Introduction

Older adults bring experience, resilience, and perspective to families and communities. Some, however, experience mental health or substance use challenges that can affect their independence, relationships, and quality of life. SAMHSA supports grant programs that provide behavioral health services and treatment and promote housing stability, social connectedness, recovery, and well-being among older adults. This profile presents data on adults ages 65 to 89 years served by all SAMHSA discretionary grants that reported client-level data for the period from October 1, 2018, to September 30,2025.

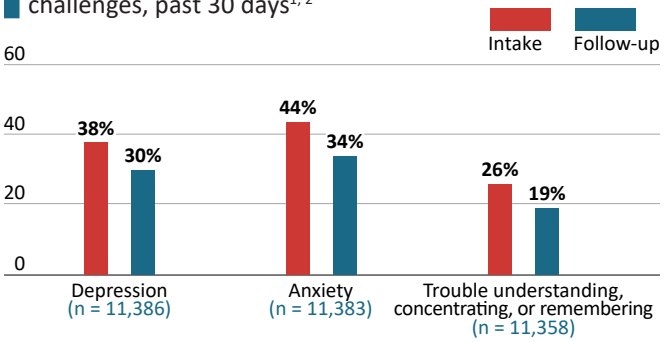
Number of older adults served
October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2025

210,875
Number of adults ages 65 to 89

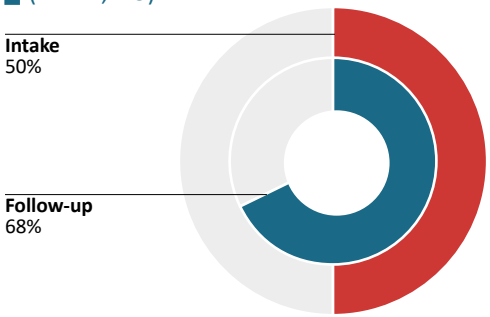
6.3%
Percentage of all clients served (n = 3,365,464)

! The number represents the clients included in the analysis. It should not be interpreted as the total number of older adults served by all SAMHSA-funded programs.

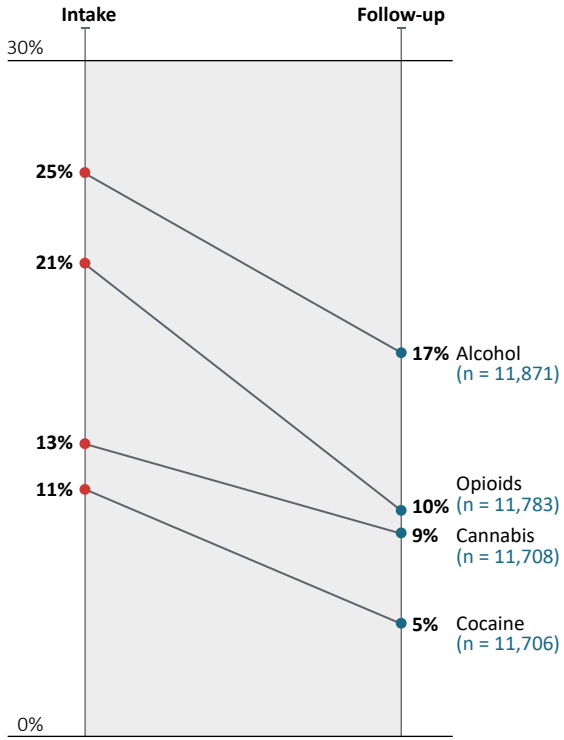
Percentage of substance use treatment and recovery program clients reporting selected mental health challenges, past 30 days[1, 2]



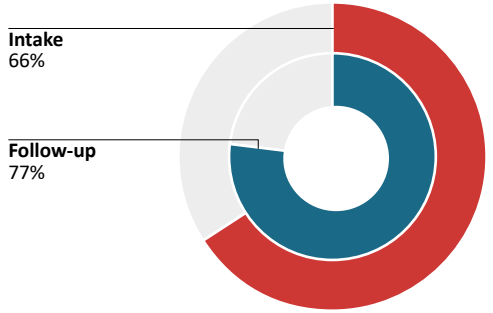
Percentage of clients reporting no substance use, past 30 days[1, 2] (n = 11,729)



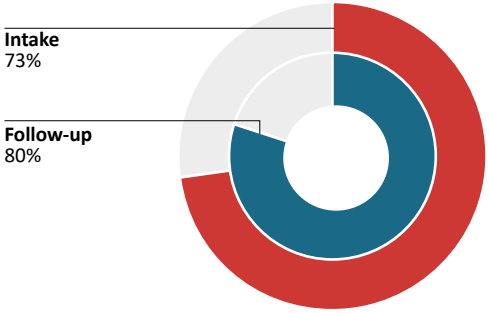
Percentage of clients who used specific substances, past 30 days[1, 2]



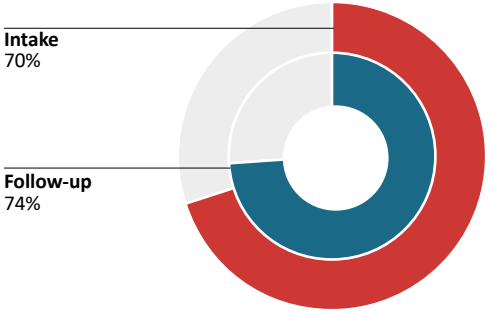
Percentage of mental health program clients without severe psychological distress, past 30 days[1, 3] (n = 11,541)



Percentage of clients reporting social connectedness[1, 4] (n = 23,194)



Percentage of clients reporting stable housing[1, 4] (n = 17,465)



Footnotes

1. Most follow-ups took place 6 months after intake. Three grant programs conducted 3-month interviews that were included instead, when available. Outcome analyses include only clients who were in the program for at least 3 or 6 months by September 30, 2025, and consented to a 3- or 6-month follow-up interview. A client may be included more than once if they experienced more than one episode during the time period.
2. Percentages include only clients served through substance use treatment and recovery grants.
3. Percentages include only clients served through mental health grants.
4. Percentages include clients served by mental health grants and substance use treatment and recovery grants, which used different questions to collect the data. See the accompanying database codebook for details.