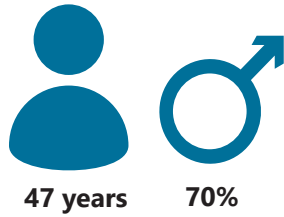


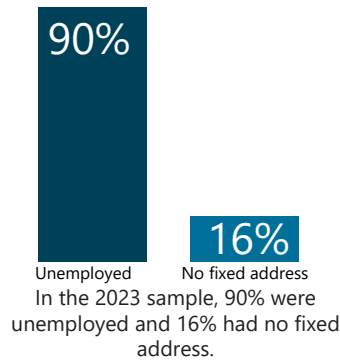
## 2023 SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS



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

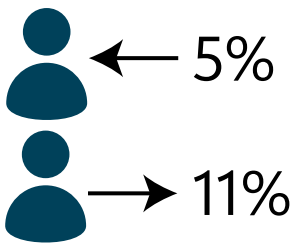


The median age in 2023 was 47, and 70% identified as male.

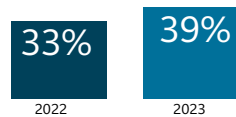


- Injected heroin
  - Injected methamphetamine
  - Injected other illicit or non-prescribed drugs
- Participants were recruited on the basis that they had injected drugs at least monthly in the previous 6 months.

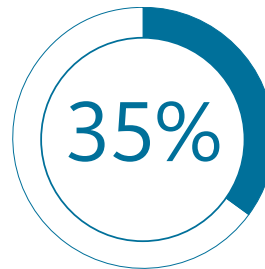
## INJECTING RELATED RISKS AND HARMS



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%).

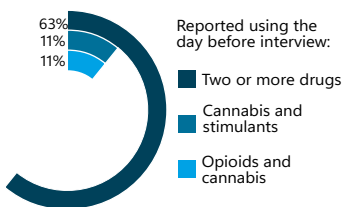


35% of participants reported injecting someone else after injecting themselves in the past month, stable relative to 2022 (31%).

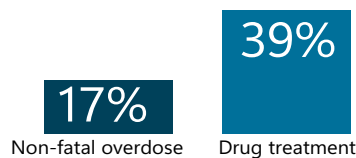


One quarter (24%) of participants reported having an injection-related health issue in the past month, stable from 2022 (28%).

## OTHER HARMS AND HELP-SEEKING



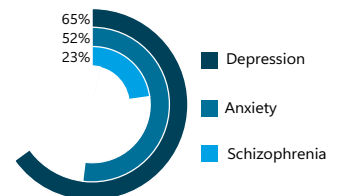
The most common patterns of poly substance use on the day preceding interview were cannabis and stimulants, and opioids and cannabis.



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

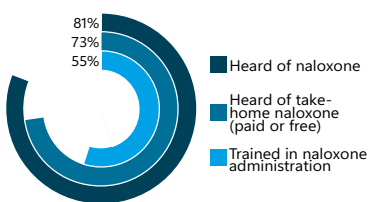


In 2023, half (52%) of participants reported a mental health problem in the 6 months preceding interview, and one third (31%) had seen a mental health professional.



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.

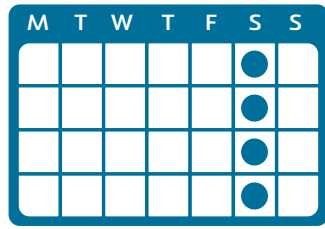


In 2023, 13% of the sample reported that they or someone else had tested the content and/or purity of their illicit drugs in Australia in the past year.

# HEROIN



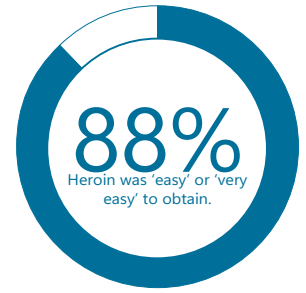
Past 6 month use of heroin was reported by 67% of the 2023 sample, stable



Of those who had recently consumed heroin, 76% reported weekly or more frequent use, stable from 2022 (86%).

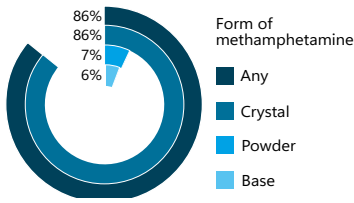


The median reported price for a point of heroin was \$50 in 2023, stable compared to \$50 in 2022.

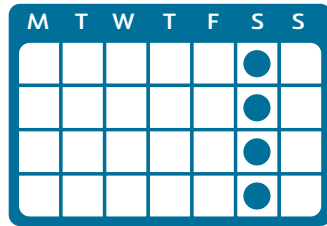


Of those who could comment, 88% perceived heroin to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain, stable relative to 2022 (87%).

# METHAMPHETAMINE



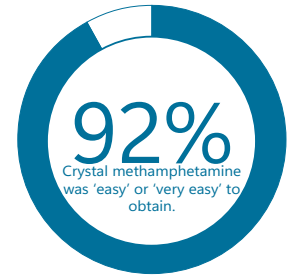
Past 6 month use of any methamphetamine, crystal, powder and base remained stable between 2022 and 2023.



Of those who had recently used any form of methamphetamine, 78% reported weekly or more frequent use, stable from 2022 (80%).



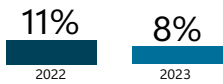
In 2023, the median reported price for a point of crystal methamphetamine was \$50 (\$50 in 2022).



Of those who could comment, 92% perceived crystal methamphetamine to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain in 2023 (88% in 2022).

# OTHER DRUGS

## Non-prescribed morphine



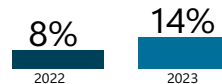
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed morphine remained stable between 2022 and 2023.

## Non-prescribed fentanyl



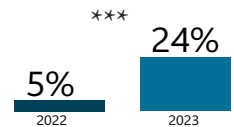
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed fentanyl remained stable between 2022 and 2023.

## Non-prescribed pregabalin



Past 6 month use of non-prescribed pregabalin remained stable between 2022 and 2023.

## GHB/GBL/1,4-BD



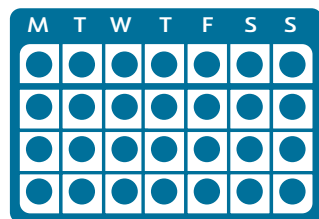
Past 6 month use of GHB/GBL/1,4-BD significantly increased in 2023 relative to 2022.

\* $p < 0.050$ ; \*\* $p < 0.010$ ; \*\*\* $p < 0.001$

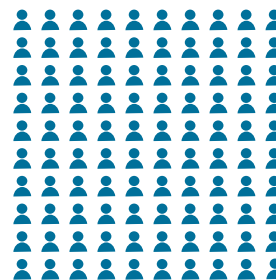
# CANNABIS AND/OR CANNABINOID-RELATED PRODUCTS



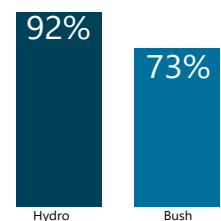
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed cannabis and/or cannabinoid-related products remained stable in 2023 (65%) relative to 2022 (72%).



Of those who had recently used non-prescribed cannabis and/or cannabinoid-related products, 56% reported daily use, stable from 2022 (57%).



Of participants who had consumed non-prescribed cannabis and/or cannabinoid-related products in the last 6 months, all (100%) had smoked it.



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