

Alcohol Use Outcomes Among Adolescents in DATOS

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DATOS-Adolescent

Drug Abuse Treatment Outcome Studies National Evaluation of Treatment for Adolescents

Funded by the
National Institute
on Drug Abuse



1993-95
6 Cities
37 Programs
3,412 Patients
RES, ODF, & STI
Follow-up: 1 Yr

Publications

Grella & Hser (Eds.), *Journal of Adolescent Research* (Nov, 2001)
Grella et al., *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease* (June, 2001)
Hser et al., *Archives of General Psychiatry* (July, 2001)

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DATOS Adolescent Study

- Specialized drug treatment programs for adolescents are relatively recent
- Research on drug treatment outcomes among adolescents is limited
- Evaluations of adolescent treatment need to consider:
 - different alcohol and drug use patterns
 - role of family, school, and peers
 - developmental processes
 - pathways into treatment

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Research Questions

- What are the alcohol use levels of adolescents prior to and following drug treatment?
- What are the differences between heavy alcohol users and non-heavy users?
- What are the factors associated with reductions in alcohol use following drug treatment?

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Study Design

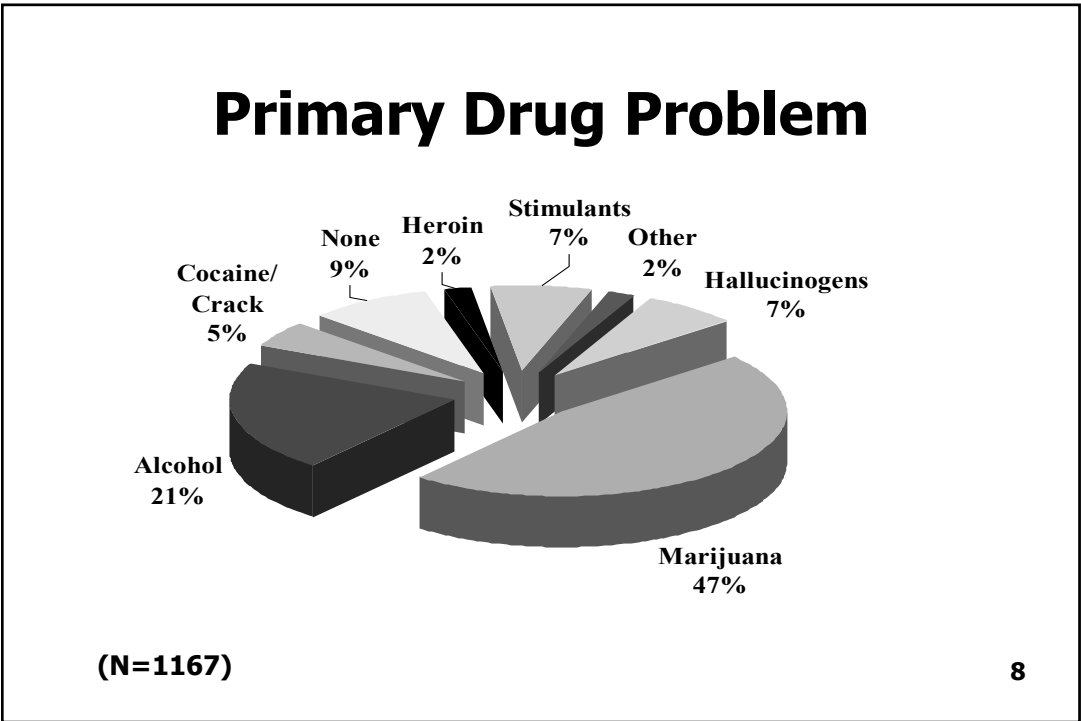
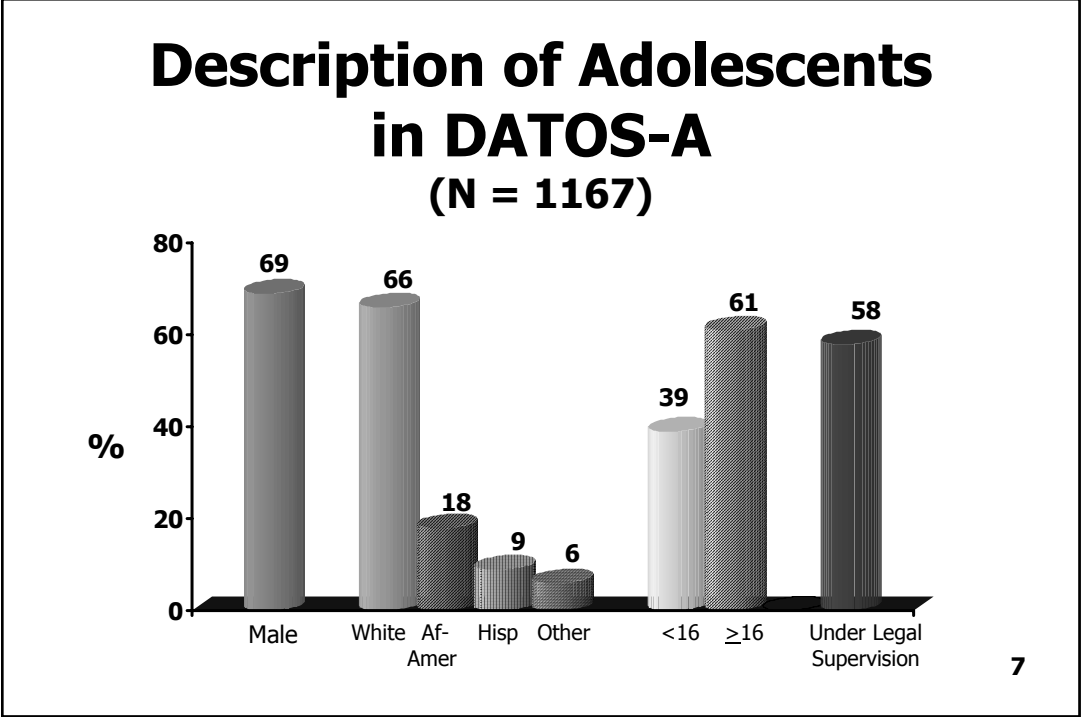
- DATOS-A is a multi-site prospective treatment outcome study
- Adolescents were sampled from treatment programs in 6 cities in 1993-1995
- Data used in these analyses include:
 - intake interview
 - 1-month in-treatment interview
 - 12-month follow-up interview

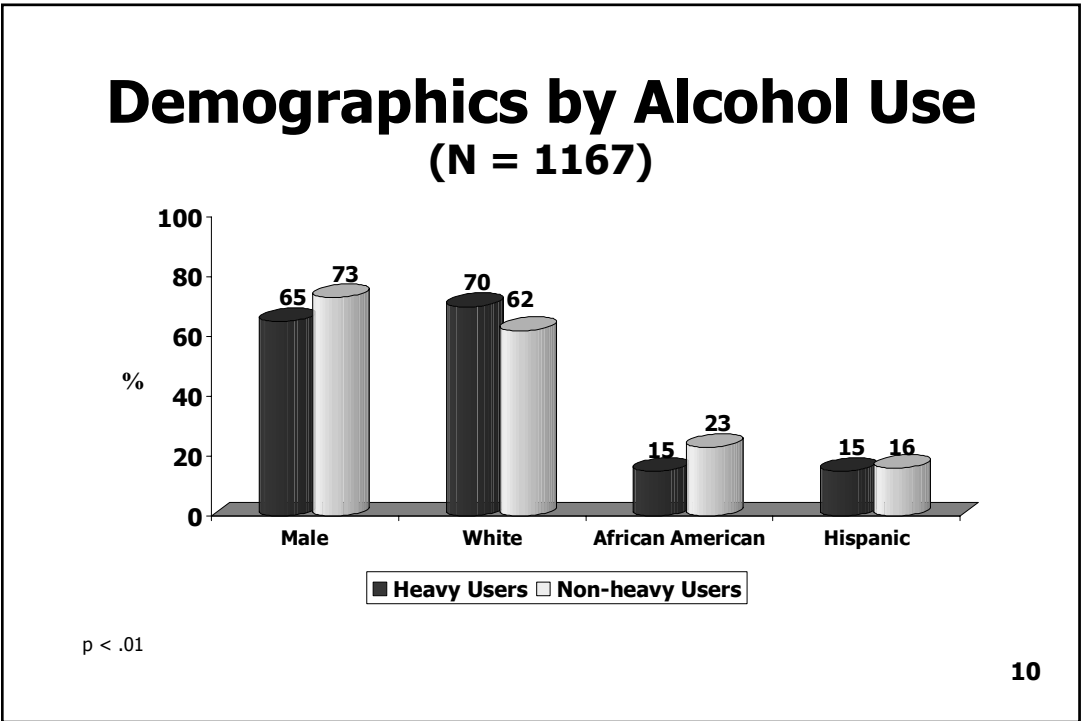
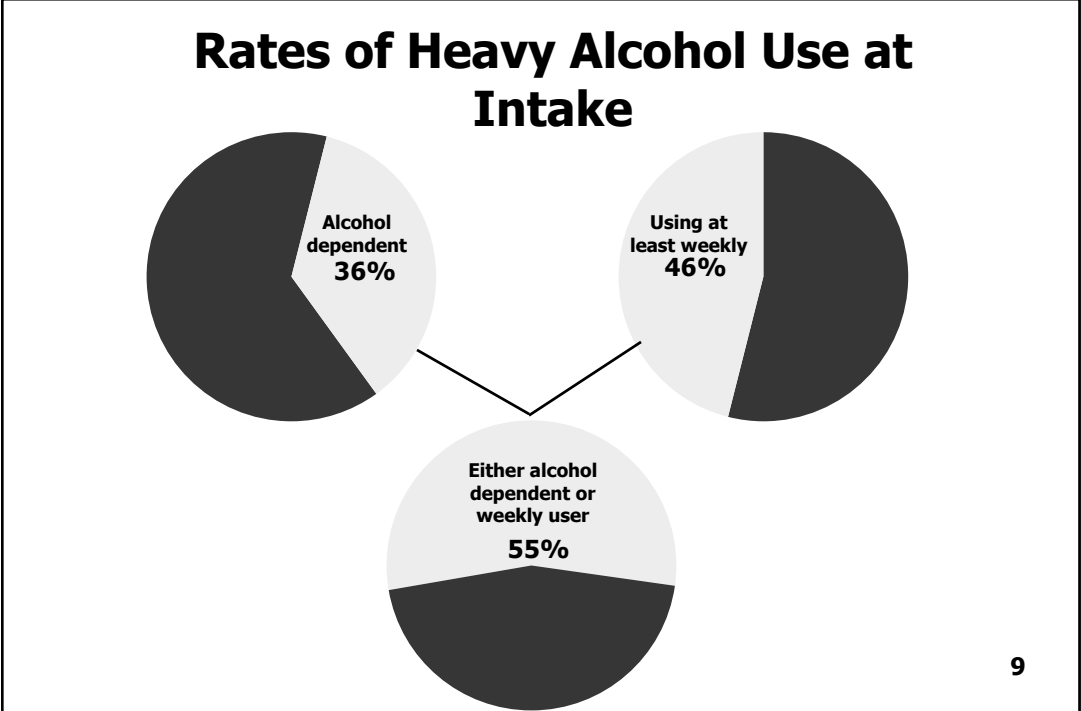
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Analyses

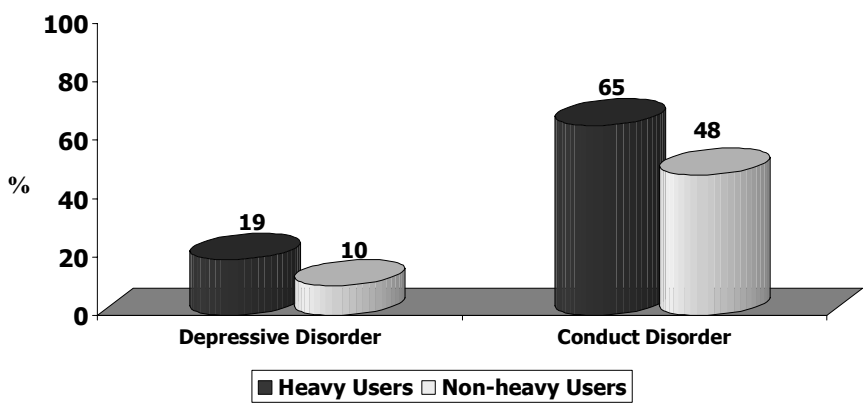
- Bivariate analyses of differences between heavy alcohol users and non-heavy users
- Pre/posttreatment comparisons of alcohol use
- Logistic regression predicting posttreatment alcohol use
- Logistic regression predicting alcohol services received while in drug treatment

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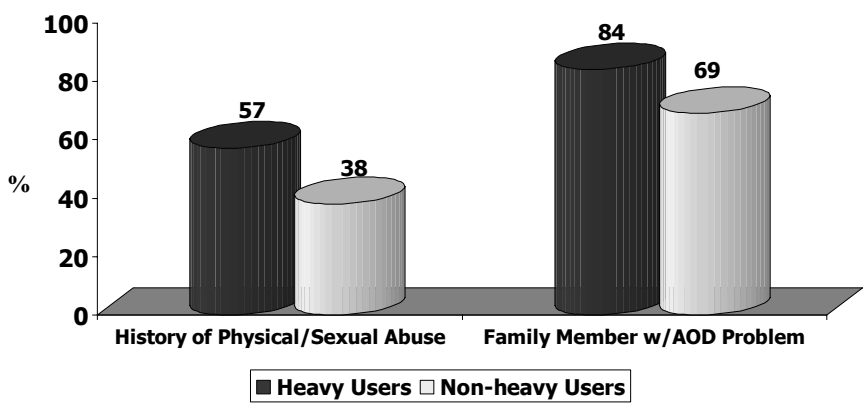
Comorbidity by Alcohol Use (N = 1167)



p < .001

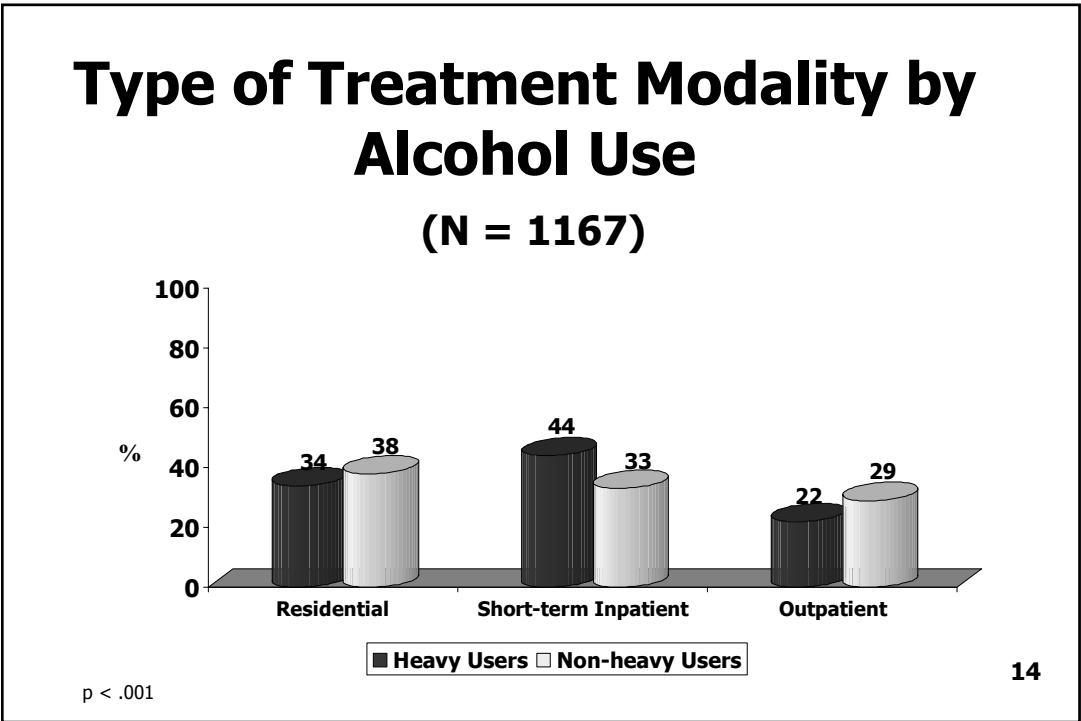
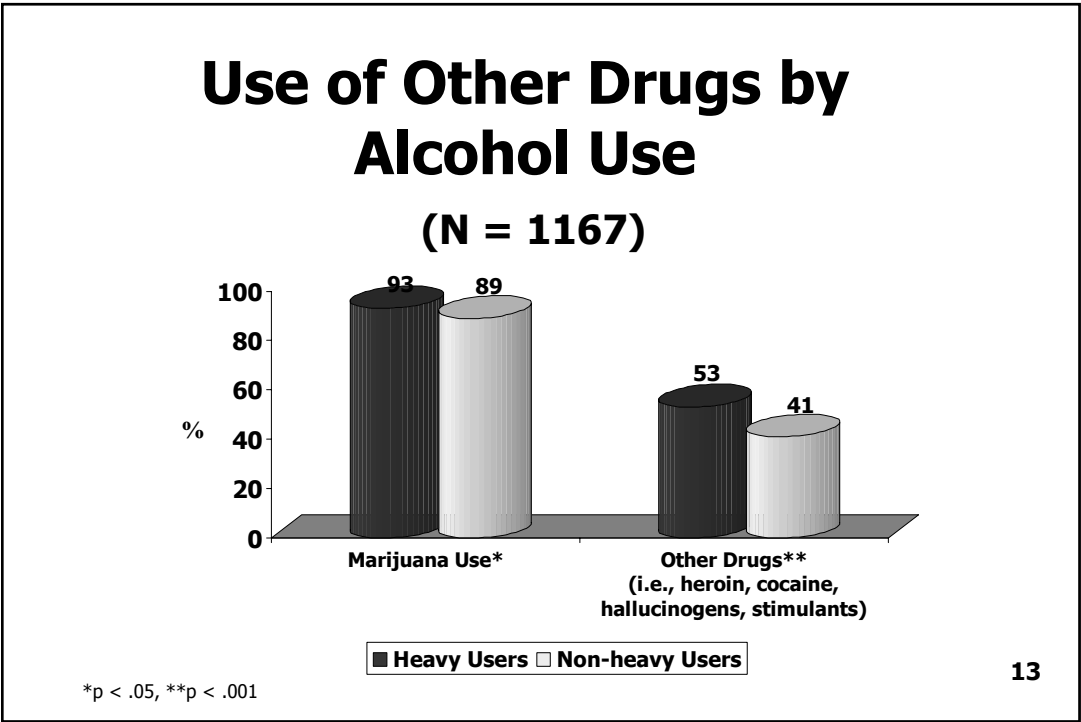
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History of Abuse/Family Member with AOD Problem by Alcohol Use (N = 1167)



p < .001

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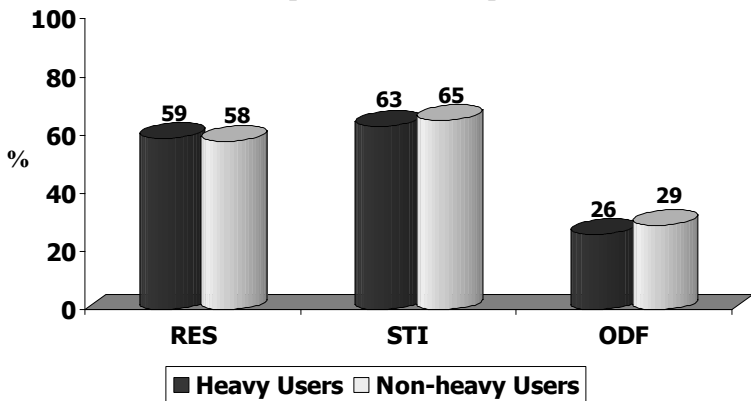


There were no differences between alcohol-use groups in:

- Age (53% were 15-16 years old)
- Referral source (39% through CJS, 42% through family/friends)
- Criminal justice status (58%)
- Time-in-treatment (using minimum thresholds for each modality)

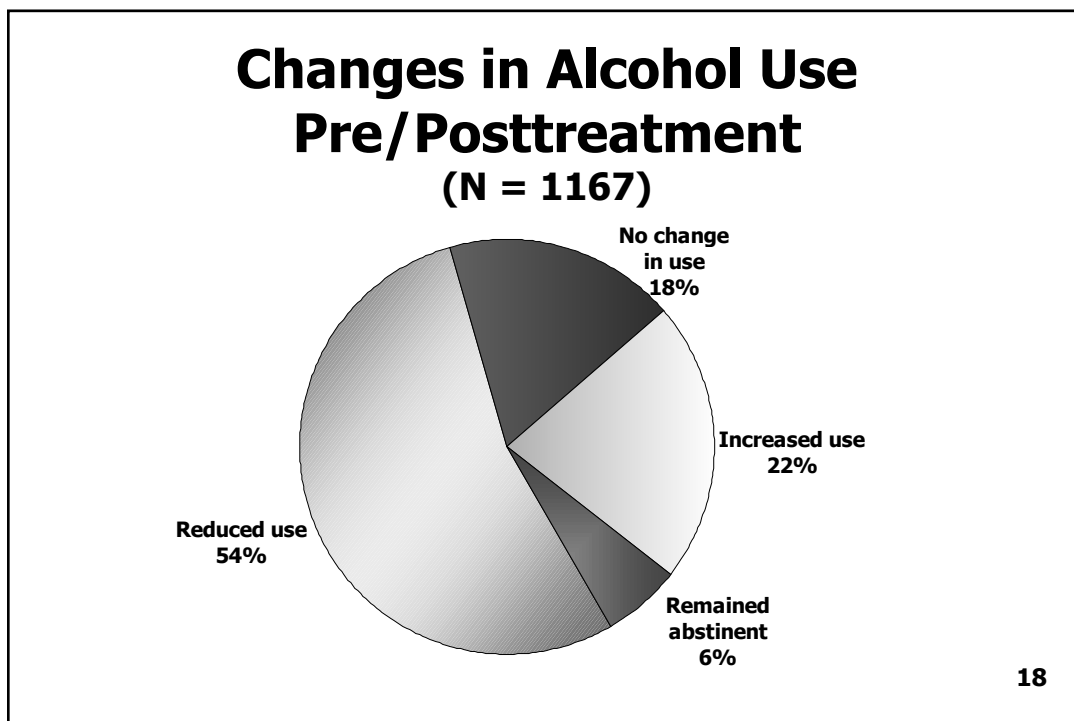
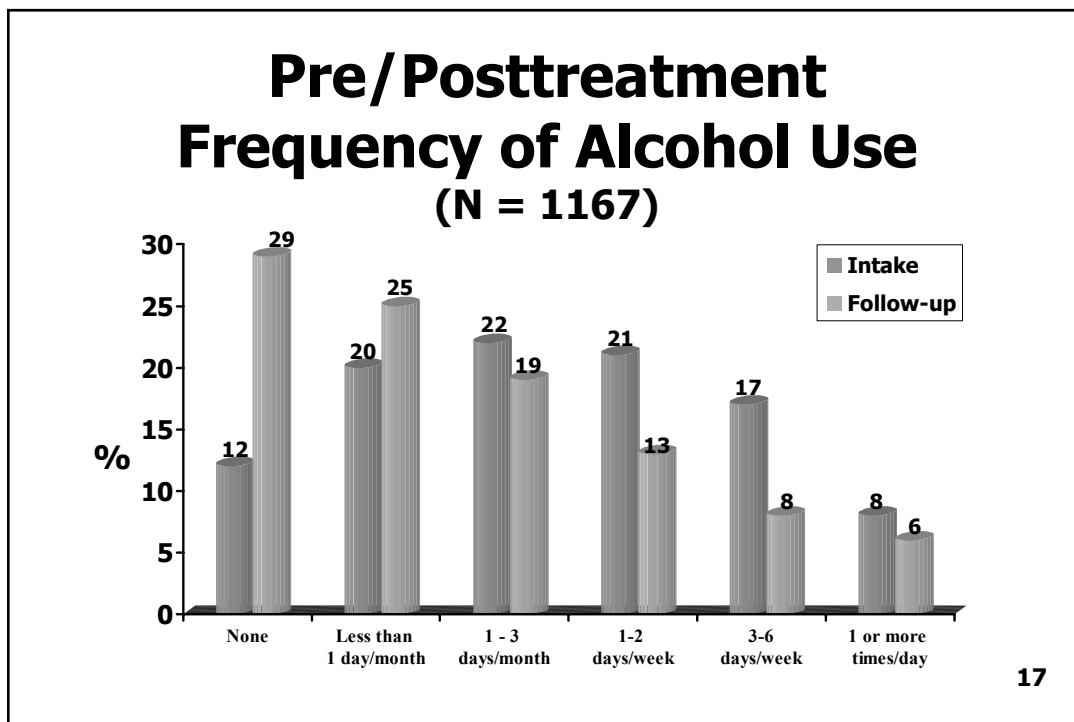
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Treatment Retention by Alcohol Use and Modality* (N = 1167)



p < .001
*RES & ODF: threshold = 90 days or more; STI = 21 days or more

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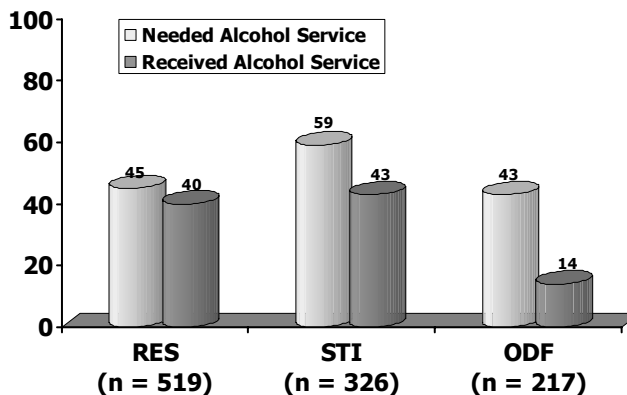
Logistic Regression Predicting Reduction in Alcohol Use or Abstinence Vs. No Change or Increase in Use at 12-month Posttreatment Follow-up

Variable	OR	(95% CI)
Age	.95	(.86, 1.04)
Male	.67	(.50, .89)**
Ethnicity (ref = African American)		
White	.63	(.43, .91)*
Hispanic	.43	(.26, .72)**
Other	.58	(.33, 1.04)
Modality (ref = ODF)		
Residential	1.40	(.99, 1.97)
Short-term inpatient	1.09	(.79, 1.51)
Under legal supervision	1.22	(.93, 1.60)
Time in treatment	1.001	(.77, 1.29)
Other drug use	1.20	(.93, 1.56)

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*p < .05, **p < .01

% of Patients Who Perceived a Need for and Who Received Alcohol Services



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Logistic Regression Model Predicting Having Received Alcohol Services While in Drug Treatment (N = 846)

Variable	Odds Ratio
White (vs. African American)	1.75*
Under legal supervision	1.93***
Marijuana dependent	2.07**
Perceived need for alcohol services	3.38***
Perceived need for health services	1.61**
Residential (vs. ODF)	3.84***
Short-term Inpatient (vs. ODF)	3.72***

Other variables entered into model (NS): age, sex, other ethnicities, educational level, mental disorder, alcohol dependence, cocaine dependence, need for mental health services, need for family services

*p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .001

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Summary of Findings

- Over half of adolescents admitted into drug treatment programs in DATOS-A were heavy alcohol users
- Heavy alcohol users were more likely to be female and white and had higher rates of other problems (i.e., comorbidity, other drug use, family drug use, history of sexual/physical abuse)
- Heavy alcohol users were most likely to be treated in short-term inpatient programs, although there were no differences in treatment retention by level of alcohol use across modalities

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Summary of Findings

- Over half of the sample reduced alcohol use following treatment; males were less likely to reduce use compared with females, as were whites and Hispanics compared with African Americans
- Service-to-need matching for alcohol services was highest in residential programs and lowest in outpatient programs
- Receipt of alcohol services while in drug treatment in DATOS-A was strongly related to perceived need for services, as well as legal status, dependence on marijuana, and being white (vs. African American)

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Study Implications

- Heavy alcohol use among adolescents in drug treatment is a marker for a more severe problem profile
- Drug treatment programs need to screen and assess for alcohol problems and link adolescents with needed services, particularly those treated in outpatient programs

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