

# Amendments to Misuse of Drugs Act

**The Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill will**

**A. Introduce a new legislative framework for psychoactive substances.**

**B. Increase the punishment for possession of larger quantities of more dangerous and harmful controlled drugs.**

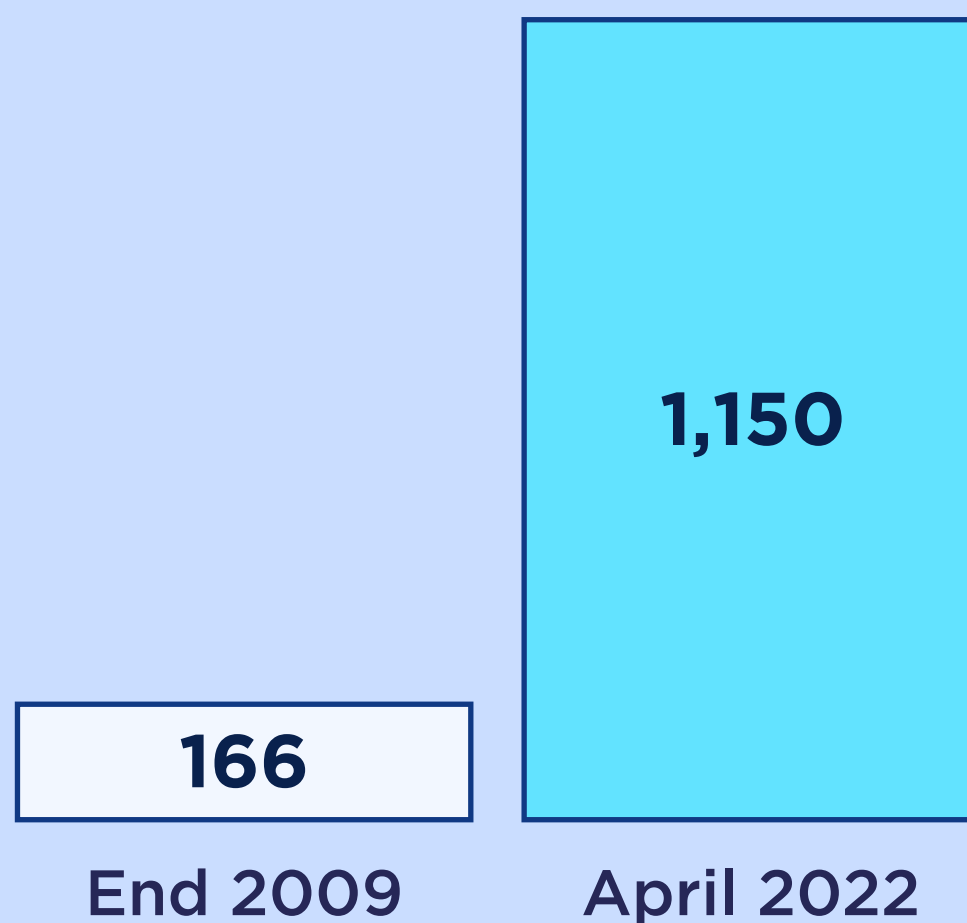


# A. New Legislative Framework for Psychoactive Substances

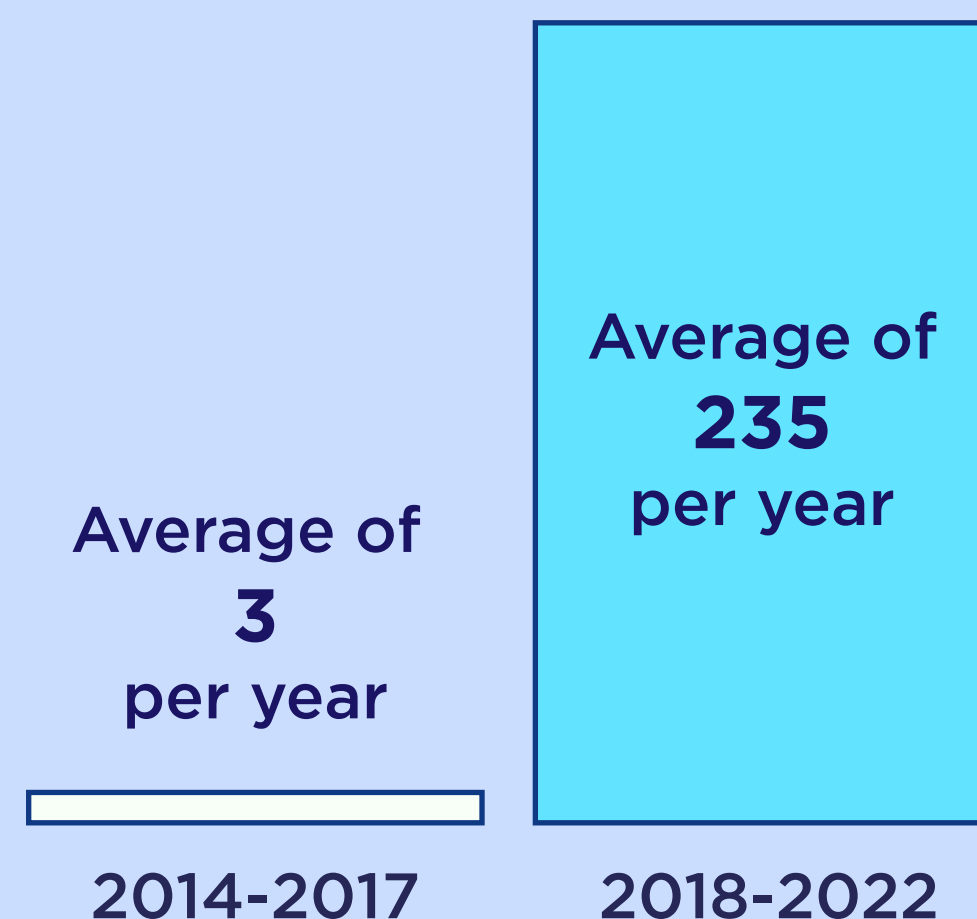
**New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) mimic the effects of controlled drugs such as cannabis and heroin.**

Examples of NPS include synthetic cannabinoids and synthetic cathinones.

**Significant increase in number of NPS reported globally**



**Significant increase in number of NPS abusers arrested in Singapore**

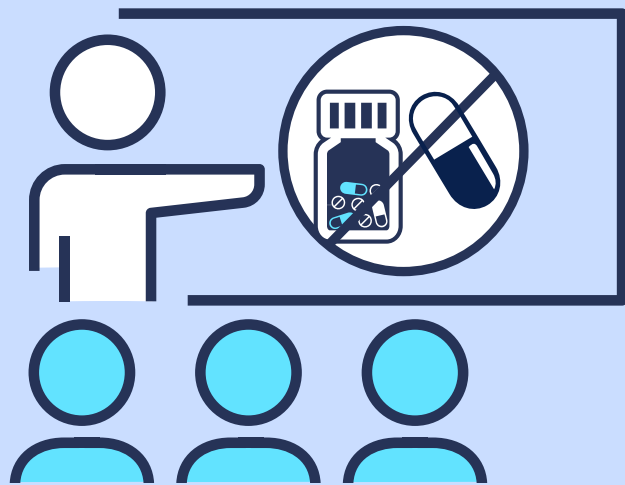


Source: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



# A. New Legislative Framework for Psychoactive Substances

To strengthen deterrence against psychoactive substances, the amendments will:



Introduce a new framework to control substances based on their capacity to produce a psychoactive effect, instead of their chemical structure, unless excluded in a specified Schedule.



Criminalise the trafficking, manufacturing, importing, exporting, possession and consumption of psychoactive substances, and allow for the arrest and detention of abusers for treatment and rehabilitation.

## **B. Increased punishment for possession of larger quantities of controlled drugs deemed to be more dangerous and harmful**

The current sentencing framework for drug possession does not sufficiently account for the potential harm that could be caused by persons with large amounts of controlled drugs in their possession.



A more deterrent punishment is necessary to deter the proliferation of drugs locally.

Increased punishments, including caning, will be introduced for the possession of selected controlled drugs above certain weight thresholds.