

Drug Demand Reduction from a Mexican Drug Program Perspective

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I. Violence Against Drug Treatment Programs in Mexico

- **A. Staying Open vs. Shutting Down**
 - Currently there are **150,000** substance abusers living in Juarez that are in need of treatment services.
 - In Juarez there is no credentialed support service that is capable of providing the necessary licensing to address the issue of addiction in Juarez.
 - A.M.A.A.R. is one of the few programs in Juarez with a long lasting bi-national collaborative history, having worked with Aliviane, Inc. (Texas) since 2001.
- **B. Working Traumatized**
 - Due to the unstable criminal justice system in Juarez our program is unable to conduct background checks thus making it impossible to monitor the clients coming in and out of our facility. Therefore, staff and clients work in constant threat of gang violence from within our facilities and assassination attempts from criminals on the outside.



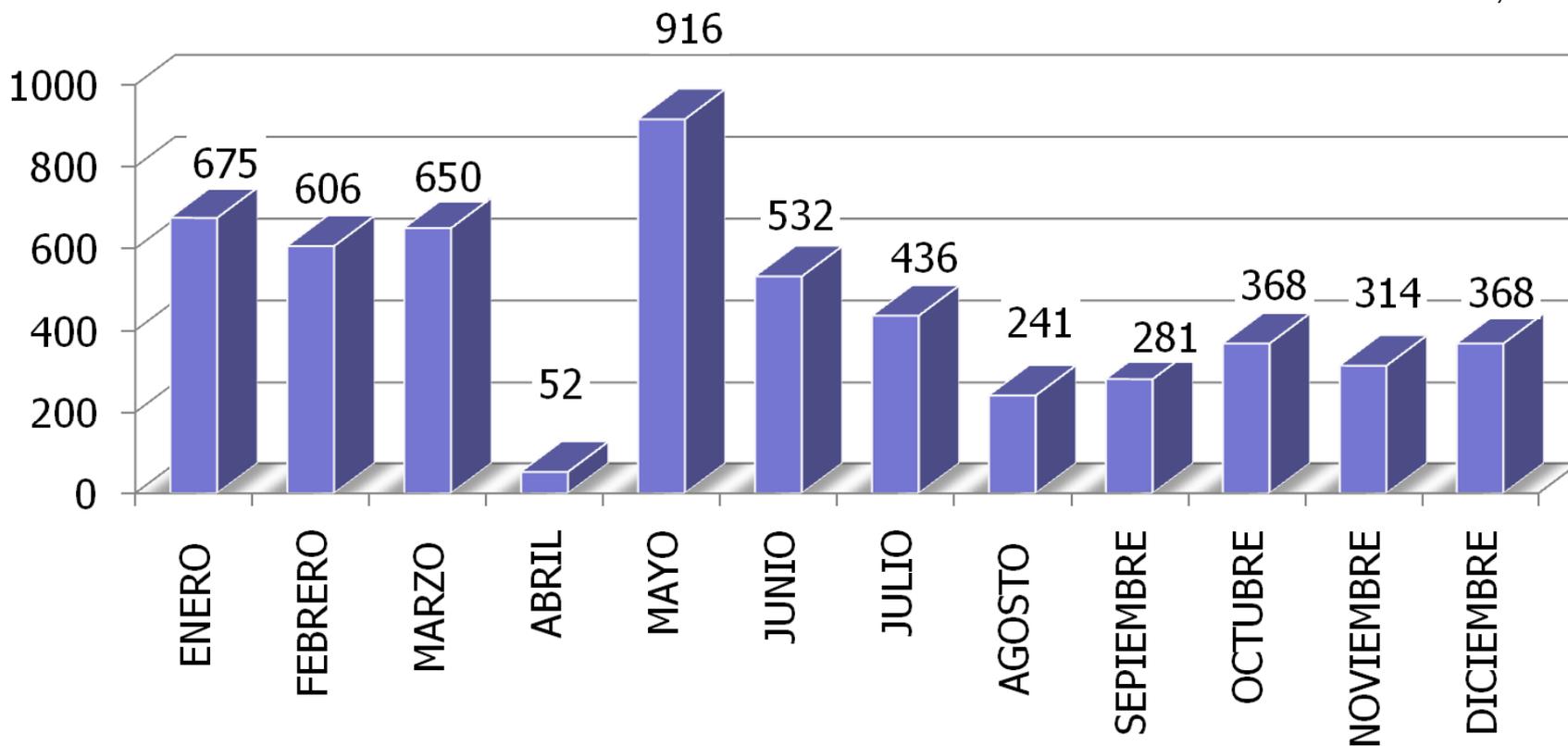
NUMERO DE INGRESOS POR MES (NUMBER OF CLIENTS PER MONTH)

2008 Statistics



COORDINADORA
DE ATENCIÓN
A LAS ADICCIONES

Gobierno de Chihuahua, Mexico



II. What is Mexico Doing in Demand Reduction?

- A. **La Merida**
 - Although this initiative provides support for Mexico's criminal justice effort and **primary care approach**, it fails to support a structure that is capable of addressing the demand side of drugs on our border.
- B. **300 New Centers**
"Centros Nueva Vida"
 - As part of the plan for La Merida Initiative, President Calderon is building 300 establishments throughout all of Mexico. Currently there is one in Juarez but the model **only provides primary care referrals** and does not address the need to begin a treatment/therapeutic process.



FORMA EN QUE ACUDIO

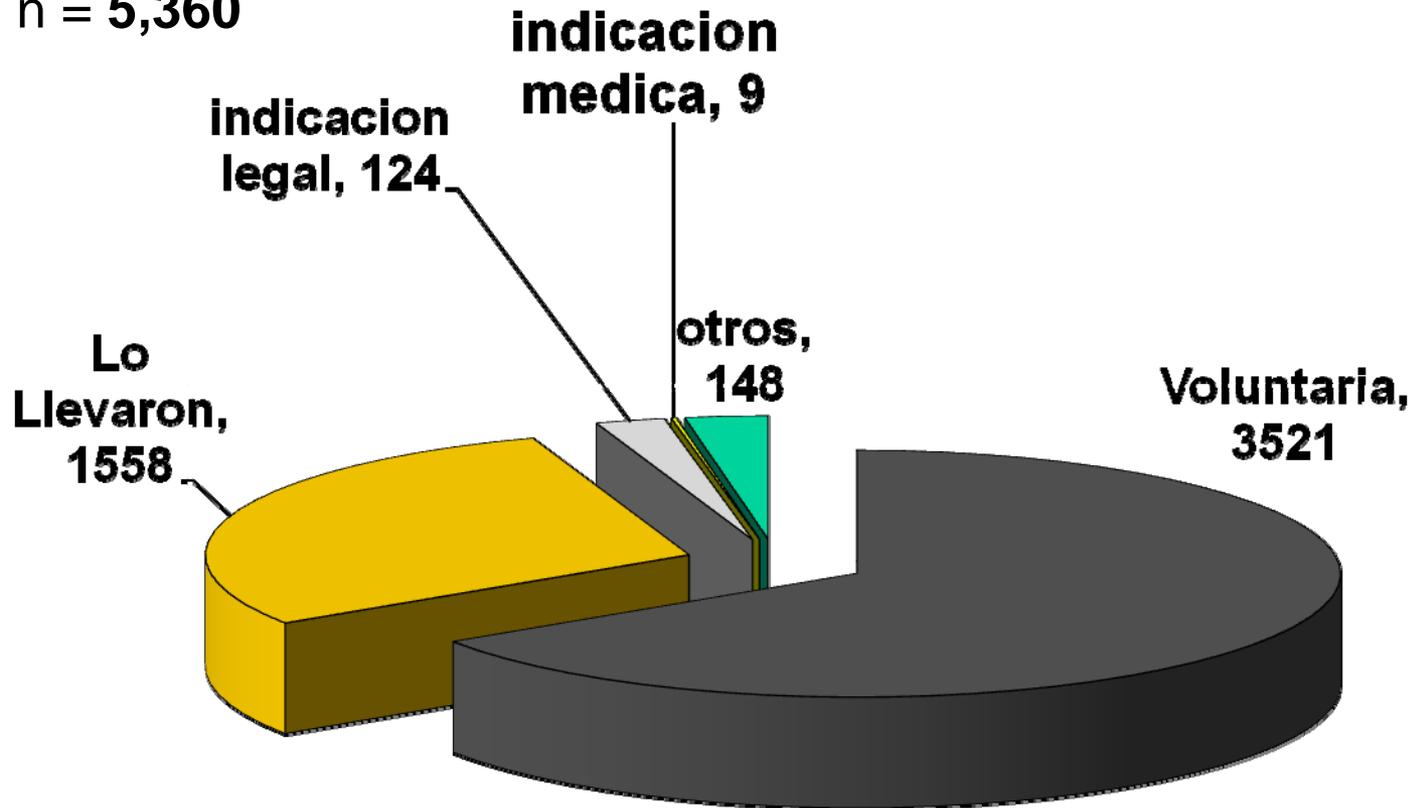
(WAYS IN WHICH ADDICTS SOUGHT TREATMENT)

2008 Statistics



Gobierno de Chihuahua, Mexico

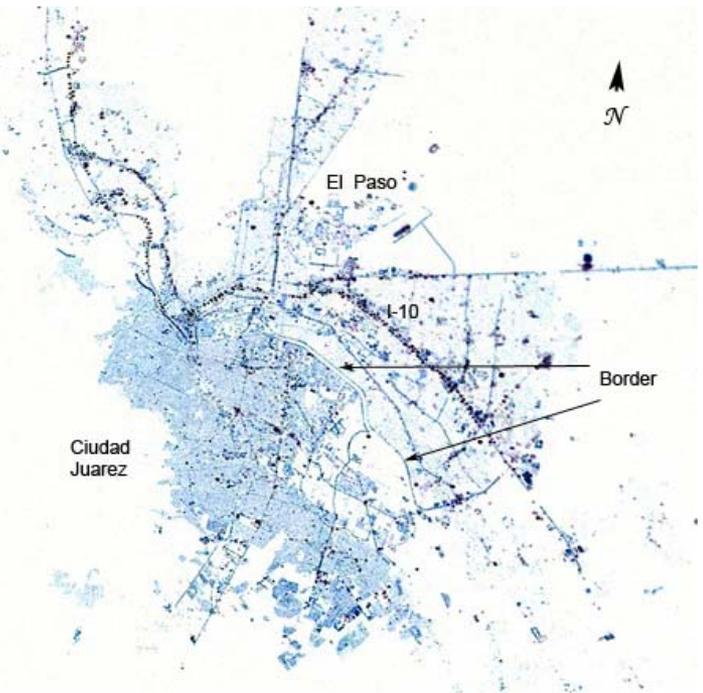
n = 5,360



III. Collaborating with American Demand Reduction Programs

- **A. Licensure & Technology**

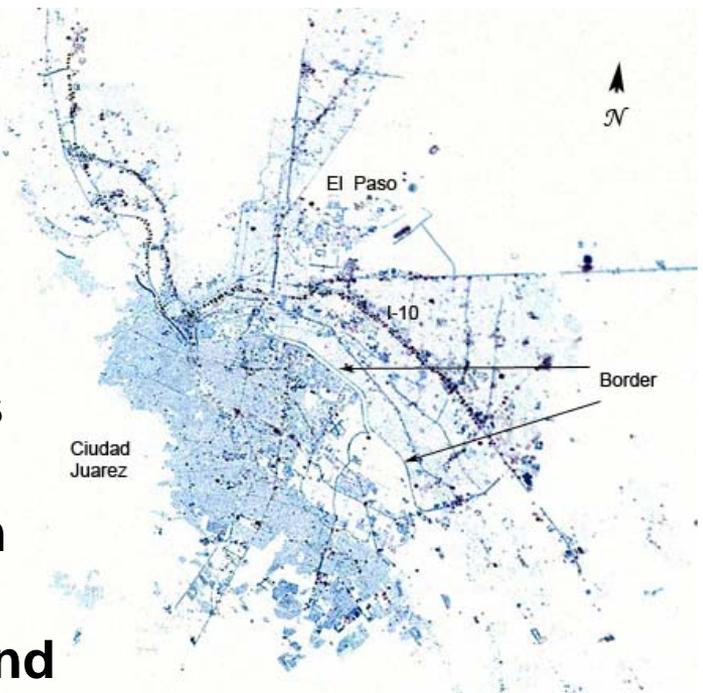
- Because of our program's working relationship with Aliviane, Inc. providing cross referrals for clients that have dual citizenship, it is important that we are also able to establish a collaborative licensure process and upgrade our technological capabilities to address the drug demand issue in Juarez.



III. Collaborating with American Demand Reduction Programs (continued)

- **B. Prevention**

- It is important for us to also establish a prevention model that can address drug trafficking and violent murders that are involving a large percentage of youth on both sides of the border. In Juarez 60% of the homicide victims are 25 and younger. A large majority of those caught trafficking range from adolescents to young adults. In order to adequately address the drug demand issue we must have in place a functioning prevention and intervention model that will allow my program in Juarez to collaborate with Aliviane, Inc.'s program in El Paso.



IV. Where do we go from here?

- **Bi-national certification process for staff in prevention, treatment and rehabilitation,**
- **Funding to establish a collaborative effort for providing treatment and prevention services in El Paso and Cd. Juarez, and**
- **Develop a solid outreach program that will address youth muling, and gang affiliation with youth on both sides of the border.**

