

## Statistics for drug treatment activity in England - parents and people who live with children under-18 in 2011/2012 from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System

This statistical release presents key findings from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) on adults in contact with drug treatment and young people in contact with specialist services between 2009-10 and 2011-12 who stated that they were a parent and / or lived with children under the age of 18.

Official statistics from the NDTMS have already been released for these years for adults in contact with drug treatment and for young people accessing specialist services for substance misuse, and these can be found on the NTA website<sup>1</sup>. This release is consistent with the methodologies used in those reports.

The results provided here are produced by Manchester University National Drug Evidence Centre (NDEC) from data collected by the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System, and form part of National Statistics. Results are presented separately for adults and young people to maintain consistency with previously published official statistics.

For **adults** in drug treatment, these results show that:

11,074 individuals aged 18 or over were recorded as starting a new structured treatment journey in England in 2011-12 and stated that they were a parent living with their own children. This is 16% of the 69,434 adults reported to have started a new treatment journey in this year.

A further 17,640 individuals (25%) were recorded as being a parent but not currently living with their children. 8,249 individuals (12%) stated they were not a parent but were living with children under the age of 18.

Among all individuals in structured treatment, 40,852 (21%) stated that they were a parent living with their own children and a further 39,587 individuals (20%) were recorded as being a parent but not currently living with their children. 25,341 individuals (13%) stated they were not a parent but were living with children under the age of 18.

Proportionally, more women than men are parents who live with their own children - 4,567 of the 16,277 female new presentations (28%) compared to 6,507 of the 53,157 male new presentations (12%).

914 women stated they were pregnant when they presented to treatment (6% of all female new presentations).

4,245 of the new presentations who stated that they were a parent living with their own children exited treatment in the same year. Of these, 2,302 (54%) completed their treatment, defined as having overcome their dependency to the drugs for which treatment was sought. This compares to 46% of adult new presentations exiting treatment in the year where the person stated that they were not a parent and did not live with children.

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<sup>1</sup> National Treatment Agency For Substance Misuse – Official statistics <http://www.nta.nhs.uk/statistics.aspx>. Accessed 13th November 2012.

It is estimated that there are approximately 104,000 under-18s living with adults who are in drug treatment. This estimate was first published in 2008-09 and the same methodology has been applied to 2011-12, however as data completion has improved significantly since 2008-09 and a child may be living with more than one adult in drug treatment, it is likely that this figure is an over-estimation as a single child may be counted more than once in this estimate.

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

For **young people** in contact with specialist services, these results show that:

115 individuals aged under 18 were recorded as starting a new specialist structured episode in England in 2011-12 and stated that they were a parent living with their own children. This is 1% of the 15,031 young people reported to have started a new specialist structured episode in this year.

A further 145 individuals aged under 18 (1%) were recorded as being a parent but not currently living with their children. 3,423 individuals aged under 18 (23%) stated that they were not a parent but were living with children under the age of 18 (which may include, for example, siblings).

These figures report data that was collected on young people (under 18s) whose treatment falls within the definition agreed across governmental departments as "Young people's specialist substance misuse treatment is a care planned medical, psychosocial or specialist harm reduction intervention aimed at alleviating current harm caused by a young person's substance misuse."

Methodology and definitions relating to parent groups are in the tables that accompany this report <http://www.nta.nhs.uk/uploads/parentsdatatables.xls>

Background information is available on the NTA website <http://www.nta.nhs.uk/ndtms.aspx>.  
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