

DRUG ATTITUDES SURVEY 2025
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET
PANEL: LIFE IN AUSTRALIA™
PARTICIPANT GROUP: ADULT SURVEY

Introduction

The aim of the study is to find out more about how people use, think and feel about drugs in Western Australia.

This Participant Information Sheet tells you about the research study. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research. Please read this sheet carefully and ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about, using the contact details included at the end of this sheet.

Why am I being asked to participate in this study?

You have been invited to participate in this study because you have previously provided consent for the Social Research Centre to contact you in relation to future research studies as part of being a member of Life in Australia™.

What is this study about?

The study is being carried out by the Social Research Centre on behalf of, and funded by, the Mental Health Commission WA.

The Drug Attitudes Survey 2025 will cover topics about how Western Australian's use, think and feel about drugs. The findings will:

- Measure opinions about drug use in the community
- Track changes in drug use in the community
- Contribute to messaging and information for drug programs

Participation in this research study is voluntary. You can take a break from the survey if you want to – just close your browser. When you want to come back to the survey, click on your survey link and you will go back to where you left the survey. You are also free to stop at any time with no requirement to complete the remainder of the questions.

By giving your consent to take part in this study you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read.
- Agree to take part in the research study as outlined below.
- Agree to the use of your personal information and survey responses as described.

What will the study involve for me?

If you decide to take part in the research study, we will ask you to complete an online

questionnaire. The questions being asked will be different for different groups of people:

- Adults will be asked about your personal characteristics such as gender, age, and physical and mental health, and questions about how you use drugs, what you think about drugs and their use, and how you feel about drugs in Western Australia.
- Parents and guardians of children aged 12 to 17 will be asked for permission for one of their children in this age range to participate in a survey.
- Children aged 12 to 17 will be asked about their personal characteristics including their age, mental and physical health, family history of drug use, gender, whether they are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, and if they use a language other than English at home. They will also be asked questions about if they have used drugs, what they think about drugs and their use, and how they feel about drugs. The Young person survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.
- The research does not seek to include multiple children from each household (where there are more than one child). In families with multiple children, the questionnaire will randomly select one child for the survey.

The Adult survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Are there any benefits associated with being in the study?

This research is important to ensure that drug policies and programs in Western Australia are based on evidence and data, to help Western Australians make informed decisions about their drug use.

Will I be reimbursed for participating in the study?

Each adult who completes the survey will be provided with a \$10 GiftBee incentive reimbursement credited to their Life in Australia™ members account as a thank you for participating. Each child who completes the children's survey will be provided with a \$10 GiftBee reimbursement credited to their parent's Life in Australia™ members account as a thank you for their participation.

Are there any risks or costs associated with being in the study?

We don't expect this questionnaire to cause any harm or discomfort, however if you experience feelings of distress as a result of participation in this study you are free to stop at any time and come back to complete your answers later. You can also withdraw from the survey.

There is no risk of you being charged with drug offences if you say you have used drugs.

There are no costs associated with participating in this research study.

If you feel distressed or upset during or after the survey, you can seek support from the following organisations.

Lifeline

13 11 14

www.lifeline.org.au

Headspace

1800 650 890

www.headspace.org.au

13YARN

13 92 76

www.13yarn.org.au

**Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health
Support service**

(08) 9442 5000 (metro only)

1800 198 024 toll free (country only)

[www.admhss.mhc.wa.gov.au/get-](http://www.admhss.mhc.wa.gov.au/get-help/alcohol-and-drug-support-line)

[help/alcohol-and-drug-support-line](http://www.admhss.mhc.wa.gov.au/get-help/alcohol-and-drug-support-line)

Beyond Blue

1300 22 4636

www.beyondblue.org.au

Please note Lifeline and Beyond Blue are for mental health assistance, Headspace is for youth mental health, 13 YARN is for Indigenous Australians, and the Alcohol and Drug Support Line is a WA telephone counselling, information and referral service for alcohol or drug use.

Can I withdraw from the study once I've started?

Being in this study is completely voluntary and you do not have to take part. You are free to stop the questionnaire at any time.

To withdraw from the study you can contact the Social Research Centre via phone on 1800 023 040 or email at LifelInAus@srcentre.com.au at any time before the survey closes on 16 November 2025. The information you provided will not be included in the final survey results. You may also request that your information be permanently removed.

What will happen to information about me that is collected during the study?

By providing your consent, you are agreeing to us collecting personal information about you for the purposes of this research study, and to the de-identified results being used for future research and publication purposes related to the original study or in the same general area of research, for example, preventive health. Your information will only be used for the purposes outlined in this Participant Information Sheet, unless you consent otherwise.

The Social Research Centre will keep your information safe and private and is subject to the relevant state and federal privacy legislation. The Mental Health Commission WA might publish the aggregated survey results, but no one will be able to tell who you are from these results.

We will keep your information in a computer at the Social Research Centre and the Mental Health Commission WA. Information will be used for the purpose of producing reports on the results of the survey, and the de-identified results may also be used for future research and publications related to the original study or in the same general area of research, for example, preventive health. We will store your information in line with the Archives Act 1983 and the Privacy Act 1988.

Keeping your information private is very important to us. We will make sure your personal information is made anonymous as soon as possible after the survey closes and when we no longer need it. The Mental Health Commission WA will only receive de-identified data. This way, no one will be able to figure out who you are from the data we keep. We delete any files related to our projects as required by the Australian Privacy Principles.

The Social Research Centre's Privacy Policy is available [here](#) and has more details on how you can see or correct the information we have about you. It also explains how you can make a privacy complaint and what we will do about it. If you have any questions about our Privacy Policy or any of the things mentioned here, you can call our Privacy Officer at (03) 9236 8500 or email privacy@srcentre.com.au.

Will I be told the results of the study?

The Mental Health Commission WA may publish a report on the results of this research study. Any information published will be done in a way that will not identify you.

What if I have a complaint or any questions about the study?

This project has been reviewed and received ethics approval through the Bellberry Limited Human Research Ethics Committee (2025-06-1013).

If you have a complaint concerning the manner in which this research is conducted, please contact:

Director of Operations, Bellberry Human Research Ethics
Bellberry Limited
Phone: 08 8361 3222
Email: bellberry@bellberry.com.au

If you have questions regarding the study, please contact:

Dr Wendy Heywood
Director, Quantitative Research

The Social Research Centre
Phone: 03 9236 8500
Email: wendy.heywood@srcentre.com.au

The Bellberry Human Research Ethics Committee has reviewed and approved this study in accordance with the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2023) – incorporating all updates. This Statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies. Should you wish to discuss the study or view a copy of the Complaint procedure with someone not directly involved, particularly in relation to matters concerning policies, information or complaints about the conduct of the study or your rights as a participant, you may contact the Director of Operations, Bellberry Limited on 08 8361 3222.

Studies involving Children - Parent/Guardian Consent

When your child reaches 18 years of age, they may have their own rights in relation to making complaints or claims for compensation in relation to participation in this study. For participants aged 18 years and older participating in the survey, you may also have the right to make a complaint concerning the

manner in which this research is conducted and the right to compensation in relation to participation in this study. It is the recommendation of the independent ethics committee responsible for the review of this study/investigation that if this occurs then independent legal advice is sought before taking any steps towards compensation for injury.

If you have a complaint concerning the manner in which this research is conducted, please contact:

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If you have questions regarding the study, please contact:

Dr Wendy Heywood
Director, Quantitative Research

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