

Stimulant Use in Alberta – Client Characteristics, Service Use and Treatment Outcomes

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Background

Issue:

- Rising rates of stimulant use (especially Crystal Meth)



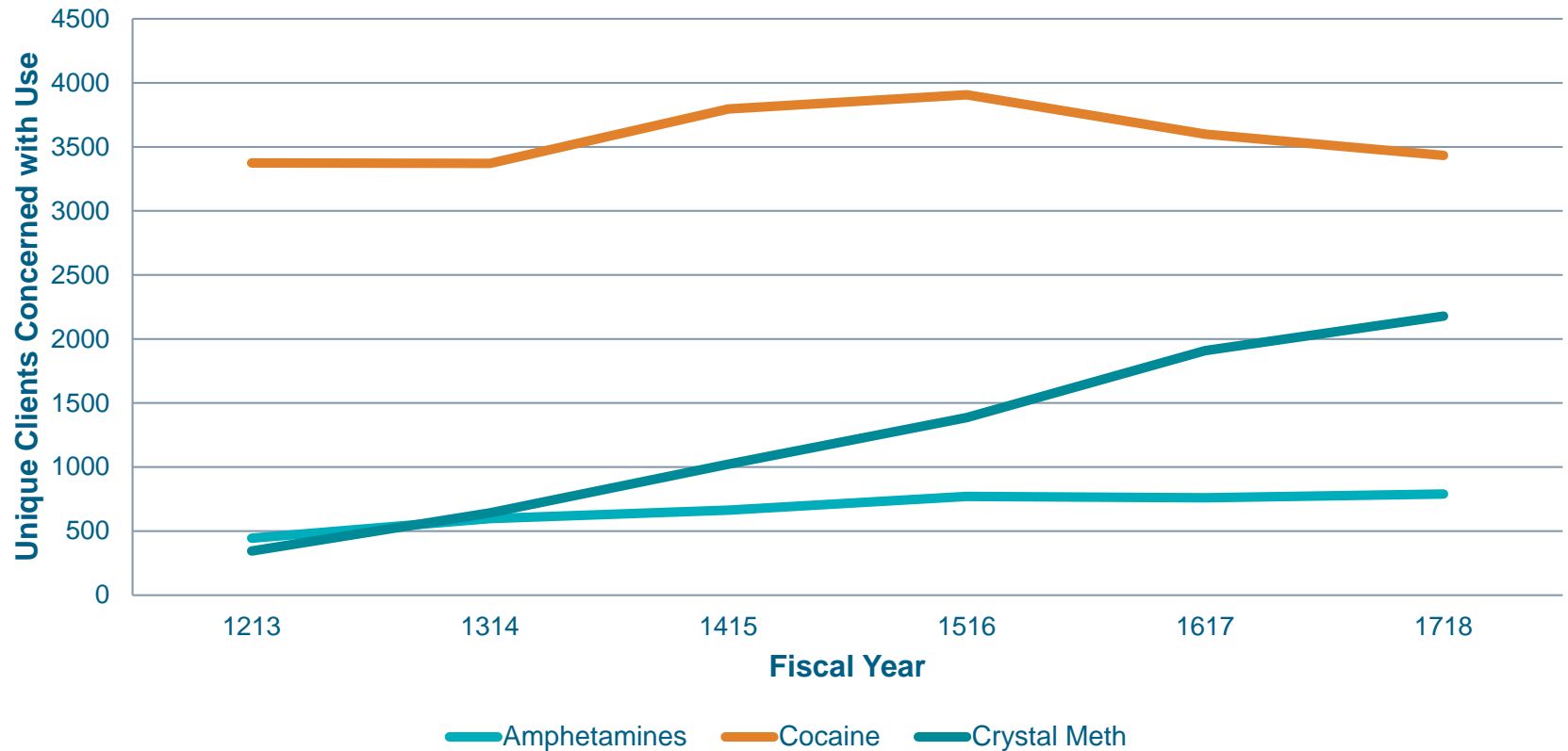
Method:

- Use administrative data (primary care, hospital, ED and addiction services) to understand who stimulant users are, their service use patterns, treatment outcomes and impact on health system
- Clients identified through addiction services data

Objectives

- Compare Crystal Meth and other illicit drug users on:
 - Temporal, regional and sociodemographics variations
 - Co-occurring substance use and health concerns, and
 - Service use patterns
- Examine treatment completion and drop out rates and correlates of these outcomes
- Create a model predicting treatment completion/drop out

Trends in Stimulant Use



Client Characteristics

Characteristic	Amphetamines (n = 585)	Cocaine (n = 17532)	Crystal Meth (n = 13080)
Age, mean (SD)*	29.9 (8.9)	34.1 (10.0)	31.8 (8.6)
Female, n (%)*	244 (41.7)	6306 (36.0)	5484 (41.9)
Rural, n (%)*	44 (7.5)	1806 (10.3)	1266 (9.7)
Education, n(%)			
College Diploma*	94 (16.1)	3090 (17.6)	1435 (11.0)
Grade 12	211 (36.1)	5748 (32.8)	3497 (26.7)
Grade 9	43 (7.4)	1227 (7.0)	1440 (11.0)
Employment, n(%)			
Full-time*	119 (20.3)	5409 (30.9)	1900 (14.5)
Looking	161 (27.5)	4705 (26.8)	4540 (34.7)
Not Looking	195 (33.3)	4568 (26.1)	4710 (36.0)
Substance Concerns, n(%)			
Alcohol*	285 (48.7)	10504 (59.9)	5938 (45.3)
Cannabis*	170 (29.1)	3907 (22.3)	2889 (22.1)
Opioids*	167 (28.5)	3885 (22.2)	4561 (34.9)
Tobacco Smoking*	246 (42.1)	6590 (37.6)	5225 (39.9)
Substance Use, n(%)			
Alcohol*	470 (80.3)	15542 (88.7)	10536 (80.6)
Cannabis*	355 (60.7)	10667 (60.9)	8369 (64.0)
Opioids*	275 (47.0)	6430 (36.7)	6753 (51.6)
Tobacco Smoking*	430 (73.5)	13497 (76.9)	10380 (79.4)

* p < 0.005

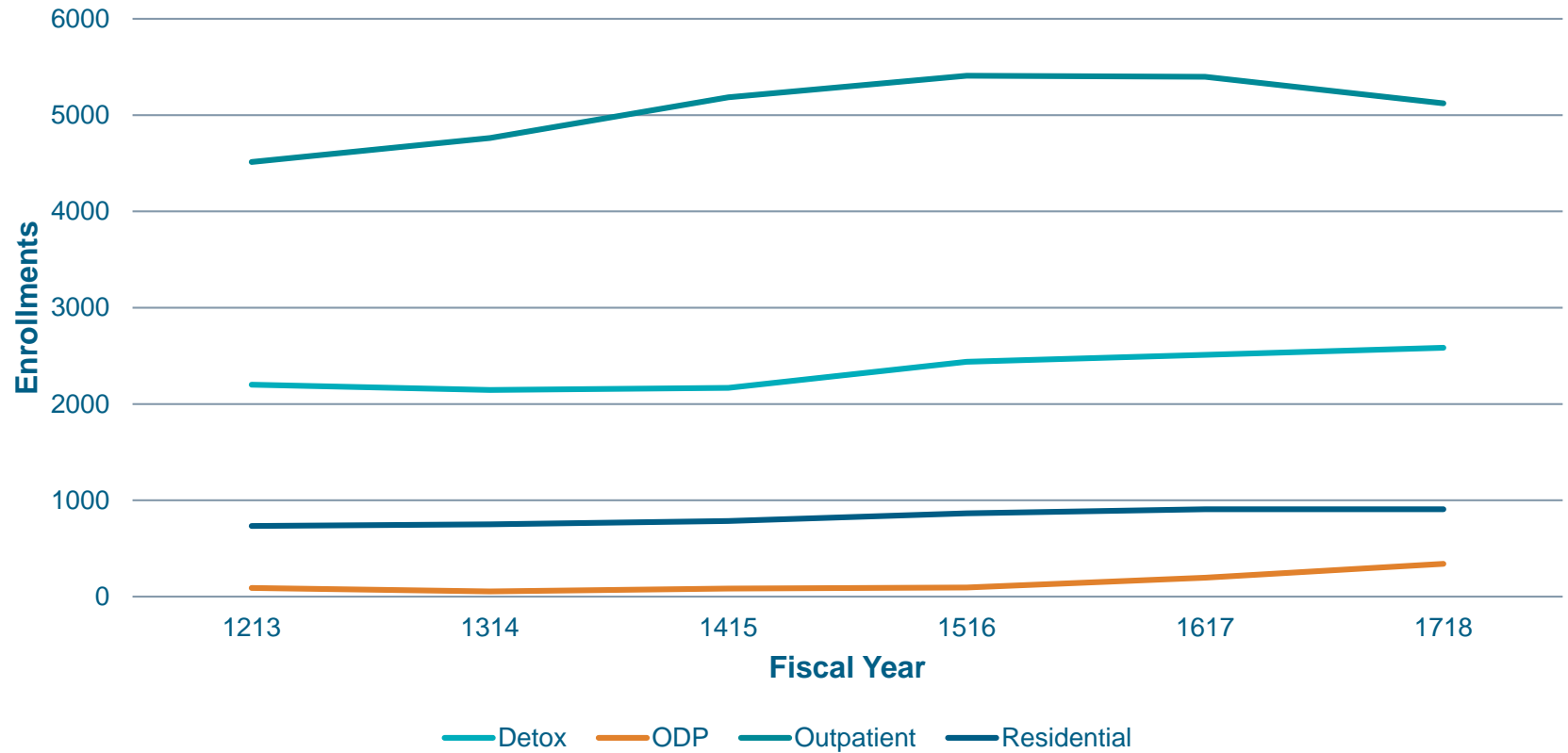
Co-Occurring Conditions

Co-Occurring Condition, n(%)	Amphetamines (n = 585)	Cocaine (n = 17532)	Crystal Meth (n = 13080)
Neurotic Disorders*	248 (42.4)	4746 (27.1)	4729 (36.2)
Psychoses*	149 (25.5)	2832 (16.2)	3300 (25.2)
Anxiety Disorder*	117 (20.0)	2421 (13.8)	2415 (18.5)
Personality Disorders*	82 (14.0)	1305 (7.4)	1365 (10.4)
Bipolar Disorder*	40 (6.8)	886 (5.1)	907 (6.9)
Manic Disorder*	39 (6.7)	754 (4.3)	935 (7.1)
Depression Disorders*	258 (44.1)	5501 (31.4)	5113 (39.1)
Alcohol Dependence*	95 (16.2)	2497 (14.2)	2240 (17.1)
Opioid Dependence*	38 (6.5)	724 (4.1)	831 (6.4)

* P < 0.0001

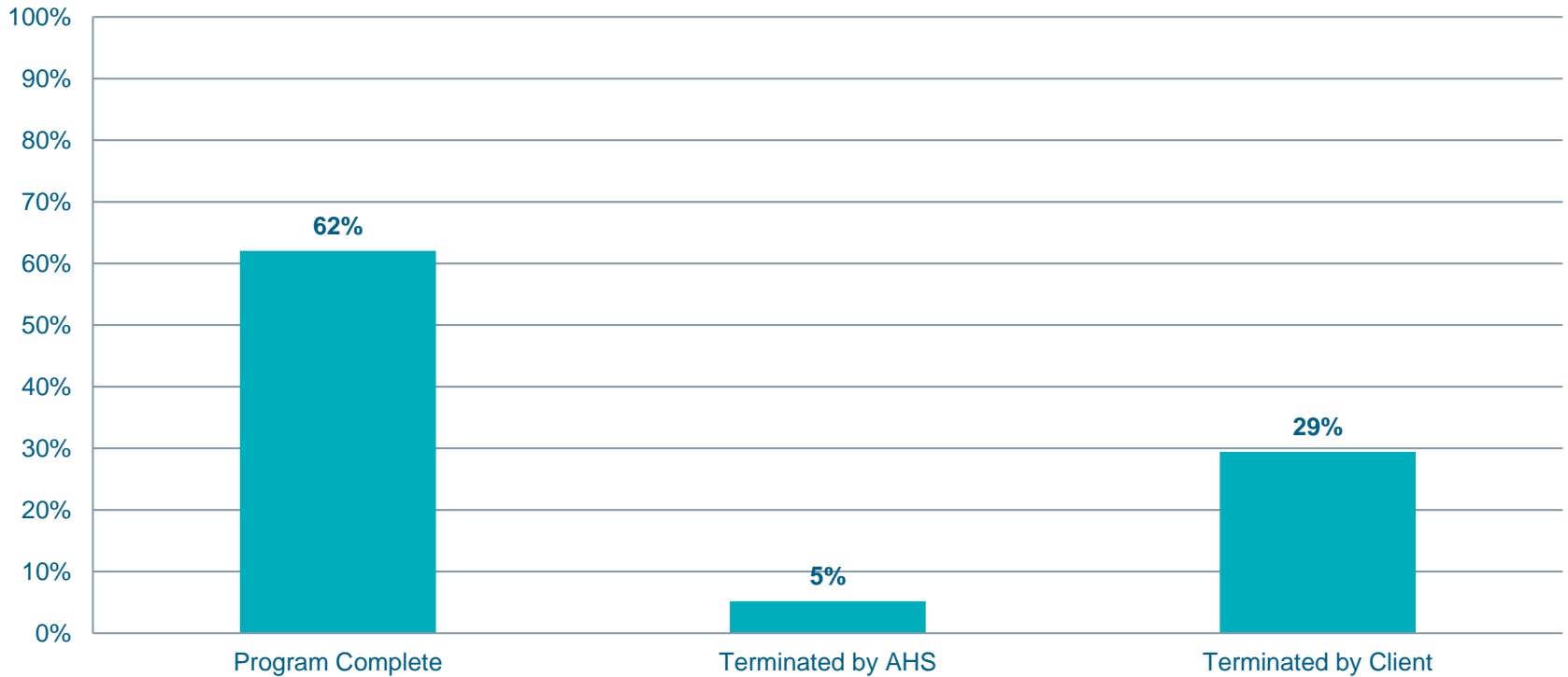


Service Use



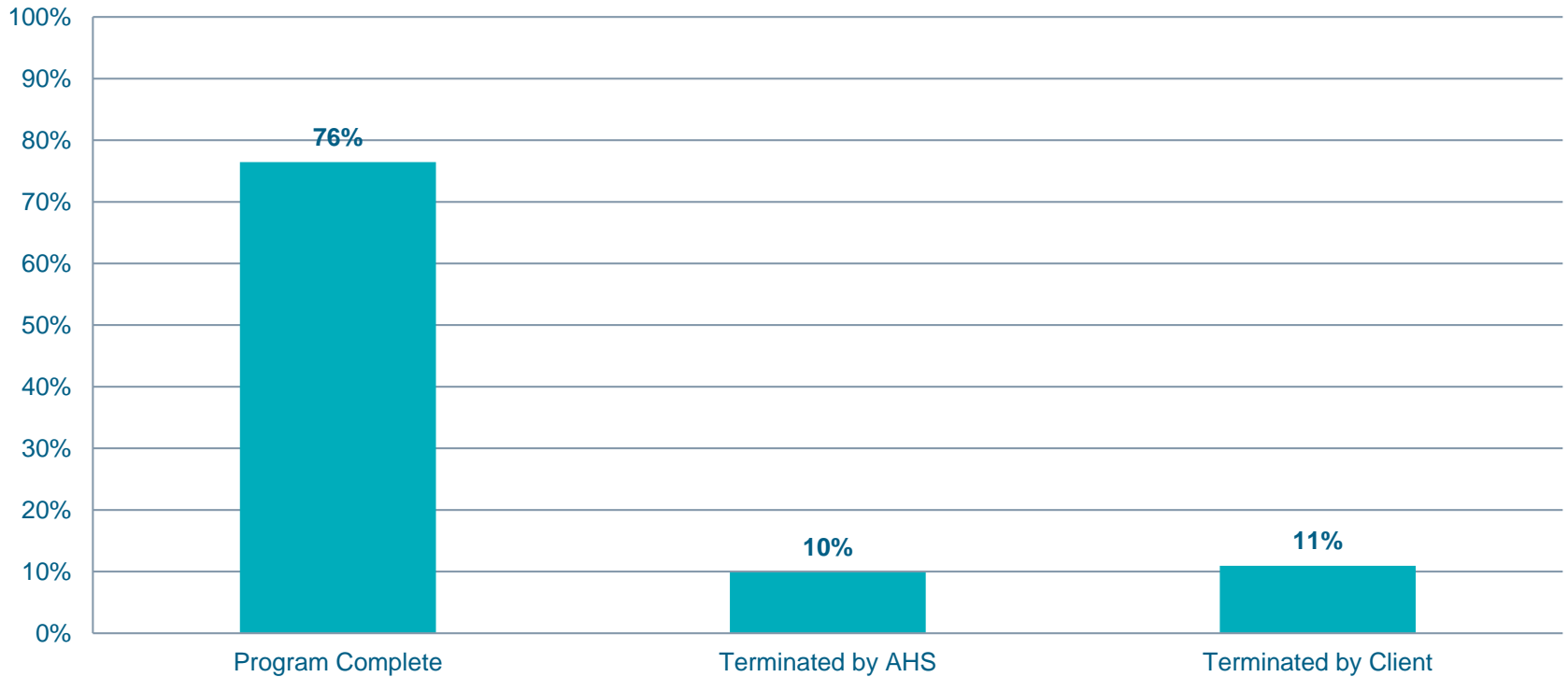
Treatment Completions

Detox (n = 2577)



Treatment Completions

Residential (n = 913)



Next Steps

- Investigate differences between different type of stimulant users (eg., amphetamines vs crystal meth)
- Look at physical comorbidities
- Look at service utilization by stimulant users
- Create a predictive model for treatment completion and dropout
- Generate a technical report under the AHS/CRISM banners and engage with KT recipients for generation of materials

Questions?

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