







E-cigarette use and access among two samples in Australia who regularly use illicit drugs, 2023

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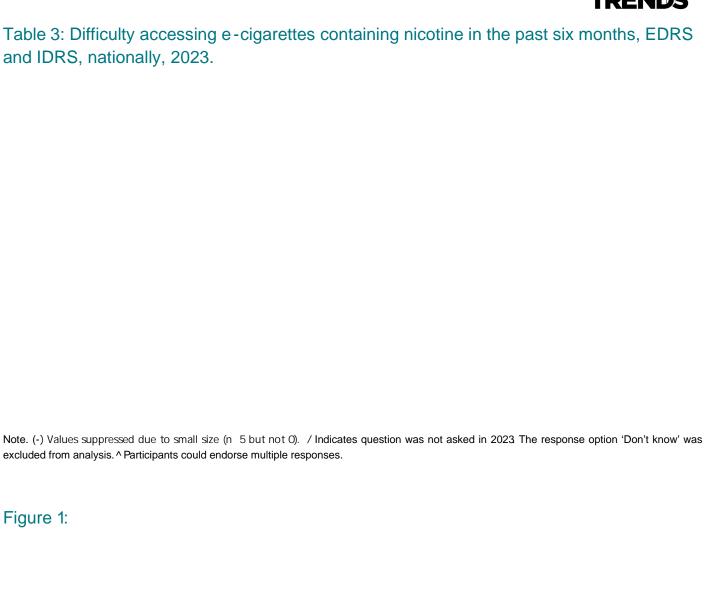


Table 2: Past six month use of non-prescribed e-cigarettes, EDRS and IDRS, nationally, 2023.

	EDRS N=708 % (n)	IDRS N=820 % (n)
Non-prescribed e-cigarette use in the six months preceding the interview	68 (482)	34 (276)
	n=481	n=266
Among those who reported recent nonprescribeduse, the percentage of participants using ecigarettes containing nicotine	96 (463)	81 (215)
Among those who reported recent use of non-prescribed e-cigarettes containing nicotine, where did you obtain your e-cigarette products from in the past six months?	n=456	/

Physical vape stoe







regulatory challenge as it creates uncertainty surrounding the original source of these products, and it is unclear whether restrictions and enforcement measures will directly impact these distribution channels.

Additionally, the national EDRS and IDRS reports how that 64% and 44% of participants who use non-prescribed e-cigarettes, respectively, report not using these products for smoking cessation purposes (8, 6). While those who are using non-prescribed e-cigarettes for smoking cessation purposes may be eligible to obtain a prescription and transition to prescribed e- cigarettes, there are limited options available for people using e-cigarettes for reasons unrelated to smoking cessation. Coupled with the perception that e-cigarette use is less harmful compared to traditional tobacco smoking (which can be accessed without a prescription) and the varied evidence on the harms and benefits associated with e-cigarettes (9), increased bans and enforcement may feed demand for diverted and black-market products among this group.

References

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