

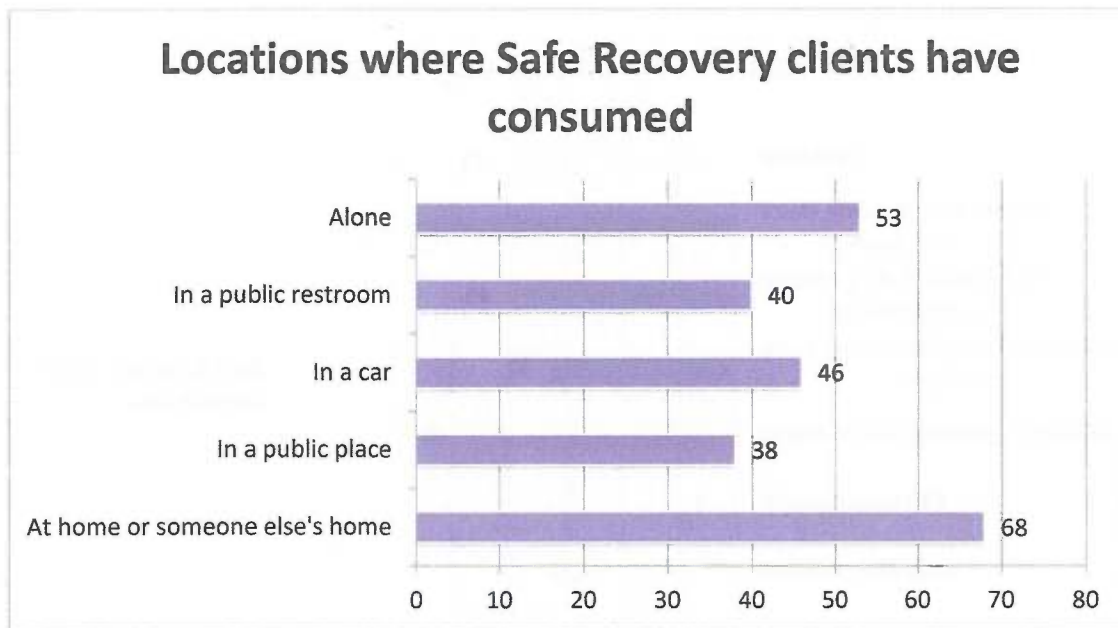
Survey Reponses

Determining client interest in Safer Injection Facility (SIF) at existing syringe exchanges.



The following survey was conducted by interviewing 74 syringe exchange clients exchanging at Safe Recovery in Burlington, VT. Clients were asked to fill out a survey regarding their drug consumption habits. These surveys aimed at determining interest in a Safer Injection Facility (SIF) being part of their local syringe exchange as well as determine high risk behaviors and costs of drug consumption. All surveys were anonymous, and survey collection occurred between July 5th and November 14th 2017.

Question 2 – In the past 12 months tell us which locations you have consumed at? (Pick all that apply)

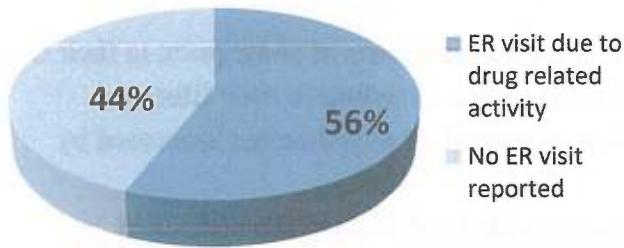


Safe Recovery Responses question 2

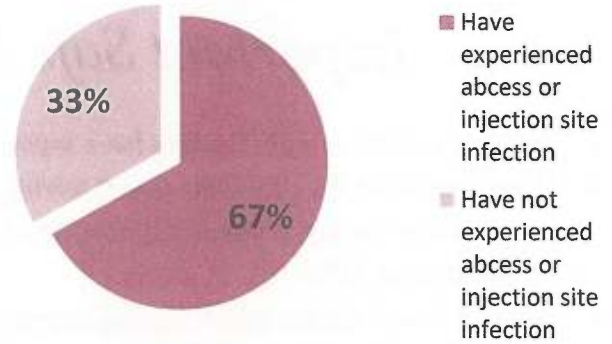
<i>Answer Choices</i>	<i>Responses</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
At home or someone else's home	68	95.77%
In a public place – example: park, alley, outdoors	38	53.52%
In a car	46	64.79%
A public restroom	40	56.34%
Alone	53	74.65%

In question two, clients were allowed to pick as many answers that applied to them. The majority of Safe Recovery clients surveyed (95.77%), stated that they have consumed at home or someone else's home in the last 12 months. Also 74.65% (47) of Safe Recovery clients reported using alone. Consuming alone is considered high risk behavior as no one is present to call 911 or assist in case of an overdose. It is important to note that frequency of consumption inside of homes does not indicate that drug consumption does not occur in public spaces. Respectively, 53.52% of Safe Recovery clients identified consuming in a public place, 56.34% report having consumed in a public restroom, and 64.79% report having consumed in a car at some point in the last 12 months. Risks associated with using in public include, but are not limited to, consuming in unsanitary spaces, not having access to naloxone in the case of an overdose, and not having easy access to communication in the event of an overdose. People who use in cars often drive to remote locations to avoid being discovered; many times those locations do not have reliable cell service in case of emergency especially given the rural nature of Vermont.

Percent of Safe Recovery clients who visited the ER due to drug related activity



Percentage of Safe Recovery clients who experienced abscess or injection site infection



Safe Recovery Responses question 3

Answer Choices	Responses	Percentage
Overdose	41	56.94%
Present for someone else's overdose	58	80.56%
ER visit due to drug related complications	40	55.56%
Drug related hospitalizations 1 day or more	33	45.83%
Abscess or injection site infection	48	66.67%
HIV transmission	2	2.78%
HCV transmission	25	34.72%

In question three, clients could choose as many answers as applied to them. An overwhelming majority of Safe recovery clients surveyed, 80.56% or 58 people, have reported being present for someone else's overdose. Additionally, 56.94% of clients reported experiencing an overdose. This is further evidence of the importance of Naloxone funding, education, and distribution. Safe Recovery clients also reported experiencing a wide array of health complications resulting from drug consumption. Many Safe recovery clients reported visits the emergency room due to drug related complications (55.56%) and/or reported being hospitalized for 1 day or more (45.83%) due to drug complications. Additionally, around 66.67% of clients experienced having an abscess or injection site infection. These numbers show that clients are at high risk for other complications besides overdose, and many often require extended medical treatment as a result of drug consumption. Many

- 96.1% of clients have reported that they had injected at some point during their lifetime.
 - 88.3% of clients report that injection is their primary route of administration.

