

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NATIONAL SURVEY ON TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

What is the survey about?

The survey is about what people think about tobacco, alcohol and other drugs and how widely drugs are used. The answers given for this survey will be used by researchers and policy makers to better understand and address the issues surrounding tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.

Why was I selected to complete the survey?

More than 20,000 people across Australia will complete this survey. To make sure that there is no suggestion that the survey deliberately selected certain types of households and certain types of people, (1) your household was randomly selected from all Australia households and (2) you were randomly selected as the person to complete the survey within your household. You were randomly selected because your birthday just so happens to be next of all the people aged 12 years and over who live in your household. This way of selecting you and all the other participants in the survey removes bias and makes it more likely that the results we get are representative of Australia as a whole.

How is my privacy protected?

The survey is conducted under the AIHW Act, which prohibits the release of information about individuals collected in the survey. No-one will be able to identify you or your answers to the survey. Your confidentiality is assured – even from legal authorities.

But can't you report any illegal activities to the authorities?

Under the AIHW Act, all people connected with this survey – from the interviewers to the researchers – must sign a declaration of confidentiality, so that they cannot release any information to anyone on any person responding to this survey. This means that the police and legal authorities have no access to personal information collected for this survey, even if asked to do so in court.

How can I help? I don't take drugs.

Everyone's answers are important – irrespective of whether they have or have not ever taken any drugs. Your reasons for taking or not taking drugs are important for this study, along with your attitudes to drugs. For this survey we need to obtain answers from a broad range of people so that the survey results represent the views and behaviours of *all* Australians.

But I don't have the time or interest to complete this survey.

We understand that any survey takes time to complete, particularly when you have other things you'd prefer to be doing. However, this research is an extremely important government study, used to identify the attitudes and behaviours of Australians in relation to legal and illegal drug use. The results may directly influence government decisions and policies. Your answers will be used to represent the views of many households similar to your own, so your answers count. We ask for you to take the time to complete this important survey.

If you have any other questions or would like to discuss any of the above issues in more detail please call 1800 443 182 or visit the survey page on the AIHW website at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/drugs/ndshs07.cfm>.

0322m National Drug Strategy Household Survey

Interviewer Handout

ILLICIT DRUGS LISTED IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE AND THEIR COMMON NAMES

Barbiturates
(e.g. Barbies, Barbs, Downers, Reds, Purple hearts)

Cocaine
(e.g. Coke, Crack, Flake, Snow, White lady/girl, Happy dust, Gold dust, Toot, Sooty, Charlie, Cecil, C, Freebase)

Ecstasy
(e.g. XTC, E, Ex, Ecce, E and C, Adam, MDMA, MDDA, MDEA, Eve, PMA)

GHB
(e.g. Fantasy, Grievous bodily harm, GBH, Liquid E, Liquid X, 1-4B, GBL)

Heroin
(e.g. Hammer, Smack, Horse, H, Boy, Junk)

Inhalants/Solvents/Aerosols/Glue/Petrol
(e.g. Laughing gas, Whippits, Nitrous, Snappers, Poppers, Pearliers, Rushamines, Locker room, Bolt, Bullet, Rush, Climax, Red gold, Amyl, Bulbs)

Kava

Ketamine
(e.g. K, Special K, Vitamin K, KitKat, Ket)

LSD/Synthetic Hallucinogens/Psilocybin/PCP
(e.g. Acid, Trips, Wedges, Windowpane, Blotter, Microdot, Angel dust, Hog, Loveboat)

Marijuana/Cannabis
(e.g. Pot, Grass, Weed, Reefer, Joint, MaryJane, Acapulco gold, Rope, Mull, Cone, Spliff, Dope, Hydro, Bhang, Ganja, Hash, Chronic)

Meth/amphetamine
(e.g. Speed, Base, Ice, Crystal, Meth, Amphet, Shabu, Tina, Paste, Skates, Ox blood, Leopards blood, Whiz, Zip))

Methadone/Buprenorphine
(e.g. Done, Junk, Jungle, Juice, Bupe, Sub)

Naturally Occurring Hallucinogens
(e.g. Blue meanies, Gold tops, Mushies, Magic mushrooms, Datura, Angel's trumpet)

Pain killers, Analgesics
(e.g. Aspirin, Paracetamol, Mersyndol, Panadeine Forte, Nurofen Plus)

Steroids
(e.g. Roids, Juice, Gear)

Tranquillisers, Sleeping pills
(e.g. Benzos, Temazzies, Tranks, Sleepers, Valium, Serapax, Serries, Mandrax, Mandies, Rohypnol, Rowies)

Xanthanols
(e.g. Zed, Z, Xena, Zolls, Kewpie Dolls)

FOR THIS SURVEY, THE TERM 'NON-MEDICAL PURPOSES'
MEANS DRUGS USED

1. either alone or with other drugs in order to induce or enhance a drug experience;
2. for performance enhancement (e.g. athletic); or
3. for cosmetic purposes (e.g. body shaping).

The picture below shows, in bold, the number of "standard drinks" in some typical alcohol containers.

