

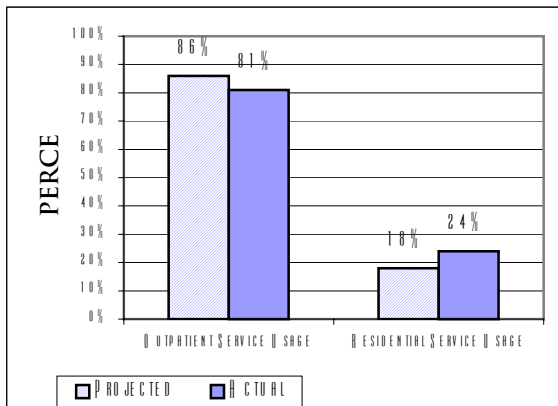
# DADS Says...

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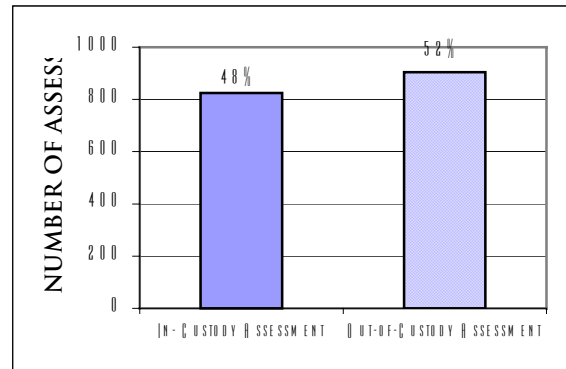
**Summary:** In Santa Clara County the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act (SACPA) or Proposition 36 was implemented July 1, 2001. In planning for the implementation of SACPA assumptions were made regarding how the Act would be interpreted. Based on these assumptions, it was anticipated that SACPA clients would require less intense treatment services, since many would be first time offenders with minor criminal justice histories. To accommodate these needs service utilization was geared toward outpatient and psycho-educational programs. It was anticipated that the majority (86%) of the SACPA population would require outpatient treatment, and that approximately 18% would require residential treatment. After six months, the usage of residential treatment is higher than estimated, while the usage of outpatient is slightly lower.

residential placements have steadily increased. SACPA clients tend to be chronic drug users who have been seen previously in the treatment system (59% have prior treatment episodes). In addition, more clients who were still in-custody are being assessed for treatment than anticipated, an indication from the criminal justice system that these are not first time offenders with minor criminal justice histories.

**Projected vs. Actual Program Service Usage for the First 6 Months July 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001**



**In Custody vs. Out of Custody Assessments July 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001**



**Impact:** To accommodate these needs, changes were made to the treatment system. For example, lack of certified licensed residential space created a need for additional transitional housing beds, to be used in conjunction with a newly implemented intensive outpatient modality.

**Conclusion:** Early projections of service utilization were based on clients who had less severe drug and alcohol histories than were anticipated. However, the severity level of the average SACPA client is more intense than anticipated. Psycho-educational services have gone underutilized while the demand for