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PREVALENCE OF SUBSTANCE USE IN CROATIA

RESULTS OF THE SECOND GENERAL POPULATION SURVEY

Lisabon, September 19-20th 2016

PROJECT DETAILS

- commissioned by:
  Government of the Republic of Croatia – Office for Combating Narcotic Drug Abuse
- funded by:
  Government of the Republic of Croatia – Office for Combating Narcotic Drug Abuse
  Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia
  Hrvatska lutrija (national lottery organisation)
- organization and fieldwork:
  Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar
- project manager:
  Renata Glavak Tkalić, PhD.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

To obtain data on prevalence and distribution of the consumption of different drugs:

- in the general population
- in relevant subgroups of the population (e.g. young people, urban areas)

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

SURVEY DESIGN

- research design
  - single cross-sectional design
- target population
  - residents of the Republic of Croatia aged between 15 and 64 years living in private households (year 2015 - 2 873 828 residents)
- data collection
  - face-to-face interviewing
- instruments
  - Croatian translation of *European Model Questionnaire* (EMQ)
    - licit drugs
    - ilicit drugs
    - attitudes and opinions regarding drugs and drug policies
    - relevant respondent attributes
  - questions on quality of life, lifestyle and health risks

VARIABLES ADDED IN 2015 SURVEY

- use of e-cigarettes
- EMQ Module for monitoring use of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) in General Adult Population

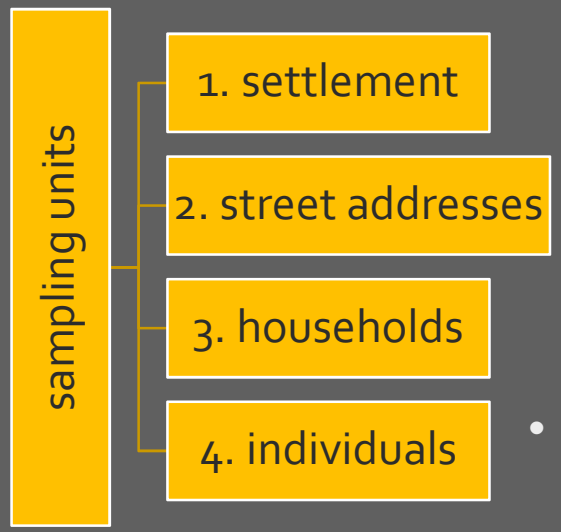
  + LTP, LYP and LMP of use of Galaxy, GHB / GBL, ketamine

- problematic marijuana use was measured using Severity of Dependence Scale – SDS (Gossop et al, 1995)
  - 5 items
  - example: During the past year did you think your use of cannabis was out of control?
  - 4-point scale: never/almost never (0); sometimes (1); often (2); always/nearly always (3)
  - Cronbach alpha = 0.77

SAMPLING FRAME AND PROCEDUCE

- there is no complete and accessible list of all Croatian residents thus as the sampling frame was used:
- national register of street addresses - Croatian households are listed, and the coverage rate is 100%

- stratified multistage random probability sample of the 15-64 population was used, with four stages in total



- individuals were randomly selected using the last birthday method

RESPONSE RATE – 56.2%

- in total 11410 addresses were selected - resulted in 5010 respondents

The interviews were not conducted:

- in 3909 selected addresses - due to refusal
- in 2491 selected addresses – due to frame error

  (household without a member aged between 15 and 64, vacant, derelict,demolished, not found property; property used only for business)

	GROSS SAMPLE	SUCCESSFUL INTERVIEWS	NOT PROPERLY FILLED QUESTIONNAIRES	NON-RESPONSE
N	11410	4992	18	3909
%	100.0	43.8	0.2	34.3

VALID SAMPLE gross sample – frame errors	RESPONSE	RESPONSE RATE (%) number of interviews x 100 / N – frame errors
8 919	5 010	56.2

WEIGHTING

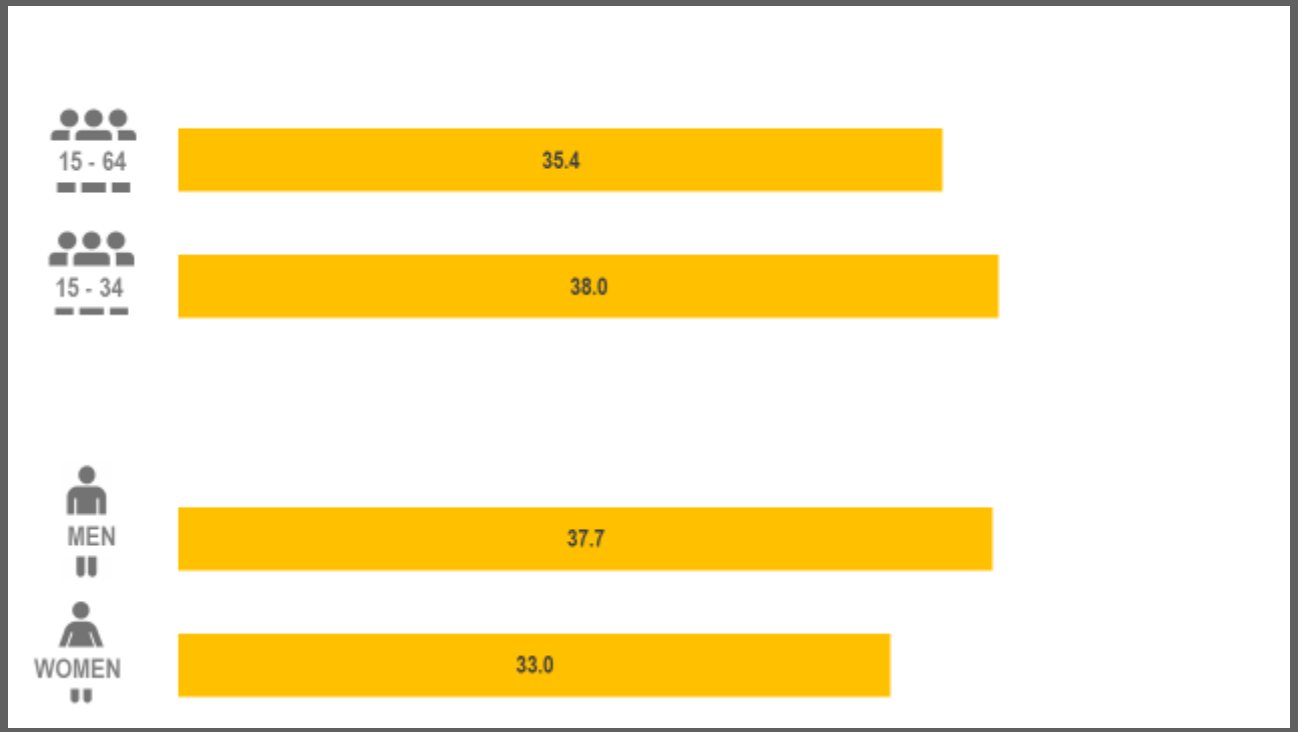
- data were weighted to represent the distribution of birth cohort and gender in the general population of Croatia

RESULTS

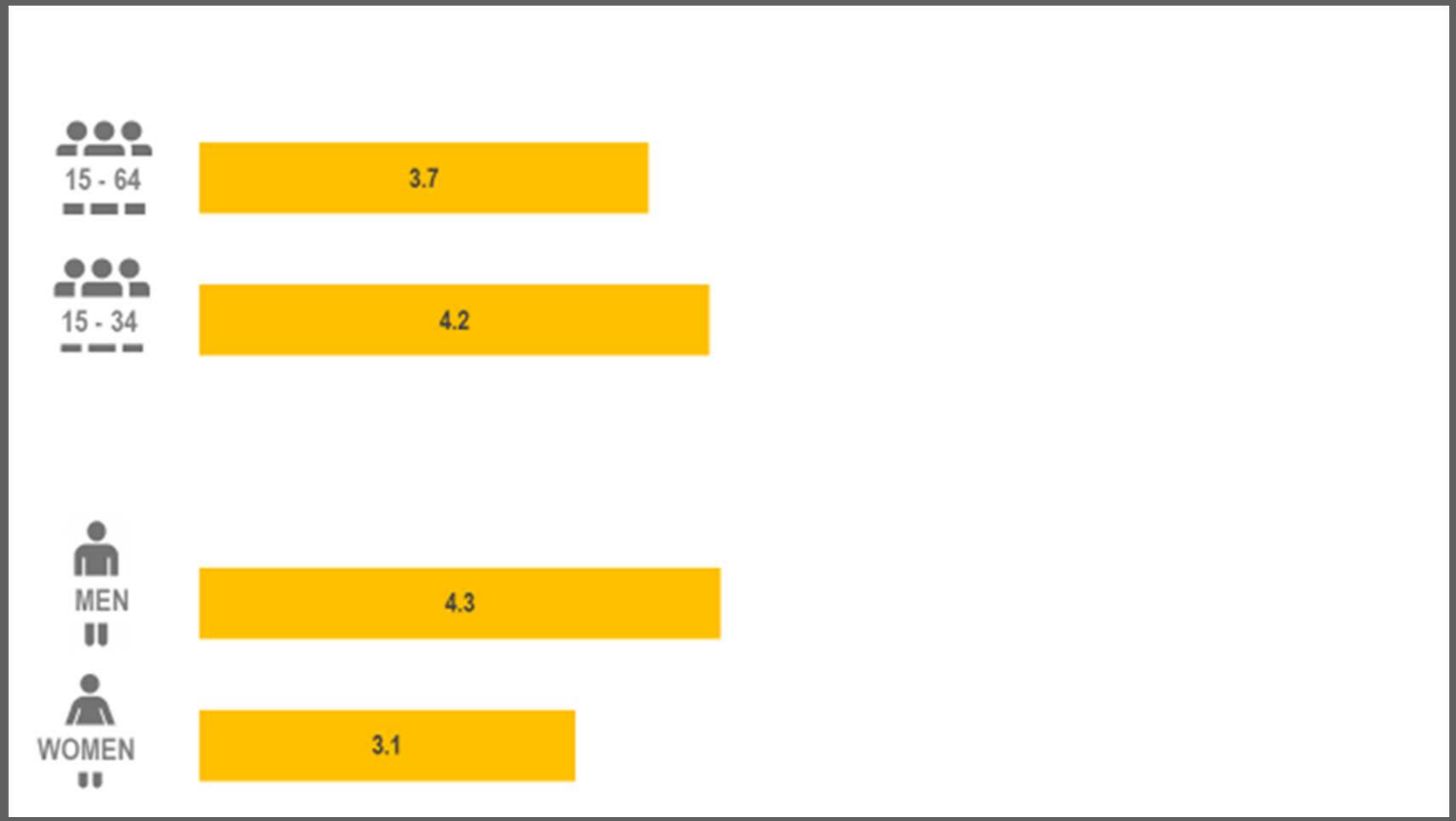
LICIT DRUGS

TOBACCO, ALCOHOL

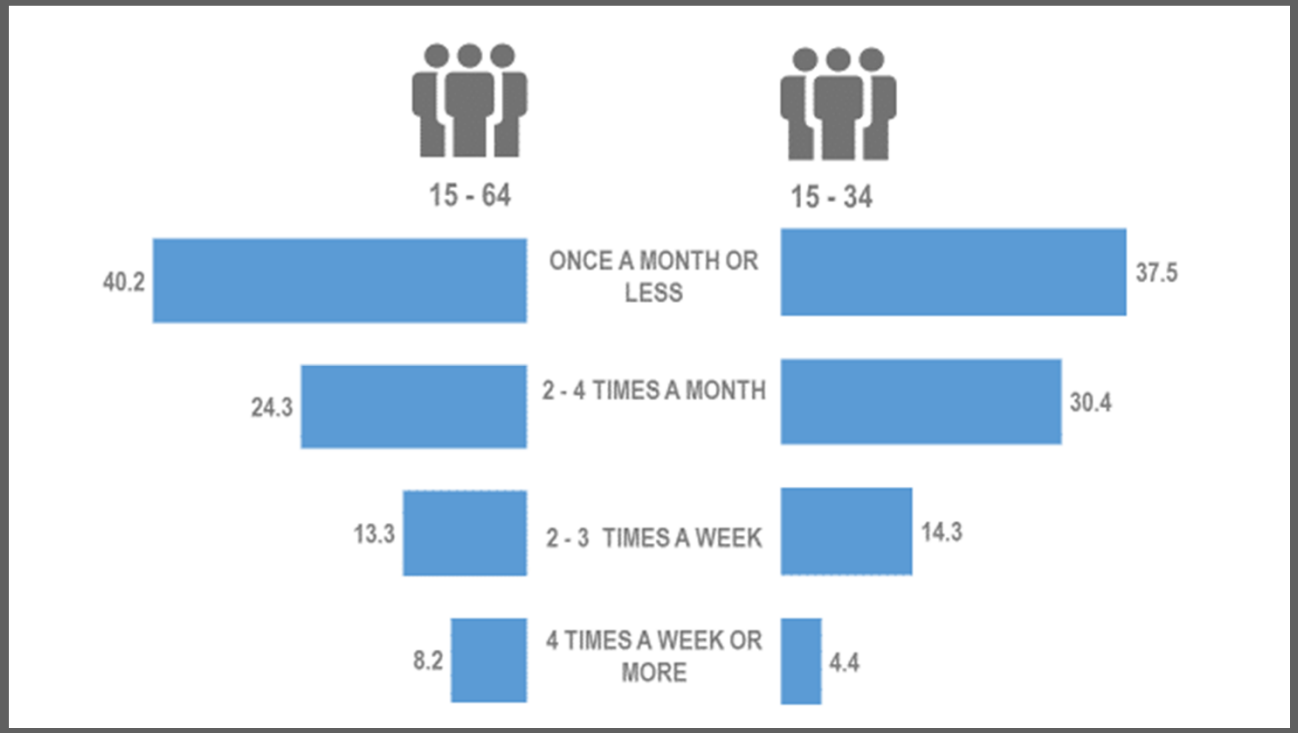
CURENT TOBACCO USE
(15-64, 15-34; by gender)



CURENT E-CIGARETTES USE
(15-64, 15-34; by gender)



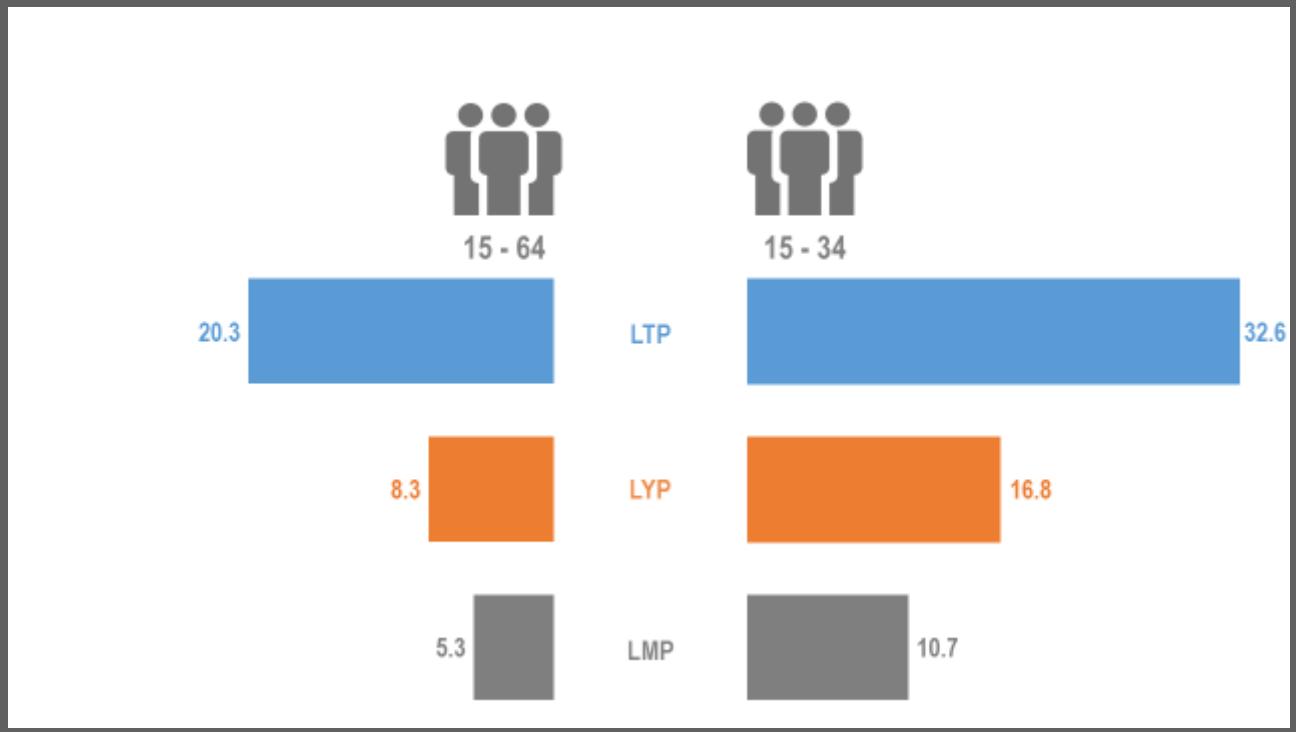
FREQUENCY OF ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION
(15-64, 15-34)



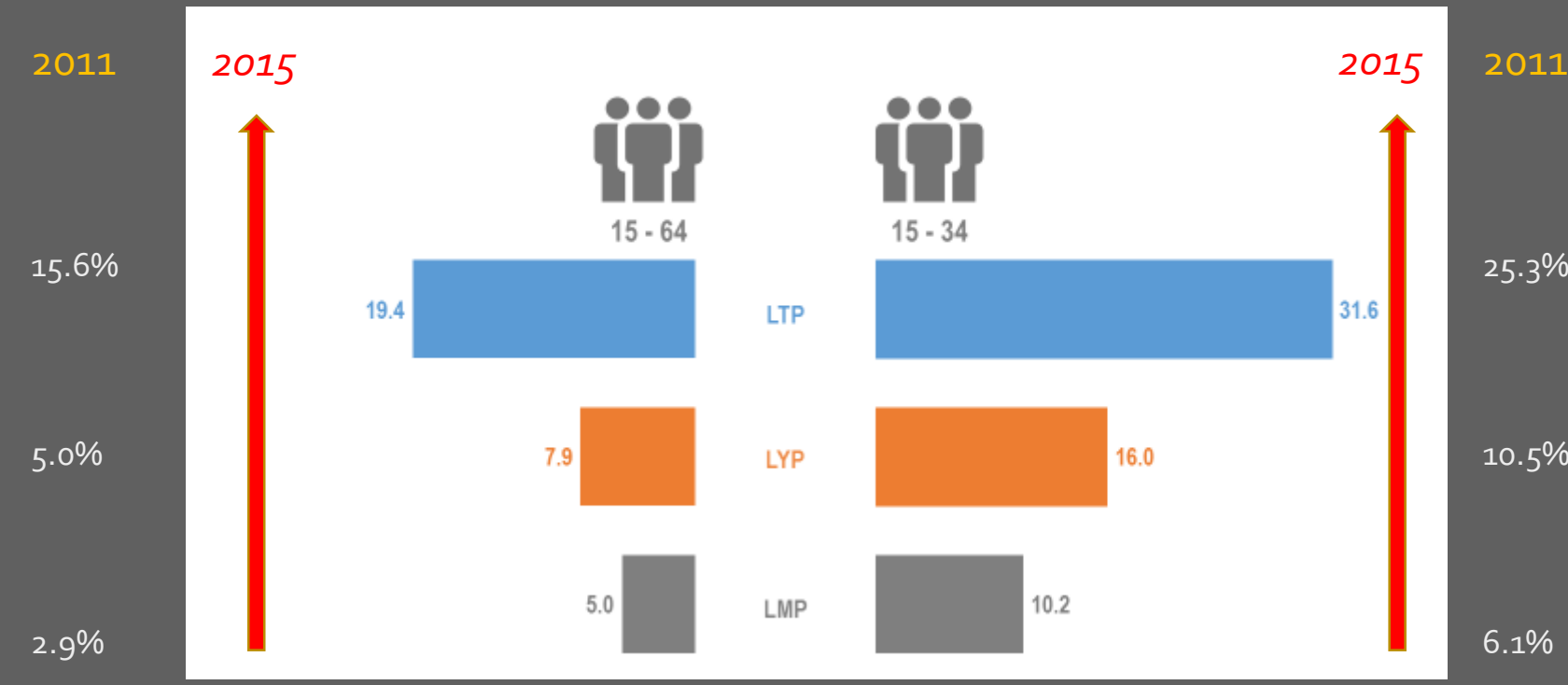
ILLICIT DRUGS

CANNABIS, AMPHETAMINES, ECSTASY, COCAINE, HEROIN, LSD

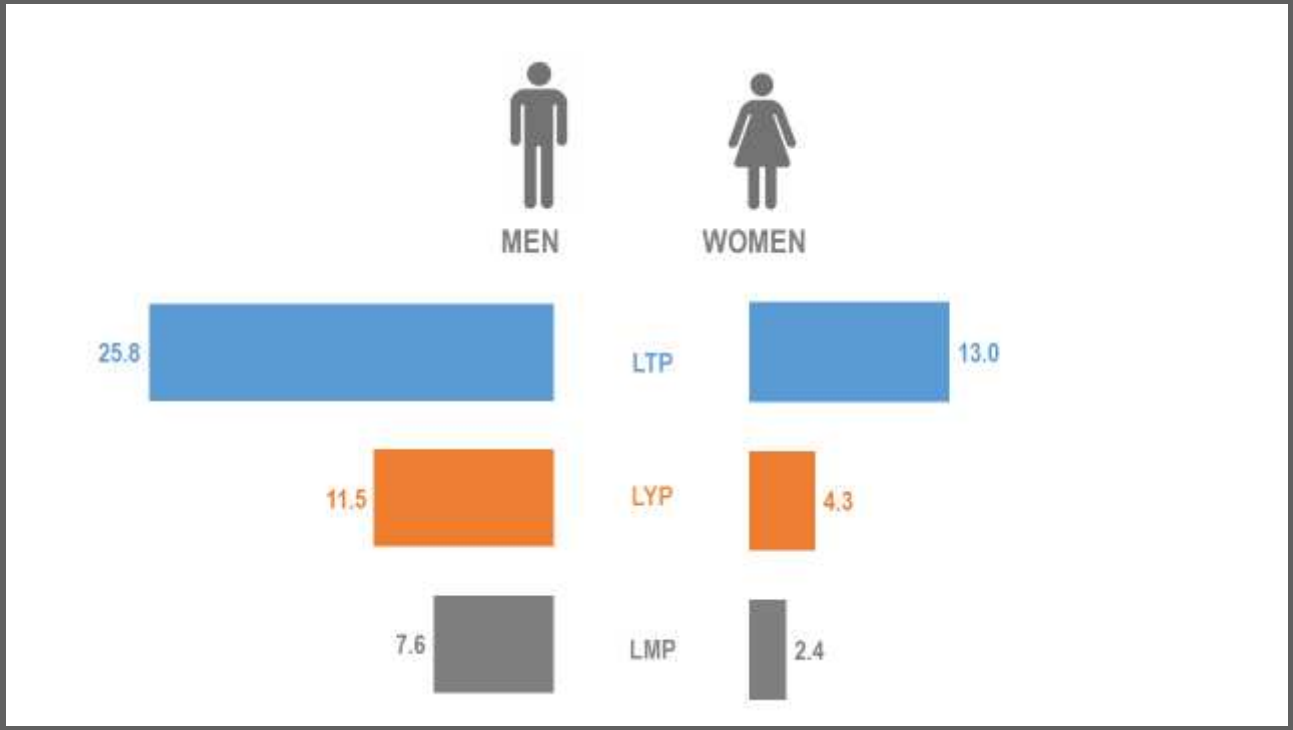
ANY ILLICIT DRUGS
LTP, LYP, LMP (15-64,15-34)



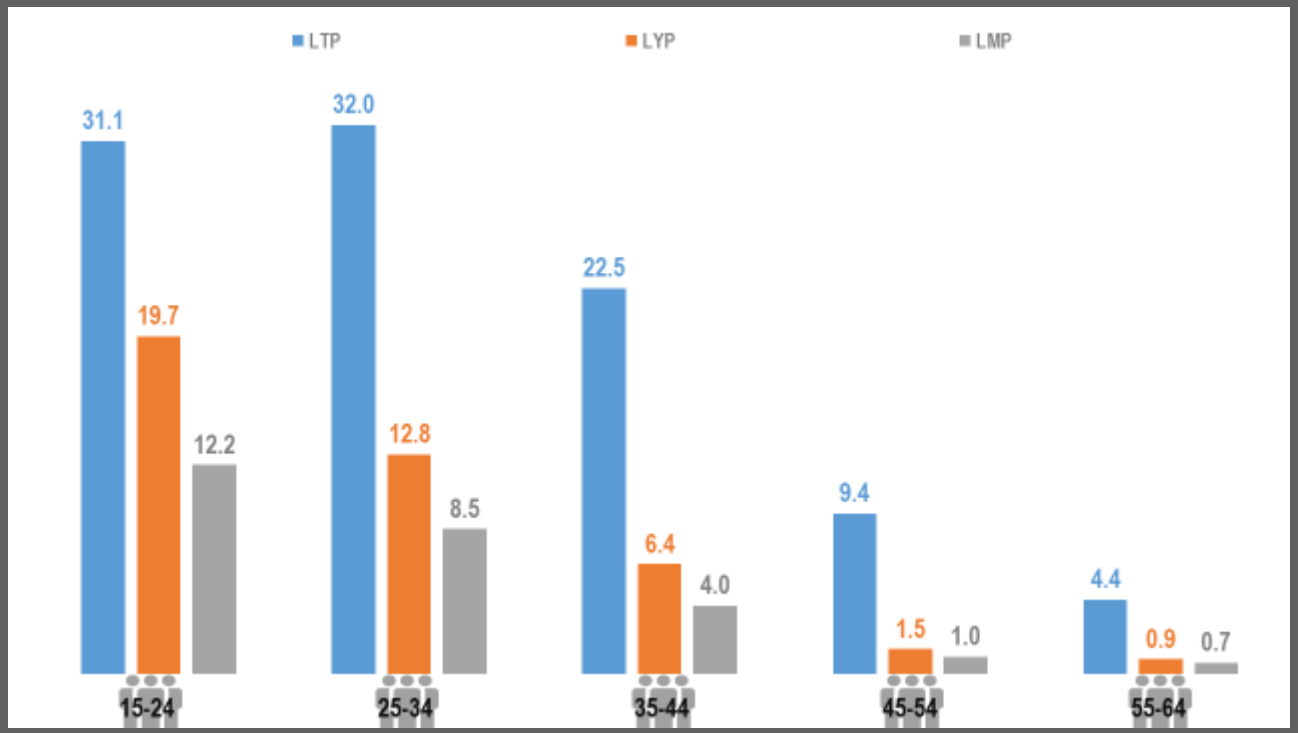
CANNABIS
LTP, LYP, LMP (15-64, 15-34)



CANNABIS
LTP, LYP, LMP by gender

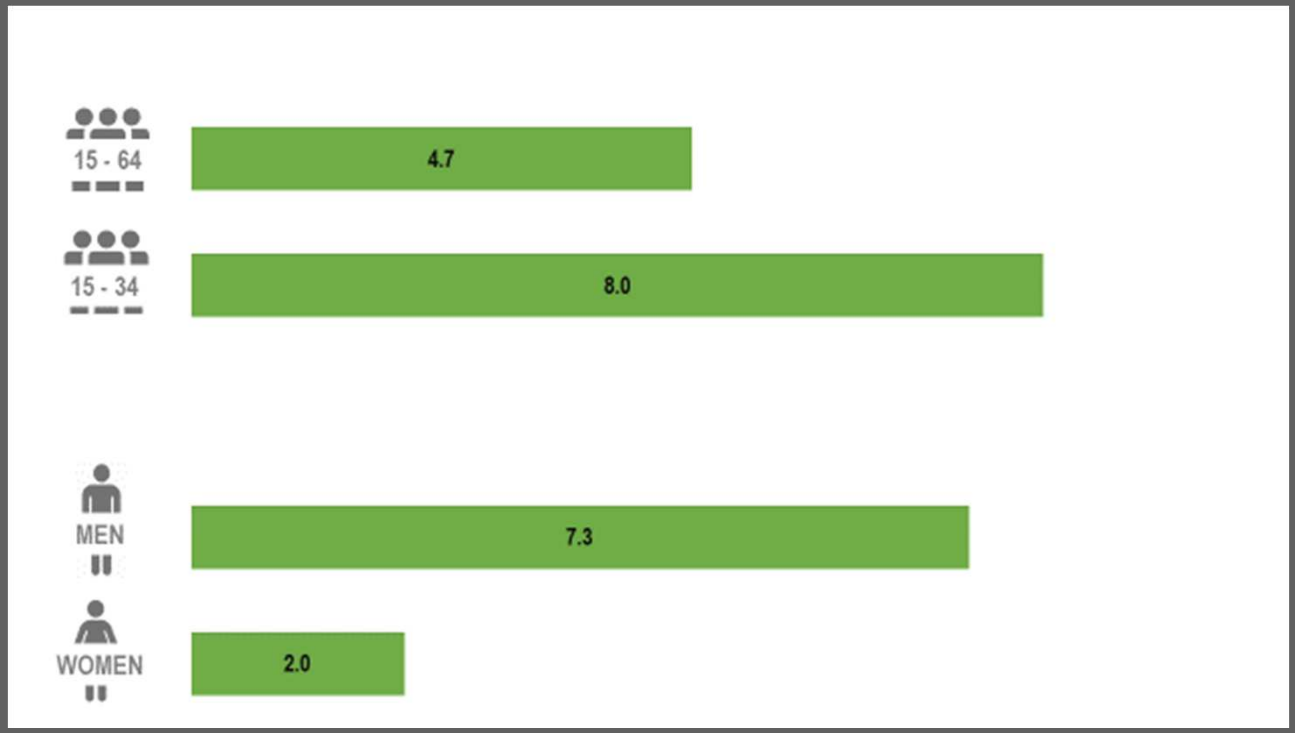


CANNABIS
LTP, LYP, LMP by age

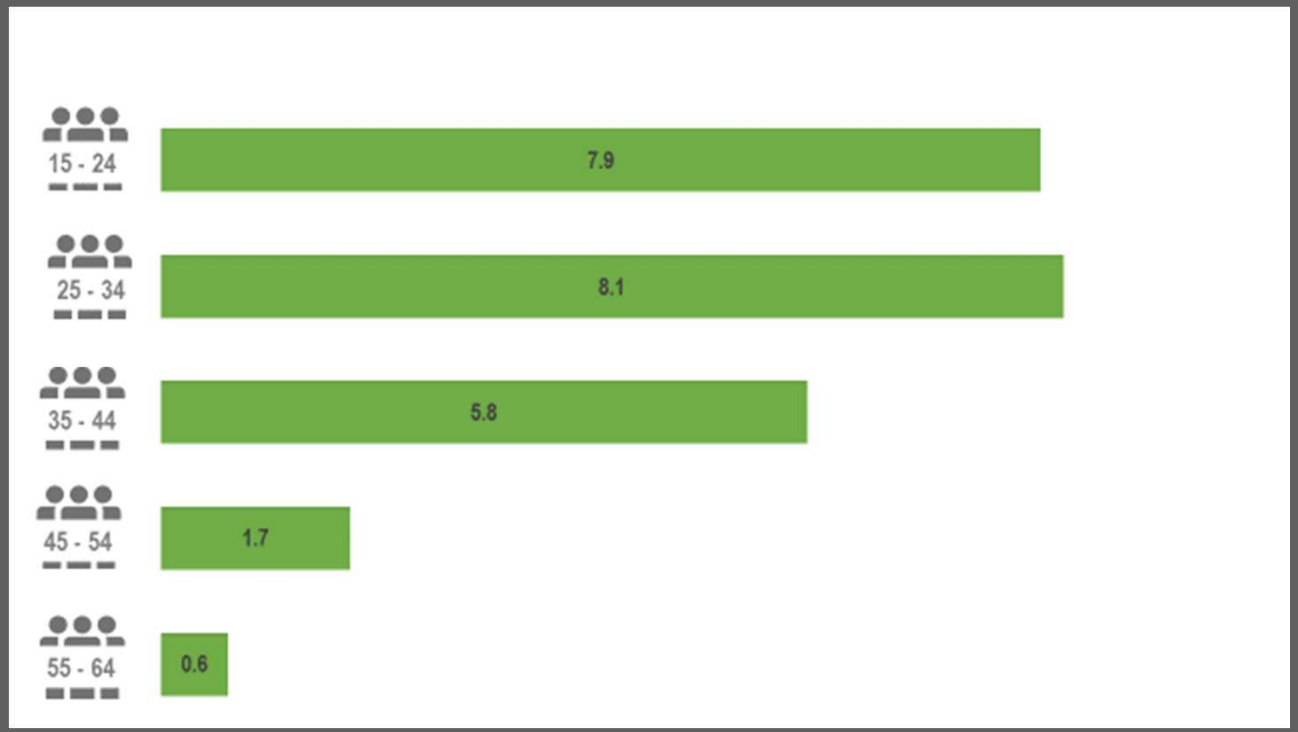


FREQUENT CANNABIS USE

15-64,15-34; by gender



FREQUENT CANNABIS USE
by age

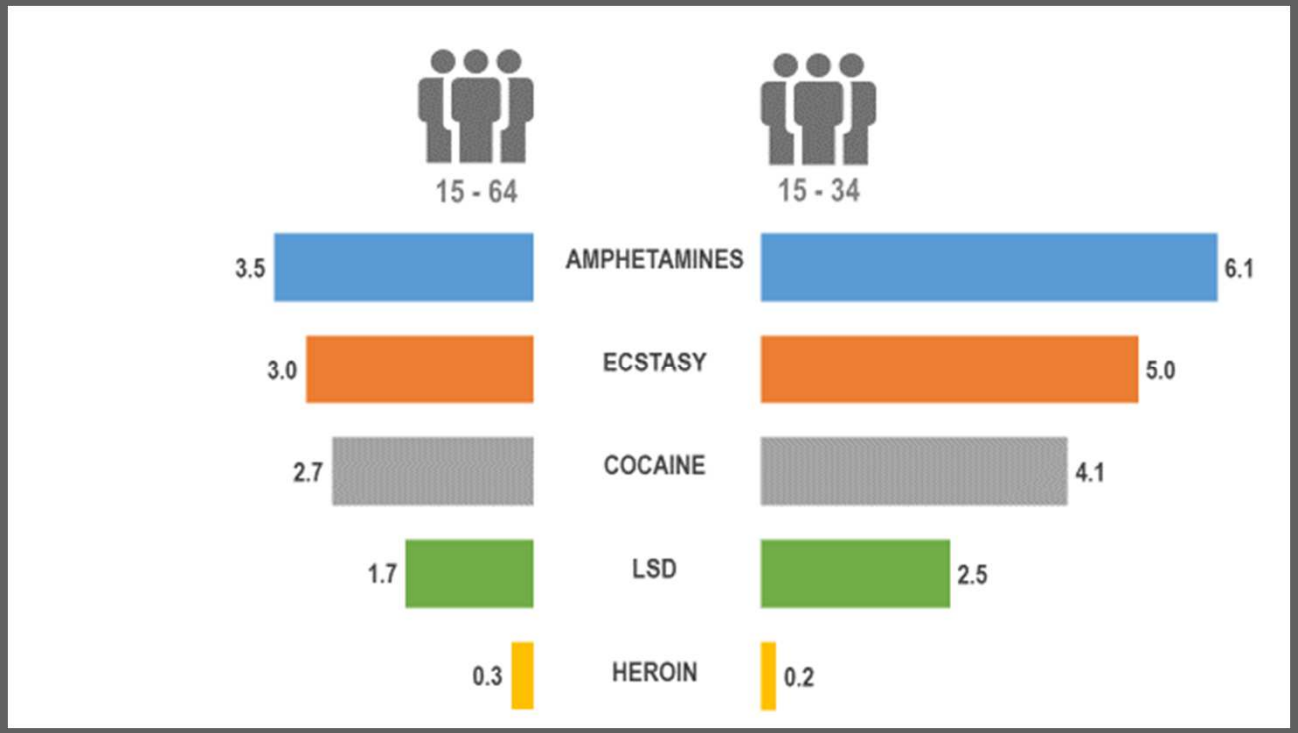


SEVERITY OF DEPENDENCE - CANNABIS

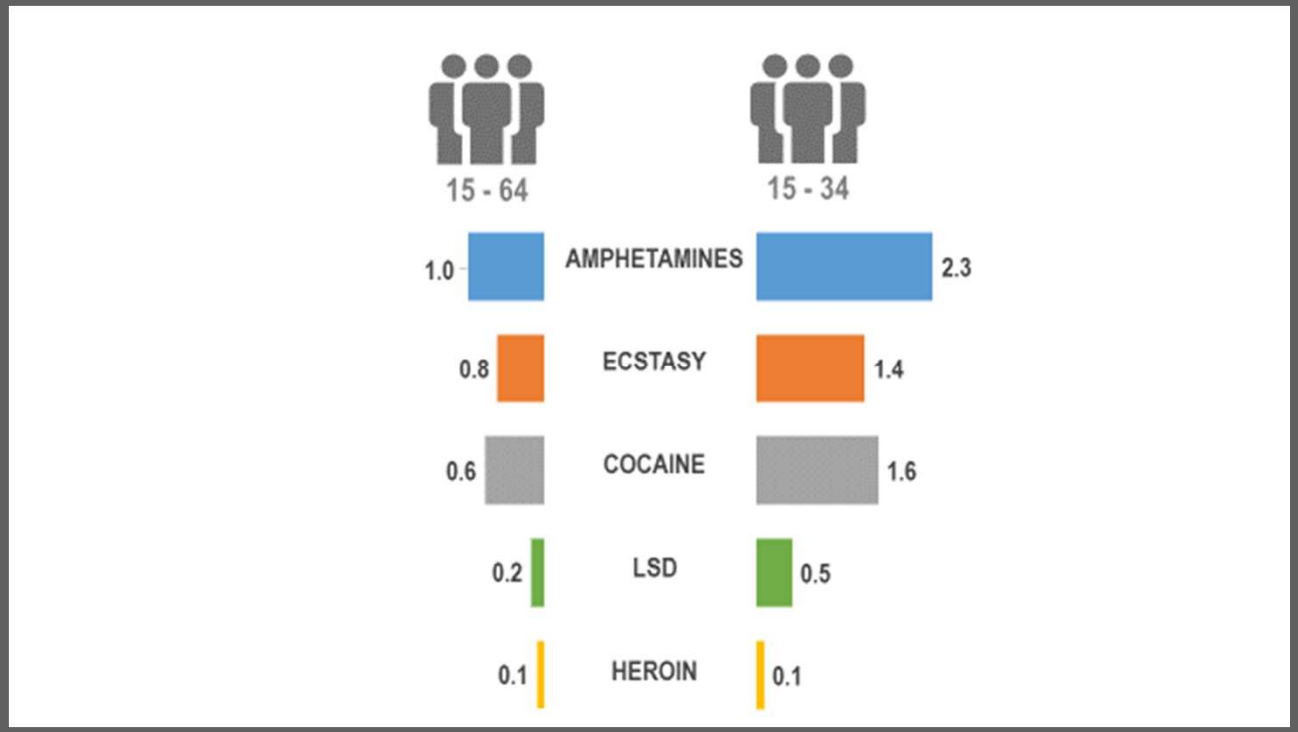
Severity of Dependence Scale - SDS (Gossop et al,1995)

- cut-off point – result **more than 3**
- moderate to severe problem cannabis use :
  - 15-64 - 0.8%
    - 1.5% males and 0.2% females
  - 15-34 - 1.8%
    - 3.1% males and 0.5% females
  - highest among males aged 25-34 (3.5%) and 15-24 (2.6%)

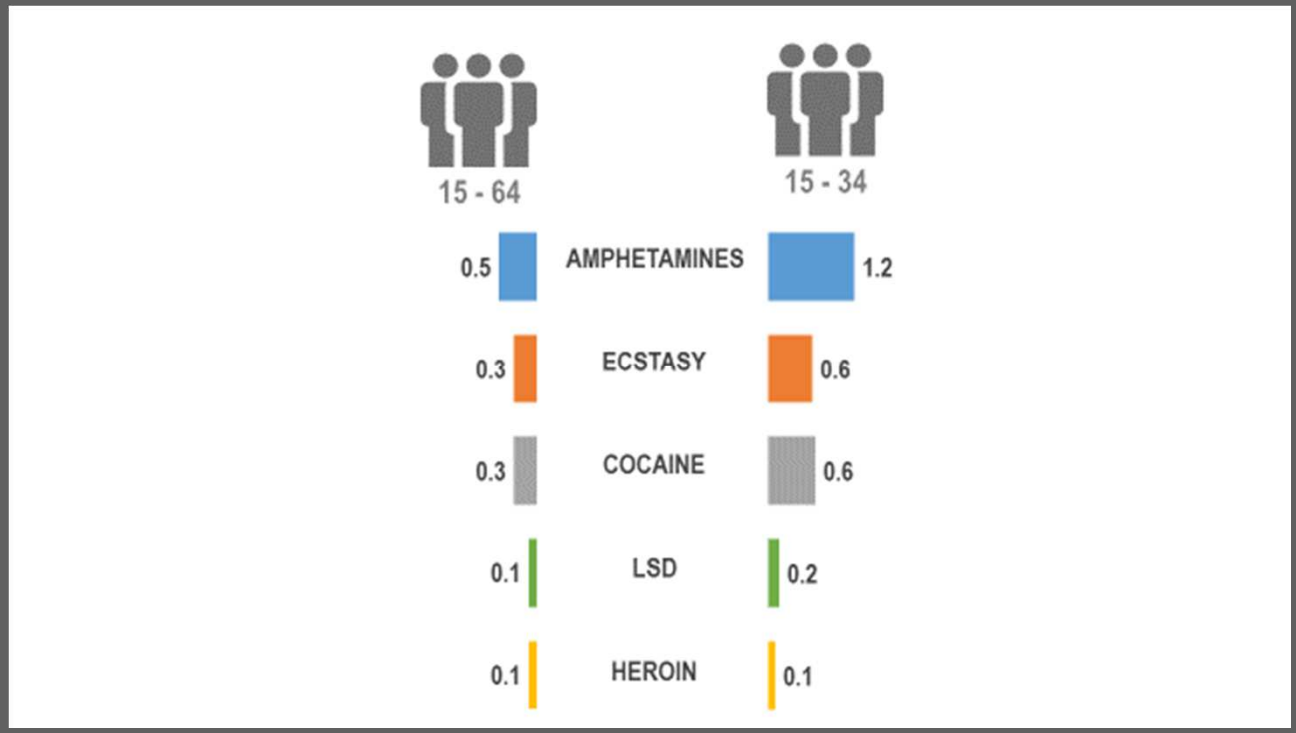
AMPHETAMINES, ECSTASY, COCAINE, LSD, HEROIN
LTP (15-64,15-34)



AMPHETAMINES, ECSTASY, COCAINE, LSD, HEROIN
LYP (15-64,15-34)



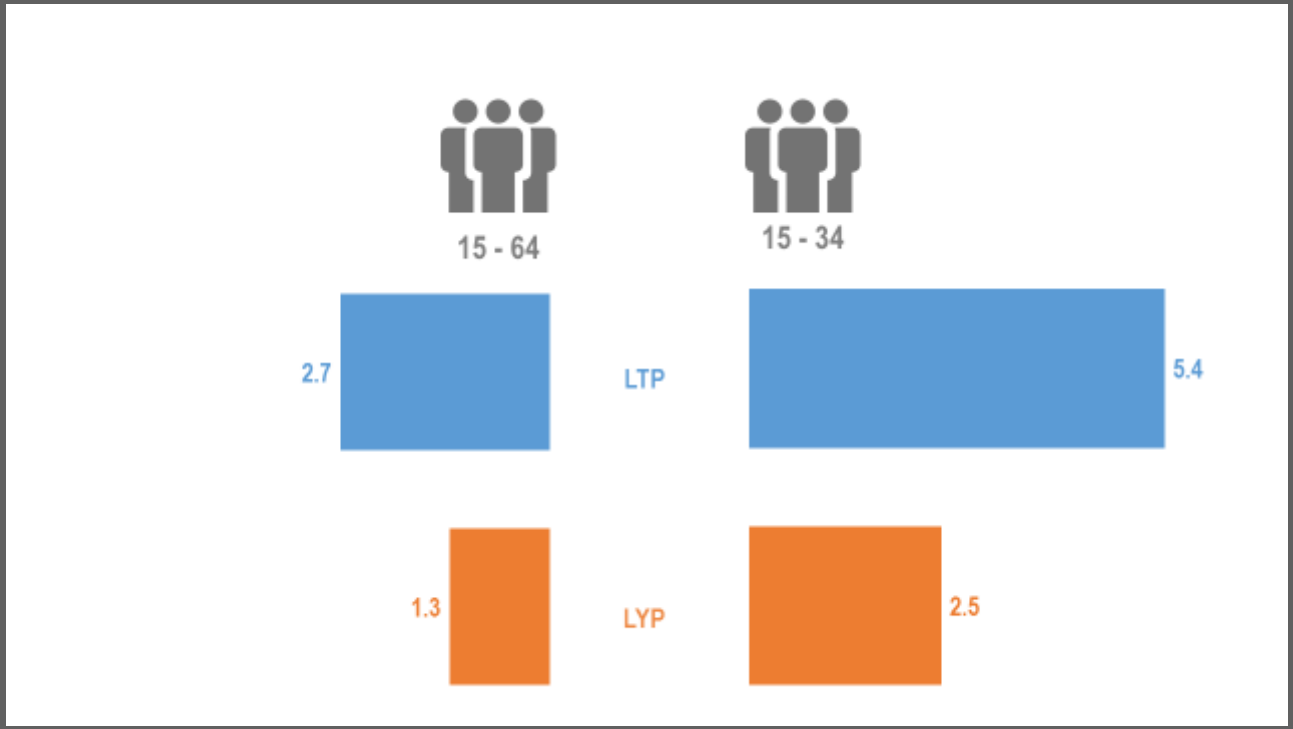
AMPHETAMINES, ECSTASY, COCAINE, LSD, HEROIN
LMP (15-64,15-34)



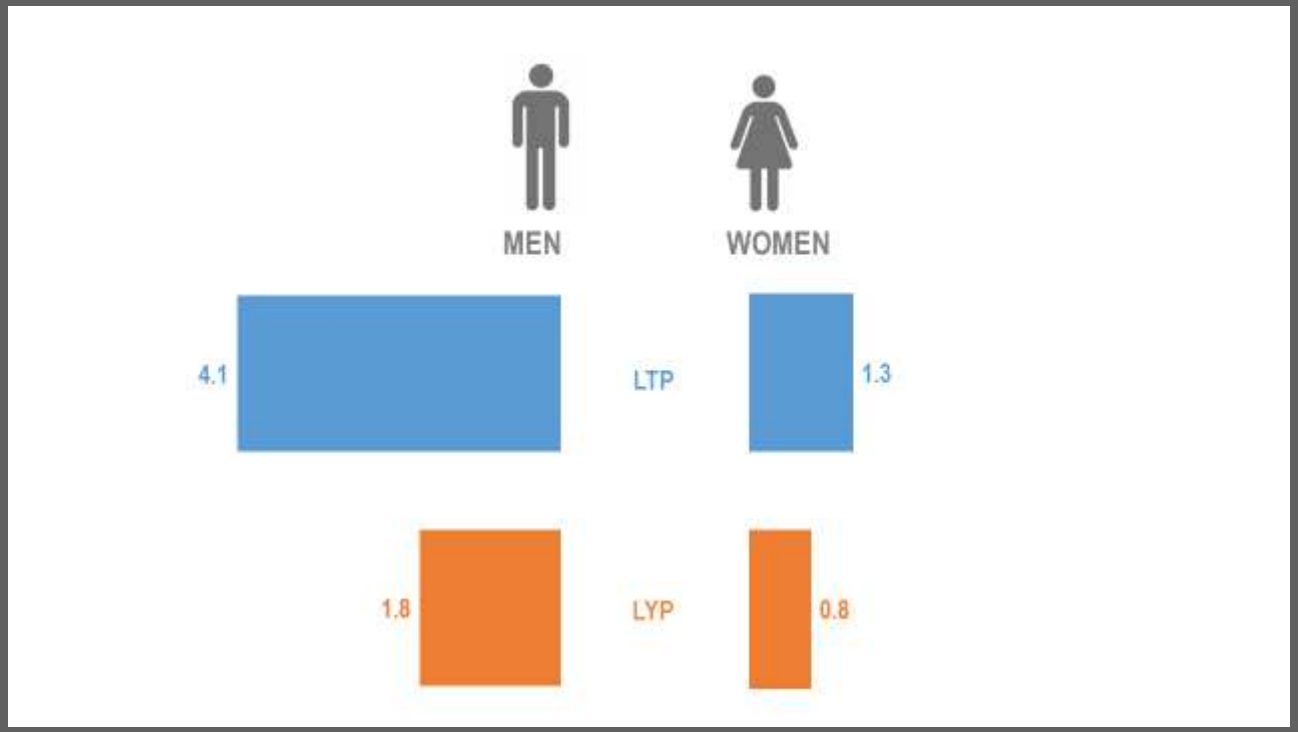
NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES

GALAXY, GHB / GBL, KETAMINE

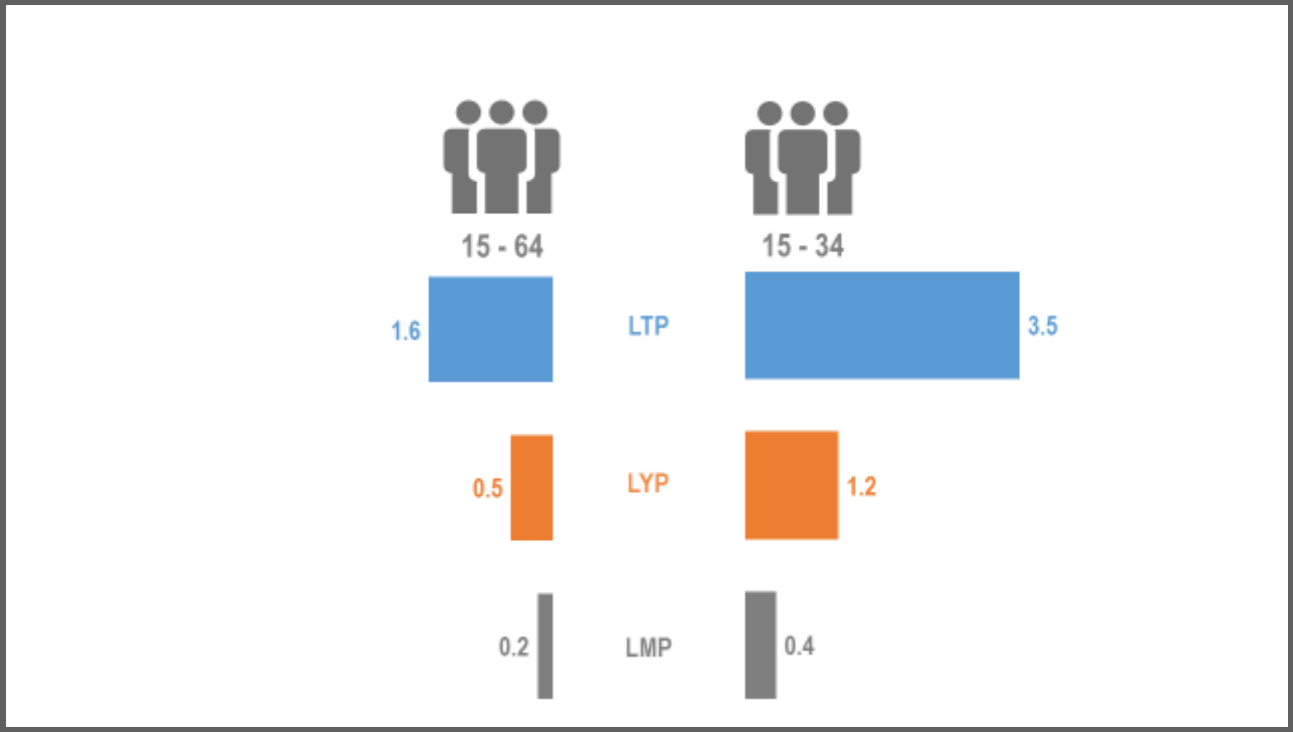
NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES
LTP, LYP (15-64, 15-34)



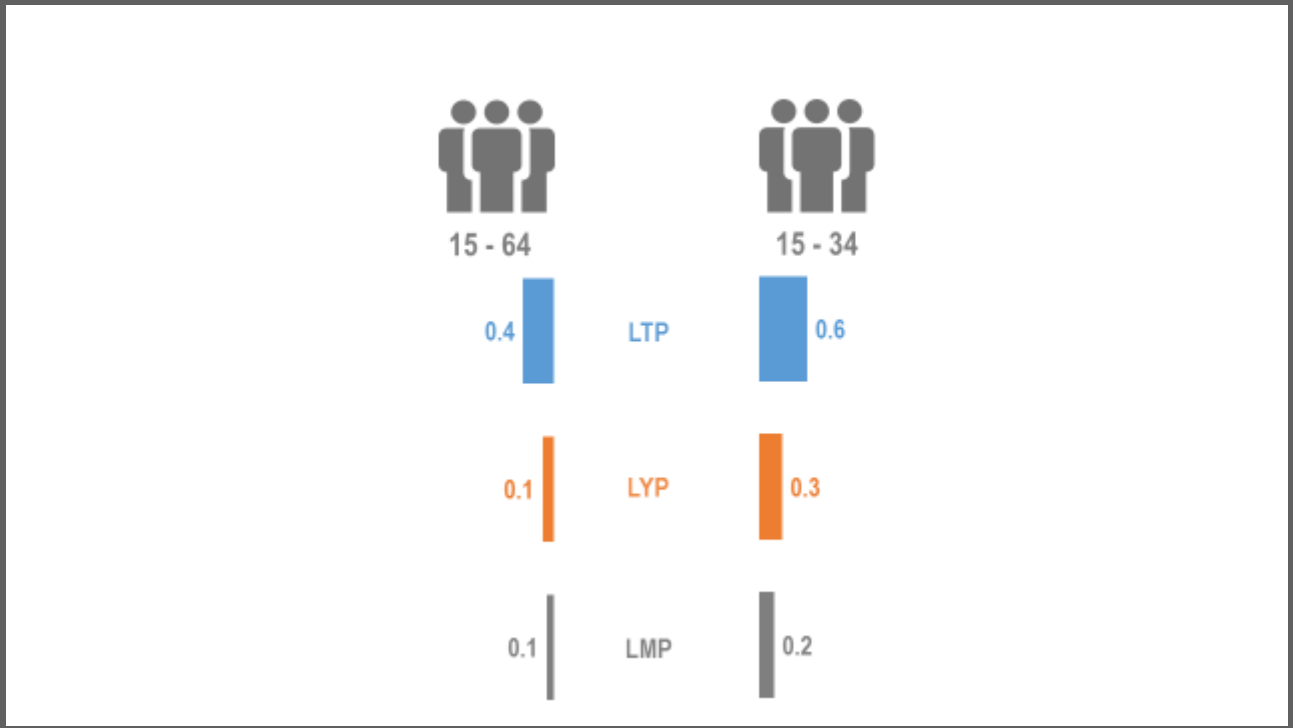
NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES
LTP, LYP by gender



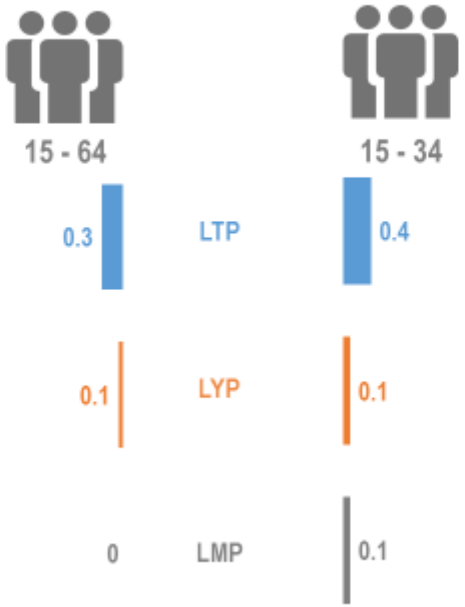
GALAXY
LTP, LYP, LMP (15-64, 15-34)



GHB / GBL
LTP, LYP, LMP (15-64, 15-34)



KETAMINE
LTP, LYP, LMP (15-64, 15-34)



CONCLUSION

- use of all licit and illicit drugs in Croatia is stable, except for cannabis

- cannabis use shows increase in prevalence after 2011

  LTP - 2015 - 19.4%, 2011 - 15.6%

  LYP - 2015 - 7.9%, 2011 – 5.0%

  LMP - 2015 – 5.0%, 2011- 2.9%

- notable use of new psychoactive substances

CONCLUSION

- second GPS in Croatia:
  - gives an overview of the substance use amongst general population in Croatia, and
  - enables comparison with the results of previous research as well as with the data from other European countries

- in order to follow trends in substance use and provide perspective for policy intervention in Croatia regular and systematic research should be continued

THANK YOU!

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