



FACT SHEET

OFFICE OF APPLIED RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

Background

The mission of the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) is to lead efforts to reduce alcoholism, drug addiction and problem gambling in California by developing, administering and supporting prevention and treatment programs.

The Office of Applied Research and Analysis (OARA) supports ADP by providing evidence-based information to help alcohol and other drug (AOD) and problem gambling stakeholders make informed decisions and improve services.

Mission Statement

The mission of OARA is to direct, conduct and support applied research and evaluation efforts; provide quantitative estimates and forecasts of AOD use and service needs; and assist in disseminating fact-based information about alcohol and other drugs to ADP, control agencies, other government, and public stakeholders. OARA analyzes and interprets data and develops findings used to enhance prevention, treatment and recovery programs and policies relating to substance use disorders and problem gambling.

Vision

To serve as the leading resource and reference authority in California state government for data, data analyses and research relating to substance use disorders and problem gambling.

What We Do

OARA's major focus areas are to evaluate and document AOD related problems and consequences; quantify and predict need for AOD services; describe populations served; and measure client outcomes and program performance.

OARA's activities currently include:

- Using research, evaluation, statistical and epidemiological methods to measure and provide statistics and other evidence-based information on AOD use; related problems and consequences; need for and provision of services; populations served; related client outcomes and program performance; and opportunities to improve services.
- Providing research, evaluation, statistical and epidemiological services to the Statewide Needs Assessment and Planning (SNAP) Workgroup. OARA identifies populations using alcohol and other drugs; those who need AOD services; the impact on society (including costs) and other service systems; methods to prevent future use and abuse; service outcomes and performance; and opportunities to improve overall prevention, treatment and recovery services.
- Identifying, collecting, analyzing and reporting on the incidence, prevalence and related substance use data. These

data are used by the state and communities to plan, monitor and evaluate AOD service needs accomplished through the State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW).

- Collaborating with internal and external stakeholders on data sources and collection methods.
- Supporting ADP's Data Management efforts to improve California Outcomes Management System-Treatment (CalOMS-Tx) data content and quality.
- Conducting and directing evaluations for programs such as Drug Courts, California Access to Recovery Effort (CARE), CalOMS-Tx, Performance Measurement, and the Continuum of Services System Re-engineering.
- Determining research methods; conducting analyses of AOD data and indicators of AOD use and consequences; and summarizing the findings with the goal of improving services and related policies.
- Producing reports and fact sheets that describe the populations impacted by substance use disorder prevention or treatment services. Annual reports include Indicator Report, Clients in Treatment Report, and fact sheets on alcohol, marijuana and methamphetamine users in treatment, and women in treatment.
- Providing treatment related statistics to support the block grant application process.

Additional information on programs administered by the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs is available at www.adp.ca.gov.