

Alcohol Treatment in Ireland 2010 - 2016

Introduction

This is the updated bulletin from the **National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS)** on cases of treated problem alcohol use in Ireland from 2010 to 2016. In this seven-year period 53,763 cases were treated for **alcohol** as a main problem. The number of cases has plateaued in the last four years.

Overview 2016

In 2016, 7,643 cases were treated for **problem alcohol use**.

- Almost half (48.1%) were new cases, similar to previous years.
- The majority of cases were treated in outpatient facilities (52.4%), similar to previous years.

Polydrug use

- Almost one-fifth (17.4%) of those treated for problem alcohol use also reported polydrug use, similar to previous years.
- **Cannabis** was the most common additional drug used (57.7%) followed by **cocaine** (35.4%). **Cannabis**, while still the most common additional drug reported, has steadily declined since 2010 (68.5%).
- **Benzodiazepines** were the third most common additional drug reported among cases treated for problem alcohol use.
- The proportion of cases reporting **benzodiazepines** as an additional problem increased from 17.6% in 2010 to 28.6% in 2016.

Polydrug use continued

- The proportion of cases treated for problem alcohol use who reported **MDMA** as an additional problem drug dropped from 17.0% in 2010 to 7.5% in 2016.
- The proportion of cases who reported a **novel psychoactive substance (NPS)** as an additional problem peaked at 6.7% in 2010. The proportion dropped to a low of 1.2% in 2014, but has risen slightly since then to 2.3% in 2016.

Level of problem alcohol use

- Almost two thirds (64.9%) of *all* cases were classified as **alcohol dependent**.
- Three out of five (60.2%) *new* cases (those who have never been treated for problem alcohol use before) were classified as **alcohol dependent**.
- Almost three-quarters (72.7%) of cases classified as **alcohol dependent** were unemployed.
- Three in ten cases classified as **alcohol dependent** were aged 50 years or older.

Socio-demographics

- The **median age** of treated cases was 41 years, similar to previous years.
- Almost two thirds of cases were male (63.9%).
- Travellers represented 2.1% of cases.
- Over half (53.8%) of cases were **unemployed**.
- The proportion of cases who were **homeless** increased from 4.8% in 2010, to 8.0% in 2016.

NDTRS data

This bulletin presents **alcohol treatment data** from the NDTRS for the period 2010–2016.¹

In 2016 the NDTRS began the implementation of a new web-based data collection tool; this has significantly changed the way the NDTRS works and this transition may have impacted on the number of cases reported for 2016. While the number of cases reported for 2016 was similar to 2015, this may be an underestimation of the true numbers. However the trends remained consistent with those reported for 2009 to 2015.

Data in this bulletin supersedes all previously published data from NDTRS publications.

In the seven-year period a total of 53,763 cases were treated for problem alcohol use.^{2,3} The number of cases treated decreased from 8,033 in 2010 to 7,643 in 2016 (Table 1). The number of cases treated has remained relatively stable from 2013 to 2016.

The proportion of *new* cases presenting to treatment has decreased from 53.0% in 2010 to 48.1% in 2016. This represents a decline of 13.7% in the *number* of new cases treated. The number of previously treated cases during this time period has fluctuated over the reporting period.

Table 1 No. of cases with alcohol as a main problem, by treatment status, NDTRS 2010 to 2016

	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
Total	8033		8876		8609		7819		7760		7618		7643	
New Cases	4258	(53.0)	4645	(52.3)	4149	(48.2)	3708	(47.4)	3772	(48.6)	3553	(46.6)	3678	(48.1)
Previously Treated	3661	(45.6)	4110	(46.3)	4353	(50.6)	3932	(50.3)	3807	(49.1)	3948	(51.8)	3783	(49.5)
Treatment Status Unknown	114	(0.0)	121	(0.0)	107	(0.0)	179	(0.0)	181	(0.0)	117	(0.0)	182	(0.0)

Type of service provider

In 2016, over half (52.4%) of cases were treated in outpatient facilities similar to previous years (Table 2). Four out of every ten cases (39.2%) were treated in residential settings, again similar to previous years.

In 2016, 1.9% of cases were treated for problem alcohol use in prison, similar to previous years.

Currently the NDTRS does not collect data on alcohol treatment from General Practitioners.

Table 2 No. of cases in treatment with alcohol as a main problem, by type of service provider, NDTRS 2010 to 2016

	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
Total	8033		8876		8609		7819		7760		7618		7643	
Outpatient	4179	(52.0)	4635	(52.2)	4510	(52.4)	4221	(54.0)	4133	(53.3)	4018	(52.7)	4005	(52.4)
Inpatient*	3227	(40.2)	3378	(38.1)	3309	(38.4)	2809	(36.0)	2803	(36.1)	2916	(38.3)	2994	(39.2)
Low threshold	460	(6.0)	591	(7.0)	519	(6.0)	521	(7.0)	605	(8.0)	480	(6.0)	495	(6.0)
Prison	167	(2.0)	272	(3.0)	271	(3.0)	268	(3.0)	219	(3.0)	204	(3.0)	149	(1.9)

* Includes any service where the client stays overnight e.g. in-patient detoxification, therapeutic communities, respite and step down

Incidence and prevalence of treatment

Annual rates for the incidence (new cases) and prevalence (all cases) of treated problem alcohol use were calculated per 100,000 of the population age 15 to 64 years based on census figures from the CSO⁴ (Figure 1).

Incidence has decreased from 132.4 cases per 100,000 in 2010, to 112.0 cases in 2016.

Prevalence, which includes both new cases and those cases returning to treatment, also decreased, from 250.6 cases per 100,000 in 2010 to 232.8 cases per 100,000 in 2016.

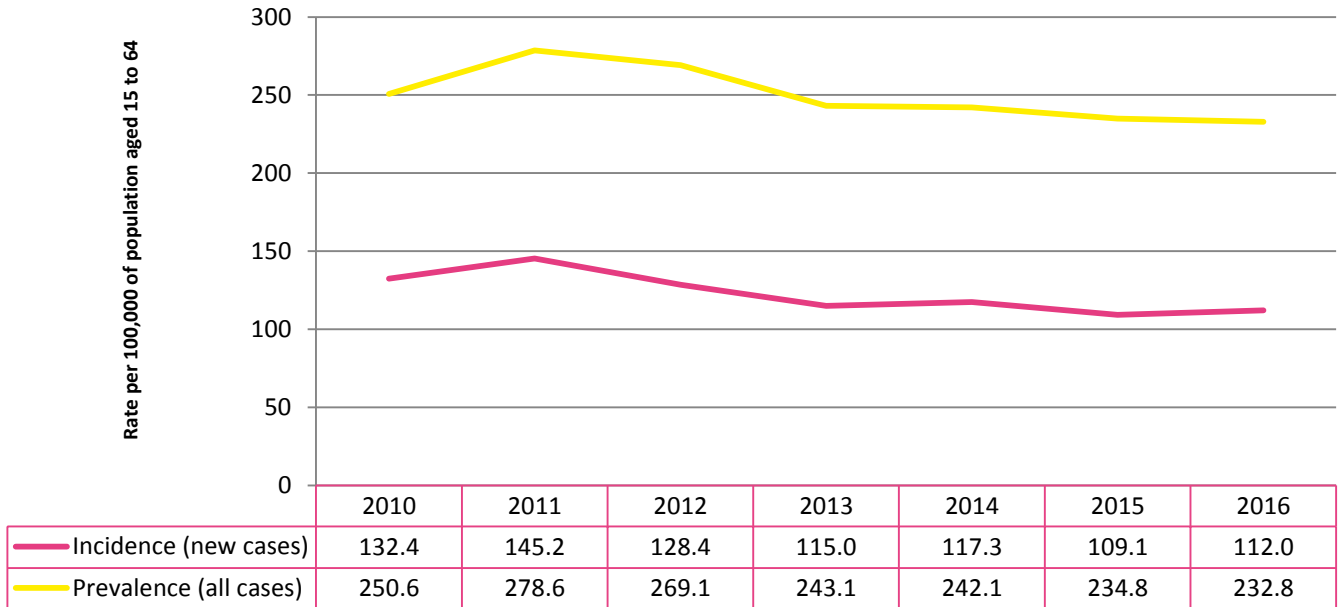


Figure 1 Incidence and prevalence of treated problem alcohol use, per 100,000 of the 15-64 year-old population, NDTRS 2010 to 2016

Polydrug use

In 2016, 17.4% of problem alcohol users reported **problem use of more than one drug** (polydrug use) (Table 3). This proportion has remained similar over the reporting period.

Cannabis (57.7%) was the most common additional drug reported by problem alcohol users in 2016, followed by **cocaine** (35.4%) and then **benzodiazepines** (28.6%). The proportion of cases reporting benzodiazepines has increased from 17.6% in 2010 to 28.6% in 2016.

Conversely the proportion of cases reporting cannabis has declined from 68.5% in 2010 to 57.7% in 2016. In the same period the proportion of cases treated for problem alcohol use who reported MDMA as an additional problem drug decreased from 17.0% in 2010 to 7.5% in 2016.

In 2010, the proportion of cases who reported a **novel psychoactive substance (NPS)** as an additional problem peaked at 6.7%. After which the proportion decreased to a low of 1.2% in 2014. Since then there has been a slight increase year on year to 2.3% in 2016.

Table 3 Polydrug use in cases treated for problem alcohol user, NDTRS 2010 to 2016

	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
Total	8033		8876		8609		7819		7760		7618		7643	
Reported one drug only	6568	(81.8)	7187	(81.0)	6999	(81.3)	6258	(80.0)	6252	(80.6)	6196	(81.3)	6315	(82.6)
Reported two or more drugs	1465	(18.2)	1689	(19.0)	1610	(18.7)	1561	(20.0)	1508	(19.4)	1422	(18.7)	1328	(17.4)

Table 4 Polydrug use - additional problem drugs: all cases and new cases, NDTRS 2010 to 2016

	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
All cases	1465		1689		1610		1561		1508		1422		1328	
Cannabis	1003	(68.5)	1149	(68.0)	1057	(65.7)	1008	(64.6)	953	(63.2)	852	(59.9)	766	(57.7)
Cocaine	462	(31.5)	486	(28.8)	453	(28.1)	458	(29.3)	426	(28.2)	462	(32.5)	470	(35.4)
Benzodiazepines	258	(17.6)	378	(22.4)	419	(26.0)	424	(27.2)	421	(27.9)	357	(25.1)	380	(28.6)
Opiates	158	(10.8)	232	(13.7)	251	(15.6)	236	(15.1)	230	(15.3)	200	(14.1)	202	(15.2)
MDMA	249	(17.0)	232	(13.7)	227	(14.1)	187	(12.0)	173	(11.5)	142	(10.0)	99	(7.5)
Amphetamines	79	(5.4)	72	(4.3)	68	(4.2)	87	(5.6)	57	(3.8)	66	(4.6)	51	(3.8)
Z Drugs	10	(0.7)	17	(1.0)	40	(2.5)	40	(2.6)	38	(2.5)	39	(2.7)	33	(2.5)
Other	56	(3.8)	49	(2.9)	50	(3.1)	46	(2.9)	48	(3.2)	27	(1.9)	38	(2.9)
NPS	98	(6.7)	78	(4.6)	50	(3.1)	27	(1.7)	18	(1.2)	27	(1.9)	30	(2.3)
Volatile Inhalants	14	(1.0)	12	(0.7)	10	(0.6)	8	(0.5)	7	(0.5)	~	~	5	(0.4)
New cases	767		800		723		695		678		625		593	
Cannabis	543	(70.8)	576	(72.0)	496	(68.6)	473	(68.1)	442	(65.2)	385	(61.6)	340	(57.3)
Cocaine	247	(32.2)	229	(28.6)	204	(28.2)	199	(28.6)	201	(29.6)	225	(36.0)	221	(37.3)
Benzodiazepines	119	(15.5)	145	(18.1)	153	(21.2)	139	(20.0)	158	(23.3)	109	(17.4)	149	(25.1)
MDMA	122	(15.9)	118	(14.8)	101	(14.0)	90	(12.9)	84	(12.4)	72	(11.5)	57	(9.6)
Opiates	61	(8.0)	84	(10.5)	78	(10.8)	61	(8.8)	75	(11.1)	50	(8.0)	62	(10.5)
Amphetamines	36	(4.7)	25	(3.1)	29	(4.0)	39	(5.6)	21	(3.1)	28	(4.5)	19	(3.2)
NPS	65	(8.5)	27	(3.4)	19	(2.6)	12	(1.7)	~	~	14	(2.2)	10	(1.7)
Z Drugs	~	~	10	(1.3)	12	(1.7)	11	(1.6)	13	(1.9)	9	(1.4)	7	(1.2)
Other	23	(3.0)	25	(3.1)	18	(2.5)	18	(2.6)	21	(3.1)	10	(1.6)	18	(3.0)
Volatile inhalants	7	(0.9)	5	(0.6)	7	(1.0)	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~

~ Less than 5 cases

Level of problem alcohol use

In 2016, half of cases in treatment for problem alcohol use **commenced drinking alcohol** at or before the age of 16 years (Table 5). This trend has remained unchanged over the seven year period.

Over the period, the majority of those (64.9%) who were treated were classified as **alcohol dependent** (by the health care professional treating them). The proportion of cases classified as dependent has remained steady at approximately 3 out of 5 cases.

In 2016, the majority (60.2%) of *new* cases (those who have never been treated for problem alcohol use before) were also classified as alcohol dependent.

Hazardous: a pattern of alcohol use that increases the risk of harmful consequences for the user. The term describes drinking over the recommended limits by a person who has no apparent alcohol-related health problems. Includes experimental drinking. [AUDIT score 8 – 15: Increasing risk]

Harmful: a pattern of use that results in damage to physical or mental health; can include negative social consequences. [AUDIT score 16 – 19: High risk]

Dependent: a cluster of behavioural, cognitive, and physiological symptoms. Typically, includes a strong desire to consume alcohol, impaired control over its use, persistent drinking despite harmful consequences, a higher priority given to drinking than to other activities and obligations, increased alcohol tolerance. Also notably a physical withdrawal reaction when alcohol use is discontinued. [AUDIT score 20+: Possible dependence]

Table 5 Age first started drinking and level of problem alcohol use, NDTRS 2010 to 2016

	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
All cases	8033		8876		8609		7819		7760		7618		7643	
Median age first started drinking (range)	15	12-22	15	12-22	15	12-22	15	11-22	16	12-22	16	12-22	16	12-22
<i>Level of problem alcohol use*</i>														
Hazardous	1424	(17.7)	1570	(17.7)	964	(11.2)	872	(11.2)	851	(11.0)	673	(8.8)	748	(9.8)
Harmful	1321	(16.4)	1493	(16.8)	1544	(17.9)	1483	(19.0)	1417	(18.3)	1396	(18.3)	1279	(16.7)
Dependent	5078	(63.2)	5215	(58.8)	4794	(55.7)	4450	(56.9)	4644	(59.8)	4719	(62.0)	4957	(64.9)
New Cases	4258		4645		4149		3708		3772		3553		3678	
Median age first started drinking (range)	16	12-22	16	12-22	16	12-22	16	12-21	16	12-22	16	12-22	16	12-22
<i>Level of problem alcohol use*</i>														
Hazardous	976	(22.9)	1067	(23.0)	654	(15.8)	573	(15.5)	494	(13.1)	370	(10.4)	426	(11.6)
Harmful	829	(19.5)	1000	(21.5)	956	(23.0)	911	(24.6)	858	(22.7)	802	(22.6)	731	(19.9)
Dependent	2362	(55.5)	2337	(50.3)	2010	(48.4)	1881	(50.7)	2008	(53.2)	2026	(57.0)	2212	(60.2)
Previously Treated	3661		4110		4353		3932		3807		3948		3783	
Median age first started drinking (range)	15	11-22	15	11-21	15	11-22	15	11-22	15	11-23	15	12-22	15	12-22
<i>Level of problem alcohol use*</i>														
Hazardous	433	(11.8)	489	(11.9)	292	(6.7)	284	(7.2)	324	(8.5)	285	(7.2)	300	(7.9)
Harmful	472	(12.9)	480	(11.7)	571	(13.1)	544	(13.8)	543	(14.3)	572	(14.5)	515	(13.6)
Dependent	2647	(72.3)	2799	(68.1)	2723	(62.6)	2528	(64.3)	2537	(66.6)	2633	(66.7)	2649	(70.0)
Treatment status unknown	114		121		107		179		181		117		182	

* Where recorded. Proportion of cases where level of alcohol use is not known is not shown in the table

Sociodemographic characteristics

The **median age** of treated cases increased over the seven year period, from 39 years in 2010 to 41 years in 2016 (Table 6). In 2016, the proportion of cases **aged under 18 years** (2.4%) was highest among new cases. However this has decreased from a peak of 6.4% in 2010. The majority of cases in 2016 were **male** (63.9%), similar to previous years.

The proportion of cases who were **homeless** increased from 4.8% in 2010 to 8.0% in 2016.

In 2016, 2.1% of cases identified as Travellers. The proportion of Travellers in the general population is 0.7% (2016 Census).⁵

In 2016, 23.7% of cases reported ceasing education (for the first time) before the age of 16 years, a slight drop on previous years.

Unemployment rates have not decreased notably over the reporting period. In 2016, over half (53.8%) of cases were **unemployed**. Unemployment rates were higher among previously treated cases compared to new cases.

Table 6 Socio-demographic characteristics of cases treated for problem alcohol use, NDTRS 2010 to 2016

	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
All cases	8033		8876		8609		7819		7760		7618		7643	
Median age (range)	39	18-62	38	18-61	40	19-63	40	19-64	40	20-63	41	21-64	41	21-64
Under 18	344	(4.3)	335	(3.8)	285	(3.3)	220	(2.8)	163	(2.1)	103	(1.4)	124	(1.6)
Male	5275	(65.7)	5942	(66.9)	5671	(65.9)	5072	(64.9)	4966	(64.0)	4959	(65.1)	4884	(63.9)
Homeless	385	(4.8)	549	(6.2)	484	(5.6)	507	(6.5)	494	(6.4)	570	(7.5)	613	(8.0)
Traveller	136	(1.7)	142	(1.6)	178	(2.1)	144	(1.8)	208	(2.7)	141	(1.9)	161	(2.1)
Education ceased before 16 yrs	2036	(25.3)	2334	(26.3)	2357	(27.4)	2066	(26.4)	1991	(25.7)	1964	(25.8)	1808	(23.7)
Employed	1780	(22.2)	1777	(20.0)	1647	(19.1)	1545	(19.8)	1628	(21.0)	1724	(22.6)	1889	(24.7)
Unemployed	4319	(53.8)	4943	(55.7)	4787	(55.6)	4356	(55.7)	4377	(56.4)	4213	(55.3)	4110	(53.8)
Retired/unable to work including disability	803	(10.0)	1056	(11.9)	1141	(13.3)	986	(12.6)	912	(11.8)	925	(12.1)	964	(12.6)
New Cases	4258		4645		4149		3708		3772		3553		3678	
Median age (range)	36	17-61	36	17-61	37	17-63	37	18-62	38	19-63	39	20-64	40	20-64
Under 18	273	(6.4)	255	(5.5)	213	(5.1)	176	(4.7)	125	(3.3)	83	(2.3)	87	(2.4)
Male	2808	(65.9)	3077	(66.2)	2667	(64.3)	2368	(63.9)	2420	(64.2)	2279	(64.1)	2290	(62.3)
Homeless	105	(2.5)	175	(3.8)	124	(3.0)	154	(4.2)	156	(4.1)	148	(4.2)	160	(4.4)
Traveller	74	(1.7)	90	(1.9)	102	(2.5)	73	(2.0)	104	(2.8)	60	(1.7)	78	(2.1)
Education ceased before 16 yrs	973	(22.9)	1120	(24.1)	1061	(25.6)	902	(24.3)	882	(23.4)	815	(22.9)	768	(20.9)
Employed	1124	(26.4)	1082	(23.3)	986	(23.8)	949	(25.6)	962	(25.5)	1014	(28.5)	1176	(32.0)
Unemployed	2070	(48.6)	2351	(50.6)	2036	(49.1)	1772	(47.8)	1916	(50.8)	1725	(48.6)	1690	(45.9)
Retired/unable to work including disability	353	(8.3)	514	(11.1)	517	(12.5)	451	(12.2)	410	(10.9)	384	(10.8)	404	(11.0)
Previously Treated	3661		4110		4353		3932		3807		3948		3783	
Median age (range)	41	20-62	41	20-62	41	20-62	41	21-64	41	22-63	42	23-64	42	24-64
Under 18	62	(1.7)	78	(1.9)	70	(1.6)	42	(1.1)	33	(0.9)	19	(0.5)	20	(0.5)
Male	2390	(65.3)	2780	(67.6)	2925	(67.2)	2570	(65.4)	2420	(63.6)	2597	(65.8)	2480	(65.6)
Homeless	268	(7.3)	352	(8.6)	356	(8.2)	342	(8.7)	325	(8.5)	403	(10.2)	433	(11.4)
Traveller	56	(1.5)	49	(1.2)	73	(1.7)	69	(1.8)	96	(2.5)	77	(2.0)	70	(1.9)
Education ceased before 16 yrs	1039	(28.4)	1186	(28.9)	1273	(29.3)	1129	(28.7)	1072	(28.2)	1123	(28.5)	1003	(26.5)
Employed	630	(17.2)	669	(16.3)	642	(14.8)	570	(14.5)	638	(16.8)	688	(17.4)	674	(17.8)
Unemployed	2198	(60.0)	2522	(61.4)	2700	(62.1)	2485	(63.2)	2357	(61.9)	2421	(61.4)	2331	(61.6)
Retired/unable to work including disability	437	(11.9)	528	(12.8)	600	(13.8)	513	(13.1)	482	(12.7)	527	(13.4)	540	(14.3)
Treatment status unknown	99		112		92		161		159		99		182	

Focus on cases classified as alcohol dependent

This section focuses on the sociodemographic characteristics of cases classified as alcohol dependent (Table 7).

Three in ten cases (30.8%) in 2016 were aged 50 years or older. The number of new cases for this group has risen from 23.8% in 2010 to 29.6% in 2016. In 2016, two-thirds (65.0%) of cases were male, similar to previous years. Those identifying as Traveller accounted for 1.7% of dependent drinkers in 2016.

In 2016, 24.3% of *all* cases reported ceasing education (for the first time) before 16 years of age. This rose to 27.1% for *previously treated* cases classed as alcohol dependent.

In 2016, almost three-quarters (72.7%) of cases classified as alcohol dependent were unemployed. The proportion of unemployed cases in this group is higher than in the overall figures (53.8%). Cases who were *previously treated* had higher levels of unemployment (80.1%) compared to new cases.

Homelessness among those classified as dependent drinkers who have been *previously treated* has risen from 7.2% in 2010 to 11.2% in 2016.

Table 7 Socio-demographic characteristics of cases classified as dependent drinkers, NDTRS 2010 to 2016

	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
All cases	5078		5215		4796		4452		4644		4720		4957	
Over 50	1377	(27.1)	1342	(25.7)	1369	(28.5)	1244	(27.9)	1317	(28.4)	1394	(29.5)	1528	(30.8)
Male	3332	(65.6)	3417	(65.5)	3079	(64.2)	2842	(63.8)	2983	(64.2)	3095	(65.6)	3320	(65.0)
Traveller	57	(1.1)	72	(1.4)	85	(1.8)	77	(1.7)	100	(2.2)	72	(1.5)	84	(1.7)
Education ceased before 16	1365	(26.9)	1420	(27.2)	1318	(27.5)	1225	(27.5)	1182	(25.5)	1262	(26.7)	1205	(24.3)
Unemployed	3685	(74.8)	3934	(77.7)	3544	(76.5)	3299	(77.2)	3365	(75.5)	3307	(73.4)	3432	(72.7)
Homeless	245	(4.8)	362	(6.9)	275	(5.7)	328	(7.4)	325	(7.0)	348	(7.4)	384	(7.5)
New Cases	2362		2337		2010		1881		2008		2026		2212	
Over 50	563	(23.8)	562	(24.0)	531	(26.4)	474	(25.2)	553	(27.5)	585	(28.9)	654	(29.6)
Male	1564	(66.2)	1527	(65.3)	1258	(62.6)	1198	(63.7)	1297	(64.6)	1323	(65.3)	1398	(63.2)
Traveller	24	(1.0)	34	(1.5)	38	(1.9)	31	(1.6)	40	(2.0)	22	(1.1)	38	(1.7)
Education ceased before 16	592	(25.1)	613	(26.2)	536	(26.7)	499	(26.5)	467	(23.3)	469	(23.1)	463	(20.9)
Unemployed	1561	(68.2)	1644	(72.5)	1353	(69.6)	1263	(69.8)	1319	(68.6)	1260	(65.2)	1342	(63.8)
Homeless	55	(2.3)	100	(4.3)	49	(2.4)	92	(4.9)	88	(4.4)	76	(3.8)	87	(3.9)
Previously Treated	2647		2799		2725		2530		2537		2634		2649	
Over 50	796	(30.1)	765	(27.3)	821	(30.1)	761	(30.1)	735	(29.0)	797	(30.3)	856	(32.3)
Male	1721	(65.0)	1832	(65.5)	1776	(65.2)	1612	(63.7)	1617	(63.7)	1732	(65.8)	1760	(66.4)
Traveller	33	(1.2)	37	(1.3)	45	(1.7)	45	(1.8)	57	(2.2)	48	(1.8)	44	(1.7)
Education ceased before 16	762	(28.8)	788	(28.2)	769	(28.2)	718	(28.4)	697	(27.5)	778	(29.5)	717	(27.1)
Unemployed	2081	(81.0)	2228	(81.9)	2146	(81.6)	2006	(82.8)	1974	(80.9)	2006	(79.7)	2020	(80.1)
Homeless	190	(7.2)	262	(9.4)	226	(8.3)	236	(9.3)	237	(9.3)	272	(10.3)	297	(11.2)
Treatment status unknown	69		79		61		41		99		60		96	

Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) area of residence*

In 2016, the highest number of **cases resided** in CHO 4 (Table 8). The number of cases fluctuated for all CHOs over the period but by 2016, 5 out of 9 CHOs reported an increase in number of cases treated for problem alcohol use.

It should be noted however, that poor levels of participation in the NDTRS by some alcohol services in some CHOs affects this geographic analysis.

Table 8: No. of cases treated for problem alcohol use, by CHO area of residence, NDTRS 2010 to 2016

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
All cases	8033	8876	8609	7819	7760	7618	7643
CHO 1	1213	1135	1290	864	765	870	945
CHO 2	460	502	484	449	400	430	452
CHO 3	543	494	391	456	504	489	507
CHO 4	1555	1784	1675	1613	1617	1365	1411
CHO 5	1528	1815	1667	1413	1311	1349	1264
CHO 6	270	284	255	318	345	314	245
CHO 7	1002	1014	1079	1028	976	873	800
CHO 8	640	942	961	844	971	880	856
CHO 9	670	730	585	673	707	852	912
Other/unknown	152	176	222	161	164	196	251
New cases	4258	4645	4149	3708	3772	3553	3478
CHO 1	624	595	616	462	402	430	487
CHO 2	240	246	217	209	198	188	227
CHO 3	275	228	171	190	248	247	256
CHO 4	795	909	872	770	749	646	694
CHO 5	831	963	848	672	624	619	586
CHO 6	147	142	109	150	183	154	108
CHO 7	552	588	504	485	445	383	360
CHO 8	359	543	475	436	533	440	435
CHO 9	383	361	271	278	335	379	427
Other/unknown	52	70	66	56	55	67	98
Previously Treated	3661	4110	4353	3932	3807	3948	3783
CHO 1	583	537	663	399	359	431	434
CHO 2	213	253	266	237	198	240	218
CHO 3	262	257	216	235	238	236	247
CHO 4	749	863	795	812	846	710	690
CHO 5	688	832	808	730	675	723	661
CHO 6	109	126	136	155	147	150	127
CHO 7	425	409	553	521	488	468	412
CHO 8	273	386	467	376	405	427	411
CHO 9	272	358	297	367	350	445	447
Other/unknown	87	89	152	100	101	118	136

***Explanation of Community Healthcare Organisation areas**

CHO 1 – Donegal LHO, Sligo/Leitrim/West Clare LHO and Cavan/Monaghan LHO

CHO 2 – Galway LHO, Roscommon and Mayo LHO

CHO 3 – Clare LHO, Limerick LHO, North Tipperary/East Limerick LHO

CHO 4 – Kerry LHO, North Cork LHO, North Lee LHO, South Lee LHO and West Cork LHO

CHO 5 – South Tipperary LHO, Carlow/Kilkenny LHO, Waterford LHO and Wexford LHO

CHO 6 – Wicklow LHO, Dun Laoghaire LHO and Dublin South East LHO

CHO 7 – Kildare/West Wicklow LHO, Dublin West LHO, Dublin South City LHO and Dublin South West LHO

CHO 8 – Laois/Offaly LHO, Longford/Westmeath LHO, Louth LHO and Meath LHO

CHO 9 – Dublin North LHO, Dublin North Central LHO and Dublin North West LHO

References

This document may be cited as: Health Research Board (2018) National Drug Treatment Reporting System 2010 to 2016 data – Alcohol Treatment. Available at: www.drugsandalcohol.ie/28985

1. More detailed information on the NDTRS methodology can be found in previously published HRB Trends Series papers at <http://www.hrb.ie/data-collections-evidence/alcohol-and-drug-treatment/publications/>
2. The NDTRS interactive tables (2004 to 2016) will be updated to reflect the changes at <http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/key-info/>.
3. The NDTRS make every attempt to ensure as complete coverage of services as possible, however the number of services participating in the reporting system does vary year to year. This makes small fluctuations in the numbers of cases more difficult to interpret
4. Population data is taken from the Central Statistics Office at [http://www.cso.ie/px/pxeirestat/Database/eirestat/Annual%20Population%20Estimates/Annual%20Population%20Estimates_statbank.asp?SP=Annual Population Estimates&Planguage=0](http://www.cso.ie/px/pxeirestat/Database/eirestat/Annual%20Population%20Estimates/Annual%20Population%20Estimates_statbank.asp?SP=Annual%20Population%20Estimates&Planguage=0)
5. Data on ethnicity is taken from the 2016 Census from the CSO at <https://cso.ie/en/media/csoie/newsevents/documents/pressreleases/2017/prCensussummarypart1.pdf>

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