European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

EMCDDA, your reference point on drugs in Europe

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Marica Ferri, Deborah Olszewski EMCDDA



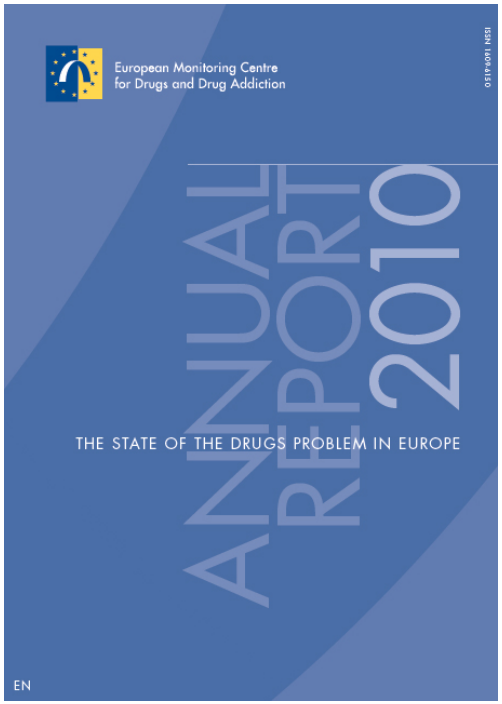
European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)

Established: 1993

Location: Lisbon

Staff: 100

A multilingual information package

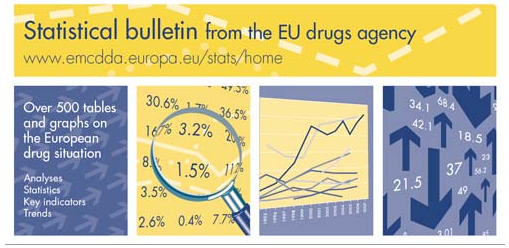












www.emcdda.europa.eu/annual-report

What we do

- **Provide the Community and EU Member States with:**
  'factual, objective, reliable and comparable information at European level concerning drugs and drug addiction and their consequences'

- **New mission (2007) gives agency a broader role:**
  - collect, register, analyse information on 'emerging trends in polydrug use', including combined use of licit and illicit psychoactive substances
  - provide information on best practice in Member States and facilitate exchange of such practice between them

Best practice portal

Prevention
Evidence base
- Universal prevention
- Selective prevention
- Methodology

Prevention standards and guidelines
Prevention projects in Europe (EDDRA)

Treatment
Evidence base
- Amphetamines users
- Cannabis users
- Cocaine users
- Opiate users
- Methodology

Treatment standards and guidelines
Treatment projects in Europe (EDDRA)

Harm reduction
Evidence base
- Opioid injectors
- Stimulant injectors
- Non-injecting drug users
- Methodology

Harm reduction projects in Europe (EDDRA)

General best practice tools

Best practice portal

The EMCDDA's Best practice portal is a resource for professionals, policymakers and researchers in the areas of drug-related prevention, treatment, harm reduction and social reintegration. The portal concentrates on illicit drugs and polydrug use and has a clear European focus. More information >>

Available modules

The content in the portal is structured by thematic modules. Each module below provides the current scientific evidence base for the corresponding type of intervention.

Prevention: universal prevention | selective prevention

Treatment: amphetamines users | cannabis users | cocaine users | opiate users

Harm reduction: opioid injectors | stimulant injectors | non-injecting drug users

Best practice resources

Standards and guidelines

This section compiles quality standards and guidelines for the implementation of practices.

EDDRA

The Exchange on Drug Demand Reduction Action (EDDRA) provides real-life examples of evaluated practices in the European Union.

EIB

The Evaluation Instruments Bank (EIB) is an online archive of freely available instruments for evaluating interventions.

OTHER RESOURCES

- Tools for evaluating practices

News and recent updates

- 11.10.2010: Evidence for harm reduction interventions published >>
- 15.07.2010: Evidence profiles developed with GRADE will be published in November 2010 >>
- 01.06.2010: Best practice treatment module published >>
- 04.05.2010: National drug treatment guidelines in Europe by country now online >>

Related links

Prevention and Evaluation Resource Kit: PERK
References
Drug-related research information
Glossary of the best practice portal
EMCDDA publications
Guidelines for the evaluation of treatment in the field of problem drug use
Guidelines for the evaluation of outreach work: a manual for practitioner
Evaluation: a key tool for improving drug prevention
Guidelines for the evaluation of drug prevention: a manual for programme-planners and evaluators

Statistics and country data

- Statistical bulletin
- Country overviews
- Prevention profiles
- Drug treatment overviews
- European legal database on drugs (ELDD)
- National drug strategies
- National drug-related research
- Action on new drugs

Monitoring activities

- Key epidemiological indicators
  - General population surveys
  - Problem drug use
  - Treatment demand indicator
  - Drug-related deaths and mortality
  - Drug-related infectious diseases
- Other data sets
  - Drug trends in youth
  - Drug-related crime
  - Drug-related social exclusion
  - Availability of illicit drugs

<< Key indicators main page

GPS | PDU | TDI | DRD | DRID

General population surveys (GPS)

Summary

Prevalence and patterns of drug use among the general population, measured by probabilistic surveys of the adult and school population, is one of five EMCDDA key indicators that assess the drugs situation and allow monitoring of progress towards EU and Member State drug policy targets. Data from general and school population drug surveys provides basic information to help to understand patterns of use, risk perceptions, social and health correlates, and consequences of use of illicit drugs and other psychoactive substances.

To achieve their real value in policy terms, surveys should be repeated at regular intervals with a similar methodology in order to allow identification of changes in prevalence and patterns of use, with sample sizes large enough to allow analysis of main sub-groups of the population. Member States should aim to conduct a series of consistent nationally representative surveys of the adult, and school populations, with standard age groups. At a minimum, data should be reported on period prevalence (lifetime, last year and last month) of different drugs. Surveys of good quality and sufficient sample size can give rich information on patterns of use in different subgroups, but may underestimate drug use in certain hidden and/or vulnerable populations, and complementary methods will be necessary (targeted surveys, indirect methods).

For surveys conducted among the adult population in households, the EMCDDA Handbook for surveys among the general population reviews and discusses key methodological issues regarding drug population surveys and provides guidelines for reporting of information to the EMCDDA. The Handbook provides a list of core items,

GPS toolbox



The GPS toobox provides access to a range of GPS-related material developed by the EMCDDA over the years. New resources will be added as they arrive.

Key documents

- Overview of the GPS key indicator (7 pages, PDF)
  This document provides an overview of the general population surveys indicator. It is written in an easy to understand manner and is intended for a wider readership.
- GPS statistical methods and definitions
  Part of the EMCDDA Statistical bulletin, this text provides a summary of the methods and definitions used in GPS and is primarily intended to assist in the interpretation of data.
- GPS protocol: handbook for surveys on drug use among the general population (150 pages, PDF)
  This protocol is the most detailed description available of the methodology used by the key indicator and is aimed at anyone planning, organising or executing a survey about drug use among the general population.

Other methodological resources

- Drug use: an overview of general population surveys in Europe
- Assistance to the EMCDDA for the analysis of drug profiles reports
- Methodological study to compare the effect of different methods of data collection on the prevalence of self-reported drug use in general population surveys (PDF)
- Technical implementation and update of the European Union databank on national population surveys on drug use and carrying out a joint analysis of data collected (PDF)

Data collection tools

Related links

- GPS statistics
- Statistical bulletin (all statistics)
- EMCDDA Annual reports
- Reitox national focal points

External links

- Offending, Crime and Justice Survey (UK)
- ESPAD: European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (EU)
- HBSC: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children
- European social survey

Possible contribution to the DAD.Net

- **Best Practice tools:**

  Guidelines, Standards, Synthesis of evidence

- **General Population Drug Surveys:**

  Shed light on health behaviour, lifestyles and risk prevention - by mapping patterns of use (recent, frequent, polydrug..) both geographically and demographically (age, gender…)

  including alcohol, tobacco and medicines