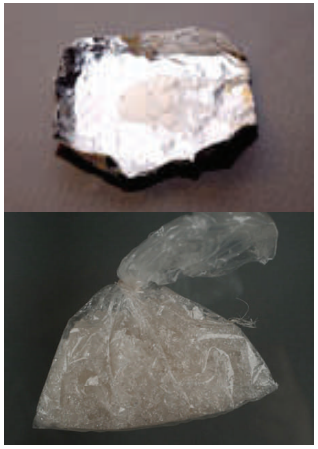
IPRC Indiana Prevention Resource Center

Methamphetamine



Methamphetamine is a highly addictive stimulant which affects the central nervous system. It is a white, odorless, bitter-tasting crystalline powder which can be injected, snorted, ingested, or smoked. Most methamphetamines are produced in clandestine, or secret, labs. Prescription methamphetamines have been used for the treatment of conditions such as narcolepsy, attention deficit disorders, and obesity. More common street names include speed, meth, ice, crystal, crank, poor man's coke, uppers, tweak, and chalk.

EFFECTS

Short term effects include increased appetite, increased wakefulness, rapid heart rate, irregular heartbeat, and increased blood pressure. When smoked or injected, users feel a quick, brief intense high. When ingested or snorted users experience a longer-lasting high instead of a quick rush. Long term effects of methamphetamine use include insomnia, anxiety, confusion, mood disturbances, delusions, hallucinations, and eventual addiction.

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INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Bloomington

DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCE
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School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation
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The Indiana Prevention Resource Center is operated by the Department of Applied Health Science, School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation at Indiana University. Funded, in part, by a contract with the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health and Addiction, financially supported through Health and Human Services/Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant.

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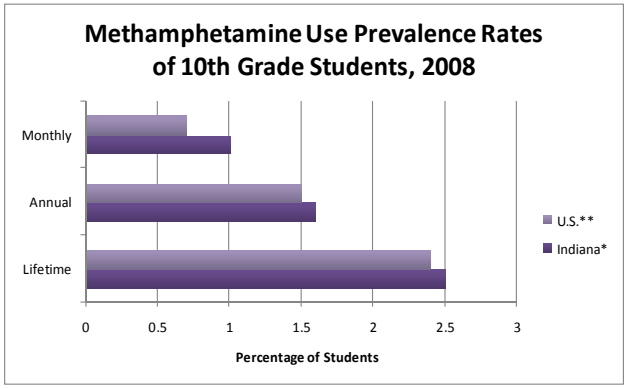
INCIDENCE & PREVALENCE

Although methamphetamine use has been declining among youth in the past several years, prevalence rates among Indiana youth continue to remain higher than national standards. According to the IPRC 2008 Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use by Indiana Children and Adolescent Survey, prevalence rates in lifetime, annual, and monthly use of meth was still higher among Indiana 10th graders when compared to national statistics. In addition, 6% of high school students statewide have tried methamphetamines at least once in their life.



Source: IPRC 2008 ATOD Use By Children & Adolescent Survey*
Monitoring the Future Study, Univ. of Michigan 2008**

LAW & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

In 2005, the House of Representatives passed the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act of 2005; this law enacted a nationwide measure to require drugs containing ephedrine, pseudoepedrine, and phenylpropanolamine to be kept behind pharmacy counters and not sold to minors. This is because the ingredients in these substances were used to produce meth in homemade labs. In 2005, nearly 1,700 arrests were made in Indiana for methamphetamine possession; 529 arrests were also made for the sale/manufacture of the drug. Two years later, in 2007, approximately 30 pounds of methamphetamine and 820 clandestine labs were seized by Indiana State Police.

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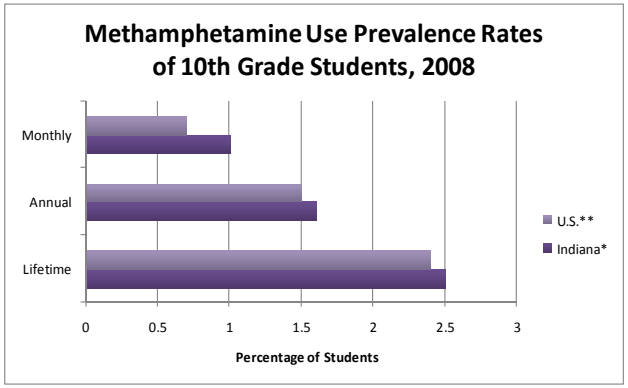

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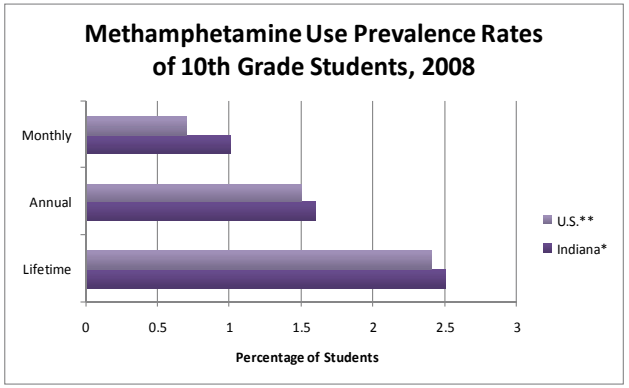

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