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for Drugs and Drug Addiction



Drug Market and Crime

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Franziska Schneider¹, Esther Neumeier¹, Krystallia Karachaliou¹,
Charlotte Tönsmeise², Maria Friedrich³ & Tim Pfeiffer-Gerschel¹

¹ IFT Institute for Therapy Research; ² German Centre for Addiction Issues (DHS); ³ Federal
Centre for Health Education (BZgA)

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0 SUMMARY (T0)

Seizures

Due to the changeover to a new police data system and the collection or surveying of drug-related facts, reliable numbers on cases of narcotics seizures, total seizure quantities of individual types of drugs and cannabis plantations seized cannot be presented this year. In addition, in relation to cases of drug-related deaths, no information is available beyond the pure number of deaths and causes of death. Information on the number of hard drug users coming to the attention of law enforcement for the first time is not available, as was the case in the previous year.

The most recent data available on cases of drug seizures, total seizure quantities of individual types of drugs and cannabis plantations seized are presented in the 2018 Drug Market and Crime workbook (Schneider et al., 2018). The current 2019 Drug Market & Crime workbook will therefore only include a brief summary of the 2017 data.

In 2018, 19 illegal narcotics laboratories were seized in Germany (2017: 14 laboratories, +36.7%).

Active ingredients and prices

Compared to the previous year, street-level dealing prices have dropped for crack (-32.7%), ecstasy (-7.8%), cannabis resin (-5.3%), amphetamine (-5.0%) and cocaine (-1.8%). As the value in relation to crack is only based on the data supplied by fewer than five *Laender*, however, this should be interpreted with caution (Table 7). An increase in price of 7.7% was recorded for crystal meth.

At street-level dealing, a significant increase can be seen in the potency of cocaine between 2011 and 2017. At the beginning of that period, cocaine came onto the market with a potency of 37.6%. This almost doubled in 2017 to 78.4%. In 2018, the potency of cocaine fell again, although only slightly to 77.0%. A similar story can be seen with heroin (an increase from 11.0% in 2011 to 19.3% in 2016), although the average potency level in 2017 fell slightly to 19.0% and it fell further in 2018 to 18.7%.

Criminal offences

General violations of the German Narcotic Drugs Act (Betäubungsmittelgesetz, BtMG) have continued to rise since 2012, reaching 274,787 cases in 2018. According to the police crime statistics (Polizeiliche Kriminalstatistik, PKS), there were 1,658 cases of direct economic compulsive crime in 2018, which is the lowest level since the start of data collection in 2004.

Cannabis was the predominant substance in dealing/trafficking offences (32,848 offences, 59.7% of the total of 53,367 dealing/trafficking, smuggling and importing offences), followed by, at some distance, (meth)amphetamine (5,968 offences, 11.2%; of which methamphetamine: 2,204 offences).

The 2018 PKS shows that cannabis also plays a predominant role in the case of consumption-related offences: 65.4% of all such cases are based on violations in connection with cannabis.

Convictions

Following hardly any change in 2014 (47,502 convictions) and 2015 (47,380 convictions) and a slight increase in 2016 (48,983), the total number of persons convicted under the BtMG in 2017 increased further to 51,073.

Traffic accidents

The total number of vehicle drivers under the influence of other intoxicating substances increased again (+281 cases), however, as in previous years, they continue to account for just 0.6% of all drivers involved in accidents.

1 NATIONAL PROFILE (T1)

1.1 The drug market (T1.1)

1.1.1 Domestic production (T1.1.1)

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) (2018). 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 as a result of individual seizures. In particular where there is a low number of cases involving professional plantations in particular, one single seizure can greatly influence the data. The multi-year trend can be found in Table 6.

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
	Plants	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 (BKA), 2018)

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.

1.1.2 Routes of trafficking (T1.1.2)

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 and France.

Marijuana

Marijuana generally originates from western European indoor cultivation (i.a. Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Spain), but also from outdoor cultivation in Albania.

Small quantities of marijuana are mostly brought into Germany from the Netherlands.

Smuggling large quantities of marijuana from Albania to western Europe took place through Italy or the Balkan states. In recent years, seizures of large deliveries from Spain are increasing in number.

Heroin

Smuggling activities involving heroin from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran via the classic Balkan route, continued in 2018. In addition, there were several large seizures of heroin from Iran along the "southern route" (Pakistan - East Africa - Europe (by ship)), indicating an increasing significance of this transport route. A further indication of this is seizures of drugs at German and European airports originating in eastern and southern Africa. In contrast, the "northern Black Sea route" (Turkey - Caucasus region - Black Sea - Ukraine - Moldova or Romania, destined for western Europe) is of lower importance.

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. Cocaine was brought from there in smaller quantities into Germany.

The direct smuggling of cocaine from South America into Germany mainly took place via sea containers from Brazil and Ecuador, followed by Colombia. Smuggled quantities were generally in the hundreds of kilograms or in the single-digit tonnes.

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.

Ecstasy

Tablets seized in Germany, for which evidence of origin could be established, originated almost exclusively from the Netherlands. In 2018, for the first time parcels addressed to recipients in Asia (e.g. Thailand and Cambodia) were identified containing large individual quantities of up to 70,000 tablets.

Crystal meth

In 2018, the majority of crystal meth intended for Germany originated, as in previous years, from the Czech Republic, where the drug is primarily manufactured from pseudoephedrine (PSE tablets). Increasingly, both the manufacture of crystal meth in the Netherlands and the smuggling of it into Germany has been identified. In 2018, 26kg of crystal meth originating in the Netherlands were seized in 12 cases (2017: 9 cases, 10.9kg).

In addition, Mexico is of growing significance as a relevant country of origin for crystal meth.

1.1.3 Contextual information on trafficking (T1.1.3)

No information is currently available on this.

1.1.4 Wholesale drug and precursor market (T1.1.4)

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 European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), the BKA has, since 2010, differentiated 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 reported from four to six selected collection points 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 collection 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 "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.

Kommentiert [FS1]: Not intended for publication!

It is not possible to present the purity levels and prices in a table because the categories do not correspond. For heroin and cocaine, the purity levels are determined based on the quantity seized for the weight classes of up to 1g (street-level dealing), 1g to 1000g (middle level dealing) and from 1000g upwards (wholesale level). For other drug types (cannabis, amphetamine and methamphetamine), the purity is determined separately from the weight class. In contrast, the average domestic narcotics prices at street-level dealing relate to 1g or 1 unit, and at wholesale level to 1kg or 1000 units. It is also not possible to see the number of seizures in relation to the reported data sets of the samples examined. Several samples could be taken and analysed from one seizure, resulting in several data sets.

Table 2 Prices of various drugs in small and large quantities (€/kg), 2018

	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	28,000	21,500*	--
Cocaine	43,188	27,000**	--
Amphetamine	3,505	2,575*	800**
Ecstasy/Tablets	2,687	1,625*	1,200**
Cannabis resin	3,069	4,333*	--
Herbal cannabis	5,046	4,225	3,500*
Crack	--	--	--
LSD/Trip	--	--	--
Crystal meth	32,667*	--	--
Raw opium	3,970**	--	--

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

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

(BKA 2019, data delivery)

1.1.5 Retail drug and precursor market (T1.1.5)

The prices of various drugs at street-level dealing are provided annually through the BKA data delivery and can be seen in Table 3.

Table 3 Street-level prices of various drugs (€/g), 2018

Heroin	Cocaine	Amphetamine	Ecstasy tablets	Cannabis resin	Herbal cannabis	Crack	LSD Trip	Crystal meth
44.00	70.30	11.30	7.10	8.90	10.20	49.30*	10.00	84.00

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

(BKA 2019, data delivery)

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 is related to the chemical form of the base, irrespective of the form in which the substance is found in the illicit preparation. All figures given may only be interpreted as approximate values since large fluctuations in purity levels of the individual seizures can lead to marked random effects. As the distribution of values generally diverges from the normal distribution, median values are used instead of arithmetic means.

The potency is broken down into three areas, in line with the seized quantities: street level dealing (<1g), retail (1g to <1,000g) and wholesale (\geq 1,000g). Results are presented in a differentiated manner where a clear difference can be determined in potency 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 potency, information on the most frequently found cutting agents is also reported. Insofar as these are pharmacologically effective (e.g. caffeine), they are categorised as adulterants, otherwise they are categorised as cutting agents (e.g. sugar).

Trend data for heroin, cocaine, amphetamine and MDMA can be found in Figure 4 and Figure 5. Figure 6 shows the trends for cannabis.

Amphetamine

Amphetamine mainly appears in powder form on the illicit drug market, and only rarely in tablet form. In 2018, 3,778 data sets (2017: 3,472) for powder-form amphetamine were evaluated. The mean potency continuously increased between 2012 and 2015. It fell back slightly from 2016, before increasing again in 2018. The median value for 2018 is 13.9% (2017: 12.1%). The following levels of occurrence were recorded for diluents. 3,315 data sets formed the basis for the analysis: as in the previous year, as far as adulterants are concerned, caffeine predominated (98%). Among the cutting agents found, lactose (8%), creatine/creatinine (2%), and mannitol (1%) were somewhat noteworthy.

Methamphetamine

For 2018, 663 data sets were reported (2017: 613). The median value for the active ingredient concentration was 65.6% (2017: 72.0%). The median active substance content has continuously fallen since 2015. Important adulterants include piracetam (11%), lidocaine (5%) and caffeine (2%) in the 225 evaluated data sets. Among diluents, methylsulphonylmethane (85%) stood out significantly. In contrast, 2-phenethylamine (12%), glucose (4%), sucrose (3%), magnesium sulphate (2%) and glutamate/l-glutamate (1%) were less frequently recorded.

Cocaine

On the illegal drug market, cocaine is found almost exclusively as cocaine hydrochloride. As in the previous year, only a very few cases of preparations containing cocaine base were recorded. For 2018, 3,196 data sets were analysed in respect of their active substance content (2017: 2,847). The median values for the street samples and middle dealing level were at a comparably high level as in 2017. The average active substance content for the street samples was 77.0% (2017: 78.4%) and for middle dealing level 76.8% (2017: 76.4%). For wholesale quantities, the trend to higher purity levels, which has been observed since 2015, continued. At 79.8%, this represented a new highest value.

Heroin

For 2018, 1,581 data sets were reported (2017: 1,885 data sets). At the wholesale level, the trend to higher purity levels, which has been observed since 2014, continued. The median value, at 50.8%, is somewhat higher than the value for 2017, which amounted to 49.3%. As far as the middle dealing/trafficking level is concerned, the average purity has also dropped slightly from 19.9% in 2017 to 21.8%. For street-level dealing, the median value was 18.7% and hardly differs from the 2017 average content of 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.

Cannabis

The active substance content of flowering tops, resin, herbal cannabis and cannabis concentrate was recorded and evaluated separately.

Flowering tops

For 2018, 10,571 data sets were reported (2017: 9,192 data sets). The median active substance content of Tetrahydrocannabinol₁, at 13.1%, is at the same level as the previous year. The trend towards increasing THC content, which has been observed since 2011, did not continue in 2018.

Cannabis resin (Hashish)

3,080 data sets were evaluated for this cannabis product (2017: 750). The average active substance content was 16.7%. Since 2011, the THC content has been increasing year on year, reaching a new maximum level in 2018. It is now 3.6% higher than the median value for flowering tops.

Herbal cannabis (marijuana)

3,522 data sets were taken into account (2017: 2,973). The median value was 2.6% (2017: 2.5%). From 2013, a weak trend of increasing THC content can be seen, which also continued in 2018.

Cannabis concentrate¹

The median potency amounted to 53.4% for the 133 preparations reported (2017: 44.5%). The mean THC content has significantly increased from the previous year.

MDMA

MDMA (3,4-methylenedioxy-N-methylamphetamine) is primarily distributed on the illegal drug market in two forms of preparations, which will be considered separately in the following:

¹ Cannabis concentrate is an umbrella term for preparations for which the THC content has, by way of an enrichment process (extraction using a solvent), been increased (e.g. dabbing, honey bee extraction, hashish oil).

MDMA in tablet-form (ecstasy)²

MDMA active substance levels were reported for 704,801 tablets. The median MDMA content per tablet has been increasing year on year since 2009. This trend continued in 2018, reaching a new high at 137mg/tablet (2017: 125mg/tablet).

MDMA in crystalline form³

685 data sets were evaluated for 2018. The median value is 77.6%. MDMA in crystalline form appears predominantly in uncut form on the illegal drug market.

1.2 Drug related crime (T1.2)

1.2.1 Drug law offences (T1.2.1)

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 effects associated with 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 BtMG.⁴

In 2018 a total of 350,662 narcotics offences were recorded in Germany, 274,787 of which were general offences against the BtMG, 51,829 were dealing/trafficking and smuggling offences under Sec. 29 BtMG. There were 1,538 cases of importing "non-small quantities" as per Sec. 30 BtMG and 22,147 other violations of the BtMG (BKA, 2019).

² Only a small number of active substance levels for tablets with other psychotropic substances were reported. Due to their low importance, these values have not been taken into account in the evaluation.

³ Due to the increasing significance, crystalline MDMA has been included in the evaluation.

⁴ 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).

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 PKS 2018 (BKA, 2019) shows that cannabis also plays a predominant role in the case of consumption-related offences: 65.4% of all such cases are based on violations in connection with cannabis. Amphetamine (11.4%), cocaine (including crack) (5.9%) and heroin (3.1%), together account for a further 20.4% of the recorded offences. The remaining proportion is split between ecstasy (3.1%), NPS (0.95%), LSD (0.24%) and other (6.2%).

Dealing/trafficking offences

The term "dealing/trafficking offences" encompasses all offences of illegal trading in and smuggling of 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 (32,848 offences, 59.7% of the total of 53,367 dealing/trafficking, smuggling and importing offences), followed by, at some distance, (meth)amphetamine 5,968 offences (11.2%); of which methamphetamine: 2,204 offences). 4,338 offences were reported for cocaine (including crack) (8.1%), 2,779 for ecstasy (5.2%), followed by 2,180 offences for heroin (4.1%). NPS (293 offences, 0.55%) and LSD (189 offences, 0.35%) were the only two substances among dealing/trafficking offences which came in at less than one percent (BKA, 2019).

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, however, 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, there were 1,658 cases of direct economic compulsive crime in 2018. 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 questioning/interviewing. Even unexplained burglaries can be recorded as economic compulsive crimes if the facts are obvious (BKA, 2019).

Violations of the NpSG

361 violations of the NpSG were recorded in the PKS in 2018. In 2017, which was the first year this category was included in the PKS, 495 violations were recorded, which represents a fall of 27.1% between 2017 and 2018.

Convictions under the BtMG

Data for 2018 on convictions under the BtMG is not yet available. According to the criminal prosecution statistics of the German Federal Statistical Office (Destatis, 2018a) 60,130 persons were convicted in 2017 under the BtMG. Of those, 1,405 were convicted for illegal import under Sec. 30 (1) No. 4 and 6,373 under Sec. 29a (1) No. 2 as well as 49,237 for other violations under Sec. 29 (1).

51,073 judgments were issued under general (adult) criminal law and 9,057 under criminal law relating to young offenders. As far as judgments issued under general criminal law are concerned, 13,717 prison sentences were handed down – of which 9,304 were suspended sentences - and 37,356 fines were imposed.

Convictions issued for violations of the BtMG accounted for around 8% of all convictions in 2017, representing a slight percentage increase from previous years (Figure 1), whereby the proportion among males (8.6%) was considerably higher than that among females (3.7%). Amongst adolescents, the proportion of convictions due to violations of the BtMG amounted to 12.1% of all convictions, which represents an increase from previous years (2016: 11.3%; 2015: 10.9%). Among young adults between 18 and 21 years of age, the proportion of convictions related to narcotics offences was also higher, at 15.6%, than in the previous year (13.9%), 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.

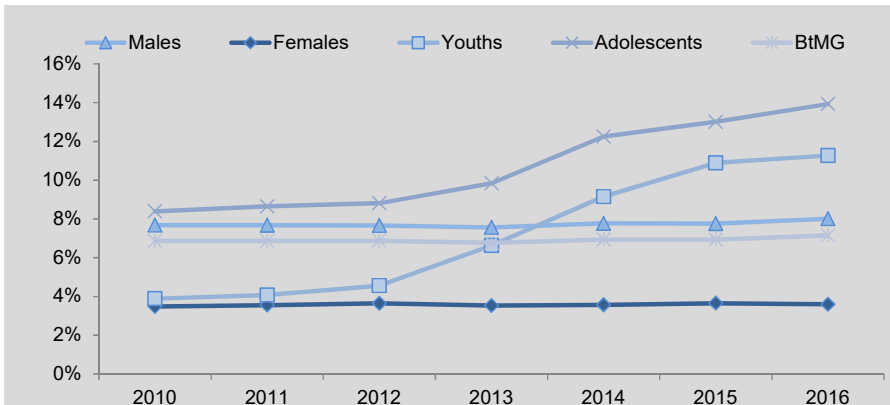


Figure 1 Proportion of convictions for narcotics among different groups of offenders 2010 - 2017

(Destatis, 2018b)

Almost ten times more men than women were convicted for narcotics offences in 2017 (men: 44,221; women: 4,578). According to the Hamburg basic documentation system (Hamburger Basisdokumentation, BADO) (Neumann-Runde und Martens, 2018), 55% of opiate clients in 2017 reported currently having problems with the criminal justice authorities. The highest proportion of people in treatment with criminal convictions is in the opiate group (76%).

Around two thirds have already been convicted of narcotics offences (60%), over half because of economic compulsive crimes (51%) and a quarter because of bodily injury offences (25%). Men are convicted more often than women in all offence categories and have, on average, more prison experience (62 months) than women (34 months).

A quarter (25%) of cannabis clients had experience of prison at least once in their lives, men (30%) more often than women (6%). The most common types of offence in this group were narcotics offences (10%), physical assault (9%), economic compulsive crime (6%) and other offences at 12%. 21% of male clients and 2% 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 2017 had problems with the justice authorities (including those with an alcohol problem). This represents no change from the previous year. A downward trend could be seen between 2007 and 2017, albeit interrupted in 2015. The number of clients with experience of prison who were sentenced due to an offence fell in 2016 to an average of 34% (2016: 36%), and was thus, following a significant decrease up to 2014 (17%), somewhat higher than the 2007 value.

1.2.2 Drug related crime outside of drug law offences (T1.2.2)

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, 2018d). Since 1998, driving under the influence of drugs has been legally classified as a regulatory offence.⁵ This also applies to cases where lack of fitness to drive cannot 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 2018, there were a total of 308,553 police-registered accidents on German roads with injury to persons, involving around 368,800 car drivers.

Of these, 13,429 people involved in the accidents (4.4%) were under the influence of alcohol and 2,242 (0.7%) were under the influence of "other intoxicating substances" (Destatis, 2019). 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 hugely 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

⁵ A list of the relevant substances can be found at: <http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/stvg/anlage.html> [accessed: 22 Aug. 2019].

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 test procedures for THC is somewhat higher than is 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 2017 Hamburg BADO shows a proportion of approximately 62% of new clients who have already had experience with physical violence (Neumann-Runde und Martens, 2018). As for experience of sexual violence, the proportion was 22%.

Comparing the different substance groups, one finds that 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 reporting year (2017) that they had been at some point victims of physical violence (75%; women 83%; men 71%) and more than one in four reported having been victims of sexual violence (27%; women 70%; men 10%).

Half of cannabis clients (50%) reported having had experience with physical violence in their lives, whereby male clients (59%) report this more frequently than female clients (48%). For experience in relation to sexual violence, the numbers vary widely between women (49%) and men (9%). Exercising violence against others was documented for 37% of clients, with the numbers being starkly different for men (40%) and women (26%).

For 2017, however, over two thirds of cocaine users (68%) reported having been the victim of physical violence at some point in their lives. The percentage level for experience of violence was 76% for women and 66% for men. Over half of the women (56%) reported experience of sexual violence (men 10%). Almost two thirds of the men (61%) and more than a third of the women (35%) had themselves been physically violent towards others (overall: 56%) (Neumann-Runde und Martens, 2018).

1.3 Drug supply reduction activities (T1.3)

1.3.1 Drug supply reduction activities (T1.3.1)

Drug related crime within the meaning of the police rules encompasses all crimes in connection with the abuse 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 narcotics 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 NPS as per the NpSG, and direct economic compulsive crime (offences committed for the direct purpose of obtaining narcotics or substitute/alternative substances).

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

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

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

The goals and responsibilities of the police are enshrined in law. The legal basis for police work in Germany is formed by the uniform nationwide criminal laws, the Road Traffic Regulation, the federal police acts as well as those of the *Laender*, which govern the responsibilities and powers of the police.

In addition, there are approaches to solving the problem in the area of drug crime which target individual phenomena.

2 TRENDS (T2)

2.1 Short and long term trends in the drug market (T2.1)

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 generally also available from the BKA or from the LKAs. As already outlined above, much of the seizure data for 2018 is not available. Due to the changeover to a new police data system and the collection or surveying of drug-related facts, reliable numbers on cases of narcotics seizures, total seizure quantities of individual types of drugs and cannabis plantations seized cannot be presented this year. In addition, in relation to cases of drug-related deaths, no information is available beyond the pure number of deaths and causes of death. Information on the number of hard drug users coming to the attention of law enforcement for the first time is not available, as was the case in the previous year.

In order to still be able to provide an overview of the trends over recent years, a compilation of the respective data up to 2017 is presented below (Table 4, Table 5, Table 6, (BKA 2018, data delivery)).

Kommentiert [FS2]: Not intended for publication!
This currently includes the "Organised narcotics crime by Kosovan and Albanian nationals" project ("Organisierte Rauschgiftkriminalität durch kosovarische und albanische Staatsangehörige", ORKA) of the Organised Crime Commission (Kommission der Organisierten Kriminalität, KOK), which has been running since July 2018. Several *Laender* and the BKA are involved in the project, the objective of which is to identify members of Albanian extended families as well as selected structures of Albanian organised crime groupings and to initiate preliminary investigations through the project partners.

One indicator for trends is the number of seizures, whereby a differentiation is made between the quantities involved (Table 4, Table 5, Table 6) 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 seizure cases up to 2015 can be found in the Drug Market and Crime workbook from 2016 (Schulte et al., 2016).

Table 4 Quantity of illicit drugs seized in Germany, 5 year trend to 2017

						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%

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

(BKA 2018, data delivery)

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 5 and Table 6. 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 5 Seizures of cannabis plants

	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		

(BKA 2019, data delivery)

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, thereby 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 6 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 Plantations							
		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

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

(BKA 2018, data delivery)

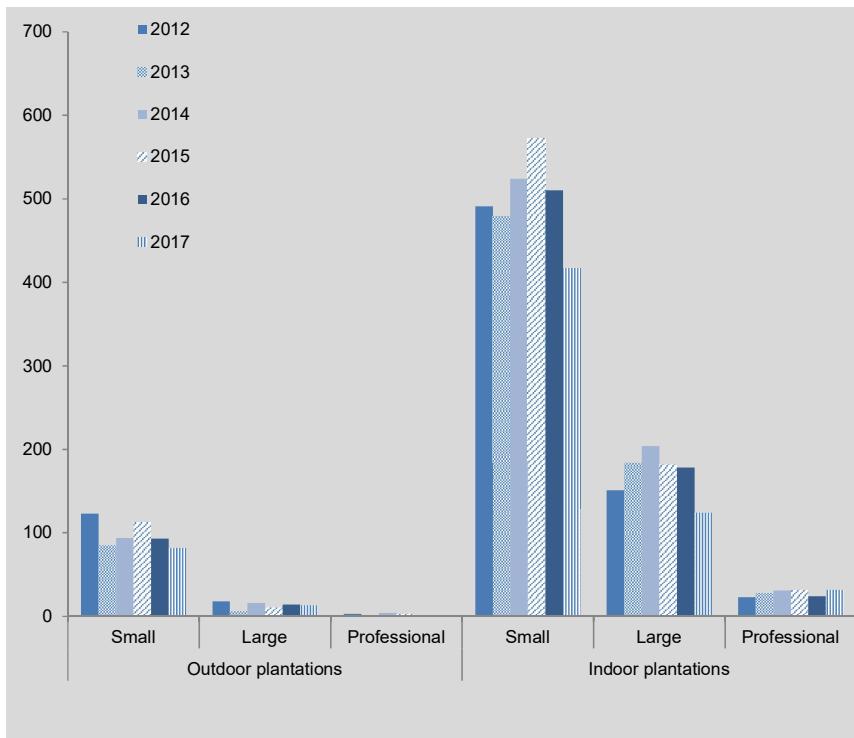


Figure 2 Seized cannabis plantations in Germany 2012-2017

(BKA 2018, data delivery)

Narcotics laboratories

Figure 3 shows the number of narcotics laboratories seized since 2007, which continuously fell between 2012 and 2015, before rising again since then. In 2018, with a total of 19 seized narcotics laboratories, the number has once more stabilised at the 2011 level.

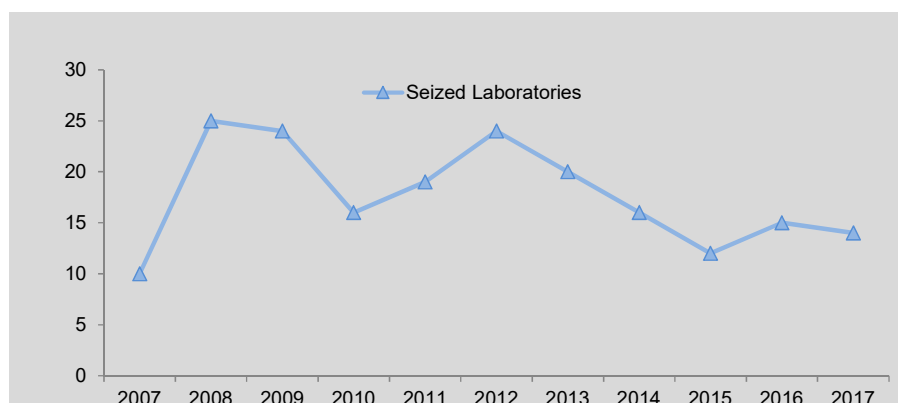


Figure 3 Number of seized narcotics laboratories 2007 - 2018

(BKA 2019, data delivery)

In 2018, 19 illegal narcotics laboratories were seized in Germany (2017: 14 laboratories, +36.7%). They comprised ten production sites for methamphetamine, eight for amphetamine, and for the first time in Germany, a laboratory manufacturing heroin was seized.

As in previous years, the majority of laboratories seized only had capacities to cover their own needs, or for customers/recipients limited to the immediate area. Seizures of two professional amphetamine laboratories which had enormous production capacity were unusual, however, as was the seizure of three further laboratories which were able to supply a Germany-wide customer base with synthetic drugs.

As well as the narcotic drug laboratories seized, eight conversion sites (amphetamine oil/base into consumable amphetamine paste or powder), one tableting facility (2017: 5) and one NPS processing site (2017: 2) were seized.

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 (2009-2018) shows that the price of cannabis resin at street dealing level has increased the most (+30.9%), followed by marijuana (+29.1%), heroin (+19.2%) and LSD (+19.0%). Only the street dealing price of crack has fallen (-15.4%), although this must be interpreted with caution as it is based on small amounts of data.

Compared to the previous year, street-level dealing prices have dropped for crack (-32.7%), ecstasy (-7.8%), cannabis resin (-5.3%), amphetamine (-5.0%) and cocaine (-1.8%). As the figure for crack is only based on the data supplied by fewer than five *Laender*, however, this

should be interpreted with caution (Table 7). An increase in price of 7.7% was recorded for crystal meth. An increase in price since the last reporting year has also been recorded for LSD (+5.3%), heroin (+3.3%) and marijuana (+2.0%).

Table 7 Trend in average narcotics prices at street-level dealing (€/g)

	Heroin	Cocaine	Crack	Ecstasy	Amphetamine	Marijuana	Cannabis resin	LSD	Crystal meth
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	10.0	8.6	9.3	87.3
2017	42.6	71.6	73.3**	7.7	11.9	10.0	9.4	9.5	78.0
2018	44.0	70.3	49.3*	7.1	11.3	10.2	8.9	10.0	84.0
2009-2017***	19.2%	12.7%	-15.4%	7.6%	7.6%	29.1%	30.9%	19%	17.8%
2017-2018***	3.3%	-1.8%	-32.7%	-7.8%	-5%	2%	-5.3%	5.3%	7.7%

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

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

*** Percentage change.

(BKA 2019, data delivery)

Between 2012 and 2018 narcotic drug prices increased at wholesale level (0.5 to <1.5kg) for marijuana (+12.4%), cocaine (+11.3%), cannabis resin (+4.3%), heroin (+2.0%) and ecstasy (+1.7%). Only the prices of amphetamine (-13.5%) and crystal meth (-3.2%) have fallen, continuing their downward trend since 2011. The largest change in price in comparison to 2017 was for amphetamine (-21.1%). Prices for heroin (-11.8%) and ecstasy (-6.3%) have also fallen since 2017. In contrast, wholesale prices of cannabis resin (+10.6%), marijuana (+9.7%), crystal meth (+4.5%) and cocaine (+3.5%) have increased.

Table 8 Trend in average wholesale narcotics prices (€/kg) (0.5 to <1.5kg or 500 to <1,500 CU)

	Heroin	Cocaine	Crack	Ecstasy	Amphetamine	Marijuana	Cannabis resin	LSD	Crystal meth
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*
2018	28,000	43,188	--	2,687	3,505	5,046	3,068	--	32,667*
2012 -	2%	11.3%	--	1.7%	-13.5%	12.4%	4.3%	--	-3.2%
2018									
2017 -	-11.8%	3.5%	--	-6.3%	-21.1%	9.7%	10.6%	--	4.5%
2018									

* Value based on figures received from one *Land* only.
(BKA 2019, data delivery)

Table 9 Trend in average wholesale narcotics prices (€/kg) (1.5 to <10kg or 1,500 to <10,000 CU)

	Heroin	Cocaine	Crack	Ecstasy	Amphetamine	Marijuana	Cannabis resin	LSD	Crystal meth
2012	21,000**	30,900	--	2,150	3,146	4,120	2,625	--	--
2013	21,250**	35,250**	2500**	1,567*	2,500*	3,700	2,650	--	--
2014	22,500**	38,093**	--	2,601*	2,906*	4,815	2,500*	--	--
2015	19,000**	37,500**	--	1,783*	2,422	4,529	2,488*	--	--
2016	20,000**	35,000*	--	2,300*	3,558	4,067	3,400	--	40,000**
2017	20,000**	38,333*	--	1,950*	2,270	3,936	3,688*	--	--
2018	21,500*	27,000**	--	1,625*	2,575*	4,225	4,333*	--	--
2017 - 2018	7.5%	-29.6%	--	-16.7%	13.4%	7.3%	17.5%	--	--

* Value based on figures received from one Land only.

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

(BKA 2019, data delivery)

At wholesale level, involving quantities greater than 1.5kg, (Table 9) the largest price decrease was recorded for cocaine, which was 29.6% cheaper in 2018 than in the previous year. A price decrease was also seen for ecstasy (-16.7%). The following increased in price in 2018: cannabis resin (+17.5%), amphetamine (+13.4%), heroin (+7.5%) and marijuana (+7.3%). As the values were provided from fewer than five Laender, aside from marijuana - the cocaine values are even only taken from one Land - they must be interpreted with caution.

Purity

Heroin, cocaine, amphetamine and MDMA

Figure 4 provides an overview of the trend in active substance levels for heroin, cocaine and amphetamine since 2005. Figure 5 shows the trend in MDMA purity since 2007. The active substance content of amphetamine increased more than two-fold on a continuous trend between 2012 (6.0%) and 2015 (14.6%). After falling in 2016 (13.8%) and 2017 (12.1%), the active substance level increased again in 2018 (13.9%).

At street-level dealing, a significant increase can be seen in the active substance content of cocaine between 2011 and 2017. At the beginning of that period, cocaine came onto the market with an active substance content of 37.6%. This had almost doubled to 2017 to 78.4%. In 2018, the active substance content of cocaine fell for the first time, although only slightly to 77.0%. A similar picture can be seen for heroin (increase of 11.0% in 2011 to 19.3% in 2016). The 2010 peak (24.6%) has not been reached since.

The active substance content of cocaine and heroin at wholesale level has steadily increased in recent years. 2018 also saw the resumption of an increase in both: for cocaine, the active substance content increased to 79.8%, for heroin it increased to 50.8%. Unusually, in past years (2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017) cocaine has appeared to possess a higher level of purity at street-level dealing than at wholesale level or, as in 2018, the active substance content has been very similar. This lies in the fact that cocaine is ever more frequently entering street-level dealing uncut.

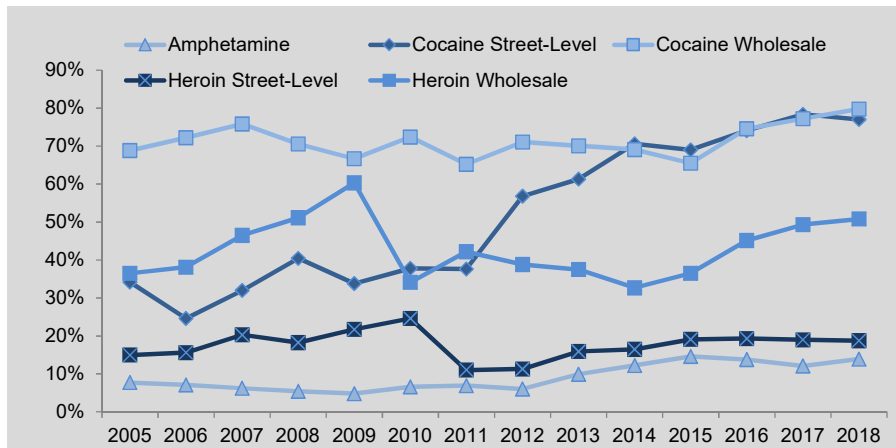


Figure 4 Active substance content of heroin, cocaine, amphetamine and MDMA 2005-2018 in percent

(BKA 2019, data delivery)

The median MDMA content per tablet has been increasing from year to year since 2009. This trend also continued in 2018, reaching a new peak at 137mg/tablet (2017: 125mg/tablet) (Figure 5).

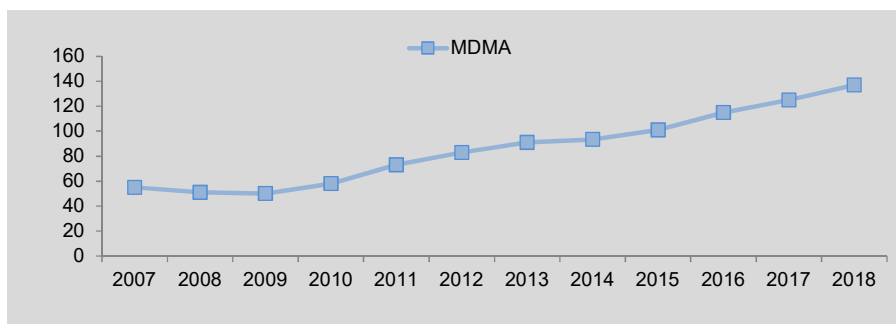


Figure 5 Active substance content of MDMA 2007 – 2018 in mg/tablet

(BKA 2019, data delivery)

Cannabis

The active substance content of flowering tops has continuously increased since 2011 (10.9%) and is currently at 13.1%, which is the same as the 2017 level. Since 2010 (6.8%), the average active substance content of seized resin has also been increasing, to its current peak of 16.7%. Thus, it can be seen that cannabis resin has been, since 2016, more potent than the flowering tops of the cannabis plant (Figure 6). Since records were first kept in 1997, the opposite had been the case. The comparably low active substance content of herbal cannabis has remained more or less constant at approximately 2%.

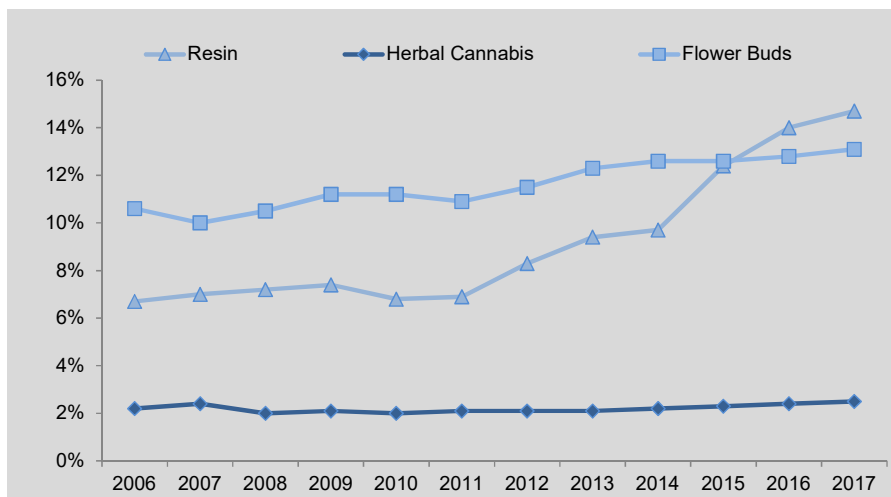


Figure 6 Active substance content of Cannabis 2006-2018 in percent
(BKA 2019, data delivery)

2.2 Trends in other drug market data (T2.2)

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

2.3 Short and long term trends in drug law offences (T2.3)

The trend in breaches of the law in connection with drugs since 2004 is illustrated in Figure 7. Except for general offences against the BtMG which have been steadily increasing since 2012 (2018: 274,787 cases; 2017: 255,344), no significant changes have been seen in other narcotics offences in recent years.

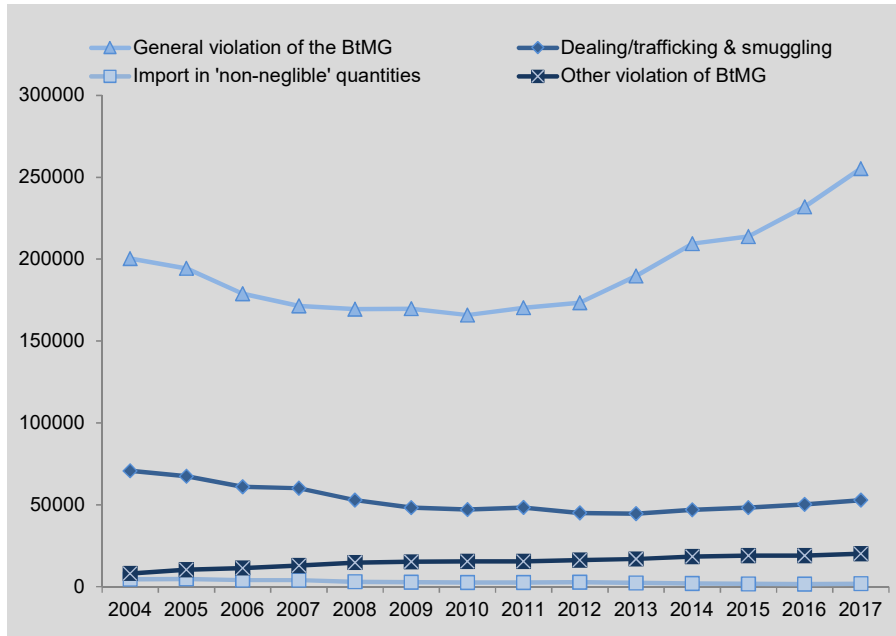


Figure 7 Trend in narcotics offences 2004-2018

(BKA, 2019)

Economic compulsive crime

The number of offences in the area of economic compulsive crime has fluctuated over the last 10 years (Figure 8) and, at 1,658 offences, is at a similarly low level to 2016 (1,507 offences), which was the lowest level 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 have declined from 2005 (1,262 cases) to 2018 (816 cases), in spite of several fluctuations (hitting a peak of 1,949 cases in 2011). A decrease has also been seen from 2017 including in the area of robbery in order to obtain narcotic drugs. The numbers have fallen by 19.3% (2018: 130 cases; 2017: 161 cases).

Compared to the previous year, economic compulsive crime has fallen by 4.3%, whereby the numbers of thefts from pharmacies (+11.3%) and those of theft of narcotics from hospitals (+11.6%) as well as theft from manufacturers and wholesalers (+4.8%) has gone up in 2018. Thefts from doctors' practices have fallen (-5.4%) as have cases of thefts of prescription forms to obtain narcotic drugs (-17.5%).

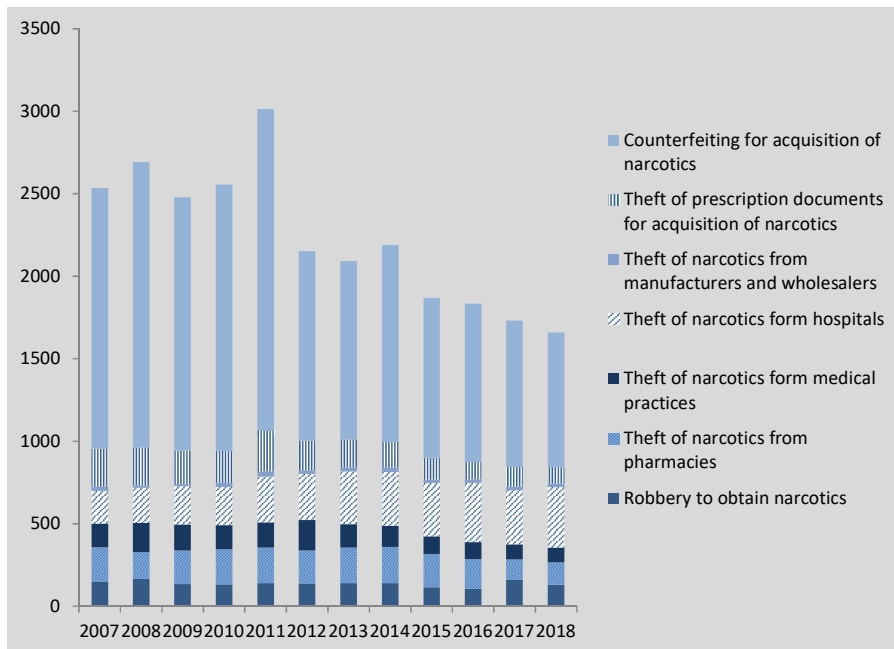


Figure 8 Trend in economic compulsive crime 2007-2018

(BKA, 2019)

2.3.1 Dealing/trafficking offences (T2.3.1)

Cannabis has constantly played the largest role in recent years in dealing/trafficking, smuggling and import offences (59.7%; 2018: 31,848 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; 2018: 2,180 individual offences) and has thus fallen significantly behind cocaine in recent years (2018: 4,338 offences, including crack). While the number of dealing/trafficking and importing offences involving cocaine has increased (+15.4%) compared to the previous year, the number of offences involving heroin has decreased (-13.3%). Dealing/trafficking offences in connection with ecstasy fell, following a steady increase since 2011, and are now at a similar level to 2016 (2018: 2,779 offences; 2017: 2,979 offences; 2010: 859 offences). The proportions of individual drugs in all cases of trafficking offences are illustrated in Figure 9, absolute numbers in Figure 10. In 2018, 282 cases of NPS dealing/trafficking offences were recorded, which have been illustrated for the first time this year.

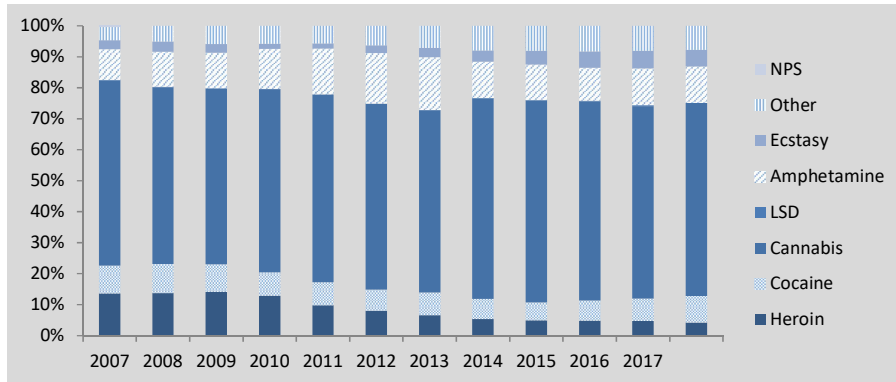


Figure 9 Trend in dealing/trafficking and smuggling offences (2007-2018), proportions by drug

(BKA, 2019)

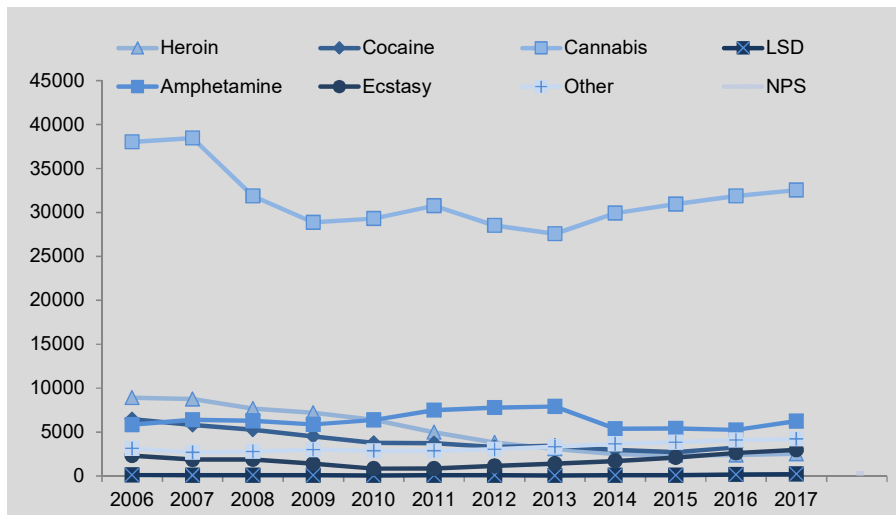


Figure 10 Trend in dealing/trafficking offences (2006-2018), absolute figures

(BKA, 2019)

2.3.2 Consumption-related offences (T2.3.2)

In comparison to the previous year, the number of consumption-related offences has increased by 7.6% overall. In 2018 there were a total of 274,787 offences, with the increase of previous years (+31% compared to 2013) continuing. Cannabis continues to account for the largest proportion of consumption-related offences (65%), with an increase of 8% on the previous year. The proportion of cocaine and amphetamine also increased (by 11% each), as did that of ecstasy (+1%). There was a decrease in the number of consumption-related

offences for heroin (-2%) and LSD (-4%). Among other narcotics, there was a reduction of 3%. In connection with NPS, 2,609 consumption-related offences were included in the PKS which was the first time they were included.

The short-term trend of the last five years shows an increase for all consumption-related offences, aside from for amphetamine (-9.8%) and heroin (-5.3%). Of those increases, the largest was recorded for LSD (+147.4%) and ecstasy (+89.9%). The figures for cocaine (+51.5%) and cannabis (+53.0%) increased by just over half. An increase has also been seen in other narcotic drugs (+28.8%).

Over the last ten years, consumption-related offences have increased for nearly all substances. The largest increases have been for LSD (+200%), other narcotic drugs (+112%), cannabis (+79%) and ecstasy (+85%). The numbers for heroin have fallen (-59%).

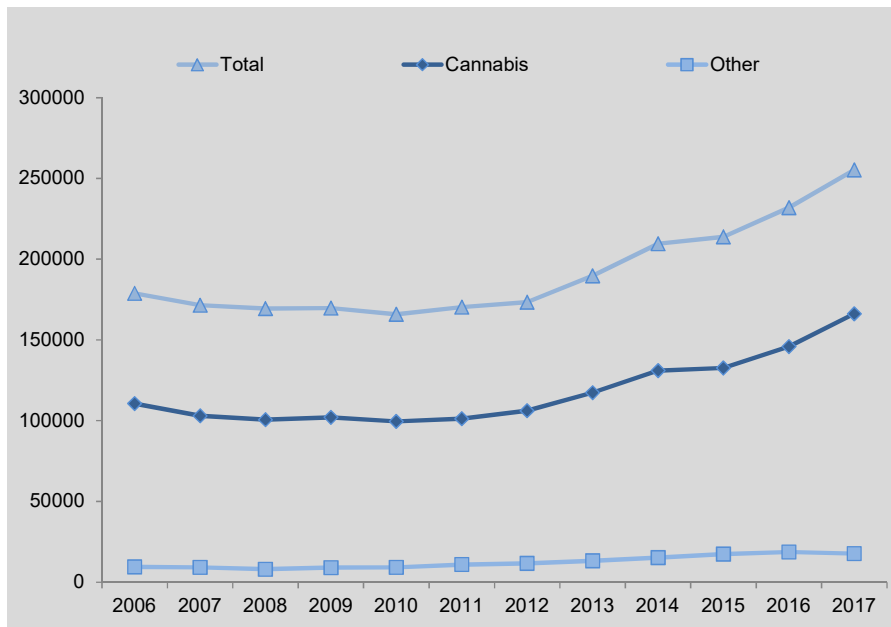


Figure 11 Trend in consumption-related offences in relation to cannabis and other narcotic drugs (2006-2018)

(BKA, 2019)

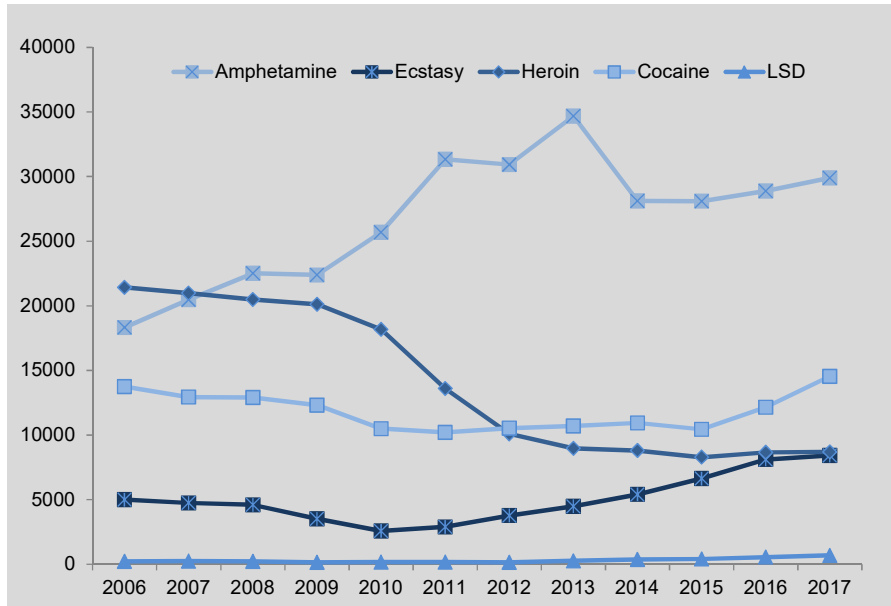


Figure 12 Trend in consumption-related offences in relation to other substances (2006-2018)

(BKA, 2019)

2.3.3 Users of hard drugs who have come to the attention of law enforcement for the first time (FTDO) (T2.3.3)

No conclusions on users coming to the attention of law enforcement for the first time can be made from 2016 onwards due to the changes in data collection modalities in several *Laender* as described above. The following findings are thus based on 2015. The presentation of the most current known numbers can be found in the 2016 Drug Market & Crime workbook (Schulte et al., 2016).

2.3.4 Convictions under the BtMG (T2.3.4)

Following hardly any change in 2014 (47,502 convictions) and 2015 (47,380 convictions), and a slight increase in 2016 (48,983) the total number of persons convicted in 2017 under the BtMG has once again increased, to 51,073. The trend in the number of convictions is illustrated in Figure 13.

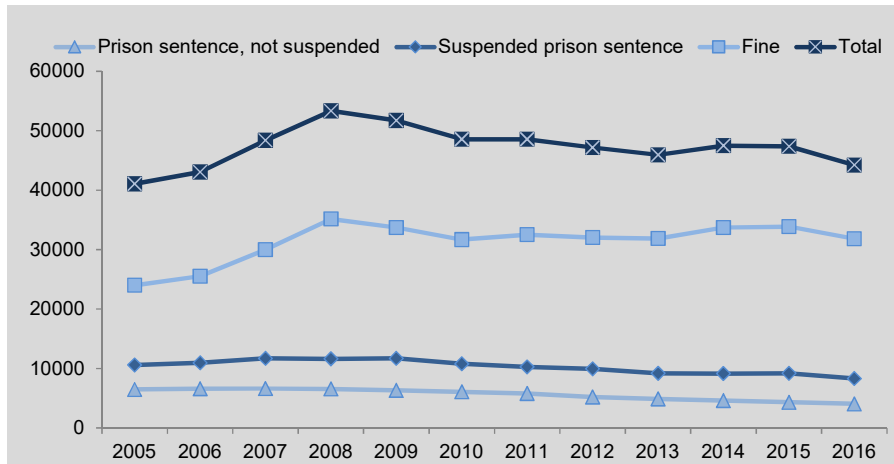


Figure 13 Trend in the number of convictions by type of sentence since 2005

(Destatis, 2018c)

A total of 51,073 convictions under the BtMG were recorded. Most of the sentences issued were, as in previous years, fines (37,356 fines; 73.1%). Custodial sentences were for the most part suspended (9,304; 73.1% of all custodial sentences). The proportion of custodial sentences of all people convicted under the BtMG overall has sharply reduced in recent years (2017: 27.9%; 2005: 41.5% of all sentences). In this context, the proportion of non-suspended custodial sentences fell the sharpest (2005: 15.7%; 2017: 8.6% of all convictions). In contrast, fines have been steadily accounting for a greater share of sentences (2005: 58.4%; 2017: 73.1% of all convictions).

The distribution across the various types of offence has remained constant over the last 10 years (Figure 14). In the area of the illegal import of narcotic drugs in non-small quantities (Sec. 30 (1) No. 4 BtMG), a reduction of 58.3% in comparison to 2008 has been observed (2008: 2,412; 2017: 1,405). In illegal dealing/trafficking, possession or manufacture of narcotic drugs in non-small amounts (Sec 29a (1) No. 2 BtMG), the number has, following a reduction, stabilised once more at the 2007 and 2008 peak level (2007: 6,582; 2008: 6,375; 2017: 6,373). 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 account for the majority of convictions under the BtMG and following a reduction have stabilised again at a similarly high level to 2008 (2008: 49,801; 2017: 49,237).

In a short-term comparison to the previous year, the total number of convictions under the BtMG increased by 4% (2016: 57,539; 2017: 60,130). Convictions for illegal dealing/trafficking, possession or manufacture in non-small quantities increased by 6% over the same period (2016: 5,975; 2017: 6,373), while the number of persons convicted for the illegal import of narcotic drugs in non-small amounts has fallen by 6% (2016: 1,485; 2017: 1,405).

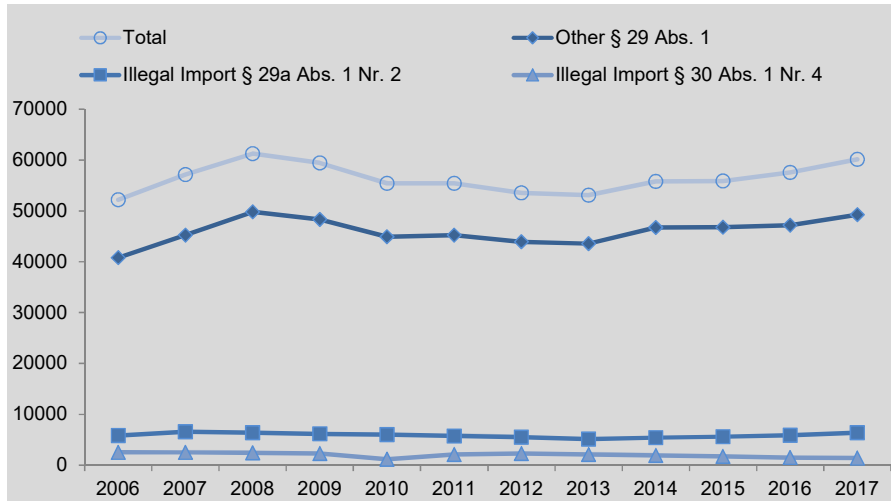


Figure 14 Convictions under the BtMG

(Destatis, 2018c)

2.4 Trends in other drug related crime data (T2.4)

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, is no longer continuing, instead numbers have increased by 4% (2017: 12,873; 2018: 13,429) (Table 10). The proportion of all accidents involving injuries to persons is almost unchanged at 4.4% (2017: 4.3%).

The total number of vehicle drivers under the influence of other intoxicating substances increased again (+281 cases), however, as in previous years, they continue to make up only 0.7% (2017: 0.6%) of all drivers involved in accidents.

Table 10 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
2018	308,553	368,305	13,429	2,242

(Destatis, 2019)

Substance use among football fans

In an empirical study on the 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 within 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 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 (T2.5)

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

3 NEW DEVELOPMENTS (T3)

3.1 New developments (T3.1)

In order to be able to better tackle NPS, the German Ministry of Health has created a stand-alone law, the NpSG, with a new approach to combat the distribution of NPS. This Act came into force on 26 November 2016. Violations of the NpSG are included in this report for the first time.

4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (T4)

4.1 Additional sources of information (T.4.1)

In a qualitative study with 40 interviews, Egger and Wersé analysed different types of profit-oriented small dealers in greater Frankfurt am Main. The three groups were:

- Socially inconspicuous experienced dealers (private dealers),
- People who operate within the “open drug scene” of marginalised drug users and
- Respondents who i.a. deal with cannabis in public (but outside the “hard drug scene”).

Both of the last two groups are clearly differentiated from private dealers on a socio-demographic level and thus have less favourable starting points. This also applies both for the drugs and the quantities dealt and the profit earned: street dealers and marginalised dealers achieve much higher profits on average than the socially inconspicuous dealers. In contrast, it is not only private dealers who only sell to people they know: the other respondents also mainly sell only to people known to them. Across all groups, funding own use is the most common motive for dealing in drugs (Egger und Wersé, 2017).

4.2 Further aspects (T.4.2)

No information on further aspects is available.

5 SOURCES AND METHODOLOGY (T5)

5.1 Sources (T5.1)

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5.2 Methodology (T5.2)

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 standardised federal administrative orders of the *Laender*. The German Federal Statistical Office compiles 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 BKA produces the Federal Situation Report on Narcotics, an annual summary of current police knowledge of the situation in and development of narcotics drugs crime in Germany.

Moreover, the BKA publishes the PKS annually, in which the individual 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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