



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

Annual report 2010: the state of the drugs problem in Europe

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European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)

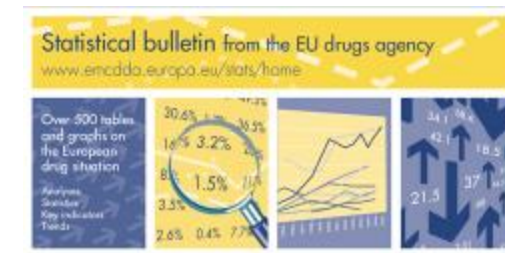
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Staff: 100



A multilingual information package



www.emcdda.europa.eu/annual-report

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3



Heroin and injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and the Internet

Responding to drug problems

Heroin problem



Europe's biggest drug problem

Overall stable

Large problem in some neighbouring countries



Heroin and injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and the Internet

Responding to drug problems

Problem opioid users

About 1.35 million
in the EU and Norway:
0.4 % of the adult population

Recent national estimates:
0.1 to 0.8 % of the adult population



Heroin and injecting

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New drugs and the Internet

Responding to drug problems

Injecting drug users



750 000 to one million in the EU and Norway —
0.26 % of the adult population

Decrease in the proportion of injectors among
opioid users entering treatment



Trends in newly reported HIV infections in injecting drug users in four EU Member States reporting high rates of infection

Heroin and injecting

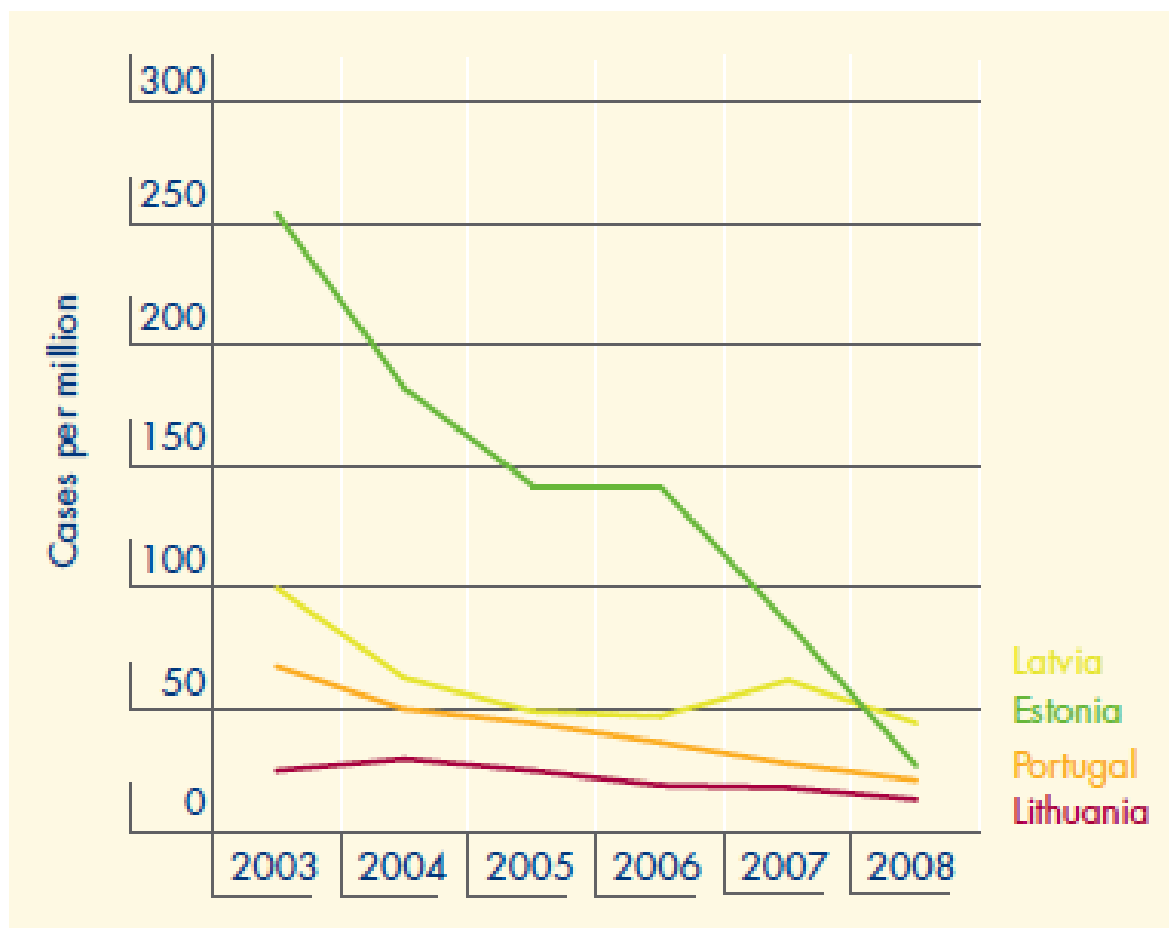
Cocaine

Ecstasy and amphetamines

Cannabis

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Responding to drug problems



Opioid trends



**Heroin and
injecting**

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
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Responding to
drug problems

Indirect indicators show stable or slightly increasing
opioid problems in Europe



Drug-induced deaths: change 2004 to 2007/8



Heroin and
injecting

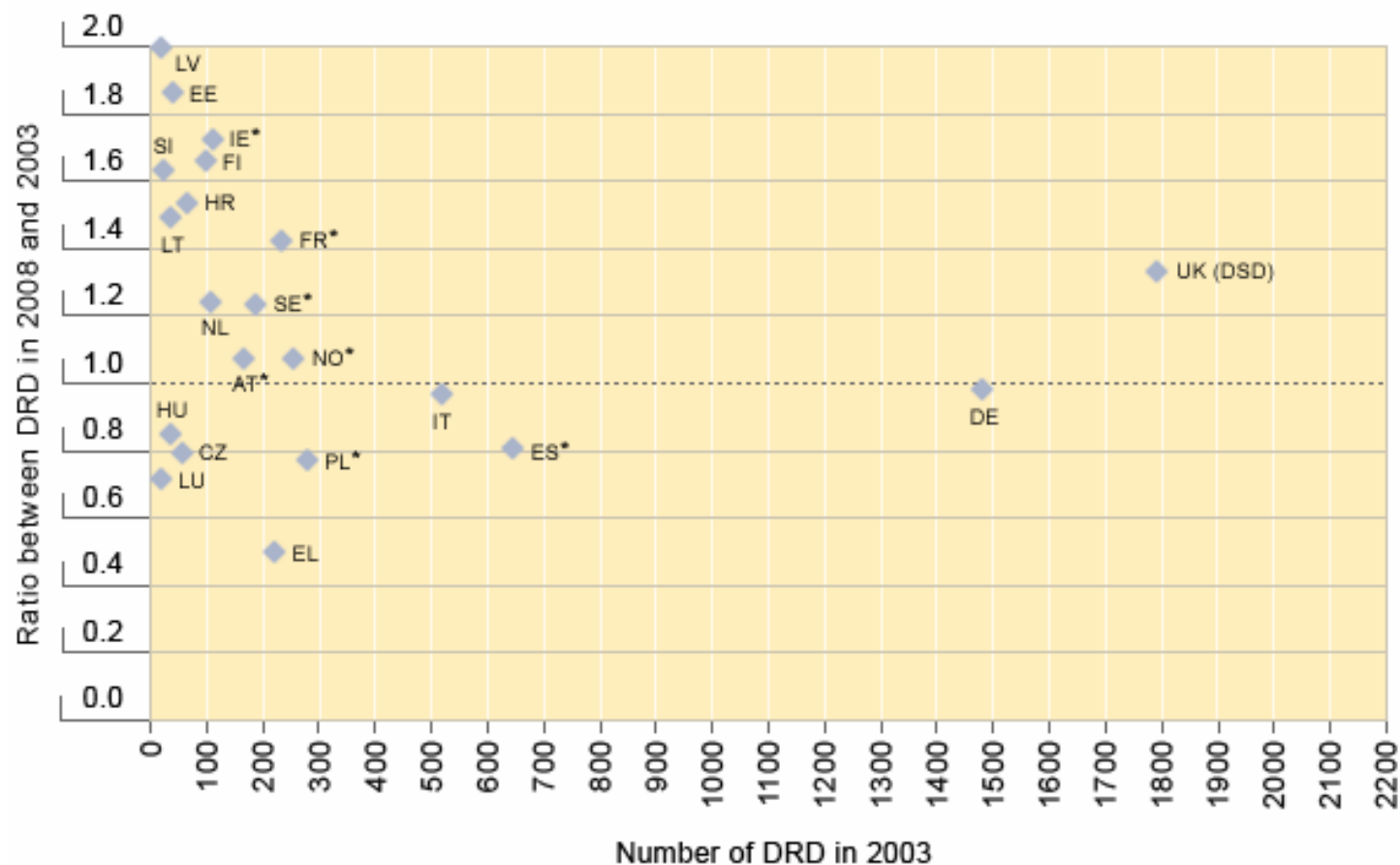
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Trends in mean age of drug-induced deaths in some European countries

Heroin and
injecting

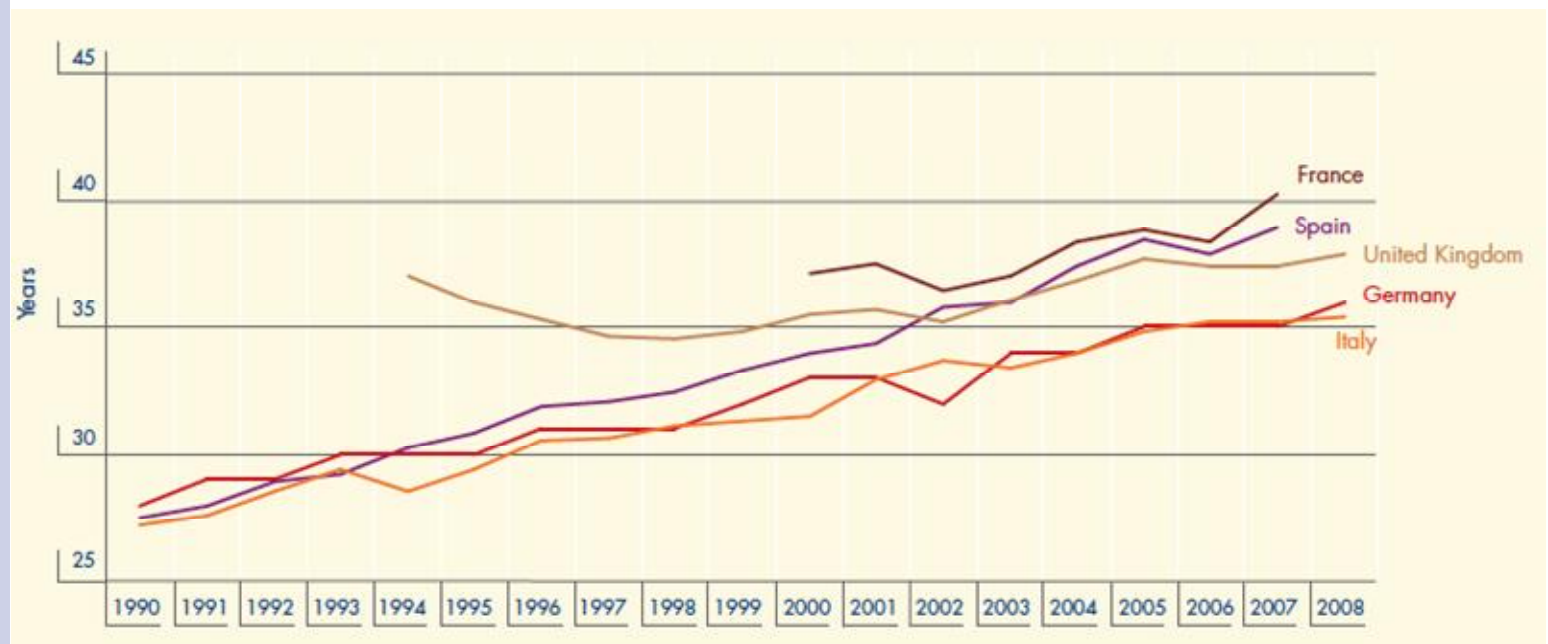
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Trend in heroin-related drug-law offences

**Heroin and
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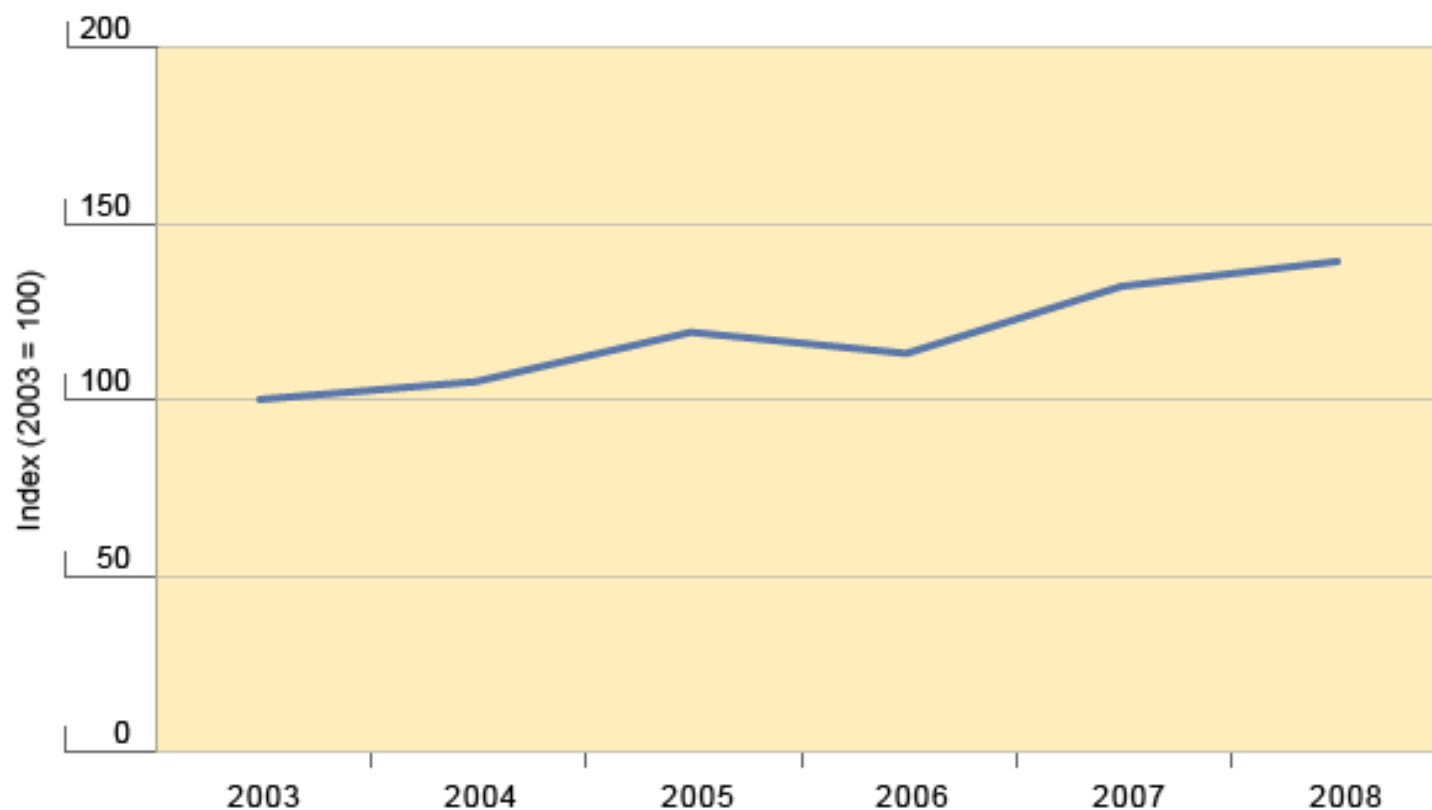
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Heroin and injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and amphetamines

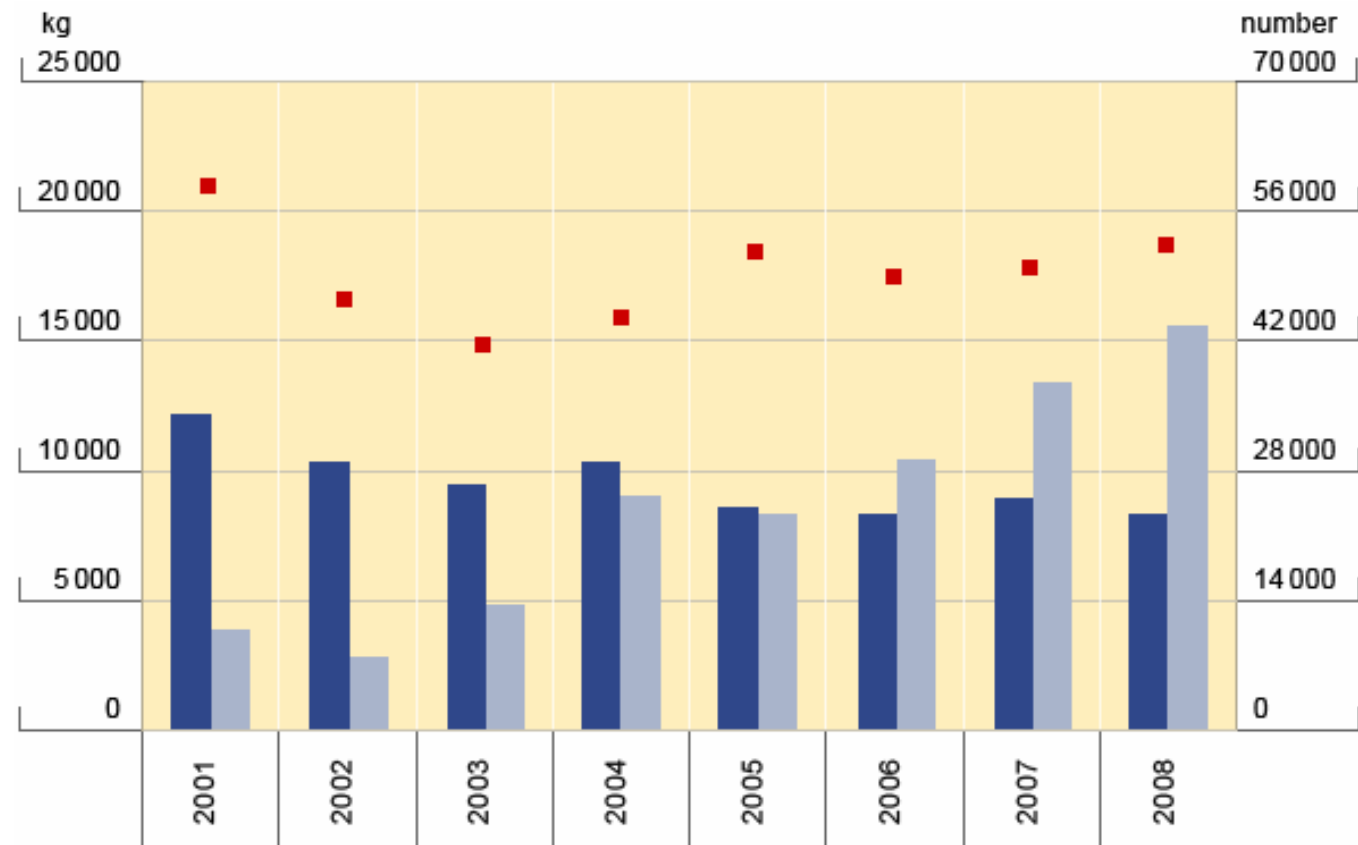
Cannabis

New drugs and the Internet

Responding to drug problems

Estimated number of heroin seizures and of quantities seized

- Quantity seized by the EU, Croatia & Norway
- Quantity seized by Turkey
- Number of seizures in Europe



**Heroin and
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Responding to
drug problems

Possible reasons for the current opioid trends



Global heroin production

Ageing cohort of problem opioid users

Polydrug use and other high-risk behaviours



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Problem opioid use in neighbouring countries



Reports of problem opioid use in Russia and
Ukraine (UNODC): 2–4 times the EU average

High proportion of drug injectors and levels of HIV
infections



Prevalence of cocaine use



Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
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Responding to
drug problems

14 million Europeans have ever used cocaine (4.1 %)

4 million during the past year (1.3 %)

3 million are between 15 and 34 years old



Cocaine use: last year prevalence among young adults in Europe, Australia, Canada and the USA

Heroin and
injecting

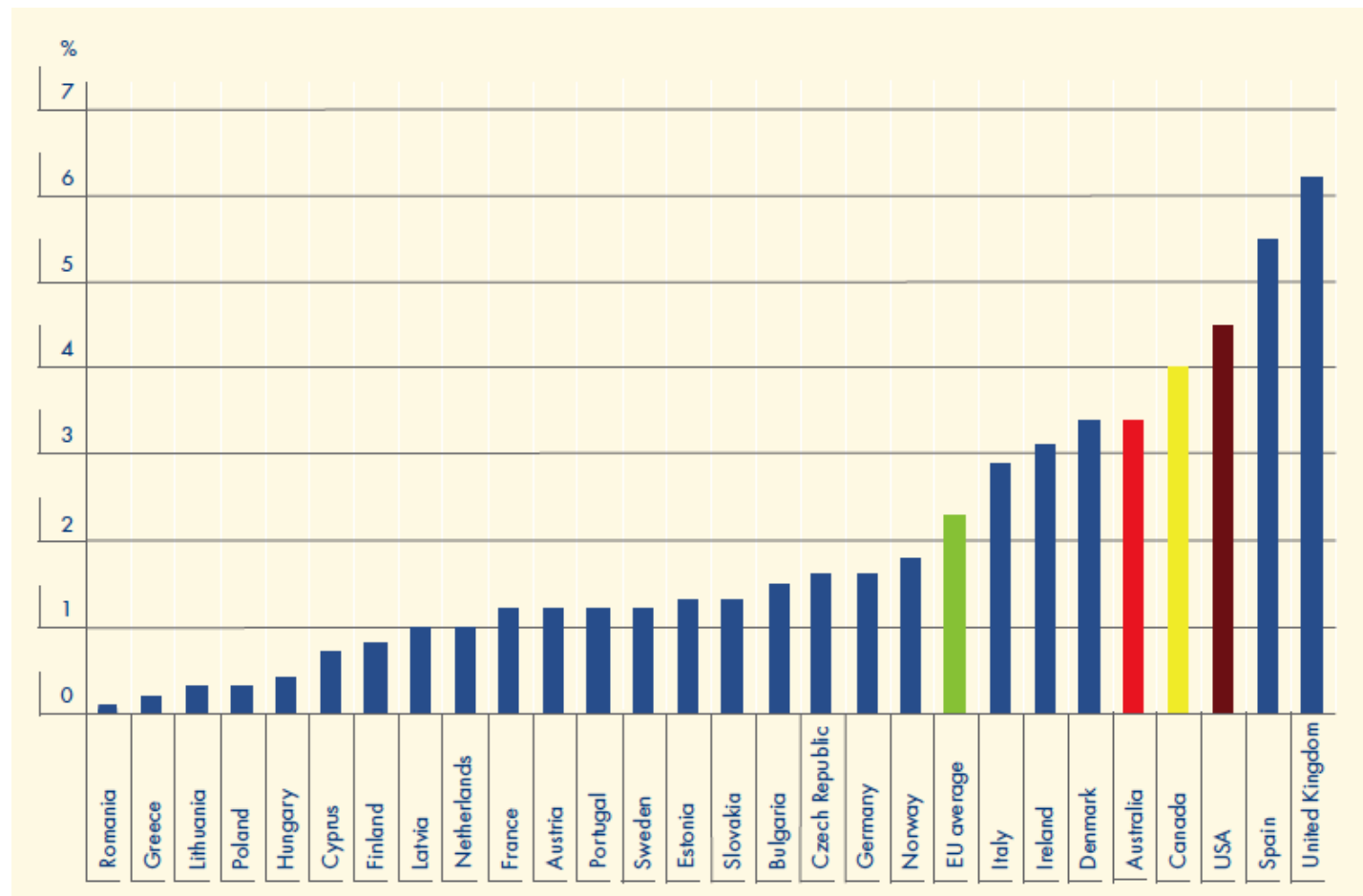
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Cocaine use: last year prevalence among young adults

Heroin and
injecting

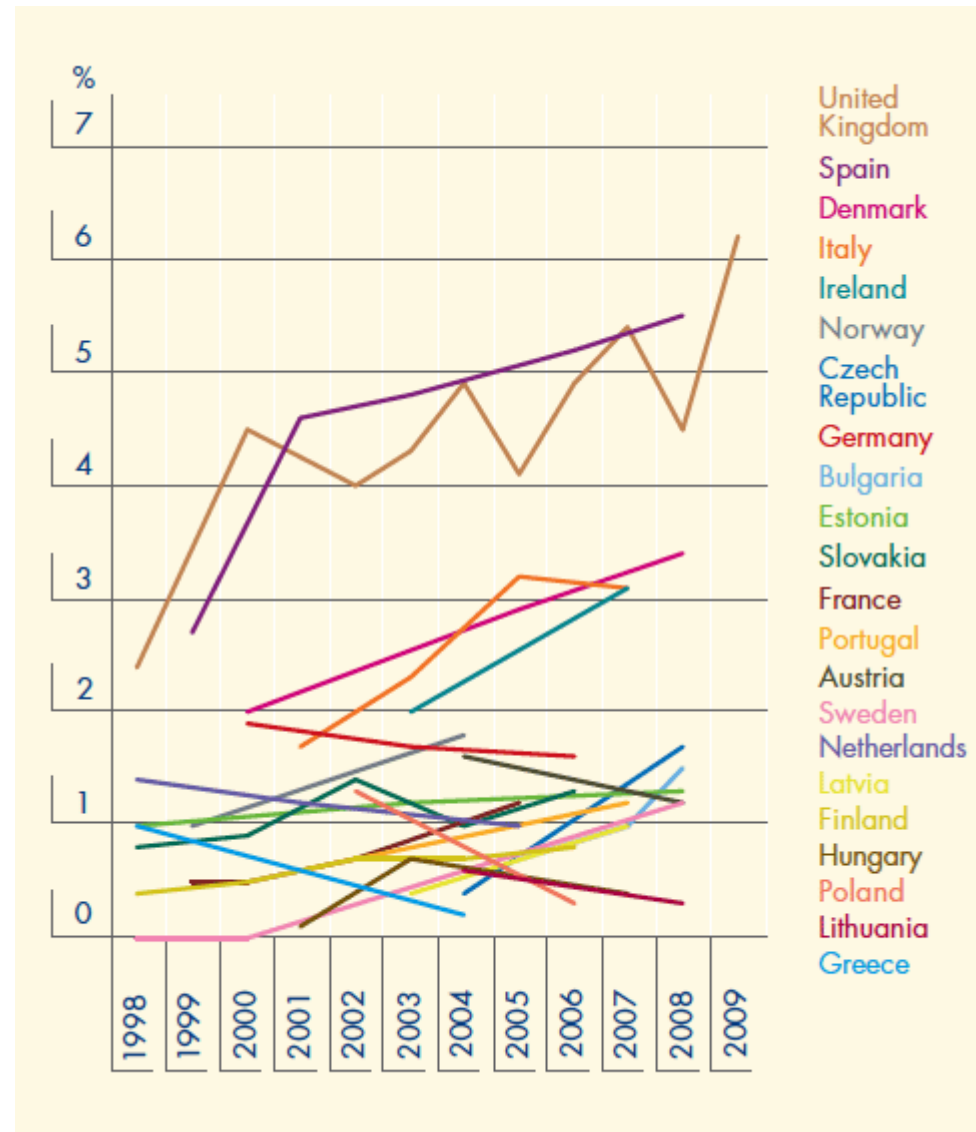
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Cocaine deaths



Around 1 000 cocaine-related deaths
were reported in 2008

Marked increases in Spain
and the United Kingdom



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Cocaine seizures



Number of seizures increasing for last 20 years:
96 000 (2008)

Quantities seized decreased since 2006:
67 tonnes (2008)

New smuggling techniques

Overall stabilisation in the use trends of ecstasy

Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

**Ecstasy and
amphetamines**

Cannabis

New drugs and
the Internet

Responding to
drug problems



2.5 million young adults (1.7 %) have used
ecstasy in the last year

Trend in last year ecstasy use among young adults

Heroin and injecting

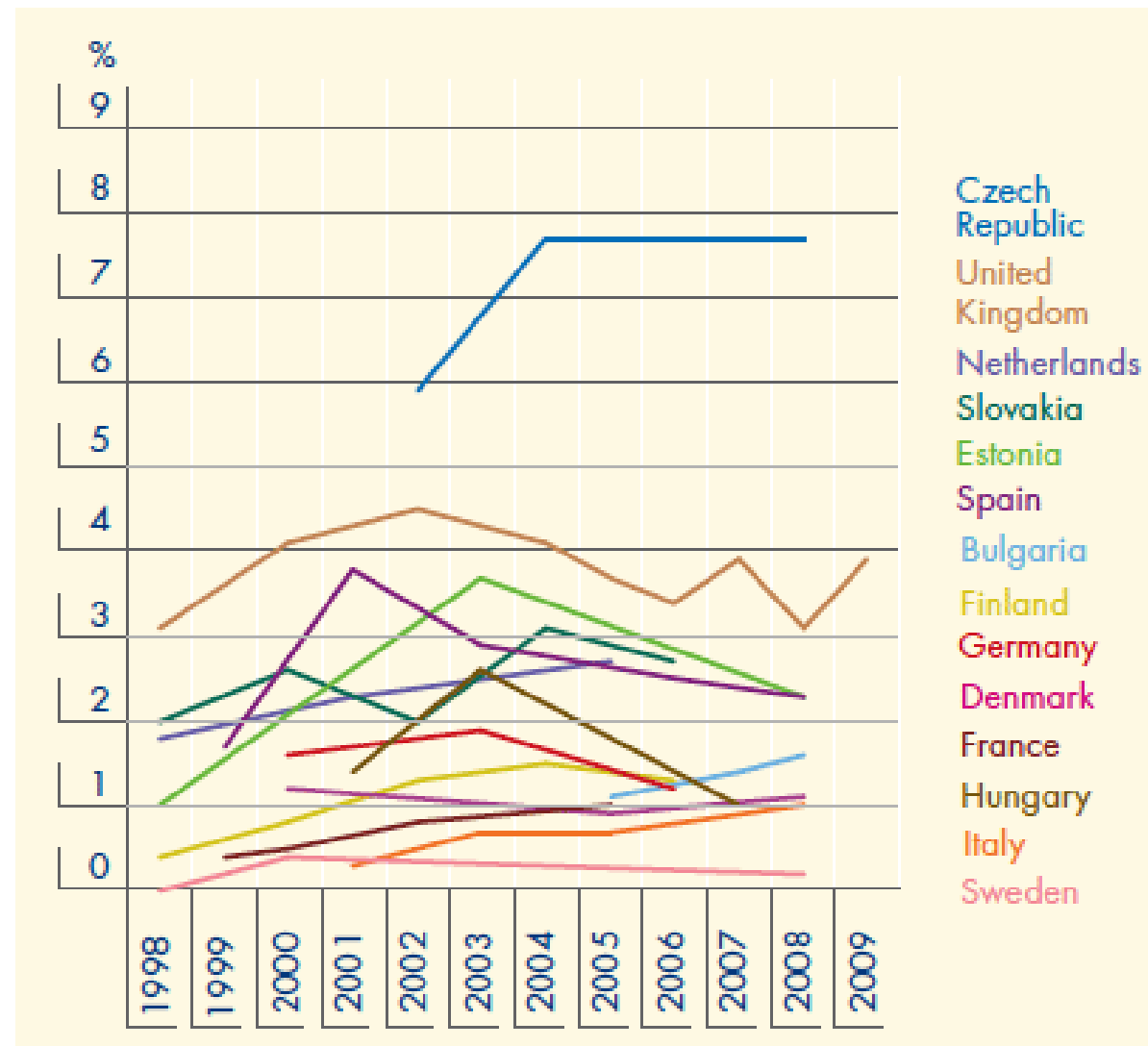
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Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

**Ecstasy and
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Regional differences in amphetamine and methamphetamine use



Use of amphetamines in the general population (last year prevalence young adults)

Heroin and injecting

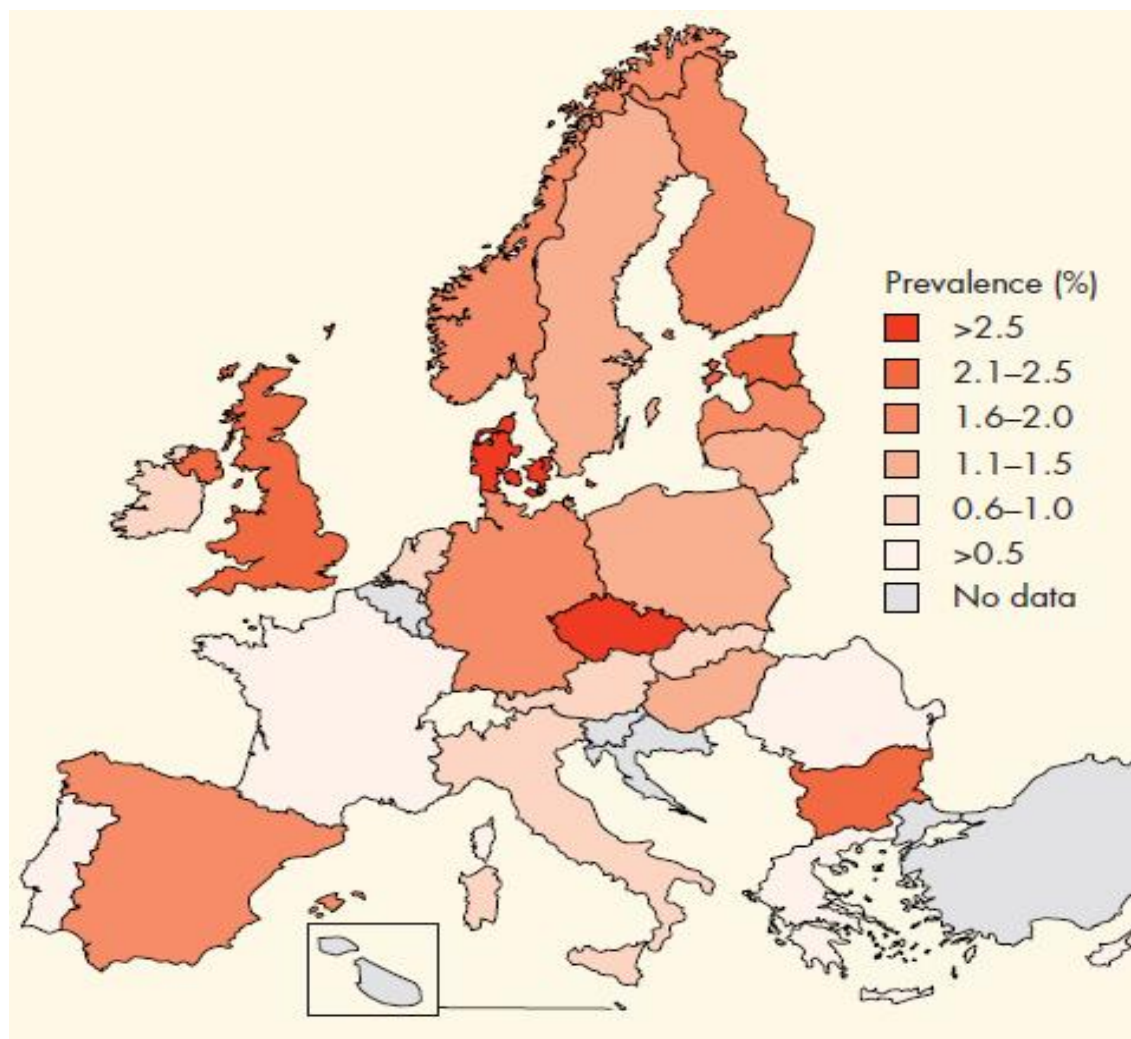
Cocaine

Ecstasy and amphetamines

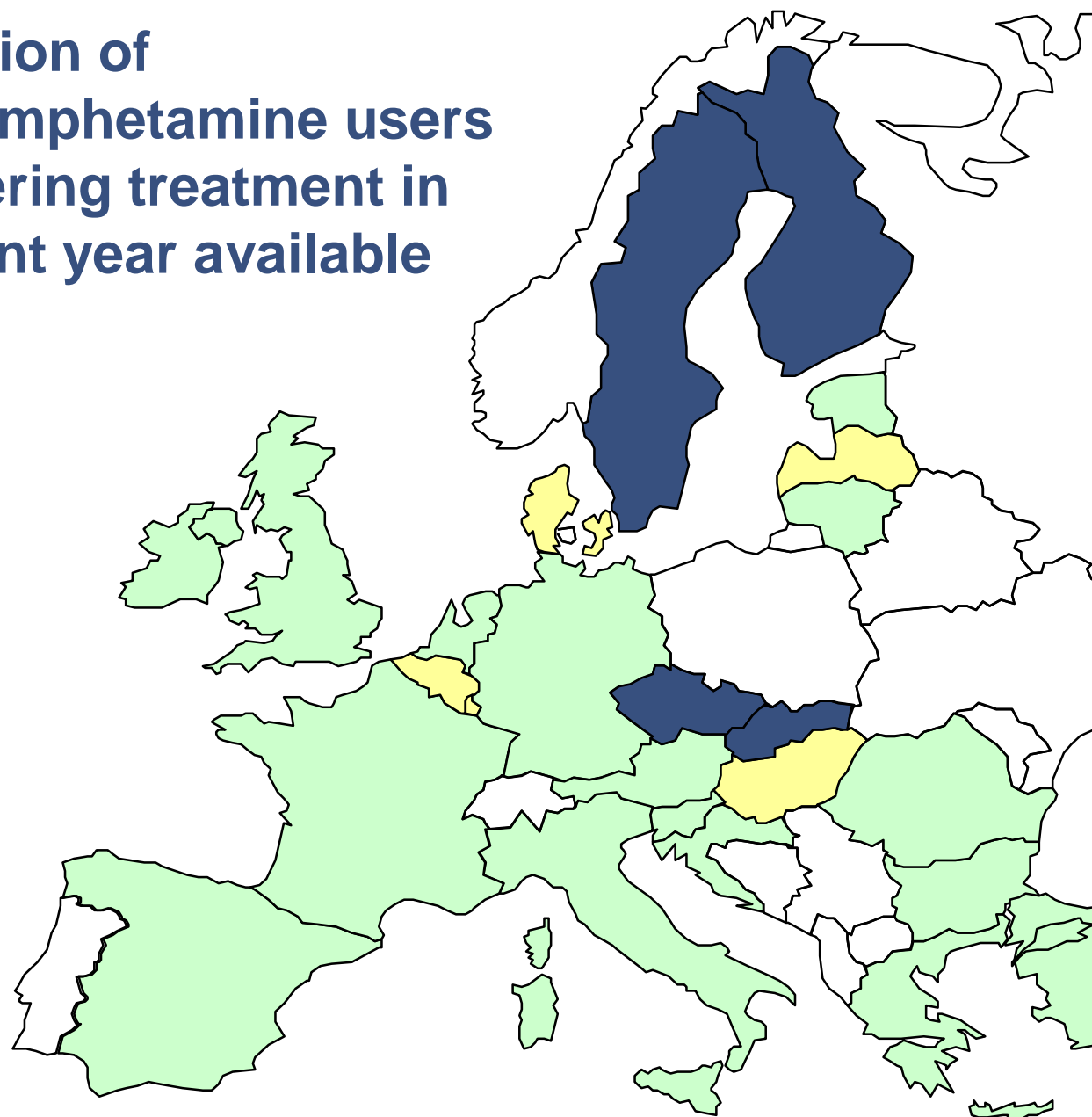
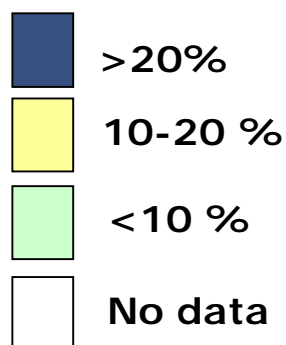
Cannabis

New drugs and the Internet

Responding to drug problems



Proportion of amphetamine/methamphetamine users among clients entering treatment in 2008 or most recent year available



Source: 2010 EMCDDA Statistical Bulletin
Table TDI-05 - not for dissemination



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Illicit drug facilities dismantled in the EU as reported to Europol

Heroin and injecting

Cocaine

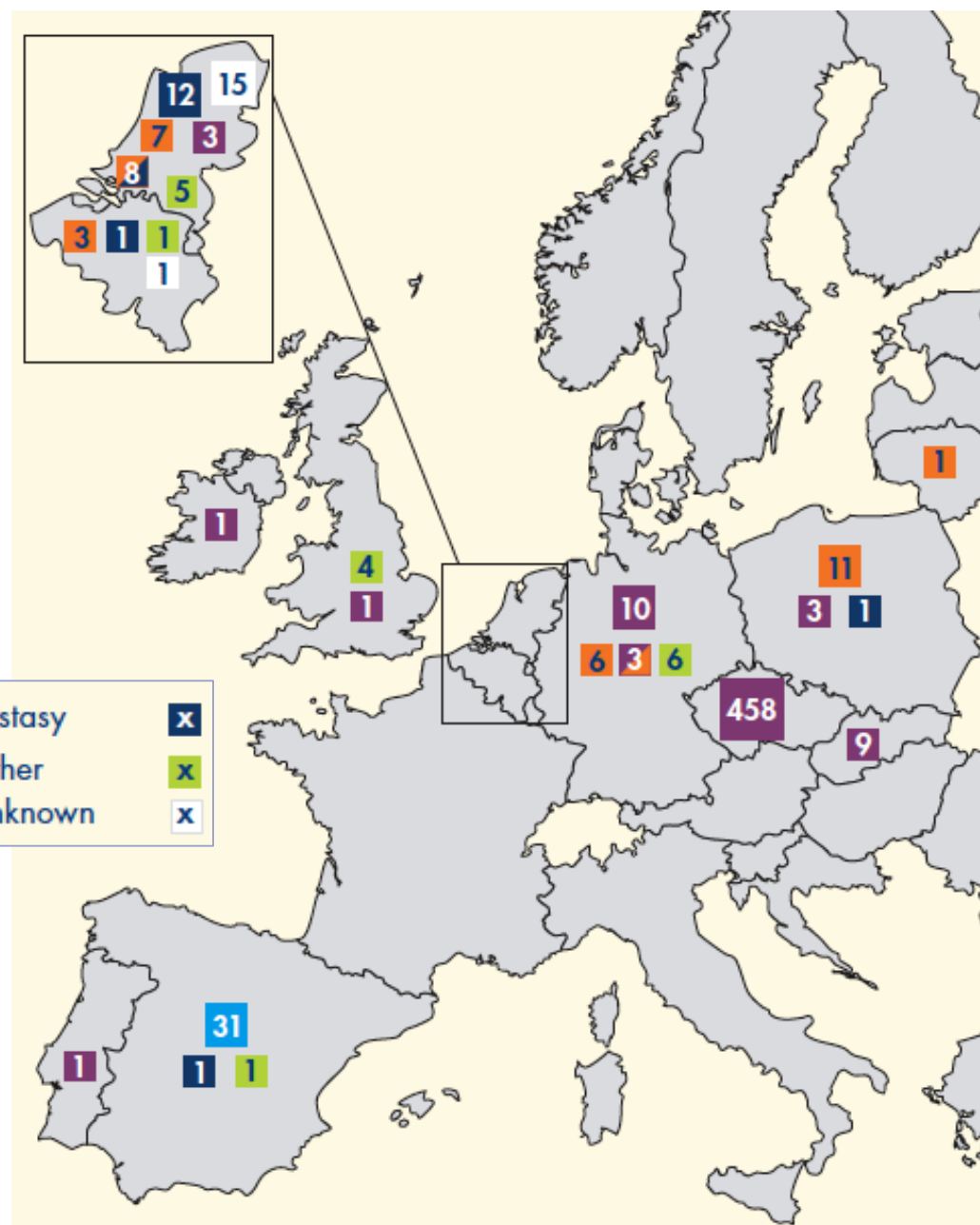
Ecstasy and amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and the Internet

Responding to drug problems

Amphetamine	x	Ecstasy	x
Methamphetamine	x	Other	x
Cocaine	x	Unknown	x



Prevalence of cannabis use



Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and
the Internet

Responding to
drug problems

75.5 million Europeans have ever used cannabis
(22.5 %)

23 million in the past year (6.8 %)

17 million are between 15 and 34 years old



Cannabis use: last year prevalence among young adults

Heroin and
injecting

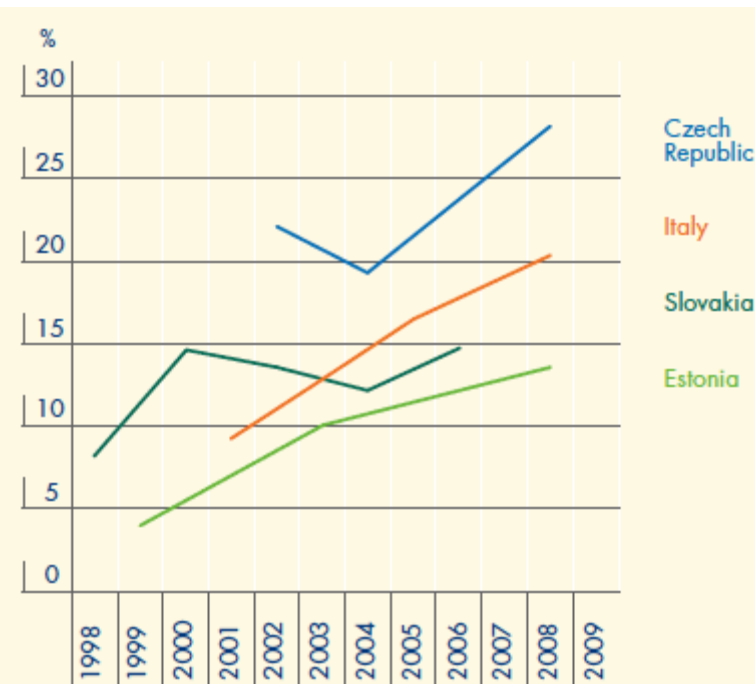
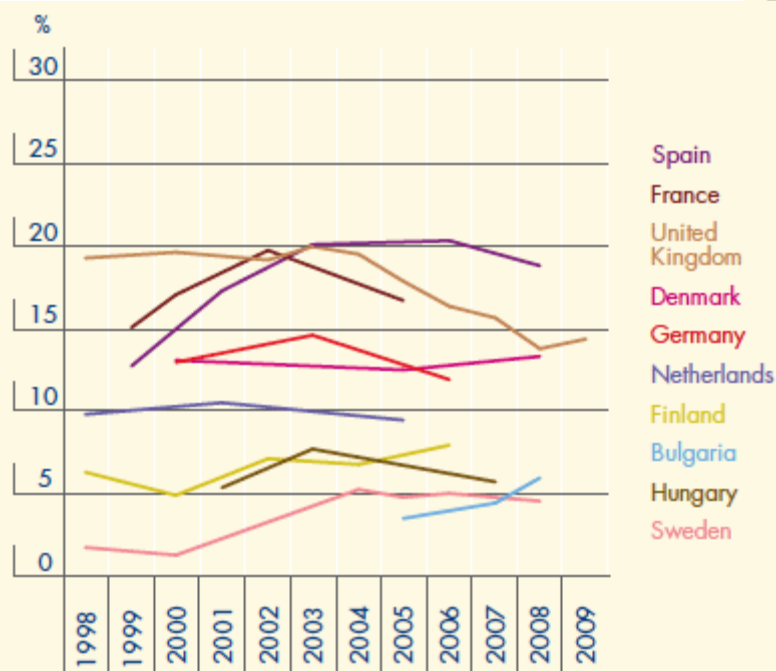
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Responding to
drug problems



Daily cannabis use

Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and
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Responding to
drug problems



Up to 3 million young Europeans (2.3 %)
could be using cannabis on a daily basis

Seizures

Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and
the Internet

Responding to
drug problems



About 1 000 tonnes of cannabis seized (90 % resin)

Domestic cultivation reported in all European
countries

Detecting new drugs

Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

Cannabis

**New drugs and
the Internet**

Responding to
drug problems

Record number (24) of new substances
reported to the European Early-Warning
System (EWS) in 2009

Growing popularity of synthetic cathinones,
including mephedrone

New synthetic cannabinoids



Use of new drugs (Spice, cathinones, etc.)

Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

Cannabis

**New drugs and
the Internet**

Responding to
drug problems

Few studies available

Changing substances and
brands

Can reach high prevalence
levels among clubbers and
cannabis users



Monitoring the Internet

Heroin and
injecting

170 online shops

Cocaine

Substances sold as 'legal highs'

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

Rapid adaptation to control measures

Cannabis

**New drugs and
the Internet**

Responding to
drug problems



Development of drug policies in Europe

Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and
the Internet

**Responding to
drug problems**

Almost all EU Member States have a
comprehensive drug strategy

No clear pattern for linking alcohol and
drugs strategies



Prevention

Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and
the Internet

**Responding to
drug problems**



Information provision is widespread in Europe, despite evidence of limited effectiveness

Selective and indicated prevention still limited in most countries

Development of prevention standards



Large investments in treatment



Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
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Cannabis

New drugs and
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**Responding to
drug problems**

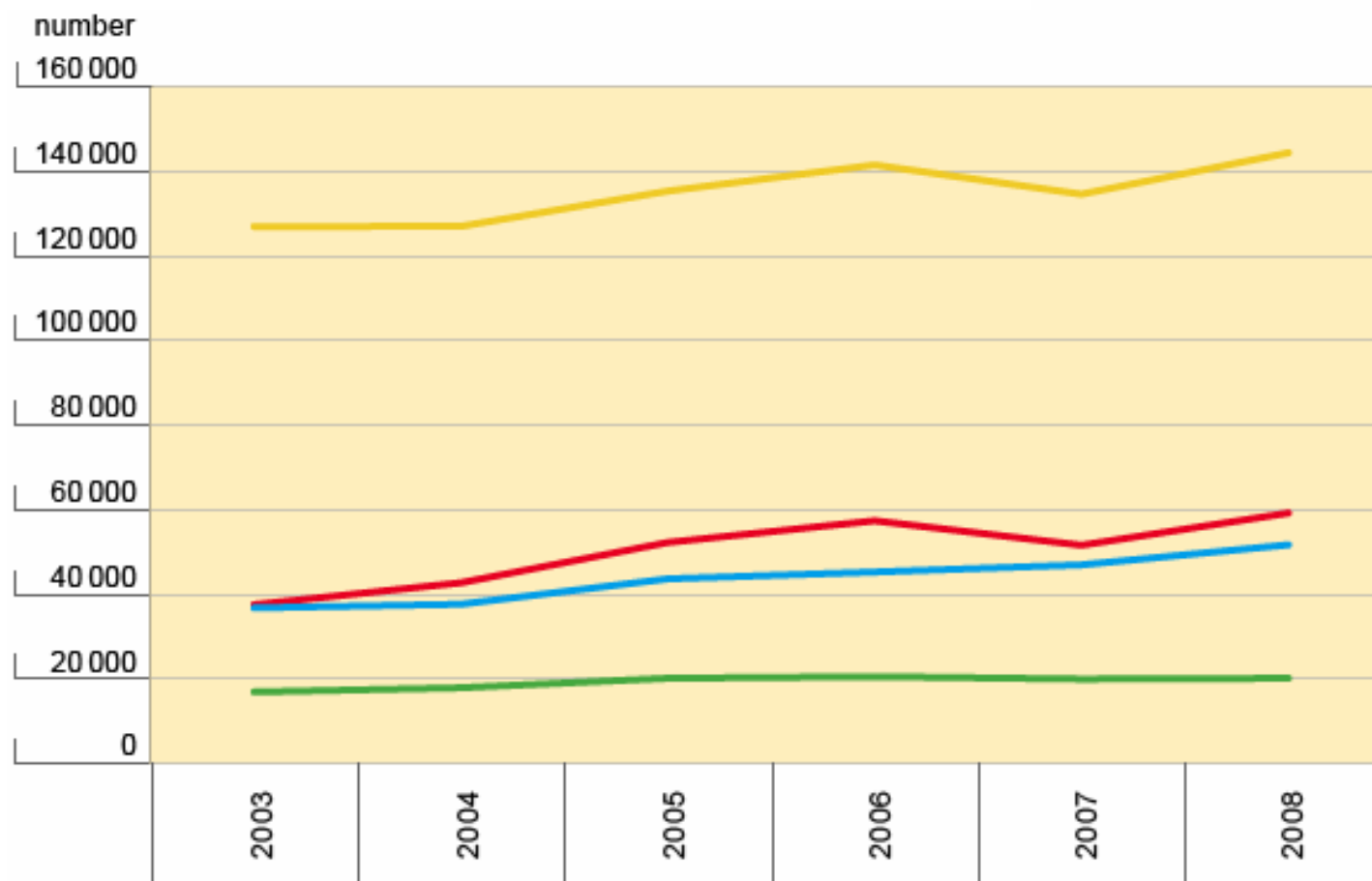
At least 1 million Europeans undergo drug treatment every year

Major increase over the last decades:
new providers and new needs



Trends in treatment entries by primary drug

Heroin
Cocaine
Cannabis
Other stimulants



Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and
the Internet

Responding to
drug problems



Large investments in treatment: opioid substitution treatment

Heroin and
injecting

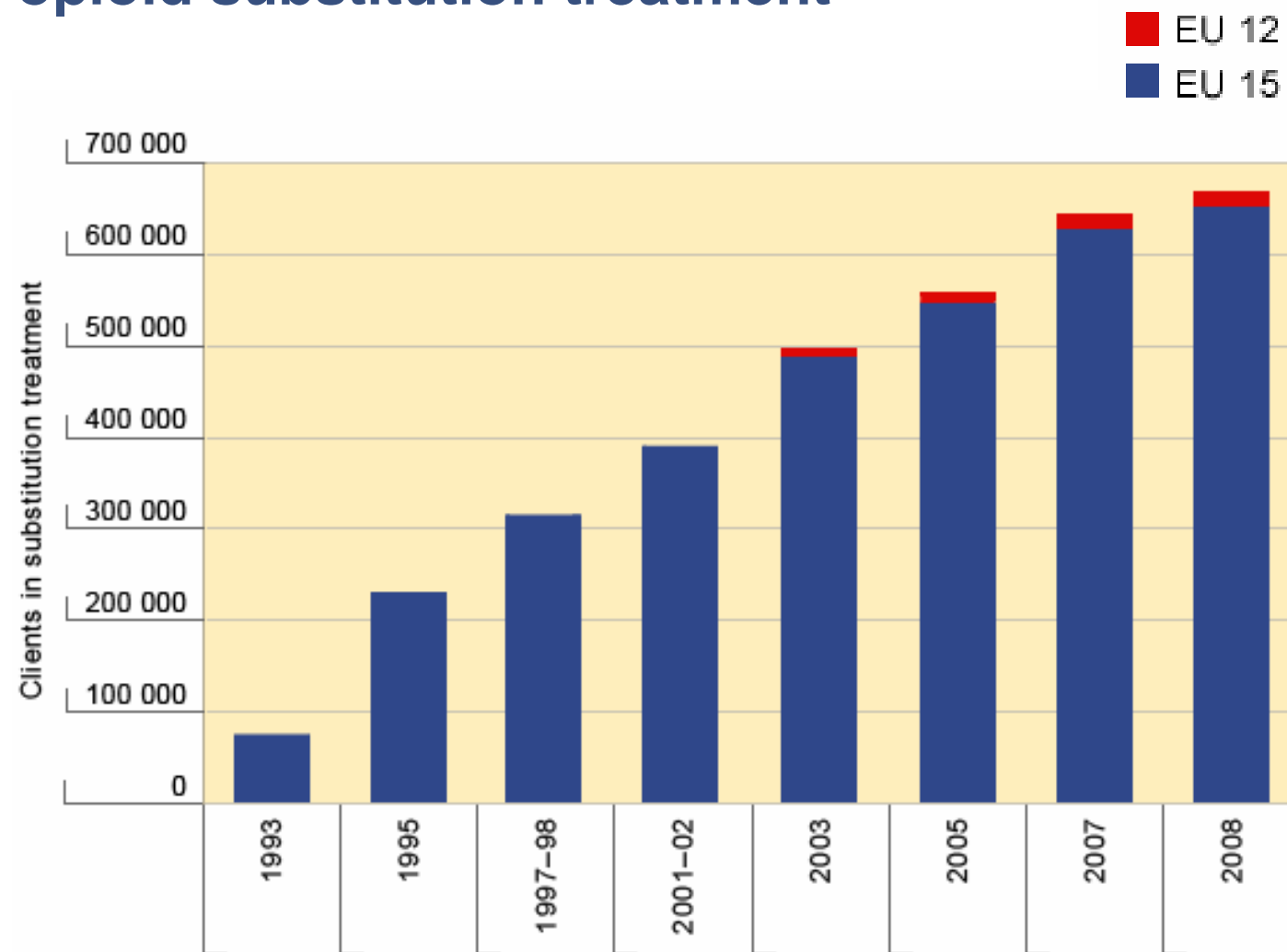
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**Responding to
drug problems**



Estimated proportion of problem opioid users in substitution treatment

Heroin and injecting

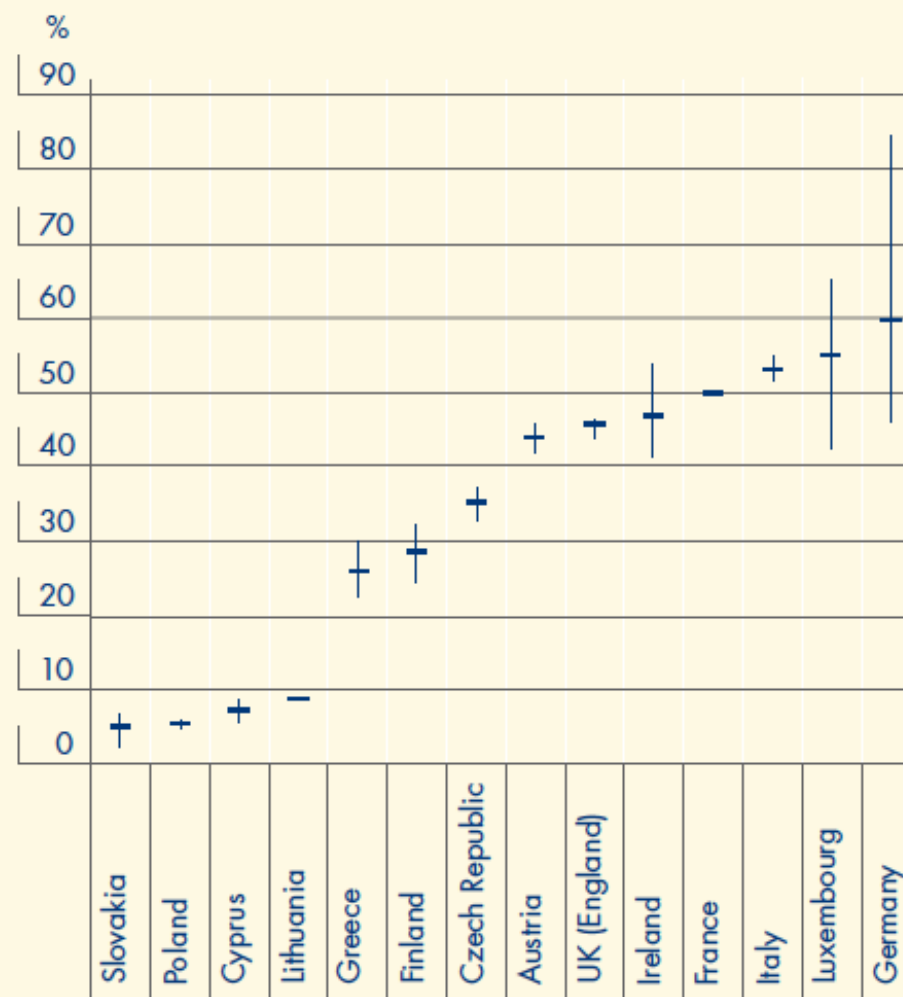
Cocaine

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Responding to drug problems



Treatment access: barriers and challenges



Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
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New drugs and
the Internet

**Responding to
drug problems**

Limited number of providers, restrictive admission criteria, costs, opening hours, etc.

Pharmacological treatment for stimulant use

Economic austerity: more needs and fewer resources?



Harm reduction

Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and
the Internet

**Responding to
drug problems**



Increases in syringe provision in most countries

Drug consumption rooms

Overdose prevention with 'take-home' doses of
naloxone in some countries

Peers/drug users involved in service provision



Prisons (situation)



Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

Ecstasy and
amphetamines

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New drugs and
the Internet

**Responding to
drug problems**

600 000 people in penal institutions in the EU

Reports of 10–30 % incarcerated because of drug law offences

Drug use prevalence much higher than among the general population

Increased overdose risk after prison release



Prisons (responses)

Heroin and
injecting

Cocaine

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amphetamines

Cannabis

New drugs and
the internet

**Responding to
drug problems**



Entitlement to same services as in the community

Some countries recognise the need to develop specific strategies and interventions

Transfer of prison health to Ministries of Health;
integration of drugs or health services in prison

Development of specific standards



Proportion of prison population receiving opioid substitution treatment

Heroin and
injecting

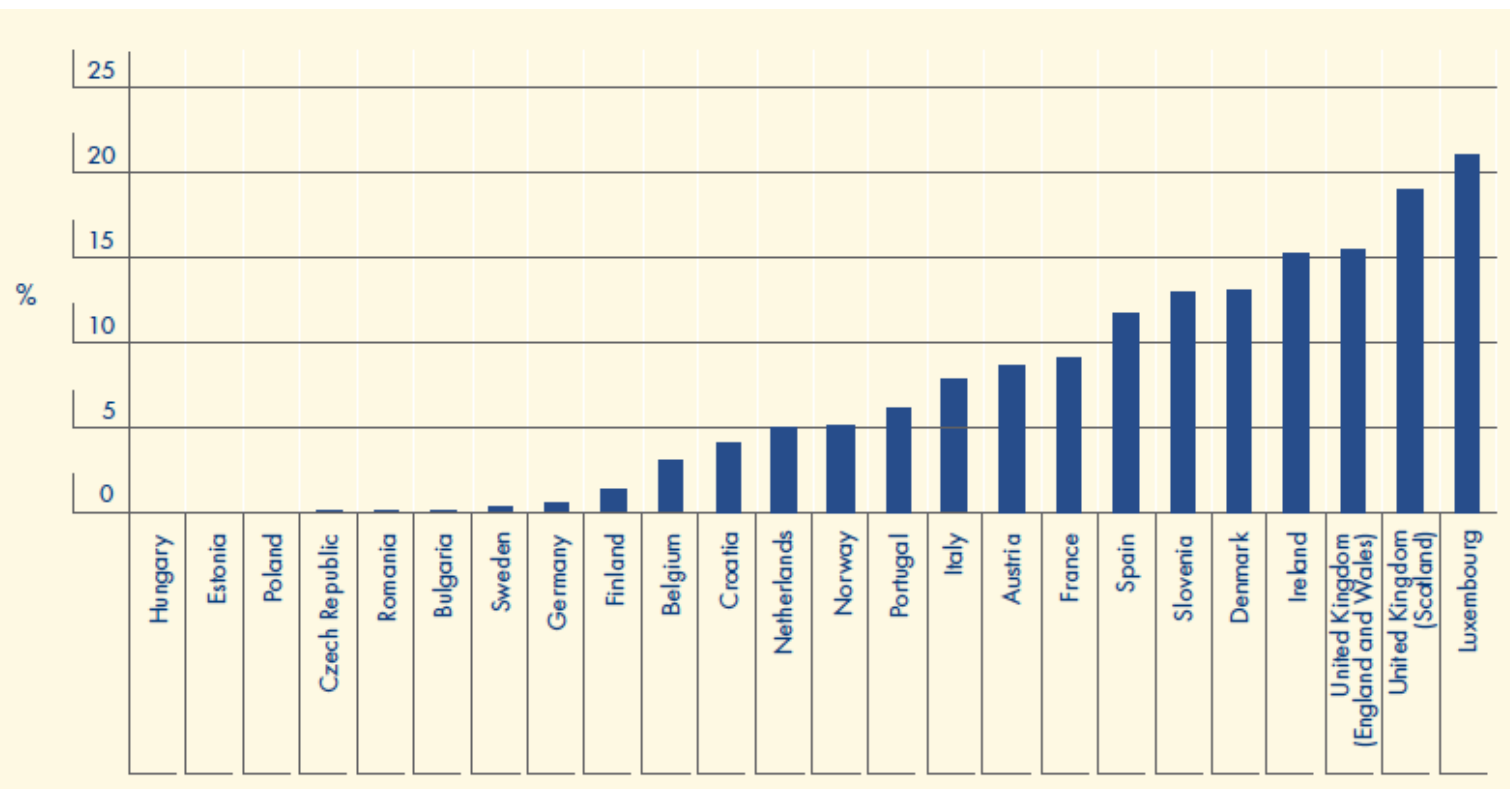
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**Responding to
drug problems**



Conclusion 2010

- Drug use in Europe is overall stable, but with regional variations
- Changes in the supply and use of established drugs and the emergence of a record number of new substances test Europe's drug control models
- Europe's response to drug problems has increased in the last decades, will it decrease with economic austerity?
- Over 1 million drug users a year in treatment, but considerable challenges remain
- There is still progress to be made in several areas (prevention, treatment, prisons)





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Thank you very much

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