

Register of Drug and Alcohol Related Research in Northern Ireland

*Drug and Alcohol Information
and Research Unit, Department
of Health, Social Services and
Public Safety, Belfast*

March 2004



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

An Roinn

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

1. Introduction

1.1 The Department of Health (DHSS) issued the first policy statement dealing with the misuse of drugs in Northern Ireland in 1986. The policy statement adopted a relatively low profile approach because of the relatively low level of drug misuse here at the time.

1.2 In December 1995, the Northern Ireland Committee on Drug Misuse (NICDM) prepared a document entitled “Drug Misuse in Northern Ireland – a Policy Statement”. This policy statement outlined a clear statement of purpose and set out priorities and objectives and clarified the roles and responsibilities of various organisations.

1.3 Also in 1995, the Central Coordinating Group for Action Against Drugs (CCGAAD) was established and was chaired by the Northern Ireland Office Minister for State. Membership included representatives from DHSS, Department of Education for Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, Health Promotion Agency, the Prison Service, NIO, advisors from the Police and Customs and Excise, and the Chair of NICDM.

1.4 In 1996 the Departments and Agencies working together in CCGAAD developed a programme of activities to address the drugs problem. Funding was secured and the Northern Ireland Drugs Campaign was launched.

1.5 By 1998 it was recognised that the drugs problem here was growing and later that year, “Drug Misuse in Northern Ireland – a Policy Statement” and the Drugs Campaign itself were reviewed. As a result, the Northern Ireland Drug Strategy was launched in

August 1999. The strategy had four overarching aims:

- To protect young people from the harm resulting from illicit drug use.
- To protect communities from drug-related anti-social and criminal behaviour.
- To enable people with drug problems to overcome them and lead healthy and crime-free lives.
- To reduce the availability of drugs in the community.

1.6 The strategy is underpinned by a number of key principles including partnership, coordination, information sharing, monitoring, evaluation, research, accountability and inclusivity.

1.7 In September 2000, The Strategy for Reducing Alcohol Related Harm was published and identifies five main areas for action:

- Encourage a sensible approach to drinking.
- Promote effective treatment services
- Protect individuals and communities from alcohol related harm.
- Develop a research and information programme.
- Implement and manage the strategy.

1.8 In May 2001, the Executive endorsed the Model for the Joint Implementation of the Drug and Alcohol Strategies. Under this arrangement, six working groups were established – each with responsibility for particular aspects of the Strategies. The six working groups are: Education and Prevention; Treatment; Communities; Information and

Research; Social Legislation; Criminal Justice.

1.9 The Information and Research Working Group focuses on research, information collection and analysis, monitoring, evaluation, maintaining the Drug Misuse Database.

1.10 The overarching aim of the group is *'to advise on the development and implementation of the Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Strategy and to support the Strategies with new information and research programmes'*.

1.11 One of the key output areas of the group was the production of a baseline research report to provide analysis of drug and drinking patterns, attitudes and behaviours, designed to support the objectives of the Drug Strategy for Northern Ireland and the Strategy for Reducing Alcohol Related Harm and which identifies areas where information is currently unavailable. To that end, one of the activities identified was the production and maintenance of a statistics and research register. The register will provide details of ongoing and recently completed drug and alcohol related research to a wide audience.

2. Data collection

2.1 Potential contributors to the register were identified. These included the local universities, the four Drug and Alcohol Coordination Teams, other Government departments and drug treatment agencies. Contributors were asked to complete a pro forma for each piece of research undertaken or commissioned by their organisation. The pro forma requested brief details of the research including project aims, methodology and key findings.

2.2 Coverage was limited to research published or commissioned since 1995 and where the fieldwork took place in Northern Ireland.

3. Acknowledgements

3.1 DAIRU would like to thank all those who contributed returns to the Register. DAIRU would also like to thank the members of the Information and Research Working Group for their support and assistance.

4. Editorial Notes

4.1 Projects have been listed in chronological order, based on the date of publication.

4.2 An index of key words has been provided on page 70.

4.3 Whilst every effort has been made to provide accurate and complete information DAIRU accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions resulting from information gathered from outside sources. Website users who have a problem or query with content are advised to contact the original source of information for clarification before contacting DAIRU.

4.4 Any other comments or requests for further information should be addressed to:

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This web server contains links to other web servers and systems. At any given moment they may be unavailable. DAIRU accepts no responsibility for the access to systems outside their domain.

4.6 DAIRU has identified some pieces of research but has been unable to contact the original author. In these instances, DAIRU has completed the entry and marked it with an asterisk (*).

4.7 Further copies of this publication can be obtained at the above address, or online at <http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/stats&research/pubs.html>

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

5. Instructions to contributors

5.1 Anyone who wishes to submit details of a project or wishes to update or correct any details already held on the Register should contact DAIRU at the address given above (paragraph 4.4) and request a Research Register submission form. The form may be returned electronically or by post.

5.2 Any details submitted will be reproduced as provided. Contributors should therefore ensure that all details are as accurate as possible. DAIRU will perform a typographical check but is not responsible for assuring the quality of the research or the details provided.

5.3 Contributors should submit details for each piece of recent and ongoing drug and alcohol related research published or commissioned since 1995, and where the fieldwork took place in Northern Ireland.

RECENT AND ONGOING DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED RESEARCH

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8	<i>The health behaviour of school children in Northern Ireland – a report on the 1994 survey</i>
9	<i>Illicit drug use – a survey of its prevalence among young people in Dungannon</i>
10	<i>Drink Driving: Attitude Shift Analysis Study</i>
11	<i>Experience of Drugs in Northern Ireland: Preliminary Research Findings from the 1994/5 Northern Ireland Crime Survey</i>
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21	<i>Doing the Rounds: Widening Choices for homeless Problem Drinkers – Conference Report and Action Plan</i>
22	<i>Abuse/Misuse of non-prescription drugs</i>
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24	<i>Anti-Drink Driving Strategy Development Research</i>
25	<i>Anti-drug driving campaign</i>
26	<i>Someone who knows – Views and Experiences of Drug Services in the Western Health and Social Services Board Area: Young people and Professionals</i>
27	<i>The know Drugs Survey – a survey into drug use among young people in the Dungannon & Cookstown area</i>
28	<i>Evaluating public information campaigns on drugs: a summary report</i>
29	<i>Drinking, smoking and illicit drug use among 15 and 16 year old school students in Northern Ireland</i>
30	<i>Northern Ireland Health and Social Wellbeing survey 2001: Bulletin Number 1</i>
31	<i>Overview of Drug Misuse in the Eastern Health and Social Services Board Area</i>

- 32 *Self Reported drug use by Young people in the Omagh District*
33 *Drugs Research Forum: 2001*
34 *Volatile Substance Abuse: The needs and opinions of parents, professional, retailers and environmental health officers in Northern Ireland*
35 *Surveys of Attitudes, knowledge and behaviour of 18-30 year olds in Northern Ireland to illicit drugs*
36 *A Survey of Substance Misuse Among Prisoners in HMP Maghaberry: A self-report study of prisoner alcohol and drug misuse before and during imprisonment*
37 *Prevalence of problem heroin use in Northern Ireland*
38 *Road Safety Monitor (substantially revised from the previous Road Safety Monitors).*
39 *Northern Ireland Health and Social Wellbeing Survey 2001: Bulletin Number 6*
40 *Strabane Peer Research Report 2002*
41 *Adult drinking patterns in Northern Ireland*
42 *HIV / AIDS: A World View*
43 *The Implementation of harm minimisation model for the identification and treatment of over-the-counter drug misuse and abuse in community pharmacies*
44 *HMP Magilligan – A review of the Drugs Education and Awareness Programme*
45 *An Evaluation of the Positive Steps Programme and the partnership between the Young Offenders Centre and Opportunity Youth*
46 *Composition of Beverage Products and Apparent Release into the Body.*
47 *Statistics from the Northern Ireland Drug Misuse Database: 1 April 2002 – 31 March 2003*
48 *Statistics from the Northern Ireland Needle and Syringe Exchange Scheme: 1 April 2002 – 31 March 2003*
49 *Attitudes and behaviour of young adult drinkers in Northern Ireland*
50 *Continuous Household Survey*
51 *Road Safety Monitor*
52 *Courses for Drink Drive Offenders*
53 *Review of Research on Substitute Prescribing for Opiate Dependence and Implications for Northern Ireland*
54 *Continuous Household Survey*
55 *Experience of Drug Misuse: Findings from the 2001 Northern Ireland Crime Survey*
56 *Research into needs and barriers in the jobs market faced by DEL clients*
57 *Forensic Applications of Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry*
58 *Northern Ireland Drug Addicts Statistical Information Bulletin 2003*
59 *Drug and Alcohol Knowledge and Use Amongst Primary School Children: Empirical Evidence and Methodological Issues in the*

- Development of Instruments for Measuring Use of and Attitudes to
Drugs and Alcohol in Primary School Children.*
- 60 *Substance Misuse and Homelessness*
- 61 *Drug Use Patterns and Risk Behaviours Amongst Injecting Drug
Users*
- 62 *Needs Assessment of Young Peoples Treatment Services*
- 63 *Barriers and Incentives to help seeking treatment for drug users*
- 64 *A study of the role of leisure activities in the prevention of relapse to
drug and alcohol addiction*
- 65 *Effects of Alcohol, smoking and Drugs on the behaviour of the fetus*
- 66 *UNTITLED*
- 67 *Alcohol & Drug use in Healthcare Students*
- 68 *Irish Alcohol Study*
- 69 *Belfast Youth Development Study*

TITLE^(*)	The health behaviour of school children in Northern Ireland – a report on the 1994 Survey
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	1995
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Health Promotion Agency
COMMISSIONED BY	HPA
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	Influence health promotion and health education in school and among young people in General Provide prevalence data on smoking, drinking and drug use among a representative of 3932 11,13 and 15 year olds.
METHODOLOGY	A sample of schools were stratified according to education and library board, school are (Secondary or Grammar) and school management (controlled and non-catholic voluntary, Maintained and catholic voluntary) was drawn. Within and stratum, schools were chosen randomly on an equal probability basis. The selected schools were asked to participated in the study and those which agreed were visited by a PPRU waved interview who selected the sample of two in five pupils within the desired age range from the class roles.
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almost a quarter (23232) of the sample had been offered drugs. The most likely place • To have been offered drugs for the first time was in the street. • 13% had used illicit drugs or solvents at least once • 8.8% of the sample were still using drugs or solvents at the time of the survey • Drinking and smoking were significantly related to being offered drugs and to drug use
KEY WORDS	Health Behaviour, Risk
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Health Promotion Agency for Northern Ireland 18 Ormeau Avenue Belfast BT2 8HB Tel: (028) 90311611

TITLE	Illicit drug use – a survey of its prevalence among young people in Dungannon
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	1995
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Mary Finnegan
COMMISSIONED BY	Breakthru
COMPLETION DATE	June 1995
AIMS	The aim of the surveys to clarify what illicit drugs (and in particular drugs which are used in conjunction with the dance/rave culture) are misused most frequently among young people in Dungannon.
METHODOLOGY	415 – sample Questionnaire through local post primary schools
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38% of sample had tried drugs • 30% had tried cannabis • 50.9% who had sampled first tried drugs between ages of 13 and 15
KEY WORDS	Drug use; Dungannon
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Deirdre Haughey Breakthru Manager 18 Killymeal Road Dungannon BT71 6LS Deirdre@breakthru.co.uk

TITLE	Drink Driving: Attitude Shift Analysis Study (File ref: RSB 5/95)
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	1996
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Ulster Marketing Surveys
COMMISSIONED BY	DOE Road Safety Branch
COMPLETION DATE	October 1996
AIMS	To track attitudes to drinking and driving.
METHODOLOGY	The research was conducted by means of the UMS Northern Ireland Omnibus involving face-to-face interviews with a large and fully representative sample of the Northern Ireland population (aged 16+). All interviewing was carried out at 50 randomly selected sampling points.
KEY FINDINGS	Information was obtained under the following headings: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidence of owning/driving a car • Frequency of drinking alcohol • Attitudes to drinking and driving, and the legal limits • Factors discouraging from drinking and driving
KEY WORDS	Drink Driving: Attitude Shift Analysis Study
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	DONNA MC GIVERN E-MAIL ADDRESS: donna.mcgivern@doeni.gov.uk

TITLE	Experience of Drugs in Northern Ireland: Preliminary Research Findings from the 1994/5 Northern Ireland Crime Survey
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	1996
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Northern Ireland Office
COMMISSIONED BY	Northern Ireland Office
COMPLETION DATE	June 1996
AIMS	To elicit from survey respondents their knowledge and use of a range of drugs which are either illegal or cannot be taken without medical sanction.
METHODOLOGY	The Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS) is based on a sample of private households drawn from the rating valuation list. The NICS, carried out between October 1994 and January 1995 included an optional 'drugs module' which surveyed almost 2,200 persons aged 16 to 59 years.
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People aged 18 to 21 were most likely to admit to having taken drugs, with almost half (46%) claiming to have taken them. • More men than women said they had experience of drug taking. 24% of men and 16% of women had taken at least one kind of drug. • Cannabis remains the most commonly used drug, experienced by 12% of all respondents and 24% of those aged between 18 and 25. • More people had experience of taking LSD (4%) than of taking ecstasy (3%). 13% of those aged 18 to 21 years had ever taken ecstasy whereas 18% admitted taking LSD.
KEY WORDS	Northern Ireland Crime Survey, experience, drugs
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	NIO Statistics and Research Branch Massey House Stoney Road BELFAST. BT4 3SX statistics.nio@nics.gov.uk

TITLE^(*)	Drugs Research Forum 1996
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	1996
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Mr Kieron Devlin: Newry & Mourne Health Promotion Department – N&M HSST
COMMISSIONED BY	Newry & Mourne Health Promotion Dept; SELB Youth Service; Newry & Mourne District Council
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	
METHODOLOGY	<p>The Research Forum was broken into five distinct sections under the following headings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Drug Awareness (ii) Attitudes to Drugs (iii) Availability of Drugs (iv) Legal Aspects (v) Services <p>In each section the group facilitator asked the young people to complete the appropriate questionnaire/survey sheet and then upon completion enter into discussion on the specific topic.</p> <p>The eight groups consisted of approximately thirteen young people or less, they had been put into groups before the actual Research Forum in order to ensure a broad mix of schools and gender.</p>
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illicit drugs are being used on a regular or semi-regular basis in Newry & Mourne for recreational purposes by the local adolescent population. • Whilst the young people are aware of the “street” names of drugs there does tend to be a degree of confusion and lack of knowledge of the effects of these drugs. • The major drug that is being misused by the young people of Newry & Mourne is alcohol as it is the base of any “cocktail” of drugs used by the young people. • There would appear to be no major difficulties for young people to obtain solvents (8%) alcohol (2%) or illicit drugs (20%) in the Newry & Mourne area. • Whilst the answers given to the initial questions were contradicted or confused by answers to later questions it is felt that the later answers, which had to be given in terms of actual incidence, produced the more truthful results.
KEY WORDS	Drugs research forum
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	<p>Mr Kieron Devlin Health Promotion Department John Mitchell Place Newry BT34 2BU</p> <p>Email: kieron.devlin@dhh.n-l-nhs.uk</p>

TITLE^(*)	Out of our mouths not our heads – A report on drugs and drug use in West Belfast compiled by and for young people
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	1996
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	The Young peoples research group
COMMISSIONED BY	Save the Children and West Belfast Economic forum
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	
METHODOLOGY	Electoral register was used to identify all 17 and 18 year olds in selected electoral wards. Questionnaires were piloted and packed out with an explanatory letter and a stamped addressed envelope for return
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response rate was 19% • Cannabis and ecstasy were the most frequently used drugs. • 85% of respondents had friends who take drugs • 97% said it was either 'easy' or 'very' easy to get drugs • 28% of current and past users have been in trouble because
KEY WORDS	West Belfast, young people
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE	Changing Patterns of Drug Use in Northern Ireland – Some Recent Survey Findings
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	1997
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	M Boyle and S Morgan
COMMISSIONED BY	Northern Ireland Office
COMPLETION DATE	June 1997
AIMS	To elicit from survey respondents their experience and knowledge of a range of drugs.
METHODOLOGY	Findings were based on the Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS) and the Northern Ireland Omnibus Survey (OS). The NICS, carried out between October 1994 and January 1995 included an optional 'drugs module' which surveyed almost 2,200 persons aged 16 to 59 years. The OS was carried out in September 1996 and carried a 'drugs module' containing the same questions used in the NICS. Over 800 people agreed to participate in the OS.
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and use of drugs appear to have increased over the last two years • 17% of all respondents to the NICS admitted taking at least one kind of drug whereas 28% of all respondents to the OS made a similar admission. • Cannabis remains the most commonly used drug. • While 24% of men and 16% of women admitted to having taken at least one kind of drug at the NICS these proportions had risen to 40% and 23% respectively by the time of the OS • There was a general increase in drug awareness between the two surveys. While 82% of respondents to the NICS had heard of amphetamines this proportion had risen to 92% by the OS.
KEY WORDS	Northern Ireland Crime Survey, Omnibus Survey, knowledge, experience, drugs
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	NIO Statistics and Research Branch Massey House Stoney Road BELFAST. BT4 3SX statistics.nio@nics.gov.uk

TITLE^(*)	Adults knowledge and awareness of illicit drugs in Northern Ireland
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	NISRA Bulletin
YEAR PUBLISHED	
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	
METHODOLOGY	<p>In the Northern Ireland Omnibus Survey run in 1997, questions on knowledge, awareness and misuse of illicit drugs were asked of adults who were aged 16 and over. The survey is designed to provide a snapshot of the behaviour, lifestyle and views of a representative sample of adults living in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>A random sample of 2050 addresses was drawn from the Valuation and Lands Agency list of addresses. Interviewers called at each address and identified the number of adults aged 16 and over who were resident at that address and randomly selected one individual for interview. Fieldwork was completed between 3 – 28 February 1997.</p>
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most adults said that they knew 'little' or 'nothing' about drugs. • Half of parents questioned said that they had spoken to their children about illicit drugs and the dangers of drug misuse. • Just over a quarter of adults aged between 16 and 59 reported that they had ever taken an illicit drug. • The most frequently taken drug was cannabis (18%).
KEY WORDS	NISRA; Omnibus Survey
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE^(*)	Drug Use among Young People
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	NISRA Occasional Paper No 4: (1 889203 16 8)
YEAR PUBLISHED	1997
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Marina Barnard
COMMISSIONED BY	Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	
METHODOLOGY	Literature Review
KEY FINDINGS	In broad terms, it appears that levels of drug use are generally highest in Scotland and lowest in Northern Ireland. Local research in Northern Ireland does suggest a possible increase in drug use, at least in certain parts of the province. The information currently available is, however, insufficient to predict whether patterns of use in Northern Ireland are becoming more like those elsewhere in Britain.
KEY WORDS	Literature review
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE	Patterns of Drug Use in Northern Ireland – Some Recent Survey Findings: 1996-1997
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	1998
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	NIO Statistics and Research Branch
COMMISSIONED BY	Northern Ireland Office
COMPLETION DATE	November 1998
AIMS	To determine respondents' knowledge and use of a range of drugs
METHODOLOGY	The report is based upon findings from the Northern Ireland Omnibus Surveys of September 1997(OS97) and September 1996(OS96). In each survey a sample of addresses was drawn from the Valuation and Lands Agency list of private addresses. A specific drugs module was included that was only asked of persons aged 16 to 59 years. In OS96 813 respondents answered the drugs questions compared with 969 respondents in OS97.
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of drugs in Northern Ireland is very high with virtually all respondents having heard of most of the drugs • In OS97 24% of all respondents admitted taking at least one kind of drug at some time. 28% of respondents in OS96 made the same admission • In both surveys the most commonly used drug at any time in the past was cannabis (16% in OS97 and 20% in OS96) • In OS97 27% of males and 20% of females admitted to have ever taken drugs. However, there was a statistically significant decrease in the percentage of males who admitted to ever taking any drugs (37% in OS96 to 27% in OS97) but no statistically significant change in the equivalent female percentages.
	Omnibus Survey 1997, drugs, knowledge, experience
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	NIO Statistics and Research Branch Massey House Stoney Road BELFAST BT4 3SX statistics.nio@nics.gov.uk

TITLE	An Investigation into illicit drug knowledge attitudes and habits in Dungannon District Council area
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	1998
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Dermot McCann
COMMISSIONED BY	Breakthru
COMPLETION DATE	August 1998
AIMS	The study aims to provide an overview of the extent of drug use and misuse in the Dungannon District Council Area today and examine the relationship, if any, between drug taking and the rave scene
METHODOLOGY	302 questionnaire were completed
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30% of males had tried an illicit drug • 21% of females had tried an illicit drug • 27.8% had been offered drugs
KEY WORDS	Illicit drug use
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Deirdre Haughey Breakthru Manager 18 Killymeal Road Dungannon BT71 6LS Deirdre@breakthru.co.uk

TITLE	The Health Behaviour of School Children in Northern Ireland
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	Report
YEAR PUBLISHED	1998
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	The Health Promotion Agency for Northern Ireland
COMMISSIONED BY	The World health organisation
COMPLETION DATE	Data collected 1997/1998 Report March 2000
AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gain new insight into and increase understanding of, health behaviour and lifestyles and their context in young peoples lives • To influence health promotion policy and practice, and to facilitate the networking of research information and expertise
METHODOLOGY	<p>Sample 6,589 target population is children within 6months of three years: 11 years 6 Months, 13 years 6months, and 15 years 6months.</p> <p>Surveys conducted in school setting involve children completing a questionnaire comprising of three parts.</p> <p>School was randomly selected from a stratified sample. From each school, classes of pupils within the required age range was again randomly selected for inclusion.</p> <p>See report for breakdown of the sample by gender and school year</p>
KEY FINDINGS	<p>The report presents an overview of key findings. The topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoking habits • Use of alcohol • Drug use • Sexual behaviour • Attitudes towards school <p>See section 5 of report for overview on drug use among 11-16 year olds</p>
KEY WORDS	Availability of drugs, drug use, regular drug use
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	<p>Rob Phipps Health Promotion Agency for NI</p> <p>r.phipps@hpani.org.uk</p>

TITLE	Drugs what young people know: report on knowledge and awareness of drugs among 10-17 year olds in Northern Ireland
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	Report
YEAR PUBLISHED	1998
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Jane Wilde
COMMISSIONED BY	Health Promotion Agency
COMPLETION DATE	Data collected between November 1996 January 1997 Report February 1998
AIMS	To assess young peoples awareness perceptions and knowledge of a range of illicit drugs and solvents
METHODOLOGY	Analysis of the borderline data details below Total sample size was 3,560. This included 1,877 young people aged 10-12 of whom 741 were in primary school and 1,136 in secondary school; and 1,683 young people, aged 11-17 of whom in secondary school and 409 had left school. CAPI Questionnaire
KEY FINDINGS	The research is broken into different sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness and knowledge drugs • Information about drugs • Other issues
KEY WORDS	Young people and drug use, CAPI questionnaire, awareness of drugs, perception and knowledge towards drug users.
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Rob Phipps Health Promotion Agency for NI r.phipps@hpani.org.uk

TITLE	Doing the Rounds: Widening Choices for homeless Problem Drinkers – Conference Report and Action Plan
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	September 1998
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Council for the Homeless (NI)
COMMISSIONED BY	NIVT
COMPLETION DATE	1998
AIMS	To raise the profile of the issues around Homelessness and drinking behaviour and to Inform strategy, policy and practice
METHODOLOGY	Conference held which included workshop discussions. Attendees included key statutory and voluntary agencies dealing with homeless people with alcohol addiction problems and service areas
KEY FINDINGS	The needs of homeless problem drinking are not easily defined or readily met by traditional thinking or models. Through discussions and recommendations raised at the conference, three action plans were drawn together for interagency working towards a more inclusive and response approach to services for homeless problem drinkers. These action plans Include * Accommodation provider action plan: 1. Housing to services; 2. Care management; 3. Staff training and support * Alcohol treatment provider action plan: 1. Access to services; 2. Treatment management; 3. Staff training and support * Housing and social care strategic planning Action plan; 1. NIHE strategic planning; 2. Health and social care strategic planning; 3. Joint planning and commissioning
KEY WORDS	Homelessness; alcohol addiction; choices
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Bernie Byrne Policy and Information officer Council for the homeless (NI) 153 University Street Belfast BT7 1HR info@chni.org.uk

TITLE^(*)	Abuse/Misuse of non-prescription drugs
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	Pharmacies World Science: 1999: 21: 251-55
YEAR PUBLISHED	1999
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Glenda F Hughes, James C.McElroy, Carnel M Hughes, Patrick McKena
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	To investigate the abuse of non-prescription (over-the-counter; OTC) products in Northern Ireland
METHODOLOGY	A structured questionnaire covering various aspects of OTC drug abuse was mailed to all the community pharmacies in Northern Ireland, or from paper.
KEY FINDINGS	Response rate was 49.7%. Pharmacists named 112 OTC products they perceived were being abused in Northern Ireland. There were classified into 8 groups with opiates, antihistamines and laxatives the most frequently reported. The frequency of abuse of all product groups were perceived to be either static or increasing the number of clients suspected of abuse
KEY WORDS	Abuse; Misuse; non-prescription medicines; over the counter products; pharmacist
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	James C McElroy School of Pharmacy Queens University of Belfast Medical Biology Centre 97 Lisburn Road Belfast BT9 7BL

TITLE	Experience of Drug Misuse: Findings from the 1998 Northern Ireland Crime Survey
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2000
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Laura Hague, Michael Willis and Michael Power
COMMISSIONED BY	Northern Ireland Office
COMPLETION DATE	July 2000
AIMS	To evaluate knowledge and use of illicit drugs
METHODOLOGY	The Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS) is based on a sample of private households drawn from the Valuation and Lands Agency list of addresses. The NICS included a specific self reporting drugs component which was only completed by persons aged 16 to 59 years. The 2,277 respondents to the drugs component consisted of 49% (1,109) males and 51% (1,168) females.
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of specific types of illicit drugs in Northern Ireland is very high ranging from 98% of respondents having heard of ecstasy to 63% having heard of amyl nitrate. • The proportion of NICS respondents admitting to having ever taken illicit drugs increased from 20% in 1995 to 24% in 1998 • Cannabis remains the most commonly used illicit drug in Northern Ireland with 18% of 1998 NICS respondents admitting to having ever used cannabis compared to 16% of Omnibus Survey respondents in 1997 and 12% of 1995 NICS respondents. • NICS respondents aged 16 to 29 years were approximately 5 times more likely than those aged 30 to 59 to have used illicit drugs in the last year or month. • One in 20 (5%) of male NICS respondents aged 16 to 29 years had taken ecstasy within the last month
KEY WORDS	Northern Ireland Crime Survey, drugs, cannabis, experience, knowledge
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	NIO Statistics and Research Branch Massey House Stoney Road BELFAST BT4 3SX statistics.nio@nics.gov.uk

TITLE	Anti-Drink Driving Strategy Development Research 12/00) (File ref: RSB
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2000
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Ulster Marketing Surveys
COMMISSIONED BY	DOE Road Safety Branch
COMPLETION DATE	30 March 2000
AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand why certain males persist in driving after drinking and what the most powerful deterrents might be. • To inform the creative strategy for the next Anti Drink Driving Campaign with deeper insights into the most powerful psychological and creative triggers. • To study the motivations of males who admit to driving after two pints or more than two units of alcohol, isolating those who live in areas with a lower police presence.
METHODOLOGY	Each focus group was made up of six to eight people. The recruits were all male, 17-49 year old drivers, who drink alcohol. The groups were split into the 3 main problem groups of 17-24, 25-34 and 35-49 year old men. Each group consisted of men of the same religious denomination and similar socio-economic status. The groups were conducted throughout the province in rural areas.
KEY FINDINGS	<p>The Creative Strategy for Anti Drink Drive Campaign</p> <p>Components for ideal advertisement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic/needs accident scene (post and pre) • Child(ren) – maimed? • Focus on conscience of driver • Specify small amount to drink (ideally) • Momentary lapse of concentration • Depict as responsible / confident 25 –35 year old
KEY WORDS	Anti-Drink Driving Strategy Development Research
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	<p>DONNA MC GIVERN</p> <p>E-MAIL ADDRESS: donna.mcgivern@doeni.gov.uk</p>

TITLE	ANTI- DRUG DRIVING CAMPAIGN
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	NOT APPLICABLE
YEAR PUBLISHED	JUNE 2000
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	ULSTER MARKETING SURVEYS
COMMISSIONED BY	DOE ROAD SAFETY BRANCH
COMPLETION DATE	9 JUNE 2000
AIMS	To gauge and benchmark the extent of the drugs-driving problem amongst 18-28 year olds. To identify and benchmark the acceptability of and attitudes towards taking drugs and driving amongst 18-28 year olds.
METHODOLOGY	An adhoc survey conducted by Ulster Marketing Surveys across 20 sampling points within Greater Belfast. The total sample surveyed was 300 adults aged between 18 and 28, who had been to a dance club in the last year.
KEY FINDINGS	41% of males, 18-28 admitted to having been driven by someone who had been taking drugs 21% of males- several times or often 315 of all 18-28 year olds and 20% of females had been driven by someone who had been taking drugs The two most named driver dugs: Ecstasy and Cannabis
KEY WORDS	ANTI DRUGS-DRIVING SURVEY PRESENTATION
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	DONNA MC GIVERN E-MAIL ADDRESS: donna.mcgivern@doeni.gov.uk

TITLE^(*)	Someone who knows – Views and Experiences of Drug Services in the Western Health And Social Services board Area: Young people and Professionals
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2000
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Karen Canon Deirdre Fullerton
COMMISSIONED BY	Western Drug Co-ordination Team
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To critically review the evidence of the effectiveness of population and treatment programmes currently available to young people • To document and analyse current drug prevention and treatment services available for young people aged 11-18 years in the western Health and Social Services Board Area • To consult with young people and professionals living within the Western Health & Social Service Board Area to listen to their views on current and future service provision
METHODOLOGY	Desk research was carried out to summarise the current research evidence on the effectiveness of prevention and treatment programmes. Secondary sources in the form of objectives and information packs supplemented by contacts with professionals, were used to identify current services available to young people in the WHSSB area. The third aim of the project – the consultation with 37 young people and 18 professionals was addressed by a combination of semi-structured interviews (group, paired, and/or individual) self completion questionnaires, and group activities using life stage charts
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several factors which predict increased ability to drug use were identified • Several factors which can reduce young peoples risk to drug use were identified • The aims of any prevention and education intervention were identified • Treatment recommendations were identified • Key ménage from consultation with young people and professionals were linked • A series of recommendations were made
KEY WORDS	Young people; treatment services; consultation
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE	Know Drugs – a survey into drug use among young people in the Dungannon & Cookstown area.
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	August 2000
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Eilish Campbell
COMMISSIONED BY	Breakthru
COMPLETION DATE	August 2000
AIMS	The aim of the study was to obtain an accurate picture of the level of drug use among a sample of young people in the Dungannon and Cookstown area.
METHODOLOGY	The study adopted a combination of qualitative and quantitative research techniques, namely questionnaires and focus groups.
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 54% of the young people who were surveyed knew where to get at least one illegal drug. • 40% had been offered a drug. • 65% knew someone who used a drug. • 22% had used a drug.
KEY WORDS	Illicit drugs, Dungannon, Cookstown
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Deirdre Haughey Breakthru Manager 18 Killymeal Road Dungannon BT71 6LJ email: deirdre@breakthru.co.uk

TITLE	Evaluating public information campaigns on drugs: a summary report
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	Report
YEAR PUBLISHED	2000
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Richard Ives and Barbara Wyvill with statistical advice from Vanessa Simonite
COMMISSIONED BY	Health Promotion Agency for NI
COMPLETION DATE	Data collected 1997-2000 Report September 2000
AIMS	To evaluate the Health Promotion Agency's three phase public information campaign on drugs
METHODOLOGY	Analysis of existing evaluation data gathered for the three campaigns.
KEY FINDINGS	<p>Phase 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The television and cinema ads reached almost all the target population • 93% sample saw apple ad • Two-thirds of the younger age group thought the message was don't take drugs <p>Phase 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85% aware that it promoted the National Drug helpline • Awareness of at least one of the three TV advertisements was high (80%) and almost half had heard of one of the radio advertisements • Few respondents had seen the campaign booklet (due to its limited distribution) or the internet page <p>Phase 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three quarters of the respondents could spontaneously recall some aspect of the campaign • 94% of the sample said they had seen at least one ad before however they did not seem to take in the specific messages from the advertisements • Distribution of the campaign booklet was improved with over a fifth saying that they had seen it – mostly at school. <p>See summary report for further findings</p>
KEY WORDS	Evaluation of drug campaign 1997-1999, phase 1 phase 2 phase 3, future recommendations
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Rob Phipps Health Promotion Agency for NI r.phipps@hpani.org.uk

TITLE^(*)	Drinking, smoking and illicit drug use among 15 and 16 year old school students in Northern Ireland
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2001
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Miller, P. & Plant. M.
COMMISSIONED BY	DHSSPS
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To describe international variation in the use of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs among European School students aged 15-16 2. To provide a picture of national patterns of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drug use among school students aged 15-16 3. To examine the possible changes in patterns of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drug use amongst 15-16 year old students between 1995 and 1999
METHODOLOGY	<p>Random selection of both state and private secondary schools was selected. Lists of schools were sampled with probability proportional to school size. Participating head Masters appointed a member of staff as a 'local organiser' who completed – forms detailing all classes within his/her school that included students aged 15-16. One of these classes were randomly chosen for conclusion. Survey information was collected from students in the selected classes by a standardised questionnaire completed were exam candidates. Parents of selected children were supplied with an explanation letter that gave them the opportunity to exempt their children from the study. The study was carried out between March & June 1999</p>
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 90% of respondents had at some time consumed alcohol • 2/3 had smoked cigarettes and nearly 40% of boys and 30% of girls had used some form of illicit drug, mainly cannabis or volatile inhalants • 51% of boys and 46% of girls had experienced intoxication in the past 30 days • Over 10% of boys and 64% of girls had experienced some form of advance effect from their drug use
KEY WORDS	ESPAD; illicit drug use, school students, alcohol
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE^(*)	Northern Ireland Health and Social Wellbeing survey 2001 Bulletin Number 1
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2001
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Central Survey Unit
COMMISSIONED BY	DHSSPS
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	
METHODOLOGY	The Survey covered a board range of issues relating to health and well being. It is designed to yield a representative sample of addicts aged 16 and over living in Northern Ireland. The study was carried out between February and July 2001 on a random sample of 5000 private addresses in Northern Ireland
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% of people were current drinkers, 7% used to drink and 17% were lifetime abstainers • A higher percentage of people in the younger age group drank alcohol than in the older age groups • The most popular choice of alcoholic drink was beer, lager, cider or stout • Men were twice as likely as women to drink above the sensible weekly amount • For both men and women, the proportion drinking over the sensible limit decreased with age
KEY WORDS	Alcohol, drinking, sensible limits
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Central survey Unit McAuley House 2.14 Castle Street Belfast BT7 15A Tel: (028) 90348244 Fax: (028) 90348205 email: stuart.bennet.csu@nics.gov.uk

TITLE^(*)	Overview of Drug Misuse in the Eastern Health and Social Services Board Area
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2001
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Eastern Drugs Coordination Team
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	
METHODOLOGY	The report from the Eastern Drugs Coordination Team (EDCT) gives an overview of the extent of drug misuse in the Eastern Health and Social Services Board (EHSSB) area by drawing on several sources. The report also provides details of the issues available in the EHSSB
KEY FINDINGS	
KEY WORDS	Eastern Drug Coordination Team; drug misuse
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Eastern Drugs Alcohol Coordination Team Champion House 12-22 Linenhall Street Belfast BT2 8B5 Tel: 028 90553663 Email: edct@ehssb.n-i.nhs.uk

TITLE^(*)	Self Reported drug use by Young people in the Omagh District
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2001
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Catherine Loughrey
COMMISSIONED BY	E go Project
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	To examine the prevalence of smoking, alcohol and drug use among school/college for Young people in the Omagh district
METHODOLOGY	<p>A questionnaire was piloted with 20 young people particularly in the E go Project. The Questionnaire was then adjusted and distributed among a sample of young people in years 12,13 and 14 in 8 post primary schools and college in Omagh District Council Area and with students from various courses in the Omagh College of further Education.</p> <p>Spring 2001 They distributed and collected the completed from respondents in person</p>
KEY FINDINGS	<p>Alcohol is the most commonly used drug with 82% of respondents indicating that they Currently drink.</p> <p>49% of those who currently drink alcohol consume more than 6drinks on an average night out</p> <p>45% of respondents have been offered cannabis at least once. Cannabis is the most widely used illegal drug with 25% of all respondents indicating they used cannabis at least once</p>
KEY WORDS	Young people; smoking; alcohol; drug use; Omagh
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE^(*)	Drugs Research Forum 2001
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2001
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Leo Foy: Newry & Mourne Drug and Alcohol Partnership
COMMISSIONED BY	Newry & Mourne Drug and Alcohol Partnership
COMPLETION DATE	December 2001
AIMS	To conduct a comparative study of the 16 year old population of the Newry and Mourne area (using a Stratified Random Sample) to ascertain their knowledge, attitudes and awareness with regard to illegal and illicit drugs
METHODOLOGY	<p>The participants of the Drugs Research Forum were a representative sample of the sixteen year old population of Newry and Mourne. The target number was 147 i.e. 10% of the target group.</p> <p>Each High School, Grammar School, F.E. College and Training Agency in Newry and Mourne was invited to participate and offered 10 places at the Forum. In all seventeen second level schools and five training agencies were contacted and on the day 145 young people registered i.e. 9.86% of the target group.</p> <p>Each School was given a randomly selected set of numbers to match with their alphabetical list of students and if the students were willing they were designated a place on the Forum.</p> <p>In the event of students not wishing to participate or parental consent not being given a set of substitute numbers was also provided.</p>
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people's knowledge of drugs, and the legal aspects of drug use are overall, poor. • The most regularly used illicit drug is Cannabis. • The most widely used drug is Alcohol and its use begins at startlingly early ages. • The two drugs that are most often used together are alcohol and cannabis. • The decision to begin using illicit drugs is not apparently made by informed choice, rather by information from other users; e.g. out of curiosity, the buzz, or because they heard they were good. • Over half of the participants would find it fairly easy to obtain illegal drugs, over 70% would find it fairly easy to obtain solvents, over 90% for Alcohol and nearly half could find it fairly easy to illicitly obtain prescription drugs. • Young people are not getting access to adequate information on the recognition of drugs, their use and effects.
KEY WORDS	Drugs research forum
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	<p>Leo Foy Health Promotion Department John Mitchell Place Newry BT34 2BU</p> <p>Email: leo.foy@dhh.n-l-nhs.uk</p>

TITLE	Volatile Substance Abuse: The needs and opinions of parents, professional, retailers and environmental health officers in Northern Ireland
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	Report
YEAR PUBLISHED	2001
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Health Promotion Agency for NI
COMMISSIONED BY	Health Promotion Agency for NI commissioned PWC and Richard Ives (Educari)
COMPLETION DATE	Data collected January – February 2001 Report published March 2001
AIMS	To bring together different types of information about VSA highlighting responsibilities of professionals who work with young people to encourage a measured and appropriate response to the problem
METHODOLOGY	The HPA commissioned research to explore the perspectives of professionals working with young people, parents and Environmental Health Officers. Through quota sampling respondents took part in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four group discussions with 20 face-to-face interviews with parents. • Thirty face-to-face interviews with retailers. • Telephone interviews with environmental health officers from 25 of the 26 local Councils. • Twenty six telephone and face-to-face interviews with professional working with young people from a range of professions. Each interview or group discussions were guided by a well-defined set of topic areas.
KEY FINDINGS	The report is information based and it examines VSA in a step by step guide for the Professional. It covers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in VSA • Types of VSA • VSA and the law • Effects of VSA • Roles of key professionals • Further information • Emergency – what to do
KEY WORDS	Volatile Substance Abuse (VSA) trends in VSA, types of VSA, VSA and the law, effects of VSA, response to VSA, roles of key professionals
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Naomi McCay Health promotion Agency for NI n.mccay@hpani.org.uk

TITLE	Surveys of Attitudes, knowledge and behaviour of 18-30 year olds in Northern Ireland to illicit drugs
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	Report (consultants report PWC)
YEAR PUBLISHED	Unpublished 2001
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	PWC
COMMISSIONED BY	Health Promotion Agency for NI
COMPLETION DATE	Data collected Final report July 2001
AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assess the views of the target group in relation to illicit drugs and illicit drug taking • To assess their knowledge of illicit drugs • To find out from the target group the types of drugs currently on offer and where they would go to if they wanted to obtain these drugs • To assess whether or not the target audience think there is enough information about illicit drugs and find out where they currently get information about drugs • To find out where the target audiences socialise
METHODOLOGY	Random sampling through home interviews. One person per house hold within the target group of 18-30 were asked to complete questionnaire
KEY FINDINGS	<p>Of 970 respondents 65% had never taken drugs once and 26% had taken drugs more than once.</p> <p>Drug users more likely to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Male (59% of those who had taken drugs were male) • Aged between 18-25 (77% of those who have taken drugs fall within this category) • Be single (almost 90% were single) • Be in C2DE social class (62% of sample were in this category) • Have internet access (62% of sample who had taken drugs have internet access) • Go to pubs and clubs as most frequent social activity (84% have been to pub within last fort night and 76% stating they have gone to a night club in the last fortnight)
KEY WORDS	Drug users and non-drug users. Attitudes, opinions and knowledge of drug use
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Naomi McCay Health promotion Agency for NI n.mccay@hpani.org.uk

TITLE^(*)	A Survey of Substance Misuse Among Prisoners in HMP Maghaberry: A self-report study of prisoner alcohol and drug misuse before and during imprisonment
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	October 2001
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Anne Campbell, Mary McColgan, Hugh Griffiths – University of Ulster
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To examine the extent of substance misuse among a sample of prisoners • To determine the nature and prevalence of alcohol and drug misuse prior to and during the period of imprisonment. • To gauge whether levels of drug misuse had increased or decreased across the pre-sentence / custody continuum • To compare the reported levels of drug misuse by both sentenced and remand prisoners
METHODOLOGY	A quantitative methodological approach was employed whereby approximately 430 prisoners were invited to complete structured questionnaires. The questionnaires were designed to elicit information in relation to patterns of previous and current substance misuse. In addition, a number of questions were designed to detect the prevalence, nature and severity of drug misuse during custody.
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almost one third of the sample reported that they had an alcohol problem before custody • Approximately one fifth of the sample declared using a Class A drug within prison, in the four weeks prior to the survey • A small percentage of the sample reported that they had been introduced to the use of ecstasy, heroin and cocaine for the first time during custody • Reported use of drugs, both before and during imprisonment, was higher among the remand sample than the sentenced grouping. • Reported first time drug use by sentenced prisoners was slightly higher than that declared by the remand grouping
KEY WORDS	Prisoners; substance misuse
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE	Prevalence of problem heroin use in Northern Ireland
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2002
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Karen McElrath, School of Sociology and Social Policy, Queens University of Belfast
COMMISSIONED BY	DHSSPS
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	To provide estimates of the number of problem heroin users in N. Ireland during a twelve month period
METHODOLOGY	Capture – recapture methodology, and various multipliers
KEY FINDINGS	<p>Capture – recapture estimates suggested that there were between 695 and 1018 problem heroin users in Northern Ireland during the time period, 1 November 2000 and 31 October 2001 (point estimate=828).</p> <p>The degree to which these figures are over- or under-estimated depend greatly on the accuracy of the data derived from the data sources.</p>
KEY WORDS	Problem heroin use; capture recapture; prevalence
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	<p>Karen McElrath School of Sociology and Social Policy Queens University of Belfast Belfast BT7 1LQ</p> <p>Email: K.McElrath@qub.ac.uk</p>

TITLE	Road Safety Monitor (substantially revised from the previous Road Safety Monitors).
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	N/A
YEAR PUBLISHED	2002
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Central Survey Unit, NISRA
COMMISSIONED BY	Road Safety Branch, DOE
COMPLETION DATE	June 2002
AIMS	To find out peoples' attitudes, behaviour and awareness to drink driving related issues.
METHODOLOGY	From a randomly selected sample of all domestic addresses in NI, all participants in this NI Omnibus Survey were presented with a list of questions and statements regarding behaviour, attitudes and awareness associated with drinking and driving.
KEY FINDINGS	20% of motorists who drink said they might drive after drinking. 37% of respondents said they would travel as a passenger where the driver had taken one drink. 18% of drivers who drink thought they could drink more than two units of alcohol without it affecting their driving. 87% think the police should be able to stop people at random and breathalyse them. Almost one third of respondents admitted they did not know how many units were contained in the various measures of drinks mentioned.
KEY WORDS	Drinking and driving; alcohol; drink; drive; legal limit; police
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Nicola Wilson CSRB Room 4-02 Clarence Court 10-18 Adelaide Street Belfast nicola.wilson@drdni.gov.uk

TITLE^(*)	Northern Ireland Health and Social Wellbeing Survey 2001 Bulletin Number 6	
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)		
YEAR PUBLISHED	2002	
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Central Survey Unit	
COMMISSIONED BY	DHSSPS	
COMPLETION DATE		
AIMS		
METHODOLOGY	The survey covered a board range of issues relating to health and wellbeing. It is designed to yield a representative sample of adults aged 16 or over living in Northern Ireland. The survey was carried out between February and July 2001 on a random sample of 5000 private addresses in NI. Respondents aged 16 or 17 were asked the questions on smoking and alcohol consumption by null-completion.	
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% of people were current drinkers, 7 % used to drink on and 17% were lifetime Abstainers • The highest prevalence of current drinkers occurred in the professional/ managerial SEG (82%) • Woman were twice as likely as men to be lifetime abstainers • The highest prevalence of ex-drinkers occurred in the unskilled/manual SEG • There was no significant difference in the prevalence of respondents • Drinking above sensible weekly limits and those drinking above dangerous limits, between Manual and non manual SE 	
KEY WORDS		
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Central Survey Unit McAuley House 2-14 Castle Street BELFAST BT7 15A Email: stuart.bennet.csu@nics.gov.uk	Tel: (028) 90348244 Fax: (028) 90348205

TITLE^(*)	Strabane Peer Research Report 2002
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2002
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Catherine Loughrey
COMMISSIONED BY	Strabane Community Drugs & Alcohol Project and feinmheas
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	To use peer researchers experience and knowledge of the drugs scene to access a range of young people and to encourage them to comment on research that they very often exclude rather than include its information
METHODOLOGY	Peer researchers are trained in how to conduct a questionnaire using guidelines Developed by Save the Children. They advertised the questionnaire in their town, on the street at night. The questionnaires were self completed and peer-researchers were present to explain any of the questions and answer any of the respondents queries. A focus group was then held with the Peer researchers in order to discuss the findings and to document their impressions, views and experiences
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 103 people aged 14 to 28 took part in the study. • Alcohol and tobacco were the most commonly used drug • 90% of the sample had tried and illicit and/or illegal drug • 57% of the sample had used cannabis more than once • 37% of the sample had experienced trouble with parents as a result of their drug taking
KEY WORDS	Peer research; attitudes and experience; Strabane
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE	Adult drinking patterns in Northern Ireland
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	Report
YEAR PUBLISHED	2002
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Health Promotion Agency for NI
COMMISSIONED BY	Health Promotion Agency for NI commissioned CSU (NISRA) to carry out fieldwork only
COMPLETION DATE	Data collected November 1999 Report published December 2002
AIMS	Survey representative of adult population of NI aged 18+ to examine the drinking Consumption and patterns of adults in NI. Covers, who drinks, drinking contexts, When, where, what, who, with, how much. Report looks at patterns, consumption, heavy occasional drinking ('binge'), CAGE Analysis, and self-perception versus drinking reality.
METHODOLOGY	Household survey of NI (CAP). Sample frame; Valuation and lands Agency list stratified into three regions. Random sample of 2,050 addresses. Each eligible adult in the household (aged 18-75 years) was asked to complete an interview. Fieldwork period October – November 1999. CAPI questionnaire covered household information, questions relating to drinking practice, and seven day diary recall of drinking events, questions focus on the seven days prior to interview. Respondents were asked to recount their drinking activities over this time focusing on what, how much, where, when and with whom they drank. The questionnaire ends with questions on respondent's perceptions of their own drinking habits, and the CAHE screening questionnaire.
KEY FINDINGS	See Report attached executive summary
KEY WORDS	Drinking patterns, consumption, 'binge drinking', CAGE.
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Naomi McCay Health Promotion Agency for NI n.mccay@hpani.org.uk

TITLE	HIV / AIDS: A World View
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	ISBN: 0-313-31403-9 Westport, Conn.: Greenwood
YEAR PUBLISHED	2002
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Karen McElrath, School of Sociology and Social Policy, Queens University of Belfast
COMMISSIONED BY	Publisher
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	To explore cross-cultural issuers pertaining to HIV / AIDS
METHODOLOGY	Case-study approach across 15 countries, including Ireland and Northern Ireland.
KEY FINDINGS	Describes the changes in prevalence abd incidence of HIV and AIDS, policies, availability of treatment, including the link with injecting drug use. Allows for comparisons to be made across countries.
KEY WORDS	HIV / AIDS; cross-cultural
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Karen McElrath School of Sociology and Social Policy Queens University of Belfast Belfast BT7 1LQ Email: K.McElrath@qub.ac.uk

TITLE^(*)	The Implementation of harm minimisation model for the identification and treatment of over-the-counter drug misuse and abuse in community pharmacies
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	International Journal of Pharmaceutical Practice 2002: 10(suppl) : R92
YEAR PUBLISHED	2002
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	M.Wazaity, J.C. McElroy & C.M.Hughes
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	Ongoing
AIMS	To test a harm minimisation model for identifying and meeting individuals who misuse/abuse OTC medication in the community pharmacy setting
METHODOLOGY	<p>10 pharmacists in 8 community pharmacies in the greater Belfast are participated in the study. Following training on programme implementation and motivational interviewing, pharmacists are currently identifying clients suspected of misusing or abusing OTC drugs.</p> <p>Records of all queries and sales of the OTC product recognised to have the greatest abuse potential are kept. Pharmacists will recruit clients into a intervention programme which will follow a series of treatment algorithms, depending on the product concerned and whether the patient has been abusing or misusing</p>
KEY FINDINGS	<p>Findings from the first 7 weeks of the trial are presented</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An average of 6.8 clients per pharmacy were suspected of abuse, while 4.8 cases of misuse per pharmacy • Most suspected cases of abuse involved opiates followed by antihistamines • All suspected cases of OTC laxative abuse involved females, while males accounted for 60% of suspected opiate OTC abuse cases • Over half of suspected OTC abuses were strangers • Over 2/3 of the total misuse cases were female
KEY WORDS	Over the counter; drug misuse; pharmacy
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Clinical & Practice Research Group School of Pharmacy Queens University of Belfast 97 Lisburn Road Belfast BT9 7BL

TITLE^(*)	HMP Magilligan – A review of the Drugs Education and Awareness Programme
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	June 2002
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	David O'Mahoney - Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	To evaluate the Drugs Education and awareness programme and individual counselling that are provided at Magilligan Prison as part of it's overall Drugs and Alcohol Strategy.
METHODOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of student evaluations • Review of facilitators' assessments of each session • Face to face interviews with participants of the programme • Face to face interviews with inmates who have undergone counselling • Interviews with principle stakeholders
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of participants on the programme found it beneficial • Analysis of test results showed the programme to be successful in increasing inmates' knowledge • Several proposals for enhancing the programme were identified.
KEY WORDS	Prison; drugs; education and awareness
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE^(*)	An Evaluation of the Positive Steps Programme and the partnership between the Young Offenders Centre and Opportunity Youth
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	July 2002
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	David O'Mahoney, Queens University of Belfast; Tim Chapman, CTC Associates
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To evaluate the Positive Steps Programme in Hydebank Young Offenders Centre • To evaluate the use of effective working practices • To determine the extent of the "drug culture" in the institution
METHODOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two surveys of the prison population • Series of before-and-after interviews with participants on the programme • Evaluation of working practices and arrangements for delivery of the programme
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The drug strategy developed has improved discipline in the centre • An effective partnership between the YOC and Opportunity Youth has been established • Fewer inmates are using drugs in the YOC • Several recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the Programme were listed
KEY WORDS	Young people; prison;
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE	Composition of Beverage Products and Apparent Release into the Body.
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	W. Meier-Augenstein (Queen's University Belfast; Environ. Eng. Res. Centre); H. F. Kemp (Queen's University Belfast; Environ. Eng. Res. Centre);
COMMISSIONED BY	Oakland Innovation and Information Services, Cambridge, UK
COMPLETION DATE	October 2002
AIMS	The aim of this study was to look for links between drink composition and gastric motility (stomach emptying).
METHODOLOGY	Five test products and five market-place products were studied for their gastric emptying rates using a stable label in conjunction with a non-invasive breath test. Volunteers were asked to drink 200 ml of a particular product and to provide 10 ml breath samples over 3 hours at 10 min intervals. In total, 20 volunteers took part in this study. Breath samples were analysed for label appearance as part of exhaled carbon dioxide using gas – isotope ratio mass spectrometry. From rate of appearance and recovered label in breath carbon dioxide, gastric emptying rates for all products were calculated.
KEY FINDINGS	There is a strong correlation between product composition and their gastric emptying rate.
KEY WORDS	Alcohol; ¹³ CO ₂ ; gastric emptying; isotope ratio; stable isotopes.
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Dr W Meier-Augenstein, Environmental Engineering Research Centre, Queen's University Belfast, David Keir Building, Stranmillis Road, Belfast, BT9 5AG; e-mail: w.meier-augenstein@qub.ac.uk ; Tel: 028-9033 5609.

TITLE	Statistics from the Northern Ireland Drug Misuse Database: 1 April 2002 – 31 March 2003
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	October 2003
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit (DAIRU)
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	
METHODOLOGY	The bulletin summarises information on people presenting to services with problem drug misuse and relates to the 12 month period 1 April 2002 – 31 March 2003. It reports on information collected through the Northern Ireland Drug Misuse Database (DMD) which was established in April 2000 and which collects detailed data, including information on drugs misuse and injecting behaviour, on those presenting for treatment.
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1368 cases were analysed • Three- quarters of users presenting were male • just over one third of users were in their 20's, while almost a third were aged under 20. • Cannabis was recorded as the main drug of misuse for almost a half (47%) of users, the next most common drug of misuse being heroin (15%). Other opiates were recorded for 9% of users and ecstasy for 8%. • 72% of those presenting for treatment with heroin as the main problem drug had been treated before. The figures for cannabis and ecstasy were much lower (28% and 19% respectively) <p>INFORMATION FOR PREVIOUS YEARS IS ALSO AVAILABLE.</p>
KEY WORDS	Drug Misuse Database; problem drug users; treatment
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit Annexe 2 Castle Buildings Stormont Belfast BT4 3SQ Tel: 028 905 22501 Fax: 028 905 23288 Email: DAIRU@dhsspsni.gov.uk

TITLE	Statistics from the Northern Ireland Needle and Syringe Exchange Scheme: 1 April 2002 – 31 March 2003
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2003
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit, DHSSPS
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	
METHODOLOGY	Needle Exchange Schemes are a service for injecting drug users, targeted as a harm reduction measure to help limit the spread of blood borne viruses such as HIV and Hepatitis B and C. In 2000 funding was made available to develop a free needle and syringe exchange scheme in community pharmacies in Northern Ireland. With input from community pharmacists and other expert advisors, and taking account of models of best practice developed elsewhere, the Northern Ireland Needle and Syringe Exchange Scheme (NSES) was introduced in April 2001. This bulletin summarises information on people visiting the Needle and Syringe Exchange Schemes and relates to the twelve-month period ending 31 March 2003.
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 6,043 visits to participating pharmacies by users of the scheme. • Over three fifths (61%) of these visits involved exchanges, whereby a client returned used equipment. • There were 67,516 syringes and 66,266 needles issued. • Over four fifths (84%) of all visits were made by male clients. • Over half (55%) of all visits were made by clients aged 30 or under. • Just under 1 in 20 visits (5%) were by clients reporting themselves to be new users of the NSES. <p>INFORMATION FOR PREVIOUS YEARS IS ALSO AVAILABLE.</p>
KEY WORDS	Needle Exchange Scheme; harm reduction; pharmacy
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	<p>Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit Annexe 2 Castle Buildings Stormont Estate Belfast BT34 3SQ</p> <p>Tel: (028) 905 22520 Email: DAIRU@dhsspsni.gov.uk</p>

TITLE	Attitudes and behaviour of young adult drinkers in Northern Ireland
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	Report
YEAR PUBLISHED	2003
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Health Promotion Agency for NI
COMMISSIONED BY	Health Promotion Agency for NI commissioned RES to carry out field work only
COMPLETION DATE	Data collected January – February 2001 Report published January 2003
AIMS	To gain an in-depth picture of the experiences, views and perceptions of 18-35 year old adults in Northern Ireland with regard to their own alcohol consumption. The principal themes were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perceived benefits of drinking – psychosocial benefits and motivation to drink; • Drinking context – including with whom, when, where, and how much; • Knowledge and attitudes – understanding of current sensible drinking Guidelines, perceptions of binge and problem drinking, social acceptability of Drinking and being drunk, drink-driving and drinking in front of children • Perceived negative effects of drinking – on the individuals health, mental Health and lifestyles, on the family and on society.
METHODOLOGY	Combined approach of 20 semi-structured interviews (13 male seven female) in the Social class C2DE social class grouping and 12 focus groups (eight male, four female). The number of participants in each focus group ranged from 7 – 10 people. It was anticipated that in group discussions participants may be less honest or even prone to exaggerate due to the group dynamic. Personal interviews therefore allowed probing on more sensitive issues and verification of issues that emerged from group discussion.
KEY FINDINGS	A number of key findings are discussed such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perceived benefits; reduced stress, increased confidence, social bonding, strengthened relationships and meeting new people • Drinking context: How often do we drink? Where do we drink? Who do we drink with? The usual night out. Drinking at home. • Knowledge and attitudes: participants understanding of sensible drinking guidelines, participants definition of problem drinking, social acceptability of drinking and drunkenness. • Binge drinking: participants definition of binge drinking, image of a binge drinker. When a binge drinking likely to occur? • Short term health effects, long term health effects, impact on mental health, other negative aspects.
KEY WORDS	Knowledge and attitudes towards drinking alcohol, drinking patterns, consumption levels, 'binge drinking', perceived negative effects of drinking.
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Naomi McCay Health Promotion Agency n.mccay@hpani.org.uk

TITLE	Continuous Household Survey
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	N/A
YEAR PUBLISHED	1984, 1986, 1988, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Central Survey Unit, NISRA
COMMISSIONED BY	Road Safety Branch, DOE
COMPLETION DATE	June of respective year.
AIMS	To find out whether any respondents drink and drive when over the limit, how often, and whether they regularly drive when well over the limit.
METHODOLOGY	From a randomly selected sample of all domestic addresses in NI, all participants in this Continuous Household Survey were presented with a list of questions on their behaviour in relation to drink driving.
KEY FINDINGS	In 2001 84% of motorists said that they had driven when they were fairly certain that they were over the legal limit, of which 63% claimed this only happened once or twice. 50% of motorists said they had regularly driven when they knew they were <i>well</i> over the legal limit.
KEY WORDS	Drink; drive; drunk: legal limit
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Nicola Wilson CSRB Room 4-02 Clarence Court 10-18 Adelaide Street Belfast nicola.wilson@drdni.gov.uk

TITLE	Road Safety Monitor
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	N/A
YEAR PUBLISHED	1984-1994 1995-2001
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Ulster Marketing Surveys Central Survey Unit, NISRA
COMMISSIONED BY	Road safety Branch, DOE
COMPLETION DATE	January of each year
AIMS	To find out behaviours and attitudes associated with drinking and driving and to ascertain the behaviour of motorists in this area.
METHODOLOGY	From a randomly selected sample of all domestic addresses in NI, all participants in this NI Omnibus Survey were presented with a list of questions and statements regarding behaviour and attitudes associated with drinking and driving. They were asked to state how often, if at all, they indulged in the various types of behaviour described and their attitude towards the various drink drive related issues.
KEY FINDINGS	49% of motorists said that they mostly or always drink non- alcoholic drinks if they go out and will be driving afterwards. 14% of motorists felt that if you drank any alcohol there was a fear of prosecution. 11% of motorists indicated that there were would be occasions at which they may have a few drinks and drive afterwards.
KEY WORDS	Drinking and driving; alcohol; drink; drive; legal limit; police
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Nicola Wilson CSRB Room 4-02 Clarence Court 10-18 Adelaide Street Belfast nicola.wilson@drdni.gov.uk

TITLE	Courses for Drink Drive Offenders
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	N/A
YEAR PUBLISHED	Pilot report 1 April 1998- 31 December 2000. Thereafter annually.
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	CSRB, DRD
COMMISSIONED BY	CDDO Interdepartmental Working Group
COMPLETION DATE	February of each year
AIMS	To allow the use of rehabilitation courses as a sentence mechanism to be evaluated in terms of their effectiveness in reducing drinking and driving.
METHODOLOGY	Information is provided by PBNI outlining all those convicted of relevant drink driving related offences who were referred to take part in this course. In addition PBNI, the course provider, administers documentation to all course attendees aimed at measuring attitudes, awareness and knowledge of drink driving issues and the effect of alcohol on the body.
KEY FINDINGS	In 2001 there was a referral rate of approximately 26% and a take up rate of 24% for these courses. 86% of course attendees were male; 55% were aged between 21 and 40 years. Results from pre and post attitude questionnaires and alcohol quiz sheets have shown a marked increase in knowledge about alcohol and its effects on the body immediately following course attendance. Immediately after attending a course, offenders' reported attitudes to drinking and driving had also changed positively.
KEY WORDS	Drinking and driving; rehabilitation; drink-driving; referral rate; take-up rate; reconviction Rate; alcohol.
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Rodney Redmond CSRB Room 4-10 Clarence Court 10-18 Adelaide Street Belfast rodney.redmond@drdni.gov.uk

TITLE	Review of Research on Substitute Prescribing for Opiate Dependence and Implications for Northern Ireland
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2003
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Karen McElrath, School of Sociology and Social Policy, Queens University of Belfast
COMMISSIONED BY	DHSSPS
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	To review the scientific and medical research into substitute prescribing
METHODOLOGY	Extensive and critical review of the literature
KEY FINDINGS	The report concluded with several recommendations
KEY WORDS	Substitute prescribing; methadone, Subutex
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Karen McElrath School of Sociology and Social Policy Queens University of Belfast Belfast BT7 1LQ Email: K.McElrath@qub.ac.uk

TITLE	Continuous Household Survey
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	N/A
YEAR PUBLISHED	2003
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Central Survey Unit, NISRA
COMMISSIONED BY	Road Safety Branch, DOE
COMPLETION DATE	June/ July 2003
AIMS	To ascertain the levels of drug driving in NI among 16-39 year olds, how often this happens and which drugs are involved.
METHODOLOGY	From a randomly selected sample of all domestic addresses in NI, all participants in this Continuous Household Survey were presented with a list of questions on their behaviour in relation to drug driving.
KEY FINDINGS	N/A- Not yet published.
KEY WORDS	Drugs; drive
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Nicola Wilson CSRB Room 4-02 Clarence Court 10-18 Adelaide Street Belfast nicola.wilson@drdni.gov.uk

TITLE(*)	Experience of Drug Misuse: Findings from the 2001 Northern Ireland Crime Survey
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2003
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Hugh Kerr and S Mc Mullan
COMMISSIONED BY	Northern Ireland Office
COMPLETION DATE	Summer 2003
AIMS	To evaluate knowledge, use of, ease of access to and age of first use of illicit drugs
METHODOLOGY	The Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS) is based on a sample of private households drawn from the Valuation and Lands Agency list of addresses. The NICS was carried out between mid August 2001 and January 2002 and included a specific self reporting drugs component which was only completed by persons aged 16 to 59 years.
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26% of all respondents have ever taken at least one illicit drug, 11% have taken in the last year and 7% in the last month. • Cannabis remains the most commonly used illicit drug in Northern Ireland with 18% of respondents admitting to having ever used it. Ecstasy (6%) is the second most commonly used illicit drug. • More than two in five (43%) NICS respondents aged 16 to 24 years have used illicit drugs at some time in the past, 28% within the last year and 19% within the last month. • 28% of males aged 16 to 24 years claim to have used an illicit drug in the last month while 37% claim to have used in the last year. This compares with 12% of female respondents in this age group who claim to have used in the last month and 21% in the last year. • Almost two thirds (63%) of respondents aged 16-24 years claimed that, in general, it was very or fairly easy to obtain illegal drugs. • The average age of first use of any illicit drug among respondents who reported using illicit drugs at some time was 19.1 years.
KEY WORDS	Northern Ireland Crime Survey, ease of access, age of onset, experience, knowledge
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	NIO Statistics and Research Branch Massey House Stoney Road BELFAST BT4 3SX statistics.nio@nics.gov.uk

TITLE	Research into needs and barriers in the jobs market faced by DEL clients
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	A Hodgkinson / P Quirk (Deloitte and Touche)
COMMISSIONED BY	Research & Evaluation Branch, DEL on behalf of DEL, November 2003
COMPLETION DATE	February 2003
AIMS	With reference to key client groups who would be seen by DEL for the first time in the Future, the aims were to find out what they would need (and which barriers in the job Market they would have to have lowered) to take-up a job if one became available
METHODOLOGY	The key client groups mentioned above include the 'hard to help' (alcoholics, drug addicts, homeless, ex-prisoners etc). The methodology was to conduct an extensive literature search to find out the nature of needs and barriers, details of schemes/programmes etc already existing in the UK and ROI, to cater for needs and lower barriers were also sought.
KEY FINDINGS	With regard to drug users and alcoholics: - barriers included lack of skills, low self-esteem, few work related qualifications, poor-previous experiences of employment of training etc. Needs: drawing on the experience of programmes in Scotland and elsewhere, needs included flexibility of resourcing to allow intensive work with clients, a person centred approach, emphasis on soft personal outcomes rather hard employment.
KEY WORDS	Need barriers, Job market, further DEL clients
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Available from DEL

TITLE	Forensic Applications of Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	Advances in Forensic Applications of Mass Spectrometry; (book)
YEAR PUBLISHED	CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida, US; <i>in press</i>
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	W. Meier-Augenstein (Queen's University Belfast; Environmental Engineering Research Centre); Ray H. Liu (University of Alabama at Birmingham; Dept. of Justice Sciences).
COMMISSIONED BY	Dr Jehuda Yinon [ed.], Weizman Institute of Science, Dept. of Environmental Science, Rehovot, Israel.
COMPLETION DATE	31.01.2003
AIMS	In this book chapter, some essential conventions adapted in Isotope Ratio Mass Spectroscopy (IRMS) and theoretical basis and instrumentation of IRMS are addressed first, followed by a survey on the fundamental aspects of Isotope Dilution Techniques and review on the applications of IRMS in forensic science.
METHODOLOGY	
KEY FINDINGS	<p>Analytical methods currently applied in support of law enforcement agencies establish a degree of identity between one substance and another by means of identifying its constituent elements, functional groups, and by elucidating its chemical structure. Should the spectroscopic data of two compounds correspond, it may be concluded that they are chemically identical. However, an argument can be brought forward as a defence that although two substances in question are chemically identical there are not the same, i.e. not sharing the same origin, hence coming from a different source. The analytical technique at the heart of this chapter, IRMS permits this contention to be tested and to provide the resolution to the question if two compounds or substances are truly identical. With the help of stable isotope finger-printing (or stable isotope "DNA"), forensic scientists will be able to link a person to an event, a crime scene, or a criminal organization based on a unique characteristic of physical evidence.</p> <p>For example, research carried out on cocaine base has confirmed the potential probative power of the data provided by this analytical technique by analyzing the isotopic composition of trimethoxycocaine and truxilline extracted from coca leaves sampled at different geographic locations in South America. This work confirmed that the stable isotope make-up of a substance is a function of its origin. In other words, two substances that are chemically the same may have different stable isotope compositions if either their origin and/or (bio-) chemical history differ. This finding will remove the defence of substances that are chemically the same not necessarily originating from identical sources and will thus be a significant advance in forensic science, intelligence gathering, and crime detection and reduction.</p>
KEY WORDS	Doping; drugs; explosives; food; human remains; isotopic abundance; isotope ratio mass spectrometry; origin; stable isotopes; source.
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Dr W Meier-Augenstein, Environmental Engineering Research Centre, Queen's University Belfast, David Keir Building, Stranmillis Road, Belfast, BT9 5AG; e-mail: w.meier-augenstein@qub.ac.uk ; Tel: 028-9033 5609.

TITLE	Northern Ireland Drug Addicts Statistical Information Bulletin 2003
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2004
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit, DHSSPS
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	
METHODOLOGY	The misuse of drugs (notification of and supply of addicts) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1973 require any doctor to notify the Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health and Social Services and Personal Safety in writing within 7 days, if he attends a patient who he considers to be, or has reasonable grounds to suspect is addicted to any of a list of 14 drugs. This bulletin provides key statistics for the calendar year 2003
KEY FINDINGS	<p>There were 241 persons registered on the Addicts Index at 31 December 2003.</p> <p>One hundred and fifty-six persons were re-notified on the Index during 2003, whilst there were 85 new notifications. One hundred and forty individuals were removed from the Index in 2003.</p> <p>Three-quarters (73%) of persons registers on the Index were male; 35% were in their twenties, whilst 28% were aged between thirty and thirty-five.</p> <p>Heroin was the most frequently reported notifiable drug; used by almost three quarters (72%) of all persons on the Index</p> <p>Over half (57%) of those for whom injecting behaviour was known were currently injecting.</p> <p>INFORMATION FOR PREVIOUS YEARS IS ALSO AVAILABLE.</p>
KEY WORDS	Addicts Index; Notification; Controlled Drug
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	<p>Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit Annexe 2 Castle Buildings Stormont Estate Belfast BT34 3SQ</p> <p>Tel: (028) 905 22520 Email: DAIRU@dhsspsni.gov.uk</p>

TITLE	Drug and Alcohol Knowledge and Use Amongst Primary School Children: Empirical Evidence and Methodological Issues in the Development of Instruments for Measuring Use of and Attitudes to Drugs and Alcohol in Primary School Children.
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2004
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	McCrystal, Patrick and Thornton, Maeve - Institute of Child Care Research, Queen's University Belfast
COMMISSIONED BY	Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety
COMPLETION DATE	2004
AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Evidence about the prevalence of drug and alcohol use amongst children of primary school age • Explore issues in relation to the design of a study of primary school children aged 8-11 years that would elicit information covering their knowledge and use of drugs and alcohol. • Consider practical and ethical issues in carrying out sensitive research with children in the 8-11 age group
METHODOLOGY	<p>The study examined the published literature in relation to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empirical evidence on drug and alcohol use amongst 8-11 year old children • Issues around surveying 8-11 year old children in general and about sensitive issues including drug and alcohol use in particular. • Practical and ethical considerations for undertaking research with Primary School Children
KEY FINDINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing empirical evidence on drug using behaviours of 8-11 year olds. There is more evidence in relation to attitudes and to use of alcohol. • Retrospective approach (ie surveying children of post-primary school age) suggest some drug and alcohol use prior to age 11. • Questionnaire approach and "write and draw" technique could be feasible but would require piloting on small-scale to verify feasibility • Piloting could test a number of approaches eg self-completion questionnaire; questionnaire where questions read out to students; and write and draw technique • Ethical considerations: confidentiality must be ensured and explained to children and parental consent must be given Passive consent would be appropriate with the agreement of the school.
KEY WORDS	Drugs; Alcohol; Primary School Children
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE	Substance Misuse and Homelessness
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2004
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Deloitte
COMMISSIONED BY	(Drug and Alcohol) Information and Research Working Group
COMPLETION DATE	Ongoing (proposed completion date – June 2004)
AIMS	The overall aim of the research is to provide a detailed account of substance misuse among homeless people that could be used to inform future prevention and treatment activity.
METHODOLOGY	In-depth interviews with homeless people and key service providers. A survey of service providers in the homeless and substance misuse sectors. Consultation (interviews/focus groups) with non-service delivery stakeholders.
KEY FINDINGS	Not yet available
KEY WORDS	Homelessness. Substance Misuse.
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit Annexe 2 Castle Buildings Stormont Belfast BT4 3SQ Tel: (028) 90 522520 Email: dairu@dhsspsni.gov.uk

TITLE	Drug Use Patterns and Risk Behaviours Amongst Injecting Drug Users
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2004
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Karen McElrath. School of Sociology and Social Policy. Queens University Belfast.
COMMISSIONED BY	(Drug and Alcohol) Information and Research Working Group
COMPLETION DATE	Ongoing (proposed completion date – Autumn 2004)
AIMS	The overall aim of the research is to provide a detailed study of the drug use patterns and risk behaviours amongst injecting drug users, both in and out of treatment, which could be used to inform future prevention and treatment activity and identify current gaps in treatment services.
METHODOLOGY	In-depth interviews are the primary research tool used to collect information from injecting drug users. Supplemental information is collected through discussions with outreach workers, treatment staff and other professionals who have contact with in and out of treatment injecting drug users.
KEY FINDINGS	Not yet available
KEY WORDS	Injecting Drug Users. Drug Use Patterns. Risk Behaviours.
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Karen McElrath School of Sociology and Social Policy Queens University Belfast Belfast BT7 1LQ Tel: (028) 90 273551 Email: K.McElrath@qub.ac.uk

TITLE	Needs Assessment of Young Peoples Treatment Services
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	2004
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	CAPITA
COMMISSIONED BY	(Drug and Alcohol) Treatment Working Group
COMPLETION DATE	Ongoing (proposed completion date – Spring 2004)
AIMS	A profile of young people generally (to include evidence about substance misuse) in each of the four Health and Social Services Board (HSSB) areas including a profile of young vulnerable groups; and an analysis of service provision for young people who abuse substances, across each of the four HSSB areas.
METHODOLOGY	Interviews and focus groups with young people. Face to face and telephone interviews with stakeholders interviews. Focus groups with parents of young people.
KEY FINDINGS	Not yet available
KEY WORDS	Substance Misuse. Young People. Needs Assessment. Treatment Services.
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit Annexe 2 Castle Buildings Stormont Belfast BT4 3SQ Tel: (028) 90 522520 Email: dairu@dhsspsni.gov.uk

TITLE	Barriers and Incentives to help seeking treatment for drug users
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	Not published
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Briege Quinn, Michael Foley and Paula Jackson
COMMISSIONED BY	N & W Belfast and S & E Belfast Trust
COMPLETION DATE	May 2003
AIMS	To identify the barriers and incentives for injecting drug users approaching treatment and address the issues identified.
METHODOLOGY	Action Research Practice Development approach focus groups Qualitative Values Clarification Questionnaire
KEY FINDINGS	Ex-service users identified a default in knowledge and skills among treatment service providers. Ex-service users identified a canny and knowledgeable practitioner as an incentive to remain engaged in the service. Ex-service users identified choice and separate drug and alcohol regimes as an incentive. Practitioners identified the need to improve training for skills and confidence building.
KEY WORDS	Barriers and incentives to help seeking; harm reduction
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Briege Quinn (Addiction Team Leader) Everton Complex 585 Crumlin Road Belfast BT14 Briege@nwb.n-i.nhs.uk

TITLE	A study of the role of leisure activities in the prevention of relapse to drug and alcohol addiction.
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Nuala Cassidy, Head Occupational Therapist, Home First Community Trust
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	Research element completed. Revised completion date expected in 2005 (Original completion date September 2003)
AIMS	The Study aims to discover if participation in leisure activities is related to the incidence of lapse/relapse in the sample. Other aims relate to ability to identify leisure difficulties, leisure values and habits, and correlations between in-patient and post-discharge activity. This is a correlation study, survey design
METHODOLOGY	The project has both quantitative and qualitative components. The sample is comprised of patients admitted to an in-patient detox unit between November 02 and April 03. A standardized assessment (OSA) is being gathered about leisure values and habits. Quantity, range and social context of leisure while in-patient is compared with that in the three months post-discharge. Three semi-structured telephone interviews, 1 month apart will gather post-discharge information as above, plus information on lapse/relapse, barriers or facilities to leisure participation. Variables such as gender, age marital status, and main drug of addiction will be included.
KEY FINDINGS	
KEY WORDS	Leisure occupational therapy, drug addiction, alcohol addiction, relapse prevention.
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Nuala Cassidy Head O.T (Addictions) Ward F Holywell Hospital 60 Steeple Road Antrim Tel : 028 9441 3290 email : nuala.Cassidy@homefirst.n-i.nhs.uk

TITLE	Effects of Alcohol, smoking and Drugs on the behaviour of the fetus
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	
COMMISSIONED BY	Various; Welcome Trust, DHSSPS, AERC
COMPLETION DATE	Ongoing
AIMS	To examine the Neurobehavioral effects of exposure to maternal drinking and smoking and maternal use of prescription and non – prescription drugs on the fetus and its behaviour and development.
METHODOLOGY	The behaviour of the fetus is examined in response to acute and chronic exposure to drugs and alcohol and then individuals followed up after birth . A wide range of novel tasks are used to examine the behaviour of the fetus.
KEY FINDINGS	Little, J.F., Hepper, P.G. & Dornan, J.C. 2002. Maternal alcohol consumption during pregnancy and fetal startle behaviour. <i>Physiology & Behavior</i> , 76 , 691-694.
KEY WORDS	Fetus, pregnancy, alcohol, smoking, behaviour, neuroscience
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Prof P Hepper School of Psychology Queens University Belfast BT7 1NN P.hepper@qub.ac.uk

TITLE	
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	BDO Stoy Hayward
COMMISSIONED BY	Procurement Service
COMPLETION DATE	28 th March 2003
AIMS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To audit staff awareness levels, policies, procedures & practices relating to Drug & Alcohol misuse at Sports Clubs, Leisure Centres & other related venues. 2. To design, distribute, collate & evaluate a questionnaire. 3. Compile an accurate database of all Sports Clubs, Leisure Centres etc. 4. Produce a directory of sports venues from the database. 5. Produce a report on the way forward.
METHODOLOGY	<p>Stage 1. Initial client meeting. Stage 2. Database of sporting venues. Stage 3. Focus Groups. Stage 4. Postal Questionnaire. Stage 5. Directory of sporting venues Stage 6. Final report and directory</p>
KEY FINDINGS	The final Consultants' report has been received (from BDO Stoy Hayward). Formal recommendations have been made and signed off by the sub-group, and these were presented at the January meeting of Education & Prevention Working Group.
KEY WORDS	
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	

TITLE	Alcohol & Drug use in Healthcare Students
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Dr D Patterson Dr S McHugh Mr V Robinson Miss K Jeffers Dr R. Bunn
COMMISSIONED BY	
COMPLETION DATE	Ongoing
AIMS	To undertake regular surveys of alcohol and drug intake of healthcare students and their attitudes to healthcare provision.
METHODOLOGY	Self-completion questionnaire format. Base questionnaire examines Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT, W.H.O.) and screening test for drugs. Attitudinal items differ across the healthcare groups tested. Questionnaire is presented in a teaching context to students – Medical, Nursing Occupational Therapists, Social Workers and Dental Students.
KEY FINDINGS	1 publication to date 1997. Psychiatric Bulletin 21, 16-18 "Intake of & Attitudes to Alcohol & Alcoholism" Sharkey & Patterson. 38% of medical students screened positive as alcohol misusers. Personal intake appeared to influence healthcare attitudes. 3 publications currently in preparation.
KEY WORDS	Alcohol Drugs Students
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Dr Diana Patterson OBE MD FRCPsych, Consultant Psychiatrist Shaftesbury Square Hospital 116/120 Great Victoria Street BELFAST BT2 7BG E-mail: DrDiana.Patterson@sebt.n-i.co.uk

TITLE	Irish Alcohol Study
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Partners – Professor Ken Kendler, Professor of Human Genetics, VCU, Richmond, Virginia - Health Research Board, Ireland
COMMISSIONED BY	National Institute of Alcoholism & Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA, USA)
COMPLETION DATE	Fieldwork completed November 2002. Genetic Findings expected September / October 2004
AIMS	To identify Genetic factors which influence development of alcohol dependence in an Irish population.
METHODOLOGY	Siblings pairs DSM III & ICD 9 diagnosis of alcohol dependence were sampled (Buccal Smear and blood sample) for genetic analysis. Detailed epidemiological and psychological profiles obtained. Reference sample drawn from BTS, N Ireland. Detailed genetic examination may elucidate a gene or genes associated with alcohol dependence.
KEY FINDINGS	To date – Specific phenotypes have been identified across the all – Ireland sample. - Genetic results awaited
KEY WORDS	Genetic Alcohol
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	Dr Diana Patterson OBE MD FRCPsych, Consultant Psychiatrist Shaftesbury Square Hospital 116/120 Great Victoria Street BELFAST BT2 7BG E-mail: DrDiana.Patterson@sebt.n-i.co.uk

TITLE	Belfast Youth Development Study
JOURNAL / BOOK / ISBN (if applicable)	
YEAR PUBLISHED	Ongoing
AUTHOR (S) AND AFFILIATION	Andrew Percy; Patrick McCrystal and Kathryn Higgins
COMMISSIONED BY	Research and Development Office DHSSPS
COMPLETION DATE	
AIMS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To map out young peoples use of intoxicating substances and how this may change over time. 2. to examine the psychological and social forces that shape the drug use pathways undertaken by young people. 3. To explore the implications for the design and delivery of community drugs prevention.
METHODOLOGY	<p>The BYDS is a longitudinal cohort study tracking around 4,300 young people in 43 Schools located in Belfast, Ballymena and Downpatrick.</p> <p>The cohort were in school Year 8 (age 11-12) during the first sweep of data collected in 2001. The study is completed in the sweep in 2003 when the young people are aged 13-14.</p> <p>Data collection is via a pencil and paper questionnaire.</p>
KEY FINDINGS	
KEY WORDS	Longitudinal, cohort, drug use pathways; risk factors, adolescent development
CONTACT DETAILS FOR RESEARCH (including e-mail address)	<p>Andrew Percy Institute of child care research Queens University Belfast BT9 5BY Email a.percy@qub.ac.uk Tel 028 90 27 4610</p>

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