



APPLICATION FORM

All applications must include the following information. Separate applications must be submitted for each eligible program. **Deadline: June 1, 2018.** Please include this application form with electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact [Gage Harter](#).

PROGRAM INFORMATION

County: County of Henrico

Program Title: ORBIT Program

Program Category: Criminal Justice & Public Safety

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Victoria Davis

Title: Management Specialist

Department: County Manager's Office

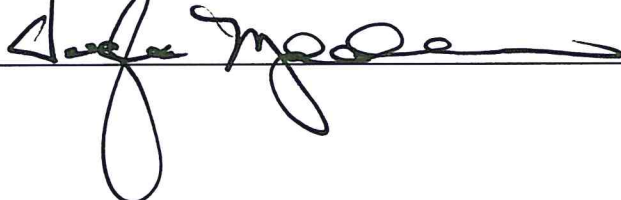
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SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Name: Douglas Middleton

Title: Deputy County Manager for Public Safety

Signature: 

1. Program Overview

In January 2016, and in response to the Opiate Epidemic, Henrico County Sheriff, Michael L. Wade, created and proposed a comprehensive and unique program for opiate addicted inmates. The target population for the Opiate Recovery By Intensive Tracking (ORBIT) program is repeat offenders who receive jail sentences of 18 months to 3 years for charges related to larceny and possession of narcotics. The goal of the ORBIT program is to provide extensive treatment with wrap around services that assist inmates in overcoming their addiction and re-entering to the community. ORBIT is specifically designed to address the immense and overwhelming control that addiction has over a person. The program uses the authority of the Henrico County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) to maintain control over the inmates for the necessary time for the inmates to gradually regain control over their own lives. The program uses the existing sentences meted out by the Courts so that the inmate serves the rest of his/her sentence in the program.

2. Problem/Challenge/Situation Faced By Locality

Opiate based addictions resulting in the commitment of criminal acts are not new to Henrico County or any other locality. However, since 2015, the Henrico County Jail has seen a severe increase in its inmate population. In fact, the jail saw an increase in population of 17% in 2017. In 2015, the Sheriff's Office provided detoxification protocols for nearly 1200 inmates for opiate based drugs, and the yearly numbers continue to rise. (See Detoxification Statistics, attachment 1) According to a 2017 Inmate Drug Survey, 87% of inmates reported drug use as a direct or indirect reason for incarceration. Nearly half of the inmates listed opiates as their drug of choice. (See Inmate Drug Survey, attachment 2) The Sheriff's Office realized detoxification

alone was not preventing future incarceration, so the ORBIT program was created to give the inmates the assistance to overcome the control of addiction.

3. How Program Fulfilled Awards Criteria

All too often, incarcerated individuals serve jail sentences with no chance for true rehabilitation. Sheriff Michael L. Wade's approach is to provide treatment *during* incarceration. This theory has proven to reduce recidivism rates in the Henrico County Jail. With cooperation from Henrico County's judges, Commonwealth's Attorney, Henrico County Schools, Mental Health and Developmental Services, and Department of Social Services, the citizens and county administration have embraced our ORBIT inmates. We regularly partner with faith-based organizations to further bolster reuniting the inmate with the community. Because we use the existing sentence that the inmate has received and do not have any additional funding or staff for the program, any jail could implement the program using existing resources.

4. How Program Was Carried Out

The ORBIT program is comprised of 4 phases to offer the inmate a step-down, transitional re-entry into society. The program is initiated with a referral by any Circuit Court Judge in Henrico County. (Recently, the HCSO has received numerous referrals by Courts of other jurisdictions throughout the Commonwealth. This is a direct result of no other jail or correctional facility having this type of program). Once the inmate is referred, the ORBIT coordinator will review the criminal history, length of sentence, and institutional record of the referred inmate. If the inmate qualifies for the program, he/she is allowed to participate in the program.

RISE

The RISE program dates back to August 2000 when a men's 36 bed community based on the Social Learning Model of Recovery was started at Henrico County Regional Jail East. Sheriff Michael L. Wade had a vision for inmates to have an opportunity for rehabilitation during incarceration. The RISE program has since grown to a 5-pod community with 250 beds.

This peer-run program was implemented to address not only substance use, but criminal behaviors, and positive opportunities for recovery-based peer interactions. Programming is 7 days a week, 12 hours per day and is completely voluntary. ORBIT inmates complete at least 12 weeks of the RISE program. Most participants volunteer to complete the entire 18-week program and become program facilitators (instructors).

During this phase, the inmates are offered the medication Naltrexone which is used to treat opioid and alcohol addiction. This medical treatment is not considered medical assistance therapy- such as Suboxone or Methadone. Naltrexone blocks opioids from acting on the brain thus taking away the reward of getting high or intoxicated.

WORK DETAIL

Work detail has proven to be a vital part of the program. It requires that inmates start preparing for life outside of jail. It requires them to adhere to a strict schedule and prepare for a job in the "real" world, as some inmates have never had gainful employment.

Once an inmate successfully completes the RISE program, he/she will be assigned to an inmate work detail crew. The inmates in this phase work outside of the jail on county or school board-owned property under the supervision of a deputy. Inmates are assigned various tasks such as painting or landscaping. ORBIT participants have provided well over 65,000 work hours to the County of Henrico by performing jobs previously given to outside contractors. ORBIT

inmates have performed the following specific jobs in Henrico County: Landscaping and grass cutting at county government complexes, Grounds maintenance of all Henrico County Fire Stations, Washing of school buses for Henrico County Public Schools, Snow removal at Henrico County buildings, painting of schools, Courts, and county offices.

In addition to working, ORBIT inmates are also required to attend and participate in regular recovery meetings. Inmates attend at least 3 AA/NA meetings per week. Henrico County Jail hosts an NA meeting, open to the public, in the lobby of the jail every week. This encourages family members to participate in meetings with their incarcerated loved ones. ORBIT inmates also attend peer-run 12 step programs in the jail twice a week.

It is during this phase that the HCSO offers the inmates contact visits with their families. They are allotted two 1-hour visits per week with their loved ones. This is another opportunity for inmates to restore and repair damaged relationships due to their drug addiction. These contact visits have been especially beneficial to inmates who have small children.

The HCSO has partnered with Henrico Mental Health & Developmental Services who provides weekly Relapse Prevention groups for inmates in this phase. Deputies transport inmates to these meetings so that they will have mental health connections when they are released. Inmates also attend coping skills groups and job skills groups. They also have the option of participating in Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT).

HCSO also has partnerships with faith-based organizations in the community. Specifically, inmates may attend New Canaan International Church. Staff members from the church provide transportation to the inmates free of charge. While at church on Sundays, inmates attend bible study, attend church service, and are provided fatherhood/motherhood

instruction. Many inmates continue to attend this church after release. Inmates' families are invited to attend this church service as well.

Inmates also take advantage of other educational offerings through the jail. ORBIT inmates may complete their GED studies, learn a vocation- such as auto maintenance or cosmetology, or participate in Computer/Workforce Development. They also practice resume writing and participate in mock job interviews. This ensures that the inmate is competent in completing job applications and is fully prepared for job interviews. The HCSO has just initiated a dual enrollment program where inmates may begin the Workforce Development curriculum while pursuing a vocational certificate.

The entire County of Henrico and neighboring jurisdictions have embraced the inmates in this program. For example, the Henrico County Heroin Task Force (a multi-governmental agency group) has invited ORBIT inmates to speak in public forums and participate in resource events. (See Heroin Task Force Activities, attachment 3) Henrico County Public Schools and New Kent County Public Schools regularly invite ORBIT inmates to present to high school students. This has proven to be a more effective way to communicate with school age children than having law enforcement officials present the same type of data at schools.

WORK RELEASE

After the inmate has shown growth in the work detail phase, he/she is made eligible for work release. All employment opportunities must be verified by the HCSO. Inmates are fitted with GPS tracking device monitors so their whereabouts may be monitored at all times.

Inmates are still required to attend at least 3 AA/NA meetings per week and to submit to random drug tests. They are still eligible to take advantage of any jail program in this phase.

The ORBIT coordinator assists inmates in setting up payment plans for court costs and fines. Failure to pay these financial obligations prevents the inmate from obtaining a driver's license. Several inmates have been able to pay all court costs and fines and have received back their licenses. One ORBIT inmate just recently received his license back after not having one since 1985.

HOME INCARCERATION

Once an inmate has exhibited stable employment and has shown a commitment to recovery, he/she will be placed on home incarceration. This phase of the program allows the inmate to live outside of the jail while still under the control and authority of the HCSO. The program requirements still apply. The jail hosts a monthly retreat for all Home Incarceration inmates. Inmates share successes, voice concerns, and enjoy sober fellowship with one another. Home Incarceration inmates often volunteer to speak at jail meetings and provide transportation for work release inmates to work and/or meetings. The inmate will finish his/her sentence on Home Incarceration.

Financing and Staff

ORBIT participants are incarcerated inmates whose psychical needs are met through standard jail procedures funded by a general budget. The ORBIT program does not require any additional funding. The Henrico County Sheriff's Office uses current staff to staff the ORBIT program. Resources necessary for inmates are provided by jail staff or community partners at no cost.

Program Results

There are currently 142 inmates enrolled in various phases of the ORBIT program. Since starting the program, there have been 30 successful graduates of the program who have completed their jail sentence in the program. None of those inmates have been charged with crimes after release and none have returned to jail.

Several inmates have voiced how the program has benefited them:

- "I feel like it gives me the opportunity to prove myself, not only to me, but to the people that are giving me this opportunity. Without this program, what was broken would have never been fixed."
- "I feel like it's my opportunity to start a new life with the helping hand that I have always needed. Because I have never been able to get my life on track alone, I have always had a problem trusting anyone or anything, and I have finally found something I can believe in."
- "'Recovery First' doesn't just mean abstinence from drugs and alcohol... but changing our patterns of thinking by learning new job skills, gaining employment, getting established in society, and living a better way of life."

7. Summary

The ORBIT program offers an innovative and intensive approach to rehabilitating opioid addicted inmates. This program is unique as it not only provides substance abuse recovery, but also provides life skills through a slow, step-down approach.

This program is built upon intergovernmental cooperation with the Sheriff's Office, Police Division, Division of Fire, Courts, Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, defense bar, county

administration, the departments of Recreation and Parks, Mental Health and Developmental Services, and General Services, Henrico County Public Schools, and New Kent County Public Schools. This collaborative effort further bolsters the successful re-entry of inmates into society. Citizens of Henrico County have embraced the inmates participating in this program- offering jobs, resources, and housing.

ORBIT Program

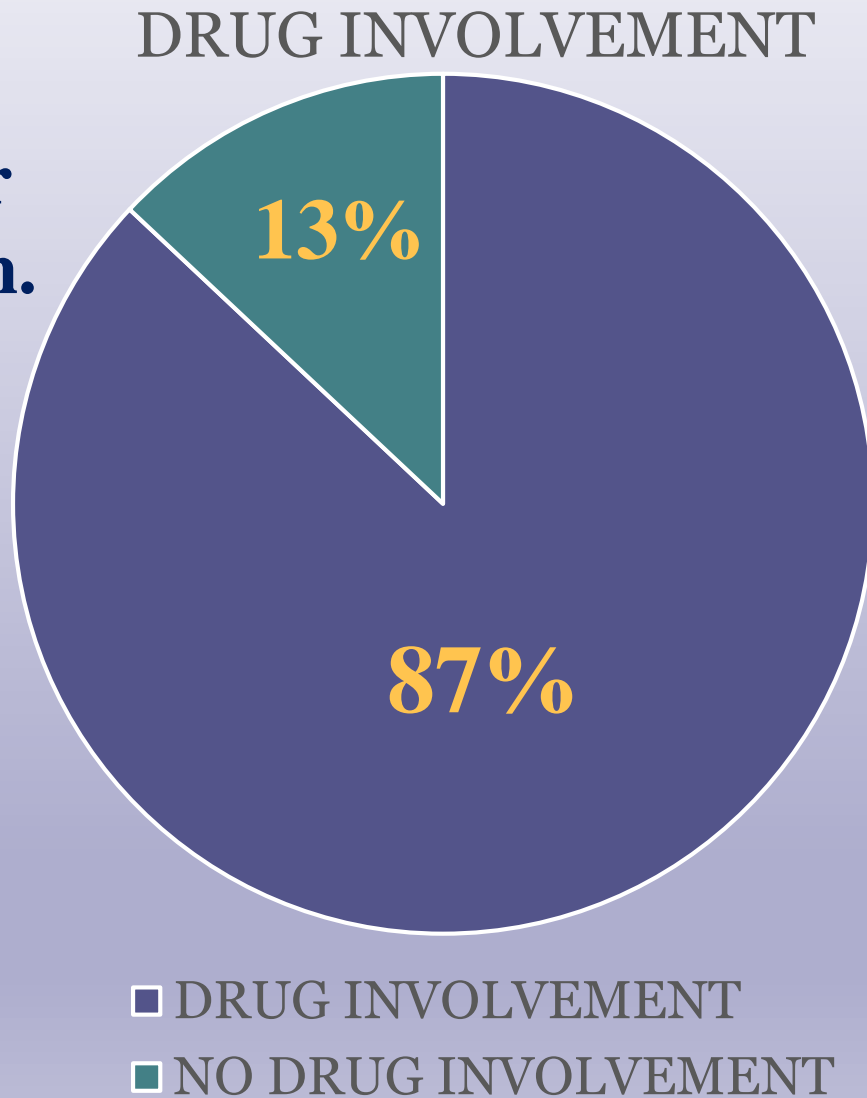
Henrico County Sheriff's Office Inmate Survey

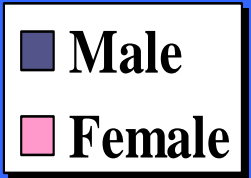
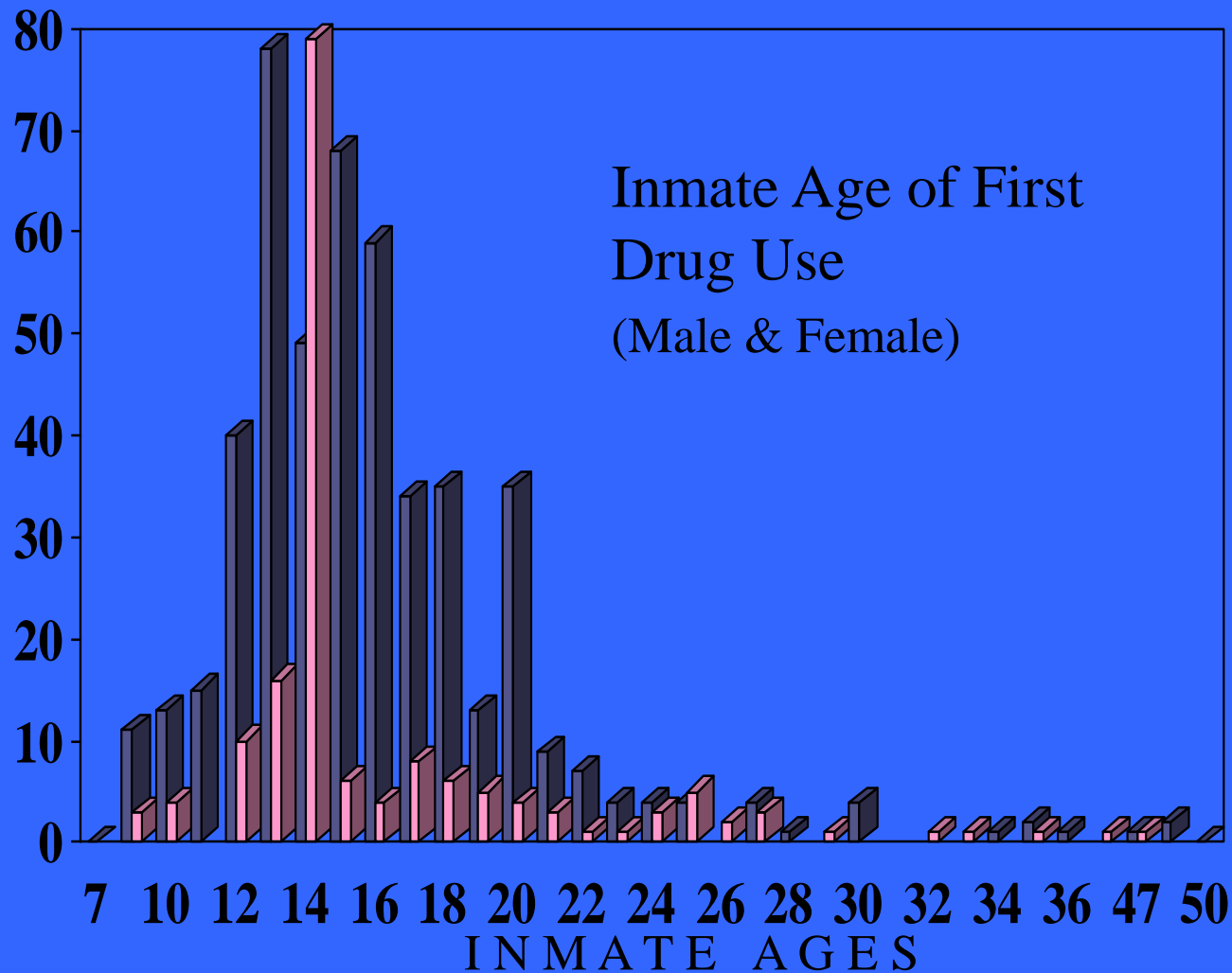


The Sheriff's Office conducted a survey on both Henrico Jail facilities on December 28, 2017. The survey was anonymous and completely voluntary.

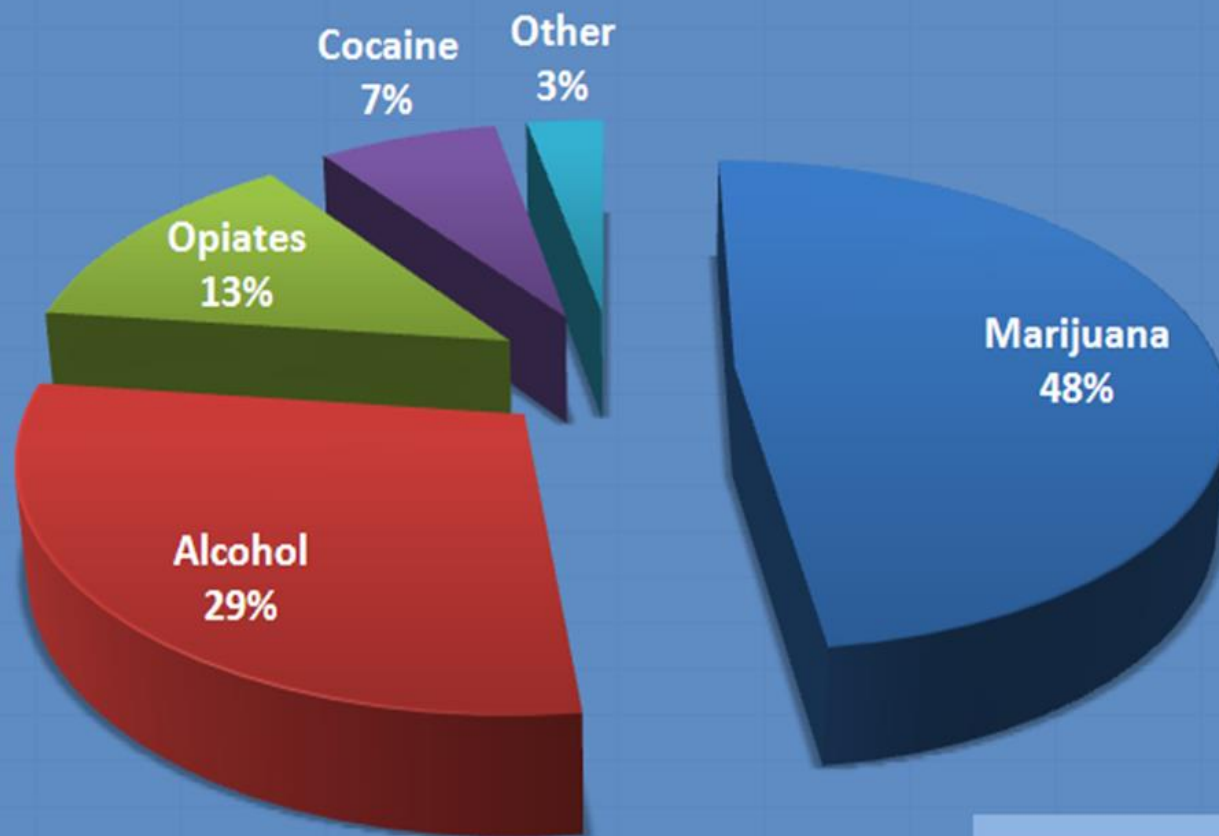
On December 28, 2017, Henrico County Jail had an inmate population of 1434. We had 1007 responses from 825 men and 182 women.

87% Identified Drug Involvement as being a direct or indirect reason for their incarceration.



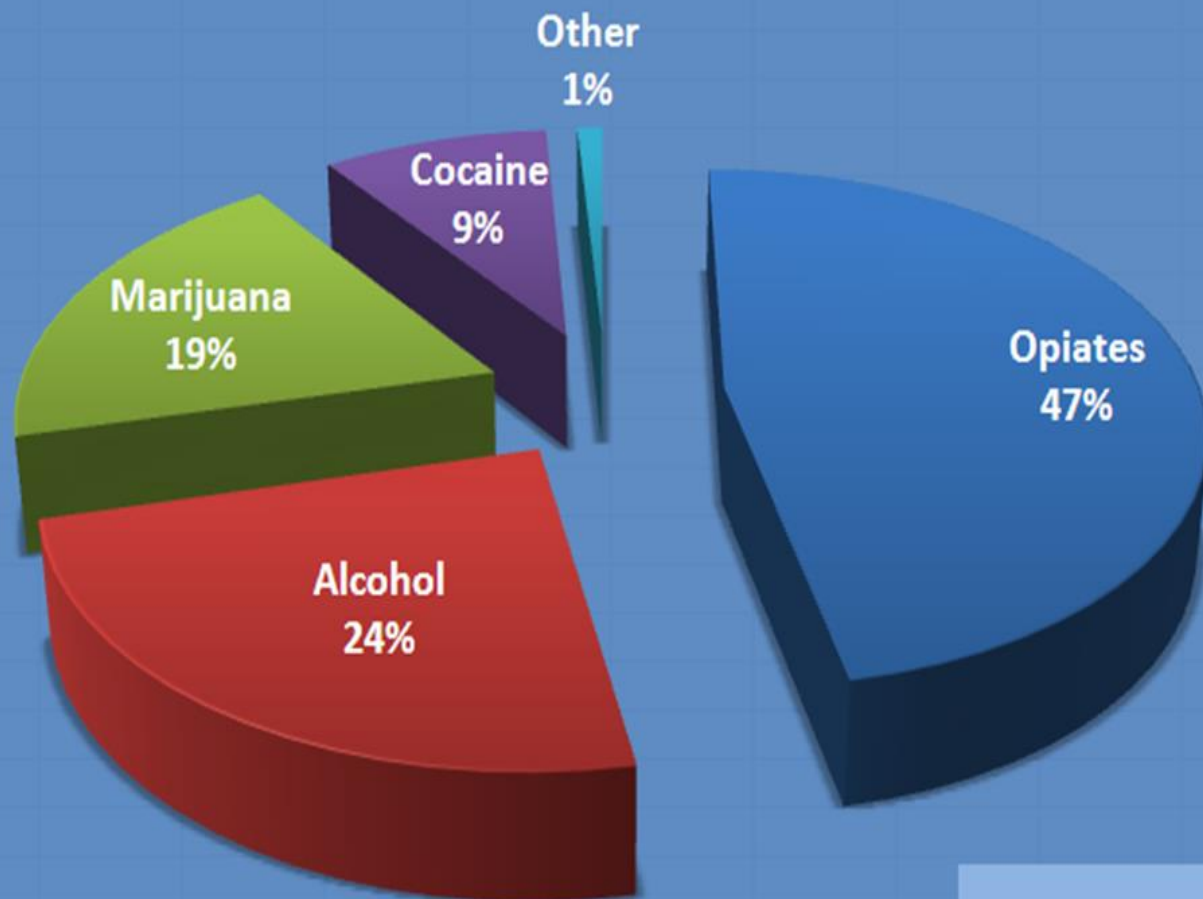


First Drug Taken (Male & Female)



% of Inmates Who
Indicated a Drug

Stated Drug of Choice For Inmates (Male & Female)



% of Inmates Who
Indicated a Drug

FEMALES

**25% REPORT BEING PREGNANT
WHILE USING DRUGS**

**43% REPORT HAVING CHILDREN
TAKEN AWAY DUE TO DRUG USE**

HOSPITALIZATIONS DUE TO

DRUG USE:

MALES: 41%
FEMALES: 28%

NARCAN:

MALES: 32%
FEMALES: 22%

**Average Number of Incarcerations Due
to Drug Use:**

MALES: 5

FEMALES: 2