

# Statistics on adults with substance abuse and addiction 2017

**Men are in the majority of people receiving social services for abuse and addiction, both in voluntary and in compulsory care. Compulsory care also show major regional differences. In the county of Gävleborg there are 35 people per 100 000 inhabitants, whereas the corresponding figure in Stockholm County is 8 per 100 000 inhabitants. However, the most common forms of treatment are different types of out-patient care.**

## Fewer women than men received care

The most common in the voluntary care of people with substance abuse and addiction are individual means-tested outpatient care. Almost 10,900 people received some form of out-patient care on November 1, 2017. One-third of these were women. Approximately 2,500 people received round-the-clock care on November 1, 2017. Three fourths of all care (both voluntary and compulsory) were given to men and a quarter was given to women. At the same time, 6,100 people were given housing interventions, again about a quarter of the interventions were given to women.

**Table 1. All forms of care and support for persons with substance abuse November 1, 2017.**

Gender structure for recipients 21 years old and older

Form of care or support	Women		Men		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Housing assistance	1 484	24	4 616	76	6 100	100
Individual, means-tested out-patient care	3 502	32	7 393	68	10 895	100
<b>Round-the-clock care, of which</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1 822</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>2 487</b>	<b>100</b>
Voluntary institutional care	485	25	1 439	75	1 924	100
Care in private homes	55	29	136	71	191	100
Compulsory institutional care 18 years old and older	125	34	247	66	372	100

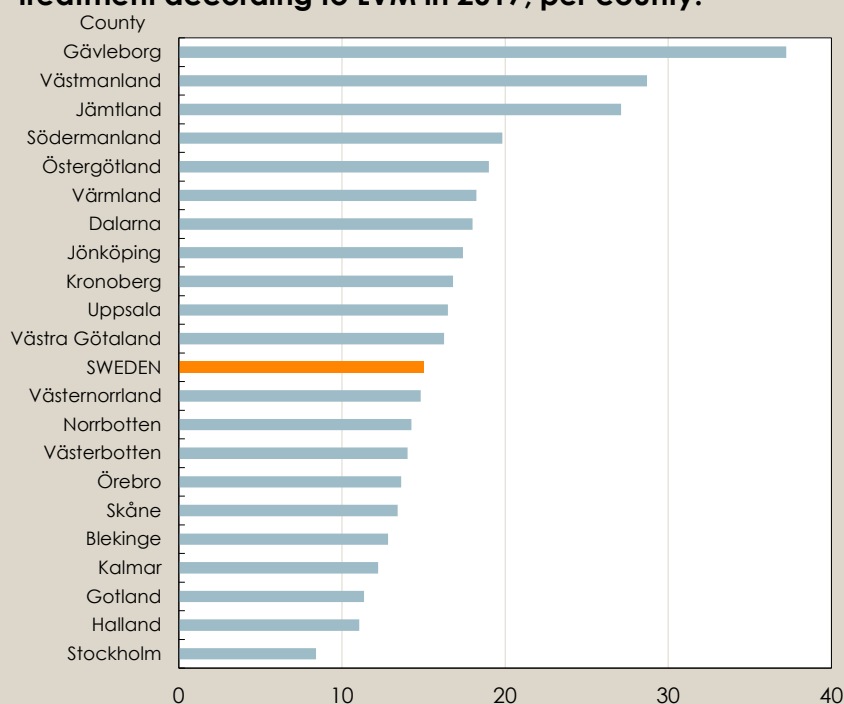
Source: The Swedish National Board of Institutional Care. Abuse statistics from the National Board of Health and Welfare

## The levels of compulsory treatment varies across the country

Compulsory institutional care was given to 372 persons on November 1, 2017 in accordance with the Care of Abusers (Special Provisions) Act. The number is just over 3 per cent fewer than 2016 when 384 people received compulsory care. More than a third of those were women.

There are major regional differences in the municipalities' use of compulsory institutional care in accordance with the Care of Abusers (Special Provisions) Act. The number of people receiving compulsory care interventions per capita was the highest in Gävleborg County where 35 people per 100 000 inhabitants was subjected to non-voluntary interventions. . In the other end of the scale we find Stockholm County, where 8 persons per 100 000 inhabitants received compulsory care for substance abuse. This means that compulsory care is more than 4 times more common in Gävleborg as in Stockholm.

**Figure 1. Number per 100 000 inhabitants in compulsory treatment according to LVM in 2017, per county.**



Source: Register of compulsory treatment, National Board of Welfare and Health

The differences between regions must be seen in the light of several structural factors. The abuse situation is of course important, but far from the only one. The general treatment landscape, the degree of cooperation between municipalities and county councils and local practices that may be related to compulsory

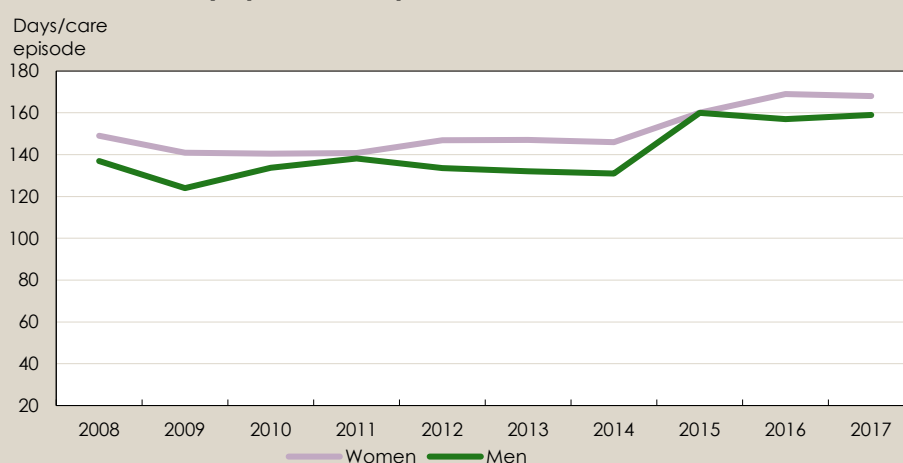
care should be weighed in order to interpret the statistics in a more exhaustive way.

At the same time, it is important to remember that there may often be relatively small numbers of interventions regionally, which can vary considerably between years and have a big impact on how the regions are positioned in the figure.

## Longer care periods in a younger patient group

The duration of interventions for people who have been within compulsory care have increased over time. The average duration per care episode has increased from 141 days 2008 to 162 days in 2017. In 2008, the average number of days of care was 149 days for women and 137 days for men, which can be compared with 168 days for women and 159 days for men in 2017. This means that women had slightly longer care periods throughout the reported period.

**Figure 2. Average care time according to LVM 2008-2017, number of days per care episode. Women and men.**



Source: Register of compulsory treatment, National Board of Welfare and Health

**About these statistics**

These statistics include services to people suffering from some form of substance abuse: alcohol, drugs, prescription drugs or solvents. Cross sectional data is collected on November 1 as well as a total for 2017.

Compulsory institutional care in accordance with the Care of Abusers (Special Provisions) Act is applicable for people 18 year old and older. Voluntary service in accordance with the Social Services Act is applicable for people 21 years old and older.

**More information**

You can find more tables, graphs and information in the following Excel file (in Swedish, but with English list of terms):  
[www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2018/2018-5-18/](http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2018/2018-5-18/)

If you wish to use our statistical database (in Swedish):  
[www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistik/statistikdata-bas/vuxnamedmissbrukochberoende](http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistik/statistikdata-bas/vuxnamedmissbrukochberoende)

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