

## QUARTER 3 SUMMARY SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2025

(Data captured from NZ Police Q3 Wastewater results released December 2025, and Annual NZ Drugs Trend Survey released January 2026)

### Methamphetamine

#### Q3 Wastewater

- Methamphetamine use increased in Q3 2025, averaging 30.8kg per week.
- Equates to an estimated weekly social harm cost of \$32.3 million.

#### Annual 2025 Survey

- Substantial decrease in price from \$563/gram (2017) to \$334/gram (2025).
- Biggest declines in prices were in the South Island reflects growing price competition.

### MDMA

#### Q3 Wastewater

- MDMA use increased in Q3 2025, averaging an estimated 7.6kg per week.
- This was 8% (or 0.5 kilograms) above the average quantity consumed over the previous four quarters.

### Cocaine

#### Q3 Wastewater

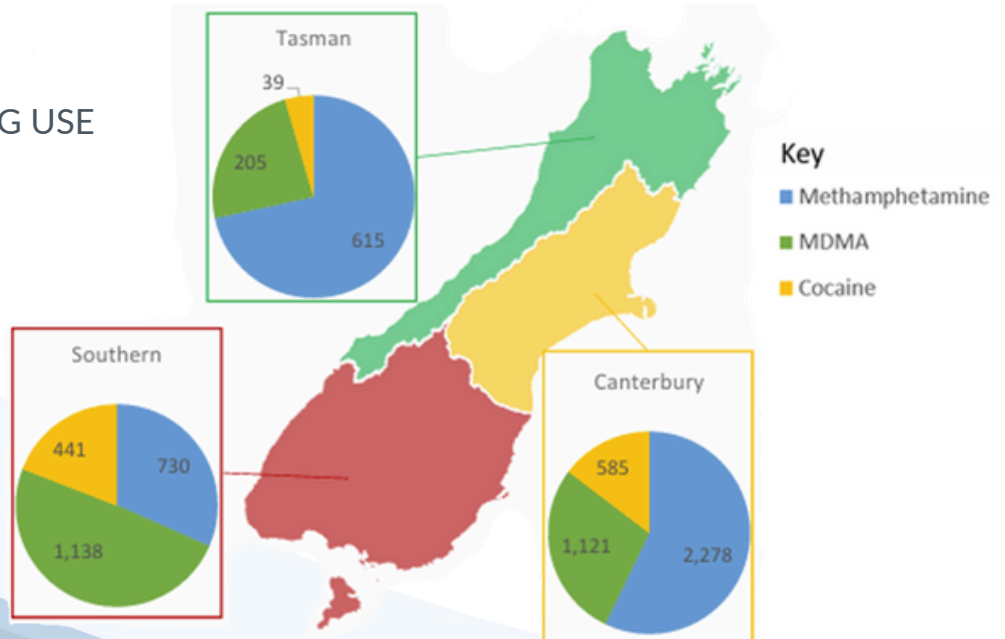
- Cocaine use increased in Q3 2025, averaging an estimated 6.4kg per week. This was 43% (or 1.9 kilograms) above the average over the previous four quarters. In addition, all districts recorded above average use compared with previous four quarters.
- Equates to an estimated weekly social harm cost of \$2.4 million.

#### Annual 2025 Survey

- Overall Cocaine supply and use continue to grow, with increased availability and weekly use.
- It is disproportionately used in higher income groups.

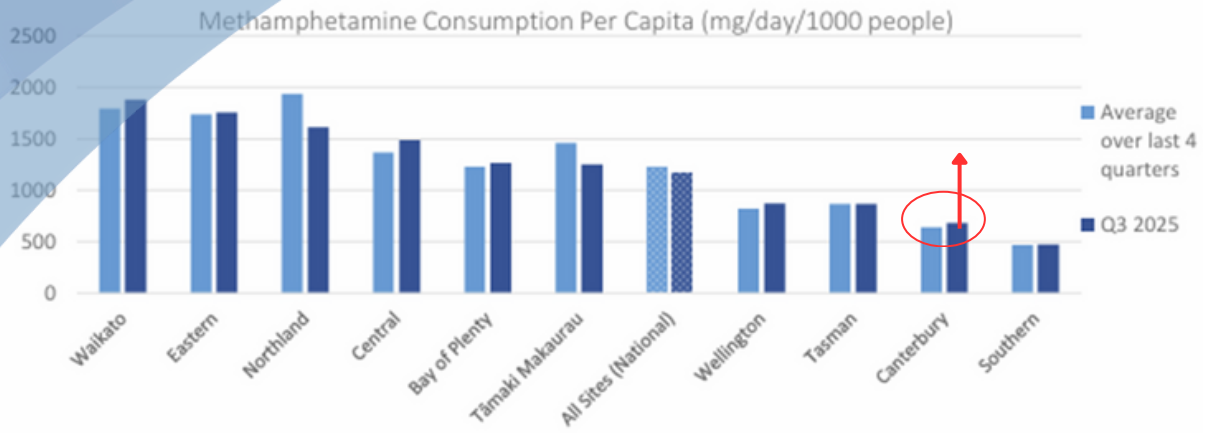
## AT A GLANCE - USAGE:

### AVERAGE WEEKLY DRUG USE BY DISTRICT Q3 2025 (GRAMS)

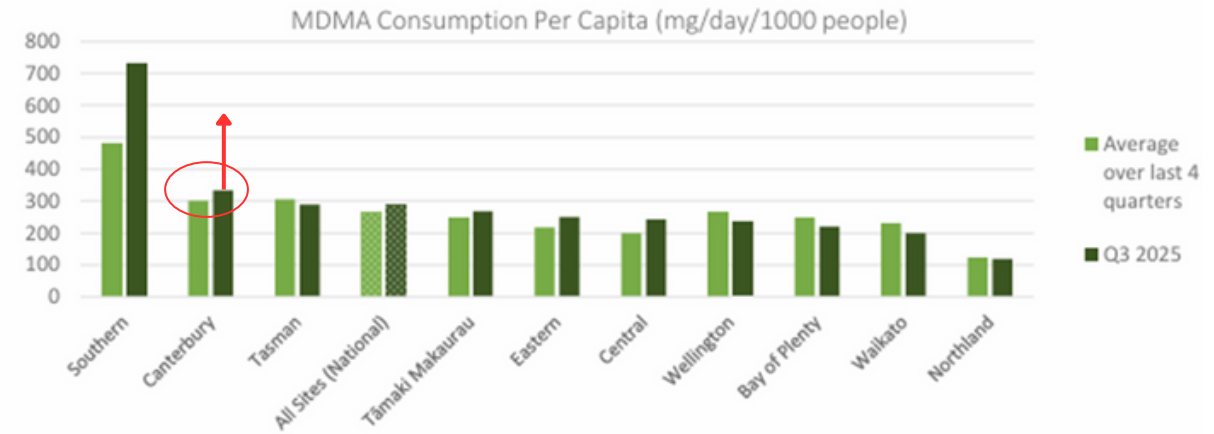


# PER CAPITA DRUG CONSUMPTION BY DISTRICT Q3 2025

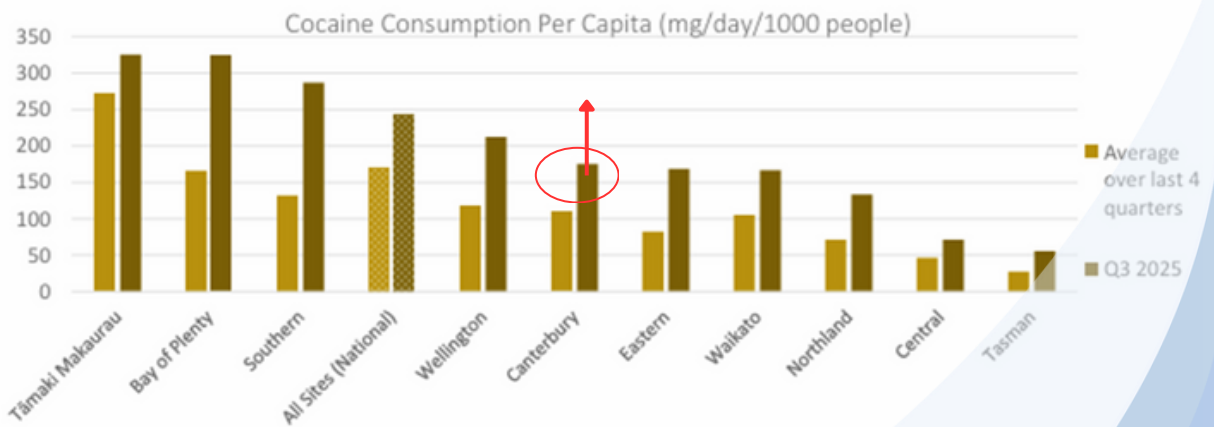
## Methamphetamine



## MDMA



## Cocaine

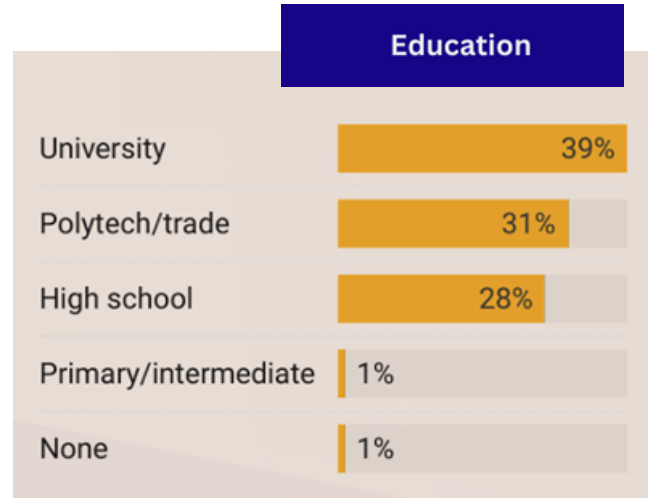


# DEMOGRAPHICS SNAPSHOTS:

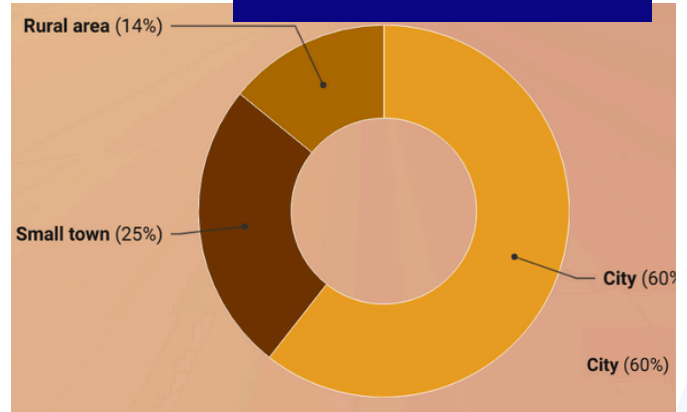
## Demographic attributes of NZDTS respondents who used meth in the past 6 months, 2025

Ethnicity	
European	61%
Māori	31%
Pasifika	4%
Asian	1%
Middle Eastern, Latin American, African	1%
Other	2%
Gender	
Male	56%
Female	42%
Gender non-binary	3%
Occupation	
Working full/part time	54%
Student	3%
Unemployed	18%
Sickness	14%
Retired, parenting, unpaid work	10%
Income level	
Low (under \$30,000)	31%
Mid (over \$30,000, under \$80,000)	28%
High (over \$80,000)	22%
Median age (years)	39

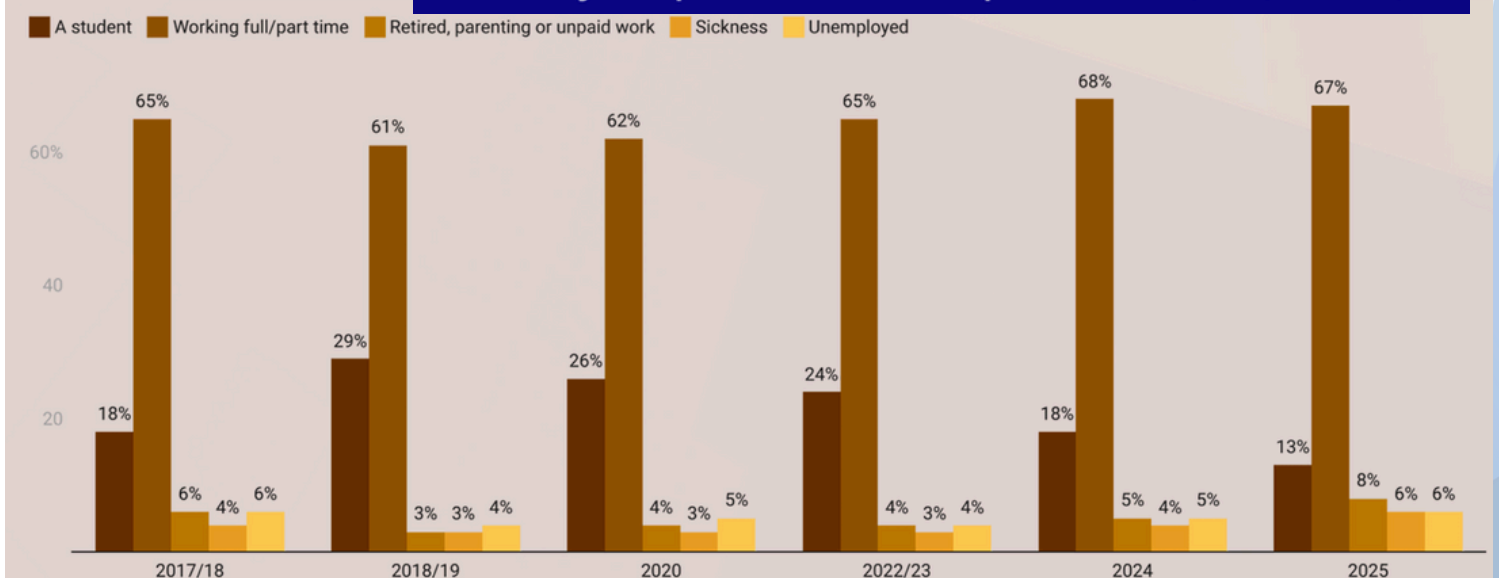
## Education



## Urban vs rural



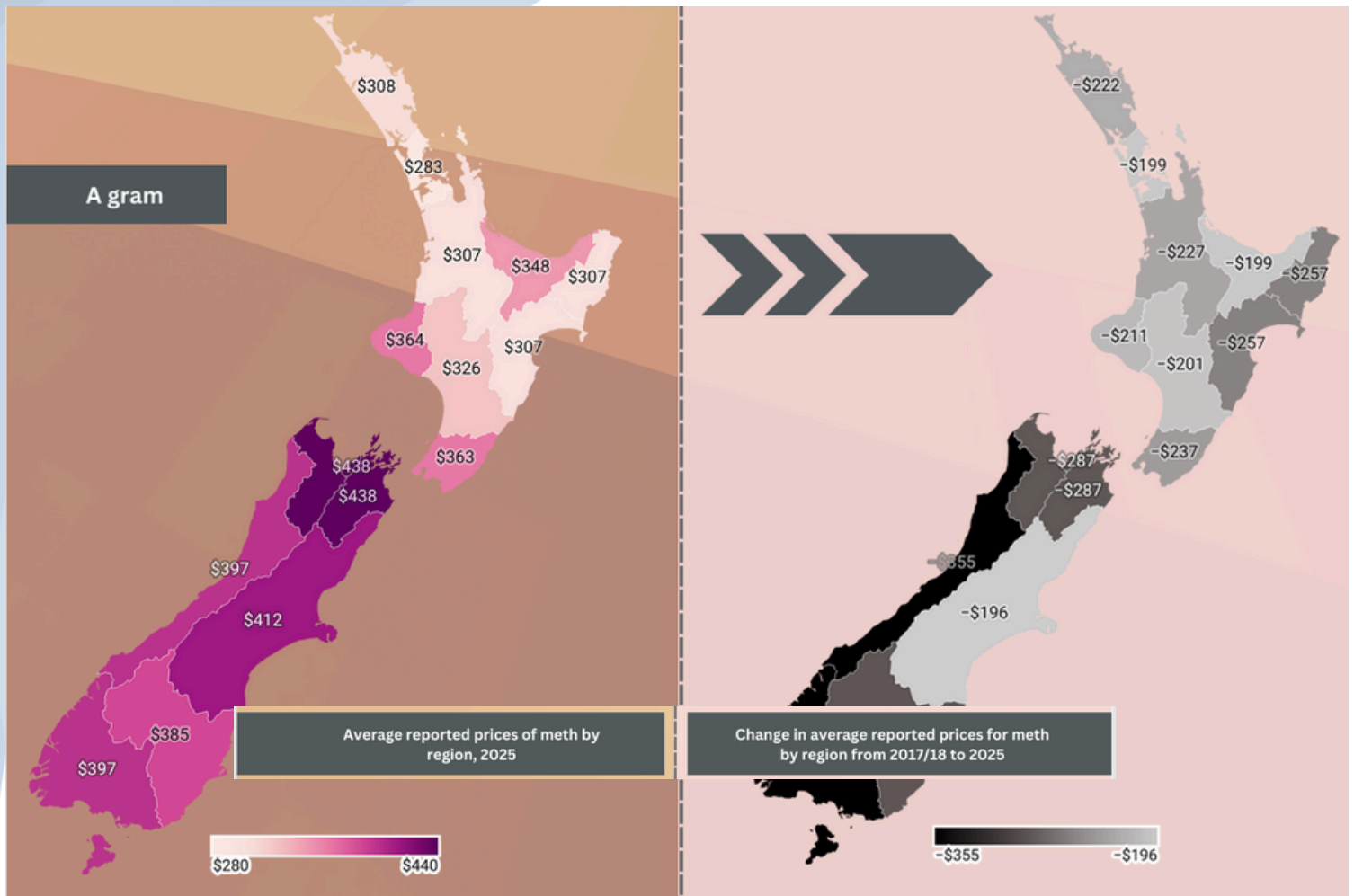
## Primary occupation of NZDTS sample over time (2017/18-2025)



# METHAMPHETAMINE PRICES:

Average reported prices of meth by region, 2025

Change in average reported prices for meth by region from 2017/18 to 2025



## PURPOSE OF THIS UPDATE

This newsletter presents recent drug testing data, observed trends, and factual findings from wastewater contamination assessments. The information is provided to support informed decision-making for property owners, Personnel Managers, and Stakeholders with responsibility for general safety and wellbeing.

## INTERPRETING THE RESULTS

This data indicates that methamphetamine, MDMA and Cocaine residue can be identified across all regions of New Zealand. Results should be interpreted within context, and you can seek further information at [www.police.govt.nz](http://www.police.govt.nz) & [www.nzdrugtrends.co.nz](http://www.nzdrugtrends.co.nz) for history and sampling scope.



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### Disclaimer:

Independent Drug Screening believes all information contained within this newsletter to be valid and correct at time of writing. The test results contained in this report are obtained from PHF Science and NZ Police reports as well as NZDTS research conducted at Massey's SHORE/Whairiki Research Centre.