

# Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine is a highly addictive stimulant which affects the central nervous system. It is a white, odorless, bitter-tasting crystalline powder which can be injected, snorted, ingested, or smoked. Most methamphetamines are produced in clandestine, or secret, labs. Prescription methamphetamines have been used for the treatment of conditions such as narcolepsy, attention deficit disorders, and obesity.



## Street Names

Speed, Meth, Ice, Crystal, Crank, Poor Man's Cocaine, Uppers, Tweak, and Chalk.

## EFFECTS

Short term effects include increased appetite, increased wakefulness, rapid heart rate, irregular heartbeat, and increased blood pressure. When smoked or injected, users feel a quick, brief intense high. When ingested or snorted users experience a longer-lasting high instead of a quick rush. High doses can also elevate body temperature to dangerous, sometimes lethal, levels as well as cause convulsions and even cardiovascular collapse or death. Long term effects of methamphetamine use include insomnia, anxiety, confusion, mood disturbances, delusions, hallucinations, and eventual addiction.



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

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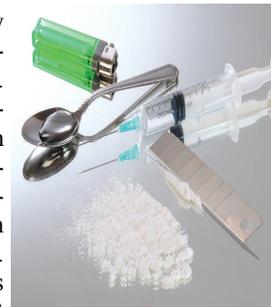
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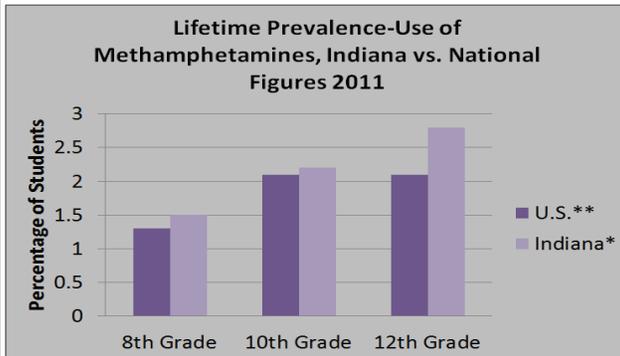
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## INCIDENCE & PREVALENCE

According to the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, the number of past month methamphetamine users decreased between 2006 and 2010 from 731,000 to 353,000. Although methamphetamine use has been declining among youth in the past several years, lifetime prevalence rates among Indiana youth continue to remain higher than national rates. According to the IPRC 2011 Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use by Indiana Children and Adolescents Survey, prevalence rates in lifetime use of meth was still higher among Indiana 12th graders when compared to national statistics.



Source: IPRC 2011 ATOD Use By Children & Adolescents Survey\*  
National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2010\*\*

## LAW & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

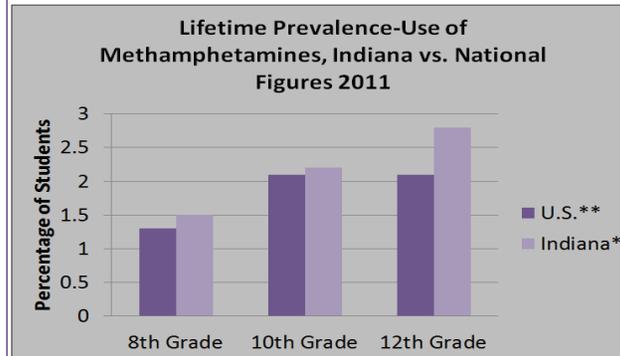
In 2005, the House of Representatives passed the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act of 2005; this law enacted a nationwide measure to require drugs containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine to be kept behind pharmacy counters and not sold to minors. This is because the ingredients in these substances were used to produce meth in homemade labs. Methamphetamine is a Schedule II stimulant under the Controlled Substance Act, which means that it has a high potential for abuse and limited medical use.

### Indiana Prevention Resource Center

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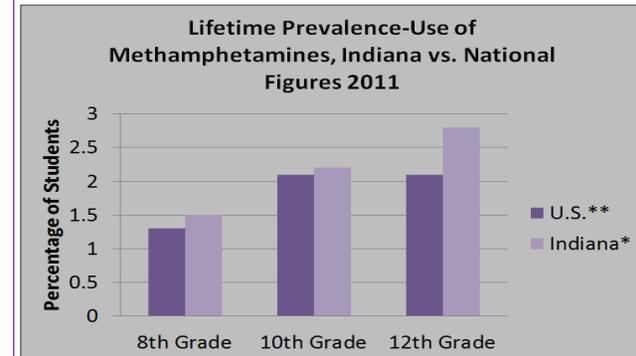
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