

mixmag

GLOBAL
DRUG
SURVEY

Welcome to the biggest study of drug use of all time: the *Mixmag / Guardian* Drugs Survey, conducted by Global Drug Survey. The new partnership with the *Guardian* newspaper not only meant that we broke all records for participation, but helped build a truly global reach. Over 15,500 people filled it in, from Brazil to Birmingham, Phoenix to Finland

The massive response also changed the demographic slightly: while previous surveys have been dominated by regular clubbers, this year a much wider spread of people took part. Because of this, we've split some of the figures (for things like drugs taken in the last year) to compare the results for respondents who have been clubbing in the past month with the wider picture. A huge number of respondents from the United States (3,300) this year also

means we also have a raft of figures comparing drug use in the UK and the US. Unless stated otherwise, the figures given here refer to the 7,700 people from the UK who filled in the survey. Over the next few pages we've picked out some of the more startling trends and the most relevant figures, but you can see more online at Mixmag.net/drugssurvey2012, where the full results will be published along with detailed explanations of what we like to call 'the science bit'.

WHO TOOK
THE SURVEY?

Typical UK respondents

69.7%

are male

30.3%

are female

82.7%

are heterosexual

68.4%

of respondents agree or strongly agree with the statement 'drugs can make a good night out better'

76.2%

say they **don't** need drugs for a good night out

45.1%

think **drugs** 'can make a bad night out good'

Average age is **28 years and 4 months**
The most common age is **21**

78.2%

are working

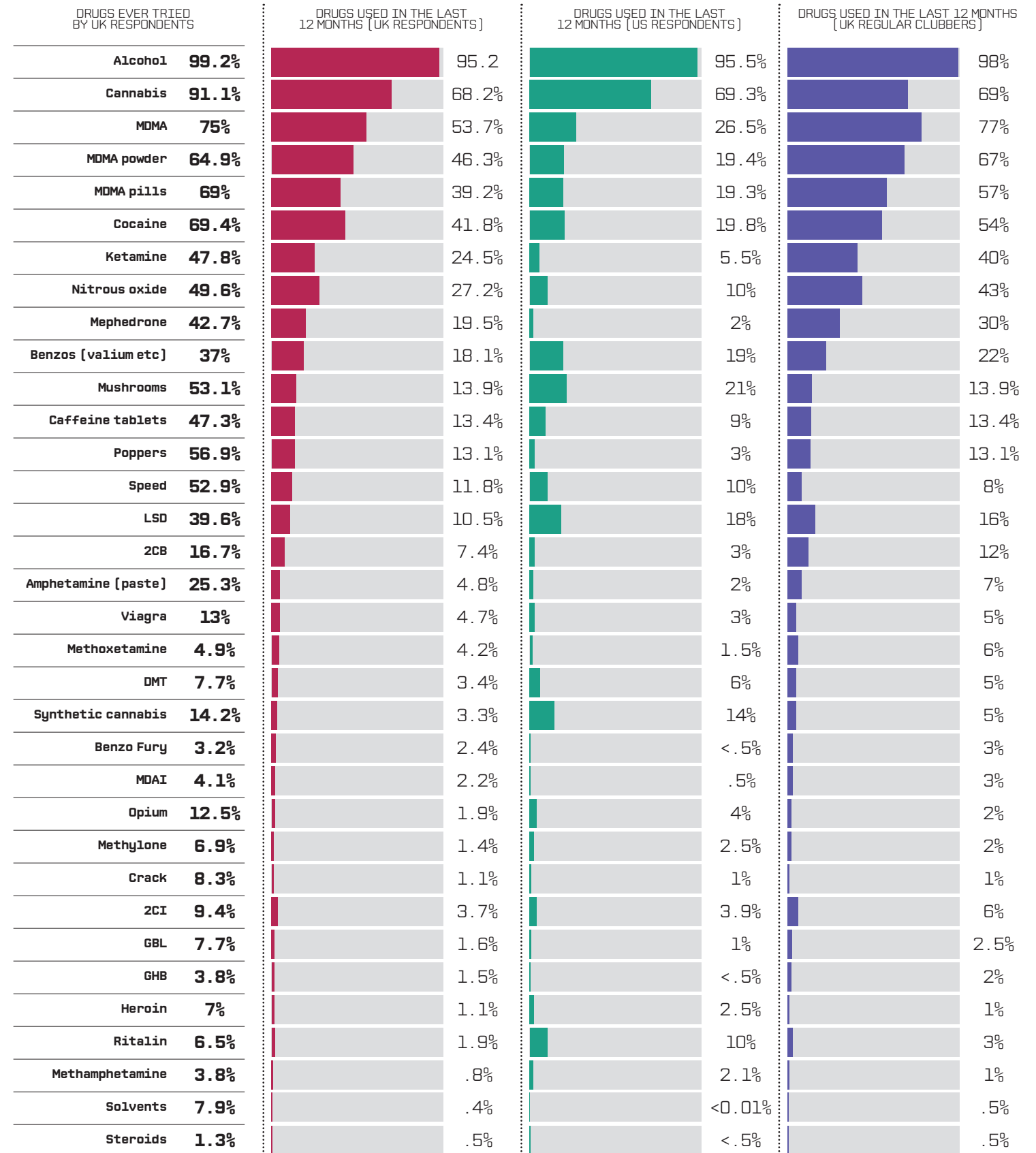
39.5%

are [or are also] studying

23.8%

are unemployed

DRUG USE



91.1% of UK respondents have tried cannabis, 75% some form of MDMA. More (69.4%) had tried cocaine than legal 'drugs' such as caffeine tablets, poppers and nitrous oxide. Nearly half of UK respondents had tried ket, and 42% mephedrone. Cannabis is the most used illegal drug of the last year among UK and US respondents, with MDMA in second place and cocaine in third. In the US, MDMA is well behind cannabis - now effectively

decriminalised in some states [26.5% compared to 69.3% for weed]. Fewer US respondents were regular clubbers, and the picture of drug use there is quite different, with hallucinogens [shrooms, LSD] far more prevalent than in the UK, and club drugs like ketamine and meph nowhere near UK levels. Synthetic cannabis and Ritalin use are much higher in the US, while crack and meth are at similar low level either side of the pond.