Scottish Public Health Observatory Website quarterly update

June 2017

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About this release

The Scottish Public Health Observatory has updated the [drugs](#) topic area in the behaviour section of their website today. This update includes previously unpublished data relating to addiction prevalence testing, drug-related offences and drug-related criminal proceedings.

Main points

**Drugs – Addiction Prevalence Testing**

- In 2016/17, 76% of individuals entering prison tested positive for illegal drugs and 30% tested positive for illegal drugs when leaving prison.

**Drugs – Drug-Related offences**

- In 2015/16, the rates of recorded offences for possession of drugs and possession of drugs with intent to supply remained similar to previous years at 55.7 and 7.4 offences per 10,000 population respectively.

**Drugs – Drug-Related Criminal Proceedings**

- In 2015/16, for those convicted of possession of drugs with intent to supply, the most common sentence was imprisonment (49%). For possession of drugs, the most common sentence was a fine (61%).

Background

Addiction Prevalence Testing is conducted across all Scottish prisons annually. In 2016/17, 1,026 individuals arriving in prison and 633 individuals leaving prison during one month of the year were tested for the presence of illegal drugs (including illicit use of prescribed drugs).

The [Scottish Public Health Observatory](#) collaboration is led by the Information Services Division and NHS Health Scotland, and includes the Glasgow Centre for Population Health, National Records of Scotland and Health Protection Scotland. Our aim is to make public health information more accessible and usable to improve health and reduce inequalities in Scotland.

All the topics updated today are available on the [ScotPHO website](#).
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**ISD and Official Stats**

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