



2022 Athlete Perceptions Survey

SUMMARY FINDINGS

Designed and conducted in collaboration with:



1. Mission:

The majority of athletes **strongly support** or support USADA's **mission**.

2. Athlete Well Being:

Risk of **contamination** from supplements and **Whereabouts** filing responsibilities are reported to cause **anxiety** for the athletes, and nearly half of those who perceive PED use as causing an uneven playing field feel **depression** because of it.

3. Education:

Athletes are engaging with a **variety of education modes**, and the majority find each mode **effective**. At the top of athletes' list for current and future education topics is the **Prohibited List**.

4. Deterrents to PED Use:

Athletes report **punishment/sanctions** as the most effective **deterrent** when compared against education and risk of detection.

5. Normative Perceptions:

Athletes are more likely to think elite athletes from **other countries in other sports** are using PEDS, and compared to previously collected prevalence data, **athletes' perception of PED use is comparable** when it comes to their U.S. peers.

6. Science of Testing:

More than half of athletes believe the science of testing is **behind** an athlete's ability to dodge a positive test, but the majority also **believe testing detects** most PED use in elite sport.

7. Reporting / Whistleblowing:

The majority of athletes who report **personally knowing about** intentional PED use do not **report** it to USADA, and about one third are not familiar with USADA's reporting mechanisms.

8. U.S. vs. International Testing:

The majority of athletes perceive that testing in other countries happens **less frequently than in the U.S.**, both in- and out-of-competition.

9. Supplement Use and Attitudes:

The majority of athletes report using a dietary supplement in the last 12 months, and over half report they **always check for NSF certification** before using a supplement.

10. Attitudes Regarding Marijuana:

The majority believe both that marijuana **should not remain prohibited** in-competition, and that it is **not performance enhancing**.