# DRUGS?

How are **AMPHETAMINES** used in Portugal





Online self-completion survey, an initiative of the European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction, aimed at drug users aged 18 or over, applied between March and May 2021, in around 30 European countries, including Portugal, through SICAD - General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies.



Its objective is to deepen the knowledge about the patterns of use of illicit drugs, aiming at the better adequacy of public policies.



192 amphetamine users participated in this survey in Portugal. It is important to notice that, although this sample contributes to further the knowledge on amphetamines patterns of consumption in Portugal, the results must be regarded on the basis of the sample dimension.

### SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC TRAITS OF THE PORTUGUESE SAMPLE OF AMPHETAMINES USERS

- ✓ 62% are men, 32% women (n=192), 61% from male gender, 36% female, 1% from non-binary gender (n=190).
- √ 51% with 18-24 years, 33% with 25-34 years, 10% with 35-44 years, 4% with 45-54 years, 2% with 55-64 years (n=192).
- 29% with higher education (university) completed (+30% attending), 28% with secondary education completed (+5% attending), remaining with lower school education (n=126).
- ✓ 37% employed full-time (+ 5% part-time), 5% self-employed full-time (+2% part-time), 28% full-time students (+9% working-students), remaining non-employed (n=125).
- 44% living with parents, 14% living in couple without children at home (+3% with children), 13% living alone, 21% sharing house with peers, colleagues, remaining other types of situations (n=126).
- 41% with an average income, after tax, of less than 500€/month, 37% equal or higher than 500€ but lower than 1000€, 17% equal or higher than 1000€ but lower than 2000€, remaining with 2000€ or more (n=139).
- √ 72% living in the city, 16% in a town and remaining in the village/countryside (n=126).
- 45% living in Lisboa e Vale do Tejo; 27% in Norte; 23% in Centro; 2% in Algarve; 2% in Alentejo; 1% in Madeira (n=124)

Citation: SICAD (2022). Drugs - How are amphetamines used in Portugal? Results from the European Web Survey on Drugs - Patterns of Consumption Portugal 2021. Available at sicad.pt.

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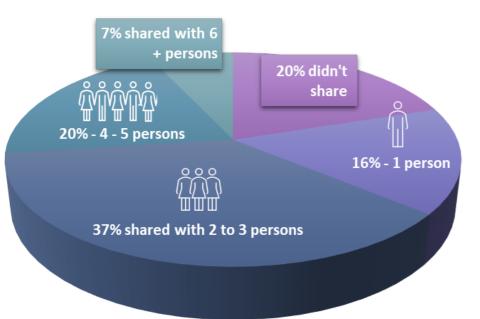
How are **AMPHETAMINES** used in Portugal

## Forms of amphetamines usually used

(n=192)

POWDER/CRYSTAL (68%)

**TABLETS/PILLS (45%)** 



### Usual form of consumption

(n=192)

**NASAL SNORTING (63%)** 

SWALLOW (alone/in a drink) (55%)

**DISSOLVE IN THE MOUTH (12%)** 

**SMOKE IN PIPES (3%)** 

**CHASE THE DRAGON (FOIL) (3%)** 

**INJECTION (2%)** 

Nr of persons with which amphetamines were shared the last time it were used

(n=133)

## **MOTIVES TO USE AMPHETAMINES**



To get high/for fun (77%)



To socialize (37%)



To enhance performance (school/work/sport/etc.) (20%)



To reduce stress/relax (20%)



Out of curiosity/to experiment (16%)



To treat depression/anxiety (11%)



To improve sleep (3%)



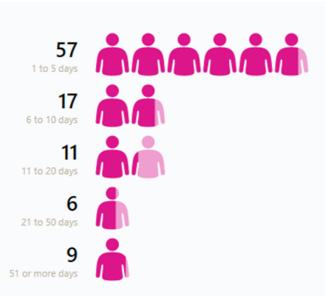
To reduce pain/inflammations (2%)

(n=192)



Frequency (nr of days) of consumption in the last 12 months (%)

(n=189)



Episodic consumption: 57% used in 1 to 5 days in the last 12 months



Nr of tablets/pills in a typical day

(n=79)

1 tablet/day (average)

Grams of powder/crystal in a typical day

(n=116)

0,7 grams/day (average)