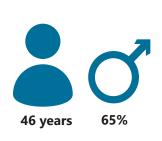


2023 SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS



In 2023, 99 participants, recruited from Perth, WA were interviewed.



The median age in 2023 was 46, and 65% identified as male.



Unemployed

In the 2023 sample, 89% were unemployed and 20% 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, 11% reported receptive sharing in the past month and 13% reported distributive sharing.





41% of participants reported re-using their own needles in the past month, stable from 2022 (47%).



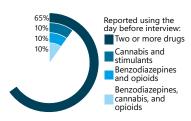
Almost two fifths (38%) of participants reported injecting someone else after injecting themselves in the past month, stable relative to 2022 (27%).



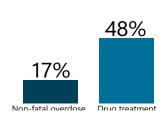


41% of participants reported having an injection-related health issue in the past month, stable from 2022 (31%).

OTHER HARMS AND HELP-SEEKING



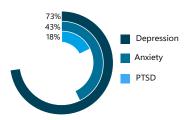
The most common patterns of poly substance use on the day preceding interview were cannabis and stimulants, benzodiazepines and opioids, and benzodiazepines, cannabis, and opioids.



Past year non-fatal overdose (17%) and current drug treatment (48%) remained stable in 2023 relative to 2022

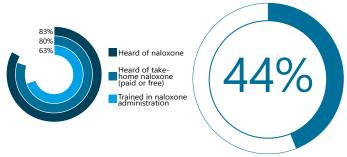


In 2023, 52% of participants reported a mental health problem in the 6 months preceding interview, and one quarter (27%) had seen a mental health professional.

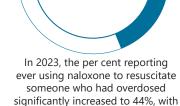


Among those who reported a mental health problem, the three most common mental health issues were depression and anxiety.

NALOXONE, HARM REDUCTION AND STIGMA



Knowledge of naloxone, take-home naloxone and participants reporting having ever been trained in naloxone administration remained stable in 2023 relative to 2022.



24% of participants having done so in

the past year.



54% of the sample reported experiencing stigma because of their injecting drug use in the six months preceding interview, most commonly from police.

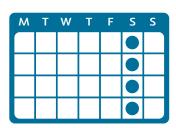


In 2023, 9% of the sample reported that they or someone else had tested the content and/or purity of their illicit drugs in Australia in the past year.

HEROIN



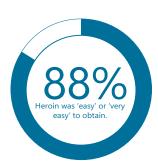
Past 6 month use of heroin was stable in 2023 (64%) relative to 2022 (59%).



Of those who had recently consumed heroin, 71% reported weekly or more frequent use, stable from 2022 (81%).

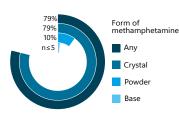


The median reported price for a point of heroin was \$150 in 2023, a signficiant increase from \$100 in 2022.

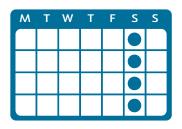


Of those who could comment, 88% perceived heroin to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain, stable relative to 2022 (91%).

METHAMPHETAMINE



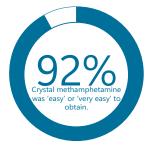
Past 6 month use of any methamphetamine, crystal, powder and base remained stable between 2022 and 2023.



Of those who had recently used any form of methamphetamine, 65% reported weekly or more frequent use, stable from 2022 (70%).



In 2023, the median reported price for a point of crystal methamphetamine significantly decreased to \$80 (\$100 in 2022).



Of those who could comment, 92% perceived crystal methamphetamine to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain in 2023 (89% in 2022).

OTHER DRUGS

Non-prescribed morphine

11%

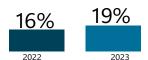
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed morphine remained stable in 2023 relative to 2022.

Non-prescribed fentanyl



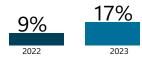
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed fentanyl remained stable in 2023 relative to 2022.

Non-prescribed pregabalin



Past 6 month use of non-prescribed pregabalin remained stable in 2023 relative to 2022.

GHB/GBL/1,4-BD

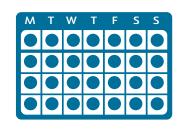


Past 6 month use of GHB/GBL/1,4-BD remained stable in 2023 relative to 2022.

CANNABIS AND/OR CANNABINOID-RELATED PRODUCTS



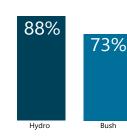
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed cannabis and/or cannabinoid-related products remained stable in 2023 (66%) relative to 2022 (60%).



Of those who had recently used non-prescribed cannabis and/or cannabinoid-related products, 43% reported daily use, stable from 2022 (45%).



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, stable from 2022.