	3	12	2	2	2	2	10	-	-
<b>Family/Friends</b>	30	44	25	42	37	17	44	22	77	73
<b>Employer</b>	3	4	1	2	3	2	4	1	2	2
<b>Self</b>	8	25	10	31	37	3	22	11	8	9
<b>Unknown</b>	7	<1	14	1	1	-	8	18	2	-
<b>Other</b>	3	<1	-	<1	<1	<1	-	-	-	-

## DATA FOR PATIENTS YOUNGER THAN 20 YEARS

The table below shows the demographic profile of individuals younger than 20 years in both provinces (n=177).

**Table 66: Profile of patients younger than 20 years (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%									
<b>GENDER</b>										
Male	90	90	98	87	84	95	95	92	82	94
Female	10	10	2	13	16	5	5	8	18	6
<b>RACE</b>										
Black African	87	90	89	91	92	89	90	99	90	93
Coloured	2	3	1	1	2	10	8	1	6	6*
Indian	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
White	12	7	10	8	7	1	1	-	4	2*

The most common source of referral to specialist treatment centres in Mpumalanga was 'self/family/friends (55%) and 'school' (30%) referrals. The majority of referrals in Limpopo came from 'schools' (50%) and 'self/family/friends' (48%). See Table 67.

**Table 67: Referral sources for patients younger than 20 years (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%									
Self/family/friends	41	57	54	58	55	26	64	66	56	48
Work/employer	1*	6	-	2	2*	1*	6	3	-	-
Health professional (Dr/psychiatrist/nurse)	1*	2	5	2	2*	-	-	-	-	-
Religious body	1*	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospital/clinic	1*	-	4	1	-	-	-	4	-	-
Social services/welfare	5	10	20	7	9	-	4	10	8	2*
Court/correctional services	1*	2	1	1	1*	-	-	4	-	-
School	49	22	13	28	30	73	27	14	36	50
Other, e.g., radio	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*N<5

Cannabis, heroin/opiates, and methamphetamine were the three most common primary substances of use for individuals younger than 20 years in both provinces.

**Table 68: Primary substance of use for patients younger than 20 years (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga					Limpopo				
	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	22	15	11	3	5	7	12	12	2	7*
<b>Cannabis</b>	32	39	50	80	81	52	37	36	60	61
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax*</b>	1	<1	3	1	1*	4	1	4	-	-
<b>Crack/ Cocaine</b>	7	5	5	-	-	3	1	7	2	-
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	21	32	17	15	8	26	35	23	14	9
<b>OTC/ PRE</b>	1	<1	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	2*
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	7	3	1	-	-	1	3	5	2	4*
<b>Inhalants</b>	2	1	2	1	3*	1	4	-	8	7*
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	7	4	7	4	2*	6	6	11	12	9
<b>TOTAL (n)</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>54</b>

\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.

Consistent with previous reporting periods, the proportion of admissions for males younger than 20 years were higher than the proportion for females across both provinces except Mpumalanga where more females (67%) accessed treatment for alcohol use compared to males (33%). See Table 69.

**Table 69: Primary substance of use by Gender for patients younger than 20 years (Northern region)**

	Mpumalanga								Limpopo							
	Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
<b>Alcohol</b>	90	10*	100	0	100*	0	33*	67*	100	0	89	11*	100*	0	100*	-
<b>Cannabis</b>	85	15	98	2*	89	11	87	13	94	6*	92	8*	90	10*	100	-
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	100*	0	100*	0	0	100*	100*	-	100*	0	100*	0	-	-	-	-
<b>Crack/ Cocaine</b>	93	7*	100	0	-	-	-	-	100*	0	80*	20*	100*	0	-	-
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	94	6	100	0	84	16	90	10*	93	7*	88	12*	100	0	100	-
<b>Inhalants</b>	100*	0	100*	0	100*	0	75*	25*	100*	0	-	-	75*	25*	75*	25*
<b>OTC/ PRE</b>	100*	0	100*	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	100*	0	-	-	100*	-
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	100	0	100*	0	-	-	-	-	100*	0	100*	0	0	100*	-	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	100	0	100	0	60*	40*	50*	50*	100	0	100	0	33*	67	100	-

\*N<5; \*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance.



## 2D: TREATMENT CENTRES: EASTERN CAPE

Mr Warren Lucas, Ms Nancy Hornsby & Mr Roger Weimann

Data was collected from four specialist treatment centres. A total of 386 individuals were treated across these treatment centres for the January to June 2021 reporting period. The majority of individuals were treated at SANCA Central Eastern Cape (67%) during this period (Table 70).

**Table 70: Proportion of treatment episodes (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>SANCA CEC</b>	36	41	55	63	70	74	67
<b>Welbedacht</b>	7	9	9	15	14	6	12
<b>Shepherd's Field</b>	7	8	3	2	-	-	-
<b>Hunters Craig</b>	26	20	13	-	-	-	-
<b>NICRO</b>	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Step Away</b>	9	13	13	16	12	11	17
<b>Ernest Malgas</b>	13	6	6	4	4	9	4
<b>Mooiuitzicht</b>	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total no of persons treated</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>386</b>

The proportion of first-time admissions increased during this period from 89% to 91%.

**Table 71: First time admissions (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Yes</b>	80	87	81	91	84	89	91
<b>No</b>	20	13	19	9	16	11	9

In contrast to the previous period, the majority of persons were treated on an outpatient basis (52%).

**Table 72: Type of treatment received (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Inpatient</b>	74	68	61	53	47	55	48
<b>Outpatient</b>	26	32	39	47	53	45	52

Most referrals were from 'self/family/friends' (72%). This was followed by referrals from 'social services (9%), a decrease from 13% in the previous period.

**Table 73: Referral sources (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Self/family/friends	40	49	56	68	62	71	72
Work/employer	8	9	8	14	7	5	7
Doctor/psychiatrist/nurse (health professional)	29	24	17	4	6	5	6
Religious body	-	<1	1	-	1	<1	1
Hospital/clinic	2	2	<1	1	1	2	2
Social services/welfare	16	9	11	8	10	13	9
Court/correctional services/police/lawyer	1	3	<1	-	7	1	1
School	3	4	7	3	1	2	3
Other e.g., radio, Children's home, adverts	-	<1	-	-	2	<1	-

Table 74 below depicts the population profile of service users attending treatment centres in the Eastern Cape in the second half of 2021. The proportion of females accessing treatment decreased marginally from 19% to 16%. Males remained the most prominent gender accessing treatment. Rates for different ethnic groups entering treatment remained largely stable except for a 4% increase in White individuals accessing services (11% to 15%). The proportion of those who were unemployed decreased from 43% to 37% in the latest reporting period.

**Table 74: Population Profile (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	73	78	84	81	86	81	84
Female	27	22	16	19	14	19	16
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>							
Black African	49	54	59	70	64	75	74
Coloured	26	24	21	15	17	12	10
Indian	2	2	1	1	1	2	2
White	24	20	18	14	18	11	15
<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</b>							
Working full-time	36	38	34	34	26	20	25
Working Part-time	3	2	1	2	2	2	4
Unemployed (< 6 months)	11	6	7	7	7	8	8
Unemployed (> 6 months)	19	27	35	23	33	35	29
Student/apprentice/internship	4	5	3	6	4	6	6
School/learner at school	23	18	17	26	27	28	26
Medically boarded/Housewife/Pensioner	4	3	3	2	<1	1	1

In line with the previous reporting period, persons who were younger than 20 years comprised almost a third (27%) of the treatment population, a decrease of 5% from the previous period. The remainder of the age categories remained stable across the last two reporting periods (Table 75).

**Table 75: Age distribution (Eastern Cape)**

Years	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
10-14	42	8	-	-	15	3	20	6	9	4	28	6	11	3
15-19	112	22	30	7	109	22	78	23	41	19	112	26	94	24
20-24	63	12	94	21	69	15	45	13	40	19	85	20	77	20
25-29	66	13	63	14	67	14	46	14	34	16	63	15	56	15
30-34	63	12	60	13	65	14	27	8	21	10	54	12	34	9
35-39	51	10	69	15	39	8	36	11	35	16	44	10	45	12
40-44	40	8	42	9	42	9	27	8	15	7	25	6	21	5
45-49	32	6	25	6	36	8	27	8	6	3	12	3	26	7
50-54	21	4	27	6	13	3	17	5	7	3	15	3	13	3
55-59	15	3	21	5	14	3	8	2	3	1	4	1	5	1
60-64	8	2	12	3	3	<1	4	1	3	1	5	1	3	1
≥65	4	1	7	2	3	<1	1	<1	1	<1	1	<1	1	<1

Just over half of persons admitted to treatment (51%) reported that they had been tested for HIV, with 43% of this proportion having been tested in the past 12 months. Only 1% of individuals admitted to treatment declined to respond. See Table 76.

**Table 76: Prior HIV testing (Eastern Cape)**

Tested for HIV	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, in past 12 months	56	57	52	62	45	43
Yes, but not in past 12 months	-	-	-	-	-	8
No	42	38	47	36	54	48
Decline to answer	2	5	1	2	1	1

**Table 77: Place of residence (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>PROVINCES</b>														
Eastern Cape	512	99	440	98	470	98	329	98	215	100	444	99	381	99
Mpumalanga	-	-	-	-	1	<1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Limpopo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North West	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cape	1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Cape	2	<1	7	2	-	-	1	<1	-	-	1	<1	2	1
Free State	1	<1	1	<1	1	<1	1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-
KwaZulu-Natal	-	-	-	-	1	<1	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	<1
Gauteng	1	<1	2	<1	2	<1	1	<1	-	-	-	-	2	1
<b>OTHER COUNTRIES</b>														
Total number on whom information was available	517	100	450	100	475	100	336	100	215	100	448	100	386	100

The most common primary substance of use in the current reporting period was methamphetamine (36%), alcohol (27%) and cannabis (22%), however, cannabis use decreased from 26% to 22% while alcohol use increased from 21% to 27%. Other substances remained stable.

**Table 78: Primary substance of use (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Alcohol	35	34	26	38	21	21	27
Cannabis	21	22	23	22	30	26	22
Cannabis/Mandrax**	7	6	3	4	1	5	5
Crack/Cocaine	3	3	3	2	3	5	4
OTC/PRE	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Heroin/Opiates <sup>~</sup>	2	2	18	1	18	2	2
Inhalants	1	1	-	1	1	1	-
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	24	26	21	26	17	37	36
Methcathinone ('CAT')	1	<1	1	-	4	1	1*

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>~</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Smoking remained the most common mode of substance use (64%).

**Table 79: Mode of use for primary substance (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Swallowed	205	40	173	38	141	30	142	42	57	27	105	23	115	30
Smoked	283	55	256	57	305	64	183	54	151	56	319	71	248	64
Snorted/Sniffed	24	4	19	4	16	3	10	3	18	8	21	5	20	5
Injected	5	1	2	<1	13	3	1	<1	19	9	3	1	3	1

Most persons attending substance use treatment centres used their primary substance of use on a daily basis (51%).

**Table 80: Frequency of use for primary substance (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Daily</b>	63	64	66	56	76	54	51
<b>2-6 days per week</b>	31	28	27	29	18	35	38
<b>Once a week or less</b>	4	5	6	10	6	6	7
<b>Not used in past month</b>	3	4	1	5	-	4	4

The overall mean age of the individuals in treatment was 28 years. The youngest mean age was for cannabis (21 years).

**Table 81: Mean age by Primary Substance (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	Age in years						
<b>Alcohol</b>	41	40	38	31	37	39	41
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	28	25	32	28	26	30	30
<b>Cannabis</b>	18	20	25	26	27	19	21
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	29	31	33	29	27	30	28
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	43	41	39	30	34	35	33
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	30	29	25	27	28	30	29
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	23	24	26	28	27	25	23
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	33	43*	27*	27	20	34*	25*

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Males continue to have more access to treatment compared to females. With regards to primary substances of use, there was a marked increase in females reporting heroin as their substance of use at time of admission from 12% in 2020b to 22% in 2021a. See Table 82.

**Table 82: Primary substance of use by Gender (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	67	33	70	30	75	25	84	16	76	24	72	28	78	22
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	83	17	96	4	93	7*	71	29*	100*	0	100	0	100	0
<b>Cannabis</b>	88	12	81	19	95	5	73	27	86	14	81	19	94	6
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	87	13*	93	7	88	12*	100	0	71	29*	81	19*	94	6*
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	8*	92	11*	89	22*	78	73	27*	100	0	33*	67	30*	70
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	60	40*	100	0	93	7	60*	40*	87	15	88	12*	78	22*

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Inhalants</b>	85	14*	100	0	-	-	100*	0	100*	0	100*	0	-	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	76	24	86	14	85	15	83	17	89	11*	86	14	84	16
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	100*	0	100*	0	100*	0	-	-	100	0	100*	0	33*	66*

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

The most common secondary substance of use was cannabis (29%), followed by methamphetamine (21%). Cannabis/mandrax as secondary substance of use decreased from 25% in the previous period to 19% in the current reporting period (Table 83).

**Table 83: Secondary substance of use (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	56	23	67	31	20	10	35	22	9	9	51	18	44	18
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	36	15	32	15	31	15	23	14	9	9	72	25	47	19
<b>Cannabis</b>	61	25	49	22	107	51	62	39	38	37	84	29	71	29
<b>Crack/ Cocaine</b>	13	5	9	4	6	3	7	4	15	15	21	7	18	7
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	11	4	5	2	16	8	6	4	5	5	4	1	4	2*
<b>Heroin/Opiates^</b>	2	1	2	1	8	4	2	1	2	2	2	<1	-	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	56	23	43	20	12	6	22	14	17	17	49	17	52	21
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	4	2	3	1	6	3	2	1	6	6	3	1	3	1*
<b>Other</b>	7	3	6	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	<1	4	2*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>100</b>

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Consistent with previous review periods, methamphetamine (50%), cannabis (40%), and alcohol (38%), were the most common primary and secondary substances of use in the Eastern Cape region. A decrease was noted for admissions for cannabis/mandrax (from 21% to 17%) while an increase was noted for alcohol (from 35% to 38%) as primary and secondary substances of use (Table 84).

**Table 84: Primary and secondary substance of use (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	237	46	220	49	145	31	160	48	55	26	157	35	147	38
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax*</b>	72	14	59	6	46	10	37	11	12	6	95	21	67	17
<b>Cannabis</b>	169	33	147	33	216	45	137	41	102	47	202	45	156	40
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	28	5	24	5	22	5	15	4	22	10	42	9	34	9
<b>Heroin/Opiates**</b>	16	3	13	3	95	20	7	2	41	19	10	2	9	2
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	35	7	24	5	34	7	21	6	9	4	13	3	14	4
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	8	2	4	1	10	2	2	1	14	7	6	1	6	2
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	182	35	159	35	111	23	110	33	53	25	216	48	192	50
<b>Other</b>	16	3	18	4	4	1	7	2	6	3	4	1	5	1

\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

The majority of individuals (63%) reported using more than one substance.

**Table 85: Polysubstance use (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Primary substance only</b>	271	52	235	52	267	56	176	52	112	52	116	36	142	37
<b>Primary +2<sup>nd</sup> substance</b>	246	48	223	48	208	44	160	48	103	48	287	64	244	63
<b>Total no. of patients</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>100</b>

'Medical aid' and 'family/friends' (35% respectively) were the most common sources of payment in the Eastern Cape region.

**Table 86: Source of payment (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Self</b>	5	6	5	10	9	8	5
<b>Medical Aid</b>	46	45	38	36	28	24	35
<b>Family/friends</b>	18	22	18	35	11	30	35
<b>Employer</b>	3	3	2	3	1	2	2
<b>State</b>	26	22	36	13	47	25	13
<b>Unknown</b>	2	2	1	4	7	11	10
<b>Other</b>	-	-	1	<1	-	-	<1

## DATA ON PATIENTS YOUNGER THAN 20 YEARS

The majority of individuals younger than 20 years were male (86%), a slight increase compared to last period. When comparing the current period to the previous reporting period, there was a marginal increase (from 81% to 86%) in Black African individuals aged 20 years and younger accessing specialised treatment. A 4% increase was noted for young White individuals admitted to treatment centres (Table 87).

**Table 87: Gender and race profile of patients younger than 20 years (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>GENDER</b>							
<b>Male</b>	81	81	93	85	90	81	86
<b>Female</b>	19	19	7	14	10	19	14
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>							
<b>Black African</b>	71	69	76	86	78	86	83
<b>Coloured</b>	26	25	21	12	16	13	11
<b>Indian</b>	-	-	-	0	4	-	1*
<b>White</b>	3	6	13	2	2	1	5

A higher proportion of service users aged <20 years were referred to treatment centres by 'self/family/friends'(65%); this proportion increased compared to the previous period. This was followed by referrals from 'social services/welfare' (24%), reflecting an 8% decrease when compared to the 2020b reporting period (Table 88).

**Table 88: Referral sources for patients younger than 20 years (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Self/Family/Friends</b>	34	46	40	67	50	61	65
<b>Work/Employer</b>	1	1	2	-	2	-	-
<b>Health professional</b>	6	15	6	1	2	-	-
<b>Religious body</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Hospital/Clinic</b>	1	2	-	1	-	1	1*
<b>Social Services/Welfare</b>	45	22	27	21	30	32	24
<b>Court/Correctional services</b>	1	1	1	-	2	-	-
<b>School</b>	11	14	31	9	4	6	11
<b>Other</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cannabis (51%) and methamphetamine (43%) were the most commonly used substance by individuals in treatment who were younger than 20 years of age. A notable decrease in cannabis use was seen for this period (from 59% to 51%). See Table 89.



**Table 89: Primary substance of use of patients younger than 20 years (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Alcohol	6	4	5	4	10	8	67	68	6	12	2	1	1	1*
Cannabis	83	54	65	52	41	33	24	24	22	44	83	59	53	51
Cannabis/Mandrax**	4	3	4	3	3	2	-	-	1	2	1	1	1	1*
Crack/Cocaine	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	4	-	-	2	2*
Heroin/Opiates <sup>^</sup>	-	-	-	-	43	35	-	-	8	16	1	1	1	1*
OTC/PRE	-	-	1	1	1	1	3	3	-	-	-	-	1	1*
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	54	34	42	34	25	20	3	3	7	14	50	36	45	43
Methcathinone ('CAT')	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	4	8	-	-	1	1*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>100</b>

\*N<5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Smoking remained the most common mode of use.

**Table 90: Mode of use for primary substance for individuals younger than 20 years (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Swallowed	6	4	7	6	11	9	70	71	6	12	2	1	2	2
Smoked	140	91	111	90	105	85	27	28	35	70	133	95	99	94
Snorted/Sniffed	8	5	6	4	1	1	1	1	6	12	5	4	4	4
Injected	-	-	-	-	7	6	-	-	3	6	-	-	-	-

Most young people in treatment were male. An increase of 8% was noted for females in treatment for methamphetamine use.

**Table 91: Primary substance of use by Gender for individuals younger than 20 years (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Alcohol	33*	67*	60*	40*	80	20*	88	12	83*	17*	100*	0	100*	0
Cannabis	88	12	80	20	100	0	75	25	91	9*	77	23	94	6*
Cannabis/Mandrax**	100*	0	100*	0	100*	0	-	-	100*	0	100*	0	100*	0
Crack/Cocaine	100*	0	-	-	-	-	100*	0	100*	0	-	-	100*	0
OTC/PRE	-	-	0	100*	100*	0	100*	0	-	-	-	-	0	100*
Heroin/Opiates <sup>^</sup>	-	-	-	-	91	9	-	-	89	11*	100*	0	100*	0
Inhalants	100	0	100	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	100*	0	-	-
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	71	29	81	19	88	12*	100*	0	84	14*	84	16	76	24
Methcathinone ('CAT')	-	-	-	-	100*	0	-	-	100*	0	-	-	100*	0

\*N<5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Cannabis was the most commonly used substance among White (80%) and Coloured (67%) individuals, while methamphetamine was the most common substance of use among Black African individuals (49%) admitted to treatment. Methamphetamine was also the only substance for which young individuals of Indian descent entered treatment facilities. See Table 92.

**Table 92: Primary of use by Race for individuals younger than 20 years (Eastern Cape)**

	BLACK AFRICAN			COLOURED			INDIAN			WHITE		
	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%			%			%			%		
Alcohol	13	2	0	13*	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	20*
Cannabis	41	55	47	50*	89	67	0	-	0	0	100*	80*
Cannabis/Mx**	0	1*	1*	13*	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0
Crack/Cocaine	5*	-	2*	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0
Heroin/Opiates <sup>^</sup>	15	0	0	25*	2*	8*	0	-	0	0	25*	0
Inhalants	-	2*	-	-	6*	-	-	-	-	-	0	-
OTC/PRE	-	-	0	-	-	8*	-	-	0	-	-	0
Methcathinone ('CAT')	8*	-	0	0	-	8*	0	-	0	0	-	0
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	18	41	49	0	0	8*	0	-	100*	0	0	0

\*N<5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin

Cannabis was the most common secondary substance of use among service users aged <20 years (42%), increasing from 36% in the previous period.

**Table 93: Secondary substance of use for individuals younger than 20 years (Eastern Cape)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	N	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Alcohol	22	14	23	19	3	2	7	7	2	4	20	21	14	17
Cannabis	30	7	23	19	36	29	15	15	6	12	34	36	35	42
Cannabis/Mandrax*	13	8	8	6	3	2	1	1	1	2	13	14	6	7
Crack/Cocaine	3	2	-	-	3	2	3	3	8	16	4	4	2	2
Heroin/Opiates**	-	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inhalants	2	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1
OTC/PRE	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	-
Methcathinone ('CAT')	1	1	1	1	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	353	23	21	17	4	3	6	6	6	12	22	23	19	23
Other	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	4	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100</b>

\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\* Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin

## 2E: TREATMENT CENTRES: KWAZULU-NATAL

Ms Nancy Hornsby & Mr Warren Lucas

Data was collected from 9 specialist treatment centres. A total of 723 individuals were treated across these treatment centres for the January to June 2021 reporting period, a decrease compared to the previous period (N = 763). The majority of individuals were treated at Serenity Addictions (25%).

**Table 94: Proportion of Treatment Episodes (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
AKESO Umhlanga	4	3	-	-	-	-	-
ARCA	3	7	4	-	4	-	-
Ant-Drug Forum	1	1	15	9	15	-	-
Carelina Crisis & Trauma Centre	2	-	2	2	2	2	2
Harmony Retreat	2	2	1	3	1	3	-
Madadeni Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newlands Park Centre	17	15	16	14	16	6	8
Riverview Manor	-	-	3	6	3	5	4
SANCA Durban (In/Out)	25	22	23	26	23	18	14
SANCA Newcastle	6	3	2	5	2	-	6
SANCA Nongoma	-	2	1	1	1	2	2
SANCA Pietermaritzburg	19	24	19	13	19	24	18
SANCA Zululand	20	20	14	19	14	22	21
Serenity Addictions	-	-	-	-	-	17	25
South Coast Recovery	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Siyakhula Centre	1	2	1	1	1	-	-
Total persons treated over all centres	1256	993	1291	980	1291	726	723

A higher proportion of service users were first time admissions (81%). While the overall percentage of first-time admissions remained high, closer inspection of these rates showed variations in the number of individuals who had repeat admission episodes between the various treatment centres (Table 95).

**Table 95: First-Time Admissions (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	85	85	86	79	82	76	82	81
No	15	15	14	21	18	24	18	19

Most persons admitted to specialist centres were treated on an inpatient basis (53%), increasing from 8% in the previous reporting period.

**Table 96: Type of treatment received (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Inpatient</b>	36	35	32	39	36	45	53
<b>Outpatient</b>	64	65	68	61	64	55	47

A well-established trend was sustained with most referrals being made through a combination of 'self/family/friends' (61%), followed by referrals from 'employer' (11%). Referrals from 'health professionals' decreased slightly from 9% to 6%. See Table 97.

**Table 97: Referral Sources (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%						
<b>Self/Family/Friends</b>	44	48	42	46	59	57	61
<b>Social Service/ Welfare</b>	19	16	15	18	13	10	9
<b>Employer/Work</b>	10	12	8	5	4	13	11
<b>Court/Correctional Services</b>	3	2	1	4	1	4	2
<b>Health Professionals</b>	5	8	3	6	3	9	6
<b>Hospital/Clinic</b>	3	2	3	2	-	5	4
<b>School</b>	14	11	27	18	17	4	4
<b>Religious Group</b>	<1	<1	1	1	<1	-	1
<b>Other</b>	<1	-	1	<1	1	1	2

Employment status of individuals accessing treatment in KZN remained largely stable from 2020b to 2021a. In the latest round of data collection, the majority of individuals had a secondary education (79%), increasing from 73% in the previous period (Table 98).

**Table 98: Population Profile of individuals (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>GENDER</b>							
<b>Male</b>	87	86	85	85	85	85	87
<b>Female</b>	13	14	15	15	15	15	13
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>							
<b>Black African</b>	67	69	68	68	70	71	67
<b>Coloured</b>	6	6	5	7	6	5	6
<b>Indian</b>	17	17	20	14	15	15	19
<b>White</b>	10	7	7	11	10	9	8
<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</b>							
<b>Employed (full-time)</b>	26	30	18	19	17	37	36
<b>Employed (part-time)</b>	8	5	6	4	3	2	4
<b>Unemployed (&lt; 6 months)</b>	11	12	10	11	7	8	10
<b>Unemployed (&gt; 6 months)</b>	24	24	33	37	36	31	32
<b>Student/apprentice/Internship</b>	3	3	2	2	2	5	4
<b>Pupil/learner at school</b>	25	24	31	26	33	14	12

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Medically unfit/Housewife/Pensioner	1	1	1	1	<1	2	2
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b>							
Primary	4	4	6	4	4	3	2
Secondary	72	69	73	73	80	73	79
Tertiary	18	20	14	19	15	22	17
None	1	1	1	4	1	2	<1

Thirteen percent (13%) of the population in treatment were younger than 20 years, decreasing slightly from 15% in 2020b. Over half of the population in treatment (52%) were between 10 and 29 years of age. See Table 99.

**Table 99: Age Distribution of the Treatment Population (KZN)**

AGE Years	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
10-19	25	27	38	30	38	15	13
20-24	19	17	15	13	15	19	20
25-29	18	18	15	17	15	21	19
30-34	14	17	11	16	11	18	16
35-39	8	10	8	12	8	11	15
40-44	5	5	4	5	4	8	8
45-49	4	3	4	4	4	4	5
50-54	3	3	2	1	2	3	2
55+	3	2	2	3	2	3	3

Forty-eight percent (48%) of persons reported that they had been tested for HIV in the last 12 months.

**Table 100: Prior HIV testing (KZN)**

Tested for HIV	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, in past 12 months	56	55	58	50	68	48
Yes, but not in past 12 months	-	-	-	-	-	16
No	39	30	28	35	30	32
Decline to answer	5	15	14	15	2	4

**Table 101: Place of residence (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>PROVINCES</b>														
KwaZulu-Natal	1232	98	982	99	1268	98	935	95	550	97	688	95	703	97
Mpumalanga	1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	<1
Limpopo	1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	<1	-	-	-	-
North West	-	-	-	-	1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Northern Cape</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Western Cape</b>	-	-	1	<1	3	<1	7	1	1	<1	19	3	2	<1
<b>Free State</b>	1	<1	-	-	1	<1	2	<1	1	<1	-	-	-	-
<b>Eastern Cape</b>	7	1	7	1	12	1	16	2	4	1	12	2	10	1
<b>Gauteng</b>	12	1	3	<1	5	<1	20	2	7	1	7	1	7	1
<b>OTHER COUNTRIES</b>	2	<1	-	-	1	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total number on whom information was available</b>	<b>1256</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1291</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>100</b>

Alcohol (33%), cannabis (23%), heroin/opiates (23%) and crack/cocaine (13%) were the most commonly used primary substances among people in treatment during this period. These rates were comparable to the previous period. A 3% decrease was noted in the proportion of individuals reporting cannabis as their primary substance of use, while a 3% increase was noted for heroin (Table 102).

**Table 102: Primary substance of use (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%						
<b>Alcohol</b>	29	29	13	14	14	34	33
<b>Cannabis</b>	29	29	40	34	35	26	23
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax*</b>	3	2	2	2	2	2	2
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	7	8	4	5	6	14	13
<b>OTC/ PRE</b>	2	2	3	3	3	4	3
<b>Heroin/Opiates ('Sugars')**</b>	28	26	31	27	25	20	23
<b>Inhalants</b>	<1	<1	<1	<1	1	<1	-
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	1	<1	3	3	4	<1	1
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	1	1	4	9	9	1	2

\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Thirty-four percent (34%) of individuals reported swallowing as a mode of substance use. Two percent (2%) of persons reported that they injected substances (all substance variants). The proportion of individuals who specifically injected heroin remained stable from the previous period. Refer to Table 103.

**Table 103: Mode of use Primary substance of use (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Swallowed	32	33	17	18	19	37	34
Smoked	61	60	75	71	66	51	53
Injected	6	7	6	7	7	1	2
Snorted	1	1	2	3	8	10	10
Injected Heroin	9	4	7	14	27	8	7

Most individuals attending substance use treatment centres used their primary substance daily (45%), a notable decrease from 67% in the previous period.

**Table 104: Frequency of use for primary substance (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Daily	68	67	72	64	71	67	45
2-6 days per week	16	18	16	21	19	21	22
Once a week or less	10	11	9	9	7	8	25
Not used in past month	6	4	3	5	4	3	8

The mean age of persons in treatment was 31 years, remaining stable from the last period. The average age for individuals reporting CAT as a substance of use decreased from 36 years to 27 years. See Table 105.

**Table 105: Mean Age by Primary Substance of Use (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	Years						
Alcohol	34	27	26	33	32	31	38
Cannabis	20	26	26	25	26	30	23
Cannabis/Mandrax**	31	30	26	26	26	33	29
Crack/Cocaine	30	32	25	30	31	30	34
OTC/PRE	32	24	28	37	30	33	27
Heroin/Opiates ('Sugars')	27	28	26	27	29	30	27
Inhalants	24	25	27	15*	22	40*	-
Methcathinone ('CAT')	31	30	24	29	26	36	27
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	30	28	28	25	25	24	28
Overall mean age	28	28	26	28	28	30	31

\*N<5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

There was a notable increase in the proportion of females who were treated for OTC/PRE medicine use from 15% to 21%. Moreover, no cannabis/mandrax use was reported for females for 2021a, compared to 17% in 2020b (Table 106).

**Table 106: Primary Substance of Use by Gender (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Alcohol	87	13	82	18	85	15	82	18	83	17	85	15	79	21
Cannabis	87	13	89	11	84	16	88	12	85	15	84	16	92	8
Cannabis/Mandrax**	84	16*	88	12*	96	4*	91	9*	83	17*	83	17*	100	0
Crack/Cocaine	87	13	89	11	96	4*	75	25	94	6*	86	14	91	9
Ecstasy	100*	0	100*	0	50*	50*	67*	33*	100*	0	100*	0	100	0
OTC/PRE	73	27	67	33	86	14	41	59	71	29	85	15*	78	22*
Heroin/Opiates ('Sugars')~	93	7	87	13	83	17	85	15	87	13	85	15	92	8
Inhalants	75*	25*	100*	0	100	0	0	100*	100	0	100*	0	-	-
Methcathinone ('CAT')	86	14*	100*	0	91	9*	97	3*	83	17*	67*	33*	67	33*
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	83	17*	100	0	80	20	90	9	87	13	100	0	80	20*

\*N<5; \*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

~Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

The substances most used as a secondary drug were cannabis (31%), crack/cocaine (24%), and alcohol (18%).

**Table 107: Secondary substance of use (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%						
Alcohol	23	13	22	18	15	12	18
Cannabis	37	18	26	28	30	15	31
Cannabis/Mandrax*	6	3	9	7	7	3	7
Crack/Cocaine	17	8	17	18	17	13	24
Heroin ('Sugars')**	2	1	9	8	4	3	4
Ecstasy	3	1	1	<1	<1	1	1
OTC/PRE	5	4	4	7	6	5	9
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	3	1	6	7	8	1	3
Inhalants	1	<1	<1	<1	1	<1	-
Methcathinone ('CAT')	1	1	5	4	9	1	2
Other	4	2	1	1	2	<1	-

\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Consistent with previous review periods, alcohol (43%) cannabis (40%), and heroin/opiates and crack/cocaine (26% respectively) remained the most common primary and secondary substances of use in this region. See Table 108.

**Table 108: Primary and secondary substance of use (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Alcohol	520	41	417	42	273	21	186	19	117	21	339	47	307	43
Cannabis/Mandrax*	70	6	58	6	70	5	50	5	30	5	31	4	39	5
Cannabis	606	48	469	47	641	50	449	46	272	48	301	41	288	40
Crack/Cocaine	197	16	151	15	133	10	123	13	76	13	195	27	190	26



	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	380	30	279	28	438	34	292	30	154	27	162	22	189	26
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	57	5	63	6	57	4	58	6	31	5	63	9	53	7
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	15	1	10	1	68	5	48	5	45	8	7	1	17	2
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	29	2	16	2	78	6	119	12	68	12	12	2	28	4
<b>Other</b>	52	4	37	4	32	2	16	2	20	4	11	2	8	1

<sup>^</sup>'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Just over half of individuals (54%) reported using more than one substance.

**Table 109: Polysubstance use (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Primary substance only</b>	586	47	482	49	792	61	588	60	317	56	329	45	329	46
<b>Secondary substance of use</b>	670	53	511	51	499	39	392	40	248	44	397	55	394	54
<b>Total no. of service users</b>	<b>1256</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1291</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>100</b>

The table below shows that 'medical aid' (34%) was the most common source of payment, followed by the 'family/friends (27%) and 'state' (14%) during this period.

**Table 110: Sources of Payment (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Family/friends</b>	530	42	417	42	582	45	338	34	176	31	263	36	197	27
<b>Self</b>	152	12	146	15	168	13	95	10	39	7	97	13	69	10
<b>Medical Aid</b>	186	15	139	14	78	6	84	9	66	12	218	30	247	34
<b>State</b>	246	20	163	16	318	25	312	32	228	40	54	7	102	14
<b>Employer</b>	51	4	54	5	17	1	17	2	9	2	27	4	19	3
<b>Other/Unknown</b>	91	7	74	7	128	10	134	14	47	8	67	9	89	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>1256</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1291</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>100</b>

## DATA FOR PATIENTS YOUNGER THAN 20 YEARS

Most persons younger than 20 years were male (86%), remaining stable since the last period. Black African individuals constituted 80% of the <20 years population.

**Table 111: Gender and race profile of individuals <20 years (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	85	86	81	81	85	86	86
Female	15	14	19	19	15	14	14
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>							
Black/African	81	84	79	82	85	84	80
Coloured	6	5	6	7	4	7	10
Indian	8	10	15	9	10	8	4*
White	5	1	1	2	1	-	5

\*N<5

Similar to the previous reporting period, a higher proportion of individuals <20 years were referred to treatment centres by 'self/family/friends' (51%). This was followed by referrals from 'school' (27%) and 'social services/welfare' (8%) (Table 112).

**Table 112: Referral sources for individuals younger than 20 years (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Self/Family/Friends	32	41	22	39	37	58	51
Work/Employer	<1	19	<1	2	-	<1	-
Health professional	1	4	11	2	2	4	7
Religious body	-	<1	-	<1	-	-	-
Hospital/Clinic	1	2	1	<1	1	5	3
Social Services/Welfare	16	17	7	11	15	9	8
Court/Correctional services	1	1	-	2	3	-	2
School	50	14	67	42	42	22	27
Other	<1	-	-	<1	1	2	2

The most common primary substance of use for persons younger than 20 years during this period was cannabis (64%) which increased by 40% from the last period. Heroin/opiates decreased markedly from 23% in the previous period to 12% in the current period. Refer to Table 113.

**Table 113: Primary substance of use of individuals <20 years (KZN)**

	Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Alcohol	120	46	68	14	17	6	13	8	34	31	7	8
Cannabis	89	34	198	40	150	51	83	53	26	24	59	64
Cannabis/Mandrax*	4	2	7	1	8	3	3	2	-	-	-	-
Crack/Cocaine	8	3	21	4	11	4	3	2	20	18	5	5
OTC/PRE	10	4	12	2	5	2	4	3	4	4	7	8
Heroin/Opiates ('Sugars')**	27	10	149	30	58	20	31	20	25	23	11	12
Inhalants/Solvents	1	<1	3	<1	1	<1	3	2	-	-	-	-
Methcathinone ('CAT')	1	<1	20	4	8	3	5	3	-	-	1	1
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	2	<1	11	2	36	12	13	8	-	-	2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>100</b>

\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Smoking remained the most popular route of administration (84%), increasing by 37% from the preceding period.

**Table 114: Mode of usage of primary substance of use for individuals younger than 20 years (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018	Jul-Dec 2018	Jan-Jun 2019	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Swallowed	16	50	17	8	11	34	13
Snorted	1	3	7	5	7	17	3
Injected	1	-	2	3	5	2	-
Smoked	82	47	74	84	77	47	84

This period saw a marked increase in the number of young females accessing treatment services for alcohol use (from 12% to 43%) while a decrease was noted for heroin/opiates (20% to 9%) (Table 115).

**Table 115: Primary substance of use by Gender for individuals younger than 20 years (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Alcohol	88	12	81	19	87	13	94	6*	92	8*	88	12*	57*	43*
Cannabis	84	16	89	11	81	19	86	14	86	14	92	8*	90	10
Cannabis/Mx**	100*	0	73*	25*	100	0	87	13*	67*	33*	-	-	-	-
Crack/Cocaine	87	13*	100	0	90	10*	55	45	67*	33*	85	15*	80*	20*
Heroin/Opiates <sup>^</sup>	80	20	93	7	77	23	66	34	84	16	80	20	91	9*
Inhalants	100*	0	100*	0	100*	0	0	100*	100*	0	-	-	-	-
OTC/PRE	83*	17	80	20*	75	25*	40*	60*	100*	0	75*	25*	71	29*
Methcathinone ('CAT')	-	-	100*	0	85	15*	100	0	80*	20*	-	-	100*	0
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	50*	50*	100*	0	55	45*	94	6*	85	15*	-	-	100*	0

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Cannabis (35%), OTC/PRE medicines (26%) and alcohol (21%) were the most common secondary substances of use. Admissions for OTC/PRE medicine use among young individuals increased by 17% from the previous period.

**Table 116: Secondary substance of use for individuals younger than 20 years (KZN)**

	Jan-Jun 2018		Jul-Dec 2018		Jan-Jun 2019		Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Alcohol</b>	64	20	15	6	47	10	29	10	9	6	22	31	9	21
<b>Cannabis</b>	31	10	15	6	32	7	53	18	18	11	18	26	15	35
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax*</b>	5	2	5	2	8	2	14	5	5	3	7	10	3	7
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	8	3	10	4	34	7	15	5	10	6	10	14	3	7
<b>Heroin/Opiates**</b>	6	2	1	<1	19	4	13	4	1	1	2	3	-	-
<b>Inhalants</b>	2	1	1	<1	1	<1	1	<1	-	-	1	1	-	-
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	18	6	30	11	4	1	11	4	10	6	6	9	11	26
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	-	-	-	-	7	1	11	4	6	4	1	1	1	2
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	4	1	-	-	5	1	11	4	6	4	2	3	1	2
<b>Other</b>	3	1	3	1	4	1	1	<1	1	1	1	1	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>100</b>

\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

\*\*Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

## 2F: TREATMENT CENTRES: CENTRAL REGION

Mr Warren Lucas & Ms Nancy Hornsby

Data representing 212 service users were collected from four treatment centres during the period January-June 2021 compared to 247 in the previous six-month period. No data was received from the Northern Cape during this period.

**Table 117: Proportion of treatment episodes (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>SANCA Aurora</b>	91	84	89	83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>SANCA Goldfields</b>	9	5	8	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>SANCA Sasolburg</b>	-	11	3	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Resilia Clinic</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>SANCA Kimberley</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>SANCA Upington</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>SANCA Tsantsabane</b>	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>SANPARK Klerksdorp</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	100	100
<b>Total in treatment (N)</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>21</b>

In Table 118 'Yes' indicates a first-time admission and 'No' indicates a repeat admission. First time admissions remained high, comprising most of the admissions across both provinces.

**Table 118: First time admissions (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>Yes</b>	75	84	80	78	100	-	-	-	-	89	83	76
<b>No</b>	25	16	20	22	0	-	-	-	-	11	17	24

The majority of individuals were treated on an inpatient basis in the Free State (82%) and the North West (100%), remaining comparable to the previous period.

**Table 119: Type of treatment received**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>Inpatient</b>	91	35	89	82	16	-	-	-	-	30	100	100
<b>Outpatient</b>	8	65	11	18	84	-	-	-	-	70	0	0

The most common source of referral to specialist treatment centres in the Free State was 'self/family/friends' (57%), followed by 'work/employer' (17%), and 'social services/welfare' (13%). In the North West, 'self/family/friends' (62%) was the most common source of referral followed by 'religious body' (19%), and 'work/employer' (14%) (Table 120).

**Table 120: Referral sources (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
Self/Family/friends	38	59	46	57	84	-	-	-	-	59	44	62
Work/employer	16	6	17	17	16	-	-	-	-	4	28	14
Health professional	5	3	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	6*	5*
Religious body	1	1	<1*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19*
Hospital/clinic	1	1	<1*	1*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social services/welfare	15	20	23	13	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-
Court/correctional	6	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
School	4	6	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	3*	-
Other e.g., radio	-	1	<1*	1*	-	-	-	-	-	1	19	-

\*N < 5

Admissions for male individuals dominated both the Free State (83%) and the North West (81%) provinces. There was a marginal increase in the proportion of individuals who were 'employed' in both provinces. The Free State saw a 7% decrease while the North West saw a 10% increase in the proportion of individuals who have been unemployed for more than 6 months. An increase (15% to 17%) was reported for admissions for learners currently in school in the Free State and a decrease (17% to 5%) for admissions for learners in the North West. See Table 121.

**Table 121: Population profile (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>GENDER</b>												
Male	87	88	86	83	100	-	-	-	-	81	83	81
Female	13	12	14	17	0	-	-	-	-	19	17	19
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>												
Black African	59	71	65	65	47	-	-	-	-	74	72	67
Coloured	18	16	18	14	47	-	-	-	-	4	6*	5*
Indian	-	1	<1*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White	23	12	17	22	6	-	-	-	-	22	22	29
<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</b>												
Working full-time	41	14	29	33	1*	-	-	-	-	22	36	38
Working part-time	4	3	2	2*	21*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unemployed (< 6 months)	1	9	2*	3	5*	-	-	-	-	7	-	5*
Unemployed (> 6 months)	31	46	48	41	16*	-	-	-	-	33	42	52
Student/Apprentice/internship	2	4	3	3	5*	-	-	-	-	-	3*	-
School/learner at school	19	23	15	17	47	-	-	-	-	33	17	5*
Medically unfit/Housewife/Pensioner	3	1	<1*	2*	-	-	-	-	-	-	3*	-

\*N < 5

The average age of persons seen by treatment centres was 29 years in the Free State and 30 years in the North West, equivalent to the preceding reporting period. The proportion of individuals younger than 20 years of age increased notably in the North West from 36% in 2020b to 43% in 2021a.

**Table 122: Age distribution (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
10-14	2*	4	<1*	1*	11*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19	23	28	22	22	42	-	-	-	-	19	22	14*
20-24	13	11	17	17	21	-	-	-	-	22	14	29
25-29	13	20	18	21	5*	-	-	-	-	-	25	5*
30-34	16	13	18	12	11*	-	-	-	-	4*	11	24
35-39	16	14	10	12	10*	-	-	-	-	11*	14	14*
40-44	6	4	7	4	-	-	-	-	-	26	6	5*
45-49	6	4	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50-54	2	1*	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	15*	-	10*
55+	7	2*	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	4*	3*	-

\*N<5

Forty-eight percent (48%) of persons admitted in the Free State reported that they had been tested for HIV in the past 12 months, decreasing by 13% from the previous period.

**Table 123: Prior HIV testing (Central region)**

HIV testing	January – June 2019			July – December 2020			Jan-Jun 2021		
	Free State	Northern Cape	North West	Free State	Northern Cape	North West	Free State	Northern Cape	North West
	%			%			%		
Yes, in past 12 months	57	-	41	61	-	55	48	-	38
Yes, but not in past 12 months	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	29
No	31	-	44	37	-	42	37	-	29
Decline	12	-	15	2	-	3	6	-	5

A decrease in admissions for heroin/opiate use (12% to 7%), while an increase for MA (17% to 26%) was noted for the Free State. The North West saw a 22% increase in MA admissions while a 21% increase was seen for alcohol admissions. Conversely, admissions for cannabis use decreased by 22%.

**Table 124: Primary substance of use (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>Alcohol</b>	41	16	25	28	21*	-	-	-	-	19	22	43
<b>Cannabis</b>	36	27	27	25	37	-	-	-	-	52	36	14*
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	1*	4*	7	4	16*	-	-	-	-	4*	-	-
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	3*	6	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	4*	6*	-
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>†</sup></b>	5	29	12	7	5*	-	-	-	-	11*	14	10*
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	11	9	17	26	21*	-	-	-	-	7*	11*	33
<b>Inhalants</b>	-	-	<1*	1*	-	-	-	-	-	-	3*	-
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	2*	9	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	4*	8*	-
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	2*	1	2*	2*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*N<5; \*\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>†</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

While smoking remained the most popular mode of administration of substances (62% in the Free State and 43% in the North West) compared to other modes of use, the North West saw decrease from 63% in the previous reporting period to 43% in the current period. When alcohol was excluded from the analysis, smoking remained the most common mode of use with 86% in the Free State, and 75% in the North West. Five individuals (38%) in the Free State reported injecting heroin (Table 125).

**Table 125: Mode of usage of primary drug (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>Swallowed</b>	43(4)	19(4)	27(3)	31(3)	21(-)*	-	-	-	-(-)	19(0)	22(-)	43(-)
<b>Snorted</b>	5(9)	11(13)	3(4)	5(7)	-(-)	-	-	-	-(-)	4(5)	14(18)	14(25)
<b>Injected</b>	1(*2)	9(10)	4(5)	3(4)	5(7)**	-	-	-	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)
<b>Smoked</b>	51(85)	61(73)	65(87)	62(86)	74(93)	-	-	-	-(-)	77(95)	63(82)	43(75)
<b>Injected Heroin</b>	25*	30	40	38	100**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*n<5; \*\*n=1

Figures in brackets exclude alcohol

Tables 126 to 128 show the frequency of use of primary substances for each province. Across all provinces, most substances were used on a daily basis.



**Table 126: Frequency of use by primary substance for the Free State**

	Frequency of use in the past month															
	Daily				2-6 days per week				Once per week or less often				Not used in the past month			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%				%			
<b>Alcohol</b>	51	70	75	67	46	21	23	28	3*	9*	0	6*	0	0	2*	0
<b>Cannabis</b>	87	63	76	77	11	26	19	23	2*	8*	5*	0	0	3*	0	0
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	100*	100*	73	50*	0	0	27*	50*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	60*	63	42	30*	40*	25*	58	60	0	13*	0	0	0	0	0	10*
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	75	95	100	100	25*	5*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Inhalants</b>	-	-	100*	100*	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0
<b>Methamphetamine mine ('Tik')</b>	66	38	51	65	28	54	46	35	0	7*	0	0	6*	0	3*	0
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	67*	42	86	60*	33*	42	0	20*	0	17*	14*	20*	0	0	0	0
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	100*	100*	100*	100*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\*N<5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

**Table 127: Frequency of use by primary drug for the Northern Cape**

	Frequency of use in the past month															
	Daily				2-6 days per week				Once per week or less often				Not used in the past month			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%				%			
<b>Alcohol</b>	25*	-	-	-	50*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25*	-	-	-
<b>Cannabis</b>	71	-	-	-	29*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	100*	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	0	-	-	-	100*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
<b>Inhalants</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Methamphetamine mine ('Tik')</b>	75*	-	-	-	25*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*N<5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

**Table 128: Frequency of use by primary drug for the North West**

	Frequency of use in the past month															
	Daily				2-6 days per week				Once per week or less often				Not used in the past month			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%				%			
<b>Alcohol</b>	-	60*	38*	78	-	20*	38*	22*	-	20*	24*	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cannabis</b>	-	57	85	67*	-	28*	15*	33*	-	14*	0	-	-	-	-	-

	Frequency of use in the past month															
	Daily				2-6 days per week				Once per week or less often				Not used in the past month			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%				%			
<b>Cannabis/Mx**</b>	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	100*	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	-	100*	100*	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	-	67*	40*	100*	-	33*	60*	0	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Inhalants</b>	-	-	0	-	-	-	100*	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	-	50*	25*	43*	-	50*	50*	57*	-	0	25*	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	-	0	100*	-	-	100*	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Mean age differences were noted for different substance use categories. In the Free State, older individuals (mean age: 40 years) were mainly admitted for alcohol use while younger individuals (mean age <30 years) were admitted for cannabis, cannabis/mandrax, heroin/opiates, inhalants, MA, and CAT. The age profile for the North West province was similar with older individuals (mean age: 40 years) admitted to treatment for alcohol use, while younger individuals (<30 years) were predominantly admitted for cannabis and MA use. The mean age across all substance use categories were similar for both the Free State (29 years) and the North West (30 years) (Table 129).

**Table 129: Mean age by primary substance (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	Years											
<b>Alcohol</b>	38	26	39	40	27*	-	-	-	-	37	43	40
<b>Cannabis</b>	21	27	23	23	21	-	-	-	-	30	22	20*
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	21*	18*	26	24	15*	-	-	-	-	52*	-	-
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	26	20	33	33	-	-	-	-	-	20*	36*	-
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	27	32	25	28	18*	-	-	-	-	37*	32	30*
<b>Inhalants</b>	-	-	25*	24*	-	-	-	-	-	-	15*	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	29	25	26	24	22*	-	-	-	-	48*	26*	23
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	28	29	25	26	-	-	-	-	-	42*	32*	-
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	38*	34*	34	30*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Overall mean age</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>22</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>34</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

In line with previous reporting periods, treatment admissions for males outnumbered admissions for females across all sites. Overall, 83% of individuals were male, however, gender differences were noted for various primary substances of use (see Tables 130 to 132).

**Table 130: Primary substance of use by Gender for the Free State**

	Free State							
	Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jul 2021	
	%		%		%		%	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Alcohol	87	13	87	13*	83	17	74	26
Cannabis	93	7*	84	16	90	10	94	6*
Cannabis/Mandrax**	100*	0	100*	0	93	7*	75	25*
Crack/Cocaine	100	0	100	0	92	8*	90	10*
Heroin/Opiates <sup>†</sup>	75	25*	88	12	88	12*	77	23*
Inhalants	-	-	-	-	100*	0	100*	0
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	83	17*	92	8*	86	14	82	18
Methcathinone ('CAT')	100*	0	83	17*	86	14*	100	0
OTC/PRE	0	100*	100*	0	25*	75*	67*	33*

\*N<5; \*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>†</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

During this period, no data was received from treatment centres in the Northern Cape.

**Table 131: Primary substance of use by Gender for the Northern Cape**

	Northern Cape							
	Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	%		%		%		%	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Alcohol	100*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cannabis	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cannabis/Mandrax**	100*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crack/Cocaine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heroin/Opiates <sup>†</sup>	100*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inhalants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	100*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methcathinone ('CAT')	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTC/PRE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*N<5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>†</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

**Table 132: Primary substance of use by Gender for the North West**

	North West							
	Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	%		%		%		%	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Alcohol	-	-	100	0	87	23*	89	11*
Cannabis	-	-	86	14	62	38	33*	67*
Cannabis/Mandrax**	-	-	100*	0	-	-	-	-

	North West							
	Jul-Dec 2019		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	%		%		%		%	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	-	-	0	100*	100*	0	-	-
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	-	-	67*	33*	100*	0	100*	0
<b>Inhalants</b>	-	-	-	-	100*	0	-	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	-	-	100*	0	100*	0	86	14*
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	-	-	0	100*	100*	0	-	-
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

In the Free State, cannabis was the most widely used secondary substance of use (21%), followed by alcohol (19%) and MA (17%). In the North West cannabis (55%) and CAT (27%) were the most common secondary substances of use. Of concern is the appreciable increase in cannabis use in the North West from 9% in 2020b to 55% in 2021a. There was also a notable depreciation in rates for MA use from 23% in 2020b to 9% in 2021a. See Table 133.

**Table 133: Secondary substance of use (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>Alcohol</b>	6	9	12	19	0	-	-	-	-	19	9*	-
<b>Cannabis</b>	6	16	22	21	26	-	-	-	-	19	9*	55
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	8	4	18	14	21*	-	-	-	-	-	5*	9*
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	2*	4	7	5	0	-	-	-	-	4*	23*	-
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	2*	2*	2*	1*	0	-	-	-	-	7*	9*	-
<b>Inhalants</b>	-	-	-	2*	0	-	-	-	-	-	4*	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	8	5	23	17	0	-	-	-	-	7*	23*	9*
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	13	6	13	15	0	-	-	-	-	7*	18*	27*
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	4	2*	2*	5	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL (number)</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

The proportion of primary and secondary substances of use is shown in Table 134 below. Cannabis (69%), alcohol (43%), methamphetamine (42%), and CAT (27%), were the most common substances used in the North West. In the Free State, cannabis (63%), cannabis/mandrax (37%), and alcohol and MA (21% respectively) were mostly used as secondary substances.

**Table 134: Primary and secondary substances used (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>Alcohol</b>	47	25	32	47	21*	-	-	-	-	37	28	43
<b>Cannabis</b>	42	19	41	46	63	-	-	-	-	70	42	69
<b>Cannabis/Mandrax**</b>	9	6	18	19	37	-	-	-	-	4*	3*	9*
<b>Crack/Cocaine</b>	5	10	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	7*	19	-
<b>Heroin/Opiates<sup>^</sup></b>	6	31	14	8	5*	-	-	-	-	19	19	10*
<b>Inhalants</b>	-	<1	<1	3*	-	-	-	-	-	-	6*	-
<b>Methamphetamine ('Tik')</b>	19	14	31	43	21*	-	-	-	-	15*	25	42
<b>Methcathinone ('CAT')</b>	15	14	11	18	-	-	-	-	-	4*	19	27
<b>OTC/PRE</b>	6	4	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	7*	-	-

Note: The table shows the proportion reporting each drug as primary and secondary drug

\*N<5

\*\*'White pipe' or Mandrax alone

<sup>^</sup>Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

In the Free State 31% and in the North West province 48% of individuals reported only one substance of use.

**Table 135: Polysubstance use (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>Primary substance only</b>	52	51	38	31	53	-	-	-	-	37	39	48
<b>Primary +2<sup>nd</sup> substance</b>	48	49	62	69	47	-	-	-	-	63	61	52
<b>Total no. of patients</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>19</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>27</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>21</b>

During this period, the most common sources of payment for treatment in the Free State were the 'state' (37%), followed by the 'medical aid' (36%). In the North West, 'medical aid' (52%) was the most common source of payment, followed by 'self' and 'employer' (14% respectively) (Table 136).

**Table 136: Primary Source of payment (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>Self</b>	2*	11	3	3	5*	-	-	-	-	7*	11*	14*
<b>Medical Aid</b>	39	9	36	36	-	-	-	-	-	15*	47	52
<b>State</b>	35	44	43	37	5*	-	-	-	-	33	-	5*
<b>Family/friends</b>	8	19	9	13	74	-	-	-	-	30	6*	14*
<b>Employer</b>	15	1	9	8	11*	-	-	-	-	-	19	10*
<b>Unknown</b>	2*	15	<1	2*	5*	-	-	-	-	15*	-	-
<b>Other/combinations</b>	-	-	-	1*	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	5*

\*N < 5

## DATA FOR PATIENTS YOUNGER THAN 20 YEARS

A total of 46 individuals were aged under 20 years. Across all provinces, most persons under 20 years were male (n=38, 83%).

**Table 137: Gender and race profile of patients <20 years (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>GENDER</b>												
<b>Male</b>	91	91	92	84	100	-	-	-	-	100	63*	67*
<b>Female</b>	9*	9*	8*	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	37*	33*
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>												
<b>Black African</b>	70	91	73	77	30*	-	-	-	-	100	75	67*
<b>Coloured</b>	16	9*	25	16	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	33*
<b>Indian</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>White</b>	14	-	2*	7*	10*	-	-	-	-	-	25*	-

\*N<5

The most common source of referral to specialist treatment centres in the Free State was 'self/family/friends' (68%), followed by 'social services/welfare' (21%). In the North West, 'self/family/friends' was the only source of referral for this period. Refer to Table 138.

**Table 138: Referral sources of patients <20 years (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
<b>Self/Family/friends</b>	37	47	60	68	100	-	-	-	-	40*	83	100*
<b>Work/employer</b>	-	4*	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	20*	-	-
<b>Health professional</b>	2*	4*	2	2*	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Religious body</b>	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Hospital/clinic</b>	-	1*	-	2*	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Social services/welfare</b>	21	29	27	21	0	-	-	-	-	20*	-	-
<b>Court/correctional</b>	23	2*	8*	7*	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>School</b>	16	11	2*	-	0	-	-	-	-	20*	13*	-
<b>Other e.g., radio</b>	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*N<5

In Free State and North West young people were mostly treated for cannabis use (58% and 67% respectively) while 28% of under 20s in the Free State reported methamphetamine use.

**Table 139: Primary substance of use of patients <20 years (Central region)**

	Free State						Northern Cape						North West					
	Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Alcohol	9	20	-	-	1	2*	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20*	-	-	-	-
Cannabis	11	24	30	63	25	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	80*	7	87	2	67*
Cannabis/Mandrax**	4	9*	5	10	2	5*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crack/Cocaine	5	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heroin/Opiates^	8	18	6	13	2	5*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	4	9*	4	8*	12	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	33*
Inhalants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	13*	-	-
OTC/PRE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methcathinone ('CAT')	4	9*	-	-	1	2*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>100</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>8</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>

\*N<5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

Ninety-three percent (93%) of individuals admitted to treatment centres in the Free State used smoking as their route of administration, while all individuals admitted to treatment in the North West smoked their drugs, making this the most widely used route of administration. For the Free State province, only one (1) young person reported injecting heroin/opiates while none injected heroin/opiates in the North West.

**Table 140: Mode of usage of primary substance for individuals <20 years (Central region)**

	Free State				Northern Cape				North West			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%			
Swallowed	2*	22	-	2*	-	-	-	-	-	20*	-	-
Snorted	2*	9*	6*	2*	-	-	-	-	-	-	13*	-
Injected	-	4*	8*	2*	10*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smoked	96	64	86	93	90	-	-	-	-	80*	87	100*
<b>Inject (Heroin)</b>	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Males comprised the majority of individuals in treatment in the Free State and North West provinces.

**Table 141: Primary substance of use by Gender for individuals <20 years (Central region)**

	Free State						Northern Cape						North West					
	Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Alcohol	89	11*	-	-	100	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	100*	0	-	-	-	-
Cannabis	73	27*	90	10*	92	8*	-	-	-	-	-	-	100*	0	57*	43*	50*	50*
Cannabis/Mandrax**	100*	0	80*	20*	50*	50*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crack/Cocaine	100	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heroin/Opiates^	89	11*	100	0	100*	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Free State						Northern Cape						North West					
	Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	100*	0	100*	0	67	33*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100*	-
Inhalants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100*	0	-	-
OTC/PRE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*N>5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

**Table 142: Primary substance of use by Race for individuals <20 years (Central region)**

	BLACK AFRICAN				COLOURED				INDIAN				WHITE			
	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021
	%				%				%				%			
Alcohol	0	19	-	3*	8*	25*	-	0	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	0
Cannabis	79	28	68	54	69	50*	58	63	-	-	-	-	86	-	67*	100*
Cannabis/Mx**	6*	9*	5*	6*	15*	0	25*	0	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	0
Crack/Cocaine	-	9*	-	-	-	25*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heroin/Opiates^	0	16	15	6*	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	14*	-	0	-0
Inhalants	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33*	-
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	12*	9*	7*	31	8*	0	8*	25*	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	0
OTC/PRE	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*N>5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance

In the Free State, the most commonly used secondary substance by individuals aged <20 years was methamphetamine (31%), CAT (20%), cannabis (17%), and alcohol (14%) whereas in the North West, only one young person was treated for the use of cannabis and, similarly, one person treated for methamphetamine use (Table 143).

**Table 143: Secondary substance of use of patients <20 years (Central region)**

	Free State						Northern Cape						North West					
	Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021		Jan-Jun 2020		Jul-Dec 2020		Jan-Jun 2021	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Alcohol	6	27	4	12	5	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cannabis	6	27	5	15	6	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	50*	-
Cannabis/Mandrax**	1	5*	5	15	3	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crack/Cocaine	2	9*	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heroin/Opiates^	1	5*	-	-	1	3*	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	50*	-	-	-	-
Methamphetamine ('Tik')	4	18*	11	33	11	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	50*	2	67*	1	50*
Inhalants	-	-	-	-	2	6*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	33*	-	-
OTC/PRE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methcathinone ('CAT')	2	9*	6	18	7	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100</b>

\*N>5

\*\*White pipe' or Mandrax alone

^Nyaope and whoonga have been incorporated into the heroin-related admission category to improve the accuracy of heroin surveillance



## **SECTION 3: DATA ON COMMUNITY BASED HARM REDUCTION SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS**

Anova Health Institute, Bellhaven Harm Reduction Centre, Foundation for Professional Development, NACOSA, Tintswalo Home Based Care, TB HIV Care, and the University of Pretoria

A range of organisations are implementing community based harm reduction services for people who use drugs (PWUD), including people who inject drugs (PWID). Services include: HIV, STI, viral hepatitis and TB prevention, testing and linkage to care; harm reduction behaviour change interventions; needle and syringe services; opioid substitution therapy (OST); monitoring of human rights violations and referral for other available substance use disorder treatment services. Routine hepatitis C (HCV) diagnostic and treatment services are limited due to resource constraints. Interventions aimed at preventing and managing overdose are very limited, and community based naloxone distribution is not currently provided.

Community-based harm reduction and health services for people who use drugs, including people who inject drugs (PWID), are provided in alignment with the World Health Organization's guidelines<sup>2</sup> and the National Drug Master Plan (2019 – 2024).

During this period TB HIV Care's Step Up Project operated in the Eastern Cape (Nelson Mandela Bay District), KwaZulu-Natal (eThekweni and uMgungundlovu Districts) and the Western Cape (Cape Metro). Advance Access and Delivery and the Urban Futures Centre at the Durban University of Technology run the Bellhaven harm reduction centre in eThekweni District. The Department of Family Medicine at the University of Pretoria's Community Orientated Substance Use Programme (COSUP) operates across several regions of the City of Tshwane (Gauteng Province). Sediba Hope provides harm reduction services at two centres in Tshwane District. The HARMless Project, implemented during this reporting period by the Foundation for Professional Development, operates in Gauteng (City of Tshwane) and in Mpumalanga (Ehlanzeni district). Anova Health Institute's Job Smart Project operates in Gauteng (sub-districts B - G of the City of Johannesburg and in Sedibeng). Tintswalo Home Based Care also operates in Gauteng (East, South and North sub-districts of the City of Ekurhuleni).

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<sup>2</sup> UNODC, UNAIDS, UNFPA, WHO, USAID, PEPFAR. Implementing Comprehensive HIV and HCV Programmes with People Who Inject Drugs. Practical guidance for collaborative interventions. (IDUIT). 2017; UNODC: Geneva.

### 3A: COMMUNITY-BASED HARM REDUCTION SERVICES - EASTERN CAPE, KWAZULU-NATAL AND WESTERN CAPE

The data below reflects service delivery data for reporting period January - June 2021.

#### **Needle and syringe services**

During this period, 3 805 unique PWID accessed services (345 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 1 662 in eThekwini, 454 in uMgungundlovu, and 1344 in the Cape Metro).

Across the districts, most clients were over the age of 20 years, and the majority were men (ranging from 71% in NMB to 86% in uMgungundlovu and eThekwini). Racial characteristics of service users varied by district; being predominantly Coloured in the Cape Metro (87%), White in Nelson Mandela Bay (57%), and Black African in eThekwini (88%). PWID service user sociodemographic characteristics by province are provided in Table 144.

**Table 144: Demographic characteristics of people who use drugs who accessed needle and syringe services by district (January - June 2021) (EC, KZN & WC)**

Province	District (N)	Male		Female*		Black African		Indian		Coloured		White	
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Eastern Cape	NMB (345)	246	71%	99	29%	86	25%	2	1%	61	18%	195	57
KwaZulu-Natal	eThekwini (1662)	1422	86%	239	14%	1379	88%	64	4%	57	4%	72	5%
	UMG (454)	389	86%	65	14%	366	95%	1	0%	8	2%	12	3%
Western Cape	Cape Metro (1 344)	1096	82%	245	18%	33	3%	2	0%	1085	87%	132	11%

\*Some demographic data was not provided. Female includes trans female clients.

ND: No data available NMB: Nelson Mandela Bay, UMG: uMgungundlovu, EC: Eastern Cape, KZN: KwaZulu-Natal, WC: Western Cape

Across districts, the largest proportion of clients were in the age group 25 – 35 years: Nelson Mandela Bay (46%), eThekwini (74%); uMgungundlovu (67%) and in the Cape Metro (52%).

Overall, 30 186 needle and syringe service contacts with PWID were made (2 909 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 10 262 in eThekwini, 3 471 in Umgungundlovu, 13 544 in the Cape Metro) and 984 465 needles and syringes were distributed (72 810 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 199 215 in eThekwini, 53 970 in Umgungundlovu, 658 470 in the Cape Metro), with return rates of between 82% (in eThekwini) and 99% (in Nelson Mandela Bay).

**Table 145: Age distribution of people who use drugs who accessed needle and syringe services by district (January - June 2021) (EC, KZN & WC)**

District	NMB		eThekwini		UMG		Cape Metro	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Age distribution (yrs)								
<15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16-24	33	10	220	13	100	22	62	5
25-35	160	46	1 238	74	303	67	702	52
36-50	129	37	250	15	29	6	528	39
51+	24	7%	52	3	62	14	44	3

NMB: Nelson Mandela Bay, UMG: uMgungundlovu

**Table 146: Proportion of people who use drugs accessing needle and syringe services by age cohort by district (January - June 2021) (EC, KZN & WC)**

Site	NMB		eThekwini		UMG		Cape Metro	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
%								
PWID <18 yrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
PWID >=18 yrs	345	100	1 764	100	494	100	1 335	100

NMB: Nelson Mandela Bay, UMG: uMgungundlovu

**Table 147: Comparison of proportion of people who use drugs accessing needle and syringe services with census data by district (January - June 2021) (EC, KZN & WC)**

District		Black African	Indian	Coloured	White
NMB	Population <sup>1</sup>	60%	1%	24%	14%
	Accessed service	25%	1%	18%	57%
eThekwini	Population <sup>1</sup>	74%	17%	3%	7%
	Accessed service	88%	4%	4%	5%
UMG	Population <sup>1</sup>	85%	7%	2%	6%
	Accessed service	95%	0%	2%	3%
Cape Metro	Population <sup>1</sup>	39%	1%	42%	16%
	Accessed service	3%	0%	87%	11%

<sup>1</sup>Statistics by place - Statistics South Africa

## **HIV, TB and viral hepatitis services**

Among PWID who accessed additional health services: 801 tested for HIV (121 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 253 in eThekwini, 126 in uMgungundlovu and 301 in the Cape Metro), among whom 15% (123/801) tested HIV positive (10 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 68 in eThekwini, 31 in uMgungundlovu and 14 in the Cape Metro). Sixty people (out of 123 - 49%) were started on antiretroviral therapy (ART) (9 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 31 in eThekwini, 13 in uMgungundlovu and 7 in the Cape Metro). HIV viral suppression was confirmed among 6 people (0 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 2 in eThekwini, 0 in uMgungundlovu and 4 in the Cape Metro).

Additionally, 1 082 PWUD were screened for tuberculosis (TB) (142 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 444 in eThekweni, 126 in uMgungundlovu and 370 in the Cape Metro) with 75 being symptomatic, 20 with confirmed TB and 17 started on treatment.

No routine viral hepatitis testing was done in these districts during this period.

**Table 148: Characteristics of people who use drugs tested for HIV and HIV treatment cascade\* by district (January - June 2021) (EC, KZN & WC)**

Site	NMB (121)		eThekweni (253)		UMG (126)		Cape Metro (301)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>GENDER</b>								
Men	90	74	238	94	120	95	237	79
Women	31	26	15	6	6	5	64	21
Transgender	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>RACE</b>								
Black African	33	27	216	87	119	95	3	1
Indian	1	1	16	6	0	0	0	0
Coloured	25	21	7	3	4	3	248	88
White	76	63	12	5	2	2	30	11
<b>HIV TREATMENT CASCADE</b>								
HIV positive	10	8	68	22	31	22	14	5
On ART	9	90	47	69	13	42	7	50
Virally suppressed	ND	-	2	4	ND	-	4	57

\*Some demographic data was not provided. NMB: Nelson Mandela Bay, UMG: uMgungundlovu

### ***Opioid substitution therapy (OST) services***

Opioid substitution therapy was not available in Nelson Mandela Bay and uMgungundlovu. OST started in eThekweni this period, with 63 people initiating OST, and 47 remaining on OST at the end of the period. In Cape Town, there were 81 PWID on OST at the beginning of the period. During the reporting period, 54 new people were initiated, 2 people were re-initiated, 21 people were lost to follow-up, 1 exited and 1 died. 114 people were on OST at the end of the period. At Bellhaven in KZN, 260 clients were on low-dose methadone at the beginning of June and 220 at the end of December.

**Table 149: Selected demographic characteristics of people who use drugs on opioid substitution therapy by district at the end of the period (January - June 2021) (EC, KZN & WC)**

Site	Male	Female	Black African	Indian	Coloured	White	Unknown
	%						
Nelson Mandela Bay <sup>3</sup> (n=0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
eThekweni (n=47)	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
uMgungundlovu (n=0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cape Metro (n=114)	92	8	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND

\* Reflects characteristics of people started on OST during the reporting period.

<sup>3</sup> OST services were only operational in Cape Town during this period.

**Table 150: Clients on opioid substitution therapy, lost to follow-up and exited programme by district (January - June 2021) (EC, KZN & WC)**

District		Number on OST at start of period	Number initiated on OST for first time during period	Number restarted during period that were lost to follow-up at start of period	Number LTFU during period	Number exited during period	Number died during period	Number on OST at end of period
NMB	Non-injecting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PWID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
eThekwini	Non-injecting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PWID	0	60	3	12	3	1	47
	<b>Total</b>	0	60	3	12	3	1	47
UMG	Non-injecting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PWID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cape Metro	Non-injecting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PWID	81	54	2	21	1	1	114
	<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>114</b>

### **Human rights violations**

During this reporting period, 187 human rights violations were reported (15 in Nelson Mandela Bay, 116 in eThekwini, 13 in uMgungundlovu and 43 in the Cape Metro), 41 of these related to PWID clients being assaulted and 124 related to confiscation or destruction of injecting equipment.

**Table 151: Comparison of reported human rights violations by district (January - June 2021)**

Reported violation (n)	NMB	eThekwini	UMG	Cape Metro
Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment	7	77	9	31
Assaulted	7	26	4	11
Falsely arrested	1	13	0	1
Personal belongings burnt by police	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
710015700	15	116	13	43
<b>Total number of violations</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>43</b>

### 3B: COMMUNITY-BASED HARM REDUCTION SERVICES - GAUTENG AND MPUMALANGA

Several organisations provide harm reduction services in Gauteng during this period. Anova Health Institute's Jab Smart Project provides harm reduction and HIV prevention services for PWID in sub-districts B - G of the City of Johannesburg and in Sedibeng Districts. Tintswalo Home Based Care providers outreach harm reduction services for PWID in sub-district East, North and South of the City of Ekurhuleni. The Foundation for Professional Development's HARMLess project and the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Pretoria's Community Orientated Substance Use Programme (COSUP) provide services across the City of Tshwane. The Foundation for Professional Development's HARMLess project provided harm reduction outreach services in Ehlanzeni District (Mpumalanga) in this period.

#### **Needle and syringe services**

Between January and December 2021, 16 309 unique PWID accessed the services (7 113 in Johannesburg, 338 in Ekurhuleni, 7 790 in Tshwane, 609 in Sedibeng and 459 in Ehlanzeni).

Across the districts, almost all clients were over the age of 20 years, and the majority were men (ranging from 90% in Ekurhuleni and 98% in Sedibeng). Racial characteristics of service users varied by district; being predominantly Black African in Ehlanzeni (91%), Ekurhuleni (82%), Johannesburg (99%), Tshwane (88%) and Sedibeng (99%). PWID service user sociodemographic characteristics by province are provided in Table 152.

**Table 152: Demographic characteristics of people who use drugs who accessed needle and syringe services by district (January - June 2021) (GP & MP)**

Province	District (N)	Male		Female		Black African		Coloured		Indian		White	
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
GP	Ekurhuleni (338)	305	90%	33	10%	273	82%	2	1%	27	8%	32	10%
	Johannesburg (7 113)	6792	95%	313	4%	6469	99%	14	0%	71	1%	66	1%
	Sedibeng (609)	594	98%	14	2%	584	99%	0	0%	2	0%	5	1%
	Tshwane (7 790)	7,327	95%	386	5%	6,819	88%	101	1%	340	4%	488	6%
MP	Ehlanzeni (459)	432	94%	27	6%	415	91%	0	0%	11	2%	32	7%

\*Some demographic data was not provided. No demographic data for Tshwane COSUP PWID clients available.  
 ND: No data available GP: Gauteng, MP: Mpumalanga

Across districts, the largest proportion of clients were in the age group 25 – 35 years.

Overall, 1 415 630 needles and syringes were distributed (154 740 in Ekurhuleni, 545 715 in Johannesburg, 23 445 in Sedibeng, 671 886 in Tshwane and 19 864 Ehlanzeni) with return rates of 71%, 20%, 16%, 92% and 80%, respectively.

**Table 153: Age distribution of people who use drugs who accessed needle and syringe services by district (January - June 2021) (GP & MP)**

Age distribution (yrs)	EKR		JHB		SED		TSH		EHL	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<15	0									
16-24	32	1	739	10	80	13	551	7	75	16
25-35	246	71	5 213	73	475	78	4 841	62	305	67
36-50	57	17	1 111	16	54	9	2 219	28	77	17
51+	3	1	31	<1	0	0	2	<1	44	<1

<1ERK: Ekurhuleni; JHB: Johannesburg; SED: Sedibeng; TSH: Tshwane; EHL: Ehlanzeni

**Table 154: Proportion of people who use drugs accessing needle and syringe services by age cohort by district (January - June 2021) (GP & MP)\***

District	ERK		JHB		SED		TSH		EHL	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Age distribution (yrs)										
PWID <18/ <20 yrs	3	1	749	11	80	13	15	<1	4	1
PWID >=18 / 20 yrs	335	99	6 355	89	529	87	4 296	>99	455	99

ERK: Ekurhuleni; JHB: Johannesburg; SED: Sedibeng; TSH: Tshwane; EHL: Ehlanzeni

\* Different sites have different age categories. JHB, ERK and SED have 18 years category, TSH and EHL have 20-year category. Some data missing

**Table 155: Comparison of proportion of people who use drugs accessing needle and syringe services with census data by district (January - June 2021) (GP & MP)**

District		Black African	Indian	Coloured	White
Ekurhuleni	Population <sup>1</sup>	79%	2%	3%	16%
	Accessed service	82%	1%	8%	10%
Johannesburg	Population <sup>1</sup>	76%	5%	6%	12%
	Accessed service	99%	0%	1%	1%
Sedibeng	Population <sup>1</sup>	82%	1%	1%	16%
	Accessed service	99%	0%	0%	1%
Tshwane	Population <sup>1</sup>	75%	2%	2%	21%
	Accessed service	88%	1%	4%	6%
Ehlanzeni	Population <sup>1</sup>	94%	<1%	1%	5%
	Accessed service	91%	0%	2%	7%

<sup>1</sup>Statistics by place - Statistics South Africa

## HIV, TB and viral services

Among PWID who accessed additional health services: 3 229 tested for HIV (127 in Ekurhuleni, 1 673 in Johannesburg, 123 in Sedibeng, 1 080 in Tshwane and 226 Ehlanzeni), among whom 28% (889/3 229) tested HIV positive for the first time (13 in Ekurhuleni, 337 in Johannesburg, 37 in Sedibeng, 453 in Tshwane and 49 Ehlanzeni). 625 (70%) were started on ART (11 in Ekurhuleni, 164 in Johannesburg, 37 in Sedibeng, 370 in Tshwane and 10 Ehlanzeni).

Additionally, 3 317 PWUD were screened for tuberculosis (TB) (127 in Ekurhuleni, 1 746 in Johannesburg, 146 in Sedibeng, 640 in Tshwane) with 49 being symptomatic, 0 with confirmed TB and 0 started on treatment.

Viral hepatitis testing was done through Sediba Hope Medical Centre and partners; with 1 HCV PCRs conducted, and 3 people started direct acting antiviral therapy and 21 with confirmed sustained virological response.

**Table 156: Characteristics of people who use drugs tested for HIV and HIV treatment cascade\* by district (January - June 2021) (GP & MP)**

District	EKR		JHB		SED		TSH		EHL	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>GENDER</b>										
<b>Men</b>	117	92	1 1522	95	117	95	669	94	209	92
<b>Women</b>	10	8	80	5	5	4	39	6	17	8
<b>Transgender</b>	0	0	0	<1	1	<1	0	0	0	0
<b>RACE</b>										
<b>Black African</b>	109	87	1 426	97	-	-	617	88	184	81
<b>Coloured</b>	0	0	0	0	-	-	44	6	0	0
<b>Indian</b>	6	5	28	2	-	-	43	6	7	3
<b>White</b>	11	9	14	1	-	-	0	0	14	6
<b>HIV TREATMENT CASCADE</b>										
<b>HIV positive</b>	13	10	337	20	37	30	453	42	49	22
<b>On ART</b>	11	85	164	49	31	84	370	82	49	100
<b>Virally suppressed</b>	12	-	2	-	-	-	68	-	10	-

\*Some demographic data was not provided. ERK: Ekurhuleni; JHB: Johannesburg; SED: Sedibeng; TSH: Tshwane; EHL: Ehlanzeni

-: Data not available

## ***Opioid substitution therapy (OST) services***

During this period OST was only available in Johannesburg and Tshwane. In Johannesburg, a total of 159 people was on OST at the beginning of the period 100 new people were initiated for the first time, 0 people were re-initiated, 40 people were lost to follow-up, 72 people exited, 0 died and 147 were on OST at the end of the period. In Tshwane, a total of 887 people was on OST at the beginning of the period. During the period 122 new people were initiated for the first time, 12 people were re-initiated, 38 people were lost to follow-up, 143 exited, 7 people died, and 833 were on OST at the end of the period (Table 157).



**Table 157: Selected demographic characteristics of people who use drugs on opioid substitution therapy by district at the end of the period (January - June 2021) (GP & MP)**

District	Male	Female	Black African	Indian	Coloured	White
	%			%		
Ekurhuleni	0	0	0	0	0	0
Johannesburg	91	9	95	1	4	0
Sedibeng	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tshwane	91	9	86	3	5	6
Ehlanzeni	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 158: Clients on opioid substitution therapy, lost to follow-up and exited programme – by district (January - June 2021) (GP & MP)**

District		Number on OST at start of period	Number initiated on OST for first time during period	Number restarted during period that were lost to follow-up at start of period	Number LTFU during period	Number exited during period	Number died during period	Number on OST at end of period
ERK	Non-injecting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PWID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JHB	Non-injecting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PWID	159	100	0	40	72	0	147
	<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>147</b>
SED	Non-injecting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PWID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TSH	Non-injecting	388	26	4	11	50	2	355
	PWID	499	96	8	27	93	5	478
	<b>Total</b>	<b>887</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>833</b>
EHL	Non-injecting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PWID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

## Human rights violations

During this reporting period, 116 human rights violations were reported (18 in Ekurhuleni and 83 in Johannesburg, 2 in Ehlanzeni), 12 due to confiscated or destroyed needles and 57 due to assault. Human rights violations are not routinely collected in Tshwane.

**Table 159: Comparison of reported human rights violations by district (January - June 2021) (GP & MP)**

Reported violation (n)	EKR	JHB	SED	TSH	EHL
Refused services	-	-	-	-	-
Refused access to medication	-	-	-	-	-
Assaulted	8	4	-	-	2
Humiliated, chased away, harassed, shouted or sworn at, shown off, threatened		-	-	-	-
Sexual assault/rape	-	-	-	-	-
Confiscated/destroyed needles	8	4	-		
Killed	-	-	-	-	-
Treated badly in police cells/violated/assaulted	-	-	-	-	-
Driven around in van without charges	-	-	-	-	-
Not allowed visitors, phone call or legal counsel after arrest	-	-	-	-	-
Unlawful arrest/detention	3	31	11		
Reported case but no progress made by police	-	-	-	-	-
Issued a fine/forced to pay a fine	-	-	-	-	-
Other	2	-	-	-	-
<b>Total number of violations</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

# IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY AND FUTURE RESEARCH

## *Selected implications for policy/practice<sup>4</sup>*

During the Phase 50 regional report back meetings of SACENDU, a number of recommendations were made with regard to specific interventions needed to address substance use and substance use policy in general:

- High HIV yield among PWID accessing HIV testing services in Gauteng, Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal.
- High yield of TB with increased use of digital chest x-ray, and sputums with GeneXpert.
- Strengthen efforts to address injecting of heroin in CR and EC.
- Intensify efforts to address methamphetamine use in the EC.
- Continue to motivate for HIV testing among young people receiving substance use treatment.
- Important to ensure drug treatment and harm reduction services are considered essential services and continue in future epidemics.
- Overdose training provided to harm reduction beneficiaries in eThekweni was well received.

## *Selected issues to monitor*

Phase 50 of the SACENDU Project highlighted several conditions/factors that need to be carefully monitored over time:

- Increase in crack/cocaine (both as primary and secondary substance of use) in KZN.
- Decrease in young people accessing treatment services in the EC, NR, CR, and KZN.
- Decrease in HIV testing rates in WC.
- Decrease in the mean age of persons reporting OTC/PRE in KZN.
- Increase in methamphetamine as a primary drug of use in the EC.
- Increase in mandrax as a secondary drug of use in the EC.
- Increase in OTC/PRE medicines as primary drug of use among individuals <20 years in KZN.
- Increase proportion of people injecting methamphetamine in the NR and heroin in the CR and EC.
- Increase in alcohol and cannabis use in the WC.
- Increase in cannabis as a secondary drug of use in the North-West.
- Increase in cannabis as primary drug of use by young people in the NR, and KZN.
- Decrease in treatment admissions by females in the EC and NR.
- Increase in OTC/PRE medicines being used on a daily basis.
- Increase in rates of daily use of OTC/PRE medication in the WC.

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<sup>4</sup> Outcomes emanating from regional meetings held in GP, KZN, PE and CT

- Ongoing reports of confiscation of injecting equipment across districts where harm reduction services are provided.
- Enhanced measurement and reporting of viral suppression data among people who use drugs on ART.

### *Selected topics for further research/investigation*

Phase 50 of the SACENDU Project highlighted several topics for further research/investigation:

- How best to address barriers to treatment for young people in KZN, NR, CR and EC?
- What are the effects of drop-in treatment demand by young people in these provinces in the first half of 2021?
- Have alcohol restrictions resulted in the transition to crack/cocaine use in KZN.
- What are the reasons for the decrease in the mean age of OTC/PRE medications?
- What are possible reasons for the increase in OTC/PRE medication as primary drug of use among individuals <20 year old in KZN?
- What are the barriers for students not accessing substance use treatment? Where do they seek help for AOD problems?
- How can human rights violations affecting people who use drugs, including confiscation of equipment, be reduced?



# SACENDU

South African Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use

## THREE REPORTS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED:

- SACENDU Update
- SACENDU Research Brief
- Monitoring Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use Treatment Admissions in South Africa (this report)

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