Drug use in Serbia, results of the first general population survey in 2014 according to the EMCDDA methodology

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Background

* National Survey on Lifestyles of citizens in Serbia
* Institute of Public Health of Serbia
* EMCDDA (expert support, field study)
* Twinning project (expert and administrative support, printing)
Cross-sectional survey on a representative sample of the adult population of the Republic of Serbia

The target population - inhabitants of the Republic of Serbia aged 18-64 years

Exclusion criteria

- People living in prison or other institutions such as hospitals, therapeutic communities, orphanages, nursing home
- Homeless and people living in illegal settlements were also not covered.
Two variables were used for the stratification and estimation of the sample size and its structure so that the sample was stratified in two dimensions:

- according to 4 geo-economical strata used by the Serbian Statistical Office: (1) Belgrade, (2) Vojvodina, (3) Šumadija and Western Serbia, (4) Southern and Eastern Serbia,

- urban/rural type of population
The probabilistic sampling strategy using multi-stage cluster sampling design was employed.

* In a first step, small territorial units were randomly selected with probabilities proportional to the population size.

* Next the households were randomly selected within each unit – the national household register was used as sample frame.

* The last stage was the random selection of the respondent within the household using Kish grid.
Representative Sample, Expected Sample and Booster Sample by age groups

Representative sample N= 3 848, 49.0% male, 51.0% female (expected 49.7% male, 50.3 female)
Booster sample N= 1537, 48.1% male, 51.9% female (expected 51.1% male, 48.9% female)
The questionnaire was developed on the basis of the EMCDDA EMQ
* SMART
* SMART project outcomes concerning alcohol issues including BSQF technique and RAPS tool,
* Kessler Psychological Distress Scale (6 items) for mental health issues
* Cannabis abuse screening test – CAST
* Apart from substance abuse, the questionnaire includes a gambling section with Problem Gambling Screening Index and Lie/bet screen
Questionnaire II

Questionnaire included following sections:

- Introductory section (warming up) about level of satisfaction with various aspects of everyday life and ranking of problems in the Serbian society
- Tobacco and electronic cigarettes
- Alcohol consumption and attitude toward alcohol
- Use of psychoactive medicines
- Illicit drug use and availability
- New psychoactive substances - use and availability
- Gambling
- Opinions on drug use and related risk
- Mental health assessment
- Data for the benchmark method of estimating the number of problem drug users (setting up multipliers)
- Socio-demographic section

357 items for respondents, plus 54 additional items for interviewers to describe non-respondents and respondents
Opinions about social problems and alcohol policy measures in Serbia

* The purpose of the question is the assessment of the importance of various social problems in Serbia and how the alcohol and drug problems are located in the ranking of problems.
* Respondents were asked for assessing importance of each of 17 problems presented in the questionnaire on the 5 point scale from very important to unimportant.
* Summarizing psychoactive substance use seems to be recognised as not one of the most important problem. Among substances drug addiction is seen as more important than alcohol, although it is less prevalent. Tobacco smoking is at the end of ranking.
Assessment of importance of selected problems in Serbia, GPS 2014

- Decrease of standard of living: 79.2%
- Violence and aggressions in society: 63.7%
- Mental health problems of society: 52.9%
- Moral crisis in the society: 56.6%
- Discrimination of vulnerable groups (homeless...): 44.1%
- Poverty: 79.4%
- Drug addiction: 71.2%
- Political problems: 52.6%
- Crime: 74.2%
- Unemployment: 86.9%
- Tobacco smoking: 51%
- Alcohol drinking by youth: 66.3%
- Bad health conditions of society: 65%
- Corruption: 72.1%
- Alcoholism: 62.4%
- Environment pollution: 58.6%
- Violence in family: 65.8%

Legend:
- Unimportant
- Rather unimportant
- Neither important nor unimportant
- Rather important
- Important
Key findings – legal PAS

* Alcohol had been consumed by a total of 72.2% of the adult respondents in the last 12 months (82.1% of the men and 62.4% of the women)
* The lifetime use of tobacco in the form of cigarettes, cigars or pipes was reported by 64.5% of the respondents in the age 18–64
* 40.2% of the individuals had smoked tobacco in the last 30 days (44.3% of the men and 36.2% of the women).
* Electronic cigarettes were ever used by 9.6 respondents
* Daily use of electronic cigarette is 1.0%, occasionally 1.4%
GPS 2014
Age of first use and onset of daily smoking (median)

- At what age did you smoke first cigarettes or other tobacco product like cigars or a pipe?
- At what age did you start smoking tobacco, such as cigarettes, cigars or a pipe daily?
New psychoactive substances (legal and herbal highs)

Hallucinogenic mushrooms

LSD

Heroin

Home-made opiate extraction from poppy (so...

Inhalants

Amphetamines

Cocaine

Ecstasy

Any illicit drug except cannabis

Any illicit drug*

* Includes cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines, cocaine, heroin, home-made opiate extraction from poppy (poppy tea), LSD and magic mushrooms.
Lifetime prevalence of substance use among total population and young adults

Includes cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines, cocaine, heroin, home-made opiate extraction from poppy (poppy tea), LSD and magic mushrooms.

- Any illicit drug*
- Cannabis
- Any illicit drug except cannabis
- Ecstasy
- Cocaine
- Amphetamines
- Inhalants
- Home-made opiate extraction from poppy
- Heroin
- LSD
- Hallucinogenic mushrooms
- New psychoactive substances

18-64 years  18-34 years

Includes cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines, cocaine, heroin, home-made opiate extraction from poppy (poppy tea), LSD and magic mushrooms.
Last year and last month prevalence of substance use

- Sedatives: LYP male 13.9% and female 30.9%
- All other substances: LYP and LMP less than 0.1

![Bar chart showing prevalence of substance use](chart.png)

- Medication – sedatives, hypnotics: LYP male 14.6%, LMP male 22.4%
- Medication – opioids: LYP male 5.1%
- Cannabis: LYP male 1.6%, LMP male 0.8%
- Any illicit drug except cannabis: LYP male 0.4%
- Any illicit drug*: LYP male 1.7%

*Sedatives LYP male 13.9% and female 30.9%
All other substances – LYP and LMP less than 0.1
Among recent (last 12 months) cannabis users, majority are men (80%) and young adults aged 18–34 (73%)
A total of 36.4% of the adult population (40.9% of the men and 32.0% of the women) reported regular daily smoking in the last month.

Binge drinking (drinking of 60 grams and more) at least once a week or more frequently during the last 12 months was reported by a total of 3.7% of the respondents (6.7% of the men and 0.6% of the women).

Daily use of sedatives and hypnotics was reported by 4.4% of adult population (2.2% among men and 6.6% among women) with majority of being occurred in the age above 34 years.
Problematic patterns of cannabis use are less frequent in the Serbian population and thus estimates might not be reliable.

Problematic cannabis use in the last 12 months as measured by CAST (2 or more positive answers on the CAST scale, binary option) was observed among 0.5% of adult population (0.8% among men and 0.1% among women) with the higher prevalence among young adults aged 18–34 (0.8%)

This corresponds to 14–28 thousand people, approximately half of them aged 18–34
Daily use of sedatives, hypnotics in the last 30 days

Problematic cannabis use (CAST 2+) in the last 12 months

Cannabis daily or almost daily (20 and more days in the last month)

Ever injecting illicit drug

Males

Females

Intensive and problematic forms of substance use by gender
2 types of questions:

1. ‘How many members of your extended family (parents, children, grandparents, grandchildren’s, brothers, sisters, cousins) are living in Serbia?’ and a similar question ‘How many people do you recognize as your neighbours?,

2. ‘How many of them are drug addicts?’ and modified questions on heroin users and injecting drug users.

* For controlling the bias: question on number of newborns in family or neighborhood (0.93% in Serbia in 2012)
## Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Sum</th>
<th>Proportion (%)</th>
<th>Proportion in population 15-64* (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How many members of your close family who live in Serbia are you close with and keep in touch?</td>
<td>5385</td>
<td>98056</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many of them were born during the last 12 months?</td>
<td>5358</td>
<td>3305</td>
<td>3.371</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many of your close family are drug addicts (people who use regularly drugs and experience problems because of it)?</td>
<td>5359</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>0.168</td>
<td>0.246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many of your close family are heroin addicts (people who use regularly heroin and experience problems because of it)?</td>
<td>5359</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0.051</td>
<td>0.075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many of your close family are injecting drug addicts (people who inject regularly drugs and experience problems because of it)</td>
<td>5359</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0.037</td>
<td>0.054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Sum</td>
<td>Proportion (%)</td>
<td>Proportion in population 15-64* (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many people do you recognize as your neighbours?</td>
<td>5384</td>
<td>56294</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many of them were born during the last 12 months?</td>
<td>4897</td>
<td>1616</td>
<td>2.871</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many of your neighbours are drug addicts (people who use regularly drugs and experience problems because of it)?</td>
<td>4897</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>0.441</td>
<td>0.645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many of your neighbours are heroin addicts (people who use regularly heroin and experience problems because of it)?</td>
<td>4897</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>0.162</td>
<td>0.237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many of your neighbours are injecting drug addicts (people who inject regularly drugs and experience problems because of it)</td>
<td>4897</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>0.133</td>
<td>0.195</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Estimates: "population prevalence rate" method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of users</th>
<th>Central</th>
<th>95% CI: low</th>
<th>95% CI: high</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Based on rates among family members</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug addicts</td>
<td>12100</td>
<td>11000</td>
<td>13100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin users</td>
<td>3700</td>
<td>3100</td>
<td>4200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injecting drug users</td>
<td>2639</td>
<td>2280</td>
<td>2997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Based on rates among neighbours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug addicts</td>
<td>31700</td>
<td>29900</td>
<td>33400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin users</td>
<td>11600</td>
<td>10600</td>
<td>12700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injecting drug users</td>
<td>9600</td>
<td>8700</td>
<td>10500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Method 2: Multiplier method

* Respondent was asked whether ‘knows personally any drug addict living in Serbia (people who use regularly drugs and experience problems)’ and if YES, then
* nomination form with questions on involvement into 4 different sources (benchmarks):
  * inpatient treatment
  * substitution treatment
  * contact with needle and syringe programs
  * death due to overdose within the last 12 months
## Nomination of IDUs and heroin users

### IDUs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Count</td>
<td>% within Gender</td>
<td>Count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;19</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>45.4%</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>43.1%</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40+</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Heroin users

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Count</td>
<td>% within Gender</td>
<td>Count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>41.6%</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>49.4%</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40+</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>815</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Heroin users

Based on 2014 General Population Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proportion of known drug addicts</th>
<th>N (excluding missing)</th>
<th>Multiplier</th>
<th>95% CI: low</th>
<th>95% CI: high</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treated in inpatient drug treatment facility in the last 12 months</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>51.5%</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>55.3%</td>
<td>Inpatients with primary drug opiates in 2012</td>
<td>1306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treated in substitution treatment (e.g. methadone) for heroin addiction in the last 12 months</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>43.7%</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>48.5%</td>
<td>Clients in OST in 2013</td>
<td>2460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used syringe and needle exchange facilities in the last 12 months</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>Clients in NEPs in 2013</td>
<td>4285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Died due to drug overdose in the last 12 months</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>Deceased persons due to overdose by opiates and unspecified drugs</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### IDUs

**Based on 2014 General Population Survey**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proportion of known drug addicts</th>
<th>N (excluding missing)</th>
<th>Multiplier</th>
<th>95% CI: low</th>
<th>95% CI: high</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treated in inpatient drug treatment facility in the last 12 months</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>49.4%</td>
<td>45.4%</td>
<td>53.4%</td>
<td>Inpatients with primary drug opiates in 2012</td>
<td>1306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treated in substitution treatment (e.g. methadone) for heroin addiction in the last 12 months</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>39.2%</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>44.1%</td>
<td>Clients in OST in 2013</td>
<td>2460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used syringe and needle exchange facilities in the last 12 months</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>26.4%</td>
<td>Clients in NEPs in 2013</td>
<td>4285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Died due to drug overdose in the last 12 months</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>Deceased persons due to overdose by opiates and unspecified drugs</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Estimates: Multiplier method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmarks</th>
<th>Central</th>
<th>95% CI: low</th>
<th>95% CI: high</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Heroin users</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inpatients with primary drug opiates in 2012</td>
<td>2535</td>
<td>2360</td>
<td>2738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clients in OST in 2013</td>
<td>5627</td>
<td>5072</td>
<td>6317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clients in NEPs in 2013</td>
<td>18568</td>
<td>14966</td>
<td>24455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal overdoses by opiates and unspecified drugs in 2012</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Injecting drug users</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inpatients with primary drug opiates in 2012</td>
<td>2643</td>
<td>2445</td>
<td>2874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clients in OST in 2013</td>
<td>6269</td>
<td>5584</td>
<td>7146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clients in NEPs in 2013</td>
<td>20473</td>
<td>16251</td>
<td>27659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal overdoses by opiates and unspecified drugs in 2012</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>519</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* It can be assumed that results based on rates among family members are rather underestimated due to the negative perception of drug use in a society and reluctance to admit drug problem in the close family
* Reasons for overestimation of birth-rate are unclear (although for children up to 3 years birthrate fits)
* It is obvious that mortality rate was overestimated by respondents (approx. 10-fold)
* Proportion of hospitalised users might be overestimated since all kind of hospitalisation could be reported
* The same is likely for substitution treatment
A perceived availability of individual drugs corresponds with their prevalence rates – those drugs which are used more frequently are more available according to respondents. Proportion of respondents who reported rather easy and easy access to respective drugs within 24 hours was the highest in cannabis (29%)
Perceived availability of drugs in 2014 GPS (sum of answers 'rather easy' and 'easy' to the question 'How difficult or easy would be for you personally to get the drug within 24 hours, if you wished to?'), in % (N=5385)

- Cannabis: 29%
- Ecstasy: 16%
- Amphetamines: 12%
- Cocaine: 11%
- Heroin: 11%
- LSD or hallucinogenic mushrooms: 7%
- New psychoactive substances: 6%

Offered answers were: Impossible, Difficult, Neither easy nor difficult, Rather easy, Easy.
Proportion of respondents who reported being offered with respective drugs in Serbia within 12 months is relatively small, the highest proportion was found in cannabis (4%) and for ecstasy (1%).

For other drugs less than 1%
The way how respondents obtained cannabis last time when they used it (among those who used it within the last 12 months)

- Given for free or shared: 73.6%
- Sold: 16.9%
- Other: 9.5%
Attitudes towards drug use and drug users

Gender: Male, Female
Age group: 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64

Don’t know, cannot decide
Neither as criminal nor as patient
Both as criminal and as patient
More as a patient
More as a criminal

Total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>25-34</th>
<th>35-44</th>
<th>45-54</th>
<th>55-64</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Don’t know, cannot decide
Neither as criminal nor as patient
Both as criminal and as patient
More as a patient
More as a criminal

Total
Majority of respondents rather or fully disagree with the statement that people should be allowed to use cannabis or heroin – 84.5% and 95.5%.

The level of disagreement is higher in females and is increasing with age. While level of disagreement with heroin use is very high in all categories, in cannabis the disagreement is significantly lower in younger categories.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>Cannabis - rather or fully disagree</th>
<th>Heroin - rather or fully disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>81.3</td>
<td>94.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>87.7</td>
<td>96.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>94.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>80.3</td>
<td>95.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>82.0</td>
<td>95.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>87.6</td>
<td>95.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>92.1</td>
<td>96.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>95.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Serbian society has very different levels of acceptance with different patterns of substance use. While regular heavy alcohol use is widely accepted and regular daily smoking is accepted by approximately half of the population, occasional patterns of illicit drugs use is widely condemned. Level of unacceptance is higher in females and in older age groups.

The perception of health harms related to selected patterns of different substances use is similar – regular heavy use of alcohol or tobacco is perceived much less harmful than regular use of cannabis or accessional use of ecstasy and cocaine.
The condemnation with selected patterns of substance use by levels of condemnation

- Smoking marijuana or hashish occasionally:
  - I do not condemn: 13.5%
  - I rather condemn: 15.4%
  - I condemn: 71.0%

- Having one or two drinks several times a week:
  - I do not condemn: 63.7%
  - I rather condemn: 16.5%
  - I condemn: 19.8%

- Smoking 10 or more cigarettes a day:
  - I do not condemn: 47.4%
  - I rather condemn: 22.8%
  - I condemn: 29.8%

- Trying heroin once or twice:
  - I do not condemn: 8.4%
  - I rather condemn: 11.7%
  - I condemn: 79.8%

- Trying ecstasy once or twice:
  - I do not condemn: 12.7%
  - I rather condemn: 14.6%
  - I condemn: 72.7%
Perceived health harms of selected patterns of substance use

- Try cocaine or crack once or twice: 3.4% no risk, 9.1% slight risk, 86.5% great risk
- Try ecstasy once or twice: 4.8% no risk, 13.1% slight risk, 80.9% great risk
- Smoke marijuana or hashish regularly: 10.2% no risk, 2.6% slight risk, 86.4% great risk
- Have five or more drinks each weekend: 19.4% no risk, 33.3% slight risk, 40.7% great risk
- Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day: 9.6% no risk, 21.9% slight risk, 66.5% great risk
By far the most prevalent gambling activity in Serbia is lottery (lotto, bingo, scratch ticket) – 54.6% of the adult population have ever gambled some form of lottery, 31.4% of them in the last year and 17.3% in the last months.

Sport betting was the second most prevalent with 17.2% of the population gaming it during lifetime, 13.1% and 10.0% in the last year and in the last months.

Other forms of gambling are less prevalent, slot machines with lifetime prevalence of 5.5% is the third most prevalent form of gambling activity.
In total 3.7% of adult Serbian population is in some level of risk of problem gambling, 1.1–2.0% of them are in moderate and higher risk of problem gambling (problem gamblers), of them 0.3–0.7% in the high risk (pathological gambling).

In the highest risk of problem gambling are gamblers of casino games, slot machines and gamblers on-line – approximately 50% of those who gambled those games in the last 12 months are in some level of risk of problem gambling.
Prevalence of problem forms of gambling in the whole population and young adults

- **Low risk of gambling (PGSI 1–2)**
  - Total population: 1.9
  - Young adults: 2.8
- **Moderate risk of gambling (PGSI 3–7): problem gambling**
  - Total population: 1.7
  - Young adults: 1.9
- **High risk of gambling (PGSI 8+): pathological gambling**
  - Total population: 0.6
  - Young adults: 0.5
- **Problem plus pathological gambling (PGSI 3+)**
  - Total population: 1.9
  - Young adults: 2.4
- **Problem plus pathological gambling (Lie/bet 1+)**
  - Total population: 1.4
  - Young adults: 1.7

Total population
Young adults
Mental health

- Psychological distress as measured by Kessler-6 screening tool is present in some form in 20% of adult population, in 5.8% the mood and anxiety disorders can be assessed as serious.
- The level of psychological distress is higher in some subgroups of substance users or gamblers – for example among daily users of sedatives, 54.4% are in some level of psychological distress.
- The high level of distress can be observed also among cannabis users or casino and slot machine gamblers.
Level of psychological distress (mood and anxiety disorders) in the total sample and subgroups of substance users and gamblers (%)
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION