

**2006 METHAMPHETAMINE  
ADDENDUM  
AGGREGATE DATA**

SEPTEMBER 2007

Criminal Justice Research Division

**Substance Abuse Monitoring (SAM)  
Methamphetamine Addendum**

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**NOTES**

Please take into account the following factors when interpreting this information:

- Some variables were answered only by a small number of respondents. Caution should be used when generalizing these findings.
- When distributions are skewed, the median is the more appropriate measure of central tendency, rather than the mean.

Source: SANDAG SAM Program, 2006

**INITIATION AND CURRENT USE  
Methamphetamine Addendum Data**

	<b>2006</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>		232
<b>Why did you first starting using meth?</b>		
Get high	13%	29
Get more energy	7%	16
Lose weight	2%	5
Experiment	34%	79
Escape problems	11%	25
Stay awake	9%	21
Replace another drug	3%	8
Friends/peer use	44%	101
Other	4%	10
<b>Why are you using meth now?</b>		
Get high	30%	67
Get more energy	15%	34
Lose weight	1%	2
Escape problems	22%	50
Stay awake	10%	22
Replace another drug	3%	6
Friends/peer use	12%	27
Addicted	30%	67
Other	7%	16
<b>In the past year, have you used meth just before or while at work/school?</b>		
Yes	50%	113
No	26%	59
N/A	25%	56
<b>How do you usually use meth?</b>		
Snort	14%	33
Smoke alone	76%	175
Smoke with other drug	1%	2
Inject alone	9%	20
Inject with other drug	0%	0
Eat/drink	<1%	1

	2006	
<b>How much meth do you typically use on a day you use meth? (Measurement unit of grams)</b>		
Mean (SD)	.97 (.89)	
Median	.89	
Range	.01-5.00	
<b>On a day you use meth, how many times do you use?</b>		
Mean (SD)	4.69 (6.78)	
Median	3.00	
Range	1-60	
<b>During the last month, what was the most days in a row (longest run) you used meth?</b>		
Mean (SD)	9.10 (10.73)	
Median	4.00	
Range	1-30	
<b>Has your meth use resulted in any of the following?</b>		
Weight loss	70%	162
Sleeplessness	77%	178
Dental problems	43%	99
Financial problems	49%	114
Family problems	63%	147
Work problems	37%	85
Skin problems	28%	66
Paranoia	36%	83
Hallucinations	27%	62
Violent behavior	23%	53
Legal problems	68%	158
Other	5%	11

Source: SANDAG, 2007

**QUALITY & AVAILABILITY**  
**Methamphetamine Addendum Data**

	<b>2006</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	232	
<b>Compared to a year ago, what if any changes have you noticed about the quality of the meth you're using?</b>		
Worse	48%	99
Same	30%	62
Better	23%	47
<b>Compared to a year ago, what if any changes have you noticed about the price you're paying for meth?</b>		
Lower	6%	12
Same	43%	80
Higher	51%	95
<b>Do you typically buy/get meth?</b>		
Indoors	64%	136
Outdoors	36%	76
<b>Do you get meth within San Diego County?</b>		
Yes	92%	209
No	8%	19
<b>(If yes) What area of the County do you get it?</b>		
Central	35%	69
North City	14%	28
South Suburban	12%	24
East Suburban	20%	40
North County West	3%	6
North County East	15%	29
East	2%	4
<b>Do you have a main source for meth - one dealer you usually hook up with?</b>		
Yes	48%	109
No	52%	120
<b>How long have you used that person? (Days)</b>		
Mean (SD)	721.39 (1,054.81)	
Median	365.00	
Range	5-6,570	

	2006	
<b>Do you get other drugs from that main source?</b>		
Yes	25%	27
No	75%	82
<b>What do you usually do if your main source isn't around?</b>		
Buy from someone else	51%	56
Get it through a friend	2%	2
Use another drug	3%	3
Don't buy anything	39%	43
Main source always around	8%	9
Other	2%	2
<b>What is the ethnicity of your main source?</b>		
White	38%	41
Black	4%	4
Hispanic	56%	60
Asian/Pacific Islander	2%	2
<b>What is the gender of your main source?</b>		
Male	91%	96
Female	8%	8
Couple	2%	2
<b>Have you ever bought from someone you didn't know?</b>		
Yes	39%	90
No	61%	139
<b>In the past year, have you carried a gun or other weapon while you were getting meth?</b>		
Yes, gun	10%	23
Yes, other weapon	8%	18
Yes, both	6%	13
No	77%	176
<b>Compared to a year ago, would you say meth is more available, less available, or available about the same?</b>		
More	31%	68
Less	28%	62
About the same	40%	88

Source: SANDAG, 2007

**TREATMENT**  
**Methamphetamine Addendum Data**

	<b>2006</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	232	
<b>Have you ever tried to get treatment for your meth use?</b>		
Yes	51%	117
No	49%	112
<b>(If no attempts to get treatment) Why not?</b>		
Can quit on own	55%	60
Don't want to quit	35%	38
Can't afford it	2%	2
Don't know how to get it	2%	2
Wants to/plans to	6%	7
<b>(If prior treatment attempts) Did you get into a program?</b>		
Yes	85%	99
No	15%	18
<b>(If not able to get into program) Why not?</b>		
Waiting list too long	40%	6
Changed mind	27%	4
Got arrested	7%	1
Too expensive	20%	3
No transportation	7%	1
<b>(If got into program) What type of program was it?</b>		
In-patient	62%	60
Out-patient	16%	16
Detox	9%	9
Jail/prison program	6%	6
NA/AA	6%	6
<b>Did you complete the program?</b>		
Yes	42%	42
No	58%	57

	2006	
<b>(If did not complete program) Why not?</b>		
Program too long	9%	5
Didn't get along with staff	2%	1
Wasn't doing any good	2%	1
Wanted to start using again	28%	15
Program too strict	17%	9
Couldn't afford it	0%	0
Got arrested/incarcerated	4%	2
Kicked out	15%	8
Still in program	7%	4
Other	17%	9

Source: SANDAG, 2007



**DISTRIBUTION AND PRODUCTION  
Methamphetamine Addendum Data**

	2006	
<b>TOTAL</b>		232
<b>In the past 30 days, did you participate in any meth-related distribution activities?</b>		
Yes	42%	96
No	58%	131
<b>(If yes) Which activities?</b>		
Sell meth	52%	68
Middleman	62%	81
Hold meth or money	83%	109
Make meth	5%	7
Commit other crimes to obtain meth	30%	39
Transport meth	56%	74
TOTAL		131
<b>Have you, yourself, sold meth or acted as a middleman in the last year?</b>		
Yes	47%	107
No	53%	122
<b>In what year did you start dealing meth or acting as a middleman? (Number of years since began)</b>		
Mean (SD)		7.42 (8.06)
Median		4.50
Range		0-36
<b>Do you sell or middleman outside San Diego County?</b>		
Yes	23%	24
No	77%	81
<b>(If yes) Where do you sell/middleman?</b>		
Other California Counties	92%	22
Other states	29%	7
Outside the U.S.	38%	9
TOTAL		24

	2006	
<b>In the past 7 days, about how many different people have you sold to or obtained meth for?</b>		
Mean (SD)	13.12 (26.61)	
Median	5.00	
Range	1-140	
None	23%	24
<b>In the past 30 days, how much money have you made selling meth/acting as a middleman?</b>		
Mean (SD)	\$1,844.32 (4,148.60)	
Median	\$500.00	
Range	20-30,000	
None	42%	43
<b>What is the smallest amount you sell or obtain for others</b>		
Less than .25 gram	32%	34
.25 gram	36%	38
Between .25 and 1 gram	16%	17
Over 1 gram to 3 grams	9%	9
More than 3 grams	7%	7
<b>Are you currently selling meth or acting as a middleman?</b>		
Yes	47%	50
No	53%	56
<b>Why did you stop selling meth or acting as a middleman?</b>		
Tired of getting busted	0%	0
Tired of the lifestyle	13%	7
Started selling another drug	2%	1
For my family	4%	2
Police activity hot	6%	3
In jail	11%	6
Ran out of supply	4%	2
Too risky	6%	3
Not making enough money	4%	2
Not a regular seller	52%	28
Other	0%	0

	2006	
<b>Compared to a year ago, would you say the demand for meth has increased, decreased, or stayed the same?</b>		
Increased	73%	71
Decreased	1%	1
Same	26%	25
<b>Have you ever cooked meth yourself, or helped someone else to cook it?</b>		
Yes	14%	32
No	86%	199
<b>What did you do?</b>		
Cook meth	59%	19
Obtain chemicals	78%	25
Find cooking location	66%	21
Get equipment to cook meth	69%	22
Cut/package meth	72%	23
Other	9%	3
TOTAL		32
<b>(Of those who ever cooked) Have you cooked or helped cook in the past 12 months?</b>		
Yes	44%	14
No	56%	18
<b>(Of those cooked in past 12 months) Have you cooked or helped cook in the past 30 days?</b>		
Yes	50%	7
No	50%	7
<b>What year did you start cooking/helping to cook meth? (Number of years since began)</b>		
Mean (SD)		9.32 (8.47)
Median		6.00
Range		0-36

	2006	
<b>Who taught you how to cook it?</b>		
Friend	55%	16
Parent(s)	0%	0
Cell mate	0%	0
Internet	3%	1
Dealer/cooker	7%	2
Another user	0%	0
Spouse/significant other	3%	1
Books	0%	0
Other family	28%	8
Other	3%	1
<b>Where do you typically get the ingredients to make meth?</b>		
Family/friends	4%	1
Another manufacturer	8%	2
Store	88%	23
Mail order catalog	0%	0
<b>Compared to a year ago, would you say obtaining the ingredients to cook meth has gotten easier, harder, or stayed the same?</b>		
Easier	7%	2
Harder	78%	21
Same	15%	4
<b>How do you usually dispose of leftover ingredients?</b>		
Down drain/toilet	15%	4
Throw in trash	31%	8
Dump on side of the road	0%	0
Dump in other outdoor area	38%	10
Don't discard	8%	2
No leftover materials	8%	2
<b>Where do you typically make meth?</b>		
Private residence	48%	15
Motel/hotel	16%	5
Outdoors	19%	6
Abandoned building	6%	2
Storage shed	6%	2
Other	3%	1

	2006	
<b>What is the quantity of a typical batch you make? (Number of grams)</b>		
Mean (SD)	1,407.22 (2,291.68)	
Median	454.00	
Range	43-9,080	
<b>How much does this quantity cost you to make?</b>		
Mean (SD)	\$1,972.25 (5,696.66)	
Median	\$250.00	
Range	10-30,000	
<b>What is the street value of this quantity?</b>		
Mean (SD)	\$35,917.86 (97,107.46)	
Median	\$6,500.00	
Range	600-500,000	
<b>How often did/do you typically manufacture this quantity?</b>		
Every day	0%	0
Every other day	20%	5
Once a week	0%	0
2-3 times/month	12%	3
Once a month	12%	3
Less than once a month	56%	14

Source: SANDAG, 2007

**OTHER**  
**Methamphetamine Addendum Data**

	<b>2006</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	232	
<b>What terms do you use to refer to meth?</b>		
Crystal	39%	91
Tweak	13%	31
Shit	48%	112
Dope	25%	57
Speed	11%	25
Meth	22%	50
Glass	9%	22
Crystal	3%	7
Ice	9%	20
Other	28%	66
<b>Have you or someone else in the household used meth in front of children or while they were home in the past year?</b>		
Yes	10%	24
No	90%	207
<b>Have you or someone else in the household cooked meth in front of children or while they were home in the past year?</b>		
Yes	1%	2
No	99%	227

Source: SANDAG, 2007