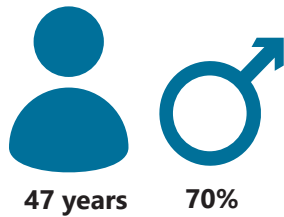


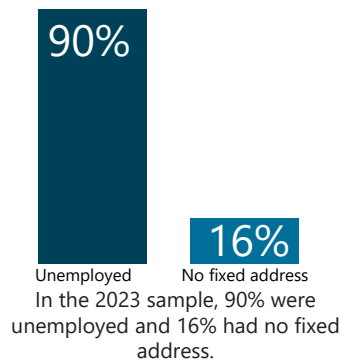
2023 SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS



In 2023, 153 participants, recruited from Sydney, NSW were interviewed.

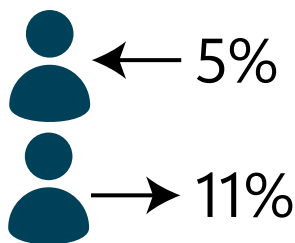


The median age in 2023 was 47, and 70% identified as male.

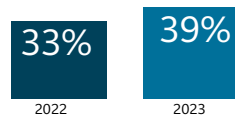


- ☒ Injected heroin
 - ☒ Injected methamphetamine
 - ☒ Injected other illicit or non-prescribed drugs
- Participants were recruited on the basis that they had injected drugs at least monthly in the previous 6 months.

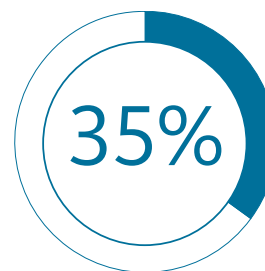
INJECTING RELATED RISKS AND HARMS



In 2023, 5% participants reported receptive sharing in the past month and 11% reported distributive sharing.



Two fifth (39%) of participants reported re-using their own needles in the past month, stable from 2022 (33%).

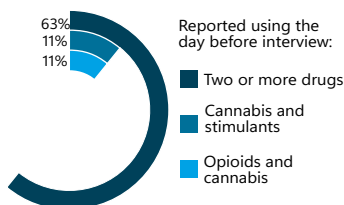


35% of participants reported injecting someone else after injecting themselves in the past month, stable relative to 2022 (31%).

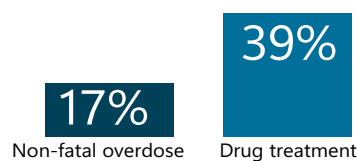


One quarter (24%) of participants reported having an injection-related health issue in the past month, stable from 2022 (28%).

OTHER HARMS AND HELP-SEEKING



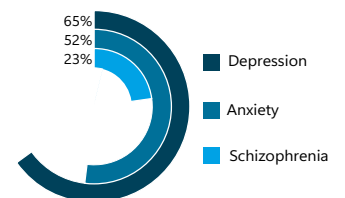
The most common patterns of poly substance use on the day preceding interview were cannabis and stimulants, and opioids and cannabis.



Past year non-fatal overdose (17%) and current drug treatment (39%) remained stable in 2023 relative to 2022.

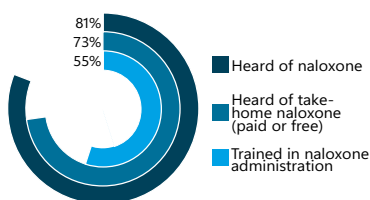


In 2023, half (52%) of participants reported a mental health problem in the 6 months preceding interview, and one third (31%) had seen a mental health professional.



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

NALOXONE, HARM REDUCTION AND STIGMA



Knowledge of naloxone significantly decreased to 81% in 2023 (95% in 2022).



In 2023, one third (33%) of the sample reported ever using naloxone to resuscitate someone who had overdosed, with one quarter (23%) having done so in the past year.

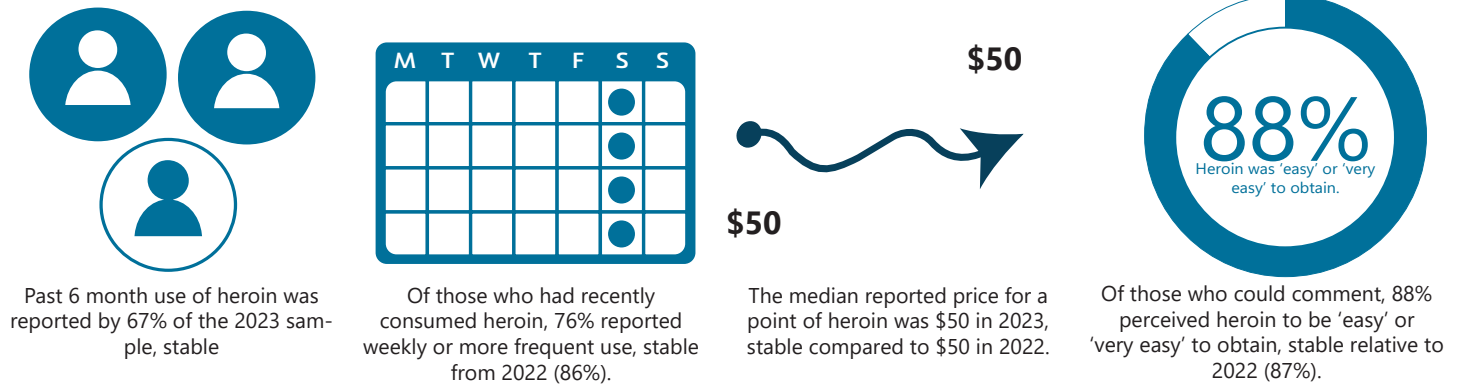


Three quarters (76%) of the sample reported experiencing stigma because of their injecting drug use in the six months preceding interview, most commonly from police.

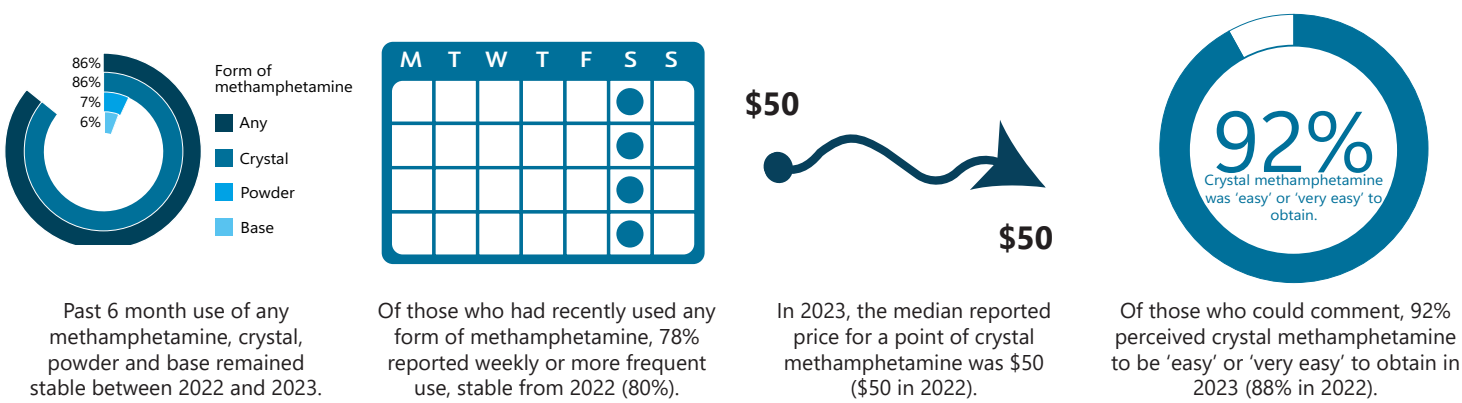


In 2023, 13% of the sample reported that they or someone else had tested the content and/or purity of their illicit drugs in Australia in the past year.

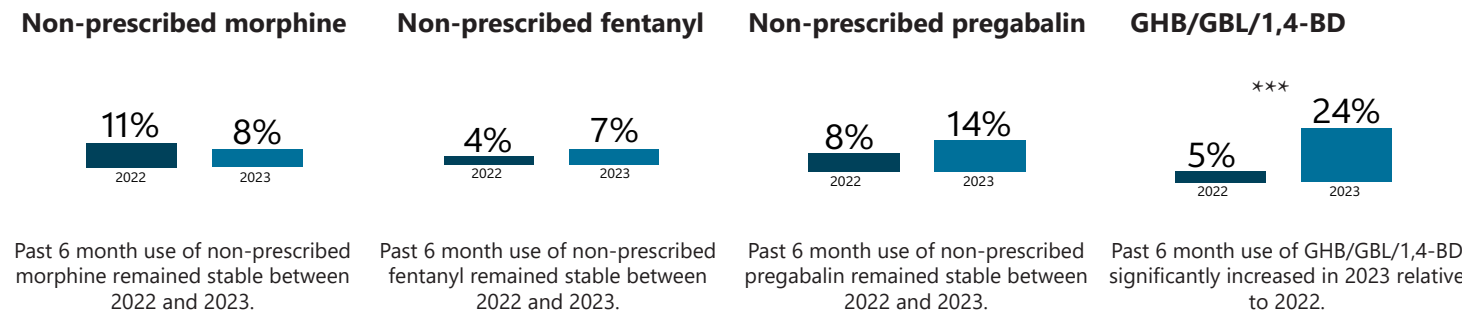
HEROIN



METHAMPHETAMINE



OTHER DRUGS



*p<0.050; **p<0.010; ***p<0.001

CANNABIS AND/OR CANNABINOID-RELATED PRODUCTS

