



Annual Report 2024

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Preface

In this annual report, we look back at 2024, an exceptional year of sports with the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris as highlights. Doping Authority Netherlands can look back on a wide-ranging and successful education and control programme leading up to the Games.

For the Olympic and Paralympic programmes, we work closely with NOC*NSF in the area of education. Before the Paris Games, 99% of the Dutch Olympic athletes and 100% of paralympic athletes completed the required e-learning. The Netherlands wants to maintain its place among the best performing countries in the world, not only in terms of the number of medals but also in the education and control programme.

In 2024, Doping Authority Netherlands collected a total of 3,527 samples that were analysed by the WADA-accredited laboratory, a number comparable to 2023, when there were 3,520 controls. There was a sharp increase in the number of samples collected as part of the National Doping Control Programme: 3,256 in 2024 compared to 3,098 in 2023. The target of 3,000 samples was therefore comfortably attained. The remaining 271 samples were taken on behalf and for the account of a range of sports and anti-doping organisations.

These figures are illustrative of a control programme that is information-driven and where controls are conducted in a targeted way. Among other things, data from WADA's global anti-doping registration system ADAMS, information from chain partners and from the Doping Hotline serve as guides.

As an independent administrative body, Doping Authority Netherlands implements a government remit. That remit is defined in the Anti-Doping Policy Implementation Act (Wuab). In the chapters below, we will look at how it was implemented in 2024. In Chapter 1, we report on how we have implemented our remit of 'providing information about doping' (Wuab, Article 5(d)). Chapters 2, 4, and 8 describe various aspects of 'the implementation of the doping control process' (Wuab, Article 5(b)). Chapter 3 contains information about 'the collection and investigation of information about possible violations of anti-doping regulations' (Wuab, Article 5(c)). The other chapters cover the implementation of a range of support tasks and processes needed to fulfil the statutory remit in a correct way.

Internationally, 2024 was an eventful year, marked by a debate that rocked the doping world. After the disclosure of the positive tests of 23 Chinese swimmers, Doping Authority Netherlands teamed up with international partners to safeguard the credibility of the global anti-doping system.

In the meantime, Doping Authority Netherlands has been growing and it continues to professionalise. As at 31 December 2024, it employed a total of 49 people. We welcomed sixteen new colleagues, both at the office and as doping control officials 'in the field'. With their support, we are even better equipped to meet the challenges and expectations facing Doping Authority Netherlands, both nationally and internationally.

Vincent Egbers
Chair

Olympic and Paralympic programme

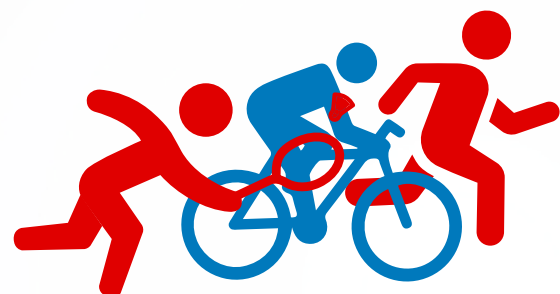
Paris 2024 highlights



Pre-Olympic doping control programme

From 1 July 2023 to 18 July 2024 (opening of Olympic village)

TeamNL individual athletes



216 of 218 completed

99%

TeamNL team athletes



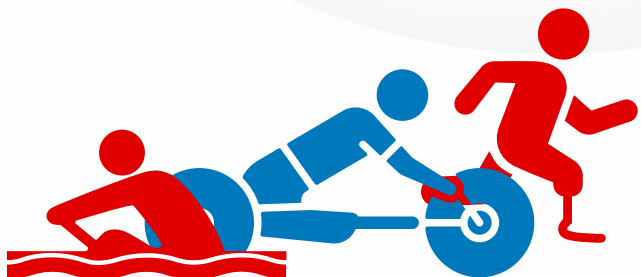
67 of 83 completed

81%

Pre-Paralympic doping control programme

From 1 August 2023 to 21 August 2024 (opening of Paralympic village)

TeamNL individual athletes



60 of 62 completed

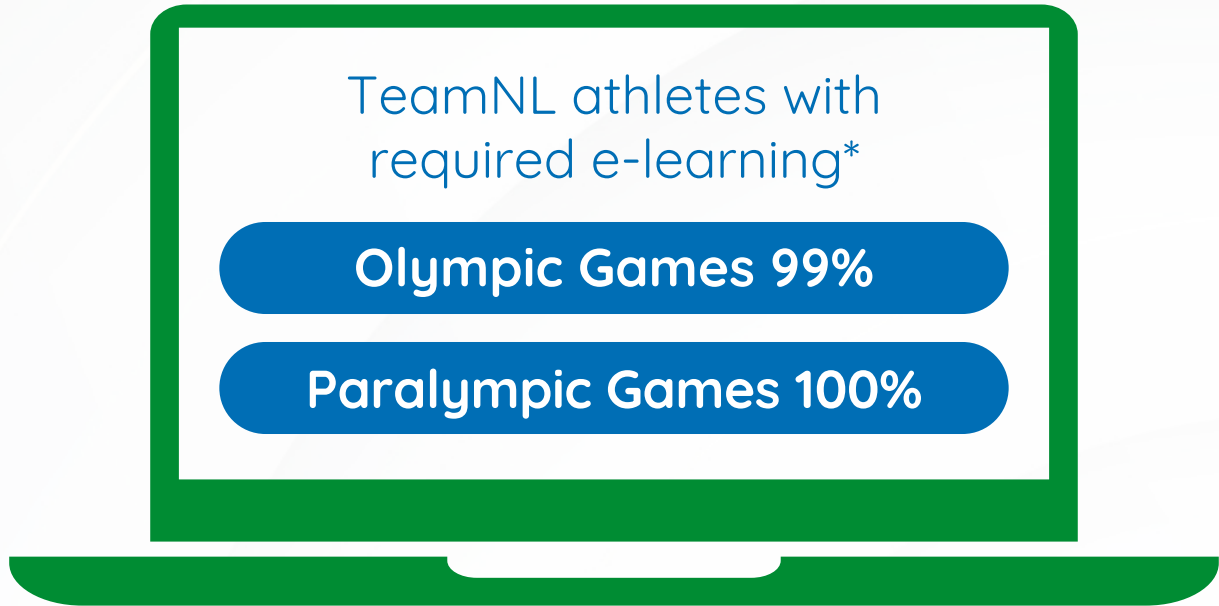
97%

TeamNL team athletes



21 of 24 completed

88%



*E-learning certificate obtained up to two years before the start of the Games via Doping Authority Netherlands or other anti-doping organisation such as international federation or WADA.

Olympic and Paralympic Games Education

E-learning requirement applies to all TeamNL athletes and coaches

Group:	E-learning module:	
	Athletes	Gold
	Technical support staff	Trainer-Coach 5
	(Para)medical support staff	(Para)medical support staff
	Other support staff	Sports administrators and officials

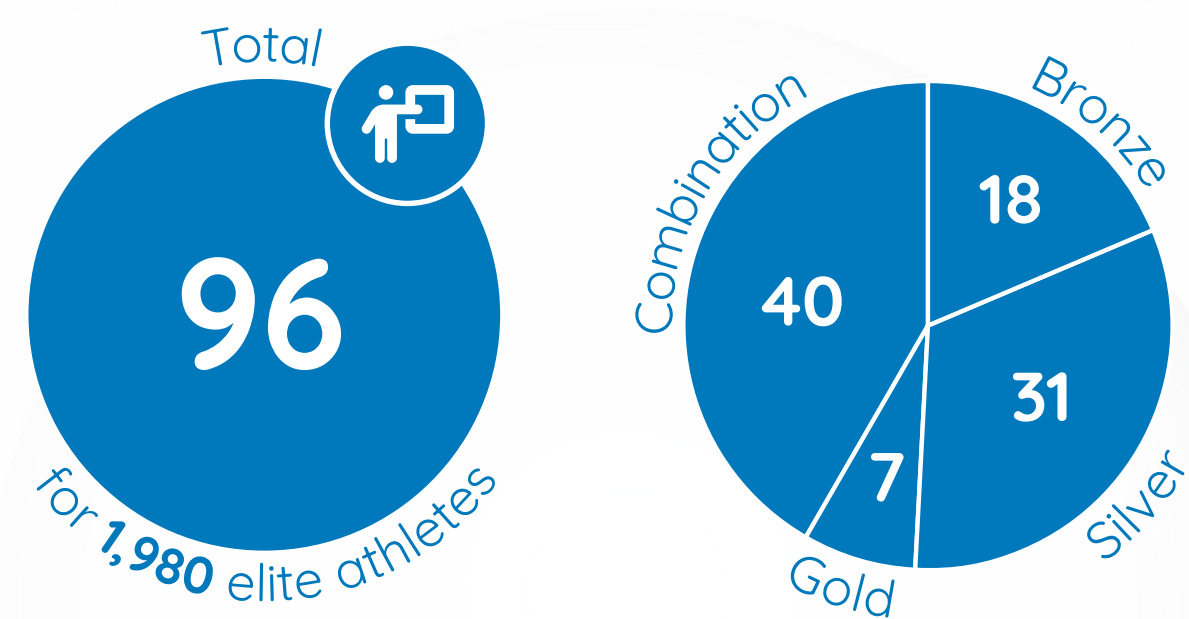
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Education

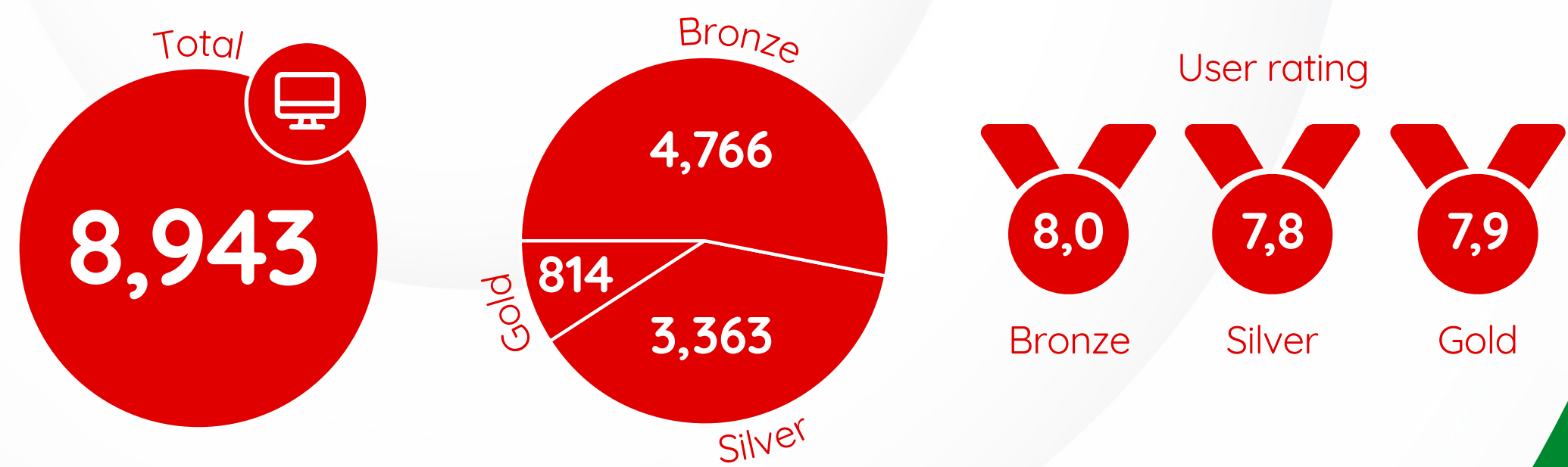


Education Highlights in 2024

Number of education sessions for elite athletes



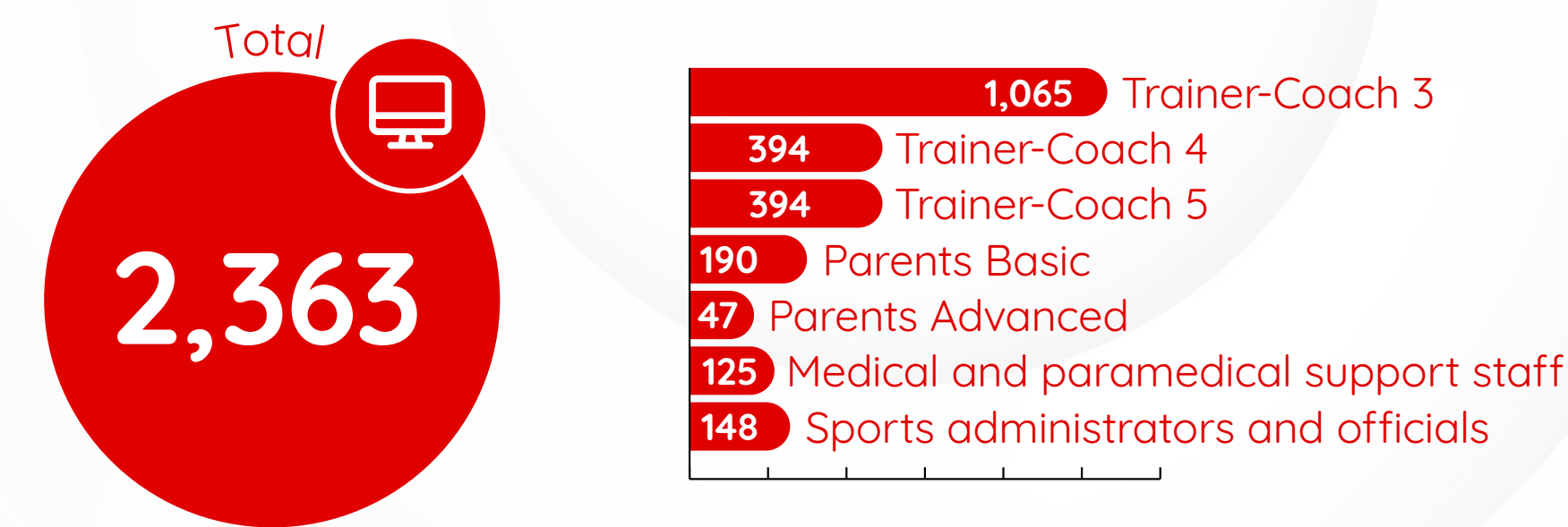
Number of e-learningmodules for elite athletes



Number of education sessions for support staff



Number of e-learningmodules for support staff



Education

The educational policy of Doping Authority Netherlands makes a clear distinction between elite sports (organised sports) and fitness (sports organised on other lines). Elite sports are subject to doping regulations. Doping Authority Netherlands has the authority to conduct doping controls on the basis of these regulations. That is not the case in the fitness sector and so a different approach is required there. Furthermore, Doping Authority Netherlands is responsible for providing the general public with information.

Elite sports

The objective for elite sports is: **the prevention of inadvertent and deliberate doping violations in Dutch sports.**

The three main target groups in elite sports are:

- 1

Elite athletes
- 2

Support staff
- 3

Sports associations

Education Session	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bronze	9	15	26	22	18
Silver	8	21	16	26	31
Gold	2	3	3	12	7
Combination	12	7	24	18	40
Total	31	46	69	78	96

Table 1.1 Overview of education sessions for elite athletes.

Elite athletes

To prepare promising athletes within approximately eight years for competition at the global level, Doping Authority Netherlands developed the ‘Doorlopende Leerlijn Schone Sport’ (ongoing education module for clean sports) in collaboration with NOC*NSF. This module describes the knowledge, skills and attitude needed for doping-free sports. It is a part of the [National Education Programme](#).

Education sessions

Following up on that module, Doping Authority Netherlands has developed three different education modules for athletes: Bronze, Silver and Gold. Bronze was designed as the first module and it serves as an introduction to the topic of doping. Silver focuses more on

practising skills such as checking medication and dietary supplements. In the Gold programme, the athletes look at whereabouts and difficult doping dilemmas that they may encounter during their careers, such as suspicions that a team-mate may be involved with doping or may be using approved medication purely and simply to perform better.

Doping Authority Netherlands organised a total of 96 education sessions in 2024 for a total of approximately 1,980 elite athletes. Seven sessions took place online with Microsoft Teams or a similar program, and two involved a hybrid approach. The other sessions took place face-to-face. The number of education sessions has increased every year since 2020 (2023: 78).

E-learning module	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bronze	2,409	3,305	4,022	5,810	4,766
Silver	532	1,159	1,487	5,743	3,363
Gold	271	675	533	900	814
Total	3,304	5,180	6,042	12,453	8,943

Table 1.2: Overview of completed e-learning modules for elite athletes.

E-learning platform

In addition to organising education sessions, Doping Authority Netherlands also offers e-learning modules for athletes. A total of 8,943 modules for athletes were completed. This was less than in 2023 (12,453) but more than in 2022 (6,042).

Users rated the e-learning modules as follows: *Bronze* 8.0, *Silver* 7.8 and *Gold* 7.9. These ratings are similar to those given in 2023.

There were several developments in the e-learning platform in 2024. The testing element was published. E-learning users can now earn a certificate only if they have answered at least eight of the ten test questions correctly. It is possible to take the test again if there are too many incorrect answers. On the technical side, the API has been updated and the selection of privacy levels in the final part of the login process has been clarified. Work on an English-language e-learning platform was also completed. It is therefore now technically possible to use the e-learning platform in both Dutch and English.

Videos

Nine videos have Dutch and English subtitles which are intended to make the videos more accessible. The doping control videos in English (blood, urine and combination) have been updated. For the updating of the video about applications for therapeutic use exemptions, the scenario and script (Dutch and English) were completed and the scripts were finalised for the English Tips and Whereabouts videos.

Doping Information App

The Doping Information App has been with us since late 2013. The app works on iOS and Android. There is also a [responsive website](#). The Doping Information App allows athletes and support staff, among others, to check their medication and dietary supplements, read the most important doping regulations and view the doping control procedure. The app was downloaded 4,615 times in 2024 (2023: 4,775 times). The total number of downloads was in the region of 54,000 at year-end 2024. The Doping Information App is updated continuously. The app is also constantly promoted, for example at education sessions, on websites and social media, in a range of articles and on Z cards.

Be PROUD

Be PROUD is an initiative of Doping Authority Netherlands that focuses on affirming the right sporting values. The programme was established in collaboration with NOC*NSF, elite athletes of the past and present, and trainers/coaches. It was launched in the summer of 2018. Athletes, family, coaches, medical staff, sports association staff and other sports enthusiasts are invited to support Be PROUD, either as supporters or ambassadors. Sports organisations also have the option of being partners. In this way, a large and powerful team is established that is proud of clean sports. The Be PROUD programme has its [own website](#), and social media accounts on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [X](#) and [YouTube](#).

Be PROUD has a total of fifteen [ambassadors](#): Liesette Bruinsma (para-swimming), Jordy Beekwilder (kick boxing), Guy Mendes de Leon (bridge), Eva Voortman (softball), Margriet Bergstra (judo), Rogier Hofman (hockey), Sophie Souwer (rowing), Steve Wijler (archery), Epke Zonderland (gymnastics), Jessica Schilder (athletics), Jetze Plat (handbiking/paratriathlon), Kai Verbij (speed skating), Madelein Meppelink (beach volleyball), Vince Rooi (baseball) and Ran Faber (korfbal).

Forty [organisations](#) (Be PROUD partners) are affiliated with Be PROUD. The number of supporters rose from 2,008 to 2,203.

Dutch Safeguards System for Dietary Supplements in Elite Sport (NZVT)

Dietary supplements can contain prohibited substances. These are often not listed on the label. The use of dietary supplements therefore constitutes a risk for elite athletes because it can lead to a positive result from a doping control. In response to this risk, Doping Authority Netherlands established the [Dutch Safeguards System for Dietary Supplements in Elite Sport](#) (NZVT) in 2003. The system allows manufacturers of dietary supplements to have batches of their supplements checked at own cost. The ‘clean’ [product-batch combinations](#) are added to the NVZT database.

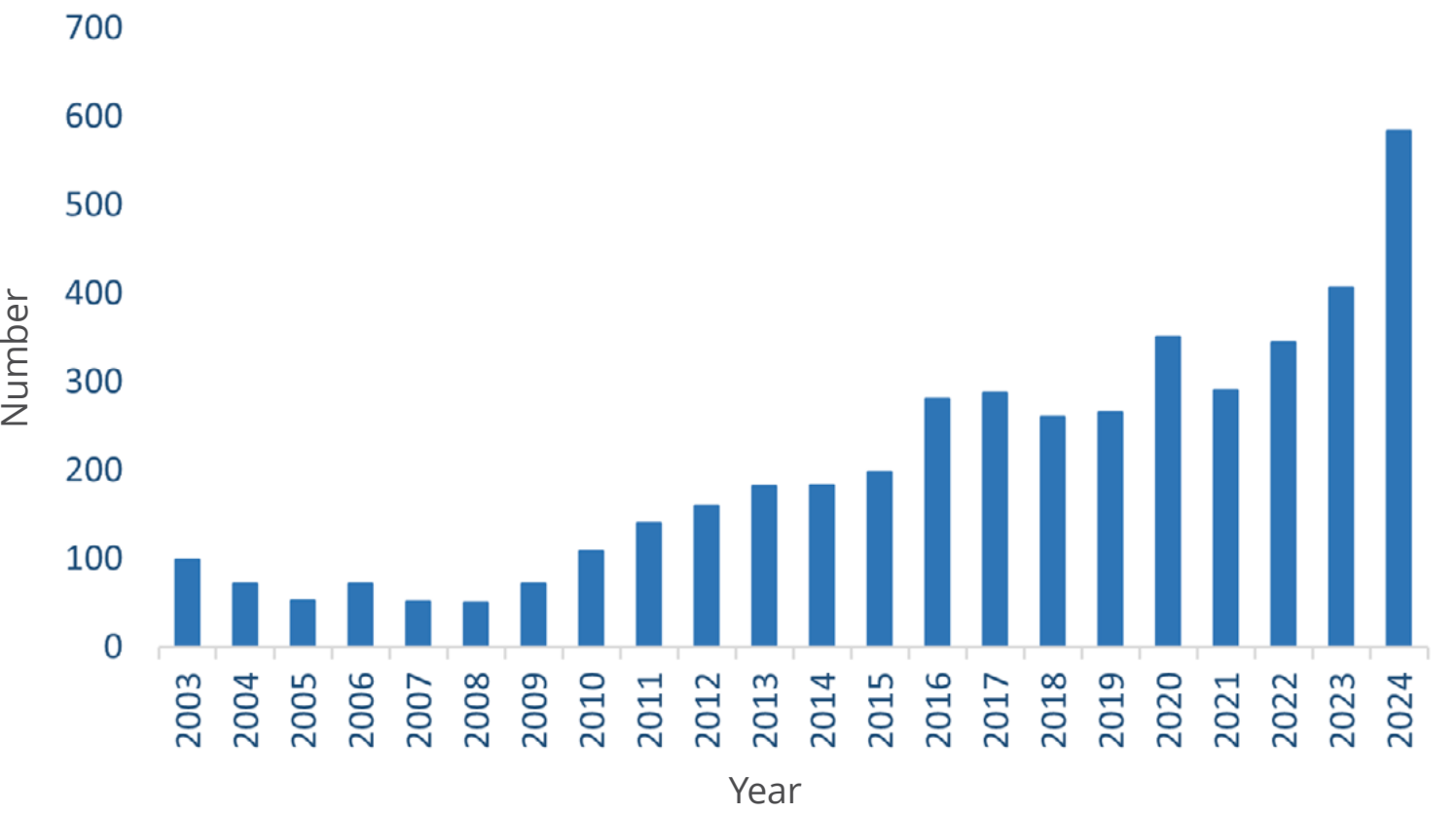


Figure 1.1: Number of certificates granted annually.

Doping Authority Netherlands, working with the industry association NPN, manages the NZVT system to provide athletes the maximum level of assurance that specified dietary supplements are doping-free. In 2024, 584 NZVT certificates were issued for 585 product-batch combinations (the figures for 2023 were 407 and 479 respectively). On 31 December 2024, there were 1,174 product-batch combinations on the NZVT website representing 442 products, 69 brands and 18 substantive categories. At year-end 2023, there were 1,085 product-batch combinations on the NZVT website representing 374 products, 59 brands and 15 substantive categories. Four batches were rejected because prohibited substances were found in them (2023: 2).

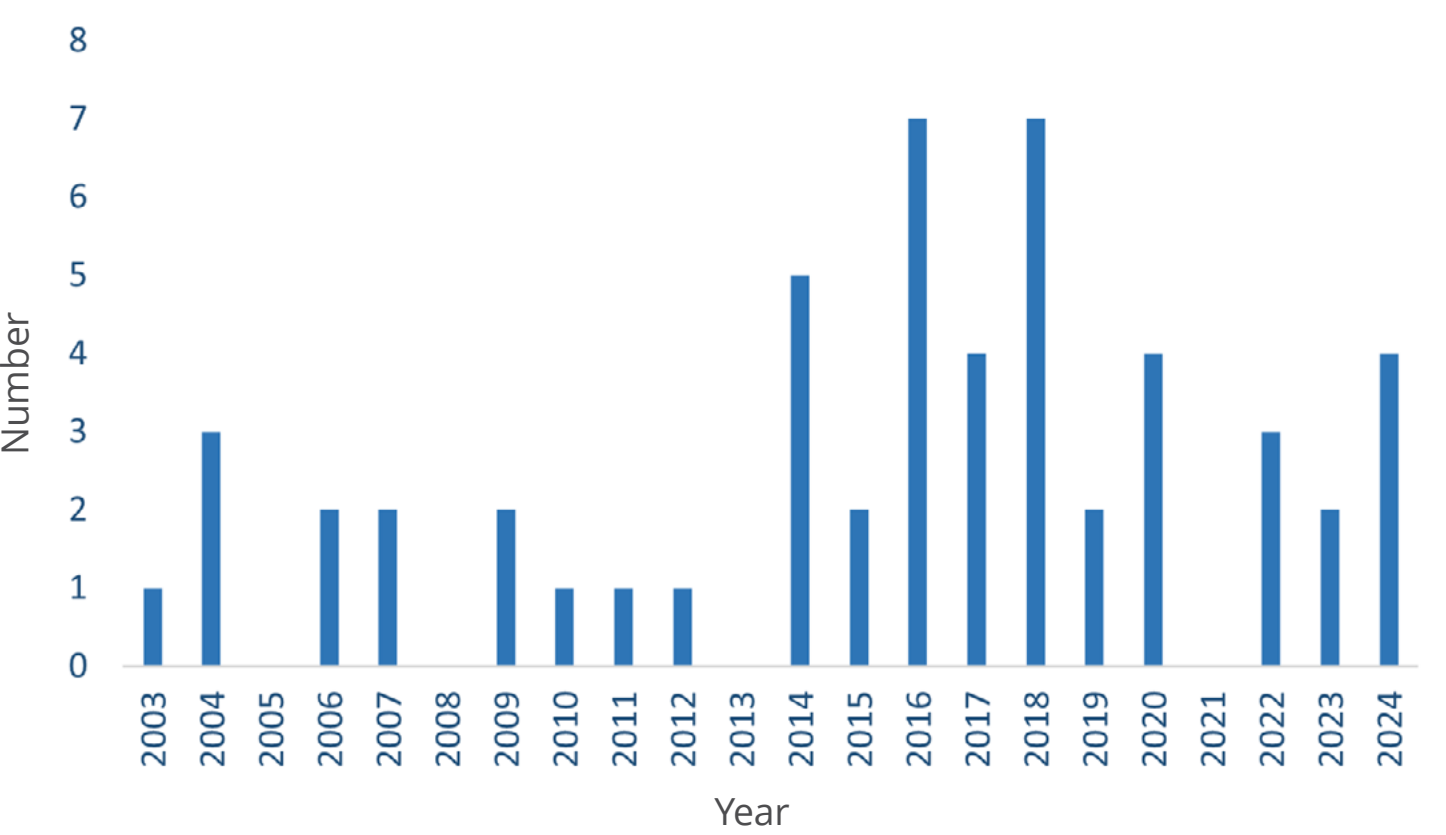


Figure 1.2: Number of rejected batches annually.

Education Session	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Trainer-Coach 3	1	3	5	6	4
Trainer-Coach 4	2	1	1	1	1
Trainer-Coach 5	-	-	-	-	-
Trainer-Coach Combination	1	1	1	2	3
Parents Basic	-	-	4	1	4
Parents Advanced	-	-	-	-	-
Specific sessions	7	5	4	10	4
Total	11	10	15	20	16

Table 1.3: Overview of education sessions for support staff.

Support staff

Beside athletes, there has been an increasing focus on support staff in recent years. This group mainly includes the trainer-coaches, but also sports physicians, sports physiotherapists, sports dieticians, parents and other support staff.

Education sessions

A total of 16 education sessions were organised for 288 support staff: 122 trainer-coaches, 82 parents and 84 other support staff. All the sessions took place in person. Eight of the sixteen sessions were for trainer-coaches, four for parents and four for other categories of support staff.

The trainer-coach education sessions are based on the Ongoing Education Module for Clean Sports for trainer-coaches. Doping Authority Netherlands has developed three different basic education modules for this purpose: Trainer-Coach 3, Trainer-Coach 4 and Trainer-Coach 5 (also known as Master Coach). The modules tie in with the Sport Qualification Structure. All eight education sessions for trainer-coaches were organised in this way. Since early 2021, there has also been an Ongoing Education Module for Clean Sports for parents. This module consists of two levels: Parents Basic and Parents Advanced. All four education sessions for parents were organised in this way. The four education sessions for other groups of support staff were for specific groups.

E-learning module	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Trainer-Coach 3	294	884	937	1,068	1,065
Trainer-Coach 4	98	405	303	428	394
Trainer-Coach 5	-	293	174	351	394
Parents Basic	-	110	161	127	190
Parents Advanced	52	49	34	50	47
Medical and paramedical support staff	37	108	78	112	125
Sports administrators and officials	-	79	56	81	148
Total	481	1,928	1,743	2,217	2,363

Table 1.4: Overview of e-learning modules completed by support staff.

E-learning platform

Doping Authority Netherlands has also developed e-learning modules for support staff. A total of 2,363 modules were completed for support staff. This was more than in 2023 (2,217).

The average user ratings for the e-learning modules were: Trainer-Coach 3 8.0, Trainer-Coach 4 8.0, Trainer-Coach 5 8.0, Parents Basic 8.1, Parents Advanced 8.1, (Para)Medical Support Staff 8.1 and Sports Administrators and Officials 8.3. These ratings are similar to those given in 2023.



Sports associations

The sports associations are also an important target group for Doping Authority Netherlands. They are closest to the elite athletes and the support staff. Doping Authority Netherlands is in contact with the sports associations at all times.

Meeting of sports associations

The annual Support Clean Sports meeting took place at Hotel Theater Figi in Zeist on 14 November 2024. During this meeting, elite sports organisations such as sports associations and other stakeholders were informed about developments in the field of anti-doping. The focus here was on education, but there were also contributions from the I&I and Control departments. There were 58 participants from outside the organisation. The average rating for the event from the participants was 8.3. A report of the meeting was published on the [website](#).

Education plans of sports associations

In recent years, Doping Authority Netherlands has held discussions with all 58 elite sports associations with doping regulations about implementing the National Education Programme, with implementation plans being drawn up for each of those associations: In early 2024, all sports associations with an implementation plan received the 2023 education figures and they were asked to complete the evaluation questionnaire for 2023. Of the 58 sports associations, 53 completed the evaluation questionnaire. The results of the questionnaire have been included in the evaluation of the implementation of education plans for 2023.

All the sports associations' implementation plans were transformed into education plans in 2024. Those education plans include the obligations pursuant to the National Doping Regulations (NDR) and an overall timetable for education activities.

A definitive education plan for 2024-2025 has been adopted with 42 sports associations. No response was received from two associations. The other sports associations were contacted by email about updating the education plan drafted earlier. A total of 24 update discussions took place with the sports associations to arrive at an confirmed plan; the remaining plans were updated by email.

The sports associations received the figures on a quarterly basis relating to the number of education sessions and the number of e-learning modules completed by members of the association in question. Upon request, some sports associations received more frequent overviews.

Youth Olympic Games, Olympic and Paralympic Games

It was agreed with NOC*NSF that all athletes and support staff going to the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in Gangwon would be required to complete the following e-learning modules:

- Athletes: Silver
- Technical support staff: Trainer-Coach 5
- Medical and paramedical support staff: Medical and paramedical support staff
- Team managers: Sports administrators and officials
- Parents: Parents advanced (recommendation)

Athletes and support staff going to the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris were required to complete the following e-learning modules:

- Athletes: Gold
- Technical support staff: Trainer-Coach 5
- Medical and paramedical support staff: Medical and paramedical support staff
- Other support staff: Sports administrators and officials

Certificates from another national anti-doping organisation (NADO), International Federation (IF) or WADA were also accepted. Certificates had to have been obtained no more than two years before the start of the event.

All athletes and support staff participating at YOG 2024 complied with the education requirement. In the case of the Olympic Games, a total of 96% (99% of athletes, 94% of support staff and 88% of NOC*NSF staff) complied with the e-learning requirement. All athletes and support staff who participated at the Paralympic Games complied with the education requirement.

Miscellaneous

Doping Authority Netherlands was involved as an expert for the enriched elite sport curriculum for the clean sports theme in the Impulse Open Learning Materials (IOL) project. This project ran until the end of the 2023-2024 academic year. In this project, teachers from the TopsportTalentSchools created 24 challenges (assignments) about clean sports for the students in the lower years of secondary schools. An Elite Sports & Fitness Educator and an Education Policy Officer provided the teachers with feedback. After the final discussion with the coordinators, twenty challenges were published on the open learning environment Wikiwijs.

Doping Authority Netherlands is required to monitor and evaluate its education plan annually. In 2024, we evaluated the 2023 Education Plan. This included looking at the scope and content of the educational activities. The evaluation served as input for the 2025 Education Plan.

Fitness

The objective for fitness (sports organised on other lines) is: **preventing or discouraging deliberate and inadvertent doping use by athletes in Dutch fitness centres.** There is also a focus on *harm reduction*: reducing the health risks associated with doping.

In the fitness world, Doping Authority Netherlands focuses in particular on the people in the fitness centres: the athletes themselves but also the instructors (with whom we establish contact primarily through the various fitness courses) and the owners. Doping Authority Netherlands organised communications for this target group on the basis of the *True Strength* programme. The book *Doping, the sober facts* is published directly under the auspices of *Doping Authority Netherlands* rather than under the *True Strength* banner.

True Strength

There are 3 million fitness adherents in the Netherlands. This makes fitness the most popular sporting activity in the Netherlands. Research has shown that 8.2% of fitness athletes use prohibited substances. This is, in principle, permitted because these people are not subject to doping regulations. However, the use of prohibited substances still harms health and it also has a negative impact on the image of the fitness branch itself. It is therefore desirable to reduce levels of doping in fitness centres. As a result, Doping Authority Netherlands decided to develop the education programme **True Strength** specifically for this group. Doping Authority Netherlands uses True Strength to inform people about the risks of using anabolic steroids and other prohibited substances, and to provide information about healthy alternatives for becoming more muscular or slimmer using True Strength. That generates more knowledge and awareness. This programme also affirms the values and norms associated with sports in line with True Strength.

Eigenkracht.nl

The True Strength website plays a central role in the programme. It provides objective, clear and practical information about how to build up muscle mass cleanly and effectively, and about sound ways of losing weight. There is also objective information about various types of prohibited substances and the side-effects, The doping risks of dietary supplements are also discussed.

A total of 53 factual news reports were posted on the site. They were written by three external experts (journalists or specific experts) from the fitness/bodybuilding branch and by our own education officers. The True Strength website has existed for over twenty years and it contains over 1,500 articles.

Social media

Through the programme's own social media channels on Facebook and Instagram, 53 short messages were published in addition to the 50 web posts. This brought the total number of posts for True Strength to 103.

True Strength book

The Doping Authority completely rewrote the **True Strength book** in late 2018. The book complements the True Strength website and the Supplement Checker App. It is promoted on the website and at meetings. 208 copies were sold in 2024 (2023: 330).



Supplement Checker App

Doping Authority Netherlands launched the Supplement Checker App in 2017 under the *True Strength* banner. Over the past decade, the market for dietary supplements has grown explosively. Nearly 60% of fitness athletes in the Netherlands use supplements. Elite athletes also use many supplements. The free Supplement Checker App helps athletes to work with supplements in a conscious and critical way. The core of the app is a discussion and assessment of more than 3,000 ingredients.

The app was downloaded approximately 2,074 times in one year. Minor amendments were made to three profiles on the basis of new insights.

Guest lectures and meetings

Seven guest lectures were organised at fitness training centres for 314 people (2023: four for 135 people).

E-learning

The e-learning module Fitness Trainer A was completed by 73 people (2023: 38).

Clean Hunks

Clean Hunks are fitness athletes/body builders who have demonstrated that you can build up an impressive physique without dope. They are the ambassadors for doping-free fitness. There are **nineteen Clean Hunks** affiliated with the *True Strength* programme. They are all on the site, which includes background stories and photos.

General public

Corporate website

The corporate website of Doping Authority Netherlands is www.dopingautoriteit.nl. Thirteen press releases were posted on the site (2023: 11). In addition, 111 ANP press releases were posted on the site (automatically). This was more than in 2023 (100).

Doping Information Line

The Doping Information Line is the front office for all questions (by email/WhatsApp) relating to doping. It is staffed by seven people working in turn. All questions are processed within one working day and recorded anonymously in a database. The email address is dopingvragen@dopingautoriteit.nl. The mobile number is +31 (0)6-11226200 (WhatsApp service).

A total of 565 questions were received. That is slightly down on 2023, when 589 questions were registered.

In addition, the numbers of questions per subject were also monitored. Individual questions could be allocated to several subjects. The percentages for each subject can be found in the table below. As in previous years, two subjects stand out: checking whether a medicine is on the prohibited list (26.9%) and questions about dietary supplements (32.7%).

Organised (elite) sports accounted for 81.1% of the questions, the general public for 7.1%, miscellaneous for 5.8%, fitness for 5.1% and harm reduction for 0.9%. Questions received through WhatsApp (196) accounted for 34.7% of the total.

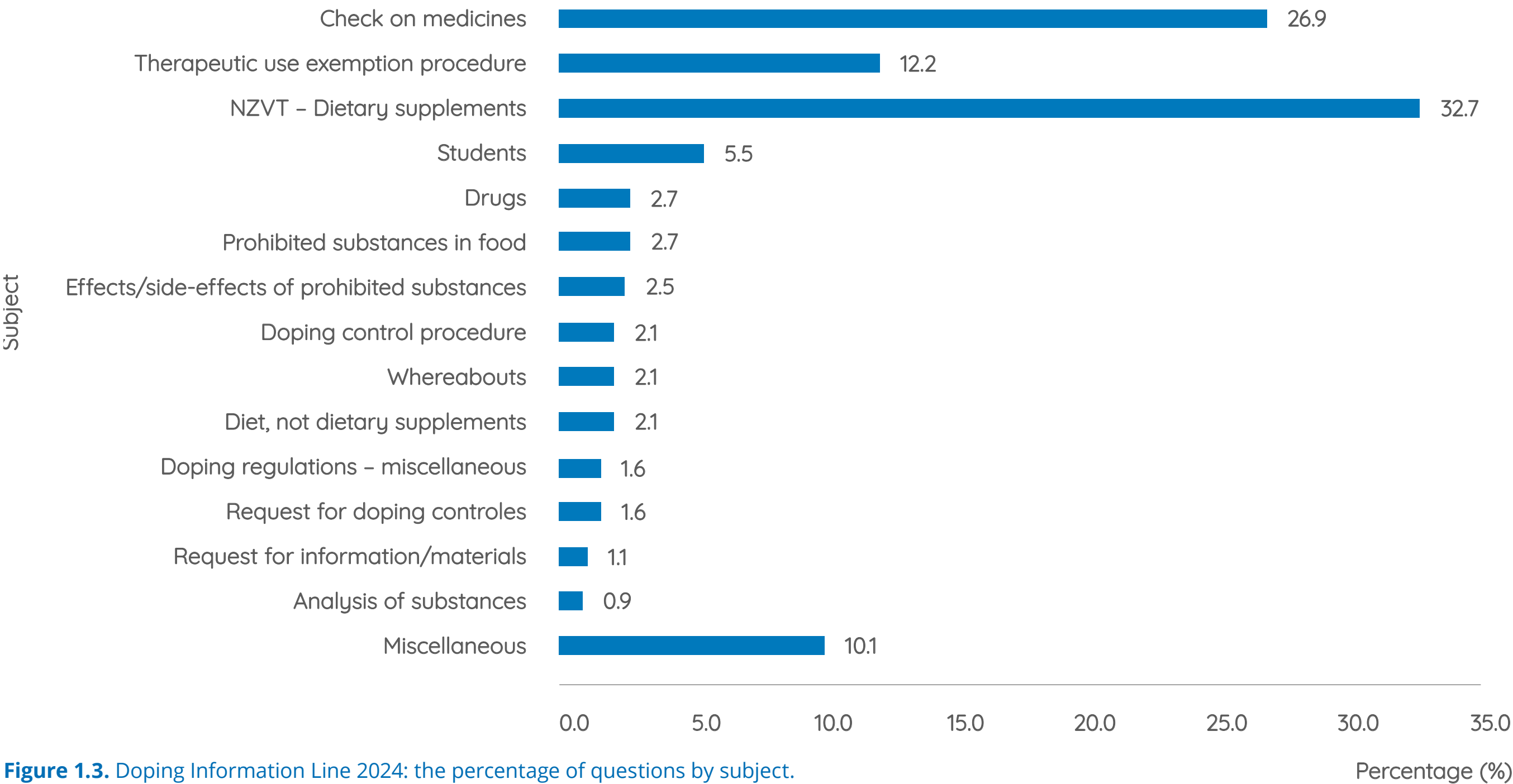


Figure 1.3. Doping Information Line 2024: the percentage of questions by subject.

Presentations

Doping Authority Netherlands gave seven presentations for 314 people that did not exactly match the target groups of elite sport or fitness described above (2023: also seven for 205 people). Most of the presentations were at institutes of higher education. See also [Annex 4](#).

Social media

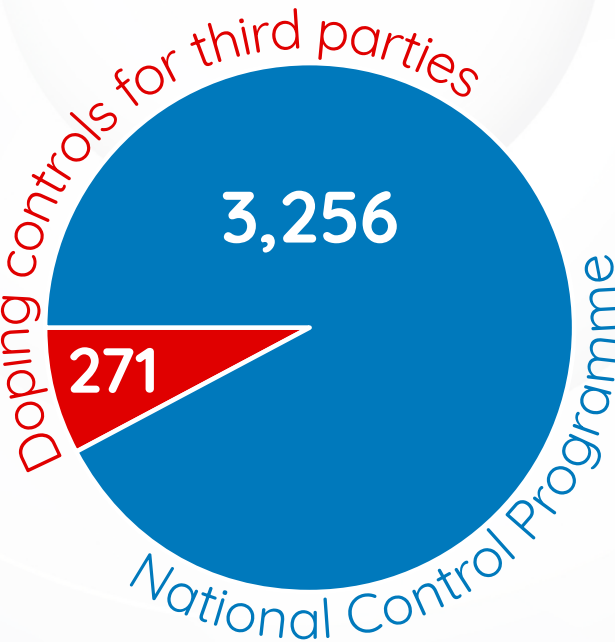
Doping Authority Netherlands is active on [YouTube](#), [Vimeo](#), [Facebook](#), [X](#) and [Instagram](#). The aim is to reach the target groups better and therefore raise their awareness of the rules, rights and risks. We post, among other things, press releases from the corporate website and educational videos.

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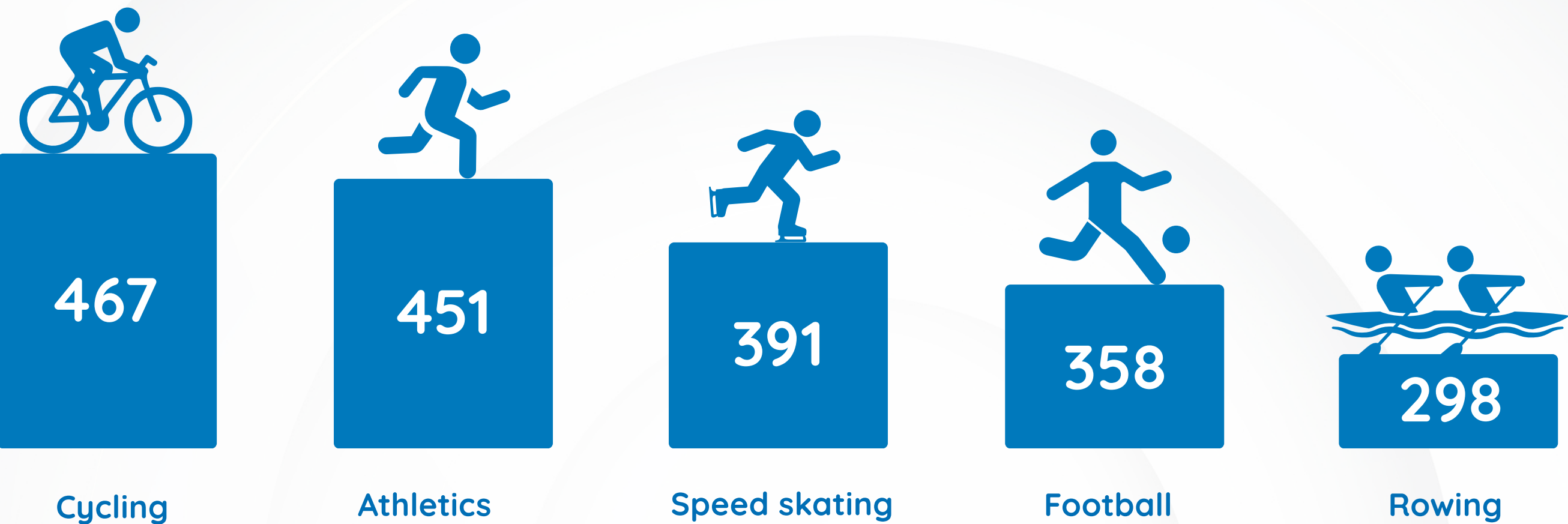
Doping controls



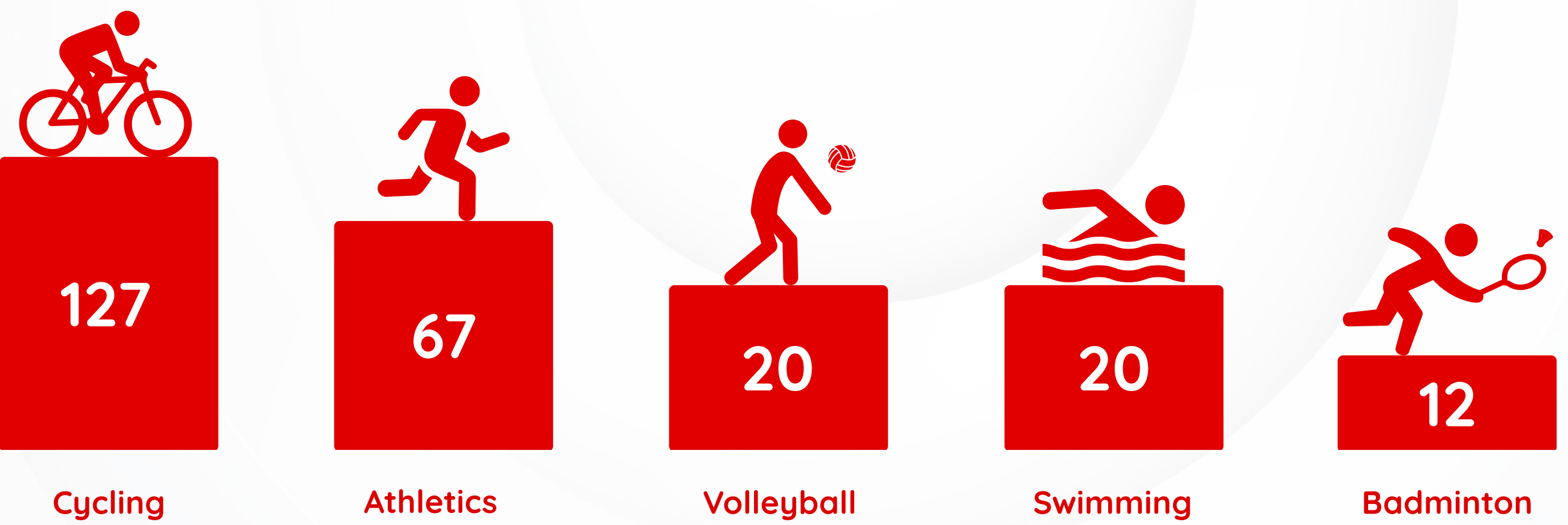
Doping Control Highlights in 2024



National Control Programme: top-five of sports controlled



Doping controls for third parties: top-five of sports controlled



Doping controls

Doping controls are important for the enforcement of the anti-doping regulations. They contribute to fair(er) competition and to protecting athletes’ health.

On the one hand, the doping controls serve to detect doping violations; on the other, they serve as a deterrent. Both aspects are important for the distribution and implementation of doping controls. Doping controls are used where and when the likelihood of preventing and/or identifying an anti-doping rule violation is greatest.

Dutch elite sports are the main operating area of doping control officials (in the National Control Programme). However, their deployment for other target groups is also possible on behalf of other organisations (third-party controls).

In order to conduct out-of-competition controls efficiently (for the National Control Programme), Doping Authority Netherlands allocates selected groups of athletes to testing pools. These athletes are required to provide whereabouts information: the locations of the athlete at certain times where controls can take place.

Doping control programme

The controls for the National Control Programme and the controls for third parties together make up the entire doping control programme. Doping Authority Netherlands conducted 3,527 doping controls in 2024 (2023: 3,520), of which 3,256 (2023: 3098) were part of the National Control Programme. The remaining 271 were conducted on behalf and for the account of third parties (see below ‘Doping controls for third parties’).

Risk assessment and testing distribution plan

On the basis of the formulated policy, Doping Authority Netherlands divided most of the available controls beforehand between the Dutch sports associations. The distribution of the available doping controls between the sports associations (the ‘testing distribution plan’) is based on an extensive risk assessment. This risk analysis includes parameters such as sport-specific physiological characteristics, relevant prohibited substances, medal chances and incentives, national sport context, doping history, anti-doping trends, scientific research, available intelligence, the outcomes of previous testing plans, and the seasonal and career progression of the athlete. On the basis of the outcome, Doping Authority Netherlands determines the number and type of doping controls (urine, blood and/or athlete passport) that will take place. A number of controls are not allocated beforehand, being used for target controls, follow-up investigations, and for doping controls pursuant to official records and meeting official limits.

Testing Pools

On the basis of the World Anti-Doping Code and the associated International Standards, Doping Authority Netherlands has established a Registered Testing Pool (RTP) and a National Testing Pool (NTP).

There were thirteen sports associations with athletes in the RTP in 2024, a minor increase over 2023 (twelve sports associations). The number of athletes in the RTP was lower than in 2023: 218 athletes at the beginning of 2024 as opposed to 236 at the beginning of 2023. In addition, a National Testing Pool (NTP) with 172 athletes from seventeen sports associations was established in 2024. NTP athletes are also required to submit whereabouts information but they are exempted from the obligation to submit a ‘60-minute time slot’ in which they must be available at a stated location for doping controls; nevertheless, they are required to provide overnight addresses and information about training sessions.

Athletes are required to provide whereabouts information to one organisation only: either Doping Authority Netherlands or the international federation. Doping Authority Netherlands uses the whereabouts module of the global *Anti-Doping Administration & Management System* (ADAMS) and the associated app developed by WADA (Athlete Central). There were 171 Dutch athletes (from sixteen sports associations) in an international Testing Pool at year-end 2024.

Doping controls conducted by Doping Authority Netherlands	Urine	Blood	Total
National Control Programme	2,592	664	3,256
Doping controls for third parties	198	73	271
Total doping control programme	2,790	737	3,527

Table 2.1: Overview of doping controls in 2024.

National Control Programme

A total of 3,256 doping controls were conducted as part of the National Control Programme (2023: 3,098). The overwhelming majority (2,592) were urine controls (2023: 2,376). In addition, 664 blood controls (2023: 722) were also conducted, of which 335 (2023: 353) were for the purposes of the Athlete Biological Passport. This means that Doping Authority Netherlands comfortably achieved the target of 3,000 controls set beforehand.

The percentage of out-of-competition controls (blood and urine) was 66%. This is comparable with 2023 (68%). Men underwent 1,935 controls (59%) and women 1,321 (41%). The difference was therefore larger than in the previous year (2023: 57% and 43% respectively).

Table continues on next page.

Table 2.2: Overview of the number of doping controls for the National Control Programme in 2024.

Sports association	Number of urine	Number of blood	Total
Royal Dutch Cycling Union	327	140	467
Athletics Union	359	92	451
Royal Netherlands Skating Association	305	86	391
Royal Dutch Football Association	323	35	358
Royal Dutch Rowing Association	154	144	298
Royal Dutch Swimming Association	184	28	212
Dutch Judo Federation	88	12	100
Royal Dutch Hockey Association	76	8	84
Dutch Volleyball Association	69	8	77
Dutch Basketball Association	67	10	77
Dutch Triathlon Association	46	27	73
Royal Dutch Lawn Tennis Association	55	6	61
Dutch Handball Association	48	6	54
Royal Dutch Equestrian Sports Federation	52	2	54
Royal Dutch Gymnastics Union	47	6	53
Water Sports Federation	49	2	51
Royal Dutch Strength Sport and Fitness Association	41	10	51
Dutch Weightlifting Association	36	13	49
Royal Dutch Baseball and Softball Association	38	6	44
Dutch Boxing Association	32	7	39
Dutch Rugby	30	4	34
Ice Hockey Netherlands	28	4	32
Royal Dutch Korfbal Association	20	2	22
Royal Dutch Motorcycle Association	18	0	18

Table 2.2: Overview of the number of doping controls for the National Control Programme in 2024.

Sports association	Number of urine	Number of blood	Total
Badminton Netherlands	15	2	17
Royal Dutch Cricket Association	12	2	14
Dutch Taekwondo Association	6	2	8
Dutch Table Tennis Association	7	0	7
Dutch Golf Association	6	0	6
Dutch Lifesaving Association	5	0	5
Royal Dutch General Fencing Association	5	0	5
Dutch General Dance Sports Association	5	0	5
Karate-Do Association Netherlands	4	0	4
Royal Dutch Shooting Association	4	0	4
Dutch Archery Association	4	0	4
Dutch Squash Association	4	0	4
Dutch Jeu de Boules Association	4	0	4
Dutch Darts Association	4	0	4
Dutch Skiing Association	3	0	3
Disabled Sports Netherlands	3	0	3
Royal Dutch Billiard Sports Association	2	0	2
Royal Dutch Climbing and Mountaineering Club	2	0	2
Bob and Sledge Association Netherlands	1	0	1
Royal Dutch National Autosports Federation	1	0	1
Dutch Crossbow Association	1	0	1
Dutch Roller Sports Association	1	0	1
Dutch Skateboard Federation	1	0	1
Total	2592	664	3256

Doping controls for third parties

Several sports organisations purchased additional controls from Doping Authority Netherlands, including international federations, foreign national anti-doping organisations, event organisers and professional sports organisations. A total of 271 doping controls were conducted on the basis of assignments from third parties, 36% fewer than in 2023, when this category accounted for 422 controls. The 271 controls consisted of 198 urine controls (73%) and 73 blood controls (27%), of which 48 were for the purposes of the Athlete Biological Passport (ABP).

Most controls were out of competition (67%). This was less the case in 2023 (56%), Men underwent 168 controls (62%) and women 103 (38%). The difference was therefore larger than in the previous year (2023: 59% and 41%).

Sport	Number of urine	Number of blood	Number total
Cycling	95	32	127
Athletics	33	34	67
Volleyball	20	0	20
Swimming	20	0	20
Badminton	6	6	12
Korfball	8	0	8
Gymnastics	4	1	5
Hockey	4	0	4
Dance sports	4	0	4
Speed skating	2	0	2
Basketball	1	0	1
Water sports	1	0	1
Total	198	73	271

Table 2.3: Overview of the number of doping controls for third parties in 2024.

Unannounced doping controls

Almost all doping controls were conducted without the athlete receiving prior warning ('no advance notice testing'). The only exceptions were doping controls triggered by a record or limit; in these cases, the initiative for the control resides with the athlete or the athlete's association.

Doping controls that did not take place

There were 202 (2023: 216) unsuccessful attempts to conduct doping controls in 2024, for example because:

1. the athlete was not present during the specified 60-minute time slot;
2. the athlete was not present at the specified overnight address;
3. athletes/teams were absent from events, competitions and central training sessions;
4. a training session or competition had been cancelled or moved.

Sport-specific analyses

On the basis of a risk analysis, the relevant standards of the World Anti-Doping Code for sports and sports disciplines include a specific calculation for the minimum percentages required for additional laboratory analyses. WADA's Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis (TDSSA) includes binding provisions that apply to national anti-doping organisations, including Doping Authority Netherlands. The analyses relate to, among other things, erythropoietin-like substances and growth hormones. The minimum number of specific additional analyses is expressed as a percentage of the number of doping controls conducted in a sport (a percentage of additional analyses in addition to the standard analysis package).

In 2024, the analyses of at least 25% of the tests of urine and/or blood samples conducted by Doping Authority Netherlands also looked for Erythropoiesis Receptor Agonists (ERAs). However, in reality, the percentage may end up being higher because subsequent analyses are requested later, for example in the context of the TDSSA provisions or on the basis of APMU (Athlete Passport Management Unit) recommendations. The analyses covered a range of sports, with cycling, athletics and speed skating at the top of the list (in absolute numbers).

In 13% of the tests conducted by Doping Authority Netherlands, blood samples were analysed for growth hormone. The analyses covered a range of sports, with cycling, speed skating and athletics at the top of the list (in absolute numbers). 13% of the tests conducted by Doping Authority Netherlands included the analysis of urine samples for Growth Hormone Releasing Factors (GHRFs). The analyses covered a range of sports, with athletics, cycling and football at the top of the list (in absolute numbers).

In 2024, virtually all the blood and urine samples were stored to allow for the possibility of re-analysis at some time in the future.

Athlete Biological Passport

In the Athlete Biological Passport programme, several blood samples are taken over time from selected athletes from a range of sports for the purposes of establishing longitudinal profiles.

A total of 383 blood samples, of which 335 were for the National Control Programme of Doping Authority Netherlands, were collected for the purposes of the Athlete Biological Passport. The number of ABP controls for the National Control Programme fell slightly by 5% compared to 2023, when 353 samples were taken. The 383 ABP blood controls were conducted in the following sports: athletics, rowing, speed skating, triathlon, football, swimming and cycling.

DCO courses

In 2024, four courses were organised for the doping control officials (DCOs) in March, June, September and December. The courses covered cases from practice and integrity issues. The last meeting in December was devoted to the overhaul of IT-related hardware for the administration of doping controls.



3

Intelligence & Investigations

Intelligence & Investigations

In addition to the implementation of the doping control process, the collection and investigation of information can also generate evidence of doping. Pursuant to Article 5 of the Wuab and Articles 16 to 20 (incl.) of the Dutch National Doping Regulations, Doping Authority Netherlands investigates possible anti-doping rule violations, both in the Netherlands and other countries. This information, in the broadest sense and including scientific information, is also the main input for targeting doping controls and it serves as the basis for Doping Authority Netherlands' testing distribution plan. All of this work is housed with the 'Intelligence and Investigations' department.

Reports received

Visitors to the [Doping Hotline](#) website page can submit reports about possible anti-doping rule violations. They can also use the link to obtain information about the procedure and the subjects for reporting. People submitting reports can, among other things, complete a web form and, if they wish, report on a completely anonymous basis. In practice, they also use other ways to share their concerns or observations.

In 2024, Doping Authority Netherlands received 48 reports of possible anti-doping rule violations (2023: 37). The substance of the reports ranged from possible doping to trafficking and they related to fifteen different sports (2023: 13). None of the reports resulted in a non-analytical anti-doping rule violation (2023: 0 also). However, in response to the reports, targeted controls were conducted on several occasions and they resulted in the detection of an anti-doping rule violation on 3 occasions (2023: 3 also). Furthermore, as a result of the reports, there were contacts with a range of agencies (investigative and otherwise) in 17 cases (2023: 23).

Collaboration with government services and anti-doping organisations

By contrast to the situation with respect to the doping control process, Doping Authority Netherlands is dependent on the cooperation of organisations other than sports organisations, in particular government investigation and enforcement organisations, for the implementation of some of the statutory tasks referred to in Article 5 of the Wuab. The development and expansion of good collaborative relationships with these organisations is therefore of major importance. This involves supplying and receiving information. The terms of the collaboration with chain partners such as the IGJ, the NVWA-IOD, the police, the FIOD and the customs authorities have been set out in protocols.

The sharing of information with Doping Authority Netherlands continues to be a challenge in collaboration between the government services. This is a result of various statutory frameworks such as the Dutch Police Data Act (Wpg). The contacts were extended further in 2024 but Doping Authority Netherlands continues to seek ever closer collaboration with investigation and enforcement agencies. Information is shared efficiently in mutual exchanges with anti-doping organisations from other countries. There is also support for ongoing investigations.



4

Disciplinary law



Disciplinary law

In the Netherlands, disciplinary proceedings relating to possible anti-doping rule violations are the responsibility of Doping Authority Netherlands and the sports associations. Doping Authority Netherlands determines in which cases proceedings should be initiated, and it has the competence to propose sanctions in cases of anti-doping rule violations. These are competences that are exclusive to Doping Authority Netherlands pursuant to the World Anti-Doping Code. If Doping Authority Netherlands decides to initiate proceedings in cases of anti-doping rule violations, the disciplinary proceedings are conducted under the responsibility of the sports associations. As a rule, the sports associations affiliated with NOC*NSF have outsourced disciplinary proceedings for matters related to doping to the Institute for Sports Law (ISR).

The position of Doping Authority Netherlands in disciplinary proceedings

The first part of the disciplinary process is the responsibility of Doping Authority Netherlands. If a potential anti-doping rule violation is observed, Doping Authority Netherlands assesses whether there is sufficient evidence to prove that there has been a violation. If not, Doping Authority Netherlands has the competence to decide to close a case. If, in the opinion of Doping Authority Netherlands, there is sufficient evidence, Doping Authority Netherlands can propose a sanction to the athlete. If a possible anti-doping rule violation does not result in a sanction proposal or the closing of the case, a charge will be filed with the disciplinary board of the sports association in question. In these cases, the sports association will usually file a charge itself but Doping Authority Netherlands also has the competence to file a charge. In the case of those sports associations who work with the ISR for doping procedures, Doping Authority Netherlands reports the doping case to the prosecutor of the ISR, who then files a charge against the athlete in question with the ISR's judicial department.

The disciplinary committees of the ISR arrive at their decisions entirely independently of Doping Authority Netherlands. This does not mean that Doping Authority Netherlands is not closely involved in disciplinary proceedings relating to possible anti-doping rule violations. Under the World Anti-Doping Code and the National Doping Regulations (NDR), Doping Authority Netherlands is responsible for ensuring that the proper disciplinary handling of doping cases in the Netherlands takes place in accordance with the Code. The various duties of Doping Authority Netherlands in disciplinary proceedings are defined and set forth in the Code, the International Standard for Results Management (ISRM) and the NDR. Those duties also include correcting decisions that do not comply with any of those regulations.

The role of Doping Authority Netherlands during disciplinary hearings consists primarily of submitting arguments: Doping Authority Netherlands, having taken cognizance of the defence of the athlete, submits written pleadings that discuss and explain all the relevant and substantive aspects of the regulations. If there is a hearing, Doping Authority Netherlands will be present and speak.

The corrective role of Doping Authority Netherlands in doping disciplinary law consists of the right of Doping Authority Netherlands to appeal against rulings of disciplinary boards.

Doping Authority Netherlands did not submit any appeals at all in 2024.

Reporting to WADA and International sports federations

Doping Authority Netherlands reports on the disciplinary handling of doping cases to WADA, the relevant international federation (IF) and, where appropriate, the foreign national anti-doping organisation. These organisations are competent to appeal against all disciplinary decisions: decisions to close a case, accepted sanction proposals and disciplinary board rulings.

Reporting takes the form of sending the decision of Doping Authority Netherlands, the accepted sanction proposal, or the decision of the disciplinary board (in full or as a summary) to the aforementioned organisations. In addition, case files are supplied, Doping Authority Netherlands answers follow-up questions, and documents are uploaded to WADA's database (ADAMS).

There were no decisions at all in 2024 in cases involving an appeal by WADA or an IF against a decision made by Doping Authority Netherlands or a Dutch disciplinary body.

Reporting on disciplinary decisions

Table 4.1 lists all the decisions taken by Dutch disciplinary and appeals committees in doping cases in 2024 (inclusion depends upon the date of the decision), as well as the cases in which Doping Authority Netherlands closed a case or proposed a sanction that was accepted by the athlete.¹

Sport	Anti-doping rule violation(s)	Prohibited substance(s)	Year of violation	Decision
Athletics	Presence and use	GHRP-2 (pralmorelin)	2022	Decision of the disciplinary board: four (4) years of ineligibility
Dance sports	Evasion	n/a	2024	Sanction proposed by Doping Authority Netherlands: four (4) years of ineligibility
Equestrian sports	Presence and use	Cocaine	2022	Decision of the disciplinary board: four (4) years of ineligibility
Ice hockey	Presence and use	Meldonium	2024	Sanction proposed by Doping Authority Netherlands: twenty-two (22) month suspension
Rugby	Presence and use	Cocaine	2024	Sanction proposed by Doping Authority Netherlands: two (2) years ineligibility
Football	Presence and use	Carboxy-THC	2023	Sanction proposed by Doping Authority Netherlands: one (1) month ineligibility
Volleyball	Presence and use	Cocaine	2024	Sanction proposed by Doping Authority Netherlands: three (3) years ineligibility

Table 4.1: Disciplinary decisions and sanction proposals accepted; situation when the annual report was closed.

1. Sanction proposals (which are referred to as settlements in the National Doping Regulations) may involve cases where the standard or maximum sanction has been offered and cases where, in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code and the National Doping Regulations, a reduced sanction has been proposed.

5

Legal Affairs



Legal Affairs

In matters relating to possible anti-doping rule violations, the Legal Affairs department of Doping Authority Netherlands fulfils a role comparable to that of the Dutch Public Prosecutions Service (OM): it is responsible for all legal aspects of investigating and handling anti-doping rule violations. If there is a possible anti-doping rule violation, Legal Affairs acts as a ‘public prosecutor’: it decides about sanction proposals, closing cases and filing charges, it provides evidence and participates in the disciplinary proceedings.

Role of Legal Affairs in anti-doping disciplinary law

The Legal Affairs department of Doping Authority Netherlands is involved in all legal aspects of the investigation of anti-doping rule violations, the prosecution of violations and the associated preparations, and the disciplinary proceedings for those violations. The procedures relating to these activities and processes derive from the Dutch National Doping Regulations, the World Anti-Doping Code and the various International Standards associated with that Code, in particular the International Standard for Results Management (ISRM).

The legal activities in doping cases usually begin as soon as a test result indicates the possible presence of a prohibited substance or method in an athlete’s blood or urine sample. However, they may also be initiated if there is a suspicion of another anti-doping rule violation, such as a refusal of a doping control, an attempt to tamper with the doping control, the sample or a suspicion of tampering with evidence (in other words, falsification).

If a case involving a possible anti-doping rule violation is not closed and there is no sanction proposal or acceptance thereof, a charge will be filed. That step is followed by the statement of defence of the athlete or person concerned. Doping Authority Netherlands is entitled to state written arguments in response to a statement of defence. In those pleadings, Doping Authority Netherlands states its views of the case and discusses the relevant provisions from the National Doping Regulations (NDR), the defence of the athlete or other persons, the facts and circumstances of the case, and the relevant case law.

After the written decision of the competent disciplinary body has been received, Doping Authority Netherlands reviews it as part of its responsibility with respect to monitoring the conformity of decisions with the Code in order to determine whether the decision meets the requirements of the NDR and the Code. This is done on the basis of Doping Authority Netherlands’ remit laid down in the Code, viz. the monitoring and supervision of the correct application of the doping regulations. This remit does not relate to national decisions alone. Decisions made by international sports federations or anti-doping organisations from other countries relating to anti-doping rule violations by Dutch athletes or foreign athletes who play for a Dutch club are also shared with Doping Authority Netherlands so that these decisions can be reviewed in the light of the Code.

For the same reason, Doping Authority Netherlands is required to inform WADA, the relevant international federation and (if applicable) the relevant national anti-doping organisation in another country about all sanction proposals, closed cases and disciplinary decisions, and therapeutic use exemptions that have been granted. In turn, these organisations have the competence to assess decisions made in the Netherlands in the light of the World Anti-Doping Code and the International Standards, and to appeal against them. This includes the process of determining (in other words, noting and registering) whereabouts errors, including the legal remedies (statement of position, administrative review) that an athlete can invoke to oppose a whereabouts error before it is registered definitively.

The legal activities described here are conducted in the context of the doping control process, which is defined by the Wuab as the process of determining a possible violation of given doping regulations (in other words, not only the NDR). There are also legal activities that are conducted for the purposes of the doping control process, without actually being part of that process, or that are conducted after the completion of the doping control process.

Adverse analytical findings

In 2024, eighteen adverse analytical findings were registered with Doping Authority Netherlands. In eleven cases, a therapeutic use exemption had been granted for the therapeutic use of the prohibited substance(s) found. See Table 5.1. These cases were closed in accordance with the Code and the NDR as a result of the exemption granted. Seven cases were identified as possible anti-doping rule violations in 2024. See Table 5.2.

Sport	Adverse analytical finding	Number
Athletics	Modafinil	1
Basketball	Acetazolamide	1
Boxing	Methylphenidate and its metabolite Ritalinic acid	1
Ice hockey	Methylphenidate and its metabolite Ritalinic acid	1
Judo	Clomiphene	1
Judo	Methylphenidate	1
Fencing	Methylphenidate and its metabolite Ritalinic acid	1
Football	Terbutaline	1
Cycling	Methylphenidate and its metabolite Ritalinic acid	1
Sailing	Methylphenidate and its metabolite Ritalinic acid	1
Swimming	Amphetamine	1

Table 5.1: Adverse analytical results in 2024 covered by a therapeutic use exemption.

Sport	Adverse analytical finding	Number
Athletics	Clenbuterol	1
Ice hockey	Meldonium	1
Ice hockey	Carboxy-THC	1
Power lifting	Steroids of exogenous origin	1
Power lifting	Growth hormone	1
Rugby	Cocaine	1
Volleyball	Cocaine	1

Table 5.2: Adverse analytical findings in 2024 identified by Doping Authority Netherlands as possible anti-doping rule violations.



Substance classification according to the WADA Prohibited List

WADA’s prohibited list includes several categories. A distinction is made between different groups of substances and methods: substances that are always prohibited, substances that are prohibited only in competition, and substances that are prohibited only in certain sports. On the basis of the allocation of substances to categories in accordance with the 2024 WADA Prohibited List, one prohibited substance (or metabolite of such a substance) was found a total of eighteen times in the eighteen adverse analytical findings referred to above.

Whereabouts failures

If an athlete does not comply with the whereabouts requirement, that may result in a whereabouts failure. There are two types of whereabouts failure:

- Missed test: if an athlete cannot be found and is not available for a doping control during the 60-minute time slot; and
- Filing failures: a failure to provide complete, timely and/or accurate whereabouts.

The Legal Affairs department of Doping Authority Netherlands is responsible for the assessment and handling of any possible whereabouts failure. In the case of athletes in the Registered Testing Pool (RTP), Doping Authority Netherlands registered a total of 58 whereabouts failures dated to 2024. In addition, one whereabouts failure was pending as the annual report was being drafted. In 2024, a second whereabouts failure in a twelve-month period was noted in the case of six athletes and a third failure was noted in the case of one athlete. In the case of athletes in the National Testing Pool (NTP), Doping Authority Netherlands registered a total of 52 filing failures² dated to 2024. A second filing failure was registered for six of these athletes in 2024.

Structural activities and operations

Our structural legal activities in 2024 also included the provision of general legal services and support within the organisation. This involved drafting, assessing and/or revising contracts, letters, memoranda and policy memoranda, and regulations, as well as advice for the various departments of Doping Authority Netherlands and the CEO.

In addition, the structural activities included education and advice for sports associations and, in various cases, athletes (and their support staff) with respect to the content, operation and application of the doping regulations.

Detected substances	2024
Anabolic substances	2
Peptide hormones, growth factors, related substances and mimetics	1
Beta2 agonists	1
Hormone and metabolic modulators	2
Diuretics and masking substances	1
Stimulants	10
Cannabinoids	1
Total	18

Table 5.3: Substances found in 2024.

2. In the case of NTP, the focus is effectively on warnings since, under the Code and International Standards, NTP athletes cannot commit a whereabouts violation.





Dutch Open Government Act

Doping Authority Netherlands received one request under the Dutch Open Government Act (Woo) in 2024.

Objections and appeals under the Dutch General Administrative Law Act

One of the consequences of the establishment of Doping Authority Netherlands as an independent administrative body is that, under the Dutch General Administrative Law Act (Awb), interested parties have the right to lodge objections under administrative law to decisions made by Doping Authority Netherlands that qualify as such under that act.

Doping Authority Netherlands did not receive any appeals in 2024 pursuant to the Dutch General Administrative Law Act (Awb). Appeal proceedings were under way in 2024 in the administrative court against one decision of Doping Authority Netherlands relating to one objection.

Privacy

All documents drawn up pursuant to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (privacy policy, Privacy Statement of Doping Authority Netherlands and the Regulation for the Rights of Persons Concerned) have been evaluated and updated where necessary. Doping Authority Netherlands registered two security incidents in 2024. There was no obligation to notify the Dutch Personal Data Authority (AP) in either instance.

Policies, rules and regulations associated with the status of an independent administrative body

Several rules and regulations have been revised.

6

Scientific
research



Scientific research

The scientific activities of Doping Authority Netherlands consist of the following:

- monitoring scientific literature;
- consulting experts;
- the further development of scientific research.

Monitoring scientific literature

To ensure it is informed about the latest scientific developments, Doping Authority Netherlands keeps a close eye on new publications of doping-related scientific literature and saves copies of the relevant articles in its archives. In today’s digital world, however, having one’s own archives has become less and less important. The information from the available literature serves as a basis for internal advice for the Legal Affairs, Control and Education departments, and the CEO. The information is also used to answer specific scientific questions from people outside the organisation such as doctors, lawyers, journalists, students and other interested parties.

Consulting experts

A network with a range of scientists is constantly being maintained in order to keep up to date with the latest developments in all sorts of areas relevant to doping such as haematology, cardiology, endocrinology, physiology, sociology, health education, ethics, sports medicine, gene therapy and clinical chemistry.

Doping Authority Netherlands also plays an advisory role in a range of initiatives. The basic idea here is always to contribute both knowledge and experience and to further them in our own organisation. In some cases, this advisory role has been formalised. In this context, scientific contacts were maintained with the Steroids Clinic in the Spaarne Gasthuis hospital in Haarlem and the British nutritional supplement testing system

Informed Sport of the LGC company. In addition, Doping Authority Netherlands has attended a range of scientific conferences at home and abroad, and it participates in two WADA working groups (on the prevalence of doping and on unintentional doping).

Research

In 2024, the Mulier Institute conducted a study on behalf of Doping Authority Netherlands of the use of performance-enhancing substances by Dutch e-sports competitors and their views about this subject. A large majority of the respondents (83%) were in favour of rules about the use of performance-enhancing substances. The results of this study will serve as a basis for future policy decisions in this area. Doping Authority Netherlands also supervised a student during his research into the efforts of a range of international anti-doping organisations to combat doping in e-sports.

A congress on science and anti-doping policy was organised at the Olympic Stadium in Amsterdam on 21-22 November 2024. The topic was the prevalence of intentional and unintentional doping use. More than fifty scientists, anti-doping professionals, athletes and athlete representatives from 22 countries attended. The multidisciplinary nature of the event was particularly appreciated by all participants.

Anabolic Steroids Expertise Centre

In the area of harm reduction, Doping Authority Netherlands works closely with the Anabolic Steroids Expertise Centre, which is generally known as the Steroids Clinic.

The Steroids Clinic is facilitated by the endocrinology department of the Spaarne Hospital in Haarlem, where present and former users of anabolic steroids can receive a check-up for possible medical problems. Harm reduction is possible for athletes who are not subject to doping regulations. They are allowed to use prohibited substances.

Doping Authority Netherlands plays an advisory role for the Steroids Clinic. In recent years, a second clinic was established, in this case by the endocrinology department of the Elisabeth TweeSteden Hospital (Tilburg and Waalwijk locations). This second clinic closed in 2024 due to the departure of the doctor concerned to another hospital.

In 2024, Doping Authority Netherlands provided financial support for analyses as part of the HARNAS study, a study by the Steroids Clinic focusing on the effectiveness of a harm reduction strategy (educational intervention) before doping takes place. This was a continuation of the financial support for the 2023 study. In 2024, the clinical research (including laboratory analyses) was completed for all men (100) and women (10). The data are being analysed by the researchers. The interim analysis has already shown that the HARNAS study’s harm reduction strategy is highly effective in reducing anabolic steroid use.



7 Knowledge management

Knowledge management

Doping Authority Netherlands is a knowledge-driven organisation. Providing access to knowledge and generating new data contributes to doping-related scientific research, assessments by policymakers and better informed athletes, support staff and healthcare professionals.

Programme for Value-free Information about doping

Since 2024, Doping Authority Netherlands – in consultation with the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport – has been working on the development and implementation of the Programme for Value-free Information about doping (PWI).



The programme focuses primarily on unorganised sports: fitness and combat sports. Studies by the Mulier Institute show that the use of prohibited substances in these sports – without a national sports association under the umbrella of NOC*NSF and without anti-doping policy – is particularly high. To reduce use, the researchers recommend focusing on both primary prevention (preventing use) and secondary prevention (preventing harm on health).

The programme has two pillars. The first focuses on providing neutral, science-based information to athletes in gyms and fitness centres who use, or are considering using, prohibited substances. The goal is to make users aware of the effects, health risks and possible harms of doping, without moralising or judgements. This pillar includes initiatives that address the information needs of both users and healthcare professionals. There is a central role for a website with a database of prohibited substances. The website has not yet been launched.

The second pillar focuses on strengthening scientific knowledge about doping and the systematic provision of reliable information. The goal is to establish a clearer insight into the health risks, the effectiveness of harm reduction interventions and the specific needs of a range of user groups. This scientific knowledge is then formulated as practical guidelines for healthcare professionals, athletes and trainers. For this second, scientific, pillar in particular, Doping Authority Netherlands has entered into an agreement with the Spaarne Gasthuis and the doctors involved with the Steroids Clinic. Two PhD students are focusing on the topics of harm reduction (increasing the availability of data from the HARNAS study) and the pathophysiology of the hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal axis.

Anti-Doping Knowledge Center

In 2024, 418 new records were added to the Anti-Doping Knowledge Center (ADKC). The ADKC is the largest collection of doping-related documents in the world. The total number of available documents was 9,393 on 31 December 2024.

The information in the database consists primarily of legal documents, in particular the motivated decisions of competent disciplinary bodies relating to doping sanctions. These are mainly decisions made by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). Increasingly, the ADKC also contains rulings from the disciplinary boards and arbitration bodies of international sports federations and anti-doping organisations from other countries. The decisions of a few dozen international federations and countries have now been processed. The main goal is to provide access to the available jurisprudence in the field of doping in order to make decisions in the future stronger.

The ADKC also contains scientific articles about all conceivable doping-related subjects, such as educational materials and all kinds of other doping documents.

8

Therapeutic use exemptions



Therapeutic Use Exemptions

One of the provisions in the doping regulations relates to the procedure for the use of prohibited medication. If an athlete uses medication on the prohibited list for medical reasons, a therapeutic use exemption can be applied for. A therapeutic use exemption is an official declaration giving the athlete permission to use medication containing prohibited substances.

Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee

Doping Authority Netherlands has established, for the Dutch sports associations, a committee known as the Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee (TUE committee), which consists of independent doctors. The TUE committee appraises exemption applications from Dutch athletes. Doping Authority Netherlands provides secretarial support for the TUE committee.

Therapeutic use exemptions

Exemptions were in granted in 150 cases in 2024; a slight fall by comparison with 2023 (see Table 8.1). The committee turned down applications in eight cases (2023: 11). A number of these were granted after all at a later date (for example after more specific information had been provided).

Applications for a therapeutic use exemption	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Granted	126	118	86	108	130	157	150
Not granted	12	15	12	5	8	11	8

Table 8.1: Number of exemptions granted and rejected applications over the years.

As in most recent years, the largest number of exemptions in 2024 related to the use of methylphenidate (66, in other words 44%). Other types of medication for which exemptions were often granted were insulin (17), (lis)dexamphetamine (13), methylprednisolone (12) and triamcinolone (9).

The applications came from a total of 34 different sports associations. The association with the most applications granted was the KNVB (19, in other words 12.6%), followed by the KNKF and the JBN with 14 applications and the KNWU and the KNZB with 13 applications.





9

International Affairs

Highlights of international collaboration



WADA
The World Anti-Doping Agency was established in 1999 with the task of harmonising doping regulations worldwide. This resulted in the first World Anti-Doping Code in 2004.



Unesco
To bind national governments to the Code, an international treaty has been drawn up: The International Convention against Doping in Sport. This Unesco convention has now been ratified by more than 190 countries.



Council of Europe
The Council of Europe Anti-Doping Convention contains provisions on various aspects of anti-doping policy such as national and international coordination, and measures to reduce the availability and use of doping.



Dutch anti-doping policy is largely determined internationally. The World Anti-Doping Code is the basis of anti-doping policy worldwide.



CAS
The Court of Arbitration for Sport is an independent tribunal for settling disputes in the field of sports. After decisions by a disciplinary and appeals board, parties may appeal here.



International Federations
IFs are responsible for their sport worldwide. Like national anti-doping organisations, they are required to implement the Code.



IOC & IPC
The International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee are responsible for the anti-doping programme during the Olympic and Paralympic Games.



iNADO
The Institute of National Anti-Doping Organisations supports national and regional anti-doping organisations and represents their interests.

International affairs

Doping Authority Netherlands was actively involved in 2024 in international anti-doping policy. The international activities of Doping Authority Netherlands address several goals: Doping Authority Netherlands wishes to collect current knowledge, influence international anti-doping policy, inform about Dutch anti-doping policy and strengthen international collaboration.

NADO Leaders

In light of international developments, there were intensive contacts in 2024 in the context of NADO Leaders. There were digital consultations on several occasions, and the directors of anti-doping organisations met in Strasbourg in September. It was decided jointly to ask the WADA management to explain the events relating to the positive tests of 23 Chinese swimmers in 2021.

WADA Code 2027

The World Anti-Doping Code, with the International Standards, is the basis for global anti-doping policy. It ensures the harmonisation of rules and consistency in their application. The current Code went into effect on 1 January 2001.

Revision of the Code is a process that takes several years and involves several phases during which stakeholders are consulted. The first consultation phase for the new Code took place from May to October 2024. Doping Authority Netherlands provided feedback on the first draft. The revised Code and International Standards will go into effect on 1 January 2027.

Prohibited list

Like every year, a [response to the draft version of the prohibited list](#) was sent to WADA in the summer. Doping Authority Netherlands coordinates

the Dutch response on behalf of the NOC*NSF, the NOC*NSF Athletes Commission and the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport.

WADA committees

Doping Authority Netherlands is represented on several WADA committees through the COO and the Head of Intelligence & Investigations. The COO is a member of the Education Standing Committee and the WADA 2027 International Standard for Education Update Drafting Team. The Head of I&I is a member of the Prevalence Working Group and the Task Force on Unintentional Doping.

The Prevalence Working Group is a WADA initiative to increase understanding of the prevalence of doping. There were four meetings in 2024 (one online and three in person, two of which were in the fringe of other conferences). The working group took the final steps towards developing a relatively simple way to conduct a reliable prevalence measurement.

WADA invited Doping Authority Netherlands in 2023 to participate in the newly established Task Force on Unintentional Doping effective 1 January 2024. There were four meetings (three online and one in person) during which this broad topic was broken down into the various circumstances that can result in unintentional anti-doping rule violations. A plan was developed with the ultimate goal of making recommendations to minimise the risk of violations of this kind.

Council of Europe

The structural international activities of Doping Authority Netherlands are situated in the context of the Council of Europe. This involves, on the one hand, activities in the context of the Council of Europe's Anti-Doping Convention and, on the other hand, coordinating the positions

of the European representatives at WADA's board meetings. The latter is organised in the meetings of the [Ad hoc European Committee for the World Anti-Doping Agency](#) (CAHAMA). The CAHAMA mission is:

1. to examine the issues concerning relations between the Council of Europe, its Member States and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), and to decide on a common position, when possible, on these issues;
2. to draw up, if necessary, opinions for the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on these issues, including the budgetary elements;
3. to periodically revise the mandate of members of the WADA Foundation Board appointed by the Council of Europe.

The Head of the Legal Affairs department is chair of the Informal Group on Governmental Issues on the updating of the World Anti-Doping Program established by CAHAMA.

The COO of Doping Authority Netherlands chairs the Advisory Group on Education (T-DO ED). On the basis of that position, he is also a member of the Coordination Group (T-DO CG). The COO is also a member of the Ad Hoc Group of experts on recreational doping (T-DO ADRS). The group was established to help Member States to raise awareness with respect to the risks of doping in grassroots sports.

Institute for National Anti-Doping Organizations (iNADO)

Doping Authority Netherlands is an active member of iNADO. The main objectives of iNADO are: to support and strengthen the work of national anti-doping organisations, and to represent their members in the international domain.

Dutch Caribbean

Doping Authority Netherlands is the national doping authority of the BES Islands (Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba). In addition, Doping Authority Netherlands has contacts with Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten, countries in the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Work is taking place on widening access to educational materials, especially videos, by offering them in languages other than Dutch.

Of the three Caribbean countries in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Curaçao has its own NADO, C-NADO. Aruba does not have a NADO, but it does have a National Olympic Committee, Comité Olímpico Arubano, which serves as a NADO. Sint Maarten is the only one of the three countries without an operational NADO.

ERASMUS+ project

Doping Authority Netherlands was involved as a partner in one ERASMUS+ project in 2024: GLDF4CleanSport.

GLDF4CLEANSPOORT is a three-year project linked to WADA's Global Learning and Development Framework (GLDF) programme. The aim of the project is to improve the skills and competences of anti-doping professionals, as well as the effectiveness of anti-doping organisations. The project group consists of EOSE (European Observatoire of Sport and Employment), WADA, two international federations and five national anti-doping organisations (including Doping Authority Netherlands). One of the policy officers is participating in this project on behalf of Doping Authority Netherlands.

There were two online consultations with the full project group (in March and June) and a two-day meeting in Brøndby in October. There were also several online sessions looking at the topic of the Quality Assurance and Sustainability Plan.



10

People & organisation



People & organisation

Doping Authority Netherlands has six departments: Operations, Communications, Control, Education, Intelligence & Investigations and Legal Affairs. With the COO and the CEO, the six heads of department make up the Management Team. As at year-end 2024, the office organisation consisted of 35 people and a total of 33.72 FTEs.

Doping control officials

In addition to the office staff, there were 14 part-time doping control officials in 2024: nine men and five women. They have minimum-hour contracts, with a combined total of 4.07 FTEs.

Absenteeism

The absenteeism percentage was lower in 2024 than in 2023: staff were absent on 4.1% of working days (2023: 9.1%) These were mainly short absences.

In-House Emergency Services (BHV)

Doping Authority Netherlands has three in-house emergency response workers to maximise the probability of enough support being available when it is needed. There were no incidents in 2024.

Advisory Board

Doping Authority Netherlands has an Advisory Board that consisted of five persons in 2024 (see [Annex 2](#) for the members of the Board). The Board met on five occasions. In addition to discussing and commenting on the work of Doping Authority Netherlands on the basis of progress reports and other documents, the Board is required to make recommendations to the CEO of Doping Authority Netherlands.

Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee

One of the provisions in the doping regulations relates to the procedure for the use of prohibited medication. Doping Authority Netherlands has established, for the Dutch sports associations, a committee known as the Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee (TUE committee), which consists of independent doctors.

Compliance with Doping Sanctions Committee

The World Anti-Doping Code requires Doping Authority Netherlands to monitor compliance with sanctions imposed for doping. If there is any failure to comply with a sanction correctly, the same sanction begins again after the end of the original sanction. The Compliance with Doping Sanctions Committee determines whether there has been correct compliance with a sanction and whether there are any reasons to reduce a subsequent sanction.

No cases were submitted to the CND in 2024.

Consultations with the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

As an independent administrative authority, Doping Authority Netherlands participates in a range of specialist consultations organised by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport. They relate to matters such as operations, human resources, information security, general security, privacy and integrity.

Quality assurance

Doping Authority Netherlands is a government organisation covered by the National Code of Conduct for Integrity. The prevention of fraudulent activity is a constant focus of attention and a standing component of the annual performance interviews.

In addition to the standard procedures available to persons concerned pursuant to the Awb, Doping Authority Netherlands also has a Complaints Procedure. This procedure can be found on the corporate website. It was not used in 2024.

Informal complaints, errors, areas for improvement and data breaches are standard agenda items during the monthly Management Team meeting. Discussions of these matters are noted in the minutes of those meetings.



11

Annexes



Annex 1

Financial overview

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2024

Assets	2024 €		2023 €	
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets	124,633		72,442	
Current assets				
Stocks	47,012			
Receivables	213,461		155,947	
Cash at bank and in hand	555,752		819,061	
	816,225		975,008	
Total assets		940,858		1,047,450

Liabilities	2024 €		2023 €	
Net Equity				
Equalisation reserve	144,015		144,015	
Earmarked funds for doping controls	289,629		316,410	
	433,644		460,424	
Provisions	18,287		26,683	
Current liabilities				
Creditors	57,322		98,368	
Staff expenses	331,810		325,246	
Other accounts payable	99,796		136,730	
	488,928		560,344	
Total liabilities		940,858		1,047,450



Income statement for 2024

	Actual 2024 €		Budget 2024 €		Actual 2023 €	
Income		6,085,263		6,099,500		5,414,302
Activity and project expenses						
Expenses related directly to doping controls	1,258,818		2,057,000		1,297,811	
Expenses related directly to other statutory tasks	844,471		879,500		322,883	
Organisation expenses			3,163,000			
Staff expenses	3,191,618				2,901,793	
Other staff expenses	162,735				140,648	
Depreciation/amortisation	51,709				105,293	
Accommodation expenses	107,709				117,303	
Office expenses	390,405				342,877	
General expenses	151,461				145,241	
Total operating expenses		6,158,926		6,099,500		5,373,849
Balance of income and charges		-73,663		0		40,453
Financial income and charges -/-		46,882				21,014
Result		-26,781		0		61,467

Result appropriation	2024 €	2023 €
Equalisation reserve	0	30,734
Earmarked funds for doping controls	-26,781	30,734
	-26,781	61,467



Annex 2

Members of the Advisory Board and Committees (as at 31-12-2024)

Advisory Board

Harro Knijff	chair, legal affairs and audit position
Marc Benninga	medical affairs
Hans van der Pas	financial affairs
Saskia Sterk	laboratory matters
Hinkelien Schreuder	athletes' interests

Therapeutic Use Exemption

Athletes Committee (TUE committee)

Marjon van Eijdsden-Besseling	
Edwin Goedhart	
Leo Heere	chair
Ed Hendriks	chair
Jan Hoogsteen	
Ivo van Outheusden	
Harry Koene	
Hans Jurgen Mager	
Huib Plemper	

Compliance with Doping Sanctions Committee (CND)

Dolf Segaar	chair
Diederik van Omme	
Dennis Koolaard	



Annex 3

Overview of presentations

Presentations

- Teitler S. and Pouw M. 'Doping & Dopingautoriteit'. VU-University Amsterdam: Sport en Recht, 16 January 2024
- Van der Horst J. 'Sport is te mooi voor doping'. Hogeschool van Rotterdam: chemie en criminaliteit, 27 February 2024
- Roijackers K. & Brakels J. 'Intelligence & Investigations Program Doping Authority Netherlands', 2024 SHIN Annual Meeting, Montreal (Canada) 31 May 2024
- Olijhoek M. & Meulenbroeks N. 'Use of performance-enhancing substances in Dutch e-sports'. Kennisevent Esports, Gaming & Gamification, Purmerend, 8 October 2024
- Van der Horst J. 'Sport is te mooi voor doping'. Avans Hogeschool: Minor in forensic research, 31 October 2024
- Van der Horst J. 'Clean Sport - Play True'. Utrecht University Pharmaceutical study association U.P.S.V. Unitas, 10 December 2024
- Van der Horst J. 'Sport is te mooi voor doping'. Hogeschool van Rotterdam: chemie en criminaliteit, 12 December 2024
- De Hon O. 'Doping Research in the Fight Against Doping'. Saarland University: International Master High Performance Sport (online), 18 December 2024

Annex 4

Secondary positions (as at 31-12-2024)

The secondary positions of the members of the Office Board are listed below.

Vincent Egbers

- Security officer at UEFA
- Member of the Sport & Integrity Steering Group, NOC*NSF
- Member of the Advisory Board of the War Graves Foundation

Erik Duiven

- Chair of the Council of Europe Anti-Doping Convention's Advisory Group on Education (T-DO ED)
- Member of the Council of Europe Anti-Doping Convention's Coordination Group (T-DO CG)
- Member of the Council of Europe Anti-Doping Convention's Ad Hoc Group of experts on anti-doping in recreational sport (T-DO ADRS)
- Member of the WADA Education Standing Committee
- Member of the WADA 2027 International Standard for Education Update Drafting Team

Astrid Krijgsman

- Team manager of M16-3 basketball association de Waterdragers

Olivier de Hon

- Olympic Stadium tour guide
- Member of WADA Working Group on Prevalence
- Member of WADA Unintentional Doping Taskforce
- Athletics trainer for AV'23 pupils

Martijn Musters

- Coach of amateur volleyball team (3rd division)
- Board member of the Tilburg Sports Council (advisory council of the municipality of Tilburg)

Steven Teitler

- Chair of the Informal Group on Governmental Issues on the updating of the World Anti-Doping Program

Annex 5

Abbreviations

ABP	Athlete Biological Passport
ADAMS	Anti-Doping Administration and Management System
ADKC	Anti-Doping Knowledge Center
ANP	Algemeen Nederlands Persbureau
AP	Dutch Personal Data Authority
APMU	Athlete Passport Management Unit
AWB	Dutch Administrative Law Act
BHV	Company Emergency Services
CAHAMA	The Ad Hoc European Committee for the World Anti-Doping Agency
CAS	Court of Arbitration for Sport
CND	Compliance with Doping Sanctions Committee
Code	World Anti-Doping Code
COO	Chief Operating Officer
DCO	Doping control official
EOSE	European Observatoire of Sport and Employment
ERAs	Erythropoietin Receptor Agonists
FIOD	Fiscal Intelligence and Investigation Department
FTE	Full-time equivalent
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
GHRF	Growth Hormone Releasing Factor
GLDF	Global Learning and Development Framework
IF	International Federation
IGJ	Dutch Health Care and Youth Inspectorate
iNADO	Institute for National Anti-Doping Organisations
IOC	International Olympic Committee
IOL	Impulse Open Learning Materials

IPC	International Paralympic Committee
ISR	Institute for Sports Law
ISRM	International Standard for Results Management
JBN	Dutch Judo Federation
KNVB	Royal Dutch Football Federation
KNWU	Royal Dutch Cycling Union
KNZB	Royal Dutch Swimming Association
NADO	National Anti-Doping Organisation
NDR	Dutch National Doping Regulations
NOC*NSF	National Olympic Committee*Dutch Sports Confederation
NPN	Nature and Health Products Netherlands
NTP	National Testing Pool
NVWA-IOD	Dutch Food and Commodities Authority – Intelligence and Investigations Service
NZVT	Dutch Safeguards System for Dietary Supplements in Elite Sport
OM	Dutch Department of Public Prosecutions
PWI	Programme for Value-free Information about doping
RTP	Registered Testing Pool
T-DO	The Monitoring Group of the Anti-Doping Convention
TDSSA	Technical Document Sport Specific Analysis
TUE	Therapeutic Use Exemption
VWS	Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport
WADA	World Anti-Doping Agency
Woo	Dutch Open Government Act
Wpg	Dutch Police Data Act
Wuab	Anti-Doping Policy Implementation Act
YOG	Youth Olympic Games
zbo	Independent administrative body

