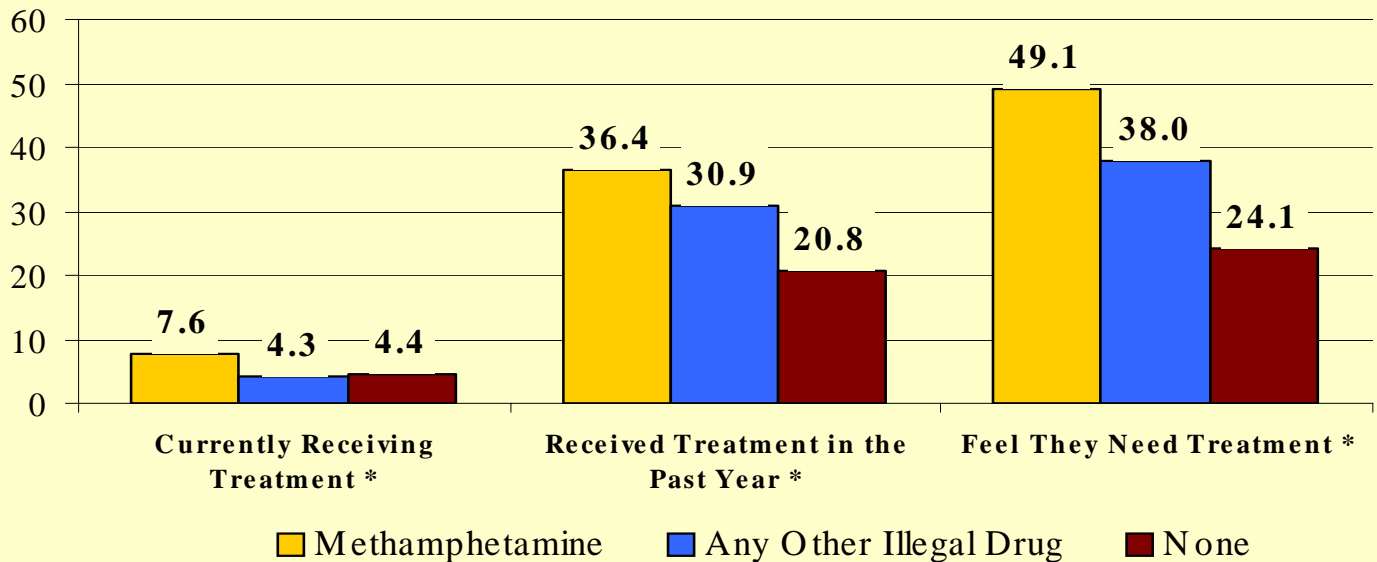


Percent of Arrestees Testing Positive for Drug Use by Drug Treatment History and Need, AARIN 2007 (n=1,557)



* Indicates significance at $p < .05$

Methamphetamine and Other Drug Use and Treatment:

The present analysis examines the relationship between current drug use and drug treatment history and needs. Specifically, we compared the arrestees testing positive for methamphetamine, other illegal drugs (marijuana, cocaine, or opiates), and those who did not test positive, to their responses about whether they were currently receiving substance abuse treatment, had received treatment in the past, or whether they felt they needed or could use treatment for substance abuse.

We found significant differences in all three treatment variables: currently receiving substance abuse treatment, reported past treatment, and the need for treatment. A higher percentage of arrestees who tested positive for methamphetamine reported they were currently receiving treatment, had received treatment in the past year, and felt they needed treatment than those who tested positive for any other illegal drugs. Specifically, meth users reported to be currently receiving treatment nearly 8 percent of the time, compared to about 4 percent of other drug users. More than 36 percent of meth users reported having received treatment in the past year, compared to about 31 percent of other drug users.

The greatest difference found between meth users and other drug users was their self-reported perceived need for treatment. Arrestees testing positive for meth reported that they felt as though they needed treatment more than 49 percent of the time, compared to 38 percent of arrestees testing positive for other drugs.