Sex Differences in Drug Use:

Over the course of data collection in 2007, 399 adult female arrestees and 1,206 adult male arrestees interviewed provided a valid urine sample for analysis. Overall, a higher percentage of male arrestees tested positive for three of the five drugs tested, specifically, alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine. Methamphetamine and opiate use was higher among female respondents. Males tested positive for alcohol more than 13 percent of the time, compared to almost 10 percent of females, although this was not significant. Males tested positive for cocaine about 21 percent of the time, compared to 18 percent of females, and the percentages testing positive for opiates were nearly identical, 5.7 percent of males and 5.8 percent of females. Neither cocaine nor opiate use was significant.

Significant differences between male and female respondents were found in methamphetamine and marijuana use. A significantly higher percentage of males tested positive for marijuana, 41 percent compared to less than 29 percent of females. Urinalysis results found that methamphetamine use was significantly higher among females, among whom more than 43 percent tested positive, compared to about 34 percent of males.