References to Chile

Part 1
RECENT STATISTICS AND TREND ANALYSIS OF ILLICIT DRUG MARKETS

A. EXTENT OF ILLICIT DRUG USE AND HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

El panorama mundial
Cocaína

In 2010, the regions with a high prevalence of cocaine use remained North America (1.6 per cent), Western and Central Europe (1.3 per cent) and Oceania (1.5-1.9 per cent) — the latter effectively reflecting its use in Australia and New Zealand. While global estimates of cocaine use have remained stable at 0.3-0.4 per cent of the population aged 15-64 (between 13 million and 19.5 million users), a substantial decrease was reported in North America and some countries in South America, with the annual prevalence of cocaine use in North America decreasing from 1.9 per cent
in 2009 to 1.6 per cent in 2010. The overall average in South America decreased from 0.9 to 0.7 per cent in the same period, reflecting revised estimates in Argentina and a marked decline in Chile. There is a perceived increase in cocaine use in Brazil, but the lack of new data for that country prevents a better understanding of the impact on regional estimates. On the other hand, there was an increase in cocaine use reported in Oceania, from an estimated 1.4-1.7 per cent in 2009 to 1.5-1.9 per cent in 2010, essentially reflecting the increase in cocaine use in Australia, whereas cocaine use remained stable in Western and Central Europe.

Regional trends in illicit drug use

**South America, Central America and the Caribbean**

The prevalence of cocaine use in South America, Central America and the Caribbean remains high (0.7 per cent, 0.5 per cent and 0.7 per cent, respectively). In Central America, annual prevalence of ATS use has been reported to be higher than the global average, particularly in El Salvador (3.3 per cent), Belize (1.3 per cent), Costa Rica (1.3 per cent) and Panama (1.2 per cent). The misuse of pharmaceutical preparations containing opioids, stimulants and prescription stimulants also remains of concern in Central America and South America.

Concern over rising levels of the use of synthetic drugs such as “ecstasy” among South American youth also continues to grow, with prevalence of the use of stimulants (cocaine, amphetamine and “ecstasy”) among young people reported to be high, particularly in Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Uruguay (see table 3).

Several countries in South America, such as Argentina, El Salvador, Peru and Uruguay, have also reported the use of ketamine. Lifetime prevalence of ketamine use in Argentina and Uruguay is reported to be 0.3 per cent; however, many studies of drug use among the general population in the region do not include the use of ATS. According to information reported in Argentina and Chile

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1 For instance, the 2008 subregional collaborative study on drug use among the general population reports only the use of alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, and cocaine (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), Elementos Orientadores para las Políticas Públicas sobre Drogas en la Subregión: Primer Estudio Comparativo sobre Consumo de Drogas y Factores Asociados en Población de 15 a 64 Años (Lima, April 2008)).
in 2010, most drug use remained stable in Argentina, while in Chile there were declining trends in cocaine and cannabis use (see figure 9). In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, data for 2011 show prevalence of cocaine use among the adult population to be 0.7 per cent, a small increase from the previous estimate of 0.6 per cent, while the prevalence of cannabis use is 1.7 per cent (an increase from the previous estimate of 0.9 per cent), opioid use is 0.03 per cent and ATS use is 0.5 per cent. While there are no recent data on illicit drug use in Brazil, experts perceived an increase in cocaine use in 2010.

In South America, the rate of drug-related deaths is estimated to be between 12.2 and 31.1 deaths per million population aged 15-64, well below the global average. Throughout the region, cocaine continues to be ranked the most lethal drug; however, it appears that in some countries in Central America and the Caribbean, higher homicide rates are, in part, linked to organized crime and conflicts related to cocaine trafficking flows and cocaine markets. pg. 20

C. COCAINE MARKET

Emerging and expanding markets

In Argentina, cocaine seizures rose almost eightfold between 2002 and 2009 (see figure 30 below). Seizures in Chile peaked in 2007 (see figure 30) and remained relatively high until 2010, and seizures more than doubled in Paraguay in 2010.

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3 Data available for 2010 were not comparable, as coverage does not include seizures by federal security forces in Argentina.
However, survey data indicate that cocaine use in Argentina remained stable in 2010 in comparison with 2008, and cocaine use decreased in Chile over the same period. Nevertheless, prevalence of cocaine use remains relatively high in both of those countries. Pg. 41

**Part 2**

**THE CONTEMPORARY DRUG PROBLEM: CHARACTERISTICS, PATTERNS AND DRIVING FACTORS**

A. **WHAT ARE THE FUNDAMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CONTEMPORARY ILLICIT DRUG PROBLEM**

The main dimensions of the contemporary drug problem

**Prevalence, age distribution, gender gap and market value**

Use of tobacco is clearly above average in Eastern Europe, East and South-East Asia and, to a lesser extent, in South Asia, the **Southern Cone** countries of South America, the Maghreb countries and Western and Central Europe. Below average rates are found in sub-Saharan Africa, Oceania and North America⁴. While tobacco use seems to have continued to increase in developing countries, it has been declining in the developed countries, notably in North America and Oceania. In the United States, for example, current tobacco use fell from a peak of 42 per cent of adults in 1965 to 19 per cent in 2011⁵. Pg.61

B. **HOW HAVE THE PATTERNS OF THE DRUG PROBLEM SHIFTED OVER TIME**

**Shifts in the transnational opiate and cocaine markets**

**Consumption: from old to new markets**

**Cocaine**

Cocaine use also increased in South America, notably in Brazil and other countries that are part of the **Southern Cone**, from the mid-1990s to about 2005. Since 2006, the overall trend has been less clear. Pg. 78

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⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Health Interview Survey, 2011 and previous years. Available from [www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm)
The evolution of trafficking routes

Cocaine

Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Peru have become important sources of cocaine for the illicit markets in Brazil and the Southern Cone countries of South America. Some of the cocaine shipped to Brazil is subsequently smuggled into Africa (mostly Western and Southern Africa), with Europe as its final destination. Because of linguistic affinities with Brazil and some African countries, Portugal emerged as a significant trans-shipment area for cocaine, notably during the period 2004-2007. The West African route appears to have become less active in recent years, however. Pg.79

Emerging patterns of illicit drug use

Poly-drug use

National surveys on the extent of poly-drug use are still rare. One method of generating a rough estimate of the problem is to add up the number of users of individual drugs (those responding “yes” to the question “Have you used a specified illicit drug (cannabis, cocaine, “ecstasy” etc.) over the past 12 months?”) and compare the total with the overall number of drug users (“have you used any illicit drug over the past 12 months?”). For a diverse group of 15 countries, the total number of users of five drugs (cannabis, amphetamines, “ecstasy”, cocaine and opiates) exceeded the overall number of illicit drug users by, on average, about 20 per cent, based on UNODC calculations. For countries with highly diversified illicit drug markets, such as the United Kingdom and the United States, the figure was greater than 40 per cent. Adding other drug categories, such as hallucinogens, tranquillizers and sedatives, yields a figure of some 60 per cent for the United States, which shows that poly-drug use is very common there. Pg.81

Non-medical use of prescription drugs

Stimulants

The third class of frequently misused prescription drugs is stimulants. The medical use of stimulants has decreased in recent years, though they are still prescribed for the treatment of attention deficit disorder and narcolepsy. In addition to the risk of dependency, non-medical use of stimulants may lead to heartbeat irregularities, elevated body temperature or even cardiovascular failure and seizures. A number of drug use surveys have indicated that prescription stimulants are frequently misused in the Americas. The use of prescription drugs well above the global average over the

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6 Argentina, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of ), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States (UNODC, data from the annual report questionnaire and national drug survey reports).

7 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Results from the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Detailed Tables.
period 2007-2009 was reported by the following countries (listed in order of magnitude): the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Chile. In South America, in particular, stimulant use is often linked to weight loss efforts. The problem is not confined to that region, however, as countries in all major regions have reported relatively high levels of consumption of stimulants. Pg. 83

C. WHICH FACTORS SHAPE THE EVOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM

What are the key observable drivers of long-term trends?

Socioeconomic drivers

Over the past few decades, the availability of disposable income, notably among the younger generation in developed countries, has increased significantly, thus facilitating the growth of drug consumption. Levels of illicit drug use are generally higher in developed countries, where disposable income is high. This effect can sometimes be seen within regions, subregions or even countries. In North America, drug use is higher in Canada and the United States, where disposable income is higher than in Mexico. In South America, drug use is higher in the Southern Cone countries, which have higher levels of disposable income than the rest of the continent. Within the largest South American country, Brazil, drug use is more widespread in the relatively more affluent south than in the rest of the country. Similarly, in Europe, overall drug use is higher in Western Europe, where disposable income is higher than in Eastern or South-Eastern Europe. Pg. 87

D. CONCLUSION

Global production of cocaine increased strongly in the 1980s and the 1990s but stabilized over the past decade, and the amounts available on the illicit market appear to have declined. Significant declines in cocaine consumption in North America have been offset in part by rising consumption levels in Europe and South America, though recent data for South America also show a decline in several countries of the Southern Cone. Pg. 97