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DHS IFT BZgA

Drug Market and Crime

GERMANY

2021 Report of the National

REITOX Focal Point to the EMCDDA

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In addition to the above mentioned authors of the Prison workbook, other experts have also contributed to the preparation of the annual report. These experts serve as contact persons for the DBDD and contribute to the creation of the workbook by writing texts and giving feedback on draft versions of the individual sections:

German Federal Criminal Police Office (Bundeskriminalamt, BKA), Serious Crime Division (Abteilung SO, Schwere und Organisierte Kriminalität) and the Forensic Science Institute (Kriminaltechnisches Institut, KT)

0 SUMMARY (T0)

Seizures

Reliable figures on cases of narcotics seizure, total seizure quantities of individual types of drugs and cannabis plantations seized cannot be provided. Moreover, in relation to cases of drug-related deaths, it is impossible to produce information beyond the number of drug deaths and the causes of death, such as on age ranges and gender.

The most recent data available on cases of drug seizure, total seizure quantities of individual types of narcotics and cannabis plantations seized are presented in the 2018 Drug Market and Crime workbook (Schneider et al., 2018). In the current 2020 Drug Market and Crime workbook, this data is therefore not provided.

In 2020, 11 illegal narcotics laboratories were seized in Germany (2019: 31 laboratories, -64.5%).

Active substance and prices

Compared to the previous year, the average street-level dealing prices have fallen for heroin (-9.9%), ecstasy (-6.3%), and LSD (-2%). The largest increase was seen with raw opium (+624.6%), crack (+16.6%) and psychoactive mushrooms (+10.5%). The figure for crack, however, is only based on the data supplied by fewer than five *Laender*, and for raw opium from one *Land*, so the data should therefore be interpreted with caution. Amphetamine also recorded a rise in price (+9.5%). There were also increases for cocaine (+4.9%), crystal meth (+5.4%), cannabis resin (+4.4%) and herbal cannabis (+1%). The potency of illicit narcotics preparations seized in Germany is still at a high level. The mean values are mostly in the same range as 2019, for hashish and heroin they have fallen slightly.

Criminal offences

The total number of violations of the German Narcotic Drugs Act (Betäubungsmittelgesetz, BtMG) has continued to rise since 2012, reaching 365,753 cases in 2020. According to the police crime statistics (PKS), 287,592 of those were general violations of the BtMG, 52,645 were dealing/trafficking and smuggling offences, 1,703 were cases of importing “non-small quantities” and 23,095 were other violations of the BtMG. In addition, there were 718 violations of the NpSG.

Among dealing/trafficking, smuggling and importing offences, cannabis has constantly played the largest role in recent years (31,961 offences, 58.8% of a total of 54,348 dealing/trafficking, smuggling and importing offences). The 2020 PKS shows that cannabis also plays a predominant role in the case of consumption-related offences. 65.5% (188,453 offences) of all such criminal offences are violations in connection with cannabis.

718 violations of the NpSG were recorded in the PKS in 2020. In 2019, 391 violations were recorded, meaning that there was an increase of 83.6% from 2019 to 2020.

Convictions

Data on convictions under the BtMG is not yet available for 2020. According to the criminal prosecution statistics of the German Federal Statistical Office (Statistisches Bundesamt), 69,471 people were convicted in 2019 under the BtMG. Of those, 1,150 were convicted for illegal import and 57,318 for other violations.

Traffic accidents

The total number of vehicle drivers under the influence of other intoxicating substances increased marginally in 2020, to 2,393 cases (+7 cases compared to the previous year), however, as in previous years, they continue to make up only 0.9% (2019: 0.8%) 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

The most recent data on seizures of cannabis plantations and cannabis plants from 2017 can be found in the 2018 Drug Market and Crime workbook (Schneider et al., 2018).

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

Hashish

It remains the case that the majority of the hashish seized in Germany originates 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. Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and Spain) but also from outdoor cultivation in Albania. The significance of cannabis cultivation in Spain, in particular, has increased considerably in recent years.

Smaller quantities of marijuana are mostly brought into Germany from the Netherlands. Furthermore, in 2020 extensive marijuana bulk shipments by lorry were identified as coming from Spain via France towards Germany.

Heroin

Following a total seizure volume in Germany of around one tonne of heroin in 2019 - due in large part to a single major seizure of 670kg - the total quantity seized was at least 570kg in the reporting year, according to police information.

Heroin smuggling to Western Europe was primarily by lorry from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran via the branches of the classic Balkan route and the northern Black Sea route. Transport via the northern and southern routes seem to be increasing in significance, however. Seizures of large quantities of heroin in shipping containers (between 40 and 700kg) with a connection to Germany suggest that this modus operandi, which has only been seldom seen in heroin smuggling, is possibly being used more frequently once more. Border closures due to the coronavirus pandemic (Iran, Turkey) could act as an amplifier.

Cocaine

The number of cocaine dealing/trafficking offences has been increasing in Germany for years. In 2020, a year-on-year increase of 9.6% was recorded in these offences.

Seizure quantities have significantly risen in Germany since 2017. After record seizure quantities of around 8 tonnes in Germany in 2017 – especially due to individual major seizures at ports – the total quantity seized in 2018 was at least 5 tonnes before rising to a new record level in 2019 of at least 10 tonnes. A total seizure quantity of at least 11 tonnes can be assumed for 2020, which represents a new record (BKA, 2021).

Large quantities of cocaine were seized - as in previous years - not only in Germany but also in other European and non-European countries. An especially serious aspect is the increase in cocaine seizures at the main European gateways of Antwerp and Rotterdam. While in 2018 around 70 tonnes were seized in both ports, in 2019 it was around 100 tonnes and in 2020 it was even over 106 tonnes.

Cocaine smuggling into Europe mainly came from Brazil, which not only has a whole range of container ports, but also borders all three coca growing countries (Colombia, Bolivia, Peru). In addition, cocaine from Ecuador, Colombia, Panama and Peru was smuggled into Europe via sea containers, especially using the modi operandi of rip-on/rip-off and drop-off/drop-on.

Amphetamine

As in the past, amphetamine seized in Germany mostly originated from Dutch production. In the Netherlands, an increase in the production capacities of illegal laboratories has been observed for a number of years.

Ecstasy

The increased smuggling of ecstasy tablets in disguised packaging, primarily foodstuffs, by post from Germany to Thailand and other Asian countries identified in the second half of 2019, continued in 2020. At least 300,000 tablets originating from Germany were seized at

Bangkok airport alone in 2020. The tablets, which had previously been produced in the Netherlands and partly also in Belgium, were illegally imported into Germany and sent out through various post offices in the Germany/Netherlands border area. Criminal groups were clearly doing this in an attempt to disguise the origin from potentially suspicious production countries.

Crystal meth / methamphetamine

In 2020, at least 290.5kg of methamphetamine in all its forms was seized in Germany (powder, crystalline, liquid; 2019: 211kg). In many cases, the Czech Republic was the country of origin. Aside from that, at least 77.5kg was proven to have come from Mexico, 50.6kg from the Netherlands, approximately 32.5kg from Asia and around 10.5kg from Africa. This continued the trend that, in addition to the Czech Republic, other countries and regions are also becoming increasingly significant as places of origin for methamphetamine or crystal meth sold in Germany. Nevertheless, several transit cases were also reported in which the drugs seized were not destined for the German market.

NPS

NPS have become established on the drugs market over the past few years and now cover the entire spectrum of alternatives to the classic drugs.

In the NPS statistical analysis programme (Statistischen Auswerteprogramm NPS, “SAN”), a total of 3,403 data sets were evaluated for 2020, with investigation outcomes from seized NPS and NPS products with a total seized quantity of at least 640kg (2019: 3,066 seizure cases with a total quantity of 195kg; +228%).

Synthetic cannabinoids accounted for the largest proportion of NPS examined in the SAN by some margin, making up around two thirds of the data records, followed by cathinones (9-12%).

The main country of origin for the pure substances used in the production of finished NPS products (e.g. so-called herb mixtures, bath salts, plant fertilisers) is China. From there, active substances are sent to Europe by post. In European production facilities, including in the Netherlands, Belgium, Poland and Spain but also in Germany, these substances are further processed, packaged ready for use and primarily distributed via online shops and by post.

Narcotics dealing/trafficking via the internet/darknet

The darknet is the most important source for obtaining narcotics in “online trade”. During the coronavirus lockdown periods, in particular, the supply of drugs on the darknet was constantly high, as mail and parcel delivery was available without restriction worldwide compared to other transport options.

In 2020, a total of 39 marketplaces were identified with German offerings or offering shipping from Germany. 20 marketplaces shut down in 2020 due to various factors, such as exit scams run by the administrators or due to the marketplace being shut down by law enforcement authorities.

1.1.2 Wholesale drug and precursor market (T1.1.4)

Prices

At the end of 2002, the *Land* Offices of Criminal Investigation (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 also 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 communicated to the respective LKA. The LKAs combine 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 drug purity are not taken into account when determining prices and the quality categories involved will sometimes differ. 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.

An overview of the prices of different drugs in the various quantity categories in Germany is shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Prices of various drugs in small and large quantities (€/kg), 2020

	0.5 to <1.5kg or 500 to <1,500 CU	1.5 to <10kg or 1,500 to <10,000 CU	10 to <100 kg or 10,000 to <100,000 CU
Heroin	30,167*	14,000*	14,000**
Cocaine	39,844	34,357	19,000*
Amphetamine	3,155	1,917	500**
Ecstasy/Tablets	3,188	2,000*	400*
Cannabis resin	3,930	4,067*	1,400**
Herbal cannabis	5,204	4,161	2,863*
Crack	--	--	--
LSD/Trip	--	--	--
Crystal meth	30,500	--	--
Raw opium	--	5,000**	--
Mushrooms	--	--	--

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

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

(BKA 2021, data delivery)

1.1.3 Street-level 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 2.

Table 2 Street-level prices of various drugs (€/g), 2020

Heroin	Cocaine	Amphetamine	Ecstasy tablets	Cannabis resin	Herbal cannabis	Crack	LSD trip	Crystal meth	Mushrooms	Raw opium
46.2	72.9	9.8	7.5	9.6	10.0	43.8*	7.5	82.0	9.5	100**

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

(BKA 2021, 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 purity levels are broken down into three areas, in line with the seized quantities: street level dealing (<1g), retail (1g to <1,000g) and wholesale (≥1,000g). Where clear differences can be determined in purity at wholesale and street dealing levels, the results are broken down accordingly. The reason for this is that in most cases the substances are increasingly cut between the wholesale and street-dealing levels for profit maximisation purposes. In addition to data regarding purity, information on the most frequently found cutting agents is also reported. Insofar as these agents have a pharmacological effect (e.g. caffeine), they are categorised as adulterants, otherwise they are categorised as diluents (e.g. sugar).

Trend data for heroin, cocaine, amphetamine and MDMA can be found in

Figure 3 and Figure 4. Figure 5 shows the trends for cannabis.

Amphetamine

On the illegal drug market, amphetamine is mostly traded in powder form. It appears only extremely rarely as an ingredient in tablets.

In 2020, 4,294 data sets (2019: 3,999) for powder-form amphetamine were analysed. The median purity level has, with slight fluctuations, been between 12 and 15% since 2014. The median value for 2020 is 14.5% (2019: 13.2%). Around two thirds of all samples examined exhibited amphetamine content levels of below 20%. The analysis in respect of cutting agents in amphetamine preparations was based on 3,650 data sets. The most dominant adulterant remains caffeine, with a frequency of 98%. As far as diluents are concerned, lactose (6%) stands out somewhat.

Methamphetamine

For 2020, 1,035 data sets were reported (2019: 796). The median value for the active substance concentration continued to increase and now stands at 76.6% (2019: 74.4%).

Notable adulterants among the 221 data sets analysed were procaine (2%) and caffeine (2%). Among diluents, methylsulphonylmethane dominates, accounting for a proportion of 83%. Tartaric acid or tartrate was found in almost 7% of samples, an indication of enantiomeric separation by fractional crystallisation.

Cocaine

On the illegal drug market, cocaine is traded almost exclusively as cocaine hydrochloride. As in the previous year, only a very few cases of preparations containing cocaine base (“crack”) were reported.

In 2020, 3,567 data sets were evaluated (2019: 3,380). The average active substance content for the street samples was 77.0% (2019: 76.4%) and for the middle dealing level 78.1% (2019: 77.7%). For wholesale quantities, the trend to higher purity levels, which has been observed since 2015, did not continue in 2020. At 79.6% (2019: 81.6%), the average purity was once again only slightly above the other categories. Once more, over 65% of all analysed samples had a cocaine content of over 70%. As far as the adulterants in the 1,305

samples analysed for cutting agents (2019: 1,223), tetramisole/levamisole remains the most significant, with a frequency of nearly 55%. That is followed by caffeine (18%), phenacetin (16%), lidocaine (6%) and procaine (5%). The most commonly reported diluents were, once again, lactose (16%), mannitol (10%), inositol (4%) and creatine/creatinine (3%).

Heroin

For 2020, 1,691 data sets were reported (2019: 1,773 data sets). At the wholesale level, the trend to higher purity levels, which has been observed since 2014, did not continue; the median value fell by 2.3% to 52.5%.

The median heroin content ascertained for middle level dealing increased slightly to 22.7% (2019: 21.9%), which was in contrast to street level dealing for which the median figure, following a sharp increase in 2019, fell slightly to 24.6% for 2020.

The two categories which represent middle level dealing and street level dealing have similar median values as far as the long-term picture is concerned. In this context, the values for small quantities were also higher than the values for middle level dealing several times in recent years; clearly, the heroin is not cut any further at that level.

The analysis of the cutting agents used reflected the already-known, past data: in the 1,524 data sets analysed (2019: 1,636), the adulterants caffeine (99%) and paracetamol (99%) predominated.

Cannabis

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

Flowering tops

The findings were recorded in 13,227 data sets (2019: 11,059). The median active substance content of Tetrahydrocannabinol[1], at 13.7%, remained at the same level as the previous year.

Cannabis resin (hashish)

The analysis of the 2,977 data sets (2019: 3,426) for this cannabis product revealed an average THC content of 20.4% and thus a further year on year decrease (22.6%). The increase in the THC content of cannabis resin that has been observed since 2011 has, for now, not continued.

[1] More precise designation: delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol. For the sake of simplicity, the abbreviation THC will be used in the following. As far as the reported potency is concerned, the THC additionally created through the application of heat is also taken into account.

Herbal cannabis (marijuana)

3,282 data sets were taken into account (2019: 3,084). The median value was 2.5% THC (2019: 2.6%), and thus at the level which has remained roughly constant for some years.

CBD-hemp

For 1,160 of the total 19,486 data sets recorded for cannabis flowering tops, herbal cannabis and cannabis resin, where the THC content was at or below 1%, an increased CBD content was reported[2].

Cannabis concentrate[3]

For the 187 reported preparations (2019: 109), the median THC content was 40.6% (2019: 49.3%). This represented a further fall compared to the previous year.

MDMA

MDMA (3.4 methylenedioxy-N-methylamphetamine) is primarily distributed on the illegal drug market in two forms, which will be considered separately in the following:

MDMA in crystalline form

730 data sets were evaluated for 2020 (2019: 633). At 77.8%, the median value corresponds to the previous year's figure. In 84% of all preparations, the active substance content was over 70% MDMA-base. MDMA in crystalline form is predominantly dealt in uncut form on the illegal drug market.

MDMA in tablet-form (ecstasy)[4]

In 1,451 data sets (2019: 1,384), the MDMA content of around 1.1 million tablets was reported. The median MDMA content per tablet (147mg/tablet) only slightly increased from the previous year (See Fig. 5). MDMA content levels in excess of 200mg/tablet were reported for 151 data sets.

The median MDMA content of the individual tablets has remained constant since 2017 at around 35%, however the median tablet weight continues to increase slowly (from 417mg to 430mg).

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2 Results regarding the CBD content have not yet been comprehensively reported for 2020; data was only available for 11 of the 22 reporting points.

3 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. dabs, honey bee extracts, hash oil).

4 Only a few data sets were reported (0.2%) for tablets containing other psychotropic substances (e.g. 2C-B, amphetamine), including in combination with MDMA. Due to their low level of significance, these values have not been taken into account in the evaluation.

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 adverse consequences 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 in three different categories of offence:

- General violations under Sec. 29 BtMG (especially possession, purchase and supply, 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[5].

In addition, the German New Psychoactive Substances Act (NpSG) came into force on 26 November 2016, regulating the handling of new psychoactive substances outside the scope of the German Narcotic Drugs Act (Betäubungsmittelgesetz, BtMG) and the German Medicinal Product Act (Arzneimittelgesetz, AMG).

In 2020, a total of 365,753 narcotics offences were recorded in Germany, 287,592 of which were general offences against the BtMG, 52,645 dealing/trafficking and smuggling offences under Sec. 29 BtMG, 1,703 cases of importing "non-small quantities" as per Sec. 30 BtMG and 23,095 other violations of the BtMG. 718 offences against the NpSG were recorded in 2020 (BKA, 2021).

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 under Sec. 29 BtMG, meaning the possession, purchase and supply of narcotic drugs and similar offences.

The 2020 police crime statistics (BKA, 2021) show that cannabis plays a predominant role also in the case of consumption-related offences: 65.5% (188,453 offences) of all such

[5] Other violations include the illegal cultivation of narcotics (Sec. 29(1) No. 1 BtMG); cultivation of, manufacture of and dealing/trafficking in narcotics as a member of a gang (Sec. 30(1) No. 1, Sec. 30a BtMG); making available 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. 29a(1) No. 1, and possibly Sec. 30(1) No. 2 BtMG); negligently causing the death of another by supplying, administering or providing narcotics for direct use (Sec. 30(1) No. 3 BtMG); illegal prescription and administration by doctors in breach of Sec. 13 BtMG (Sec. 29(1) No. 6 BtMG) and illegal dealing/trafficking in or manufacturing, supplying, possessing narcotics in non-small quantities (Sec. 29a(1) No. 2 BtMG).

criminal cases are violations in connection with cannabis. Amphetamine, at 11.2% (32,100 offences), cocaine (including crack), at 6.5% (18,756 offences), ecstasy, at 2.7% (7,843 offences), and heroin, at 2.8% (8,100 offences), together account for almost a quarter of recorded offences. The remainder is split between NPS, at 1.2% (3,421 offences), LSD, at 0.3% (739 offences) and other, at 5.7% (16,437 offences).

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. 3 (1) No. 4 BtMG.

Cannabis was predominant in dealing/trafficking offences (31,961 offences, 58.8% of the total of 54,348 dealing/trafficking, smuggling and importing offences), followed by, at some distance, (meth)amphetamine with 5,578 offences ((10.3%); of which methamphetamine: 1,907 offences). 5,147 offences were reported for cocaine (including crack) (9.5%), 2,445 for ecstasy (4.5%), followed by 2,214 offences for heroin (4.1%). NPS (667 offences, 1.2%) and LSD (256 offences, 0.5%) were the two substances among dealing/trafficking offences which had the lowest values (BKA, 2021).

Economic compulsive crime

Direct economic compulsive crime encompasses 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, indirect economic compulsive crime is committed to obtain 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 of the person concerned is not always identified.

According to the PKS, there were 1,856 (2019: 1,598 cases; +16.2%) cases of direct economic compulsive crime in 2020. 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 in this regard on the basis of investigation findings, which include direct questioning/interviewing. Unexplained burglaries can also be recorded as economic compulsive crimes, if the connection is obvious from the facts (BKA, 2021).

Violations of the NpSG

718 violations of the NpSG were recorded in the PKS in 2020. In 2019, 391 violations were recorded, which represented an increase of 8.6% from 2019 to 2020.

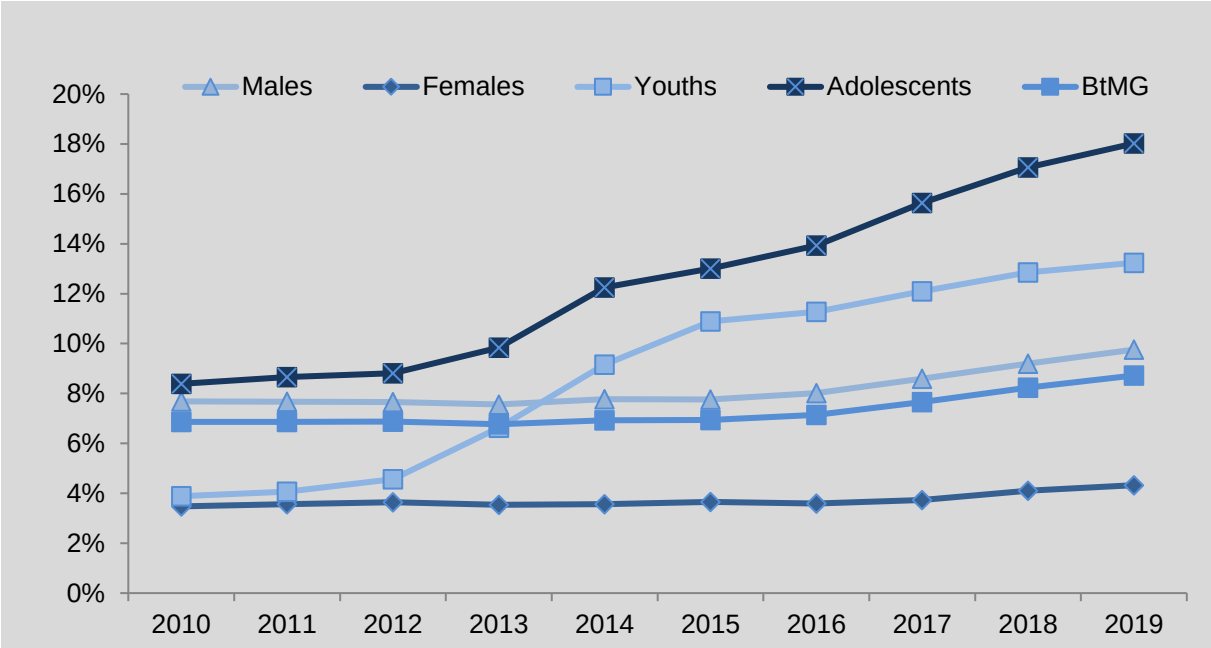
Convictions under the BtMG

Data on convictions under the BtMG is not yet available for 2020. According to the criminal prosecution statistics of the German Federal Statistical Office (Statistisches Bundesamt, Destatis, 2021a), 69,471 persons were convicted in 2019 under the BtMG. Of those, 1,150

were convicted for illegal import under Sec. 30(1) No. 4 and 7,441 under Sec. 29a(1) No. 2 as well as 57,318 for other violations under Sec. 29(1).

59,325 judgments were issued under general (adult) criminal law and 10,146 under criminal law relating to young offenders. As far as judgments issued under general criminal law are concerned, 14,798 custodial sentences were handed down – of which 10,063 were suspended - and 44,527 fines were imposed.

8.7% (56,759 of all convicted persons were convicted in 2019 on the basis of violations of the BtMG. As such, the percentage share has continued to increase slightly year-on-year since 2013 (Figure 1). In this context, the proportion among men, at 9.8%, is twice that among women, at 4.8%. Among young people, convictions due to violations of the BtMG accounted for 13.2% of all convictions. This represents a continuous increase of the proportion of adolescents convicted under the BtMG since 2010 (2010: 3.9%). Among young adults between 18 and 21 years of age, the proportion of convictions related to narcotics offences was also higher, at 18%, than in the previous year (17.1%), thus continuing its increasing trend from previous years. It can therefore be seen that narcotics offences committed by this age group have an above-average share of overall crime that is growing each year.



(Destatis, 2020a)

Figure 1 Proportion of convictions for narcotics among different groups of offenders 2010 - 2019

Almost ten times as many men as women were convicted for narcotics offences in 2019 (men: 51,391; women: 5,368).

The Hamburg basic documentation system in the area of addiction (BADO) (Lahusen et al., 2020) sheds light on how many Hamburg addiction support clients had already fallen foul criminal justice system. It shows that people receiving treatment in the opioid group (60%)

and the stimulants group (34%) are particularly affected. For example, over one third (36%) of opioid clients had spent at least three years of their life in correctional institutions.

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

Drug use and road accidents

The German Federal Statistical Office has, since 2003, 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, 2021b). Since 1998, driving under the influence of drugs has been legally classified as a regulatory offence[6]. 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 to be taken into account for 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 2020, there were a total of 264,499 (2019: 300,143; -13.5%) police-registered accidents on German roads with injury to persons, involving a total of 330,269 accident victims. As such, 2020 saw the lowest number of road traffic accidents since the introduction of the time series in 1975.

The total number of vehicle drivers under the influence of other intoxicating substances increased marginally in 2020, to 2,393 cases (+7 cases compared to the previous year), however, as in previous years, they continue to make up only 0.9% (2019: 0.8%) of all drivers involved in accidents(Destatis, 2021b). However, as there are considerable difficulties in detecting drug use as compared to alcohol consumption, one still has to assume that cases involving drugs are still hugely under-reported.

The police need 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 reviews of benzodiazepine tests could also be down 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 which lead to many false positives among the test results.

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

Crime experienced by drug users themselves

The 2019 Hamburg BADO shows a proportion of 67% of new clients who have already had experience of physical violence (Lahusen et al., 2020). As for experience of sexual violence, the proportion was 29%.

Comparing the different substance groups, it can be seen that clients who have sought help from the Hamburg outpatient addiction support system for opioid-related problems are particularly affected in this respect. Overall, 34% of clients with opioid problems stated in the current reporting year (2019) that they had been victims of sexual abuse or sexual violence with women far more affected than men (75% and 18% respectively). More than three quarters of opioid clients have already experienced physical violence at least once in their lives. Women were, once again, more frequently impacted (85%) than men (73%) in this regard.

Almost two thirds (62%) of cannabis clients have experienced physical violence at some point in their lives. In this regard, women (72%) were more often impacted than men (60%). Larger differences between the genders could be seen in the experience of sexual violence category: 65% of women had been a victim of sexual violence whilst 16% of men reported having had experience of sexual violence. A total of 86% of clients reported that they had experienced seriously damaging events in their life (women: 92%, men: 83%). The exercise of violence against others was documented for a total of 38% of people being treated (women: 21%, men: 45%) (Lahusen et al., 2020).

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 precursors under the German Precursors Monitoring Act (Grundstoffüberwachungsgesetz, GÜG), as well as of new psychoactive substances as per the 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 the import, transit and export of narcotics
- Disruption of the international, organised illegal narcotics trade
- Extensive seizures of illicit drugs
- Confiscation of the illegal profits from narcotics trafficking

As such, the police focus on repressive tasks. 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.

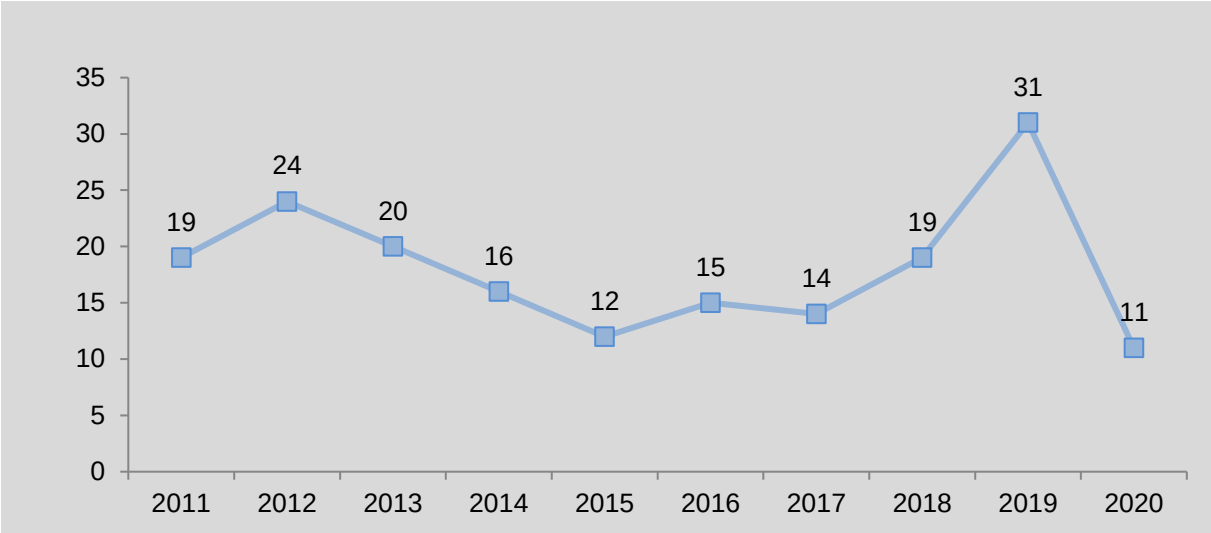
2 TRENDS (T2)

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 BKA's Forensic Science Institute (Kriminaltechnischen Institut, KT 45). Information on seizures is generally also available from the BKA or from the LKAs. As already outlined above, however, much of the seizure data for 2020 is not yet available. Reliable figures on cases of narcotics seizure, total seizure quantities of individual types of drugs and cannabis plantations seized cannot be provided. In addition, as far as drug-related deaths are concerned, no information is possible beyond the number of deaths and the causes of death, such as age ranges and gender.

Narcotics laboratories

Figure 2 shows the number of narcotics laboratories seized since 2007, which fell steadily between 2012 and 2015, before rising again since then. In 2019, the number of seized narcotics laboratories reached a new peak, at a total of 31.



(BKA 2021, data delivery)

Figure 2 Number of seized narcotics laboratories 2011 - 2020

The number of narcotics laboratories seized fell significantly in 2020. In 2020, 11 illegal narcotics laboratories were seized (2019: 31 laboratories, -64.5%). Seven of those were production facilities for methamphetamine, and three for amphetamine. In a further case, the laboratory was involved in extracting mescaline, which is subject to Annex I to the BtMG, from cacti.

Except for one chance discovery, the laboratories were uncovered as a result of of investigation work. Most of the laboratories had capacities to cover own use, or for customers/recipients limited to the immediate area. Operators were predominantly German nationals.

No professional, large-scale laboratories, such as those found in both of the preceding years run by Dutch nationals in Germany, were found. The existing large supply of products from numerous, industrially-operated, large-scale laboratories in the Netherlands, which have weekly production capacities of more than 100kg of narcotics, obviously makes larger production facilities in Germany unnecessary to cover domestic demand.

This is shown firstly by the numerous seizures of liquid amphetamine from the Netherlands, and secondly by the amphetamine conversion sites found in Germany (2020: 13 conversion sites), which are only geared towards crystallisation but not for setting up their own domestic production.

The chemicals found in the laboratories originated, as far as could be determined, from various sources, both domestic and abroad. The chemicals were obtained, in some cases individually, in unsuspicious small quantities, from various chemicals retailers but also from the internet or DIY stores. While in previous years the precursor pseudoephedrine, obtained from finished medicinal products, was identified in numerous methamphetamine laboratories, this only occurred in three cases in 2020.

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 then quantities larger than that, with this system also implemented by the BKA (see also section 1.1.3). The data available in this format stretches back to 2010.

Table 3 Trend in average narcotics prices at street-level dealing (€/g)

	Hero-in	Co-caine	Crack	Ec-stasy	Am-phet-amine	Herb-al can-nabis	Can-nabis resin	LSD	Crys-tal meth	Mush-rooms	Raw opium
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	--	14**
2016	47.5	75.8	83.3**	7.8	11.8	10.0	8.6	9.3	87.3	--	12.6**
2017	42.6	71.6	73.3**	7.7	11.9	10.0	9.4	9.5	78.0	9.9	13**
2018	44.0	70.3	49.3*	7.1	11.3	10.2	8.9	10.0	84.0	8.5	11**
2019	51.3	69.5	37.5	8.0	9.5	9.9	9.2	10.0	77.8	8.6	13.8**
2020	46.2	72.9	43.8*	7.5	10.4	10	9.6	9.8	82.0	9.5	100**

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

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

(BKA 2021, data delivery)

Table 4 Percentage change in prices at street-level dealing

	Heroin	Co-caine	Crack	Ec-stasy	Am-phet-amine	Herbal can-nabis	Can-nabis resin	LSD	Crys-tal meth	Mush-rooms	Raw opium
2019-2020	-9.9	+4.9	+16.8	-6.3	+9.5	+1	+4.4	-2	+5.4	+10.5	+624.6
2015-2020	-8	-1.2	-35.9	-1.3	-16.1	-1	+17.1	+5.4	-13.7	--	--
2010-2020	+27.6	+11.1	-11.5	+13.6	-16.8	+14.9	+35.2	+8.9	+21.83	--	--

(BKA 2021, data delivery)

Compared to the previous year, the largest increase in prices at street-level dealing was seen for raw opium. This should, however, be interpreted with extreme caution, as the value is only based on the data delivery from one *Land*. From 2019 to 2020, increases were also seen for crack (+16.8%), mushrooms (+10.5%), amphetamine (+9.5%), crystal meth (+5.4%) and cocaine (+4.9%).

Table 5 Trend in average wholesale narcotics prices (€/kg) (0.5 to <1.5kg or 500 to <1,500 CU)

	Heroin	Cocaine	Ecstasy	Am-pheta-mine	Herbal canna-bis	Canna-bis resin	LSD	Crystal meth	Raw opium
2010	24,548	40,383	2,797	4,832	4,285	2,836	--	40,000**	4,233**
2011	25,429	45,875	2,193	4,453	4,161	2,912	--	35,375**	5,233**
2012	27,444	38,786	2,642	4,052	4,488	2,942	--	33,750**	4,500**
2013	30,917	36,500	2,664	3,944	4,700	3,088	--	31,733**	3,400*
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	4,150**
2016	30,500	42,380	2,961	3,188	5,122	3,110	--	33,938*	5,500**
2017	31,750	41,727	2,868	4,443	4,599	2,775	--	31,250*	5,000**
2018	28,000	43,188	2,687	3,505	5,046	3,068	--	32,667*	3,970**
2019	30,000	41,900	2,893	3,196	4,683	3,383	1,850**	34,333**	6,500**
2020	30,164*	39,844	3,188	3,155	5,204	3,930	--	30,500	

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

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

For crack and mushrooms there is no data for this quantity.

(BKA 2021, data delivery)

Table 6 Trend (%) in average wholesale narcotics prices (€/kg) (0.5 to <1.5kg or 500 to <1,500 CU)

	Heroin	Cocaine	Ecstasy	Am-pheta-mine	Herbal canna-bis	Canna-bis resin	LSD	Crystal meth	Raw opium
2019-2020	+0.6	-4.9	+10.2	-1.3	+11.1	+16.2	--	-11.2	--
2015-2020	-9.3	-7	+12.2	-11.1	-5.1	+8.3	--	-8.5	--
2010-2020	+22.9	-1.3	+14	-34.7	+21.5	+38.6	--	-23.8	--

(BKA 2021, data delivery)

In the wholesale market (0.5 to <1.5 kg or 500 to <1,500 CU), the largest increase from 2019 to 2020 was seen for cannabis resin (+16.2%) and herbal cannabis (+10.2%). The largest drop in prices in this period was in the price of crystal meth (-11.2%).

Table 7 Trend in average wholesale narcotics prices (€/kg) (1.5 to <10kg or 1,500 to <10,000 CU)

	Heroin	Cocaine	Ecstasy	Am-pheta-mine	Herbal canna-bis	Canna-bis resin	LSD	Crystal meth	Raw opium
2010	17,000**	37,625**	2,725*	3,627**	3,831	1,897	--	--	4,300**
2011	21,000**	35,400	2,808	3,050	3,889	1,929	--	--	4,900**
2012	21,000**	30,900	2,150	3,146	4,120	2,525	--	--	6,500**
2013	21,250**	35,250**	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	13,400	--	40,000**	4,000
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*	--	--	--
2019	21,500*	27,000**	1,625*	2,575*	4,225	4,333*	1,450	--	4,500**
2020	14,000*	34,357	2,000*	1,917	4,161	4,067	--	--	5,000**

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

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

For crack and mushrooms there is no data for this quantity.

(BKA 2021, data delivery)

Table 8 Trend (%) in average wholesale narcotics prices (€/kg) (1.5 to <10kg or 1,500 to <10,000 CU)

	Heroin	Cocaine	Ecstasy	Am-pheta-mine	Herbal canna-bis	Canna-bis resin	LSD	Crystal meth	Raw opium
2019-2020	-39.3	+2.2	0	-33.5	-5.1	+60.6	--	--	+11.1
2015-2020	-26.3	-8.4	+12.2	-20.9	-8.1	+63.5	--	--	--
2010-2020	-17.7	-8.7	-26.6	-47.2	+8.6	+114.4	--	--	--

(BKA 2021, data delivery)

The greatest increase at wholesale level between 2019 and 2020, with regard to quantities between 1.5 and <10kg or 1,500 and <10,000 CU, was recorded for cannabis resin (+60.6%). In contrast, the prices for heroin (-39.3%) and amphetamine (-33.5%) have fallen sharply.

Table 9 Trend in average wholesale narcotics prices (€/kg) (10 to <100kg or 10,000 to <100,000 CU)

	Heroin	Cocaine	Crack	Ecstasy	Ampheta-mine	Herbal cannabis	Cannabis resin
2010	--	--	--	--	1,626*	4,650*	2,500*
2011	--	33,000*	--	--	2,350*	4,333*	1,900*
2012	12,000*	--	--	--	1,500*	3,500*	2,700*
2013	--	35,000**	--	--	2,700*	3,500**	2,100*
2014	--	--	--	300**	2,300**	--	2,500**
2015	--	--	--	--	1,900*	--	2,500**
2016	--	--	--	1,200**	1,809	--	2,500
2017	--	--	4,200**	1,200**	1,500**	4,000*	--
2018	--	--	---	1,200**	800**	3,500*	--
2019	14,000**	35,000**	--	--	--	5,767*	2,325*
2020	14,000**	29,000*	-	400*	500**	2,863**	1,400*

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

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

For LSD, crystal meth, raw opium and mushrooms there is no data for this quantity.

(BKA 2021, data delivery)

Table 10 Trend (%) in average wholesale narcotics prices (€/kg) (10 to <100 kg or 10,000 to <100,000 CU)

	Heroin	Cocaine	Crack	Ecstasy	Amphetamine	Herbal cannabis	Cannabis resin
2019-2020	0	-17.4	--	--	--	-50.4	-39.8
2015-2020	--	--	--	--	-73.7	--	-44.0
2010-2020	--	--	--	--	-69.2	-38.4	-44.0

(BKA 2021, data delivery)

Only limited data can be published on the percentage changes at wholesale level for 10 to <100kg or 10,000 to <100,000 CU, therefore this must be interpreted with caution due to the low availability of data. A sharp decline was recorded for herbal cannabis (-50.4%) and cannabis resin (-39.8%) between 2019 and 2020.

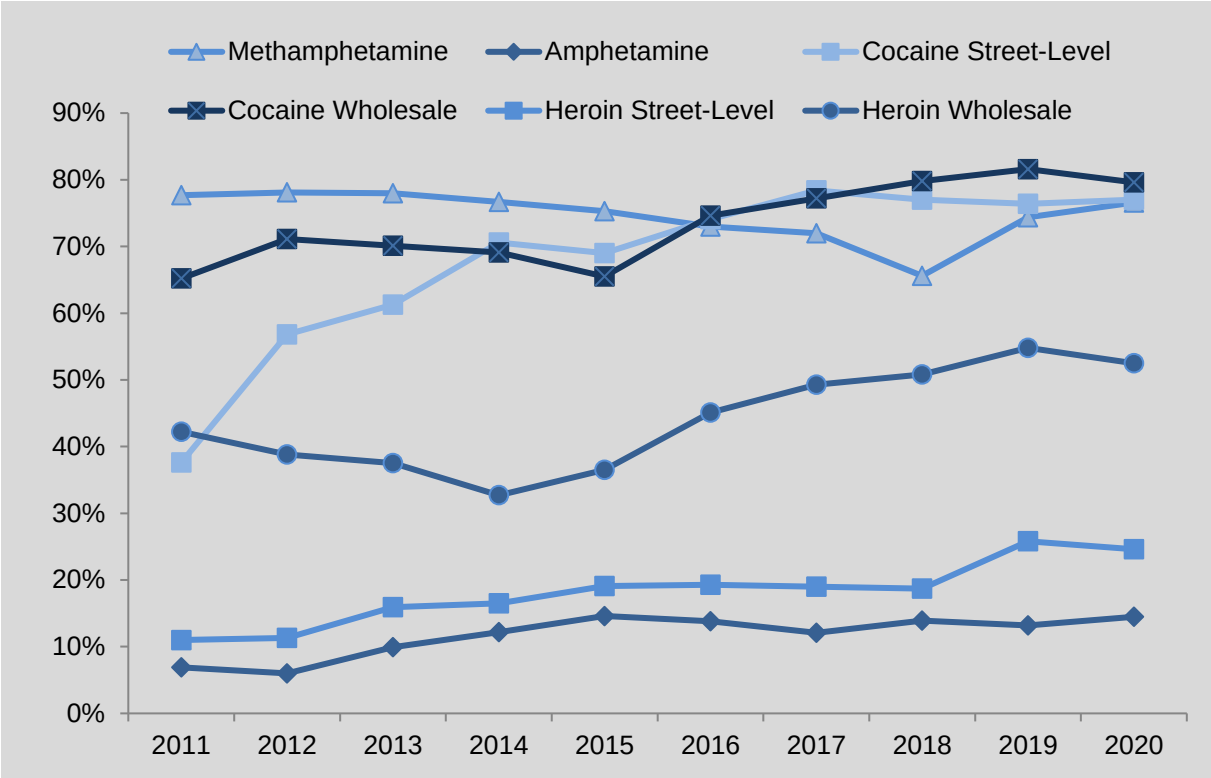
Purity

Heroin, cocaine, amphetamine and MDMA

Figure 3 provides an overview of the trend in purity levels for heroin, cocaine, amphetamine and methamphetamine since 2011. Figure 4 shows the trend in MDMA purity since 2011. The purity of amphetamine has, following a slight decline in previous years, risen again in 2020, to 14.5%. The purity of methamphetamine has increased to 76.6%.

At street-level dealing, a significant increase can be seen in the purity of cocaine between 2011 and 2017. At the beginning of that period, cocaine came onto the market with a purity level of 37.6%. This has almost doubled since then, reaching a peak of 78.4% in 2017. Since 2017, the purity of cocaine at street-level dealing has remained at a similar level; in 2020 it was at 77.0%. Heroin from street-level dealing saw a slight fall to 24.6%, from a peak in 2019 (25.8%).

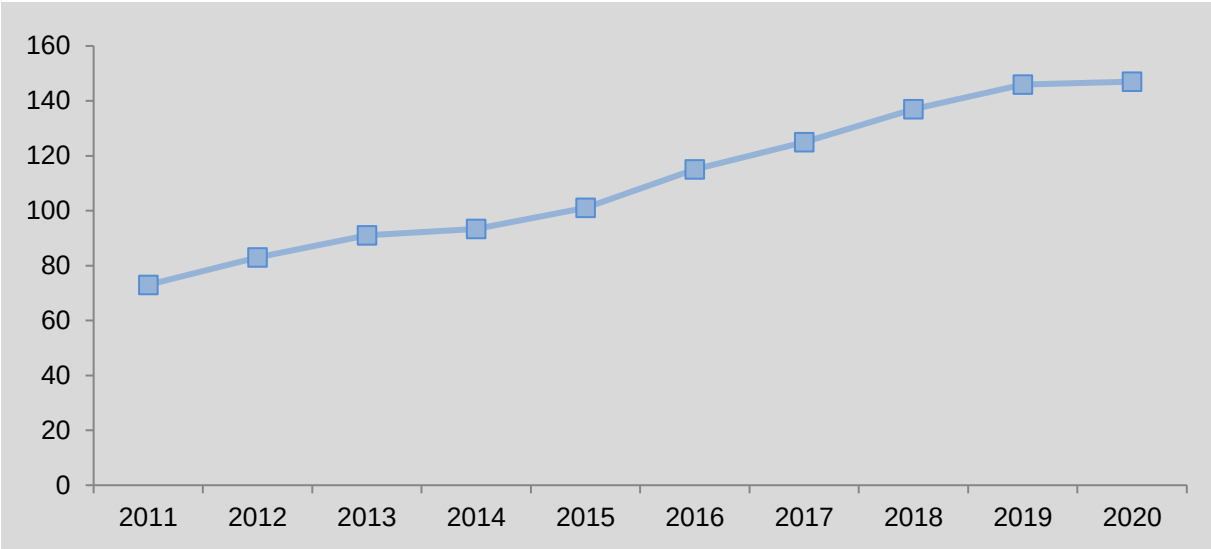
The purity levels of cocaine and heroin at wholesale level have steadily increased in recent years. The purity of both substances has, however, fallen for the first time in 2020. The purity of cocaine fell to 79.6%, while heroin was recorded at 52.5%, which also represents a slight fall. It is particular noteworthy that, in recent 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, 2019 and 2020 the active substance content has been very similar. This is due to the fact that cocaine is ever more frequently entering street-level dealing without further cutting agents added.



(BKA 2021, data delivery)

Figure 3 Purity of heroin, cocaine, amphetamine and methamphetamine 2011-2020 in per cent

The mean MDMA content per tablet has been increasing year on year since 2009. This trend continues in 2020, although the value only increased slightly, to 147 mg/tablet (2019: 146 mg/tablet). (Figure 4).

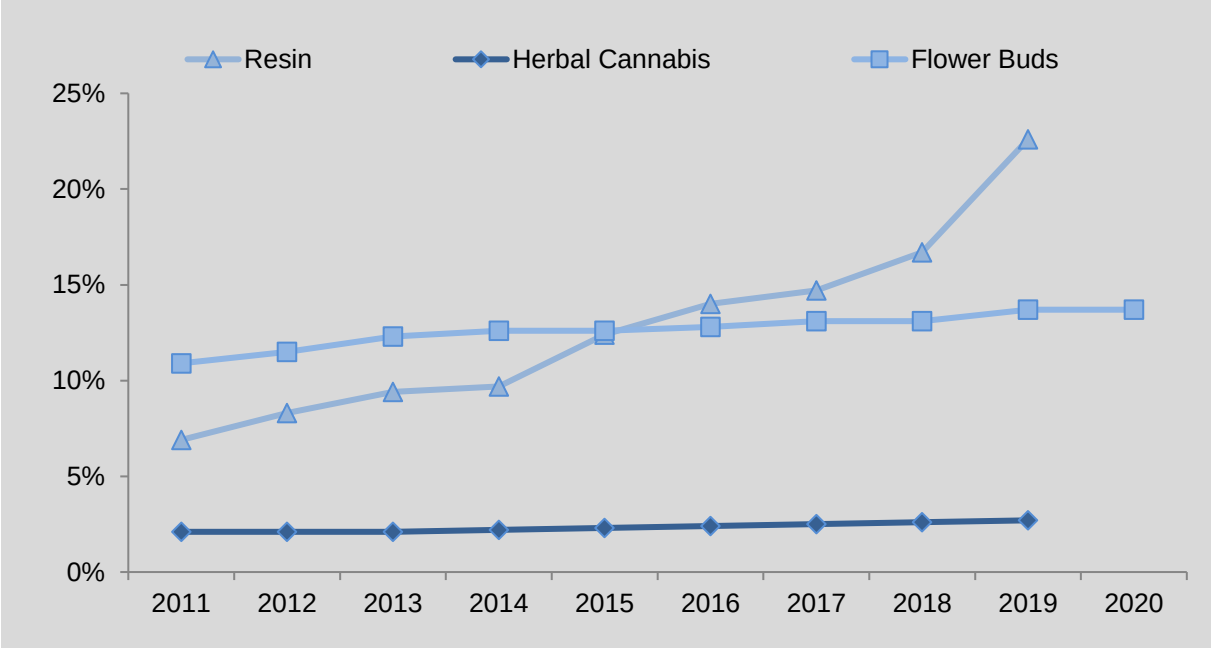


(BKA 2021, data delivery)

Figure 4 Purity of MDMA 2011-2020 in mg/tablet

Cannabis

The potency of flowering tops has continuously increased since 2011 (10.9%) and for 2020 stands at 13.7%, which is unchanged from 2019. Since 2010 (6.8%) the average potency of seized resin has also been increasing, to a peak of 22.6% in 2019. For 2020 it has fallen again to 20.4%. Thus, it can be seen that cannabis resin has, since 2016, been more potent than the flowering tops of the cannabis plant (Figure 5). Up until then, the opposite had been the case since records began in 1997. The comparably low THC content of herbal cannabis has remained more or less constant, standing at 2.5% in 2020.



(BKA 2021, data delivery)

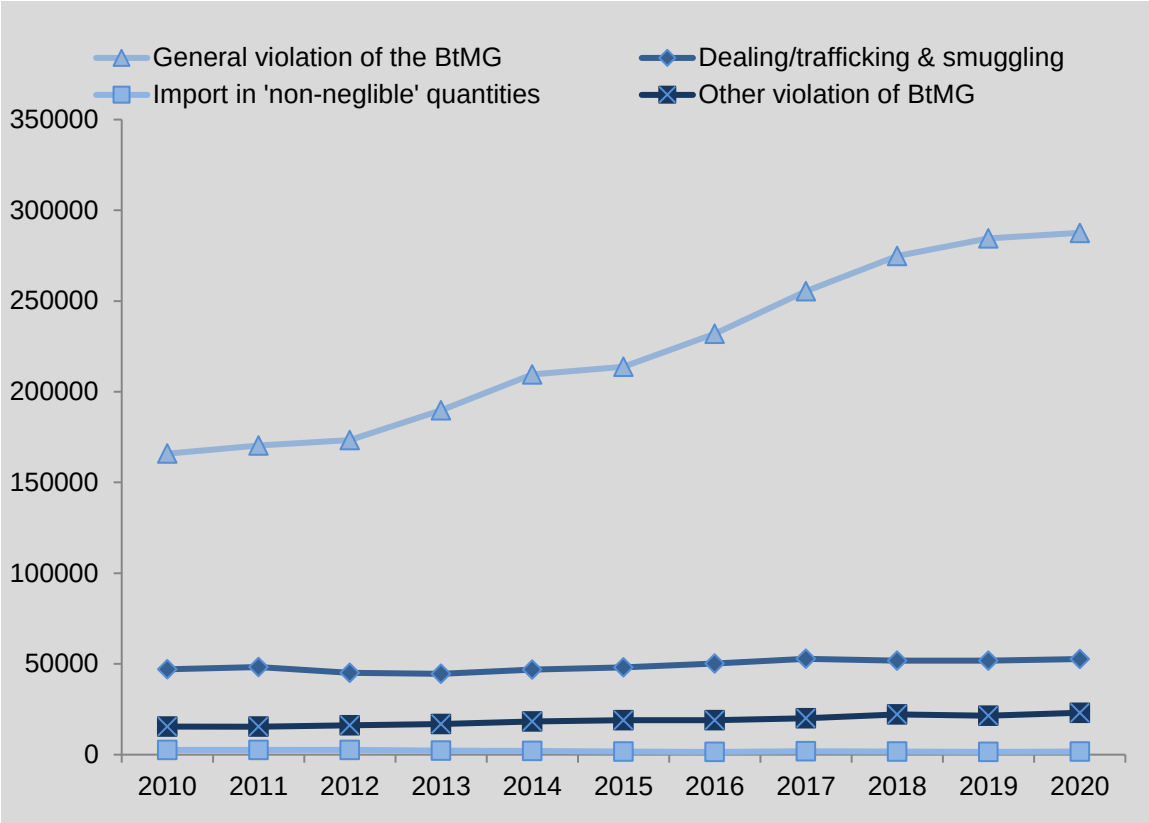
Figure 5 THC content of Cannabis 2011-2020 in per cent

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

There are currently no trends in 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 2010 is illustrated in Figure 6. The number of general offences against the BtMG has been rising steadily since then, with the highest value to date of 287,594 offences reported for 2020 (2019: 284,603).



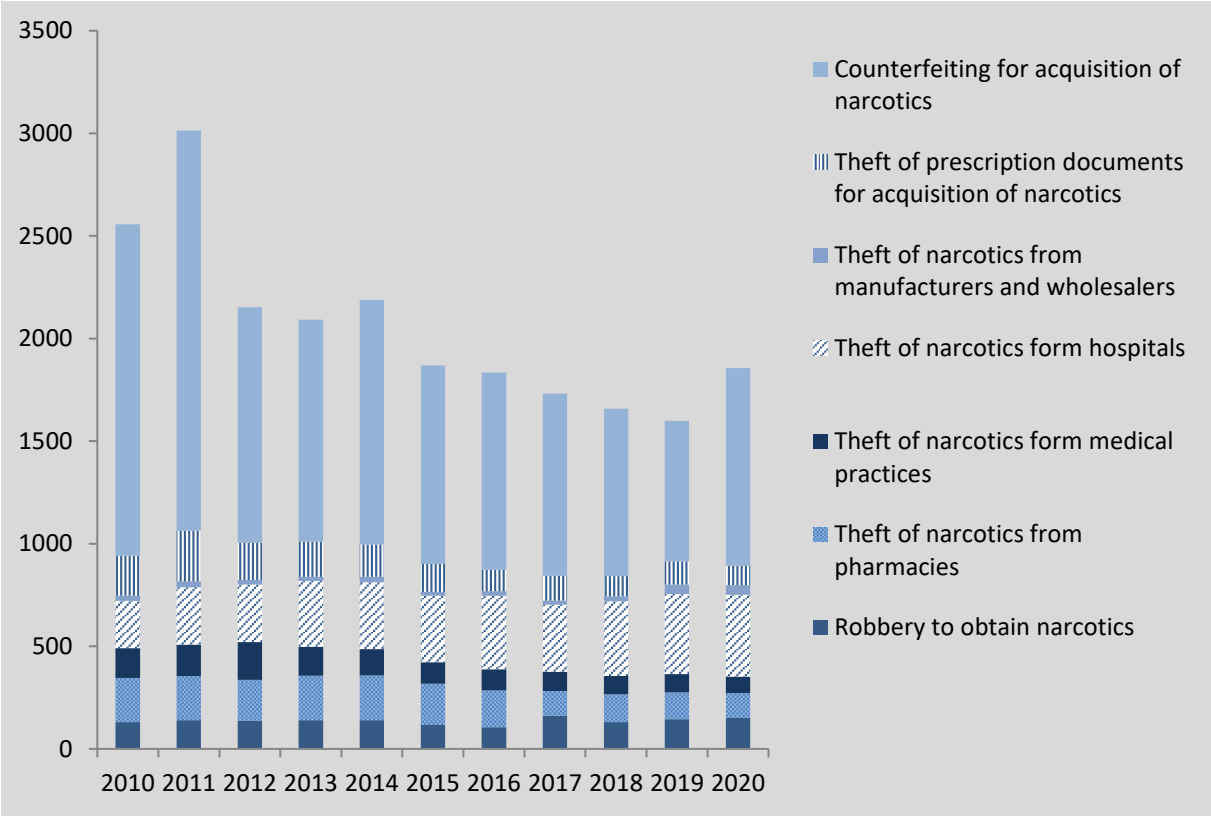
(BKA, 2021)

Figure 6 Trend in narcotics offences 2010-2020

Economic compulsive crime

The number of offences in the area of economic compulsive crime has fluctuated over the last 10 years (Figure 7) and, at 1,856 offence for 2019, is at a similarly high level to 2015 (1,868 offences), the highest level since data started being collected in 2004 was in 2011 (3,013 offences).

In the case of robbery for the purpose of acquiring narcotic drugs from pharmacies, 151 cases were recorded for 2020 which represented a +4.4% rise from the previous year (2019: 145 offences). The theft of narcotic drugs from hospitals also saw, at 399 offences, an increase of 2% from 2019 levels (2019: 291 offences). 93 thefts of prescription forms with the intention of obtaining narcotic drugs were recorded. This represents a decrease of 17.7% compared to the previous year (2019: 113 offences). 48 thefts of narcotic drugs from manufacturers and wholesalers were recorded (2019: 46), an increase of 4.4%. A 10.5% fall was seen in thefts of narcotic drugs from doctors' practices, with 79 offences recorded (2019: 88 offences). The numbers of offences of counterfeiting for the purpose of acquiring narcotic drugs rose from 2019. 964 offences were recorded in 2020, an increase of 40.9% (2019: 684 offences). As far as the theft of narcotic drugs from pharmacies was concerned, the figure fell by 6.9% to 122 offences (2019: 131 offences).



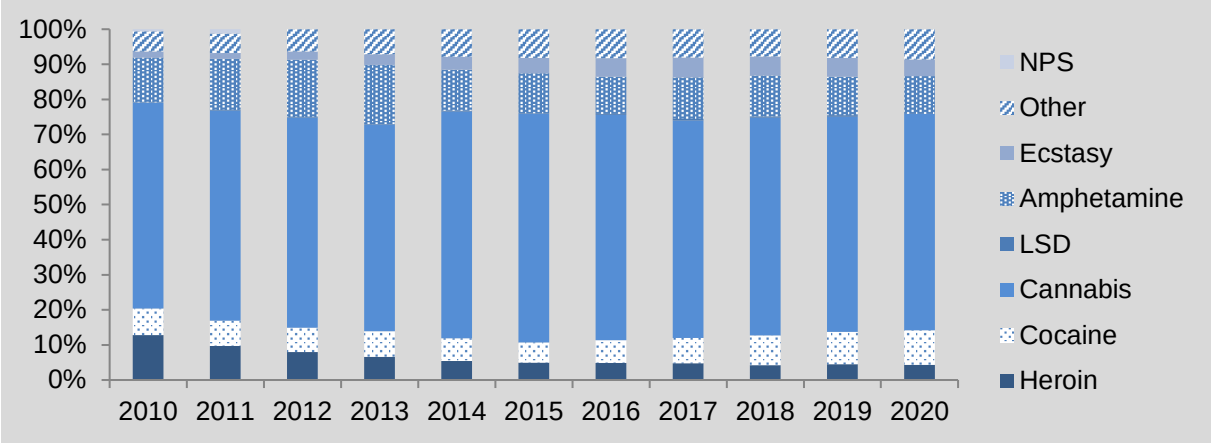
(BKA, 2021)

Figure 7 Trend in economic compulsive crime 2010-2020

2.3.1 Dealing/trafficking offences

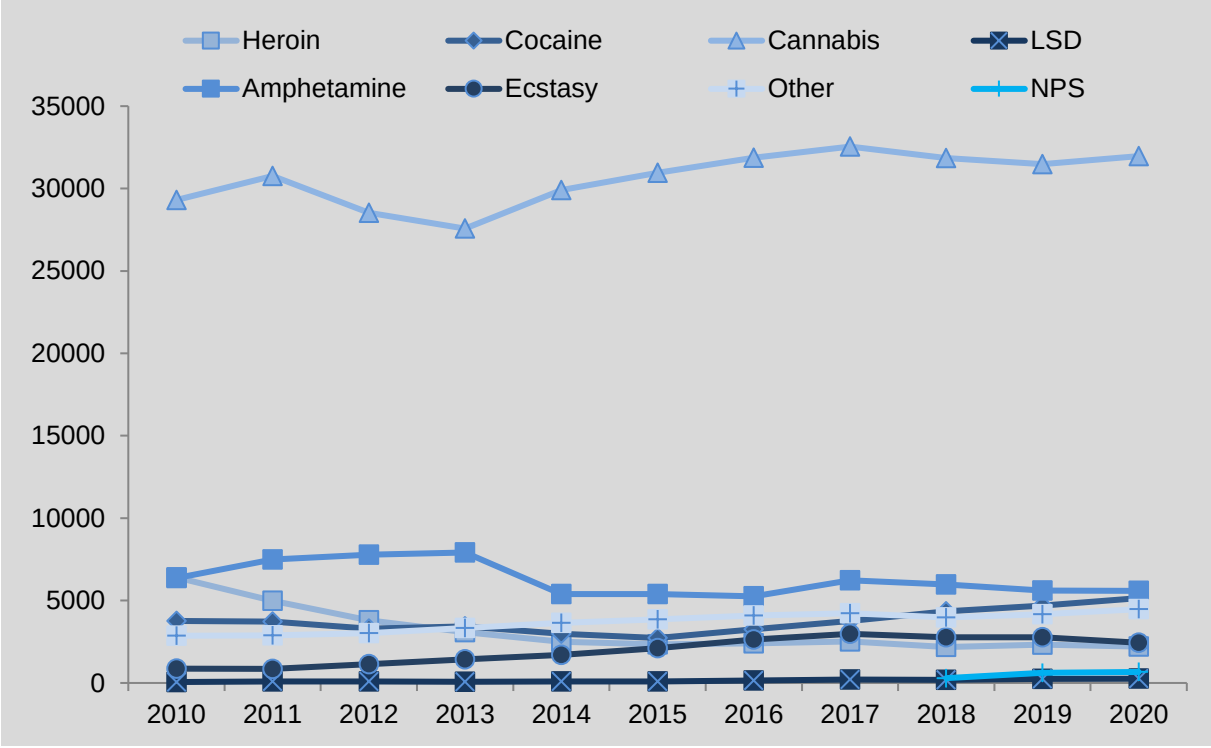
Cannabis has constantly played the largest role in recent years in dealing/trafficking, smuggling and import offences (a share of 58.8%; 2020: 31,961 offences), with numbers continuing to increase in recent years (2013: 27,570 offences) (Figure 8). The number of offences involving the dealing/trafficking and smuggling of heroin has fallen overall since 2010 (2010: 6,403 offences), and by a further 4.9% compared to the previous year (2020: 2,214 offences; 2019: 2,329 offences). It thus remains, as in previous years, behind cocaine (including crack) (2019: 4,692 offences) as far as the number of offences is concerned, for which the number of offences for 2020 is 5,147. The number of dealing/trafficking and import offences for cocaine in comparison to the previous year has increased by 9.6%. Dealing/trafficking offences connected to ecstasy has fallen over the past three years, following a constant increase from 2011. For 2020 the figures fell further, by 11.8% (2020: 2,445 offences; 2019: 2,772 offences). The number of dealing/trafficking, smuggling and import offences involving amphetamine fell marginally in 2020 compared to the previous year, by 0.5% (2020: 5,578 offences; 2019: 5,604 offences). In 2020, 532 cases of dealing/trafficking offences of NPS listed in the annexes to the BtMG were recorded, which represents an increase of 16.2% (2019: 458 offences). In addition to dealing/trafficking offences of NPS under the BtMG, 718 violations of Sec. 4 NpSG were recorded in the PKS, which represents a significant increase on the previous year (+83.6%).

The proportions of individual drugs in all cases of dealing/trafficking offences are presented in Figure 8, with absolute figures in Figure 9.



(BKA, 2021)

Figure 8 Trend in dealing/trafficking and smuggling offences (2010-2020), proportions by drug



(BKA, 2021)

Figure 9 Trend in dealing/trafficking offences (2010-2020), absolute figures

2.3.2 Consumption-related offences

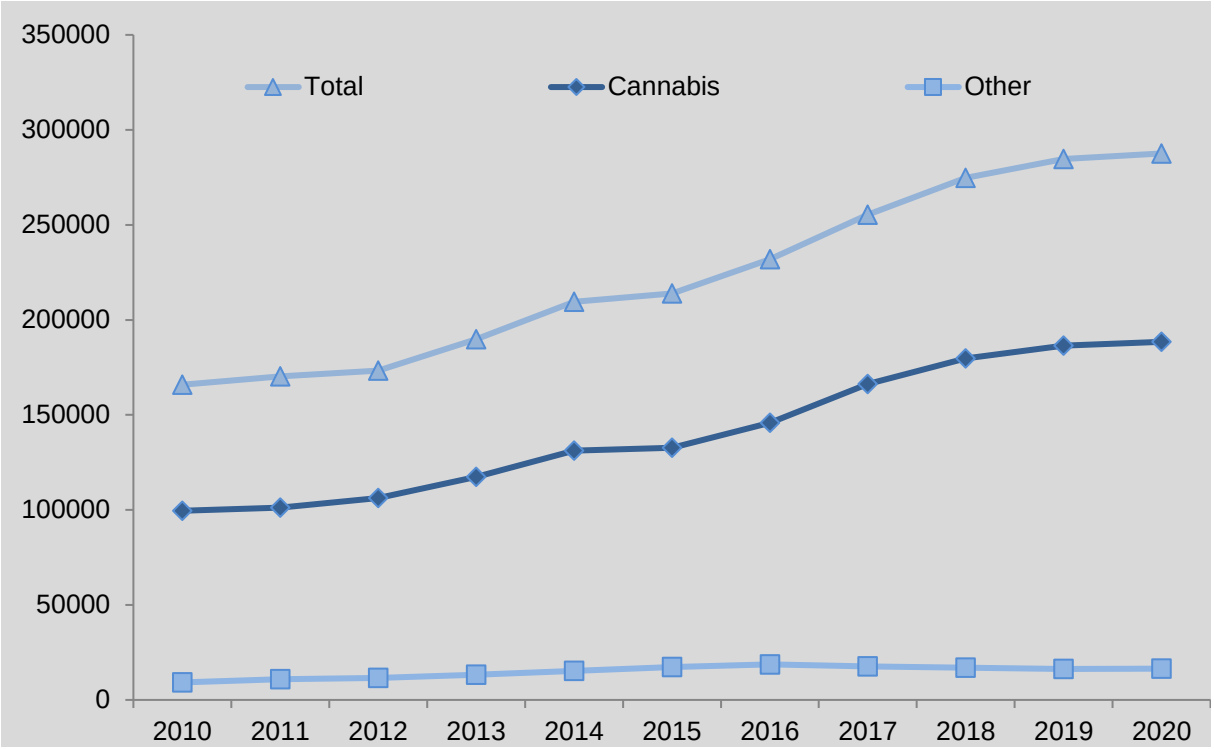
In comparison to the previous year, the number of consumption-related offences has increased by 1.1% overall to a total of 287,592 offences in 2020 (2019: 284,603 offences), with the upward trend of previous years (+34,5% compared to 2015) continuing. Cannabis still accounts for the largest proportion of consumption-related offences at 188,453 (65.5%), with

an increase of 1.1% on the previous year (2019: 186,455 offences). There was also an increase in the number of consumption-related offences involving methamphetamine (+19.7%; 2020: 11,743 offences; 2019: 9,807 offences), LSD (+7.3%; 2020: 739 offences; 2019: 689 offences), cocaine, including crack, (+5.7%; 2020: 18,756 offences; 2019: 17,749 offences) and other narcotics (+0.9%; 2020: 16,437 offences; 2019: 16,297 offences). There was a decrease in the number of consumption-related offences involving ecstasy (-11.7%; 2020: 7,843 offences; 2019: 8,881 offences), NPS (-5.8%; 2020: 3,421 offences; 2019: 3,633 offences), heroin (-5.5%; 2020: 8,100; 2019: 8,572 offences) and amphetamine (-1.3%; 2020: 32,100 offences; 2019: 32,529 offences).

Table 11 1, 5 and 10-year trends in percent

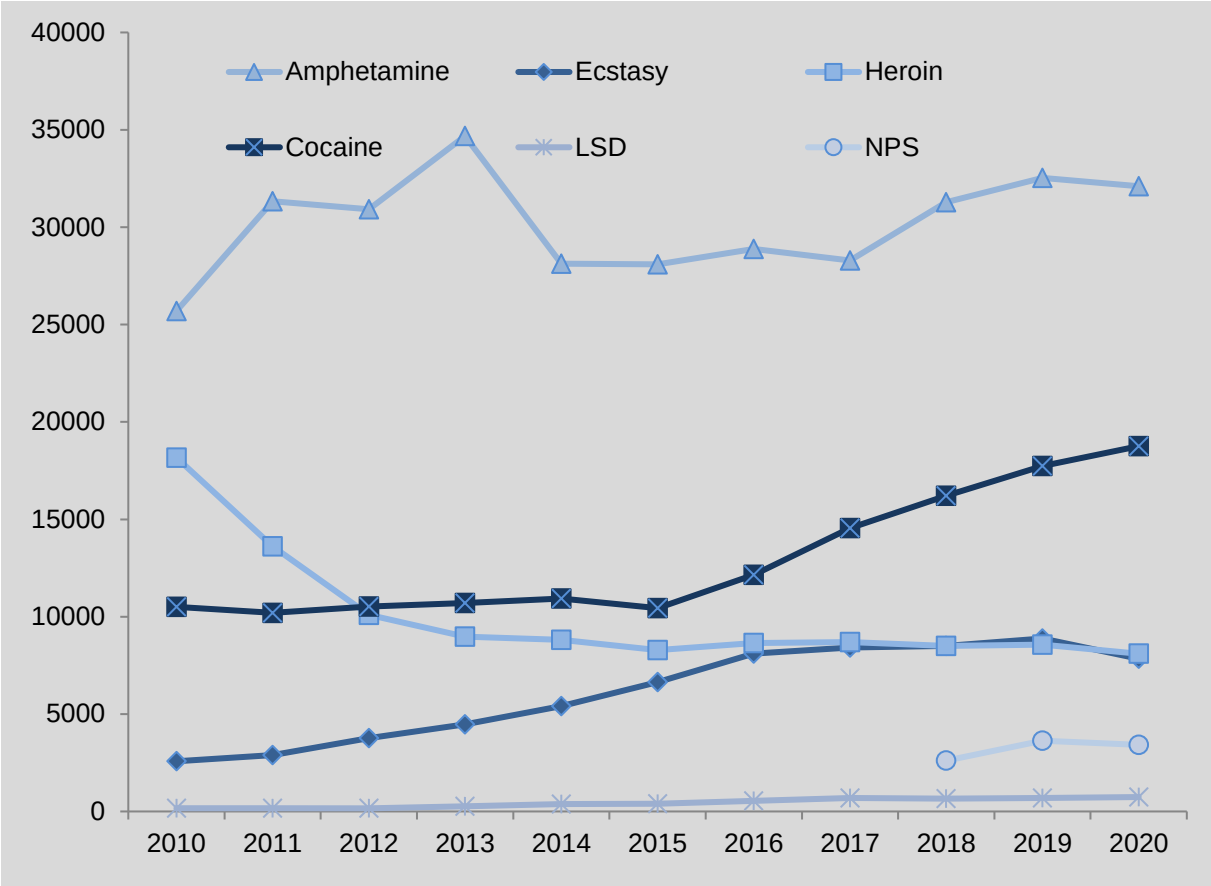
	Change 2019-2020	Change 2015-2020	Change 2010-2020
Cannabis and preparations	+1.1%	+42%	+89.3%
Heroin	-5.5%	-2.2%	-55.4%
Cocaine including crack	+5.7%	+79.6%	+78.7%
LSD	+7.3%	+83.8%	+356.2%
Ecstasy	-11.7%	+18.1%	+204.35%
Amphetamine and derivatives	-1.3%	+14.3%	+24.9%
Methamphetamine	+19.7%	--	--
NPS	-5.8%	--	--
Other narcotic drugs	+0.9%	-5.3%	+78.4%
Total	+1.1%	+34.5%	+73.4%

(BKA, 2021)



(BKA, 2021)

Figure 10 Trend in consumption-related offences in connection with cannabis and other narcotic drugs (2010-2020)



(BKA, 2021)

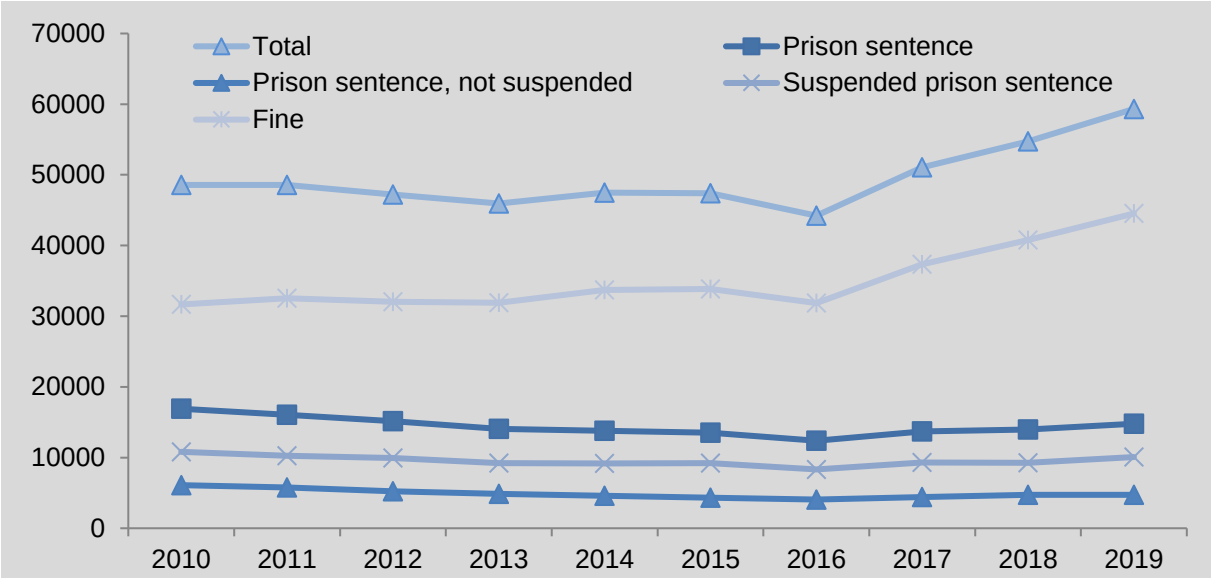
Figure 11 Trend in consumption-related offences in connection with other substances (2010-2020)

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

No information on users coming to the attention of law enforcement for the first time can be provided from 2016 onwards due to the changes in data collection modalities as described above. The presentation of the most up to date figures known can be found in the 2016 Drug Market & Crime workbook (Schulte et al., 2016).

2.3.4 Convictions under the BtMG

After almost no change in 2010 (48,572 convictions) and 2015 (47,380 convictions) and increases in 2016 (48,983 convictions) and 2017 (51,073 convictions), the total number of convictions under the BtMG has consistently increased since then, with a record high of 59,325 convictions in 2019. The trend in the number of convictions is illustrated in Figure 12.



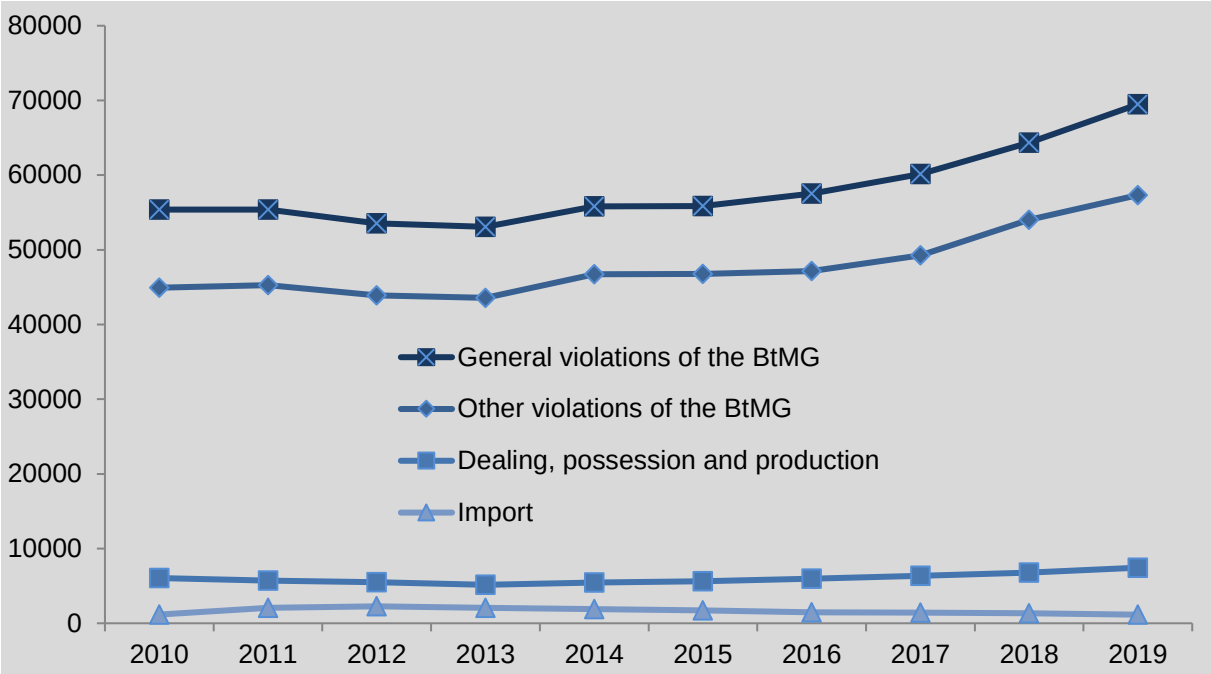
(Destatis, 2021a)

Figure 12 Trend in the number of convictions by type of sentence since 2010

Most of the sentences handed down in 2019 were, as in previous years, fines (44,527 fines; 75%). Custodial sentences were for the most part suspended (10,063; 68% of all custodial sentences). The proportion of custodial sentences of all people convicted under the BtMG overall has fallen hugely over the last ten years (2019: 24.9%; 2005: 41.5% of all sentences). In this context, the proportion of non-suspended custodial sentences fell the most (2005: 15.7%; 2019: 8% of all sentences). In contrast, fines have been steadily accounting for a greater share of sentences since 2005 (2005: 58.4%; 2019: 75% of all sentences).

In a short-term comparison to the previous year, the total number of convictions under the BtMG increased by 8% (2019: 69,471 offences; 2018: 64,350 offences). Convictions for illegal dealing/trafficking, possession or manufacture in non-small quantities increased over the same period by 9.9% (2019: 7,441; 2018: 6,771 offences), while the number of persons convicted for the illegal import of narcotic drugs in non-small quantities has fallen by 12.9% (2019: 1,151; 2018: 1,321 offences).

Over the last 10 years, the distribution across the various types of offence has fluctuated to varying degrees depending on the offence (Figure 13). In the area of illegal import of narcotic drugs in non-small quantities (Sec. 30(1) No. 4), a reduction of 1.6% has been seen compared to 2010 levels (2019: 1,150 offences; 2010: 1,169 offences). In the case of illegal dealing/trafficking, possession or manufacture of narcotic drugs in non-small quantities (Sec. 29a(1) No. 2), a new peak was reached in 2019, at 7,441 offences recorded. In comparison to the level ten years prior (2010: 6,040 offences), this represents an increase of 23.2%. The other violations falling under Sec. 29(1) continue to account for the largest proportion of convictions under the BtMG and have also increased to a new peak (57,318 offences). This represents an increase of 27.6% in comparison to 2010 (44,920 offences).



(Destatis, 2020b)

Figure 13 Convictions under the BtMG since 2010

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

Traffic accidents

As far as traffic accidents with injury to persons registered by the police are concerned, the number of accidents in 2020 (264,449 accidents) fell by 13.5% in comparison to the previous year. (Table 12). 13,003 accidents involving drivers under the influence of alcohol were recorded, representing a drop in numbers compared to 2019 (13,949 accidents). This accounted for 4.9% of all accidents with injury to persons and thus a slightly larger proportion than in the previous year (2019: 3.8%).

The total number of vehicle drivers under the influence of other intoxicating substances increased marginally in 2020, to 2,393 cases (+7 cases compared to the previous year), however, as in previous years, they continue to make up only 0.9% (2019: 0.8%) of all drivers involved in accidents(Destatis, 2021b). In that context, “other intoxicating substances” refers to those with a psychoactive effect which impair intellectual capacity and motor skills as well as inhibition ability. Generally, medicinal drugs do not fall under other intoxicating substances within the meaning of Sec. 316 German Criminal Code (Strafgesetzbuch, StGB).

Table 12 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	20,685	1,320
2007	335,845	410,496	20,785	1,356
2008	320,641	388,181	19,603	1,440
2009	310,806	377,733	17,434	1,281
2010	288,297	350,323	15,070	1,151
2011	306,266	371,821	15,898	1,392
2012	299,637	362,993	15,130	1,393
2013	291,105	350,381	13,980	1,350
2014	302,435	361,935	13,612	1,509
2015	305,659	366,448	13,239	1,641
2016	308,145	369,242	13,403	1,809
2017	302,656	360,736	13,343	1,961
2018	308,721	368,305	13,934	2,287
2019	300,143	368,559	13,949	2,386
2020	264,499	310,853	13,003	2,393

(Destatis, 2021b)

3 NEW DEVELOPMENTS (T3)

3.1 New developments (T3.1)

In order to be able to tackle NPS better, the BMG has created a stand-alone law, in the NpSG, with a new approach to combating the distribution of NPS. This Act came into force on 26 November 2016. Since the 2019 report on the topic of Drug Market and Crime (Schneider et al., 2019), the data on NPS have been included in the Drug Market and Crime workbook.

4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (T4)

4.1 Additional sources of information (4.1)

5 SOURCES AND METHODOLOGY (T5)

5.1 Sources (T5.1)

Bundeskriminalamt (BKA) (2021). Polizeiliche Kriminalstatistik. Tabelle 1: Fallentwicklung und Aufklärung der Straftaten/-gruppen, Wiesbaden.

Burhoff, D. (2006). Praktische Fragen der Drogenfahrt nach § 24a Abs. 2 StVG. http://www.burhoff.de/insert/?/veroeff/aufsatz/zap_f9_s781.htm [Online] [accessed: 14 Jun. 2021].

Lahusen, H., Martens, M.-S. & Neumann-Runde, E. (2020). Suchthilfe in Hamburg. Statusbericht 2019 der Hamburger Basisdatendokumentation in der ambulanten Suchthilfe und der Eingliederungshilfe, BADO e.V., Hamburg.

Musshoff, F., Große Hokamp, E., Bott, U. & Madea, B. (2014). Performance evaluation of on-site oral fluid drug screening devices in normal police procedure in Germany. Forensic Science International, 238**,** 120-124 DOI: 10.1016/j.forsciint.2014.02.005.

Schneider, F., Dammer, E., Pfeiffer-Gerschel, T., Bartsch, G. & Friedrich, M. (2018). Bericht 2018 des nationalen REITOX-Knotenpunkts an die EBDD (Datenjahr 2017/2018). Deutschland, Workbook Drogenmärkte und Kriminalität., DBDD, München.

Schneider, F., Pfeiffer-Gerschel, T., Neumeier, E., Tönsmeise, C. & Friedrich, M. (2019). Bericht 2019 des nationalen REITOX-Knotenpunkts an die EMCDDA (Datenjahr 2018/2019). Deutschland, Workbook Gefängnis, DBDD, München.

Schulte, L., Dammer, E., Karachaliou, K., Pfeiffer-Gerschel, T., Budde, A. & Rummel, C. (2016). Bericht 2016 des nationalen REITOX-Knotenpunkts an die EBDD. Deutschland. Workbook Drogenmärkte und Kriminalität, DBDD, München.

Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis) (2020a). Rechtspflege. Strafverfolgung 2019. Fachserie 10, Reihe 3, Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis), Wiesbaden.

Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis) (2020b). Rechtspflege. Strafvollzug - Demographische und kriminologische Merkmale der Strafgefangenen zum Stichtag 31.03.2019 Fachserie 10, Reihe 4.1, Destatis, Wiesbaden.

Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis) (2021a). Rechtspflege. Bestand der Gefangenen und Verwahrten in den deutschen Justizvollzugsanstalten nach ihrer Unterbringung auf Haftplätzen des geschlossenen und offenen Vollzugs, Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis), Wiesbaden.

Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis) (2021b). Verkehr. Zeitreihen. 2020. Fachserie 8, Reihe 7, Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis), Wiesbaden.

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 German national level for the criminal prosecution statistical report. Its introduction and implementation is based on nationally standardised administrative orders of the *Laender*. The German Federal Statistical Office compiles the results from the *Laender* criminal prosecution statistics to create national results. Administrative data from the law enforcement authorities, on which the criminal prosecution statistics are based, is extracted from the court files following the final rulings in criminal proceedings or summary proceedings and generally sent to the competent *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 "German 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 German 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 German 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.

Responsibility for reporting the information lies with the police stations whose officers recorded the accidents. 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.

German Federal Criminal Police Office (Bundeskriminalamt, BKA)

The BKA produces the Federal Situation Report on Narcotics (Bundeslagebild Rauschgift), an annual summary of current police knowledge of the situation and trend in narcotics drugs crime in Germany.

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

6 TABLES

7 FIGURES