

Table 3.83

**Drug abuse-related emergency department episodes**

By patient and episode characteristics, United States, 1993 and 1994<sup>a</sup>

Patient and episode characteristics	1993		1994	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total number of episodes	460,910	100.0%	518,521	100.0%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	231,721	50.3	263,334	50.8
Female	224,526	48.7	250,333	48.3
Unknown/no response	4,663	1.0	4,854	0.9
<u>Age</u>				
6 to 11 years	1,384	0.3	1,005	0.2
12 to 17 years	50,039	10.9	60,472	11.7
18 to 25 years	98,276	21.3	112,262	21.7
18 to 19 years	22,746	4.9	27,880	5.4
20 to 25 years	75,530	16.4	84,382	16.3
26 to 34 years	138,634	30.1	151,195	29.2
26 to 29 years	57,186	12.4	61,741	11.9
30 to 34 years	81,448	17.7	89,454	17.3
35 years and older	171,257	37.2	190,145	36.7
35 to 44 years	121,003	26.3	132,118	25.5
45 to 54 years	35,387	7.7	41,918	8.1
55 years and older	14,867	3.2	16,110	3.1
Unknown/no response	1,320	0.3	B	B
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>				
White	245,243	53.2	279,312	53.9
Black	126,929	27.5	141,171	27.2
Hispanic	48,233	10.5	50,438	9.7
Other	5,844	1.3	6,050	1.2
Unknown/no response	34,660	7.5	41,550	8.0
<u>Number of drugs</u>				
Single-drug episode	225,288	48.9	252,598	48.7
Multi-drug episode	235,622	51.1	265,924	51.3
<u>Drug use motive</u>				
Psychic effects	74,614	16.2	85,683	16.5
Dependence	144,153	31.3	165,541	31.9
Suicide	180,212	39.1	199,773	38.5
Other <sup>b</sup>	7,155	1.6	5,566	1.1
Unknown/no response	54,776	11.9	61,958	11.9
<u>Reason for emergency department contact</u>				
Unexpected reaction	54,569	11.8	66,595	12.8
Overdose	243,765	52.9	269,573	52.0
Chronic effects	50,180	10.9	56,010	10.8
Withdrawal	11,125	2.4	14,025	2.7
Seeking detoxification	47,398	10.3	52,213	10.1
Accident/injury	13,439	2.9	16,243	3.1
Other	17,279	3.7	21,707	4.2
Unknown/no response	23,154	5.0	22,154	4.3
<u>Patient disposition</u>				
Treated and released	210,581	45.7	243,403	46.9
Admitted to hospital	232,917	50.5	258,603	49.9
Left against medical advice	10,287	2.2	9,738	1.9
Died	1,247	0.3	981	0.2
Unknown/no response	5,879	1.3	5,797	1.1

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.

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), pp. 83, 84. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.