

# An introduction to the National Drug Strategy Household Survey

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare  
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# National Drug Strategy Household Survey Overview

## The NDSHS series

- › Commenced in 1985. The 2022–2023 survey was the 14<sup>th</sup> survey in the series, and the 9<sup>th</sup> to be managed by the AIHW on behalf of the Department of Health and Aged Care.

## Purpose

- › Provide the Commonwealth with information on licit and illicit drug use behaviours from individuals in all Australian jurisdictions and to continue the time-series data that have been established through previous surveys.

## Scope

- › People aged 14+ living in Australian households. Only one person was selected in each household (whoever had the most recent birthday).

# The National Drug Strategy Household Survey

- › The NDSHS uses a **cross-sectional survey design**.
- › Collects data from at least 20,000 households at a single point in time.
- › Surveys are collected in the 8 States and Territories of Australia, and across all remoteness areas.
- › Examining the trends or patterns of drug use and/or attitudes on drug-related issues although it doesn't capture changes over time within the same individuals.

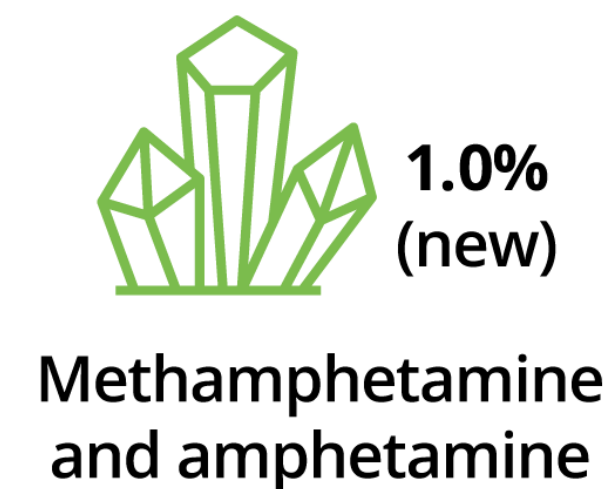
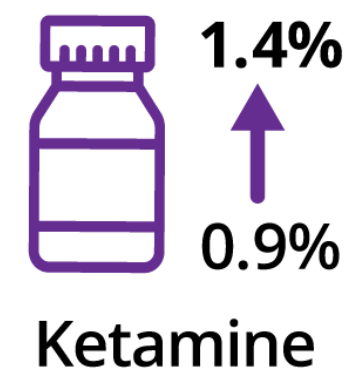
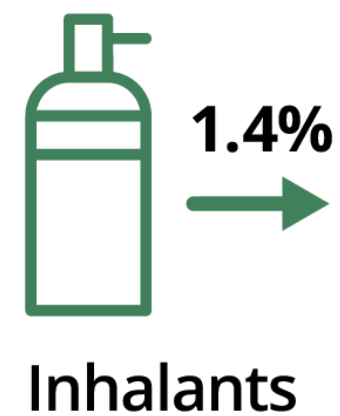
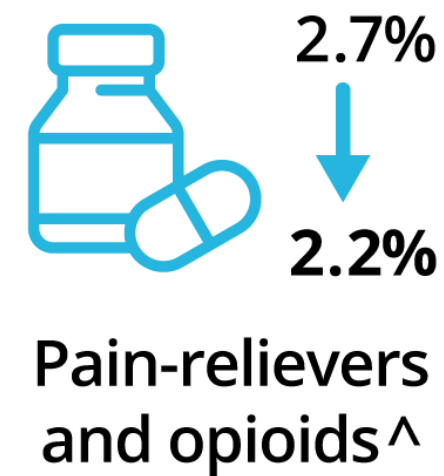
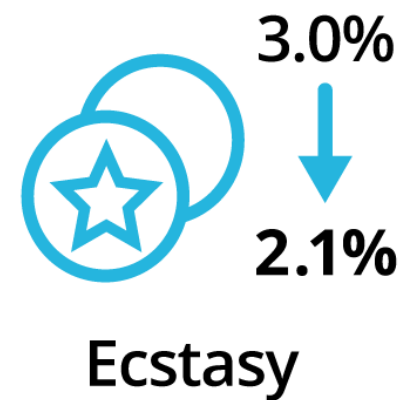
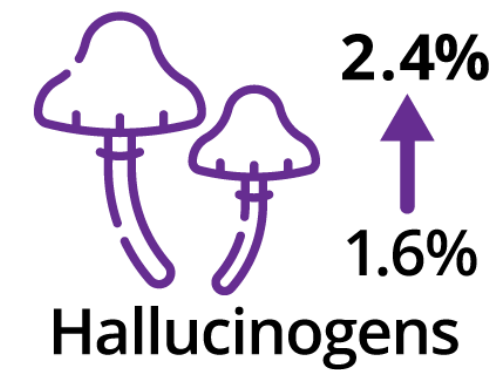
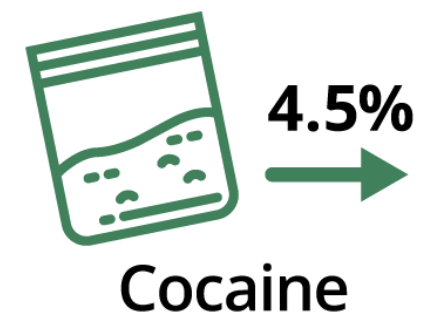
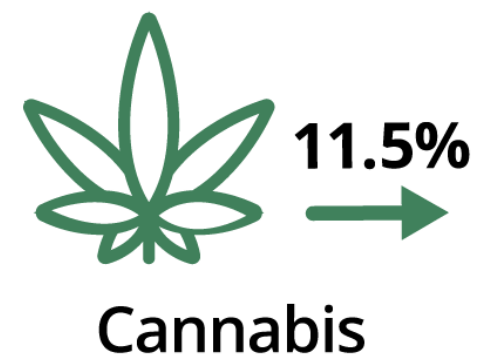
# What information is collected?

- › demographic characteristics (e.g., gender, age, educational attainment, marital status, remoteness area).
- › attitudes on a range of drug-related issues including their perception of the health risk associated with drug use
- › drug use patterns, method of use, source of supply
- › experience of drug-related verbal and/or physical abuse and activities undertaken while under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs
- › attitudes towards drug-related policy and interventions
- › health status and mental health

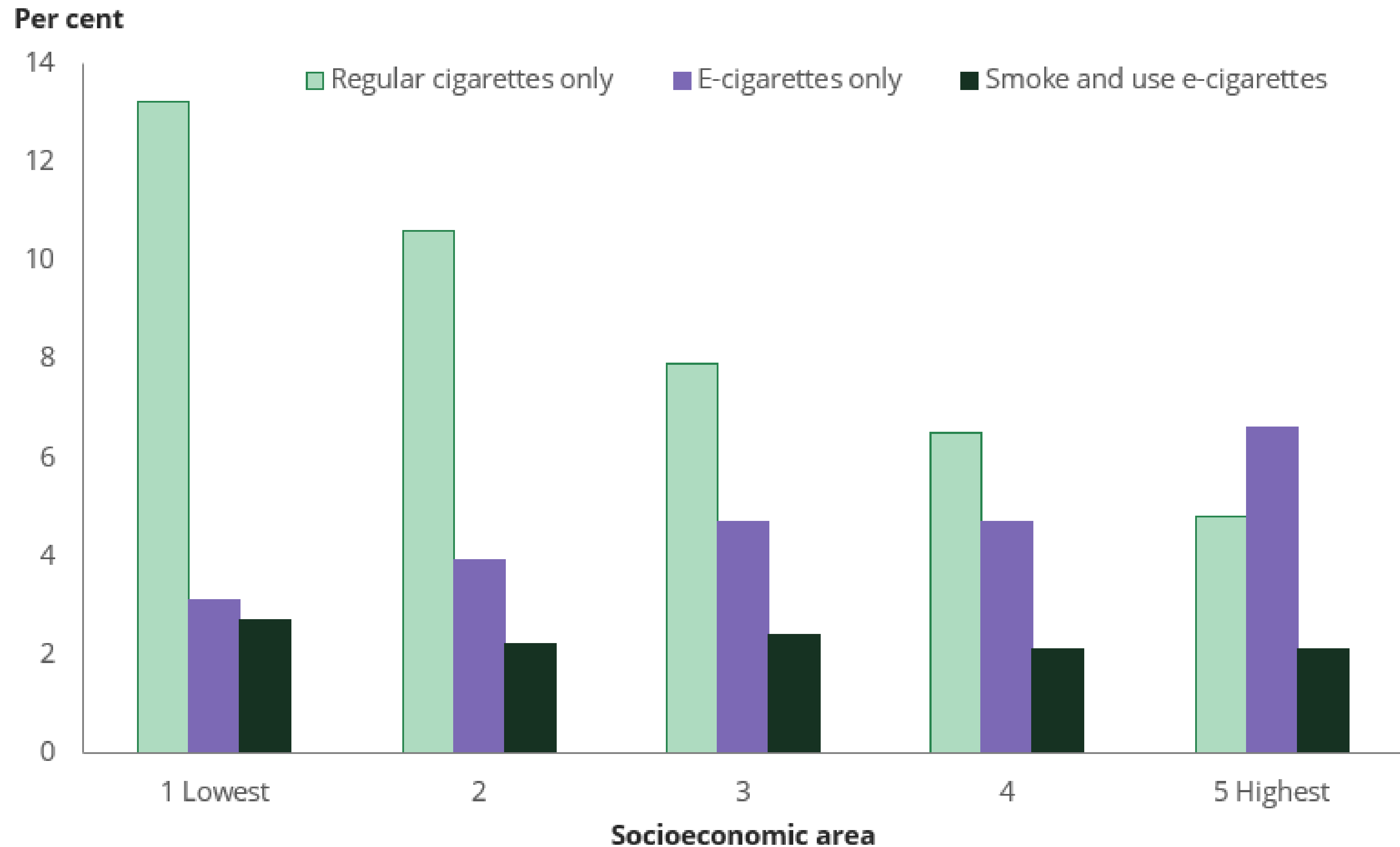
The image shows a screenshot of the 2022 National Drug Strategy Household Survey form. At the top, it says 'INTERVIEWER TO COMPLETE: 14 & OVER' and 'ROTATION: 21'. There are fields for 'Form Number', 'BA1 & Ref No.', 'Date' (Day, Month, Year), 'Age', 'No. 14+ in HH', and 'Placement attempt' (1st, 2nd, 3rd, Oth). A QR code is also present. Below the form, there are logos for the Australian Government, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, and ROY MORGAN. The title '2022 National Drug Strategy Household Survey' is prominently displayed. A section titled 'How do I complete the survey?' provides instructions on completing the survey online, on paper, or by telephone. Another section titled 'What is the National Drug Strategy Household Survey?' explains the purpose and confidentiality of the survey. A third section titled 'Do I have to participate in the survey?' states that participation is voluntary. A fourth section titled 'Are you 14 - 17 years old?' provides instructions for younger respondents. A fifth section titled 'What do I do when I've completed the paper survey?' explains the process of returning the survey. At the bottom, there is a 'STATUS' field and a 'ROY MORGAN' logo.

# Changes in recent illicit drug use (2019 to 2022–2023)

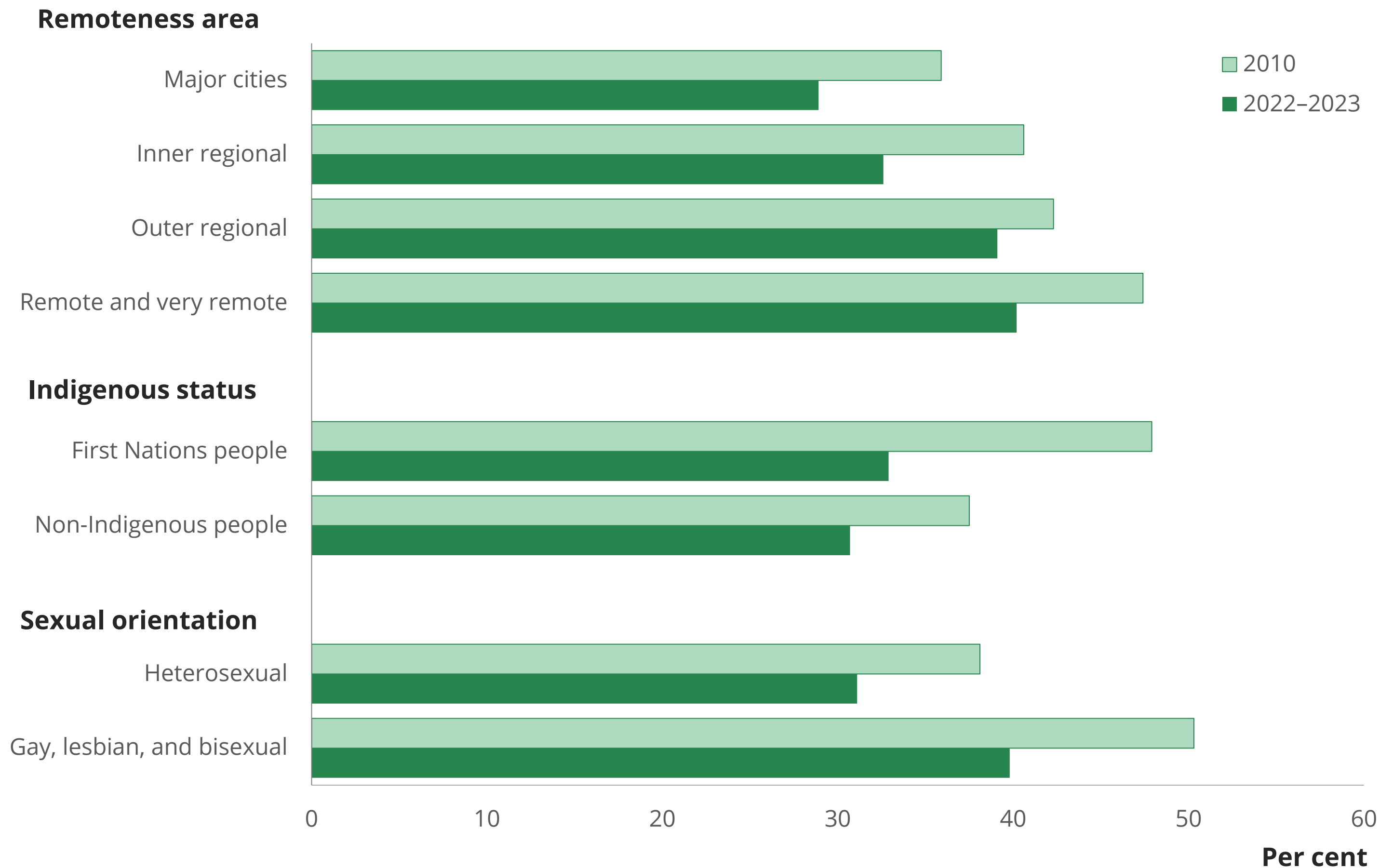
## Changes in recent illicit drug use (2019 to 2022–2023)



# Current use of cigarettes and e-cigarettes by socioeconomic advantage and disadvantage



# Risky consumption of alcohol among people aged 14 and over



# Detailed findings are all available online

## Tobacco and e cigarettes/vapes ^

- ◆ Tobacco smoking in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Vaping and e-cigarette use in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Young people's use of vapes and e-cigarettes >

## Alcohol consumption ^

- ◆ Alcohol related harms and risks in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Risky alcohol consumption in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Young people's consumption of alcohol >

## Priority population groups ^

- ◆ Alcohol, tobacco and other drug use among people with CALD backgrounds >
- ◆ Alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarette and illicit drug use by population groups: Interactive data >
- ◆ First Nations people's use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes and other drugs >
- ◆ LGBT people's use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes and other drugs >
- ◆ Mental health and use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes and other drugs >
- ◆ Older people's use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes and other drugs >
- ◆ Pregnant and breastfeeding women's use of alcohol and other drugs >
- ◆ Veterans' use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes and other drugs >
- ◆ Young people's use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes and other drugs >

## Illicit drugs ^

- ◆ Cannabis in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Cocaine in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Ecstasy in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Hallucinogens in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Low-prevalence illicit drugs in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Methamphetamine and amphetamine in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Non-medical use of pain-relievers and opioids in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Non-medical use of pharmaceutical stimulants in the NDSHS >

## Other drugs ^

- ◆ Kava in the NDSHS >
- ◆ Medical marijuana/cannabis in the NDSHS >

## Geographic areas ^

- ◆ State and Territory summaries of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarette and other drug use >
- ◆ Use of alcohol and other drugs by socioeconomic area >
- ◆ Use of alcohol and other drugs in Major cities, regional areas, and remote areas >

## Perceptions of drugs and policy support ^

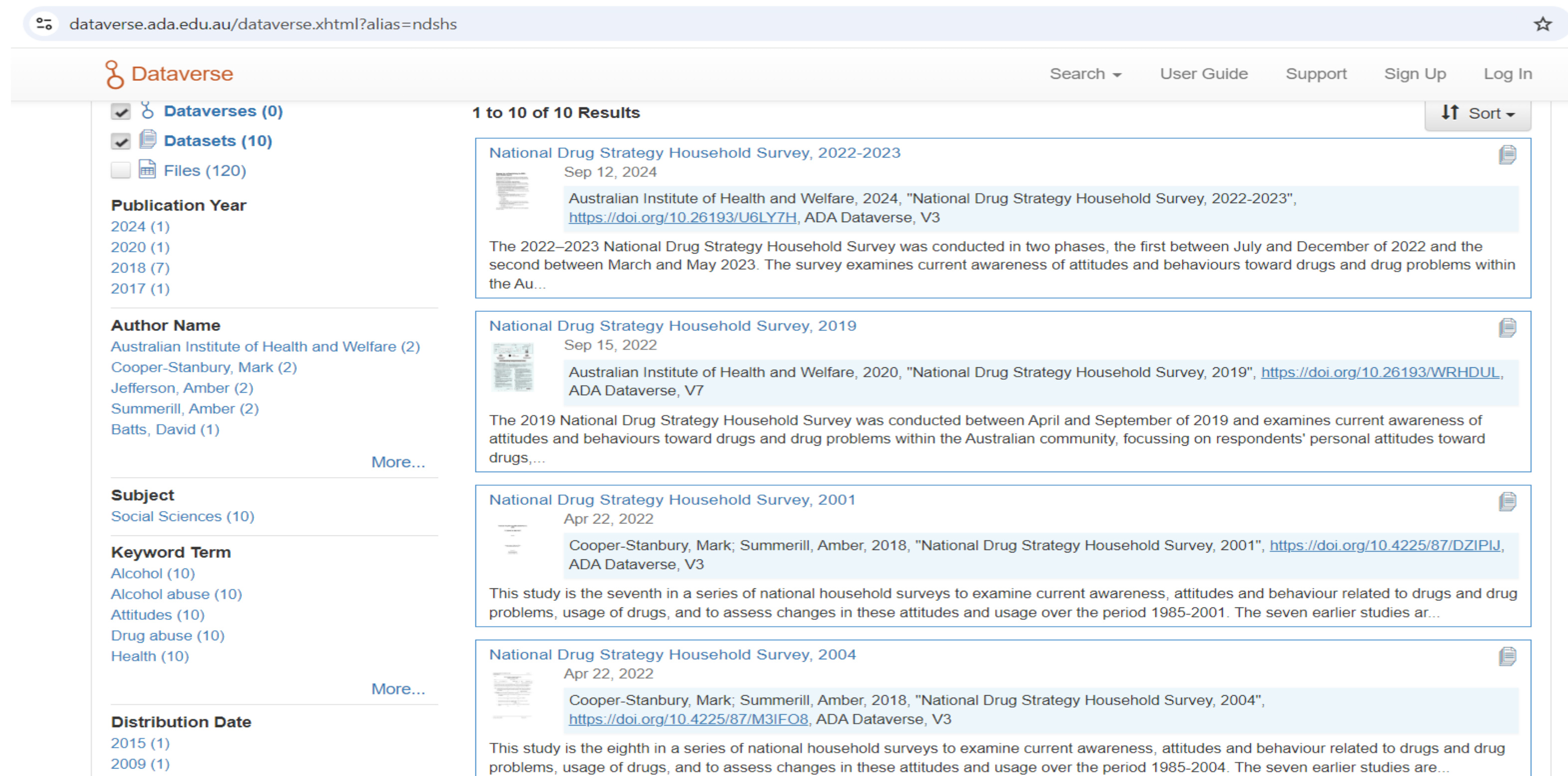
- ◆ Perceptions of alcohol, tobacco and drugs in Australia >
- ◆ Support for alcohol and other drug-related policies >

<https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/illicit-use-of-drugs/national-drug-strategy-household-survey/contents/about>

# What if you want to use NDSHS data for your own projects?

The NDSHS data can be accessed through Australian Data Archive (ADA)

<https://dataverse.ada.edu.au/dataverse/ndshs>



The screenshot displays the ADA Dataverse website interface. The browser address bar shows the URL `dataverse.ada.edu.au/dataverse.xhtml?alias=ndshs`. The page header includes the Dataverse logo, a search bar, and navigation links for User Guide, Support, Sign Up, and Log In. On the left sidebar, filters are applied for 'Dataverses (0)', 'Datasets (10)', and 'Files (120)'. The 'Publication Year' filter shows results for 2024 (1), 2020 (1), 2018 (7), and 2017 (1). The 'Author Name' filter lists the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2), Cooper-Stanbury, Mark (2), Jefferson, Amber (2), Summerill, Amber (2), and Batts, David (1). The 'Subject' filter shows 'Social Sciences (10)'. The 'Keyword Term' filter lists 'Alcohol (10)', 'Alcohol abuse (10)', 'Attitudes (10)', 'Drug abuse (10)', and 'Health (10)'. The 'Distribution Date' filter shows '2015 (1)' and '2009 (1)'. The main content area displays '1 to 10 of 10 Results'. The first result is 'National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2022-2023', dated Sep 12, 2024, by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. The second result is 'National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2019', dated Sep 15, 2022, by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. The third result is 'National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2001', dated Apr 22, 2022, by Cooper-Stanbury, Mark; Summerill, Amber. The fourth result is 'National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2004', dated Apr 22, 2022, by Cooper-Stanbury, Mark; Summerill, Amber.

dataverse.ada.edu.au/dataverse.xhtml?alias=ndshs

Dataverse

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✓ **Dataverses (0)**  
✓ **Datasets (10)**  
Files (120)

**Publication Year**  
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2017 (1)

**Author Name**  
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2)  
Cooper-Stanbury, Mark (2)  
Jefferson, Amber (2)  
Summerill, Amber (2)  
Batts, David (1)  
[More...](#)

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**Keyword Term**  
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Attitudes (10)  
Drug abuse (10)  
Health (10)  
[More...](#)

**Distribution Date**  
2015 (1)  
2009 (1)

1 to 10 of 10 Results

**National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2022-2023**  
Sep 12, 2024  
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2024, "National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2022-2023", <https://doi.org/10.26193/U6LY7H>, ADA Dataverse, V3  
The 2022–2023 National Drug Strategy Household Survey was conducted in two phases, the first between July and December of 2022 and the second between March and May 2023. The survey examines current awareness of attitudes and behaviours toward drugs and drug problems within the Au...

**National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2019**  
Sep 15, 2022  
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2020, "National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2019", <https://doi.org/10.26193/WRHDUL>, ADA Dataverse, V7  
The 2019 National Drug Strategy Household Survey was conducted between April and September of 2019 and examines current awareness of attitudes and behaviours toward drugs and drug problems within the Australian community, focussing on respondents' personal attitudes toward drugs,...

**National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2001**  
Apr 22, 2022  
Cooper-Stanbury, Mark; Summerill, Amber, 2018, "National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2001", <https://doi.org/10.4225/87/DZ1PIJ>, ADA Dataverse, V3  
This study is the seventh in a series of national household surveys to examine current awareness, attitudes and behaviour related to drugs and drug problems, usage of drugs, and to assess changes in these attitudes and usage over the period 1985-2001. The seven earlier studies ar...

**National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2004**  
Apr 22, 2022  
Cooper-Stanbury, Mark; Summerill, Amber, 2018, "National Drug Strategy Household Survey, 2004", <https://doi.org/10.4225/87/M3IFO8>, ADA Dataverse, V3  
This study is the eighth in a series of national household surveys to examine current awareness, attitudes and behaviour related to drugs and drug problems, usage of drugs, and to assess changes in these attitudes and usage over the period 1985-2004. The seven earlier studies are...

# Contact information

**AIHW**

## **NDSHS team**

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