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15 March 2022

# KEY FINDINGS—NORTHERN TERRITORY

## National Wastewater Drug Monitoring Program—Report 15

The Program found that, compared to April 2021, of the substances tested in August 2021 in the Northern Territory:

- There were 2 sites monitored in the Northern Territory in August 2021—one capital city site and one regional site.
- Average alcohol consumption increased in both the capital city and regional site.
- Average nicotine consumption increased in the capital city site and decreased in the regional site.
- Average methylamphetamine consumption decreased in both the capital city and regional sites.
- Average cocaine consumption decreased in the capital city site and increased in the regional site.
- Average MDMA consumption increased in both the capital city and regional sites.
- Average MDA excretion increased in both the capital city and regional site.
- Average heroin consumption decreased in the capital city site and regional site.
- Average oxycodone consumption decreased in both the capital city and regional site. In August 2021 there was record low oxycodone consumption in the regional site.
- Average fentanyl consumption decreased in the capital city and regional sites.
- Average cannabis consumption increased in the capital city and regional sites. Average regional consumption in August 2021 was the highest on record.
- Average ketamine excretion increased in the capital city and regional sites.

### National comparison—August 2021:

- The Northern Territory continued to have the highest average capital city and regional consumption of alcohol and nicotine.

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- The Northern Territory had the highest average capital city and regional consumption of MDMA.
- The Northern Territory had the highest average capital city and second highest regional excretion of MDA.
- The Northern Territory had the highest average capital city and regional consumption of cannabis.
- The Northern Territory had the highest average capital city excretion of ketamine.

**NOTE:** With only 2 participating testing sites for the whole Territory, results may not be representative of the Territory as a whole, although they cover around 25 per cent of the population.

### Note to editors

In accordance with current wastewater analysis conventions, the terms of the contract, and to protect the integrity of the program, the exact locations are not able to be publicly released by the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission. To maintain the confidentiality of the participating site, each site was allocated a unique code to de-identify their results, however trends in particular states and territories are still able to be identified.

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