

and drug sales. Juvenile and adult arrestees had similar prevalence of arrests for drug possession and larceny.

- Compared to juvenile arrestees, adult arrestees had higher prevalence of use of alcohol and every other drug with the major exceptions of marijuana and hallucinogens in the 30 days prior to arrest.
- Adults were more likely to test positive for most AOD use compared to juveniles in this study. They were also more likely to under-report or deny substance use than juvenile arrestees. Thus, 37% of juvenile arrestees reported AOD use in the 72 hours prior to arrest, while 41% tested positive for AOD. More juvenile arrestees (36%) tested positive for drug use only (mainly marijuana use) than reported such use (18%), while more youth reported alcohol use alone or combined with other drug use (15%) than tested positive (2%). This reflects the difficulty in testing for alcohol proximate to arrests. Among adult arrestees, 70% reported AOD use proximate to their arrest, with 78% testing positive for AOD use. As with juveniles, a higher percentage (33%) reported alcohol use alone than tested positive for alcohol only (17%). And a lower proportion of adults reported drug use only in the past 72 hours than tested positive for drugs (35%). Use of alcohol and other drugs was reported by about the same percentage of adults (26%-27%) as tested positive for AOD.
- Under-reporting is most serious for adults and youth when it comes to use of illicit drugs.
- Compared to adult SANTA arrestees in Tennessee, juvenile arrestees are less likely to need substance abuse treatment (43% versus 62%), specifically less likely to need treatment for both alcohol and other drugs (21% versus 31% of adults) and alcohol abuse alone (2% versus 21% adults). However juvenile arrestees are more likely to need treatment for drug abuse alone (20%) than adult arrestees (10%).
- The treatment gap is generally greater for youth in detention than for adults. For example, 87% of juvenile arrestees and 81% of adult arrestees need current treatment for substance abuse but had not received it in the past 12 months.

### **Conclusions**

- This report provides information on juvenile and adult arrestees in Tennessee for the first time combined with regional data and estimates of alcohol and drug dependence and need for treatment through DSM-III-R dependence estimates. The data will allow us to estimate the number of persons at risk of substance use disorders by age, sex, race, region and offense category.