

Ten years of impact with KYSNZ



**KNOW
YOUR
STUFF**
— NZ —

KYSNZ 101:

January 2015 - first drug checking event

June 2017 - published first data

In 10 years:

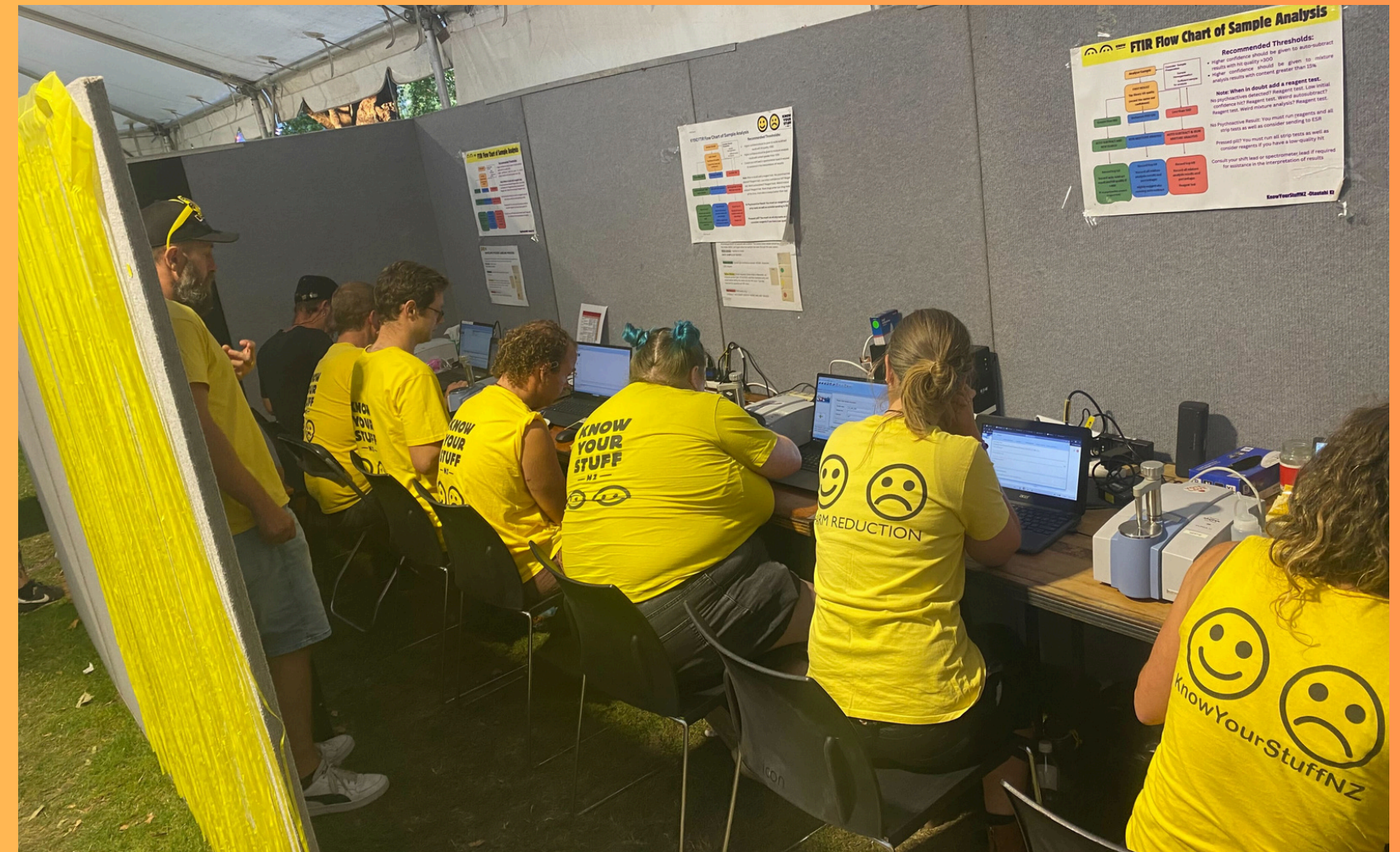
- **20,492 samples**
- **615 events**



KYSNZ 101:

April 2024 - March 2025:

- 3,943 samples for 5,606 clients
- 171 events
 - 21 festivals
 - 35 student events
 - 115 public clinics across 11 cities
- 450 active volunteers
- 2 employees, 14 contractors
 - 4.5 FTEs
 - \$370k funding



Information sharing

April 2024 - March 2025:

615,000 website visitors

1. Pill Library
2. Mixing Chart
3. Drug Info pages

1.1m reach across Meta platforms

57,000 views on TikTok



Why do we do it?

"To reduce and prevent the harms caused by drugs"

Drug Checking direct impacts

Client wellbeing,
acute harm incidents
NPS detections
Warning systems
Monitoring

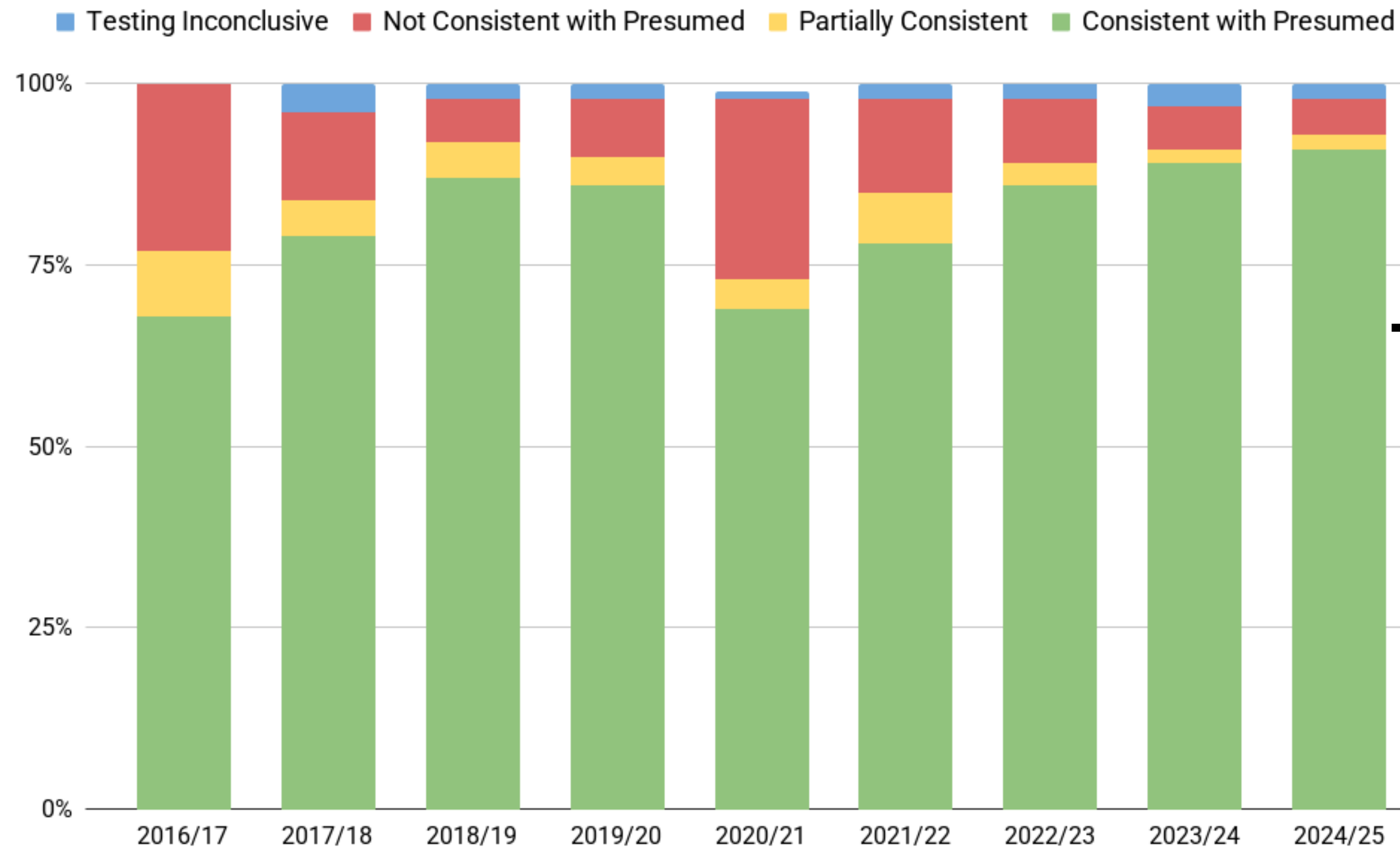
Individual behaviour change

Intent to consume
Route of
administration
Other HR practices
Education

Social change

Peer-to-peer
information sharing
More HR orgs
Fair and balanced
media reporting
Policy change

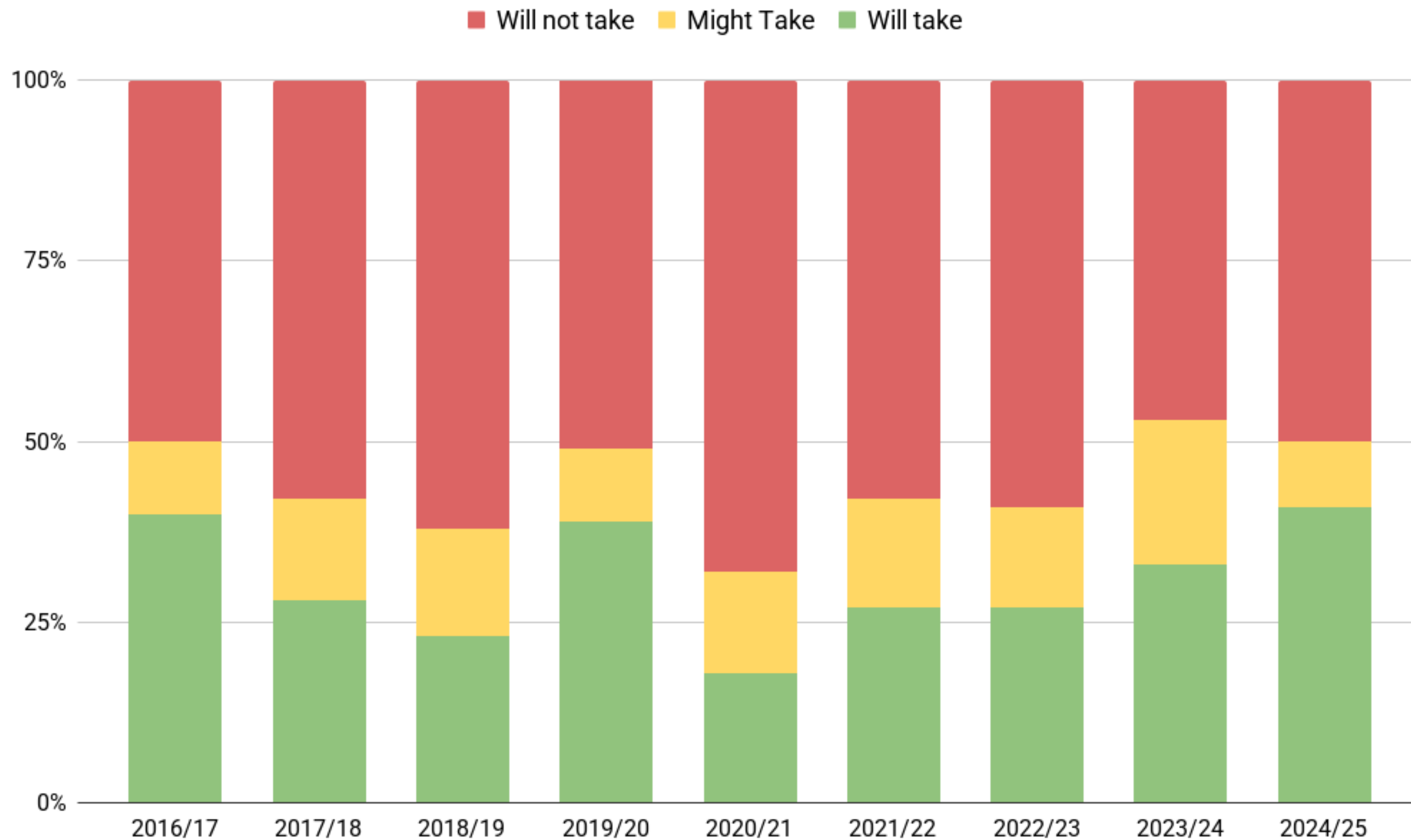
Consistency with presumed



**91% CWP in
2024/25**

81 samples
sent to PHF
for further
testing

Intention to take



***when not
as presumed

Behaviour change

Self-reported via our client survey:

- 93% will use DC services again
- 52% are less likely to mix drugs
- 52% will take a smaller dose
- 25% will take drugs less often
- **80% haven't used other harm reduction orgs before**

Anecdotal from medics, event organisers

Independent research



How do we know we are reducing drug harm?

We've got a proxy problem - measurements are indirect

Incident records are sensitive and non-standardised

Market fluctuations

The people most at risk of harm are the hardest to research



So what's the primary outcome?

Non-stigmatising harm reduction conversations **between peers** opens the door for further engagement with support systems

"Clients always come in expressing how meaningful the work that KYSNZ does is, and how grateful they are that we exist"

- KYSNZ volunteer, 2025

Volunteer impacts

Our secret goal is to get all our volunteers to be peer support workers for their communities.

Since our beginning we have trained **637 people** to:

- hold harm reduction conversations
- recognise internal bias
- run and analyse samples

Plus:

- substance-specific education
- hands-on learning

That's over 3,650 training participant hours

Volunteer impacts

"I love what we do, I love what we stand for, I love what we do for our communities"

"Sharing knowledge, helping people have a good time and stay safe doing it. It's super important work that we do, and I feel empowered and honoured being part of it. "

"I really enjoy knowing that I am part of a team that helps support people from all walks of life make informed decisions about their drug taking - no judgements."

What else should we be investigating?

Social, peer-to-peer sharing of harm reduction information

Upstream market influence of drug checking