

Table 19 Newly/previously reported drug abusers by age of first abuse

Age of first abuse	2022		2023		2024		2024		2025	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
							first quarter		first quarter	
Newly reported persons										
first took drugs at < 16	286	22.9	271	22.5	286	23.2	70	23.3	58	19.4
first took drugs at 16 - 20	435	34.8	421	34.9	417	33.8	94	31.2	100	33.4
first took drugs at 21 - 25	208	16.7	164	13.6	165	13.4	39	13.0	40	13.4
first took drugs at 26 - 30	151	12.1	155	12.9	123	10.0	40	13.3	29	9.7
first took drugs at 31 - 35	57	4.6	78	6.5	87	7.1	18	6.0	22	7.4
first took drugs at 36 - 40	45	3.6	53	4.4	85	6.9	22	7.3	20	6.7
first took drugs at 41+	67	5.4	63	5.2	71	5.8	18	6.0	30	10.0
Sub-total	1 249	100.0	1 205	100.0	1 234	100.0	301	100.0	299	100.0
Mean age of first abuse	22		22		23		23		24	
Previously reported persons										
first took drugs at < 16	1 364	41.6	1 350	41.4	1 257	41.4	470	43.4	405	41.2
first took drugs at 16 - 20	1 320	40.3	1 312	40.2	1 238	40.8	445	41.1	416	42.3
first took drugs at 21 - 25	291	8.9	314	9.6	274	9.0	88	8.1	76	7.7
first took drugs at 26 - 30	144	4.4	145	4.4	153	5.0	48	4.4	46	4.7
first took drugs at 31 - 35	67	2.0	65	2.0	55	1.8	13	1.2	23	2.3
first took drugs at 36 - 40	42	1.3	40	1.2	23	0.8	11	1.0	11	1.1
first took drugs at 41+	48	1.5	35	1.1	33	1.1	9	0.8	7	0.7
Sub-total	3 276	100.0	3 261	100.0	3 033	100.0	1 084	100.0	984	100.0
Mean age of first abuse	18		18		18		17		18	
All reported persons										
first took drugs at < 16	1 650	36.5	1 621	36.3	1 543	36.2	540	39.0	463	36.1
first took drugs at 16 - 20	1 755	38.8	1 733	38.8	1 655	38.8	539	38.9	516	40.2
first took drugs at 21 - 25	499	11.0	478	10.7	439	10.3	127	9.2	116	9.0
first took drugs at 26 - 30	295	6.5	300	6.7	276	6.5	88	6.4	75	5.8
first took drugs at 31 - 35	124	2.7	143	3.2	142	3.3	31	2.2	45	3.5
first took drugs at 36 - 40	87	1.9	93	2.1	108	2.5	33	2.4	31	2.4
first took drugs at 41+	115	2.5	98	2.2	104	2.4	27	1.9	37	2.9
Total	4 525	100.0	4 466	100.0	4 267	100.0	1 385	100.0	1 283	100.0
Mean age of first abuse	19		19		19		19		19	

Note: The analyses presented in this table are only based on the reported information available to the CRDA, hence excluding those individuals with unknown information on the concerned data items other than age and sex. Users should note that the total number of reported drug abusers in different age or sex groups are presented in tables 1, 2 and 11 only.

Source: Central Registry of Drug Abuse
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