2010

Macomb County Office of Substance Abuse



ASSESSING THE BURDEN OF ILLICIT DRUGS AND ALCOHOL ABUSE:

A Focus on Heroin and Prescription Drug Abuse

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DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT ADMISSIONS

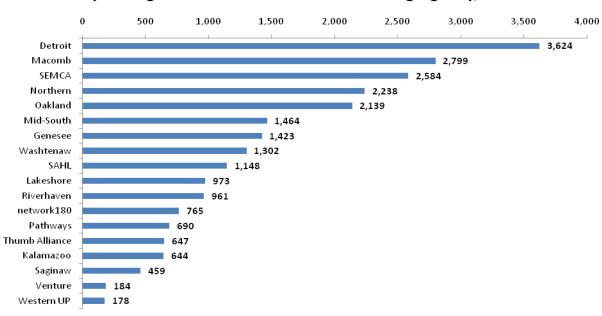
Substance abuse treatment data is an indicator of treatment availability, access and available financial resources for addressing substance abuse and dependence issues within a community. In 2009, there were a total of 24,222 opioid involved treatment admissions in Michigan, a 17.6 percent increase in opioid involved treatment admissions from the previous year total of 20,585 admissions. Of those 2009 admissions, Macomb County contributed 12 percent of the total count. In addition, Macomb County ranked second in the State for number of opioid involved treatment admissions, preceded by the city of Detroit (Figure 14).

Figure 14.

Number of Opioid Involved (Heroin and Prescription Drugs)

Treatment Admissions

by Michigan Substance Abuse Coordinating Agency, 2009



Source: Michigan Department of Community Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse and Addiction Services, Treatment Episode Admission Data, 2009

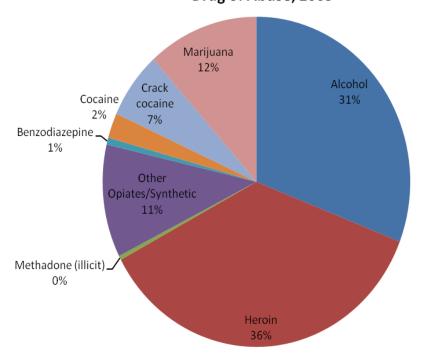
In 2009, there were a total of 5,673 treatment admissions in the County, a 12.2 percent increase from the 2008 total of 5,058. In 2009, there were decreases in treatment admissions due to alcohol, cocaine, crack, and benzodiazepines. However, treatment admissions increased substantially for prescription pain relievers (a 35 percent increase) and heroin (a 20 percent increase). Opioid abuse contributed to more than 50 percent of the total number of treatment admissions in the County. **Figure 15** illustrates percents of treatment admissions by substance type. The data shows that opioids, both heroin and prescription pain relievers, accounted for 47 percent of the total number of treatment admissions. Heroin, the most frequent primary substance of abuse among persons in treatment in Macomb County, accounted for 36 percent of admissions, followed by alcohol (31 percent), marijuana (12 percent), and prescription drugs pain relievers at 11 percent.

Figure 15.

Macomb County

Percent of Treatment Admission by Substance Type, Primary

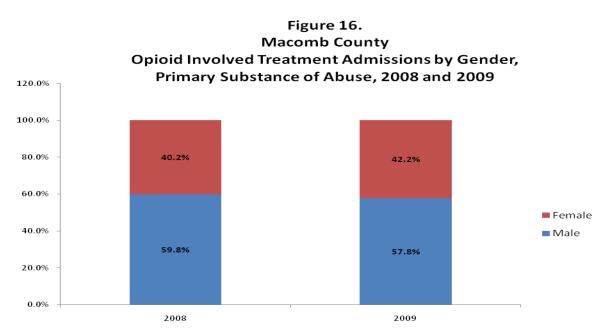
Drug of Abuse, 2009



Source: Michigan Department of Community Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse and Addiction Services, Treatment Episode Admission Data, 2009

TREATMENT ADMISSIONS BY GENDER

Males accounted for the larger proportion of opioid involved treatment admissions compared to females. **Figure 16** shows that 59.8 percent of those admitted to treatment for opioid abuse in 2008 were males compared to 40.2 percent among females. There was a slight closing of the gender gap in 2009, with 57.8 percent of opioid involved admissions were by males and 42.2 percent by females, however this proportion difference between years was not substantial.



Source: Michigan Department of Community Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse and Addiction Services, Treatment Episode Admission Data, 2009 and Addiction Services and Addiction Servic

TREATMENT ADMISSIONS BY AGE

Persons aged 21-25 years accounted for the largest proportion, 22.3 percent, receiving opioid involved treatment in 2009. **Figure 17** shows there were 665 opioid involved admissions, a rate 15.5 admissions per 1,000 population. Persons aged 26-29 years had the second largest proportion (16.4 percent) of opioid involved admissions. **Figure 17** shows there were 489 admissions by persons aged

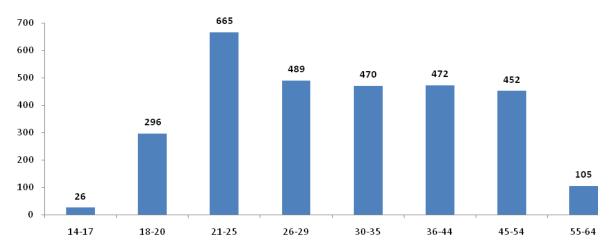
26-29 years in 2009, a rate of 5.7 admissions per 1,000 population. There were 296 admissions by persons aged 18-20 years, a rate of 19.2 per 1,000 population in 2009.

Figure 17.

Macomb County

Number of Opioid Involved Treatment Admission by Age,

Primary Substance of Abuse, 2009



Source: Michigan Department of Community Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse and Addiction Services, Treatment Episode Admission Data, 2009

NARCOTIC LAW ARRESTS

Arrest data represented in this report are from the Uniform Crime Reporting Program. The program counts one arrest for each separate instance in which a person is arrested, citied, or summoned for an offense. A person may be arrested multiple times during a year, the arrest data does not capture the number of individuals who have been arrested rather; data show the number of arrests made by Law Enforcement Officers (*Uniformed Crime Reports, 2007*). Arrest data are useful in the assessment of illicit drug abuse because they indicate level of drug activity related to purchases and sales within communities. Arrest data also indicate the burden on the justice and law enforcement systems within a given locality and assess the level of law enforcement investment in addressing the problem.

According to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, drug law violations relate to the unlawful possession, sales, use, growing and manufacturing of illegal drugs including opium or cocaine and their derivatives (morphine, heroin, codeine); marijuana; synthetic narcotics manufactured, narcotics that causes addiction (demerol, methadone); and dangerous non-narcotic drugs: amphetamines, barbiturates, Benzedrine (*Uniformed Crime Report, 2007*).

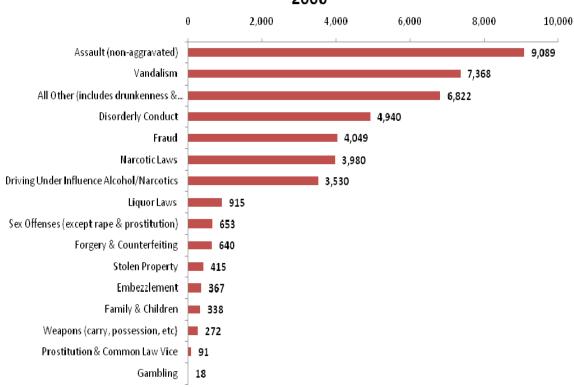
Non-indexed arrests are those arrests that are due to crimes against property or behavioral crimes. The most recent data available for Macomb County shows that in 2006, there were 43,496 arrests made for non-indexed crimes. Of those, approximately 20 percent were due to arrests made for violation of narcotic laws (3,980 total arrests), violation of liquor laws (915 arrests) or driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics (3,530 arrests). **Figure 18** shows that narcotic law violation was the sixth highest reason for arrests in the County in 2006.

Figure 18:

Macomb County

Number of Arrest by Offense Type (Non-Indexed Offenses),

2006



Source: Michigan State Police, Uniformed Crime Reporting, 2006

NARCOTIC LAW ARRESTS BY GENDER

Consistent with the trend for the State of Michigan and the U.S., males are arrested at a higher rate compared to females for narcotic law violations in Macomb County. **Figure 19** illustrates that in 2006, 80 percent of the narcotic law arrests made were among males (2,670 arrests) compared to 20 percent for females (666 arrests). There were more females (713) and males (2,854) arrested in 2005 when compared to the year 2006.

NARCOTIC LAW ARRESTS BY AGE

Persons aged 25-44 years were arrested at a higher rate than persons of other age groups. In 2006, 47 percent (1,497) of the arrests made for narcotic law violations were among persons aged 25-44 years. Persons aged 18-24 consist of only 4.1 percent of the total population in 2006. However, 35 percent of the total narcotic law arrests (1,100) made were among this age group. There were 142 narcotic law arrests made to persons less than 18 years of age.

Figure 19.

Macomb County Percentage of Narcotic Law Arrests by

Gender, 2006

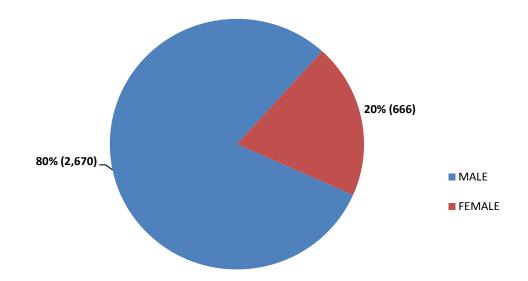
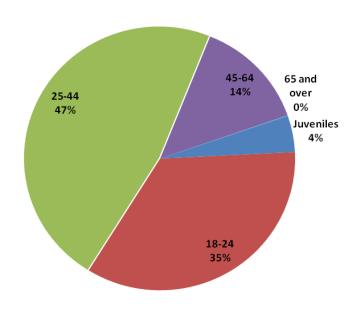


Figure 20.

Macomb County

Narcotic Law Arrests by Age Group, Both Gender (2006)



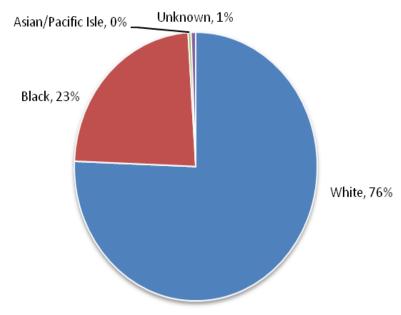
Source: MichignanState Police, Michigna Uniform Crime Reprort 2006

NARCOTIC LAW ARREST BY RACE

In 2006, 76 percent (2,523 arrests) of narcotic law arrests were made to Whites, while 23 percent (779 arrests) were made to Blacks. Blacks consist of 6.6 percent of Macomb County's population compared to 87.6 percent for Whites.

Figure 21.

Macomb County Percent of Narcotic Law Arrests by Race,
2006



Source: MichiganState Police, Uniformed Crime Reporting 2006

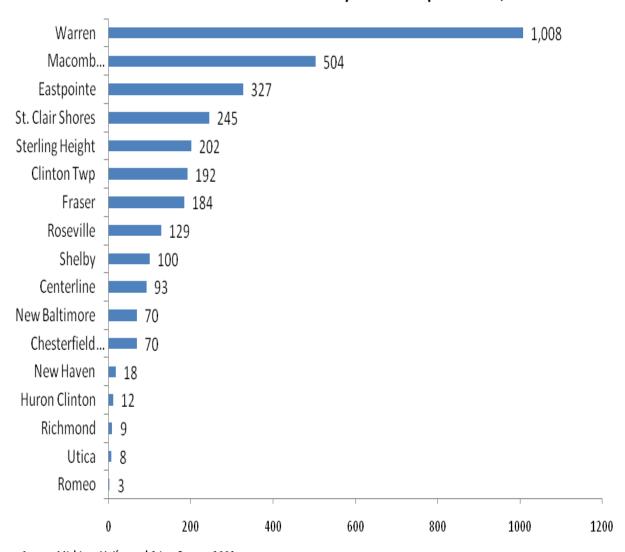
NARCOTIC LAW ARRESTS BY POLICE DEPARTMENT

In 2006, there were more narcotic law arrests made by the city of Warren Police Department, 25 percent (1,008 arrests), compared to all other departments in the County. Eastpointe had the second highest number of arrests made (327 arrests); followed by St. Clair Shores with 245 total arrests. There were no arrests reported in the city of Armada, Memphis, or Mount Clemens. In addition, the Macomb Sheriff made 504 narcotic law arrests Countywide.

Figure 22.

Macomb County

Number of Narcotic Law Arrests by Police Department, 2006



Source: Michigan Uniformed Crime Report, 2006

ILLICIT DRUG CONSUMPTION

A NATIONAL PROFILE

Illicit drug consumption, specifically non-medical use of prescription pain relievers, has made the national attention since a noted increased use and abuse among youth and young adult populations in 2002. According to the 2008, National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 8.0 percent (20 million people) of persons 12 or older were current illicit drug users. Of youth aged 12-17 years, 9.3 percent reported current illicit drugs user within the past month. Nationally, marijuana continues to be the most frequently used illicit drug among persons 12 years or older at 6.7 percent, followed by psychotherapeutics at 2.9 percent; inhalants (1.1 percent) and hallucinogens (1.0 percent). In 2008, 1.9 percent of persons aged 12 or older reported non-medical use of pain relievers, nationally.

According to the 2008 NSDUH Survey, rates of current use of illicit drugs were higher for young adults aged 18 to 25 (19.6 percent) than for youths aged 12 to 17 years (9.3 percent) and adults aged 26 years and older (5.9 percent). Among young adults, 16.5 percent used marijuana in the past month, 5.9 percent used prescription drugs, non-medically, 1.7 percent used hallucinogens, and 1.5 percent used cocaine.

MICHIGAN AND MACOMB COUNTY ILLICIT DRUG CONSUMPTION

NSDUH data for the period of 2004-2006 is the latest data available at the sub-State level on adult illicit drug consumption. The national data presented in the previous section described the prevalence of illicit drug use by illicit drug types including marijuana. **Figure 23** illustrates illicit drug use for cocaine, heroin, non-medical use of prescription drugs, hallucinogens, and MDMA (methylenedioxymethamphetamine or ecstasy) excluding the use of marijuana by age group for Macomb County, Michigan, and U.S. for the period of 2004-2006. The data show that during the period of 2004-2006, 5.0 percent of youth, more than 36,000 youths, reported illicit drug use other than marijuana in Macomb County, an 8.5 percent increase from the 1999-2002 rate of 4.61 percent by this age group.

Illicit drug use among persons aged 18-25 years was higher among Macomb residents (9.6 percent) compared to Michigan (9.3 percent) and the U.S. (8.5 percent). Use among this population also

increased from the 1999-2002 rate of 6.24 percent. Persons aged 26 years or older reported illicit drug use at a rate of 2.8 percent, a rate higher than the national rate of 2.7 percent but the same as Michigan. For the period of 1999-2002, 1.5 percent of persons aged 26 or older reported past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana in Macomb County.

Figure 23. Past Month Illicit Drug Use Other than Marijuana by Age US, Michigan, and Macomb County, 2004-2006 12.0% 9.6% 10.0% 9.3% 8.5% 8.0% 6.0% 5.3% 5.0% 5.0% 4.0% 2.8% 2.8% 2.7% 2.0% 0.0% 12-17 26 or Older ■ Macomb County ■ Michigan ■ US

Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health, Substate Estimates, 2004-2006

Note: Estimates represented are from combined calendar years 2004, 2005, and 2006

HEROIN USE AMONG YOUTHS

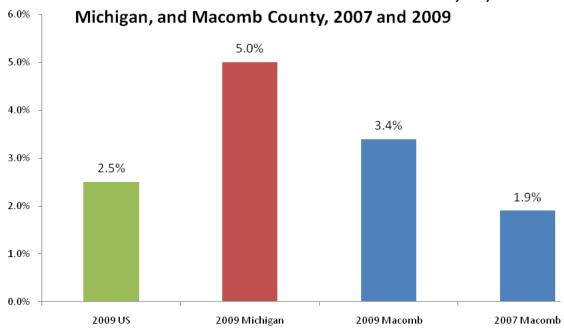
Heroin consumption among Macomb County youth population is consistent with the County-wide trend showing increased deaths and hospitalizations due to opioid poisonings. According to the 2009 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (YRBS), an estimated 3.4 percent (approximately 950 persons) of high school students reported heroin use within the past month, a rate higher than the national rate of 2.5 percent and lower than the State-wide rate of 5.0 percent. **Figure 24** shows an increase in heroin use among high school students by 79 percent from the 2007 rate of 1.9 percent.

Figure 24.

Macomb County

Use Heroin One or More Times With the Past Month, US,

Michigan, and Macomb County, 2007 and 2009

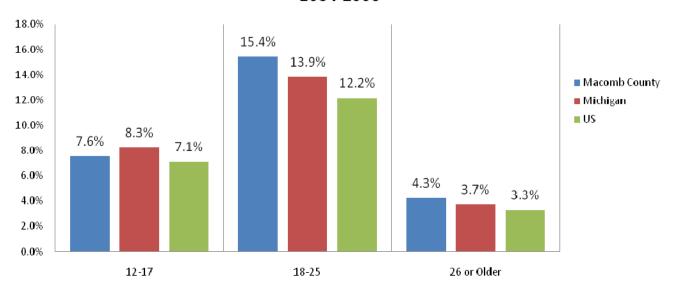


Source: Youth Risk Behavioral Survey, US and Michigan Estimates, 2007 and 2009 Note: Data was not available for grade 7th

PRESCRIPTION DRUG USE AMONG YOUTH

According to the 2004-2006 NSDUH survey, persons aged 18-25 years reported higher non-medical use of pain relievers compared to the other age groups. **Figure 25** shows that Macomb County residents within this age group reported higher use (15.4 percent) when compared to Michigan (13.9 percent) and the U.S. (12.2 percent). Data also shows that 7.6 percent of persons age 12-17 reported past year non-medical use of prescription pain relievers. This rate was higher than the statewide rate of 7.1 percent but lower than the national rate of 8.3 percent.

Figure 25.
Past Year Non-medical Use of Pain Relievers by Age,
US, Michigan, and Macomb County,
2004-2006



Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health, Substate Estimates, 2004-2006 Note: Estimates represented are from combined calendar years 2004, 2005, and 2006

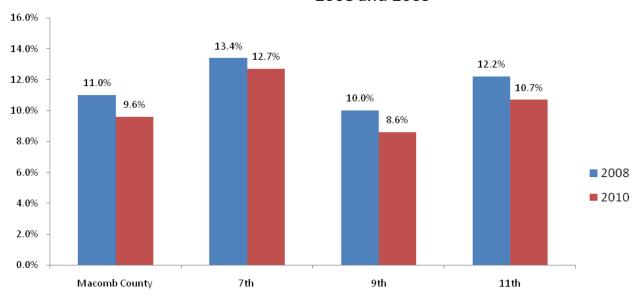
More recent illicit drug consumption data was made available for youth populations through the 2008 and 2010 Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth Survey (MiPHY). **Figure 26** shows that non-medical use of pain relievers was the third reported substance by high school students behind alcohol (31.3 percent) and marijuana (19.0 percent). In 2010, 9.6 percent of high school students reported that they used prescription pain relievers, non-medically. This is a decrease from the 2008 prevalence of 11 percent. A higher percentage of students in the 7th grade (12.7 percent) reported prescription pain reliever use compared to 9th (8.6 percent) and 11th graders (10.7 percent). This trend is consistent with 2007 prevalence rates by grade.

Figure 26.

Macomb County

Past Month Non-medical Use of Prescription Pain Relievers,

2008 and 2009



Source: Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth, 2008 and 2009 Estimates

*Data was not available for Michigan and US estimates

A study conducted by Boyd et al. on prescription drug abuse and diversion among adolescents found that 36 percent of the students who participated in the study had a prescription for sleeping medication (Ambien, Halcion, Restoril), sedative or anxiety medication (Ativan, Xanax, Valium, Klonopin), stimulant medication for attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (Ritalin, Adderall) and pain medication (Vicodin, OxyContin, Tylenol 3). Opioid pain medications were more widely prescribed (46 percent lifetime and 33 percent past year prescription). Girls were significantly more likely to a have a prescription for pain medication and more likely to use them non-medically than boys.

The study also showed that current medical users were 2.9 times more likely to get approached to divert their medications and there was evidence of trading medications. Students were also more likely to give away or loan their medications rather than trade or sell: 25 percent of those with pain

medication prescription reported giving away or loaning; 21 percent with stimulants; 20 percent of those with sleep medications; and 15 percent with prescription for sedatives. Overall 24 percent of those with prescription medications gave away or loaned their medications with higher percentage of giving away reported among girls compared to boys (*Boyd*, 2007).