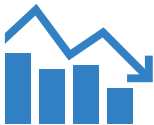


Key judgements



Large seizures of methylamphetamine have a demonstrable impact on methylamphetamine consumption in Australia, particularly in capital city markets. The impact of seizures on consumption is not immediate, usually lasts only two to four months, and is specific to particular geographic locations.



Supply reduction is unlikely to be the only contributing factor to fluctuations in Australia's methylamphetamine markets. Nonetheless, available data demonstrate statistically significant decreases in consumption—both over time and across jurisdictions—following multi-hundred-kilogram seizures.



Domestic production of methylamphetamine in clandestine laboratories is a critical factor which contributes to the resilience of Australia's market. The scale of domestic production is likely higher than previously understood, counters the impact of national and international methylamphetamine seizures (to an extent) and—given regional consumption trends—supports regional (and potentially capital city) methylamphetamine consumption.



At a national level, supply reduction is most effective when directed towards disrupting the 'wholesale' methylamphetamine market, given large individual seizures appear to have greater impact on consumption than multiple smaller seizures. However, addressing methylamphetamine consumption long-term requires a concurrent and equivalent focus on demand and harm reduction activities, complementing supply-side efforts.