

COVID-19 Drug Market Survey

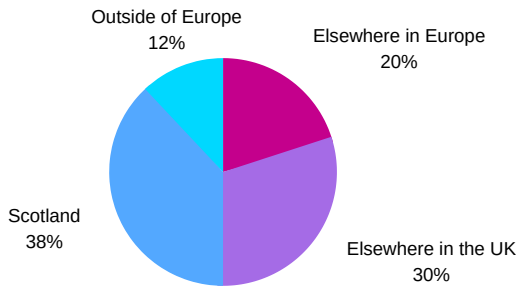
Week 4 summary - 29 April 2020



This data sheet summarises the responses from 50 people, including people who take drugs, drug service staff, support staff and other professionals, as well as members of the public. To take the survey please visit: www.crew.scot/covid-drug-market
 In week 1 we surveyed an additional 58 people. A summary can be found here: www.crew.scot/covid-drug-markets-survey-week-one
 In week 2 we surveyed an additional 107 people. A summary can be found here: www.crew.scot/covid-drug-markets-survey-week-two
 In week 3 we surveyed an additional 112 people. A summary can be found here: www.crew.scot/covid-drug-markets-survey-week-three

Please look out for our summary of all 327 responses - coming soon!

Where are you based?



Scotland locations include:

Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Kirkwall, Glenrothes, Kilmarnock

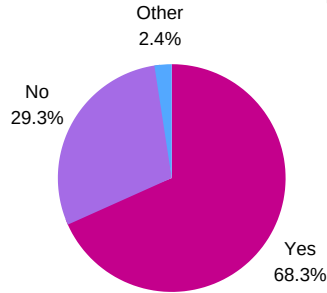
UK locations include:

Gloucester, Gwynedd, London, Swansea, Bornemouth, Hungerford, Worthing, Newcastle, Manchester

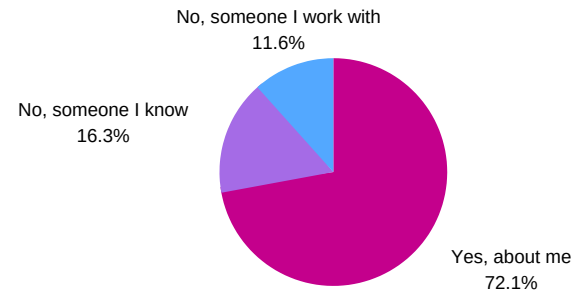
Other locations include:

Toronto, Berlin, Florence, Los Angeles, Bogotá, Costa Rica, Dublin, Gent, Sacramento, Leipzig

Have you noticed any changes to the supply of drugs since the outbreak of COVID-19 in Europe?



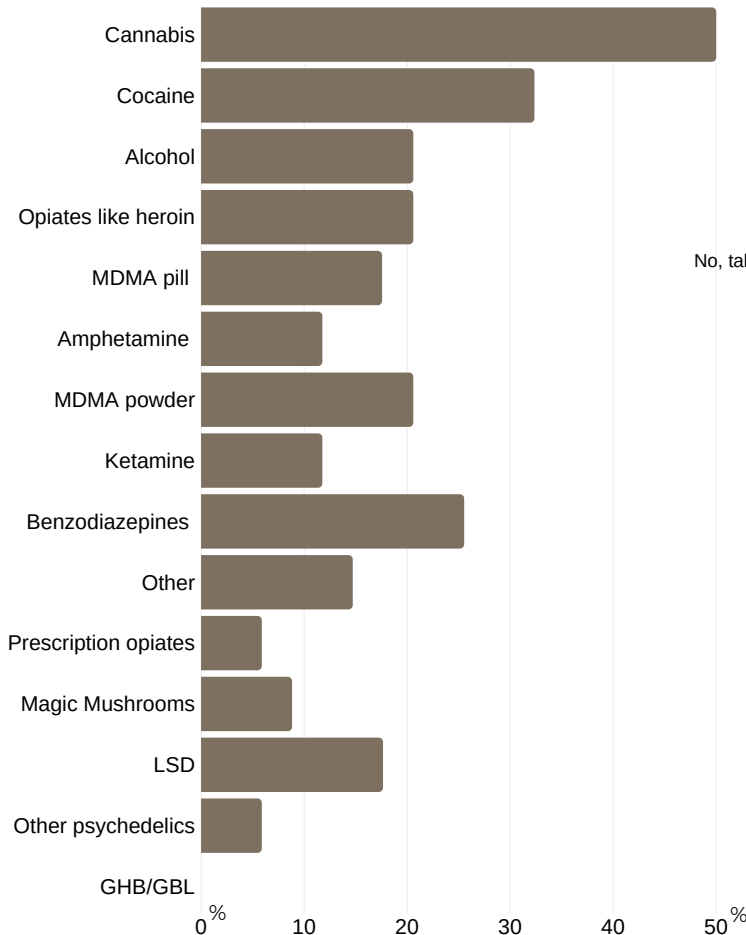
Are you filling this survey in about yourself or someone else?



Comments for "if worker please specify the type of organisation" include:

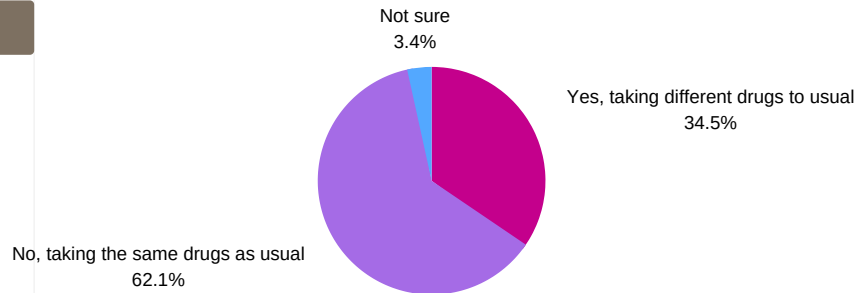
Temporary Housing Project, DTTO [Drug Treatment Testing Order], Community Justice, Advocacy Services

What type of drugs are being taken?



Comments include: Crack cocaine

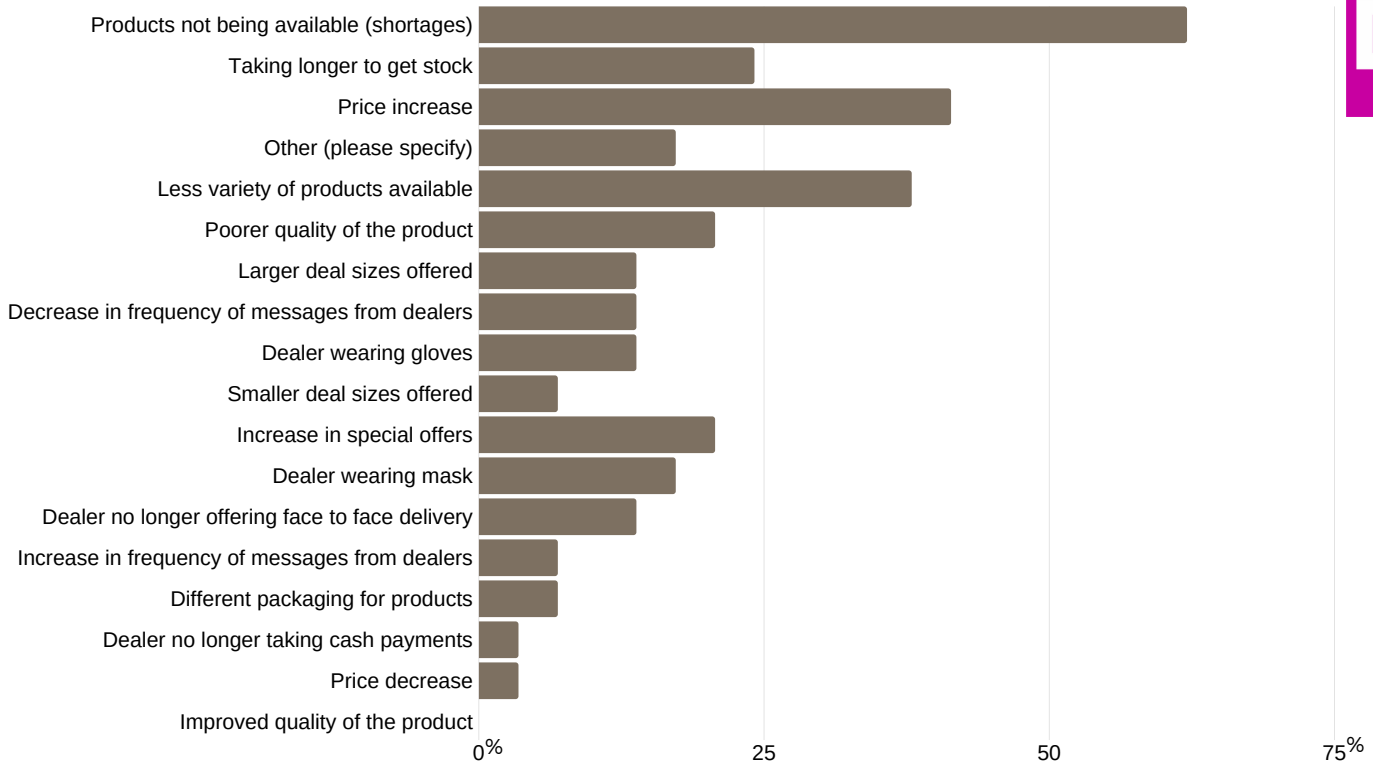
Has there been a change to the type of drugs (inc. alcohol) taken due to COVID-19?



Comments include:

- On weekends I would often normally take stimulants, ketamine etc. with my girlfriend and/or friends. But not so much now I'm by myself
- Taking more psychedelics
- What's cheapest
- Still only using weed. I've been tempted to drink a few times but know it doesn't help me
- Seems to be more of an impact, higher use of opiates and injecting
- Only cocaine and amphetamine (2nd if available)
- Rapé (sniffing tobacco) for cleansing
- People are changing how they use drugs and what drugs they use based on what is available near them-in the project or around. Less staff also means more dealers in projects
- MDMA and cocaine lowers the immune system so I avoid them
- Bored so taking more downers/depressants to just chill out on. Not going out to raves etc. so taking fewer stimulants
- More visible drug use in projects indicates different products available

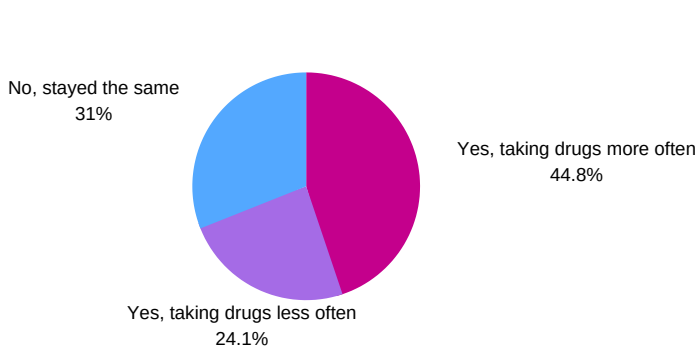
What changes have you noticed?



Comments include:

- Online vendors promising to pack wearing facemasks and gloves. Promised packs are disinfected before shipment. Packs are taking a lot longer to arrive
- Fake Valium 500 for £40
- Dealer only doing drop off no home visits
- Less availability and fear of covid-19 in face to face meets have me taking less drugs. Can't get ketamine and when you manage, it's poor quality. Pills have changed to only the Tesla logos
- Increase of using darknet to get drugs
- Cannabis market unaffected
- Massive massive increase in online sales
- Getting ripped off more
- No [psychedelic/spiritual] ceremonies or retreats anymore
- Clubs closed, private parties illegalized, a lot of fear in queer, partyscene. No-one wants to meet private (fearing police and or getting sick)

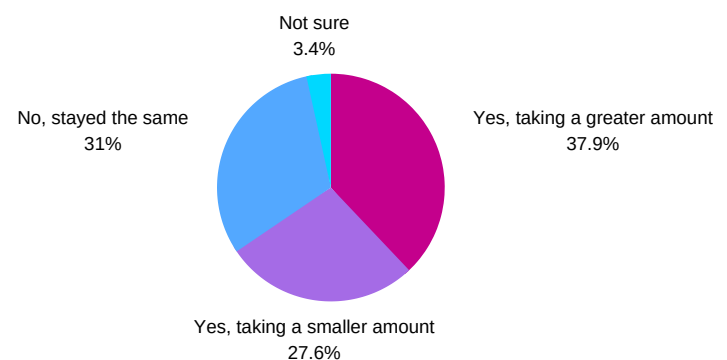
Has there been any changes in the frequency of drug taking (inc. alcohol) due to COVID-19?



Comments include:

- Smoking everyday
- Just what can afford
- Still maintain 4:20 protocol for tolerance and sanity. I am using 10% more on a good day and 100% more when the [UK] government feeds us disinformation and lies
- Stress
- From twice a month to 0
- Every day of the weekend
- Boredom and cheaper fake valium
- Smoking less, concerns about lungs, health
- Lack of funds and lockdown with non drug using family members
- Fear, boredom, availability and lack of support
- Availability, self medicating due to current COVID-19 and boredom
- Boredom, staying at home the whole time, fun at first

Has there been any changes to the quantity of drugs (inc. alcohol) taken due to COVID-19?

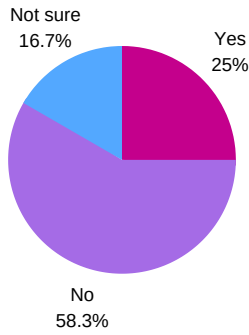


Comments include:

- Taking more depressants - kratom, benzodiazepines, tramadol, pregabalin, GHB, smoking more weed and hash. Basically just bored because I live alone
- No money canny buy it, too dear
- Slightly more. The cannabis helps my anxiety a lot. I dont know what I'd do without it
- Stress
- Decided to quit. I cant use with others so it doesnt make Sense no more
- Slight increase in daily smoking of weed
- Not able to get as many drugs from dealers so trying to make what we have last
- More due to stress
- Boredom



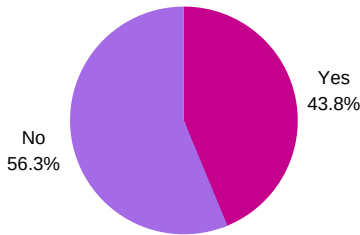
Has the changes to the the way drugs are bought, sold or taken caused any worry or feelings of anxiety?



Comments include:

- Because people may take drugs in a riskier way
- Think its covid
- Dealing in projects we cannot such down means vulnerable clients are using
- Can't see drug dealers because of lockdown
- Stressed anxious fearing that this will happen again and again
- Because I'm bored and need drugs to escape my thoughts
- Increase stress, anxiety, domestic situations, boredom
- More likely to unsafely administer drugs or get from new source

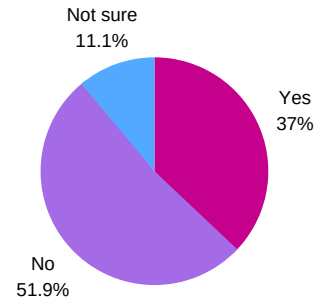
Has there been any difficulty in accessing prescriptions due to COVID-19?



Comments include:

- Chemist makes wait outside
- Fostair inhalers for asthma
- Had pregabalín withdrawal due to GPs being under more pressure and taking longer to process prescriptions
- Difficulty getting to a pharmacy

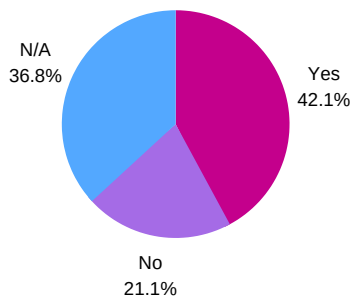
Did you (or they) stockpile any drug (including alcohol) due to COVID-19?



Comments include:

- I usually have quite a large stash lying around anyway. I'm pretty much permanently stockpiled and saw no need to add to this due to COVID-19.
- Cannabis, bulk bought
- Dealer did
- No funds to stock
- Used to buy half oz now I buy what I can when it's in supply, if the dealer had an oz I'll take that, if he has 2 I'll take that since we don't know when we can get it again
- Purchased larger amount of cannabis than normal
- Buying more at the same time
- Buying more and going to the dealing less

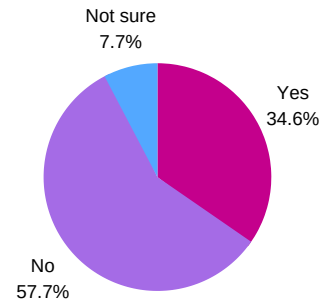
Has there been any difficulty in getting support related to drug use due to COVID-19?



Comments include:

- Less doctors
- Key workers and social workers not available, many cannot access support over phone or internet or are not in a position for this to be helpful
- My country [Costa Rica] fights illegal drugs with prescription drugs. They suck
- Taking longer to get into service
- Can't see anyone just leave a message. Can't get help off Council, need food, your shut as well

Have you (or they) experienced any unintended withdrawal symptoms due to COVID-19?



Comments include:

- Hallucination vomiting, runny shit
- Slight headache, sight fatigue, slight mood swings. Nothing too bad
- Prescription drugs as GPs are taking longer to do scripts
- Fatigue, depression
- Service users with alcohol dependencies frequently entering withdrawal more often.
- Doing a slow taper off benzos to as access to them is becoming harder and unpredictable.