

HRB CELEBRATING



YEARS

HR^B Health
Research
Board

National Drug Treatment Reporting System

**2025
Drug Treatment
Demand**

Table of contents

[Terms, conditions & notes](#)

Table 1	Number of cases treated for drugs as a main problem, by treatment status, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
Table 2	Number of cases treated for drugs as a main problem, by type of service provider, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
Table 3	Main problem drug (excluding alcohol) reported in the 30 days prior to treatment, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
Table 4	Polydrug use in cases treated for drugs as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
Table 5	Polydrug use - additional problem drugs for all cases, new cases, and previously treated cases NDTRS 2017 to 2025
Table 6	Injecting history in cases treated for drugs as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
Table 7	Sociodemographic characteristics of cases treated for drugs as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
Table 8.1	Sociodemographic and drug use characteristics for cases of females treated for drugs as a main problem, NDTRS 2025
Table 8.2	Sociodemographic and drug use characteristics for cases of males treated for drugs as a main problem, NDTRS 2025
Table 9	Sociodemographic characteristics of cases treated for cocaine as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
Table 10	Sociodemographic characteristics of cases treated for opioids as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
Table 11	Cases treated for drugs with children aged 17 years or under, NDTRS 2025
Table 12	Number of cases treated for drugs as a main problem by HSE Health Region area of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
Table 13	Number of cases treated for cocaine as a main problem, by county of residence, NDTRS 2017–2025
Table 14	Reason for treatment exit, NDTRS 2025
Table 15	Cases treated for drugs as a main problem, by new and continuing care cases, NDTRS 2025
Figure 3	Incidence and prevalence of treated problem drug use, aged 15 to 64 years, per 100,000*, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

National Drug Treatment Reporting System

Terms & conditions for the use of NDTRS data

Any of the data provided here may be freely used but remains the property of the NDTRS. To safeguard the integrity and confidentiality of the data, all users must agree to the following conditions:

1. The NDTRS should be acknowledged in any publication where NDTRS data are used.
2. NDTRS data are not to be presented in either written or oral form that could directly or indirectly identify an individual patient.
3. Tables containing NDTRS data should not be published where any individual cells contain 5 cases or less.
4. The responsibility for interpretation of the data lies fully with the data user. Please contact the NDTRS should you have any queries on data interpretation.
5. The data provided below supersedes any previous analysis done as figures may change due to data validation processes.
6. The NDTRS should be clearly acknowledged as the source of the data in any publication or presentation in which the data are used.
7. The NDTRS must be provided with a copy of all documents in which NDTRS data are used.
8. The HRB National Drugs Library should be provided with a copy of any published paper in which NDTRS data are used.

Notes on definitions & interpretation of NDTRS data

Data collection

Treatment for problem alcohol and drug use in Ireland is provided by statutory and non-statutory services, including residential centres, community-based addiction services, general practices and prison services. Compliance with the NDTRS requires that one form be completed for each new client coming for first treatment and for each previously treated client returning to treatment for problem drug use. Service providers at treatment centres throughout Ireland collect data on each individual who attends for first treatment or returns to treatment in a calendar year.

The NDTRS follows a common and systematic European methodology for collecting and reporting core data on the numbers and profiles of those entering specialised drug treatment each year (treatment demand). The European Treatment Demand Indicator (TDI) protocol aims to provide objective, reliable and comparable information at a European level and is routinely used to identify trends and patterns in problem drug use and to assess the use and uptake of treatment facilities. Treatment demand indicator (TDI) standard protocol 3.0: Guidelines for reporting data on people entering drug treatment in European countries is available at https://www.euda.europa.eu/publications/manuals/tdi-protocol-3.0_en

Treatment cases

All cases treated – describes individuals who receive treatment for problem drug and/or alcohol use at each treatment centre in a calendar year, and includes:

Previously treated cases – describes individuals who were treated previously for problem drug/alcohol use at any treatment centre and have returned to treatment in the reporting year;

New cases treated – describes individuals who have never been treated for problem drug/alcohol use; and

Status unknown – describes individuals whose status with respect to previous treatment for problem drug/alcohol use is not known.

Children

Service users *living with children* refers to the 30 days prior to treatment. This includes children where the service user has a carer or guardianship role: non-related children such as foster children and stepchildren, and the children of a long-term cohabiting partner. Where the service user is a grandparent or other close relative and is the official guardian of a child with whom they are living, they are recorded as living with children.

Children who are *living elsewhere* than with the service user refers to children currently living with another parent; children in formal care or informal care; and children living elsewhere who are biological children/adopted children, or children who are under the official guardianship of the service user. It also refers to children who have left home, and children who are living with other family members or friends temporarily, but who are not considered by the service user to be living in care.

Area of residence

Area of residence relates to the service user's place of residence in the 30 days prior to commencing treatment, for all service types excluding prison. Where a service user is treated in prison and has been in prison for less than 6 months prior to starting treatment, area of residence is the place of residence prior to imprisonment. Otherwise, the prison location is recorded.

COVID-19

The capacity and functionality of treatment services were impacted by COVID-19 restrictions. In 2020, the NDTRS surveyed participating services to estimate the impact of the restrictions on treatment data for 2020 (the response rate was 80%). Around 40% of services surveyed expressed some impact on their ability to provide returns, while around 50% expected some impact on numbers (unpublished data).

For further information, contact the NDTRS team at ndtrs@hrb.ie

Table 1: Number of cases treated for drugs as a main problem, by treatment status, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020*		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases	8922		10274		10664		9702		10769		12009		13104		13295		15422	
New cases	3257	36.5	3962	38.6	3979	37.3	3796	39.1	4206	39.1	4456	37.1	4792	36.6	4771	35.9	5134	33.3
Previously treated cases	5242	58.8	5872	57.2	5927	55.6	5441	56.1	6090	56.6	6860	57.1	7588	57.9	7717	58.0	9333	60.5
Treatment status unknown	423	4.7	440	4.3	758	7.1	465	4.8	473	4.4	693	5.8	724	5.5	807	6.1	955	6.2

*The decrease in cases in 2020 coincided with COVID-19 and related restrictions, which presented increased risks for people who use drugs and alcohol, and significant challenges for treatment providers, and should be interpreted in that context

Table 2: Number of cases treated for drugs as a main problem, by type of service provider, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases	8922		10274		10664		9702		10769		12009		13104		13295		15422	
Outpatient	5610	62.9	6715	65.4	6946	65.1	6806	70.2	7568	70.3	8280	68.9	9371	71.5	9316	70.1	10153	65.8
Residential*	1757	19.7	1384	13.5	1571	14.7	1190**	12.3	1394	12.9	1458	12.1	1797	13.7	1837	13.8	2020	13.1
Low threshold	792	8.9	887	8.6	948	8.9	870	9.0	918	8.5	1199	10.0	1098	8.4	1351	10.2	1547	10.0
Prison	651	7.3	1082	10.5	848	8.0	754	7.8	652	6.1	660	5.5	539	4.1	559	4.2	1445	9.4
General practitioner	112	1.3	206	2.0	351	3.3	82	0.8	237	2.2	412	3.4	299	2.3	232	1.7	257	1.7

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

**The reduction in residential case numbers can in part be attributed to temporary closures and reduced capacity introduced in 2020 to comply with COVID-19 restrictions

Table 3: Main problem drug (excluding alcohol) reported in the 30 days prior to treatment, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases	8922		10274		10664		9702		10769		12009		13104		13295		15422	
Cocaine	1500	16.8	2254	21.9	2560	24.0	2619	27.0	3248	30.2	4084	34.0	4923	37.6	5289	39.8	6535	42.4
Opioids	4016	45.0	4349	42.3	4133	38.8	3559	36.7	3629	33.7	3971	33.1	3845	29.3	3326	25.0	3895	25.3
Cannabis	2200	24.7	2358	23.0	2502	23.5	2120	21.9	2299	21.3	2245	18.7	2292	17.5	2263	17.0	2332	15.1
Benzodiazepines	868	9.7	999	9.7	1082	10.1	1097	11.3	1218	11.3	1287	10.7	1477	11.3	1788	13.4	1726	11.2
NPS	51	0.6	48	0.5	63	0.6	43	0.4	49	0.5	51	0.4	114	0.9	170	1.3	256	1.7
Z-Drugs	82	0.9	48	0.5	72	0.7	72	0.7	80	0.7	98	0.8	107	0.8	115	0.9	166	1.1
Amphetamines	40	0.4	57	0.6	59	0.6	53	0.5	77	0.7	89	0.7	76	0.6	92	0.7	152	1.0
Volatile Inhalants	6	0.1	10	0.1	6	0.1	6	0.1	~	~	18	0.1	28	0.2	45	0.3	34	0.2
MDMA (ecstasy)	44	0.5	34	0.3	47	0.4	31	0.3	12	0.1	17	0.1	11	0.1	12	0.1	11	0.1
Other	115	1.3	117	1.1	140	1.3	102	1.1	152	1.4	149	1.2	231	1.8	195	1.5	315	2.0
New cases	3257		3962		3979		3796		4206		4456		4792		4771		5134	
Cocaine	748	23.0	1232	31.1	1258	31.6	1359	35.8	1615	38.4	1839	41.3	2208	46.1	2235	46.8	2637	51.4
Opioids	809	24.8	719	18.1	676	17.0	550	14.5	530	12.6	597	13.4	505	10.5	413	8.7	348	6.8
Cannabis	1272	39.1	1505	38.0	1506	37.8	1338	35.2	1479	35.2	1463	32.8	1394	29.1	1312	27.5	1195	23.3
Benzodiazepines	290	8.9	345	8.7	340	8.5	392	10.3	418	9.9	374	8.4	416	8.7	490	10.3	479	9.3
NPS	21	0.6	25	0.6	22	0.6	26	0.7	23	0.5	29	0.7	74	1.5	108	2.3	150	2.9
Z-Drugs	22	0.7	17	0.4	24	0.6	27	0.7	26	0.6	15	0.3	27	0.6	29	0.6	38	0.7
Amphetamines	19	0.6	34	0.9	37	0.9	28	0.7	47	1.1	52	1.2	53	1.1	49	1.0	90	1.8
Volatile Inhalants	~	~	8	0.2	~	~	~	~	~	~	14	0.3	25	0.5	39	0.8	26	0.5
MDMA (ecstasy)	29	0.9	18	0.5	38	1.0	21	0.6	8	0.2	12	0.3	8	0.2	8	0.2	7	0.1
Other	42	1.3	59	1.5	73	1.8	52	1.4	55	1.3	61	1.4	82	1.7	88	1.8	164	3.2
Previously treated cases	5242		5872		5927		5441		6090		6860		7588		7717		9333	
Cocaine	692	13.2	944	16.1	1074	18.1	1126	20.7	1478	24.3	1981	28.9	2485	32.7	2764	35.8	3421	36.7
Opioids	3037	57.9	3478	59.2	3244	54.7	2856	52.5	2930	48.1	3133	45.7	3119	41.1	2772	35.9	3368	36.1
Cannabis	807	15.4	717	12.2	784	13.2	691	12.7	740	12.2	711	10.4	776	10.2	821	10.6	1022	11.0
Benzodiazepines	534	10.2	596	10.1	661	11.2	631	11.6	742	12.2	829	12.1	981	12.9	1102	14.3	1120	12.0
NPS	27	0.5	19	0.3	29	0.5	17	0.3	23	0.4	19	0.3	34	0.4	58	0.8	98	1.1
Z-Drugs	56	1.1	31	0.5	43	0.7	42	0.8	54	0.9	79	1.2	77	1.0	75	1.0	118	1.3
Amphetamines	19	0.4	19	0.3	20	0.3	22	0.4	29	0.5	33	0.5	20	0.3	39	0.5	56	0.6
Volatile Inhalants	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	0	0.0	~	~	~	~	~	~	7	0.1
MDMA (ecstasy)	15	0.3	14	0.2	9	0.2	8	0.1	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
Other	54	1.0	52	0.9	62	1.0	45	0.8	90	1.5	67	1.0	90	1.2	79	1.0	119	1.3

~ Cells with five cases or fewer

Table 4: Polydrug use in cases treated for drugs as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	N	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases	8922		10274		10664		9702		10769		12009		13104		13295		15422	
One drug only	3816	42.8	4787	46.6	4803	45	4019	41.4	4501	41.8	5190	43.2	5385	41.1	5262	39.6	5887	38.2
Two or more drugs	5106	57.2	5487	53.4	5861	55	5683	58.6	6268	58.2	6819	56.8	7719	58.9	8033	60.4	9535	61.8

Table 5: Polydrug use - additional problem drugs for all cases, new cases, and previously treated cases NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	N	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All polydrug	5106		5487		5861		5683		6268		6819		7719		8033		9535	
Cannabis	1690	33.1	1937	35.3	2166	37.0	2246	39.5	2633	42.0	2748	40.3	2997	38.8	3221	40.1	4267	44.8
Cocaine	1435	28.1	1619	29.5	1928	32.9	2092	36.8	2252	35.9	2464	36.1	2803	36.3	2946	36.7	3812	40.0
Alcohol	1914	37.5	2053	37.4	2189	37.3	1986	34.9	2241	35.8	2467	36.2	2756	35.7	2906	36.2	3356	35.2
Benzodiazepines	1846	36.2	1987	36.2	2088	35.6	2076	36.5	2246	35.8	2193	32.2	2394	31.0	2421	30.1	3111	32.6
Opioids	1078	21.1	969	17.7	1180	20.1	1062	18.7	1257	20.1	1480	21.7	1735	22.5	1635	20.4	1716	18.0
MDMA (ecstasy)	384	7.5	432	7.9	493	8.4	424	7.5	385	6.1	352	5.2	309	4.0	386	4.8	442	4.6
Z-Drugs	334	6.5	278	5.1	208	3.5	247	4.3	185	3.0	239	3.5	307	4.0	211	2.6	431	4.5
Amphetamines	129	2.5	128	2.3	145	2.5	145	2.6	159	2.5	126	1.8	142	1.8	182	2.3	178	1.9
NPS	52	1.0	52	0.9	76	1.3	78	1.4	89	1.4	100	1.5	94	1.2	159	2.0	276	2.9
Volatile inhalants	18	0.4	20	0.4	21	0.4	12	0.2	23	0.4	44	0.6	65	0.8	64	0.8	86	0.9
Other	261	5.1	268	4.9	338	5.8	316	5.6	290	4.6	341	5.0	431	5.6	554	6.9	583	6.1
New cases	1693		1896		1974		2013		2152		2271		2530		2678		2868	
Cannabis	561	33.1	662	34.9	750	38.0	769	38.2	870	40.4	908	40.0	1027	40.6	1069	39.9	1239	43.2
Cocaine	465	27.5	517	27.3	607	30.7	633	31.4	631	29.3	677	29.8	657	26.0	726	27.1	798	27.8
Alcohol	805	47.5	929	49.0	1013	51.3	969	48.1	1075	50.0	1147	50.5	1281	50.6	1358	50.7	1441	50.2
Benzodiazepines	464	27.4	480	25.3	535	27.1	555	27.6	532	24.7	563	24.8	549	21.7	550	20.5	522	18.2
Opioids	214	12.6	179	9.4	157	8.0	143	7.1	155	7.2	187	8.2	215	8.5	173	6.5	191	6.7
MDMA (ecstasy)	195	11.5	219	11.6	248	12.6	238	11.8	184	8.6	160	7.0	140	5.5	178	6.6	214	7.5
Z-Drugs	79	4.7	51	2.7	26	1.3	34	1.7	32	1.5	38	1.7	54	2.1	33	1.2	81	2.8
Amphetamines	58	3.4	50	2.6	62	3.1	75	3.7	64	3.0	45	2.0	59	2.3	74	2.8	68	2.4
NPS	18	1.1	16	0.8	26	1.3	23	1.1	27	1.3	41	1.8	45	1.8	100	3.7	149	5.2
Volatile inhalants	6	0.4	6	0.3	7	0.4	~	~	11	0.5	33	1.5	43	1.7	44	1.6	55	1.9
Other	103	6.1	128	6.8	138	7.0	142	7.1	128	5.9	165	7.3	192	7.6	229	8.6	239	8.3
Previously treated cases	3230		3415		3550		3439		3923		4338		4994		5096		6260	
Cannabis	1065	33.0	1213	35.5	1301	36.6	1387	40.3	1682	42.9	1772	40.8	1906	38.2	2060	40.4	2829	45.2
Cocaine	921	28.5	1048	30.7	1212	34.1	1384	40.2	1553	39.6	1715	39.5	2060	41.2	2123	41.7	2870	45.8
Alcohol	1036	32.1	1055	30.9	1040	29.3	950	27.6	1108	28.2	1250	28.8	1417	28.4	1487	29.2	1818	29.0
Benzodiazepines	1314	40.7	1454	42.6	1461	41.2	1450	42.2	1648	42.0	1574	36.3	1787	35.8	1785	35.0	2482	39.6
Opioids	812	25.1	759	22.2	963	27.1	878	25.5	1069	27.2	1245	28.7	1490	29.8	1427	28.0	1458	23.3
MDMA (ecstasy)	170	5.3	201	5.9	213	6.0	173	5.0	192	4.9	184	4.2	167	3.3	197	3.9	217	3.5
Z-Drugs	254	7.9	219	6.4	169	4.8	195	5.7	148	3.8	197	4.5	248	5.0	171	3.4	335	5.4
Amphetamines	68	2.1	72	2.1	76	2.1	61	1.8	90	2.3	74	1.7	81	1.6	102	2.0	109	1.7
NPS	32	1.0	35	1.0	46	1.3	53	1.5	59	1.5	55	1.3	47	0.9	59	1.2	123	2.0
Volatile inhalants	11	0.3	14	0.4	13	0.4	6	0.2	12	0.3	11	0.3	22	0.4	17	0.3	27	0.4
Other	146	4.5	130	3.8	183	5.2	160	4.7	152	3.9	165	3.8	235	4.7	315	6.2	328	5.2

~ Cells with five cases or fewer

Table 6: Injecting history in cases treated for drugs as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases	8922		10274		10664		9702		10769		12009		13104		13295		15422	
Ever injected	2651	29.7	2740	26.7	2540	23.8	2260	23.3	2264	21	2492	20.8	2659	20.3	2485	18.7	2732	17.7
Ever shared needles and syringes	N/A‡	N/A‡	N/A‡	N/A‡	946	37.2	855	37.8	938	41.4	1064	42.7	1057	39.8	1001	40.3	951	34.8
New cases	3257		3962		3979		3796		4206		4456		4792		4771		5134	
Ever injected	359	11	314	7.9	255	6.4	194	5.1	164	3.9	198	4.4	191	4	163	3.4	185	3.6
Ever shared needles and syringes	N/A‡	N/A‡	N/A‡	N/A‡	74	29	50	25.8	45	27.4	61	30.8	68	35.6	63	38.7	50	27
Previously treated cases	5242		5872		5972		5441		6090		6860		7588		7717		9333	
Ever injected	2165	41.3	2367	40.3	2213	37.3	1991	36.6	1996	32.8	2147	31.3	2357	31.1	2228	28.9	2457	26.3
Ever shared needles and syringes	N/A‡	N/A‡	N/A‡	N/A‡	858	38.8	784	39.4	886	43.4	984	45.8	982	41.7	920	41.3	884	36
Current risk																		
All cases	2651		2740		2540		2260		2264		2492		2659		2485		2732	
Currently injecting†	862	32.5	815	29.7	759	29.9	702	31.1	741	32.7	752	30.2	769	28.9	598	24.1	759	27.8
New cases	359		314		255		194		164		198		191		163		185	
Currently injecting†	136	37.9	131	41.7	94	36.9	82	42.3	77	47	96	48.5	82	42.9	54	33.1	100	54.1
Previously treated cases	2165		2367		2213		1991		1996		2147		2357		2228		2457	
Currently injecting†	691	31.9	660	27.9	637	28.8	582	29.2	605	30.3	595	27.7	629	26.7	499	22.4	611	24.9

† In the 30 days prior to treatment

‡ N/A Not available; due to transition to a new question in order to comply with EUDA reporting, data are not reported prior to 2019

Table 7: Sociodemographic characteristics of cases treated for drugs as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases	8922		10274		10664		9702		10769		12009		13104		13295		15422	
Median age (range ¹)	30	17–47	31	17–48	31	17–48	31	17–48	32	17–49	33	17–50	34	17–51	34	18–52	35	19–52
Under 18	591	6.6	732	7.1	822	7.7	674	6.9	595	5.5	616	5.1	657	5.0	585	4.4	531	3.4
Male	6449	72.3	7626	74.2	7859	73.7	7167	73.9	7754	72.0	8639	71.9	9009	68.8	9280	69.8	10702	69.4
Homeless	858	9.6	980	9.5	1173	11.0	1023	10.5	1349	12.5	1667	13.9	1588	12.1	1555	11.7	1789	11.6
Traveller	310	3.5	343	3.3	320	3.0	291	3.0	361	3.4	361	3.0	368	2.8	365	2.7	440	2.9
Education ceased before 16 years	3118	34.9	3551	34.6	3306	31.0	3154	32.5	3563	33.1	3779	31.5	4040	30.8	4024	30.3	4783	31.0
In paid employment	1280	14.3	1735	16.9	1700	15.9	1574	16.2	2207	20.5	2643	22.0	2905	22.2	2896	21.8	3205	20.8
Unemployed	5702	63.9	6356	61.9	5852	54.9	5726	59.0	6333	58.8	7101	59.1	7819	59.7	8412	63.3	9127	59.2
Retired/unable to work including disability	712	8.0	823	8.0	1251	11.7	1165	12.0	1049	9.7	790	6.6	1048	8.0	798	6.0	1626	10.5
New cases	3257		3962		3979		3796		4206		4456		4792		4771		5134	
Median age (range ¹)	26	16–46	26	15–45	26	15–45	27	15–46	28	16–46	28	16–47	29	16–49	29	16–49	30	16–50
Under 18	413	12.7	537	13.6	618	15.5	548	14.4	468	11.1	495	11.1	546	11.4	481	10.1	400	7.8
Male	2446	75.1	3000	75.7	3065	77.0	2886	76.0	3100	73.7	3347	75.1	3471	72.4	3478	72.9	3720	72.5
Homeless	199	6.1	248	6.3	263	6.6	229	6.0	287	6.8	314	7.0	334	7.0	294	6.2	347	6.8
Traveller	97	3.0	109	2.8	112	2.8	100	2.6	129	3.1	113	2.5	102	2.1	119	2.5	94	1.8
Education ceased before 16 years	834	25.6	946	23.9	888	22.3	841	22.2	1031	24.5	1030	23.1	1052	22.0	998	20.9	1031	20.1
In paid employment	652	20.0	943	23.8	901	22.6	903	23.8	1216	28.9	1500	33.7	1569	32.7	1517	31.8	1720	33.5
Unemployed	1757	53.9	2029	51.2	1765	44.4	1772	46.7	2054	48.8	2070	46.5	2234	46.6	2411	50.5	2626	51.1
Retired/unable to work including disability	183	5.6	222	5.6	364	9.1	308	8.1	299	7.1	237	5.3	300	6.3	219	4.6	218	4.2
Previously treated cases	5242		5872		5927		5441		6090		6860		7588		7717		9333	
Median age (range ¹)	33	19–47	34	19–49	34	19–50	33	20–49	35	20–50	36	21–51	36	22–52	37	22–52	37	22–53
Under 18	154	2.9	170	2.9	155	2.6	111	2.0	117	1.9	115	1.7	89	1.2	96	1.2	111	1.2
Male	3686	70.3	4328	73.7	4211	71.0	3948	72.6	4315	70.9	4790	69.8	5069	66.8	5318	68.9	6387	68.4
Homeless	620	11.8	679	11.6	810	13.7	735	13.5	911	15.0	1105	16.1	1030	13.6	1063	13.8	1281	13.7
Traveller	194	3.7	211	3.6	180	3.0	174	3.2	216	3.5	227	3.3	251	3.3	229	3.0	319	3.4
Education ceased before 16 years	2183	41.6	2460	41.9	2224	37.5	2165	39.8	2357	38.7	2615	38.1	2821	37.2	2845	36.9	3498	37.5
In paid employment	562	10.7	738	12.6	678	11.4	605	11.1	917	15.1	1045	15.2	1254	16.5	1284	16.6	1390	14.9
Unemployed	3717	70.9	4056	69.1	3714	62.7	3722	68.4	4001	65.7	4644	67.7	5185	68.3	5501	71.3	5984	64.1
Retired/unable to work including disability	495	9.4	563	9.6	782	13.2	745	13.7	709	11.6	539	7.9	692	9.1	545	7.1	1312	14.1
Treatment status unknown	423		440		758		465		473		693		724		807		955	

¹ Age range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

Table 8.1: Sociodemographic and drug use characteristics for cases of females treated for drugs as a main problem, NDTRS 2025

Females	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases	2436		2635		2795		2518		3005		3345		4070		3988		4690	
Median age (range ¹)	31	18–48	32	18–47	32	17–48	32	18–48	33	18–49	34	18–50	34	19–51	35	19–51	36	20–52
29 or under	1009	41.4	1064	40.4	1127	40.3	963	38.2	1043	34.7	1070	32.0	1234	30.3	1125	28.2	1259	26.8
30–49	1310	53.8	1450	55.0	1553	55.6	1440	57.2	1815	60.4	2076	62.1	2587	63.6	2573	64.5	3065	65.4
50+	100	4.1	101	3.8	99	3.5	102	4.1	143	4.8	191	5.7	245	6.0	287	7.2	365	7.8
Median age first used drugs (range ¹)	15	12–29	15	11–30	15	12–28	15	12–28	15	12–30	15	12–30	15	12–30	15	12–29	15	12–30
Traveller	112	4.6	97	3.7	93	3.3	89	3.5	102	3.4	102	3.0	142	3.5	122	3.1	172	3.7
Education ceased before 16	790	32.4	790	30.0	775	27.7	745	29.6	912	30.3	973	29.1	1186	29.1	1106	27.7	1338	28.5
In paid employment	255	10.5	372	14.1	335	12.0	300	11.9	467	15.5	587	17.5	712	17.5	595	14.9	727	15.5
Unemployed	1698	69.7	1755	66.6	1721	61.6	1713	68.0	1935	64.4	2083	62.3	2561	62.9	2680	67.2	2955	63.0
Homeless	290	11.9	280	10.6	361	12.9	316	12.5	402	13.4	455	13.6	478	11.7	410	10.3	537	11.4
<i>Main problem drug reported</i>																		
Cocaine	284	11.7	453	17.2	516	18.5	546	21.7	822	27.4	1056	31.6	1387	34.1	1494	37.5	1912	40.8
Opioids	1316	54.0	1273	48.3	1252	44.8	1080	42.9	1088	36.2	1237	37.0	1316	32.3	1050	26.3	1149	24.5
Cannabis	459	18.8	508	19.3	522	18.7	444	17.6	548	18.2	539	16.1	682	16.8	655	16.4	767	16.4
Benzodiazepines	253	10.4	284	10.8	377	13.5	353	14.0	402	13.4	383	11.4	493	12.1	574	14.4	563	12.0
Polydrug use	1452	59.6	1416	53.7	1515	54.2	1475	58.6	1732	57.6	1871	55.9	2355	57.9	2313	58.0	2682	57.2
New cases	800		957		910		900		1102		1095		1307		1279		1403	
Median age (range ¹)	28	17–50	28	16–47	28	15–47	28	16–48	29	16–48	29	16–49	30	16–50	31	16–50	32	16–52
29 or under	453	56.6	526	55.0	513	56.4	483	53.7	554	50.3	560	51.1	649	49.7	572	44.7	580	41.3
30–49	300	37.5	390	40.8	363	39.9	378	42.0	508	46.1	482	44.0	588	45.0	641	50.1	723	51.5
50+	42	5.3	34	3.6	30	3.3	38	4.2	40	3.6	52	4.7	70	5.4	66	5.2	99	7.1
Median age first used drugs (range ¹)	16	12–33	16	12–32	15	12–30	16	12–32	16	12–33	16	12–33	16	12–32	16	12–32	16	12–34
Traveller	30	3.8	26	2.7	30	3.3	22	2.4	31	2.8	26	2.4	32	2.4	29	2.3	27	1.9
Education ceased before 16	191	23.9	205	21.4	185	20.3	177	19.7	238	21.6	222	20.3	232	17.8	241	18.8	247	17.6
In paid employment	120	15.0	190	19.9	162	17.8	158	17.6	243	22.1	310	28.3	384	29.4	297	23.2	358	25.5
Unemployed	486	60.8	541	56.5	465	51.1	512	56.9	605	54.9	539	49.2	649	49.7	731	57.2	764	54.5
Homeless	61	7.6	74	7.7	82	9.0	79	8.8	91	8.3	82	7.5	97	7.4	80	6.3	86	6.1
Time (years) to treatment for main problem drug (range ¹)	7	1–23	7	0–23	6	0–23	6	1–21	7	1–24	7	0–23	7	1–25	7	0–25	8	1–27
<i>Main problem drug reported</i>																		
Cocaine	123	15.4	216	22.6	207	22.7	251	27.9	361	32.8	381	34.8	504	38.6	515	40.3	636	45.3
Opioids	285	35.6	252	26.3	213	23.4	191	21.2	203	18.4	203	18.5	188	14.4	151	11.8	147	10.5
Cannabis	253	31.6	321	33.5	314	34.5	274	30.4	343	31.1	334	30.5	397	30.4	339	26.5	336	23.9
Benzodiazepines	87	10.9	108	11.3	122	13.4	144	16.0	140	12.7	123	11.2	140	10.7	170	13.3	156	11.1
Polydrug use	448	56.0	455	47.5	435	47.8	488	54.2	555	50.4	549	50.1	646	49.4	697	54.5	709	50.5
Previously treated cases	1536		1538		1710		1490		1771		2061		2511		2390		2931	
Median age (range ¹)	33	20–47	33	21–48	34	21–48	34	22–49	35	21–50	36	22–50	36	23–51	37	23–51	37	23–52
29 or under	525	34.2	486	31.6	538	31.5	431	28.9	450	25.4	469	22.8	509	20.3	476	19.9	602	20.5
30–49	948	61.7	980	63.7	1098	64.2	995	66.8	1227	69.3	1464	71.0	1833	73.0	1722	72.1	2098	71.6
50+	56	3.6	61	4.0	66	3.9	61	4.1	93	5.3	122	5.9	166	6.6	190	7.9	231	7.9
Median age first used drugs (range ¹)	15	11–26	15	11–27	15	11–24	15	12–25	15	12–27	15	12–27	15	12–26	15	11–26	15	12–26
Traveller	80	5.2	61	4.0	56	3.3	62	4.2	66	3.7	72	3.5	108	4.3	85	3.6	130	4.4
Education ceased before 16	577	37.6	539	35.0	542	31.7	530	35.6	623	35.2	706	34.3	894	35.6	794	33.2	993	33.9
In paid employment	118	7.7	167	10.9	152	8.9	126	8.5	209	11.8	251	12.2	305	12.1	275	11.5	347	11.8
Unemployed	1152	75.0	1121	72.9	1161	67.9	1125	75.5	1246	70.4	1430	69.4	1772	70.6	1789	74.9	1995	68.1
Homeless	219	14.3	196	12.7	254	14.9	214	14.4	267	15.1	310	15.0	312	12.4	273	11.4	393	13.4
<i>Main problem drug reported</i>																		
Cocaine	151	9.8	216	14.0	265	15.5	264	17.7	421	23.8	595	28.9	807	32.1	875	36.6	1101	37.6
Opioids	988	64.3	961	62.5	977	57.1	844	56.6	835	47.1	969	47.0	1060	42.2	852	35.6	957	32.7
Cannabis	175	11.4	159	10.3	173	10.1	146	9.8	187	10.6	186	9.0	233	9.3	223	9.3	378	12.9
Benzodiazepines	153	10.0	153	9.9	229	13.4	187	12.6	244	13.8	242	11.7	318	12.7	355	14.9	353	12.0
Polydrug use	966	62.9	915	59.5	1018	59.5	929	62.3	1134	64.0	1266	61.4	1647	65.6	1542	64.5	1848	63.1

1 Age range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

Table 8.2: Sociodemographic and drug use characteristics for cases of males treated for drugs as a main problem, NDTRS 2025

Males	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases	6449		7626		7859		7166		7750		8639		9009		9280		10702	
Median age (range ¹)	30	17–47	31	17–48	30	16–48	30	17–48	31	17–49	32	17–50	33	17–51	33	18–52	34	19–52
29 or under	3113	48.3	3476	45.6	3731	47.5	3327	46.4	3314	42.8	3411	39.5	3328	36.9	3324	35.8	3613	33.8
30–49	3092	47.9	3831	50.2	3773	48.0	3554	49.6	4072	52.5	4703	54.4	5034	55.9	5229	56.3	6192	57.9
50+	202	3.1	279	3.7	329	4.2	271	3.8	351	4.5	512	5.9	638	7.1	717	7.7	893	8.3
Median age first used drugs (range ¹)	14	11–20	14	11–21	14	11–21	15	11–22	15	11–22	15	11–23	15	11–23	15	11–23	15	11–23
Traveller	198	3.1	245	3.2	224	2.9	200	2.8	258	3.3	258	3.0	226	2.5	243	2.6	268	2.5
Education ceased before 16	2319	36.0	2758	36.2	2528	32.2	2406	33.6	2649	34.2	2801	32.4	2849	31.6	2914	31.4	3438	32.1
In paid employment	1018	15.8	1360	17.8	1363	17.3	1272	17.8	1736	22.4	2050	23.7	2186	24.3	2298	24.8	2473	23.1
Unemployed	3984	61.8	4594	60.2	4123	52.5	4007	55.9	4390	56.6	5009	58.0	5250	58.3	5718	61.6	6157	57.5
Homeless	563	8.7	700	9.2	811	10.3	706	9.9	946	12.2	1212	14.0	1109	12.3	1142	12.3	1247	11.7
Main problem drug reported																		
Cocaine	1211	18.8	1795	23.5	2042	26.0	2070	28.9	2422	31.3	3025	35.0	3532	39.2	3786	40.8	4613	43.1
Opioids	2684	41.6	3073	40.3	2878	36.6	2476	34.6	2539	32.8	2729	31.6	2524	28.0	2272	24.5	2742	25.6
Cannabis	1730	26.8	1847	24.2	1977	25.2	1665	23.2	1747	22.5	1694	19.6	1599	17.7	1599	17.2	1559	14.6
Benzodiazepines	611	9.5	715	9.4	705	9.0	744	10.4	813	10.5	902	10.4	984	10.9	1211	13.0	1160	10.8
Polydrug use	3632	56.3	4063	53.3	4339	55.2	4200	58.6	4530	58.5	4936	57.1	5352	59.4	5708	61.5	6839	63.9
New cases	2446		3000		3065		2886		3097		3347		3471		3478		3720	
Median age (range ¹)	25	15–45	26	15–44	25	15–45	26	15–45	27	16–45	27	16–46	28	15–48	29	16–48	30	16–50
29 or under	1554	63.5	1866	62.2	1992	65.0	1813	62.8	1851	59.8	1937	57.9	1885	54.3	1829	52.6	1842	49.5
30–49	808	33.0	1062	35.4	995	32.5	993	34.4	1159	37.4	1320	39.4	1441	41.5	1505	43.3	1683	45.2
50+	65	2.7	54	1.8	72	2.3	77	2.7	83	2.7	90	2.7	143	4.1	142	4.1	194	5.2
Median age first used drugs (range ¹)	15	11–21	15	12–23	15	12–23	15	12–24	15	12–24	15	12–24	15	12–25	15	12–25	15	12–26
Traveller	67	2.7	83	2.8	81	2.6	78	2.7	98	3.2	86	2.6	70	2.0	90	2.6	67	1.8
Education ceased before 16	642	26.2	739	24.6	701	22.9	662	22.9	793	25.6	807	24.1	818	23.6	756	21.7	784	21.1
In paid employment	527	21.5	752	25.1	738	24.1	743	25.7	971	31.4	1187	35.5	1179	34.0	1217	35.0	1358	36.5
Unemployed	1269	51.9	1486	49.5	1297	42.3	1256	43.5	1446	46.7	1529	45.7	1584	45.6	1675	48.2	1859	50.0
Homeless	137	5.6	174	5.8	181	5.9	150	5.2	196	6.3	232	6.9	237	6.8	214	6.2	259	7.0
Time (years) to treatment for main problem drug (range ¹)	7	1–23	6	1–24	6	1–23	6	1–23	7	1–24	8	1–24	8	1–26	8	1–26	9	1–27
Main problem drug reported																		
Cocaine	621	25.4	1013	33.8	1050	34.3	1106	38.3	1252	40.4	1456	43.5	1702	49.0	1716	49.3	1999	53.7
Opioids	522	21.3	467	15.6	463	15.1	358	12.4	326	10.5	394	11.8	317	9.1	262	7.5	200	5.4
Cannabis	1015	41.5	1182	39.4	1191	38.9	1058	36.7	1134	36.6	1119	33.4	988	28.5	965	27.7	856	23.0
Benzodiazepines	202	8.3	237	7.9	218	7.1	248	8.6	277	8.9	250	7.5	276	8.0	319	9.2	323	8.7
Polydrug use	1240	50.7	1438	47.9	1535	50.1	1518	52.6	1594	51.5	1714	51.2	1877	54.1	1975	56.8	2151	57.8
Previously treated cases	3686		4328		4211		3947		4314		4790		5069		5318		6387	
Median age (range ¹)	32	18–47	34	18–49	34	19–50	33	19–49	34	20–50	35	20–52	36	21–52	36	22–53	37	22–53
29 or under	1427	38.7	1462	33.8	1452	34.5	1378	34.9	1338	31.0	1339	28.0	1301	25.7	1358	25.5	1599	25.0
30–49	2119	57.5	2632	60.8	2507	59.5	2381	60.3	2726	63.2	3056	63.8	3310	65.3	3429	64.5	4139	64.8
50+	125	3.4	215	5.0	238	5.7	185	4.7	245	5.7	385	8.0	456	9.0	530	10.0	647	10.1
Median age first used drugs (range ¹)	14	10–19	14	10–20	14	11–20	14	11–20	14	11–20	14	11–22	14	11–21	14	11–21	14	11–20
Traveller	114	3.1	150	3.5	122	2.9	111	2.8	149	3.5	155	3.2	143	2.8	144	2.7	189	3.0
Education ceased before 16	1599	43.4	1920	44.4	1681	39.9	1635	41.4	1733	40.2	1905	39.8	1924	38.0	2048	38.5	2499	39.1
In paid employment	442	12.0	570	13.2	525	12.5	479	12.1	706	16.4	791	16.5	948	18.7	1009	19.0	1042	16.3
Unemployed	2550	69.2	2931	67.7	2548	60.5	2595	65.7	2752	63.8	3208	67.0	3407	67.2	3705	69.7	3979	62.3
Homeless	397	10.8	483	11.2	555	13.2	521	13.2	644	14.9	795	16.6	717	14.1	788	14.8	885	13.9
Main problem drug reported																		
Cocaine	540	14.7	726	16.8	808	19.2	861	21.8	1056	24.5	1385	28.9	1678	33.1	1885	35.4	2315	36.2
Opioids	2038	55.3	2514	58.1	2264	53.8	2010	50.9	2094	48.5	2160	45.1	2054	40.5	1916	36.0	2408	37.7
Cannabis	626	17.0	557	12.9	609	14.5	544	13.8	551	12.8	524	10.9	542	10.7	597	11.2	641	10.0
Benzodiazepines	379	10.3	443	10.2	432	10.3	444	11.2	497	11.5	586	12.2	663	13.1	747	14.0	765	12.0
Polydrug use	2249	61.0	2496	57.7	2529	60.1	2510	63.6	2788	64.6	3068	64.1	3342	65.9	3548	66.7	4407	69.0

¹ Age range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

Table 9: Sociodemographic characteristics of cases treated for cocaine as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cocaine	1500		2254		2560		2619		3248		4084		4923		5289		6535	
Median age (range ¹)	30	19–45	30	19–44	30	19–46	30	19–45	31	20–47	32	20–48	33	21–49	34	21–50	34	21–51
Under 18	26	1.7	39	1.7	40	1.6	45	1.7	29	0.9	50	1.2	28	0.6	19	0.4	19	0.3
Female	284	18.9	453	20.1	516	20.2	546	20.8	819	25.2	1056	25.9	1387	28.2	1494	28.2	1912	29.3
Homeless	56	3.7	107	4.7	151	5.9	150	5.7	252	7.8	386	9.5	479	9.7	483	9.1	676	10.3
Traveller	42	2.8	41	1.8	63	2.5	57	2.2	100	3.1	111	2.7	117	2.4	127	2.4	129	2.0
Education ceased before 16 years	390	26.0	598	26.5	636	24.8	644	24.6	865	26.6	1068	26.2	1287	26.1	1445	27.3	1667	25.5
In paid employment	502	33.5	790	35.0	783	30.6	791	30.2	1111	34.2	1369	33.5	1587	32.2	1633	30.9	1896	29.0
Unemployed	773	51.5	1144	50.8	1267	49.5	1321	50.4	1739	53.5	2269	55.6	2803	56.9	3201	60.5	3987	61.0
Retired/unable to work including disability	90	6.0	136	6.0	240	9.4	253	9.7	231	7.1	197	4.8	296	6.0	238	4.5	267	4.1
New cases	748		1232		1258		1359		1615		1839		2208		2235		2637	
Median age (range ¹)	28	18–44	29	19–43	28	19–44	29	19–44	30	19–45	29	19–45	30	20–47	31	20–48	32	21–49
Under 18	15	2.0	28	2.3	30	2.4	34	2.5	20	1.2	37	2.0	21	1.0	11	0.5	12	0.5
Female	123	16.4	216	17.5	207	16.5	251	18.5	359	22.2	381	20.7	504	22.8	515	23.0	636	24.1
Homeless	27	3.6	50	4.1	67	5.3	53	3.9	85	5.3	101	5.5	146	6.6	120	5.4	169	6.4
Traveller	19	2.5	19	1.5	37	2.9	30	2.2	51	3.2	47	2.6	41	1.9	50	2.2	50	1.9
Education ceased before 16 years	161	21.5	284	23.1	269	21.4	271	19.9	378	23.4	377	20.5	467	21.2	465	20.8	512	19.4
In paid employment	286	38.2	497	40.3	466	37.0	507	37.3	649	40.2	836	45.5	923	41.8	917	41.0	1057	40.1
Unemployed	357	47.7	570	46.3	560	44.5	583	42.9	777	48.1	843	45.8	1075	48.7	1168	52.3	1401	52.1
Retired/unable to work including disability	37	4.9	65	5.3	104	8.3	114	8.4	102	6.3	81	4.4	121	5.5	87	3.9	81	3.1
Previously treated	692		944		1074		1126		1478		1981		2485		2764		3421	
Median age (range ¹)	32	19–46	32	19–46	32	19–48	31	20–47	33	20–48	34	21–49	35	22–50	35	22–51	36	22–51
Under 18	9	1.3	10	1.1	9	0.8	7	0.6	9	0.6	12	0.6	7	0.3	8	0.3	7	0.2
Female	151	21.8	216	22.9	265	24.7	264	23.4	420	28.4	595	30.0	807	32.5	875	31.7	1101	32.2
Homeless	28	4.0	46	4.9	70	6.5	89	7.9	123	8.3	207	10.4	265	10.7	312	11.3	434	12.7
Traveller	20	2.9	20	2.1	24	2.2	22	2.0	43	2.9	58	2.9	69	2.8	68	2.5	71	2.1
Education ceased before 16 years	219	31.6	298	31.6	320	29.8	339	30.1	447	30.2	641	32.4	764	30.7	909	32.9	1037	30.3
In paid employment	193	27.9	272	28.8	250	23.3	249	22.1	426	28.8	485	24.5	620	24.9	668	24.2	782	22.9
Unemployed	394	56.9	538	57.0	600	55.9	687	61.0	877	59.3	1296	65.4	1595	64.2	1853	67.0	2298	67.2
Retired/unable to work including disability	46	6.6	62	6.6	123	11.5	114	10.1	118	8.0	112	5.7	165	6.6	146	5.3	176	5.1
Treatment status unknown	60		78		228		134		155		264		230		290		477	

~ Cells with five cases or fewer

¹ Age range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

Table 10: Sociodemographic characteristics of cases treated for opioids as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	N	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All opioids	4016		4349		4133		3559		3629		3971		3845		3326		3895	
Median age (range ¹)	34	23–49	36	23–50	36	23–51	36	23–51	37	24–51	38	25–53	39	25–54	40	26–54	40	26–54
Aged 40 or over	1071	26.7	1381	31.8	1407	34.0	1217	34.2	1418	39.1	1714	43.2	1831	47.6	1692	50.9	1986	51.0
Female	1316	32.8	1273	29.3	1252	30.3	1080	30.3	1088	30.0	1237	31.2	1316	34.2	1050	31.6	1149	29.5
Homeless	602	15.0	690	15.9	767	18.6	606	17.0	774	21.3	891	22.4	710	18.5	556	16.7	566	14.5
Traveller	180	4.5	176	4.0	142	3.4	130	3.7	133	3.7	135	3.4	135	3.5	113	3.4	187	4.8
Education ceased before 16 years	1842	45.9	1997	45.9	1698	41.1	1603	45.0	1592	43.9	1623	40.9	1556	40.5	1375	41.3	1740	44.7
In paid employment	312	7.8	389	8.9	322	7.8	260	7.3	346	9.5	417	10.5	436	11.3	375	11.3	331	8.5
Unemployed	3059	76.2	3245	74.6	2748	66.5	2623	73.7	2540	70.0	2750	69.3	2726	70.9	2484	74.7	2256	57.9
Retired/unable to work including disability	401	10.0	462	10.6	590	14.3	532	14.9	461	12.7	333	8.4	402	10.5	285	8.6	1073	27.5
New cases	809		719		676		550		530		597		505		413		348	
Median age (range ¹)	32	21–50	33	22–50	33	22–51	34	21–52	33	22–52	35	21–52	36	22–56	37	22–55	40	24–62
Aged 40 or over	177	21.9	170	23.6	150	22.2	157	28.5	160	30.2	191	32.0	189	37.4	168	40.7	175	50.3
Female	285	35.2	252	35.0	213	31.5	191	34.7	203	38.3	203	34.0	188	37.2	151	36.6	147	42.2
Homeless	106	13.1	112	15.6	125	18.5	66	12.0	82	15.5	82	13.7	63	12.5	56	13.6	39	11.2
Traveller	40	4.9	20	2.8	29	4.3	18	3.3	20	3.8	16	2.7	21	4.2	19	4.6	11	3.2
Education ceased before 16 years	300	37.1	246	34.2	230	34.0	188	34.2	187	35.3	186	31.2	151	29.9	118	28.6	105	30.2
In paid employment	94	11.6	100	13.9	77	11.4	72	13.1	85	16.0	124	20.8	114	22.6	88	21.3	80	23.0
Unemployed	599	74.0	526	73.2	445	65.8	381	69.3	350	66.0	374	62.6	308	61.0	268	64.9	220	63.2
Retired/unable to work including disability	64	7.9	54	7.5	97	14.3	61	11.1	61	11.5	52	8.7	56	11.1	38	9.2	32	9.2
Previously treated	3037		3478		3244		2856		2930		3133		3119		2772		3368	
Median age (range ¹)	35	23–48	24	50–37	37	24–51	36	24–51	37	25–51	38	26–53	39	26–53	40	26–54	40	27–54
Aged 40 or over	847	27.9	1171	33.7	1187	36.6	1010	35.4	1195	40.8	1426	45.5	1552	49.8	1461	52.7	1737	51.6
Female	988	32.5	961	27.6	977	30.1	844	29.6	835	28.5	969	30.9	1060	34.0	852	30.7	957	28.4
Homeless	474	15.6	551	15.8	583	18.0	511	17.9	616	21.0	691	22.1	534	17.1	450	16.2	495	14.7
Traveller	129	4.2	150	4.3	105	3.2	107	3.7	110	3.8	111	3.5	110	3.5	92	3.3	166	4.9
Education ceased before 16 years	1492	49.1	1685	48.4	1399	43.1	1352	47.3	1329	45.4	1395	44.5	1359	43.6	1223	44.1	1584	47.0
In paid employment	201	6.6	279	8.0	230	7.1	182	6.4	252	8.6	276	8.8	313	10.0	280	10.1	243	7.2
Unemployed	2358	77.6	2604	74.9	2189	67.5	2148	75.2	2077	70.9	2228	71.1	2270	72.8	2117	76.4	1964	58.3
Retired/unable to work including disability	324	10.7	394	11.3	448	13.8	424	14.8	388	13.2	279	8.9	336	10.8	238	8.6	967	28.7
Treatment status unknown	170		152		213		153		169		241		221		141		179	

~ Cells with five cases or fewer

¹ Age range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

Table 11: Cases treated for drugs with children aged 17 years or under, NDTRS 2025

	All cases		Female		Male	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Have children	6086		2299		3784	
Median age (range ¹)	36	(24-49)	35	(24-47)	36	(24-49)
Living with child	2353	38.7	1173	51.0	1180	31.2
Children live elsewhere	3733	61.3	1126	49.0	2604	68.8
In paid employment	1344	22.1	316	13.7	1028	27.2
Homeless	735	12.1	268	11.7	466	12.3
New treatment entrant	1961	32.2	657	28.6	1304	34.5
Polydrug use	3916	64.3	1417	61.6	2498	66.0

¹ Age range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

See Terms, conditions & notes for more information on definitions

Table 12: Number of cases treated for drugs as a main problem by HSE Health Region area of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
All cases	8922	10274	10664	9702	10769	12009	13104	13295	15422
HSE Dublin and North East	2462	3006	2980	2825	3517	4026	4693	4649	5104
HSE Dublin and Midlands	1976	2571	2746	2365	2797	2959	3063	3108	3571
HSE Dublin and South East	1570	1725	1728	1553	1642	1833	2011	2248	2548
HSE South West	1055	1169	1216	1007	939	994	1045	1029	1113
HSE Mid West	749	843	851	839	859	832	907	874	1324
HSE West and North West	653	588	698	716	670	770	778	822	950
Other/unknown	457	372	445	397	345	595	607	565	812
New cases	3257	3962	3979	3796	4206	4456	4792	4771	5134
HSE Dublin and North East	711	1006	971	1002	1259	1229	1481	1391	1393
HSE Dublin and Midlands	667	907	932	860	1038	1082	1164	1138	1263
HSE Dublin and South East	676	767	767	679	715	832	894	965	985
HSE South West	467	530	515	465	431	487	505	425	445
HSE Mid West	310	417	420	419	403	382	331	369	427
HSE West and North West	314	255	300	256	296	358	324	389	463
Other/unknown	112	80	74	115	64	86	93	94	158
Previously treated	5242	5872	5927	5441	6090	6860	7588	7717	9333
HSE Dublin and North East	1627	1826	1708	1659	2074	2519	2853	2850	3359
HSE Dublin and Midlands	1157	1579	1630	1414	1637	1706	1781	1819	2107
HSE Dublin and South East	846	898	864	843	895	970	1086	1244	1513
HSE South West	567	627	681	534	496	494	532	585	646
HSE Mid West	409	396	382	372	437	432	558	468	691
HSE West and North West	312	284	338	362	315	359	382	400	455
Other/unknown	324	262	324	257	236	380	396	351	562
Treatment status unknown	423	440	758	465	473	693	724	807	955

Regional health areas

HSE Dublin and North East: North Dublin, Meath, Louth, Cavan, Monaghan

HSE Dublin and Midlands: Longford, Westmeath, Offaly, Laois, Kildare, parts of Dublin and Wicklow

HSE Dublin and South East: Tipperary South, Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford, Wicklow, part of South Dublin HSE South West: Kerry and Cork

HSE Mid West: Limerick, Tipperary North, Clare

HSE West and North West: Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon, Mayo, Galway

Table 13: Number of cases treated for cocaine as a main problem, by county of residence, NDTRS 2017–2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%		%		%
All cases	1500		2254		2560		2619		3248		4084		4923		5289		6535	
Carlow	11	0.7	15	0.7	24	0.9	28	1.1	30	0.9	42	1.0	49	1.0	61	1.2	71	1.1
Cavan	11	0.7	~	~	21	0.8	14	0.5	22	0.7	40	1.0	35	0.7	45	0.9	54	0.8
Clare	30	2.0	42	1.9	57	2.2	51	1.9	51	1.6	64	1.6	81	1.6	69	1.3	129	2.0
Cork	124	8.3	185	8.2	220	8.6	234	8.9	193	5.9	260	6.4	290	5.9	296	5.6	346	5.3
Donegal	31	2.1	44	2.0	69	2.7	65	2.5	61	1.9	89	2.2	97	2.0	109	2.1	147	2.2
Dublin	772	51.5	1195	53.0	1316	51.4	1323	50.5	1751	53.9	2204	54.0	2765	56.2	2936	55.5	3425	52.4
Galway	20	1.3	15	0.7	33	1.3	33	1.3	40	1.2	35	0.9	79	1.6	90	1.7	112	1.7
Kerry	26	1.7	49	2.2	65	2.5	50	1.9	66	2.0	79	1.9	76	1.5	78	1.5	87	1.3
Kildare	28	1.9	44	2.0	47	1.8	61	2.3	99	3.0	127	3.1	137	2.8	158	3.0	159	2.4
Kilkenny	11	0.7	31	1.4	31	1.2	21	0.8	32	1.0	31	0.8	45	0.9	45	0.9	69	1.1
Laois	13	0.9	32	1.4	31	1.2	36	1.4	35	1.1	59	1.4	43	0.9	52	1.0	94	1.4
Leitrim	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	9	0.2	10	0.2	9	0.2	11	0.2
Limerick	72	4.8	137	6.1	147	5.7	134	5.1	167	5.1	173	4.2	209	4.2	221	4.2	446	6.8
Longford	~	~	~	~	11	0.4	16	0.6	15	0.5	30	0.7	30	0.6	27	0.5	47	0.7
Louth	43	2.9	54	2.4	61	2.4	50	1.9	86	2.6	101	2.5	115	2.3	109	2.1	113	1.7
Mayo	12	0.8	16	0.7	13	0.5	38	1.5	28	0.9	43	1.1	46	0.9	39	0.7	43	0.7
Meath	39	2.6	48	2.1	33	1.3	47	1.8	93	2.9	106	2.6	112	2.3	115	2.2	150	2.3
Monaghan	~	~	0	0.0	~	~	8	0.3	10	0.3	9	0.2	11	0.2	18	0.3	17	0.3
Offaly	6	0.4	21	0.9	20	0.8	13	0.5	30	0.9	24	0.6	31	0.6	33	0.6	42	0.6
Roscommon	14	0.9	14	0.6	17	0.7	35	1.3	28	0.9	32	0.8	33	0.7	34	0.6	40	0.6
Sligo	14	0.9	14	0.6	17	0.7	20	0.8	15	0.5	23	0.6	17	0.3	36	0.7	48	0.7
Tipperary	55	3.7	69	3.1	85	3.3	85	3.2	114	3.5	144	3.5	188	3.8	203	3.8	239	3.7
Waterford	54	3.6	68	3.0	61	2.4	66	2.5	68	2.1	87	2.1	114	2.3	148	2.8	170	2.6
Westmeath	8	0.5	15	0.7	24	0.9	14	0.5	12	0.4	21	0.5	48	1.0	40	0.8	45	0.7
Wexford	39	2.6	50	2.2	60	2.3	56	2.1	85	2.6	92	2.3	97	2.0	102	1.9	164	2.5
Wicklow	49	3.3	81	3.6	87	3.4	102	3.9	94	2.9	143	3.5	130	2.6	173	3.3	212	3.2
Outside Ireland	7	0.5	~	~	~	~	11	0.4	18	0.6	17	0.4	31	0.6	41	0.8	50	0.8
Ireland Unknown	7	0.5	~	~	~	~	~	~	0	0.0	0	0.0	~	~	~	~	~	~
Total	1500		2254		2560		2619		3248		4084		4923		5289		6535	

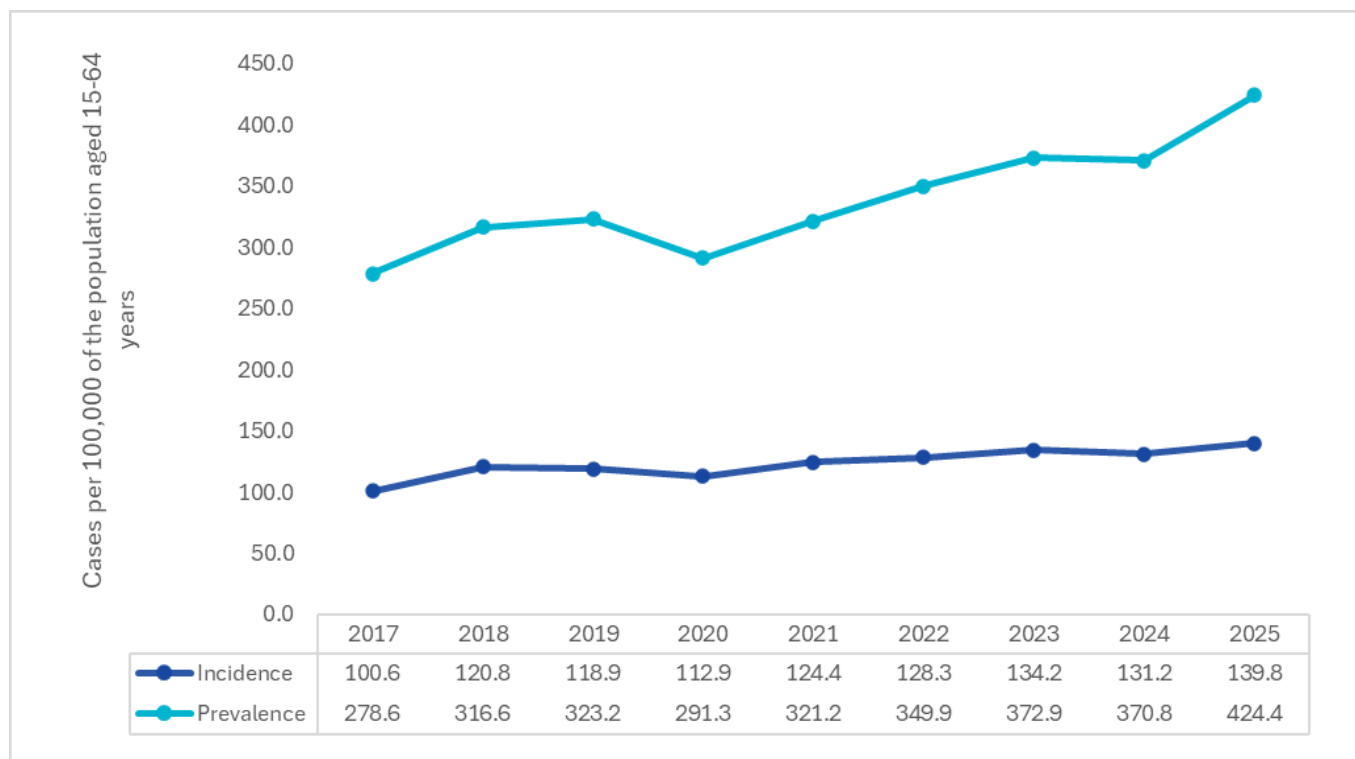
Table 14: Reason for treatment exit, NDTRS 2025

	n	%
All cases exiting treatment	13419	
Client did not return for appointments ('no show')	4038	30.1
Treatment completed	4224	31.5
Client declined further treatment	1658	12.4
Transferred/referred to treatment in another drug/alcohol service	1688	12.6
Sentenced to prison	293	2.2
Premature exit from treatment for non-compliance	273	2.0
Medical or mental health reasons	115	0.9
No longer lives in the area	156	1.2
Died	93	0.7
Staffing issues (resignation/retirement/maternity etc.)	18	0.1
Released from prison but not linked to other treatment service	310	2.3
Prison to prison transfer	192	1.4
Unable to attend due to work/study commitments	109	0.8
Other	123	0.9
Unknown	128	0.9

Table 15: Cases treated for drugs as a main problem, by new and continuing care cases, NDTRS 2025

	Cases commencing treatment in 2025		Continuous care cases 1 January 2025		Total (commencement plus continuous care)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases	15422		12845		28267	
New cases	5134	33.3	3139	24.4	8273	29.3
Previously treated cases	9333	60.5	8944	69.6	18277	64.7
Treatment status unknown	955	6.2	762	5.9	1717	6.1

Figure 3: Incidence and prevalence of treated problem drug use, aged 15 to 64 years, per 100,000*, NDTRS 2017 to 2025



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Incidence	100.6	120.8	118.9	112.9	124.4	128.3	134.2	131.2	139.8
Prevalence	278.6	316.6	323.2	291.3	321.2	349.9	372.9	370.8	424.4

* Population data are taken from the Central Statistics Office at: <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-pme/populationandmigration/>