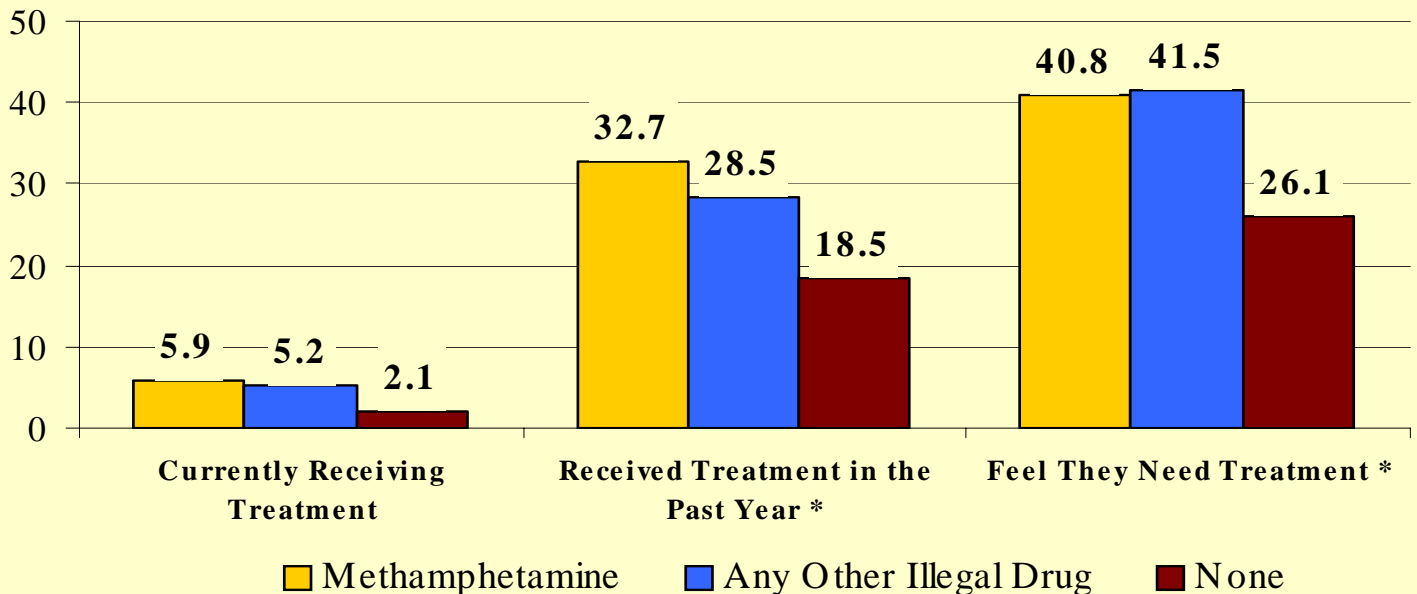


Percent of Arrestees Testing Positive for Drug Use by Drug Treatment History and Need, Third Quarter 2007 (n=511)



* 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 methamphetamines, 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 need or could use treatment for substance abuse.

We found significant differences in reported past substance abuse treatment, and the need for treatment. A higher percentage of arrestees who tested positive for methamphetamines reported they were currently receiving treatment, and that they had received treatment in the past year than those who tested positive for any other illegal drugs. Specifically, meth users reported to be currently receiving treatment 6 percent of the time, compared to 5 percent of other drug users. Similarly, 33 percent of meth users reported having received treatment in the past year, compared to less than 29 percent of other drug users.

Of particular interest to these higher rates of treatment history is the differences in perceived need for treatment. Arrestees testing positive reported that they felt as though they needed treatment about 41 percent of the time, compared to about 42 percent of arrestees testing positive for other drugs. While having higher rates of treatment history, arrestees who are currently using methamphetamines, were less likely to report a need for treatment than arrestees currently using other drugs.