

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Department 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: August 1, 2008

RE: Mental Health Diagnoses and Co-occurring Substance Abuse Disorders

This week's brief report provides rates of co-occurring substance abuse disorders for Vermont adult mental health service recipients in each of five primary diagnostic categories: personality disorders, schizophrenia and other psychoses, affective disorders, anxiety disorders, and adjustment disorders. This analysis was conducted in response to a request for information from Paul Dragon, DMH Integrated Treatment Program Chief.

This report focuses on adults served during July 2007 through May 2008 by Community Rehabilitation and Treatment (CRT) programs for adult with serious mental illness or by Adult Mental Health Outpatient (AOP) programs for adults who are experiencing emotional, behavioral or adjustment problems that severe enough to warrant professional attention. Findings are based on analysis of Monthly Service Report (MSR) data submitted to the Vermont Department of Mental Health by designated community agencies. Mental health diagnosis categories are based on primary diagnoses. The indicators of a substance abuse disorder used in this analysis include a substance abuse diagnosis or a substance abuse problem indicated in the MSR data base.

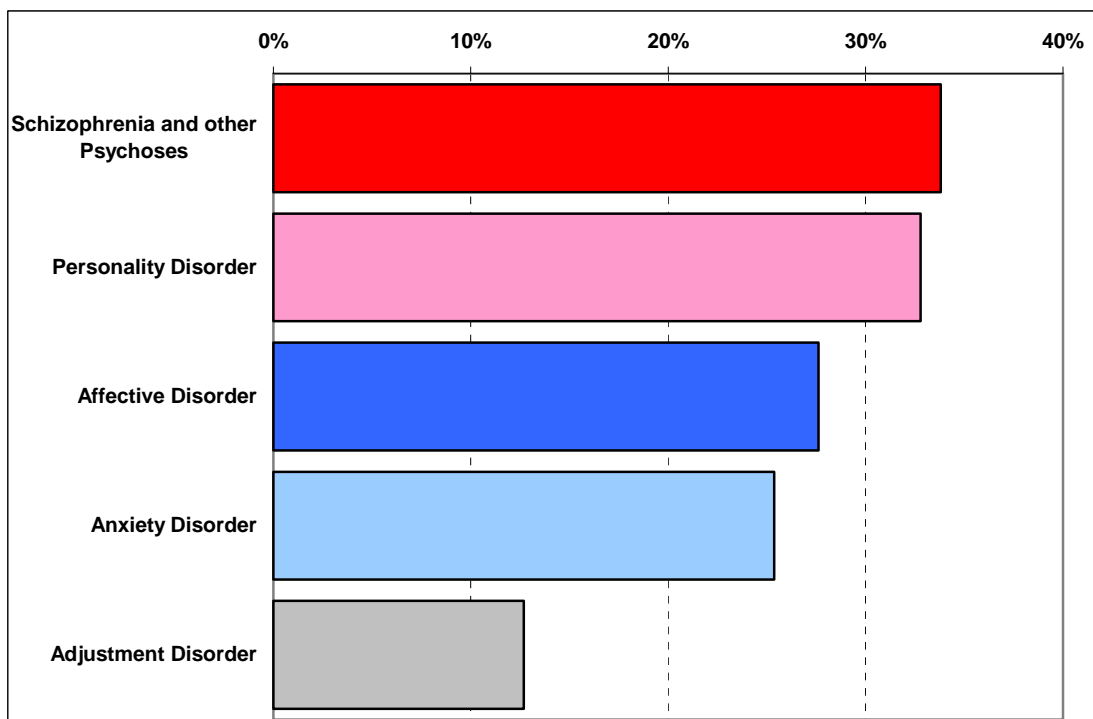
As you will see, there is substantial variation among primary mental health diagnostic categories in the rate of identified substance abuse disorders. Individuals with a primary diagnosis of schizophrenia and other psychoses or a primary diagnosis of personality disorder had the highest rates of substance abuse (34% and 33%, respectively), followed by affective disorders and anxiety disorders (28% and 25%), respectively. Adults with a primary diagnosis of adjustment disorder were the least likely to have a co-occurring substance abuse disorder (13%).

We look forward to your comments and your suggestions for further analyses of these data. As always, you can reach us by e-mail at pip@vdh.state.vt.us or by phone at 802-863-7249.

**Co-occurring Substance Abuse Disorders
among Adult Community Mental Health Clients**

by Mental Health Diagnosis

Vermont: July 2007 - May 2008



<u>Primary Diagnosis</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>With Co-occurring MH/SA</u>	
	<u>#</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>%</u>
Schizophrenia and other Psychoses	1,588	537	34%
Personality Disorder	61	20	33%
Affective Disorder	4,707	1,300	28%
Anxiety Disorder	1,734	440	25%
Adjustment Disorder	1,948	247	13%

Analysis is based on Monthly Service Reports submitted to the Vermont Department of Mental Health by the designated agencies for July 2007 through May 2008. Includes individuals aged 18 and older assigned to Adult Mental Health Outpatient (AOP) programs or Community Rehabilitation and Treatment (CRT) programs. Individuals with co-occurring substance abuse disorders have a mental health diagnosis and a substance abuse diagnosis or problem. Mental health diagnosis categories are based on primary diagnosis only and are mutually exclusive.