

# Drug use in the Hungarian party scene: data and further research plans

Droghasználat a magyarországi partikultúrában: adatok és jövőbeni kutatási tervek



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# Drug epidemiology in Hungary



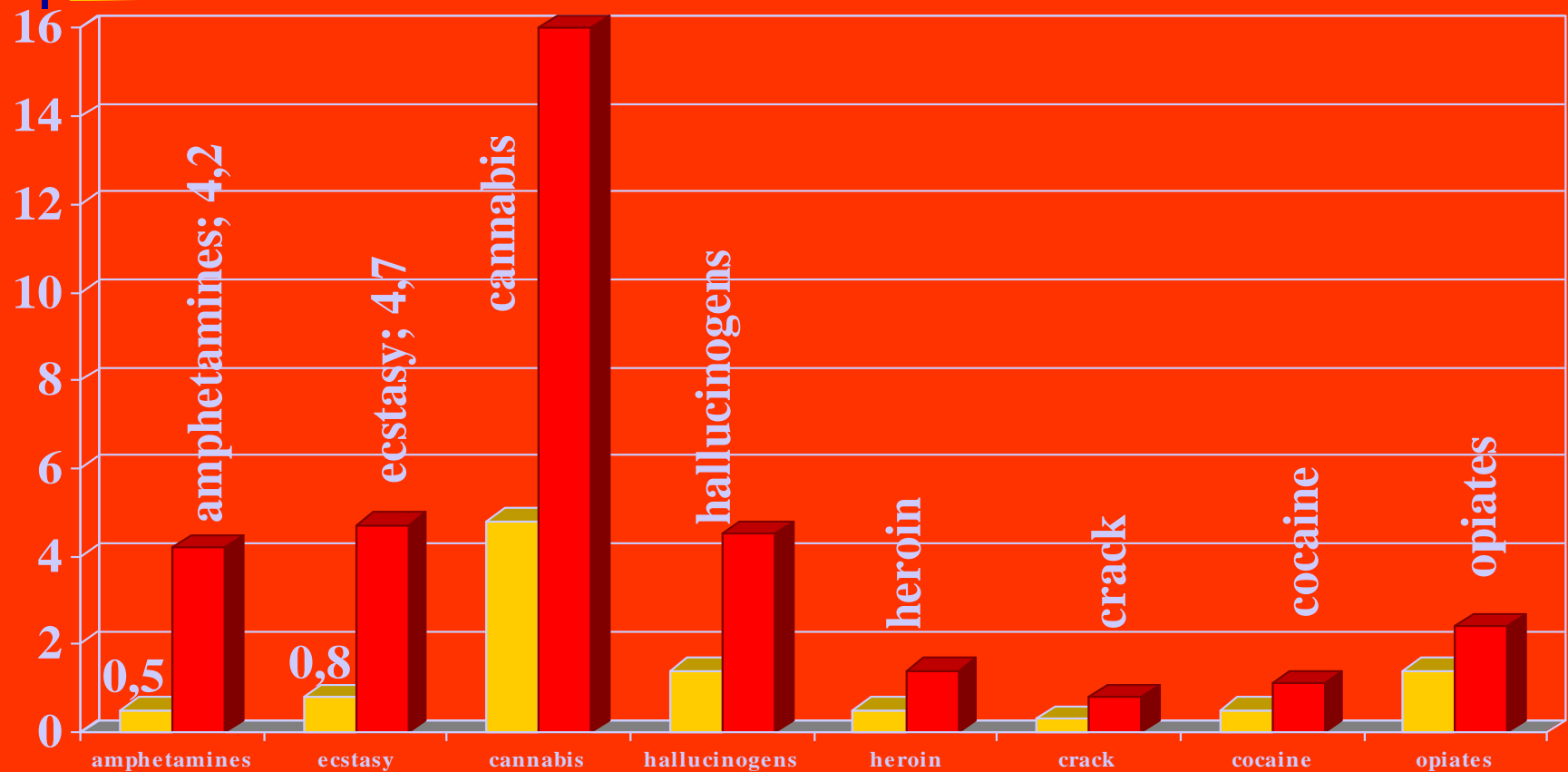
- The epidemiologic picture of Hungary has changed significantly at the end of the 80's, beginning of the 90's.
- This change was characterized by
  - Growing drug use
  - Emergence of new (earlier not available in Hungary) drugs, such as cannabis, LSD, amphetamines, ecstasy, cocaine, heroin etc.

# Drug epidemiology in Hungary



- A sharp increase in the use of psychostimulants occurred in Hungary between 1995 and 1999; in the normal population
- and this process has been continued - however slowed down – in the past years

# Prevalence of drug use among 10<sup>th</sup> grade students in Hungary in 1995 and 1999 (based on ESPAD: Elekes and Paksi, 2000)



# Research carried out in the recreational setting



1. Survey in Budapest: among party-disco-club visitors in 1997 (sample size: 373 persons) (Demetrovics, 1998)
2. Survey in Budapest and four other cities (Miskolc, Pécs, Szombathely and Debrecen): among party-disco-club visitors in 1999 (sample size: 1507 persons) (Demetrovics, 1998)
3. Survey in Budapest: among party visitors in 2003 (sample size: 1059 persons) (Demetrovics, 1998)

# Dancing facilities 1.

## ■ **discos**

- traditional dance places
- they are typically open at weekends only
- are capable of hosting several hundreds or over a thousand people, and
- they usually have two separate rooms with different music: dance music (traditional disco music) and electronic music (techno, house, goa etc.)

## ■ **clubs**

- they are usually smaller
- beside dance facilities they also serve as a place for other social activities, as well

# Dancing facilities 2.



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- **parties:**
  - typically they do not have a permanent venue, and are tied to promoters rather than locations
  - music is typically techno, house, goa, breakbeat etc.; presented by DJs in most cases
  - depending on the nature of the event, several hundreds or several thousands of people can turn up at a party

# The 1997 survey

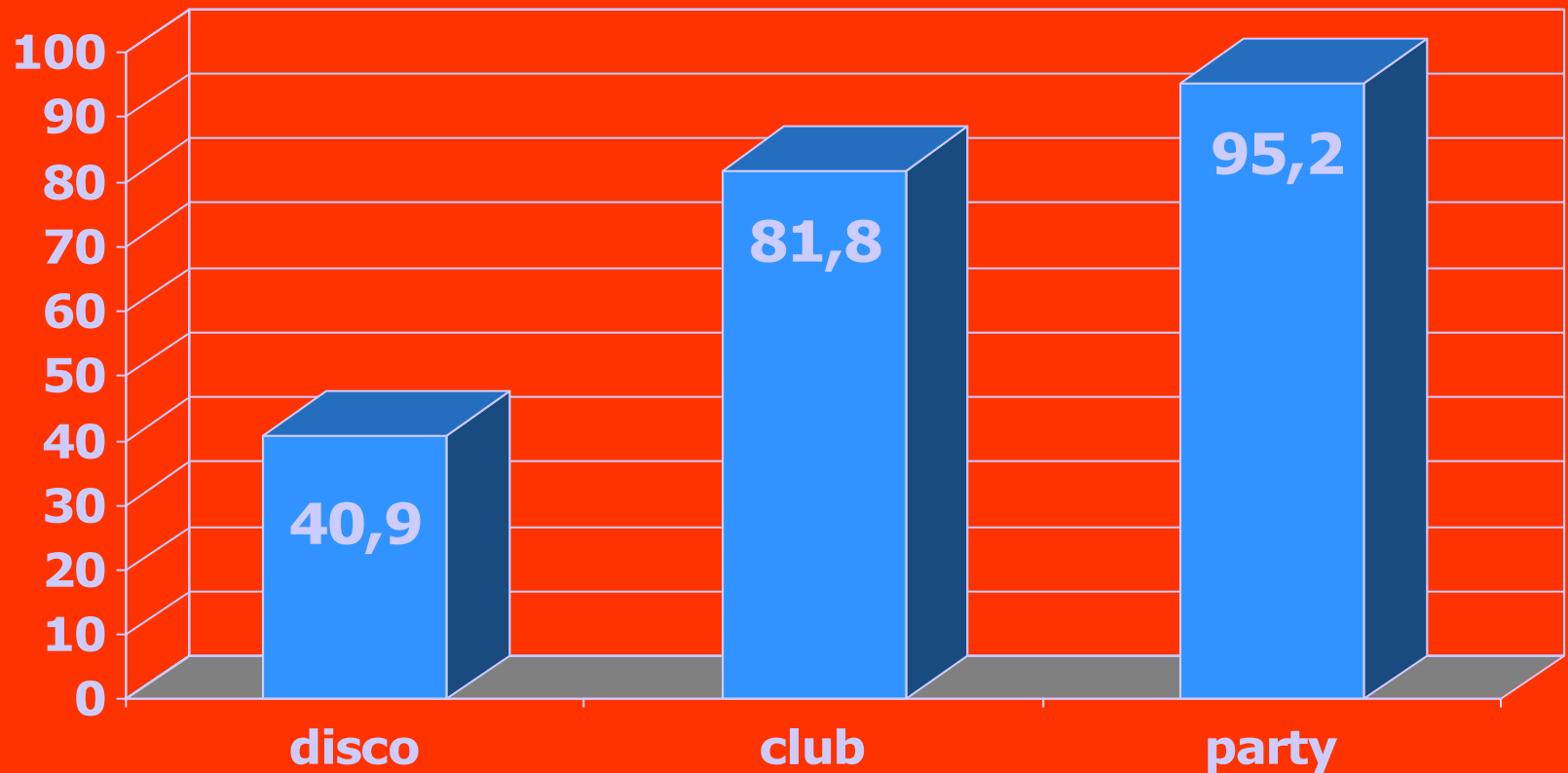


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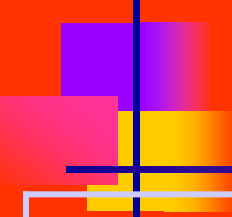
- a total of 373 persons interviewed
- males 61%
- average age: 20.6 years (no difference by sex)
- 60% attends school (of which 48% to college or university)
- 32% works (of which 19% has university/college degree)
- 45% went to dance events once in the past month, while 10% 8 times or more often



# Drug use in the different settings



# Prevalence of drug use in the whole sample



	Life time prevalence	<i>Past month prevalence</i>
Cannabis	64.9	50.7
Ecstasy	27.9	13.4
Amphetamine	40.5	26.0
LSD	37.8	15.8
Cocaine	20.6	8.6
Opiates	18.2	5.8

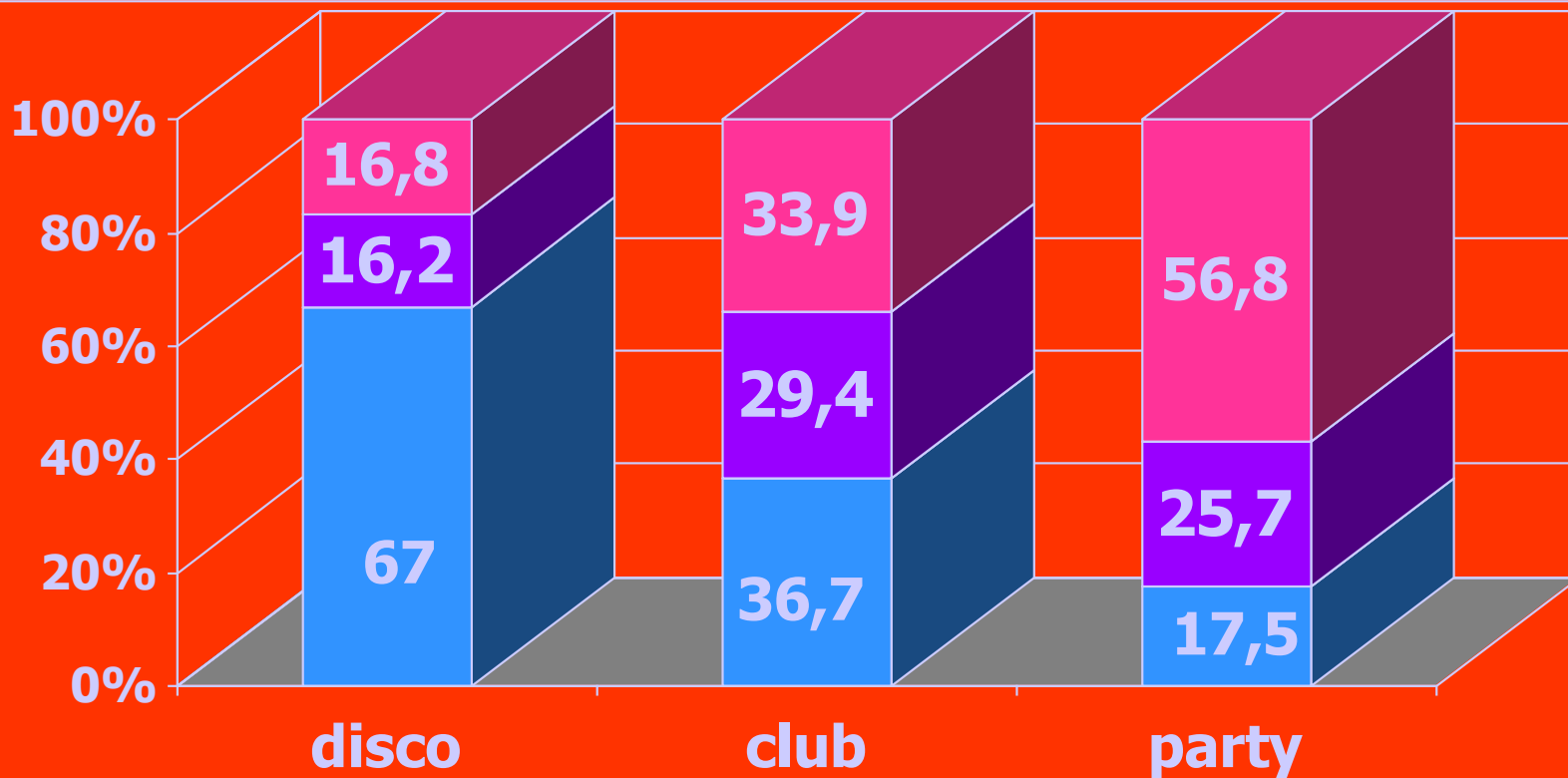
# The 1999 survey

- a total of 1507 persons interviewed
- males 51,4%
- average age: 21.2 years (males are older with an average of one year)
- 63% attends school (of which 44,2% to college or university)
- 35,5% works (of which 19% has university/college degree)
- 27% went to dance events once in the past month, while 13.3% 8 times or more often

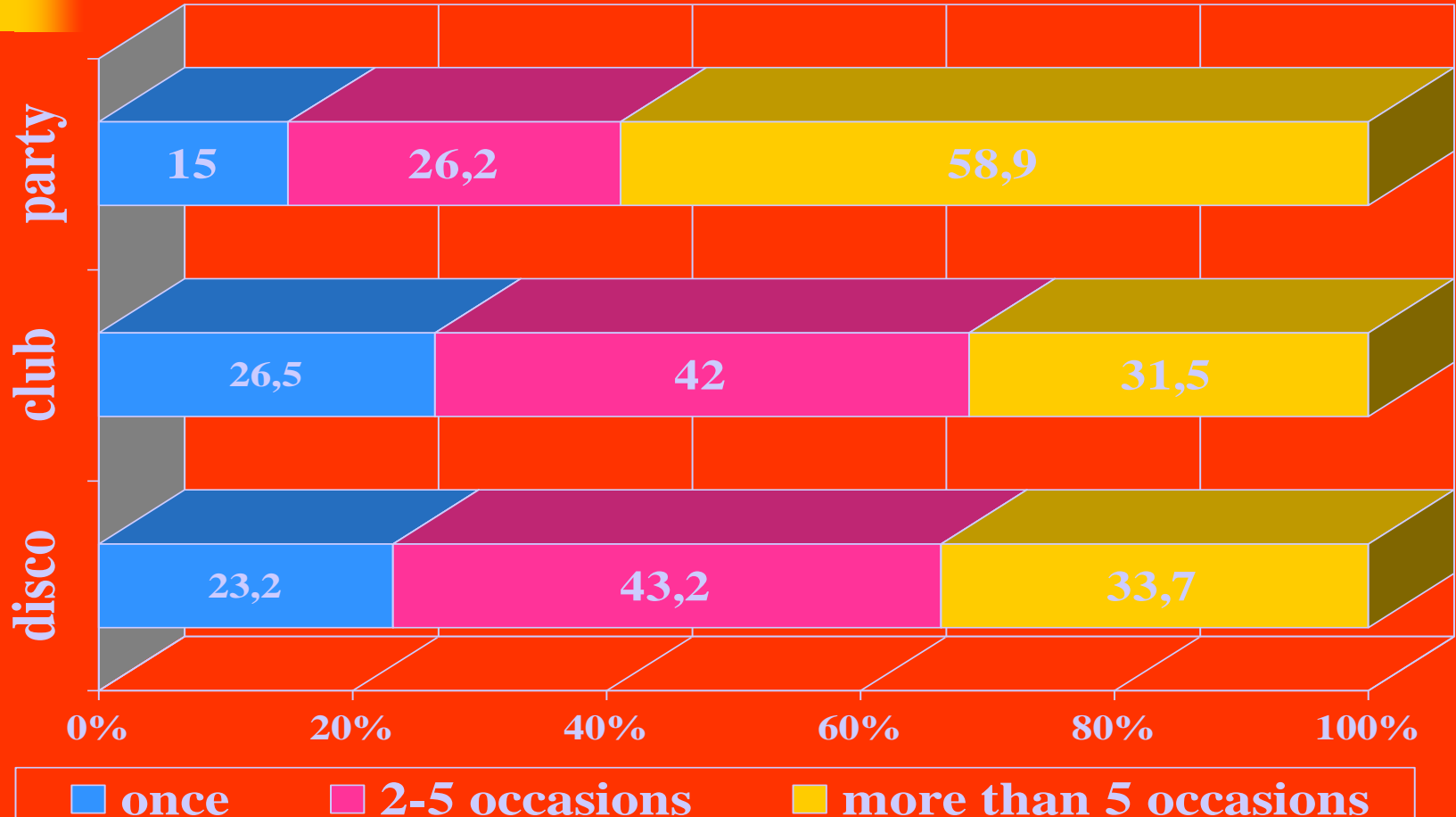
**Sociodemographic characteristics are similar than in 1997**

# Drug use in the different settings

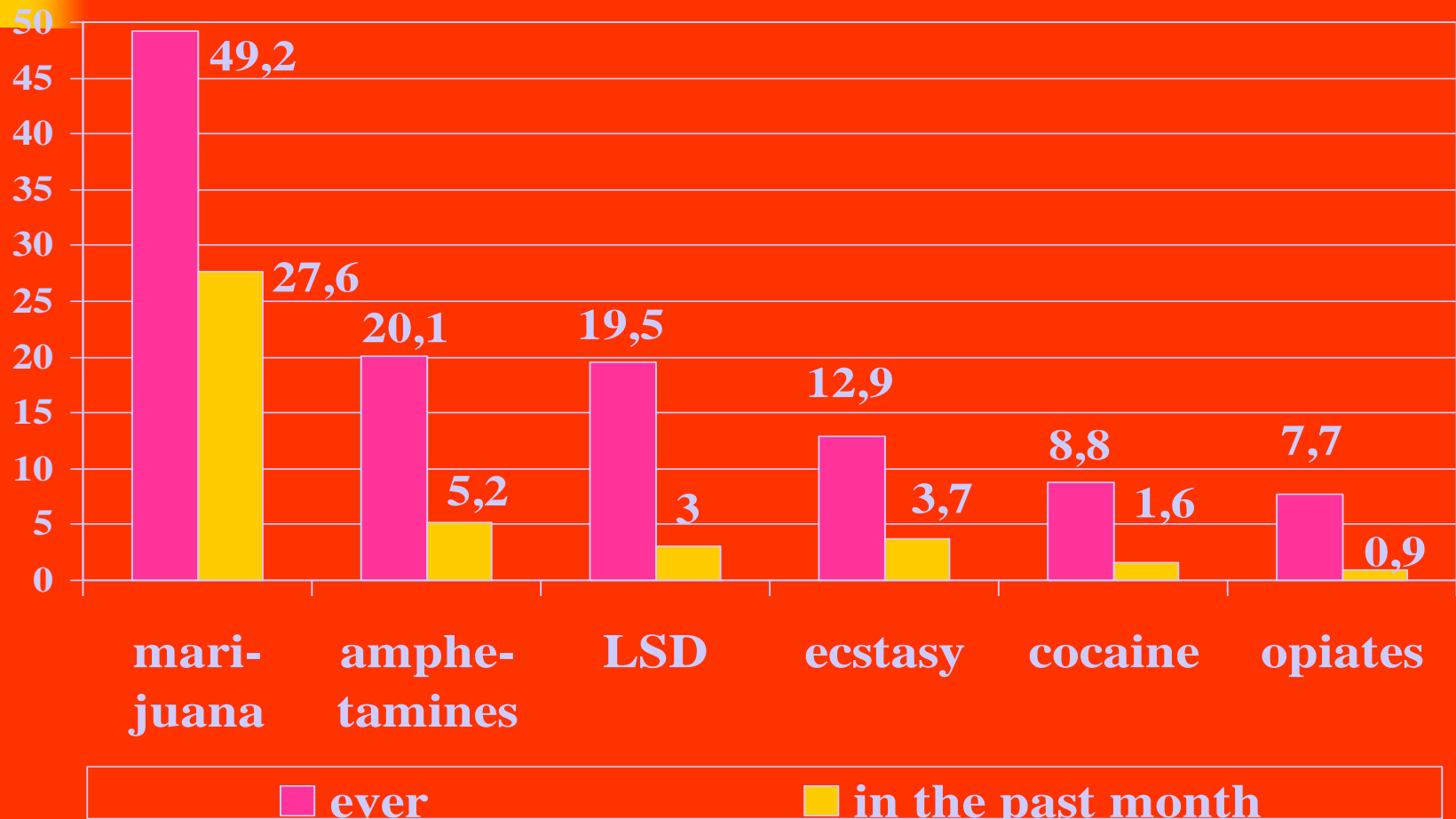
■ never ■ ever, but not in the past month ■ in the past month



# Drug Use 3. (past month consumption)



# Prevalence of drug use (1999)



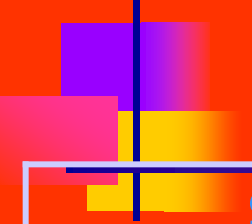
# The 2003 survey



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- Only parties are investigated
- a total of 1059 persons interviewed at 29 different parties
- males 61%
- average age: 23

# Data collection



<i>Style</i>	<i>On scene interview</i>	<i>Throug mail</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Drum'n'bass</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>Breakbeat</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
<i>D'n'b &amp; Breakbeat</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<i>Goa</i>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
<i>Techno</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>House</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>Trance</i>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>Exper. Electron.</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>Total</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>35</b>





# Sociodemographic characteristics

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- 52.1% lives with the family of origin
- 49.6% of fathers and 47.7% of mothers has a university or college degree
- 38.9% attends school; 33.1% works; 21.2% works and studies
  - 25.6% attends secondary school; 59.7% to higher education of those still studying

# Life time prevalence at different parties

%	Cannabis	LSD	XTC	Herbal	Amphet.	Cocaine	Heroin	Total
<i>Goa</i>	93.2	53.2	72.9	49.7	65.5	42.3	8.5	94.7
<i>D'n'b &amp; Breakbeat</i>	88.9	40.3	50.6	32.0	44.3	27.7	5.3	89.9
<i>House &amp; Trance</i>	79.7	31.1	63.0	16.7	58.3	30.6	2.8	85.1
<i>Techno &amp; Exp.Elect.</i>	79.0	35.6	64.4	15.5	57.4	27.9	4.9	48.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>87.2</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>89.5</b>



# International context

# Life time prevalence of drug use at parties in Europe

	A'dam <sup>1</sup>	Berlin <sup>1</sup>	Prague <sup>1</sup>	Zurich <sup>1</sup>	B'pest <sup>2</sup>
<i>cannabis</i>	91.7	78.6	88.2	85.8	80.6
<i>ecstasy</i>	83.4	44.6	38.2	51.8	36.9
<i>amphetamine</i>	61.3	46.1	46.1	38.6	50.5
<i>hallucinogens</i>	66.8	41.6	48.7	54.4	54.4
<i>cocaine</i>	59.6	33.2	21.3	37.8	25.7
<i>opiates</i>	6.0	7.0	20.6	11.4	18.0

<sup>1</sup>Tossmann, Boldt & Marc-Dennan, 2001; <sup>2</sup>Demetrovics, 2001)

# Life time prevalence of drug use in Budapest at parties (1999, 2003) and in the general population (2003) (age 18-24)

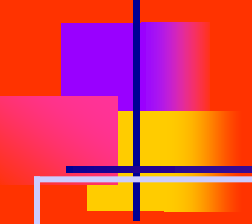
	<i>B'pest</i> <sup>1</sup> 1999	<i>B'pest</i> <sup>2</sup> 2003-party	<i>B'pest</i> <sup>3</sup> 2003-GP	<i>party / GP</i>
<i>Cannabis</i>	80.6	87.2	45.3	<b>1.9</b>
<i>Ecstasy</i>	36.9	58.5	19.6	<b>3.0</b>
<i>Amphetamine</i>	50.5	51.9	13.1	<b>4.0</b>
<i>Hallucinogens</i>	54.4	41.3 (LSD)	12.3 (LSD)	<b>3.6</b>
<i>Cocaine</i>	25.7	30.8	5.9	<b>5.2</b>
<i>Opiates</i>	18.0	5.6 (Heroin)	3.3 (Heroin)	<b>1.7</b>

(<sup>1</sup>Demetrovics, 2001; <sup>2</sup>Demetrovics & Menciazel, 2004; <sup>3</sup>Paksi, 2005)

# Patterns of drug use in the recreational setting

- *social-recreational drug use*
  - the use of psychostimulants is (almost) exclusively related to going out to dance events\*
- *no other deviances are present*
  - in most cases drug use has no relevant influence on the everyday life, work achievement, studies etc.,  
**however**
- there are *relevant risks associated* with drug use at parties

# \*Relationship between drug use and clubbing behavior (Demetrovics, 2001)



	rather at dance events	the same everywhere	rather not at dance events
<b>alcohol</b>	<b>57,5</b>	30,3	12,2
<b>marijuana</b>	19,5	35,5	<b>54,9</b>
<b>LSD</b>	30,8	19,2	<b>50,0</b>
<b>amphetamines</b>	<b>71,0</b>	14,8	14,2
<b>ecstasy</b>	<b>78,2</b>	12,7	9,1
<b>heroin</b>	0,0	13,0	<b>87,0</b>

# Conclusion

- drug use in clubbing subculture constitutes a much bigger problem than in the normal population, however
- dance clubs provide room, rather than reason, for drug use
- beside cannabis, stimulants and psychedelic drugs are popular in this setting
- drug use in the clubbing subculture is characteristically social-recreational



# Conclusion

- dance events could serve as places of **prevention and harm reduction** (since high risk groups are present here)
- restrictive interventions and police actions cause drug use to become covert, and as result, they make it impossible to help (hidden) drug users

# Present research

- Investigating other representatives of the recreational setting, that is
  - representative of the local KEF (Co-ordination Forum on Drug Affairs)
  - representative of police
  - emergency clinic
  - drug outpatient center
  - runner of dance club
  - employee in dance club
  - representative of civil organization

# Present research



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- qualitative method
  - Semi-structured interviews
- Investigating the recreational setting of the given city
- Sample: Budapest and 9 other cities