



# Census of Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services in Northern Ireland – 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017



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Statistics and research for the **Department of Health** is provided by Information Analysis Directorate (IAD). It comprises four statistical sections: Hospital Information, Community Information, Public Health Information & Research and Project Support Analysis.

IAD is responsible for compiling, processing, analysing, interpreting and disseminating a wide range of statistics covering health and social care.

The statisticians within IAD are out-posted from the Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency (NISRA) and our statistics are produced in accordance with the principles and protocols set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

#### **About Public Health Information and Research Branch**

The role of Public Health Information and Research Branch (PHIRB) is to support the public health survey function and to provide support on public health issues within the Department. The head of the branch is the Principal Statistician, Mr. Bill Stewart.

In support of the public health survey function, PHIRB is involved in the commissioning, managing and publishing of results from departmental funded surveys, such as the Health Survey Northern Ireland, All Ireland Drug Prevalence Survey, Young Persons Behaviour & Attitudes Survey, and the Adult Drinking Patterns Survey.

PHIRB also has responsibility for the management of a programme of patient experience surveys across the Health and Social Care sector.

PHIRB provides support to a range of key DoH strategies including Making Life Better, a 10 year cross-departmental public health strategic framework as well as a range of other departmental strategies such as those dealing with suicide, sexual health, breastfeeding, tobacco control and obesity prevention. It also has a key role in supporting the Alcohol and Drug New Strategic Direction 2011-2016, by maintaining and developing key departmental databases such as, the Substance Misuse Database, Impact Measurement Tool and the Census of Drug & Alcohol Treatment Services, which are all used to monitor drug misuse and treatments across Northern Ireland.

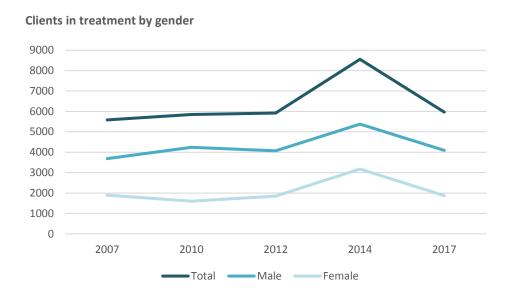
The branch also houses the NI Health and Social Care Inequalities Monitoring System which covers a range of different health inequality/equality based projects conducted for both the region as well as for more localised area levels.

# Census of Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services in Northern Ireland – 1st March 2017

This bulletin summarises information on clients who were receiving treatment for problem alcohol and/or drugs as at 1 March 2017. As with previous censuses, the number of clients in treatment is defined as 'live cases' where individuals are being treated on a one-to-one basis. These figures may include a small element of double-counting as individuals may be receiving treatment in more than one organisation. It represents a snapshot figure and cannot be used to derive treatment over the entire year.

In Northern Ireland on 1 March 2017:

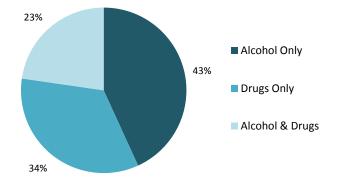
5,969 persons were reported to be in treatment for misuse of alcohol and/or drugs



This number has been relatively stable over the last ten years with the exception of 2014. It should be noted that additional lottery-funded alcohol projects were running during 2014 which would have contributed to the increased number of clients in that year.

# **Treatment type**

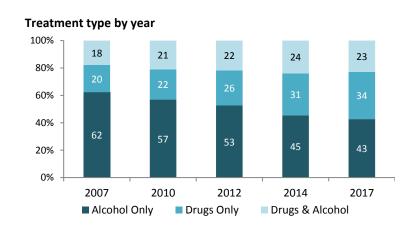
# Clients in treatment for alcohol and / or drug misuse by treatment type



Of those in treatment, over two-fifths (43%) were in treatment for alcohol only, while a third (34%) were in treatment for drugs only and a quarter (23%) were in treatment for both drugs and alcohol.

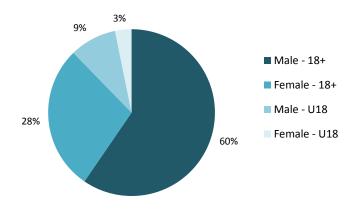
# Over the last decade, there has been a change in the type of treatment being sought;

There has been a relative fall in the proportion of those in treatment for alcohol from four-fifths (80%) to two-thirds (66%) whereas the proportion of clients in treatment for drugs has increased from 38% to 57%.



# Age & Gender

# Clients in treatment for alcohol and/or drugs misuse by age and gender



Differences in treatment type were found between males and females, and between the two age-groups.

With the exception of males under 18, higher proportions of clients were in treatment for alcohol than for drugs.

## Under 18s

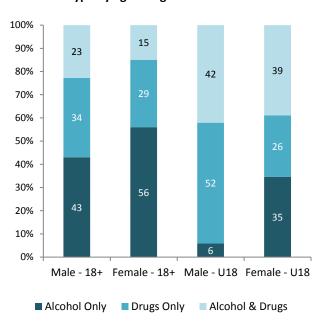
Males were twice as likely as females to be in treatment for drugs only; females were six times more likely to be in treatment for alcohol only.

### *18+*

Males were more likely to be in treatment for drugs only and combined drugs/alcohol; females were more likely to be in treatment for alcohol only. Of those in treatment for alcohol and /or drugs, threefifths (60%) were males aged 18 and over, with more than a quarter (28%) being females aged 18 and over. Three times as many male clients under 18 (9%) were in treatment than female clients under 18 (3%).

Overall, a quarter of all those in treatment were males aged 18 and over who were receiving treatment for alcohol misuse, while a further fifth were males aged 18 and over who were receiving treatment for drug misuse.

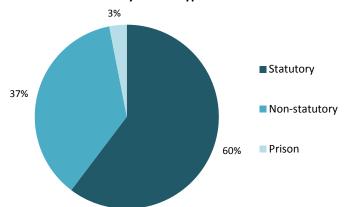
## Treatment type by age and gender



# **Service type**

Three-fifths of clients (60%) received treatment through statutory organisations, with 37% receiving treatment though non-statutory organisations, and 3% receiving treatment in prison.

### Clients in treatment by Service type

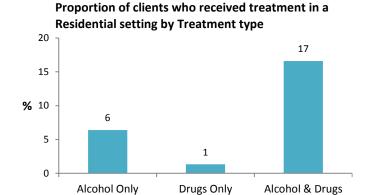


The majority (81%) of those aged under 18 received treatment through non-statutory organisations. For those aged 18 and over, around two-thirds received treatment through statutory organisations and 31% received treatment through non-statutory organisations.

#### **Residential Status**

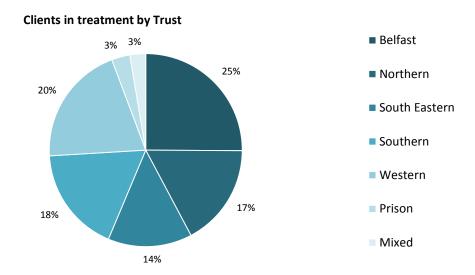
The majority of clients (89%) were being treated in a non-residential setting.

Those who were being treated for both drugs and alcohol were more likely to have received treatment in a residential setting (17%) than those being treated for drugs only (1%) or alcohol only (6%).



# **Health and Social Care Trust**

A quarter of clients were receiving treatment in the Belfast Trust area. The remaining Trusts accounted for around a fifth of clients with the exception of the South Eastern Trust with 14%.

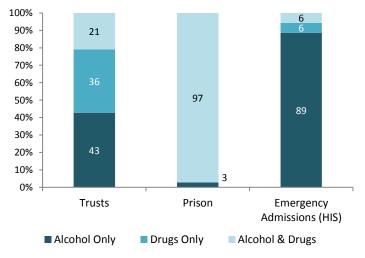


Around two-thirds of clients in all Trust areas were male (ranging from 64% in the Western Trust to 71% in the Belfast Trust).

Around two-fifths of clients (43%) who were in treatment within Trusts were in treatment for alcohol only, compared with 89% of those who were emergency admissions on the Hospital Inpatient System (HIS) and 3% of those in prison. The majority (97%) of clients in prison were in treatment for both drugs and alcohol, compared with 21% within Trusts.

Overall just over one-tenth (12%) of clients receiving treatment were aged under 18, but this varied across Trust areas from 3% of clients in the Southern Trust area to 21% in the Belfast Trust.

# Treatment type by Trust



# **Summary Statistics Map by Trust**

# **Belfast HSC Trust**



# Number of clients: 1,498 (25%)

71% Males; 29% Females 21% Under 18; 79% 18 & Over

31% - Alcohol only

43% - Drugs only

26% - Alcohol & Drugs

# **Northern HSC Trust**



# Number of clients: 1,023 (17%)

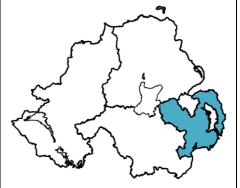
70% Males; 30% Females 8% Under 18; 92% 18 & Over

43% - Alcohol only

48% - Drugs only

8% - Alcohol & Drugs

# **South Eastern HSC Trust**



# Number of clients: 841 (14%)

66% Males; 34% Females 15% Under 18; 85% 18 & Over

42% - Alcohol only

39% - Drugs only

19% - Alcohol & Drugs

# **Southern HSC Trust**



# Number of clients: 1,058 (18%)

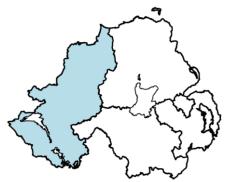
67% Males; 33% Females 3% Under 18; 97% 18 & Over

53% - Alcohol only

24% - Drugs only

23% - Alcohol & Drugs

# **Western HSC Trust**



# Number of clients: 1,208 (20%)

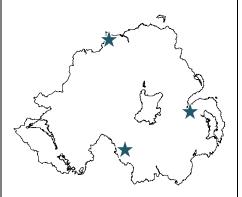
64% Males; 36% Females 12.5% Under 18; 87.5% 18 & Over

51% - Alcohol only

24% - Drugs only

25% - Alcohol & Drugs

# HM Prisons (Marked with stars ★)



# Number of clients: 183 (3%)

94% Males; 6% Females

3% - Alcohol only

0% - Drugs only

97% - Alcohol & Drugs

#### **Contributors to the Census**

Dunlewey Substance Advice Centre - Cavehill Road

Dunlewey Substance Advice Centre - Stewartstown Road

Dunlewey Substance Advice Centre - Armagh (Alcohol Only)

Dunlewey Substance Advice Centre - Portadown

**DAISY** - Belfast

**DAISY** - West

**DAISY - South East** 

DAISY - North

Addiction NI - Elmwood

Addiction NI - Falls

Addicton NI - Western

Addiction NI - RATSDAM - Alcohol & You

Addiction NI Older Focus

Addiction NI - PHA

Belfast Community Addiction Team

South Belfast Drug Outreach Team

**DAMHS** - Belfast

Carrick 1 Ward - Holywell Hospital Inpatient Unit

Ballymena CAT - Railway Street Ballymena CAT - Parkmore Drive

Ballymena CAT - Drug Arrest Referral Scheme

Ards Community Addiction Team

Ards Benzo's Project

Down Community Addiction Team

Down and Lisburn Benzo's Project

Lisburn Community Addiction Team

Addiction Unit - St Luke's Hospital - Newry and Mourne

Addiction Unit - St Luke's Hospital - Craigavon & Banbridge

Addiction Unit - St Luke's Hospital - Armagh & Dungannon

Alcohol Liaison Midwifery Service - Southern Trust

Alcohol Liaison Nurse Service - Southern Trust

**Derry CAT** 

**Omagh CAT** 

**Derry CAMHS** 

**Omagh CAMHS** 

AD:EPT (Hydebank)

AD:EPT (Maghaberry)

AD:EPT (Magilligan)

**HURT - Have Your Tomorrows - Derry** 

Rathlin Ward - Knockbracken Healthcare Park

Ward J - Mater Hospital

Ward K - Mater Hospital

Ward L - Mater Hospital

Ward Lissan 1 - Holywell Hospital

Tobernaveen Lower - Acute Admissions - Holywell Hospital

Tobernaveen Upper - Acute Admissions - Holywell Hospital

**CAMHS** - Massereene House Antrim

Woodlands Welless Hub - Whiteabbey Hospital

Mental Health Unit - Downe Hospital

Inpatient Addictions Unit - Shimna House

Ward 12 - Lagan Valley Hospital

Ward 27, Ulster Hospital

**CAMHS Southern Trust** 

Bluestone Unit - Craigavon Area Hospital

Addiction Treatment Unit - Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital

Lime Ward - Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital

ASCERT - Lisburn

ASCERT - West Adult and Youth Treatment

ASCERT - North Youth Treatment

Barnardos - Pharos Project

Barnardos - Southern Trust

Falls Community Council - Drugs Programme

Carlisle House Substance Misuse Treatment Centre - Belfast

Carlisle House Substance Misuse Treatment Centre -

Northern

SOLACE - ARC Healthy Living Centre

Cuan Mhuire - Newry

**EXTERN - Alcohol Housing Support Service** 

**EXTERN - Drug Accommodation Support Project** 

EXTERN - STEP 2 Drug & Alcohol Service Northern Trust

**EXTERN - Low Threshold - Southern Trust** 

DePaul - Foyle Haven - Housing First

DePaul - Foyle Haven - Floating Support

DePaul - Stella Maris Belfast

DePaul - Mater Dei Belfast

DePaul - Cloverhill Dunmurry

Northlands - Derry

**Outreach Service - Simon Community** 

Women's Aid

**DePaul - Dungannon Floating Support** 

DePaul - Dungannon Castlehill

Emergency Admissions - Hospital Inpatient System

<sup>\*</sup>A total of 64 organisations participated in both the 2014 and the 2017 Censuses.