

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Division of Mental Health
108 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Barbara Carroll

DATE: June 8, 2007

RE: Homelessness among Substance Abuse Service Recipients

This week's brief report continues our examination of homelessness among behavioral health service recipients by focusing on outpatient and residential substance abuse service recipients. Previous reports in this series focused on adults served by Vermont Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) Community Rehabilitation and Treatment programs for adults with serious mental illnesses (May 18, 2007) and adults served by CMHC Adult Mental Health Outpatient programs (June 1, 2007). This week's report focuses on adults with substance abuse services provided by CMHCs and by other Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP) service providers. This report was prepared in response to a request from ADAP staffer, Anne VanDonsel.

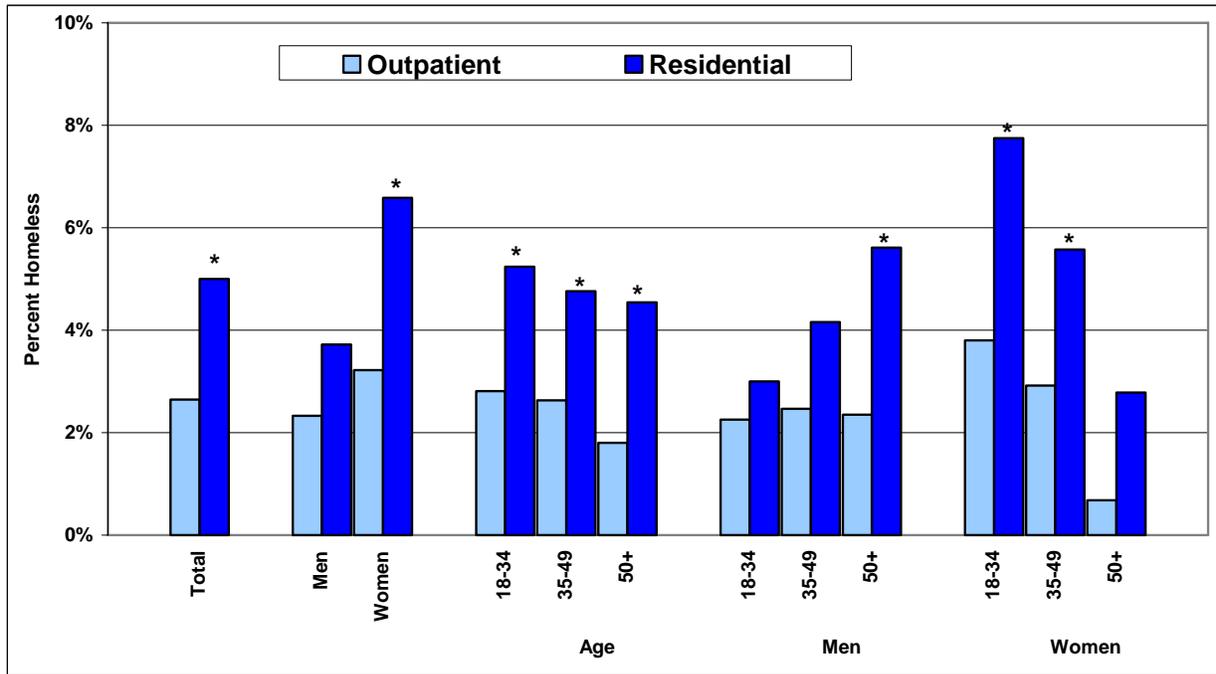
Two data sets were used in this analysis. Data from the ADAP Substance Abuse Treatment Information System (SATIS) provided basic demographic information regarding the 6,513 individuals who received outpatient substance abuse services and the 1,647 individuals who received residential substance abuse services during FY2006. (These two populations are not mutually exclusive: 834 received both outpatient and residential services during the year.) Homelessness was identified using basic demographic data from the point-in-time census of homelessness in Vermont conducted by the Vermont Homeless Coalition on January 25, 2007. This census collected demographic information as well as information on homeless services received and homeless service needs for individuals who lacked a fixed regular and adequate nighttime residence and individuals whose primary residence was a shelter providing temporary or transitional accommodations. Because the homeless database and the substance abuse database do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine the number of outpatient and residential substance abuse service recipients who were also in the homeless database.

As you will see, recipients of residential substance abuse services were almost twice (1.9 times) as likely as recipients of outpatient services to have been homeless (5% vs. 2.6%). Elevated risk of homelessness for recipients of residential substance abuse services was greater for adults in the 50+ age group (2.5 times as likely as outpatient service recipients).

Women in residential substance abuse programs were much more likely to have been homeless than men in residential substance abuse treatment (6.6% vs. 3.7%), and were much more likely than women in outpatient substance abuse treatment to be homeless (6.6% vs. 3.2%).

We look forward to your comments and suggestions for further analyses regarding homelessness among mental health and substance abuse service recipients in Vermont. Please send your interpretations of these findings and your suggestions for further analysis of these data to pip@vdh.state.vt.us or 802.863.7249.

**January 2007 Homelessness
Among Adults Served by
FY2006 ADAP Outpatient and Residential Programs**



	ADAP Outpatient	ADAP Residential	Elevated Risk
Total	2.6% ± 0.6%	5.0% ± 1.3%	1.9 ± 0.7
Men	2.3% ± 0.8%	3.7% ± 1.7%	1.6 ± 0.9
Women	3.2% ± 1.1%	6.6% ± 2.0%	2.0 ± 0.9
Age 18-34	2.8% ± 1.0%	5.2% ± 2.1%	1.9 ± 1.0
Age 35-49	2.6% ± 0.9%	4.8% ± 1.7%	1.8 ± 0.9
Age 50+	1.8% ± 0.9%	4.5% ± 1.9%	2.5 ± 1.6
Men 18-34	2.3% ± 1.1%	3.0% ± 2.7%	1.3 ± 1.4
Men 35-49	2.5% ± 1.2%	4.2% ± 2.6%	1.7 ± 1.3
Men 50+	2.4% ± 1.2%	5.6% ± 2.7%	2.4 ± 1.7
Women 18-34	3.8% ± 1.8%	7.8% ± 3.2%	2.0 ± 1.3
Women 35-49	2.9% ± 1.2%	5.6% ± 2.2%	1.9 ± 1.1
Women 50+	0.7% ± 1.2%	2.8% ± 2.2%	4.1 ± 7.9

Analysis is based on data from the ADAP program on Residential and Outpatient clients served during FY2006, and data collected as part of the Vermont point-in-time homeless census conducted on January 25, 2007 by the Vermont State Housing Authority, the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness, and the Chittenden Homeless Alliance. Because these data sets do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation (PPE) was used to determine caseload size and overlap (with 95% confidence intervals). Because PPE relies on date of birth and gender, records that do not include these data were excluded from the analyses.

An elevated risk that is not significantly different from "1" indicates there is no difference in homelessness between ADAP Residential service recipients and ADAP Outpatient service recipients. An elevated risk of "2" would indicate that ADAP Residential service recipients were twice as likely as ADAP Outpatient service recipients to be homeless. An elevated risk of "0.5" would indicate that ADAP Residential service recipients were half as likely to be homeless.

* Indicates statistically significant differences at p<.05