

Met Treatment Need and the Treatment Gap

- By examining the proportion of juvenile 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, 47% of juvenile arrestees have ever needed substance abuse treatment, and almost as many (43%) currently need it.
 - The greatest need for treatment is in Nashville and the least in Memphis (35%). Nashville's juvenile arrestees are least likely to be currently receiving treatment (4%) (Table 101) and are less likely than juvenile arrestees in any site except Memphis to have ever received any treatment (27%). Memphis juvenile arrestees show the lowest prevalence of receipt of AOD treatment (13%).
 - The gaps between measures of treatment need and treatment utilization are most pronounced at younger ages.
 - Males have significantly higher rates of treatment need and higher rates of treatment utilization than females across all measures.
 - Whites have significantly higher rates of treatment need and higher rates of treatment utilization than non-whites.
 - All those arrested for alcohol offenses need treatment, yet none have ever received it. Those arrested for violent and drug-related offenses also have a high proportion needing treatment and a small proportion who have actually received it.

Variations in the Treatment Gap by Region, Age, Gender, Race, and Offense

- Overall, a little less than half (47%) of juvenile SANTA arrestees who ever needed treatment have ever received it, while only 17% of those currently in need of treatment are receiving it.
- The lifetime treatment gap is greatest in Memphis, where 64% of juvenile arrestees who ever needed treatment have never received it, and least in Knoxville/Knox County, where only 35% of those with a lifetime need never received any treatment. However, the current treatment gap is greatest in Nashville, where 92% of juvenile arrestees with a current need for treatment are not receiving any help.
- Both lifetime and current treatment gaps are greater for male juveniles than for female juveniles and for non-whites than whites. The greatest lifetime and current treatment gaps are for non-white females (71% and 100%, respectively).