DRUG USE MONITORING IN AUSTRALIA

SELF-REPORTED USE
In 2016, 24% of detainees self-reported using cannabis in the 48 hours before detention in 2016 while 22% self-reported using methamphetamine. Only 2% reported using either heroin or ecstasy.

TEST POSITIVE—DRUG TYPE
Over half of detainees interviewed and drug tested by DUMA in 2016 tested positive to methamphetamine.

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION
Detainees in 2016 drank an average of 20 standard drinks on their last occasion of drinking.

MOST SERIOUS OFFENCE
84% of police detainees arrested for a property offence tested positive to at least one type of drug.

ATTESTION TO CURRENT DETENTION
28% of detainees attributed their current detention to methamphetamine use compared with 8% of cannabis users and 3% of heroin users.

DRUG USE BY INDIGENOUS STATUS
In 2016, more non-Indigenous detainees (52%) tested positive to methamphetamine than Indigenous detainees (47%). More Indigenous detainees tested positive for cannabis (50%) than non-Indigenous detainees (42%).

DETAINEE PROFILES
The majority of detainees in 2016 were male (83%), with a secondary-level education (57%), living in stable housing (84%) and unemployed (58%) at the time of detention in 2016.