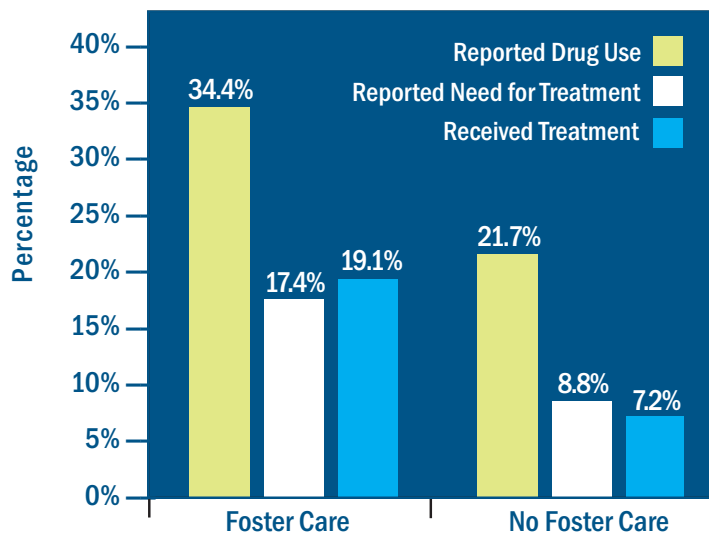




## Youths Who Have Been in Foster Care Report Higher Rates of Illicit Drug Use Than Youths Who Have Never Been in Foster Care

Both the 2002 and 2003 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) indicate that youths who had been in foster care reported higher rates of past year use of any illicit drug than youths who had never been in foster care (34.4 vs. 21.7 percent). Additionally, more youths who had been in foster care identified a need for treatment for alcohol or illicit drug use in the past year (17.4 percent) compared to youths who had never been in foster care (8.8 percent). Among youths who had been in foster care and were in need of substance abuse treatment in the past year, 19.1 percent reported having received treatment in the past year. Among youths who had never been in foster care, 7.2 percent who needed treatment for an alcohol or illicit drug problem reportedly received treatment in the past year.

**Comparison of Youths With Previous Foster Care Stay vs. Youths With No Previous Foster Care Stay**



Source: Adapted by TASC from The National Survey on Drug Use and Health: The NSDUH Report (2005). February 18, 2005. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies, Rockville, MD.

Prepared by TASC, Inc. TASC is an independent, statewide, nonprofit agency that provides case management for clients who are mandated or referred to substance abuse treatment by public systems (e.g. corrections, criminal justice, child welfare, welfare to work). TASC serves approximately 30,000 clients in Illinois each year. For more information visit [www.tasc.org](http://www.tasc.org).

To receive *Facts on Youth* from TASC, please send an email to [research@tasc-il.org](mailto:research@tasc-il.org) with "Join Facts on Youth" typed in the subject line, and your name, title, organization, and email address in the body of the message.

©2005, TASC, Inc. Chicago, Illinois.