

Publication Summary



Scottish Drug Misuse Database: Overview of individuals assessed in 2011/12



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About this Release

This annual publication presents the available information from the Scottish Drugs Misuse Database (SDMD) on individuals having an initial specialist assessment in 2011/12. Information in this publication is the updated version of what has previously been contained within section A1 of 'Drugs Misuse Statistics' publications.

Key Points

- In 2011/12 11,380 individuals received a specialist initial assessment of their drug use and care needs, which equates to a rate of 230 per 100,000 of the Scottish population (compared to 238 per 100,000 (11,696 individuals) reported in 2010/11).
- The age profile of individuals being assessed for their drug use care needs has changed over the last six years. The proportion of individuals who were aged 30 and over at initial assessment increased from 51% in 2006/07 to 62% in 2011/12. Amongst the 40 and over age group, the proportion increased from 15% to 22%.
- Of those reporting illicit drug use, reported heroin use has fallen from 68% in 2006/07 to 55% in 2011/12. The biggest annual fall has been between 2010/11 and 2011/12. This fall is seen across all age groups with the exception of those aged under 15 where the rates are more unstable.
- The percentage of individuals reporting injecting in the previous month fell from 28% in 2006/07 to 22% in 2011/12. This fall occurred in all age groups, with the biggest fall observed in the 20-24 age group (from 34% to 21%)
- In 2011/12, 81% of individuals reported that they had been tested for Hepatitis B; 82% for Hepatitis C and 80% for HIV prior to seeking treatment. The percentage of individuals being tested for blood borne viruses has increased steadily since 2006/07.
- Seven per cent of individuals reported that they had shared needles/syringes in the previous month. There has been a steady decrease from 11% in 2006/07.

Background

The Health Improvement Team, part of the Information Services Division (ISD Scotland), NHS National Services Scotland, has produced this report. As well as supporting data

management and producing national reports, the team provides information to support Alcohol and Drug Partnerships, Local Authorities, NHS boards, specialist drug services, the Scottish Government and others. The Health Improvement Team also provides an information service to organisations and individuals who wish to use the data relating to drug misuse collected by ISD Scotland. For further information phone 0131 275 7051 or email: nss.isdsubstance misuse@nhs.net

The format of this publication is now aligned to ISD's new publication format, facilitating a consistent look and feel for all ISD publications.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#)

About ISD

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.

Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

Official Statistics

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of 'Official Statistics'. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.

Further information on ISD's statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the [ISD website](#) www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/