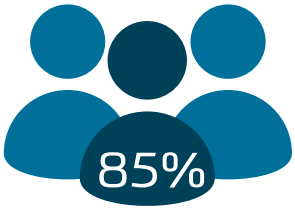
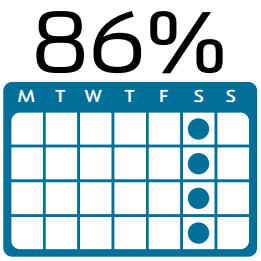
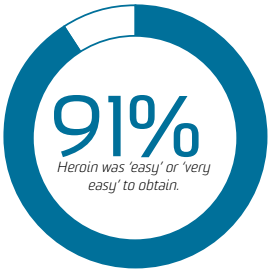
HEROIN



Past 6 month use of heroin was 85% in the 2020 sample (77% in 2019).

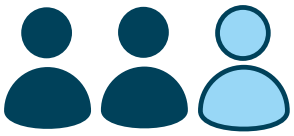


Of those who had recently consumed heroin, almost 5 in 6 used it weekly or more often.

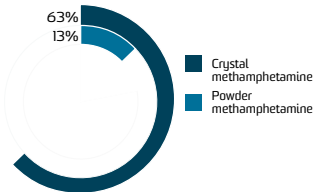


Of those who could comment 91% perceived heroin to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain, up from 80% in 2019.

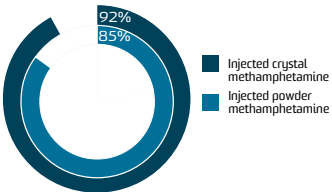
METHAMPHETAMINE



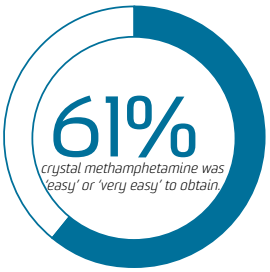
Past 6 month use of any methamphetamine reduced to 64% in 2020 (79% in 2019).



Of the entire sample, 13% had recently consumed powder, and 63% crystal methamphetamine.

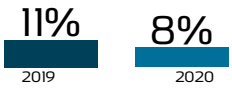


Injection was the main route of administration for crystal (92%) and powder (85%) among those who had consumed each form.

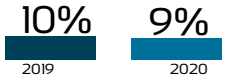


Of those who could comment 61% perceived crystal methamphetamine to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain in 2020.

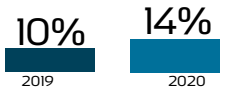
PHARMACEUTICAL MEDICINES



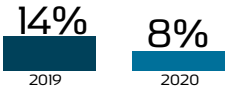
Past 6 month use of non-prescribed morphine was stable at 11% in the 2019 IDRS sample and 8% in 2020.



Past 6 month use of non-prescribed fentanyl was stable at 10% in the 2019 IDRS sample to 9% in 2020.

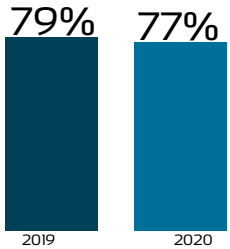


Past 6 month use of non-prescribed pregabalin was stable at 10% in the 2019 IDRS sample to 14% in 2020.

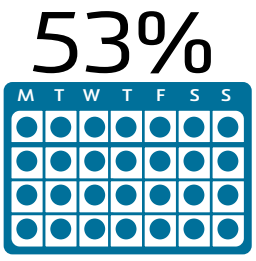


Past 6 month use of non-prescribed oxycodone was stable at 14% in the 2019 IDRS sample to 8% in 2020.

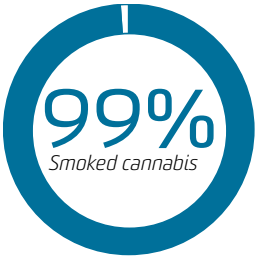
CANNABIS



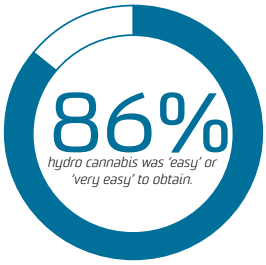
Past 6 month use of any cannabis was stable at 79% in the 2019 IDRS sample to 77% in 2020.



Of those who had consumed cannabis recently, over half reported daily or more frequent use.



Of people who had consumed cannabis in the last 6 months, 99% had smoked it.



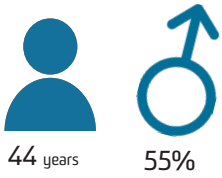
Of those who could comment 86% perceived hydro to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain.

IDRS Illicit Drug Reporting System

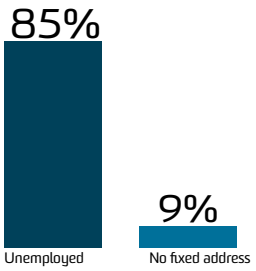
2020 SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS



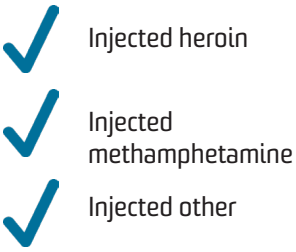
In 2020,100 people from Canberra, ACT participated in IDRS interviews.



The mean age in 2020 was 44, and 55% identified as male.

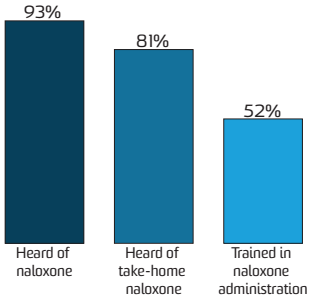


In the 2020 sample, 85% were unemployed and 9% had no fixed address.

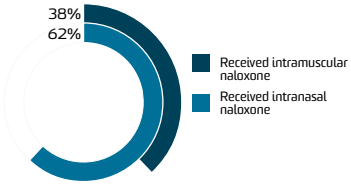


Participants were recruited on the basis that they had injected drugs at least monthly in the previous 6 months.

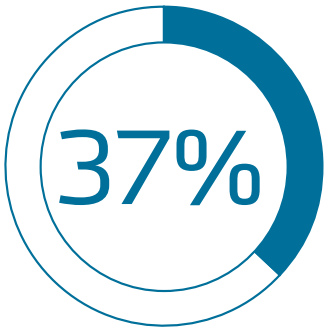
NALOXONE



IDRS participants' knowledge of the take home naloxone program, nationally.



Of those who reported ever accessing naloxone, 38% received intramuscular naloxone and 62% intranasal naloxone.

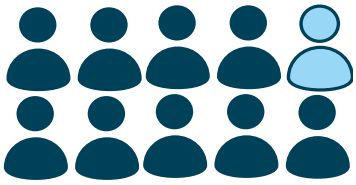


Of those who reported having heard of naloxone, 37% had used naloxone to resuscitate someone who had overdosed.



In the sample, 7% said they had been resuscitated with naloxone by a peer.

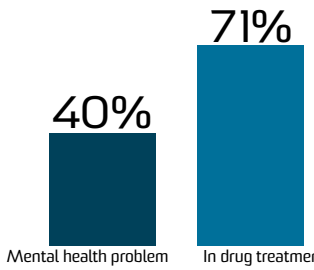
OTHER HARMS AND HELP-SEEKING



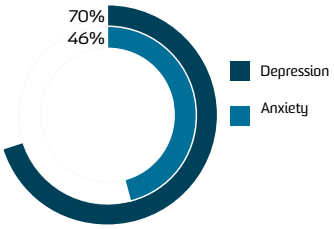
In the 2020 sample, 11% had a non-fatal opioid overdose in the last year. Heroin was the most commonly cited opioid related to non-fatal overdose.



In the 2020 sample, <5% had experienced a non-fatal stimulant overdose in the previous 12 months.

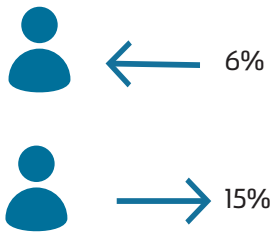


In the sample, 40% self reported a mental health problem in the six months prior to interview, and 71% were in drug treatment at the time of interview.

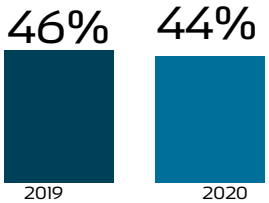


In the sample, 70% reported being diagnosed with depression and 46% with anxiety in the past six months.

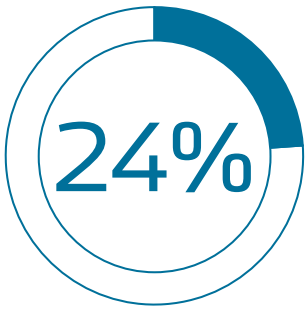
INJECTING RELATED RISKS AND HARMS



In 2020, 6% of the sample reported receptive needle sharing, and 15% reported distributive needle sharing.



The number of people who re-used their own needles was stable from 2019 (46%) to 2020 (44%).



In 2020, just under one quarter (24%) of the sample reported having an injection-related health issue in the month preceding interview.