<u>METHAMPHETAMINE IN COLORADO, FY 05 – DEMOGRAPHICS, USE INDICATORS AND OUTCOMES</u>

In recent years, methamphetamine (meth) abuse has become an increasingly serious problem. To explore the issue in Colorado, we examined clients who reported meth as their primary drug of use, and compared them to users of other substances. During FY05 there were 78,575 discharges from treatment, DUI and detoxification services combined. Of these, 5% (4,246) of all discharges identified meth as their primary drug of use. When breaking down service types into treatment, DUI and detox, 73% (3,122) of meth-related discharges occurred in treatment modalities. This analysis was restricted to discharges from treatment only (DUI and Detox client data was excluded).

During FY05, there were 18,540 discharges from treatment. When examining treatment outcomes, we looked at all discharges, excluding 1032 cases coded as "differential assessment only." This left 17,508 treatment discharges on which to examine outcomes, 3003 (17%) of which were for meth using clients.

Since some clients had multiple treatment episodes and thus, multiple discharges, the analysis of demographic, treatment and substance use indicators was restricted to unique clients only (n=15,572). Of 15,572 unique clients discharged from treatment modalities during FY05, 2,587 (17%) reported meth to be their primary drug of use.

Table 1 below presents demographic distributions and table 2 presents information on treatment and substance use for meth and non-meth users. Tables 3 and 4 show information on treatment outcomes.

As shown in Table 1, compared to clients who do not use meth, meth users were more likely to be female (44% vs. 30%), between the ages of 18 and 34 (67% vs. 45%), White (82% vs. 61%), separated or divorced (32% vs. 23%), and to have dependent children (44% vs. 37%). Meth users were less likely than those who do not use meth to be younger than 18 years (4% vs. 14%) or over 34 years (28% vs. 40%). They were also less likely to be Black (1% vs. 10%) or Hispanic (13% vs. 25%), or have any education beyond high school (17% vs. 25%).

Regarding employment and living situation, meth users were less likely to be working (37% vs. 45%) and living independently (51% vs. 57%). They were also less likely to have referred themselves into treatment (11% vs. 18%) and were more likely to be referred by social services (18% vs. 13%) or non-DUI criminal justice (56% vs. 40%).

Table 2 shows that meth-using clients had prior treatment episodes (61% vs. 56%), and were in more intensive treatment modalities, like intensive residential treatment (16% vs. 10%). Regarding drug use, meth users were more likely to have used tobacco products (83% vs. 66%) and multiple substances (70% vs. 55%), and more to have been assessed with drug dependency upon admission (69% vs. 52%). Despite these findings, meth users were less likely to report using their primary drug in the 30 days before admission (38% vs. 51%).

Table 1: Meth Users versus Non-Meth Users – Demographics

Table 1. Welli Use	10 1010		Non-Meth			- <u>σ</u> . α	Meth Users					
	Males	-	Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	9047	70	3938	30	12,985	83	1440	56	1147	44	2587	17
Pregnant	na	na	247	6	247	6	na	na	91	8	91	8
Women												
Age												
<18	1295	14	561	14	1856	14	51	3	56	5	107	4
18-24	1857	20	735	19	2592	20	375	26	379	33	754	29
25-34	2259	25	1016	26	3275	25	539	37	448	39	987	38
35-44	2098	23	1013	26	3111	24	356	25	216	19	572	22
45-54	1205	13	514	13	1719	13	115	8	45	4	160	6
55-64	285	3	90	2	375	3	4	0.3	3	0.3	7	0.3
65+	48	0.5	9	0.2	57	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Race/												
Ethnicity												
340.74	5377	59	2497	63	7874	61	1195	83	932	81	2127	82
White	0.1.1	40	000		4040	40	0.4		4.4	_	0.5	
Black	941	10	308	8	1249	10	24	2	11	1	35	1
American Indian	246	3	124	3	370	3	20	1	16	1	36	1
Asian/Pacific	143	2	37	1	180	1	14	1	8	1	22	1
Islander	0000	25	040	0.4	2040	25	400	40	405	4.4	240	40
Hispanic	2269 71	25 1	943 29	24	3212 100	25	183	13	165	14	348 19	13
Other	7 1	I	29	1	100	1	4		4	1	19	- 1
Education												
Education	3167	35	1406	36	4573	35	428	30	396	34	824	32
<hs< td=""><td>3107</td><td>33</td><td>1400</td><td>30</td><td>4373</td><td>33</td><td>420</td><td>30</td><td>390</td><td>34</td><td>024</td><td>32</td></hs<>	3107	33	1400	30	4373	33	420	30	390	34	024	32
HS Diploma	3769	41	1344	34	5093	39	751	52	542	47	1293	50
Some College	1412	16	772	20	2184	17	222	15	197	17	419	16
College Degree	539	6	296	7	835	6	31	2	9	1	40	10
Beyond College	180	2	120	3	300	2	8	1	3		11	'
Deyona College	100		120		300		<u> </u>	'	3		'''	
Marital Status	5012	55	1858	47	6870	53	765	53	503	44	1268	49
Never Married	0012		1000	71	3070		, 55	55		-,-	1200	70
Married	2032	22	890	23	2922	22	266	18	210	18	476	18
Widowed	93	1	83	2	176	1	6		11	1	17	1
Separated	430	5	356	9	786	6	107	7	175	15	282	11
Divorced	1480	16	751	19	2231	17	296	21	248	22	544	21
Divoloca		-										
Has Children	2922	32	1877	48	4799	37	505	35	642	56	1145	44
											L <u></u>	

Table 1: Meth Users versus Non-Meth Users – Demographics Continued

Table 1: Meth Users	10104		Non-Meth			giup	Meth Users						
	Males	_	Females		Total		Males Females Total						
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Total	9047	70	3938	30	12,985	83	1440	56	1147	44	2587	17	
					,								
Job Status													
Full Time	3668	40	888	22	4556	35	524	36	207	18	731	28	
Part Time	859	9	472	12	1331	10	129	9	117	10	246	9	
Unemployed, Looking	1522	17	818	21	2340	18	328	23	342	30	670	26	
Unemployed, Not Looking	796	9	649	16	1445	11	171	12	285	25	456	18	
Not in Work Force	2202	24	1111	28	3313	25	288	20	196	17	484	19	
Living Situation													
Homeless	506	6	197	5	703	5	104	7	77	7	181	7	
Dependent, living w/ parents	2,377	26	959	24	3,336	26	330	23	288	25	618	24	
Dependent, supervised setting	1,201	13	279	7	1,480	11	342	24	121	10	463	18	
Living independently	4,963	55	2,503	64	7,466	57	664	46	661	58	1,325	51	
Referral Source													
Self	1530	17	806	20	2336	18	150	10	131	11	281	11	
SA Provider	647	7	324	8	972	7	95	7	96	8	191	7	
Health Care Provider	301	3	246	6	547	4	27	2	22	2	49	2	
School	187	2	106	3	293	2	1		2		3	0.1	
Employer	138	1	22	1	160	1	8	1	3		11	0.4	
Social Services	769	8	918	23	1687	13	99	7	369	32	468	18	
Non DUI Crim Justice	4192	46	1026	26	5218	40	980	68	480	42	1460	56	
DUI Criminal Justice	969	11	283	7	1252	10	27	2	8	1	35	1	
Involuntary Commit	39		20		59		9	1	1		10	0.4	
Other CommunityReferral	275	3	186	5	461	4	44	3	35	3	79	3	

Table 2: Meth Users versus Non-Meth Users - Treatment & Substance Use Indicators

		Noi	n-Meth Us	ers			Meth Users					
	Males		Females		Total		Mal es		Females		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	9047	70	3938	30	12,98 5	83	14 40	56	1147	44	2587	17
Modality												
	147	2	62	2	209	2	45	3	31	3	76	3
Therapeutic Community												
Intensive Residential	872	10	456	12	1328	10	23 1	16	175	15	406	16
Transitional Residential	541	6	147	4	688	5	11 9	8	64	6	183	7
Opioid Replacemen t Therapy	416	5	254	6	670	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traditional Outpatient	5817	64	2509	64	8326	64	74 0	51	702	61	1442	56
STIRRT**	333	4	54	1	387	3	13 1	9	26	2	157	6
Intensive Outpatient	826	9	419	11	1245	10	16 0	11	136	12	296	11
Day Treatment	95	1	37	1	37	1	14	1	13	1	27	1
Has Any Prior Treatment Episodes	5068	57	2174	55	7242	56	89 0	62	676	59	1566	61
Mental Health Issues	2559	28	1595	40	4154	32	39 9	28	445	39	844	33
Poly- Substance Use	5037	56	2158	55	7195	55	10 68	74	754	66	1822	70
Tobacco Use	5954	66	2656	68	8610	66	12 03	83	948	83	2151	83
Primary Substance Use Freq												
None	4486	50	1825	46	6311	49	90 4	63	704	61	1608	62
1-4 days	1751	19	730	18	2481	19	24	17	189	16	436	17
5-9 days	566	6	291	7	857	7	73	5	41	4	114	4
10-19 days	818	9	397	10	1215	9	10 7	7	79	7	186	7
20-29 days	749	8	361	9	1110	8	79	5	81	7	160	6
30 days	677	7	334	8	1011	8	30	2	52	4	82	3

		No	n-Meth Us	ers	Meth Users							
	Males		Females		Total		Mal es		Females		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Diagnostic Impression												
	167	2	54	1	221	2	18	1	38	1	34	1
Unknown												
Use	818	9	398	10	1216	9	31	2	332	3	69	3
Abuse	3416	38	1371	35	4787	37	37	26	760	29	702	27
							0					
Dependency	4637	51	2111	54	6748	52	10 21	71	1146	66	1781	69

<u>Outcomes-Clinical Impressions.</u> Table 3 presents treatment outcomes determined by the SA counselor as well as client employment status and living situation. While meth using clients were less likely to be discharged successfully with no further treatment recommendations (23% vs. 29%), they were more likely to be discharged successfully with recommendations for further treatment (26% vs. 21%). There were no differences between the two groups in proportions of drop-outs or terminations, or in progress toward treatment goals.

Upon admission, meth using clients were more likely than non-meth users to have moderate to severe family issues (61% vs. 49%), socialization issues (50% vs. 40%), and work/school issues (49% vs. 40%). Both groups of clients improved at discharge, and showed similar degrees of change. However, since meth using clients generally began treatment with more severe issues, they were still, at discharge, more likely to be assessed with those issues. One exception is employment status. The proportion of meth users employed full-time increased from 37% at admission to 43% at discharge compared to non-meth users who rose from 43% to 45%.

Table 3: Changes from Admission to Discharge – Clinical Impressions & Employment Status & Living Situation

		Non-Met	h Users		Meth Users			
DACODS Data Item	Admi	ssion	Disch	narge	Admi	ssion	Disch	arge
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Reason for discharge								
Tx completed, no further formal tx recommended	NA	NA	4,417	29	NA	NA	694	23
Tx completed, additional formal tx recommended	NA	NA	3,081	21	NA	NA	772	26
Left against professional advice	NA	NA	3,374	23	NA	NA	664	22
Terminated by facility	NA	NA	1,689	12	NA	NA	371	12
Transferred to another	NA	NA	981	7	NA	NA	238	8
agency								
Other	NA	NA	1,233	8	NA	NA	264	9
Progress towards tx goal								
High	NA	NA	4,419	30	NA	NA	892	30
Moderate	NA	NA	4,479	31	NA	NA	881	29
Minimal	NA	NA	5,607	39	NA	NA	1,230	41
Family Issues/Problems								
None	3,367	23	4,039	28	457	15	594	20
Minimal	4,001	28	4,404	30	710	24	913	30
Moderate	4,608	32	4,189	29	1,107	37	926	31
Severe	2,529	17	1,873	13	729	24	570	19

		Non-Met	th Users		Meth Users			
DACODS Data Item	Admi	ssion	Disch	narge	Admi	ssion	Disch	arge
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Socialization Issues/Problem	S							
None	4,633	32	5,313	37	651	22	877	29
Minimal	4,071	28	4,254	29	845	28	956	32
Moderate	4,394	30	3,816	26	1,072	36	865	29
Severe	1,407	10	1,122	8	435	14	305	10
Work/School Issues/Problem	S							
None	5,055	35	5,899	41	814	27	1,049	35
Minimal	3,738	26	3,727	26	720	24	819	27
Moderate	4,012	28	3,456	24	1,015	34	793	26
Severe	1,700	12	1,423	10	454	15	342	11
Medical/Physical Issues/Prob	lems							
None	8,773	60	9,275	64	1,774	59	1,911	64
Minimal	2,915	20	2,634	18	646	21	616	20
Moderate	2,224	15	2,092	14	471	16	376	12
Severe	593	4	504	3	112	4	100	3
Employment Status								
Full time	4,819	33	5,128	35	815	27	977	32
Part time	1,485	10	1,527	10	292	10	324	11
Unemployed, looking	2,742	19	2,155	15	781	26	605	20
Unemployed, not looking	1,907	13	1,921	13	597	20	626	21
Not in workforce	3,552	24	3,774	26	518	17	471	16
Living Situation								
Homeless	1,078	7	1,022	7	252	8	220	7
Dependent, living w/ parents	3,629	25	3,291	23	735	24	648	22
Dependent, supervised setting	1,534	11	1,680	12	494	16	500	17
Living independently	8,264	57	8,511	59	1,522	51	1,635	54
Total								

<u>Outcomes-Behaviors.</u> Table 4 shows that meth-using clients were less likely to have used their primary drug within 30 days of admission (39% vs. 53%) and to have used that drug during their treatment (19% vs. 25%). This finding held up when restricting the analysis to outpatient discharges only.

Regarding arrests, meth-using clients were less likely to have DUI-related arrests at both admission (7% vs. 19%) and discharge (3% vs. 5%). Meth users were more likely to have non-DUI arrests at admission (54% vs, 42%), but both groups were similar at discharge. When restricted to outpatient discharges only, meth users were more likely to have non-DUI arrests at both admission (53% vs. 42%) and discharge (19% vs. 15%).

Meth using clients were less likely than non-meth users to visit a medical ER at both the time of admission (19% vs. 24%) and discharge (9% vs. 11%) and this held up when examining outpatient discharges only.

Both groups were similar at admission and discharge in visits to psychiatric ERs and admissions to psychiatric hospitals.

Table 4: Changes from Admission to Discharge – Reported Behaviors

	All	Treatmer	nt Modaliti	ies		Outpatie	ent Only	
	Non-Met	th Users	Meth	Users	Non-Met	h Users	Meth	Jsers
DACODS	Admit	Disch	Admit	Disch	Admitsio	Disch	Admit	Disch
Data Item					n			
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Frequency of	Use, Prima	ary Drug						
None	47	75	61	81	54	75	68	78
1 or more	53	25	39	19	46	25	32	22
days								
DUI/DWAI Arr	ests							
None	81	95	93	97	80	95	93	97
1 or more	19	5	7	3	20	5	7	3
Other Arrests								
None	58	85	46	84	58	85	47	81
1 or more	42	15	54	16	42	15	53	19
Medical Emer	gency Roo	m Visits						
None	76	89	81	91	81	90	83	93
1 or more	24	11	19	9	19	10	17	7
Medical Hosp	ital Admiss	sions						
None	88	93	92	96	90	94	92	95
1 or more	12	7	8	4	10	6	8	5
Psychiatric E	mergency l	Room Visit						
None	95	97	95	98	96	97	95	98
1 or more	5	3	5	2	4	3	5	2
Psychiatric H								
None	95	97	95	98	95	97	95	97
1 or more	5	3	5	2	5	3	5	3

^{*}COD=Co-occurring disorders