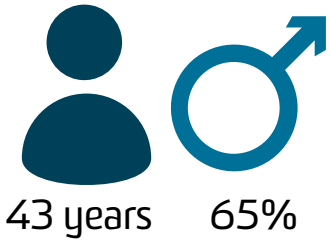
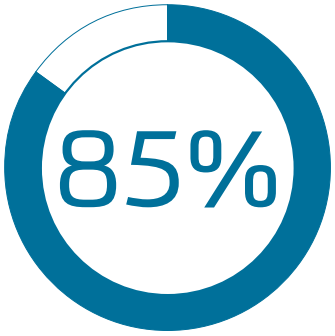
WESTERN AUSTRALIA 2019 SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS



In 2019, 96 people from WA participated in IDRS interviews.



The mean age in 2019 was 43, and 65% identified as male.



In the 2019 WA sample, 85% were unemployed.

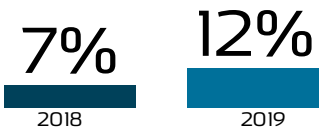
1 Heroin

2 Crystal Methamphetamine

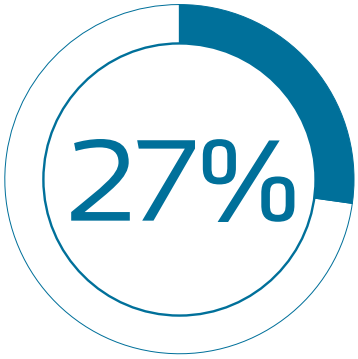
3 Powder methamphetamine

The three most commonly injected drugs were heroin, crystal methamphetamine and powder methmphetamine.

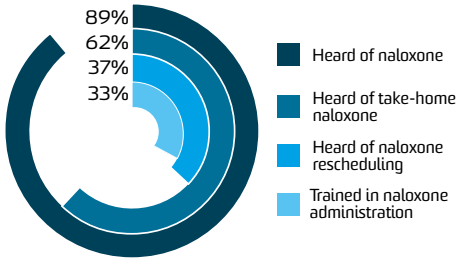
NALOXONE AND SEEKING HELP



One in ten (12%) participants had experienced a non-fatal overdose in the previous 12 months.

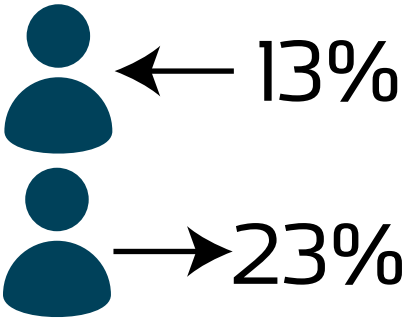


Just under a third of the WA IDRS participants reported that they were currently in drug treatment.

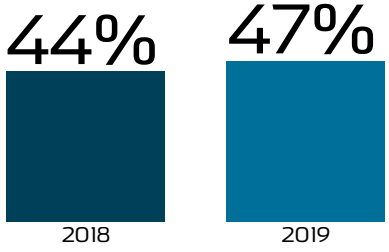


WA IDRS participant's knowledge of the take-home naloxone programe.

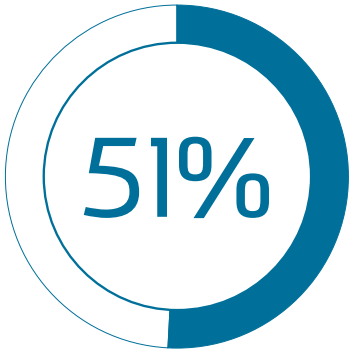
INJECTING RELATED RISKS AND HARMS



In 2019, 13% of the WA IDRS sample reported receptive needle sharing and 23% reported distributive needle sharing.

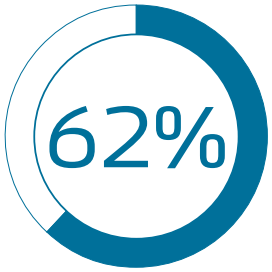


In 2019, just under half (47%) of the sample reported that they had re-used their own needles in the past month (44% in 2018).

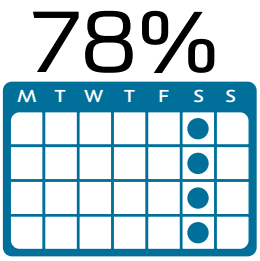


In 2019, half (51%) of the WA sample reported having an injection-related health issue in the month preceding interview.

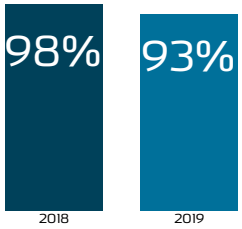
HEROIN



62% of WA IDRS participants reported using heroin in the past 6 months.



Of those who had recently consumed heroin 78% used it weekly or more.

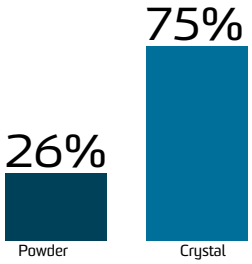


Of those who could comment 93% perceived heroin to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain in 2019.

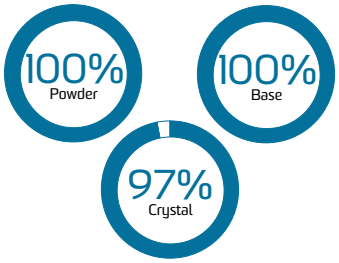
METHAMPHETAMINE



Four in five (79%) WA 2019 IDRS participants reported past 6 month use of any methamphetamine.



Of the entire sample, 27% had recently consumed powder, and 77% crystal methamphetamine.

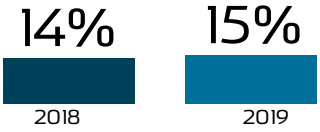


Injection was the main route of administration for powder, crystal and base among those who had consumed each form.



Of those who could comment 99% perceived crystal methamphetamine to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain in 2019.

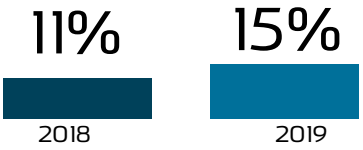
PHARMACEUTICAL OPIOIDS



Past 6 month use of non-prescribed morphine remained low at 15% in 2019 (14% in 2018)



10% of WA IDRS participants reported using non-prescribed fentanyl in the past 6 months.

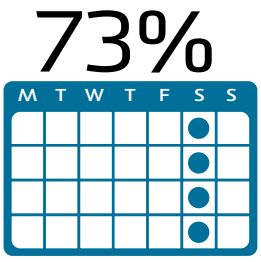


in 2019, 15% of WA IDRS participants reported using non-prescribed oxycodone in the past 6 months.

CANNABIS



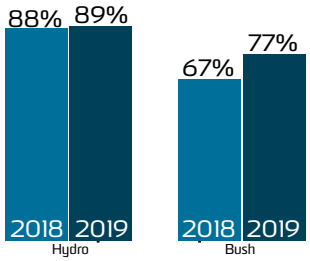
Three in four (72%) of WA participants in the 2019 IDRS sample reported past 6 month use of cannabis.



Of those who had consumed cannabis recently, 73% reported weekly or more frequent use.



Of people who had consumed cannabis in the last 6 months, 93% had smoked it.



Of those who could comment, high percentages perceived bush and hydro to be 'easy' or 'very easy' to obtain.