



Inter Agency Drug Misuse Database

St Helens Drug Audit

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Introduction

The Inter Agency Drug Misuse Database (IAD), which was set up by the five Merseyside Drug (and Alcohol) Action Teams (D(A)ATs), Merseyside Police and the Public Health Sector in 1997, is intended to help fulfil the need for local information on drug misuse. In particular the IAD aims to enable D(A)ATs to report on local progress towards performance targets outlined in Tackling Drugs to Build a Better Britain (Department of Health, 1998). Unlike other local databases, the IAD reports data on drug misusers who come into contact with the criminal justice system (CJS), as well as health services. In addition, services that could enhance the information available to the IAD are continually being highlighted and encouraged to report.

The following data have been provided by the Merseyside IAD for inclusion in D(A)AT/CDRP audits. Findings relate to attributable data, provided to the IAD at the Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University, unless otherwise stated. Attributable data relates to individuals for whom First and Last Initials, Date of Birth and Gender have been supplied by data providers.

ARRESTS UNDER MISUSE OF DRUGS ACT (1971)

Methodological notes

Arrests are for trigger offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971); Possession of, Supply of, or Possession with intent to Supply, Class A drugs.

Table 1: No. arrested within St Helens DAT by Gender (2003/04)

	n (%)
Male	54 (85.7)
Female	9 (14.3)
Totals	63 (100)

Table 2: No. arrested by Age group within St Helens DAT (2003/04)

Age group	n (%)
Under 25	28 (44.4)
25+	35 (55.6)
Totals	63 (100)

Table 3: Drug of arrest within St Helens DAT (2003/04)

Drug	n (%)
Cocaine	14 (22.3)
Crack	4 (6.4)
Heroin	18 (28.5)
LSD	0 (0.0)
MDMA	7 (11.0)
Methadone	2 (3.2)
Other Class A	3 (4.8)
Mismatch*	15 (23.8)
Totals	63 (100)

*"Mismatch" refers to incidents where the Home Office offence code does not match the stated offence. The codes supplied do not allow accurate analysis of precisely which drug, or drug-related charge, these individuals were arrested for.

Table 4: Offences within St Helens DAT (2003/04)

Offence	n (%)
Possession with intent to supply	35 (55.5)
Possession of Class A	22 (35.0)
Supply Class A	6 (9.5)
Totals	63 (100)

Table 5: No. arrested under Misuse of Drugs Act within St Helens DAT

		n
Total arrested	2001/02	71
	2003/04	63
Male	2001/02	57
	2003/04	54
Female	2001/02	14
	2003/04	9
Under 25	2001/02	21
	2003/04	295
25+	2001/02	50
	2003/04	428

No figures for 2002/03 were available at the time of this report.

Fluctuations in arrests over time may, in part, be attributed to changes in National Crime Reporting standards.

Arrest Referral (AR)

Methodological Note

The total number of assessments figure is based on one person per location per date; this is to ensure duplicate data are not included. Duplicate records may appear for the same individual twice on the same day. In these circumstances data are aggregated to a single record.

Table 6: within St Helens DAT by Gender (2003/04)

	n (%)
Male	270 (76.0)
Female	85 (24.0)
Unknown	0 (0.0)
Totals	355 (100)

Table 7: within St Helens DAT by Age Group (2003/04)

Age group	n (%)
Under 25	52 (14.6)
25+	303 (85.4)
Totals	355 (100)

Table 8: within St Helens DAT by Drug of use (2003/04)

Drug	n (%)
Cocaine	19 (5.3)
Crack	109 (30.7)
Heroin	318 (89.6)
Methadone	39 (11.0)

Methodological note: Drugs may be represented multiple times within the dataset. Percentages in Table 8 are therefore a proportion of the total number of individuals (as detailed in Table 7).

Table 9: Offences within St Helens DAT (2003/04)

Offence	n (%)
Auto crime	13 (3.6)
Burglary	20 (5.6)
Fraud	4 (1.1)
Handling stolen goods	0 (0.0)
Shoplifting	180 (50.7)
Street Robbery	11 (3.1)
Soliciting	10 (2.8)
Selling/Possession of Drugs	10 (2.8)
Other	85 (23.9)

Methodological note: Offences may be represented multiple times within the dataset. Percentages in Table 9 are therefore a proportion of the total number of individuals (as detailed in Table 7).

Table 10: Comparison by year within St Helens DAT

		n
Total seen	2001/02	476
	2002/03	386
	2003/04	355
Males	2001/02	350
	2002/03	270
	2003/04	270
Females	2001/02	126
	2002/03	116
	2003/04	85
Under 25	2001/02	99
	2002/03	67
	2003/04	52
25+	2001/02	377
	2002/03	296
	2003/04	303
No. Referred*	2001/02	270
	2002/03	253
	2003/04	185

* Referred to Specialist Drug Agency

Syringe Exchange Services

Methodological note

Tables 11 – 17 refer to attributable data only, unless otherwise specified. The pharmacy data in particular, is lacking attributable information for a large percentage of cases.

Table 11: All Clients and New Clients within St Helens DAT 2003

		All n (%)	New n (%)
Agency	Male	645 (92.1)	219 (93.2)
	Female	55 (7.9)	16 (6.8)
	Totals	700 (100)	235 (100)
Pharmacy	Male	146 (88.5)	106 (88.3)
	Female	19 (11.5)	14 (11.7)
	Totals	165 (100)	120 (100)

Table 12: Total Clients: by Age Group within St Helens DAT (2003)

		St Helens n (%)
Agency	Under 25	128 (18.3)
	25+	572 (81.7)
	Totals	700 (100)
Pharmacy	Under 25	23 (14.0)
	25+	142 (86.0)
	Totals	165 (100)

Table 13: 2003 Exchanges (Pharmacy only)*

	n
Syringes provided	4128

*Due to problems with data quality and reporting, it is not possible to calculate accurate returns for the pharmacy syringe exchanges. Figures here are based purely on number of syringes provided.

Table 14: 2003 Exchanges (Agency only)

	n
Syringes provided	94823
Returns	141020

Table 15: Non Attributable Exchanges (2003)

		n
Agency	Syringes	173
	Returns	200
Pharmacy*	Syringes	4975

*Due to problems with data quality and reporting, it is not possible to calculate accurate returns for the pharmacy syringe exchanges. Figures here are based purely on number of syringes provided.

Table 16: 2003 Main Drug of Use (Agency only)

	All Clients n (%)	New Clients n (%)
Heroin	249 (44.1)	85 (52.8)
Methadone	38 (6.7)	0 (0.0)
Amphetamines	57 (10.1)	7 (4.3)
Steroids	170 (30.1)	69 (42.9)
Cocaine*	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Other	51 (9.0)	0 (0.0)
Totals	565(100)	161 (100)

Drug of use is not available for Pharmacy datasets at this time

* Including Crack

Table 17: Total seen within St Helens DAT by year

Year	Agency	Pharmacy
2001	516	127
2002	529	124
2003	700	165

Individuals not number of visits

Table 18: Total Visits & Syringes provided (2003 only)

		Visits	Syringe
Agency	Attributable	5449	94823
	Non Attributable	9	173
Pharmacy	Attributable	755	4128
	Non Attributable	625	4975
Totals		6838	104099

Combined syringe exchange data**Table 19: Total clients in syringe exchange, by DAT of treatment (2003)**

	No.
St Helens	830

Table 20: Gender of the combined syringe exchange clients, by DAT of treatment (2003)

	No.	%
Female	72	8.70
Male	758	91.30
Total	830	100.00

Table 21: Age of the combined syringe exchange clients, by DAT of treatment (2003)

	No.	%
<16	1	0.10%
16-17	3	0.40%
18-19	17	2.00%
20-24	117	14.10%
25-29	223	26.90%
30-34	235	28.30%
35-39	146	17.60%
40-44	57	6.90%
45-49	21	2.50%
50+	10	1.20%
Total	830	100.00%

Alcohol

These tables have been calculated using Mortality data, Hospital Episode statistics and Recorded Crime statistics and an attributable fraction, which estimates the number of crimes that are alcohol-related (e.g. 37% of all violence against the person offences are thought to be alcohol-related).

The data presented here is drawn from Hughes K, Tocque K, Humphrey GP and Bellis MA (eds.) (2004). Taking measures: A situational analysis of alcohol in the North West. Liverpool: Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University.

All figures are for 2002.

Table 22: Estimated Numbers and rate per 1000 population for Deaths attributable to Alcohol: within St Helens DAT by Gender.

	n	
Estimated Numbers	Male	49 to 65
	Female	24 to 47
Estimated Rate per 1000	Male	0.76
	Female	0.52

Table 23: Estimated Numbers and rate per 1000 population for Hospital Episodes attributable to Alcohol within St Helens DAT by Gender

	n	
Estimated Numbers	Male	888 to 1166
	Female	628 to 921
Estimated Rate per 1000	Male	13.60
	Female	10.11

Table 24: Estimated rate per 1000 population for Crime and Violence attributable to Alcohol: within St Helens DAT by Gender.

	n
Crime rate per 1000	9.45
Violence rate per 1000	5.03

Structured drug treatment 2003/04

Introduction

All results in this section are taken from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS). The NDTMS is the standard method, commissioned by the National Treatment Agency (NTA), to assess the extent and nature of structured drug treatment (i.e. Tiers 3 and 4). Clients are entered onto the NDTMS at the point of triage.

The majority of government targets (CHAI, PSA, LDP etc.) are assessed in terms of clients DAT of residence. However, following the Treatment Prevalence section (Tables 25 – 28), all results are presented in terms of their DAT of treatment. Assessing a client's DAT of residence can be problematic – particularly for low threshold services such as syringe exchange – and so in order to maximise the completeness of the data, and consistency between sections of the report, all figures are presented in terms of DAT of treatment.

A second document will be released during the week starting September 20th providing a similar set of figures, this time broken down by DAT of residence. This second set of figures will be suitable for use for the Home Office's Performance Management Framework (PMF) return.

Methodological note

Each client is counted once: in the DAT area(s) where they live for the DAT of residence figures; or, in the DAT(s) where they made contact with treatment services, for the DAT of treatment figures.

Treatment Prevalence in 2001/02 and 2003/04

The number of people in contact with structured drug treatment services has been provided both in terms of the clients' DAT of residence (i.e. where they live) and by DAT of treatment (i.e. where the treatment is provided).

Maps

The map below provides a geographic representation of the distribution of people in contact with treatment services. Despite governmental requests for the analysis of treatment data by ward, it is not possible to analyse NDTMS data at this level as the data currently provided to the NDTMS only includes truncated postcodes (i.e. the last two digits are removed), which makes analysis and ward level inaccurate. However, in order to provide a detailed breakdown of clients' area of residence the coloured areas in the maps represent postcode areas (e.g. L7, CH41 etc). The overlaid black lines are the ward boundaries. In many cases the postcode and ward boundaries differ.

Figure A: Treatment prevalence in Knowsley

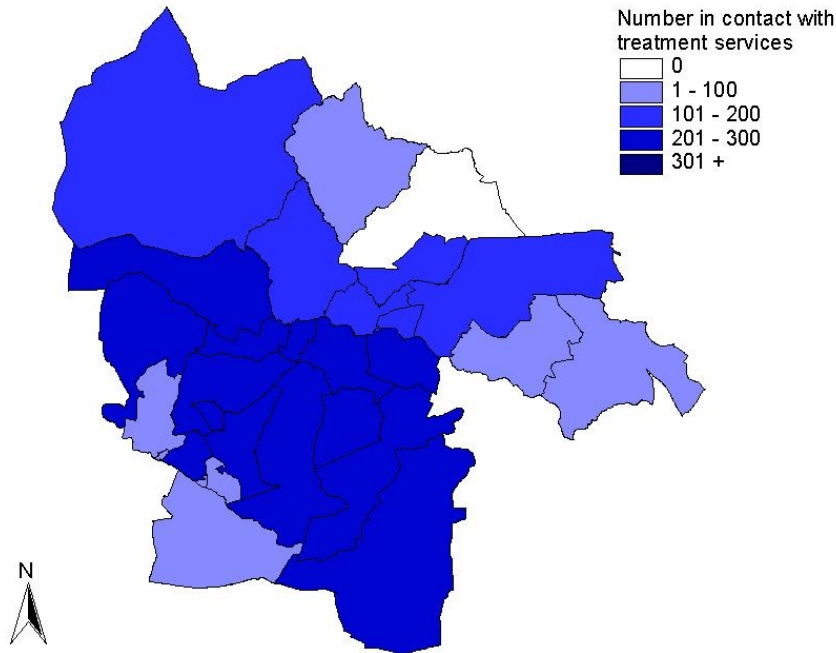


Table 25: Number of people in contact with treatment service, by DAT of residence

	2001/02	2003/04	% change
	No.	No.	
St Helens	483	797	65.01

Table 26: Number of people in contact with treatment service, by DAT of treatment

	2001/02	2003/04	% change
	No.	No.	
St Helens	492	761	54.7

Table 27: Number of people triaged, by DAT of residence

	2001/02	2003/04	% change
	No.	No.	
St Helens	255	435	70.59

Table 28: Number of people triaged, by DAT of treatment

	2001/02	2003/04	% change
	No.	No.	
St Helens	259	400	54.4

Demographics

Table 29: Gender, by DAT of treatment

	No.	%
Female	194	25.50
Male	567	74.50
Total	761	100.00

Table 30: Ethnicity of people in structured drug treatment by DAT of treatment

	No.	%
African	1	0.2
Any Other	1	0.2
Caribbean	1	0.2
Chinese		
Indian		
Other Asian		
Other Black	1	0.2
Other Mixed		
Other White		
Pakistani		
White British	660	99.4
White Irish		
White Other		
White&Asian		
White&Black		
Sub-total	664	100
Missing	97	
Total	761	100

Table 31: Age groups, by DAT of treatment

The results presented below refer to clients' ages at 31/03/2004.

	No.	%
<16	1	0.1
16-17	7	0.9
18-19	11	1.4
20-24	87	11.4
25-29	180	23.7
30-34	223	29.3
35-39	139	18.3
40-44	65	8.6
45-49	29	3.8
50+	18	2.4
Sub-total	760	100
Missing	1	
Total	761	100

Table 32: Referral source by DAT of Treatment

	No.	%
A&E	4	0.5
Arrest Referral	34	4.5
CARAT	8	1.1
Community Care Assessment	6	0.8
Drug Service Non-Statutory	42	5.6
Drug Service Statutory	56	7.4
DTTO	2	0.3
Employment Service		
GP	119	15.8
Probation	4	0.5
Psychiatry	15	2.0
Self	434	57.6
Syringe Exchange		
YOT	3	0.4
Other (Non-CJS)	26	3.5
Other (CJS)		
Sub-total	753	100.0
Missing	8	
Total	761	

Table 33: Treatment completions by DAT of Treatment

	No.	%
Treatment Withdrawn/Breach of Contract	15	2.00
Treatment Completed	4	0.50
Treatment completed-drug free	35	4.60
Died	3	0.40
Dropped	165	21.70
Moved Away	3	0.40
No Appropriate Treatment Available		
Not Know		
Other		
Prison	17	2.20
Referred on	48	6.30
Retained	471	61.90
Total	761	100.00