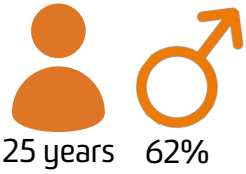
EDRS Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System

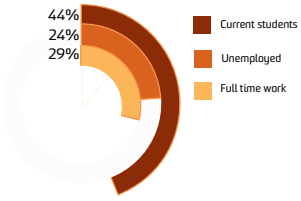
2021 SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS



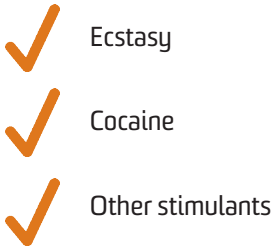
In 2021, 102 people from Hobart, TAS, participated in EDRS interviews.



The median age in 2021 was 25 (IQR = 22 - 30), and 62% identified as male.

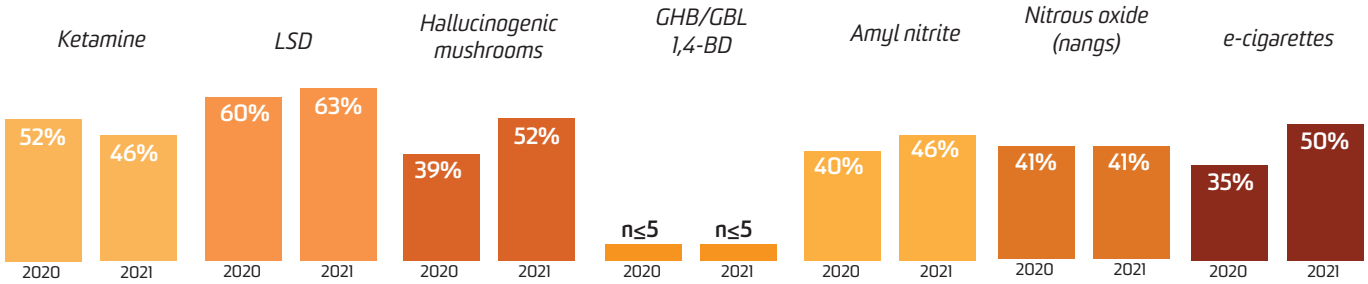


In the 2021 sample, 44% were enrolled students, 24% were unemployed, and 29% were employed full time.

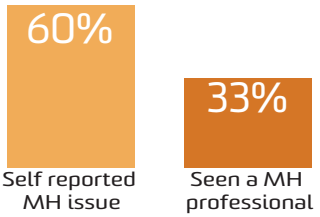


Participants were recruited on the basis that they had consumed ecstasy or other illicit stimulants at least monthly in the past 6 months.

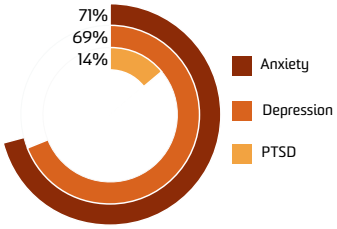
PAST 6 MONTH USE OF OTHER DRUGS



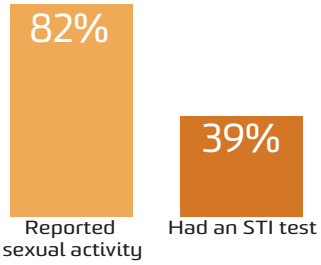
MENTAL HEALTH AND SEXUAL HEALTH BEHAVIOURS



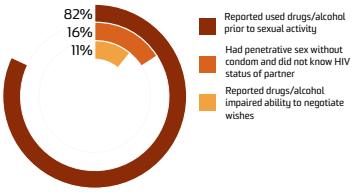
In the total sample, 60% self-reported a mental health issue and 33% had seen a mental health professional in the past 6 months.



Of those who commented, the top three most common mental health issues reported were anxiety (71%), depression (69%) and PTSD (14%).

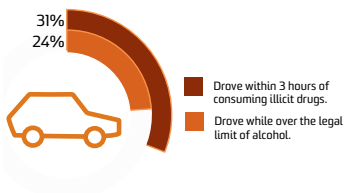


In the total sample, 82% reported sexual activity in the past 4 weeks, and 39% had a sexual health check in the past 6 months.



Sexual risk behaviours among those who reported any sexual activity in the past four weeks (82%) and were able to comment.

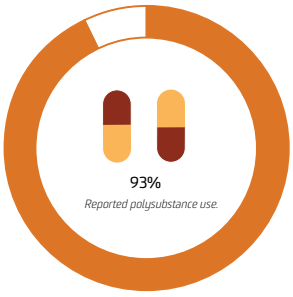
OTHER RISK BEHAVIOURS



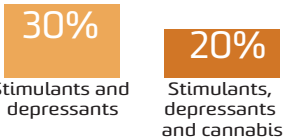
In the total sample, 31% reported driving a vehicle within 3 hours of consuming illicit drugs and 24% while over the legal limit of alcohol.



The most common drug used prior to driving was cannabis (71%).

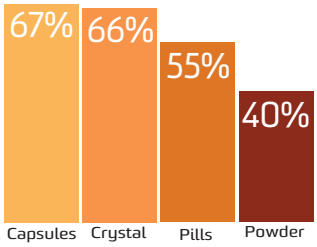


In the total sample, 93% reported concurrent use of two or more substances on the last occasion of ecstasy/stimulant use.

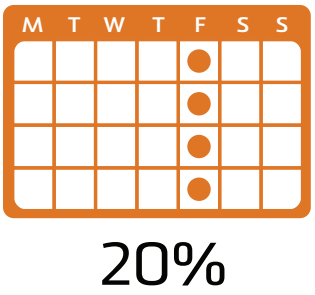


In the total sample, 30% reported to have used stimulants and depressants on one occasion whereas 20% reported using stimulants, depressants and cannabis.

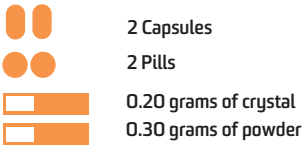
ECSTASY



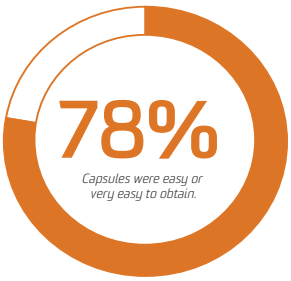
Past 6 month use of ecstasy capsules, crystal, pills, and powder in 2021.



Of those who had recently consumed ecstasy, 20% used it weekly or more frequently.

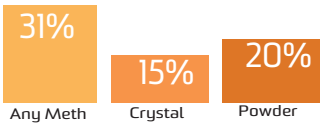


Median amounts of ecstasy consumed in a 'typical' session using each form.

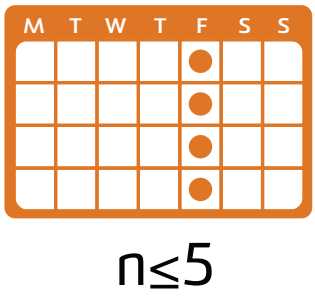


Of those who could comment 78% perceived ecstasy capsules to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain.

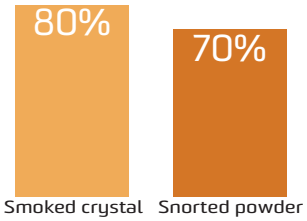
METHAMPHETAMINE



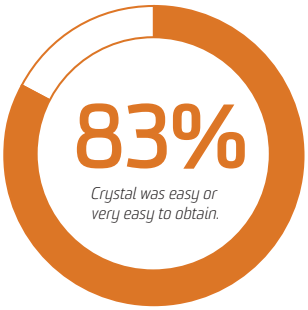
Past 6 month use of any methamphetamine (31%), crystal (15%), powder (20%) and base (n≤5) in 2021.



Of those who had recently consumed methamphetamine, n≤5 used it weekly or more frequently.

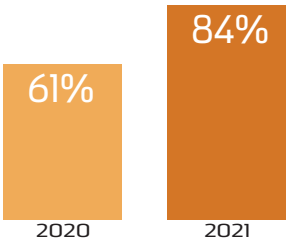


80% of people who had recently used crystal smoked it. Of those who had recently used powder, 70% snorted it.

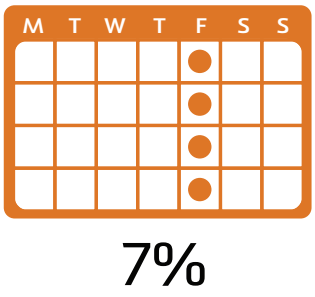


Of those who could comment 83% perceived crystal methamphetamine to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain.

COCAINE



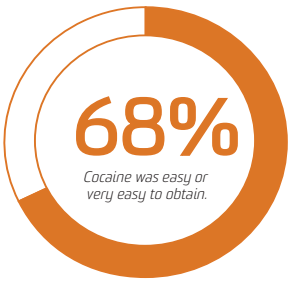
Past 6 month use of any cocaine increased from 2020 (61%) to 2021 (84%).



Of those who had consumed cocaine recently, 7% reported weekly or more frequent use.

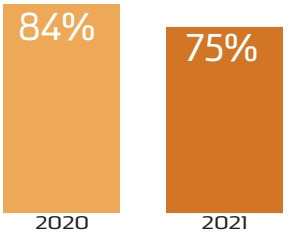


Of those who had consumed cocaine in the last 6 months, the vast majority had snorted it (97%).

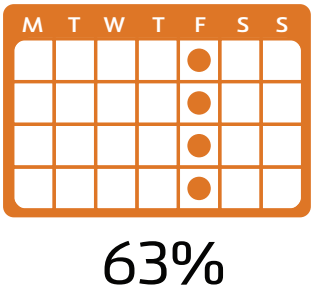


Of those who could comment 68% perceived cocaine to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain.

CANNABIS



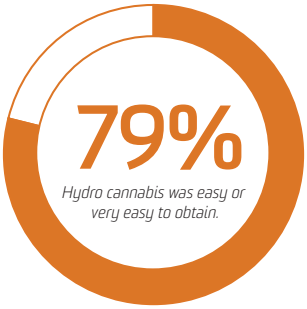
Past 6 month use of any cannabis remained stable from 84% in 2020 to 75% in 2021.



Of those who had consumed cannabis recently, 63% reported weekly or more frequent use.



Of those who had consumed cannabis in the last 6 months, 95% had smoked it.



Of those who could comment 79% perceived hydro to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain.