



DRUG ABUSE MONITORING SYSTEM

2021 STATISTICAL REPORT ON DRUG DEPENDANTS REPORTED FROM TREATMENT AGENCIES

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National Dangerous Drugs Control Board

Introduction

The general objective of the Drug Abuse Monitoring System (DAMS) is to establish a sound database for planning and effective implementation of drug control programme and monitoring of trends on drug abuse. Specific objectives of the reporting system are as follows:

- To determine the incidence, prevalence and characteristics of drug users who come in contact with reporting institutions or practitioners.
- To determine and describe the at risk groups in the population.
- To assess and evaluate the existing treatment and rehabilitation programmes for drug users.
- To be an ‘early warning system’ to permit early programme responses.

This analytical report was compiled based on the reported data from government and private treatment agencies and services on monthly basis. Standard and pre-tested form was used as the instrument for reporting details on drug users which contains following core items:

- a. Demographic factors
- b. Type of Drugs
- c. Route of use
- d. Age at first use
- e. Reasons for drug initiation
- f. Treatment method
- g. Types of admissions

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Contents

Abstract	3
Background	4
Type of admission	4
Nature of treatment facility	4
Treatment methods	4
District	5
Gender	5
Marital status	6
Age	6
Ethnicity	6
Religion	7
Educational status	7
Employment	7
Influencing factors for drug initiation	8
Age of first use	
Drug use	8
Primary drug	8
Route of use	9
Drug related offences	9

Abstract

The total number of reported drug users who had received treatment facilities for the second quarter of 2021 was 191 persons. Of the total reported Drug Dependent Persons, 71% received treatment and rehabilitation from treatment and rehabilitation centers of National Dangerous Drugs Control Board (NDDCB), 07% from prisons drug treatment rehabilitation programme, 20% from Bureau of the Commissioner General of Rehabilitation (BCGR) and 02% from NGOs.

The majority of reported drug dependent persons had received institutional treatment facilities and among the treatment admissions, 23% were reported from Gampaha district. By considering the entire treatment admissions, 44% were from Western province.

Treatment admissions further revealed that, 191 males and females were not admitted for treatments in second quarter of 2021.

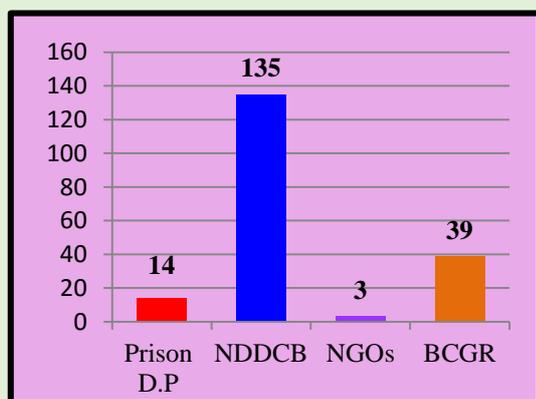
Among the total reported drug dependent persons 21% administered drugs by smoking, 04% by eating or drink and 67% used Chinese method (Chases the Dragon). It is also revealed that 98 (51%) of drug users were single and 63 (33%) were married. Data further indicates that 60 (31%) completed education up to grade 5 to 10 and 84 (44%) persons completed O/L examination.

Background

This is an analytical report on persons treated from treatment services during the second quarter of 2021 (April to June) and data received to the Drug Abuse Monitoring System (DAMS) on monthly basis.

One hundred and ninety one (191) drug dependent persons have been reported from treatment services during second quarter of 2021. 135 (71%) persons were reported from the NDDCB, 03 (02%) from Private treatment centers, 39 (20%) from BCGR and 14 (07%) from prison drug treatment programmes.

Figure 01: Distribution of reported drug treatment admissions



Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

Type of Admission

The distribution of drug related treatment admissions by admission types is shown table 01 and it reveals that majority, 126

was Voluntary admissions. 61 Court referral admissions were reported during the period.

Table 01

Type of Admission	Number of persons
Voluntary	126
Court referral	61
Other	02
Total	191

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

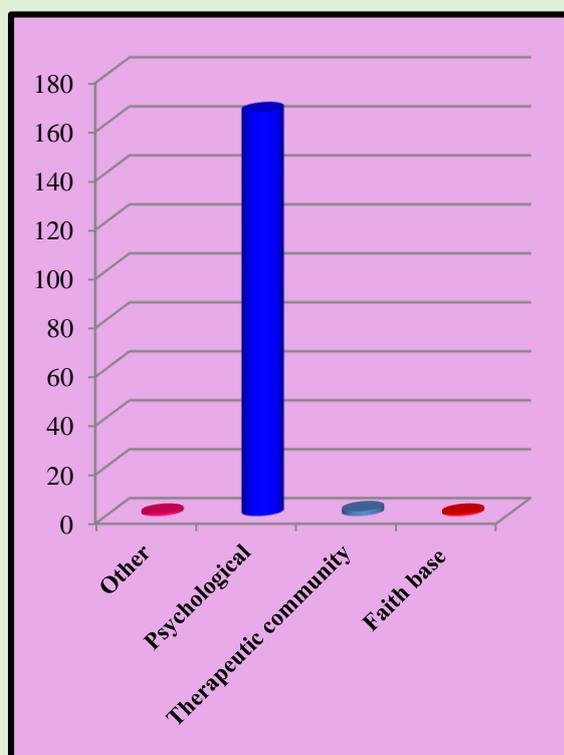
Nature of Treatment facility

By considering the type of treatment facilities received by the drug users in the second quarter 2021, majority, 89% (170) of them obtained in house or institutional treatment services. Out of the types of drug treatment facilities, “institutional care” can be considered as the most popular treatment facility.

Treatment method

Treatment received persons were further classified based on treatment methods which they have treated and it shows that 98% were obtained psychological treatment as majority. In addition to that, Therapeutic Community model (02) Faith Based treatment model (01) were also reported.

Figure 02: Distribution of treatment methods



Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

District

Considering the number of treatment received persons in district wise, it emphasized that highest number of persons, 43 (23%) were reported from Gampaha district.

However, Colombo (30), Kurunegala (17), Kalutara (11), Kandy (14), Galle (28) and Puttalam (10) are the other highlighted districts. 44% were reported for treatment services from Western province, 19% from Southern province and 14% from North

Western province and all the details are shown in table No. 02.

Table 02

District	Number of persons
Anuradhapura	01
Trincomalee	02
Mannar	01
Colombo	30
Galle	28
Kalutara	11
Kandy	14
Matara	07
Kurunegala	17
Gampaha	43
Hambantota	02
Rathnapura	04
Kegalle	06
Matale	04
Puttalam	10
Not recorded	11
Total	191

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

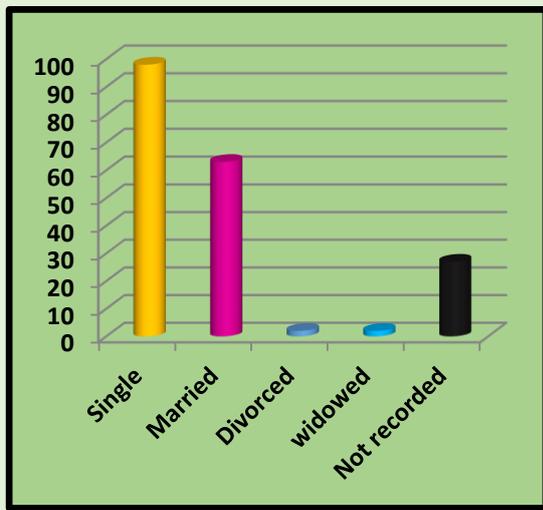
Gender

Out of the total treatment admissions of 2nd quarter 2021, 100% (191) were males and females were not reported.

Marital Status

Treatment admissions were further classified based on their marital status and it shows that 51% (98) were single and 33% (63) were married persons. In addition to that, divorced (02), widowed (01) and not mentioned (27) persons were also reported.

Figure 03: Distribution of marital status

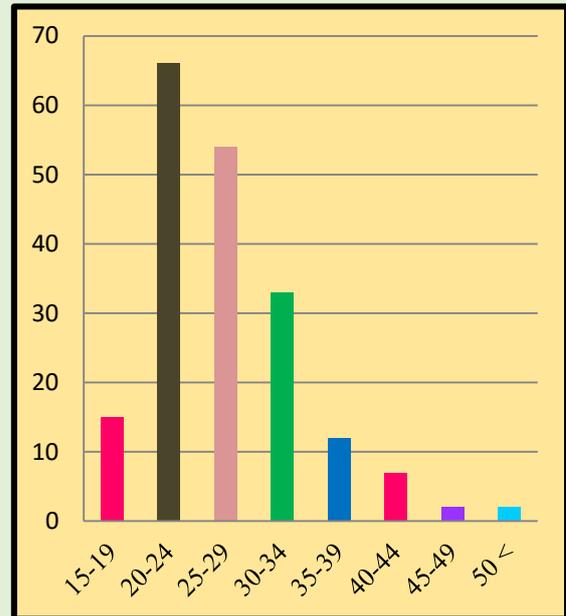


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

Age

The distribution of drug related treatment admissions by age is shown in figure 04 and it reveals that majority, 63 % (120), of the clients were in age 20-29 range. 17% (33), 06% (12), 08% (15), and 04% (07) were in the range of 30-34, 35-39, 15-19 and 40-44 years accordingly. No person had reported for age category of 01-14.

Figure 04: Distribution of treatment admissions by Age levels

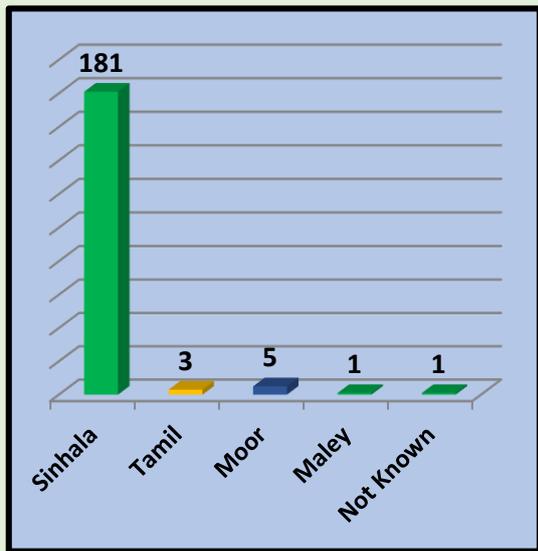


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

Ethnicity

According to the recorded persons by the ethnicity wise, 181 (95%) were Sinhalese, 05 (03%) were Moors, 03 (02%) were Tamils, and 01 (0.5%) of them were Malay. More details are shown in figure 06.

Figure 05: Distribution of treatment admissions by ethnicity

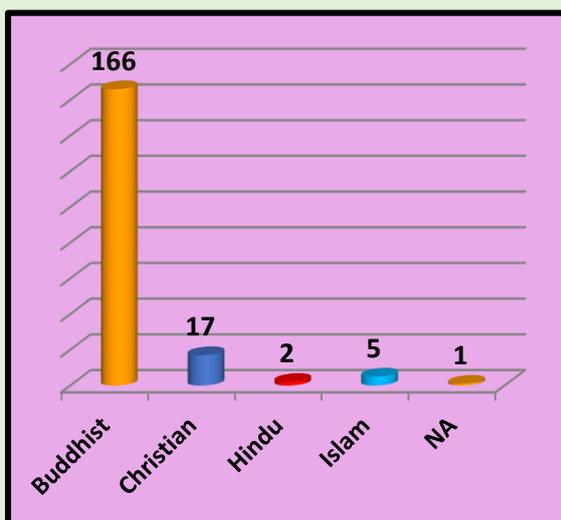


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

Religion

According to the data shown in figure 06, majority, 166 (87%) of the clients were Buddhists. 17 (09%) Christians, 05 (03%) Islam and 02 (01%) Hindus.

Figure 06: Distribution of treatment admissions by religion

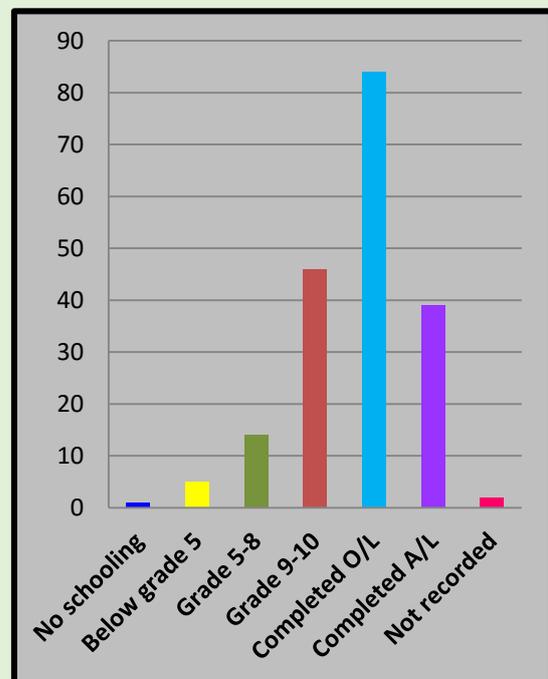


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

Educational Status

Treatment received client's educational background implies that, 65% (34) of them had lower level (up to grade 10) educational background and 0.5% (01) of the persons never been to school. However, 44% (84) had completed O/L and 20% (39) completed A/L exam.

Figure 07: Distribution of treatment admissions by level of education



Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

Employment

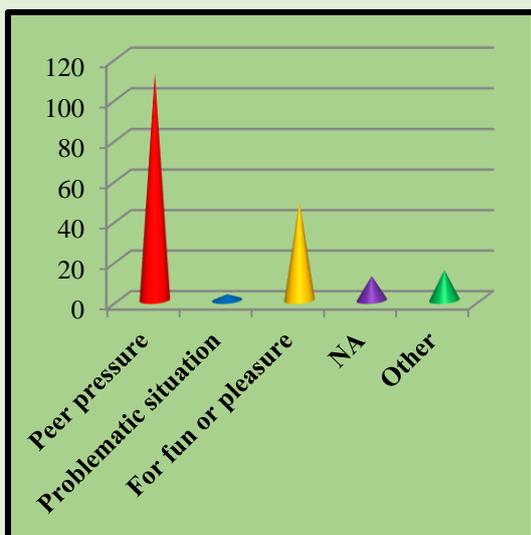
The distribution of treatment admissions by employment categories is as follows, 08 were laborers, 06 were unemployed and 09 were drivers or transport workers.

In addition to, 04 meson worker, 02 businessmen, 02 Sales & Clerical, 07 self-employed persons, 01 Manager or Administrators were reported and 54 not mentioned their employment.

Influencing factors for drug initiation

Different factors were reported as influencing factors for drug initiation. Out of the total drug dependent persons who reported to the treatment services, majority (112) had initiated drug use due to peer pressure. In addition to that, 49 persons had initiated to using drugs for pleasure and entertainment and 03 persons were reported for overcoming of problematic situations at their lives. All figures are shown below.

Figure 08: influencing factors for drug initiation



Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

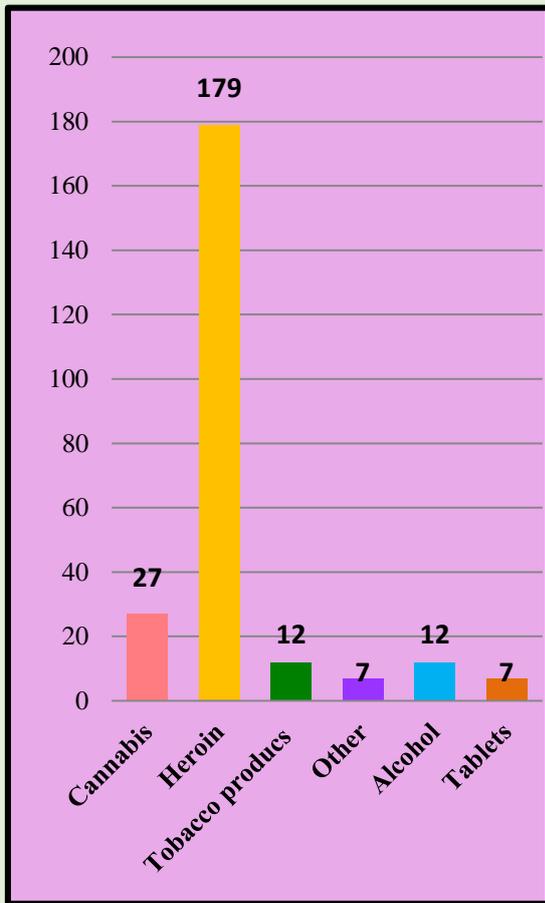
Age of first use

Average age of drug initiation was analyzed and it shows that, most of the persons have been initiated drug use at young age (14-27) and details are as follows, 16 and 17 was the average age for hashish and Heroin initiation, tobacco use initiated at age 15-year, alcohol at the age of 12 and cannabis users are initiated at the age 18 years. However, out of the total drug dependent person who received treatment services during this period, initiated Methamphetamine (ICE), cocaine and ecstasy use at the age 27, 19, 17 years accordingly.

Drug use

Treatment admission records further indicates that majority of drug dependent persons were poly drug users. 12 persons were used tobacco, 179 used heroin, 27 used cannabis, 12 used Alcohol and 07 persons used pharmaceutical tablets.

Figure 9: Distribution by Drug use



Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

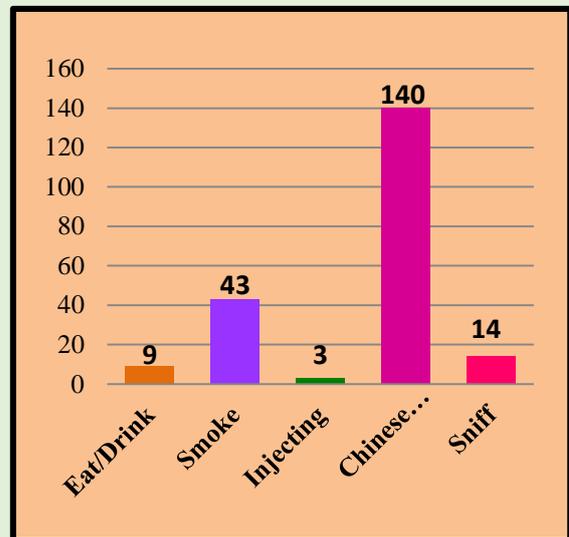
Primary Drug

Out of the total persons who reported to the treatment services during the period of 2nd quarter 2021, majority (103) were used Tobacco products as primary drug. Data further revealed that, 23 persons were used cannabis and 06 were used Alcohol as primary drugs. 59 persons were not mentioned about their primary drug.

Route of use

According to the reported data, clients had used more than one method for administered drugs. 21% (43) smoked drugs, 04% (09) eat or drink, 67% (140) used Chinese method, 07% (14) used drug-sniffing method and 01% (03) injected the drug.

Figure 10: Methods of drug use



Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2021

Drug related offences

Most of the drug dependent persons have ever been engaged in one or more drug related offences and used different drugs. Out of the persons who reported to the treatment services, 01 persons have been arrested at their life time for drug selling. Further, 89 persons were arrested for possession of drugs.

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