



Statistics for drug treatment in England 2013-14 from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)

This statistical release presents key results from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) on the number of adults (18 and over) in contact with drug treatment providers and GPs in England in 2013-14, and the proportion of clients exiting treatment who completed their treatment having overcome dependency. These figures do not include clients treated in prisons.

The results provided here are produced by Manchester University National Drug Evidence Centre (NDEC) from data collected by NDTMS and form part of National Statistics:

- Of the 193,198 clients aged 18 and over in treatment during 2013-14, 181,420 were in for 12 weeks or more or completed free of dependency before 12 weeks (94%)
- 29,150 (45%) of clients exiting in 2013-14 completed treatment, defined as having overcome their dependency; an extra 7,949 (12%) were transferred for further treatment within the community, and 7,025 (11%) were transferred into treatment while in custody
- Of those opiate-only clients with a six-month review in 2013-14, 48% achieved abstinence from illicit opiates and a further 24% were classified as reliably improved. A further 3% had deteriorated
- 60% of crack-only clients with a six-month review in 2013-14 achieved abstinence from crack and a further 7% were classified as reliably improved; 2% had deteriorated
- Clients' median age at their first point of contact in their latest treatment journey in 2013-14 was 36 and 74% of clients in treatment were male
- Most clients were white British (83%), the next most common ethnicity was 'white – other' (4%). No other ethnic groups accounted for more than 2% of clients
- Most clients in contact with treatment were using opiates (79%). Cannabis was the main drug for 9% and powder cocaine for 5%
- The most common routes into treatment for clients starting treatment were self-referrals (44%) and referrals from the criminal justice system (27%). Onward referrals from other drug services together accounted for 11%
- 85% of clients starting new treatment journeys were either in treatment for 12 weeks or more or completed free of dependency before 12 weeks
- Nearly all clients waited less than three weeks to commence treatment (98%)
- Of the clients starting treatment (and where reported) just over half (57%) had never injected and 17% were currently injecting at time of presentation
- Where reported, 10% of clients starting new journeys had no fixed abode, and a further 14% had other housing problems

These figures report data that was collected on adults whose treatment falls within the definition of structured drug treatment as defined by the National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse's (NTA) Models of Care as "treatment following assessment and delivered according to a care plan, with clear goals, which is regularly reviewed with the client".

More information on NDTMS is available on the PHE website, www.nta.nhs.uk/ndtms.aspx

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