Methamphetamine Use and Victimization

The present analysis examines the relationship between methamphetamine use and prior experiences with violence. As seen above, our findings indicate that arrestees who test positive for methamphetamine are significantly less likely to report having been involved in a violent offense involving a weapon when compared to arrestees testing positive for other drugs. For example, more than 12 percent of methamphetamine users reported that they had been “shot at” in the past 12 months, compared to 16.3 percent of other drug users and 10.2 percent of non-drug using arrestees. Slightly more than 1 percent of arrestees testing positive for methamphetamine reported having been “shot” in the past 12 months compared to 4.4 percent of arrestees who tested positive for other drugs and 2.2 percent of non-drug using arrestees. About 7 percent of arrestees who tested positive for methamphetamine reported having been injured with a weapon other than a firearm in the past 12 months, compared to nearly 9 percent of arrestees who had not tested positive for methamphetamine. However, arrestees testing positive for methamphetamine were significantly more likely to report being assaulted in the past 12 months (about 29 percent) compared to arrestees testing positive for other drugs (24.4 percent), or arrestees testing negative for any drug (23.4 percent).