



Merseyside Inter Agency Drug Misuse Database

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Sefton Quarterly Report

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Contents

	Page
Introduction	1
Arrests under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971)	2
Table 1: No. arrested, for Class A drug offences, by gender, within Sefton DAT	
Table 2: Drug and drug offence of arrest within Sefton DAT	
Arrest Referral	3
Table 3: Individuals assessed, by gender and age group, within Sefton DAT	
Table 4: Total assessments by drug of use, within Sefton DAT	
Syringe Exchange Services	4
Agency	
Table 5: Individuals by gender, within Sefton DAT	
Table 6: Individuals by age group, within Sefton DAT	
Table 7: Exchanges within Sefton DAT	
Table 8: Main drug of use for Agency syringe exchange clients within Sefton DAT	
Table 9: Total visits within Sefton DAT	
Pharmacy	
Table 10: Individuals, by gender, within Sefton DAT	
Table 11: Individuals, by age group, within Sefton DAT	
Table 12: Total visits within Sefton DAT	
Combined	
Table 13: Total individuals in syringe exchange within Sefton DAT	
Table 14: Total visits within Sefton DAT	
Structured Drug Treatment (NDTMS)	8
Table 15: Number of people in contact with treatment services in Sefton by gender and D(A)AT of residence	
Table 16: Number of people in contact with treatment services in Sefton by age group and D(A)AT of residence.	
Table 17: Individuals in contact with treatment services in Sefton by gender and D(A)AT of treatment.	
Table 18: Individuals in contact with treatment services in Sefton by age group and D(A)AT of treatment.	
Table 19: Ethnicity of people in structured drug treatment by DAT of treatment	
Connexions	10
Table 18: Clients by gender within Sefton DAT	
Table 19: Clients by age within Sefton DAT	
Table 20: Number of clients with drug or alcohol problems within Sefton DAT	
Fig 1: Distribution of clients by age and gender	
Combined Datasets	11
Table 21: Total problem drug users (PDU's) reported to the IAD: by gender and age	
Fig 2: Distribution of PDUs by age group and gender	

Introduction

The Inter Agency Drug Misuse Database (IAD), which was established by Merseyside Drug (and Alcohol) Action Teams, Merseyside Police and the Public Health Sector (now Centre for Public Health) in 1997, supports the need for local information on drug misuse. In particular the IAD aims to:

- Provide comprehensive reporting of problem drug users (PDUs) characteristics including a range of demographics and the types of drugs used.
- Reflect levels of service and intervention activity.
- Assist in D(A)AT's (and other responsible bodies) performance management.
- Facilitate the planning and development of services and interventions for PDUs.
- Identify gaps in service provision and delivery, as well as under-served groups as specified by the National Treatment Agency and Department of Health and by the Centre for Public Health, through interrogation of available data.
- Demonstrate client care pathways and crossover of clients between services by cross matching datasets.
- Highlight changes in levels, demographics and characteristics of drug users and drug use.
- Perform comparisons between geographical areas.
- Report back to both individual DATs and service providers in the form of audits and quarterly reports as well as responding to ad hoc requests.
- Provide Pan Merseyside reporting on an annual basis.

To enable the above the IAD collects data from as many agencies in contact with drug users as possible and is continually seeking to expand the range and scope of data providers. Data are currently collected from criminal justice services, needle exchange schemes (both pharmacy and agency-based) and the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) and now includes Connexions (young people). It is anticipated that data will also soon be available from Big Life (homeless).

Efforts are continually being made to expand the range of service providers that report to the IAD.

Attributable Data

Analysis of data depends on the provision of attributable information. Each service provider records first and last initials, date of birth and gender, for each individual they record a contact with. The combination of these details provides an identifier (attributor) for each individual (e.g.: HF07/12/1974M) This is a nationally recognised system and allows individuals to be tracked through different service providers and across time whilst retaining an acceptable degree of anonymity.

ARRESTS UNDER MISUSE OF DRUGS ACT (1971)

Introduction

Data are provided by Management Information Analysis (MIA), on behalf of Merseyside Police, relating to arrests for Class A drug offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971). (Possession of, Supply of, or Possession with intent to Supply, Class A drugs) Data are collated and analysed to enable the monitoring of problem drug users whose drug use has led to legal problems, but may not lead them into contact with treatment services.

Table 1: No. arrested for Class A drug offences, by gender within Sefton DAT

Gender	Sefton	
	n	%
Male	155	91.7
Female	14	8.3
Age		
Under 25	105	62.1
25+	64	37.9
<i>Totals</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all arrestees, 98 (63.2%) males and 7 (50%) females were under 25 years.

Table 2: Drug and drug offence of arrest within Sefton DAT

Drug of Arrest	Sefton	
	n	%
Cocaine	17	10.1
Crack	21	12.4
MDMA	5	3.0
Heroin	25	14.8
Other Class A	7	4.1
Unknown	94	55.6
<i>Totals</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>100</i>
Drug Offences		
Possession of Class A	43	25.4
Supply of Class A	31	18.3
Possession W/I to Supply Class A drugs	1	0.6
Other	94	55.6
<i>Totals</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>100</i>

Arrests for Possession of Class A were predominantly for cocaine, with 17 (39.5% of arrests for Possession of Class A) being arrested for that offence, followed by heroin with 15 (34.9%) individuals being arrested for possession of those drugs.

The arrests for Possession with Intent to Supply was for 'Other Class A' with 1 (100% of those arrested for this offence) individual arrested for that drug. Arrests for Supply of Class A were predominantly for crack with 15 people (48.4% of those arrested for Supply) being arrested for that.

ARREST REFERRAL (AR)

Introduction

Data are provided by ARCH Initiatives for the Wirral and Merseyside Drug Council (now the Lighthouse Project) for all other Merseyside D(A)ATs, on assessments made at custody suites.

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. The same individual may however, be counted twice within the reporting period.

Table 3: Individuals assessed, by gender and age group within Sefton DAT

Gender	Sefton	
	n	%
Male	42	73.7
Female	15	26.3
Age		
Under 25	8	14.0
25+	49	86.0
<i>Total individuals</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients 7 males (16.7% of males) and one female (6.7% of females) were under 25.

Table 4: Total assessments by drug of use within Sefton DAT

Drugs	Sefton	
	n	%
Cannabis	3	5.8
Crack	1	1.9
Heroin	44	84.6
Methadone	3	5.8
Other	1	1.9
<i>Totals</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>100</i>

Alcohol is not included in this analysis.

Main Problem Drug by Gender

The most common drug reported as the main problem drug amongst male clients was heroin (73.8% of male clients). Amongst female clients the most common drug was also heroin (86.7% of female clients).

Main Problem Drug by Age Group

The most common drug amongst the under 25 clients was heroin (50%). Amongst those 25 years and older, the most common drug was also heroin (81.6%).

SYRINGE EXCHANGE SERVICES

Introduction

Data are collected directly from syringe exchange providers. Analysis of syringe exchange data allows performance monitoring of harm reduction services at both D(A)AT and service provider level. This also facilitates geographical analysis of both distribution and movement of injecting drug users.

The tables refer to attributable data only, unless otherwise specified.

The D(A)AT referred to is the D(A)AT of the syringe exchange where the client was seen. Ages are calculated based on the last day of the month in which they were last seen

AGENCY SYRINGE EXCHANGE

Table 5: Individuals by gender, within Sefton DAT

	Sefton	
	n	%
New Clients		
Male	62	89.9
Female	7	10.1
<i>Totals</i>	69	100
All Clients		
Male	263	84.0
Female	50	16.0
<i>Totals</i>	313	100

Table 6: Individuals by age group, within Sefton DAT

	Sefton	
	n	%
New Clients		
Under 25	19	27.5
25+	50	72.5
<i>Totals</i>	69	100
All Clients		
Under 25	45	14.4
25+	268	85.6
<i>Totals</i>	313	100

Of all clients 40 males (15.2% of males) and 5 females (10.0% of females), were under 25.

Table 7: Exchanges within Sefton DAT

	Sefton
	n
Attributable Exchanges	
Syringes provided	17005
Returns	21922
Non-Attributable Exchanges	
Syringes	130
Returns	90

Table 8: Main drug of use for Agency syringe exchange clients within Sefton DAT

Drug of Use	Sefton			
	All		New	
	n	%	n	%
Heroin	170	54.3	38	55.1
Methadone	25	8.0	0	0.0
Amphetamines	9	2.9	0	0.0
Steroids	98	31.3	31	44.9
Cocaine*	6	1.9	0	0
Other	3	1.0	0	0
Unknown/Missing	2	0.6	0	0
<i>Totals</i>	313	100	69	100

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

*Including Crack

The two main drugs of use reported by Agency syringe exchanges for this period were heroin and steroids. Of those reporting heroin as their main drug of use, a total of 134 were Male (51.0% of all Males reported) and 36 were Female (72.0% of Females). A total of 8 injecting heroin users were under 25 (17.8% of those under 25).

A total of 97 steroid users were male (36.9 % of male injectors in the dataset). One female (2.0% of female injectors) was also reported as using steroids. Thirty-seven steroid users were under 25 (82.2% of injectors under 25).

Table 9: Total Visits within Sefton DAT

	Sefton	
	n	%
Attributable	1017	99.4
Non Attributable	6	0.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>1023</i>	<i>100</i>

PHARMACY SYRINGE EXCHANGE

Due to transitional problems with the Pharmacy based syringe exchange monitoring process, the analyses presented here under the Pharmacy section should not be taken as indicative of actual service activity. There has been a significant downturn in reporting of Pharmacy based syringe exchange in the six months from July 2004 to December 2004, as well as a rise in the proportion of non-attributable data. Those involved in the provision and monitoring of this service are working to resolve these problems and it is anticipated that the IAD annual report for the year 2004/05 will provide a more accurate reflection of service activity.

The analyses presented here for Pharmacy based syringe exchange should therefore only be taken as reflecting the data available.

Table 10: Individuals, by gender, within Sefton DAT

	Sefton	
	n	%
New Clients		
Male	3	100
Female	0	0.0
<i>Totals</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	45	83.3
Female	9	16.7
<i>Totals</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>54</i>

Table 11: Individuals, by age group, within Sefton DAT

	Sefton	
	n	%
New Clients		
Under 25	0	0.0
25+	3	100
<i>Totals</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	4	7.4
25+	50	92.6
<i>Totals</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients, 3 males (6.7% of males) and 1 female (11.1% of females) were under 25 years old.

Table 12: Total visits within Sefton DAT

	Sefton	
	n	%
Attributable	65	22.9
Non Attributable	219	77.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>284</i>	<i>100</i>

COMBINED PHARMACY AND AGENCY-BASED SYRINGE EXCHANGE

Analyses here are based on a combination of the aggregated Agency and Pharmacy-based datasets. Data are aggregated by attributor and D(A)AT to one person per D(A)AT area. Individuals who appear in more than one D(A)AT area may therefore appear more than once in the final dataset.

Table 13: Total individuals in syringe exchange within Sefton DAT

Sefton		
Gender		
New Clients	n	%
Male	65	9.7
Female	7	90.3
<i>Totals</i>	72	100
All Clients		
Male	304	83.7
Female	59	16.3
<i>Totals</i>	363	100
Age		
New Clients		
Under 25	19	26.4
25+	53	73.6
<i>Totals</i>	72	100
All Clients		
Under 25	49	13.5
25+	314	86.5
<i>Totals</i>	363	100

Table 14: Total visits within Sefton DAT

Sefton		
	n	%
Attributable	367	62.0
Non Attributable	225	38.0
<i>Total</i>	592	100

National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)

Background

The NDTMS is the official method for measuring the extent and nature of structured drug treatment in England and Wales. The system is commissioned by the NTA and is operated through nine regional centres – corresponding to the nine government offices for the regions.

Data here are aggregated to one individual, per year, per D(A)AT. Individuals presenting in more than one D(A)AT within the time period will therefore be represented more than once in the data. The D(A)AT referred to is D(A)AT of treatment unless otherwise specified.

Table 15: Number of people in contact with treatment services in Sefton, by gender and D(A)AT of residence

New Clients	Sefton	
	No.	%
Male	142	70.3
Female	60	29.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>202</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	797	69.2
Female	354	30.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>1151</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 16: Number of people in contact with treatment services in Sefton, by age group and D(A)AT of residence

New Clients	Sefton	
	No.	%
Under 25	20	9.9
25+	182	90.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>202</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	202	17.5
25+	949	82.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>1151</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 17: Individuals in contact with treatment services in Sefton by gender and D(A)AT of treatment

New Clients	Sefton	
	No.	%
Male	152	71.4
Female	61	28.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>213</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	964	30.7
Female	428	69.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>1392</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 18: Individuals in contact with treatment services in Sefton by age group and D(A)AT of treatment

New Clients	Sefton	
	No.	%
Under 25	22	10.3
25+	191	89.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>213</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	203	14.6
25+	1189	85.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>1392</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients (by D(A)AT of treatment), 143 males (14.8% of males) and 60 female (14.0% of females), were under 25 years old.

Table 19: Ethnicity of people in structured drug treatment by D(A)AT of Treatment

Ethnicity	Sefton			
	New Clients		All Clients	
	n	%	n	%
African	1	0.5	2	0.1
Indian	0	0.0	1	0.1
Other	2	0.9	4	0.3
Other Black	1	0.5	3	0.2
Other Mixed	0	0.0	3	0.2
Other White	0	0.0	7	0.5
White & Asian	0	0.0	1	0.1
White & Black African	0	0.0	2	0.1
White & Black Caribbean	0	0.0	1	0.1
White British	127	59.6	1024	73.6
White Irish	1	0.5	4	0.3
Unknown	81	38.0	340	24.4
<i>Totals</i>	<i>213</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>1392</i>	<i>100</i>

CONNEXIONS

Connexions provide a support service for young people, aged 13-19. The Greater Merseyside Connexions Partnership provides data presented here.

Table 20: Clients by gender within Sefton DAT

	Sefton	
	n	%
Male	18	72.0
Female	7	28.0
<i>Totals</i>	25	25

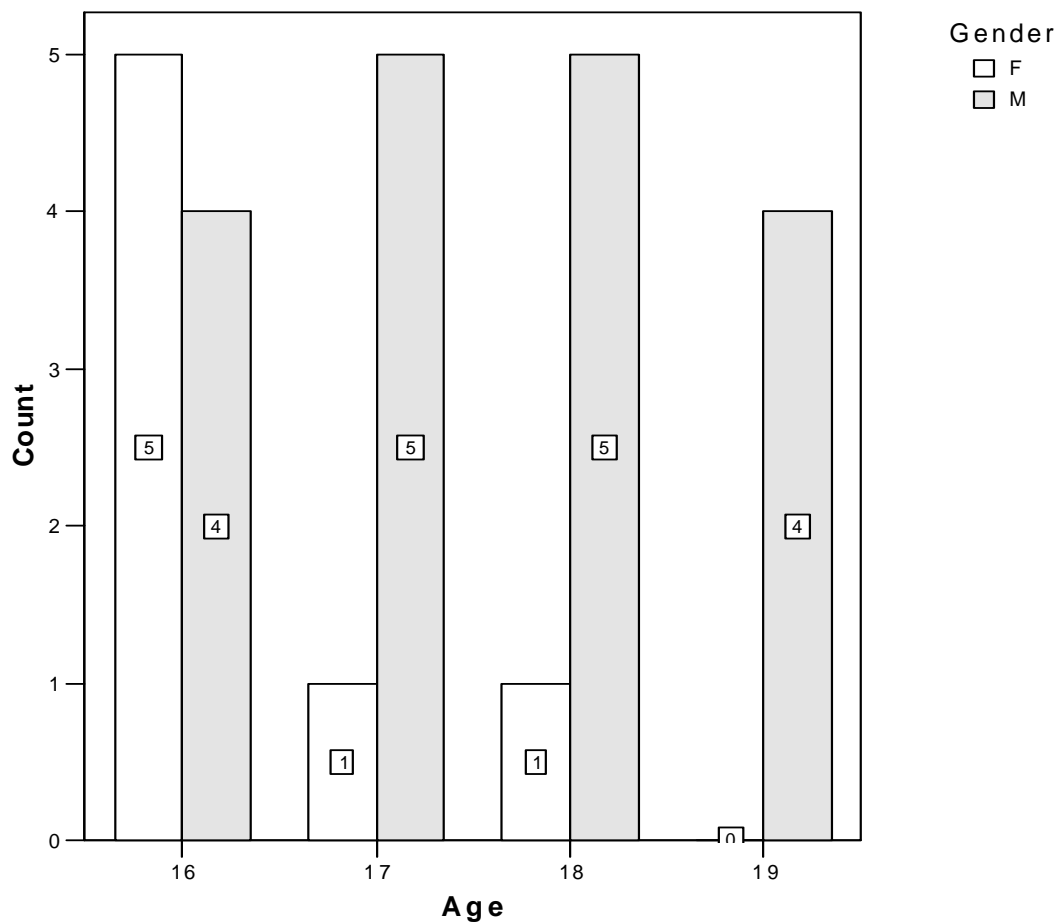
Table 21: Clients by age within Sefton DAT

	Sefton	
	n	%
16	9	36.0
17	6	24.0
18	6	24.0
19	4	16.0
<i>Totals</i>	25	100

Table 22: Number of clients with drug or alcohol problems within Sefton DAT

	Sefton	
	n	%
Alcohol/Other	9	36.0
Drugs	16	64.0
<i>Totals</i>	25	100

Fig 1: Distribution of clients by age and gender



Combined Datasets

Introduction

Data presented here is drawn from a combination of datasets relating to Arrests under Misuse of Drugs Act (1971), Arrest Referrals, Syringe Exchange (Agency and Pharmacy), NDTMS and Connexions. The combined data are aggregated on attributer and D(A)AT area to produce overall figures for numbers of individuals presenting to any service reporting to the IAD. Figures presented here will therefore not necessarily reflect the combined totals of data presented earlier as the method of aggregating is somewhat different. Further information is available from the IAD Manager.

Table 21: Total problem drug users (PDU's) reported to the IAD in Sefton DAT, by gender and age

Sefton		
Gender	n	%
Male	1389	73.5
Female	502	26.5
Age		
Under 25	366	19.4
25+	1525	80.6
<i>Totals</i>	<i>1891</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all males reported to the IAD for the third quarter of 2004/05, 288 (20.7%) were under 25. For female clients 78 (15.5%) were under 25.

Fig 2: Distribution of PDUs by age group and gender

