



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Parental substance misuse data pack

Technical definitions for the data included 2019-20

THE TECHNICAL DEFINITIONS

The treatment data in the parental substance misuse data pack is taken from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) and refers to adults or young people in structured treatment for drug or alcohol misuse in England. Data for adults are included in the national and local sections (3 and 4), and adults are defined as those clients aged 18 or over at earliest point of contact in the year, so at the point of the earliest triage in the treatment journey, or if treatment started before the period then age on the 1st April. Young people under the age of 18 are included in the “Young people in treatment” section (5.1).

The data in this pack refers to drug and/or alcohol clients starting a new treatment journey during 2019-20 (1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020), except for total number of clients in treatment which includes all clients’ whose latest treatment journey overlapped or was during 2019-20. The data in this pack is using the NDTMS data submitted in July 2020 containing triages up to end of June 2020.

The NDTMS data presented in this pack covers the period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 unless otherwise stated. Percentages are rounded and may not always sum to 100%. To prevent potential patient identification, all local figures in the report have been rounded to 1 or the nearest 5, with proportions calculated from the rounded figures. This is true of all local data except for the overall numbers in treatment.

Client categorisation – Parental status

Clients are grouped into 3 parental status groups in this report:

- **Parent/adult living with children:** Clients are considered to be ‘living with children (own or other)’ if they report at triage at any point in their treatment journey that they live with at least one child or their parental status is reported as ‘all of the children live with client’ or ‘some of the children live with client’. Under the first criteria, the client does not have to be living with their own children.
- **Parent not living with children:** Clients are considered to be ‘parents not living with children’ if they do not report the above, have no children living with them and have a parental status of ‘none of the children live with client’.
- **Not a parent:** Clients are considered to be ‘not a parent / no child contact’ if they do not report to be ‘living with children (own or other)’, or ‘parents not living with children’.

Clients have been excluded from this report if they have ‘incomplete data’; if they have not answered either the parental status question or the number of children living with client question.

Benchmark areas

The local section includes comparisons to proportions in benchmark areas. These are the areas identified as the nearest neighbours for a local authority using [the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy \(CIPFA\) 2018 Model](#). CIPFA groups are not available for all local authorities, and in such cases areas in the same region have been used for benchmark comparisons.

Item definitions

Definitions for all further items in the parental substance misuse data pack are provided in the following table. In addition to this, detailed information on the data items contained in NDTMS can be found in the business definitions for adult drug treatment providers:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-definitions-for-adult-drug-and-alcohol-misuse-treatment-providers>

Section	Item	Description	Population
CLIENTS PROFILE – Socio-demographics	Numbers in treatment – all in treatment	All clients' whose latest treatment journey overlapped or was during 2019-20 (1 st April 2019 to 31 st March 2020). Broken down by parental status (defined above), the number and proportion of all clients in treatment during the financial year 2019-20.	All clients in treatment in 2019-20.
	Numbers in treatment – new presentations to treatment	These are clients in treatment during the year whose latest treatment journey began in 2019-20 (1 st April 2019 to 31 st March 2020). They may have had previous treatment journeys. Please see NDTMS Quality and Methodology document for more details. Broken down by parental status (see definition above), the number and proportion of new presentations to treatment during the year.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
	Age	The proportion of new presentations to treatment in the year by age group and parental status. Age is calculated as age at triage.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
	Sex	The proportion of female and male clients who started treatment in the year. The charts show the proportions by parental group.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
	Ethnicity	Ethnicity recorded during the latest treatment journey of new presentation clients. White and Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic (BAME) are shown. The category 'missing' includes 'Unknown / declined / missing'. The charts show the proportions by parental group.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
	Housing	The accommodation status (at the start of the treatment journey) of new clients who started treatment in the year. The percentages given are as a proportion of all respondents who started treatment in the year and were asked the accommodation status question. The charts show the proportions by parental group.	New client presentations in 2019-20.

	Employment	For all clients who commenced a new treatment journey in the year, the first non-missing employment status of the latest journey commenced. These are grouped into four categories: 'In education, employment or training', 'not in education, employment or training', 'on long term disability allowance', and 'other' (including missing and inconsistent responses). The charts show the proportions by parental group.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
	Pregnant	The proportion of female clients under the age of 50 starting new treatment journeys during the year that reported being pregnant at any stage of their treatment journey. The charts show the proportions by parental group.	New female client presentations, under the age of 50, in 2019-20
	Children	The number of children under 18 that live in the same household as the client at least one night a week. If there are different numbers of children reported across the treatment journey, then the maximum number is used. A child maybe double counted if both parents are in treatment.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
CLIENTS PROFILE – Clinical	Substance use	For clients who commenced a new treatment journey in the year, the problem substances cited by the client at triage, grouped into the following: 1. Opiate* 2. Non-opiate only 3. Alcohol and non-opiate 4. Alcohol only *As well as heroin, this group includes prescribed opiates and methadone. The opiate group will also include some clients who have cited alcohol as a problem substance. The charts show the proportions by parental group.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
	Mental health	Mental health treatment need: Adults who entered treatment in the year and were identified as having a mental health treatment need. The percentage is shown as a proportion of the number of new presentations to treatment during the year. Unmet mental health treatment need: The proportion of clients who entered treatment in the year who were identified as having a mental health treatment need and were not receiving treatment for their mental health need.	New client presentations in 2019-20.

		The charts show the proportions by parental group.	
	Injecting	The proportion of clients who were new to treatment in the year who have been recorded as a current or previous injector at triage. The charts show the proportions by parental group. The proportions who had never injected is shown in text.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
	Alcohol dependence	Severity of alcohol dependence questionnaire (SADQ). The proportion of new presentations to treatment falling into the corresponding SADQ category. The charts show the proportions by parental group.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
CLIENT PROFILE - Treatment and children's services exposure	Referral source	For clients who entered treatment in the year. Referral route is taken from the first episode(s) of the treatment journey. If conflicting information is provided across different episodes, then the referral route is recorded as 'inconsistent/missing'. The referral source grouped into three: 'Children and family/ social services', 'criminal justice', and 'other' (including inconsistent/missing). The charts show the proportions by parental group.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
	Time in treatment	For clients who entered treatment in the year, the average length (in days) of treatment from the earliest triage date. The charts show the average length in treatment by parental group and substance group.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
	Early help / child social care support	Proportion of clients who are parents of and/or live with children under 18 where the children are receiving early help or have contact with social care. The charts show the proportions by parental group.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
	Recovery support	Proportion of clients who entered treatment in the year who received family / parenting recovery support, housing / employment recovery support, and/or domestic violence and abuse recovery support during the treatment journey or starting within 3 months after the end of treatment. The charts show the proportions by parental group.	New client presentations in 2019-20.
CLIENT OUTCOMES	Successful completions	Successful completions as a proportion of total number in treatment. The number of clients whose latest treatment journey ended between 1 st January 2019 and 31 st December 2019 and whose reason for discharge was	All clients in treatment in 2019-20.

		<p>'treatment completed'. The percentage shown is as a proportion of all clients in treatment during the year.</p> <p>The charts show the proportions by parental group, as well as by parental status and substance group.</p>	
	Successful completion non-representations	<p>Proportion who successfully completed treatment and did not return within 6 months.</p> <p>The number of clients who had a successful completion between 1st January 2019 and 31st December 2019 and did not re-present to structured treatment for substance misuse within 6 months of that successful completion. The percentage shown is as a proportion of all clients in treatment during the year.</p> <p>The charts show the proportions by parental group, as well as by parental status and substance group.</p>	All clients in treatment in 2019-20.

Parental alcohol prevalence estimates (2018-19)

Section	Description	Population
Parental alcohol prevalence estimates (2018-19)	<p>Estimated number of people dependent on alcohol (aged 18+) in England who live with children in the same household, and estimated number of children who live with adults dependent on alcohol (see below for more detail).</p> <p>Rates per thousand of the population are based on ONS mid-year estimates. Rates of unmet need were calculated using figures from NDTMS for numbers in treatment. Rates of unmet need are calculated by dividing the number of alcohol users in treatment who are parents/adults living with children by the prevalence estimate and then subtracting from 100%.</p>	Local authority population (ONS mid-year estimates) aged 18+ and 0-17 years.

Some children might live with two or more adults with alcohol dependence. Adjustment for this 'double counting' has been made for male and female adults, and figures for England are presented in the table below. The figures in **bold** are included in the HTML report, representing a range of the number of children living with at least one adult with alcohol dependence.

Number of children	
Total (unadjusted for double counting)	221,906 (95% Confidence Interval: 182,387 to 279,640)
Male*	149,200
Females*	72,706
Total (adjusted for male double counting)	207,560 (95% Confidence Interval: 170,754 to 261,271)
Male*	134,854
Females*	72,706
Total (adjusted for female double counting)	188,858 (95% Confidence Interval: 154,257 to 240,905)
Male*	149,200
Females*	39,658
* Confidence intervals not available	

For more information about the alcohol estimates please see:

https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/polopoly_fs/1.693546!/file/Estimates_of_Alcohol_Dependence_in_England_based_on_APMS_2014.pdf

Parental opiate prevalence estimates (2014-15)

Section	Description	Population
Parental opiate prevalence estimates (2014-15)	<p>Estimated number of opiate users (aged 18-64) in England who live with children in the same household.</p> <p>Rates per thousand of the population are based on ONS mid-year estimates. Rates of unmet need were calculated using figures from NDTMS for numbers in treatment. Rates of unmet need are calculated by dividing the number of opiate users in treatment who are parents/adults living with children by the prevalence estimate and then subtracting from 100%.</p>	Local authority population (ONS mid-year estimates) aged 18-64 years.

For more information about the opiate estimates please see: [https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/~media/phi-](https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/~media/phi-reports/pdf/2018_03_estimates_of_the_number_of_children_who_live_with_opiate_users_england_201415.pdf)

[reports/pdf/2018_03_estimates_of_the_number_of_children_who_live_with_opiate_users_england_201415.pdf](https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/~media/phi-reports/pdf/2018_03_estimates_of_the_number_of_children_who_live_with_opiate_users_england_201415.pdf)

Characteristics of children in need (section 5.2)

The Department for Education releases annual statistics on children in need, which is used in this section. The figures represent assessment information following a referral to children's social care.

For more information and to download the data used in the report, please see: <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/characteristics-of-children-in-need/2020>

Prevalence of parental substance misuse, mental ill health and domestic abuse (section 5.3)

The Childhood Local Data on Risks and Needs (CHLDRN) produced by the Children's Commissioner for England provides data on the number of children at risk. We have used this data, which is from 2019 to 2020, in this section. Please note that the method used to calculate prevalence here differs from the methods used in the prevalence section at the beginning of this document (section 2).

For more information and to download the data used in the report, please see: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/chldrnr/>

Income deprivation affecting children index (IDACI) (section 5.4)

The IDACI is a subset of the Income Deprivation Domain, published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), which specifically measures the proportion of children aged under 16 living in income deprived families, defined as those in receipt of Child Benefit.

For more information and to download the data used in the report, please see: https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?metric=8371&mod-area=E07000034&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_EastMidlands&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup