





Amphetamines and other stimulants

Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia

In 2022–2023, 42% of Australians associated the term 'drug problem' with the use of methamphetamine and amphetamine.[4]

47% of people who used methamphetamine and amphetamine in 2022–2023 had used **powder/speed** in the last 12 months and **49%** had used **crystal/ice**. [4]

In 2023, among people who use ecstasy, the main approaches for arranging to purchase illicit or non-prescribed stimulants were [7]:

Face-to-Face (72%)

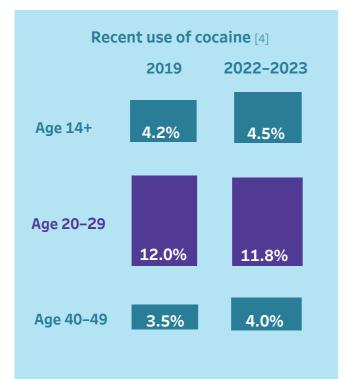
Social Networking Applications (71%)





Recent cocaine use in Australia is most prevalent among people living in Major cities and areas with the highest socioeconomic advantage. [4]





In 2022–23, amphetamines were the second most common principal drug of concern (24% of treatment episodes) for clients own alcohol and other drug use.[2]

In 2020–21, around a quarter of national illicit drug seizures (27%) and arrests (26%) were for amphetamine-type substances (including MDMA).[6]





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1.0% of people aged 14+ reported **recent** use of methamphetamine and amphetamine in 2022–2023.[4]



The weight of cocaine seizures increased by 383% over 10 years from 956kg in 2011–12 to 4,421kg in 2020–21.[6]

August 2023 national wastewater data analysis indicates that methylamphetamine average consumption was higher in regional areas than capital cities.[10]

The estimated weight of methylamphetamine consumed was 9,018 kilograms in 2021–22.[3]



The **death rate** involving psychostimulants was almost **4 times higher** in 2022 than 2000.[1]



In 2020, **56%** of police detainees **tested positive to methamphetamine**.[5]

Methamphetamine accounted for **7.5% of all drug-related hospitalisations** in 2021–22 (10,100 hospitalisations), down from 8.2% (12,400) in 2020–21. [9]



The highest rates of amphetamine(any)-related ambulance attendances in 2022 were for people aged 25–34. [8]





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National Drug Strategy Household Survey findings relate to people aged 14 or older unless specified. An adult is a person aged 18 or older.[4]

Ambulance attendance data are for those aged over 15 years, data includes NSW, VIC and QLD. [8]

References

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- 4. AIHW 2024. National Drug Strategy Household Survey 2022–2023, AIHW, Australian Government, accessed 02 April 2024.
- 5. Voce A & Sullivan T 2021. Drug use monitoring in Australia: Drug use among police detainees, 2020. Statistical Report 35. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology. Viewed 23 June 2021.
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- 8. AIHW analysis of the National Ambulance Surveillance System, Monash University, Turning Point.
- 9. AIHW analysis of the National Hospital Morbidity Database 2021–22.
- 10. ACIC (Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission) 2024. National Wastewater Drug Monitoring Program Report 21. Canberra: ACIC. Viewed 14 March 2024.

Source: Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia (https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/alcohol/alcohol-tobacco-other-drugs-australia).

