

# **Profile of Substance Misuse in Wales 2012-13**

## **Welsh National Database for Substance Misuse (Treatment data)**

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## 1. Introduction

This report has been compiled by NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS) in collaboration with the Welsh Government, and contains statistics from the Welsh National Database for Substance Misuse (WNDSM)

**1.1.** The report should be read in conjunction with the document entitled 'Substance Misuse in Wales 2012-13: Profile of substance misuse related education, health and criminal justice statistics'. This document will provide additional substance misuse related information currently available from routinely published sources in Wales to support and add to the information gained through the WNDSM.

**1.2.** Database guidance and information about the Welsh Government's Substance Misuse policy can be obtained at <http://wales.gov.uk/substancemisuse>.

## 2. Background

**2.1** The overall management of the system, including advice on enhancements to the database, national performance issues linked to the data and the analysis of other routinely collected data is overseen by the National Management Information Board.

**2.2** All substance misuse treatment service providers in Wales that are in receipt of Welsh Government funding via the Area Planning Boards are required to comply with the reporting requirements of the database. Comprehensive guidance "The Welsh National Database for Substance Misuse – Guidance for Community Safety Partnerships, Area Planning Boards and Treatment Provider Agencies", which includes the common dataset and definitional guidance was first issued on 1 March 2006 and has since been revised annually.

**2.3** Information from the database is the official source of validated data for treatment service providers and Community Safety Partnerships / Area Planning Boards to monitor and report performance against the national Key Performance Indicators in respect to waiting times and engagement rates. The original set of KPIs were launched in 2006 but were refreshed in July 2012 for immediate implementation

**2.4.** The Treatment Outcomes Profile (TOP) was developed by the National Treatment Agency (NTA) in collaboration with Dr John Marsden and Dr Michael Farrell of the National Addiction Centre, Institute of Psychiatry, Kings College, London. The items that appear in the TOP were psychometrically evaluated utilising a cohort of over 1000 service users, recruited from 63 treatment agencies in England and demonstrated an acceptable level of reliability and validity.

**2.5** In April 2009 the Welsh Government adopted the NTA's outcome measurement tool and the Treatment Outcome Profile (TOP) was mandated for all clients aged 16 and over who were in receipt of structured treatment. Whilst the data is predominantly supplied by those agencies who are delivering structured treatment, it is delivered as a package of care and includes less structured treatment interventions. These services are equally important in securing and maintaining positive outcomes for an individual in treatment.

**2.6** A copy of the TOP form is at Annex D. The TOP provides a systematic method of measuring both qualitative and quantitative progress at an individual level to gauge the impact of substance misuse treatment. It measures an individual's health and well-being against four key domains that have been established internationally as the areas most affected by substance misusing behaviour;

- Drug and Alcohol Use;
- Physical and Psychological Health;
- Offending and Criminal Involvement; and,
- Social Functioning.

**2.7** An individual is assessed at the beginning of treatment (joint assessment by the client and the key worker) as part of routine care planning. This starting TOP measures the client's status against the four key domains. Every 3 months a review TOP is undertaken to measure progress against the four domains and a final exit TOP is undertaken on completion of treatment. The routine review of clients is seen as good practice and should be embedded in care management and clinical practice; the use of TOP as a tool assists in the process and helps individuals to participate in reviewing their own progress during treatment.

**2.8** The initial implementation of TOP was overseen by a National Working Group with membership representing Community Safety Partnerships, Substance Misuse Treatment Services, NHS Wales Informatics Services (formerly Health Solutions Wales) and the Welsh Government. As the TOP implementation has been embedded in practice the monitoring role of this working group has been transferred to the Management Information Board.

**2.9** More information on the introduction of TOP is available from:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/housingandcommunity/safety/substancemisuse/pmf/top/?lang=en>

### **3. Data Quality**

All Service Providers in receipt of Welsh Government funding, to deliver substance misuse treatment services are required to comply fully with the reporting requirements of the database.

The Welsh Government's Substance Misuse Advisory Regional Teams (SMARTs) have worked with treatment services to improve data quality. However, care needs to be exercised when looking at trends as a number of agencies had not submitted all the relevant fields by the freeze date of 28th June 2013.

The data quality issues that affect this report are listed below:

- Some of the demographic data will be inaccurate because some clients are reluctant or unable to provide accurate responses to some questions. This will always be the case with a system that relies largely upon self-reporting. In 2012-13, 23 (0.07%) of referral records did not contain any information relating to gender and for the purposes of this Annual Report, these have been excluded.
- There is widespread under-reporting of secondary problem substance; this inhibits the identification of emerging trends and patterns in poly-drug use.
- Some agencies are failing to close cases when a client is transferred between agencies. This means that some individuals will be counted more than once on the database.
- Clients are categorised by 'main problematic substance' which means that many clients categorised under 'Alcohol' may also be receiving treatment for drug misuse and vice versa.
- The main problematic substance is not recorded for some clients; 6.3 per cent of all referrals in 2012-13 did not contain this information.

Although not necessarily an issue to do with the quality of the data, one of the ongoing issues is around the number of referrals where the client Did Not Attend (DNA) prior to their Assessment. In 2012-13, there were 5,691 such referrals, slightly up on 2011-12 (5,206). For the purposes of reporting on referrals, these referrals are excluded. Figure 5.1 (section

5) describes the pathway status of those referrals made in 2012-13 including those made described above, which are shown as a red branch.

It is noted that for the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University area, the number of referrals will be lower. This is due to the fact that in this area they are reporting on a client not referral based system. Work is on-going to ensure that it is consistently recorded across Wales in future years.

Note that in the 2009-10 report, some tables did not include referrals to less structured treatments. Subsequent reports include both structured and less structured treatments. Historic data in this report includes less structured treatments with the exception of around 500 cases in 2009-10 for whom the data was not available.

## **4. Results Summary**

### **4.1 Referrals**

- There were 25,000 referrals to the data base in 2012-13, excluding 23 referrals where there was no gender information provided, and a further 5,691 referrals who had a DNA prior to assessment.
- This represented a fall in referral numbers of 5% from 2011-12, consistent with similar falls in previous years. See Chart 4.1 for a time series.
- 54% of these referrals were described as having alcohol as the main problematic substance and 40% had drugs as the main problematic substance; in 6% of cases the main problematic substance at referral was not recorded, although this reduced to 5% of cases at the time of assessment.
- Heroin accounted for 37 per cent (3,677) of all referrals for which drugs were specified as the main problematic substance, with cannabis (21 per cent) and cocaine (9 per cent) the next most common drugs.
- Males accounted for 63% of alcohol referrals and 73% of drug referrals.
- Median age for alcohol referrals was 40 which was substantially higher than the median age for drugs (29).
- 21% of alcohol referrals (where age was reported) were for clients aged under 30 – the comparable figure for drug referrals was 50%.
- Some clients were referred more than once during 2012-13 and the 25,000 referrals relate to 17,160 individuals of whom 7,735 were new to the database.
- The incidence rates for Wales were 287 per 100,000 population for alcohol and 225 per 100,000 population for drugs – the variation between Community Safety Partnerships was from 165 to 608 per 100,000 population for alcohol and from 137 to 414 per 100,000 population for drugs
- Detailed results for referrals are shown in Section 5.1.

### **4.2 Waiting times**

- The percentage of clients assessed within 10 working days of referral has increased steadily from 60.5% in 2008-9 to 72.6% in 2012-13.
- Of those clients who started treatment, the percentage that started within 20 working days increased from 82.5% in 2011-12 to 85.5% in 2012-13, continuing the general trend of improvement over the 5-year period.
- Detailed results for Waiting Times are shown in Section 5.2

### **4.3 Treatments**

- The total number of clients starting treatment in 2012-13 was 15,032, up slightly on 2011-12. See Chart 4.1 for Time Series.
- In 2012-13 the number of drug clients starting treatment was 7,185 compared with 7,533 alcohol clients.
- Detailed results for Treatments are shown in Section 5.3.

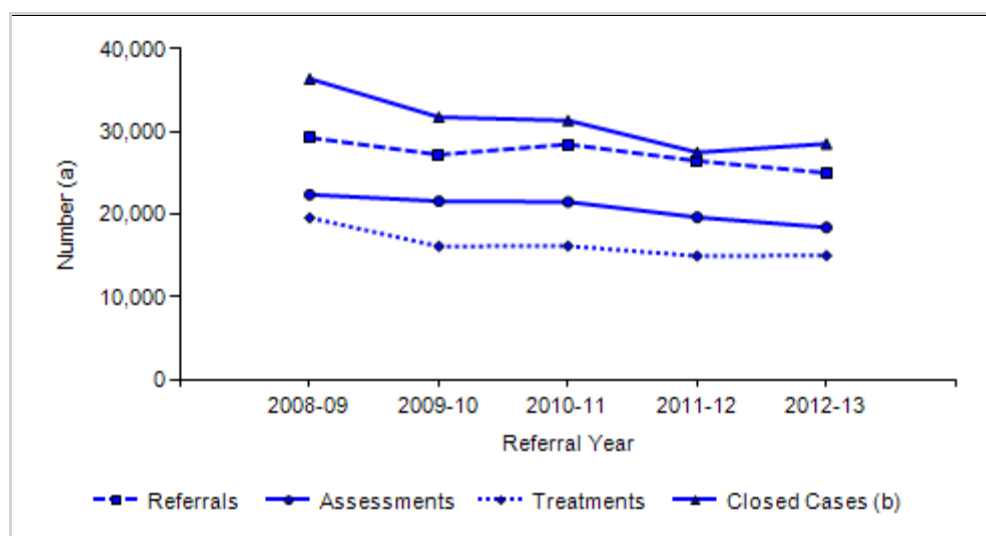
#### 4.4 Reasons for closure

- The percentage of cases ending with a planned closure has risen over the 5 year period from 34.7% in 2008-09 to 42.3% in 2012-13 for alcohol and from 30.7% in 2008-9 to 38.0% in 2012-13 for drugs.
- Detailed results for Case Closures are show in Section 5.4

#### 4.5 Treatment Outcome Profiles

- Tables 5.10a-5.10i show the overall reductions in the frequency of alcohol and drug consumption between a starting TOP and an exit TOP.
- Detailed results for Treatment Outcome Profiles are shown in Section 5.5

**Chart 4.1: Total activity time series (a)**



(a) Includes unknown substances

(b) Includes records where the client did not attend prior to assessment.

Activity (a)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Referrals	29,247	27,194	28,445	26,437	25,000
Assessments	22,367	21,592	21,502	19,644	18,422
Treatments	19,580	16,142	16,168	14,977	15,032
Closed Cases (b)	36,356	31,730	31,322	27,472	28,516

(a) Includes unknown substances.

(b) Includes records where the client did not attend prior to assessment.

## 5. Detailed Results

### 5.1 Referrals in 2012-13

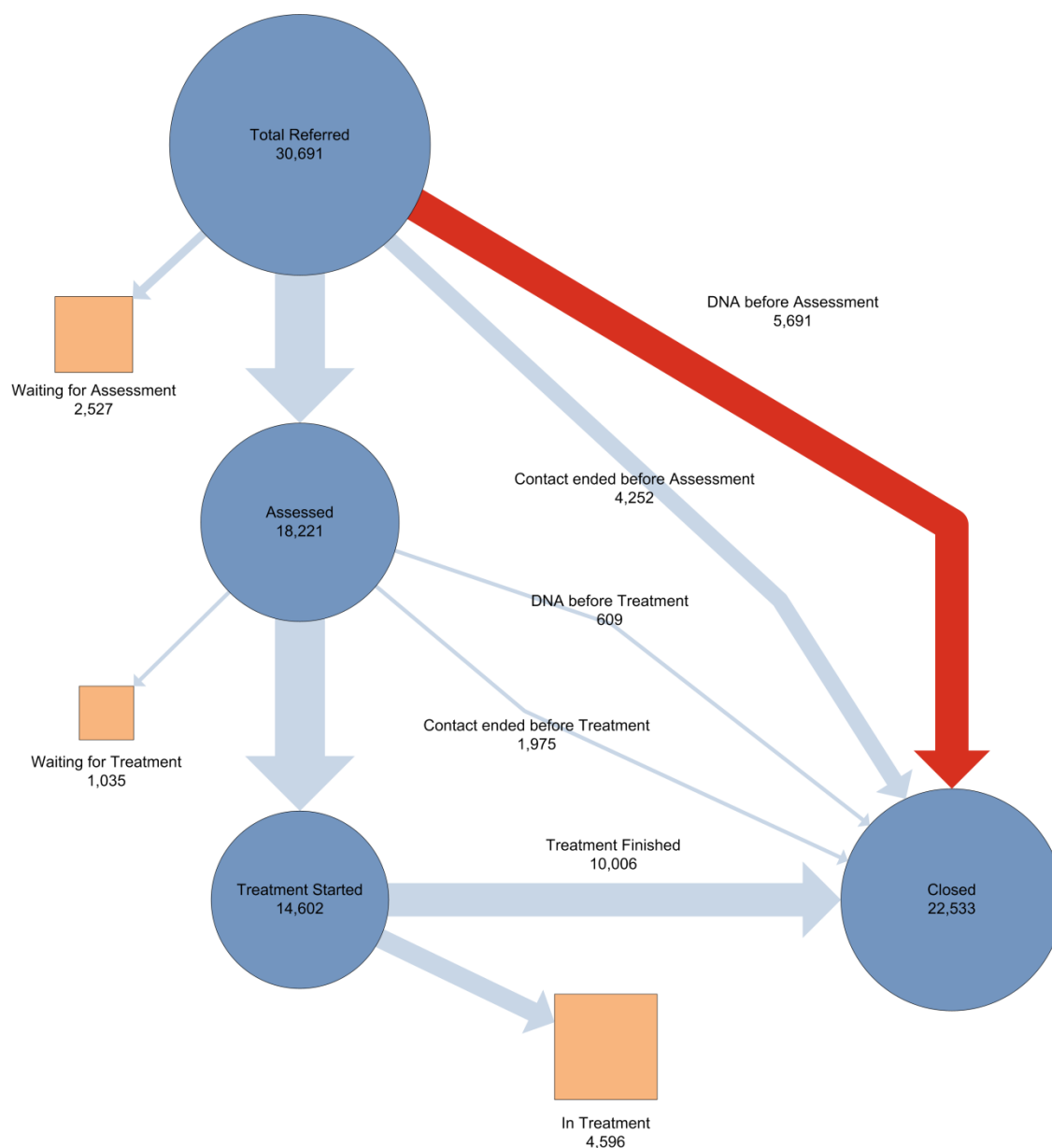
The total number of referrals in 2012-13 was 30,714. Of these, 23 referrals have been excluded from subsequent analysis on account of missing gender information.

Figure 5.1 shows the status along the treatment pathway for the remaining 30,691 referrals in 2012-13. **Of these, 5,691 had a DNA prior to assessment (shown along the red branch of the diagram) and for all further analysis of referrals, these have been excluded.**

Interestingly, of the 30,691 referrals in 2012-13, 22,533 had already been closed by the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2013 freeze date, and of those, only 10,006 (44%) had commenced any form of treatment before being discharged.

**Note that the numbers in figure 5.1 only relate to activity associated with 2012-13 referrals and therefore they exclude activity relating to pre-1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 referrals. For this reason, the assessment, treatment and case closure figures shown are not comparable with those shown later in sections 5.2 onwards.**

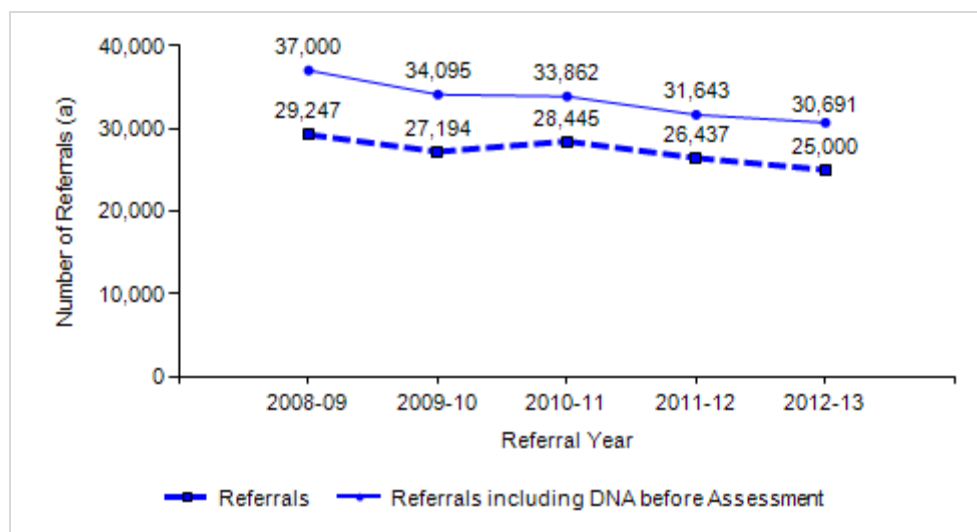
**Figure 5.1 Current status along treatment pathway for those referred in 2012-13 (as at 28<sup>th</sup> June freeze date)**





The proportion of referrals resulting in a DNA before Assessment in 2012-13 was 19%, and fairly consistent with the levels of the previous 4 years, as can be seen from Chart 5.1.

**Chart 5.1: Referrals time series**



(a) Includes unknown main problematic substance.

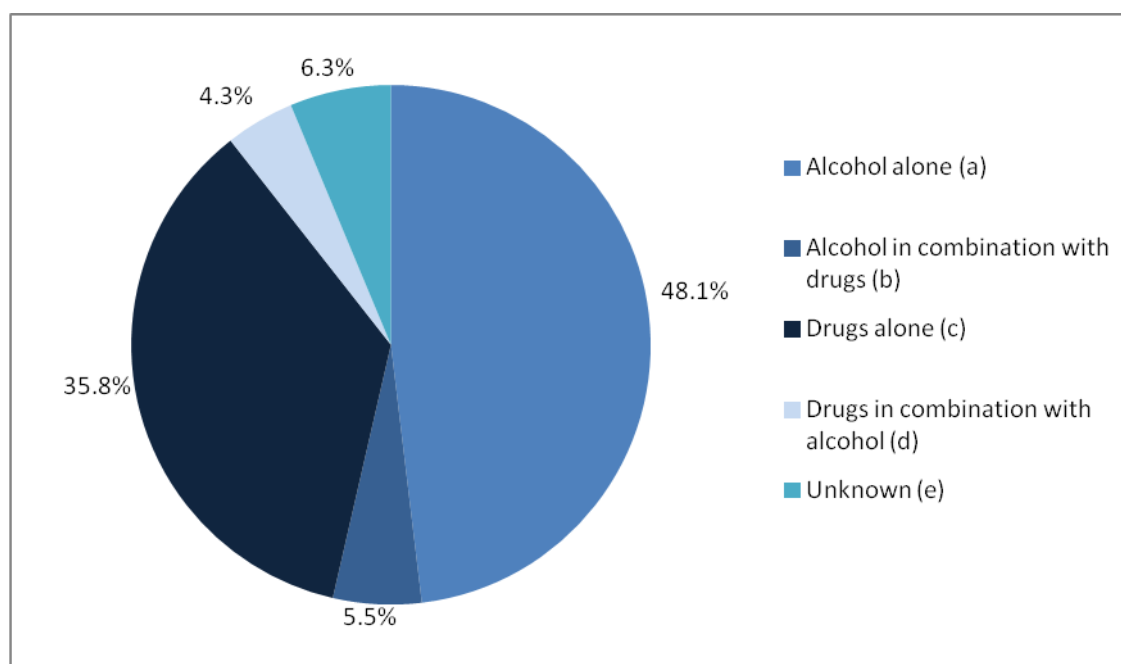
## Referrals by Substance, Gender and Age

Chart 5.2 shows that, of the 25,000 referrals in 2012-13 (excluding DNAs before assessment), Alcohol was the main problematic substance reported in 13,403 of the cases, of which 1,380 referrals were for Alcohol in combination with Drugs. There were 10,013 referrals with Drugs as the main problematic substance reported, of which 1,065 were in combination with Alcohol. For 1,584 of the referrals (6.3%), no valid main problematic substance was reported.

**Chart 5.2: Referrals in 2012-13 by main problematic substance**

Main problematic substance		Male	Female	Total	
				Number	Per Cent
Alcohol	Alcohol alone (a)	7,495	4,528	12,023	48.1
	Alcohol in combination with drugs (b)	979	401	1,380	5.5
Drugs	Drugs alone (c)	6,604	2,344	8,948	35.8
	Drugs in combination with alcohol (d)	752	313	1,065	4.3
Unknown	Unknown (e)	1,032	552	1,584	6.3
All referrals		16,862	8,138	25,000	100.0

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service



- (a) Alcohol recorded as the main problematic substance with no other substance reported.
- (b) Alcohol recorded as the main problematic substance but with misuse of drugs also being reported.
- (c) Drugs recorded as the main problematic substance with no alcohol reported.
- (d) Drugs recorded as the main problematic substance but with alcohol also being reported.
- (e) No problematic substance reported to the database at stage of referral, the vast majority of these unknowns will be populated following assessment of client.

Table 5.1 shows the breakdown of main problematic substances in more details, Heroin is the most frequently reported drug accounting for 3,677 (14.7%) of referrals, followed by Cannabis with 2,083 (8.3%).

The list of drugs included under the groups “Other Opiates” and “Other Drugs” are shown in Annex A.

The age and gender breakdown of clients referred to the database by each of the main problematic substance groups are shown in Tables 5.2(a) to 5.2(i).

Males account for 67% of all referrals, although patterns vary according to substance, with Males accounting for 63% of referrals with Alcohol as the main problematic substance, 73% for Drugs, and as high as 86% and 77% for Cocaine and Cannabis respectively.

The median age of clients referred in 2012-13 was 35, although the clients with Alcohol as main problematic substance were generally older (40) than for those with Drugs (29). When drugs are broken down further, the median ages ranges from 21 and 27 for Cannabis and Cocaine respectively, up to 33 for Heroin and Amphetamines.

**Table 5.1: Referrals in 2012-13 by main problematic substance**

Main problematic substance	Male	Female	Total	
			Number	Per cent (a)
Alcohol	8,474	4,929	13,403	53.6
Heroin	2,725	952	3,677	14.7
Cannabis	1,600	483	2,083	8.3
Cocaine	806	135	941	3.8
Methadone (b)	490	232	722	2.9
Mephedrone	449	202	651	2.6
Amphetamines	372	209	581	2.3
Benzodiazepines	185	61	246	1.0
Crack Cocaine	77	39	116	0.5
Hallucinogens	61	19	80	0.3
Solvents	22	23	45	0.2
Ecstasy	12	5	17	0.1
Steroids	14	0	14	0.1
Prescribed Drugs	7	6	13	0.1
Other Stimulant (c)	90	31	121	0.5
Other Opiates (c)	340	192	532	2.1
Other Drugs (c)	106	68	174	0.7
Not reported (d)	1,032	552	1,584	6.3
All referrals	16,862	8,138	25,000	100.0

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Percentage of all referrals for which the main problematic substance is reported.

(b) Note that it is not possible to be clear if methadone recorded as a main substance refers to prescribed or illicit methadone; guidance to data providers has been revised from May 2012.

(c) See Annex A for a list of drugs included in this category

(d) Includes poly drug. No problematic substance reported to the database at time of referral. In these cases problematic substances would be captured at assessment stage.

**Table 5.2a: Referrals in 2012-13 by age and gender - all referrals**

Referral age band	Male		Female		Total	
	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)
10-14	254	289	192	231	446	260
15-19	1,385	1,374	666	697	2,051	1,045
20-29	4,147	2,025	1,883	954	6,030	1,499
30-39	4,956	2,848	2,033	1,152	6,989	1,994
40-49	3,777	1,794	1,871	854	5,648	1,314
50-59	1,652	852	1,031	512	2,683	679
60+	653	181	447	106	1,100	141
All ages (b)	16,862	1,117	8,138	520	25,000	813
Median age (c)	35	..	36	..	35	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Rate per 100,000 population

(b) Includes 22 referrals where the age is less than 10 and 31 referrals where age is unknown.

(c) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.2b: Referrals in 2012-13 by age and gender - main problematic substance: alcohol**

Referral age band	Male		Female		Total	
	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)
10-14	41	47	93	112	134	78
15-19	264	262	211	221	475	242
20-29	1,457	711	757	383	2,214	550
30-39	2,231	1,282	1,103	625	3,334	951
40-49	2,495	1,185	1,456	664	3,951	919
50-59	1,379	711	910	452	2,289	579
60+	585	163	392	93	977	125
All Ages (b)	8,474	561	4,929	315	13,403	436
Median age (c)	40	..	41	..	40	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Rate per 100,000 population

(b) Includes 10 referrals where the age is less than 10 and 19 referrals where age is unknown.

(c) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.2c: Referrals in 2012-13 by age and gender - main problematic substance: drugs**

Referral age band	Male		Female		Total	
	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)
10-14	180	205	70	84	250	146
15-19	954	946	385	403	1,339	682
20-29	2,412	1,178	983	498	3,395	844
30-39	2,464	1,416	820	465	3,284	937
40-49	1,114	529	312	142	1,426	332
50-59	201	104	58	29	259	66
60+	22	6	24	6	46	6
All ages (b)	7,356	487	2,657	170	10,013	326
Median age (c)	30	..	28	..	29	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Rate per 100,000 population

(b) Includes 6 referrals where the age is less than 10 and 8 referrals where the age is unknown.

(c) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.2d: Referrals in 2012-13 by age and gender - main problematic substance: heroin**

Referral age band	Male		Female		Total	
	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)
10-14	1	1	0	0	1	0
15-19	18	18	13	14	31	16
20-29	726	355	370	187	1,096	272
30-39	1,315	756	420	238	1,735	495
40-49	571	271	127	58	698	162
50-59	84	43	16	8	100	25
60+	8	2	6	1	14	2
All ages (b)	2,725	180	952	61	3,677	120
Median age (c)	34	..	31	..	33	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Rate per 100,000 population

(b) Includes 2 referrals where the age is less than 10 and no referrals where the age is unknown.

(c) Equal number of referrals above and below median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.2e: Referrals in 2012-13 by age and gender - main problematic substance: cannabis**

Referral age band	Male		Female		Total	
	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)
10-14	152	173	47	56	199	116
15-19	540	536	181	190	721	367
20-29	554	271	159	81	713	177
30-39	243	140	55	31	298	85
40-49	90	43	35	16	125	29
50-59	17	9	3	1	20	5
60+	1	0	0	0	1	0
All ages (b)	1,600	106	483	31	2,083	68
Median age (c)	21	..	21	..	21	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Rate per 100,000 population

(b) Includes 2 referrals where the age is less than 10 and 4 referrals where the age is unknown.

(c) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.2f: Referrals in 2012-13 by age and gender - main problematic substance: cocaine**

Referral age band	Male		Female		Total	
	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)
10-14	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-19	63	62	10	10	73	37
20-29	466	228	77	39	543	135
30-39	208	120	36	20	244	70
40-49	59	28	10	5	69	16
50-59	7	4	2	1	9	2
60+	1	0	0	0	1	0
All ages (b)	806	53	135	9	941	31
Median age (c)	27	..	27	..	27	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Rate per 100,000 population

(b) Includes 1 referral where the age is less than 10 and 1 referral where the age is unknown.

(c) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.2g: Referrals in 2012-13 by age and gender - main problematic substance: methadone**

Referral age band	Male		Female		Total	
	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)
10-14	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-19	5	5	4	4	9	5
20-29	96	47	85	43	181	45
30-39	239	137	88	50	327	93
40-49	123	58	45	21	168	39
50-59	23	12	7	3	30	8
60+	3	1	3	1	6	1
All ages (b)	490	32	232	15	722	23
Median age (c)	35	..	31	..	34	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Rate per 100,000 population

(b) Includes 1 referral where the age is less than 10 and no referrals where the age is unknown.

(c) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

(d) Note that it is not possible to be clear if methadone recorded as a main substance refers to prescribed or illicit methadone; guidance to data providers has been revised from May 2012.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.2h: Referrals in 2012-13 by age and gender - main problematic substance: mephedrone**

Referral age band	Male		Female		Total	
	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)
10-14	13	15	11	13	24	14
15-19	200	198	96	101	296	151
20-29	183	89	74	37	257	64
30-39	43	25	15	9	58	17
40-49	8	4	3	1	11	3
50-59	1	1	1	0	2	1
All ages (b)	449	30	202	13	651	21
Median age (c)	20	..	20	..	20	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Rate per 100,000 population

(b) Includes no referrals where the age is less than 10 and 3 referrals where the age is unknown.

(c) Equal number of referrals above and below median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.2i: Referrals in 2012-13 by age and gender - main problematic substance: amphetamines**

Referral age band	Male		Female		Total	
	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)	Referral	Referral Rate (a)
10-14	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-19	12	12	9	9	21	11
20-29	96	47	76	38	172	43
30-39	130	75	84	48	214	61
40-49	103	49	28	13	131	30
50-59	31	16	9	4	40	10
60+	0	0	3	1	3	0
All ages (b)	372	25	209	13	581	19
Median age (c)	35	..	31	..	33	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Rate per 100,000 population

(b) Includes no referrals where the age is less than 10 and no referrals where the age is unknown.

(c) Equal number of referrals above and below median age.

.. Data item not applicable



## Individuals referred in 2012-13

Table 5.3(a) shows that the 25,000 referrals made in 2012-13 (excluding those clients that DNA'd before assessment) related to 17,160 individual clients with an average of 1.46 referrals per client during the financial year. Out of the 17,160 clients, 7,735 (45%) were new cases, meaning that they were referred to an agency for the first time in 2012-13, or at least for the first time since the database began in April 2005. Similar breakdowns for Alcohol and Drugs are shown in tables 5.3(b)-(c) with 1.50 referrals per client and a new cases rate of 46.0% for Alcohol and 1.42 referrals per client and a new cases rate of 41.2% for Drugs.

**Table 5.3a: Previous history of referrals in 2012-13: all referrals**

	All Referrals	Individuals referred in 2012-13	Average referrals per individual	New Cases	Percentage of New Cases
Gender	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Male	16,862	11,652	1.45	5,155	44.2
Female	8,138	5,508	1.48	2,580	46.8
Age					
10-14	446	363	1.23	328	90.4
15-19	2,051	1,596	1.29	1,084	67.9
20-29	6,030	4,203	1.43	1,920	45.7
30-39	6,989	4,608	1.52	1,594	34.6
40-49	5,648	3,734	1.51	1,501	40.2
50-59	2,683	1,802	1.49	811	45.0
60+	1,100	803	1.37	454	56.5
All ages (f)	25,000	17,160	1.46	7,735	45.1
Median age (g)	35	34	..	33	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) All referrals 2012-13

(b) *All referrals* minus multiple referrals in 2012-13

(c) *All referrals* divided by *Individuals referred in 2012-13*

(d) Number of individuals who had not been previously referred since April 2005 (commencement of the database)

(e) *New cases* divided by *Individuals referred in 2012-13*

(f) Includes 22 referrals where the age is less than 10 and 31 referrals where age is unknown.

(g) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.3b: Previous history of referrals in 2012-13: main problematic substance – alcohol**

	All Referrals	Individuals referred in 2012-13	Average referrals per individual	New Cases	Percentage of New Cases
Gender	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Male	8,474	5,676	1.49	2,579	45.4
Female	4,929	3,253	1.52	1,530	47.0
Age					
10-14	134	109	1.23	100	91.7
15-19	475	367	1.29	250	68.1
20-29	2,214	1,479	1.50	713	48.2
30-39	3,334	2,188	1.52	866	39.6
40-49	3,951	2,544	1.55	1,101	43.3
50-59	2,289	1,514	1.51	670	44.3
60+	977	699	1.40	384	54.9
All ages (f)	13,403	8,929	1.50	4,109	46.0
Median age (g)	40	41	..	40	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) All referrals 2012-13

(b) *All referrals* minus multiple referrals in 2012-13

(c) *All referrals* divided by *Individuals referred in 2012-13*

(d) Number of individuals who had not been previously referred since April 2005 (commencement of the database)

(e) *New cases* divided by *Individuals referred in 2012-13*

(f) Includes 10 referrals where the age is less than 10 and 19 referrals where the age is unknown.

(g) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.3c: Previous history of referrals in 2012-13: main problematic substance – drugs**

	All Referrals	Individuals referred in 2012-13	Average referrals per individual	New Cases	Percentage of New Cases
Gender	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Male	7,356	5,194	1.42	2,130	41.0
Female	2,657	1,835	1.45	769	41.9
Age					
10-14	250	201	1.24	180	89.6
15-19	1,339	1,032	1.30	692	67.1
20-29	3,395	2,406	1.41	1,021	42.4
30-39	3,284	2,163	1.52	605	28.0
40-49	1,426	990	1.44	292	29.5
50-59	259	189	1.37	79	41.8
60+	46	34	1.35	19	55.9
All ages (f)	10,013	7,029	1.42	2,899	41.2
Median age (g)	29	29	..	25	..

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) All referrals 2012-13

(b) *All referrals* minus multiple referrals in 2012-13(c) *All referrals* divided by *Individuals referred in 2012-13*

(d) Number of individuals who had not been previously referred since April 2005 (commencement of the database)

(e) *New cases* divided by *Individuals referred in 2012-13*

(f) Includes 6 referrals where the age is less than 10 and 8 referrals where age is unknown.

(g) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

.. Data item not applicable

## Area comparisons

Tables 5.4a-b show the number of referrals, the number of individual clients, referral per client per year, numbers and percentages of new cases for Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and parent Area Planning Board (APB), based on the client's place of residence. Incidence rates per 100,000 are also shown, and these provide a means of comparing the different geographic areas in terms of the proportion of the population who access Substance Misuse Treatment services. The measure itself is based on the number of individuals referred in 2012-13 expressed as a rate per the associated 2012 mid-year population estimate (2011 census-based) for the geographic area covered. Note that in these tables, clients with unknown place of residence or a place of residence outside Wales are not included.

As can be seen, the various rates vary substantially from area to area with Merthyr Tydfil CSP having by far the highest incidence rates for both Alcohol and Drugs. Also by looking at an area's Alcohol incidence rate relative to its Drugs incidence rate, it is possible to uncover the characteristics of the substance misuse treatment services in those areas.

Due to known differences in the way that agencies from the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg APB area report their referrals, care should be taken when comparing rates of incidence in these areas within elsewhere.

**Table 5.4a: Referrals in 2012-13 by area of residence and main problematic substance – alcohol**

	All Referrals	Individuals referred in 2012-13	Average referrals per individual (c)	New Cases	Percentage of New Cases	Incidence Rate
Community Safety Partnership and Area Planning Board	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Betsi Cadwaladr	4,161	2310	1.80	1,003	43.4	335
Isle of Anglesey	310	216	1.44	80	37.0	308
Gwynedd	479	304	1.58	146	48.0	249
Conwy	921	443	2.08	193	43.6	383
Denbighshire	736	372	1.98	157	42.2	395
Flintshire	833	485	1.72	231	47.6	318
Wrexham	882	490	1.80	196	40.0	361
Powys Teaching	446	309	1.44	146	47.2	232
Powys	446	309	1.44	146	47.2	232
Hywel Dda	1,768	1219	1.45	548	45.0	318
Carmarthenshire	835	558	1.50	234	41.9	303
Ceredigion	377	256	1.47	125	48.8	337
Pembrokeshire	556	405	1.37	189	46.7	329
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg (g)	1,096	1004	1.09	530	52.8	193
Swansea	480	444	1.08	222	50.0	185
Neath Port Talbot	252	231	1.09	121	52.4	165
Bridgend	364	329	1.11	187	56.8	235
Cardiff & Vale	2,039	1296	1.57	611	47.1	273
Vale of Glamorgan	473	303	1.56	147	48.5	239
Cardiff	1,566	993	1.58	464	46.7	285
Cwm Taf	1,759	1295	1.36	535	41.3	440
Rhondda Cynon Taff	1,255	937	1.34	382	40.8	398
Merthyr Tydfil	504	358	1.41	153	42.7	608
Aneurin Bevan	1,980	1379	1.44	646	46.8	239
Caerphilly	544	387	1.41	168	43.4	216
Blaenau Gwent	310	202	1.53	89	44.1	289
Torfaen	288	218	1.32	105	48.2	239
Monmouthshire	215	176	1.22	94	53.4	192
Newport	623	396	1.57	190	48.0	271
Total (h)	13,249	8812	1.50	4,019	45.6	287

Source: WND SM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

- (a) All referrals 2012-13 based on client area of residence
- (b) All referrals minus multiple referrals in 2012-13
- (c) All referrals divided by *individuals* referred in 2012-13
- (d) Number of individuals who had not been previously referred since April 2005 (commencement of the database)
- (e) *New cases* divided by *individuals* referred in 2012-13
- (f) Individuals referred in 2012-13 per 100,000 population
- (g) Abertawe Bro Morgannwg currently report clients rather than referrals.
- (h) Excludes residents Outside of Wales and unknown areas.

**Table 5.4b: Referrals in 2012-13 by area of residence and main problematic substance – drugs**

	All Referrals	Individuals referred in 2012-13	Average referrals per individual	New Cases	Percentage of New Cases	Incidence Rate
Community Safety Partnership and Area Planning Board	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Betsi Cadwaladr	2,169	1348	1.61	533	39.5	195
Isle of Anglesey	221	145	1.52	54	37.2	207
Gwynedd	323	226	1.43	78	34.5	185
Conwy	407	220	1.85	93	42.3	190
Denbighshire	349	188	1.86	78	41.5	200
Flintshire	311	211	1.47	94	44.5	138
Wrexham	558	358	1.56	136	38.0	263
Powys Teaching	250	182	1.37	84	46.2	137
Powys	250	182	1.37	84	46.2	137
Hywel Dda	1,157	847	1.37	394	46.5	221
Carmarthenshire	659	483	1.36	206	42.7	262
Ceredigion	205	145	1.41	66	45.5	191
Pembrokeshire	293	219	1.34	122	55.7	178
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg (g)	1,106	990	1.12	361	36.5	191
Swansea	515	468	1.10	161	34.4	195
Neath Port Talbot	287	256	1.12	81	31.6	183
Bridgend	304	266	1.14	119	44.7	190
Cardiff & Vale	1,587	1107	1.43	392	35.4	233
Vale of Glamorgan	374	248	1.51	103	41.5	196
Cardiff	1,213	859	1.41	289	33.6	246
Cwm Taf	1,154	898	1.29	379	42.2	305
Rhondda Cynon Taff	809	654	1.24	302	46.2	278
Merthyr Tydfil	345	244	1.41	77	31.6	414
Aneurin Bevan	2,426	1558	1.56	704	45.2	270
Caerphilly	656	428	1.53	190	44.4	239
Blaenau Gwent	413	259	1.59	123	47.5	371
Torfaen	322	224	1.44	127	56.7	245
Monmouthshire	288	178	1.62	80	44.9	194
Newport	747	469	1.59	184	39.2	321
Total (h)	9,849	6930	1.42	2,847	41.1	225

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) All referrals 2012-13 based on client area of residence

(b) All referrals minus multiple referrals in 2012-13

(c) All referrals divided by *individuals* referred in 2012-13

(d) Number of individuals who had not been previously referred since April 2005 (commencement of the database)

(e) *New cases* divided by *individuals* referred in 2012-13

(f) Individuals referred in 2012-13 per 100,000 population

(g) Abertawe Bro Morgannwg currently report clients rather than referrals.

(h) Excludes residents Outside of Wales and unknown areas.

## Sources of Referral

Table 5.5 shows the numbers of referrals by each of the referral source groups by main problematic substance category (Alcohol or Drugs). Self referrals accounted for 30% of the referrals (33% for Alcohol and 27% for Drugs), the Criminal Justice System accounted for 21% of referrals (14% for Alcohol, 29% for Drugs), while GP referrals accounted for 10% of referrals.

**Table 5.5: Source of referrals in 2012-13 by main problematic substance - all referrals**

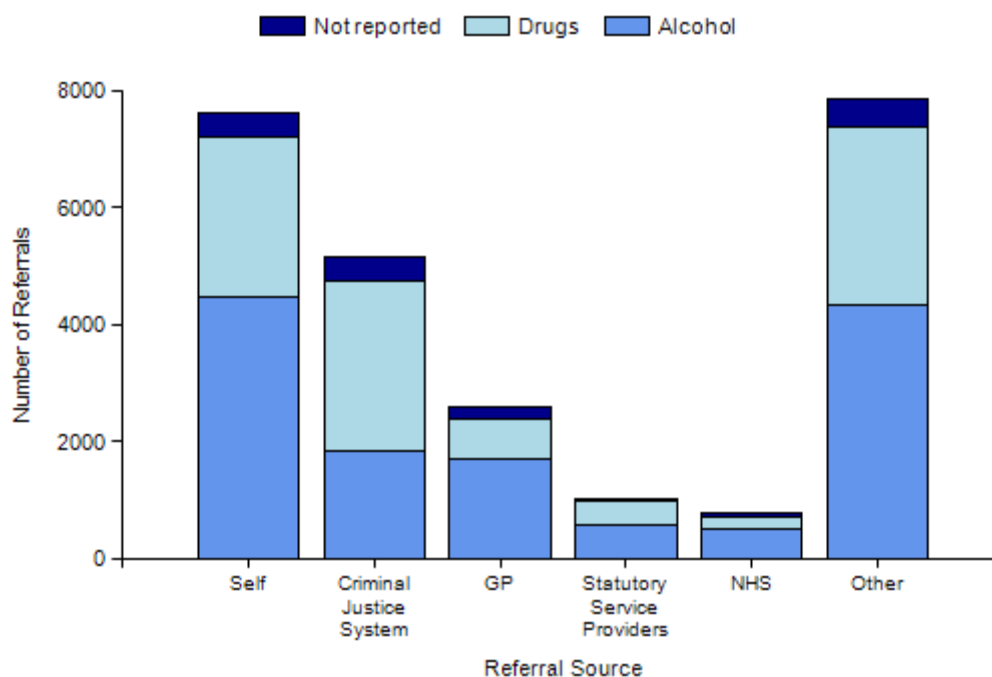
Referral Source (a)	Alcohol	Drugs	Not reported	Total
Self	4,473	2,742	408	7,623
Criminal Justice System	1,833	2,929	387	5,149
GP	1,696	683	194	2,573
Statutory Service Providers	578	404	26	1,008
NHS	498	192	81	771
Other (b)	4,325	3,063	488	7,876
Total	13,403	10,013	1,584	25,000

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) See Annex B for breakdown of referral sources

(b) Includes unknown referral source

**Source of referral in 2012-13 by main problematic substance**



Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

## 5.2 Waiting Times

Table 5.6a shows the times from referral to treatment for clients by treatment year. Note that the figures only relate to those who have already started treatment, and thus exclude those still waiting to commence treatment. It should be noted that a small number of records have been excluded from this and subsequent waiting times figures on account of them being “invalid”, for example where the reported treatment date was prior to the referral date.

In 2012-13, 85.5% of treatments started within the target 20 working days of the referral. This compares favourably with 2011-12 for which the percentage was 82.5% and is consistent with the general upward trend over the 5-year period.

Table 5.6b shows the percentage of treatments starting within 20 working days of the referral for the major drug groups with referral to treatment times for those with Cocaine as their main problematic substance noticeably high (96.0%) in 2012-13.

Times from referral to assessment are shown in Table 5.6c, with 72.6% of assessments happening within 10 working days of the referral, which again is up on the previous 4 years. Table 5.6d shows the percentage of assessments taking place within 10 working days of the referral for the major drug groups, and the patterns are consistent with those seen for referral to treatment times.

Assessment to Treatment times are shown in tables 5.6e and 5.6f, with 92.4% of treatments starting within 10 working days of assessment in 2012-13, which is slightly up on previous years.

**Table 5.6a: Time between referral and treatment (a)- all main problematic substances (b)**

Waiting times (c)	Treatment Year									
	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Within 20 working days	14,633	75.2	11,624	72.1	12,828	79.5	12,335	82.5	12,830	85.5
4-12 weeks	2,816	14.5	2,722	16.9	2,228	13.8	1,839	12.3	1,660	11.1
3-6 months	1,259	6.5	965	6.0	650	4.0	483	3.2	360	2.4
6-9 months	357	1.8	302	1.9	183	1.1	87	0.6	42	0.3
9-12 months	160	0.8	152	0.9	98	0.6	26	0.2	21	0.1
12-18 months	149	0.8	117	0.7	53	0.3	55	0.4	30	0.2
18-24 months	35	0.2	30	0.2	15	0.1	49	0.3	4	0.0
> 24 months	53	0.3	204	1.3	87	0.5	73	0.5	59	0.4
Total	19,462	100.0	16,116	100.0	16,142	100.0	14,947	100.0	15,006	100.0

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Excludes invalid waiting times

(b) Includes blank and unknown substances

(c) Bank holidays are included within the time frames

**Table 5.6b: Percentage within 20 working days (a) for time between referral and treatment (b)  
- main problematic substances (c)**

Main problematic substance	Treatment Year									
	2008-9		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Number within 20 working days	Per cent within 20 working days	Number within 20 working days	Per cent within 20 working days	Number within 20 working days	Per cent within 20 working days	Number within 20 working days	Per cent within 20 working days	Number within 20 working days	Per cent within 20 working days
Alcohol	8,260	74.3	6,185	69.2	6,442	75.9	5,726	79.1	6,142	81.7
Drugs	6,136	76.8	5,291	75.8	6,259	84.0	6,276	86.4	6,417	89.5
Amphetamines	353	72.6	268	68.5	368	77.6	313	80.3	280	83.6
Cannabis	1,054	81.1	1,031	78.8	1,195	85.9	1,115	85.6	1,131	88.1
Cocaine	364	85.4	230	84.2	337	91.8	597	94.5	606	96.0
Heroin	3,446	77.1	2,857	79.3	3,321	86.3	3,157	88.3	2,642	89.7
Methadone	342	67.5	348	56.9	445	69.7	401	76.8	510	88.2
Mephedrone	0	0.0	1	100.0	21	84.0	53	82.8	416	92.9
Other drugs & opiates (d)	577	72.4	556	70.7	572	80.7	640	82.3	832	87.5
Total	14,633	75.2	11,624	72.1	12,828	79.5	12,335	82.5	12,830	85.5

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Bank holidays are included within the time frames.

(b) Excludes invalid waiting times

(c) Includes blank and unknown substances.

(d) See Annex A for list of drugs included under Other Drugs and Opiates.

(e) Note that it is not possible to be clear if methadone recorded as a main substance refers to prescribed or illicit methadone; guidance to data providers has been revised from May 2012.

**Table 5.6c: Time between referral and assessment (a)- all main problematic substances (b)**

Waiting times (c)	Assessment Year									
	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Within 10 working days	13,392	60.5	13,841	64.3	14,517	67.7	13,783	70.5	13,265	72.6
2-4 weeks	3,731	16.9	3,214	14.9	3,215	15.0	2,929	15.0	2,885	15.8
4-12 weeks	3,354	15.1	2,950	13.7	2,533	11.8	2,110	10.8	1,724	9.4
3-6 months	1,026	4.6	745	3.5	687	3.2	393	2.0	284	1.6
6-9 months	275	1.2	299	1.4	211	1.0	87	0.4	46	0.3
9-12 months	155	0.7	158	0.7	68	0.3	57	0.3	13	0.1
12-18 months	138	0.6	106	0.5	68	0.3	83	0.4	29	0.2
18-24 months	29	0.1	23	0.1	25	0.1	34	0.2	9	0.0
> 24 months	40	0.2	204	0.9	117	0.5	62	0.3	15	0.1
Total	22,140	100.0	21,540	100.0	21,441	100.0	19,538	100.0	18,270	100.0

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Excludes invalid waiting times.

(b) Includes blank and unknown substances.

(c) Bank holidays are included in the time frame.



**Table 5.6d: Percentage within 10 workings days (a) for time between referral and assessment (b) - main problematic substances (c)**

	Assessment Year									
	2008-9		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
Main problematic substance	Number within 10 working days	Per cent within 10 working days	Number within 10 working days	Per cent within 10 working days	Number within 10 working days	Per cent within 10 working days	Number within 10 working days	Per cent within 10 working days	Number within 10 working days	Per cent within 10 working days
Alcohol	7,330	57.4	7,600	60.9	7,586	63.6	6,868	66.5	6,463	67.1
Drugs	5,766	65.0	6,025	69.0	6,749	74.2	6,471	76.2	6,472	79.0
Amphetamines	327	59.6	350	63.1	425	67.4	347	68.6	294	70.2
Cannabis	946	63.7	1,179	71.3	1,377	75.2	1,177	73.5	1,130	73.1
Cocaine	338	70.9	252	72.0	389	80.4	639	86.7	654	86.5
Heroin	3,321	67.5	3,236	72.9	3,494	77.6	3,192	80.1	2,683	83.1
Mephedrone		0.0	1	50.0	27	67.5	70	61.9	414	79.9
Methadone	304	53.5	379	51.8	421	59.8	397	65.1	480	77.3
Other drugs & Opiates (d)	530	60.6	628	62.9	616	67.8	649	69.3	817	73.8
Total	13,392	60.5	13,841	64.3	14,517	67.7	13,783	70.5	13,265	72.6

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Bank holidays are included within the time frames.

(b) Excludes invalid waiting times

(c) Includes blank and unknown substances.

(d) See Annex A for list of drugs included under Other Drugs and Opiates.

(e) Note that it is not possible to be clear if methadone recorded as a main substance refers to prescribed or illicit methadone; guidance to data providers has been revised from May 2012.

**Table 5.6e: Time between assessments and treatment (a)- all main problematic substances (b)**

	Treatment Year									
	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
Waiting times (c)	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Within 10 working days	16,779	90.4	14,211	88.1	14,641	90.6	13,693	91.4	13,890	92.4
2-4 weeks	750	4.0	896	5.6	757	4.7	573	3.8	497	3.3
4-12 weeks	623	3.4	694	4.3	557	3.4	429	2.9	470	3.1
3-6 months	244	1.3	206	1.3	150	0.9	141	0.9	80	0.5
6-9 months	71	0.4	50	0.3	23	0.1	41	0.3	20	0.1
9-12 months	22	0.1	17	0.1	18	0.1	25	0.2	10	0.1
12-18 months	36	0.2	31	0.2	11	0.1	25	0.2	16	0.1
18-24 months	10	0.1	7	0.0	2	0.0	26	0.2	9	0.1
> 24 months	25	0.1	20	0.1	9	0.1	24	0.2	40	0.3
Total	18,560	100.0	16,132	100.0	16,168	100.0	14,977	100.0	15,032	100.0

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Excludes invalid waiting times.

(b) Includes blank and unknown substances.

(c) Bank Holidays are included within the time frame.

**Table 5.6f: Percentage within 10 workings days (a) for time between assessment and treatment (b) – main problematic substances (c)**

Main problematic substance	Treatment Year									
	2008-9		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Number within 10 working days	Per cent within 10 working days	Number within 10 working days	Per cent within 10 working days	Number within 10 working days	Per cent within 10 working days	Number within 10 working days	Per cent within 10 working days	Number within 10 working days	Per cent within 10 working days
Alcohol	9,593	90.5	7,723	86.3	7,479	88.0	6,490	89.5	6,798	90.2
Drugs	6,888	90.5	6,308	90.3	6,997	93.7	6,827	93.8	6,808	94.8
Amphetamines	412	91.2	351	89.8	447	94.3	363	93.1	314	93.5
Cannabis	1,152	92.9	1,183	90.0	1,324	95.0	1,251	95.6	1,248	96.8
Cocaine	380	93.4	260	95.6	356	97.0	625	98.7	619	98.1
Heroin	3,827	89.9	3,233	89.6	3,614	93.6	3,330	93.0	2,731	92.8
Mephedrone	0	0.0	1	100.0	24	96.0	61	95.3	442	98.2
Methadone	425	86.6	561	92.0	575	90.1	473	90.3	552	95.2
Other drugs & Opiates (d)	692	90.9	719	91.4	657	92.5	724	92.8	902	94.5
Total	16,779	90.4	14,211	88.1	14,641	90.6	13,693	91.4	13,890	92.4

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Bank holidays are included within the time frames.

(b) Excludes invalid waiting times

(c) Includes blank and unknown substances.

(d) See Annex A for list of drugs included under Other Drugs and Opiates.

(e) Note that it is not possible to be clear if methadone recorded as a main substance refers to prescribed or illicit methadone; guidance to data providers has been revised from May 2012.

## 5.3 Treatments

### Clients commencing treatment by Age, Gender and Main Problematic Substance

Tables 5.7a-5.7c show the profiles of clients commencing treatment. The profile of the 15,032 clients starting treatment in 2012-13 follows a very similar pattern to the profiles of those being referred.

**Table 5.7a: Profile of clients commencing treatment by main problematic substance – alcohol**

Gender	Treatment Year									
	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Male	7,382	66.0	5,704	63.7	5,524	65.0	4,458	61.5	4,756	63.1
Female	3,809	34.0	3,248	36.3	2,977	35.0	2,795	38.5	2,777	36.9
Total	11,191	100.0	8,952	100.0	8,501	100.0	7,253	100.0	7,533	100.0
Age										
10-14	159	1.4	137	1.5	145	1.7	132	1.8	117	1.6
15-19	913	8.2	689	7.7	565	6.6	419	5.8	309	4.1
20-29	2,077	18.6	1,540	17.2	1,414	16.6	1,038	14.3	1,194	15.9
30-39	2,781	24.9	2,223	24.8	2,114	24.9	1,788	24.7	1,927	25.6
40-49	2,982	26.6	2,425	27.1	2,361	27.8	2,090	28.8	2,205	29.3
50-59	1,581	14.1	1,276	14.3	1,341	15.8	1,266	17.5	1,256	16.7
60+	672	6.0	644	7.2	550	6.5	506	7.0	519	6.9
All Ages (a)	11,191	100.0	8,952	100.0	8,501	100.0	7,253	100.0	7,533	100.0
Median age (b)	40	..	41	..	40	..	41	..	40	..

Source: WND SM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Includes 15,14,9,12 and 14 referrals where the age is less than 10 and 11,4,2,2 and 2 referrals where age is unknown.

(b) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.7b: Profile of clients commencing treatment by main problematic substance – drugs**

	Treatment Year									
	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Gender										
Male	5,695	71.0	5,033	72.0	5,431	72.7	5,388	74.0	5,298	73.7
Female	2,324	29.0	1,957	28.0	2,038	27.3	1,892	26.0	1,887	26.3
Total	8,019	100.0	6,990	100.0	7,469	100.0	7,280	100.0	7,185	100.0
Age										
10-14	154	1.9	123	1.8	117	1.6	157	2.2	195	2.7
15-19	970	12.1	835	11.9	853	11.4	794	10.9	1,004	14.0
20-29	3,064	38.2	2,442	34.9	2,582	34.6	2,389	32.8	2,332	32.5
30-39	2,689	33.5	2,440	34.9	2,684	35.9	2,686	36.9	2,394	33.3
40-49	930	11.6	963	13.8	1,031	13.8	1,060	14.6	1,057	14.7
50-59	154	1.9	161	2.3	166	2.2	156	2.1	174	2.4
60+	48	0.6	18	0.3	27	0.4	33	0.5	29	0.4
All Ages (a)	8,019	100.0	6,990	100.0	7,469	100.0	7,280	100.0	7,185	100.0
Median age (b)	30	..	28	..	30	..	28	..	30	..

Source: WNDMS, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Includes 8,6,8,4 and 4 referrals where the age is less than 10 and 2,2,1,1 and 1 referrals where age is unknown.

(b) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

.. Data item not applicable

**Table 5.7c: Treatments commenced by individual substance**

Substance	Gender	Treatment Year									
		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
		Number	Median Age (a)	Number	Median Age (a)	Number	Median Age (a)	Number	Median Age (a)	Number	Median Age (a)
Alcohol	Male	7,382	38	5,704	39	5,524	39	4,458	40	4,756	40
	Female	3,809	39	3,248	39	2,977	41	2,795	41	2,777	41
	Total	11,191	38	8,952	39	8,501	39	7,253	41	7,533	40
Amphetamines	Male	287	33	254	33	301	32	257	34	212	36
	Female	203	30	137	32	173	32	133	31	124	31
	Total	490	32	391	33	474	32	390	33	336	34
Cannabis	Male	1,064	19	1,053	19	1,091	20	988	20	976	19
	Female	246	20	262	20	303	21	320	19	313	18
	Total	1,310	20	1,315	20	1,394	20	1,308	20	1,289	19
Cocaine	Male	354	26	223	26	315	26	559	26	553	26
	Female	74	24	50	30	52	24	74	24	78	27
	Total	428	26	273	27	367	26	633	26	631	26
Heroin	Male	3,123	31	2,547	32	2,772	33	2,637	34	2,183	34
	Female	1,360	28	1,063	29	1,089	28	944	30	761	31
	Total	4,483	30	3,610	31	3,861	32	3,581	32	2,944	33
Mephedrone	Male	0	0	1	19	17	17	39	16	318	20
	Female	0	0	0	0	8	16	25	17	132	18
	Total	0	0	1	19	25	17	64	16	450	19
Methadone	Male	326	33	417	35	452	35	350	35	402	35
	Female	183	30	195	31	186	30	174	32	178	32
	Total	509	32	612	34	638	34	524	34	580	34
Other Drugs	Male	780	28	662	24	600	28	847	28	839	26
	Female	389	28	326	28	308	26	377	26	430	25
	Total	1,169	28	988	25	908	27	1,224	27	1,269	26
Total		19,580	34	16,142	34	16,168	34	14,977	34	15,032	34

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Equal number of referrals above and below the median age.

Table 5.8 shows the median lengths of completed planned treatments in days for the main problematic substance groups. These are based only on completed treatments where the closure reason is “problematic substance free” or “treatment complete” and measures the time from the referral date to the date of case closure. that the median treatment length for all completed treatments is 120 days, which is generally consistent with the previous 3 years. For alcohol, treatment lengths have risen steadily over the 5 year period to 114 days in 2012-13, and for drugs, the median length of treatment was 133.

**Table 5.8: Length of complete planned treatment (a) by main problematic substance (b)**

Main Problematic Substance	Discharge Year									
	2008 / 09		2009 / 10		2010 / 11		2011 / 12		2012 / 13	
	Treatments Completed	Treatment Length (c)	Treatments Completed	Treatment Length (c)	Treatments Completed	Treatment Length (c)	Treatments Completed	Treatment Length (c)	Treatments Completed	Treatment Length (c)
Alcohol	5,632	81	4,740	105	5,544	104	4,595	111	4,900	114
Drugs	2,922	117	2,296	142	3,029	118	3,054	128.5	3,026	133
Amphetamines	212	134.5	176	140	203	152	178	158.5	164	162.5
Cannabis	676	79.5	697	102	932	86.5	717	92	850	100
Cocaine	178	86.5	138	108	193	59	312	25	280	72
Heroin	1,377	141.5	881	209	1,216	166	1,358	198	1,004	231
Mephedrone	0	0	1	0	13	48	21	89	212	77
Methadone	126	147.5	112	241.5	157	144	176	223	141	275
Other drugs (d)	353	93.5	291	117	315	107.5	292	119.5	373	102
All Substances (e)	8,733	93	7,191	119	8,763	110	7,948	119	8,301	120

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

- (a) Number of days between referral and treatment closure. Must have a treatment date and closure date, and the closure reason of treatment complete - drug free or treatment complete.  
(b) For all referrals since April 2005.  
(c) Median treatment length in days  
(d) Includes other opiates.  
(e) Includes blank and invalid substances.

## 5.4 Case Closures

Table 5.9a shows the number of case closures by the year of closure and also by closure reason. Note that, although excluded from the referrals analysis in section 5.1, the cases closed with DNA prior to assessment are shown in this table. Of the 28,516 closed cases in 2012-13, 39.0% were closed for planned reasons, slightly higher than previous years. The DNA rate increased slightly from 35.9% and 36.3% in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively, to 37.7% in 2012-13.

For Alcohol (Table 5.9b), the percentage of closures for planned reasons (42.3%) was also higher than in previous years and the DNA rate was 37.1%, which was similar to the 2011-12 figure. For drugs (Table 5.9c), planned reasons accounted for 38.0% of closures and DNAs accounted for 35.7%.

**Table 5.9a: Reason for closure by main problematic substance - all substances (a)**

Closure reason	Discharge Year									
	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
<b>DNA</b>										
Closed at Centre	326	0.9	88	0.3	63	0.2	162	0.6	597	2.1
DNA before assessment	7,999	22.5	6,918	21.8	5,874	18.8	5,077	18.5	6,133	21.5
DNA before treatment	1,510	4.3	2,163	6.8	1,743	5.6	1,307	4.8	771	2.7
DNA during treatment	6,518	18.4	4,771	15.0	3,579	11.4	3,415	12.4	3,263	11.4
Total	16,353	46.1	13,940	44.0	11,259	35.9	9,961	36.3	10,764	37.7
<b>Inappropriate Referral</b>										
Inappropriate Referral (a)	1,809	5.1	3,820	12.0	4,340	13.9	4,363	15.9	3,906	13.7
Total	1,809	5.1	3,820	12.0	4,340	13.9	4,363	15.9	3,906	13.7
<b>No information supplied</b>										
No information supplied	734	2.1	24	0.1	276	0.9	153	0.6	168	0.6
Total	734	2.1	24	0.1	276	0.9	153	0.6	168	0.6
<b>Planned</b>										
Referred to another service	3,089	8.7	2,177	6.9	2,459	7.9	2,441	8.9	2,816	9.9
Treatment completed	8,733	24.6	7,191	22.7	8,763	28.0	7,948	28.9	8,301	29.1
Total	11,822	33.3	9,368	29.5	11,222	35.8	10,389	37.8	11,117	39.0
<b>Unplanned</b>										
Deceased	210	0.6	194	0.6	149	0.5	147	0.5	173	0.6
Moved	743	2.1	690	2.2	652	2.1	626	2.3	631	2.2
Prison	1,096	3.1	1,056	3.3	1,110	3.5	1,136	4.1	1,115	3.9
Treatment withdrawn (b)	2,740	7.7	2,625	8.3	2,314	7.4	697	2.5	642	2.3
Total	4,789	13.5	4,565	14.4	4,225	13.5	2,606	9.5	2,561	9.0
Total	35,507	100.0	31,717	100.0	31,322	100.0	27,472	100.0	28,516	100.0

Source: WNDMS, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Client has been contacted following a third party referral and states that they are not ready to engage in treatment or when assessed there is no substance misuse treatment need for client.

(b) The treatment provider has withdrawn treatment provision from the client usually as a result of a breach of contract

**Table 5.9b: Reason for closure by main problematic substance – alcohol**

Closure reason	Discharge Year									
	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
<b>DNA</b>										
Closed at Centre	188	0.9	50	0.3	34	0.2	134	0.9	83	0.6
DNA before assessment	4,650	22.8	4,014	22.0	3,266	18.6	3,025	20.0	3,450	23.1
DNA before treatment	1,026	5.0	1,426	7.8	1,087	6.2	894	5.9	472	3.2
DNA during treatment	3,755	18.4	2,708	14.8	1,813	10.4	1,712	11.3	1,529	10.3
Total	9,619	47.2	8,198	44.9	6,200	35.4	5,765	38.0	5,534	37.1
<b>Inappropriate Referral</b>										
Inappropriate Referral (a)	861	4.2	1,793	9.8	2,449	14.0	2,436	16.1	2,172	14.6
Total	861	4.2	1,793	9.8	2,449	14.0	2,436	16.1	2,172	14.6
<b>No information supplied</b>										
No information supplied	424	2.1	14	0.1	160	0.9	105	0.7	92	0.6
Total	424	2.1	14	0.1	160	0.9	105	0.7	92	0.6
<b>Planned</b>										
Referred to another service	1,431	7.0	1,214	6.7	1,207	6.9	1,367	9.0	1,403	9.4
Treatment completed	5,632	27.6	4,740	26.0	5,544	31.7	4,595	30.3	4,900	32.9
Total	7,063	34.7	5,954	32.6	6,751	38.5	5,962	39.3	6,303	42.3
<b>Unplanned</b>										
Deceased	151	0.7	134	0.7	108	0.6	89	0.6	87	0.6
Moved	305	1.5	258	1.4	239	1.4	230	1.5	216	1.4
Prison	255	1.3	200	1.1	139	0.8	182	1.2	199	1.3
Treatment withdrawn (b)	1,693	8.3	1,704	9.3	1,467	8.4	387	2.6	303	2.0
Total	2,404	11.8	2,296	12.6	1,953	11.2	888	5.9	805	5.4
Total	20,371	100.0	18,255	100.0	17,513	100.0	15,156	100.0	14,906	100.0

Source: WNDMS, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Client has been contacted following a third party referral and states that they are not ready to engage in treatment **or** when assessed there is no substance misuse treatment need for client.

(b) The treatment provider has withdrawn treatment provision from the client usually as a result of a breach of contract



**Table 5.9c: Reason for closure by main problematic substance – drugs**

Closure reason	Discharge Year									
	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
<b>DNA</b>										
Closed at Centre	122	0.9	34	0.3	29	0.2	27	0.3	194	1.8
DNA before assessment	3,027	21.9	2,339	19.7	1,799	15.2	1,372	13.2	1,725	16.0
DNA before treatment	468	3.4	714	6.0	625	5.3	336	3.2	270	2.5
DNA during treatment	2,647	19.1	2,014	16.9	1,722	14.6	1,632	15.7	1,672	15.5
Total	6,264	45.3	5,101	42.9	4,175	35.4	3,367	32.4	3,861	35.7
<b>Inappropriate Referral</b>										
Inappropriate Referral (a)	807	5.8	1,599	13.5	1,468	12.4	1,400	13.5	1,141	10.6
Total	807	5.8	1,599	13.5	1,468	12.4	1,400	13.5	1,141	10.6
<b>No information supplied</b>										
No information supplied	255	1.8	10	0.1	112	0.9	46	0.4	44	0.4
Total	255	1.8	10	0.1	112	0.9	46	0.4	44	0.4
<b>Planned</b>										
Referred to another service	1,322	9.6	753	6.3	871	7.4	905	8.7	1,077	10.0
Treatment completed	2,922	21.1	2,296	19.3	3,029	25.7	3,054	29.3	3,024	28.0
Total	4,244	30.7	3,049	25.7	3,900	33.0	3,959	38.0	4,101	38.0
<b>Unplanned</b>										
Deceased	55	0.4	51	0.4	40	0.3	52	0.5	78	0.7
Moved	420	3.0	399	3.4	385	3.3	367	3.5	383	3.5
Prison	819	5.9	837	7.0	931	7.9	931	8.9	880	8.1
Treatment withdrawn (b)	960	6.9	837	7.0	796	6.7	284	2.7	316	2.9
Total	2,254	16.3	2,124	17.9	2,152	18.2	1,634	15.7	1,657	15.3
Total	13,824	100.0	11,883	100.0	11,807	100.0	10,406	100.0	10,804	100.0

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

- (a) Client has been contacted following a third party referral and states that they are not ready to engage in treatment or when assessed there is no substance misuse treatment need for client.
- (b) The treatment provider has withdrawn treatment provision from the client usually as a result of a breach of contract

## 5.5 Treatment Outcomes Profile (TOPs)

### Guide to TOPs analysis used in Tables 5.10a-5.10i

Treatment Outcomes Profile (TOPs) were introduced for clients referred from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009, and therefore the TOPs analysis tables that follow relate to all referrals on or after this date. These analyses only refer to those clients who have started and completed their treatment and therefore might not be representative of all clients.

These TOPs analyses attempt to measure the relative change in the clients' frequency of substance misuse, their physical health, psychological health and quality of life between the time of their start TOP until their exit TOP, thus giving a proxy measure of improvement in those areas during their time in treatment.

Agencies indicate on the TOP form as to whether that TOP is a starting, review or exit TOP and comparisons are made between the various measures recorded on the start TOP and exit TOPs. However, within the database, there are instances of referrals which have had more than one associated start TOP or more than one exit TOP. For the purposes of analysis, where a referral has had more than one recorded starting TOP, the one with the earliest interview date has been selected, and where a referral has had more than one exit TOP recorded, the one with the latest interview date has been selected.

With regards to the changes in frequency of substances (shown in tables 5.10a-5.10f), these are based on the number of days out of the previous 28 that a client had used the substance in question. For example, in the case of tables 5.10a and 5.10b, it is the frequency of Alcohol consumption that is recorded, split by those whose main problematic substance group is Alcohol (Table 5.10a), and for those whose main problematic substance group is Drugs (Table 5.10b). For the former group, clients consumed Alcohol for an average of 21.2 days out of the previous 28 at the time of the starting TOP, and an average of 11.6 days out of the previous 28 by the time of the exit TOP.

Note that for a particular referral, a comparison is only made between starting and exit TOP where the client's starting TOP frequency is greater than zero *and* their exit TOP is greater or equal to zero.

The "Percentage Change" shown (-45.2% in Table 5.10a) represents the percentage change in the average frequency of days of use between starting and exit TOPs. The "Percentage Not Using" figure (32.5% in Table 5.10a) is the percentage of referrals where the frequency of use was zero at the time of the exit TOP, having been more than zero at the time of the starting TOP.

For the measurement of changes in physical health, psychological health and quality of life (Tables 5.10g-5.10i), a system of scoring is used based on a 0 to 20 scale, 0 being worst and 20 best.

For both frequency of use and score measures, referrals in which either the start or the exit TOP values are blank have been excluded from these analyses.

### Results

Table 5.10a shows the average change in frequency in the use of alcohol between start and exit TOPs, for those with a main problematic substance of Alcohol. For those clients with Alcohol as their main problematic substance, the average number of days of Alcohol use fell from 21.2 to 11.6 (a 45.2% reduction), and 32.5% had not used Alcohol at all in the 28 days prior to the exit TOP. Table 5.10b shows the average change in frequency in the use of alcohol between start and exit TOPs, for those with a main problematic substance of Drugs. For those with Drugs as their main problematic substance, the frequency of Alcohol used fell from 12.5 to 7.7 days (a 38.4% reduction), with 36.6% not having used Alcohol at all in the 28 days prior to the exit TOP.

Table 5.10c shows the average change in frequency in the use of opiates between start and exit TOPs, for those with a main problematic substance of Heroin. The average number of days of Opiate use fell from 22.7 to 8.8 (-61.4%), with 55.1% having not used Opiates at all in the 28 days prior to the exit TOP.

Table 5.10d shows the average change in frequency in the use of Cannabis between start and exit TOPs, for those with a main problematic substance of Cannabis. The frequency of Cannabis used fell from 22.6 to 14.0 (a 38.0% reduction), with 28.6% not having used Cannabis at all in the 28 days prior to the exit TOP.

Table 5.10e shows the average change in frequency in the use of Amphetamines between start and exit TOPs, for those with a main problematic substance of Amphetamines. The average number of days of Amphetamines use fell from 18.1 to 9.2 (a 49.5% reduction), with 62.8% having not used Amphetamines at all in the 28 days prior to the exit TOP.

Table 5.10f shows the average change in frequency in the use of Cocaine between start and exit TOPs, for those with a main problematic substance of Cocaine. The average number of days of Cocaine use fell from 10.0 to 2.6 (a 73.5% reduction), with 67.4% having not used Cocaine at all in the 28 days prior to the exit TOP.

Table 5.10g shows the average change in Physical Health between start and exit TOPs by main problematic substance category, gender, age and treatment modality. Overall, the average Physical Health score increased from 11.3 to 13.3 (a 17.0% increase). The treatment modality for the vast majority of clients was “Psychosocial Interventions” which accounted for 68% of the comparisons.

Table 5.10h shows the average change in Psychological Health between start and exit TOPs. Overall, the average Psychological Health score increased from 9.9 to 13.3 (a 34.5% increase). In terms of comparisons between the treatment modalities, the patterns of improvement were fairly similar to those reported for Physical Health above.

Table 5.10i shows the average change in Quality of Life between start and exit TOPs. Overall, the average Quality of Life score increased from 10.6 to 13.3 (a 25.6% increase). In terms of comparisons between the treatment modalities, once again the patterns of improvement were fairly similar to those reported for Physical Health (and Psychological Health) above.

**Table 5.10a: Changes in Frequency of use of alcohol (a) between start TOP and exit TOP: April 2009 to March 2013**

Main Problematic Substance		Number of Comparisons	Frequency at starting TOP (days)	Frequency at exit TOP (days)	Percentage Change	Percentage not using
		(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
<b>Alcohol</b>						
Gender	Male	4,196	21.6	12.1	-43.9	31.9
	Female	2,492	20.5	10.7	-47.6	33.6
Age	16-19	188	14.2	8.2	-42.4	17.6
	20-29	899	19.0	11.8	-38.2	26.8
	30-49	3,753	21.6	11.7	-45.6	33.4
	50+	1,848	22.2	11.6	-47.5	35.0
	Total	6,688	21.2	11.6	-45.2	32.5

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

- (a) For those clients reporting alcohol use in the 28 days before the start TOP  
(b) Excludes invalid or blank gender  
(c) The average number of days a substance is used at start TOP. If a referral has multiple start TOP then the earliest start TOP is used.  
(d) The average number of days a substance is used at exit TOP. If a referral has multiple exit TOP then the latest exit TOP is used.  
(e) The relative change between the start TOP and the exit TOP  
(f) No alcohol use recorded in the 28 days before exit TOP

**Table 5.10b: Changes in Frequency of use of alcohol (a) between start TOP and exit TOP: April 2009 to March 2013**

Main Problematic Substance		Number of Comparisons	Frequency at starting TOP (days)	Frequency at exit TOP (days)	Percentage Change	Percentage not using
		(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
<b>Drugs</b>						
Gender	Male	933	12.3	7.5	-38.7	35.6
	Female	257	13.2	8.3	-37.3	40.1
Age	16-19	221	8.1	4.4	-45.1	30.8
	20-29	413	11.6	6.9	-39.9	40.2
	30-49	521	14.9	9.4	-36.5	36.1
	50+	35	15.5	10.9	-29.5	37.1
	Total	1,190	12.5	7.7	-38.4	36.6

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

- (a) For those clients reporting alcohol use in the 28 days before the start TOP  
(b) Excludes invalid or blank gender  
(c) The average number of days a substance is used at start TOP. If a referral has multiple start TOP then the earliest start TOP is used.  
(d) The average number of days a substance is used at exit TOP. If a referral has multiple exit TOP then the latest exit TOP is used.  
(e) The relative change between the start TOP and the exit TOP  
(f) No alcohol use recorded in the 28 days before exit TOP

**Table 5.10c: Changes in Frequency of use of opiates with heroin as the main problematic substance (a) between start TOP and exit TOP: April 2009 to March 2013**

Main Problematic Substance		Number of Comparisons	Frequency at starting TOP (days)	Frequency at exit TOP (days)	Percentage Change	Percentage not using
		(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
<b>Heroin</b>						
Gender	Male	587	22.7	8.5	-62.4	56.0
	Female	224	23.0	9.5	-58.8	52.7
Age	16-19	17	27.3	8.8	-67.7	58.8
	20-29	279	23.2	9.3	-60.0	50.9
	30-49	496	22.3	8.7	-61.0	56.7
	50+	19	23.9	3.7	-84.6	73.7
	Total	811	22.7	8.8	-61.4	55.1

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

- (a) For those clients reporting opiates use in the 28 days before the start TOP  
(b) Excludes invalid or blank gender  
(c) The average number of days a substance is used at start TOP. If a referral has multiple start TOP then the earliest start TOP is used.  
(d) The average number of days a substance is used at exit TOP. If a referral has multiple exit TOP then the latest exit TOP is used.  
(e) The relative change between the start TOP and the exit TOP  
(f) No opiates use recorded in the 28 days before exit TOP

**Table 5.10d: Changes in Frequency of use of cannabis (a) between start TOP and exit TOP: April 2009 to March 2013**

Main Problematic Substance		Number of Comparisons	Frequency at starting TOP (days)	Frequency at exit TOP (days)	Percentage Change	Percentage not using
		(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
<b>Cannabis</b>						
Gender	Male	529	22.2	14.0	-36.9	27.2
	Female	149	23.8	13.8	-41.8	33.6
Age	16-19	239	21.5	13.5	-37.2	23.8
	20-29	251	23.5	14.1	-40.2	31.5
	30-49	177	22.6	14.5	-35.8	30.5
	50+	11	26.4	15.8	-40.0	36.4
	Total	678	22.6	14.0	-38.0	28.6

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

- (a) For those clients reporting cannabis use in the 28 days before the start TOP  
(b) Excludes invalid or blank gender  
(c) The average number of days a substance is used at start TOP. If a referral has multiple start TOP then the earliest start TOP is used.  
(d) The average number of days a substance is used at exit TOP. If a referral has multiple exit TOP then the latest exit TOP is used.  
(e) The relative change between the start TOP and the exit TOP  
(f) No cannabis use recorded in the 28 days before exit TOP

**Table 5.10e: Changes in Frequency of use of amphetamines (a) between start TOP and exit TOP: April 2009 to March 2013**

Main Problematic Substance		Number of Comparisons	Frequency at starting TOP (days)	Frequency at exit TOP (days)	Percentage Change	Percentage not using
		(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
<b>Amphetamines</b>						
Gender	Male	153	18.8	9.8	-47.5	56.2
	Female	100	17.2	8.1	-52.8	73.0
Age	16-19	6	12.5	4.7	-62.7	83.3
	20-29	95	16.6	7.5	-54.9	69.5
	30-49	147	19.1	10.4	-45.7	57.8
	50+	5	26.2	11.2	-57.3	60.0
	Total	253	18.1	9.2	-49.5	62.8

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

- (a) For those clients reporting amphetamines use in the 28 days before the start TOP  
(b) Excludes invalid or blank gender  
(c) The average number of days a substance is used at start TOP. If a referral has multiple start TOP then the earliest start TOP is used.  
(d) The average number of days a substance is used at exit TOP. If a referral has multiple exit TOP then the latest exit TOP is used.  
(e) The relative change between the start TOP and the exit TOP  
(f) No amphetamines use recorded in the 28 days before exit TOP

**Table 5.10f: Changes in Frequency of use of cocaine (a) between start TOP and exit TOP: April 2009 to March 2013**

Main Problematic Substance		Number of Comparisons	Frequency at starting TOP (days)	Frequency at exit TOP (days)	Percentage Change	Percentage not using
		(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
<b>Cocaine</b>						
Gender	Male	119	9.6	2.8	-71.3	66.4
	Female	13	12.9	1.5	-88.7	76.9
Age	16-19	16	7.8	0.6	-92.7	81.3
	20-29	68	9.2	2.5	-72.8	69.1
	30-49	46	11.8	3.5	-70.5	60.9
	50+	2	11.5	4.5	-60.9	50.0
	Total	132	10.0	2.6	-73.5	67.4

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

- (a) For those clients reporting cocaine use in the 28 days before the start TOP  
(b) Excludes invalid or blank gender  
(c) The average number of days a substance is used at startTOP. If a referral has multiple start TOP then the earliest start TOP is used.  
(d) The average number of days a substance is used at exit TOP. If a referral has multiple exit TOP then the latest exit TOP is used.  
(e) The relative change between the start TOP and the exit TOP  
(f) No cocaine use recorded in the 28 days before exit TOP

**Table 5.10g: Change in Physical Health between starting TOP and exit TOP: April 2009 to March 2013**

	Number of Comparisons	Score at start TOP	Score at exit TOP	Percentage Change
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
<b>Main Problematic Substance</b>				
Alcohol	7,370	11.0	13.1	19.1
Drugs	2,949	12.2	13.7	12.2
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	6,734	11.5	13.3	15.8
Female	3,585	11.1	13.3	19.3
<b>Age</b>				
16-19	563	13.4	14.8	9.9
20-29	2,120	12.5	14.0	11.6
30-49	5,521	11.0	13.1	18.6
50+	2,115	10.5	12.7	21.4
<b>Treatment Modalities</b>				
Inpatient Detoxification	467	9.1	11.9	30.5
Community Detoxification	767	9.9	13.3	34.1
Residential Rehabilitation	50	8.9	14.3	59.7
Substitute Opioid Prescribing (Methadone)	185	12.3	12.6	2.6
Substitute Opioid Prescribing (Buprenorphine)	86	12.5	13.7	10.0
Psychosocial Interventions	7,021	11.5	13.4	16.4
Blank	1,743	11.8	13.1	11.2
<b>Total</b>				
Total	10,319	11.3	13.3	17.0

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Excludes invalid or blank gender

(b) The average score at start TOP. If a referral has multiple start TOP then the earliest start TOP is used

(c) The average score at exit TOP. If a referral has multiple exit TOP then the latest exit TOP is used

(d) The relative change between the start TOP and the exit TOP

**Table 5.10h: Change in Psychological Health between starting TOP and exit TOP: April 2009 to March 2013**

	Number of Comparisons	Score at start TOP	Score at exit TOP	Percentage Change
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
<b>Main Problematic Substance</b>				
Alcohol	7,305	9.6	13.1	35.9
Drugs	2,920	10.4	13.7	31.4
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	6,683	10.1	13.3	31.6
Female	3,542	9.4	13.3	40.4
<b>Age</b>				
16-19	562	11.7	14.7	25.7
20-29	2,102	10.3	14.0	35.9
30-49	5,458	9.5	13.1	37.7
50+	2,103	9.9	12.7	27.9
<b>Treatment Modalities</b>				
Inpatient Detoxification	466	8.8	11.9	35.1
Community Detoxification	753	9.1	13.3	47.0
Residential Rehabilitation	50	8.3	13.9	67.6
Substitute Opioid Prescribing (Methadone)	185	10.4	12.5	20.0
Substitute Opioid Prescribing (Buprenorphine)	85	11.0	13.8	24.5
Psychosocial Interventions	6,962	9.9	13.4	35.0
Blank	1,724	10.2	13.1	28.9
<b>Total</b>				
Total	10,225	9.9	13.3	34.5

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Excludes invalid or blank gender

(b) The average score at start TOP. If a referral has multiple start TOP then the earliest start TOP is used

(c) The average score at exit TOP. If a referral has multiple exit TOP then the latest exit TOP is used

(d) The relative change between the start TOP and the exit TOP



**Table 5.10i: Change in Quality of Life between starting TOP and exit TOP: April 2009 to March 2013**

	Number of Comparisons	Score at start TOP	Score at exit TOP	Percentage Change
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
<b>Main Problematic Substance</b>				
Alcohol	7,291	10.4	13.3	27.9
Drugs	2,918	11.0	13.3	20.4
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	6,669	10.7	13.3	24.2
Female	3,540	10.4	13.3	28.5
<b>Age</b>				
16-19	566	12.4	14.4	15.7
20-29	2,098	11.1	13.3	19.9
30-49	5,460	10.2	13.1	27.9
50+	2,085	10.5	13.5	29.1
<b>Treatment Modalities</b>				
Inpatient Detoxification	460	9.3	12.5	34.9
Community Detoxification	747	9.7	13.9	43.7
Residential Rehabilitation	50	8.1	14.2	74.0
Substitute Opioid Prescribing (Methadone)	186	11.0	12.3	11.4
Substitute Opioid Prescribing (Buprenorphine)	84	12.2	13.5	10.7
Psychosocial Interventions	6,951	10.7	13.4	25.5
Blank	1,731	10.8	12.8	18.6
<b>Total</b>				
Total	10,209	10.6	13.3	25.6

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

(a) Excludes invalid or blank gender

(b) The average score at start TOP. If a referral has multiple start TOP then the earliest start TOP is used

(c) The average score at exit TOP. If a referral has multiple exit TOP then the latest exit TOP is used

(d) The relative change between the start TOP and the exit TOP

## **Annex A: Definitions**

### **Definitions**

The following definitions are used within this report:

#### **Drugs**

The term “drugs” includes illegal drugs, misuse of legal prescriptions and over the counter medicines and solvent abuse.

#### **Main problematic substance**

The term “main problematic substance” refers to the main substance that led the client to seek help or be referred for help; note that many clients categorized under “alcohol” may also be receiving treatment for drugs and vice versa.

#### **“Other drugs”**

This category is referred to in several tables and includes the following:

Methylone, Methadone, Minor Analgesics, Zopiclone, Major Tranquilisers Unspecified, Antabuse, Acamprosate Calcium (Campral), GHB/GBH, Other Psychoactive Drugs Unspecified, Other Sedatives, Phenteramine, Naltrexone, Antipsychotic Unspecified, Appetite Suppressant, Barbiturates Unspecified, Caffeine and Chlormethiazole.

#### **“Other opiates”**

This category is referred to in several tables and includes the following:

Buprenorphine, Opiates Unspecified, Codeine Unspecified, Dihydrocodeine, Tramadol Hydrochloride, Codeine Tabs, Morphine Sulphate, Dextromoramide, Opiate Comp Analgesics, Other Opiates, Oxycodone, Opium, Pethidine, Nalbuphine, Morphine Sulphate Amps, Fentanyl, Codeine Linctus, Actifed, Alphaprodine.

#### **“Other drugs & opiates”**

This category is referred to in several tables and includes the following:

Methylone, Methadone, Minor Analgesics, Zopiclone, Major Tranquilisers Unspecified, Antabuse, Acamprosate Calcium (Campral), GHB/GBH, Other Psychoactive Drugs Unspecified, Other Sedatives, Phenteramine, Naltrexone, Antipsychotic Unspecified, Appetite Suppressant, Barbiturates Unspecified, Caffeine and Chlormethiazole, Buprenorphine, Opiates Unspecified, Codeine Unspecified, Dihydrocodeine, Tramadol Hydrochloride, Codeine Tabs, Morphine Sulphate, Dextromoramide, Opiate Comp Analgesics, Other Opiates, Oxycodone, Opium, Pethidine, Nalbuphine, Morphine Sulphate Amps, Fentanyl, Codeine Linctus, Actifed, Alphaprodine.

#### **“Other Stimulants”**

This category is referred to in several tables and includes the following:

Stimulants Unspecified and Other Stimulants.

#### **Clients referred**

Refers to clients who were referred between April 2005 and March 2012. If more than 6 weeks elapsed between the end of a course of treatment and the start of a new course then the client is counted again.

#### **Structured treatments**

Includes inpatient detoxification, community detoxification, residential rehabilitation, substitute opioid prescribing and psychosocial interventions.

#### **Less structured treatments**

Includes counselling/support e.g. crisis intervention and information only. (From 2010-11 this has been revised to include practical/social support, complementary/alternative therapies and diversionary activities, brief interventions and harm reduction.

#### **Rates**

Rates per 100,000 population based on ONS 2012 mid year estimates, based on the 2011 Census.

### **Treatment Outcome Profiles (TOPs)**

These profiles measure the changes in client characteristics at regular intervals during treatment and at closure. The summary statistics on treatment outcomes included in this report utilise information and gathered at the start of treatment (“Start TOPs”) and at subsequent reviews which are done generally every three months (“Review TOPs”), usually as part of a care plan review and at discharge (“Exit TOPs”). More information on the introduction of TOPs is available from:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/housingandcommunity/safety/substancemisuse/pmf/top/?lang=en>

## Annex B List of Referral Source Groups

Referral Source Group	Referral Source
Criminal Justice System	Court
	Drug Intervention Programme
	Police
	Prison - Transitional Support Scheme
	Prison i.e. individuals with complex needs that are not suitable for the Drug Intervention Programme.
	Probation Service to include Drug Rehabilitation Requirements
	Solicitor
	Youth Offending Team
NHS	NHS A & E
	NHS Other
Other	Community Care Assessment
	CPN/Community Mental Health Team
	Educational Establishment
	Family/Friends
	Job Centre
	Midwife
	Needle/Syringe Exchange Scheme
	Peer Mentoring Scheme
	Psychiatry
	Single Point of Engagement

Source: WNDSM, NHS Wales Informatics Service

### Key Quality Issues

#### Welsh National Database for Substance Misuse

The database contains details of all referrals to drug and alcohol agencies in Wales and is held by NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS).

#### Coverage

The data relates only to people presenting to the agencies and may constitute only a proportion of all substance misusers.

#### Data Quality

The data quality issues that affect this report can be found in Section 3.

#### Data processing cycle

All Service Providers in receipt of Welsh Government funding, to deliver substance misuse services are required to comply fully with the reporting requirements of the database. The data in this annual report is derived from a “frozen” version of the database at 28th July 2013. NWIS process the data and prepare tables following this freeze date.

#### Comparisons between Annual Reports

The database is dynamic i.e. records are subject to amendment as further information is submitted by agencies. This means that figures in this report are not directly comparable with those published in earlier reports.

The nature of the services provided and the variability of the internal structures of service providers have meant that data quality has always been difficult to maintain in the WNDMS. Some providers are still finding it difficult to submit some of the fields and in particular, are failing to close some cases at the appropriate time.

#### Treatment Outcome Profiles

The Treatment Outcomes Profile (TOP) was developed by the National Treatment Agency (NTA) in collaboration with Dr John Marsden and Dr Michael Farrell of the National Addiction Centre, Institute of Psychiatry, Kings College, London.

The items that appear in the TOP were psychometrically evaluated and demonstrated an acceptable level of reliability and validity. This evaluation is available in the peer review journal *Addiction*. The abstract, and reference to the full article together with background information about the Treatment Outcome Profile are available from: <http://www.nta.nhs.uk/who-healthcare-top.aspx>

The information presented covers all recorded start, review and exit TOPs recorded on the database since April 2009 when the tool was first adopted in Wales.

Agencies indicate on the TOP form as to whether that TOP is a starting, review or exit TOP and comparisons are made between the various measures recorded on the start TOP and exit TOPs. However, within the database, there are instances of referrals which have had more than one associated start TOP or more than one exit TOP. For the purposes of analysis, where a referral has had more than one recorded starting TOP, the one with the earliest interview date has been selected for the purposes of comparison, and where a referral has had more than one exit TOP recorded, the one with the latest interview date has been selected.

#### Disclosure and confidentiality

The risk of disclosing information about an individual has been considered for this WNSMD dataset and with the current level of aggregation is considered to be very low.

#### Users and Uses

We believe the key users of these statistics are:  
Ministers and their advisors;

Assembly members and Members Research Service in the National Assembly for Wales;  
Substance Misuse Treatment service providers;  
Substance Misuse Advisory Regional Teams (SMARTs);  
Communities and Local Government;  
Local government unitary authorities (elected members and officials);  
Students, academics and universities;  
Other areas of the Welsh Government;  
Other government departments; and  
Individual citizens and private companies.

The statistics are used in a variety of ways. Some examples of these include:

Advice to Ministers;

To assess treatment services performance against targets;

To inform service improvement projects for areas of focus and opportunities for quality improvement

# Treatment Outcomes Profile

	/ /	
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Client ID

D.O.B. (dd/mm/yyyy)

Name of keyworker

	/ /	
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Gender: M ☐ F ☐ Treatment stage: Treatment start☐ Review ☐

TOP interview date (dd/mm/yyyy)

Treatment exit

☐ Post-treatment exit ☐

## Section 1: Substance use

(Please use NA only if information is not disclosed or not answered.)

Record the average amount on a using day and number of days substances used in each of past four weeks

	Average	Week 4	Week 3	Week 2	Week 1	Total
a Alcohol	<input type="text"/> units/day	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28
b Opiates	<input type="text"/> g/day	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28
c Crack	<input type="text"/> g/day	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28
d Cocaine	<input type="text"/> g/day	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28
e Amphetamines	<input type="text"/> g/day	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28
f Cannabis	<input type="text"/> spliff/day	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28
g Other problem substance?	<input type="text"/> g/day	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28

Name.....

## Section 2: Injecting risk behaviour

(Please use NA only if information is not disclosed or not answered.)

Record number of days client injected non-prescribed drugs in past four weeks (if no, enter zero and 'N', and go to section 3)

	Week 4	Week 3	Week 2	Week 1	Total
a Injected	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28
b Inject with needle or syringe used by someone else?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="text"/> Enter 'Y' if any yes, otherwise 'N'
c Inject using a spoon, water or filter used by someone else?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>				

## Section 3: Crime

(Please use NA only if information is not disclosed or not answered.)

Record days of shoplifting, drug selling and other categories committed in past four weeks

	Week 4	Week 3	Week 2	Week 1	Total
a Shoplifting	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28
b Drug selling	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28
c Theft from or of a vehicle	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="text"/> Enter 'Y' if any yes, otherwise 'N'
d Other property theft or burglary	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>				
e Fraud, forgery and handling stolen goods	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>				
f Committing assault or violence	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="text"/> Enter 'Y' or 'N'

## Section 4: Health and social functioning (Please use NA only if information is not disclosed or not answered.)

a Client's rating of psychological health status (anxiety, depression and problem emotions and feelings)

Poor	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1; border-bottom: 1px solid black; position: relative;"> <div style="position: absolute; left: 0; top: -5px;">0</div> <div style="position: absolute; right: 0; top: -5px;">20</div> </div> <div style="margin-left: 5px;">1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19</div> </div>	Good	<input type="text"/> 0-20
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Record days worked and at college or school for the past four weeks

	Week 4	Week 3	Week 2	Week 1	Total
b Days paid work	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28
c Days attended college or school	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-7	<input type="text"/> 0-28

d Client's rating of physical health status (extent of physical symptoms and bothered by illness)

Poor	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1; border-bottom: 1px solid black; position: relative;"> <div style="position: absolute; left: 0; top: -5px;">0</div> <div style="position: absolute; right: 0; top: -5px;">20</div> </div> <div style="margin-left: 5px;">1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19</div> </div>	Good	<input type="text"/> 0-20
------	---	------	---------------------------

Record accommodation items for the past four weeks

e Acute housing problem	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> Enter 'Y' or 'N'
f At risk of eviction	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> Enter 'Y' or 'N'

g Client's rating of overall quality of life (e.g. able to enjoy life, gets on well with family and partner)

Poor	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1; border-bottom: 1px solid black; position: relative;"> <div style="position: absolute; left: 0; top: -5px;">0</div> <div style="position: absolute; right: 0; top: -5px;">20</div> </div> <div style="margin-left: 5px;">1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19</div> </div>	Good	<input type="text"/> 0-20
------	---	------	---------------------------