



World Drug Report 2020

Vienna, 26 June 2020



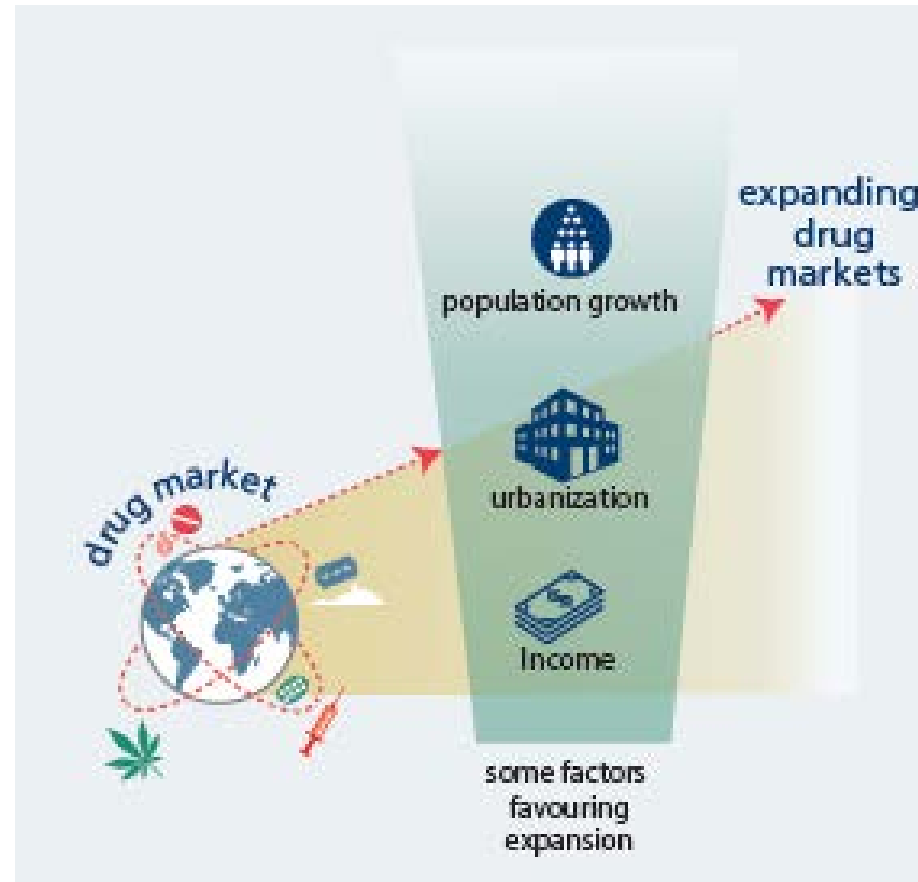
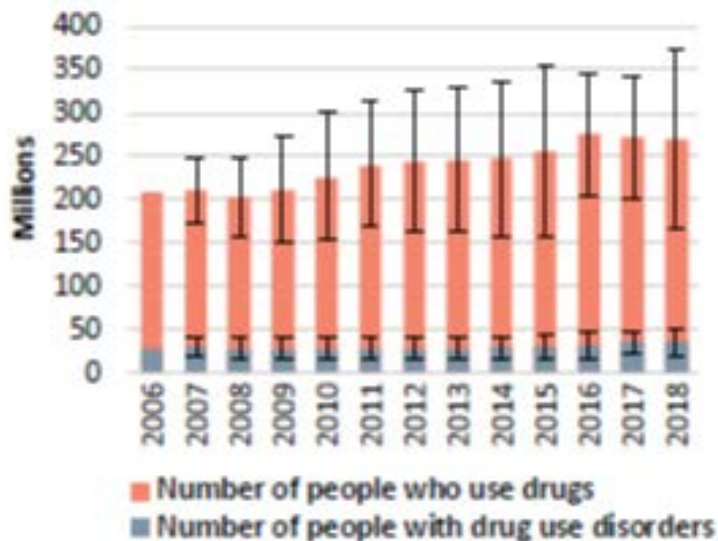
Some overarching challenges for prevention and treatment

- **Prevention:** Perception of low risk for some drugs
- **Treatment:** Possible global increase of treatment needs and higher complexity of the treatment needs

Global drug market Expansion



FIG. 2 Global number of people who use drugs and people with drug use disorders, 2006–2018



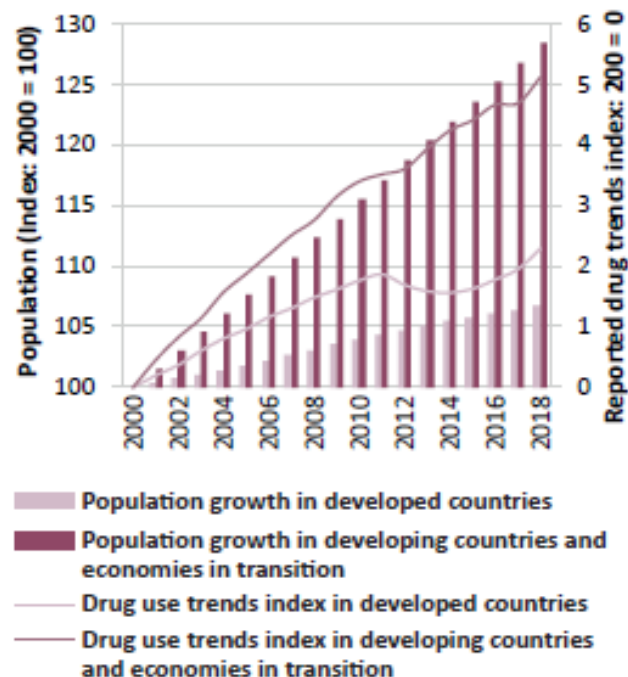
- 30 % more users between 2009-2018
- 2008-2017: deaths increased by a quarter
- Higher availability of cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine



Expansion in developing countries

FIG. 5 Population growth and reported drug use trends in developed countries as compared with developing countries and countries with economies in transition, 2000–2018

Between 2000-2018



- Total population grew by 28% in developing countries and by 7% in developed countries
- Population 18-25 grew by 18% in developing countries and decreased by 10% in developed countries

Sources: UNODC, responses to the annual report questionnaire; and United Nations, *World Population Prospects: The 2019 Revision*.



Increasing treatment demand?

Currently at global level **only roughly 1/8 persons with drug use disorders receive treatment**, if nothing is done to increase treatment accessibility, the **treatment gap is likely to increase**, moving away from achieving SDG target 3.5 *“Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol”*

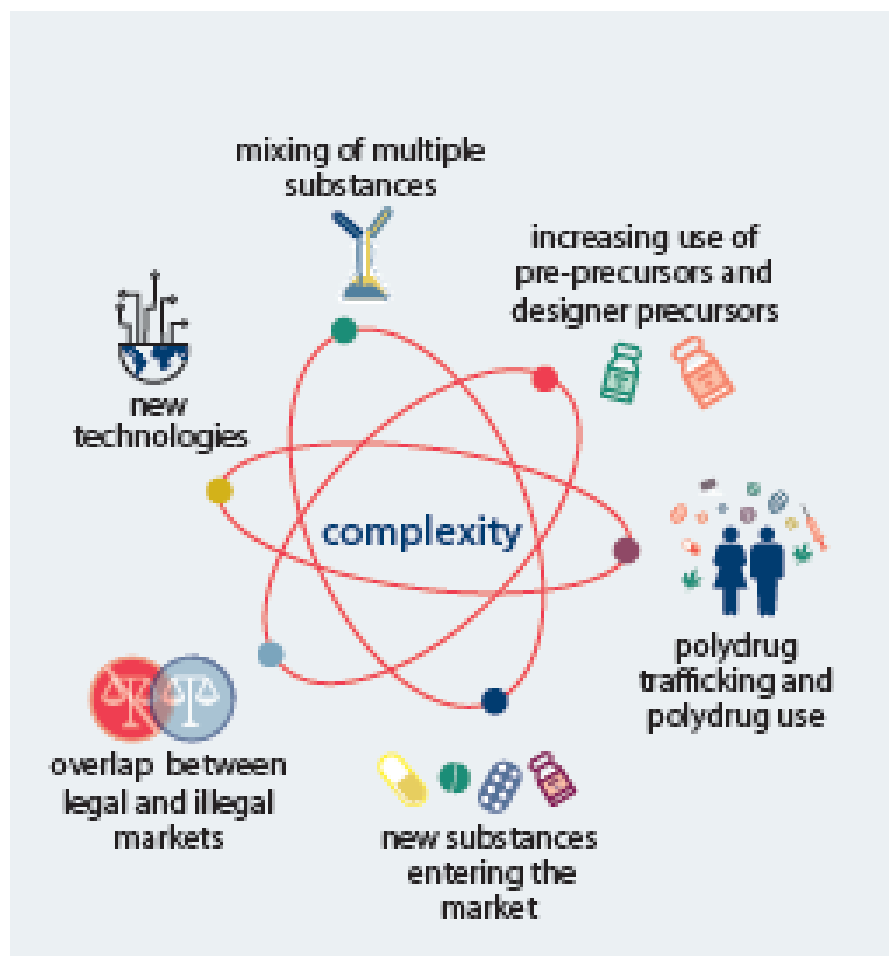
Has COVID-19 brought new approaches to increase treatment accessibility?



Increased complexity of global markets requires new treatment approaches

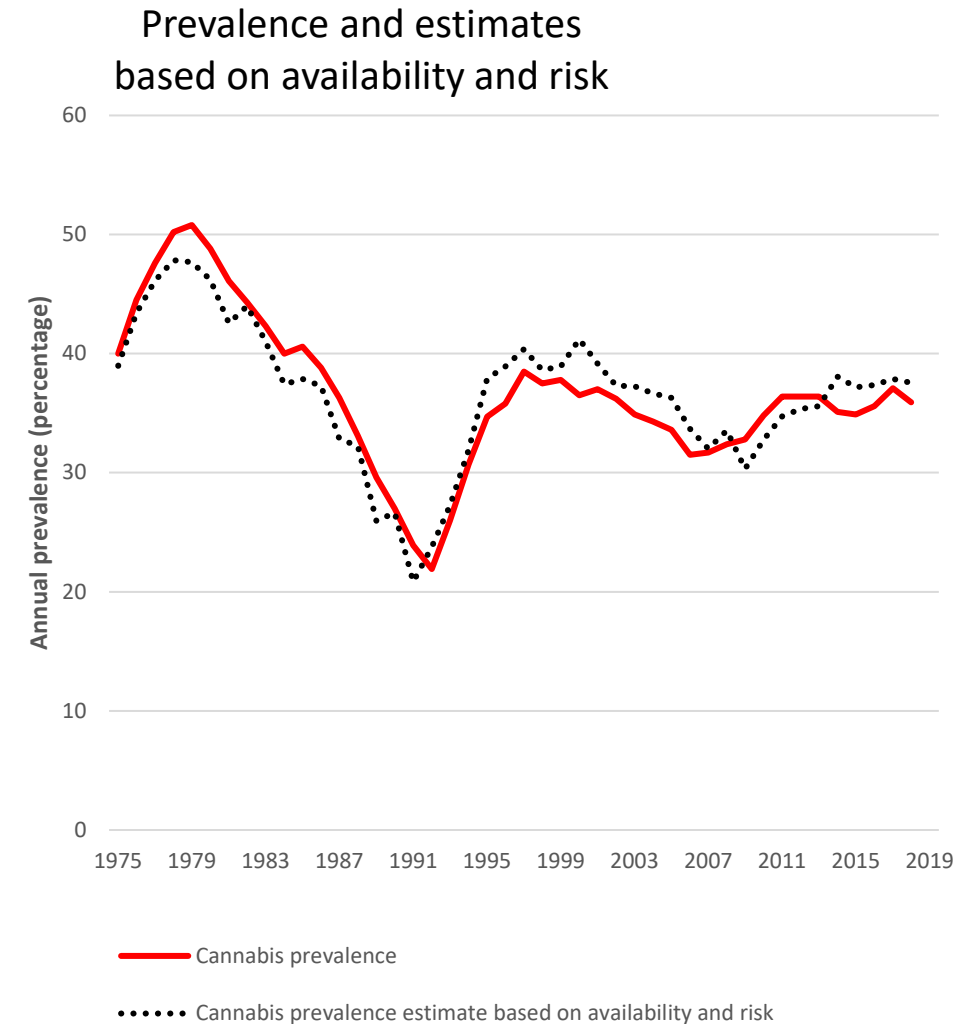
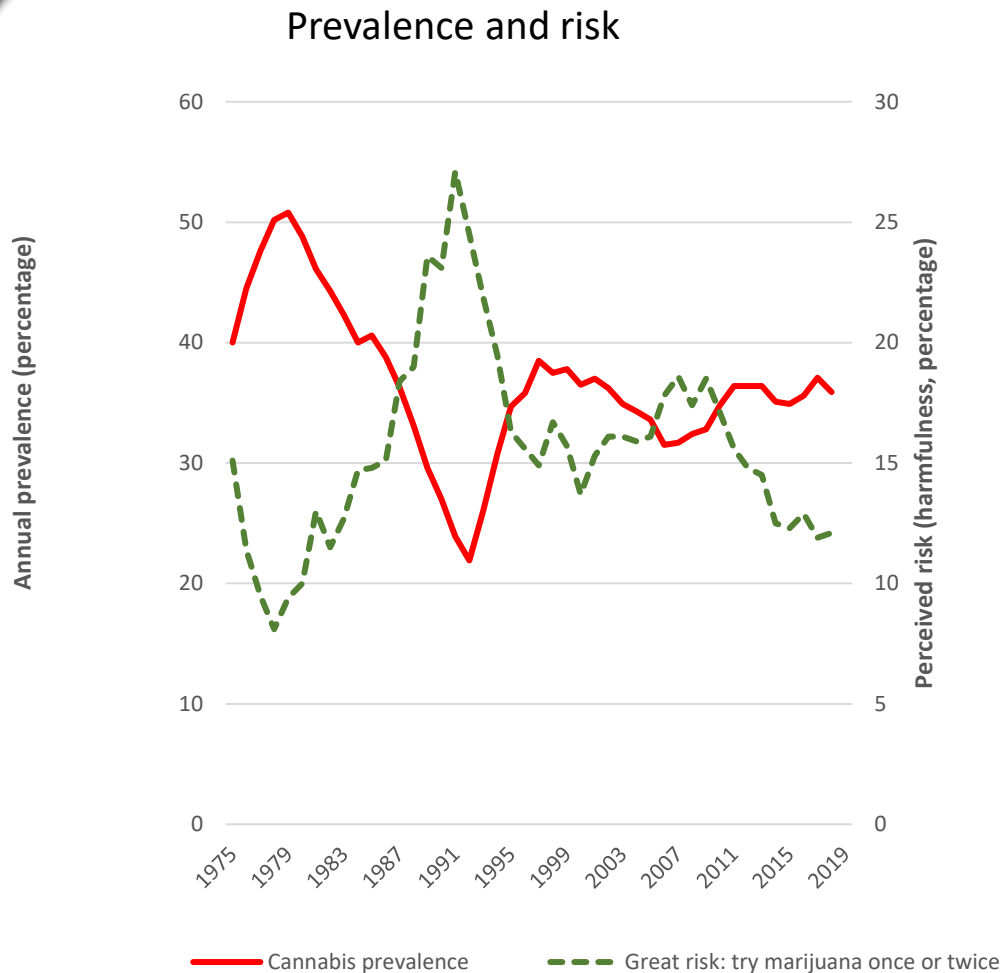


UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime





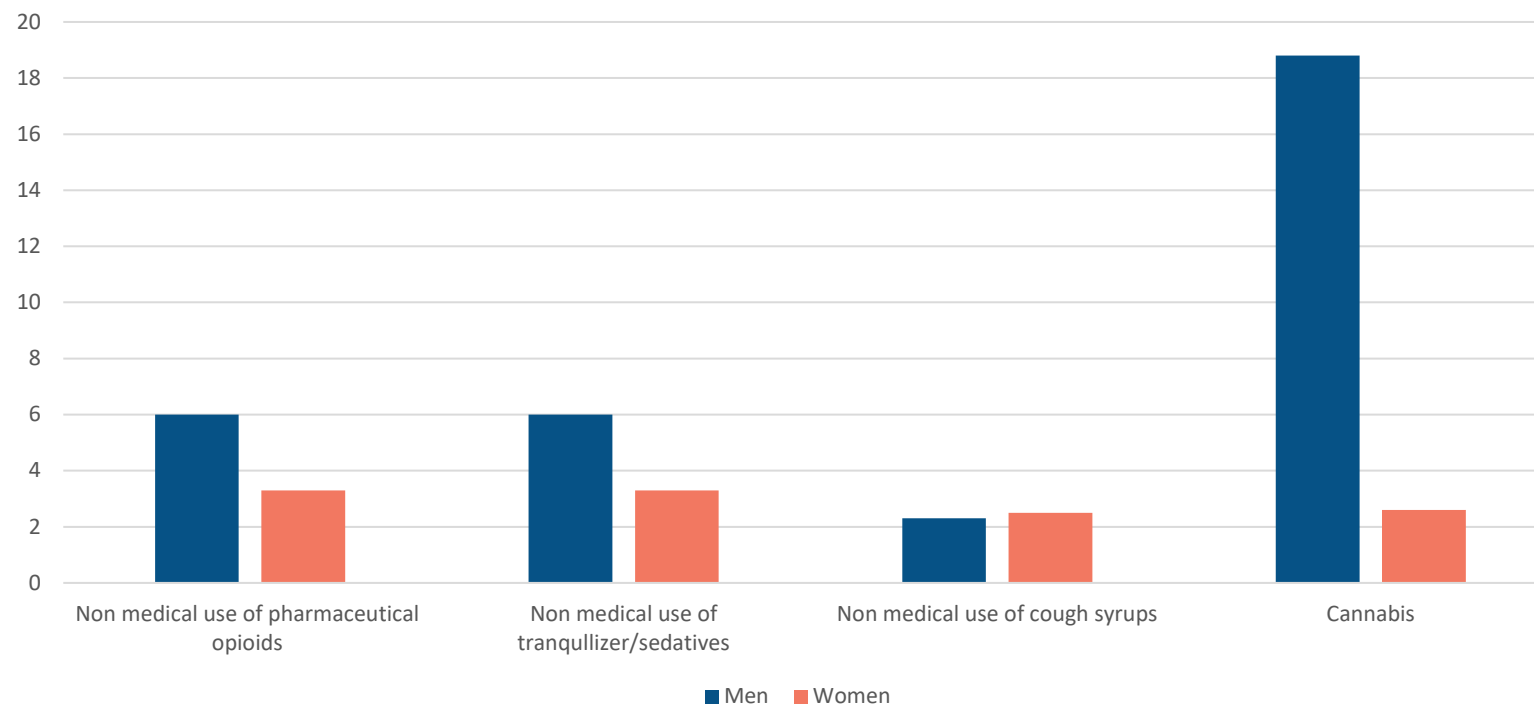
Cannabis prevalence, perceived risk among 12th grade US high-school students, 1975-2018



Source: University of Michigan (on behalf of NIDA), Monitoring the Future, 1975-2018, Volume I, Secondary School Students.



Annual prevalence of drugs by sex in Nigeria, 2017





How to prevent drug use through increasing the perception of risk?

Particularly challenging for pharmaceuticals that should be available and use with no stigma when they are needed

Promoting a science-based risk discussion

Against the interest of some private sector?