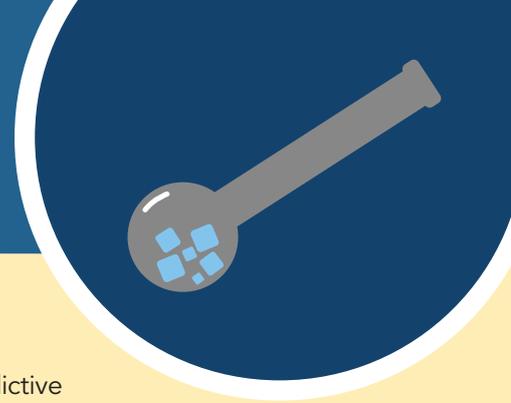


The Low Down on METHAMPHETAMINE



What is it?

Methamphetamine or meth for short is also commonly known as 'Ice'. It is a highly addictive drug and is a strong stimulant, heavily affecting the central nervous system.

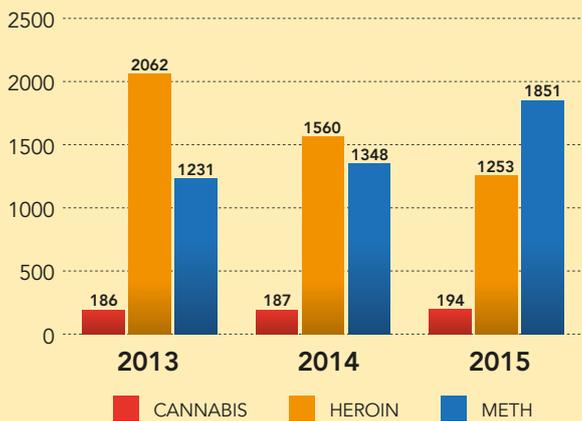
In its crystallised form, it is known as methamphetamine hydrochloride and usually comes in the form of colourless and odourless crystals that resemble glass fragments. In its tablet form, it is known as 'yaba'.

Long-term effects of meth abuse include psychosis, severe tooth decay and permanent damage to blood vessels of heart and brain.

Meth by Numbers

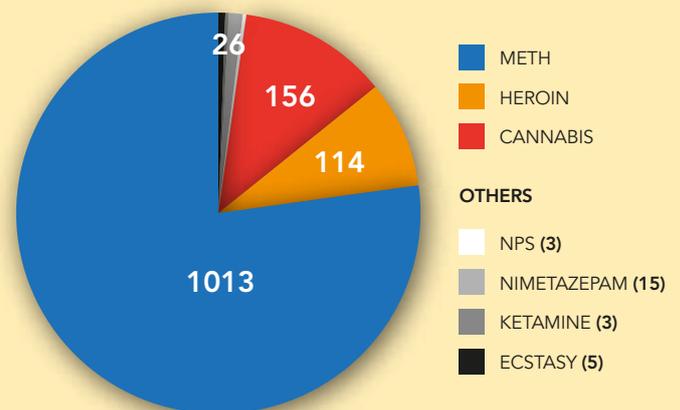
Meth abuse in Singapore has been on the rise in recent years. It is a worrying sign that is not to be taken lightly.

Total Abusers by Drug Type (2013-2015)



Meth abusers made up the largest proportion of all new abusers in 2015. Of the **1311** new abusers arrested, **77.3%** had abused Meth.

Total New Abusers by Drug Type (2015)



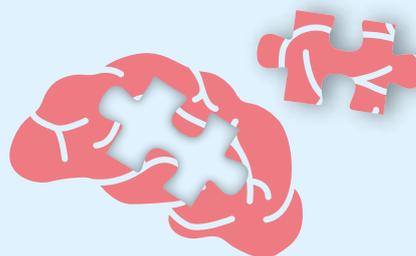
Source: Central Narcotics Bureau, Singapore

Harmful Effects of Meth



Meth Mouth

The risk of dental destruction heightens in meth addicts. "Meth mouth" typically involves rampant tooth decay, dry mouth, cracked teeth, and gum disease. It not only robs meth abusers of their smiles, but also of their ability to chew.



Permanent Brain Damage

With chronic use of Meth, the brains that overstimulates dopamine and serotonin are permanently compromised. Brain functions that are greatly affected are the memory, emotion and reward systems.



Meth Rash

Meth causes abusers' faces to be covered in sores and scarring which is a result of obsessive skin-picking. This is a result of a common sensory hallucination of bugs crawling beneath the skin.

Don't mess with Meth.

Or it will mess you up – physically, physiologically and psychologically.

