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2016 ANALYSIS

1. SUMMARY
During 2016, 100 persons presented to 3 treatment facilities in Grenada for problematic substance use. Of this number 8 were females (8%). The main substance driving the demand for treatment was marijuana (56%) followed by alcohol (31%). Most persons in treatment had a partial secondary education or lower (78%) while 49% were classified as employed.

The average age of persons in treatment was 36 years old with the youngest person being 15 years of age. The average age of first use for all substance was 16 years old with the youngest age of initiation into substance use being 5 years old. Most persons began using at 16 years old.

While 61 persons in treatment were previously enrolled into a treatment program, only 39 of them had completed that program. Most persons were referred to treatment via the justice system (55%) with only 6% entering treatment voluntarily.

In assessing the level of interaction with the justice system, it was observed that for 2016, 54% of the treatment population was arrested at least once in their lifetime with 23% being arrested at least once in 2016. Finally, looking at the mental health of persons in treatment, it was observed that 62% of the treatment population was diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder.

2. CROSS ANALYSIS BY MAIN SUBSTANCE IMPACTING TREATMENT

In assessing the data, it was observed that 56% of the treatment population for 2016 was seeking treatment for problematic marijuana use and 31% for problematic alcohol use. The majority of persons in treatment were men (92%). Of the women in treatment, 11% were seeking treatment for marijuana use and 6% for alcohol.
While the majority of persons were referred to treatment via the justice system (55%), the proportion of those seeking treatment for cocaine use was significantly higher (80%) than that of those seeking treatment for the most prevalent substance such as alcohol (39%) and marijuana (64%) in this category. 15% of the treatment population was encouraged to seek treatment by their family and friends with the highest proportion for this form of referral coming from persons seeking treatment for problematic alcohol use (26%). Only 6% of the treatment population entered treatment voluntarily with those seeking treatment for crack use predominating this category.
Persons in treatment for problematic substance use were primarily between the ages of 30-39 years old (34%). However, it is noted, that persons seeking treatment for cocaine use were primarily 40 years or older while persons seeking treatment for alcohol and marijuana use were primarily between the 20-39 age ranges.

When we assessed the age of first use for the substance impacting treatment, it is noted that the majority of persons were between the ages of 10-19 years old (65%). The only substances for which use began before 10 years old were alcohol (7%) and marijuana (13%).
The majority of persons in treatment during 2016 indicated that they had completed their primary education (34%) with only 11% having completed their secondary education. Persons in treatment for problematic alcohol use made up the largest proportion of those who had an incomplete secondary education (48%).
In assessing the employment status of persons in treatment, we see that 49% of all persons were categorized as working/self-employed with persons seeking treatment for problematic alcohol use making up the highest proportion in their category (74%). Of those listed as unemployed, persons seeking treatment for marijuana use were predominant in this category (41%).
In assessing the level of interaction with the justice system and persons in treatment during 2016, it was observed that 54% of this population was arrested at least once in a lifetime. All persons seeking treatment for cocaine use were arrested at least once in their lifetime.
Sixty-two percent of the treatment population indicated that they were previously diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder. Of this number, the highest proportion of those diagnosed were persons seeking treatment for crack use (80%) and marijuana use (73%).

### 3. CASE STUDIES

#### A. MARIJUANA USERS

During 2016, the substance with the highest demand for treatment was Marijuana as indicated by 56% of the treatment population. Most persons indicated that they began using this substance between the ages of 10-19 years old (73%) and most persons in treatment were between the ages of 30-39 years old (31%). 11% of persons in treatment for problematic marijuana use were females.
In assessing the source of referral to treatment, we see that more than half of the persons in treatment for problematic marijuana use were referred via the justice system (64%), 13% were encouraged to seek treatment by their family and friends and 2% entered treatment voluntarily.
Looking at the level of education of persons in treatment for marijuana use, it was observed that most did not complete secondary school (48%), only 2% has a university level education.

When compared with persons in treatment for other substance use, it can be observed that persons in treatment for marijuana use were less likely to have completed their secondary education (7% compared to 16%).
Further, when their employment status is assessed, we see that most persons in treatment for this substance were unemployed (41%) or working / self-employed (39%).

Moreover, when compared to persons in treatment for other substances, we see that in the unemployment category, problematic marijuana users outnumber those in treatment for other substances 3:1.
59% of persons in treatment for problematic marijuana use were arrested at least once in their lifetime, of this number, 30% were arrested at least once in 2016.

In evaluating the treatment history, it is observed that 75% of problematic marijuana users were enrolled into a treatment program previously compared to 44% of persons seeking treatment for other substances.
Looking at the mental health history of persons in treatment for marijuana use, we see that almost ¾ of this population were diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder.

In comparison to persons in treatment for other substances, we have observed that problematic marijuana users are also more likely to have been diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder in comparison to other substance users.
B. ALCOHOL USERS
Alcohol was the second substance with the highest demand for treatment in 2016 with 31 out of 100 persons enrolling into treatment for this substance. Among the 31 persons were 2 females. Most persons indicated that they began using the substances between the ages of 10-19 years old (59%).
EDUCATION

The vast majority of persons in treatment for problematic alcohol use had attained a primary education (48%), while 16% had completed their secondary education and only 3% had completed their university education.
CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS SEEKING TREATMENT FOR PROBLEMATIC SUBSTANCE USE IN 2016

When compared to persons seeking treatment for other substances, it was observed that 34% of the treatment population had only a secondary education and persons seeking treatment for problematic alcohol use made up the majority in this category (48% compared to 28%).

**LEVEL OF EDUCATION OF PERSONS SEEKING TREATMENT FOR PROBLEMATIC ALCOHOL USE COMPARED TO OTHER SUBSTANCES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Education</th>
<th>Alcohol</th>
<th>Others</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete primary</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete primary</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete secondary</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete secondary</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete tertiary</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete tertiary</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

The majority of persons in treatment for problematic alcohol use were classified as being employed (74%), followed by 13% who were unemployed.
Compared to the employment status of persons seeking treatment for other substances, it was observed that persons seeking treatment for problematic alcohol use were more likely to be employed (74% compared to 38%).

**EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF PERSONS SEEKING TREATMENT FOR PROBLEMATIC ALCOHOL USE COMPARED TO OTHER SUBSTANCES**

- **Not Working:**
  - Alcohol: 6%
  - Others: 6%
  - Total: 12%
- **Not Working/Retired (retiree, disabled):**
  - Alcohol: 16%
  - Others: 3%
  - Total: 19%
- **Unemployed (looking for work):**
  - Alcohol: 6%
  - Others: 13%
  - Total: 19%
- **Working/Self-Employed:**
  - Alcohol: 74%
  - Others: 29%
  - Total: 38%
- **No Response:**
  - Alcohol: 0%
  - Others: 3%
  - Total: 2%

**TREATMENT HISTORY**

48% of persons registered into treatment for problematic alcohol use indicated that they had previously enrolled into a treatment program.
Compared to the treatment history of persons seeking treatment for other substances, it was observed that those in treatment for problematic alcohol use were more likely to be seeking treatment for the first time ever in 2016 (45% compared to 31%).
CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS SEEKING TREATMENT FOR PROBLEMATIC SUBSTANCE USE IN 2016

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH

In assessing the 2016 data, it was observed that 39% of the persons seeking treatment for problematic substance use were arrested at least once in their lifetime. Of that number, 27% were arrested at least once in 2016.

![Lifetime Arrest History](image1)

![Past Year Arrest History](image2)

In comparison to persons seeking treatment for other substances, it was observed that persons in treatment for problematic alcohol use were least likely to have been arrested in their lifetime (61% compared to 38%).

![Arrest History of Persons Seeking Treatment for Problematic Alcohol Use Compared to Other Substances](image3)
MENTAL HEALTH

Looking at the mental health history of persons seeking treatment for problematic alcohol use, it was observed that 48% of this population was diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder. In comparison to persons in treatment for other substances, it was observed that those in treatment for problematic alcohol use were least likely to have been diagnosed with a mental health disorder (42% compared to 28%).
HISTORY OF DIAGNOSED PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER OF PERSONS SEEKING TREATMENT FOR PROBLEMATIC ALCOHOL USE COMPARED TO OTHER SUBSTANCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ALCOHOL</th>
<th>OTHERS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NO</strong></td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>YES</strong></td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NO RESPONSE</strong></td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>