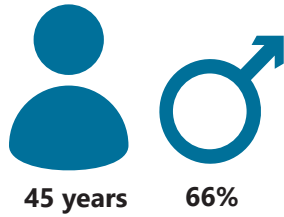


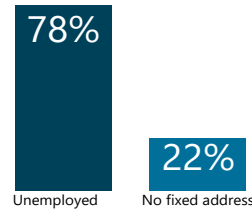
## 2023 SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS



In 2023, 103 participants, recruited from Brisbane/Gold Coast, QLD were interviewed.



The median age in 2023 was 45, and 66% identified as male.

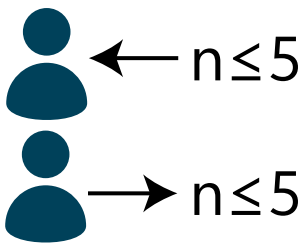


In the 2023 sample, 78% were unemployed and 22% had no fixed address.

- 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.

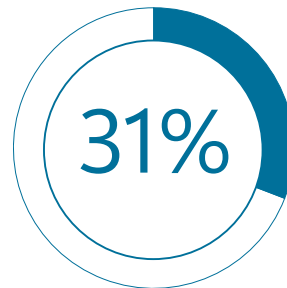
## INJECTING RELATED RISKS AND HARMS



In 2023, few participants (n ≤ 5) reported receptive or distributive sharing in the past month.



29% of participants reported re-using their own needles in the past month, stable from 2022 (35%).

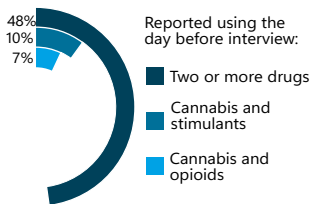


Almost one third (31%) of participants reported injecting someone else after injecting themselves in the past month, stable relative to 2022 (31%).

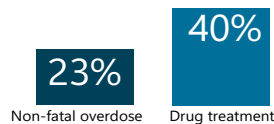


One third (32%) of participants reported having an injection-related health issue in the past month, stable from 2022 (34%).

## OTHER HARMS AND HELP-SEEKING



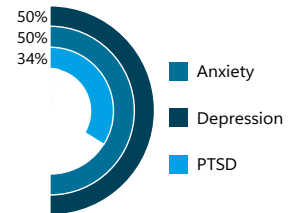
The most common patterns of poly substance use on the day preceding interview were cannabis and stimulants, and cannabis and opioids.



Past year non-fatal overdose (23%) and current drug treatment (40%) remained stable in 2023 relative to 2022.

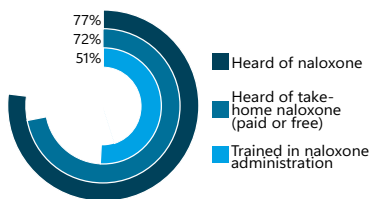


In 2023, 56% of participants reported a mental health problem in the 6 months preceding interview, and one quarter (27%) had seen a mental health professional.



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

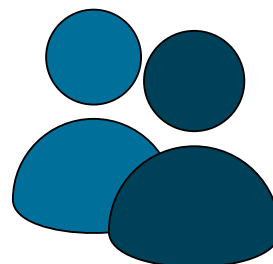
## NALOXONE, HARM REDUCTION AND STIGMA



Knowledge of naloxone, and take-home naloxone remained high in 2023, with an increase in participants reporting having ever been trained in naloxone administration.



In 2023, one fifth (20%) of the sample reported ever using naloxone to resuscitate someone who had overdosed, with 15% having done so in the past year.

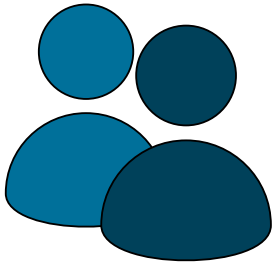


53% of the sample reported experiencing stigma because of their injecting drug use in the six months preceding interview, most commonly from police.

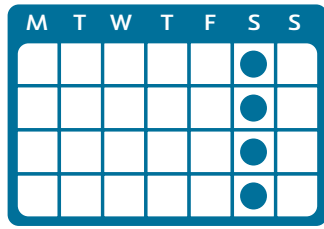


In 2023, 10% of the sample reported that they or someone else had tested the content and/or purity of their illicit drugs in Australia in the past year.

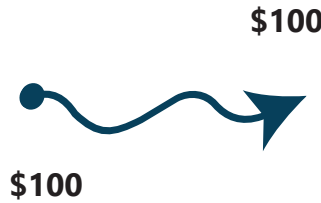
# HEROIN



Past 6 month use of heroin remained stable in 2023 (46%) relative to 2022 (51%).



Of those who had recently consumed heroin, two thirds (66%) reported weekly or more frequent use, stable from 2022 (67%).

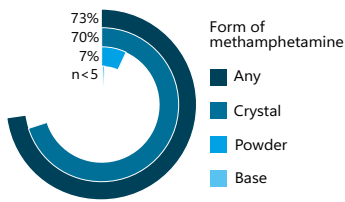


The median reported price for a point of heroin was \$100 in 2023, stable compared to \$100 in 2022.

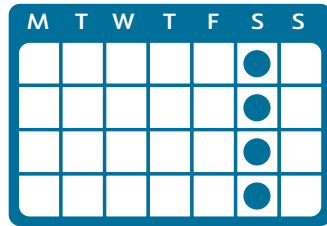


Of those who could comment, 93% perceived heroin to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain, stable relative to 2022 (85%).

# METHAMPHETAMINE



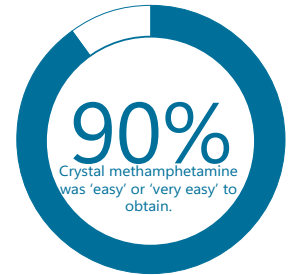
Past 6 month use of any methamphetamine, crystal, powder and base remained stable between 2022 and 2023.



Of those who had recently used any form of methamphetamine, 78% reported weekly or more frequent use, stable from 2022 (74%).



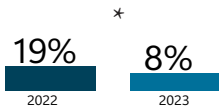
In 2023, the median reported price for a point of crystal methamphetamine was \$50 (\$50 in 2022).



Of those who could comment, 90% perceived crystal methamphetamine to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain in 2023 (92% in 2022).

# OTHER DRUGS

## Non-prescribed morphine



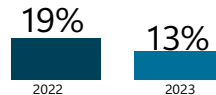
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed morphine significantly decreased from 19% in 2022 to 8% in 2023.

## Non-prescribed fentanyl



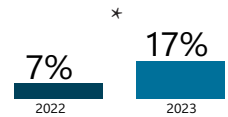
Few participants (n≤5) reported past 6 month use of non-prescribed fentanyl in 2023 and 2022.

## Non-prescribed pregabalin



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

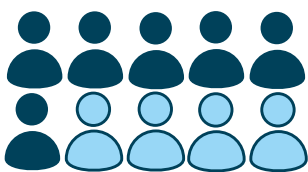
## GHB/GBL/1,4-BD



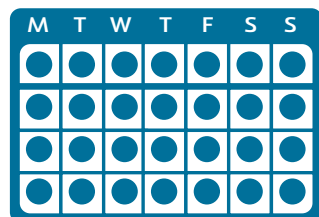
Past 6 month use of GHB/GBL/1,4-BD significantly increased in 2023 relative to 2022.

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

# CANNABIS AND/OR CANNABINOID-RELATED PRODUCTS



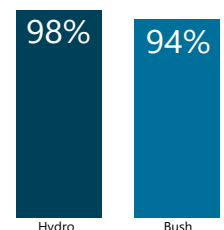
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed cannabis and/or cannabinoid-related products remained stable in 2023 (59%) relative to 2022 (64%).



Of those who had recently used non-prescribed cannabis and/or cannabinoid-related products, 30% reported daily use, stable from 2022 (41%).



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



Of those who could comment, the majority perceived both hydro and bush to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain, stable from 2022.