



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]



Recent use of cocaine ^[4]

	2019	2022–2023
Age 14+	4.2%	4.5%
Age 20–29	12.0%	11.8%
Age 40–49	3.5%	4.0%

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]



Australian Government

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare



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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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Source: Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia

(<https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/alcohol/alcohol-tobacco-other-drugs-australia>).

