

Table 3.86

**Drug use motive reported in drug abuse-related emergency department episodes**

By patient and episode characteristics, United States, 1994<sup>a</sup>

Patient and episode characteristics	Drug use motive						
	Total	Recreational use	Other psychic effects	Dependence	Suicide	Other <sup>b</sup>	Unknown
Total number of episodes	518,521	43,948	41,735	165,541	199,773	5,566	61,958
<b>Sex</b>							
Male	50.8%	67.9%	38.6%	67.3%	33.2%	47.1%	59.9%
Female	48.3	30.9	60.0	32.1	65.8	51.6	39.4
Unknown/no response	0.9	1.2	1.4	0.6	1.1	1.3	0.7
<b>Age</b>							
6 to 11 years	0.2	0.2	0.7	(c)	0.2	0.2	0.5
12 to 17 years	11.7	16.9	15.6	1.5	18.4	18.4	10.1
18 to 25 years	21.7	31.5	26.3	14.7	24.4	26.4	20.8
26 to 34 years	29.2	27.0	24.4	37.3	23.7	18.7	30.5
35 to 44 years	25.5	18.9	21.4	34.5	20.1	21.8	26.4
45 to 54 years	8.1	4.4	7.3	9.4	8.0	5.0	8.0
55 years and older	3.1	0.9	4.2	2.1	4.0	8.5	3.2
Unknown/no response	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.2	1.0	0.5
<b>Race, ethnicity</b>							
White	53.9	50.6	65.7	34.9	69.0	65.8	49.1
Black	27.2	24.0	20.9	45.2	13.7	18.0	30.1
Hispanic	9.7	16.1	7.6	10.9	7.5	7.8	10.7
Other <sup>d</sup>	1.2	1.3	1.1	0.5	1.6	2.9	1.2
Unknown/no response	8.0	7.9	4.7	8.5	8.1	5.5	8.9
<b>Number of drugs</b>							
Single-drug episode	48.7	53.5	50.8	49.5	44.7	63.9	53.2
Multi-drug episode	51.3	46.5	49.2	50.5	55.3	36.1	46.8
<b>Reason for emergency department contact</b>							
Unexpected reaction	12.8	45.4	14.2	14.8	1.9	12.7	18.8
Overdose	52.0	29.4	68.1	11.1	90.9	60.8	40.0
Chronic effects	10.8	5.0	3.8	28.6	0.5	1.2	6.3
Withdrawal	2.7	0.6	B	7.3	0.1	2.5	B
Seeking detoxification	10.1	3.0	1.6	29.1	0.6	B	1.4
Accident/injury	3.1	4.0	2.1	3.9	0.5	4.5	9.5
Other	4.2	8.3	7.1	3.0	2.7	10.5	6.9
Unknown/no response	4.3	4.4	2.6	2.1	2.9	7.6	15.2
<b>Patient disposition</b>							
Admitted to hospital	49.9	26.6	43.4	38.5	69.4	39.1	39.2
Treated and released	46.9	69.5	53.8	58.1	28.7	56.2	54.5
Left against medical advice	1.9	2.2	2.1	2.6	0.9	B	2.7
Died	0.2	0.1	(c)	0.2	0.1	(c)	0.6
Unknown/no response	1.1	1.5	B	0.7	0.9	B	2.9

Note: See Note, table 3.81. For information on methodology, estimation procedures, and data limitations, see Appendix 10.

<sup>a</sup>Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Includes self-medication for physical ailment, to prevent pregnancy or induce abortion, accident, used unknowingly, etc.

<sup>c</sup>Less than 0.05%.

<sup>d</sup>Includes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Pacific Islanders, and other racial/ethnic groups.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Annual Emergency Department Data, 1994*, Statistical Series I, Number 14-A (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1996), p. 31. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.