**KnowYourStuffNZ 2017-2018 summer factsheet**

Samples of illicit substances are brought to KnowYourStuffNZ’s testing station voluntarily by people who are intending to use drugs at events. The samples are tested using chemical reagents and FT-IR spectroscopy, and the results provided to the client along with harm reduction information about the identified substance(s) and drug use in general. KnowYourStuffNZ staff do not handle the substances and they are destroyed in the process of testing.

**What were the top 5 drugs people thought they had?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Last summer** |  | **This summer** |  |
| MDMA | 51% | MDMA | 58% |
| LSD | 30% | LSD | 17% |
| Unknown | 6% | Unknown | 9% |
| Cathinone | 2% | Ketamine | 5% |
| Amphetamine | 2% | Cocaine | 3% |

All other drugs combined – last season 13%, this season 9%

**What were the top 5 drugs people really had?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Last summer** |  | **This summer** |  |
| MDMA | 40% | MDMA | 54% |
| LSD | 26% | LSD | 15% |
| Cathinone | 11% | Cathinone | 7% |
| Could not be identified | 4% | Ketamine | 6% |
| Amphetamine | 3% | Could not be identified | 5% |

All other drugs combined – last season 16%, this season 13%

Testing identified 24/26 substances of the substances brought in as ‘unknown’.

Please note that the figures for MDMA and LSD include a very small number of samples that were not the specific drug mentioned but from the same family - for example MDA is included in MDMA, and 1p-LSD is included in LSD.

**How often was a sample what people thought it was?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Last season** | **This season** |
| Consistent with presumed | 68% | 79% |
| Consistent with presumed but contained additional ingredients | 9% | 5% |
| Not consistent with presumed | 23% | 12% |
| Could not be identified | 0% | 4% |
| **Total** | **100%** | **100%** |

Please note that for a significant number of the total samples the client did not know what the substance was supposed to be.  For the purpose of this table, these samples were excluded.

Please also note that the change in ‘consistent with presumed but contained additional ingredients’ may be due to changes in the way data is recorded.

**How many distinct psychoactive substances were identified?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 4-methylamphetamine\*  methamphetamine  dextroamphetamine\*  methylamphetamine\*  unknown amphetamine\*  MDEA  MDMA  MDA  1p LSD\*  4-ACO-DMT  5-MEO-DIPT\*  DMT  LSD  5/6-APB  2C-B  mescaline  caffeine  cocaine  ketamine  methoxetamine  ethylphenidate\*  GBL | 4-chloroethcathinone\*  4-methylethcathinone  4-methylpentedrone\*  4-methylbuphedrone\*  alpha-PVP\*  DMBDB\*  mephedrone  methcathinone  methylone  n-ethylbuphedrone\*  n-ethylpentylone  unknown cathinone\*  1-(2-chlorophenyl)-piperazine  benzylpiperazine  unknown NBOMe\*  5-HTP  rauwolfia serpentina\*  benzocaine\*  acetophenetidin\*  venlafaxine  quinidide gluconate\*  fentanyl\* |
| **Total: 44** | |

\* indicates substances identified for the first time this summer

**How many substances have we seen this year that we haven’t seen before?**

A total of twenty, seven of which were cathinones. One cathinone we could not identify.

**What psychoactive substances were often mixed?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mixture** | **No. of samples** |
| MDMA, 4-methylbuphedrone | 1 |
| MDMA, n-ethylpentylone | 2 |
| MDMA, unknown cathinone | 1 |
| MDMA, methylamphetamine | 1 |
| MDMA, 5-htp | 1 |
| MDMA, caffeine | 1 |
| MDMA, piperazine | 1 |
| MDMA, quinidide gluconate | 1 |
| cocaine, acetophenetidin | 1 |
| benzocaine, unknown cathinone | 1 |
| **Total** | **11** |

**How did finding out that a substance was not what they thought affect people’s decision about whether to take it?**

**When it is consistent with presumed**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Decision** | **Last season** | **This season** |
| May take | 3% | 4% |
| Will not take | 4% | 2% |
| Will take | 92% | 94% |
| **Total** | **100%** | **100%** |

**When it is not consistent with presumed**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Decision** | **Last season** | **This season** |
| May take | 10% | 14% |
| Will not take | 52% | 58% |
| Will take | 40% | 28% |
| **Total** | **100%** | **100%** |

**For how many people was this the first contact with a drug-related health service?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Have seen a drug worker before | 26% |
| Have not seen a drug worker before | 58% |
| Have seen KYSNZ before | 16% |
|  | **100%** |

Of those who had not seen KYSNZ before, 70% said this was their first time seeing a drug worker or drug health service. Please note these figures are an estimate only as we do not collect identifying information about our clients. Some clients may have been double counted if they used the service more than once.

**To what extent did the high-dose MDMA pills affect the overall results for MDMA?**

Percentage of presumed MDMA that tested as MDMA (all included): 83%

Percentage of presumed MDMA that tested as MDMA (high-dose pills excluded): 82%

All of the pills in the group fitting the description of ‘high-dose’ contained MDMA, however they only made up 15% of the total MDMA samples tested.  While they had a small impact on the overall MDMA results, it only increased the ‘as presumed’ total by 1% and thus cannot be considered a major factor in the overall change.

More detailed data can be accessed at <https://knowyourstuff.nz/our-results_2017_18/>