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for Drugs and Drug Addiction



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0 SUMMARY

Seizures

10 % less heroin and 30.9 % less hashish was seized in comparison to the previous year. The quantity of marijuana seized in comparison to the previous year increased by 30 %, a change attributable to the increase in significant individual seizures. The number of seized cannabis plantations fell by 19 %, while the total number of cannabis plants seized increased by 3.7 %.

The quantity of cocaine seized went up by 337 % compared to the previous year, amounting to around 8.2 tonnes for 2017. This means that cocaine was the substance with the most significant increase in 2017.

The greatest reduction was recorded for ecstasy, at 693,668 tablets (CU) seized (-69 % in comparison to the previous year), following a record quantity seized in 2016. The size of the decrease can be explained by the fact that there were three major seizures in 2016 which demonstrated Germany's role as a transit country between the Netherlands and Turkey. No seizures of this size were recorded in 2017.

14 narcotics laboratories were found and seized, one fewer than in the previous year. Of those, amphetamine-type stimulants were being manufactured in 13 laboratories with LSD being manufactured in one. The laboratories mainly only had capacities to cover their own needs, or for customers/recipients limited to the immediate area.

Furthermore, at least five conversion laboratories were seized (amphetamine oil/base into consumable amphetamine paste or powder), as well as five tableting facilities (ecstasy tablets).

Active ingredients and prices

Compared to the previous year, the street-level dealing prices have fallen for crystal meth (-10.7 %), heroin (-10.3 %), cocaine (-5.5 %) and crack (-12.0 %). As the figure for crack is only based on the data supplied by one *Land*, however, this should be interpreted with caution (Table 8). An increase of 9.3 % was recorded for cannabis resin. There was almost no change in the price of amphetamines (+0.8 %), ecstasy (-1.3 %) or LSD (+2.2 %) since the last reporting year and no change at all in the price of marijuana.

The purity of cocaine at street-level dealing has almost doubled since 2011 and as of 2017 is at 78.4 %. The purity of heroin at street-level dealing in 2017 was 19 %.

The flowering tops of cannabis plants have reached a new peak value of 13.1 % potency. The potency of cannabis resin also increased again, to 14.7 %.

The most striking drop was recorded for amphetamines. From 2016 to 2017, following a peak in 2016 (of 41.2 mg/CU), the purity has again markedly fallen to 18 mg/CU. The mean active substance content of MDMA increased from 115 mg/CU to 125 mg/CU.

Criminal offences

General violations of the German Narcotic Drugs Act (Betäubungsmittelgesetz, BtMG) have continued to rise since 2012, reaching 255,344 cases in 2017. The number of offences in the area of economic compulsive crime, at 1,732, represents a record low since data started being collected in 2004.

Among dealing/trafficking offences, cannabis continues to play proportionately the largest role (60 %; 2017: 32,546 offences) although the dealing/trafficking and smuggling offences in relation to that substance have fallen overall since 2007 (36,061). The proportion of heroin in dealing/trafficking and smuggling offences has been continuously falling since 2010 and in recent years has dropped below cocaine (including crack). However, both have increased in comparison to the previous year, similarly to 2016 (heroin: +4.9 %; cocaine: +15.8 %). Both the proportion and the absolute number of dealing/trafficking offences involving ecstasy have increased again in recent years, following a temporary decline, and are now at the highest level since 2006.

The number of consumption-related offences has increased by 10 % overall year on year, with 255,344 offences committed in 2016 (+47 % increase compared to 2012). Cannabis continues to account for the largest proportion of consumption-related offences (65 %), with an increase of 14 % on the previous year. (LSD: +27 %; ecstasy: +4 %; cocaine: +20 %). The short-term trend over the last five years shows an increase in all consumption-related offences except for in relation to amphetamines (-3 %) and heroin (-14 %). The largest increases were recorded for LSD (+333 %) and ecstasy (+123 %). The figures for cannabis have increased by just over half (+57 %). The increase for cocaine was 38 %.

Convictions

The total number of convictions for narcotic drugs offences has risen again, following a slight fall in 2015 (2016: 48,983 convictions) and therefore sits at a comparable level to that of 2010 and 2011. Most convictions continue to be punished with fines (72.4 %). The majority of custodial sentences are commuted to probation (9,207; 68 % of all prison sentences).

Traffic accidents

The total number of vehicle drivers under the influence of other intoxicating substances increased again (+152 cases), however, as in previous years, they continue to make up only 0.6 of all drivers involved in accidents.

1 NATIONAL PROFILE

1.1 The drug market

1.1.1 Domestic production

Cultivation of cannabis

In Germany in 2017, a total of 101,598 cannabis plants were seized, according to the Federal Criminal Police Office (Bundeskriminalamt, BKA) ((2018a). A cultivation is deemed to be a plantation from a number of 20 plants upwards. Plantations are then further subdivided into small, large and professional plantations. Table 1 shows the number of seizures by category in comparison to the previous year. It should be noted in this context that year on year changes can vary enormously due to individual seizures. In the small number of cases of professional plantations in particular, one single seizure can greatly influence the data. The multi-year trend can be found in Table 7.

Table 1 Number of seized cannabis plantations and plants in comparison to the previous year

		Outdoor plantations			Indoor plantations			Total	
		2016	2017	Change	2016	2017	Change	2016	2017
Small plantations (20 - 99 plants)	Cases	93	82	-12%	510	417	-18%	603	499
	Plants	3,150	2,767	-12%	17,777	15,767	-11%	20,927	18,534
Large plantations (100 - 999 plants)	Cases	14	13	-7%	178	124	-30%	192	137
	Plant	3,144	3,530	12%	42,661	30,001	-30%	45,805	33,531
Professional plantations (> 1000 plants)	Cases	1	0	-100%	24	32	33%	25	32
	Plants	0	0	0%	19,661	39,327	100%	19,661	39,327
All	Cases	108	95	-12%	712	573	-20%	820	668
	Plants	6,294	6,297	0%	80,099	85,095	6%	86,393	91,392

(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018a)

Based on an online survey, Werse (2016) investigated the extent to which the different degrees to which cannabis is prohibited in different countries influences the extent of self-cultivation. According to the findings of the study, the motivation for self-cultivation is often to avoid the negative consequences of prohibition, whereby the perceived "illegality" of cannabis markedly affects, in the opinion of the author, the extent of concern in respect of self-cultivation and the security measures initiated.

Narcotics laboratories

In 2017, 14 illegal narcotics laboratories for manufacturing synthetic drugs were seized in Germany (2016: 15 laboratories). Of those, amphetamine-type stimulants were being manufactured in 13 laboratories with LSD being manufactured in one. The laboratories mainly only had capacities to cover their own needs, or for customers / recipients limited to the immediate area.

Furthermore, at least five conversion laboratories were seized (amphetamine oil/base into consumable amphetamine paste or powder), as well as five tableting facilities (ecstasy tablets) (Bundeskriminalamt, 2018b).

1.1.2 Routes of trafficking

The following information on trafficking routes for individual substances comes from BKA communications to the DBDD.

Hashish

The majority of the hashish seized in Germany continues to originate in Morocco, brought into Germany through the Netherlands in particular and often also via Spain. In addition, Afghanistan continues to play a significant role as the origin of hashish transported to Europe.

Germany is often a transit country for small and medium amounts of hashish transported to neighbouring countries, mainly Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden.

Marijuana

Albania is the main country of origin for marijuana seized in Germany. Marijuana smuggling from Albania to western Europe took place through Italy or the Balkan route. Imports of smaller quantities of marijuana was mostly from the Netherlands. Spain is also gaining in significance as a country of origin for marijuana. Insofar as marijuana seized in Germany was intended for onward transport to other countries, Switzerland, Great Britain and Italy in particular were recorded as the destination countries.

Heroin

Smuggling activities involving heroin from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran, primarily via the classic Balkan route, continued in 2017. Both the "northern Black Sea route" (Turkey - Caucasus region - Black Sea - Ukraine - Moldova or Romania destined for western Europe) and the "southern route" (Pakistan - East Africa - Europe) continue to be significant, however for Germany they are not as important as the Balkan route. For cases in which the origin of heroin seized in Germany could be established, imports from Iran were by far the largest by quantity, followed by imports from the Netherlands and Turkey. Insofar as heroin seized in Germany was intended for onward transport to other countries, the Netherlands, Italy and Switzerland in particular were recorded as the destination countries.

Opium

Opium seized in Germany was smuggled in from Turkey and Iran in particular. To the extent opium was intended for export via Germany as a transit country, it was en route to Canada, the USA and the Netherlands.

Cocaine

Both of the most important cocaine delivery gateways into Europe remained, by some margin, the port cities of Antwerp/Belgium and Rotterdam/the Netherlands.

The cocaine smuggled into Germany was, by volume, most commonly from Uruguay, Ecuador and Brazil, followed by Paraguay and Colombia. Insofar as cocaine seized in Germany was intended for onward transport, Belgium, Spain and the Netherlands were recorded as the destination countries.

Amphetamine

Amphetamine was in the main, as in previous years, imported from the Netherlands. Amphetamine seized in Germany was destined mainly for the German drug market.

To the extent that amphetamine was intended for onward transportation, the destination countries recorded were primarily Austria and the USA.

Ecstasy

The tablets seized in 2017 for which evidence of origin could be established originated almost exclusively from the Netherlands. In 2017, Germany was recorded as transit country for ecstasy deliveries, in particular to the USA.

Crystal meth

Of the 114kg of crystal meth seized in total, around half was intended for markets outside Europe. The majority of crystal meth intended for Germany originated, as in previous years, from the Czech Republic. The seized crystal meth which was in transit through Germany, was destined mainly for Israel and Malaysia.

1.1.3 Contextual information on trafficking

No information is currently available on this.

1.1.4 Wholesale drug and precursor market

Prices

At the end of 2002, the *Land* Criminal Police Offices (Landeskriminalämter, LKAs) and the BKA agreed on an expanded collection of information on domestic narcotics prices. Since then, in addition to the highest and lowest prices, the so-called "predominant market prices" at street and wholesale level have been recorded. Based on an agreement on data collection made at European level on the initiative of the EMCDDA, the BKA begun in 2010 to differen-

tiate by trafficked/dealt quantity, from 0.5 to <1.5kg (respectively 500 to <1,500 consumption units (CU)), 1.5 to <10kg (1,500 to <10,000 CU) and 10 to <100kg (10,000 to <100,000 CU). To ensure the collection of data on prices is as representative as possible, data is generally collected at four to six selected locations across the *Laender* (by police offices in urban and rural areas) and then transferred to the respective LKA. The LKAs compile the data sent by the testing points and any further available information and report the current market prices of narcotics in their *Land* to the BKA once a year in a standardised table. Based on this data, the BKA calculates the average narcotics prices for Germany.

The drug prices arrived at in this way can only be taken as approximate values, particularly since differences in the purity of the drugs is not taken into account and the quality categories can be different. A further difficulty is the fact that prices are only known in connection with relatively few cases, meaning that random effects are able to influence the figures.

In 2010, the EMCDDA published a manual with guidelines on data collection for narcotics prices at street level. In addition to describing methodological difficulties such as geographic coverage, representativeness and weighting, the manual also contains examples of narcotics price calculations from several European countries. In France, Norway and the Netherlands, for example, expert groups from the health sector and criminal prosecution, or from various social "scenes", provide estimates of current narcotics prices (European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), 2010). An overview of the prices of different drugs in the various quantity categories in Germany is shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Prices of various drugs in small and large quantities (€), 2017

	0.5 to < 1.5 kg or 500 to <1,500 CU	1.5 to < 10 kg or 1,500 to < 10,000 CU	10 to <100 kg or 1,500 to < 10,000 CU
Heroin	31,750	20,000**	
Cocaine	41,727	38,333*	
Amphetamine	4,443	2,270	1,500*
Ecstasy / Tablets	2,868	1,950*	1,200*
Cannabis resin	2,775	3,699*	
Herbal cannabis	4,599	3,936	4,000*
Crack			4,200**
LSD/Trip			
Crystal meth	31,250*		
Raw opium	5,000**		

(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018; data delivery.)

* Mean value is based on a very small basis of data (fewer than five *Laender*)

** Value based on figures received from one *Land* only

1.1.5 Retail drug and precursor market

The prices of various drugs at street-level dealing are provided annually through the BKA data delivery.

Table 3 Street-level prices of various drugs (€), 2017

Heroin	Cocaine	Amphetamine	Ecstasy Tablets	Cannabis resin	Herbal cannabis	Crack	LSD trip	Crystal meth
42,6	71,6	11,9	7,7	9,4	10	73,3*	9,5	78

(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018; data delivery.)

* Value based on figures received from one Land only

Purity

In addition to ascertaining prices, the BKA also investigates the purity of different drugs on the market. Samples taken from drug seizures serve as a basis for the analysis of purity and potency. For better comparability, the content of psychotropic ingredients are related to the chemical form of the base, irrespective of the form in which the substance in the illicit preparation is found. All figures given may only be interpreted as approximate values because large fluctuations in purity levels of the individual seizures can lead to strong random effects. As the distribution of values diverges considerably from the normal distribution, median values are used instead of arithmetic means.

The figures presented are based on data provided by the BKA upon request of the DBDD. The purity is broken down into three areas, in line with the seized quantities: street level dealing (<1g), retail (1g to <1,000g) and wholesale (≥1,000g). Results are presented in a differentiated manner where a marked difference can be determined in purity at wholesale and street dealing levels. The reason for this is that in most cases the substances are increasingly cut from the wholesale to the street dealing level for profit maximisation purposes. In addition to data regarding purity, the most frequently found cutting agents are also reported. To the extent these have a pharmacological effect (e.g. caffeine), they are categorised as adulterants, otherwise they are categorised as diluents (e.g. sugar).

Amphetamine

In 2017, 3,472 data sets (2016: 3,860) were evaluated. Amphetamine preparations mainly reach the drug market in cut form. Therefore, categorisation by weight is not undertaken.

The mean purity continuously increased between 2012 and 2015. It has slightly fallen back again since 2016. The median value for 2017 is 12.1 % (2016: 13.8 %). As far as adulterants are concerned, caffeine predominated (97.5 %) in the 3,142 samples analysed. Among the cutting agents found, lactose (11.2 %), creatine/creatinine (1.8 %), mannitol (1.3 %) were somewhat noteworthy. In addition, with a frequency of less than 1 %, were the adulterants

methamphetamine, cocaine, ibuprofen, 2-amino-4-phenylbutane, 3,4-methylenedioxy-N-methylamphetamine (MDMA), amitriptyline oxide, ketamine, lidocaine, tetramisole/levamisole, benzocaine, carbamazepine, chlorphenamine, melperone, paracetamol, sildenafil along with the diluents glucose, sorbitol, citric acid/citrate, taurine, starch, sucrose, cellulose, inositol, blinding powder, calcium carbonate, methylsulphonylmethane, glutamate, sodium bicarbonate and sodium sulphate.

Methamphetamine

For 2017, 613 data sets were reported (2016: 768). The median value for the active ingredient concentration was 72.0 % (2016: 73.0 %). This is a slight decrease on the previous year.

The following levels of occurrence were recorded for diluents. 240 data sets formed the basis for the analysis: Piracetam was the predominant adulterant (26.7 %), followed by caffeine (2.5 %), ibuprofen (2.1 %), 3,4-dimethoxymethamphetamine (<1 %), 4-chloro- α -pyrrolidinovalerophenone (4-Cl- α -PVP) (<1 %), acetylsalicylic acid/acetylsalicylate (<1 %), chlorphenamine (<1 %) and paracetamol (<1 %). Methylsulphonylmethane was the most frequently recorded diluent (69.6 %). In addition, 2-phenethylamine (6.7 %), 1-phenethylamine (5.8 %), magnesium sulphate (4.6 %), glutamate (2.5 %), lactose (2.1 %), sucrose (1.7 %), alum (<1 %), potassium nitrate (<1 %), creatine/creatinine (<1 %) and sodium bicarbonate (<1 %) were recorded.

Cocaine

For 2017, 2,847 data sets were analysed in respect of their active substance content (2016: 2,841). On the illegal narcotics market, cocaine is found almost exclusively as cocaine hydrochloride. Only a very few cases of preparations containing cocaine base were recorded.

The median values increased from 2016 in all three weight categories. The mean active substance content for the street samples was 78.4 % (2016: 74.1 %), the middle dealing level was 76.4 % (2016: 70.8 %) and for wholesale quantities it was 77.2 % (2016: 74.6 %).

Since 2011, the purity of both of the lower weight categories has been continually decreasing, and from 2014/15 it has been practically indistinguishable from the purity of wholesale quantities. Cocaine samples were less frequently cut than 5 to 10 years ago.

As far as diluents are concerned, the analysis returned the following frequencies: Among adulterants in the 1,216 analysed samples (2016: 1,458), tetramisole/levamisole has the greatest significance, at 71.8 %. That is followed by phenacetin (22.9 %), caffeine (9.4 %), lidocaine (9.0 %), paracetamol (1.8 %) and hydroxyzine (1.2 %). The most frequently recorded diluents were lactose (18.2 %), mannitol (9.0 %), inositol (1.7 %) and sucrose (1.5 %). In addition, with a recorded frequency of less than one percent, were the adulterants amphetamine, benzocaine, heroin, ibuprofen, diltiazem, 3,4-methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV), acetylsalicylic acid/acetylsalicylate, aminophenazone, diphenhydramine, doxepin, ketamine, metamizole and tilidine along with the diluents creatine/creatinine, glucose, sorbitol, starch, boric acid/borate, glutamine, leucine, taurine, 2-phenethylamine, cellulose/cellulose derivative, citric acid/citrate, isoleucin, sodium bicarbonate, talcum powder and valine.

Heroin

In 2017, 1,885 data sets (2016: 1,779) were reported. At the wholesale level, the trend to higher purity levels which has been observed since 2014 continued. The median value is 49.3 % (2016: 45.1 %). Looking at the trend since 2008, the maximum value of 60.3 % in 2009 has not yet been reached again since. As far as the middle dealing/trafficking level is concerned, the average purity has dropped slightly from 22.6 % in 2016 to 19.9 %. At street-level dealing the median value is 19.0 %. The quality of heroin has been at a relatively high level since 2015. The mean purity has been at a higher level only twice in the last 10 years.

The analysis of the diluents produced the following picture: Out of the 1,804 data sets evaluated (2016: 1,680), caffeine and paracetamol predominated as far as adulterants are concerned (99.3 % and 99.1 % respectively). In third place, by a huge margin, was griseofulvin (1.2 %). The most frequent diluents reported were mannitol (3.4 %) and sorbitol (1.4 %). In addition, with a frequency of less than one percent, were the adulterants methorphan/dextromethorphan, phenacetin, alprazolam, ascorbic acid, cocaine, lidocaine, metamizole, phenobarbital and phenolphthalein, and the diluents lactose, sucrose and glucose.

Cannabis

Since 2006, all participating laboratories have differentiated in their analysis of marijuana between normal herbal cannabis and the flowering tops as the more potent flowering tops have been increasingly appearing on the illicit drug market without the leaves and stalks. The determination of THC-content¹ was carried out in 2017 on the basis of reported data sets pertaining to 2,973 samples of herbal cannabis (2016: 3,109), 9,192 samples with flowering tops (2016: 8,646) and 2,750 samples of cannabis resin (hashish) (2016: 2,504) in the laboratories of the BKA, the LKAs and the customs authorities. In 2017, the potency of the flowering tops was 13.1 % (2016: 12.8 %) and thus at a new record high, while herbal cannabis was at 2.5 % (2016: 2.4 %) and cannabis resin had a potency of 14.7 % (2016: 14.0 %). Since 2011, when the median value of cannabis resin was 6.9 %, the THC content has been continuously increasing and hit a new peak in 2017. The purity of the 84 reported hashish concentrate samples² was between 10.0 % and 86.7 % (2016: 75 samples between 5.3 % and 68.8 %).

Ecstasy

The designation ecstasy covers narcotic preparations distributed on the illegal market in the form of tablets and capsules. For better clarity, they are referred to in the following as consumption units (CU).

¹ As far as the reported potency is concerned, the tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) additionally created through the application of heat is also taken into account.

² Cannabis concentrate is an umbrella term for preparations for which the THC content has been increased through an enrichment process (hashish oil, pollinate etc.).

The purity was reported for a total of 1,200,304 CU (2016: 1,916,818). As in the previous year, the consumption units, with only a few exceptions, contained only one psychotropic active substance (99.8 % of all notifications, 2016: 99.6 %), referred to in the following as single substance preparations. At 98.4 %, 3,4-methylenedioxy-N-methylamphetamine (MDMA) was, as in 2016, the most frequently named active ingredient. This was followed, at some distance, by 4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxyphenethylamine (2C-B) at 1.3 % and amphetamine, 1-(3-chlorophenyl)-piperazine (mCPP), 3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA) and methamphetamine each at less than 1 %.

Table 4 Purity of ecstasy in mg/CU in 2017

Active Substance	Quantity	Median
MDMA	17 – 453	125
Amphetamine	5 – 30***	18
Methamphetamine**	16 – 28	17
2C-B*	7 – 10	9

(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018; data delivery.)

* Only one report

** Only two reports

*** Only three reports

Note: Purity values were calculated as base.

62.2 % of the reported combination preparations contained mixtures of MDMA/MDA, 32.4 % comprised MDMA/amphetamine and 5.4 % were MDMA/MDE.

The MDMA/MDA preparations contained an average of 32mg MDMA and 16mg MDA. The mean individual quantities in MDMA/amphetamine preparations were 57mg MDMA and 7mg amphetamine. The MDMA/MDE preparations contained an average of 39mg MDMA and 110mg MDE. Caffeine was the most frequently recorded adulterant in single substance and combination preparations. Among single substance preparations, cellulose, magnesium stearate and lactose predominated as tablet binding agents. An evaluation of combination preparations was foregone due to the low availability of data.

1.2 Drug related crime

1.2.1 Drug law offences

Since, in addition to purchasing and dealing/trafficking, the possession of illicit drugs is also prohibited under the law, criminal sanctions are some of the more common associated effects of drug use. The BKA, in its statistical report on drug-related offences, distinguishes between criminal acts in connection with violations of the BtMG (narcotics offences) and

cases of direct economic compulsive crime. The former are recorded according to the following three categories of offence:

- General offences under Sec. 29 BtMG (above all possession, purchase and supply of small amounts, so called consumption-related offences),
- dealing/trafficking offences, which cover: illegal dealing/trafficking in and smuggling of narcotics as per Sec. 29 BtMG as well as the illegal import of narcotics in non-small quantities as per Sec. 30 BtMG,
- other violations of the BtMG³.

In 2017 a total of 330,580 narcotics offences were recorded in Germany, 255,344 of which were general violations of the BtMG, 52,811 were dealing/trafficking and smuggling offences as per Sec. 29 BtMG, there were 1,794 cases of importing "non-small quantities" as per Sec. 30 BtMG and 20,136 other violations of the BtMG (Bundesministerium des Inneren, 2018).

Consumption-related offences/general offences under Sec. 29 BtMG

The term "consumption-related offences" is used to describe general violations of the BtMG. These consist of offences committed in violation of Sec. 29 BtMG, meaning the possession, purchase and supply of narcotic drugs and similar offences.

The 2017 police crime statistics (Polizeiliche Kriminalstatistik, PKS) (Bundesministerium des Inneren, 2018) show that cannabis plays a predominant role also in the case of consumption-related offences: 65.1 % of all such cases are based on violations in connection with cannabis. Amphetamine (11.7 %, cocaine (5.7 %) and heroin (3.4 %), together account for a further 20.8 % of the recorded offences. The remaining proportion is split between ecstasy (3.3 %), LSD (0.27 %) and others (6.9 %).

Dealing / trafficking offences

The term "dealing/trafficking offences" encompasses all offences of illegal trading in and smuggling intoxicants as per Sec. 29 BtMG as well as offences of illegal import of narcotics as per Sec. 30 (1) No. 4 BtMG.

Cannabis was predominant in dealing/trafficking offences (32,546 offences, 59.6 % of the total of 54,605 dealing/trafficking, smuggling and importing offences), followed by, at some

³ Other violations include illegal cultivation of narcotics (Sec. 29 (1) No. 1 BtMG), the cultivation of, manufacture of and dealing/trafficking in narcotics as a member of a gang (Sec. 30 (1) No. 1, Sec. 30a BtMG), providing financial means or similar assets (Sec. 29 (1) No. 13 BtMG), promotion of narcotics (Sec. 29 (1) No. 8 BtMG), supplying, administering or providing narcotics to minors (Sec. 29 a (1) No. 1, and possibly Sec. 30 (1) No. 2 BtMG), negligently causing the death of another by supplying, administering or providing narcotics for immediate use (Sec. 30 (1) No. 3 BtMG), illegal prescribing and administering by doctors (Sec. 29 (1) No. 6 BtMG) and illegal dealing/trafficking in or manufacturing, supplying, possessing narcotics in non-small quantities (Sec. 29 a (1) No. 2 BtMG).

distance, (meth)amphetamine⁴ (amphetamine: 6,238; of which methamphetamine: 2,604). 3,760 offences were reported for cocaine (including crack), 2,979 for ecstasy, followed by 2,515 offences for heroin (Bundesministerium des Inneren, 2018).

Economic compulsive crime

Direct economic compulsive crime is understood to refer to all criminal offences committed in order to obtain narcotic drugs, substitutes or alternative substances. It is primarily significant in relation to theft and robbery. More frequently, there is indirect economic compulsive crime, for the purpose of obtaining money or valuables to finance the subsequent purchase of narcotic drugs. Indirect economic compulsive crime is not recorded in the PKS. Recognising and recording direct economic compulsive crime are very difficult and incomplete, as the drug addiction is not always recognised.

According to the PKS, direct drug use could only be established for 36.3 % of suspects of this type of offence in 2017. The competent official body is responsible for collecting the data and assessing whether the offence in question falls under direct economic compulsive crime. That body reaches its conclusion on the basis of investigation findings, which includes direct interrogation/interviewing. Even unexplained burglaries can be included as economic compulsive crimes if the facts are obvious. In 2017, 1,732 cases of direct economic compulsive crime were recorded (Bundesministerium des Inneren, 2018).

Users of hard drugs who have come to the attention of law enforcement for the first time (FTDO)

Up to 2015, the BKA published statistics on persons who have come to the attention of law enforcement in connection with hard drugs for the first time (first time drug offenders, "FTDO").

The method of data collection has been changed in some *Laender* due to requirements under data protection law. This means that the recording of FTDO in the current reporting year can no longer be compared with that of previous years and is thus not included in the trend. The most recent information available is from the year 2015, in which the total number of FTDO was 20,890. Users of amphetamines and methamphetamine who came to the attention of law enforcement for the first time accounted in 2015 for 68.4 % of all FTDO (cocaine: 15.1 %, ecstasy: 12.9 %, heroin: 9.0 %, other: 2.5 %, LSD: 1.4 % and crack: 1.1 %)⁵. In this

⁴ Up to 2013, crimes in connection with amphetamine and methamphetamine were only listed as a combined total in the PKS. Since 2014, a differentiation has been drawn and the values for amphetamine and methamphetamine specified separately.

⁵ Each person is only counted once in the overall figure as an "FTDO". However, to shed some light on the polytoxicomaniac use behaviour, it is possible to count one person under more than one drug type, resulting in the percentage breakdown by drug type exceeding 100 %.

statistical documentation, cannabis offences are not taken into account since only first-time users of hard drugs are recorded⁶ (Bundeskriminalamt, 2016).

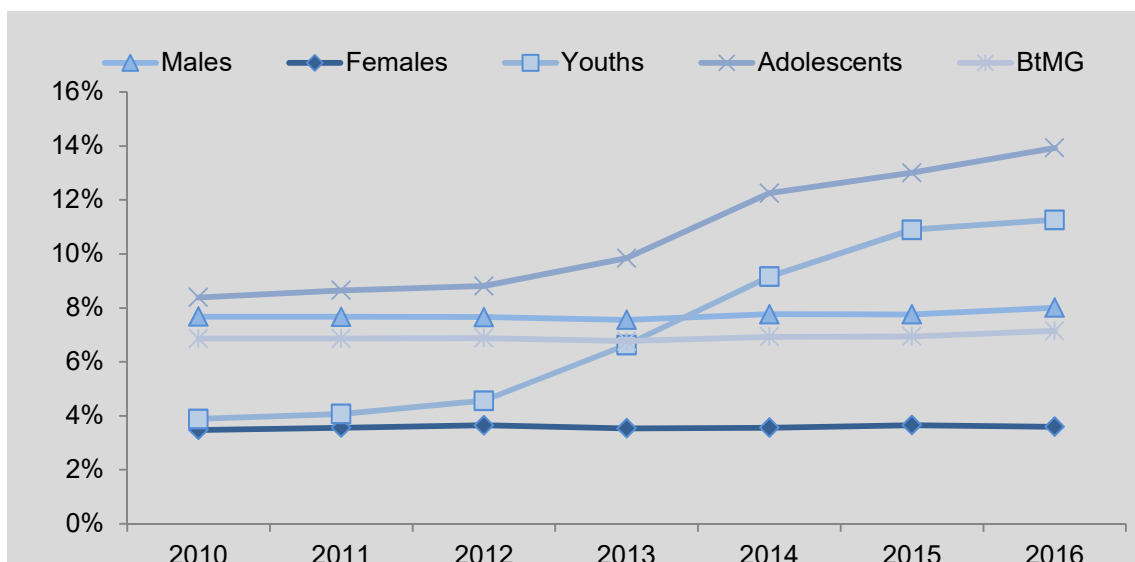
Convictions under the BtMG

Data for 2017 on convictions under the BtMG is not yet available. (2017)(Statistisches Bundesamt, 2016) 57,539 persons were convicted in 2016 under the BtMG. Of those, 1,485 were convicted for illegal import under Sec. 30 (1) No. 4 and 5,875 under Sec. 29a (1) No. 2 as well as 47,174 for other violations under Sec. 29 (1).

44,224 judgments were issued under general (adult) criminal law and 8,556 under criminal law relating to young offenders. As far as judgments issued under general criminal law are concerned, 12,382 prison sentences were handed down – of which 8,322 were suspended sentences – and 31,842 fines were imposed.

Convictions issued for violations of the BtMG in 2016 accounted for, as in previous years, around 7 % of all convictions (Figure 1), whereby the proportion among men (8 %) was considerably higher than that among women (3.6 %). Amongst adolescents, the proportion of convictions due to violations of the BtMG amounted to 11.3 % of all convictions, which represents an increase from previous years (2015: 10.9 %: 2014: 9.2 %). Among young adults between 18 and 21 years of age, the proportion of convictions related to narcotics offences was also higher, at 14 %, than in the previous year (13 %), thus continuing its increasing trend from previous years. As a result, narcotics offences committed by this age group have an above-average, and growing, share of overall crime.

⁶ Someone is considered a user of hard drugs if they consume substances and preparations listed in Annexes I - III of the BtMG with the exception of those who exclusively use cannabis products (hashish, marijuana, hashish oil), psilocybin (mushrooms) and "Exempt preparations". In this context, it is irrelevant how the substances and preparations are taken into the body. Insofar as persons known as being users of hard drugs take so-called alternative substances - "exempt preparations" or other medicinal drugs or substances which do not fall under the BtMG - where narcotics are unavailable, such use is also deemed use of hard drugs.



(Destatis, 2017)

Figure 1 Proportion of convictions for narcotics among different groups of offenders 2005 - 2016

Nine times more men than women were convicted for narcotics offences in 2016 (men: 42,220; women: 4,616). According to the Hamburg basic documentation system (Hamburger Basisdokumentation, BADO) (Martens und Neumann-Runde, 2016), 43 % of opiate clients in 2016 reported currently having problems with the criminal justice authorities. The highest proportion of people in treatment with criminal convictions could also be found in the opiate group (77 %). Around two thirds have already been convicted of narcotics offences (61 %), over half because of economic compulsive crimes (52 %) and a quarter because of bodily injury offences (26 %). Men are convicted more often than women in all offence categories and have, on average, more prison experience (63 months) than women (31 months).

Around a quarter (27 %) of cannabis clients had experience of prison at least once in their lives, men (32 %) more often than women (7 %). The most common types of offence in this group were physical assault (11 %), narcotics offences (10 %), economic compulsive crime (7 %) and other offences at 12 %. 21 % of male clients and 5 % of female clients being treated in connection with cannabis report having spent some time in detention.

Overall, 32 % of all clients documented by the BADO in 2016 had problems with the justice authorities (including those with an alcohol problem). This represents a decrease of five percentage points versus the previous year and continues the downward trend since 2007, albeit interrupted in 2015. The number of clients with experience of prison also increased in 2016 to an average of 36 % (2015: 31 %) and is thus, after a considerable decline up to 2014 (17 %), somewhat higher than 2007 levels.

1.2.2 Drug related crime outside of drug law offences

Drug use and road accidents

Since 2003, the German Federal Statistical Office has also provided annual figures in its Report on Road Accidents (Verkehrsunfallbericht) on whether operators of motor vehicles involved in accidents were under the influence of intoxicating substances other than alcohol (Destatis, 2018). Since 1998, driving under the influence of drugs has been legally classified as a regulatory offence⁷. This also applies to cases where lack of fitness to drive could not be proven. According to case law, the recommendations of the so-called Commission on Legal Limits (Grenzwertkommission) can serve as a starting point for the thresholds of each substance. These are 1 ng/ml for THC, 10 ng/ml for morphine, 75 ng/ml for BZE, 25 ng/ml for ecstasy, 25 ng/ml for MDE and 25 ng/ml for amphetamine (Burhoff, 2006).

In 2017, there were a total of 302,656 police-registered accidents on German roads with injury to persons, with around 372,000 car drivers involved. In 55.5 % of cases, the accident was self-inflicted.

Of these, 12,875 people involved in the accidents (3.5 %) were under the influence of alcohol and 1,961 (0.53 %) were under the influence of "other intoxicating substances" (Destatis, 2018). However, as there are considerable difficulties in detecting drug use in comparison to alcohol, one still has to assume that drug-related cases are still under-reported.

The police needs reliable and rapid methods in order to be able to carry out drug screening tests quickly at the roadside on drivers who are suspected of being under the influence of drugs (Musshoff et al., 2014). Although oral fluids may be suitable for testing drivers under the influence of drugs at the roadside, the testing equipment for oral fluids is still not yet sensitive enough (for example for methamphetamine and benzodiazepine) and too unspecific (for THC). The poor assessments of benzodiazepine tests could be due, among other things, to the low number of positive test results. Although the sensitivity of the testing procedures for THC is somewhat higher than described in the literature, the test specificity (of <90 %) still leaves a lot to be desired. Furthermore, the specificity of the tests suffers from reduced thresholds, leading to many false positive test results.

Crime experienced by drug users themselves

The Hamburg BADO shows a proportion of approximately 61 % of new clients who have already had experience with physical violence (Martens und Neumann-Runde, 2016). As for experience of sexual violence, the proportion was 21 %.

Comparing the different substance groups, one finds that the clients who have sought help from the Hamburg outpatient addiction support system for opiate-related problems are particularly affected in this respect. Among these, almost three quarters reported in the current

⁷ A list of the relevant substances can be found at: <http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/stvg/anlage.html> [Accessed: 27 Jul. 2018].

reporting year (2016) that they had been at some point victims of physical violence (74 %; women 82 %; men 71 %) and more than one in four reported having been victims of sexual violence (26 %; women 68 %; men 10 %).

Around half of cannabis clients (48 %) reported having had experience with physical violence in their lives. 16 % report experience of sexual violence, the frequency of which, as with opioid clients, varies greatly between women (41 %) and men (9 %). Violence perpetrated by the client themselves was reported by 24 % of women and 41 % of men (overall: 38 %). (Lindemann et al., 2017)

There is no new data for 2016 in relation to experience of violence among cocaine users. For 2015, however, over three quarters of female cocaine users (76 %) and two thirds of the male clients (67 %) reported having been the victim of physical violence at some point in their lives. Over half of the women (57 %) reported experience of sexual violence (men 8 %). Over half of the men (62 %) and a third of the women (34 %) had themselves been physically violent towards others (overall: 57 %) (Martens und Neumann-Runde, 2016).

1.3 Drug supply reduction activities

1.3.1 Drug supply reduction activities

Drug related crime within the meaning of the police rules encompasses all crimes in connection with the misuse of substances and preparations which are subject to the BtMG, of other medicinal drugs or other substances which are used as substitute/alternative substances by drug users (violation of German Medicinal Products Act, Arzneimittelgesetz, AMG), the illegal handling of base materials under the German Precursors Monitoring Act (Grundstoffüberwachungsgesetz, GÜG), as well as of new psychoactive substances (NPS) as per the German New Psychoactive Substances Act (Neue-psychoaktive-Stoffe-Gesetz, NpSG), and direct economic compulsive crime (offences committed for the direct purpose of obtaining narcotics or substitute/alternative substances).

The key objectives for the police in combating narcotics are, in particular:

- Prevention of the illegal cultivation or illegal manufacture of narcotics,
- Prevention of import, transit and export of narcotics,
- Breaking up international, organised illegal narcotics trade
- Extensive seizures of illicit drugs,
- Confiscation of the illegal profits from narcotics trafficking.

Thus, the police focus on repressive duties. At the same time, the police make considerable efforts in their sphere of responsibility in the area of prevention, with numerous and diverse informational and educational projects.

2 TRENDS

2.1 Short and long term trends in the drug market

Indicators of the situation on the illicit drug market are, in addition to the perceived availability and supply of illicit substances, also the number and size of seizures, prices and potency or purity of the substances. In order to obtain a real understanding of new drugs, their structure and effects, considerable effort and expense in the form of chemical analyses is necessary. Such analyses are carried out, for example, by the Forensic Science Institute (Kriminaltechnischen Institut, KT 45) of the BKA. Information on seizures is also available from the BKA or from the LKAs.

One indicator for trends is the number of seizures, whereby a differentiation is made between the quantities involved (Figure 5) and the number of individual seizures. Due to an adjustment in data protection rules, the LKAs' data collection modalities have changed in several *Laender*, which has affected the registration of cases of seizures since 2016, meaning the data after that point can no longer be presented. An overview of the trend in cases of seizure up to 2015 can be found in the 2016 Drug Market and Crime workbook (Schulte et al., 2016).

10 % less heroin was seized in 2017 in comparison to the previous year. The fluctuations in seizure quantities were due to larger individual seizures in 2016, which did not occur in 2017 in Germany.

Seizures of cocaine increased by 337 % compared to the previous year, amounting to around 8.2 tonnes. Seizures of large individual quantities at German ports led to this record amount.

The quantity of marijuana seized in comparison to the previous year increased by around a third (+30 %), a change also attributable to the increase in sizeable individual seizures. In comparison to previous years (with the exception of 2014) it was the largest quantity of marijuana seized since 2008.

The greatest fall was recorded for ecstasy, at 693,668 tablets (CU) seized (-69 % in comparison to the previous year), following a record number of seizures in 2016. The huge decrease can be explained by three major seizures in 2016, which did not occur in 2017.

Table 5 Quantity of illicit drugs seized in Germany, 5-year trend

						Change	
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2016 – 2017	2013 – 2017
Heroin	270.2	779.1	209.6	330.0	298.442	-10%	10%
Cocaine	1,314.5	1,569.4	3,114.4	1,870.6	8,165.940	337%	521%
Crack	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.338	147%	-16%
Amphetamine	1,261.8	1,335.8	1,356.1	1,470.9	1,669.418	13%	32%
Crystal meth	77.3	74.1	66.9	62.2	114.482	84%	48%
Ecstasy	480,839	702,439	967,410	2,218,050	693,668	-69%	44%
Hashish	1,769.7	1,747.6	1,598.9	1,874.4	1,294.802	-31%	-27%
Marijuana	4,827.1	8,211.8	3,851.9	5,954.5	7,731.181	30%	60%
LSD	35,823	28,596	61,991	35,933	38,854	8%	8%
Khat	22,794.7	10,227.8	8,231.2	2,367.2	4,223.289	78%	-81%
Mushrooms	20.1	13.6	15.6	17.6	9.893	-44%	-51%

(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018b)

* All quantities in kg, except ecstasy and LSD which are in consumption units (CU).

101,598 cannabis plants were seized in 2017, 3.7 % more than in the previous year. Thus no trend can be identified, in view of the steep reduction in the number of cannabis plants seized in 2016. Cannabis plantations are only classified as such from a minimum number of 20 plants. This is one reason that the absolute numbers of seized plants differ in Table 6 and Table 7. However, the possibility of seizing already harvested plants outside of plantations can also lead to this difference. In 2017, this difference amounted to 10,206 plants, significantly fewer than in the previous year (14,374), however comparable to 2015 (9,560). The number of seized cannabis plants has increased both outside of plantations (+3.7 %) and within plantations (+9.3 %) (Table 6).

Table 6 Quantity of illicit drugs seized in Germany, 5-year trend

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2016-2017	2013 - 2017
Total no. of plants	97,829	107,766	132,257	154,621	98,013	101,598	3,66%	-5,72%
Cases	2,204	2,026	2,400	2,167	n/a	n/a		
Plants in plantations	69,587	96,647	116,911	145,061	83,639	91,392	9,27%	-5%
Difference	28,242	11,119	15,346	9,560	14,374	10,206		

(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018b)

Following a drop in the total number of cannabis plants seized in 2016, an increase was once again recorded in 2017 (+5.8 %), whilst the number of plantations seized fell once again (-18.5 %). As far as small plantations are concerned, a reduction in seizure quantity (-11.4 %) and number of cases (-25.5 %) was recorded (Table 7). A reduction in the number of small plantations (-25.5 %) and large plantations (-31.3 %) was also recorded for 2017, interrupting the upward trend of recent years.

Cannabis plantations

The total number of cannabis plantations seized in Germany fell by 19 % in 2017 to 668, consisting of 573 indoor and 95 outdoor plantations.

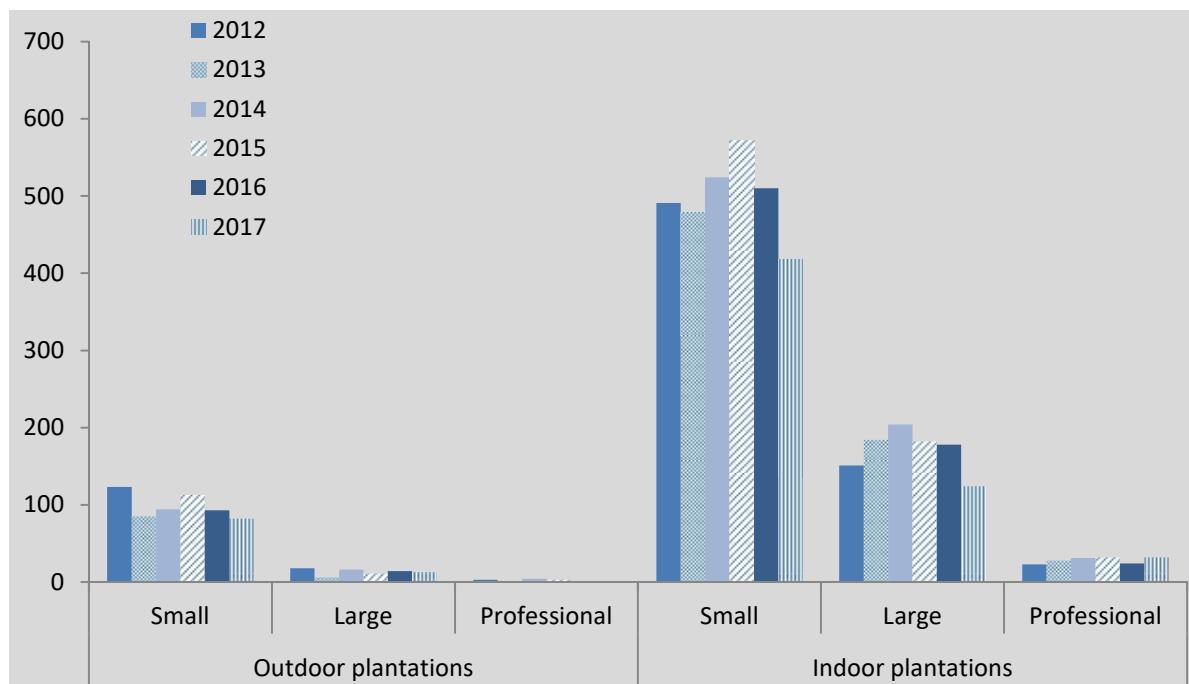
Table 7 Seized cannabis plants in plantations in Germany

Outdoor plantations		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Small plantations (20-99 Plants)	Cases	123	85	94	113	93	82
	Plants	3,487	1,932	2,840	3,427	3,150	2,767
Large plantations (100-999 Plants)	Cases	18	6	16	11	14	13
	Plants	1,318	944	4,362	1,673	3,144	3,530
Professional plantations (>1000 Plants)	Cases	3	0	4	3	1	0
	Plants	*	0	146	4,036	0	0
Total	Cases	144	91	114	127	108	95
	Plants	4,805	2,876	7,348	9,136	6,294	6,297

Indoor-Plantagen							
		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Small plantations (20-99 Plants)	Cases	491	479	524	572	510	417
	Plants	14,330	15,565	16,579	16,695	17,777	15,767
Large plantations (100-999 Plants)	Cases	151	184	204	182	178	124
	Plants	33,494	47,007	48,724	50,292	42,661	30,001
Professional plantations (>1000 Plants)	Cases	23	28	31	32	24	32
	Plants	16,958	31,199	44,260	68,938	19,661	39,327
Total	Cases	665	691	759	786	712	573
	Plants	64,782	93,771	109,563	135,925	80,099	85,095
Total							
		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Small plantations (20-99 Plants)	Cases	614	564	618	685	603	449
	Plants	17,817	17,497	19,419	20,122	20,927	18,534
Large plantations (100-999 Plants)	Cases	169	190	220	193	192	132
	Plants	34,812	47,951	53,086	51,965	45,805	33,531
Professional plantations (>1000 Plants)	Cases	26	28	35	35	25	32
	Plants	16,958	31,199	44,406	72,974	19,661	39,327
Total	Cases	809	782	873	913	820	668
	Plants	69,587	96,647	116,911	145,061	86,393	91,392

(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018b)

* The plantations were either completely cleared, external circumstances pointed to a professional cultivation or it was industrial hemp that was being cultivated.

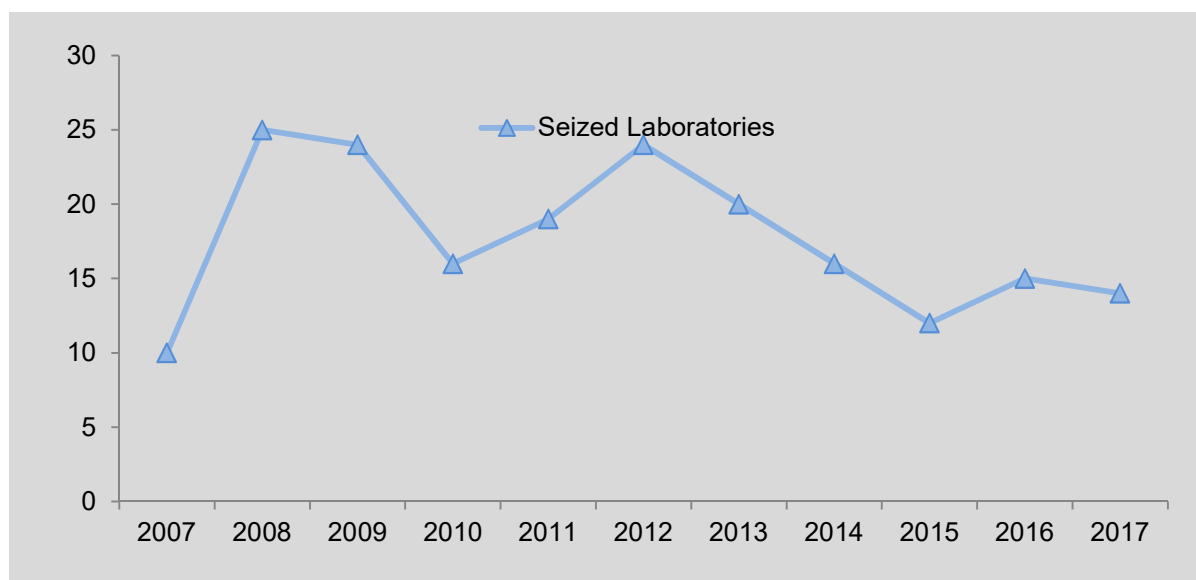


(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018b)

Figure 2 Seized cannabis plantations in Germany 2012 - 2017

Narcotics laboratories

Figure 3 shows the number of narcotics laboratories seized since 2007, which has continuously fallen since 2012 and, following a slight increase in 2016, has slightly decreased again.



(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018b)

Figure 3 Number of seized narcotics laboratories 2007 - 2017

Narcotics prices

After an international expert group, overseen by the EMCDDA, initiated a harmonisation of the data collection procedures for wholesale drug prices in Europe, wholesale quantities have, since 2011, been divided into the weight categories of 0.5 to <1.5kg (or respectively 500 to <1,500 consumption units, CU), 1.5 to <10kg (1,500 to <10,000 CU) and 10kg to <100kg (10,000 to <100,000 CU) and larger and this has been implemented by the BKA (see also section 1.1.4). Thus, it has been possible to compare data since 2011.

A long term comparison (2008 - 2017) shows that the street price of cannabis resin has increased the most (+59.3 %), followed by crack (+37.5 %, to be interpreted with caution as it is based on very small amounts of data), marijuana (+26.6 %) and heroin (17.7 %). Only the street price of amphetamine has fallen (-3.3 %).

Compared to the previous year, the street-level dealing prices have dropped for crystal meth (-10.7 %), heroin (-10.3 %), cocaine (-5.5 %) and crack (-12.0 %). As the value for crack is only based on the data supplied by one *Land*, however, this should be interpreted with caution (Table 8). An increase of 9.3 % was recorded for cannabis resin. There was almost no change in the price of amphetamines (+0.8 %), ecstasy (-1.3 %) or LSD (+2.2 %) since the last reporting year and no change at all in the price of marijuana.

Table 8 Trend in average narcotics prices at street-level dealing (€)

	Heroin	Cocaine	Crack	Ecstasy	Amphetamine	Marijuana	Cannabis resin	LSD	Crystal meth
2008	36.2	61.6	53.3	6.7	12.3	7.9	5.9	9.0	59.3
2009	36.9	62.4	58.3	6.6	10.5	7.9	6.8	8.4	71.3
2010	36.2	65.6	49.5	6.6	12.5	8.7	7.1	9	67.3
2011	42.4	65.7	58.5	6.6	13.1	8.9	7.2	9.8	78.7
2012	42.9	64.9	--	7.0	14.2	9.1	7.5	10.9	75.3
2013	49.1	68.7	77.5**	7.9	11.6	9.4	8.0	10.5	79.6
2014	43.5	76.1	125*	7.7	13.1	9.2	8.1	9.2	90.7
2015	50.2	73.8	68.3**	7.6	12.4	10.1	8.2	9.3	95
2016	47.5	75.8	83.3**	7.8	11.8	10	8.6	9.3	87.3
2017	42.6	71.6	73.3**	7.7	11.9	10	9.4	9.5	78
2008-2017***	17.7%	16.2%	37.5%	14.9%	-3.3%	26.6%	59.3%	5.6%	31.5%
2016-2017***	-10.3%	-5.5%	-12.0%	-1.3%	0.8%	0.0%	9.3%	2.2%	-10.7%

(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018; data delivery.)

* Mean value is based on a very small basis of data (fewer than five *Laender*)

** Value based on figures received from one *Land* only

*** Percentage change to 2008.

In the last six years, narcotics wholesale prices (for quantities 0.5 to <1.5kg) have increased for heroin (+25 %), ecstasy (+31 %) and marijuana (+11 %). In contrast, the prices of cocaine (-9 %), cannabis resin (-5 %) and crystal meth (-12 %), have fallen, this continuing their downward trend since 2011. There was no notable change in price for amphetamine compared to 2011. In complete contrast to that, the largest change in prices for amphetamine are seen in comparison to 2016, namely a 39 % increase. Heroin became 4 % more expensive, while all other narcotic drug prices fell in 2017.

Table 9 Trend in average wholesale narcotics prices (€) (0.5 to <1.5kg or 500 to <1,500 CU)

	Heroin	Co-caine	Crack	Ecstasy	Amphe-tamine	Mari-juana	Cannabis resin	LSD	Crystal meth
2011	25,429	45,875	--	2,193	4,453	4,151	2,912	--	35,375**
2012	27,444	38,786	--	2,642	4,052	4,488	2,942	--	33,750**
2013	30,917	36,500	--	2,664	3,944	4,700	3,088	--	31,733**
2014	26,965	37,891	--	2,780	3,854	4,732	3,296	--	31,250*
2015	33,250	42,820	--	2,842	3,547	5,485	3,630	--	33,333
2016	30,500	42,380	--	2,961	3,188	5,122	3,110	--	33,938*
2017	31,750	41,727	--	2,868	4,443	4,599	2,775	--	31,250*
2011-2017	25	-9	-	31	0	11%	-5%	--	-12%
2016 - 2017	4%	-2%	--	-3%	39%	-10%	-11%	--	-8%

(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018; data delivery.)

* Value based on figures received from less than five *Laender* only

** Value based on figures received from one *Land* only

Table 10 Trend in average wholesale drug prices (€) (1.5 to <10kg or 1,500 to <10,000 CU)

	Heroin	Cocai-ne	Crack	Ecstasy	Amphe-tamine	Mari-juana	Cannabis resin	LSD	Crystal meth
2011	--	35,400	--	2,808	3,050	3,889	1,929	--	--
2012	21,000**	30,900	--	2,150	3,146	4,120	2,625	--	--
2013	21,250**	35,250**	2500**	1567*	2,500*	3,700	2,650	--	--
2014	22,500**	38,093**	--	2601*	2,906*	4,815	2,500*	--	--
2015	19,000**	37,500**	--	1783*	2,422	4,529	2,488*	--	--
2016	20,000**	35,000*	--	2300*	3,558	4,067	3,400	--	40,000**
2017	20,000**	38,333*	--	1950*	2,270	3,936	3688*	--	--
2016 - 2017	0%	10%	--	-15%	-36%	-3%	8%	--	-

(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018; data delivery.)

* Value based on figures received from one *Land* only

** Mean value is based on a very small basis of data (fewer than five *Laender*)

At wholesale level, involving quantities greater than 1.5kg, (Table 10) the largest price decrease was recorded for amphetamine, which was 36 % cheaper in 2017 than in the previous year, following a 47 % increase in 2016. A fall in the prices of ecstasy (-15 %) and marijuana (-3 %) was also recorded. In 2017, only cannabis resin (+8 %) and cocaine (+10 %) increased in price; the price level of heroin has not changed in the last year.

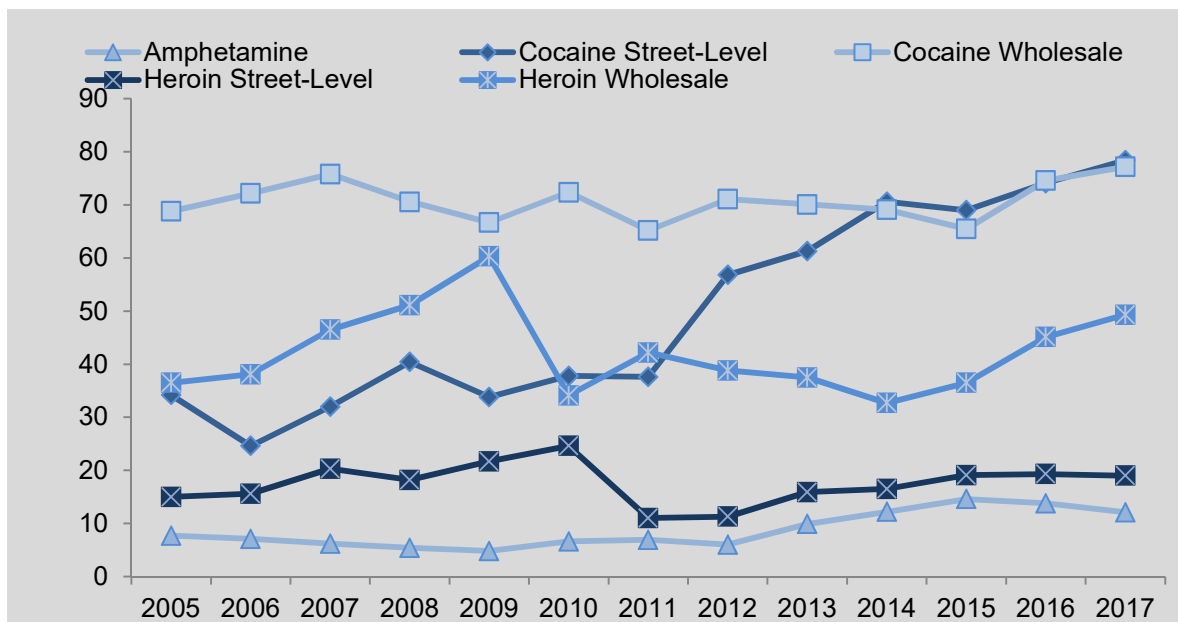
Purity

Heroin, cocaine and amphetamine

Figure 4 provides an overview of the trend in purity levels for amphetamine, cocaine and heroin since 2005. The purity of amphetamine increased more than two-fold on a continuous trend between 2012 (6.0 %) and 2015 (14.6 %). It has fallen back again since 2016, with the 2017 level (12.1 %) now back to a similar level to that in 2014 (12.1 %).

At street-level dealing, an increase can be seen in the purity of cocaine between 2011 and 2016. At the beginning of that period, cocaine came onto the market with a purity of 37.6 %. Since then, this has almost doubled, to 78.4 % today. A similar story can be seen with heroin (an increase from 11.0 % in 2011 to 19.3 % in 2016), although the average purity in 2017 has fallen slightly to 19.0 %. The 2010 peak of 24.6 % has not been reached since.

The purity of cocaine and heroin at wholesale level has also moderately increased in recent years. Cocaine had the strongest increase in 2012 (up to 56.8 % from 37.6 % in 2011). 2017 also saw the resumption of an increase in both: for cocaine, the purity increased to 77.2 %, for heroin it increased to 49.3 %. What is unusual is that cocaine seems to have shown a sometimes higher level of purity at street-level dealing than at wholesale level in past years. This could be due to the fact that these are random samples which are not necessarily representative of the market as a whole and thus exhibit corresponding fluctuations.

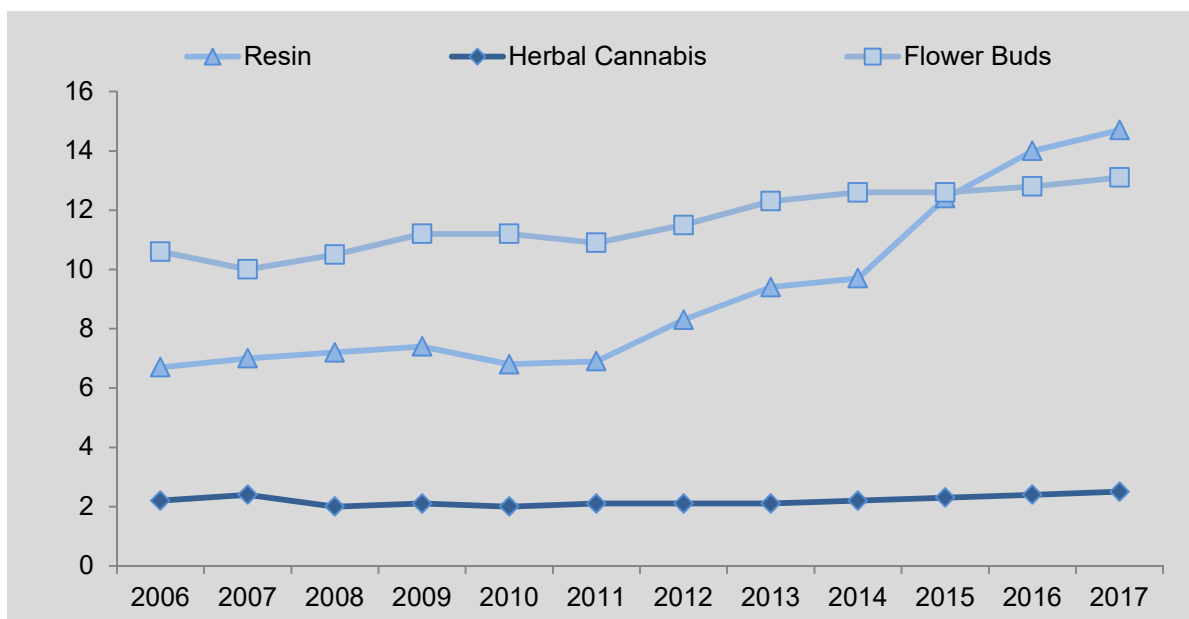


(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018; data delivery.)

Figure 4 Purity of heroin, cocaine and amphetamine 2005 - 2017

Cannabis

The potency of flowering tops has been continuously increasing since 2011 (10.9 %) and today stands at its highest observed level (since data collection began in 2005) of 13.1 %. Since 2010 (6.8 %), the average potency of seized resin has also been increasing, to its current peak of 14.7 %. Thus, it can be seen that cannabis resin has been, since 2016, more potent than the flowering tops of the cannabis plant (Figure 5), for the first time since records began in 1997. The comparatively low potency of herbal cannabis has remained more or less constant, only increasing marginally from 2010 (2.0 %) to today (2.5 %).

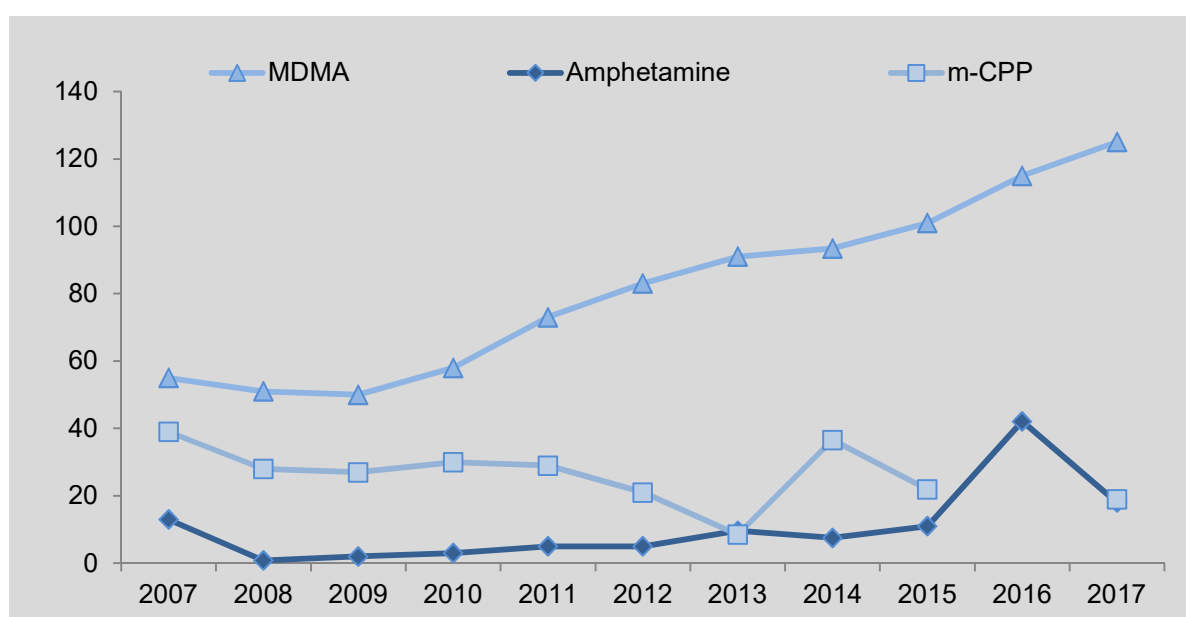


(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018; data delivery.)

Figure 5 Potency of Cannabis 2006 - 2017

Ecstasy

Figure 6 shows the purity levels since 2010 calculated as a base for the individual psychoactive substances in single substance preparations. The mean active substance content of MDMA more than doubled between 2010 (58 mg/CU) and 2017 (125 mg/CU). Of most striking figure is the decrease this year in the purity of amphetamine, which hit a peak following a four-fold increase the previous year (2016: 42.1 mg/CU; 2015: 11mg/CU) before dropping sharply again in 2017 (18 mg/CU). The purity of mCPP in recent years initially fell steadily until a sharp increase in 2014 (36.6 mg/CU), before in 2015 (21.9 mg/CU), being almost back to 2012 levels (21mg/CU). No value is available for 2016, and the value calculated for 2017 (19 mg/CU) is based only on one report and should therefore be interpreted with caution.



(Bundeskriminalamt, 2018; data delivery.)

Note: Purity levels are calculated as base.

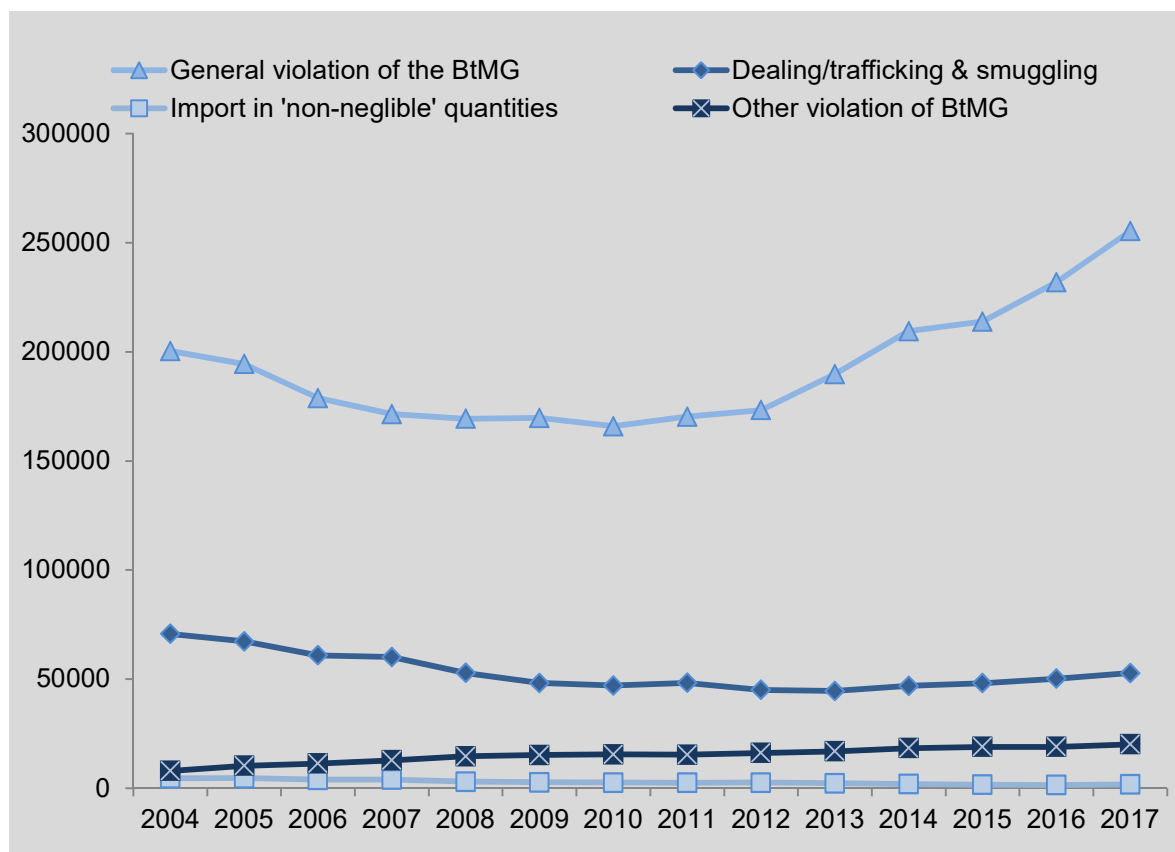
Figure 6 Trend in purity of ecstasy 2007 - 2017 in mg/CU (median)

2.2 Trends in other drug market data

There are currently no trends on other drug market data to report.

2.3 Short and long term trends in drug law offences

The trend in breaches of the law in connection with drugs since 2004 is illustrated in Figure 7. Except for general violations of the BtMG, which have increased steadily since 2012 (2017: 255,344; 2016: 231,926 cases) no significant changes can be seen in other narcotics offences in recent years.



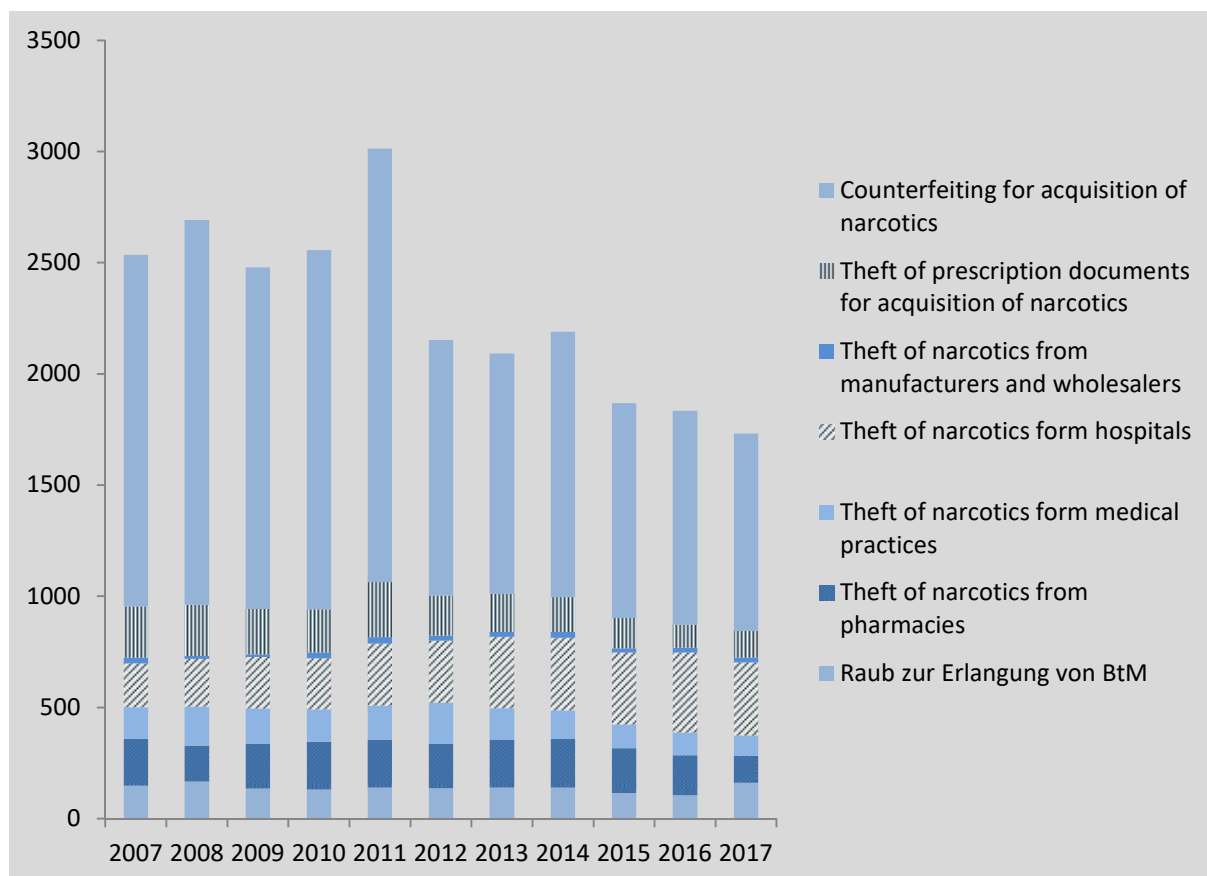
(Bundesministerium des Inneren, 2018)

Figure 7 Trend in narcotics offences 2004 - 2017

Economic compulsive crime

The number of offences in the area of economic compulsive crime has fluctuated over the last 10 years (Figure 8) and is now, at 1,732 offences, at a new record low since data started being collected in 2004 (the peak was in 2011, at 3,013 offences). In particular, offences in relation to forgery in order to obtain narcotic drugs declined from 2005 (1,262 cases) to 2017 (888 cases), in spite of several fluctuations (hitting a peak of 1,949 cases in 2011). The largest increase in offences was recorded in 2017 in the area of robbery in order to obtain narcotic drugs (+53 %) (2017: 161 cases; 2016: 105 cases).

In comparison to the previous year, economic compulsive crime fell by 5.56 %, whereby the number of thefts from pharmacies (-33 %) and thefts from doctors' practices (-10 %) have fallen the most. Even the theft of narcotics from hospitals (-9 %) and from manufacturers and wholesalers (-5 %) decreased year on year. In contrast, cases of thefts of prescriptions to obtain narcotic drugs increased (+15 %).

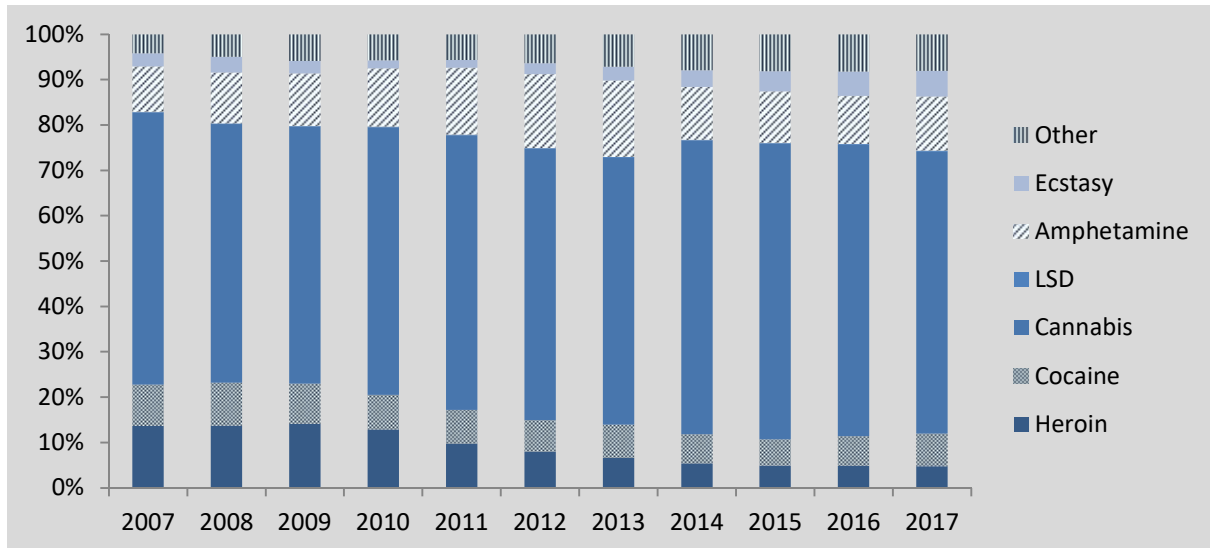


(Bundesministerium des Inneren, 2018)

Figure 8 Trend in economic compulsive crime 2007 - 2017

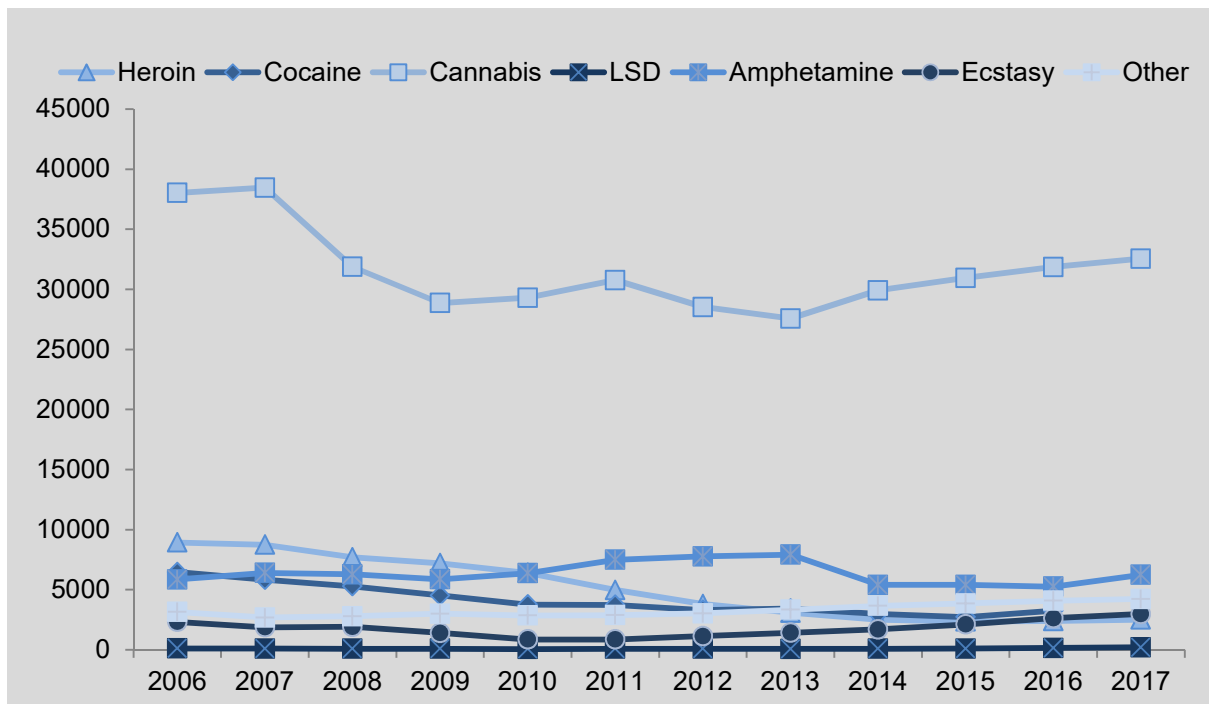
2.3.1 Supply offences

Cannabis has constantly played the largest role in recent years in dealing/trafficking, smuggling and import offences (59.6 %; 2017: 32,546 offences), with numbers continuing to increase in recent years (2013: 27,570 offences), although the offences in relation to that substance have fallen overall since 2007 (38,029 offences) (Figure 10). The proportion of dealing/trafficking and smuggling offences involving heroin has been falling since 2010 (2010: 6,403; 2017: 2,515 individual offences) and has thus been behind cocaine in recent years (2017: 3,760 offences, including crack). Both have increased in comparison to the previous year, however (heroin: +4.9 %; cocaine: +15.8 %). Both the proportion as well as the absolute number of dealing/trafficking offences in connection with ecstasy have once again increased in recent years following a temporary fall and are now at the highest level since 2006 (2,320; 2010: 859; 2017: 2,979 individual offences). The proportions of dealing/trafficking offences accounted for by the individual drugs are illustrated in Figure 9, absolute figures in Figure 10.



(Bundesministerium des Inneren, 2018)

Figure 9 Trend in dealing/trafficking and smuggling offences (2007-2017), proportions by drug



(Bundesministerium des Inneren, 2018)

Figure 10 Trend in dealing/trafficking offences (2006 - 2017), absolute figures

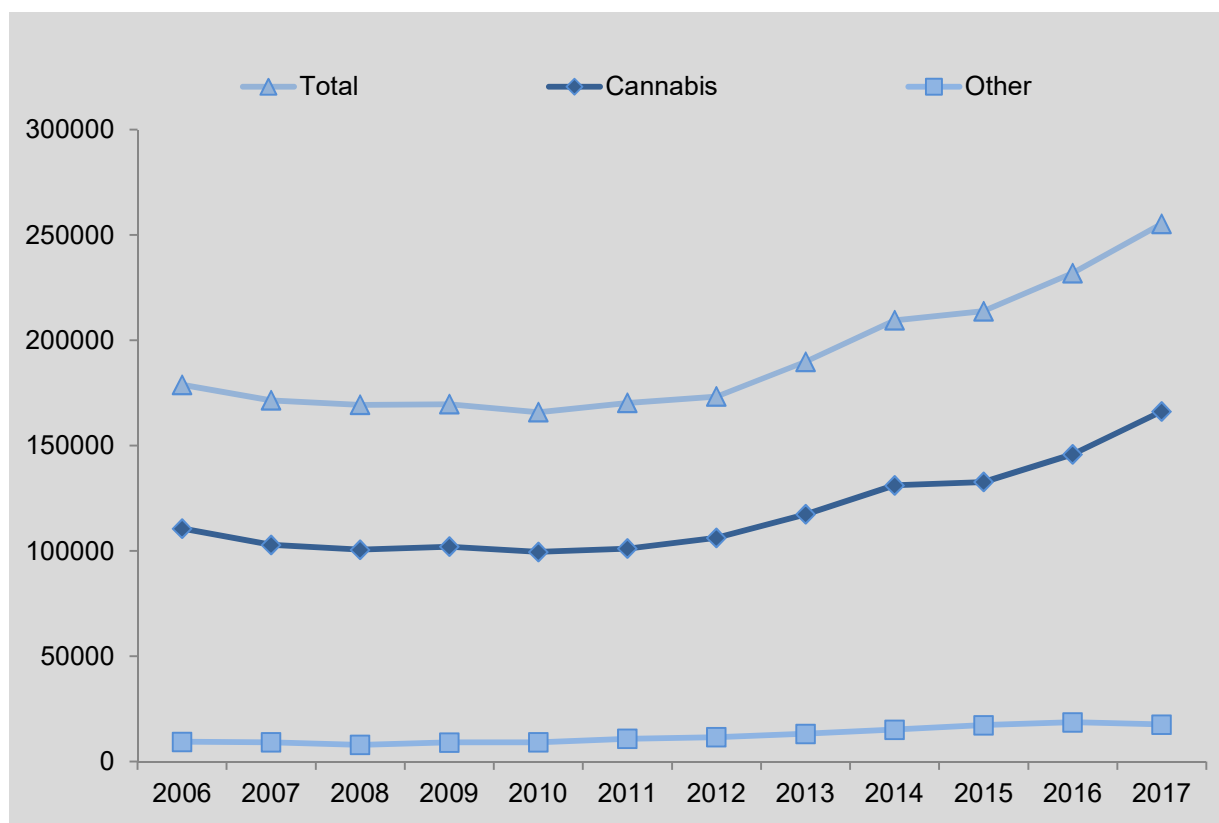
2.3.2 Possession/use offences

In comparison to the previous year, the number of consumption-related offences has increased by 10 % overall. In 2017 there were a total of 255,344 offences, with the increase of previous years (+47 % compared to 2012) continuing. Cannabis continues to account for the largest proportion of consumption-related offences (+65 %), and it increased by 14 % com-

pared to the previous year. The proportion of cocaine (+20 %) and LSD (+27 %) also increased, as did that of amphetamine and ecstasy (each by +4 %). The number of consumption-related offences involving heroin remained unchanged, and for other narcotic drugs there was a decrease of 6 %.

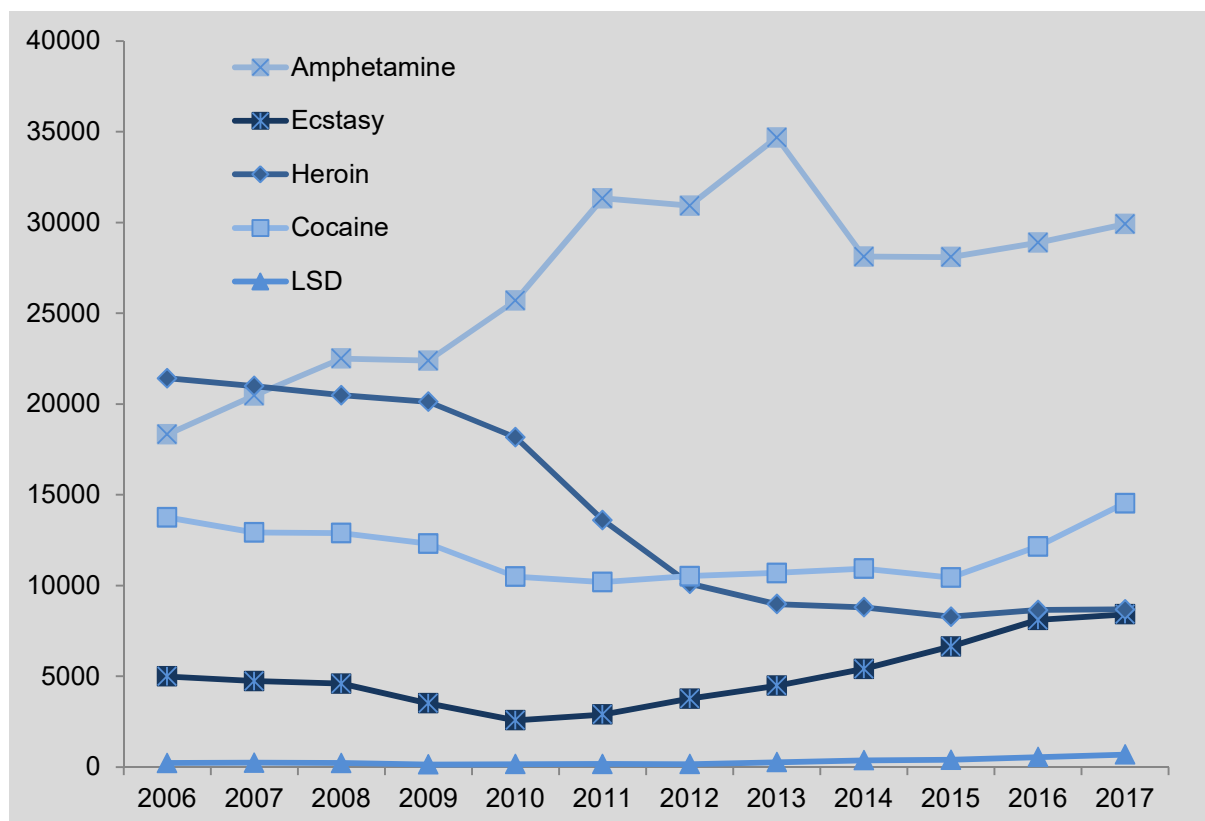
The short-term trend of the last five years shows an increase for all consumption-related offences, aside from for amphetamine (-3 %) and heroin (-14 %). Of those increases, the largest was recorded for LSD (+333 %) and ecstasy (+123 %). The figures for cannabis increased by just over half (+57 %). The increase for cocaine was 38 %.

Over the last ten years, consumption-related offences have increased for nearly all substances. The largest increases have been for LSD (+190 %), ecstasy (+78 %) and cannabis (+62 %). However, cocaine (+12 %) and amphetamine (+46 %) have also increased. The numbers for heroin have fallen (-59 %).



(Bundesministerium des Inneren, 2018)

Figure 11 Trend in consumption-related offences in relation to cannabis and other narcotic drugs (2006 - 2017)



(Bundesministerium des Inneren, 2018)

Figure 12 Trend in consumption-related offences in relation to other substances (2006 - 2017)

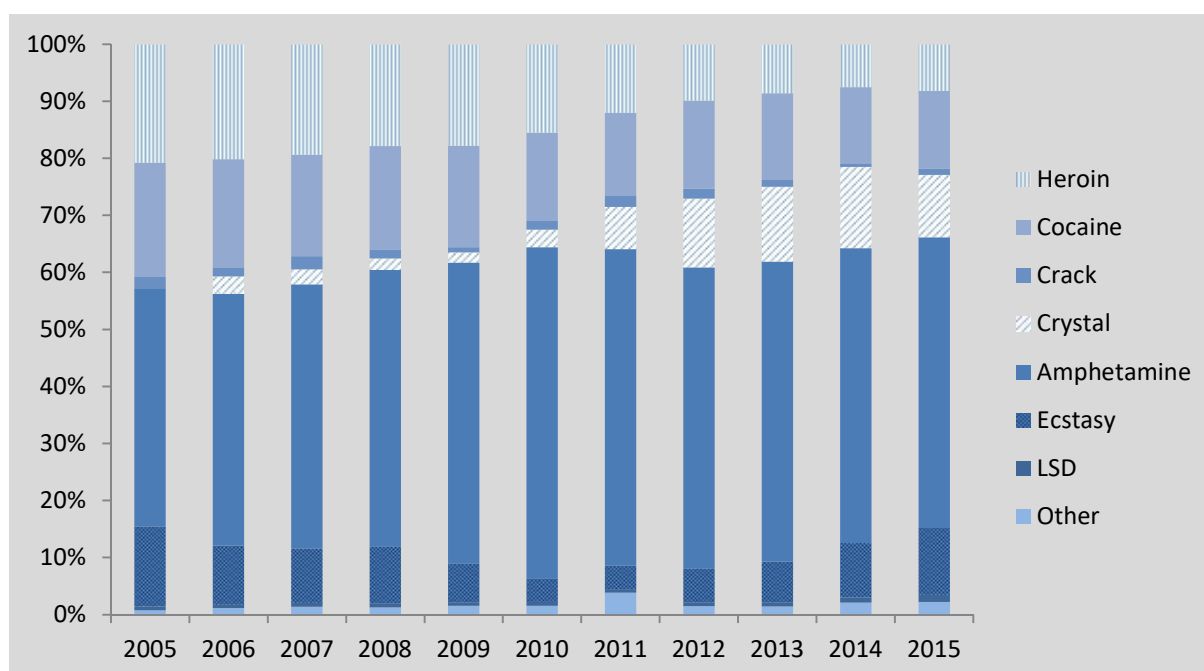
2.3.3 Users of hard drugs who have come to the attention of law enforcement for the first time (FTDO)

No conclusions on users coming to the attention of law enforcement for the first time can be made for 2016 and 2017 due to the changes in data collection modalities in several *Laender* as described above. The following findings are thus based on 2015.

After a continual fall over several years, the total number of FTDO increased from 2010 to 2015 by 12.1 % to a total of 20,890. The largest proportion of these (56.3 %) is still accounted for by amphetamine users, whereby this proportion has slightly declined in the last five years (-2.3 % since 2010, as a proportion of all FTDO: -8.4 %). In second place are cocaine users with 3,149 cases (15.1 %), followed at 2,705 cases by users of amphetamine derivatives or ecstasy (12.9 %), a number that has more than tripled since 2010 (840), however which has also been much higher in the past (3,907 cases in 2004). Crystal meth users now constitute a 12.1 % share, which represents a slight decrease in comparison to the previous year (2014: 15.6 %). The number of heroin users who have come to the attention of law enforcement for the first time further decreased (from 2010: 17.2 % to 2015: 9.0 %) whilst crack users continue to be present only in relatively low numbers (2015: 236 FTDO, highest value in the last five years 2011: 438 FTDO, lowest value 2014: 112 FTDO).

A long term comparison shows that the total number of FTDO has increased by almost 5 % since 2005. The largest part of the increase comprises amphetamines users who have come to the attention of law enforcement for the first time, the number of whom has increased since 2005 and at 11,765 cases in 2015 represented approx. 56 % of all FTDO, a 9.4 % greater share than in 2005. The proportion of crystal meth users who have come to the attention of law enforcement for the first time has also considerably increased, accounting for 12.1 % of all FTDO in 2015, the number of cases having increased since 2006 (N=681) to 2,532. An overview of the proportions of different substances in the total number of FTDO can be found in Figure 13.

The numbers of FTDO using heroin, cocaine and crack have significantly fallen since 2005 (59.3 %, 29.85 % and 45.73 % respectively). In contrast, the number of FTDO using amphetamine has increased by 26 %; an even more marked increase of 94.6 % has been seen with LSD, however the overall numbers are considerably lower (2005: 147; 2015: 286) (BKA, 2016, data delivery).

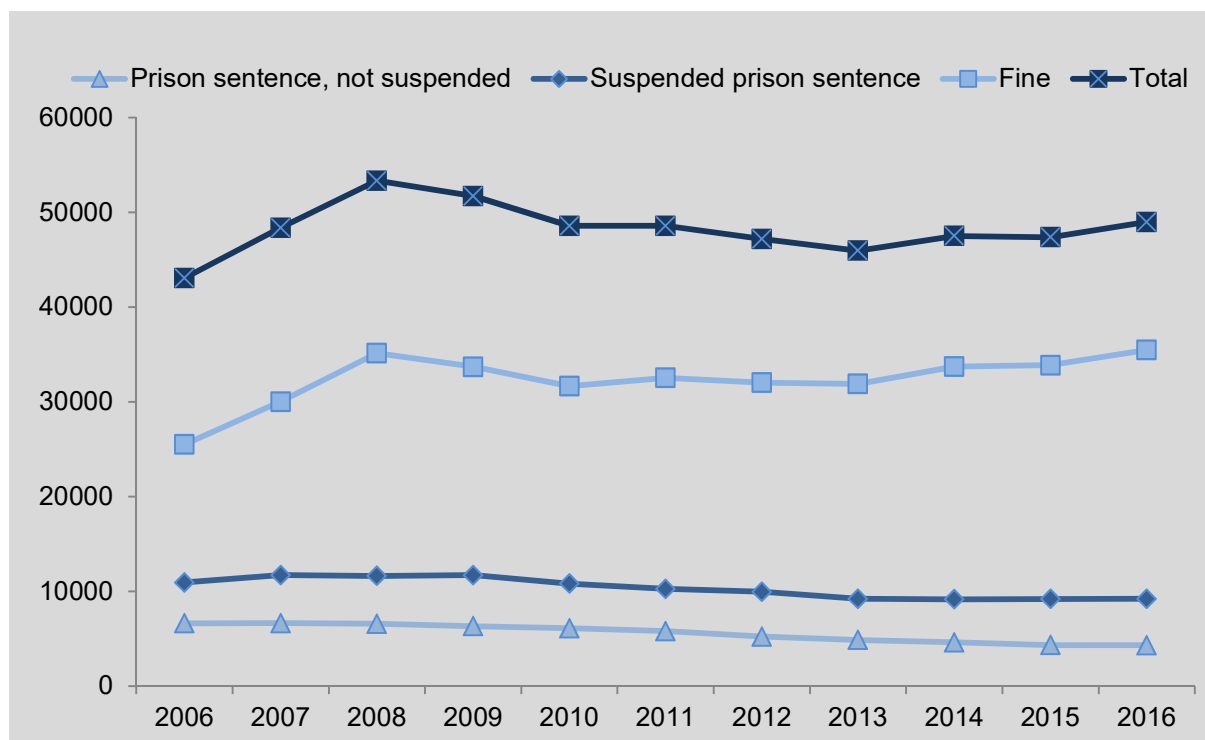


(Bundeskriminalamt, 2016; data delivery.)

Figure 13 Trend in FTDO 2005 - 2015

2.3.4 Convictions under the BtMG

Following hardly any change in 2014 (47,502 convictions) and 2015 (47,380 convictions), the total number of persons convicted in 2016 under the BtMG has once again increased, to 48,983. The trend in the number of convictions is illustrated in Figure 14



(Destatis, 2017)

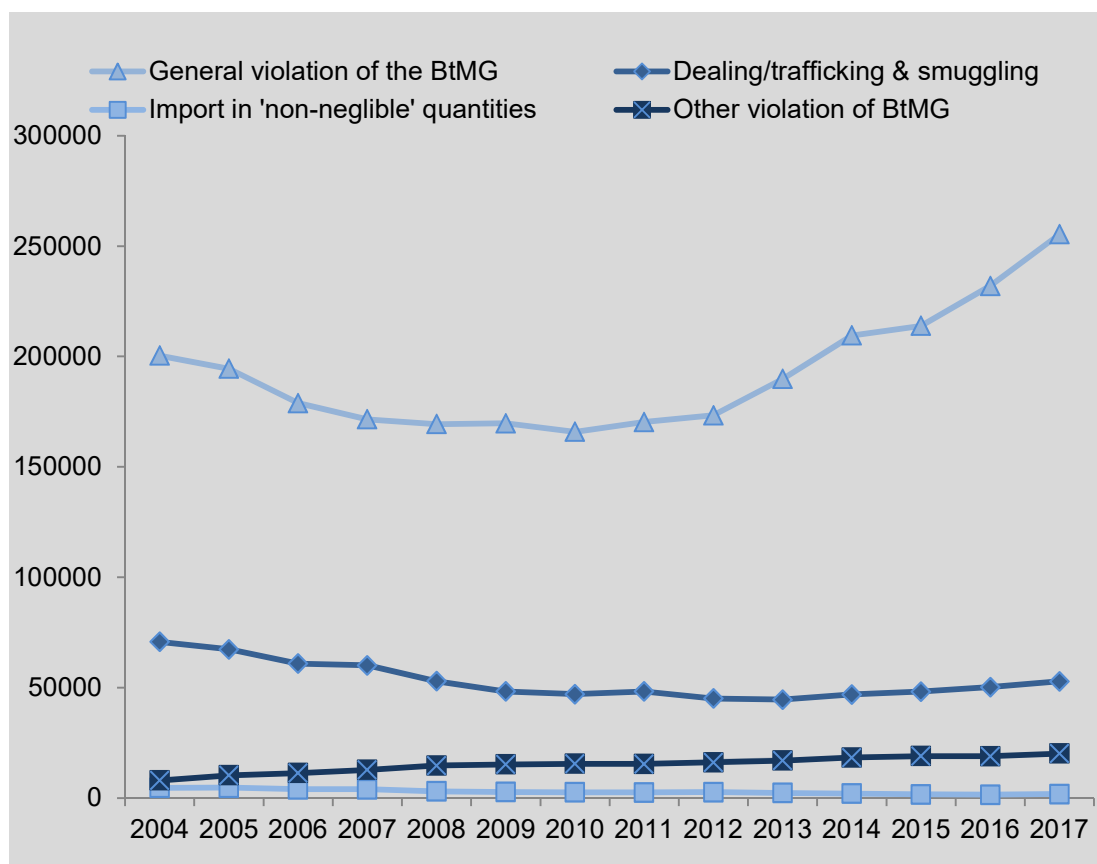
Figure 14 Trend in the number of convictions by type of sentence since 2006

Most of the judgments issued were, as in previous years, fines (72.4 %). Custodial sentences were for the most part suspended (9,207; 68.2 % of all custodial sentences). Custodial sentences as a proportion of all convictions have fallen hugely over the last ten years (2016: 27.6 %; 2005: 41.5 % of all convictions). In this context, the proportion of non-suspended custodial sentences experienced the greatest decrease (2005: 15.7 %; 2016: 8.8 % of all convictions). In contrast, the proportion of judgments which were fines has increased since 2005 (2005: 58.4 %; 2016: 72.4 % of all convictions).

The distribution across the various types of offence has remained constant over the last 10 years (Figure 15). In the area of the illegal import of narcotic drugs in non-small quantities (Sec. 30 (1) No. 4 BtMG), a reduction of 41.1 % in comparison to 2006 has been observed. In illegal dealing/trafficking, possession or manufacture of narcotic drugs in non-small amounts (Sec 29a (1) No. 2 BtMG), there has been an increase of 0.6 %. Custodial sentences of up to five years or fines which fall under Sec. 29 (1) BtMG ("more minor" violations in comparison to non-small quantities), continue to make up the majority of convictions under the BtMG and have increased by 15.7 % since 2006, although they have been even higher at some points during this period (2006: 40,772; 2008: 49,801; 2014: 46,119).

In a short-term comparison to the previous year, the total number of convictions under the BtMG increased by 3 %. Convictions for illegal dealing/trafficking, possession or manufacture in non-small quantities increased by 4.5 % over the same period while the number of persons convicted for the illegal import of narcotic drugs in non-small amounts has fallen by

14 %. In the meantime, fines have increased by 4.7 % while custodial sentences remain unchanged.



(Destatis, 2017)

Figure 15 Convictions under the BtMG since 2004

2.4 Trends in other drug related crime data

Traffic accidents

In relation to the number of police registered traffic accidents involving personal injuries, the downward trend in the number of accidents caused by drivers under the influence of alcohol, which had been apparent since 2003 with a brief increase from 2010 to 2011 and an increase from 2015 to 2016 did not continue but did stagnate compared to the previous year. Only 2 fewer cases were recorded in 2017 (12,873) (Table 11). The proportion of all accidents involving injuries to persons is almost unchanged at 4.3 % (2016: 4.2 %).

The total number of vehicle drivers under the influence of other intoxicating substances increased again (+152 cases), however, as in previous years, they continue to make up only 0.6 % of all drivers involved in accidents.

Table 11 Drug use and road traffic accidents, human causes

	Accidents with injuries to persons	Incorrect driving behaviour	Drivers under the influence of alcohol	Drivers under the influence of other intoxicating substances
2006	327,984	403,886	19,405	1,320
2007	335,845	410,496	19,456	1,356
2008	320,641	388,181	18,383	1,440
2009	310,806	377,733	16,513	1,281
2010	288,297	350,323	14,237	1,151
2011	306,266	371,821	15,114	1,392
2012	299,637	362,993	14,380	1,393
2013	291,105	350,381	13,327	1,350
2014	302,435	361,935	13,011	1,509
2015	305,659	366,448	12,660	1,641
2016	308,145	369,242	12,875	1,809
2017	302,656	360,736	12,873	1,961

(Destatis, 2018)

Substance use among football fans

In an empirical analysis on experience of violence and offences among football fans, the question asked was, once again, whether users of illicit drugs in a football setting have an increased risk of committing violent acts. More than one third of football fans surveyed online had used cannabis in the last month (34.3 %). The second most commonly used substance was cocaine (14.5 %), followed by speed (10.1 %) and ecstasy/MDMDA (6.8 %). Almost a fifth of the sample surveyed (19.8 %) reported having used at least one of the substances cocaine, amphetamine, methamphetamine, ecstasy, heroin or steroids in the last month. The use of at least one of the substances listed, excluding cannabis, increased the probability of becoming a violent in a football setting by a factor of 3.7 (Deimel et al., 2018).

2.5 Trends and development in drug supply reduction activities

No further information is currently available on trends and developments in this area.

3 NEW DEVELOPMENTS

3.1 New developments

No further information is currently available on new developments. The current situation has been reported above in T1.

4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4.1 Additional sources of information

No additional sources of information are available on this.

4.2 Further aspects

No information on further aspects is available.

5 SOURCES AND METHODOLOGY

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5.2 Methodology

German Federal Statistical Office

Administration of justice

The German Federal Statistical Office's data collection is ordered by the *Laender* justice administrations for the reporting offices. There is no legal basis at an EU or national German level for the criminal prosecution statistical report. Its introduction and implementation is based on standard federal administrative orders of the *Laender*. The German Federal Statistical Office combines the results from the *Laender* prosecution statistics to create national results. The administrative data of the law enforcement authorities, on which the prosecution statistics are based, are extracted from the court files following the final rulings in criminal proceedings or summary proceedings and generally sent to the relevant *Land* statistical office at the end of each month.

The criminal prosecution statistical reports are a comprehensive record incorporating all data collected by the reporting offices. Therefore, no estimates need to be made as to missing data or missing reporting offices.

Traffic accidents

The legal basis for the collating of the available results is the "Act on the Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents" (Gesetz über die Statistik der Straßenverkehrsunfälle, StVUnfStatG) of 15 June 1990 (Federal Law Gazette I 1990 pp. 1078 et seqq.), most recently amended by the First Act Amending the Road Traffic Accident Statistics Act (Erstes Gesetz zur Änderung des Straßenverkehrsunfallstatistikgesetzes) of 23 November 1994 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 3491) as well as the Ordinance on the Precise Definition of Serious Accidents Involving Material Damage within the meaning of the Road Traffic Accident Statistics Act (Verordnung zur näheren Bestimmung des schwerwiegenden Unfalls mit Sachschaden im Sinne des Straßenverkehrsunfallstatistikgesetzes) of 21 December 1994 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 3970) most recently amended by Art. 3 of the Ordinance Amending the Annex to Sec. 24a of the German Road Traffic Act and other Rules (Verordnung zur Änderung der Anlage zu § 24a des Straßenverkehrsgesetzes und anderer Vorschriften) of 6 June 2007 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 1047).

According to those laws, federal statistics are produced on accidents causing death or injury to persons or damage to property due to vehicle traffic on public roads and spaces.

It is the responsibility of the police stations whose officers recorded the accident to report the information. Consequently, statistics are only included for those accidents which the police attend. The basis for the road traffic accident statistics is the information on traffic accident reports supplied on data storage media as well as the reports on any accidents involving damage to property, which under the law are only recorded in terms of numbers by location.

Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA)

The Federal Situation Report on Narcotics is an annual summary of current police knowledge of the situation in and development of narcotics drugs crime in Germany. The situation report includes firstly the drugs data file which serves as the collection medium for the BKA for the data from the LKAs. In 2016, the data collection modalities of several *Laender* were amended as per data protection law requirements, which thus means that some data, such as the number of cases of seizures or the number of FTDO, is no longer comparable with that of previous years.

Moreover, the BKA publishes the police crime statistics (Polizeiliche Kriminalstatistik, PKS) annually, in which the individual constituent elements of criminal acts are presented according to coded keys. From this, the DBDD calculates the individual criminal acts for different substances.

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