

# 2021

# TURKISH DRUG REPORT

**Trends and Developments**

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**REPUBLIC of TURKEY  
MINISTRY of INTERIOR**



**TURKISH NATIONAL POLICE  
COUNTER NARCOTICS DEPARTMENT**



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# PREFACE

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Drugs, as one of the most important issues affecting the world, have a past as far back as the mankind's history. However, NPS and synthetic drugs that are chemically produced and have much higher addictive effects, has taken this problem to a much more complex point beyond the ordinary and traditional drugs.

In the complexity of the problem, the diversion of chemicals used in the manufacture of these substances, which also have legal uses, plays a decisive role. The integration of chemicals used by the criminal organizations in the production of the drugs into the trafficking process is carried out with very different techniques, and both the variety and multiplicity of these chemicals and the mind-boggling methods used in their diversion require a struggle based on scientific evidence, involving integrity, requiring international cooperation beyond the national dimension.

As it is known, Turkey pursues its national efforts with the perspective of "considering entire world children as her own" in a versatile and holistic approach as a member of many pioneering organizations, such as UN/UNODC, European Union/EMCDDA, and OSCE, established by international community for anti-drug purposes, and as a party of international conventions executed in the same purpose.

The policies and strategies implemented in our country prevention/training, supply reduction, treatment and rehabilitation phases of the drug problem are closely followed by the global community, and the achievements gained are cited in the international reports.

Taking such maintained exemplary fight even further away leads our organizations to work on scientific facts within their fields of activities, meanwhile directing them to relay any knowledge and experience acquired to national/international stakeholders.

Accordingly, this report drawn up based on the data of 2020 with the contribution of all of our relevant organizations, is an important key document of evaluation on the activities carried out in the field as well as giving some ideas for the projects that can be put into practice in future in the field of the national policy implemented, supply reduction, prevention-training, treatment-rehabilitation, drug related deaths, punishment-execution and probation and narcoterrorism.

Hoping that this report would provide concrete contributions to any work conducted in all stages of the fight against drugs, we thank to all the real and legal entities providing us with their support in its preparation and publication.

**Counter Narcotics Department**

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BMK BMY KE G MEM C D D A  
G M G M I N C B I P A J G K J A K E  
E U R O P O L G F I M A S A K M B C  
E A N P S M F I B R M I F Ç T A D C  
H C T I T C K T M O T U B İ M U K I  
N O D C U Y U M A Y A R D M

## ABBREVIATIONS

- AMATEM** : Alcohol and Substance Addiction Treatment Center
- ARDEF** : Research and Evaluation Form
- ATS** : Amphetamine Type Stimulants
- BMK** : Council of Fight Against Addiction
- BMTK** : Technical Council of Fight Against Addiction
- BMYK** : High Council of Fight Against Addiction
- CFCU** : Central Finance and Contracts Unit
- ÇEMATEM** : Children and Adolescent Treatment Center for Substance Addiction
- DRD** : Drug Related Deaths
- EMCDDA** : European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
- EU** : European Union
- EUROPOL** : European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation
- GFI** : Global Financial Integrity
- GMGM** : Directorate General of Customs Enforcement
- INCB** : International Narcotics Control Board
- IPA** : Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance
- JAKEM** : Gendarmerie Dog Training Center
- JGK** : Gendarmerie General Command
- MASAK** : Financial Crimes Investigation Board

# EUIPO EMKOM ÖMDMANDB OCTCK DS

<b>MDMA</b>	: Methylenedioxyamphetamine
<b>NDB</b>	: TNP, Counter Narcotics Department
<b>NEA</b>	: NDB, Counter Narcotics Training Academy
<b>NPS</b>	: New Psychoactive Substances
<b>OSCE</b>	: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
<b>SUT</b>	: Communique on Health Practice
<b>THC</b>	: Tetrahydrocannabinol
<b>TİTCK</b>	: Turkish Medicine and Medical Device Agency
<b>TMO</b>	: Turkish Grain Board
<b>TNP</b>	: TurkNarcoterroish National Police
<b>TPC</b>	: Turkish Penal Code No. 5237
<b>TUBİM</b>	: NDB, Turkish Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
<b>UKDS</b>	: Drug Decision Support System
<b>UN</b>	: United Nations
<b>UNODC</b>	: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<b>UYUMA</b>	: Application for Fight Against Drugs
<b>WHO</b>	: World Health Organization





CHAPTER

DRUG POLICY,  
**COORDINATION AND LEGAL  
FRAMEWORK**

# 1.1. NATIONAL DRUG POLICY AND STRATEGY

## Current Status<sup>1</sup>

On 09.07.2018, the **Presidential System** was implemented in Turkey. Some of the institutions had some changes in their organizations due to this structural system change. Consequently, a legislative amendment was put into force in order for maintaining the works uninterrupted on the fight against addiction.

Accordingly, it was decided to convene High Council of Fight Against Addiction (BMYK) under chairmanship of the **Vice President** pursuant to the **Presidency Circular no 2019/2**.<sup>2</sup>

**The High Council of Fight Against Addiction**<sup>3</sup>; was reestablished with the participations of the Minister of Justice, the Family, Labor and Social Services, the Environment and Urban Planning, the Youth and Sports, the Treasury and Finance, the Interior, the Education, the Health, the Agriculture and Forestry, the Trade, the Transportation and Infrastructure, as well as Deputy Head of Presidency's Health and Food Policies Board.

In the meeting of High Council of Fight Against Addiction held on 03.07.2019, Operational Procedures and Principles of Boards of Fight Against Addiction were ratified and put into force. Thereby, a regulation was drawn up for Operational

Procedures and Principles of High Council of Fight Against Addiction (BMYK), Council of Fight Against Addiction (BMK), Technical Council of Fight Against Addiction (BMTK), and Provincial/District Coordination Boards for Fight Against Addiction. New procedures and principles were served to 81 provinces and the relevant institutions on 09.08.2019.

Thereby, 2 BMK meetings (headed by the Deputy Minister of the Minister of the Ministry of Health at the level of Deputy Ministers) and 3 BMTK meetings (headed by the Director General of Public Health at the level of Head of Departments) were held within the context of fight against drugs in 2020. The BMYK meeting could not be held due to the pandemic.

2020 data entry to “National Drug Control Strategy Document and Action Plan Monitoring Platform”, which was developed to monitor all national counter drug efforts, has been completed by all stakeholders.

In addition, the regional meeting held in Ankara on 03-04.03.2020 within the scope of “Dissemination of the Studies in the Center in the Fight Against Drugs to Local and Inter-Provincial Information Sharing and Provincial Evaluation Meetings” was held with the participation of the provinces of Aydın, Denizli, Gaziantep, Kocaeli, Konya and Mersin. (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021).

<sup>1</sup> For the historical process, please see 2020 Turkish Drug Report, [www.narkotik.pol.tr](http://www.narkotik.pol.tr).

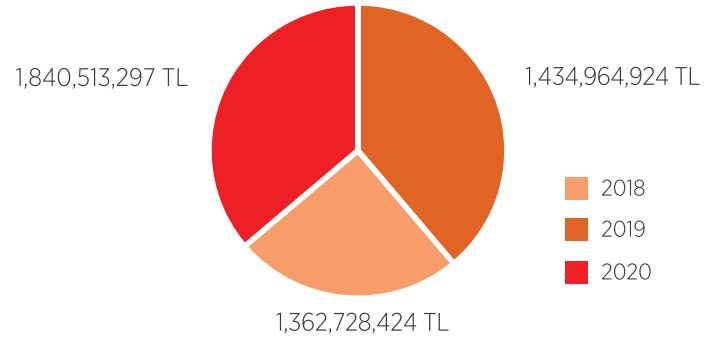
<sup>2</sup> Annex-1: Presidency Circular no 2019/2

<sup>3</sup> By the decision of the President published in the Official Journal dated 12.04.2021 and no. 31461, the Ministry of Family, Labor and Social Services was restructured as the Ministry of Family and Social Services and the Ministry of Labor and Social Security.



## 1.2 DRUG RELATED PUBLIC EXPENDITURE

Any expenses spent in the field of fight against drugs in our country are defrayed under the general budgets of relevant institutions. The data on expenditures are collected annually by TUBİM by means of official correspondences with relevant institutions of fighting against drugs based on the comparisons with previous year. The public expenses under this chapter cover the data on approximate expenditures collected from the institutions.



**Graph 1.1** Distribution of the Drug Related Public Expenditure by Years.

As can be seen from the analysis of Graph 1.1, the public expenditures in 2020 increased by approximately 28.2% compared to 2019 and amounted to 1 billion 840 million 513 thousand Turkish Liras.

## 1.3 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Turkey is a party to all relevant international agreements on fight against drugs, including 1961 Single Convention on Drugs, 1971 Psychotropic Substances Convention, 1988 UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances, and 1972 Protocol amending 1961 Single Convention on Drugs.

In line with these agreements, although certain legislative regulations pertaining to the fight against drugs can be found under various laws, the principle legislative regulations therefore can be categorized as followings;

- Turkish Penal Code (TPC) 5237 dated 26.09.2004,
  - TPC Art. 188 Production and trade of drugs or stimulant substances,
  - TPC Art. 190 Facilitating of abuse of drugs or stimulant substances,
  - TPC Art. 191 Purchasing, accepting, or carrying for drugs or stimulant substances for personal use, or abusing thereof,
- The Law on Drugs dated 03.06.1986 and no 3298,
- The Law on Control of Narcotic Drugs 2313 dated 12.06.1933.



***Turkey is a party to all relevant agreements on the fight against drugs, in particular the 1961 Single Convention, the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, the 1988 UN Convention on Combating the Trafficking of Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, and the 1972 Protocol amending the 1961 Single Convention.***



In the Turkish Penal Code, actions such as manufacturing, trading or supplying drugs and stimulants, purchasing, accepting or keeping them for use, and facilitating or encouraging their use are subject to criminal sanctions.

In the legislation, in which actions related to drug use or stimulant use or to possess drugs to use are stated, it provides an opportunity to take decision of continuance as an alternative to the punishment and apply treatment or/and the probation measure during the decision of continuance. If the person violates any liability imposed or abuse drugs again during such period, a criminal case might be filed in request for a prison sentence of 2 to 5 years.

The effective repentance for any drug-related crime is stipulated in the Article 192 of the Turkish Penal Code no. 5237.

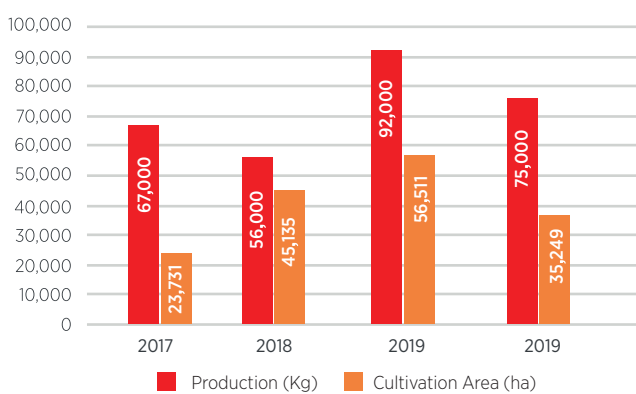
***Within the scope of the Law on drugs no 3298 and the Regulations on Cultivation, Management, Harvesting, Utilization, Disposal, Trade, Export, and Import of Opium Poppy;***

Opium poppy is cultivated for medical purposes in Turkey, India, Australia, France, Spain and Hungary as the authorized legal producers around the world under the supervision of the United Nations. Turkey is considered as a country of traditional opium poppy producer and opium poppy-based alkaloid supplier in the world. Authorized lands for opium poppy cultivation in Turkey are determined by the Council of Ministers. It is strictly banned to cultivate opium poppy in any land for any purpose whatsoever, other than those designated by the Cabinet. Cultivation of opium poppy is under the control and inspection of Turkish Grain Board, and the law enforcers pursuant to the provisions of the Law on Drugs numbered 3298 dated 03.06.1986, “Regulation on Planting, Control, Collection, Evaluation, Disposal, Purchase, Sale, Export and Import of Poppy”, and the regulations enacted complying with the Law.

According to decision of Council of Ministers on “Opium Poppy Capsule and Trading of Seeds” no 2015/7725 which is published in official journal dated 20.06.2015 and no 29392, It is authorized to cultivate opium poppy and produce unscratched opium poppy capsule in Afyonkarahisar, Amasya, Burdur, Çorum, Denizli, Isparta, Kütahya, Tokat and Uşak provinces in full; Balya, Bigadiç, Dursunbey, İvrindi, Kepsut, Savaştepe ve Sındırgı disticts of Balıkesir province; Alpu, Beylikova, Çifteler, Günyüzü, Han, Mahmudiye, Mihalıççık, Seyitgazi ve Sivrihisar disticts of Eskişehir province; Ahırılı,

Akören, Akşehir, Beyşehir, Derbent, Doğanhisar, Hüyük, Ilgın, Kadınhanı, Seydişehir, Tuzlukçu, Yalılıyük and Yunak districts of Konya; Şehzadeler, Yunusemre, Demirci, Gördes, Köprübaşı, Kula, Sarıgöl and Selendi districts of Manisa province with the license as of 2015.

Legally cultivated capsules are taken from farmers through local authorities and transferred to Alkaloids Factory in Afyonkarahisar to process. Morphine and its derivatives produced at Afyonkarahisar Alkaloids Factory are supplied to domestic and foreign pharmaceutical companies as alkaloid raw material (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Turkish Grain Board of 2021).



**Graph 1.2** Quantity of Morphine-Equivalent Opiate Raw Material Production and Cultivated Fields in Turkey (Turkish Grain Board, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, 2021).

**Under the Law no 2313 on Control of Narcotic Drugs;**

According to Art. 3 of Law on Control of Narcotic Drugs No. 2313, **“it is strictly banned to cultivate cannabis to produce cannabis and prepare, export, import, and sell thereof for any purpose whatsoever.”**

The cannabis cultivation and farming are subject to licenses. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry issues cannabis cultivation within the scope of the “Regulation on Cannabis Cultivation and Control.” In the Article 5 of the Regulation, regions to be authorized for cultivation are specified. However, according to the paragraph 2 of the Article 5, in addition to the provision of “cannabis cultivation is prohibited outside the provinces and districts permitted in paragraph 1, the Ministry is authorized to reduce or increase the cannabis cultivation areas in cases of need.” in the Article 6. In this context, the Ministry may create new cultivation fields or cancel existing cultivation fields.

In this context, with the Ministry’s Approval dated 21.01.2021, Sivas province was included in the provinces where allowed cannabis cultivation is carried out. Thus, the licensed cannabis cultivation can be carried out in 20 provinces and districts including **Amasya, Antalya, Bartın, Burdur, Çorum, İzmir, Karabük, Kastamonu, Kayseri, Kütahya, Malatya, Ordu, Rize, Samsun, Sinop, Sivas, Tokat, Uşak, Yozgat and Zonguldak.**

Any farmer choosing to cultivate cannabis for its fiber, seed, and alike should apply for a license from relevant local authority of their region between 1st of January to 1st of April.

The field where the cannabis cultivation permit is given by the technical personnel of the provincial or district directorates is controlled at least once a month from planting to harvest. These controls are carried out as follows;

- The locations authorized for cannabis cultivation are kept under control by the technical staff in provincial or district directorates from cultivation to harvesting, and whether cultivation is performed accordingly is under constant surveillance.

- It is examined whether the applications made at each stage of production are suitable for the purpose of cultivation.
- The waste of plants, such as stem, fiber and flower, are immediately destroyed to prevent producing cannabis after harvesting in all licensed cultivations.
- During the year, illegal cultivations and the number of destroyed plants detected together with law enforcement agencies are reported in six-month periods.

**Table 1.1** Distribution of Cannabis Cultivation for Fiber and Seed Purposes for the years 2018 - 2020 (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Directorate General for Plant Production, 2021).

Year	Product Name	Cultivated Area (ha)	Production (Tons)
2018	Cannabis (fiber)	60	7
	Cannabis (Seed)	65	3
2019	Cannabis (fiber)	160	19
	Cannabis (Seed)	536	20
2020	Cannabis (fiber)	96	9
	Cannabis (Seed)	4,241	273

## 1.4. NEW DEVELOPMENTS

### 1.4.1. Recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) on International Control of Cannabis

As it is known, the international control of narcotic substances, the medical use, abuse, addiction potential, etc. are classified and controlled under the criteria of United Nations 1961 Single Convention and 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

UN Conventions are subject to a control regime that includes different legal regulations and obligations according to the schedules of the controlled substance. These obligations are the obligations that must be implemented at a minimum level in their national legislation for all country's parties to the Convention. However, the countries party to the conventions are free to apply stricter control measures.

Although cannabis is subject to international control under the relevant schedules of the UN

Single Convention of 1961 and the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, it is one of the most discussed drugs in the world recently.

In line with the decision of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) in order to investigate and evaluate the discussions and arguments on this subject on a scientific basis and after ongoing requests to change the current status of cannabis and related substances in the UN Conventions with claims that cannabis is a miracle plant with medical and scientific use, 6 recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (ECDD) on cannabis and cannabis-related substances, which were finalized as a result of the research-evaluation studies carried out for 18 months, WHO's letter dated 24.01.2019 presented to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

These recommendations are;

1. Removal of cannabis and cannabis resin found in Schedule 1 and 4 of the 1961 Convention from Schedule 4,
2. Dronabinol (Delta-9-THC) found in Schedule 2 of the 1971 Convention; Addition to Schedule 1 of the 1961 Convention and completely remove from the 1971 Convention,
3. THC isomers found in Schedule 1 of the 1971 Convention; Addition to Schedule 1 of the 1961 Convention and completely remove from the 1971 Convention,
4. The removal of cannabis extracts and tinctures contained in Schedule 1 of the 1961 Convention from the UN Conventions,
5. Explanation of cannabidiol preparations as a footnote in Schedule 1 of the 1961 Convention,
6. It is the inclusion of Dronabinol (Delta-9-THC) preparations in the 3rd Schedule of the 1961 Convention.

6 recommendations on cannabis and cannabis-related substances were included in the agenda of the 63rd Session of the CND, held between 02-06.03.2020, to be voted on. However, the voting in question was postponed to December 2020 due to the failure of the CND member states to reach a consensus and COVID-19 pandemic that affected the whole world at that time, and it was decided to continue negotiations on 6 recommendations with the participation of relevant UN bodies and experts from member countries until the voting date.

As a result of the discussions held within the scope of the CND and the expert group meetings in which Turkey actively participated, only the recommendation of **“removal of cannabis and**

**cannabis resin from the 4th schedule of the UN 1961 Convention”** was approved and the other 5 recommendations were rejected in the voting held with the participation of 53 CND member countries on 02.12.2020. Our country voted **NO** to all of the recommendations in the voting.

After notification of the voting result by the CND Secretariat to all member states on 22.01.2021, the results of the voting entered into force. According to this result, “cannabis and its resin” was removed from the 4th schedule of the 1961 Convention and only subject to the provisions of the 1st schedule of the same agreement.

With this voting, there was no change in the international drug control regime towards the **legalization of cannabis, in other words, the removal of cannabis from among drugs**. It is relatively easy to conduct medical and scientific research on cannabis and its resin alone.

### 1.4.2. Cannabis (Seed)

In order to grow domestic and national cannabis, the registration process was started in 2019, the industrial cannabis seed named “Narlı” was bred by Ondokuz Mayıs University, and the industrial cannabis seed called “Vezir”, which was bred by the Black Sea Agricultural Research Institute affiliated to the General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies. (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, General Directorate of Plant Production, 2021).



### 1.4.3. “Strengthening the Capacity of Turkish Forensic Laboratories in Combatting Illicit Drug Trafficking”: IPA II EU Project

“Strengthening the Capacity of Turkish Forensic Laboratories in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking”, which started on 03.09.2018 and implemented together with the United Kingdom in this process, where the TNP Criminal Department is the beneficiary and the Gendarmerie General Command Criminal Department is the co-beneficiary. The European Union (EU) Twinning Project was extended by 3 months due to the pandemic and completed on 03.12.2020.

By the project a more effective fight against organized crime groups is envisaged by identifying the links between different incidents with the data to be obtained as a result of profiling drugs (heroin, cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants).

In this context; The “Regulation on Amending the Regulation on the Implementation of the Law No. 2313 on the Control of Drugs”, which was prepared to form the basis for the profiling processes, was published in the Official Journal No. 31267 and entered into force on 07.10.2020. Pursuant to the published regulation change, the Protocol prepared for the purpose of regulating the work and transactions for profiling work within the current functioning of both institutions was signed on 09.03.2021.

Along with the protocol signed with the General Command of the Gendarmerie, drug profiling studies will begin in 2021.

### 1.4.4. Drug Decision Support System (UKDS)

Within the scope of the “2015 Urgent Action Plan for Fight Against Drugs” and the “2016-2018 Action Plan for Fight Against Drugs”, which came into force with the Prime Ministry Circular No. 2014/19, the TUBİM, which runs under Turkish National Police/Counter Narcotics Department, was given a task regarding the instant collection of national data. In order to realize this task, an EU project consisting of Twinning and Supply Components, which will be carried out independently of each other, named “Strengthening the Data Collection Capacity of TUBİM” from the EU Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA: Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance) funds has been prepared.

With the implementation of the aforementioned project, it is aimed to quickly and effectively create policies and strategies by collecting information and data on the activities carried out by national institutions and organizations in the field of combating illicit drugs in our country.

The Twinning component, which started with Romania on 08.08.2018, was extended by 3 months due to the pandemic and completed on 14.02.2021.

The procurement component of the project includes hardware and software processes. The installation of the necessary hardware for the full installation of the UKDS has been completed and the test studies are continuing.

The software development process, which started on 03.12.2018, was completed as of 22.02.2021 and the temporary acceptance phase was carried

out under the coordination of the Central Finance and Contracts Unit (CFCU).

The test and control stages of the integration of the developed software with the supplied hardware and the live data flow processes to be provided with stakeholder institutions are continuing.

The software process for instant data collection is currently ongoing, and UKDS is planned to be fully operational in 2021 after the testing processes are completed.

### **1.4.5. Health Behavior Research in Populations Over 15 Years Old Project 2020**

The project “Health Behavior Research in Population Over 15 Years Old, 2020” was started on 01.03.2020 by the Turkish Green Crescent Society with the assignment of the High Council of Fight Against Addiction. The aim of the project is to measure the frequency and distribution of tobacco, alcohol and drug use among the population aged 15 and over in Turkey, as well as to measure the frequency and distribution of playing digital games, gambling games, betting and lotteries, and also to determine attitudes and behaviors related to these issues.

The sample size of the population aged 15 and over, the sample size of the 2020 study and its distribution to the provinces were determined according to the Address Based Population Registration System (ADNKS), the research methodology was established, the ethics committee approval was obtained from the University of Health Sciences, the project consultant and the field research company were contacted, service procurement contracts were signed and pollster training was carried out. A 161-question measurement tool

(survey questionnaire) and information cards on addictive products/behaviors were prepared. A pilot study was completed in 206 households in Ankara Province Altındağ District between 13-20.03.2020.

Within the framework of COVID-19 measures, field work was carried out with face-to-face interview technique in 37.730 households in 26 provinces between 29.06.2020 - 11.11.2020. Survey fieldwork was implemented in Istanbul, Edirne, Balıkesir, İzmir, Muğla, Manisa, Bursa, Kocaeli, Ankara, Konya, Antalya, Adana, Kahramanmaraş, Nevşehir, Kayseri, Karabük, Sinop, Samsun, Trabzon, Erzurum, Iğdır, Elazığ, Van, Gaziantep and Siirt. The 26 provinces selected within the scope of the project; it refers to the 26 provinces selected to represent the 26 regions separated according to the socio-economic and cultural dynamics of Turkey, described as Level 2 of the Classification of Statistical Regional Units.

Weighting coefficients were calculated for use in data analysis in the period November-December 2020. Data analysis continues with the SPSS program, and it is planned to organize a project closing workshop and share project results together with the completion of reporting.

Because this study is a national research project, the data obtained will be used in the international comparisons. In addition, the project has a special importance because it will be studied in the field of risk factors that lead to impairment of health.

### **1.4.6. Regulations on Health Implementation Communiqué**

The expenses of the health services (medicine and treatment) provided in outpatient and inpatient treatment of people receiving addiction treatment are covered by the Social Security Institution.

Arrangements made to increase the frequency and number of “Family Interview-Evaluation”, “Individual Psychotherapy” and “Group Psychotherapy” services, which are among the Medical Rehabilitation Services already defined in the Health Practice Communiqué for people receiving addiction treatment, published and entered into force in the Health Practice Communiqué (SUT) as of 11.01.2020. In this regulation made for the treatment of substance addiction, SUT is included in the ANNEX/2B list;

- While the current status of “Family Interview - Evaluation” is 3 times a year, 1 time in 30 days by the regulation,
- While the current situation is “individual psychotherapy” once in 10 days, 3 times in 10 days by the regulation,

- While the current situation of “group psychotherapy” was once in 10 days, it was arranged as 3 times in 10 days, and the number and frequency were increased.

In addition, the studies to determine the SUT codes of the analyzes made in the screening and verification laboratories in order to make laboratory services more effective by the SSI and the Ministry of Health have been completed, and it has been published in the Health Implementation Communiqué and entered into force as of 11.01.2020. In this context, new transaction codes have been created for “Screening Analysis” and “Verification Analysis” under the heading “Illegal and Abused Substance Analysis” in the ANNEX-2/B list of the Annex to the SUT. “Illegal and Abused Substance Verification Analysis Form (Annex-2/Y)” has been prepared to be used for verification analysis.



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From the President's Office:

**Subject:** Fight Against Addiction

**CIRCULAR**

**2019/2**

In order for pressing on the works of fight against addictions such as drugs, alcohol, tobacco as well as behavioral addictions such as gambling and technology dependence, and ensuring the coordination among the ministries and public institutions and organizations; the High Council of Fight Against Addiction (BMYK) to be chaired by Vice President has been re-established with the participation of Minister of Justice, Minister of Family , Labor and Social Services, Minister of Environment and Urban Planning, Minister of Youth and Sports, Minister of Treasury and Finance, Minister of Interior, Minister of National Education, Minister of Health, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Minister of Trade, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure as well as Deputy Head of President's Board of Health and Food Policies Board. In case of absence of Vice President, the High Council will be chaired by Minister of Health.

Upon proposal of Minister of Health, the High Council may form commissions to be chaired by Deputy Minister of Health and provincial coordination commissions to be chaired by governors, to function in the scope of the strategies and action plans to be set forth by the High Council. Furthermore, the High Council may form work groups when it is necessary.

Secretarial services of and following up any decision reached by the High Council, commissions, and work groups will be performed by Ministry of Health.

Ministry of Health will draw up progress reports every six month to be submitted to the High Council for evaluation. The High Council Chair will share such evaluations, activities performed, and conclusions reached with the public in form of annual activity report.

Any support, assistance, and facility to be needed by the commissions in the works of fighting against addiction will be provided by relevant public institutions and organizations, and any function and responsibility assumed for implementation of any decision reached will be meticulously performed.

The circular 2017/23 is repealed.

Kindly requested you be informed and to conduct as is due.

13 February 2019

Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN

PRESIDENT





CHAPTER

SUPPLY **REDUCTION**

## 2.1. GENERAL TRAFFICKING TRENDS DURING PANDEMIC, OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SEIZURES

Considering the damage, it causes to the legal economy, security, public health and the environment, illegal drug trade and use continue to be a common problem for all humanity.

Globalization, which has gained even more momentum over the past 20 years, and developments in communication technology, in particular, have led to radical changes in illegal types of drugs and methods of trafficking. As a result of these developments, some rapid changes have been observed in the classic methods and structures of criminal groups engaged in the production and trade of the illegal drugs. Similarly, there is a significant increase in the diversity of substance types in the national and international illicit drug markets.

The reports and similar documents published by the international organizations such as UNODC, INCB and EMCDDA, which operate as a part of the fight against drugs, comprehensively present the problems and threats caused by the drug problem on a global and regional level.

In the determinations made by these organizations; North America, East and South East Asia, Near and Middle East, Central and Western Europe are the main departures for trafficking of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), South America for cocaine trafficking, and West and South West Asia for opium and derivatives trafficking and appear to be production areas.

On the other hand, there is an increase in the global diversity and use of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), which have been on the world agenda especially for the last 20 years, and the Far East Asia region stands out as the source of such drugs.

In this global picture, Turkey is not mentioned as a source country with respect to any kind of illicit drugs.

With its location on the “Balkan Route”, which is an extremely important route in the context of drug trafficking, Turkey is a transit and destination country both in the trafficking of opium derivatives, especially heroin, which is produced in Asia and transferred to Europe, and in methamphetamine, the production and trafficking of which continues to increase in the same region in recent years as well as for the trafficking of synthetic drugs produced in Europe and shipped to Asia, and chemicals used in the production of these substances.

Our law enforcement agencies performing duty in this geography carry on their activities in the fight against illicit drug trafficking, which is a crime against humanity, with a perspective of considering “all the children of the world as their own”.

Turkish National Police (TNP), General Command of Gendarmerie (JGK), Turkish Coast Guard and Directorate General of Customs Enforcement

(GMGM) perform a duty in the fight against illicit drug supply and trafficking in our country.

Besides these institutions, Turkish Grain Board (TMO), The Institute of Forensic Medicine Institution (ATK), Financial Crimes Investigation Board (MASAK) and Turkish Medicine and Medical Device Agency (TİTCK) have an important role in the fight against drugs.

2020 has been a year in which the COVID-19 pandemic has shown negative effects around the world. The measures taken by the countries in the fight against the pandemic, which has become a global problem without borders, undoubtedly also affected the illegal drug markets. Some significant trends have been observed in all stages of the production, trafficking and distribution of this market.

These trends can be observed in the form of restrictions on road transport applied by countries in general, the contributions of security forces to the measures taken at the national level, curfews and the difficulty of accessing drugs, and different methods used by criminal organizations.

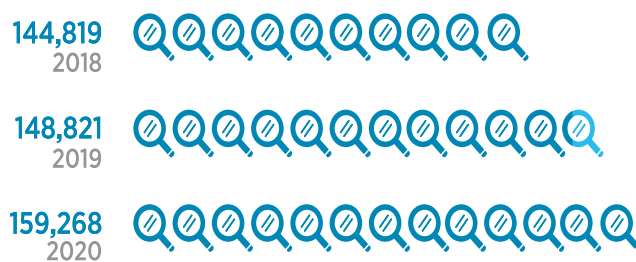
It is not possible at this stage to clearly reveal the effects of the ongoing pandemic on the illicit drug market.

However, with a global estimation, it can be predicted that air transportation and road restrictions in some countries may have shifted trafficking to maritime routes, trafficking activities may increase by using cargo companies over the internet, medical equipment shipments in circulation around the world may be abused, and the difficulties experienced in availability of illegal drugs will increase the demand for alternative substances.

Within the framework of this perspective, in 2020, Turkish national security forces not only contributed to the measures taken during the pandemic period, but also acted with a proactive approach in order to eliminate the negative effects of the global developments that may be reflected in the fight against drugs. The fight against drugs was carried out with effective methods that used the diversity of information sources and technological innovations at the highest level, beyond a narrow framework that could be limited to the human resources assigned in the measures taken due to the pandemic.

It is estimated that the number of incidents responded and number of suspects arrested by our national security forces in the pandemic period and the point recorded in the seizures can be more clearly understood by examining the 2022 World and European drug reports to be published, which will be published with the 2020 data.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, which began in 2020, the increase trend in the number of incidents responded and suspects continued. The security forces responded to total 148,821 incidents in 2019 and 159,268 in 2020 with an increase of 7%. In these incidents, 231,652 suspects were arrested in proving an increase of 5.3% in comparison to the previous year.



**Graph 2.1** Number of Incidents by Years.

206,134  
2018



220,010  
2019



231,652  
2020



Graph 2.2<sup>4</sup> Number of Suspects by Years.

Table 2.1 Breakdown of Number of Incidents in 2020 by Crime Types.

	TPC Art 191	TPC Art 188	LAW 2313	TPC Art 190	LAW 3298	TOTAL
No of incidents	123,649	30,341	4,568	528	182	159,268
Percentage	77.64	19.05	2.87	0.33	0.11	100

In consideration of the breakdown of 159,268 incidents in 2020 by crime types;

- 123,649 (77.64%) of the incidents are purchasing/accepting/possession (TPC art. 191),
- 30,341 of the incidents (19.05%) are illegal production and trade (TPC art.188),
- 4,568 of the incidents (2.87%) are violation of the Law on Control of Narcotics Drugs no 2313,
- 528 of the incidents (0.33%) are facilitating/encouraging drug use (TPC art.190),
- 180 of the incidents (0.11%) are within the scope of violation of the Law on Drugs no 3298 (Table 2.1).

4 There are duplicated records in the suspect number data. In 2020, more than one judicial action was taken against 35,564 suspects.

Table 2.2 Breakdown of Number of Suspects in 2020 by Crime Types.

	TPC Art 191	TPC Art 188	LAW 2313	TPC Art 190	LAW 3298	TOTAL
No of incidents	167,531	59,186	4,166	578	191	231,652
Percentage	72.32	25.55	1.80	0.25	0.08	100

In consideration of the breakdown of 231,652 suspects in 2020 by crime types, it is understood;

- 167,531 suspects (72.32%) are for purchasing/accepting/possession of drugs for personal use (TPC art. 191),
- 59,186 suspects (25.55%) are for illicit production and trade of drugs (TPC art.188),
- 4,166 suspects (1.80%) are for violation of the Law on Control of Narcotic Drugs no 2313,
- 578 suspects (0.25%) are for facilitating/encouraging drug use (TPC art.190),
- 191 suspects (0.08%) are for violation of the Law on Drug Substances no 3298 (Table 2.2).



## 2.1.1. Heroin and Acetic Anhydride

### Heroin Trafficking Trends

Heroin is a semi-synthetic opiate obtained from morphine which formed naturally from opium poppy.

Opium production is highly concentrated, with 97% of estimated production over the period 2015–2019 coming from just 3 of the 50 countries worldwide where opium production is reported (UNODC, 2021, p. 87).

However, on a global scale, Afghanistan is the country where both opium poppy cultivation and opium production take place the most. As a matter of fact, it is estimated by UNODC that opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan in 2020 reached 224,000 hectares with an increase of 37% compared to the previous year, and opium production was 6.300 tons (UNODC, 2020a, p. 5).

On the other hand, South East Asia (Myanmar and Laos) and Central America (usually Mexico) are other prominent regions in the production and trafficking of opium and its derivatives.

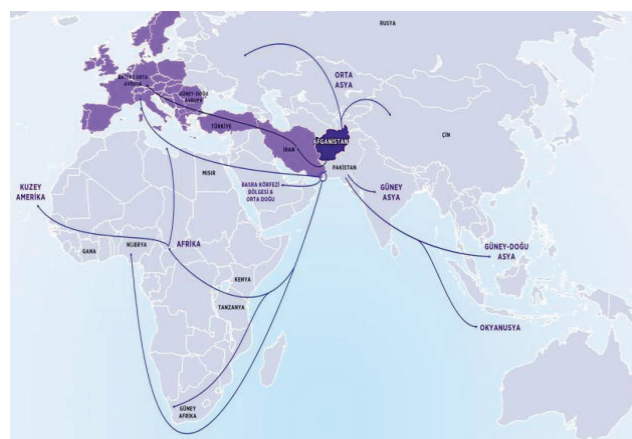
Afghanistan, the country where most opium is produced, which has accounted for approximately 84 per cent of global opium production over the past five years, supplies markets in neighboring countries, Europe, the Near and Middle East, South Asia and Africa and to a small degree North America (notably Canada) and Oceania. Countries in South- East Asia Myanmar (some 7 % of global opium production) and, to a lesser extent, the Laos and, to a lesser extent, (1 % of global opium production) a lesser extent, in East

and South-East Asia and Oceania. Mexico (6% of global opium production) stands out in heroin shipments to the USA (UNODC, 2020, p. 9).

Almost 70 per cent of the global quantities of heroin and morphine (the two main internationally trafficked opiates) seized in 2018 were intercepted in Asia, mostly in South-West Asia. Outside of Asia, the largest quantities of heroin and morphine (22% of global seizures) were seized in Europe, which is an important market for consumption. Heroin and morphine seized in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe continued to account for the bulk (66 per cent) of all such quantities seized in Europe in 2018, with most of the heroin and morphine seized in the region continuing to be reported by Turkey (62 per cent), (UNODC, 2020, p. 13-14).

**Again, according to UN data, Turkey seized 20,165 kg in 2019; it is the country with the largest amount of heroin seizures at the global level (UNODC, 2021, p. 91).<sup>5</sup>**

Considering the national and international seizures, it is seen that heroin trafficking is often carried out by road with legal burden.



**Picture 2.1** Balkan, Southern and Northern Routes

5 The total amount of heroin size in 2019 is 96 tons.



*Again, according to UN data, Turkey seized 20,165 kg in 2019; it is the country with the largest amount of heroin seizures at the global level (UNODC, 2021, p. 91).*



Balkan Route, Southern Route, and Northern Route are the main routes used in trafficking of opiates originated in Afghanistan-destined to Europe and the other parts of the world.

However, it is also obvious that certain side and sub routes of such main routes, in particular, the Balkan Route (Caucasus Route, Northern Black Sea Route, Eastern Mediterranean Route, Northern Iraq-Syria Route, etc.) are heavily used in drug trafficking.

**Balkan Route:** Starting from Afghanistan and reaching to Central and Western Europe via Iran, Turkey, and Balkan countries, the Balkan Route is the most frequently used route for trafficking opiates including Afghanistan-originated heroin to Europe for decades.

In 2018, 58% of the heroin seizures that took place outside Afghanistan occurred on this route. Between 2009 and 2012 alone, it is estimated that opiates smuggled through the Balkan Route generate an average of 28 billion USD annually (UNODC, 2020b, p. 54).

In the opposite direction, this important route is also used in the trafficking of other important precursor chemicals and synthetic drugs, including acetic anhydride originating from Central and

Western Europe, to Asia. In addition to this, it is seen that the Balkan Route has started to be used in methamphetamine trafficking originating from Afghanistan and Iran recently.

Due to the record amounts of heroin seizures, Turkey is crucially important on the Balkan Route. It is also stated in the 2019 European Drug Markets Report that the Balkan Route still remains a key corridor for heroin's entry into the EU, and therefore Turkey has a central importance in preventing the entry of heroin into EU markets (EMCDDA & EUROPOL, 2019, p. 16).

As in previous years, more heroin seizures are carried out by law enforcement units in Turkey than in all EU countries. Turkey seized two and half times more amount of heroin than EU countries in 2019 (EU countries: 7.9 tons, Turkey: 20.2 tons). The amount of heroin seized is the highest figure recorded for the last decade (EMCDDA, 2021, p. 30).

**Southern Route:** Part of the trafficking of Afghanistan- originated opiates is carried out a route called the Southern Route. The Southern Route is for the shipments from Afghanistan to the Gulf countries and to East Africa extending to Pakistan (partially to Iran) and therefrom, to Europe via South or West Africa.

There are also alternative routes for opiate trafficking to India and other countries in South Asia through the Southern Route targeted to Europe or North America as the last destination. According to 2020 UN reports, 6% of global quantities of heroin and morphine (excluding seizures carried out in Afghanistan) were seized by countries on the southern route other than Pakistan in 2018 (UNODC, 2020, p.18).



It is considered that the significant contributions made by our country in the field of international operational cooperation, increased law enforcement measures and the effective controls carried out at our borders have led drug smugglers to seek alternative routes, especially the Southern Route. It is considered that the recent increase in the seized heroin seizures in the Belgian Antwerp Port and the Indian Ocean (UNODC, 2020c, p. 25) supports such a prediction.

**Northern Route:** It is a route starting from Afghanistan's northern borders extending to Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan, finally in Russian Federation and Ukraine for supplying Afghanistan-origin opiates to illicit drug markets.

There has been a decline in heroin trafficking through the Northern Route over the past decade. Only 1% of heroin and morphine seized in global quantities in 2018 were seized along the Northern Route (UNODC, 2020, p. 18).

In addition, it is predicted that the successful works on the Balkan Route in the recent period will create a revival in the Northern Route in the coming period and there may be an increase in heroin seizures on this route.

Seizures reported in recent years targeting European markets of Central Asian origin in Belarus, Romania and Ukraine (EMCDDA & EUROPOL, 2019, p. 121) and again in the studies carried out in cooperation with the TNP Counter Narcotics Department and the Dutch Police, which were shipped from the Northern Route, it is evaluated that international operations that resulted in the seizures of 171 kg heroin in the Netherlands on 31.05.2019, 670 kg in Germany on 18.06.2019, 1.105 kg in Kazakhstan customs on 02.11.2019 and 350 kg in Poland on 02.03.2020 can be given as examples supporting this prediction.

## **Acetic Anhydride Trafficking Trends**

Acetic anhydride, included in Table 1 in the annex to the 1988 UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, is a precursor used for conversion of morphine to heroin. In addition, heroin production, it is also used in the manufacture of amphetamine and methamphetamine. It is among the most frequent and most traded items in Table 1 of the 1988 UN Convention. In addition, this chemical is a highly important industrial agent also used in production of pharmaceutical products, paints, plastics, polymer, cellulose, and explosives.

It is known that some chemicals are used for masking or covering acetic anhydride in acetic anhydride trafficking. An example of this is glacial (glacial) acetic acid, which is suspected to be used in the acetylation of morphine to produce heroin and is possibly mixed with acetic anhydride (INCB, 2020, p. 27).

Due to its location on the Balkan Route, acetic anhydride originating from the Central and the Western Europe continues to be trafficked to traditional opiate producing countries and significant amounts of seizures are made.

In 2018, over 10,000 liters of acetic anhydride was seized by each of the six countries, including China, Georgia, Iran, the Netherlands, Pakistan and Turkey. In 2019, more than this amount was seized by only Iran (15,000 liters) and Pakistan (19,060 liters) (INCB, 2020, p. 25).

In 2020, with the cooperation between INCB, Europol, Bulgaria, Iran, the Netherlands and Turkey, 22,000 liters of acetic anhydride, which could produce more than 10 tons of heroin in six seizures, were seized (INCB, 2020a, p. 45).

The trafficking of acetic anhydride is not just a matter of heroin production in Afghanistan. As in the Northern Iraq example mentioned in the next section, many countries related to heroin production can be pointed out. Surprisingly, EU countries can also be cited among these examples.

There are heroin production laboratories in some countries in Europe due to reduction of risks in the trafficking process by producing in such regions neighboring to drug markets as well as to the fact that acetic anhydride is cheaper and easily accessible comparing to the countries where opium production is made. In recent years, heroin laboratories were discovered in Bulgaria, Czechia, Spain, and Holland (EMCDDA, 2019, p. 24).

According to UNODC sources, it is reported that an average of 7 heroin laboratories is demolished every year in Greece in the period of 2012-2018 (UNODC, 2019, s. 12). Furthermore, in 2018, a particular heroin workshop in Germany where 30 kg heroin and some amount of acetic anhydride confiscated and another one in Albania with over 180 kg confiscated heroin were demolished (EMCDDA, 2019, p. 114). 4 heroin workshops were destroyed in the Netherlands in 2019 (EMCDDA, 2021, p. 32).

## Heroin and Acetic Anhydride Seizure Statistics

In 2020, 13,783 kg (31.6% decrease compared to the previous year) heroin was seized in 15,052 incidents in Turkey.



**Graph 2.3** Heroin Seizures, Incidents and Suspects Numbers in 2018-2019-2020.

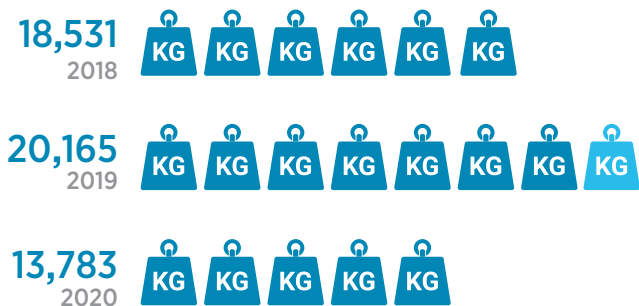
As can be seen from Graph 2.3, there was a sharp decline in heroin seizures in 2020, which was a record amount of seized in 2019. Similarly, although not at the same rate, decreases were recorded in the number of incidents and suspects.

It is considered that the reason for the decrease in the amount of seizures is due to the decrease in the intensity of road transport.

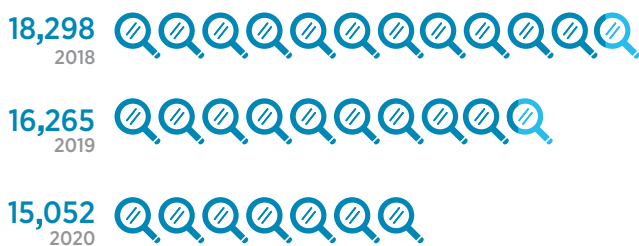
It is also thought that the recent increase in methamphetamine production and trafficking in Iran and Afghanistan will strengthen the assumption that criminal groups concentrate on methamphetamine production instead of heroin.

The acetic anhydride seizure amount, which showed a sharp decrease in 2019 compared to previous years, increased again in 2020 and reached 12,136 liters. In the interviews with the relevant law enforcement officers conducting the investigation regarding the seizures of acetic anhydride; it was learned that the seized acetic anhydride was targeted at Iran, Afghanistan and Northern Iraq. As in previous years, it is considered that the Northern Iraq region is still used by criminal groups producing illegal drugs for heroin production. As

a matter of fact, heroin seizure was carried out at the Habur Border gate between Iraq and Turkey in previous years.

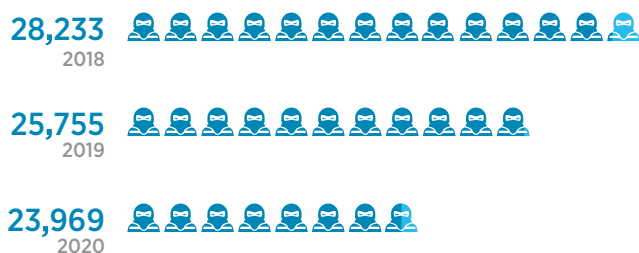


**Graph 2.4** Amounts of Heroin Seizures by Years (kg).



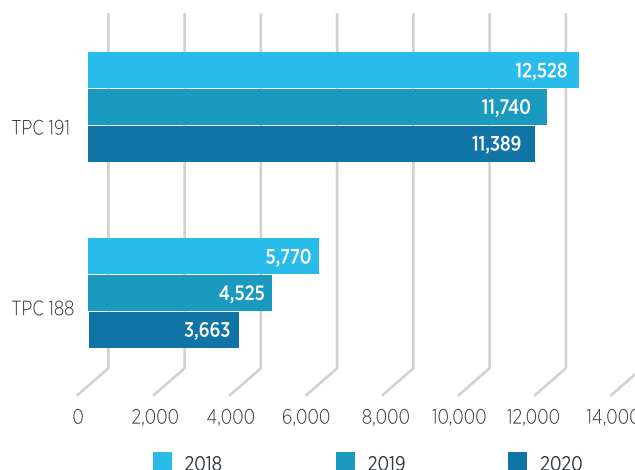
**Graph 2.5** Number of Heroin Incidents by Years.

The number of heroin incidents in 2020 decreased by 7.46% compared to 2019 (Graph 2.5).



**Graph 2.6** Number of Heroin Suspects by Years.

Along with the decrease in the number of heroin incidents in 2020, the number of suspects also decreased by 6.93% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.6).



**Graph 2.7** Distribution of the Number of Heroin Incidents by Years by Crime Types.

When the distribution of heroin incidents by crime types is examined; In 2018, 68.4% of TPC 191, 31.5% of TPC 188, 72.1% of TPC 191, 27.8% of TPC 188 in 2019, 75.6% of TPC in 2020 191, 24.3% of them were found to be 188 offenses according to the Turkish Penal Code.

## 2.1.2. Cannabis, Skunk and Cannabis Plant

### Cannabis Trafficking Trends

Cannabis as in its generic name or “esrar” as how it is known in Turkey still is the most commonly used drug all over the world. Contrary to other herbal drugs concentrated in a limited number of countries, cannabis is a drug obtained from cannabis and of which the illicit cultivation and trafficking are most common, and cultivated almost every region of the world.

According to UN data, an estimated 192 million people in the world used cannabis in 2018. Again, 1.4 million cannabis-related drug incidents were reported to the UNODC worldwide this year with a 40% increase compared to 2008 (UNODC, 2020, p. 70).

It is also estimated that around 200 million people worldwide used cannabis in 2019 (UNODC, 2021, p. 19).

Herbal cannabis, cannabis resin, and liquid cannabis are the types found most commonly in illicit drug markets. Herbal cannabis is produced in almost every country in the world. However, Northern Africa, in particular, Morocco, stands out in cannabis resin. An explicit trend is also observed in Syria and Lebanon recently.

In 2017, three fourths of the entire drug seizures made in Europe in 2017 is cannabis. Every year in the period of 2009 to 2017, Turkey has seized more herbal cannabis than any EU country. 465 tons of cannabis resin seized in EU and in 326,000 seizure and 148 ton of herbal cannabis seized in 313,000 seizures in 2019 (EMCDDA, 2021, p. 16). The important aspect to be noted is that 5.5 tons of cannabis resin seized in Italy and 12.8 tons seized in Spain in 2019 were accomplished with the support of Turkish Narcotic Police.

### Skunk Trafficking Trends

As a result of successful operations accomplished by our security forces for cannabis cultivation and cannabis between 2017-2019, a substantial decrease occurred in accessing to cannabis in Turkey. Such a trend resulted in starting the trafficking of cannabis known as “skunk” for meeting the domestic demand by drug dealers.

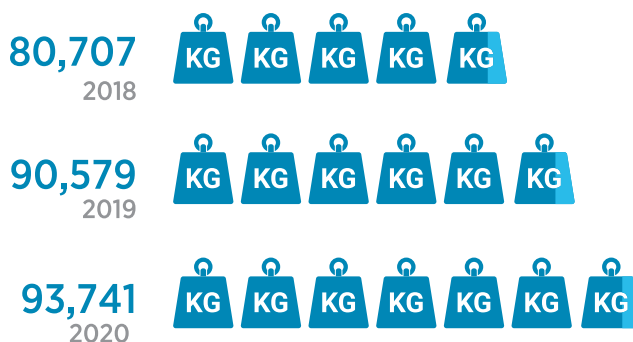
Skunk is a type of cannabis obtained from crossbreeding of various types of cannabis seeds (Cannabis Sativa and Cannabis Indica), containing higher THC ratios, supplied to Turkey generally from Europe, and also known as Hybrid cannabis (Hybrid Cannabis), Sinsemilla, and Nederwiet (Dutch cannabis). Due to its rich THC content, it can cause psychiatric problems to abuser in a short time.

Skunk seizures in 2020 decreased by 47% compared to 2018 and by 78% compared to 2019. The operational studies carried out by our security forces regarding skunk trafficking, especially from the Balkans to our country by sea, and the measures taken due to the pandemic have caused trafficking activities in this direction to be significantly reduced.

### Cannabis and Skunk Seizure Statistics

In 2020, 55,148 cannabis and skunk incidents were reported in Turkey. In such incidents, total 79,335 suspects were arrested and 93,741 kg of cannabis and skunk were seized.

As a cannabis product, skunk is presented in the tables below by inclusion in the cannabis data.



Graph 2.8 Amounts of Cannabis Seized by Years in kg

The amount of cannabis seized 2020 increased by 3.5% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.8).

67,984  
2018



72,695  
2019



59,716  
2020



**Graph 2.9** Number of Cannabis Incidents by Years.<sup>6</sup>

There is an increase of 17.9% in cannabis incidents in 2020 compared to the previous year (Graph 2.9).

95,013  
2018



104,570  
2019

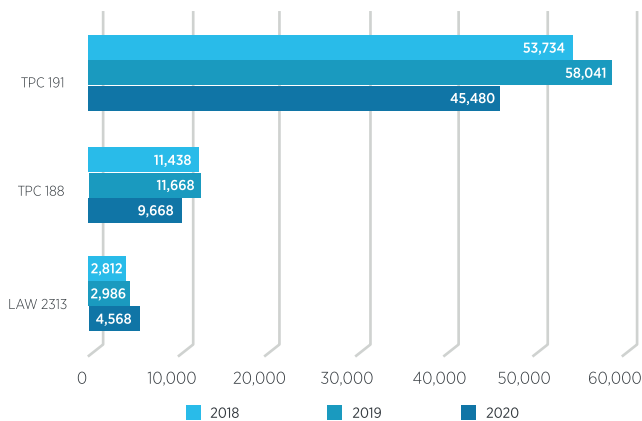


83,501  
2020



**Graph 2.10** Number of Cannabis Suspects by Year.<sup>7</sup>

Along with the increase by 17.9% in the number of cannabis incidents in 2020, the number of suspects increased by 20.1% compared to the previous year.



**Graph 2.11** Breakdown of Number of Cannabis Incidents by years by Types of Crime.

<sup>6</sup> Incident number of cannabis plant seizures are also included.

<sup>7</sup> Suspect number of cannabis plant are also included.

When the distribution of the number of cannabis incidents according to the types of crime is examined; it is seen that 82.3% are found guilty from TPC 191 in 2018, 17.6% from TPC 188, 83% from TPC 191 and 16.7% from TPC 188 in 2019, 82.2% from TPC 191 and 17.5% from TPC 188 crimes in 2020.

## Cannabis Plant Seizure Statistics

In addition to legal cultivation in our country, illegal cannabis cultivation is carried out in almost every region of our country, but illegal cannabis cultivation is concentrated in some regions. Approximately 95% of cannabis plant seizures in 2020 were made in the provinces of Diyarbakır (86.4%) and Bingöl (8.3%).

10,161,743  
2018



42,276,694  
2019



114,965,801  
2020



**Graph 2.12** Amounts of Cannabis Seized by Years (plant)

In 2020, the number of cannabis plant seizures increased by 171.9% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.12).

2,812  
2018



2,986  
2019

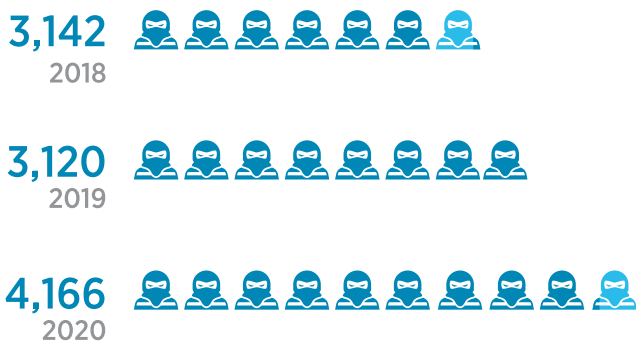


4,568  
2020



**Graph 2.13** Number of Cannabis Plant Incidents by Years.

The number of cannabis plant incidents increased by 53% in 2020 compared to the previous year (Graph 2.13).



**Graph 2.14** Number of Cannabis Plant Suspects by Years.

Parallel to the 53% increase in the number of cannabis plant incidents in 2020, the number of suspects increased by 33.5% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.14).

### 2.1.3. Cocaine

#### Cocaine Trafficking Trends

Cocaine, having a stimulant effect on the central nervous system, is obtained from leaves of Erythroxylon Coca grown mostly in Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia.

In 2019, the global amount of cocaine seizures increased by 9.6% compared to the previous year and reached an all-time high of 1.436 tons (UNODC, 2021a, p. 11).

In 2019, 83% of the global amount of cocaine seizures was seized during seizures in Continental America, mostly in South America. Between 2018 and 2019, the amount of cocaine seizures in South America increased by 5%, reaching the highest amount ever to 755 tons (UNODC, 2021a, p. 17).

In 2019, a total of 213 tons of cocaine (177 tons in 2018) were seized in 98,000 incidents by EU countries. 69% of this amount was seized in the seizures made by Belgium (65 tons), the Netherlands (44 tons) and Spain (38 tons) (EMCDDA, 2021, p. 18).

In line with the developments in the world, there is also an increase in cocaine seizures by our security forces in recent years.

It is considered that the high amounts of seizures particularly in America and Europe directed traffickers to alternative routes, and that consequently, attempts of cocaine trafficking destined particularly to Europe increased through Turkey.

The seizures in record levels by our security forces since 2017 comparing to previous years is the indicator of that Turkey is used as a transit country increasingly in cocaine trafficking destined to Southeastern and Eastern Europe.

It is predicted that this development, which can be perceived as an important threat in the context of cocaine trafficking, will also affect Greece, Romania, Bulgaria, Russia and Ukraine, which are located on the East-Southeast axis of the European periphery, and therefore, an increase in cocaine seizures to be made by these countries in the coming period.

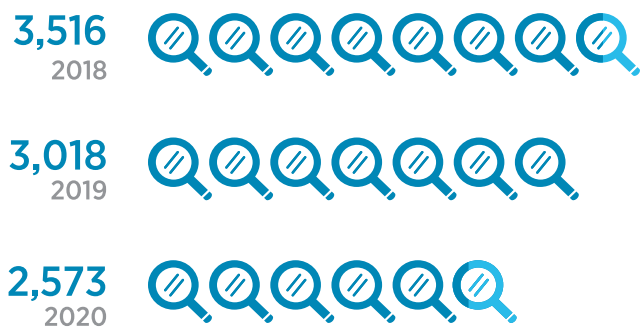
#### Cocaine Seizure Statistics

In 2020, there were 2,573 cocaine incidents. In such incidents, 4,446 suspects were arrested and 1,961 kg of cocaine were seized.



**Graph 2.15** Amounts of Cocaine Seizures by Years (kg)

The amount of cocaine seized in 2020 increased by 19.7% compared to the previous year, and with this amount, another record was broken with 1,961 kg, surpassing the historical record of Turkey set in 2019 (Graph 2.15).



**Graph 2.16** Number of Cocaine Incidents by Years.

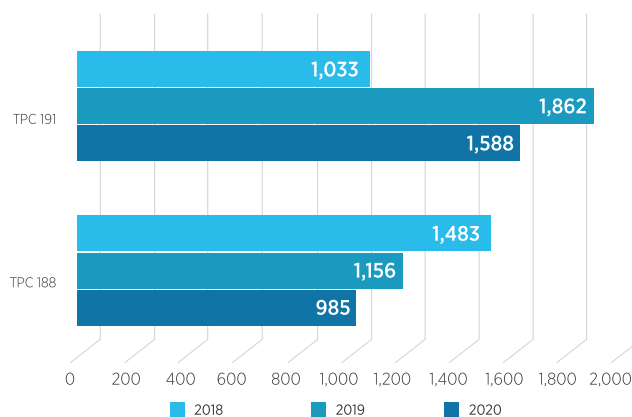
Despite the increase in the amount of cocaine seized in Turkey in 2020, as in 2019, there was a 14.7% decrease in the number of cases compared to the previous year (Graph 2.16).



**Graph 2.17** Number of Cocaine Suspects by Years.

The number of suspects in 2020 decreased by 9.2% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.17).

Despite the increase in the amount of seizures, the decrease in the number of cases and suspects supports our assessment that there are alternative route shifts. Turkey is an alternative transit country rather than a destination.



**Graph 2.18** Distribution of the Number of Cocaine Incidents by Years by Crime Types.

When the distribution of cocaine incidents by crime types is examined; it is seen that 57.8% TCK 191 in 2018, 42.2% TCK 188, 61.6% TCK 191, 38.3% TCK 188, in 2020 61.7% TCK 191 and 38.3% of them are crimes of TCK 188.

## 2.1.4. MDMA/Ecstasy

### MDMA/Ecstasy Trafficking Trends

MDMA/Ecstasy, one of the amphetamine-type stimulants, is a substance that is produced by synthetic routes.

In the 2015-2019 period, 340 ecstasy laboratories were identified by 18 countries around the world, and 36 countries were reported as the source of ecstasy seized worldwide. In addition, ecstasy manufacture continues to take place primarily in Europe, mostly in Western and Central Europe. Europe accounted for 58 per cent of the Western and Central Europe were worldwide in the period 2015 and Central Europe were (19 per cent), the Americas (12 per cent) and Asia (11 per cent). (UNODC, 2021a, p. 74).

The number of 23 MDMA laboratories destroyed in EU Member States in 2018 reached 28 in 2019 (EMCDDA, 2021, p. 24).

The Netherlands with 41% and Belgium with 14% between 2014-2018 are still the sources of the most of global MDMA/ Ecstasy. For MDMA/ Ecstasy, certain European countries including Germany, Spain, United Kingdom, France, and Poland located mostly in West and Central Europe are known to be source and transit countries (UNODC, 2020, p. 64).

After the decline in 2011, the amount of ecstasy seizures on a global scale in 2019 increased approximately four times and reached 16 tons. There has been an increase in the amount of ecstasy seizures in all regions since 2011. Similarly, the amount of ecstasy seizures in Europe increased fourfold in 2019, reaching 7 tons (UNDOC, 2021a, s. 75).

54% of the global amount of ecstasy seized in 2019 was seized by the USA, Australia and Turkey (UNODC, 2021a, p. 49).

The amount of MDMA/Ecstasy seized more than 8 million annually in Turkey in 2017 and 2018 exceeds the amount seized in the entire EU. This situation continued in 2019, while 5.3 million MDMA/ Ecstasy tablets were seized in 27 EU Countries and the UK, the amount seized by Turkey in the same year reached 8.6 million tablets (EMCDDA, 2021, p. 24-53).

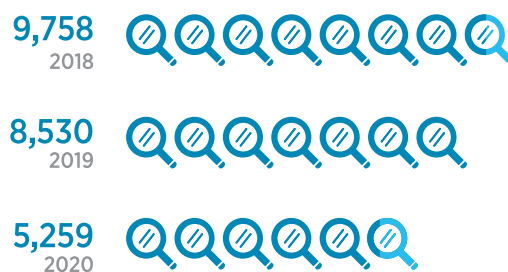
## MDMA/Ecstasy Seizure Statistics

In 2020, there were 5,259 ecstasy incidents reported in Turkey. In such incidents, 8,211 suspects were arrested and **11,096,244** ecstasy tablets were seized.



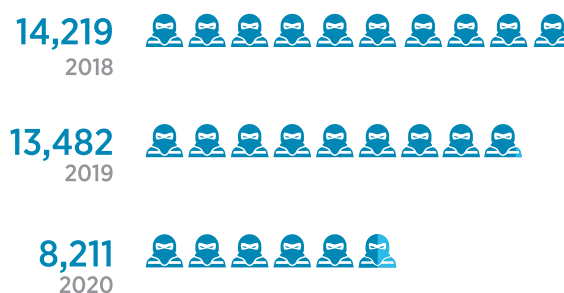
**Graph 2.19** Amounts of Ecstasy Seized by Years (tablet).

The amount of ecstasy seized in 2020 increased by 27.6% compared to the previous year. This amount is the historical record of the Republic (Graph 2.19).



**Graph 2.20** Number of Ecstasy Incidents by Years.

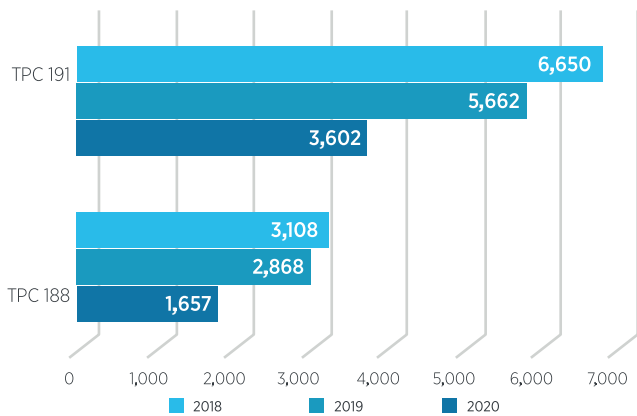
The amount of ecstasy seized in 2020 decreased by 38.3% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.20).



**Graph 2.21** Number of Ecstasy Suspects by Years.

Along with the decrease in the number of ecstasy incidents in 2020, the number of suspects also decreased by 39.1% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.21).





**Graph 2.22** Distribution of the Number of Ecstasy Incidents by Years by Types of Crime.

When the distribution of the number of ecstasy incidents by crime types is examined; In 2018, 68.1% TCK 191, 31.9% TCK 188, 66.3% TCK 191, 33.6% TCK 188, in 2020 68.5% TCK 191, it is seen that 31.5% of them are crimes of TCK 188.

## 2.1.5. Captagon

### *Captagon Trafficking Trends*

Captagon, containing fenethylamine and in the synthetic phenethylamine group same as the amphetamine, was produced for medical purposes by a pharmaceutical company in Germany for the first time in 1960s. The name Captagon is the commercial name of the pharmaceutical drug produced.

In 1986, fenethylamine was included in Table 2 under UN 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances. In line with this inclusion, the production and usage of Captagon pharmaceutical were prohibited.

During 2013-2018, global annual seizures of amphetamines ranged from 45 to 71 tons. However, fluctuations in quantities mainly relate to countries in the Near and Middle East with the largest amphetamine (Captagon) market, while seizures in other regions have remained relatively stable. Among countries in the Near and Middle East,

the largest quantities of amphetamine have been seized by Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. It has been reported that the vast majority of amphetamine seized in the region originates from Lebanon and Syria (UNODC, 2020d, p. 7).

Europe plays an increasingly important role in trafficking “Captagon” with countries in the Near and Middle East (UNODC, 2020d, p. 31).

There was an increase in amphetamine seizures in Europe during the 2013-2018 period, and more Captagon seizures occurred than any other amphetamine form (UNODC, 2020d, p. 8) for the first time in 2018.

Today, tablets with the Captagon logo containing amphetamine are manufactured illegally mostly in Syria and Lebanon, as well as in some parts of Europe recently, and are considered fake Captagon because they do not contain fenethylamine. In the Global Synthetic Drugs Assessment Report published by UNODC in 2020; “Europe is probably the source of increasing quantities of “Captagon” tablets destined for the Middle East and serves as a transit zone for “Captagon” trafficking from Syria to the Arabian Peninsula” (UNODC, 2020d, p. 37).

Some of the cases described below confirm this situation.

In some seizures carried out in Saudi Arabia, Europe was used as a transit zone. In January and February 2017, 350,000 tablets of Captagon were seized by the French customs authorities at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport. The Captagon tablets hidden in industrial products originating from Lebanon were tried to be shipped to Czechia (after Czechia to Saudi Arabia via Turkey).

In 2018, December, 3 million tablets of Captagon targeted to Libya were seized by the Greek authorities on a Syrian flagged ship in the Mediterranean.

In 2019, June and July, 33 million tablets of Captagon were seized by the Greek authorities in the port of Piraeus. In the said seizure, the Captagon tablets were hidden inside the fiberboards in three containers coming from the Syria-Latakia port and they were intended to be shipped to China, which is not a usual target market.

In 2019, February, 384,000 Captagon tablets, hidden in a container loaded with artificial turf, were seized from the Port of Rotterdam in the Netherlands at the Port of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia (UNODC, 2020, p. 59).

In 2020, a record 14 tons of amphetamines, including more than 84 million Captagons, were seized by Italian authorities in July. According to Italian officials, amphetamines seized were manufactured in Syria and targeted at European markets to generate income for DAESH (INCB, 2020a, p. 92).

On 30.08.2020, over 4 million Captagon tablets and 1.5 tons of cannabis were seized by Romania on a ship coming from the Syria-Latakia Port.

By Greek law enforcement agencies; In the period of June-July 2019, 33 million tablets in three containers considered to be of Syrian origin, and 3 million tablets considered to be targeted at Libya on a Syrian flagged cargo ship in early December 2018, were handled in Piraeus Port, Greece, where the Turkish Narcotics Police were personally present and on 07.01.2019. It is thought that 4.5 million Captagon seizures, which were passed, support our assessment of route change.

Similarly, in the 2019 European Drug Markets Report, it was stated that some of the amphetamine manufactured in the EU was shipped to the Middle East as Captagon tablets and that Europeans were involved in amphetamine production in the Middle East (EMCDDA & EUROPOL, 2019, p. 92).

Drug trafficking has been one of the main sources of revenues for terrorist organizations from past to the present. There are reports that illegal armed groups and terrorist organizations in Syria, which is among the main producing areas of Captagon, generate revenues from Captagon production and trade.

It was seen that Captagon, which was manufactured in Syria and some parts of the Middle East until recently, was smuggled to our country via Syria and then shipped to the Middle East and Gulf countries over our country. However, there has been a noticeable decrease in the amount of Captagon seizures in our country recently. The reasons for this decline are the cross-border operations and increased security measures to eliminate the terrorist threats against our country stemming from the civil war in Syria. It is considered that the European-based seizures, examples of which are given in international reports, are caused by the measures taken by our country directing smugglers to alternative routes.

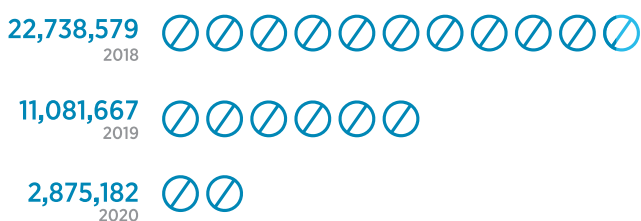
In this direction, the statement "Instability and conflicts in the Near and Middle East seem to increase Captagon production and trafficking within the region" in the 2020 Global Synthetic Drugs Assessment Report (UNODC, 2020d, p. 7) and the statement, "The conflicts that started in Syria in 2011 have directed various groups in the region to illegal drug trade, including the manufacture of Captagon, in order to obtain

financial resources” in the 2019 UN World Drug Report (UNODC, 2019a, p. 53) are meaningful.

In the criminal investigation reports regarding the Captagon incidents that took place in Turkey in 2019, MDMA and methadone were detected in some incidents, in addition to the amphetamine content that has been customary in recent years in the contents of tablets with the Captagon logo. Having been observed only in a few cases, although this finding would not be sufficient for reaching to a final decision, it could be the first finding and herald of a new trend in production and trafficking of Captagon-logo tablets.

### Captagon Seizure Statistics

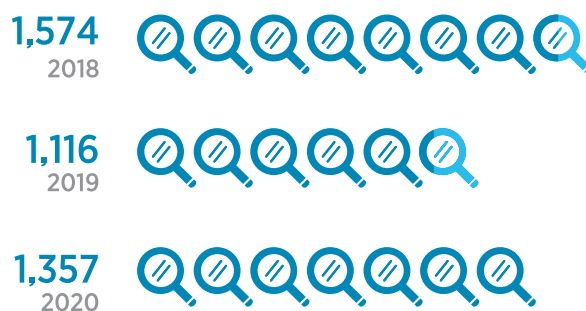
In 2020, 1,357 Captagon incidents were occurred. In such incidents, 2,020 suspects were arrested and 2,875,182 tablets were seized.



**Graph 2.23** Amounts of Captagon Seizures by Years (tablet).<sup>8</sup>

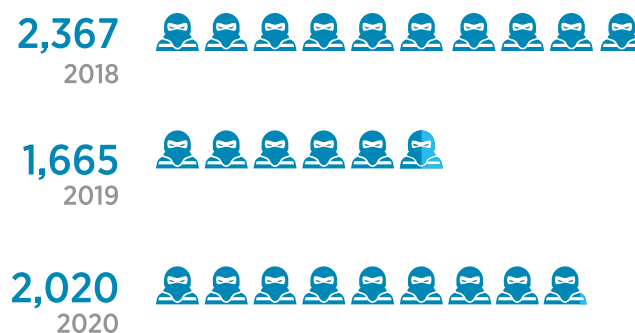
In 2020, the amount of Captagon seizures decreased by 74% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.23).

<sup>8</sup> It is calculated as 1 kg Captagon is 5000 tablets.



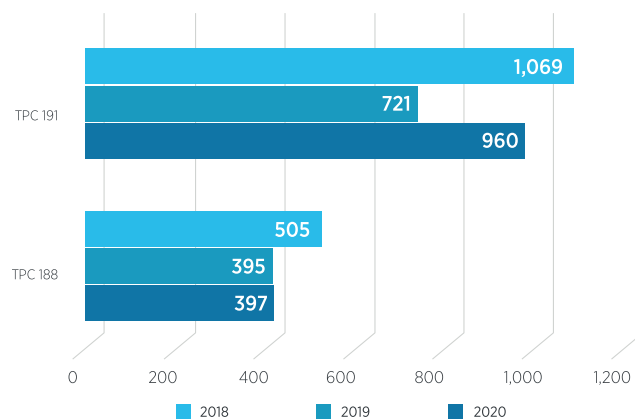
**Graph 2.24** Number of Captagon Incidents by Years

There was a 21.6% increase in the number of Captagon incidents in 2020 (Graph 2.24).



**Graph 2.25** Number of Captagon Suspects by Years.

The increase in the number of incidents in 2020 was also reflected in the number of suspects, with an increase of 21.3% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.25).



**Graph 2.26** Breakdown of Captagon Incidents by Years by Types of Crime.

When the distribution of the number of Captagon incidents by crime types is examined; it is seen that 68% of TPC 191 and 32% of TPC 188 in 2018, 65.4% of TPC 191 and 35.4% of TPC 188 in 2019, 70.7% of TPC 191 and 29.3% of TPC 188 in 2020.

## 2.1.6. Methamphetamine

### ***Methamphetamine Trafficking Trends***

Methamphetamine is a synthetic stimulant in the Amphetamine Type Stimulants (ATS: Amphetamine Type Stimulants), which also includes Captagon, amphetamine and ecstasy that have a high addictive potential.

After cannabis, amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) are the most commonly used drugs around the world. In illicit drug markets, methamphetamine is available in powder, crystal, and tablet forms. Methamphetamine is considered as the most dangerous narcotic after heroin in many countries.

Methamphetamine, included in 1971 UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances, is the mostly seized drug among ATS-type stimulants in the world.

72% of ATSs seized globally in the 2015-2019 period were methamphetamine, 19% were amphetamines, and 4% were ecstasy. The remaining 5% is synthetic NPS such as mephedrone, MDPV or methylene (UNODC, 2021a, p. 48).

The methamphetamine market has grown globally in the last five years, and the amount of methamphetamine seized in 2013 more than doubled in 2018 and reached to 228 tons. East/Southeast Asia and Northern America are the two most important regions in the world for methamphetamine production, marketing, and

abuse. The highest amount of seizures in 2018 were made by the USA and Mexico in Continental America, and by China and Thailand in South East Asia (UNODC, 2020d, p. 6).

The amount of methamphetamine seizures in 2019 increased by 43% compared to the previous year (2018: 228 tons), reaching 325 tons (UNODC, 2021a, p. 47).

In the period of 2015-2019, approximately 24,000 illegal laboratories for ATS production were identified by the 45 countries. About 95 per cent thereof were methamphetamine laboratories while 2% thereof for amphetamine, and 1% for MDMA/ecstasy production (UNODC, 2021a, s. 47).

Methamphetamine in tablet form is most common form found in East and Southeast Asia and called as “yaba” or “shabu” therein. On the other hand, the purity of crystal methamphetamine called as “crystal met”, “ice”, or “shabu” is higher than its tablet form (EMCDDA & EUROPOL, 2019, s. 112). In Europe and Turkey, it is available mostly in crystal form.

It is known that acetic anhydride is used in production of methamphetamine, and observed also that methamphetamine production is increased in those countries known for opiate production and trafficking.

Most methamphetamine seizures continue to occur in North America, East and South East Asia. In the 2015-2019 period; of the methamphetamine seized globally, 49% were seized in North America and 43% in East and South East Asia. As in the previous year, the highest amount of methamphetamine seizures in 2019 were made by the USA, Thailand, Mexico, China, Iran and Myanmar, respectively (UNODC, 2021a, p. 61).

During the 2015-2019 period, approximately 23,000 illegal methamphetamine laboratories were detected in 35 countries around the world. About 85% of the laboratories were detected in North America. In addition to this, when we look at the number of countries identified, laboratory determinations were carried out by 16 countries in Europe, 10 countries in Asia, 5 countries in Continental America, and 2 countries in Oceania and Africa. Most laboratory detections in North America were made by the USA (890), Mexico (43) and Canada (18) (UNODC, 2021a, p. 52).

In 2019, 267 methamphetamine laboratories were detected in EU countries, and the laboratories detected in Belgium and the Netherlands are the largest scale among them (EMCDDA, 2021, p. 32).

In the recent international meetings attended by our Department and in the reports and documents published by international organizations such as EMCDDA, UNODC and INCB, evaluations have been made that there has been an increase in methamphetamine production and trafficking in West Asian countries such as Afghanistan and Iran.

The increase in methamphetamine trafficking, which started to be seen in Afghanistan since 2014, continued in 2019 as well. This increase in methamphetamine production in Afghanistan has emerged as a major problem for the countries of the region and the rest of the world. The amount of 182 kg methamphetamine seized in Afghanistan in 2018 reached 1,251 kg in 2019 (INCB, 2020a, p. 88).

In parallel with the rapid increase in methamphetamine production observed in Afghanistan in recent years, it has been reported that a significant amount of methamphetamine

originating from Afghanistan have been seized by other countries. The figures regarding methamphetamine production and seizures in Iran are striking. In 2017, 2.3 tons of methamphetamine was seized in Iran and 141 laboratories were destroyed. In 2018, it was reported that the vast majority of methamphetamine seized in Iran originated from Afghanistan (EMCDDA & EUROPOL, 2019a, p. 15).

Between March 2019 and March 2020, the amount of methamphetamine seizures in Iran increased by 208% compared to the same period of the previous year and reached 17 tons. It has been reported that 9 tons out of 10 tons of methamphetamine seized by Iranian authorities between March 2020 and November 2020 originating from Afghanistan.

Methamphetamine, which was found for the first time in our country in an Iranian-origin seizure in Istanbul in 2009, was seen on the streets of all 81 provinces in 2019. It is thought that the biggest threat of the coming period will be this issue.

In parallel with the global increase in production and trafficking of methamphetamine, which is included in the scope of the Law on Control of Drugs No. 2313 in our country, there has been an increase in the amount of seizures every year. The sharpest increase was experienced in 2020, and the amount of methamphetamine seizures increased fourfold compared to the previous year and reached 4,162 kg. This seizure is the highest amount reached in the history of Turkey.

Methamphetamine, generally in crystal form, is seized in the largest quantities in our country, in the regions bordering Istanbul and Iran. Among the source countries of methamphetamine seized in Turkey, Iran can be shown in the first place and Europe in the second place. In addition, methamphetamine is the substance seized in the largest amount from Iranian suspects.

Recently, there has been a significant increase in liquid methamphetamine seizures in our country, especially in our provinces bordering Iran.

Considering the observed increases in methamphetamine seizures and the regions where it is concentrated; Similar to opiate trafficking originating from Afghanistan, it can be said that our country has started to become a transit and destination country in methamphetamine trafficking. In other words, the Balkan Route, which is still the most preferred by smugglers in heroin trafficking, may also have started to be important in methamphetamine trafficking. In addition, the production, trafficking and use of methamphetamine, which has increased at record levels globally, has recently been reflected in national methamphetamine seizures due to our country's current key geographical location.

It has been reported that targeted heroin seizures from Northern Iraq region to our country and acetic anhydride seizures were carried out to the same region from our country in previous years, and based on these developments, heroin production may be possible in this region where the control of the central authority is insufficient, and similar comments were also reflected in international reports. It is pointed out that secret methamphetamine laboratories are reported by Iraq in the 2020 World Drug Report; (UNODC, 2020, p. 42). It is highly probable that these laboratories are located in the unstable region of Northern Iraq. The fact that approximately 71 kg of methamphetamine was seized by GMGM units in three incidents in the direction of entry to our country at the Habur border gate in 2020 strengthens this opinion.

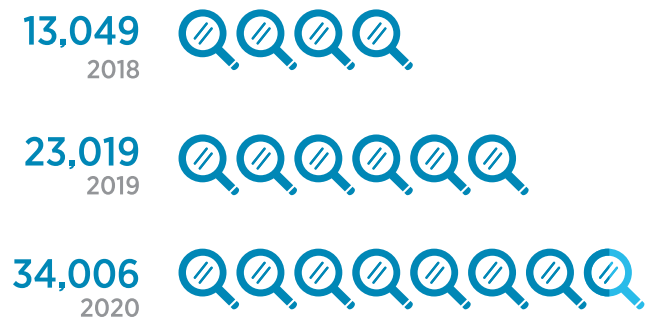
## Methamphetamine Seizure Statistics

In 2020, 34,006 methamphetamine incidents occurred in Turkey. In such incidents, 49,610 suspects were arrested and 4,162 kg methamphetamine were seized. This is the historical record of the Republic.



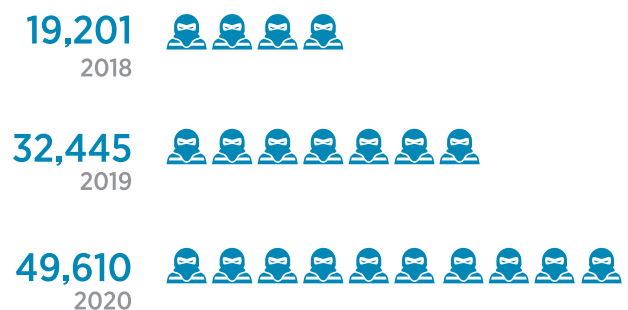
**Graph 2.27** Methamphetamine Seizures by Years (kg).

The amount of methamphetamine seizures in 2020 increased by 299.4% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.27).



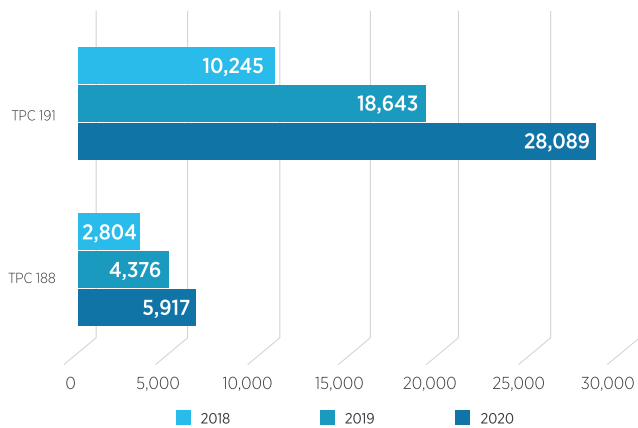
**Graph 2.28** Number of Methamphetamine Incidents by Years

The number of methamphetamine incidents in 2020 increased by 47.7% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.28).



**Graph 2.29** Number of Methamphetamine Suspects by Years.

In line with the increased number of incidents, the number of suspects caught in methamphetamine incidents in 2020 increased by 52.9% comparing to the previous year (Graph 2.29) The increase in the number of incidents and suspects is also an indication that our country is a target besides transit in terms of methamphetamine.



**Graph 2.30** Breakdown of Methamphetamine Incidents by Types of Crime

When the distribution of methamphetamine incidents according to crime types is examined; it is seen that 78.4% of TPC 191, 21.5% of TPC 188 In 2018, 80.9% of TPC 191 in 2019, 19% of TPC 188, 82.5% of TPC 191 in 2020 and 17.4% of them are crimes of TPC 188.

### 2.1.7. New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)

NPSs are traded in the global drug markets mostly as licit psychoactive substances (legal highs) in order to get more demand. Nevertheless, their effects are similar to common drugs and stimulants such as cocaine, cannabis, heroin, LSD, ecstasy, and methamphetamine that subject to international controls. Most of them are defined as new psychoactive substances because they, including their active ingredients, are not included in UN 1961 and 1971 Conventions.

The emergence of numerous NPSs in the global market poses serious risks to public health and treats to national/international counter narcotics resulting in needs of pursuing new approaches.

In recent years, more than 1,000 NPS have appeared in illicit drug markets. Nearly 500 NPS notifications are made at the global level each year, mostly stimulants (UNODC, 2020c, p. 1). Most of them are synthetic cannabinoids, synthetic cathinones and synthetic opioids. The existence of a large number of substances and the dynamic nature of the NPS market cause serious difficulties in the timely detection of these substances and in responding to emerging health problems (UNODC, 2020d, p. 1).

Monitoring, information sharing, establishment of a functional early warning system and awareness raising are the most necessary tools in the fight against such drugs.

In addition, it is of vital importance to strengthen the capacities of existing laboratories in order to detect these substances quickly and reveal their effects.

By means of EMCDDA Early Warning system, of which Turkey is a part through TUBİM, the number of NPS tracked in Europe as of the end of 2020 is 830. 46 of these were identified in 2020 for the first time. Over 400 NPS were detected in European drug markets in 2019 (EMCDDA, 2021, p. 26).

### Early Warning System

The fight against rapidly spreading psychoactive substances in Turkey, as in the entire world, is performed via TUBİM Early Warning System (EWS) National Working Group of which the establishment goes back to 2006 and became fully functional in 2008.

Representatives from the ministries of Health, Justice, Trade, Agriculture and Forestry as well as Gendarmerie General Command, Turkish National Police, Turkish Coast Guard Command,

universities and other relevant institutions take part in the Early Warning System sustaining its operations by holding regular meetings at least twice a year.

When coming across to a new substance in the country, the institutions taking part in EWS fill out the Report form for New Psychoactive Substances (drug, stimulant, hallucinogen, etc. substances) to submit to TUBİM. A process is started for contacting to EMCDDA, UNODC, and INCB in order to gather information on any given new psychoactive substances and their derivatives, evaluating potential risks thereof determined by both international and national institutions for the country in the meetings held, and inclusion of any of those found suitable in Law 2313 on Control of Drugs.

With the Generic Classification System implemented in 2015, it is ensured that many of the new psychoactive substances are included within the scope of the law before they are found in our country.

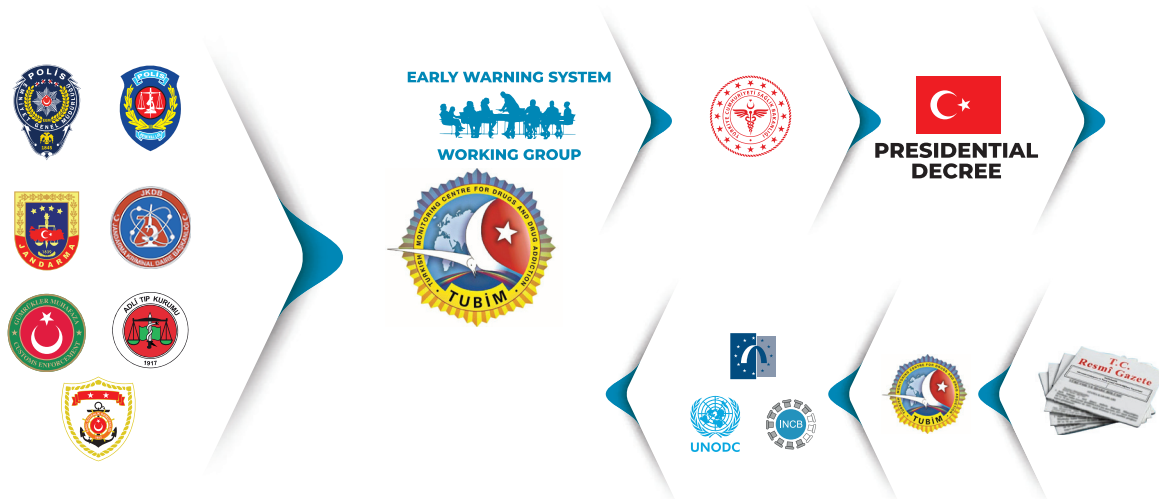
As result of the 23rd and 24th Meetings of TUBİM Early Warning System National Working Group held in July and December 2019; total 928 new psychoactive substances since 2008 including 50 in 2020 were included in Law 2313 on Control of Narcotic Drugs.

When institutions within the scope of the EWS encounter a new substance in the country, they fill out the Report Form for New Psychoactive Substances (drugs, stimulants, hallucinogens, etc.) and send it to TUBİM. By contacting the EMCDDA, UNODC and INCB regarding the substances, information about the substance and its derivatives is gathered, and the risks that new psychoactive substances identified by both international organizations and our institutions will pose for our country are evaluated at the meetings, and the process of including those deemed appropriate within the scope of the **Law No. 2313 on the Control of Narcotic Substances** is initiated.

With the **Generic Classification System** implemented in 2015, it is ensured that many of the new psychoactive substances are covered by the law before they are seen in our country.

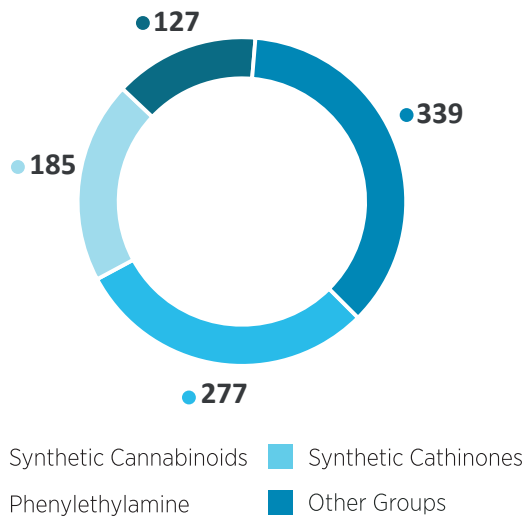
In this direction, as a result of the 25th and 26th TUBİM Early Warning System National Working Group Meetings held in August and December 2020, a total of 928 new psychoactive substances have been included in the Law No. 2313 on the Control of Narcotic Substances since 2008, 50 in 2020.

## EARLY WARNING SYSTEM



Picture 2.2 Early Warning System





**Graph 2.31** New Psychoactive Substances Included in the Legislation (2008-2020).

Considering the distribution of the substances included in the law numbered 2313; synthetic cannabinoids (277), synthetic cathinone (185) and phenylethylamine group substances (127) stand out (Graph 2.31).

When the current global situation of NPS is compared with our country, it is seen that the seizure and use of synthetic cannabinoids known as “Bonsai” stands out compared to other NPS. When NPS events and forensic reports in our country in 2019 are examined, the most common NPSs are all synthetic cannabinoids; 5F-MDMB-PICA, 4F-MDMB-BINACA, 5CI-ADB (5CI-MDMB-PINACA), 5F-ADB (5F-MDMB-PINACA) and MDMB-4en-PINACA.

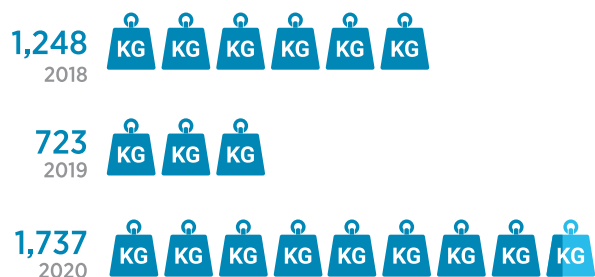
## Synthetic Cannabinoids (BONZAI) and Seizure Statistics

Synthetic cannabinoids are a fully synthetic narcotic substance with drugging and hallucinogenic effects. There are approximately 300 chemical

types thereof. It is an easily dissolved raw material which is trafficked illegally to Turkey mostly from China. A professional laboratory is not necessary to reproduce it. Some noxious chemicals such as pest and pesticides are added into it. Most abusers believe that noxious effect of additives provides a drug effect. Synthetic cannabinoids are generally sprayed onto herbs such as sage, damiana, veronica, thyme, unqualified cannabis, henna, Indian henna, cumin; however, there are also some examples sprayed on paper. Spraying on herbal products and sometimes on cannabis creates a strong but wrong belief in users that it is not a synthetic (chemical).

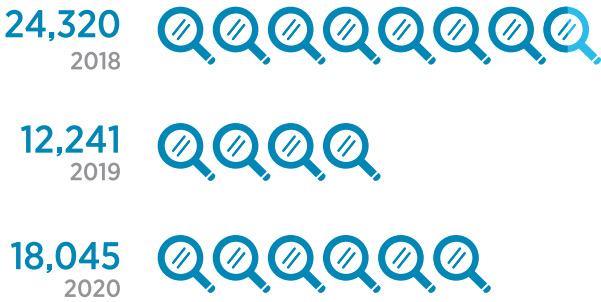
With these features, it has been observed that it constitutes a significant rate in substance-related deaths. In 2017, 59.9% (564) of 941 substance-related deaths, 45.8% (301) of 657 substance-related deaths in 2018, and 13.2% of 342 substance-related deaths in 2019 (45) and in 2020, synthetic cannabinoids were present in 15.6% (49) of 314 substance-related deaths.

In Turkey, 18,045 cases of synthetic cannabinoids occurred in 2020. In these events, 26,324 suspects were arrested and 1,737 kg of synthetic cannabinoids known as bonsai were seized in the streets.



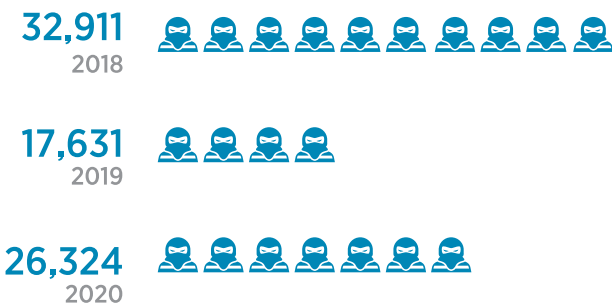
**Graph 2.32** Synthetic Cannabinoids Seizures by Years (kg).

In 2020, the amount of seizures increased by 140.2% compared to the previous year. 36.5 kg of synthetic cannabinoids were captured as raw material (Graph 2.32). With 1 kg of raw material, a minimum of 300 kg and a maximum of 1 ton of product for use can be obtained.



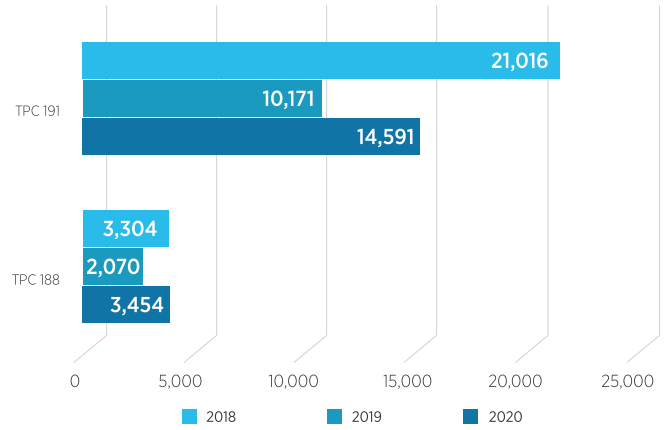
**Graph 2.33** Number of Synthetic Cannabinoids Events by Years.

The number of incidents in 2020 increased by 47.4% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.33).



**Graph 2.34** Number of Suspects for Synthetic Cannabinoids by Years.

In 2020, the number of suspects for synthetic cannabinoids increased by 49.3% compared to the previous year (Graph 2.34).



**Graph 2.35** Distribution of the Number of Synthetic Cannabinoids Incidents by Years by Types of Crime.

When the distribution of the number of synthetic cannabinoid incidents by crime types is examined; it is seen that 86.3% of TPC 191, 13.6% of TPC 188 in 2018, 83% of TPC 191 in 2019, 16.9% of TPC 188, 80.8% of TPC 191 in 2020 and 19.1% of them are crimes of TPC 188.

## 2.1.8. Synthetic Pharmaceuticals/Medicines

In line with globalization, manufacturing and consumption of nonstandard, fake, or uncertified pharmaceuticals become a serious public health issue.

The combination of modern transportation networks, the internet, low labor force and the developments in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries, especially in China and India, facilitate the formation of a serious market in this field. Such a market and the potential profitability it offers includes criminal groups (EMCDDA & EUROPOL, 2019, p. 42).

Pharmaceuticals supplied via illicit ways reach to abusers in various means.

Among such means are;

- Stealing prescription drugs from pharmacies or pharmaceutical warehouses,

- Acquisition via counterfeit prescription forms,
- Selling pharmaceuticals by legally-prescribed users to third parties at a price,
- Purchasing from such websites not requiring prescriptions,
- Special manufacturing for illicit market,
- Manufacturing by criminal groups in their own laboratories and production lines as well as repackaging and distribution by the same groups after bringing fake pharmaceuticals from abroad,
- Trafficking of fake pharmaceuticals manufactured abroad into the country (EMCDDA & EUROPOL, 2019, p. 42).

Along with the global developments, it is possible to state that misuse of such medicines called synthetic pharmaceuticals by abusing increased in Turkey. The increases in seizures conducted in recent years indicate that the abuse of these medicines is rapidly becoming widespread.

Increasing street pressure by the security forces, especially in recent years, has dealt a significant blow to the supply of drugs and reduced the availability of illegal narcotics. It is considered that one of the reasons for the increase in demand on our streets regarding synthetic pharmaceuticals/ pharmaceuticals is the popularity of users who cannot reach the illegal substance they are looking for as a result of the blow to the drug supply.

It is considered that Turkey is also affected by drug traders' marketing of synthetic pharmaceuticals in counterfeit tablet forms to entire world as result of trafficking of NPS and pharmaceutical raw materials primarily from China and India and to certain extent, from Europe, since particularly NPS and counterfeit pharmaceutical are related to each other as raw materials. There is a global trend of increase in such counterfeit pharmaceutical seizures.

**Table 2.3** Seizures of Pharmaceuticals by years (TNP, Counter Narcotics Department, 2021).

Year	Number of Tablets
2016	292,565
2017	539,602
2018	1,973,636
2019	2,032,378
2020	4,262,468

In 2020, 4.262.468 tablets of synthetic pharmaceuticals were seized in our country. In these seizures, there are 1.271.144 tablet synthetic drug seizures without name information. The first three synthetic drugs with name information are Gerica (560,500 tablets), Regapen (438,107 tablets) and Lyrica (303,973 tablets), respectively.

Turkey switched to the electronic colored-prescription system on 17.03.2017.

## **Electronic Colored-Prescription System**

Turkey switched to the electronic colored-prescription system on 17.03.2017 in line with the aim of establishing Electronic Colored-Prescription System under the framework of "Prevention of Drug Access" in the scope of National Action Plan on Fight against Drugs 2016-2018.

All the red- and green-prescription drugs as of the given date above and all the other medicines to be prescribed under monitoring as of 01.02.2018 were included in the Electronic Colored- Prescription System. While the utilization of Electronic Colored-Prescription System by physicians was 96.2% at the end of 2019, it increased to 97.25% at the end of 2019 as result of dissemination works.

Utilization of Electronic Colored Prescription system enables obtaining statistical data on the basis of medicines, provinces, and gender, etc.

Such statistical data helps setting up strategies for accessibilities as well as rational use of narcotics and psychotropic drugs.

In addition, the cases of counterfeit, lost or stolen prescriptions arising from previously printed

prescriptions and the unreasonable use of drugs are prevented by re-prescribing even though the patients have the drug, as well as the bureaucracy of prescribing drugs and psychotropic drugs is reduced and the patient's access to drugs is facilitated (Ministry of Health, TITCK 2021).

## 2.2 FIGHT AGAINST CRIME PROCEEDS

Laundering of crime revenues is converting all types of revenues obtained by illegal means to other assets by protecting the value thereof as much as possible, concealing their originated and owners from authorities' attention, and setting up legal grounds therefor in order to comply with legislations.

Any types of crime revenues are defined as crime of Laundering crime-origin asset values under Turkish Penal Code, Art 282.

Turkish Penal Code, Art 282/1 reads as *"Anyone, who transfers abroad any asset values generated from a criminal offense that is subject to imprisonment for minimum six months or more, or takes various courses in order for concealing the illegal origin thereof or shaping an opinion as if they are generated by legal means, is to be punished with imprisonment for three to seven years plus an administrative fine equaling to twenty thousand days."*

There is a crime economy where the profits from the production and trade of narcotic substances are high. Success in the fight can be achieved by uncovering the revenues that are the lifeblood of these crimes.

Analysis of financial flow between criminals will

contribute to determination of the link between organized crimes and terror crimes, and in turn, to the fight against financing of terror.

For this purpose, the Division of Fight Against Criminal Revenues was established within TNP Counter Narcotics Department in 2018 was fully organized by establishment of the Division thereof at the HQ and the divisions thereof in all the provinces 2019.

275 personnel in relevant units have been given training on the fight against criminal proceeds with the cooperation of MASAK and competent academicians since 2019.

The cooperation studies with stakeholder institutions regarding the activities carried out are also continued.

In this direction, an evaluation meeting was held between 22-26.01.2020 with the participation of officials working in the central and provincial units of the TNP Anti-Narcotic Crimes Department, members and heads of the relevant criminal departments of the Supreme Court of Appeals, Chief Public Prosecutors and MASAK experts. The evaluation meeting held was focused on "Combating Proceeds of Crime".

In addition, the TAIEX-Workshop Project of the European Union Commission Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Mechanism on “Combating the Proceeds of Crime Arising from Drug Trafficking” was prepared by the EGM Counter Narcotics Department in 2020 and the workshop application was accepted by the European Commission to be carried out in 2021.

The workshop is planned to be held in Ankara in 2021 with the participation of representatives of FATF member countries. It is expected that the participants will be among the personnel in the police units, academics and financial experts working in this field, working to prevent the laundering of the assets obtained from the narcotic drug trade of the representatives of the FATF member countries.

A feedback was received from EU member states Austria, France, Netherlands, Italy, Belgium and Spain, as well as from FATF members USA, England and Russia.

Within the scope of laundering proceeds from crime in our country in 2020;

As a result of the investigations made by the TNP narcotics units;<sup>9</sup>

- 35,593,709 TL, 92,008 US Dollars, 65,408 Euros, 120,001 Riyals, 30,250 Iraqi Dinars, 403,680 Sterlings and 2,460 Leva in cash, 70,045,390 TL, 1,700 Dollars and 450 Euros in bank accounts, 378 grams of gold,<sup>10</sup>

282 in various brands and models and the means of transport was seized.

34 suspects were prosecuted within the scope of 14 investigations by JGK Anti-Trafficking and Organized Crime Department Anti-Narcotic Crimes Branch. As a result of these investigations; 1,147,665 TL of cash was confiscated.

72 trucks, 15 cars-minibuses and 3 buses were confiscated as part of the investigations carried out by the GMGM Counter Narcotics Department.

## Operation Bataklik (Swamp)

81 suspects have been arrested so far in the “Bataklik Operation”, which is the first in the history of the Republic in terms of investigations carried out in its field and aims to interfere with the proceeds of crime from drug trafficking. Determined to be a source of crime revenue within the scope of the operation; there are around 18 tons of cocaine, over 30 tons of cannabis, over 5 tons of base morphine, and 180 kilograms of heroin seized in Belgium, Brazil, Ecuador, France, the Netherlands, Italy and Peru.

“Bataklik Investigation” carried out under the coordination of Ankara Chief Public Prosecutor’s Office; EGM Counter Narcotics Department, Ankara Police Department and MASAK Presidency continue with the investigations of Customs, SGK, Turkish Tax Inspection Board officials and with the coordination and cooperation of countries such as Germany, Belgium, Brazil, France, South Africa, Netherlands, England, Spain, Italy and Serbia. Within the scope of the investigation; Trustees have been appointed to 17 companies operating in areas such as gold, foreign exchange, tourism, construction, automotive and shipping.

- 70 million TL deposits in the suspects’ bank accounts,
- 27 million TL worth of foreign currency, Turkish lira, gold, jewelry and jewel,
- Items such as watches and swords worth approximately 8 million 500 thousand TL,
- 22 luxury vehicles worth approximately 100 million TL,
- 116 real estate deeds,<sup>11</sup>
- Assets worth approximately 2 billion TL were confiscated, together with the real estates whose valuation studies are ongoing. It is expected that the assets to be confiscated will increase.

<sup>9</sup> It does not include data on Operation Bataklik. See page 53 for Operation Bataklik.

<sup>10</sup> As of 31.12.2020, its total value is 11,348,914TL.

<sup>11</sup> Detection of approximately 700 real estate’s belonging to the suspects with General Directorate of Land Registry and Cadastre continues.

## 2.3. DRUG MISUSE IN TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY

Article 48 of the Highway Traffic Law No. 2918 (KTK) regulates the sanctions regarding the prohibition of driving under the influence of drugs/stimulants, and article 97 of the Highway Traffic Regulation regulates the procedures and principles of the procedures for the traffic officers to determine whether the drivers use drugs or stimulants. Accordingly, the control of drugs or stimulants by traffic officers is carried out on drivers whose status is suspected.

As for the implementation of the law, TNP has started its applications with drug/ stimulant Tester and test kits as of 31.05.2017 in order to combat this problem and to ensure traffic safety by traffic officials who are constantly on the field on a 24/7 basis at the point of combating drug use, which is a social problem.

At the first stage in 2017, were released in 2019. It was started to be used by 15 provincial traffic units in 2020 and 16 provinces.<sup>12</sup>

In these inspections;

- From 2017 to the end of 2019, 4,551 drivers were tested, and 537 drivers were referred to the health institution for a confirmation test due to the positive pre-test result. As a result of the tests carried out by the health institutions based on the determinations of the traffic and other units, 3,399 drivers were exempted

from KTK 48/8 (driving by taking drugs or stimulants), 392 drivers from KTK 48/9 (not accepting the use of technical devices by law enforcement for drug control purposes),

- In 2020, 1,854 drivers were tested, and 379 drivers were referred to the health institution for a confirmation test due to the positive results of the preliminary test. As a result of the tests carried out by health institutions based on the determinations of traffic and other units, 1,561 drivers were treated with KTK 48/8 and 206 drivers using KTK 48/9.

In addition, the TNP Traffic Department provided Drug Test Kit User Training to the number of personnel specified in the table below in order to meet the need for trained personnel working in traffic units.

**Table 2.4** Distribution of Drug Test Kit User Trainer Numbers (TNP-Traffic Department, 2021).

Training for Drug Test Kit User	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Training of Trainers	40	*	*	55	*
Trainings Given Via Smart Class	1,008	1,721	1,737	2,013	1,980
In-Field (face to face) Trainings	*	*	*	270	357
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>1,721</b>	<b>1,737</b>	<b>2,338</b>	<b>2,337</b>

<sup>12</sup> Adana, Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Diyarbakır, Erzurum, Hatay, İstanbul, İzmir, Malatya, Trabzon, Konya, Kayseri, Mersin, Şanlıurfa, Samsun



**Table 2.6** NARCO-FIELD Project, 2020 (TNP, Counter Narcotics Department, 2021).

Number of Provinces	20
Number of Districts	790
Number of Neighborhoods Implemented	2,967
Number of Application Points (Avenue-Street)	12,155
Number of Personnel Assigned	54,506
Number of Vehicles with Traffic Inspection	476,831
Number of Vehicles with Administrative Traffic Fines	478,078
Number of Vehicles Banned from Traffic	4,707
Amount of Traffic Fines (TL)	32,668,331
Number of Incidents	10,132
Number of Suspects	15,046
Number of Suspects Arrested Within the Scope of TPC Art.191	8,269
Number of Suspects Arrested Within the Scope of TPC Art.188	892
Number of Detainees	309
Cannabis (gr)	101,040
Heroin (gr)	4,513
Opium Poppy (gr)	47
Cocaine (gr)	1,299
Methamphetamine (gr)	10,996
Ecstasy (tablet)	7,692
Captagon (tablet)	1,560
Synthetic Cannabinoid (gr)	40,115
Synthetic Pharmaceuticals (tablet)	37,009
Other Drugs	4,438

### 2.4.3. NARCO-NET Project

Today, depending on the development of technology, the potential of committing crimes through the internet is becoming more and more widespread, descriptions are sometimes given on social media accounts in a way that facilitates the use of drugs, photos of drugs are spread in a way that encourages them, and the sharing of

works such as songs and poems praising illegal substances through these accounts is an open issue. It has been determined that it is made in a way that is used for third parties and that it is encouraged to use it for third parties.

Under the coordination of the Counter Narcotics Department of the General Directorate of Communities; In the operation called “Martyr Arda CAN”, which was carried out simultaneously with the participation of 114 teams and 511 personnel in 27 provinces on 28.11.2017 with the partnership of the Cybercrime Department, which is the first in our country to prevent drug crimes committed over the internet, 81 Legal action has been taken against the suspect.

Likewise, it is determined that he has committed the said crime on the internet;

- NARCO-NET-2 OPERATION” carried out for 8 eight suspects simultaneously in four provinces on 01.10.2018 with participation of 15 teams and 37 officers,
- “NARCO-NET-3 OPERATION” carried out for 88 suspects simultaneously in 26 provinces on 13.12.2018 with participation of 168 teams and 429 officers in the scope of “Martyr Altuğ VERDI OPERATION”,
- “NARCO-NET-4 OPERATION” carried out for 75 suspects simultaneously in 29 provinces on 27.05.2019 with participation of 100 teams and 290 officers.
- On 07.01.2020, necessary legal actions were taken against 283 suspects who were found to have committed the aforementioned crime over the internet with the “NARCONET-5 OPERATION” carried out simultaneously in 49 provinces. (TNP-Counter Narcotics Department, 2021)



## 2.4.4. Application for Fight Against Drugs (UYUMA)

The effectiveness of fight against drugs depends on increasing the sensitivity of citizens and social surveillance, and establishing a permanent and strong environment in accordance with social responsibility awareness.

For this purpose, it is considered to develop a completely domestic software in order for preventing drug crimes, reporting crimes with all relevant evidence, bringing criminals to justice, and ensuring that citizens can inform quickly and electronically.

Thanks to the UYUMA project implemented on 24.09.2018 by the Turkish National Police, Department of Information Technologies, the incidents are responded faster by receiving relevant location information from informers and transferring the same to the nearest law enforcement unit under the coordination of 112 Emergency Call Line units. The identities of informers of incidents are kept strictly confidential.

UYUMA Apps can be downloaded from Google Play and App Stores quickly. After the registration process is easily done, an “SMS Verification Code” is sent to users; afterwards the verification code is entered into the application and consequently, the registration process is completed and the application becomes ready for notification.

Popularization of the project in the society is critically important. Promotional works for UYUMA Project is carried out in the framework of the projects conducted by Counter Narcotics Department. Via NARCO-GUIDE activities carried out in the provinces, citizens are informed of technical aspects of the application by utilization of visual materials.

## 2.4.5. Open Door (Açık Kapı) Project

The Open-Door Project was started to be implemented on 15.12.2017 by the Ministry of Interior in order to provide easy access to public services, finalize the requests of the citizens without allowing any gap, and increase the satisfaction in performing of public services. The services are available from 81 provincial governor offices and 221 district governor offices.

The Open-Door Units can be applied face to face, via [www.acikkapi.gov.tr](http://www.acikkapi.gov.tr) website, and through Açık Kapı Apps that can be downloaded from Android and iOS mobile phones. Requests are recorded in the electronic system, and forwarded to the relevant units, and finalized within 7 days.

The Open-Door Units can be applied for any drugs issue. The requests received in the scope of drugs issues are reported weekly to the local administrations. According to the content of requests, they are forwarded to Provincial/District Directorates of Security, Provincial/District Directorates of Health, Department of Public Health Services, AMATEMs, and ÇEMATEMs. They are also included in the agenda of Provincial Coordination Board for Fight against Drugs.

Within the scope of drug addiction;

Between 15.12.2017 – 31.12.2020; 4,977 applications were made to the Open-Door Offices and 4,963 of these applications were concluded.

- The Open-Door Units received 797 applications in the subcategory of Drug Abuse and Sale of the Security and Public Order Services category in the period of 15.12.2017-31.12.2020, and 795 thereof were concluded.

- 2,547 application made and 2,538 were concluded in the subcategory of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Treatment of the Health category in the period of 15.12.2017 - 31.12.2020.

The Açık Kapı software can be enriched with new modules added according to today's needs and circumstances. In this context; the data concerning to the operations carried out within the framework of counter-drug activities at the provincial level were also made available for analysis by entering the Open-Door Reporting System.

The data submitted by Law Enforcement Agencies and recorded to the Open-Door system on a daily base are as follows;

Number of persons prosecuted according to the information sent by Police, Gendarmerie and Coast Guard between 15.12.2017-1.07. 2020;

- **Police:** 248,326 people in total of which 242,326 Turkish citizens and 5,882 are foreign nationals,
- **Gendarmerie:** 28,844 people in total of which 28,468 Turkish citizens and 376 are foreign nationals,
- **Coast Guard:** 128 people in total of which 118 is Turkish citizens and 10 foreigners and 277,180 registrations in total of which 270,912 Turkish citizens and 6,268 are foreign nationals.

In addition, 129 personnel in 2018 and 336 personnel in 2019 and 336 personnel in 2020 working in the Open-Door Units in the scope of fight against drugs were trained.

## 2.4.6. Monitoring of Drugs and Other Psychoactive Substances in Wastewater Project

logy is a rapidly developing discipline that has the potential of real-time data monitoring on regional and temporal differences in illegal drug usage.

With the 2018-2023 Action Plan for Fight against Drugs (UMEP), it is aimed to disseminate the works on "Efforts of Determining Amounts of Drugs in Wastewater" to relevant stakeholders.

In this context, pursuant to the resolution of High Council of Fight against Addiction dated 15.02.2108, it was decided to carry out the waste water analyses under the leadership of Turkish Green Crescent Society with the collaboration of Forensic Medicine Institution, Ministry of Internal Affairs, and Ministry of Health.

While the project was implemented in 49 wastewater treatment plants in 18 provinces, it was determined that it could be implemented in 44 new provinces and 64 new wastewater treatment plants in 2020, and the project was implemented in 113 plants in 62 provinces.

In the Waste Water Analysis study, samples are collected in 4 periods.

The analysis results report of the 2nd and 3rd semesters of the samples collected in 113 wastewater treatment plants in 62 provinces in 2020 has been completed, and the 4th semester analyzes are being evaluated by the relevant universities.<sup>13</sup>

In 2020, different from 2019, analyzes of synthetic materials were also carried out in 2 terms, 2nd term (summer) and 4th term (winter).

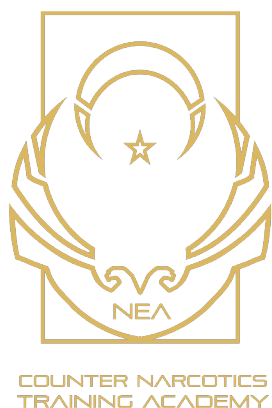
Although it is not possible to determine the number of users, user profiles and person-based usage in the provinces where the study is carried out, a new indicator has been added to the field of struggle with supply.

<sup>13</sup> Due to the pandemic, the 1st period sample collection could not be performed.

## 2.5. TRAINING

### 2.5.1. Counter Narcotics Training Academy (NEA)

In order to ensure a new vision and understanding of law enforcement training, Counter Narcotics Training Academy (NEA) is established within TNP Counter Narcotics Department upon the approval of the Ministry dated 3.05.2018. All counter narcotics training programs are organized and implemented by NEA.



NEA aims to contribute not only to the training of the staff of TNP Counter Narcotics Department but also to the staff of other national and international law enforcement agencies in the field of fight against drugs.

In addition to the national training programs, NEA also organizes and coordinates training programs for member states of Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), The International Criminal Police Organization, European Police College (CEPOL) and Diplomacy Academy of Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Furthermore, NEA carries out training activities within the framework of bilateral security cooperation agreements with 106 countries.

In NEA; Training activities are organized in 22 different branches at the national level and 9 different branches at the international level, both in technical and theoretical, practical and operational areas.

In this context of NEA training programs, 66 training activities were organized at the national level and 4,003 personnel benefited from such trainings in 2020.

Within the framework of the 2020 NEA training calendar, 37 international training programs and meetings were planned to be organized. However, due to the pandemic, 14 of these events were held. 68 foreign law enforcement personnel benefited from 5 training programs.

In 2019, the Distance Education-Green Curtain Project was implemented within NEA. Within the scope of the project, video contents related to 19 courses of national and international trainings were created and the personnel were provided with preliminary information about the trainings with the video presentations produced. In addition, content is produced for other social media channels within the scope of Narcotube and prevention information activities within the body of Narconet, which was created as the closed network of Counter Narcotics Department. In 2020, especially during the pandemic process, due to the obstacles experienced in face-to-face education, the distance education methods started to be used more actively, and training videos prepared for many fields, especially “Basic Training on Fighting against Narcotic Crimes”, were made available by using the Green Curtain Class.

## 2.5.2. Training of Narcotic Detector Dogs

“*Narcotic Detector Dogs and Handler Basic Training Programs*” were realized by TNP Counter Narcotics Department, Dog Training Center in 2020. 22 personnel were benefited from these programs and 22 narcotics detector dogs were assigned.

“*Narcotic Detector Dog and Handler Basic Course*” was given to 24 personnel in 3 trainings in 2020 by the Ministry of Trade, General Directorate of Customs Enforcement, and the said personnel and duty dogs were assigned to provincial administrations.

In 2020, “*Narcotic Detector Dog and Handler Course*” was given to 32 personnel in 2 trainings by Gendarmerie General Command JAKEM

(Gendarmerie Dog Training Center) and 32 Narcotic Substance Search Dogs were assigned to duty.

**Table 2.7** Narcotic Detector Dog and Handler Basic Course in 2019 and 2020

Institution	Title of Training	2019	2020
TNP	Detector Dog and Handler Basic Training Program	5	2
	Number of Personnel Benefited from Training Programs	49	22
	Number of Detector Dogs Successfully Trained	49	22
GMGM	Detector Dog Basic Training Course	3	3
	Number of Personnel Benefited from Training Programs	26	24
	Number of Detector Dogs Successfully Trained	26	24
JGK	Detector Dog and Handler Training Course	2	2
	Number of Personnel Benefited from Training Programs	44	32
	Number of Detector Dogs Successfully Trained	44	32

B

CHAPTER

PREVENTION / **TRAINING**

The fight against drugs in Turkey is based on the provisions of Article 58 of the Constitution of the Republic of Turkey, which stipulates, “**The State takes the necessary measures in order to protect the country’s youth from addiction to alcohol, drugs, criminality, gambling, similar vices, and ignorance.**”

Drugs are the substances having sedative, hallucinogen, and stimulant effects, and depending on the individual use, drugs cause desire to use more, development of physical and psychological dependence, and withdrawal indications if not taken. Drug addiction is the constant use of a legal or illegal substance despite all its adverse effects.

The harms resulted from drug use are not only those health issues limited to users. Besides the harms on health, drug use often leads to legal, social, and economic issues all of which are reflected to families, the environment and the entire society. Furthermore, drug issue is a serious security issue threatening young generations and

harming the future of the society.

In consideration of all such risks, prevention/ training works and efforts aim to raise awareness and protection of the entire society. The cost therefor is rather low. Therefore, “supply reduction” and “treatment/rehabilitation” which are other pillars of the fight against drug, are very expensive and costly areas.

Under 2018-2023 National Strategy Document and Action Plan on Fight Against Drugs, **Ministry of National Education (MoNE)** has been designated in charge of training and informative activities aimed at preventing drug abuse. In addition, in the preventive efforts conducted with a multidisciplinary approach, there are the activities of the Ministries of Family, Labor and Social Services, Youth and Sports, Interior, National Education, Health as well as Presidency of Religious Affairs, High Council of Radio and Television, Turkish Radio Television Corporation, and Turkish Green Crescent.



# 3.1. MINISTRY OF FAMILY AND SOCIAL SERVICES / **MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY**

## 3.1.1. Social Services Center (SHM)

In the BMYK meeting held on 30.12.2019, the revision request for exclusion of the Ministry from social adaptation issues was adopted. The social adaptation activities under the responsibility of the Ministry in the action plan was abrogated, and in place thereof, such activities for in-service training for professional personnel at the social service centers on improvement of their capacities for providing social services to addicts and the families thereof.

All the areas of support by means of social services to addicts and the families thereof are under the responsibility of SHM. Anyone applying to SHMs with an addiction problem or those determined by SHMs are referred to the centers supervised by Ministry of Health and Green Crescent Society if they are volunteered to be treated/ rehabilitated.

## 3.1.2. Family Education Program (AEP)

Family Education Program (AEP) contributes to individuals in the risk of group and the families thereof with respect to informing the same of drug abuse processes, factors increasing drug abuse risk, proper intervention to those in risk groups, leading signals of lapsing, coping methods, preventive techniques for lapsing, and substances abused, and furthermore, to such families having adolescent child/children well informed on adolescence period and changes in

this period, risky attitudes in adolescence, areas of problems and what to do's, and accordingly, acquiring competence for showing proper parent manners and response methods.

AEP contains basic competences to be acquired by modern individuals. Therefore, each module thereof is recommended to each individual. Accordingly, the target group in most of the program modules is all family members, meaning, the entire community. However, unique educational packages intended for special needs of certain groups in any given vicinity will be created by trainers.

Within the scope of AEP, 4,754 trainings were provided in the period of December 2014 - December 2020, and 307,545 people were reached in these trainings. There are also 977 active trainers.

In the scope of AEP, 22,862 individuals were reached out by means of 470 training programs in 2020. By provision of 2 trainer-training programs, 215 trainers were trained (Ministry of Family and Social Services, General Directorate of Community Services, 2021).

## 3.1.3. Turkey's Training Program on Fight Against Addiction (TBM)

Turkey's Training Programs on Fight Against Addiction (TBM) launched in 2017 aim to increase the level of knowledge of target groups on drugs, the harms thereof, where they can get treatment

when they abuse the same, and how to establish communication with those who have used such substances in past. Within the scope of TBM, the education is given to all our citizens within the framework of the relevant modules (High School, Parents, Adult), primarily;

- Children over 15 years old under the institutional care,
- All the personnel working at Institutions and Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations,
- The personnel of all Governmental Institutions and Organizations, Families and other citizens getting services from the Ministry.

In the scope of TBM, 145 formatters have been trained, currently there are 79 “formers” and 890 “practitioners” actively.

In 2020, 41,850 individuals were reached out with 562 educational programs in the scope of TBM (Ministry of family and Social Services, General Directorate of Community Services, General Directorate of Children’s Services, 2021).

### 3.1.4. Vocational Training Courses (İŞKUR)

Vocational training courses are organized with the aim of increasing the employability of the unemployed, who do not have a profession registered with İŞKUR, cannot find a job in their profession or cannot find a job in their profession, within the framework of the objectives of protecting, increasing and developing employment and reducing unemployment.

The main objective of vocational training courses is; to help the unemployed to improve their professional qualifications, to reduce unemployment and to bring groups requiring special policies into the labor market. With the TBM Practitioner Training held in İzmir on 17-18-19.01.2020, 200 business and vocational counselors were trained.

As a result of the courses and programs held between 01.01.2020 - 31.12.2020, 157 people were placed in work (Ministry of Labor and Social Security).



## 3.2. MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS

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In 2020, in the scope of the activities conducted for ensuring that youth benefiting from Ministry's youth centers, camps, and hostels are protected from addiction by increasing their awareness on addictions;

- 227 in Youth Centers,
- 19 at the Athlete Training Center and Turkish Olympic Preparation Centers,
- A total of 516 awareness trainings were conducted in the dormitories, including 270.

With reference to addiction awareness trainings in 2020;

- 9,755 in Youth Centres,
- 9,386 in dormitories,
- A total of 19,578 young people participated, including 437 athletes in the Athlete Training Center and the Olympic preparation centers of Turkey.

Social, cultural, and artistic activities organized at Youth Centers continue nonstop seven days of every week. In order to ensure protection of youth by participation thereof to social, artistic, sportive, and cultural volunteered activities which may be considered as preventive and protective activities against addiction implemented at 350 Youth Centers, 2,329,173 youth were reached out in 237,611 activities in 2020.<sup>14</sup>

Youth are assisted directly by social workers, psychologists, youth leaders, camp leaders, hostel

management and staff assigned at youth centers, hostels as well as provincial and district directorates for eliminating any addiction problem of youth benefiting from the facilities of the Ministry, and trainer training programs are provided for training such personnel to assist youth. For this purpose, 775 personnel are provided with trainer training programs in 2019 and 968 personnel in 2020, respectively, and since 2015, total 7,850 personnel benefited from such training programs.

In 2020, for increasing awareness of addiction of the personnel assigned at the provincial organizations of the Ministry, followings are reached;

- 2,211 trainers and 833 sports instructors, who are contracted and permanent, working through service procurement in the central and provincial organizations of the Ministry of Youth and Sports and its affiliates,
- 11,868 personnel consisting of Youth Services and Sports District Manager, Branch Manager, Youth Center Manager, Facility Supervisor, Security and sanitation workers, Technicians working in the central and provincial organizations of the Ministry of Youth and Sports and its affiliates
- Trainings were given to 3,497 personnel consisting of Dormitory Managers, Assistant Dormitory Managers, Dormitory Education Officers and Dormitory Management Officers working in the General Directorate of Credits and Dormitories, reaching a total of 18,409 personnel (Ministry of Youth and Sports, 2021).

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14 Some duplicated records are available in the data.

## 3.3. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

### 3.3.1. “The Best Narcotics Police is Mother” Project

In the survey conducted with 15,328 people who declared that they “used drugs in their lifetime” in 2019, within the scope of the NARCOLOG Project, which is being carried out within the TNP Counter Narcotics Department, it was found that 89.6% of the sample and mother of the 91.1% of 23,526 people in 2020 were “housewife”. 85.6% of people who use drugs in their own home in 2019 and 83.6% in 2020 live with their families. The prevalence rate of drug use among women is much lower compared to men.

The present findings and the foresight of mothers and their endless love for their children show that awareness and awareness-raising activities for mothers are emphasized and a special importance is attached to the fight against drug use. For this reason, in line with the instructions of Minister of Interior, Mr. Süleyman SOYLU, on 23.10.2020, “The Best Narcotics Police is Mother” Project was started. The target group of the project includes mothers and expectant mothers.

“The Best Narcotics Police is Mothers” training module was prepared by Counter Narcotics Department with the contributions of TUBİM Scientific Committee and Department of Internal Security Strategies and sent to the Provincial Directorates of Counter Narcotics Department. The training activities are carried out intensively in the city centers and in the outer districts where it

is deemed necessary. The presentation regarding the trainings in question is made by the expert personnel working in the TUBİM Bureau of the Counter Narcotics Department.

The determination of the mothers to be trained, the preparation of the physical environment for the training, the provision of the necessary logistic support (budget, vehicle, equipment, preparation of promotional materials, transportation, hospitality, etc.) are followed by our Governorships and District Governorates.

The mothers who will participate in awareness and awareness training are determined by establishing the coordination with municipalities, mukhtar (local authority only for the neighborhood), public education centers, NGOs, religious officials and school family unions. It is also possible for our citizens to apply for the training on their own. The support is received from all public institutions, municipalities and universities in the determination of the place where the training activity will take place.

On days of training activities, some different social activities are also carried out, especially around the physical place where the training will take place, to reach the widest possible audience.

Within the scope of the project, the information support and coordination are provided by the Provincial Governorships and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, General Directorate of Civil Society Relations with the NGOs in their provinces

and working in the field. The fact that the studies are published in the written/visual media and announced on social media accounts also increase the effectiveness of the campaign and the demand for training.

In this respect, within the scope of the project activities, 648 events were held for mothers and expectant mothers in 2020, reaching a total of 20,103 people (TNP-Counter Narcotics Department, 2021).



Picture 3.1 The Best Narcotics Police is Mother.

### 3.3.2. NARCO-GUIDE Adult Training Module

In 2017, “Implementation Policy of Ministry of Internal Affairs for Fight Against Drugs” was prepared under the coordination of Turkish National Police, Counter Narcotics Department and in line with the opinions and suggestions of the units under Ministry of Internal Affairs in order to enable the same units to act in collaboration, draw up a roadmap by identifying priorities in the fight against drugs, and accordingly, the policy came into force upon the Ministry’s Circular No 2017/02.

“NARCO-GUIDE TRAINING MODULE” was developed by TNP Counter Narcotics Department in the framework of Implementation Policy of Ministry of Internal Affairs for Fight Against Drugs and in the scope of “Ensuring the Effective Utilization of Local Authorities in Fight Against Drugs” in order to provide training to the units, such as municipal police, sanitation workers, and private security organizations.

On 24 - 25.10.2017, NARCO-GUIDE training was given to 184 personnel of the central and provincial units of Turkish National Police/ Counter Narcotics Department who will work for the implementation of the project. In addition, update training was given to NARCO-GUIDE between 24-28.02.2020.

Within the framework of NARCO-GUIDE module, aiming to increase awareness of adult groups of 25 years and above;

- Drug addiction, abuse, factors, and effects,
- Classification of narcotic substances,
- Types of narcotic substances,
- How to recognize drug dealers,
- Jargon used in illicit trade and consumption, sale and usage points, and synthetic pharmaceuticals,
- Legislations on drug offenses,
- UYUMA Project,
- Solution Centers for Fight against Drug Addiction.

NARCO-GUIDE module has been successfully implemented in across the country since 01.11.2017, and is considered by national and international levels circles as an exemplary project with its content intended for increasing the awareness of the adult groups, particularly over 25 years old.

**Table 3.1** Distribution of NARCOGUIDE Trainings Given in 2020 (TNP - Counter Narcotics Department, 2021)

Target Group	Number of Activities	Number of People Reached
Military Personnel	7	606
Sanitation Worker	24	3,226
Municipal Police	37	1,961
Police	555	32,284
Craftsman	1	75
Public Servant	371	23,474
Mixed Groups	9	506
University student and Academician	1	800
High School Teachers	236	15,143
Private Security	164	15,685
Shuttle Driver	11	1,595
Non-Governmental Organizations	26	675
Citizen	383	20,847
Parent	149	7,020
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,974</b>	<b>123,897</b>

In the scope of NARCO-GUIDE activities, 1.974 events were organized and total 123,897 adults were reached out in 2020 (TNP- Counter Narcotics Department, 2021).

### 3.3.3. NARCO-STAND Project

Taking the practice in Şanlıurfa province as a model by the TNP Counter Narcotics Department;

- to increase awareness of our citizens in the fight against drugs, to identify sellers and users and to identify places where crimes are committed,

- to explain how the fight against drugs is done by the police units, to inform families about drugs,
- to inform citizens about drugs.

Within the framework of the NARCO-STAND Project, 129,461 people were reached in 2020 and 77,737 materials were distributed and information was provided (TNP, Counter Narcotics Department, 2021).

### 3.3.4. NARCO-TRUCK Project

The activities of **NARCOTIC TRAINING TRUCK** were launched in Istanbul in 2015, an operation that was a unique model in its field in the world and developed in the scope of the project realized with the support of Ministry of Development and Istanbul Development Agency.

In addition to the Istanbul Police Department, the design and construction of the second NARCO-TRUCK was completed by the Konya Provincial Police Department and its activities started on 31.12.2020.



**Picture 3.2** Narco-Truck, İstanbul

There are special animations inside the truck about abuse and harm of drugs on 54 different topics for the student participants of 9th grade and above.

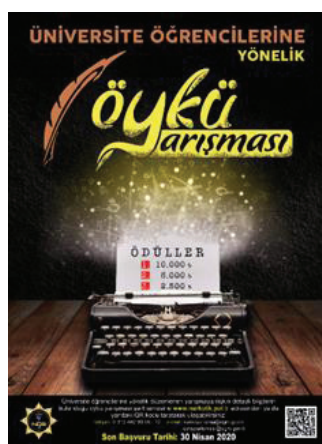


Picture 3.3 Narco-Truck, Konya

NARCO-TRUCKs reached out 349,016 people between 2015-2020 (TNP-Counter Narcotics Department, 2021).

### 3.3.5. NARCO-CONTEST / Story Contest on Prevention of Drug Use

The Narco-Contests have been organized by the TNP Counter Narcotics Department since 2017 in order to reveal the negative effects of drug addiction on health, human relations and society,



to prevent drug use, especially among high school and university youth, and to draw attention to the harms of drugs.

The announcements for the contest were broadcasted at the [www.narkotik.pol.tr](http://www.narkotik.pol.tr) internet address and social media. In this context, a "Story on Preventing Drug Use" Contest was held among university youth between 23.12.2019 - 30.04.2020. In addition, 9,000 posters and banners were

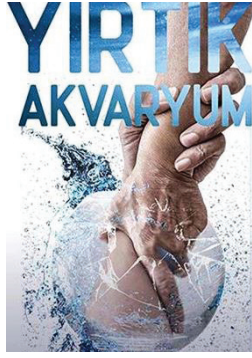
posted for announcement on billboards located at university campuses, faculties, vocational schools of higher education, public transportation vehicles, and such venues of cafe, library, etc. where students regularly visit in provinces and districts.

The Story Contest organized for the university students was attended by 1,078 participants from 156 of the 204 universities in our country with 1,078 work of art.

As a result of the evaluations made by our academicians who took part in the TUBİM Scientific Committee, a total of 5 works, 2 of which were honorable mentions, were awarded a degree. The first three works in this direction were the stories "YIRTIK AKVARYUM" written by Nagihan KORKUTATA from İnönü University, "ÜÇGENLER" written by Beytullah PEKER from Aydın University, and "YALNIZ +1" written by Eda ÇİÇEK from Alparslan University. The honorable mentions were given to the stories titled "ŞEYTAN BAZEN SURETTEDİR" written by Emre ACAR from Onsekiz Mart University, and "KEŞKE", written by Ceren AKÇAM from Bahçeşehir University.



The book named “YIRTIK AKVARYUM”, which was included in the works that entered the ranking, was published and distributed to institutions fighting against drugs all over the country. The book can be found at [www.narkotik.com](http://www.narkotik.com) of Counter Narcotics Department (TNP, Counter Narcotics Department, 2021).



[www.narkotik.com](http://www.narkotik.com) of Counter Narcotics Department (TNP, Counter Narcotics Department, 2021).

### 3.3.6. Derelict Buildings

2016-2018 and 2018-2023 National Strategy Document and Action Plan on Fight Against Drugs, 2019-2021 National Strategy Document and Action Plan on Fight Against Organized Crimes, 2018-2019 Work Plan, Activities, and Projects, and 2019 Performance, Indicators and Objectives of the Ministry of Interior include particularly demolishing derelict buildings and preventing access, by means of physical barriers, to any such which will take time to demolish.

Governorships have been instructed to identify, improve/rehabilitate, demolish and/or take physical measures to prevent the use of derelict buildings and to increase security measures for maintaining public order and security, ensuring urban aesthetics, preventing environmental pollution, maintaining effectiveness in combating crime and criminals, especially drug/stimulant supply and use, etc.

The support of our security units, local governments and relevant institutions and organizations, especially Governors and District Governors, who follow the process with a great dedication, determination and coordination in the detection, demolition, rehabilitation and security measures

of abandoned buildings, are the most important factor in achieving success.

Within this context; provincial committees to be chaired by a Deputy Governor are formed for organizational coordination of identifying and demolishing such derelict buildings.

All physical barriers are placed immediately for preventing access and utilization of any derelict building identified by or notified to such committees as drug abuse areas, leading to the process of demolishing such buildings.

The determination of the derelict buildings in the provinces/districts and the demolition/rehabilitation operations continue with the same determination.

From May 2018 until the end of 2020, 95,918 derelict buildings have been identified, and the determination of derelict buildings continues. Out of the identified derelict buildings, 64.88% (62,234) were demolished, 15.49% (14,861) were rehabilitated/security measures were taken, and a total of 80.37% (77,095) were treated. Demolishing is underway for 19,62% (18,823) of the remaining buildings (Ministry of Interior, General Directorate of Provincial Administration, 2021).



## 3.4. MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

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In order to increase the security measures around the schools, the security camera needs of the schools are determined and cooperation is made with the Ministry of Interior to integrate the security camera systems to be installed around the schools into the City Security Management System (KGYS). As part of this study, the security camera systems were installed in 1,000 schools.

Before starting work, some necessary safety researches are carried out for sanitation personnel, security guards, canteen attendants, school bus drivers and other personnel who provide auxiliary services in educational institutions. Security background check for 80,000 sanitation staff and 20,000 security guards and all personnel working in school canteens were carried out.

The “e-Guidance System” was created and put into use in order to obtain systematic, traceable, assessable and policy-making data on the guidance services offered in schools. The data belonging to the studies carried out by the guidance counselor/psychological counselors within the scope of the fight against addiction are also processed into the e-guidance system.

Within the scope of protective and preventive studies aimed at ensuring the personal development of students and preventing harmful habits such as addiction in line with the “General and Special Purposes of Turkish National Education” by the Ministry of National Education, a Social Activity Module has been created within the e-School

Management Information System to record scientific, social, cultural, artistic and sportive activities and community service activities aimed at helping students acquire national, spiritual, moral, humanitarian and cultural values.

The class guidance programs were updated and the contents developed within the scope of fighting against addiction were integrated into the new program.

The achievements such as “evaluates the consequences of tobacco products, alcohol and substance use” and “recognizes that one needs to have decisive and consistent communication skills in order to be protected from tobacco products, alcohol and substance addictions” are included in the health information and traffic culture course curriculum applied in secondary education institutions, harmful habits and substance use. In the Physical Education and Sports Course curriculum, the achievements of “staying away from the habits and addictions that negatively affect physical and mental health” and “explaining the negative effects of substance addiction and harmful habits on athletes” are included (MoNE, 2021).



## 3.5. MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION AND GREEN CRESCENT

### 3.5.1. Turkey's Training Programs on Fight Against Addiction (TBM)

The preventive efforts at schools in Turkey are conducted according to the "Turkey's Training Program on Fight Against Addiction (TBM)", which was signed by Ministry of National Education and Turkish Green Crescent Society in 2013 and brought into force in 2014.

TBM has been designed in consideration of the social structure, needs, and current education system of Turkey. It has been successfully disseminated by school counselors as a model integrated with the National Education system all over Turkey.

By the virtue of the protocol signed between Ministry of National Education and Turkish Green Crescent Society in June 2017, it is aimed to reach out to 20 million students after providing all school counselors of the Ministry with the TBM practitioner - training program.

TBM Program is recognized as the world's largest prevention program, in terms of both the number of people reached and the scope of the content, and appreciated by such international organizations as WHO, UNODC, and EMCDDA as "example of good practice" on many platforms. TBM Program is an accredited program included in the National Strategy Document and Action Plan on Fight against Drugs.

Before popularizing TBM across the country, a pilot scheme was launched in Istanbul at the onset of 2014. In the scope of such pilot scheme, 41 TBM format designers trained, and in turn, those format designers trained 832 TBM Practitioner within the context of the pilot study. Approximately 60,000 students from 515 high school in 39 districts participated in the pilot study. In the light of information gathered in a workshop organized by participation of those school counselors taken part in the pilot scheme and the experts of the subject, any incompleteness observed in educational materials and the implementation process are considered and necessary amendments in the program and the popularization method were carried out.

By means of the educational modules of TBM Education Program drawn up for specific age groups and a pedagogical approach with respect to healthy living and addiction to tobacco, alcohol, substance, and technology, it was possible to reach out to more than 10 million students and more than 2 million parents every year up until the present across the country via total 812 format designers and 33,120 practitioner school counselors of Ministry of Education.

In addition, practitioner trainings and awareness trainings are carried out by 144 formatters working in the Ministry of Family and Social Services. In 2020, 6,946 people were reached out through awareness trainings.

The TBM was opened to the use of teachers across the country by making negotiations in



2019 for the integration of the contents of the Turkey Fight against Addiction Training Program to the EBA system of the Ministry of National Education, ensuring their integration as of the end of the year. In addition, in the distance learning process that continues after the start of the pandemic, all content is included in the “Fight Against Addiction” created under the title of “Health and Sports” in the EBA Library of the Ministry of National Education for teachers and students in order to benefit more effectively from the content of the Green Crescent that raises awareness about addictions and leads to a healthy life which is available to teachers and students in the department.

All the materials developed according to the Turkey’s Educational Programs on Fight against Addiction are periodically updated. Such updates take into consideration opinions of Ministry of Education, field reports, comments at the mail address “iletisim@tbn.org.tr”, the reports of workshops organized for school counsels, evaluations of consultants, and results of TBM Efficiency Analysis Evaluation Researches. In 2019, infographic versions of TBM banners were prepared with updated content and images accessible to all citizens at the “tbn.org.tr” website, and all the year round, were sent to all requesting institutions and organizations free of charge.

In addition, the brochures were revised and updated. The updating of training materials such as training booklets, presentations and supplementary documents were handled within the scope of the TBM Update Project, which was comprehensively launched in 2020, and in the first stage, the training contents consisting of trainer and beneficiary books were completed by the end of 2020. The process of preparing products and training materials such as activities, board games, presentations, posters, brochures, songs,

training videos that are planned to be used in the trainings, which are the second stage, continues. It is aimed to complete all the updates in 2021 and to make the current versions of the TBM training sets available on digital platforms and to bring them together with the target audiences through trainings.

TBM is a key step in the preventive efforts practiced in Turkey since it is easy to draw up scientifically, elaborating in the same standard, and accessibility. In this context, 9,728,981 students, 2,514,398 parents, and 783,245 teachers were reached out as of the end of the academic year of 2019 and 2020. In the academic year of 2019 and 2020, 3,443,611 students, 1,031,324 parents, and 55,858 teachers attended to TBM educational activities.

The number of practitioner school counsels reached to 33,389 (MoNE & the Green Crescent, 2021).

In 2020, TBM practitioner trainings were also organized for the public institutions and organizations and NGOs, and the programs continue within the scope of cooperation. In this context, the practitioner training was provided to religious officials working in the Presidency of Religious Affairs and vocational counselors working in the Turkish Employment Agency (İŞKUR), while the peer practitioner training was provided to the students from the Turkish Youth Foundation (TÜGVA). 384 people obtained the title of practitioner at the end of the trainings. According to the measurement-evaluation made at the end of the practitioner trainings, the satisfaction rate of participating in the training was measured as 92%.

Within the scope of awareness trainings for public institutions and organizations and NGOs, the Ministry of Family and Social Services, Provincial Directorates of National Education and Guidance

Research Centers affiliated to the Ministry of National Education, Turkish Employment Agency, Refugee Support Association, Friends Association, Turkish Employers' Unions Confederation, Istanbul Commerce In line with the requests from institutions such as the Stock Exchange, awareness trainings were organized and trainings were held for corporate professionals. The training requests from various regions of Turkey continue to be organized by the Green Crescent Education Management Directorate.

In addition, a project call within the scope of the TBM Adult Education Program has been made and 32 Green Crescent branches have applied to the program for 2020. With the effect of the pandemic, the trainings were moved to online platforms and 15 branches completed their training and entered data into the Green Crescent Data Management System (VMS). As of the end of 2020, a total of 9,089 adults were reached in awareness trainings conducted through branches.

In 2020, awareness trainings conducted for private sector companies before the pandemic period continued on a regular basis as online. As a result of the trainings given to private companies, a total of 287 people was reached.

In addition to the aforementioned awareness trainings and practitioner trainings, the efforts to expand the Turkey's Training Programs on Fight Against Addiction as an exemplary training model in the international arena continue without slowing down. In this context, TBM Practitioner Training was given to 44 participants, consisting of volunteers from 10 Green Crescents of the International Green Crescent Federation in 2019. The international training programs continued in

2020, and TBM Practitioner Training was given to the representatives and volunteers of the Country Green Crescent from 25 different countries. During the 4-day training organized on the online platform via the Zoom application, sessions were held on tobacco, substance, technology, alcohol addiction modules and adult teaching techniques, online training planning and teaching skills, and at the end of the program, 47 participants were certified as TBM practitioners.

With the education mobilization spirit of the TBM, the Green Crescent managed to fight with one heart against addictions with one voice and to win the appreciation of all relevant institutions and organizations throughout the country. TBM is the first and only prevention program developed in the field of addiction in Turkey, which is included in the curriculum of the Ministry of the National Education and accredited by the Supreme Council of Fight Against Drugs (the GREEN CRESCENT, 2021).<sup>15</sup>

### **3.5.2. Program of Intervention to Addiction at Schools (OBM)**

Having prepared intended for those students who are recently introduced to cigarette, alcohol, or drugs, or still in the stage of trial, the Program of Intervention to Addiction at Schools (OBM) is the school-based entire preventive interventions developed for dissuading them from harmful substances.

It is aimed to prevent many harmful behaviors without turning into addiction on a school basis and to gain students without being pushed out of the education system with the OBM Program.

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<sup>15</sup> TBM training modules to access: [www.tbm.org.tr](http://www.tbm.org.tr) the address can be visited.

A protocol was signed in 2018 in order to systematically disseminate OBM throughout the country in cooperation with the General Directorate of Special Education and Guidance Services of the Ministry of National Education, and after the protocol, dissemination studies began throughout the country.

In this context; training contents and promotional materials were prepared, and OBM Practitioner Trainings were organized with the participation of counselors from 81 provinces in Izmir on 11-14.02.2019 and 25-28.02.2019, and 232 counselors were trained as OBM Practitioners.

In this context, the interviews conducted in 2019 in terms of the relationship between the attendance rates of 831 students, 612 boys and 219 girls, who applied to OBM practitioner guidance teachers about cigarettes, alcohol and drugs, and the rates of quitting addictive substances were discussed in detail. According to the data obtained, as a result of the interviews with the students who were found to be at high risk, the rate of quitting was 17.6% for cigarettes, 40% for alcohol, and 70% for drugs.

17.6% of the students who applied about smoking quit smoking completely. It has been stated that cigarette use has decreased 2 times in students who have not quit smoking yet. 40% of the students who said they used alcohol stated that they stopped using alcohol when they came to the third interview. It was stated that students who did not completely stop their alcohol use decreased their alcohol use by 2.5 times. 70% of the students who said they used drugs stated that they stopped using drugs completely in the second interview. It was stated that the frequency of substance use among those who did not quit was reduced by 74% compared to the first interview. When the family relations and mental states of the students were evaluated, it was determined that the family

relations of the students improved 4 times and their mental status 2 times better at the end of 10 interviews.

In order to evaluate the results obtained in the field and to discuss the emerging cases in detail, the “OBM Evaluation Meeting” was held on 4-6.11.2019 with the participation of MoNE and the Green Crescent managers, practitioners and program executives. In the workshops held within the scope of the meeting, the cases in the field and good practice examples were evaluated and discussed in the presence of the Green Crescent supervisors. In addition to cigarettes, alcohol and drugs, the internet and the smartphone addiction module have been integrated into the OBM program in which the interviews made so far have been analyzed.

Based on these data obtained and the positive feedback received from OBM practitioners, the practitioner training programs continued in 2020 for the faster dissemination of the OBM program throughout the country.

With the OBM Practitioner Trainings held in 2 groups on February 3-6.02.2020 and 10-13.02.2020, 266 more counselors were trained as OBM practitioners, and the number of OBM practitioners in 81 provinces reached 465 people in total. In addition, 33 formatters (trainer of trainers) were trained among the practitioners with the trainings held in the same period and it is planned that these formatters will train practitioners by training in their own provinces.

As of 14.01.2021, there are 2,181 students registered in the system while the total number of interviews with students reached 4,731. In addition, a total of 711 interviews were conducted with the families within the framework of the intervention plan determined by evaluating the risks related to the

students. In efforts to date, smoking, alcohol and substance use is listed as the number of students who used the addictive substance 262 ongoing intervention interviews with students who didn't leave yet and, if deemed necessary, the students are sent to the nearest health organization, or the Green Crescent Counseling Center (YEDAM).

OBM training content and materials have been updated in 2020 in accordance with the information obtained and the feedback received as a result of OBM practitioner trainings and evaluation meetings. It is planned that the current training and application materials will be made available on the OBM soft digital platform in 2021 and also sent to all practitioners as up-to-date training sets. In addition, in order to support and develop practitioners' competencies in case management, improvements were made to the OBM software system and 24 educational video sets were made available for the practitioners (MoNE & the GREEN CRESCENT, 2021).

### 3.5.3. Project of Healthy Generation & Healthy Future

Within the scope of the protocol signed between Ministry of National Education and Turkish Green Crescent Society in 2017, "Healthy Generation & Healthy Future Project" was initiated. Within the scope of the protocol, the 'Healthy Generation & Healthy Future Contest' on 'addiction' is organized among primary, secondary and high school students across the country.

With the "Healthy Generation & Healthy Future" contest the 10th of which is organized in 2020, it is aimed to support bringing up children and youth with awareness against harmful habits, ensure that they understand adverse and destructive

effects of smoking, alcohol, drugs, gambling, and technology addictions, and accordingly, contribute their enjoying a much more safe and healthier live, and increase the consciousness level of new generation regarding to addictions.

A poster work was carried out in order to ensure the participation of works in the competition and to announce the project in schools and to reach a wide target audience. 67,000 posters, which were designed and printed, were distributed to the Provincial Directorates of National Education.

**Table 3.2** Number of Applications to Healthy Generation & Healthy Future Contest by Academic Years.

	2018-2019 Academic Year	2019-2020 School Year Calendar
<b>Number of Literary Works Delivered</b>	76,904	183,267
<b>Number of Visual Works Delivered</b>	108,859	355,366
<b>Number of Artistic Works Delivered</b>	185,763	538,633

An increase in number of students is observed by years. 33,851 students participated in the competition in 2018, 185,763 students in 2019 and 538,633 students in 2020.

In 2020, a total of 538,633 students from 81 provinces applied with 183,267 literary and 355,366 visual works.

Throughout the country, 79 from primary schools, 80 from secondary schools, 80 from high schools were selected as the provincial winner in the literary category, 80 from primary schools, 80 from secondary schools and 81 from high schools were selected from the visual category, and a total of 480 works were sent to the Green Crescent Headquarters through the system.

The works arriving at the Green Crescent Headquarters were pre-evaluated by a subcommittee consisting of the Green Crescent and MoNE officials on 15.10.2020, and the first, second and third places in Turkey were selected at primary, secondary and high school levels in the literary and visual category by the commission convened on 16.10.2020.

In the award system, which changes according to the years, in 2020, 500 TL monetary award was given to the provincial winners at the primary, secondary and high school levels in the literary and visual category. In addition, each student who is ranked is awarded with a medal and a certificate of appreciation.

The grand award ceremony held at the Green Crescent Headquarters in Istanbul was held online on 01.12.2020 due to the pandemic.

In the scope of Healthy Generation & Healthy Future Contest, total 480 provincial first prize winners at primary, secondary, and high school levels in the literary and visual categories were awarded with 500 TL each totaling to 240,000 TL cash prize in 2020.

In the grand award ceremony on 01.12.2020, the first prize winners at primary, secondary, and high school levels in the literary and visual categories were awarded with a cash prize of 5,000 TL, the second prize winners 3,000 TL the third prize winners 1,500 TL, amounting to a grand total of 57,000 TL to 18 students (MoNE & the GREEN CRESCENT, 2021).

### **3.5.4. The GREEN CRESCENT Living Skills Educational Program (YYBE)**

In addition to TBM's educational contents of knowledge, conscious, and awareness, a training program to improve the "ability to say no" of children and adolescents against harmful habits

was needed for provision of knowledge, conscious, and behavioral change. Turkish Green Crescent Society has developed a training program within the scope of primary prevention in order to meet this requirement. **"Green Crescent Living Skills Training Program (YYBE)"** started in 2018 is a school-based, protective, and strengthening training program consisting of such activities that enable students to live a life free of addiction risk, gain positive behavioral changes and habits, and protect themselves from risky environments and circumstances. The program aims to provide a multi-faceted development of students from a perspective of healthy living, healthy individual, and healthy society.

The program aims to ensure the multi-faceted development of the student with the perspective of a healthy life, healthy individual and healthy society. The most important difference of the program from other prevention programs is being focused not only on risky students but also on healthy students, and trying to strengthen them against risks. The target group of the program is 7th grade students who have not tried cigarettes, alcohol, or other substances at all, or tried but not become abusers.

The education and training approach of YYBE is based on learning by doing and experiencing, and problem solving. A total of 25 basic skills such as coping with stress, preventing negative emotions, self-management, effective communication, empathy, critical thinking, decision making, negotiation/rejection skills are tried to be gained for 15 weeks and it is aimed to create a rich environment where students can come together and learn from each other's perspectives and lives. In the program supported by educational games and drama activities, problem areas that the target age group may encounter in real life are constructed.

By creating the content related to YYBE, which includes the above-mentioned achievements, it was carried out as a 15-week pilot application with the participation of 147 students in 4 schools in Istanbul Bahçelievler in the 2019-2020 academic year.

Based on the results of the fieldwork, the contents and the activities within the scope of the training program were reviewed and revised. As a result of the pilot application, which was completed in February 2020, an effectiveness analysis was conducted to test the students' ability to refuse cigarette, alcohol and drugs, mainly life skills, their self-efficacy in preventing substance addiction and their attitudes towards addictive substances. As a result of the quantitative study, it has been seen

that YYBE is an effective in improving life skills and improving students' ability to refuse smoking. The project, which was developed in order to contribute to the strengthening of children and young people in our country against the risk of substance use and to develop positive and harmonious behaviors, is aimed to be expanded with a comprehensive cooperation protocol to be signed in 2021. For this purpose, it is aimed to train approximately 200 trainers (training of trainers) from 81 provinces in the first place, to start practices in schools by these trainers, to organize practitioner trainings in the ongoing process, and to start the widespread application of YYBE for seventh grade students in schools in 81 provinces (MoNE & the GREEN CRESCENT, 2021).

## 3.6. MINISTRY OF HEALTH

### Communicational Efforts on Fighting Against Drugs BMYK WEB SITE

The studies in the field of addiction in our country are carried out by the High Council of Fight Against Addiction (BMYK) under the Presidency of Vice President.

The website bmyk.gov.tr was launched in order to gather all the works in this field under one roof and to announce them to the public and to promote them.



Picture 3.4 BMYK Web Site

### BMYK SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

In recent years, the use and sphere of influence of social media channels has been increasing rapidly in our country as well as all over the world. Within the framework of the fight against addiction, the social media accounts (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram) named "You Can Succeed" were opened.

From these accounts, there are posts that inform, raise awareness and promote the treatment channels about tobacco, drugs, alcohol and behavioral addictions. The impact analyzes of the accounts are followed up with weekly and monthly reports.

Below are some of the images of the shares made on the social media account about drug addiction:



Picture 3.5 Social Account of You can Succeed.



Picture 3.6 Social Account of You can Succeed.



Picture 3.7 Social Account of You can Succeed.

In 2019, the Strategic Communication Document on Fight Against Addiction, which includes methods, content, concepts, language, style, expression structure and strategies, was prepared in order to establish language unity in communication studies to be carried out in the process of combating addiction. In this context, “Strategic Communication Document on Fight Against Addiction, Distance Education Content” consisting of 10 modules is prepared for stakeholders working in the field of addiction in all central and provincial organizations in order to carry out studies in a holistic and synchronized way (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021).



Picture 3.8 Training Content of Strategic Communication Document on Fight Against Addiction



Picture 3.9 Training Content of Strategic Communication Document on Fight Against Addiction

## 3.7. PRESIDENCY OF **RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS**

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Presidency of Religious Affairs, responsible for enlightening the society on religious issues, aims to fulfill demands and needs of the people in the religious matters and contribute to the social peace, unity, and solidarity. Serving with an approach open to development and innovation, and responsive to social problems, Presidency of Religious Affairs exerts efforts to protect the society, particularly the youth, from moral adversities and harmful habits.

The Presidency conducts its works covering addicts and akin thereof in the scope of 2018-2023 National Strategy Document on Fight Against Drugs drawn up in line with the resolutions of High Council of Fight Against Addiction.

In this sense, its services have a substantial importance in fight against addiction conducted on the basis of collaboration with relevant institutions and organizations. The Presidency executed certain protocols with Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, and Turkish Green Crescent Society for such collaboration.

The Presidency provides services of moral counseling and guidance during treatment and social adaptation stages as well as such preventive activities as raising awareness and consciousness in its fight against drugs. These services are carried out under the guidance of a male and female coordinator who is assigned within the scope of the fight against addiction services within the

81 provincial mufti and district mufti offices and receives comprehensive training on the field. In 2020, a total of 1,128 coordinators have served in 81 provinces and 483 districts.

The coordinators within the scope of preventive action in 2020;

- An in-service training seminar was held on 24-27.02.2020 for 145 personnel from the provincial coordinators working in the fight against addiction.
- 192 on-site trainings were held for religious officials, and 20,224 religious officials attended the programs.
- In order to raise the awareness of the listeners about addiction and to raise their awareness, the issue of harmful habits is periodically addressed on various occasions throughout the year in the sermons and sermons delivered in mosques. In 2020, the subject was covered in 2,149 sermons across our country, and an estimated 4 million people listened to these sermons. An estimated 25 million citizens were reached in the sermons.
- Within the planning of the mufti, 456 programs were realized with the participation of coordinators or speakers who are experts in their fields, they can be held in Quran courses, mosques, etc. venues for conferences, seminars, panels, etc. and approximately 63,956 people participated in the programs.



- Informative activities on addiction are organized by the coordinators in penitentiary institutions and probation directorates, and moral support is given within addiction treatments. In this context, approximately 11,135 people were reached in 293 events.
- Activities were organized to increase the awareness and awareness of our youth, who stay in the Credit and Dormitories Institution and who are the target and risky within the addiction cycle, through spiritual guides, 104 programs were carried out, mainly online, and approximately 3,585 students were reached.
- The emotional support and guidance services were provided by our officers to the counseling and treatment processes in the Alcohol and Substance Addiction Treatment Centers (AMATEM), Child-Adolescent Substance Addiction Treatment Centers (ÇEMATEM) and Green Crescent Counseling Centers, 172 programs were conducted in the treatment centers and approximately 4,270 people were reached.

The 2020 numerical data of the Presidency of Religious Affairs regarding prevention/training activities are presented in the table below (Presidency of Religious Affairs, 2021).

**Table 3.3** Distribution of Activities and Participants by the Presidency of Religious Affairs in 2020.

Type of Activity	Number of Activities	Number of Participants
Sermon	2,149	4,184,451
Conference, Seminar, Panel, etc.	456	63,956
Prison and Probation Classes	293	11,135
Programs held at Hostels	104	3,585
Programs held at AMATEM	172	4,270
Trainings for Religious Officers	192	20,224

## 3.8. SUPREME BOARD OF **RADIO AND TELEVISION (RTÜK)**

In 2020, audit activities were continued to prevent publications that encourage the use of drugs in broadcasting services. In this context, administrative fines were imposed 6 times and the program was suspended 5 times due to the

violation of the principle of Law 6112, Art 8, the first paragraph (h) sub-paragraph; “(Broadcasts) may not be inducing gambling and use of alcohol, tobacco products and addictive substances such as drug”.

## 3.9. TURKISH RADIO AND TELEVISION CORPORATION (TRT)

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According to the 1983 Law 2954 on Turkish Radio and Television, TRT Basic Broadcasting Principles state the provision of **“not to include any subjects which might damage physical and mental health of the society”**. Pursuant to this provision, TRT continues broadcasting activities by the virtue of the public broadcasting in compliance with the issues stated under the General Broadcasting Plan as listed below.

In the broadcasts in 2020 in the form of documentary, drama, education, culture, health and news broadcast on TRT radio and television channels, the followings are included;

- Meetings of High Council of Fight Against Addiction,
- International No Tobacco Day,
- International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking,
- Harms of smoking on expecting mothers,
- Drug addiction,
- Harms of using water-pipe/alcohol/tobacco and tobacco products,
- Means of protecting children from drug and tobacco addiction,
- Environmental factors from which youth and children are affected,
- Treatment methods in drug addiction,
- What is drug addiction and how to fight against this addiction,

- What are the duties of the families of drug addicts and experts in the fight,
- Addiction and our religion’s approach to addiction,
- Addiction and the duties of the media,
- Fight against harmful substances,
- All aspects of drug addiction,
- Substance addiction in youth, probation service,
- Fight against illegal and addictive substances,
- Methods of getting rid of substance abuse,
- ALO 191 Fight Against Drugs and Support line,
- Ways to stay away from addictive substances,
- Ministry of Interior’s “The Best Narcotics Police is Mother”, awareness-raising activities for mothers in the fight against drugs,
- Activities in fight against drugs,
- What parents must do when they suspect their child abusing substance, etc.

In addition, in 2020, it was tried to raise awareness in the society with 5 different public service ads against alcohol, tobacco products and substance abuse (TRT General Directorate, 2021).

## 3.10. THE **GREEN CRESCENT**

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### 3.10.1. Camp Activities

The objective of Green Crescent camping activities is to develop collaboration with the institutions and organizations with which camping activities are organized, and increase awareness of children and youth with respect to Green Crescent Society and fight against addiction through camping activities.

4 youth camps and 2 experience sharing camps for the club leaders are planned in 2020. Since the youth camp applications cover the spring, summer and fall terms, these applications have been canceled due to the pandemic. The first application of the experience sharing camp was held in İstanbul Kartal between 6-9.02.2020, and 145 people participated. The second application was organized in 4 online sessions on 14.11.2020 and 74 people participated in the program.

### 3.10.2. My Club is Green Crescent Project

“My Club is Green Crescent” is one of the most important preventive projects implemented at schools, which was developed by Green Crescent. The main objective of this project is to make the Green Crescent Clubs at schools effective and functional, and increase the students’ perception of Green Crescent. In addition, the project provides such benefits as mobilizing young volunteers in Green Crescent and introducing students to the right role models.

In this direction, the project was implemented in 150 schools until March 2020, when schools switched to distance education, with the “My

Club is Green Crescent” project. The remaining applications are planned to be carried out online in 2021.

### 3.10.3. Green Crescent Ambassadors Project

Green Crescent launched the Health Ambassador Project to collaborate with all segments of the society in the fight against addictions. The title of the project was changed to “Green Crescent Ambassadors” in 2018. The project aims to raise the awareness of the society in the fight against addiction by activating the local dynamics of the society and the neighborhood shopkeepers, to result in prevention of addictions.

A project application announcement was made to the Green Crescent branches for the project 2020 implementation. 36 branches across Turkey have completed their application to implement the project. Project payments and promotional products required for the project were delivered to the branches, but the project process could not be completed as field applications including visits to tradesmen could not be realized within the scope of pandemic measures. Within the scope of 2021 planning, 36 branches that applied in 2020 and our branches that will make new applications in 2021 will implement the project (the Green Crescent, 2021).

### 3.10.4. Peer Training Project

Volunteer students acting at Green Crescent clubs in line with the strategic objectives of Green Crescent are given trainers training on TBM peer training. In these, it is aimed to reach the most

important target group of the Green Crescent, the young people and especially university students.

It was planned to train 370 people as practitioners with 2 TBM Peer Education Training programs planned in 2020, but these applications were canceled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. In 2019 and before, 103 people who were peer education practitioners were given training on addiction, presentation techniques, and how to conduct education within online opportunities. Substance addiction refresher training was given specifically to 55 people out of 103 people. As a result of these studies, 30 online trainings were organized in the fields of tobacco, alcohol, substance and technology addiction, reaching a total of 1448 people (the Green Crescent, 2021).

### 3.10.5. Green Stage Project

The Green Stage Project is a platform where famous people who can be role models to be implemented in Turkey or academicians who are experts in their fields will meet with young people to share their experiences, observations and studies and organize interviews/seminars on the themes determined by the Green Crescent.

The aim of the project is to make the Green Stage project widespread throughout the country,

to bring young people from other provinces together with role models, and to raise awareness of the Green Crescent to the target audience by increasing the organizational capabilities of the branches.

25 Green Crescent branches responded positively to the application announcement made in January 2020 and demanded the implementation of the Green Stage interviews in their provinces and districts. The applications were planned to start in March, but these applications were canceled due to the pandemic.

The interviews were held with 4 live broadcast programs from the Instagram “gencyesilayci” account. A total of 1,714 people was reached through live broadcasts. In order to inform young Green Crescent volunteers in the field of Green Crescent and addiction and to increase their motivation, 33 Kahoot quizzes were organized to reach 3,685 people.

The “Youth Concerts” activity, which is included in the 2020 activity plan, was held online as “Home to Home Concerts” due to the pandemic (the Green Crescent, 2021)

# 4

CHAPTER

TREATMENT, REHABILITATION  
AND **SOCIAL REINTEGRATION**

## 4.1. TREATMENT

The activities on drug addiction treatment in Turkey are carried out by the Ministry of Health in cooperation with other institutions and organizations in accordance with the “2018-2023 National Strategy Document and Action Plan on Fight Against Drugs” (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021).

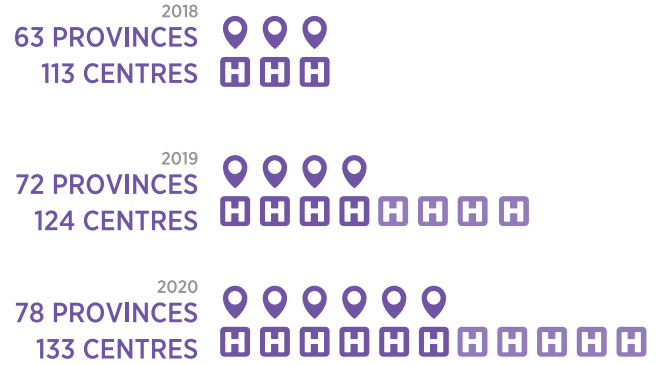
### 4.1.1 Organization and Provision of Drug Treatment

The intuitions that provide drug addiction treatment in Turkey are:

- State hospitals under the Ministry of Health,
- Psychiatry clinics under medical schools,
- University hospitals affiliated with the hospitals in under with the Ministry of Health and some private hospitals.

In Turkey, drug addiction treatment is offered as outpatient and inpatient, and there are 133 drug addiction treatment centers as of the end of 2020. Both outpatient and inpatient services are provided in 55 centers, and only outpatient services are provided in 78 centers. The total bed capacity of the treatment centers is 1,279 as of the end of 2020. There is at least one addiction treatment center in 78 of our 81 provinces (Graph 4.1).<sup>16</sup>

While outpatient treatment centers are being expanded, the efforts are continuing to increase the number and capacity of inpatient treatment centers.



**Graph 4.1** Substance Addiction Treatment Centers and Distribution of the Provinces by Years (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021).

### 4.1.2. Outpatient Treatment Network

Outpatient treatment programs are increasingly becoming widespread around the world. However, in Turkey, there is a strong conviction among especially patients' kin that drug treatment can only be possible as inpatient. Whereas, it is possible for a drug addict to get an outpatient treatment regulating his/her daily life and environment according to the treatment plan developed and advised by his/her therapist.

Any patient applying to a center for drug addiction treatment is evaluated by a therapist. As result of such evaluation, it is decided whether that patient should be an inpatient or outpatient in consideration of all the factors which might affect the treatment such as drug used, administration route, adaptation of patient to given treatment, and family relations and social environment.

An outpatient is prescribed a pharmaceutical therapy and it is ensured that they attend to individual and group therapies as well as reporting to scheduled control appointments. Interviews

<sup>16</sup> There are no treatment centers in Ağrı, Gümüşhane and Muş.

are organized with the families of inpatients and outpatients.

Although there were only three outpatient treatment centers in Turkey before publishing of 2015 Urgent Action Plan, new centers are started to be opened one by one for the facilitation of accessing to the treatment system. Seventy-eight outpatient treatment centers are in service as of the end of 2020.

The total clients for outpatient treatments are 211,991 only in 2020 excluding alcohol and nicotine usage disorders according to the diagnosis codes.<sup>17</sup> Among these, 74,315 are the ones guided by the probation services.



**Graph 4.2** Breakdown of Outpatients by Years (Ministry of Health, Directorate General of Public Health).

### 4.1.3. Inpatient Treatment Network

The treatments of those patients applying to a treatment center for the addiction treatment and recommended by a physician for inpatient treatment after individual’s examination and evaluation start with detoxification and continue with psychosocial interventions. In-patient treatment process typically takes 14 to 21 days.

Moreover, as part of the medical treatment at treatment centers, individual and group therapies are given, and occupational therapies (ceramics,

<sup>17</sup> Some duplicated records are available in the data.

mosaics, jewelry designing, painting, sports, reading, etc.) are organized under the supervision and guidance of trainers from public education centers.

Meanwhile outpatient treatment centers are expanded and increased in number, the works of increasing number and capacities of inpatient treatment centers also continue. Whereas there were 33 in-patient treatment centers serving with a capacity of 712 beds throughout the country prior to publication of 2015 Urgent Action Plan, the number of such centers are increased to 55 with a capacity of 1,279 beds as of 2020. Inpatient treatment centers are expanded to 30 provinces as of the end of 2020. The works for increasing the number of such treatment centers to cover entire health care regions are underway, and opening of new in-patient treatment centers are included in the investment plan.

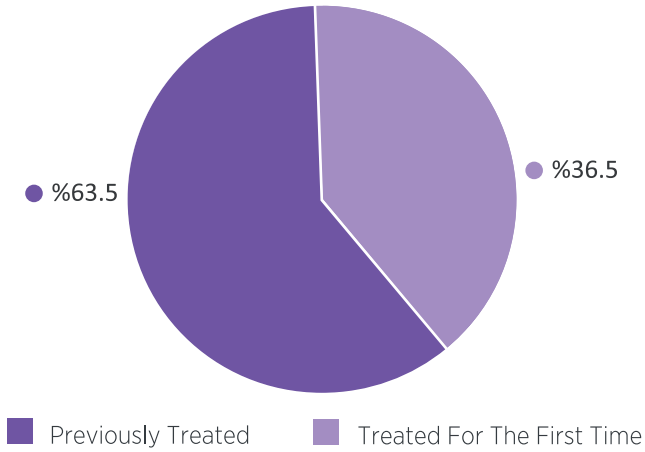
Inpatient treatment services are provided in 55 of 133 treatment centers in Turkey. The number of applications made to inpatient treatment centers in 2020 is 12,269.<sup>18</sup> When duplicated cases are excluded from this number, the total number of single individuals is 9,824.<sup>19</sup>



**Graph 4.3** Distribution of Inpatient Individuals Treated by Years (Ministry of Health, General Directorate for Public Health, 2021).

<sup>18</sup> Some duplicated records are available in the data.

<sup>19</sup> The analyzes in this section were made on 8,417 forms filled in the applications of 9,824 individual patients.



**Graph 4.4** Distribution of Patients Applying to Treatment Centers in 2020 -%- (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021).

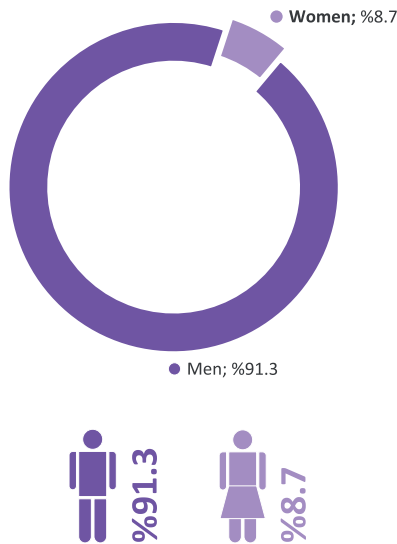
Of those who applied for treatment in 2020, 36.5% stated that they received treatment for the first time, and 63.5% stated that they had received treatment before (Graph 4.4).

**Table 4.1** Distribution of Patients Treated in Treatment Centers in 2020 by Substance Types (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021).<sup>20</sup>

ICD codes	Number of Outpatient Clients (ICD F10-F19)	Number of Inpatient (ICD F10-F19)
<b>F11 (Opioid Addiction)</b>	111,790	7,238
<b>F19 (multiple drug and other psychoactive substance abuse)</b>	47,402	3,266
<b>F12 (Cannabinoid Dependence)</b>	41,519	771
<b>F15 (dependence on caffeine and other stimulants)</b>	6,905	451
<b>F14 (Cocaine Addiction)</b>	2,126	229
<b>F18 (inhalant (volatile and solvent) dependence)</b>	789	157
<b>F13 (sedative and hypnotic Substance Abuse)</b>	887	80
<b>F16 (Hallucinogens Addiction)</b>	573	77
<b>Total</b>	211,991	12,269

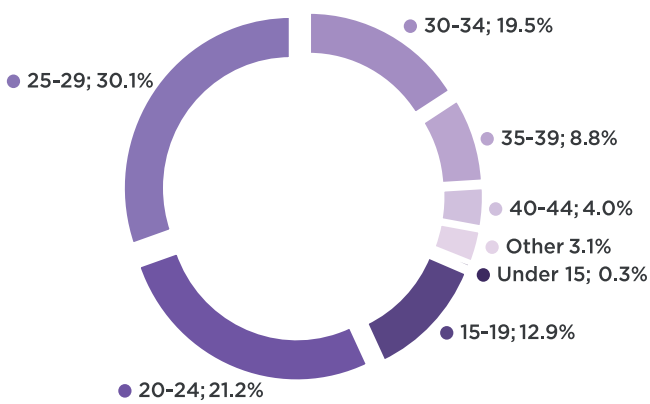
<sup>20</sup> Probation data is included.





**Graph 4.5** Breakdown of Patients by Gender - as % - (Ministry of Health, Directorate General of Public Health, 2021).

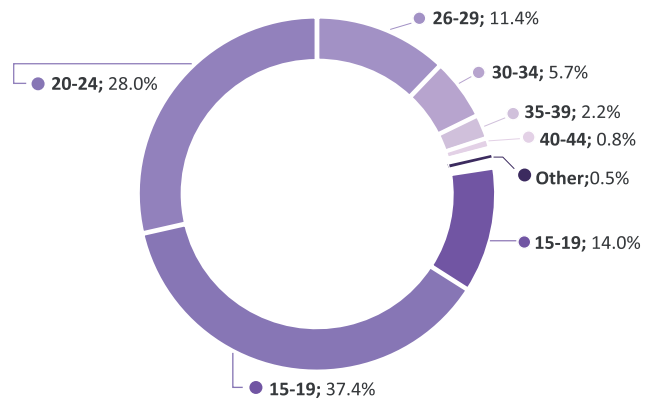
An analysis of the gender distribution of inpatients in 2020 reveals that 91.3% are male and 8.7% are female (Graph 4.5).



**Graph 4.6** Distribution of Treated Persons by Age -%- (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021).

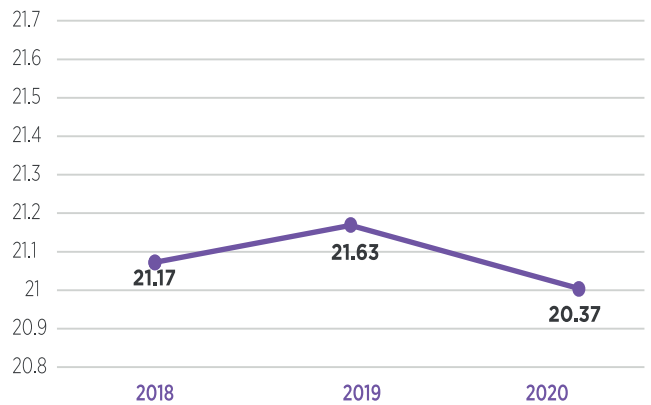
The mean age of the patients who applied for treatment was 27.8 years. When the distribution of the treated patients by age group was examined, it was seen that the patients applying for treatment were concentrated in the 20-29 age group. The

ratio of patients in the 20-29 age group to total patients is 51.3% (Graph 4.6).



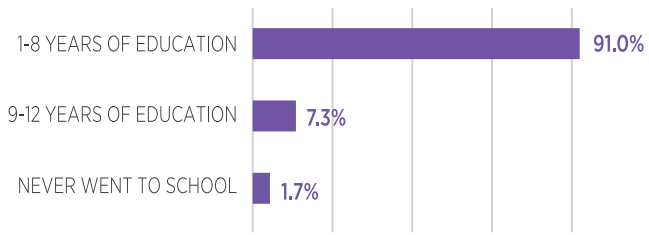
**Graph 4.7** Breakdown of Patients by Ages- as % - (Ministry of Health, Directorate General of Public Health, 2021).

When the patients who received inpatient treatment in 2020 were examined in terms of the age of first use, it was seen that the use of the substance was concentrated between the ages of 15-24. The ratio of patients in the 15-24 age group to total patients is 65.4% (Graph 4.7).



**Graph 4.8** Distribution of Treated Persons by Average Age of First Use -%- (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021).

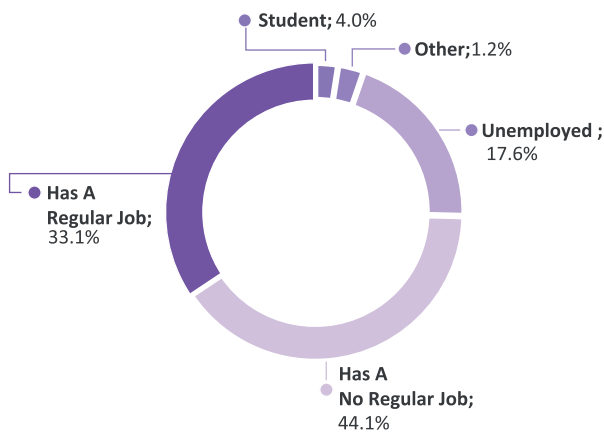
It was observed that the average age of first use of the substance in inpatients in 2020 was 20.37 (Graph 4.8).



**Graph 4.9** Breakdown of Patients by Educational Background - as % - (Ministry of Health, Directorate General of Public Health, 2021).

In consideration of the education background of those received treatment in 2020, it is observed that;

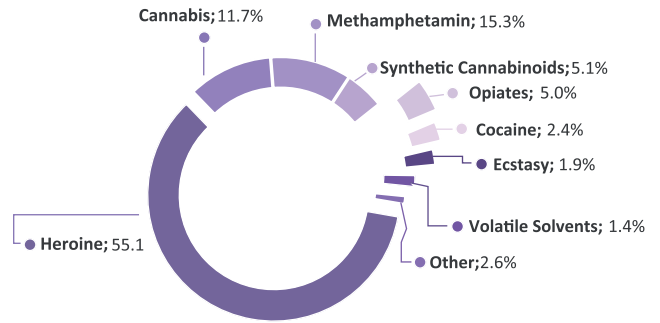
- 1.7% is never went to school,
- 91% is studied for 1-8 years,
- 7.3% is studied for 9-12 years. (Graph 4.9).



**Graph 4.10** Breakdown of Patients by Employment Status - in % - (Ministry of Health, Directorate General of Public Health, 2021).

In consideration of the employment statuses of those received treatment in 2020, it is observed that;

- 17.6% is unemployed,
- 44.1% has no regular job,
- 33.1% has a regular job,
- 4% is student (Graph 4.10).

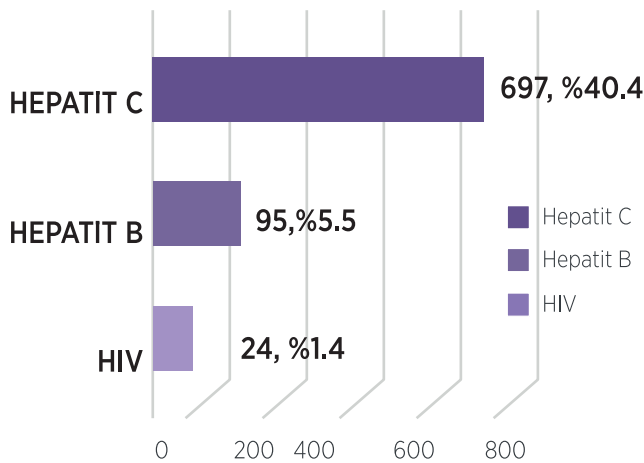


**Graph 4.11** Breakdown of Treated Patients by the Drug Types Abused (Ministry of Health, Directorate General of Public Health, 2020).

In consideration of the abused drug types for those treated in 2019, it is observed that;

- 55.1% were treated for heroin use,
- 15.3% for methamphetamine use,
- 11.7% for cannabis use,
- 5 % for other opiates use,
- 4.5% for synthetic cannabinoids use,
- 2.4% for cocaine use,
- 1.9% for ecstasy use,
- 1.4% for volatile substance use,
- 2.6% were treated for other substances use (Graph 4.11).

In the analyses performed on those inpatients at addiction treatment centers in 2020, the scan tests for HIV and viral hepatitis were applied on those patients abused drugs via injection.



**Graph 4.12** Breakdown of Scan Test Results Applied to Treated Drug Addicts Using Drugs by Injection (Ministry of Health, Directorate General of Public Health, 2021).

In consideration of scan test results applied to 1,726 addicts using drugs by injection, the following results are obtained;

- 95 positive results (5.5%) out of 1,726 addicts tested for hepatitis B,
- 697 positive results (40.4%) out of 1,726 addicts tested for hepatitis C,
- 24 positive results (1.2%) out of 1,726 addicts tested for HIV (Graph 4.12).

#### 4.1.4. New Developments

Within the scope of the action plan, 2 inpatient treatment centers were opened in 2020 to increase and expand the effectiveness of inpatient treatment services. One of these centers is the Child-Adolescent Purification Center and the other is the Women's Purification Centre. Thus, apart from the psychiatry clinics, service is provided in the 55-bed treatment center with a bed capacity of 1,279.

Ankara ÇEMATEM building, the construction of which has been completed within the scope of

the Health Sciences University Gülhane Training and Research Hospital, and the area reserved for child-adolescent detoxification services, will be reserved for pandemic patients within the scope of the COVID-19 pandemic and will begin to serve as a detoxification center at the end of the pandemic.

Within the scope of opening specialized treatment centers where mandatory treatment decisions will be applied for the treatment of addicts for whom mandatory treatment decisions are made by the courts or making physical arrangements for this in the existing treatment centers and 14 beds of AMATEM, which provides service within Adana Dr. Ekrem Tok Mental Health and Diseases Training and Research Hospital, were put into service as AMATEM in 2018.

Twenty beds at Samsun Psychiatric Training and Research Hospital are allocated for execution of mandatory treatment decisions by courts.

An inpatient treatment center (AMATEM), which also serves as a closed service, was opened in the provinces of Elazığ and Tekirdağ in 2020. Thus, the number of provinces with closed treatment centers has been increased to 4.

The women-oriented treatment programs have been established in order to overcome the difficulties in accessing and participating in treatment, and the social and physical problems of addicted women. In this context, an inpatient purification center for women was opened within Dr. Ekrem Tok Mental Health and Diseases Training and Research Hospital in Adana.

For operational structuring of women detoxification, girl's detoxification, and mother & baby units and rehabilitation centers, which are the first in Turkey and increasing the knowledge levels of 30 personnel assigned at such centers, "Training of Gender Sensitive Treatment Model Development" was organized in Istanbul.

In 2020, a women-specific inpatient purification center affiliated to Mersin Toros State Hospital was opened. Preliminary permissions were given by the Ministry of Health to open a 50-bed purification center in Mersin where women and children-adolescent patients will receive service. In

Istanbul, the work on the “Mother-Infant Unit” with beds, where women, pregnant women, women with babies and children will receive service, continues. These centers will be among the first examples of the development of a woman-specific treatment model in our country.

## 4.2. REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL REINTEGRATION

Rehabilitation is a process that includes outpatient and/or inpatient pharmacological and/or psychosocial treatments after the detoxification of the substance from the body, aiming to regain the functionality of the person as well as continuing to stay away from the substance and including social adaptation.

Social reintegration programs aim to provide counseling/treatment support for those either an addict or previously tried drugs, to focus on rehabilitation, education, employment, accommodation, as well as improving social relations and social functionality in the community, welfare and well-being thereof, and resulting in re-joining them to the society.

### 4.2.1. Ministry of Family and Social Services

#### *Child Support Center*

Child Support Centers provide temporary care and protection for children who are determined to need psychosocial support due to their

delinquency, being a victim of crime or facing social dangers on the street, until these needs are met. They are boarding social service institutions that are structured or specialized separately according to the victimization, delinquency, age and gender status of children, where studies are carried out for the regulation of relations with the immediate environment and society.

The main purpose of these centers is to provide services to meet the basic needs of children, to determine their physical, emotional, psychological and social needs, to perform the necessary interventions, to ensure that they return to their families and close circles or to be ready for other social service models.

It is ensured that any addicted children, whose medical treatment and medical rehabilitation are completed and for whom an injunction for care is decreed pursuant to the Law on Child Protection no 5395, are admitted to Child Support Centers in order to ensure their social integration.

A detailed professional evaluation is carried out by the Ministry of Health, considering the needs,

individual characteristics and life experiences of children whose medical treatment and medical rehabilitation regarding substance use have been completed, and a social service model suitable for the child's situation is determined. Among these children, those who are considered to need psychosocial support are admitted to Child Support Centers specialized in this field.

The centers are specialized according to the victimization, age and gender characteristics of children. 13 Child Support Centers serve with a maximum capacity of 40 to provide psychosocial support services to children whose substance use medical treatment and medical rehabilitation have been completed by the Ministry of Health. The care is taken to establish Child Support Centers serving in the field of substance abuse in the provinces where ÇEMATEM and AMATEM are.

The Child Support Centers service buildings consist of villa type houses within the campus. In the centers, areas such as living units, areas where children can work and occupation, indoor and outdoor sports fields, hobby gardens, animal shelters, training workshops, therapy rooms and meeting rooms have been created. As of the end of 2020, the total capacity of Child Support Centers serving within the scope of substance addiction is 403 and the number of children actually served is 216.

Anka Child Support Program, which includes psychosocial support and intervention, has been developed for children receiving services from Child Support Centers and their families. With the Anka Child Support Program implemented in the centers, it is aimed to ensure the personality development of children, to eliminate their traumas, to develop positive attitudes and

behaviors by creating behavioral changes related to delinquency, living on the street, and substance abuse, considering the individual differences and needs of children.

Anka Child Support Program consists of Individual Needs and Risk Assessment Form (BIRDEF), Group Studies, Individual Counseling, Family Studies, Supportive Environment Components, Approach Principles for Supportive Personnel, Institutional Approach in Crisis Intervention, which aims at a multi-dimensional approach and intervention.

In the content of the program, there are modules on subjects and these modules are applied to children ensuring personality development and creating behavior change related to substance addiction and gaining regular life skills etc. "Basic Personnel Training" is provided to all the staff assigned at Child Support Centers in the scope of the program.

The children under protection and care in Child Support Centers are provided to participate in the education process in cooperation with the Ministry of National Education.

The children who are out of formal education are directed to vocational education in cooperation with İŞKUR.

The various social, cultural and sports activities/workshops are carried out to strengthen the social cohesion of children receiving service from Child Support Centers, and we have licensed children in many sports branches. Within the scope of the protocol signed with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the activities to encourage sports activities continue.

The Values Education Program is carried out in the centers within the scope of the cooperation protocol signed between the Presidency of Religious Affairs and our Ministry. As per the protocol, trainings are provided in order to contribute to the religious, spiritual and moral development of children within the scope of the “Values Education through Activities” program carried out by the Religious Officials assigned to the Child Support Centers by the Provincial Mufti.

With the project initiated in 2017 for children under the age of 18 and their families, in order to inform the target groups about the harmful effects of drug use, raise awareness and direct the individuals in the target group to the social service model they need;

- In order to identify the children who, work/beg on the street and benefit from appropriate social services and aids, the mobile teams are started to be formed in which the personnel of the relevant public institutions and organizations (Family and Social Services Provincial Directorate, Provincial Security Directorate, Local Administration, Provincial Directorate of National Education etc.) work together. Currently, the service is provided in 81 provinces in 2020 with 134 mobile teams and 411 personnel.
- The guidance services were provided to 37,418 families and children until the end of 2020, and to 8,674 families and children in 2020, within the scope of providing guidance services to children working/begging on the street and their families within the scope of combating drugs.
- Within the scope of identifying the children working and begging on the street and their families and directing them to appropriate service models after detection, the number of children who were given guidance service and

directed to the appropriate service model in 2020 is 1,461.

- The services for children who are not under the protection and care, are carried out through SHMs. The personnel serving children within the scope of substance addiction in SHMs are provided with training on issues such as communication with children, working with children and etc. In this context, 178 personnel were trained in 2020.

In order to protect children who are in the secondary school age group and who are not included in the education and employment system, benefiting from the services of the General Directorate of Child Services included in the action plan, from drug addiction and to direct them to education/employment, guidance and consultancy activities were removed from the Action Plan with the decision taken at the BMYK meeting dated 30.12.2019, but it was decided to carry out again within the scope of the activity at the BMYK meeting dated 07.05.2020. In this direction, 81 Provincial Directorates of Family and Social Services were asked to plan activities to prevent substance use in children. In this context, information and guidance counseling for children staying in Child Support Centers, Children’s Homes, Children’s Homes Site and Child First Admission Centers and children supported by their families with Social Economic Support Service, orientation to formal education, orientation to vocational education, employment, sports courses, camps. Activities such as guiding people to social and cultural activities, making a daily schedule, effective communication, crisis intervention, skills acquisition, and psychosocial support were organized. The works continue under the coordination of Provincial Directorates.

With the evaluation of 13 existing Child Support Centers (ÇODEM) providing services for substance abuse, multi-purpose rooms were

created where workshops can be held by evaluating their specialization areas, capacity situations and physical structures.

In 2020, the psychosocial support training process of 566 (65%) of the children under protection and care who received service from ÇODEMs within the scope of substance addiction was completed (Ministry of Family and Social Services, General Directorate of Child Services, 2021).

## 4.2.2. Ministry of Health

### *The Studies Conducted within the Scope of the Rehabilitation Model for the Addicted Patients (BAHAR)*

The Rehabilitation Model for Addicted Patients (BAHAR) was created in order to help individuals stay in touch with treatment institutions after addiction treatment and to facilitate their adaptation to social life without using drugs again and in this context, the first center was opened on 02.01.2018 within the body of Erenköy Mental and Neurological Diseases Training and Research Hospital to provide outpatient services.

Again, within the scope of this model, Tuzla BAHAR Rehabilitation Center with 46-bed capacity and Üsküdar BAHAR Rehabilitation Center were put into service within the body of Erenköy Mental and Neurological Diseases Training and Research Hospital which is for 15-25 years old patients.

The outpatient rehabilitation center of Kayseri State Hospital was opened as of November 2020 and started to provide services.

### *Trainings for Employees in Primary Health Care Services*

The fight process was strengthened by ensuring that family physicians, who are the first contact point with the health system, take an active role in the fight against drugs. In order to increase the effectiveness of the services provided in the primary care within the scope of the fight against drugs, and to ensure that family physicians are equipped to make necessary interventions for individuals with drug use or addiction and their relatives, the “ Training Program on Fight Against Addiction “, which was first created in 2015 and updated in 2018, was prepared.

Within the framework of this training program, the trainers from 81 provinces were trained by educators consisting of academicians and experts working in their fields. By providing addiction training to 25,039 family physicians and 8,478 family health personnel in 2018, and 20,204 family physicians and 17,197 family health personnel in 2019, it is ensured that the individual or family of

drug users in the population he is responsible for provides early diagnosis and counseling services and supports the outpatient treatment of patients who are not highly dependent. In 2020, due to the pandemic, the trainings for the professional staff could not be realized.

In order to ensure the standardization of the trainings, the standard training sets and an addiction control guide have been prepared and these documents are distributed.

In order to strengthen the efforts to combat addiction in primary health care services, face-to-face counseling and support services are provided for addicted patients and their relatives in wellness centers as well as family health centers.

The Training on Fight Against Addiction was provided to 332 professional staff, consisting of psychologists, social workers and child development specialists, in all healthy life centers actively working in 81 provinces. The trainings held in Ankara were held on 23-24.09.2019, 25-26.09.2019, 14-15.11.2019, 2-3.12.2019 and 5-6.12.2019 as 5 terms. In 2020, the trainings for the professional staff could not be realized due to the pandemic.

The individuals who apply to Psychosocial Support Units in family medicine and wellness centers for themselves or their relatives are evaluated for drug addiction counseling and support, counseling services are provided, and works are carried out to ensure that addicted individuals are included in the treatment system. Interviews thereat are carried out periodically, and commencements of treatment processes are ensured. Moreover, monitoring and follow-ups are maintained for any individuals treated for addiction at healthy living centers.

The presence of a addicted individual within the family, affects the family deeply and disrupts family dynamics. At such centers, families are provided with support and guidance on addiction process, attitudes toward an addict individual, and what-to-do's for directing such individual to the treatment system.

In order for ensuring a standard procedure across the country for monitoring individuals applying to psychosocial support units at healthy living centers for himself/herself or akin thereof, and for following up the relevant data, The Software for Fight Against Drugs at Healthy Life Centers is designed, and a pilot scheme therefor is launched. In this context, the appointments can be made from SHMs via ALO 191 by integrating the software system used in Healthy Life Centers (SHM) with ALO 191. Thus, the follow-up of patients and families applying to SHMs is carried out by the Hotline. In addition, in order to increase the effectiveness of the treatment, the consent of the patients who apply to the Alcohol and Substance Addiction Treatment Center and Child-Adolescent Substance Addiction Treatment Centers are sought and their treatment processes are closely followed through the ALO 191 line. With the consent of the person, the callbacks continue periodically (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021).

### ***In-Service Trainings for the Health Personnel Working in Psychiatry Clinics and Substance Addiction Treatment Centers***

The content of the "Training on Substance Addiction for Specialists" organized for mental health and diseases specialist physicians has been updated. The newly prepared audio and video training module was transferred to the Ministry of Health Distance Health Education System (USES). 4974 mental health and diseases specialist physicians working in health facilities affiliated to the Ministry of Health throughout the country completed the training module.

In-service trainings continued to be given in order to increase the knowledge level of the personnel working in the treatment centers on addiction and



to ensure the unity of practice. In this context, the training was given to 55 assistant health personnel working in Addiction Treatment Centers. However, the continuation of the training could not be provided due to the pandemic.

Within the scope of efforts to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of counseling, treatment and rehabilitation centers serving throughout the country, the Minimum Operating Standards (ASIS) Guide has been prepared in order to ensure that the same standard of service is provided in each center.

## **Training Programs for the Staff at First Line Medical/ Health Services**

Within the scope of the 2018-2023 National Strategy Document and Action Plan on Fight Against Drugs, “Emergency Approach in Substance Use Disorder” trainings are provided for hospital emergency workers who intervene in emergency situations for addicted patients and pre-hospital emergency health personnel working in Emergency Call 112’s.

The trainings for hospital emergency workers who intervene in emergency situations for addicted patients and personnel working in pre-hospital 112 emergency health services continued in 2020 as well.

In this context, a “Workshop on Approach to Substance Addiction in Emergency Services” was held in order to study the “Guide on Emergency Approach in Substance Use” in three parts: Medical, forensic, addiction, and social dimensions. In addition, in these workshops, the preparatory work of the guide was started by working on the forensic and ethical processes related to the patients who applied to the emergency department.

In 2020, 4,209 personnel were reached by the Provincial Health Directorates within the scope of emergency approach training for pre-hospital emergency health care workers. In-service training

continues in the provinces to complete the training of all personnel.

“Emergency Approach Guide in Substance Use Disorder” was delivered to all personnel in 81 provinces for pre-hospital emergency health care workers via ASOS (Emergency Health Automation System). Provincial health directorates were instructed to have Naloxone in all ambulances in 81 provinces for use in emergency response to patients with substance use disorders in ambulances (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021)

## **Hotline for Consultation and Support on Fight Against Drugs (ALO 191)**



Call Center for Consultation and Support on Fight Against Drugs (ALO 191) was launched on 8.07.2015. Total 287.301 calls were received through the Hotline serving 24/7 between July 2015 and December 2020.

The Hotline for Consultation and Support on Fight against Drugs (ALO 191) is a solution center working 24/7 online, through which drug-related consultation and support services are directly provided, and callers are referred according to needs thereof. Hotline provides its services by

109 staff comprised of psychologists and sociologists. Services are provided without asking any particulars such as name or Turkish ID number. However, such information is needed from those for whom a hospital appointment is to be arranged provided they consent so.

A risk assessment for addiction is performed to those declaring drug abuse, and any individuals with a low and high risk are identified. Motivational interviews are conducted with the individuals with low risks, and they are referred to family physicians and psychiatry services while students of low risks to the guidance units in their schools. Any individual with high risk are interviewed motivationally and referred to a psychiatry service or the closest Alcohol and Substance Addiction Treatment Center (AMATEM) for treatment with the elaboration on particular drug(s) abused.

In case of a document of drug abuse by an individual, an appointment is arranged with the most appropriate treatment center. In addition, if accepted by any individual of an on-going treatment, he/she will be called at least 6 times in a year (1 week, 15 days, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, and at the end of the year) to follow up the treatment process, and ensure that the patient is still in contact with relevant treatment units.



**Graph 4.13** Number of Services Received Via ALO 191 Guidance and Support Hotline on Fight Against Drugs by Years (Ministry of Health, Directorate General of Public Health, 2021).

In order to evaluate the satisfaction with the service offered on the hotline, a survey is conducted using the voice response system (Interactive Voice Response-IVR surveys) to the people who agree to participate in the survey at the end of the interview. In this context, according to the client satisfaction survey conducted in 2020, it was determined that 97% of those who received service from the Hotline ALO 191 for Consultation and Support on Fight against Drugs were satisfied with the service they received from the hotline.

In-service training continued for ALO 191 for Consultation and Support on Fight against Drugs personnel in 2020. In 2020, small groups of hotline personnel were provided with in-service training on the subjects of “Management of Cases with Attempted Suicide Under the Influence of Substances” and “Limits and Responsibility of the Hotline on Neglect-Abuse for Under-18s and Over 18s”.

The promotional film, which was prepared to increase the awareness and branding of the Hotline, was broadcast in the media. The studies are also carried out through the internet and social media in order to inform the society, especially the youth, about the harms of drug use, treatment and counseling services. The ALO 191 saglik.gov.tr website created for this purpose was put into service in 2016. The website was visited 161,649 times in 2020 (Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health, 2021).



**Table 4.2** Number of Services and Subject Headings Received from ALO191 Anti-Drug Counseling and Support Line in 2020

Subject Headings	Number Of Calls
Treatment Request	26,945
Support Request (Communication, Motivational Interview and Food Craving, by Family/Addict)	6,917
Info Request on Alcohol Dependence	7,517
Info on Feedback Calls	3,170
Info Request on Mandatory Treatment	3,024
Info and Treatment Request on Suspicion of Drug Abuse by Minors less than 18	1,233
Referral of Health Emergency	1,457
Info Request on Social Security/SSI/Financial Difficulty	813
Info Request and Referral regarding to inform on Trafficking, Selling or Use of Drug	413
Info Request on Probation Services	399
Complaints	225
Request After Drug Addiction Treatment (employment, etc.)	120
Info Request on Substances	200
Education/Training Request (Schools, Training Center for Prevention of Drug Abuse)	36
Violence	105
Acknowledgments	64
Driving (Legal Procedures for Driving under Influence)	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,660</b>

### 4.2.3. Turkish Green Crescent Society Green Crescent Consultation Center (YEDAM)

The example of outpatient psychosocial treatment services is Green Crescent Guidance Centers (YEDAM) which are being expanded to several provinces in Turkey. Formed as a project of Turkish Green Crescent Society, YEDAM provides psychosocial services to addicts, the families thereof, and those at risk of addiction. YEDAM, which has a system based on getting rid of addiction and preventing relapse, continues its activities in 53 provinces and also in 61 centers in the TRNC (Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus) as of the end of 2020.

In YEDAM, the priority is alcohol and substance addicts, as of 2019, internet and tobacco

addiction, and as of 2020, the fight against gambling addiction has started to be provided (Green Crescent, 2021).

### YEDAM Workshop

YEDAM aims to provide holistic social service support to individuals who have reached a certain stage in alcohol and substance addiction treatment or whose treatment has been completed, so that they become active in all areas of life.

Those individuals over 16 years old who are currently receiving psychosocial treatment or referred to YEDAM Workshop during the treatment, and the families and first degree akin thereof can benefit from YEDAM Workshop whereat activities of gastronomy, sports, graphic designing, and toy making are carried on.

Whereas the curriculum for rehabilitation of substance addiction is set forth as vocational therapy, psychotherapy, family interaction, values education, hobby, and sports, work plans prepared daily by experts provide both skill development training and strengthen the relation of individual with the society and addiction thereon. There are 70 different workshops at YEDAM centers across Turkey. 860 activities were organized at YEDAM centers in order to ensure social adaptation.

**Table 4.3** Breakdown of Applications to YEDAM Centers, 2020.

	Number
First application	8,400
Number of psychotherapies received	5,844
Number of follow-up clients	2,110
Number of social service interviews	14,097
Number of İŞKUR interviews	92
Number of employments provided	14
Number of clients attending to workshops	354
Number of house visits	28
Number of house visits by mobile teams	28

## Green Crescent Turkish Rehabilitation Model

The Green Crescent has structured an original and scientific Rehabilitation Model designed in accordance with Turkish Culture, based on the therapeutic community approach to rehabilitation, helping addicts to be rehabilitated by improving

their social adaptation skills while living together, that the healing power in treatment is the community itself, and the philosophy of ahi-order.

While the individuals receiving treatment in the rehabilitation center complete their treatment with group and one-on-one therapies in line with a daily program, they will learn professions from the masters in certain workshops (carpentry, kitchen, repair, etc.), and they will do their daily work (laundry, cleaning, etc.). In this way, they will be able to stand on their own feet, gain their self-respect and self-confidence, and become compatible and useful people in the society. The rehabilitation structure is designed on an individual, family and community basis. The model is built on a foundation where these three structures are built in harmony and integrated with each other. It is an original model designed in accordance with Turkish Culture, which is also based on the philosophy of Ahi-Order.

While designing the model, 13 domestic institution reviews, 7 comprehensive workshops, one-on-one interviews with 23 foreign stakeholders, 25 foreign institution reviews, and field visits to 5 countries were made. After many interviews and workshops held at home and abroad, a scientific-based model was created.

After the regulation on rehabilitation centers was issued in March 2019, necessary revisions were made in the architectural plan, a cooperation protocol was signed with TOKİ, and the construction work of 2 rehabilitation centers was started. In 2021, the works are carried out to open rehabilitation centers in Bursa and Diyarbakır provinces, and the construction process of both centers continues (Green Crescent, 2021).

# 5

CHAPTER

## DRUG RELATED **DEATHS**

The data of directly drug related deaths (DRD) are accumulated and reported from autopsy records of Ministry of Justice, Institution of Forensic Medicine (ATK). ATK has branches throughout the country and keeps records of autopsy reports.

DRD are determined according to the deaths occurred in hospitals, just after taking one or more than one illegal substances (opium and derivatives thereof, cocaine, cannabis, amphetamine and its derivatives, hallucinogens and new psychoactive substances), in some case, taken together with alcohol and/or psychoactive substances, and after falling into coma as a consequence of using such substances above.

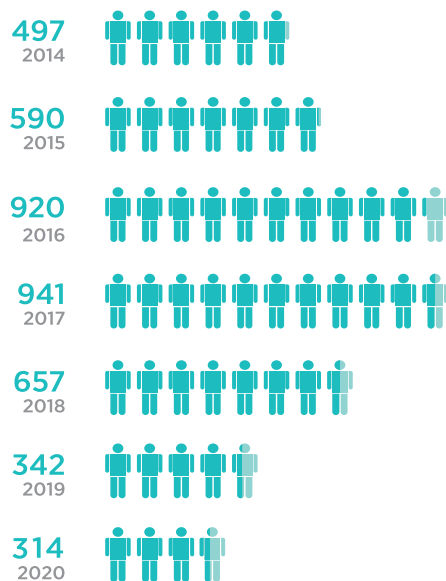
DRD are evaluated together with investigation records of law enforcement, crime scene investigations, and autopsy results.

The 2020 data on DRD were studied in June 2021 by Forensic Medicine Institution in Istanbul and submitted to Counter Narcotics Department. According to the results, 314 directly drug related deaths occurred in 2020.

In 2020;

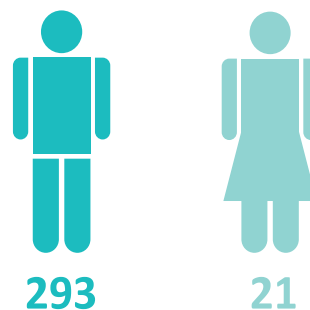
It is observed that the deaths were in 11 different nationalities including Turkey.

And 293 (93.3%) thereof was Turkish citizen.



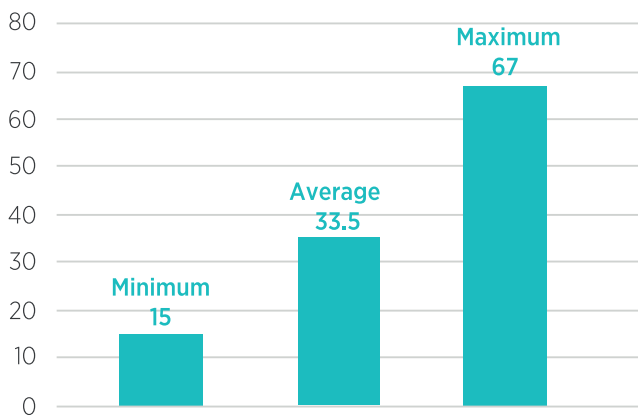
**Graph 5.1** Deaths by Years (Ministry of Justice, Institution of Forensic Medicine, 2021).

Direct DRD, which were 232 in 2013, became 497 with an increase of 114% in 2014, 590 with an increase of 19% in 2015, 920 with an increase of 56% in 2016, and 941 with an increase of 2.3% in 2017. In 2018, the number of drug-related deaths decreased to 657 with a rate of 30.2% and to 342 with a rate of 47.9% in 2019. The downward trend continued in 2020 and substance-related deaths decreased by 8.2% to 314. Thus, a 66.6% decrease has been recorded since 2017, when deaths peaked.



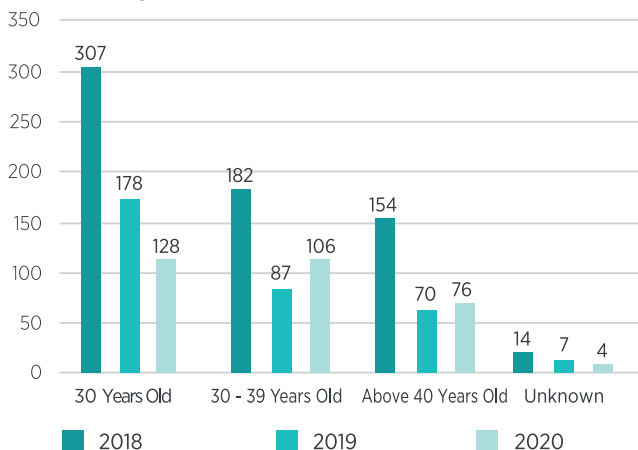
**Graph 5.2** Breakdown of Drug Related Deaths in 2019 by Gender (Ministry of Justice, Institution of Medicine Institution, 2021).

When the gender distribution of drug-related deaths is analyzed, 96.8% (636) of those who died in 2018 were male, 3.2% (21) were female, and 97.4% (333) of those who died in 2019 were male, 2.6% (9) of them are women. In 2020, 93.3% (293) of those who died were male and 6.7% (21) were female.



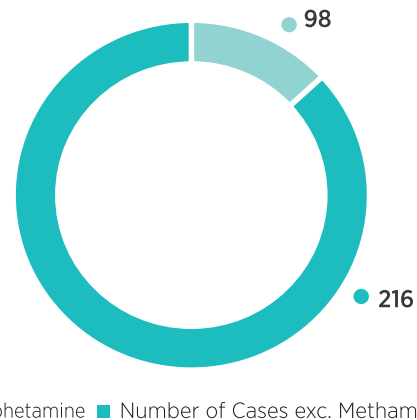
**Graph 5.3** Age Statistics of Drug Related Deaths in 2020 (Ministry of Justice, Institution of Medicine Institution, 2021).

The oldest of directly death related deaths in 2020 was 67 years old, and it was due to polydrug use. The average age for deaths is 33.5 (30.9 in 2019). The deaths under the age of 30 are 40.7%, deaths between the ages of 30-39 are 33.8%, and deaths over the age of 40 are 24.2%.



**Graph 5.4** Breakdown of Drug Related Deaths in 2019 by Age Groups (Ministry of Justice, Forensic Medicine Institution, 2020).

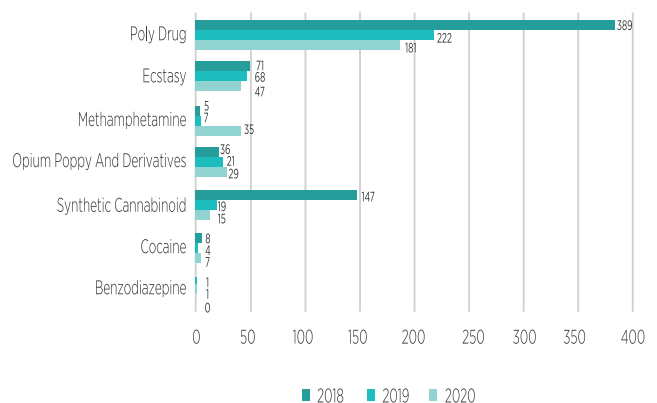
5 of the deaths are outside the 15-64 age range. Therefore, the number of DRDs in Turkey that will be reflected in the 2022 European Drug Report will be 309.



**Graph 5.5** Distribution of Methamphetamine Number of Drug-Related Deaths in 2020 (Ministry of Justice, Forensic Medicine Institute, 2021).

In 2018, 6.2% (41) of 657 DRD, 14.3% (49) of 342 substance-related deaths in 2019, and 31.2% of 314 DRD in 2020 (98) methamphetamine is available.

In 2018, 5 (12.2%) of 41 deaths in which methamphetamine was detected in the blood, 7 (14.3%) of 49 deaths in 2019, and 35 (35.7%) of 98 deaths in 2020 were caused by only methamphetamine.



**Graph 5.6** Distribution of Drug-Related Deaths by Multiple and Single Substances by Years (Ministry of Justice, Institute of Forensic Medicine, 2021).

While 389 (59.2%) of 657 deaths in 2018 and 222 (64.9%) of 342 deaths in 2019 were due to polydrug use, out of 657 deaths in 2018; of the 314 deaths that occurred in 2020, 181 (57.6%) were due to polydrug use.<sup>21</sup>

In the majority of drug-related deaths, the cause of death is due to polydrug use. The polydrug use further increases the risk of death.



*In 2020*

*heroin was found in 36.9% (116) of 314 drug related deaths, methamphetamine in 31.2% (98), and ecstasy in 29.6% (93).*



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<sup>21</sup> The polydrug use refers to the simultaneous use of different drugs/stimulants or the use of a narcotic substance with alcohol.





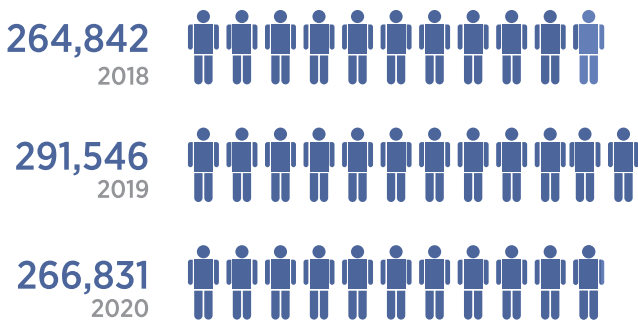
CHAPTER

PUNISHMENT, PRISON,  
**AND PROBATION**

Although it is known that since the existence of humanity crimes and punishments differ at regional and even at local, the fact that each crime has a punishment has never changed in any period of the history.

## 6.1. PENAL INSTITUTIONS

According to the data of the Ministry of Justice, there are 366 penal institutions in Turkey as of 2020. The total number of convicts and detainees in these institutions is 266,831.



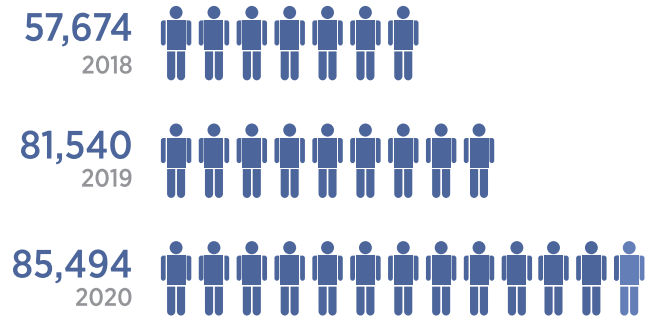
**Graph 6.1** Breakdown of Number of Convicts/ Detainees in Penal Institutions by Years (Ministry of Justice, Directorate General of Prisons and Detention Houses, 2021).

According to the statistical data, there is a decrease in the number of convicts and detainees in penal institutions. The number of convicts and detainees in penal institutions decreased by 8.5% compared to the previous year.

As of 2020, there are 85,484 convicts/detainees related to drug crimes in penal institutions.

While the rate of convicts and detainees in penal institutions due to drug-related crimes was 27.97% in 2019, this rate increased to 32% in

2020 (Ministry of Justice, General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses, 2021).



**Graph 6.2** Distribution of the Number of Persons in Penitentiary Institutions for Drug-Related Crimes by Years (Ministry of Justice, General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses, 2021).

### 6.1.1. Improvements in Penal Institutions in the Fight Against Drugs

A 3-stage Research Evaluation Form (ARDEF) is applied to every convict and detainee coming to the penitentiary institution within the scope of the Individualized Improvement System (BISIS).

The “admission form” is filled by the institution admission officer as soon as the prisoner and the convict come to the institution. The urgent needs and risks are determined with this form. In the second stage, the “Psychosocial Execution Protection Form” is filled in by the execution and protection officer in the psychosocial service unit within 3 days at the latest and the “psychosocial screening and evaluation form” is filled in by the psychosocial service specialists in the last stage. In line with the risk-needs-compliance report determined by the filled ARDEF, the health, educational, spiritual, social, cultural, familial, economic and legal needs of the person and the necessary works regarding the room placement are initiated in order of risk and priority in line with the understanding of the “individualized improvement system”.

Convicts and detainees who have a history of substance use as a result of the ARDEF form applied to the detainee and the convict, the guidance of the institution's family doctor or the application of the person to the psychosocial service with a petition, "Smoking, Alcohol and Substance Addiction (SAMBA)" program individual and/or group work is included in the program. During the implementation process, the detainees and convicts who are observed to need advanced examination and treatment by psychosocial service specialists, are directed to the institution physician. In this process, the patient can be treated as an outpatient or inpatient at a health institution, and when he returns to the institution after treatment, the psycho education that must be continued and the contribution of other units to the process (occupational therapy, individual or collective sports activities and other social-cultural activities) are planned in cooperation with the relevant services and rehabilitation works are carried out.

**Table 6.1** Distribution of the Number of Persons in Penitentiary Institutions by Years (Ministry of Justice, General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses, 2021).

IMPROVEMENT STATISTICS on ADULT CONVICTED DETAINEE and PRISONERS (2020)	
Number of Individual Interviews with Convicts and Detainees	315,322
Number of Interviews with Families of Convicts and Detainees	35,219
Number of Smoking, Alcohol and Substance Abuse (SAMBA) Group Studies for Convicts and Detainees	124
Number of Participation in the Smoking, Alcohol and Substance Addiction (SAMBA) Group Study for Convicts and Detainees	1,213
Number of Other Group Studies for Convicts and Detainees	516
Number of Convicts and Detainees Participating in Other Group Work	2,775
Number of Seminars Held for Convicts and Detainees	894
Number of Participation in the Seminar for Convicts and Detainees	20,194
Number of Participation in Seminars for Personnel	5,316
Number of Individual Interviews with Personnel	13,203

## 6.2 PROBATION

In the context of treatment and probation measures issued by Courts and Prosecutor Offices, drug abusers are referred to a relevant health institution in order to provide necessary treatment.

In 2020, 81,851 decisions were made to the probation directorates within the scope of Article 191 of the Turkish Penal Code.

### 6.2.1. Improvements in Probation Directorates in Fight Against Drugs

Within the scope of probation, the post-treatment supervision and follow-up of the obliged parties are carried out by the directorates to which they are affiliated. Within the scope of the activities to fight against drugs, the person who uses drugs or stimulants or buys, accepts or possesses drugs or stimulants to use, evaluates the factors that cause drug use or causes the desire to use drugs, to control the individual's need for drugs, to increase the standard of living Individual interviews are held within the scope of guidance studies in order to be a useful individual for himself and the society in line with his/her determined needs. In addition to the practices within the scope of training and improvement activities, the psychologists, social workers, sociologists and teachers, who work in the probation directorates, as well as the experts invited from external institutions, also carry out works for the restructuring of the free time of the obligant.

The improvement activities carried out in probation directorates are as follows:

### **Individual Interviews,**

- Evaluation Interviews,
- Individual Intervention Interviews (Long-Term Individual Interviews)
- Anger Management Program in Probation Practices
- Effective Communication Skills (For Children)
- Anger Management Skills (For Children)
- Conscious Awareness (For Children)
- Interview and Relationship Development Skills (for children)

### **Group Studies**

#### **For adults;**

- Smoking, alcohol and Substance Abuse Awareness Program-SAMBA
- Exchange for Life Program - HAYDE
- Anger Management Intervention Program
- Training on Family In The Fight Against Addiction (BAMAP)
- Exchange Hour Program
- Trainings on Values
- Spiritual Guidance Program (in cooperation with the Presidency of Religious Affairs)

#### **For children and teenagers;**

- Basic Approach Intervention Program for Children - ÇMP 1
- Alcohol and Substance Intervention Program for Supervised Children - ÇMP 2
- General Criminal Behavior Intervention Program for Children - ÇMP 3
- Aggression Prevention Intervention Program for Children - ÇMP 4

- Step by Step Exchange Program
- Smoking, Alcohol and Substance Addiction Awareness Program for Youth - Young SAMBA

Individual interviews, group work, seminars, etc. improvement studies and intervention programs were implemented for 246,435 obliged parties in 2020, within the scope of the decisions that are related to probation duty and making improvement is mandatory (including TCK 191 decisions).

In addition, within the scope of other improvement works, it can be ensured that the obligants are directed to educational, social, cultural, artistic and sportive activities in line with their interests and needs in order to support their integration with the society and develop their positive social behaviors, interests and skills. These studies for the structuring of leisure time can be carried out in the form of directing the programs of other institutions and non-governmental organizations, or they can be implemented within the directorate.

## **6.2.2 In-Service Training**

Within the scope of the measures taken due to the pandemic in 2020, it has been decided to conduct in-service training of our personnel by distance education method. In-service training, including Smoking Alcohol and Substance Addiction Intervention Programs, was provided to 765 personnel in 2020, for probation personnel using face-to-face education method before March and distance education method after March.

**Table 6.2** Number of trained personnel

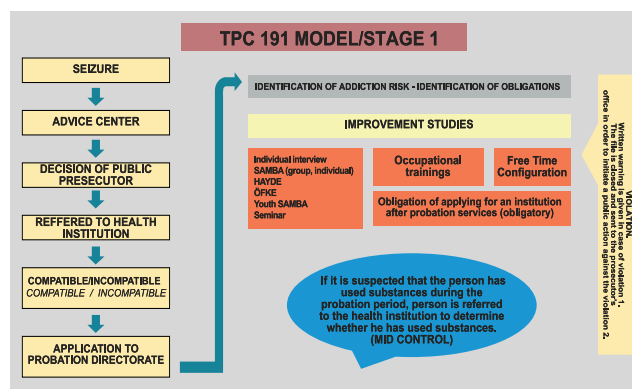
NAME of the TRAINING	Number of Personnel
Young SAMBA program Practitioner Training	144
Training of Trainers on Smoking, alcohol and Substance Abuse Intervention Program (Group)	22
Training on Trainers on Smoking, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Intervention Program (Group) educational training (for CIK personnel)	17
Practitioner Training on Smoking, alcohol and Substance Abuse Intervention Program (Group)	278
Training of Trainers on Smoking, alcohol and Substance Abuse Intervention Program (Individual-reading)	22
Practitioner Training on Smoking, alcohol and Substance Abuse Intervention Program (Individual-reading) Addiction	278
Training of Trainers on Smoking, alcohol and Substance Abuse Intervention Program (Individual-Group)	22
Practitioner Training on Smoking, alcohol and Substance Abuse Intervention Program (Individual-Group)	278
Training of Trainers on Smoking, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Intervention Program (Seminar)	22
Practitioner Training on Smoking, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Intervention Program (Seminar)	278
Practitioner Training on Family Education Program in the Fight Against Addiction	40

### 6.2.3. New Model for Intermediate Controls by Ministry of Justice During 5-Year Probation Period

A new model for Intermediate Controls by Ministry of Justice During 5-Year Probation Period, which was decided in the meeting of High Council of Fight against Addiction (BMYK) on 03.07.2019, is to be put into practice.

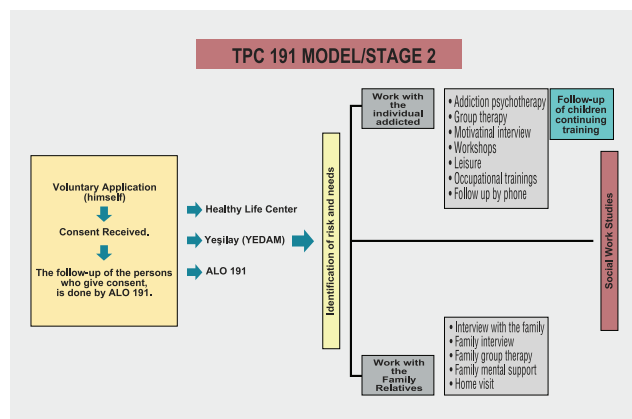
A new model consisting of 2 stages was designed after such meetings.

The first stage covers the time from the moment the person is arrested by the law enforcement to the process of completing the probation process and sending the file to the Office of the Chief Public Prosecutor, as a part of the treatment probation or only probation decisions given within the scope of Article 191 of the TPC No. 5237.



**Picture 6.1** TPC 191 Model 1

The second stage covers the period from the completion of the probation process until the postponement of the filing of the public lawsuit is completed.



**Picture 6.2** TPC 191 Model 2

One of the decisions taken at High Council for Fight Against Addiction meeting held on 30.12.2019 is to start implementing the model as a pilot study.

At the beginning of 2020, preparatory studies were started before the pilot implementation. Although it was requested to start the pilot application after the preparations were completed, the pilot application was started in Ankara on 01.09.2020 due to the measures taken due to the pandemic.

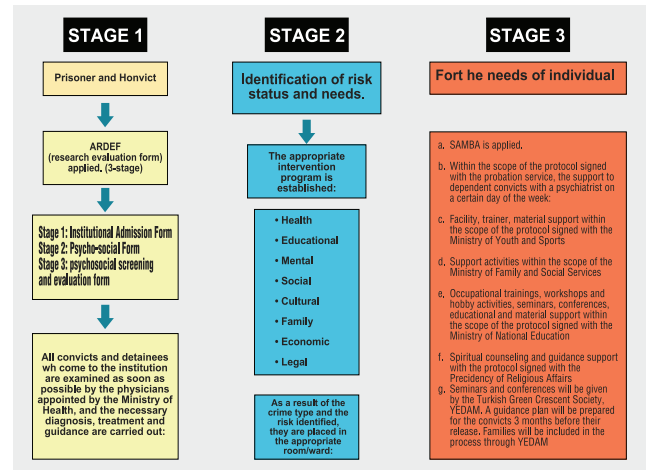
In September, October and November 2020, within the scope of investigations opened for drug use and possession, the Ankara and Ankara West Chief Public Prosecutor’s Office directed the obligants to the Healthy Life Centers and requested an evaluation report from the health institutions regarding whether the obliged parties needed treatment or not, by Ankara and Ankara Western Probation Directorates. “Pilot Application 1”, which includes the data of a total of 500 probation officers, in which the risk and needs assessment of the obliged parties (ARDEF 191) were made and the obligors were included in the seminars where YEDAM activities were introduced. Evaluation report “ has been prepared.

## 6.2.4 Application of Holistic Model In Prisons

In the meeting of the BMYK, held on 03.07.2019, it was stated that “Rehabilitation studies that will provide treatment and adaptation to social life in prison processes will be reviewed and the holistic model, which has started to be implemented in our country, will be started to be implemented in prisons with the cooperation of relevant institutions.” work has been initiated within the scope of the decision.

One of the decisions taken at the BMYK meeting held on 30.12.2019 is to start the pilot implementation of the model.

Pilot implementation was started on 01.09.2020 in Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir Penal Institutions Campuses in penitentiary institutions convicted of drug related crimes.



**Picture 6.3** Rehabilitation Model to Provide Treatment and Adaptation to Social Life in Prison Processes

## 6.2.5. Independence Village

The project "Change is Possible in the Independence Village with You" was implemented within the scope of the 2018 Children and Youth Financial Support Program of the Istanbul Development Agency, in cooperation with the Istanbul Chief Public Prosecutor’s Office Probation Directorate, Istanbul Governorship Eyüpsultan Municipality and Eyüpsultan Culture, Art, Sports, Education and Solidarity Association.

The budget of the project determined by the Development Agency is 1,250,845 TL.

With the project, all children and young people between the ages of 14-29 will be provided with opportunities to participate in appropriate education and improvement activities, for whom probation has been decreed, and whose need has been determined within the scope of improvement

works, or who have been obliged to participate in guidance works directly by the courts.

For this purpose, the establishment of the center called "Independence Village" on an area of 14 thousand 970 square meters within the borders of Eyüpsultan Municipality has been started. There are 3 group study rooms in the Independence Village: 1 individual meeting room, 1 meeting room, 1 administrative room, 1 prefabricated building with 1 kitchen, 4 bungalow houses, therapy garden, agricultural area. The center has been allocated to the Istanbul Probation Directorate for a period of 3 years. In order for the center to carry out its work with an institutional structure, the project manager, 1 probation expert, 2 execution and protection officers for technical support and 2 audit bureau personnel have been assigned full time. If the expected benefit from the project is achieved at the end of 3 years, it will continue to be used in accordance with the allocation purpose.

In Independence Village, which draws attention as it is the first project in Turkey to use the agricultural therapy method in official institutions;

In order to rehabilitate the obliged parties for whom a decision was made for the treatment of a substance addiction; Conducting training and workshops on creative drama, music, body language, flower arrangement, cooking, park and garden care, organic agriculture and fruit and vegetable seedling production, etc.

It is aimed that the obliged parties, who have been sentenced to work unpaid in a publicly beneficial job, complete their working penalties by participating in both the maintenance of the center and the production activities.

It is aimed to contribute to the acquisition of a profession by issuing certificates to the obliged parties participating in the trainings in the center, where the security of the center, which is 20 km away from Istanbul, the transportation of the obliged parties to the center and the delivery of the agricultural products to be produced to the needy will be provided by the Eyüpsultan Municipality.

### **6.2.6. Program for Development of an Effective Risk Assessment System for Children under the Roof of Turkish Probation Services (Youth Probation Program – DENGÉ)**

"Development of an Effective Risk Assessment System for Children in Probation Services in Turkey Project" was carried out by the Ministry of Justice General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses with the financial support of the European Union and the co-financing of the Government of the Republic of Turkey and UNICEF, and the technical support of UNICEF between 2015-2018. Within the scope of the project, Probation Youth Program-DENGÉ was established in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the juvenile justice system in Turkey by creating a more effective, preventive and rehabilitative intervention system and to reintegrate the children who benefit from probation services into the society.

3 priority goals of the DENGÉ program can be summarized as;

- Developing an effective risk and needs assessment system for the children/young people, thereby identifying the needs of the child/young person,

- Referral of children/ young people in need of protection to appropriate protective and supportive services,
- Referral of children/ young people in need of protection to appropriate protective and supportive services,

DENGE Program is in practice in twenty-five pilot directorates and only probation specialists and probation officers responsible for the supervision and follow-up of children have been appointed in these directorates.

Across the country, studies are carried out to allow children to be admitted to probation service buildings from separate doors from adults, development activities specific for the children, vocational courses, workshops and leisure time structure from adult obligants.



CHAPTER

NARCO-TERROR

# 7.1. DRUG TRAFFICKING FOR FINANCING TERRORISM

The illegal drug trade is an important source of finance for all types of criminal organizations. Due to the fact that it is carried out in numerous geographic territories and markets in the world, and being secretly coordinated by criminal syndicates as a global activity, it is difficult to estimate the financial aspect of drug trafficking.

However, according to the Transnational Crimes and Developing World Report published in 2017, the global retail market of cannabis, cocaine, opiates, and amphetamine type drug in 2014 is estimated as 426 to 652 billion USD (GFI, 2017, p. 3).

According to this report, in this market;

- Cannabis has a share of 183 to 287 billion USD,
- Cocaine a share of 94 to 143 billion USD,
- Opiates a share of 75 to 132 billion USD,
- And ATS a share of 74 to 90 billion USD.

Likewise, according to 2019 European Report on Drug Markets, the minimum value of the European retail drug market is estimated as 30 billion Euro based on the 2017 data (EMCDDA & EUROPOL, 2019, p. 28).

The market consists of;

- Cannabis with 39%,

- Cocaine with 31%,
- Heroin with 25%, and
- Amphetamine type drugs (Amphetamine, methamphetamine, and MDMA/Ecstasy) with 5%.

These estimates cover the period between 2014-2017 and do not include the market values of new psychoactive substances (synthetic cannabinoids, synthetic cathinone, etc.) that have become a global threat today.

A retrospective assessment without new psychoactive substances does not enable a quantitative conclusion on the value of the current drug market, but it does give a serious idea that today's numbers may be at a fairly high point.

A market of such value is naturally the main center of interest for organized criminal syndicates. For instance, according to 2017 EU Serious and Organized Crime Threat Assessment, there are 5,000 organized criminal syndicates in Europe. One third of these syndicates is directly linked to drug trade (EUROPOL, 2017, p. 14).

This situation continues to be serious today. According to the 2021 EU Serious and Organized Crime Threat Assessment, 38% of criminal networks are related to drug trafficking (EUROPOL, 2021, p. 14).

It is necessary to consider the roles of organized crime organizations in drug trafficking in a complex relationship. In the drug trafficking process, which consists of production, trafficking and sales stages, these groups can assume different roles at each stage, and can also take part in all stages. In other words, it is possible to encounter an organized crime organization that specializes only in the production phase, as well as those that specialize in more than one phase. While these criminal groups can act in cooperation in the national and international arena, in some cases competition and conflicts can be observed among them.

Its global volume makes the drug market very attractive not only for the organized crime groups, but also for terrorist organizations.

The terrorist organizations are also involved in drug trafficking, just like organized crime groups. In this process, there are cases where terrorist organizations act by establishing strategic partnerships with organized crime groups as well as their relations with each other. For example, an organized crime group that wants to ship drugs in an unstable region may receive support from a terrorist organization that has control in that area in exchange for providing weapons, ammunition and forged documents.

The relationship between terrorism and drug trafficking as an international trend is set forth as;

- Intelligence reports,
- Investigation files and the statements of suspects, witnesses, and complainants therein as well as the drug substances seized,

- Drugs and documents seized in the organization's shelters,
- Supplementary documents obtained from various official authorities,
- Academic studies,
- Literature reviews.

Based on these sources, the production, shipment, distribution activities of drugs organized by terrorist organizations themselves, and the roles played as mediation, watchdog/protection in the activities of other criminal organizations are revealed, but studies that reveal the income they earn directly from this area within the scope of combating crime revenues are hardly encountered.

Although there is a more robust proof model, the detection and confiscation process of the proceeds of crime is quite complex and difficult.

Determining the revenue from drugs, associating them with terrorist organizations and confiscating them is a process that requires experts from many fields to work together, and that requires international cooperation as well as national dimension.

As an example, for how grueling this process is, relevant Europol forecasts may be given. According to Europol, as little as 1% of the revenue from all crimes, including drug trafficking, was confiscated by European Union units in 2017 (EMCDDA & EUROPOL, 2019, p. 50).

As is the case in entire world, the terrorist organizations PKK/KCK/PYD, DHKP/C, TKP/ML, and FETÖ/PDY operating in Turkey are closely related to drug trafficking.

The relationship of the organizations mentioned in this report with all stages of drug trafficking will be revealed with an international approach, through intelligence reports, investigations by law enforcement, academic studies and open source searches.

Our country, which has put forward an exemplary struggle in every aspect of the fight against drugs, has also made important initiatives in the field of combating the proceeds of crime.

For this purpose, Division of Counter Crime Revenues was established within TNP Counter Narcotics Department in 2018. Organization of such division is completed in 2019 as a Division Directorate in Ankara and Departments in all provinces level.

Training programs for the relevant personnel are in process with the support of MASAK experts for effective fighting against the offense of Laundering Crime-Related Asset Values (TPC, Art 282) occurring as result of trying to conceal the source of crime-related revenues obtained from trade of drugs or stimulant substances by means of different laundering methods.

Although Division of Counter Crime Revenues was only established in 2019, the internationally qualified "Operation Bataklik (Swamp)" carried out by this Division in 2020 for the seizure of the revenues from drugs for the first time in the

history of the Republic, analyzing the financial flows between criminals is an important indicator. The link between organized crime and terrorist crimes will be determined, and therefore the national capacity in the fight against terrorism financing will be brought to a stronger point in the future.

It is evaluated that the open relations between terrorist organizations and drug trafficking that are currently operating against our country, will be strengthened with similar operations to be organized in the future.

It is an important priority to present the drug trafficking activities of terrorist organizations that threaten our country to international stakeholders.

For this purpose, the activities of such international organizations as United Nations (UNODC Office on Drugs and Crime), European Union (EUROPOL, EMCDDA), European Council (Pompidou Group), Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (OSCE), and CARICC (Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Center) are attended, and in such organizations, the relationship of terrorist organizations and drug trafficking is emphasized.

Meanwhile, relevant aspects are stated in the questionnaires and the forms drawn up for contributing to the reports periodically issued by such organizations.

## 7.2. ELABORATED OVERVIEW OF DRUG RELATED **ACTIVITIES OF PKK/KCK/PYD TERRORIST ORGANIZATION**

PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization which sees the manufacturing and illegal trade of drugs an easy and profitable way to execute its terrorist actions and to generate revenue, acts in an organized manner in every field of illegal drug trafficking. PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization, which was previously receiving commission from illegal drug organizations to connive at and to provide their so-called security in their activities, preferred to be involved in this trade seeing the high volume of the revenue.

The actions against the illegal drug trade and the seizures performed showed that PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization is in close connection with drugs. Likewise, in many operations conducted by counter- terrorism units, targeted to PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization, considerable quantities of drugs were seized. This clearly shows how the terrorist organization is intertwined with drug trafficking.

Considering the organization of the PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization, it is seen that terrorist organization's international links extends from the Middle East to Western European countries. This wide territory covers completely one of the most important illegal drug trade routes of the world, namely the "Balkan Route". The PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization, which is organized on this route through which there is an intense drug

flow, can easily transport the drugs it produces or procures from its source via this route.

When heroin is reached to the Europe, its price is multiplied and its purity is decreased. Besides the production and transfer of the illegal drugs, PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization also coordinates drug sales on streets of the Europe, and consequently, benefits from the price advantage in the retail sales of heroin. The price of heroin sold by grams increases while its purity decreased to 10%, leading to a huge financial income. This price difference is considered an attractive factor for the PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization, which wants to make easy and abundant profits, and fuels drug trafficking activities.

There are prominent findings in the international sources proving that one of the most important financial resources of PKK/KCK/PYD is the illegal drug trade.

### 7.2.1. Reports and Findings in the International Area: PKK

December 1995 issue of Der Spiegel reports that separatist PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization utilizes children of 8-12 years old for selling drugs on streets of Germany, and transfers the money earned from drugs to the terrorist organization.

In 1996 report of Paris Criminology Institute titled “The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Movement and Kurdistan Worker’s Party”, it is stated that PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization coordinates illegal drug transfer and trafficking throughout Europe, and that the so- called high-ranking members of the organization do not abstain from implementing any intimidation tactics to change the agenda of European press regarding the illegal drug trade of PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization.

In the report titled ‘Terrorism and Political Violence’ of the same institute, it is stated (by enclosing the police reports of various countries as resource) that “the majority of the Turkish citizens arrested in Europe for drug related crimes are militants of PKK/KCK/PYD, or have intimate connection with this organization”.

In reports of the US Department of Justice and Foreign Affairs published in 1995 and 1996, it is documented that PKK/KCK/PYD deals in illegal heroin production and trafficking for financing its terrorist actions.

Likewise, in the report of US Department of Foreign Affairs in 1998, it is emphasized that ***PKK/KCK/PYD does not only take commissions from the illegal trade of drugs but is also actively involved in the transferring drugs to Europe and marketing thereof in Europe.***

In the final report of the Sub-Commission on Illegal Drug Trade in the Middle and Near East, and Related Problems held in Beirut in 1998 in the scope of United Nations International Drug Control Program, it reads that ***“PKK/KCK/PYD is an example to the narco- terrorism organizations, and there are obvious connections***

***in the drug trafficking between PKK/KCK/ PYD and other cross-border crime organizations”.***

According to the 1998 reports of Italian Guardia di Finanza (Military Police), PKK is directly involved in the international illegal drug trade and obtaining illegal revenues from such activities.

In the sub-chapter of the dossier compiled by the Department of Foreign Affairs on 13.03.2002 for submitting to the sub-commission of the Senate, it was stated that the ethnic Kurdish organization PKK is involved in the drug trafficking and cellular supports heroin trafficking.

In the report “Links Between Terrorism and Other Crime Types”, prepared and submitted by two terror experts, Yvon Dandurand and Vivienne Chin, to United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) and Canada Ministry of Foreign Affairs in April 2004, it reads: “Based on the studies, the collaboration of PKK/KCK/PYD and Kurdish groups is similar to the collaboration among Sicilian mafia families. PKK works as a multi-layered organization involved in every stage of illegal drug trade from production to sales on the market. The first phase is usually the laboratory production phase where the production is completed from the morphine base coming from Pakistan, and the final phase is the marketing on the streets of Europe by the dealers assigned by the organization.”

In the report of Reinforced Economic Committee of NATO dated 2007, it reads “Illegal narcotic industry is the most profitable criminal activity of PKK/KCK/PYD, which is involved in every single stage of drug trade starting from initial production in Pakistan, distillation in Iraq, marketing on streets, and even a so-called taxation therefor in Europe.”

In the statements of DEA Operational Unit Chief, Micheal Braun on 20.07.2008, it was stated that “Illegal organization PKK is involved in drug trafficking as well as in other international crimes.” “Specifically, Defined Drug Trafficker” announcement is done in the frame of the Law on “Determination of Foreign Narcotic Gangs” by the Office of Foreign Assets Control functioning under US Department of Treasury. In this context; Murat KARAYILAN, Ali Rıza ALTUN, and Zübeyir AYDAR on 14.10.2009, Cemil BAYIK, Duran KALKAN, Remzi KARTAL, Sabri OK, and Adem UZUN on 20.04.2011, and Zeyneddin GELERİ, Ömer GELERİ, Çerkez AKBULUT (Cernit Murat), and Ömer BOZTEPE on 01.02.2012 were declared as “Specifically Defined Drug Trafficker” by this office.

After the clarification of the US Department of Treasury in 2009, in an article written by Benjamin Freedman and Matthew Levitt, short history of PKK, its efforts for getting rid of its dirty reputation under different names, Iranian PJAK to be controlled by PKK were elaborated, while the following were observed under the heading PKK/Kongra-Gel drug trafficking. PKK brings the raw morphine from Iran-Afghanistan-Pakistan triangle, converts it into heroin in the laboratories on Turkish territory, sells it in Europe; PKK’s Southern Cyprus Leader and 2 members of organization were identified, and as result of searching a suspicious vehicle, 10 kg heroin, a long-barrel weapon and organizational documents were found, and afterwards the leader of the organization ran away to Greece taking with him the organizational documents, many crime elements and the organization’s money of 225,000 USD.

In the continuation of the same article, it reads that the PKK’s relation to drugs is not new, and according to Interpol reports, the European market was under the control of PKK by 60-70 per cent between 1992 and 1994, and 80% of the drugs entered to the European market were controlled by PKK in 2005.

In the 2011 report of Europol titled ‘European Terrorism and Trends’;

The separatist terrorist organizations like “PKK/ KCK/PYD and LTTE (separatist organization in Sri Lanka) deals with crimes of drugs and human trafficking for finance. Many EU Member States where Kurdish Diaspora is settled are in fight against the organized criminal activities of PKK/ KCK/PYD terrorist organization (in particular drug trafficking) and financing of these activities”.

The following information is contained in the same report: PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization is collecting money from its members under the name of “donation” and “membership fee”, however, in reality this is extortion and so-called tax collection; in addition to organized racket campaign, there is evidence of direct involvement of PKK/KCK/ PYD terrorist organization in money laundering and illegal drug trade human trafficking, and actively in the crimes of illegal migration in and out of the borders of European Union; a joint and synchronous operation was conducted in Belgium, France, the Netherlands, and Turkey against PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization in March 2010; there are on-going investigations about PKK/KCK/ PYD in Italy, Romania, and Slovakia, and such ongoing investigations against the activities and actions of PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization aim to eliminate joining of new members to the organization, financing,

logistic support, propaganda, and training camps. According to the UN 2012 World Drug Report; “In some regions of the Balkan route, the locations where the organized crimes are committed are overlapping with the localities of terrorism activities. As an example, the drug shipment from Iran, and according to some unverified information, from Iraq to Turkey is subject to so-called taxation by PKK/KCK/PYD. It is also reported that PKK/KCK/PYD collect so-called taxes from Kurdish heroin traffickers in Europe. According to NATO intelligence analysts, PKK/KCK/PYD obtains revenues of 50 to 100 million USD from only heroin trafficking. Involvement of PKK/KCK/PYD in this illegal trade became more evident as result of some members thereof being arrested for heroin trafficking crimes in Europe in 2008.”

According to 2013 Report of Terrorism Situation and Trend issued by EUROPOL; Turkish investigation reports show that PKK/KCK/PYD is involved in drug trafficking for financing its terrorist activities. PKK/KCK/PYD collects money as so-called taxes imposed on drug traffickers crossing the Turkish border. Furthermore, PKK/KCK/PYD takes commissions from every stage of drug transfer via Turkey, destined to the EU for distribution and sales therein. In return, traffickers are usually offered protection and provision of mediation for settlement of disputes by PKK.

In the book written by two famous American anti- terrorism specialists containing the opinions of both American and Turkish anti-terrorism specialists titled as “the PKK”, it is emphasized that the annual revenue of PKK obtained from drug ranges between 500 million Euro and 2.5 billion USD. In the same book based on statements of

a retired German Chief Prosecutor, it states that in 80% of the drugs seized in Europe is related to PKK/KCK/PYD, and the most of the money obtained is used to purchase weapons.

It has been reported that the PKK/KCK/PYD taxed drug shipments to Turkey. The PKK/KCK/PYD is also reported to collect taxes from Kurdish heroin smugglers in Europe. According to NATO intelligence analysts, the PKK/KCK/PYD earns from \$50 million to \$100 million from heroin trafficking alone. The involvement of the PKK/KCK/PYD in this trade was further demonstrated in 2008 when some of its members were arrested for heroin trafficking in Europe”.



**In the book titled “the PKK”, the annual revenue of PKK obtained from drug is mentioned to range between 500 million Euro and 2.5 billion USD.**



On page 18 of the report published by Money Laundering - Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in October 2015, it was stated that like Taliban, PKK obtains revenues from illegal drug trafficking, and collecting so-called taxes for any drug entering into the European market via Turkey.

In 2016 Report of the International Narcotics Control Board, it was stated that in the illegal



drug trafficking from Afghanistan to Turkey, many Kurdish and Iranian people were arrested giving support to PKK/KCK/ PYD, and many operations were organized against the members of this illegal drug trafficking organization in many Turkish cities and Europe in 2015.

In the articles on the website of US Department of Foreign Affairs, it states that PKK/KCK/PYD organizes the heroin trafficking coming to Turkey from Afghanistan usually via Kurdish or Iranian people, and their supporters are included under the anti-drug trafficking Law in Moldova and Romania.

According to the intelligence report of DEA (USA Drug Enforcement Administration), PKK's revenues obtained from drugs come from heroin production, collecting so-called taxes from cross-border illegal drug traders, and control of a considerable part of heroin markets in Europe.

Asa Hutchinson, DEA's Director, noted that PKK is involved in taxation of drug transfers in Southeastern region of Turkey and in protection of drug traffickers.

In DEA reports, it reads "Terrorist organization PKK/ KCK/PYD uses heroin production and trafficking for supporting its terrorist actions against Turkish government. German Chief Prosecutor's Office claimed that 80% of the drugs seized in Europe is connected with PKK.

The German Chief Public Prosecutor's Office claimed that 80% of the drugs seized in Europe were linked to the PKK.

In the recent years, Interpol monitored the illegal drug trade of various Kurdish groups in Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Spain, and considers of the relations of such groups with PKK. PKK is

known as a group running illegal drug laboratories in Turkey and Northern Iraq. In order to support PKK activities besides illegal drug production by its cells, also it collects so-called taxes from Kurdish illegal drug traders in Western Europe.

In the 2017 Report of the International Center for Combating Terrorism (ICCT based in The Hague) on the Link between Organized Crime and Terrorism and Its Effects on EU Programming (ICCT, 2017, p. 3), "There is a line between terrorism and organized crime in Turkey. Although it is known that the organization known as PKK (Kurdistan Workers Party) is involved in illegal activities such as human trafficking, drug trafficking, cigarette trafficking, activities such as extortion and money laundering are the sources of profit that the organization uses to carry out its activities. Despite being defined as a terrorist organization, PKK activities are parallel to the activities of criminal groups. For over three decades, the PKK has financed its activities in a variety of ways, including state sponsorship, criminal activities and legal initiatives. The strategic geographical location of Turkey, with a wide coastline between Asia, Europe and Africa, has increased the organization's ability to take part in trafficking activities. It is seen that one of the most important income sources of the organization, especially heroin, is drug trafficking, in which it is involved in all stages from cultivation to street dealership and taxation/commissioning along the route. When drugs and illegal immigrants reach Europe, the immigrants are used by the PKK as collaborators to distribute drugs within the trafficking networks in the European diaspora and launder money similarly to the activities of traditional criminal organizations.

In 2018 Report of International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) there are signs that “Iraq is gaining importance day by day in illegal production of drugs including the plantation of drugs (opium poppy and cannabis) and heroin. It is stated that Tramadol abuse and trafficking was observed in many countries of the Middle East, and there are some indicators that the terrorist organizations in the region are also involved in the Tramadol trafficking” (INCB, 2018, p. 86).

In the 2019 EMCDDA & ICSR Report on Drugs and Terrorism, Overlaps in Europe (EMCDDA & ICSR, 2019, p. 46), “Referring to intelligence report prepared by the UK Metropolitan Police, the Tottenham Boys group, a Kurdish gang based in London, used Kurdish businesses to provide money to the PKK terrorist organization. It was emphasized how they took extortion and used violence. The report states that the gang recruited members of other gangs to sell Class A and B drugs on the street and carried out “a series of deadly and non-lethal gun attacks in North London”. In turn, these proceeds were laundered as part of the criminal activity of an organized crime syndicate”.

In the 2019 European Drug Markets Report, the PKK was shown as a para militarist group operating mainly in Southeast Turkey, Northern Syria and Northern Iraq in the Middle East, and it was emphasized that the PKK’s organized crime and several drug trafficking activities in Europe were reported (INCB, 2018, p. 86).

Contrary to the 2019 European Report on Drug Markets;

- Whereas there is no mention of PKK in the previous European Report on Drug Markets issued in 2016, and

- Inclusion of the phrase “based on the information supplied by Turkish investigative authorities” at the beginning of any sentences mentioning PKK in some other international reports, it is significant that Europol and international sources are referred in 2019 European Report on Drug Markets for the first time instead of inclusion of such phrase.

2021 EU Serious and Organized Crime Threat Analysis Report emphasized that heroin trafficking in EU is carried out by very different criminal organizations, members of the union and outside, and it is difficult to classify them into criminal networks according to the nationalities and it is given an example that the suspects of Kurdish ethnicity often have Turkish, Iraqi and Iranian citizenship (EUROPOL, 2021, p. 51).

### 7.2.2. Role of PKK/KCK/PYD in Illegal Drug Trafficking

The findings based on the operations of counter narcotic units support the analysis conducted, and it is revealed that PKK/KCK/PYD does not only obtain revenues from illegal drug traders but also plays a role in all stages of illegal drug trade. It is determined that PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization;

- Coordinates the illegal drug trade,
- Collects extortion under so-called taxes from all parties and organizations dealing in illegal drug transports through Turkey and attempting to enter illegally,
- Is active in drug distributions in Europe,
- Seizes drugs of third parties or organized syndicates being transferred without informing PKK,

- Provides production places and protection to such organizations producing illegal drugs,
- Plays an active role in illegal cultivation of cannabis in East and Southeastern Anatolian Regions, and
- Coordinates illegal drug trafficking operations via special PKK cells and do not inform other terrorists of such issues.

Performing illegal production and trade of drugs at a professional level, PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization plays an active role in the following stages;

- Illegal cultivation of drugs,
- Illegal production and transfer of drugs,
- Illegal distribution of drugs and street sales,
- Taking commissions from illegal drug producers and traffickers. These stages are organized and managed directly by members of the organization.

Between 1980 and 2020, 1,497 suspects were detained in 464 operations against the PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization by the General Directorate of Security and its affiliated units, and in these operations 96,178 kg of cannabis, 5,450 kg of heroin, 71.2 kg of opium, 4,315 kg of base morphine, 9.4 kg of cocaine, 137,851 ecstasy tablets, 72 Captagon tablets, 28,348 liters of acetic anhydride and 121,524,618 cannabis plants were seized. In the same years, 975 suspects were arrested, 244,835 kg of cannabis and 222,945,928 cannabis plants were seized in 193 operations carried out by the Gendarmerie General Command units against the terrorist organization.

**Table 7.1.** Seizures from PKK/KCK/PYD Terrorist Organization’s Drug Trafficking Incidents.

PKK/KCK/PYD (1980-2020)	
Number of Incidents	657
Number of Suspects	2,472
Cannabis / Kg	341,013
Heroin / Kg	5,450
Opium Poppy / Kg	71.2
Morphine Base / Kg	4,315
Cocaine / Kg	9.4
Ecstasy/Tablet	137,851
Captagon/Tablet	72
Acetic Anhydrite /Lt	28,348
Cannabis Plants	344,470,546



**Picture 7.1** Narco-terror Operation for Cannabis Plant

The organization considers illegal cultivation of cannabis as the most profitable means in this field. The organization, earning considerable amount of revenue from cannabis trafficking produced especially in rural areas of Eastern and South-eastern Anatolia besides organizing the entire process also forces or encourages villagers and local people to cultivate cannabis and takes commissions from the cannabis produced.



**Picture 7.2** Narco-terror Seizures, Diyarbakir



**The organization considers illegal cultivation of cannabis as the most profitable means in this field. It is evaluated that the organization generates an annual income of 500 million**



Some of the important operations carried out until the end of 2020 are;

- In 2014 during an operation conducted in a territory where PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist Organization cultivates and produces cannabis in Diyarbakir's Lice district, 4,700 kg cannabis resin and one long barrel weapon were seized. During the operation, one security officer was injured in the skirmish with terrorists trying to protect illicit drugs. After the skirmish, the terrorists slipped away making use of the adverse weather and harsh land conditions.

- As result of Bayrak-14 Martyr Gendarmerie Lieutenant Abdülsemel ÖZATAK Operation conducted, in the period of 22 June - 3 July 2016, for terminating the illegal drug activities of PKK/KCK/ PYD terrorist organization going on in rural areas of Lice-Hazro-Kocaköy in Diyarbakir's Lice district, fourteen terrorists were neutralized, including six of whom as dead. During this operation, three soldiers were martyred. As result of the operation;
  - ✓ 67.9 million cannabis plant,
  - ✓ 17.4 tons of cannabis,
  - ✓ 19 long-barrel weapons,
  - ✓ 6 handguns,
  - ✓ 22 stolen or usurped vehicles, three of which belonging to public bodies, to be used in bombings,
  - ✓ 43 improvised explosive devices (IED) were seized.
- In the search of the territories of Diyarbakir's Lice district on 17-18.10.2016, where PKK/ KCK/PYD terrorist organization cultivated and produced cannabis;
  - ✓ 2.2 tons of cannabis,
  - ✓ 10,000 cannabis plants,
  - ✓ 8 unregistered handguns,
  - ✓ 50 cartridges and numerous organizational documents were seized, and 5 terrorists were apprehended.
- In the armed conflict that started on 19.03.2017 in the rural area of Lice District of Diyarbakir, after the PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization

members opened fire on security officers during the narco-terrorist operation, which was initiated upon the detection of illegal cannabis cultivation and cannabis production **(8) PKK terrorist organization member** was neutralized. Searches in the surrounding area;

- ✓ 4 tons of cannabis,
- ✓ 5 hideouts,
- ✓ 4 hand grenades,
- ✓ 9 infantry rifles,
- ✓ 1 handgun,
- ✓ 1250 cartridges,
- ✓ A large number of organizational documents and life materials were recovered.

- Upon the detection of illegal cannabis cultivation and cannabis production by PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization members in the Lice countryside of Diyarbakır between 05-20.03.2017, the security guards were fired upon by the members of the terrorist organization in the narco-terror operation initiated by the Diyarbakır Provincial Gendarmerie Command. In the armed conflict that started, **a total of (20) terrorist organization members were neutralized (19) dead and (1) alive.** Searches in the surrounding area;

- ✓ 5,5 tons of cannabis,
- ✓ 1 hideout,
- ✓ 2 hand grenades,
- ✓ 20 infantry rifles,
- ✓ 3 handguns,
- ✓ 1.023 cartridges,
- ✓ A large number of organizational documents and life materials were recovered.

- Within the scope of the narco-terror operation carried out in the Lice district of Diyarbakır on 04-08.04.2018, in the region where illegal planting and drug production made by the PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization, was carried out;

- ✓ 1.7 tons of cannabis,
- ✓ 2 hideouts,
- ✓ 1 hand grenades,
- ✓ 3 infantry rifles,
- ✓ 813 cartridges,
- ✓ A large number of organizational documents, along with life material (2) members of the organization were found dead.

- In the narco-terror operation launched by Diyarbakır Provincial Gendarmerie Command on the detection of illegal cannabis cultivation and cannabis production by PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization members in the rural area of Lice District of Diyarbakır between 23-26.04.2019, members of the terrorist organization opened fire on security guards. 5 PKK terrorist organization members was neutralized in the armed conflict. Searches in the surrounding area;

- ✓ 100 kg of cannabis,
- ✓ 21 hideouts,
- ✓ 6 hand grenades,
- ✓ 6 infantry rifles,
- ✓ 1 handgun,
- ✓ 458 cartridges,
- ✓ 4 improvised explosive device,
- ✓ A large number of organizational documents and life materials were seized.

- Within the scope of the narco-terror operation carried out by the PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization in the Lice district of Diyarbakır on 25.09.2019, in the region where illegal cultivation and drug production were carried out;
  - ✓ 194 kg of cannabis,
  - ✓ 20 kg of skunk,
  - ✓ 1,700 cannabis plants,
  - ✓ 1 hideout,
  - ✓ 4 hand grenades,
  - ✓ 3 infantry rifles,
  - ✓ 303 cartridges,
  - ✓ 2 improvised explosive device,
  - ✓ A large number of organizational documents, along with living material, (3) members of the organization were found dead.
- In 2019, in the operations conducted by the security forces for preventing financial gains of PKK/KCK/ PYD terrorist organization primarily in rural areas of Diyarbakır Province, where the organization cultivated and produced cannabis;
  - ✓ About 32 tones of cannabis,
  - ✓ 33,330,731 cannabis plants,
  - ✓ 39 hideouts,
  - ✓ 10 hand grenades,
  - ✓ 12 infantry rifles,
  - ✓ 6 handguns,
  - ✓ 2,691 cartridges and 20 improvised explosive device were seized.
  - ✓ As a result of the armed clashes between the security forces and members of the terrorist

organization during the operations, 8 members of the organization were captured dead.

- Within the scope of the Narco-terror Operation carried out in the region where planting and production was carried out by the PKK/KCK/ PYD terrorist organization in the Genç district of Bingöl on 29.04.2020;
  - ✓ 102 kg of cannabis,
  - ✓ 210.000 cannabis plants,
  - ✓ 1 hideout,



**Picture 7.3** Narco-terror Seizures

- In the operations carried out by the security forces in 2020, especially in rural areas, in Diyarbakır and Bingöl Provinces, in the regions where the PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization is cultivating and producing, in order to prevent the terrorist organization from obtaining financing in this context;
  - ✓ 41 tons of cannabis,
  - ✓ 108,444,695 of cannabis plant,
  - ✓ 897 kg skunk,
  - ✓ 450,000 cannabis plant (skunk),
  - ✓ 20 hideouts,

- ✓ 9 hand grandes,
  - ✓ 11 infantry rifles,
  - ✓ 8 handguns,
  - ✓ 1,386 cartridges,
  - ✓ 15 improvised explosives devices were seized.
  - ✓ As a result of the armed clashes between the security forces and the members of the terrorist organization during the operations, (1) member of the organization was captured dead and (1) member of the organization was captured alive.
  - In the narco-terror operation launched by the Diyarbakır Provincial Gendarmerie Command on 22.05.2020, upon the detection of illegal cannabis cultivation and cannabis production by PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization members in the rural area of Lice District of Diyarbakır, the armed forces opened fire on security officers by members of the terrorist organization. In the conflict, a total of (2) PKK terrorist organization members were neutralized, (1) dead and (1) alive. During the searches made in and around the hideout;
    - ✓ 496,980 cannabis plants,
    - ✓ 2 hideouts,
    - ✓ 2 hand grenades,
    - ✓ 2 infantry rifles,
    - ✓ 1 handgun,
    - ✓ A large number of organizational documents and life materials were seized.
  - In the search made on 06.09.2020 in the residence of a person who is being investigated for the crime of illegal drug trafficking by Adana Provincial Directorates of Counter Narcotics Division;
    - ✓ 374 ecstasy tablets,
    - ✓ 72 Captagon tablets,
    - ✓ 1 Sensitive scale,
    - ✓ Two hand-made explosive devices with an ignition wick, wrapped with black tape, and 1 ignition wick were seized.
  - At the end of November 2020, in the shelter found within the scope of the operations carried out by our security forces in the rural area of Diyarbakır-Lice district to reveal the illegal drug production and trade of the PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization;
    - ✓ 448 kg of cannabis,
    - ✓ 2 infantry rifles, 3 magazines, 40 cartridges,
    - ✓ 14 tubes and living materials were seized.
- Our security forces are continuing a determined struggle in 2021 with the aim of destroying the financial resources obtained by the PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization in all aspects of drugs.
- The operations have been launched against those who finance the terrorist organization PKK/KCK/PYD in return for the cultivation of cannabis in the rural area of Diyarbakır and the alleged protection of these areas. In the operations organized to end the criminal activities, which were also detected in the seized organizational documents, it was determined that a large number of suspects provided the terrorist organization with a financing of 5,391,000 TL by the Diyarbakır Provincial Gendarmerie Command, and the suspects' organic connection with the organization was revealed.
- In this context,
- In the operation carried out against 45 suspects on 26.05.2021, 33 suspects were arrested, 1 suspect was released with a judicial

control decision, 2 suspects were released after taking their statements, and arrest warrants were issued for 9 suspects. As a result of the operation, 1 kg of cannabis powder, 2 unlicensed pistols and 85 rifle cartridges were seized during the searches conducted in the suspects' homes and annexes.

- 73 suspects were taken into custody in the operation carried out against 105 suspects at 135 different addresses (Diyarbakır City Centre, Lice, Kocaköy and Hazro Districts, Istanbul, Ankara, Adana, Aydın) on 22.06.2021, and the hunt for 32 suspects continues. In the Searches of suspects' residents;
  - ✓ 23.000 cannabis plant,
  - ✓ 150 gr herbal cannabis,
  - ✓ 1 Kalashnikov rifle, 1 magazine of this rifle and 97 Kalashnikov rifle cartridges,
  - ✓ 6 unlicensed hunting rifles and 38 cartridges,
  - ✓ 1 unlicensed pistol and its magazine, 56 (9 mm) pistol cartridges,
  - ✓ 2 sensitive scales were seized.

### 7.2.3. Role of the Terrorist Organization in Illegal Drug Production and Trade

In the past, the terrorist organization PKK/KCK/PYD was used to cultivate cannabis and opium poppies, and produce illegal drugs at the laboratories established in the camp territories (Baalbek and Herman) located in Beqaa Valley of Lebanon. Nowadays, it is known that it produces illegal drugs in the camps in Northern Iraq as well as the villages of the bordering countries, and put them onto the final market. It gives critical importance specially to

supplying heroin produced from Afghan opium to European market.

It is stated by many captured PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization members and militants, especially Şemdin SAKIK, that the PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization initially manufactures drugs in the Bekaa Valley and then in the Northern Iraq region and markets them in Europe. In one part of her statement, SAKIK admitted that ÖCALAN had told him, "It is not easy to keep the organization alive, how can we feed so many people if there is no drug income".

Since 1980, six illegal drug-production facilities of the organization were busted by Turkish law enforcement officers, and many production materials and drugs were seized.

- In 2002, 52 kg and 360 g of heroin substance along with numerous production materials were seized in a search conducted in a house where drug production was in process at Sarıtaş hamlet in Hakkari's Yüksekova district; It was proved that the suspects were acting on behalf of PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization.
- In an operation of 2015 conducted toward a vehicle transporting the drug procured for selling on streets in Diyarbakır, two handguns were seized along with 1,700 g heroin. In the skirmish during the operation, a PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist was killed while five terrorists were arrested, including two of whom injured. One of our security officers was severely injured.
- During the roadblock/trench actions started in 2015 and maintained in 2016, in the joint operations of law enforcement forces in Diyarbakır aimed for removal of the roadblocks set by PKK/KCK/PYD terrorists, deactivating



the IEDs trapped on streets, and ensuring the safety of life and property of the citizens, 34 terrorists active in such actions were identified also as being involved in illegal drug trade. In these operations; 50 kg of cannabis, 3 g of heroin, 2 g of cocaine, 5,784 ecstasy tablets as a result of the operations carried out against street dealers.

- In Diyarbakır in 2018, 32 kg of cannabis was seized. In addition to the seized drugs, pieces of cloth symbolizing the terrorist organization were also seized.
- In the operation carried out against street dealers in Adana in 2018, 1.56 g of cannabis was seized. In the fingerprint control of the drug dealer caught within the scope of the operation, it was determined that there were fingerprints on the improvised explosive device previously seized. Ecstasy pills were seized.



**Picture 7.4** Narco-terror Seizures

In an operation targeted at street dealers in Batman in 2018, 125 g cannabis and 51 ecstasy tablets were seized. The drug dealer arrested during the operation was identified as having been prosecuted before due to being member of PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization



**Picture 7.5** Narco-terror Seizures

- On 07.08.2018, based on the intelligence of PKK/KCK/PYD terrorists organizing illegal drug production in the mountainous area where hamlets of Hakkari's Yüksekova District at the vicinity of the Iranian border, the search and surveillance activities were conducted leading to locating a hideout that was considered as being used by the terrorist organization. During the skirmish started by a shooting to the law enforcement officers by the terrorists in the hideout, two terrorists in the shelter were hunted down as dead. In the search in the shelter and its surrounding;
  - ✓ 1 bazooka,
  - ✓ 1 infantry rifles,
  - ✓ 2 handguns and abundant amount of ammunition therefor,
  - ✓ 2 radios and survival kits,
  - ✓ Total 1,180 liters of acetic anhydrite in 51 barrels buried under the ground,
  - ✓ A press machine, sieve, tray, oven kits, gas cylinder (for production of illegal drugs), and organizational documents were seized.

## 7.2.4. Terrorist Organization PKK/KCK/PYD Collects Commissions and Extortion from Producers and Traffickers of Illicit Drugs

The organization's primary activities are collection of extortion as so-called tax, based on kg prices of the drugs illegally brought into Turkey through the eastern border as well as from illegal drug traders by means of threat, blackmailing, and hostage taking.

Many operation and intelligence reports of Turkish security forces prove that the terrorist organization collects commissions especially during crossing of drugs from the northern Iraqi border and from the illegal drug activities in Europe.

In fact, the wording in 2013 EUROPOL Report on Terrorism Situation and Trend reads as; "Turkish investigation reports reveal that PKK/KCK/PYD are involved in drug trafficking for financing its terrorist activities. PKK/KCK/PYD collects money as taxes it imposes on drug traffickers crossing the Turkish border. Furthermore, PKK/KCK/PYD takes commissions from the profits obtained in every stage of drug transfer via Turkey, destined to EU, for distribution and sales in EU. In return, traffickers are usually offered protection and provision of mediation for settlement of disputes by PKK".

## 7.2.5. Terrorist Organization's Narco-Terror Activities in the World

Although PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization started its illegal drug activities by collecting

commission from producers and traffickers, in the recent times it proceeded to control the European Street Market. PKK/KCK/PYD itself is organizing and managing the distribution of illegal drugs in Europe. The profit rate of the drug prices is the most important reason for the organization to tend to street distribution. This was included in many international reports.

Since 1970's Kurdish Diaspora has been deployed in a broad area in Europe. Although the organization had the opportunity to take the responsibility throughout Turkey and the Europe, executed its terrorist activities in eastern and southeastern regions of Turkey. Deployment of PKK/KCK/PYD in a broad area brought advantages not only to the terrorist campaign but also to its other criminal activities. The hierarchic structure existing among the organization members, efficient functioning communication network and courier system, the illegal drug organizations to abstain from competing with PKK/KCK/PYD due to fear and perturbation provide convenient atmosphere to PKK/KCK/PYD for drug distribution.

PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization can easily implement in European countries the methods applied by the drug cartels in South America in the drug distribution. Instead of the shell-companies and distribution staff on salary of the South America, PKK/ KCK/PYD terrorist organization uses association with political purpose and non-deciphered militants.

After the operations in Hamburg and Hanover in Germany on 07.09.1999, in which approximately 700 police officers were involved, Hanover Chief of Police - Hans Dieter KLOŞA has given a statement to FOCUS, one of the high-circulation journals in Germany, as follows; "It has long been

assumed that the PKK has relations with organized crime networks. However, this was revealed for the first time with the illegal drug trafficking network busted last week. We determined that PKK being aware of the activities of the network in advance acquired most of the money obtained from the network's activities. It was emphasized that the network, which is organized in Hanover and Hamburg and distributing heroin throughout Germany, transferred one million Marks every week to PKK for the last nine months. The gang, consisting of the citizens born in Bingöl, was understood to obtain annually 250 million Deutsche Mark from drug trafficking and distribute this revenue to many workplaces affiliated with them. With some part of the money obtained from drug trafficking, the gang bought residences and land in Hinden district of Hannover".

In an interview on German SAT-1 television broadcast on 06.01.1993, titled "24 Hours", where a Kurdish origin person who is a sympathizer of PKK/ KCK/PYD terrorist organization that performs illegal drug trade is stated that "During the usual search performed by the Police, an heroin addicted German and a Kurdish origin dealer were arrested; keys belonging to a lodgment where **Kurdish asylum seekers** stay were found on the dealer, based on the fact that illegal drugs were seized in this lodgment before, when a new search was done, this time posters of PKK/ KCK/PYD terrorist organization and Abdullah ÖCALAN were observed in the rooms; PKK is financing its fight from the illegal heroin trade, even not abstaining to involve young children in this business, since there is no legal sanction for children under age of 14".

There are numerous examples proving that PKK/ KCK/PYD terrorist organization deals with active drug trafficking in many countries around the

world, primarily European countries. As stated in the international reports, as to this organization the name of which can easily be recalled when speaking of drugs; in total 38 incidents in Austria, Bulgaria, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, UK, Sweden, Switzerland, Italy, Canada, Moldova, Norway, Portugal, Poland, Slovenia, Venezuela, Greece, and Former Yugoslavian countries before dissolution in the period of 1987-2008; together with 109 members of PKK/KCK/PYD terrorist organization,

- ✓ 871 kg of heroin,
- ✓ 3.5 kg of cocaine,
- ✓ 10,000 of amphetamine tablets.

According to the article by Belga, Belgium News Agency on 02.09.2017 titled "PKK performs illegal drug shipment from Belgium", it was stated that one of the drug networks of PKK in Europe was busted in the operations carried out in Austria and Belgium. Furthermore in the article it was said that the network, the headquarters of which is in Hasselt State in Flaman Region, smuggles drugs in Europe through Belgium-Anvers and The Netherlands- Rotterdam seaports, and the organization members portion drugs arrived from such seaports into 5 kg packages in a house in Hasselt, hide them in drops in vehicles, and eventually, put them on market in half of Europe, including Germany, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. In a raid to a house in Hasselt in the scope of an investigation the date of which is not given;

- ✓ 30 kg of cocaine,
- ✓ 12 kg of heroin,
- ✓ Many synthetic drug tablets, weapons, and
- ✓ 800 thousand Euro were seized.

Furthermore, in Austria, four persons were sentenced to total 21.5 years of imprisonment while a warrant for arrest is issued for the runaway fifth person. In Belgium, ten persons, including the leader of the network whose name not been disclosed, were taken into custody.

In the news of Het Belang van Limburg newspaper in Flemish, it was mentioned that the network obtains a revenue of millions of Euro annually solely from heroin, and was foreseen that they transfer this money to the terrorist organization PKK.

### 7.2.6. PKK/KCK/PYD Terrorist Organization's Illegal Drug Activities in Syria

The personnel assigned under Syrian Task Force continues to clear the drugs in terror-free regions.

An operation was carried out within the scope of the consultancy task by the personnel of the Syria/Azez task force on 17.07.2018. The vehicle that was found to be carrying drugs from the direction of Manbij to the Azez region and 41 kilos and 540 grams of Captagon tablets which were hidden, were seized during the search of the vehicle.

## 7.3. OTHER TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

In addition to the international reports, it is also understood from red-handed operations carried out in Turkey, from the statements of the suspects arrested during the counter-narcotic operations, from criminal records connected with terrorist organizations, from the illegal drugs seized in the cells and houses of the organization, as well as from the documents bearing the sales records of drugs that also DHKP/C, TKP/ML and FETÖ/PDY terrorist organizations acting against Turkey are also performing drug trafficking.

**Table 7.2.** Seizures from DHKP/C, TIKKO etc. Terrorist Organization's Drug Trafficking-Related Incidents

DHKP/C, TIKKO, etc. (1980-2020)	
Number of Incidents	8
Number of Suspects	33
Cannabis / Kg	38.5
Heroin / Kg	38.6
Cocaine / Kg	690

**Table 7.3.** Seizures from FETÖ/PDY Terrorist Organization's Drug Trafficking-Related Incidents

FETÖ/PDY (1980-2020)	
Number of Incidents	18
Number of Suspects	31
Cocaine / Kg	252
Captagon / Tablet	800,000
Ecstasy / Tablet	33
Methamphetamine / Kg	0.05
Heroin / Kg	0.26
Synthetic Cannabinoid / kg	641.2
Cannabis / Kg	0.64
Cannabis Plants	252
Lyrica / Tablet	96
Synthetic pharmaceutical (Tablet)	21
Skunk / Kg	3

## 7.4. CONCLUSION

Due to its huge global volume, the narcotic drug market is the center of attention not only of organized crime syndicates but also of terrorist organizations.

Collaborations established among organized crime syndicates in this domain are also observed among terrorist organizations and even between organized crime syndicates and terrorist organizations as well.

Such organizations and syndicates act in partnership for such activities as financing of terrorist activities, infiltrating to financial markets, supplying arms, and drug shipments and distribution.

Today, it is obvious that terrorist organizations are closely related to drug trafficking and trade both alone and in collaboration with other terrorist organizations and organized crime syndicates.

With globalization, the link between terrorism and illegal drug trafficking has become ominous.

In such an environment where every individual is as valuable as the entire world, in consideration of that even losing one individual to the drug swamp would be an unfortunate loss, such malicious organizations using the weaknesses of democracy and social life must be given no chance. Any terror carried out for the sake of so-called freedom never means a youth slipping away from our hands due to drug addiction. Fight against drugs threatening the whole humanity is very important both for the sustainability of public health and order, as well as for the future generations to live in peace.

Terrorism, a severe threat for all the countries in the world, makes us feel its presence in an inflicting way in line with the advance technological facilities.

Fight against terrorism is also possible with elimination of the financial resources enabling such actions to happen. Many crime types are committed for providing finance to terrorist activities while illegal drug production and trade have an important part among all such revenue items.

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