

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

Substance abuse services, also referred to as *outpatient alcohol or drug abuse treatment*, provides counseling and/or other treatment modalities to persons living with HIV (PLWH) who have a substance abuse concern in an outpatient setting and in accordance with state licensing guidelines. This includes services for alcohol abuse and/or abuse of legal or illegal drugs.

(**Graph 1**) In the 2016 Houston HIV Care Services Needs Assessment, 24% of participants indicated a need for *substance abuse services* in the past 12 months. 22% reported the service was easy to access, and 2% reported difficulty. 8% stated they did not know the service was available. When analyzed by type of substance concern, 24% of participants cited alcohol, 56% cited drugs, and 26% cited both.

(**Table 1**) When barriers to *substance abuse services* were reported, the most common barrier types were education and awareness (lack of knowledge about location), eligibility (ineligibly), and health-insurance related (being uninsured).

GRAPH 1-Substance Abuse Services, 2016

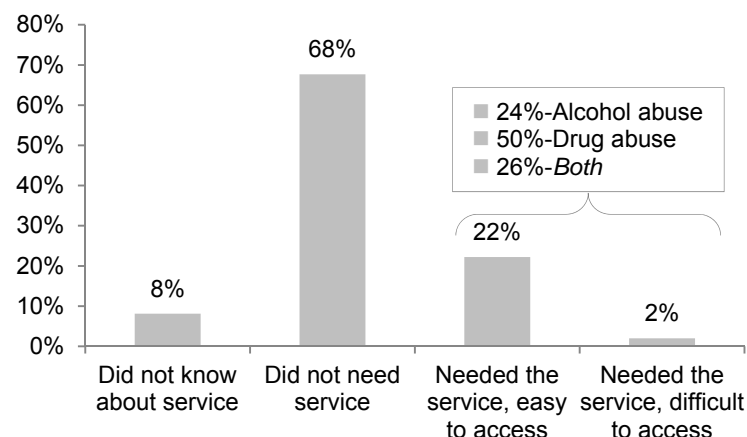


TABLE 1-Top 3 Reported Barrier Types for Substance Abuse Services, 2016

	No.	%
1. Education and Awareness (EA)	1	33%
2. Eligibility (EL)	1	33%
3. Health Insurance Coverage (I)	1	33%
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(**Table 2 and Table 3**) Need and access to services can be analyzed for needs assessment participants according to demographic and other characteristics, revealing the presence of any potential disparities in access to services. For *substance abuse services*, this analysis shows the following:

- More females than males found the service accessible.
- More white PLWH found the service accessible than other race/ethnicities.
- More PLWHA age 50+ found the service accessible than other age groups.
- In addition, more recently released, unstably housed, and MSM PLWH found the service difficult to access when compared to all participants.

TABLE 2-Substance Abuse Services, by Demographic Categories, 2016

Experience with the Service	Sex		Race/ethnicity				Age		
	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	18-24	25-49	50+
Did not know about service	8%	8%	2%	10%	11%	0%	30%	9%	4%
Did not need service	69%	64%	73%	65%	70%	60%	48%	68%	70%
Needed, easy to access	21%	26%	24%	23%	17%	40%	17%	22%	24%
Needed, difficult to access	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	0%	4%	2%	1%

TABLE 3-Substance Abuse Services, by Selected Special Populations, 2016

Experience with the Service	Unstably Housed ^a	MSM ^b	Out of Care ^c	Recently Released ^d	Rural ^e	Transgender ^f
Did not know about service	14%	9%	50%	8%	9%	18%
Did not need service	61%	68%	50%	42%	88%	50%
Needed, easy to access	23%	21%	0%	39%	3%	32%
Needed, difficult to access	2%	2%	0%	11%	0%	0%

^aPersons reporting housing instability ^bMen who have sex with men ^cPersons with no evidence of HIV care for 12 mo.

^dPersons released from incarceration in the past 12 mo. ^eNon-Houston/Harris County residents ^fPersons with discordant sex assigned at birth and current gender