

Drug market trends 2024

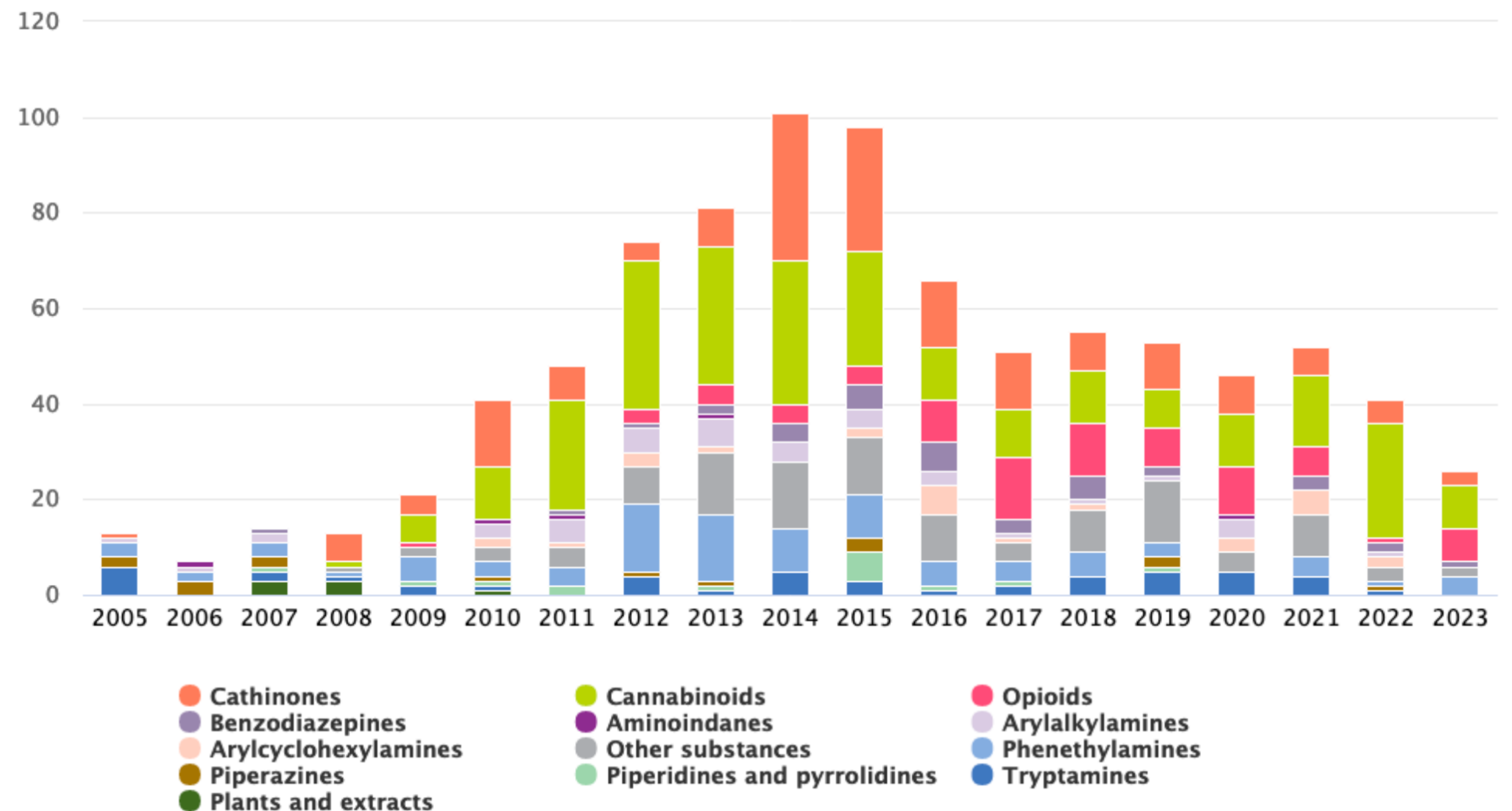
EUDA report overview

Jurek Afanasjew @ PRO Test

Who is winning the War on Drugs?

- „availability remains high across nearly all substance types”
- „widespread availability of a broader range of drugs than in the past”

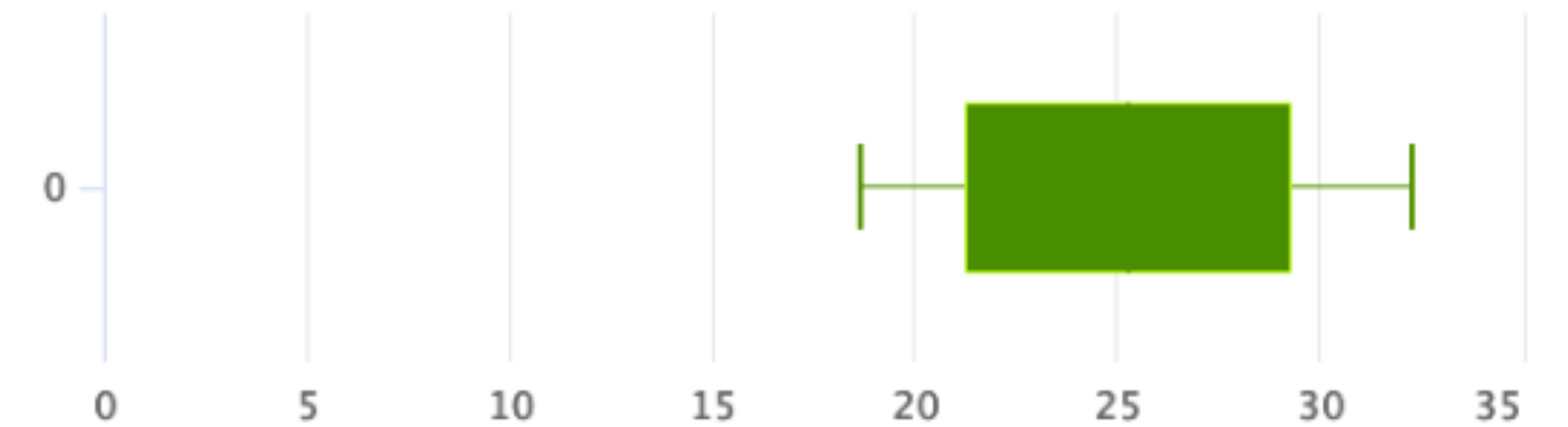
Figure 7.1. Number of new psychoactive substances reported for the first time to the EU Early Warning System, by category, 2005-2023



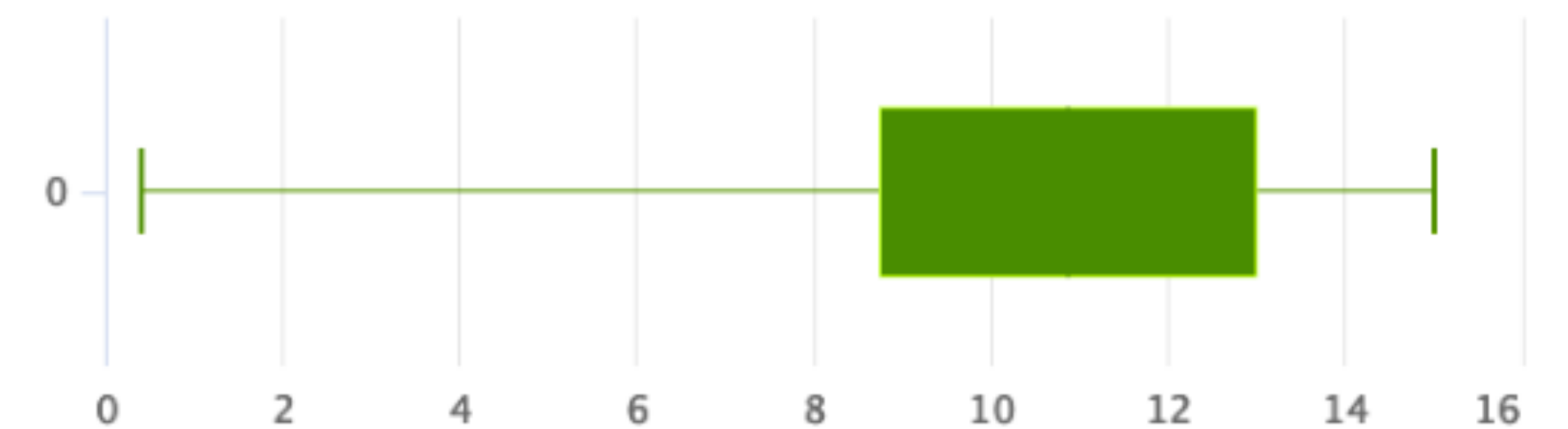
Cannabis

- Legalization
- Rising hash potency
- Synthetic cannabinoids in low-THC flowers, edibles, even Lithuanian heroin
- Semi-synthetic cannabinoids (HHC, HHC_o, THCP, etc.)

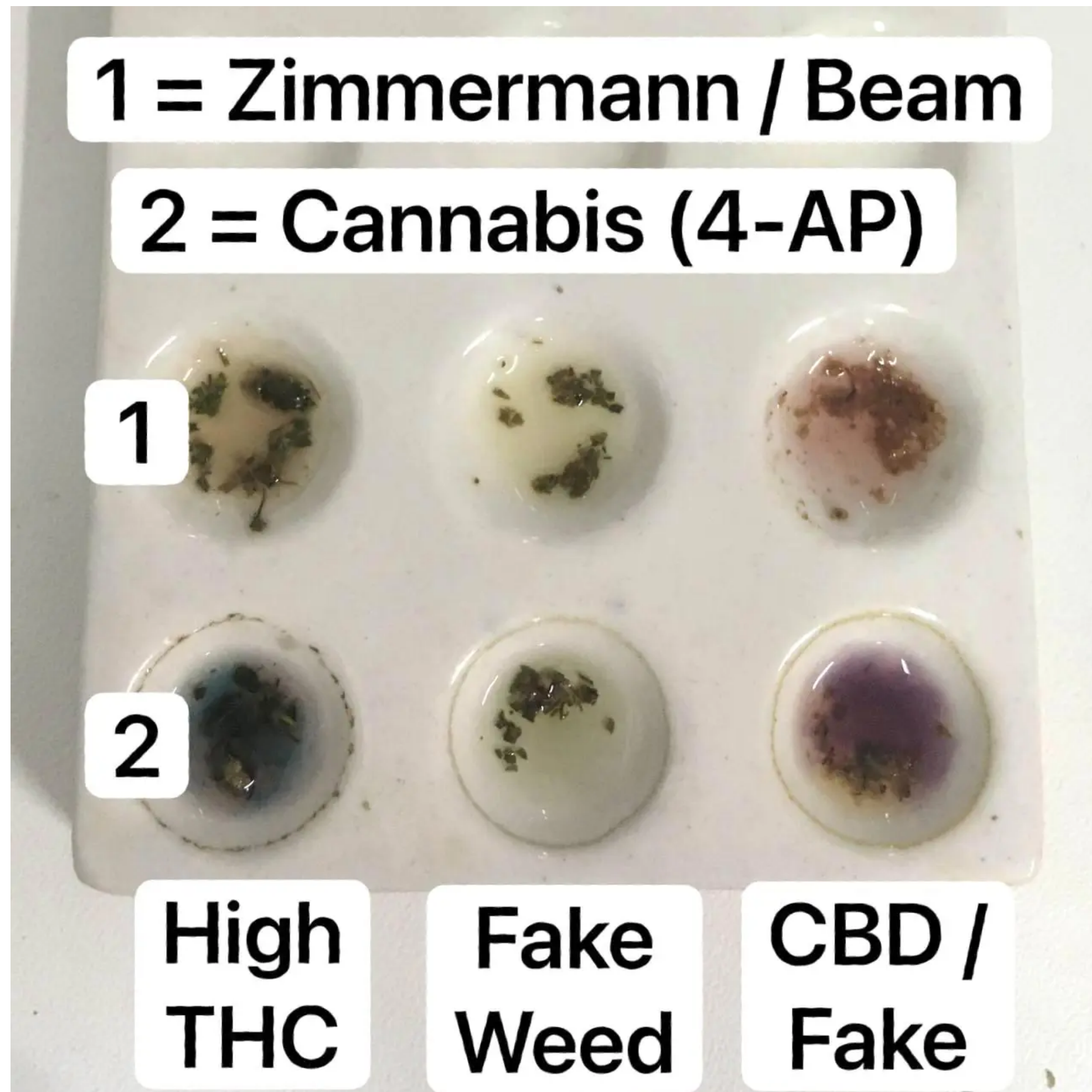
Resin: Potency retail (% THC) (EU)



Herbal: Potency retail (% THC) (EU)



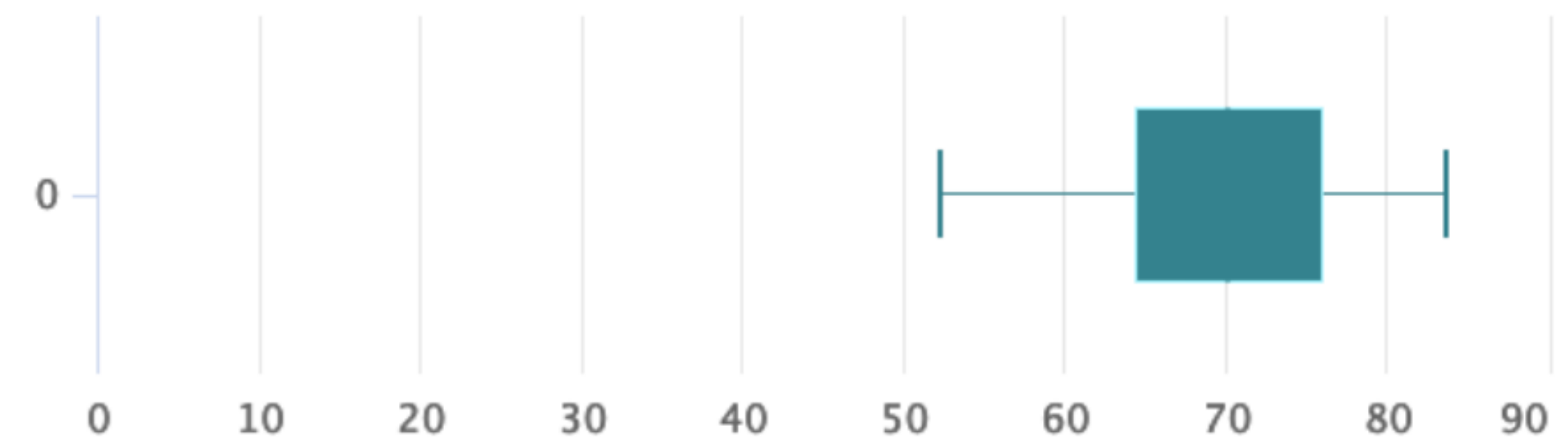
Cannabis



Cocaine

- Stable price, increase in purity
- „levamisole followed by phenacetin, caffeine and lidocaine, but that nearly 40 % of tested samples were not adulterated at all”
- 20-50% of drug related deaths

Cocaine: Purity (%) (EU)



Cocaine

(1) ROBADOPE A+B REAGENT
Robadope reagent slowly turns pink with all primary amines, even if other substances are present.

COCAINE (NO PINK COLOR CHANGE)	2C-x / AMPHETAMINE / MDA / PMA / TAURINE (AND ALL OTHER PRIMARY AMINES)
-----------------------------------	--

(2) SIMON'S A+B REAGENT
Simon's reagent instantly turns blue with all secondary amines, even if other substances are present.

COCAINE (NO BLUE COLOR CHANGE)	MDMA / METH / PMMA / CATHINONES (AND ALL OTHER SECONDARY AMINES)
-----------------------------------	---

(3) MECKE REAGENT
Can look blueish with MDxx. Turns black much faster than Marquis if MDxx is cut with meth/amphetamine.

CATHINONES / LIDOCAINE / METHAMPHETAMINE	EUTYLONE
COCAINE / AMPHETAMINE / ASPIRIN / CATHINONES / EPHEDRINE / LEVAMISOLE	MDMA / MDA

(4) LIEBERMANN REAGENT
If the reaction is only faintly orange it can indicate presence of natural coca plant extraction impurities. To confirm presence of meth/amphetamine Liebermann AND Simon's/Robadope need to test positive.

COCAINE	EUTYLONE / COCA PLANT IMPURITIES	EPHEDRINE / LIDOCAINE / LEVAMISOLE / METHAMPHETAMINE
MDMA / MDA	PHENACETIN	

(5) EHRlich REAGENT
Main test for psychedelics, however also suitable for ruling out the presence of secondary „amines“.

COCAINE (NO COLOR CHANGE)	BENZOCAINE / PROCAINE / TETRACAINE
------------------------------	------------------------------------

(6) MORRIS A+B REAGENT
Use just this much sample -> After adding part B stir for 30 seconds using the included spatula. If you use too little sample cocaine won't react. If you use too much ketamine can look dark blue.

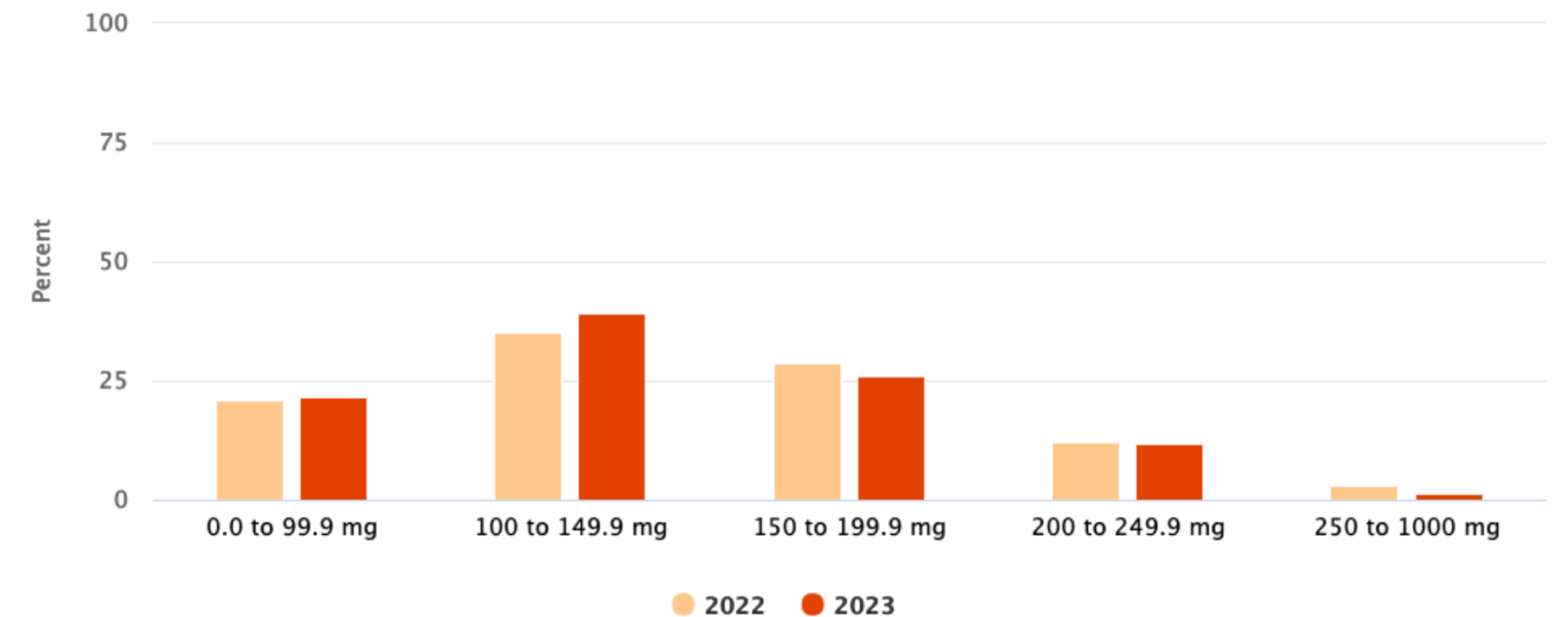
COCAINE (BRIGHT BLUE)	CATHINONES / KETAMINE (VIOLET OR VIOLET BLUE)	ALMOST ALL SUBSTANCES (PALE GREEN)
--------------------------	--	---------------------------------------



MDMA

- Adulterants: caffeine, 4-CMC (clephedrone), 3- MMC, 3-CMC, 4-MMC (mephedrone), dipentylone, 3-FEA
- Also: 2C-B, ketamine, meth/amphetamine
- Addictions are rare but...
- ...1 in 25 overdose deaths

Figure 5.4b. Content of MDMA tablet samples submitted to drug checking services in 2022 and 2023 (percent)



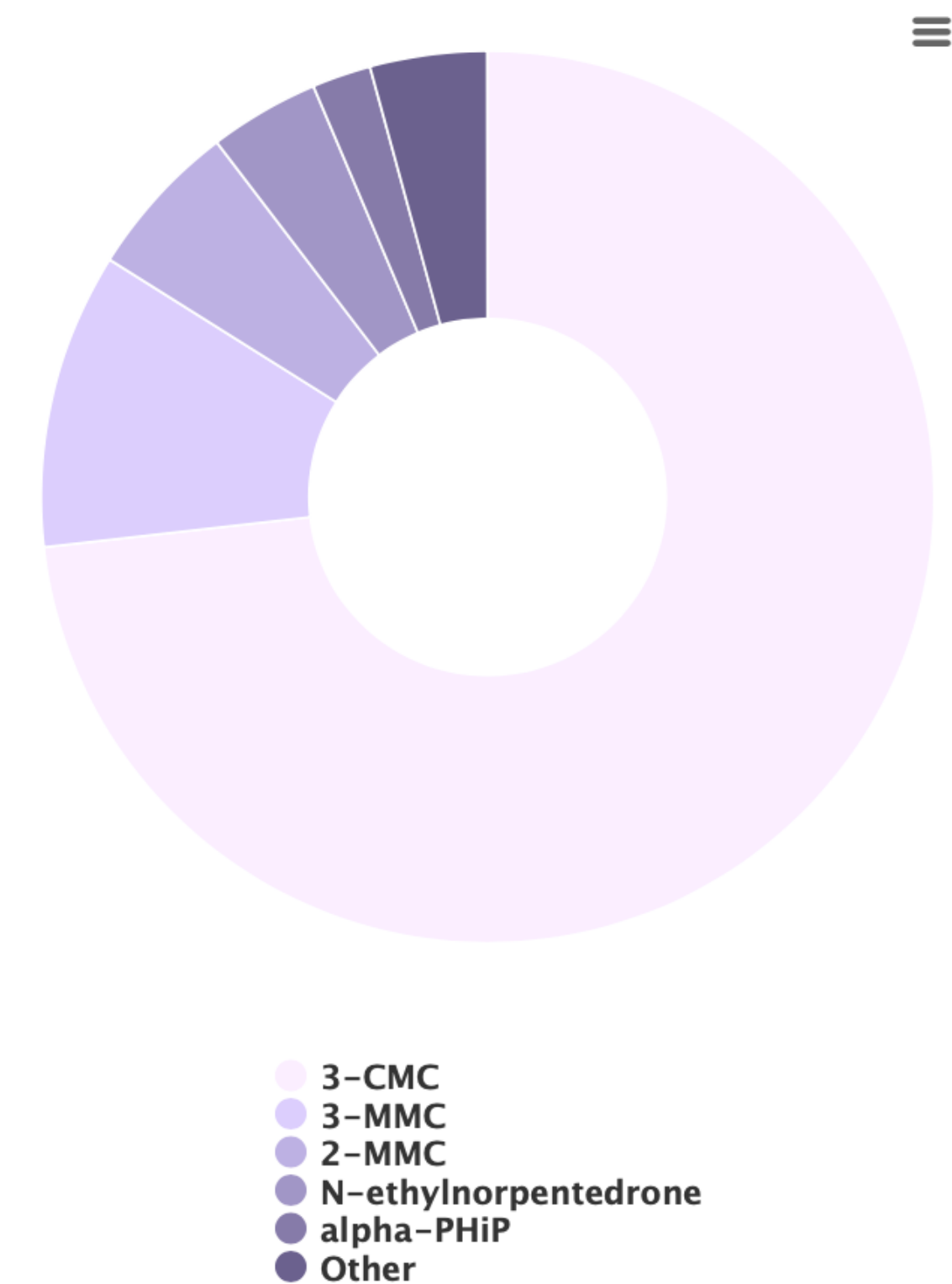
MDMA



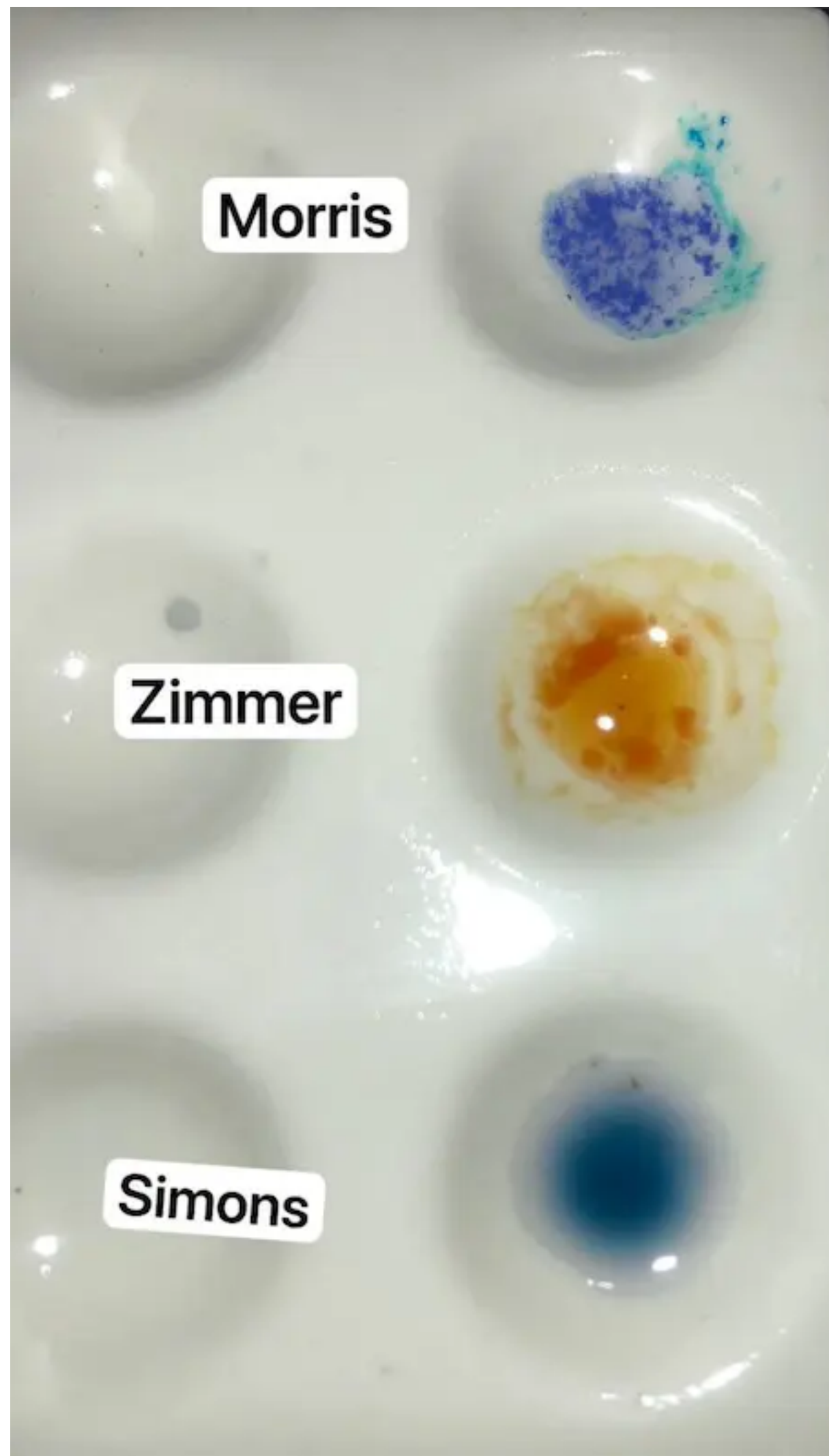
Synthetic cathinones

- 2023:
 - 3-CMC (63 %), 3-MMC (9 %), 2-MMC (5 %) and N- ethylnorpentedrone (3 %)
 - 23/29 labs are in Poland

Top five synthetic cathinones seized by quantity of material seized for all forms reported in weight reported to the EU Early Warning System, European Union, 2022 (26.5 tonnes seized)



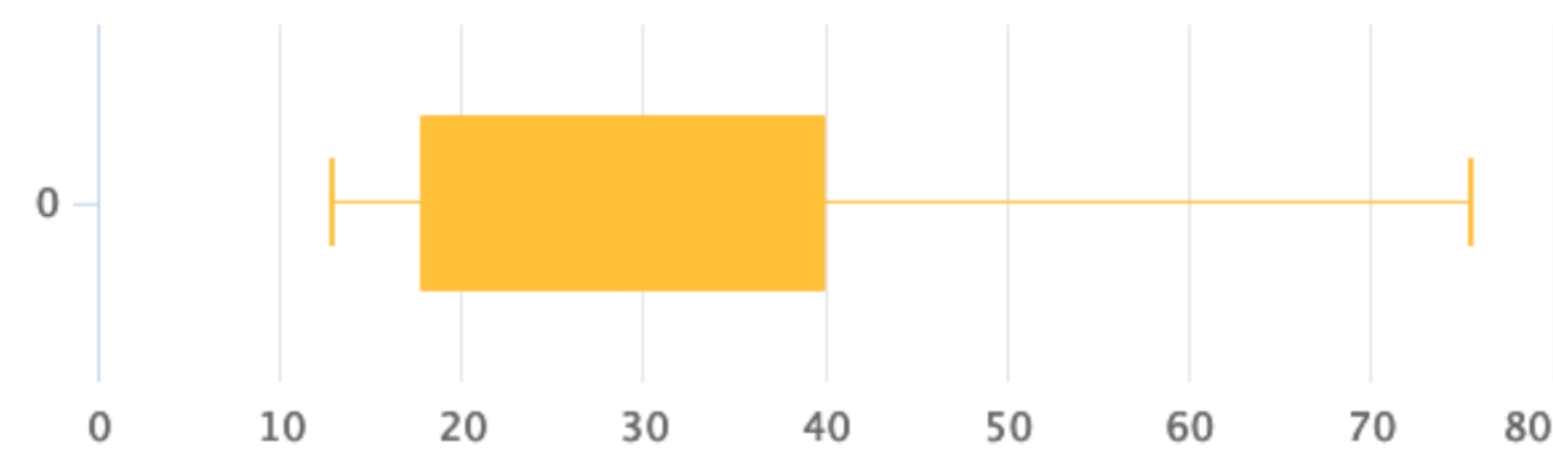
Synthetic cathinones



Amphetamine

- Over 66 % of amphetamine samples in 2023 contained caffeine or other active adulterant

Purity retail (%) (EU)



Indexed trends: price and purity, retail (2012=100) (EU)

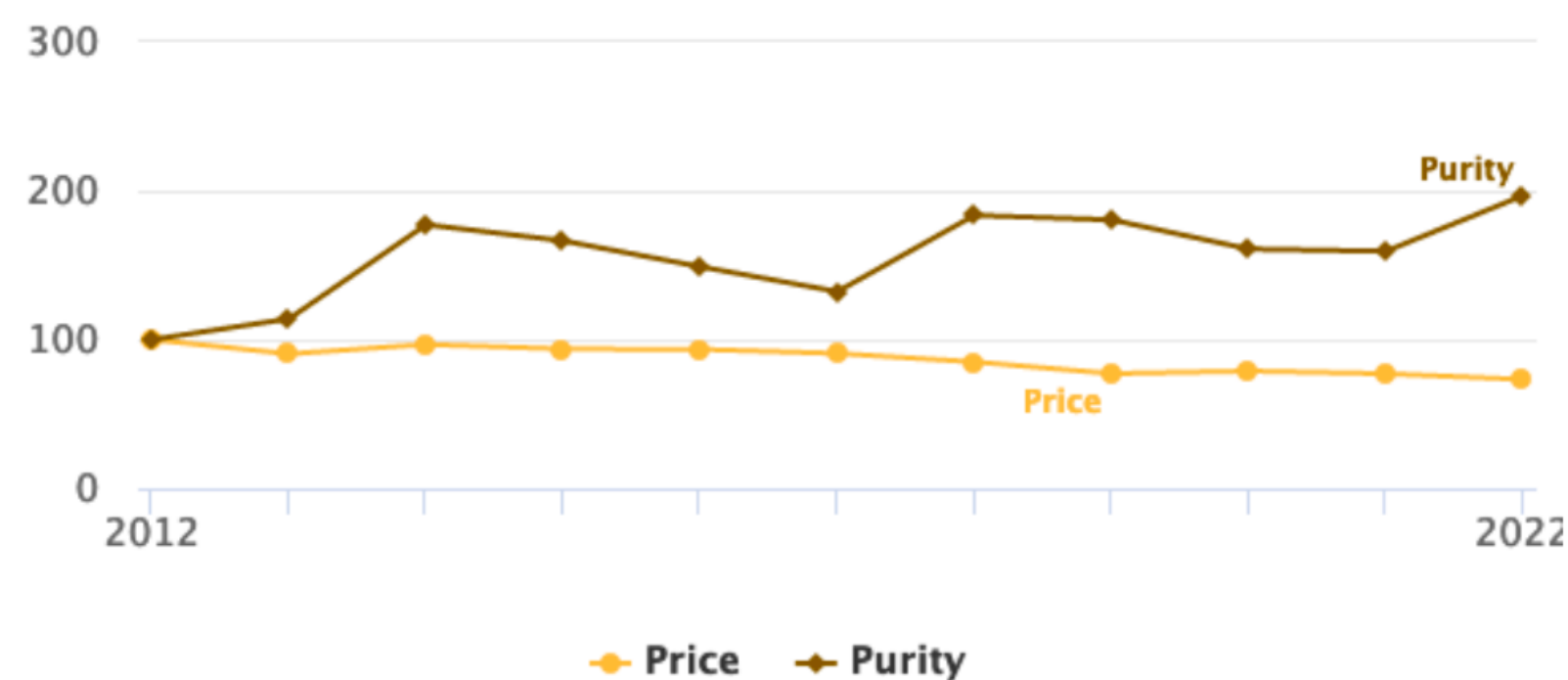
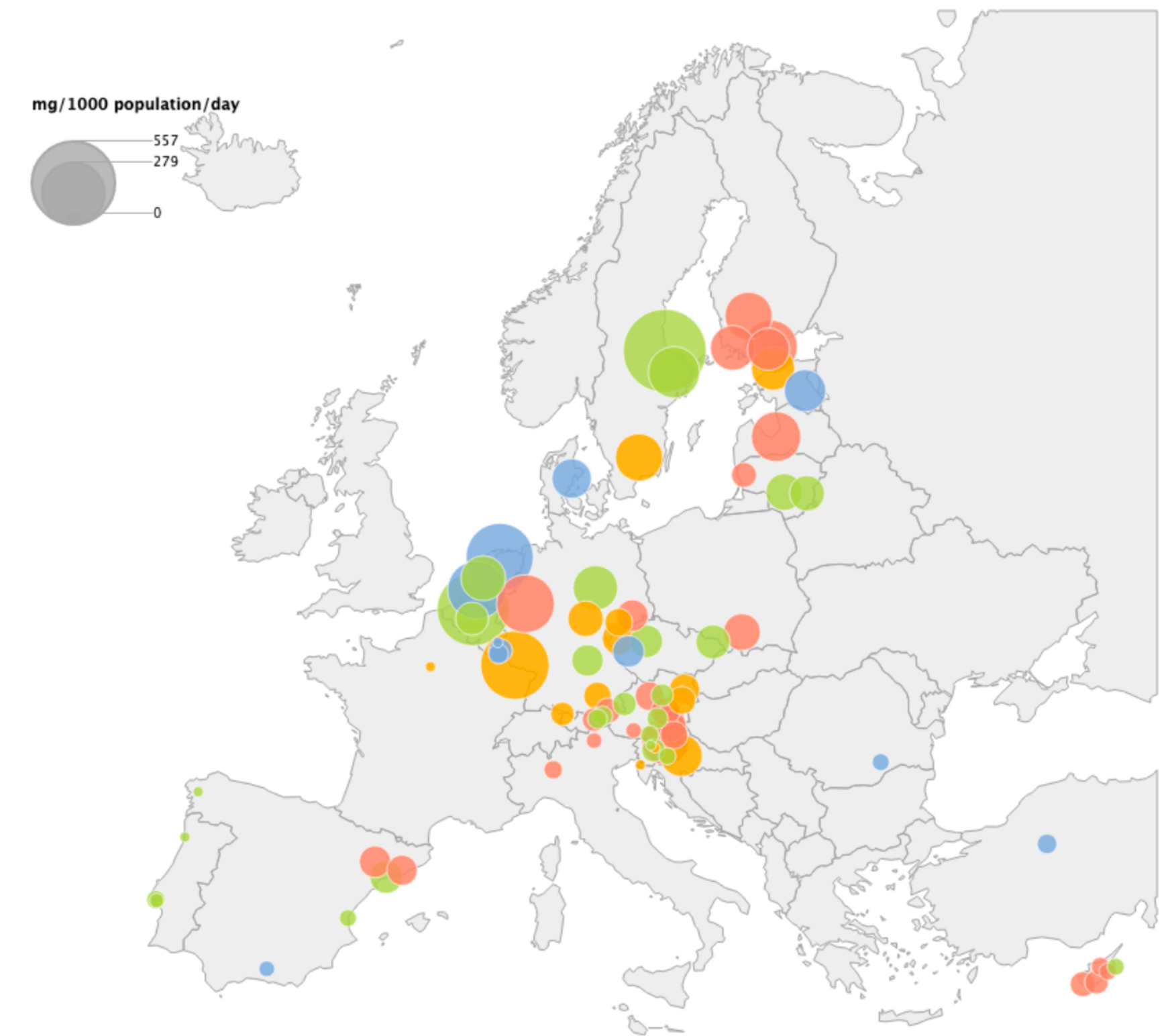


Figure 4.2. Amphetamine residues in wastewater in selected European cities: changes between 2022 and 2023



Red = increase | Green = decrease | Yellow = stable, with respect to previous value | Blue = no previous data

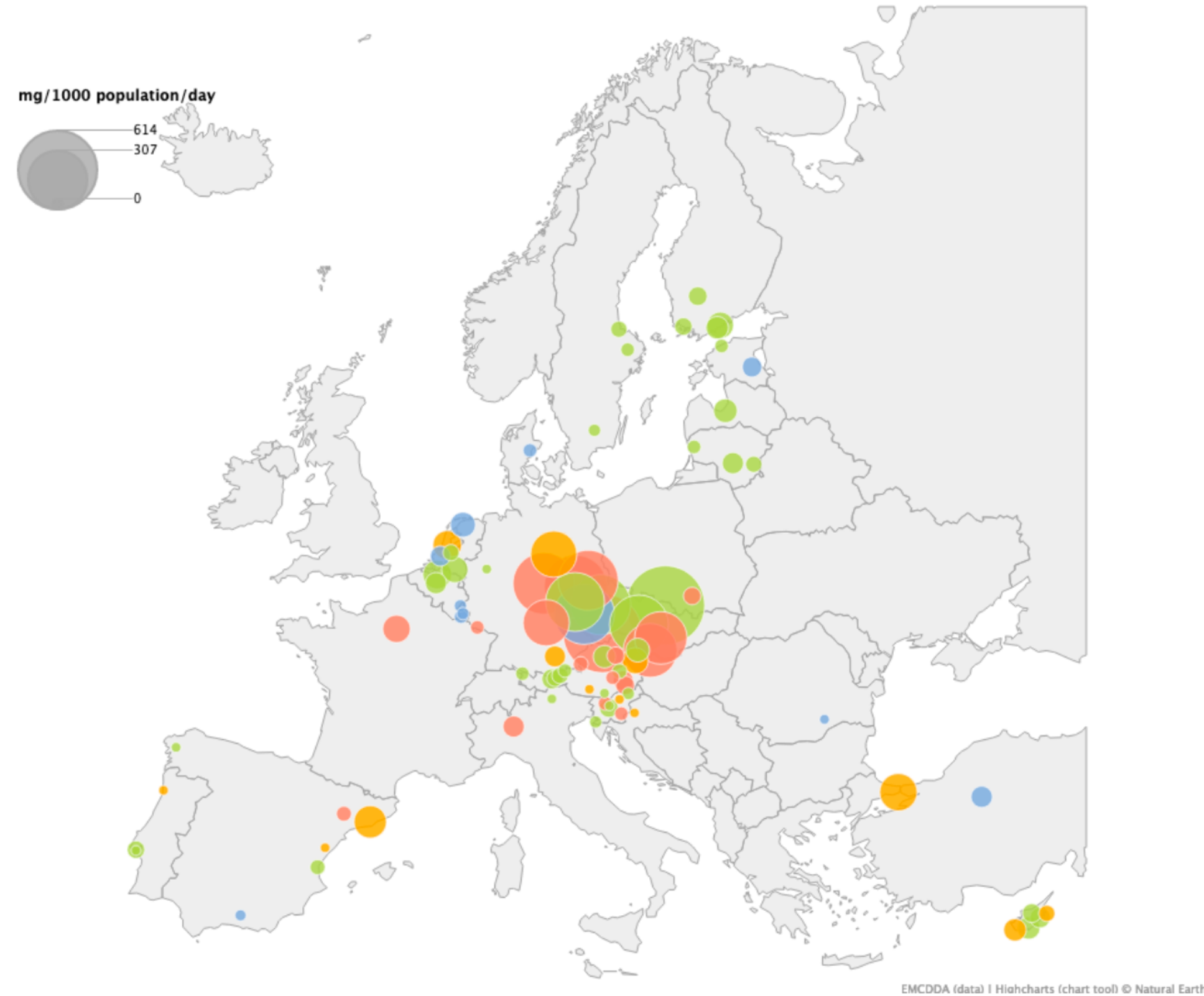
Mean daily amounts of amphetamine in milligrams per 1000 population. Sampling was carried out over a week between March and May 2023. Taking into account statistical errors, values that differ less than 10 % from the previous value are considered stable in this figure. Source: [Sewage Analysis Core Group Europe \(SCORE\)](#). For the complete data set and analysis, see [Wastewater analysis and drugs – a European multi-city study](#).

Amphetamine



Methamphetamine

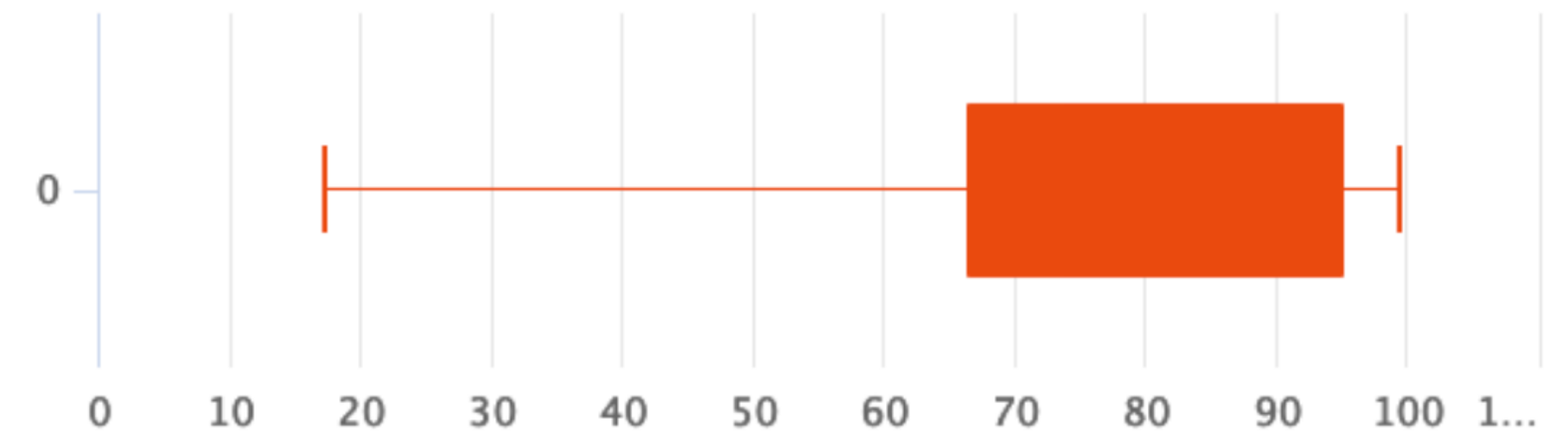
Figure 4.3. Methamphetamine residues in wastewater in selected European cities: changes between 2022 and 2023



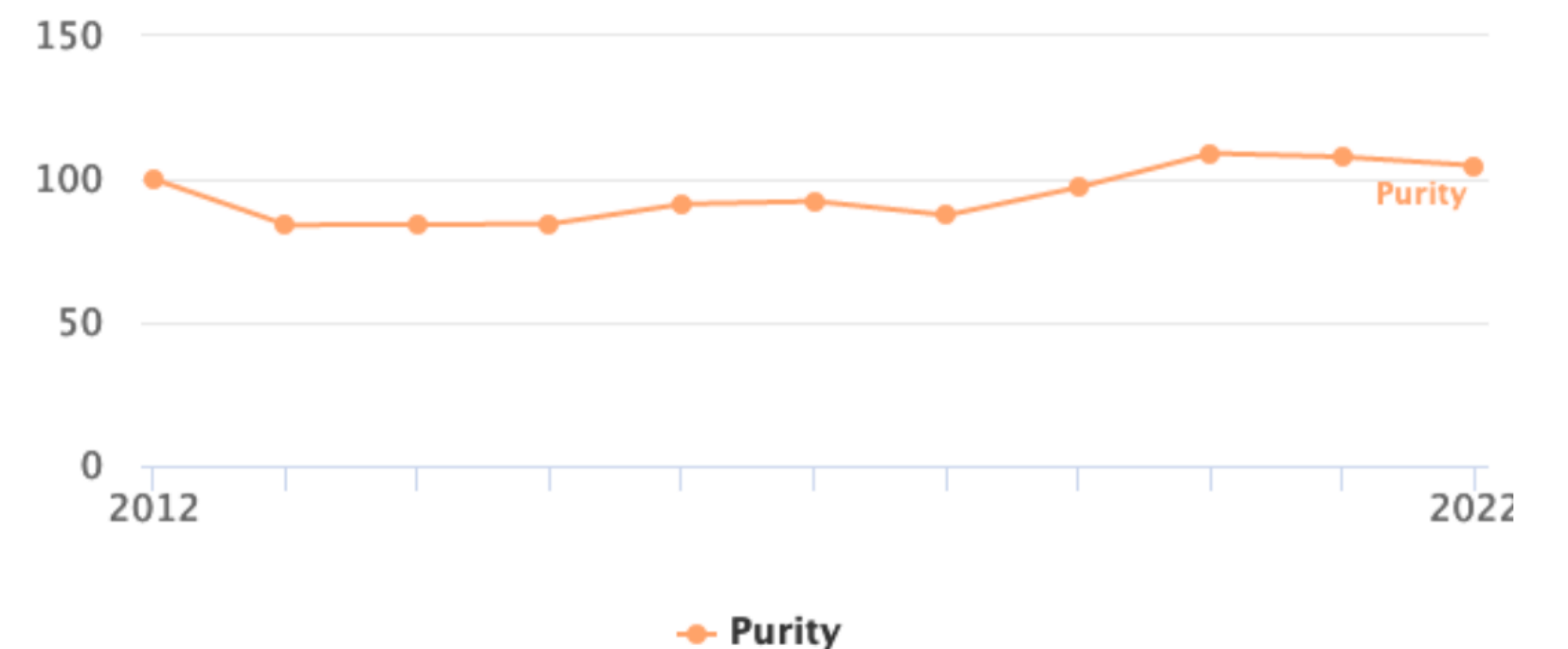
Red = increase | Green = decrease | Yellow = stable, with respect to previous value | Blue = no previous data

Mean daily amounts of methamphetamine in milligrams per 1000 population. Sampling was carried out over a week between March and April 2023. Taking into account statistical errors, values that differ less than 10 % from the previous value are considered stable in this figure. Source: [Sewage Analysis Core Group Europe \(SCORE\)](#). For the complete data set and analysis, see [Wastewater analysis and drugs – a European multi-city study](#).

Purity retail (%) (EU)



Indexed trends: purity, retail (2012=100) (EU)



Ketamine

Seizures of ketamine reported to the EU Early Warning System: trends in numbers of seizures, European Union, 2005-2022

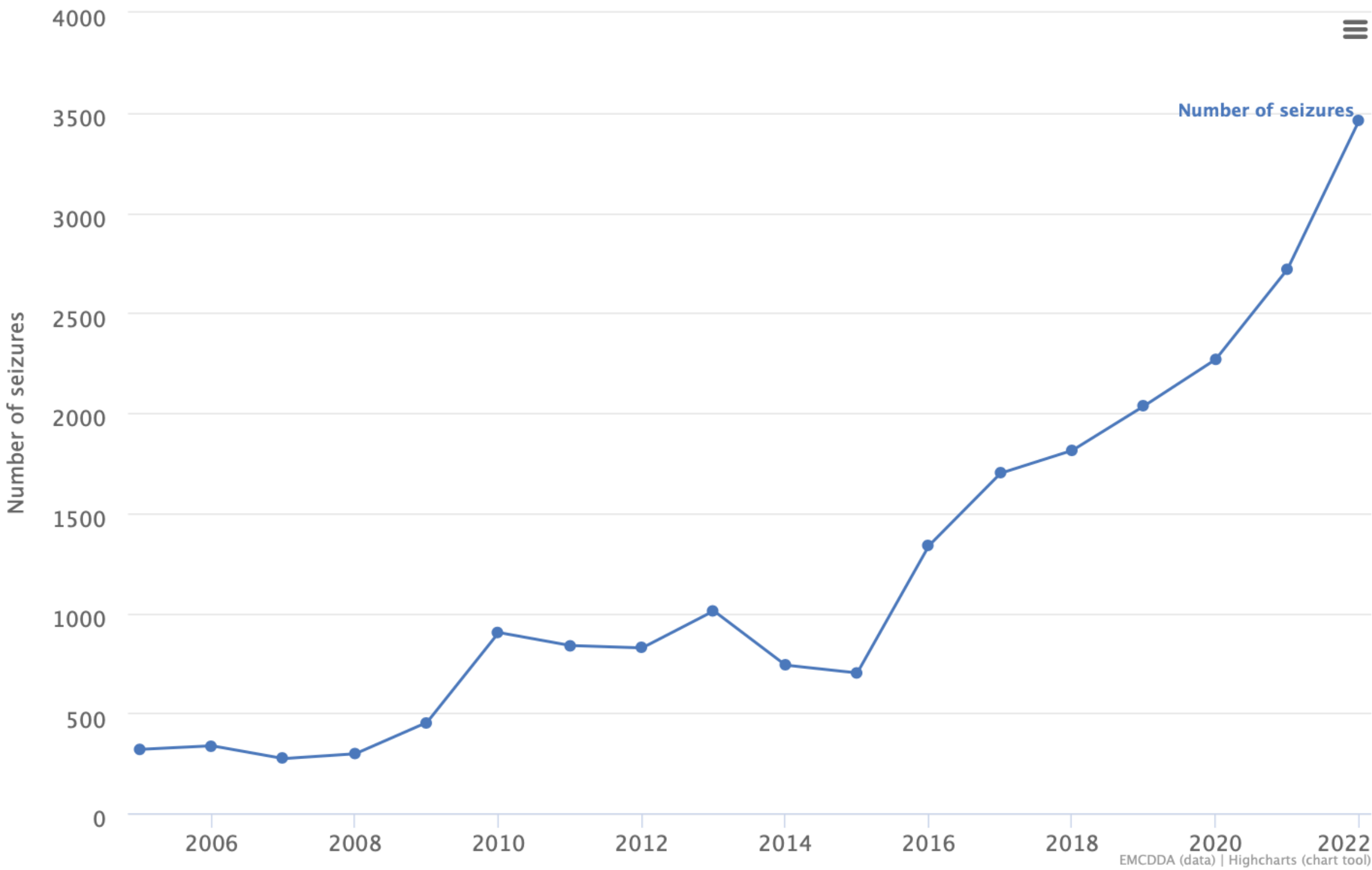
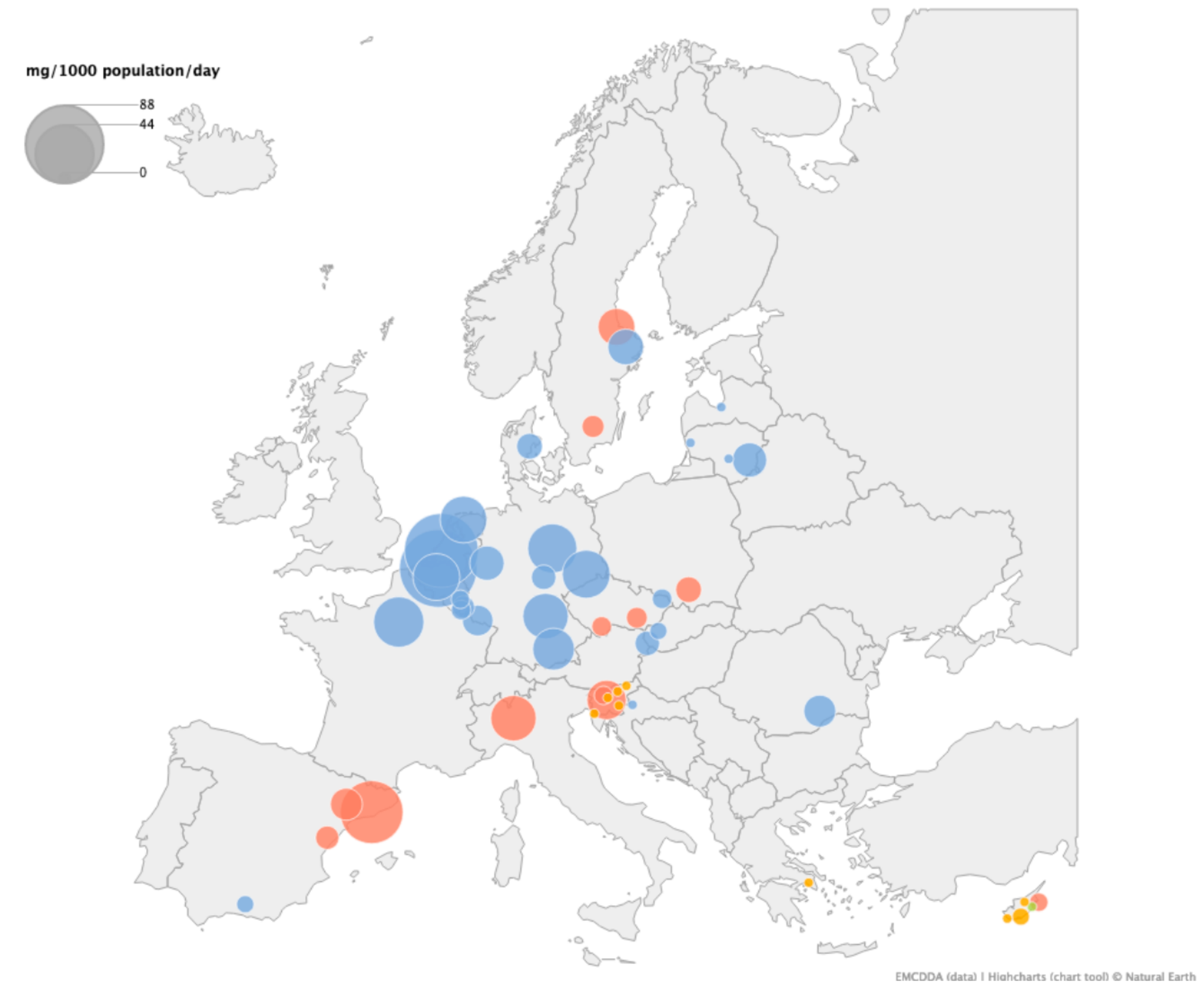


Figure 8.2. Ketamine residues detected in wastewater in selected European cities, 2023



Red = increase | Green = decrease | Yellow = stable, with respect to previous value | Blue = no previous data

Ketamine



Heroin

- UNODC estimates that Afghan production fell by 95 % (2023)
- „Tranq” - Xylazine
- „Benzodope”
- Fentanyl
- Nitazenes (benzimidazoles)
- Less popular than other opioids

Table 6.1. Other opioids: number of seizures and quantities seized, 2022

Substance	Countries	Number of seizures	Weight (kilograms)	Tablets	Litres	Patches
Tramadol	13	4185	0.1	958094	1.7	
Buprenorphine	17	4578	3.4	918819	0.001	21
Methadone	19	1136	17.3	76447	43.8	
Morphine	16	761	2.8	11259	1.3	
Oxycodone	15	894	1.3	76342	0.5	
Opium	17	826	1116.4	298	0.02	
Codeine/dihydrocodeine	14	390	26.4	13384	0.4	
Fentanyl	14	177	2.7	8435	168.2	1521
Carfentanil	2	273	6.5		0.17	
Nitazenes	4	350	3.5	108	0.44	

Test strips

XYLAZINE



~~**XYLAZINE**~~



~~**FENTANYL**~~

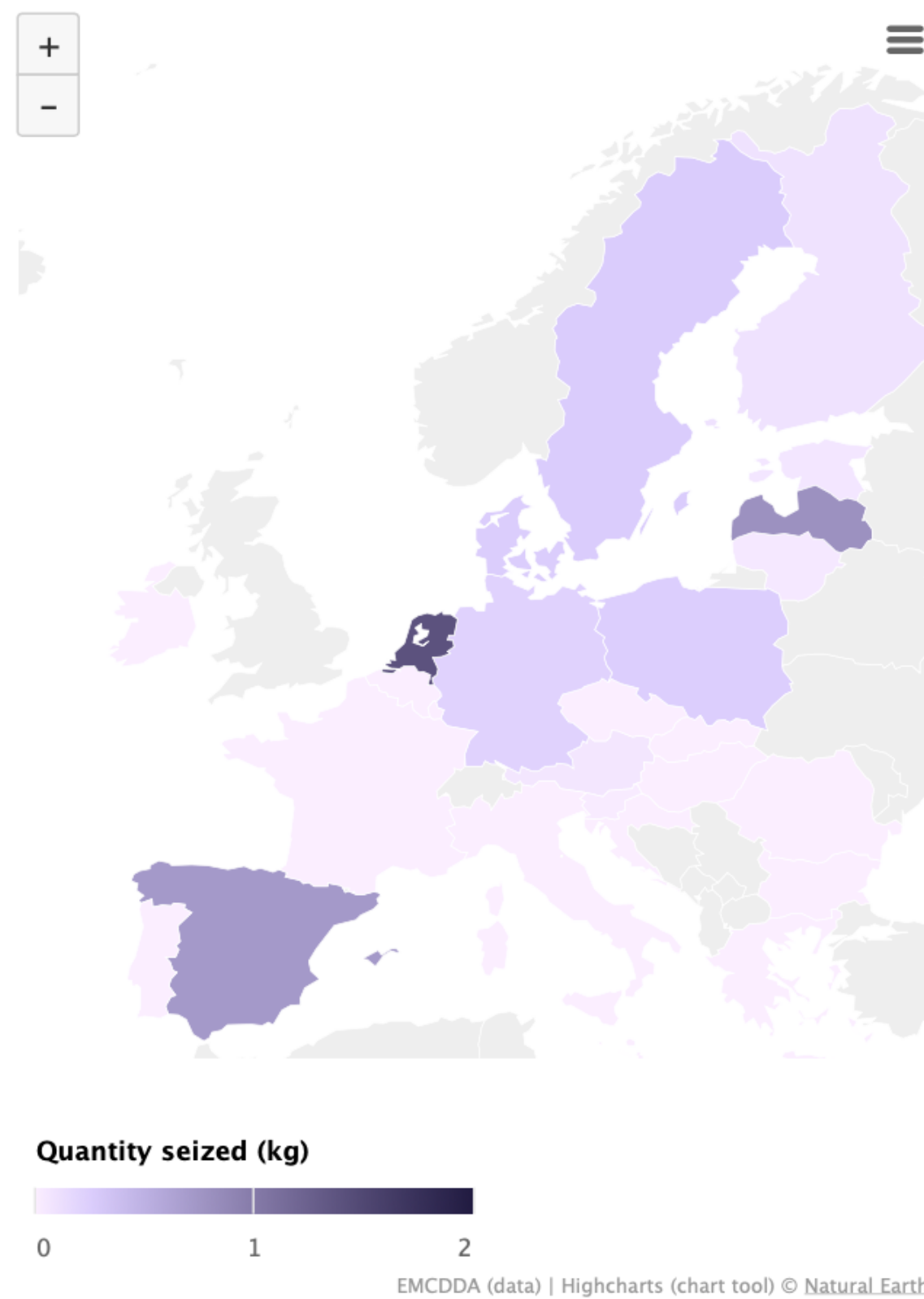


FENTANYL

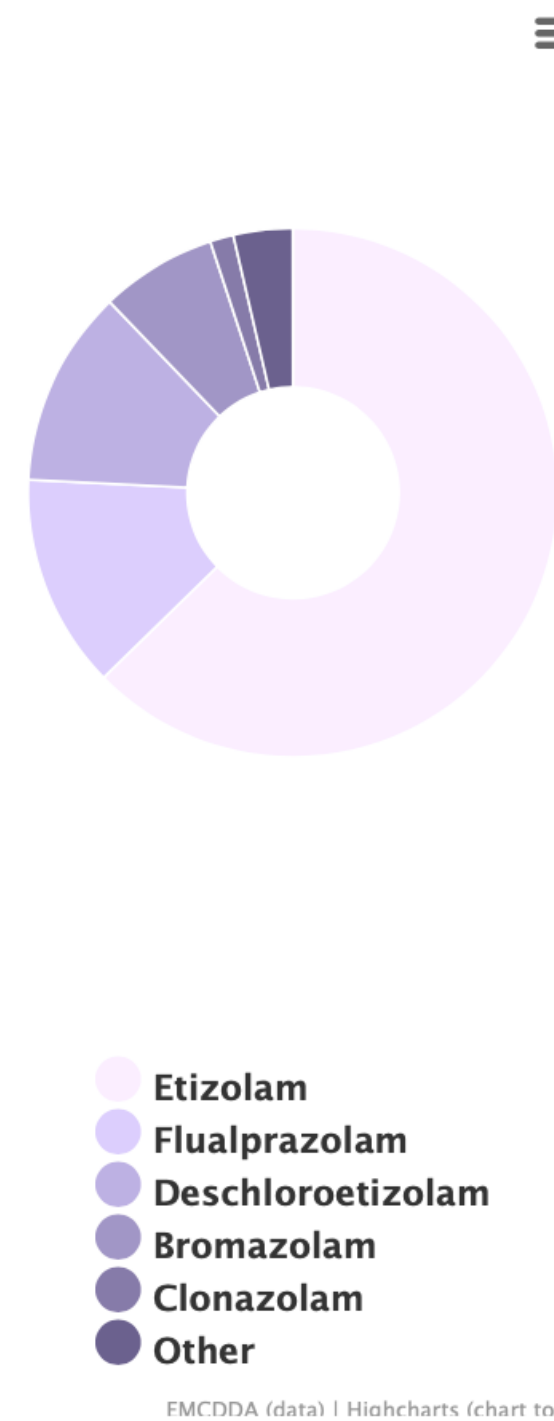


Benzodiazepines

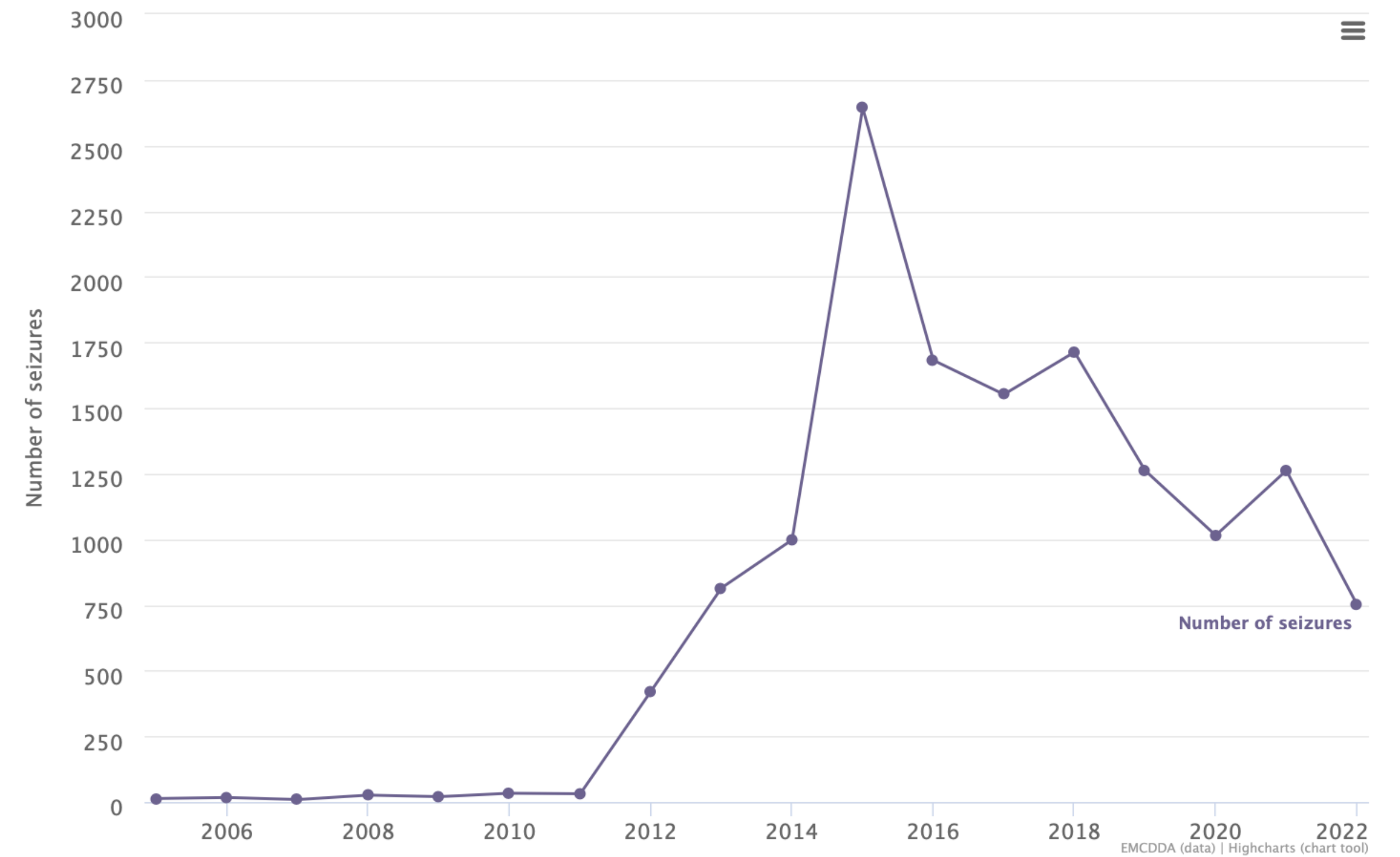
Seizures of new benzodiazepines reported to the EU Early Warning System by country: quantity of material seized for all forms reported in weight, European Union, 2022



Seizures of new benzodiazepines reported to the EU Early Warning System: quantity seized for all forms reported in weight, European Union, 2022



Seizures of new benzodiazepines reported to the EU Early Warning System: trends in number of seizures, European Union, 2005-2022



LSD

- Novel lysergamides



LSD



Ehrlich



Hofmann



Marquis



Mecke

Tusi / Tuci / Tusibi (not 2C-B!)

