According to the Council of State Governments Justice Center, at least 17% of people in local jails have a serious mental illness, substance use disorder, or both.¹

Additional facts from the Council of State Governments Justice Center:²

- Three quarters of those returning from prison have a history of substance use disorders. Over 70 percent of prisoners with serious mental illnesses also have a substance use disorder.

- In 2004, 53 percent of state and 45 percent of federal prisoners met Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders (DSM) criteria for drug abuse or dependence. Nearly a third of state and a quarter of federal prisoners committed their offense under the influence of drugs. Among state prisoners who were dependent on or abusing drugs, 53 percent had at least three prior sentences to probation or incarceration, compared to 32 percent of other inmates. At the time of their arrest, drug dependent or abusing state prisoners (48 percent) were also

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¹ Osher, F. & Potter, P., Council of State Governments Justice Center, Addressing a national crisis: the Justice Center’s focus on mental health and jails, October, 2015
more likely than other inmates (37 percent) to have been on probation or parole supervision.

- In 2002, 68 percent of jail inmates met DSM criteria for drug abuse or dependence. Half of all convicted jail inmates were under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of offense. Inmates who met substance dependence/abuse criteria were twice as likely as other inmates to have three or more prior probation or incarceration sentences.

- Only 7 percent to 17 percent of prisoners who meet DSM criteria for alcohol/drug dependence or abuse receive treatment in jail or prison.

Corrections and Substance Use Disorders

According to the Council of State Governments Justice Center, 53% of state prisoners and 68% of jail inmates have a diagnosable substance use disorder.

In 2014, about 21.5 million Americans ages 12 and older (8.1%) were classified with a substance use disorder in the past year. Of those, 2.6 million had problems with both alcohol and drugs, 4.5 million had problems with drugs but not alcohol, and 14.4 million had problems with alcohol only.

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In fiscal year 2015, just over 9,000 of people incarcerated in Michigan prisons (21%) received mental health services.  

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5 Michigan Department of Corrections, MHS Strategic Plan (2013-2017)
A 2010 UofM state correctional facility study, commissioned by the Michigan Departments of Community Health and Corrections found that:6

- 20% of male inmates and 25% of female inmates had symptoms of severe mental disability,
- there was no evidence in the Corrections Mental Health Program of service provision the previous twelve months for two-thirds of those with severe mental disability symptoms,
- 92% of those with severe mental disability symptoms had a history of substance use,
- although 86% of the total inmate population had a substance use history, only one percent of all inmates were receiving substance abuse services, and
- among prisoners receiving some manner of mental health service, 41% had experienced at least one previous psychiatric hospitalization.

**Untreated Mental Health Symptoms, by Study Strata**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MH Symptoms and No Services</th>
<th>Male – General Population</th>
<th>Male – Administrative Segregation</th>
<th>Male – Special Units</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>11.76%</td>
<td>65.5%</td>
<td>54.1%</td>
<td>65.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Co-Morbid Substance Abuse and MH Symptoms**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance Abuse History</th>
<th>MH Symptoms</th>
<th>Total (with Column Percentage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>3,822.7</td>
<td>508.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>20,699.0</td>
<td>5,750.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>67.3%</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>24,521.5</td>
<td>6,258.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>79.7%</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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A 2014 University of Michigan study titled “Mental Health and Substance Abuse Status of Adolescents in Residential Placement”, commissioned by the Michigan Departments of Community Health and Health and Human Services found that:7

- 75% of subjects had a primary diagnosis of emotional disorder, and almost all of them were receiving some manner of mental health service,
- 30% of subjects had a primary diagnosis of addiction disorder, and two-thirds of them were receiving some manner of substance abuse service, and
- 25% of subjects had a dual diagnosis of emotional disorder and addiction disorder; of these, 16.4% were receiving treatment for both disorders,

Among youths with a previous psychiatric hospitalization

- 27% had a primary diagnosis of emotional disorder;
- 35% had a primary diagnosis of addiction disorder; and
- 50% had a dual diagnosis of emotional & addiction disorders.

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