

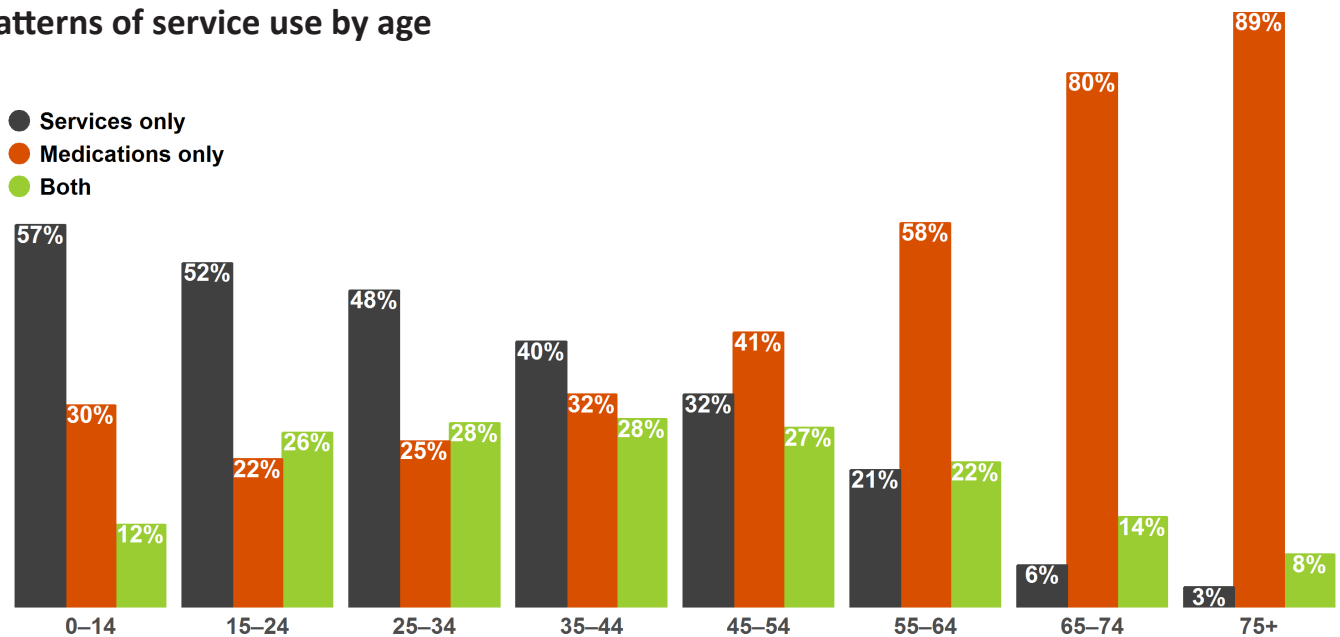
DATA SNAPSHOT

Access to mental health services for people living in NSW, 2011

Everyone deserves quality mental health care that puts them and their own needs at the centre of decision-making. While everyone's needs are different, some factors can result in unequal service delivery to people who access mental health care.

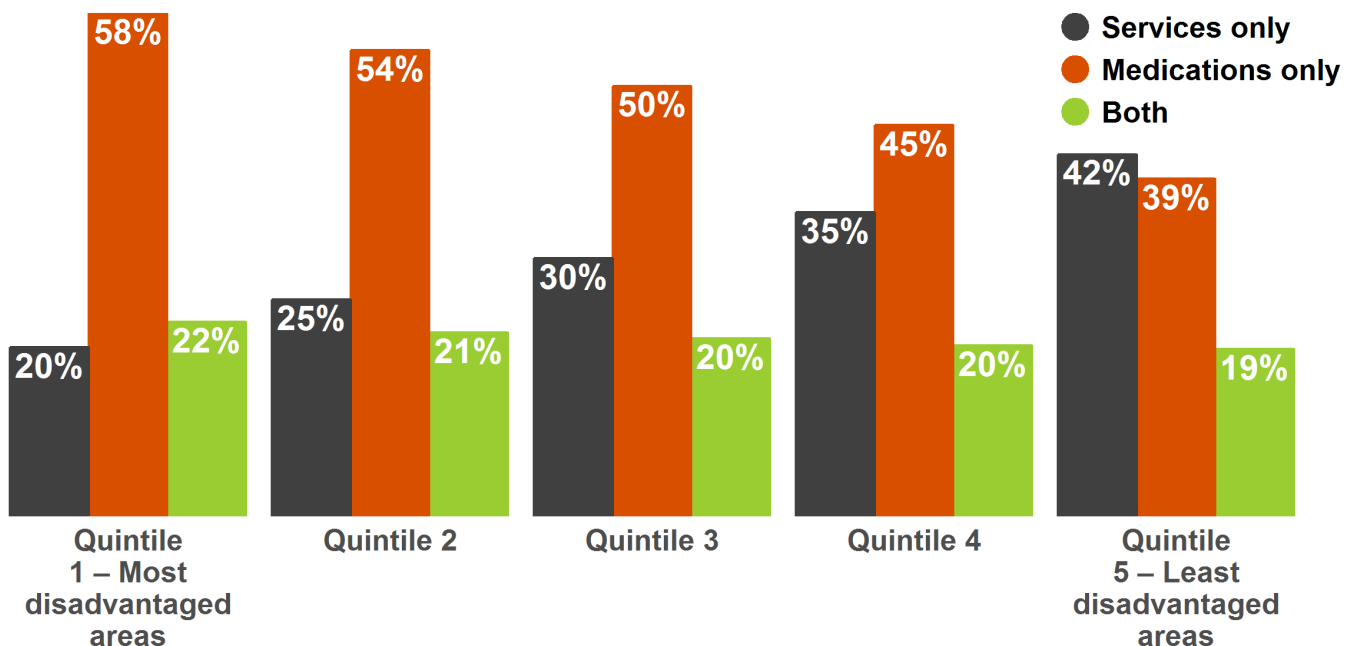
For example, among people who receive mental health care, most get a mix of services and medications throughout most of adulthood. But as they age, they are more likely to receive medications only, and less likely to receive services only, or in combination with medications.

Patterns of service use by age



Similarly people from disadvantaged areas are more likely to receive medications only, and less likely to receive services only, or in combination with medications. This may reflect an inequity in service availability.

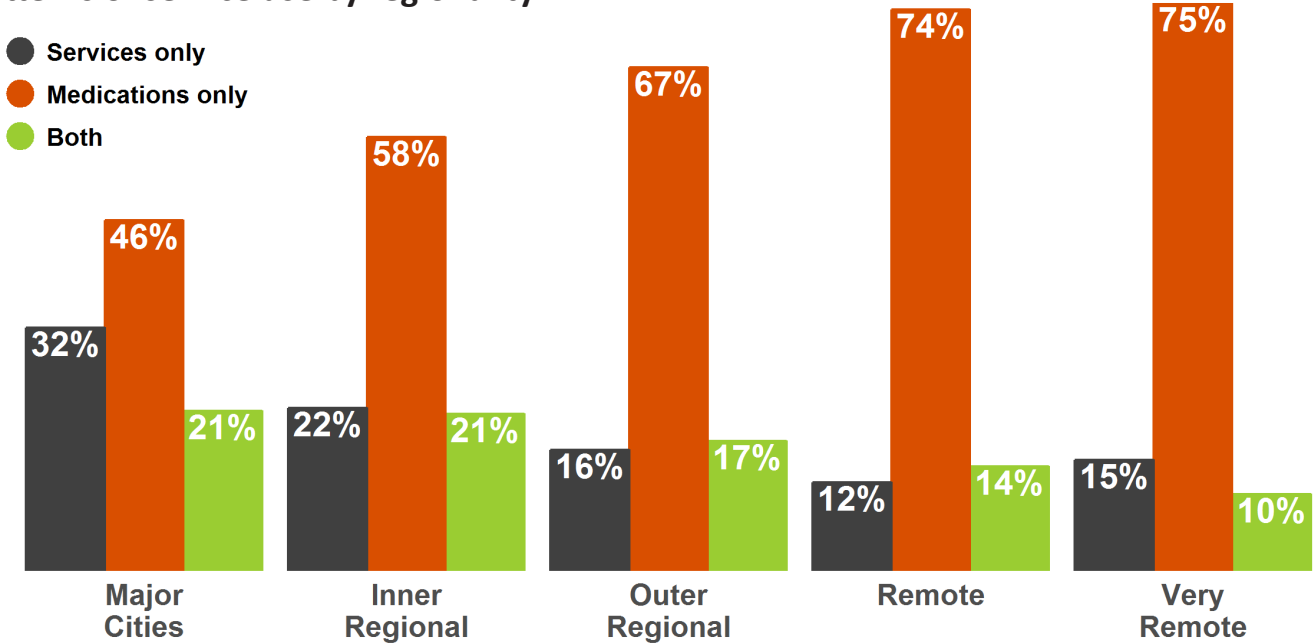
Patterns of service use by relative socio-economic disadvantage



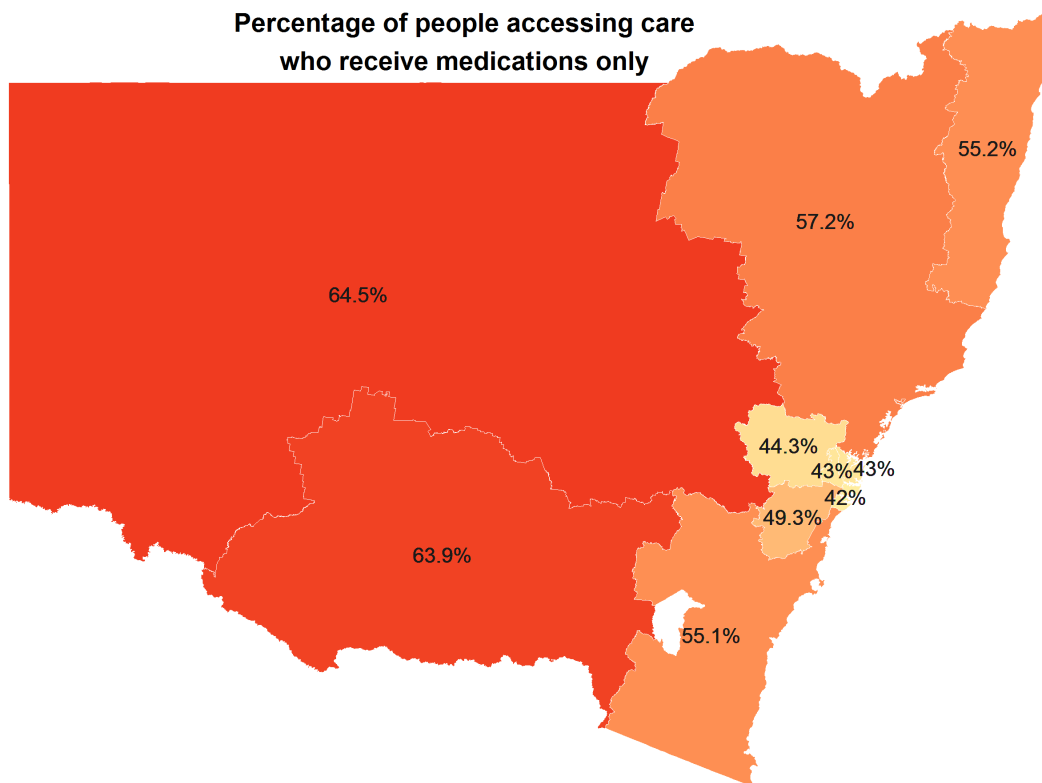
DATA SNAPSHOT

Those who live in regional and remote areas in NSW are more likely to receive medications only, and less likely to receive a mix of services and medications or services only. This pattern can also be seen when comparing Primary Health Networks.

Patterns of service use by regionality



Patterns of service use by Primary Health Network



Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics data. Data were produced using the 2011 Census of Population and Housing, Medicare Benefits Schedule Data, and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Data. The data excludes persons not counted in the Census, services accessed outside of the MBS, and prescriptions accessed outside of the PBS. For a full description of data and exclusions please see [ABS Explanatory Notes](#).

For more information visit the [Commission website](#).

December 2016