# **Publication Summary**





# Scottish Drug Misuse Database Information on problem drug use in Scotland in 2013/14

Publication date - 30 June 2015

## **About this Release**

The Scottish Drug Misuse Database is an important national information resource on problem drug use in Scotland. The database is managed by the Information Services Division (ISD) and provides information on individuals presenting for initial assessment at specialist drug treatment services.

## **Key Points**

- This is the first release of Scottish Drug Misuse Database data for 2013/14. It is also the first time that ISD has published problem drug use information in this new interactive format.
- Data are presented by Alcohol and Drug Partnership of residence and by NHS
  Board of residence. All of the data are available in an online tool at the <u>Scottish</u>
  <u>Drug Misuse Database Dashboard</u>.
- The latest release provides comparisons of the numbers of individuals assessed for specialist drug treatment from 2006/07 to 2013/14.
- The information is organised around six domains, each of which encompasses a number of relevant indicators including demographics, drug profile, injecting and sharing.
- This release does not include Scotland-level figures due to issues with data recording in a number of locations. These issues are being addressed and Scotland-level data will be published in November 2015.

# **Background**

The Scottish Drug Misuse Database was set up in 1990 to collect information about people in Scotland with drug problems. Data are collected when an individual makes an initial contact with services (or reinitiates contact following a gap of six months or more since their

last attendance). Information is collected by specialist drug services and General Practitioners.

This is the first time that ISD has published this data in this interactive format. This format will be used for future releases of these data.

Due to issues with local data collection systems used by some Alcohol and Drug Partnerships to capture and submit information, it has not been possible to produce Scotland-level figures for 2013/14.

Efforts are ongoing to resolve these issues and with agreement from stakeholders, ISD will make 2013/14 Scotland-level data available through the 2014/15 Annual Report scheduled for November 2015.

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## **Further Information**

The information produced by ISD is used by Alcohol and Drug Partnerships, their individual members as well as a range of different organisations to help influence policy and inform strategies or research to improve the services available to help people with drug problems recover.

All of the information ISD publishes on drug misuse (including the most recent quarterly National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times Report, also published on 30 June 2015) is available at: <a href="http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Drugs-and-Alcohol-Misuse/Drugs-Misuse/">http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Drugs-and-Alcohol-Misuse/Drugs-Misuse/</a>

#### Access the online Scottish Drugs Misuse Database dashboard tool

The next release of information from the Scottish Drug Misuse Database by ISD will be in November 2015.

#### 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/