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American States

# Standardized Data Collection System for Drug and Alcohol Treatment Facilities.

## Drug Treatment in The Bahamas

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Nassau, The Bahamas



To present an overview of the Regional  
Treatment Data System

To present results from all countries for the  
2016 cycle of data collection

To present 2016 results from The Bahamas



Drug users are often  
difficult to reach



Treatment facilities provide  
an opportunity to observe  
what would otherwise be a  
'hidden' problem



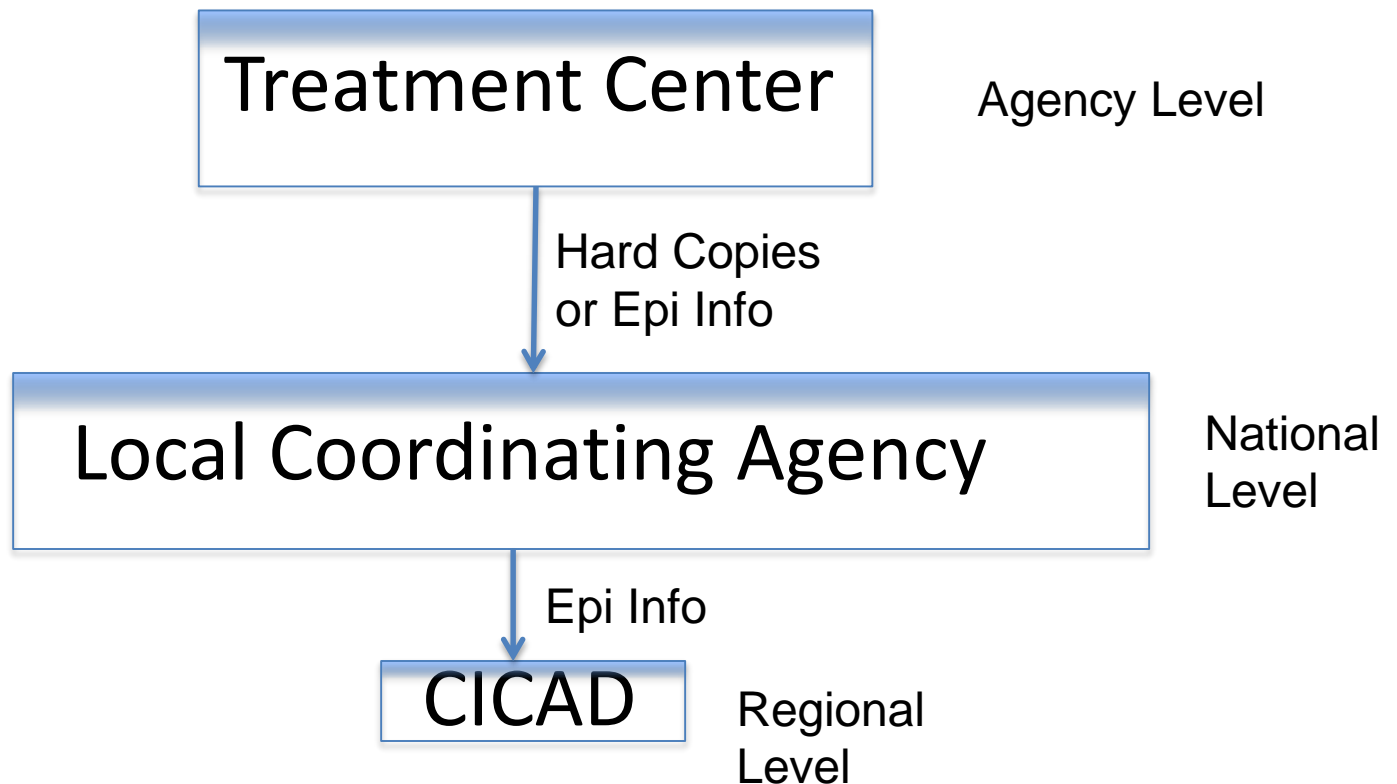
Information about the number and characteristics of drug users who seek help and the treatment they receive is valuable for several reasons:

- Planning
- Management
- Needs Assessment
- Provide Epidemiological Indicators of drug problems
- Inform and develop drug policy



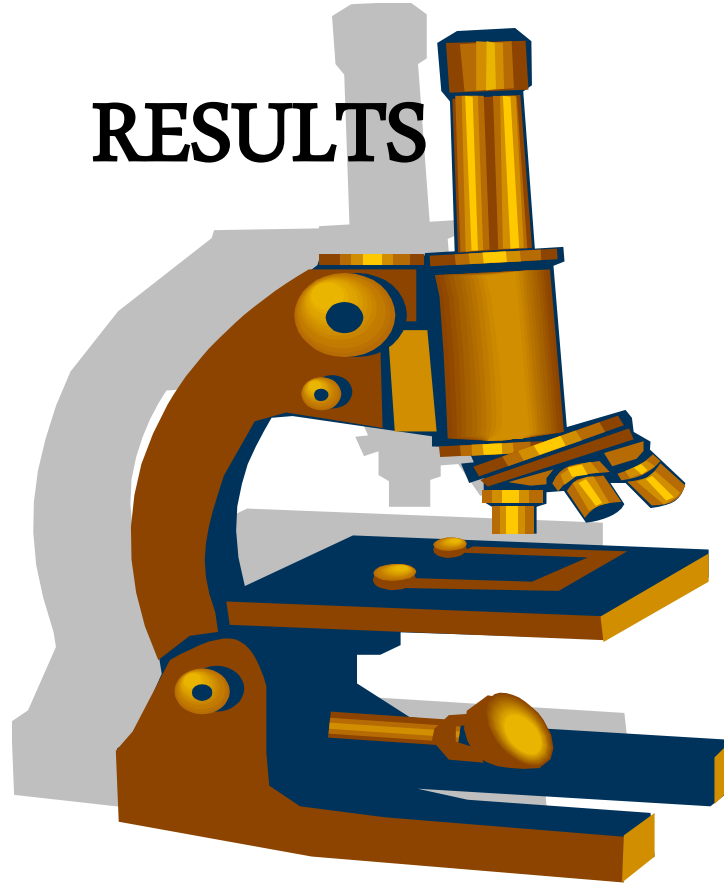
The objective of the TDP is to collect information on persons seeking treatment in all of our member states in a standardized way. This allows us to:

- Build a profile of the demographic characteristics, drug using behaviors, and treatment history, of these persons.
- Establish trends
- Identify risk factors for problematic drug use.





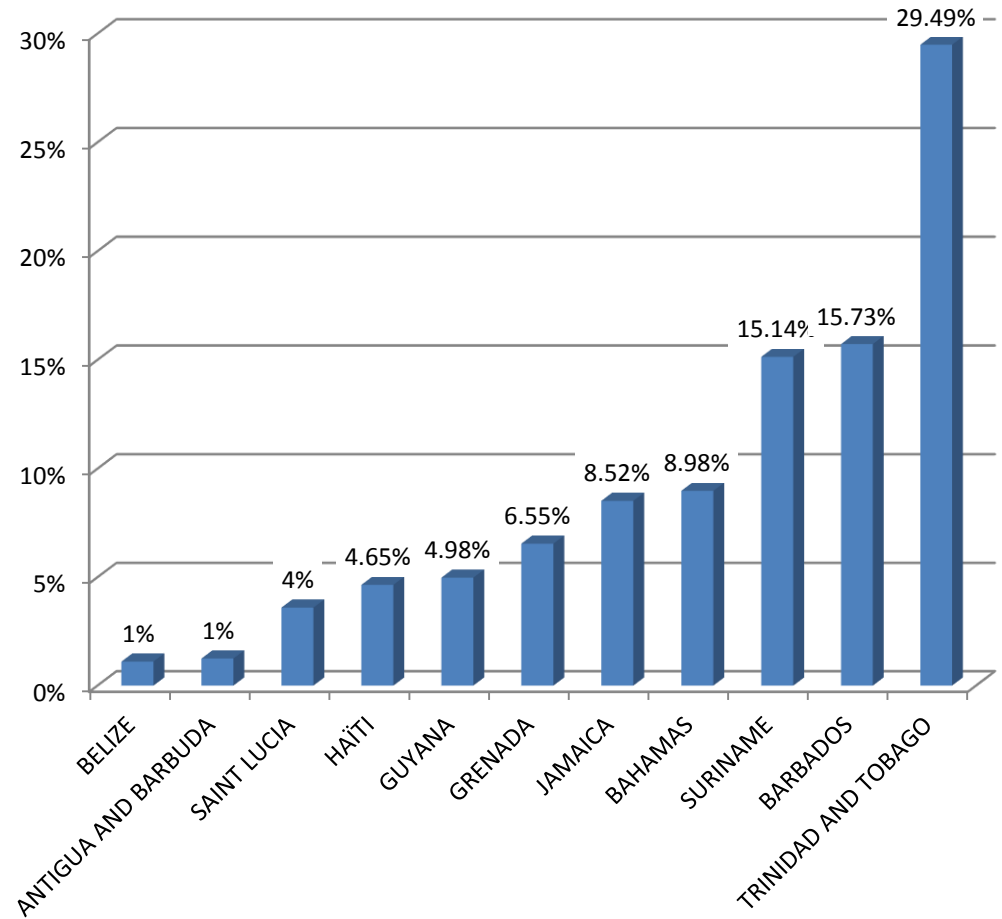
# RESULTS





COUNTRY	Percent	Frequency
BELIZE	1%	17
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	1%	19
SAINT LUCIA	4%	55
HAÏTI	4.65%	71
GUYANA	4.98%	76
GRENADA	6.55%	100
JAMAICA	8.52%	130
BAHAMAS	8.98%	137
SURINAME	15.14%	231
BARBADOS	15.73%	240
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	29.49%	450
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>1526</b>

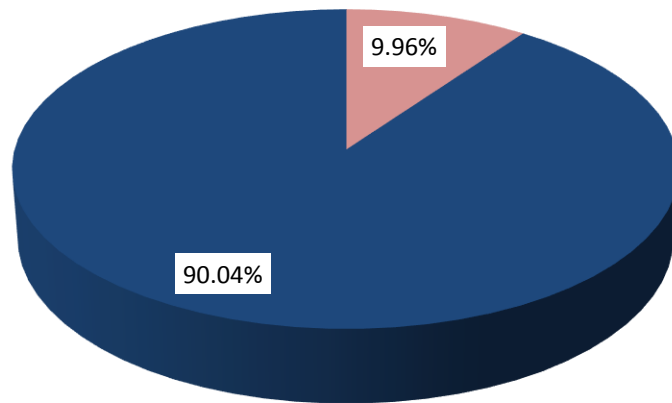
## 2016 TREATMENT CASES BY COUNTRY





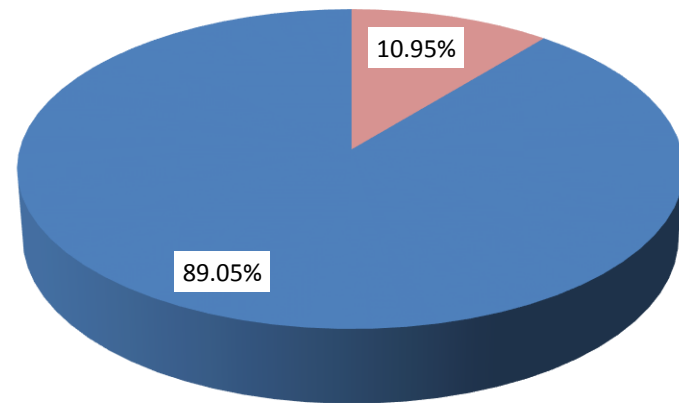


### Regional Data



FEMALE MALE

### Bahamas Data



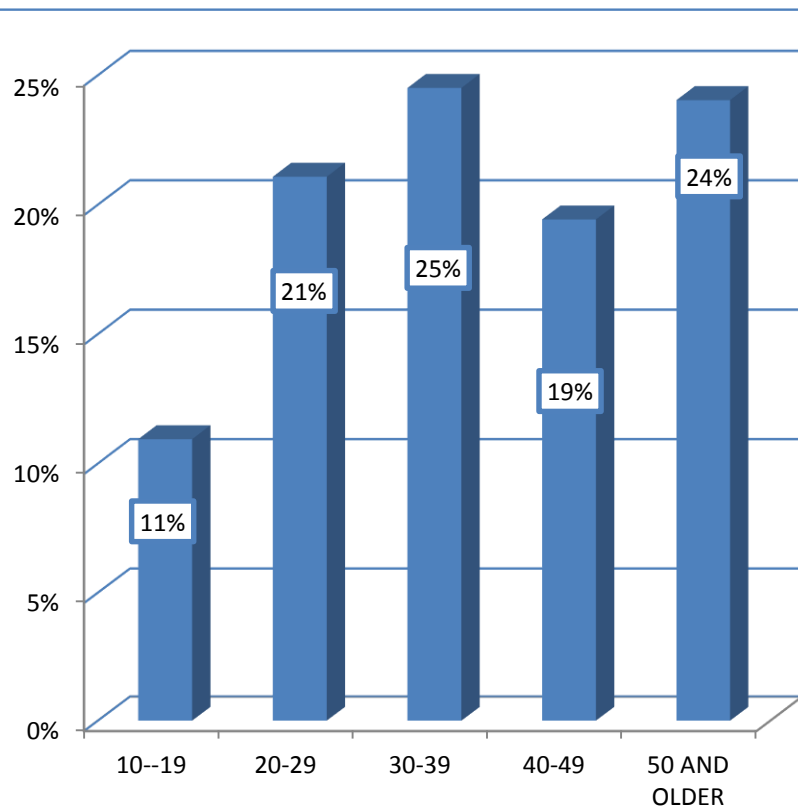
FEMALE MALE

# DEMOGRAPHICS- Age Range

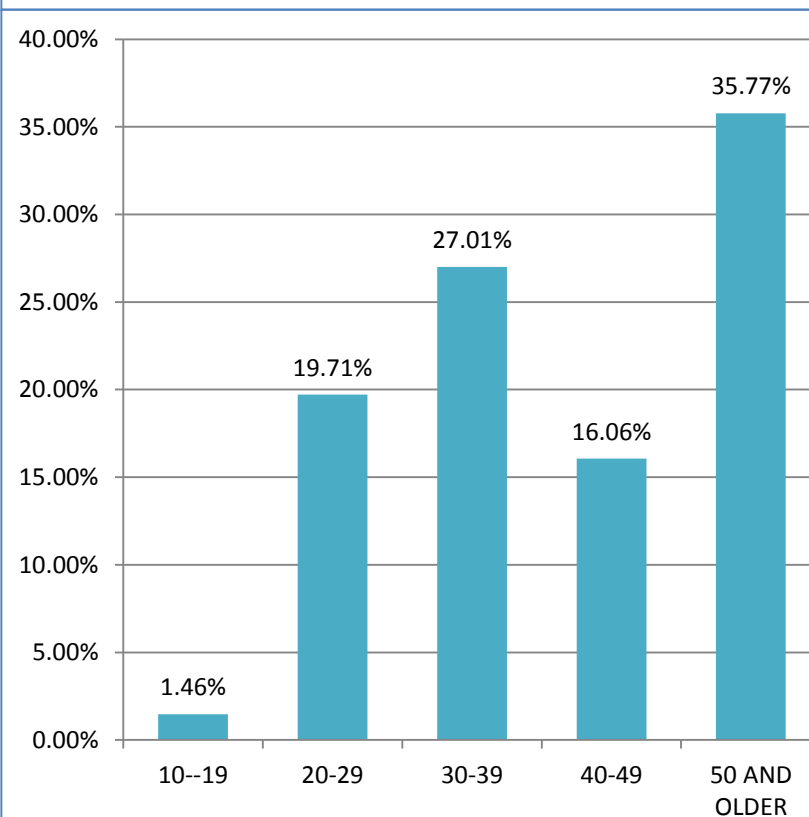


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## REGIONAL DATA

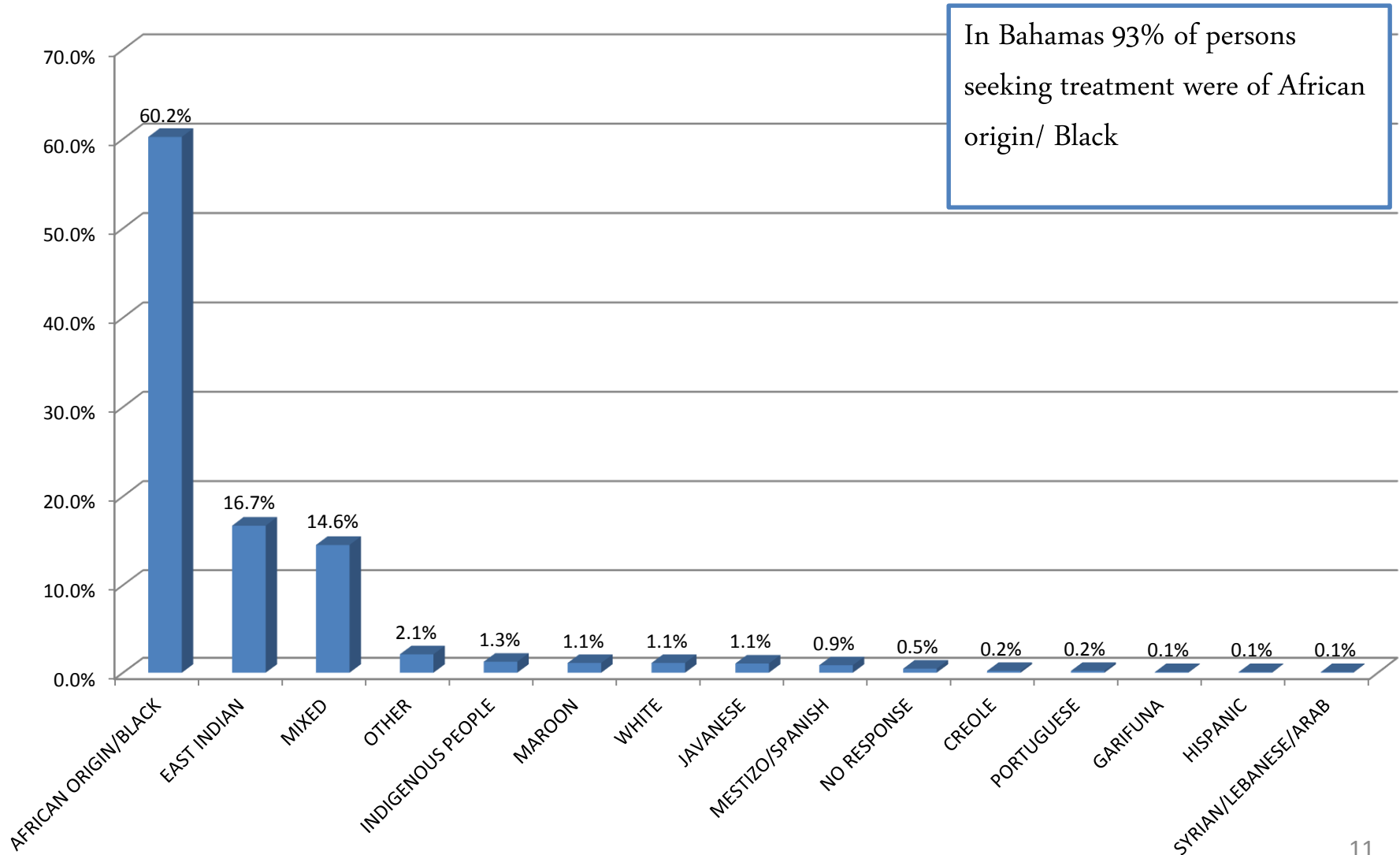


## BAHAMAS DATA



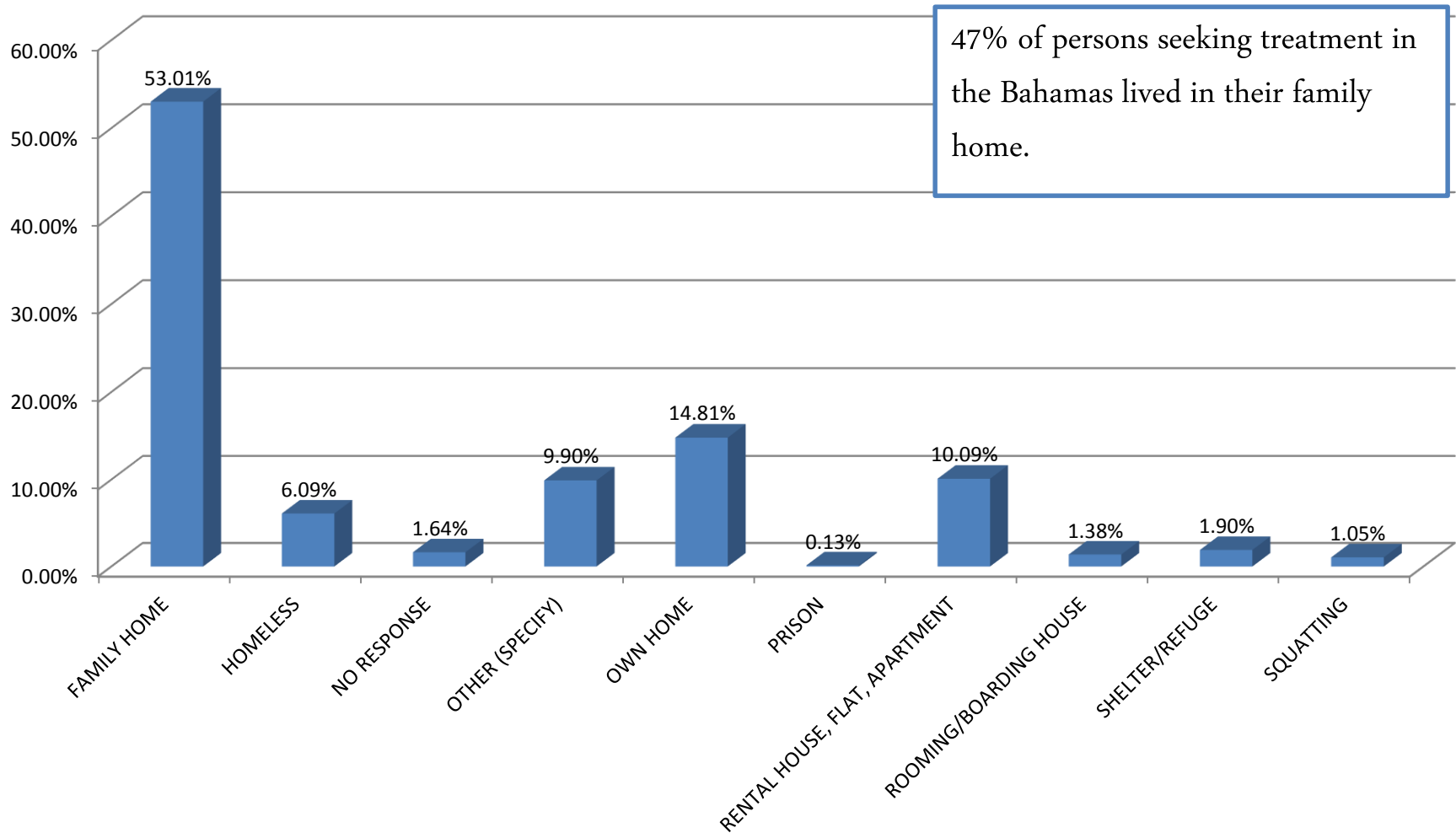


### ETHNICITY OF PERSONS SEEKING TREATMENT



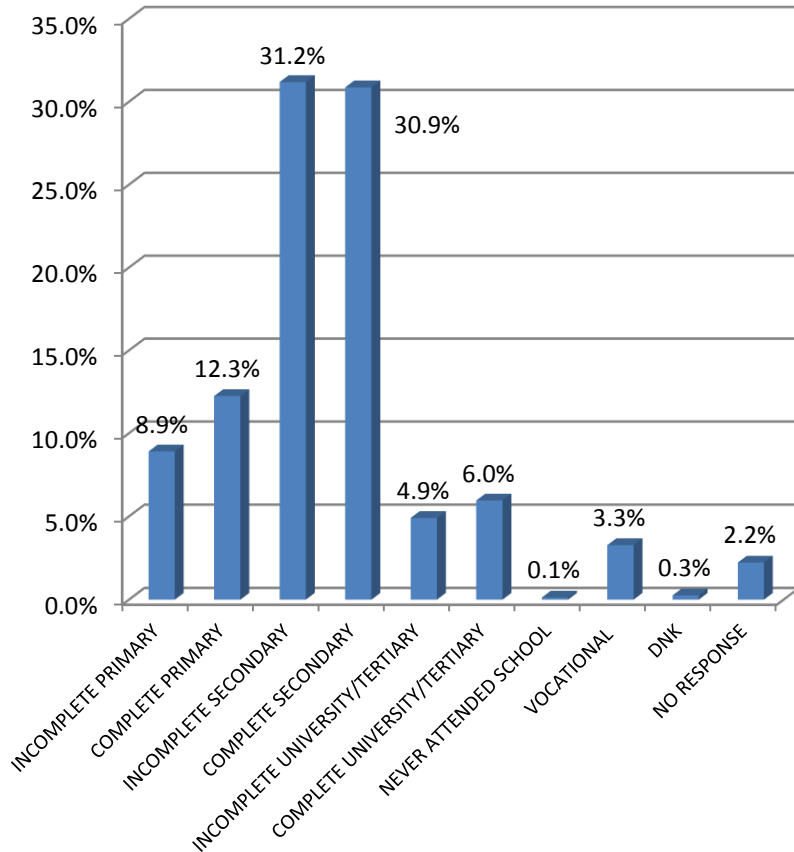


LIVING ARRANGEMENTS 30 DAYS PRIOR TO SEEKING TREATMENT

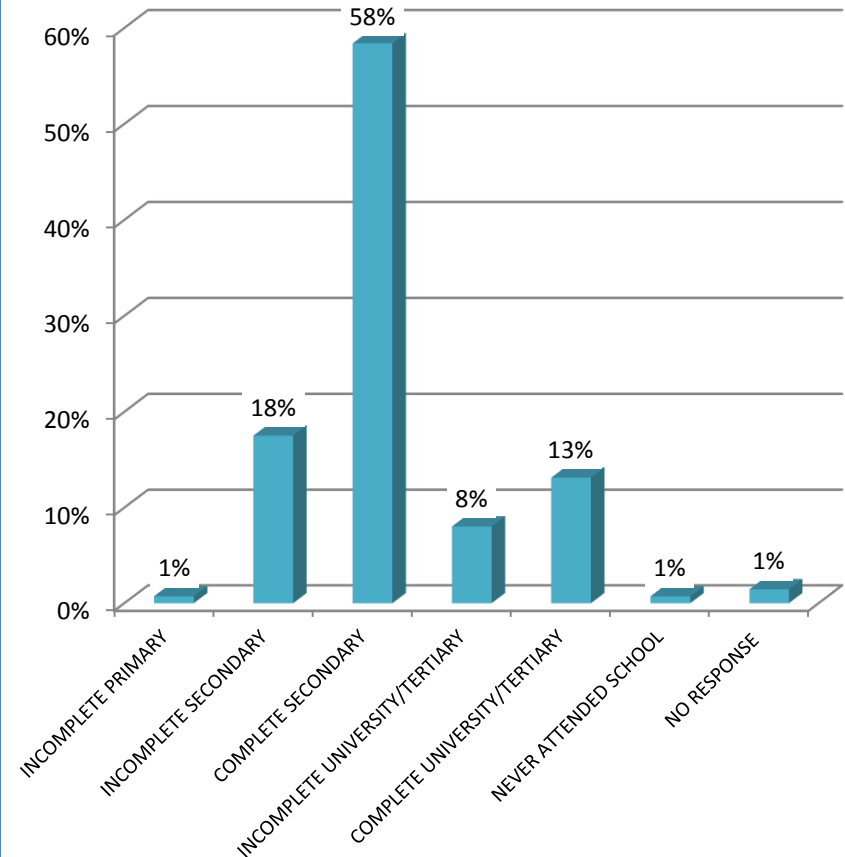




## REGIONAL DATA



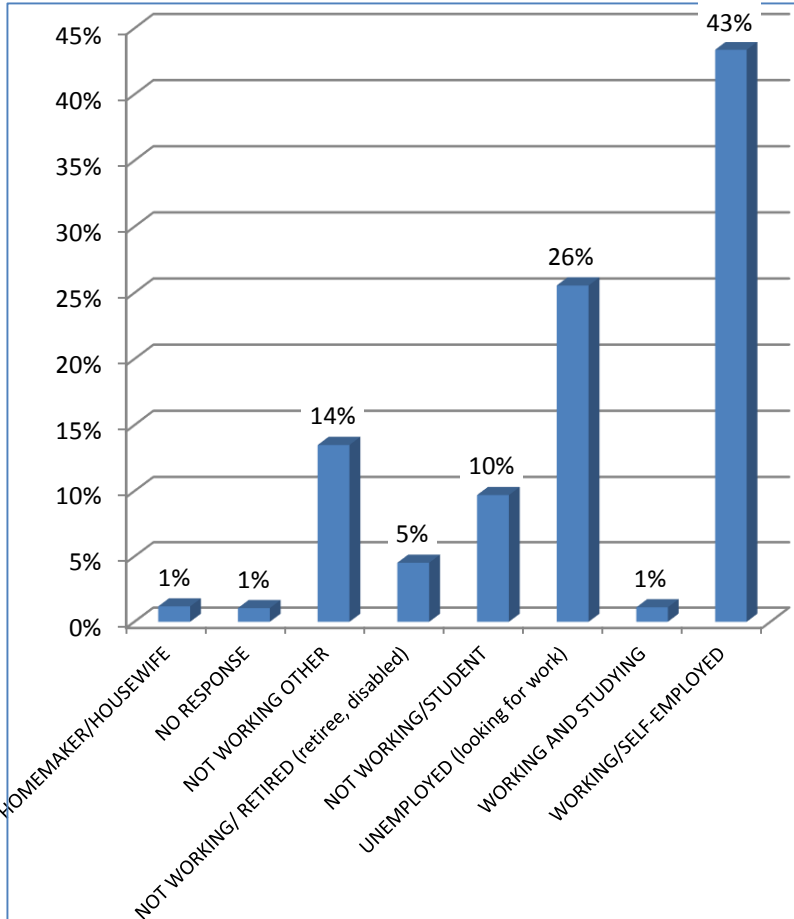
## BAHAMAS DATA



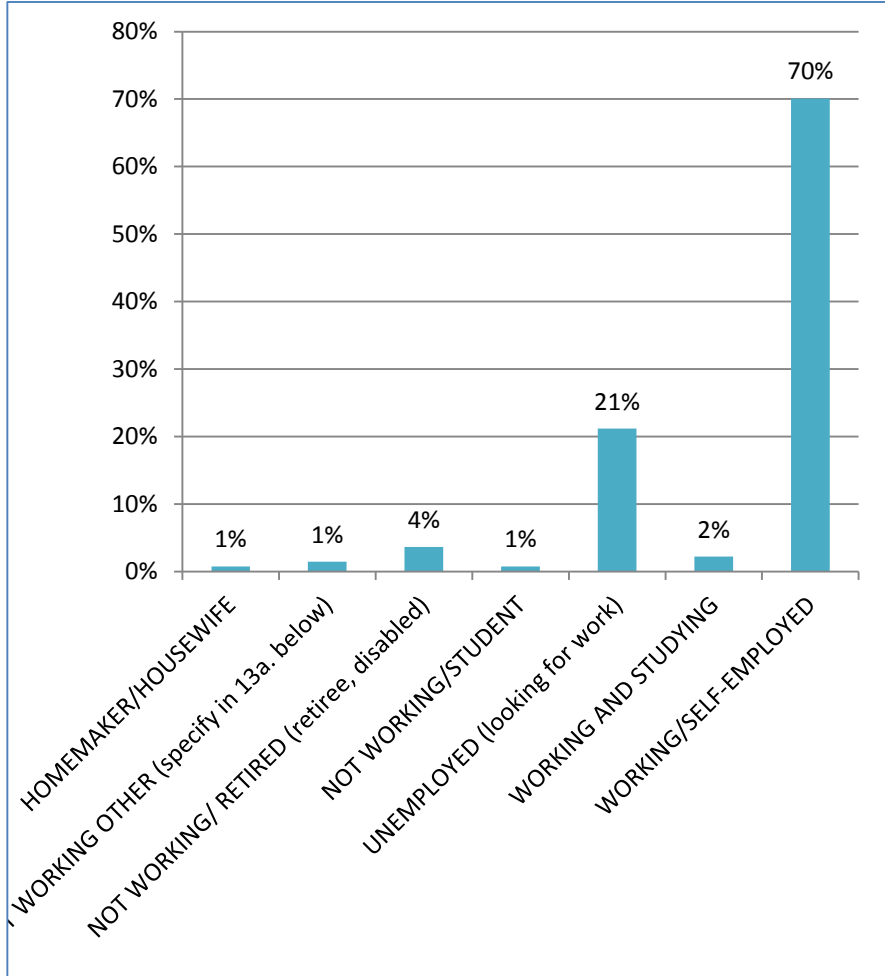
# Demographics – Employment Status



## REGIONAL DATA



## BAHAMAS DATA

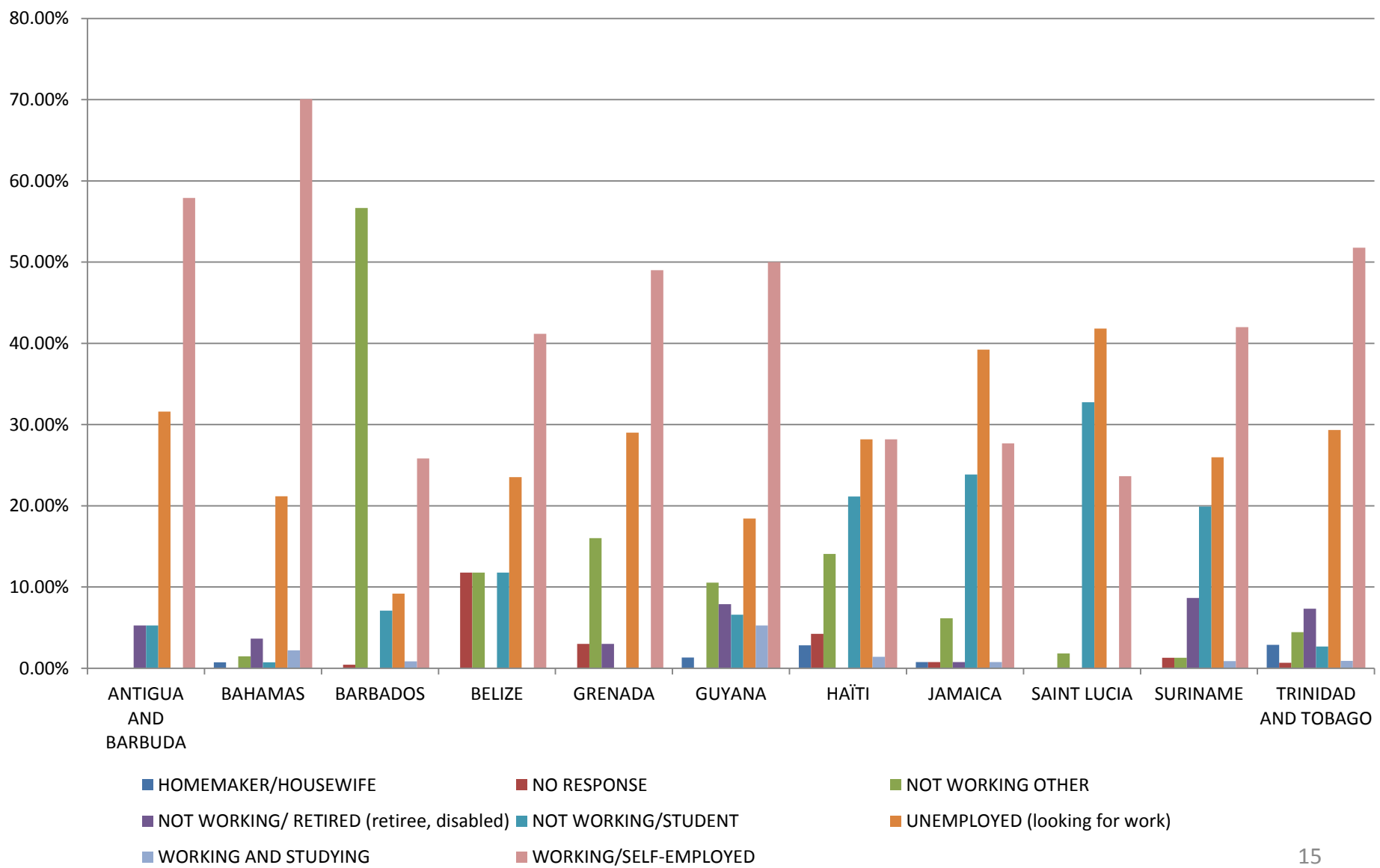


# COUNTRY BREAKDOWN

## DEMOGRAPHICS – Employment Status

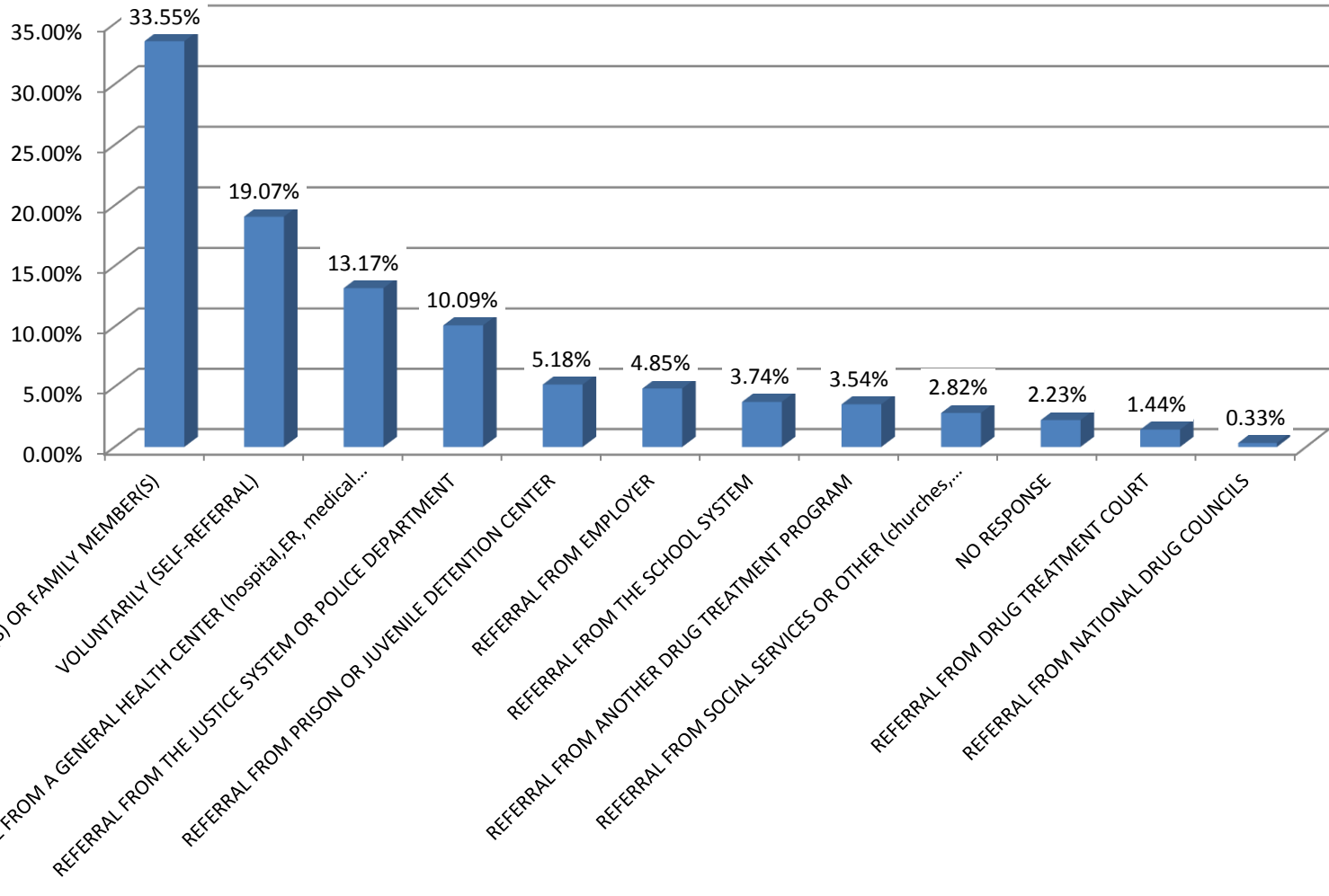


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## REGIONAL DATA



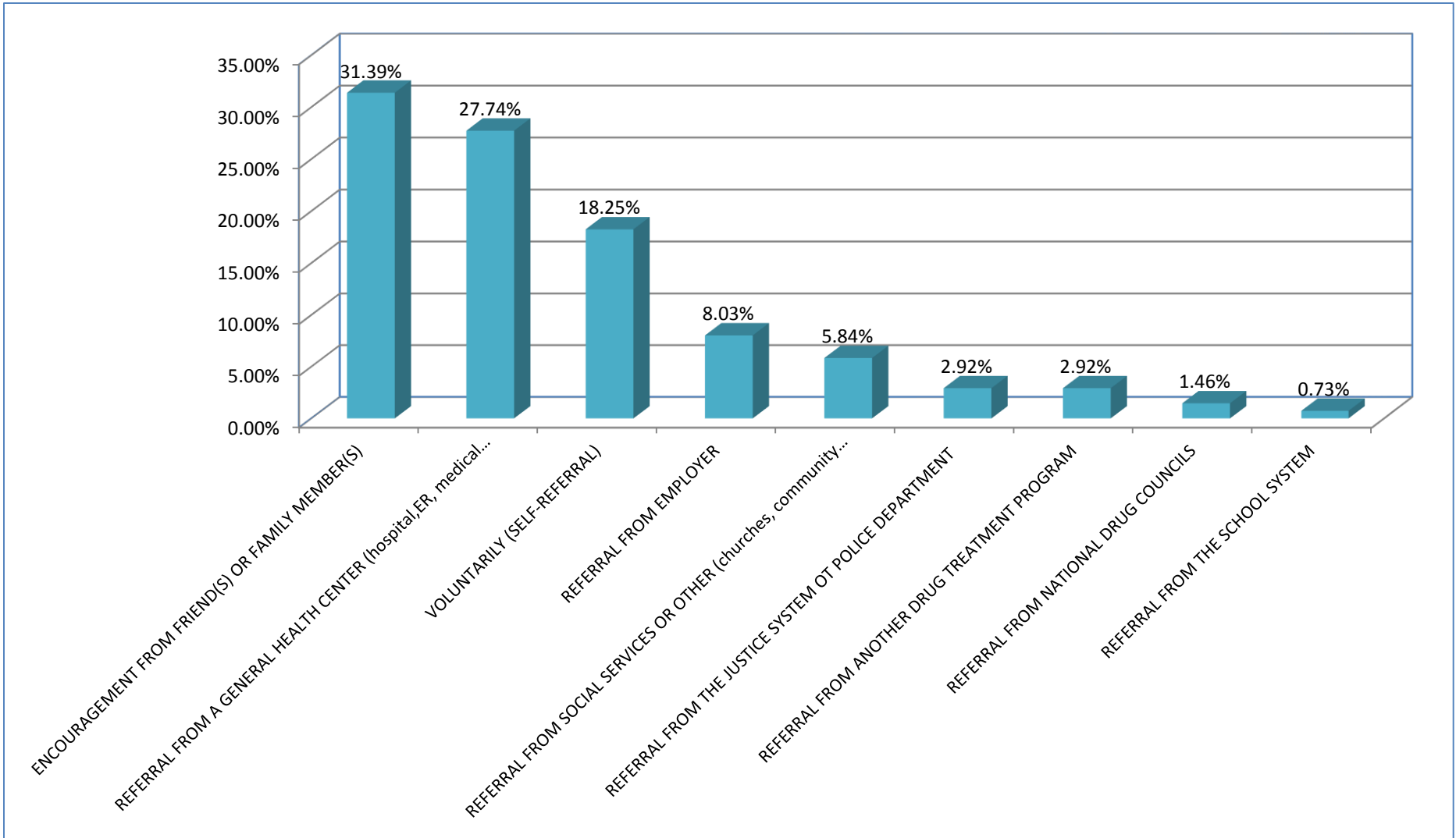


# Treatment History – Source of Referral



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## BAHAMAS DATA

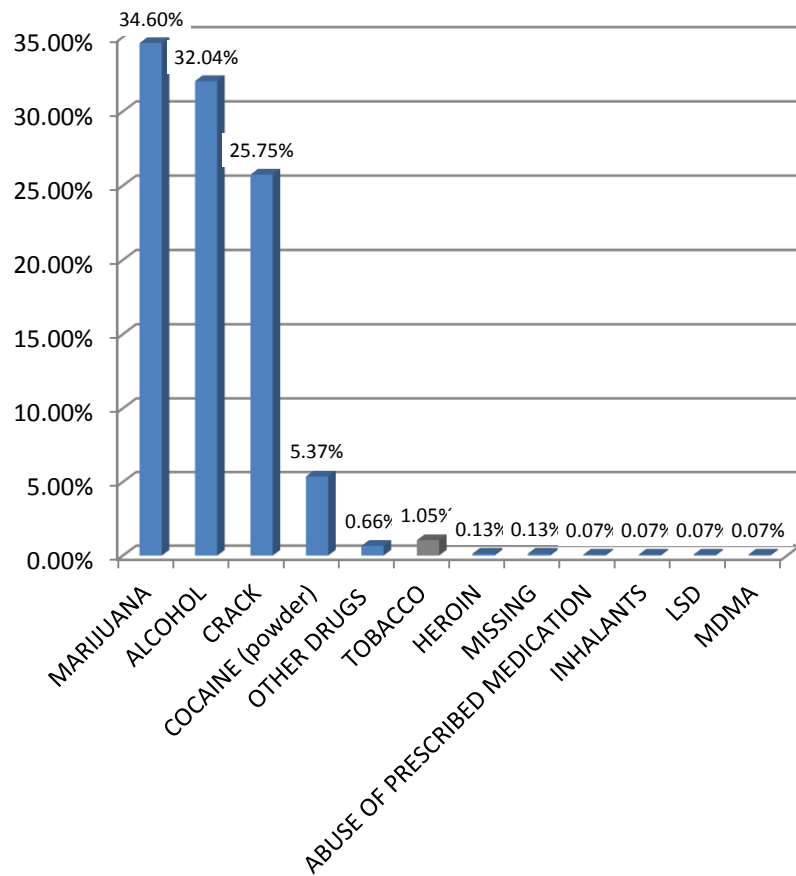




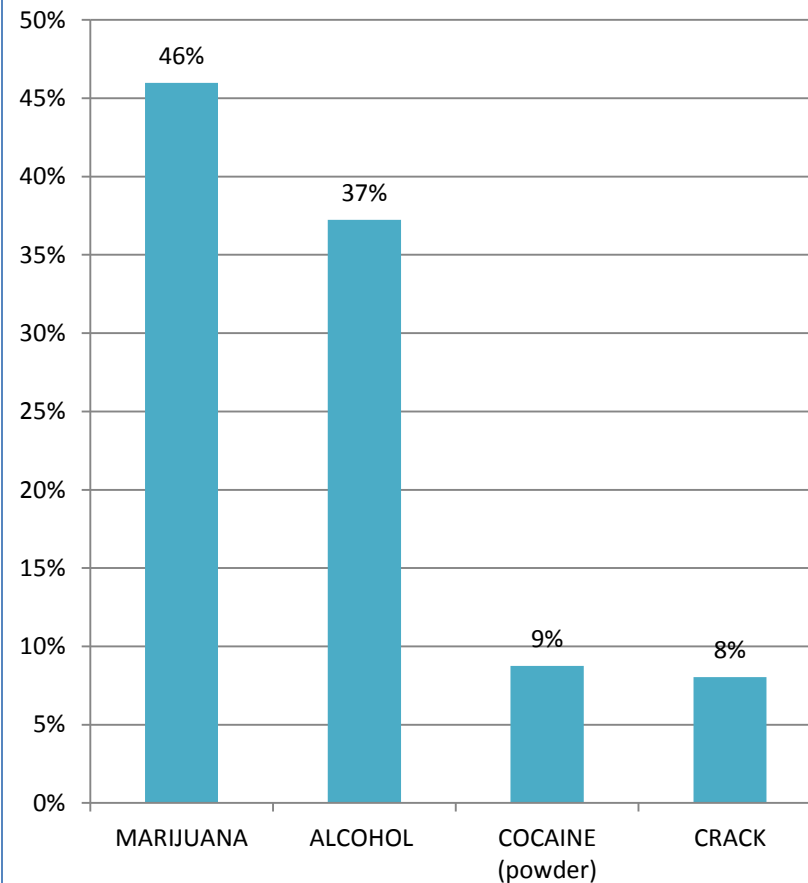
# TREATMENT



## REGIONAL DATA



## BAHAMAS DATA

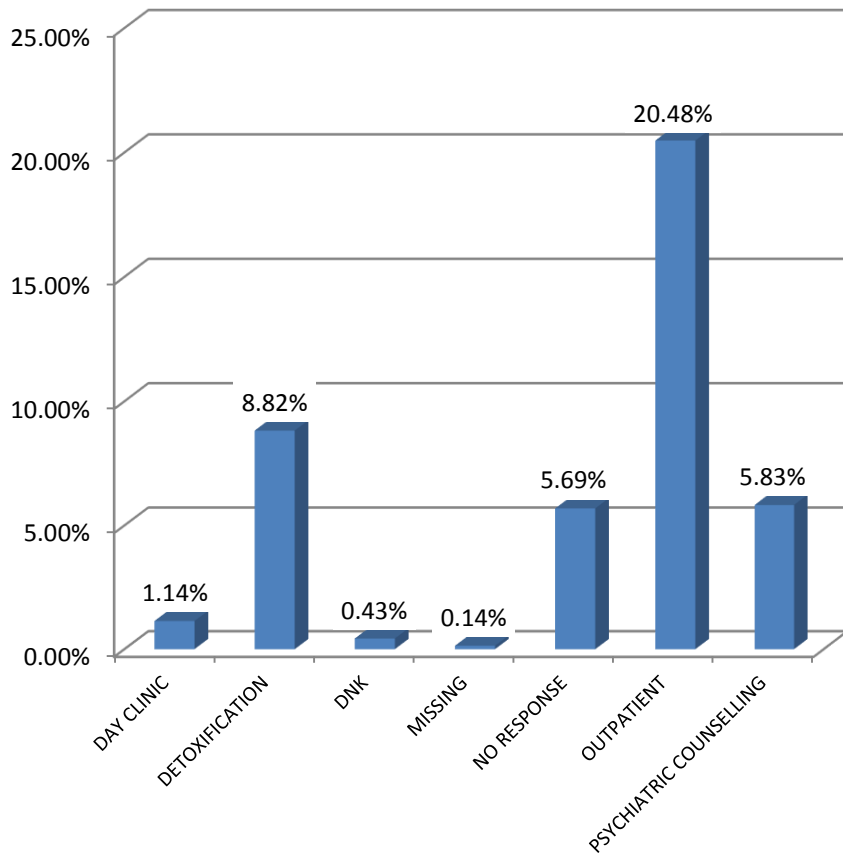




# TYPE OF TREATMENT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED

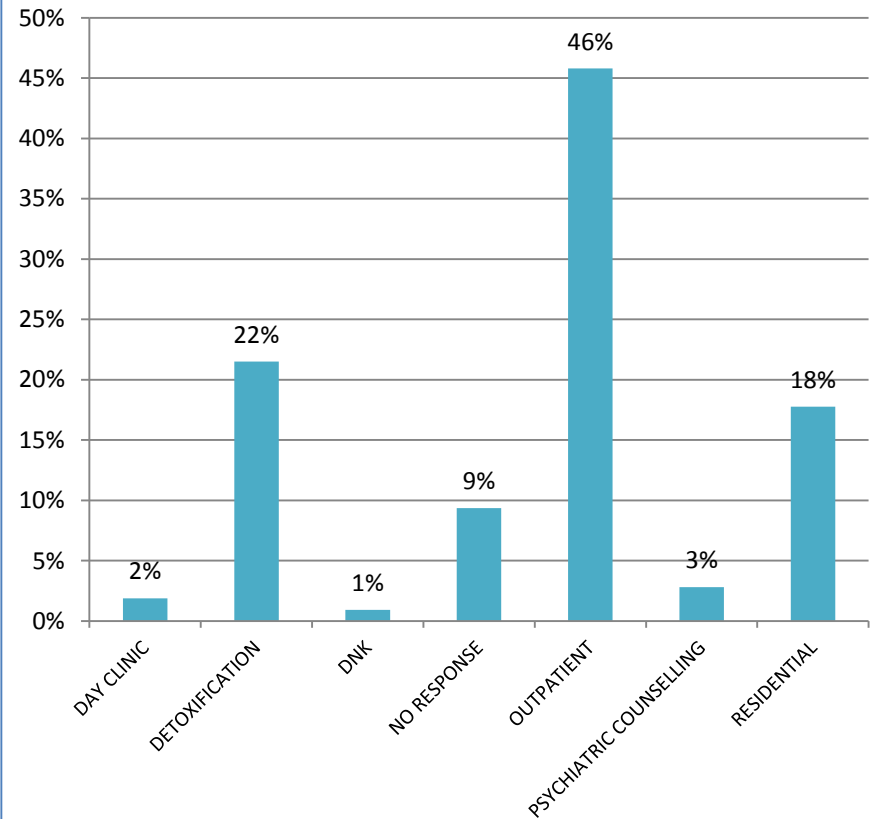
## REGIONAL DATA

(N=703)



## BAHAMAS DATA

(N=107)

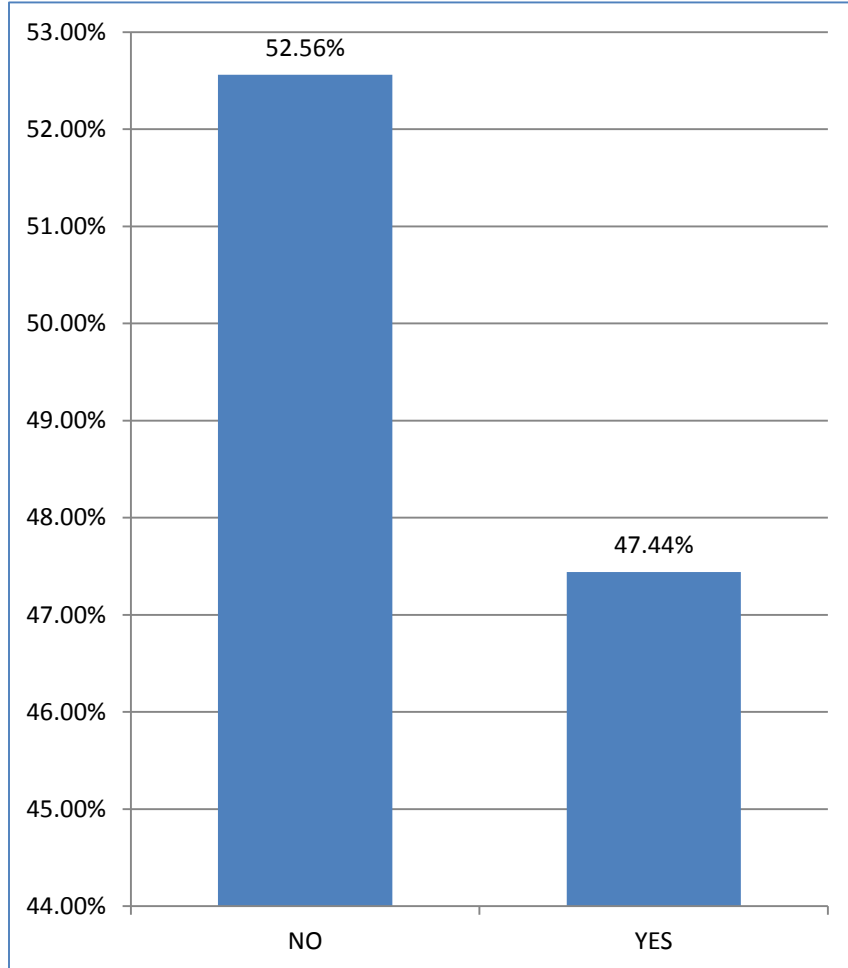




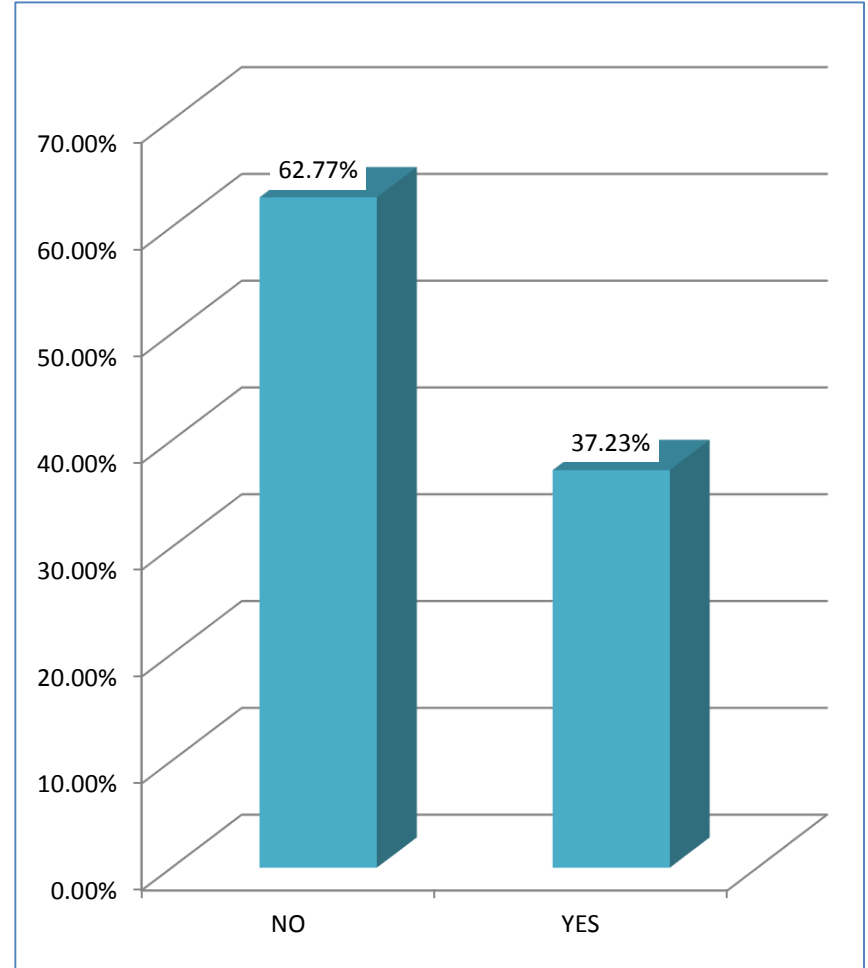
# **CRIMINAL JUSTICE INTERACTION AND MENTAL HEALTH**



## REGIONAL DATA



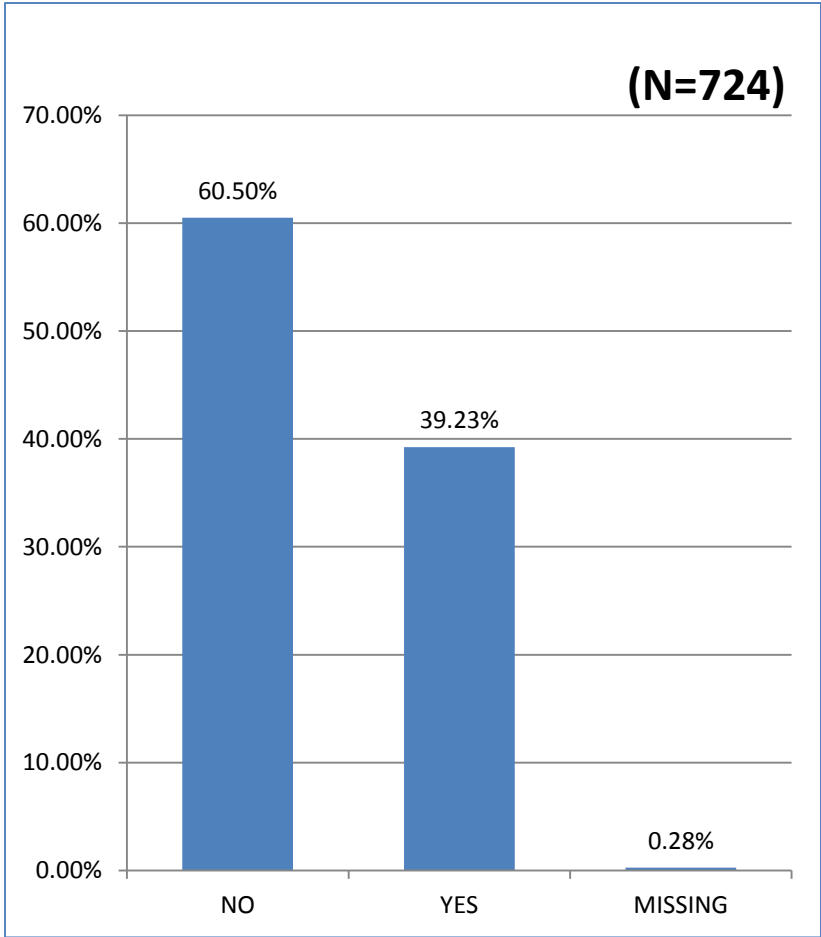
## BAHAMAS DATA



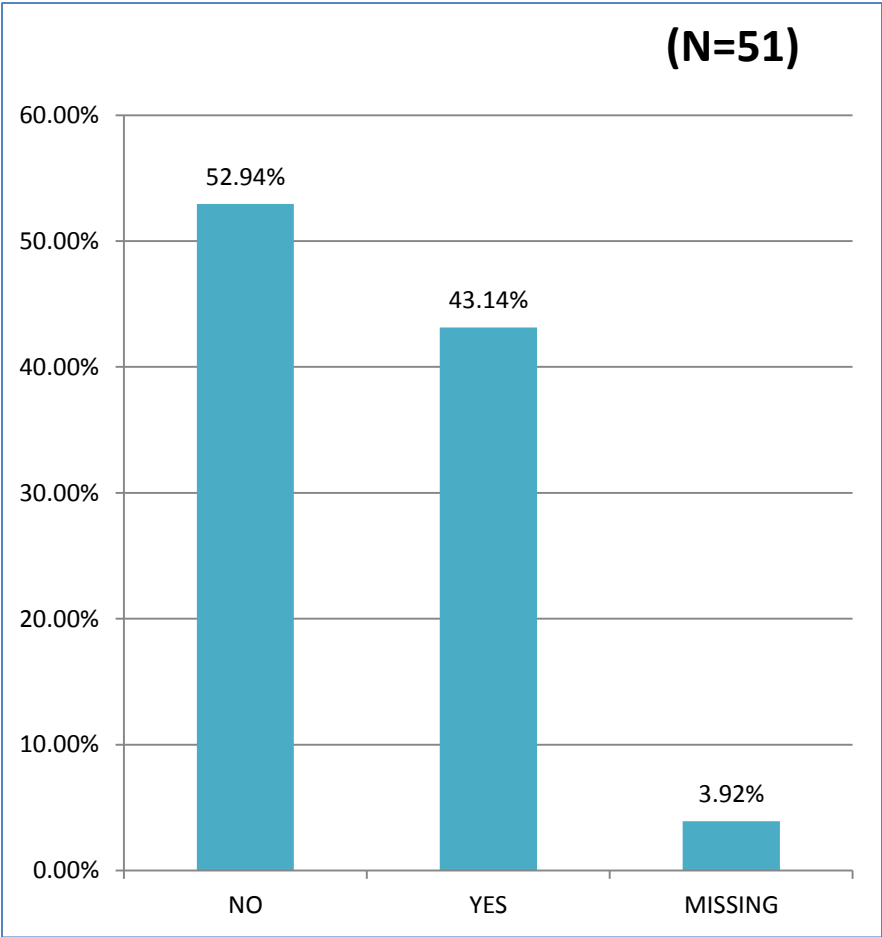
# ARREST HISTORY -PAST YEAR



## REGIONAL DATA



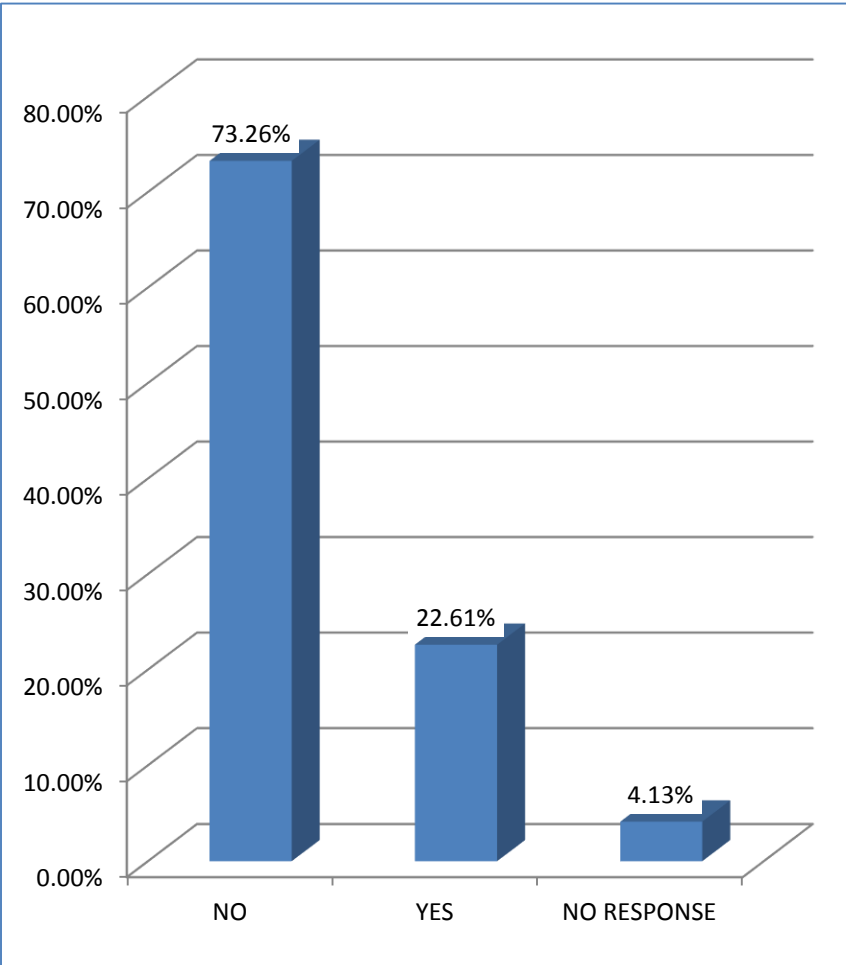
## BAHAMAS DATA



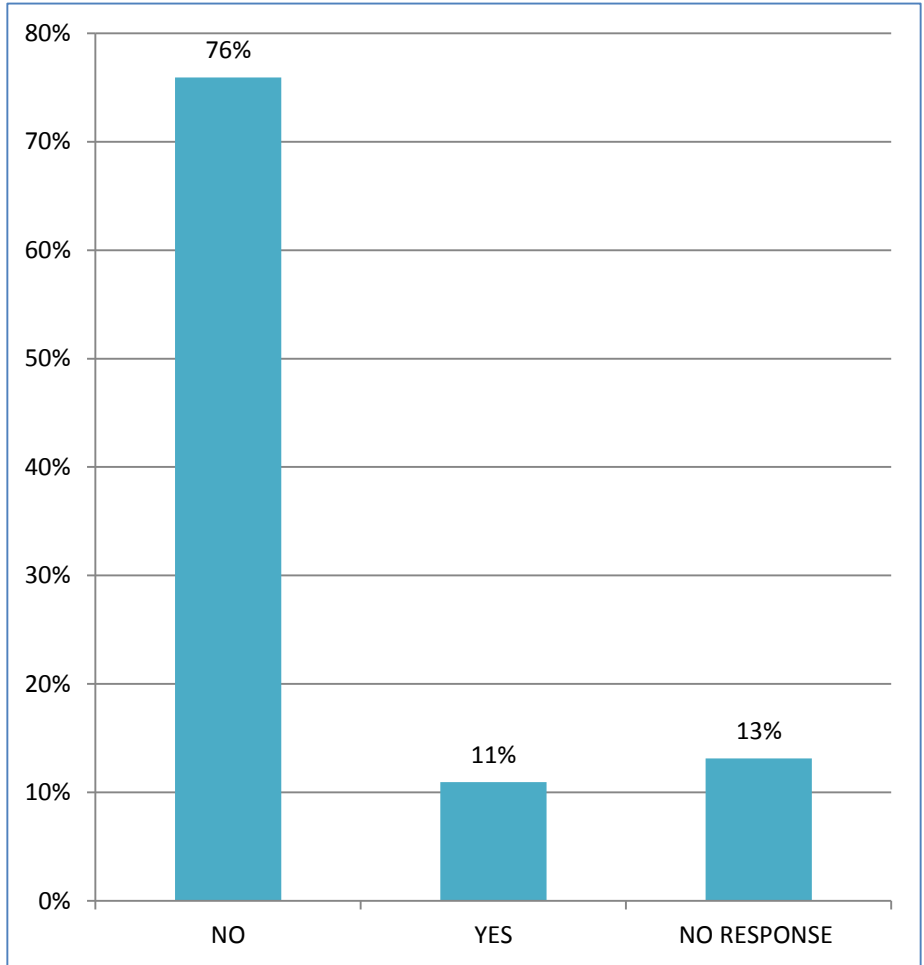
# DIAGNOSED PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER



## REGIONAL DATA



## BAHAMAS DATA





# Conclusions from 2016 Regional Data



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The main substance impacting treatment across the region is marijuana (35%), followed by Alcohol (32%) and crack (25%). Heroin use was only reported in 2 countries on a very small scale: Suriname and Haiti.

Of the 1526 persons seeking treatment across the region, 10% were female.

Most persons who were seeking treatment for problematic marijuana use, indicated that they started using that substance between 10-19 years old (77%) with 5% stating that they started between 01-09 years old. This is important information for the planning and implementing of prevention programs.

46% of persons seeking treatment indicated that they were previously registered into a treatment program, & 34% had completed that treatment program. Most are encouraged to seek treatment by families and friends (34%).

47% of persons seeking treatment across the region indicated that they were arrested at least once in their lifetime

23% indicated that they were diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder.



# THE BAHAMAS

**Results from 2017 Household Survey & 2016 Treatment Studies**



## Household Survey

- 13% of population have smoked marijuana at least once in their lifetime.
  - 7% females
- 3% are current marijuana smokers.
  - 1% females
- Average age of first use: 17 years
- 7% indicated that they tried to stop using marijuana without success
- 14% of marijuana users indicated that their family and friends advised them to reduce use

## Treatment

- 46% of the 2016 treatment population were there for problematic marijuana use (N=137)
  - 11% females
- Average age of first use: 19 years
- 40% were referred to treatment by a general health care center
- 37% were encouraged to seek treatment by their family and friends.



## Household Survey

- 74% of population have drunk alcohol at least once in their lifetime (N=2,533)
  - 71% females
- 43% are currently consume alcohol
  - 34% females
- Average age of first use: 18 years
- 3% of men and 2% of women have indicated that they were unable to stop drinking once they have started
- 7% of alcohol users indicated that friends or doctors were concerned about their drinking

## Treatment

- 37% of the treatment population were there for problematic Alcohol use (N=137)
  - 10% females
- Average age of first use: 20 years
- 21% were encouraged to seek treatment by their family and friends.
- 14% were referred via the general health care system



2% of substance users indicated they felt they needed treatment for their past year substance use

Another 2% received treatment at least once in their lifetime for problematic substance use. 1/3 of this group was treated within the past year:

9% for alcohol  
66% other drugs  
19% for both



## Reasons for not Seeking Treatment

- Not ready to stop using (most popular)
- Don't know where to get treatment
- No transportation
- Could not afford
- Negative effect on job



For 2016, 4 treatment facilities in The Bahamas submitted data to CICAD. 137 persons reported to these centers for treatment. 11% were female.

the mean age of persons in treatment was 41.5 years old with the youngest person in treatment being 18 years old and the oldest being 71 years old.

The majority of persons were 50 years and older (36%)

The main substance driving the demand for treatment was Marijuana (46%), followed by alcohol (37%).

Most persons were encouraged to seek treatment by family and friends (31%), followed by a general health care professional (28%), employer (8%). 18% entered treatment voluntarily.



Of those in treatment, 22% were first time treatment seekers.

Looking at the level of interaction with the criminal justice system and the treatment population, we have observed that 51 of the 137 persons were arrested at least once in their lifetime. Of those 51 persons, 22 were arrested at least once in 2016.

In assessing the mental health of persons in treatment for problematic substance use, it was discovered that 11% were diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder.

Most persons were placed into detox facility after their assessment.





# Thank you for your attention

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