

Introduction

The HSE are inviting you to take part in a research study about drug use at festivals. Before you decide to participate, it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it involves.

It is important that you read this information before taking part in the survey.

Study title: “What are you taking?” Drug trends and harm reduction practices among Irish festival attendees.

What is the purpose of the study? The survey has been designed to investigate festival drug trends. The results of the survey will be used to inform future harm reduction campaigns and services in Ireland.

Who can take part in this study? In order to take part in the following questionnaire you must:

- **Be over 18 years of age**
- Currently live in the Republic of Ireland **AND**
- Have taken illicit drugs at a festival

Do I have to take part? No, participation is voluntary. It is up to you to decide whether to take part or not. By filling in the questionnaire you provide your consent to take part in the study.

What will happen to me if I take part? If you decide to take part in this study you will be asked to complete a questionnaire. You will be asked some questions about yourself, drug use at festivals, drug harm reduction practices and services. The questionnaire should take around 10 minutes to complete.

Are there any benefits involved in taking part in this research? Taking part in this research will help us to understand drug trends at Irish festivals and will be used to inform future harm reduction campaigns and services in Ireland.

Is the study confidential? Yes. You will not be asked to share information that will personally identify you. You **will not** be asked for your name or contact details. No one apart from the research team will see your answers.

The survey will be carried out through Smart Survey which is GDPR compliant with data collection.

Data will be stripped of all identifiers. This anonymous data file will be stored on a password protected computer. Only members of the research team will have access to data.

Has this study been approved by an ethics committee? Yes. This study has been approved by Trinity College Dublin Faculty of Health Sciences.

Consent

The survey is anonymous and no details that identify you will be collected. No information as part of this research will be traced back to any person.

The survey takes between 5-10 minutes to complete.

By completing this survey you are giving permission for your anonymous data to be collected.

The information with no identifiers will be stored electronically in a password-protected computer at the HSE National Office for Social Inclusion and Trinity College Dublin.

Only members of the research team will have access to the files. The data collected may be published in a scientific journal.

If you do not consent to taking part in the study, then please close this tab in your browser and do not continue to the questionnaire.

Drug and alcohol information and support

Find a local service

If you have concerns about your own drug use or someone else's drug use, you can find a local support service at [drugs.ie/services](https://www.drugs.ie/services)

You can also contact the HSE Drug and Alcohol Helpline, Monday – Friday 9:30 am – 5:30pm on **1800 459 459** or through email at helpline@hse.ie

Online self assessment

To help identify if your use is low, high or medium risk, you can take the Drugs.ie Online Self-Assessment at [Drugs.ie/drugtest](https://www.drugs.ie/drugtest)

Drug Emergency

If you or a friend becomes unwell or feel suicidal after using drugs at a festival, don't be afraid to get help immediately from the onsite medical team or by calling 999/112.

Drugs.ie harm reduction campaigns

Find drug harm reduction information at [drugs.ie/campaigns](https://www.drugs.ie/campaigns)

Drugs and the law in Ireland

For information about drugs and the law in Ireland, go to Drugs.ie:

www.drugs.ie/drugs_info/about_drugs/drugs_and_the_law/

or Citizens Information.ie:

www.citizensinformation.ie/en/justice/criminal_law/criminal_offences/drug_offences.html

