

Deflection Program Quarterly Report

Time Period: 7/1/2025 – 9/30/2025

Executive Summary

I. Reporting Period

This report covers the period of July 1, 2025 (7/1/2025) to September 30, 2025 (9/30/2025).

II. Report Scope

Since the start of deflection in Multnomah County on 9/1/2024, the deflection program has been collecting data related to how the deflection program works and who it serves. The legislation that established deflection also requires all programs to report monthly into a statewide database. The State will publish its own reporting based on that data.

This quarterly report is produced by Multnomah County's Deflection Program to provide insights into key metrics and emergent trends while also summarizing the demographics of those that engage with deflection. The deflection program leverages collected data to inform deflection policy within Multnomah County, guide program operations, and keep the public informed of the impact of deflection on individuals in the program and on the community at large.

For insights into annual trends and programmatic enhancements within the first year of deflection operations in Multnomah County, please refer to our "Deflection Center 2024-2025 Annual Report".

III. Observations and Emerging Trends

The number of referrals into the deflection program by law enforcement (169) decreased by -18% compared to the most recent quarter (203). As noted in previous reports, the number of referrals by law enforcement depends on a number of factors, including law enforcement directives that may at times restrict the ability of those agencies to focus resources on deflection. With heightened national focus on Portland's perceived safety within this reporting period, especially around the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) processing center, local law enforcement partners have understandably been navigating competing priorities.

The proportion of people that were referred to deflection, went through the warm hand-off process from law enforcement to Pathway Center staff, and then voluntarily chose to engage with the deflection program is the highest it has ever been at 71%. This is a +5% increase compared to our program's average engagement rate to date and is +9% higher than what we observed in our last quarter's data.

Deflection completion rates among engaged clients remain in the 30% range for two-quarters running – 33% in this reporting period and 35% in the prior. Of those that completed deflection, 97% did so by accessing at least one SUD or recovery support-specific service referral from their custom care plan. Only 3% of engaged clients that completed deflection did so by accessing a service referral for shelter/housing. More information on service referrals provided to and accessed by deflection clients is available in [Graph 3](#) and [Graph 4](#).

In Q1 2025, our program hired a dedicated PATH Care Coordinator whose role entails working with deflection clients. Since this change, we have observed an increased proportion of clients completing their deflection requirements by accessing at least one SUD service or recovery support service. Between January 1, 2025 and September 30, 2025, an average of 95% of completions resulted from clients accessing at least one SUD service or recovery support service.

Of note, there were no major programmatic updates during this quarter, however this was the first full quarter where the Pathway Center was operational 24/7 and sobering was available for the entire duration of the reporting period. This may have impacted the ability for people referred to deflection to engage with services at the time of their law enforcement encounter.

Program Overview

I. Key Program Metrics

Since 9/1/2024, law enforcement has made 655 referrals to the deflection program for 559 people. These 655 referrals to deflection resulted in 431 people, or 66%, engaging in the program and receiving deflection services. Of those 431 engaged clients, 127 (29%), took the additional step of accessing at least one service referral from a custom care plan designed to advance their SUD recovery. These 127 people successfully completed their deflection and 110 (87%) specifically completed their deflection program by accessing at least one SUD or recovery support service. These key program metrics are shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Key Program Metrics Overview

Referral Data: 7/1/2025 – 9/30/2025

Completion Data: 7/1/2025 – 10/31/2025

Program Metric	9/1/2024 – 12/31/2024	1/1/2025 – 3/31/2025	4/1/2025 – 6/30/2025	7/1/2025 – 9/30/2025	Total
Referrals to Deflection					
No. of times law enforcement referred an individual to deflection in lieu of arrest for PCS	221	62	203	169	655
No. of unique people that were referred to deflection	212	62	200	165	559
Clients Engaged¹					
No. of times a person referred to deflection voluntarily engaged with deflection services	144	42	125	120	431
% of referrals that resulted in engagement	65%	68%	62%	71%	66%
Completions²					
No. of clients who completed deflection	37	7	44	39	127
% of engagements that led to a completed deflection	26%	17%	35%	33%	29%
% of completed deflections that resulted from client accessing at least one SUD service or recovery support service ³	65%	100%	93%	97%	87%
No. of clients with pending completion status	0	0	0	12	12

Of the 169 referrals to deflection that occurred between 7/1/2025 – 9/30/2025, 120 clients engaged with the program. The proportion of referrals to deflection that resulted in client engagement is 71%, the highest our program has observed to date, and is 5% above our average engagement rate of 66%.

39 clients (33% of our engaged clients from the quarter) completed deflection. Our observed completion rate for engaged clients has remained over 30% for two consecutive quarters now, spanning 4/1/2025 – 9/30/2025.

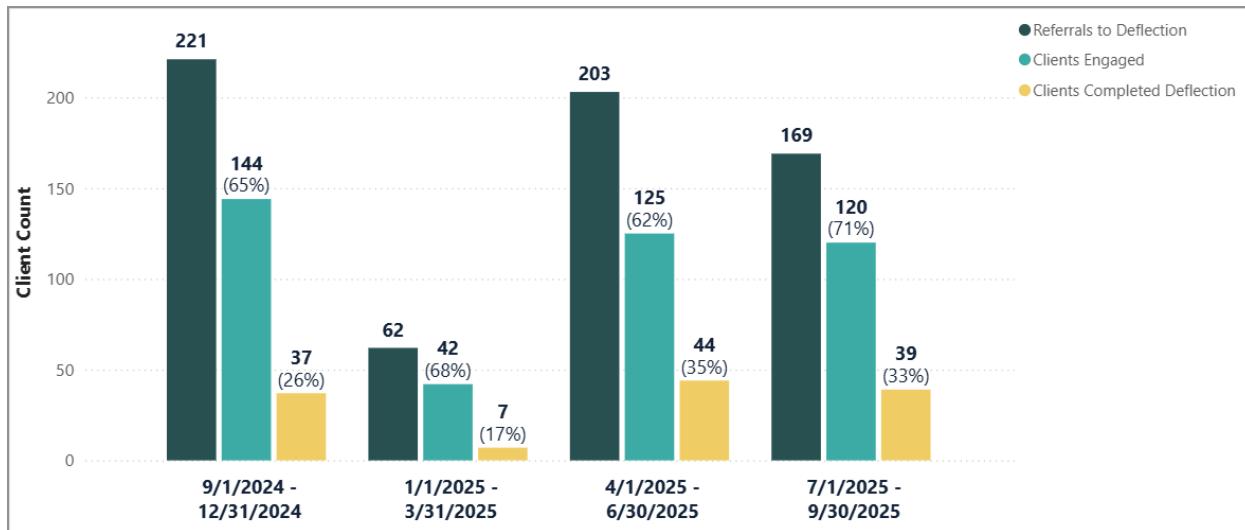
¹ The term “engaged” is defined as signing a release of information (ROI) to allow for future verification of access to services, receiving a medical screening, SUD and basic needs screening, peer support, case management, a custom care plan with referrals to community services (including sobering, if appropriate).

² To “complete” deflection In Multnomah County, clients must access at least one service referral from their custom care plan within 30 days of their date of deflection. The PATH team verifies the accessing of these service referrals by connecting directly with the service provider.

³ Throughout this reporting, references to “SUD service or recovery support service” includes sobering, withdrawal management, outpatient treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, MAT, MOUD, and SUD peer services. These categories correspond to the breakout view as shown in graphs 4 and 5.

At the time of this reporting, 12 people referred to deflection within this reporting period have a pending completion status despite becoming an engaged client. When the 30-day window for an engaged client to access service referrals closes, they have a pending completion status attributed to them until they are verified to have either successfully completed or not completed the deflection process by our PATH team. We intend to verify these additional clients and provide updated metrics for the 7/1/2025 – 9/30/2025 time frame in our next quarterly report.

Graph 1: Referrals to Deflection, Client Engagements, and Clients Completed Deflections by Reporting Period



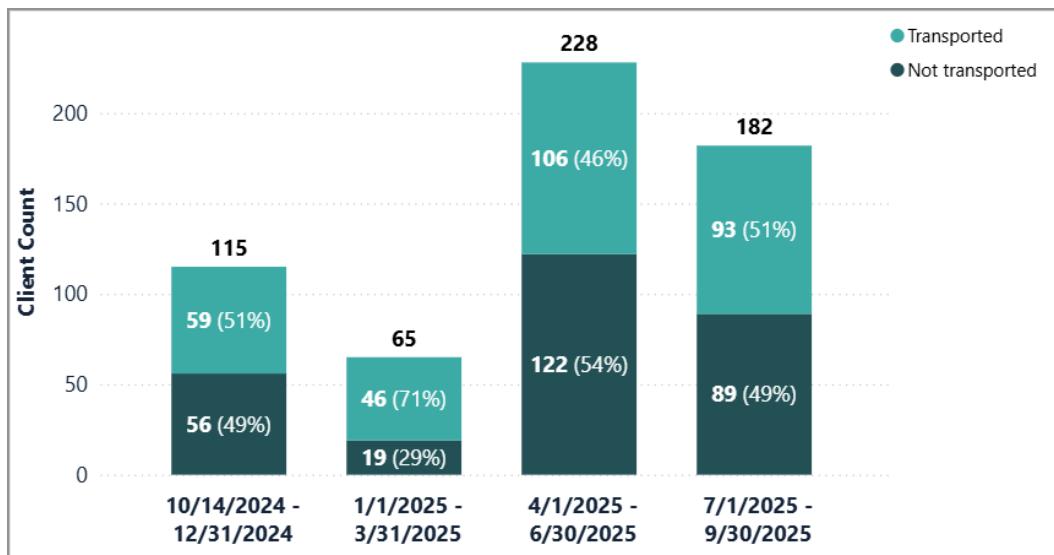
II. Transportation Utilization by Deflection Clients

Transportation data is associated with the opening and operation of Coordinated Care Pathway Center (CCPC) and was collected from 10/14/2024 – 9/30/2025. Since eligible individuals can be referred to deflection more than once during a reporting period, some clients have been offered transportation services more than once.

Compared to the prior period, there has been an increase in the proportion of clients utilizing transportation services, though the number of clients has decreased: 93 (51%) of clients offered transportation utilized it in the current reporting period, compared to 106 (46%) in the prior period. Of note, this could be partially due to seasonality in the Portland-area.

Of the 93 clients that were transported, 10 (11%) were transported directly to services while the other 83 (89%) were transported elsewhere.

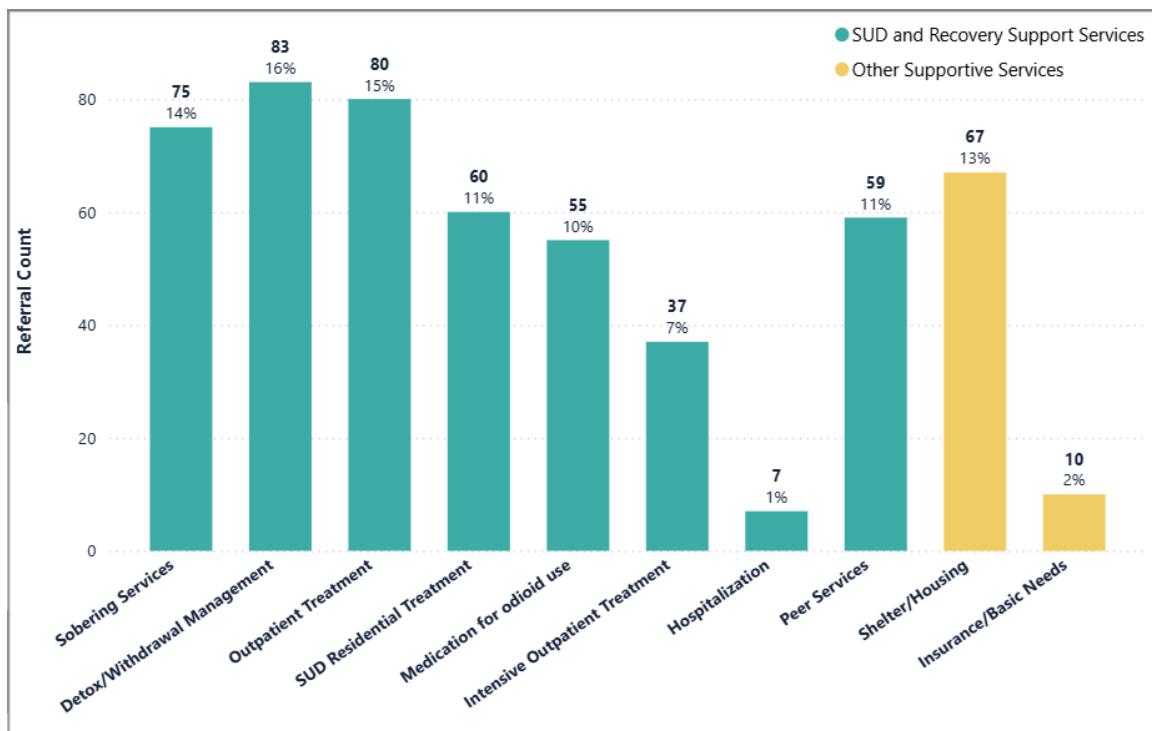
Graph 2: Client Transportation Use from the Pathway Center by Reporting Period



III. Service Referrals

The breakdown by category of the 533 service referrals provided to engaged deflection clients between 7/1/2025 – 9/30/2025 is shown below, with all clients receiving at least one referral. Of note, since deflection began, 1225 referrals to services have been made to engaged deflection clients from 9/1/2024 – 9/30/2025.

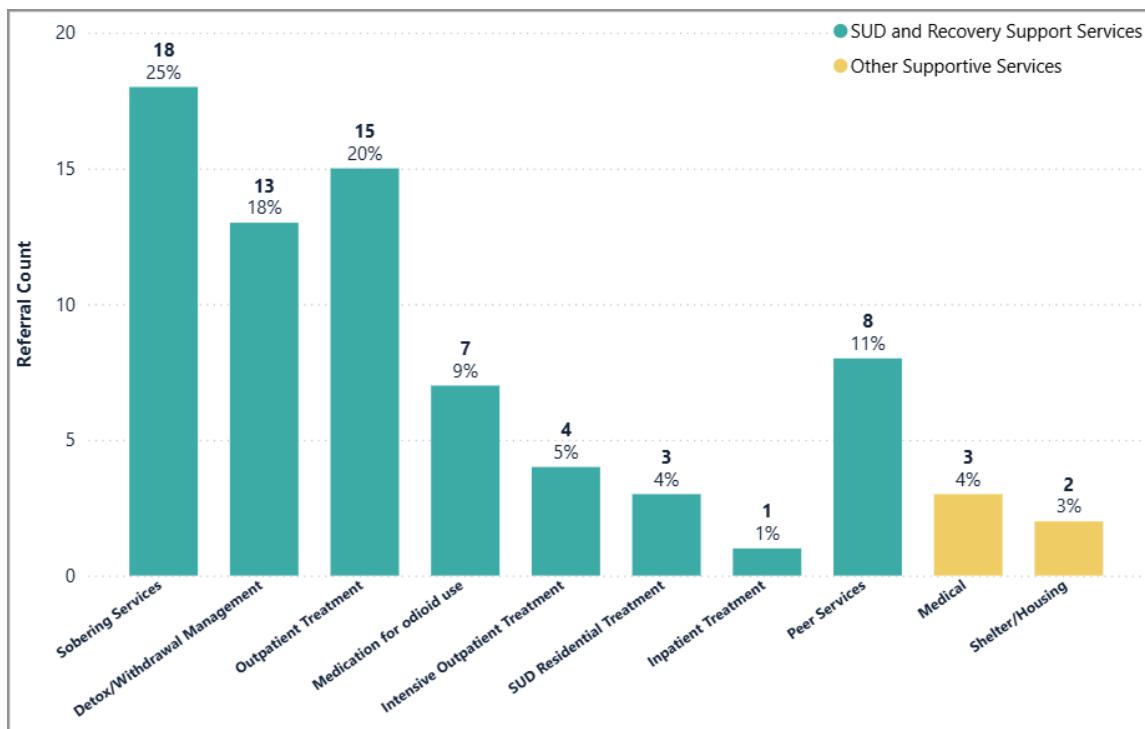
Graph 3: Service Referrals Provided to Engaged Clients, 7/1/2025 – 9/30/2025



39 unique individuals were confirmed to have accessed 74 services referrals in the current reporting period for which completion data is available, i.e. clients referred 7/1/2025 – 9/30/2025. While clients need only access one referral within their 30-day deflection window in order to complete the program, 21 clients accessed more than one service referral from their care plan, thus attributing to a greater amount of service referrals accessed than clients which have completed deflection.

Within the most recent quarter, 97% of the service referrals that were confirmed to have been accessed by engaged deflection clients were for SUD and recovery support services.

Graph 4: Service Referrals Accessed by Clients Resulting in Completed Deflection, 7/1/2025 – 9/30/2025

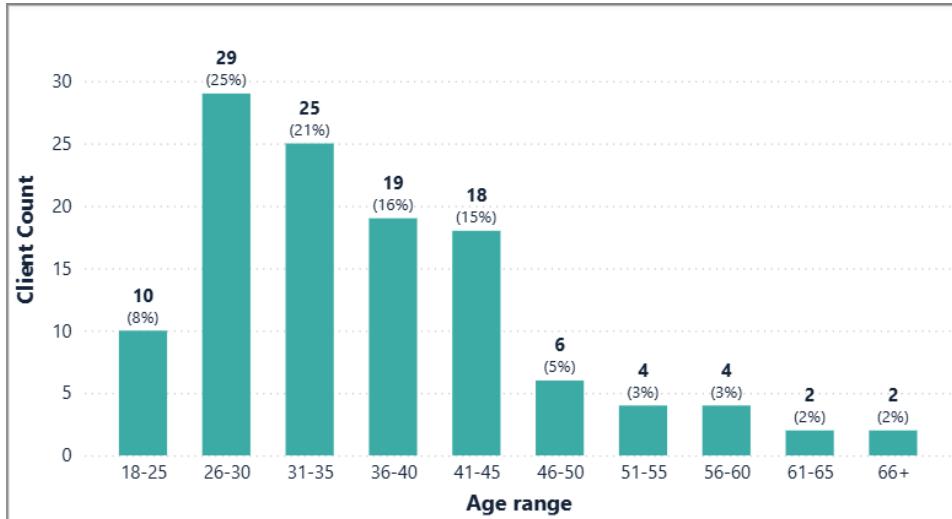


Population Insights

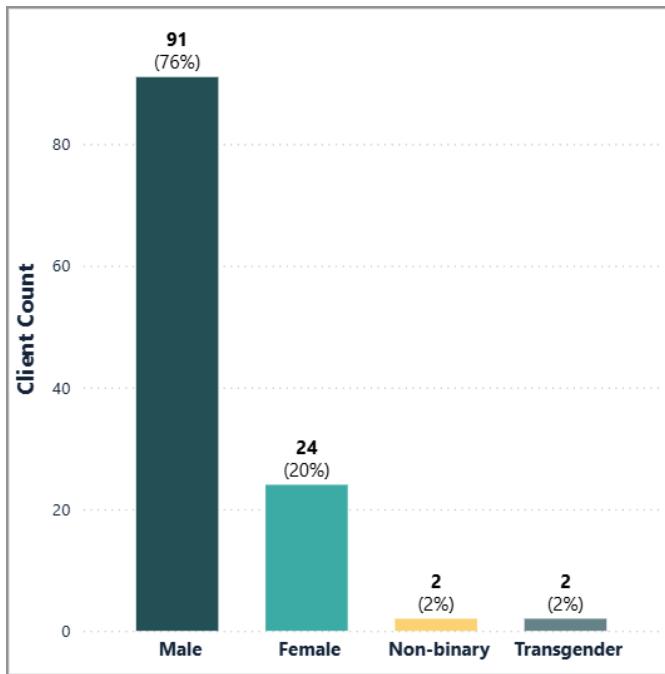
The data shown below is for individuals that were referred to deflection by law enforcement and subsequently engaged during the most recent reporting period, 7/1/2025 – 9/30/2025.

I. Demographics

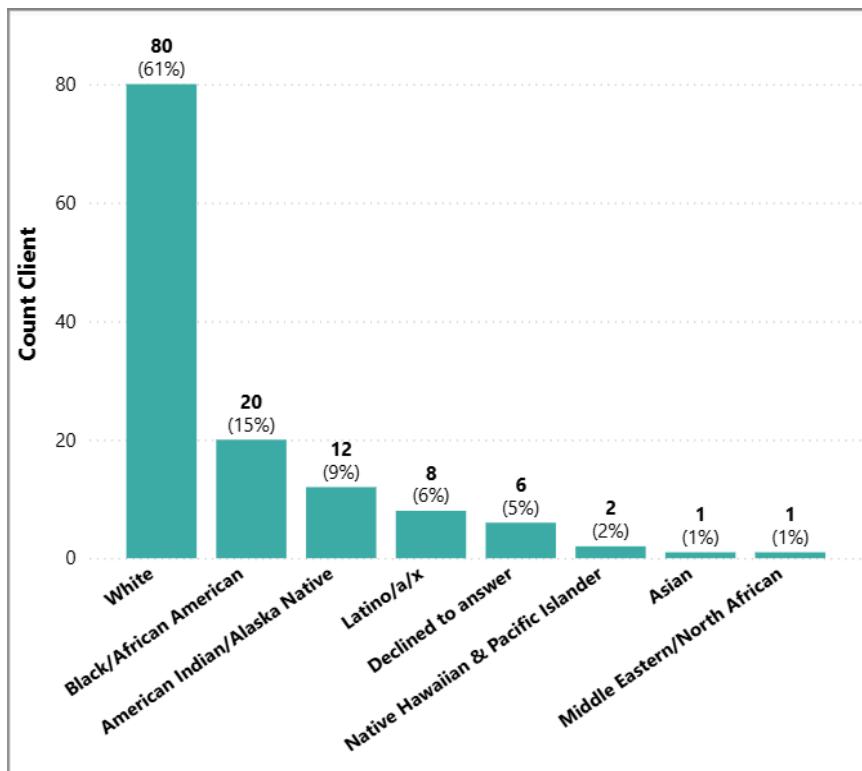
Graph 5: Client Age



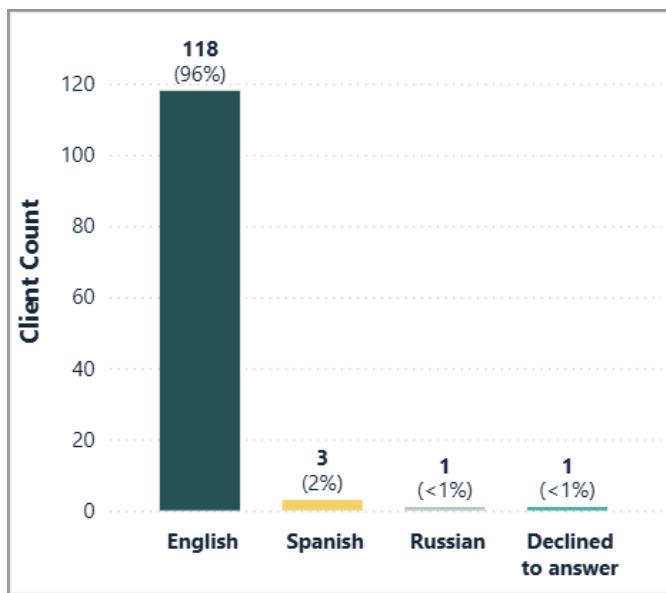
Graph 6: Client Gender Identity



Graph 7: Client Race

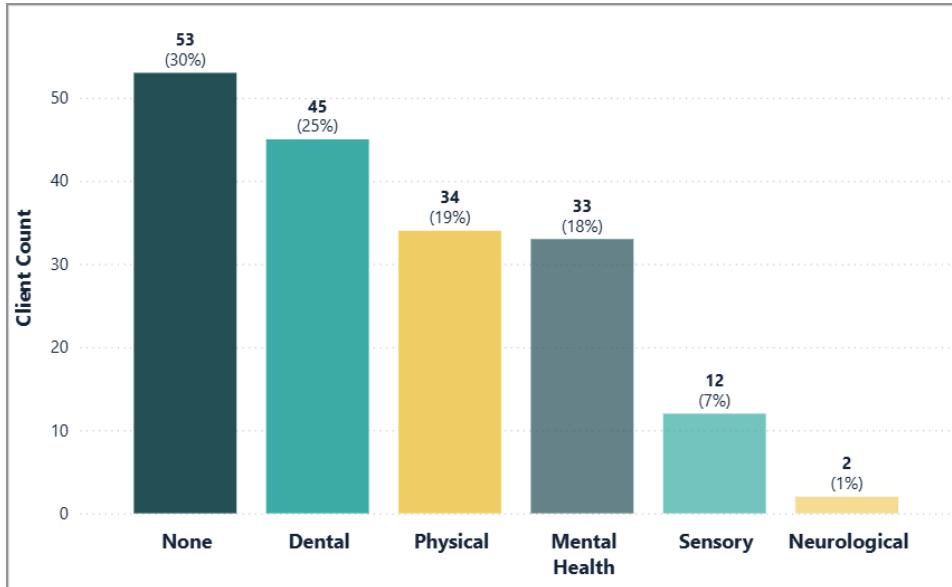


Graph 8: Client Primary Language



II. Medical and Dental Considerations

Graph 9: Client Self-Reported Medical and Dental Conditions

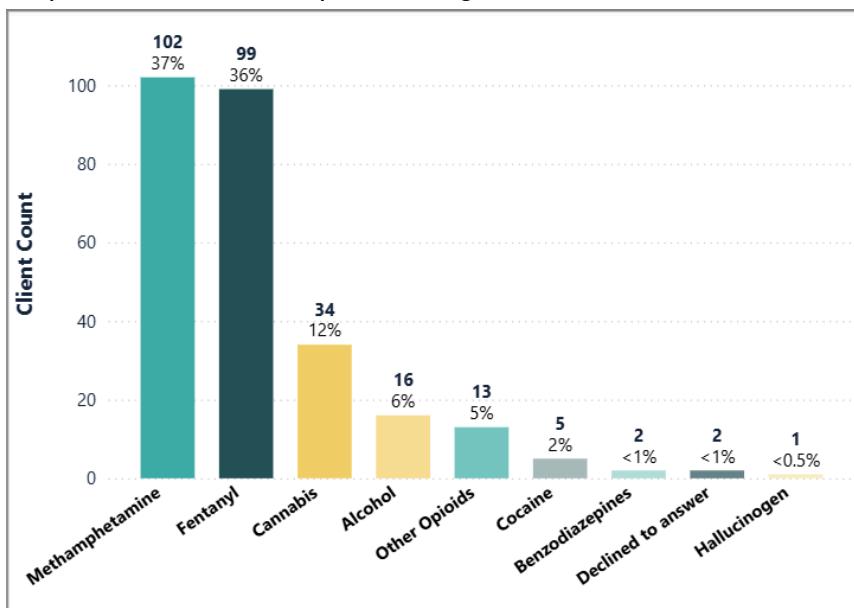


Note, this graph is a non-unique client count due to 42 clients (35%) indicating that they had more than one type of condition.

117 clients responded when asked about what drugs they have been using, accounting for 98% of the engaged clients within the reporting period. 91 clients (76%) reported using more than one drug.

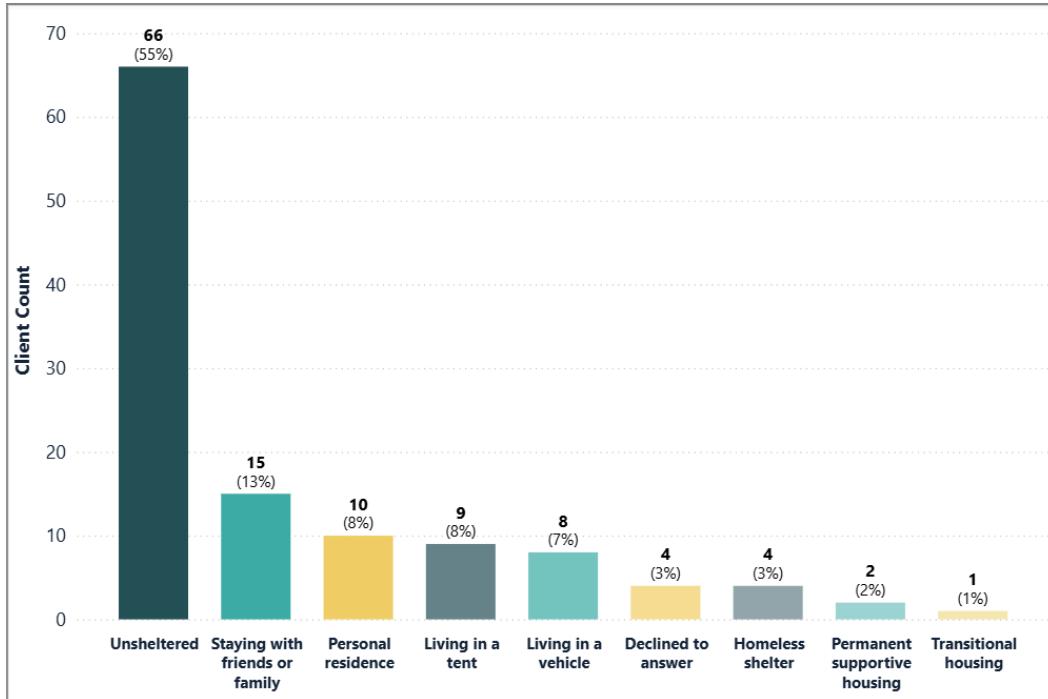
7 clients (6%) self-reported at least one recent (within the last 90 days) Emergency Room visit, while 110 clients (92%) reported no recent ER visit(s), and 2 clients (2%) declined to answer.

Graph 10: Client Self-Reported Drugs Used

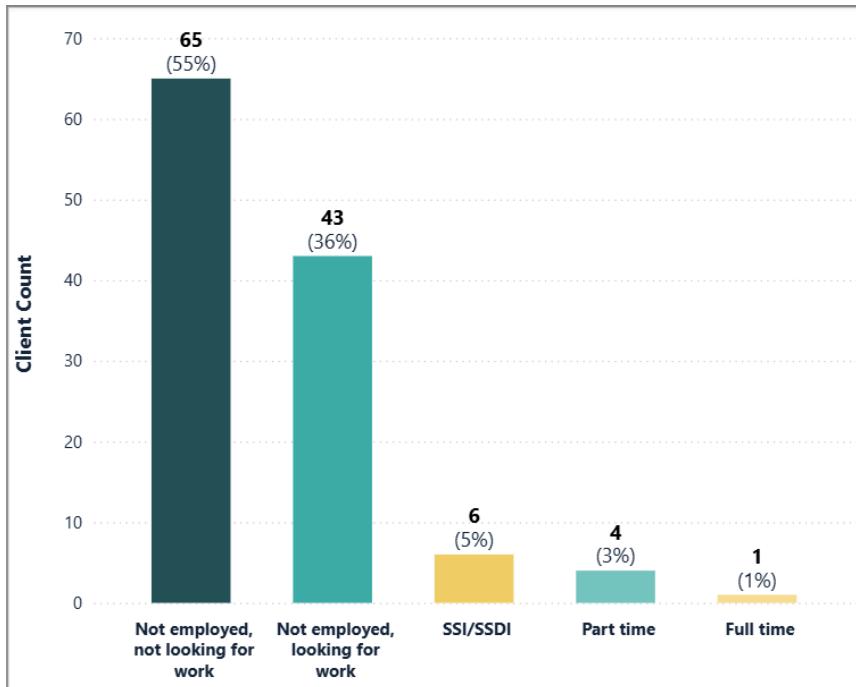


III. Social Determinants of Health Considerations

Graph 11: Client Housing Status

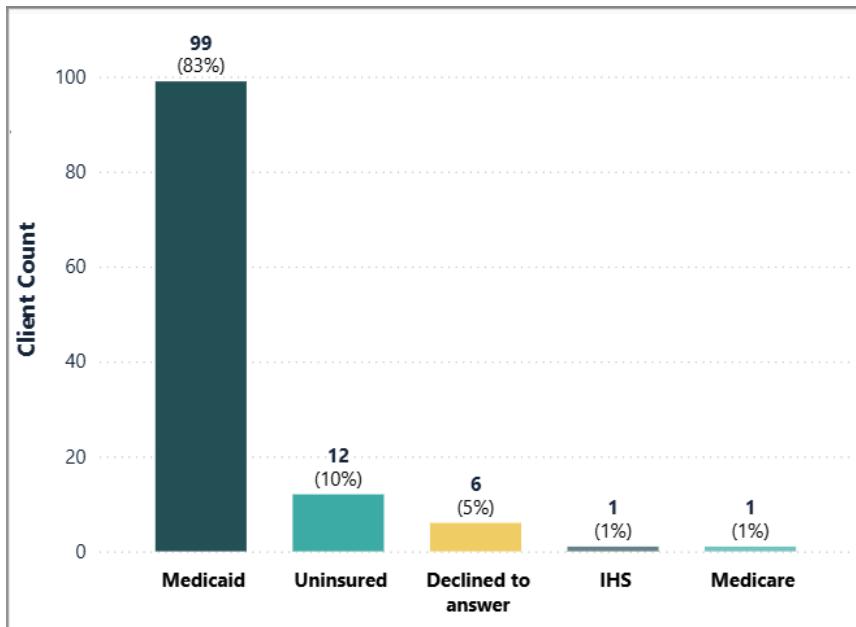


Graph 12: Client Employment Status



Note, the graph above is a non-unique client count as some clients indicated multiple employment statuses.

Graph 13: Client Health Insurance Coverage



Graph 14: Client Food Security Status

