The interesting bits...
- The population group least likely to have ever used an illicit drug were teenagers aged 14–17 years (19%).
- In 2010, of the 2.7 million people in Australia who had used an illicit drug in the previous 12 months, 1.5 million were male, and 1.1 million were female.
- The source of supply for most users was a friend or acquaintance.

What ages are using...
- The age groups most likely to have used drugs in the previous 12 months were those aged 20–29 years (28%) and 18–19-year-olds (25%).
- Illicit drug use was highest among people aged 20–29 years for both males (31%) and females (24%).

Male vs female...
- For most age groups, males were more likely than females to have recently used an illicit drug, except among 14–17-year-olds (16% for females compared with 13% for males).

State vs state...
- Similar to the Australia-wide pattern, the age groups most commonly reporting having used illicit drugs in the previous 12 months in most jurisdictions were those aged 18–19 years and 20–29 years.
- People aged 14–19 years in Western Australia (26%) and South Australia (23%) had higher proportions of recent illicit drug use than the national average for that age group (18%).

The health factor...
- The diagnosis or treatment of a mental illness was much more common in those who had used an illicit drug in the last 12 months (19%) or in the last month (20%) than in those who had not used in the last 12 months (11%).

Cannabis
- Since 1998, recent cannabis use has generally decreased in the younger age groups.
- The highest proportion of males who had used cannabis in the last 12 months was for those aged 20–29 years (25%) and for females for those aged 18–19 years (19%).
- Indigenous Australians were 1.6 times more likely than non-Indigenous Australians to have recently used cannabis.

What ages are using...
- Fewer than 1 in 10 (9%) teenagers aged 12–17 years had used cannabis in the previous 12 months, but this proportion more than doubled to 1 in 5 (21%) among those aged 18–29 years.

Male vs female...
- Males were twice as likely as females to have smoked cannabis in the previous week (5% for males compared with 3% for females).
State vs state...
- The Northern Territory has consistently had the highest proportion of recent cannabis users (17%), since 1998, except for those aged under 20 years.
- Male cannabis use was highest in the Northern Territory (19%) and lowest in Tasmania (11%)
- Female cannabis use was also highest in the Northern Territory (14%), but was lowest in the Australian Capital Territory (7%).

Ecstasy
- There was a significant decline between 2007 (5%) and 2010 (3%) for recent ecstasy users for those aged between 14–19 years.
- The most common place to use ecstasy was at raves/dance parties (62%), with large proportions also using it at public establishments (55%) and private parties (53%).

What ages are using...
- Ecstasy use was highest among those aged 20–29 years, with about 1 in 4 (24%) ever using ecstasy, and 1 in 10 (10%) using it in the previous 12 months.
- People aged 20–29 years were more than twice as likely to have used ecstasy recently than those aged 30–39 years (10% and 4%, respectively).
- Less than 1% of teenagers aged 12–17 years had used ecstasy in the previous 12 months.
- 45% of people aged 18–19 years used the drug at least monthly, which was more than any other age group.

Who is giving up...
- The proportion of ex-ecstasy users increased from 5% in 2007 to 7% in 2010.
- In particular, students who stopped using ecstasy increased from 3% in 2007 to 4% in 2010.

Male vs female...
- The proportion of males who had used ecstasy in the last 12 months was slightly higher than females (4% and 2%, respectively), but there was little difference in more recent use, by month or week.

State vs state...
- Overall, ecstasy use was highest among people in Western Australia (4%), particularly among males in that state (5%) for males.
- Ecstasy use was highest among 20–29-year-olds years in South Australia.

Note: % has been rounded to the nearest whole number. For more precise figures please refer to the report.