



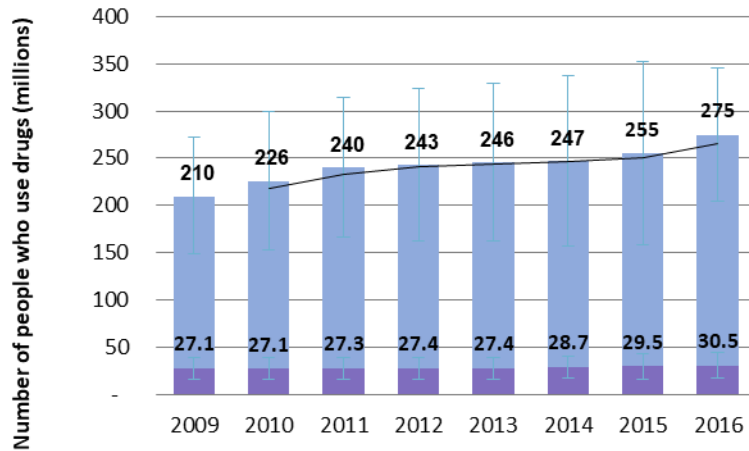
# UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

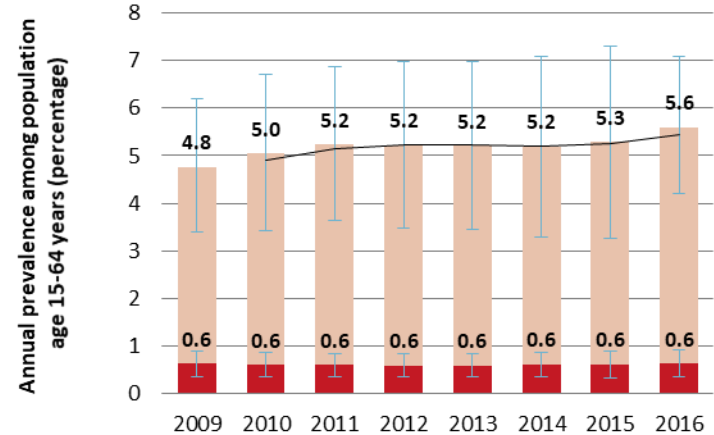


# Trends in the demand for drugs

# Global trends in drug use



■ Number of people who use drugs  
■ Number of people with drug use disorders  
— 2 per. Mov. Avg. (Number of people who use drugs)



■ Prevalence of people who use drugs  
■ Prevalence of people with drug use disorders  
— 2 per. Mov. Avg. (Prevalence of people who use drugs)

**31% increase in global number of people using drugs**

**12% increase in the number of problem drug users**

**11% increase in global population aged 15-64 years**

**18% increase in the annual prevalence rate of any drug use**

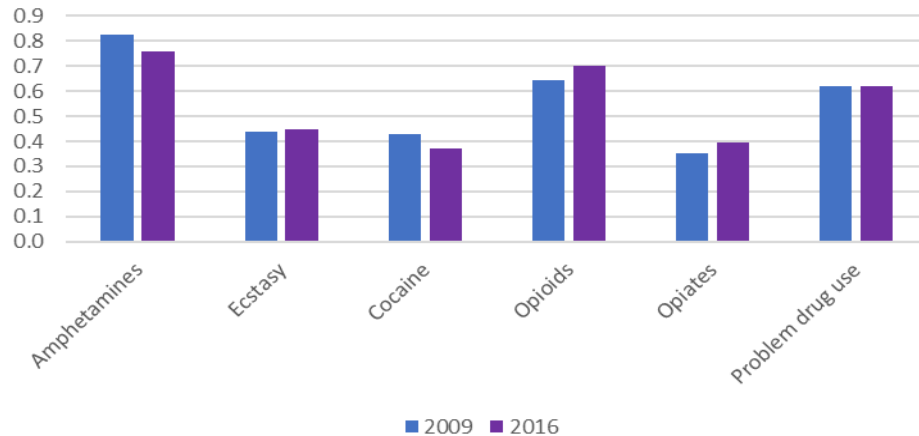
**Stable trend in the prevalence rate of problem drug use**

## Understanding trends in drug use

- Best estimate for a given year
- Global and regional trends in drug use are estimated from nationally representative surveys
  - each country has its own cycle of surveys
- Many countries, e.g, in Africa and Asia do not conduct drug use surveys
  - Estimates from limited number of countries where data are available are used to compute regional and global estimates (new data points from 20-30 countries)
- Changes may be misleading if updated information is available only in countries with large populations
  - drug-use data weighted by population size in the calculation of the estimates
- Trend calculated with existing data, may mask variations that are happening in large countries for which data are not available
- Estimated number of drug users is further influenced by changes in the global population aged 15-64

# Changes in prevalence of individual drugs

Annual prevalence



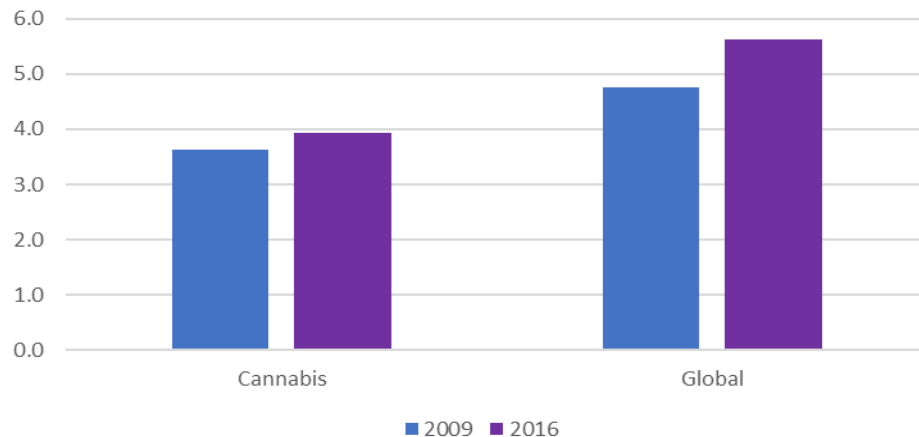
Globally annual prevalence has increased by **18%**

Mainly reflects an increase in use of opioids (**9%**), opiates (**12%**) and cannabis use **8%**

The use of other substances has remained rather stable (within a 5% margin)

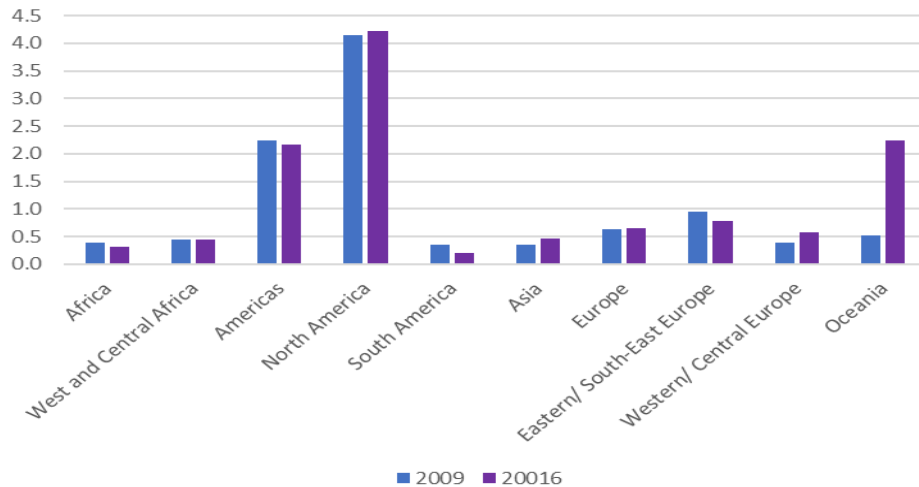
The extent of problem drug use as percentage of the global population has also remained stable

Annual prevalence



## Trends in drug use by region

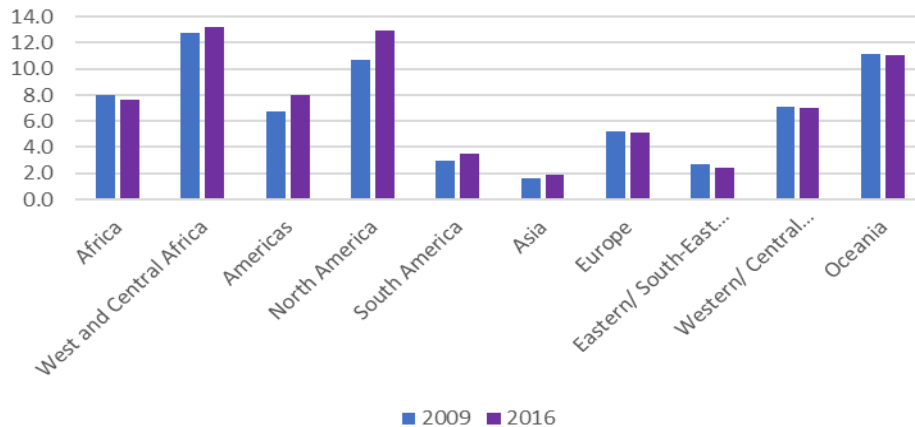
Annual prevalence of opioids use



Increase in opioids use in Asia, Europe and North America contribute most to the global increase

Despite the major change in opioid market in Oceania (Australia)

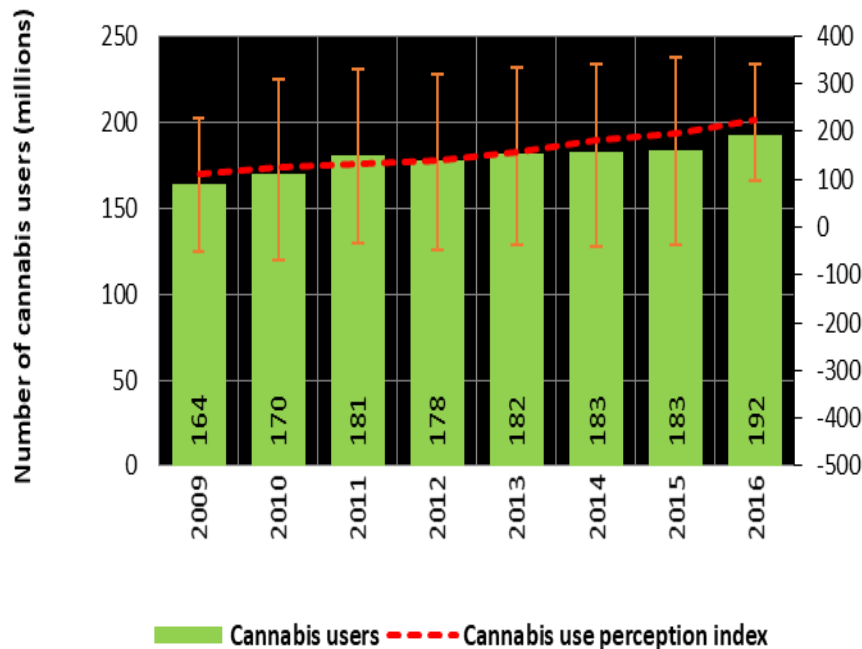
Annual prevalence of cannabis use



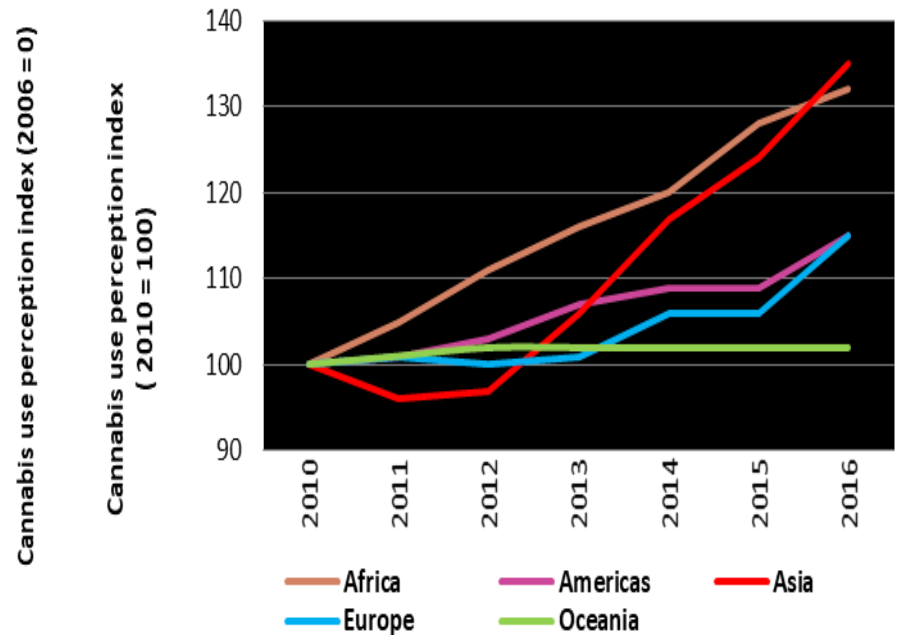
Increase in cannabis use is more in the North and South America and Asia

## Global trends in cannabis use

### Trends in the number of annual cannabis users and cannabis use perception index, 2009–2016



### Trends in cannabis use perception index, by region (2010 = 100)



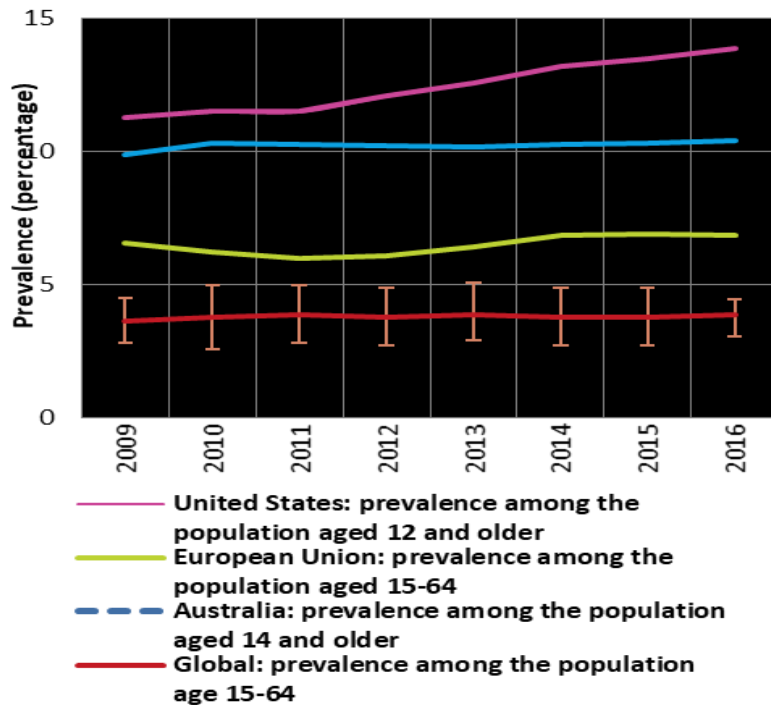
Source: UNODC, responses to the annual report questionnaire.

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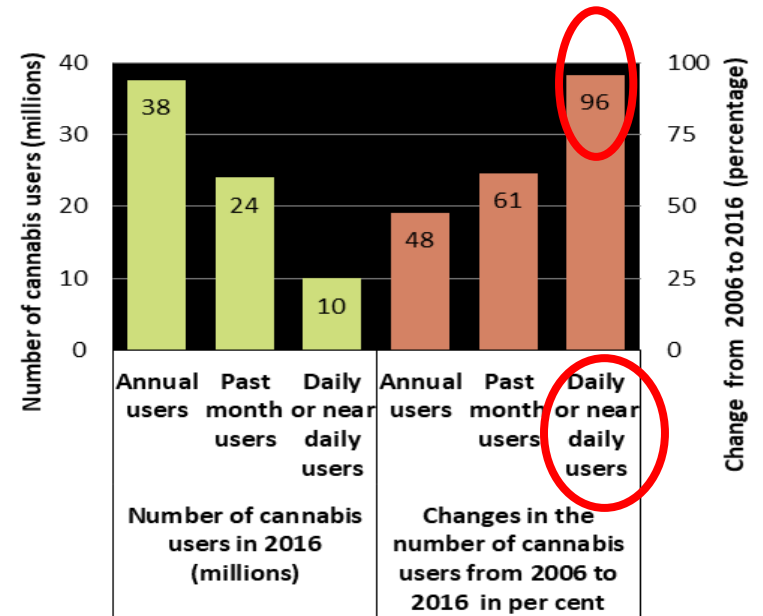


# Trends in cannabis use in selected countries

### Annual prevalence of cannabis use in the United States, the European Union, and Australia and at global level 2009-2015



### Changes in cannabis use in the United States, 2006-2016

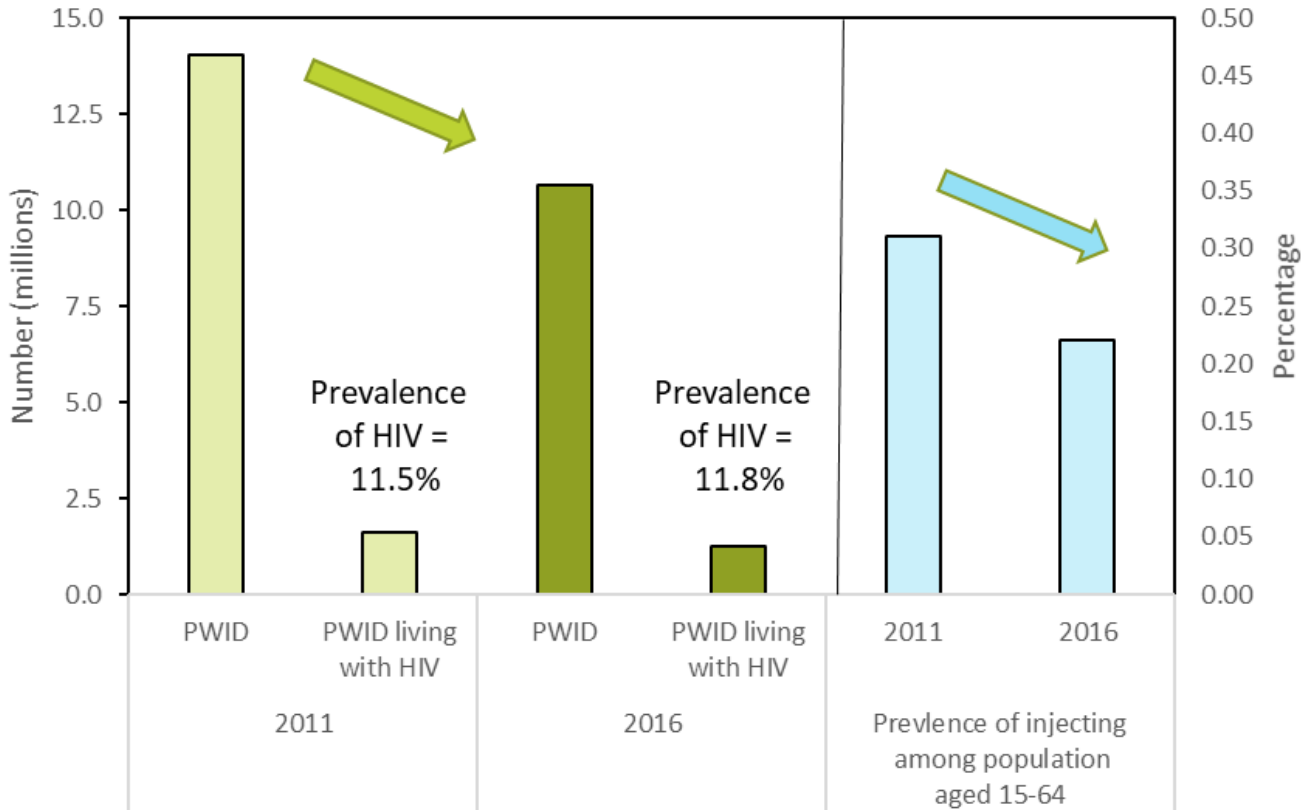


Source: UNODC, responses to the annual report questionnaire, SAMHSA, EMCDDA and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Source: United States, SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, (Rockville, Maryland, September 2017).

# People who inject drugs and HIV among this group, 2011 and 2016

## Real decline or due to methodological changes?

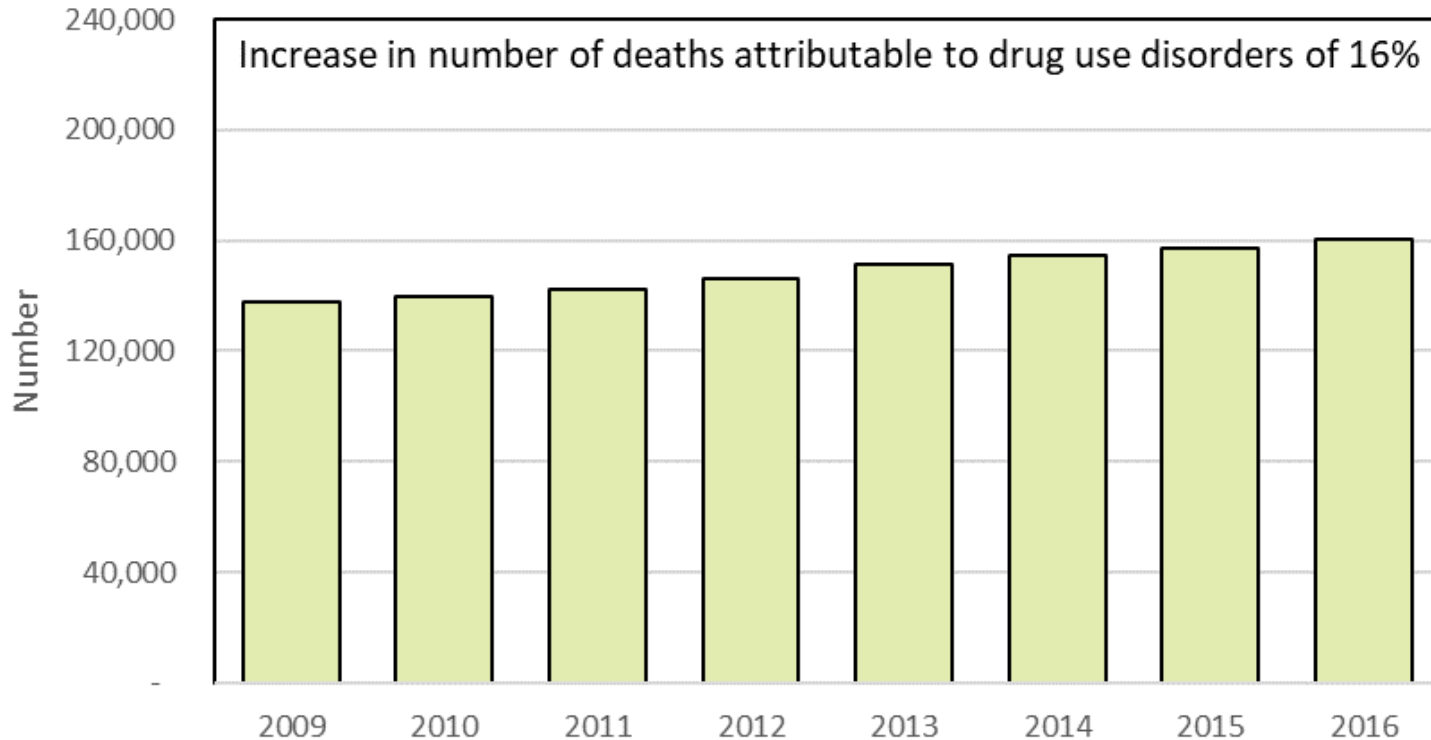


Source: UNODC, responses to the annual report questionnaire; progress reports of UNAIDS on the global AIDS response (various years); the former Reference Group to the United Nations on HIV and Injecting Drug Use; and published peer-reviewed articles and government reports.





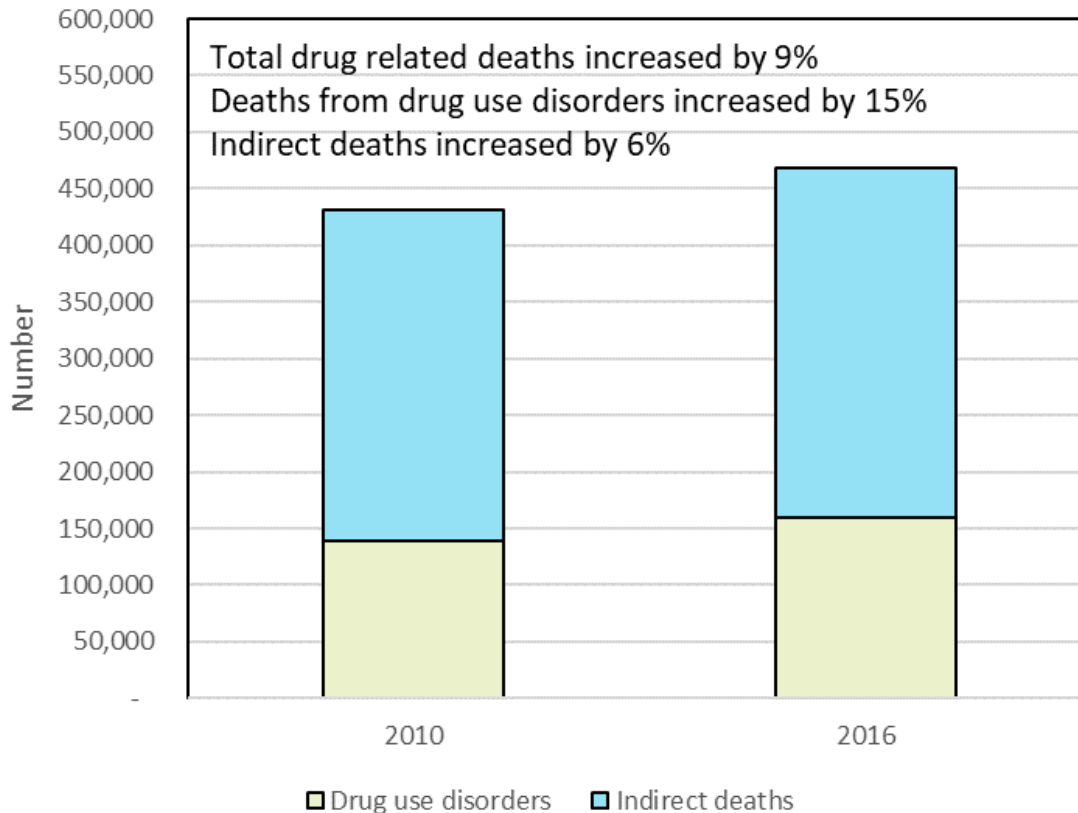
## Direct deaths attributable to the use of drugs, 2009-2016



Sources Global Health Estimates 2016: Deaths by Cause, Age, Sex, by Country and by Region, 2000-2016. Geneva, World Health Organization; 2018.

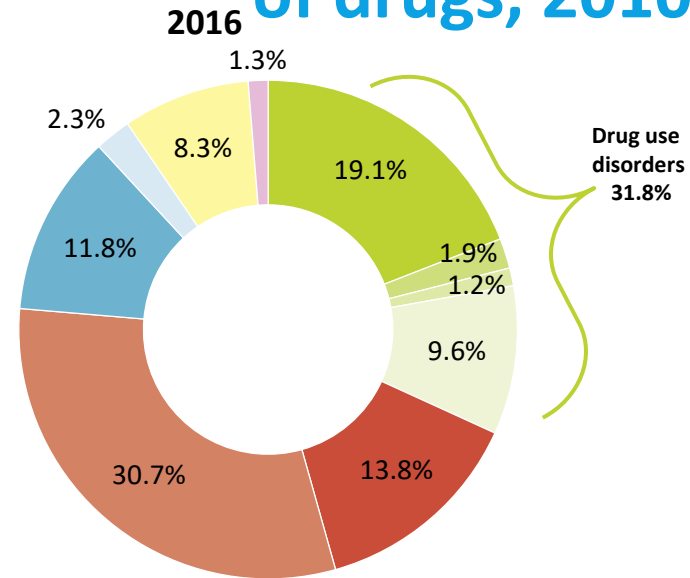
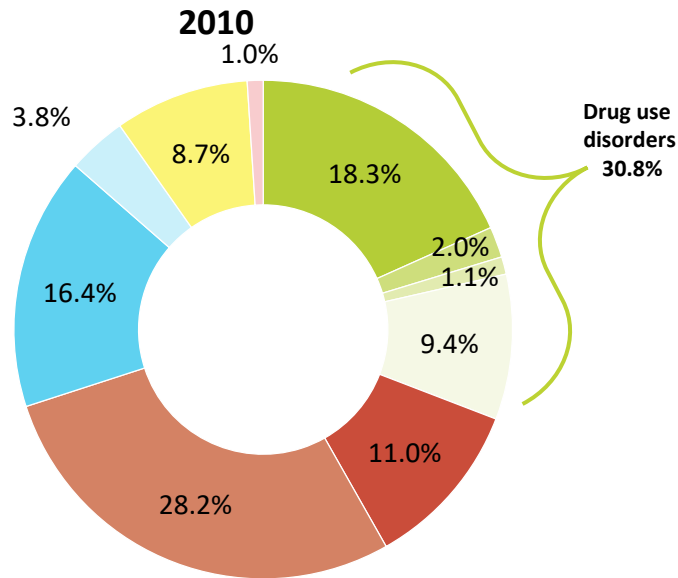


# Direct and indirect deaths attributable to the use of drugs, 2010 & 2016



Sources: WHO, Disease burden and mortality estimates, Global Health Estimates 2015: deaths by cause, age, sex, by country and by region, 2000–2015; Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, Global Burden of Disease Data.

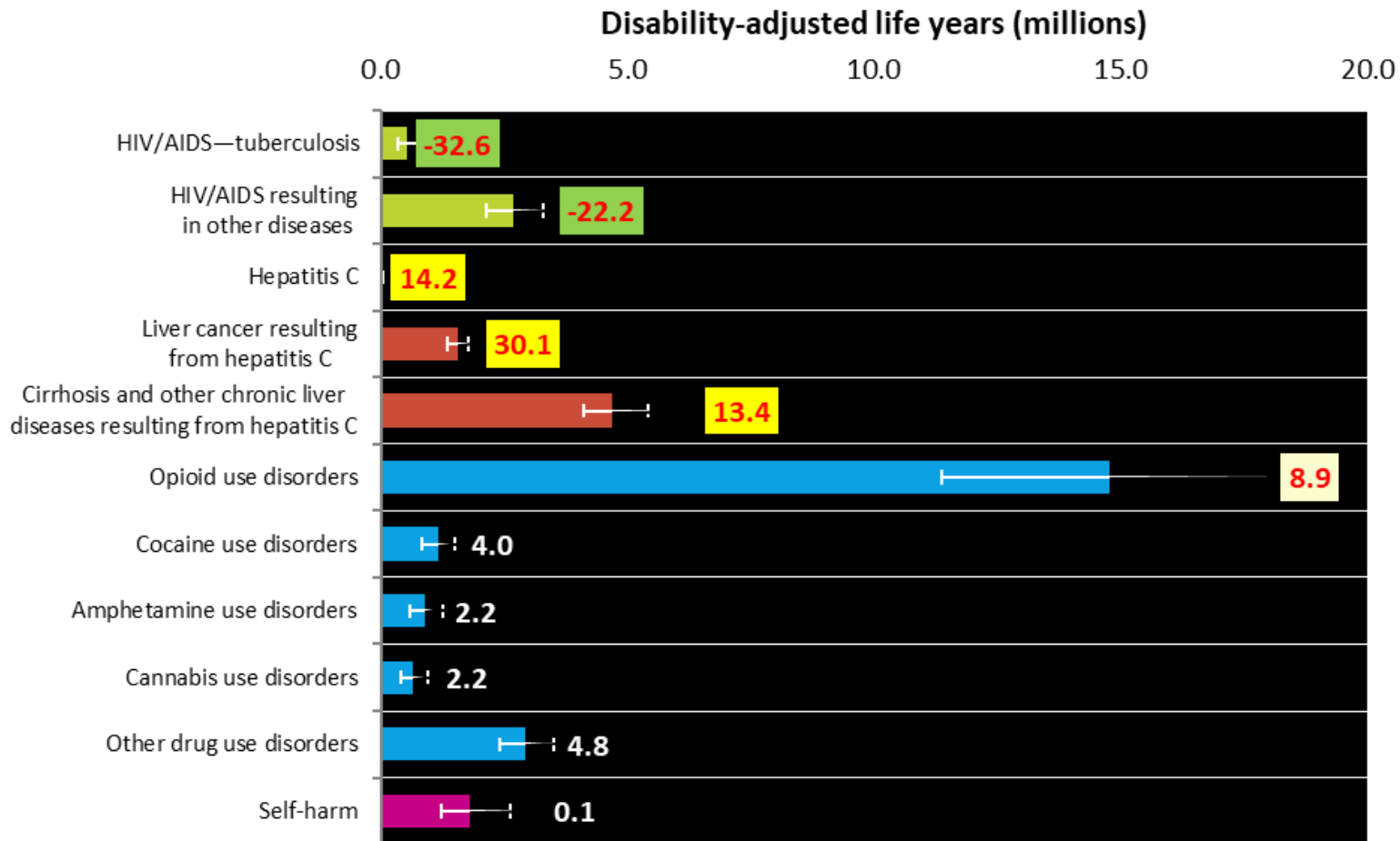
# Leading causes of deaths attributable to the use of drugs, 2010 & 2016



- Opioid use disorders
- Cocaine use disorders
- Amphetamine use disorders
- Other drug use disorders
- Hepatitis C, liver cancer
- Hepatitis C, cirrhosis and other chronic liver diseases
- HIV/AIDS resulting in other diseases
- HIV/AIDS - Tuberculosis
- Self-harm
- Other

Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, Global Burden of Disease Data.

# “Healthy” years of life lost (DALYs) attributable to the use of drugs, 2016 (vs. 2010)



Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, Global Burden of Disease Data.



**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR ATTENTION**



For more information:  
<http://www.unodc.org/>