# ALL GOOD PROJECT

## 2024 Festival Report

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MENZIES SCHOOL OF HEALTH RESEARCH

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# Executive summary

## Background

MusicNT's All Good Project works with live music venues and festivals across the Northern Territory (NT) to create safer spaces for staff, performers and patrons. The All Good Project aims to increase safety for minority groups, encourage equity and diversity, and work to end discrimination and gender-based violence. The project comprises of policy, marketing, training/education components and a peer harm reduction service. MusicNT has been operating the peer harm reduction service known as All Good Festivals (AGF) since 2023. The service was previously piloted using a model adapted from Dancewize at Bass in the Grass festival in 2021 and 2022.

## Evaluation

Menzies School of Health Research was commissioned by MusicNT to undertake an evaluation of the All Good Project. The broader evaluation includes both qualitative and quantitative methods to understand whether the All Good Project is meeting its stated objectives. The evaluation includes surveys and interviews with festival and venue patrons and surveys and interviews with venue staff who undertook training.

The current report describes two parts of the evaluation which 1) quantifies service delivery by the 2024 AGF peer harm reduction service at Bass in the Grass festival, the largest single day music festival in the NT, and 2) engages with festival patrons to understand experiences and attitudes relating to sexual violence, alcohol and drug behaviours and prosocial bystanding behaviours, which will be tracked over three years (2023 – 2025).

## Data Sources

**Service delivery data:** AGF service coordinators collated service delivery information collected routinely during the 2024 Bass in the Grass festival. Interactions were recorded using 'clickers' and through care intervention forms.

**Festival surveys:** In May 2024, a Menzies research team attended the Bass in the Grass festival. The study team approached festival attendees and invited them to complete a short survey on participant's mobile phones via a printed QR code. Participants who provided their contact information were also sent a follow-up survey two days after the festival. The follow up survey was open for one week after the festival.

While participants were recruited from patrons who attended Bass in the Grass festival, the first survey asked participants about harassment experiences and bystander behaviour more broadly, at ***NT music venues, festivals, gigs or clubs*** as well as recall of All Good Project branding. The follow up survey captured experiences of sexual violence and other harms, alcohol and drug behaviours and harm reduction practices at Bass in the Grass 2024 and feedback on interactions with the AGF peer harm reduction service.

# Findings

## All Good Festival peer harm reduction service

The AGF peer harm reduction service comprised of a wellbeing space, co-located with the festival 'chill out area'. The front of the wellbeing marquee had an education space focussed on alcohol and drug harm reduction and sexual health topics, as well as free merchandise including water bottles, stickers, fans, water, sunscreen, lollypops and other consumables. In addition to this fixed site service, AGF rovers moved throughout the festival grounds, providing water, sunscreen, and other consumables, health promotion advice, as well as general advice on event services and facilities. Rovers also provided a role as active bystanders, intervening to deescalate emerging situations, check in with festival patrons and provide referral support to the wellbeing space or other festival services.

Service provision data demonstrate the value of AGF in filling a gap in peer-based care at NT events. A **total of 5,586 patron interactions** were recorded at the 2024 Bass in the Grass festival. This included **41 people** who received care in the wellbeing space, **114 visits** to the education space as well as **1,966 interactions** by rovers and **3,465 patron interactions** by AGF volunteers stationed at the front of the wellbeing space. The number of people requiring involvement from the St John's Ambulance team (n=2, 5%) and informal counselling (n=4, 10%) dropped from 2022 (n=6, 12% and n=7, 14% respectively).

The service appeared to be highly valuable in addition to medical services provided by St John's Ambulance, because of its specialty content area in alcohol and drugs and feeling of safety that it offered patrons. Most respondents in the festival follow up survey (n=144) reported seeing AGF at the festival (89%). Visibility of the AGF service has increased since the previous year. There was a statistically significant increase in participant recall of AGF rovers (59% in 2023, compared with 76% in 2024) ($\chi 2$= 8.88, $p$ = .012). In 2024, 89% of participants recalled seeing AGF at the festival, compared with 80% in 2023, these differences were approaching statistical significance ($\chi 2$= 7.62, $p$ = .054). Of those who interacted with All Good Festivals at 2024 Bass in the Grass festival (n=98) the feedback

was overwhelmingly positive (93% were satisfied or very satisfied). For those respondents who had used the chillout area or wellbeing space, 100% were satisfied or very satisfied (n=42).

## Sexual violence

In 2023 and 2024, the Menzies festival study for the evaluation, aimed to understand participant experiences of sexual violence (sexual harassment and/or sexual assault) at entertainment spaces across the NT (venues, gigs, nightclubs or festivals), as well as prosocial bystander intervention behaviour. This data is key to outlining the problem of sexual violence in music venues of the NT, given the limited data available. In 2024, overall, 33% of participants reported an experience of sexual violence in NT entertainment spaces in the past year (n=110). There were significant differences for sexually diverse participants, 51% of lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer participants had experienced sexual violence in NT entertainment spaces in the past year, compared with 31% of heterosexual participants ($\chi 2$=7.52, $p$ = .006). There were significant differences between female and male participants, 40% of female participants had experienced sexual violence in NT entertainment spaces, compared with 22% of male participants ($\chi 2$ = 8.26, $p$ = .004).

Past year experiences of sexual violence reported by participants in NT entertainment spaces were significantly lower in 2024 compared with 2023, one in two participants reported sexual violence in 2023, compared to one in three participants in 2024 ($\chi 2$ = 16.79, $p$ < .001). However, these differences need to be interpreted with caution as there were some differences in the way we measured sexual violence in 2024 compared to 2023, in order to reduce survey length.

The festival follow up survey aimed to understand participant experiences of sexual violence at Bass in the Grass festival itself. This data is key to understanding how AGF can best deliver harm reduction messaging and services at this event. Overall, 16% of participants reported an experience of sexual violence at this year's festival (n=23). These results were similar to the 2023 survey (20%, n=24) and no significant differences were found between 2023 and 2024 ($\chi 2$ = 0.61, $p$ =.436).

## Other harms

Experiences of discrimination and aggression at entertainment spaces (music venues, festivals, gigs or clubs) across the NT have remained key variables to track over the evaluation. In 2024, overall, one in four participants had experienced aggression in NT entertainment spaces in the past year (25%, n=83). Approximately one in seven participants had experienced discrimination in NT entertainment spaces in the past year (14%, n=47). These findings have remained consistent with 2023 findings on the same measures: experiences of aggression (20%, n=72) and discrimination (17%, n=61).

## Bystander behaviour

In 2024 festival surveys, bystander behaviour was tracked in two keyways; (1) actual reported bystander activity and (2) bystander confidence. Bystander confidence was measured by an adapted bystander efficacy scale (Banyard, 2008). Compared to 2023 on the same measures, there was a statistically significant increase in the proportion of participants who reported an experience of actual bystanding behaviour)", with almost half (45%) of the 2024 sample having experienced active bystander behaviour in NT entertainment spaces in the past year, compared with 36% of the 2023 sample ($\chi 2$= 12.85, $p$ < .001). No significant differences were found between 2023 and 2024 bystander confidence measures.

## Alcohol and drug use

Our survey provides NT-specific data on alcohol and drug use which is helpful to tailor care and information provided by AGF as well as the All Good Project more broadly. A lower proportion of survey respondents at Bass in the Grass reported that they intended to use drugs other than alcohol at the festival (7%), compared to similar studies in other jurisdictions such as NSW (30%) (Healey et al., 2022) and Victoria (24%) (Douglass et al., 2022). Heavy alcohol use was more common, 74% of patrons intended to drink alcohol at the festival, with almost half of patrons (47%) planning to drink 5 or more standard drinks. These survey results concord with the types of drugs reported by people receiving care in the AGF wellbeing space (primarily alcohol). Survey respondents described experiencing a range of alcohol-related harms, with more than a quarter (27%) spending more than planned, and 16% consuming more alcohol than planned. These most experienced harms remained consistent with findings from the 2023 survey. Compared to 2023 survey results, there were no significant differences between Bass in the Grass patrons who reported that they intended to use drugs at the festival (9% in 2023, compared with 7% in 2024, $\chi 2$= 0.37, $p$ = .540).

## Use of harm reduction strategies

People who reported that they had previously used drugs, were asked about their harm reduction strategies. Results indicated that many participants were aware of risks of dehydration and overheating, as approximately 37% reported consuming water regularly and attempting to keep cool (21%) as their most used harm reduction strategies. Around a quarter (24%) of people who had ever used drugs reported no use of harm reduction strategies, which suggests an opportunity for AGF to increase awareness of strategies pre-event.

People who planned to use alcohol at the festival were asked about their use of harm reduction strategies. These participants identified a range of harm reduction strategies they used to keep themselves safe, including eating before or while drinking (57%), never leaving their drink unattended (41%) and using a designated driver (32%), with very few using no strategy at all (4%).

When asked about seeing harm reduction messages at the festival, most were either unsure (38%) or had not seen (29%) any harm reduction messages. It may be valuable for the All Good Project team to consider how future harm reduction messages could be strengthened, based on the strategies people reported in combination with the alcohol and drugs they reported using.

## Strong support for harm reduction measures

The survey demonstrated clear support from patrons for increased other harm reduction initiatives at the festival such as more shade (67%), drug checking (52%), more chill out spaces (49%) and more giveaways/resources including sunscreen, earplugs, condoms and sanitary products among others (46%). High levels of support for drug checking, demonstrated in both this survey and the 2022 festival data suggest that this may be a valued harm reduction service to consider for future events. (Wardle et al., 2024).

This year's survey also investigated awareness of and preferences for drug alerts. 'Drug alerts' are public notices issued by governments and health services (e.g., harm reduction services) with urgent health information about drugs that carry higher risk of overdose or other harms. For example, there might be unusually high-dose drugs or drugs being mis-sold as something else.

A third of survey respondents (33%) had heard about drug alerts in Australia. When asked how they would prefer to see drug alerts, social media or a public channel feed (e.g., Facebook, Instagram) was the most popular choice (45%), followed by in person alerts such as when attending a service or venue, or from a friend (29%).

## Safety

Approximately half (51%) of survey respondents reported that they perceived the festival to be safer in 2024 than in previous years. In descriptive feedback many patrons indicated the festival was well run, well organized and felt safe, for example,

*"I've been to many festivals in NSW, Victoria and Tassie. This was my first festival in the NT. I strongly feel as though Bass in the Grass is the best organised, supported and run festival I've ever been to. Thank you!"*

This speaks to the substantive efforts by event organisers to improve the festival design with safety in mind, including investing in the All Good Festivals peer harm reduction service.

## Recommendations

Many of the following recommendations relate to the internal operations of All Good Festivals, but some would need to be actioned by other stakeholders involved. Some relate specifically to the Bass in the Grass festival, but these can be extrapolated to other events in future.

| | |
|---|---|
| **All Good Project** | - Maintain the project's focus on preventing sexual violence, given the emerging evidence of a problem of sexual violence in music venues and festivals of the NT.<br>- Explore ways to address the disproportionate prevalence of sexual violence experiences for women and sexually diverse music venue patrons of the NT.<br>- Maintain the focus on addressing discrimination and aggression, given the emerging evidence of discrimination and aggression in music venues and festivals of the NT.<br>- Continue and strengthen delivery of the project, given the need for a program to address the problem of sexual violence, discrimination and aggression harms in music venues and festivals of the NT. |
| **All Good Festivals** | - Maintain the focus on alcohol harm prevention in the service, given higher levels of alcohol use and strong involvement in harms<br>- Investigate opportunities to enhance drug information and education both before and at the festival, to develop a stronger culture of safety and harm reduction<br>- Strengthen data capture at the festival to ensure rover interactions are accurately captured.<br>- Investigate the implementation of drug checking<br>- Expand operations into other regions and events in the NT<br>- Refine and strengthen data collection methods for volunteers. |
| **Event organisers** | - Continue the strong and growing focus on patron wellbeing and safety, including expanded provision of free water, harm reduction and peer services<br>- Increase shade and chill-out spaces available |

| | |
|---|---|
| | - Increase lighting and toilets around festival site<br>- Retain the co-location of All Good Festivals with the medical team and chill-out space<br>- Investigate optimized crowd management and moshpit behaviour to minimise risks of harm |
| **Police** | - Keep distance from the care space to allow harm reduction to serve its purpose fully and encourage people to seek care when they need it<br>- Cease use of drug detection dogs<br>- Offer harm reduction training for officers |
| **Security** | - Strengthen engagement with All Good Festivals to improve referral processes<br>- Offer harm reduction training to further enhance skills of security staff |
| **Medical team** | - Continue to work with All Good Festivals to further strengthen collaborative care and referral processes<br>- Offer harm reduction training to further enhance skills of volunteers |

# 1. Contents

**Executive summary** ..... **1**
Background ..... 1
Evaluation ..... 1
Data Sources ..... 1
Findings ..... 2
All Good Festival peer harm reduction service ..... 2
Sexual violence ..... 3
Other harms ..... 3
Bystander behaviour ..... 4
Alcohol and drug use ..... 4
Use of harm reduction strategies ..... 4
Strong support for harm reduction measures ..... 5
Safety ..... 5
Recommendations ..... 6
**2. Introduction** ..... **10**
All Good Project ..... 10
Evaluation ..... 10
Data sources ..... 11
Service delivery ..... 11
Rovers ..... 11
Wellbeing space ..... 11
Surveys ..... 12
Ethics ..... 13
Methods ..... 13
Analysis ..... 13
**3. Findings** ..... **14**
Part 1: Service provision results ..... 14
Rovers ..... 14
General interactions ..... 14
Education interactions ..... 15
Wellbeing space ..... 15
Part 2: Survey results ..... 16
Baseline survey ..... 16
Follow-up survey ..... 32
**4. Recommendations** ..... **58**

**5. References ..... 60**

**6. Appendix ..... 62**

6.1 Open-ended suggestions for how to improve safety and wellbeing at Bass in the Grass festival 62

# 2. Introduction

## All Good Project

MusicNT's All Good Project works with live music venues across the Northern Territory (NT) to create safer spaces for staff, performers and patrons. The All Good Project aims to increase safety for minority groups, encourage equity and diversity, and work to end discrimination and gender-based violence.

The project comprises of policy, marketing, training/education components, and a peer harm reduction service, All Good Festivals (AGF).

The All Good Project conducts a bystander intervention training program for staff of music venues and festivals. The program, like other bystander prevention programs, aims to increase staff knowledge and awareness of problem behaviour, as well as increase the skills and responsibility of these bystanders to take action (Banyard et al., 2007; Powers & Leili, 2018). The All Good Project is underpinned by several assumptions:

1) There is a need for a program to address sexual violence in live music venues and festivals in the NT;
2) There is a need for a program to address discrimination and violence in live music venues and festivals in the NT;
3) Bystander training for venue and festival staff is an effective strategy to bring about change (through improved awareness of, responsibility for and responses to discrimination and sexual violence in venues);
4) Supporting venues with policy and procedures to address discrimination and sexual violence is an effective strategy to bring about change; and
5) Social marketing/ campaign messaging is an effective strategy to bring about change.

## Evaluation

Menzies School of Health Research was commissioned by MusicNT to undertake an evaluation of the All Good Project. The broader evaluation includes both qualitative and quantitative methods to understand whether the All Good Project is meeting its stated objectives. The evaluation includes surveys and interviews with festival and venue patrons; and surveys and interviews with venue staff who undertook training. The current report describes two parts of the evaluation which, 1) quantifies service delivery by the AGF service; 2) engages with festival patrons to understand experiences and

attitudes relating to sexual violence, alcohol and drug behaviours and bystanding behaviours, which will be tracked over three years (2023 – 2025).

## Data sources

This report focuses on two data sources: 1) service delivery data collated by AGF, and 2) data from a survey of festival patrons.

# Service delivery

There are multiple types of service delivery data included in this report.

## Rovers

Rovers moved throughout the festival grounds, providing water, sunscreen, and other consumables. They also provided health promotion advice regarding heat exposure, hydration, rest, alcohol and drug use and sexual health, as well as general advice on event services and facilities. Rovers also provided a role as active bystanders, intervening to deescalate emerging situations, check in with festival patrons and provide referral support to the AGF wellbeing space or other festival services. Rovers recorded their interactions with patrons using 'clickers'. These interactions gives us an estimate of reach, however this is likely to be underestimated.

## Wellbeing space

The AGF wellbeing space was a large marquee set up near the festival 'chill out area'. The front of the marquee had an education area as well as an area for giveaways of merchandise including water bottles, stickers, fans, water, sunscreen, earplugs, lollypops and other consumables.

The wellbeing space was co-located with St John's Ambulance and the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre. In addition to providing care to individuals experiencing adverse impacts of alcohol and drug intoxication, the team provided acute care to attendees for a range of other conditions including heat stress, dehydration, sensory and mental health concerns, sexual health, and relationship issues. Care interactions within the wellbeing space were documented by volunteers using paper-based 'care intervention forms' that provided details on the reason for entering care and care provided.

Interactions at the front of the wellbeing marquee were recorded separately by volunteers using 'clickers' and consisted of general interactions and education interactions. Typically, general interactions were briefer than education interactions and covered more diverse topics, including general advice on event services and facilities, as well as provision of giveaways and merchandise. Education

interactions covered patron interactions on harm reduction for alcohol and other drugs, as well as the provision of brochures for alcohol and other drugs, sexual health, and other wellbeing topics.

## Surveys

Bass in the Grass festival is the largest single day music festival in the NT. This is the second year that Menzies has administered surveys at Bass in the Grass as part of the evaluation of the All Good Project. The survey aims to understand participant experiences of a range of unwanted sexual, physical and discrimination behaviours at music spaces in the NT, as well as bystander intervention behaviour, alcohol and other drug use and harm reduction behaviours.

This data is key to outlining the problem of discrimination and sexual violence in music venues of the NT, given the limited data currently available. The first survey asked participants about harassment experiences and bystander behaviour more broadly, at ***NT music venues, festivals, gigs or clubs*** as well as recall of All Good Project branding. The follow up survey captured experiences of harm, harm reduction behaviours and alcohol and drug use at the festival itself, as well as feedback on interactions with the AGF service.

Both surveys intentionally asked about a range of sexual violence behaviours to capture participants' experiences quantitatively in a way that doesn't self-exclude or underreport the more trivialised 'minor' forms of sexual violence. Survey questions and descriptions drew from dominant theories and work on safety and violence in the nightlife, music venue and festival setting include the feminist and dominance perspectives and Kelly's (1987) continuum model (Fileborn et al., 2019; Fileborn et al., 2020; Kelly, 1987; Vera-Gray & Kelly, 2020). The authors recognise however that this method does not capture the overlapping and co-occurring continuum of lived harassment experience that is complex and multi-faceted. The festival survey does however capture the prevalence (in past 12 months: May 2023 – May 2024) of sexual violence, discrimination and aggression in NT music venue and festival settings, which address a current gap in the literature. Furthermore, to understand sexual violence experiences more deeply, patrons were asked to report how they responded to experiences of sexual violence and what, if any, were the barriers to responding.

To explore bystander behaviour, participants were asked about the confidence to be active bystanders through questions adapted from the validated Bystander Efficacy Scale (Banyard, 2008). While this scale was originally developed in the United States for sexual violence in young adult campus/college populations, there has been some initial work by Fileborn and colleagues to adapt them for use in Australian festival and nightlife settings (Fileborn et al., 2020; Baillie et al., 2022). Dr. Fileborn

generously shared such adaptations with the Menzies research team and these scales were further adapted to suit the context of the Bass in the Grass survey. This measure of bystander confidence was used in addition to reporting of actual bystander experiences in the NT music venue and festival setting.

## Ethics

Ethics approval was obtained from the Northern Territory Department of Health and Menzies School of Health Research Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC 2022-4267).

## Methods

The study team approached festival attendees and invited them to complete a short survey on participant's mobile phones via a printed QR code. Participants received a $5 Uber voucher and/or a small gift (such as a polaroid photo or sunglasses) for participating. Participants who provided their contact information were also sent a follow-up survey two days after the festival. The follow up survey was open for one week after the festival, and participants went into a draw to win 2 tickets to the 2025 Bass in the Grass festival.

## Analysis

Descriptive and data analysis was carried out using Stata (v18) software. Variations between festival patrons in 2023 and 2024 festival surveying were analysed using chi square test for categorical variables, and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) for continuous variables.

# 3. Findings

## Part 1: Service provision results

The AGF service operated throughout the duration of the single-day festival 12pm – 12am. Overall, there were a total of 5,586 interactions by AGF. There were 5,431 simple contacts that included interactions by rovers and general interactions by volunteers stationed at the front of the wellbeing space. Education interactions were recorded separately as these were typically longer than the simple contacts and focussed on alcohol and drug, and sexual health harm reduction. Care interactions within the wellbeing space were also recorded.

***Table 1. Interactions by All Good Festival service***

| **Interaction type** | N |
|---|---|
| **Simple contacts** (general questions, resources including water, sunscreen etc) | 5431 |
| **Education interactions** (AOD education and resources) | 114 |
| **Wellbeing Space** | 41 |
| **Total interactions** | **5586** |

### Rovers

As noted above, rovers moved throughout the festival grounds, providing water, sunscreen, and other consumables, as well as providing an active bystander role and referrals to the AGF wellbeing space and other festival services.

A total of **1966 patron interactions** were recorded.

### General interactions

Interactions at the front of the wellbeing marquee were recorded by volunteers using ‘clickers’ and consisted of general interactions and education interactions. General interactions included advice on event services and facilities, as well as provision of giveaways and merchandise.

A total of **3465 patron interactions** were recorded.

## Education interactions

An education stall was set up at the front of the wellbeing space marquee. Education interactions covered harm reduction for alcohol and other drugs, as well as the provision of brochures for alcohol and other drugs, sexual health, and other wellbeing topics.

A total of **114 patron interactions** were recorded.

## Wellbeing space

In addition to providing care to individuals experiencing adverse impacts of alcohol and drug intoxication, the team provided acute care to attendees for a range of other conditions including heat stress, dehydration, sensory and mental health concerns, sexual health, and relationship issues.

The team were able to manage many attendees concerns directly with little escalation to higher intensity health service. Prior to a peer harm reduction service at Bass in the Grass festival, there were several hospital transports with a lower number of festival patrons (Aisthorpe, 2019).

A total for **41 people received care in the wellbeing space.**

***Table 2. Summary of care provision in the wellbeing space***

| | N=41 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Age of patron** | | |
| 15-17 years | 7 | 17 |
| 18-19 years | 7 | 17 |
| 20-24 years | 11 | 27 |
| 25-29 years | 5 | 12 |
| 30-34 years | 0 | 0 |
| 35-39 years | 3 | 7 |
| 40+ | 2 | 5 |
| Not recorded | 6 | 15 |
| **Gender** | | |
| Male | 13 | 32 |
| Female | 24 | 59 |
| Not recorded | 4 | 10 |
| **Substances involved** | | |
| Alcohol* | 29 | 71 |
| MDMA* | 7 | 17 |
| Ketamine* | 3 | 7 |
| Dexamphetamine* | 2 | 5 |
| Cannabis* | 1 | 2 |
| No substance identified | 1 | 2 |
| **Referral pathway** | | |
| Self | 15 | 37 |
| Rovers | 11 | 27 |
| Friends | 8 | 20 |
| St John's Ambulance | 4 | 10 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Referral not recorded | 2 | 5 |
| Security | 1 | 2 |
| **Time in care (mean)** | 49 mins | |
| **Time in care (range)** | 2 - 293mins | |
| **Total treating time** | 2,021 minutes / 33.41 hours | |
| | | |
| **Time entering care** | | |
| 11:00-12:00 | 0 | 0 |
| 12:00-13:00 | 0 | 0 |
| 13:00-14:00 | 0 | 0 |
| 14:00-15:00 | 0 | 0 |
| 15:00-16:00 | 0 | 0 |
| 16:00-17:00 | 0 | 0 |
| 17:00-18:00 | 5 | 12 |
| 18:00-19:00 | 7 | 17 |
| 19:00-20:00 | 6 | 15 |
| 20:00-21:00 | 10 | 24 |
| 21:00-22:00 | 5 | 12 |
| 22:00-23:00 | 2 | 5 |
| 23:00-24:00 | 6 | 15 |
| **Peak treatment time** | 18:30-22:00 | |
| **Presentations** | | |
| Dehydration | 24 | 41 |
| Emotional distress | 11 | 12 |
| Heatstroke | 2 | 5 |
| Harassment | 1 | 2 |
| Violence | 1 | 2 |
| **Type of care received** | | |
| Water | 31 | 76 |
| Cooling down | 22 | 54 |
| Snacks | 11 | 27 |
| Vomit care | 7 | 17 |
| Lower stimuli environment | 5 | 10 |
| Informal counselling | 5 | 10 |
| Trip sitting | 1 | 2 |
| St Johns referral | 1 | 2 |
| **Outcomes** | | |
| Returned to party | 24 | 59 |
| Left event | 11 | 27 |
| Transferred to St Johns | 2 | 5 |

* Note polysubstance use. Of those reported polysubstance use (n=6), substances included alcohol and MDMA (n=2), alcohol and ketamine (n=3), alcohol and cannabis (n=1).

# Part 2: Survey results

## Baseline survey

### Socio-demographic characteristics

Overall, 338 participants completed the baseline survey. Most had not done the survey in 2023 (88%). Participants' median age was 27 years (IQR: 21-38 years) with the majority (58%) living in the

Northern Territory or interstate (35%). Most of the sample identified as female (67%). Nine percent reported they were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (or both). Most reported that their highest level of education was a university undergraduate degree (23%), year 12 (22%), or TAFE, certificate or diploma (20%).

***Table 3. Socio-demographic characteristics of participants at baseline survey***

| | N=338 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Where do you usually live?** | | |
| Greater Darwin region | 181 | 53.5 |
| NT regional or remote | 16 | 4.7 |
| Interstate | 118 | 34.9 |
| Overseas | 13 | 3.9 |
| Missing | 10 | 3.0 |
| **Gender** | | |
| Female/woman | 226 | 66.9 |
| Male/man | 97 | 28.7 |
| Non-binary/trans or other gender | 10 | 3.0 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 1 | .3 |
| Missing | 4 | 1.1 |
| **Age group** | | |
| 16-17 years | 33 | 9.8 |
| 18-24 year | 97 | 28.7 |
| 25-29 years | 64 | 18.9 |
| 30 years and over | 140 | 41.4 |
| Missing | 4 | 1.2 |
| **Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander** | | |
| No | 304 | 89.9 |
| Yes, Aboriginal | 25 | 7.4 |
| Yes, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander | 1 | 0.3 |
| Yes, Torres Strait Islander | 3 | 0.9 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 2 | 0.6 |
| Missing | 3 | 0.9 |
| **Highest level of education** | | |
| High school, year 10 or lower | 27 | 8 |
| High school, year 11 | 27 | 8 |
| High school, year 12 | 75 | 22.2 |
| TAFE, CERT or diploma | 68 | 20.1 |
| University - undergraduate course (e.g. Bachelor degree) | 77 | 22.8 |
| University - postgraduate course (e.g. Masters, Doctorate) | 50 | 14.8 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 7 | 2.1 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Missing | 7 | 2.1 |
| **Weekly recreational spending** | | |
| $120 or less | 180 | 53.3 |
| Over $120 | 145 | 42.9 |
| Missing | 13 | 3.8 |
| **Sexuality** | | |
| Heterosexual | 242 | 71.6 |
| Bisexual | 47 | 13.9 |
| Gay or Lesbian | 24 | 7.1 |
| I use a different term | 6 | 1.8 |
| Undecided | 5 | 1.5 |
| Intentionally skipped | 4 | 1.2 |
| Missing | 10 | 3.0 |
| **Person with a disability** | | |
| No | 316 | 93.5 |
| Yes | 22 | 6.5 |
| **Person of colour** | | |
| No | 316 | 93.5 |
| Yes | 21 | 6.5 |

## Participant alcohol use

In the past 12 months, 83% of participants had consumed alcohol. For those who consume alcohol, based on the three-item Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT-C) scores, participants were classified as low (28%), medium (52%) and high (20%) risk of harmful/hazardous drinking behaviour (Table 4). Almost half the sample (47%) thought they would consume 5 or more standard drinks while attending Bass in the Grass.

***Table 4. Alcohol use***

| | N | % |
|---|---|---|
| **In the last 12 months how often did you have a drink containing** | **n=338** | |
| Never | 34 | 10.1 |
| Monthly or less | 57 | 16.9 |
| 2-4 times a month | 98 | 29 |
| 2 to 3 times a week | 75 | 22.2 |
| 4 or more times a week | 50 | 14.8 |
| Missing | 24 | 7.1 |
| **In the last 12 months how many drinks containing alcohol did you have** | **n=280** | |
| 1 or 2 | 89 | 31.8 |
| 3 or 4 | 79 | 28.2 |
| 5 or 6 | 47 | 16.8 |
| 7, 8 or 9 | 28 | 10 |
| 10 or more | 27 | 9.6 |
| Missing | 10 | 3.6 |
| **In the last 12 months how often did you have six or more drinks on one** | **n=280** | |
| Never | 47 | 16.8 |
| Less than monthly | 87 | 31.1 |
| Monthly | 81 | 28.9 |
| Weekly | 42 | 15 |
| Daily or almost daily | 10 | 3.6 |
| Missing | 13 | 4.6 |
| **AUDIT-C categories [A]** | **n=280** | |
| Low risk (0-3) | 79 | 28.2 |
| Medium risk (4-7) | 145 | 51.8 |
| High risk (8-12) | 56 | 20 |
| Missing | 0 | 0 |
| **How many standard drinks do you think you will have at Bass?** | **n=338** | |
| 1 or 2 | 42 | 12.4 |
| 3 or 4 | 52 | 15.4 |
| 5 or 6 | 71 | 21 |
| 7, 8 or 9 | 31 | 9.2 |
| 10 or more | 55 | 16.3 |
| I don't plan to drink at Bass in the Grass | 58 | 17.2 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 11 | 3.2 |
| Missing | 18 | 5.3 |

(A) Among participants who had consumed alcohol in the past 12 months

## Participant drug use

Almost half the participants reported they had ever used illicit drugs (besides alcohol) (48.5%). In the past month, the most common drugs participants reported using included cannabis (24%), cocaine (16%) and MDMA (16%). A majority (51.5%) reported they had used no drugs in the past month. A minority (7%) reported they planned to use drugs besides alcohol while attending Bass in the Grass.

***Table 5. Drug use***

| | N=338 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Have you ever used drugs besides alcohol?** | | |
| No | 137 | 40.5 |
| Yes, in the past year | 101 | 29.9 |
| Yes, but not in the past year | 63 | 18.6 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 18 | 5.3 |
| Missing | 19 | 5.6 |
| **Drugs used in the past month** | | |
| None | 174 | 51.5 |
| Used any drug in past month* | 124 | 36.7 |
| Cannabis (Marijuana, pot) | 80 | 23.7 |
| MDMA (Ecstasy, pingers) | 55 | 16.3 |
| Cocaine | 55 | 16.3 |
| LSD (trips, acid) | 29 | 8.6 |
| Hallucinogenic mushrooms (psilocybin, magic mushrooms) | 25 | 7.4 |
| Ketamine | 21 | 6.2 |
| Non-medical use of pharmaceutical stimulants (dexies) | 20 | 5.9 |
| Methamphetamine (speed, powder) | 14 | 4.1 |
| Nitrous oxide (nangs) | 11 | 3.2 |
| Methamphetamine (crystal, ice) | 11 | 3.2 |
| Amyl nitrites (amyl, poppers) | 11 | 3.2 |
| Non-medical use of Viagra/erectile enhancer | 6 | 1.8 |
| Performance/image enhancing drugs (Steroids, growth hormones) | 5 | 1.5 |
| Synthetic drugs (2CB, NBOME) | 5 | 1.5 |
| GHB/GBL/1,4-B-D (Juice, G) | 4 | 1.2 |
| Synthetic cannabinoids (Kronic) | 4 | 1.2 |
| Other | 6 | 1.8 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 24 | 7.1 |
| Missing | 16 | 4.7 |
| **Do you plan to use any drugs while attending Bass in the Grass (besides alcohol)?** | | |
| No | 259 | 76.6 |
| Yes | 24 | 7.1 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 14 | 4.1 |
| Missing | 41 | 12.1 |

*Derived

## Music venue attendance

All participants were asked about the number of festivals they had attended in past year, as well as the types of music venues they had gone to in the past year. Most participants had attended 1-3 festivals in the past year including Bass in the Grass 2024 (81%). Pubs were the most popular venue for live music with 75% of participants having gone to a pub in the past year. In descriptive responses other venues participants had attended included entertainment centres, rodeo, live stage shows, concerts and raves.

***Figure 1. Which music venues have you gone to in the past 12 months?***

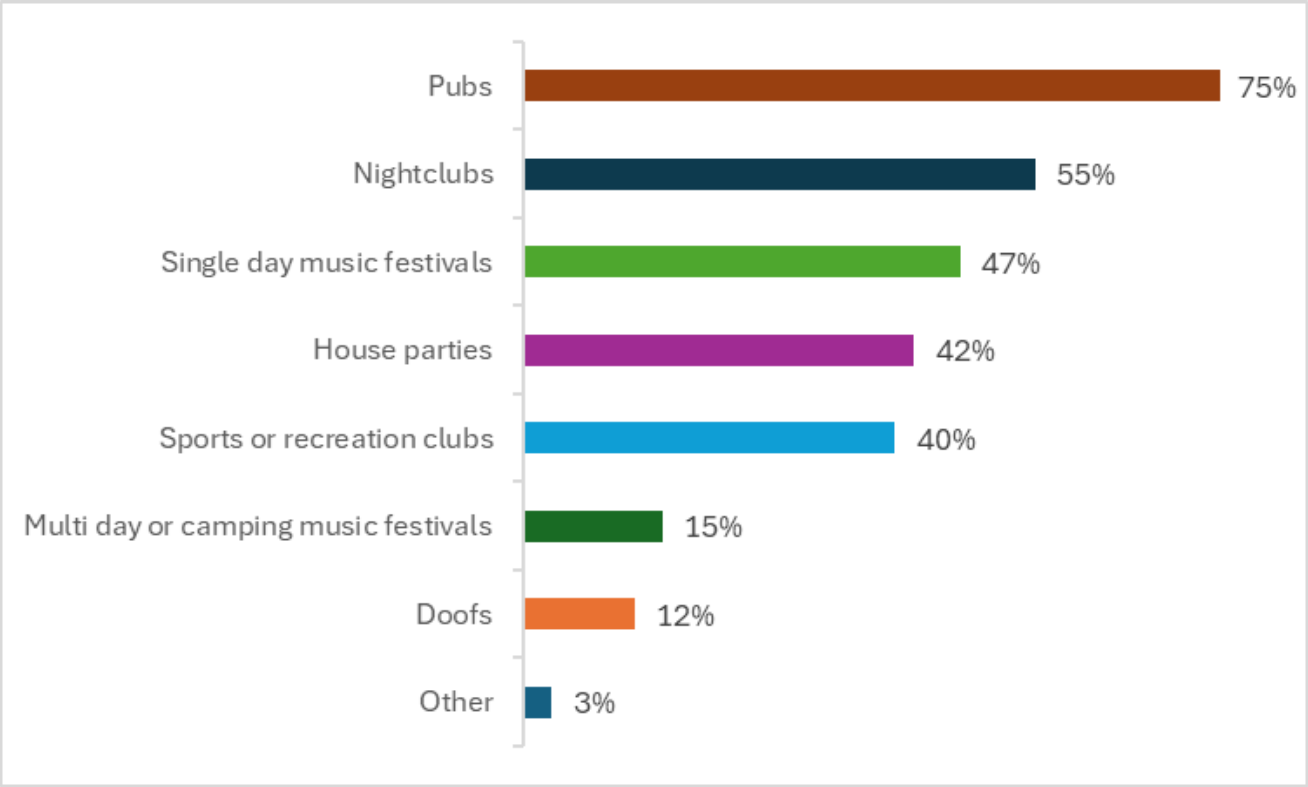


***Table 6. Music venue attendance of participants at baseline survey***

| | N=338 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Number of festivals attended in past year (including this one)** | | |
| 1-3 festivals | 275 | 81.4 |
| 4-6 festivals | 40 | 11.8 |
| 7-10 festivals | 7 | 2.1 |
| 10+ festivals | 9 | 2.7 |
| Missing | 7 | 2.0 |
| **In the past 12 months I have gone to** | | |
| Pubs | | |
| Yes | 252 | 74.6 |
| No | 86 | 25.4 |
| Nightclubs | | |
| Yes | 186 | 55 |
| No | 152 | 45 |
| Sports/Recreation clubs | | |
| Yes | 136 | 40.2 |
| No | 202 | 59.8 |
| Single day music festivals | | |
| Yes | 158 | 46.8 |
| No | 180 | 53.2 |
| Multi day/camping music festivals | | |
| Yes | 51 | 15.1 |
| No | 287 | 84.9 |
| Doofs | | |
| Yes | 40 | 11.8 |
| No | 298 | 88.2 |
| House parties | | |
| Yes | 142 | 42 |
| No | 196 | 58 |
| Other not listed | | |
| Yes | 10 | 3 |
| No | 328 | 97 |

## Bystander behaviour at NT entertainment spaces

Participants were asked to rate their confidence (between 1-100), to intervene as a bystander in a range of music venue scenarios. Similar to results obtained in our 2023 survey, highest confidence was reported when participants were to intervene with friends; for example, confidence to “get help and resources for a friend who tells me they have been raped at a music festival” (M = 90%, IQR = 88-100)

and confidence to “ask a friend if they need to be walked to a chill out space / support service or taken home from a music festival” (M = 91%, IQR = 85-100). Least confidence was reported when participants were asked to “express discomfort/concern if someone makes a joke about a woman’s body or about LGBTQI people or someone of a different race” (M = 78%, IQR = 65-100), “confidence to do something to help a very drunk person who is being taken to an isolated area by a group of people” (M = 79%, IQR = 66-100) and to “ask a stranger if they need to be walked to a chill out space/support service or taken home from a music festival” (M = 80%, IQR = 67-100).

Half of the participants rated their overall bystander confidence as 87% or higher (IQR = 76–96).

Actual bystander behaviour was measured by asking participants if they had experienced “people (friends, strangers or staff) stepping in to keep others safe” music venues/festivals/gigs or clubs in the NT in the past 12 months. Almost half of participants had experienced active bystanding in NT entertainment spaces (45%, n = 152).

***Table 7. Bystander confidence***

| | **Median %** |
|---|---|
| Do something to help a very drunk person who is being taken to an isolated area by a group of people | 85 |
| Ask a stranger if they need to be walked to a chill out space/support service or taken home from a music festival | 85 |
| Ask a stranger who looks very upset at a music festival if they are okay or need help | 89 |
| Express discomfort/concern if someone makes a joke about a woman’s body or about LGBTIQ people or someone of a different race | 89 |
| Do something if I see a woman surrounded by a group of men at a music festival who looks very uncomfortable | 90 |
| Speak up to someone who is making excuses for forcing someone to have sex with them at a music festival | 97 |
| Ask a friend if they need to be walked to a chill out space/support service or taken home from a music festival | 100 |
| Get help and resources for a friend who tells me they have been raped at a music festival | 100 |
| **Overall confidence*** | 87 |

*Derived

***Table 8. Experiences of prosocial bystander behaviour***

| | N=338 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Actual bystanding behaviour** | | |
| Yes | 152 | 45 |
| No | 149 | 44.1 |
| Intentionally skipped | 28 | 8.3 |
| Missing | 9 | 2.6 |

## Sexual violence and harassment at NT entertainment spaces

Participants were asked if they had experienced sexual harassment, sexual assault, discrimination, and aggression at music venues, festivals, gigs, or clubs in the NT in the past 12 months.

Sexual harassment was described as "unwanted sexual attention or behaviour that made you feel uncomfortable including remarks about physical appearance, sexual comments or catcalling, repeated requests for sex/flirting or advances, persistent staring or ogling, following someone around, or other similar actions that are unwelcome by you ". Overall, one in four participants had experienced sexual harassment in NT entertainment spaces in the past year (25%, n=85). Statistically significant differences were found for male and female participants, with 30% of female participants having experienced sexual harassment compared with 18% of male participants ($\chi 2 = 4.85$, $p = .028$). Of those participants who identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual or queer (LGBQ), 42% had experienced sexual harassment in NT entertainment spaces in the past year, compared with 24% of participants who identified as heterosexual, and these differences were statistically significant ($\chi 2 = 8.57$, $p = .003$).

Sexual assault was described as "unwanted touching, grinding, groping, fondling, kissing, penetration, or sex without permission. These behaviours could be initiated by someone known or unknown to you, including someone you are in a relationship with.". Overall, approximately one in five participants had experienced sexual assault in NT entertainment spaces in the past year (22%, n=76). Statistically significant differences were found for male and female participants, with almost twice as many female participants having experienced sexual assault (28%), compared with male participants (15%) ($\chi 2 = 5.95$, $p = .015$). No significant differences were found between heterosexual and LGBQ participants when measuring past year experiences of sexual assault in NT entertainment spaces.

Sexual harassment and sexual assault variables were combined to derive a measure of any experience of sexual violence in NT entertainment spaces in the past year. Overall, 33% of participants reported an experience of sexual violence in NT entertainment spaces in the past year (n=110). There were

significant differences between female and male participants, with 40% of female participants had experienced sexual violence in NT entertainment spaces, compared with 22% of male participants ($\chi 2$ = 8.26, $p$ = .004). There were significant differences for sexually diverse participants, 51% of LGBQ participants had experienced sexual violence in NT entertainment spaces in the past year, compared with 31% of heterosexual participants ($\chi 2$ = 7.52, $p$ = .006).

Aggression was described as “Aggression (Verbal or physical acts of aggression, e.g. being yelled at or sworn at, aggressive gestures, pushing, shoving, choking, slapping, punching, kicking)”. Overall, one in four participants had experienced aggression in NT entertainment spaces in the past year (25%, n=83). There were no significant differences between male and female participants or sexually diverse and heterosexual participants.

Discrimination was described as “Discrimination (e.g. Being treated with less respect than others based on race, gender, disability, religion, or some other personal characteristic)”. 14% of participants had experienced discrimination in NT entertainment spaces in the past year (n=47). There were no significant differences between male and female participants or sexually diverse and heterosexual participants.

***Table 9. Harassment at music venues, festivals, gigs and/or clubs in the NT***

| Variables | N=338 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Sexual harassment** | | |
| Yes | 85 | 22.1 |
| No | 225 | 66.6 |
| Intentionally skipped | 20 | 5.9 |
| Missing | 8 | 2.4 |
| **Sexual assault** | | |
| Yes | 76 | 22.5 |
| No | 228 | 67.5 |
| Intentionally skipped | 22 | 6.5 |
| Missing | 12 | 3.5 |
| **Sexual violence*** | | |
| Yes | 110 | 32.5 |
| No | 198 | 58.5 |
| Intentionally skipped | 15 | 4.5 |
| Missing | 15 | 4.5 |
| **Aggression** | | |
| Yes | 83 | 24.6 |
| No | 219 | 64.8 |
| Intentionally skipped | 25 | 7.4 |
| Missing | 11 | 3.2 |
| **Discrimination** | | |
| Yes | 47 | 13.9 |
| No | 258 | 76.3 |
| Intentionally skipped | 25 | 7.4 |
| Missing | 8 | 2.4 |

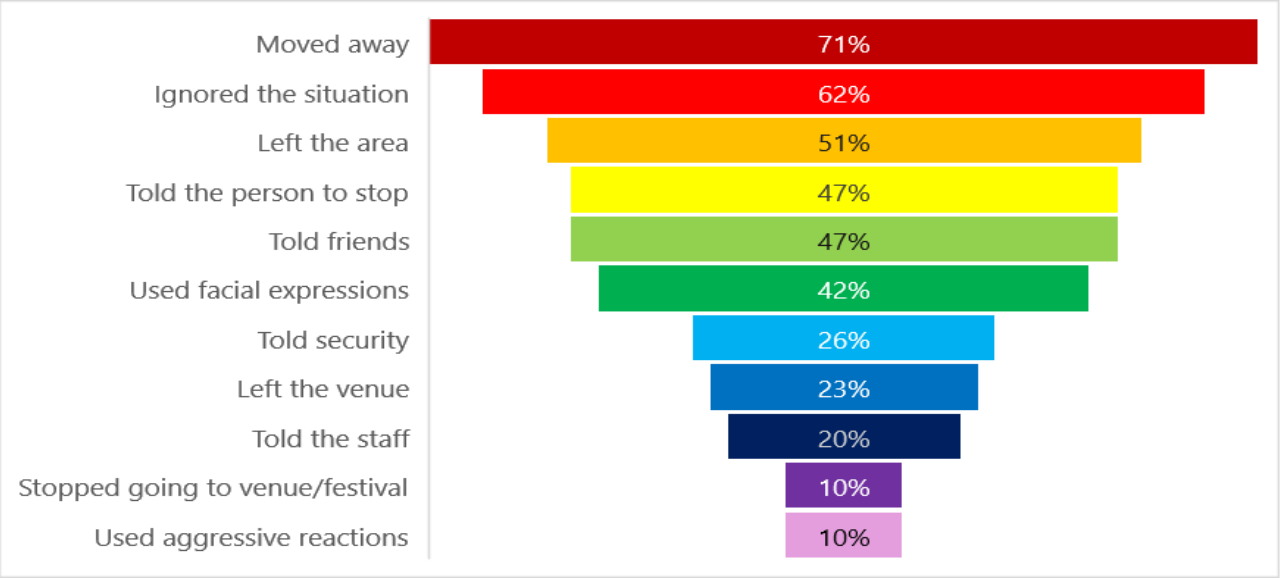
*Derived

## Sexual violence responses at NT entertainment spaces

Of those who had experienced some form of sexual violence in NT entertainment spaces in the past year (N=110), the most commonly reported responses to experiencing sexual violence were evasive or avoidant responses including moving away from the person (71%), ignoring the situation (62%) and leaving the area (51%). Of the responses that involved reporting or telling someone, almost half of participants had told friends (47%), had told security (26%), with fewer telling staff (20%), police (7%) or peer volunteers (7%). Very few participants had reported the incident after they had left the venue or event (5%). The most commonly reported barriers to responding to sexual violence were the incident was ‘minor’ (56%) and difficult to identify offender in the crowd (19%) followed by the expectation of inappropriate responses by security (15%), police (11%). In contrast to findings from

2023, this years' participants reported that the expectation of inappropriate responses by security (15%) and police (11%) impacted how they responded.

***Figure 2. Participant responses to sexual violence at NT music spaces***




*Other responses included, told police (7%), told peer volunteers (7%), reported incident after I left (5%), took some other action (2%).

***Table 10. Responses to sexual violence and barriers to responding***

| | N=110 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **How did you respond to your experience of unwanted sexual behaviors at music venues/festivals/gigs/clubs in the NT in the last 12 months?** | | |
| Moved away from the person | 78 | 71 |
| Ignored the situation | 68 | 62 |
| Left the area | 56 | 51 |
| Told the person to stop | 52 | 47 |
| Told friends | 52 | 47 |
| Used facial expressions to show the behaviour was unwanted | 46 | 42 |
| Told security | 29 | 26 |
| Left the venue | 25 | 23 |
| Told the staff | 22 | 20 |
| Stopped going to the venue/festival altogether | 11 | 10 |
| Used aggressive or forceful reactions | 11 | 10 |
| Told/called the police | 8 | 7 |
| Told peer volunteers | 8 | 7 |
| Reported the incident to someone after I left the venue/event | 6 | 5 |
| Skip | 5 | 5 |
| None of the above | 3 | 3 |
| Took some other action | 2 | 2 |
| **Was there anything that impacted how you responded?** | | |
| The incident was 'minor' / not serious enough | 62 | 56 |
| Difficult to identify the offender/perpetrator in the crowd | 21 | 19 |
| Didn't think security will respond appropriately | 16 | 15 |
| Didn't think police will respond appropriately | 12 | 11 |
| I expect this type of behaviour in the festival/music venue setting | 12 | 11 |
| Didn't think staff will respond appropriately | 11 | 10 |
| Difficult to find someone to report to | 10 | 9 |
| I felt worried that others would unfairly blame me for what I was wearing | 10 | 9 |
| Thought because I was intoxicated/drunk/high I was responsible/to blame for the unwanted behaviour | 9 | 8 |
| I felt worried that others would unfairly blame me because I had been drinking or using other drugs | 9 | 8 |
| None of the above | 9 | 8 |
| Thought because of how I as dressed, I was responsible/to blame for the unwanted behaviour | 7 | 6 |
| Skipped | 7 | 6 |
| Other | 3 | 3 |

## All Good Project Brand Recognition

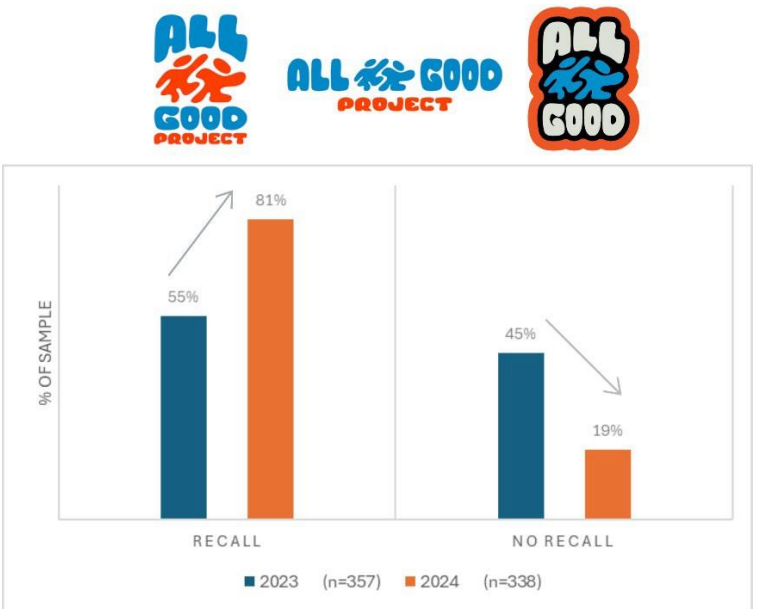
Participants were asked if they were familiar with All Good Project branding logos. There was a marked increase in familiarity with the All Good Project brand. Compared with 2023, more participants had seen an All Good Project logo (81% in 2024, vs 55% in 2023). In 2024 only 19% of participants had never seen any of the All Good Project logos before, compared with 45% percent of participants in 2023 (Figure 3). These comparisons were statistically significant ($\chi 2 = 47.97$, $p < .001$).

In the current survey, 69% had seen an All Good logo at the festival, 1% outside the festival only, and 5% both at the festival and outside of the festival. In written responses eight participants described seeing All Good Project logos on festival material, Bass in the Grass festival Instagram, Music NT materials, posters at pubs, on the internet, world pride Sydney and Wide-Open Space festival.

***Table 11. All Good Brand Recognition***

| | N=338 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Have you seen any of the 3 All Good logos?** | | |
| Yes, today at the festival | 232 | 68.6 |
| Yes, but not today at the festival | 3 | 0.9 |
| Yes, both today and outside of the festival | 16 | 4.7 |
| Never seen any of these logos before | 60 | 17.8 |
| Skipped | 11 | 3.3 |
| Missing | 16 | 4.7 |

***Figure 3. All Good Brand Recognition***



## Transport

Participants were asked how they planned to get home from the festival (or to wherever they were staying). The most popular option for participants was Uber (35%, n=117), followed by getting a lift from someone (18%, n=60), and walking (13%, n=43). Very few participants had not planned a way home, <1% 'don't know.

***Table 12. Planned transportation from the festival***

| | N=338 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **How do you plan to get home from the festival (or to wherever you are staying)?** | | |
| Uber | 117 | 34.6 |
| Lift from someone | 60 | 17.8 |
| Walking | 43 | 12.7 |
| Festival bus | 22 | 6.5 |
| Driving myself | 21 | 6.2 |
| Taxi | 14 | 4.1 |
| Public transport | 10 | 3 |
| E-scooter | 7 | 2.1 |
| Don't know | 3 | 0.9 |
| Other | 2 | 0.6 |
| Bike | 1 | 0.3 |
| Skipped | 10 | 3 |
| Missing | 28 | 8.3 |

## Harm reduction strategies

Participants who had ever used drugs (n=164) reported whether they planned to or had already implemented a range of harm reduction strategies (Figure 4). Most commonly, participants reported they planned to consume water regularly (37%), ensure they were with people who knew they were using drugs (32%) and obtain information from friends/others who had already tried the substance from the same batch (30%).

Participants who planned to use alcohol at the festival (n=251) reported whether they planned to or had already implemented a range of harm reduction strategies at Bass in the Grass (Figure 5). Most commonly, participants reported they planned to eat before or while drinking (57%), followed by never leaving their drink unattended (41%) and using a designated driver (32%).

***Figure 4. Harm reduction strategies among participants who had ever used drugs***

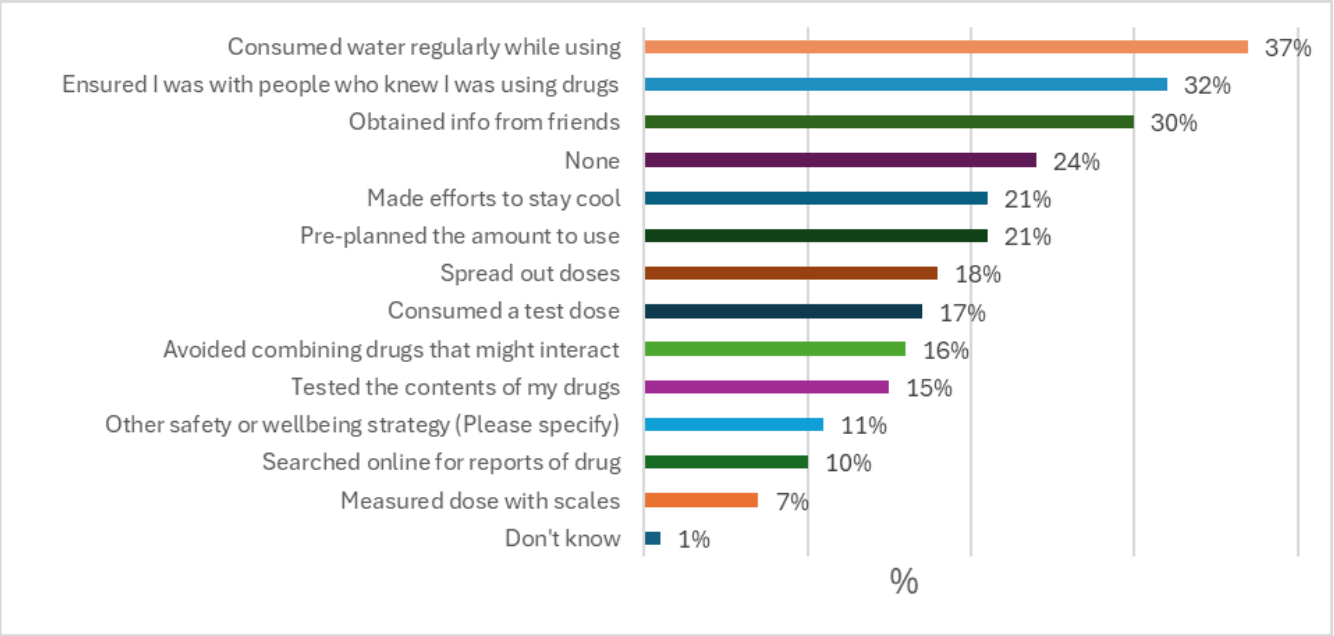
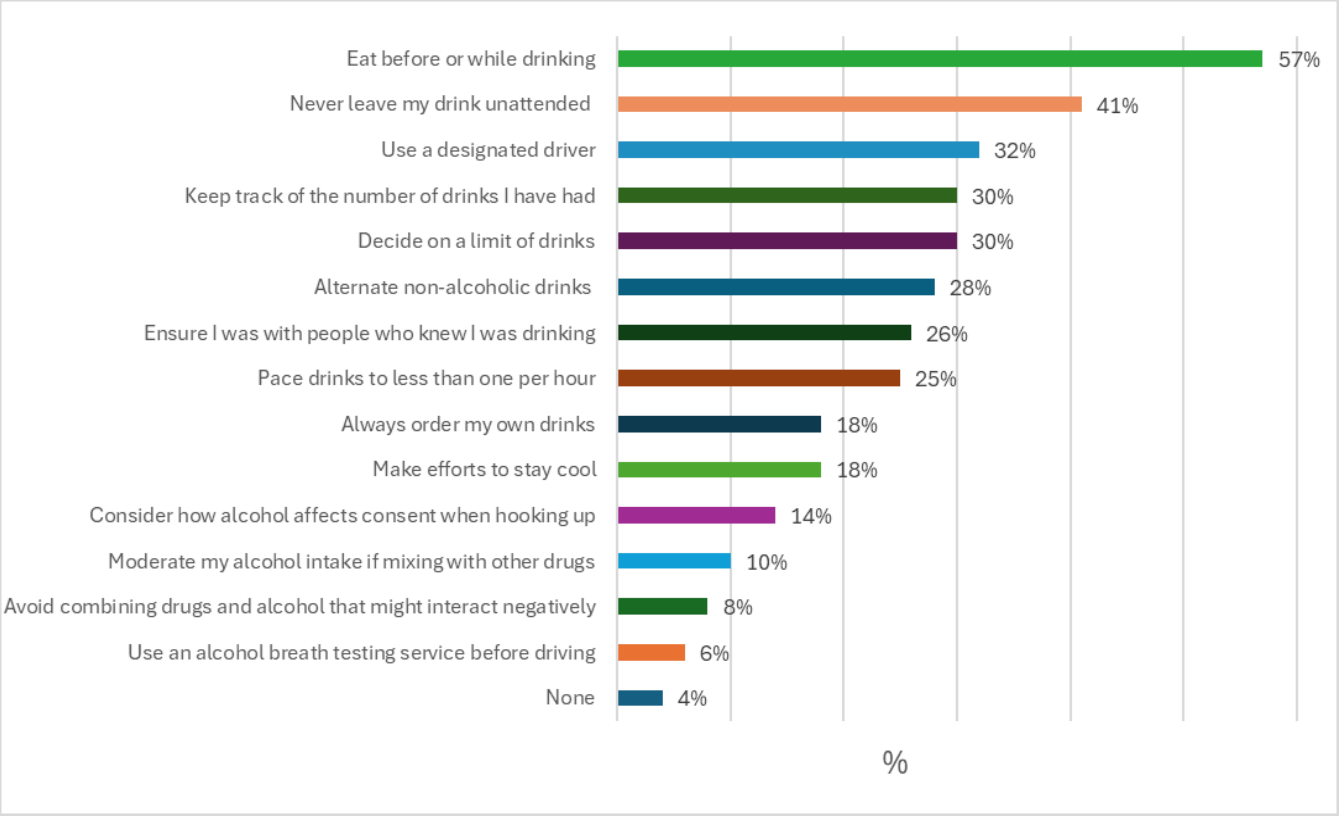



***Figure 5. Harm reduction strategies for participants who planned to use alcohol at the festival***

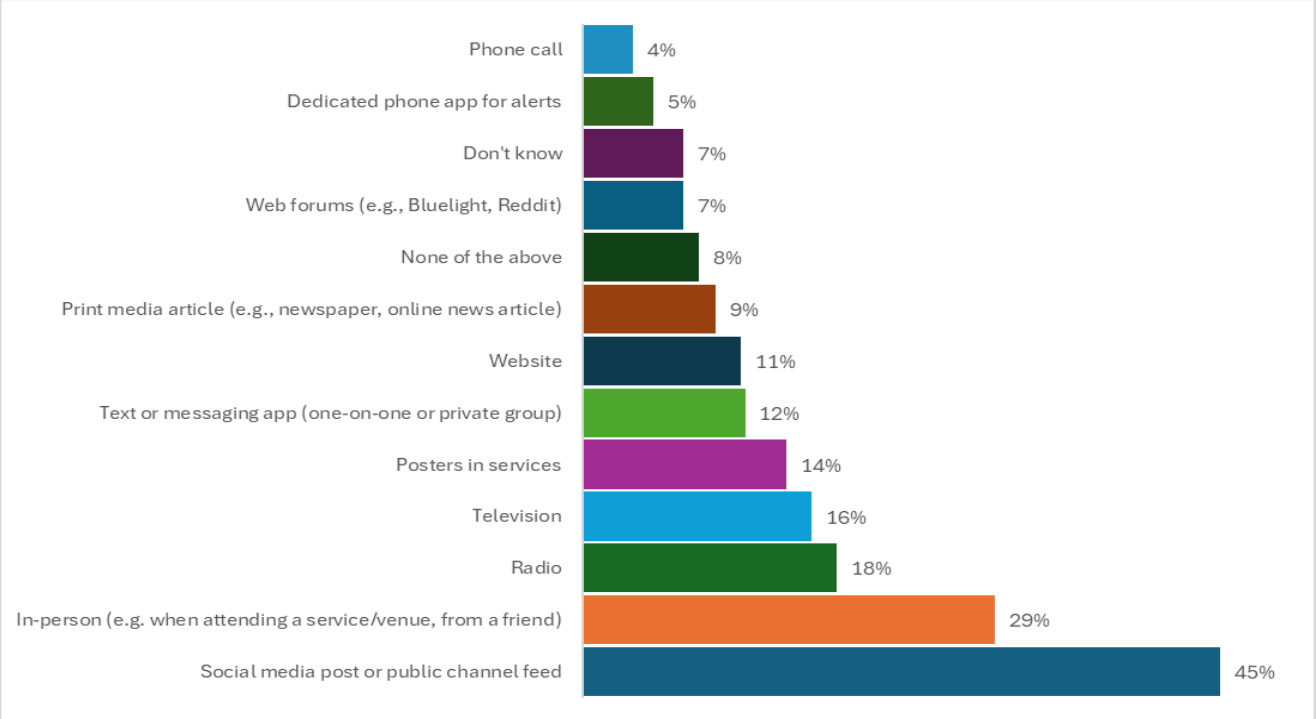


### Drug Alerts

'Drug alerts' are public notices issued by governments and health services (e.g., harm reduction services) with urgent health information about drugs that carry higher risk of overdose or other harms. For example, there might be unusually high-dose drugs or drugs being mis-sold as something else.

Participants were asked “in the last 12 months, have you seen or heard about any drug alerts in Australia about illicit drugs which may carry a higher risk for overdose or other harms?”. Most commonly, participants reported not hearing about drug alerts (39.4%), while a third of participants had heard about drug alerts in Australia (33%), and 12% were unsure. Participants were given a brief explanation about what drug alerts are, then asked how they would prefer to see drug alerts. Social media or a public channel feed (e.g., Facebook, Instagram) was the most popular choice (45%), followed by in person alerts such as when attending a service or venue, or from a friend (29%).

***Figure 6. How would participants like to see drug alerts?***




## Follow-up survey

### Socio-demographic characteristics

Overall, 144 participants completed the follow-up survey in the week following the festival. Overall, the sample is similar demographically to the baseline sample. There were a majority of female participants

(70%, n=101), and compared with the onsite survey, participants had a slightly older median age of 30 years. Most had not done the survey last year (86%, n=124).

***Table 13. Socio-demographic characteristics of participants who completed follow-up survey***

| | N=144 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Usual residence** | | |
| Greater Darwin region | 77 | 55 |
| NT regional or remote | 6 | 4.2 |
| Interstate | 56 | 38.9 |
| Overseas | 1 | 0.7 |
| Missing | 4 | 2.8 |
| **Gender** | | |
| Female/woman | 101 | 70.1 |
| Male/man | 33 | 22.9 |
| Non-binary/ trans or other gender | 7 | 4.9 |
| Missing | 3 | 2.1 |
| **Age group** | | |
| 16-17 years | 16 | 11.1 |
| 18-24 year | 33 | 22.9 |
| 25-29 years | 19 | 13.2 |
| 30 years and over | 74 | 51.4 |
| Missing | 2 | 1.4 |
| **Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander** | | |
| No | 131 | 91 |
| Yes, Aboriginal | 8 | 5.6 |
| Yes, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander | 0 | 0 |
| Yes, Torres Strait Islander | 2 | 0.8 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 0 | 0 |
| Missing | 3 | 2.1 |
| **Highest level of education** | | |
| High school, year 10 or lower | 8 | 5.6 |
| High school, year 11 | 13 | 9.0 |
| High school, year 12 | 26 | 18.1 |
| TAFE, CERT or diploma | 32 | 22.9 |
| University - undergraduate course (e.g. Bachelor degree) | 33 | 22.9 |
| University - postgraduate course (e.g. Masters, Doctorate) | 26 | 18.1 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 2 | 1.4 |
| Missing | 4 | 2.8 |
| **Weekly recreational spending** | | |
| $120 or less | 72 | 50 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Over $120 | 69 | 47.9 |
| Missing | 3 | 2.1 |
| **Sexuality** | | |
| Heterosexual | 98 | 68.1 |
| Gay or Lesbian | 11 | 7.6 |
| Bisexual | 21 | 14.6 |
| Use a different term | 4 | 2.8 |
| Undecided | 4 | 2.8 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 1 | 0.7 |
| Missing | 5 | 3.5 |
| **Person with a disability** | | |
| No | 131 | 91 |
| Yes | 13 | 9 |
| **Person of colour** | | |
| No | 135 | 94 |
| Yes | 9 | 6 |

## Festival safety and services

Most participants were attending the festival for the first time (53%, n=77), a minority had attended the festival once before (19%, n=28) or twice before (16%, n=23). Among participants who previously attended Bass in the Grass (n=67), 51% reported that they felt more safe (n=34), 38% reported it felt 'about the same' level of safety (n=26) and 5% reported it felt less safe compared to other years (n=7).

Participants were asked what services they would like to see available at NT festivals in the future. More shade (67%) and more chill out spaces (49%) featured strongly. Around half of participants reported they would like to see pill testing services (52%) and more resources/giveaways (46%) available at future NT festivals. Drug checking services continue to be strongly supported by NT festival patrons (Wardle et al., 2024).

***Table 14. Did Bass in the Grass feel more safe or less safe than previous years?***

| | N=67 | % |
|---|---|---|
| A lot more safe | 10 | 15 |
| A bit more safe | 24 | 36 |
| About the same | 26 | 39 |
| Slightly less safe | 7 | 10 |
| A lot less safe | 0 | 0 |

***Figure 7. Did Bass in the Grass feel more safe or less safe than previous years? (n=67)***

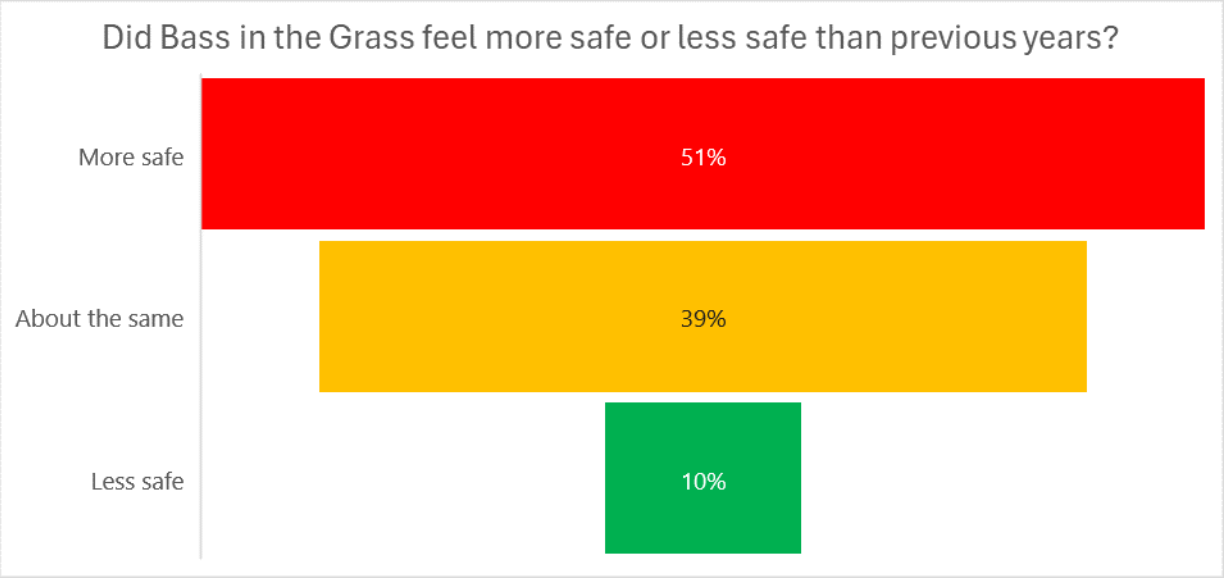


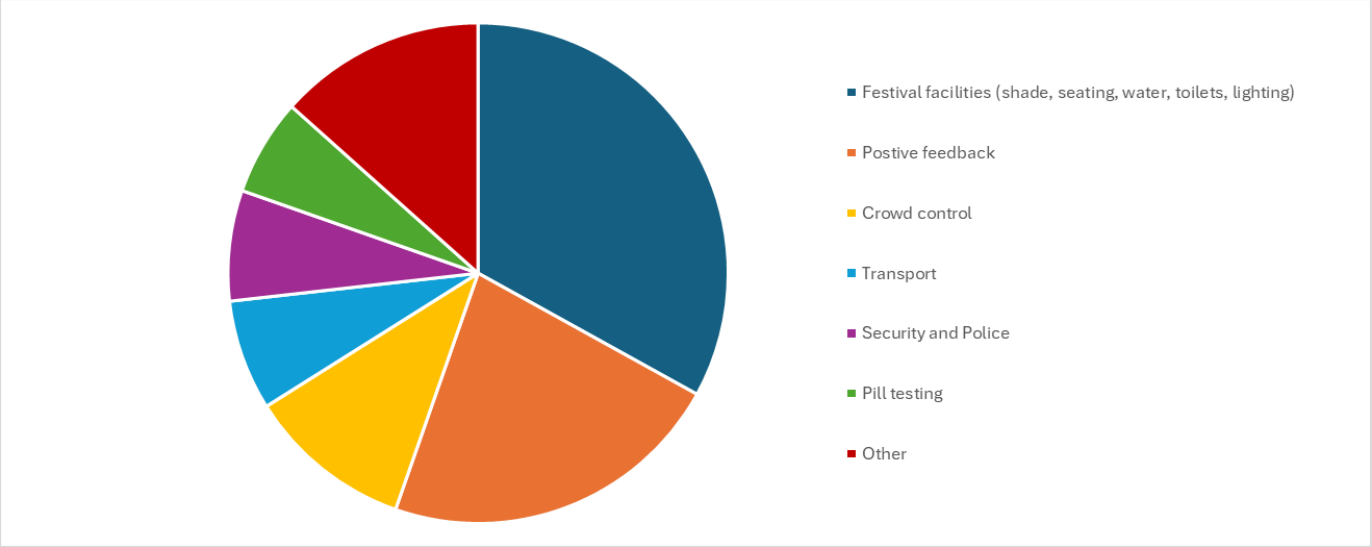

**Table 15. What services would you like more of at future NT festivals?**

| | N=144 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Services** | | |
| More shade | 97 | 67.4 |
| Pill testing / drug checking | 75 | 52.1 |
| More chill out spaces | 71 | 49.3 |
| More resources: sunscreen, band-aids condoms, sanitary products, vomit bags, snack foods, blankets, earplugs | 66 | 45.8 |
| More drug information / education | 38 | 26.4 |
| More signage about peer education and care service | 31 | 21.5 |
| More drug amnesty bins | 22 | 15.3 |
| More psychosocial counselling and referral options | 21 | 14.6 |
| More peer support teams | 19 | 13.2 |
| More first aid | 19 | 13.2 |
| Other | 8 | 5.6 |
| None of the above | 4 | 2.8 |
| Intentionally skipped | 4 | 2.8 |

A thematic analysis approach (Braun & Clarke, 2006) was used to analyze open-ended responses to the question ‘do you have any suggestions for how to improve safety and wellbeing at Bass in the Grass festival in the future?’. Overall improvements to festival facilities featured most prominently in participant responses (33%), followed by improvements to crowd control (11%). One fifth (22%) of

responses did not suggest improvements but provided simple positive feedback about their experience such as “It was run well and I felt very safe”.

**Figure 8. Key themes for participant suggestions on improvements to safety at festival**




Wordclouds presenting participant responses are shown for the three key themes. Participants indicated that the festival was well run, well organized and felt safe (Figure 9). Improvements to festival facilities included more shade, seating, water stations, toilets and lighting (Figure 10). Within the theme of improvements to crowd control, several participants expressing difficulty in moving out of the mosh pit and noting unsafe behaviour in the crowds such a pushing, shoving, fights and vaping (Figure 11). For more detailed examples of open-ended responses please see Appendix 6.1.

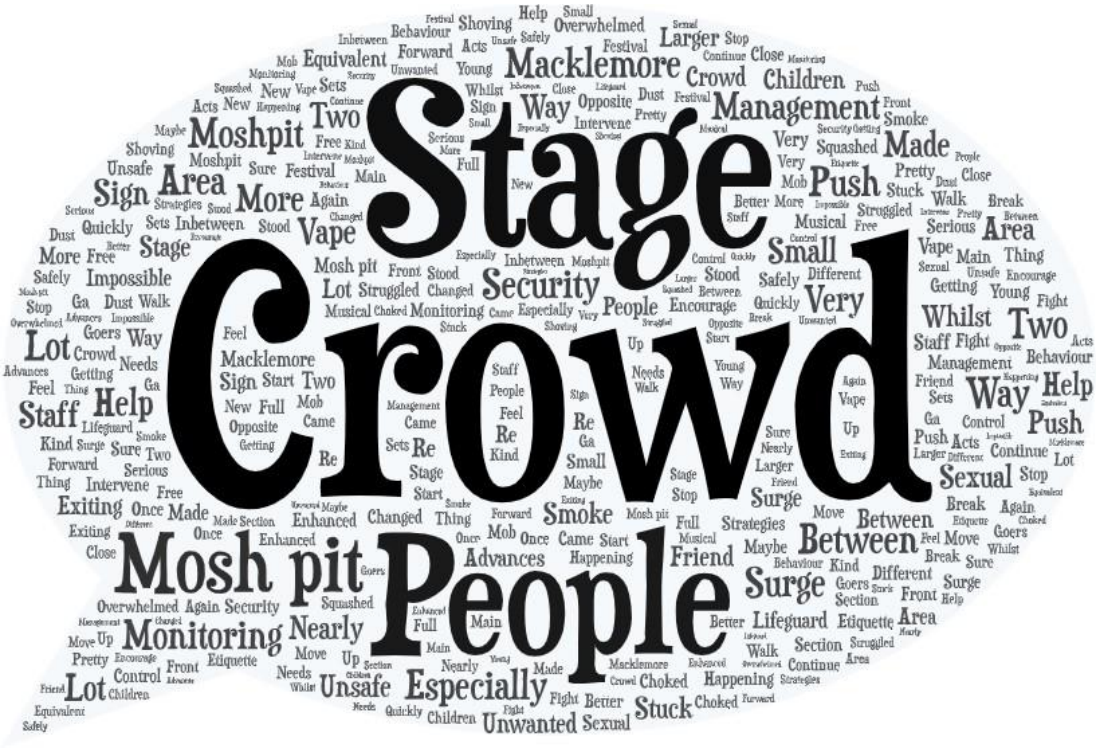
***Figure 9. Positive responses: How to improve safety and wellbeing at festival***




***Figure 10. Festival facilities: How to improve safety and wellbeing at festival***



***Figure 11. Crowd control: How to improve safety and wellbeing at festival***




## Recall of and interaction with All Good Festivals peer harm service

When asked more specifically about interactions with AGF, most (89%) of the sample recalled seeing AGF staff and volunteers at the festival and of these participants, 77% reported interacting with the service. For example, 59% chatted with staff and/or volunteers, 47% accessed free items including lollipops, sunscreen, glitter, earplugs and water, 33% reported using the chillout space. Most participants who saw AGF but did not interact with them reported this was because they did not require help (93%), while a minority (7%) were unsure of the service's purpose. Among participants who did interact with All Good Festivals, most reported being satisfied (29%) or very satisfied (64%) with the services they used; only two (2%) participants reported dissatisfaction. All participants who used the AGF chill out or wellbeing space reported satisfaction with the service (43% satisfied and 57% very satisfied). Most (71%) participants had seen AGF rovers around the festival.

In 2024, 89% of participants recalled seeing AGF at the festival, compared with 80% in 2023, these differences were approaching statistical significance ($\chi 2$= 7.62, $p$ = .054) (Figure 12). There was a statistically significant increase in participant recall of AGF rovers (59% in 2023, compared with 76% in 2024: $\chi 2$= 8.88, $p$ = .012) (Figure 13). For those who saw AGF rovers around the festival (n=103), most

reported that the rovers were often (53%) or always (14%) visible and often (24%) or always (59%) approachable. A minority reported that the rovers were rarely visible (5%) and rarely approachable (1%).

Participants were asked for feedback on how AGF could best support them and others to party safe. In descriptive answers, participants highlighted the great work of AGF:

*"Continue what they are doing as it is working"*

*"I think what they did at Bass this year was fantastic. I had to take a friend to the wellness tent and they did a great job looking after him. I haven't been to Bass since it moved to Mindil and it was fantastic – we never had this kind of support previously"*

*"I thought they did an amazing job having stations set up around the festival and having people walk around helping people!"*

Improvements that were suggested included having more visibility between festivals, improved enthusiastic consent education, drug/pill testing services, more giveaways of merchandise and resources and signs for AGF over the festival site.

***Figure 12. Increased visibility of AGF service***

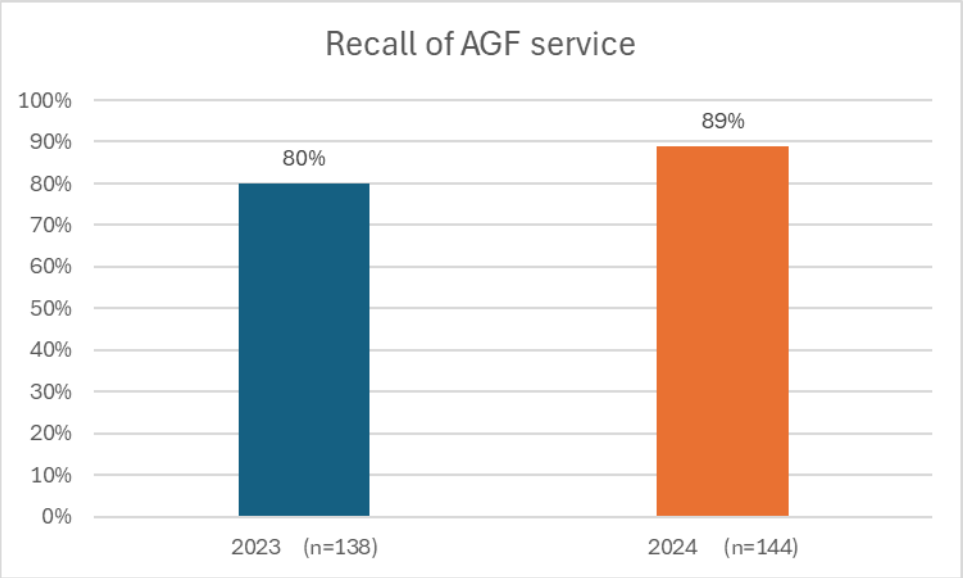


***Figure 13. Increased visibility of AGF rovers***

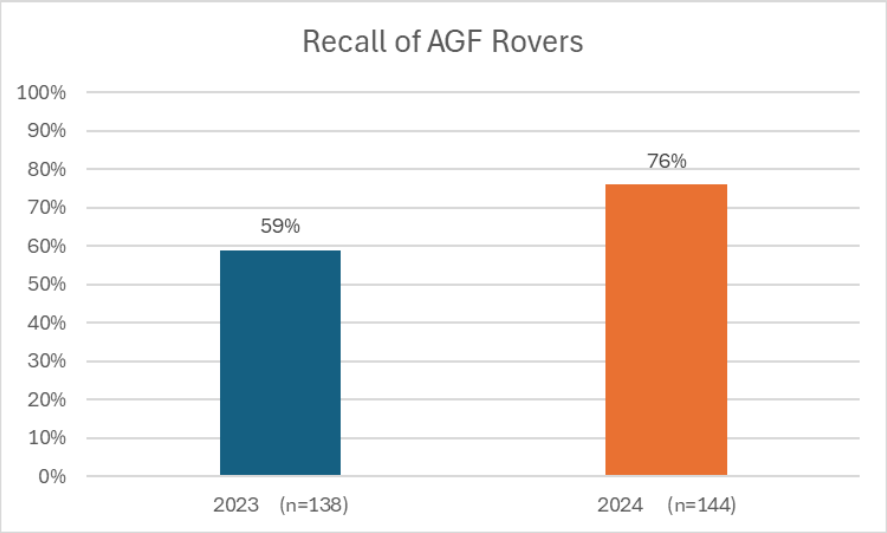



***Table 16. Participant's recall of All Good Festivals peer harm service***

| | N=144 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Do you recall seeing AGF staff and volunteers at the festival (they were wearing orange, blue and white shirts)? AGF are a peer education/care and drug information services.** | | |
| No | 4 | 2.8 |
| Yes | 128 | 88.9 |
| Unsure | 5 | 3.5 |
| Missing | 7 | 4.9 |
| **Did you interact with any of the following AGF services, staff or resources? (select all that apply)[A]** | **N=128** | |
| Any interaction with All Good Festivals[D] | 98 | 76.6 |
| Chatted with All Good Festival staff and/or volunteers | 76 | 59.4 |
| Accessed other free items (lollipops, sunscreen, glitter, earplugs, water) | 60 | 46.9 |
| Used their chill out space | 42 | 32.8 |
| None | 28 | 21.9 |
| Received information about reducing harms from drug use | 23 | 18 |
| Accessed free sexual health products (e.g. condoms, dental dams, female condoms) | 20 | 15.6 |
| Received information about local services | 15 | 11.7 |
| Accessed their medical and peer care service | 10 | 7.8 |
| Received information about bloodborne viruses or sexually transmissible infections | 9 | 7 |
| Asked an All Good Festival staff or volunteer to help someone else | 7 | 5.5 |
| Other | 3 | 2.3 |
| Got a referral to another service | 1 | 0.8 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 1 | 0.8 |
| Spoke to counsellor | 0 | 0 |
| **For those who recalled AGF but who didn't interact, can you tell us why you did not interact with AGF staff or services at the festival?** | **N=28** | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Had no need to | 26 | 92.9 |
| Didn't know their purpose or what services they provided | 2 | 7.1 |
| Couldn't find the AGF tent when I needed to | 0 | 0 |
| Couldn't find any AGF rovers when I needed to | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 0 | 0 |
| Intentionally skipped | 0 | 0 |
| **How would you rate the assistance provided and interaction with the AGF services that you used?[B]** | **N=98** | |
| Very dissatisfied | 2 | 2 |
| Dissatisfied | 0 | 0 |
| Neutral | 4 | 4.1 |
| Satisfied | 28 | 28.6 |
| Very satisfied | 63 | 64.3 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 1 | 1 |
| **For participants who used the wellbeing space, how satisfied were you with the level of care?[C]** | | |
| Very dissatisfied | 0 | 0 |
| Dissatisfied | 0 | 0 |
| Neutral | 0 | 0 |
| Satisfied | 18 | 43 |
| Very satisfied | 24 | 57 |
| **Did you see AGF rovers around the festival?** | **N=144** | |
| Yes | 103 | 71.5 |
| No | 12 | 8.3 |
| Unsure | 21 | 14.6 |
| Intentionally skipped | 1 | 0.7 |
| Missing | 7 | 4.9 |
| **For participants who saw AGF rovers, how visible/noticeable were the rovers?** | | |
| Never | 1 | 1 |
| Rarely | 5 | 4.8 |
| Sometimes | 28 | 27.2 |
| Often | 55 | 53.4 |
| Always | 14 | 13.6 |
| Intentionally skipped | 0 | 0 |
| **For participants who saw AGF rovers, how approachable were the rovers?** | | |
| Never | 0 | 0 |
| Rarely | 1 | 1 |
| Sometimes | 5 | 4.8 |
| Often | 25 | 24.3 |
| Always | 61 | 59.2 |
| Intentionally skipped | 10 | 9.7 |

(A) Among participants who recalled seeing AGF (n=128), (B) Among participants who interacted with AGF (n=98), (C) Among participants who used the wellbeing or chill out space (n=42), (D) Derived

## Sexual Violence at 2024 festival

Participants were asked if they had experienced sexual harassment or sexual assault at Bass in the Grass festival 2024. Consistent with the first festival survey we used the same sexual violence measures but focused on experiences at the festival. These data add to the first survey's data on general experiences, by adding data on experience at this specific festival.

Overall, a minority of participants had experienced sexual harassment at the festival (11%, n=15) and a minority of participants had reported experiencing sexual assault at the festival (14%, n=19).

A measure of sexual violence was derived by combining any experience of sexual harassment and/or sexual assault at Bass in the Grass festival 2024. For this sexual violence measure, there were no significant differences between data from the 2023 (16%, n=23) and 2024 (16%, n=23) follow up survey ($\chi 2 = 0.61$, $p = .436$).

In line with people's responses to sexual violence in general, for those who had experienced some form of sexual violence at the 2024 festival (n=23), the most reported responses were evasive or avoidant responses including moving away from the person (74%) and ignoring the situation (70%). This was followed by direct responses of using facial expressions to show the offender that the behaviour was unwanted (52%) and telling the person to stop the unwanted behaviour (35%). Of the responses that involved reporting or telling someone, more than half of participants had told friends (61%), a minority had told the offending person directly to stop (35%), and even fewer had told security (9%) or peer volunteers (4%). No participants reported telling staff or the police and no participants reported the incident after they had left the venue or event. The most reported reasons that impacted participant responses to sexual violence were the incident was 'minor' (70%) and the expectation of unwanted sexual behaviour in the festival/music venue setting (39%).

***Table 17. Experiences of sexual violence at 2024 festival***

| | N=144 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Sexual harassment** | | |
| Yes | 15 | 10.4 |
| No | 126 | 87.5 |
| Intentionally skipped | 0 | 0 |
| Missing | 3 | 2.1 |
| **Sexual assault** | | |
| Yes | 19 | 13.2 |
| No | 121 | 84 |
| Intentionally skipped | 0 | 0 |
| Missing | 4 | 2.8 |
| **Sexual violence*** | | |
| Yes | 23 | 16 |
| No | 117 | 81.2 |
| Intentionally skipped | 0 | 0 |
| Missing | 4 | 2.8 |

*Derived

***Table 18. Responses to sexual violence at 2024 festival***

| | N=23 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **How did you respond to your experience of unwanted sexual behaviors at the 2024 festival?** | | |
| Moved away from the person | 17 | 73.9 |
| Ignored the situation | 16 | 69.6 |
| Left the area | 8 | 34.8 |
| Told the person to stop | 8 | 34.8 |
| Told friends | 14 | 60.9 |
| Used facial expressions to show the behaviour was unwanted | 12 | 52.2 |
| Told security | 2 | 8.7 |
| Left the venue | 1 | 4.3 |
| Told the staff | 0 | 0 |
| Stopped going to the venue/festival altogether | 0 | 0 |
| Used aggressive or forceful reactions | 2 | 8.7 |
| Told/called the police | 0 | 0 |
| Told peer volunteers | 1 | 4.3 |
| Reported the incident to someone after I left the venue/event | 0 | 0 |
| Skip | 1 | 4.3 |
| None of the above | 0 | 0 |
| Took some other action | 1 | 4.3 |
| **Was there anything that impacted how you responded?** | | |
| The incident was 'minor' / not serious enough | 16 | 69.6 |
| I expect this type of behaviour in the festival/music venue setting | 9 | 39.1 |
| Difficult to identify the offender/perpetrator in the crowd | 4 | 17.4 |
| Didn't think staff will respond appropriately | 3 | 13 |
| Difficult to find someone to report to | 3 | 13 |
| Thought because of how I as dressed, I was responsible/to blame for the unwanted behaviour | 3 | 13 |
| Didn't think security will respond appropriately | 2 | 8.7 |
| Didn't think police will respond appropriately | 2 | 8.7 |
| I felt worried that others would unfairly blame me for what I was wearing | 2 | 8.7 |
| Thought because I was intoxicated/drunk/high I was responsible/to blame for the unwanted behaviour | 2 | 8.7 |
| I felt worried that others would unfairly blame me because I had been drinking or using other drugs | 2 | 8.7 |
| None of the above | | |
| Skipped | 1 | 4.3 |
| Other | 2 | 8.7 |

## Bystander behaviour at 2024 festival

Bystander behaviour at the festival was tracked in two keyways. Firstly, actual bystander behaviour at the festival was measured by asking participants if they had witnessed “People (friends, strangers or staff) stepping in to keep others safe”. Secondly, bystander behaviour related to sexual violence was measured by asking participants if they had witnessed sexual violence (sexual assault and/or sexual harassment) at the festival and for those who had, they were further asked how they responded and what impacted their response.

A majority of participants (60%, n=86) reported they had seen actual bystander behaviour at the festival.

A measure of witnessing sexual violence was derived by combining any witnessing of sexual harassment and/or sexual assault at Bass in the Grass festival 2024. Overall, almost one in four participants had witnessed sexual violence at the festival (23%, n=33).

Most participants took some bystander action to ‘intervene in some way’ (73%) with a minority of participants ignoring the situation (18%). The most reported reasons that impacted bystander responses include the expectation of sexual violence in the festival/music venue setting (24%) and difficulty identifying the offender in the crowd (24%).

***Table 19. Actual bystander behaviour***

| | N=144 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Did you witness people (friends, strangers or staff) stepping in to keep others safe?** | | |
| Yes | 86 | 59.7 |
| No | 49 | 34 |
| Intentionally skipped | 1 | 0.7 |
| Missing | 8 | 5.6 |

***Table 20. Bystander experiences of sexual violence***

| | N=144 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Did you witness sexual harassment at the festival?** | | |
| Yes | 26 | 18 |
| No | 109 | 75.7 |
| Intentionally skipped | 1 | 0.7 |
| Missing | 8 | 5.6 |
| **Did you witness sexual assault at the festival?** | | |
| Yes | 21 | 14.6 |
| No | 112 | 77.8 |
| Intentionally skipped | 1 | 0.7 |
| Missing | 10 | 6.9 |
| **Did you witness sexual violence at the festival?*** | | |
| Yes | 33 | 22.9 |
| No | 99 | 68.8 |
| Intentionally skipped | 1 | 0.7 |
| Missing | 11 | 7.6 |

* Derived

***Table 20. Bystander responses to sexual violence at 2024 festival***

| | N=33 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **How did you respond to witnessing sexual violence at the festival?** | | |
| Intervened in some way | 24 | 72.7 |
| Told the offender to stop | 12 | 36.4 |
| Left the area | 11 | 33.3 |
| Told security | 7 | 21.2 |
| Ignored the situation | 6 | 18.2 |
| Told staff | 5 | 15.2 |
| Told peer volunteers | 5 | 15.2 |
| Used aggressive or forceful reactions | 3 | 9.1 |
| Left the venue | 2 | 6.1 |
| Told/called the police | 1 | 3 |
| Reported the incident to someone after I left the venue/event | 1 | 3 |
| Took some other action | 0 | 0 |
| Intentionally skipped | 0 | 0 |
| **Was there anything that impacted how you responded?** | | |
| Difficult to identify the offender/perpetrator in the crowd | 8 | 24.2 |
| I expect this type of behaviour in the festival/music venue setting | 8 | 24.2 |
| Was unsure if I should intervene | 7 | 21.2 |
| The incident was 'minor' / not serious enough | 6 | 18.2 |
| Didn't feel confident to intervene | 5 | 15.2 |
| The victim/ receiver of the unwanted behaviour was intoxicated | 4 | 12.1 |
| Difficult to find someone to report to | 4 | 12.1 |
| Didn't think police will respond appropriately | 3 | 9.1 |
| Didn't think staff will respond appropriately | 3 | 9.1 |
| Didn't think security will respond appropriately | 2 | 6.1 |
| Not my responsibility to intervene | 2 | 6.1 |
| Other | 2 | 6.1 |
| Clothing/appearance of the victim/ receiver of unwanted behaviour | 0 | 0 |
| Intentionally skipped | 4 | 12.1 |
| Prefer not to say | 4 | 12.1 |

## Aggression and Discrimination at 2024 festival

Participants were asked if they had experienced or witnessed discrimination or aggression at Bass in the Grass festival 2024. Like in the onsite survey, descriptors were used to suggest the types of behaviours within each of the categories.

Aggression was described as "Aggression (Verbal or physical acts of aggression, e.g. being yelled at or sworn at, aggressive gestures, pushing, shoving, choking, slapping, punching, kicking)". Overall,

aggression was the most common harassment behaviours experienced at the 2024 festival (21%, n=30), and the most witnessed harassment behaviour (39%, n=53).

Discrimination was described as “Discrimination (e.g. Being treated with less respect than others based on race, gender, disability, religion, or some other personal characteristic)”. Discrimination was the least reported harassment behaviour experienced at the festival (2%, n=3) and least witnessed harassment behaviour (8%, n=11).

***Figure 14. Sexual violence, aggression and discrimination at 2024 festival***

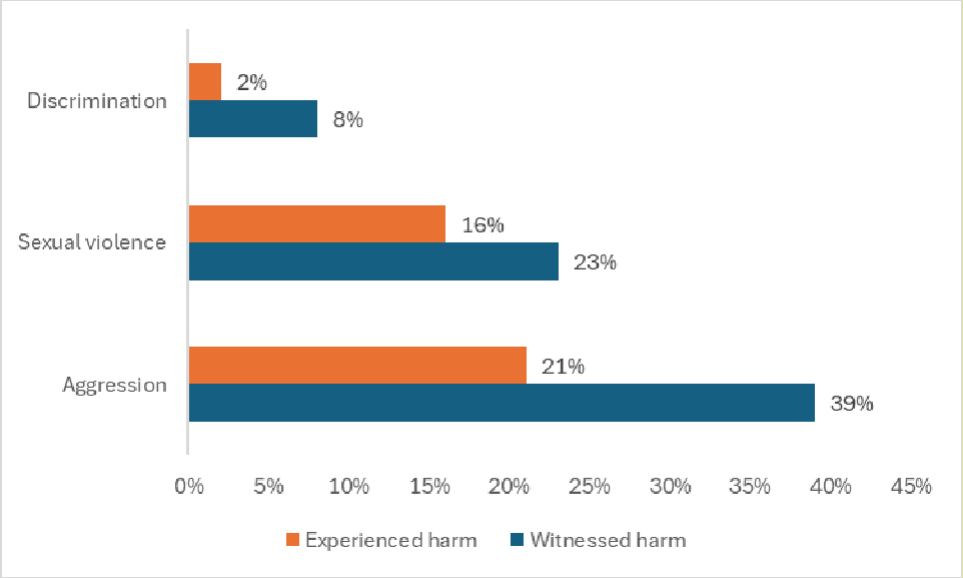


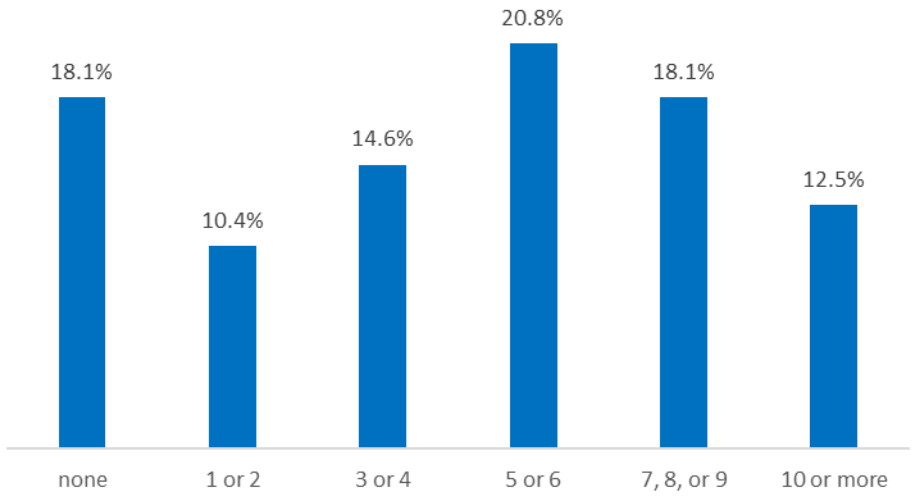
**Table 21. Other harms at Bass in the Grass 2024**

| | N=144 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **Experienced:** | | |
| **Aggression** | | |
| Yes | 30 | 20.8 |
| No | 111 | 77.1 |
| Intentionally skipped | 0 | 0 |
| Missing | 3 | 2.1 |
| **Discrimination** | | |
| Yes | 3 | 2.1 |
| No | 138 | 95.8 |
| Intentionally skipped | 0 | 0 |
| Missing | 3 | 2.1 |
| **Witnessed:** | | |
| **Aggression** | | |
| Yes | 53 | 36.8 |
| No | 82 | 56.9 |
| Intentionally skipped | 1 | 0.7 |
| Missing | 8 | 5.6 |
| **Discrimination** | | |
| Yes | 11 | 7.6 |
| No | 124 | 86.1 |
| Intentionally skipped | 1 | 0.7 |
| Missing | 8 | 5.6 |

## Alcohol and other drug use at 2024 festival

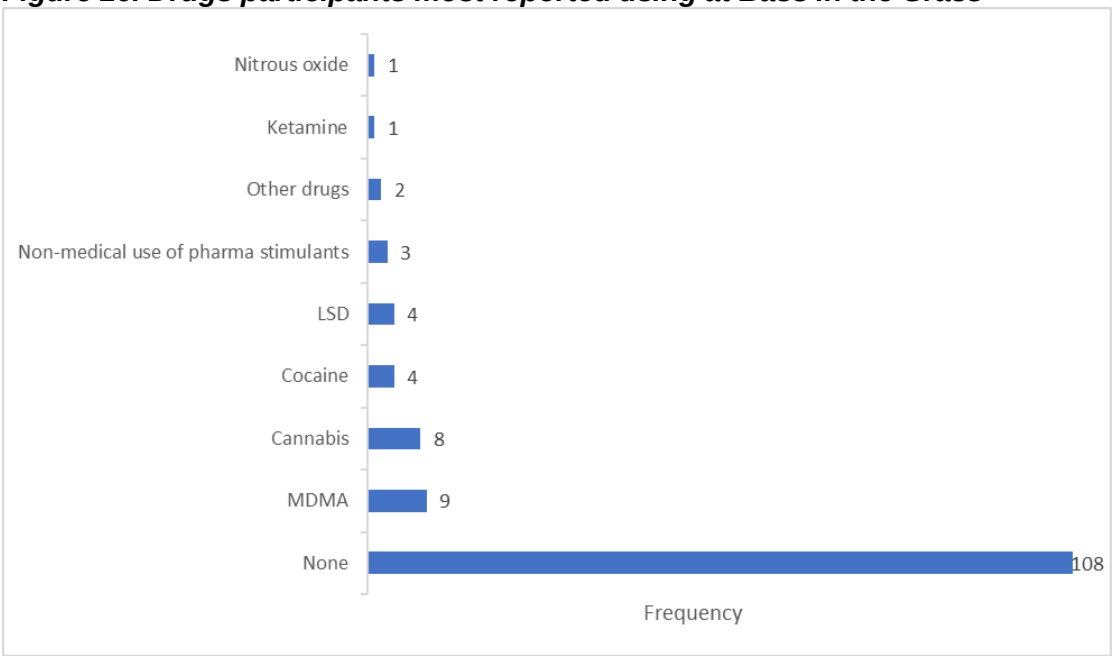
The National Health and Medical Research Council guidelines to reduce health risks from drinking alcohol suggest that healthy men and women should drink no more than 4 standard drinks on any one day due to increased risk of acute harms such as injuries (NHMRC, 2020). A standard drink in Australia contained 10g of ethanol. Most participants drank at least one standard drink at the festival (76%), with 12% consuming 10 or more.

***Figure 15. Number of standard drinks consumed at Bass in the Grass***




Most participants did not use any drugs (besides alcohol) at the festival (81%), a minority reported they used a drug (besides alcohol) at the festival (19%). Of those who reported use of a drug (n=25), most used MDMA (36%) and cannabis (32%). Less than five participants reported using cocaine, LSD, non-medical use of pharmaceutical stimulants, ketamine and nitrous oxide. No participants reported using methamphetamines, amyl nitrites, GHB, non-medical use of Viagra, psylocibin mushrooms, performance enhancing drugs, synthetic drugs or synthetic cannabinoids.

***Figure 16. Drugs participants most reported using at Bass in the Grass***



Participants were asked about their use of tobacco and cigarettes. A minority of participants were active smokers (10%). Almost half had never smoked (46%), had tried smoking but had less than 100 cigarettes in their lifetime (21%) or were ex-smokers (16%).

Participants were asked about their use of vapes, 'how often do you use vapes?'. Approximately half of the sample had never used vapes (52%, n=75), with a minority using them daily (12%).

***Table 22. Vaping and tobacco use***

| | N=144 | % |
|---|---|---|
| **How often, if at all, do you smoke cigarettes or other tobacco?** | | |
| Never smoked | 67 | 46.5 |
| Tried smoking (but had <100 in my lifetime) | 30 | 20.8 |
| Ex-smoker (>100 in my lifetime) | 23 | 16 |
| Less than weekly | 6 | 4.2 |
| Weekly | 2 | 1.4 |
| Daily | 7 | 4.9 |
| Intentionally skipped | 1 | 0.7 |
| Missing | 8 | 5.6 |
| **How often, if at all, do you currently use vapes?** | | |
| Daily | 17 | 11.8 |
| At least weekly (but not daily) | 4 | 2.8 |
| At least monthly (but not weekly) | 1 | 0.7 |
| Less than monthly | 7 | 4.9 |
| I used to use them but no longer use | 6 | 4.2 |
| I only tried them once or twice | 26 | 18.1 |
| Never used vapes | 75 | 52.1 |
| Intentionally skipped | 0 | 0 |
| Missing | 8 | 5.6 |

## Harm reduction at 2024 festival

Harm reduction messaging and alcohol and drug related harm reduction strategies were explored. Participants were asked if they saw any messages about harm reduction at the festival (e.g. keeping safe while partying or using drugs and alcohol). Most participants were either unsure (38%, n=55) or had not seen any harm reduction message at the festival (29%, n=42). Of those who recalled seeing harm reduction messages (26%, n=38), the messages they recalled can be seen in Table 23.

***Table 23. Harm reduction messages recalled***

| Theme | Example | Number of responses to theme |
|---|---|---|
| Water | “Stay hydrated” “drinking water” | 4 |
| Chill out spaces | “chill out areas, offers of water and fans and sprayers, overall positive harm minimisation vibe, surveys, all good. Lots really” | 2 |
| Peer support | “hydration, sunscreen, first aid, safe space to talk to someone if unsure” | 2 |
| General | “I forget but did notice some” “in the bathrooms and other signs around the festival” “information. Condoms” “posters and stuff” “signage around the grounds and in the bathrooms” “signage at main stages” “signs on screens between bands, announcer” “signs, staff, chill out spaces, available cold water free” “something on stage screens” “to be safe” “we want to keep you safe” | 12 |
| Sexual health | “people handing out condoms and lollies” “wear condoms” | 4 |
| All Good Festivals | “in the chill out area” “in the dedicated all good space” | 3 |
| Drug information | “drug use info” “information about drug use/research” | 2 |
| Drug amnesty bin | “drug bin” | 2 |

Among participants who reported using alcohol at the festival the most common harm reduction strategies they used on the day was to eat before or while drinking (74%), never leave their drink unattended (54%), be with people who knew they were drinking (40%) and to keep track of the number of drinks (43%). These strategies remained the most commonly used harm reduction strategies for people who used alcohol at the festival when tracked over 2023 and 2024 surveys.

**Table 24. Harm reduction strategies among participants who reported using alcohol at festival**

| | N=96* | % |
|---|---|---|
| Eat before or while drinking | 82 | 85.4 |
| Never leave my drink unattended | 59 | 61.5 |
| Ensure I was with people who knew I was drinking | 44 | 45.8 |
| Keep track of the number of drinks I have had | 41 | 42.7 |
| Decide on a limit of how many drinks I will have | 38 | 39.6 |
| Alternate non-alcoholic drinks | 36 | 37.5 |
| Always order my own drinks so I can keep track of what I am drinking | 36 | 37.5 |
| Make efforts to stay cool | 30 | 31.2 |
| Use a designated driver | 29 | 30.2 |
| Pace drinks to less than one per hour | 26 | 27.1 |
| Avoid combining drugs and alcohol that might interact to have negative effects | 10 | 10.4 |
| Consider how alcohol affects a person's ability to consent when 'hooking up' | 9 | 9.4 |
| Moderate my alcohol intake if mixing with other drugs | 2 | 2.1 |
| Other safety and wellbeing strategy | 1 | 1 |
| Use an alcohol breath testing service at the festival before driving | 0 | 0 |
| Don't know | 0 | 0 |
| None of the above | 1 | 1 |
| Intentionally skipped question | 1 | 1 |

* For those who consumed alcohol at the festival

For participants who reported using drugs at the festival (n=25), the most common harm reduction strategies they used on the day was regular water consumption (68%), ensuring they were with people who knew they were using drugs (56%) and making efforts to stay cool (52%). These strategies remained the most commonly used strategies for people who used drugs at the festival when tracked over 2023 and 2024 surveys.

***Table 25. Harm reduction strategies among participants who reported using any drug at festival***

| | N=25 | % |
|---|---|---|
| Consumed water regularly while using | 17 | 68 |
| Ensured I was with people who knew I was using drugs | 14 | 56 |
| Made efforts to stay cool (e.g., took regular breaks from dancing) | 13 | 52 |
| Avoided combining drugs that might interact to have negative effects (e.g., overdose) | 11 | 44 |
| Obtained information from friends/others who had already tried the substance from the same batch | 11 | 44 |
| Consumed a test dose (i.e. started with a smaller amount to see what it was like) | 5 | 20 |
| Pre-planned the amount of drugs I wanted to use (and stuck to that plan) | 7 | 28 |
| Spread out doses (e.g., waited certain length of time before redosing) | 6 | 24 |
| None | 4 | 16 |
| Tested the contents/purity of my illicit drugs (e.g., colorimetric or reagent testing kit) before use | 1 | 4 |
| Measured dose with scales before consuming | 1 | 4 |
| Searched online for reports of the drug by its stamp/appearance before use | 0 | 0 |
| Don't know | 0 | 0 |

## Alcohol and other drug related harms

For participants who used alcohol or drugs at the festival (n=113) the most common alcohol and other drug related harms that participants experienced included spending more money than planned (27%), drinking more alcohol than originally planned (16%), using other recreational drugs (12%), vaping more than originally planned (10%) and using cannabis (9%).

***Table 26. Alcohol and other drug related harms***

| | N=113 | % |
|---|---|---|
| Spent more money than planned[B] | 31 | 27.4 |
| Drank more than originally planned[B] | 16 | 14.5 |
| Used other recreational drugs[B] | 13 | 11.5 |
| Vaped more than originally planned [B] | 11 | 9.7 |
| Used cannabis[B] | 10 | 8.8 |
| Felt very anxious/freaked out[B] | 9 | 8.1 |
| Overheated or got heatstroke[B] | 8 | 7.4 |
| Smoked more tobacco[B] | 5 | 4.4 |
| Said, wrote, texted or did embarrassing things[B] | 5 | 4.5 |
| Had an accident, injury or fall, including incidents not requiring medical attention[B] | 4 | 3.6 |
| Used any form of medication to get high[B] | 3 | 2.7 |
| Vomited unintentionally[B] | 3 | 2.7 |
| Could not get home / found it difficult to get home[B] | 3 | 2.7 |
| Said, wrote, texted or did something I regretted (including sexual interactions and tattoos)[B] | 2 | 1.8 |
| Got into a verbal argument with a stranger[B] | 2 | 1.8 |
| Had sex that could have led to an unwanted pregnancy or sexually transmitted infection[B] | 2 | 1.8 |
| Deliberately pushed, shoved or got into a fight with someone[B] | 2 | 1.8 |
| Went swimming[B] | 2 | 1.8 |
| Gambled (e.g. casino, pokie machine, placed a bet) [B] | 1 | 0.9 |
| Did not use a seatbelt or appropriate safety gear (e.g. helmet) while in a vehicle[B] | 1 | 0.9 |
| Vomited intentionally to continue drinking[A] | 1 | 0.9 |
| Passed out as a result of drinking[A] | 1 | 0.9 |
| Drove a vehicle or e-scooter when I was unsure OR knowing I was over the legal blood alcohol limit[A] | 0 | 0 |
| Lost or damaged my valuable items[B] | 0 | 0 |
| Made impulsive purchases online[B] | 0 | 0 |
| Broke / damaged something that didn't belong to me[B] | 0 | 0 |
| Was asked to leave a party or venue[B] | 0 | 0 |
| Stole something[B] | 0 | 0 |
| Caused shame or embarrassment to someone else[B] | 0 | 0 |
| Got into a verbal argument with a family member or friend[B] | 0 | 0 |
| Had a bad trip[C] | 0 | 0 |
| Overdosed on drugs[C] | 0 | 0 |

(A) Among participants who reported consuming alcohol at festival (n=110), (B) Among participants who reported consuming alcohol or using any drug at festival (n=113), (C) Among participants who reported using any drug at festival (n=25)

## Transport

In the first survey participants were asked how they *planned* to get home. In the follow up survey participants were asked how they got home from the festival (or to wherever they were staying). The most popular option for participants actual transportation was getting a lift from someone (29%), public transport (19%), and walking (18%).

***Table 27. Planned and Actual transportation from the festival***

| | N=144 | % | N=144 | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Transportation** | **Planned** | | **Actual** | |
| Uber | 53 | 36.8 | 16 | 11.1 |
| Lift from someone | 30 | 20.8 | 42 | 29.2 |
| Walking | 22 | 15.3 | 26 | 18.1 |
| Festival bus | 11 | 7.6 | 0 | 0 |
| Driving myself | 13 | 9 | 18 | 12.5 |
| Taxi | 5 | 3.5 | 5 | 3.5 |
| Public transport | 4 | 2.8 | 28 | 19.4 |
| E-scooter | 1 | 0.7 | 0 | 0 |
| Don't know | 2 | 1.4 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 1 | 0.7 | 0 | 0 |
| Bike | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Skipped | 1 | 0.7 | 0 | 0 |
| Missing | 1 | 0.7 | 9 | 6.2 |

## For the love of music

Stakeholders wanted to capture the reasons why patrons attend music festivals. Participants were asked what they love most about going to music festivals. In open-ended responses many participants commented about their enjoyment of live music, the atmosphere of festivals and the opportunity to be with new and old friends, for example:

*"I love everyone coming together to celebrate music, dance together and have a good time*".

The wordcloud below shows participant responses visually.

***Figure 17. What participants love most about going to music festivals***


Music
Friends
People
Vibe
Live
Atmosphere
Love
Dance
Playing
Common
Fun
Packed
Interests
Genres
Merch
Song
Open
Listening
Seen
Making
Never
Sprayed
Variety
Favourite
Ability
Sense
Others
Energy
Familia
Options
Weather
Comraderie
Electric
Creates
Emersion
Running
Mood
Myself
Beers
Jumping
Styles
See
Aussie
Opportunity
Mainly
Artist
Costumes
Connectedness
Treats
Surrounded
Combined
Amongst
Scale
Large
Discovery
Beat
First
Everything
Escape
Kids
Heart
Euphoria
Cool
Heaps
Positive
Freedom
Year
Large
Lot
Together
Air
Quick
Old
Change
Tunes
Water
Judged
Before
Heard
Hours
Holiday
Catching
Together
Food
Music
Year
Exciting
Creates
Good
Free
Beat
Checking
All-round
Packed
Heard
Artist
Creativity
Thing
Unlimited
Bands
Acts
Favourite
Sun
Playing
Mix
Feet
Great
Bonus
Musicians
Hours
Crave
Socialising
Time
Making
Fun
Friends
Time
Such
Backgrounds
Enjoy
Discovery
Feet
Aussie
Drink
Socialising
Listening
Sun
Time
Water
Such
Acts
Quick
Open
One
Comraderie
Sun
Old
Song
Up
Cool
Seen
Night
Tunes
Festival
Seen
Mix

# 4. Recommendations

Many of the following recommendations relate to the internal operations of All Good Festivals, but some would need to be actioned by other stakeholders involved. Some relate specifically to the Bass in the Grass festival, but these can be extrapolated to other events in future.

| | |
|---|---|
| **All Good Project** | - Maintain the project's focus on preventing sexual violence, given the emerging evidence of a problem of sexual violence in music venues and festivals of the NT.<br>- Explore ways to address the disproportionate prevalence of sexual violence experiences for women and sexually diverse music venue patrons of the NT.<br>- Maintain the focus on addressing discrimination and aggression, given the emerging evidence of discrimination and aggression in music venues and festivals of the NT.<br>- Continue and strengthen delivery of the project, given the need for a program to address the problem of sexual violence, discrimination and aggression harms in music venues and festivals of the NT. |
| **All Good Festivals** | - Maintain the focus on alcohol harm prevention in the service, given higher levels of alcohol use and strong involvement in harms<br>- Investigate opportunities to enhance drug information and education both before and at the festival, to develop a stronger culture of safety and harm reduction<br>- Strengthen data capture at the festival to ensure rover interactions are accurately captured.<br>- Investigate the implementation of drug checking<br>- Expand operations into other regions and events in the NT<br>- Refine and strengthen data collection methods for volunteers. |
| **Event organisers** | - Continue the strong and growing focus on patron wellbeing and safety, including expanded provision of free water, harm reduction and peer services<br>- Increase shade and chill-out spaces available<br>- Increase lighting and toilets around festival site<br>- Retain the co-location of All Good Festivals with the medical team and chill-out space |

| | |
|---|---|
| | - Investigate optimized crowd management and moshpit behaviour to minimise risks of harm |
| **Police** | - Keep distance from the care space to allow harm reduction to serve its purpose fully and encourage people to seek care when they need it<br>- Cease use of drug detection dogs<br>- Offer harm reduction training for officers |
| **Security** | - Strengthen engagement with All Good Festivals to improve referral processes<br>- Offer harm reduction training to further enhance skills of security staff |
| **Medical team** | - Continue to work with All Good Festivals to further strengthen collaborative care and referral processes<br>- Offer harm reduction training to further enhance skills of volunteers |

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# 6. Appendix

## 6.1 Open-ended suggestions for how to improve safety and wellbeing at Bass in the Grass festival

| **Do you have any suggestions for how to improve safety and wellbeing at Bass in the Grass festival in the future? (N=144)** | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Theme** | **Number of comments related to this theme** | **Comments** |
| Positive feedback | 25 | "compared to Brisbane festivals it was really good!" "No i had an awesome time, it was a great festival" "No, it was great. Lots of support." "It was run well and I felt very safe" "It's was all good" "it is greatly improved from when I was younger so I have no notes. thankyou for your great work!" "I was genuinely surprised and delighted by the safe feeling I had and it made me feel completely comfortable having my ten year old to share the experience with me" "I think Bass had already come a long way and the effort being put into making sure everyone is safe is enough at the moment" "I feel it was pretty good. Besides that one incident we witnessed, it was pretty good" "I've been to many festivals in NSW, Victoria and Tassie. This was my first festival in the NT. I strongly feel as though BITG is the best organised, supported and run festival I've ever been too. Thank you!" "Spread the All Good word - such a great initiative and actually saw it working in action!! Bravo!" "Everything was visible and accessible. I was very impressed. No need for more." "no I had an awesome time" "no it was great" |
| Keeping Cool<br><br>Shade / Seating / Chill out areas / water | 27 | "more shaded areas or seats" "more relax/ chill out areas", "more shade close to the stages", "more water misters", "more fans/ water spray, especially in mosh pits during hot days" "I believe more places to sit and cool off would be helpful as I saw a few ppl get hit by the heat" "seating where stage can be seen for older concert goers" "more seating" "no shade" "more relax areas" "more chillout spaces" "more shade areas" "more safe spots" "more shade" "more shade" "more shade" "more chill out spaces" "more chillout areas" "more chillout spaces" "more relax areas" "More water stations", "More water stations spread out so there aren't as big a line to get to the water stations" "make the water |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | stations more visible" "more water" "more water stations" "more water fill stations" "more water" |
| Mosphit / Crowd control | 12 | "Crowd surge was the thing that stood out when Macklemore came on stage... we struggled to get out of the GA area again...to be free of it!! Not sure how you stop that happening!!!" "section the area in front of the stage so that once it's full people can't continue to push forward. Maybe have a walk way in between the two stages so that people can get out safely and quickly inbetween sets or overwhelmed by the crowd" "Have the stages opposite or not so Close as a lot of people we're getting squashed by the mob of people" "better crowd control, couldn't move at the start of Macklemore" "Behaviour monitoring in the mosh pit"<br>"security monitoring moshpits - we had to intervene and break up a pretty serious fight" "encourage mosh pit etiquette, especially where there are young/New musical festival goers (lots of pushing and shoving" "enhanced crowd management strategies" "there needs to be some kind of moshpit management between the two main stages. when acts changed to different stages you could feel the surge of people." "I choked on dust and vape smoke whilst in the crowds. It was very unsafe to be in the crowds, especially to have small children in them" "Lifeguard equivalent for mosh pit so you can get out" "might be helpful to have more security and staff with the larger crowd because i was nearly impossible to get out if there was unwanted sexual advances made on me or my friend" "A way to sign to get help exiting a mosh pit when you're stuck" |
| Transport | 8 | "didn't realise there were free busses going in both directions! thought it was just into the city. maybe clearer info on that!" "better transport options" "tell people where the bus goes and stops. we aren't from Darwin and got bamboozled" "more parking" "more buses" "Have multiple stopping locations on busses used when leaving or heading to Bass" "Have a pick up zone closer to venue" "Better car control" |
| Pill testing | 7 | "pill testing is a must have." "pill testing" "pill testing" "pill testing" "pill testing" "pill testing" "safe drug testing" |
| Toilets | 7 | "more toilets" "they need to put sanitary bins in the bathroom" "I spoke to 3 different staff at various points of the late afternoon and night as there was no toilet paper for the |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | female attendee's. Really unhygienic and a let down for all the things this event brings to Darwin" "Have the normal toilets open or cleaner toilets with more airflow" "Separate bathrooms for people with disabilities including ASD" "more toilets for guys" |
| Resources/ merchandise | 5 | "Could maybe hand out water bottles/care packs at the end of the night" "have ear plugs close to entry" "More fans to give out and make the water pouches bigger" "Have someone hosing people down with water in the mosh Pitt and water bottles out to the front of the Pitt" "More distribution of water bottles around stages" |
| Security and Police | 8 | "more police presence" "no sniffer dogs" "The sniffer dogs. I couldn't believe it when I saw the heavy police presence with sniffer dogs at bass. It's so upsetting that the police would show such a force at a youth friendly festival. It goes against all health promotion messaging, and all the efforts to get people to take drugs in a responsible way. Instead having dogs present increases the risk of overdoses, increases stigma, prevents people accessing help. I was disgusted and outraged to see the sniffer dogs, and even more disgusted to see the police bragging about it on their Facebook page today. Really really awful public health messaging." "I saw police with sniffer dogs there which really concerned me. As a nurse with a masters in public health I was horrified that the sniffer dogs were attending an event like this with young people. I was so concerned that people would overdose (by taking all their gear in the line when seeing the dogs). This goes against all health promotion messaging and it's really sad and upsetting to see." |
| Smoking / Vaping | 3 | "Ban vapes" "signs say there are restrictions on smoking and vaping, but those who do are inconsiderate and smoke anywhere. I saw no control on this. Even ground staff and crew were visibly baking" "too much vaping in the crowd!!! It made me feel very sick the next day. this was despite messages saying vaping was to be done in the smoking area" |
| Culture | 3 | "Change the broader society culture of gender based violence" "people being nicer" "Just reminding people to be a bit more kinder and aware that other people are there for a good experience and not to get yelled at for trying to alert help" |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Dust | 2 | “Water all areas days before the festival to reduce dust.” “I choked on dust and vape smoke whilst in the crowds.” |
| Inclusivity | 2 | “Separate bathrooms for people with disabilities including ASD“ ““I loved the invisible disability program I think maybe some more information about that and maybe little cards to let ppl know what to do if anything happens would help greatly” |
| Lighting | 3 | “This year was so much busier and very dark at night. Its no longer somewhere i feel safe to bring my kids after dark. They need to spread it to make it bigger or admit less people, add more light.” “improved lighting and signage” “Needs way more lights at night and less people admitted” |
| Medico | 1 | “increased visibility and presence of security and medical personnel” |
| Other<br><br>(patron age, pre-festival info) | 5 | “make it a ages 16 and above event there were to many young teenagers have been harassed by adults” “This was my first concert so I am not sure of what to expect or look for when looking at improvements” “More advertising about BYO empty water bottle” “Make phone charges available at the end so young people can contact parents-safe people if phones are flat” “Education of bar staff - I had one guy who was serving take the piss out of me at the end of the night because I was buying a water and called me boring. Really not appropriate when we are trying to encourage people to have a sober bob and stay in control of their drinking” |