

DRUG & ALCOHOL OFFICE

UTILISATION OF SOBERING UP CENTRES, 1990-2002

INTRODUCTION

The *Detention of Drunken Persons Act 1989* was enacted on 27 April 1990 and decriminalised public drunkenness in Western Australia (WA). The impetus for the decriminalisation of public drunkenness and the establishment of sobering up centres (SUCs) arose from recommendations contained in the report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

The management, development and funding of SUCs rests with the Drug and Alcohol Office. Initial responsibility for establishing SUCs was with the Alcohol and Drug Authority (now known as Next Step Specialist Alcohol & Drug Services) and then transferred to the Health Department of WA in July 1997.

In addition to the contribution by the State Government to sobering up services in this State, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Commission has contributed some of the capital costs.

Sobering up centres provide a practical focus on assisting alcohol intoxicated adults found in public places by providing them with overnight care. As SUCs are only resourced to manage clients over a short period of time, they will be discharged the next morning, with the exception of the Perth SUC, which is co located with a detoxification unit.

The service involves the provision of a substantial meal, clean bedding and sleepwear and laundering of clothes. The short stay aims to break the negative cycle of alcohol induced harm by providing care to intoxicated persons most at risk to themselves, their families and their community.

The expansion of SUCs throughout WA, especially in areas of identified social problems associated with alcohol use, provides police with an option to manage intoxicated persons.

The positive impact of SUCs on the management of intoxicated persons in the safety of a SUC rather than being detained has been demonstrated at the regional level as well as for the whole state. The gains from the expansion in SUCs include:

- reductions in police time and resources previously involved in detaining and monitoring intoxicated people in lock ups;
- reduced use of court time and resources;

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- reduced levels of domestic violence and other problems associated with alcohol abuse; and
- reduced burden on hospitals because of fewer hospitalisations for alcohol related illnesses and accidents.

Experience has shown that over a period of time the opening of a SUC usually encourages the community to develop additional services to address alcohol related problems.

These include outreach programs, community patrols, a safe house for women and children, alcohol and other drug education programs and community support for initiatives to restrict alcohol availability.

The first SUC was opened in the Perth metropolitan area in May 1990, is managed by the Salvation Army and based in the inner city area and primarily provides a service to the East Perth police lock up. Sobering up centres have been opened progressively in identified high priority localities elsewhere, in both the metropolitan area and regional areas of the State, as follows:

Written by Greg Swensen (September 2003)

- Port Hedland in April 1991;
- Halls Creek in September 1992;
- Roebourne in February 1993;
- Fitzroy Crossing in March 1994;
- Kalgoorlie in June 1994;
- Wiluna in April 1996;
- Kununurra in September 1996;
- Derby in May 1998;
- Broome in February 1999;
- Midland in June 2002; and
- Wyndham in December 2002

Ongoing expansion of services is planned. This includes a SUC in Geraldton and services to accommodate young people who are intoxicated due to using drugs other than alcohol, in conjunction with the *Protective Custody Act 2000* which gives powers for police to apprehend intoxicated young people.

It is believed that there have been no deaths of any intoxicated person detained in SUCs or police lock ups in any of the regions in which SUCs have been established.

This publication provides an update of data on the utilisation of sobering up centres published in Statistical Bulletin No. 5 (June 1999) and Statistical Bulletin No. 11 (April 2001). Statistical Bulletin No. 5 should be consulted for information in relation to Aboriginality and frequency of admission as these issues have not been re analysed.

ADMISSIONS TO SOBERING UP CENTRES

The annual operating cost of sobering up services has gradually increased as the number of SUCs has expanded from \$319,000 in 1990/1991 to \$4 million in 2002/2003 (Table 1). SUCs are a very cost effective service.

Table 1:
Annual expenditure (\$) on sobering up services
1990/1991 - 2001/2002

Year	Capital/ development	Running costs	Total
1990/1991			318,733
1991/1992			501,413
1992/1993			763,165
1993/1994			1,086,982
1994/1995			1,863,665
1995/1996			1,722,200
1996/1997	9,587	1,853,420	1,863,007
1997/1998	4,955	2,011,916	2,016,871
1998/1999	443,500	2,524,900	2,968,400
1999/2000	773,832	2,554,500	2,493,225
2000/2001	-	2,370,100	2,370,100
2001/2002	927,849	2,548,500	3,476,349
2002/2003	812,513	3,188,300	4,000,813

For example in the year 2002/2003 there were 12 SUCs which had a total operating cost of \$3,188,300, an annual average cost of \$265,691 per centre. In the year 2002 there was a total of 18,885 admissions to all SUCs, an average of \$169 per admission.

In the 13 year period from 1990 to 2002 there was a total of 138,847 admissions to SUCs in WA, of whom 94,125 (67.8%) were males and 44,722 (32.2%) were females (Table 2, page 3).

The number of annual admissions to SUCs increased by more than 11 fold, from a total of 1,667 in 1991 (the first full year of operation) to a total of 18,885 in 2002.

A breakdown in the number of quarterly admissions to all SUCs in this State is contained in Table 3 (page 4). Within the overall upward trend in admissions there have also been a number of short term peaks in the number of persons admitted to SUCs.

For instance, throughout 1993 and up to mid 1994 there were between about 1,600 and 1,850 admissions per quarter. Admissions then jumped by two thirds, from 1,868 admissions in the June 1994 quarter to 3,134 admissions in the September 1994 quarter, then fell to about 1,800 admissions in the September and December quarters of 1995.

Throughout 1996 the number of admissions remained relatively constant, with about 2,500 admissions per quarter, followed by a period of growth to about 3,200 to 3,800 admissions per quarter by the end of 1998. Admissions increased by 17.7%, from 4,440 in the March quarter 1999 to 5,225 in the March quarter 2000.

The decrease in the quarterly admissions that occurred for the last three quarters of 2000 is believed to be due problems following changes in the management of structures of some of the SUCs. Throughout 2001 and 2002 admissions fluctuated between about 4,000 to 5,000 per quarter. These short term variations illustrate the difficulties that can arise in providing most forms of services in remote locations in a State the size of Western Australia.

An overall picture of trends in annual admissions of individual SUCs is provided in Table 4 (page 5). In the year 2002 the greatest number of admissions were recorded for the Broome SUC, with a total of 4,514 admissions, followed by the Perth SUC with a total of 2,913 admissions.

This table also shows fluctuations in annual admissions have occurred in a number of the SUCs. For example admissions to the Wiluna SUC dropped from 2,507 in 1997 (first full year of operation) to 905 in 2000 and then increased to 1,400 in 2002 and admissions to the Hedland SUC reached 2,289 in 1993 and has since declined to 1,200 in 2002.

DETENTIONS IN POLICE LOCK UPS

Over the 13 year period from 1990 to 2000 there was a total of 68,402 detentions of intoxicated persons in police lock ups in the various catchment areas served by operating SUCs, of which 51,550 (75.4%) were males and 16,852 (24.6%) were females (Table 2).

The impact of SUCs on the detention of intoxicated persons is demonstrated in Figure 1 (page 5) which shows a sharp decline has occurred in detentions since 1992 up

to the present. From 1992 (the first full year of complete police data) to 2002 the number of detentions of intoxicated persons in police lockups declined by 78.6% from 11,316 in 1992 to 2,421 in 2002 (Figure 1, page 5).

The impact of the expansion of SUCs has provided police with an option to manage intoxicated persons, and as services have progressively expanded, the number apprehensions has decreased.

The positive impact of SUCs on the management of intoxicated persons in the safety of a SUC rather than being detained in a police lock up can be seen in the profiles of trends in admissions and apprehensions following the opening of a SUC. An example of this effect is clearly illustrated in the Kimberley region.

Table 2:
Annual admissions to sobering up centres and detentions for drunkenness in police lockups, WA, by gender, 1990-2002

Year	Sobering up centres			Police lockups		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1990	349	57	406	6	3	9
1991	1,408	259	1,667	15	-	15
1992	2,688	925	3,613	8,306	3,010	11,316
1993	4,833	1,635	6,468	7,031	2,088	9,119
1994	6,775	2,653	9,428	6,717	2,442	9,159
1995	5,838	2,198	8,036	6,001	2,179	8,180
1996	6,746	3,107	9,853	6,344	2,008	8,352
1997	10,156	4,798	14,954	4,963	1,575	6,538
1998	9,557	4,351	13,908	3,534	962	4,496
1999	11,083	5,708	16,791	2,765	768	3,533
2000	11,453	6,102	17,555	1,983	521	2,504
2001	11,323	5,960	17,283	2,064	657	2,721
2002	11,916	6,969	18,885	1,821	639	2,460
Total	94,125	44,722	138,847	51,550	16,852	68,402

Note: Lockup data excludes missing cases.

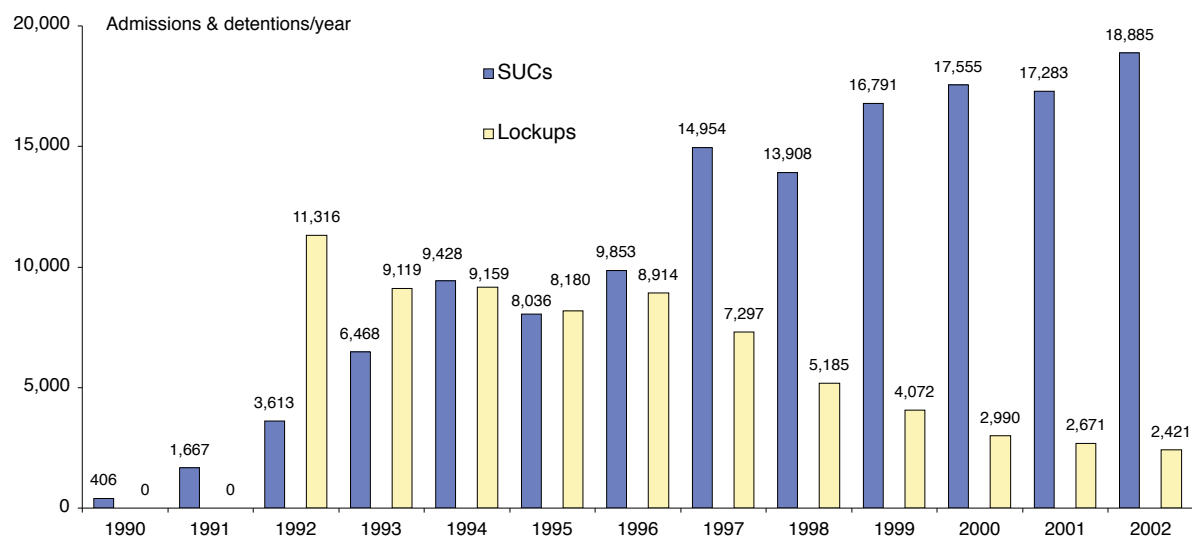
Table 3:
Quarterly admissions to all sobering up centres, 1990-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1990				1997			
Qtr 1	-	-	-	Qtr 1	2,673	1,251	3,924
Qtr 2	43	5	48	Qtr 2	2,283	1,014	3,297
Qtr 3	89	9	98	Qtr 3	2,719	1,150	3,869
Qtr 4	217	43	260	Qtr 4	2,481	1,383	3,864
Total	349	57	406	Total	10,156	4,798	14,954
1991				1998			
Qtr 1	280	37	317	Qtr 1	2,266	1,067	3,333
Qtr 2	290	64	354	Qtr 2	2,615	1,204	3,819
Qtr 3	393	74	467	Qtr 3	2,252	942	3,194
Qtr 4	445	84	529	Qtr 4	2,424	1,138	3,562
Total	1,408	259	1,667	Total	9,557	4,351	13,908
1992				1999			
Qtr 1	617	190	807	Qtr 1	3,026	1,414	4,440
Qtr 2	543	169	712	Qtr 2	2,896	1,525	4,421
Qtr 3	604	226	830	Qtr 3	2,473	1,287	3,760
Qtr 4	924	340	1,264	Qtr 4	2,688	1,482	4,170
Total	2,688	925	3,613	Total	11,083	5,708	16,791
1993				2000			
Qtr 1	1,131	459	1,590	Qtr 1	3,308	1,918	5,226
Qtr 2	1,218	400	1,618	Qtr 2	2,855	1,469	4,324
Qtr 3	1,250	347	1,597	Qtr 3	2,601	1,254	3,855
Qtr 4	1,234	429	1,663	Qtr 4	2,629	1,434	4,063
Total	4,833	1,635	6,468	Total	11,393	6,075	17,468
1994				2001			
Qtr 1	1,398	550	1,948	Qtr 1	3,171	1,760	4,931
Qtr 2	1,333	535	1,868	Qtr 2	2,582	1,288	3,870
Qtr 3	2,254	880	3,134	Qtr 3	2,745	1,362	4,107
Qtr 4	1,790	688	2,478	Qtr 4	2,825	1,550	4,375
Total	6,775	2,653	9,428	Total	11,323	5,960	17,283
1995				2002			
Qtr 1	1,941	770	2,711	Qtr 1	3,484	1,901	5,385
Qtr 2	1,188	489	1,677	Qtr 2	2,844	1,675	4,519
Qtr 3	1,377	409	1,786	Qtr 3	2,498	1,530	4,028
Qtr 4	1,332	530	1,862	Qtr 4	3,090	1,863	4,953
Total	5,838	2,198	8,036	Total	11,916	6,969	18,885
1996							
Qtr 1	1,589	724	2,313				
Qtr 2	1,611	803	2,414				
Qtr 3	1,694	833	2,527				
Qtr 4	1,852	747	2,599				
Total	6,746	3,107	9,853				

Table 4:
Annual admissions to all sobering up centres, 1990-2002

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Metro													
Perth	406	1,238	1,500	1,550	1,812	1,669	1,725	2,800	2,901	2,776	2,548	2,455	2,913
Midland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	168
Sub total	406	1,238	1,500	1,550	1,812	1,669	1,725	2,800	2,901	2,776	2,548	2,455	3,081
Central													
Wiluna	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,475	2,507	1,202	695	905	1,072	1,400
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,475	2,507	1,202	695	905	1,072	1,400
Goldfields													
Kalgoorlie	-	-	-	-	1,048	1,425	1,140	1,156	1,649	1,567	1,406	1,960	1,085
Sub total	-	-	-	-	1,048	1,425	1,140	1,156	1,649	1,567	1,406	1,960	1,085
Kimberley													
Halls Creek	-	-	774	2,155	2,297	1,985	1,881	2,450	1,932	1,619	1,536	1,803	1,462
Fitzroy Crossing	-	-	-	-	1,384	664	444	848	738	975	581	752	810
Kununurra	-	-	-	-	-	-	520	2,440	1,426	1,569	1,669	1,122	1,367
Broome	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,484	3,094	2,965	4,514
Derby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,007	1,921	1,785	2,048	2,229
Wyndham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	138
Sub total	-	-	774	2,155	3,681	2,649	2,845	5,738	5,103	8,568	8,665	8,690	10,520
Pilbara													
Hedland	-	429	1,339	2,289	2,086	1,415	1,265	1,203	1,574	1,468	1,902	1,448	1,200
Roebourne	-	-	-	474	801	878	1,403	1,550	1,479	1,717	2,042	1,658	1,599
Sub total	-	429	1,339	2,763	2,887	2,293	2,668	2,753	3,053	3,185	3,944	3,106	2,799
Total State	406	1,667	3,613	6,468	9,428	8,036	9,853	14,954	13,908	16,791	17,468	17,283	18,885

Figure 1:
Number of admissions to sobering up centres and detentions for drunkenness in police lockups, WA, 1990-2002



Metropolitan Health Region

There are two SUCs in the Perth metropolitan area, the Perth SUC which was established in June 1994 and the Midland SUC which was established in June 2002.

Over the period from 1990 to 2002 there was a total of 26,464 admissions to SUCs and from 1992 to 2002 a total of 1,947 detentions in police lockups in the catchment areas served by these two SUCs (Table 5).

Perth SUC

Over the period from 1990 to 2002 there was a total of 26,296 admissions, of which 21,129 (80.4%) were males and 5,167 (19.6%) were females.

From 1990 to 1996 there were about 1,500 to 1,800 admissions per year to the Perth SUC, whereas from 1997 to 2002 there were about 2,500 to 3,000 admissions per year (Figure 2).

There were relatively few detentions for drunkenness at the East Perth lockup between 1992 (66 detentions) and 1995 (71 detentions). The number of detentions for drunkenness increased gradually up to 2000 when there was a total of 363 detentions and since decreased to 151 detentions in 2002 (Table 5).

A breakdown of age related data from 1998 to 2002 is presented in Figure 3 (page 8). This shows the greatest number of male admissions involved the 40 to 44 year age group whereas for females most admissions involved the 35 to 39 age group.

Male admissions steadily increased from the 15 to 19 age group to the 44 age group and then sharply declined with very few admissions involving males 60 years and older.

A detailed breakdown of quarterly admissions to the Perth SUC is presented in Table 6 (page 7).

Midland SUC

A separate breakdown for the Midland SUC is not presented as it was opened in mid 2002 and had a total of 168 admissions for the year. It is likely that with time the Midland SUC will also produce significant improvement in the management of intoxicated persons in the east metropolitan region.

Table 5:
Annual admissions to SUCs and detentions for drunkenness in the Metropolitan Health Region, 1990-2002

	Police detentions	Admissions to SUCs
1990	-	406
1991	-	1,238
1992	66	1,500
1993	34	1,550
1994	37	1,812
1995	71	1,669
1996	117	1,725
1997	218	2,800
1998	251	2,901
1999	323	2,776
2000	363	2,551
2001	316	2,455
2002	151	3,081
Total	1,947	26,464

Figure 2:
Number of admissions to sobering up centres and detentions for drunkenness in police lockups, Metropolitan Health Region, 1990-2002

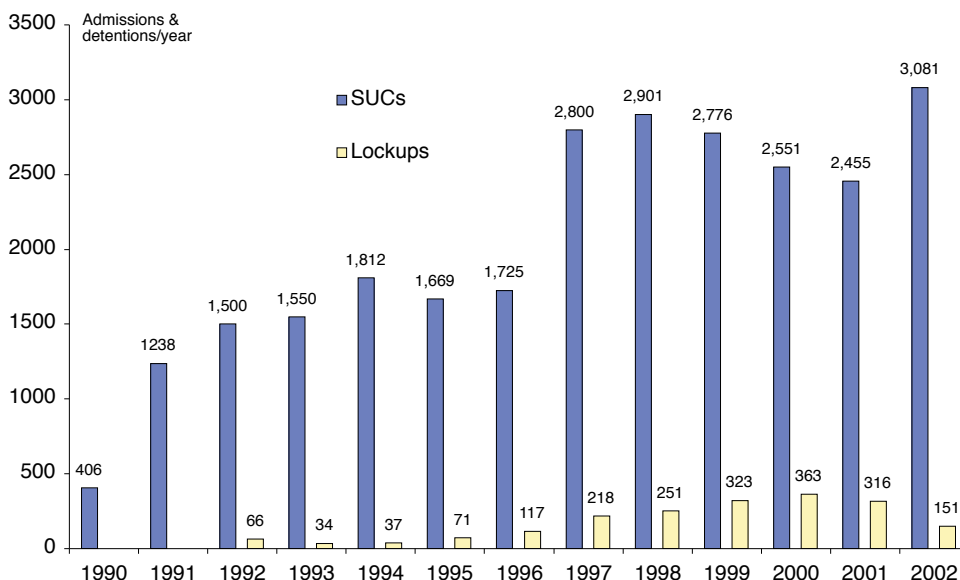
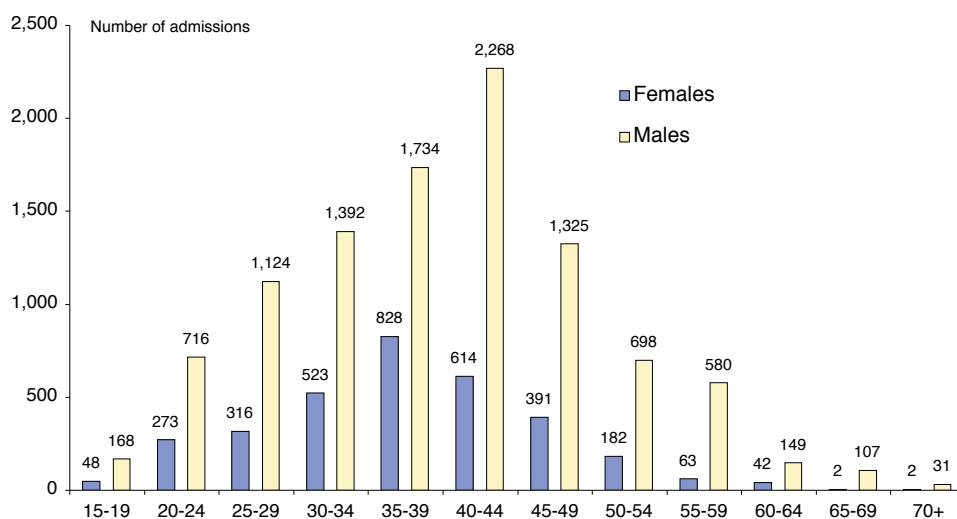


Table 6:
Quarterly admissions to Perth sobering up centre, 1990-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1990				1997			
Qtr 1	-	-	-	Qtr 1	464	93	557
Qtr 2	43	5	48	Qtr 2	597	183	780
Qtr 3	89	9	98	Qtr 3	592	141	733
Qtr 4	217	43	260	Qtr 4	607	123	730
Total	349	57	406	Total	2,260	540	2,800
1991				1998			
Qtr 1	280	37	317	Qtr 1	608	155	763
Qtr 2	244	39	283	Qtr 2	634	222	856
Qtr 3	268	27	295	Qtr 3	507	137	644
Qtr 4	306	37	343	Qtr 4	520	118	638
Total	1,098	140	1,238	Total	2,269	632	2,901
1992				1999			
Qtr 1	357	59	416	Qtr 1	647	175	822
Qtr 2	340	56	396	Qtr 2	540	143	683
Qtr 3	265	57	322	Qtr 3	453	138	591
Qtr 4	316	50	366	Qtr 4	519	161	680
Total	1,278	222	1,500	Total	2,159	617	2,776
1993				2000			
Qtr 1	301	56	357	Qtr 1	587	131	718
Qtr 2	323	45	368	Qtr 2	503	135	638
Qtr 3	365	52	417	Qtr 3	431	141	572
Qtr 4	355	53	408	Qtr 4	476	144	620
Total	1,344	206	1,550	Total	1,997	551	2,548
1994				2001			
Qtr 1	323	62	385	Qtr 1	516	186	702
Qtr 2	365	55	420	Qtr 2	433	164	597
Qtr 3	519	80	599	Qtr 3	421	120	541
Qtr 4	358	50	408	Qtr 4	468	147	615
Total	1,565	247	1,812	Total	1,838	617	2,455
1995				2002			
Qtr 1	470	60	530	Qtr 1	510	205	715
Qtr 2	307	52	359	Qtr 2	519	266	785
Qtr 3	386	47	433	Qtr 3	470	192	662
Qtr 4	310	37	347	Qtr 4	540	211	751
Total	1,473	196	1,669	Total	2,039	874	2,913
1996							
Qtr 1	306	48	354				
Qtr 2	342	91	433				
Qtr 3	391	70	461				
Qtr 4	418	59	477				
Total	1,457	268	1,725				

Figure 3:
Admissions to Perth sobering up centre by age group, 1998-2002



Goldfields & South East Coastal Health Region

In the Goldfields and South East Coastal Health Region there is one SUC, the Kalgoorlie SUC which was established in June 1994.

Over the period 1994 to 2002 there was a total of 12,439 admissions to the Kalgoorlie SUC and a total of 9,514 detentions in police lockups in the Kalgoorlie SUC catchment area (Table 8, page 10).

Over the period from 1994 to 2002 there was a total of 12,439 admissions, of which 7,073 (56.9%) were males and 5,366 (43.1%) were females.

There was an initial positive impact on the number of detentions for drunkenness in the Kalgoorlie SUC catchment area, in 1994 and 1995, as the number of detentions

dropped from 780 to 548, increased more than three fold from 548 in 1995 to 1,790 detentions in 1998 and then dropped by three quarters to 442 in 2002 (Figure 3, page 10).

The annual number of admissions to the Kalgoorlie SUC increased by 57% from 1,048 in 1994 to 1,649 in 1997 and then declined by 34% to 1,085 admissions in 2002 (Figure 3, page 10).

A breakdown of age related data from 1998 to 2002 is presented in Figure 4 (page 10). Male admissions mostly involved the 25 to 44 age group with the greatest number of admissions occurring in the 40 to 44 age group. Compared to males, female admissions steadily increased with age and peaked in the 45 to 49 age group.

Table 7:
Quarterly admissions to Kalgoorlie sobering up centre, 1994-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1994				1999			
Qtr 1	-	-	-	Qtr 1	261	152	413
Qtr 2	75	56	131	Qtr 2	246	187	433
Qtr 3	336	276	612	Qtr 3	226	139	365
Qtr 4	159	146	305	Qtr 4	214	142	356
Total	570	478	1,048	Total	947	620	1,567
1995				2000			
Qtr 1	173	154	327	Qtr 1	131	135	266
Qtr 2	129	133	262	Qtr 2	166	137	303
Qtr 3	274	149	423	Qtr 3	228	223	451
Qtr 4	242	171	413	Qtr 4	228	161	389
Total	818	607	1,425	Total	753	656	1,409
1996				2001			
Qtr 1	177	157	334	Qtr 1	360	291	651
Qtr 2	198	198	396	Qtr 2	333	203	536
Qtr 3	166	181	347	Qtr 3	294	131	425
Qtr 4	30	33	63	Qtr 4	227	121	348
Total	571	569	1,140	Total	1,214	746	1,960
1997				2002			
Qtr 1	162	197	359	Qtr 1	122	187	309
Qtr 2	43	46	89	Qtr 2	158	109	267
Qtr 3	263	198	461	Qtr 3	127	134	261
Qtr 4	152	95	247	Qtr 4	128	120	248
Total	620	536	1,156	Total	535	550	1,085
1998							
Qtr 1	265	132	397				
Qtr 2	305	176	481				
Qtr 3	294	131	425				
Qtr 4	181	165	346				
Total	1,045	604	1,649				

A detailed breakdown of quarterly admissions to the Kalgoorlie SUC is presented in Table 7. From mid 1995 to end of 2001 there were about 350 to 400 admissions per quarter, with a small decline in admissions in 2002.

Table 8:
Annual admissions to SUCs and detentions for drunkenness in
the Goldfields & South East Coastal Health Region, 1994-2002

	Police detentions	Admissions to SUCs
1994	780	1,048
1995	548	1,425
1996	1,394	1,140
1997	1,775	1,156
1998	1,790	1,649
1999	1,312	1,567
2000	844	1,409
2001	629	1,960
2002	442	1,085
Total	9,514	12,439

Figure 3:
Number of admissions to sobering up centres and detentions for drunkenness in police lockups,
Goldfields & South East Coastal Health Region, 1994-2002

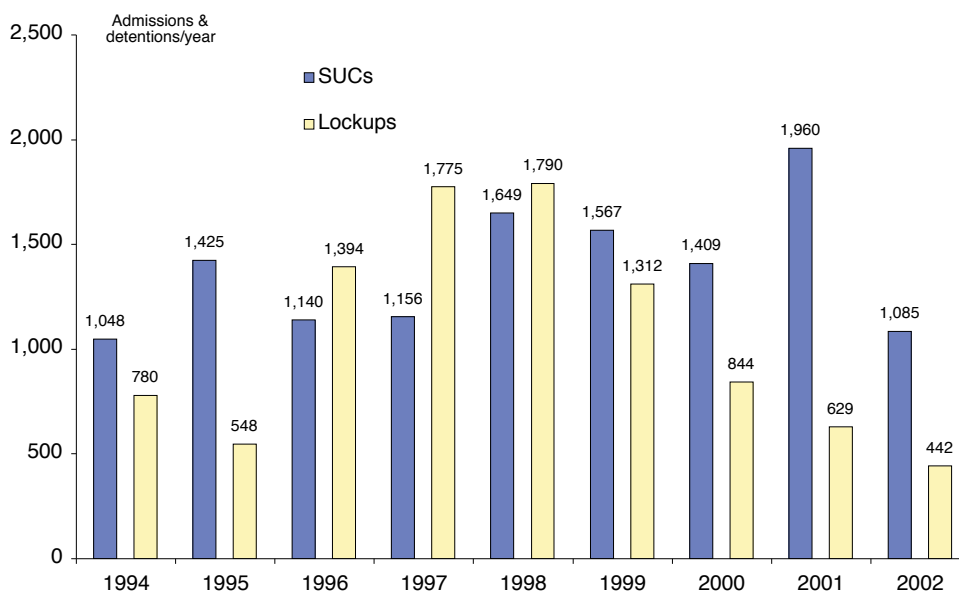
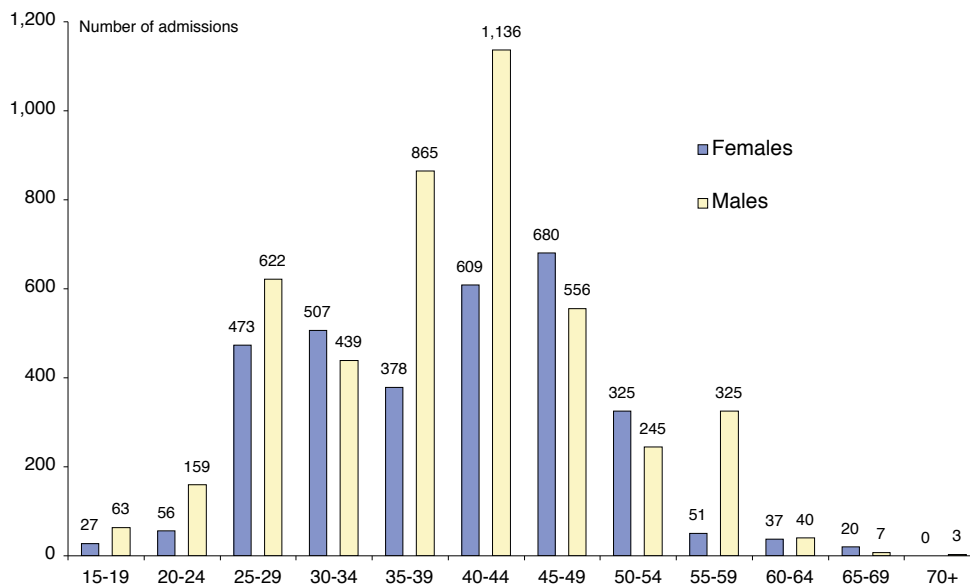


Figure 4:
Admissions to Kalgoorlie sobering up centre by age group, 1998-2002



Midwest & Murchison Health Region

In the Midwest and Murchison Health Region there is one SUC, the Wiluna SUC which was established in April 1996.

Over the period 1996 to 2002 there was a total of 9,256 admissions to the Wiluna SUC and a total of 4,255 detentions in police lockup in the Wiluna SUC catchment area (Figure 5, page 12).

Over the period from 1996 to 2002 there was a total of 9,256 admissions, of which 5,596 (60.5%) were males and 3,660 (39.5%) were females.

The number of detentions by police remained relatively constant over the period, with between about 550 and 750 detentions per year. The number of annual admissions to the Wiluna SUC per year dropped by 44%, from 2,507 in 1997 to 1,400 in 2002 (Table 10, page 12).

However, the drop in admissions may not accurately reflect the improved management of intoxicated persons

in the town as other measures have been introduced such as restrictions on the opening hours and type of alcohol sold by the only liquor outlet in the town.

A breakdown of age related data from 1998 to 2002 is presented in Figure 6 (page 12). This shows that a predominantly young population have utilised the Wiluna SUC, with the majority of admissions involving 20 to 24 year old males. The most frequent female admissions involved the 30 to 34 year age group.

A detailed breakdown of quarterly admissions to the Wiluna SUC is presented in Table 9. From the September quarter 1996 to the December quarter 1997 admissions fluctuated between about 500 to 650 per quarter. Quarterly admissions declined from 661 in the March quarter 1997 to 158 in the June quarter 1999.

From mid 1999 to mid 2001 there were about 200 admissions per quarter. For the first three quarters of 2002 there were more than 350 admissions per quarter, with a small drop to 225 in the December quarter 2002.

Table 9:
Quarterly admissions to Wiluna sobering up centre, 1996-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1996				2000			
Qtr 1	1	-	1	Qtr 1	133	76	209
Qtr 2	182	169	351	Qtr 2	132	61	193
Qtr 3	353	266	619	Qtr 3	183	50	233
Qtr 4	297	207	504	Qtr 4	202	68	270
Total	833	642	1,475	Total	650	255	905
1997				2001			
Qtr 1	451	210	661	Qtr 1	196	65	261
Qtr 2	322	231	553	Qtr 2	128	74	202
Qtr 3	397	220	617	Qtr 3	257	182	439
Qtr 4	344	332	676	Qtr 4	111	59	170
Total	1,514	993	2,507	Total	692	380	1,072
1998				2002			
Qtr 1	171	99	270	Qtr 1	206	161	367
Qtr 2	277	185	462	Qtr 2	198	173	371
Qtr 3	145	118	263	Qtr 3	236	201	437
Qtr 4	128	79	207	Qtr 4	120	105	225
Total	721	481	1,202	Total	760	640	1,400
1999							
Qtr 1	60	72	132				
Qtr 2	96	62	158				
Qtr 3	124	79	203				
Qtr 4	146	56	202				
Total	426	269	695				

Table 10:
Annual admissions to SUCs and detentions for drunkenness in the Midwest & Murchison Health Region, 1996-2002

	Police detentions	Admissions to SUCs
1996	562	1,475
1997	759	2,507
1998	668	1,202
1999	555	695
2000	532	905
2001	545	1,072
2002	634	1,400
Total	4,255	9,256

Figure 5:
Number of admissions to sobering up centres and detentions for drunkenness in police lockups, Midwest & Murchison Health Region, 1996-2002

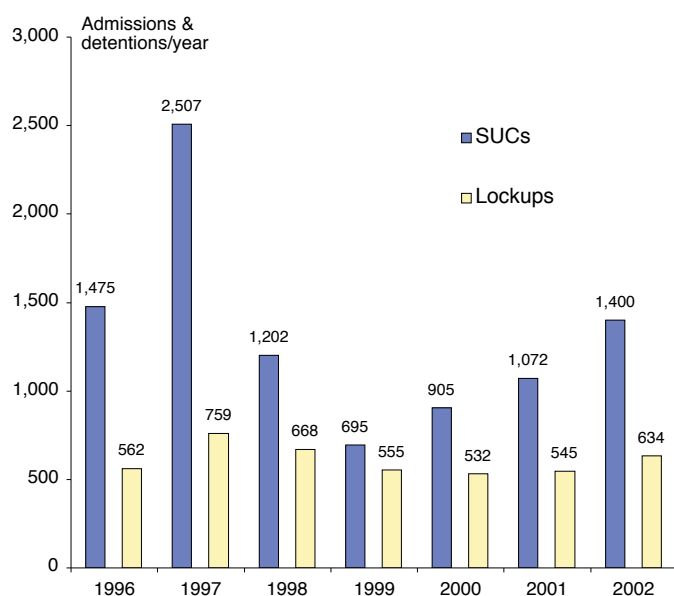
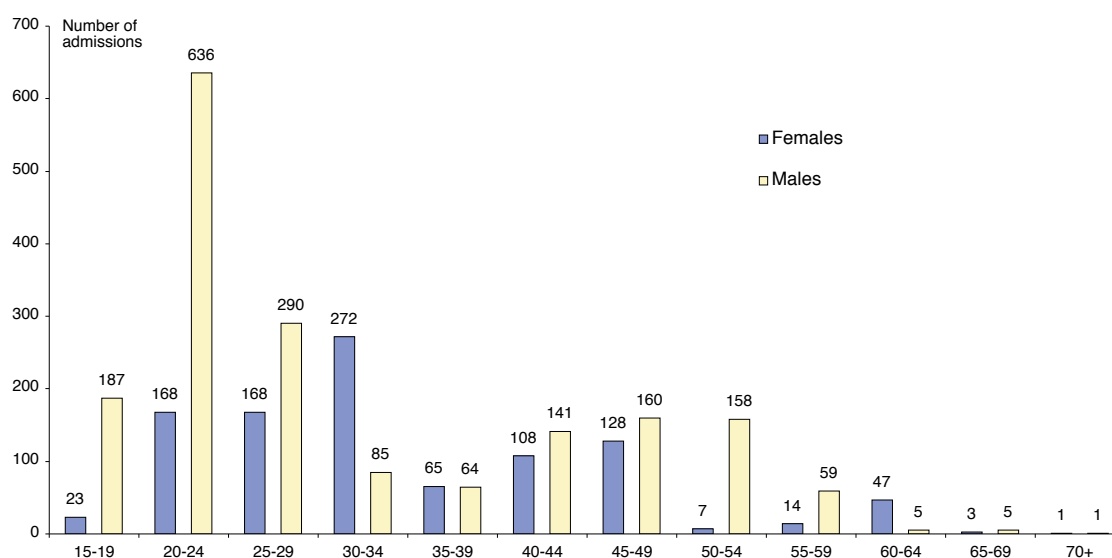


Figure 6:
Admissions to Wiluna sobering up centre by age group, 1998-2002



Pilbara & Gascoyne Health Region

There are two SUCs in the Pilbara and Gascoyne Health Region, the Hedland SUC (established in April 1991) and the Roebourne SUC (established in February 1993).

From 1991 to 2002 there was a total of 31,225 admissions to SUCs and 12,033 detentions in police lockups in this region (Table 11).

The annual number of detentions dropped by 38%, from 2,198 detentions in 1992 (the first full year) to 1,362 in 1993, then increased to 1,921 in 1996. Since 1996 deten-

tions in this region have steadily decreased to 430 in 2002 (Table 11; Figure 7).

Overall, the number of admissions to SUCs increased by 195%, from 1,339 in 1992 (the first full year) to 3,950 in 2000 and then fell by 29% to 2,799 in 2002.

Hedland SUC

Over the period from 1991 to 2002 there was a total of 17,620 admissions, of which 11,127 (63.1%) were males and 6,493 (36.9%) were females.

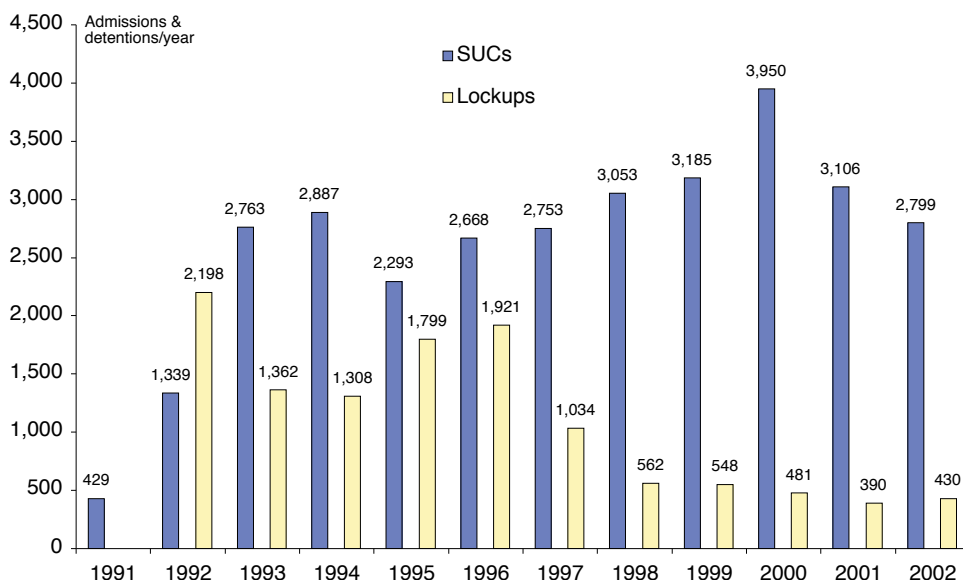
A breakdown of quarterly admissions to the Hedland SUC is presented in Table 12 (page 14). This shows a pattern of the most frequent admissions occurring in the first quarter for most of the years from 1991 to 2002, which may be due to seasonality factors as admissions tended to fluctuate between about 250 to 450 in most other quarters.

A breakdown of age related data from 1998 to 2002 is presented in Figure 8 (page 16). This shows a distinct pattern of age related differences in the frequency of male and female admissions. Female admissions peak in the 25 to 29 age group whereas male admissions peak in the 40 to 44 age group. There is also an unusual spike in the number of male admissions in the 60 to 64 age group.

Table 11:
Annual admissions to SUCs and detentions for drunkenness in the Pilbara & Gascoyne Health Region, 1991-2002

	Police detentions	Admissions to SUCs
1991	-	429
1992	2,198	1,339
1993	1,362	2,763
1994	1,308	2,887
1995	1,799	2,293
1996	1,921	2,668
1997	1,034	2,753
1998	562	3,053
1999	548	3,185
2000	481	3,950
2001	390	3,106
2002	430	2,799
Total	12,033	31,225

Figure 7:
Number of admissions to sobering up centres and detentions for drunkenness in police lockups, Pilbara & Gascoyne Health Region, 1991-2002



Roebourne SUC

Over the period from 1993 to 2002 there was a total of 13,605 admissions, of which 8,500 (62.5%) were males and 5,105 (37.5%) were females.

In the Roebourne SUC the number of quarterly admissions fluctuated between about 100 and 250 per quarter from 1993 to 1995 and from the beginning of 1996 to 2002 quarterly admissions have increased steadily (Table 13, page 15).

A breakdown of age related data from 1998 to 2002 is presented in Figure 9 (page 16). This shows that males tended to be from younger age groups compared to females, with the majority of male admissions clustered in the 35 to 59 age group whereas female admissions were clustered in the 45 to 69 age group.

Table 12:
Quarterly admissions to Hedland sobering up centre, 1991-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1991				1997			
Qtr 1	-	-	-	Qtr 1	226	156	382
Qtr 2	46	25	71	Qtr 2	191	159	350
Qtr 3	125	47	172	Qtr 3	99	70	169
Qtr 4	139	47	186	Qtr 4	184	118	302
Total	310	119	429	Total	700	503	1,203
1992				1998			
Qtr 1	260	131	391	Qtr 1	299	209	508
Qtr 2	203	113	316	Qtr 2	382	151	533
Qtr 3	208	122	330	Qtr 3	191	69	260
Qtr 4	201	101	302	Qtr 4	186	87	273
Total	872	467	1,339	Total	1,058	516	1,574
1993				1999			
Qtr 1	451	216	667	Qtr 1	283	138	421
Qtr 2	351	163	514	Qtr 2	283	161	444
Qtr 3	325	124	449	Qtr 3	182	106	288
Qtr 4	455	204	659	Qtr 4	240	75	315
Total	1,582	707	2,289	Total	988	480	1,468
1994				2000			
Qtr 1	449	295	744	Qtr 1	364	295	659
Qtr 2	260	172	432	Qtr 2	250	192	442
Qtr 3	313	163	476	Qtr 3	233	144	377
Qtr 4	259	175	434	Qtr 4	256	170	426
Total	1,281	805	2,086	Total	1,103	801	1,904
1995				2001			
Qtr 1	465	267	732	Qtr 1	242	184	426
Qtr 2	168	121	289	Qtr 2	131	126	257
Qtr 3	88	47	135	Qtr 3	189	119	308
Qtr 4	137	122	259	Qtr 4	280	177	457
Total	858	557	1,415	Total	842	606	1,448
1996				2002			
Qtr 1	366	241	607	Qtr 1	302	133	435
Qtr 2	177	91	268	Qtr 2	191	138	329
Qtr 3	131	89	220	Qtr 3	165	106	271
Qtr 4	101	69	170	Qtr 4	100	65	165
Total	775	490	1,265	Total	758	442	1,200

Table 13:
Quarterly admissions to Roebourne sobering up centre, 1993-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1993				1998			
Qtr 1	103	39	142	Qtr 1	195	141	336
Qtr 2	93	40	133	Qtr 2	232	160	392
Qtr 3	57	23	80	Qtr 3	264	125	389
Qtr 4	86	33	119	Qtr 4	208	154	362
Total	339	135	474	Total	899	580	1,479
1994				1999			
Qtr 1	160	58	218	Qtr 1	267	152	419
Qtr 2	95	41	136	Qtr 2	284	204	488
Qtr 3	142	61	203	Qtr 3	173	128	301
Qtr 4	177	67	244	Qtr 4	279	230	509
Total	574	227	801	Total	1,003	714	1,717
1995				2000			
Qtr 1	169	38	207	Qtr 1	331	261	592
Qtr 2	132	43	175	Qtr 2	358	232	590
Qtr 3	195	61	256	Qtr 3	266	154	420
Qtr 4	179	61	240	Qtr 4	251	193	444
Total	675	203	878	Total	1,206	840	2,046
1996				2001			
Qtr 1	257	119	376	Qtr 1	341	250	591
Qtr 2	214	91	305	Qtr 2	271	125	396
Qtr 3	244	93	337	Qtr 3	192	103	295
Qtr 4	245	140	385	Qtr 4	173	203	376
Total	960	443	1,403	Total	977	681	1658
1997				2002			
Qtr 1	289	119	408	Qtr 1	201	167	368
Qtr 2	220	100	320	Qtr 2	171	153	324
Qtr 3	276	147	423	Qtr 3	232	240	472
Qtr 4	233	166	399	Qtr 4	245	190	435
Total	1,018	532	1,550	Total	849	750	1599

Figure 8:
Admissions to Hedland sobering up centre by age group, 1998-2002

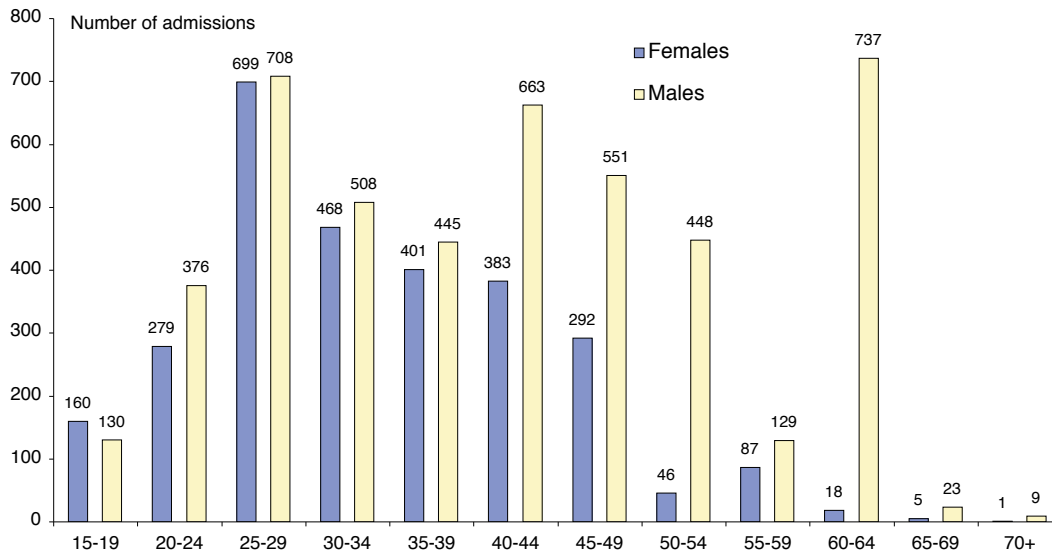
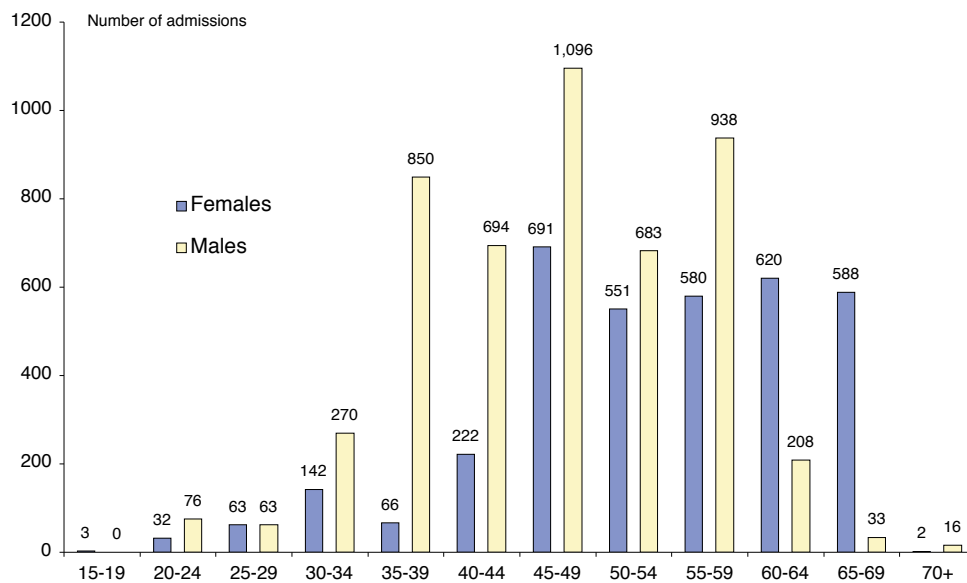


Figure 9:
Admissions to Roebourne sobering up centre by age group, 1998-2002



Kimberley Health Region

In the Kimberley Health Region there are six SUCs, the Halls Creek SUC (established in September 1992), the Fitzroy Crossing SUC (established in March 1994), the Kununurra SUC (established in September 1996), the Derby SUC (established in May 1998), the Broome SUC (established in February 1999) and the Wyndham SUC (established in December 2002).

Over the period 1992 to 2002 there was a total of 59,463 admissions to SUCs and 43,575 detentions in police lock-ups in the Kimberley Health Region (Table 14).

Table 14:
Annual admissions to SUCs and detentions for drunkenness in the Kimberley Health Region, 1992-2002

	Police detentions	Admissions to SUCs
1992	9,052	774
1993	7,723	2,155
1994	7,034	3,681
1995	5,762	2,649
1996	4,920	2,845
1997	3,511	5,738
1998	1,914	5,103
1999	1,334	8,568
2000	770	8,740
2001	791	8,690
2002	764	10,520
Total	43,575	59,463

There has been a marked positive impact on the number of detentions for drunkenness in this region with the number steadily dropping from 9,052 in 1992 to 764 in 2002 (Table 14; Figure 10).

In conjunction with the decline in detentions for drunkenness, the number of admissions to SUCs has steadily increased, from 774 in 1992 to 10,520 in 2002, an overall 14 fold increase in admissions to SUCs.

Halls Creek SUC

Over the period from 1992 to 2002 there was a total of 19,894 admissions, of which 13,981 (70.3%) were males and 5,913 (29.7%) were females.

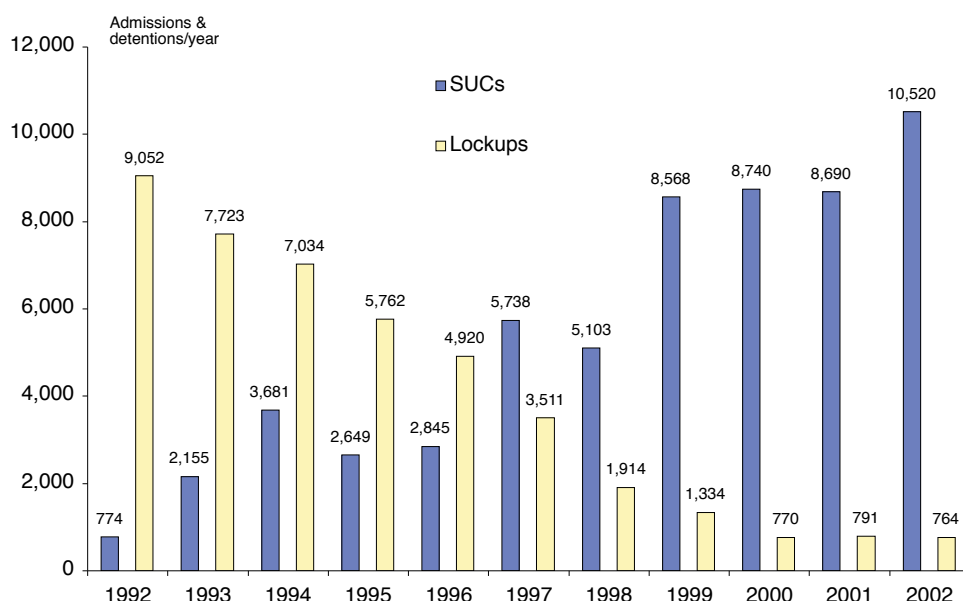
A breakdown of quarterly admissions to the Halls Creek SUC is presented in Table 15 (page 18). This shows that there were between about 350 to 450 admissions per quarter from 1992 to 2002, with seasonal peaks occurring in most years.

A breakdown of age related data from 1998 to 2002 is presented in Figure 11 (page 19). This shows that both male and female admissions peaked in the 25 to 34 year age group and whereas female admissions dropped off with age there were relatively greater numbers of males in older age groups than females.

Fitzroy Crossing SUC

Over the period from 1994 to 2002 there was a total of 7,260 admissions, of which 4,716 (65.0%) were males and 2,544 (35.0%) were females.

Figure 10:
Number of admissions to sobering up centres and detentions for drunkenness in police lockups, Kimberley Health Region, 1992-2002



A breakdown of quarterly admissions to the Fitzroy Crossing SUC is presented in Table 16 (page 20). In the last three quarters of 1994 and the first quarter of 1995 admissions ranged from 320 to just over 500 admissions per quarter whereas in following years admissions have fallen somewhat.

A breakdown of age related data from 1998 to 2002 is presented in Figure 12 (page 20). There was a similar age distribution for both male and female admissions with the most frequent admissions involving the 30 to 39 year age group for both sexes.

Kununurra SUC

Over the period from 1996 to 2002 there was a total of 10,113 admissions, of which 7,544 (74.6%) were males and 2,569 (25.4%) were females.

A breakdown of quarterly admissions to the Kununurra SUC is presented in Table 17 (page 21). This shows that from the December quarter 1996 to mid 1998 there were between about 450 and 550 admissions per quarter.

In the years following up to 2002 admissions have declined somewhat and generally fluctuated between about 250 to

Table 15:
Quarterly admissions to Halls Creek sobering up centre, 1992-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1992				1998			
Qtr 1	-	-	-	Qtr 1	287	143	430
Qtr 2	-	-	-	Qtr 2	281	133	414
Qtr 3	131	47	178	Qtr 3	291	143	434
Qtr 4	407	189	596	Qtr 4	451	203	654
Total	538	236	774	Total	1,310	622	1,932
1993				1999			
Qtr 1	276	148	424	Qtr 1	331	184	515
Qtr 2	451	152	603	Qtr 2	239	103	342
Qtr 3	503	148	651	Qtr 3	276	99	375
Qtr 4	338	139	477	Qtr 4	272	115	387
Total	1,568	587	2,155	Total	1,118	501	1,619
1994				2000			
Qtr 1	427	120	547	Qtr 1	321	183	504
Qtr 2	306	107	413	Qtr 2	283	107	390
Qtr 3	588	174	762	Qtr 3	196	92	288
Qtr 4	439	136	575	Qtr 4	227	127	354
Total	1,760	537	2,297	Total	1,027	509	1,536
1995				2001			
Qtr 1	447	148	595	Qtr 1	456	254	710
Qtr 2	385	93	478	Qtr 2	247	134	381
Qtr 3	434	105	539	Qtr 3	240	118	358
Qtr 4	290	83	373	Qtr 4	207	147	354
Total	1,556	429	1,985	Total	1,150	653	1,803
1996				2002			
Qtr 1	423	156	579	Qtr 1	279	175	454
Qtr 2	343	122	465	Qtr 2	197	86	283
Qtr 3	302	100	402	Qtr 3	204	63	267
Qtr 4	315	120	435	Qtr 4	248	210	458
Total	1,383	498	1,881	Total	928	534	1,462
1997							
Qtr 1	465	222	687				
Qtr 2	357	151	508				
Qtr 3	432	193	625				
Qtr 4	389	241	630				
Total	1,643	807	2,450				

350 per quarter. However, from 1992 to 2002 seasonal peaks occurred in most years usually in the first quarter.

A breakdown of age related data from 1998 to 2002 is presented in Figure 13 (page 21). This shows that female admissions peaked in the 40 to 44 year age group and then sharply dropped. There were a number of peaks in male admissions, in the 30 to 39 age group, 45 to 49 age group and the 55 to 59 age group. There were very few male admissions in the 60 year and older age group.

Derby SUC

Over the period from 1998 to 2002 there was a total of 9,001 admissions, of which 6,344 (70.5%) were males and 2,657 (29.5%) were females.

A breakdown of quarterly admissions to the Derby SUC is presented in Table 18 (page 22). This shows a pattern of consistent attendances at this SUC from 1998 to 2002 and with a pattern of seasonality occurring in the first quarter of most years.

A breakdown of age related data from 1998 to 2002 is presented in Figure 14 (page 22). This shows that female admissions were mostly clustered in the 25 to 44 age group and then declined with very few admissions in the older age groups, male admissions were clustered in the 25 to 49 age group and then fell with relatively few admissions in older age groups.

Broome SUC

Over the period from 1999 to 2002 there was a total of 13,057 admissions, of which 7,882 (60.4%) were males and 5,175 (39.6%) were females.

A breakdown of quarterly admissions to the Broome SUC is presented in Table 19 (page 23). Admissions to this SUC have steadily increased with a total of just over 1,300 admissions recorded in the December quarter 2002. There is also a pattern of seasonality in the first quarter in a number of years.

A breakdown of age related data from 1998 to 2002 is presented in Figure 15 (page 23). Overall in the Broome SUC males were slightly older than females with male admissions peaking in the 30 to 39 age group, whereas females peaked in the 30 to 34 age group.

It can be seen that there were greater numbers of female admissions in the 20 to 24 age group and similar numbers of males and females in both the 45 to 49 and 50 to 54 age group.

Wyndham SUC

A separate breakdown for the Wyndham SUC is not presented as it was opened in December 2002 and had a total of 138 admissions for the year.

Figure 11:
Admissions to Halls Creek sobering up centre by age group, 1998-2002

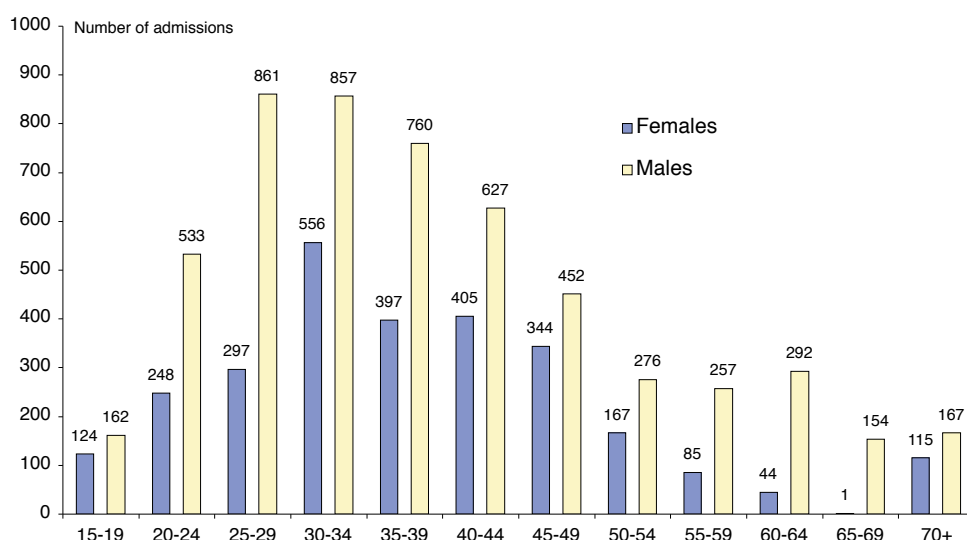


Table 16:
Quarterly admissions to Fitzroy Crossing sobering up centre, 1994-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1994				1999			
Qtr 1	39	15	54	Qtr 1	123	85	208
Qtr 2	232	104	336	Qtr 2	205	126	331
Qtr 3	356	126	482	Qtr 3	135	84	219
Qtr 4	398	114	512	Qtr 4	112	105	217
Total	1,025	359	1,384	Total	575	400	975
1995				2000			
Qtr 1	217	103	320	Qtr 1	81	91	172
Qtr 2	67	47	114	Qtr 2	97	106	203
Qtr 3	0	0	0	Qtr 3	87	59	146
Qtr 4	174	56	230	Qtr 4	78	46	124
Total	458	206	664	Total	343	302	645
1996				2001			
Qtr 1	59	3	62	Qtr 1	41	37	78
Qtr 2	155	41	196	Qtr 2	112	59	171
Qtr 3	79	21	100	Qtr 3	178	101	279
Qtr 4	72	14	86	Qtr 4	142	82	224
Total	365	79	444	Total	473	279	752
1997				2002			
Qtr 1	60	19	79	Qtr 1	135	111	246
Qtr 2	139	27	166	Qtr 2	129	117	246
Qtr 3	215	93	308	Qtr 3	116	82	198
Qtr 4	160	135	295	Qtr 4	62	58	120
Total	574	274	848	Total	442	368	810
1998							
Qtr 1	107	68	175				
Qtr 2	114	70	184				
Qtr 3	140	73	213				
Qtr 4	100	66	166				
Total	461	277	738				

Figure 12:
Admissions to Fitzroy Crossing sobering up centre by age group, 1998-2002

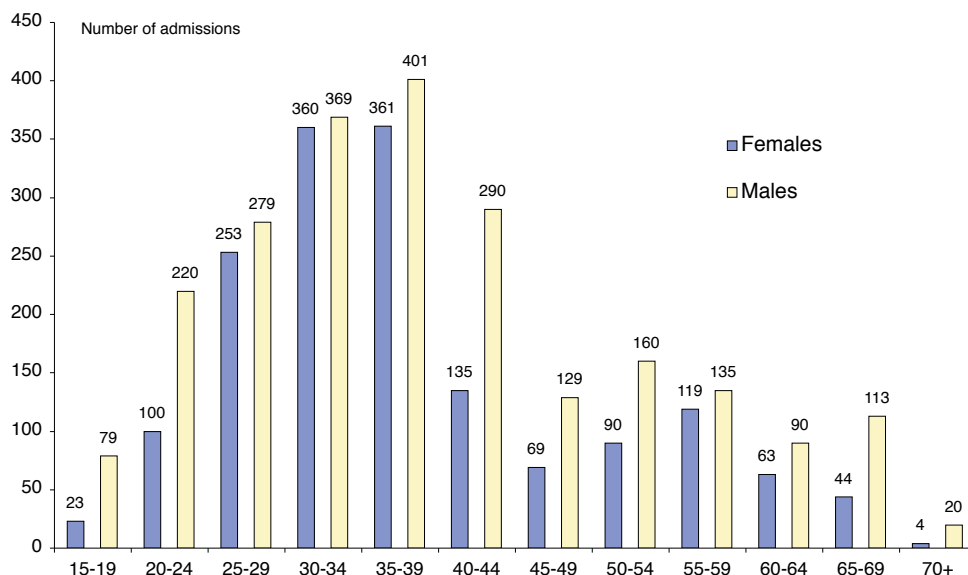


Table 17:
Quarterly admissions to Kununurra sobering up centre, 1996-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1996				2000			
Qtr 1	-	-	-	Qtr 1	333	104	437
Qtr 2	-	-	-	Qtr 2	273	99	372
Qtr 3	28	13	41	Qtr 3	301	98	399
Qtr 4	374	105	479	Qtr 4	331	130	461
Total	402	118	520	Total	1,238	431	1,669
1997				2001			
Qtr 1	556	235	791	Qtr 1	232	59	291
Qtr 2	414	117	531	Qtr 2	196	76	272
Qtr 3	445	88	533	Qtr 3	132	62	194
Qtr 4	412	173	585	Qtr 4	272	93	365
Total	1,827	613	2,440	Total	832	290	1,122
1998				2002			
Qtr 1	334	120	454	Qtr 1	338	121	459
Qtr 2	347	80	427	Qtr 2	242	80	322
Qtr 3	174	49	223	Qtr 3	161	55	216
Qtr 4	258	64	322	Qtr 4	267	103	370
Total	1,113	313	1,426	Total	1,008	359	1,367
1999							
Qtr 1	337	109	446				
Qtr 2	270	76	346				
Qtr 3	164	81	245				
Qtr 4	353	179	532				
Total	1,124	445	1,569				

Figure 13:
Admissions to Kununurra sobering up centre by age group, 1998-2002

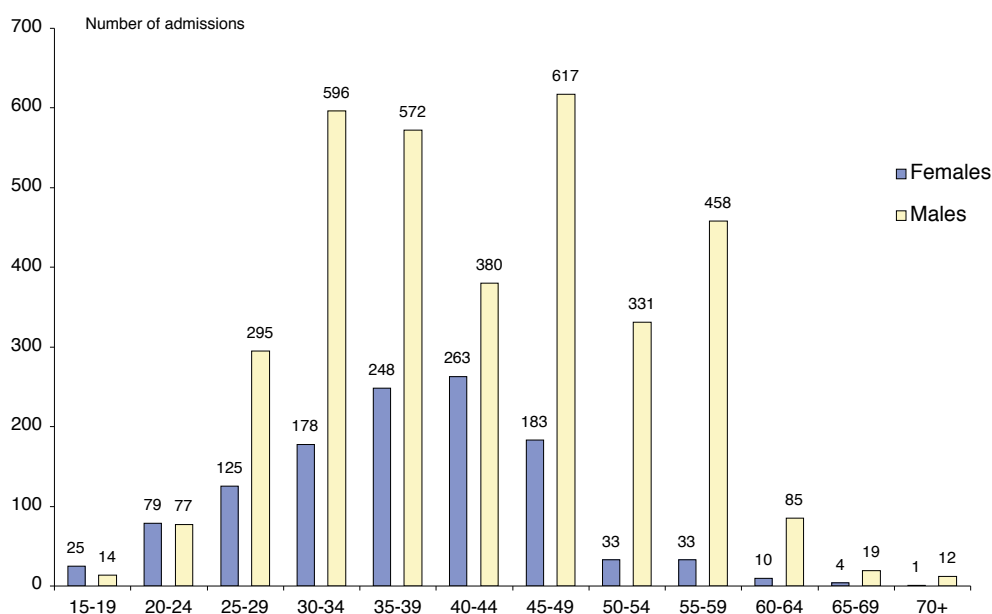


Table 18:
Quarterly admissions to Derby sobering up centre, 1998-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1998				2001			
Qtr 1	-	-	-	Qtr 1	353	91	444
Qtr 2	43	27	70	Qtr 2	375	147	522
Qtr 3	246	97	343	Qtr 3	395	189	584
Qtr 4	392	202	594	Qtr 4	313	185	498
Total	681	326	1,007	Total	1,436	612	2,048
1999				2002			
Qtr 1	440	166	606	Qtr 1	488	184	672
Qtr 2	308	106	414	Qtr 2	386	172	558
Qtr 3	346	144	490	Qtr 3	266	112	378
Qtr 4	303	108	411	Qtr 4	404	217	621
Total	1,397	524	1,921	Total	1,544	685	2,229
2000							
Qtr 1	424	212	636				
Qtr 2	384	129	513				
Qtr 3	262	70	332				
Qtr 4	216	99	315				
Total	1,286	510	1,796				

Figure 14:
Admissions to Derby sobering up centre by age group, 1998-2002

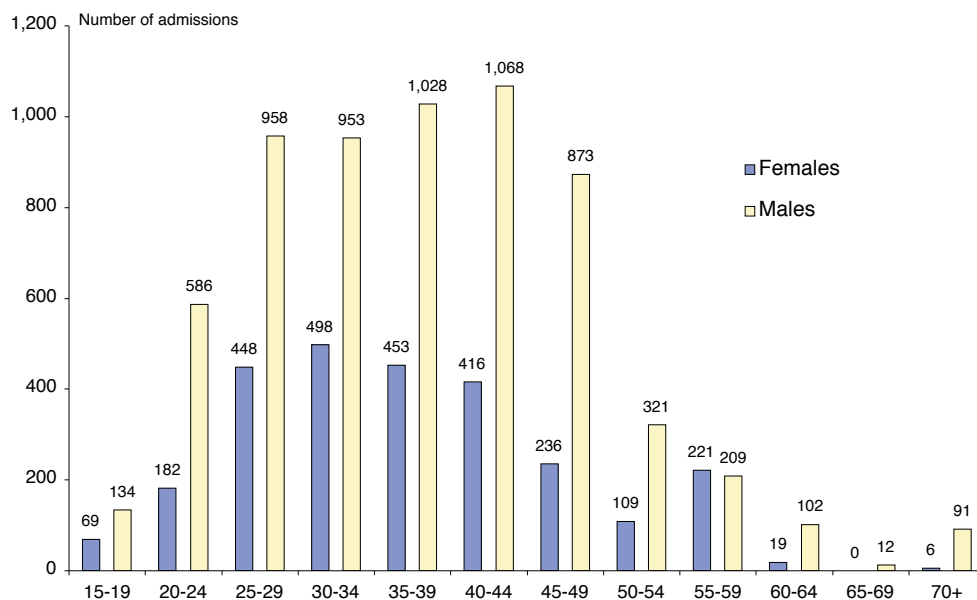


Table 19:
Quarterly admissions to Broome sobering up centre, 1999-2002

	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total
1999				2001			
Qtr 1	277	181	458	Qtr 1	434	343	777
Qtr 2	425	357	782	Qtr 2	356	180	536
Qtr 3	394	289	683	Qtr 3	447	237	684
Qtr 4	250	311	561	Qtr 4	632	336	968
Total	1,346	1,138	2,484	Total	1,869	1,096	2,965
2000				2002			
Qtr 1	606	430	1,036	Qtr 1	903	457	1,360
Qtr 2	410	271	681	Qtr 2	637	381	1,018
Qtr 3	414	225	639	Qtr 3	458	336	794
Qtr 4	417	321	738	Qtr 4	822	520	1,342
Total	1,847	1,247	3,094	Total	2,820	1,694	4,514

Figure 15:
Admissions to Broome sobering up centre by age group, 1999-2002

