



UK general population surveys: recent findings & methods

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General population surveys

■ Most recent surveys

- England & Wales – 2010/11 British Crime Survey
- Scotland – 2010/11 Scottish Crime & Justice Survey
- N Ireland – 2010/11 Drug Prevalence Survey

■ Next planned/underway

- England & Wales – 2011/12 Crime Survey for England & Wales
- Scotland – 2012/13 Scottish Crime & Justice Survey
- N Ireland – 2014/15? Drug Prevalence Survey

Some headline findings – 2010/11 surveys

LYP	England & Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland**
Cannabis	6.6	7.7	5.1
Cocaine	2.5	2.6	1.5
Ecstasy	1.6	1.9	1.1
Any drug	8.6	9.1	6.6
Mephedrone	1.4	0.7*	1.1

* 16 + years

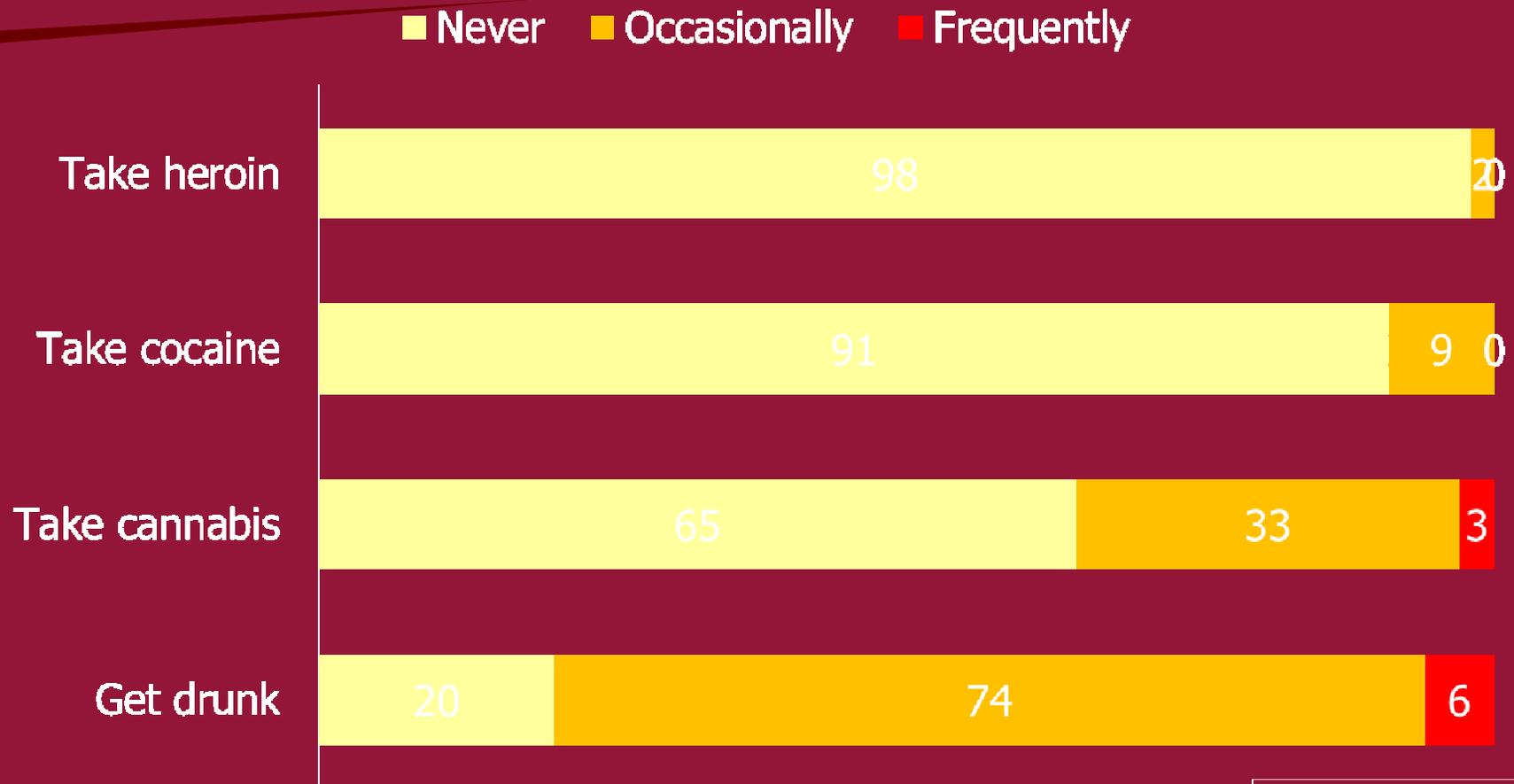
** 16-65 years

Emerging drugs – CSEW 10/11

LYP	All 16-59 yrs	16-24 yrs	25-59 yrs
Spice etc	0.2	0.4	0.1
BZP	0.1	0.2	0.0
GBL/GHB	0.0	0.1	0.0
Khat	0.2	0.3	0.1
Mephedrone	1.4	4.4	0.6
<i>Unweighted N</i>	<i>27,450</i>	<i>3,667</i>	<i>23,783</i>

91% of mephedrone users had used other drugs in past year.

Acceptability of substance use CSEW 10/11



Source of drugs – CSEW 10/11

- Where bought or given drugs last time took drugs (*Unweighted N = 1,776*)
 - At someone else's home = 38.4%
 - At home = 20.8%
 - At a club, party or rave = 11.7%
 - On street, in park, other outdoor area = 9.5%
 - Somewhere else = 9.5%
 - At a bar or pub = 9.1%
 - At school, college, university or work = 1.0%

Source of drugs (2)

- Who/where drugs obtained from last time took drugs (*Unweighted N = 1,624*)
 - From a friend/family member = 53.7%
 - Bought from a contact/dealer = 21.8%
 - Given by someone else you know = 21.4%
 - Given by a stranger = 2.5%
 - Bought on the internet = 0.7%

New questions SCJS 10/11

- Signs of dependency among last month users (*drug they used most often in the last month*)
 - 24.4% reported feeling dependent on the.
 - 29.7% said they had tried to cut down, but found they could not
 - 12.7% reported both feeling dependent and trying to cut down
- Compared to 2008/09 fewer reported finding it *very easy* to obtain the drug they most commonly used in the *last month*, more respondents reported that it was *fairly difficult*.

GPS - achievements and challenges

- New questions 2011-12 eg age 1st & last use; availability; source; polydrug + alcohol; drug driving
- New data on cannabis type, khat, spice, BZP, mephedrone
- New questions 2012/13 – salvia, nitrous oxide;
 - source & where taken; acceptability & safety; well-being
- Response rates holding up: 69% (76% household; 92% eligible individuals)

BUT

- Mostly don't use EMQ + Non-compliant age range
- Economic situation a threat? Sample size reduction.
Can we make more use of data (not all data analysed)?
- Handling increasing numbers of new drugs