



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

European Drug Report

Trends and Developments

9 June 2021

10.00 Lisbon | 11.00 Brussels



European Drug Report 2021

Trends and Developments

detailed analysis of the drug situation in Europe
(24 languages)



Statistical Bulletin

full data and methods



EDR 2021: Drug market resilient to COVID-19 disruption



EDR 2021: patterns of use are becoming more complex

Availability: wider selection of substances

Polydrug use: can intensify harms

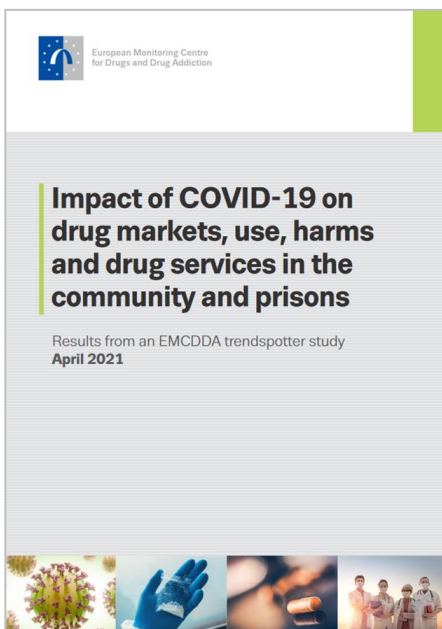
Benzodiazepines: increase overdose risks

Cannabis: potent products, new forms and ways of consuming it



EDR 2021: impact of COVID-19

- More digitally-enabled drug market
- From nightlife to homelife
- Benzodiazepines raise concerns



EDR 2021: Organised crime groups intensify drug production

370 laboratories dismantled in 2019:

Heroin	Cocaine
Amphetamine	Methamphetamine
MDMA	GHB
NPS	



EDR 2021: drugs of high potency or purity create serious public health risks

Cannabis resin: average THC content 20-28%

Cocaine: purity continues to increase

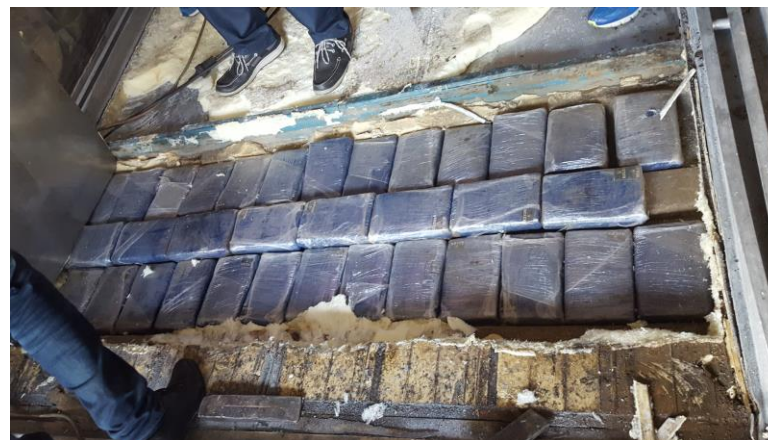
MDMA: increased tablet content and powder purity; products with hazardous levels



EDR 2021: large drug shipments continue to be intercepted

Cocaine: 213 tonnes seized in the EU in 2019

Heroin: 7.9 tonnes seized in the EU in 2019, Turkey seized 20 tonnes



EDR 2021: vigilance needed to detect any increased use and harms

HCV: antibody prevalence in excess of 50 % in 7 of 15 countries with national data

Drug-induced deaths: driven by opioids and other drugs

5 784 overdose deaths involving illicit drugs in 2019 in Europe



New benzodiazepines: increasing availability on Europe's drug market

New benzodiazepines: produced by organised crime groups

Health risks: poisonings and deaths



EDR 2021: concluding remarks

- Drug markets resilient to COVID-19 disruption
- Availability of substances remains high
- High potency or purity
- Patterns of use becoming more complex
- Implications of polydrug use
- Variety of people experiencing drug problems
- As drug problems evolve, our responses must too
- EU Drugs Strategy and Action Plan (2021-25)





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