STATISTICAL REPORT ON DRUG DEPENDANTS REPORTED FROM TREATMENT AGENCIES

DRUG ABUSE MONITORING SYSTEM

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Introduction

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

- To determine the incidence, prevalence and characteristics of drug users who reported to treatment and rehabilitation services.
- To monitor the trends and patterns of drug use.
- To determine and describe at risk groups in the population.
- To assess and evaluate the existing treatment and rehabilitation programmes.
- To be an 'early warning system' to effective programme implementation.

The Information given in this report is from the Government and Non-Governmental organizations in Island wide contain core items on:

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Abstract

The total number of reported drug users who had received treatment facilities in 2022 was 1936. Of the total reported drug users, 38% received treatments of National Dangerous Drugs Control Board (NDDCB) treatment and rehabilitation centers, 03% from prisons drug treatment rehabilitation programme, 16% from NGOs and 42% from Kandakadu Treatment and Rehabilitation Center of Bureau of Commissioner General of Rehabilitation (BCGR).

Prisoner diversion programme has been changed in 2011 due to the enactment for the drug dependents (treatment and rehabilitation), act No. 54, 2007 has implemented prison treatment and rehabilitation programme in Sri Lanka and an exclusive treatment programme have been designed for prisons for drug related offenders.

The majority of reported drug users had received institutional treatment facilities and among the treatment admissions, 25% were from Gampaha district. By considering the entire treatment admissions, 58% were from Western province.

According to the reported data, 1929 males and seven females were admitted for the treatments in 2022.

Among the total drug users 32% administrated drugs by smoking, 09% by eating or drink and 67% used Chinese method. It is also revealed that 1122 (58%) of drug users were single and 627 (32.4%) were married. Data further indicates that 602 (32%) of them have studied grade 5 to 10 and 881 (46%) persons completed O/L examination.

Background

This is an analytical report based on the Drug Abuse Monitoring System (DAMS) on persons treated in the drug treatment facilities in 2022 (January to December).

One thousand nine hundred thirty six (1936) drug dependents have been reported from drug treatment and rehabilitation centres in 2022. 740 (38%) persons were reported from the NDDCB, treatment centers 304 (16%) from NGOs, 67 (03%) from prison drug treatment programmes and 819 (42%) from Kandakadu treatment and rehabilitation Centre.

Figure 01: Distribution of treatment admissions
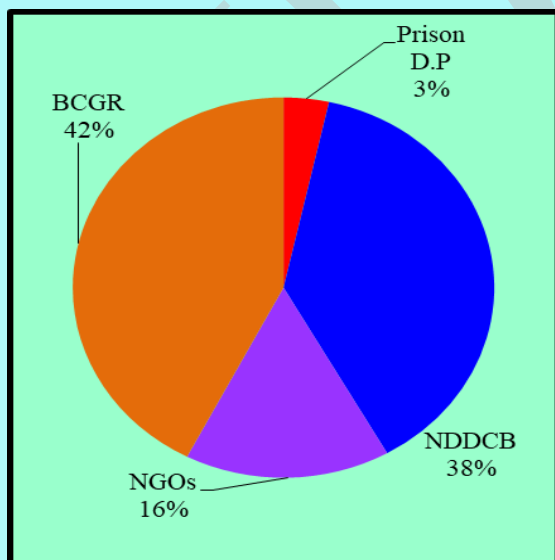
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

NGOs sector had provided treatment services for 304 drug users and out of them, 83 persons received treatments from

"Andurin Alokaya", 108 from "Nawajeewana" and 55 from "Pathuma Meeduma", 43 from "Power House" and 09 from "Senehasa".

Type of Admission

The distribution of admission types is shown in table 01 and it reveals that majority (982) was from Court referral. Voluntary admissions admissions were reported 779 persons.

Table 01

Type of Admission	Number of persons	Percentage (%)
Voluntary	779	40
Court referral	982	51
Other	104	05
Total	1936	100.0

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

## Type of Treatment facilities

By considering the type of treatment facilities in 2022, majority, 94.4% (1827), of them obtained in house or institutional treatments. Out of the types of drug treatment facilities, "institutional care" can be considered as the most popular drug abuse treatment facility.

Treatment methods

Treatment received persons were further classified based on the treatment methods, it shows that 71% (1666) were obtained

psychological treatment method as majority. In addition to, 12 step (74), Western medicine (137) and Therapeutic Community model (128) faith base treatment model (297) were also reported.
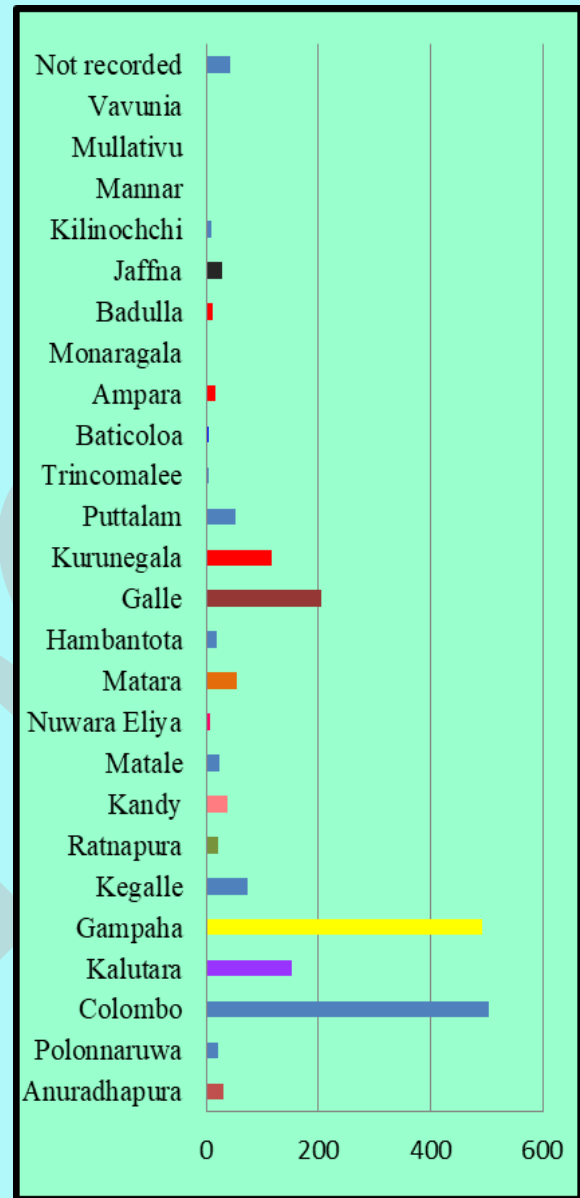
Figure 02: Distribution of treatment methods
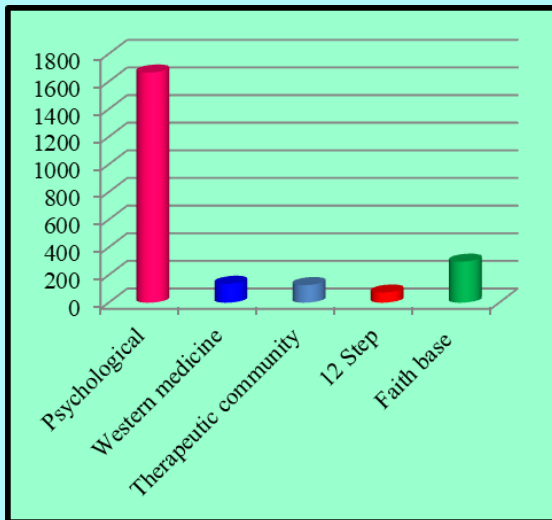
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

District

Considering the number of treatment received persons by districts, it emphasized that highest number of persons, 505 (26.1%) were reported from Colombo district.

However, Gampaha (492), Kalutara (153) Kurunegala (118), Kandy (37), Puttalam (52) and Kegalle (73) are the other highlighted districts. Out of the nine provinces, 58.4% were reported for treatments from Western province, 14% from Southern province and 09% from North Western province and all the details are shown as follows.

Figure 03: Distribution of treatment admissions by districts

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System,2022

Gender

Out of the total treatment admissions of 2022, 99.6% (1929) were males and 07 (0.4) females were reported.

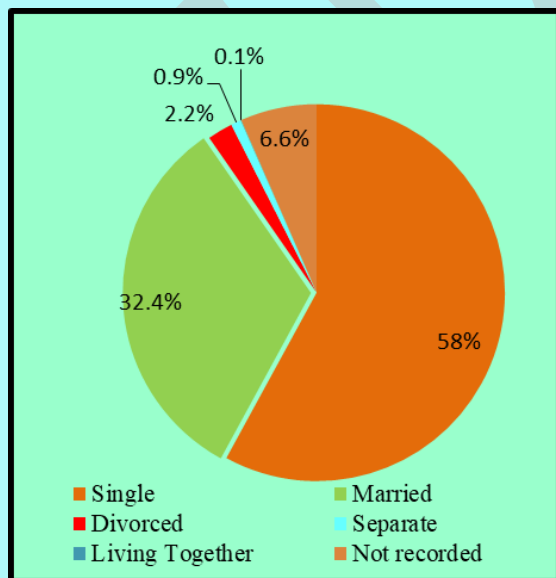## Figure 04: Distribution of treatment admissions by gender

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Marital Status

Treatment received persons were further classified based on their marital status and it shows that 58% (1122) were single and 627% (32.4) were married. In addition divorced (42) and Separated (17) persons were also reported.

Figure 05: Distribution of admissions by marital status

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Age

The distribution of drug related treatment admissions by age is shown in figure 06 and it reveals that majority, 55 % (1061), of the clients were in age 20-29 range. 18% (351), 10% (186) and 06% (110) were in the range of 30-34, 35-39 and 40-44 years accordingly. Nonetheless, six persons had reported for age category of 01-14.

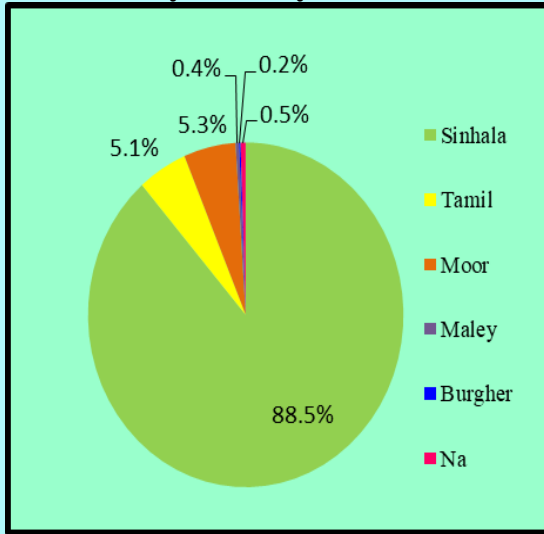## Figure 06: Distribution of treatment admissions by Age
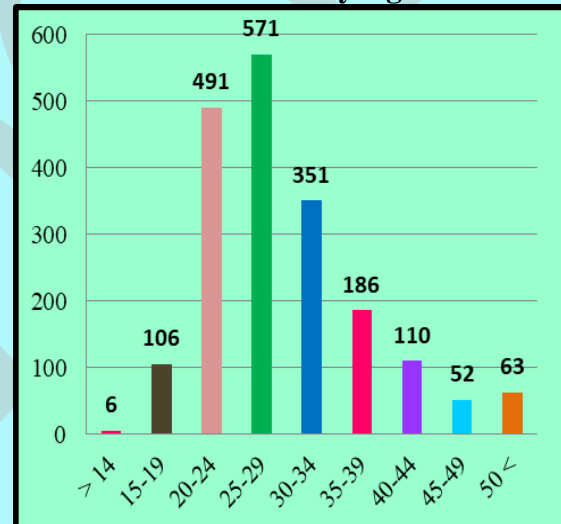
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Ethnicity

According to the recorded persons by the ethnicity wise, 1714 (88.5%) were Sinhalese, 103 (5.3%) were Moors, 98 (5.1%) were Tamils, and 7 (0.4%) of them were Malay. More details are shown in figure 07.

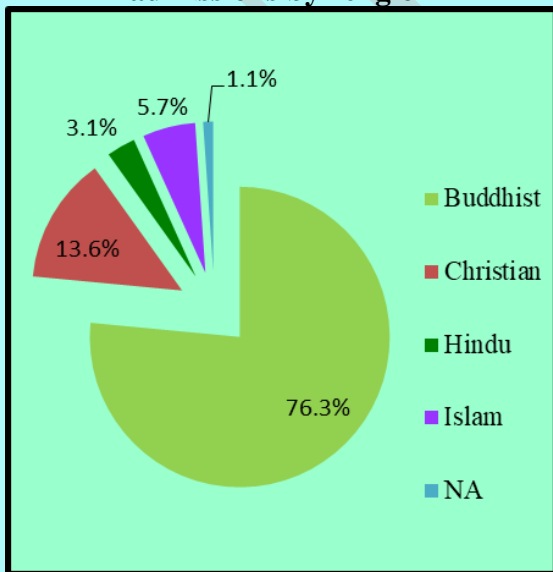**Figure 07: Distribution of treatment admissions by ethnicity**

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Religion

According to the data shown in figure 08, majority, 1478 (76.3%) of the clients were Buddhists. 263 (13.6%) Christians, 110 (5.7%) Islam and 60 (3.1%) Hindus.

**Figure 08: Distribution of treatment admissions by religion**

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Educational Status

Educational background of treatment received heroin implies that, 32% (602) of them had lower level (up to grade 10) educational background and 01% (20) of the persons never been to school. However, 46% (881) had completed O/L, 18% (342) completed A/L exam.

Figure 09: Distribution of treatment admissions by education
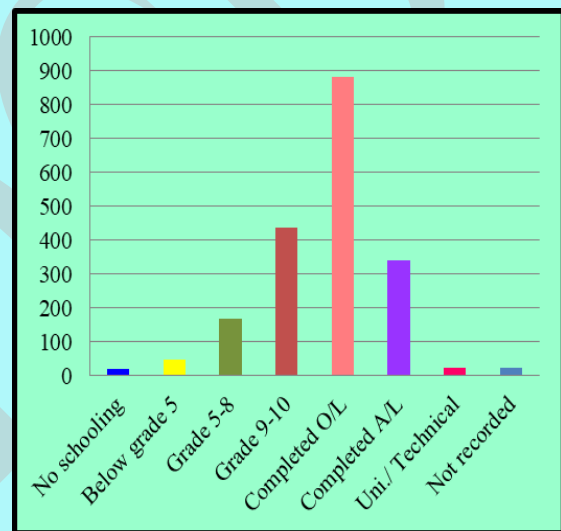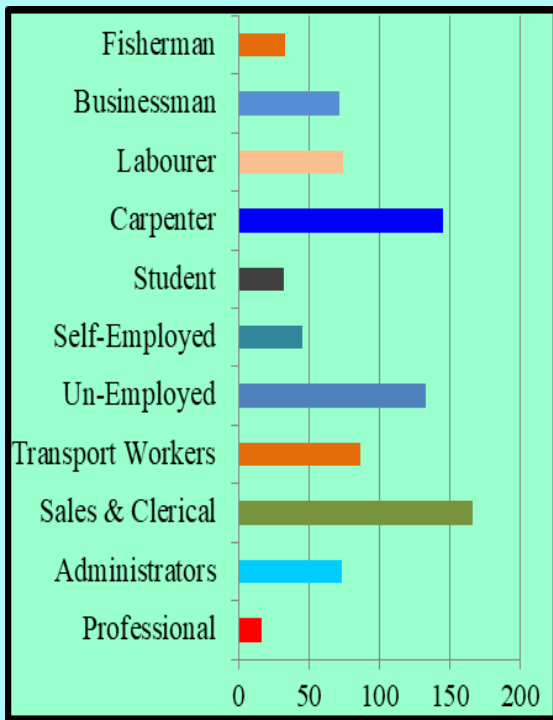

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Employment

The distribution of the arrest reported by occupation of 2022 is as follows, 145 were labourers, 166 were drivers or transport workers and 74 were businessmen.

In addition to, 73 sales man, 133 self-employed persons, 71 Fishman, 33 mason workers, 25 professionals were reported.

**Figure 10: Distribution of treatment admissions by employment**

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Influencing factors for drug initiation

Different factors were reported as influencing factors for drug initiation. Of persons who were admitted to the treatment services.

Majority (832) had initiated drug use due to peer pleasure. In addition to that 693 persons were recorded for pleasure and entertainment and 56 persons were reported for problematic situations. All figures are given below.

Figure 11: influencing factors for drug initiation
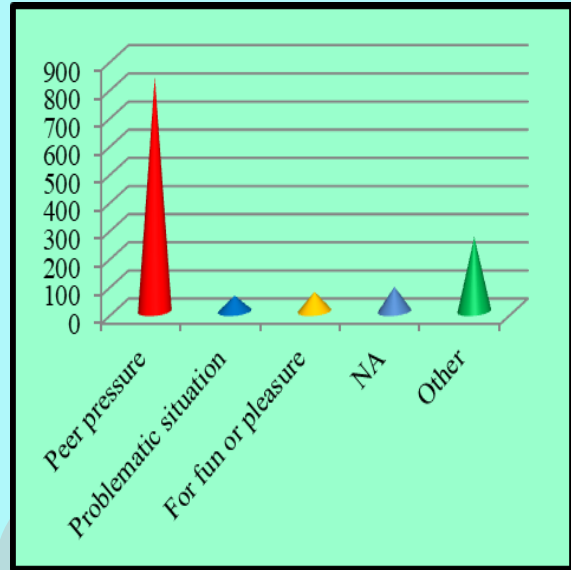
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Drugs

Data indicates that most of the treatment received clients were multiple drug users. 1566 used heroin, and 1522 used cannabis. Methamphetamine, Alcohol, tablets and opium users are as follows, 974, 148 and 541.
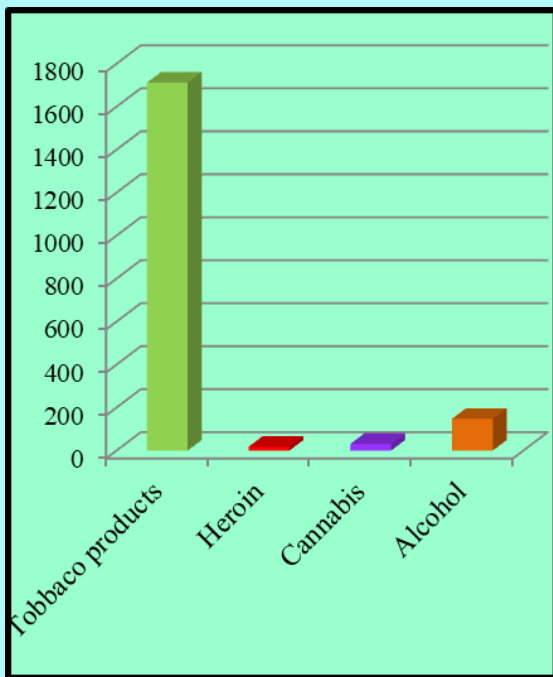
Figure 12: Distribution of clients by Drug use
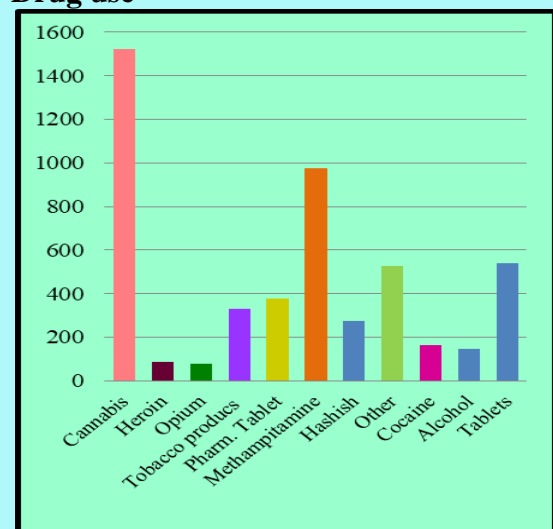
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Primary Drug

Figures of primary drug use, related that majority (31) were used cannabis. Of the total dependents 18 were used heroin, 148 were used Alcohol and 1712 were used Tobacco Products as primary drug.

**Figure 13: Distribution of treatment admissions by primary drug**

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Nature of offence

Incidents were reported that, persons with substance disorders have been engaged in while wing drug related offences different drugs. Out of the treatment received persons, 62 of them have been reported as drug sellers and 880 persons were arrested for possession of drugs at their life time.

**Figure 14: Distribution of treatment received by drug offence**
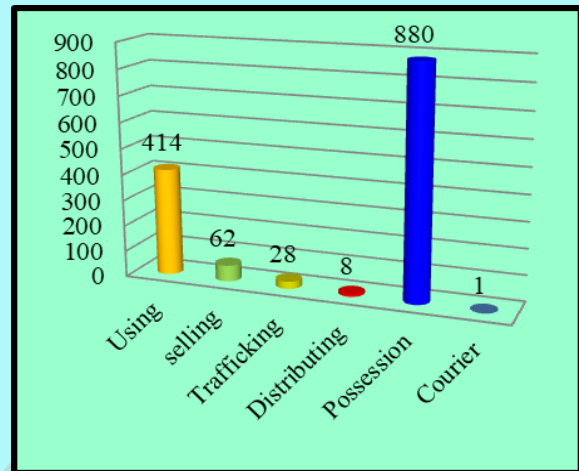
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

Route of use

According to the reported data, clients had used more than one method to administrated drugs. 32% (610) of them smoked the drug, 09% (169) eat or drink, 67% (1295) used Chinese method, 03% (59) used drug-sniffing method and 02% (42) injected the drug.

Figure 15: Distribution of treatment admissions by route of use
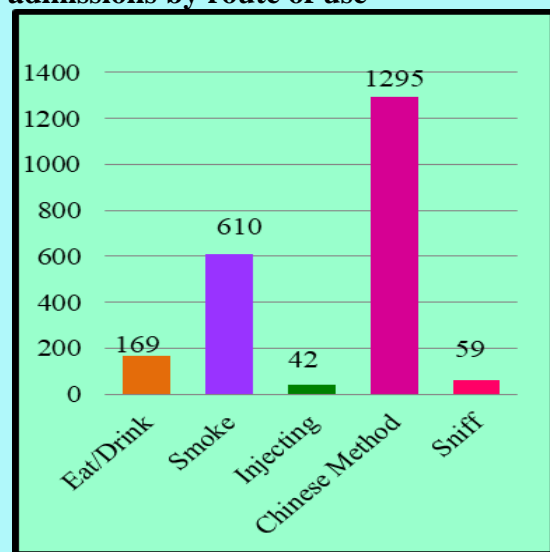
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2022

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