

ANNEX 1:

OVERVIEW OF THE DRUG SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Drug use and trafficking still are a major issue that requires development and improvement of a regulatory basis that should determine the national policy of preventing and combating illicit drug trafficking, reducing the risks and supply of drugs and providing drug users with treatment and rehabilitation services.

The main trends according to integrated bio-behavioral study among groups at high risk of infection 2020 (IBBS).¹

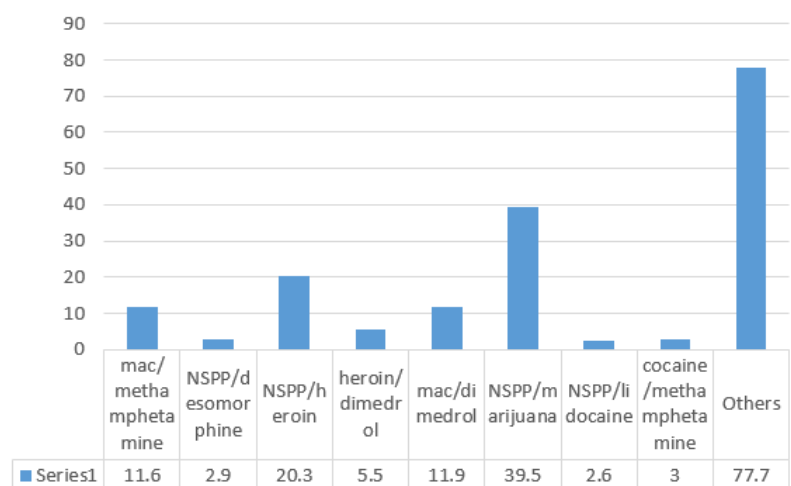
As data on drug use patterns over the years are inconsistent, it is not possible to track drug use trends in the Republic of Moldova. The information from various data sources currently existing in the Republic of Moldova differs and in many cases is difficult to compare.

There is a growing trend throughout the Republic of Moldova of multiple drug use.² According to the data of the study, the most common mixture of substances used (of those specified) are marijuana and NSPP – 39.5% and in the category of others (of the unspecified ones) the value is higher – 77.7%.³

Cannabis. It is the most frequently used illegal drug in the Republic of Moldova. According to trend data on non-injecting drugs, the most commonly used in the last month and 6 months were cannabis/marijuana/hashish/cannabis resin.

Opiates/Heroin. According to the IBBS 2020 study, there is a decrease in opiate use in all locations covered by the study compared to previous years. This may be conditioned by the availability of new psychoactive substances on the drug market. Consumption of new substances with psychoactive properties (NSPP) reported in IBBS 2020 shows that this type of drugs is very popular and has higher values than the data reported in the previous round of the IBBS 2016 study.

New Substances with Psychoactive properties (New psychoactive substances include synthetic cannabinoids ("spices") and pyrovalerones and other synthetic cathinones ("salts")). According to the study data, the trend of NSPP consumption shows higher values for each locality (eg. in Chisinau, non-injecting consumption in the last month made up for 2016 - 35.8% compared to 2020 - 55.4%).



¹Ministry of Health Report 2019 https://msmps.gov.md/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Raport_anual_2019_OND.docx

²National Anti-Drug Strategy 2020-2027 https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=121214&lang=ro

³ Ministry of Health Illicit drug use and trafficking / Annual report of the Ministry of Health 2019 https://msmps.gov.md/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Raport_anual_2019_OND.docx