

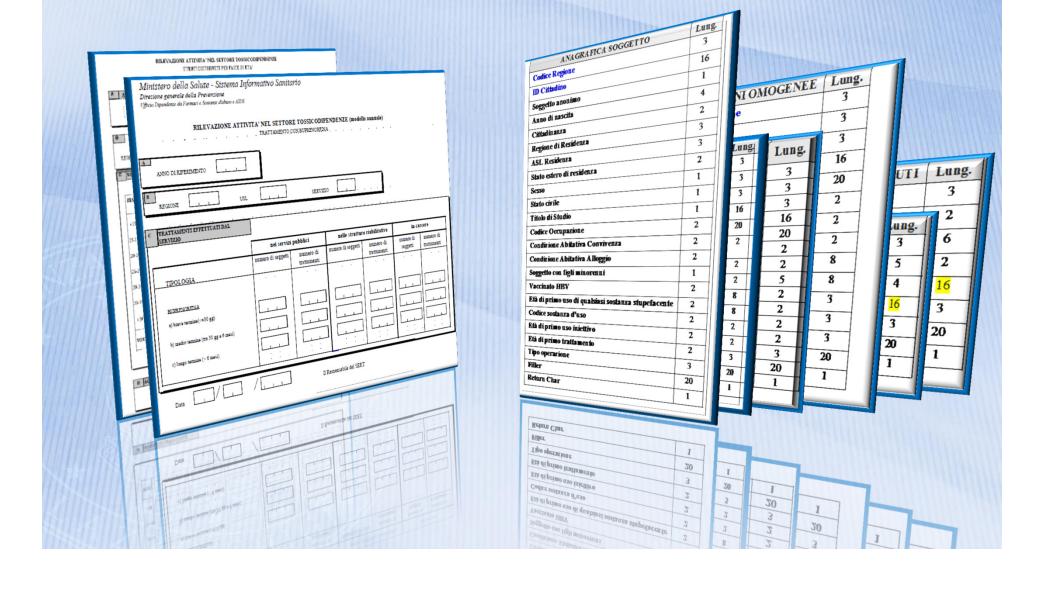
Epidemiological characteristics of subjects undergoing treatment – from the substance of the first use to primary drug

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Presidency of the Council of Ministers
Department for Anti-drug Policies



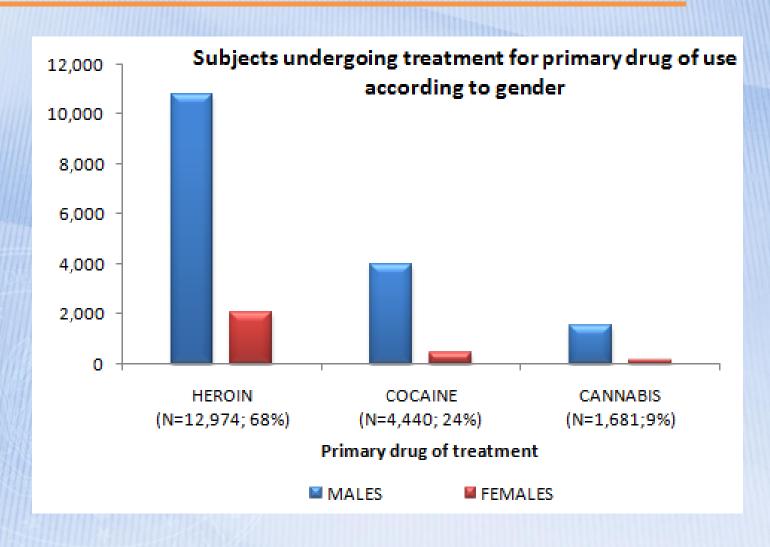
SIND data flow - from aggregate data to individual records



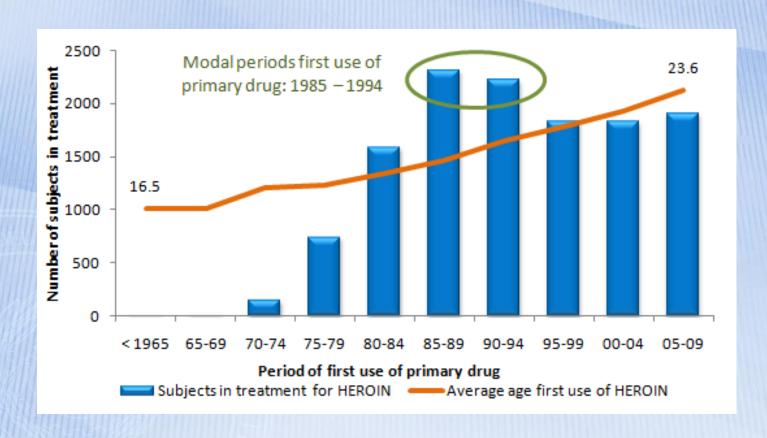
SIND - Sample of public drug treatment units clients



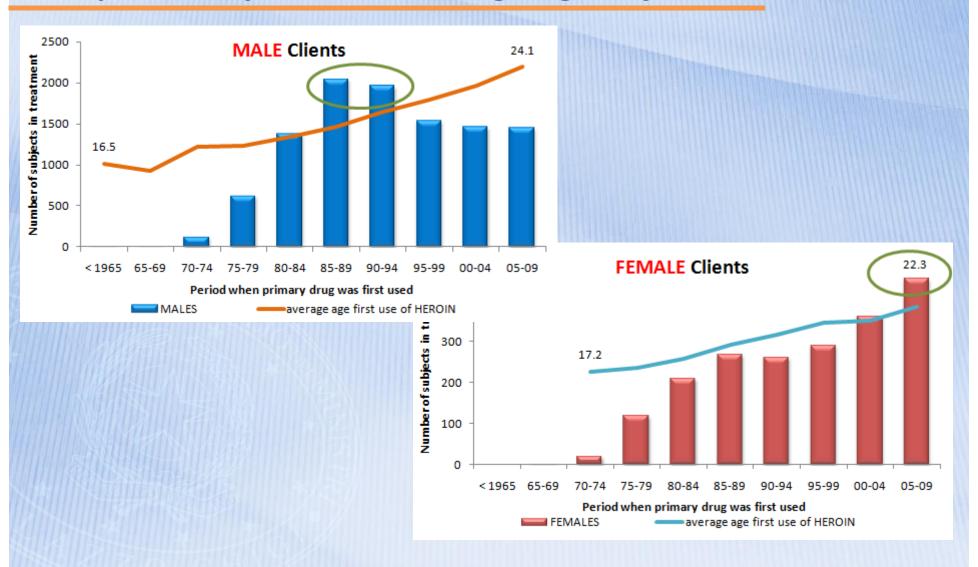
Characteristics of subjects in treatment



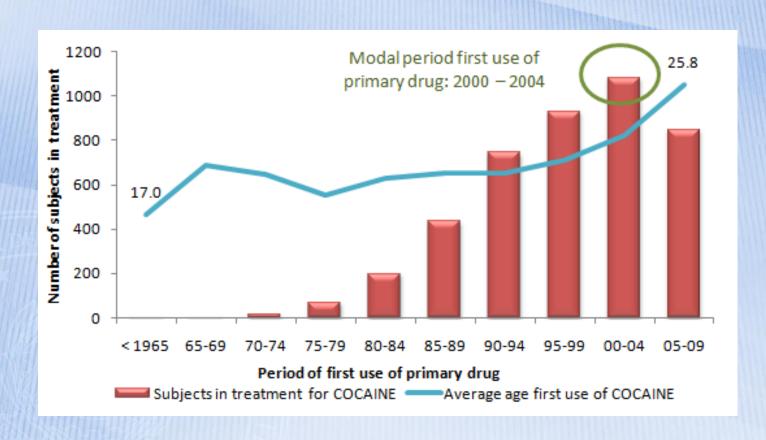
Characteristics of subjects in treatment - HEROIN



Time period in years and average age at first heroin use

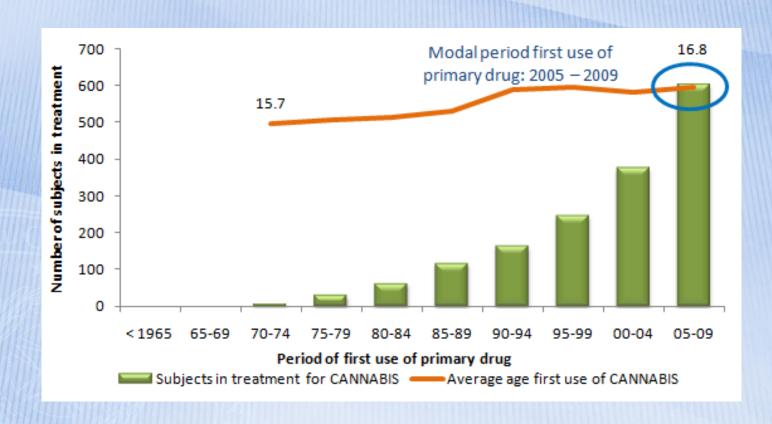


Characteristics of subjects in treatment - COCAINE

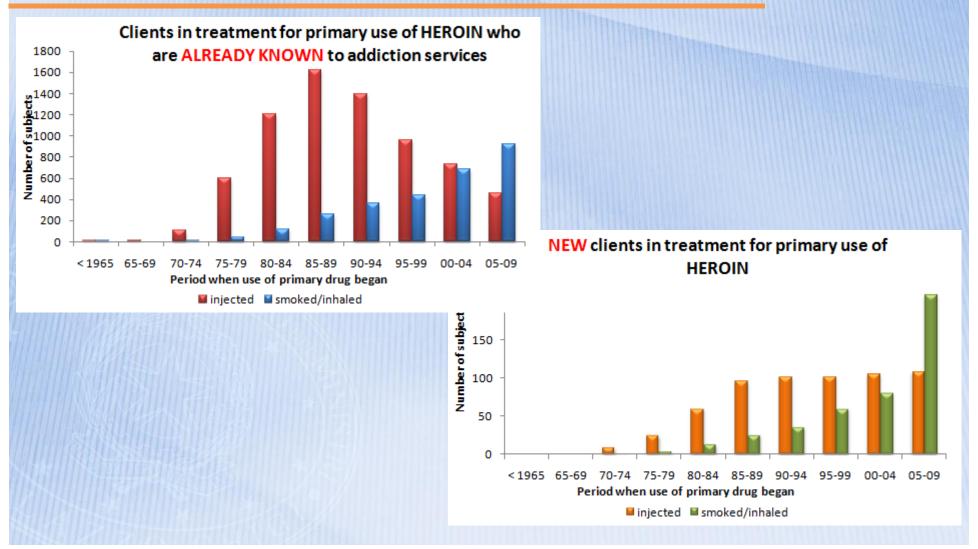




Characteristics of subjects in treatment - CANNABIS

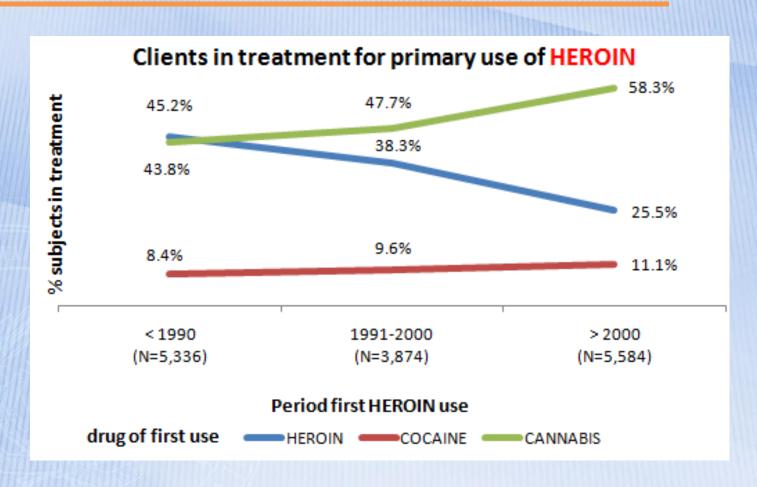


Method of primary substance use according to time period when first use occured



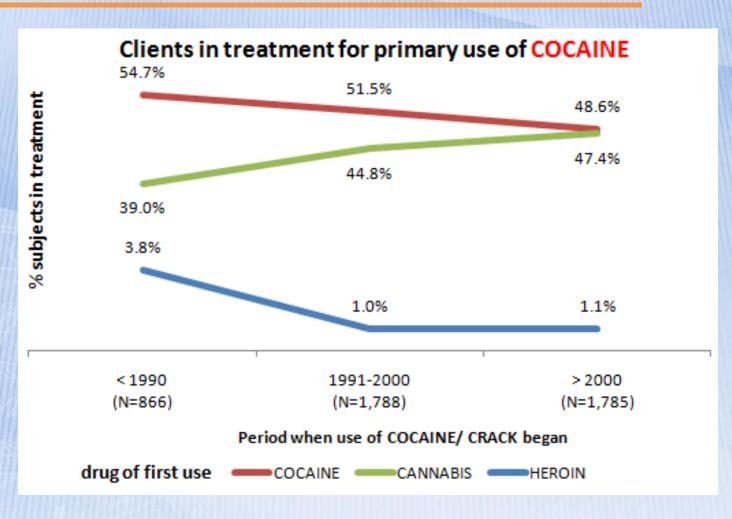


Drug of first use according to time period when HEROIN was first used





Drug of first use according to time period when **COCAINE** was first used



CONCLUSIONS

The data presented reveal a few points which bear consideration: :

- Most clients being treated for heroin use began using that drug at an earlier age than that at which clients undergoing treatment for cocaine or cannabis began using; they have also been in treatment longer than other clients.
- The age of first use for heroin or cocaine becomes greater the later the time period when first use occurred. This variation is less noticeable where cannabis is concerned.
- Over time there has been an evolution in the method of use for heroin, shifting from injecting toward inhalation.
- There has also been an evolution in first drug use: before the 1990s, the drug of first use was generally the same primary drug for which clients were being treated. However, after 2000, first drug use has tended to be with cannabis.

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