Methamphetamine Use Among San Diego County Arrestees

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Criminal Justice Research Division
Substance Abuse Monitoring (SAM)

- Funded by the National Institute of Justice since 1987
- Locally funded beginning in 2004
- Interviews with adults and juveniles booked into detention facilities
- Urinalysis identifies recent drug use
- Platform for other research
SAM Provides Valuable Information

- One of ten indicators for the Meth Strike Force Report Card
- Demonstrates severity of problem in San Diego County
- Measures change over time and can be tied to other changes in the community
- Data shared through CJ Bulletins and CJ Faxes
2005 Data

- 807 adult interviews
  - 776 urine samples (96%)
  - 274 meth addenda
- 178 juvenile interviews
  - 165 urine samples (93%)
  - 33 meth addenda
Today’s Presentation

- Drug use trends over time
- User profile
- Drug market involvement & dynamics
- Treatment access
- 2007 Status
Drug Use is Up Overall

![Graph showing drug use percentages from 2000 to 2005 for different groups: Men, Women, and Juveniles. The graph indicates an overall increase in drug use with notable increases for all groups. Men show a steady increase from 46% in 2000 to 68% in 2005. Women start at 64% and reach 75% by 2005. Juveniles begin at 46% and peak at 55% in 2005.](image-url)
Meth Use is Also Up

- **Meth Use**
  - Men:
    - 2000: 11%
    - 2001: 28%
    - 2002: 29%
    - 2003: 44%
    - 2004: 51%
    - 2005: 51%
  - Women:
    - 2000: 0%
    - 2001: 10%
    - 2002: 20%
    - 2003: 21%
    - 2004: 44%
    - 2005: 51%
  - Juveniles:
    - 2000: 20%
    - 2001: 20%
    - 2002: 20%
    - 2003: 20%
    - 2004: 20%
    - 2005: 21%
Adult Drug Use Varies by Arrestee Age

Marijuana: 44% (18-24), 31% (25-39), 24% (40+)
Meth: 43% (18-24), 53% (25-39), 40% (40+)
Cocaine: 9% (18-24), 11% (25-39), 18% (40+)
User Profile
Adult Meth Users Less Likely to ...

- Have a stable residence
- Live with a child
- Have been arrested for a violent offense
Meth Users More Likely to …

- Be White
- Be unemployed
- Have an arrest & detention history
- Have been arrested for a drug offense
- Have more extensive & earlier drug use histories
Adults and Juveniles Use Meth for Similar Reasons

**Adults**

**Start:**
- Friends use - 40%
- Experimenting - 27%
- Energy – 11%

**Continue:**
- Addicted – 33%
- Get high – 25%
- Escape – 19%

**Juveniles**

**Start:**
- Friends use – 48%
- Experimenting – 45%
- Get high – 6%

**Continue:**
- Addicted – 41%
- Get high – 28%
- Friends using – 19%
Juvenile Meth Users Perceive Similar Level of Risk as Non-Users

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Never Tried</th>
<th>Tried</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meth</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Adults and Juveniles Share Some Use Similarities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Juveniles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Years of Use</strong></td>
<td>10.5 (0-36)</td>
<td>2.0 (0-11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Smoking Main Mode</strong></td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Avg. Use Per Day</strong></td>
<td>3 times (1-55)</td>
<td>4 times (1-20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Use in Past 30 Days</strong></td>
<td>4 days (1-30)</td>
<td>4 days (1-30)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Meth Use Has a Number of Effects on Users

**Adults**
- Sleeplessness - 76%
- Legal Problems - 63%
- Weight Loss - 72%
- Family Problems - 61%
- Financial Problems - 48%

**Juveniles**
- Sleeplessness – 88%
- Weight Loss - 85%
- Family Problems - 70%
- Legal Problems 58%
- Violence - 52%
Meth Use Also Affects Community

- 60% of adults with a job used meth before working
- 67% of juveniles used before school
Drug Market
Consistent Profile of Drug Market Dynamics

- 70% buy meth mostly indoors
- 53% have a main source
- 24% of these buy other drugs from person
- 40% have bought from a stranger
- 20% carry a weapon when getting meth
### One-Third Live & Obtain Meth in Central Area of the County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Reside</th>
<th>Buy Meth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East SU</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South SU</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North City</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Cnty E</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Cnty W</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More Report Quality is Worse; Fewer That Price is Higher
More Arrestees Said Availability Remained the Same in 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>More Available</th>
<th>Same</th>
<th>Less Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Adults and Juveniles Often Involved in Distribution, but Not Production

- Distributed Last Year
  - Adults: 44%
  - Juveniles: 55%

- Made Last Year
  - Adults: 4%
  - Juveniles: 3%
### Juveniles Report Making More Money Than Adults on Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Juveniles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong># Sold To</strong></td>
<td><strong># Sold To</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 people (0-250)</td>
<td>4.5 people (0-400)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amount Made</strong></td>
<td><strong>Amount Made</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50 (0-50,000)</td>
<td>$250 (0-1,000)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Treatment Access
Desire to Seek and Ability to Complete Treatment Varies

- **Tried**: 47% (Adults) 39% (Juveniles)
- **Enrolled**: 83% (Adults) 92% (Juveniles)
- **Completed**: 52% (Adults) 33% (Juveniles)
2007 Status

- Funding support from County stakeholders
- 2006 data to be released in Spring/Summer
- New questions related to siblings, adult gang activity, risky sexual activity
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