

Census of Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services in Northern Ireland: 1 March 2005

This bulletin summarises information collected in a Census of statutory and non-statutory drug and alcohol treatment services to establish the number of persons in treatment in Northern Ireland for drug and/or alcohol misuse. The Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit, within the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, conducted the Census on 1 March 2005.

Summary

In Northern Ireland on 1 March 2005:

- There were 5064 individuals in treatment for drug and/or alcohol misuse.
- Approximately 6 in 10 (61%) of all those in treatment on 1 March 2005 were attending for alcohol-only related problems. Two in ten people (20%) were in treatment for drug-only related problems and just under one fifth (19%) were in treatment for both drug and alcohol related problems.
- Almost two thirds (65%) of individuals in treatment were male; 35% were female.
- The majority of those in treatment were aged 18 and over (95%), while 5% were aged under 18.
- Seven in ten people (71%) in treatment were attending statutory agencies. A quarter (25%) attended non-statutory services and 4% were attending prison-based services.

Contents	Page
1. Background	2
2. Data Collection	2
3. Response Rate	2
4. Profile of Treatment Type	2
5. Profile of Services Users	3
6. Profile of Services	3
7. Geography	4
8. Acknowledgements	5
9. Editorial Notes	5
Annexes	
A Tables	7
B Census Form	19
C Hospital Inpatient System	21

1. Background

1.1 In 2004 the Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit (DAIRU) was tasked with taking forward a project to collect information regarding the number of individuals in treatment for drug and/or alcohol misuse.

1.2 A steering group, comprising representatives of statutory and non-statutory treatment services, was established to consider the various options and advise on the way forward.

2. Data Collection

2.1 The Steering Group, in conjunction with the four Drug and Alcohol Co-ordinators, developed a comprehensive list of statutory and non-statutory treatment services that would be invited to contribute to the data collection exercise and agreed a definition of “individuals in treatment” as “live cases where a person is being treated on a one-to-one basis”.

2.2 Each organisation identified was asked to complete a Census Form (see annex B), which sought details on the numbers of individuals in treatment for drugs and/or alcohol misuse (broken down by age and gender) on 1 March 2005.

2.3 The organisations that participated provided a wide range of services including complementary therapies, counselling for users and their families, detoxification and residential care. Hospital Information Branch, within DHSSPS, also provided data from the Hospital Inpatients System (see annex C). This system has been designed to process information relating to in-patient stays in hospital

2.4 It should be noted that a census represents a “snap-shot” of a particular point in time. In this case, the figures presented in this bulletin reflect the numbers in treatment on March 1 2005 only. They cannot be used to derive numbers in treatment over the course of a year.

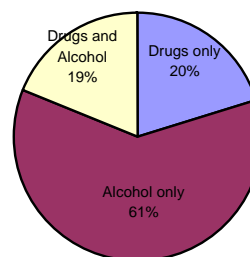
3. Response Rate

Eighty-six organisations were contacted and asked to submit data. Returns were received from 81 agencies, giving an overall response rate of 94%. This compared favourably with the 2001 Northern Ireland Census of Population, where it was estimated that 95.2% of the population responded.

4. Profile of Treatment Type

4.1 Approximately 6 in 10 (61%) of all those in treatment on 1 March 2005 were attending for alcohol-only related problems. Two in ten people (20%) were in treatment for drug-only related problems and just under one fifth (19%) were in treatment for both drug and alcohol related problems (Table 1; Figure 1).

Figure 1. Treatment type



Total: 5064

Drugs only

4.2 There were 1030 individuals in treatment for drug-only misuse. Of these, 702 (68%) were male and 328 (32%) were

female (Table 2). The majority of those in treatment for drug use only were aged 18 and over (90%), while 10% were aged under 18 (Table 3).

Alcohol only

4.3 There were 3074 individuals in treatment for alcohol-only misuse. Of these, 1891 (62%) were male and 1183 (38%) were female (Table 2). The majority of those in treatment for alcohol use only were aged 18 and over (98%), while 2% were aged under 18 (Table 3).

Drugs and Alcohol

4.4 There were 960 individuals in treatment for both drug and alcohol misuse. Of these, 699 (73%) were male and 261 (27%) were female (Table 2). Nine in every ten individuals (90%) were aged 18 and over, while 1 in ten (10%) were under 18 years (Table 3).

5. Profile of Service Users

5.1 On 1 March 2005, there were 5,064 individuals in treatment for drugs, alcohol, or drugs and alcohol related problems. Two in three (65%) of these individuals were male and 35% were female (Table 4). The vast majority of those in treatment were aged 18 and over (95%), while 5% were aged under 18 (Table 5).

Gender and age

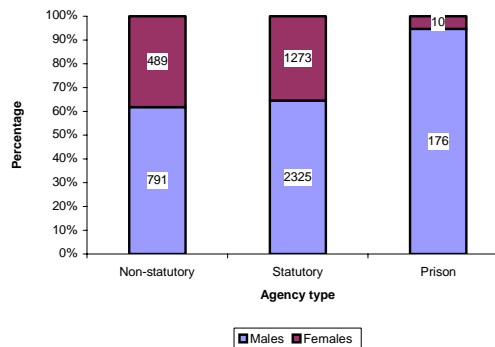
5.2 Among the 18 and over age group, males comprised 65% of those in treatment and females comprised 35%. This gender difference was more pronounced among the under-18's, where males comprised 72% of those in treatment and females 28% (Table 6).

6. Profile of Services

6.1 Seven in ten people (71%) in treatment on 1 March 2005 were attending statutory agencies, such as hospital-based services and Community Addiction

Teams. A quarter (25%) attended non-statutory services and 4% were attending prison-based services (Table 7).

Figure 2. Agency type and gender of individuals in treatment: 1 March 2005



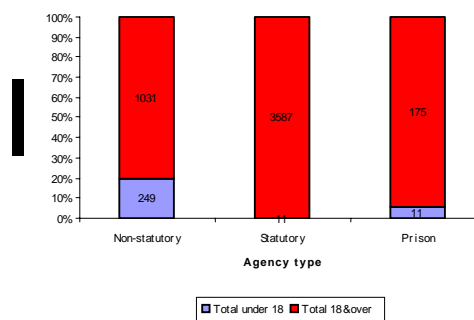
Gender

6.2 More males than females attended each of the service types. Those attending non-statutory services comprised 62% males and 38% females, while those attending statutory services comprised 65% males and 35% females. The majority of those attending prison treatment services were male (95%) (Table 8; Figure 2).

Age

6.3 The majority (95%) of individuals attending each type of treatment service were aged 18 and over (81% in non-statutory agencies; 100% in statutory agencies and 94% in Prison Services) (Table 9; Figure 3).

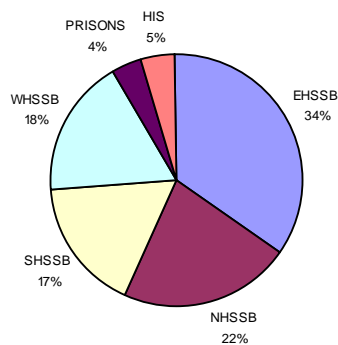
Figure 3. Agency type and age group of individuals in treatment: 1 March 2005



7. Geography

7.1 Over a third (35%; 1754 individuals) of those in treatment were in the Eastern Health and Social Services Board. Almost a quarter (22%; 1108 individuals) were in the Northern Board, followed by 18% (921 individuals) in the Western board, 17% (863 individuals) in the Southern board. A further 5% (232 individuals) were recorded on the HIS and 4% (186 individuals) were in Prison (Table 10; Figure 4).

Figure 4. Proportion of individuals in treatment in each HSSB: 1 March 2005



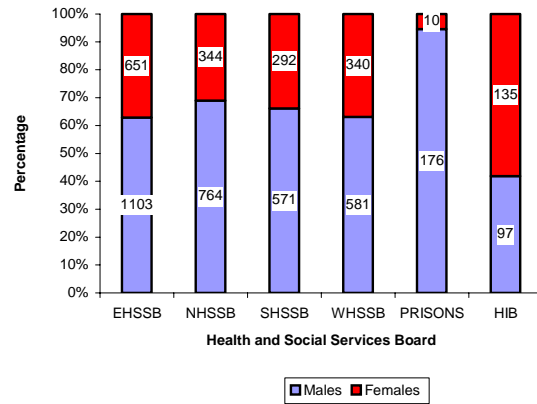
Total: 5064

Gender

7.2 The majority of those on treatment on 1 March 2005 were male. This is true for all 4 health boards of treatment and for prison-based services. The exception is the information provided from the Hospital Inpatient System (HIS) as supplied by Hospital Information Branch (HIB) where males comprised 42% of those in treatment. The Hospital Inpatients System has been designed to process information relating to in-patient stays in hospital. The source information for the HIS is the Patient Administration System (PAS) resident in hospital sites throughout

Northern Ireland. The HIB data is not available by HSSB (Table 11; Figure 5).

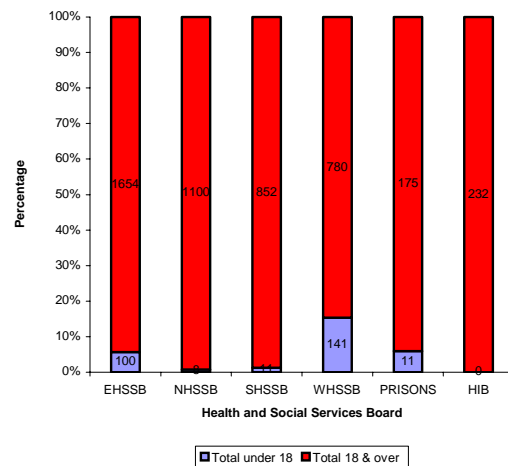
Figure 5. Gender in each HSSB of individuals in treatment: 1 March 2005



Age

7.3 Almost all (95%) of those in treatment on 1 March 2005 were aged 18 years and over. The majority of individuals in each of the Health and Social Services Board of treatment were aged 18 and over. The Western Board had the largest proportion of under-18s (15%), while individuals in the other boards were almost exclusively aged 18 years and over (Table 12; Figure 6).

Figure 6. Age group in each HSSB of individuals in treatment: 1 March 2005



Health and Social Services Board Data

7.4 The pattern of treatment type was broadly consistent across the 4 Health Boards. The largest proportion of individuals in treatment for alcohol only misuse was in the Southern Board (72%), followed by the Northern (64%), Eastern (57%) and the Western Board (52%). The largest proportion of those in treatment for drug only misuse was in the Western Board (25%), followed by the Eastern and Northern Boards (both 23%) and the Southern Board (11%). In the Prisons, 58% were in treatment for drug and alcohol misuse, while 23% were in treatment for alcohol only misuse and 19% for drugs only misuse (Table 13).

7.5 The majority of those in all treatment types (drugs only; alcohol only; drugs and alcohol) were aged 18 and over. This pattern was consistent across all the Health Boards. However in the Western Board, the age difference was less pronounced, with 25% of those using drugs and alcohol, and 23% of those using drugs only, aged under 18 years (Table 15).

7.6 Further information by HSSB area is available in Annex A.

8. Acknowledgements

DAIRU would like to thank all the treatment services that responded to this request for information for their cooperation in ensuring the provision of the data reported in this bulletin. DAIRU is also grateful to the Census Steering Group for their support and assistance.

9. Editorial Notes

9.1 Percentages do not always add to 100 due to rounding.

9.2 Any comments or questions concerning the data contained in this publication, or requests for further information, should be addressed to:

DAIRU
Annex 2
Castle Buildings
Stormont
Belfast BT4 3SQ
Telephone: 028 9052 2520
Fax: 028 90 52 3288
E-mail: DAIRU@dhsspsni.gov.uk

9.3 Further copies of this publication can be obtained from the above address, or on-line at

<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/stats&research/pubs.asp>

Many other statistical and research reports from the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety's Information and Analysis Directorate, in which DAIRU is structurally located, are available at this web address.

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

9.4 The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) is the principal source of official statistical information about Northern Ireland. Further information is available from the NISRA website at <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/> or via e-mail at info.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk.

Future publications

9.5 This Census publication will be updated on an annual basis. The next Census of Drug and Alcohol use in Northern Ireland will be carried out on 1 March 2006, with a view to publishing in September 2006.

ANNEX A – TABLES

TABLE	TITLE	PAGE
Table 1	Treatment type of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005	9
Table 2	Gender and treatment type of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005	9
Table 3	Age and treatment type of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005	10
Table 4	Gender of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005	10
Table 5	Age of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005	11
Table 6	Age and gender of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005	11
Table 7	Agency type for individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005	12
Table 8	Agency type by gender of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005	12
Table 9	Agency type by age of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005	13
Table 10	Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005	13
Table 11	Gender by Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005	14
Table 12	Age by Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005	14

Table 13	Treatment type by Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005	15
Table 14	Gender and treatment type by Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005	16
Table 15	Age and treatment type by Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005	17

Table 1. Treatment type of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

Treatment type	Number	%
Drugs only	1030	20
Alcohol only	3074	61
Drugs and Alcohol	960	19
TOTAL	5064	100

Table 2. Gender and treatment type of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

Gender and Treatment Type	Number	%
Male drugs only	702	68
Female drugs only	328	32
Total drugs only	1030	100
Males alcohol only	1891	62
Female alcohol only	1183	38
Total alcohol only	3074	100
Male drugs and alcohol	699	73
Female drugs and alcohol	261	27
Total drugs and alcohol	960	100
Total number of clients	5064	

Table 3. Age and treatment type of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

Age and Treatment type	Number	%
Under 18 Drugs only	105	10
Over 18 Drugs only	925	90
Total Drugs only	1030	100
Under 18 Alcohol only	69	2
Over 18 Alcohol only	3005	98
Total Alcohol only	3074	100
Under 18 Drugs and Alcohol	97	10
Over 18 Drugs and Alcohol	863	90
Total Drugs and Alcohol	960	100
Total number of clients	5064	

Table 4. Gender of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

Gender	Number	%
Males	3292	65
Females	1772	35
TOTAL	5064	100

Table 5. Age of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

Age	Number	%
Under 18	271	5
18 & over	4793	95
TOTAL	5064	100

Table 6. Age and gender of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

Age and Gender	Number	%
Males Under 18	195	72
Female Under 18	76	28
Total Under 18	271	100
Male 18 & over	3097	65
Female 18 & over	1696	35
Total 18 & over	4793	100
Total number of clients	5064	

Table 7. Agency type for individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

Agency type	Number	%
Non-statutory	1280	25
Statutory	3598	71
Prison	186	4
TOTAL	5064	100

Table 8. Agency type by gender of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

	Non-statutory	Statutory	Prison	TOTAL
Males	791	2325	176	3292
Females	489	1273	10	1772
TOTAL	1280	3598	186	5064

Percentages

Males	62	65	95	65
Females	38	35	5	35
TOTAL	100	100	100	100

Table 9. Agency type by age of individuals in treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

	Non-statutory	Statutory	Prison	TOTAL
Under 18	249	11	11	271
18 & over	1031	3587	175	4793
TOTAL	1280	3598	186	5064

Percentages

Under 18	19	0	6	5
18 & over	81	100	94	95
TOTAL	100	100	100	100

Table 10. Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

Health and Social Services Board	Number	%
EHSSB	1754	35
NHSSB	1108	22
SHSSB	863	17
WHSSB	921	18
PRISONS	186	4
HOSPITAL IMPATIENT SYSTEM (HIS)	232	5
TOTAL	5064	100

Table 11. Gender by Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005

	numbers and percentages						
	EHSSB	NHSSB	SHSSB	WHSSB	PRISONS	HIS	TOTAL
Males	1103	764	571	581	176	97	3292
Females	651	344	292	340	10	135	1772
TOTAL	1754	1108	863	921	186	232	5064

Percentages

Males	63	69	66	63	95	42	65
Females	37	31	34	37	5	58	35
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 12. Age by Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005

	numbers and percentages						
	EHSSB	NHSSB	SHSSB	WHSSB	PRISONS	HIS	TOTAL
Under 18	100	8	11	141	11	0	271
18 & over	1654	1100	852	780	175	232	4793
TOTAL	1754	1108	863	921	186	232	5064

Percentages

Under 18	6	1	1	15	6	0	5
18 & over	94	99	99	85	94	100	95
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 13. Treatment type by Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005

	<u>numbers and percentages</u>						
	EHSSB	NHSSB	SHSSB	WHSSB	PRISONS	HIB	TOTAL
Drugs only	412	257	92	230	36	3	1030
Alcohol only	1002	706	624	476	42	224	3074
Drugs and Alcohol	340	145	147	215	108	5	960
Total number of clients	1754	1108	863	921	186	232	5064

Percentages

Drugs only	23	23	11	25	19	1	20
Alcohol only	57	64	72	52	23	97	61
Drugs and Alcohol	19	13	17	23	58	2	19
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 14. Gender and treatment type by Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005

	numbers and percentages						
	EHSSB	NHSSB	SHSSB	WHSSB	PRISONS	HIB	TOTAL
Male drugs only	274	188	63	141	36	0	702
Female drugs only	138	69	29	89	0	3	328
Total drugs only	412	257	92	230	36	3	1030
Males alcohol only	600	453	400	306	37	95	1891
Female alcohol only	402	253	224	170	5	129	1183
Total alcohol only	1002	706	624	476	42	224	3074
Male drugs and alcohol	229	123	108	134	103	2	699
Female drugs and alcohol	111	22	39	81	5	3	261
Total drugs and alcohol	340	145	147	215	108	5	960
Total number of clients	1754	1108	863	921	186	232	5064

Percentages

Male drugs only	67	73	68	61	100	0	68
Female drugs only	33	27	32	39	0	100	32
Total drugs only	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Males alcohol only	60	64	64	64	88	42	62
Female alcohol only	40	36	36	36	12	58	38
Total alcohol only	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Male drugs and alcohol	67	85	73	62	95	40	73
Female drugs and alcohol	33	15	27	38	5	60	27
Total drugs and alcohol	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 15. Age and treatment type by Health and Social Services Board of treatment on 1 March 2005

numbers and percentages

	EHSSB	NHSSB	SHSSB	WHSSB	PRISONS	HIB	TOTAL
Under 18 Drugs only	46	5	0	54	0	0	105
Over 18 Drugs only	366	252	92	176	36	3	925
Total Drugs only	412	257	92	230	36	3	1030
Under 18 Alcohol only	29	1	6	33	0	0	69
Over 18 Alcohol only	973	705	618	443	42	224	3005
Total Alcohol only	1002	706	624	476	42	224	3074
Under 18 Drugs and Alcohol	25	2	5	54	11	0	97
Over 18 Drugs and Alcohol	315	143	142	161	97	5	863
Total Drugs and Alcohol	340	145	147	215	108	5	960
Total number of clients	1754	1108	863	921	186	232	5064

Percentages

Under 18 Drugs only	11	2	0	23	0	0	10
Over 18 Drugs only	89	98	100	77	100	100	90
Total Drugs only	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Under 18 Alcohol only	3	0	1	7	0	0	2
Over 18 Alcohol only	97	100	99	93	100	100	98
Total Alcohol only	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Under 18 Drugs and Alcohol	7	1	3	25	10	0	10
Over 18 Drugs and Alcohol	93	99	97	75	90	100	90
Total Drugs and Alcohol	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ANNEX B – CENSUS FORM:

**CENSUS OF DRUG / ALCOHOL MISUSE
IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

Tuesday 1st March 2005 at Midnight

Organisation Name

Organisation Location

Drug Misuse Database Reference (if applicable)

Contact Name

Contact Telephone Number

Please complete the table below to show the number of individuals (live cases where a person is being treated on a one-to-one basis) in treatment for either Drugs misuse, Alcohol misuse or both Drug and Alcohol misuse, at midnight on Tuesday 1st March 2005.

	Male		Female	
	Less than 18 years old (Born on, or after 1 st March 1987)	18 years old or older (Born before 1 st March 1987)	Less than 18 years old (Born on, or after 1 st March 1987)	18 years old or older (Born before 1 st March 1987)
Drugs only				
Alcohol only				
Both Drugs and Alcohol				

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED TO:

Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit
Information and Analysis Unit
DHSSPS
Annex 2
Castle Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST
BT4 3UD

ANNEX C – DATA FROM THE HOSPITAL INPATIENT SYSTEM

The Hospital Inpatient System (HIS) is maintained within DHSSPS, by Hospital Information Branch (HIB).

The Hospital Inpatients System (HIS) has been designed to process information relating to in-patient stays in hospital. The source information for the HIS is the Patient Administration System (PAS) resident in hospital sites throughout Northern Ireland.

Information from the HIS has been included within the Statutory Services Group for this report.

It should be noted that the HIS data examined excludes patients in Mental Health Hospitals.

HIS records details of the patient's primary diagnosis and up to six secondary diagnoses. The ICD10 codes F10 to F19 have been used to identify mental and behavioural disorders due to substance use as outlined in the table below.

Some individuals were in hospital with more than one of these diagnoses.

ICD 10 Code	Description
F10	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol
F11	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of opioids
F12	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of cannabinoids
F13	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of sedatives or hypnotics
F14	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of cocaine
F15	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of other stimulants, including caffeine
F16	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of hallucinogens
F18	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of volatile solvents
F19	Mental and behavioural disorders due to multiple drug use and use of other psychoactive substances

Due to the wide range of data information recorded, annual and financial year datasets are not closed until some 6 months after the end of the financial year concerned, i.e. : September each year. For this reason, information relating to 1st March 2005 would not be available until September 2005. Consequently HIS information for 1st March 2004 is used in this study as the best proxy for the information that will eventually be available for March 2005.

Recent publications available from the Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit

Statistical bulletins

NUMBER	TITLE	PUBLISHED
1/2005	Statistics from the Northern Ireland Drug Addicts Index 2004	February 2005
	Statistics from the Northern Ireland Drug Misuse Database: 1 April 2003 – 31 March 2004	October 2004
2/2004	Statistics from the Northern Ireland Needle and Syringe Exchange Scheme: 1 April 2003 – 31 March 2004	September 2004

Results from the 2002/2003 Drug Prevalence Survey

Published jointly with the National Advisory Committee on Drugs, Ireland

NUMBER	TITLE	PUBLISHED
Bulletin 2	Drug Use in Ireland and Northern Ireland: Health Board (Ireland) and Health and Social Services Board (Northern Ireland) Results (Revised)	June 2005
Bulletin 1	Drug Use in Ireland and Northern Ireland: First Results (Revised) from the 2002/2003 Drug Prevalence Survey	June 2005

Research reports

TITLE	PUBLISHED
Drug Use and Risk Behaviours among Injecting Drug Users <i>Dr Karen McElrath and Michele Jordan</i>	January 2005
Research into Homelessness and Substance Misuse <i>Deloitte MCS Ltd</i>	September 2004
Drug and Alcohol Knowledge and Use Amongst Primary School Children <i>Patrick McCrystal and Maeve Thornton</i>	March 2004

Copies of these publications can be obtained on-line at:

<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/stats&research/pubs.asp>