

The Barbados Drug Information Network

Findings from the 2017 & 2018 Reports

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Outline of Presentation

- Overview of BARDIN
- Benefits of BARDIN
- BARDIN Background
- Objectives of BARDIN
- Key findings from the 2017 & 2018 BARDIN reports
- Summary & Recommendations



What Is The Barbados Drug Information Network (BARDIN)?

- BARDIN is the formal mechanism through which Barbados collects & disseminates drug-related information on activities related to prevention, education, treatment & rehabilitation & law enforcement.
- It involves the use of pragmatic approaches to collect data from stakeholders which can be used to inform & address the drug problem in Barbados.
- It is primarily a compilation of secondary data.



Objectives Of BARDIN

- To provide current epidemiological and other information on substance abuse.
- To strengthen the capacity of Barbados to respond to changing drug use trends.
- To provide relevant information for the planning, evaluation and management of drug control programmes.
- To regularly update this information.
- To identify trends in drug consumption and offences related to illicit drugs.



Benefits of BARDIN

- Facilitates information sharing
- Increases data presentation and analysis skills
- Builds interagency cooperation
- Creates opportunities to provide reliable and standardized data
- Allows for a better understanding of the drug situation in Barbados
- Creates opportunities for a cohesive response to the drug problem



BARDIN Background

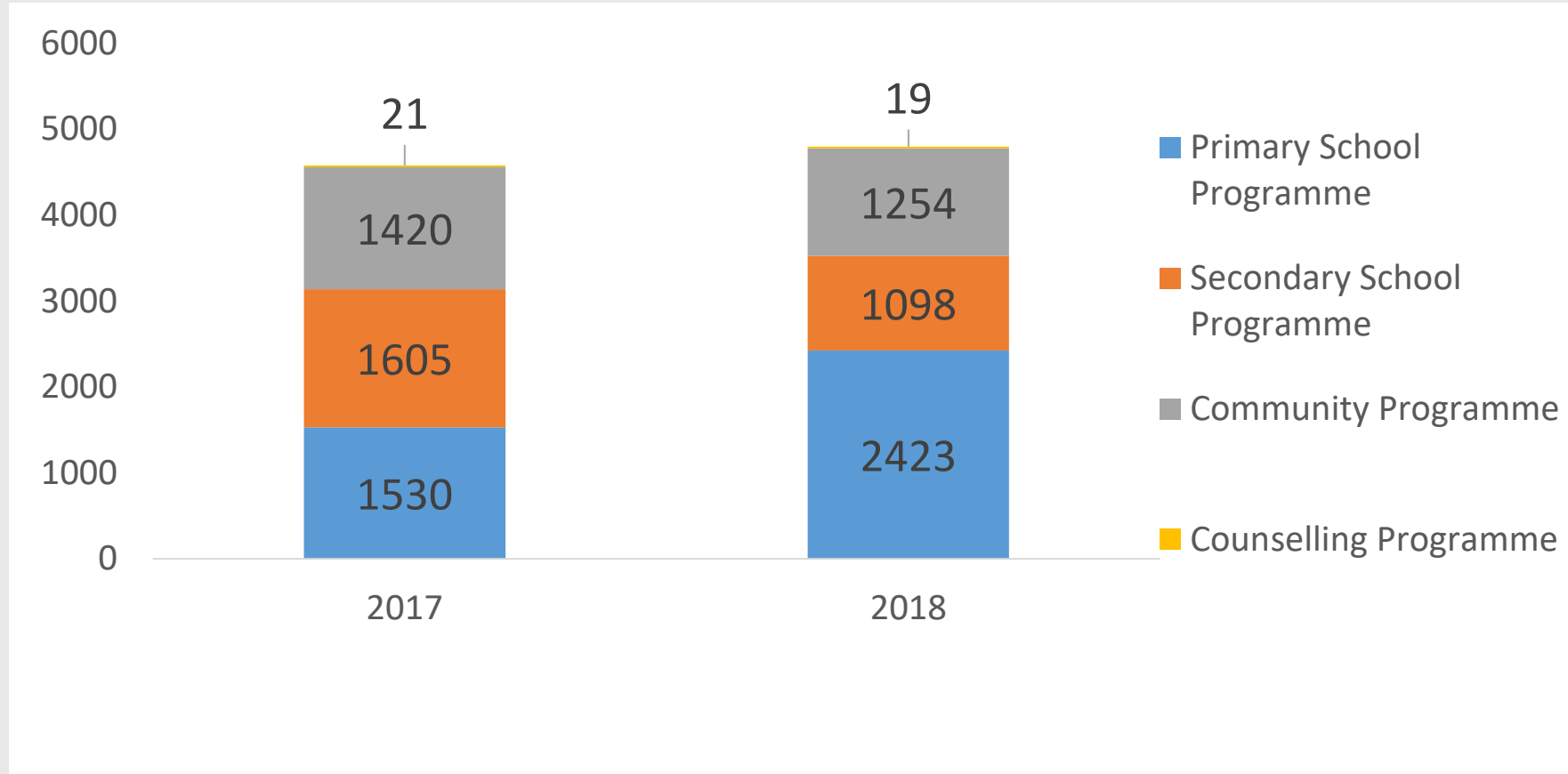
- The NCSA has been pursuing BARDIN since 2003.
- In 2011, BARDIN was re-launched.
- The first BARDIN Report was released in 2013 (based on 2011 data).
- To date, there have been 8 BARDIN publications (covering the period 2011-2018).
- In 2019, efforts were made to improve & expand BARDIN:
 - Standardized data collection forms were introduced
 - New indicators were added in the areas of treatment and supply control – data from these are presented in the 2017 & 2018 reports
 - The Financial Intelligence Unit was added as a contributing agency
 - Memoranda of Understanding were signed to formalize the reporting obligations of all Network members
- The NCSA is preparing to collect 2019 data.



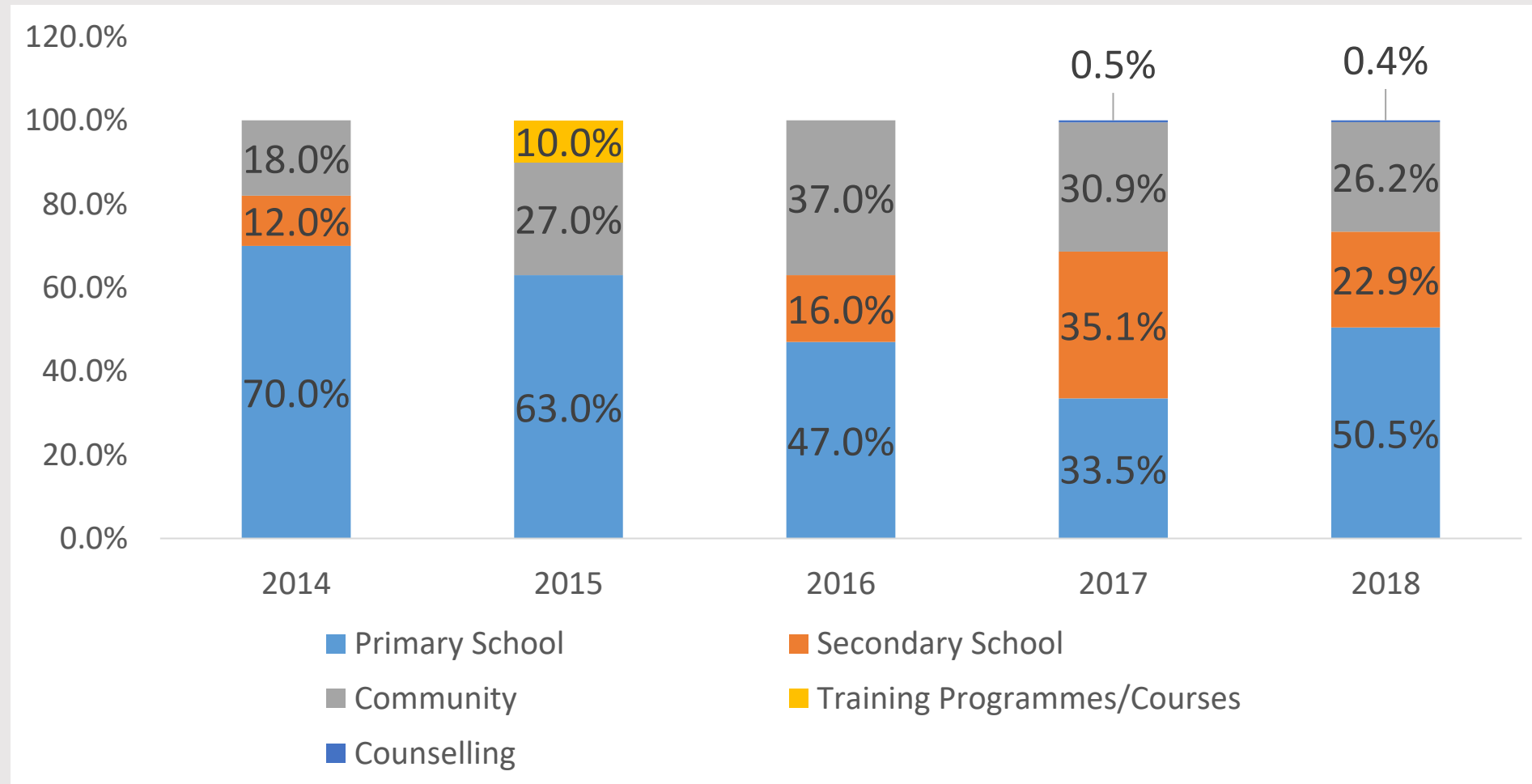
DEMAND REDUCTION

- National Council on Substance Abuse
- Edna Nicholls Centre
- Psychiatric Hospital
- Substance Abuse Foundation
- Centre for Counselling Addiction Support Alternatives
- Inmate Drug Rehabilitation & Counselling Programme (Barbados Prison Service)

NCSA Interventions: Distribution of Persons Reached by Programme 2017-2018



NCSA Interventions by Department 2014-2018



The Edna Nicholls Centre

- The aim of this Out-of-School Programme is to provide rehabilitative programmes for secondary school students who have been suspended, referred or expelled from school
- Targets students between the ages 11 and 16 years
- Students can be referred to the ENC for a maximum of 2 weeks at any given time
- All students admitted to the ENC are tested for marijuana and cocaine use

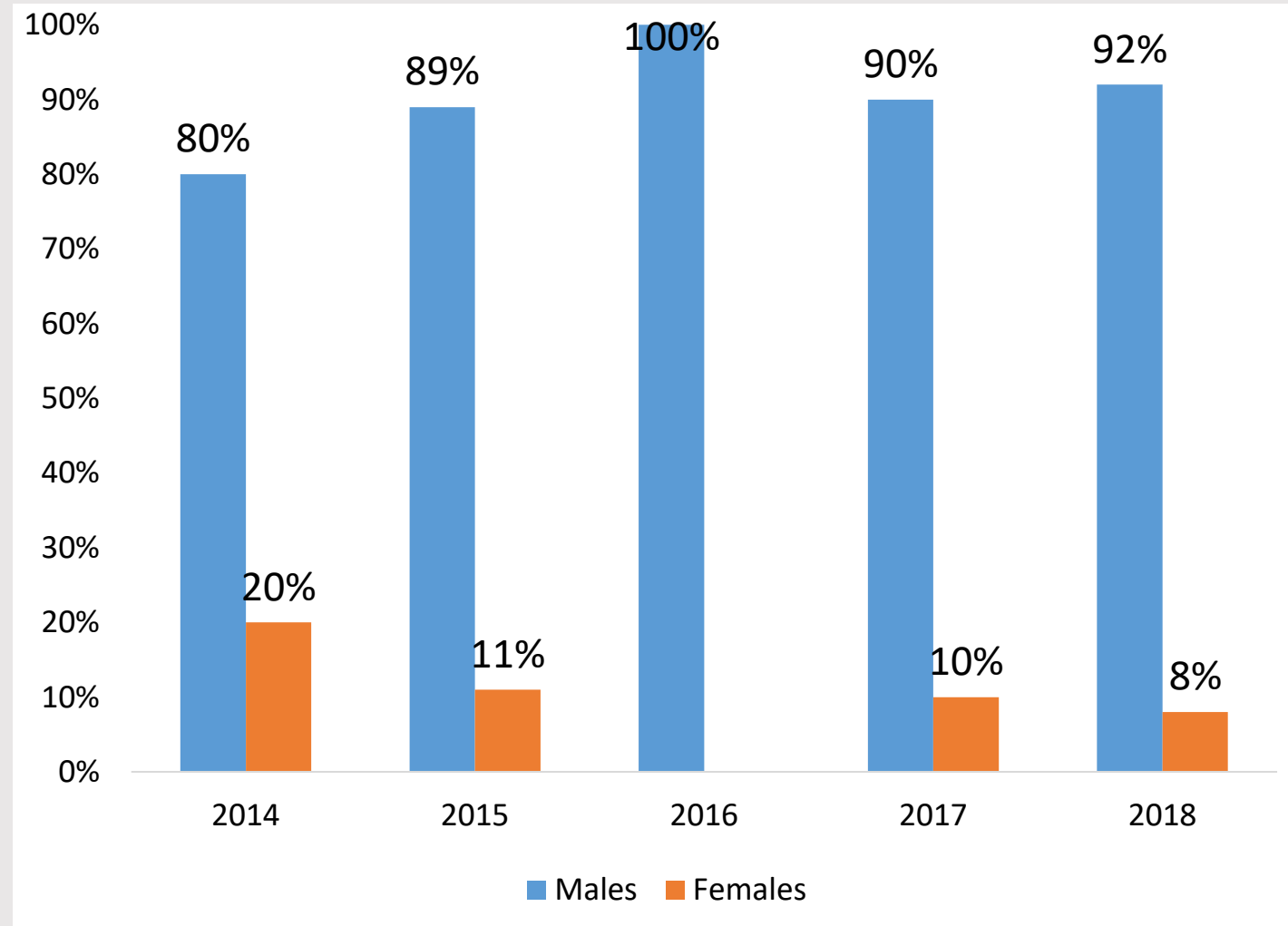


The Edna Nicholls Centre

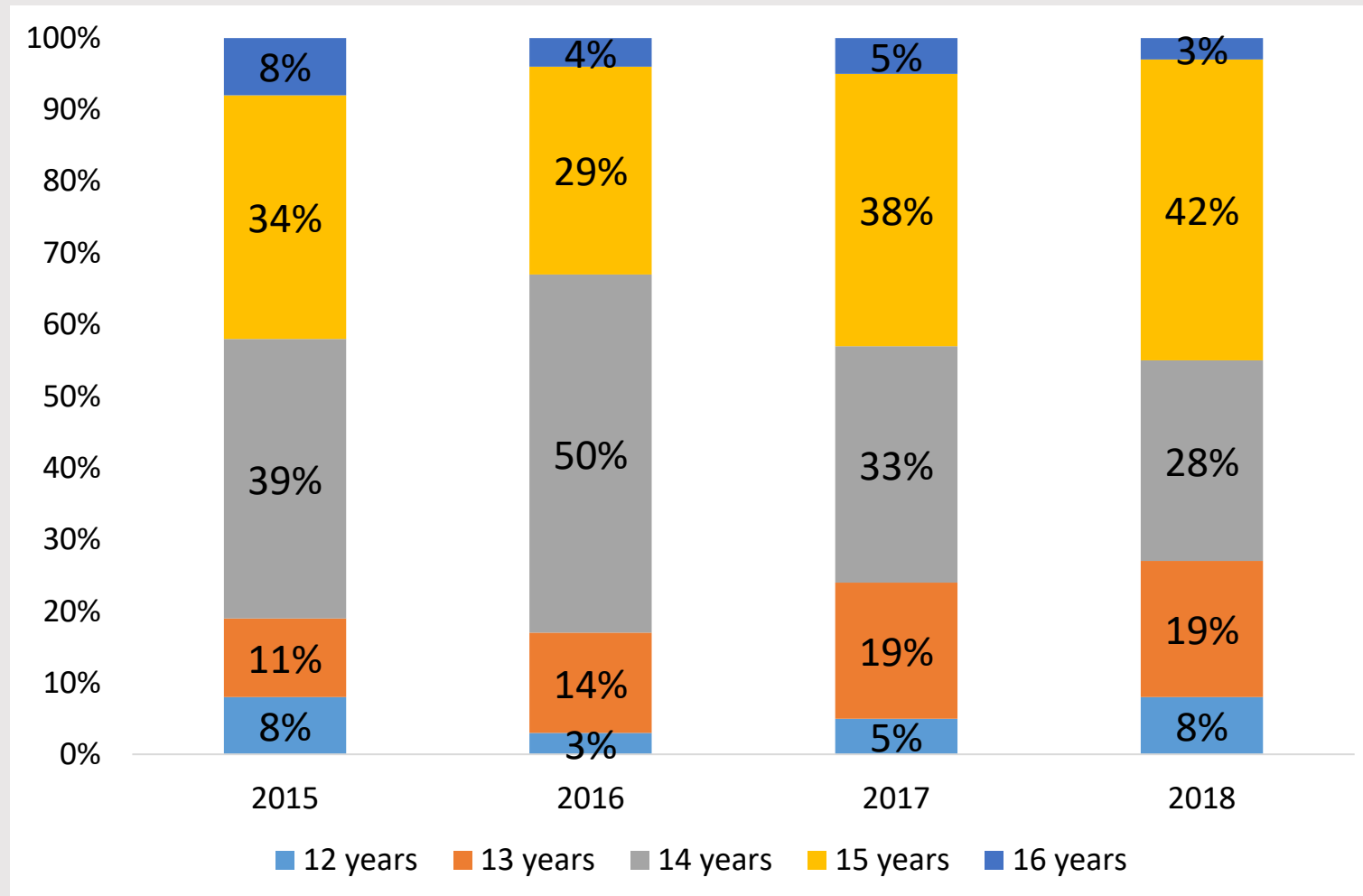
- No students tested positive for cocaine use in 2017 or 2018.
- In 2017, 22.6% of the 93 students admitted to the Centre tested positive for marijuana use
- In 2018, 25.3% of the 142 students admitted to the Centre tested positive for marijuana use
- Approx. 9 out of every 10 students who tested positive for marijuana use in 2017 (90%) & 2018 (91.7%) were males
- Approx. 9 out of every 10 students who tested positive for marijuana use in 2017 (90%) & 2018 (89%) were between the ages of 13 & 15 years



Sex Distribution of Students Testing Positive for Marijuana Use at the Edna Nicholls Centre 2014-2018



Age Distribution of Students Testing Positive for Marijuana Use at the Edna Nicholls Centre 2015-2018



Profile of Persons Seeking Treatment at the Psychiatric Hospital, January 1 – December 31, 2018

1253 persons were admitted to the Psychiatric Hospital in 2018.

Substance Abuse Treatment

- 36% of those admitted received substance abuse treatment.
- Males accounted for 92% of persons receiving substance abuse treatment.
- Most persons receiving substance abuse treatment were male (92%) between the ages of 25 and 44 (54%).



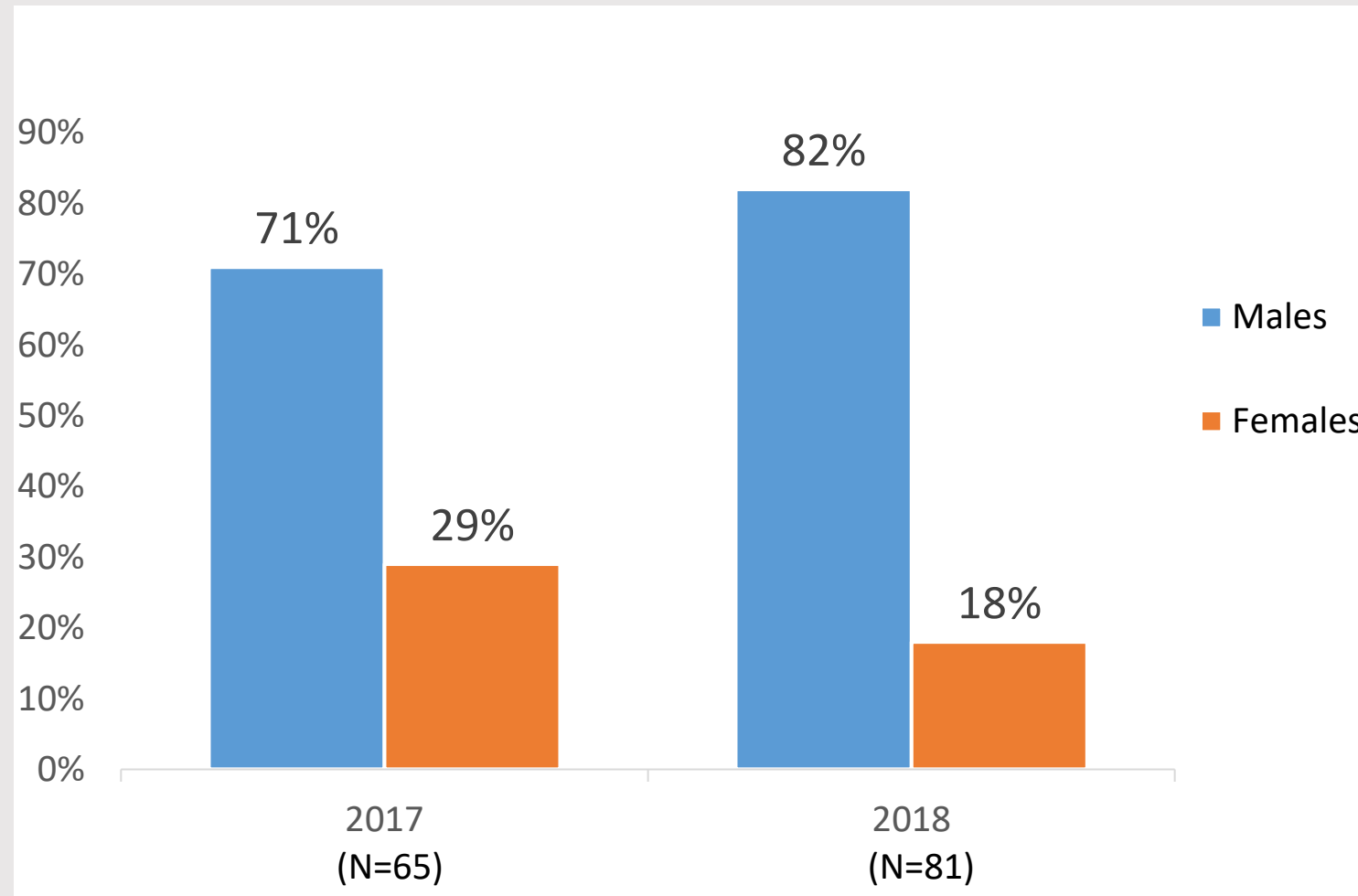
Profile of Persons Seeking Treatment at the Psychiatric Hospital, January 1 – December 31, 2018

Co-morbid Diagnoses

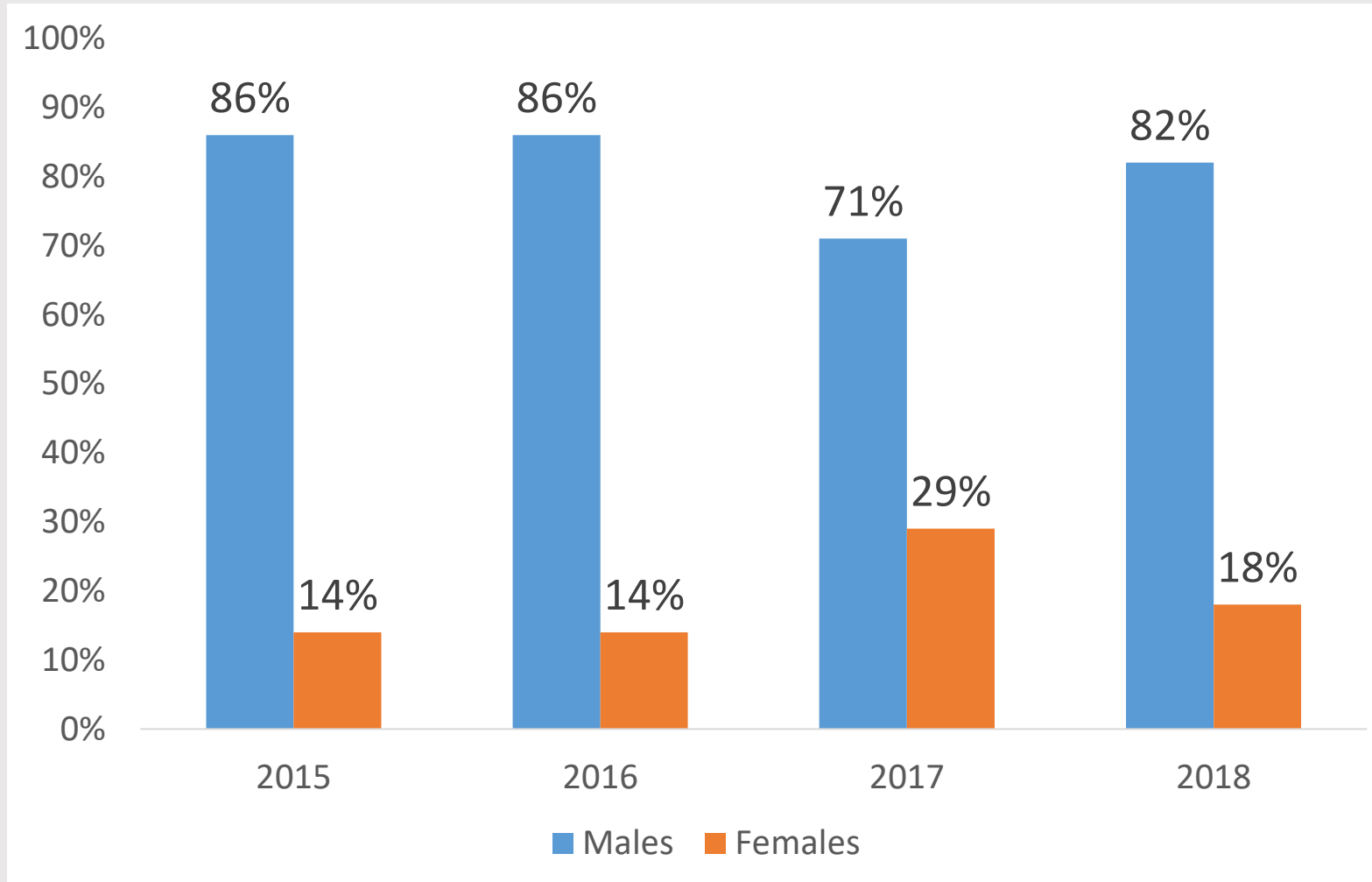
- 21% of persons were admitted for co-morbid diagnoses including substance abuse.
- Males accounted for 90% of those diagnosed with co-morbid conditions.
- The majority of persons diagnosed with co-morbid disorders were between 25 and 44 years of age.



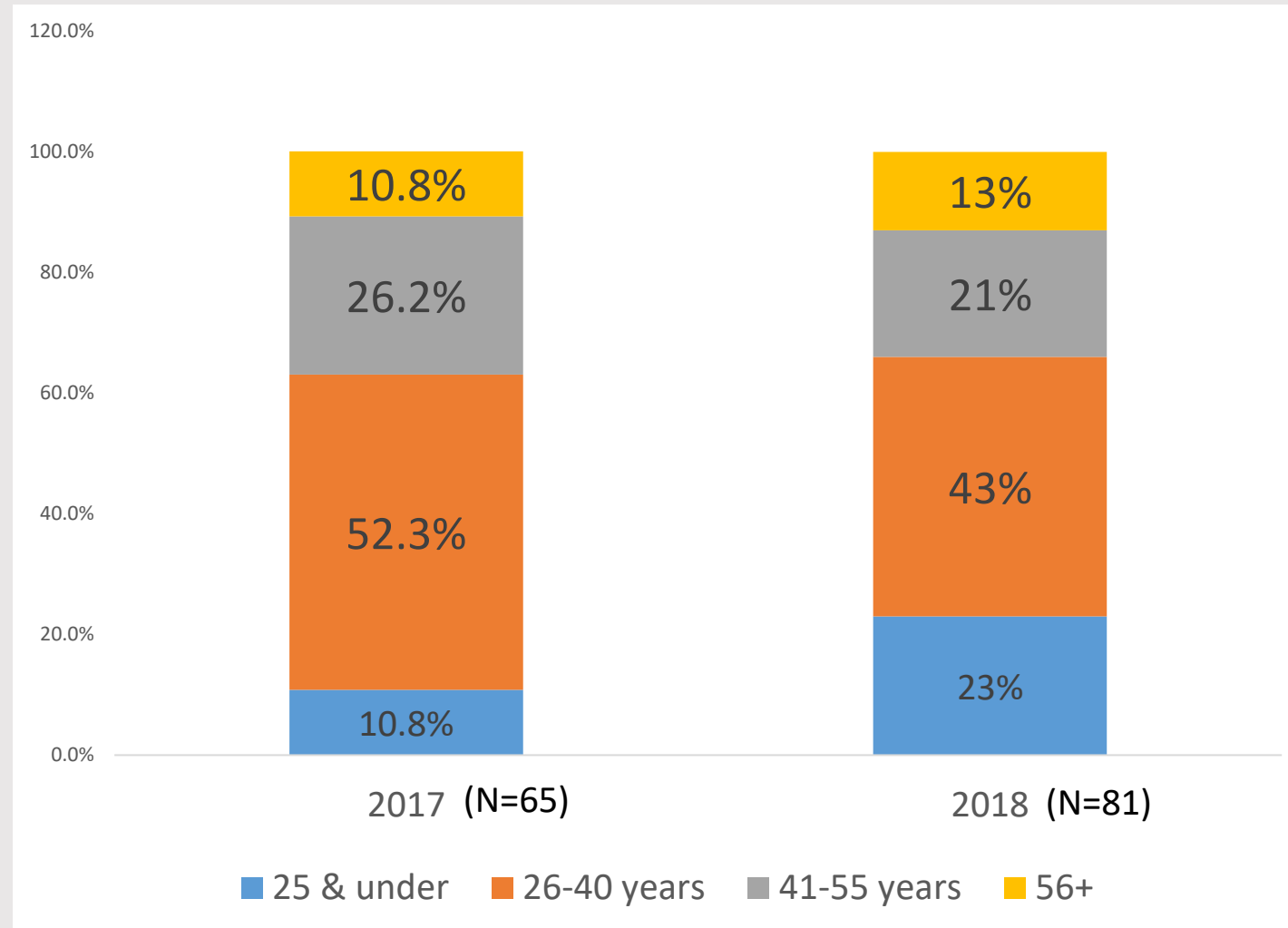
The Substance Abuse Foundation: Sex Distribution of Persons Seeking Treatment 2017-2018



Sex Distribution of Persons Seeking Treatment at the Substance Abuse Foundation 2015-2018



The Substance Abuse Foundation: Age Distribution of Persons Seeking Treatment 2017 - 2018

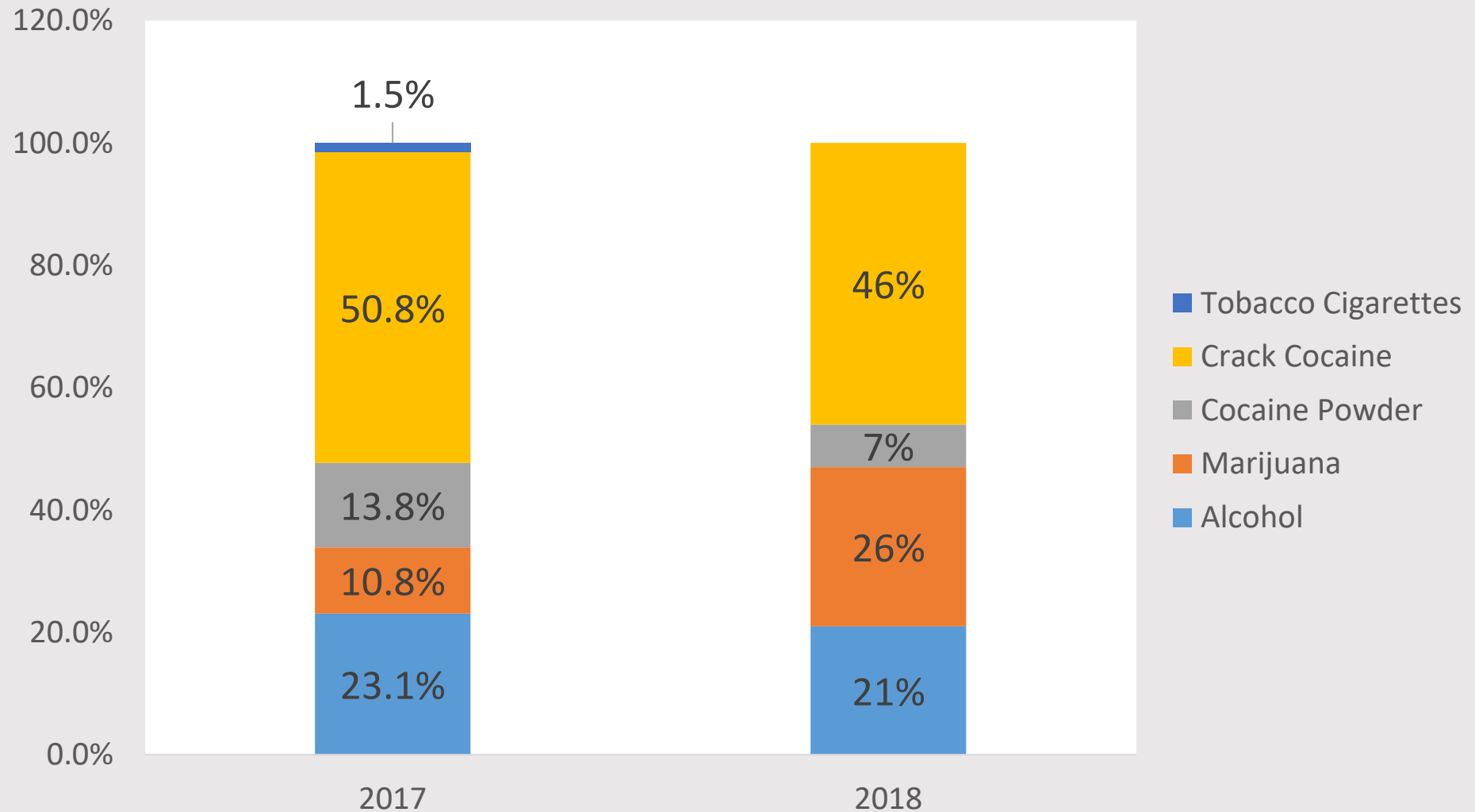


The Substance Abuse Foundation: Other Socio-Demographic Data (2018)

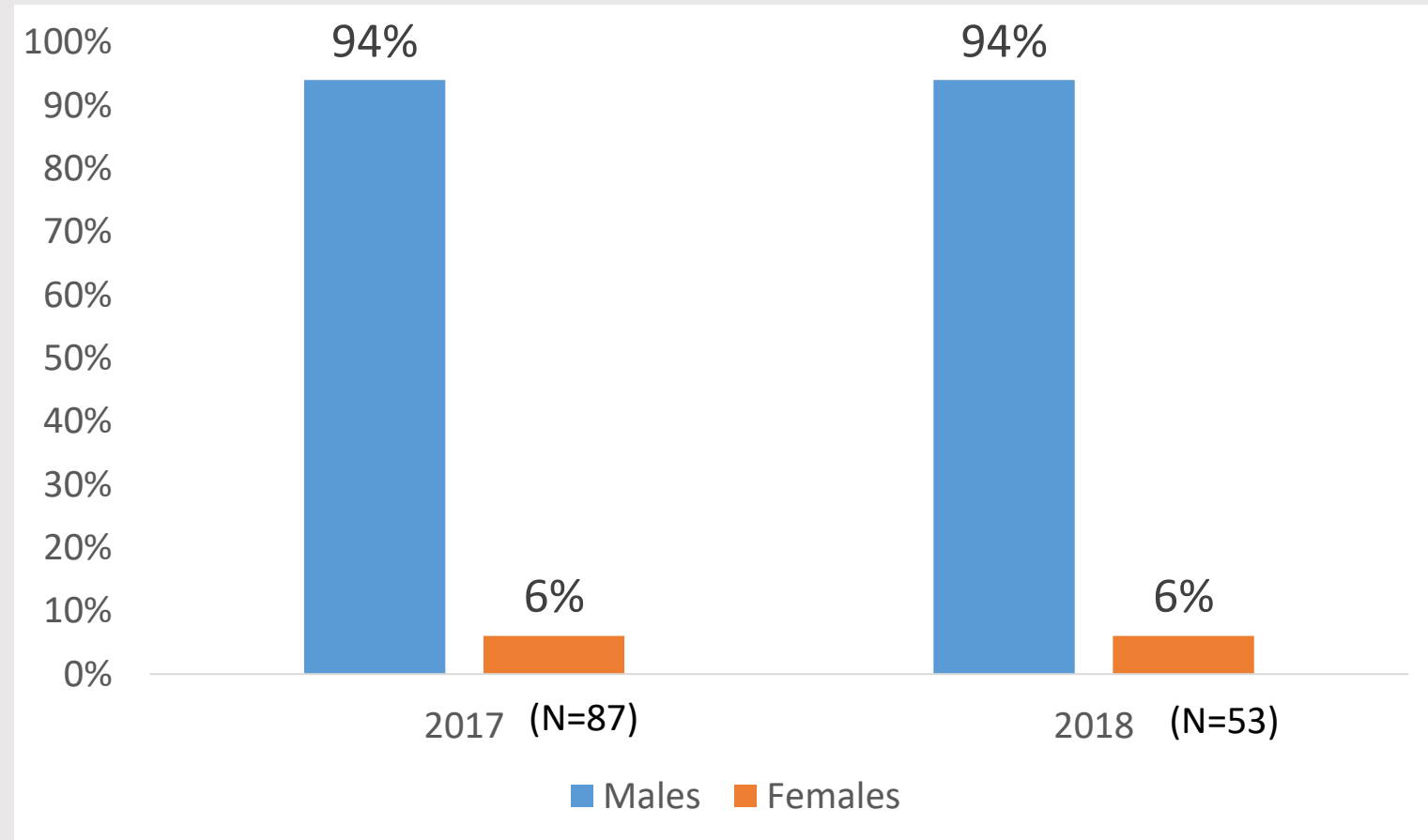
- Most SAF clients were single individuals (83%) who lived at home (50%) and had no dependents (82%).
- The majority (72%) of clients were educated up to secondary school level
- Just under two-thirds (62%) of clients were unemployed.



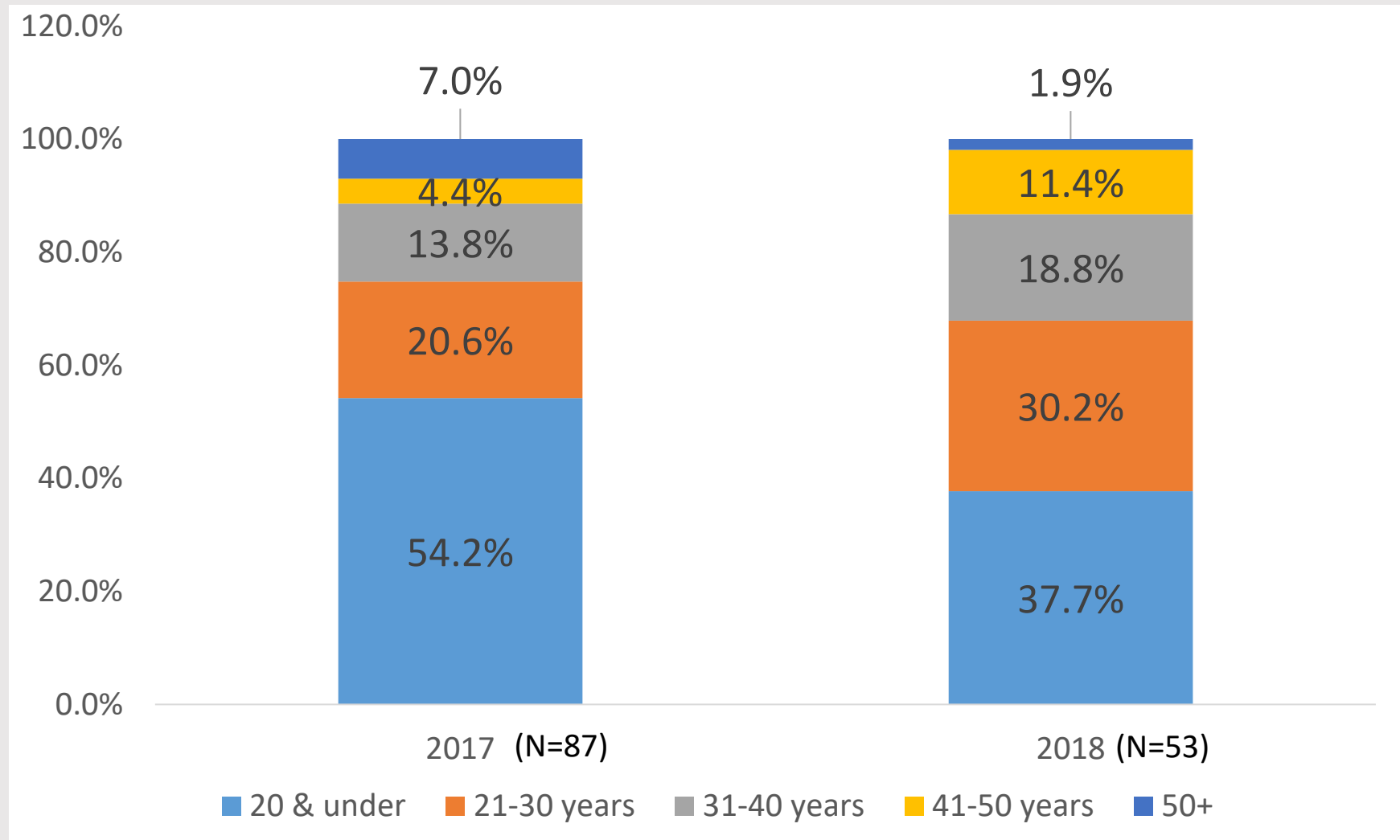
The Substance Abuse Foundation: Primary Drug for Which Treatment was Sought 2017-2018



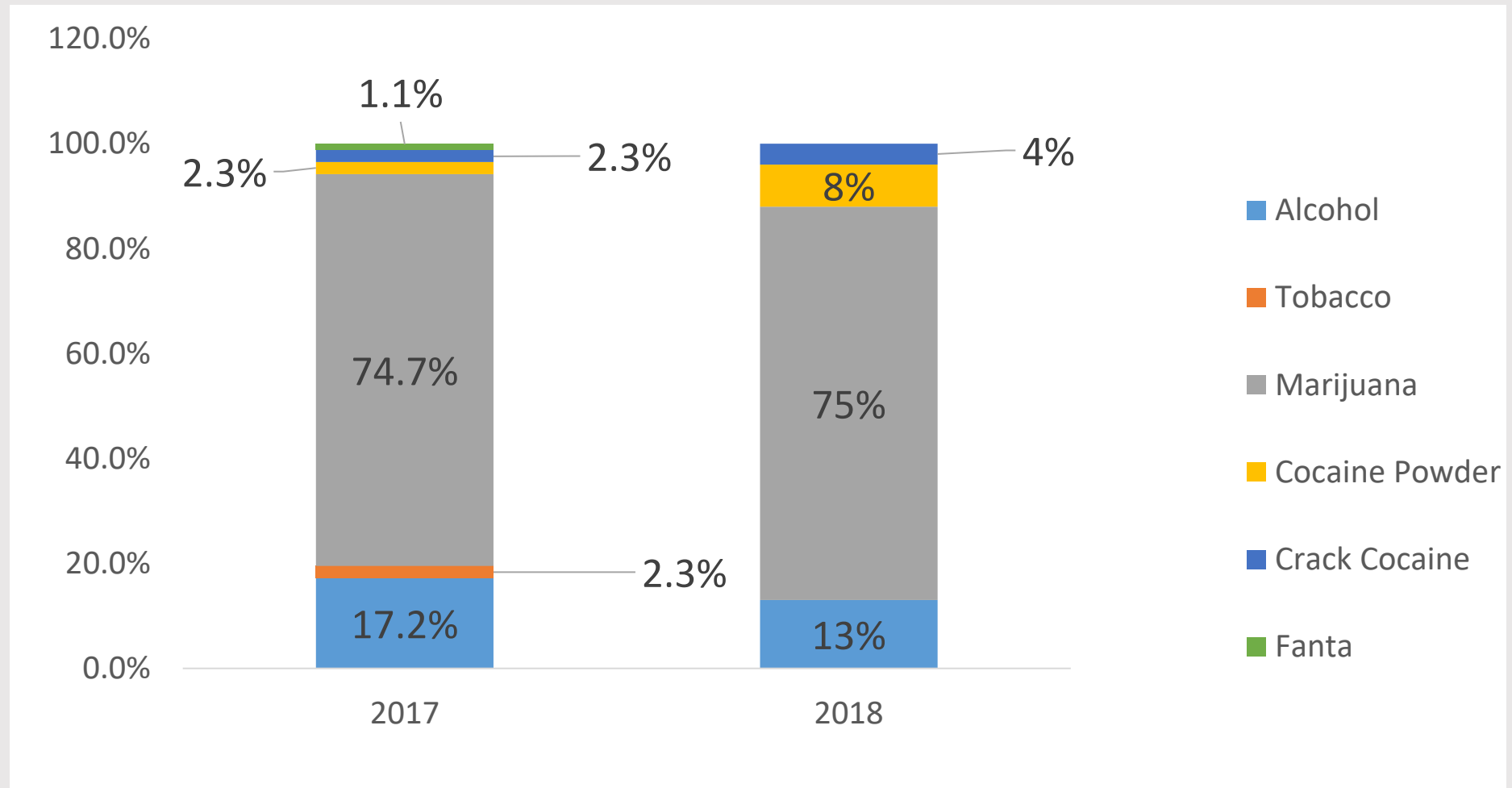
CASA: Sex Distribution of Persons Seeking Treatment 2017-2018



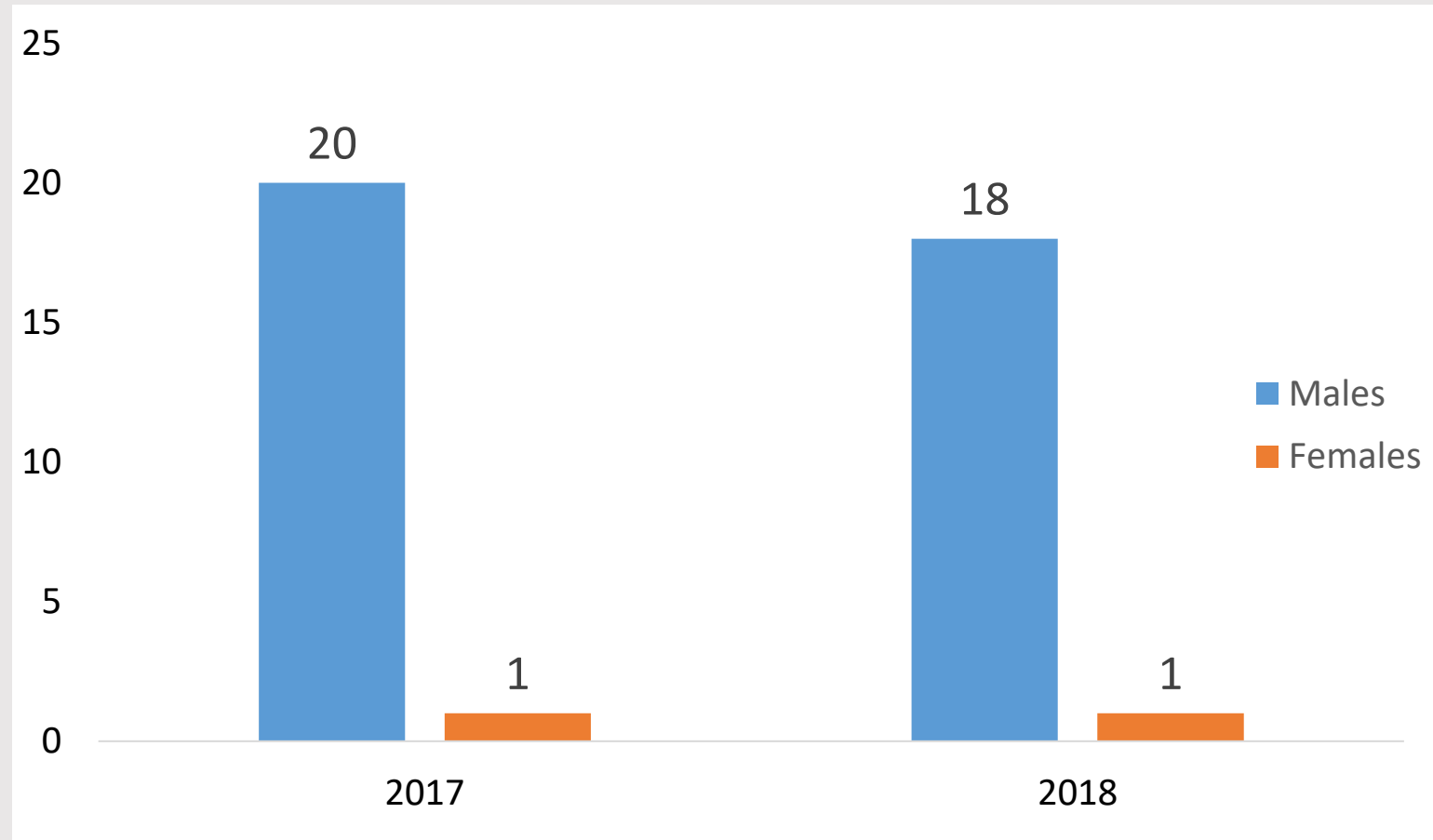
CASA: Age Distribution of Persons Seeking Treatment 2017-2018



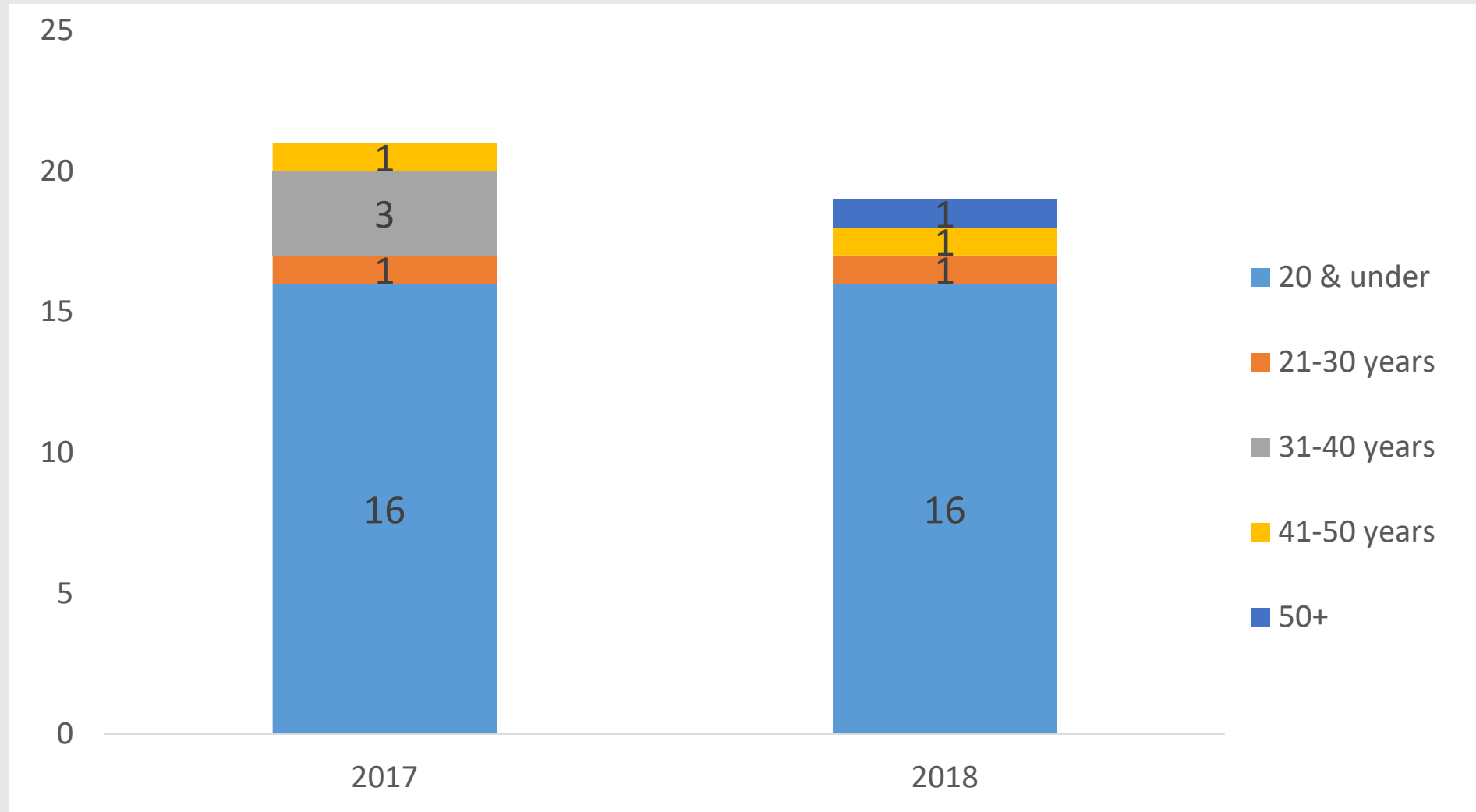
CASA: Drugs for which Treatment was Sought 2017-2018



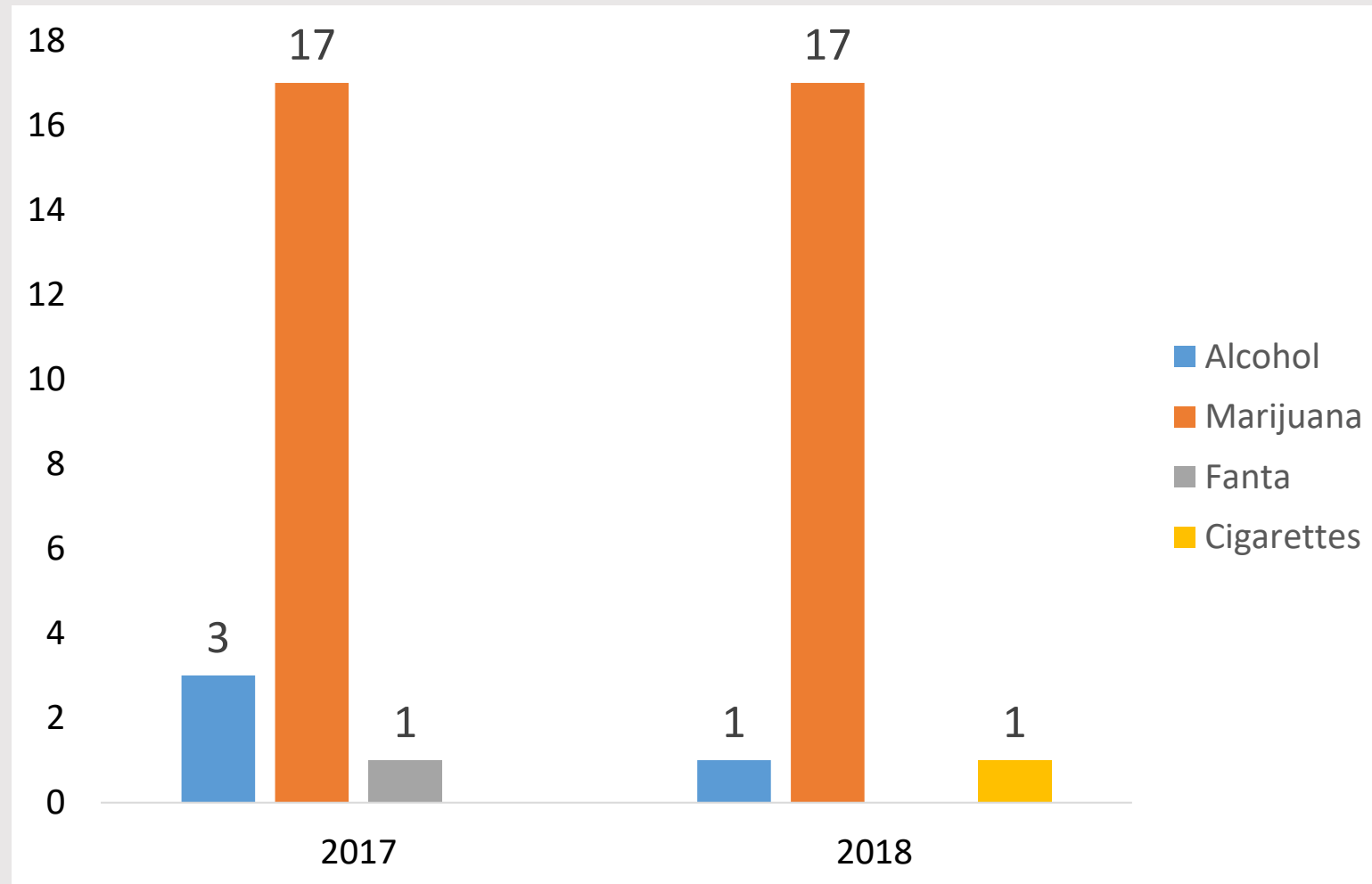
NCSA Counselling Programme: Sex Distribution of Persons Seeking Treatment 2017-2018



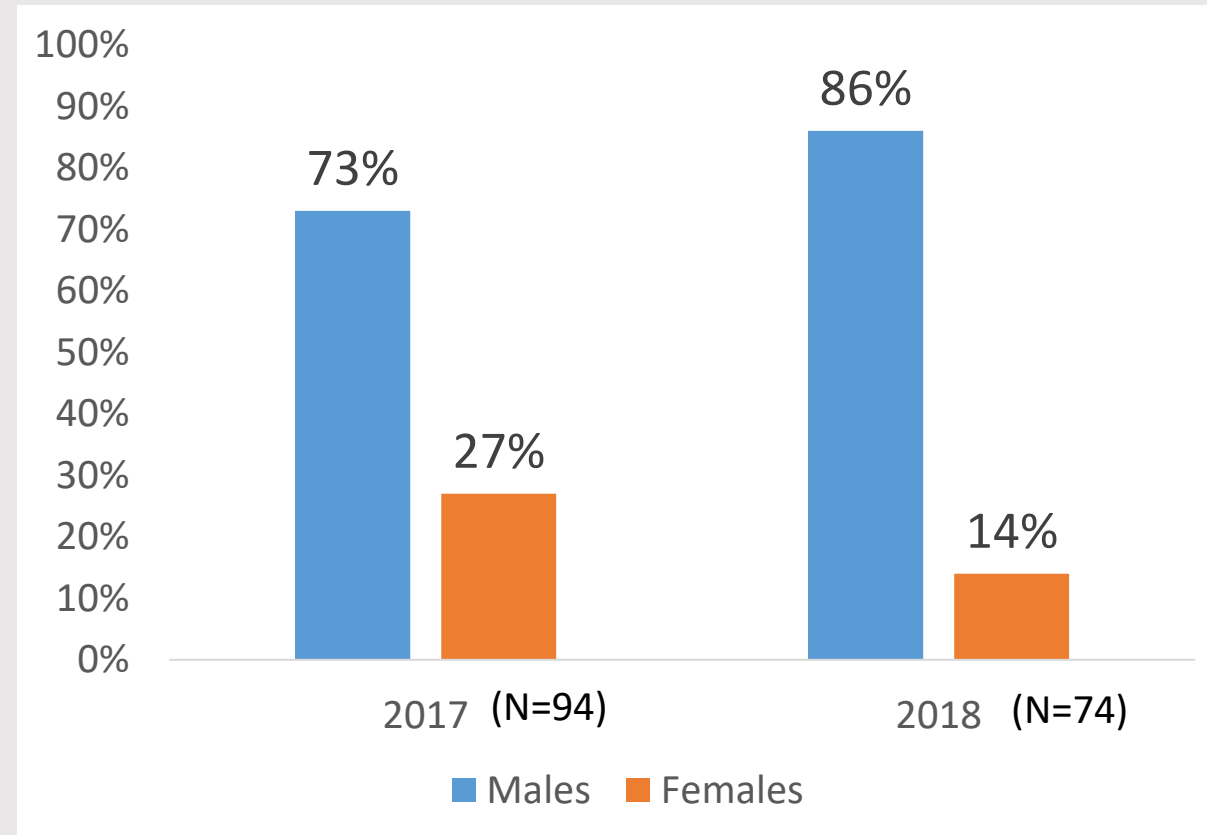
NCSA Counselling Programme: Sex & Age Distribution of Persons Seeking Treatment 2017-2018



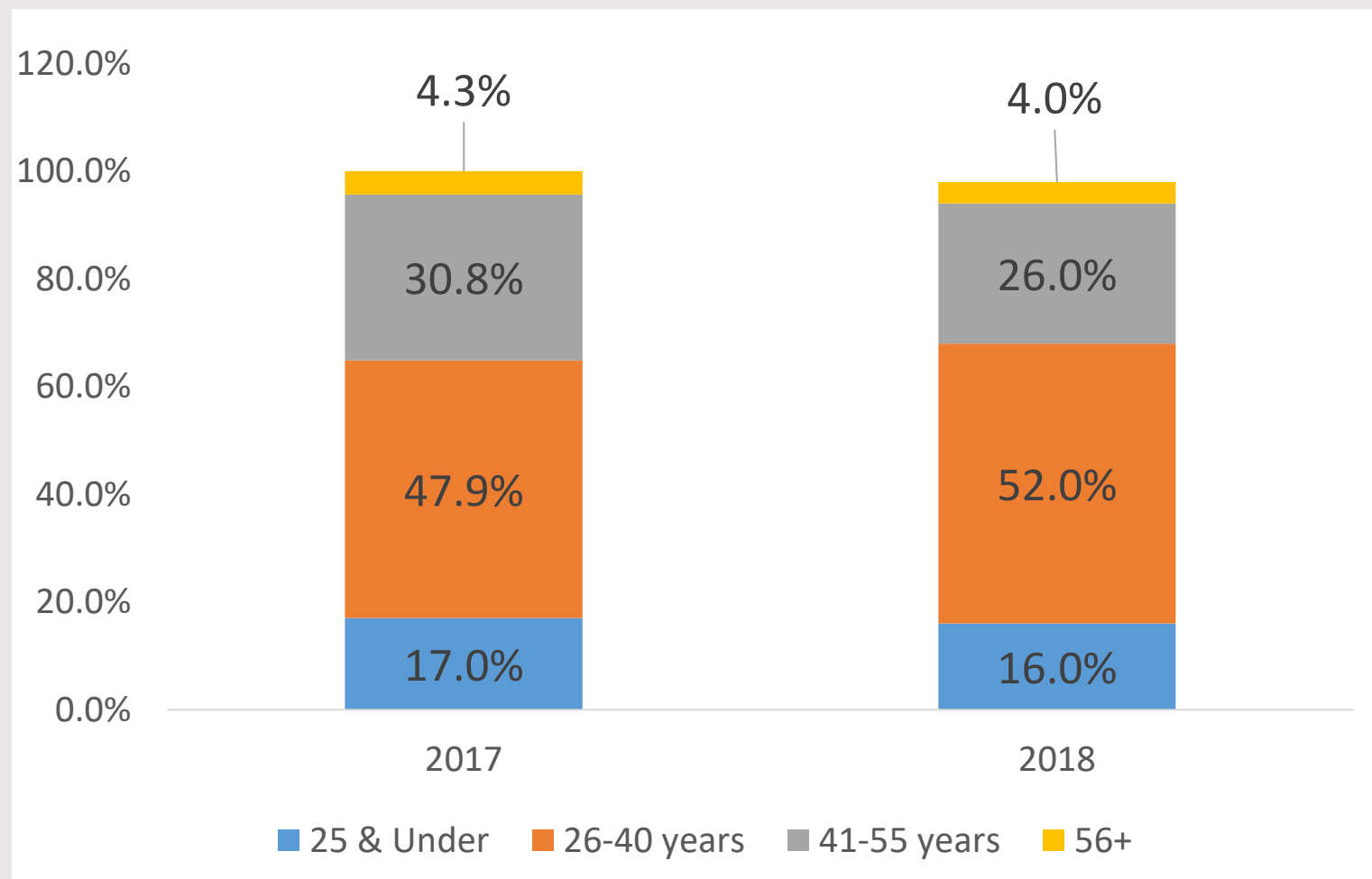
NCSA Counselling Programme: Drugs for which Treatment was Sought 2017-2018



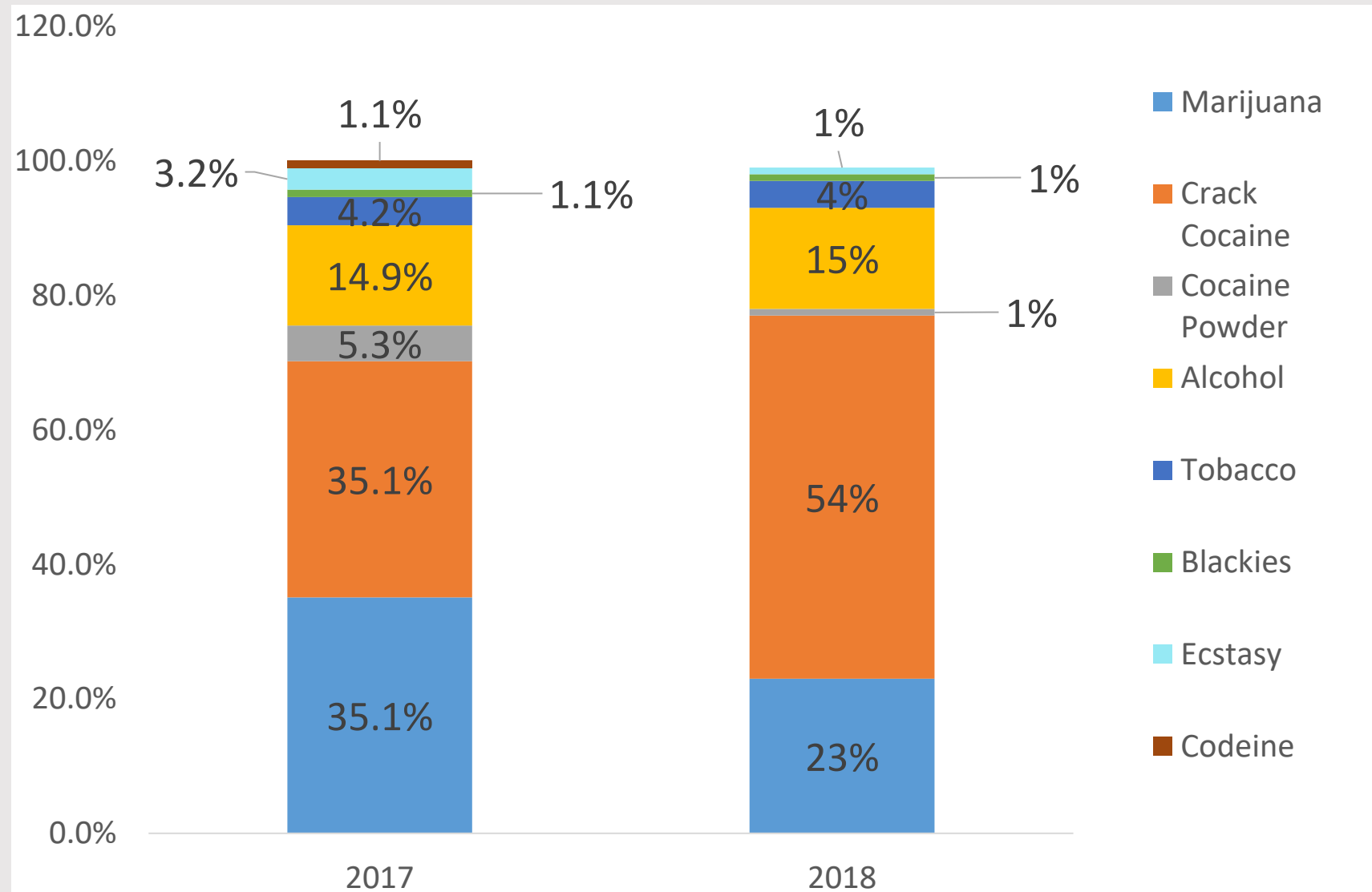
Inmate Drug Rehabilitation & Counselling Programme: Sex Distribution of Persons Seeking Treatment 2017-2018



Inmate Drug Rehabilitation & Counselling Programme: Age Distribution of Persons Seeking Treatment 2017-2018



Inmate Drug Rehabilitation & Counselling Programme: Drugs for which Treatment was Sought 2017-2018

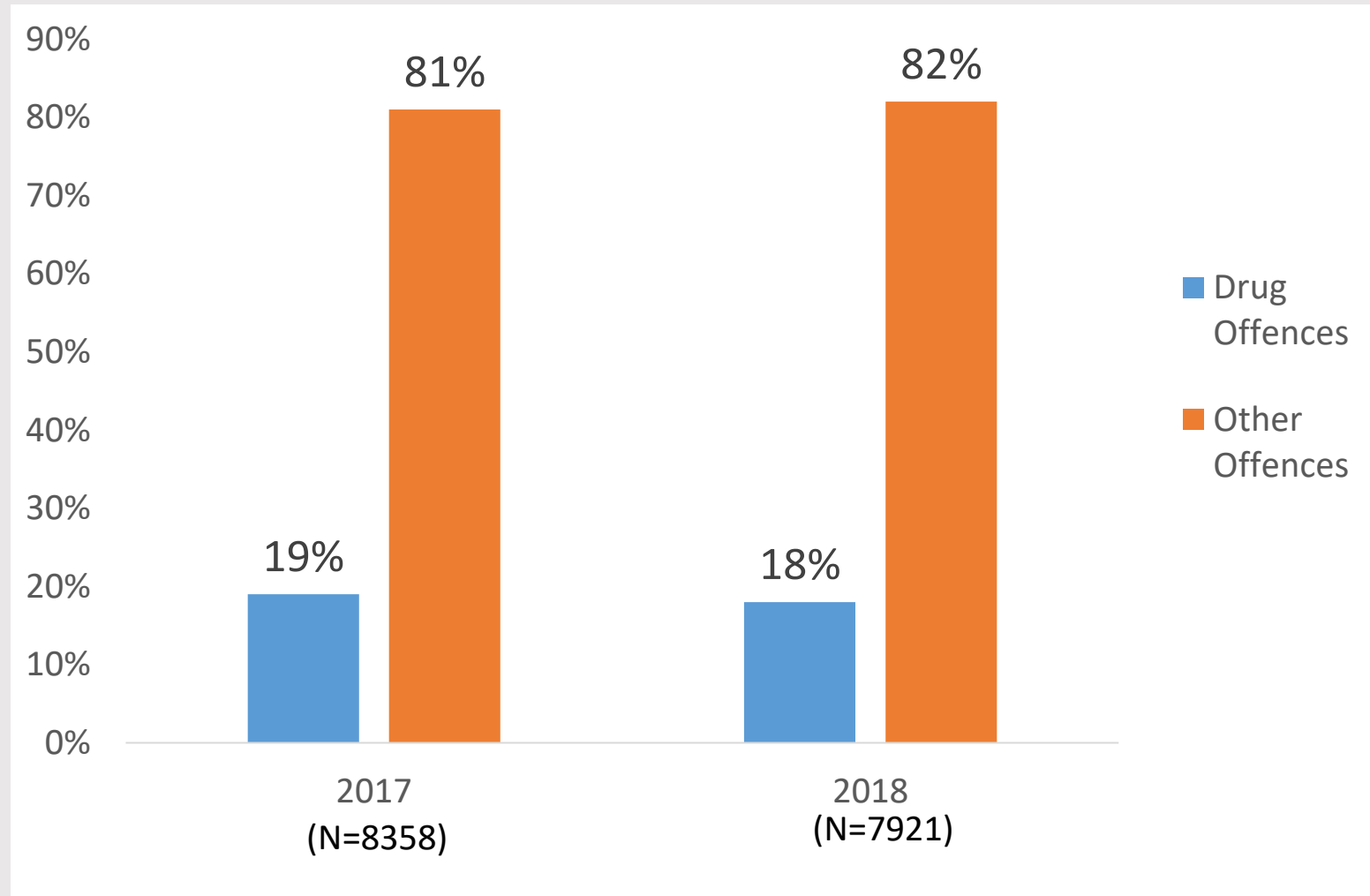


SUPPLY REDUCTION

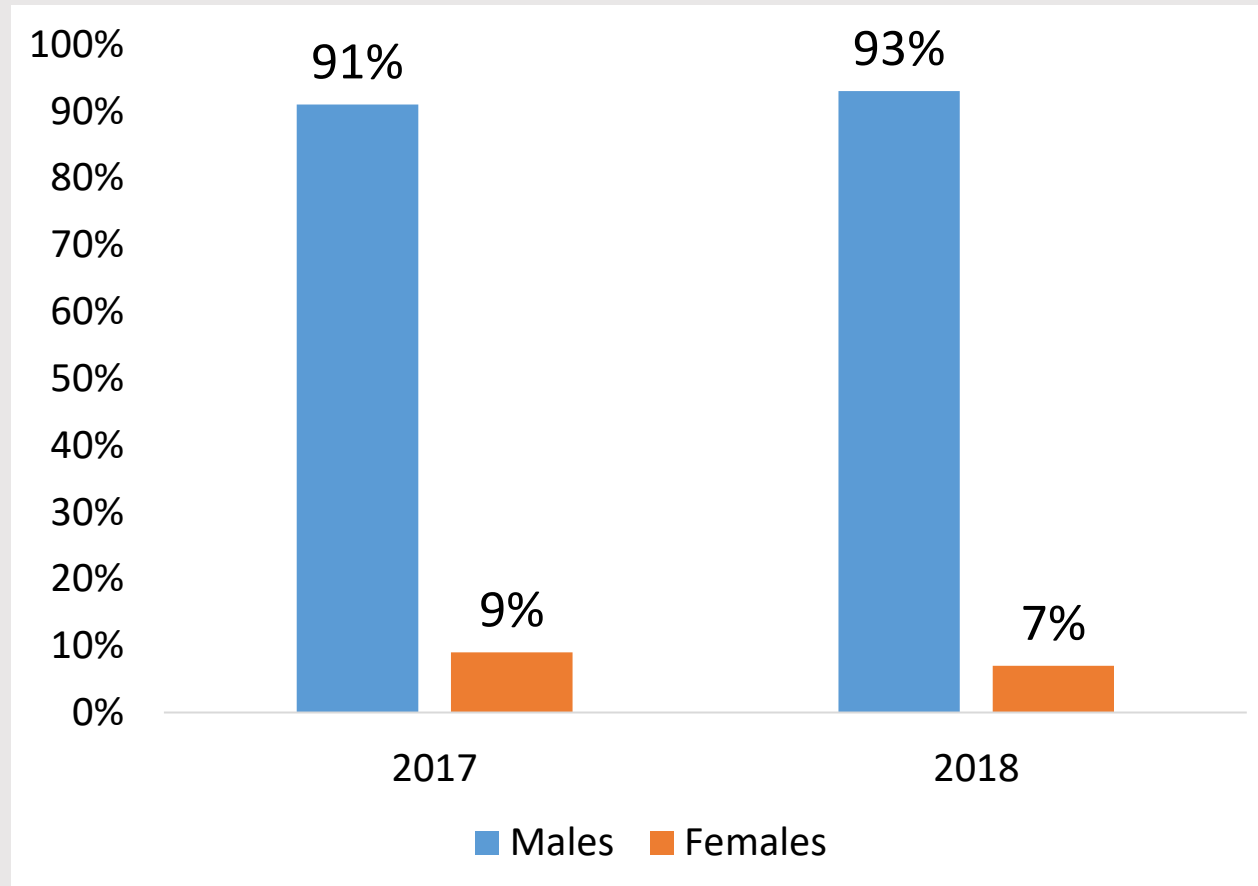
- Royal Barbados Police Force
- Barbados Prison Service
- Financial Intelligence Unit



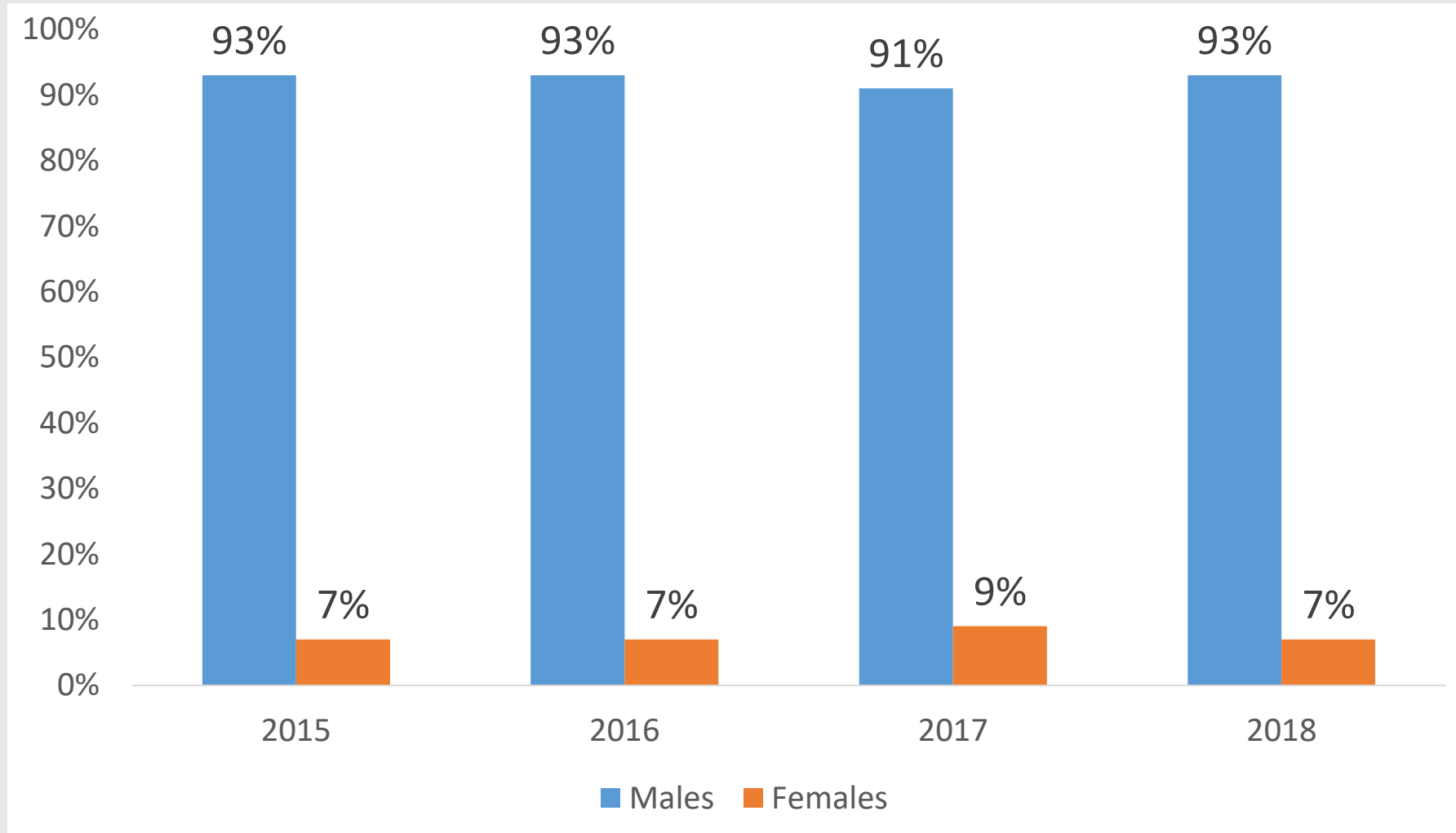
Royal Barbados Police Force: Drug Offences vs. Other Offences 2017-2018



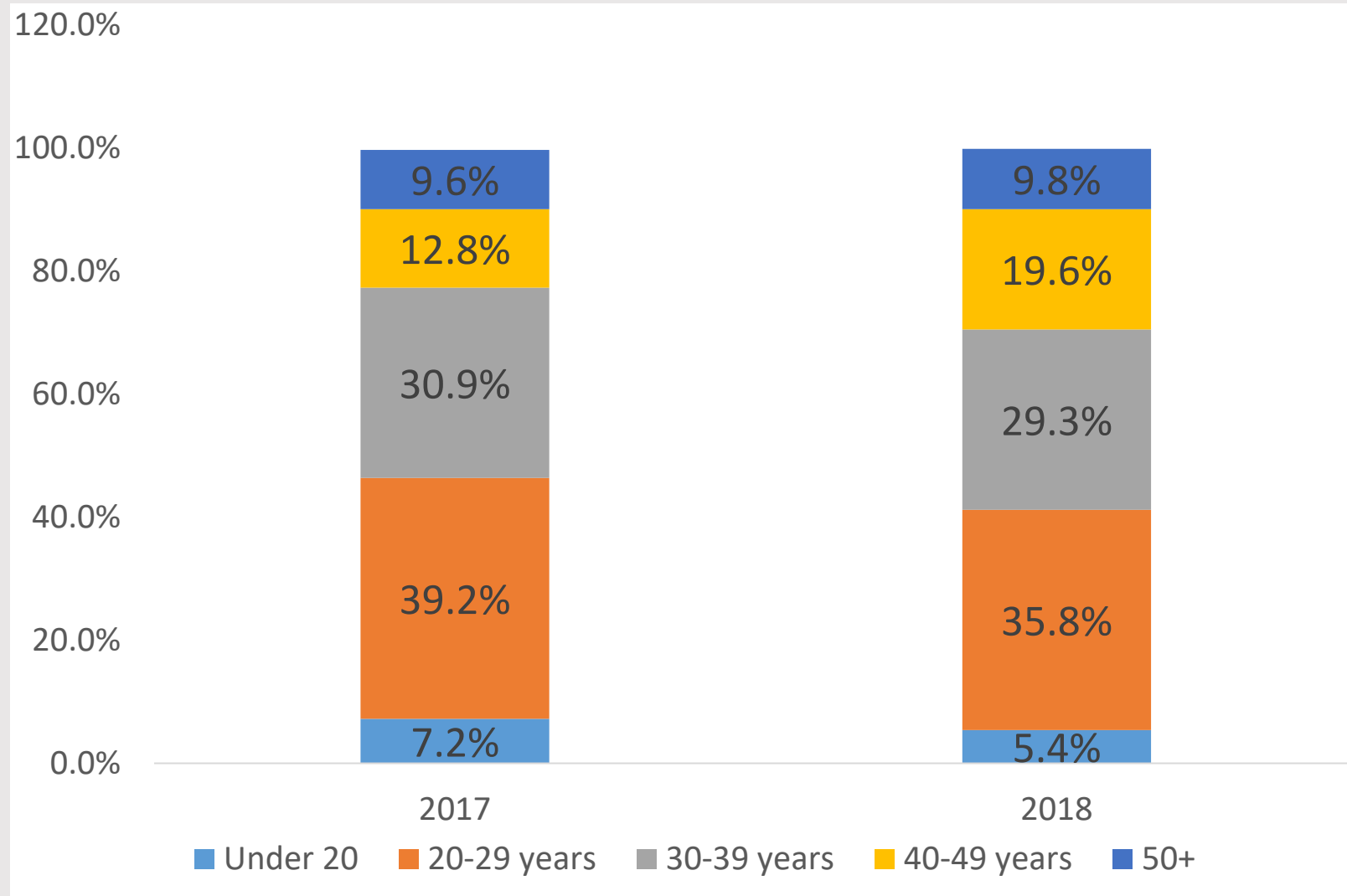
Royal Barbados Police Force: Sex Distribution of Persons Charged with Drug Offences 2017-2018



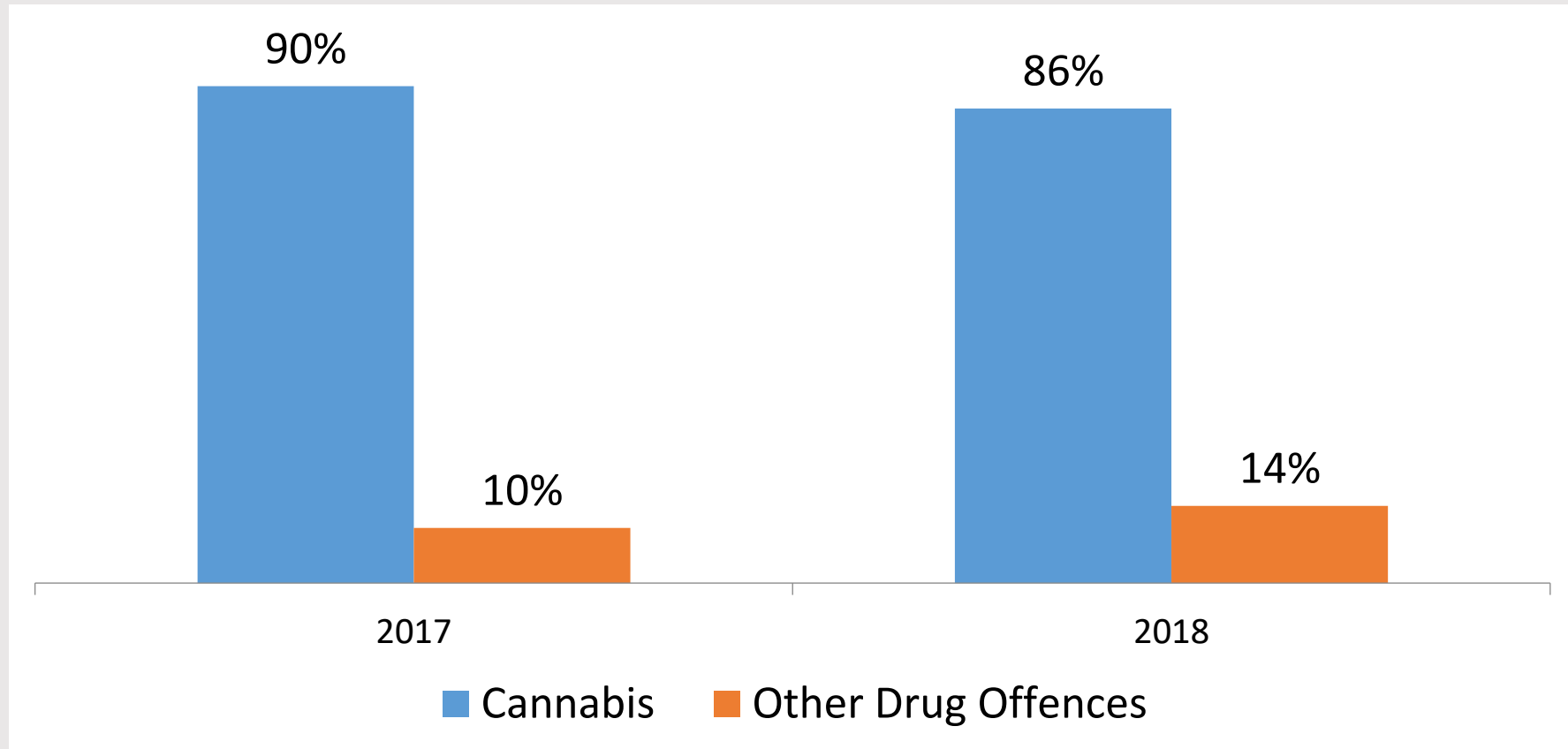
Royal Barbados Police Force: Sex Distribution of Persons Charged with Drug Offences 2015-2018



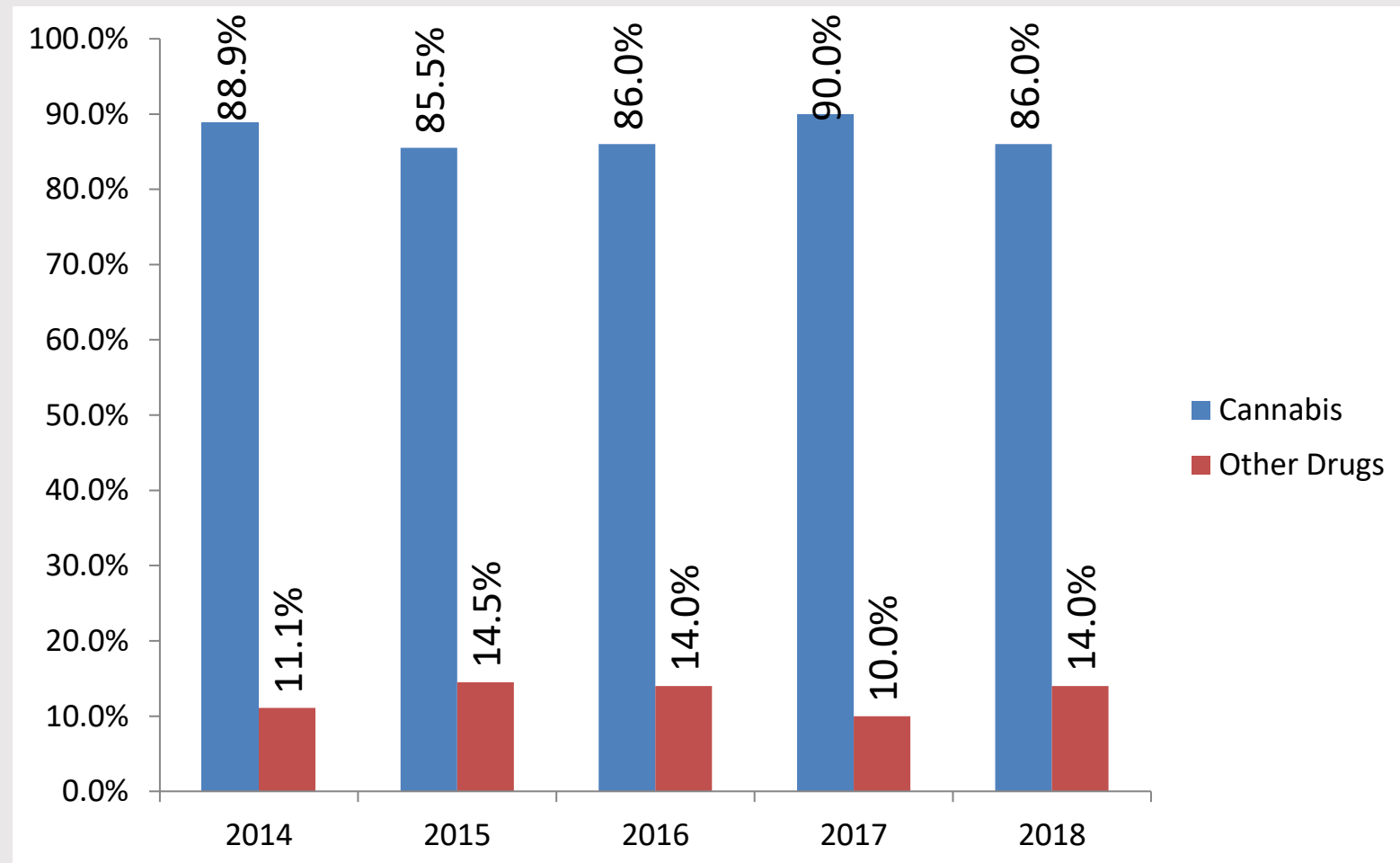
Royal Barbados Police Force: Age Distribution of Persons Charged with Drug Offences 2017-2018



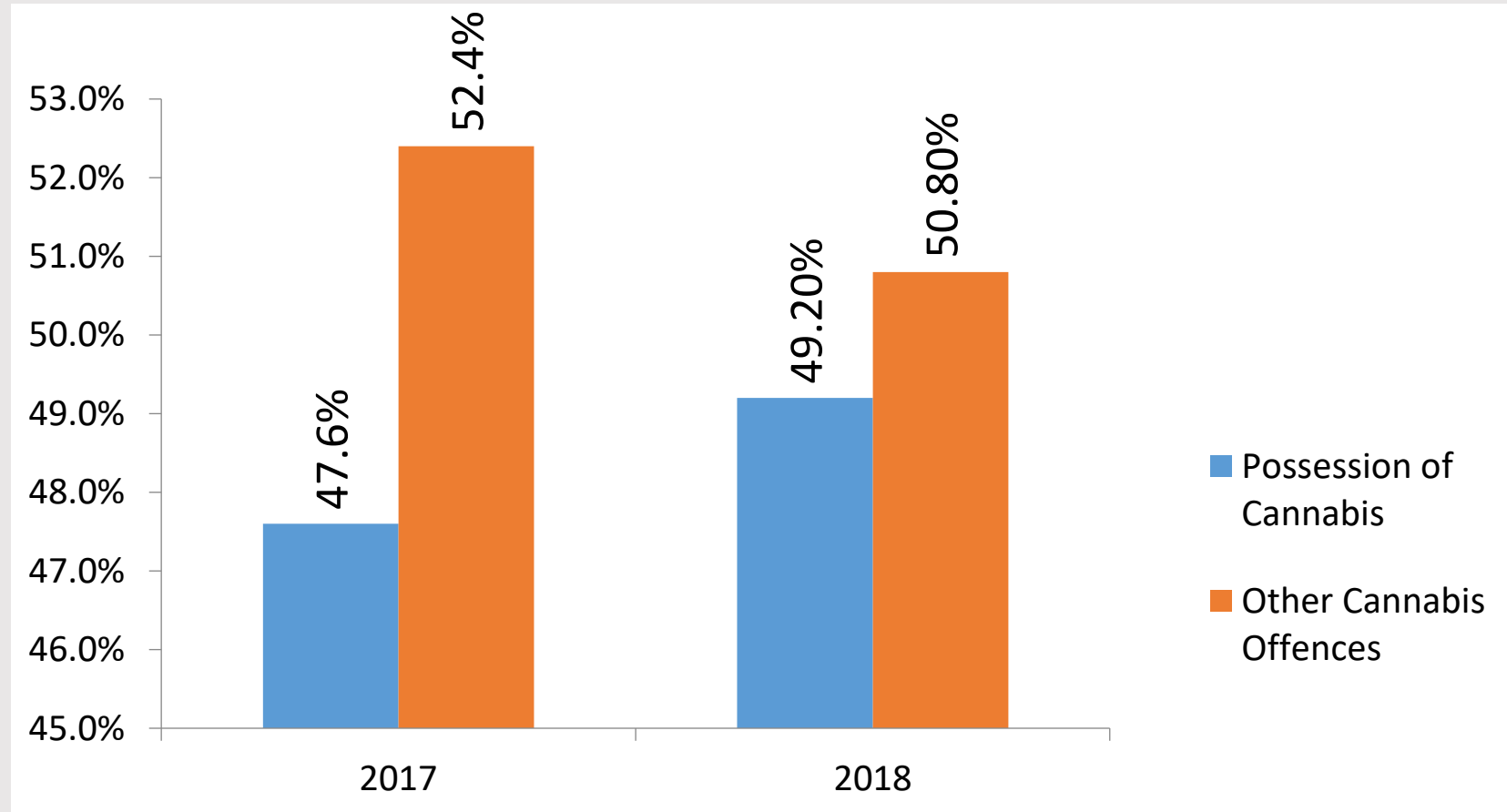
Royal Barbados Police Force: Drug Offences 2017-2018



Royal Barbados Police Force: Cannabis Offences vs. Other Offences 2014-2018



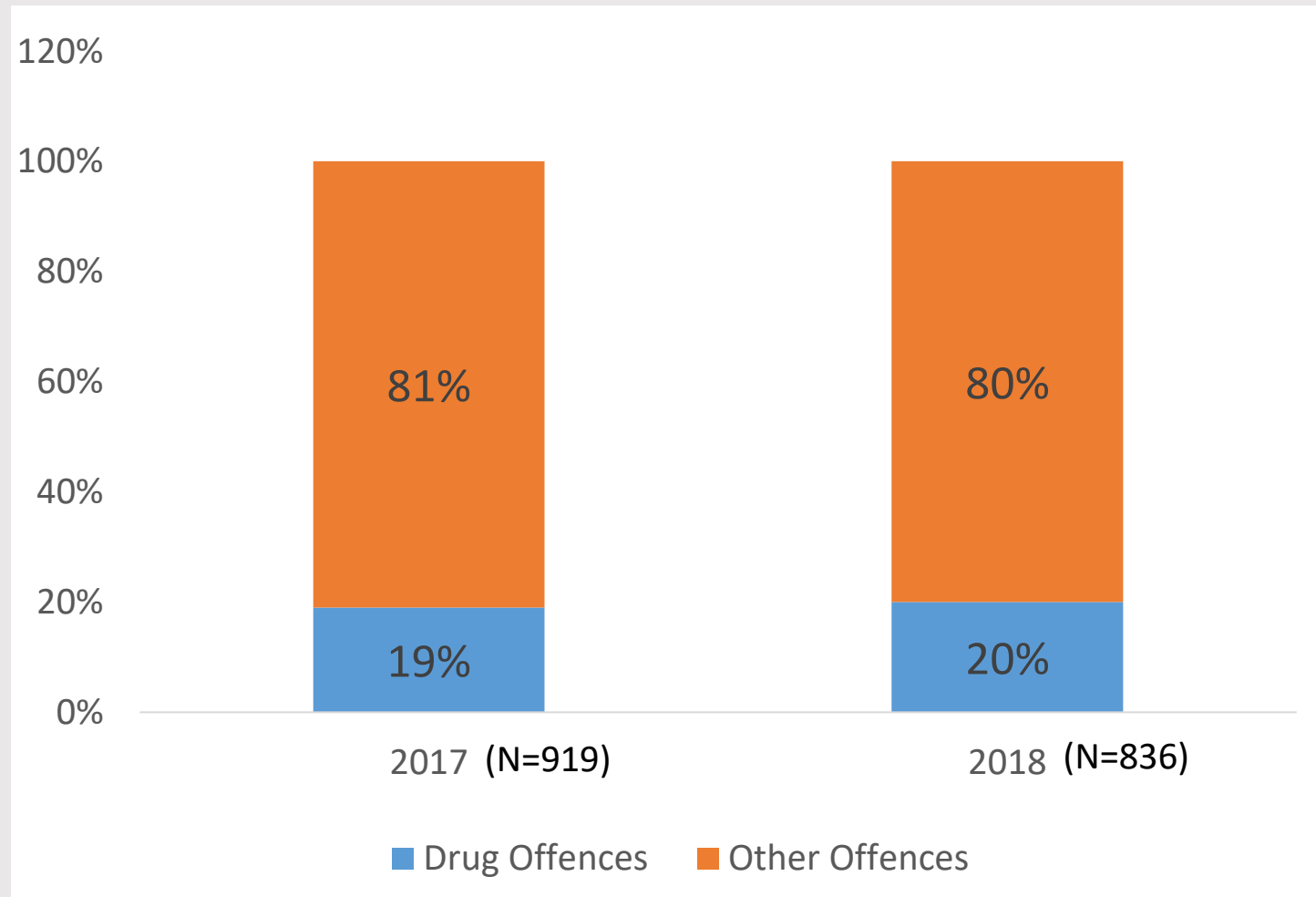
Royal Barbados Police Force: Analysis of Cannabis Offences 2017-2018



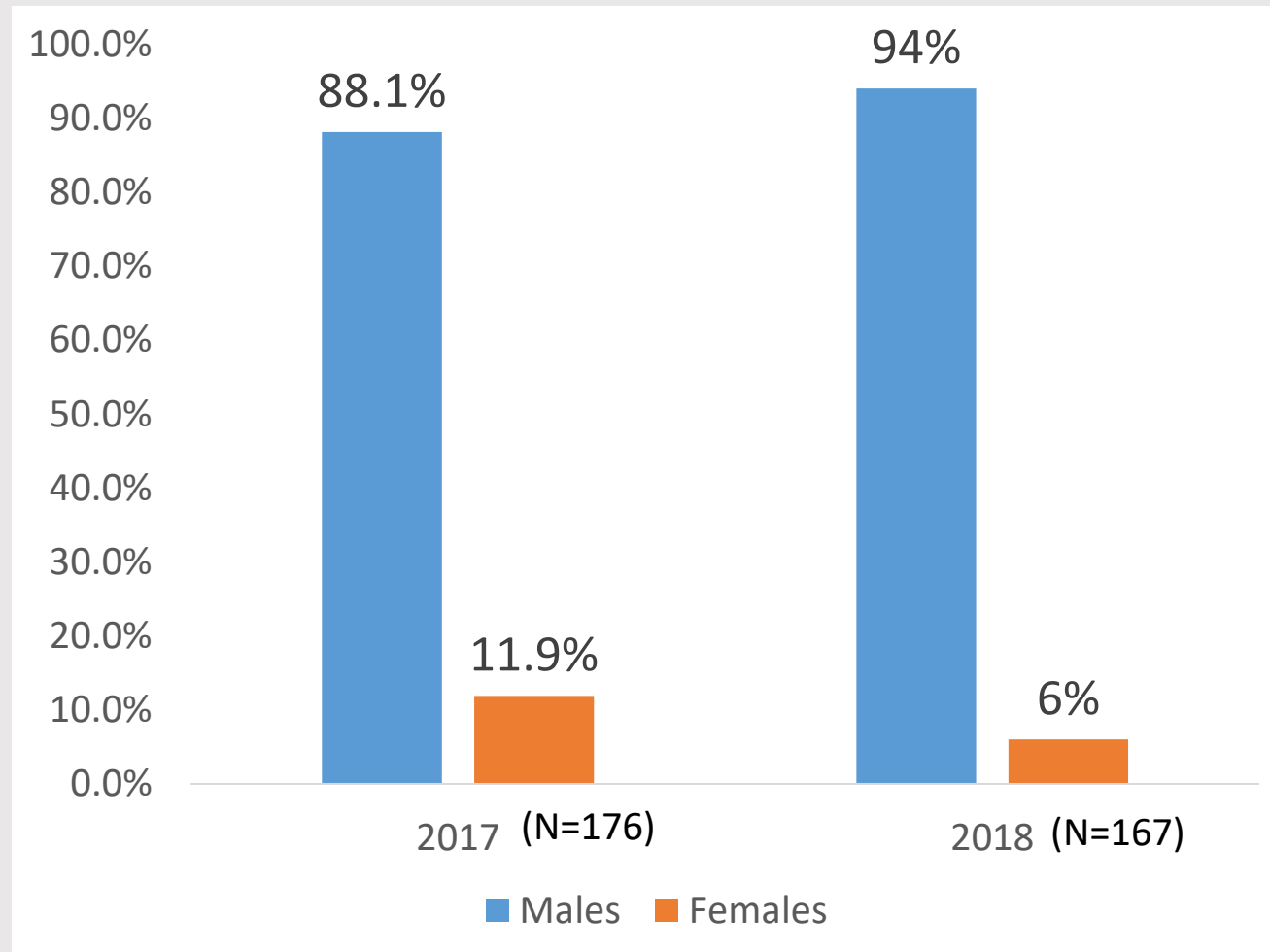
Royal Barbados Police Force: Drug Seizures Recorded 2017-2018

Drug Seized	2017 Quantity Seized	2018 Quantity Seized
Compressed Cannabis	2402.1 kg	4512.5kg
Cannabis Plants	16, 067	3487
Cocaine	126.2 kg	40.9kg
Methamphetamine	1.6 kg	0.02 g
Ecstasy Pills	2000	-

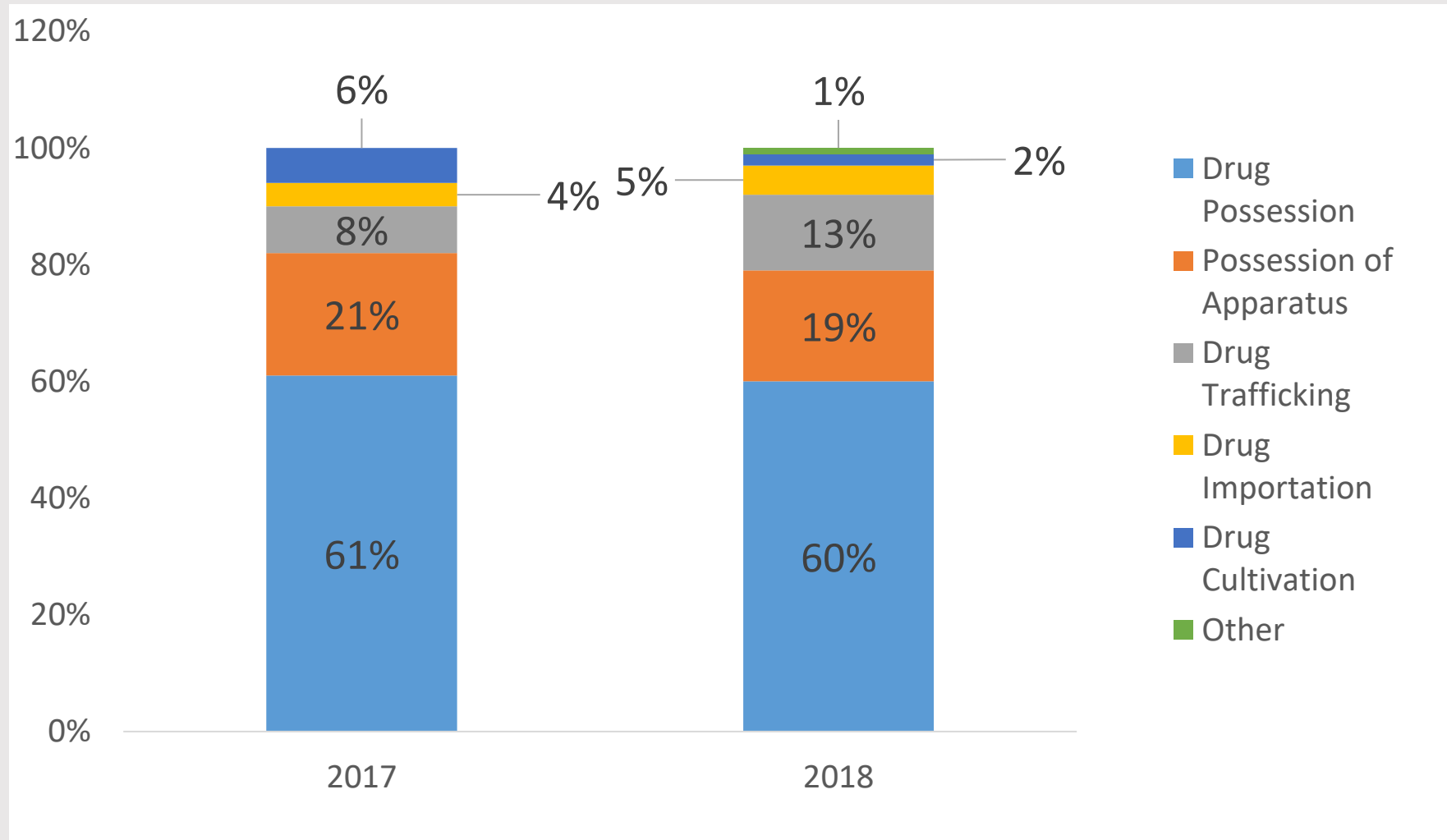
Barbados Prison Service: Distribution of Drug Offences Vs Other Offences 2017-2018



Barbados Prison Service: Sex Distribution of Persons Incarcerated for Drug Offences 2017-2018



Barbados Prison Service: Drug Offences for Which Persons were Incarcerated 2017-2018



Financial Intelligence Unit: Suspicious Activity Reports 2017-2018

Year	Total Number of Suspicious Transaction Reports	Number of Drug-Related Suspicious Transaction Reports (%)	Number of Suspicious Transaction Reports for which a Predicate Offence Could Not be Easily Identified (%)
2017	278	17 (6.1%)	165 (59.3%)
2018	428	27 (6.3%)	138 (32.2%)

Summary & Recommendations



Summary of the 2017 & 2018 Findings

- The majority of students testing positive for marijuana use at the Edna Nicholls Centre continue to be males between 13 - 15 years of age.
- Marijuana, alcohol and crack cocaine continue to be the main drugs creating the need for treatment.
- Marijuana is more problematic among those under the age of 40.
- Alcohol and crack cocaine are having a greater impact on older persons.
- Polydrug use continues to be an issue.
- Males continue to outnumber females in treatment centres.
- Co-occurring disorders are an issue among persons presenting for treatment at the Psychiatric Hospital.



Summary of the 2017 & 2018 Findings

- Most persons charged with, & incarcerated for, drug offences were male.
- Most persons charged with drug offences were in the 20-49 age group.
- Marijuana continues to be the dominant drug that engaged the attention of the RBPF (seizures & arrests).
- “Possession of cannabis” remains the single most common cannabis-related offense recorded by the RBPF.
- “Drug possession” is the most common offense for which persons were incarcerated.
- The local drug situation is slowly diversifying to include non-traditional substances such as ecstasy and methamphetamine.



Recommendations

- Continue the development of the Early Warning System which will be used to detect and monitor New Psychoactive Substances and non-traditional drugs.
- Educate the public about the harms associated with non-traditional drugs and New Psychoactive Substances.
- Educate young people about the harms associated with marijuana use.
- Educate adults about the harms related to alcohol abuse and the use of crack cocaine.
- Increase drug education on the harms related to polydrug use.
- Ensure that professionals involved in the treatment of co-occurring disorders and polydrug use receive the requisite training.



Recommendations

- Design and implement specialized programmes/interventions which cater to young males.
- Investigate issues relating to women and substance abuse.
- Identify and address the barriers to treatment for women.
- Create job opportunities for persons addicted to drugs.
- Ensure adequate staffing to facilitate the treatment of drug-addicted offenders incarcerated at HMP Dodds.
- Conduct further targeted research.

End of Presentation



Question & Answer Session

