



STATISTICAL BULLETIN 2023

Illicit Substances



ICAD

Instituto para os Comportamentos
Aditivos e as Dependências, I.P.

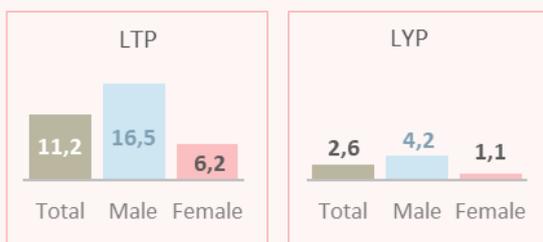
CONSUMPTION

GENERAL POPULATION

Nacional Survey on Psychoactive Substances Use in the General Population (15-74 year-olds) [1]

Lifetime and last 12 months Prevalence of use (%)

Any illicit substance (AIS)



2022

Lifetime and last 12 months Prevalence of use (%)

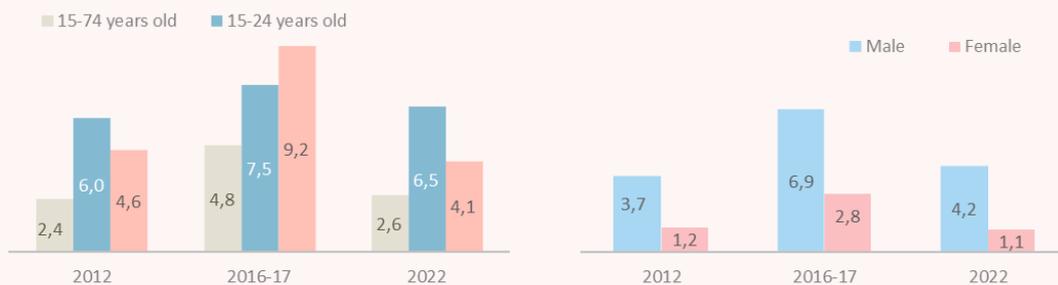
By substance type

Substance Type	LTP	LYP
Cannabis	10,5%	2,4%
Cocaine	0,9%	0,2%
Ecstasy	0,8%	0,1%
Heroin	0,3%	0,1%
LSD	0,3%	0,0%
Amphetamines	0,3%	0,0%
NPS	0,2%	0,0%
Hall. Mushrooms	0,3%	0,0%

Age Group	LTP - AIS	LYP - AIS
15-24	13,3%	6,5%
25-34	18,3%	4,1%
35-44	18,3%	3,4%
45-54	10,5%	1,9%
55-64	5,8%	0,6%
65-74	1,9%	0,0%

Last 12 months prevalence of illicit substances use (%)

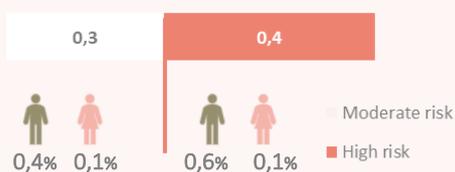
Any illicit substance



2012 / 2016 - 17 / 2022

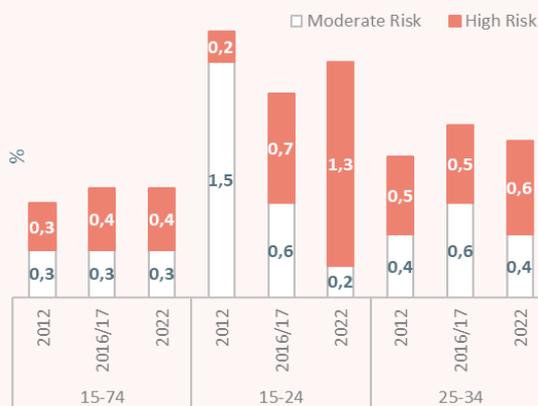
Cannabis Abuse Screening Test (CAST¹) (%)

last 12 months



2022

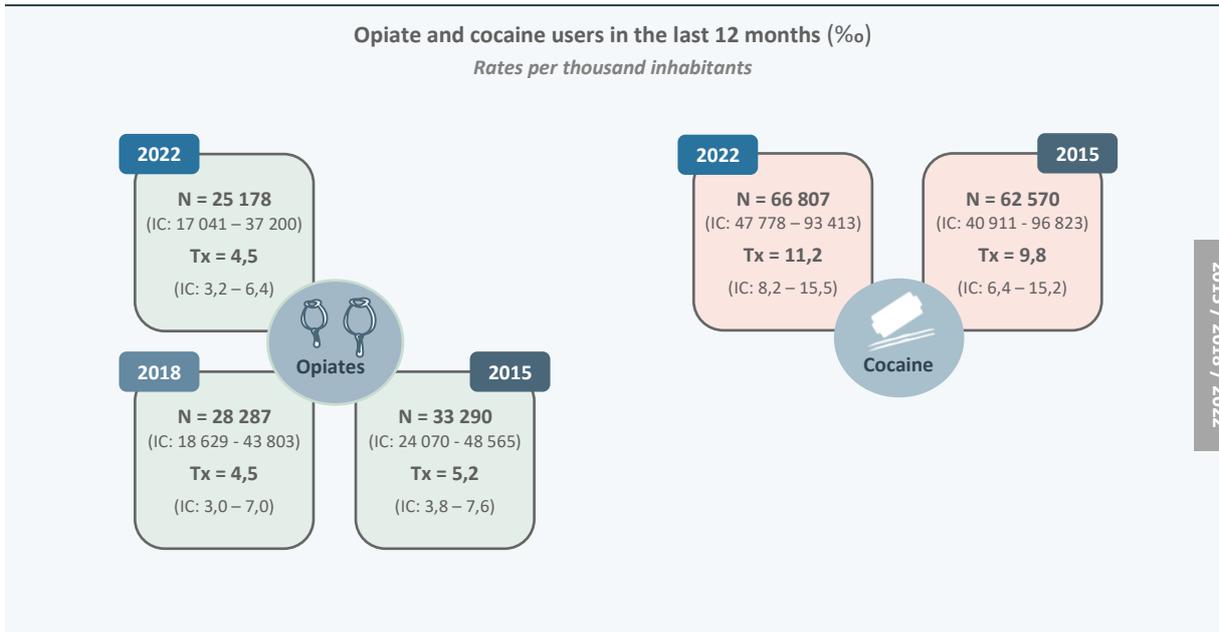
Age Group	Moderate Risk	High Risk
15-34	0,3%	1,0%
15-24	0,2%	1,3%
25-34	0,4%	0,6%



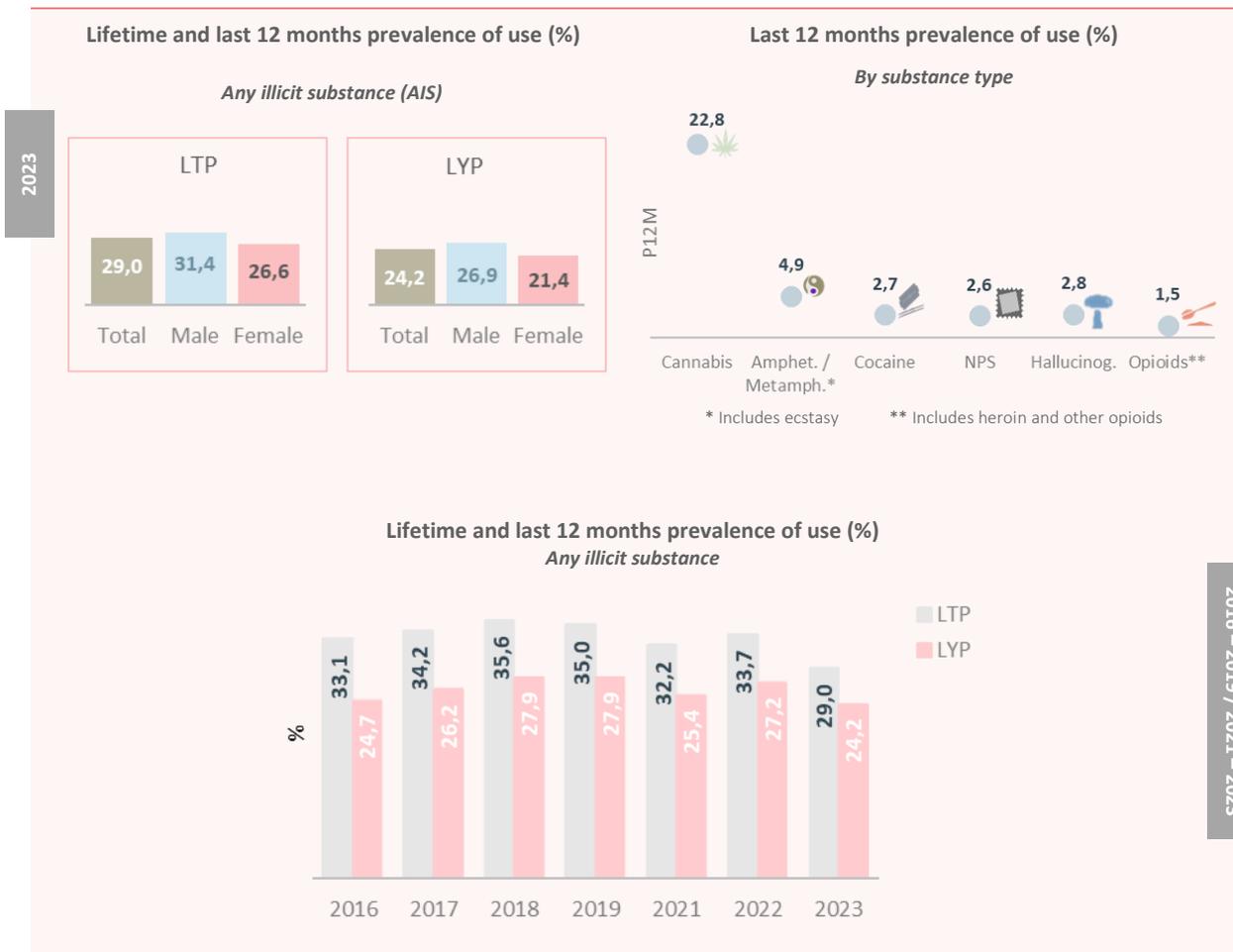
2012 / 2016 - 17 / 2022

¹ Cannabis Abuse Screening Test (CAST).

Estimates of sizes of problematic populations with high risk cocaine and opioid use
(Continental Portugal, 15-64 years old) [2] [3]



Survey on the Young Participants of the National Defense Day (18 year-olds) [4]

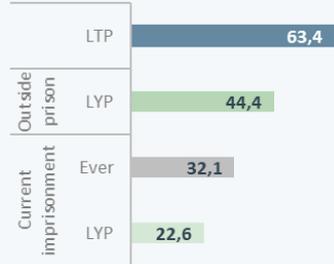


PRISON SETTING

National Survey on Addictive Behaviours in Prison Settings (≥16 year-olds) [5] [6]

Lifetime prevalence of use and in the current imprisonment (ever and in the last 12 months) (%)

Any illicit substance



Gender / A.G.	LTP outside prison	LTP Current imprisonment
M	45,3%	23,4%
F	38,8%	16,3%
16-24	55,1%	30,9%
25-34	51,5%	28,5%
35-44	52,0%	25,8%
45-54	36,5%	17,1%
≥55	23,7%	9,1%

- 10,9% of inmates already injected drugs in their lifetime, 2,3% already in imprisonment and 1,1% in the current imprisonment.

Prevalence of use in the last 12 months (%)²

By illicit substance type



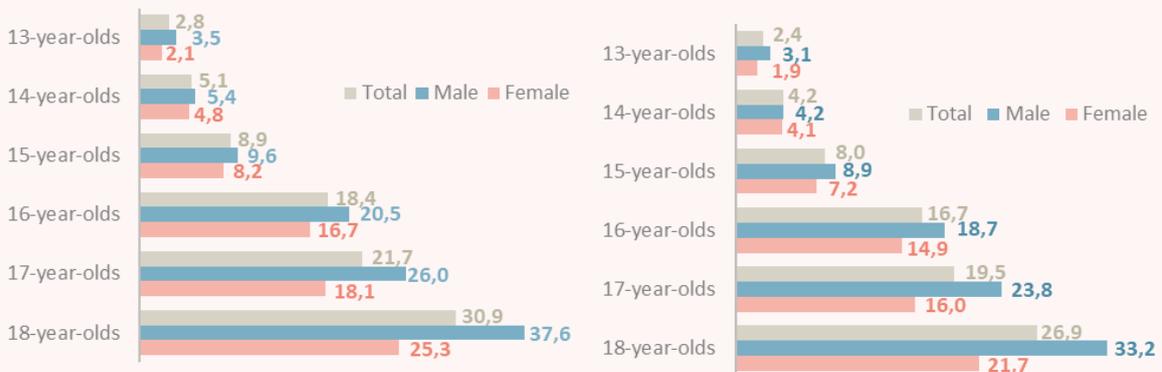
* Includes cocaine and crack.

SCHOOL SETTING

Study on Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs Use and Other Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies (students 13-18 year-olds) • Mainland Portugal [7] [8]

Lifetime prevalence of use (%)
Any illicit substance

Last 12 months prevalence of use (%)
Any illicit substance



² In 2023 the set of substances presented in the questionnaire was extended (18 in 2014 to 21 in 2023).

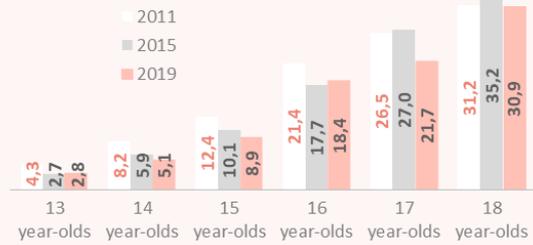
2019

Last 12 months prevalence of use (%)
By substance type

Substance type	LYP (min.-máx.)
Cannabis	1,8 – 25,6% (13 – 18 years)
Cocaine*	0,6 – 2,0% (13 – 17 years)
Ecstasy	0,2 – 2,9% (13 – 18 years)
Amphetamines	0,4 – 1,3% (13 – 17 years)
Hall. Mushrooms	0,4 – 1,2% (13 – 18 years)
LSD	0,2 – 1,7% (13 – 18 years)

*Includes cocaine and crack.

Lifetime prevalence of use (%)
Any illicit substance



2011 / 2015 / 2019

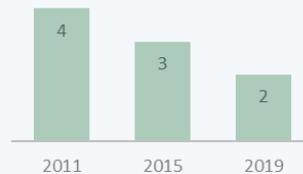
European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (students 16 years old) [9]

2019

Lifetime prevalence of use (%)
Any illicit substance



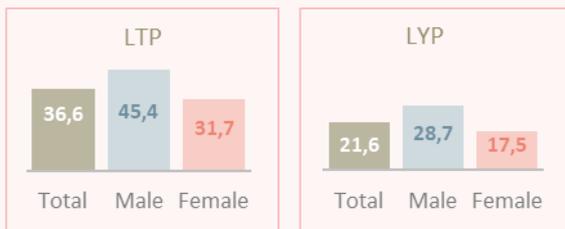
Age of onset for cannabis consumption. Proportion answering at the age of 13 or younger (%)
Cannabis



2011 / 2015 / 2019

ES+Saúde: Health and Lifestyle among University Students in Portugal (1st cycle and 2nd cycle) [10]

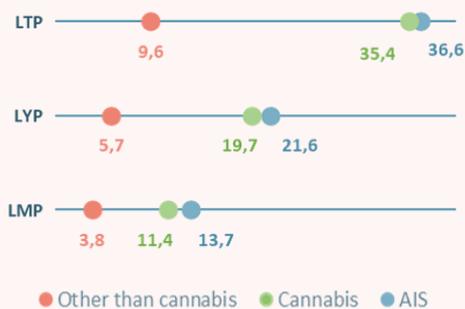
Lifetime and last 12 months prevalence of use (%)
Any illicit substance (AIS)



Age Group	LTP	LYP
≤ 19 year-olds	29,0%	20,6%
20-22	39,2%	23,5%
23-29	44,7%	22,4%
30-39	39,5%	10,9%
≥ 40 year-olds	31,1%	5,5%

2022

Lifetime, last 12 months and the last 30 days prevalence of use (%)
By substance type



Substance type	LTP	LYP	LMP
Cocaine	3,4%	1,7%	0,9%
Ecstasy	5,2%	2,6%	1,3%
Amphetamines	3,3%	1,6%	0,9%
Other metanfetamines	1,7%	1,1%	0,7%
Heroin	1,4%	1,0%	0,7%
LSD	3,6%	1,7%	0,8%
Hall. Mushrooms	3,1%	1,5%	0,7%
GHB	1,3%	1,0%	0,7%
Ketamine	1,4%	0,9%	0,6%
NPS	1,4%	0,9%	0,5%

CUSTODIAL FACILITIES FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS SETTING

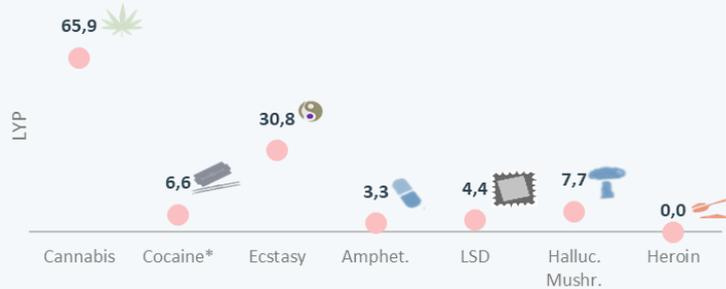
Survey on Addictive Behaviours in Young Offenders in Custodial Facilities (13-20 year-olds) [11]

Lifetime prevalence of use³, last 12 months before custody and last 12 months in the current custody⁴ (%)
Any illicit substance



Last 12 months before current custody prevalence of use (%)

By substance type



*Includes cocaine and crack.

SOME CONSEQUENCES RELATED WITH CONSUMPTION

TREATMENT [12] [13]

Patients in treatment in the year and patients that started treatment in the year (n)

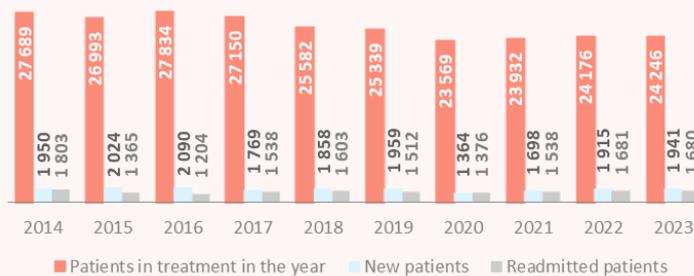
outpatient – public network



Gender / Age Group	Patients in treatment in the year	Patients that started treatment in the year
M	84,1%	85,4%
F	15,9%	14,6%
≤ 34 year-olds	14,2%	41,8%
35 - 49	41,6%	40,9%
≥ 50 year-olds	44,2%	17,2%

Patients in treatment in the year and patients that started treatment in the year – new and readmitted (n)

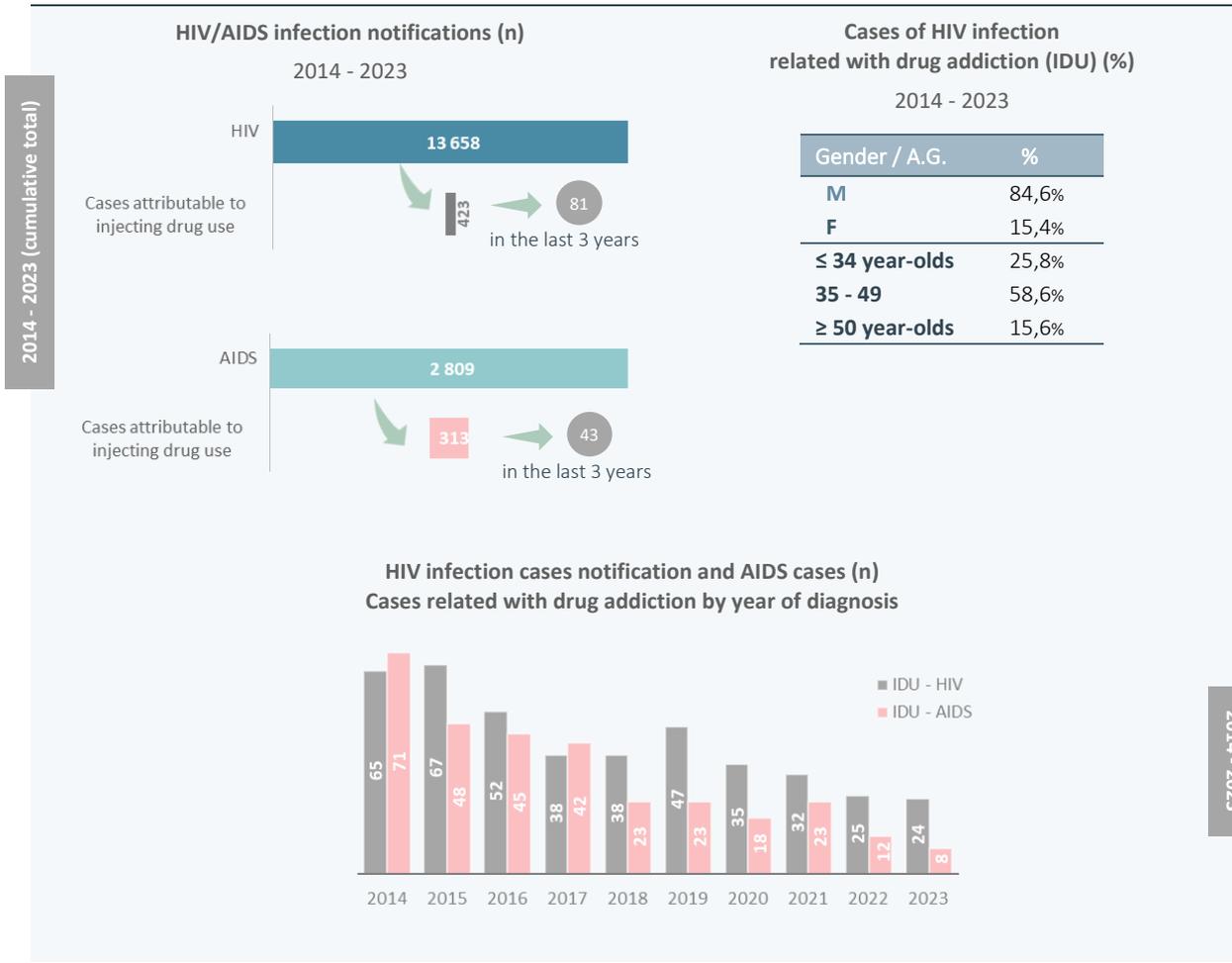
outpatient – public network



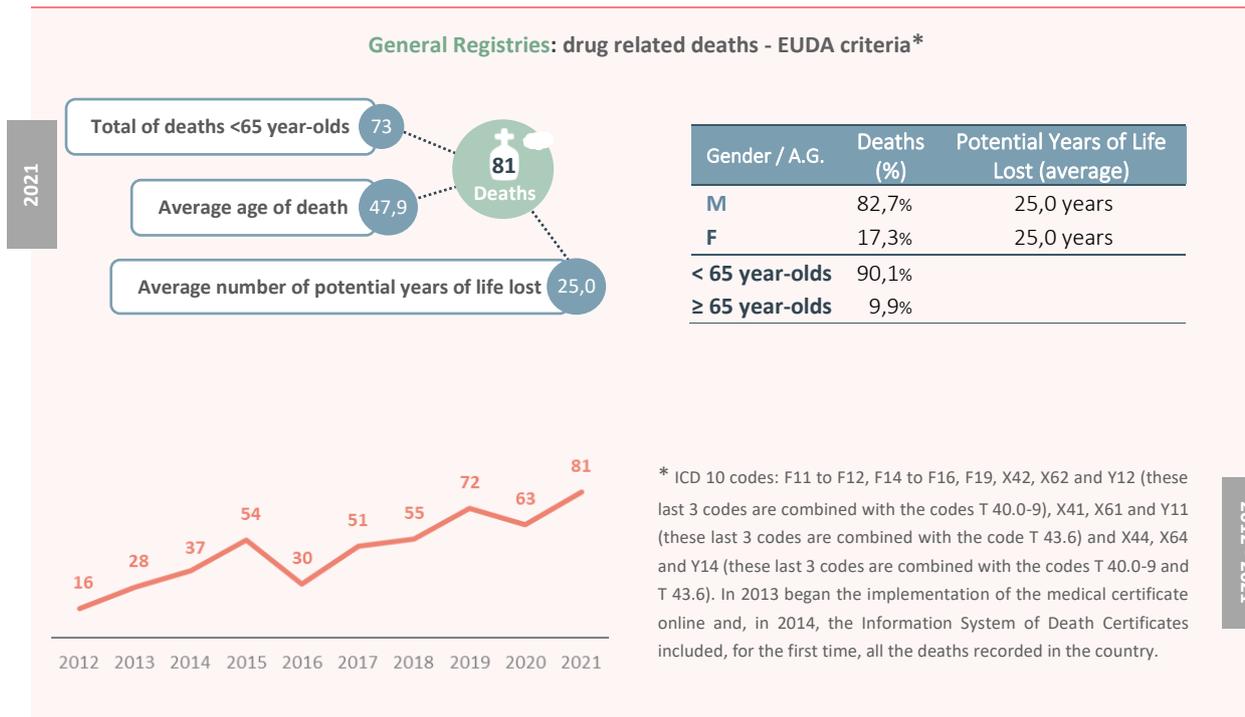
³ Before and/or after the beginning of custody.

⁴ While in custody, some young offenders have authorization to go outside the Facility, for weekends, vacations or to go to school/professional training.

HIV and AIDS [12] [13] [14]

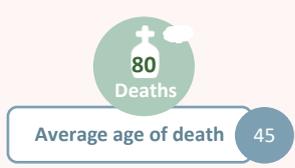


Mortality [12] [13]

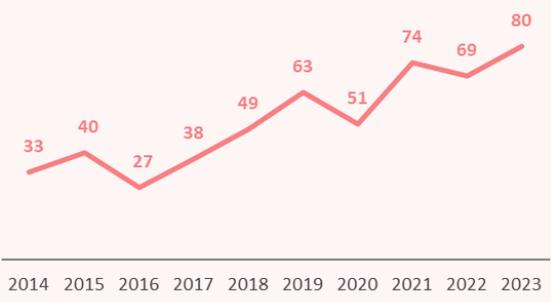


Specific Registries: deaths by overdose

2023



Gender / A.G.	Deaths (%)
M	81,2%
F	18,8%
≤ 34 year-olds	23,1%
35 – 49	35,9%
≥ 50 year-olds	41,0%

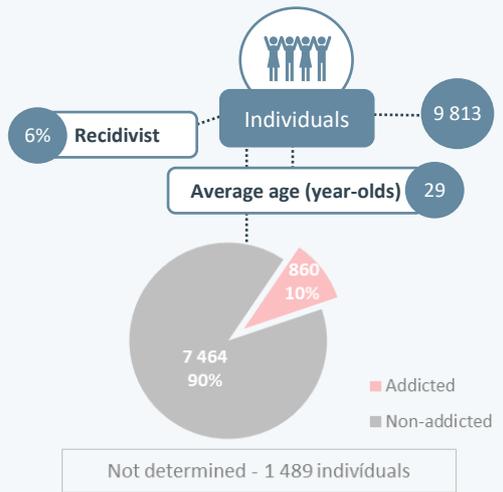


2014 – 2023

Litigations for Administrative Offenses Related with Drugs (Law 30/2000) [12] [13]

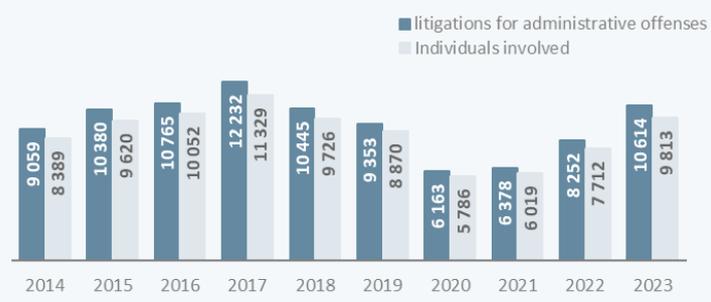
Individuals involved in Drug Law Offences related to drug use (occurrences in the year)

2023



Gender / .A. G.	%
M	89,8%
F	10,2%
16 – 19 year-olds	13,5%
20 - 24	31,6%
25 - 34	30,3%
35 - 44	14,0%
45 - 54	7,5%
≥ 55 year-olds	3,2%

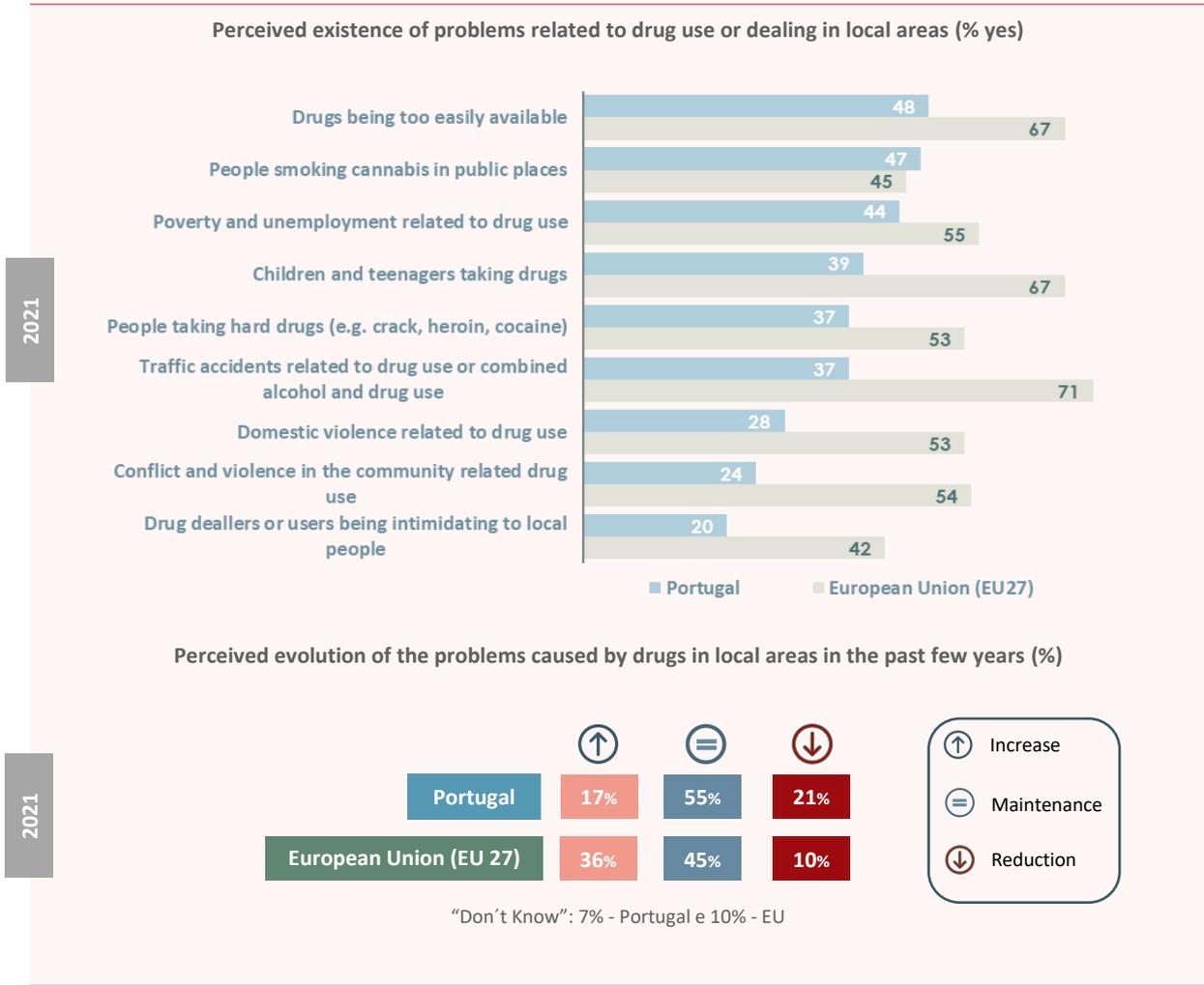
Proceedings* and individuals** involved in Drug Law Offences related to use (n)



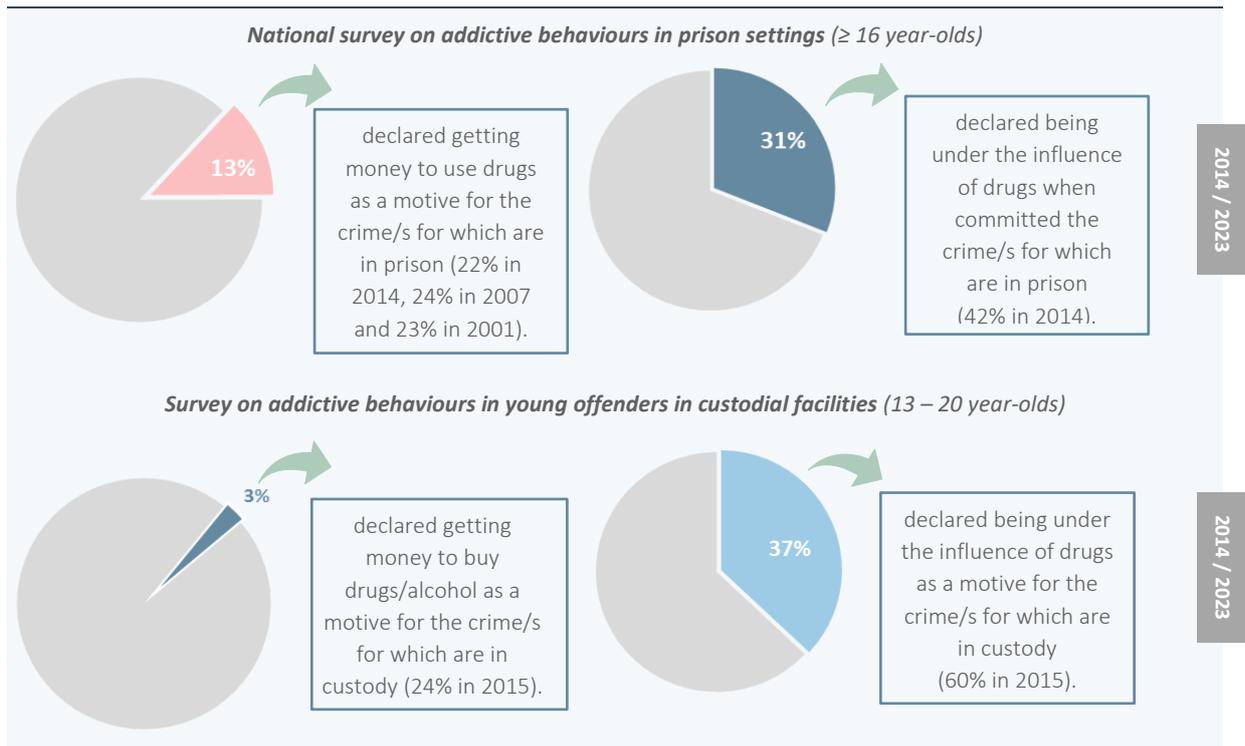
2014 - 2023

*Each process corresponds to one occurrence and to one person.
**Individuals who were sent twice or more to a Commission in any year (and thus originated the instatement of more than one process) were counted only once. Doesn't include individuals with acquittal decisions.

Flash Eurobarometer 493, Impact of Drugs on Communities (≥15 year-olds) [15]



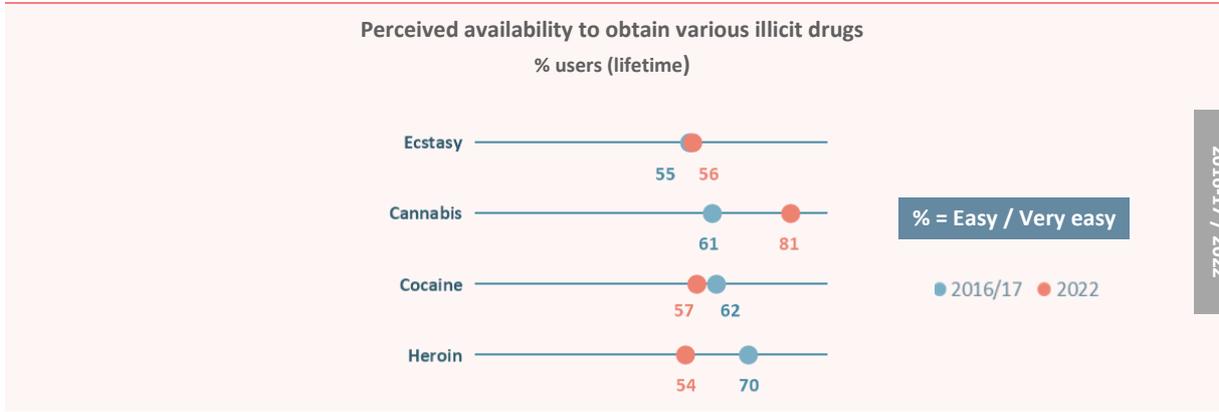
Indirect Criminality (results of studies) [5] [6] [11]



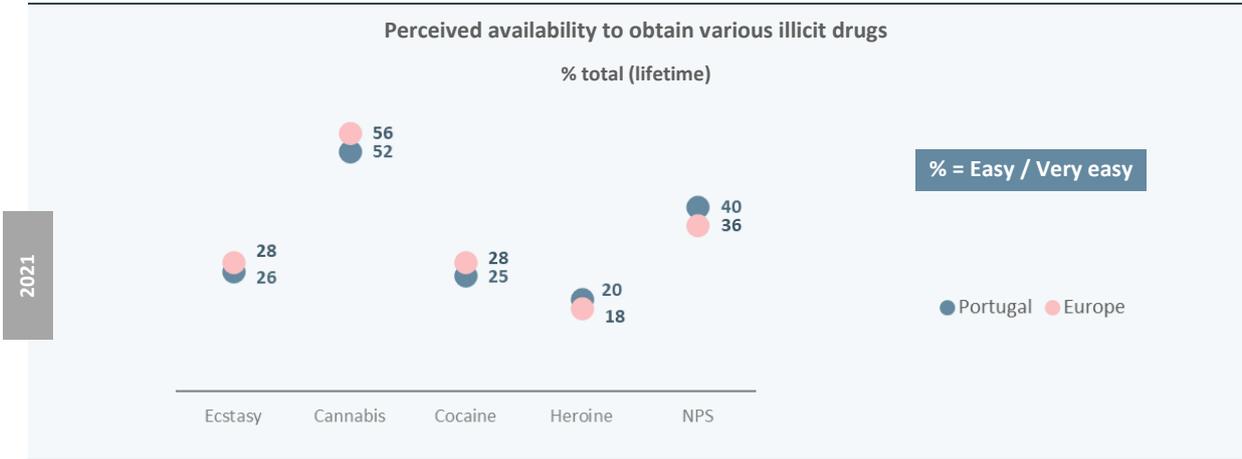
SUPPLY

GENERAL POPULATION

Nacional Survey on Psychoactive Substances Use in the General Population (15-74 year-olds) [1]

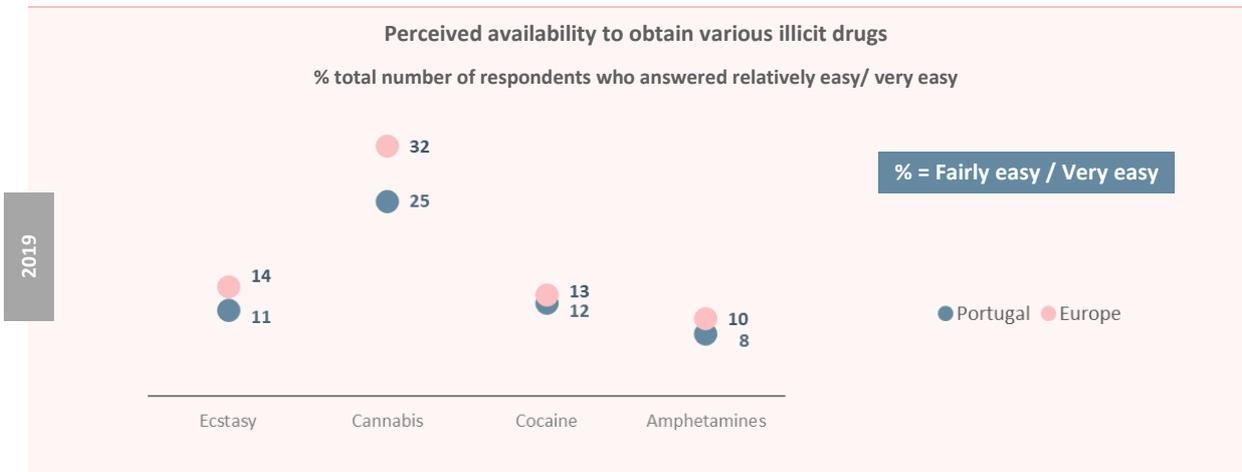


Flash Eurobarometer 493, Impact of Drugs on Communities (≥ 15 year-olds) [15]

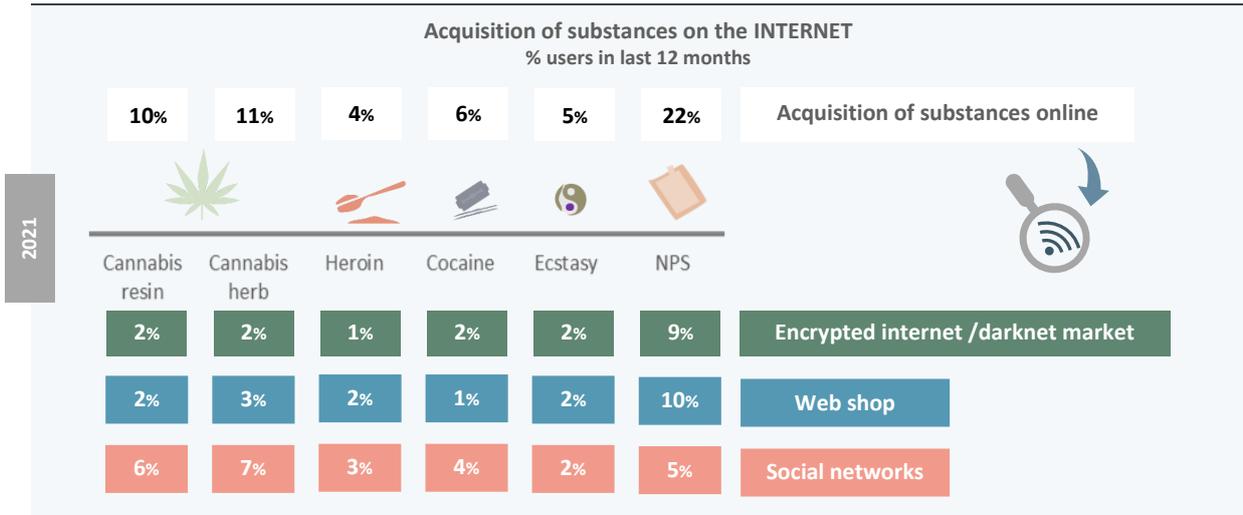


SCHOOL SETTING

The European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (students 16 anos) [9]



European Web Survey on Drugs / Portugal (≥ 18 year-olds) [16]



Police Seizures⁵ (Under the Drug Law) [12] [13] [17]



⁵ Data does not reflect all the results obtained at national level, as it does not integrate the data of one police force between July 2017 and December 2021.

⁶ Does not include quantities in other units of measurement.

⁷ According to EMCDDA criteria: 1) retail (≤ 100 g for hashish and cannabis herb; ≤ 10 g for cocaine; ≤ 1 g for heroin; ≤ 50 tablets for ecstasy); 2) intermediate (> 100 g and < 1000 g for hashish and cannabis herb; > 10 g and < 1000 g for cocaine; > 1 g and < 1000 g for heroin; 50 and < 1000 tablets for ecstasy); 3) Wholesale (≥ 1000 g for hashish, cannabis, cocaine and heroin; ≥ 1000 tablets for ecstasy).

N^{er}. of quantities seized - Main substances seized

Quantities	2014 – 2018	2019 – 2023
Gramme		
Hashish	61 322 159 ▲	112 930 200
Cannabis Herb.	1 144 468 ▲	5 309 166
Cocaine	19 065 113 ▲	68 803 980
Heroin	249 754 ▼	174 806
Tablet		
Ecstasy	422 952 ▼	205 371

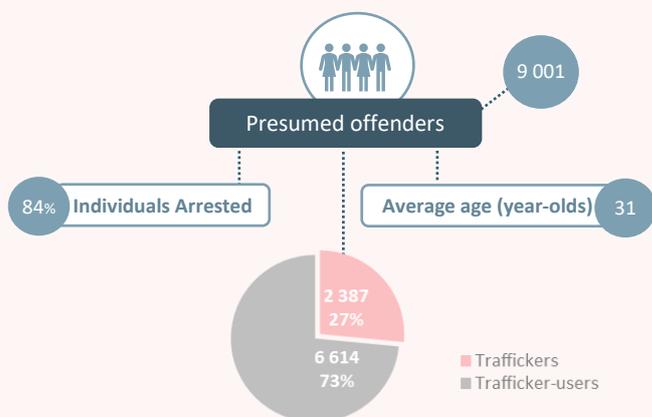
Average Price⁸ and average potency/ purity⁹
Main substances seized - Lower and higher average value for each quinquennial

Prices	2014 – 2018	2019 – 2023
Per gramme		
Hashish	2,30 – 2,66 € ▲	2,63 – 5,75 €
Can.Herb.	5,89 – 8,21 € ▼	5,27 – 5,64 €
Cocaine	42,52 – 48,63 € ▼	30,21 – 33,91 €
Heroin	26,27 – 31,61 € ▼	16,61 – 24,25 €
Ecstasy	25,13 – 34,41 € ▼	10,37 – 16,96 €
Per tablet		
Ecstasy	3,82 – 5,56 € ¹⁰	4,91 – 6,97 € ¹⁰

Purity/Potency	2014 – 2018	2019 – 2023
Per gramme		
Hashish (% THC)	11,4 – 18,0% ▲	14,3 – 25,8%
Can.Herb. (% THC)	7,2 – 8,3% ▲	6,7 – 12,3%
Cocaine (%cocaine hydrocl.)	34,6 – 50,1% ▲	49,5 – 68,9%
Heroin (%)	14,0 – 19,5% ▼	14,4 – 15,3%
Ecstasy (%)	11,3 – 65,5% ¹¹	48,6 – 61,0%
Per tablet		
Ecstasy (mg MDMA)	80,0 – 130,5% ▲	87,0 – 117,4%

2014 – 2023

Presumed Offenders¹² (n)



Gender / A. G.	Presumed offenders
M	91,3%
F	8,7%
≤ 24 year-olds	35,2%
25-34	32,0%
35-44	17,6%
≥ 45 year-olds	15,2%



2014 – 2023

⁸ The prices concern the dealer and dealer-user drug market.

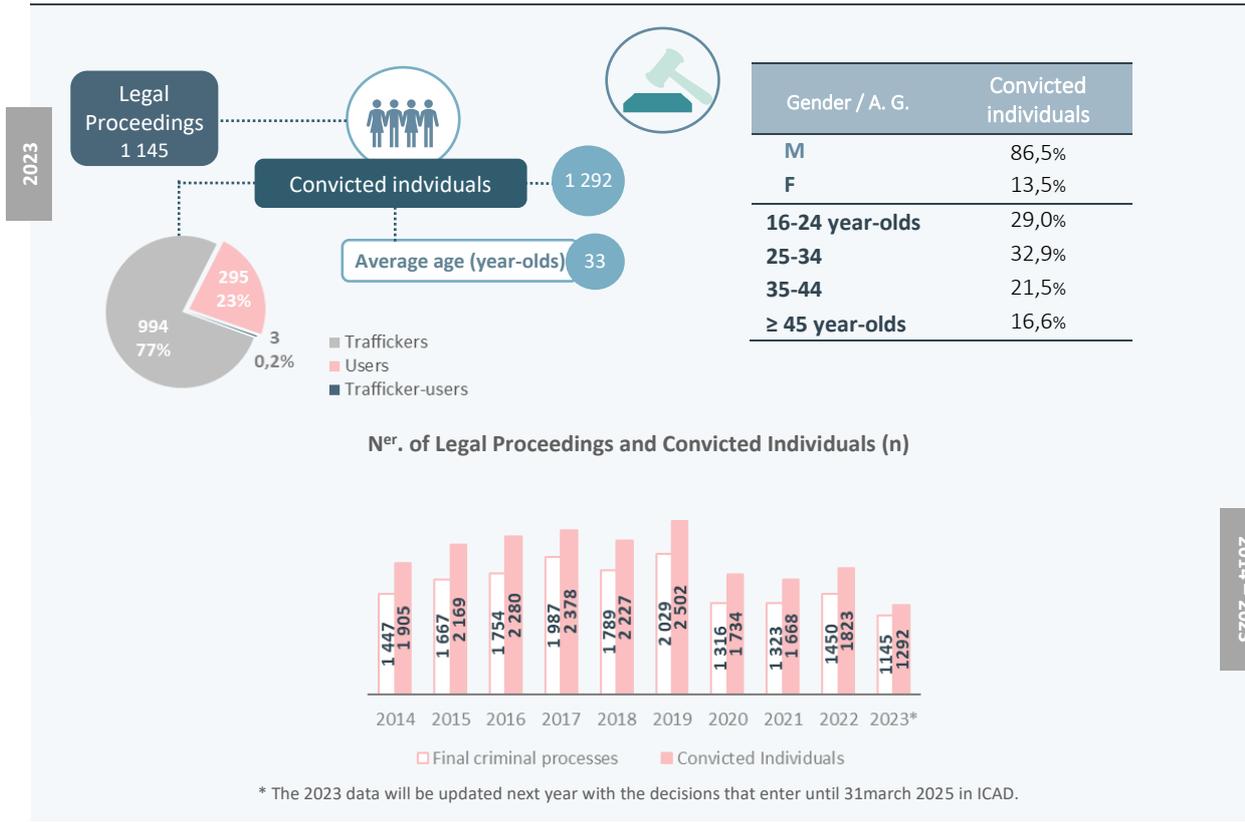
⁹ The data presented refers to "retail", according to EUDA criteria, except for cannabis, since 2016, and ecstasy (tablets.), since 2021, where the figures refer to all the samples analysed no matter the market level.

¹⁰ Lack of data: ecstasy (tablets) in 2013-2015 and 2020-2021.

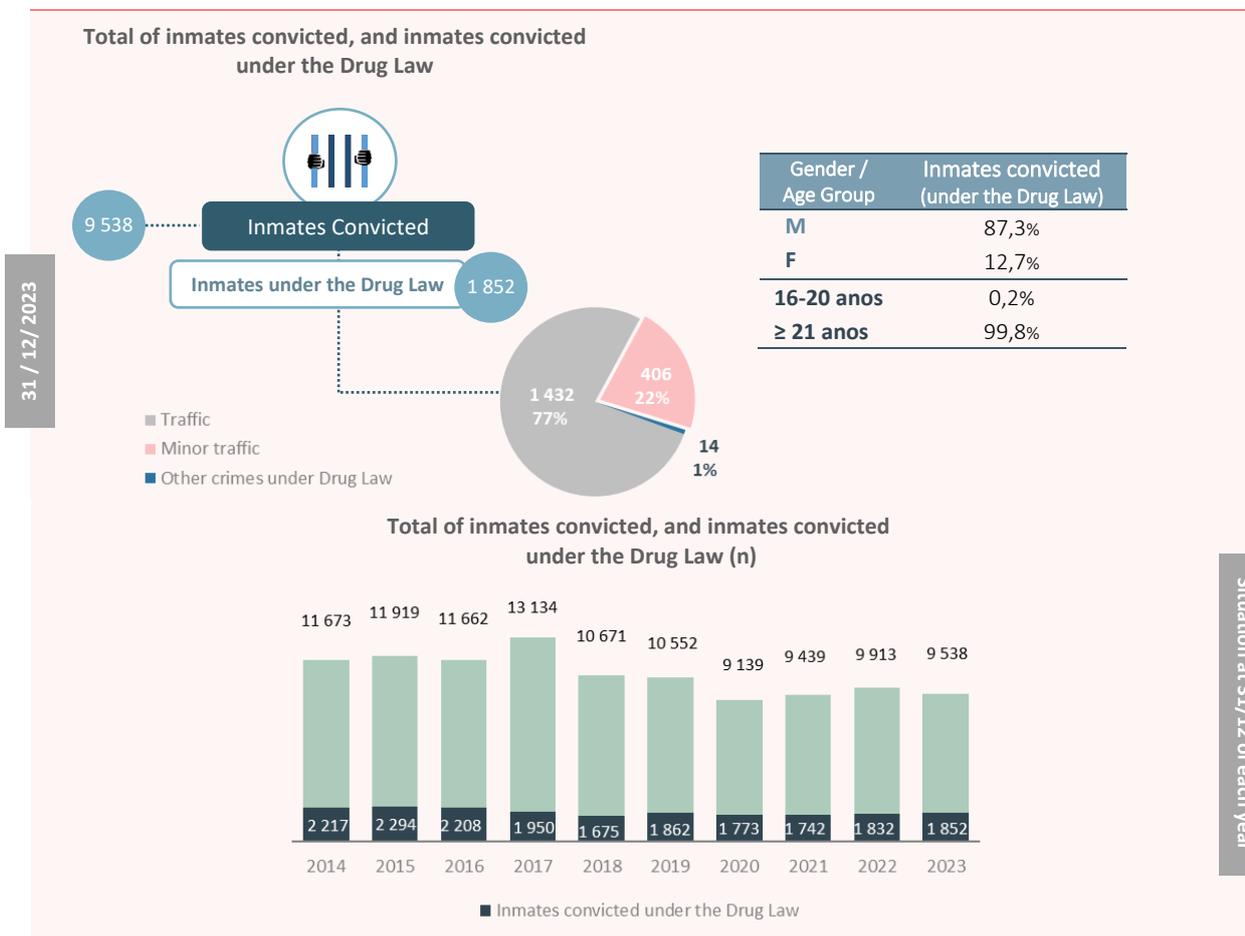
¹¹ Lack of data: ecstasy (gr) in 2013-2015.

¹² Data does not reflect all the results obtained at national level, as it does not integrate the data of one police force between July 2017 and December 2021.

Court Decisions (Under the Drug Law) [12] [13]



Inmates Convicted (Under the Drug Law) [12] [13]



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Author: Institute on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies, P.I. / Department of Research, Monitoring and Communication / Statistics and Research Unit

Coordination: Carla Ribeiro (UEI)

Composition: Catarina Guerreiro and Liliana Ferreira (UEI)

Cover: Filipa Cunha (GTSI)

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