

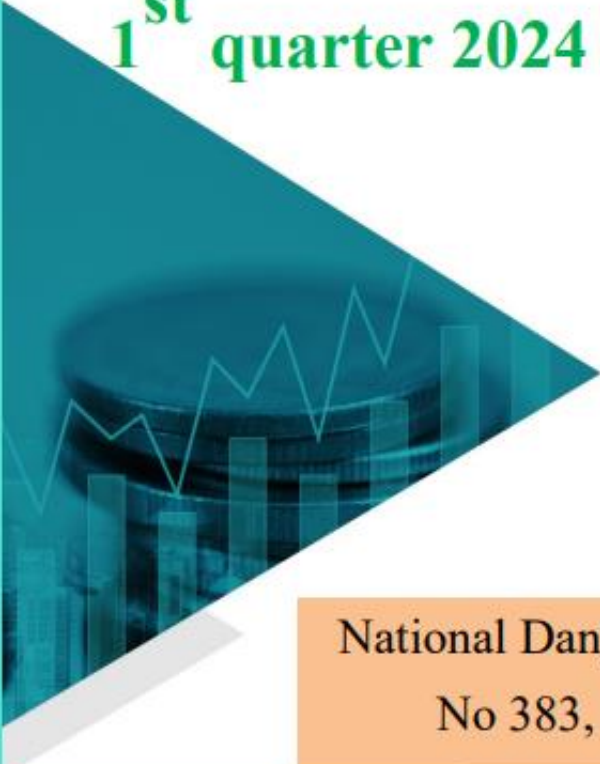


STATISTICAL
REPORT ON
DRUG
DEPENDANTS
REPORTED
FROM
TREATMENT
AGENCIES

DRUG ABUSE MONITORING SYSTEM

VOLUME – 132

1st quarter 2024 (January – March)



National Dangerous Drugs Control Board
No 383, Kotte Road, Rajagiriya

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’ for effective programme implementation.

This analytical report is based on the information reported from government and Non government treatment services to the DAMS during the first quarter of 2022.

Information on treatment admissions are comprised under following ‘indicators’.

- a. Demographic characteristics
- b. Drug use
- c. Route of use
- d. Frequency of drug use
- e. Age at first use
- f. The primary drug used
- g. Treatment method
- h. Types of admission
- i. Nature of drug offence

Research Division

Abstract

The total number of reported drug users who had received treatment services for the first quarter of 2024 was 332. Of the total reported drug users, 53.6 % received treatment from the treatment and rehabilitation center of National Dangerous Drugs Control Board (NDDCB). 1.5% from prisons drug treatment rehabilitation programme, 6% from NGOs and 38.9% from Kandakadu Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre of Bureau of Commissioner General of Rehabilitation (BCGR).

Treatment and rehabilitation services have been regulated and monitored by the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board in terms of the provisions of act No: 54 of 2007; drug dependent persons treatment & Rehabilitation act.

The majority of reported drug users had received institutional treatment facilities and among the treatment admissions, 31.9% were from Gampaha district. By considering the entire treatment admissions, 60.9% were from Western province.

According to the reported data, 332 males and no females were admitted for the treatment services in the first quarter of 2024.

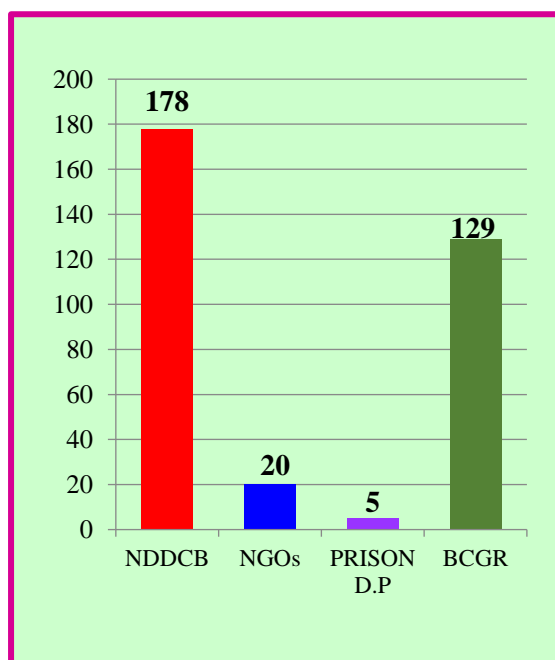
Among the total drug users 24.8% administrated drugs by smoking, 10.8% by eating or drink and 61% used Chinese method. It is also revealed that 153 (46.1%) of drug users were single and 135 (40.7%) were married. Data further indicates that 96 (28.9%) of them have studied grade 5 to 10 and 109 (28.9%) persons completed O/L examination.

Background

This is an analytical report based on the Drug Abuse Monitoring System (DAMS) on persons treated in drug treatment facilities during the first quarter of 2024.

three hundred thirty two (332) drug dependents have been reported from drug treatment and rehabilitation centres during the first quarter of 2024. 178 (53.6%) persons were reported from the NDDCB treatment centers, 20 (6%) from NGOs, 05 (1.5%) from prison drug treatment programmes and 129 (38.9%) from Kandakadu treatment and rehabilitation Centre.

Figure 01: Distribution of treatment admissions



Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Type of Admission

The distribution of admission types is shown in table 01 and it reveals that majority (157) was

from court referral admissions. Voluntary admissions were reported 156 persons.

Table 01

Type of Admission	Number of persons	Percentage (%)
Voluntary	175	52.7
Court referral	157	47.3
Total	332	100

Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

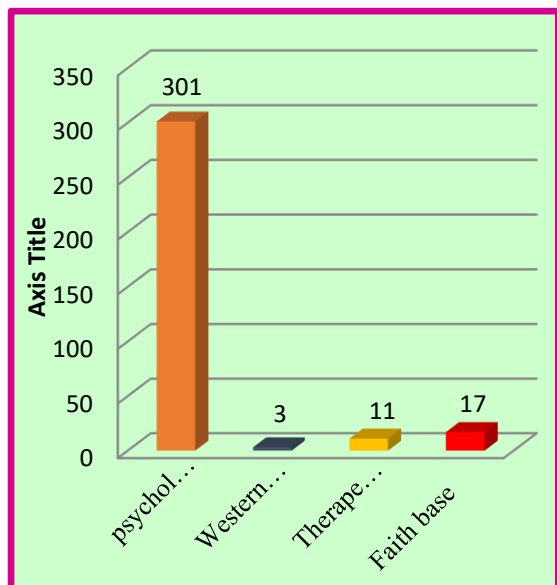
Type of Treatment facilities

By considering the type of treatment facilities in the first quarter of 2024, majority, 92.8% (108), of them obtained in house or institutional treatments. Out of the types of drug treatment facilities, “institutional care” can be considered as the frequently used treatment facility.

Treatment methods

Persons received treatments were further classified based on the treatment methods, it shows that 90.7% (301) obtained psychological treatment method as majority. In addition to, Western medicine (03) and Therapeutic Community model (11) faith base treatment model (17) were also reported.

Figure 02: Distribution of treatment methods



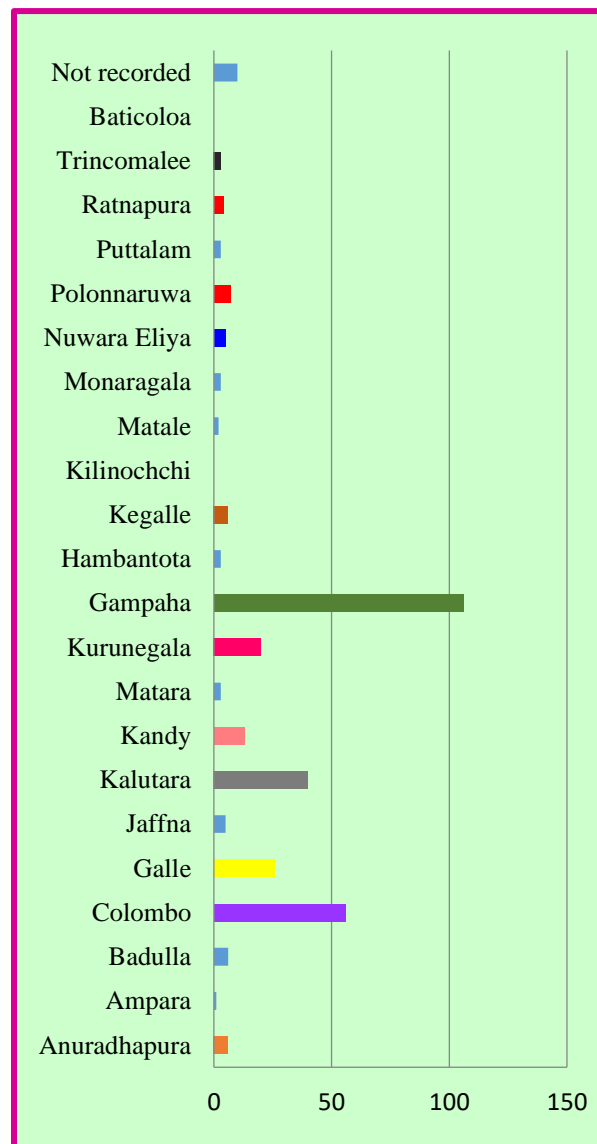
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

District

Considering the number of treatment received persons by districts, it was emphasized that highest number of persons, 106 (31.9%) were reported from Gampaha district.

However, Colombo (56), Kalutara (40) Kurunegala (20), Galle (25), Puttalam (03) and Kegalle (06) are the other highlighted districts. Out of the nine provinces, 60.9% were reported for treatment from Western province, 9.3% from Southern province and 6.9% from North Western province and all the details are shown as follows.

Figure 03: Distribution of treatment admissions by districts

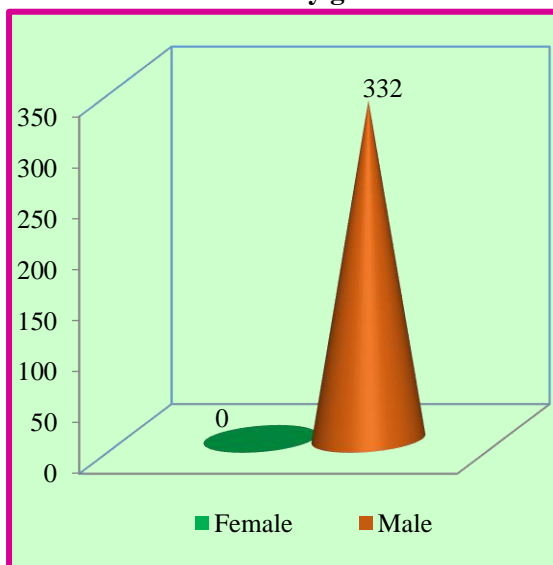


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Gender

Out of the total treatment admissions of the first quarter of 2024, 100% (332) were males. No female drug users reported.

Figure 04: Distribution of treatment admissions by gender

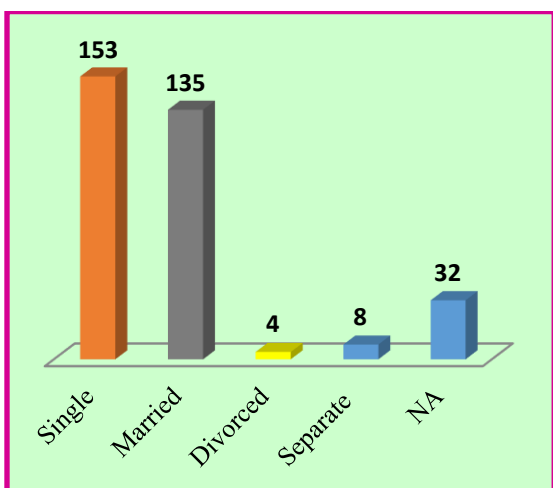


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Marital Status

Treatment received persons were further classified based on their marital status and it shows that 46.1% (153) were single and 40.7% (135) were married. In addition divorced (4) and Separated (8) persons were also reported.

Figure 05: Distribution of admissions by marital status

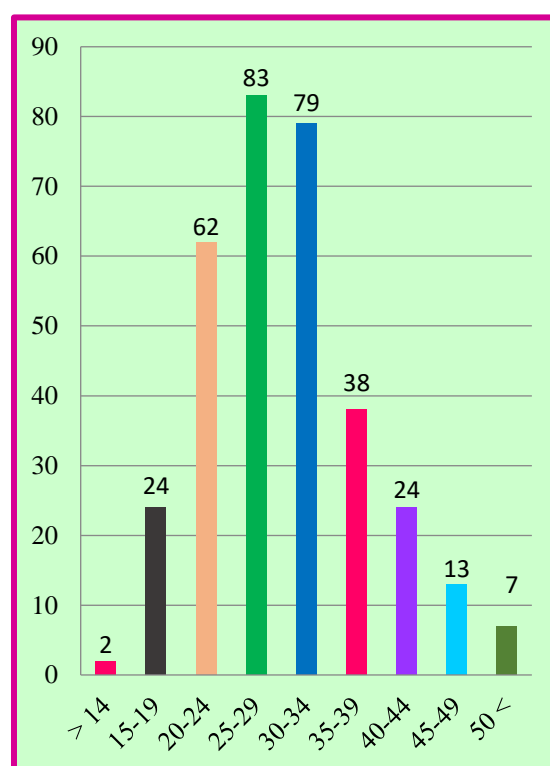


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Age

Substance abuse is an increasing global socio – medical problem among young/ adolescent males. The distribution of drug related treatment admissions by age is shown in figure 06 and it reveals that majority, 43.7% (145), of the clients were in age 20-29 range. 23.8% (79), 11.5% (38) and 7.2% (24) were in the range of 30-34, 35-39 and 40-44 years accordingly.

Figure 06: Distribution of treatment admissions by Age



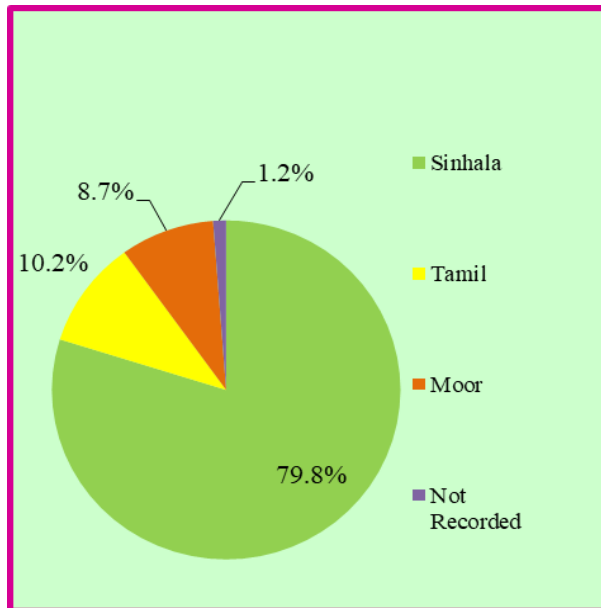
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Ethnicity

According to the recorded persons by ethnicity wise, 265 (79.8%) were Sinhalese, 29 (8.7%) were Moors and 34 (10.2%) were Tamils. More details are shown in figure 07.

Figure 07: Distribution of treatment admissions by ethnicity

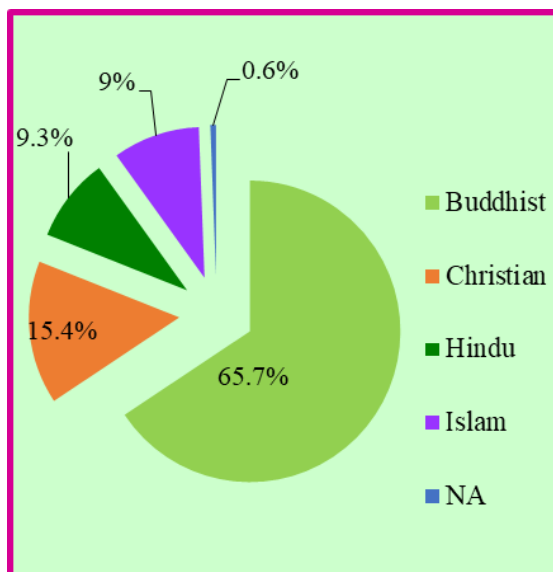
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024



Religion

According to the data shown in figure 08, majority, 218 (65.7%) of the clients were Buddhists. 51 (15.4%) Christians, 31 (9.3%) Islam and 30 (9.0%) Hindus.

Figure 08: Distribution of treatment admissions by religion

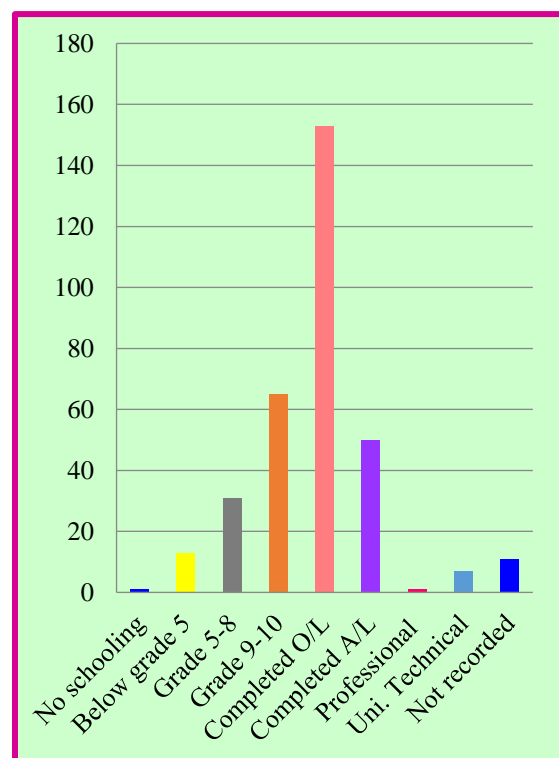


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Educational Status

Educational background of treatment persons implies that, 32.8% (109) of them had lower level of (up to grade 10) education and 0.3% (01) of the persons have never been to school. However, 46.1% (153) had completed O/L, 15.1% (50) completed A/L exam and university or technically educated 08 persons.

Figure 09: Distribution of treatment admissions by education



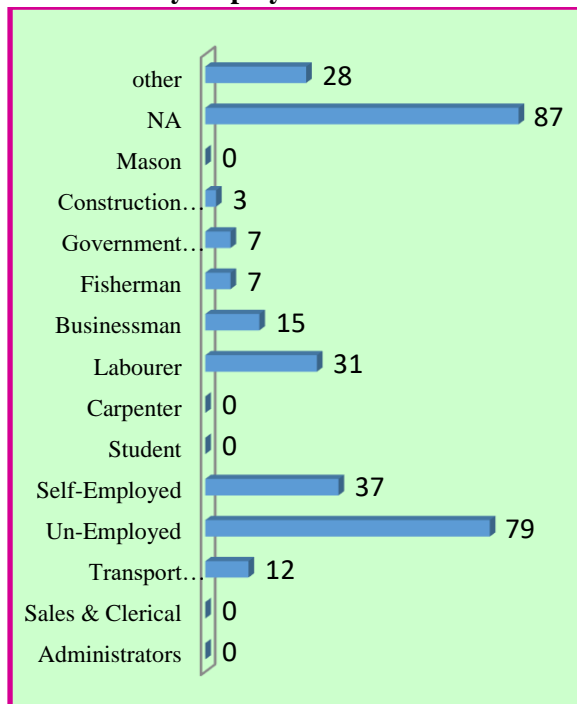
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Employment

The distribution of the treatment admissions reported by occupation for the period of the first quarter of 2024 is as follows, 31 were labourers, 12 were drivers or transport workers and 15 were businessmen.

In addition to, 07 government sector, 37 self-employed persons, fishermen 07, contraction sector 03 and 22 private sector were reported.

Figure 10: Distribution of treatment admissions by employment



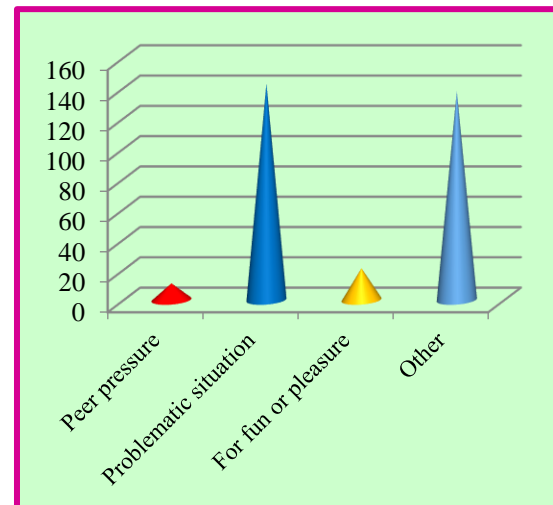
Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Influencing factors for drug initiation

Research currently suggests a considerable number of factors that may contribute to the initiation of drug use. SUD persons who are reported to the treatment services have revealed the factors which effected to their Drug initiation.

Majority (149) had initiated drug use due to peer pressure. In addition to that 143 persons were recorded for pleasure and entertainment and 11 persons were initiate drug use due to problematic situations. All figures are given below.

Figure 11: influencing factors for drug initiation

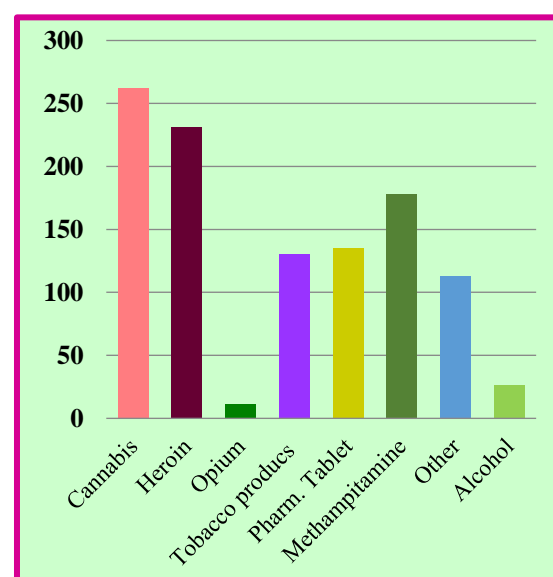


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Drugs

Data indicates that most of the treatment received clients were multiple drug users. 130 used tobacco, 231 used heroin and 262 used cannabis. Methamphetamine, Alcohol, tablets and opium users are as follows, 178, 26, 135 and 11.

Figure 12: Distribution of clients by Drug use

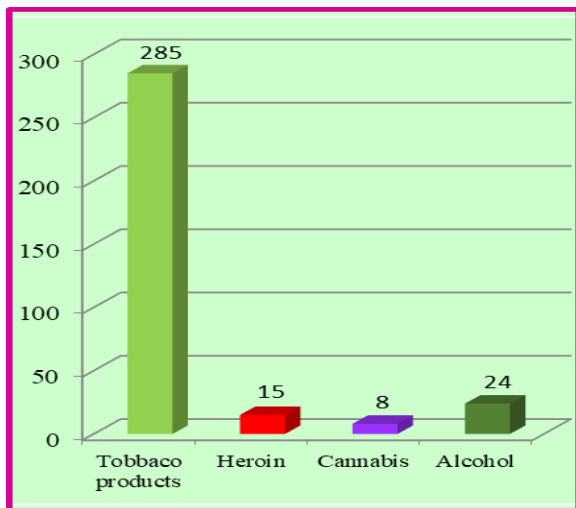


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Primary Drug

As per figures of primary drug use, majority (285) used Tobacco products. Of the total dependents 15 used heroin, 24 used Alcohol and 8 used cannabis as primary drug.

Figure 13: Distribution of treatment admissions by primary drug

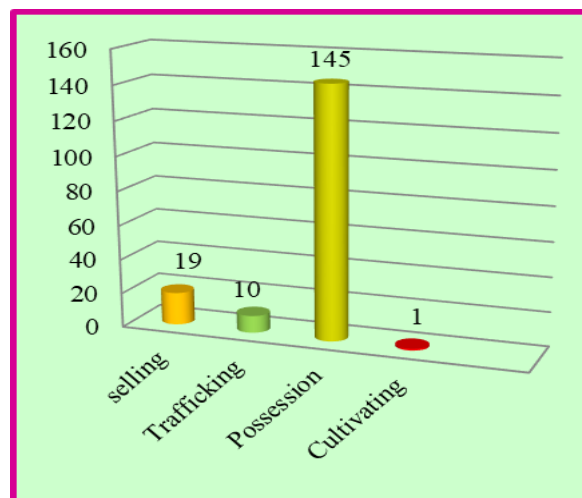


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Nature of offence

Incidents were reported that, persons with substance use disorders have been engaged in drug related offences with different drugs. Out of the treatment received persons, 19 of them have been reported as drug sellers. 145 persons were arrested for possession of drugs during their life time.

Figure 15: Distribution of treatment received by drug offence

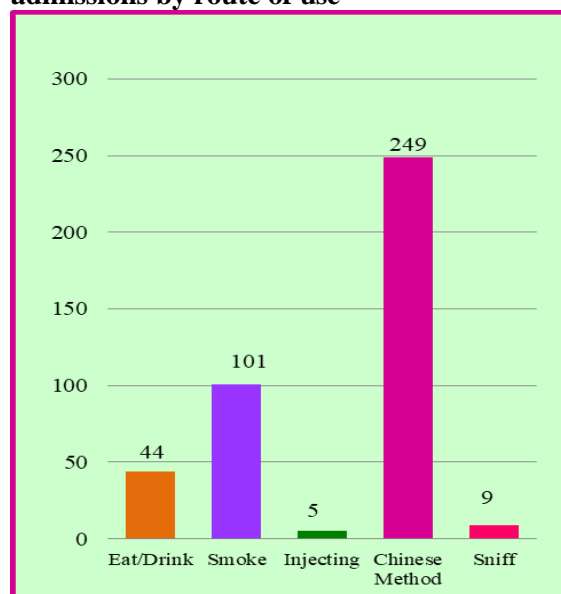


Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Route of use

According to the reported data, clients had used more than one method for the consumption of drugs. 24.8% (101) of them smoked the drug, 10.8% (44) eat or drink, 61% (249) used Chinese method, 2.2% (09) used drug-sniffing method and 1.2% (5) injected the drug.

Figure 16: Distribution of treatment admissions by route of use



Source: Drug Abuse Monitoring System, 2024

Prevention, Treatment & Rehabilitation Centres of NDDCB

CP/Youth Prevention, Treatment &
Rehabilitation Centre
Mampitiya Estate, Handessa, Peradeniya.
Tel +94 81 2315504
Fax +94 81 2315504
E-mail methsevana@nddcb.gov.lk

WP/Prevention, Treatment & Rehabilitation
Centre
172, Shanthi Mawatha, Thalangama.
Tel +94 11 2788090
Fax +94 11 2788090
E-mail sethsevana@nddcb.gov.lk

Prevention, Treatment & Rehabilitation
Centre
Urapola, Nittambuwa.
Tel +94 33 2283060
Fax +94 33 2283060
E-mail navadiganthaya@nddcb.gov.lk

SP/Prevention, Treatment & Rehabilitation
Centre
Unawatuna, Galle
Tel +94 91 2224443
Fax +94 91 2224443
E-mail mithsevana@nddcb.gov.lk

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தேசிய அபாயகர ஒளடதங்கள் கட்டுப்பாட்டு சபை
NATIONAL DANGEROUS DRUGS CONTROL BOARD



 Hotline 1927

National Dangerous Drugs Control Board
383, Kotte Road, Rajagiriya
Sri Lanka
Tel : 0112868794-6
Fax : 0112868791-2
Counselling Helpline - 1927



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