How to correctly calculate N-SSATS client counts and admissions using the SDA

The N-SSATS is a database of facilities, not clients or admissions. Thus, calculating client counts / admissions using one of the client counts / admissions variables might produce unexpected results. This note describes how to correctly calculate client counts and admissions.

The client counts and admissions variables are listed in the following sections:

- **Section B: Reporting Client Counts**
  - Hospital Inpatient Client Counts
  - Residential (Non-Hospital) Client Counts
  - Outpatient Client Counts
  - Totals and Percentages
    - (Excluding the variables that give percentages)

- **Section 7: Added variables**

To correctly calculate client counts or admissions, do the following:

1. Access N-SSATS within SDA.
2. Go to the “Analysis” menu (top left) and select “Comparison of means”.
3. For the “Dependent” variable, specify one of the client counts or admissions variables. For example, specify T_METH for the total number of methadone clients on the reference date.
4. Specify an appropriate “Row” variable, such as STFIPS for the state.
5. Specify the “Column”, “Control”, and “Selection Filter(s)” variables as needed. For example, under “Selection Filter(s)”, you might state “YEAR(2010), OTP(1)” to restrict analysis to the year 2010 and to facilities that operated a certified Opioid Treatment Program.
6. **Set the “Main statistic to display” to “Totals (numerator of means)”**. This is a key step.
7. Under “Table Options” uncheck all the checkboxes.
8. Make any other adjustments to the display options that are necessary. For example, if you don’t want a chart, change “Type of Chart” to “(No Chart)”.
9. Click “Run the Table”. The table in the example gives the total number methadone clients on the reference date, by state, in 2010, in facilities that operated a certified Opioid Treatment Program.