

A map of Brunei Darussalam is shown in the top left corner, with the name 'Brunei Darussalam' written in a light blue font over it. The rest of the top half of the page has a solid blue background with the text 'BRUNEI DARUSSALAM' in a larger, bold, white font.

Brunei  
Darussalam

# BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

## Summary of major trends and emerging concerns

### Methamphetamine

- Crystalline methamphetamine remains the main drug of concern in Brunei Darussalam and accounts for the largest proportion of drug related offences as well as drug treatment admissions (figure 1 and table 2).
- Seizures of drugs declined across the board in 2021, including for crystalline methamphetamine, in part due to continued COVID-19 mobility restrictions. Though the amount of 3.4 kg seized in 2021 was significantly lower than the record amount seized in 2020, when authorities dismantled a large drug trafficking syndicate, it remains a considerable amount for the country (table 3).

### “Ecstasy”<sup>1</sup>

- Trend data is not available for the use of “ecstasy” in 2021 (table 1). However, seizures and arrests related to “ecstasy” dropped to similar levels as seen in 2018 (figure 1 and table 3).

### New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) and other synthetic drugs

- There were no reported use and seizures of NPS and ketamine in 2021 (tables 1 and 3).

### Other drugs

- ‘Erimin 5’, which may contain nimetazepam, a benzodiazepine derivative, continues to be used and marketed in the country.<sup>2</sup>

1 “Ecstasy” tablets sold in the country may contain a range of substances in varying composition and quantities in addition or instead of MDMA.

2 “Erimin 5” is a proprietary product of Sumitomo corporation, and its licit production has been discontinued since 2015. The proprietary product contains nimetazepam, a benzodiazepine, which is controlled in Schedule IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971. It is probable that current “Erimin 5” seizures are manufactured illicitly and may or may not contain nimetazepam as well as a range of other substances.

## Key facts and figures

### Drug demand indicators

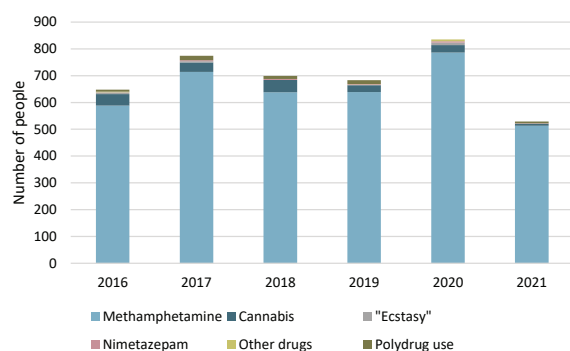
**Table 1. Trend in use of selected drugs in Brunei Darussalam, 2016-2021**

Drug type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Crystalline methamphetamine	↓	↑	↑	↑	↑	↓
"Ecstasy"	↓	↑	↓	↑	↑	●
Cannabis herb	↑	↓	↓	↑	↑	↓
Inhalants	↓	●	↔	↔	●	↑
Ketamine	↑	↑	↓	●	↑	●
Nimetazepam	↑	↔	↓	↑	●	↑

Sources: Drug Abuse Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (DAINAP); UNODC Annual Report Questionnaire (ARQ) Brunei Darussalam for 2020 and previous years; Official communication with the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), February 2022.

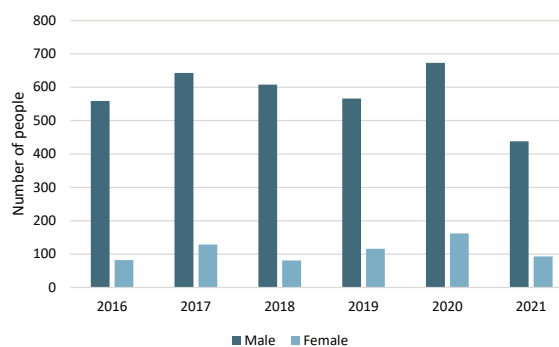
Note: Based on expert perception provided by NCB; ↑ = Increase, ↓ = Decrease, ↔ = Stable, ● = Not reported.

**Figure 1. Number of people brought into formal contact with authorities for drug-related offences in Brunei Darussalam, by drug type, 2016-2021**



Sources: NCB, "Latest situation on synthetic drugs and responses to the threats in Brunei Darussalam", presented at the Global SMART Programme Regional Workshop, November-December 2021; Official communication with NCB, February 2022.

**Figure 2. Number of people brought into formal contact with authorities in Brunei Darussalam for drug-related offences, by gender, 2016-2021**



Sources: DAINAP; NCB, "Latest situation on synthetic drugs and responses to the threats in Brunei Darussalam", presented at the Global SMART Programme Regional Workshop, November-December 2021; Official communication with NCB, February 2022.

**Table 2. Number of people who use drugs receiving treatment in Brunei Darussalam, by gender and selected drug types, 2019-2021**

Drug type	2019			2020			2021		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Methamphetamine	195	31	226	105	16	121	102	17	119
Cannabis	4	0	4	6	0	6	1	0	1
Ecstasy	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Inhalants	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Polydrug use	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	201	31	232	112	16	128	103	18	121

Sources: DAINAP; NCB, "Latest situation on synthetic drugs and responses to the threats in Brunei Darussalam", presented at the Global SMART Programme Regional Workshop, November-December 2021; Official communication with NCB, February 2022.

## Drug supply indicators

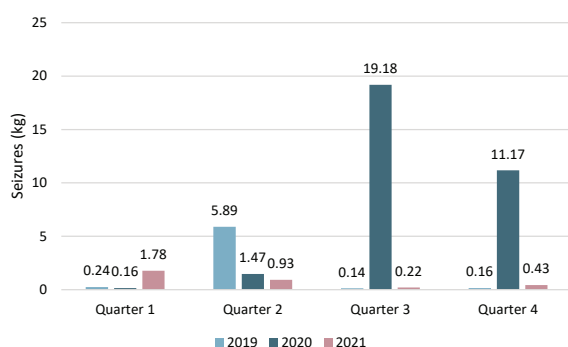
**Table 3. Seizures of selected drugs in Brunei Darussalam, 2016-2021**

Drug type	Unit	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Crystalline methamphetamine	kg	0.7	0.8	0.8	6.4	32	3.4
“Ecstasy”	tablet / g	21 tablets	31 and 1.6 g	0	42 tablets	100 tablets	0.5 g
Cannabis herb	kg	6	1.1	0.4	6.5	1.3	0.1
Heroin	kg	●	●	●	●	●	●
Ketamine	tablet / g	17.6 g	50 and 54.5 g	21 g	1.6 g	229.9 g	●
Nimetazepam	tablet / g	457 tablets and 1.4 g	453 tablets and 11.8 g	275 tablets	503 tablets and 0.3 g	108 tablets and 0.3 g	0.20 g
Kratom (liquid)	lt	0	0	0	0.9	0.9	●
Khat	kg	0	0	0	80	80	●

Sources: DAINAP; UNODC ARQ Brunei Darussalam for 2020 and previous years; NCB, “Latest situation on synthetic drugs and responses to the threats in Brunei Darussalam”, presented at the Global SMART Programme Regional Workshop, November-December 2021; Official communication with NCB, February 2022.

Note: ● = Not reported.

**Figure 3. Seizure amounts of crystalline methamphetamine in Brunei, by quarter, 2019-2021**



Sources: DAINAP; Official communication with NCB, February 2022.

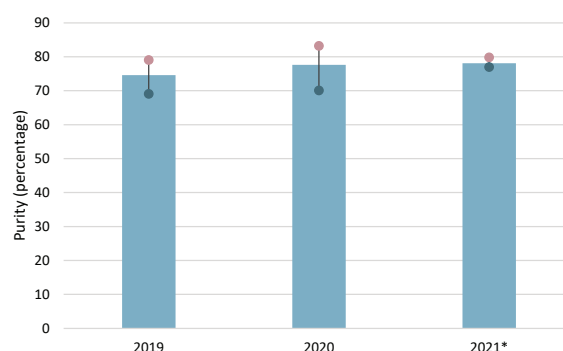
**Table 4. Retail prices of selected illicit drugs in Brunei Darussalam, 2020-2021 (BND (US\$))**

Drug type	Unit	2020	2021
Crystalline methamphetamine	per g	195 (143.9)	195 (143.9)
“Ecstasy”	per tablet	30-50 (22.1-36.9)	30 (22.1)
Cannabis herb	per g	15 (11.1)	15 (11.1)
Ketamine	per g	50 (36.9)	50 (36.9)
Benzodiazepines (“Erimin 5”)	per tablet	10 (7.4)	10 (7.4)

Source: Official communication with NCB, February 2022.

Note: NCB has reported the same prices of the drugs in the table in BND for 2017, 2018, and 2019; The conversion ratio used is US\$1 = 1.355 BND (as of March 2022).

**Figure 4. Typical purity of crystalline methamphetamine in Brunei Darussalam, 2019-2021 (percentage)**



Source: Official communication with NCB, February 2022.

Note: \*Data covers the first ten months of the year. Data in this graph refer to the weight/weight (w/w) % expressed as the base form of these substances.