



Wastewater drug testing in New Zealand: Quarter Four 2020 Findings

National Overview

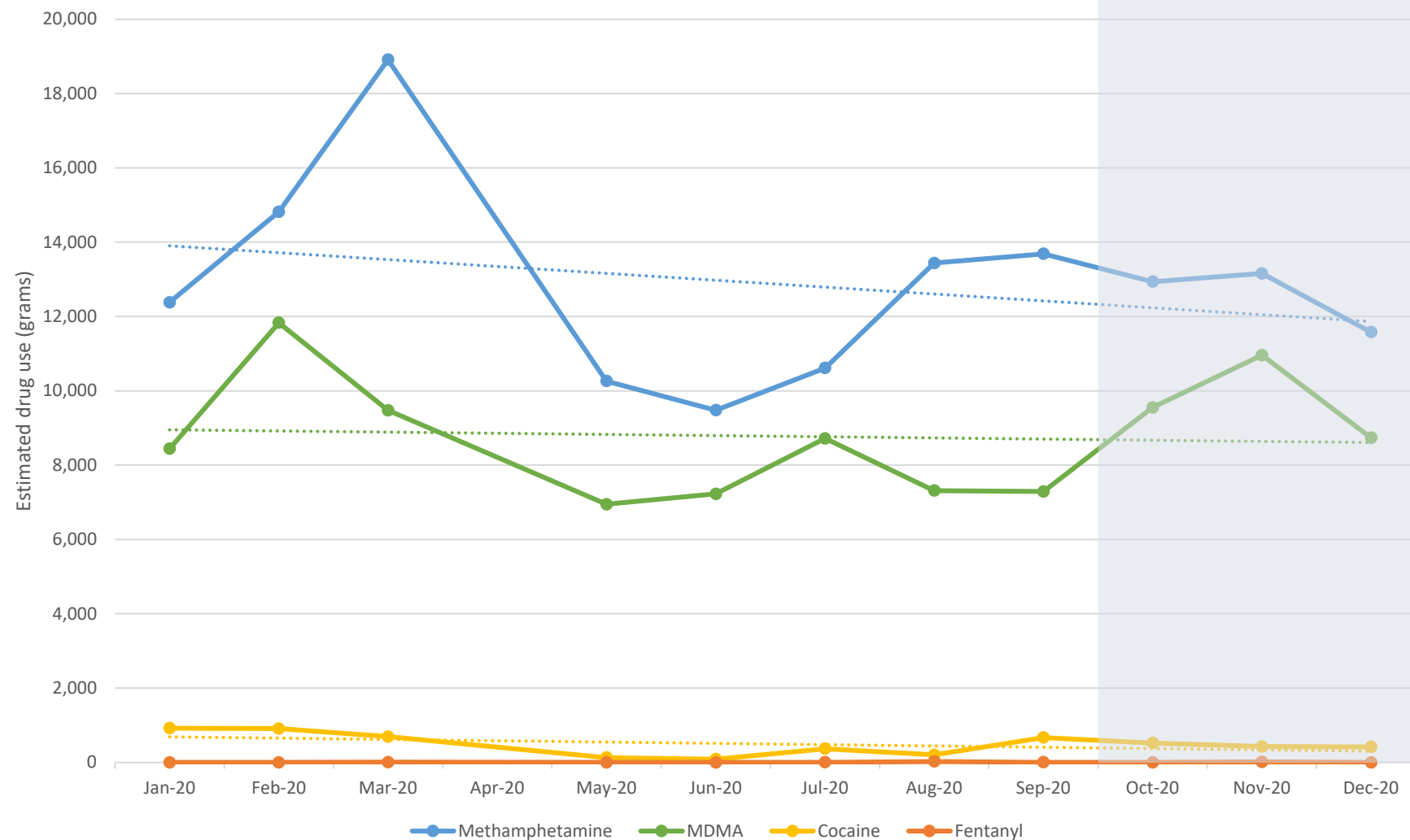
NOTES

- Wastewater testing occurs during one week per month, however the frequency of testing varies between sites. Nationwide testing started in November 2018, and current testing sites cover up to 75 percent of the total New Zealand population.
- Q4 2020 covers the three month period between October and December 2020 (inclusive).
- All data is representative of the sites tested and care should be taken when extrapolating figures from testing site to District results.

KEY UPDATES

- From Q2 2020, quarterly reporting will occur in alignment with the calendar year; Q1: January – March, Q2: April – June, Q3: July – September, Q4: October – December.
- The realignment of reporting quarters has resulted in February and March being excluded from quarterly reporting in 2020. February and March will continue to be depicted in year-to-date national consumption trends, as shown in the graph below.

WEEKLY NATIONAL DRUG USE



KEY FINDINGS: Q4 2020

METHAMPHETAMINE

- The average national total load for Q4 was 12.6 kilograms, the same as the previous quarter. The total load has decreased in comparison with Q4 2019 which had an average of 14 kilograms.
- Northland, Bay of Plenty and Eastern districts had the highest methamphetamine consumption per capita.

MDMA

- The average national weekly consumption of MDMA during Q4 was 9.7 kilograms. This is a slight increase in comparison with the same time period in 2019 which had an average of 8.8 kilograms.
- Southern, Canterbury and Eastern districts consumed the most MDMA per capita throughout Q4.

COCAINE

- The average national weekly consumption of cocaine was 0.5 kilograms. This is less than the same time period in 2019 which had an average of 1.3 kilograms.
- Tāmaki Makaurau, Wellington, and Southern districts had the highest levels of cocaine consumptions.



Wastewater drug testing in New Zealand: Quarter Four 2020 Findings

National Overview

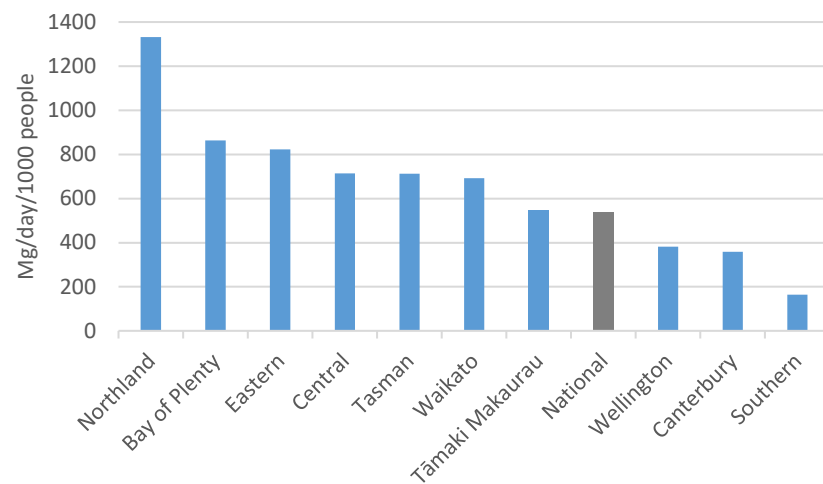


NOTES

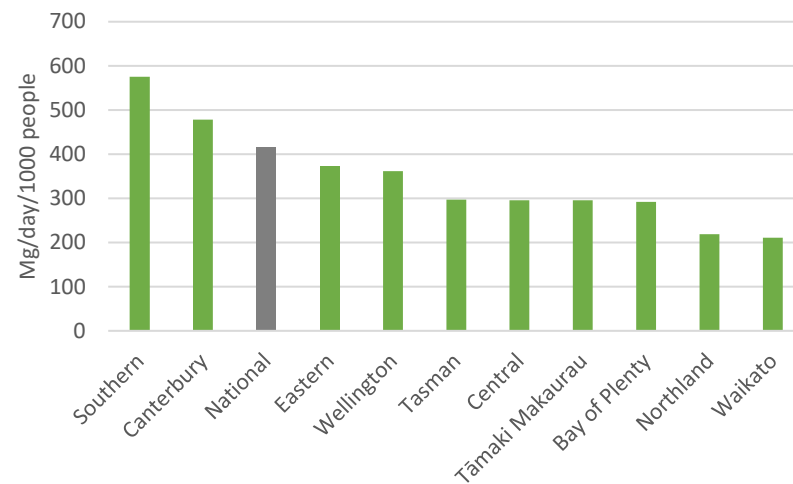
- Per capita graphs are not shown on a comparative scale, due to the significant variance across different drug types. Drug use is shown as milligrams consumed per day, per 1,000 people.
- Average weekly drug use graphs show the estimated drug use in grams for each commodity tested for, by district, throughout Q4 2020. The graphs for Tāmaki Makaurau, Wellington and Canterbury have been enlarged to reflect the higher levels of consumption in metropolitan areas.

PER CAPITA DRUG USE BY DISTRICT Q4 2020

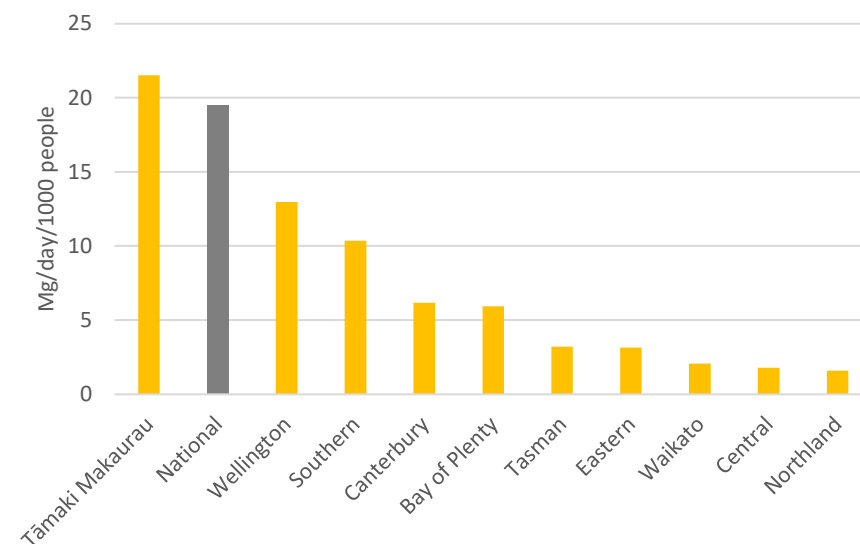
METHAMPHETAMINE: PREVALENCE PER CAPITA



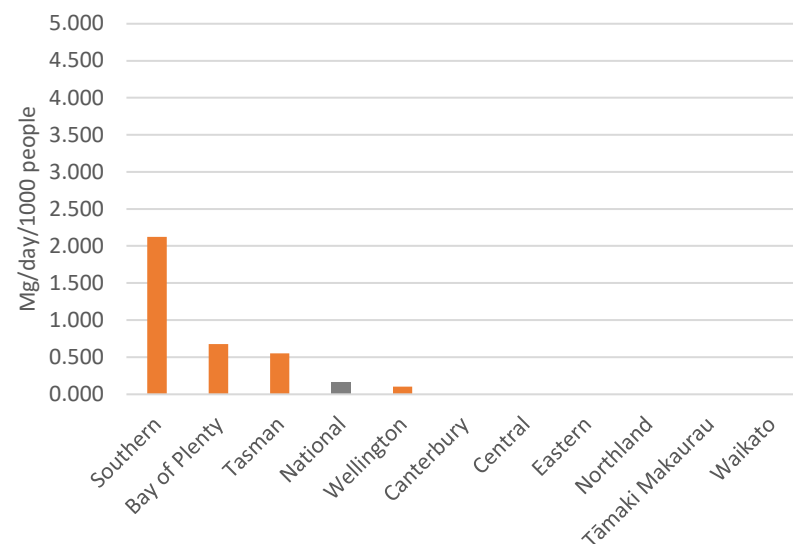
MDMA: PREVALENCE PER CAPITA



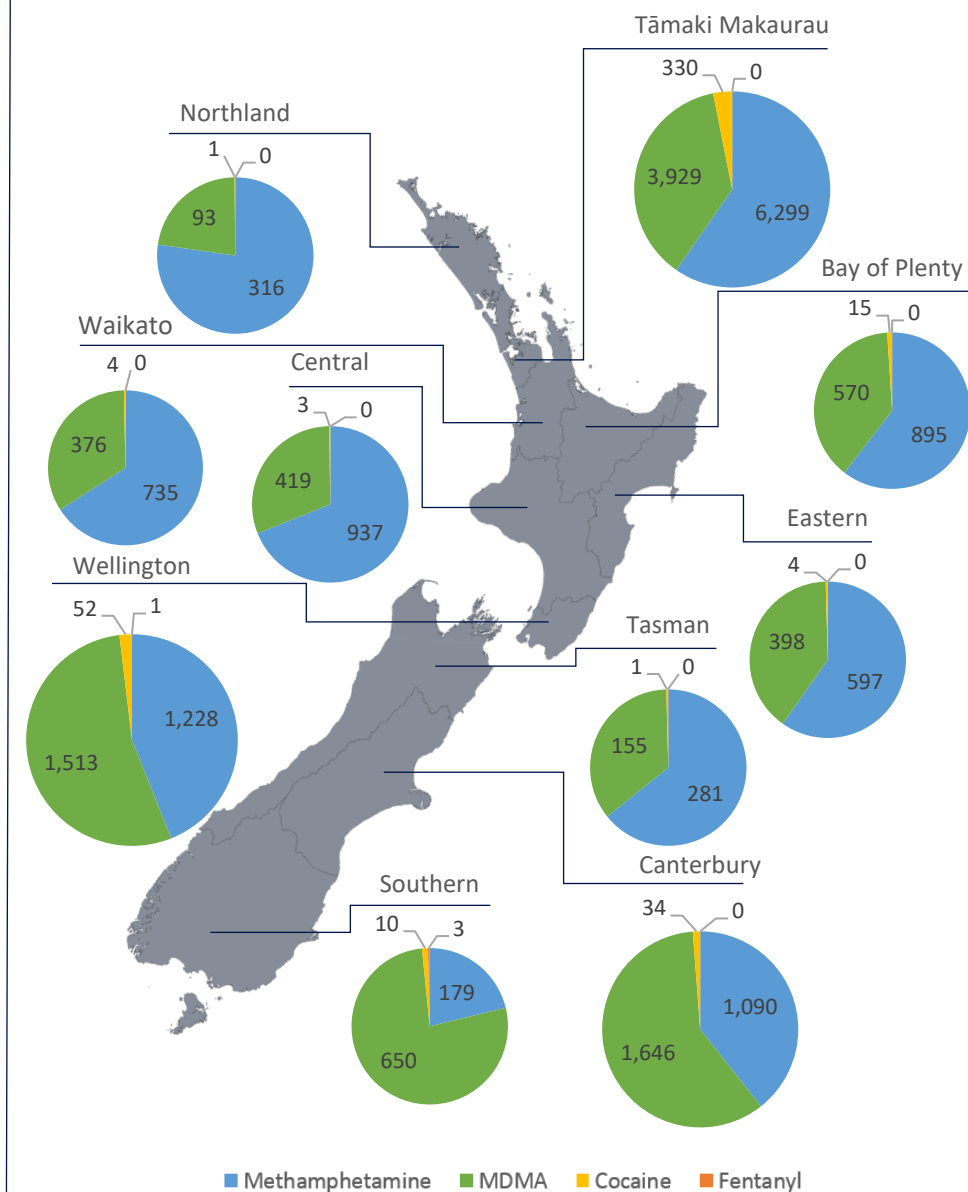
COCAINE: PREVALENCE PER CAPITA



FENTANYL: PREVALENCE PER CAPITA



AVERAGE WEEKLY DRUG USE BY DISTRICT Q4 2020 (GRAMS)





IN CONFIDENCE

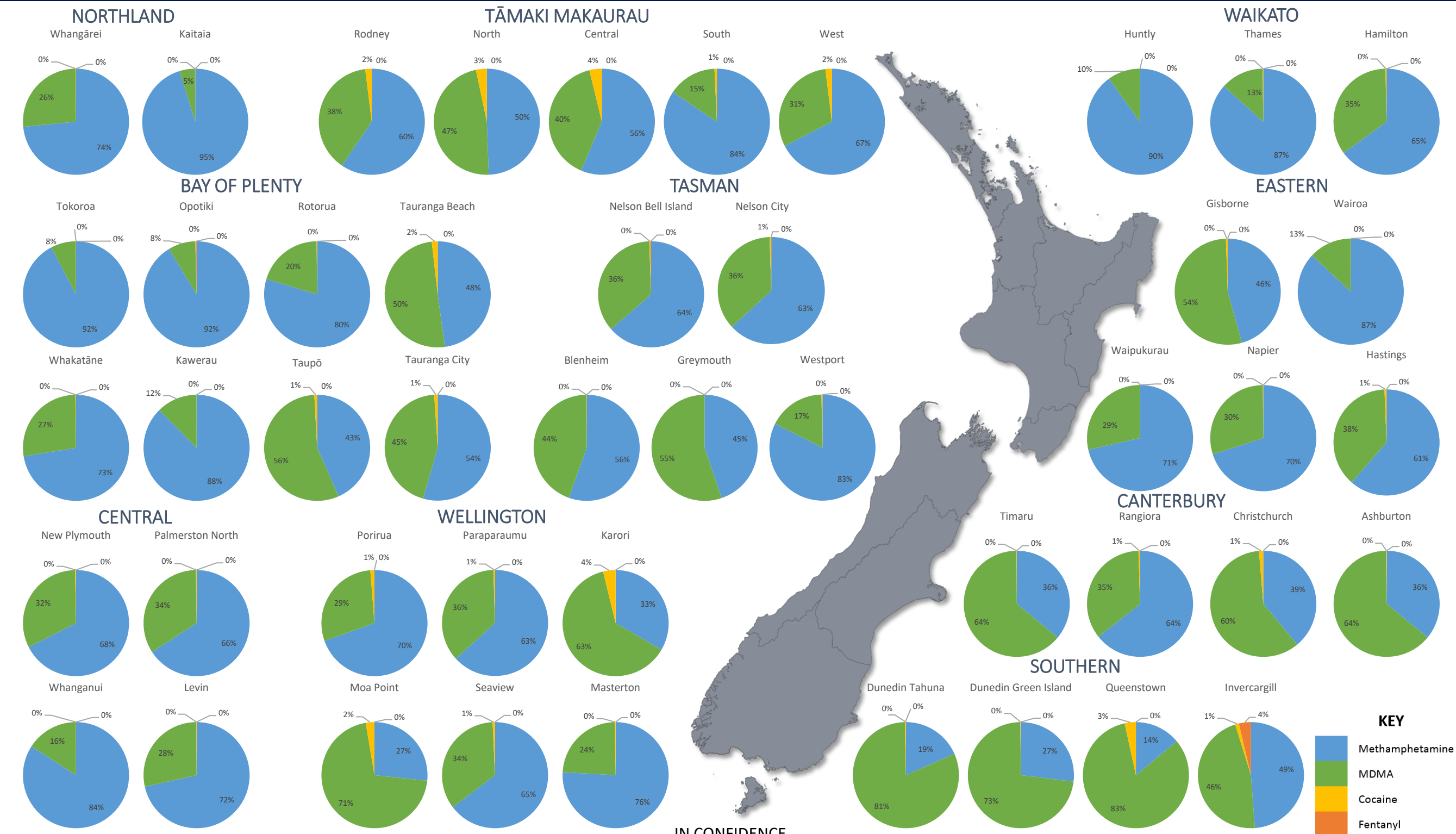
Wastewater drug testing in New Zealand: Quarter Four 2020 Findings

National Overview



NOTES

- The below graphs illustrate the proportion of drug use detected within catchment areas during Quarter Four 2020, which aims to highlight the difference in patterns of drug use throughout New Zealand.
- Q4 2020 covers the three month period between October and December 2020 (inclusive).



IN CONFIDENCE