Confidence Intervals

Drug Use in Ireland & Northern Ireland

First Results (Revised) from the 2002/2003 Drug Prevalence Survey – Bulletin 1



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SUMMARY

This paper contains the 95% confidence intervals for the drug prevalence rates published in *Bulletin 1 – First Results (Revised) from the 2002/2003 Drug Prevalence Survey.* The project was the first drug prevalence survey of households in both Ireland and Northern Ireland. The survey sampled a representative number of people aged between 15 and 64 during late 2002 and early 2003. The survey was undertaken by MORI MRC according to standards set by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). Data relating to drug prevalence on a lifetime, last year (recent), and last month (current) basis for Ireland, Northern Ireland, and the Island of Ireland are presented in this bulletin.

WHAT IS PREVALENCE?

The term **prevalence** refers to the proportion of a population who have used a drug over a particular time period. In general population surveys, prevalence is measured by asking respondents in a representative sample drawn from the population to recall their use of drugs. The three most widely used recall periods are: lifetime (ever used a drug), last year (used a drug in the last twelve months), and last month (used a drug in the last 30 days). Provided that a sample is representative of the total population, prevalence information obtained from a sample can be used to infer prevalence in the population.

Lifetime prevalence refers to the proportion of the sample that reported ever having used the named drug at the time they were surveyed. A person who records lifetime prevalence may or may not be currently using the drug. Lifetime prevalence should not be interpreted as meaning that people have necessarily used a drug over a long period of time or that they will use the drug in future.

Last year prevalence refers to the proportion of the sample that reported using a named drug in the year prior to the survey. For this reason, last year prevalence is often referred to as **recent** use.

Last month prevalence refers to the proportion of the sample that reported using a named drug in the 30 day period prior to the survey. Last month prevalence is often referred to as **current** use. A proportion of those reporting current use may be occasional (or first-time) users who happen to have used in the period leading up to the survey – it should therefore be appreciated that current use is not synonymous with regular use.

METHODOLOGY

Background to study

The First Drug Prevalence Survey in Ireland and Northern Ireland was jointly commissioned by the National Advisory Committee on Drugs (NACD) in Ireland with the Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit (DAIRU) within the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety in Northern Ireland.

This drug prevalence survey has been carried out in accordance with EMCDDA guidelines "Handbook for Surveys on Drug Use Among the General Population." Consequently, the survey was carried out using a pre-prepared questionnaire and face-to-face interviews among the 15-64 year age group. Information on lifetime use, last year (recent) and last month (current) was collected.

Sample

The target sample was those aged 15-64 living in private households. Household surveys do not include people living in institutions such as prisons or those who are homeless. (These groups are the subject of separate research).

Young people aged 15 and over are included, as the first use of illicit drugs has often started by this age. By including this age group we may also capture those who have left school before reaching 18 years. The EMCDDA consider that most drug use in Europe started in the 1960s among young people and therefore, there is an expectation of very low lifetime prevalence rates among older people. Hence, the EMCDDA currently do not recommend including those aged 65 and over in prevalence surveys and this practice has been followed in the current survey.

Sample Size

The final achieved sample was 8,434 (4,918 in Ireland and 3,516 in Northern Ireland). The response rate for the survey was 70% in Ireland and 63% in Northern Ireland.

Sampling Error

Estimates of drug prevalence derived from the Drug Prevalence Survey are based on the results from the weighted sample of respondents to the survey. When applying these figures to the general population they will be subject to a degree of imprecision. One factor that will contribute to this imprecision is that of sampling error. Basically, sampling error is the difference between the sample estimate and the actual population value. In crude terms, the larger the sample size, the smaller the sampling error, and hence the more confident we can be that the estimates provide an accurate representation of the characteristics of the population as a whole. In this survey, this will mean that the estimates for total population prevalence are more robust than those for sub-groups of the population (for example the estimates for males and females, or for different age groups, and specific localities).

CONFIDENCE INTERVALS EXPLAINED

95% Confidence Intervals

As previously stated, this type of study is known as a general population survey. That is, a representative sample (8,434 people) of the population of the Island of Ireland (4,918 in Ireland and 3,516 in Northern Ireland) answered the questions. Only 8,434 people were asked because it would be impossible to ask everyone on the Island of Ireland for their views at the same time. Because of this, it can never be known with absolute certainty what the 'true' prevalence rate is. A confidence interval (CI) is a range of values which we can be confident includes the true value. By convention, a 95% confidence interval is reported.

Asymmetric Confidence Intervals

Normally, confidence intervals are symmetric, that is, the limits are the same on both sides of the prevalence rate (for example, plus or minus 2%). However, when a prevalence rate is close to 0% or 100% the mathematical formula normally used can generate illogical results – confidence limits that fall below 0% or above 100%. A special formula is used to calculate asymmetric confidence intervals in these cases. Asymmetric confidence intervals adjust for the fact that the 'true' rate in population cannot be less than 0% or greater than 100%.

Prevalence Tables – Ireland

Table 1.1: Ireland Lifetime Prevalence (%)

		All adults 15-64	Males	Females	Young adults 15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Any Illegal drugs ¹	%	18.5	24.0	13.1	26.0	24.9	27.1	17.7	10.6	4.2
Any illegal drugs	% CI +	19.6	25.7	14.4	26.0 27.7	24.9	27.1	20.0	10.6	4.2 5.7
	CI -	17.5	21.1	11.7	24.2	22.4	24.5	15.4	8.6	2.6
Cannabis	%	17.4	22.4	12.3	24.0	22.8	25.2	17.3	10.1	3.6
	CI +	18.4	24.0	13.6	25.7	25.2	27.7	19.6	12.1	5.1
	CI -	16.3	20.7	11.0	22.3	20.4	22.7	15.0	8.2	2.2
Heroin	%	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.7	0.4	1.1	0.5	0.3	_
	CI +	0.7	1.0	0.6	1.1	0.7	1.7	0.9	1.0	_
	CI -	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.1	_
Methadone	%	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.2	1.0	0.3	_	_
	CI +	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.8	1.5	0.9	_	_
	CI -	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.0	_	_
Other Opiates ²	%	3.0	2.0	4.0	3.0	1.5	4.5	3.8	3.0	1.9
Other Opiates-	970 CI +	3.5	2.6	4.8	3.7	2.2	5.7	5.0	4.1	3.0
	CI -	2.6	1.5	3.2	2.3	0.8	3.3	2.7	1.9	0.9
										0.5
Cocaine (Total)	%	3.0	4.3	1.6	4.7	5.1	4.2	2.8	0.9	-
including Crack	CI +	3.5	5.1	2.1	5.6	6.4	5.4	3.8	1.5	-
	CI -	2.5	3.5	1.1	3.8	3.9	3.1	1.8	0.3	-
Crack	%	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	-	_
	CI +	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	_	_
	CI -	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	_	_
Cocaine Powder	%	2.9	4.1	1.6	4.6	4.9	4.2	2.6	0.9	_
	CI +	3.3	4.9	2.1	5.4	6.1	5.3	3.6	1.5	_
	CI -	2.4	3.4	1.1	3.7	3.7	3.0	1.7	0.3	_
Amphetamines	%	3.0	4.0	1.9	4.8	4.4	5.3	2.2	0.8	0.4
Amphetamines	% CI +	3.4	4.8	2.4	4.6 5.7	5.6	6.6	3.1	1.5	1.4
	CI -	2.5	3.3	1.4	4.0	3.2	4.0	1.3	0.3	0.1
	Ci -	2.5	5.5	1.4	4.0	3.2	4.0	1.3	0.5	0.1

		All adults 15-64	Males	Females	Young adults 15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Ecstasy	%	3.7	4.9	2.6	7.1	7.7	6.4	1.6	0.1	_
·	CI +	4.3	5.8	3.2	8.2	9.3	7.9	2.4	0.7	_
	CI -	3.2	4.1	2.0	6.1	6.2	5.0	0.9	0.0	-
LSD	%	2.9	4.4	1.4	4.6	3.9	5.3	2.2	1.2	0.3
	CI +	3.4	5.2	2.0	5.4	5.0	6.6	3.1	2.0	1.2
	CI -	2.4	3.6	1.0	3.8	2.8	4.0	1.3	0.5	0.0
Magic Mushrooms	%	3.9	5.7	2.0	5.9	5.5	6.3	4.2	0.8	0.3
	CI +	4.4	6.7	2.6	6.9	6.9	7.7	5.4	1.3	1.2
	CI -	3.3	4.9	1.5	5.0	4.2	4.9	3.0	0.2	0.0
Solvents	%	1.7	2.2	1.1	3.3	3.6	3.1	0.4	_	0.2
	CI +	2.1	2.8	1.6	4.1	4.6	4.1	0.9	-	1.0
	CI -	1.3	1.7	0.7	2.6	2.5	2.1	0.1	-	0.0
Poppers ³	%	2.6	3.9	1.3	4.7	4.7	4.8	1.3	0.4	0.1
	CI +	3.1	4.6	1.8	5.6	6.0	6.0	2.0	0.1	0.9
	CI -	2.2	3.1	0.9	3.8	3.5	3.5	0.6	0.1	0.0
Sedatives,	%	12.1	9.3	15.0	8.2	6.5	9.9	12.2	15.3	21.9
Tranquillisers,	CI +	13.1	10.4	16.4	9.3	7.9	11.7	14.2	17.7	25.1
Anti-Depressants	CI -	11.2	8.1	13.6	7.1	5.1	8.2	10.2	13.0	18.7

¹ For the purposes of this study, illegal drug use refers to the use of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine powder, crack, ecstasy, heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, poppers and solvents.

NOTE: all figures are rounded to the nearest decimal place.

² Other opiates i.e. opium, Temgesic®, buprenorphine®, Diconal®, napps, MSTs®, pethidine, DF118® (dihydrocodeine), and morphine.

³ Poppers, i.e. amyl or butyl nitrite.

⁻ No respondents in this category

^{*} Less than a half of 0.1 percent (<0.05)

Prevalence Tables – Ireland

Table 1.2: Ireland Last Year Prevalence (%)

		All adults			Young adults					
		15-64	Males	Females	15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Any Illegal drugs ¹	%	5.6	7.8	3.4	9.7	12.7	6.6	3.4	1.1	0.4
	CI +	6.2	8.9	4.1	11.0	14.6	8.1	4.5	1.8	1.3
	CI -	5.0	6.7	2.6	8.5	10.8	5.2	2.3	0.4	0.0
Cannabis	%	5.0	7.2	2.9	8.6	11.0	6.2	3.3	1.1	0.4
	CI +	5.7	8.2	3.6	9.8	12.8	7.6	4.4	1.8	1.3
	CI -	4.4	6.1	2.3	7.5	9.2	4.8	2.2	0.4	0.0
Heroin	%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	_	_	_
	CI +	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.7	-	-	_
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	-	-
Methadone	%	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.2	_	_
	CI +	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.7	-	_
	CI -	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	-	-
Other Opiates ²	%	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.4
	CI +	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.3
	CI -	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Cocaine (Total)	%	1.1	1.7	0.5	2.0	2.7	1.3	0.5	0.2	_
including Crack	CI +	1.4	2.2	0.8	2.6	3.6	2.0	0.9	0.7	-
	CI -	8.0	1.2	0.2	1.5	1.8	0.7	0.1	0.0	-
Crack	%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	_	_	_
	CI +	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7	_	-	_
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	-	-
Cocaine Powder	%	1.1	1.7	0.5	2.0	2.7	1.3	0.5	0.2	_
	CI +	1.4	2.2	0.8	2.6	3.6	2.0	0.9	0.7	_
	CI -	0.8	1.2	0.2	1.5	1.8	0.7	0.1	0.0	-
Amphetamines	%	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.8	1.2	0.3	0.2	_	_
	CI +	0.6	1.0	0.3	1.1	1.8	0.9	0.8	-	-
	CI -	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.0	-	-

		All adults 15-64	Males	Females	Young adults 15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Ecstasy	%	1.1	1.5	0.6	2.3	2.8	1.7	_	_	
	CI +	1.4	2.0	0.9	2.9	3.8	2.4	_	_	_
	CI -	0.8	1.0	0.3	1.7	1.9	0.9	_	_	_
LSD	%	0.1	0.2	_	0.2	0.2	0.1	_	_	_
	CI +	0.2	0.4	_	0.4	0.7	0.5	_	_	-
	CI -	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	-	-
Magic Mushrooms	%	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.7	1.1	0.3	0.2	_	0.1
	CI +	0.5	0.9	0.4	1.0	1.6	0.8	0.6	-	0.9
	CI -	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.0	-	0.0
Solvents	%	0.1	*	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	_	_	_
	CI +	0.2	*	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5	_	_	-
	CI -	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	-	-
Poppers ³	%	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.1	_	_
	CI +	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.1	1.5	1.1	0.6	-	-
	CI -	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.0	-	-
Sedatives,	%	5.7	4.2	7.3	3.7	3.6	3.9	4.5	7.7	12.1
Tranquillisers,	CI +	6.4	5.0	8.3	4.5	4.7	5.0	5.7	9.5	14.7
Anti-Depressants	CI -	5.1	3.4	6.3	3.0	2.5	2.8	3.2	6.0	9.6

¹ For the purposes of this study, illegal drug use refers to the use of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine powder, crack, ecstasy, heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, poppers and solvents.

NOTE: all figures are rounded to the nearest decimal place.

² Other opiates i.e. opium, Temgesic®, buprenorphine®, Diconal®, napps, MSTs®, pethidine, DF118® (dihydrocodeine), and morphine.

³ Poppers, i.e. amyl or butyl nitrite.

⁻ No respondents in this category

^{*} Less than a half of 0.1 percent (<0.05)

Prevalence Tables – Ireland

Table 1.3: Ireland Last Month Prevalence (%)

		All adults			Young adults					
		15-64	Males	Females	15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Any Illegal drugs ¹	%	3.0	4.1	1.7	5.2	6.9	3.4	1.6	0.6	0.3
	CI +	3.4	5.0	2.3	6.1	8.4	4.4	2.4	1.1	1.1
	CI -	2.5	3.4	1.2	4.3	5.5	2.3	0.9	0.1	0.0
Cannabis	%	2.6	3.4	1.7	4.3	5.6	3.0	1.6	0.6	0.3
	CI +	3.0	4.2	2.2	5.2	6.9	4.0	2.4	1.1	1.1
	CI -	2.1	2.7	1.2	3.5	4.3	2.0	0.9	0.1	0.0
Heroin	%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	_	_	_	_
	CI +	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.8	_	_	_	_
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	_	_
Methadone	%	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	_	_
	CI +	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.7	_	_
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	_	_
Other Opiates ²	%	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1
	CI +	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.9
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cocaine (Total)	%	0.3	0.7	_	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.1	_	_
including Crack	CI +	0.5	1.0	_	1.0	1.5	0.8	0.6	_	_
	CI -	0.2	0.4	-	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	-	-
Crack	%	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
	CI +	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
	CI -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cocaine Powder	%	0.3	0.7	_	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.1	_	_
	CI +	0.5	1.0	_	1.0	1.5	0.8	0.6	_	_
	CI -	0.2	0.4	-	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	-	-
Amphetamines	%	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.6	_	0.1	<u> </u>	_
	CI +	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5	1.0	_	0.6	_	_
	CI -	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	_	0.0	-	-

		All adults 15-64	Males	Females	Young adults 15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Ecstasy	%	0.3	0.6	*	0.6	0.8	0.5			
LCStasy	CI +	0.5	0.9	*	1.0	1.3	0.9			
	CI -	0.2	0.3	*	0.3	0.3	0.3	_	_	_
LSD	%	*	*	_	*	_	0.1	_	_	_
	CI +	*	*	_	*	_	0.5	_	_	_
	CI -	*	*	-	*	-	0.0	-	-	-
Magic Mushrooms	%	0.1	0.1	_	0.1	0.1	_	_	_	0.1
Ŭ	CI +	0.2	0.3	_	0.3	0.6	_	_	_	0.9
	CI -	0.0	0.0	_	0.0	0.0	_	_	_	0.0
Solvents	%	*	*	_	0.1	0.1	_	_	_	_
	CI +	*	*	_	0.3	0.5	_	_	_	_
	CI -	*	*	_	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-
Poppers ³	%	0.1	0.1	*	0.2	0.3	_	_	_	_
	CI +	0.2	0.4	*	0.4	0.9	_	_	_	_
	CI -	0.0	0.0	*	0.0	0.1	_	-	_	-
Sedatives,	%	4.0	3.0	4.9	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.6	6.2	9.7
Tranquillisers,	CI +	4.5	3.7	5.8	2.7	2.8	3.1	3.6	7.8	12.0
Anti-Depressants	CI -	3.4	2.4	4.1	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.6	4.6	7.4

¹ For the purposes of this study, illegal drug use refers to the use of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine powder, crack, ecstasy, heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, poppers and solvents.

NOTE: all figures are rounded to the nearest decimal place.

² Other opiates i.e. opium, Temgesic®, buprenorphine®, Diconal®, napps, MSTs®, pethidine, DF118® (dihydrocodeine), and morphine.

³ Poppers, i.e. amyl or butyl nitrite.

⁻ No respondents in this category

^{*} Less than a half of 0.1 percent (<0.05)

Prevalence Tables - Northern Ireland

Table 2.1: Northern Ireland Lifetime Prevalence (%)

		All adults 15-64	Males	Females	Young adults 15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Any Illegal drugs ¹	%	20.0	26.7	13.5	30.9	28.5	33.2	18.4	8.9	4.0
, , ,	CI +	18.7	28.9	15.1	33.2	31.7	36.5	21.1	11.1	5.7
	CI -	21.4	24.6	11.9	28.6	25.5	29.9	15.7	6.7	2.3
Cannabis	%	16.8	23.3	10.5	25.1	24.0	26.2	16.9	8.0	3.1
	CI +	18.1	25.3	12.0	27.3	27.0	29.3	19.5	10.1	4.6
	CI -	15.6	21.3	9.1	22.9	21.0	23.0	14.3	5.9	1.6
Heroin	%	0.2	0.4	-	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	_	_
	CI +	1.2	0.7	-	0.1	1.2	0.9	1.0	_	_
	CI -	0.1	0.1	-	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	_	_
Methadone	%	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	_	0.2	0.1
	CI +	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6	1.0	0.7	-	0.9	1.0
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	0.0	0.0
Other Opiates ²	%	18.0	16.4	19.5	17.9	13.0	22.7	22.8	15.2	14.3
	CI +	19.2	18.1	21.3	19.8	15.4	25.7	25.7	17.9	17.3
	CI -	16.7	14.7	17.6	16.0	10.6	19.8	19.9	12.4	11.3
Cocaine (Total)	%	1.6	2.8	0.5	2.9	2.6	3.2	1.5	0.1	_
including Crack	CI +	2.1	3.6	0.9	3.8	3.8	4.5	2.3	8.0	-
	CI -	1.2	2.0	0.2	2.1	1.5	2.0	0.6	0.0	_
Crack	%	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.3	-	_
	CI +	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.9	-	_
	CI -	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	-	_
Cocaine Powder	%	1.6	2.7	0.5	2.9	2.6	3.1	1.4	0.1	_
	CI +	2.0	3.5	0.8	3.7	3.8	4.3	2.2	0.4	-
	CI -	1.2	2.0	0.2	2.0	1.5	1.9	0.6	0.0	-
Amphetamines	%	4.0	6.3	1.8	7.2	6.5	8.0	2.6	0.8	0.8
	CI +	4.7	7.4	2.4	8.5	8.2	9.9	3.7	1.5	1.6
	CI -	3.4	5.1	1.2	5.9	4.7	6.1	1.5	0.1	0.0

		All adults 15-64	Malas	Females	Young adults 15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
										33-64
Ecstasy	%	5.8	8.3	3.3	11.3	10.2	12.4	2.9	0.6	-
	CI +	6.5	9.6	4.1	12.9	12.3	14.8	4.1	1.2	-
	CI -	5.0	7.0	2.5	9.7	8.0	10.1	1.7	0.0	-
LSD	%	4.5	7.0	2.0	7.8	5.9	9.6	3.7	1.0	0.4
	CI +	5.2	8.3	2.7	9.1	7.6	11.6	5.0	1.7	1.5
	CI -	3.8	5.8	1.4	6.4	4.3	7.5	2.3	0.2	0.1
Magic Mushrooms	%	4.3	6.3	2.4	6.4	4.9	7.9	5.9	0.7	0.3
	CI +	5.0	7.4	3.1	7.6	6.4	9.8	7.6	1.3	1.2
	CI -	3.7	5.1	1.7	5.2	3.3	6.0	4.3	0.1	0.0
Solvents	%	2.9	4.1	1.7	5.4	4.9	5.8	2.0	0.2	0.3
	CI +	3.5	5.1	2.3	6.5	6.5	7.4	3.0	0.9	1.3
	CI -	2.3	3.2	1.1	4.2	3.4	4.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Poppers ³	%	5.5	7.3	3.8	10.9	10.6	11.1	2.6	0.8	_
	CI +	6.3	8.6	4.7	12.4	12.8	13.3	3.7	1.5	_
	CI -	4.8	6.1	2.9	9.3	8.4	8.9	1.5	0.1	-
Sedatives,	%	22.1	15.5	28.5	16.2	10.9	21.4	24.6	27.2	29.4
Tranquillisers,	CI +	23.5	17.2	30.6	18.0	13.1	24.3	27.6	30.7	33.3
Anti-Depressants	CI -	20.7	13.8	26.4	14.3	8.7	18.5	21.6	23.8	25.5

¹ For the purposes of this study, "illegal drugs" refers to amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine powder, crack, ecstasy, heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, poppers and solvents.

NOTE: all figures are rounded to the nearest decimal place.

² Other opiates i.e. Temgesic®, codeine, Kapake®, morphine, opium, DF's, diffs, dikes, peach.

³ Poppers, i.e. amyl or butyl nitrite.

No respondents in this category.

^{*} Less than a half of 0.1 percent (<0.05).

Prevalence Tables - Northern Ireland

Table 2.2: Northern Ireland Last Year Prevalence (%)

		All adults 15-64	Males	Females	Young adults 15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Any Illegal drugs ¹	%	6.4	9.7	3.1	11.6	14.5	8.8	3.7	1.7	0.6
	CI +	7.2	11.1	4.0	13.3	17.0	10.8	5.0	2.7	1.7
	CI -	5.6	8.3	2.3	10.1	12.0	6.8	2.4	0.7	0.1
Cannabis	%	5.4	8.7	2.2	9.8	12.1	7.4	3.7	1.4	0.1
	CI +	6.2	10.1	2.9	11.3	14.4	9.3	5.0	2.3	1.0
	CI -	4.7	7.3	1.6	8.3	9.8	5.6	2.4	0.5	0.0
Heroin	%	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
	CI +	_	_	_	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CI -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methadone	%	*	-	0.1	-	-	_	_	0.2	-
	CI +	*	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	0.9	-
	CI -	*	_	0.0	-	-	-	-	0.0	-
Other Opiates ²	%	8.0	6.9	9.0	7.5	4.1	10.9	10.8	6.0	7.3
	CI +	8.9	8.1	10.3	8.9	5.5	13.1	13.0	7.8	9.5
	CI -	7.1	5.7	7.7	6.2	2.7	8.7	8.7	4.2	5.1
Cocaine (Total)	%	0.5	0.9	0.1	1.0	1.4	0.7	0.3	-	-
including Crack	CI +	0.7	1.4	0.4	1.5	2.2	1.2	1.0	-	-
	CI -	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.0	-	-
Crack	%	*	0.1	-	0.1	0.2	-	-	-	_
	CI +	*	0.4	-	0.4	0.8	-	-	-	-
	CI -	*	0.0	_	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-
Cocaine Powder	%	0.5	0.9	0.1	0.9	1.2	0.7	0.3	-	-
	CI +	0.7	1.3	0.4	1.4	1.9	1.2	1.0	-	-
	CI -	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	-	-
Amphetamines	%	0.8	1.4	0.2	1.5	2.0	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.3
	CI +	1.1	2.0	0.5	2.1	3.0	1.7	1.0	0.9	1.3
	CI -	0.5	0.9	0.0	0.9	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0

		All adults			Young adults					
		15-64	Males	Females	15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Ecstasy	%	1.6	2.7	0.6	3.3	4.8	1.7	0.8	0.2	
	CI +	2.1	3.5	1.0	4.1	6.3	2.6	1.4	0.9	_
	CI -	1.2	2.0	0.3	2.4	3.3	8.0	0.2	0.0	_
LSD	%	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	_	_	-
	CI +	0.2	_	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.7	_	-	-
	CI -	0.0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
Magic Mushrooms	%	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	-
	CI +	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.6	1.1	0.7	0.8	0.9	-
	CI -	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
Solvents	%	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.7	_	_	_	0.2
	CI +	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.6	1.2	_	-	-	1.1
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-	-	-	0.0
Poppers ³	%	0.5	0.7	0.3	1.1	1.8	0.4	_	_	_
	CI +	0.7	1.1	0.5	1.6	2.8	1.1	_	-	-
	CI -	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.6	0.9	0.1	-	-	-
Sedatives,	%	12.6	8.7	16.5	8.6	4.8	12.3	14.3	17.2	16.4
Tranquillisers,	CI +	13.7	10.1	18.2	10.0	6.3	14.6	16.7	20.1	19.6
Anti-Depressants	CI -	11.5	7.4	14.7	7.2	3.3	10.0	11.9	14.3	13.2

¹ For the purposes of this study, "illegal drugs" refers to amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine powder, crack, ecstasy, heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, poppers and solvents.

NOTE: all figures are rounded to the nearest decimal place.

² Other opiates i.e. Temgesic®, codeine, Kapake®, morphine, opium, DF's, diffs, dikes, peach.

³ Poppers, i.e. amyl or butyl nitrite.

No respondents in this category.

^{*} Less than a half of 0.1 percent (<0.05).

Prevalence Tables - Northern Ireland

Table 2.3: Northern Ireland Last Month Prevalence (%)

		All adults			Young adults					
		15-64	Males	Females	15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Any Illegal drugs ¹	%	3.4	5.7	1.1	6.1	9.0	3.3	2.0	0.7	0.5
	CI +	4.0	6.8	1.6	7.3	11.0	4.6	3.0	1.3	1.6
	CI -	2.8	4.6	0.6	4.9	7.0	2.1	1.0	0.0	0.1
Cannabis	%	2.9	5.1	0.8	5.4	7.9	3.0	2.0	0.5	_
	CI +	3.5	6.2	1.2	6.6	9.8	4.2	3.0	1.4	_
	CI -	2.4	4.1	0.4	4.3	6.0	1.8	1.0	0.1	_
Heroin	%	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	_
	CI +	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-
	CI -	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methadone	%	*	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.2	-
	CI +	*	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	0.9	-
	CI -	*	-	0.0	_	-	-	-	0.0	_
Other Opiates ²	%	4.1	3.1	5.2	3.3	2.0	4.5	5.7	4.5	3.8
	CI +	4.8	3.9	6.2	4.1	3.0	6.0	7.4	6.1	5.5
	CI -	3.5	2.3	4.1	2.4	1.0	3.0	4.1	2.9	2.2
Cocaine (Total)	%	0.1	0.2	-	0.2	0.2	0.1	_	_	_
including Crack	CI +	0.3	0.5	_	0.6	1.0	0.7	-	-	_
	CI -	0.0	0.0	_	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	-	-
Crack	%	-	-	-	_	-	-	_	-	_
	CI +	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-
	CI -	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cocaine Powder	%	0.1	0.2	-	0.2	0.2	0.1	_	-	_
	CI +	0.3	0.5	_	0.6	1.0	0.7	-	-	_
	CI -	0.0	0.0	_	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	-	-
Amphetamines	%	0.2	0.5	_	0.3	0.4	0.3	_	0.2	0.3
	CI +	0.4	0.8	-	0.6	1.2	0.9	-	0.9	1.3
	CI -	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	0.0	-	0.0	0.0

		All adults			Young adults					
		15-64	Males	Females	15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Ecstasy	%	0.5	0.9	0.1	1.1	2.0	0.3	0.1	_	_
	CI +	0.7	1.3	0.5	1.6	2.9	0.9	0.7	-	-
	CI -	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.6	1.0	0.0	0.0	-	_
LSD	%	*	_	*	*	_	0.1	_	_	_
	CI +	*	-	*	*	_	0.7	_	_	_
	CI -	*	-	*	*	_	0.0	_	_	-
Magic Mushrooms	%	*	0.1	_	_	_	_	0.1	_	_
	CI +	*	0.3	_	-	-	-	0.8	_	_
	CI -	*	0.0	_	-	-	-	0.0	-	-
Solvents	%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	_	_	_	0.2
	CI +	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.8	_	-	_	0.5
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	_	_	0.0
Poppers ³	%	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.1	_	_	_
	CI +	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.6	1.1	0.7	_	_	_
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	_	_	_
Sedatives,	%	9.8	7.0	12.5	5.4	2.5	8.2	10.7	15.5	14.2
Tranquillisers,	CI +	10.8	8.2	14.0	6.5	3.6	10.1	12.9	18.3	17.3
Anti-Depressants	CI -	8.8	5.8	11.0	4.2	1.4	6.3	8.6	12.7	11.2

¹ For the purposes of this study, "illegal drugs" refers to amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine powder, crack, ecstasy, heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, poppers and solvents.

NOTE: all figures are rounded to the nearest decimal place.

² Other opiates i.e. Temgesic®, codeine, Kapake®, morphine, opium, DF's, diffs, dikes, peach.

³ Poppers, i.e. amyl or butyl nitrite.

No respondents in this category.

^{*} Less than a half of 0.1 percent (<0.05).

Prevalence Tables – Island of Ireland

Table 3.1: Island of Ireland Lifetime Prevalence (%)

		All adults 15-64	Males	Females	Young adults 15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Any Illegal drugs ¹	%	19.2	25.1	13.2	27.9	26.3	29.6	18.0	9.9	4.1
	CI +	20.0	26.4	14.3	29.3	28.3	31.6	19.8	11.4	5.2
	CI -	18.3	23.8	12.2	26.5	24.4	27.5	16.3	8.4	3.0
Cannabis	%	17.1	22.7	11.6	24.4	23.3	25.6	17.1	9.3	3.4
	CI +	17.9	24.0	12.5	25.8	25.2	27.5	18.9	10.7	4.4
	CI -	16.3	21.5	10.6	23.1	21.4	23.6	15.4	7.8	2.3
Heroin	%	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.2	_
	CI +	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.7	0.6	_
	CI -	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.0	-
Methadone	%	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.1
	CI +	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.5
	CI -	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cocaine (Total)	%	2.4	3.7	1.2	4.0	4.2	3.8	2.2	0.5	_
including Crack	CI +	2.8	4.3	1.5	4.6	5.0	4.7	2.9	0.9	_
8	CI -	2.1	3.1	0.8	3.4	3.3	3.0	1.6	0.2	-
Crack	%	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	_	_
	CI +	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.6	_	_
	CI -	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	_	_
Cocaine Powder	%	2.3	3.6	1.1	3.9	4.0	3.7	2.1	0.5	_
	CI +	2.7	4.1	1.4	4.5	4.9	4.6	2.7	0.9	_
	CI -	2.0	3.0	0.8	3.3	3.1	2.9	1.4	0.2	_
Amphetamines	%	3.4	5.0	1.9	5.8	5.2	6.4	2.4	0.8	0.6
7	CI +	3.8	5.6	2.3	6.5	6.2	7.5	3.1	1.3	1.0
	CI -	3.0	4.3	1.5	5.1	4.2	5.3	1.7	0.4	0.2
Ecstasy	%	4.6	6.3	2.9	8.8	8.7	8.9	2.2	0.3	_
,	CI +	5.0	7.0	3.4	9.7	10.0	10.1	2.9	0.6	_
	CI -	4.1	5.6	2.4	7.9	7.5	7.6	1.5	0.0	_

		All adults			Young adults					
		15-64	Males	Females	15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
LSD	%	3.6	5.5	1.7	5.9	4.7	7.0	2.9	1.1	0.4
	CI +	4.0	6.2	2.1	6.6	5.6	8.2	3.6	1.6	0.8
	CI -	3.2	4.8	1.3	5.1	3.8	5.9	2.1	0.6	0.0
Magic Mushrooms	%	4.1	5.9	2.2	6.1	5.3	6.9	5.0	0.7	0.3
	CI +	4.5	6.7	2.6	6.9	6.3	8.1	6.0	1.2	0.8
	CI -	3.6	5.2	1.7	5.3	4.3	5.8	4.0	0.3	0.1
Solvents	%	2.2	3.0	1.4	4.1	4.1	4.2	1.1	0.1	0.3
	CI +	2.5	3.5	1.7	4.8	5.0	5.1	1.6	0.4	0.8
	CI -	1.9	2.5	1.0	3.5	3.2	3.3	0.6	0.0	0.1
Poppers ²	%	3.8	5.3	2.4	7.2	7.0	7.3	1.9	0.6	0.1
	CI +	4.2	6.0	2.8	8.0	8.2	8.5	2.5	0.9	0.5
	CI -	3.4	4.6	1.9	6.4	5.9	6.2	1.3	0.2	0.0
Sedatives,	%	16.3	11.8	20.7	11.4	8.2	14.6	17.6	20.3	25.2
Tranquillisers,	CI +	17.1	12.8	21.9	12.4	9.4	16.2	19.3	22.4	27.7
Anti-Depressants	CI -	15.5	10.9	19.5	10.4	7.0	13.0	15.8	18.3	22.7

¹ For the purposes of this study, illegal drug use refers to the use of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine powder, crack, ecstacy, heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, poppers and solvents.

NOTE: all figures are rounded to the nearest decimal place.

² Poppers, i.e. amyl or butyl nitrite.

⁻ No respondents in this category.

^{*} Less than a half of 0.1 percent (<0.05).

Prevalence Tables – Island of Ireland

Table 3.2: Island of Ireland Last Year Prevalence (%)

		All adults 15-64	Males	Females	Young adults 15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Any Illegal drugs ¹	%	5.9	8.6	3.3	10.5	13.4	7.5	3.5	1.4	0.5
, 0 0	CI +	8.6	9.4	3.8	11.5	14.9	8.7	4.4	1.9	0.9
	CI -	5.4	7.7	2.7	9.5	11.9	6.3	2.7	8.0	0.1
Cannabis	%	5.2	7.8	2.6	9.1	11.4	6.7	3.5	1.2	0.3
	CI +	5.7	8.6	3.1	10.0	12.9	7.8	4.3	1.8	0.8
	CI -	4.7	7.0	2.2	8.2	10.0	5.6	2.6	0.7	0.1
Heroin	%	0.1	*	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	_	_	_
	CI +	0.1	*	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.4	-	-	-
	CI -	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
Methadone	%	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	_
	CI +	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.4	_
	CI -	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	-
Cocaine (Total)	%	0.9	1.4	0.3	1.6	2.2	1.0	0.4	0.1	_
including Crack	CI +	1.1	1.8	0.5	2.0	2.8	1.5	0.7	0.4	_
	CI -	0.7	1.0	0.1	1.2	1.5	0.6	0.1	0.0	_
Crack	%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	_	_	_
	CI +	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.4	-	-	_
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
Cocaine Powder	%	0.8	1.4	0.3	1.6	2.1	1.0	0.4	0.1	-
	CI +	1.0	1.7	0.5	2.0	2.7	1.5	0.7	0.4	_
	CI -	0.6	1.0	0.1	1.2	1.5	0.6	0.1	0.0	-
Amphetamines	%	0.6	1.0	0.2	1.1	1.5	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.1
	CI +	0.7	1.3	0.3	1.4	2.1	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.6
	CI -	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ecstasy	%	1.3	2.0	0.6	2.7	3.6	1.7	0.4	0.1	_
	CI +	1.6	2.4	0.8	3.2	4.4	2.3	0.6	0.4	-
	CI -	1.1	1.6	0.4	2.2	2.8	1.1	0.1	0.0	-

		All		F 1	Young adults	15.04	25.74	7- 44	44	
		15-64	iviales	Females	15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
LSD	%	0.1	0.1	*	0.1	0.2	0.1	_	_	_
	CI +	0.1	0.2	*	0.3	0.4	0.4	_	-	-
	CI -	0.0	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	_	-
Magic Mushrooms	%	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
	CI +	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.8	1.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5
	CI -	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Solvents	%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	_	_	0.1
	CI +	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3	_	_	0.5
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	_	-	0.0
Poppers ²	%	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.9	1.3	0.5	0.1	_	_
	CI +	0.6	0.8	0.5	1.2	1.8	0.8	0.3	_	_
	CI -	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.0	-	_
Sedatives,	%	8.6	6.1	11.1	5.7	4.1	7.3	8.7	11.7	14.0
Tranquillisers,	CI +	9.2	6.8	12.1	6.4	4.9	8.5	10.0	13.3	16.0
Anti-Depressants	CI -	8.0	5.3	10.2	4.9	3.2	6.1	7.4	10.1	12.1

¹ For the purposes of this study, illegal drug use refers to the use of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine powder, crack, ecstacy, heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, poppers and solvents.

NOTE: all figures are rounded to the nearest decimal place.

² Poppers, i.e. amyl or butyl nitrite.

No respondents in this category.

^{*} Less than a half of 0.1 percent (<0.05).

Prevalence Tables – Island of Ireland

Table 3.3: Island of Ireland Last Month Prevalence (%)

		All adults			Young adults					
		15-64	Males	Females	15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
Any Illegal drugs ¹	%	3.1	4.8	1.5	5.6	7.7	3.4	1.8	0.6	0.4
	CI +	3.5	5.4	1.8	6.3	8.9	4.2	2.4	1.0	0.7
	CI -	2.8	4.1	1.0	4.8	6.6	2.6	1.2	0.2	0.0
Cannabis	%	2.7	4.1	1.3	4.8	6.5	3.0	1.8	0.5	0.2
	CI +	3.1	4.7	1.6	5.5	7.6	3.8	2.4	0.9	0.6
	CI -	2.4	3.5	1.0	4.1	5.4	2.3	1.2	0.2	0.0
Heroin	%	*	*	*	0.1	0.2	_	_	_	-
	CI +	*	*	*	0.5	0.5	-	-	_	-
	CI -	*	*	*	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-
Methadone	%	0.1	*	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	-
	CI +	0.2	*	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	-
	CI -	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
Cocaine (Total)	%	0.2	0.5	-	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.1	-	-
including Crack	CI +	0.3	0.7	-	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.3	-	-
	CI -	0.1	0.3	-	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	_	-
Crack	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CI +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CI -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cocaine Powder	%	0.2	0.5	-	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.1	-	-
	CI +	0.3	0.7	-	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.3	-	-
	CI -	0.1	0.3	-	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	-	-
Amphetamines	%	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
	CI +	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.6
	CI -	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ecstasy	%	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.8	1.3	0.4	0.1	-	-
	CI +	0.5	1.0	0.2	1.1	1.8	0.7	0.3	-	-
	CI -	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.5	8.0	0.1	0.0	-	-

		All adults 15-64	Males	Females	Young adults 15-34	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64
LSD	%	*	*	*	*	_	0.1	_	_	
	CI +	*	*	*	*	-	0.4	_	_	_
	CI -	*	*	*	*	-	0.0	_	-	-
Magic Mushrooms	%	*	0.1	-	*	0.1	-	0.1	-	0.1
	CI +	*	0.2	-	*	0.3	-	0.3	_	0.5
	CI -	*	0.0	-	*	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0
Solvents	%	*	0.1	*	0.1	0.1	_	_	_	0.1
	CI +	*	0.2	*	0.2	0.4	-	_	_	0.5
	CI -	*	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	0.0
Poppers ²	%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	*	_	-	-
	CI +	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.7	*	_	_	-
	CI -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	*	_	-	-
Sedatives,	%	6.4	4.7	8.1	3.4	2.2	4.7	6.1	10.1	11.7
Tranquillisers,	CI +	6.9	5.3	9.0	4.0	2.9	5.6	7.2	11.6	13.6
Anti-Depressants	CI -	5.9	4.0	7.3	2.9	1.6	3.7	5.0	8.6	9.9

¹ For the purposes of this study, illegal drug use refers to the use of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine powder, crack, ecstacy, heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, poppers and solvents.

NOTE: all figures are rounded to the nearest decimal place.

² Poppers, i.e. amyl or butyl nitrite.

⁻ No respondents in this category.

^{*} Less than a half of 0.1 percent (<0.05).

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NOTES



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Research Advisory Group and Editorial Board:

Mr Brian McWilliams (since October 2004), Mr Kieron Moore (DAIRU), Dr Des Corrigan, Ms Mairéad Lyons, Dr Hamish Sinclair (NACD).

Contact NACD:

Mairéad Lyons National Advisory Committee on Drugs 3rd Floor, Shelbourne House Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge Dublin 4

Tel: 00 353 1 667 0760 Email: info@nacd.ie Web: www.nacd.ie

Contact DAIRU:

Kieron Moore Drug and Alcohol Information and Research Unit Annex 2, Castle Buildings Stormont, Belfast BT4 3SQ

Tel: 00 44 28 90 522501 Email: dairu@dhsspsni.gov.uk Web: www.dhsspsni.gov.uk













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