



Inter Agency Drug Misuse Database

Wirral Drug Audit

September 2004

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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 Wirral D(A)AT by Gender (2003/04)

	n (%)
Male	206 (90.3)
Female	22 (9.7)
Totals	228 (100)

Table 2: No. arrested by Age group within Wirral D(A)AT (2003/04)

Age group	n (%)
Under 25	79 (34.6)
25+	149 (65.4)
Totals	228 (100)

Table 3: Drug of arrest within Wirral D(A)AT (2003/04)

Drug	n (%)
Cocaine	42 (18.4)
Crack	46 (20.2)
Heroin	64 (28.1)
LSD	0 (0.0)
MDMA	38 (16.6)
Methadone	2 (0.9)
Other Class A	8 (3.5)
Mismatch*	28 (12.3)
Totals	228 (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 Wirral D(A)AT (2003/04)

Offence	n (%)
Possession with intent to supply	76 (33.3)
Possession of Class A	115 (50.4)
Supply Class A	37 (16.2)
Totals	228 (100)

Table 5: No. arrested under Misuse of Drugs Act within Wirral D(A)AT

		n
Total arrested	2001/02	115
	2003/04	228
Male	2001/02	99
	2003/04	206
Female	2001/02	16
	2003/04	22
Under 25	2001/02	42
	2003/04	28
25+	2001/02	73
	2003/04	35

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: AR within Wirral D(A)AT by Gender (2003/04)

	n (%)
Male	388 (76.2)
Female	121 (23.8)
Unknown	0 (0.0)
Totals	509 (100)

Table 7: AR within Wirral D(A)AT by Age Group (2003/04)

Age group	n (%)
Under 25	97 (19.1)
25+	411 (80.9)
Totals	508 (100)

Table 8: AR within Wirral D(A)AT by Drug of use (2003/04)

Drug	n (%)
Cocaine	47 (9.2)
Crack	254 (50.0)
Heroin	298 (58.7)
Methadone	42 (8.3)

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: AR within Wirral D(A)AT by Offence type (2003/04)

Offence	n (%)
Auto crime	63 (12.4)
Burglary	26 (5.1)
Fraud	5 (1.0)
Handling stolen goods	0 (0.0)
Shoplifting	165 (32.5)
Street Robbery	17 (3.3)
Soliciting	48 (9.4)
Selling/Possession of Drugs	4 (0.8)
Other	118 (23.2)

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: AR Comparison within Wirral D(A)AT by year

		n
Total seen	2001/02	247
	2002/03	327
	2003/04	509
Males	2001/02	182
	2002/03	213
	2003/04	388
Females	2001/02	65
	2002/03	114
	2003/04	121
Under 25	2001/02	63
	2002/03	37
	2003/04	97
25+	2001/02	184
	2002/03	241
	2003/04	411
No. Referred*	2001/02	139
	2002/03	204
	2003/04	239

*Referrals to Specialist Drug Agencies

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 (2003)

		All n (%)	New n (%)
Agency	Male	515 (87.7)	165 (92.7)
	Female	72 (12.3)	13 (7.3)
	Totals	587 (100)	178 (100)
Pharmacy	Male	465 (83.0)	278 (83.2)
	Female	95 (17.0)	56 (16.8)
	Totals	560 (100)	334 (100)

Table 12: Total Clients: by Age Group (2003)

		n (%)
Agency	Under 25	66 (11.2)
	25+	521 (88.8)
	Totals	587 (100)
Pharmacy	Under 25	19 (3.4)
	25+	541 (96.6)
	Totals	560 (100)

Table 13: 2003 Exchanges (Pharmacy only)*

	n
Syringes provided	69601

*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	129674
Returns	242016

Table 15: Non Attributable Exchanges: 2003

		n
Agency	Syringes	12341
	Returns	12882
Pharmacy*	Syringes	12703

*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	230 (43.5)	63 (36.0)
Methadone	42 (8.0)	2 (1.1)
Amphetamines	20 (3.7)	6 (3.4)
Steroids	203 (38.4)	101 (57.7)
Cocaine*	18 (3.4)	3 (1.7)
Other	16 (3.0)	0 (0.0)
Totals	529 (100)	175 (100)

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

*Including Crack

Table 17: Total seen by year within Wirral D(A)AT

Year	Agency	Pharmacy
2001	532	672
2002	521	584
2003	587	560

Individuals not number of visits

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

		Visits	Syringe
Agency	Attributable	3118	129674
	Non Attributable	292	12341
Pharmacy	Attributable	5207	69601
	Non Attributable	996	12703
	Totals	9613	224319

Combined Agency & Pharmacy Data

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

	No.
Wirral	1054

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

	No.	%
Female	153	14.50
Male	901	85.50
Total	1054	100.00

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

	No.	%
<16		
16-17	1	0.10%
18-19	7	0.70%
20-24	73	6.90%
25-29	179	17.00%
30-34	315	29.90%
35-39	267	25.30%
40-44	130	12.30%
45-49	43	4.10%
50+	39	3.70%
Total	1054	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 cases 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 Wirral D(A)AT by Gender.

	n	
Estimated Numbers	Male	92 to 127
	Female	51 to 104
Estimated Rate per 1000	Male	0.86
	Female	0.63

Table 23: Estimated Numbers and rate per 1000 population for Hospital Episodes attributable to Alcohol: within Wirral D(A)AT by Gender.

	n	
Estimated Numbers	Male	1616 to 2086
	Female	983 to 1536
Estimated Rate per 1000	Male	14.17
	Female	9.30

Table 24: Estimated rate per 1000 population for Crime and Violence attributable to Alcohol: within Wirral D(A)AT by Gender.

	n
Crime rate per 1000	8.9
Violence rate per 1000	5.45

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 Wirral

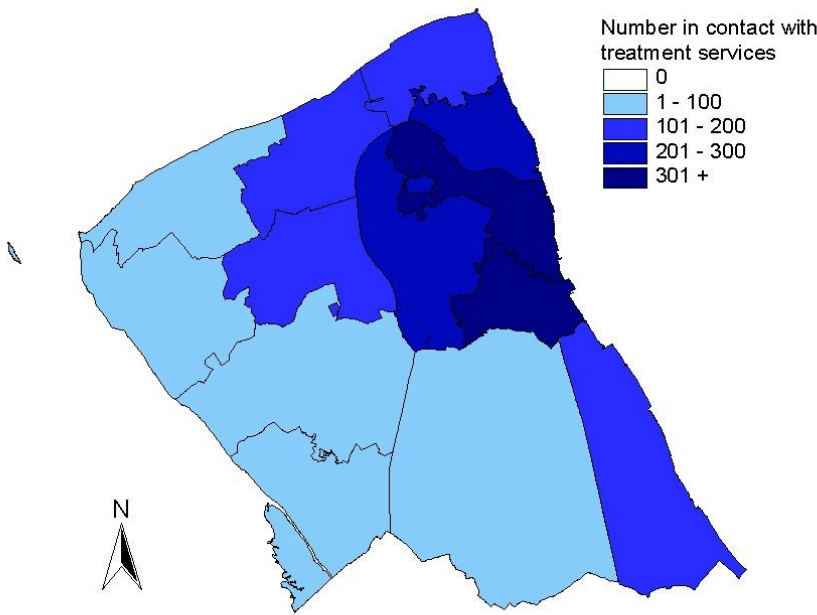


Table 25: Number of people in contact with treatment service by DAT of residence

	2001/02	2003/04	% change
	No.	No.	
Wirral	1768	2117	19.74

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

	2001/02	2003/04	% change
	No.	No.	
Wirral	1813	2222	22.6

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

	2001/02	2003/04	% change
	No.	No.	
Wirral	657	731	11.26

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

	2001/02	2003/04	% change
	No.	No.	
Wirral	645	832	29.0

Demographics

Table 29: Gender, by DAT of treatment

	No.	%
Female	649	29.20
Male	1573	70.80
Total	2222	100.00

Table 30: Ethnicity of people in structured drug treatment

	No.	%
African	1	0.0
Any Other		
Caribbean	6	0.3
Chinese	1	0.0
Indian	1	4.8
Other Asian	3	0.1
Other Black	1	0.0
Other Mixed	5	0.2
Other White	2	0.1
Pakistani		
White British	2071	98.5
White Irish	6	0.3
White Other		
White&Asian		
White&Black	6	0.3
Sub-total	2103	100
Missing	119	
Total	2222	

Table 31: Age groups, by DAT of treatment

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

	No.	%
<16	12	0.5
16-17	13	0.6
18-19	15	0.7
20-24	118	5.3
25-29	289	13.0
30-34	608	27.4
35-39	675	30.4
40-44	324	14.6
45-49	106	4.8
50+	61	2.7
Sub-total	2221	100
Missing	1	
Total	2222	100

Table 32: Referral source by DAT of Treatment

	No.	%
A&E	11	0.5
Arrest Referral	37	1.7
CARAT	9	0.4
Community Care Assessment		
Drug Service Non-Statutory	290	13.1
Drug Service Statutory	222	10.1
DTTO	29	1.3
Employment Service		
GP	500	22.6
Probation	159	7.2
Psychiatry	24	1.1
Self	498	22.6
Syringe Exchange	331	15.0
YOT	15	0.7
Other (Non-CJS)	83	3.8
Other (CJS)		
Sub-total	2208	100.0
Missing	14	
Total	2222	

Table 33: Treatment completions by DAT of Treatment

	No.	%
Treatment Withdrawn/Breach of Contract	60	2.70
Treatment Completed	62	2.79
Treatment completed-drug free	43	1.94
Died	10	0.45
Dropped	260	11.70
Moved Away	6	0.27
No Appropriate Treatment Available	18	0.81
Not Know	20	0.90
Other	64	2.88
Prison	46	2.07
Referred on	126	5.67
Retained	1507	67.82
Total	2222	100.00