

Alcohol and other drugs data factsheet: HSE health regions 2026

April 2026

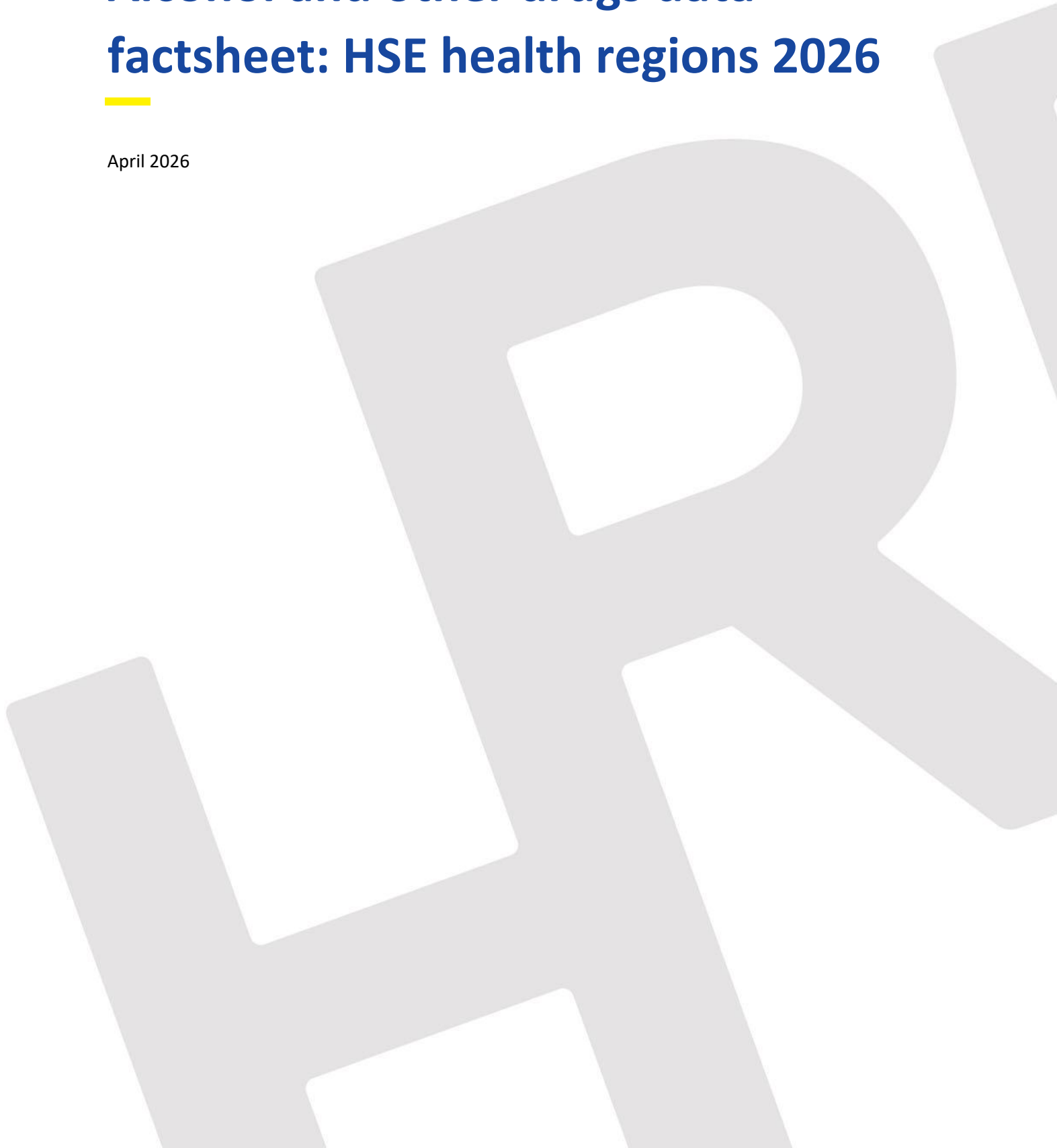


Table of contents

Glossary of terms.....	1
List of tables	2
Introduction	3
Treatment data for HSE health region areas	4
Data from the National Drug Treatment Reporting System	4
National Psychiatric Inpatient Reporting System (NPIRS)	6
HSE data management key performance indicators.....	6
Use of drugs in HSE health region areas.....	8
Data from the problematic opioid use in Ireland report.....	8
Drug poisoning deaths for HSE health region areas	9
References	10

Glossary of terms

The **Capture-Recapture** method utilises data on drug users identified from two or more sources, such as hospital admissions, methadone registers, police, prison or treatment agency data to estimate drug prevalence. The method examines the overlap between sources and uses modelling techniques to provide an estimate of the hidden population, that is, those not identified from the available sources. For more information see [European Drugs Agency](#).

Central Treatment List (CTL), a register of the number of people who are receiving methadone or another opioid as a substitute drug treatment, (clinics, general practitioners and prisons), maintained by the Health Service Executive.

Confidence interval (CI) – A way of expressing how certain we are about the findings from a study, using statistics. It gives a range of results that is likely to include the 'true' value for the population. A wide confidence interval (CI) indicates a lack of certainty about the true effect of the test or treatment - often because a small group of patients has been studied. A narrow CI indicates a more precise estimate (for example, if a large number of patients have been studied). The CI is usually stated as '95% CI', which means that the range of values has a 95 in a 100 chance of including the 'true' value. For example, a study may state that 'based on our sample findings, we are 95% certain that the 'true' population blood pressure is not higher than 150 and not lower than 110'. In such a case the 95% CI would be 110 to 150. (From the [NICE glossary](#))

HSE health regions - The Health Service Executive (HSE) remains a single organisation with six health regions. Services will integrate across hospitals and community organisations in these health regions. The six operational regions have responsibility for the planning and coordinated delivery of health and social care services within their respective defined geographies. Note that health regions are not separate statutory bodies. They will use the HSE logo and operate under the governance of the HSE Board. The regions management structure will replace existing Community Healthcare Organisations (CHO) and Hospital Group management structures. HSE national will oversee standards, and guidelines for implementation at regional level.

Prevalence – refers to the proportion of a population that has used a drug over a particular time period.

List of tables

Table 1: Number of cases treated for drugs (excluding alcohol) as a main problem, by HSE health region and year, NDTRS 2017–2024.....	4
Table 2: Number of new cases treated for drugs (excluding alcohol) as a main problem, by HSE health region and year, NDTRS 2017–2024.....	5
Table 3: Number of previously treated cases treated for drugs (excluding alcohol) as a main problem, by HSE health region and year, NDTRS 2017–2024.....	5
Table 4: Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem by RHA of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2024	5
Table 5: Number of new cases treated for alcohol as a main problem by RHA of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2024	5
Table 6: Number of previously treated cases treated for alcohol as a main problem by RHA of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2024	5
Table 7: All admissions to psychiatric hospitals and units by primary admission diagnosis, 2024 by HSE health regions	6
Table 8: First admissions to psychiatric hospitals and units by primary admission diagnosis, 2024 by HSE health regions	6
Table 9: Discharges (including deaths) from psychiatric hospitals and units by primary discharge diagnosis, 2024 by HSE health regions.....	6
Table 10: HSE Needle exchange KPI data, target/expected activity and activity, year to date (YTD), HSE Dublin & Midlands, December 2025 report.....	7
Table 11: HSE Homeless services KPI data, target/expected activity and activity, year to date (YTD), National and RHA areas, December 2025 report.....	7
Table 12: HSE Substance use and opioid agonist treatment services KPI data, target/expected activity and activity, year to date (YTD), National and RHA areas, December 2025 report.....	7
Table 13: HSE Problem alcohol use services KPI data, target/expected activity and activity, year to date (YTD), National and RHA areas, December 2025 report.....	7
Table 14: HSE tobacco key performance indicator data, target/expected activity and activity, year to date (YTD), National and RHA areas, December 2025 report.....	8
Table 15: Summary of the known number of problematic opioid users, by RHA aged 15–64 years (2022)	8
Table 16: Proportion of problematic opioid users, by RHA and age group (2022)	8
Table 17: Estimates of the number and rate per 1,000 population of problematic opioid users aged	8
15–24 years, by RHA (2022)	9
Table 18: Estimates of the number and rate per 1,000 population of problematic opioid users aged	9
25–34 years, by RHA (2022)	9
Table 19: Estimates of the number and rate per 1,000 population of problematic opioid users aged	9
35–64 years, by RHA (2022)	9
Table 20: Number of drug poisoning deaths by HSE health region of incident, NDRDI 2013 to 2022, number and percentage ..	9
Table 21: Number of drug poisoning deaths by HSE health region of residence, NDRDI 2013 to 2022, number and percentage	10
Table 22: Deaths among people who were homeless by HSE health regions of incident, 2019 to 2021, number and percentage	10

Introduction

This factsheet presents the most recently available alcohol and other drug data on treatment demand, general population prevalence, and opioid prevalence analysed by regional health area in Ireland.

We include some alcohol data in this publication. Please also see the 2024 factsheet [Alcohol-related harm: HSE Regional Health Areas](#) and the [Alcohol Statistics Dashboard](#) which contains additional information.

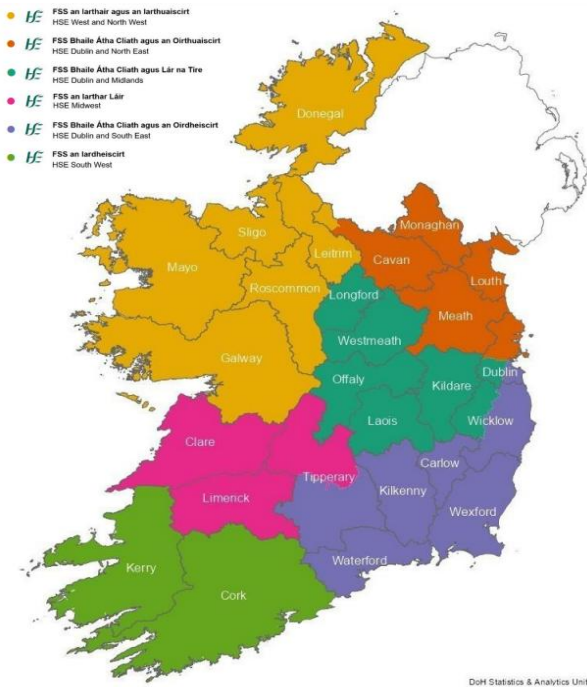
Sláintecare is the Irish Government's 10-year programme for transforming how healthcare is delivered in Ireland.¹ It aims to give equal access to services, with a vision of a universal health service, under the banner of Right Care, Right Place, Right Time. Part of this process is the creation of new healthcare areas that are based on population data, including on how people currently access services, in addition to being informed by a public consultation. There are six HSE health regions (see Box 1). This is a change from previous reporting of data by nine community healthcare organisations (CHOs).¹

As the six regions each serve large populations, it is recognised that a sub-structure within each region will be required and must be designed from the ground up. It is currently proposed that these sub-structures will be called Integrated Health Areas (IHAs). They will serve a population of up to 300,000, will take account of varying geographies, population size, local needs, and services. The existing 96 Community Healthcare Networks (CHNs) and the Community Specialist Teams (CSTs) will act as the building blocks of integrated service delivery.

The 6 health regions cover the following areas:

- HSE Dublin and North East: North Dublin, Meath, Louth, Cavan, and Monaghan
- HSE Dublin and Midlands: Longford, Westmeath, Offaly, Laois, Kildare, and parts of Dublin South and Wicklow
- HSE Dublin and South East: Tipperary South, Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford, Wicklow, part of South Dublin
- HSE Mid West: Limerick, Tipperary and Clare
- HSE South West: Kerry and Cork
- HSE West and North West: Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon, Mayo, and Galway

¹ For further information on Sláintecare, visit: <https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/slaintecare-implementation-strategy/>



Source: Department of Health (2023) [Organisational reform: HSE health regions. Implementation plan](#). Dublin: Government of Ireland.

Note: West county Wicklow continues to be aligned with Kildare for health services, and a small portion of west county Cavan continues to be aligned with Sligo/Leitrim for health services, in recognition of existing patient flow patterns.

Treatment data for HSE health region areas

Data from the National Drug Treatment Reporting System

The data are drawn from the [National Drug Treatment Reporting System \(NDTRS\)](#)^{2,3} which is the national database that records and reports on treated problem alcohol and drug use in Ireland. Treatment is provided by statutory and non-statutory services, including residential centres, community-based addiction services, general practices, and prison services. The dataset contains information only on those who started treatment in a particular year (for the first time or returning to treatment). It does not include service users in continuous care. As there is currently no national system-wide unique identifier in the Irish health system, the NDTRS records cases of treatment. In any given year, individuals may appear more than once if treated in different centres or if they return to treatment in the same centre. NDTRS data were analysed using HSE health regions to describe the national treatment data based on where the client resided in the 30 days prior to treatment. Data are published in [annual bulletins](#) and can be viewed in interactive tables on the [HRB National Drugs Library website](#); see also our [Addiction Treatment Services map](#) for services in this region.

Note: As participation in the NDTRS is not uniform across the country, conclusions based on geographic analyses are limited. Also, treatment figures in 2020 were impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Tables 1 to 3 provide data for the number of cases who entered treatment for drugs (excluding alcohol) each year in Ireland and by HSE Regional Health Area showing all cases, new cases (never treated before) and previously treated cases.

Table 1: Number of cases treated for drugs (excluding alcohol) as a main problem, by HSE health region and year, NDTRS 2017–2024

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
All cases	8,922	10,274	10,664	9702	10,769	12,009	13,104	13,295
HSE Dublin and North East	2,462	3,006	2,980	2,825	3,517	4,026	4,693	4,649
HSE Dublin and Midlands	1,976	2,571	2,746	2,365	2,797	2,959	3,063	3,108
HSE Dublin and South East	1,570	1,725	1,728	1,553	1,642	1,833	2,011	2,248
HSE South West	1,055	1169	1,216	1,007	939	944	1,045	1,029
HSE Mid West	749	843	851	839	859	832	907	874
HSE West and North West	653	588	698	716	670	770	778	822
Other/unknown	457	372	445	345	345	595	607	565

Source for tables 1-3 ²: Lynch, T et al (2025) [National Drug Treatment Reporting System: 2024 drug treatment demand](#). Dublin: HRB.

Table 2: Number of new cases treated for drugs (excluding alcohol) as a main problem, by HSE health region and year, NDTRS 2017–2024

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
All new cases	3,257	3,962	3,979	3,796	4,206	4,456	4,792	4,471
HSE Dublin and North East	711	1,006	971	1,002	1,259	1,229	1,481	1,391
HSE Dublin and Midlands	667	907	932	860	1,038	1,082	1,164	1,138
HSE Dublin and South East	676	767	767	679	715	832	894	965
HSE South West	467	530	515	465	431	487	505	425
HSE Mid West	310	417	420	419	403	382	331	369
HSE West and North West	314	255	300	256	296	358	324	389
Other/unknown	112	80	71	115	64	86	93	94

Table 3: Number of previously treated cases treated for drugs (excluding alcohol) as a main problem, by HSE health region and year, NDTRS 2017–2024

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
All previously treated cases	5,242	5,872	5,927	5,441	6,090	6,860	7,588	7,717
HSE Dublin and North East	1,627	1,826	1,708	1,659	2,074	2,519	2,853	2,850
HSE Dublin and Midlands	1,157	1,579	1,630	1,414	1,637	1,706	1,781	1,819
HSE Dublin and South East	846	898	864	843	895	970	1,086	1,244
HSE South West	567	627	681	534	496	494	532	585
HSE Mid West	409	396	382	372	437	432	558	468
HSE West and North West	312	284	338	362	315	359	382	400
Other/unknown	324	262	324	257	236	380	396	351

Tables 4 to 6 provide data for the number of cases who entered treatment for alcohol as the main problem each year in Ireland and the HSE Regional Health Area region, showing all cases, new cases (never treated before) and previously treated cases.

Table 4: Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem by RHA of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2024

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
All cases	7,350	7,464	7,546	5,824	6,859	7,421	8,163	8,745
HSE Dublin and North East	1,360	1,350	1,417	1,181	1,548	1,671	2,193	2,011
HSE Dublin and Midlands	1,284	1,273	1,257	957	1,278	1,372	1,302	1,346
HSE Dublin and South East	1,619	1,697	1,609	1,296	1,474	1,604	1,747	2,055
HSE South West	1,240	1,293	1,290	943	971	953	920	1,076
HSE Mid West	487	536	570	424	483	582	570	582
HSE West and North West	1,154	1,151	1,306	928	1,027	1,122	1,286	1,428
Other/unknown	209	164	97	95	78	117	145	229

Source for tables 4-6 ³: Ní Luasa, S et al (2025) [National Drug Treatment Reporting System: 2024 alcohol treatment demand](#). Dublin: HRB.

Table 5: Number of new cases treated for alcohol as a main problem by RHA of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2024

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
All new cases	3,500	3,230	3,296	2,490	3,026	3,278	3,625	3,800
HSE Dublin and North East	632	570	510	507	661	645	928	845
HSE Dublin and Midlands	585	556	583	438	657	663	643	660
HSE Dublin and South East	786	806	711	544	594	702	782	851
HSE South West	639	579	569	424	459	468	447	477
HSE Mid West	234	253	294	181	223	258	261	261
HSE West and North West	550	398	597	344	391	500	515	596
Other/unknown	74	68	32	52	41	42	49	110

Table 6: Number of previously treated cases treated for alcohol as a main problem by RHA of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2024

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
All previously treated cases	3,652	3,705	3,400	3,170	3,596	3,868	4,257	4,619
HSE Dublin and North East	279	688	532	624	818	926	1,163	1,065
HSE Dublin and Midlands	647	633	522	470	575	647	592	640
HSE Dublin and South East	793	795	764	729	832	859	932	1,170
HSE South West	594	654	668	512	488	465	462	576
HSE Mid West	248	246	257	235	250	318	297	311
HSE West and North West	566	611	613	563	600	596	737	757
Other/unknown	125	78	44	37	33	57	74	100

You can access more detailed information on the number and characteristics of cases in treatment in our [interactive tables](#) (Under the final option, ‘Select geographical region of residence’ – choose ‘health area’).

National Psychiatric Inpatient Reporting System (NPIRS)

The National Psychiatric Inpatient Reporting System (NPIRS) gathers data on patient admissions to, and discharges from, psychiatric hospitals and units throughout Ireland. The most recent annual report (2024) on the activities of Irish psychiatric units and hospitals⁴ has a breakdown by HSE health regions (Excel NPRIS data tables 2024 2.21, 2.22 & 2.25). See also, Excel NPRIS data tables 2024 for additional county data.⁴

Table 7: All admissions to psychiatric hospitals and units by primary admission diagnosis, 2024 by HSE health regions

	Alcohol-related disorders		Other drug disorders	
	Numbers	Rates	Numbers	Rates
HSE Dublin and North East	157	13.2	195	16.4
HSE Dublin and Midlands	142	13.6	180	17.3
HSE Dublin and South East	137	13.6	206	20.5
HSE South West	85	11.5	56	7.6
HSE Mid West	41	9.9	90	21.8
HSE West and North West	133	17.5	130	17.1
Non-resident	<5	-	<5	-
Total	696	13.5	860	16.7

Source: NPIRS annual report on the activities of Irish psychiatric units and hospitals, 2024. (Excel data table 2.21)

Table 8: First admissions to psychiatric hospitals and units by primary admission diagnosis, 2024 by HSE health regions

	Alcohol-related disorders		Other drug disorders	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
HSE Dublin and North East	59	5.0	93	7.8
HSE Dublin and Midlands	58	5.6	82	7.9
HSE Dublin and South East	48	4.8	79	7.9
HSE South West	36	4.9	34	4.6
HSE Mid West	~	3.1	~	9.4
HSE West and North West	44	5.8	55	7.2
Non-resident	<5	~	<5	~
Total	258	5.0	385	7.5

Source: NPIRS annual report on the activities of Irish psychiatric units and hospitals, 2024. (Excel data table 2.22)

Table 9: Discharges (including deaths) from psychiatric hospitals and units by primary discharge diagnosis, 2024 by HSE health regions

	Alcohol-related disorders		Other drug disorders	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
HSE Dublin and North East	210	6.12	246	7.17
HSE Dublin and Midlands	185	5.83	185	6.15
HSE Dublin and South East	228	7.59	226	7.53
HSE South West	102	4.29	68	2.86
HSE Mid West	~	5.17	~	9.43
HSE West and North West	164	6.54	162	6.46
Non-resident	<5	5.56	<5	7.41
Total	943	6.07	994	6.40

Source: NPIRS annual report on the activities of Irish psychiatric units and hospitals, 2024. (Excel data table 2.25)

HSE data management key performance indicators

Reports⁵ are prepared monthly by the Health Service Executive to provide detailed performance data for the full suite of key performance indicators (KPI), and activity targets contained in the [National Service Plan](#). We have included some of the available data here, for more information see the latest published report.⁵

Table 10: HSE needle exchange KPI data, target/expected activity and activity, year to date (YTD), HSE Dublin & Midlands, December 2025 report.

Key performance indicator	Reporting level	Target/EA YTD	Activity YTD
SI46: No of unique individuals attending the Pharmacy Needle Exchange Programme	National	1,400	1,421
	HSE Dublin & North East	175	196
	HSE Dublin & Midlands	85	74
	HSE Dublin & South East	300	264
	HSE South West	715	750
	HSE Mid West	300	264
	HSE West and North West	75	65

Table 11: HSE homeless services KPI data, target/expected activity and activity, year to date (YTD), National and RHA areas, December 2025 report.

Key performance indicator	Reporting level	Target/EA YTD	Activity YTD
SI53: % of new individual homeless service users admitted to Supported Temporary Accommodations (STA), Private Emergency Accommodations (PEA), and/or Temporary Emergency Accommodations (TEA) during the quarter whose health needs have been assessed and are being supported to manage e.g. their physical / general health, mental health and / or addiction issues as part of their care / support plan	National	85%	82.3%
	HSE Dublin & North East	85%	86.7%
	HSE Dublin & Midlands	85%	96.0%
	HSE Dublin & South East	85%	91.4%
	HSE South West	85%	66.9%
	HSE Mid West	85%	67.6%
	HSE West and North West	85%	76.8%

Table 12: HSE substance use and opioid agonist treatment services KPI data, target/expected activity and activity, year to date (YTD), National and RHA areas, December 2025 report.

Key performance indicator	Reporting level	Target/EA YTD	Activity YTD
SI22: % of substance users (over 18 years) for whom treatment has commenced within one calendar month following assessment	National	100%	96.8%
	HSE Dublin & North East	100%	98.1%
	HSE Dublin & Midlands	100%	94.1%
	HSE Dublin & South East	100%	99.4%
	HSE South West	100%	94.6%
	HSE Mid West	100%	85.8%
	HSE West and North West	100%	96.6%
SI25: % of substance users (under 18 years) for whom treatment has commenced within one week following assessment	National	100%	96.7%
	HSE Dublin & North East	100%	97.4%
	HSE Dublin & Midlands	100%	94.7%
	HSE Dublin & South East	100%	100%
	HSE South West	100%	95.8%
	HSE Mid West	100%	
	HSE West and North West	100%	95.3%
SI1: Total no. of clients in receipt of opioid agonist treatment (outside prisons)	National	10,400	9,886
	HSE Dublin & North East	3,222	2,972
	HSE Dublin & Midlands	3,953	3,765
	HSE Dublin & South East	1,705	1,691
	HSE South West	800	750
	HSE Mid West	446	438
	HSE West and North West	274	270

Table 13: HSE problem alcohol use services KPI data, target/expected activity and activity, year to date (YTD), National and RHA areas, December 2025 report.

Key performance indicator	Reporting level	Target/EA YTD	Activity YTD
SI36: % of problem alcohol users (over 18 years) for whom treatment has commenced within one calendar month following assessment	National	100%	97.2%
	HSE Dublin & North East	100%	99.5%
	HSE Dublin & Midlands	100%	97.6%
	HSE Dublin & South East	100%	99.2%
	HSE South West	100%	90.2%
	HSE Mid West	100%	100%
	HSE West and North West	100%	97.1%
SI39: % of problem alcohol users (under 18 years) for whom treatment has commenced within one week following assessment	National	100%	95.2%
	HSE Dublin & North East	100%	
	HSE Dublin & Midlands	100%	90.0%
	HSE Dublin & South East	100%	100.0%
	HSE South West	100%	
	HSE Mid West	100%	
	HSE West and North West	100%	100.0%

Table 14: HSE tobacco key performance indicator data, target/expected activity and activity, year to date (YTD), National and RHA areas, December 2025 report.

Key performance indicator	Reporting level	Target/EA YTD	Activity YTD
HWB27B: No. of smokers who received face to face or telephone intensive cessation support from a HSE trained and accredited stop smoking advisor (Community)	National	15,109	12,142
	HSE Dublin & North East	3,209	2,452
	HSE Dublin & Midlands	3,405	2,555
	HSE Dublin & South East	3,156	2,278
	HSE South West	1,888	1,533
	HSE Mid West	918	940
	HSE West and North West	2,533	2,384
HWB27C: No. of smokers who received face to face or telephone intensive cessation support from a HSE trained and accredited stop smoking advisor (Hospitals)	National	3,185	3,978
	HSE Dublin & North East	1,267	1,807
	HSE Dublin & Midlands	221	539
	HSE Dublin & South East	758	738
	HSE South West	275	280
	HSE Mid West	138	168
	HSE West and North West	526	446

Source: Health Service Executive (2026) [HSE data management report, December 2025](#). Dublin: Health Service Executive.

Please note that the HSE issues regular data management reports, see the latest for the most up-to-date data.

Table cells that are blank indicate that no data was provided in the report.

Use of drugs in HSE health region areas

There are [a number of studies](#) that collect data on drug use in Ireland however they have not as yet published regional health data.

Data from the problematic opioid use in Ireland report

The report, Problematic opioid use in Ireland, 2020–2022,⁶ estimates the prevalence of problematic opioid use in Ireland from 2020 to 2022 using a four-source capture-recapture method. Three of the four data sources used for the analysis were derived from opioid substitution treatment records from the Central Treatment List (clinics, general practitioners and prisons) and the fourth data source was from the Irish Probation Service. In total, it is estimated that there were 19,460 opioid users aged 15–64 years in Ireland in 2022, see Tables 10- 14. This corresponds to a prevalence rate of 5.79 per 1,000 population.

Table 15: Summary of the known number of problematic opioid users, by RHA aged 15–64 years (2022)

	number (N) (%)*
	N=12,719
HSE Dublin and North East	4,228 (33.2%)
HSE Dublin and Midlands	4,072 (32.0%)
HSE Dublin and South East	2,483 (19.5%)
HSE South West	967 (7.6%)
HSE Mid West	575 (4.5%)
HSE West and North West	394 (3.1%)

*Due to rounding, the percentages in this column do not add up to 100%

Table 16: Proportion of problematic opioid users, by RHA and age group (2022)

	15–24 years	25–34 years	35–64 years
HSE Dublin and North East	2.2%	18.7%	79.1%
HSE Dublin and Midlands	2.3%	19.9%	77.8%
HSE Dublin and South East	6.5%	24.4%	72.9%
HSE South West	2.5%	32.1%	61.4%
HSE Mid West	2.5%	29.9%	67.6%
HSE West and North West	3.4%	25.9%	70.8%
Total	2.7%	22.0%	75.3%

Table 17: Estimates of the number and rate per 1,000 population of problematic opioid users aged

15–24 years, by RHA (2022)

	Known	Estimate	95% CI	Rate	95% CI
HSE Dublin and North East	53	140	130–191	0.92	0.86–1.26
HSE Dublin and Midlands	66	143	136–184	1.03	0.98–1.33
HSE Dublin and South East	60	107	101–131	0.9	0.85–1.10
HSE South West	53	87	81–108	0.96	0.89–1.19
HSE Mid West	18	24	21–33	0.46	0.40–0.63
HSE West and North West	14	26	21–43	0.28	0.23–0.46
Total	264	527	524–627	0.82	0.81–0.97

Table 18: Estimates of the number and rate per 1,000 population of problematic opioid users aged 25–34 years, by RHA (2022)

	Known	Estimate	95% CI	Rate	95% CI
HSE Dublin and North East	629	1,179	1,094–1,608	7.4	6.86–10.09
HSE Dublin and Midlands	556	1,217	1,157–1,563	8.39	7.98–10.78
HSE Dublin and South East	488	969	911–1,188	8.47	7.96–10.38
HSE South West	347	433	402–540	5.11	4.74–6.37
HSE Mid West	187	287	256–389	6.3	5.62–8.53
HSE West and North West	97	198	163–331	2.51	2.07–4.19
Total	2,304	4283	4,258–5,097	6.82	6.78–8.12

Table 19: Estimates of the number and rate per 1,000 population of problematic opioid users aged 35–64 years, by RHA (2022)

	Known	Estimate	95% CI	Rate	95% CI
HSE Dublin and North East	3,546	4,980	4,620–6,790	10.35	9.60–14.11
HSE Dublin and Midlands	3,450	4,755	4,522–6,109	10.89	10.36–14.00
HSE Dublin and South East	1,935	2,896	2,723–3,551	7.37	6.93–9.04
HSE South West	567	828	769–1,033	2.73	2.53–3.40
HSE Mid West	370	649	579–879	3.89	3.47–5.26
HSE West and North West	283	542	446–906	1.77	1.45–2.95
Total	10,151	14,650	14,566–17,434	7.02	6.98–8.35

Drug poisoning deaths for HSE health region areas

The HRB's [National Drug-Related Deaths Index \(NDRDI\)](#) is a database which records cases of death by drug and alcohol poisoning, and deaths among drug users and those who are alcohol dependent. 343 people died from poisoning in 2022.⁷

See also, E-Appendix D Number of drug poisoning deaths by county of residence, NDRDI 2013 to 2022⁷.

Table 20: Number of drug poisoning deaths by HSE health region of incident, NDRDI 2013 to 2022, number and percentage

		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
HSE Dublin and North East	n	101	90	93	83	92	80	100	114	105	102
	%	31.2	28.9	30.0	26.9	28.3	22.2	26.4	25.6	28.1	29.7
HSE Dublin and Midlands	n	69	90	88	93	80	105	107	134	85	63
	%	21.3	28.9	28.5	30.1	24.5	28.9	28.2	30.0	22.8	18.4
HSE Dublin and South East	n	32	50	50	45	45	61	61	69	66	46
	%	9.9	16.1	16.2	14.6	13.8	16.8	16.1	15.5	17.7	13.4
HSE South West	n	26	31	31	39	38	39	50	58	53	51
	%	8.0	10.0	10.0	12.6	11.7	10.7	13.2	13.0	14.2	14.9
HSE Mid West	n	25	16	12	16	21	26	23	22	29	23
	%	7.7	5.1	3.9	5.2	6.4	7.2	6.1	4.9	7.8	6.7
HSE West and North West	n	27	16	23	20	25	25	30	36	22	14
	%	8.3	5.1	7.4	6.5	7.7	6.9	7.9	8.1	5.9	4.1
Ireland unknown / other ^a	n	44	18	12	13	25	27	8	13	13	44
	%	13.6	5.8	3.9	4.2	7.7	7.4	2.1	2.9	3.5	12.8

Source: [Drug Poisoning Deaths in Ireland in 2022: Appendix - NDRDI data 2022 tables PDF – Table E-Appendix B](#)

^a Other: relevant geocodes were not available

Table 21: Number of drug poisoning deaths by HSE health region of residence, NDRDI 2013 to 2022, number and percentage

		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
HSE Dublin and North East	n	114	87	91	83	92	89	97	116	105	100
	%	35.2	28.0	29.4	26.9	28.2	22.2	24.5	25.6	28.2	29.2
HSE Dublin and Midlands	n	71	83	88	84	73	102	106	130	87	80
	%	21.9	26.7	28.5	27.2	22.4	28.1	28.0	29.1	23.3	23.3
HSE Dublin and South East	n	39	48	52	44	51	71	63	69	71	58
	%	12.0	15.4	16.8	14.2	15.6	19.6	16.6	15.5	19.0	16.9
HSE South West	n	32	34	35	44	38	36	45	59	54	53
	%	9.9	10.9	11.3	14.2	11.7	9.9	11.9	13.2	14.5	15.5
HSE Mid West	n	28	18	14	17	26	27	27	23	30	25
	%	8.6	5.8	4.5	5.5	8.0	7.4	7.1	5.2	8.0	7.3
HSE West and North West	n	31	20	24	22	27	26	30	40	21	21
	%	9.6	6.4	7.8	7.1	8.3	7.2	7.9	9.0	5.6	6.1
Ireland unknown / other ^a	n	9	21	~	15	19	12	11	9	~	6
	%	2.8	6.8	~	4.9	5.8	3.3	2.9	2.0	~	1.7

a Other: relevant geocodes were not available

~ Five deaths or fewer

Source: [Drug Poisoning Deaths in Ireland in 2022: Appendix - NDRDI data 2022 tables PDF – Table E-Appendix C](#)

The NDRDI also collects data on deaths among people who were homeless at the time of their death.⁸ There were 128 deaths among people known to be homeless at the time of death in 2021.

Table 22: Deaths among people who were homeless by HSE health regions of incident, 2019 to 2021, number and percentage

	2019	2020	2021
HSE Dublin and North East	33 (35.1)	38 (30.4)	47 (36.7)
HSE Dublin and Midlands	28 (29.8)	36 (28.8)	31 (24.2)
HSE Dublin and South East	9 (9.6)	16 (12.8)	12 (9.4)
HSE South West	11 (11.7)	20 (16.0)	14 (10.9)
HSE Mid West	~	~	9 (7.0)
HSE West and North West	~	7 (5.6)	~

Source: [Deaths among people who were homeless at time of death in Ireland, 2021](#)

~ Five deaths or fewer

References

1. Department of Health (2023) [Organisational reform: HSE health regions. Implementation plan](#). Dublin: Government of Ireland.
2. Lynch T, Tierney P and Lyons S (2025) [National Drug Treatment Reporting System: 2024 drug treatment demand](#). Dublin: Health Research Board.
3. Ní Luasa S, O’Neill D, O’Sullivan M and Lyons S (2025) [National Drug Treatment Reporting System: 2024 alcohol treatment demand](#). Dublin: Health Research Board.
4. Daly, Antoinette, Lovett, Harriet and Lynn, Ena (2025) [National Psychiatric Inpatient Reporting System \(NPIRS\) annual report on the activities of Irish psychiatric units and hospitals, 2024](#). Dublin: Health Research Board.
5. Health Service Executive (2026) [HSE data management and performance profile reports 2025](#). Dublin: Health Service Executive.
6. Hanrahan MT, Millar SR, Mongan D, Lyons S and Galvin B (2025) [Prevalence of problematic opioid use in Ireland, 2020–2022](#). Dublin: Health Research Board.
7. Kelleher C, Riordan F and Lyons S (2025) [Drug poisoning deaths in Ireland in 2022 - tables: data from the National Drug-Related Deaths Index \(NDRDI\)](#). Dublin: Health Research Board.
8. Riordan F, Gopalakrishnan A, Kelleher C *et al.* (2025) [Deaths among people who were homeless at time of death in Ireland, 2021](#). Dublin: Health Research Board.

For additional data, see:

Doyle, Anne (2026) [Alcohol Statistics Dashboard](#) [Online]

Doyle, Anne (2024) Alcohol-related harm - HSE Regional Health Areas. Dublin: Health Research Board.
<https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/41557/>

Doyle, Anne (2023) Regional alcohol-related harm - County level factsheet. Dublin: Health Research Board.
<https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/39285/>

NDTRS data in the interactive tables on the library website <https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/tables/> (Under the final option, 'Select geographical region of residence' – choose 'health area').

How to cite this data factsheet:

HRB National Drugs Library (2026) Alcohol and other drugs data factsheet: HSE health regions 2026. Dublin: HRB National Drugs Library <https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/44893>

HRB National Drugs Library – Find the evidence www.drugsandalcohol.ie

- Freely available collection of Irish and international drug and alcohol research
- Quick updates – e-newsletter, Drugnet Ireland and [LinkedIn](#)
- Key Irish data resources – treatment, deaths, prevalence data, alcohol webpages
- Key Irish data summaries – factsheets & annual national reports
- Policy – Policy webpage & Dail debates
- Practitioner portal – specific webpages for those working in the area
- Course directory
- Glossary – with explanations of terms and acronyms
- Research resources for those conducting literature searches and other research
- Search our collection – basic and advanced

HRB National Drugs Library

Health Research Board

e drugslibrary@hrb.ie

w www.drugsandalcohol.ie

LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/hrb-national-drugs-library/>

[@hrbdrugslibrary.bsky.social](https://www.bsky.app/profile/hrbdrugslibrary.bsky.social)