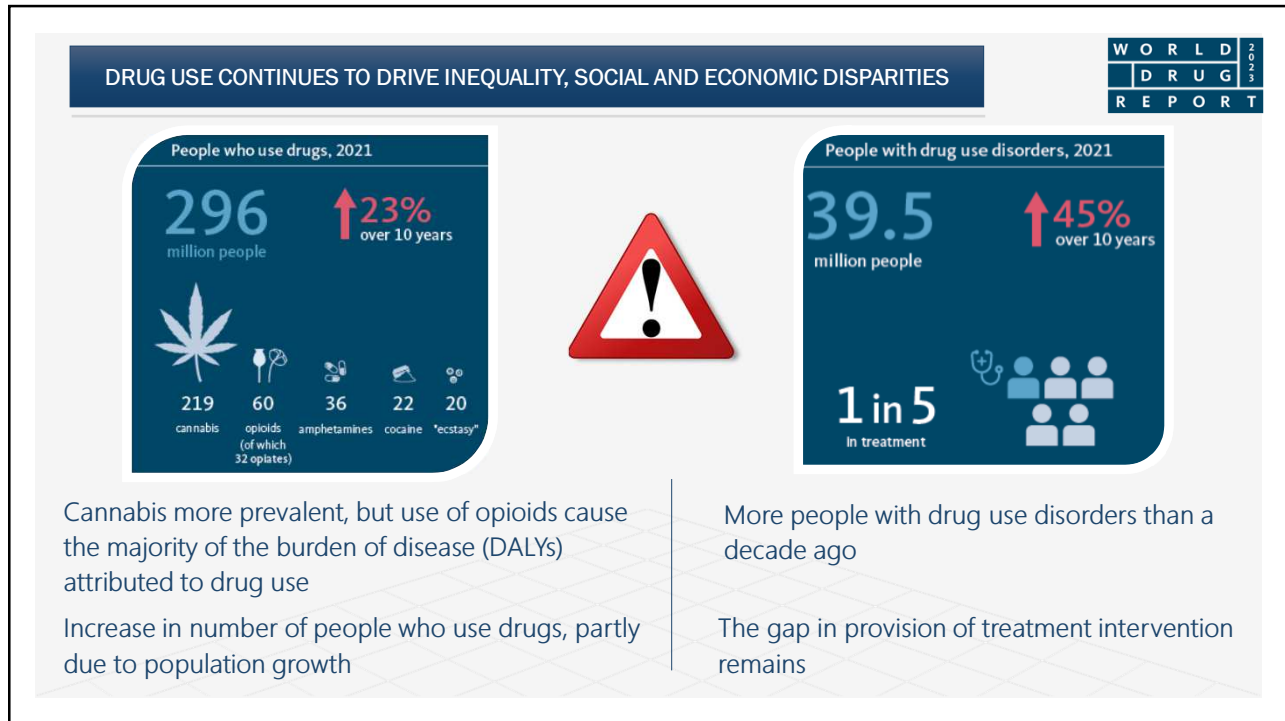




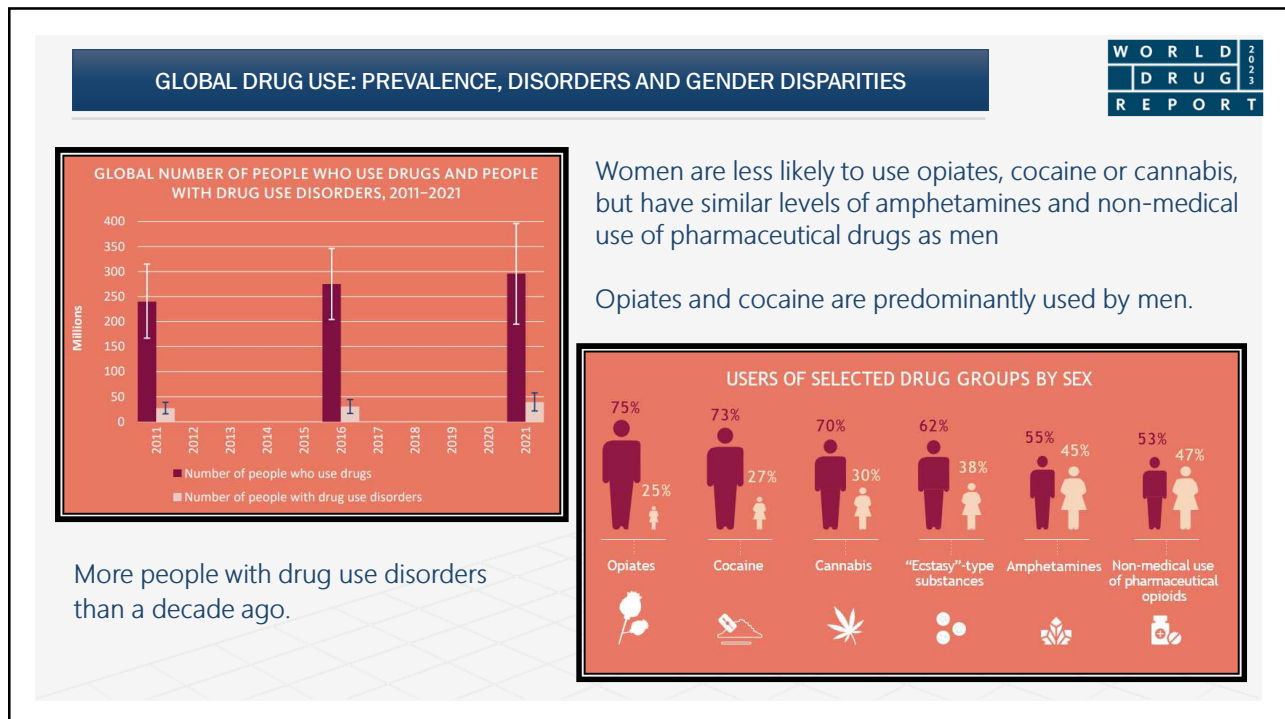
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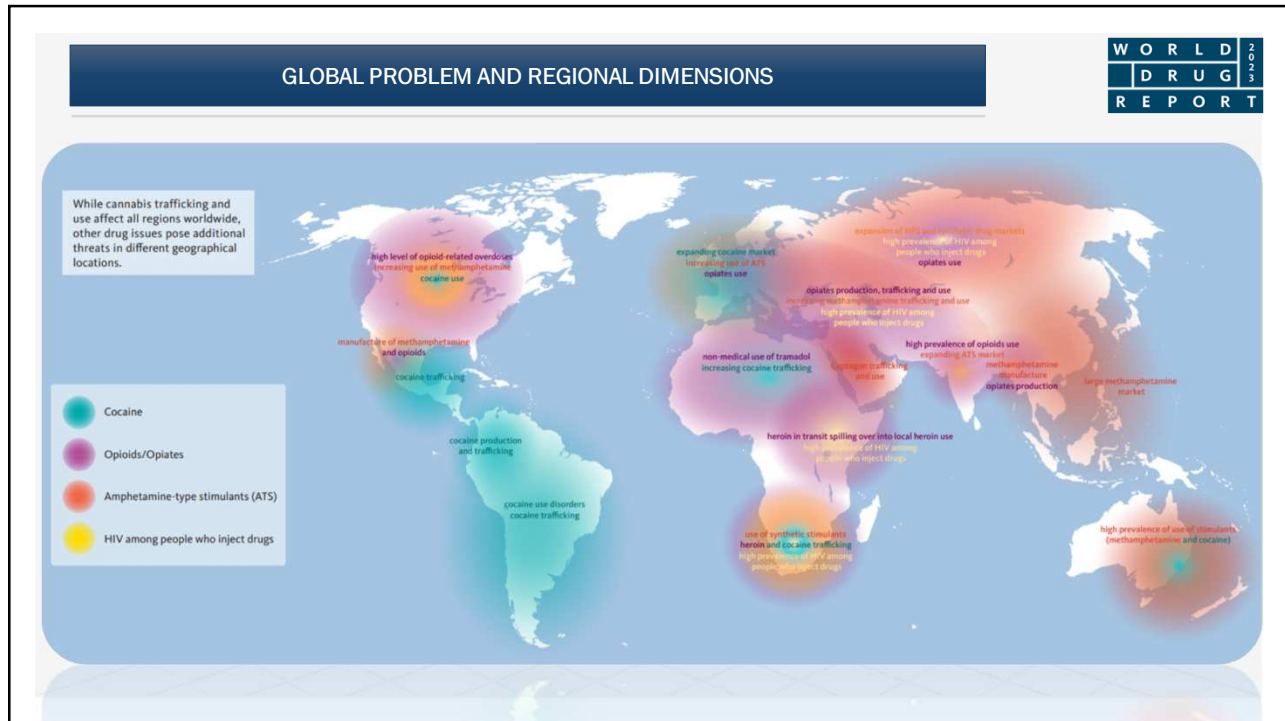


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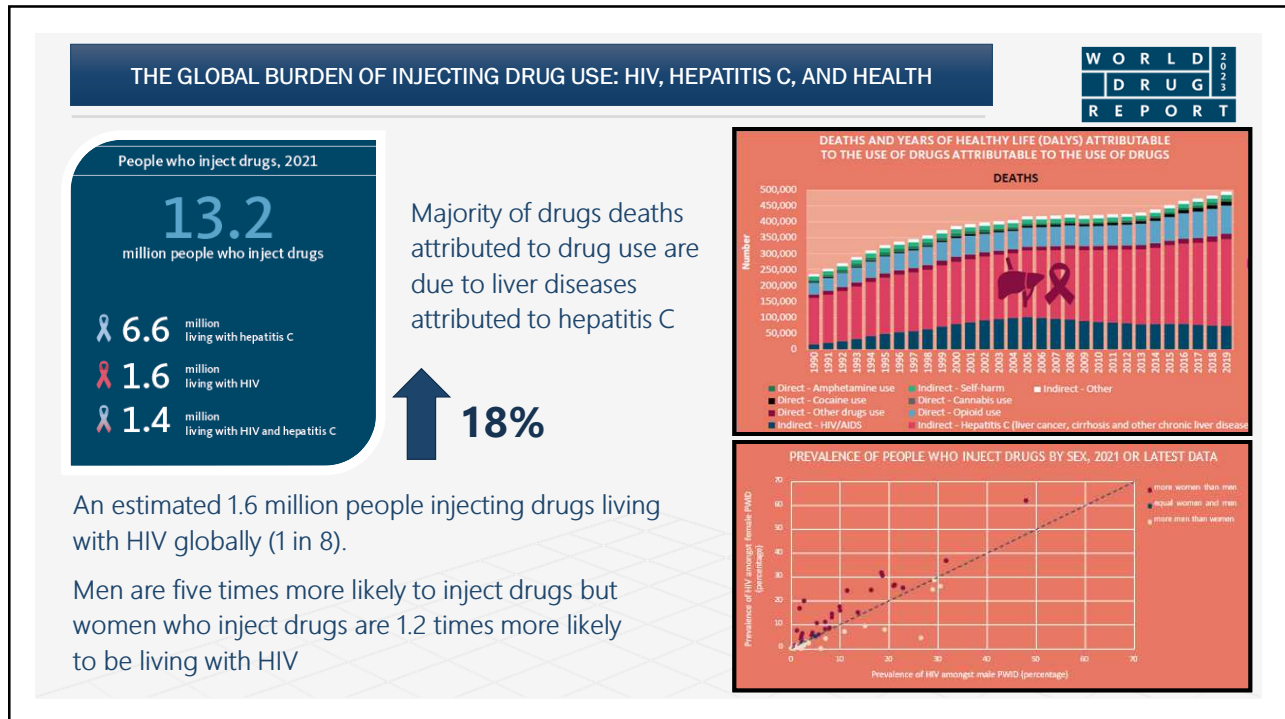


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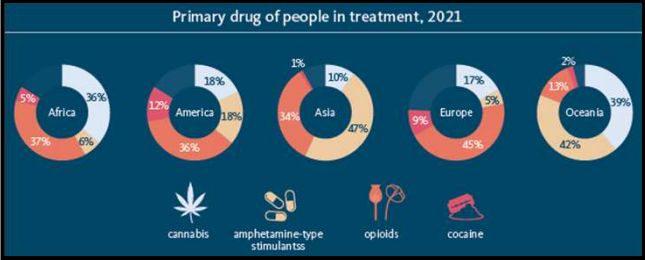


6

BARRIERS TO TREATMENT REMAIN, ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN



Primary drug of people in treatment, 2021



cannabis
 amphetamine-type stimulants
 opioids
 cocaine

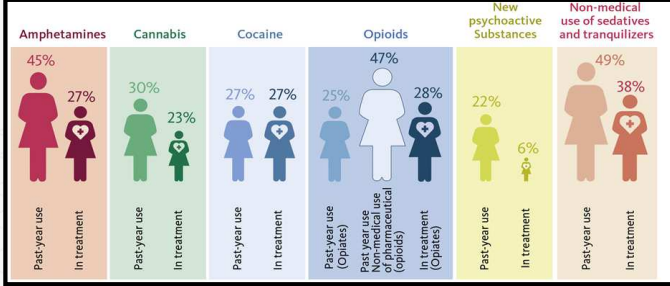
Cannabis and opioids are the two main drugs reported among people in treatment

Methamphetamine predominate treatment demand in Asia and Oceania

The COVID-19 pandemic has worsened the treatment gap


Only 1 in 5 people with drug use disorders is in drug treatment (nearly 7 million people)

Women continue to be underrepresented in drug treatment

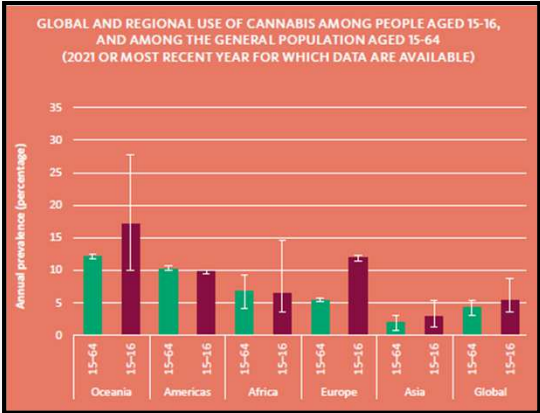


7

YOUNG PEOPLE, MORE VULNERABLE TO DRUG USE AND DRUG USE DISORDERS



GLOBAL AND REGIONAL USE OF CANNABIS AMONG PEOPLE AGED 15-16, AND AMONG THE GENERAL POPULATION AGED 15-64 (2021 OR MOST RECENT YEAR FOR WHICH DATA ARE AVAILABLE)



People under 25 years old in treatment, 2021

- South America 52%
- Central America and the Caribbean 37%
- Eastern and South-Eastern Europe 34%
- Australia and New Zealand 34%
- Africa 27%
- North America 17%
- Asia 16%
- Western and Central Europe 14%

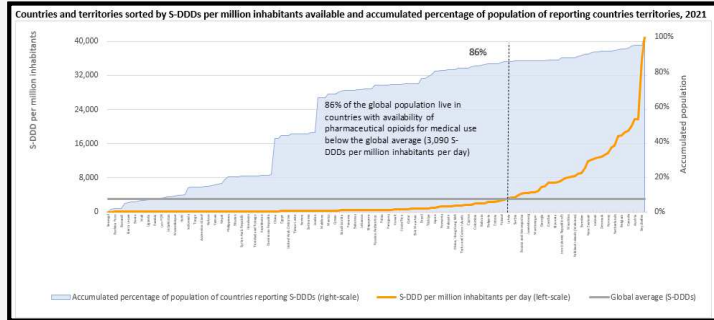
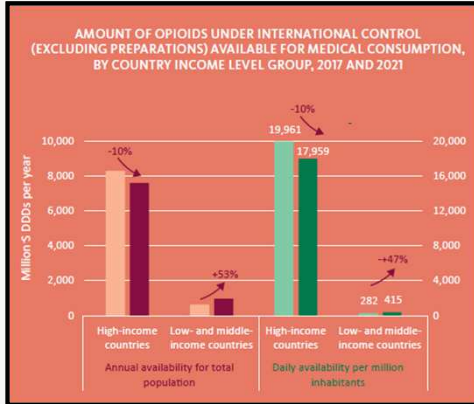
Adolescents have higher rates of use of cannabis than adults.

Early initiation of drug use can lead to faster dependence development and other issues in adulthood.

Young people in many regions account for a major proportion of people in treatment for drug use disorders.

8

LARGE INEQUALITIES IN ACCESS TO CONTROLLED MEDICINES, ESPECIALLY OPIOIDS



There has been an increase in availability of opioids in low and middle income countries but disparities in availability and access still remain

86% of the world's population lacks adequate access to pharmaceutical opioids

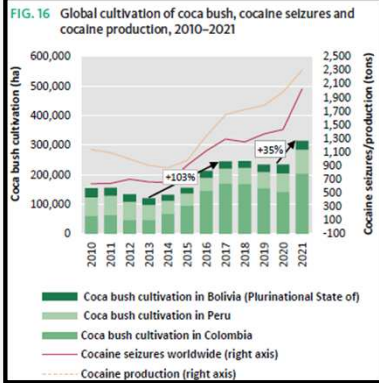
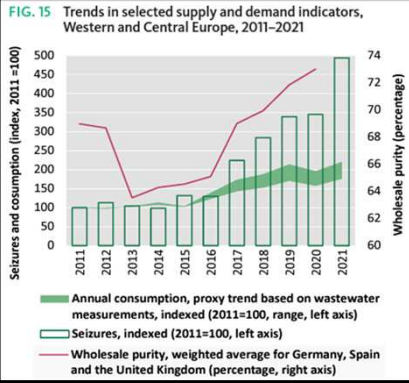
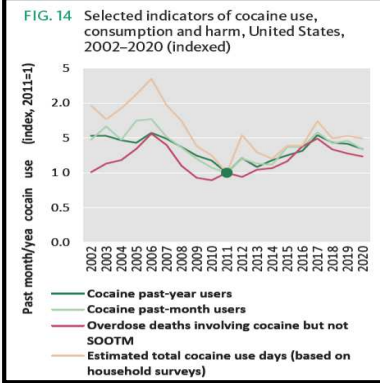
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Developments by kinds of substances

10

THE GLOBAL COCAINE SURGE: RISING SUPPLY AND DEMAND WORLDWIDE

WORLD
DRUG
REPORT

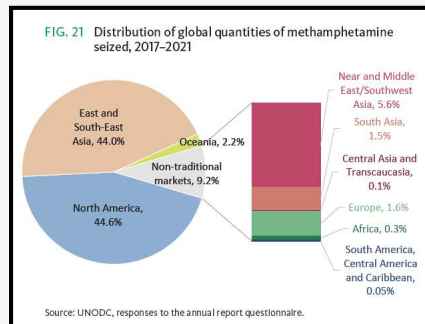
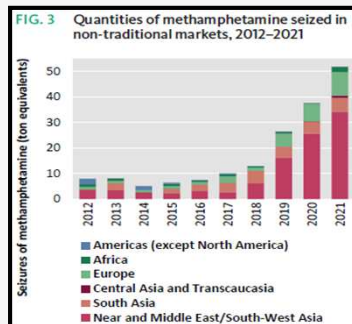
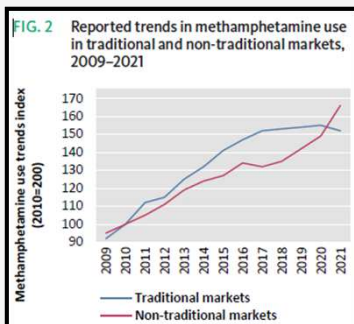


Coca bush cultivation and cocaine production have reached record highs (Fig. 16)
Population of cocaine users has been steadily growing due to global growth and prevalence rates
Cocaine markets in Africa, Asia, and Southeastern Europe (Fig. 15) are experiencing rapid growth

11

METHAMPHETAMINE USE HIGH IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA BUT EXPANDING TO OTHER REGIONS

WORLD
DRUG
REPORT



East and South-East Asia, along with North America, dominate the global methamphetamine market (Fig.21), but non-traditional markets are rising (Fig. 2)
New clandestine labs of methamphetamine production in South-West Asia, South Asia, Africa, with Afghanistan emerging as a major producer (Fig. 3).
Trafficking routes extending to Oceania, Europe, and other regions.

12

USE OF OPIOIDS CONTINUES

W	O	R	L	D
D	R	U	G	2
R	E	P	O	3

Number of opioid users and proportion of opiate users thereof in regions and selected subregions, 2021 or the most recent year for which data are available

More than half of people who use opioids are in Asia

Use in West Central and North Africa driven by non-medical use of Tramadol

Source: UNODC, responses to the annual report questionnaire.

Opioids most used for non-medical purposes, by country, 2021 or the most recent year for which data are available

Opioid crisis in North America driven by fentanyl and fentanyl analogues
Fentanyl found in 86% of opioid overdose cases in Canada.

13

THE IMPACT OF USE OF OPIOIDS GLOBALLY

W	O	R	L	D
D	R	U	G	2
R	E	P	O	3

NUMBER OF OVERDOSE DEATHS INVOLVING OPIOIDS, UNITED STATES, 1999-2021

Over 80,000 opioid overdose deaths in the US in 2021.

Synthetic opioids, mainly fentanyl, responsible for most deaths.

PEOPLE IN TREATMENT FOR TRAMADOL AND HEROIN USE DISORDERS IN THE COUNTRIES OF WEST AFRICA, 2016-2019

High numbers of people seeking treatment for tramadol use disorders in various regions.

14

THE GLOBAL EXPANSION OF KETAMINE TRAFFICKING AND NON-MEDICAL USE

W	O	R	L	D
D	R	U	G	
R	E	P	O	R

- Ketamine has been prevalent in East and South-East Asia
- Traffickers are promoting ketamine through mixtures with other unknown ingredients, targeting the illicit market.
- Ketamine could become a mainstream drug in some population groups

FIG. 5 Quantities of ketamine and phencyclidine-type substances seized worldwide by subregion, 2001–2021

Year	East and South-East Asia	Rest of the world
2001	0	0
2002	0	0
2003	0	0
2004	0	0
2005	0	0
2006	0	0
2007	0	0
2008	0	0
2009	0	0
2010	0	0
2011	0	0
2012	0	0
2013	0	0
2014	0	0
2015	0	0
2016	0	0
2017	0	0
2018	0	0
2019	0	0
2020	0	0
2021	0	0

15

THE GLOBAL EXPANSION OF KETAMINE TRAFFICKING AND NON-MEDICAL USE

W	O	R	L	D
D	R	U	G	
R	E	P	O	R

FIG. 8 Use of ketamine, most recent data from population surveys, 2013–2021

Country (Year)	Lifetime prevalence	Past-year prevalence
China (2016)	4.2	4.2
United Kingdom (England and Wales) (2021)	3.2	3.2
Australia (2019)	2.8	2.8
Netherlands (Kingdom of the) (2020)	1.8	1.8
United States (2019)	1.2	1.2
Romania (2013)	1.0	1.0
Denmark (2020)	0.8	0.8
Spain (2020)	0.7	0.7
Argentina (2017)	0.6	0.6
Uruguay (2018)	0.5	0.5
Czechia (2017)	0.4	0.4
El Salvador (2014)	0.3	0.3
Thailand (2019)	0.2	0.2
Croatia (2019)	0.1	0.1
Israel (2016)	0.1	0.1
Chile (2020)	0.1	0.1
Colombia (2019)	0.1	0.1
Costa Rica (2015)	0.1	0.1
Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (2016)	0.1	0.1
Indonesia (2015)	0.1	0.1

- Ketamine manufacture and trafficking have expanded to Western Europe, the Middle East, South Asia, North Africa, and Oceania.
- Chronic use is associated with somatic and cognitive harms.

16

ILLEGAL DRUG SUPPLY INNOVATIONS AND SYNTHETIC DRUGS

W O R L D
 D R U G
 R E P O R T 2023

Unlike plant-based drugs, require cheap chemical inputs and can be easily sourced

Synthetic drugs have no fixed geography and shorter production times

LABOUR SUPPLY FOR THE SUPPLY CHAINS OF DRUGS OF NATURAL AND SYNTHETIC ORIGIN

Laboratories detected in Central Asia, South-East Asia, the Near and Middle East, Africa, Europe, and North America. Consumers face challenges due to the unknown pharmacology and harms of synthetic drugs

17

MARKET OF NPS INCREASED IN 2021 AFTER SEVERAL YEARS OF STABILIZATION

W O R L D
 D R U G
 R E P O R T 2023

...NPS ON THE GLOBAL MARKET

162

618

NPS on the market in 2021...

... of which 87 were newly identified NPS

2015

2021

■ class hallucinogens ■ synthetic cannabinoids
 ■ stimulants ■ synthetic opioids
 ■ other drugs

An increasing group of

- Synthetic cannabinoid agonist receptors (SCARs)
- Synthetic (research) opioids

Central Asia, Eastern Europe, and some other regions have seen a significant use of NPS.

18

Some interesting deep dives

19

ONLINE WORLD DRUG REPORT 2023
LATEST DATA AND TREND ANALYSIS

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Online Segment of the 2023 World Drug Report

Annotations:

- Demand/supply focus:** Points to the 'SUBJECT' filter menu.
- Filter by region:** Points to the 'REGION' filter menu.
- Specific topics:** Points to the 'TOPICS' filter menu.
- Free text search:** Points to the search bar.
- Filter by drug type:** Points to the 'DRUG TYPE' filter menu.

UNODC Research

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CONTEMPORARY ISSUES ON DRUGS

W	O	R	L	D
D	R	U	G	2
R	E	P	O	0
				3

01 THE SYNTHETIC DRUG PHENOMENON

02 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS INVOLVING PSYCHEDELICS

03 HERBAL CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL USE: A SPECTRUM OF REGULATORY APPROACHES

04 THE NEXUS BETWEEN DRUGS AND CRIMES
The nexus between drugs and crimes that affect the environment and convergent crime in the Amazon Basin

05 SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

06 SERVICE INNOVATIONS DURING COVID-19

07 USE OF THE DARK WEB AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR DRUG SUPPLY

08 DEVELOPMENTS AND EMERGING TRENDS IN SELECTED DRUG MARKETS:

- > New trends in cannabis products
- > Ketamine – a marginal or a mainstream drug?
- > The global cocaine market: strong acceleration on the back of major turning point
- > Emerging trends in methamphetamine supply: expansion to non-traditional markets
- > South Asia: a major opiate market that appears to be expanding
- > Conflicts and drug supply: Ukraine, Yemen and the Sahel

21

FRAMEWORKS FOR MEDICAL USE OF CONTROLLED DRUGS

1. HERBAL CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL USE: A SPECTRUM OF REGULATORY APPROACHES

W	O	R	L	D
D	R	U	G	2
R	E	P	O	0
				3

PHARMACEUTICAL AND CANNABIS-BASED PRODUCTS					
	Medical products				
 Medical products with marketing authorization	Nabilone: Oral capsule containing synthetic cannabinoid similar to THC	Dronabinol: Oral capsule or solution containing synthetic THC	Nabiximols: Containing balanced quantities of THC and CBD	Epidiolex: (cannabidiol) Plant-derived CBD oral solution	Many countries have regulated and allowed the medical use of cannabinoid pharmaceutical as any other pharmaceutical product with marketing authorization with clearly determined conditions and recommendations on dosage and conditions for use
 Cannabis-based products	Standardized cannabis-based medical products	Magistral preparations	Cannabis-based products with unspecified composition	Raw cannabis	
Variable THC/CBD composition					Approaches to regulating cannabis-based products for medical use vary widely between countries

In the last decade, political, legislative, and judicial processes have advanced efforts to allow the use of cannabis for medicinal purposes.

The efficacy of cannabis use in the treatment of certain conditions remains moderate, insufficient or inconclusive.

COUNTRIES THAT HAVE PROVISIONS FOR MEDICAL USE OF CANNABIS, 2021

As of 2021, 64 countries had provisions in their national legislation, or had developed guidelines, allowing the medical use of cannabinoid pharmaceutical preparations and/or cannabis-based products for a range of medical conditions

Out of the 64 countries, 34 countries allow the use of cannabis-based products for the treatment of a range of medical conditions

Region	Yes	No (High confidence)	No (Low confidence)	No data available
Africa	9	42	3	
Americas	15	2	11	7
Asia	6	4	30	8
Europe	32	5	8	2
Oceania	2	13		1

22

FRAMEWORKS FOR MEDICAL USE OF CONTROLLED DRUGS

2. DEVELOPMENTS IN PSYCHEDELICS POLICY AND RESEARCH RAISE NEW QUESTIONS

W	O	R	L	D
D	R	U	G	
R	E	P	O	R

Three streams

- Clinical trials of psychedelic assisted psychotherapy
- Traditional, indigenous rituals, and tourism
- Self medication, micro-dosing – spirituality, mindfulness, wellbeing
- Non-medical use of ketamine, MDMA, LSD

Developments, led by commercial interests in advocacy groups in some jurisdictions unprecedented

Regulatory approaches enduring balance

Prioritizing public health challenge in the face of growing commercial interest in developing and profiting from new, legal drug markets same as cannabis

Perception of no harm and safety could further encourage unsupervised non-medical use

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SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS (1 of 2)

W	O	R	L	D
D	R	U	G	
R	E	P	O	R

FIG. 1 People forcibly displaced, 2012–2022

The majority of people who are displaced by humanitarian emergencies are hosted in **low- and middle-income** countries

FIG. 3 Global distribution of forcibly displaced people, by age group and sex, 2021

More than **100 million people** displaced by humanitarian emergencies in 2022

FIG. 2 Distribution of forcibly displaced people, by income level of host country, end of 2021

Adolescents displaced without their families are susceptible to higher drug use

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SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS (2 of 2)

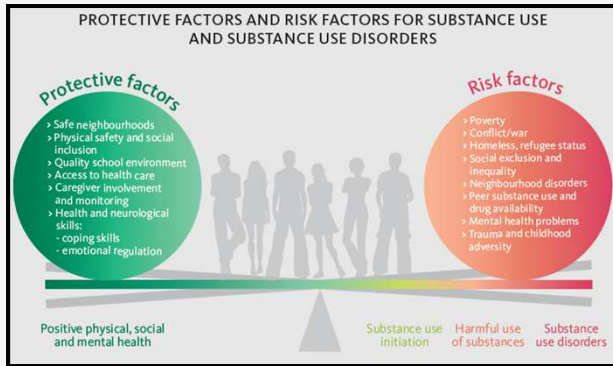
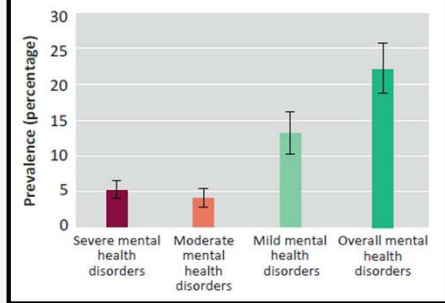


FIG. 4 Extent of mental health disorders among population affected by conflict, 2019

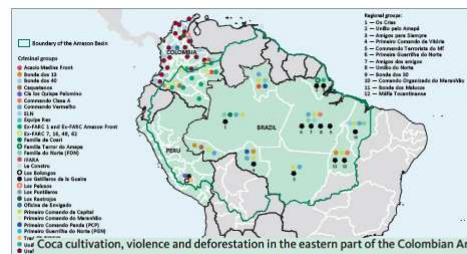


The presence of risk factors and the absence of protective factors make a person vulnerable to initiation of substance use and progression to substance use disorders
 Displaced people experience an elevated level of vulnerability to substance use disorders
 Availability and accessibility of mental health services, including drug use disorder services, remain a challenge for displaced people.

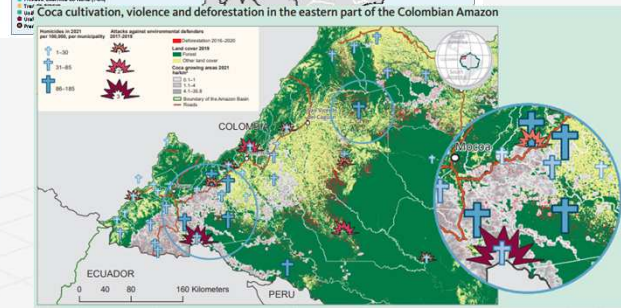
ILLICIT DRUG ECONOMIES, CONVERGING CRIMES AND CONFLICT




MAP 10 Transnational ecosystem of drug trafficking groups in the Amazon Basin

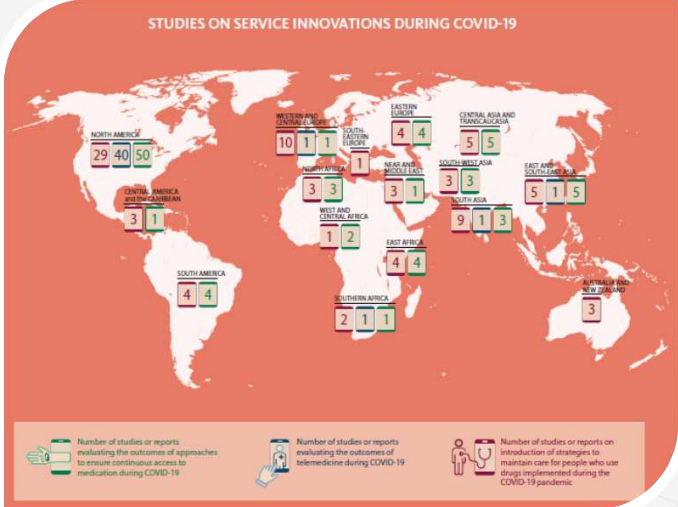


Drug cultivation, trafficking, environmental and related crimes rise in Amazon Basin due to resource abundance, corruption, informality, inequality, and unemployment.




COVID-19: REDUCED TREATMENT ACCESS, BUT PROMISING INNOVATIONS







STUDIES ON SERVICE INNOVATIONS DURING COVID-19



Number of studies or reports evaluating the outcomes of approaches to ensure continuous access to medication during COVID-19



Number of studies or reports evaluating the outcomes of telemedicine during COVID-19



Number of studies or reports on introduction of strategies to maintain care for people who use drugs implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic

Decline in people in drug treatment during and after the COVID-19 pandemic

But innovations in drug services (telemedicine, take-home dosages) improved access for certain population groups

Promising results of continuity

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Thank you!!!

Ms. Giovanna Campello

Chief, Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section

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