

-- The second highest prevalence of need for substance abuse treatment (61%) is found among those whose most serious arrest charge is drug-related-- possession, sale, or being under the influence of a controlled substance. Again, however, the majority of those arrested for drug offenses need treatment for both drugs and alcohol (39%), although 20% of those arrested for a drug-related charge need treatment only for drug abuse. Less than 2% of this group needs alcohol only treatment.

- Around half of violent crimes, property-related offenses, and other offenses involve arrestees who need AOD treatment. The need for treatment for alcohol abuse alone or in combination plays a larger role in violent crimes (representing about 42% of those arrested for violent offenses) than property offenses (at 37%). Need for drug treatment alone was more frequently observed among those arrested for property crimes at 14% versus 8.8% of violent crimes.

-- This confirms a suspicion that AOD abuse and dependence play a role even in minor crimes. Among adult arrestees, no matter what the charge category, no less than half are in need of treatment.

### **Met Treatment Need and the Treatment Gap**

- By examining the proportion of arrestees who need treatment and do not receive it, it is possible to determine the gap between the treatment provided to arrestees and the treatment services they actually need.
- Overall, 66% of arrestees have ever needed substance abuse treatment, and almost as many (62%) currently need it.
- The proportion of adult arrestees needing or ever having needed treatment is greater in Nashville than in Memphis and greater in Knoxville/Knox County than in Nashville. The non-urban sites in East Tennessee and the Upper Cumberland Region show the proportions of arrestees with a current or past need for treatment that approximates the overall average for all sites.
- The geographic gradient in the proportion of arrestees who have received or are receiving treatment roughly matches the gradient in the proportion of arrestees needing treatment. In other words, where a greater proportion of arrestees need treatment, a greater proportion have received or are receiving treatment. This suggests that arrestees in no particular region of Tennessee are being more poorly served by the treatment system than arrestees in other regions of Tennessee.
- The gaps between measures of treatment need and treatment utilization are most pronounced at younger ages.