



2024/25

DRUG & ALCOHOL IMPACT SURVEY REPORT

PREPARED BY

**KEELE DRUG &
ALCOHOL STEERING
GROUP**

A hand holding a cup of coffee next to a smartphone displaying a survey form. The survey form is titled 'Survey' and 'Customer Satisfaction Survey'. It asks the user to 'Please tick a box on each line to indicate how much you rate level of service' and lists categories: 'Excellent', 'Good', and 'Average'. The categories are represented by radio buttons. The survey form also includes a question 'd. Staff' and 'e. Value for money'.

METHODOLOGY

The annual SOS Drug & Alcohol Survey was sent to all students by Zoe Garnett, Welfare Officer, KeeleSU via email. The survey was also widely advertised via social media and other digital communication channels such as MS Teams.

The survey was open between the 18th November to 8th December 2024.

In total, 23 institutions took part in the survey. Across all 23 partnerships, there were 12,713 respondents. Keele University made up 1.7% of these with 221 respondents.

This is a decrease from the 349 respondents the year before.

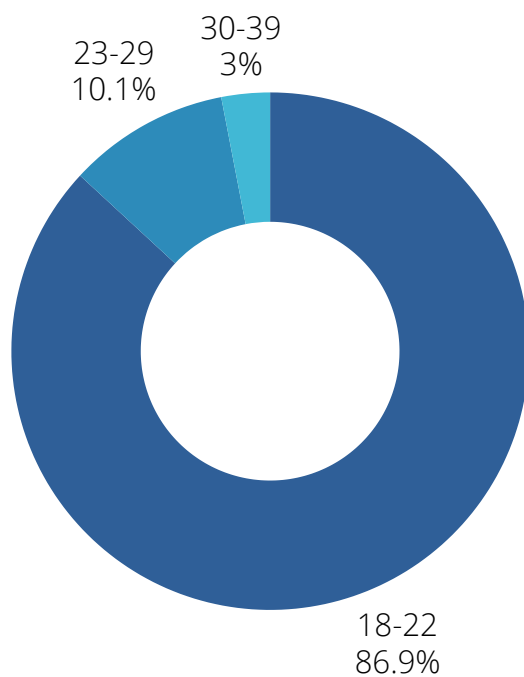
The data presented in this report is Keele data only.

Answers are presented as percentages unless otherwise stated.



DEMOGRAPHICS

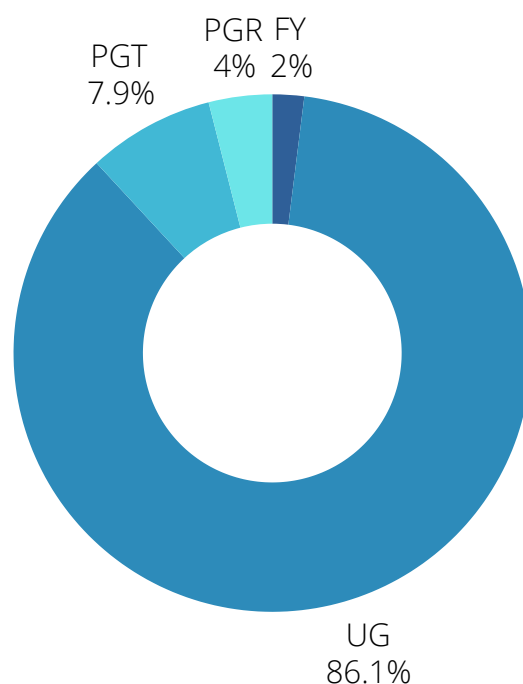
Age of participants



Whole Student Population (age)
<18-20 (58%), 21-29 (22%), 30-39 (11%), 40+ (8%)

Whole Student Population (year of study)
UG (73%), PGT (23%), PGR (4%)

Year of study

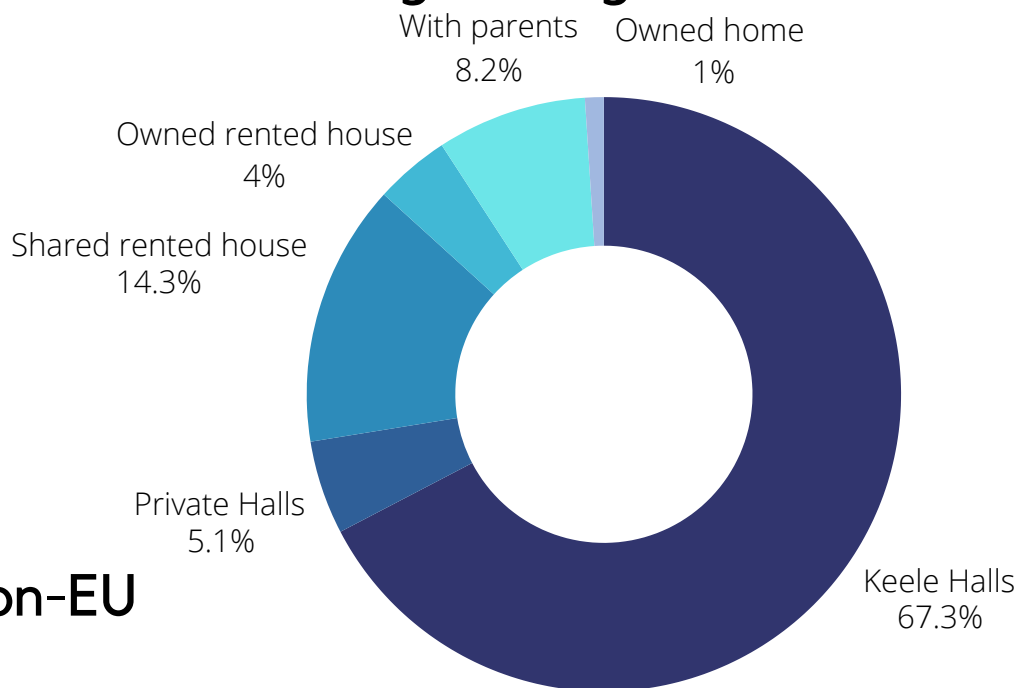


UG
86.1%

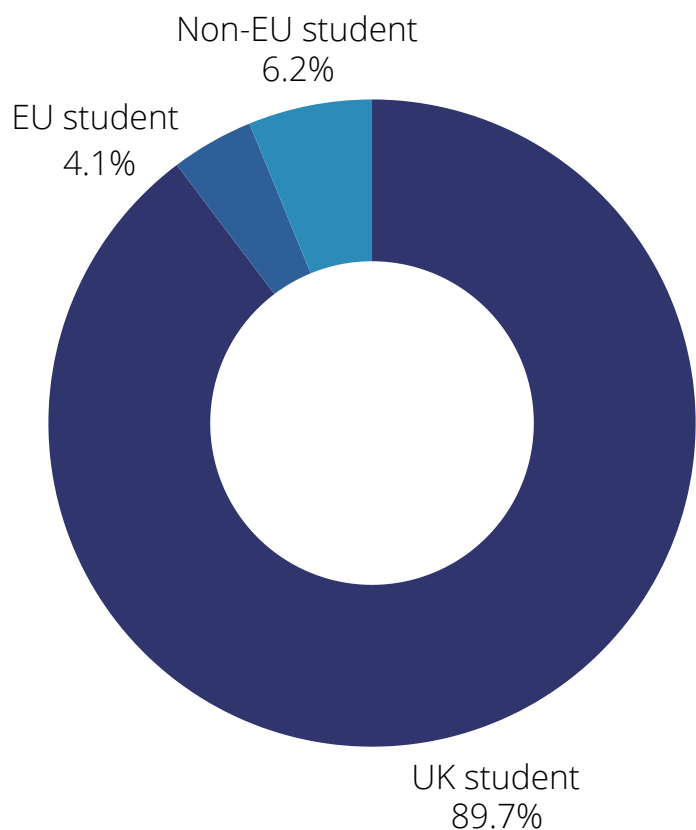


DEMOGRAPHICS

Living Arrangements

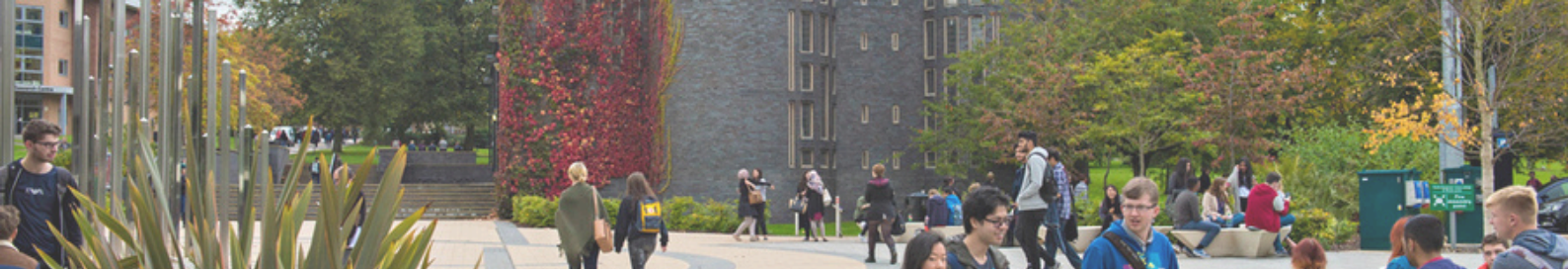


UK/EU/non-EU



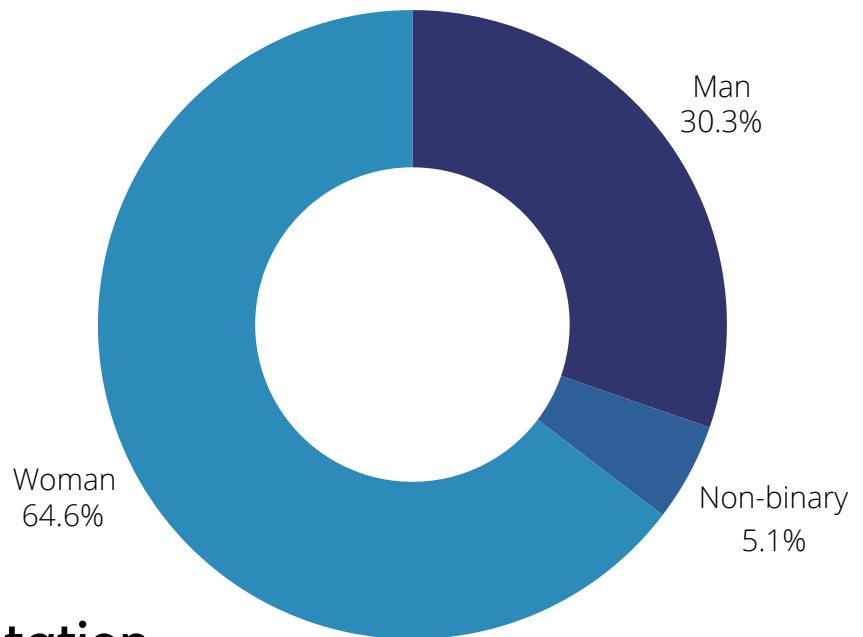
*Whole Student Population (living arrangements)
Data not collected*

*Whole Student Population (UK vs. overseas)
UK students (88%), non-EU (10%), EU (2%)*

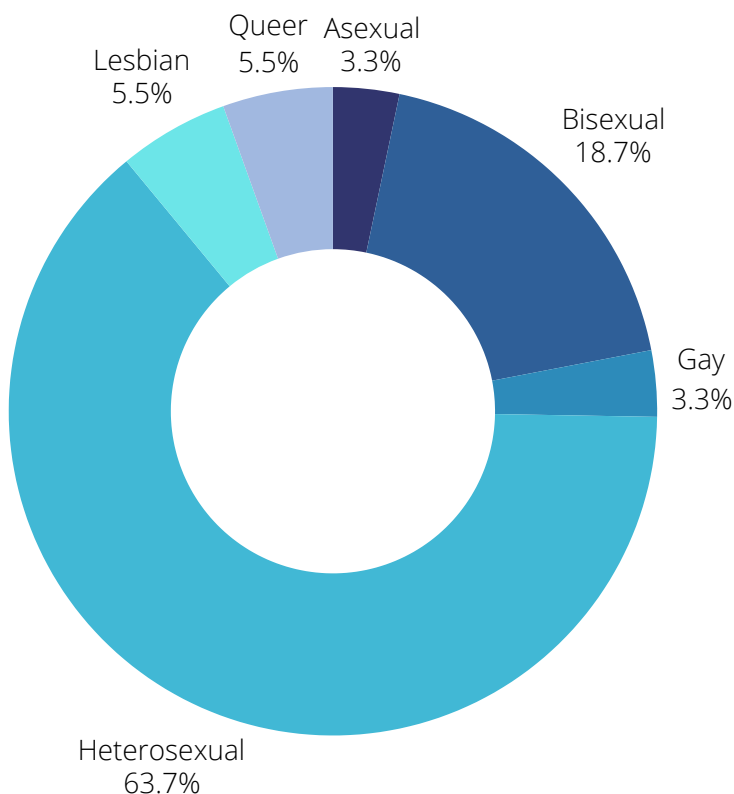


DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender Identification



Sexual Orientation

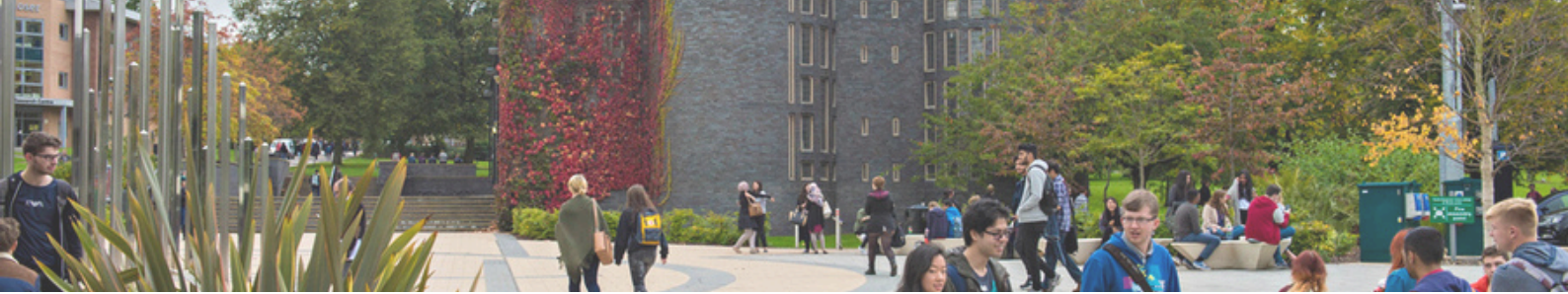


Whole Student Population (gender identification)

Males (36%), Females (62%), Other (2%)

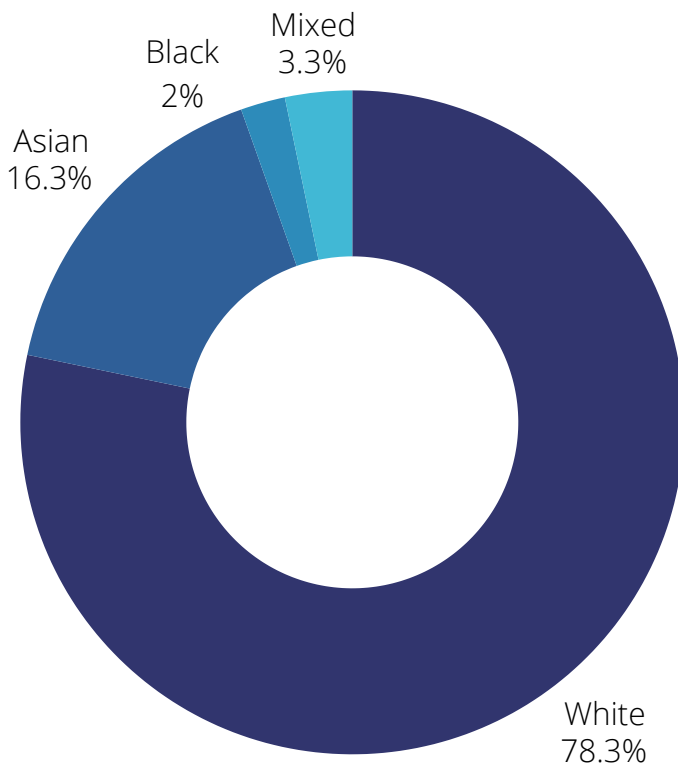
Whole Student Population (sexual orientation)

Heterosexual (77%), Bisexual (8%), Gay or lesbian (3%), other/unknown (13%)



DEMOGRAPHICS

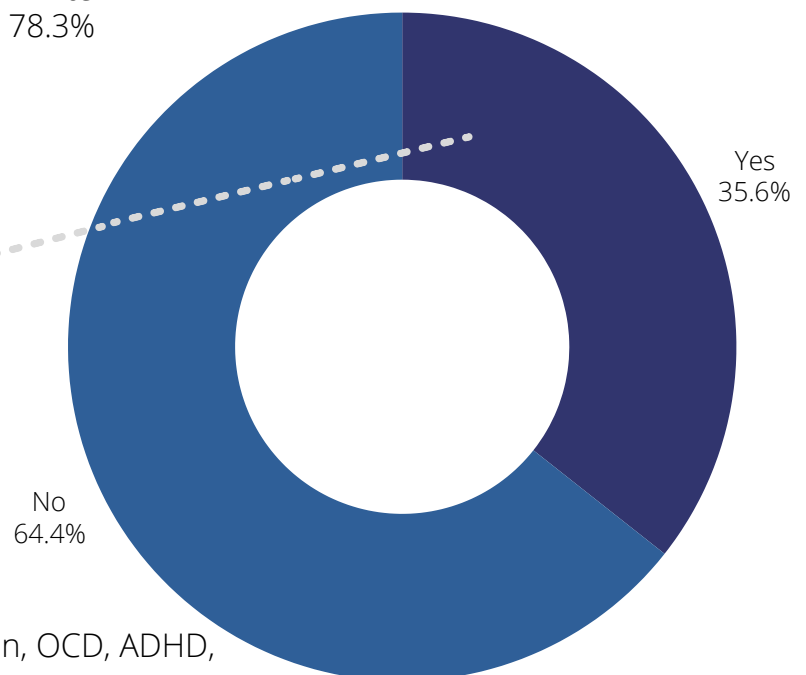
Ethnicity



Whole Student Population (ethnicity)
White (56%), Asian (25%), Black (11%), Mixed (4%)

Whole Student Population (disability)
With disability (23%), without disability (77%)

Disability



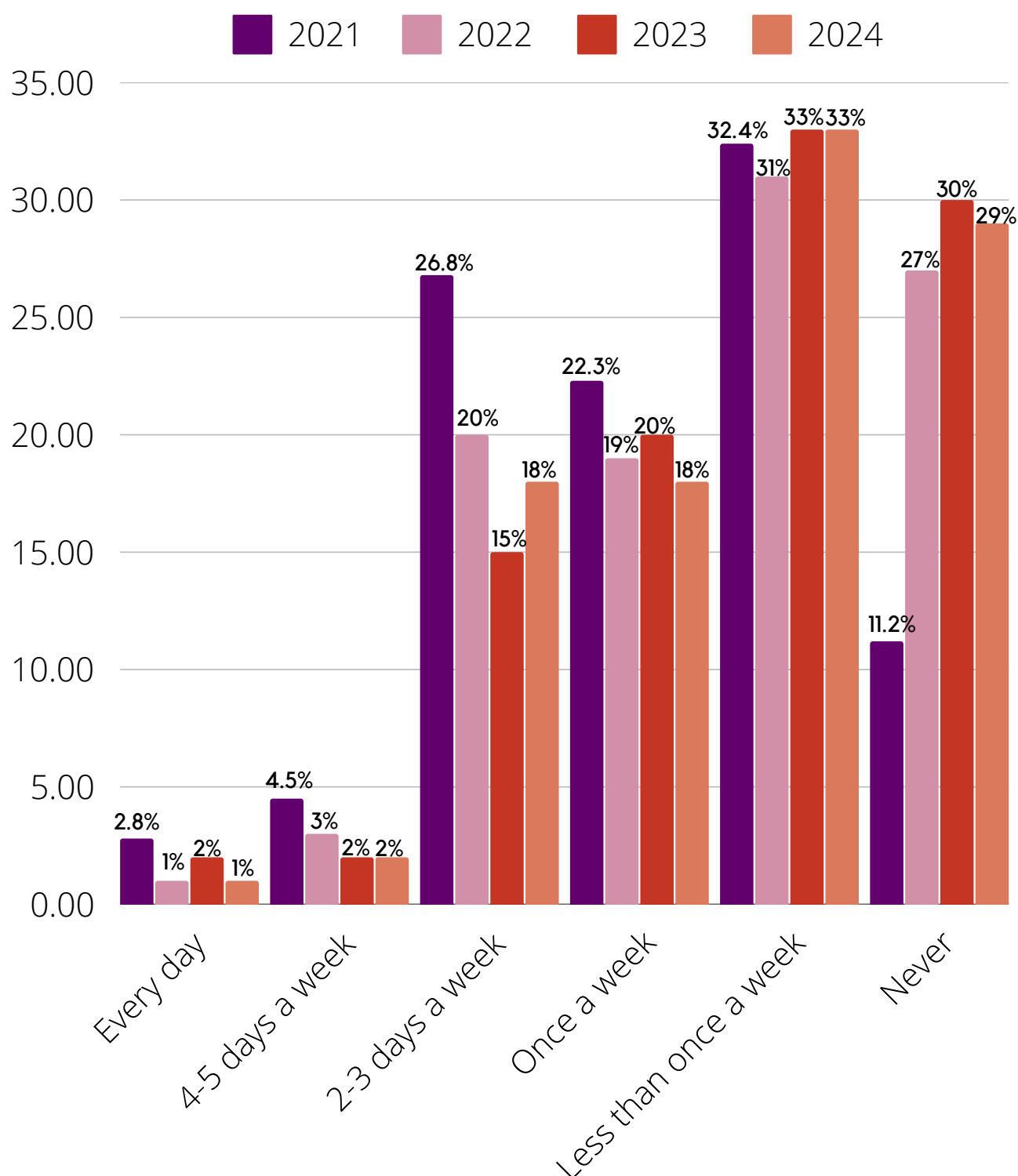
Of those who answered yes:

- 7% physical impairment
- 3% deaf
- 41% mental health difficulties
- 32% learning difficulties
- 1% profound or multiple difficulties
- 36% autistic
- 26% an unseen disability
- 17% other (including coeliac, chronic pain, OCD, ADHD, arthritis & Chron's)



ALCOHOL USE

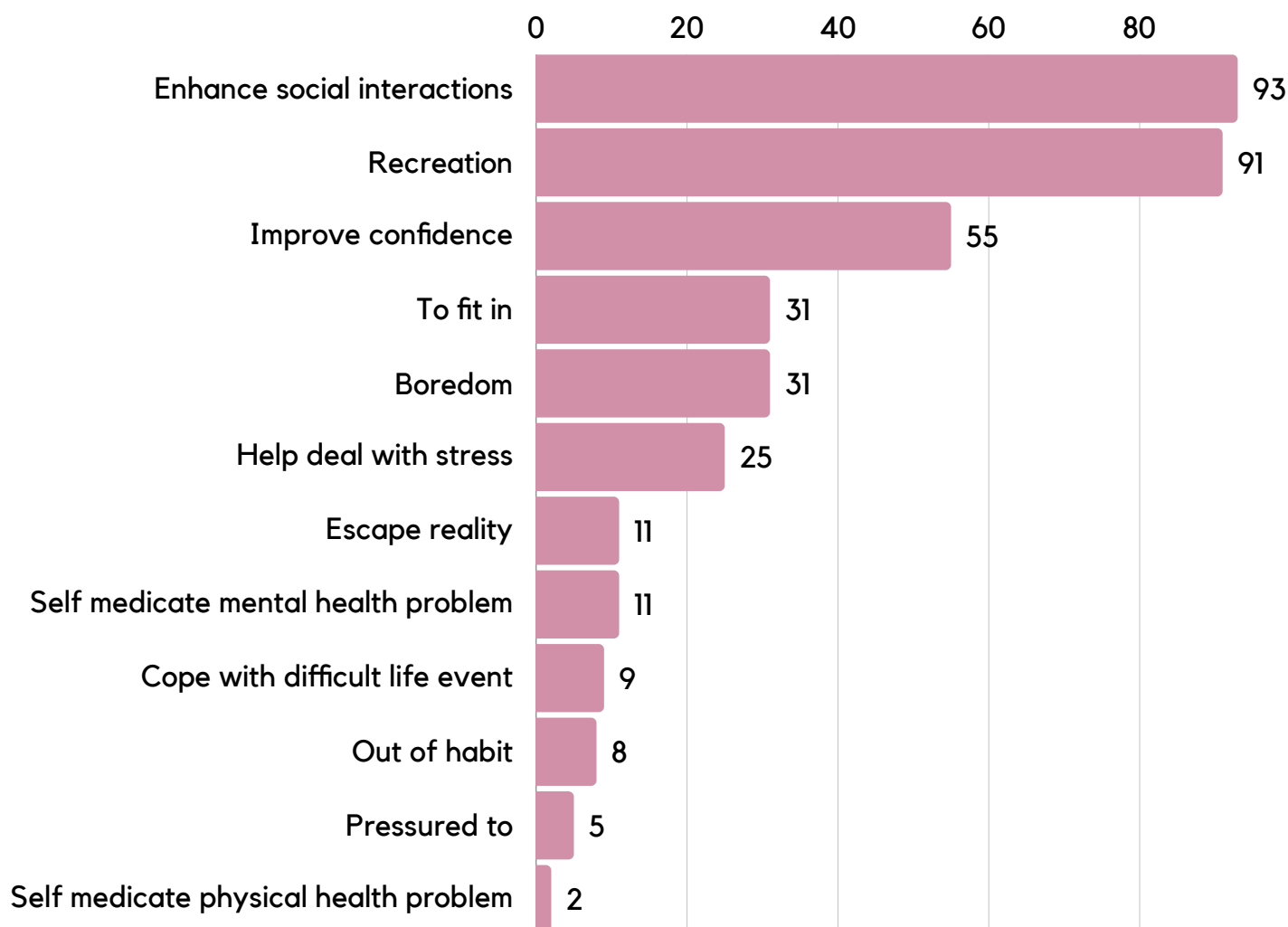
How often, if at all, do you drink alcohol? (%)





ALCOHOL USE

Which of the following best describes why you drink alcohol? (%)



- *"I like the taste"*
- *"Casual drinking"*
- *"Enjoy a drink socially"*

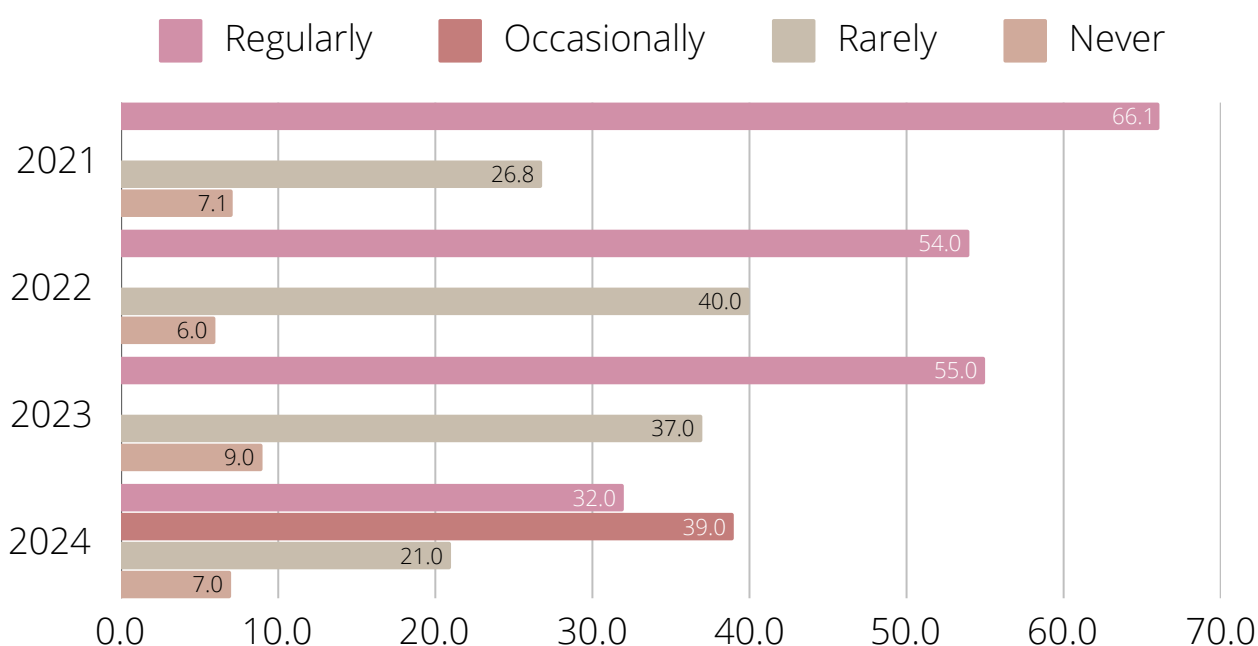


ALCOHOL USE

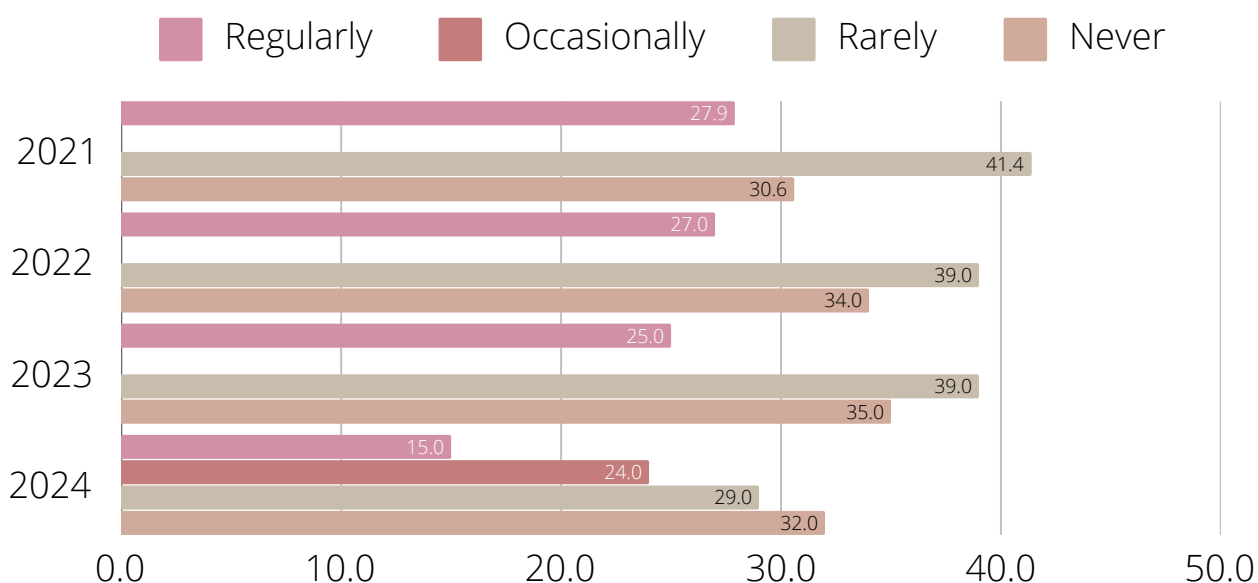
Do any of the following describe your drinking behaviour?

The option 'occasionally' was added into the 2024 survey and wasn't an option in previous waves

Pre-drink at Home



Get drunk before night out



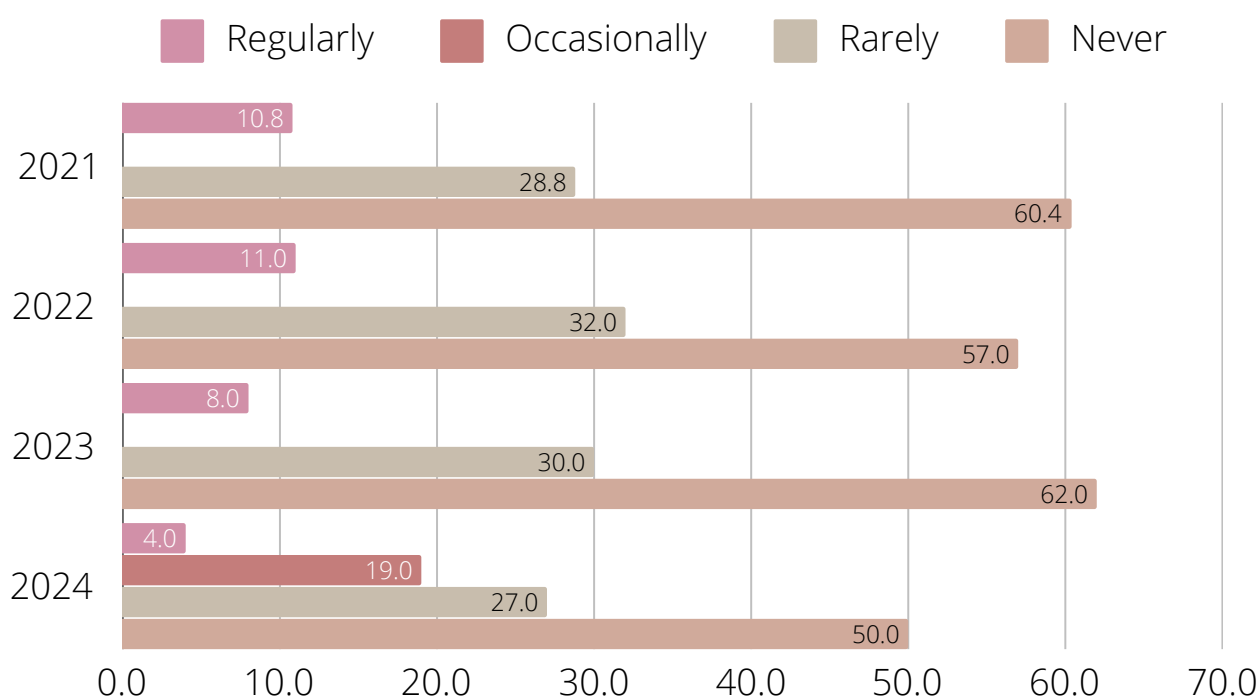


ALCOHOL USE

Do any of the following describe your drinking behaviour?

The option 'occasionally' was added into the 2024 survey and wasn't an option in previous waves

Not eat before going out

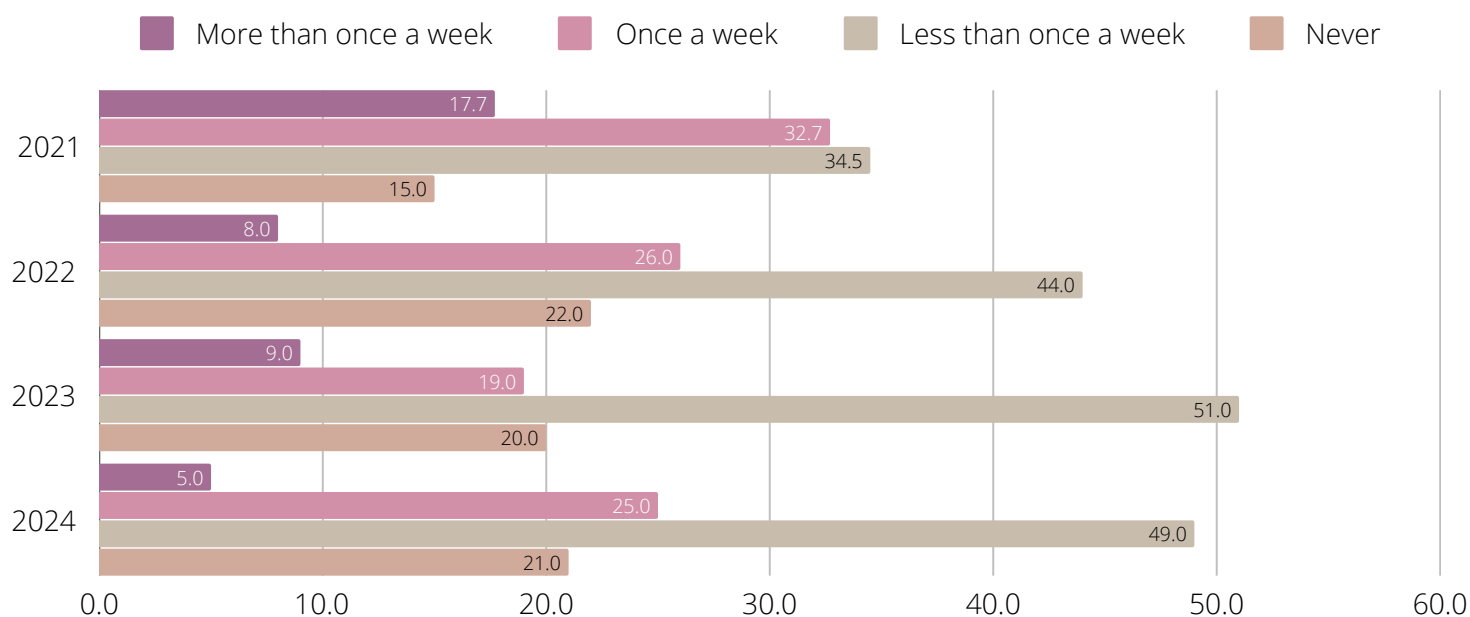




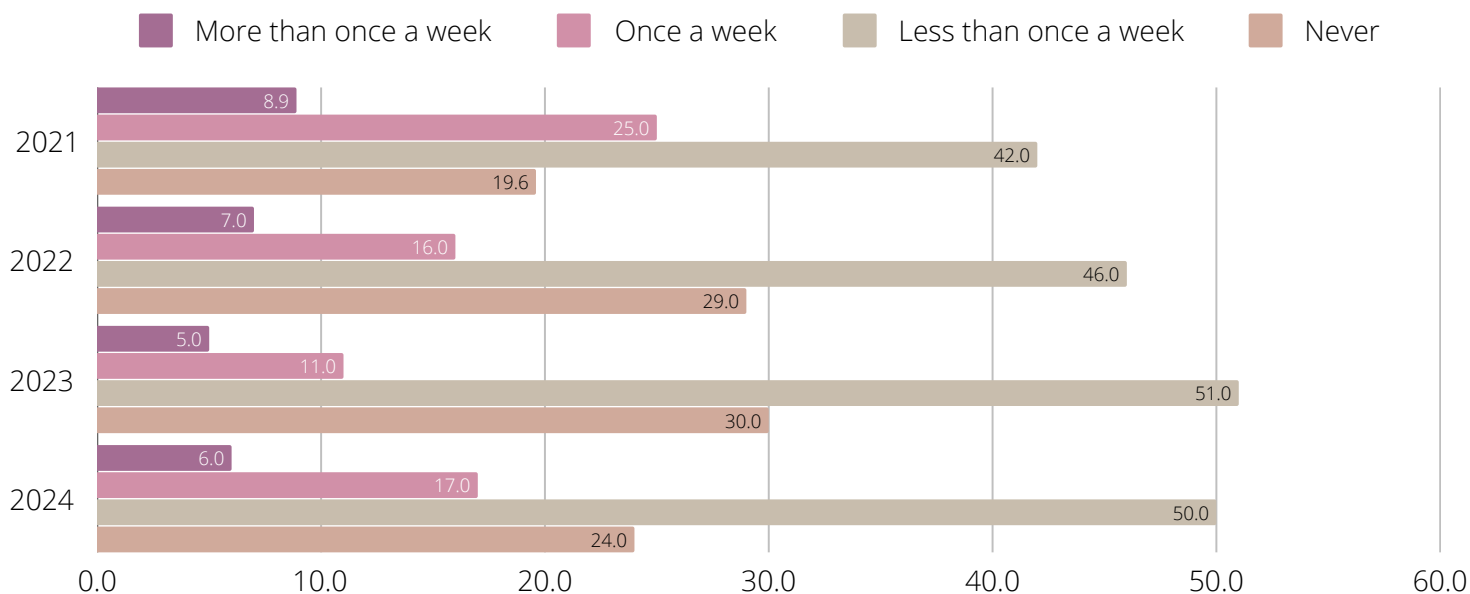
ALCOHOL USE

Do any of the following describe your drinking behaviour?

Drink with the intention of getting drunk



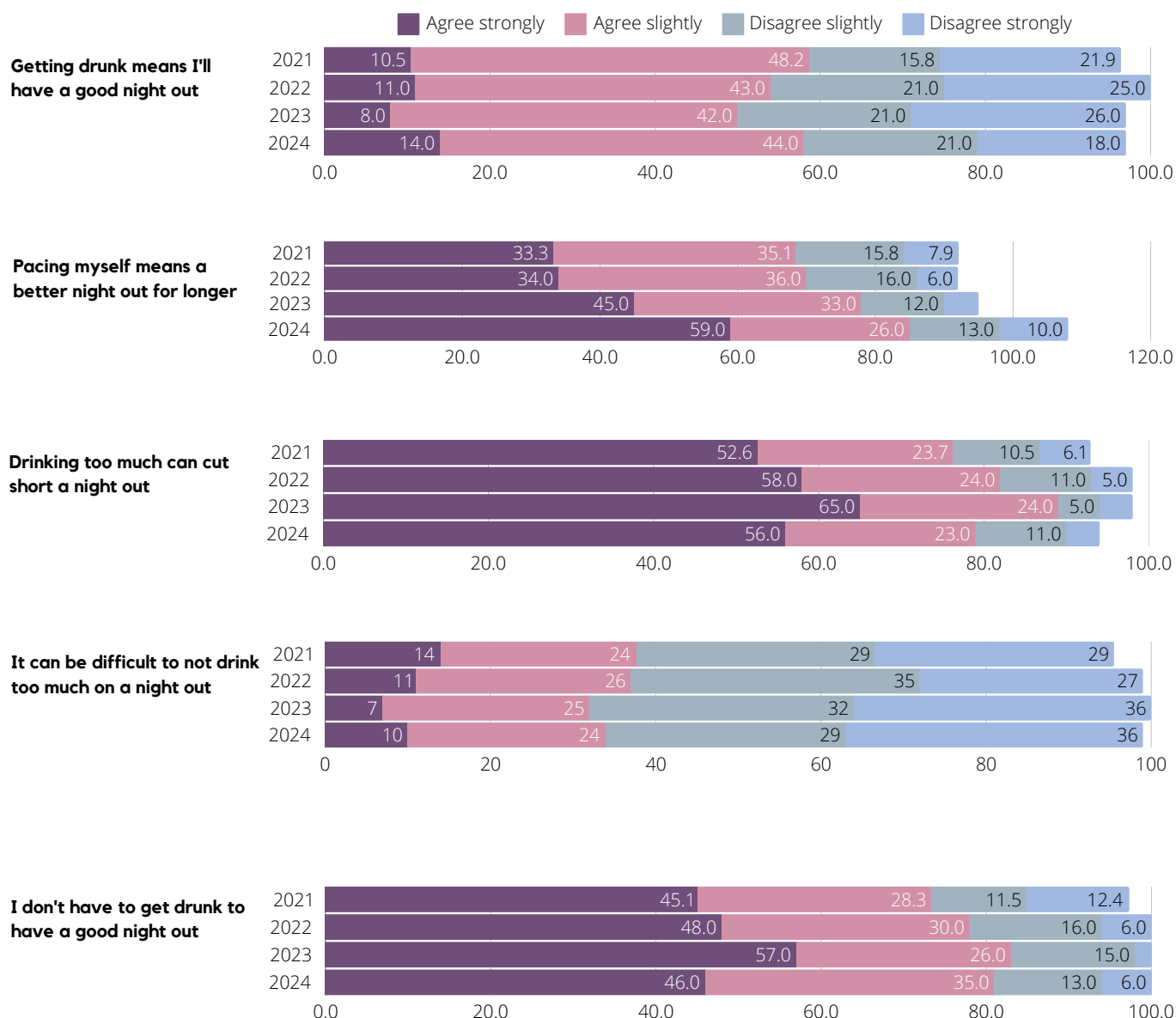
Get drunk unintentionally





ALCOHOL USE

To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



You agreed it can be difficult not to drink too much on a night out – why do you think that?

- Pressure from friends (20%)
- It can be difficult to get water or soft drinks from bars / clubs (16%)
- There are too many tempting drinks offers (27%)
- It can be expensive to get water or soft drinks from bars / clubs (33%)
- It can feel embarrassing ordering water or soft drinks (31%)
- It's easy to get caught up in rounds (67%)
- I don't know what to do that would help me to not drink too much (10%)
- Drinking helps me to relax / socialise (76%)



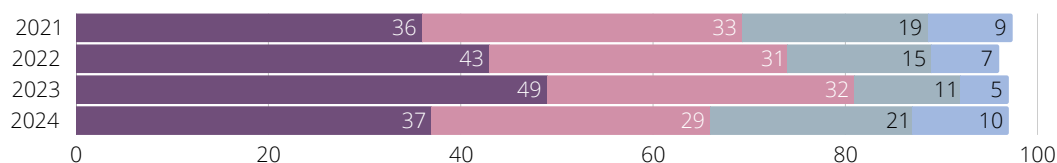
ALCOHOL USE

To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

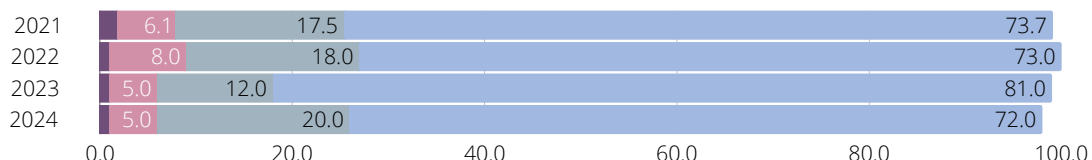
I tend to stop drinking before I get very drunk



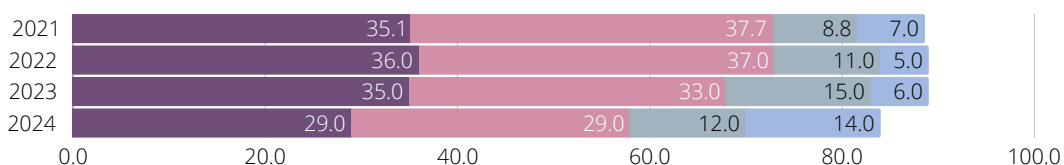
I don't like socialising with people who get very drunk



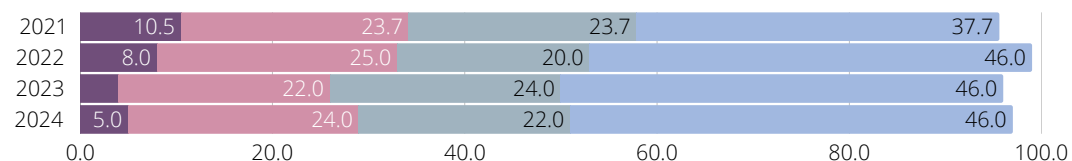
I don't like socialising with people who don't drink



I think more about my behaviour when I drink now



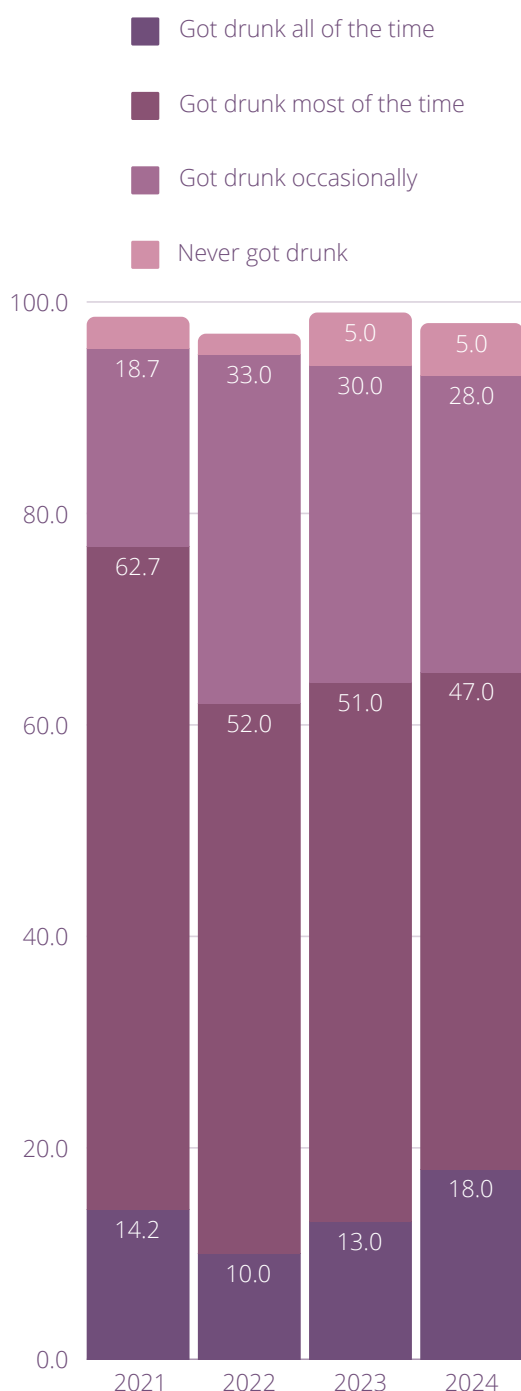
I feel pressure from my friends to drink more alcohol



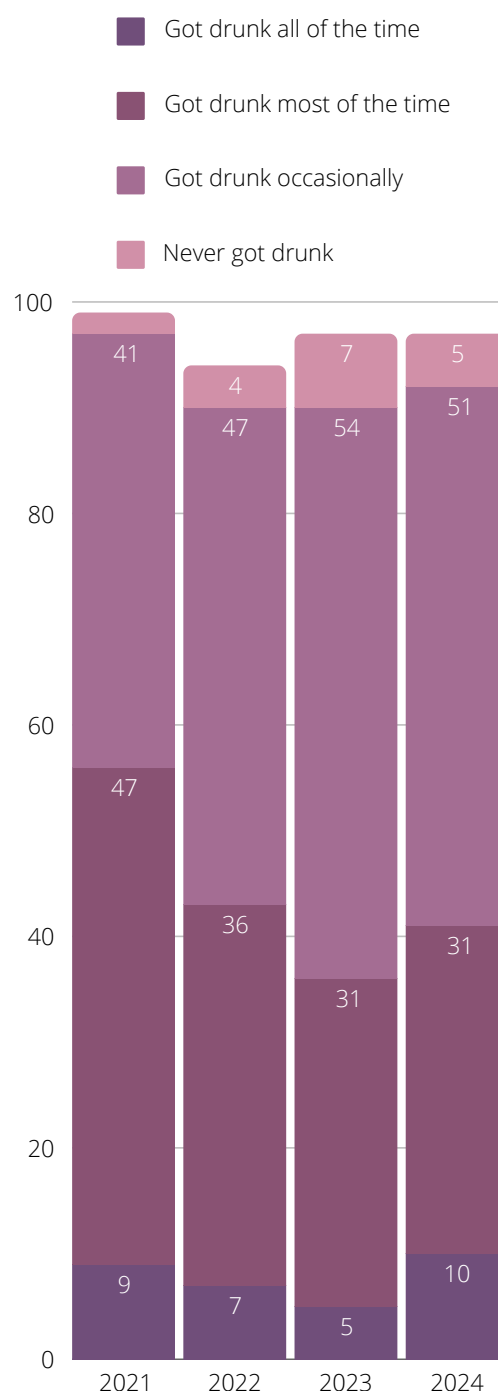


ALCOHOL PERCEPTIONS

Please select the phrase which best describes your perceptions



Before arriving at University, did you believe that students...

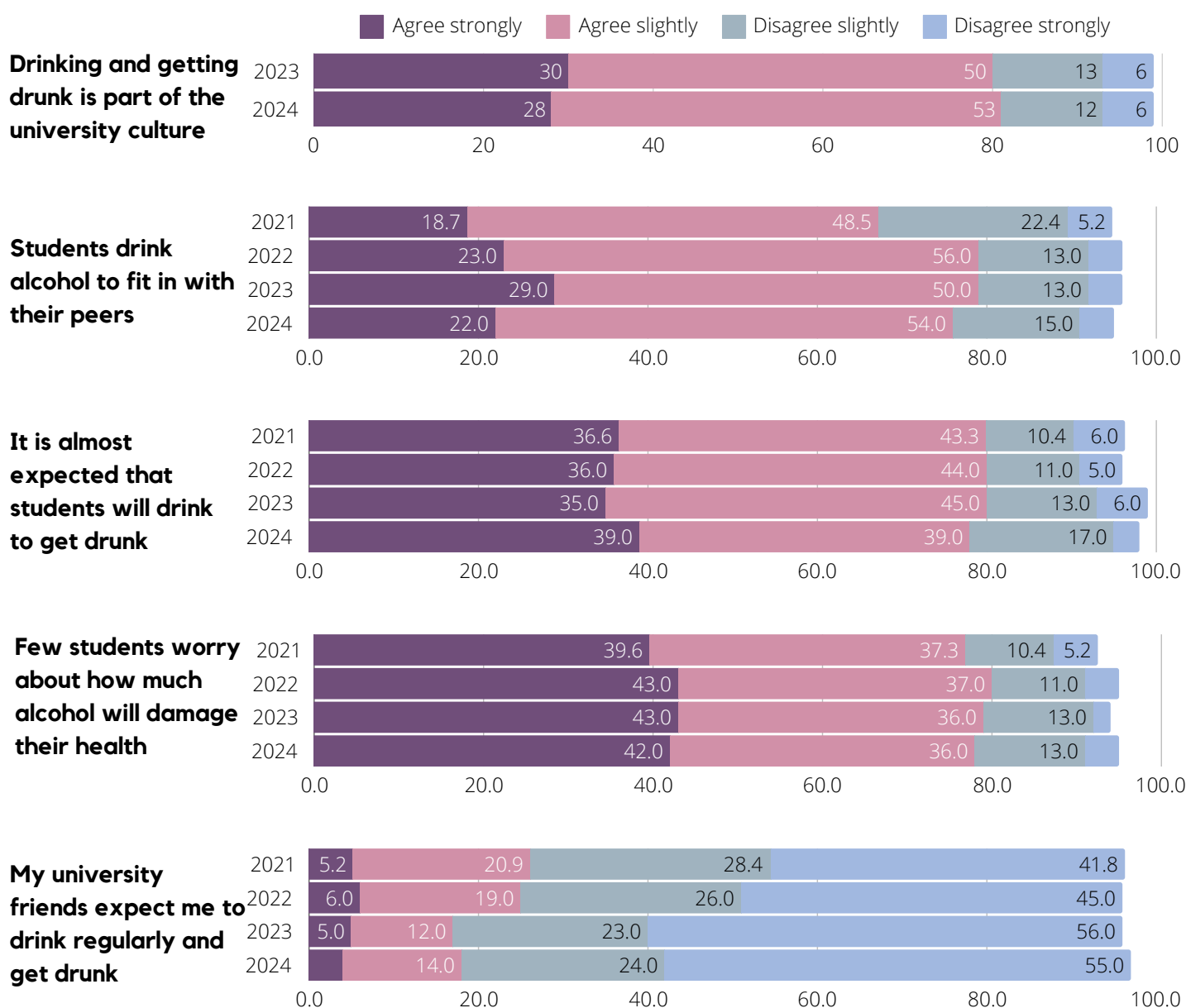


And now you're at university, do you believe that students...



ALCOHOL PERCEPTIONS

Thinking specifically about drinking alcohol at university, how much do you agree or disagree, if at all, with the following statements?

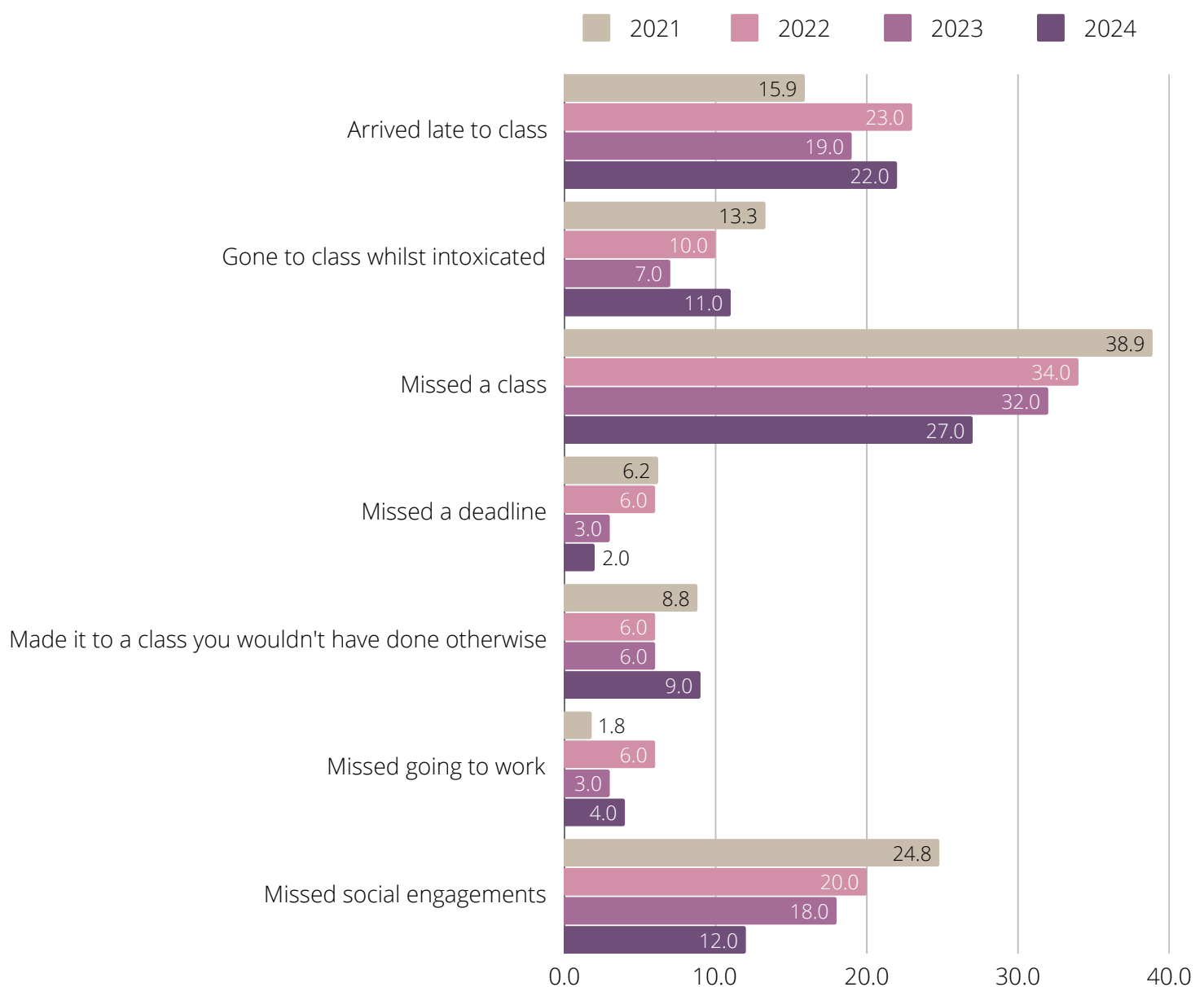




CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL USE

Which of the following have you experienced since you have been at university during or following the consumption of alcohol?

ACADEMIC & WORK

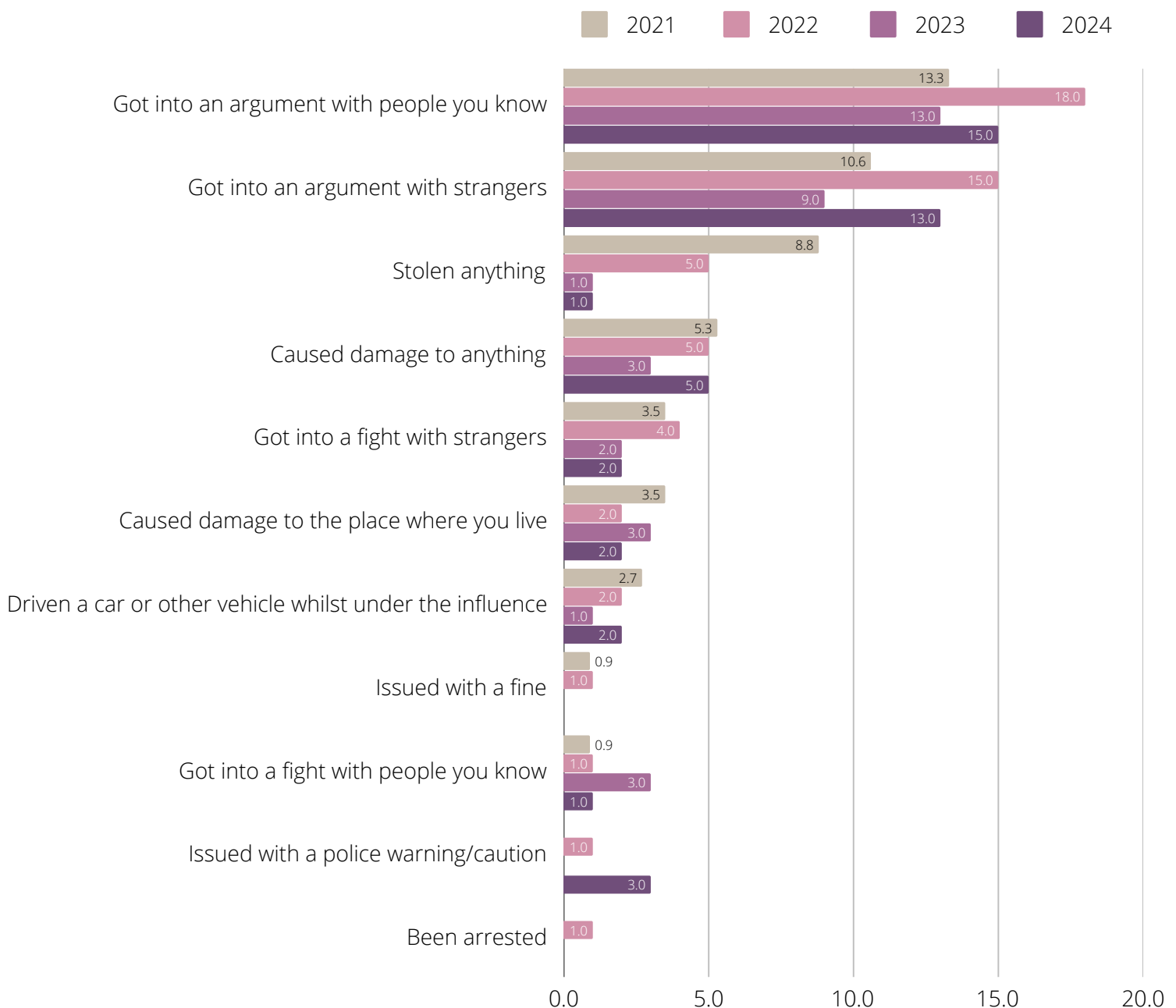




CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL USE

Which of the following have you experienced since you have been at university during or following the consumption of alcohol?

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

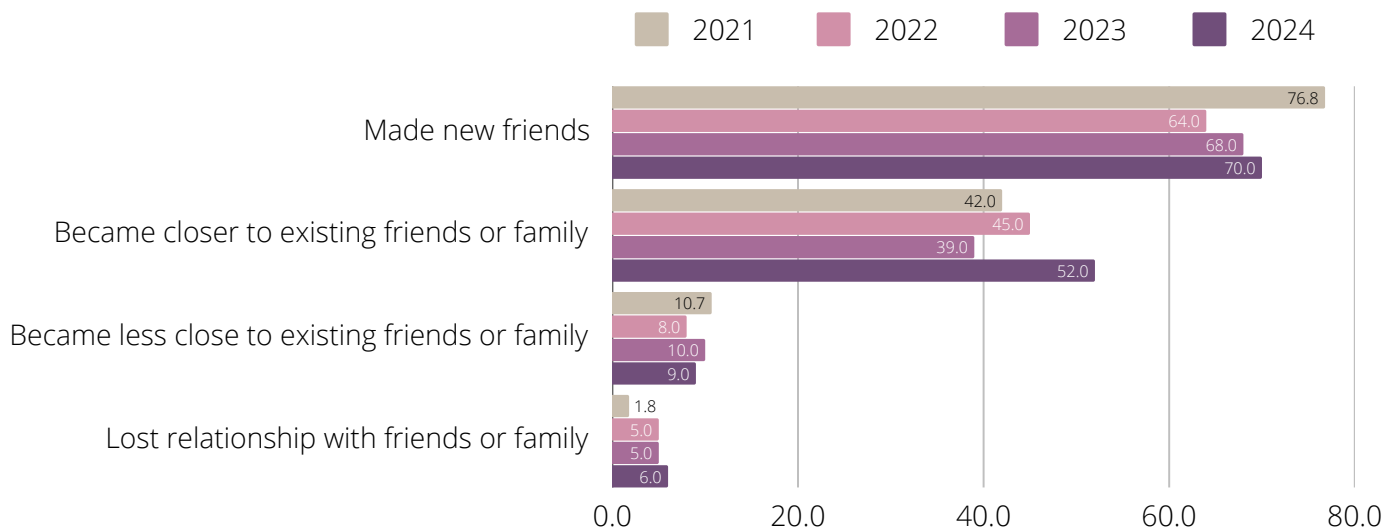




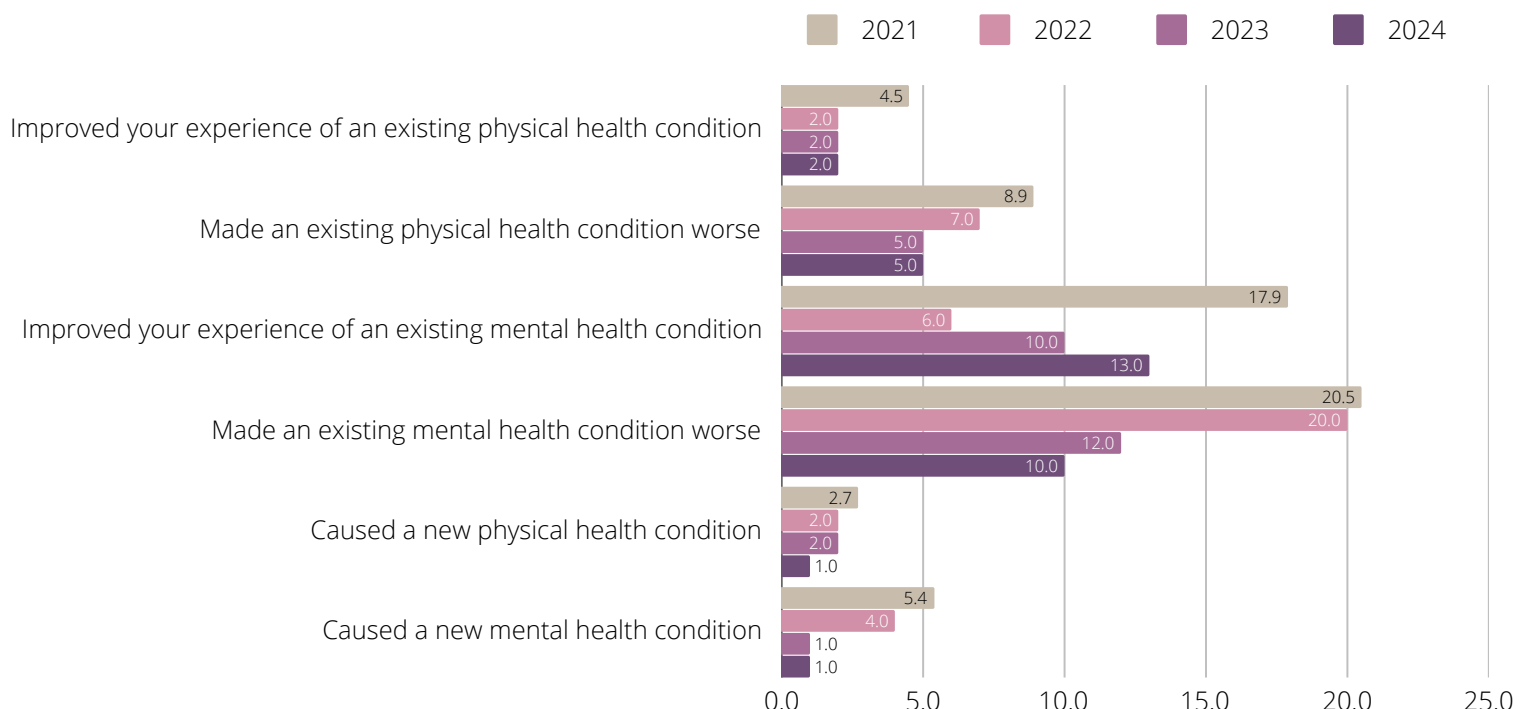
CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL USE

Which of the following have you experienced since you have been at university during or following the consumption of alcohol?

SOCIAL LIFE



MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH

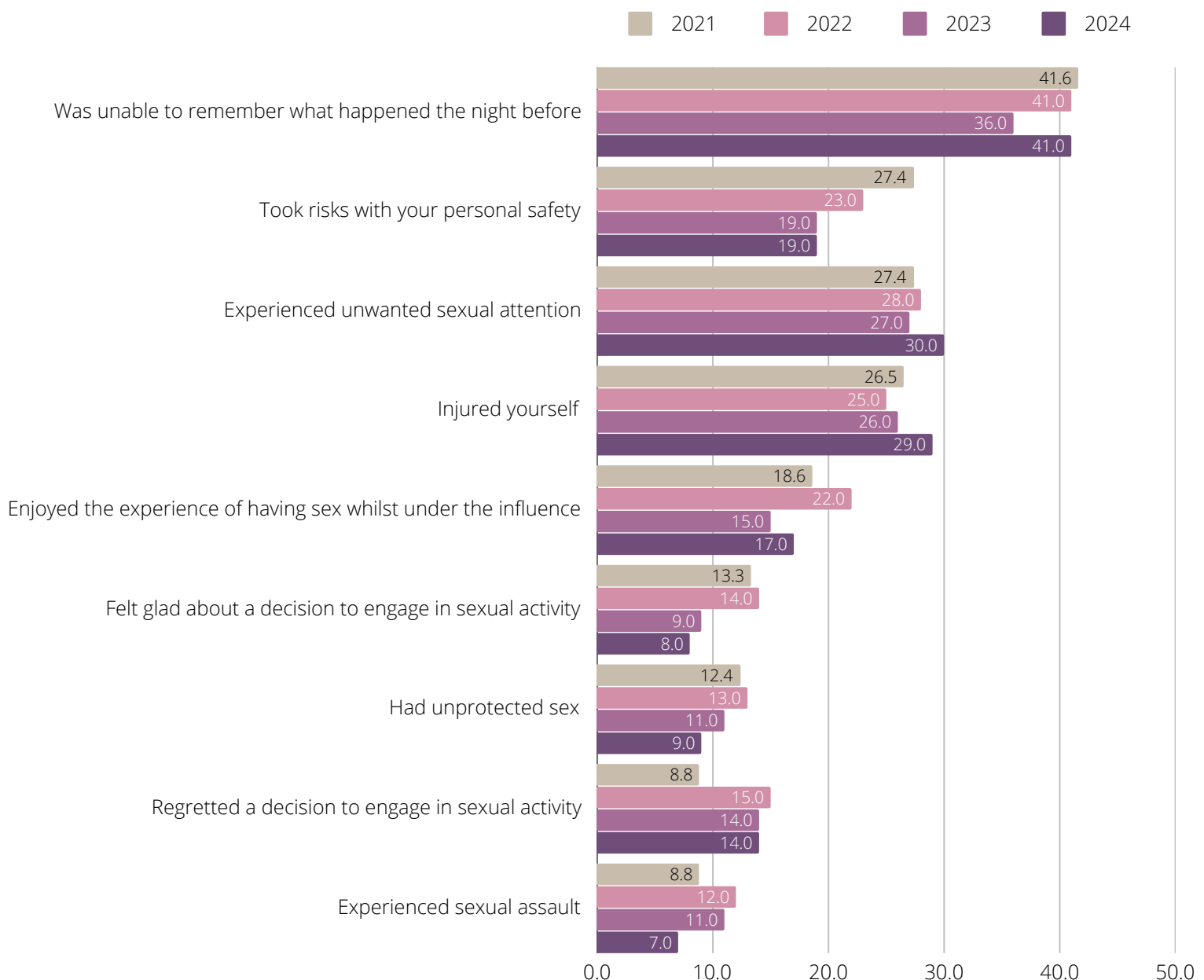




CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL USE

Which of the following have you experienced since you have been at university during or following the consumption of alcohol?

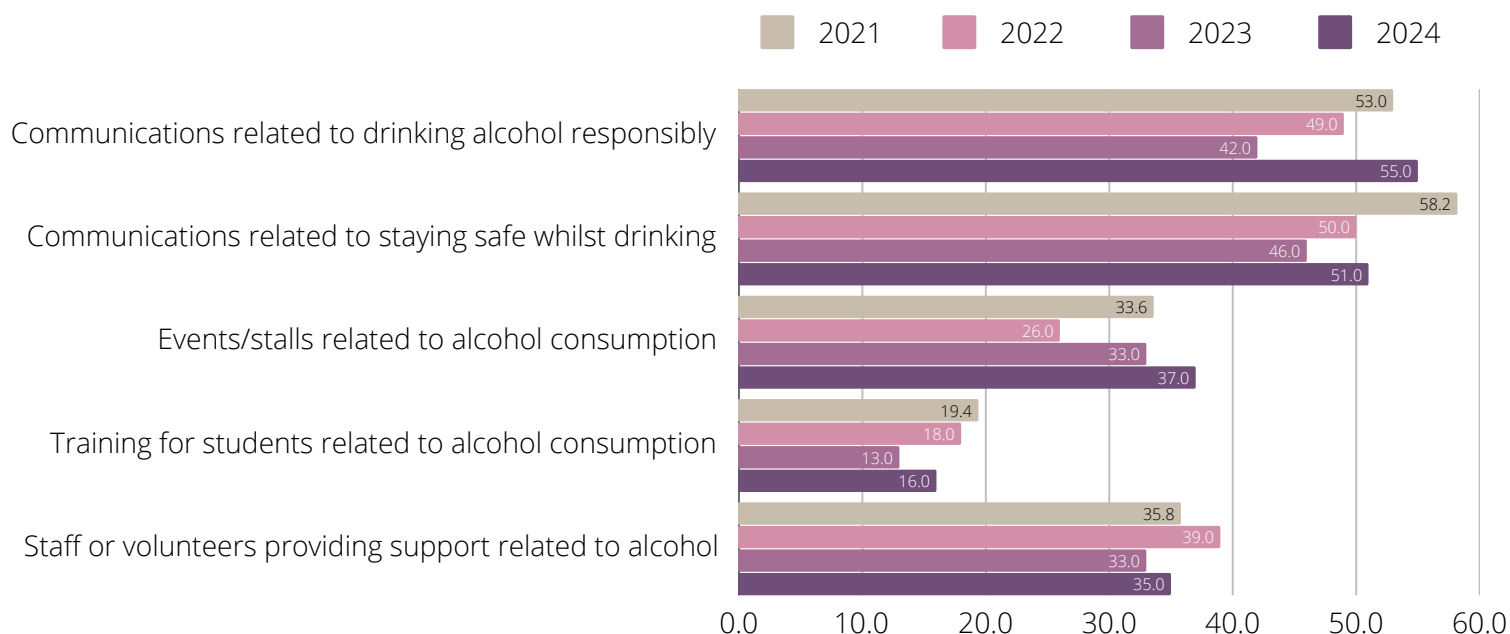
VICTIM OF CRIME & SEXUAL ACTIVITY



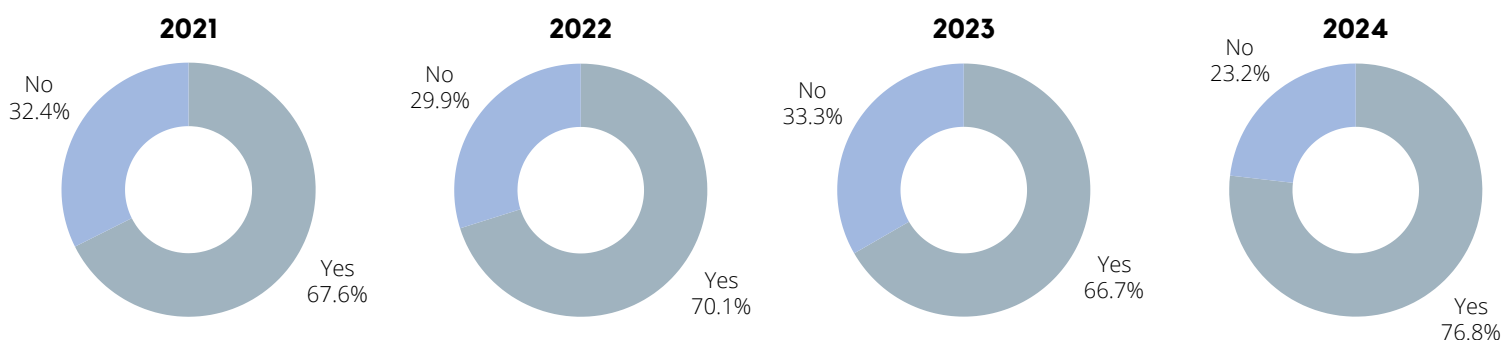


SAFE DRINKING CAMPAIGNS

Are you aware of any safe or responsible drinking campaigns, projects or activities at your university?
(Participants select the areas they are aware of)



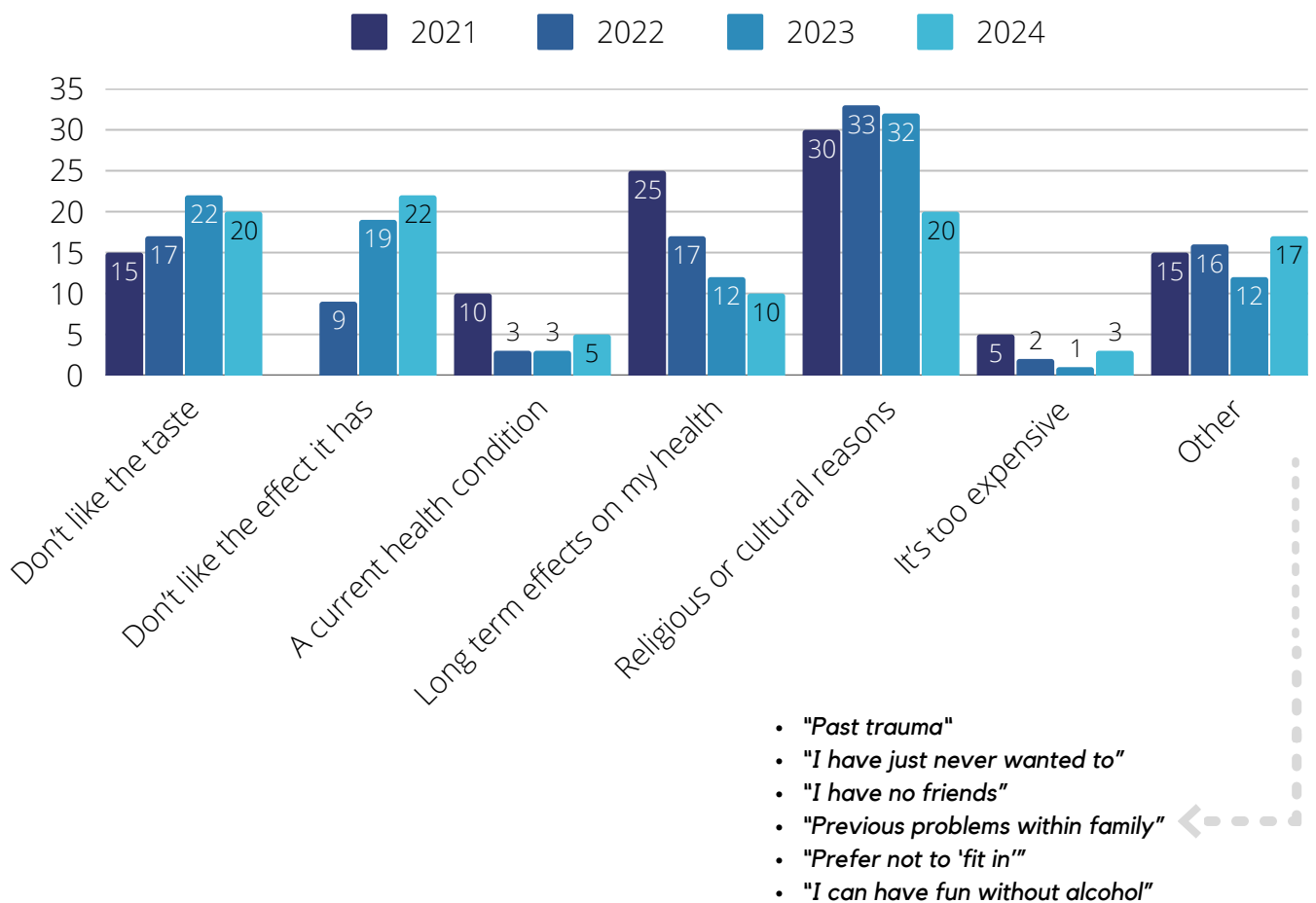
Do you feel that there are enough social events for you at university that do not involve having to drink or get drunk?



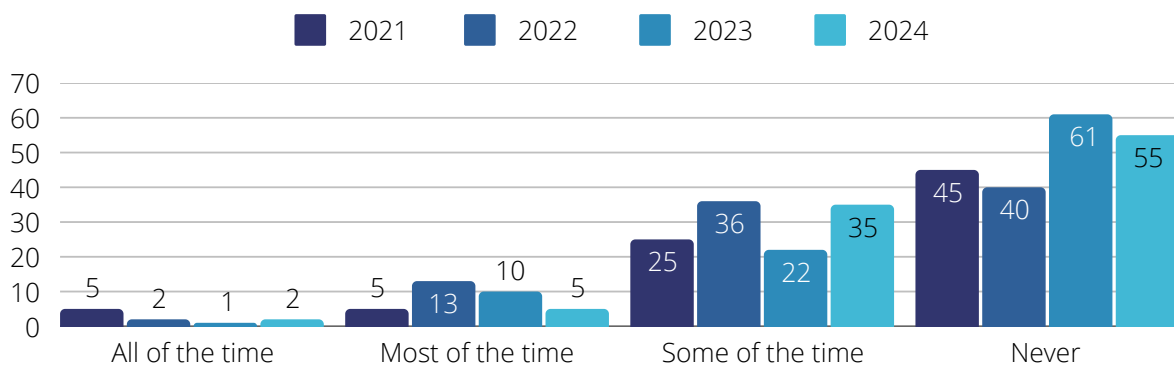


NON DRINKERS

What would you say is your main reason for not drinking or stopping drinking, alcohol?



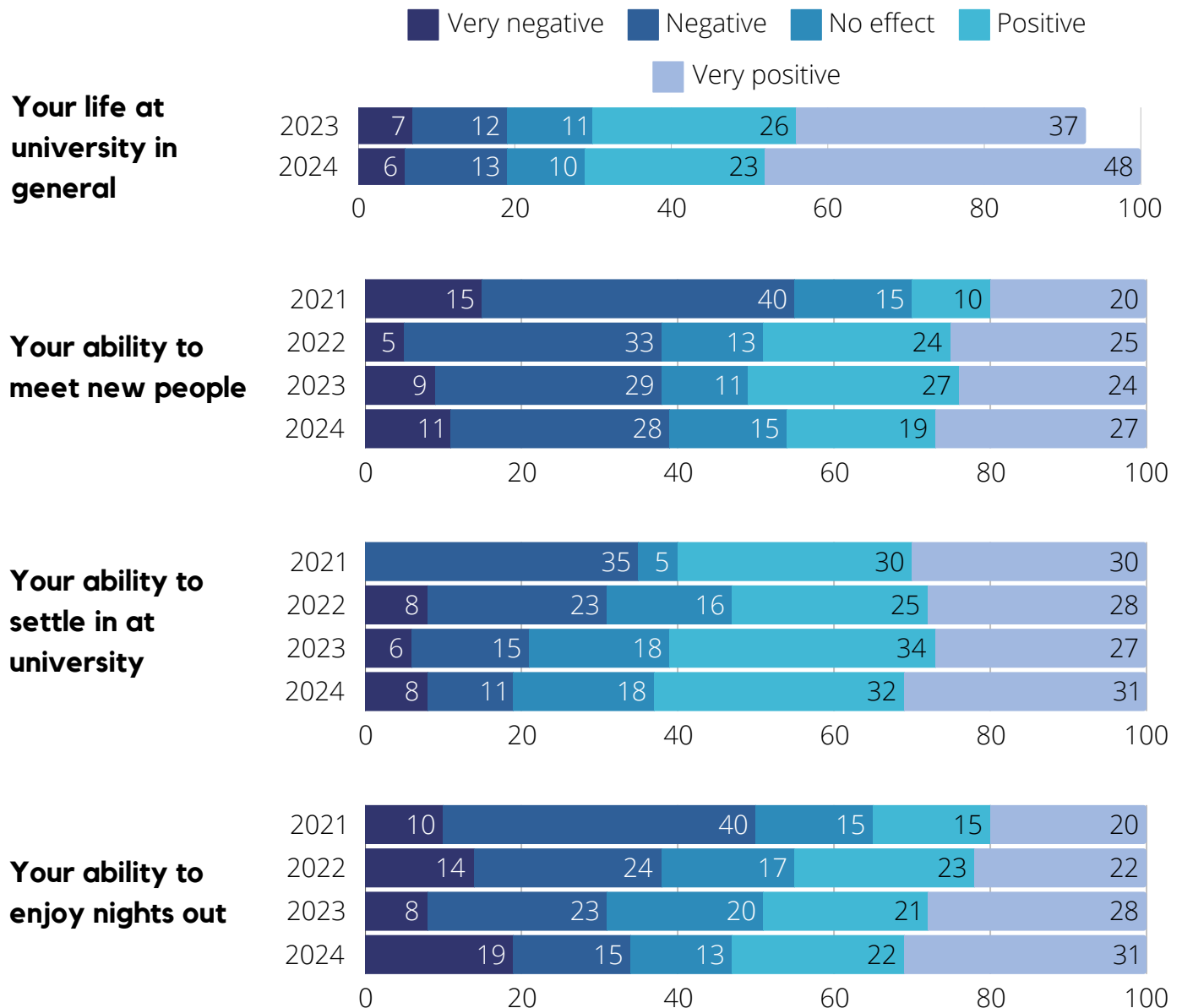
Thinking about the most recent university term, when you were socialising with other students, how often did you feel that your friends expected you to drink alcohol?





NON DRINKERS

How do you think that not drinking alcohol has impacted on the following:

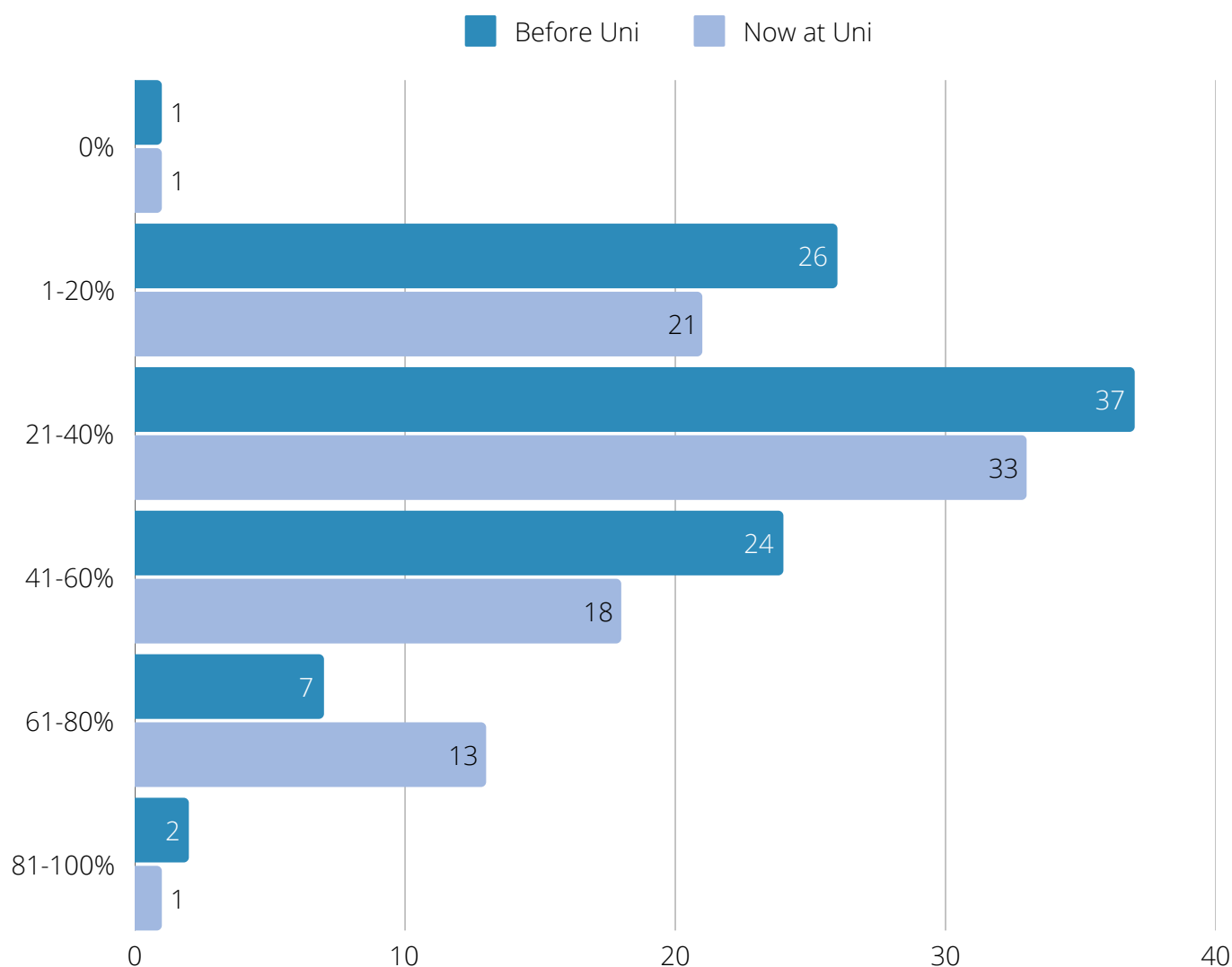




DRUG USE PERCEPTIONS

Before you started at university, what percentage of university students did you think used drugs? And now you're a student at university, what percentage of university students do you think use drugs?

New question wording for 2024

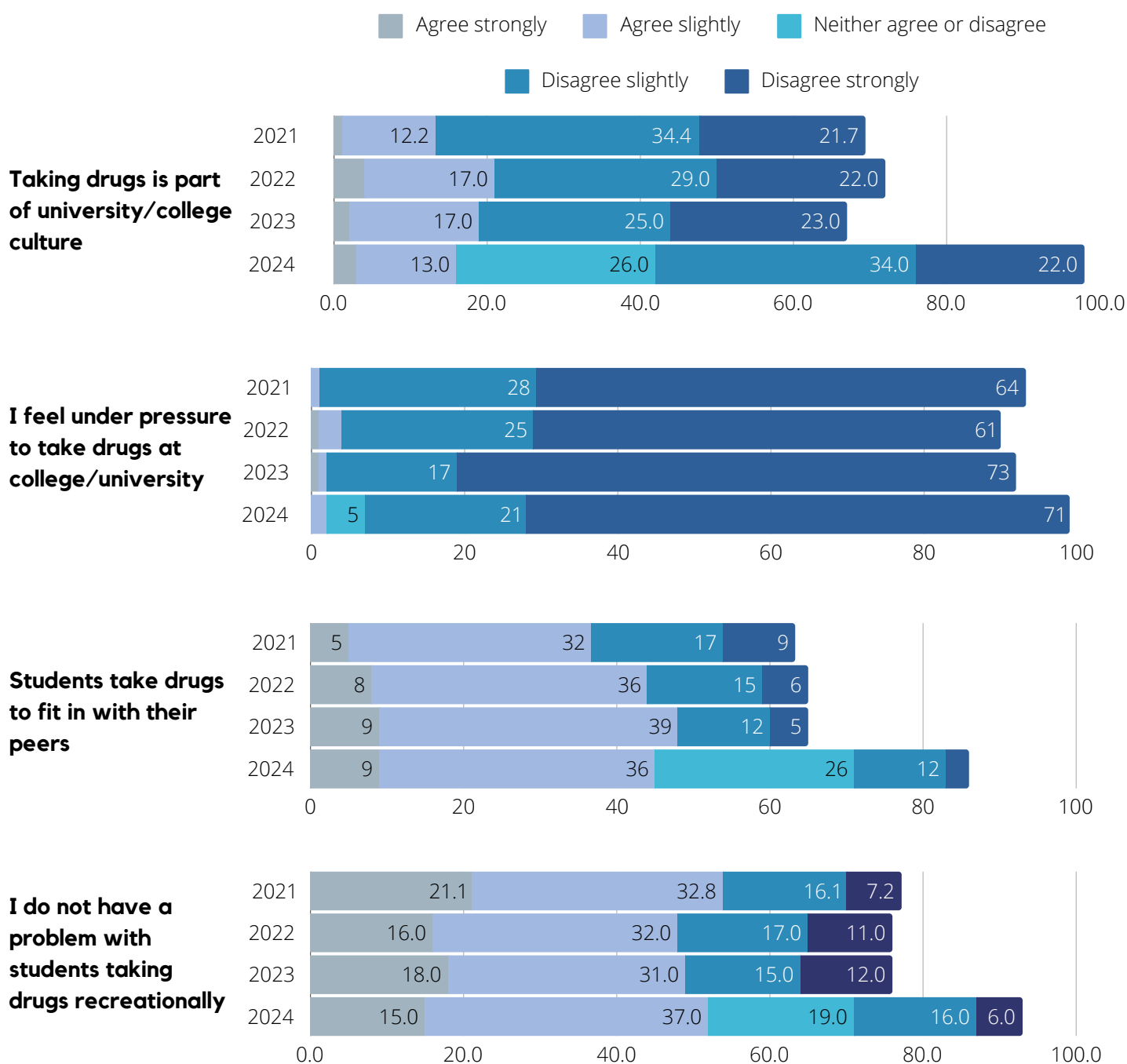




DRUG USE PERCEPTIONS

To what extent, if at all, do you agree with the following statements?

The option 'neither agree or disagree' was added into the 2024 survey and wasn't an option in previous waves

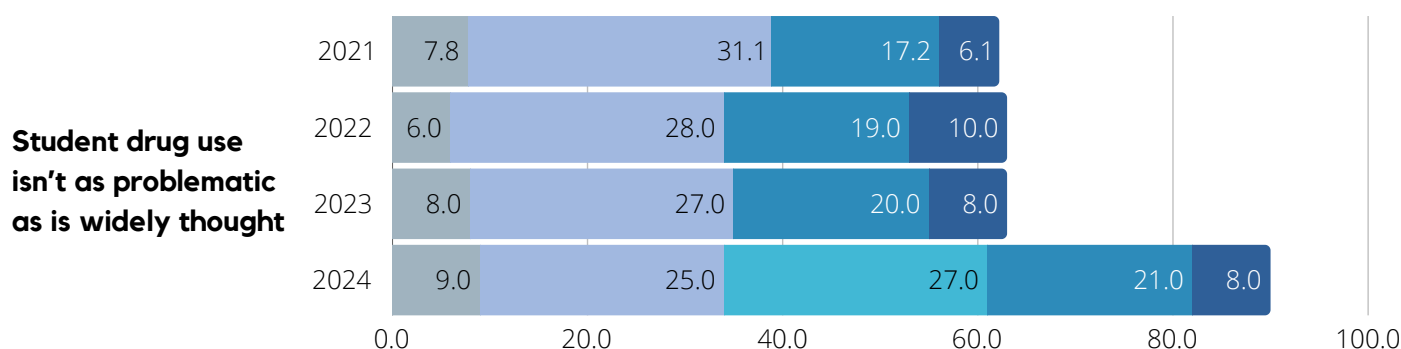
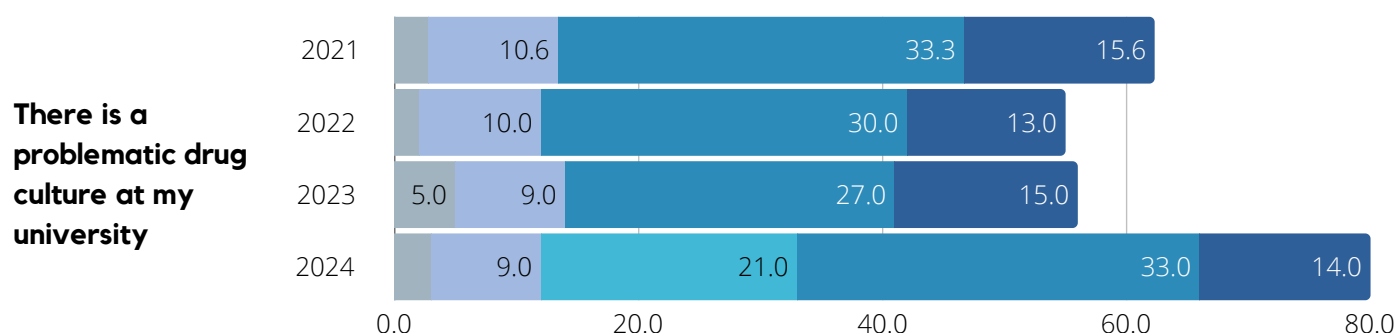
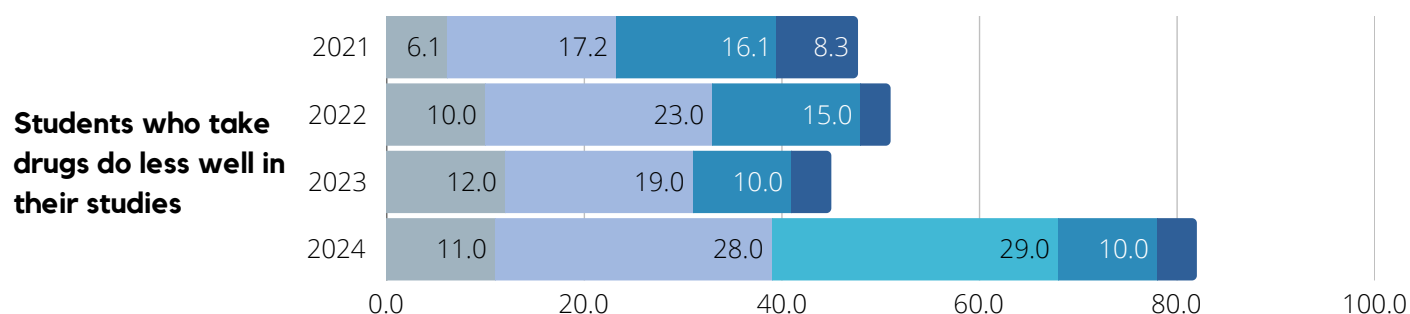




DRUG USE PERCEPTIONS

To what extent, if at all, do you agree with the following statements?

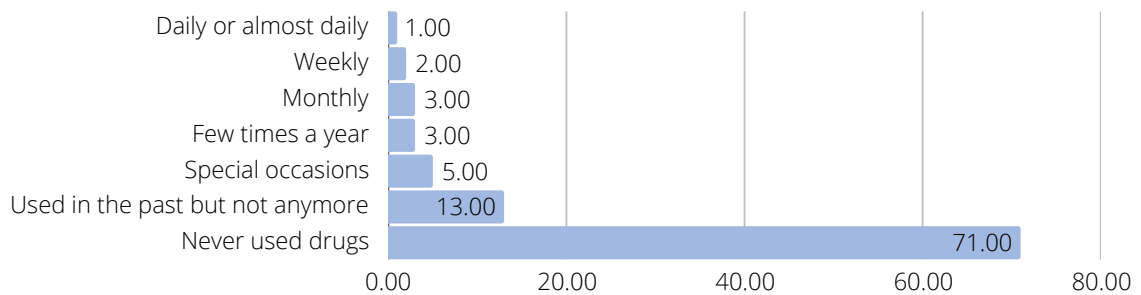
The option 'neither agree or disagree' was added into the 2024 survey and wasn't an option in previous waves



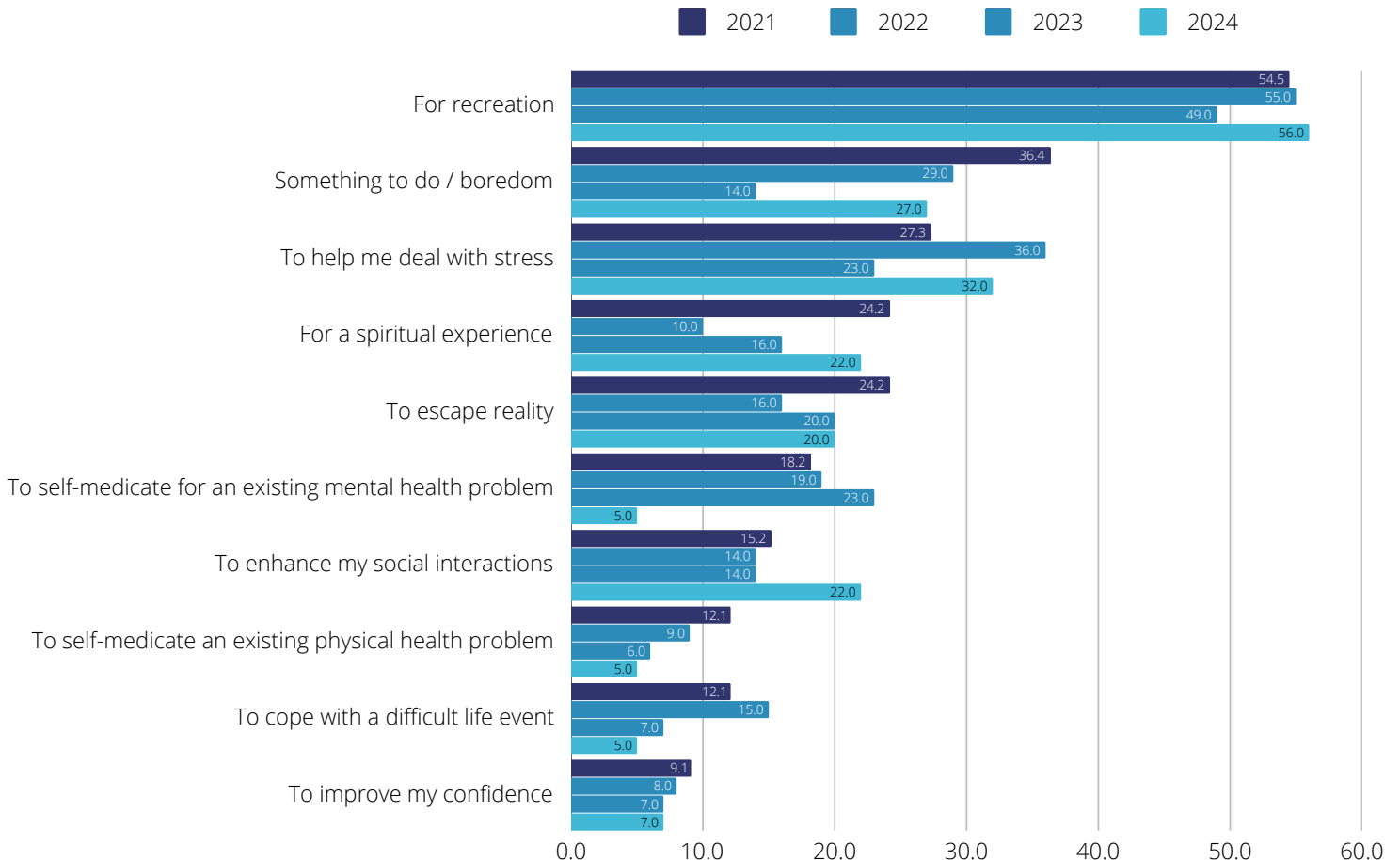
DRUG USE

Which of the following best describes your current frequency of drug use?

New response options for 2024



Which of the following best describes why you use/have used in the past

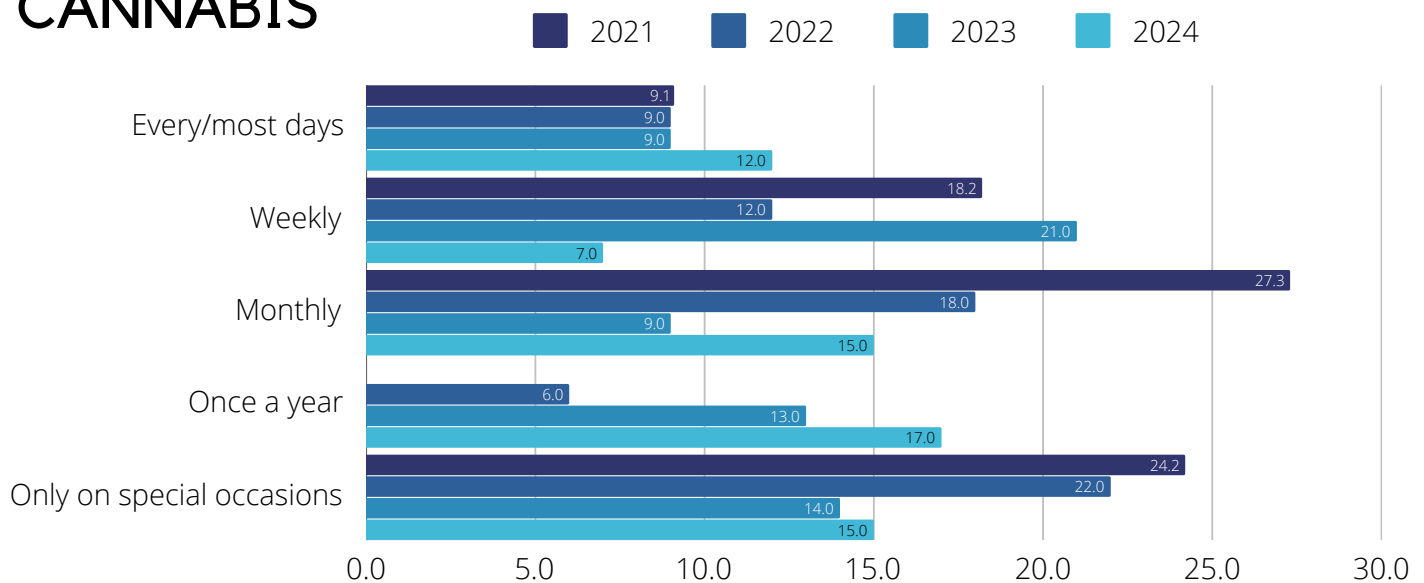




DRUG USE

Still thinking about your time at university, which of the following best describes your frequency of particular drug use? (*only participants who selected that they use or have used drugs*)

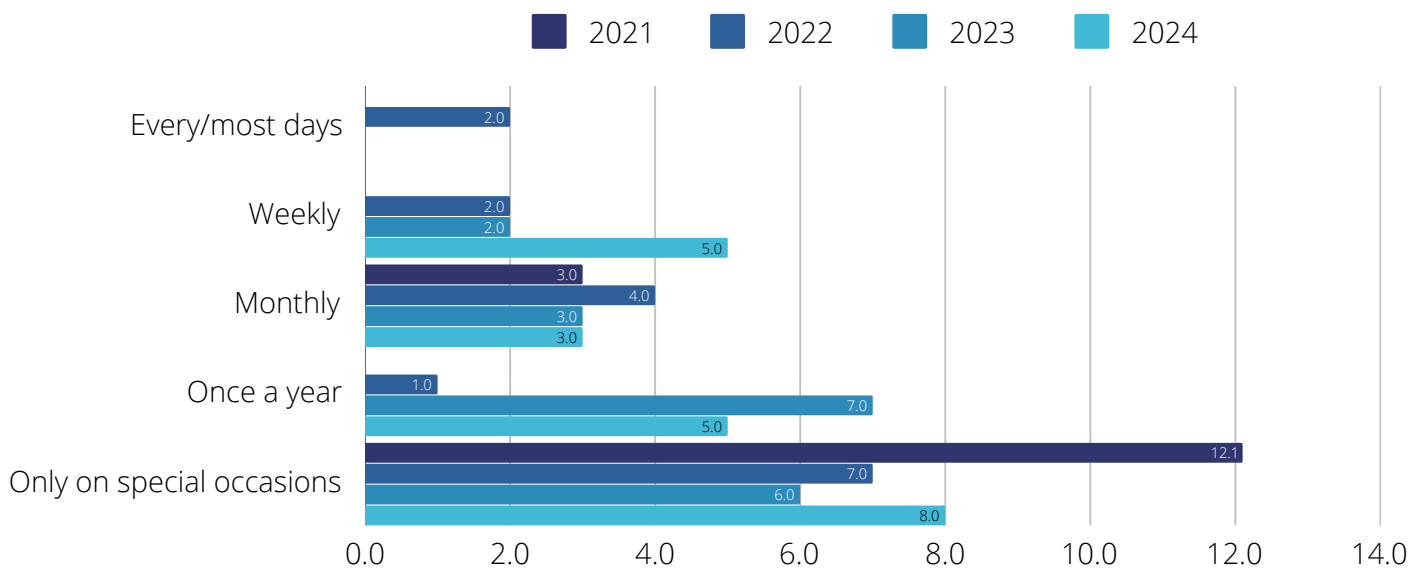
CANNABIS



20% have used in the past but don't anymore, 12% have never used

The majority of respondents (39%) were 16-18 years old when they first used cannabis

POWDER COCAINE

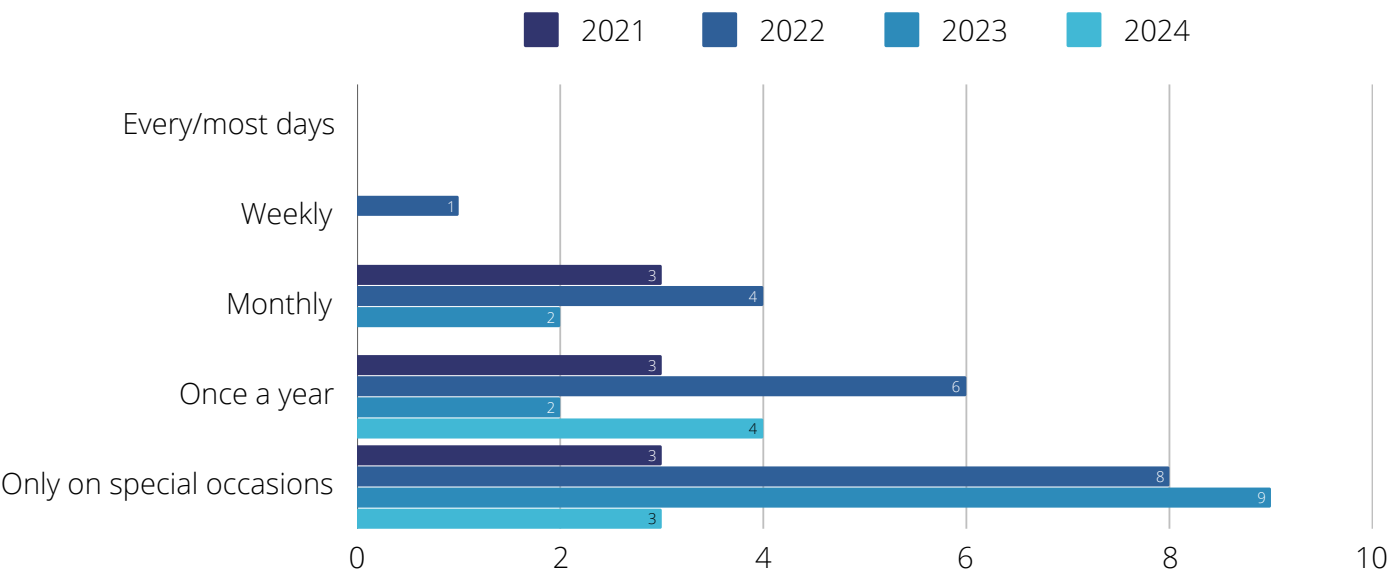


11% have used in the past but don't anymore, 65% have never used

The majority of respondents (16%) were 16-18 years old when they first used powder cocaine

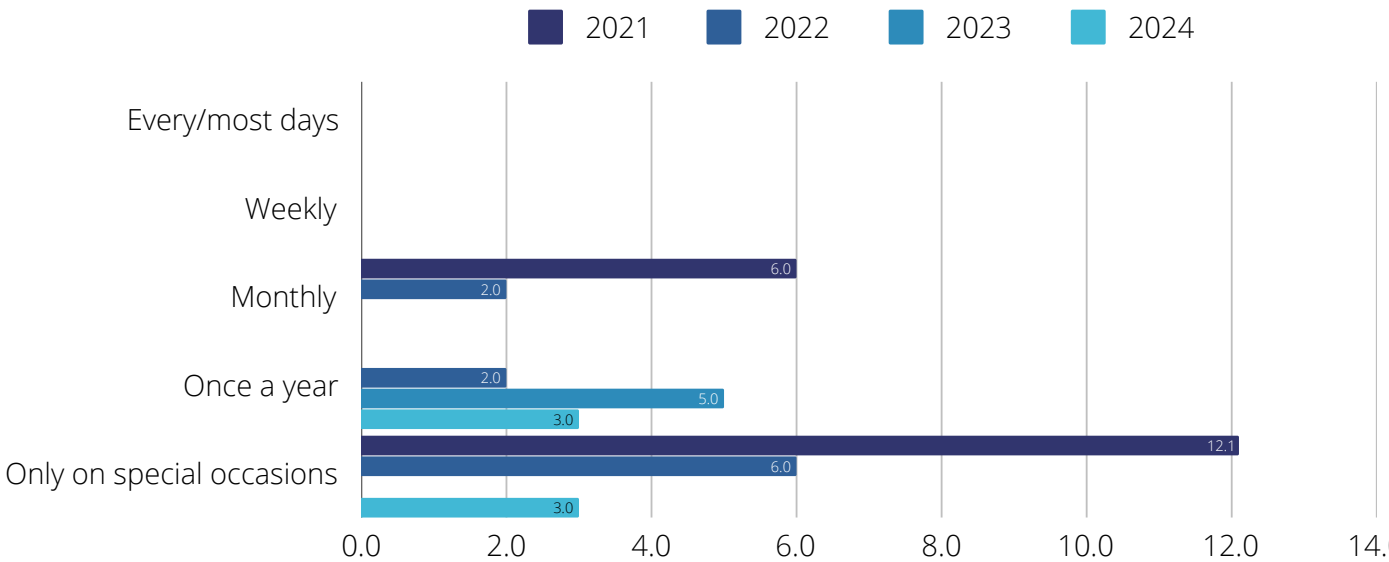


ECSTASY/MDMA



17% have used in the past but don't anymore, 61% have never used
The majority of respondents (11%) were 16-18 years old when they first used ecstasy/MDMA

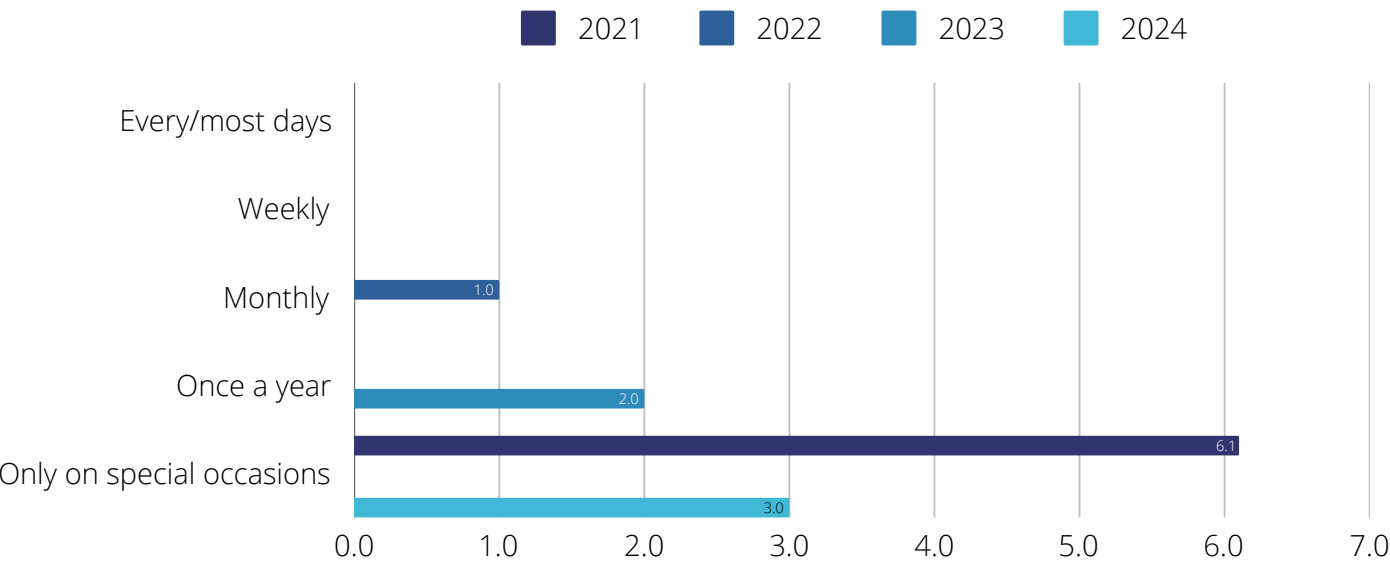
LSD



16% have used in the past but don't anymore, 78% have never used
The majority of respondents (8%) were 16-18 years old when they first used LSD

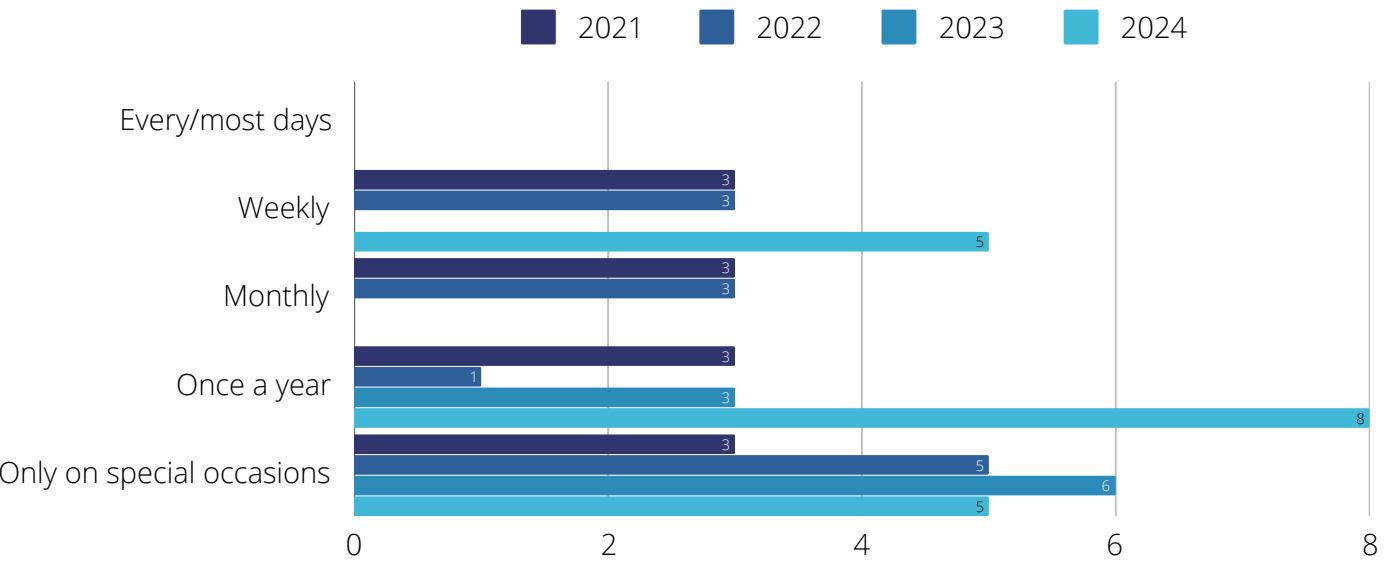


MEPHEDRONE



None have used in the past but don't anymore, 97% have never used

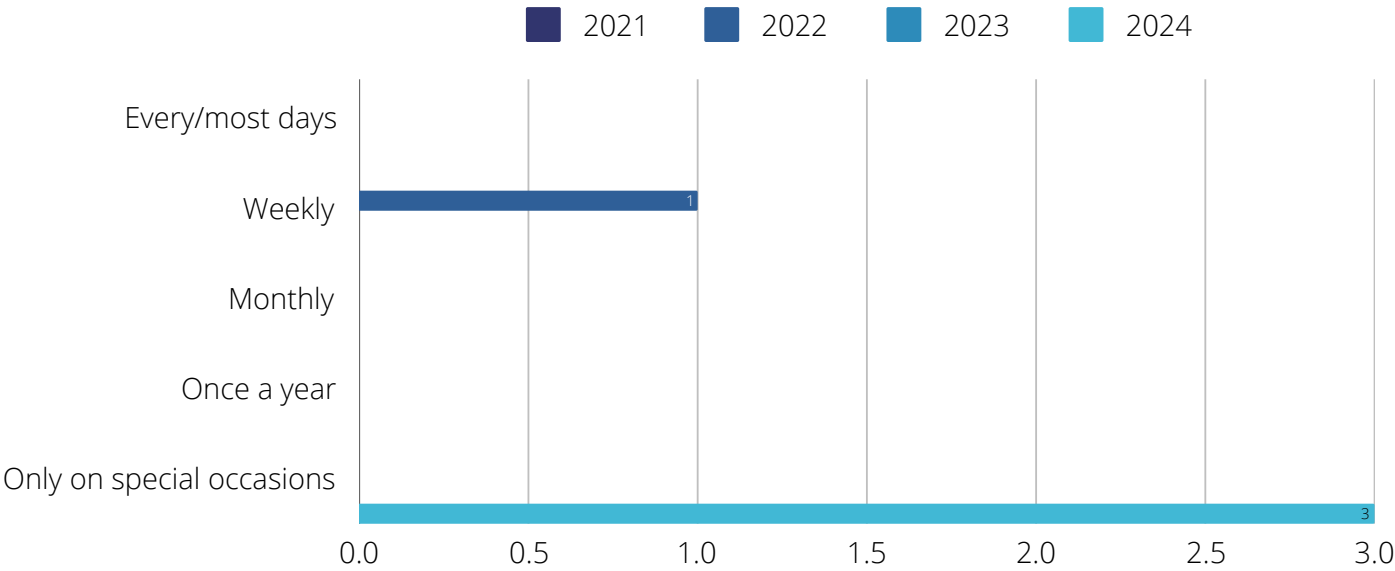
KETAMINE



14% have used in the past but don't anymore, 65% have never used
The majority of respondents (14%) were 16-18 years old when they first used ketamine

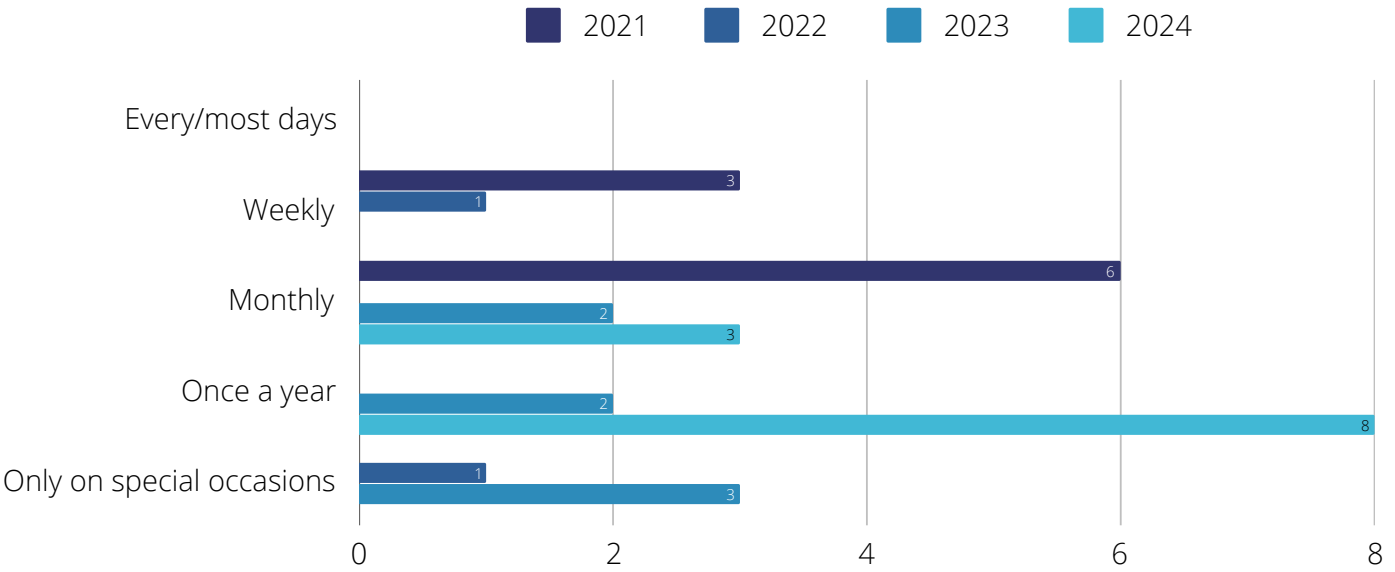


HEROIN



None have used in the past but don't anymore, 97% have never used

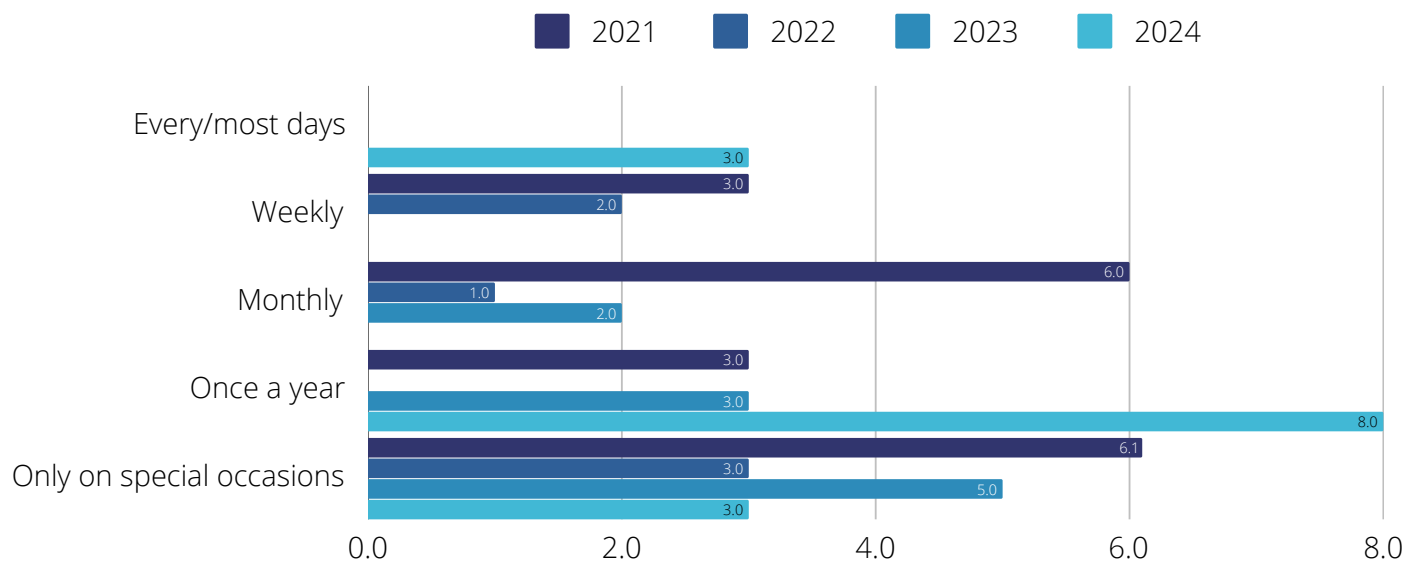
NON-PRESCRIBED OPIATES



8% have used in the past but don't anymore, 81% have never used
The majority of respondents (8%) were 16-18 years old when they first used non-prescribed opiates



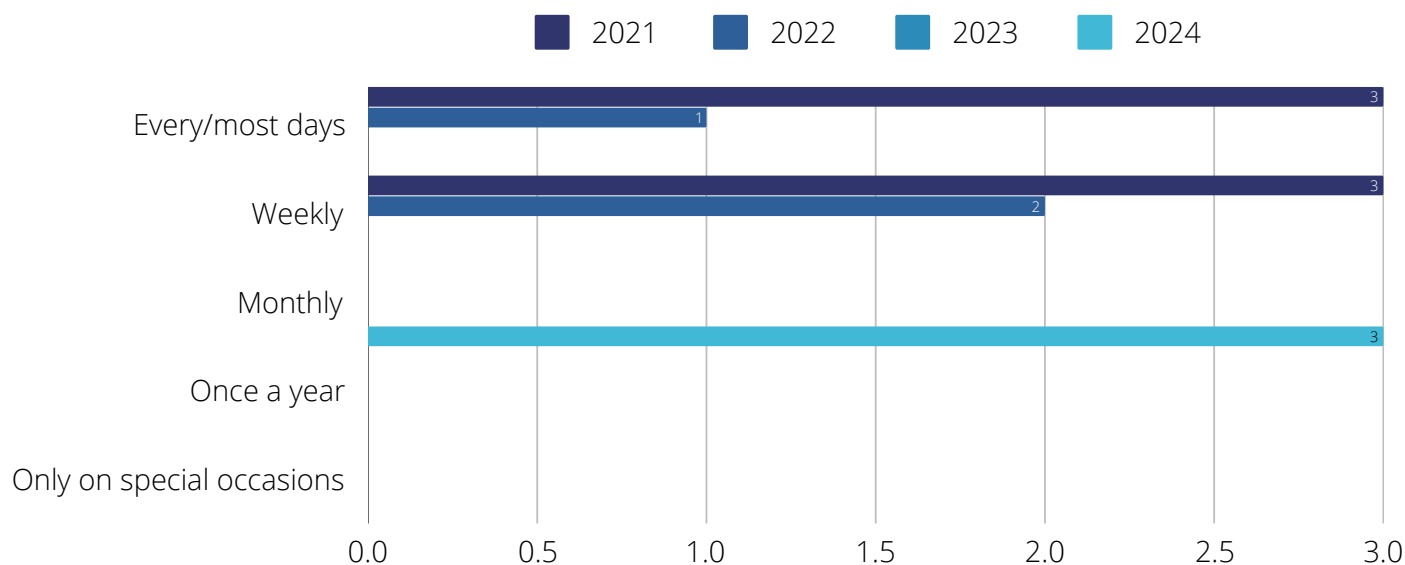
NPS/LEGAL HIGHS



5% have used in the past but don't anymore, 81% have never used

The majority of respondents (6%) were under 16 when they first used NPS/legal highs

TESTOSTERONE

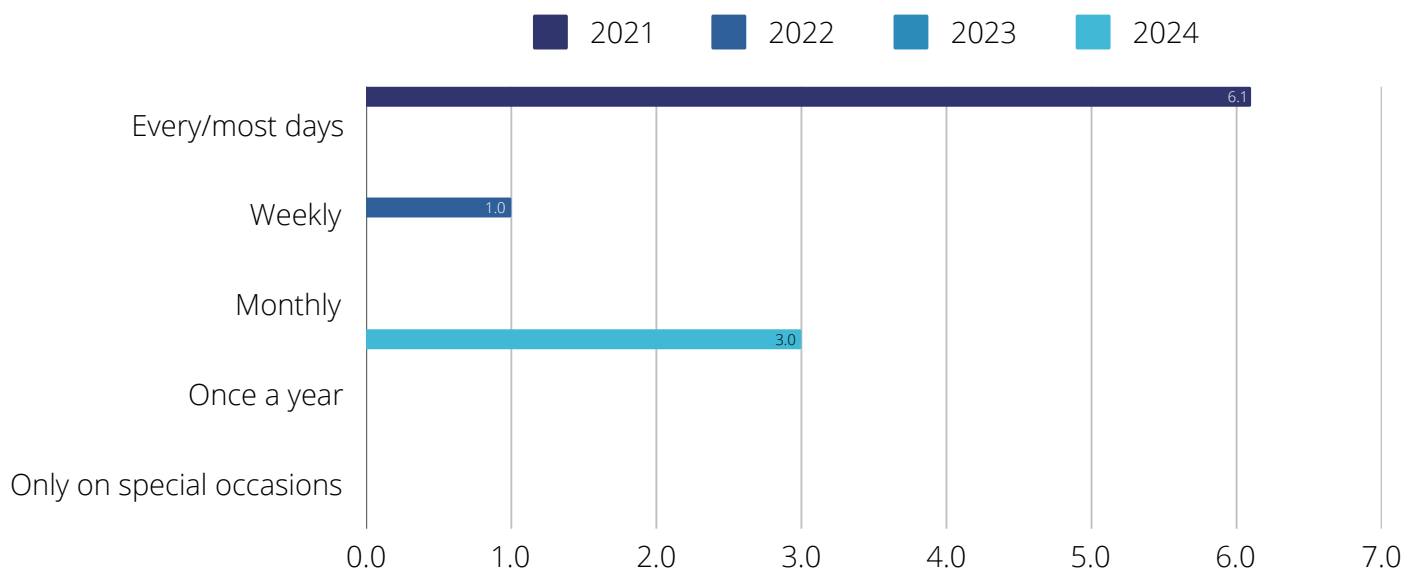


3% have used in the past but don't anymore, 95% have never used.

The majority of respondents (3%) were 25+ when they first used testosterone.

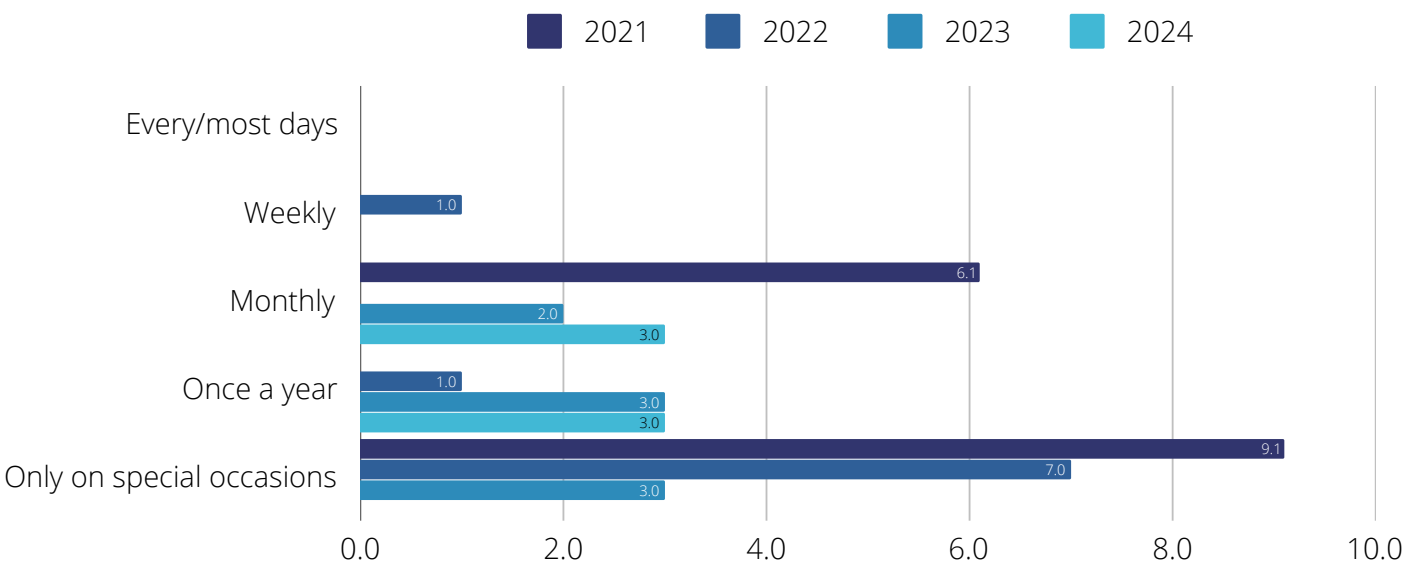


NON-PRESCRIBED ANABOLIC STEROIDS



None have used in the past but don't anymore, 97% have never used.

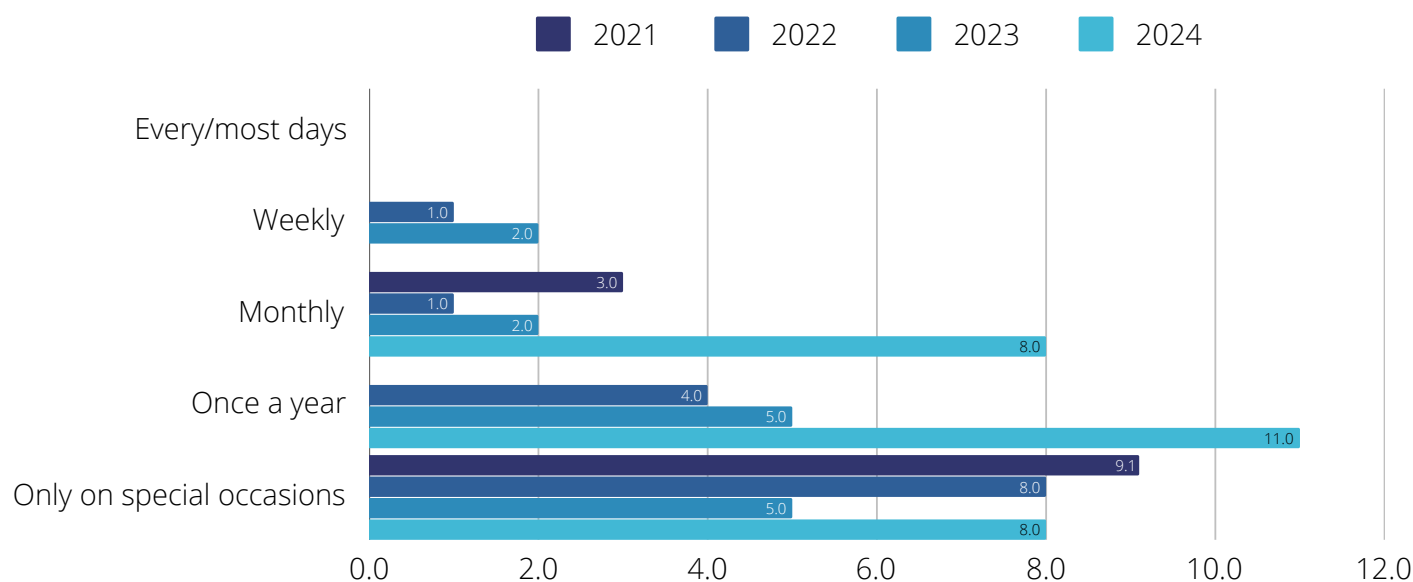
NITROUS OXIDE/ 'LAUGHING GAS'



27% have used in the past but don't anymore, 68% have never used
The majority of respondents (19%) were 16-18 years old when they first used nitrous oxide



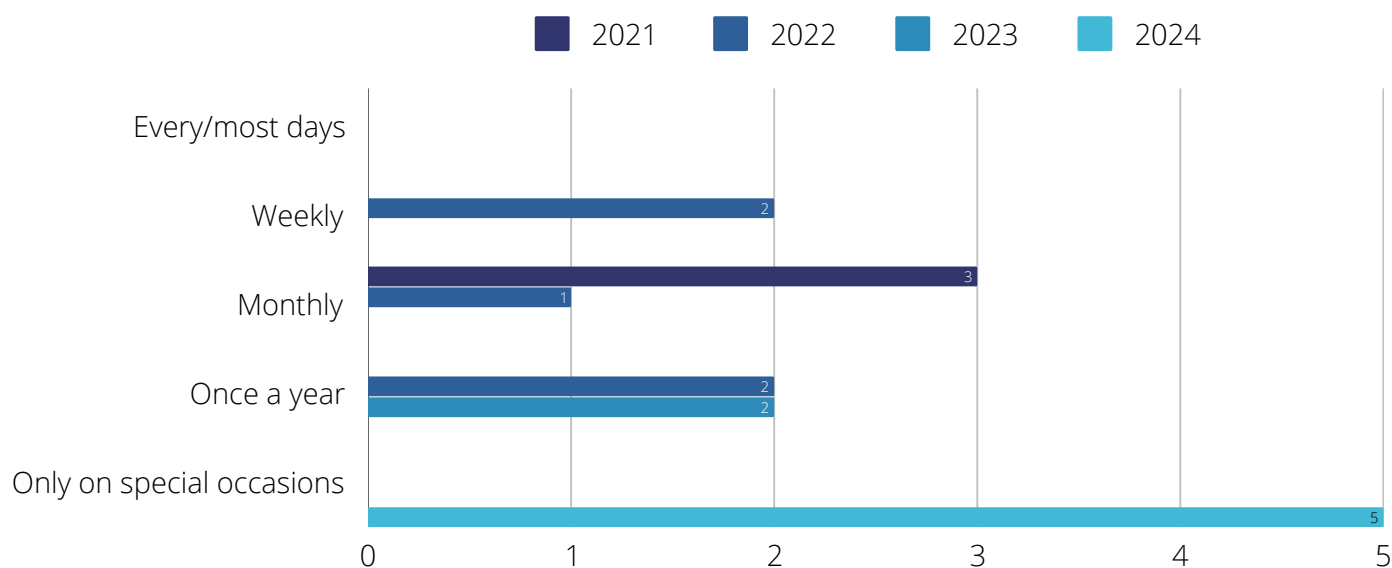
PSILOCYBIN/'MAGIC MUSHROOMS'



18% have used in the past but don't anymore, 55% have never used

The majority of respondents (19%) were 19-21 years old when they first used psilocybin

AMPHETAMINE/ 'SPEED'

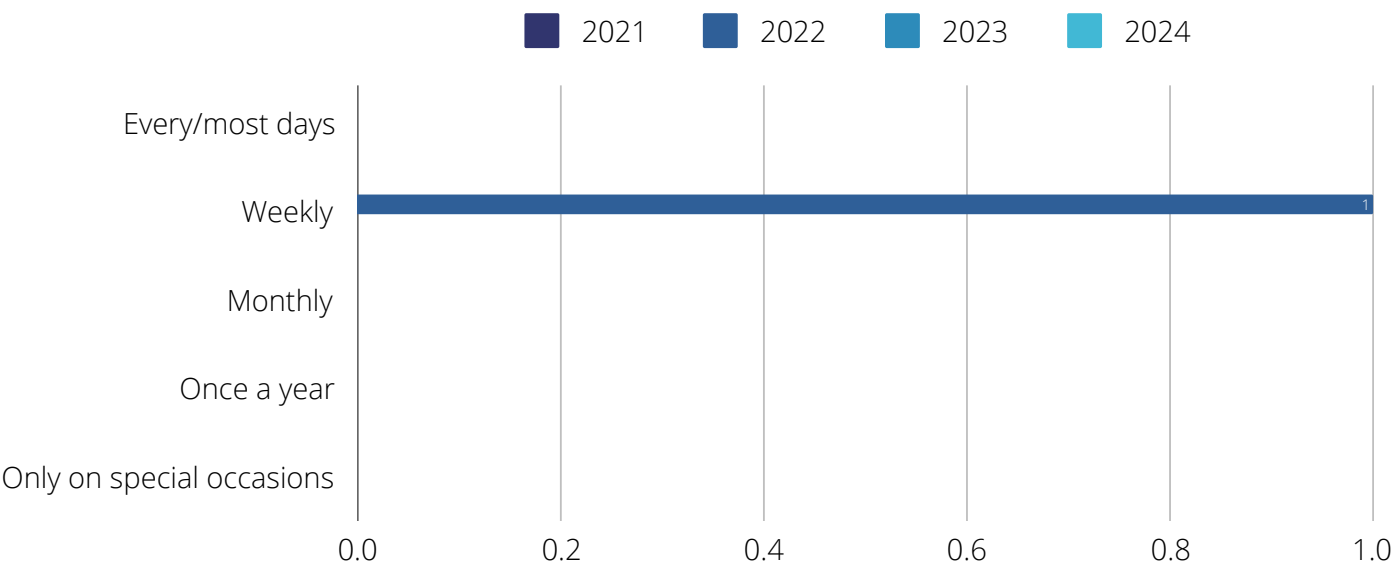


14% have used in the past but don't anymore, 81% have never used

The majority of respondents (8%) were 16-18 when they first used amphetamine

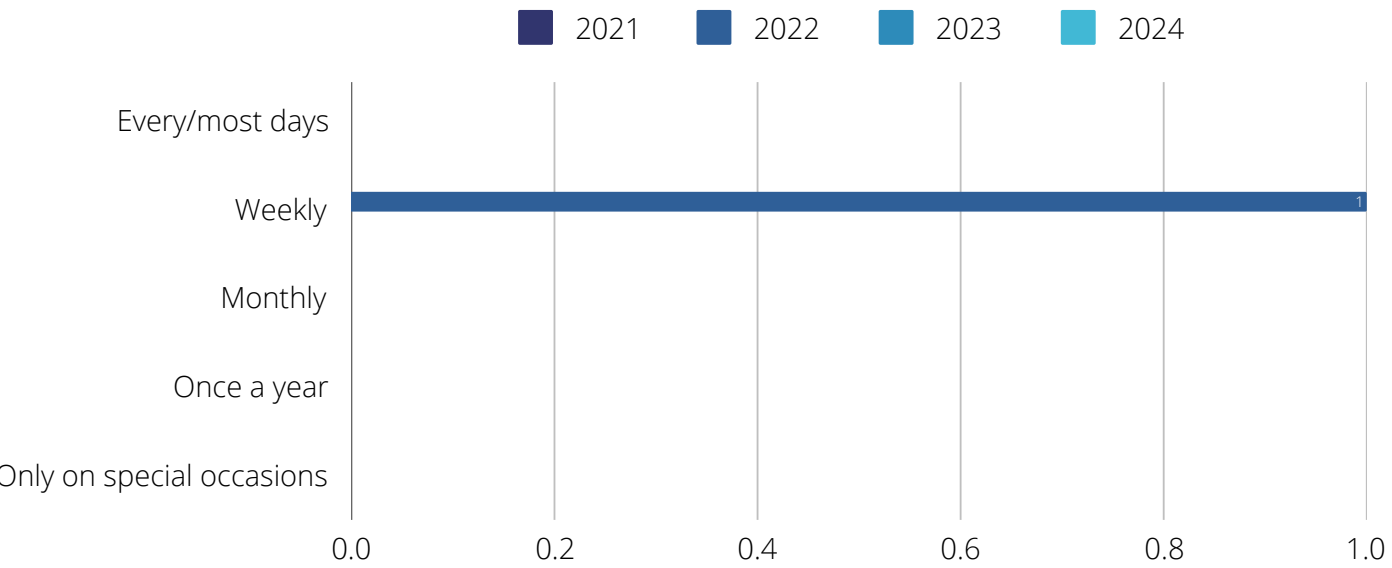


GHB/GBL



3% have used in the past but don't anymore, 97% have never used.

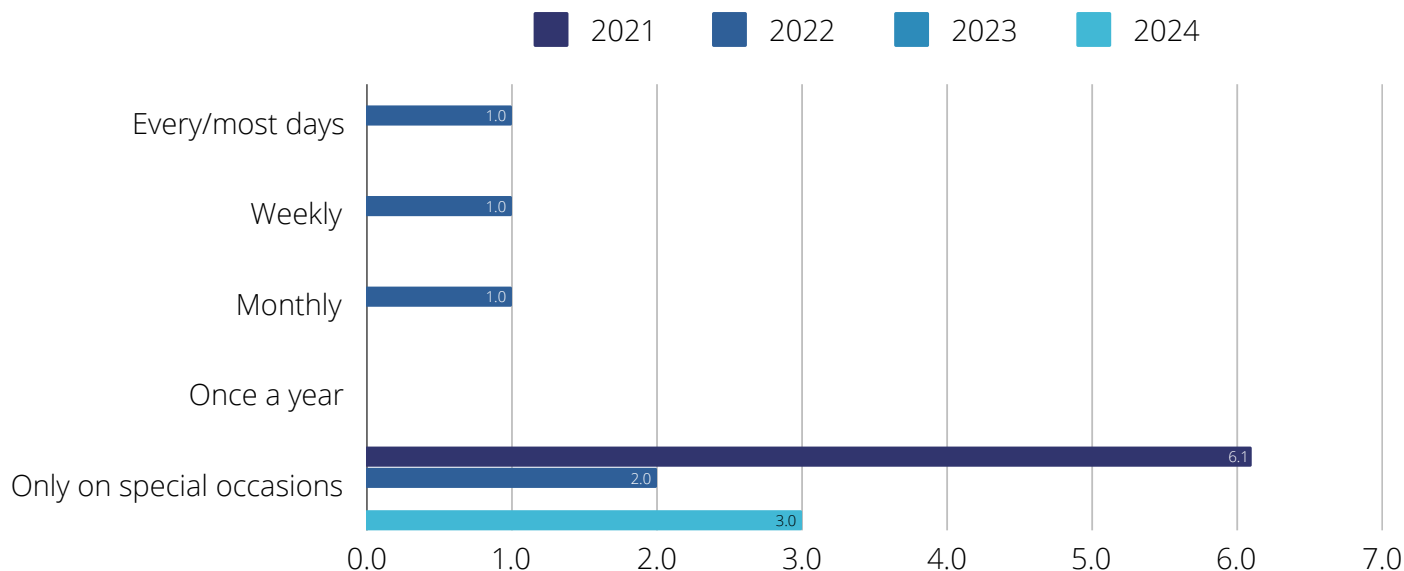
METHAMPHETAMINE/ 'CRYSTAL METH'



5% have used in the past but don't anymore, 95% have never used
The majority of respondents (3%) were 16-18 years old when they first used methamphetamine



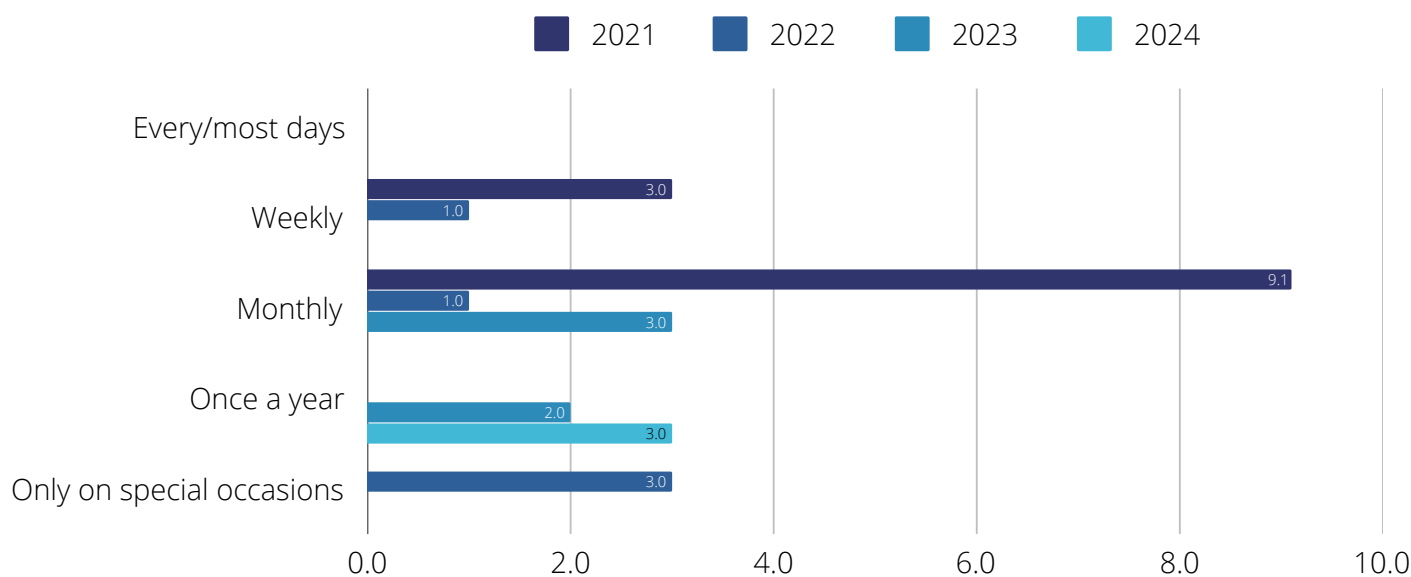
NON-PRESCRIBED STUDY DRUGS



3% have used in the past but don't anymore, 95% have never used

The majority of respondents (3%) were 25+ years old when they first used non-prescribed study drugs

NON-PRESCRIBED BENZODIAZEPINES

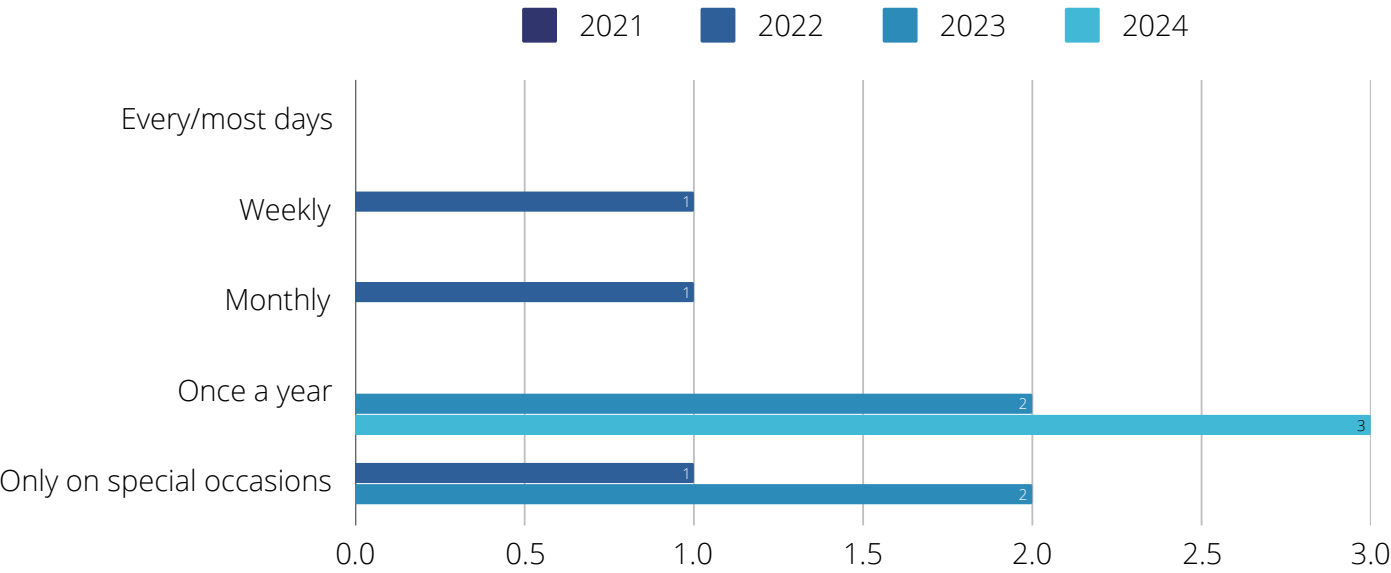


8% have used in the past but don't anymore, 89% have never used

The majority of respondents (6%) were 16-18 years old when they first used non-prescribed benzodiazepines



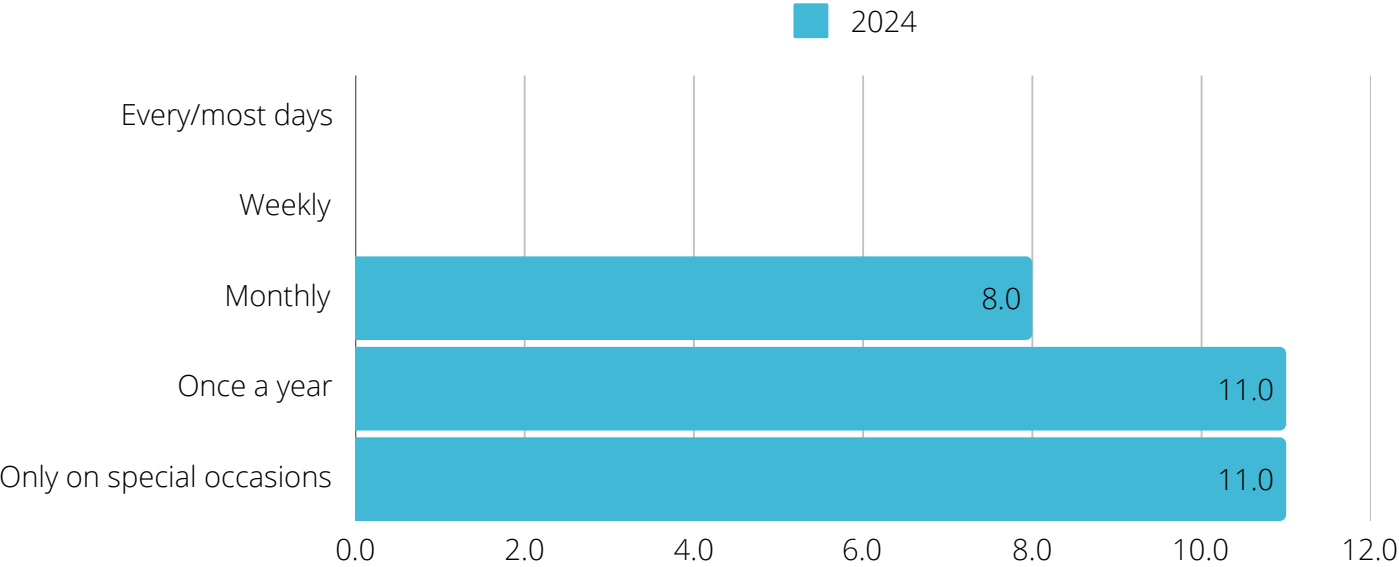
MYSTERY/UNKNOWN POWDER



None have used in the past but don't anymore, 94% have never used.

POPPERS

New question for 2024

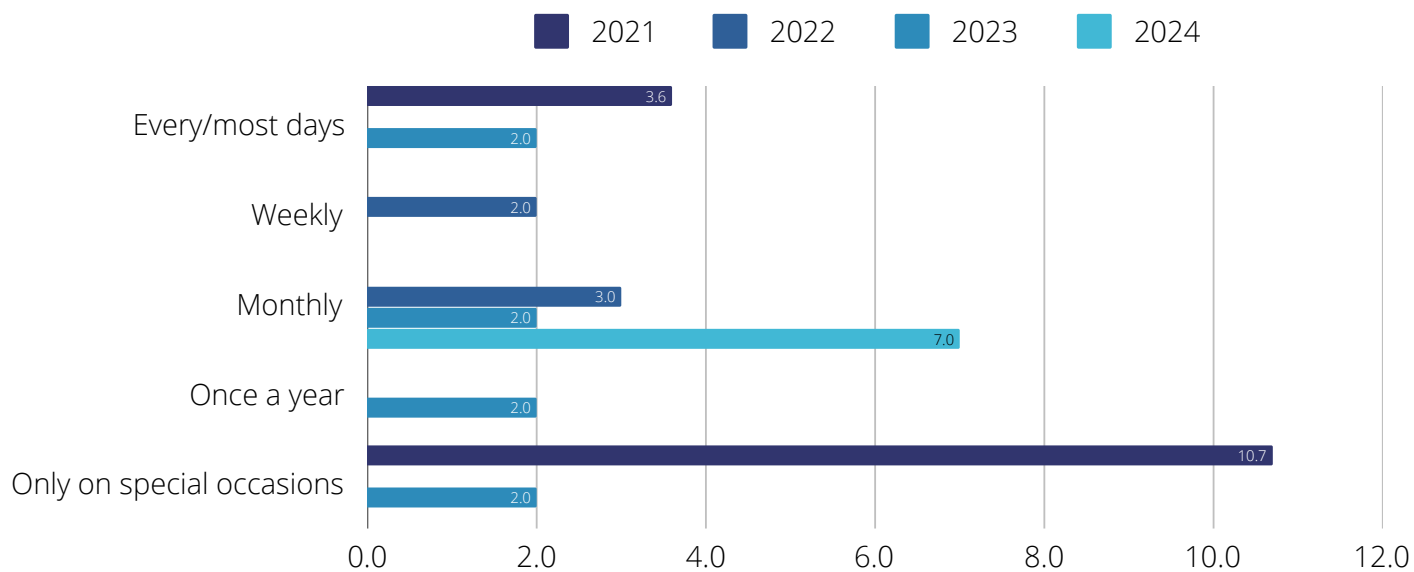


13% have used in the past but don't anymore, 55% have never used

The majority of respondents (24%) were 19-21 years old when they first used poppers



OTHER



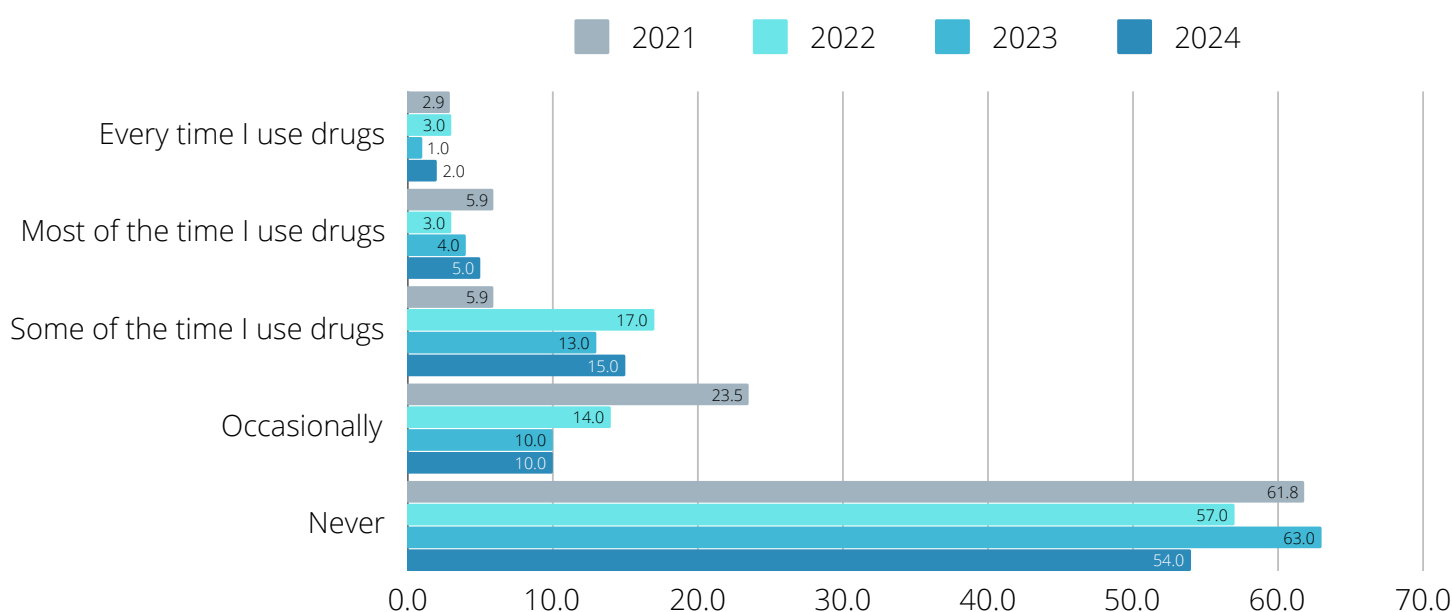
11% have used in the past but don't anymore, 78% have never used

Other include: "Nicotine", "Pregabalin", "Nexus", "Salvia Divinorum"



POLY DRUG USE

Thinking about your time at university, approximately how often, if at all, do you use two or more drugs at one time?



You said you have used two or more drugs at one time.
Which combinations of drugs have you used most often?

- Cannabis + Alcohol (5 responses)
- Cocaine + Cannabis + MDMA (1 response)
- Alcohol + Cocaine (2 responses)
- Alcohol + Poppers (1 response)
- Magic Mushrooms + Alcohol (1 response)
- Cannabis + Magic Mushrooms + MDMA (1 response)
- Cannabis + Opiates (1 response)
- Cannabis + Cocaine + Alcohol (1 response)
- Cannabis + Alcohol + Poppers (1 response)

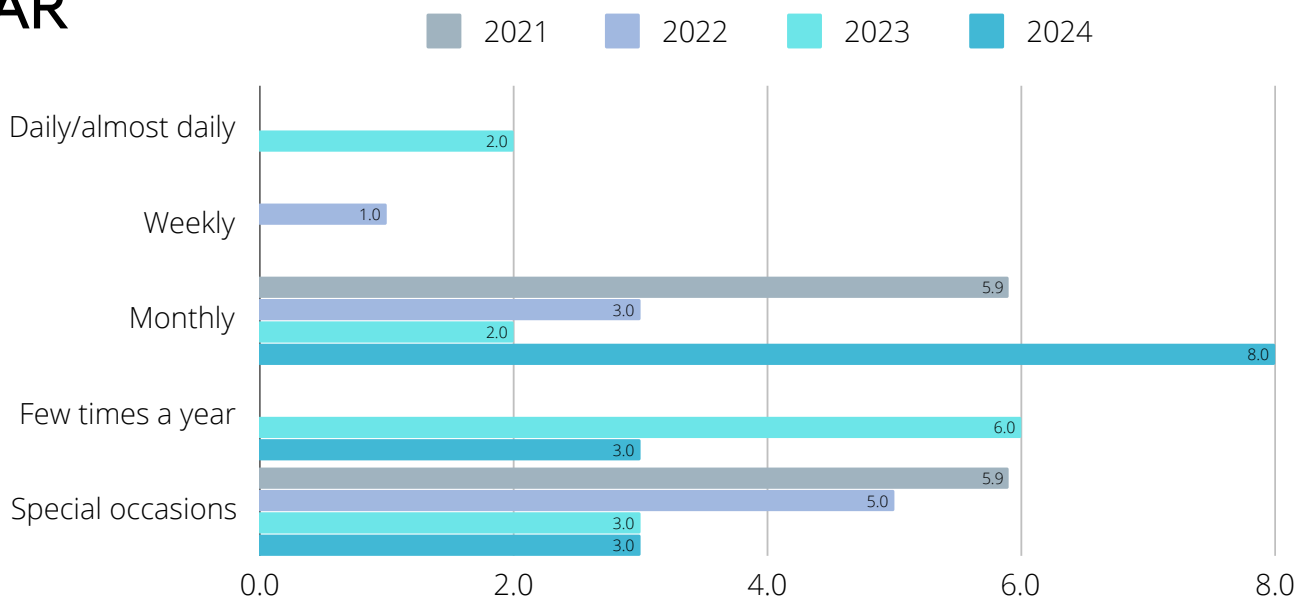
Cannabis was found to be the most common substance to mix with alcohol



DRUG USE

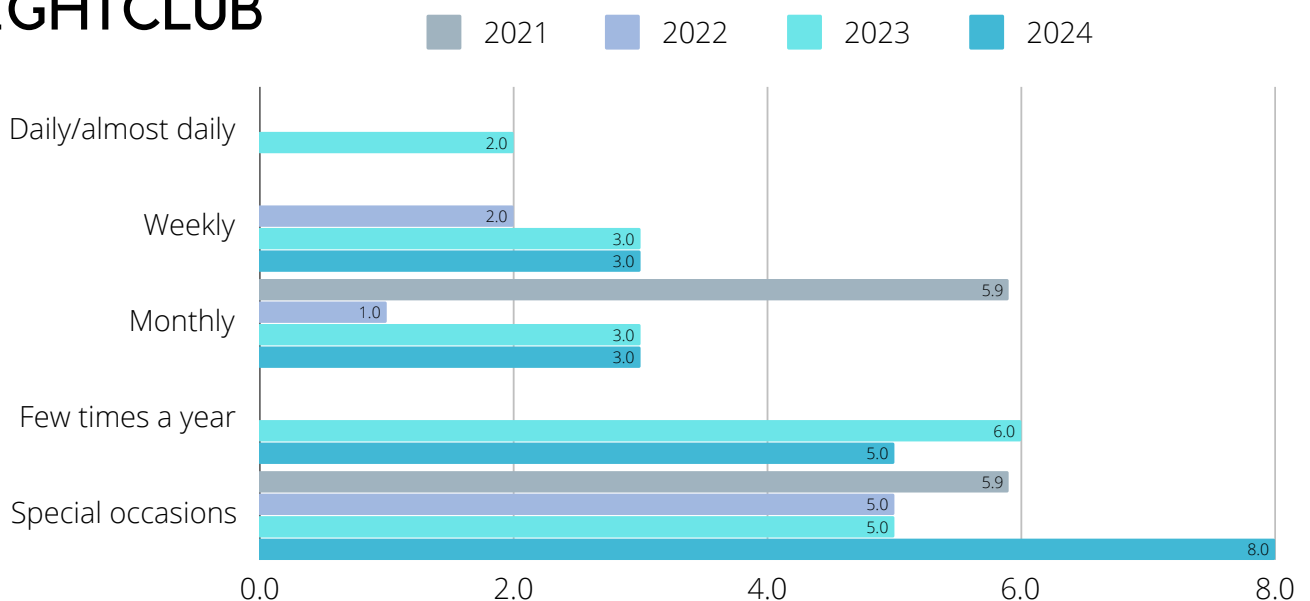
Thinking of the time since you have been at university, approximately how often do you tend to take drugs in each of the following places?

SU BAR



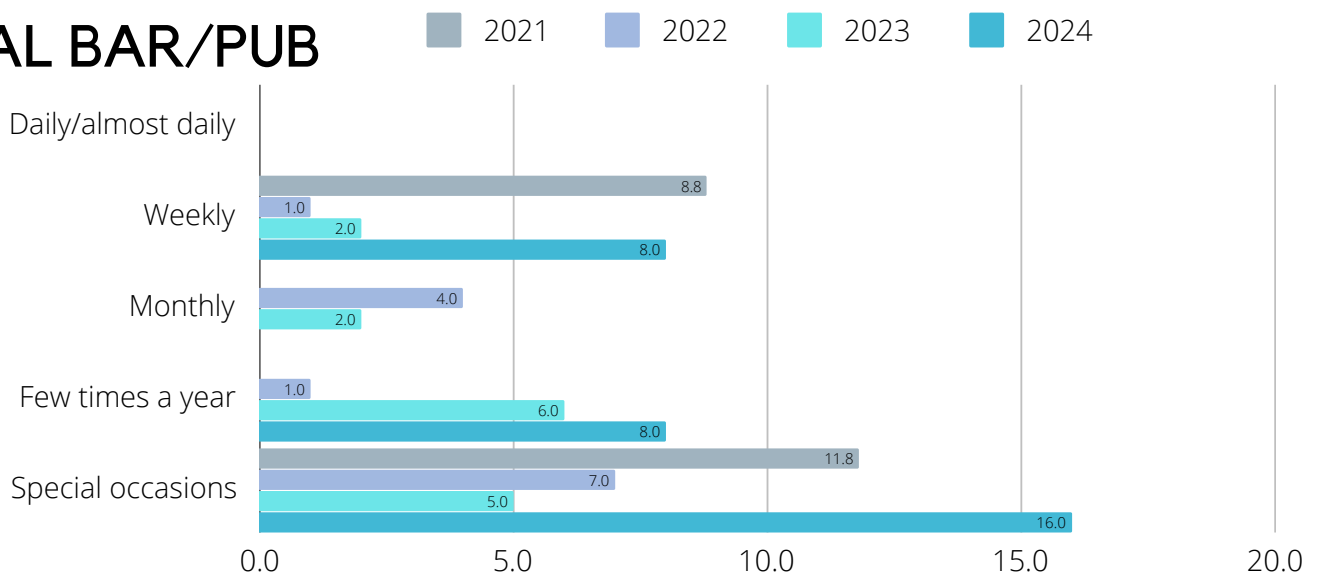
6% have used in the past but don't anymore, 78% have never used in this location

SU NIGHTCLUB



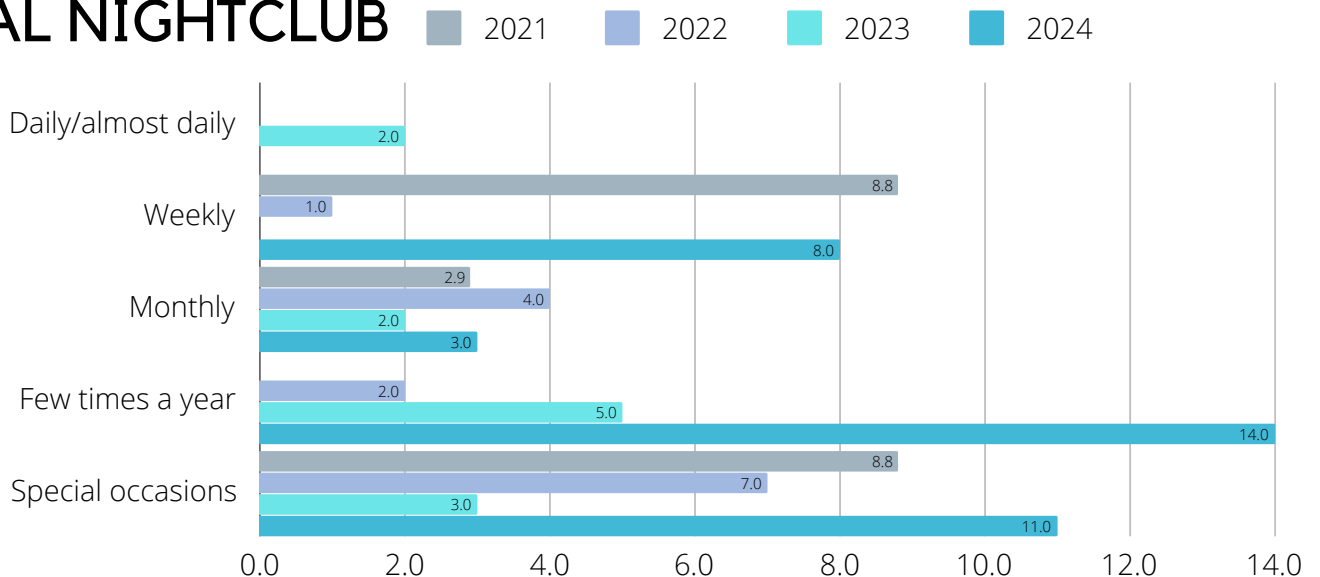
5% have used in the past but don't anymore, 73% have never used in this location

LOCAL BAR/PUB



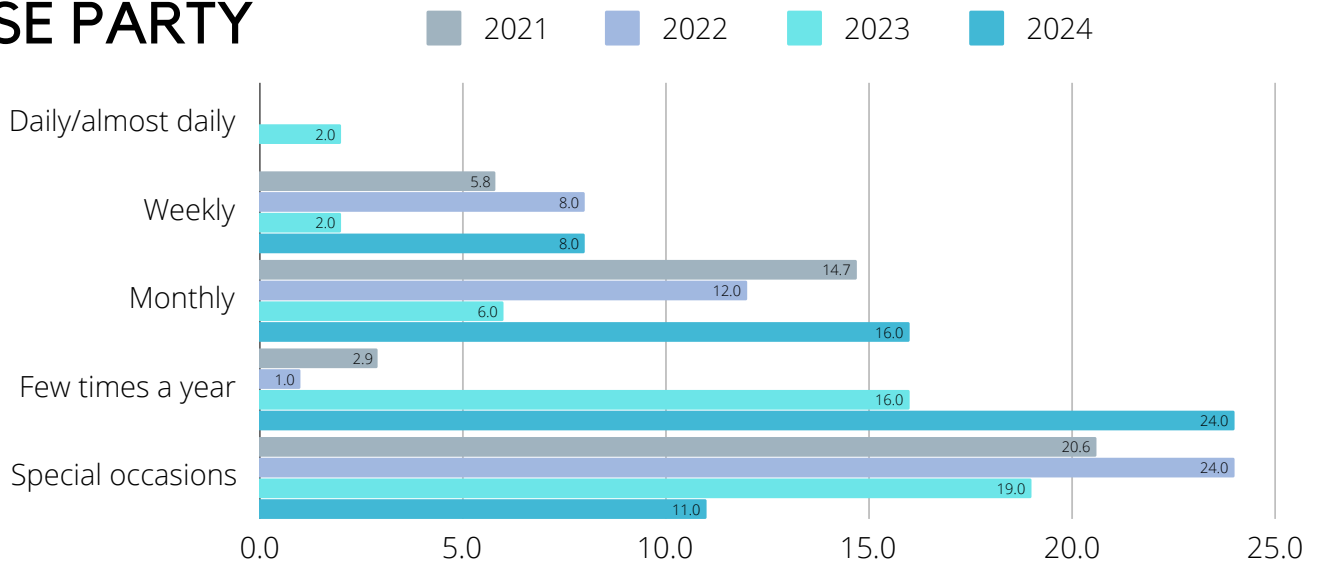
3% have used in the past but don't anymore, 66% have never used in this location

LOCAL NIGHTCLUB



6% have used in the past but don't anymore, 58% have never used in this location

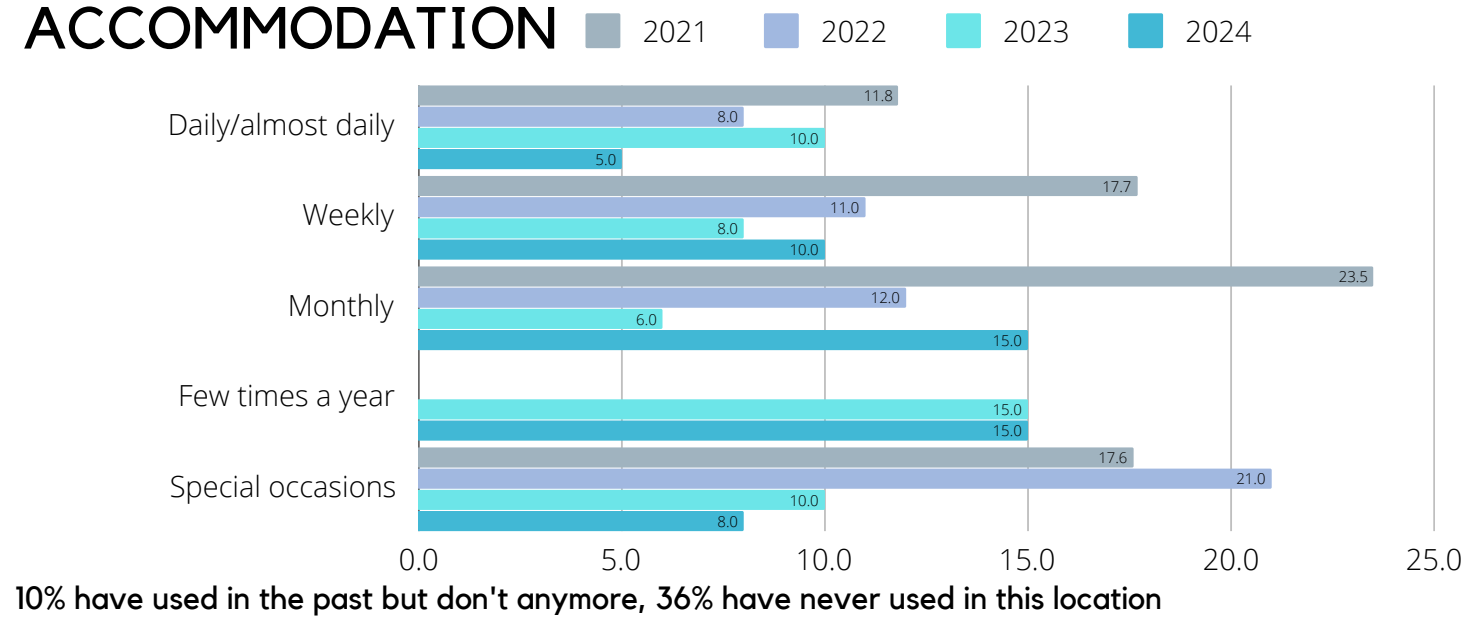
HOUSE PARTY



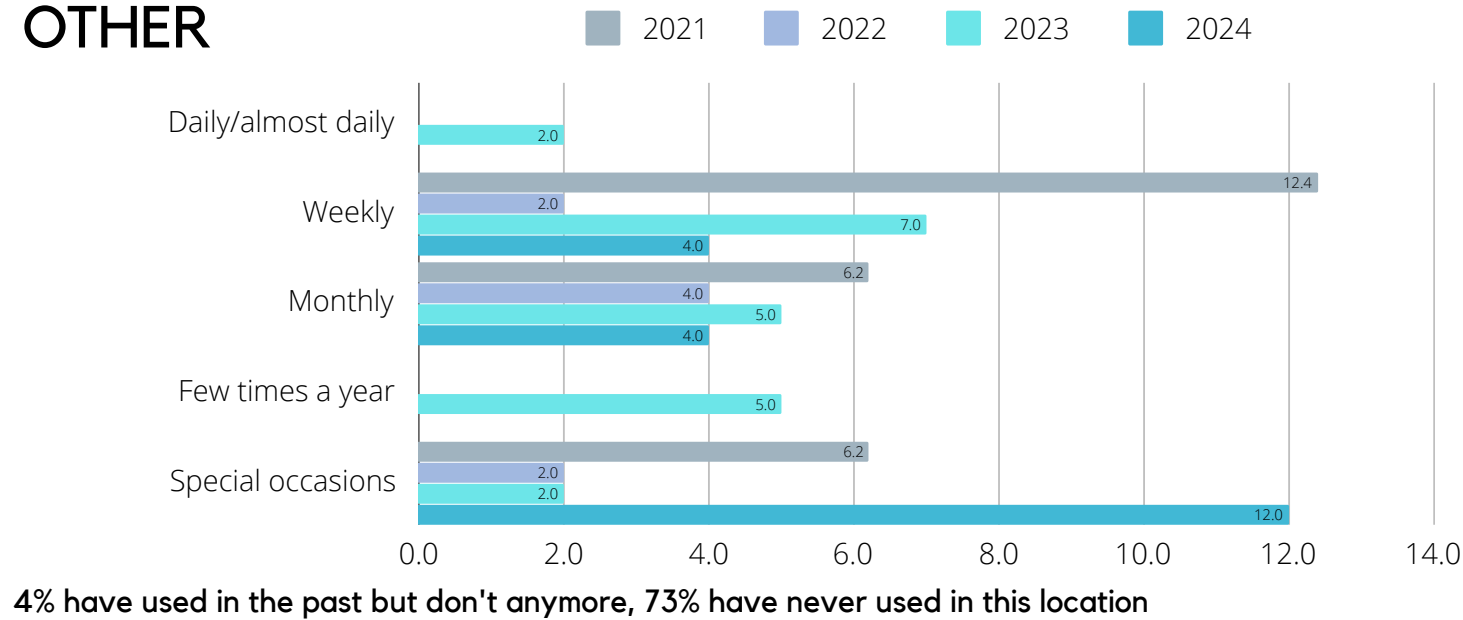
10% have used in the past but don't anymore, 44% have never used in this location



STAY AT HOME / IN MY ACCOMMODATION



OTHER



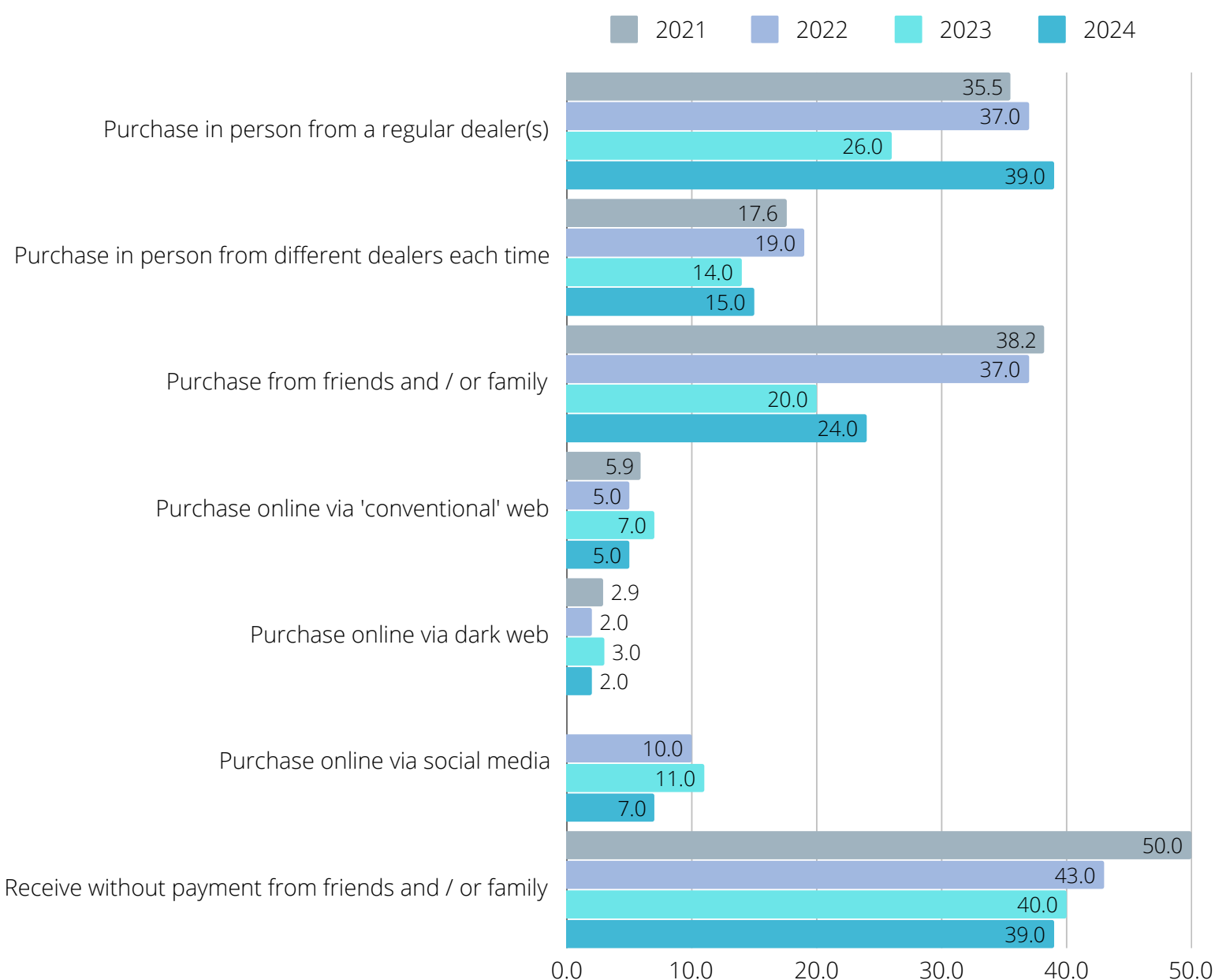
'Other' responses include:

- "In nature"
- "Outdoors"
- "Festival"
- "In a field"



AQUISITION OF DRUGS

Thinking of your experiences since you started university, which of the following describes where or how you acquire drugs?

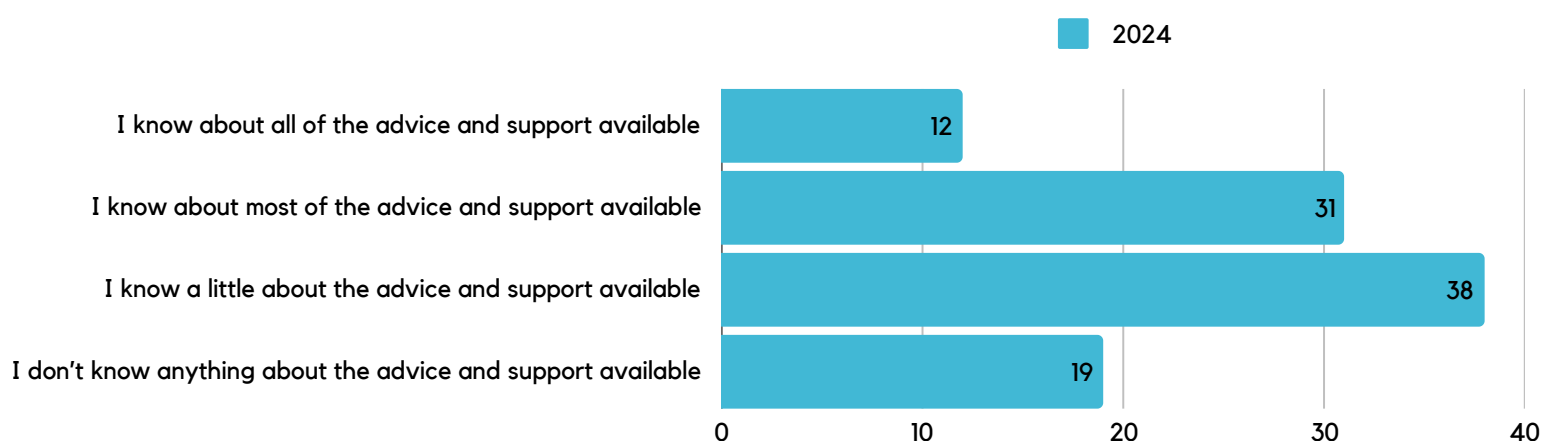




DRUG ADVICE

Which of the following statements best describes your access to advice on drugs?

New wording for 2024

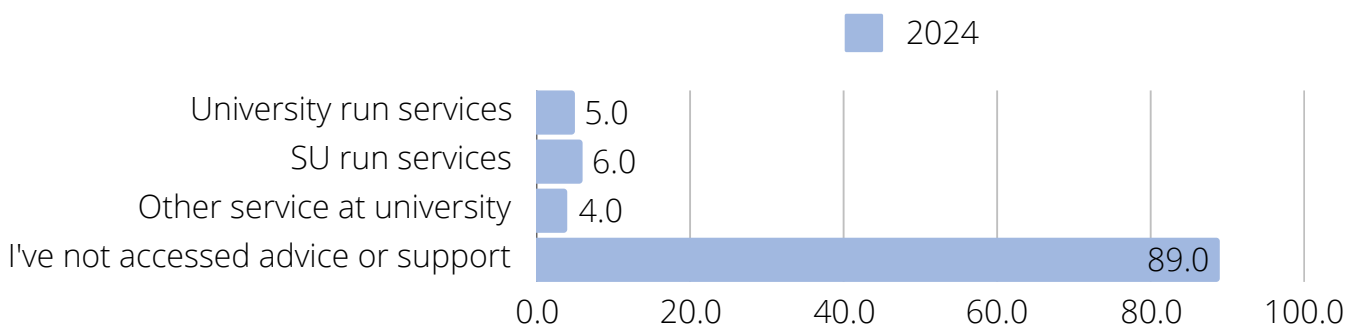




DRUG ADVICE

Which of the following sources, if any, have you used for advice, information or support on drugs?

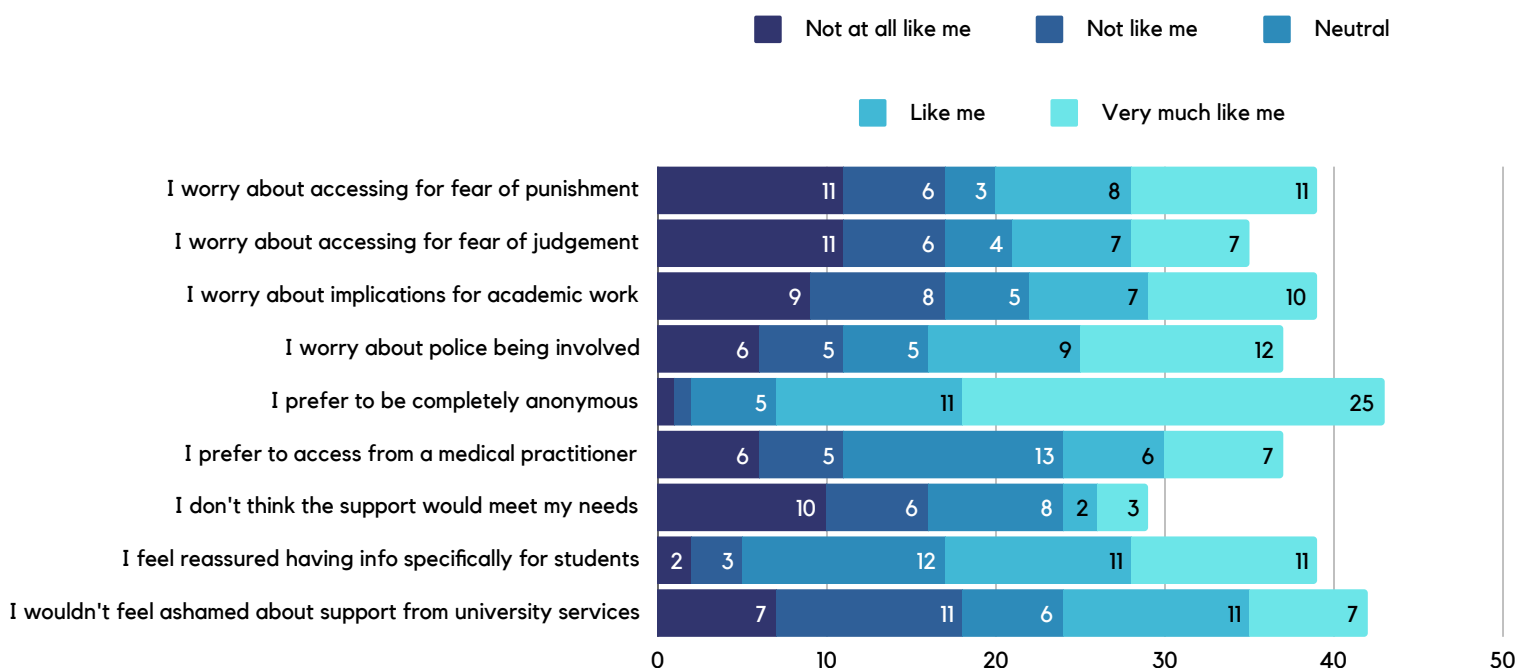
New wording for 2024



Other: "Keele website", "CDAS Stoke", "SU Drug Testing Stands", "Uni Awareness Events", "On Campus GP"

To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the following statements when thinking about accessing any advice and support on drugs at your university?

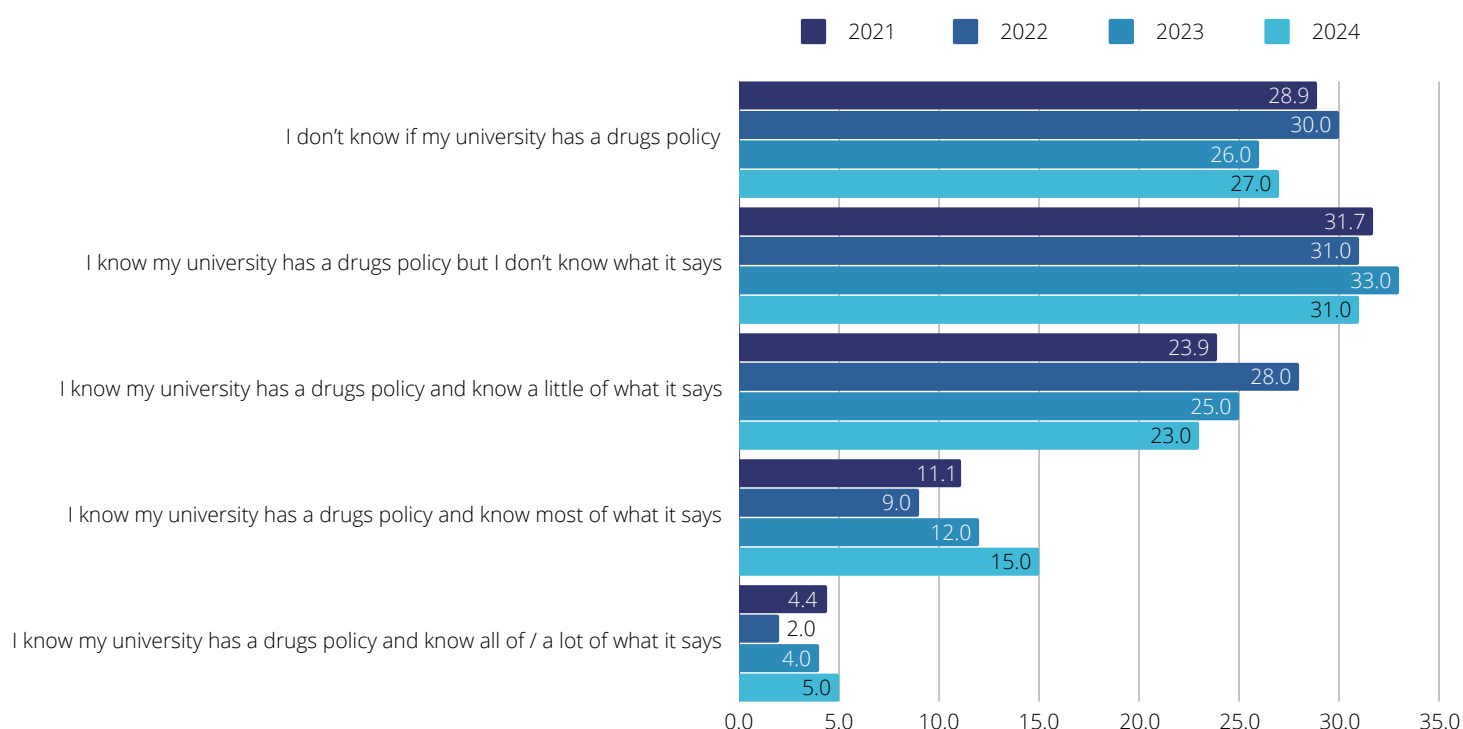
New response options for 2024





KEELE'S APPROACH

How much, if anything, do you know about the policy/policies your university/college has on drugs?

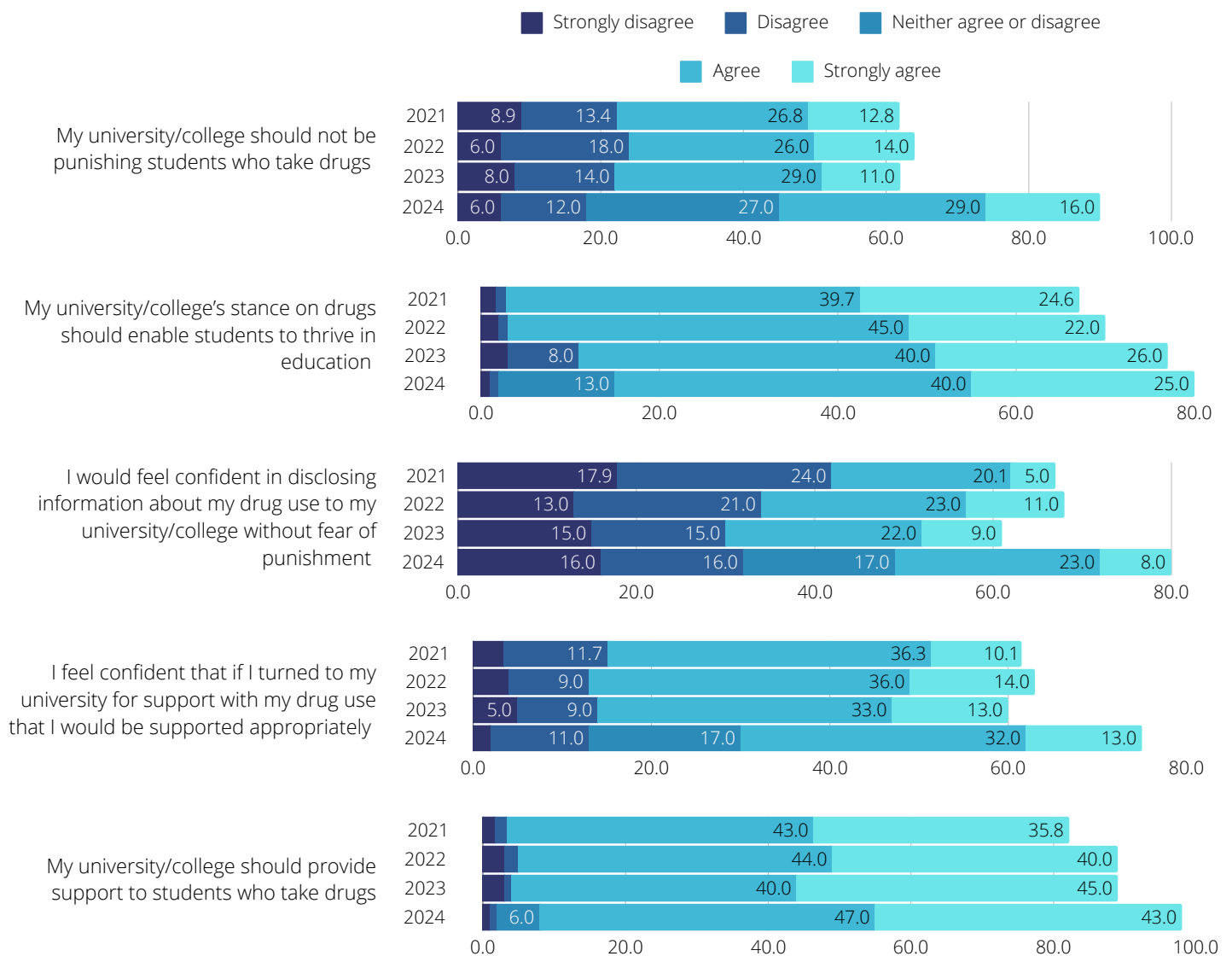




KEELE'S APPROACH

To what extent, if at all, do you agree with the following statements?

New response option 'neither agree or disagree' added in 2024

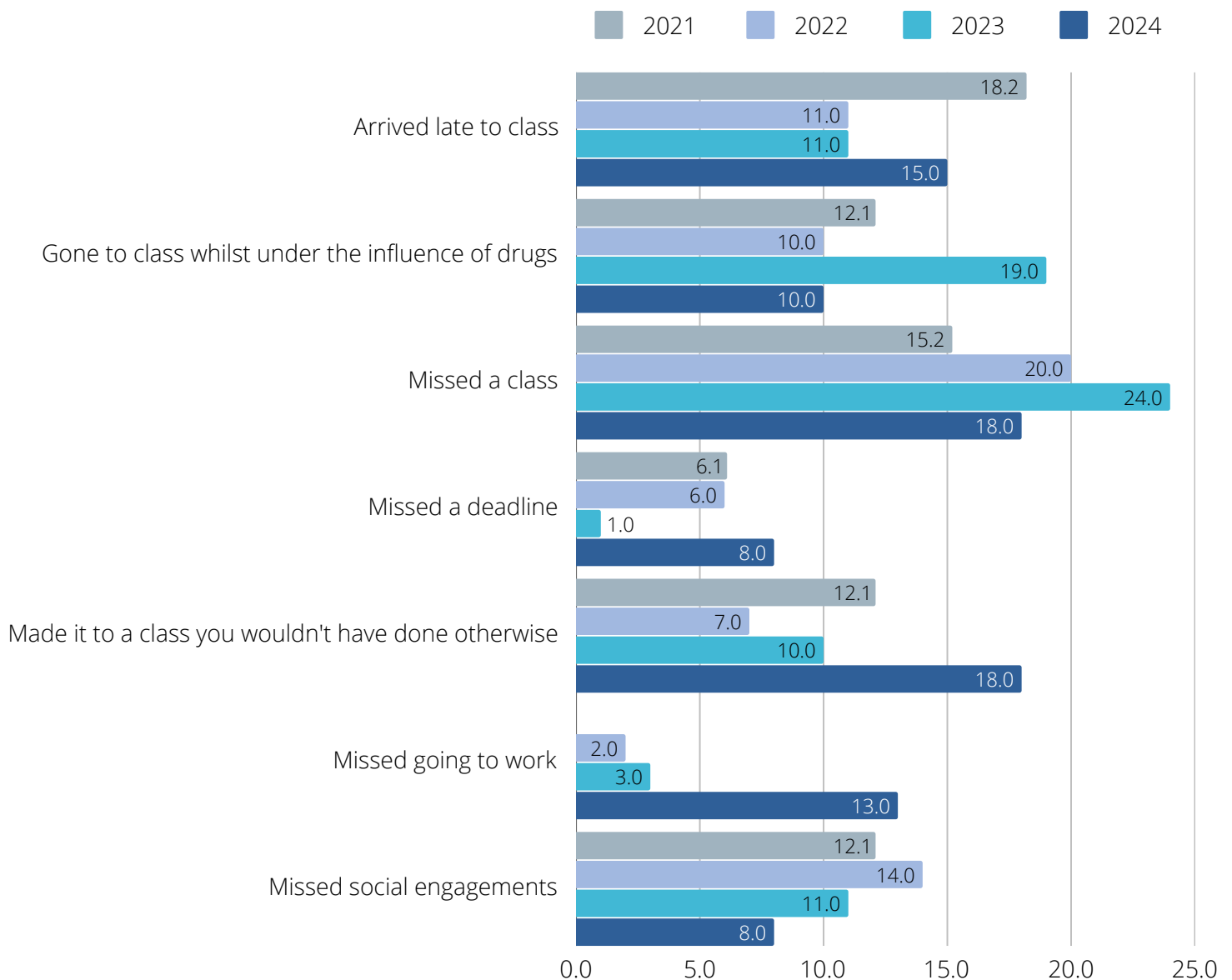




CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG USE

Which of the following have you experienced since you have been at university during or following taking drugs?

ACADEMIC & WORK

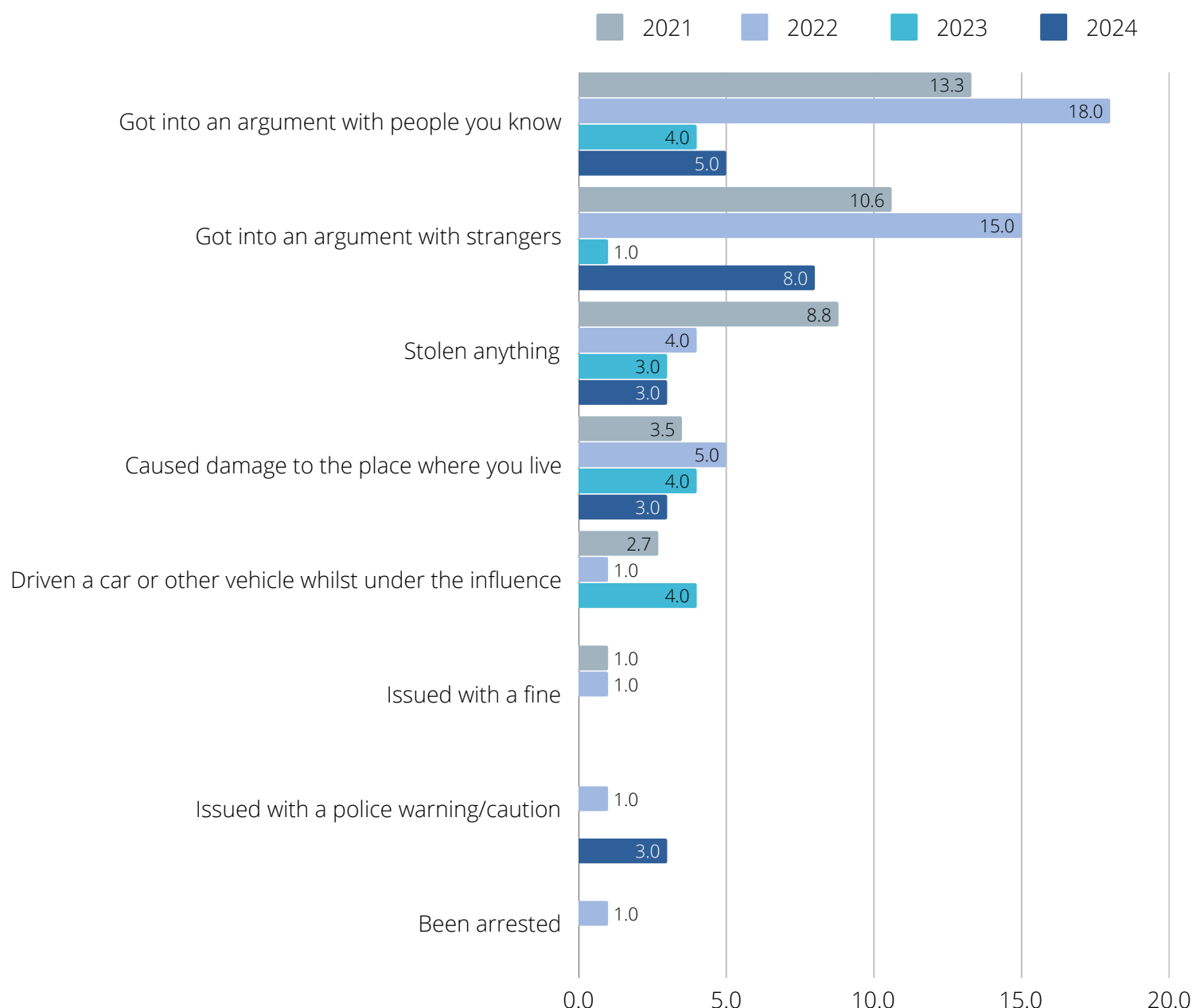




CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG USE

Which of the following have you experienced since you have been at university during or following taking drugs?

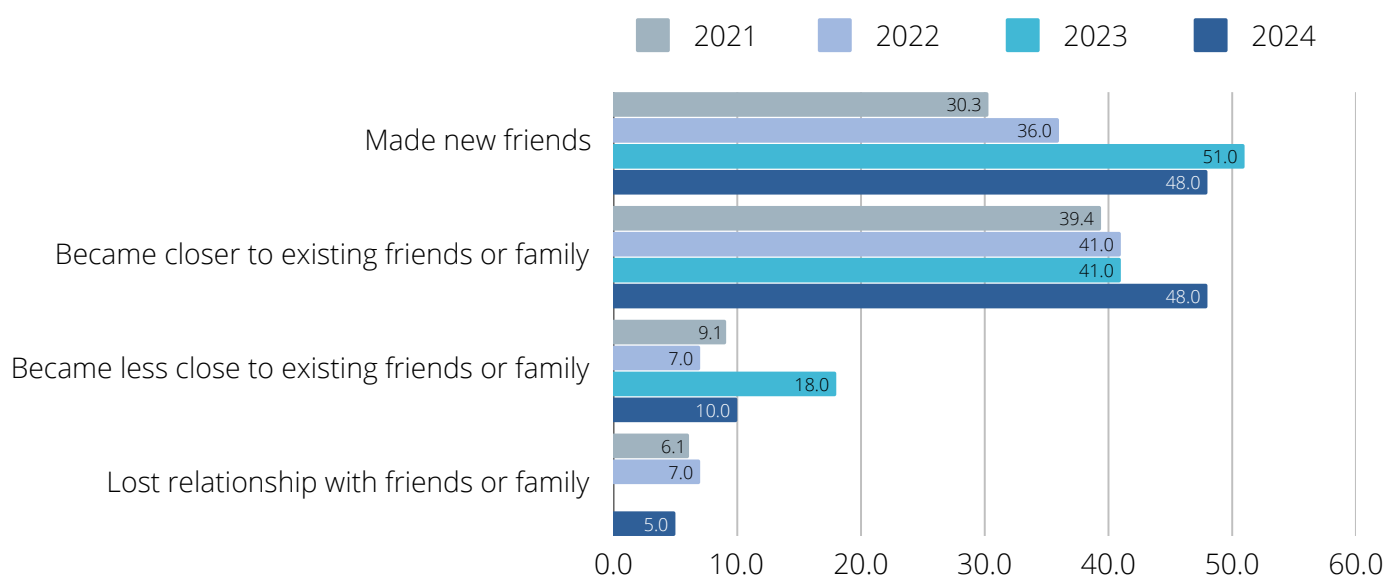
ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR



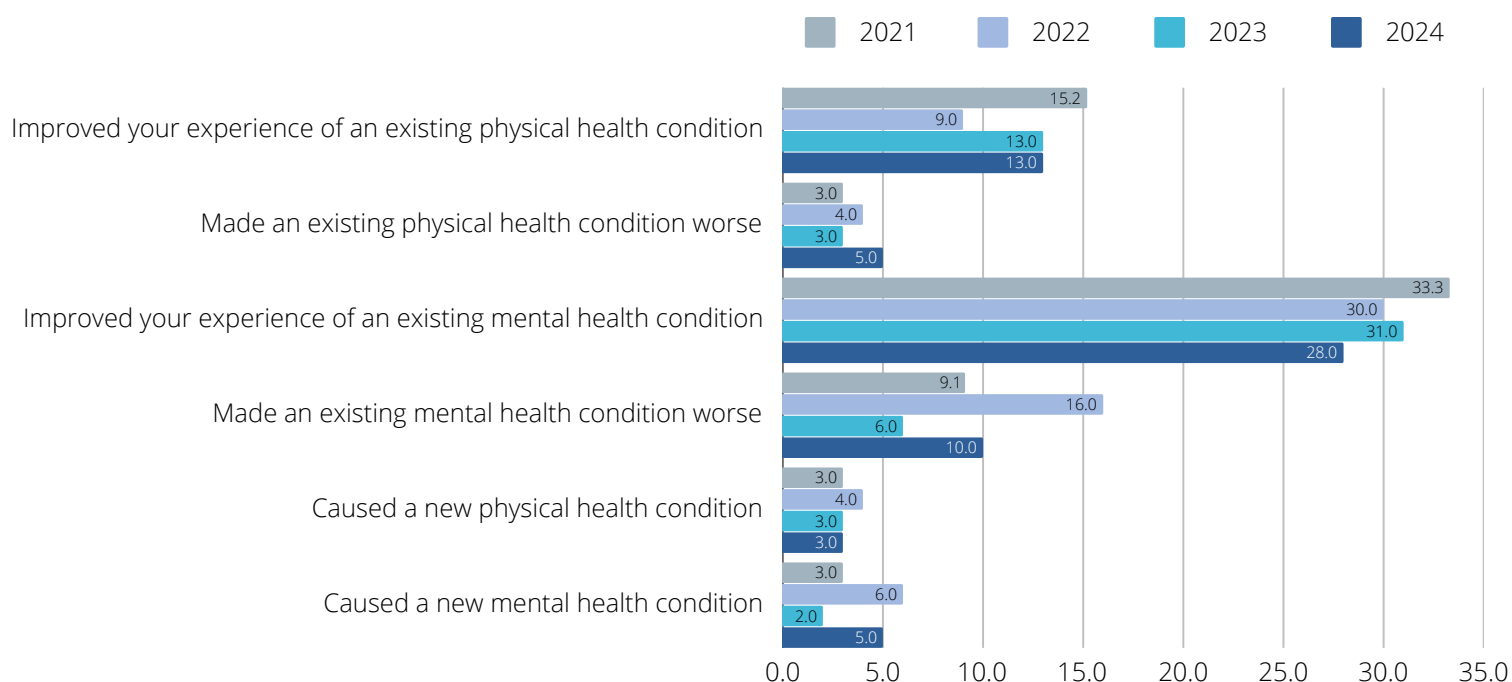


CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG USE

SOCIAL LIFE



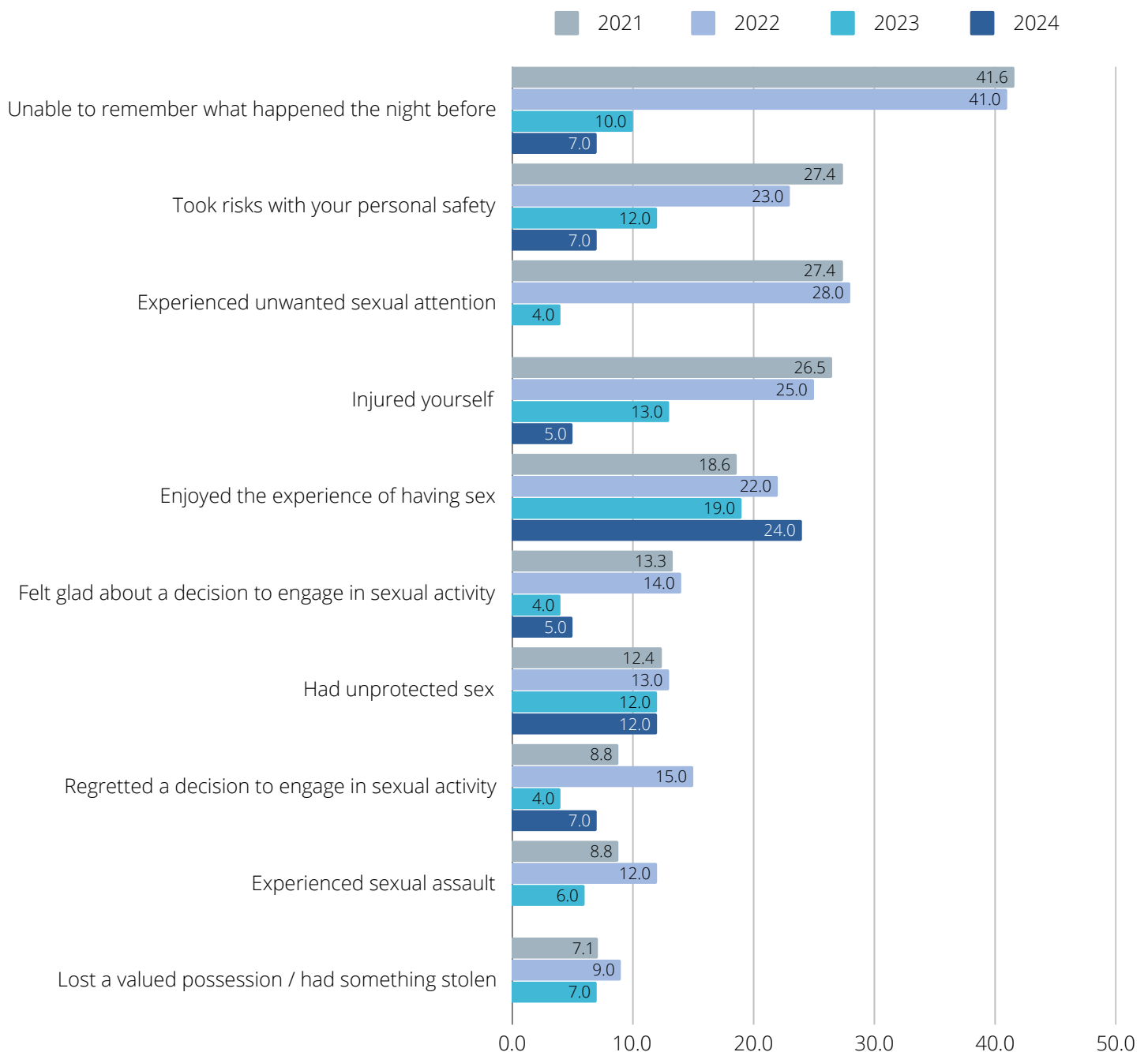
MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH





CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG USE

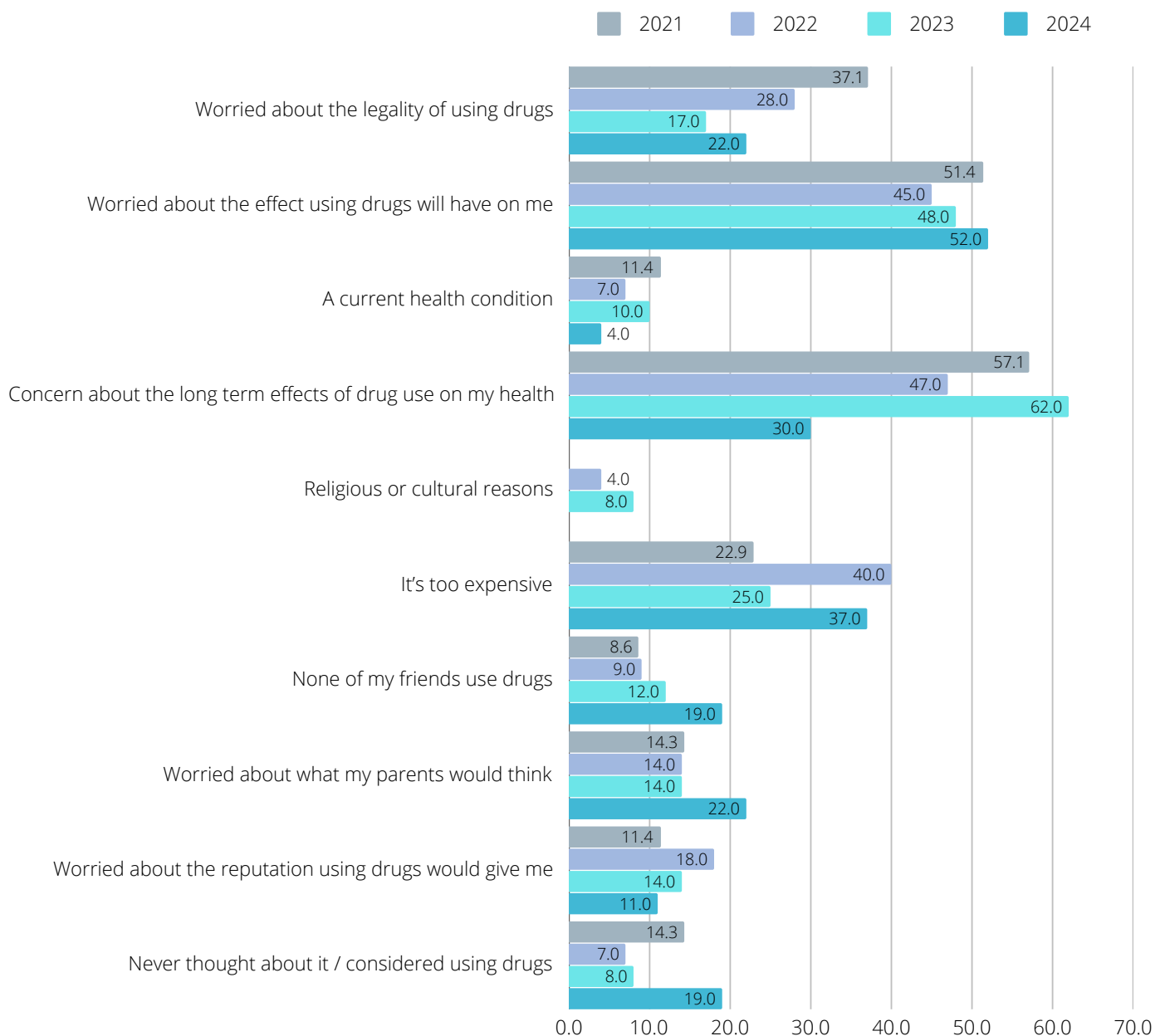
VICTIM OF CRIME & SEXUAL ACTIVITY





NON DRUG USERS

What would you say are your main reasons for not using drugs or stopping using drugs?

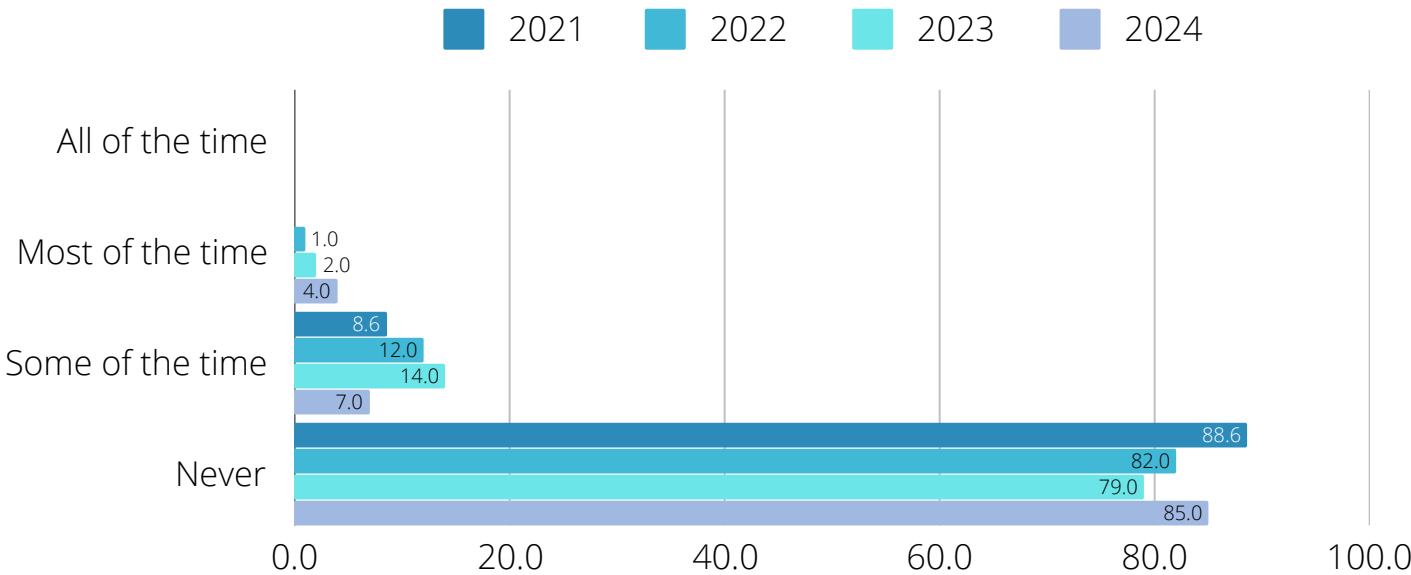


Other: "I drive a lot so would be problematic", "the ones I've tried do nothing for me"



NON DRUG USERS

Thinking about the most recent university term, when you were socialising with other students, how often did you feel that your friends expected you to use drugs?



Any other comments or feedback on your experiences of drugs during your time at university...

- "I don't see many students on campus using drugs, I do see this outside of campus"



REPORT PREPARED BY

KEELE DRUG & ALCOHOL STEERING GROUP

QUESTIONS CAN BE SENT TO K.V.HOLLOWAY@KEELE.AC.UK