

# What drug types did NZDTS survey respondents use in 2022/23?

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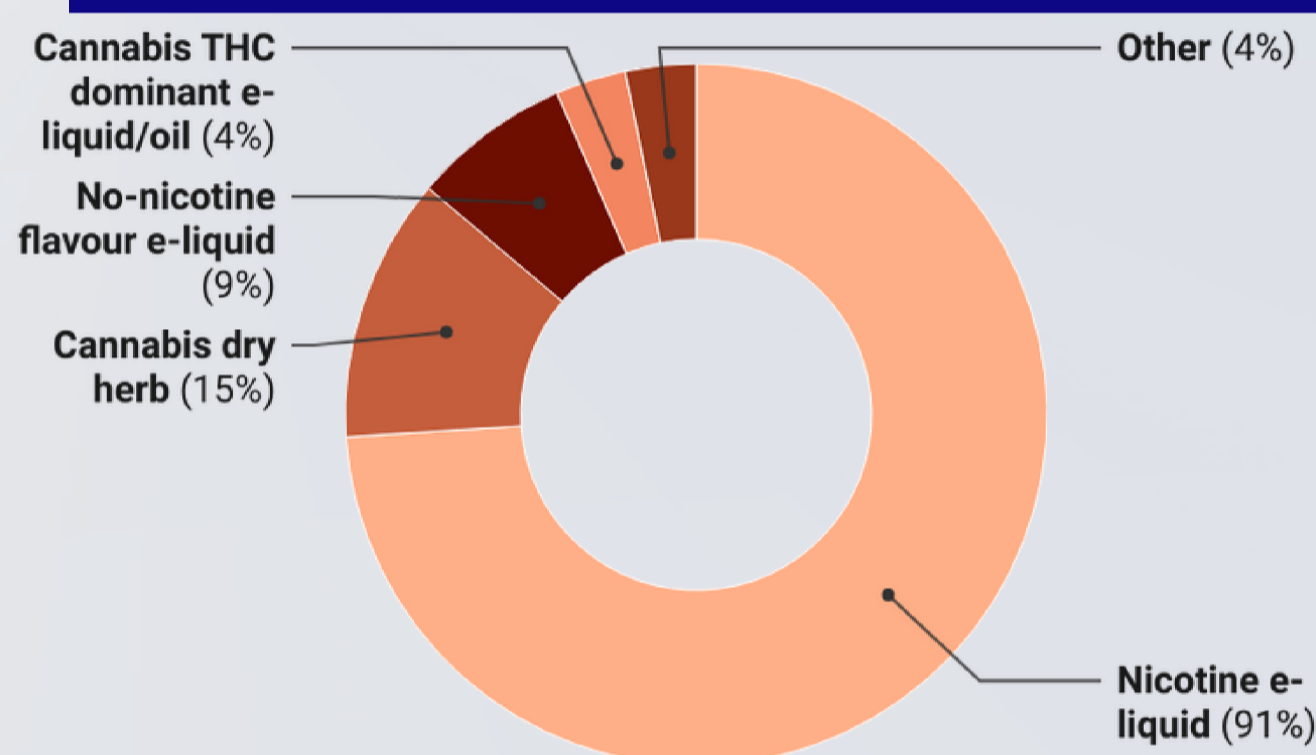
## Methods

The New Zealand Drug Trends Survey (NZDTS) is an anonymous online convenience survey designed to provide an annual snapshot of drug market trends in Aotearoa New Zealand. It surveys a very large number of people with recent experience and knowledge of drug use and drug markets across the country (i.e., key experts). The NZDTS is promoted via a targeted Facebook advertising campaign over a period of several months. Completed surveys are audited based on the extent and quality of completion. The 2022/23 survey ran from August 2022 to February 2023 and achieved a final sample of 13,026. **While the NZDTS is not a representative sample, it broadly represents the demographic profile and regional population distribution of NZ.** For example, the proportion of Māori in the NZDTS sample (19%) closely matches the NZ census (17%), as does the proportion of European/Pakeha (73%) compared to census (70%). The proportion of NZDTS respondents who were unemployed (4%) is the same as the national population (4%), as is levels of educational achievement and regional population distribution. However, the NZDTS sample is younger (median age of 23 years) than the national median age (37 years). For more details on methods see, Wilkins et al. (2020) Determinants of the retail price of illegal drugs in New Zealand. *International Journal of Drug Policy*. 79, 1-10.

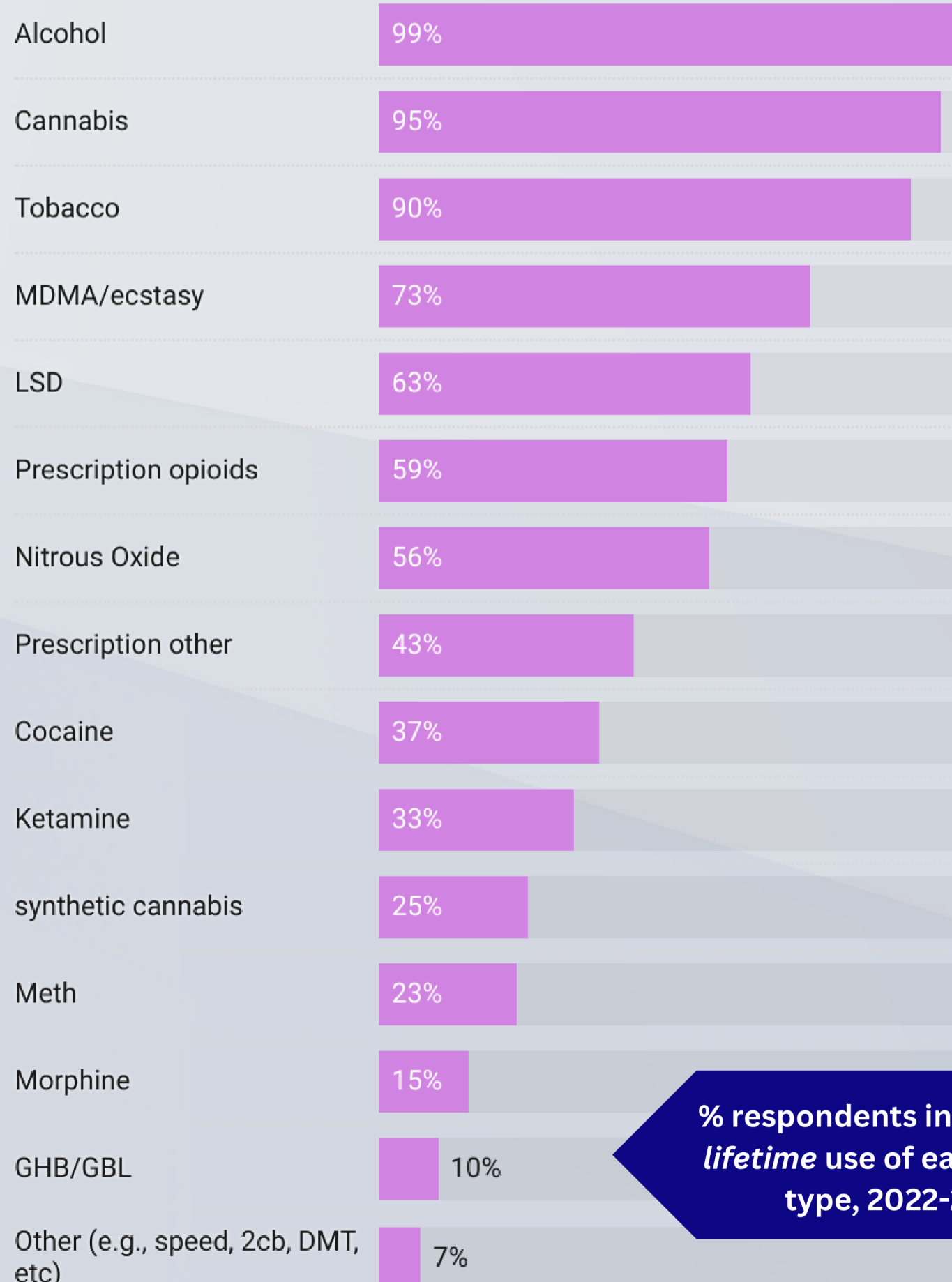
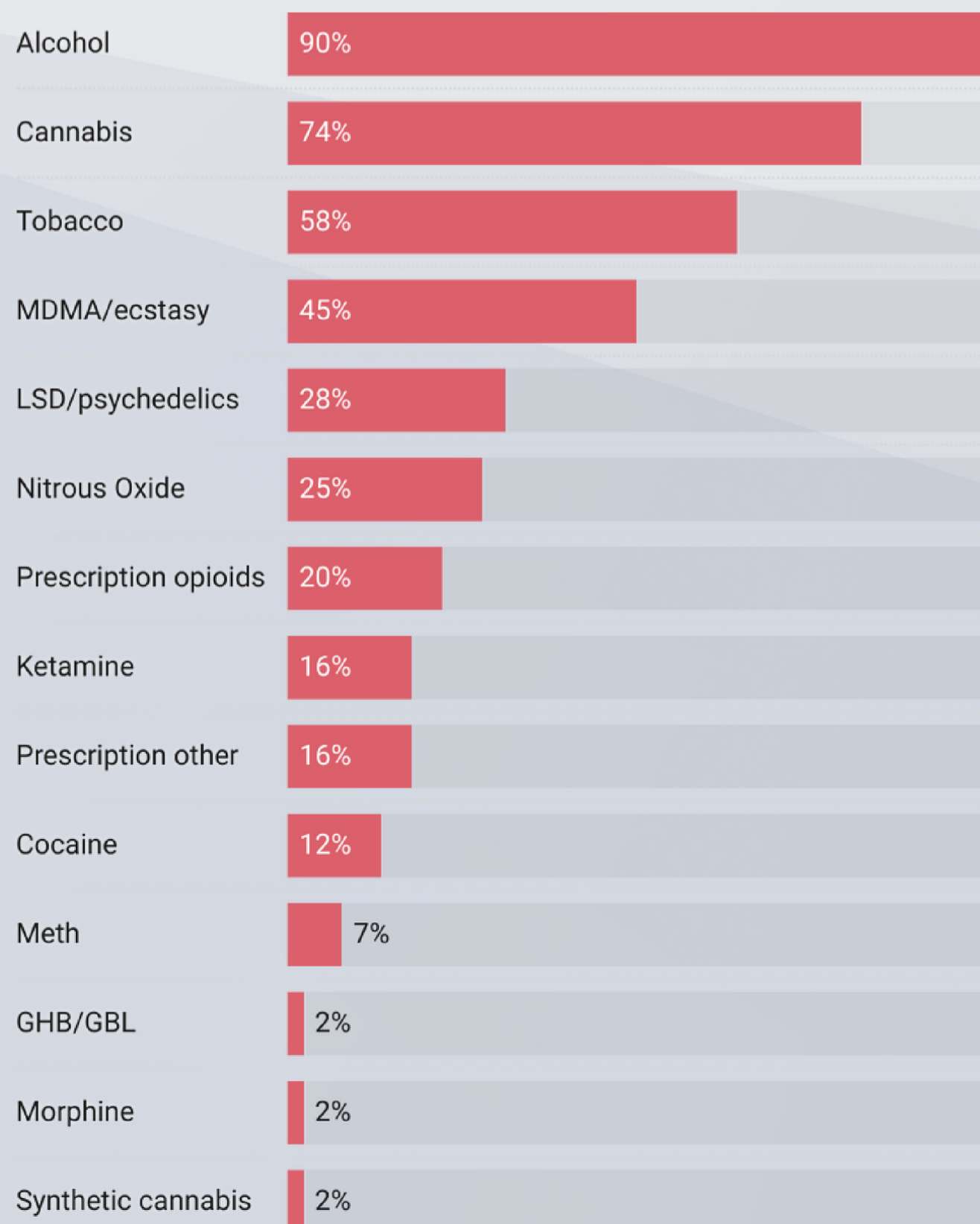
## Key findings

- The illegal drug types most frequently used by NZDTS respondents in the previous six months were cannabis (74%), MDMA/ecstasy (45%) and LSD/psychedelics (28%)
- 95% of survey respondents reported having ever tried cannabis in their lifetimes, 73% MDMA/ecstasy and 63% LSD
- Only 7% of respondents reported past-six-month use of meth with 23% having tried meth in their lifetimes
- 69% of respondents had vaped in the past 6 months
- 91% of vapers had vaped nicotine e-liquid

Past 6 month use of different vape products among respondents, 2022-23 (n=6,685)



% respondents who used each drug type at least once in the past six months, 2022-23



% respondents indicating lifetime use of each drug type, 2022-23