

2024 | Alcohol treatment demand in Ireland

Alcohol treatment demand

Total number of cases treated

8,745



44%
new cases



53%
previously treated cases

Breakdown by gender



62%
Male

38%
Female

Characteristics



43+
median age



8%
homeless



35%
employed

Alcohol dependent

56% All cases



52%
new cases



61%
previously treated cases

Polydrug use



30%
of cases use other drugs with alcohol



1st
alcohol plus cocaine



2nd
alcohol plus cannabis



3rd
alcohol plus cocaine and cannabis

Polydrug problem drug by age



19 years or younger
cannabis



20–49 years
cocaine



50 years or older
cannabis

Gender

Female



– **44** +

median
age



54%
alcohol
dependent



14
standard drinks
in a day



22%
polydrug
use



5%
homeless

Male



– **42** +

median
age



57%
alcohol
dependent



16
standard drinks
in a day



34%
polydrug
use



10%
homeless

The HSE low risk drinking guidelines for females is up to 11 standard drinks in a week and up to 17 standard drinks in a week for males with drinks spaced out over the week, with two to three alcohol free days per week.

<https://www2.hse.ie/living-well/alcohol/health/improve-your-health/weekly-low-risk-alcohol-guidelines/>

Need Advice

If you have any concerns regarding alcohol or other drugs
please visit www.drugs.ie or call 1800 459 459