



Cannabis was the **most commonly used illicit drug in Australia** in 2016.<sup>[1]</sup>



Cannabis was the **second most common drug type** identified at toxicology for **transport accident deaths** in 2016.<sup>[5]</sup>



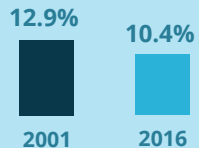
Recent users reported their **primary source of cannabis as friends** 66%, followed by dealers 19.9% in 2016.<sup>[1]</sup>



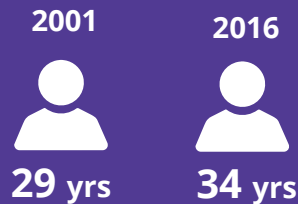
Cannabis was the **principal drug of concern in 22%** of closed alcohol and other drug treatment episodes in 2017–18.<sup>[6]</sup>



Cannabis use in the prior 12 months among the Australian general population **remained stable**.<sup>[1]</sup>



Average age of cannabis users **increased**.<sup>[1]</sup>



Self-reported mental health issues **increased among people who have used cannabis in the last 12 months**; from 21% in 2013 to 28% in 2016.<sup>[1]</sup>



Regardless of what socioeconomic area a person came from, about **1 in 10 had recently used cannabis** in 2016.<sup>[1]</sup>



In 2016, **36%** of recent cannabis users report at **least weekly use**.<sup>[1]</sup>

Among the Australian general population, **support for regular cannabis use is increasing** - rising from 9.8% in 2013 to 14.5% in 2016.<sup>[1]</sup>



In 2016, people identifying as **homosexual/bisexual were 3.2 times more likely to report recent use of cannabis** compared with the general population in the previous 12 months.<sup>[1]</sup>

In 2018, **40%** of prison entrants reported using cannabis in the previous 12 months, second only to methamphetamines (43%).<sup>[2]</sup>

The majority of national illicit drug seizures (52.4%) and arrests (48.8%) were for cannabis in 2017–18.<sup>[4]</sup>



Wastewater data analysis indicates average cannabis consumption in regional areas exceeded that of capital cities in 2019.<sup>[3]</sup>



National Drug Strategy Household Survey findings relate to people aged 14 or older unless specified. An adult is a person aged 18 or older.<sup>[1]</sup>

1. AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2017. [National Drug Strategy Household survey 2016: detailed findings. Drug statistics series no. 31](#). Cat. no. PHE 214. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 14 December 2017.
2. AIHW 2019. [The health of Australia's prisoners 2018](#). Cat. no. PHE 207. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 30 May 2019.
3. ACIC (Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission) 2019. [National wastewater drug monitoring program, report 8](#). Canberra: ACIC. Viewed 28 October 2019.

4. ACIC 2019. [Illicit drug data report 2017–18](#). Canberra: ACIC. Viewed 7 August 2019.
5. ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2017. [Causes of death, Australia, 2016](#). ABS cat. no. 3303.0. Canberra: ABS. Viewed 4 January 2018.
6. AIHW 2019. [Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Australia 2017–18: key findings](#). Web Report. Viewed 17 April 2019.

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For more detail, see the full report, [Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia](#), which can be downloaded for free from the AIHW website.



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