The Global Drug Survey
What’s next in drug use?

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KABS VIDEN – STOFMISBRUG 2017, March 14th – 15th, Vejle
OVERVIEW

Part I  What is Global Drug Survey (GDS) and why do hundreds of thousands of people bother helping us?

Part II  What have we learned from GDS about substance use behavior across the world and specifically in Denmark?
One of the things our grandchildren will find quaintest about us is that we distinguish the digital from the real, the virtual from the real.

William Gibson
GDS aims to make drug use safer regardless of the legal status of the drugs by sharing information with individuals, communities, health and policy organisations and government.
Global Drug Survey 2017

- 10 languages
- 22 media partners and > 40 countries

- Drug Screen > 150 substances
- Frequency of use & usual amount used
- Price, source of supply, emergency visits
- Intention to reduce use +/- help

- **NEW:** Psychedelics, cannabis regulation, medical cannabis use, vaping, cognitive enhancement, encountering police
PREVIEW GDS2017
DENMARK
> 14,000
Drugs and alcohol: the secret life of us

Extinct frog hops back into the game

Current users

If there was no penalty for use, I would...

- use more of the illegal drugs that I already use: 15%
- use the same drugs in same quantities: 36%
- probably use a wider range of drugs: 25%
- be more comfortable about disclosing drug use to friends/family: 47%
- be more comfortable about seeking help/advice for drug use: 61%

The hidden problem of middle-class drinking

I grew up thinking if I didn’t drink, I’d be really boring

Yes, those ones knit!
Die Schweiz, das Land der Trinker und Kiffer
von Marco Lüssi - 65 Prozent haben schon gekifft, jeder Vierte hat Kokain oder Ecstasy konsumiert: Dies ist das Ergebnis einer Umfrage, an der 5000 Personen der Schweiz teilgenommen haben.

Drug tests on the rise for workers

Risky drinkers in denial, survey finds

Global Drug Survey 2014: UK has the most delusional drinkers
A high number of Britons also didn't realise their level of drinking was potentially dangerous

Kiwis taking to 'hillbilly heroin'
Last updated 05:00 15/04/2014
SHANE COWLISHAW
BACKGROUND

Peer-reviewed publications

2. Freeman TP, Winstock Examining the profile of high potency cannabis and its associations with severity of dependence *Psychol Medicine* 2015
9. Barratt MJ, Ferris JA, Winstock AR The use of the Silk road, the online drug market place, in the UK, Australia and the USA. *Addiction* 2014
10. Winstock AR, Barratt MJ Synthetic cannabis comparison of patterns of use an effect profiles with natural cannabis *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 2013
BACKGROUND

GDS data are used to create health apps

GET FREE APPS AND ADVICE TO MAKE DRUG USE SAFER

REGARDLESS OF THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE DRUG
Drinksmeter.com

**BACKGROUND**

The Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) is designed by the World Health Organisation to detect harmful drinking in 10 questions.

- **Pint 568ml**
  - Alcohol by volume (average): 4.5%
  - How many?: 3

Remember my drink for next time? (Tick here if you usually drink the same type of drink each day)

**ADD DRINKS**

Your usage counts as MEDIUM RISK. If you continued at this level, your drinking is associated with increased risks of depression, high blood pressure, sleep problems, reduced energy and concentration, reduced fertility, impotence and weight gain (alcohol is very high in calories).
We run the world’s largest drug survey

- GDS2012  15,500
- GDS2013  22,000
- GDS2014  77,000
- GDS2015  95,000
- GDS2016  100,000

- GDS2017  120,000+
GDS Core Team

+ Senior Academic Mentor Group
+ Scientific Advisory Group
+ International Network
Strengths and limitations of the GDS

- Acceptance among recreational drug users (≠ HH surveys)
- **Data triangulation** (e.g., seizures, wastewater, drug checking)
- Profile **new drugs** quickly (e.g., Mephedrone, DMT, 1P-LSD)
- Identify **regional** differences
- **Real time** research
- **Independent**

- Not representative
- Mostly well-educated young adults
Danish GDS participants

- GDS2014 = 1630 22.4%
- GDS2015 = 448 26.1%
- GDS2016 = 296 40.3%

- < 8% without any exercise
- < 13% clubbing at least 1x/week
- Ca. 27% daily tobacco users
- < 8% daily cannabis users
- < 4% daily alcohol
- Ca. 20% no illegal drugs last year
MDMA (ecstasy) & cocaine

- Return of high-quality MDMA since 2011
- 62.5% of Danish people who use pills take 1-2x/year
- 22.5% of Danish people who use pills take 1x/2months
- **MDMA powder** is more prevalent

- < 6% weekly cocaine use
- 13 lines per gram cocaine
- 36.0% would like to use less next year
- Only 2 people (6.3%) aim to seek help
12-month illegal drug use Denmark

GDS2014/2015/2016

- Cannabis
- MDMA pills
- MDMA powder
- Cocaine
- Amphetamine
- Psilocybin
- LSD
- Ketamine
Synthetic cannabinoids last 12 months

- Hungary: 3.6%
- Scotland: 3.2%
- France: 2.5%
- United Kingdom: 2.3%
- Ireland: 2.1%
- Brazil: 1.7%
- Germany: 1.6%
- Austria: 1.5%
- United States: 1.4%
- Australia: 1.3%
- Sweden: 1.3%
- Poland: 1.3%
- Colombia: 1.1%
- Canada: 1.1%
- Italy: 1.0%
- New Zealand: 0.9%
- Belgium: 0.8%
- Spain: 0.6%
- Portugal: 0.6%
- Norway: 0.5%
- Netherlands: 0.5%
- Switzerland: 0.4%

70% joint with tobacco
24% bong/water pipe
3% vaporiser
2% vape pen
1% orally
NPS use in the last 12 months

GDS2015/2016

Impact NPS ban?

>10%
3% Cannabis → synth. cannabis
10% Cocaine → synth. stimulant
11% Psilocybin → synth. hallucinogen
16% MDMA → synth. variant
Have you bought drugs off the darknet?

In 2015, 6.7% reported darknet use (+2.7% longer ago)
Darknet market use last 12 months

GDS2014/2015/2016

Portugal  Denmark  Sweden
In 2016, 63% reported accessing more than one drug type.
### Warnung: extrem hochdosierte XTC‘s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rolex</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gewicht</td>
<td>372.1 mg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Durchmesser</td>
<td>10.1 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dicke</td>
<td>4.8 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bruchrille</td>
<td>Ja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farbe</td>
<td>Grün</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inhaltsstoffe</td>
<td><strong>MDMA•HCl: 214.5 mg</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Getestet in</td>
<td>Zürich (DIZ), 14. Februar 2017</td>
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### Warnung: extrem hochdosierte XTC‘s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Vodafone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gewicht</td>
<td>416.2 mg</td>
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<td>Grösse</td>
<td>7.4 x 11.1 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dicke</td>
<td>4.2 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bruchrille</td>
<td>Nein</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farbe</td>
<td>Hellgelb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inhaltsstoffe</td>
<td><strong>MDMA•HCl: 218.4 mg</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getestet in</td>
<td>Zürich (Mobil), 11. Februar 2017</td>
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</table>
Emergency medical treatment

GDS2016

EMT with any substance 2.1%
Danish GDS participants use more MDMA powder than pills and snort it.

Polydrug use is common among young recreational drug users.

Psilocybin is the psychedelic of choice

1/10 used the darknet, mainly to buy MDMA, cannabis and NPS.

Global Drug Survey findings support the risk assessment of new drugs.
CONCLUSIONS

Triangulation: data from multiple sources
Jani Leinonen, ARoS Art Museum, Aarhus
Identity development during adolescence is a big challenge for youth...
...throughout the lifespan, most people learn how to cope with stress, how to get a thick skin...

Knuthenborg Safaripark, Maribo
...and well, sometimes people feel blue what can be one of many reasons for substance use...
...but there is always light at the end of the path; problems disappear and new insights are gained...

Your Rainbow Panorama, AROs Art Museum, Aarhus
...however, everyone needs to relax without being afraid of the time recovery might take...

Moens Klint, Insel Moen
...so, we just always need to know and be honest about where our home is to find peace...

Slot Egeskov
...and even when living in a lively city with no time to rest, we should take a little time to reflect...
...to improve our (health) behavior as well as our understanding of local markets and policies...
...to finally be aware that we have to stand together to provide support for those in need.
Global Drug Survey

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