

2022 SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS



In 2022, 101 participants, recruited from Canberra, ACT, were interviewed.



The mean age in 2022 was 45, and 70% identified as male.



Unemployed No fixed add

In the 2022 sample, 89% were unemployed and 18% had no fixed address.



Injected heroin



Injected methamphetamine



Injected other illicit or non-prescribed drugs

Participants were recruited on the basis that they had injected drugs at least monthly in the previous 6 months.

INJECTING RELATED RISKS AND HARMS





In 2022, few (n≤5) participants reported receptive sharing in the past month and 6% reported distributive sharing.



41% of participants reported re-using their own needles in the past month, stable from 2021 (46%).

57%

Drug treatment

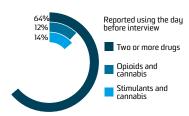


19% of participants reported injecting someone else after injecting themselves in the past month, stable from 2021 (27%).



30% of participants reported having an injection-related health issue in the past month, stable from 2021 (18%).

OTHER HARMS AND HELP-SEEKING



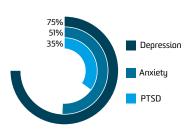
The most common patterns of poly substance use on the day preceding interview were cannabis and opioids, and cannabis and stimulants.



Past year non-fatal overdose (18%) and past 6-month drug treatment (57%) remained stable in 2022 relative to 2021.

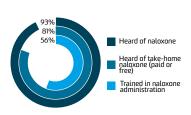


In 2022, 68% of participants reported a mental health problem in the 6 months preceding interview, and 43% had seen a mental health professional.

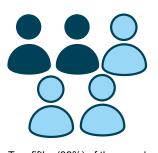


Among those who reported a mental health problem, the three most common mental health issues were depression, anxiety and PTSD.

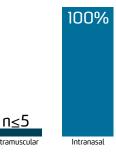
NALOXONE AND HARM REDUCTION



Knowledge of naloxone, and takehome naloxone programs, remained high and stable in 2022, however fewer participants reported ever being trained in naloxone administration.



Two-fifths (39%) of the sample reported using naloxone to resuscitate someone who had overdosed at least once in their lifetime.



Of those who reported ever accessing naloxone, all participants reported receiving intranasal naloxone on the last occasion of access.

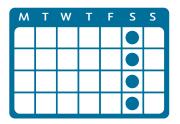


In 2022, 19% of the sample reported that they or someone else had tested the content and/or purity of their illicit drugs in Australia in the past year.

HEROIN



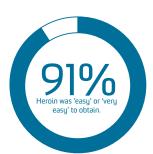
Past 6 month use of heroin remained stable in 2022 (66%) relative to 2021 (78%).



Of those who had recently consumed heroin, 80% reported weekly or more frequent use, stable from 2021 (74%).

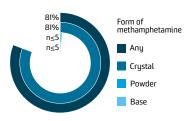


The median reported price for a point of heroin was \$80 in 2022, stable compared to \$80 in 2021.

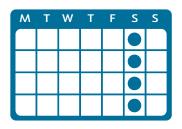


Of those who could comment, 91% perceived heroin to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain, stable from 2021 (87%).

METHAMPHETAMINE



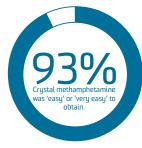
Past 6 month use of any methamphetamine (81%) and crystal (81%) remained stable in 2022 relative to 2021, whereas powder (n≤5) and base (n≤5) decreased.



Of those who had recently used any form of methamphetamine, 70% reported weekly or more frequent use, stable from 2021 (78%).



In 2022, the median reported price for a point of crystal methamphetamine was \$50 (\$50 in 2021).



Of those who could comment, 93% perceived crystal methamphetamine to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain in 2022, an increase from 90% in 2021.

OTHER DRUGS

Non-prescribed morphine

9%

2021 2022

Non-prescribed fentanyl



2021 202

Non-prescribed pregabalin



13%

GHB/GBL/1,4-BD

2021

7%

Past 6 month use of non-prescribed morphine remained stable between 2021 and 2022.

Past 6 month use of non-prescribed fentanyl remained stable between 2021 and 2022.

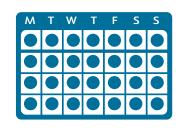
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed pregabalin remained stable between 2021 and 2022.

Past 6 month use of GHB/GBL/1,4-BD remained stable between 2021 and 2022.

CANNABIS AND/OR CANNABINOID RELATED PRODUCTS



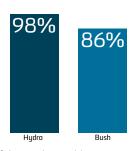
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed cannabis and/or cannabinoid related products remained stable in 2022 (77%) relative to 2021 (75%).



Of those who had recently used non-prescribed cannabis and/or cannabinoid related products, half reported daily use (54%), stable from 2021 (63%).



Of participants who had consumed non-prescribed cannabis and/or cannabinoid related products in the last 6 months, 97% had smoked it.



Of those who could comment, the majority perceived both hydro and bush to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain.