

# DRUG MARKET SURVEY

Perspectives from PWUD on the illicit drug market during COVID19.

## METHODS

CAPUD sent out a Google survey and followed up with willing individuals to have a casual conversation about the illicit drug market during COVID19.

19 individuals were contacted by CAPUD staff members. Each were asked several questions about their demographics and drug use before and during COVID19.

Participants lived in a various provinces throughout the country such as, British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Here are the questions:

- What kind of illicit drugs does your community normally see before COVID?
- What has been the biggest change to the drug supply since COVID19?
- Have you been criminalized or penalized for drug use during COVID19?
- Have you been forced to go through involuntary withdrawal due to COVID19?
- How has your drug use changed due to COVID19?

## DEMOGRPAHICS

16.7% rural community.  
83.3% urban community.

5.6% were between 18 and 24.  
77. 8% participants were aged between 24 and 44 years old.  
16.7% were older than 45 years old

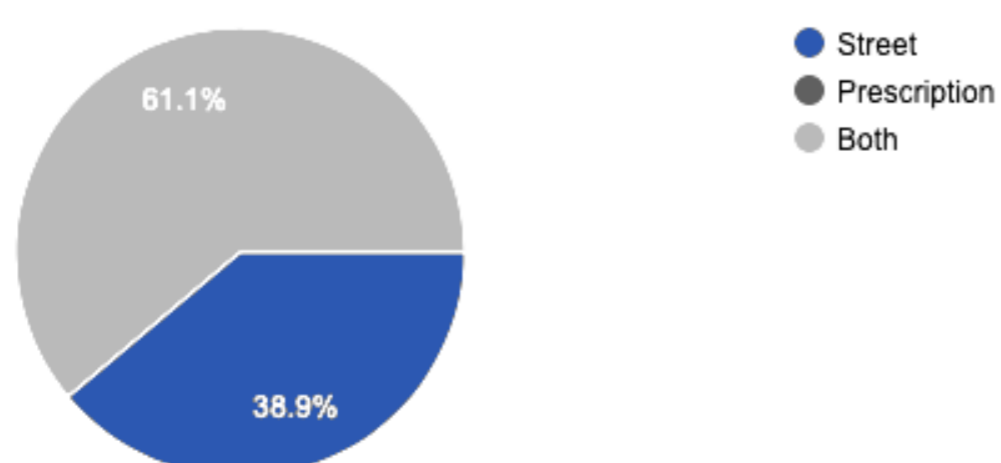
11.2% identified as non-binary  
33.3% identified as cis-male  
55.6% identified as cis-female

11.2% Mixed identity  
33.3 Indigenous  
55.6% Caucasian

### When asked how they acquire their drugs:

How do you acquire you're drugs?

18 responses



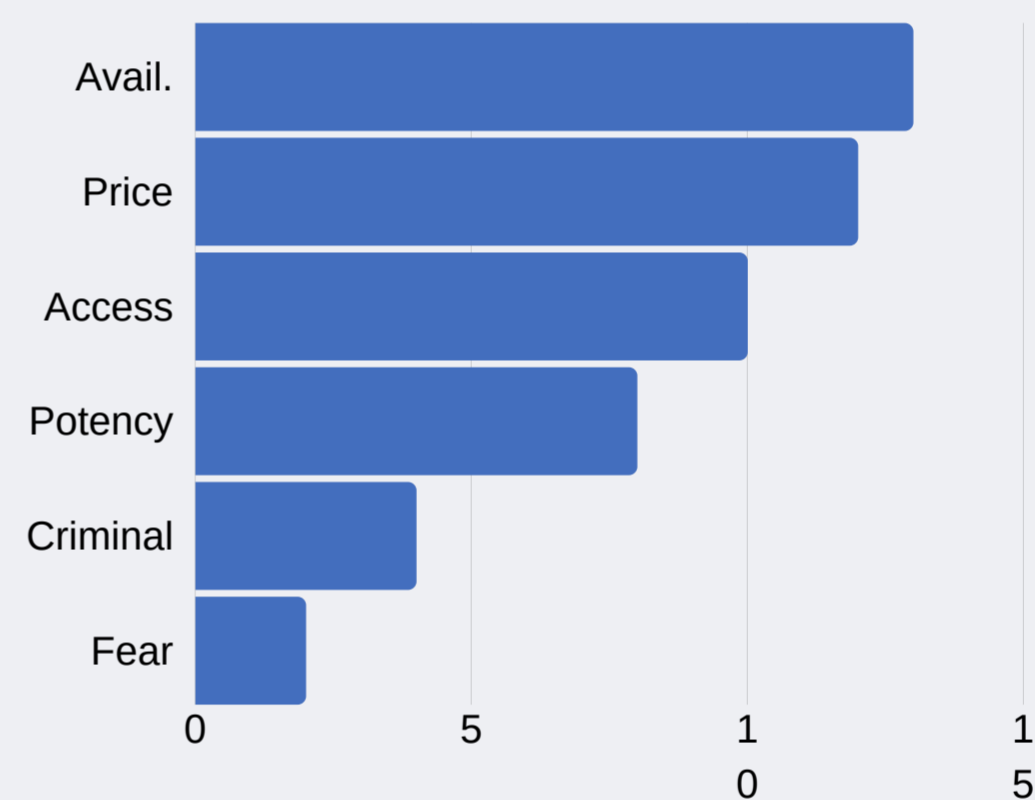
0% responded presripton only

## CURRENT DRUG SUPPLY

Participants regularly see a wide variety of drugs in their communities ranging from Fentanyl, Heroin, Hydromorphone, Crystal Meth, Cocaine, LSD, Psyclibin, Ketamine, Valium and Xanax.

Participants were asked what to choose from various concerns such as **availability, accessibility, potency, price** and other. The figure below shows the responses. The two biggest concerns being **availability and price**.

### CHANGE IN THE DRUG SUPPLY



Participants were asked if they have been criminalized or penalized during COVID-19?

Responses:

No: 18P

Yes: 1P\*

\*One individual responded penalized during COVID19 not criminalized.

Drug use patterns varied from province to province, some noted they used more, some noted they used less or it didn't change.

## QUOTES

"The prices are skyrocketing, for example someone who would have paid \$10 for a crack rock and now they are paying \$30."

"Spend more money on less safe products that have been less consistent. Taking other medications to try and manage the withdrawal. Cocaine has been lowering in quality. Now it's a constant chase."