



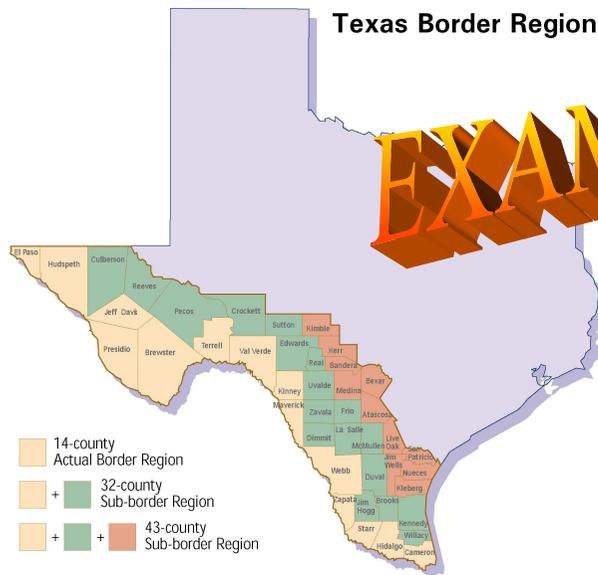
Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Comorbidity on the Texas-Mexico Border

Lynn Wallisch and Richard Spence
 University of Texas at Austin, School of Social Work, Addiction Research Institute

Introduction

In a representative sample of adults living in residential households on the Texas-Mexico border, 12.9% had DSM-IV defined problems of alcohol abuse or dependence. Some 5.6% had alcohol problems only, another 2.8% had alcohol problems and also used illicit drugs, and 3.5% had alcohol problems and problems with gambling and/or mental health. This study compares characteristics and treatment attitudes and behaviors among these three groups. Comorbidity is expected to be associated with acculturation; with substance problem severity; and with increased likelihood of seeking services.

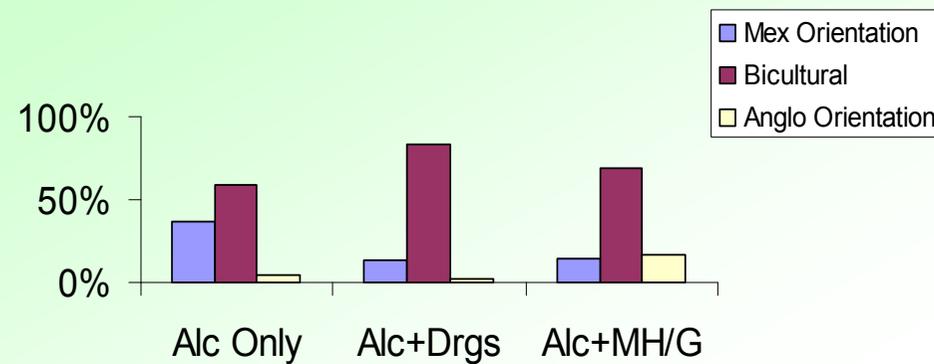
Map



SOURCE: Texas Comptroller, Carole Keeton Strayhorn.

Acculturation

based on ARSMA-II



	Alcohol only %	Alcohol + Drugs %	Alcohol + MH or Gambling %
	N=86	N=53	N=61
Male	80.2	83.4	70.6
Age *			
18-24	29.6	50.1	23.0
25-34	29.0	44.6	36.5
35+	41.3	5.2	40.5
Education			
<HS grad	34.7	19.9	37.4
HS grad	32.0	34.7	27.0
Beyond HS	33.3	45.4	35.5
Income *			
< \$20 K	64.3	37.2	55.1
\$20 - \$40 K	23.5	28.4	36.4
> \$40 K	12.2	34.4	8.5