

# DRUGS?

## How is **COCAINE** used in Portugal



European Web  
Survey on Drugs

### European Web Survey on Drugs - Portugal 2021

Online self-completion survey, an initiative of the European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction, aimed at drug users aged 18 or over, applied between March and May 2021, in around 30 European countries, including Portugal, through SICAD - General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies.

Its objective is to deepen the knowledge about the patterns of use of illicit drugs, aiming at the better adequacy of public policies.

617 powder cocaine users participated in this survey in Portugal.



SNS SERVIÇO NACIONAL DE SAÚDE



SICAD Serviço de Intervenção nos Comportamentos Aditivos e nas Dependências

### SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC TRAITS OF THE PORTUGUESE SAMPLE OF POWDER COCAINE USERS

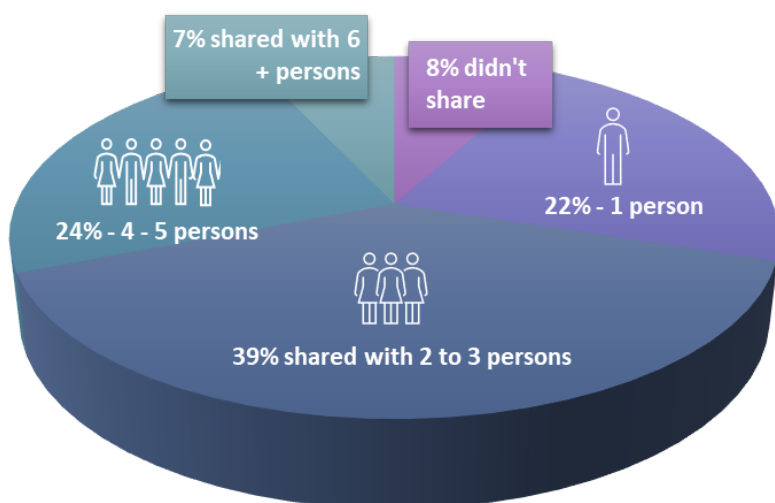
- ✓ 69% are men (n=651), 65% from male gender, 0,6% from non-binary gender (n=647).
- ✓ 32% with 18-24 years, 42% with 25-34 years, 18% with 35-44 years, 7% with 45-54 years, 1% with 55-64 years (n=652).
- ✓ 41% with higher education (university) completed (+20% attending), 26% with secondary education completed (+7% attending), remaining with lower school education (n=604).
- ✓ 49% employed full-time (+ 4% part-time), 10% self-employed full-time (+2% part-time), 16% full-time students (+6% working-students), remaining non-employed (n=423).
- ✓ 33% living with parents, 21% living in couple without children at home (+7% with children), 18% living alone, 14% sharing house with peers, colleagues, remaining other types of situations (n=422).
- ✓ 25% with an average income, after tax, of less than 500€/month, 46% equal or higher than 500€ but lower than 1000€, 23% equal or higher than 1000€ but lower than 2000€, remaining with 2000€ or more (n=498).
- ✓ 74% living in the city, 16% in a town and remaining in the village/countryside (n=423).
- ✓ 39% living in Lisboa e Vale do Tejo; 35% in Norte; 16% in Centro; 4% in Algarve; 3% in Alentejo; 2% in Açores; 1% in Madeira (n=496)

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## Usual form of consumption

(n=652)



**NASAL SNORTING (98%)**

SMOKE IN CIGARS (5%)

SMOKE IN PIPES (4%)

DISSOLVE IN THE MOUTH (4%)

CHASE THE DRAGON (FOIL) (1%)

SWALLOW (alone/in a drink) (1%)

INJECTION (0,9%)

Nr of persons with which cocaine was shared the last time it was used

(n=556)

## MOTIVES TO USE COCAINE

✓ To get high/for fun (74%)

✓ To socialize (50%)

✓ To reduce stress/relax (18%)

✓ Out of curiosity/to experiment (12%)

✓ To enhance performance (school/work/sport/etc.) (10%)

✓ To treat depression/anxiety (9%)

✓ To reduce pain/inflammations (1%)

✓ To improve sleep (0,9%)

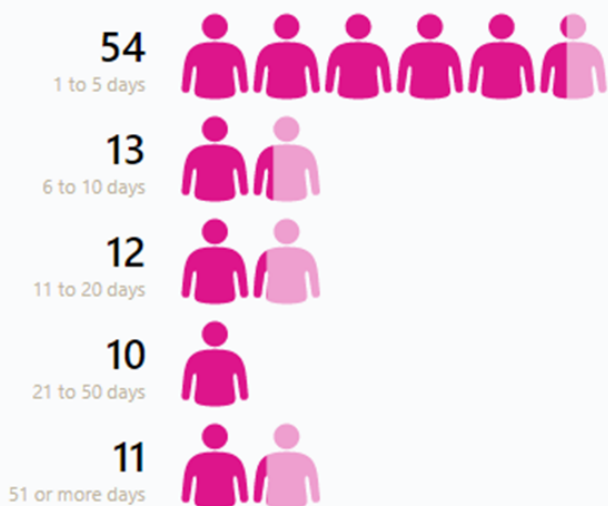
(n=652)

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Frequency (nr of days) of consumption in the last 12 months (%)

(n=643)



Episodic consumption:  
54% used in  
1 to 5 days in the last 12 months



Quantity?

Grams of powder in a typical day

(n=611)

**0,7** grams/day (average)