



**HRB Bulletin**  
National Drug Treatment  
Reporting System

**2025 Alcohol  
Treatment Demand**

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[Terms, conditions & notes](#)

<a href="#">Table 1</a>	Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, by treatment status, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
<a href="#">Table 2</a>	Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, by type of service provider, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
<a href="#">Table 3</a>	Age first started drinking and level of problem alcohol use, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
<a href="#">Table 4</a>	Amount of alcohol consumed by cases that consumed alcohol in the 30 days prior to treatment start, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
<a href="#">Table 5</a>	Type of alcohol consumed, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
<a href="#">Table 6</a>	Polydrug use in cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
<a href="#">Table 7</a>	Polydrug use – additional problem drugs for cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
<a href="#">Table 8</a>	Sociodemographic characteristics of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
<a href="#">Table 9</a>	Sociodemographic and polydrug characteristics by gender for cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, NDTRS 2025
<a href="#">Table 10</a>	Cases treated for alcohol with children aged 17 years or under, NDTRS 2025
<a href="#">Table 11</a>	Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem by HSE HR area of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
<a href="#">Table 12</a>	Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, by county of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2025
<a href="#">Table 13</a>	Reason for treatment exit, NDTRS 2025
<a href="#">Table 14</a>	Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, new and continuous care cases, NDTRS 2025
<a href="#">Figure 3</a>	Incidence and prevalence of treated problem alcohol, aged 15 to 64 years, per 100,000*, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

## National Drug Treatment Reporting System

### Terms & conditions for the use of NDTRS data

Any of the data provided here may be freely used but remains the property of the NDTRS. To safeguard the integrity and confidentiality of the data, all users must agree to the following conditions:

1. The NDTRS should be acknowledged in any publication where NDTRS data are used.
2. NDTRS data are not to be presented in either written or oral form that could directly or indirectly identify an individual patient.
3. Tables containing NDTRS data should not be published where any individual cells contain 5 cases or less.
4. The responsibility for interpretation of the data lies fully with the data user. Please contact the NDTRS should you have any queries on data interpretation.
5. The data provided below supersedes any previous analysis done as figures may change due to data validation processes.
6. The NDTRS should be clearly acknowledged as the source of the data in any publication or presentation in which the data are used.
7. The NDTRS must be provided with a copy of all documents in which NDTRS data are used.
8. The HRB National Drugs Library should be provided with a copy of any published paper in which NDTRS data are used.

### Notes on definitions & interpretation of NDTRS data

#### Data collection

Treatment for problem alcohol and drug use in Ireland is provided by statutory and non-statutory services, including residential centres, community-based addiction services, general practices and prison services. Compliance with the NDTRS requires that one form be completed for each new client coming for first treatment and for each previously treated client returning to treatment for problem drug use. Service providers at treatment centres throughout Ireland collect data on each individual who attends for first treatment or returns to treatment in a calendar year.

The NDTRS follows a common and systematic European methodology for collecting and reporting core data on the numbers and profiles of those entering specialised drug treatment each year (treatment demand). The European Treatment Demand Indicator (TDI) protocol aims to provide objective, reliable and comparable information at a European level and is routinely used to identify trends and patterns in problem drug use and to assess the use and uptake of treatment facilities.

Treatment demand indicator (TDI) standard protocol 3.0: Guidelines for reporting data on people entering drug treatment in European countries is available at [https://www.euda.europa.eu/publications/manuals/tdi-protocol-3.0\\_en](https://www.euda.europa.eu/publications/manuals/tdi-protocol-3.0_en)

#### Treatment cases

*All cases treated* – describes individuals who receive treatment for problem drug and/or alcohol use at each treatment centre in a calendar year, and includes:

*Previously treated cases* – describes individuals who were treated previously for problem drug/alcohol use at any treatment centre and have returned to treatment in the reporting year;

*New cases treated* – describes individuals who have never been treated for problem drug/alcohol use; and

*Status unknown* – describes individuals whose status with respect to previous treatment for problem drug/alcohol use is not known.

#### Children

Service users *living with children* refers to the 30 days prior to treatment. This includes children where the service user has a carer or guardianship role: non-related children such as foster children and stepchildren, and the children of a long-term cohabiting partner. Where the service user is a grandparent or other close relative and is the official guardian of a child with whom they are living, they are recorded as living with children.

Children who are *living elsewhere* than with the service user refers to children currently living with another parent; children in formal care or informal care; and children living elsewhere who are biological children/adopted children, or children who are under the official guardianship of the service user. It also refers to children who have left home, and children who are living with other family members or friends temporarily, but who are not considered by the service user to be living in care.

#### Area of residence

Area of residence relates to the service user's place of residence in the 30 days prior to commencing treatment, for all service types excluding prison. Where a service user is treated in prison and has been in prison for less than 6 months prior to starting treatment, area of residence is the place of residence prior to imprisonment. Otherwise, the prison location is recorded.

#### COVID-19

The capacity and functionality of treatment services were impacted by COVID-19 restrictions. In 2020, the NDTRS surveyed participating services to estimate the impact of the restrictions on treatment data for 2020 (the response rate was 80%). Around 40% of services surveyed expressed some impact on their ability to provide returns, while around 50% expected some impact on numbers (unpublished data).

For further information, contact the NDTRS team at [ndtrs@hrb.ie](mailto:ndtrs@hrb.ie)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Table 1 Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, by treatment status, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020*		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
<b>All cases</b>	<b>7350</b>		<b>7464</b>		<b>7546</b>		<b>5824</b>		<b>6859</b>		<b>7421</b>		<b>8163</b>		<b>8745</b>		<b>8798</b>	
New cases	3500	(47.6)	3230	(43.3)	3296	(43.7)	2490	(42.8)	3026	(44.1)	3278	(44.2)	3625	(44.4)	3800	(43.5)	3790	(43.1)
Previously treated cases	3652	(49.7)	3705	(49.6)	3400	(45.1)	3170	(54.4)	3596	(52.4)	3868	(52.1)	4257	(52.1)	4619	(52.8)	4662	(53.0)
Treatment status unknown	198	(2.7)	529	(7.1)	850	(11.3)	164	(2.8)	237	(3.5)	275	(3.7)	281	(3.4)	326	(3.7)	346	(3.9)

\* The decrease in cases in 2020 coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions, which presented increased risks for people who use drugs and alcohol, and significant challenges for treatment providers, and should be interpreted in that context.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Table 2 Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, by type of service provider, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020**		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
<b>All cases</b>	<b>7350</b>		<b>7464</b>		<b>7546</b>		<b>5824</b>		<b>6859</b>		<b>7421</b>		<b>8163</b>		<b>8745</b>		<b>8798</b>	
Outpatient	3894	(53.0)	4087	(54.8)	4093	(54.2)	3505	(60.2)	4183	(61.0)	4469	(60.2)	4983	(61.0)	5496	(62.8)	5566	(63.3)
Residential*	2949	(40.1)	2792	(37.4)	2806	(37.2)	1680	(28.8)	2102	(30.6)	2440	(32.9)	2743	(33.6)	2652	(30.3)	2587	(29.4)
Low threshold	436	(5.9)	451	(6.0)	469	(6.2)	467	(8.0)	403	(5.9)	352	(4.7)	299	(3.7)	468	(5.4)	568	(6.4)
Prison	71	(1.0)	134	(1.8)	178	(2.4)	172	(3.0)	171	(2.5)	160	(2.2)	138	(1.7)	129	(1.5)	77	(0.9)

\* Includes any service where the client stays overnight, e.g. residential detoxification, therapeutic communities, respite and step down.

\*\* The reduction in residential case numbers can in part be attributed to temporary closures and reduced capacity introduced in 2020 to comply with COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

Table 3 Age first started drinking and level of problem alcohol use, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
<b>All cases</b>	<b>7350</b>		<b>7464</b>		<b>7546</b>		<b>5824</b>		<b>6859</b>		<b>7421</b>		<b>8163</b>		<b>8745</b>		<b>8798</b>	
Median age first started drinking (range <sup>1</sup> )	16	12–22	15	12–22	16	12–21	16	12–21	16	12–22	16	12–22	16	12–21	16	12–22	15	12–22
<i>Level of problem alcohol use*</i>																		
Hazardous	711	(9.7)	746	(10.0)	864	(11.4)	807	(13.9)	830	(12.1)	908	(12.2)	1091	(13.4)	1174	(13.4)	1382	(15.7)
Harmful	1174	(16.0)	1236	(16.6)	1374	(18.2)	1087	(18.7)	1284	(18.7)	1346	(18.1)	1798	(22.0)	2269	(25.9)	2624	(29.8)
Dependent	5290	(72.0)	5300	(71.0)	5142	(68.1)	3768	(64.7)	4522	(65.9)	4848	(65.3)	4976	(61.0)	4904	(56.1)	4282	(48.7)
<b>New cases</b>	<b>3500</b>		<b>3230</b>		<b>3296</b>		<b>2490</b>		<b>3026</b>		<b>3278</b>		<b>3625</b>		<b>3800</b>		<b>3790</b>	
Median age first started drinking (range <sup>1</sup> )	16	12–22	16	12–22	16	12–22	16	12–22	16	12–22	16	12–22	16	12–21	16	12–21	16	12–22
<i>Level of problem alcohol use*</i>																		
Hazardous	412	(11.8)	385	(11.9)	406	(12.3)	376	(15.1)	395	(13.1)	396	(12.1)	533	(14.7)	538	(14.2)	609	(16.1)
Harmful	674	(19.3)	677	(21.0)	714	(21.7)	633	(25.4)	661	(21.8)	672	(20.5)	908	(25.0)	1171	(30.8)	1365	(36.0)
Dependent	2339	(66.8)	2118	(65.6)	2129	(64.6)	1425	(57.2)	1885	(62.3)	2099	(64.0)	2080	(57.4)	1965	(51.7)	1649	(43.5)
<b>Previously treated cases</b>	<b>3652</b>		<b>3705</b>		<b>3400</b>		<b>3170</b>		<b>3596</b>		<b>3868</b>		<b>4257</b>		<b>4619</b>		<b>4662</b>	
Median age first started drinking (range <sup>1</sup> )	15	12–22	15	11–22	15	12–21	16	12–21	16	12–21	16	12–22	16	12–21	15	12–22	15	12–22
<i>Level of problem alcohol use*</i>																		
Hazardous	277	(7.6)	297	(8.0)	330	(9.7)	397	(12.5)	394	(11.0)	459	(11.9)	507	(11.9)	575	(12.4)	716	(15.4)
Harmful	445	(12.2)	479	(12.9)	450	(13.2)	417	(13.2)	578	(16.1)	611	(15.8)	830	(19.5)	1022	(22.1)	1170	(25.1)
Dependent	2865	(78.5)	2847	(76.8)	2561	(75.3)	2284	(72.1)	2525	(70.2)	2636	(68.1)	2781	(65.3)	2838	(61.4)	2531	(54.3)
<b>Treatment status unknown</b>	<b>198</b>		<b>529</b>		<b>850</b>		<b>164</b>		<b>237</b>		<b>275</b>		<b>281</b>		<b>326</b>		<b>346</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

\* Where recorded. The proportion of cases where level of alcohol use is not known is not shown in the table.

Table 4 Amount of alcohol consumed by cases that consumed alcohol in the 30 days prior to treatment start, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	(range <sup>1</sup> )	n	(range <sup>1</sup> )	n	(range <sup>1</sup> )	n	(range <sup>1</sup> )	n	(range <sup>1</sup> )	n	(range <sup>1</sup> )	n	(range <sup>1</sup> )	n	(range <sup>1</sup> )	n	(range <sup>1</sup> )
<b>All cases</b>	<b>5562</b>		<b>5589</b>		<b>5449</b>		<b>4033</b>		<b>4874</b>		<b>5448</b>		<b>6113</b>		<b>5995</b>		<b>6201</b>	
Median standard drinks consumed	16	(6–32)	18	(6–31)	20	(6–40)	18	(6–40)	20	(6–40)	18	(6–35)	16	(6–32)	16	(6–35)	14	(5–32)
<b>New cases</b>	<b>2835</b>		<b>2651</b>		<b>2521</b>		<b>1845</b>		<b>2316</b>		<b>2631</b>		<b>2933</b>		<b>2809</b>		<b>2967</b>	
Median standard drinks consumed	16	(6–30)	18	(6–30)	16	(6–35)	16	(6–38)	16	(6–36)	16	(6–35)	16	(6–30)	14	(5–30)	12	(5–30)
<b>Previously treated cases</b>	<b>2600</b>		<b>2594</b>		<b>2326</b>		<b>2098</b>		<b>2403</b>		<b>2627</b>		<b>2979</b>		<b>3003</b>		<b>3030</b>	
Median standard drinks consumed	16	(8–32)	20	(6–34)	20	(8–40)	20	(7–40)	20	(8–40)	20	(6–38)	17	(6–35)	16	(6–40)	15	(5–35)
<b>Treatment status unknown</b>	<b>127</b>		<b>344</b>		<b>602</b>		<b>90</b>		<b>155</b>		<b>190</b>		<b>201</b>		<b>183</b>		<b>204</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

Table 5 Type of alcohol consumed, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
<b>All cases</b>	<b>7350</b>		<b>7464</b>		<b>7546</b>		<b>5824</b>		<b>6859</b>		<b>7421</b>		<b>8163</b>		<b>8745</b>		<b>8798</b>	
<i>Type of alcohol consumed</i>																		
Spirits	4310	(58.6)	4338	(58.1)	4164	(55.2)	3288	(56.5)	3934	(57.4)	4266	(57.5)	4754	(58.2)	4920	(56.3)	5072	(57.6)
Beer	3977	(54.1)	4260	(57.1)	3998	(53.0)	2921	(50.2)	3348	(48.8)	3641	(49.1)	3929	(48.1)	4072	(46.6)	4007	(45.5)
Wine	2040	(27.8)	2062	(27.6)	2130	(28.2)	1798	(30.9)	1999	(29.1)	2102	(28.3)	2256	(27.6)	2476	(28.3)	2592	(29.5)
Cider	694	(9.4)	682	(9.1)	841	(11.1)	701	(12.0)	737	(10.7)	680	(9.2)	721	(8.8)	688	(7.9)	748	(8.5)
Alcopops	47	(0.6)	77	(1.0)	81	(1.1)	108	(1.9)	110	(1.6)	79	(1.1)	114	(1.4)	121	(1.4)	136	(1.5)
Fortified wine	55	(0.7)	71	(1.0)	94	(1.2)	94	(1.6)	107	(1.6)	86	(1.2)	102	(1.2)	107	(1.2)	130	(1.5)
Other*	7	(0.1)	7	(0.1)	6		~	~	~	~	21	(0.3)	17	(0.2)	13	(0.1)	20	(0.2)
Type not specified	207	(2.8)	190	(2.5)	287	(3.8)	190	(3.3)	194	(2.8)	242	(3.3)	222	(2.7)	252	(2.9)	300	(3.4)
<b>New cases</b>	<b>3500</b>		<b>3230</b>		<b>3296</b>		<b>2490</b>		<b>3026</b>		<b>3278</b>		<b>3625</b>		<b>3800</b>		<b>3790</b>	
<i>Type of alcohol consumed</i>																		
Spirits	1955	(55.9)	1817	(56.3)	1777	(53.9)	1325	(53.2)	1647	(54.4)	1802	(55.0)	1971	(54.4)	1961	(51.6)	2029	(53.5)
Beer	1993	(56.9)	1949	(60.3)	1832	(55.6)	1258	(50.5)	1483	(49.0)	1662	(50.7)	1812	(50.0)	1885	(49.6)	1847	(48.7)
Wine	985	(28.1)	951	(29.4)	1006	(30.5)	809	(32.5)	994	(32.8)	978	(29.8)	1089	(30.0)	1146	(30.2)	1246	(32.9)
Cider	282	(8.1)	257	(8.0)	327	(9.9)	259	(10.4)	262	(8.7)	262	(8.0)	278	(7.7)	254	(6.7)	289	(7.6)
Alcopops	30	(0.9)	33	(1.0)	46	(1.4)	53	(2.1)	66	(2.2)	47	(1.4)	62	(1.7)	50	(1.3)	67	(1.8)
Fortified wine	28	(0.8)	28	(0.9)	52	(1.6)	35	(1.4)	43	(1.4)	37	(1.1)	38	(1.0)	48	(1.3)	63	(1.7)
Other*	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	6	(0.2)	~	~	~	~	~	~
Type not specified	82	(2.3)	40	(1.2)	87	(2.6)	66	(2.7)	69	(2.3)	97	(3.0)	85	(2.3)	72	(1.9)	64	(1.7)
<b>Previously treated cases</b>	<b>3652</b>		<b>3705</b>		<b>3400</b>		<b>3170</b>		<b>3596</b>		<b>3868</b>		<b>4257</b>		<b>4619</b>		<b>4662</b>	
<i>Type of alcohol consumed</i>																		
Spirits	2271	(62.2)	2251	(60.8)	1992	(58.6)	1910	(60.3)	2155	(59.9)	2340	(60.5)	2660	(62.5)	2833	(61.3)	2889	(62.0)
Beer	1886	(51.6)	2048	(55.3)	1745	(51.3)	1593	(50.3)	1757	(48.9)	1868	(48.3)	2004	(47.1)	2078	(45.0)	2033	(43.6)
Wine	1013	(27.7)	996	(26.9)	903	(26.6)	956	(30.2)	957	(26.6)	1060	(27.4)	1110	(26.1)	1270	(27.5)	1289	(27.6)
Cider	392	(10.7)	348	(9.4)	430	(12.6)	424	(13.4)	446	(12.4)	398	(10.3)	406	(9.5)	407	(8.8)	436	(9.4)
Alcopops	17	(0.5)	33	(0.9)	34	(1.0)	55	(1.7)	44	(1.2)	30	(0.8)	52	(1.2)	69	(1.5)	66	(1.4)
Fortified wine	25	(0.7)	36	(1.0)	37	(1.1)	58	(1.8)	63	(1.8)	49	(1.3)	62	(1.5)	58	(1.3)	59	(1.3)
Other*	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	13	(0.3)	10	(0.2)	6	(0.1)	140	(3.0)
Type not specified	83	(2.3)	102	(2.8)	140	(4.1)	93	(2.9)	100	(2.8)	104	(2.7)	95	(2.2)	101	(2.2)	12	(0.3)
<b>Treatment status unknown</b>	<b>198</b>		<b>529</b>		<b>850</b>		<b>164</b>		<b>237</b>		<b>275</b>		<b>281</b>		<b>326</b>		<b>346</b>	

\* Other includes hand sanitiser, ethanol, methylated spirits, mouth wash

~ Cells with five cases or fewer.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Table 6 Polydrug use in cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>All cases</b>	<b>7350</b>		<b>7464</b>		<b>7546</b>		<b>5824</b>		<b>6859</b>		<b>7421</b>		<b>8163</b>		<b>8745</b>		<b>8798</b>	
Alcohol only	5898	(80.2)	5861	(78.5)	5976	(79.2)	4477	(76.9)	5231	(76.3)	5625	(75.8)	6131	(75.1)	6166	(70.5)	5978	(69.9)
Reported other additional drug(s)	1452	(19.8)	1603	(21.5)	1570	(20.8)	1347	(23.1)	1628	(23.7)	1796	(24.2)	2032	(24.9)	2579	(29.5)	2820	(32.1)

Table 7 Polydrug use – additional problem drugs for cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
<b>All polydrug</b>	<b>1452</b>		<b>1603</b>		<b>1570</b>		<b>1347</b>		<b>1628</b>		<b>1796</b>		<b>2032</b>		<b>2579</b>		<b>2820</b>	
Cocaine	607	(41.8)	772	(48.2)	844	(53.8)	729	(54.1)	877	(53.9)	1103	(61.4)	1310	(64.5)	1823	(70.7)	2034	(72.1)
Cannabis	878	(60.5)	940	(58.6)	881	(56.1)	740	(54.9)	901	(55.3)	887	(49.4)	958	(47.1)	1273	(49.4)	1421	(50.4)
Benzodiazepines	332	(22.9)	375	(23.4)	342	(21.8)	331	(24.6)	357	(21.9)	390	(21.7)	419	(20.6)	472	(18.3)	493	(17.5)
Opioids	207	(14.3)	212	(13.2)	206	(13.1)	156	(11.6)	203	(12.5)	230	(12.8)	259	(12.7)	269	(10.4)	276	(9.8)
MDMA (ecstasy)	134	(9.2)	185	(11.5)	146	(9.3)	104	(7.7)	101	(6.2)	99	(5.5)	108	(5.3)	179	(6.9)	193	(6.8)
Amphetamines	49	(3.4)	57	(3.6)	46	(2.9)	38	(2.8)	55	(3.4)	61	(3.4)	51	(2.5)	76	(2.9)	57	(2.0)
NPS	18	(1.2)	15	(0.9)	20	(1.3)	24	(1.8)	26	(1.6)	20	(1.1)	31	(1.5)	28	(1.1)	57	(2.0)
Z-drugs*	27	(1.9)	19	(1.2)	18	(1.1)	17	(1.3)	18	(1.1)	27	(1.5)	28	(1.4)	20	(0.8)	32	(1.1)
Volatile inhalants	6	(0.4)	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	9	(0.5)	7	(0.3)	15	(0.6)	10	(0.4)
Other	62	(4.3)	71	(4.4)	70	(4.5)	43	(3.2)	50	(3.1)	51	(2.8)	64	(3.1)	93	(3.6)	107	(3.8)
<b>New cases</b>	<b>656</b>		<b>635</b>		<b>659</b>		<b>570</b>		<b>640</b>		<b>743</b>		<b>884</b>		<b>1099</b>		<b>1161</b>	
Cocaine	290	(44.2)	331	(52.1)	365	(55.4)	335	(58.8)	352	(55.0)	490	(65.9)	597	(67.5)	820	(74.6)	897	(77.3)
Cannabis	408	(62.2)	390	(61.4)	394	(59.8)	325	(57.0)	373	(58.3)	382	(51.4)	400	(45.2)	531	(48.3)	569	(49.0)
Benzodiazepines	122	(18.6)	106	(16.7)	111	(16.8)	101	(17.7)	104	(16.3)	119	(16.0)	146	(16.5)	147	(13.4)	144	(12.4)
Opioids	63	(9.6)	45	(7.1)	46	(7.0)	40	(7.0)	43	(6.7)	58	(7.8)	75	(8.5)	66	(6.0)	63	(5.4)
MDMA (ecstasy)	57	(8.7)	77	(12.1)	64	(9.7)	55	(9.6)	41	(6.4)	38	(5.1)	44	(5.0)	85	(7.7)	91	(7.8)
Amphetamines	22	(3.4)	22	(3.5)	21	(3.2)	17	(3.0)	13	(2.0)	18	(2.4)	19	(2.1)	26	(2.4)	13	(1.1)
NPS	8	(1.2)	~	~	6	(0.9)	8	(1.4)	7	(1.1)	6	(0.8)	10	(1.1)	14	(1.3)	24	(2.1)
Z-drugs*	13	(2.0)	~	~	~	~	~	~	6	(0.9)	10	(1.3)	15	(1.7)	6	(0.5)	~	~
Volatile inhalants	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	6	(0.5)
Other	29	(4.4)	21	(3.3)	27	(4.1)	24	(4.2)	21	(3.3)	24	(3.2)	29	(3.3)	41	(3.7)	41	(3.5)
<b>Previously treated cases</b>	<b>751</b>		<b>851</b>		<b>746</b>		<b>734</b>		<b>914</b>		<b>976</b>		<b>1097</b>		<b>1410</b>		<b>1567</b>	
Cocaine	299	(39.8)	390	(45.8)	390	(52.3)	377	(51.4)	481	(52.6)	564	(57.8)	682	(62.2)	957	(67.9)	1081	(69.0)
Cannabis	445	(59.3)	486	(57.1)	409	(54.8)	394	(53.7)	487	(53.3)	476	(48.8)	537	(49.0)	707	(50.1)	811	(51.8)
Benzodiazepines	202	(26.9)	234	(27.5)	191	(25.6)	216	(29.4)	226	(24.7)	252	(25.8)	261	(23.8)	311	(20.9)	327	(22.1)
Opioids	133	(17.7)	140	(16.5)	128	(17.2)	110	(15.0)	148	(16.2)	156	(16.0)	170	(15.5)	198	(14.0)	197	(12.6)
MDMA (ecstasy)	74	(9.9)	96	(11.3)	71	(9.5)	43	(5.9)	49	(5.4)	58	(5.9)	63	(5.7)	90	(6.4)	96	(6.1)
Amphetamines	26	(3.5)	35	(4.1)	23	(3.1)	20	(2.7)	38	(4.2)	41	(4.2)	31	(2.8)	48	(3.4)	42	(2.7)
NPS	10	(1.3)	11	(1.3)	13	(1.7)	16	(2.2)	19	(2.1)	13	(1.3)	20	(1.8)	14	(1.0)	31	(2.0)
Z-drugs*	13	(1.7)	12	(1.4)	12	(1.6)	13	(1.8)	8	(0.9)	15	(1.5)	13	(1.2)	14	(1.0)	27	(1.7)
Volatile inhalants	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	6	(0.6)	~	~	13	(0.9)	~	~
Other	28	(3.7)	43	(5.1)	36	(4.8)	19	(2.6)	26	(2.8)	24	(2.5)	33	(3.0)	51	(3.6)	62	(4.0)

\* Z-drugs are non-benzodiazepine hypnotic sedative drugs, e.g. zolpidem, zopiclone

~ Cells with five cases or fewer.

Table 8 Sociodemographic characteristics of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
<b>All cases</b>	<b>7350</b>		<b>7464</b>		<b>7546</b>		<b>5824</b>		<b>6859</b>		<b>7421</b>		<b>8163</b>		<b>8745</b>		<b>8798</b>	
Median age (range <sup>1</sup> )	41	21–64	41	21–65	41	22–64	41	21–64	42	22–64	42	23–65	43	23–65	43	24–65	43	24–65
Under 18 years	112	(1.5)	114	(1.5)	107	(1.4)	99	(1.7)	109	(1.6)	76	(1.0)	62	(0.8)	71	(0.8)	75	(0.9)
Male	4769	(64.9)	4812	(64.5)	4835	(64.1)	3604	(61.9)	4297	(62.6)	4565	(61.5)	5203	(63.7)	5445	(62.3)	5313	(60.4)
Homeless	620	(8.4)	713	(9.6)	654	(8.7)	494	(8.5)	567	(8.3)	567	(7.6)	640	(7.8)	728	(8.3)	774	(8.8)
Traveller	118	(1.6)	145	(1.9)	178	(2.4)	121	(2.1)	167	(2.4)	186	(2.5)	151	(1.8)	173	(2.0)	135	(1.5)
Education ceased before the age of 16 years	1726	(23.5)	1727	(23.1)	1739	(23.0)	1235	(21.2)	1422	(20.7)	1382	(18.6)	1628	(19.9)	1683	(19.2)	1682	(19.1)
In paid employment	2056	(28.0)	2067	(27.7)	2125	(28.2)	1639	(28.1)	2111	(30.8)	2526	(34.0)	2954	(36.2)	3083	(35.3)	3001	(34.1)
Unemployed	3827	(52.1)	3783	(50.7)	3731	(49.4)	2865	(49.2)	3345	(48.8)	3534	(47.6)	3800	(46.6)	4184	(47.8)	4342	(49.4)
Retired/unable to work, including disability	887	(12.1)	958	(12.8)	1004	(13.3)	848	(14.6)	931	(13.6)	926	(12.5)	998	(12.2)	1062	(12.1)	1038	(11.8)
<b>New cases</b>	<b>3500</b>		<b>3230</b>		<b>3296</b>		<b>2490</b>		<b>3026</b>		<b>3278</b>		<b>3625</b>		<b>3800</b>		<b>3790</b>	
Median age (range <sup>1</sup> )	40	19–64	39	19–65	40	20–65	40	19–64	40	20–65	41	21–65	41	22–65	42	22–65	42	22–65
Under 18 years	90	(2.6)	87	(2.7)	83	(2.5)	82	(3.3)	90	(3.0)	67	(2.0)	55	(1.5)	58	(1.5)	59	(1.6)
Male	2234	(63.8)	2087	(64.6)	2080	(63.1)	1498	(60.2)	1841	(60.8)	2010	(61.3)	2271	(62.6)	2384	(62.7)	2269	(59.9)
Homeless	166	(4.7)	191	(5.9)	207	(6.3)	149	(6.0)	165	(5.5)	166	(5.1)	163	(4.5)	202	(5.3)	235	(6.2)
Traveller	50	(1.4)	59	(1.8)	73	(2.2)	46	(1.8)	70	(2.3)	85	(2.6)	57	(1.6)	77	(2.0)	53	(1.4)
Education ceased before the age of 16 years	768	(21.9)	639	(19.8)	716	(21.7)	464	(18.6)	568	(18.8)	519	(15.8)	612	(16.9)	607	(16.0)	572	(15.1)
In paid employment	1209	(34.5)	1165	(36.1)	1116	(33.9)	890	(35.7)	1106	(36.5)	1379	(42.1)	1596	(44.0)	1730	(45.5)	1617	(42.7)
Unemployed	1587	(45.3)	1417	(43.9)	1458	(44.2)	1069	(42.9)	1301	(43.0)	1324	(40.4)	1464	(40.4)	1535	(40.4)	1602	(42.3)
Retired/unable to work, including disability	367	(10.5)	354	(11.0)	390	(11.8)	278	(11.2)	358	(11.8)	353	(10.8)	376	(10.4)	354	(9.3)	386	(10.2)
<b>Previously treated cases</b>	<b>3652</b>		<b>3705</b>		<b>3400</b>		<b>3170</b>		<b>3596</b>		<b>3868</b>		<b>4257</b>		<b>4619</b>		<b>4662</b>	
Median age (range <sup>1</sup> )	43	24–64	42	23–65	42	24–65	43	25–64	43	25–64	43	26–65	43	25–65	43	25–66	44	26–65
Under 18 years	17	(0.5)	20	(0.5)	15	(0.4)	13	(0.4)	18	(0.5)	9	(0.2)	~	~	13	(0.3)	15	(0.3)
Male	2394	(65.6)	2382	(64.3)	2249	(66.1)	1997	(63.0)	2285	(63.5)	2383	(61.6)	2748	(64.6)	2859	(61.9)	2821	(60.5)
Homeless	432	(11.8)	473	(12.8)	378	(11.1)	325	(10.3)	369	(10.3)	360	(9.3)	409	(9.6)	469	(10.2)	465	(10.0)
Traveller	62	(1.7)	67	(1.8)	81	(2.4)	68	(2.1)	83	(2.3)	93	(2.4)	85	(2.0)	86	(1.9)	68	(1.5)
Education ceased before the age of 16 years	912	(25.0)	957	(25.8)	847	(24.9)	734	(23.2)	798	(22.2)	792	(20.5)	925	(21.7)	987	(21.4)	1022	(21.9)
In paid employment	804	(22.0)	778	(21.0)	744	(21.9)	726	(22.9)	946	(26.3)	1067	(27.6)	1289	(30.3)	1270	(27.5)	1303	(27.9)
Unemployed	2145	(58.7)	2109	(56.9)	1914	(56.3)	1709	(53.9)	1920	(53.4)	2078	(53.7)	2181	(51.2)	2487	(53.8)	2548	(54.7)
Retired/unable to work, including disability	498	(13.6)	535	(14.4)	502	(14.8)	538	(17.0)	542	(15.1)	545	(14.1)	589	(13.8)	668	(14.5)	612	(13.1)
<b>Treatment status unknown</b>	<b>198</b>		<b>529</b>		<b>850</b>		<b>164</b>		<b>237</b>		<b>275</b>		<b>281</b>		<b>326</b>		<b>346</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

Table 9 Sociodemographic and polydrug characteristics by gender for cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, NDTRS 2025

	Female		Male	
	n	(%)	n	(%)
<b>All cases</b>	<b>3473</b>		<b>5313</b>	
Median age (range <sup>1</sup> )	44	24-67	42	24-64
Under 35	797	(22.9)	1417	(27.0)
35–49	1491	(42.9)	2347	(44.0)
50+	1183	(34.0)	1545	(29.0)
Median age first used alcohol (range <sup>1</sup> )	16	12–25	15	12–20
Traveller	40	(1.2)	95	(1.8)
Education ceased before the age of 16 years	538	(15.5)	1141	(21.5)
In paid employment	1141	(32.9)	1854	(34.9)
Unemployed	1607	(46.3)	2731	(51.4)
Homeless	194	(5.6)	579	(10.9)
Dependent alcohol use	1745	(50.2)	2533	(47.7)
Median standard drinks consumed (range <sup>1</sup> )*	12	5–30	15	6–34
Polydrug use	834	(24.0)	1981	(37.3)
<i>Reported other additional drug(s)</i>				
<i>Cocaine</i>	541	(64.9)	1490	(75.2)
<i>Cannabis</i>	388	(46.5)	1030	(52.0)
<i>Benzodiazepines</i>	151	(18.1)	342	(17.3)
<i>Opioids</i>	103	(12.4)	173	(8.7)
<b>New cases</b>	<b>1514</b>		<b>2269</b>	
Median age (range <sup>1</sup> )	44	22–67	41	22–64
Under 35	392	(25.9)	700	(30.8)
35–49	596	(39.3)	958	(42.2)
50+	526	(34.7)	611	(26.9)
Median age (first used alcohol)	16	12–25	16	12–20
Traveller	14	(0.9)	39	(1.7)
Education ceased before the age of 16 years	189	(12.5)	382	(16.8)
In paid employment	610	(40.3)	1003	(44.2)
Unemployed	610	(40.3)	990	(43.6)
Homeless	51	(3.4)	183	(8.1)
Dependent alcohol use	691	(45.6)	955	(42.1)
Median standard drinks consumed (range <sup>1</sup> )*	12	4–28	14	5–32
Polydrug use	314	(20.7)	843	(37.1)
<i>Reported other additional drug(s)</i>				
<i>Cocaine</i>	209	(66.6)	686	(81.3)
<i>Cannabis</i>	146	(46.5)	420	(49.8)
<i>Benzodiazepines</i>	48	(15.3)	96	(11.3)
<i>Opioids</i>	23	(7.3)	40	(4.7)

<sup>1</sup> Range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

\* Restricted to cases that consumed alcohol in the 30 days prior to treatment start

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Table 10 Cases treated for alcohol with children aged 17 years or under, NDTRS 2025

	All cases		Female		Male	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
Have children*	3239		1356		1879	
Median age (range <sup>1</sup> )	40	27–54	40	27–52	40	27–55
Living with child(ren)	1580	(48.80)	881	(65.0)	698	(37.1)
Child(ren) live elsewhere	1659	(51.2)	475	(35.0)	1181	(62.9)
In paid employment	1289	(39.8)	478	(35.3)	810	(43.1)
Homeless	273	(8.4)	93	(6.8)	179	(9.5)
New treatment entrant	1444	(44.6)	600	(44.2)	842	(44.8)
Polydrug use	1244	(38.4)	431	(31.8)	811	(43.2)

\* Parents with children aged 17 years or under include different genders

<sup>1</sup> Range presented is 5th percentile to 95th percentile (90% of cases are included within this range)

See Terms, conditions & notes for more information on definitions

Table 11 Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem by HSE HR area of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>All cases</b>	<b>7350</b>	<b>7464</b>	<b>7546</b>	<b>5824</b>	<b>6859</b>	<b>7421</b>	<b>8163</b>	<b>8745</b>	<b>8798</b>
HSE Dublin and North East	1360	1350	1417	1181	1548	1671	2193	2011	2297
HSE Dublin and Midlands	1281	1273	1257	957	1278	1372	1302	1364	1413
HSE Dublin and South East	1619	1697	1609	1296	1474	1604	1747	2055	1809
HSE South West	1240	1293	1290	943	971	953	920	1076	1033
HSE Mid West	487	536	570	424	483	582	570	582	654
HSE West and North West	1154	1151	1306	928	1027	1122	1286	1428	1294
Other/unknown	209	164	97	95	78	117	145	229	298
<b>New cases</b>	<b>3500</b>	<b>3230</b>	<b>3296</b>	<b>2490</b>	<b>3026</b>	<b>3278</b>	<b>3625</b>	<b>3800</b>	<b>3790</b>
HSE Dublin and North East	632	570	510	507	661	645	928	845	983
HSE Dublin and Midlands	585	556	583	438	657	663	643	660	634
HSE Dublin and South East	786	806	711	544	594	702	782	851	764
HSE South West	639	579	569	424	459	468	447	477	437
HSE Mid West	234	253	294	181	223	258	261	261	287
HSE West and North West	550	398	597	344	391	500	515	596	562
Other/unknown	74	68	32	52	41	42	49	110	123
<b>Previously treated</b>	<b>3652</b>	<b>3705</b>	<b>3400</b>	<b>3170</b>	<b>3596</b>	<b>3868</b>	<b>4257</b>	<b>4619</b>	<b>4662</b>
HSE Dublin and North East	679	688	532	624	818	926	1163	1065	1217
HSE Dublin and Midlands	647	633	522	470	575	647	592	640	694
HSE Dublin and South East	793	795	764	729	832	859	932	1170	1013
HSE South West	594	654	668	512	488	465	462	576	581
HSE Mid West	248	246	257	235	250	318	297	311	343
HSE West and North West	566	611	613	563	600	596	737	757	658
Other/unknown	125	78	44	37	33	57	74	100	156
<b>Treatment status unknown</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>346</b>

**Regional health areas**

HSE Dublin and North East: North Dublin, Meath, Louth, Cavan, Monaghan

HSE Dublin and Midlands: Longford, Westmeath, Offaly, Laois, Kildare, parts of Dublin and Wicklow

HSE Dublin and South East: Tipperary South, Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford, Wicklow, part of South Dublin HSE South West: Kerry and Cork

HSE Mid West: Limerick, Tipperary North, Clare

HSE West and North West: Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon, Mayo, Galway

Table 12 Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, by county of residence, NDTRS 2017 to 2025

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
<b>All cases</b>	<b>7350</b>		<b>7464</b>		<b>7546</b>		<b>5824</b>		<b>6859</b>		<b>7421</b>		<b>8163</b>		<b>8745</b>		<b>8798</b>	
Carlow	99	(1.3)	100	(1.3)	82	(1.1)	54	(0.9)	65	(0.9)	91	(1.2)	102	(1.2)	111	(1.3)	99	(1.1)
Cavan	89	(1.2)	78	(1.0)	94	(1.2)	67	(1.2)	87	(1.3)	101	(1.4)	204	(2.5)	94	(1.1)	99	(1.1)
Clare	91	(1.2)	106	(1.4)	111	(1.5)	87	(1.5)	112	(1.6)	138	(1.9)	121	(1.5)	132	(1.5)	131	(1.5)
Cork	930	(12.7)	972	(13.0)	963	(12.8)	719	(12.3)	758	(11.1)	697	(9.4)	668	(8.2)	815	(9.3)	806	(9.1)
Donegal	509	(6.9)	517	(6.9)	526	(7.0)	449	(7.7)	471	(6.9)	467	(6.3)	552	(6.8)	535	(6.1)	534	(6.1)
Dublin	1808	(24.6)	1907	(25.5)	1921	(25.5)	1593	(27.4)	2067	(30.1)	2232	(30.1)	2451	(30.0)	2562	(29.3)	2889	(32.8)
Galway	273	(3.7)	254	(3.4)	264	(3.5)	130	(2.2)	180	(2.6)	275	(3.7)	315	(3.9)	394	(4.5)	281	(3.2)
Kerry	310	(4.2)	321	(4.3)	327	(4.3)	224	(3.8)	213	(3.1)	256	(3.4)	252	(3.1)	261	(3.0)	236	(2.7)
Kildare	201	(2.7)	182	(2.4)	203	(2.7)	205	(3.5)	249	(3.6)	291	(3.9)	242	(3.0)	269	(3.1)	269	(3.1)
Kilkenny	142	(1.9)	173	(2.3)	135	(1.8)	97	(1.7)	133	(1.9)	170	(2.3)	175	(2.1)	191	(2.2)	162	(1.8)
Laois	137	(1.9)	145	(1.9)	122	(1.6)	58	(1.0)	85	(1.2)	115	(1.5)	114	(1.4)	121	(1.4)	141	(1.6)
Leitrim	53	(0.7)	59	(0.8)	108	(1.4)	71	(1.2)	71	(1.0)	61	(0.8)	79	(1.0)	81	(0.9)	76	(0.9)
Limerick	306	(4.2)	320	(4.3)	372	(4.9)	257	(4.4)	267	(3.9)	349	(4.7)	355	(4.3)	365	(4.2)	420	(4.7)
Longford	57	(0.8)	40	(0.5)	50	(0.7)	47	(0.8)	32	(0.5)	48	(0.6)	42	(0.5)	50	(0.6)	36	(0.4)
Louth	155	(2.1)	143	(1.9)	152	(2.0)	130	(2.2)	160	(2.3)	166	(2.2)	228	(2.8)	188	(2.1)	201	(2.3)
Mayo	83	(1.1)	106	(1.4)	110	(1.5)	54	(0.9)	60	(0.9)	69	(0.9)	114	(1.4)	121	(1.4)	134	(1.5)
Meath	128	(1.7)	125	(1.7)	131	(1.7)	87	(1.5)	104	(1.5)	110	(1.5)	187	(2.3)	206	(2.4)	189	(2.1)
Monaghan	108	(1.5)	73	(1.0)	51	(0.7)	67	(1.2)	103	(1.5)	103	(1.4)	148	(1.8)	89	(1.0)	72	(0.8)
Offaly	118	(1.6)	94	(1.3)	97	(1.3)	47	(0.8)	127	(1.9)	103	(1.4)	75	(0.9)	78	(0.9)	86	(1.0)
Roscommon	39	(0.5)	38	(0.5)	64	(0.8)	67	(1.2)	84	(1.2)	80	(1.1)	91	(1.1)	108	(1.2)	104	(1.2)
Sligo	197	(2.7)	175	(2.3)	224	(3.0)	139	(2.4)	152	(2.2)	167	(2.3)	131	(1.6)	184	(2.1)	167	(1.9)
Tipperary	338	(4.6)	367	(4.9)	370	(4.9)	267	(4.6)	294	(4.3)	282	(3.8)	343	(4.2)	372	(4.3)	332	(3.8)
Waterford	455	(6.2)	441	(5.9)	426	(5.6)	361	(6.2)	335	(4.9)	346	(4.7)	393	(4.8)	509	(5.8)	412	(4.7)
Westmeath	128	(1.7)	81	(1.1)	94	(1.2)	62	(1.1)	60	(0.9)	81	(1.1)	77	(0.9)	62	(0.7)	68	(0.8)
Wexford	374	(5.1)	385	(5.2)	354	(4.7)	280	(4.8)	327	(4.8)	335	(4.5)	366	(4.5)	478	(5.5)	482	(5.5)
Wicklow	140	(1.9)	180	(2.4)	161	(2.1)	166	(2.9)	224	(3.3)	244	(3.3)	264	(3.2)	265	(3.0)	244	(2.8)
Outside Ireland	43	(0.6)	49	(0.7)	26	(0.3)	31	(0.5)	35	(0.5)	43	(0.6)	55	(0.7)	78	(0.9)	105	(1.2)
Ireland unknown	39	(0.5)	33	(0.4)	8	(0.1)	8	(0.1)	~	~	~	~	19	(0.2)	26	(0.3)	23	(0.3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>7350</b>		<b>7464</b>		<b>7546</b>		<b>5824</b>		<b>6859</b>		<b>7421</b>		<b>8163</b>		<b>8745</b>		<b>8798</b>	

~ Cells with five cases or fewer

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Table 13 Reason for treatment exit, NDTRS 2025

	n	(%)
<b>All cases exiting treatment</b>	<b>8415</b>	
Treatment completed	3936	(46.8)
Client did not return for appointments ('no show')	1843	(21.9)
Client declined further treatment	1241	(14.7)
Transferred/referred to treatment in another drug/alcohol service	771	(9.2)
Premature exit from treatment for non-compliance	163	(1.9)
Medical or mental health reasons	126	(1.5)
Unable to attend due to work/study commitments	75	(0.9)
No longer lives in the area	73	(0.9)
Died	45	(0.5)
Sentenced to prison	28	(0.3)
Staffing issues (resignation/retirement/maternity, etc.)	11	(0.1)
Released from prison but not linked to other treatment service	21	(0.2)
Prison to prison transfer	15	(0.2)
Other	32	(0.4)
Not known	35	(0.4)

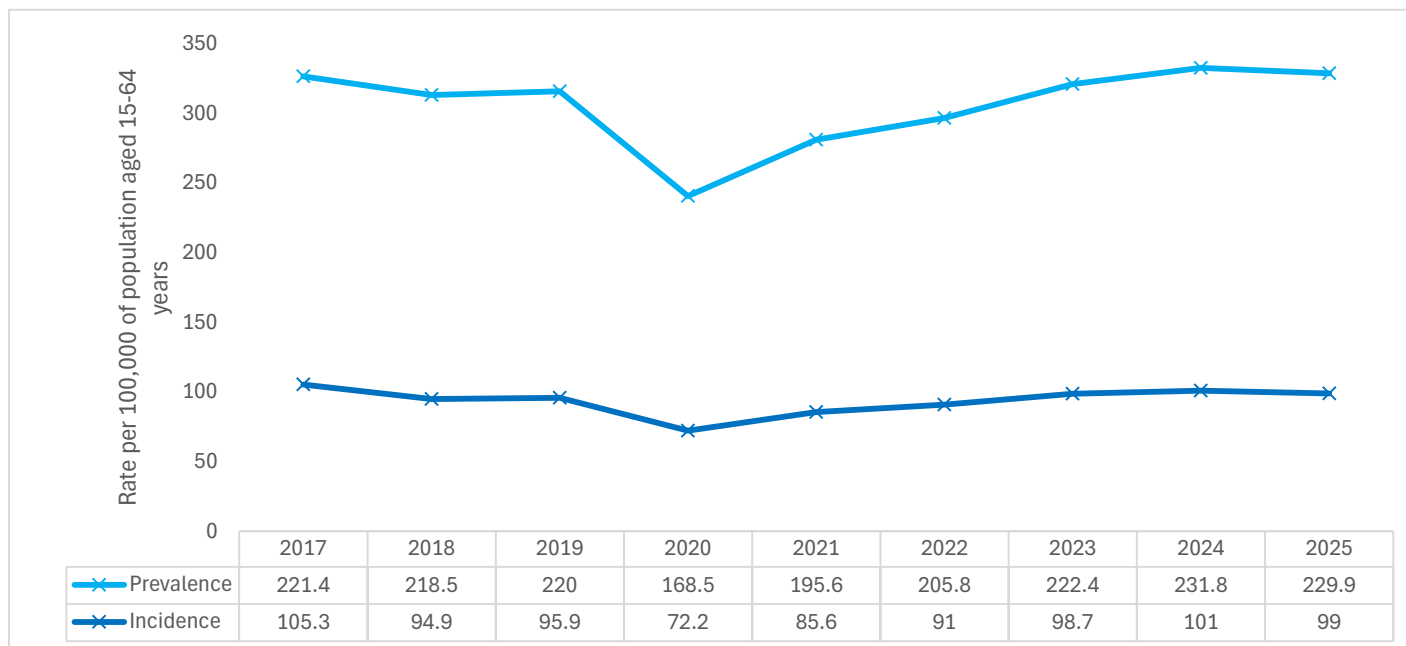
[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Table 14 Number of cases treated for alcohol as a main problem, new and continuous care cases, NDTRS 2025

	Cases commencing treatment in 2025		Continuous care cases 1 January 2025		Total (commencement plus continuous care)	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
<b>All cases</b>	<b>8798</b>		<b>3931</b>		<b>12729</b>	
New cases	3790	(43.1)	1682	(42.8)	5472	(42.0)
Previously treated cases	4662	(53.0)	2029	(51.6)	6691	(52.6)
Treatment status unknown	346	(3.9)	220	(5.6)	566	(4.4)

[Back to Table of contents](#)

Figure 3: Incidence and prevalence of treated problem alcohol, aged 15 to 64 years, per 100,000\*, NDTRS 2017 to 2025



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>Incidence</b>	105.3	94.9	95.9	72.2	85.6	91	98.7	101	99
<b>Prevalence</b>	221.4	218.5	220	168.5	195.6	205.8	222.4	231.8	229.9

\* Population data are taken from the Central Statistics Office at: <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-pme/populationandmigrationestimatesapril2025/data/>