

FIGURE 12.4 Recent Patterns in the Use of Illicit Drugs

The use of cocaine, amphetamines, and “ecstasy” has decreased worldwide, whereas opioid (e.g., heroin, pain medication, morphine, codeine) and cannabis use has increased. This figure shows global trends in the prevalence of the use of various drugs, 2009–2013. The figures are based on changes from 2009 for each drug. This particular graph distinguishes between naturally occurring opium drugs (opiates) and synthetic opium drugs (opioids). This distinction is not commonly used.

Source: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, World Drug Report 2015 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.15.XI.6). Reprinted with the permission of the United Nations.

