

ICPSR 33261

**Treatment Episode Data Set --  
Admissions (TEDS-A), 2010**

Description

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## **Bibliographic Description**

ICPSR Study No.: 33261

Title: Treatment Episode Data Set -- Admissions (TEDS-A), 2010

Alternate Title: TEDS-A, 2010

Principal Investigator(s): United States Department of Health and Human Services. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality.

Series: Treatment Episode Data Set - Admissions (TEDS-A) Series

Funding Agency: United States Department of Health and Human Services. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality.

Bibliographic Citation: United States Department of Health and Human Services. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. Treatment Episode Data Set -- Admissions (TEDS-A), 2010. ICPSR33261-v1. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2012-07-17. doi:10.3886/ICPSR33261.v1

## **Scope of Study**

Summary: The Treatment Episode Data Set -- Admissions (TEDS-A) is an administrative data system providing descriptive information about the national flow of admissions to providers of substance abuse treatment. TEDS-A is part of a reporting system that was originally designed to provide annual data on the number and characteristics of persons admitted to public and private substance abuse treatment programs receiving public funding. The unit of analysis is treatment admissions. TEDS includes both Minimum Data Set (MDS) data (required reporting) and Supplemental Data Set (SuDS) data (optional reporting), as reported to state substance abuse agencies by the treatment programs.

Variables in the MDS include: information on service setting, number of prior treatments, primary source of referral, gender, race, ethnicity, education, employment status, substance(s) abused, route of administration, frequency of use, age at first use, and whether methadone was prescribed in treatment. Supplemental variables include: diagnosis codes, presence of psychiatric problems, living arrangements, source of income, health insurance, expected source of payment, pregnancy

and veteran status, marital status, detailed not in labor force codes, detailed criminal justice referral codes, days waiting to enter treatment, and the number of arrests in the 30 days prior to admissions.

Substances abused include alcohol, cocaine and crack, marijuana and hashish, heroin, nonprescription methadone, other opiates and synthetics, PCP, other hallucinogens, methamphetamine, other amphetamines, other stimulants, benzodiazepines, other non-benzodiazepine tranquilizers, barbiturates, other non-barbiturate sedatives or hypnotics, inhalants, over-the-counter medications, and other substances.

Created variables include total number of substances reported, intravenous drug use (IDU), and flags for any mention of specific substances.

The public-use files were created using the data that were current as of October 2011 (the October 10, 2011, extract).

Subject Term(s): alcohol abuse, drug abuse, drug treatment, health care services, health insurance, intervention, mental health, substance abuse, substance abuse treatment, treatment programs

Smallest Geographic Unit: Core-Based Statistical Area (CBSA)

Geographic Coverage: United States

Time Period: • 2010

Date(s) of Collection: • 2010

Unit of Observation: treatment admissions

Universe: Treatment admissions to substance abuse treatment programs in the United States receiving public funds. State substance abuse agencies are requested to provide TEDS-A data on all publicly- and privately-funded clients in treatment programs receiving any public funds. There are some instances, however, in which information is provided only for clients whose treatment is funded through public monies.

Data Type: administrative records data

Data Collection Notes: Several limitations to the data exist and should be noted prior to using the TEDS files:

- The number and client mix of TEDS records depends, to some extent, on external factors, including the availability of public funds. In states with higher funding levels, a larger percentage of the substance-abusing population may be admitted to treatment, including the less severely impaired and the less economically disadvantaged.
- The primary, secondary, and tertiary substances of abuse reported to the TEDS are those substances that led to the treatment episode, and not necessarily a complete enumeration of all drugs used at the time of admission.
- The way an admission is defined may vary from state to state such that the absolute number of admissions is not a valid measure for comparing states.
- States continually review the quality of their data processing. As systematic errors are identified, revisions may be enacted in historical TEDS data files. While this system improves the dataset over time, reported historical statistics may change slightly from year to year.
- States vary in the extent to which coercion plays a role in referral to treatment. This variation derives from criminal justice practices and differing concentrations of abuser subpopulations.
- Public funding constraints may direct states to selectively target special populations, for example, pregnant women or adolescents.
- TEDS consists of treatment admissions, and therefore may include multiple admissions for the same client. Thus, any statistics derived from the data will represent admissions, not clients. It is possible for clients to have multiple initial admissions within a state and even within providers that have multiple treatment sites within the state. TEDS provides a national snapshot of what is seen at admission to treatment, but is currently not designed to follow individual clients through a sequence of treatment episodes.
- TEDS distinguishes between "transfer admissions" and "initial admissions." Transfer admissions include clients transferred for distinct services within an episode of treatment. Only initial admissions are included in the public-use file.
- Some states have no Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) that provide medication-assisted therapy using methadone and/or buprenorphine. See the TEDS Crosswalks ([Link](#)) for information regarding data collected by each state.

Beginning with data released or re-released in 2012, a change was made to the data beginning with 2008. A new variable was included in the

dataset. The variable ARRESTS looks at how many times, if any, a client was arrested in the 30 days preceding his or her admission into treatment. The variable has been recoded to protect the confidentiality of patient records. Please see Appendix B of the Codebook for further information. The variable ARRESTS will not be present on any files going backwards from 1992 to 2007.

Beginning with data released or re-released in 2012, changes were made to the full TEDS series going back to 1992. The changes consisted of the following:

- The recoding scheme of the variable DENTLF (Detailed Not in Labor Force Category) was changed. The cases for "Inmate of Institution" have been separated from "Other" and are now a stand alone category.
- The recoding scheme of the variable DETCRIM (Detailed Criminal Justice Referral) was changed. The cases for "Prison" have been separated from "Probation/Parole" and are now a stand alone category. The same was done for the cases for "Diversionary Program" which were previously combined with "Other". But the cases for "Other Recognized Legal Entity" previously combined with "State/Federal Court, Other Court" have now been combined with the "Other" category.
- The other change was to the Codebook. The recode table (now Appendix B) now includes the original percentages of cases for each value on select variables listed in the table.

It should be noted that the categories and codes in this public-use file differ somewhat from those used by SAMHSA and those found in the TEDS Crosswalks and in other reports. This is a result of the recoding that was performed to protect client privacy in creating the public-use file.

To further protect respondent and provider privacy, all Drug and Alcohol Services Information System (DASIS) unique identification numbers have been removed from the public-use data. Therefore, no linkages are possible between the TEDS and National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS) public-use files.

A series of TEDS state indicator variables were created that can be used in analyses to compare a particular state with all other states. These variables are only available for analysis or subsetting through the SAMHDA online analysis system. See the Codebook for sample SPSS

programming syntax on how to create state indicator variables on a downloaded file.

Users should consult the TEDS Crosswalks ([Link](#)) for a breakdown of the data collected in each state and their corresponding TEDS codes, including state-by-state descriptions of exceptions or anomalies in reporting practices.

The data are collected from the states by Synectics for Management Decisions, Incorporated.

## Methodology

Data Source: Administrative records from substance abuse treatment programs as reported to state substance abuse agencies.

Mode of Data Collection: record abstracts

Extent of Processing: Performed consistency checks.

Created variable labels and/or value labels.

Standardized missing values.

Created online analysis version with question text.

Performed recodes and/or calculated derived variables.

Checked for undocumented or out-of-range codes.

## Access and Availability

Note: A list of the data formats available for this study can be found in the [summary of holdings](#). Detailed file-level information (such as record length, case count, and variable count) is listed in the [file manifest](#).

Restrictions: Users are reminded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that these data are to be used solely for statistical analysis and reporting of aggregated information, and not for the investigation of specific individuals or organizations.

Original ICPSR Release: 2012-07-17

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Dataset(s): • DS1: Treatment Episode Data Set -- Admissions (TEDS-A), 2010