

# Turning information into insight

## *Monitoring New Zealand's drug environment*

Kylie Collins, Intelligence Analyst  
National Drug Intelligence Bureau (NDIB)

1 December 2025



# National Drug Intelligence Bureau



**Aim:** To reduce drug harm through addressing both ends of the supply and demand spectrum

## International drug trends and their impacts on NZ



Drug markets



OCG involvement



Supply dynamics



Drug use trends



Changes in legislation



Changes in manufacture methods

## Domestic drug environment



Market forces



Drivers of demand



Drug use trends



Harm



Availability



Wider impacts

## Informs



Policy



Organisational processes



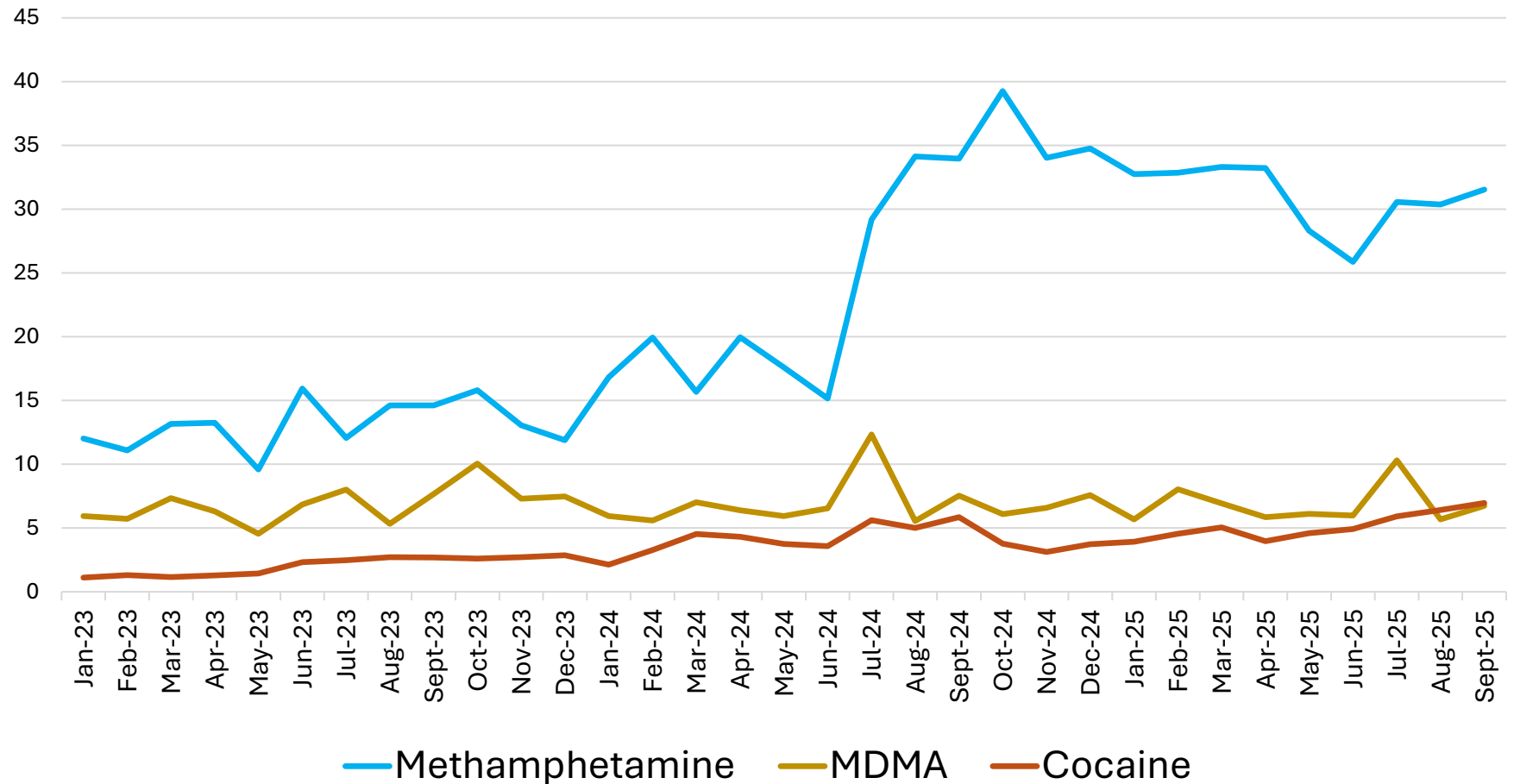
International and domestic decisions

# Overview of NZ drug environment



- Benzodiazepines
- Cannabis
- **Cocaine**
- Dissociatives
- **GBL-type substances**
- Ketamine
- MDMA
- **Methamphetamine**
- **Opioids**
- Psychedelics
- Synthetic cannabinoids
- Synthetic cathinones

Estimated weekly drug use across all testing sites (kilograms/week)

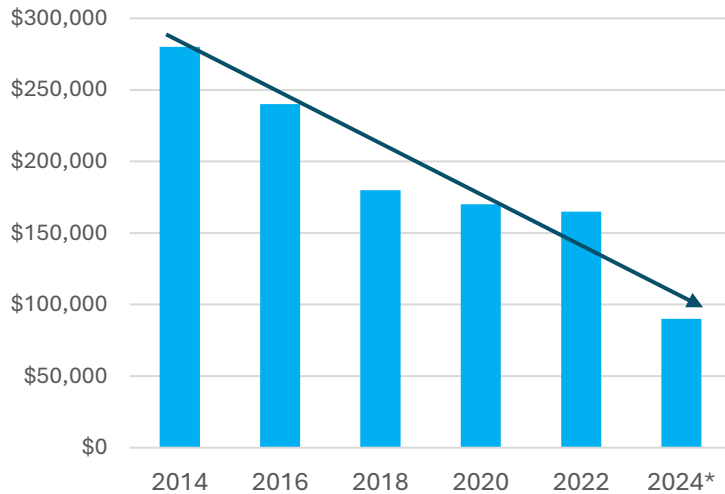


# Methamphetamine

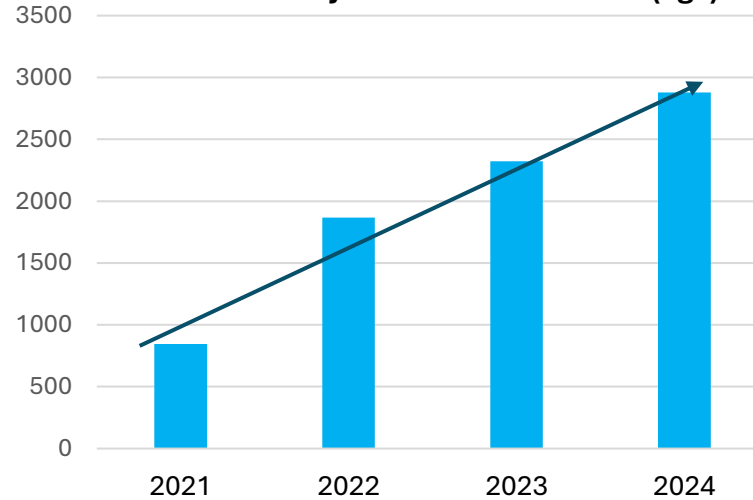


- Prices have dropped
- Supply, demand, and harm have increased

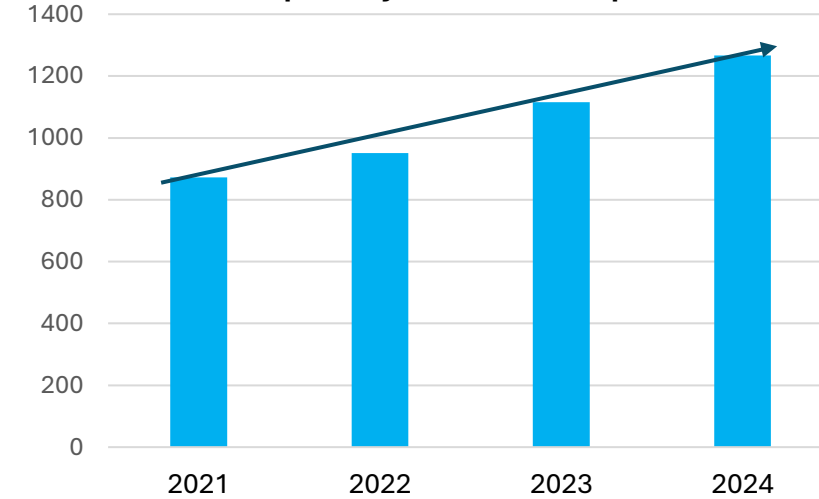
**Average price of meth per kilogram**



**Meth seized by NZ Customs Service (kgs)**



**Meth use primary reason for hospitalisation**

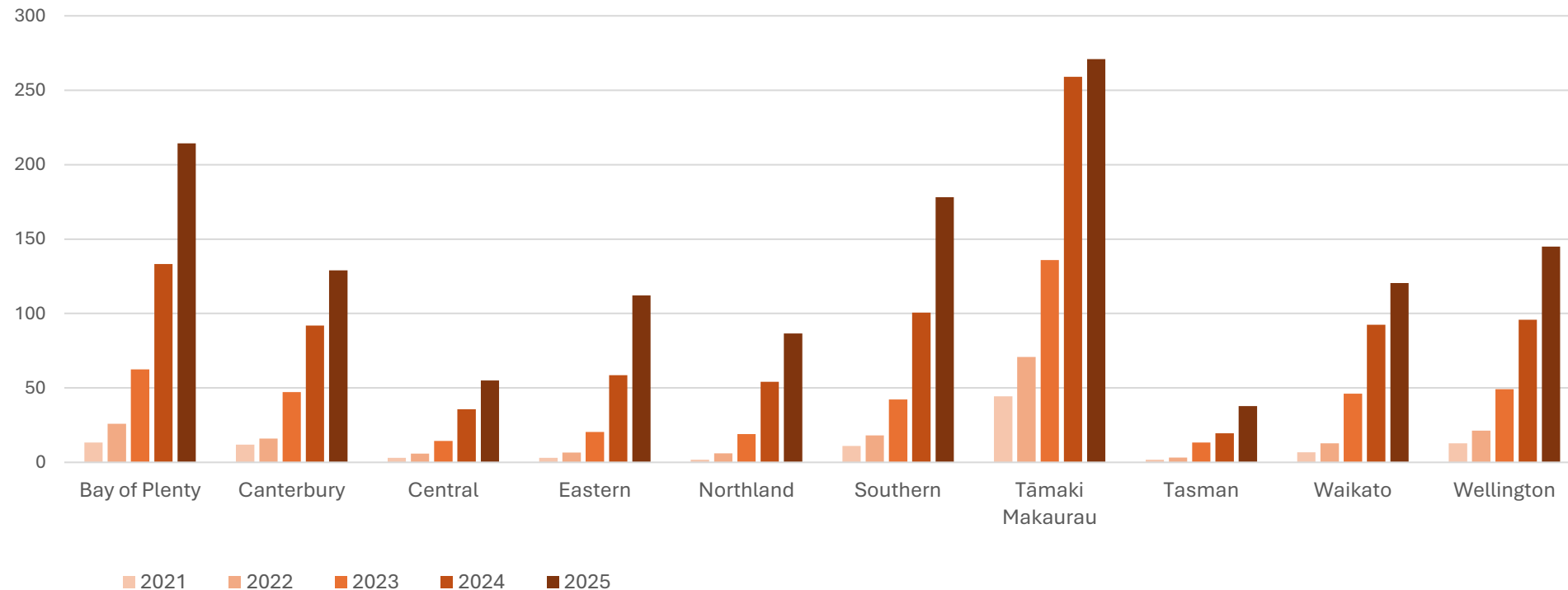


# Cocaine



- Supply, demand and harm have increased
- Use has spread across NZ

Average cocaine consumption rate by District (mg/day/1000 people)

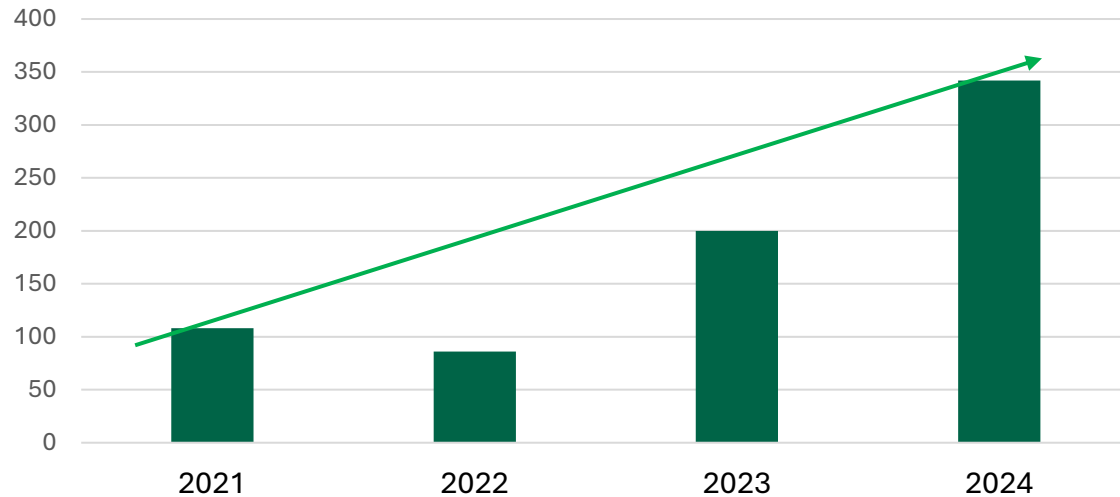


# GBL-type substances (GTS)

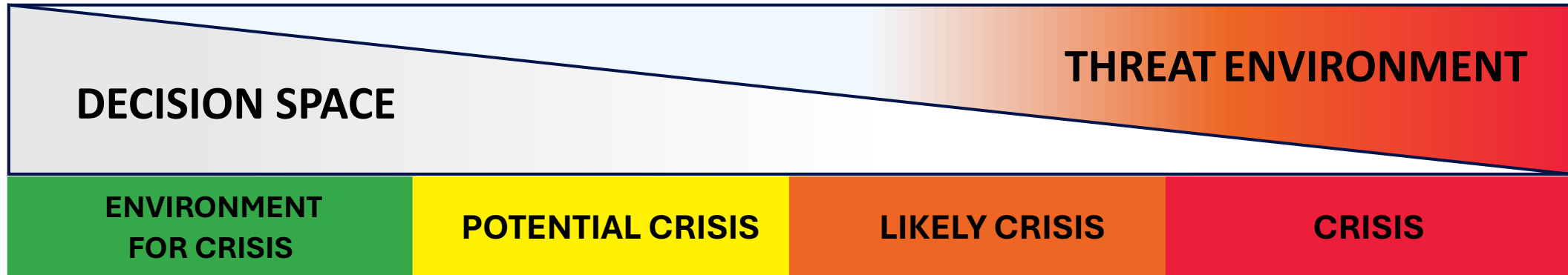


- GBL, GHB and 1,4 BD
- Supply, demand, and harm have increased
- Commonly used with methamphetamine

GTS use primary reason for hospitalisation



# Synthetic Opioids



## Plausible Pathways...

*Interlinked and may influence the initiation of the other*



1. **Domestic organised crime group involvement** in the supply and distribution of synthetic opioids to New Zealand
2. **Wider changes in the NZ drug market**, resulting in slow and steady growth within the existing opioid market

# Future Outlook



- **Increased supply and availability of drugs**  
reducing prices and increasing consumption
- **A more diverse market**  
less familiarity for those consuming and those working to reduce drug harm
- **Persistent demand for drugs**  
wider factors that contribute to harmful drug use are expected to continue





# THANK YOU

[ndib@ndib.govt.nz](mailto:ndib@ndib.govt.nz)

