Kern County Mental Health Department

The Impact of Methamphetamine in Kern County:

2014 Update

September 2014

SUBMITTED BY:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2007, Kern County Mental Health received permission to use federal grant money to conduct a study of the impact of methamphetamine use on Kern County agencies and communities. Findings from this study resulted in the creation of the Kern County Methamphetamine Reduction Task Force. The Task Force, composed of county agencies, private businesses, schools, the faith-based community, treatment providers, and public and private non-profits, spent a year conducting research on best practices and developed a strategic plan that addressed four primary areas: Public Safety, Business, Family Wellbeing, and Youth Prevention and Treatment. Key to the development of the plan's objectives was the identification of activities that could take place primarily through existing partnerships, and without new funding.

The 2014 Update to the Methamphetamine Impact Study is an attempt to update the findings of the original report. It is, however, far more limited in scope than the original study, due to limitations in funding, and therefore does not include qualitative data from focus groups, interviews and observations, nor does it include case studies of particular communities or public opinion polls. Eight county agencies, Kern Medical Center, the Bakersfield City Police and Fire Departments, and eight local police departments from outlying communities participated in the May 2014 Snapshot Study to update the available data regarding the impact of methamphetamine use on county and local law enforcement agencies. All of these agencies dedicated staff resources as an in-kind contribution to the study.

For the May 2014 Impact Study Update, TLC staff employed two primary methods to collect data regarding the impact of methamphetamine on county resources. These included (1) collecting statistical data, where available, from county agencies and/or State databases; and (2) conducting a "snapshot study" in which county agencies and other organizations were asked to collect data during the month of May 2014 (a replication of the May 2008 Snapshot Study) on the number of client contacts or encounters in which methamphetamine was a contributing factor.

A few of the most significant findings include the following:

- For the month of May 2008, 37.7% of felonies charged county-wide were for methamphetamine-related offenses. For the month of May 2014, 50.2%of felonies charged county-wide were for methamphetamine-related offenses.
- A detailed examination of a randomly selected sample of cases filed by the D.A. between May 1 and May 10, 2008 showed that 40.8% of cases filed directly included charges related to methamphetamine, and 5.6% of the non-narcotics cases filed had a prior history of methamphetamine charges, for a total of 46.4% of cases filed. The same study conducted between May 1 and May 10, 2014 showed that 52.9% of cases filed directly included charges related to methamphetamine, and 23.5% of the non-narcotics cases filed had a prior history of methamphetamine charges, for a total of 76.4% of all cases filed.

- Nearly two-thirds (65.8%) of the cases handled by the Public Defender's Office in May 2014 included methamphetamine-related charges.
- Data from the Sheriff's Department show that 33.3% of bookings for the month of May 2014 were for methamphetamine-related crimes.
- Of the 2,105 encounters logged by Bakersfield police officers during the May 2014 Snapshot Study, 13.7% directly involved methamphetamine, and methamphetamine was suspected in another 14.2% of cases.
- Methamphetamine accounted for 42.6% of substance abuse treatment admissions to Kern County Mental Health between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014.
- Between May 10 and June 10, 2008, 31.5% of randomly selected patients visiting the Emergency Department at Kern Medical Center admitted to having used methamphetamine at least once in their life. Between May 10 and June 10, 2014, 31.8% of randomly selected patients admitted to having used methamphetamine at least once in their life.
- Eight local police departments from communities around the county participated in the May 2014 Snapshot Study. The percentage of encounters officers documented that were related directly to methamphetamine ranged from a low of 5.2% to a high of 28.6%.
- The Kern Narcotics Enforcement Team (KNET) reported the seizure of 49,037.87 grams of methamphetamine in 2013 which, at the rate of $20 per quarter gram, would have a street value of over $3.9 million. These data do not include seizures made by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), which has an active presence in Kern County, and in the past few years, made the second largest seizure of methamphetamine in history in Kern County.
- Although the studies do not include information for all children removed from the home county-wide during those periods, documentation provided through the 2008 Snapshot Study indicates that 27.4% of children removed from the home during encounters with law enforcement or county agencies during the month of May were cases that involved methamphetamine. Documentation provided through the 2014 Snapshot Study indicates that 36.1% of children removed from the home during the month of May were cases that involved methamphetamine.

A key implication of this report is that a comprehensive strategy to combat methamphetamine abuse in Kern County must encompass four key areas: prevention, early intervention, treatment, and suppression. Recommendations include:

- Use grassroots partnerships to increase awareness and strengthen families. Family strengthening activities can be as simple as providing a fun and positive venue in which children and parents can interact with each other under the guidance of individuals trained in Parent Project, Strengthening Families, and/or other evidence-based programs that have been shown to build and support positive family dynamics. A strong and viable family unit remains the best preventative for adolescent drug use.

- Adapt strategies from environmental risk reduction programs in the alcohol field to minimize the availability of methamphetamine to young people. Strategies in this area might include the development of parent partnerships that oversee parties and other social events in which youth congregate; citing parents under the Social Host Ordinance when alcohol is served to minors; and creating a community environment that focuses on reducing adolescent substance use through the development of strong social supports.

- Support school-based efforts like Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Student Assistance Programs, and other programs that train school staff in how to recognize and intervene with behaviors of concern. The most effective programs combine appropriate, school-wide disciplinary practices with direct intervention, and involve parents in the process.

- Promote mentoring programs that link youth to adults in the community. The availability of a significant adult outside the immediate family with whom the child can bond has been recognized in the research as a protective factor in reducing the likelihood of early alcohol and drug use.

- Address cultural barriers by offering treatment programs through faith-based institutions such as churches, synagogues, and mosques. Several of the clients interviewed in West Kern in 2008 indicated that church provides a drug-free social setting in which they can build friendships and garner the support they need to "stay clean." Settings such as church basements may seem less intimidating and more welcoming than treatment clinics.

- Offer treatment in workplace settings. It may be possible to forge partnerships whereby employers are given incentives (e.g., tax breaks) for providing treatment at workplaces—accompanied by regular drug testing in order to reduce insurance liability and public safety concerns.

- Revisit the Drug Court model. Drug Court, when operated with fidelity to the original research model, has been shown to be one of the most effective interventions available to reduce recidivism. It requires individuals to come before a judge, submit to random and more frequent drug testing, and participate proactively in a case management system, the goal of which is to move the individual toward employment, mental wellness, and independence. Drug Court includes the use of graduated sanctions to increase compliance and accountability.

- Invest in adolescent treatment programs. Studies show that most addicts begin their drug-using careers as young adolescents, a finding confirmed through interviews with substance abuse treatment clients in West Kern in 2008. By identifying and intervening early in an adolescent's drug-using career, we have an opportunity to alter the negative trajectory of methamphetamine use.

- Incorporate information into public safety forums like Neighborhood Watch to educate citizens about methamphetamine and other drugs. Raising awareness is a way to involve the community in a grassroots effort to address problems associated with drug use, and may provide a forum to recruit individuals for mentoring and other evidence-based practices that reduce the likelihood that young people will experiment.

- Expand partnerships like the one between the Kern County Sheriff and Kern County Mental Health to provide treatment at the county jail for inmates who will later transition back into the community. Programs like this one combine best practices and maximize the partnership potential of agencies and other service providers to both intervene and create a safety net for individuals transitioning from incarceration into the community.

- Explore sources of funding for job development and case management. One of the major reasons that people recidivate is the inability to break free of old associations and the inability to find and sustain employment that pays a living wage. Without the availability of these resources, jails become a revolving door for individuals who have few other options.

The Kern County Methamphetamine Reduction Task Force, recently renamed the Kern Stop Meth Now Coalition, has spent the years since its inception in 2010 in targeting and carrying out activities that support grassroots efforts in the areas of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and suppression. Members of the Coalition regularly offer community presentations to raise awareness and support local prevention and suppression efforts. The Coalition has developed and marketed public service announcements, as well as an informational website and a social media following. It also provides support for activities that incorporate evidence-based practices like mentoring and family strengthening. These efforts have been made with no dedicated source of funding and primarily through in-kind services of county agencies, public and private non-profits, businesses, the faith-based community, and caring individuals who want to make a difference in their communities.

Given the fiscal crisis facing California counties, prevention and early intervention may be the only feasible alternatives to the costs associated with criminal activity, arrest, prosecution and incarceration, and the heavy, heavy social cost of methamphetamine use, particularly to children. It is also true, however, that as non-mandated programs, prevention and early intervention services have been and are always the first cuts made across county departments. Given the current climate and the limited availability of resources, it will take a grassroots coalition of families, schools, businesses, the faith-based community, and local institutions, as well as county government, toward a common goal of reducing the impact methamphetamine and other illegal drugs on our communities. Using both education and environmental strategies to address the problem, and doing so collaboratively, may offer an unprecedented opportunity to reduce methamphetamine abuse in Kern County.

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1. Purpose and Scope of the Study

This study was conceived by the Kern County Behavioral Health Board and in 2008, commissioned by the Kern County Mental Health, Substance Abuse System of Care. The findings were presented to the Kern County Board of Supervisors in September, 2009, and resulted in the creation of the Kern County Methamphetamine Reduction Task Force. The Task Force, which at that time was composed of county agencies, private businesses, schools, the faith-based community, treatment providers, and public and private non-profits, spent a year conducting research on best practices and developed a strategic plan that addressed four primary areas: Public Safety, Business, Family Wellbeing, and Youth Prevention and Treatment. Key to the development of the plan's objectives was the identification of activities that could take place primarily through existing partnerships, and without new funding.

The Task Force, which recently changed its name to the Kern Stop Meth Now Coalition, has spent the years since its inception in 2010 in targeting and carrying out specific objectives from the Strategic Plan, including community presentations to raise awareness and support local prevention and suppression efforts, the development and marketing of public service announcements, the development of an informational website and social media, and support for evidence-based practices like mentoring and family strengthening. In April 2014, the Coalition partnered with California State University, Bakersfield to sponsor its second annual Mentor Conference to promote the recruitment and training of mentors to work with young people in Kern County. In September 2014, the Coalition undertook its third annual "Family Dinners Make a Difference" Campaign in partnership with local businesses throughout the county, promoting research showing that children from families who sit down for a meal together at least five times a week are far less likely to engage in drug use as teens. These are only a few examples of the ongoing work of the Coalition in supporting prevention, early intervention, treatment and suppression of methamphetamine, underage drinking, and other illegal drug use.

The 2014 Update to the original Impact Study is far more limited in scope than the original study, due to limitations in funding, and therefore does not include qualitative data from focus groups, interviews and observations, nor does it include case studies of particular communities or public opinion polls. Eight county agencies, Kern Medical Center, the Bakersfield City Police and Fire Departments, and eight local police departments from outlying communities participated in the May 2014 "Snapshot Study" to update the available data regarding the impact of methamphetamine use on county and local law enforcement agencies. All of these agencies dedicated staff resources as an in-kind contribution to the study.

1.1 An Overview of Methamphetamine

The prevalence of methamphetamine use in Kern County presents a daunting challenge to families, neighborhoods, communities and county service providers. In Kern County, methamphetamine use and dependence is widespread, affecting not just

individual users, but entire neighborhoods and communities. The pathways through which methamphetamine use and dependence continue to impact county services are intricately interconnected, as its abuse is often accompanied by a host of related anti-social behaviors: the neglect and abuse of children, domestic violence, criminal activity to support the habit, risky sexual behavior that exposes individuals to sexually transmitted diseases, and the eventual deterioration of the user's mental and physical health. Furthermore, methamphetamine abuse inflicts economic hardship on families and communities through lost wages due to bouts of unemployment and lost lifetime earnings due to incarceration. While some of the effects of methamphetamine abuse – such as criminal activity and violence – have been visible through crime reports and media outlets, its indirect effects, such as the dissolution of families and neighborhoods, has impacted the county in deeper and less evident ways.

1.1a The Health Effects of Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine is a man-made "psycho-stimulant" developed from its parent drug, amphetamine, during the early part of the 20th century. Stimulants are drugs that increase alertness by stimulating the central nervous system. Like other stimulants, such as cocaine, methamphetamine acts on the processes of the brain to increase heart rate, blood pressure, arousal, and respiration. Though chemically related to amphetamine, methamphetamine is much more powerful, longer lasting and more damaging to the central nervous system.

Though its use may not be as prevalent as other narcotics such as marijuana, for example, methamphetamine is the most commonly reported substance in publicly monitored treatment programs in the State of California.[1] Due to the severity of its effects on the human body, significant health effects are associated with methamphetamine use and dependence. Methamphetamine abuse can alter brain function, it can directly affect an individual's mental health and it can compromise cardiovascular health. The immediate effect of methamphetamine use is increased activity and decreased appetite. Numerous medical studies have found that methamphetamine use is strongly associated with heart disease. Short-term effects include anxiety, insomnia, rapid heart beat, excessive talking and excitation; long-term effects include increased chances of convulsions, stroke and heart attack (Karch *et al.* 1998; Albertson *et al.* 1999; Furst *et al.* 1990).

1.1b Effect on the Brain and Cognitive Functioning

Chronic methamphetamine abuse can cause changes in brain structure, brain function and memory. Numerous medical studies have documented the damage caused by methamphetamine on brain processes and functions. Unlike cocaine, which is quickly metabolized and removed by the body, methamphetamine remains unchanged in the body, giving rise to a prolonged stimulant affect. In the brain, it promotes the release of

[1] Data is based on admissions and discharges from publicly funded treatment services as reported in the California Outcomes Measurement System (CalOMS).

a neurotransmitter chemical called dopamine. The release of dopamine stimulates brain cells, enhances the experience of pleasure and elevates the individual's mood. Prolonged use of the stimulant, however, can lead to brain cell damage. Ernst *et al*. (2000), for instance, found that methamphetamine users suffered from brain damage similar to individuals who had had a stroke or were diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. Volkow *et al.* (2001) found that methamphetamine disrupts the metabolic processes in the *orbitofrontal cortex* contributing to "compulsive drug intake" and addiction to the stimulant. Paulus *et al.* (2002) found that damage caused by methamphetamine to the *orbitofrontal cortex* disrupts decision-making capabilities in individuals and contributes to cognitive dysfunction. Among chronic users of the drug, high concentrations of dopamine can damage nerve terminals, leading to cognitive impairment.

1.1c Effect on Behavior

Persistent methamphetamine abuse can lead to psychotic behavior such as paranoia, hallucinations and violent tendencies. A number of studies have documented the finding that methamphetamine use is associated with violent behavior that has resulted in either self-inflicted injuries or injuries caused to others. For example, trauma patients who test positive for methamphetamine are also more likely to have gunshot wounds and stabbing wounds than patients who test negative for methamphetamine (Cartier *et al.* 2006). Self-inflicted violence and incidents of domestic violence are more than twice as common among methamphetamine-positive patients (Swanson *et al.* 2006). Methamphetamine has been linked to deaths due to homicide, suicide, and traffic accidents, as well as the direct effects of the drug itself. A study by researchers Sekine *et al*. (2006) found that a group of long-term methamphetamine abusers exhibited increased levels of aggression compared to a control group of individuals who were not methamphetamine addicts.

Further research is needed to determine the extent of the destruction of cognitive abilities caused by methamphetamine. One study found that after more than a year of abstinence, former users still showed severe impairments in memory, judgment and motor coordination – symptoms that were very similar to Parkinson's disease. The same study suggests that damage to the brain caused by methamphetamine may not be permanent, but that recovery may depend on the length and severity of drug abuse (Wang *et al.* 2004).

1.1d Effect on Family Wellbeing

The health effects of methamphetamine on children's wellbeing are both direct and indirect. Children who are born to mothers who used the drug during pregnancy are directly affected by methamphetamine: they are 3.5 times more likely to be small for their gestational age, and their birth-weight is more likely to be lower than those babies who were not exposed to prenatal methamphetamine.

Production of methamphetamine in the home, a not uncommon phenomenon, can lead to health consequence for children, who are exposed to heavy toxins from the chemical

> ingredients. Lack of supervision in drug-using homes can lead to children of all ages having access to the drug.
>
> Smith *et al.* 2006

The indirect effects of methamphetamine include the dissolution of families as the drug wreaks havoc on day-to-day functioning and stability of homes and communities. Beyond the impact of methamphetamine abuse on the physical and mental health of users, the habit can also severely compromise the ability of individuals to continue to function at home and in their place of work. As documented in the case studies provided in the original 2008 Impact Study, numerous individuals cited the added energy derived from methamphetamine use as an attraction as to why they first began using the stimulant. Methamphetamine use initially provided the increased energy needed to cope with the pressures associated with balancing the demands of work and family life. Eventually, however, seven out of the eight recovering methamphetamine addicts in the case study featured in this report lost their children to State protective custody and spent time in jail and/or on probation. In some cases, addicts found themselves caught in a perpetual cycle of losing their children, sobering up for a few months – long enough to meet child welfare mandates, to test negative, and reclaim their children – only to then relapse. In one case, this led to the permanent removal and adoption of several children. This upheaval in the lives of young children has long-term psychological consequences, and can lead to disruptive and/or maladaptive behavior in school, compromising children's ability to learn and ultimately to graduate from high school. A further cause for concern is the number of clients interviewed in West Kern who spoke of the generational persistence of substance abuse in their families.

Treatment providers in West Kern discussed how chronic methamphetamine abuse among the wage-earning members of a family leads to a reduction in life-time earnings. Not only are repeat offenders in and out of the work force as they complete their treatment and probation sentences, but a record of incarceration can have a negative impact on future job prospects. This can increase an individual's susceptibility to bouts of unemployment and poverty, further increasing the family's chances of dissolution.

1.1e Impact on Public Services in Kern County

Methamphetamine abuse and addiction among a population draws heavily on the services provided by a county, due to its far reaching impact. County service providers are the community's first line of defense against the ravages of methamphetamine use. Many agencies are "first responders" to a 911 call involving a case of overdose, methamphetamine-related domestic violence, criminal activity, or fire. Other county service providers deal with the longer-lasting effects of methamphetamine use as treatment providers, therapists, Probation officers, social workers and foster caregivers. The spread of methamphetamine abuse in Kern County has impacted the resources of all public service providers, from the fire department, law enforcement,

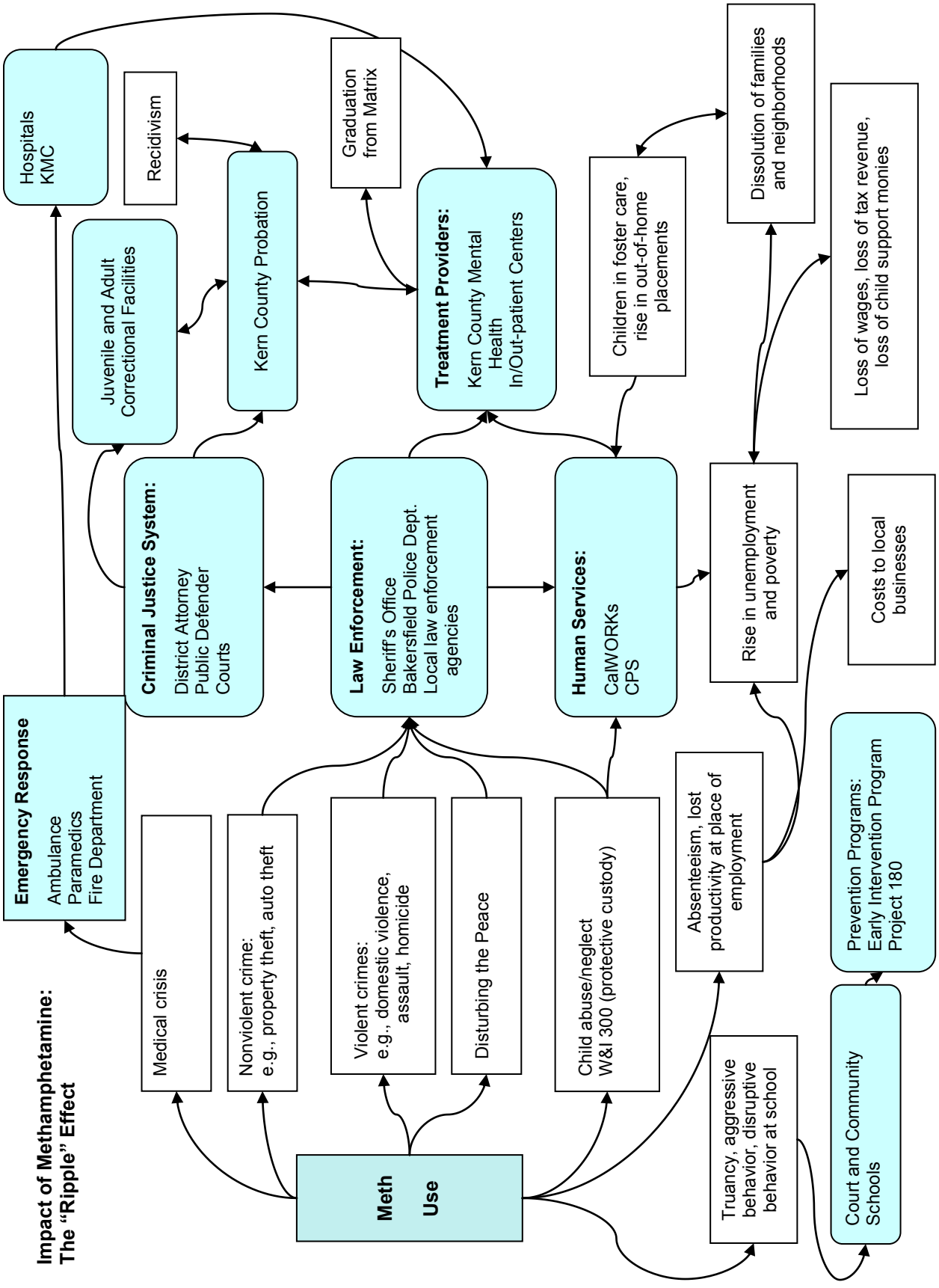
the criminal justice system, probation services, the mental health system of care, and child welfare, to society-wide institutions such as public schools and county hospitals.

As discussed above, significant health effects are associated with the treatment of methamphetamine users. The health effects of using the psycho-stimulant require the provision of both short-term and long-term medical care by hospitals and treatment providers. Existing treatment programs in 15 states, including California (and Kern County), are demonstrating high rates of success in terms of combating addiction and rehabilitating addicts. Rehabilitation treatment for methamphetamine addiction requires a long term commitment to treatment on both the part of the user and the provider (Cretzmeyer *et al.* 2003).

Methamphetamine use and dependence is associated with significant costs to law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. Not only is it illegal to possess, sell and manufacture methamphetamine, but the production and trafficking of the stimulant have proved to be strongly associated with violent behavior, leading counties with high levels of methamphetamine production to establish task forces specifically trained to apprehend methamphetamine producers and traffickers. Many of the violent and nonviolent crimes committed in Kern County are related to methamphetamine abuse, as addicts resort to activities such as theft to support their habit.

Methamphetamine-related activities that result in arrests and incarceration impact the resources of not only law enforcement agencies such as the Bakersfield Police Department and the Kern County Sheriff's Office, but also the Kern County Probation Department, the judicial system and the juvenile and adult correctional facilities. Furthermore, methamphetamine abuse in Kern County in many cases has led not only to ill health and incarceration, but also the break-up and dissolution of families as the arrests of adults have led to the out-of-home placement of neglected, endangered, or abused children. These cases involve the services of the Kern County Department of Human Services and, by association, public schools and Kern Medical Center. According to local authorities, more than a third of the children in the Kern County Child Protective Services Family Reunification Program are there because of methamphetamine use by their parents.

The widespread use of methamphetamine in Kern County is particularly challenging for county service providers, whether they are the first line of defense, long term treatment providers, or case workers who manage the out-of-home placements of children. Both the short-term costs incurred in the arrests and incarceration of methamphetamine users, and the long-term incarceration and treatment of addicts present a serious logistical and financial burden on county services. Given the severity and long-lasting effects of methamphetamine abuse, successful treatment, recovery, reunification of families and the rejuvenation of neighborhoods is likely to be resource intensive. It is therefore important that the allocation of scarce county resources is given careful consideration such that each dollar is spent with foresight regarding how to maximize its impact. The figure on page 6 (The "Ripple" Effect) provides a schematic


Impact of Methamphetamine:
The "Ripple" Effect
Meth Use
Emergency Response
Ambulance
Paramedics
Fire Department
Hospitals
KMC
Recidivism
Graduation from Matrix
Juvenile and Adult Correctional Facilities
Kern County Probation
Treatment Providers:
Kern County Mental Health
In/Out-patient Centers
Children in foster care, rise in out-of-home placements
Dissolution of families and neighborhoods
Loss of wages, loss of tax revenue, loss of child support monies
Criminal Justice System:
District Attorney
Public Defender
Courts
Law Enforcement:
Sheriff's Office
Bakersfield Police Dept.
Local law enforcement agencies
Human Services:
CalWORKs
CPS
Rise in unemployment and poverty
Costs to local businesses
Medical crisis
Nonviolent crime:
e.g., property theft, auto theft
Violent crimes:
e.g., domestic violence, assault, homicide
Disturbing the Peace
Child abuse/neglect
W&I 300 (protective custody)
Absenteeism, lost productivity at place of employment
Truancy, aggressive behavior, disruptive behavior at school
Court and Community Schools
Prevention Programs:
Early Intervention Program
Project 180

representation of the pathways through which methamphetamine abuse can impact the resources of county agencies.

1.2 Data Collection Methodology

For the May 2014 Impact Study Update, TLC staff employed two primary strategies, or methods, to collect data regarding the impact of methamphetamine on county resources. These included (1) collecting statistical data, where available, from county agencies and/or State databases; and (2) conducting a "snapshot" study in which county agencies and other organizations were asked to collect data during the month of May 2014 (a replication of the May 2008 Snapshot Study) on the number of client contacts in which methamphetamine was a contributing factor.

1.2a Client Data from County Agencies

The District Attorney's Office, Kern County Mental Health, and the Kern County Sheriff's Office provided demographic and other aggregate client/case data specific to methamphetamine use—for example, the total number of methamphetamine-related prosecutions, or the demographic characteristics of individuals in treatment. Where data specific to methamphetamine were available, agencies were asked to provide information for the years 2008-2014. In addition, most county agencies agreed to participate in collecting data to assess how methamphetamine use impacts caseloads, law enforcement encounters, and other use of county staff's time. This "snapshot" study, conducted first in 2008 and replicated in 2014, is described below.

1.2b The May 2008 and 2014 "Snapshot" Studies

During the course of in-person interviews conducted in 2008, TLC staff asked agency heads if members of their staffs would be willing to keep a log of every case they encountered during the month of May. The survey instrument used to keep the snapshot log kept the number of questions to a minimum, given that the data were collected by first responders such as firefighters, law enforcement, case workers, and Probation officers. These county employees were asked to note the date of the event, the zip code in which it occurred, gender and ethnicity of the individual involved, the age range of the individual, whether or not the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes/no/suspected), and whether CPS was involved in the contact. Eight county agencies and the Bakersfield Police Department participated in this study.

The purpose of capturing a "snapshot" view of the extent of methamphetamine-related cases is to attempt to measure the impact of methamphetamine use on the agency's line staff and hence its personnel resources. While the research team was aware that any measure of the extent of methamphetamine use would be an underrepresentation, the team felt it was important to capture this view, particularly since few agencies had any other mechanism in place to identify methamphetamine-related cases. This study was replicated in May of 2014.

In both years, the research team chose to look at individual *cases* or *encounters* as the unit of analysis and not individual *clients*. During the month of May, a given individual might have been the defendant in more than one case at the Public Defender's Office, for example, or had multiple visits from a probation officer or social worker. However, since each *encounter* involved the time of county staff and therefore county resources regardless of whether it involved the same individual, the team decided to include every contact made by county staff, regardless of whether it was "duplicated" or "unduplicated."

Those individuals who were arrested for committing a burglary or property crime and were motivated to do so to support their habit were not captured by the Snapshot data. In order to address this deficiency, both in 2008 and in 2014, the Kern County District Attorney's Office agreed to randomly pull cases filed during the first 10 days of May that did not include drug charges, and examine them to determine whether the defendant had any prior history of methamphetamine use, possession, manufacture, or sales on record. While these internal studies are quite limited in scope, they do help capture a more accurate picture of the prevalence of methamphetamine involvement in crime in Kern County.

1.3 Limitations of the Study

A variety of factors limited the scope of both the 2008 and the 2014 study, among them:

Inability to estimate prevalence of use. The purpose of these studies was not to estimate prevalence, but findings beg the question of just how many people in Kern County are engaged in drug use, and specifically in the use of methamphetamine. For a number of reasons, it is not possible to estimate prevalence. As mentioned above, most agencies do not collect information about their clients' use of illegal substances, and even those that do collect such information (e.g., the District Attorney's Office) do not disaggregate the data in a way that allows for a clear distinction to be made between methamphetamine use and the use of other illegal substances. Even the Snapshot studies do *not* attempt to gauge the extent of methamphetamine use among the general public. These studies captured only people who came into contact with a county agency, emergency responders, or local law enforcement agencies during a one-month period. Many users had no contact with these entities during that month.

A further example of the challenge of estimating prevalence: over a period of a month, one methamphetamine user might use the services of the Fire Department as an emergency responder to an overdose, the Public Defender's Office due to a related arrest on drug charges, a social worker at Child Protective Services because children were removed from the home at the time of the arrest, and a Kern County Mental Health treatment provider when the user is court-ordered into treatment—not to mention related hospital and court services. An accurate estimate of resources expended by the county relies not on prevalence data (how many people are using

methamphetamine), but rather involves gauging the impact of a user on each particular agency (total expenditure of resources).

This leads to another key factor in estimating prevalence: many methamphetamine users have little or no contact with county agencies, particularly if they are manufacturing small amounts at home, are not engaged in sales, and are not caught up in a situation that would make discovery likely (e.g., a drug overdose, a DUI, a workplace drug test, or a case of child neglect). All of these factors make it extremely difficult to measure prevalence—but certainly provide a chilling example of how cost to the county for even one drug user can rise exponentially, particularly when children are removed from the home.

***Variation in data collection methods across agencies*.** The ways in which data were collected for both the 2008 and the 2014 Snapshot Studies varied considerably across agencies, such that it was not possible to analyze the data in aggregate (that is, across agencies), but only by individual agency. To give an example: the Kern County Department of Human Services asked every social worker in the field to collect data for the month of May 2014. Responses to this request, quite predictably, varied considerably between social workers and across regions. On the other hand, the Bakersfield City Police Department selected a sample of officers to collect the data, making every effort to represent all shifts and geographic areas. Inevitably, some officers forgot to complete the logs, filled them out incorrectly, or were not available to complete them for all or part of the data collection period (e.g., they were off duty or on vacation). Because a sample rather than a census of officers was engaged in data collection, the loss of any one officer for even a few days skews the data for that agency. In an applied setting (that is, in the "real world"), where the researcher does not have complete control over the data collection process, and where resources are limited, problems of this sort are to be expected. They also make it impossible to generalize findings to the county as a whole. Nevertheless, the data do provide considerable insight regarding the impact of methamphetamine on an individual agency's resources.

Inability to calculate real costs associated with methamphetamine use. One of the primary objectives of the original Impact Study was to estimate the fiscal impact of methamphetamine on agency personnel and resources. This proved to be an impossible task. For example, as one measure of cost, the research team had hoped to use the Snapshot Study to roughly calculate the percent of a line worker's total caseload that consists of individuals directly involved with methamphetamine. The inconsistencies in data collection across agencies is described above. Further problems arose, however. Those completing the survey were asked to complete basic information for every person with whom they came in contact during the course of their shift (or for every call they received); however, staff from some agencies only kept track of encounters they thought actually involved methamphetamine, rather than all encounters. Additionally, emergency response personnel and law enforcement officers are trained not to assume drug use unless drugs or paraphernalia are found, or the person actually acknowledges drug use, and this undoubtedly led to underreporting.

Some county staff are not well trained in recognizing the symptoms of drug use, while still others are over-zealous in assigning drug use in the absence of real evidence or clear symptoms. For all these reasons, it was not possible to calculate the percentage of encounters, or caseload, that were methamphetamine-related and generalize it to an agency as a whole. Additionally, none of the agencies has a system in place to track personnel time expended by individual case; nor did they complete time studies to determine what percentage of time staff spend on methamphetamine-related cases. As was pointed out by a key informant in the Public Defender's Office in 2008, the time devoted to prosecuting and defending a murder case is obviously going to be much greater than the time devoted to prosecuting and defending a simple case of drug possession and sales. Consequently, even though drug cases might take up 35% of an attorney's time, they might account for 75% of her caseload. Without a systematic time study, we cannot estimate the percentage of total time county staff devote to methamphetamine-related cases.

For all these reasons, we found that we could not with any degree of reliability estimate the fiscal costs associated with methamphetamine in Kern County. Nevertheless, the "hard" data that *were* available from agencies, in addition to the Snapshot Studies, make a compelling case about not only the likely cost in agency personnel and resources, but also the human cost of methamphetamine use to families and communities throughout Kern County.

1.4 Organization of the Report

Section 2 of this report provides data from county agencies: the District Attorney, the Public Defender, the Sheriff, Probation (Adult and Juvenile Divisions), Fire Department, Department of Human Services, Mental Health, Public Health, and Kern Medical Center (the county hospital). Section 3 provides data specifically for metropolitan Bakersfield, from the Bakersfield Police and Fire Departments. Section 4 presents the data from eight local police departments operating in communities around Kern County: Arvin, California City, Delano, McFarland, Ridgecrest, Shafter, Stallion Springs, and Tehachapi. Section 5 provides a short summary and conclusions. Agencies in each section are listed in alphabetical order.

2. County Agencies

In 2011, Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. signed Assembly Bill (AB) 109, legislation that addresses the U.S. Supreme Court order to reduce prison overcrowding in California by transferring low-level inmates to county jails or allowing them early release. In interviews conducted by the research team, it was the general consensus of stakeholders in most county and law enforcement agencies that AB 109 is responsible for an upswing in property crimes and other offenses, often perpetrated by individuals under the influence of alcohol, methamphetamine, or other drugs. Whether or not there is a direct correlation, stakeholders agree that the criminal justice landscape has changed considerably since 2008. In a few instances, this had an impact on the way in which agencies collected data for the 2014 Snapshot Study. Where this was the case, data from 2008 are not directly comparable to data collected in 2014, and this is indicated in the text.

2.1 Kern County District Attorney

2.1a Background

In both 2008 and in 2014, the District Attorney's Office (D.A.) provided data on criminal offenses related to the possession, sales, and use of methamphetamine and other narcotics in Kern County. These data were drawn from the Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS), a state database system that tracks offenses and demographic data for offenders. Data from CJIS is used to determine two primary pieces of information for the purposes of this study: (1) the overall percentage of defendants charged with a felony whose charges included methamphetamine-related offenses; and (2) the prevalence of felony methamphetamine cases by community. In addition, the D.A.'s Office analyzed a random sample of all cases filed during the first 10 days of May 2008, in order to determine in non-narcotics cases whether methamphetamine was a contributing factor, and/or the defendant had a previous record of methamphetamine involvement. The same research methodology was used in 2014.

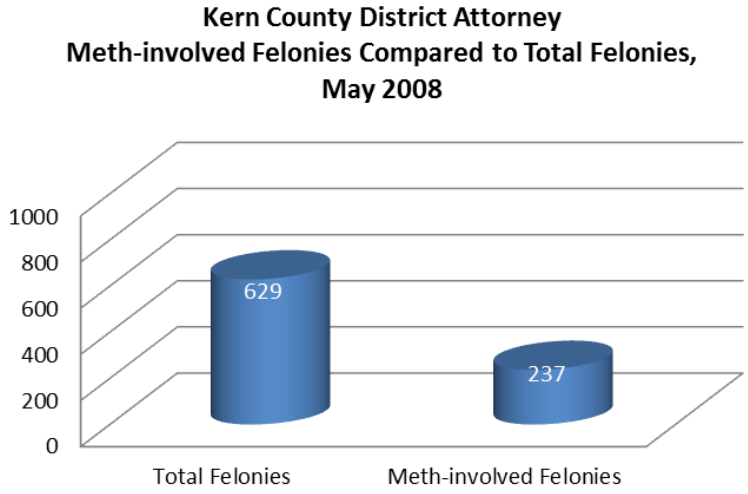
The primary measure of the impact of methamphetamine on the workload of the D.A.'s Office is to look at the percentage of prosecutions related to methamphetamine. Data from the D.A. is entered into CJIS. Crimes such as murder, rape or burglary are prosecuted as "felonies," and these are punishable by more stringent sentences than "misdemeanors." Considered to be less serious crimes than felonies, misdemeanors are usually punishable by heavy fines or a jail sentence that does not exceed a year. Sentences for misdemeanors are usually served in a city, county or local jail as opposed to a State or federal penitentiary. Sentences for felonies, on the other hand, are punishable by more than one year in prison and are served in a State or federal prison. In Kern County, methamphetamine is normally charged as a felony offense.

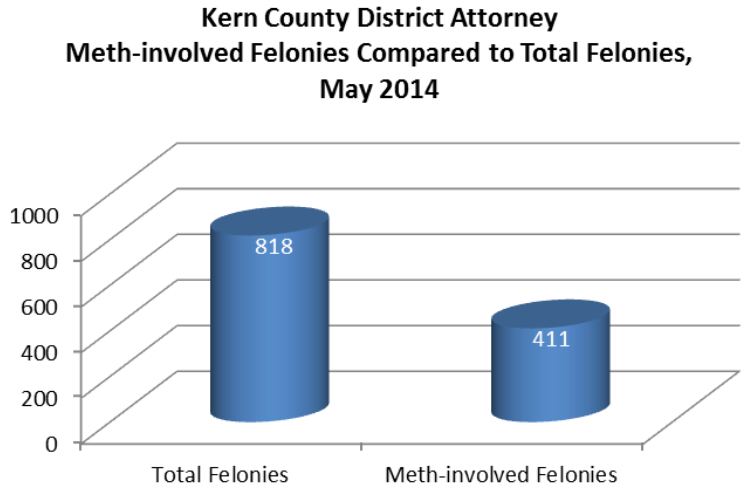
All cases that have to do with the possession, sale or manufacture of narcotics are filed under the "Health & Safety Code" violation (H&S). The possession of methamphetamine is filed as a Health & Safety Code violation 11377(a). A few other

illegal street drugs are also charged under this particular filing number. Since the data cannot be decomposed by each specific drug, it should be noted the category capturing the possession of methamphetamine (11377(a)) may also include cases filed for the possession of PCP or cocaine; however, according to the D.A.'s Office, all other street drugs are extremely rare. Possession of methamphetamine for sale is filed under H&S 11378, and cases involving the sale and manufacture of the drug are filed as H&S 11379.

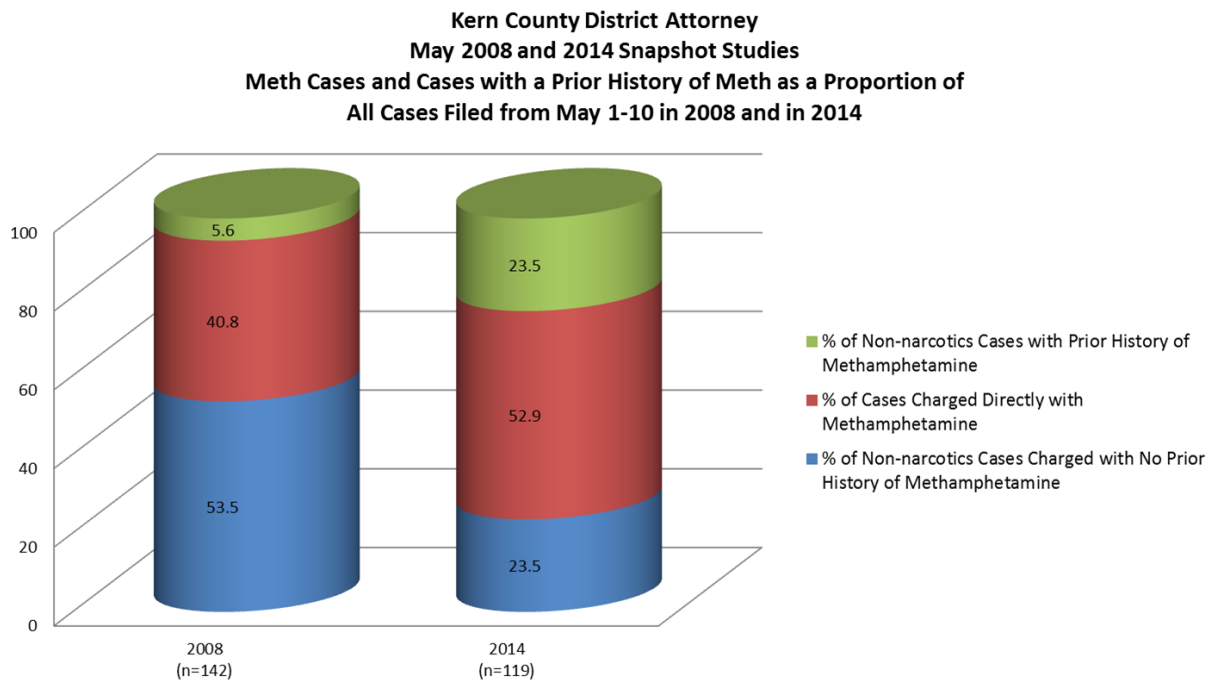
2.1b The Data

An analysis of CJIS data for May 2008 revealed that of 629 felony defendants charged, 237 (37.7%) included methamphetamine-related charges. In May 2014, of a total of 818 felony defendants, 411 (50.2%) faced methamphetamine-related charges.





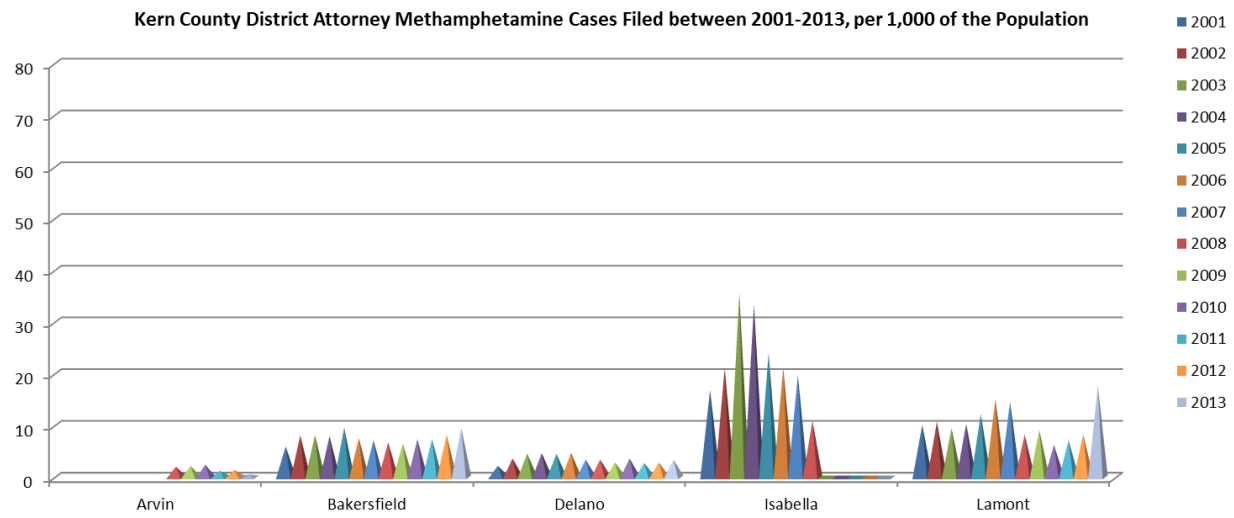
In 2008, then Assistant D.A. Dan Sparks randomly selected 142 cases representing 139 individuals in the process of being prosecuted during the first 10 days of May. He found that a total of 58 of these cases (40.8%) were charged directly with methamphetamine possession, sales or use. He then reviewed the records of the

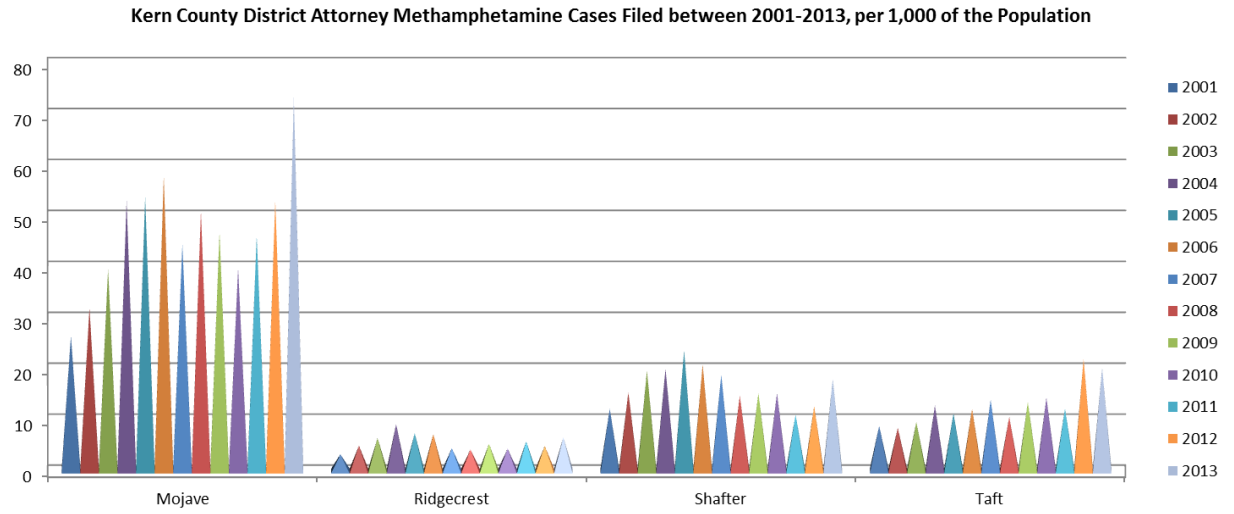


individuals involved in the other 84 cases to determine whether they had a prior history of methamphetamine involvement. Eight (8) of the cases charged for non-narcotics crimes involved individuals who had prior incidents involving methamphetamine on their records. Consequently, a total of 66 (46.5%) of the cases reviewed were currently being prosecuted for methamphetamine, or had a history that included prosecution for methamphetamine.

In 2014, using the same methodology used in 2008, Chief Deputy District Attorney Mark Pafford examined 119 randomly selected cases representing 119 individuals in the process of being prosecuted during the first 10 days of May. Of the 119 cases, 63 (52.9%) were charged directly with methamphetamine-related offenses, and 28 (23.5%) had a history of methamphetamine-related charges. This means that 76.4% of the cases reviewed were currently being prosecuted for methamphetamine, or had a history that included prosecution for methamphetamine.

A comparison of the data between the two years shows a sharp increase both in the percentage of cases directly charged with methamphetamine-related offenses, and in the percentage of non-narcotics cases with a prior history of methamphetamine charges. It is important to keep in mind that these cases, although randomly selected, represent only a very small number of cases prosecuted during the month of May in both years, and many variables, including the time of year, may impact the number and types of offenses committed and charged. Nevertheless, the data present a disquieting trend that suggests that methamphetamine continues to be a serious contributing factor to crime in Kern County.





The research team examined prevalence of felony methamphetamine cases charged in the month of May in 2008 and in 2014 by community. In the original 2008 Kern County Methamphetamine Impact Study, annual data were provided for the years 2001 through 2007 for the jurisdictions of Bakersfield, Delano, Lake Isabella, Lamont (includes Arvin for those years), Mojave (includes Tehachapi), Ridgecrest, Shafter (includes Wasco), and Taft. This year, the team added data from the years 2008 through 2013. The data in these charts are expressed *per capita,* that is, by the number of cases per 1000 of the population. This provides a more realistic picture of the impact of methamphetamine on a community than reporting just numbers, which of course will be much lower in outlying communities than in a metropolitan area like Bakersfield, with a population close to half a million. It is important to note that Lake Isabella has not had its own jurisdiction since 2009; these cases are now directed to Mojave/Tehachapi. By the same token, before 2008 Arvin was included in Lamont's jurisdiction, but now has its own.

The data suggest a moderate to sharp upward trend in methamphetamine-involved cases over the past few years for most Kern County communities; the notable exceptions are Arvin and Delano.

2.1c Summary of Key Findings

- CJIS data provided by the Kern County District Attorney's Office documented a total of 629 total felonies charged in the month of May 2008, of which 237 (37.7%) included charges related to methamphetamine. CJIS data shows a total of 818 felonies charged in May 2014, of which 411 (50.2%) included charges related to methamphetamine.
- In an analysis of 142 cases randomly selected from the pool of all cases charged between May 1-10, 2008, 40.8% included charges related directly to methamphetamine, and another 5.6% had a prior criminal record that included methamphetamine-related charges, for a total of 46.4% of all cases. In an analysis of 119 cases randomly selected from the pool of all cases charged between May 1-10, 2014, 52.9% included charges related directly to methamphetamine, and another 23.5% had a prior criminal record that included methamphetamine-related charges, for a total of 76.4% of cases.
- An examination of the prevalence of methamphetamine cases filed between 2001 and 2013 by community shows that while a few communities are holding stable, methamphetamine-related cases have shown a growth spurt in the past two years in most Kern County communities.

2.2 Kern County Public Defender

2.2a Background

In California, the passage of Prop 36 in 2000 led to the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act (SACPA). Well over half (61%) of California's voters approved this proposition. Under Prop 36, first and second time adult offenders who were convicted for nonviolent drug offenses, such as simply possessing a drug, were eligible to receive substance abuse treatment instead of incarceration. Offenders who violate the terms of their parole or probation, however, might face termination from Prop 36, and incarceration. This was the landscape in 2008, before the passage of AB 109, and four public defense attorneys kept a log of their Prop 36 cases for the month of May in an attempt to capture the impact of methamphetamine use on the agency's resources. The decision in 2008 to limit data collection to Prop 36 excluded cases in which methamphetamine users were involved in violent or other higher level offenses and gave, at best, a limited profile of cases coming to the Public Defender's Office.

In 2014, Public Defender Konrad Moore expanded the Snapshot Study to include all of his attorneys; consequently, the data for 2014 is far more complete and representative of all cases coming through the Public Defender's Office. Because of the differences in research methodology, the data for 2008 and 2014 are not directly comparable, although in some instances there is remarkable congruity between the two datasets.

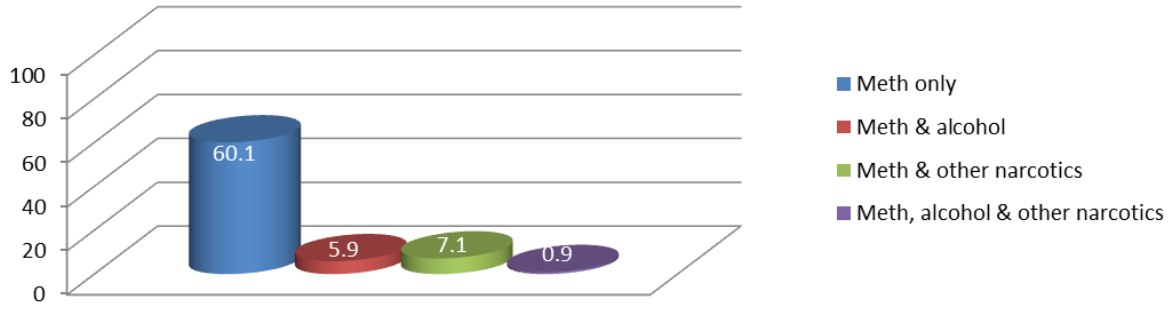
2.2b The Data

The Public Defender's Office returned 323 valid logbook entries for the month of May 2008, and 1,204 valid logbook entries for the month of May 2014. Attorneys were asked to check off boxes for each client they saw during the month, indicating client's age range, gender, ethnicity, and zip code. In order to protect client confidentiality, no other identifying details (such as name or address) were included. Attorneys indicated whether the encounter involved methamphetamine, alcohol, other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* They were also asked to indicate whether the case involved the removal of children from the home during the course of the proceedings.

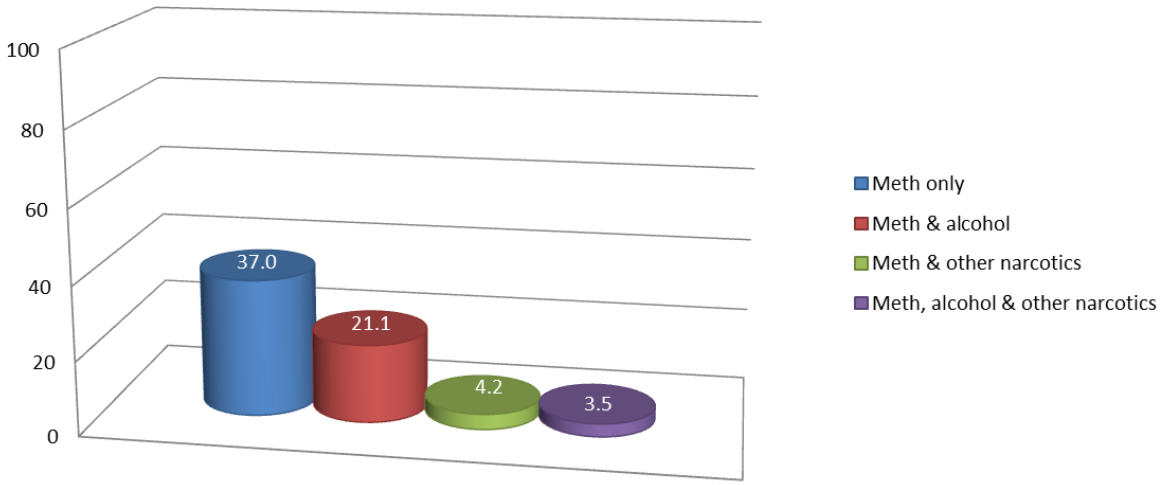
According to the entries, in the month of May 2008, attorneys documented 323 encounters with clients eligible for Prop 36 (that is, alcohol– or drug-related nonviolent offenses). In 194 of these encounters, or 60.1%, "methamphetamine only" was noted in the interaction. Methamphetamine in combination with alcohol and other narcotics was documented in another 45, increasing the percentage of encounters involving methamphetamine to 74.0%. Again, it should be noted that other crimes that may have been committed while under the influence of methamphetamine (such as property crimes, aggravated assault, domestic violence, etc.) are not eligible to be considered

*While attorneys were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, attorneys only put "yes" if the individual was charged with use of one of these substances, or indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was part of the individual's record. Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.

Kern County Public Defender
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics in Prop 36 Cases Only, n=323

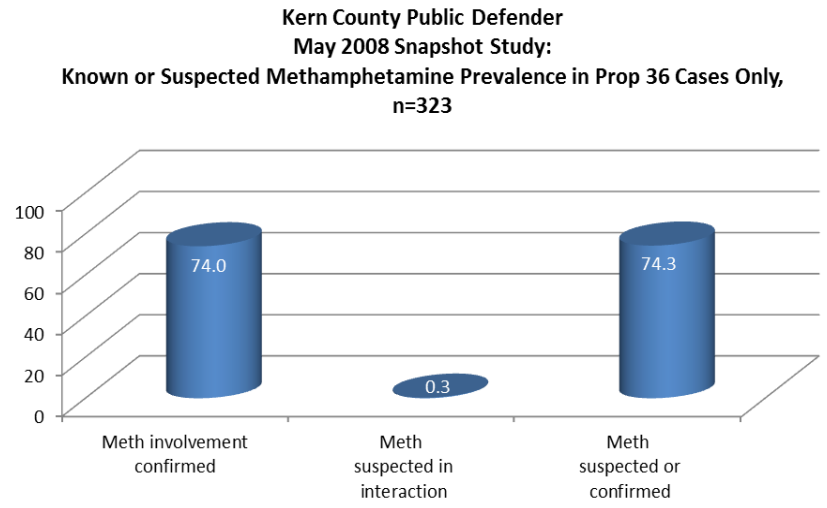


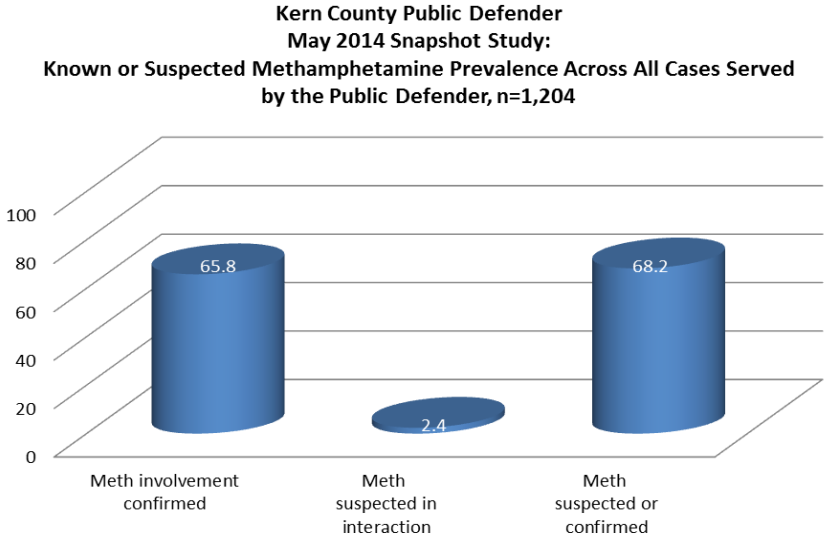
Kern County Public Defender
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics in All Cases Served by the Public Defender, n=1,204



under Prop 36; therefore, they were not included in the 2008 logbook entries. In 2014, the inclusion of individuals in the study other than just those involved in Prop 36 gives a more complete picture of the prevalence of methamphetamine among *all* clients served by the Public Defender's Office.

In May 2014, attorneys in the Public Defender's Office documented 1,204 encounters, of which 792 involved methamphetamine. The percentage of encounters in 2014 that involved *only* methamphetamine was lower than in 2008 (37.0% compared to 60.1%), a not unlikely outcome of limiting the 2008 encounters to Prop 36 cases; however, the percentage of encounters that involved methamphetamine in combination with other drugs was much higher in 2014 (28.8%) than in 2008 (13.9%). Methamphetamine accounted for 74.0% of all encounters in May 2008, and 65.8% of all encounters in May 2014. The fact that confirmed methamphetamine involvement remains so high



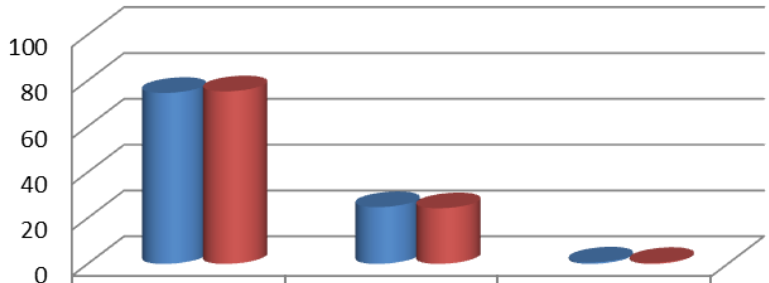


even in the broader population of clients served by the Public Defender's Office confirms research suggesting that alcohol and/or illegal drugs play a prominent role in a large percentage of crimes that may initially appear unrelated to substance use.

Attorneys also documented encounters in which the suspected but could not confirm methamphetamine involvement. When suspected cases of methamphetamine are added to known cases, the percentages rise to 74.3% confirmed and suspected encounters in 2008, and 68.2% confirmed and suspected encounters in 2014.

As shown in the graphs on page 15, in both 2008 and 2014, males constituted the largest percentage of overall encounters and of encounters specifically involving methamphetamine encounters. In 2008, males constitute 74.6% of all encounters, and 75.3% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. In 2014, males constituted 77.6% of all encounters, and 77.3% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.

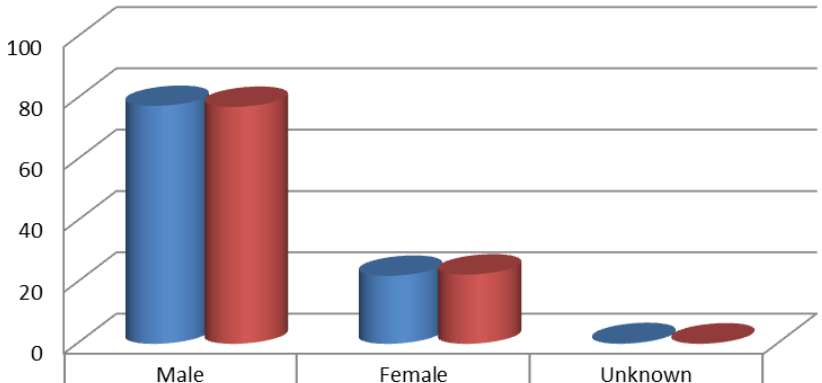
Kern County Public Defender
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Prop 36 Cases Only, by Gender



	Male (n=241)	Female (n=80)	Unknown (n=2)
% of total cases, n=323*	74.6	24.8	0.6
% of meth-involved cases, n=239**	75.3	24.3	0.4

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based on the total number of meth-involved encounters only.

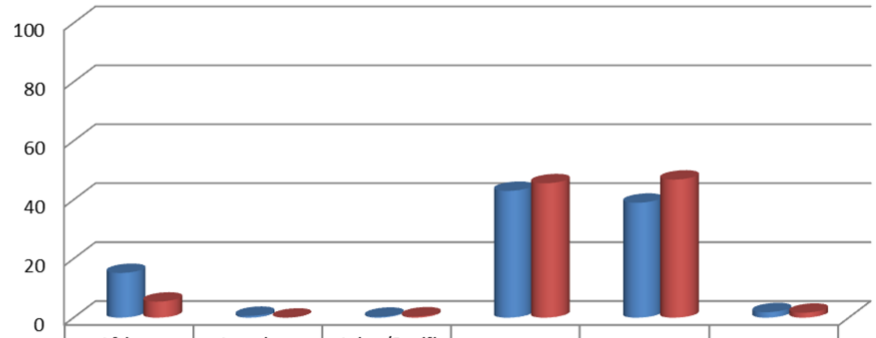
Kern County Public Defender
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Gender



	Male (n=934)	Female (n=267)	Unknown (n=3)
% of total cases, n=1,204*	77.6	22.2	0.2
% of meth-involved cases, n=792**	77.3	22.6	0.1

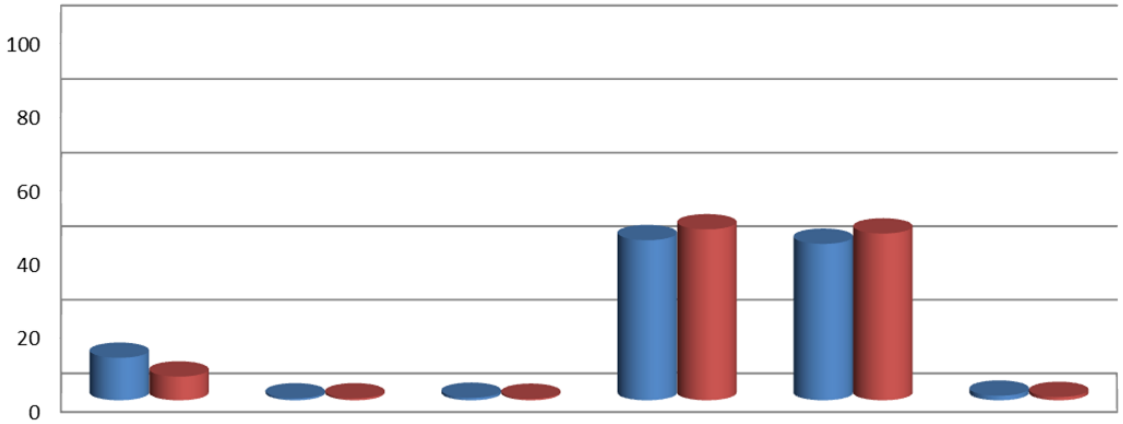
*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based on the total number of meth-involved encounters only.

Kern County Public Defender
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Prop 36 Cases Only, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=49)	American Indian (n=2)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=1)	Hispanic (n=139)	White (n=126)	Unknown (n=6)
% of total cases, n=323*	15.2	0.6	0.3	43.0	39.0	1.9
% of meth-involved cases, n=239**	5.4	0.0	0.4	45.6	46.9	1.7

Kern County Public Defender
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=139)	American Indian (n=6)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=8)	Hispanic (n=524)	White (n=512)	Unknown (n=15)
% of total cases, n=1,204*	11.5	0.5	0.7	43.5	42.5	1.2
% of meth-involved cases, n=792**	6.4	0.5	0.4	46.5	45.3	0.9

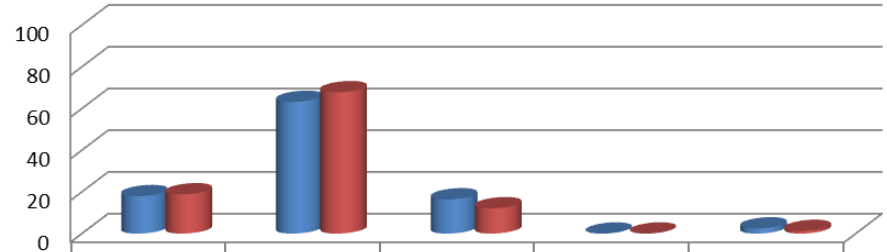
*The sample sizes under each racial/ethnic category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based on the total number of meth-involved encounters only.

An examination of race/ethnicity shows that African Americans in both years were underrepresented among methamphetamine encounters, and Whites and Hispanics were overrepresented. In 2008, African Americans constituted 15.2% of all Prop 36 encounters, but just 5.4% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. During the same period, Whites constituted 39.0% of total encounters, but 46.9% of methamphetamine-involved encounters, while Hispanics constituted 43.0% of all encounters and 45.6% of

encounters that involved methamphetamine. In 2014, African Americans constituted 11.5% of all encounters, but just 6.4% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Hispanics constituted 43.5% of all encounters and 46.5% of methamphetamine-involved encounters, while Whites constituted 42.5% of all encounters, and 45.3% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

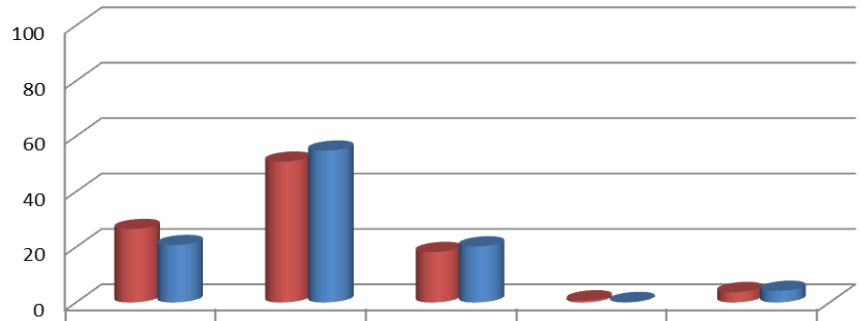
When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by age of the individual, the highest rates of prevalence in both years were in the 26-45 year old category. In 2008, 26-45 year olds accounted for 67.8% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters, while 18-25 year olds accounted for 18.8% and 46-64 year olds accounted for 12.1% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. In 2014, 26-45 year olds accounted 54.8% of methamphetamine-involved encounters, while 18-25 year

Kern County Public Defender
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Prop 36 Cases Only, by Age



	18-25 (n=58)	26-45 (n=204)	46-64 (n=53)	65 or older (n=0)	Unknown (n=8)
% of total cases, n=323*	18.0	63.2	16.4	0.0	2.5
% of meth-involved cases, n=239**	18.8	67.8	12.1	0.0	1.3

Kern County Public Defender
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Age Range

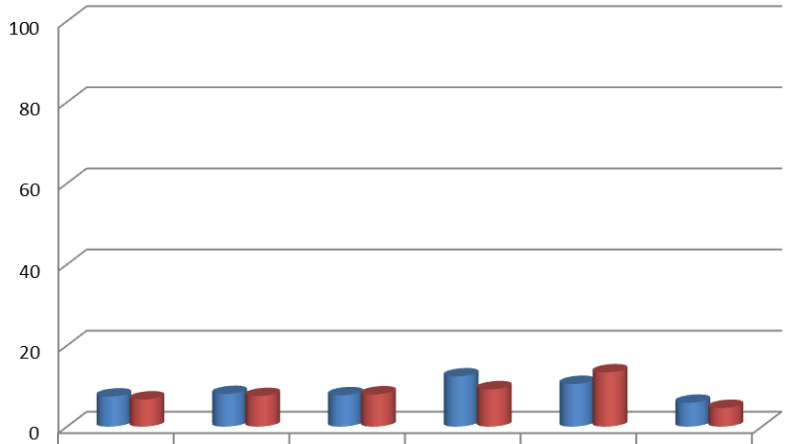


	18-25 (n=319)	26-45 (n=612)	46-64 (n=219)	65 or older (n=9)	Unknown (n=45)
% of total cases, n=1,204*	26.5	50.8	18.2	0.7	3.7
% of meth-involved cases, n=792**	20.7	54.8	20.2	0.1	4.2

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based on the total number of meth-involved encounters only.

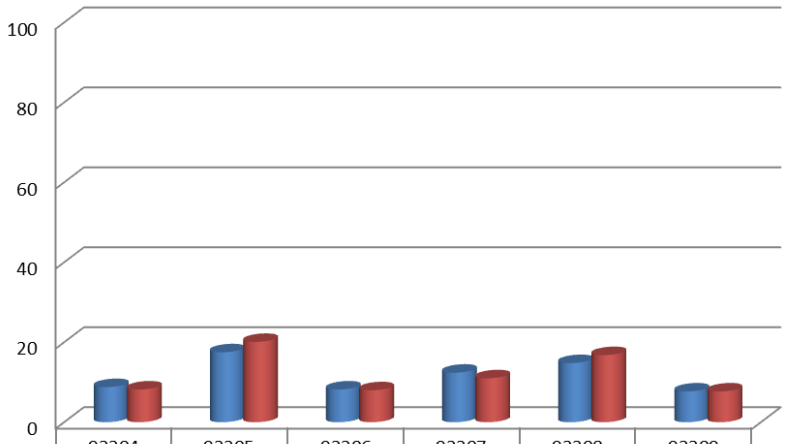
olds represented 20.7% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. The age group of 46-64 year olds represented 20.2% of all encounters in 2014.

Kern County Public Defender
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Prop 36 Only Cases in Metro Bakersfield, by Zip Code



	93304 (n=24)	93305 (n=26)	93306 (n=25)	93307 (n=40)	93308 (n=34)	93309 (n=19)
% of total cases, n=323*	7.4	8.0	7.7	12.4	10.5	5.9
% of meth-involved cases, n=239**	6.7	7.5	7.9	9.2	13.4	4.6

Kern County Public Defender
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases in Metro Bakersfield, by Zip Code

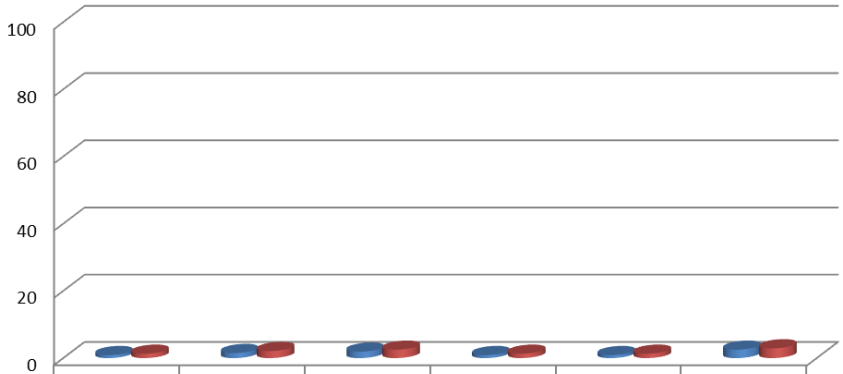


	93304 (n=106)	93305 (n=211)	93306 (n=99)	93307 (n=149)	93308 (n=178)	93309 (n-93)
% of total cases, n=1,204*	8.8	17.5	8.2	12.4	14.8	7.7
% of meth-involved cases, n=792**	8.2	20.1	8.0	11.0	16.8	7.7

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based on the total number of meth-involved encounters only.

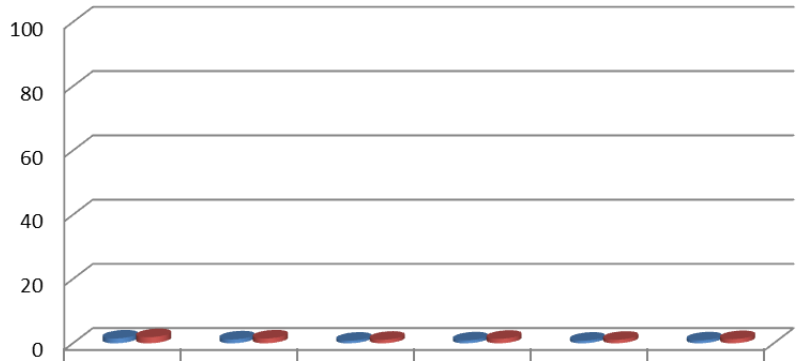
Prevalence of encounters across zip codes was examined for both years, for metro Bakersfield and for outlying communities. In both years, the same six metro Bakersfield zip codes contained the highest number of methamphetamine-involved encounters: 93304, 93305, 93306, 93307, 93308, and 93309. In May 2008, these six zip codes accounted for 51.9% of all Prop 36 encounters and 49.3% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters, with the largest percentage of methamphetamine-involved encounters falling in the 93308 (13.4%) and 93307 (9.2%) zip codes. In May 2014, the same six zip codes accounted for 69.4% of all encounters and 71.8% of all

Kern County Public Defender
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Prop 36 Only Cases in Outlying Communities, by Zip Code



	93203 (n=3)	93241 (n=5)	93268 (n=6)	93285 (n=3)	93555 (n=3)	93561 (n=8)
% of total cases, n=323*	0.9	1.5	1.9	0.9	0.9	2.5
% of meth-involved cases, n=239**	1.3	2.1	2.5	1.3	1.3	2.9

Kern County Public Defender
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases in Outlying Communities, by Zip Code



	93215 (n=15)	93240 (n=12)	93241 (n=9)	93250 (n=11)	93268 (n=9)	93561 (n=10)
% of total cases, n=1,204*	1.5	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9
% of meth-involved cases, n=792**	1.9	1.5	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.3

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based on the total number of meth-involved encounters only.

methamphetamine-involved encounters, with the largest percentage encounters involving methamphetamine falling in the 93305 (20.1%) and 93308 (16.8%) zip codes.

By far the largest number of encounters in both years came from the metro Bakersfield area. Although the numbers were quite small, the research team also examined prevalence for the six highest volume zip codes in outlying areas. In 2008, the largest numbers of methamphetamine-involved encounters were in 93561 (Tehachapi) at 2.9%; 93268 (Taft) at 2.5%; 93241 (Lamont) at 2.1%; and 93203 (Arvin), 93285 (Wofford Heights), and 93555 (Ridgecrest), all at 1.3%. In 2014, the largest number of methamphetamine-involved encounters were in 93215 (Delano) at 1.9%, 93240 (Lake Isabella) at 1.5%, 93250 (McFarland) at 1.4%, 93561 (Tehachapi) at 1.3%, and 93268 (Taft) at (1.1%).

In 2008, log entries documented the removal of five children from the home, and all five were methamphetamine-related. In 2014, log entries documented the removal of 23 children; of these, 12 were methamphetamine-related.

2.2c Summary of Key Findings

- The Public Defender's Office tracked a total of 323 Prop 36 cases in May 2008, of which 239 (74.0%) were methamphetamine-involved. In May 2014, the Public Defender's Office tracked a total 1,204 cases (including Prop 36 and all other cases), of which 792 (65.8%) involved methamphetamine.
- In both years, males predominated in total cases and in methamphetamine-involved cases; in 2008, males represented 74.6% of all cases, and 75.3% of all methamphetamine-involved cases, while in 2014, males represented 77.6% of all cases, and 77.3% of methamphetamine-involved cases.
- In both years, African Americans were underrepresented in methamphetamine-involved cases, and both Whites and Hispanics were overrepresented. In 2008, Whites represented 39.0% of all Prop 36 cases and 46.9% of methamphetamine-involved cases, while Hispanics represented 43.0% of all Prop 36 cases and 45.6% of methamphetamine-involved cases. In 2014, Whites represented 42.5% of all cases and 45.3% of all methamphetamine-involved cases, while Hispanics represented 43.5% of all cases and 46.5% of all methamphetamine-involved cases.
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds (67.8% of all Prop 36 cases involving methamphetamine in 2008 and 54.8% of all cases involving methamphetamine in 2014).
- The same six metro Bakersfield zip codes accounted for the greatest percentage of methamphetamine-involved cases in both years: 93304, 93305, 93306, 93307, 93308 and 93309. In 2008, the highest prevalence was in 93307 (12.4%) and 93308 (10.5%), while in 2014, the highest prevalence was in 93305 (17.5%) and 93308 (14.8%).

- In 2008, the pattern of prevalence in outlying areas, while very small in comparison with metro Bakersfield, showed the highest rates in 93561 (Tehachapi) and 93268 (Taft), while in 2014, the highest rates of prevalence were in 93215 (Delano) and 93240 (Lake Isabella).
- In 2008, five children were removed from the home across all Prop 36 cases, and all five were methamphetamine-related. In 2014, 23 children were removed across all cases, and 12 were methamphetamine-related.

2.3 Kern County Sheriff

2.3a Background

In 2008, the Kern County Sheriff's Office participated directly in the May Snapshot Study. In the metro Bakersfield area, 29 officers kept a log of their encounters during the month of May, and in the outlying communities, 52 officers kept a log. While commanding officers of both divisions attempted to ensure that every shift and region of the county were represented in the data collection, the results from the 2008 Snapshot Study are in no way meant to be representative of all encounters that occurred that May. Some officers were more systematic about making entries than others, officers in some areas entered more data than in others, and vacancies, vacation and sick leave made it impossible to ensure that every area was covered equally.

In 2014, the Sheriff's Office declined to participate in the Snapshot Study in favor of making data on bookings that took place during the month of May available through the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS), the State database to which each law enforcement agency reports data. The difference in research methodology means that the data are not comparable between the two years; nevertheless, the advantage of using CJIS data is that the data are far more comprehensive and complete for 2014 than for 2008. Because of the difference in data collection methodology, data for 2008 are reported separately from data for 2014.

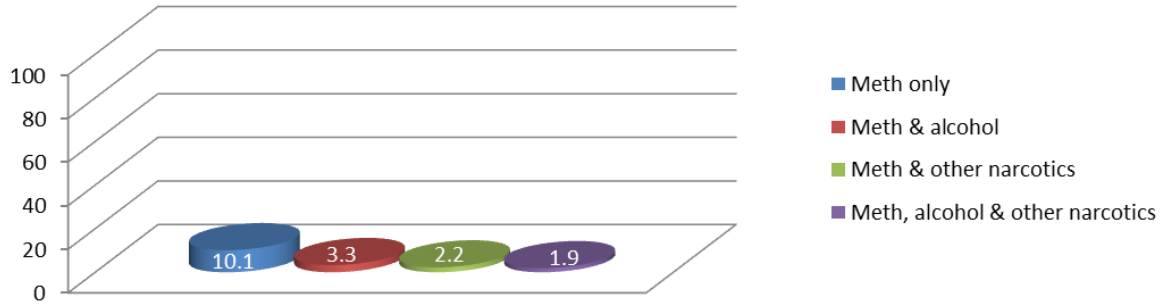
2.3b May 2008 Snapshot Study Data

Officers assigned to metro Bakersfield and to the outlying communities of Kern were asked to describe each encounter they had during the month of May 2008 by documenting the date, the event and the zip code in which it occurred. They were also asked to check off the gender and ethnicity of the individual involved, their age range, and whether or not the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (they were given the option to indicate yes, no, or suspected).* Furthermore, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

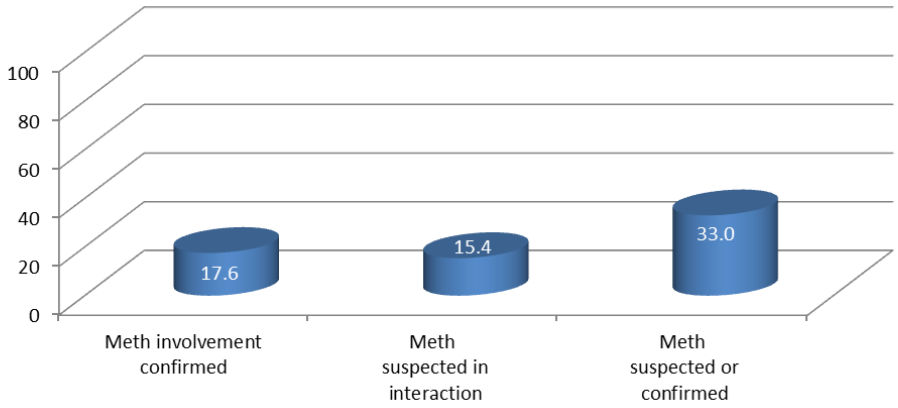
A total of 848 valid logbook entries were returned by officers in metro Bakersfield, and 936 valid logbook entries were returned by officers in the outlying areas of the county. In metro Bakersfield, "methamphetamine only" was noted in 86 cases, and methamphetamine in combination with alcohol and/or other narcotics was noted in an additional 63 cases. This constituted 17.6% of all logbook entries. In addition, there were 131 additional entries (15.4%) in which methamphetamine was suspected but not confirmed. This brings the total of confirmed and suspected cases in metro Bakersfield to 280, or 33.0% of all encounters.

*While officers were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.

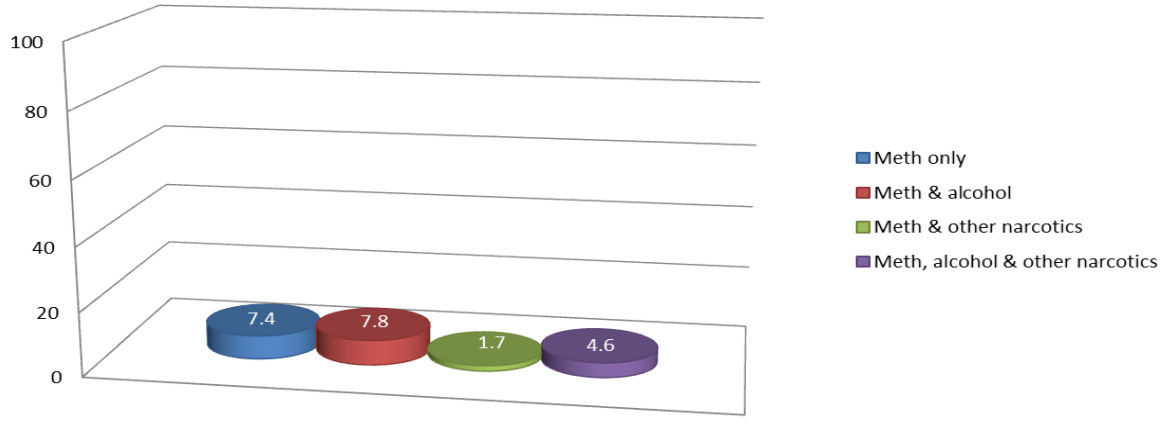
Kern County Sheriff - Metro Area
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics, n=848



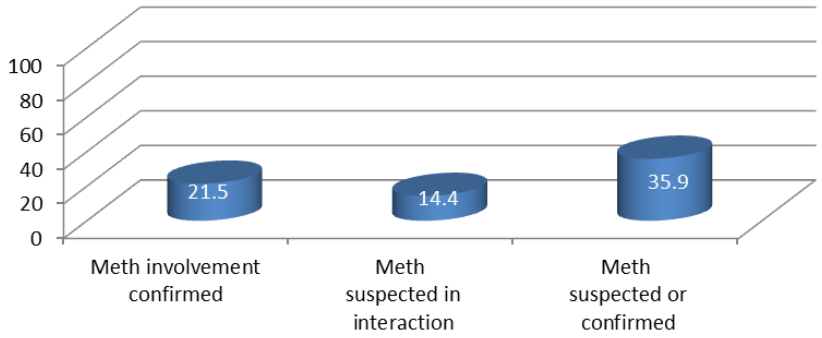
Kern County Sheriff - Metro Area
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence among, n=848



Kern County Sheriff - Outlying Areas
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics in Law Enforcement Encounters, n=936



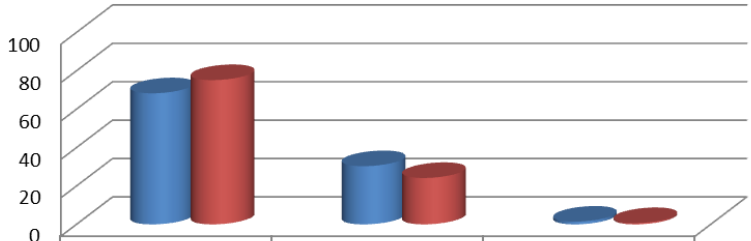
Kern County Sheriff - Outlying Areas
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence in
Law Enforcement Encounters, n=936



In the outlying areas, "methamphetamine only" was noted in 69 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance in 132 entries, for a total of 201 known and suspected encounters involving methamphetamine. This constituted 21.5% of all the logbook entries. In addition there were 135 further entries where methamphetamine was suspected in the encounter. Adding these to the confirmed events yielded a total of 336 encounters, or 35.9% of all logbook entries for the month of May 2008. County-wide, one out of every three logbook entries indicated either the presence or the suspected presence of methamphetamine.

An examination of gender in confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters showed that females were underrepresented in metro Bakersfield and overrepresented in outlying communities. In metro Bakersfield 30.3% of all law enforcement encounters were with women, but just 24.2% of methamphetamine-involved encounters were with

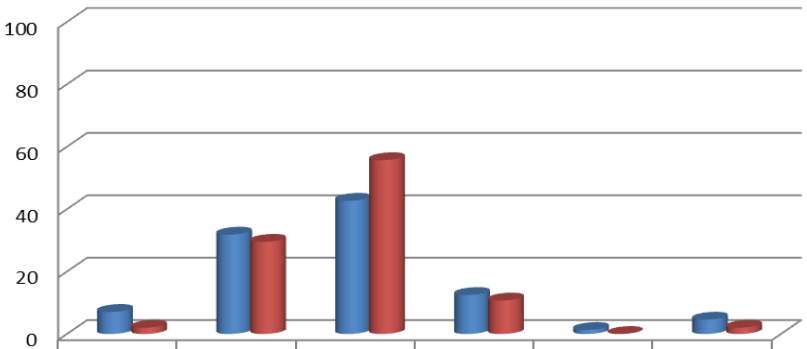
Kern County Sheriff - Metro Area
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Gender



	Male (n=579)	Female (n=257)	Unknown (n=12)
% of total encounters, n=848*	68.3	30.3	1.4
% of meth-involved encounters, n=149**	75.2	24.2	0.7

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern County Seriff - Metro Area
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Age Range



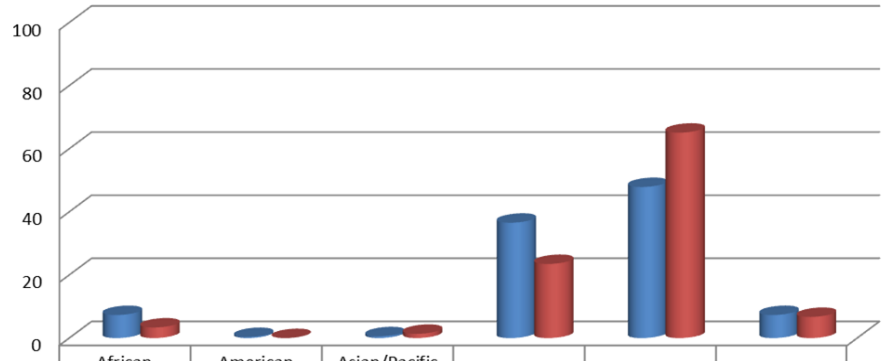
	17 and younger (n=60)	18-25 (n=270)	26-45 (n=362)	46-64 (n=106)	65 or older (n=11)	Unknown (n=39)
% of total encounters, n=848*	7.1	31.8	42.7	12.5	1.3	4.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=149**	2.0	29.5	55.7	10.7	0.0	2.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

women. In contrast, in the outlying areas of the county, women represented 28.5% of all encounters, but 33.8% of encounters involving methamphetamine.

When race/ethnicity are examined, Whites were heavily overrepresented among methamphetamine-involved encounters, and African Americans and Hispanics were heavily underrepresented. Whites constituted 47.9% of all law enforcement encounters, but 65.1% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. The distribution in outlying areas was much more equitable across all races/ethnicities.

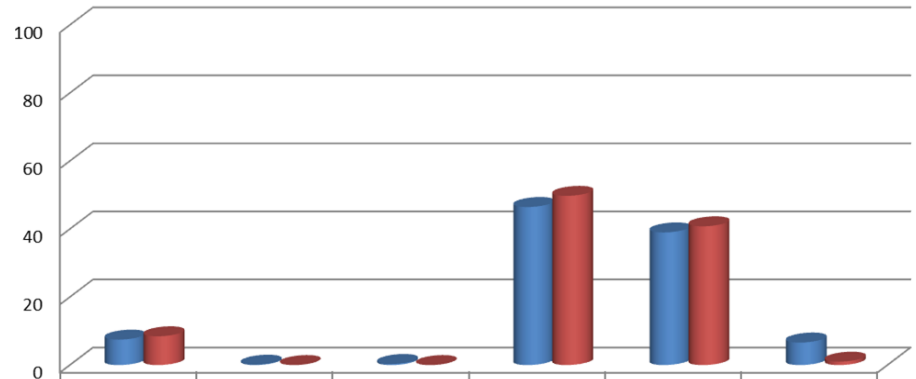
Kern County Sheriff - Metro Area
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=62)	American Indian (n=3)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=5)	Hispanic (n=310)	White (n=406)	Unknown (n=62)
% of total encounters, n=848*	7.3	0.4	0.6	36.6	47.9	7.3
% of meth-involved encounters, n=149**	3.4	0.0	1.3	23.5	65.1	6.7

*The sample sizes under each racial/ethnic category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern County Shriff - Outlying Areas
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Race/Ethnicity

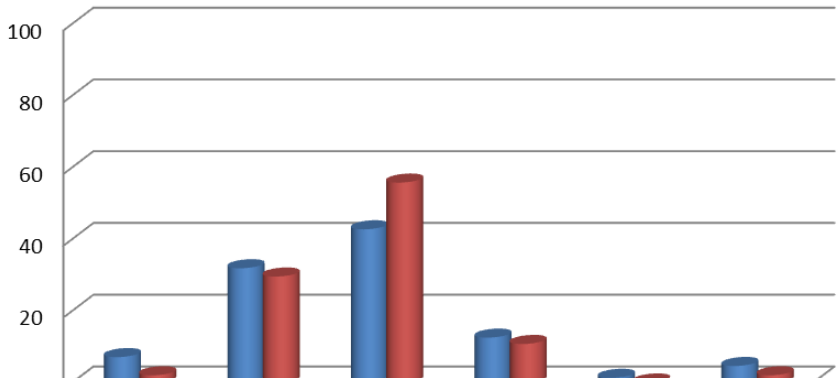


	African American (n=70)	American Indian (n=1)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=3)	Hispanic (n=435)	White (n=365)	Unknown (n=62)
% of total encounters, n=936*	7.5	0.1	0.3	46.5	39.0	6.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=201**	8.5	0.0	0.0	49.8	40.8	1.0

*The sample sizes under each racial/ethnic category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

An examination of age shows that in both metro Bakersfield and the outlying communities, methamphetamine-involved encounters were more prevalent in the 26-45 age group than in any other; in metro Bakersfield, 26-45 year olds constituted 55.7% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters; similarly, in outlying communities

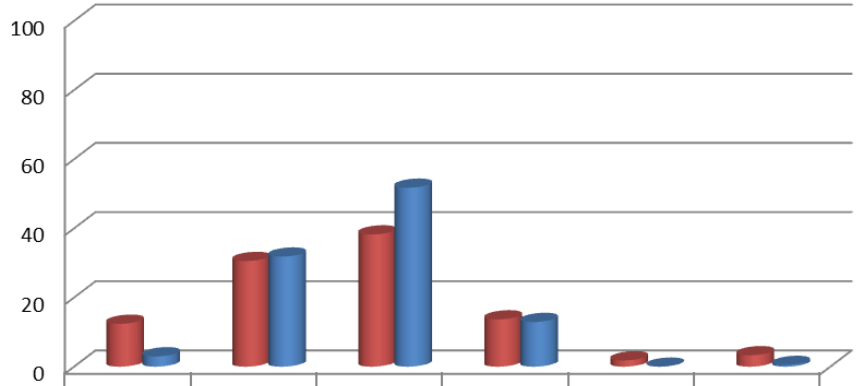
Kern County Seriff - Metro Area
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Age



	17 and younger (n=60)	18-25 (n=270)	26-45 (n=362)	46-64 (n=106)	65 or older (n=11)	Unknown (n=39)
% of total encounters, n=848*	7.1	31.8	42.7	12.5	1.3	4.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=149**	2.0	29.5	55.7	10.7	0.0	2.0

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern County Sheriff - Outlying Areas
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=116)	18-25 (n=286)	26-45 (n=358)	46-64 (n=128)	65 or older (n=17)	Unknown (n=31)
% of total encounters, n=936*	12.4	30.6	38.2	13.7	1.8	3.3
% of meth-involved encounters, n=201**	3.0	31.8	51.7	12.9	0.0	0.5

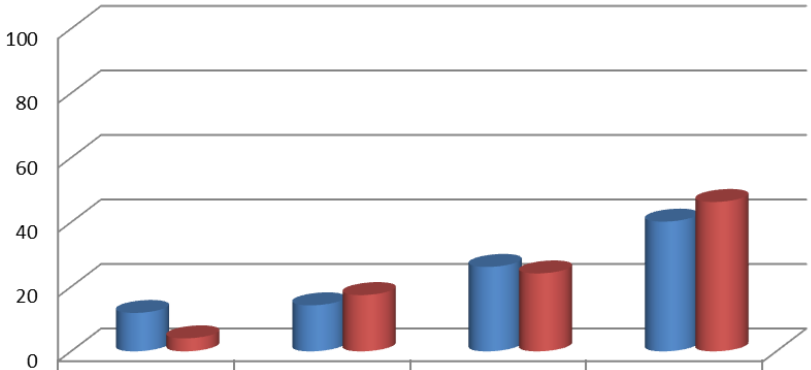
*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

they constituted 51.7% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. In the 18-25 year old category, 29.5% of encounters in metro Bakersfield and 31.8% of encounters in outlying communities involved methamphetamine. Although 17 and younger comprised 7.1% of encounters with law enforcement in metro Bakersfield, and 12.4% of encounters in outlying areas, encounters involving methamphetamine were much less common: 2.0% in metro Bakersfield and 3.0% in outlying areas.

Finally, zip code data were examined to see which areas of metro Bakersfield and the outlying communities showed the highest rates of prevalence. Four zip codes in metro Bakersfield accounted for 91.9% of all logbook entries, with the highest rates of methamphetamine prevalence in 93308 (46.3%) and 93307 (24.2%). The percentage of methamphetamine prevalence in 93308 was disproportionately high to the percentage of overall encounters in that zip code (46.3% compared to 40.2%), whereas the prevalence in 93305 was disproportionately low (4.0% compared to 11.9% of total encounters).

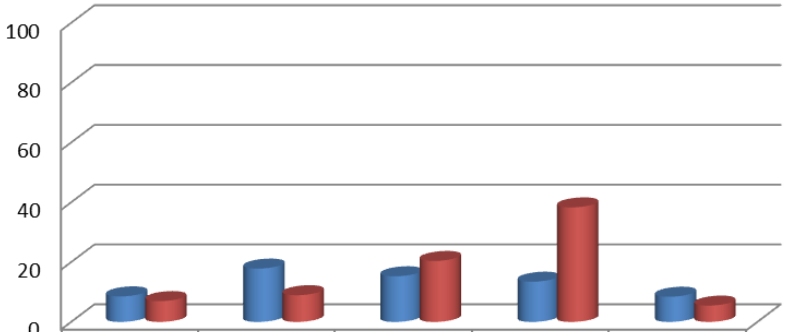
In the outlying areas, five zip codes accounted for 80.0% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Methamphetamine prevalence was disproportionately high in 93280 (Wasco) and in 93268 (Taft). Although 93280 represented only 13.5% of total law enforcement encounters, it comprised 38.3% of all encounters involving methamphetamine. While 93268 represented 15.3% of all encounters, it comprised 20.4% of encounters involving methamphetamine. Zip code 93250 (McFarland) had the overall largest percentage of total encounters at 17.8%, but represented only 9.0% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

Kern County Sheriff - Metro Area
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Zip Code



	93305	93306	93307	93308
% of total encounters, n=848*	11.9	14.3	26.2	40.2
% of meth-involved encounters, n=149**	4.0	17.4	24.2	46.3

Kern County Sheriff - Outlying Areas
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Cases, by Zip Code



	93241	93250	93268	93280	93561
% of total encounters, n=936*	8.5	17.8	15.3	13.5	8.4
% of meth-involved encounters, n=201**	7.0	9.0	20.4	38.3	5.5

*The sample sizes under each zip code category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Officers also documented when children were removed from the home during encounters. In metro Bakersfield, 15 children were removed during encounters that took place in May 2008, and five of these were methamphetamine-related. In outlying areas, 40 children were removed from the home, and seven of these were methamphetamine-related.

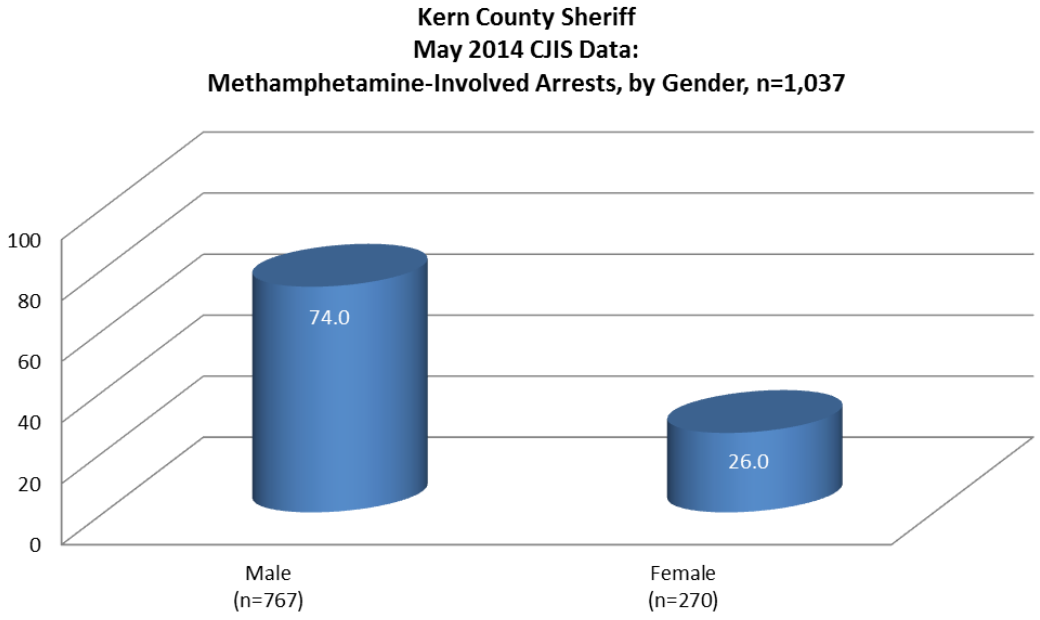
2.3c May 2014 CJIS Data

As discussed earlier, rather than having officers participate in the 2014 Snapshot Study, the Kern County Sheriff's Office made data on bookings available from the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS). An analysis of these data shows a total of 1,255 bookings related to methamphetamine out of a total of 3,744 bookings for the month of May 2014. Methamphetamine represented 33.5% of all bookings in the county for that month.

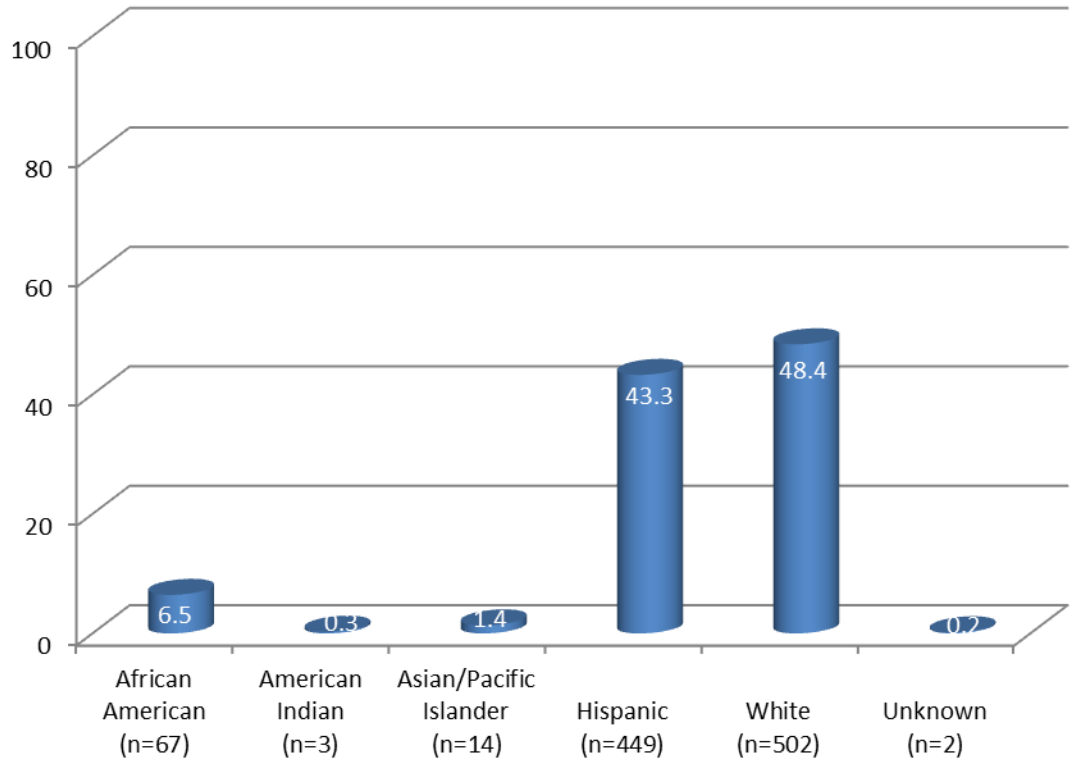
The data from CJIS do have limitations. The research team did not have access to data for all bookings, and therefore could not conduct demographic comparisons between methamphetamine-related and all other bookings. In addition, an individual might have been booked on another crime—grand theft auto or domestic violence, for example—while under the influence, but not booked separately for methamphetamine use. Nevertheless, these data are a far more reliable indicator of the impact of methamphetamine on local law enforcement—and local crime—than the far less controlled Snapshot Study.

An analysis of the 1,255 bookings for May 2014 revealed that 218 were duplicate bookings, meaning that an individual was booked for more than one crime related to methamphetamine. When duplicates are eliminated, the dataset is reduced to 1,037 bookings related to methamphetamine. When data are broken down by gender, males accounted for 74.0% and females for 26.0% of the methamphetamine-related bookings in the month of May 2014.

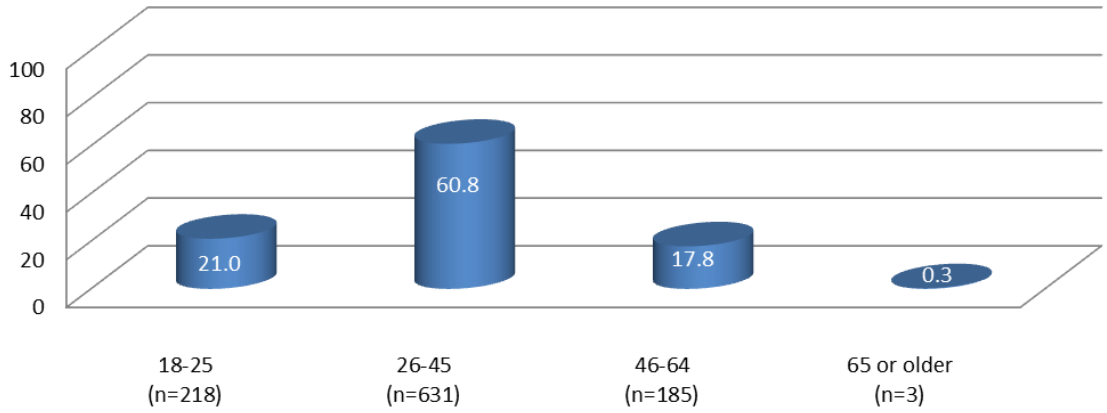
The data for race/ethnicity shows that the highest prevalence in methamphetamine-related bookings was among Whites at 48.4%, compared to Hispanics (43.3%) and African Americans (6.5%). Asian/Pacific Islanders accounted for just 1.4% of bookings related to methamphetamine, and American Indians 0.3%.

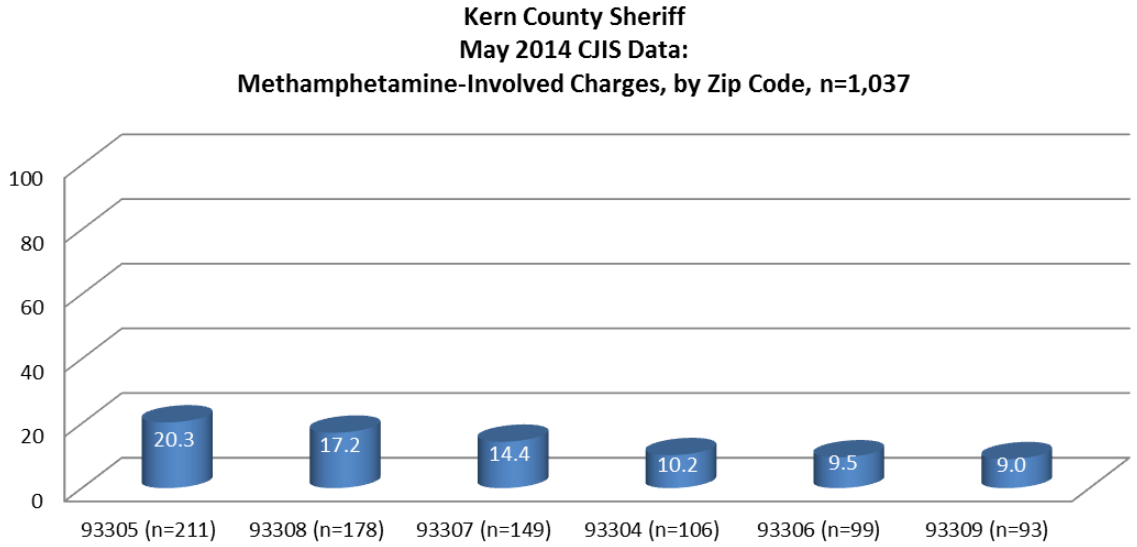


Kern County Sheriff
May 2014 CJIS Data:
Methamphetamine-Involved Charges, by Race/Ethnicity, n=1,037



Kern County Sheriff
May 2014 CJIS Data:
Methamphetamine-Involved Charges, by Age Group, n=1,037





Nearly two-thirds of all methamphetamine-related bookings (60.8%) occurred in the 26-45 age group, followed by 18-25 year olds (21.0%) and 46-64 year olds (17.8%). Individuals 65 and older accounted for just 0.3% of methamphetamine-related bookings.

Six zip codes, all in metropolitan Bakersfield, accounted for 80.6% of bookings related to methamphetamine during the month of May 2014. The highest percentage of bookings occurred in 93305 (20.3%), followed by 93308 (17.2%) and 93307 (14.4%).

The Sheriff's Office also provided data on seizures by the Kern Narcotics Enforcement Team (KNET) and the California Multi-jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team (CAL-MMET). As shown on the table, between 2010 and 2013, KNET reported seizures that peaked at 49,037.87 grams in 2013. Between January and July 2014, an additional 16,865.14 grams were seized (not shown). The street value of methamphetamine varies; however, conservatively, a quarter gram will sell for approximately $20.

CAL-MMET reported seizures in the amount of 58,138.241 grams in 2012 (approximate street value $4,651,059) and 48,819.71 in 2013 (valued at $3,905,57 7).

These data do not include seizures by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), which maintains a strong presence in Kern County.

Kern Narcotics Enforcement Team
Reported Methamphetamine Seizures
2010-2013

Year	Grams Seized	Street Value*
2010	713.71	$57,087
2011	10,071.30	$805,704
2012	3,552.76	$284,221
2013	49,037.87	$3,923,030

*Based on an estimated street value of $20/quarter gram.

2.3d Summary of Key Findings

- In May 2008, the Kern County Sheriff's Office documented 848 encounters in metropolitan Bakersfield, of which 17.6% were methamphetamine-involved, and 936 encounters in outlying areas, of which 21.5% were methamphetamine-involved. In 2014, the Sheriff's Office provided CJIS data on 1,255 bookings related to methamphetamine for the month of May, representing 33.5% of all bookings in the county for that month.
- In May 2008, males represented 68.3% of methamphetamine-related encounters in metro Bakersfield, and 70.2% in outlying areas. In 2014, males represented 74.0% of all bookings related to methamphetamine in the month of May.
- Whites represented the highest percentage of methamphetamine-involved encounters in metro Bakersfield in May 2008 (65.1%), and Hispanics represented the highest percentage in outlying areas (49.8%). In May 2014, CJIS data show that White comprised the highest percentage of bookings county-wide (48.4%), followed by Hispanics (43.3%) and African Americans (6.5%).
- In May 2008, methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds in metro Bakersfield (55.7%) and in the outlying communities (51.7%). CJIS data for May 2014 show that 60.8% of methamphetamine-related bookings were in the 26-45 age group.
- In May 2008, the highest percentages of methamphetamine-involved encounters in metro Bakersfield took place in the 93308 (46.3%), 93307 (24.2%) and 93306 (17.4%) zip codes. The highest percentage of methamphetamine-involved encounters in outlying communities took place in 93280 (Wasco, 38.3%) and 93268 (Taft, 20.4%). The May 2014 CJIS data show the highest rates of prevalence county-wide in Bakersfield's 93305 (20.3%) and 93308 (17.2%) zip codes.
- In May 2008, logbook entries document the removal of 15 children from their homes in metro Bakersfield, and five of these were methamphetamine-related. Logbook entries document the removal of 40 children in outlying areas, and seven of these were methamphetamine-related. These data are not available for 2014.
- Between 2010 and 2013, KNET reported seizures that peaked at 49,037.87 grams in 2013. CAL-MMET reported seizures in the amount of 58,138.241 grams in 2012 and 48,819.71 in 2013.

2.4. Kern County Probation

2.4a Background

Both the Adult and Juvenile Divisions of the Kern County Probation Department participated in the 2008 and 2014 Snapshot Studies; however, the methodology used to collect the data differed in the two years, both between and within the two divisions. For this reason, outcomes are not comparable between the two years.

In 2008, nine officers from the Adult Division kept logs of all new cases and revocations of probation that appeared to involve methamphetamine and other alcohol/ drug use. This resulted in a total of 276 valid logbook entries, representing 36.8% of the 750 new cases and revocations processed during the month of May 2008. In May 2014, 115 officers in the Adult Division were invited to participate in the data collection; a total of 77 returned logbooks with at least some entries completed, for a total of 2,281 valid logbook entries.

In 2008, the Juvenile Division completed logbook entries based on written records obtained for a sample of youth under Probation supervision; this resulted in data for 180 juveniles, approximately 20% of all juveniles supervised during the month of May. In 2014, the Juvenile Division had the majority of their officers collect data on direct encounters with juveniles, resulting in logbook entries for 1,016 youth.

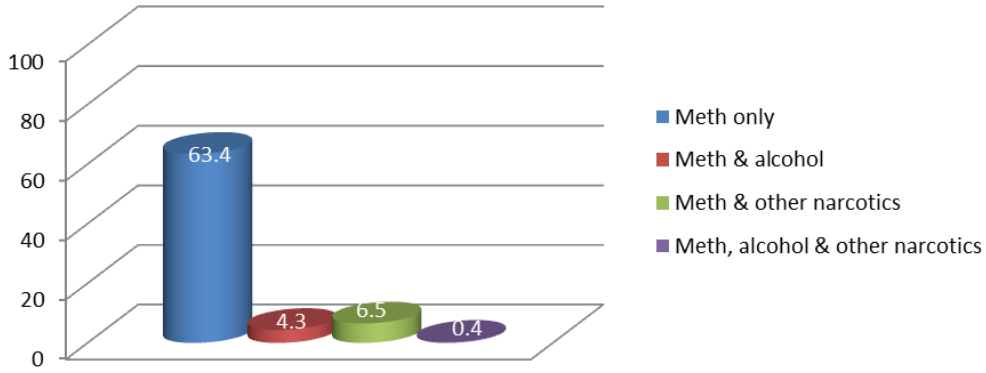
For both the Adult and Juvenile Divisions, each logbook entry involved the officer noting the date of the event and the zip code in which the encounter occurred. Officers were asked to check off the gender and ethnicity of the individual, their age range, and whether or not the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, suspected).* Lastly, officers in Adult Probation were asked to indicate whether or not each incident involved children being removed from their families and taken into protective custody.

2.4b Data from Adult Probation

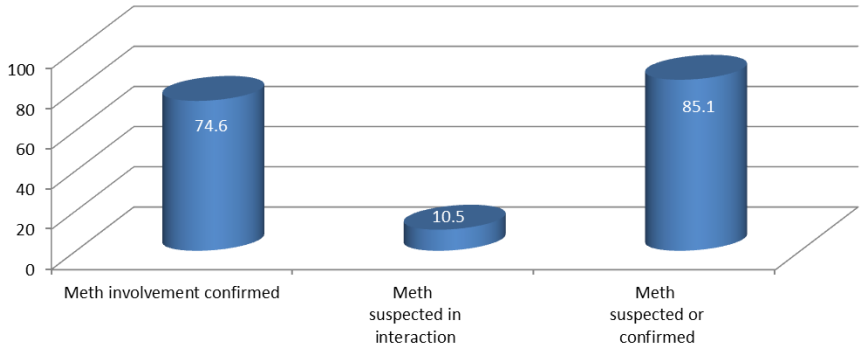
As described above, a total of valid 276 logbook entries were submitted to TLC by the Adult Division, representing 36.8% of the 750 new cases and revocations processed during the month of May 2008. Of these, “methamphetamine only” was noted in 175 entries (63.4%) and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance in 31 entries, for a total of 206 cases involving methamphetamine. This constituted 74.6% of all the logbook entries, and 27.5% of all cases processed by the Adult Division in May 2008. Officers indicated that they suspected methamphetamine involvement in an additional 29 cases (10.5%). The combined total of known and suspected methamphetamine-involved cases was 325, or 85.1% of all adults in the sample. It is

*While officers were asked to check “yes,” “no,” or “suspected” for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put “yes” if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was part of the individual’s record. Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.

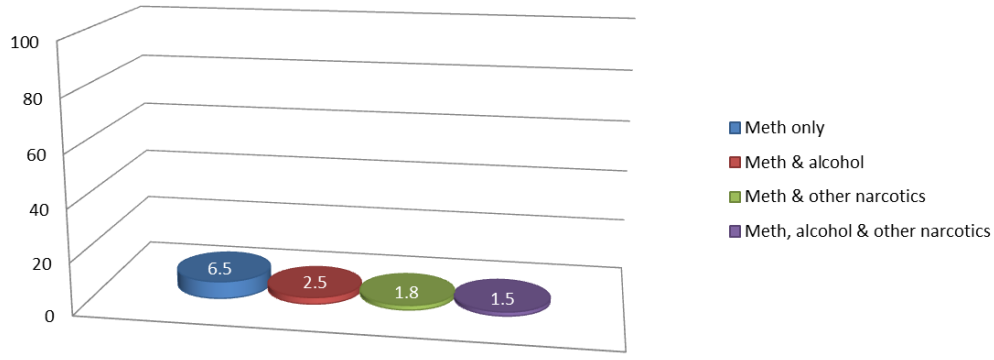
Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics, n=276



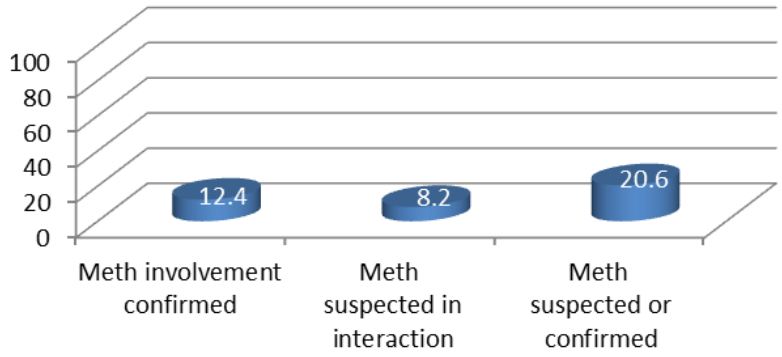
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics, n=276



Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics, n=2,281



Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence, n=2,281

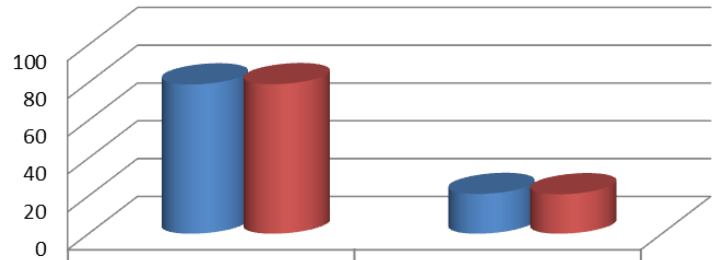


important to note that in 2008, officers kept logs only for those individuals most likely to have drug-related offenses.

In May 2014, when officers throughout the Adult Division kept records of encounters regardless of whether the individual was abusing substances, methamphetamine involvement was confirmed in 282 of the 2,281 valid logbook entries (12.4%). Methamphetamine alone was noted in 6.5% of cases, and methamphetamine in combination with alcohol or other narcotics was noted in 5.8% of cases. Methamphetamine was suspected in another 187 entries (8.2%), for a combined total of 469 cases, or 20.6% of the total sample.

Males comprised the largest percentage of total probation encounters in both years of the study. In 2008, males represented 79.0% of all encounters, and 79.1% of all

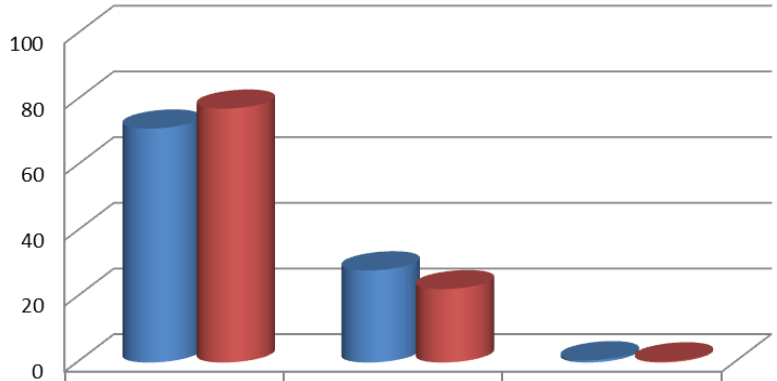
Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=218)	Female (n=58)
% of total encounters, n=276*	79.0	21.0
% of meth-involved encounters, n=206**	79.1	20.9

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender

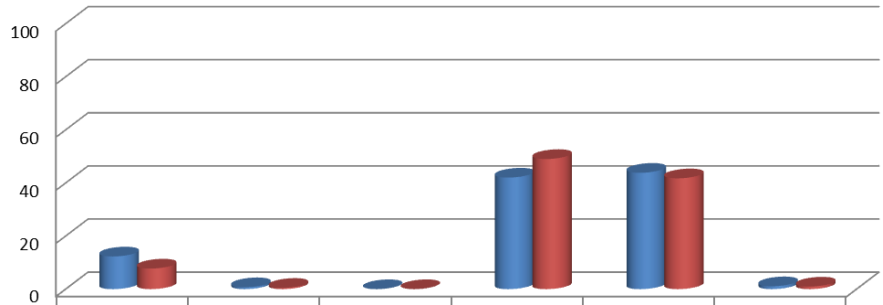


	Male (n=1,625)	Female (n=640)	Unknown (n=16)
% of total encounters, n=2,281*	71.2	28.1	0.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=282**	77.3	22.3	0.4

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

methamphetamine-involved encounters, while females accounted for 21.0% of all encounters and 20.9% of encounters involving methamphetamine. In 2014, males comprised 71.2% of all encounters, but a somewhat higher percentage of encounters involving methamphetamine (77.3%). Women accounted for 28.1% of all encounters in 2014, and 22.3% of encounters involving methamphetamine.

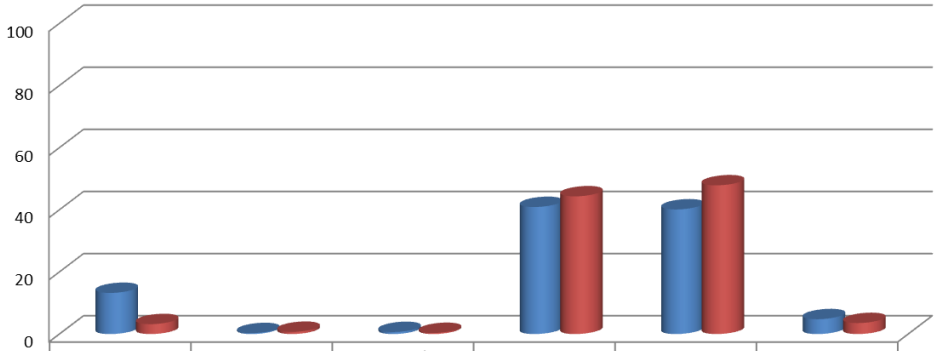
Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=34)	American Indian (n=2)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=0)	Hispanic (n=116)	White (n=121)	Unknown (n=3)
% of total encounters, n=276*	12.3	0.7	0.0	42.0	43.8	1.1
% of meth-involved encounters, n=206**	7.8	0.5	0.0	49.0	41.7	1.0

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=302)	American Indian (n=7)	Asian/ Pacific Islander (n=15)	Hispanic (n=933)	White (n=915)	Unknown (n=109)
% of total encounters, n=2,281*	13.2	0.3	0.7	40.9	40.1	4.8
% of meth-involved encounters, n=282**	3.2	0.7	0.4	44.3	47.9	3.5

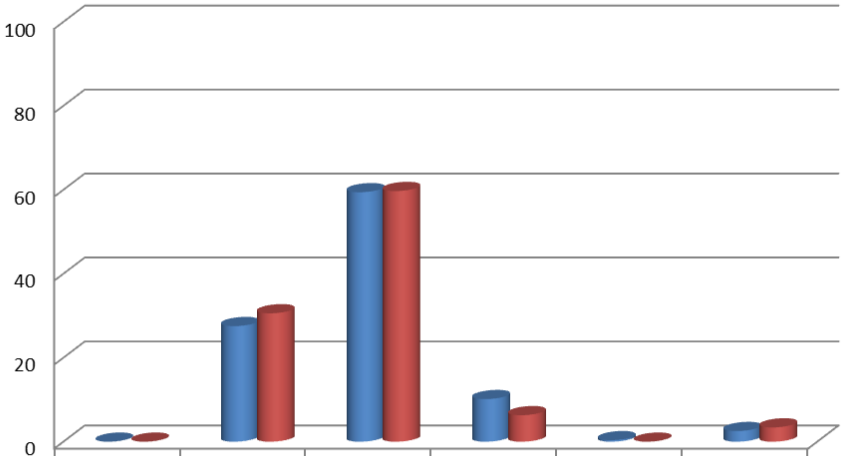
*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

In examining the race/ethnicity of individuals involved with Adult Probation, in 2008, Whites accounted for 43.8% of all encounters, and 41.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters, while Hispanics represented 42.0% of all encounters, but 49.0% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Although African Americans accounted for 12.3% of all encounters, they represented just 7.8% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. American Indians were a small fraction of overall encounters (0.7%) and encounters involving methamphetamine (0.5%).

In 2014, Whites (40.1%) and Hispanics (40.9%) comprised the largest percentage of overall encounters; however, Whites accounted for 47.9% and Hispanics for 44.3% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. African Americans comprised 13.2% of all encounters, but only 3.2% of encounters involving methamphetamine. American Indians and Asian/Pacific Islanders accounted for only a small percentage of encounters that involved methamphetamine (0.7% and 0.4%, respectively).

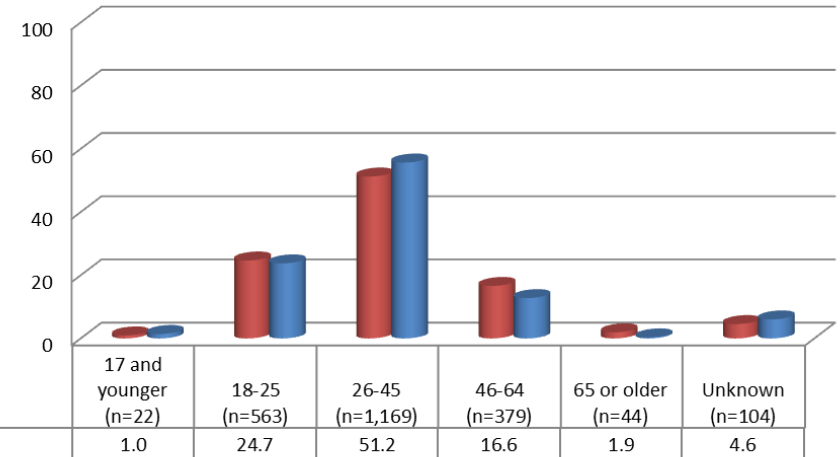
In May 2008, 26-45 year olds represented 59.7% of all methamphetamine-related encounters, followed by 18-25 year olds at 30.5% and 46-64 year olds at 6.3%. The age demographic looked somewhat different for the larger population surveyed in May 2014. While 26-45 year olds constituted the largest percentage of methamphetamine-involved encounters (55.7%), 18-25 year olds accounted for 23.8% and 46-64 year olds for 12.8%. It is important to note that the two populations are not comparable, as the 2008 study included individuals more likely to have substance abuse issues.

Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=0)	18-25 (n=76)	26-45 (n=164)	46-64 (n=28)	65 or older (n=1)	Unknown (n=7)
% of total encounters, n=276*	0.0	27.5	59.4	10.1	0.4	2.5
% of meth-involved encounters, n=206**	0.0	30.6	59.7	6.3	0.0	3.4

Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Age Range



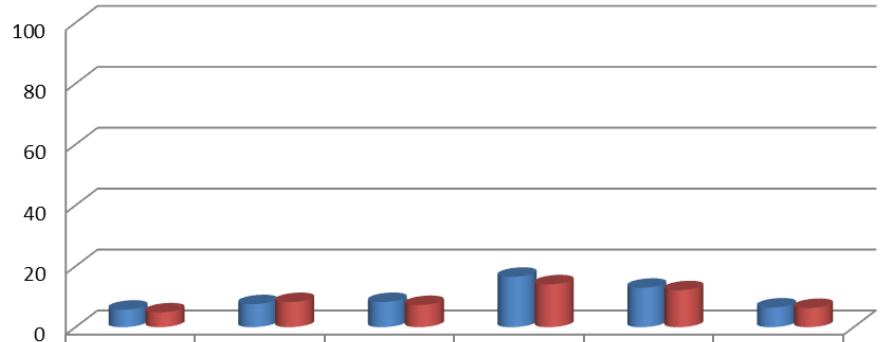
	17 and younger (n=22)	18-25 (n=563)	26-45 (n=1,169)	46-64 (n=379)	65 or older (n=44)	Unknown (n=104)
% of total encounters, n=2,281*	1.0	24.7	51.2	16.6	1.9	4.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=282**	1.4	23.8	55.7	12.8	0.4	6.0

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Six zip codes accounted for 52.9% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters in 2008, with the highest prevalence in 93307 (14.1%) and 93308 (12.1%). In 2014, six zip codes accounted for 68.8% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters, with the highest prevalence in 93308 (20.9%), 93305 (12.8%) and 93307 (11.0%).

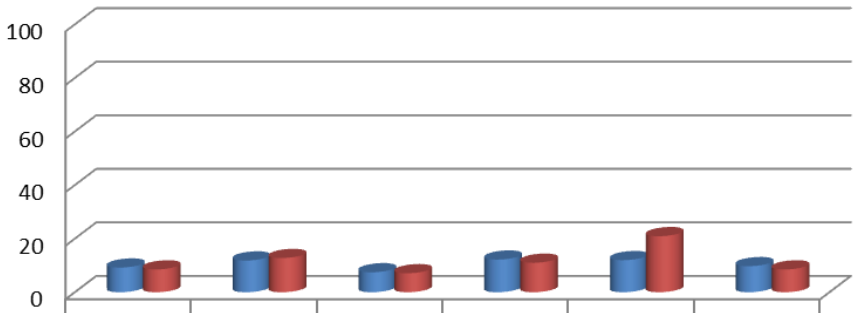
In 2008, five children were removed from the home, and all five cases were related to methamphetamine. In 2014, 37 children were removed from the home, and 12 of these cases were related to methamphetamine.

Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Zip Code



	93301 (n=16)	93304 (n=21)	93305 (n=23)	93307 (n=46)	93308 (n=36)	93309 (n=18)
% of total encounters, n=276*	5.8	7.6	8.3	16.5	12.9	6.5
% of meth-involved encounters, n=206**	4.9	8.3	7.3	14.1	12.1	6.3

Kern County Probation - Adult Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Zip Code

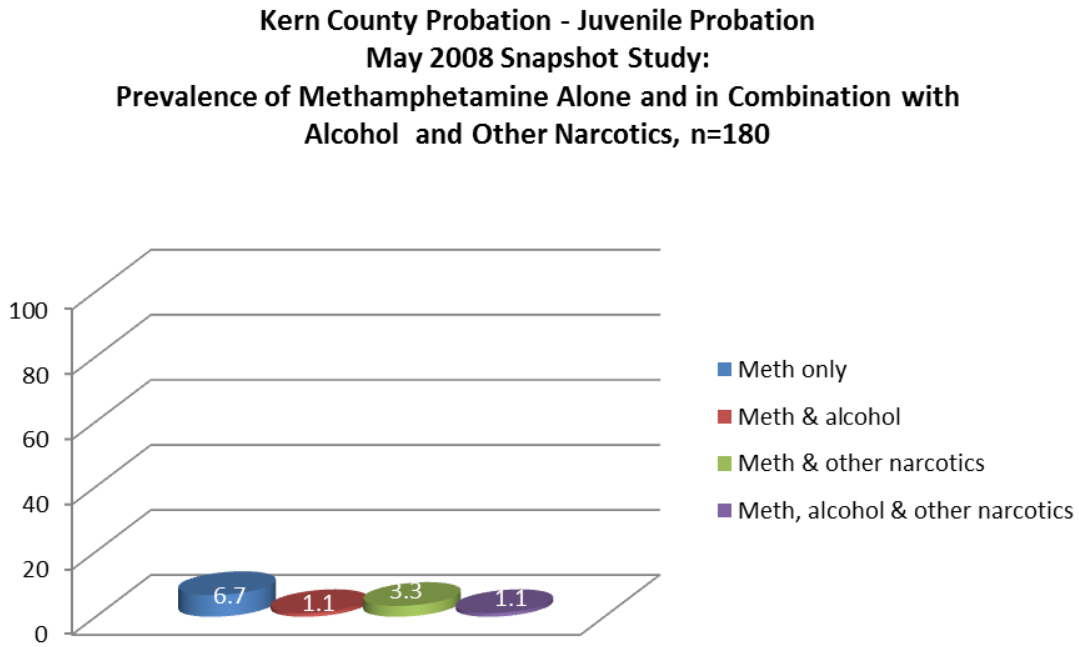


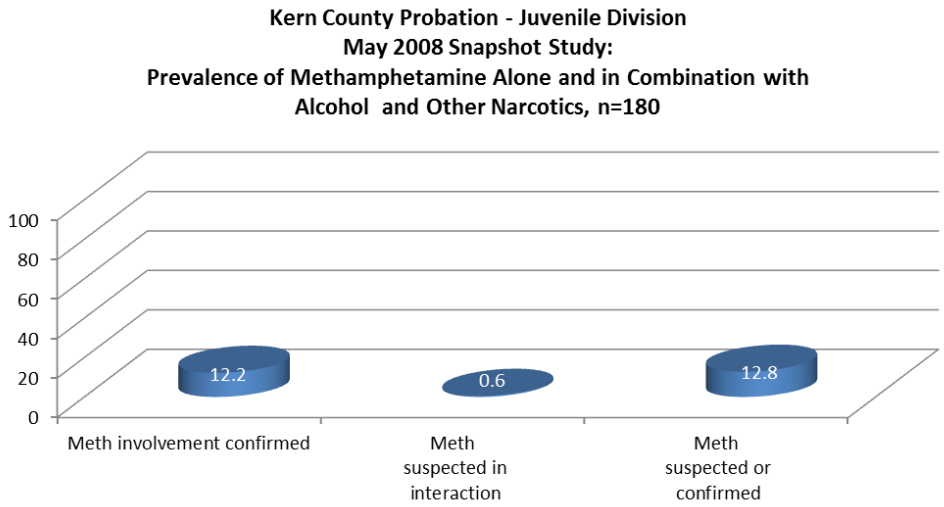
	93304 (n=210)	93305 (n=270)	93306 (n=170)	93307 (n=278)	93308 (n=273)	93309 (n=222)
% of total encounters, n=2,281*	9.2	11.8	7.5	12.2	12.0	9.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=282**	8.5	12.8	7.1	11.0	20.9	8.5

*The sample sizes under each zip code category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

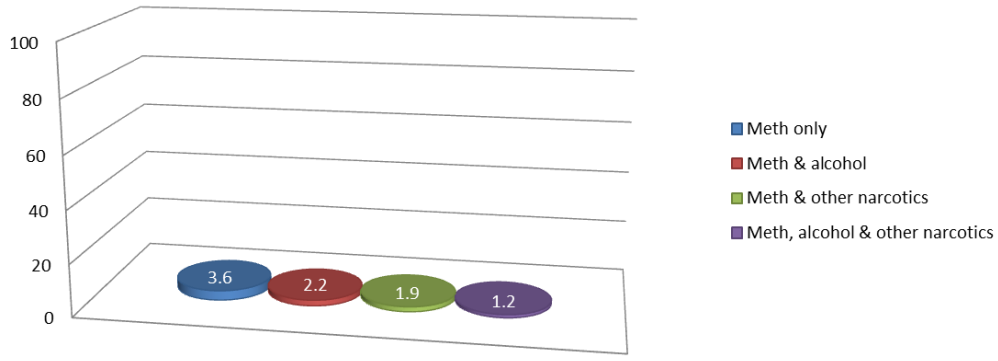
2.4c Data from Juvenile Probation

In 2008, the Juvenile Probation Division provided 180 valid logbook entries of all new juvenile cases and revocations of probation that appeared to involve alcohol and other drug use, including methamphetamine. As mentioned previously, the data were drawn from written records, and represented approximately 20% of cases for the monthly of May. In 2014, 85 logbooks were provided to the Juvenile Division and 54 were returned with at least some entries completed, for a total of 1,016 valid logbook entries. Because of the differences in data collection methodology, the two datasets cannot be compared.

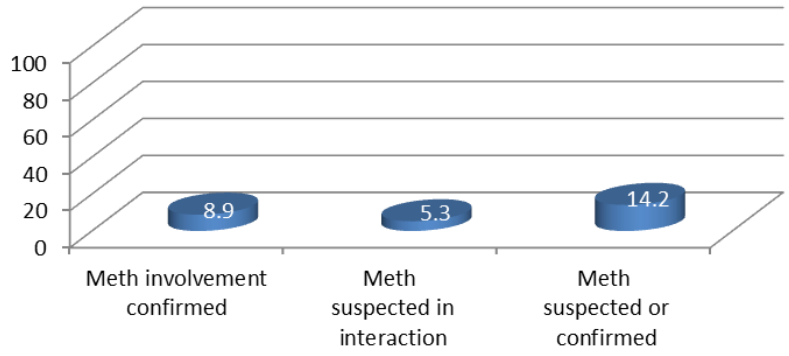




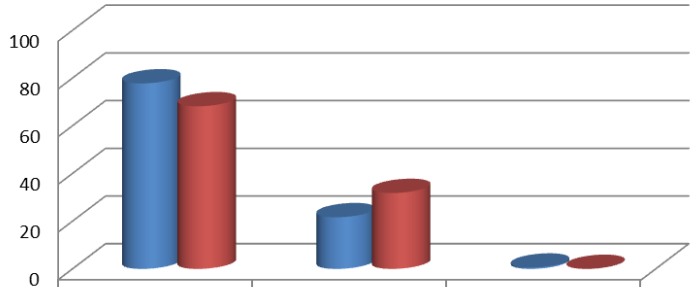
Kern County Probation - Juvenile Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics, n=1,016



Kern County Probation - Juvenile Probation
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence, n=1,016



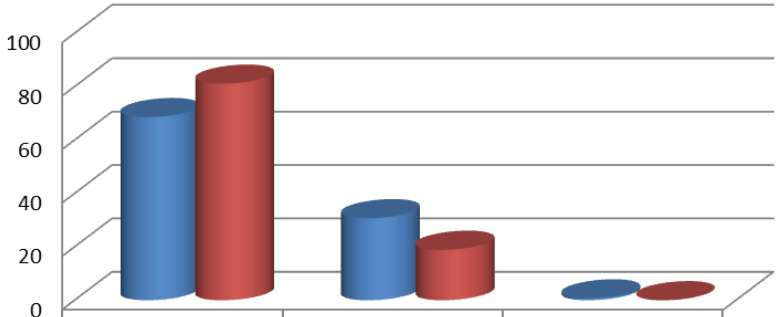
Kern County Probation - Juvenile Division
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=140)	Female (n=39)	Unknown (n=1)
% of total encounters, n=180*	77.8	21.7	0.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=22**	68.2	31.8	0.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern County Probation - Juvenile Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=697)	Female (n=312)	Unknown (n=7)
% of total encounters, n=1,016*	68.6	30.7	0.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=90**	81.1	18.9	0.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

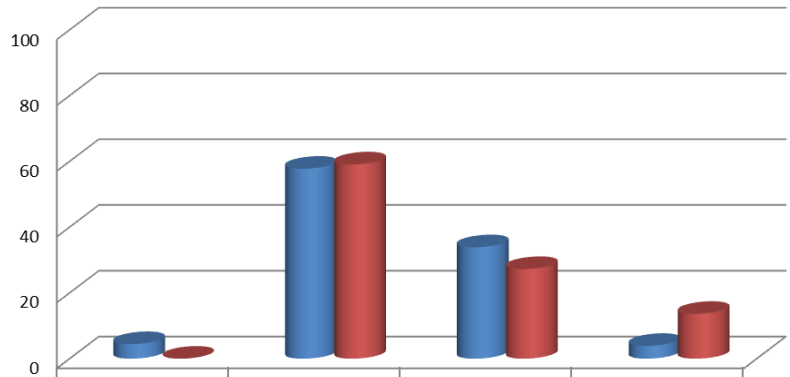
In May 2008, methamphetamine was confirmed in 22 of the 180 encounters logged by juvenile probation officers, for a total of 12.2% of all encounters. Officers suspected the presence of methamphetamine in one additional encounter, for a total of 23 confirmed and suspected cases involving methamphetamine (12.8%).

In May 2014, methamphetamine involvement was confirmed in 90 of the 1,016 valid logbook entries provided by the Juvenile Division. Methamphetamine alone was noted in 37 encounters (6.5% of cases), and methamphetamine in combination with alcohol or other narcotics was noted in an additional 53 cases, for a total of 90 confirmed cases. Logbook entries indicated another 54 suspected encounters involving methamphetamine (5.3%), for a combined total of 144 confirmed and suspected encounters, or 14.2% of the total population.

As was true for adults, males comprised the largest percentage of total encounters in both years of the study. In 2008, males represented 77.8% of all encounters, and 68.2% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters, while females accounted for 21.7% of all encounters and 31.8% of encounters involving methamphetamine. In 2014, males comprised 68.6% of all encounters, but a much higher percentage of encounters involving methamphetamine (81.1%). Females accounted for 30.7% of all encounters in 2014, but just 18.9% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

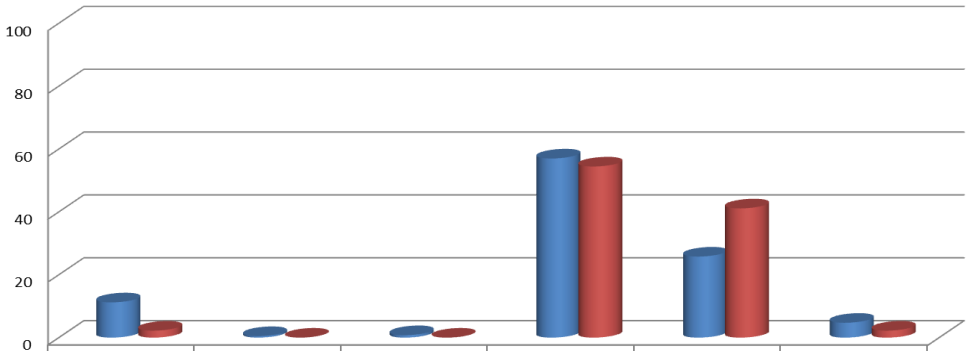
In examining the race/ethnicity of juvenile encounters, in 2008 only four categories were noted: African American, Hispanic, White and Unknown. Hispanics accounted for 57.8% of all encounters, and 59.1% of all encounters related to methamphetamine. Whites accounted for 33.9% of total encounters, and 27.3% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. African Americans comprised only 4.4% of encounters, and none involved methamphetamine. “Unknown” race/ethnicity was documented for 3.9% of all

Kern County Probation - Juvenile Division
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=8)	Hispanic (n=104)	White (n=61)	Unknown (n=7)
% of total encounters, n=180*	4.4	57.8	33.9	3.9
% of meth-involved encounters, n=22**	0.0	59.1	27.3	13.6

Kern County Probation - Juvenile Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=114)	American Indian (n=5)	Asian/ Pacific Islander (n=8)	Hispanic (n=579)	White (n=262)	Unknown (n=48)
% of total encounters, n=1,016*	11.2	0.5	0.8	57.0	25.8	4.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=90**	2.2	0.0	0.0	54.4	41.1	2.2

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

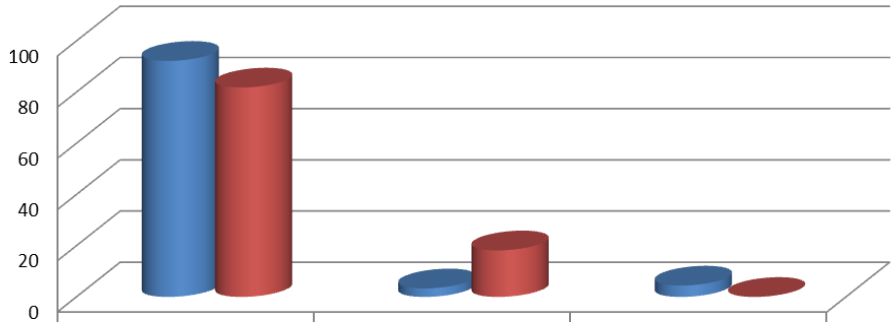
encounters, but these youth represented 13.6% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.

In 2014, Hispanics accounted for the largest percentage of overall encounters (57.0%) and methamphetamine-involved encounters (54.4%). Whites accounted for 25.8% of total encounters, but 41.1% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. While African Americans accounted for 11.2% of total encounters, they represented only 2.2% of

encounters related to methamphetamine. No American Indians or Asian/Pacific Islanders were involved in encounters related to methamphetamine.

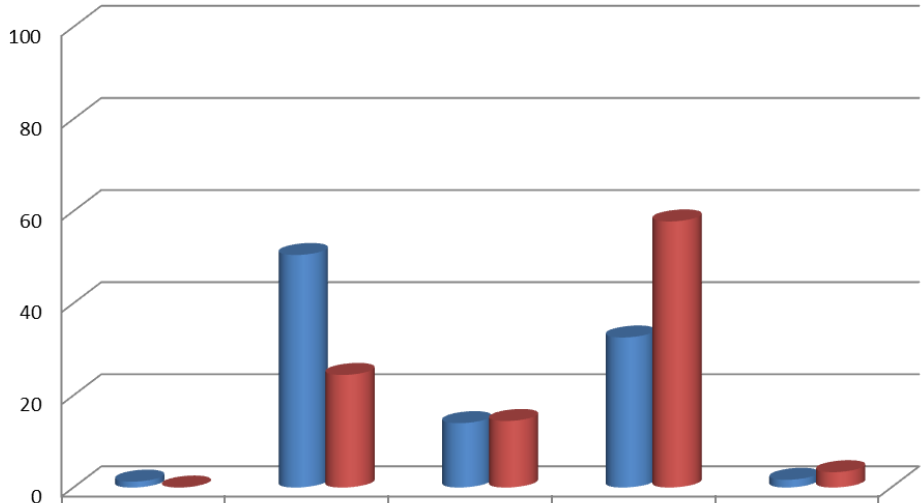
In May 2008, data on age was available only for 17 and younger and 18-25 year olds; in 2014, data were available in the categories 10-12, 13-17, 18-21, and 22 and older. In 2008, youth 17 and younger accounted for 92.2% of overall encounters, and 81.8%

Kern County Probation - Juvenile Division
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Invovled Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=166)	18-25 (n=6)	Unknown (n=8)
% of total encounters, n=180*	92.2	3.3	4.4
% of meth-involved encounters, n=22**	81.8	18.2	0.0

Kern County Probation - Juvenile Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Age Range

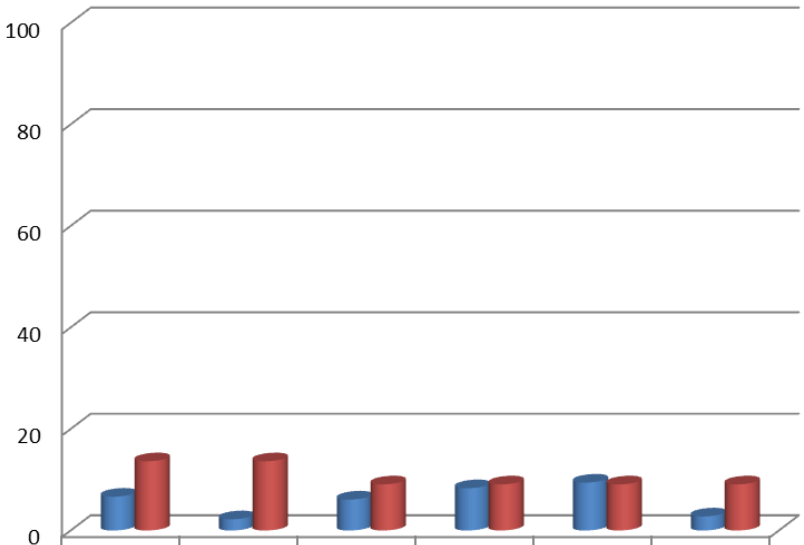


	10-12 (n=13)	13-17 (n=513)	18-21 (n=142)	22 and older (n=331)	Unknown (n=17)
% of total encounters, n=1,016*	1.3	50.5	14.0	32.6	1.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=90**	0	24.4	14.4	57.8	3.3

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

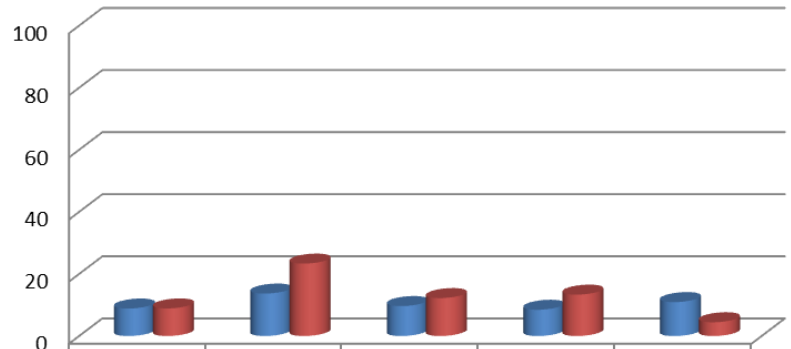
of encounters that involved methamphetamine. Although 18-25 year olds accounted for only 3.3% of total encounters, they represented 18.2% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.

Kern County Probation - Juvenile Division
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Zip Code



	93215 (n=12)	93263 (n=4)	93241 (n=11)	93305 (n=15)	93307 (n=17)	93555 (n=5)
% of total encounters, n=180*	6.7	2.2	6.1	8.3	9.4	2.8
% of meth-involved encounters, n=22**	13.6	13.6	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1

Kern County Probation - Juvenile Division
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Zip Code



	93304 (n=90)	93305 (n=139)	93307 (n=98)	93308 (n=86)	93215 (n=111)
% of total encounters, n=1,016*	8.9	13.7	9.6	8.5	10.9
% of meth-involved encounters, n=90**	8.9	23.3	12.2	13.3	4.4

*The sample sizes under each zip code category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

In 2014, youth 22 years of age and older accounted for 32.6% of all encounters, and 58.7% of encounters related to methamphetamine. The second highest prevalence was in the 13-17 age group, which represented 50.5% of all encounters, and 24.4% of those involving methamphetamine. The 18-21 year old category represented 14.0% of all encounters and 14.4% of all encounters that involved methamphetamine. No youth in the 10-12 year old category included cases related to methamphetamine.

Six zip codes accounted for 63.6% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters in 2008, with the highest prevalence in areas outside of metropolitan Bakersfield: 93215 (Delano, 13.6%) and 93263 (Shafter 13.6%). Two of the remaining top six zip codes were also in outlying areas: 93555 (Ridgecrest, 9.1%) and 93241 (Lamont, 9.1%). Two zip codes were in metro Bakersfield: 93305 (9.1%) and 93307 (9.1%). In 2014, five zip codes accounted for 62.2% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters, with the highest prevalence in 93305 (23.3%), 93308 (13.3%) and 93307 (12.2%), all metro Bakersfield. One additional zip code was inside the city (93304, at 8.9%) and one was outside the city (93215, Delano, at 4.4%).

In addition to the data provided through the logbooks, in 2014 the Juvenile Division conducted a random sample of formal probation cases to determine the approximate number of juveniles either referred for a methamphetamine offense, or those that admitted to use resulting in court ordered drug search and test terms. A random 20% of the approximately 1,500 cases referred to Juvenile Probation in the month of May were selected for inclusion in the study. Of the 295 cases examined, 160 (54.2%) had some involvement with methamphetamine.

2.4d Summary of Key Findings for Adult Encounters

- The Kern County Probation Department's Adult Division tracked a total of 276 cases in 2008, focusing only new cases and revocations during the month of May that appeared to be related to substance abuse. Of the 276 encounters tracked that year, 206 (63.4%) involved methamphetamine. In 2014, the Adult Division tracked all encounters, regardless of whether the individual was known to be involved in alcohol and/or illegal drug use. Of the 2,281 encounters tracked in May 2014, 282 (12.4%) were confirmed to be methamphetamine-involved.
- In 2008, males represented 79.1% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters, and in 2014, they represented 77.3% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- In 2008, Whites accounted for 41.7% of encounters involving methamphetamine, while Hispanics accounted for 49.0% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. In 2014, Whites accounted for 47.9% and Hispanics for 44.3% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- Individuals in the 26-45 age group predominated in methamphetamine-involved encounters in both years of the study, at 59.7% in 2008 and 55.7% in 2014.
- In 2008, with the sample of probation cases involving substance abusers, the highest prevalence by zip code was in 93308 (20.9%), 93305 (12.8%) and 93307

(11.0%). In 2014, with a much larger population, the highest prevalence was in 93307 (14.1%), 93308 (12.1%), and 93304 (8.3%).

- In 2008, five log entries documented children being removed from the home, and all five were related to methamphetamine. In 2014, 37 children were removed from the home, and 12 of these cases were related to methamphetamine.

2.4e Summary of Key Findings for Juvenile Encounters

- The Kern County Probation Department's Juvenile Division completed logbook entries for a sample of 180 cases in 2008. Of the 180 encounters, 22 (12.2%) involved methamphetamine. In 2014, the Juvenile Division included all juveniles. Of the 1,016 encounters documented in May 2014, 90 (8.9%) were confirmed to be methamphetamine-involved.
- In 2008, males represented 68.2% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters, while in 2014, males represented 81.1% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- Hispanics accounted for 59.1% and Whites for 27.3% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters in 2008. In 2014, Hispanics accounted for 54.4% and Whites for 41.1% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- In 2008, youth 17 and younger accounted 81.8% of encounters involving methamphetamine. The breakdown of age groups in 2014 offered more options for analysis. The highest prevalence rate for methamphetamine-involved encounters in 2014 was in the 22 and older category (57.8%), followed by the 13-17 age group (24.4%).
- In 2008, with the sample of probation cases more limited, the highest prevalence by zip codes were 93215 (13.6%) and 93263 (13.6%). In 2014, with a much larger population, the highest prevalence was in 93305 (23.3%), 93308 (13.3%), and 93307 (12.2%).

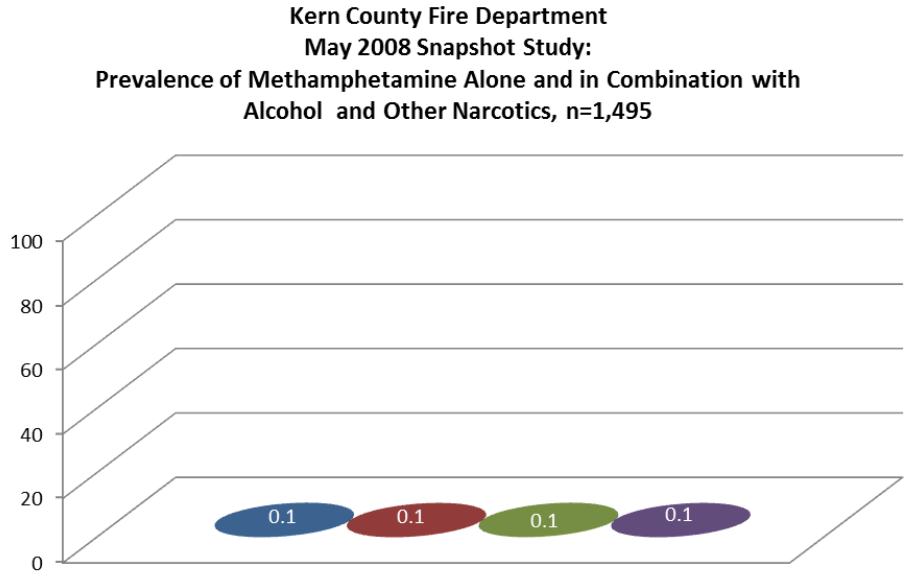
2.5 Kern County Fire Department

2.5a Background

In both May 2008 and May 2014, Kern County firefighters participated in collecting data as part of the county-wide Snapshot Study. In 2008, 42 logbooks were submitted with a total of 1,495 entries. In 2014, 48 logbooks were submitted with a total of 2,026 entries. Staff was asked to describe each encounter by documenting the date, the event and the zip code in which it occurred. They were also asked to check off the gender and ethnicity of the individual involved in the emergency call, age range, and whether or not the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics. Staff was also asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

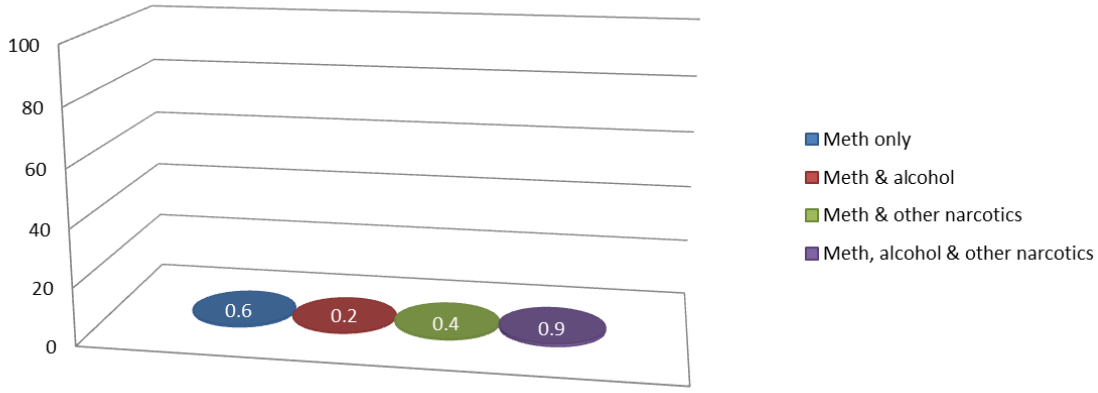
2.5b The Data

Of the 1,495 entries logged in May 2008, only six encounters (0.4%) were positively identified as involving methamphetamine. Suspected methamphetamine was included in another 69 cases (4.6%), for a total of 75 confirmed and suspected cases (5.0%). Of the 2,026 entries logged in 2014, 42 (3.4%) were positively identified as involving methamphetamine. Methamphetamine was suspected in another 149 encounters (11.9%), for a total of 191 confirmed and suspected cases (15.2%).

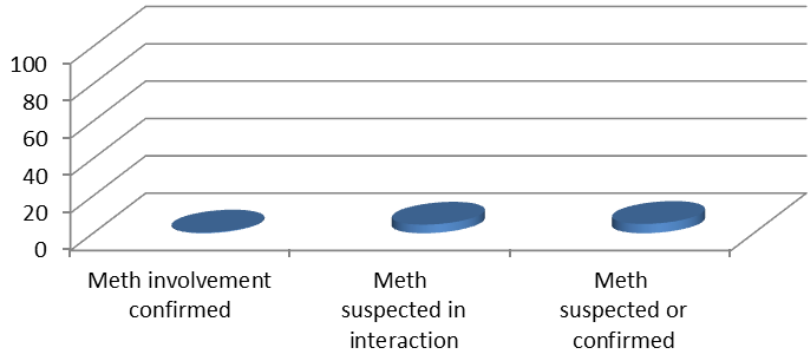


*While firefighters were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, they only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was part of the individual's record. Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report and emergency responders are trained to avoid diagnosis in the absence of clear evidence; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.

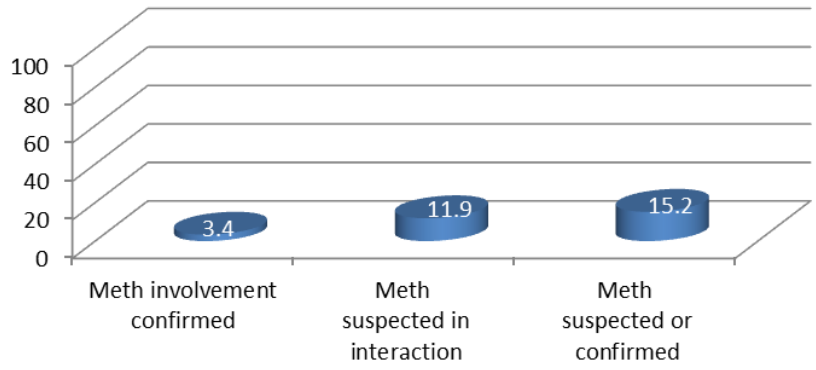
Kern County Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics, n=2,026



Kern County Fire Department
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence, n=1,495

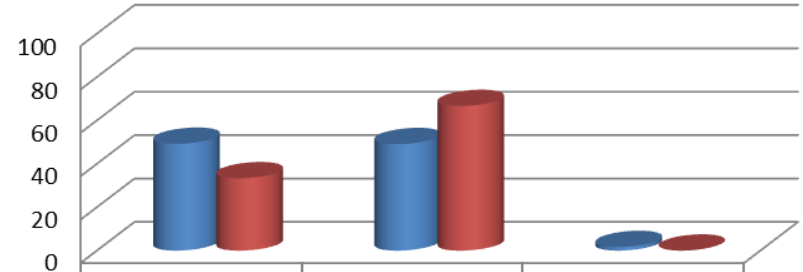


Kern County Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence, n=2,026



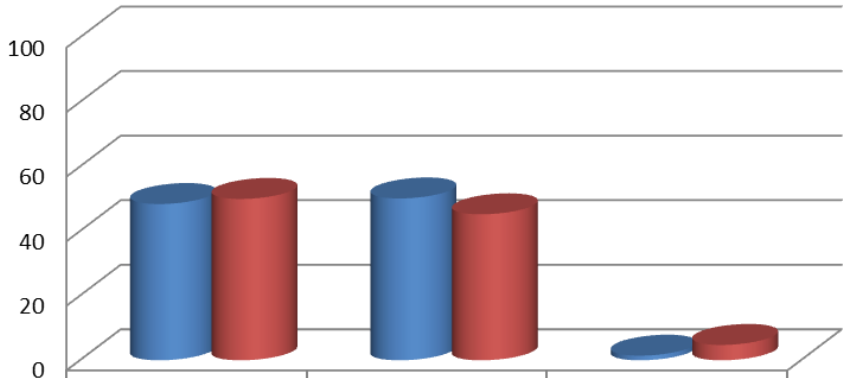
When gender is examined, females comprised 66.7% of the six encounters in 2008 with confirmed methamphetamine involvement, and males 33.3%. In contrast, in 2014, females comprised 45.2% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters, and males 50.0%.

Kern County Fire Department
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=736)	Female (n=734)	Unknown (n=25)
% of total encounters, n=1,495*	49.2	49.1	1.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=6**	33.3	66.7	0.0

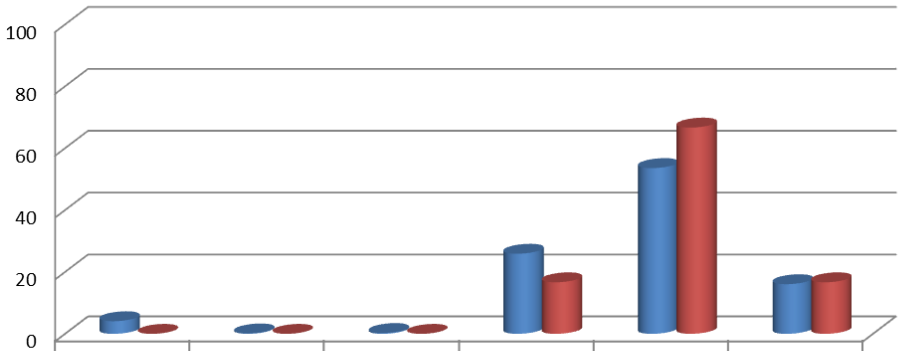
Kern County Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=981)	Female (n=1,016)	Unknown (n=29)
% of total encounters, n=2,026*	48.4	50.1	1.4
% of meth-involved encounters, n=42**	50.0	45.2	4.8

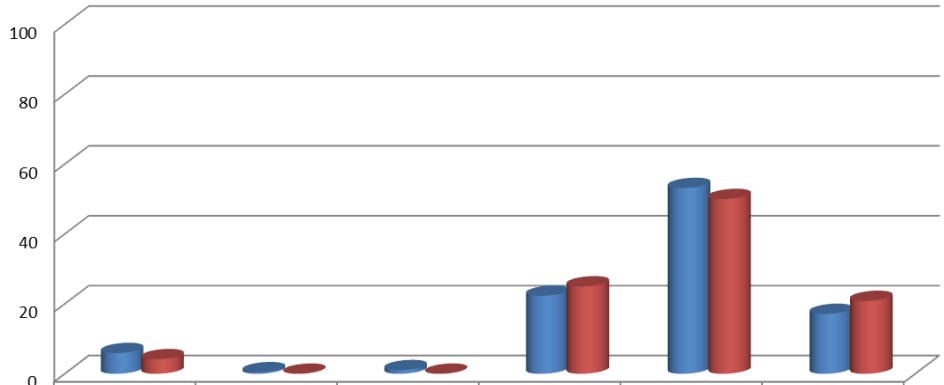
*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern County Fire Department
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=61)	American Indian (n=2)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=4)	Hispanic (n=387)	White (n=801)	Unknown (n=240)
% of total encounters, n=1,495*	4.1	0.1	0.3	25.9	53.6	16.1
% of meth-involved encounters, n=6**	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	66.7	16.7

Kern County Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



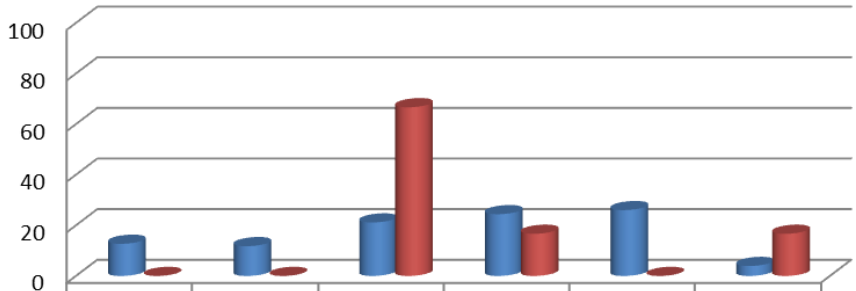
	African American (n=120)	American Indian (n=9)	Asian/ Pacific Islander (n=21)	Hispanic (n=452)	White (n=1077)	Unknown (n=347)
% of total encounters, n=2,026*	5.9	0.4	1.0	22.3	53.2	17.1
% of meth-involved encounters, n=42**	4.2	0.0	0.0	25.0	50.0	20.8

*The sample sizes under each racial/ethnic category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

In 2008, Whites represented 66.7% of the confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters and Hispanics 16.7%. In 2014, Whites represented 50.0% of encounters involving methamphetamine, and Hispanics represented 25.0%. Race/ethnicity was unknown for 16.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters in 2008, and 20.8% in 2014.

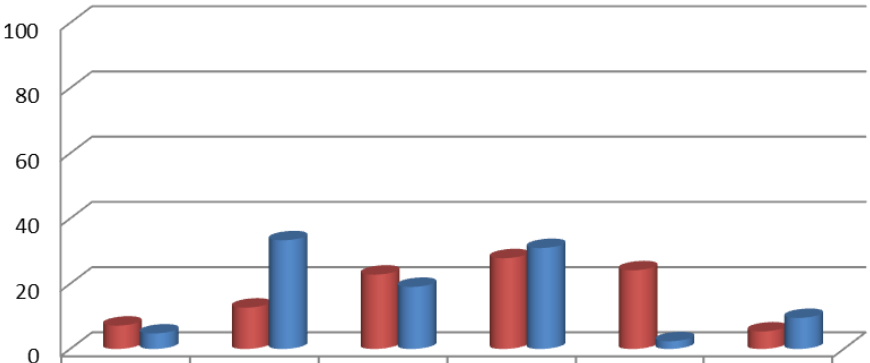
In 2008, the highest rate of prevalence for confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters was in the 26-45 age group (66.7%), followed by the 46-64 age group (16.7%). In 2014, there was a much wider distribution across age ranges, with the largest percentage falling in the 18-25 age group (33.3%), followed by the 46-64 age group (31.0%), and the 26-45 age group (19.0%). While youth 17 and younger represented 7.2% of all encounters, they comprised only 4.8% of methamphetamine-

Kern County Fire Department
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=190)	18-25 (n=176)	26-45 (n=316)	46-64 (n=365)	65 or older (n=439)	Unknown (n=59)
% of total encounters, n=1,495*	12.7	11.8	21.1	24.4	26.0	3.9
% of meth-involved encounters, n=6**	0.0	0.0	66.7	16.7	0.0	16.7

Kern County Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Age Range



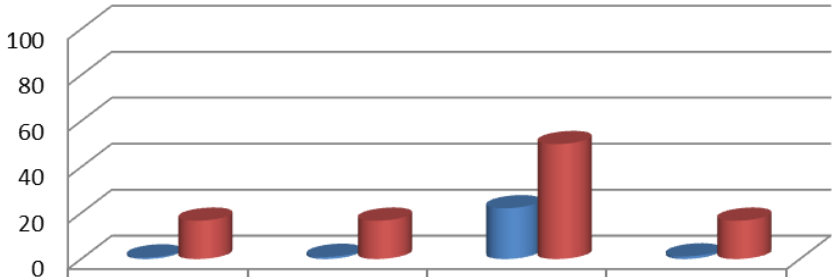
	17 and younger (n=145)	18-25 (n=257)	26-45 (n=462)	46-64 (n=564)	65 or older (n=489)	Unknown (n=109)
% of total encounters, n=2,026*	7.2	12.7	22.8	27.8	24.1	5.4
% of meth-involved encounters, n=42**	4.8	33.3	19.0	31.0	2.4	9.5

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

involved encounters, while individuals 65 and older represented 24.1% of all encounters, but just 2.4% of those involving methamphetamine.

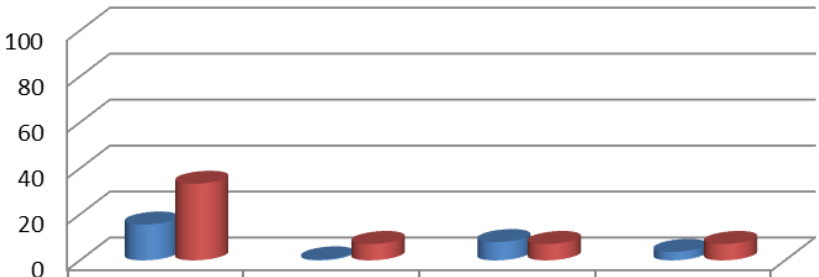
Finally, the research team examined the data by zip code. In 2008, three of the six confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters (50.0%) occurred in the 93308 zip code, and one each (16.7%) in 93205 (Bodfish), 93243 (Lebec), and 93527 (Inyokern). In 2014, 54.6% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters were distributed across four zip codes, three of which were in metropolitan Bakersfield: 93308 (33.3%), 93305 (7.1%), and 93306 (7.1%), and one of which (93560) was in Rosamond (7.1%).

Kern County Fire Department
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Zip Code



	93205 (n=10)	93243 (n=14)	93308 (n=330)	93527 (n=17)
% of total encounters, n=1,495*	0.7	0.9	22.1	1.1
% of meth-involved encounters, n=6**	16.7	16.7	50.0	16.7

Kern County Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Zip Code



	93308 (n=316)	93305 (n=9)	93306 (n=161)	93560 (n=75)
% of total encounters, n=2,026*	15.6	0.4	7.9	3.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=42**	33.3	7.1	7.1	7.1

*The sample sizes under each zip code category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

In 2008, log entries document the removal of seven children from their homes, but none were methamphetamine-related. Similarly, in 2014, log entries documented the removal of 12 children, but again, none were methamphetamine-related.

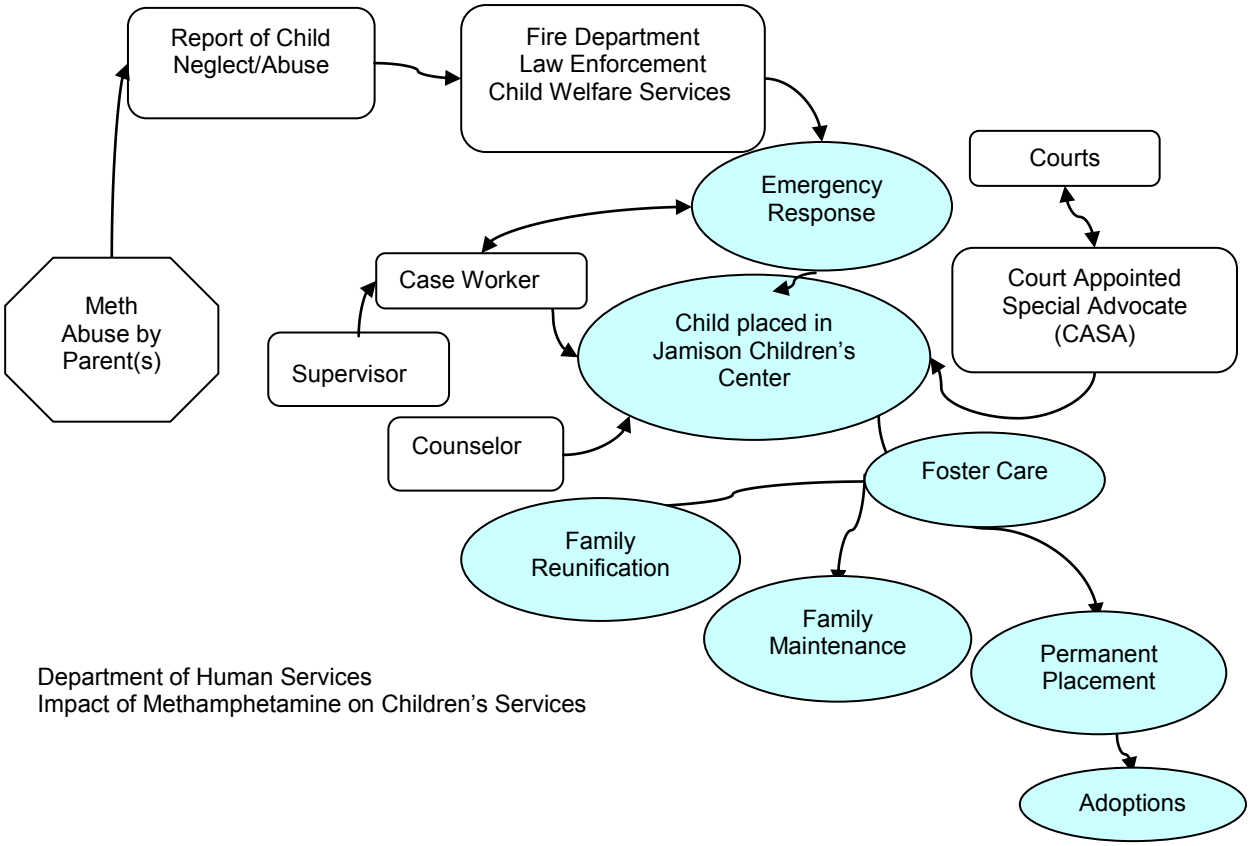
2.5c Summary of Key Findings

- The Kern County Fire Department completed logbook entries for a total of 1,495 encounters in May 2008, six of which (0.4%) were methamphetamine-involved, and for a total of 2,026 encounters in May 2014, 42 of which (3.4%) were methamphetamine-involved.
- In 2008, females represented 66.7% of the six methamphetamine-involved encounters, and in 2014, females represented 45.2% of those encounters.
- In both years, Whites represented the highest percentage of methamphetamine-involved encounters (66.7% in 2008 and 50.0% in 2014). Hispanics accounted for 16.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters in 2008 and 25.0% in 2014.
- In 2008, 66.7% of the six confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters were with individuals in the 26-45 age group. In 2014, the distribution across age groups was much wider, with 18-25 year olds representing 33.3% and 46-64 year olds representing 31.0% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- In 2008, three of the six confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters took place in the 93308 zip code; in 2014, the highest prevalence was in 93308 (33.3%) followed by 93305, 93306, and 93560 at 7.1% each.
- While log entries documented the removal of seven children from the home in 2008 and 12 children from the home in 2014, none was due to methamphetamine.

2.6 Kern County Department of Human Services

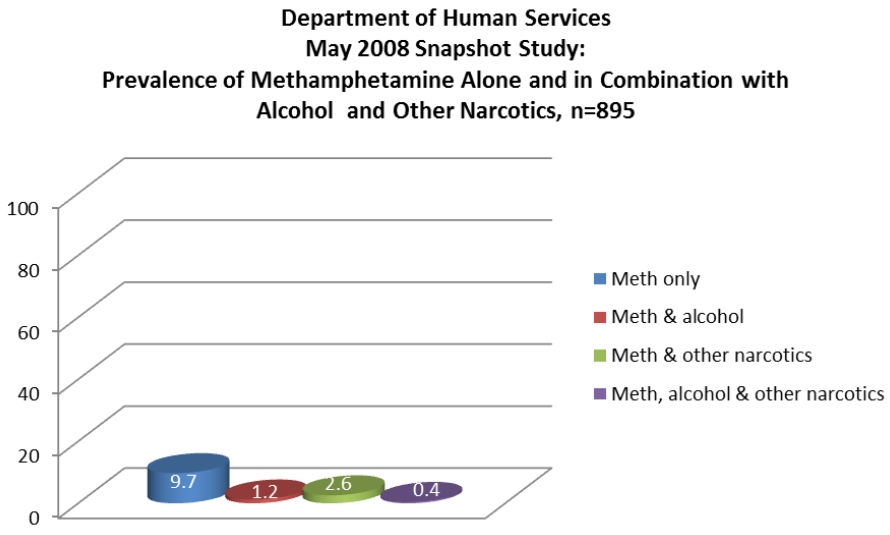
2.6a Background

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is responsible for administering a variety of social service programs. Its "safety net" programs include CalWORKs, Cal-Learn, MediCal, and food stamps. However, as captured in the graphic below, a significant majority of DHS operations are devoted to children's services, including emergency response, family maintenance, family reunification, foster care, permanent placement and adoption. In 2008, 68 members of the DHS Emergency Response Division participated in keeping a log of all encounters for the month of May. In 2014, DHS made a concerted effort to involve as many staff as possible in the data collection process; consequently, 300 logbooks were distributed across multiple service areas and 242 were returned with at least some entries. In both years, each logbook entry involved DHS staff noting the date of the encounter and the zip code in which the encounter with the client occurred. Staff was also asked to check off the gender and ethnicity of the individual involved in the contact, the age range of the individual, and whether or not the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).*



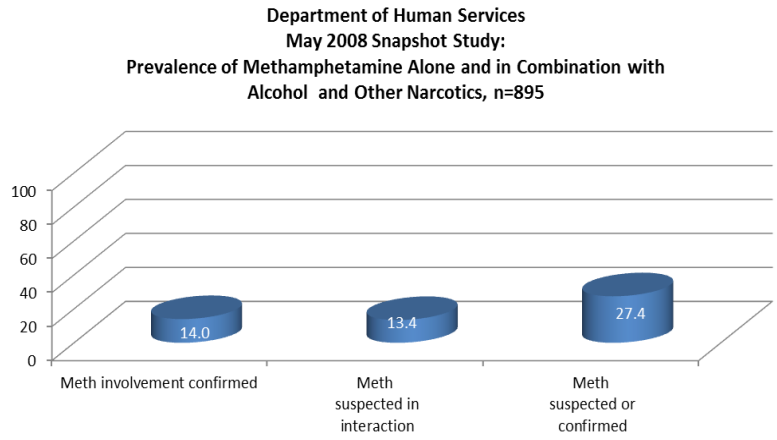
Department of Human Services
Impact of Methamphetamine on Children's Services

*While staff was asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, staff only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual. Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is highly likely that numbers are underreported.



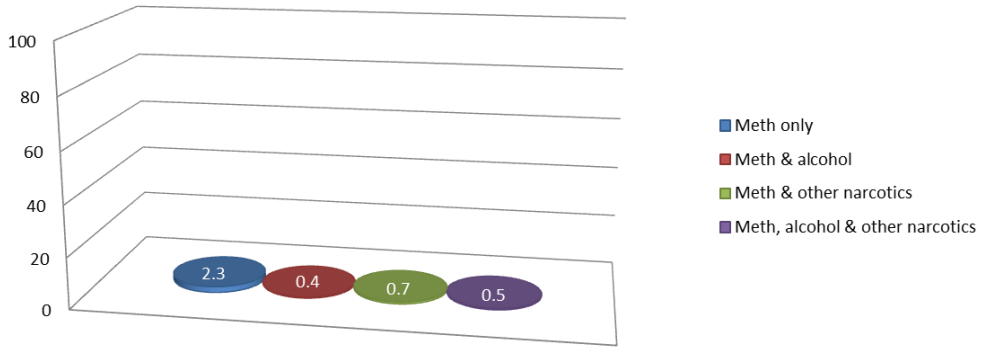
2.6 The Data

In 2008, a total of 895 logbook entries were completed by DHS staff. Of these, "methamphetamine only" was noted in 87 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in 38 entries. In other words, there were 125 entries where "yes" was checked off for methamphetamine. This constituted 14.0% of all the logbook entries. In addition, there were 120 entries (13.4%) where methamphetamine possession or use was suspected in the interaction. Adding these to the confirmed cases yielded a total of 245 interactions, or 27.4% of all logbook entries for the month of May 2008.

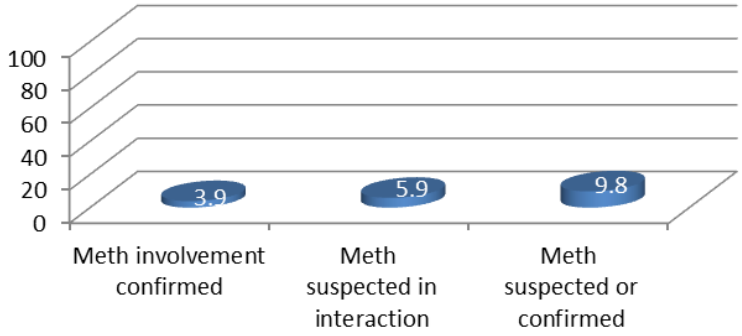


In 2014, a total of 6,285 logbook valid entries were completed by DHS staff. "methamphetamine only" was noted in 142 cases and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance was noted in an additional 104 entries, or 3.9% of all logbook entries. Staff indicated suspected methamphetamine possession or use in

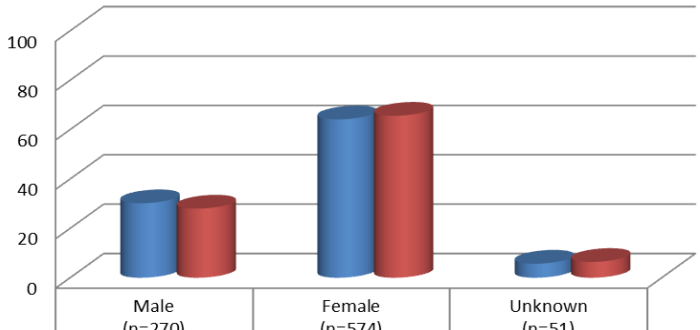
Department of Human Services
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics, n=6,285



Department of Human Services
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence, n=6,285



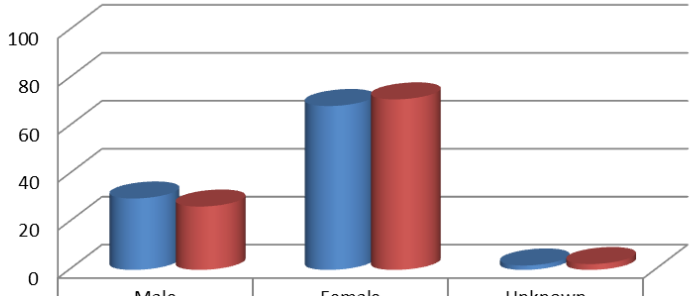
Department of Human Services
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=270)	Female (n=574)	Unknown (n=51)
% of total encounters, n=895*	30.2	64.1	5.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=125**	28.0	65.6	6.4

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Deparatment of Human Services
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



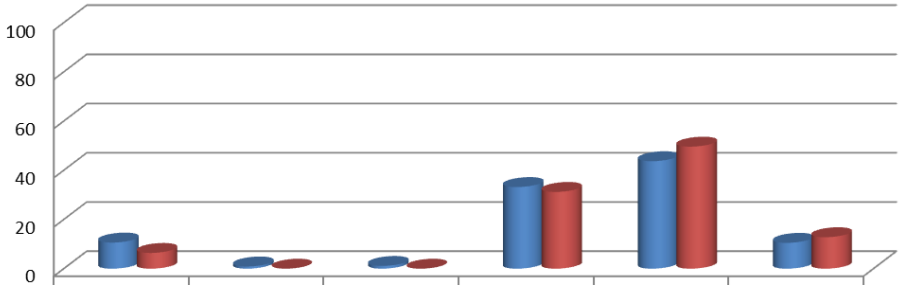
	Male (n=1,872)	Female (n=4,297)	Unknown (n=116)
% of total encounters, n=6,285*	29.8	68.4	1.8
% of meth-involved encounters, n=246**	26.4	71.1	2.4

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

another 372 entries (5.9%). Adding suspected cases to confirmed cases increases the total known or suspected cases to 9.8% of encounters in May 2014.

An examination of gender reveals that in May 2008, 64.1% of all encounters were with females, and 65.6% of encounters involving methamphetamine were with females. Males constituted 30.2% of all encounters and 28.0% of encounters that involved methamphetamine. Gender was not noted in 5.7% of cases. In 2014, the breakdown by gender was very similar to 2008: 68.4% of all encounters between DHS staff and clients were with females, while 71.1% of encounters involving methamphetamine were also with females. Men constituted 29.8% of all encounters, and 26.4% of

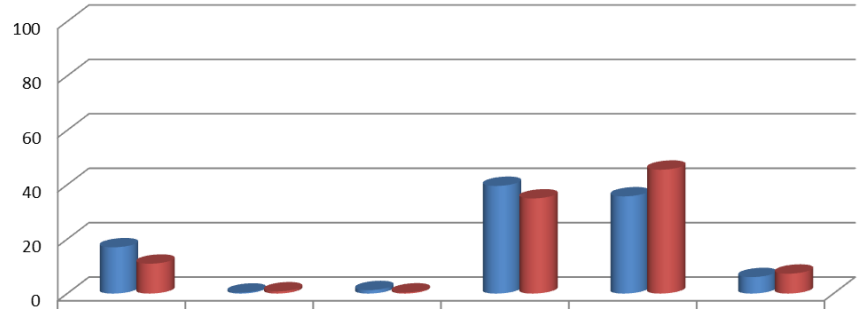
Department of Human Services
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=95)	American Indian (n=8)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=10)	Hispanic (n=297)	White (n=391)	Unknown (n=94)
% of total encounters, n=895*	10.6	0.9	1.1	33.2	43.7	10.5
% of meth-involved encounters, n=125**	6.4	0.0	0.0	31.2	49.6	12.8

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Department of Human Services
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=1,068)	American Indian (n=23)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=80)	Hispanic (n=2,487)	White (n=2,246)	Unknown (n=381)
% of total encounters, n=6,285*	17.0	0.4	1.3	39.6	35.7	6.1
% of meth-involved encounters, n=246**	11.0	0.8	0.4	35.0	45.5	7.3

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

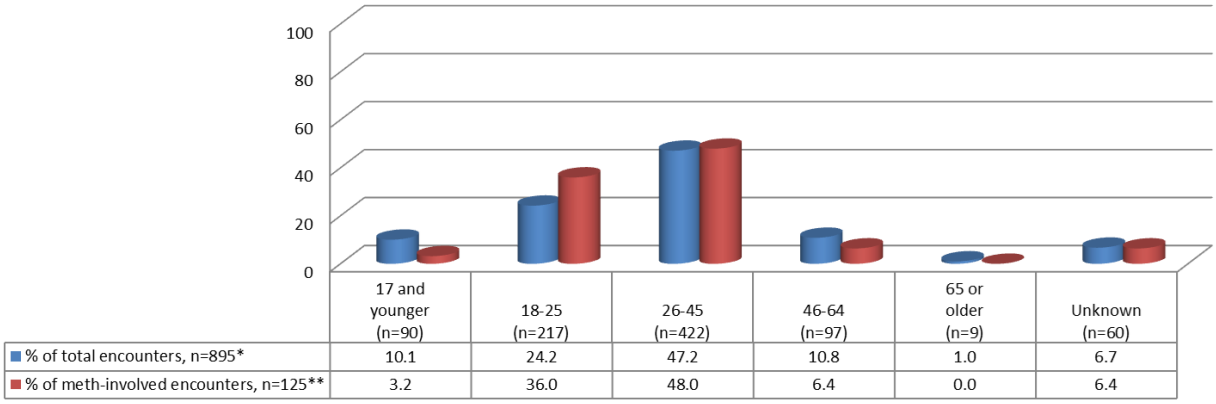
methamphetamine-involved encounters. The percentage of unknown was lower, however, at 1.8% of all encounters.

An examination of race/ethnicity reveals some changes in the client profile between 2008 and 2014. In May 2008, Whites represented the highest percentage of total encounters at 43.7%, and also the highest prevalence among confirmed methamphetamine-involved cases. Hispanics represented a third of all encounters (33.2%) and 31.2% of those encounters that involved methamphetamine. While African Americans constituted 10.6% of encounters, they represented only 6.4% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. No American Indians or Asian/Pacific Islanders were documented as involved in encounters that included methamphetamine; however, race/ethnicity was unknown for 10.5% of all clients and 12.8% of methamphetamine-involved clients.

In May 2014, Whites constituted fewer overall encounters (35.7%) but an even higher percentage of those involving methamphetamine (45.5%). At 39.6%, Hispanics constituted a higher percentage of overall encounters than in 2008, but were underrepresented in encounters involving methamphetamine (35.0%). The percentage of African Americans representing overall encounters rose to 17.0%, but constituted just 11.0% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. While American Indians now constituted 0.4% of all encounters, they represented 0.8% of encounters involving methamphetamine, and although Asian/Pacific Islanders now constituted 1.3% of all encounters, at 0.4% they remained underrepresented in encounters involving methamphetamine. Race/ethnicity was unknown for 6.1% of all clients and 7.3% of clients involved with methamphetamine.

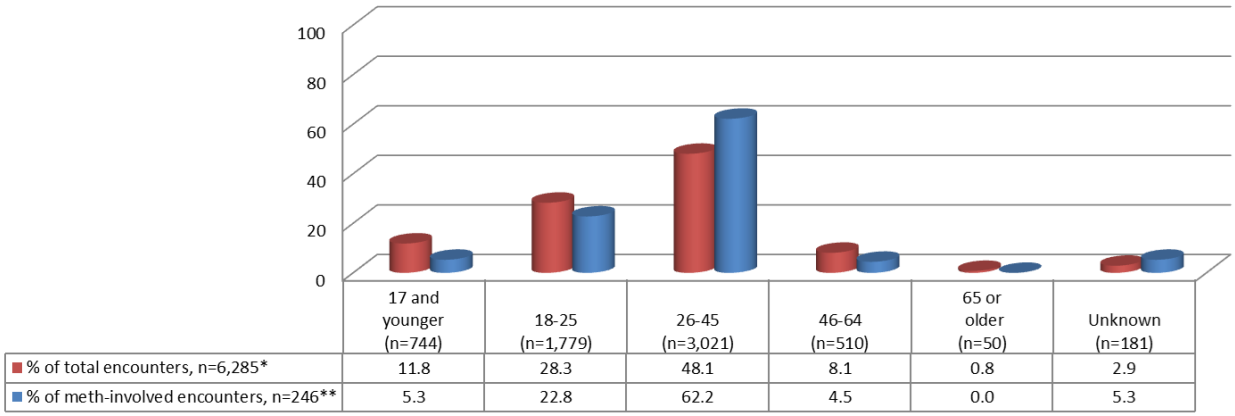
Prevalence of methamphetamine-involved cases by client age also changed between 2008 and 2014. In 2008, the highest prevalence of overall encounters and encounters

Department of Human Services
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=90)	18-25 (n=217)	26-45 (n=422)	46-64 (n=97)	65 or older (n=9)	Unknown (n=60)
% of total encounters, n=895*	10.1	24.2	47.2	10.8	1.0	6.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=125**	3.2	36.0	48.0	6.4	0.0	6.4

Department of Human Services
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Age Range



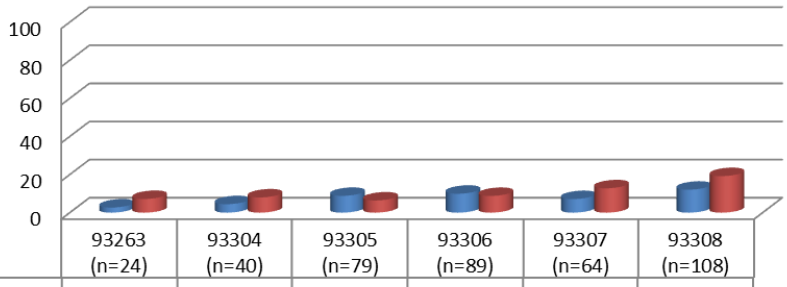
	17 and younger (n=744)	18-25 (n=1,779)	26-45 (n=3,021)	46-64 (n=510)	65 or older (n=50)	Unknown (n=181)
% of total encounters, n=6,285*	11.8	28.3	48.1	8.1	0.8	2.9
% of meth-involved encounters, n=246**	5.3	22.8	62.2	4.5	0.0	5.3

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

involving methamphetamine were in the 26-45 age group (47.2% and 48.0%, respectively). Clients in the 18-25 age group constituted only about one-quarter of all encounters (24.2%), but 36.0% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Youth 17 and younger represented 10.1% of all encounters, but only 3.2% of those involving methamphetamine, while clients in the 46-64 age group constitute 10.8% of all encounters and 6.4% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

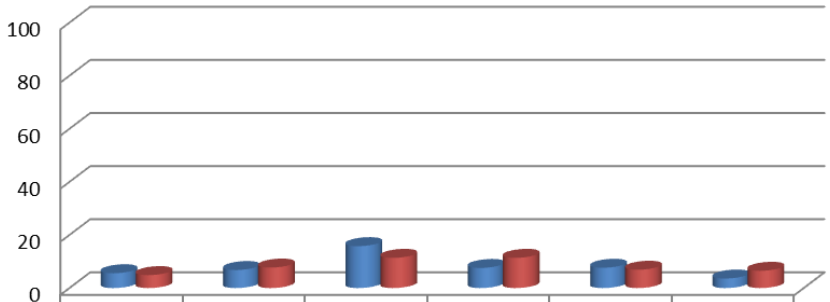
By 2014, prevalence of methamphetamine-involved encounters had risen sharply in the 26-45 age group, which constituted 48.1% of all encounters but 62.2% of those involving methamphetamine. Clients in the 18-25 age group represented 28.3% of all encounters and 22.8% of those involving methamphetamine. While the percentage of methamphetamine encounters rose slightly for youth 17 and under (5.3%), it dropped slightly for those in the 46-64 age group (4.5%).

Department of Human Services
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Zip Code



	93263 (n=24)	93304 (n=40)	93305 (n=79)	93306 (n=89)	93307 (n=64)	93308 (n=108)
% of total encounters, n=895*	2.7	4.5	8.8	9.9	7.2	12.1
% of meth-involved encounters, n=125**	7.2	8.0	6.4	8.8	12.8	19.2

Department of Human Services
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Zip Code



	93301 (n=351)	93305 (n=427)	93307 (n=993)	93308 (n=476)	93309 (n=480)	93555 (n=226)
% of total encounters, n=6,285*	5.6	6.8	15.8	7.6	7.6	3.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=246**	4.9	7.7	11.4	11.4	6.9	6.5

*The sample sizes under each zip code category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Finally, the data were analyzed by zip code. In 2008, the six zip codes with the highest rates of methamphetamine-involved encounters included 93308 (19.2%), 93307 (12.8%), 93306 (8.8%), 93304 (8.0%), 93305 (6.4%) and the only zip code outside of metro Bakersfield, 93263 (Shafter, 7.2%). In 2014, the six zip codes with the highest rates of prevalence included 93308 and 93307 (11.4% each), 93305 (7.7%), 93309 (6.9%), 93301 (4.9%), and 93555 (Ridgecrest 6.5%).

2.6c Summary of Key Findings

- The Department of Human Services had records of 895 encounters taking place in May 2008, and 6,285 encounters taking place in May 2014.

- Of the 895 encounters logged in 2008, a total of 125 (14.0%) involved methamphetamine, while of the 6,285 encounters logged in 2014, a total of 246 (3.9%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 120 encounters (13.4%) in 2008, and another 372 encounters (5.9%) in 2014.
- Females represented roughly two-thirds of all encounters in 2008 (64.1%) and 65.6% of all encounters involving methamphetamine. In 2014, females represented 68.4% of all encounters and 71.1% of those involving methamphetamine.
- African Americans and Hispanics were underrepresented in methamphetamine-involved encounters in both years; however, Whites were overrepresented in both years.
- In 2008, methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds (48.0% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 18-25 year olds (36.0%). This trend continued in 2014, but methamphetamine-involved encounters jumped to 62.2% in the 26-45 year old category, while it dropped to 22.8% in the 18-25 year old category.
- In 2008, the highest numbers of methamphetamine-involved encounters took place in the 93308 (19.2%) in metro Bakersfield, and in 93263 (Shafter) in outlying areas. In 2014, the highest numbers of methamphetamine-involved encounters took place in 93308 and 93307 (11.4% each) in metro Bakersfield, and in 93555 (Ridgecrest) in outlying areas.
- Discrepancies in data between the two years may be attributable to differences in the data collection methodology. In 2008, only the Emergency Response Division participated in collecting data, while several divisions participated in 2014.

2.7 Kern County Mental Health

2.7a Background

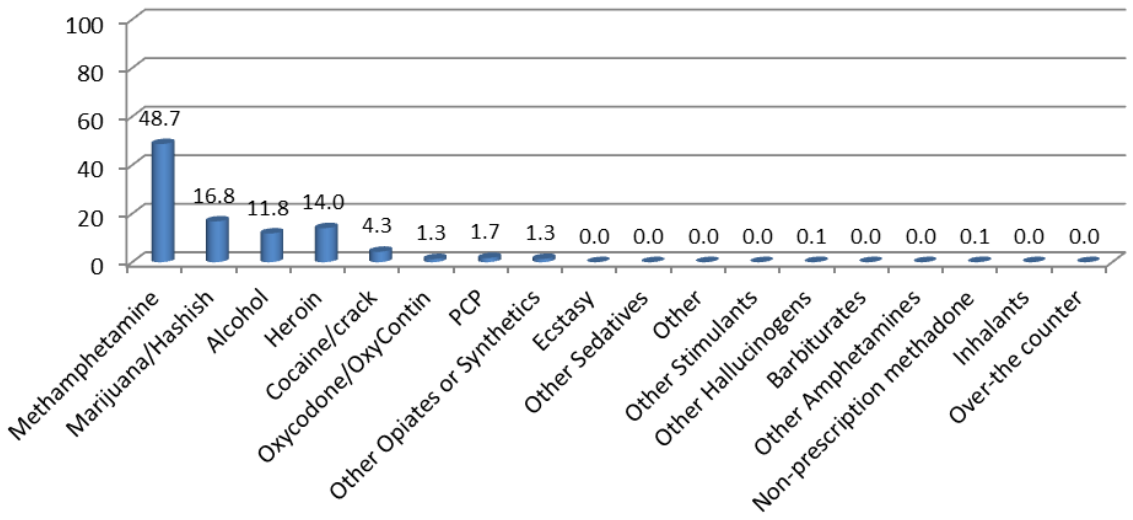
The Kern County Mental Health Department (KCMH) oversees substance abuse treatment services for the County of Kern. This section of the report includes county data collected by KCMH and reported to the State through the California Outcomes Measurement System (CalOMS). All county-funded substance abuse treatment providers submit data electronically to CalOMS. The CalOMS database consists of smaller sets of data elements designed to capture measures such as client demographic characteristics, treatment services, and outcome data. Data presented in this section are drawn from CalOMS, unless otherwise indicated, and are for the fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2013-2014.

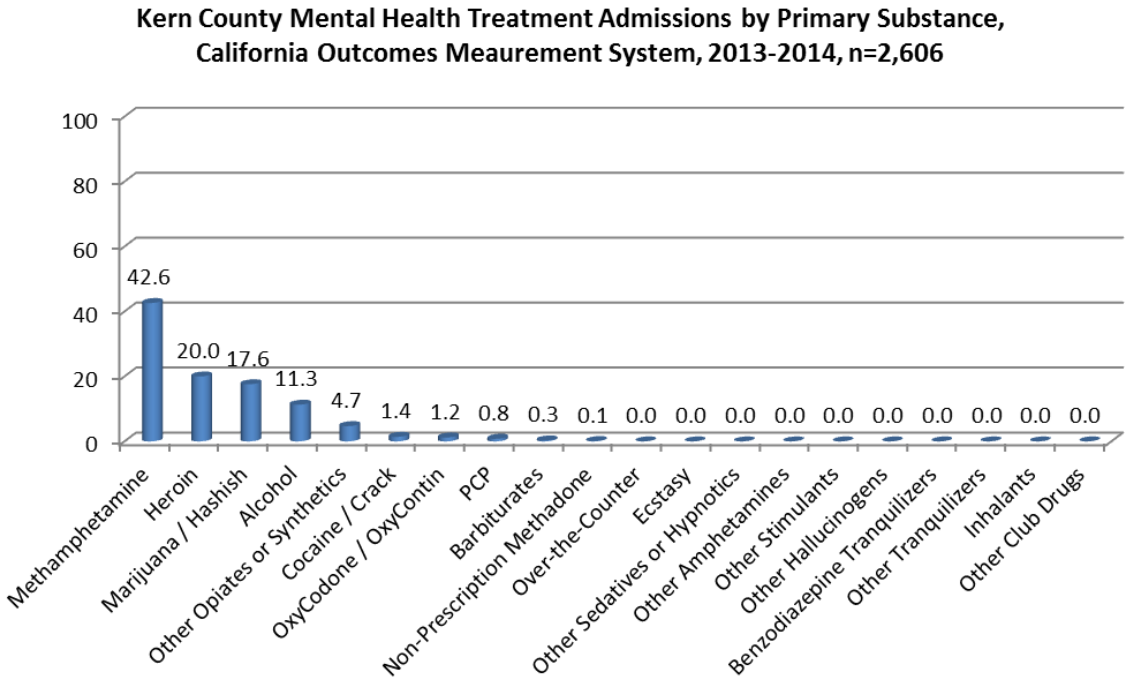
2.7b The Data

In both 2007-2008 and 2013-2014, methamphetamine admissions remained by far the highest of all admissions for substance abuse in the Kern County Mental Health System of Care. Methamphetamine admissions made up 48.7% of all admissions in 2007-2008 and 42.6% of all admissions in 2013-2014. In 2007-2008, marijuana/ hashish was the second most common admission at 16.8%, followed by heroin at 14.0% and alcohol at 11.8%. Cocaine/crack was a distant 4.3%, and all other admissions were under 2.0% of total admissions.

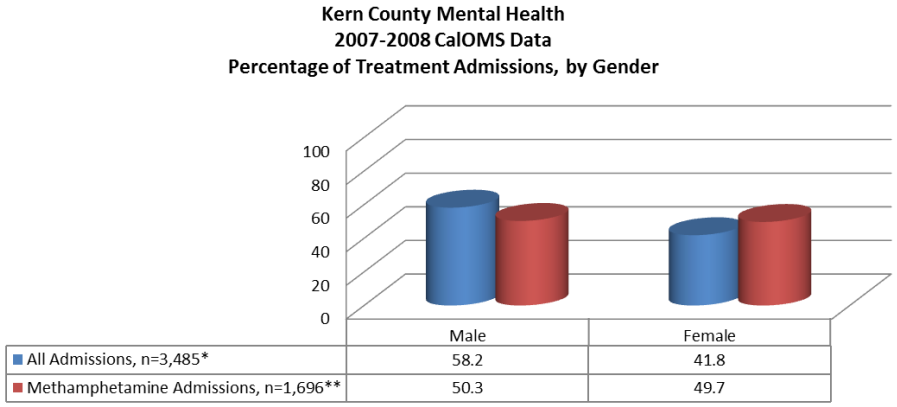
By 2013-2014, although methamphetamine continued to make up the highest percentage of admissions (42.6%), heroin jumped to second place at 20.0%, followed by marijuana/hashish (17.6%), alcohol (11.3%), other opiates or synthetics (4.7%). Cocaine/crack fell from 4.3% in 2007-2008 to 1.4% in 2013-2014.

Kern County Mental Health Treatment Admissions by Primary Substance, California Outcomes Meaurement System, 2007-2008, n=3,485



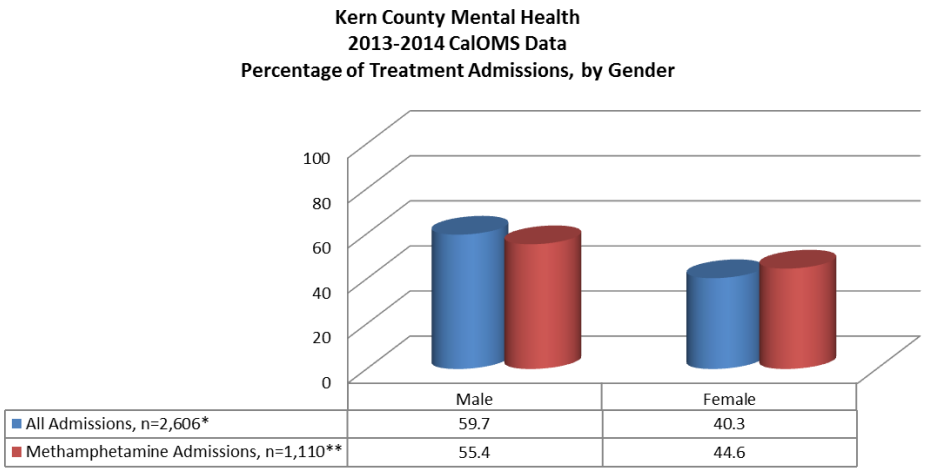


In 2007-2008, men made up 58.2% of all admissions, and 50.3% of methamphetamine admissions. While women represented 41.8% of all treatment admissions, they accounted for 49.7% of all methamphetamine admissions. Consequently, although women comprised slightly less than half of methamphetamine admissions, they were overrepresented in this category.



*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

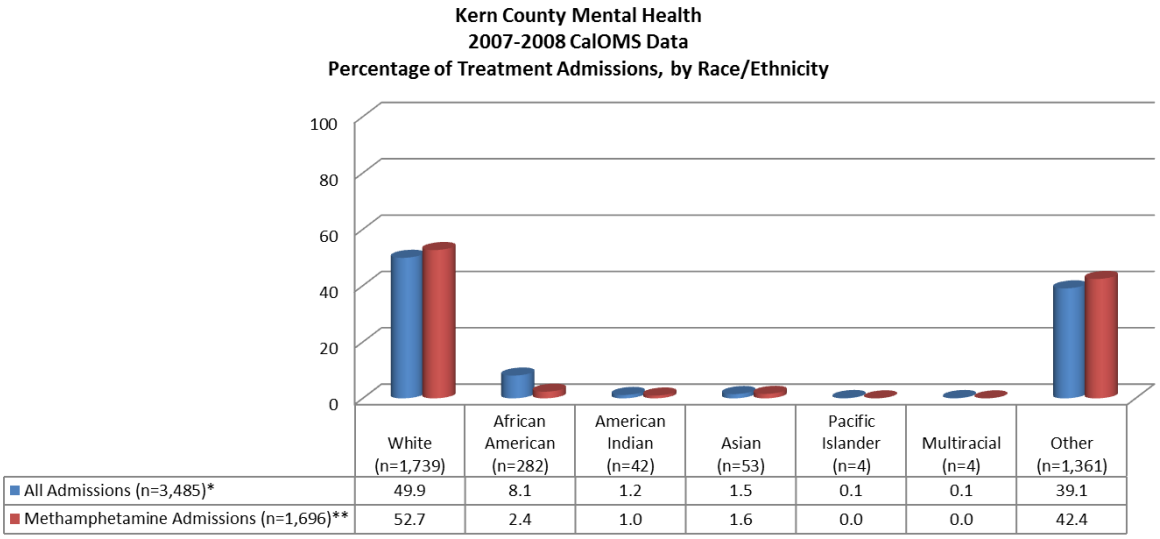
In 2013-2014, although the percentage of methamphetamine admissions had dropped somewhat, women remained overrepresented. Men represented 59.7% of all treatment admissions in 2013-2014, and 55.4% of all methamphetamine admissions. Women represented 40.3% of all admissions, but 44.6% of all methamphetamine admissions. Changes in this demographic may reflect the increased number of men, in particular,



*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

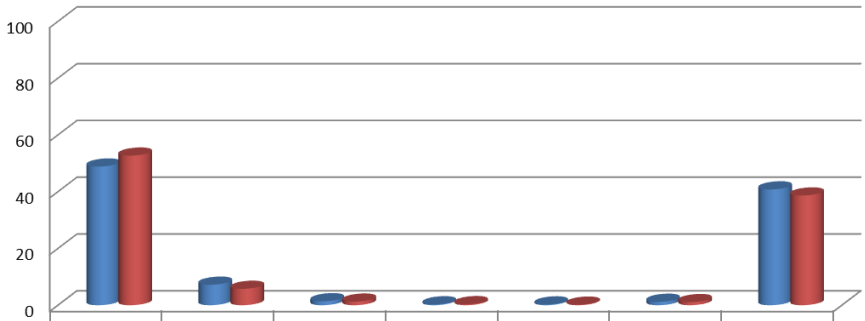
coming into treatment through AB 109, although further research would be required in order to confirm this.

Decomposing the data by race and ethnicity in 2007-2008 shows that White admissions (which includes Hispanic in the CalOMS database) make up the largest proportion of all treatment admissions (49.9%), and also of all methamphetamine admissions (52.7%). While African Americans accounted for 8.1% of all treatment admissions, they comprised only 2.4% of methamphetamine admissions. The category "other" is highly populated, and may reflect the reluctance of Latinos to self-identify as "White" rather than "Hispanic" or "Latino." The category "other" accounted for 39.1% of all treatment admissions in 2007-2008, and 42.4% of all methamphetamine admissions.



*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern County Mental Health
2013-2014 CalOMS Data
Percentage of Treatment Admissions, by Race/Ethnicity



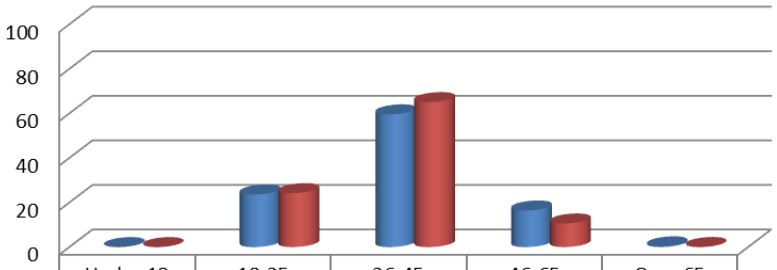
	White (n=1,273)	African-American (n=188)	American Indian (n=36)	Asian (n=8)	Pacific Islander (n=7)	Multiracial (n=31)	Other (n=1,063)
All Admissions (n=2,606)*	48.8	7.2	1.4	0.3	0.3	1.2	40.8
Methamphetmine Admissions (n=1,110)**	52.7	5.8	1.3	0.4	0.2	1.1	38.6

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

In 2013-2014, Whites again represented the largest percentage of all treatment admissions (48.8%) and the largest percentage of all methamphetamine admissions (52.7%). While African Americans now constituted just 7.2% of all admissions, they represented 5.8% of methamphetamine admissions.

In 2007-2008, the highest prevalence for both overall treatment admissions and for methamphetamine admissions was in the 26-45 age category. The 26-45 year olds represented 59.6% of all admissions, and 65.1% of methamphetamine admissions. The 18-25 year old category accounted for 23.6% of all admissions, and 24.2% of all methamphetamine admissions, while the 46-65 age group accounted for 16.4% of all admissions, but just 10.6% of methamphetamine admissions.

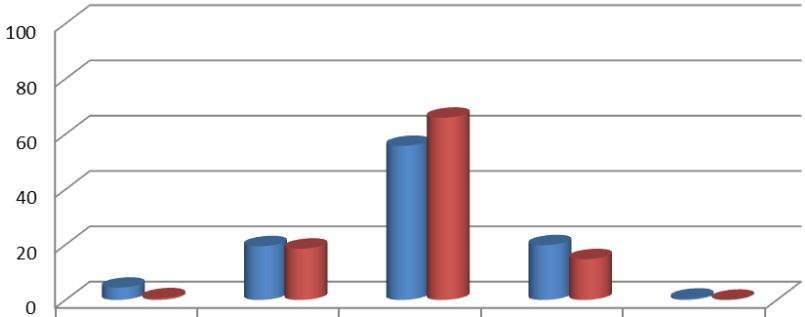
Kern County Mental Health
2007-2008 CalOMS Data
Percentage of Treatment Admissions, by Age Group



	Under 18 (n=0)	18-25 (n=823)	26-45 (n=2,077)	46-65 (n=573)	Over 65 (n=12)
All Admissions (n=3,485)*	0.0	23.6	59.6	16.4	0.3
Methamphetemine Admissions (n=1,696)**	0.0	24.2	65.1	10.6	0.1

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern County Mental Health
2013-2014 CalOMS Data
Percentage of Treatment Admissions, by Age Group



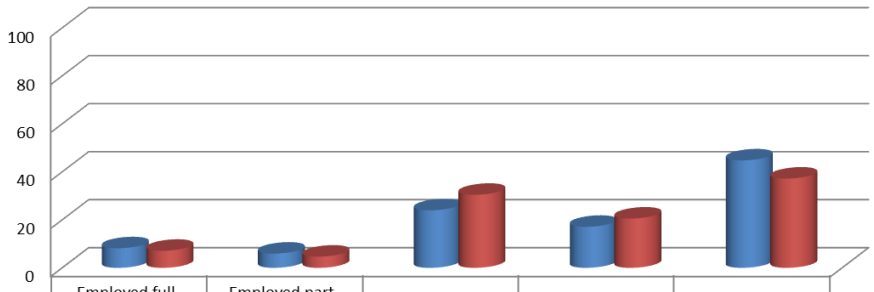
	Under 18 (n=116)	18-25 (n=507)	26-45 (n=1,453)	46-65 (n=517)	Over 65 (n=13)
All Admissions (n=2,606)*	4.5	19.5	55.8	19.8	0.5
Methamphetamine Admissions (n=1,110)**	0.6	18.6	65.9	14.8	0.1

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

This demographic picture changed somewhat in 2013-2014. While 26-45 year olds still accounted for the highest prevalence in overall treatment admissions (55.8%) and methamphetamine admissions (65.9%), the percentage of overall treatment admissions in the 18-25 category dropped to 19.5%, and this age group now accounted for 18.6% of all methamphetamine admissions. The 46-65 age group saw an increase in overall admissions (19.8%) and in methamphetamine admissions (14.8%).

Data on two other key client characteristics were available for 2013-2014 admissions, and these were education and employment. Among all treatment admissions, 44.8%

Kern County Mental Health
2013-2014 CalOMS Data
Percentage of Admissions, by Employent Status

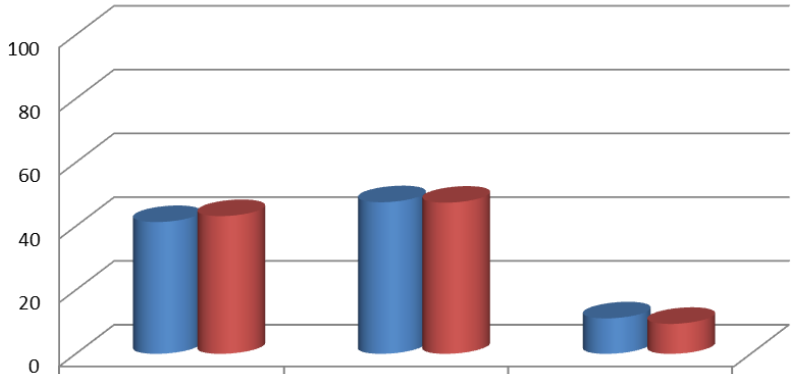


	Employed full-time 35 hours or more (n=213)	Employed part-time less than 35 hours (n=155)	Unemployed looking for work (n=625)	Unemployed not seeking (n=446)	Not in the labor force (n=1,167)
All Admissions (n=2,606)*	8.2	5.9	24.0	17.1	44.8
Methamphetamine Admissions (n=1,110)**	7.1	4.7	30.5	20.5	37.2

*The sample sizes under each employment category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

are listed as "not in the labor force"; this was true for 37.2% of methamphetamine admissions. Clients who were "unemployed looking for work" represented 24.0% of all admissions, but 30.5% of methamphetamine admissions. Methamphetamine admissions were also overrepresented in the "unemployed not seeking" category; this category accounted for 17.1% of all admissions but 20.5% of all methamphetamine admissions. Among all admissions, only 8.2% of those in treatment indicated they were employed full-time (35 hours or more), and 5.9% indicated they were employed part-time (less than 35 hours per week). Among methamphetamine admissions, 7.1% of clients indicated they were employed full-time, and 4.7% indicated they were employed part-time.

Kern County Mental Health
2013-2014 CalOMS Data
Percentage of Treatment Admissions, by Level of Education



	Less than 12 years	12 years of education	More than 12 years
All Admissions (n=2,606)*	41.3	47.5	11.1
Methamphetamine Admissions (n=1,110)**	43.2	47.4	9.4

*The sample sizes under each education category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

In examining education level, 41.3% of all admissions and 43.2% of methamphetamine admissions for 2013-2014 indicated having less than 12 years of education. Those with 12 years of education (high school or GED) represented 47.5% of all admissions and 47.3% of methamphetamine admissions. Only 11.1% of all admissions indicated having more than 12 years of education, and this was also true for 9.4% of methamphetamine admissions.

2.7c Summary of Key Findings

- Through the CalOMS database system, KCMH had records of 3,485 treatment admissions for 2007-2008 and 2,606 treatment admissions for 2013-2014.
- Of the 3,485 admissions documented for 2007-2008, a total of 1,696 (48.7%) were for methamphetamine, while of the 2,606 admissions documented in 2013-2014, a total of 1,110 (42.6%) were for methamphetamine.

- Females represented 41.8% of treatment admissions in 2007-2008 and 49.7% of admissions for methamphetamine. In 2013-2014, females represented 40.3% of all admissions, and 44.6% of methamphetamine admissions.
- Whites (a category that includes Hispanics in the CalOMS database) accounted for the highest percentage of overall treatment admissions and methamphetamine admissions in both 2007-2008 and 2013-2014. African Americans accounted for 8.1% of treatment admissions in 2007-2008, but only 2.4% of methamphetamine admissions. In 2013-2014, African Americans accounted for 7.2% of overall admissions, but 5.8% of methamphetamine admissions.
- In both 2007-2008 and 2013-2014, methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds; this age group accounted for nearly two thirds of methamphetamine admissions. The percentage of methamphetamine admissions in the 18-25 age group dropped from 24.2% in 2007-2008 to 18.6% in 2013-2014; however, the percentage of methamphetamine admissions in the 46-65 age group rose from 10.6% to 14.8% during the same period.
- In 2013-2014, only 8.2% of all admissions and 7.1% of methamphetamine admissions were employed 35 hours per week or more; another 5.9% of all admissions and 4.7% of methamphetamine admissions were employed less than 35 hours per week. Among methamphetamine admissions, 57.7% were neither looking for work nor in the labor force, compared to 61.9% of all treatment admissions.
- In 2013-2014, 41.3% of all those entering treatment had less than 12 years of education, and this was true for 43.2% of methamphetamine admissions. Only 11.1% of all admissions and 9.4% of methamphetamine admissions had more than 12 years of education.

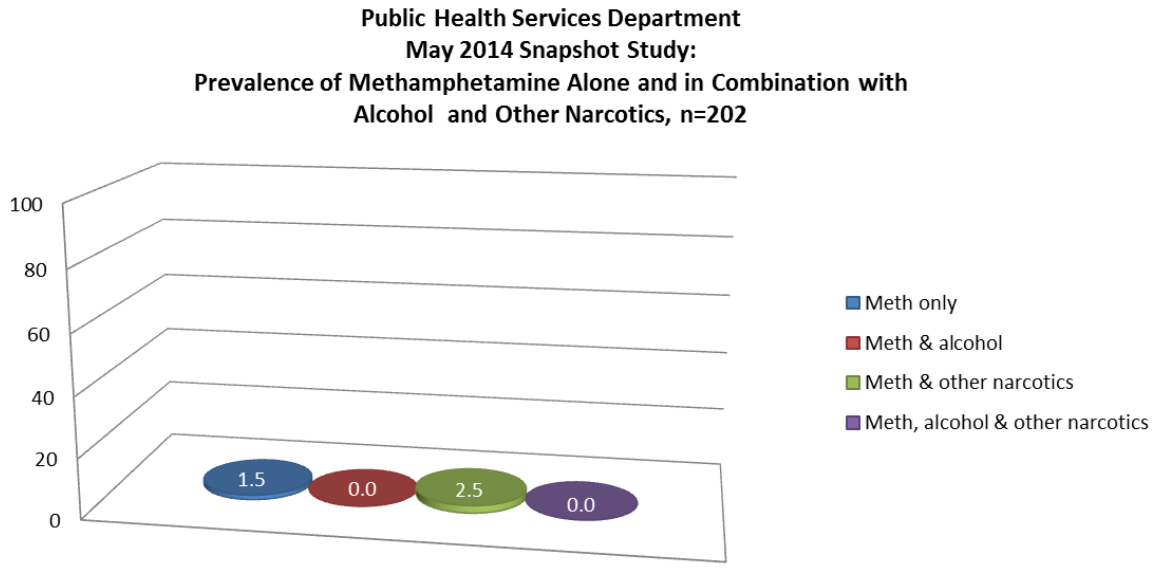
2.8 Kern County Public Health

2.8a Background

The Kern County Public Health Services Department (Public Health) did not participate in the original 2008 Impact Study. In 2014, a total of 27 logbooks were distributed to Public Health nurses, and 11 were returned with at least some entries. The nurses were asked to describe each encounter by documenting the date, the zip code in which the event occurred, and the gender, ethnicity, and age range of the individual involved. They were also asked to note whether the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* In addition, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

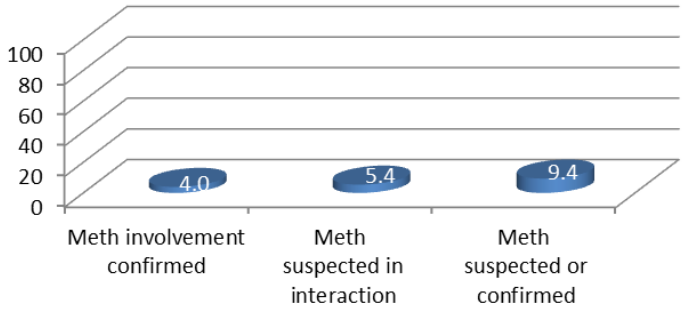
2.8b The Data

A total of 202 logbook entries were completed by Public Health nurses. Of these, a total of eight (8) entries indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. "Methamphetamine only" was noted in three (3) entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in five (5) entries. This constituted 4.0% of all the logbook entries. In addition, nurses made 11 entries (5.4% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was "suspected" in the interaction—meaning that the nurses had reasonable cause to believe that the individual was under the influence or otherwise methamphetamine-involved, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 19 known or



*While nurses were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, they only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual. Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.

Public Health Services Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence, n=202

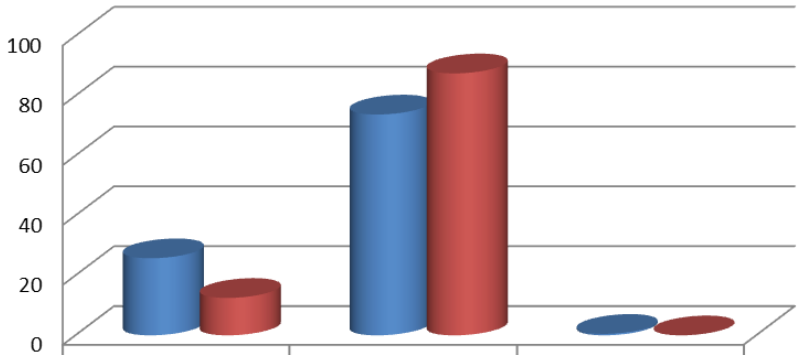


suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 202 encounters, or 9.4% of all logbook entries.

A breakdown of the data by gender shows that males represented 25.7% of all encounters, but just 12.5% of encounters that involved methamphetamine, while females represented 73.8% of all encounters and 87.5% of those involving methamphetamine.

Keeping in mind the very small sample size, Hispanics represented 44.6% of all encounters, but just 12.5% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. This was in contrast to African American and Whites, each of which represented 16.3% of encounters, but 37.5% of encounters involving methamphetamine. Race/ethnicity was

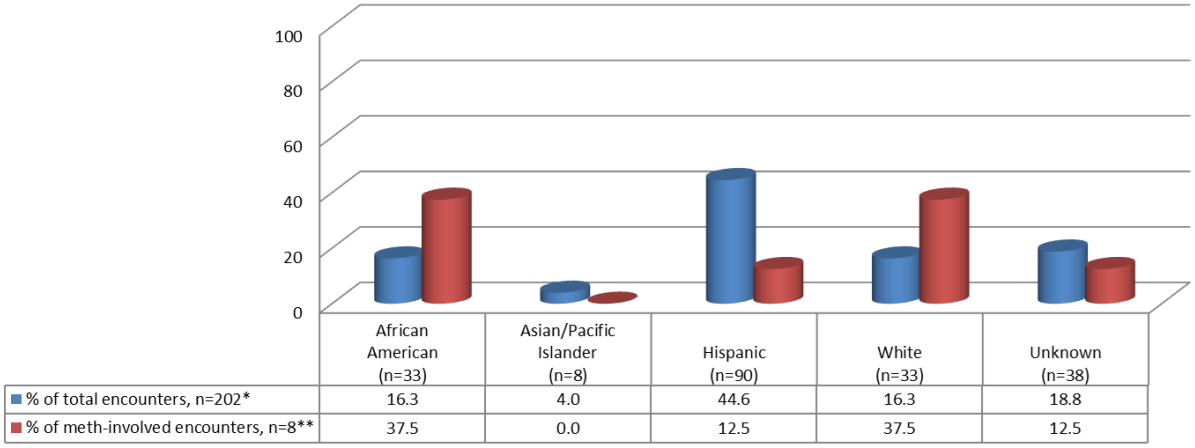
Public Health Services Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=52)	Female (n=149)	Unknown (n=1)
% of total encounters, n=202*	25.7	73.8	0.5
% of meth-involved encounters, n=8**	12.5	87.5	0.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Public Health Services Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



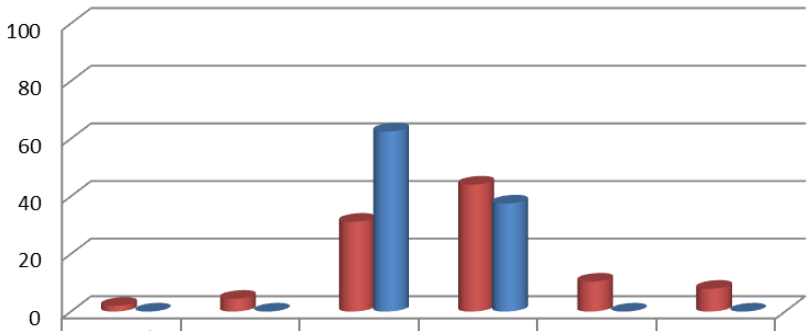
	African American (n=33)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=8)	Hispanic (n=90)	White (n=33)	Unknown (n=38)
% of total encounters, n=202*	16.3	4.0	44.6	16.3	18.8
% of meth-involved encounters, n=8**	37.5	0.0	12.5	37.5	12.5

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

unknown in 18.8% of encounters. Asian/Pacific Islander represented 4.0% of encounters, and no encounters that involved methamphetamine.

When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by age of the individual, the highest prevalence was found in the 26-45 year old category. This age group comprised 31.2% of all encounters, but 62.5% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Individuals aged 46-64 represented 44.1% of all encounters and

Public Health Services Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-involved Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=4)	18-25 (n=9)	26-45 (n=63)	46-64 (n=89)	65 or older (n=21)	Unknown (n=16)
% of total encounters, n=202*	2.0	4.5	31.2	44.1	10.4	7.9
% of meth-involved encounters, n=8**	0.0	0.0	62.5	37.5	0.0	0.0

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

37.5% of encounters involving methamphetamine. Methamphetamine was not involved in encounters with any other age group.

Nine logbook entries indicated that children were removed from the home and two of these cases were related to methamphetamine.

2.8c Summary of Key Findings

- The Public Health Services Department had records of 202 encounters taking place between May 1 and May 31, 2014.
- Of the 202 encounters logged, a total of eight (4.0%) were methamphetamine-involved.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 11 encounters (5.4%).
- Females represented 73.8% of all encounters, and 87.5% of encounters involving methamphetamine.
- Keeping in mind the small sample size, Whites and African Americans represented 16.3% each of all encounters and 37.5% each of methamphetamine-involved encounters, while Hispanics accounted for 44.6% of all encounters but just 12.5% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- Although the overall sample size was very small, making it impossible to generalize the data, African Americans and Whites were overrepresented among cases involving methamphetamine (at 37.5% each), while Hispanics were under-represented (at 12.5%).
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds (62.5% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 46-64 year olds (37.5%).
- Two of the nine encounters that resulted in children being removed from the home involved methamphetamine.

2.9 Kern Medical Center

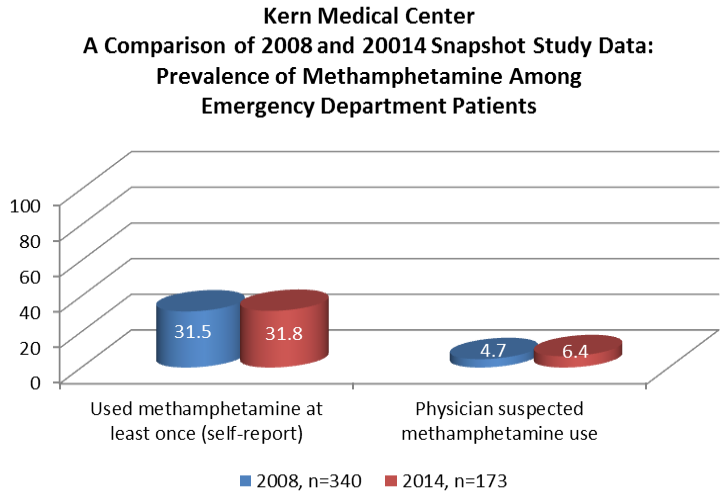
2.9a Background

During the period May 10 to June 10, 2008, Emergency Department personnel at Kern Medical Center (KMC) conducted a short, voluntary patient questionnaire that focused on history of methamphetamine use. The decision to ask patients directly about their history of methamphetamine use constitutes research involving human subjects. As such, a certified Institutional Review Board (IRB) must be used to ensure that protocols fully inform patients of the nature of the study, their rights, and benefits or potential harm they might incur as a result of their participation. Patients understood that the study was both voluntary and anonymous. The staff administering the questionnaire did not know the names of the patients they interviewed, and no other overt identifiers (e.g., patient identification number) were collected. The need to submit the study to the KMC Institutional Review Board for approval resulted in a slight delay in the start-up of the research in 2008; consequently, the period of the study was the period between May 10 and June 10, rather than May 1-31.

Given the high volume of patients who present themselves at the Emergency Department (ED) in a given month, rather than trying to survey every patient, a random sample of four-hour blocks of time was used to conduct the survey. This sampling methodology, based on block randomization, ensured that the results of this cross-sectional survey could be generalized to the entire population of ED patients at KMC. Patients who were admitted during these time blocks were asked a series of questions, both general (e.g., age, ethnicity) and specific (such as whether they had ever used methamphetamine). Questionnaires were administered by staff and interns.

2.9b The Data

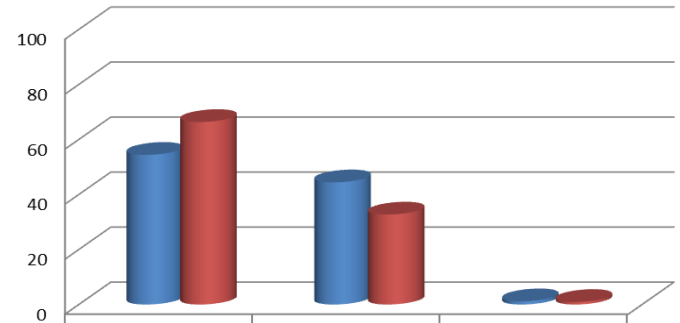
A total of 340 contacts were made in the ED during the 2008 study, compared to 173 in 2014. Funding in 2008 allowed for interns to be paid overtime to conduct the research; consequently, more individuals were surveyed in 2008 than in 2014. A



comparison of prevalence across the two years shows a nearly identical percentage of patients admitting to having used methamphetamine at least once during their lifetime (31.5% in 2008 compared to 31.8% in 2014). Physicians were asked about suspected methamphetamine use in patients visiting the ED during these time blocks, and the percentage of physicians responding in the affirmative rose from 4.7% in 2008 to 6.4% in 2014.

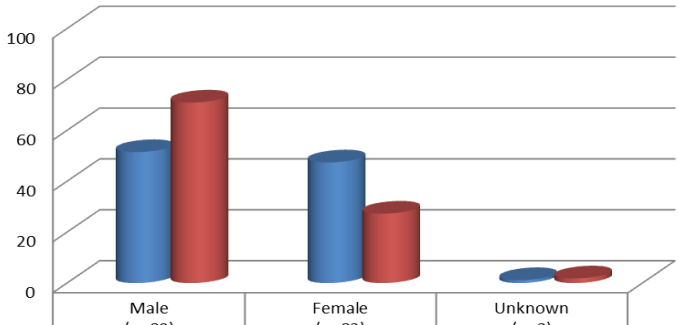
A breakdown of the data by gender shows that in both years, more males than females participated in the survey; in addition, more males were represented among those reporting methamphetamine use. In 2008, males represented 54.4% of all of those surveyed, but 66.4% of methamphetamine-involved patients, while females represented 44.4% of those surveyed, but 32.7% of methamphetamine-involved patients. In 2014, males represented 51.4% of those surveyed, and 70.9% of those

Kern Medical Center
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Emergency Department Patients, by Gender



	Male (n=185)	Female (n=151)	Unknown (n=4)
% of total patients, n=340*	54.4	44.4	1.2
% of meth-involved patients, n=107**	66.4	32.7	0.9

Kern Medical Center
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Emergency Department Patients, by Gender



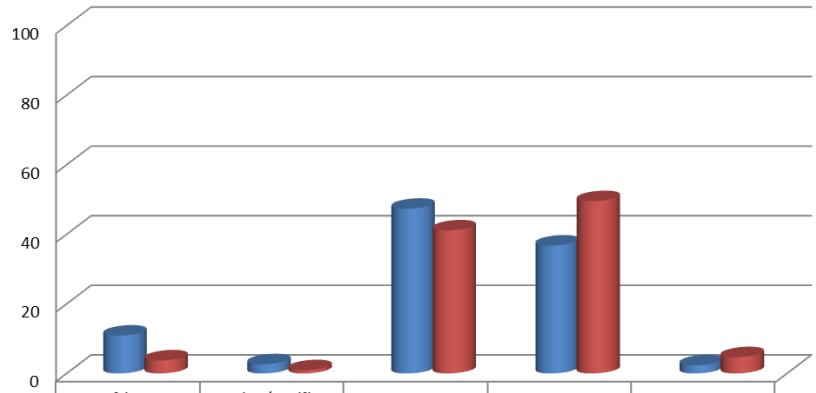
	Male (n=89)	Female (n=82)	Unknown (n=2)
% of total patients, n=173*	51.4	47.4	1.2
% of meth-involved patients, n=55**	70.9	27.3	1.8

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

who reported having used methamphetamine, while females represented 47.4% of those surveyed, but just 27.3% of those who admitted having used methamphetamine.

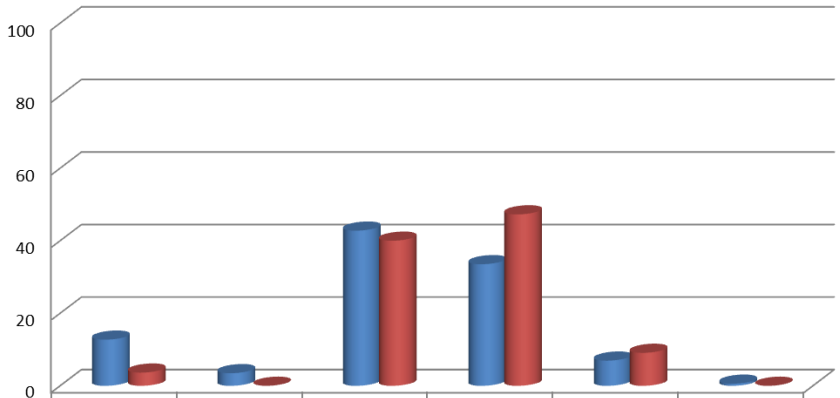
An examination of the ethnicity of survey respondents shows that White patients are overrepresented among self-reported methamphetamine users, while African American

Kern Medical Center
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Emergency Department Patients, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=37)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=9)	Hispanic (n=161)	White (n=125)	Unknown (n=8)
% of total patients, n=340*	10.9	2.6	47.4	36.8	2.4
% of meth-involved patients, n=107**	3.7	0.9	41.1	49.5	4.7

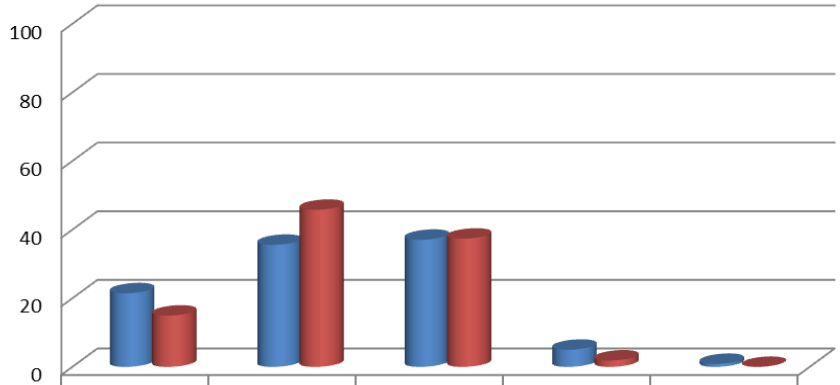
Kern Medical Center
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Emergency Department Patients, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=22)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=6)	Hispanic (n=74)	White (n=58)	Other (n=12)	Unknown (n=1)
% of total patients, n=173*	12.7	3.5	42.8	33.5	6.9	0.6
% meth-involved patients, n=55**	3.6	0.0	40.0	47.3	9.1	0.0

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

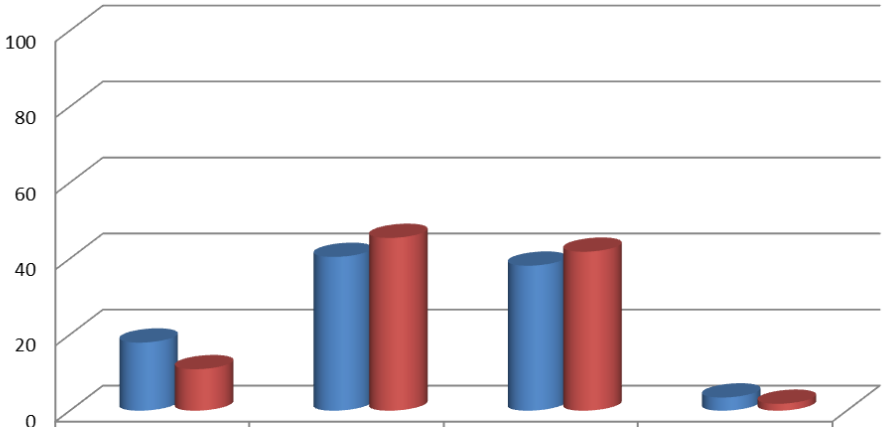
Kern Medical Center
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Emergency Department Patients, by Age



	18-25 (n=73)	26-45 (n=121)	46-64 (n=126)	65 and older (n=17)	Unknown (n=3)
% of total patients, n=340*	21.5	35.6	37.1	5.0	0.9
% of meth-involved patients, n=107**	15.0	45.8	37.4	1.9	0.0

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern Medical Center
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Emergency Department Patients, by Age



	18-25 (n=31)	26-45 (n=70)	46-64 (n=66)	65 and older (n=6)
% of total patients, n=173*	17.9	40.5	38.2	3.5
% of meth-involved patients, n=55**	10.9	45.5	41.8	1.8

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

and Hispanic patients are underrepresented. In 2008, White patients comprised just 36.8% of patients responding to the survey, but 49.5% of those who reported having used methamphetamine, while African American patients represented 10.9% of survey respondents, but just 3.7% of those who reported having used methamphetamine. In 2014, White patients represented 33.5% of all survey respondents, and 47.3% of those who reported methamphetamine use, while African Americans comprised 12.7% of those surveyed, but just 3.6% of those who reported methamphetamine use. Hispanics represented 47.4% of those surveyed in 2008, and 41.1% of those who admitted to having used methamphetamine, while in 2014, Hispanics represented 42.8% of survey respondents and 40.0% of those who admitted to methamphetamine use.

Under IRB guidelines, minors were not surveyed in either year of the study. More 18-25 year olds participated in the survey in 2008 than in 2014 (21.5% compared to 17.9%), and they represented a lower percentage of those who admitted to having used methamphetamine in 2014 (10.9%) than in 2008 (15.0%). In both years, 26-45 year olds represented the largest percentage of those admitting to methamphetamine use (45.8% in 2008 compared to 45.5% in 2014). This was followed closely by 46-64 year olds (37.4% in 2008 compared to 41.8% in 2014). In both years, those in the 65 and older category represented the smallest percentage of those who admitted to having used methamphetamine (1.9% in 2008 and 1.8% in 2014).

The level of visitation for all ED patients was examined against the level of visitation for those patients who responded “yes” to “Have you ever used methamphetamine?”

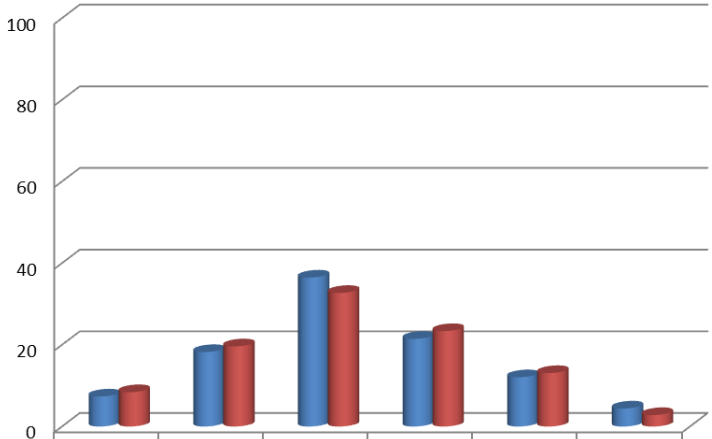
Level I:	Limited examination of the affected area or organ system
Levels II & III:	Limited examination of the affected area or organ system and other symptomatic or related organ system(s)
Level IV:	Extended examination of the affected area or organ system and other symptomatic or related organ system(s)
Level V:	General multi-system examination or a complete examination of a single organ system

“Level of visitation” refers to the extent of examination required by an ED physician, which depends on both the clinical judgment of the physician as well as the medical necessity of the presenting problem. Definitions are as follows:

Data from 2008 show that the level of visitation does not appear to be impacted by the patient’s admission of having ever used methamphetamine; percentages of total patients served under each level of care is roughly equivalent to the percentage of those who indicated they had used methamphetamine at least once during their life.

In 2014, patients were more highly represented at Levels III and IV than was true in 2008; for example, in 2008, 36.5% of patients fell under the Level III category and 21.5% fell under Level IV, while in 2014, 52.0% fell under Level III and 26.0% fell under Level IV. In 2008, however, far more patients were assigned Level V visitation

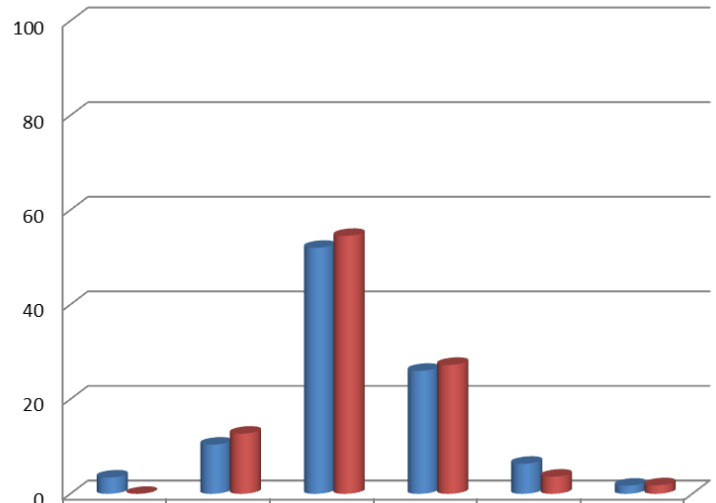
Kern Medical Center
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Emergency Department Patients, by Level of Visitation



	I (n=25)	II (n=62)	III (n=124)	IV (n=73)	V (n=41)	Unknown (n=15)
% of total patients, n=340*	7.4	18.2	36.5	21.5	12.1	4.4
% of meth-involved patients, n=107**	8.4	19.6	32.7	23.4	13.1	2.8

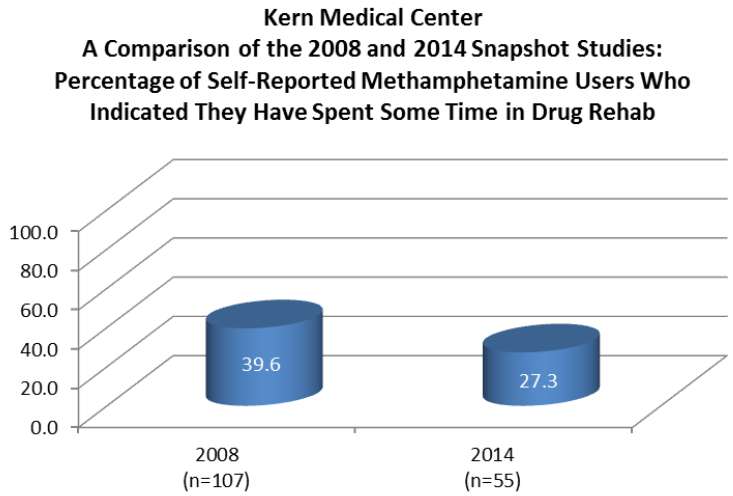
*The sample sizes under each level of visitation refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Kern Medical Center
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Emergency Department Patients, by Level of Visitation



	I (n=6)	II (n=18)	III (n=90)	IV (n=45)	V (n=11)	Unknown (n=3)
% of total patients, n=173	3.5	10.4	52.0	26.0	6.4	1.7
% of meth-involved patients, n=55**	0.0	12.7	54.5	27.3	3.6	1.8

*The sample sizes under each level of visitation category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.



(12.1%) than in 2014 (6.4%). In 2014, no patients who admitted to having used methamphetamine were assigned Level I, and the percentage of Level V patients who admitted to having used methamphetamine was just 3.6%, although Level V patients accounted for 6.4% of all patients.

Finally, those patients who indicated they had used methamphetamine at least once in their life were asked whether they had spent time in drug rehabilitation or treatment. In 2008, 39.6% of patients who admitted to using methamphetamine indicated they had spent time in drug rehabilitation treatment. This percentage dropped to 27.3% for patients in 2014.

2.9c Summary of Key Findings

- In 2008, 340 KMC Emergency Department patients were asked questions about their history of methamphetamine use, and in 2014, 173 ED patients were asked the same set of questions.
- Prevalence of methamphetamine use was nearly identical across the two years, with 31.5% of patients in 2008 and 31.8% of patients in 2014 indicating that they had used methamphetamine at least once in their lives.
- 66.4% of patients who admitted to having used methamphetamine in 2008 were male, compared to 70.9% of patients in 2014.
- In both years, Whites were overrepresented among those patients who admitted to having used methamphetamine; in 2008, Whites comprised 36.8% of all patients, but 49.5% of those who admitted to having used methamphetamine, while in 2014, Whites comprised 33.5% of all patients but 47.3% of those who admitted to having used methamphetamine.
- In both years, the highest percentages of those patients admitting to methamphetamine use fell into the 26-45 year old category: 45.8% in 2008 and 45.5% in 2014.

- There does not appear to be an overrepresentation of methamphetamine users assigned to higher levels of care in either year.
- While over one-third of patients in 2008 (39.6%) who admitted to having used methamphetamine also indicated that they had been in treatment for substance abuse, this percentage dropped in 2014 to 27.3%.

3. City of Bakersfield

Two city agencies, the Bakersfield Police Department and the Bakersfield City Fire Department, participated in the May 2014 Snapshot Study. The Bakersfield Police Department (BPD) participated in the original 2008 Snapshot Study, as well; consequently, comparative data are available for 2008 and 2014 for the BPD.

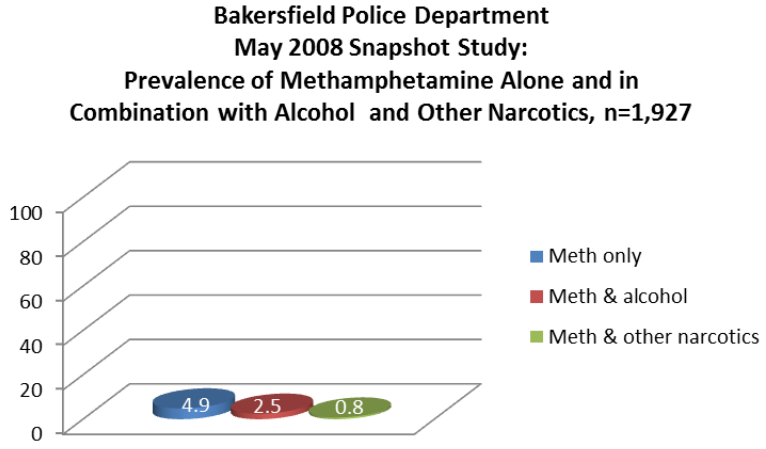
3.1 Bakersfield Police Department

3.1a Background

In both May 2008 and May 2014, a sample of officers from each shift of the BPD were asked to participate in keeping a log of all calls for the month of May, as part of the county-wide Snapshot Study. Each logbook entry involved the officer noting the date of the event and the zip code in which it occurred. Officers were also asked to check off the gender and ethnicity of the individual involved in the contact, the age range of the individual, and whether or not the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* Lastly, the officers were asked to indicate whether or not each incident involved children being removed from their families and taken into protective custody. In 2008, 29 officers completed 1,927 valid logbook entries, and in 2014, 39 officers completed 2,105 valid logbook entries.

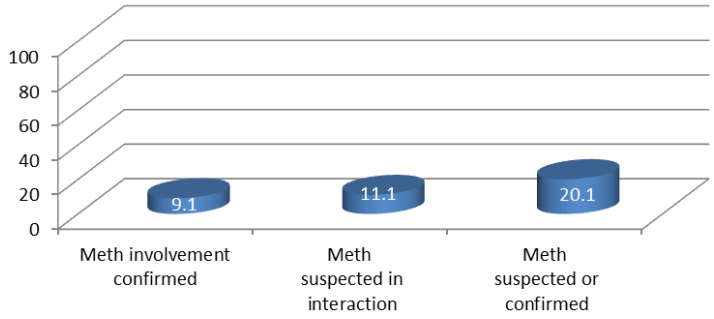
3.1b The Data

Of the 1,927 logbook entries completed by BPD officers in May 2008, a total of 175 entries indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. “Methamphetamine-only” was noted in 94 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in an additional 81 entries. This constituted 9.1% of all logbook entries.

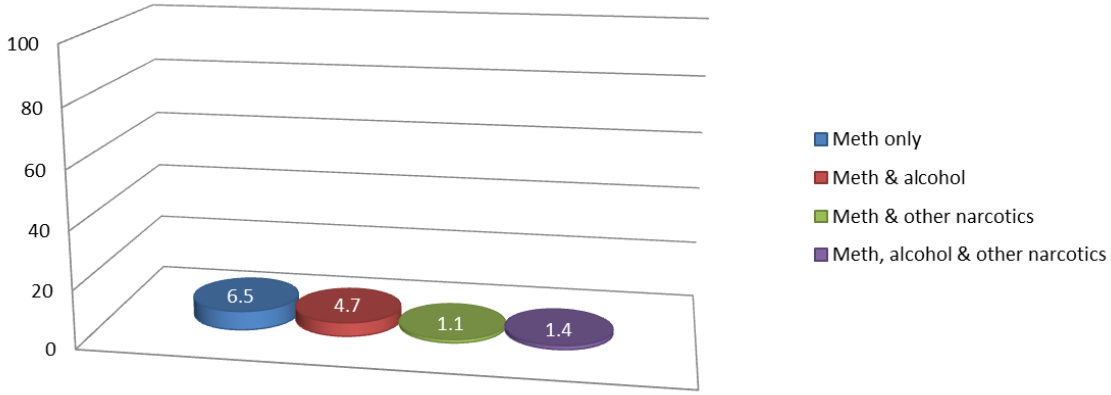


*While officers were asked to check “yes,” “no,” or “suspected” for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put “yes” if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.

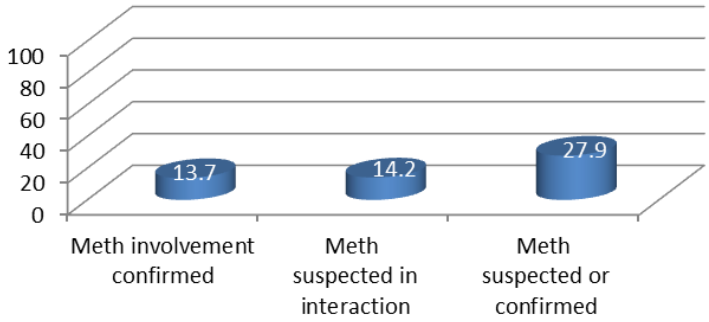
Bakersfield Police Department
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence, n=1,927



Bakersfield Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Prevalence of Methamphetamine Alone and in Combination with Alcohol and Other Narcotics, n=2,105



Bakersfield Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence, n=2,105



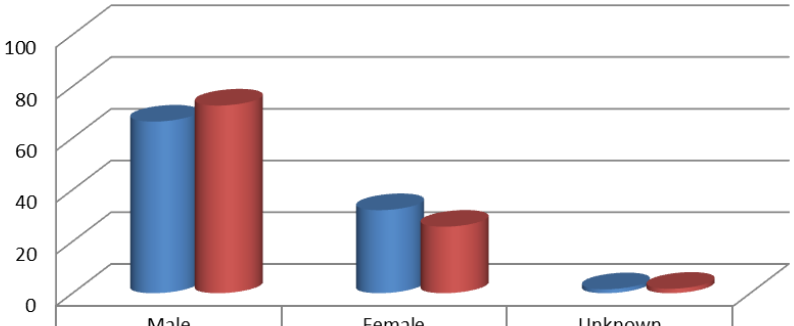
In addition, there were 213 entries (11.1% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was "suspected" in the interaction, meaning that law enforcement had reasonable cause to believe that the individual was under the influence or otherwise involved with methamphetamine, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 388 known or suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 1,927 encounters, or 20.1% of all logbook entries.

Of the 2,105 logbook entries completed by BPD officers in May 2014, a total of 289 entries indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. "Methamphetamine-only" was noted in 137 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in an additional 152 entries. This constituted 13.7% of all logbook entries. In addition, there were 298 entries (14.2%) in which methamphetamine involvement was "suspected" in the interaction. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 587 known or suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 1,927 encounters, or 27.9% of all logbook entries.

A breakdown of the data by gender shows that in both 2008 and 2014, males were overrepresented among encounters that involved methamphetamine, and females were underrepresented. In both years, males represented roughly two-thirds of all encounters with law enforcement, but three-quarters of all encounters that involved methamphetamine.

An examination of race and ethnicity in law enforcement encounters shows a similar pattern in both years. African Americans represented 21.3% of all encounters in 2008 and 22.0% in 2014; however, they represented only 8.0% of methamphetamine-involved encounters in 2008 and 9.3% in 2014. In both years, Hispanics were

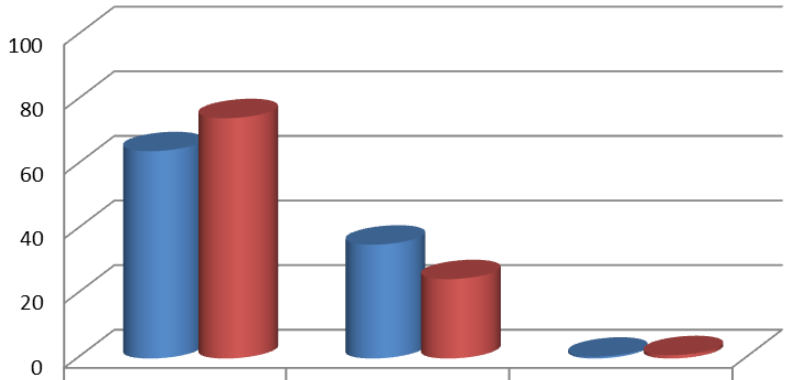
Bakersfield Police Department
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=1,279)	Female (n=619)	Unknown (n=29)
% of total encounters, n=1,927*	66.4	32.1	1.5
% of meth-involved encounters, n=175**	72.6	25.7	1.7

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Bakersfield Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender

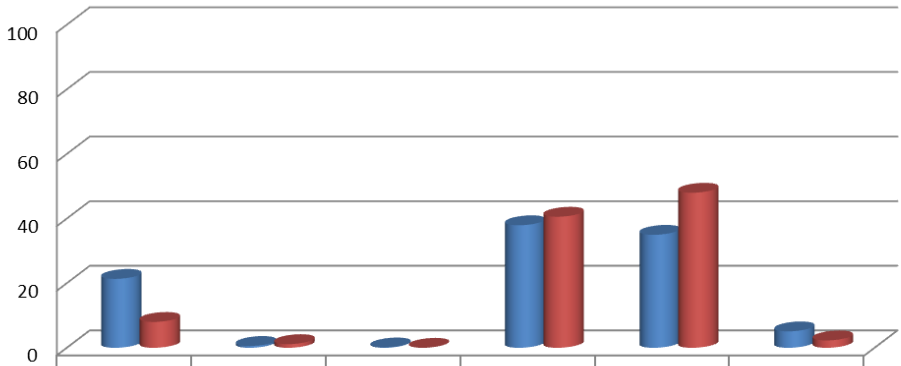


	Male (n=1,351)	Female (n=742)	Unknown (n=12)
% of total encounters, n=2,105*	64.2	35.2	0.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=289**	74.4	24.6	1.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

overrepresented in encounters that involved methamphetamine, and Whites were even more so. In 2008, Hispanics represented 37.9% of all law enforcement encounters, and 40.6% of those involving methamphetamine, while Whites accounted for 35.0% of all encounters but 48.0% of those involving methamphetamine. In 2014, Hispanics represented 38.6% of all law enforcement encounters, but 41.5% of those involving

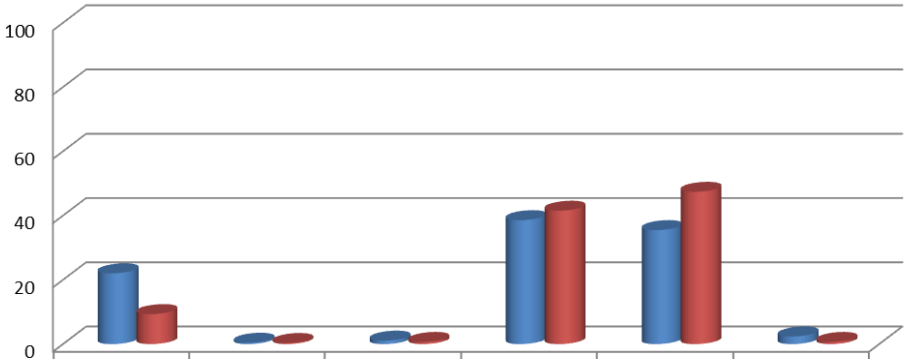
Bakersfield Police Department
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



	African American (n=411)	American Indian (n=11)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=2)	Hispanic (n=731)	White (n=674)	Unknown (n=98)
% of total encounters, n=1,927*	21.3	0.6	0.1	37.9	35.0	5.1
% of meth-involved encounters, n=175**	8.0	1.1	0.0	40.6	48.0	2.3

*The sample sizes under each racial/ethnic category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Bakersfield Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



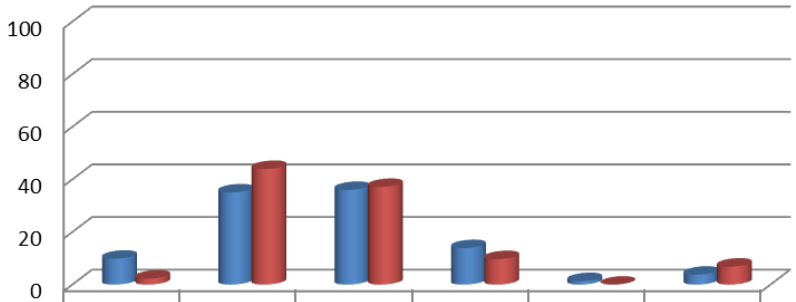
	African American (n=464)	American Indian (n=9)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=23)	Hispanic (n=812)	White (n=747)	Unknown (n=50)
% of total encounters, n=2,105*	22.0	0.4	1.1	38.6	35.5	2.4
% of meth-involved encounters, n=289**	9.3	0.3	0.7	41.5	47.4	0.7

*The sample sizes under each racial/ethnic category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

methamphetamine, and Whites represented 35.5% of all encounters, and 47.4% of those involving methamphetamine.

When age of individuals involved with methamphetamine are examined, a shift is evident between the 2008 and the 2014 data. In 2008, the largest percentage of methamphetamine-involved encounters were in the 18-25 age group, with 18-25 year olds representing 35.1% of all encounters, and 44.0% of encounters involving

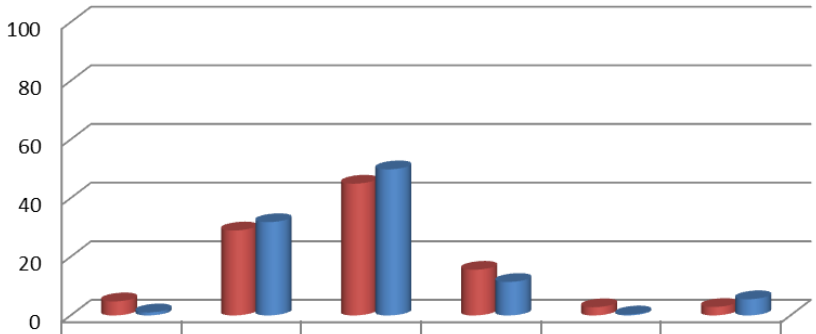
Bakersfield Police Department
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=190)	18-25 (n=676)	26-45 (n=694)	46-64 (n=268)	65 or older (n=26)	Unknown (n=73)
% of total encounters, n=1,927*	9.9	35.1	36.0	13.9	1.3	3.8
% of meth-involved encounters, n=175**	2.3	44.0	37.1	9.7	0.0	6.9

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Bakersfield Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Age Range

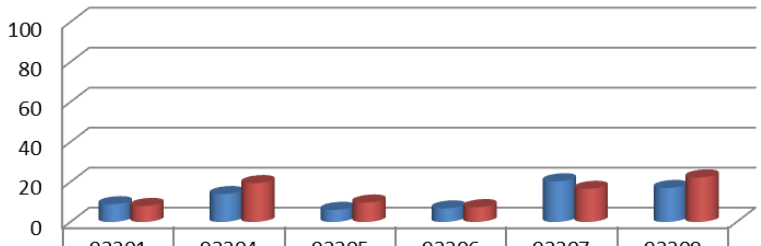


	17 and younger (n=101)	18-25 (n=610)	26-45 (n=946)	46-64 (n=328)	65 or older (n=59)	Unknown (n=61)
% of total encounters, n=2,105*	4.8	29.0	44.9	15.6	2.8	2.9
% of meth-involved encounters, n=289**	1.0	31.8	49.8	11.4	0.3	5.5

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

methamphetamine. The 26-45 age category represented 36.0% of all encounters and 37.1% of encounters involving methamphetamine. Youth 17 and younger accounted for 9.9% of all encounters, but only 2.3% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. By 2014, the highest prevalence was in the 26-45 year old category, which represented 44.9% of all encounters, and 49.8% of those involving methamphetamine. This was followed by the 18-25 age group, which accounted for 29.0% of all encounters, and 31.8% of those involving methamphetamine. Youth 17 and younger accounted for only 4.8% of all encounters, and just 1.0% of those involving methamphetamine.

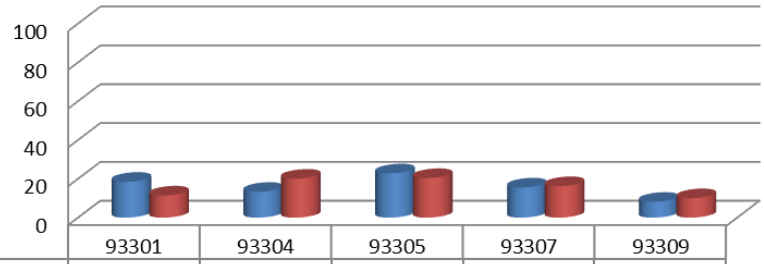
Bakersfield Police Department
May 2008 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Zip Code



	93301	93304	93305	93306	93307	93309
% of total encounters, n=1,927*	8.9	14.0	6.1	6.8	20.3	17.0
% of meth-involved encounters, n=175**	8.0	19.4	9.7	7.4	16.6	22.3

*The sample sizes under each zip code category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Bakersfield Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Zip Code



	93301	93304	93305	93307	93309
% of total encounters, n=2,105*	18.5	13.3	22.8	15.5	8.2
% of meth-involved encounters, n=289**	11.4	20.1	20.4	16.3	10.0

*The sample sizes under each zip code category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

In 2008, six zip codes accounted for 83.4% of law enforcement encounters that involved methamphetamine, with overrepresentation in 93309 (17.0% of all encounters and 22.3% of methamphetamine-involved encounters) and 93304 (14.0% of all encounters and 19.4% of methamphetamine-involved encounters). In 2014, five zip codes accounted for 78.2% of law enforcement encounters that involved methamphetamine, with the heaviest overrepresentation in 93304 (13.3% of all encounters and 20.1% of encounters involving methamphetamine).

In 2008, log entries indicated that 29 children were removed from the home during the month of May, and seven (7) of these removals were related to methamphetamine. In 2014, another 29 children were removed from the home, and nine (9) of these were methamphetamine-related.

3.1c Summary of Key Findings

- The Bakersfield Police Department had records of 1,927 encounters taking place in May 2008, and 2,105 encounters taking place in May 2014.
- Of the 1,927 encounters logged in 2008, a total of 175 (9.1%) involved methamphetamine, while of the 2,105 encounters logged in 2014, a total of 289 (13.7%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 213 encounters (11.1%) in 2008, and another 298 encounters (14.2%) in 2014.
- Males represented roughly two-thirds of all law enforcement encounters in both years, but three-quarters of all encounters involving methamphetamine.
- African Americans were underrepresented among methamphetamine-involved encounters in both years, and both Hispanics and Whites were overrepresented.
- In 2008, methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 18-25 year olds (44.0% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 26-

45 year olds (37.1%). In 2014, methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds (49.8%), followed by 18-25 year olds (31.8%).

- In 2008, the highest numbers of methamphetamine-involved encounters took place in the 93309 (22.3%), 93304 (19.4%) and 93307 (16.6%) zip codes. In 2014, the highest numbers of methamphetamine-involved encounters took place in the 93305 (20.4%), 93304 (20.1%) and 93307 (16.3%) zip codes.
- Of 29 encounters in 2008 that resulted in removal of children from the home, seven (7) involved methamphetamine. Of 29 encounters in 2014 that resulted in removal of children from the home, nine (9) involved methamphetamine.

3.2 Bakersfield City Fire Department

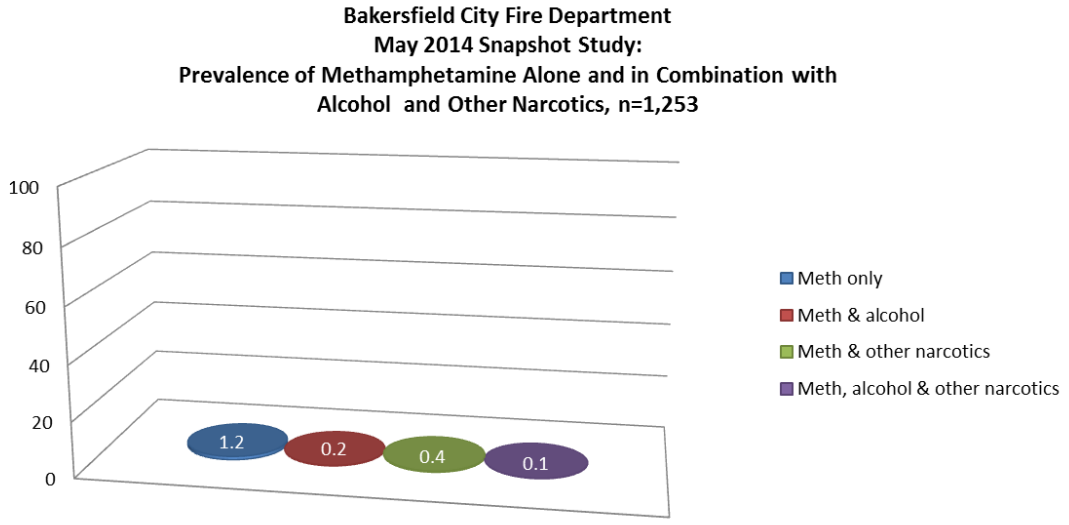
3.2a Background

This is the first year in which the Bakersfield City Fire Department has participated in the Snapshot Study; consequently, only 2014 data are presented in this report.

A total of 20 logbooks were distributed to Bakersfield City firefighters, and 17 were returned with at least some entries. Firefighters were asked to describe each emergency encounter by documenting the date, the zip code in which the event occurred, and the gender, ethnicity, and age range of the individual involved. Officers were also asked to note whether the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* In addition, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

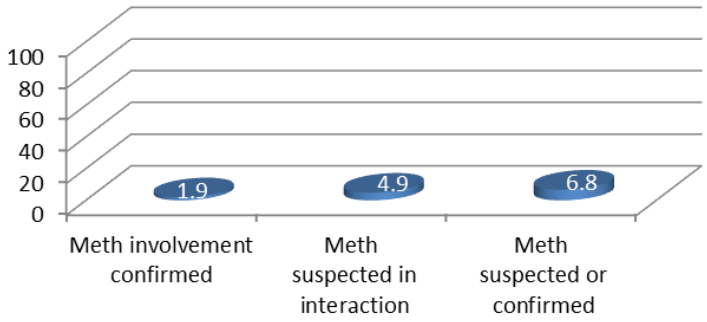
3.2b The Data

A total of 1,253 logbook entries were completed by city firefighters. Of these, a total of 24 entries indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. “Methamphetamine-only” was noted in 15 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in nine (9) entries. This constituted 1.9% of all the logbook entries. In addition, there were 61 entries (4.9% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was “suspected” in the interaction—meaning that responders had reasonable cause to believe that the individual was under the influence or otherwise methamphetamine-involved, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 85 known or suspected cases of



*While emergency responders were asked to check “yes,” “no,” or “suspected” for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, they only put “yes” if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is highly likely that numbers are underreported.

Bakersfield City Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence, n=1,253

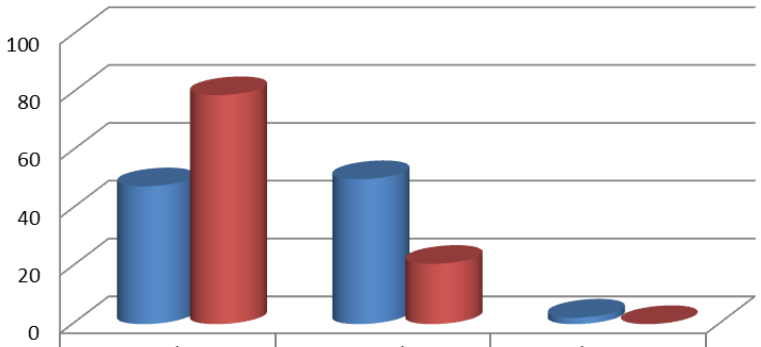


methamphetamine out of 1,253 encounters, or 6.8% of all logbook entries. (It should be noted that as emergency responders, in absence of a toxicology report or a direct admission by the individual involved, firefighters are trained to *not* diagnose the condition of an individual, and therefore underreporting is highly likely.)

A breakdown of the data by gender shows a relatively equal distribution between males and females in overall encounters, but while males made up 47.6% of total encounters, they comprised 79.2% of all encounters that involved methamphetamine).

An examination of race/ethnicity shows that African Americans were very underrepresented among cases involving methamphetamine, and Whites were highly overrepresented. While African Americans represented 16.6% of all emergency

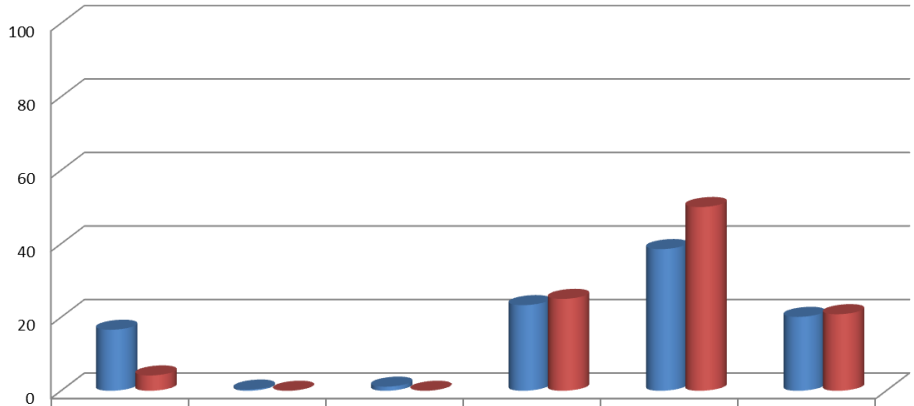
Bakersfield City Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=597)	Female (n=628)	Unknown (n=28)
% of total encounters, n=1,253*	47.6	50.1	2.2
% of meth-involved encounters, n=24**	79.2	20.8	0.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Bakersfield City Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity

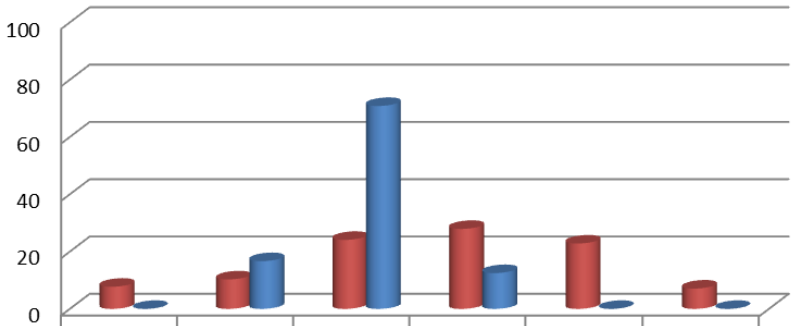


	African American (n=208)	American Indian (n=4)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=14)	Hispanic (n=292)	White (n=483)	Unknown (n=252)
% of total encounters, n=1,253*	16.6	0.3	1.1	23.3	38.5	20.1
% of meth-involved encounters, n=24**	4.2	0.0	0.0	25.0	50.0	20.8

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

response calls, they comprised only 4.2% of cases involving methamphetamine, whereas Whites represented 38.5% of all encounters and 50.0% of all encounters involving methamphetamine. Hispanics represented 23.3% of total encounters, and 25.0% of encounters involving methamphetamine. Racial/ethnic identification was missing for over 20% of individuals.

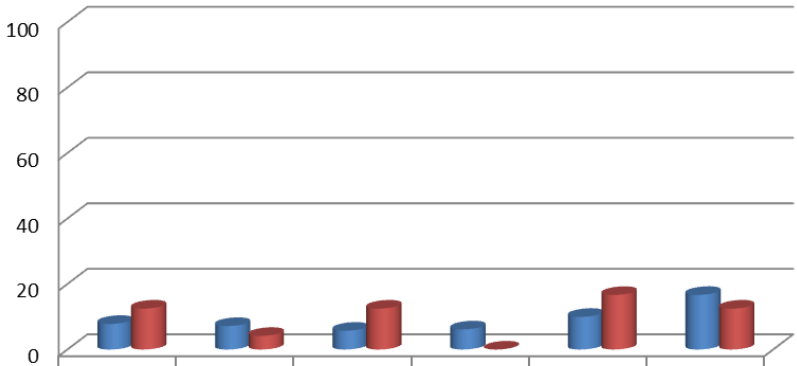
Bakersfield City Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=97)	18-25 (n=129)	26-45 (n=302)	46-64 (n=350)	65 or older (n=286)	Unknown (n=89)
% of total encounters, n=1,253*	7.7	10.3	24.1	27.9	22.8	7.1
% of meth-involved encounters, n=24**	0.0	16.7	70.8	12.5	0.0	0.0

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Bakersfield City Fire Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Zip Code



	93301	93304	93305	93306	93307	93309
% of total encounters, n=1,253*	7.8	7.2	5.7	6.1	10.0	16.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=24**	12.5	4.2	12.5	0.0	16.7	12.5

*The sample sizes under each zip code category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by age of the individual, the highest prevalence was found in the 26-45 year old category. This age group comprised just 24.1% of all encounters, but 70.8% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Individuals aged 18-25 comprised 10.3% of all encounters, and 16.7% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. No adults in the 46-64 age category were documented as having methamphetamine-involvement, nor were any youth under 17 years of age.

An examination of zip code shows the highest rates of methamphetamine-involved encounters in 93307 (16.7%), 93309 (12.5%), 93305 (12.5%) and 93301 (12.5%). Both the 93301 and the 93307 showed a disproportionate number of encounters involving methamphetamine, compared to overall encounters.

Nine logbook entries documented the removal of children from the home; however, neither of these cases involved known methamphetamine use or sales.

3.2c Summary of Key Findings

- The Bakersfield City Fire Department had records of 1,253 encounters taking place between May 1 and May 31, 2014.
- Of the 1,253 encounters logged, a total of 24 (1.9%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 61 encounters (4.9%).
- Over three-quarters of methamphetamine-involved encounters were with males, although males comprised only 47.6% of all encounters.

- In the area of racial/ethnic categories, Whites were overrepresented and African Americans were underrepresented, with White comprising 38.5% of all encounters and 50.0% of encounters involving methamphetamine, and African Americans accounting for 16.6% of all encounters and just 4.2% of those involving methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds (70.8% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 18-25 year olds (16.7%) and 46-64 year olds (12.5%).
- Although nine children were removed from the home, none of the encounters with methamphetamine-involved individuals resulted in children being removed from the home.

4. Local Police Departments

The only local police department to participate in the original 2008 Kern County Methamphetamine Impact Study was the Bakersfield City Police Department (BPD). In 2014, the BPD was joined by the Arvin, California City, Delano, McFarland, Ridgecrest, Shafter, Stallion Springs, and Tehachapi Police Departments. This section of the report addresses the participation of the each of these departments, in alphabetical order.

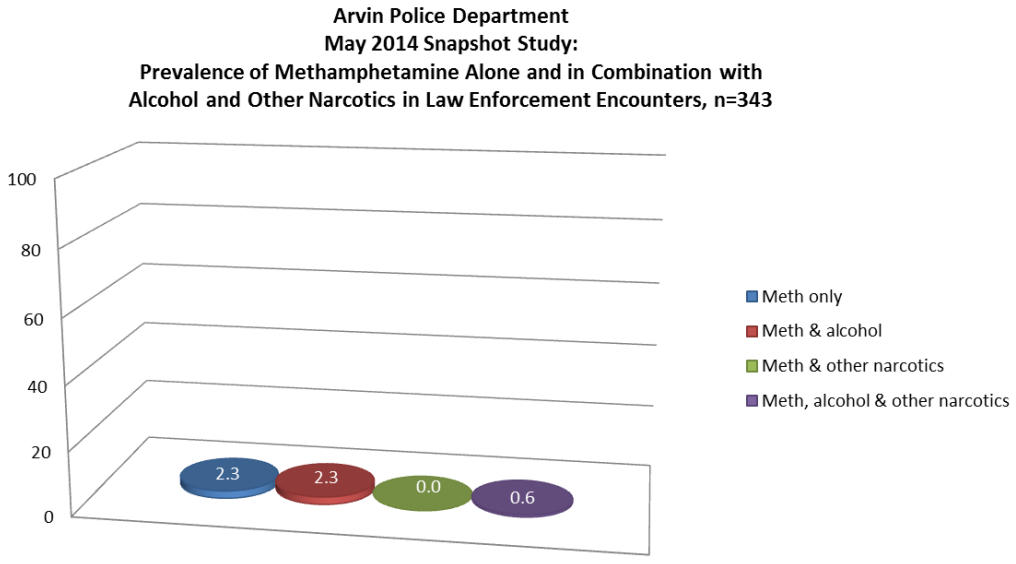
4.1 Arvin Police Department

4.1a Background

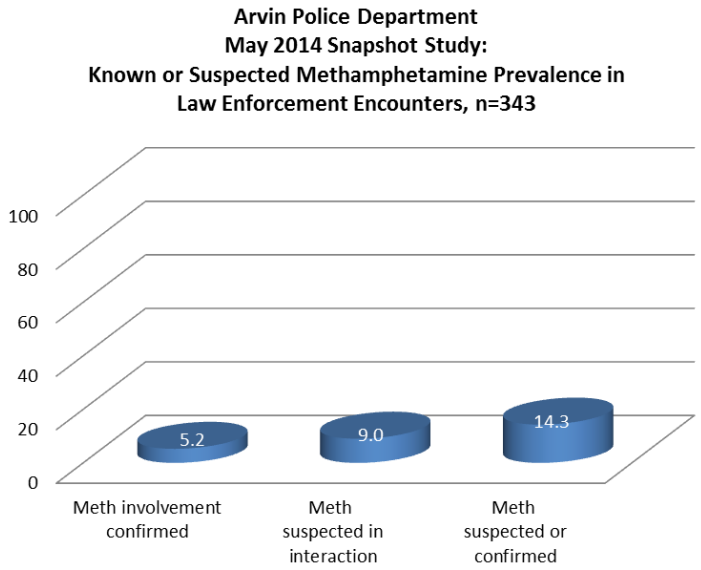
A member of the research team contacted the Arvin PD in March 2014, and arrangements were made to provide training to each shift of officers in the week prior to May 1. A total of 20 logbooks were distributed to officers in Arvin, and seven (7) were returned with at least some entries. The officers were asked to describe each encounter by documenting the date, the zip code in which the event occurred, and the gender, ethnicity, and age range of the individual involved. Officers were also asked to note whether the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* In addition, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

4.1b The Data

A total of 343 logbook entries were completed by officers in Arvin. Of these, a total of 18 entries indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in

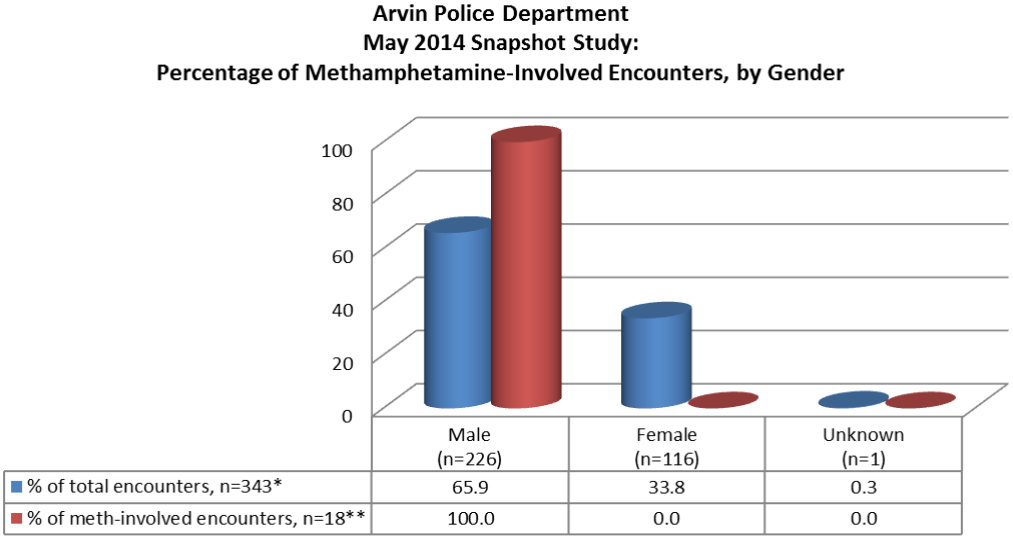


*While officers were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.



combination with alcohol or other drugs. "Methamphetamine-only" was noted in 8 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in 10 entries. This constituted 5.2% of all the logbook entries. In addition, there were 31 entries (9.0% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was "suspected" in the interaction—meaning that law enforcement had reasonable cause to believe that the individual was under the influence or otherwise methamphetamine-involved, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 49 known or suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 343 encounters, or 14.3% of all logbook entries.

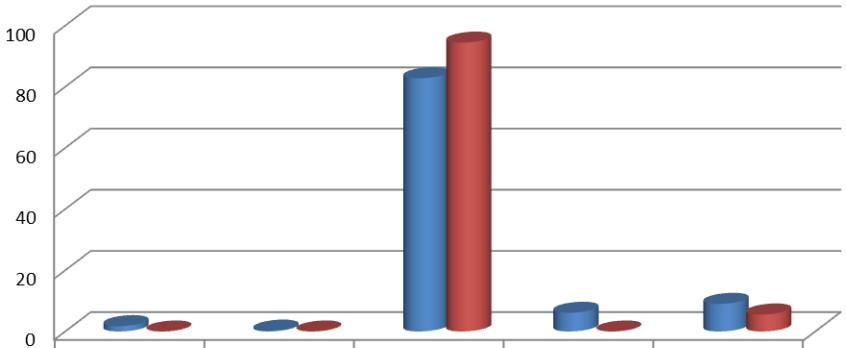
A breakdown of the data by gender shows that 100% of those encounters that were identified as methamphetamine-involved were with males, although males represented



	Male (n=226)	Female (n=116)	Unknown (n=1)
% of total encounters, n=343*	65.9	33.8	0.3
% of meth-involved encounters, n=18**	100.0	0.0	0.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Arvin Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity

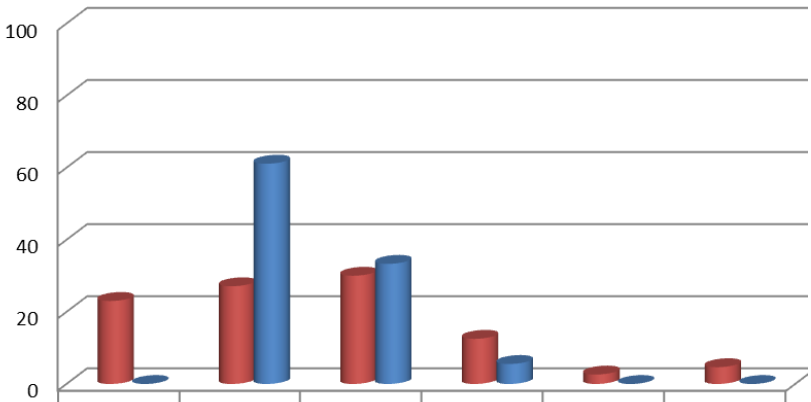


	African American (n=6)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=1)	Hispanic (n=284)	White (n=21)	Unknown (n=31)
% of total encounters, n=343*	1.7	0.3	82.8	6.1	9.0
% of meth-involved encounters, n=18**	0.0	0.0	94.4	0.0	5.6

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

just 65.9% of all encounters (compared to 33.8% female).

Arvin Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=79)	18-25 (n=93)	26-45 (n=103)	46-64 (n=43)	65 or older (n=9)	Unknown (n=16)
% of total encounters, n=343*	23.0	27.1	30.0	12.5	2.6	4.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=18**	0.0	61.1	33.3	5.6	0.0	0.0

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

While Hispanics comprised 82.8% of all law enforcement encounters (compared to 6.1% White, 1.7% African American, and 0.3% Asian/Pacific Islander), they represented 94.4% of the confirmed methamphetamine-involved cases. No Whites or African Americans were documented as involved in encounters that included methamphetamine, but race/ethnicity was unknown in 5.6% of those encounters.
When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by age of the individual, the highest prevalence was found in the 18-25 year old category. This age group comprised just 27.1% of all law enforcement encounters, but 61.1% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Individuals aged 26-45 comprised 30.0% of all encounters, and 33.3% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Adults in the 46-64 age category comprised 12.5% of all law enforcement encounters, but 5.6% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Although 23.0% of all encounters were with youth age 17 and younger, none of these cases were confirmed to be methamphetamine-involved.

Two logbook entries indicated that children were removed from the home; however, neither of these cases involved known methamphetamine use or sales.

4.1c Summary of Key Findings

- The Arvin Police Department had records of 343 encounters taking place between May 1 and May 31, 2014.
- Of the 343 encounters logged, a total of 18 (5.2%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 31 encounters (9.0%).
- 100% of individuals who were positively identified as being methamphetamine-involved were male.
- 94.4% of those who were positively identified as being methamphetamine-involved were Hispanic, although Hispanics represented 82.8% of total encounters.
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 18-25 year olds (61.1% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 26-45 year olds (33.3%) and 46-64 year olds (5.6%).
- None of the encounters with methamphetamine-involved individuals resulted in children being removed from the home.

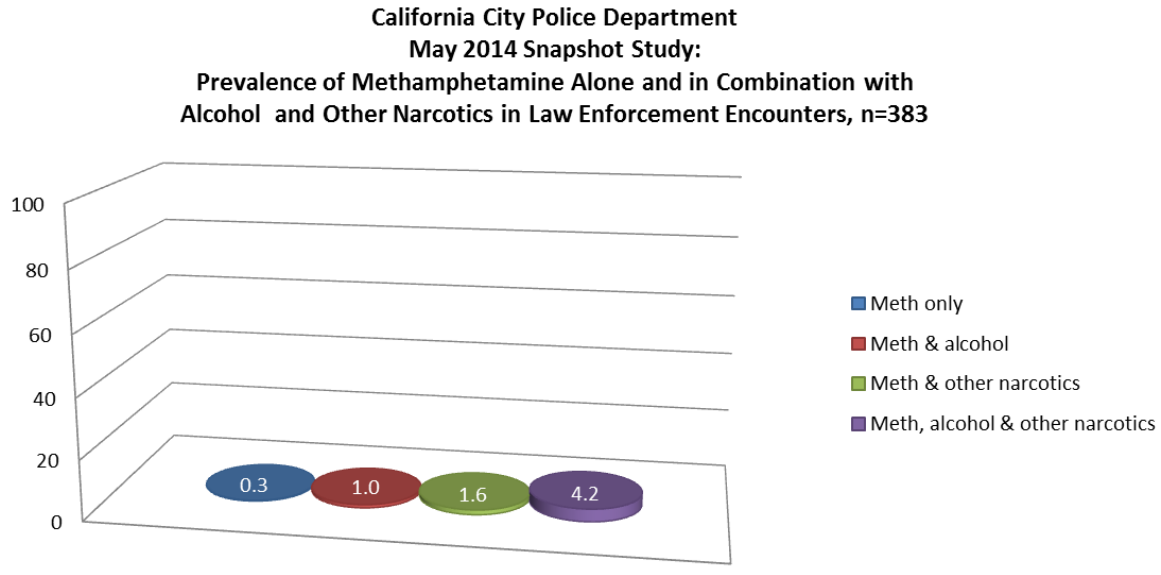
4.2 California City Police Department

4.2a Background

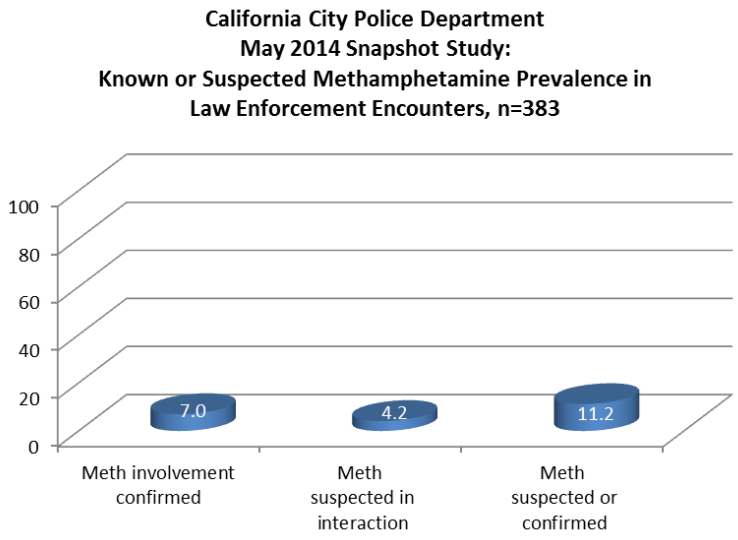
A total of 20 logbook were distributed to officers in California City, and 11 were returned with at least some entries. The officers were asked to describe each encounter by documenting the date, the zip code in which the event occurred, and the gender, ethnicity, and age range of the individual involved. Officers were also asked to note whether the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* In addition, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

4.2b The Data

A total of 383 logbook entries were completed by officers in California City. Of these, a total of 27 entries indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. "Methamphetamine-only" was noted in just one entry; methamphetamine in combination with alcohol and/or other narcotics was indicated in the other 26. Together, these constituted 7.0% of all the logbook entries. There were 16 entries (4.2% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was "suspected" in the interaction—meaning that law enforcement had reasonable cause to believe that the individual was under the influence or otherwise methamphetamine-involved, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 43 known or suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 383 encounters, or 11.2% of all logbook entries for the month of May.

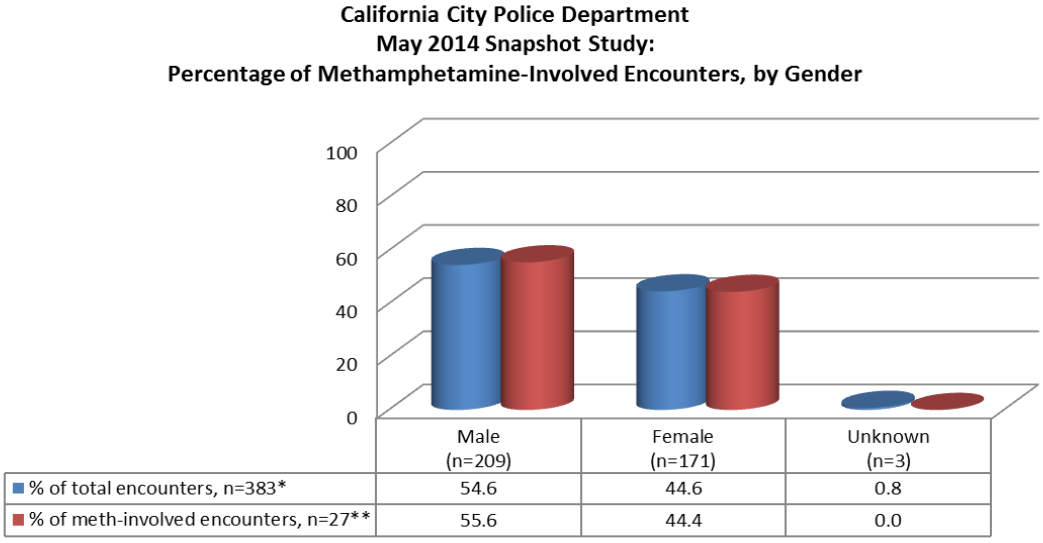


*While officers were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.



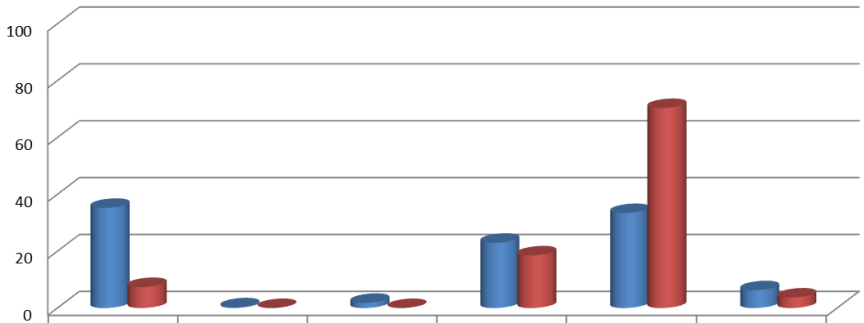
A breakdown of the data by gender shows that males represented 54.6% of all encounters, and 55.6% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters, while females represented 44.6% of all encounters and 44.4% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.

The data on race/ethnicity show that while African Americans constituted 35.2% of total law enforcement encounters, they constituted just 7.4% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. Similarly, while Hispanics constituted 23.0% of all encounters, they constituted 18.5% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. This is in direct contrast to the data for Whites, who constituted 33.4% of total encounters, but 70.4% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. No American Indians or Asian/Pacific Islanders were involved in encounters that included known methamphetamine



*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

California City Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



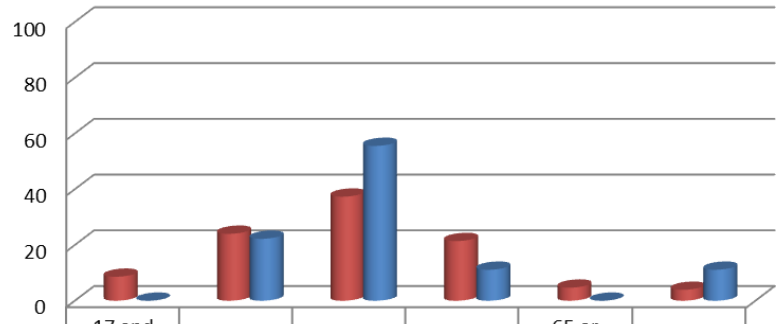
	African American (n=135)	American Indian (n=1)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=7)	Hispanic (n=88)	White (n=128)	Unknown (n=24)
% of total encounters, n=383*	35.2	0.3	1.8	23.0	33.4	6.3
% of meth-involved encounters, n=27**	7.4	0.0	0.0	18.5	70.4	3.7

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

possession, sales or use; however, race/ethnicity was marked as "unknown" for 6.3% of total encounters, and 3.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by the age of the individual, the highest prevalence was found in the 26-45 age range, which comprised 37.3% of all law enforcement encounters, but 55.6% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. The 18-25 age range constituted 24.0% of total encounters, and 22.2% of methamphetamine-involved encounters; however, the 46-64 age range constituted 21.4% of all encounters, and just 11.1% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

California City Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=33)	18-25 (n=92)	26-45 (n=143)	46-64 (n=82)	65 or older (n=18)	Unknown (n=15)
% of total encounters, n=383*	8.6	24.0	37.3	21.4	4.7	3.9
% of meth-involved encounters, n=27**	0.0	22.2	55.6	11.1	0.0	11.1

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

While 17 and younger comprised 8.6% of total encounters, and 65 or older constituted 4.7% of total encounters, no individuals in either category were determined to be methamphetamine-involved. Age range was listed as unknown for just 15 individuals (3.9%), but these constituted 11.1% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

Two logbook entries indicated that children were removed from the home; however, neither of these cases involved known methamphetamine, possession, use or sales.

4.2c Summary of Key Findings

- The California City Police Department had records of 383 encounters taking place between May 1 and May 31, 2014.
- Of the 383 encounters logged, a total of 27 (7.0%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 16 encounters (4.2%).
- Men constituted slightly more than half of total law enforcement encounters (54.6%), and a nearly equal percentage of methamphetamine-involved encounters (55.6%); by the same token, females constituted 44.6% of total encounters and 44.4% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- Whites were highly overrepresented in methamphetamine-involved encounters; while comprising only 33.4% of total law enforcement encounters, they represented 70.4% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. No other group showed this disparity; in fact, African Americans were underrepresented in methamphetamine-involved encounters (7.4%) compared to their level of representation in total law enforcement encounters (35.2%).
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds (55.6% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 18-25 year olds (22.2%) and 46-64 year olds (11.1%).
- None of the encounters with methamphetamine-involved individuals resulted in children being removed from the home.

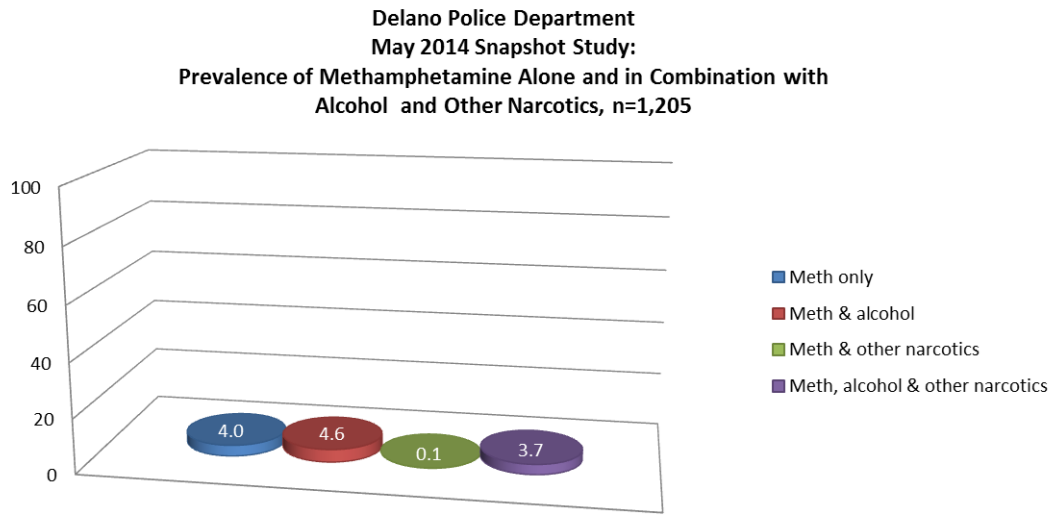
4.3 Delano Police Department

4.3a Background

A member of the research team contacted the Delano PD in March 2014, and arrangements were made to provide training to each shift of officers in the week prior to May 1. A total of 52 logbooks were distributed to officers in Delano, and 20 were returned with at least some entries. The officers were asked to describe each encounter by documenting the date, the zip code in which the event occurred, and the gender, ethnicity, and age range of the individual involved. Officers were also asked to note whether the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* In addition, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

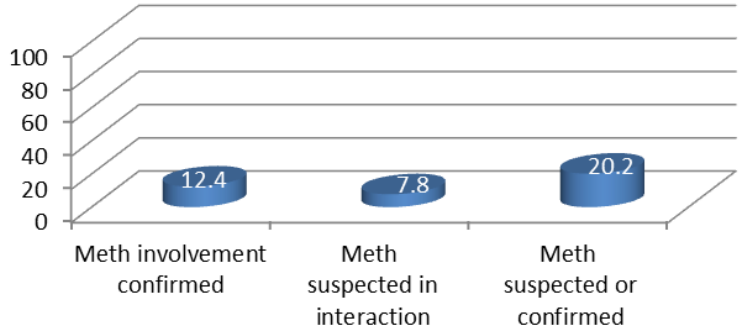
4.3b The Data

A total of 1,205 logbook entries were completed by officers in Delano. Of these, a total of 150 entries indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. "Methamphetamine-only" was noted in 48 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in 102 entries. This constituted 12.4% of all the logbook entries. In addition, there were 94 entries (7.8% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was "suspected" in the interaction—meaning that law enforcement had reasonable cause to believe that the individual was under the influence or otherwise methamphetamine-involved, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 244 known or suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 1,205 encounters, or 20.2% of all logbook entries.



*While officers were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.

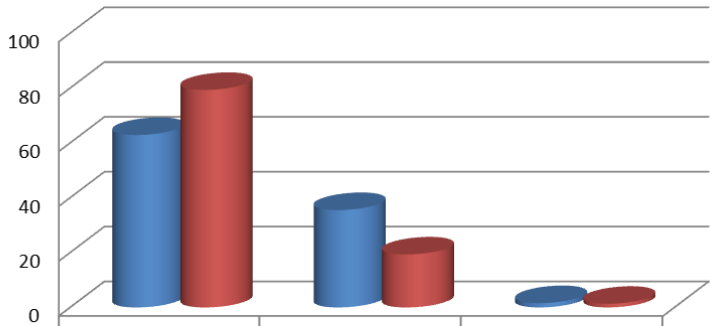
Delano Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence, n=1,205



A breakdown of the data by gender shows that while males accounted for 62.9% of all encounters with law enforcement, they represented 79.3% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters, while females accounted for 35.5% of all encounters and just 19.3% of all encounters involving methamphetamine.

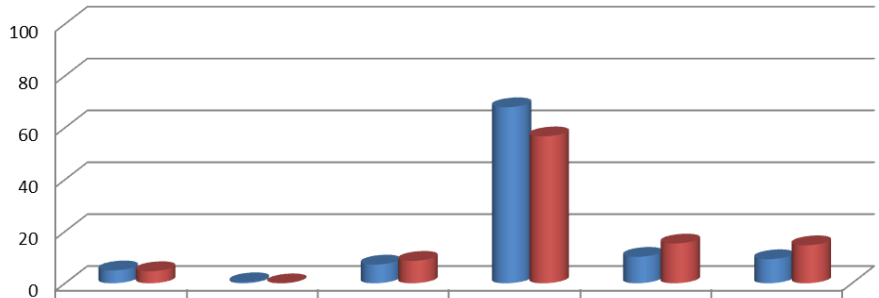
Hispanics represented 67.9% of all law enforcement encounters, but comprised just 56.7% of the confirmed methamphetamine-involved cases. By contrast, Whites represented just 10.2% of total encounters but 15.3% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. African Americans were slightly underrepresented and Asian/Pacific Islander slightly overrepresented in the sample. “Unknown” accounted for 9.3% of total encounters, but 14.7% of encounters involving methamphetamine.

Delano Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=758)	Female (n=428)	Unknown (n=19)
% of total encounters, n=1,205*	62.9	35.5	1.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=150**	79.3	19.3	1.3

Delano Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity

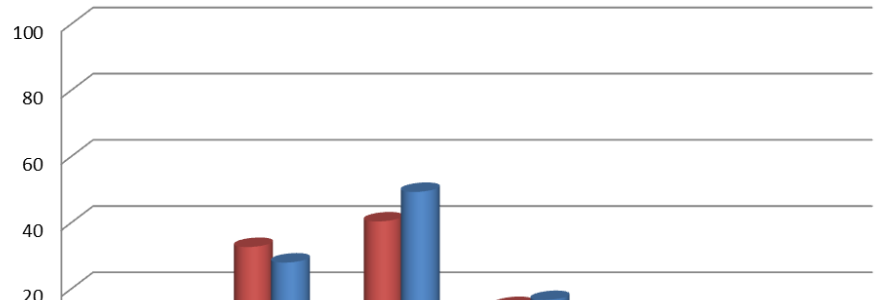


	African American (n=60)	American Indian (n=5)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=87)	Hispanic (n=818)	White (n=123)	Unknown (n=112)
% of total encounters, n=1,205*	5.0	0.4	7.2	67.9	10.2	9.3
% of meth-involved encounters, n=150**	4.7	0.0	8.7	56.7	15.3	14.7

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by age of the individual, the highest prevalence was found in the 26-45 year old category. This age group comprised 40.4% of all law enforcement encounters, and 49.3% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Individuals aged 18-25 comprised 32.7% of all encounters, and 28.0% of encounters that involved methamphetamine. Adults in the 46-64 age category comprised 14.9% of all law enforcement encounters, and 16.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Although 5.9% of all encounters were with

Delano Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=71)	18-25 (n=394)	26-45 (n=487)	46-64 (n=179)	65 or older (n=42)	Unknown (n=32)
% of total encounters, n=1,205*	5.9	32.7	40.4	14.9	3.5	2.7
% of meth-involved encounters, n=150**	0.7	28.0	49.3	16.7	1.3	4.0

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

youth age 17 and younger, only 0.7% of these cases were confirmed to involve methamphetamine.

Eight logbook entries indicated that children were removed from the home; four of these cases involved known methamphetamine, possession, use or sales.

4.3c Summary of Key Findings

- The Delano Police Department had records of 1,205 encounters taking place between May 1 and May 31, 2014.
- Of the 1,205 encounters logged, a total of 150 (12.4%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 94 encounters (7.8%).
- Males were disproportionately represented among methamphetamine-involved encounters; although they represented 62.9% of all encounters, they comprised 79.3% of all encounters involving methamphetamine.
- Whites represented just 10.2% of all law enforcement encounters, but 15.3% of those encounters that involved methamphetamine. On the other hand, Hispanics accounted for 67.9% of all encounters but just 56.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds (49.3% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 18-25 year olds (28.0%) and 46-64 year olds (16.7%).
- Four of the eight encounters that resulted in children being removed from the home involved methamphetamine possession, sales, or use.

4.4 McFarland Police Department

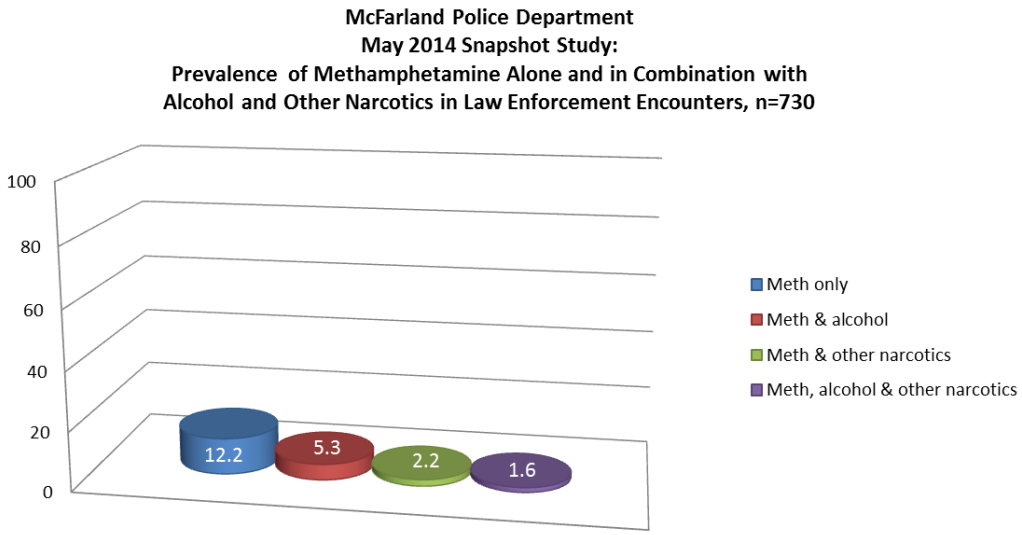
4.4a Background

A total of 26 logbooks were distributed to officers in McFarland, and twelve (12) were returned with at least some entries. The officers were asked to describe each encounter by documenting the date, the zip code in which the event occurred, and the gender, ethnicity, and age range of the individual involved. Officers were also asked to note whether the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* In addition, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

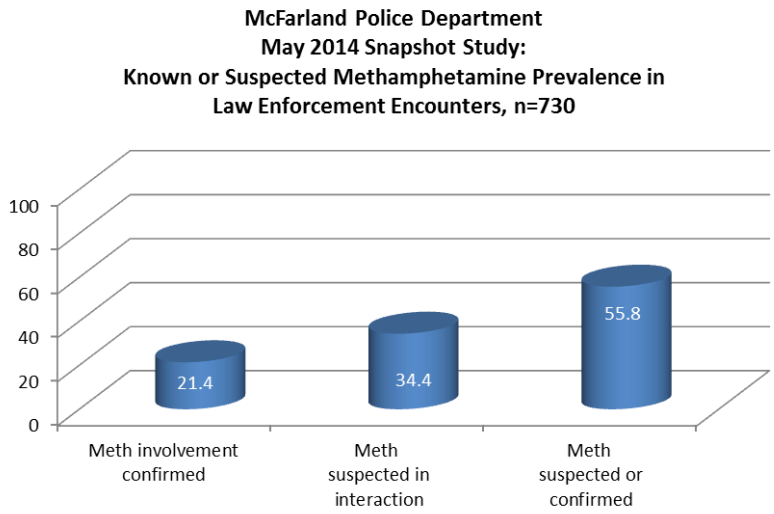
4.4b The Data

A total of 730 logbook entries were completed by officers in McFarland. Of these, a total of 156 entries indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. "Methamphetamine-only" was noted in 89 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in 67 entries. This constituted 21.4% of all the logbook entries.

In addition, there were 251 further entries (34.4% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was "suspected" in the interaction—meaning that law enforcement had reasonable cause to believe that the individual was under the influence or otherwise methamphetamine-involved, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to the known cases resulted in a total of 407



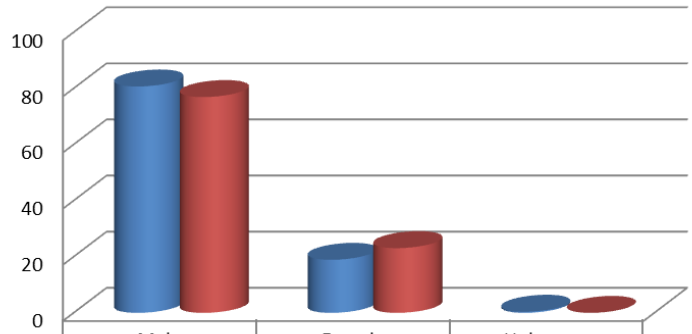
*While officers were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.



known or suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 730 encounters, or 55.8% of all logbook entries for the month of May.

A breakdown of the data of cases by gender shows that females were overrepresented among confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters, with women comprising 18.9% of all encounters, but 23.1% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. Males represented 80.7% of all encounters, and 76.9% of encounters that involved methamphetamine.

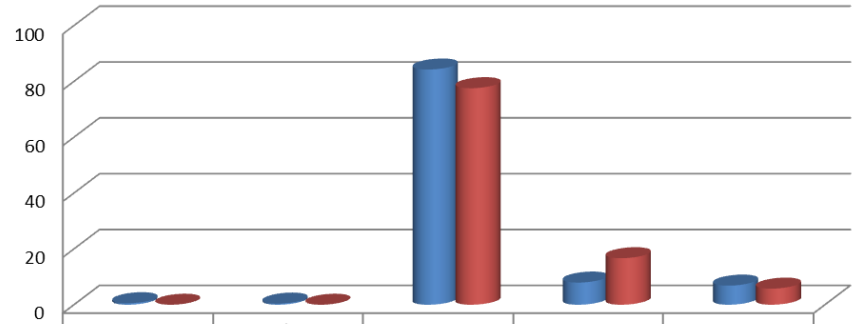
In examining ethnicity, Hispanics comprised 84.2% of all law enforcement encounters, and 77.6% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Whites were overrepresented in methamphetamine-involved encounters; while they comprised just 7.9% of total law



	Male (n=589)	Female (n=138)	Unknown (n=3)
% of total encounters, n=730*	80.7	18.9	0.4
% meth-involved encounters, n=156**	76.9	23.1	0.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based on the total number of meth-involved encounters only.

McFarland Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity

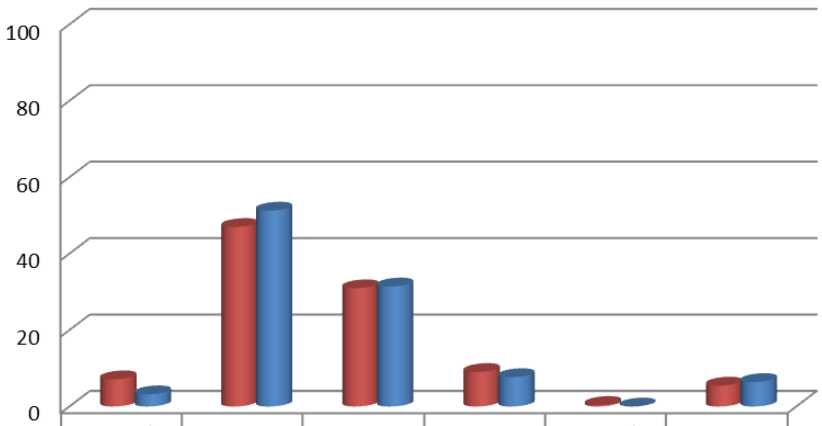


	African American (n=4)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=3)	Hispanic (n=615)	White (n=58)	Unknown (n=50)
% of total encounters, n=730*	0.5	0.4	84.2	7.9	6.8
% meth-involved encounters, n=156**	0.0	0.0	77.6	16.7	5.8

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

enforcement encounters, they comprised 16.7% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters. No African Americans or Asian/Pacific Islanders were represented in methamphetamine-involved encounters, although ethnicity was unknown in 5.8% of encounters.

McFarland Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=52)	18-25 (n=343)	26-45 (n=226)	46-64 (n=66)	65 and older (n=3)	unknown (n=40)
% of total encounters, n=730*	7.1	47.0	31.0	9.0	0.4	5.5
% meth-involved encounters, n=156**	3.2	51.3	31.4	7.7	0.0	6.4

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by age of the individual, the highest prevalence was found in the 18-25 year old category. This age group comprised 47.0% of all law enforcement encounters, but 51.3% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Individuals aged 26-45 comprised 31.0% of all those encountered by law enforcement, and 31.4% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Adults in the 46-64 age category comprised 9.0% of all law enforcement encounters, and 7.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Just 7.1% of all law enforcement encounters were with youth 17 years of age and younger, and youth comprised 3.2% of cases that were confirmed to be methamphetamine-involved.

No logbook entries indicated that children were removed from the home.

4.4c Summary of Key Findings

- The McFarland Police Department had records of 730 encounters taking place between May 1 and May 31, 2014.
- Of the 730 encounters logged, a total of 156 (21.4%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 251 encounters (34.4%).
- Females comprised 23.1% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters, although they represented only 18.9% of all encounters.
- Although Whites represented only 7.9% of all law enforcement encounters, they comprised 16.7% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 18-25 year olds (51.3% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 26-45 year olds (31.4%), 46-64 year olds (7.7%), and youth 17 years of age and younger (3.2%).
- None of the encounters with methamphetamine-involved individuals resulted in children being removed from the home.

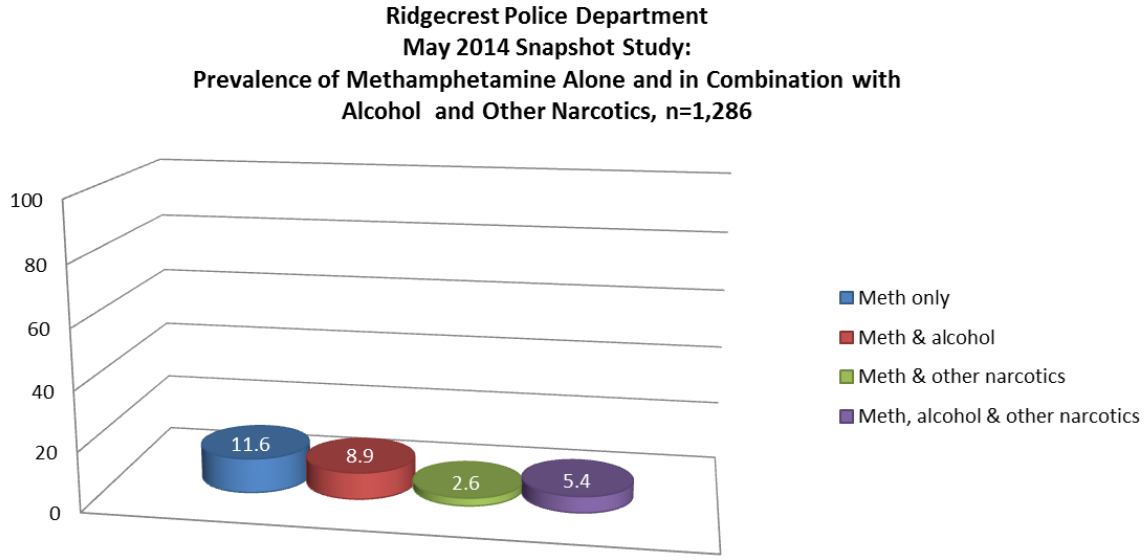
4.5 Ridgecrest Police Department

4.5a Background

A total of 22 logbooks were distributed to officers in Ridgecrest, and 16 were returned with at least some entries. The officers were asked to describe each encounter by documenting the date, the zip code in which the event occurred, and the gender, ethnicity, and age range of the individual involved. Officers were also asked to note whether the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* In addition, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

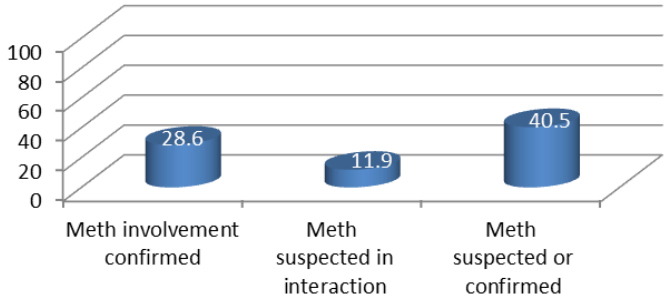
4.5b The Data

A total of 1,286 logbook entries were completed by officers in Ridgecrest. Of these, a total of 368 entries indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. “Methamphetamine-only” was noted in 149 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in 219 entries. This constituted 28.6% of all the logbook entries. In addition, there were 153 entries (11.9% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was “suspected” in the interaction—meaning that law enforcement had reasonable cause to believe that the Individual was under the influence or otherwise methamphetamine-involved, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 521 known or suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 1,286 encounters, or 40.5% of all logbook entries.



*While officers were asked to check “yes,” “no,” or “suspected” for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put “yes” if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.

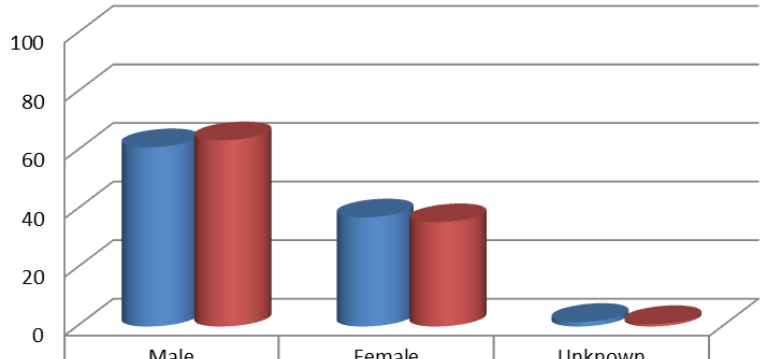
Ridgecrest Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence,
n=1,286



A breakdown of the data by gender shows that males represented 61.2% of all law enforcement encounters, and 63.6% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters, while females accounted for 37.2% of all encounters and 35.6% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.

Whites comprised the largest percentage of overall encounters (59.4%), and represented 64.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. African Americans were slightly overrepresented in methamphetamine-involved encounters at 12.0%, as they represented just 10.9% of all encounters. Hispanics, on the other hand, were underrepresented; they comprised 16.7% of all encounters, but 14.9% of those encounters that involved methamphetamine. American Indians and Asian/Pacific Islanders were also underrepresented; the former comprised 0.9% of all encounters

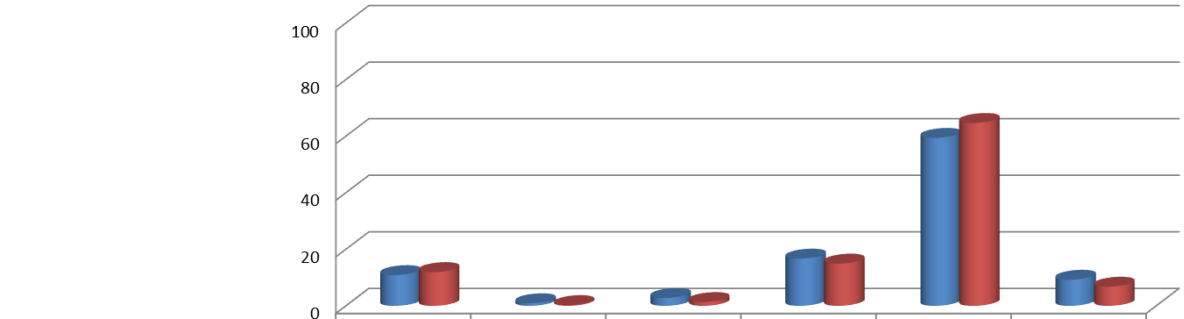
Ridgecrest Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=787)	Female (n=479)	Unknown (n=20)
% of total encounters, n=1,286*	61.2	37.2	1.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=368**	63.6	35.6	0.8

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Ridgecrest Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity



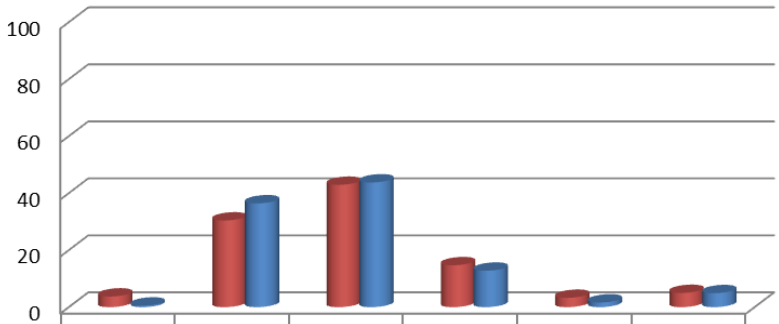
	African American (n=140)	American Indian (n=12)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=36)	Hispanic (n=215)	White (n=764)	Unknown (n=119*)
% of total encounters, n=1,286*	10.9	0.9	2.8	16.7	59.4	9.3
% of meth-involved encounters, n=368**	12.0	0.3	1.4	14.9	64.7	6.8

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

and 0.3% of those involving methamphetamine, while the latter comprised 2.8% of all encounters and just 1.4% of those involving methamphetamine.

When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by age of the individual, the highest prevalence was found in the 26-45 year old category. This age group comprised 42.9% of all law enforcement encounters, and 43.8% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Individuals aged 18-25 comprised 30.4% of all encounters, and 36.4% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters.

Ridgecrest Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine in Law Enforcement Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=48)	18-25 (n=391)	26-45 (n=552)	46-64 (n=189)	65 or older (n=42)	Unknown (n=64)
% of total encounters, n=1,286*	3.7	30.4	42.9	14.7	3.3	5.0
% of meth-involved encounters, n=368**	0.5	36.4	43.8	12.8	1.6	4.9

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Adults in the 46-64 age category comprised 14.7% of all law enforcement encounters, and 12.8% of those involving methamphetamine. Although 3.7% of all encounters were with youth age 17 and younger, only 0.5% of these cases were confirmed to be methamphetamine-involved.

Eleven (11) logbook entries indicated that children were removed from the home; and eight of these cases involved confirmed methamphetamine, possession, use or sales.

4.5c Summary of Key Findings

- The Ridgecrest Police Department had records of 1,286 encounters taking place between May 1 and May 31, 2014.
- Of the 1,286 encounters logged, a total of 368 (28.6%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 153 encounters (11.9%).
- There was little disparity between the percentage of males and females that comprised all law enforcement encounters (61.2% and 37.2%, respectively) and those that comprised encounters involving methamphetamine (63.6% and 35.6%, respectively).
- Whites and African Americans were overrepresented among methamphetamine-involved encounters. Whites represented 59.4% of all law enforcement encounters and 64.7% of those that involved methamphetamine, while African Americans represented 10.9% of all encounters and 12.0% of those that involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds (43.8% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 18-25 year olds (36.4%) and 46-64 year olds (12.8%).
- Eight of the eleven encounters that resulted in children being removed from the home involved methamphetamine possession, sales, or use.

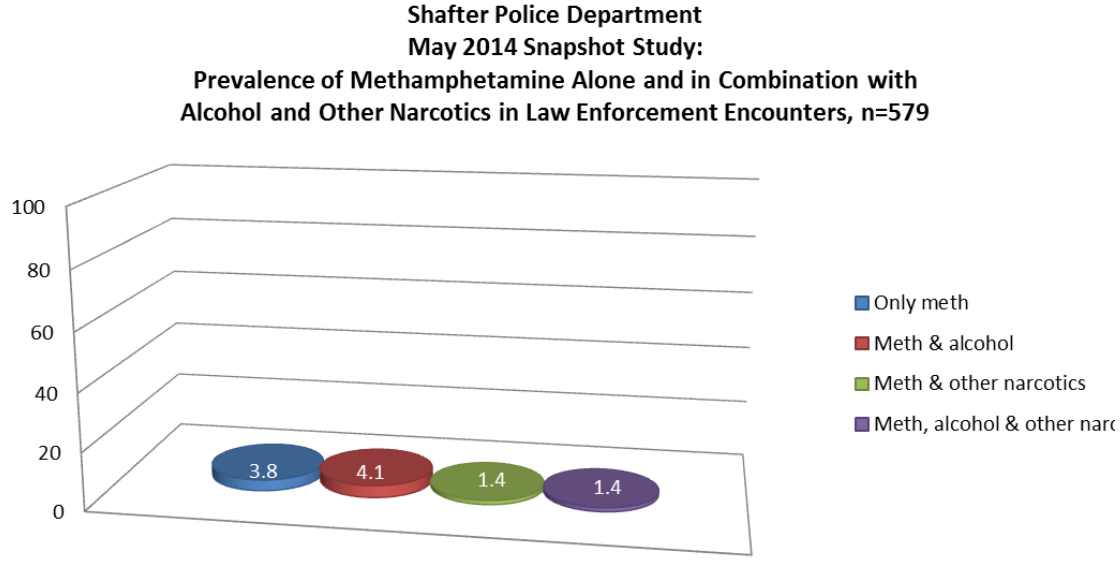
4.6 Shafter Police Department

4.6a Background

A total of 21 logbooks were distributed to officers in Shafter, and 15 were returned with at least some entries. The officers were asked to describe each encounter by documenting the date, the zip code in which the event occurred, and the gender, ethnicity, and age range of the individual involved. Officers were also asked to note whether the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* In addition, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

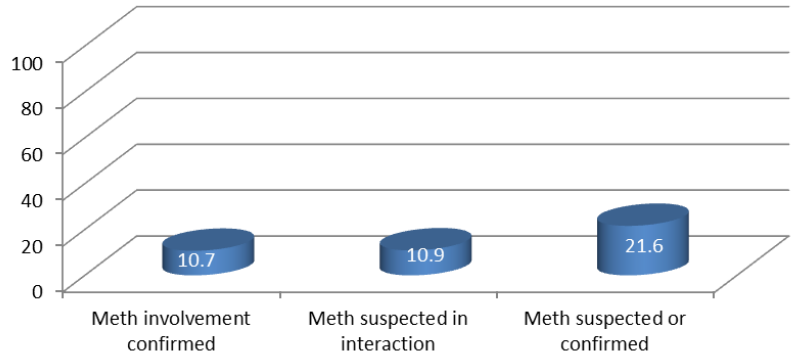
4.6b The Data

A total of 579 logbook entries were completed by officers in Shafter. Of these, a total of 62 entries (10.7%) indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. "Methamphetamine-only" was noted in 22 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in 40 entries. In addition, there were 63 entries (10.9% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was "suspected" in the interaction—meaning that law enforcement had reasonable cause to believe that the individual was under the influence or otherwise methamphetamine-involved, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 125 known or suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 579 encounters, or 21.6% of all logbook entries for the month of May.



*While officers were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.

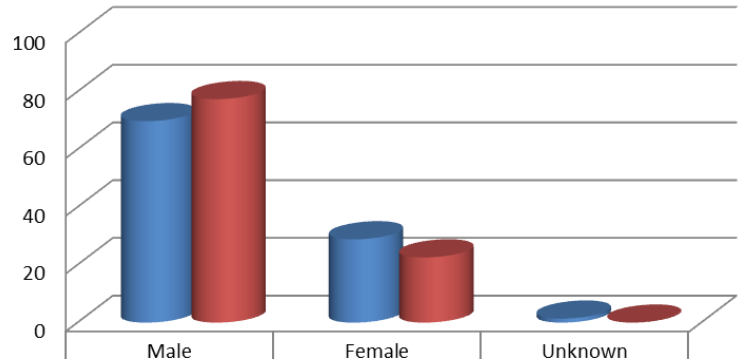
Shafter Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence in Law Enforcement Encounters, n=579



A breakdown of the data by gender shows that 77.4% of those encounters that were identified as methamphetamine-involved were with males, although males represented just 69.8% all encounters.

In examining race and ethnicity, the data show that Hispanics are underrepresented and Whites are overrepresented among confirmed methamphetamine-involved cases. While Hispanics comprised 69.4% of all law enforcement encounters, they represented 62.9% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. While Whites represented 24.5% of all encounters, they comprised 32.3% of all methamphetamine-involved cases. African Americans represented only 1.7% of all law enforcement encounters, and 1.6% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.

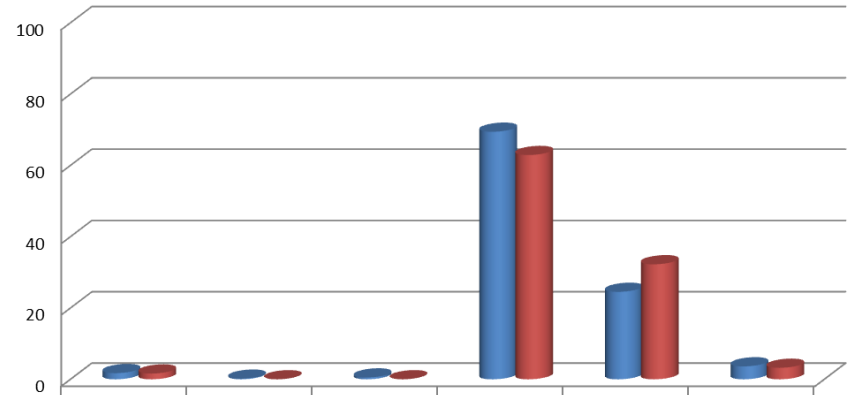
Shafter Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=404)	Female (n=167)	Unknown (n=8)
% of total encounters, n=579*	69.8	28.8	1.4
% of meth-involved encounters, n=62**	77.4	22.6	0.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Shafter Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity

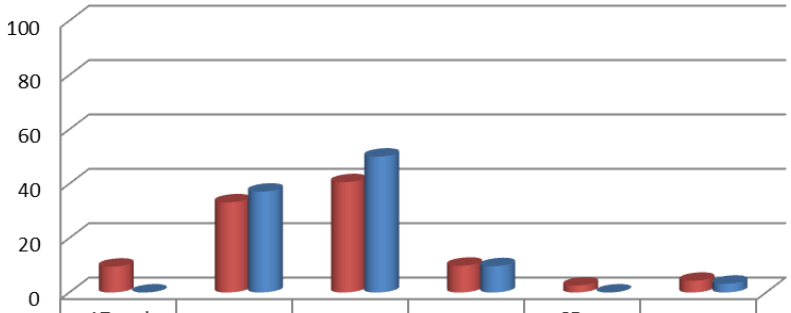


	African American (n=10)	American Indian (n=1)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=3)	Hispanic (n=402)	White (n=142)	Unknown (n=21)
% of total encounters, n=579*	1.7	0.2	0.5	69.4	24.5	3.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=62**	1.6	0.0	0.0	62.9	32.3	3.2

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by age of the individual, the highest prevalence was found in the 26-45 year old category. This age group comprised 40.6% of all law enforcement encounters, but 50.0% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Individuals aged 18-25 represented 33.2% of all encounters, and 37.1% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Adults in the 46-64 age category represented 9.8% of all law enforcement encounters, and 9.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Although 9.5% of all encounters

Shafter Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Age



	17 and younger (n=55)	18-25 (n=192)	26-45 (n=235)	46-64 (n=57)	65 or older (n=15)	Unknown (n=25)
% of total encounters, n=579*	9.5	33.2	40.6	9.8	2.6	4.3
% of meth-involved encounters, n=62**	0.0	37.1	50.0	9.7	0.0	3.2

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

were with youth age 17 and younger, none of these cases were confirmed to be methamphetamine-involved.

Three logbook entries indicated that children were removed from the home; one of these removals involved methamphetamine.

4.6c Summary of Key Findings

- The Shafter Police Department had records of 579 encounters taking place between May 1 and May 31, 2014.
- Of the 579 encounters logged, a total of 62 (10.7%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 63 encounters (10.9%).
- Males represented 69.8% of all encounters, but 77.4% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- Although Hispanics represented 69.4% of all law enforcement encounters, they comprised just 62.9% of methamphetamine-involved encounters, whereas Whites represented 24.5% of all encounters, but 32.3% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds (50.0% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 18-25 year olds (37.1%) and 46-64 year olds (9.7%).
- Encounters with law enforcement led to children being removed from the home on three occasions, and one of these was methamphetamine-related.

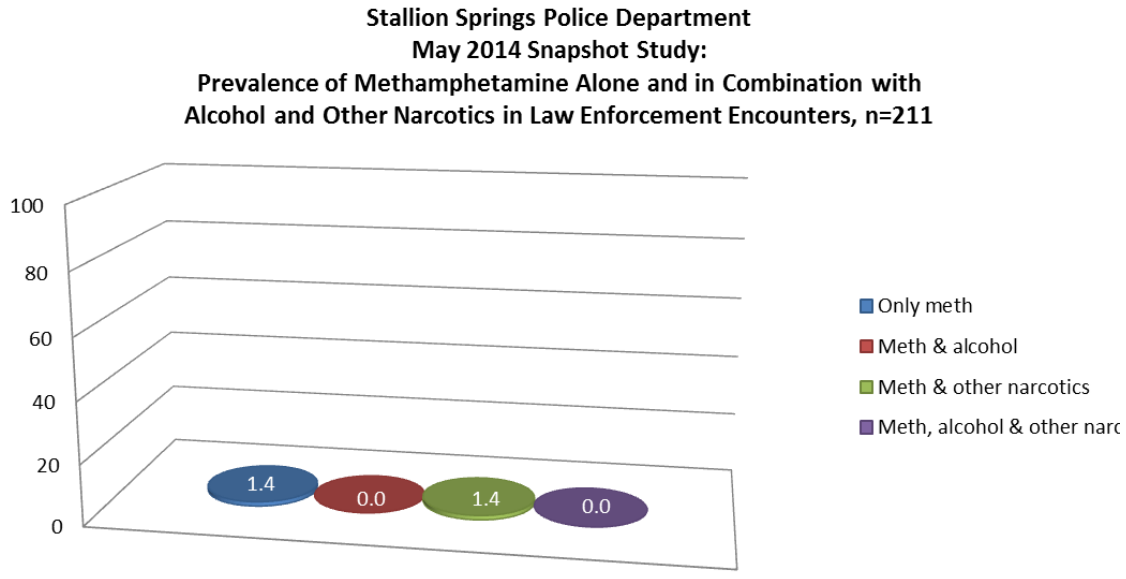
4.7 Stallion Springs Police Department

4.7a Background

A total of three logbooks were distributed to officers in Stallion Springs, and all three were returned with at least some entries. The officers were asked to describe each encounter by documenting the date, the zip code in which the event occurred, and the gender, ethnicity, and age range of the individual involved. Officers were also asked to note whether the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* In addition, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

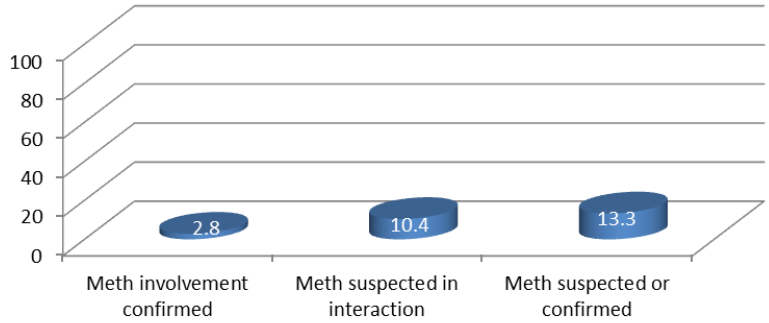
4.7b The Data

A total of 211 logbook entries were completed by officers in Stallion Springs. Of these, a total of six entries (2.8%) indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. "Methamphetamine-only" was noted in three entries and methamphetamine in combination with other narcotics in three entries. In addition, there were 22 further entries (10.4% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was "suspected" in the interaction—meaning that law enforcement had reasonable cause to believe that the individual was under the influence or otherwise methamphetamine-involved, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 28 known or suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 211 encounters, or 13.3% of all logbook entries for the month of May.



*While officers were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.

Stallion Springs Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Known or Suspected Methamphetamine Prevalence in Law Enforcement Encounters, n=211

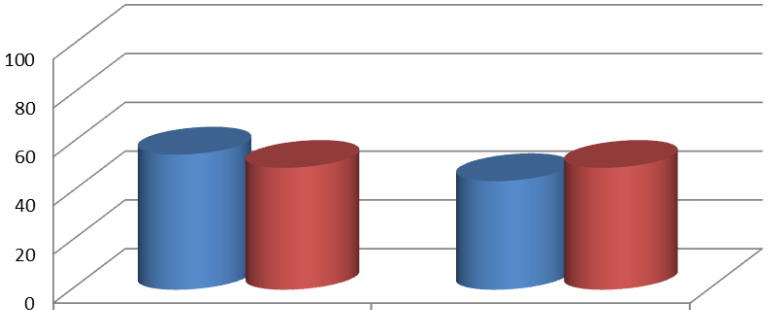


A breakdown of the data by gender shows that 55.5% of all encounters were with males, and 50.0% of methamphetamine-involved encounters were with males. Females comprised 44.5% of all encounters, and 50% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

Keeping in mind the extremely small sample size for methamphetamine-involved cases, Hispanics were overrepresented and Whites were underrepresented in methamphetamine-involved encounters. While Hispanics comprised 10.0% of total encounters, they accounted for 33.3% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Whites comprised 81.5% of all encounters, and 66.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by age of the individual, the highest prevalence was found in the 46-64 year old category. This age

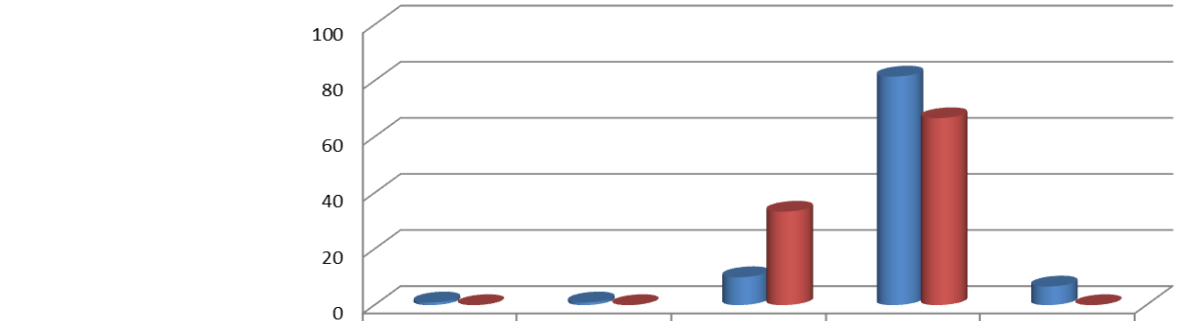
Stallion Springs Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=117)	Female (n=94)
% of total encounters, n=211*	55.5	44.5
% of meth-involved encounters, n=6**	50.0	50.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Stallion Springs Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity

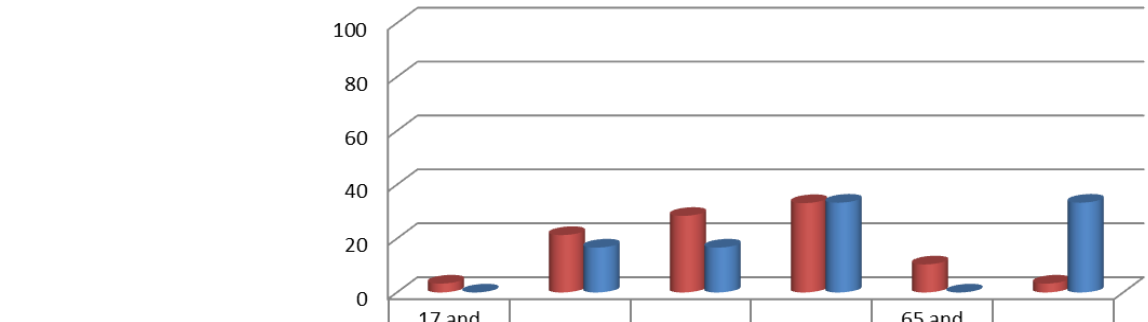


	African American (n=2)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=2)	Hispanic (n=21)	White (n=172)	Unknown (n=14)
% of total encounters, n=211*	0.9	0.9	10.0	81.5	6.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=6**	0.0	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

group comprised 33.2% of all law enforcement encounters, and 33.3% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Individuals aged 26-45 comprised 28.4% of all encounters, and 16.7% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters. Adults in the 18-25 age category comprised 21.3% of all law enforcement encounters, and 16.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Age was not known for one-third individuals representing methamphetamine-involved encounters. Just 3.3% of all encounters were with youth aged 17 and younger, none of these cases were confirmed to be methamphetamine-involved.

Stallion Springs Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Age Range



	17 and younger (n=7)	18-25 (n=45)	26-45 (n=60)	46-64 (n=70)	65 and older (n=22)	unknown (n-7)
% of total encounters, n=211*	3.3	21.3	28.4	33.2	10.4	3.3
% of meth-involved encounters, n=6**	0.0	16.7	16.7	33.3	0.0	33.3

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

One logbook entry indicated that children were removed from the home; however, this case did not involve known methamphetamine possession, use or sales.

4.7c Summary of Key Findings

- The Stallion Springs Police Department had records of 211 encounters taking place between May 1 and May 31, 2014.
- Of the 211 encounters logged, a total of 6 (2.8%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 22 encounters (10.4%).
- Methamphetamine-involved cases were split equally between males and females.
- Although they comprised just 10.0% of law enforcement encounters, Hispanics accounted for 33.3% of methamphetamine-involved encounters, while Whites comprised 81.5% of all encounters and 66.7% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters.
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 46-64 year olds (33.3% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 26-45 year olds (16.7%) and 18-25 year olds (16.7%); in two of the six methamphetamine-involved cases, the age of the individual was unknown.
- None of the encounters with methamphetamine-involved individuals resulted in children being removed from the home.

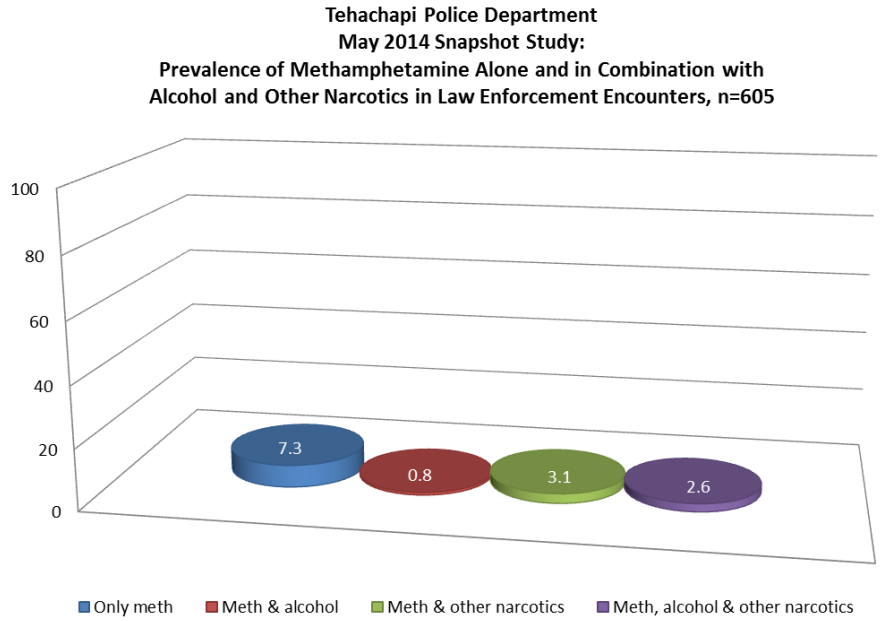
4.8 Tehachapi Police Department

4.8a Background

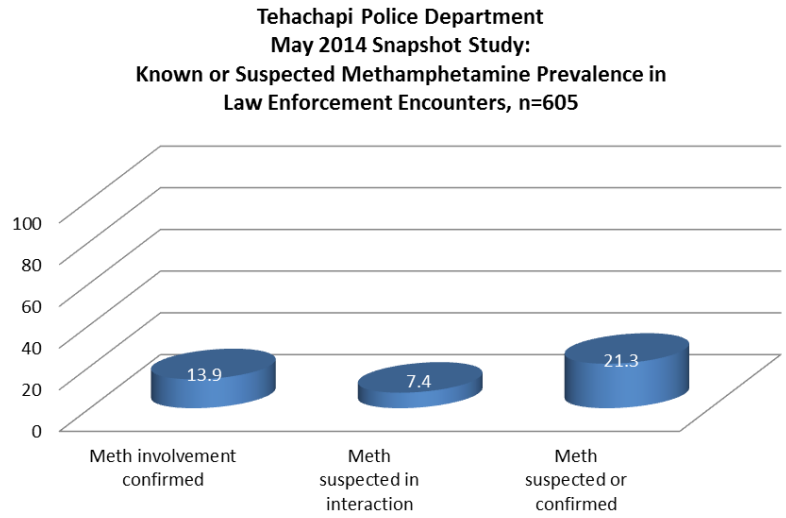
A total of 14 logbooks were distributed to officers in Tehachapi, and eleven (11) were returned with at least some entries. The officers were asked to describe each encounter by documenting the date, the zip code in which the event occurred, and the gender, ethnicity, and age range of the individual involved. Officers were also asked to note whether the incident involved alcohol, methamphetamine or other narcotics (yes, no, or suspected).* In addition, they were asked to note if the encounter involved a child being taken into protective custody.

4.8b The Data

A total of 605 logbook entries were completed by officers in Tehachapi. Of these, a total of 84 entries indicated confirmed methamphetamine involvement, either alone or in combination with alcohol or other drugs. "Methamphetamine-only" was noted in 44 entries and methamphetamine in combination with some other substance (alcohol or other narcotics) in 40 entries. This constituted 13.9% of all the logbook entries. In addition, there were 45 entries (7.4% of encounters) in which methamphetamine involvement was "suspected" in the interaction—meaning that law enforcement had reasonable cause to believe that the individual was under the influence or otherwise methamphetamine-involved, but no hard evidence was available at the scene. Adding suspected cases to known cases resulted in a total of 129 known or suspected cases of methamphetamine out of 605 encounters, or 21.3% of all logbook entries.



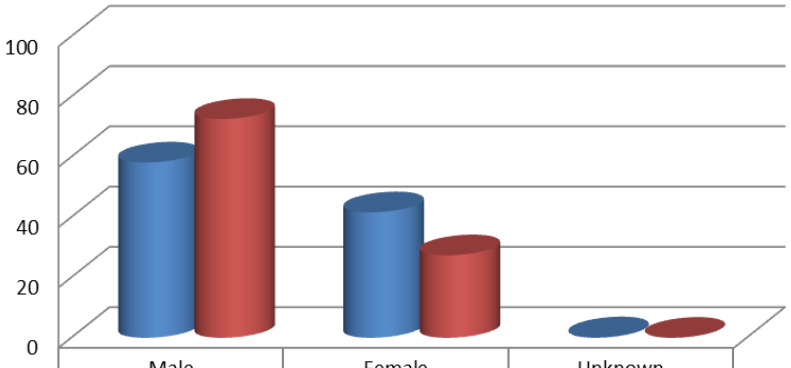
*While officers were asked to check "yes," "no," or "suspected" for alcohol, methamphetamine, and other narcotics, officers only put "yes" if the individual indicated methamphetamine use, or if the drug was found on the individual (possession/sales/transportation). Methamphetamine use, or being under the influence, can only be confirmed by self-report or by a toxicology report; consequently, it is likely that numbers are underreported.



A breakdown of the data by gender shows that while males represented 58.2% of all law enforcement encounters, they comprised 72.6% of methamphetamine-involved encounters, whereas women constituted 41.7% of all encounters, and 27.4% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

Hispanics were overrepresented in methamphetamine-involved encounters, and Whites were underrepresented. While Hispanics represented 21.3% of total law enforcement encounters, they constituted 35.7% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Whites represented 65.1% of all encounters, and 53.6% of methamphetamine-involved encounters.

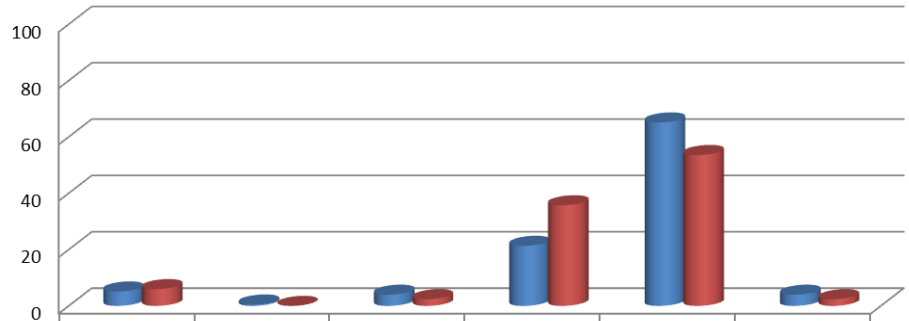
Tehachapi Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Gender



	Male (n=352)	Female n=252)	Unknown (n=1)
% of total encounters, n=605*	58.2	41.7	0.2
% of meth-involved encounters, n=84**	72.6	27.4	0.0

*The sample sizes under each gender category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

Tehachapi Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Race/Ethnicity

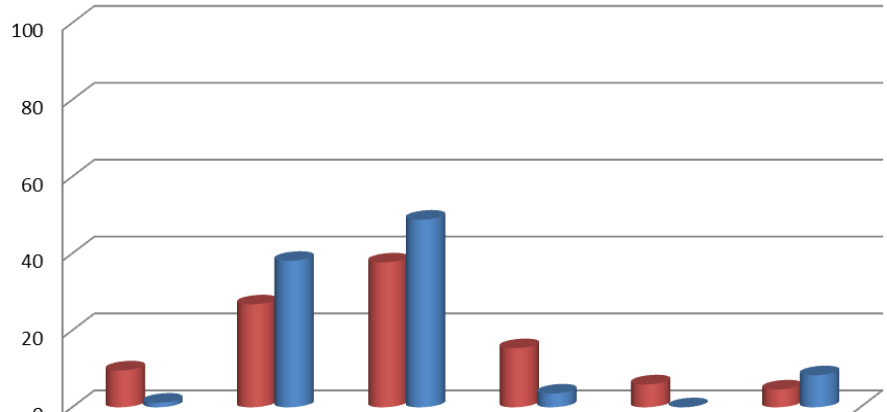


	African American (n=31)	American Indian (n=3)	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=24)	Hispanic (n=129)	White (n=394)	Unknown (n=24)
% of total ecounters, n=605*	5.1	0.5	4.0	21.3	65.1	4.0
% of meth-involved encounters, n=84**	6.0	0.0	2.4	35.7	53.6	2.4

*The sample sizes under each ethnic/racial category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

When methamphetamine-involved encounters are broken down by age of the individual, the highest prevalence was found in the 26-45 year old category. This age group comprised just 37.7% of all law enforcement encounters, but 48.8% of all confirmed methamphetamine-involved

Tehachapi Police Department
May 2014 Snapshot Study:
Percentage of Methamphetamine-Involved Encounters, by Age



	17 or younger (n=58)	18-25 (n=162)	26-45 (n=228)	46-64 (n=93)	65 and older (n=36)	unknown (n=28)
% of total encounters, n=605*	9.6	26.8	37.7	15.4	6.0	4.6
% of meth-involved encounters, n=84**	1.2	38.1	48.8	3.6	0.0	8.3

*The sample sizes under each age category refer to total encounters.
**Percentages in this row are based only on the total number of meth-involved encounters.

encounters. Adults in the 46-64 age category comprised 15.4% of all law enforcement encounters, but only 3.6% of methamphetamine-involved encounters. Although 9.6% of all encounters were with youth age 17 and younger, only 1.2% of these cases were confirmed to be methamphetamine-involved. No one in the 65 and over age category was involved with methamphetamine.

Eight logbook entries indicated that children were removed from the home; four of these cases involved known methamphetamine, possession, use or sales.

4.8c Summary of Key Findings

- The Tehachapi Police Department had records of 605 encounters taking place between May 1 and May 31, 2014.
- Of the 605 encounters logged, a total of 84 (13.9%) involved methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was suspected in another 45 encounters (7.4%).
- Males represented just 58.2% of all law enforcement encounters, but 72.6% of all methamphetamine-involved encounters, while women represented 41.7% of all encounters, but just 27.4% of encounters involving methamphetamine.
- Whites represented 65.1% of all law enforcement encounters, but only 53.6% of methamphetamine-involved encounters, while Hispanics represented just 21.3% of all law enforcement encounters, but 35.7% of all encounters involving methamphetamine.
- Methamphetamine involvement was most prevalent among 26-45 year olds (48.8% of confirmed methamphetamine-involved encounters), followed by 18-25 year olds (38.1%) and 46-64 year olds (3.6%).
- Eight of the encounters resulted in children being removed from the home, and four of these encounters involved methamphetamine.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 Methamphetamine Involvement in Agency Caseloads

The initial purpose of this study was not to estimate prevalence of methamphetamine use in Kern County (in other words, to determine how many people are actually using methamphetamine), but rather to determine how methamphetamine is impacting agency caseloads—and, therefore, agency resources. At the time of the first Impact Study in 2008, it became clear that, for a number of reasons, this would be more of a challenge than anyone involved in the study anticipated.

First of all, many county agencies (e.g., Department of Human Services, Fire Department) do not collect information about their clients' use of illegal substances, unless the client offers the information during an event or encounter. In interviews with staff at the Department of Human Services in 2008, key informants indicated frustration with a system that does not allow them to drug test clients, even when they have cause to believe that substance abuse may be an issue. While understanding and supporting the need to protect the privacy of individuals and to avoid objectifying and humiliating clients, staff explained that substance abuse is a primary reason that clients fail in job placements—and struggle as parents. While admitting that it is "not a popular position" in the social work field, key informants nevertheless felt that having the opportunity to address substance abuse early on would allow them to more effectively direct services to the family, limit the expenditure of critical resources (such as job placement) for clients who are not yet stable enough to manage them, and lead to better long term outcomes for families. Clients are not drug tested, however, unless they are cited for a law infraction and ordered into treatment, or they admit use.

Even agencies that do collect information about clients' use of illegal substances (e.g., the District Attorney's Office; the Sheriff's Office; Probation) do not necessarily disaggregate the data in a way that allows for a clear picture of methamphetamine use. For example, possession of methamphetamine, cocaine, or PCP are all filed and tracked under Health & Safety Code 11377(a). While both the District Attorney and the Public Defender's Office agree that in Kern County, cocaine and PCP make up a very small percentage of all cases filed under 11377(a), it is not possible to disaggregate the numbers without a file by file review—a time-consuming and costly process.

These problems in assessing the impact of methamphetamine on agency caseload are compounded by the fact that methamphetamine use is not always the presenting issue, even when individuals who enter the county system are addicted to the substance. For example, a person may be charged with a criminal act as a result of methamphetamine use (e.g., assault, domestic violence) or attempting to gain the resources to purchase methamphetamine (grand theft auto, armed robbery), yet the fact that a crime is methamphetamine-related may never become part of the public record. In a study of 142 randomly selected cases filed between May 1 and May 10, 2008, Assistant District Attorney Dan Sparks found that 58 (40.8%) were directly involved with the possession, sales or use of methamphetamine, but that in another

eight cases, the individual involved had a known history of methamphetamine involvement. This brought the total number of methamphetamine-involved cases to 66, or 46.5% of the total cases reviewed. This study was recreated by Chief Deputy District Attorney Mark Pafford with 119 cases randomly selected from all those filed between May 1-10, 2014. Pafford found that 63 of the cases (52.9%) directly involved charges related to methamphetamine, and in another 28 cases (23.5%), the defendant had a prior history of methamphetamine involvement noted in their criminal record, bringing the total number of cases with a current or prior record of methamphetamine involvement to 91, or 76.4% of all cases examined. Even these very small studies, limited as they were, provide a staggering glimpse as to the potential impact of methamphetamine on county resources.

Modeled in part after a study conducted in Santa Cruz, California in 2007 (Applied Survey Research 2007), the May 2008 and May 2014 Snapshot Studies examined the impact of methamphetamine from another perspective, one that involved having agency staff across the county document their encounters with clients over a period of 30 days, and having them note whether methamphetamine involvement was either confirmed or suspected in the encounter. This study had many flaws. The first is that it captured only people who happened to come into contact with a county agency, the Bakersfield Police Department, Bakersfield Fire Department, or one of eight participating local police departments from around the county over an arbitrarily determined one-month period. Variation in seasonal patterns of drug use and law enforcement crackdowns may well have impacted the study design. Given that resources did not allow for a year-long study, and that agencies were unlikely to welcome the additional work that such a study entails, the decision was made to go forward using the more limited time frame of one month.

A second flaw in the Snapshot Study was the variation between agencies in how data were collected, and even how individual agencies collected data during the two different time frames. In 2008, while some agencies (notably the Police Department and Sheriff's Office) randomly assigned staff, taking into consideration both the work shifts and the geographic distribution of officers, other agencies (for example, Department of Human Services) attempted to engage all staff in the data collection process. In both cases, problems arose with quality control. Law enforcement assignments were subject to displacement by vacation, illness, and other factors. Across all agencies, despite the attempt of both the research team and agency supervisors to ensure consistent data collection practices, some staff filled out logs incorrectly. The sheer volume of cases in Adult Probation was so large that in 2008, supervisors elected to have staff document only those cases that were confirmed or suspected to be methamphetamine-involved, rather than *all* cases. Probation then provided the research team with the total number of cases reviewed over the month, in order to determine roughly the percentage of cases that involved methamphetamine. In this case, supervisors later agreed that the numbers looked very low overall, based on what they knew about the client population. Adult Probation attempted to rectify this concern in 2014 by having many, if not most, officers collect data; however, this

change in the data collection methodology made it impossible to compare the 2008 data to the 2014 data.

A third flaw is that the Snapshot Study relied not just on direct evidence of methamphetamine involvement (possession of paraphernalia or the substance itself), or on the admission of the client, but on the staff's observation and judgment. While some staff may have been over-zealous in assigning methamphetamine involvement without confirming evidence, interviews with agency staff suggest that the greater likelihood was under-reporting of methamphetamine involvement. Law enforcement and first responders, in particular, are trained to *not* infer substance use in the absence of direct data.

Given these flaws, we are limited in what we can say about the data obtained through the Snapshot Study. Variation in data collection practices across agencies makes it impossible, for example, to generalize the data to the county as a whole—and in most cases, even to the agency as a whole. What we *can* do is draw a picture of methamphetamine involvement exclusively among those clients who were seen by participating staff during May of 2008 and May of 2014. In other words, we can talk about the data collected by the 68 social workers who documented their encounters in 2008 and about the data collected by the 248 social workers who documented their encounters in 2014, but we cannot generalize these data to all clients who had involvement with the Department of Human Services in either year, nor can we make a direct comparison of data between the Department of Human Services and, for example, Kern County Probation. Despite this limitation, and the likelihood of underreporting, the data that were collected in each of the two years of study are startling and beg for a more rigorous examination.

A few of the most significant findings include the following:

- For the month of May 2008, 37.7% of felonies charged county-wide were for methamphetamine-related offenses. For the month of May 2014, 50.2% of felonies charged county-wide were for methamphetamine-related offenses.
- Nearly two-thirds (65.8%) of the cases handled by the Public Defender's Office in May 2014 included methamphetamine-related charges.
- Data from the Sheriff's Department show that 33.3% of bookings for the month of May 2014 were for methamphetamine-related crimes.
- Of the 2,105 encounters logged by Bakersfield police officers during the May 2014 Snapshot Study, 13.7% directly involved methamphetamine, and methamphetamine was suspected in another 14.2% of cases.
- Methamphetamine accounted for 42.6% of substance abuse treatment admissions to Kern County Mental Health between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014.
- Between May 10 and June 10, 2008, 31.5% of randomly selected patients visiting the Emergency Department at Kern Medical Center admitted to having used methamphetamine at least once in their life. Between May 10 and June 10, 2014,

31.8% of randomly selected patients admitted to having used methamphetamine at least once in their life.

- Eight local police departments from communities around the county participated in the May 2014 Snapshot Study. The percentage of encounters officers documented that were related directly to methamphetamine ranged from a low of 5.2% to a high of 28.6%.
- The Kern Narcotics Enforcement Team (KNET) reported the seizure of 49,037.87 grams of methamphetamine in 2013 which, at the rate of $20 per quarter gram, would have a street value of over $3.9 million. These data do not include seizures made by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), which has an active presence in Kern County, and in the past few years, made the second largest seizure of methamphetamine in history in Kern County.
- Although the studies are limited in scope and do not include information for all children removed from the home county-wide during those periods, documentation provided through the 2008 Snapshot Study indicates that 27.4% of the 106 children removed from the home during encounters with law enforcement or county agencies during the month of May were cases that involved methamphetamine. Documentation provided through the 2014 Snapshot Study indicates that 36.1% of the 144 children removed from the home during the month of May were cases that involved methamphetamine.

5.2 The Fiscal Burden Imposed by Methamphetamine in Kern County

In 2008, one of the primary objectives of the Kern County Methamphetamine Impact Study was to estimate the fiscal impact of methamphetamine on agency personnel and resources. As discussed in this report, this was an even more challenging task than the research team had anticipated. For example, as one measure of cost, we had hoped to use the Snapshot Study to roughly calculate the percent of a line worker's total caseload that consists of individuals directly involved with methamphetamine. However, as members of the Public Defender's staff pointed out, the amount of time it takes to defend (or prosecute) a murder case is in all likelihood going to be much greater than the amount of time it takes to defend (or prosecute) a drug possession case. Consequently, in theory, drug offenses could constitute 65% of lawyer's cases, yet account for a much smaller percentage of her total time.

This leads to another, and more egregious, problem in attempting to calculate costs associated with methamphetamine. In 2008, none of the agencies participating in the Snapshot Study had a system in place to track personnel time expended by an individual case; nor did they complete time studies as part of the May Snapshot to determine what percentage of time staff spent on methamphetamine-related cases. The sheer volume of work county and law enforcement staff face each day leaves little time for more paperwork; yet, without a systematic time study, we cannot estimate the percentage of total time county staff devote to methamphetamine-related cases, and therefore cannot calculate a cost.

Another way of examining cost that the research team considered was to follow a "typical" case in which methamphetamine involvement led to removal of a child from the home. As one of the family court judges pointed out during the 2008 Impact Study, cost calculations for a single case would need to include, at a minimum, (1) court costs for two courts—criminal and family law, (2) representation of each family member by a lawyer, (3) the involvement of social workers and case managers, (4) the involvement of probation officers, and (5) placement costs for the child first at the Jamison Children's Center and then in foster care—as well as a myriad of other professionals who may play a role in a given case, such as a mental health therapist or public health nurse. A Taft law enforcement officer added that costs begin well before the involvement of the District Attorney and Public Defender, with the initial arrest of the adult and removal of the child by law enforcement and a social worker. Yet, the officer added, law enforcement could be taking many more children into protective custody; officers are prohibited from doing so by the time, paperwork, and limited personnel available to transport children to the Jamison Children's Center in Bakersfield. Only when a threat to the child is obvious and immediate will law enforcement take a child into protective custody. Given the undeniable prevalence of methamphetamine abuse in Kern County, to do otherwise would result in a catastrophic burden on an already overwhelmed child welfare system.

For all these reasons, we found that we could not with any degree of reliability estimate the fiscal costs associated with methamphetamine possession, sales or manufacture in Kern County. Nevertheless, the "hard" data that *were* available from agencies, in addition to the Snapshot Study and feedback from agency administrators and personnel, make a compelling case about not only the cost burden in agency time and resources, but also the human cost of methamphetamine use to families and communities throughout Kern County.

5.3 Implications of Prop 36 and AB 109

In 2008, well before the advent of AB 109, personnel across all agencies gave mixed reviews regarding Prop 36. The *concept* behind Prop 36—treatment as opposed to incarceration for non-violent drug offenders—was supported at that time by key informants in the Public Defender's Office, Kern County Mental Health, the Department of Human Services, and even by some probation officers. Key informants in law enforcement and the District Attorney's Office, on the other hand, expressed the belief that Prop 36 simply delayed punishment, increased paperwork, demoralized officers who had to re-arrest the same offenders multiple times without a resulting punishment, and made the community less safe for the general public. Personnel in nearly every agency, including those most supportive of Prop 36, acknowledged concern over the fact that, as the law was written, a presiding judge could not easily use graduated sanctions that include time in jail for non-compliant offenders.

The advent of AB 109 in the years since the original 2008 Impact Study has changed the landscape of criminal justice in California. Counties are now responsible for housing and/or supervising lower level offenders who otherwise would have been

incarcerated in State prisons. Stakeholders in nearly every agency spoke to the increases in local crime that most attribute to the number of inmates released into local communities, a significant proportion of whom have substance abuse problems. Kern County Mental Health has partnered with the Kern County Sheriff's Office to begin an evidence-based treatment program for inmates in the county jail, with the goal of transitioning inmates into outpatient treatment as they are released into the community. This is just one example of an innovative approach to a difficult, if not insurmountable, problem that will continue to challenge county resources going forward. Many stakeholders spoke to the need for comprehensive case management for individuals supervised under AB 109, understanding that without access to jobs, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment the likelihood of re-offending is very high.

5.4 Recommendations

A key implication of this report is that a comprehensive strategy to combat methamphetamine abuse in Kern County must encompass four key areas: prevention, early intervention, treatment, and suppression. These areas have been the focus of work being done by the one-time Methamphetamine Reduction Task Force, recently renamed The Kern Stop Meth Now Coalition.

5.4a Prevention

Nearly everyone interviewed throughout the course of the 2008 study—from the District Attorney to the Public Defender, from pastors to judges, from law enforcement to social workers, from treatment providers to clients—agreed that prevention is "the answer." Yet everyone struggled to define what effective prevention looks like, given the prevalence of substance abuse in our communities, the growing number of families in which methamphetamine addiction has become a multigenerational problem, and the limited public resources available. Nationally conducted research studies provide a wealth of resources regarding "evidence-based practices"—that is, those practices that have been shown in controlled and experimental studies to make a positive difference when rigorously followed. Based in part on this body of knowledge, recommendations include:

- Use grassroots partnerships to increase awareness and strengthen families. Family strengthening activities can be as simple as providing a fun and positive venue in which children and parents can interact with each other under the guidance of individuals trained in Parent Project, Strengthening Families, and/or other evidence-based programs that have been shown to build and support positive family dynamics. A strong and viable family unit remains the best preventative for adolescent drug use.

- Adapt strategies from environmental risk reduction programs in the alcohol field to minimize the availability of methamphetamine to young people. Strategies in this area might include the development of parent partnerships that oversee parties and

other social events in which youth congregate; citing parents under the Social Host Ordinance when alcohol is served to minors; and creating a community environment that focuses on reducing adolescent substance use through the development of strong social supports.

5.4b Early Intervention

Qualitative data collected in 2008 from individuals in recovery from methamphetamine addiction confirmed research findings showing that the majority of methamphetamine addicts get their first "hit" as adolescents; about half will come in contact with methamphetamine before the age of 15. Most will not be identified until their drug using behavior has escalated into full addiction, usually in their early twenties. This makes it of paramount importance that families, schools, the faith-based communities and other organizations that work with young people are able to recognize the signs and symptoms of early experimentation, and are prepared to intervene.

- ***Support school-based efforts like Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Student Assistance Programs, and other programs that train school staff in how to recognize and intervene with behaviors of concern.*** The most effective programs combine appropriate, school-wide disciplinary practices with direct intervention, and involve parents in the process.

- ***Promote mentoring programs that link youth to adults in the community.*** The availability of a significant adult outside the immediate family with whom the child can bond has been recognized in the research as a protective factor in reducing the likelihood of early alcohol and drug use. Best practices identified in the research include establishing a relationship that promotes weekly contact over a period of a year or more to be effective. Mentors require training in how to recognize signs and symptoms of alcohol and drug use, in behavior management, and in Brief Intervention or other practices that support appropriate guidelines for how to talk about alcohol and drug use to teens.

5.4c Treatment

The easy availability of treatment is a key concern in reducing the impact of methamphetamine use, but so is recruitment into treatment and the retention of clients once treatment has begun. Methamphetamine addicts rarely seek treatment of their own volition; instead, they usually enter treatment as a result of a court order, or in order to regain custody of children. Cultural barriers may also impact the willingness of substance abusers to seek treatment. Among the strategies that might be considered:

- ***Address cultural barriers by offering treatment programs through faith-based institutions such as churches, synagogues, and mosques.*** Several of the clients interviewed in West Kern in 2008 indicated that church provides a drug-free social setting in which they can build friendships and garner the support they need

to "stay clean." Settings such as church basements may seem less intimidating and more welcoming than treatment clinics.

- ***Offer treatment in workplace settings.*** The widespread prevalence of methamphetamine use means that employers, as well as social service agencies and even law enforcement are often very much aware of the problem, but will sometimes choose to look the other way or, alternatively, will fire indiscriminately when a substance abuse issue is uncovered. It may be possible to forge partnerships whereby employers are given incentives (e.g., tax breaks) for providing treatment at workplaces—accompanied by regular drug testing in order to reduce insurance liability and public safety concerns.

- ***Revisit the Drug Court model.*** Drug Court, when operated with fidelity to the original research model, has been shown to be one of the most effective interventions available to reduce recidivism. It requires individuals to come before a judge, submit to random and more frequent drug testing, and participate proactively in a case management system, the goal of which is to move the individual toward employment, mental wellness, and independence. Drug Court includes the use of graduated sanctions to increase compliance and accountability.

- ***Invest in adolescent treatment programs.*** Studies show that most addicts begin their drug-using careers as young adolescents, a finding confirmed through interviews with substance abuse treatment clients in West Kern in 2008. By identifying and intervening early in an adolescent's drug-using career, we have an opportunity to alter the negative trajectory of methamphetamine use.

5.4d Suppression

Supporting the efforts of law enforcement is key to identifying and reducing methamphetamine production and sales; however, of equal concern is the availability of officers to respond to non-emergency calls, the ability of the D.A. to prosecute successfully under Prop 36 and AB 109 guidelines, and the availability of space in jails and prisons to house drug-related felony convictions. These are not issues that can be easily resolved; nevertheless, without an active partnership between law enforcement and the communities they serve, little can be done to address the very real problem of increased crime related to drug use. Recommendations include:

- ***Incorporate information into public safety forums like Neighborhood Watch to educate citizens about methamphetamine and other drugs***. Raising awareness is a way to involve the community in a grassroots effort to address problems associated with drug use, and may provide a forum to recruit individuals for mentoring and other evidence-based practices that reduce the likelihood that young people will experiment.

- ***Expand partnerships like the one between the Kern County Sheriff and Kern County Mental Health to provide treatment at the county jail for inmates who***

will later transition back into the community. Programs like this one combine best practices and maximize the partnership potential of agencies and other service providers to both intervene and create a safety net for individuals transitioning from incarceration into the community.

- ***Explore sources of funding for job development and case management.*** One of the major reasons that people recidivate is the inability to break free of old associations and the inability to find and sustain employment that pays a living wage. Without the availability of these resources, jails become a revolving door for individuals who have few other options.

As discussed in the introduction to this report, the Kern Stop Meth Now Coalition has spent the years since its inception in 2010 in targeting and carrying out activities that support grassroots efforts in the areas of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and suppression. Members of the Coalition regularly offer community presentations to raise awareness and support local prevention and suppression efforts. The Coalition has developed and marketed public service announcements, as well as an informational website and a social media following. It also provides support for activities that incorporate evidence-based practices like mentoring and family strengthening. These efforts have been made with no dedicated source of funding and primarily through in-kind services of county agencies, public and private non-profits, businesses, the faith-based community, and caring individuals who want to make a difference in their community.

The data contained in this report make the case that methamphetamine abuse is, in fact, a community issue. As was concluded in the original 2008 Kern County Methamphetamine Impact Study, given the fiscal crisis facing California counties, prevention and early intervention may be the only feasible alternatives to the costs associated with criminal activity, arrest, prosecution and incarceration, and the heavy, heavy social cost of methamphetamine use, particularly to children. It is also true, however, that as non-mandated programs, prevention and early intervention services have been and are always the first cuts made across county departments. Given the current climate and the limited availability of resources, it will take a grassroots coalition of families, schools, businesses, the faith-based community, and local institutions, as well as county government, toward a common goal of reducing the impact of methamphetamine and other illegal drugs on our communities. Using both education and environmental strategies to address the problem, and doing so collaboratively, may offer an unprecedented opportunity to reduce methamphetamine abuse in Kern County.

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