Reported significant individual drug seizures of “captagon” tablets, January 2013–April 2019

According to seizure information, the main destination market for amphetamine smuggled to the Near and Middle East over the period 2013–2017 was Saudi Arabia, followed by the Gulf countries (most notably the United Arab Emirates, followed by Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain). Other countries mentioned as destination countries include Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and the Sudan.

“Ecstasy” manufacture concentrated in Europe, although it may be spreading to other regions

A total of 19 countries reported the dismantling of 367 “ecstasy” laboratories in the period 2013–2017, and 35 countries were identified as countries of origin of seized quantities of the drug. “Ecstasy” continues to be manufactured primarily in Europe, most notably in Western and Central Europe, although the share of countries in that subregion mentioned as “country of origin” of “ecstasy” has declined slightly over the past two decades. Europe accounted for two thirds of the “ecstasy” laboratories dismantled worldwide in the period 2013–2017, followed by the Americas (14 per cent of the global total), Asia (12 per cent) and Oceania (7 per cent), whereas no “ecstasy” laboratories have been detected and dismantled to date in Africa.

Both the number of “ecstasy” laboratories dismantled and reports of countries of origin of the drug point to the Netherlands and Belgium as the main manufacturing countries of “ecstasy”, both in Europe and worldwide, in the period 2013–2017, while a large number of laboratories were also dismantled by the Russian Federation.

The largest number of dismantled “ecstasy” laboratories in the Americas was reported by the United States, followed by Canada and Brazil over the period 2013–2017, while, in Asia, the largest number was reported by Malaysia, followed by Indonesia and Viet Nam. In Oceania, only Australia and New Zealand reported the dismantling of “ecstasy” laboratories.

Three indicators – the number of reported dismantled “ecstasy” laboratories, the trends in the manufacture of “ecstasy” on the basis of qualitative information and the quantities of “ecstasy” seized – all showed an upward trend over the period 2010–2017, suggesting that the overall supply of “ecstasy”