

The Arrestee Survey Annual Report: Oct 2003 – Sept 2004

England and Wales

Richard Boreham, Elizabeth Fuller, Amy Hills, Steve Pudney

The Research, Development and Statistics Directorate exists to improve policy making, decision taking and practice in support of the Home Office purpose and aims, to provide the public and Parliament with information necessary for informed debate and to publish information for future use.

Statistical Bulletins are produced by the Research, Development and Statistics Directorate. For further copies contact:

www.homeoffice.gov.uk/ids

Contents

	Page
Executive Summary	5
Chapter 1 Introduction	10
Chapter 2 Characteristics of arrestees	14
Chapter 3 Substance misuse	33
Chapter 4 Past contact with the criminal justice system	50
Chapter 5 Offending	58
Chapter 6 Treatment	69
Chapter 7 Availability and supply of drugs	76
Appendix A Response tables	80
Appendix B Comparison of self-reported drug use with drug testing of oral fluid samples	85
Appendix C Definitions of trigger offences and acquisitive crime	90
Appendix D Design and effect of weighting	91
Appendix E Severity of Dependence Scale and FAST Alcohol Screening Test.....	94

List of Tables

	Page
Table 2.1	Reason for arrest, by age 21
Table 2.2	Reason for arrest, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months 22
Table 2.3	Proportion who had taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months by reason for arrest 23
Table 2.4	Proportion arrested for acquisitive crime or a trigger offence, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months..... 24
Table 2.5	Sex, by whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months..... 25
Table 2.6	Age, by sex and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months 25
Table 2.7	Ethnic group, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months 26
Table 2.8	Working status, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months 27
Table 2.9	Accommodation, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months 28
Table 2.10	Slept rough in the last 4 weeks, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months 29
Table 2.11	Age finished full time education, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months 30
Table 2.12	Proportion temporarily or permanently excluded from school, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months..... 31
Table 2.13	Ever lived in a foster home, children's home or young person's unit, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months..... 32
Table 3.1	Taken drugs in last month, by sex and age 39
Table 3.2	Polydrug use in last month, by sex and age 40
Table 3.3	Taken drugs in last year, by sex and age 41
Table 3.4	Drug use in the last month, by ethnicity 42
Table 3.5	Frequency of heroin use, by sex and age 43
Table 3.6	Frequency of crack use, by sex and age 44
Table 3.7	Frequency of powder cocaine use, by sex and age 45

Table 3.8	Ever injected drugs, by sex and age	46
Table 3.9	Proportion who had ever injected drugs among those who had taken drugs that could be injected, by sex and age.....	46
Table 3.10	Dependence on heroin (Severity of Dependence Scale), by sex and age	47
Table 3.11	Dependence on crack (Severity of Dependence Scale), by sex and age	47
Table 3.12	Dependence on powder cocaine (Severity of Dependence Scale), by sex and age	47
Table 3.13	FAST Score, by sex and age	48
Table 3.14	FAST Score, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months	48
Table 3.15	FAST Score, by whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months	49
Table 4.1	Previous arrest history, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months	54
Table 4.2	Previous prison history, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months	55
Table 4.3	Ever had contact with arrest referral workers, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months	56
Table 4.4	Ever had DTTO, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months.....	56
Table 4.5	Ever been drug tested at charge, by drug testing site and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months	57
Table 5.1	Offences committed in last 4 weeks, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months.....	62
Table 5.2	Offences committed in last 12 months, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months.....	63
Table 5.3	Proportion who had taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months by offence committed	65
Table 5.4	Number of acquisitive crimes committed in last 12 months, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months.....	66
Table 5.5	Committed crime to get drugs in last 4 weeks, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months	67
Table 5.6	Committed crime to get drugs in last 4 weeks, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last month	67
Table 5.7	Income from crime in last 12 months, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months	68
Table 6.1	Treatment for heroin, by frequency usually take heroin	71

Table 6.2	Would like treatment for heroin, by frequency usually take heroin	71
Table 6.3	Usual frequency take heroin, by whether treated for heroin	71
Table 6.4	Treatment for crack, by frequency usually take crack	72
Table 6.5	Would like treatment for crack, by frequency usually take crack	72
Table 6.6	Usual frequency take crack, by whether treated for crack	72
Table 6.7	Treatment for powder cocaine, by frequency usually take powder cocaine	73
Table 6.8	Would like treatment for powder cocaine, by frequency usually take powder cocaine	73
Table 6.9	Treatment for alcohol, by age and FAST Score	74
Table 6.10	Would like to receive treatment for alcohol, by age and FAST Score	75
Table 7.1	Availability of heroin, by age	77
Table 7.2	Availability of crack, by age	77
Table 7.3	Availability of powder cocaine, by age	77
Table 7.4	Ever sold heroin, by age and whether taken heroin in last 12 months.....	78
Table 7.5	Ever sold crack, by age and whether taken crack in last 12 months ...	78
Table 7.6	Ever sold powder cocaine, by age and whether taken powder cocaine in last 12 months	79
Table A.1	Response, by sex and age	81
Table A.2	Response, by ethnic group	83
Table A.3	Response, by suspected offence	84
Table B.1	Consent to oral fluid sample, by whether taken heroin or cocaine/crack in last 48 hours	87
Table B.2	Screening tests for cocaine and opiates, by sex and age	87
Table B.3	Positive cocaine screen, by age and whether taken cocaine in last 48 hours	88
Table B.4	Positive opiates screen, by age and whether taken heroin in last 48 hours.....	88
Table B.5	Confirmatory tests for cocaine, by cocaine screen result and whether reported taking cocaine in last 48 hours	89
Table B.6	Confirmatory tests for heroin, by opiates screen result and whether reported taking heroin in last 48 hours	89
Table D.1	Effect of weighting on survey estimates and confidence intervals	93

Executive Summary

Introduction

This bulletin reports the findings from the first nationally-representative survey of drugs and crime among arrestees in England and Wales. This is the first annual report of the Arrestee Survey and as such provides an overview and baseline on the following topics: prevalence of problematic drug misuse among arrestees; links between drug and/or alcohol consumption and offending; availability of drugs; estimated levels of demand (met and/or unmet) for drug and alcohol treatment services among the arrestee population; levels of intravenous drug use among arrestees; and the characteristics and self-reported offending histories of individuals entering the Criminal Justice System. The Arrestee Survey was commissioned to provide nationally-representative information on a range of topics relating to drugs and crime to aid in the development and monitoring of interventions associated with the Drug Strategy.

The Drug Strategy, which was updated in 2002, aims to reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs and has four key strands: reducing drug-related crime; reducing the supply of illegal drugs; preventing young people becoming drug users; and reducing drug use and drug-related harms through treatment and support. The Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) – which began in April 2003 - is the key element of the strategy to tackle drug-related crime. It provides tailored solutions for adult-drug-misusing offenders from arrest, court, sentencing, prison and beyond, using a case management approach to offer access to treatment and support. Although DIP operates across England and Wales, the full range of interventions operate in the areas with the highest levels of acquisitive crime (“intensive” areas). Drug testing after charge for certain “trigger” offences was introduced in 52 custody suites (in 30 police Basic Command Units) in 2003. The survey findings presented in this report relate to the period October 2003 to September 2004, soon after DIP began, and DIP has rolled out its various components more widely since then. As at November 2006, drug testing is operational in 170 custody suites (108 BCUs). Testing at arrest is now available as an alternative to testing on charge in the intensive areas (rolled out between December 2005 and March 2006) and individuals testing positive (at arrest or charge) are required to undergo an assessment with a drugs worker. The aim of these new interventions is to identify and assess the needs of more drug misusers in the early stages of the criminal justice system. A wide range of other interventions to tackle drug supply and prevent drug use are also being carried out as part of the Drug Strategy.

In the period covered by this report (1st October 2003 to 30th September 2004) the Arrestee Survey was carried out in a national sample of 60 custody suites, including both DIP–intensive and other areas. Within each custody suite, interviewers worked six-hour shifts and attempted to interview as many eligible arrestees as possible. Arrestees were eligible if they were 17 years or over and arrested on suspicion of committing any offence (not just the trigger offences targeted by DIP interventions). In total interviewers worked 5043 shifts and interviewed 7535 arrestees. The interview consisted of a 20-minute computerised interview with a substantial self-completion section, which contained the most sensitive questions about offending behaviour, drug and alcohol use and treatment for drugs. In addition, arrestees were asked to provide an oral fluid sample for analysis of recent drug use.

Accuracy of the survey data

There are several problems associated with interviewing in police custody suites, with implications for survey response. Issues such as having to fit interviewing around the police process, arrestees being a safety risk or unfit for interview meant that interviewers were only able to approach 32% of eligible arrestees to ask them if they were willing to take part. Overall, 72% of those approached participated in the survey; 23% of eligible arrestees. Although non-response weighting has been used to minimise bias (see Appendix D), there is an underlying assumption that among people arrested for committing a particular offence those interviewed are similar to those who were not interviewed. This assumption is usually felt to be acceptable if response rates are high, but is more questionable with response rates of the level found in this study, and there is a risk of a bias in the interviewed sample. However, it should be borne in mind that the purpose of this study is to measure change over time, and that therefore although the interviewed sample may not be representative, it is possible to measure change as long as any bias that exists remains fairly stable over time.

Characteristics of arrestees

The most common reasons for arrest among all arrestees were assault (16%) and shoplifting (12%). However, for those who had taken heroin, crack and/or cocaine (HCC) in the last 12 months the most common reasons for arrest were shoplifting (22%) or burglary (13%).

Arrestees were more likely to be men than women: 86% of participants were men, with 14% women. Nearly half were under 25 years old: 41% of all arrestees were aged between 17 and 24 years, 30% aged between 25 and 34 years, with 29% aged 35 years or over. The age profile was similar for men and women. Overall, 84% of the sample described themselves as White, 7% Black, 4% Asian and 3% of Mixed ethnicity.

Most arrestees were unemployed; overall, 28% were unemployed and looking for work, and 23% were unemployed and not looking for work (including those permanently unable to work due to long-term sickness). In total, 36% of all arrestees were in paid work, 6% were in full-time education or training, and 8% were doing something else (for example, looking after the home or family).

Arrestees were most likely to live in a house or flat that they or someone else owned or rented (88%). In the four weeks prior to interview, 12% of arrestees had slept rough.

Most arrestees said they had finished full-time education at the age of 16 or younger - 42% were less than 16 when they finished their full-time education and 37% were 16. Overall, 40% of arrestees had been excluded from school temporarily, 24% permanently. Nearly a fifth of all arrestees (18%) had spent some time in a foster home, children's home or a young person's unit.

Substance Misuse

In total, 57% of arrestees reported having taken one or more drugs in the last month. Cannabis was the most widely taken drug, with 46% having taken it in the last month, followed by heroin (18%) and crack (15%). Powder cocaine use was less prevalent with 10% having taken it in the last month, and overall 28% had taken heroin, crack or cocaine (HCC) in the last month.

Reported use of cannabis in the last month decreased with age (57% of 17-24 year olds compared with 28% of those aged 35 years or over), as did use of powder cocaine (14% of 17-24 year olds compared with 5% of those aged 35 years or over). In contrast reported use of heroin in the last month was most prevalent among those aged 25-34 years (28%) compared with 15% of 17-24 year olds and 10% of those aged 35 years or over. Use of crack was also most prevalent among the 25-34 age group.

Arrestees who had ever used any of the drugs asked about, were asked how often they usually took each drug. Although similar proportions of arrestees had taken heroin and taken crack in the last month, heroin was used more frequently. In total 13% of arrestees usually took heroin at least 5 times a week compared with 7% who took crack at last 5 times a week and 2% who took powder cocaine at least 5 times a week.

Arrestees who had ever used amphetamines, heroin, crack, powder cocaine (or drugs other than the specific listed drugs) were asked whether they had ever injected drugs. Overall, 18% had ever injected drugs. Those aged between 25 and 34 years were most likely to have ever injected drugs (30%) compared with 14% of those aged 17-24 years and 12% of those aged 35 years or over.

Dependence on individual drugs was measured using the Severity of Dependence Scale (SDS), which uses five questions to measure dependence. Among those who had used individual drugs in the last year, dependence on heroin was greater than on crack or powder cocaine – 85% of those who had taken heroin in the last year were dependent. Equivalent figures for crack and powder cocaine were 52% and 23%.

Problematic alcohol use among arrestees was assessed using the Fast Alcohol Screening Test (FAST) which uses between one and four questions to screen for hazardous drinking. Alcohol misuse is defined as having a FAST score of 3 or more. Overall, 57% of arrestees were harmful or dependent drinkers; 58% of men and 51% of women had a FAST score of 3 or more. Levels of alcohol misuse did not vary significantly with age.

Past contact with criminal justice system

Most arrestees reported having been arrested before - 55% had been previously arrested within the last 12 months and 27% had been arrested longer ago, although 19% had never been arrested before. Overall, 21% of arrestees had been to prison in the last 12 months, 23% had been to prison longer ago, and 56% had never been in prison.

Offending

Respondents were asked about offending behaviour from the last 4 weeks (other than the offence(s) for which they were currently under arrest) in relation to nine offences. Shoplifting was the most common of these offences reported by arrestees (18%), followed by selling stolen goods (16%), buying stolen goods (11%), vandalism (10%), selling drugs (7%) and stealing something else (7%). Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were more likely to have committed every offence than those who had not taken HCC.

For some other, less common offences, arrestees were asked about offences committed in the last 12 months. Assault was most common offence reported (committed by 22% of all arrestees), followed by possession of a weapon other than a gun (16%). Arrest for possession of drugs (11%), stealing a motor vehicle (10%) and stealing from a motor vehicle (9%), were

the next most common offences. Once again, those who had taken HCC were more likely to have reported each type of offence.

Acquisitive crimes are defined as those where an offence is committed to obtain money or goods. Overall, 39% of arrestees had committed acquisitive crimes covered in the survey in the last 12 months. Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were more likely to have committed acquisitive crime and to have committed more of it than those who had not taken HCC.

All arrestees were asked whether they had committed any crimes in the last four weeks in order to buy or get hold of drugs - overall 15% of arrestees said that they had. This was much more likely among those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months, 36% of whom said they had committed a crime to get drugs, compared with 2% of those who had not taken HCC.

For each type of offence that arrestees had committed, they were asked about the cash value of the proceeds of the offence and a total estimated annual income was calculated. In the last 12 months, 34% of arrestees claimed to have made money from crime. Those who had taken HCC were more likely to make money from crime, and the amounts they made tended to be larger. A total of 64% of them had made money from crime in the last 12 months, and 25% had made £5000 or more. Among those who had not taken HCC, 17% had any income from crime in the last year, and 3% had made £5000 or more.

Treatment

The treatment for drug use that was reported by arrestees was dominated by heroin treatment. Among those who had ever taken heroin, 58% had ever been offered treatment, 52% had received treatment (34% in the last 12 months) and 22% were currently receiving treatment. Treatment for other drugs was at a much lower level. Among those who had ever used individual drugs (or taken alcohol), 52% had ever had treatment for heroin, 7% had ever had treatment for crack, 2% for cocaine and 12% for alcohol.

There was some evidence that treatment was being successfully targeted at those arrestees with greater treatment needs. Among those who had ever taken heroin, 40% of those who took heroin five or more times a week had received treatment in the last 12 months, compared with 22% of those who said that they no longer used heroin or had used heroin once. However, 90% of those who usually take heroin every day reported that they would like treatment for heroin, and this coupled with the fact that 60% of arrestees who usually take heroin almost every day have not received any treatment in the last 12 months, suggests that there was still substantial unmet demand for heroin treatment.

There were similar patterns for other drugs and for alcohol. The largest gap between desire for treatment and receiving some was among those who took crack – 67% of those who took crack five or more times a week wanted treatment, but only 9% had had treatment in the last 12 months. Equivalent figures for frequent powder cocaine users were 30% and 7%, and for hazardous drinkers (defined by FAST) were 27% and 9%.

Availability and supply of drugs

For those arrestees who had ever bought heroin, crack and powder cocaine, the drugs were always available to a significant majority when they had enough money to buy them. Among those had bought heroin in the last year, 79% said that it was available all the time and 18%

reported it was available most of the time, while 2% said it was available to them only some of the time, and 1% said heroin was often not available.

Crack and powder cocaine followed a similar pattern of general availability to heroin, although powder cocaine was not as readily available as heroin or crack. Compared with the 79% who said heroin was always available, 77% of those who had bought crack in the last year said it was always available, as did 69% of those who had bought powder cocaine in the last year.

All arrestees were asked whether they had ever sold heroin, crack or powder cocaine, even if they had never used or bought each drug. In total, 9% of arrestees had ever sold heroin, 5% had sold crack and 5% had sold powder cocaine.

1 Introduction

The survey

The Arrestee Survey is the first nationally representative survey of drugs and crime in England and Wales. It builds on the earlier New English and Welsh Drug Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (NEW-ADAM) Programme which was conducted in selected high throughput custody suites between 1999 and 2001¹. The NEW-ADAM survey, although not nationally-representative, confirmed the strong association between drugs, particularly heroin and crack cocaine, and crime. This information was used to inform the Government's Drug Strategy and the Arrestee Survey was commissioned to provide nationally representative and broader information to aid policy development and monitoring.

The Drug Strategy, which was updated in 2002, aims to reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs and has four key strands: reducing drug-related crime; reducing the supply of illegal drugs; preventing young people becoming drug users; and reducing drug use and drug-related harms through treatment and support. The Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) – which began in April 2003 - is the key element of the strategy to tackle drug-related crime. It provides tailored solutions for adult-drug-misusing offenders from arrest, court, sentencing, prison and beyond, using a case management approach to offer access to treatment and support. Although DIP operates across England and Wales, the full range of interventions operate in the areas with the highest levels of acquisitive crime ("intensive" areas). Drug testing after charge for certain "trigger" offences was introduced in 52 custody suites (in 30 police Basic Command Units) in 2003. The survey findings presented in this report relate to the period October 2003 to September 2004, soon after DIP began, and DIP has rolled out its various components more widely since then. As at November 2006, drug testing is operational in 170 custody suites (108 BCUs). Testing at arrest is now available as an alternative to testing on charge in the intensive areas (rolled out between December 2005 and March 2006) and individuals testing positive (at arrest or charge) are required to undergo an assessment with a drugs worker. The aim of these new interventions is to identify and assess the needs of more drug misusers in the early stages of the criminal justice system². A wide range of other interventions to tackle drug supply and prevent drug use are also being carried out as part of the Drug Strategy.

The aim of the survey is to provide information to assist in the development and monitoring of intervention programmes, specifically to provide:

- measurement of the prevalence and change in problematic drug misuse, including intravenous drug use, among a representative sample of arrestees in England and Wales (a group likely to be under-represented in household surveys);
- individual-level data for investigation of the behavioural links between drug and/or alcohol consumption and offending;
- information on the level of demand (met and/or unmet) for treatment services among the arrestee and/or problematic drug/alcohol user population; and
- a means for routine collection of information on the characteristics and offending histories of individuals at the point of entry to the Criminal Justice System.

Research design

The eligible population was defined as people aged 17 and over in England and Wales who had been arrested on suspicion of committing an offence, and had not been interviewed on the survey previously (since 1st October 2003). The sample design was a 2-stage design with randomised selection of custody suites and of arrestees within suites, which would be representative of all arrest events over a 12 month period.

Suites were eligible for selection if they were open 24 hours, designated under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE), had at least one interview room and dealt with more than 2000 arrests per year. The population of eligible suites was split into four strata according to the number of annual arrests, namely with a high, medium and low flow of arrestees, and with approximately equal numbers of arrestees per stratum. Thus the high flow stratum contained a relatively small number of large suites, whereas the low flow stratum contained a larger number of small suites. Fifteen suites were selected from each stratum with probability proportional to annual arrest flow. Although the sample is nationally representative, there was no stratification by Police Force Area and thus the sample is not representative of individual Police Force Areas.

Within each custody suite, interviewers worked a number of six-hour shifts, and attempted to interview as many eligible arrestees as possible. The sample of shifts was designed to cover all days of the week and all hours of the day. The number of shifts selected per suite was in proportion to the square root of the estimated arrestee inflow, to exploit the lower interview costs in large suites.

For the first six months of fieldwork the shift start times were 03:00, 09:00, 15:00 and 21:00, but there were two major operational difficulties with this shift pattern. Firstly, arrestees tend to have their statutory uninterrupted rest period between 00:00 and 06:00, so this was affecting the end of the shifts starting at 21:00 and the start of the 03:00 shifts. Secondly, the 03:00 shift was having a very disruptive effect on interviewers sleep patterns. Therefore for the second six months of fieldwork shifts start times were 00:00, 06:00, 12:00 and 18:00.

The survey was carried out in a nationally representative sample of 60 custody suites between 1st October 2003 and 30th September 2004 and in total interviewers worked 5043 shifts and interviewed 7535 arrestees (a rate of 1.5 per shift).

The interview consisted of a CAPI³ interview of around 20 minutes with a substantial CASI self completion section, which contained the most sensitive questions about offending behaviour, drug and alcohol use and treatment for drugs. Audio-CASI was available for arrestees with literacy problems. In addition, arrestees were asked to provide an oral fluid sample for analysis of recent drug use and these were sent to Cozart Bioscience Ltd for testing (testing procedures are detailed in Appendix B). For eligible arrestees who did not take part in the main interview, interviewers attempted to administer a short 5-minute non-response questionnaire.

Response rates, weighting and the representativeness of the sample

There are two important issues concerning representativeness of the sample: non-response and the distinction between arrest events and arrestees.

There are many problems associated with interviewing in police custody suites, with implications for survey response. Interviewers are governed by PACE, and as such cannot do anything which extends the length of an arrestee's stay in custody, which means having to fit interviews around the police process. Although the main interview averaged 20 minutes, the whole process from getting arrestees from the cells and explaining the survey to them, doing the interview and taking an oral fluid sample, then returning them to their cells took around 45 minutes. Therefore it was necessary to find a 45 minute gap in police procedures to fit in each interview. Additional problems such as arrestees being a safety risk or unfit for interview meant that interviewers were only able to approach 32% of eligible arrestees to ask them if they were willing to take part. Overall, 72% of those approached participated in the survey; 23% of eligible arrestees (see Appendix A for detailed response rates).

People arrested for some particular offences were less likely to take part than for other offences. Only 7% of those arrested for being drunk and disorderly were interviewed, and other offences for which response rates were under 20% were disorder (16%), drink-driving (17%) and sex offences (17%). Although non-response weighting has been used to minimise bias (see Appendix D), there is an underlying assumption that among people arrested for committing a particular offence those interviewed are similar to those who were not interviewed. This assumption is usually felt to be acceptable if response rates are high, but is more questionable with response rates of the level found in this study, and there is a risk of a bias in the interviewed sample. Therefore there are concerns about whether the interviewed sample of arrestees is representative of the population of those arrested. However, it should be borne in mind that the purpose of this study is to measure change over time, and that therefore although the interviewed sample may be biased, it is possible to measure change as long as any bias that exists remains fairly stable over time.

It should also be noted that the design effects are quite high for this survey (see Appendix D), and that therefore the confidence interval around survey estimates are greater than for a simple random sample of the same sample size.

The distinction between arrest events and arrested people is important when considering representativeness of the sample. There are essentially two distinct concepts underlying the Arrestee Survey: the population of arrested people (all those who experience arrest during the reference year) and the population of arrest events (the set of all eligible arrests that take place during the year). Given the design of the survey, people who experience frequent arrests during the year have a greater chance of being sampled and, consequently, the sample is not representative of the population of arrestees (however, a set of weights is available to improve representativeness in this sense). However, the sample is designed to be representative of the population of arrest events, since an individual's chance of being sampled is approximately proportional to the number of arrests he or she experiences and in this report, the results presented do not include any correction for frequency of arrest. This distinction is an important one to bear in mind when interpreting Arrestee Survey data.

This report

This report is intended to provide key findings from the first year of the survey. It covers the main areas investigated by the survey, including offending behaviour, substance misuse, access to treatment and availability of drugs. Forthcoming reports will provide more detailed analysis of specific policy-relevant topics, and there will also be a technical report with more detail of the survey and sample design.

In this report, comparisons are made between arrestees who have taken either heroin or crack or powder cocaine in the last 12 months and arrestees who have not. It should be noted that in addition to regular users of these drugs this definition also includes occasional or recreational users. In order to make the report more readable, the abbreviation HCC is used to refer to heroin, crack or cocaine throughout the report. Drug use is covered in detail in Chapter 3.

Design effects and true standard errors are presented for some key variables in Appendix D. Percentages are rounded to 0 decimal places, so that percentages may not add to 100%. Tables show weighted and unweighted bases and percentages, but not weighted counts. The following notations have been used:

Percentages enclosed in [] are based on between 30 and 49 unweighted cases and should be treated with caution as they may be unreliable. Percentages based on less than 30 unweighted bases are too unreliable to be shown and have been replaced with "**".

"0" = a percentage of less than 0.5 but more than 0.

"-" = a true zero, no cases for this category.

Notes and references

¹ Bennett, T and Holloway, K. (2004) 'The results of the first two years of the NEW-ADAM Programme'. Home Office Online Report 19/04.

² For the latest information on the Drug Interventions Programme see www.drugs.gov.uk.

³ CAPI stands for Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing, and is where the interviewer conducted the interview using a laptop computer. CASI is where the interview is self-completion using a laptop, and A-CASI or Audio-CASI is where the questions were recorded and the arrestee then listens to them via headphones during a self-completion interview.

2 Characteristics of arrestees

Introduction

This chapter starts with an overview of the characteristics of all arrestees then examines these characteristics by age and whether arrestees have taken heroin, crack or cocaine in the last year.

One of the key objectives of this report is to look at differences between arrestees who take drugs and those who do not. The drugs that are associated with most harm and are the key focus of the current Drug Strategy are heroin, crack and cocaine, so this report divides arrestees into those who reported having taken heroin, crack or cocaine in the last year (abbreviated to HCC in the last year) and those who have not. It should be borne in mind that the group who have taken HCC in the last year includes occasional as well as regular drug users.

Overview of characteristics of arrestees

The most common reasons for arrest were assault (16%) and shoplifting (12%).

(Table 2.1)

In total, 86% of arrestees were men and 14% were women, 41% were aged 17-24 years, 30% were aged 25-34 years and 29% were aged 35 years or over. The majority of arrestees were White, with 16% from Black, Asian, Mixed or other ethnic groups.

(Tables 2.5-2.7)

In terms of education and working status, 42% had finished full time education before they were 16 and a further 37% finished aged 16, 40% had been temporarily excluded and 24% permanently excluded. Arrestees were less likely to be working than not working – 36% were in paid employment, while 51% were unemployed.

(Tables 2.11, 2.12, 2.8)

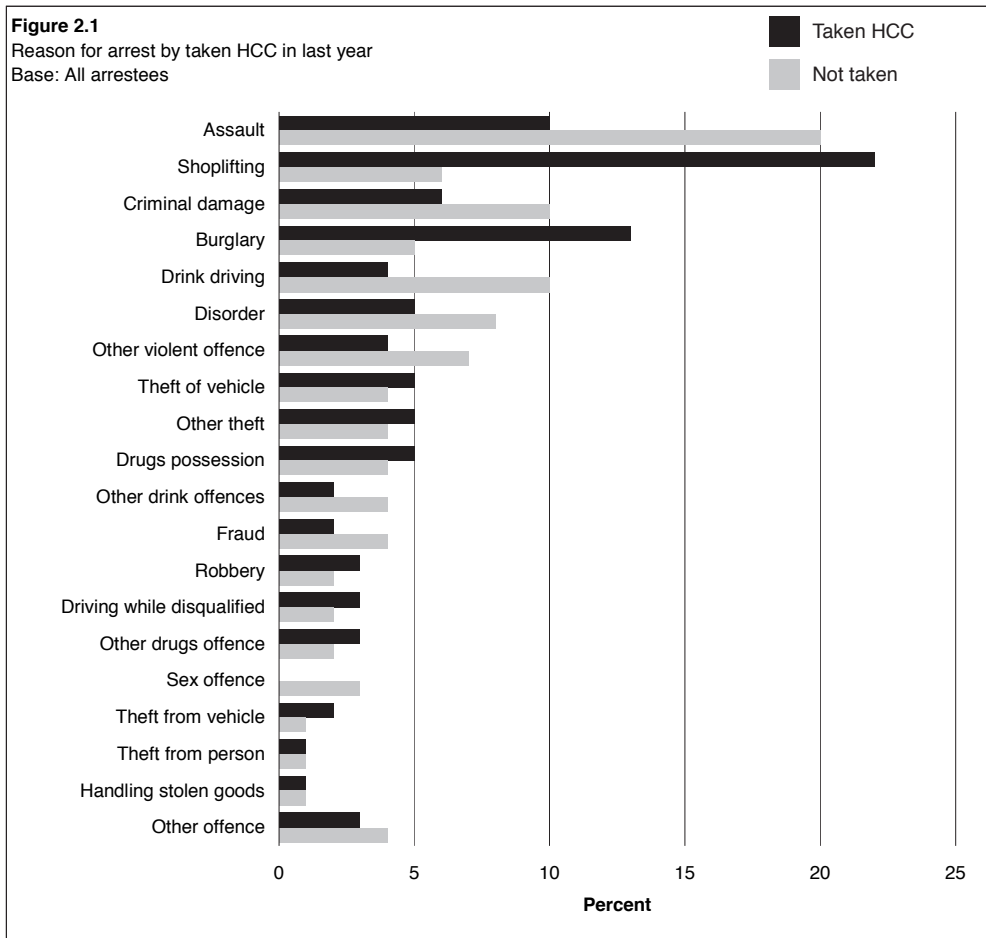
The majority of arrestees (88%) lived in a house or flat, 4% lived in a hostel and 4% were homeless. A total of 12% had slept rough at some point in the last 4 weeks. Overall, 18% had lived in a foster home or other local authority care.

(Tables 2.9, 2.10, 2.13)

Reason for arrest

Most information on offending was supplied by the arrestees themselves and the information on self-reported offending is covered in Chapter 5. However, the reason for their current arrest was taken from custody records. The most common reasons for arrest among all those interviewed were assault (16%) and shoplifting (12%). However, those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were most likely to have been arrested for shoplifting (22%) or burglary (13%). Those who had not taken HCC were most likely to have been arrested for assault (20%), criminal damage (10%) or drink driving (10%).

(Tables 2.1, 2.2, Figure 2.1)



Overall, 38% of arrestees had taken HCC in the last 12 months, but the proportion varied according to the reason for arrest. Those arrested for shoplifting and burglary were more likely to have taken HCC (68% and 63% respectively), and those arrested for sex offences (9%), drink driving (19%) and assault (23%) were less likely to have taken HCC.

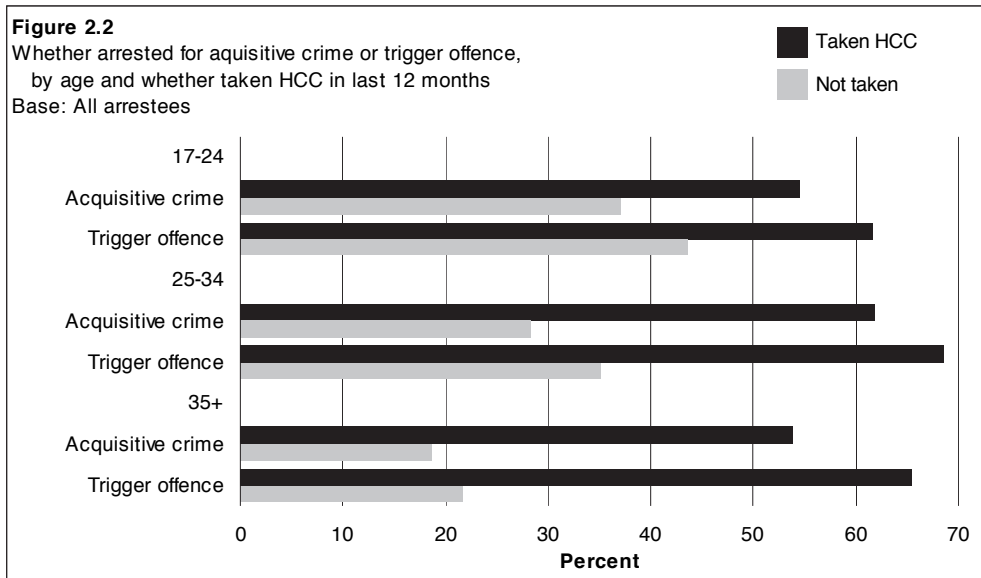
(Table 2.3)

In all age groups, those who had taken HCC in the last year were more likely than those who had not to have been arrested for an acquisitive crime or for a drug-testing trigger offence.¹ For example, among 17-24 year olds 55% of those who had taken HCC in the last year were arrested for an acquisitive crime compared with 37% of those who had not taken HCC.

Among those who had not taken HCC in the last year, the prevalence of being arrested for an acquisitive crime decreased with age from 37% of 17-24 year olds to 19% of those aged 35 years or older. There was a similar decrease with age for the prevalence of being arrested for a trigger offence.

However, there was a different relationship between age and reason for arrest among those who had taken HCC. Among arrestees who had taken HCC in the last year, 55% of those aged 17-24 years and 54% of those aged 35 years or over were arrested for an acquisitive crime. This increased to 62% of 25-34 year olds who had taken HCC. A similar pattern with age was seen for being arrested for a trigger offence.

(Table 2.4, Figure 2.2)



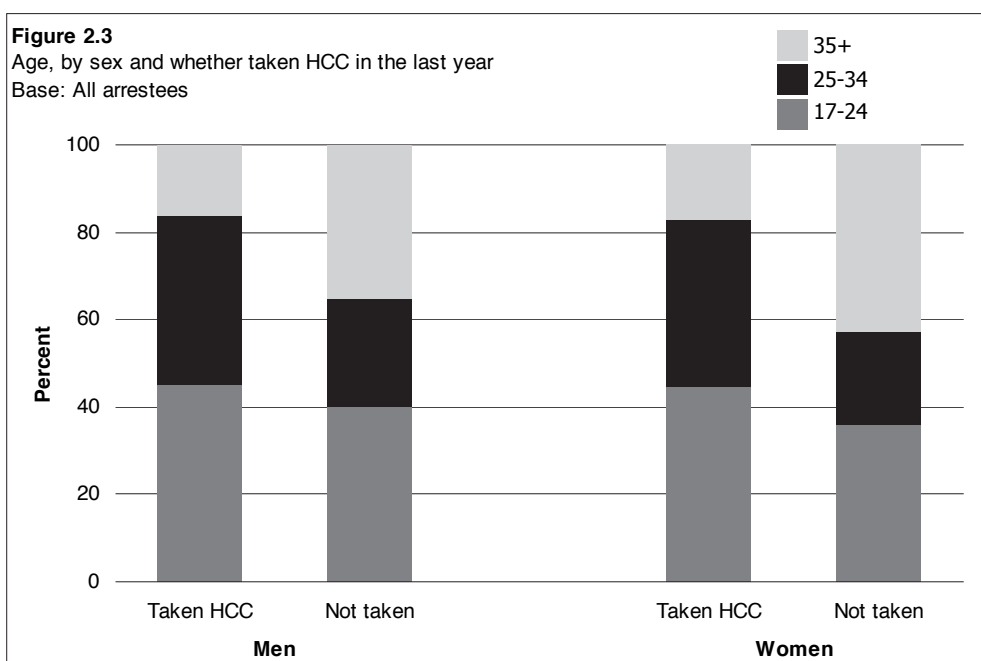
Sex and age

Arrestees were more likely to be men than women: 86% of participants were men, with 14% women. Around two in five arrestees were aged under 25: 41% of all arrestees were aged between 17 and 24 years, 30% aged between 25 and 34 years, with 29% aged 35 or over. The age profile was similar for men and women.

(Tables 2.5, 2.6)

In total 38% of arrestees reported having taken heroin, crack or cocaine in the last year. Arrestees who said they had taken HCC in the last 12 months were likely to be younger than those who had not². In total 16% of those who had taken HCC were aged 35 years or over compared with 36% of arrestees who had not taken HCC in the last 12 months.

(Tables 2.3, 2.6, Figure 2.3)

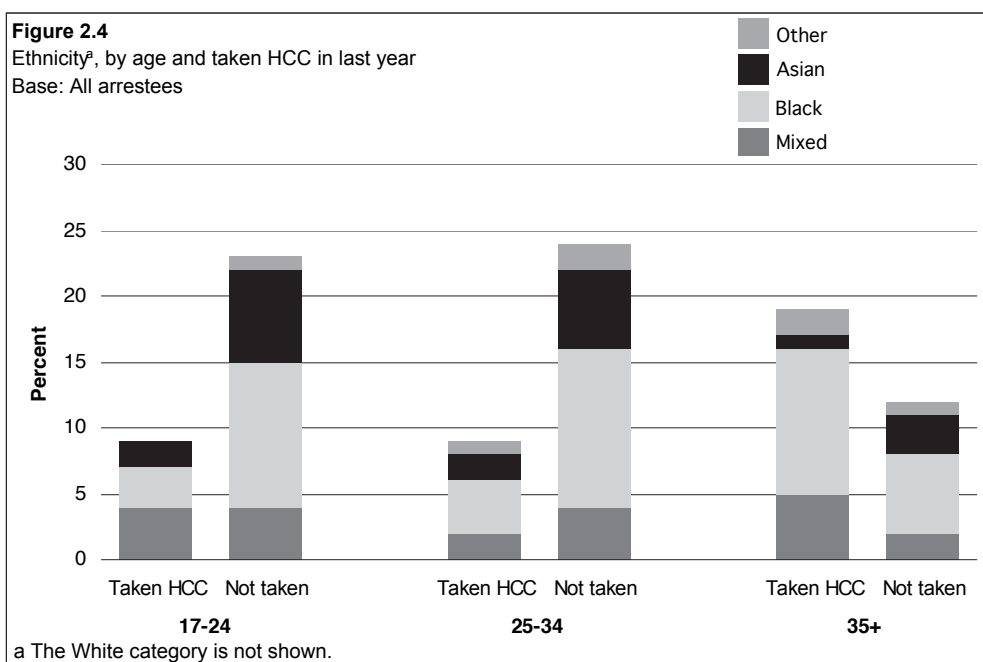


Ethnicity

Overall, 84% of the sample described themselves as White, 7% Black, 4% Asian and 3% of Mixed ethnicity³. Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were more likely to be White, and less likely to be Black or Asian. Among those who had taken HCC, 89% were White, 5% Black, 4% Mixed and 2% Asian, compared with 81% White, 9% Black, 5% Asian and 3% Mixed arrestees who had not taken HCC in the last 12 months.

Older arrestees were more likely to describe themselves as White than those aged under 35. However, among those aged 35 years or over, arrestees who had taken HCC were more likely to be from a minority ethnic group (19%) than those who had not (11%) while the reverse was true for younger arrestees.

(Table 2.7, Figure 2.4)

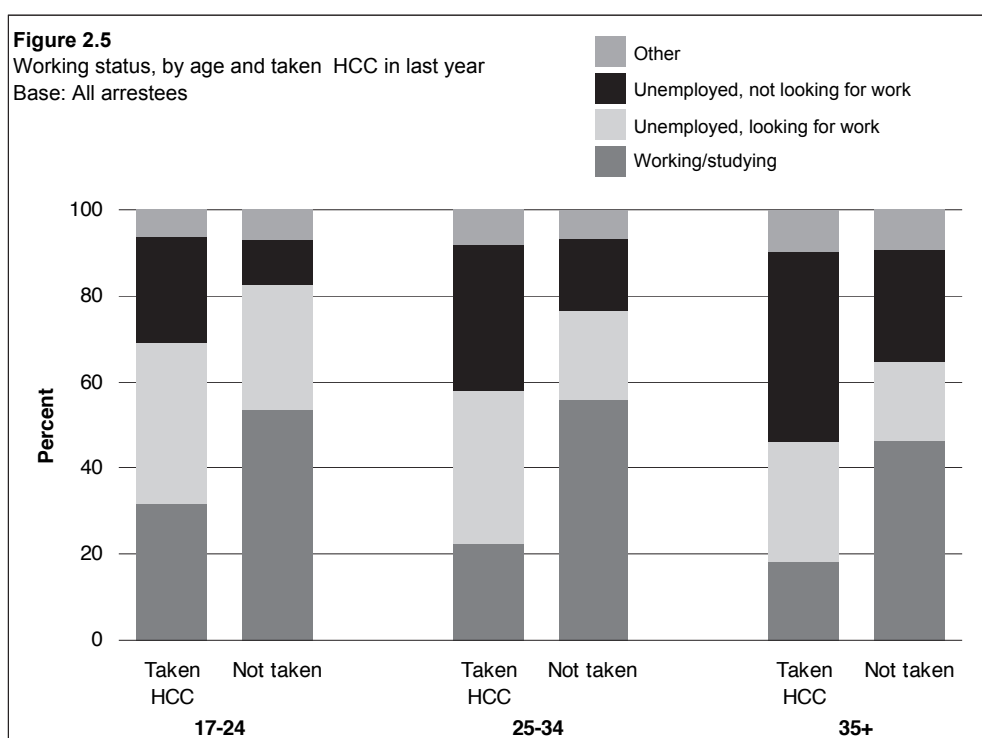


Working status

Most arrestees were unemployed: overall, 28% were unemployed and looking for work, and 23% were unemployed and not looking for work (including those permanently unable to work due to long-term sickness). In total, 36% of all arrestees were in paid work, 6% were in full-time education or training, and 8% were doing something else (for example, looking after the home or family).

Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were more likely to be unemployed than those who had not taken HCC. Among those who had taken HCC, 35% were unemployed but looking for work, and 31% were unemployed and not looking for work. In comparison, 23% of those who had not taken HCC were unemployed but looking for work and 18% were unemployed and not looking for work.

(Table 2.8, Figure 2.5)



Accommodation

Arrestees were most likely to live in a house or flat that they or someone else owned or rented (88%). Otherwise they were most likely to live in a hostel (4%) or to be homeless or with no fixed address (4%). Those who had taken HCC were more likely to live in a hostel (5%) or to be homeless (6%) than those who had not (3% and 3% respectively) and less likely than other arrestees to live in a house or flat – 82% compared with 92%.

(Table 2.9)

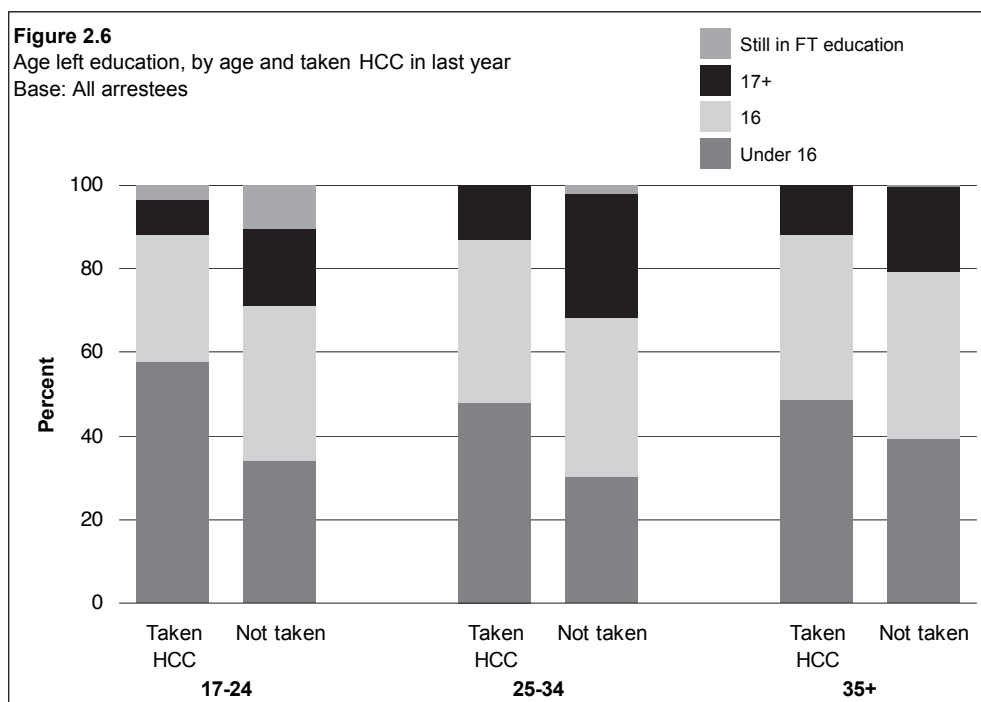
In the four weeks prior to interview, 12% of arrestees had slept rough⁴. Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were more likely to have slept rough than those who had not – 19% compared with 8%.

(Table 2.10)

Education

Most arrestees had finished full-time education at the age of 16 or younger - 42% were younger than 16 when they finished their full-time education, 37% were aged 16, 18% were 17 years or older, and 4% were still in full-time education⁵. Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were more likely to have left school early: 53% had left before they were 16, compared to 35% of those who had not taken HCC.

(Table 2.11, Figure 2.6)



Overall, 40% of arrestees had been excluded from school temporarily, 24% permanently. For all arrestees, there was a strong relationship between age at interview and exclusion from school: younger arrestees were much more likely to have been excluded.

Those who had taken HCC were more likely to have been excluded from school: 58% had been temporarily excluded and 38% permanently excluded, compared with 29% and 15% of those who had not taken HCC.

(Table 2.12)

Local authority care

Around one-fifth of all arrestees (18%) had spent some time in a foster home, children's home or a young person's unit and this was more common among those who had taken drugs – 26% of those who had taken HCC in the last year had done so compared with 13% of those who had not taken HCC.

(Table 2.13)

Notes and References

1. The definitions of trigger offence and acquisitive crime used in this report are in Appendix C. Trigger offences are those offences where if an arrestee is charged with that offence, then they have to provide an oral fluid sample for the police to test for recent drug use. The definition of trigger offences used here was based on those current at the time of the survey.
2. Note that those who had not taken HCC in the last year includes those who had taken other drugs as well as those who had not taken any drugs in the last year.
3. This is based on respondents' own definitions of their ethnicity, using the sixteen 2001 census categories. For the purposes of analysis, these have been combined into the five categories shown in Table 2.7.
4. Sleeping rough was defined as "sleeping on the streets or some other public place such as a park, field etc."
5. The majority of those leaving school at less than 16 would be pupils who no longer turned up to classes or had been excluded, as it would only have been legal to leave school at 15 or younger for those aged 17 or above.

Table 2.1

Reason for arrest, by age

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Reason for arrest	Age			Total
	17-24	25-34	35+	
	%	%	%	%
Assault	13	14	22	16
Shoplifting	11	16	10	12
Criminal damage	10	7	9	9
Burglary	11	8	4	8
Drink driving	5	7	12	8
Disorder	7	7	8	7
Other violent offence	5	5	6	5
Theft of vehicle	7	4	2	5
Other theft	5	5	3	4
Drugs possession	4	5	3	4
Other drink offences	3	2	3	3
Fraud	2	4	3	3
Robbery	4	2	1	3
Driving while disqualified	3	3	2	2
Other drugs offence	2	2	3	2
Sex offence	1	2	4	2
Theft from vehicle	2	2	0	2
Theft from person	1	1	1	1
Handling stolen goods	1	1	1	1
Other offence	3	3	4	3
<i>Weighted bases</i>	<i>3123</i>	<i>2254</i>	<i>2154</i>	<i>7535</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	<i>3516</i>	<i>2192</i>	<i>1824</i>	<i>7535</i>

Table 2.2

Reason for arrest, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Reason for arrest	Age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months							
	17-24		25-34		35+		Taken HCC	Not taken
	Taken	Not taken	Taken	Not taken	Taken	Not taken		
	HCC		HCC		HCC		%	%
%	%	%	%	%	%			
Assault	10	15	8	20	11	25	10	20
Shoplifting	17	6	27	7	24	6	22	6
Criminal damage	7	11	6	9	5	10	6	10
Burglary	15	8	13	3	9	2	13	5
Drink driving	3	7	4	9	6	14	4	10
Disorder	7	7	4	9	5	9	5	8
Other violent offence	3	7	4	6	4	7	4	7
Theft of vehicle	7	7	5	3	1	2	5	4
Other theft	5	4	6	5	4	2	5	4
Drugs possession	4	4	5	5	7	2	5	4
Other drink offences	3	4	2	3	1	4	2	4
Fraud	1	3	2	6	3	3	2	4
Robbery	4	4	2	1	4	1	3	2
Driving while disqualified	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	2
Other drugs offence	3	2	2	2	5	2	3	2
Sex offence	1	1	0	3	0	5	0	3
Theft from vehicle	2	2	3	2	2	-	2	1
Theft from person	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Handling stolen goods	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1
Other offence	3	3	2	3	3	4	3	4
<i>Weighted bases</i>	<i>1279</i>	<i>1816</i>	<i>1096</i>	<i>1131</i>	<i>457</i>	<i>1672</i>	<i>2833</i>	<i>4622</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	<i>1490</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>1136</i>	<i>1034</i>	<i>495</i>	<i>1305</i>	<i>3122</i>	<i>4331</i>

Table 2.3

Proportion who had taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months by reason for arrest

All arrestees *Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Reason for arrest	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months			
		Taken HCC	Weighted bases	Unweighted bases
Shoplifting	%	68	910	1225
Burglary	%	63	596	665
Driving while disqualified	%	46	183	213
Drugs possession	%	45	298	365
Other drugs offence	%	45	165	208
Other theft	%	41	1143	1299
Other violent offence	%	33	605	599
Disorder	%	29	536	444
Other drink offences	%	28	228	134
Criminal damage	%	27	640	552
Assault	%	23	1185	1123
Drink driving	%	19	570	296
Sex offence	%	9	149	109
Other offence	%	34	248	221
Acquisitive crime				
Yes	%	55	2928	3462
No	%	27	4526	3991
Trigger Offence				
Yes	%	54	3392	4011
No	%	24	4063	3442
Total	%	38	7455	7453

Table 2.4**Proportion arrested for acquisitive crime or a trigger offence, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months**

Reason for arrest	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		
	Yes %	No %	Total %
<i>All arrestees</i> <i>Oct 2003-Sept 2004</i>			
17-24			
Acquisitive crime	55	37	44
Trigger offence	62	44	51
25-34			
Acquisitive crime	62	28	45
Trigger offence	69	35	52
35+			
Acquisitive crime	54	19	26
Trigger offence	65	22	31
Total			
Acquisitive crime	57	28	39
Trigger offence	65	34	45
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1279	1816	3123
25-34	1096	1131	2254
35+	457	1672	2154
<i>Total</i>	2833	4622	7535
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1490	1990	3516
25-34	1136	1034	2192
35+	495	1305	1824
<i>Total</i>	3122	4331	7535

Table 2.5**Sex, by whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months***All arrestees**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Sex	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total
	Yes	No	
	%	%	%
Male	87	85	86
Female	13	15	14
<i>Weighted bases</i>	2833	4622	7535
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	3122	4331	7535

Table 2.6**Age, by sex and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months***All arrestees**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Age	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total
	Yes	No	
	%	%	%
Male			
17-24	45	40	42
25-34	39	25	30
35+	16	35	28
Female			
17-24	45	36	39
25-34	38	21	27
35+	17	43	33
Total			
17-24	45	39	41
25-34	39	24	30
35+	16	36	29
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
<i>Male</i>	2457	3931	6454
<i>Female</i>	376	691	1081
<i>Total</i>	2833	4622	7535
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
<i>Male</i>	2627	3699	6396
<i>Female</i>	495	632	1139
<i>Total</i>	3122	4331	7535

Table 2.7

Ethnic group, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees *Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Ethnic group	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
17-24			
White	90	77	82
Mixed	4	4	4
Asian	2	7	5
Black	3	11	8
Other	0	1	1
25-34			
White	91	76	83
Mixed	2	4	3
Asian	2	6	4
Black	4	12	8
Other	1	2	2
35+			
White	81	89	87
Mixed	5	2	2
Asian	1	3	3
Black	11	6	7
Other	2	1	1
Total			
White	89	81	84
Mixed	4	3	3
Asian	2	5	4
Black	5	9	7
Other	1	2	1
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1278	1816	3122
25-34	1093	1131	2250
35+	453	1667	2145
<i>Total</i>	2825	4616	7522
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1489	1989	3514
25-34	1133	1033	2188
35+	493	1301	1818
<i>Total</i>	3116	4325	7523

Table 2.8

Working status, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Working status	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
17-24			
In full-time education or training	6	14	11
In paid employment	25	40	34
Unemployed, looking for work or training	38	29	33
Unemployed, not looking for work/long-term sickness	25	10	16
Doing something else	6	7	7
25-34			
In full-time education or training	1	4	2
In paid employment	21	52	37
Unemployed, looking for work or training	36	21	28
Unemployed, not looking for work/long-term sickness	34	17	25
Doing something else	8	7	7
35+			
In full-time education or training	2	1	1
In paid employment	17	45	39
Unemployed, looking for work or training	28	18	20
Unemployed, not looking for work/long-term sickness	44	26	30
Doing something else	10	9	9
Total			
In full-time education or training	3	7	6
In paid employment	22	45	36
Unemployed, looking for work or training	35	23	28
Unemployed, not looking for work/long-term sickness	31	18	23
Doing something else	8	8	8
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1267	1799	3093
25-34	1089	1127	2243
35+	452	1667	2143
<i>Total</i>	2809	4596	7483
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1474	1973	3481
25-34	1127	1028	2177
35+	491	1300	1814
<i>Total</i>	3093	4303	7475

Table 2.9

Accommodation, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Accommodation	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
17-24			
In a house or flat	84	91	88
In a squat	1	0	0
In a hostel	5	4	4
Homeless or with no fixed address	5	2	3
In inpatient or drug or alcohol treatment	0	-	0
In prison or other custody	3	1	2
Other	2	2	2
25-34			
In a house or flat	80	93	87
In a squat	1	0	0
In a hostel	6	2	4
Homeless or with no fixed address	8	2	5
In inpatient or drug or alcohol treatment	1	0	0
In prison or other custody	3	1	2
Other	1	1	1
35+			
In a house or flat	82	92	90
In a squat	1	0	0
In a hostel	5	2	3
Homeless or with no fixed address	6	4	4
In inpatient or drug/alcohol treatment	-	0	0
In prison or other custody	3	1	1
Other	2	1	2
Total			
In a house or flat	82	92	88
In a squat	1	0	0
In a hostel	5	3	4
Homeless or with no fixed address	6	3	4
In inpatient or drug or alcohol treatment	0	0	0
In prison or other custody	3	1	2
Other	2	2	2
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1279	1813	3120
25-34	1096	1131	2254
35+	457	1672	2154
Total	2833	4619	7532
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1490	1988	3514
25-34	1136	1034	2192
35+	495	1305	1824
Total	3122	4329	7533

Table 2.10

Slept rough in the last 4 weeks, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees *Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Slept rough in the last 4 weeks	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total
	Yes	No	
	<i>% slept rough in last 4 weeks</i>		
17-24	19	7	12
25-34	21	7	14
35+	18	8	10
Total	19	8	12
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1279	1812	3119
25-34	1095	1131	2253
35+	457	1671	2153
Total	2831	4618	7530
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1490	1989	3515
25-34	1135	1034	2191
35+	495	1304	1823
Total	3121	4329	7532

Table 2.11

Age finished full time education, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Age finished full time education	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
17-24			
Less than 16 years	58	34	44
16 years	30	37	34
17 years or over	8	18	14
Still in full-time education	4	10	8
25-34			
Less than 16 years	48	30	39
16 years	39	38	39
17 years or over	13	30	21
Still in full-time education	0	2	1
35+			
Less than 16 years	49	39	42
16 years	39	40	40
17 years or over	12	20	18
Still in full-time education	-	0	0
Total			
Less than 16 years	53	35	42
16 years	35	38	37
17 years or over	11	22	18
Still in full-time education	2	5	4
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1278	1812	3119
25-34	1095	1131	2253
35+	457	1670	2152
Total	2830	4617	7528
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1489	1987	3512
25-34	1135	1033	2190
35+	495	1303	1822
Total	3120	4325	7527

Table 2.12

Proportion temporarily or permanently excluded from school, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

<i>All arrestees</i>		<i>Oct 2003-Sept 2004</i>		
Temporary or permanent exclusion from school	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months			Total %
	Yes %	No %		
17-24				
Temporarily excluded from school	72	47		57
Permanently excluded from school	47	26		35
25-34				
Temporarily excluded from school	52	27		39
Permanently excluded from school	32	13		22
35+				
Temporarily excluded from school	35	10		16
Permanently excluded from school	24	6		10
Total				
Temporarily excluded from school	58	29		40
Permanently excluded from school	38	15		24
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
17-24	1279	1815		3122
25-34	1096	1131		2254
35+	457	1672		2154
Total	2833	4620		7533
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
17-24	1490	1988		3514
25-34	1136	1033		2191
35+	495	1305		1824
Total	3122	4328		7532

Table 2.13

Ever lived in a foster home, children's home or young person's unit, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees *Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Ever lived in a local authority care	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total
	Yes	No	
	<i>% ever lived in local authority care</i>		
17-24	27	14	19
25-34	24	14	18
35+	29	11	15
Total	26	13	18
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1279	1816	3123
25-34	1096	1131	2254
35+	457	1671	2153
Total	2833	4622	7534
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1490	1990	3516
25-34	1136	1034	2192
35+	495	1304	1823
Total	3122	4330	7534

3 Substance misuse

Introduction

This chapter covers self-reported illicit drug use and drinking. A comparison of self-reported drug use and the results from testing oral fluid samples for recent use of opiates and cocaine is contained in Appendix B.

Drugs taken

All arrestees were asked about their use of ten different individual drugs over a range of time periods, including when they last used each drug (if they had ever used it). The drugs included in the questionnaire were: cannabis, heroin, crack cocaine, powder cocaine, tranquillisers, ecstasy, amphetamines, unprescribed methadone, magic mushrooms and LSD. In total, 57% of arrestees had taken one or more drugs in the last month. Cannabis was the most widely taken drug, with 46% who had taken it in the last month, followed by heroin (18%) and crack (15%). Powder cocaine use was less prevalent with 10% having taken it in the last month. Overall 28% had taken heroin, crack or cocaine (HCC) in the last month.

(Table 3.1)

There was evidence of considerable polydrug use among drug users. Among those who had taken HCC in the last month, 34% had taken heroin and crack in the last month, 25% had taken powder cocaine only, and 20% had taken heroin only. There were differences in patterns of polydrug use between men and women and by different age groups. Among those who had taken HCC in the last month, men were more likely than women to have only taken powder cocaine (27% compared with 8%), but less likely to have taken both heroin and crack (32% compared with 51%). Among the same group, the proportion of taking crack only was highest among those aged 35 years or over, and prevalence of taking powder cocaine only was highest among those aged 17-24 years.

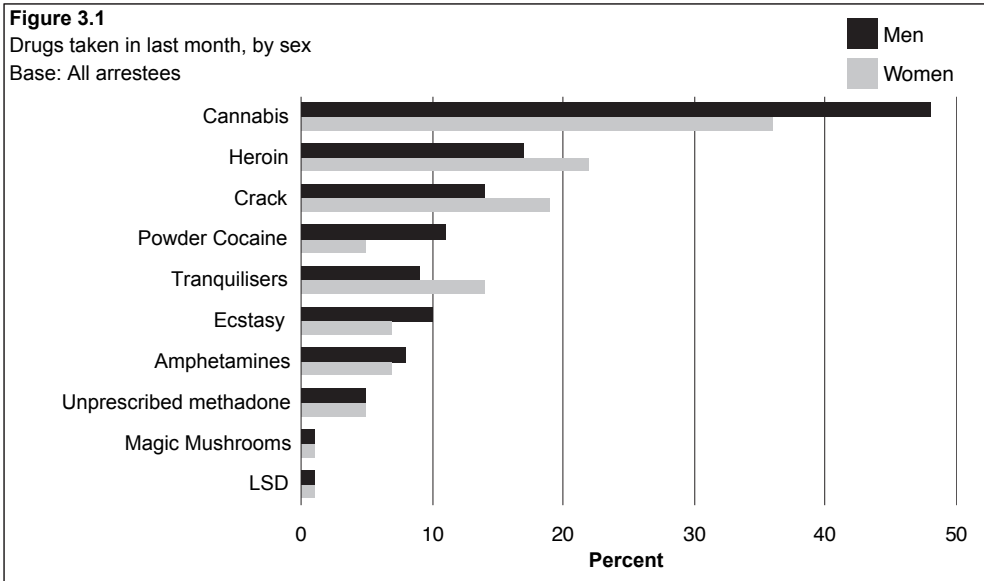
(Table 3.2)

In the last 12 months, 64% of arrestees had taken at least one drug, and patterns of use of individual drugs in the last year were similar to patterns of use in the last month. In the last 12 months 38% of arrestees had taken HCC.

(Table 3.3)

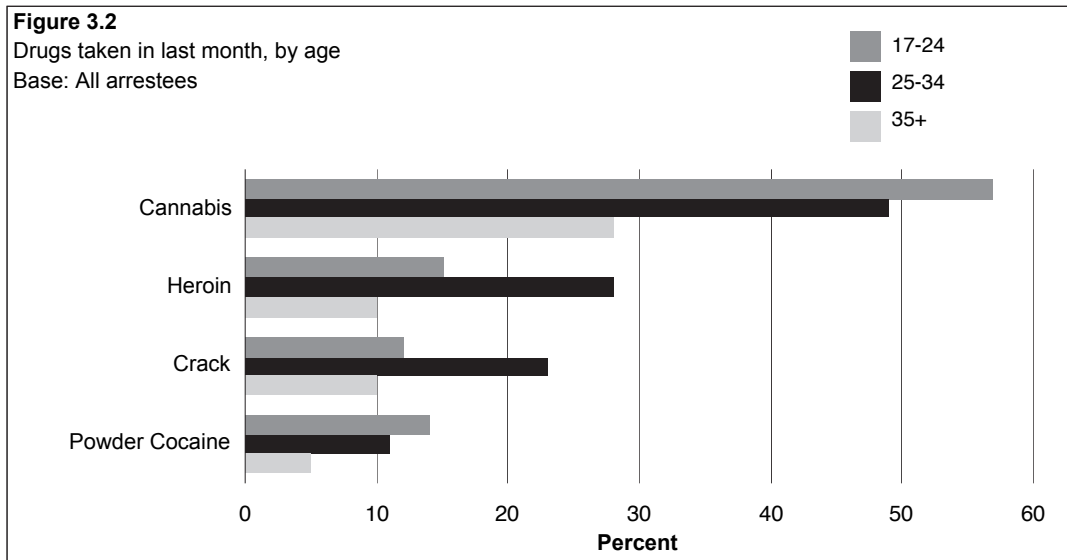
Arrested men and women had different patterns of drug use. In the last month, men were more likely than women to have taken cannabis (48% compared with 36%), powder cocaine (11% compared with 5%) and ecstasy (10% compared with 7%). In contrast men were less likely than women to have taken heroin (17% compared with 22%), crack (14% compared with 19%) or tranquillisers (9% compared with 14%) in the last month.

(Table 3.1, Figure 3.1)



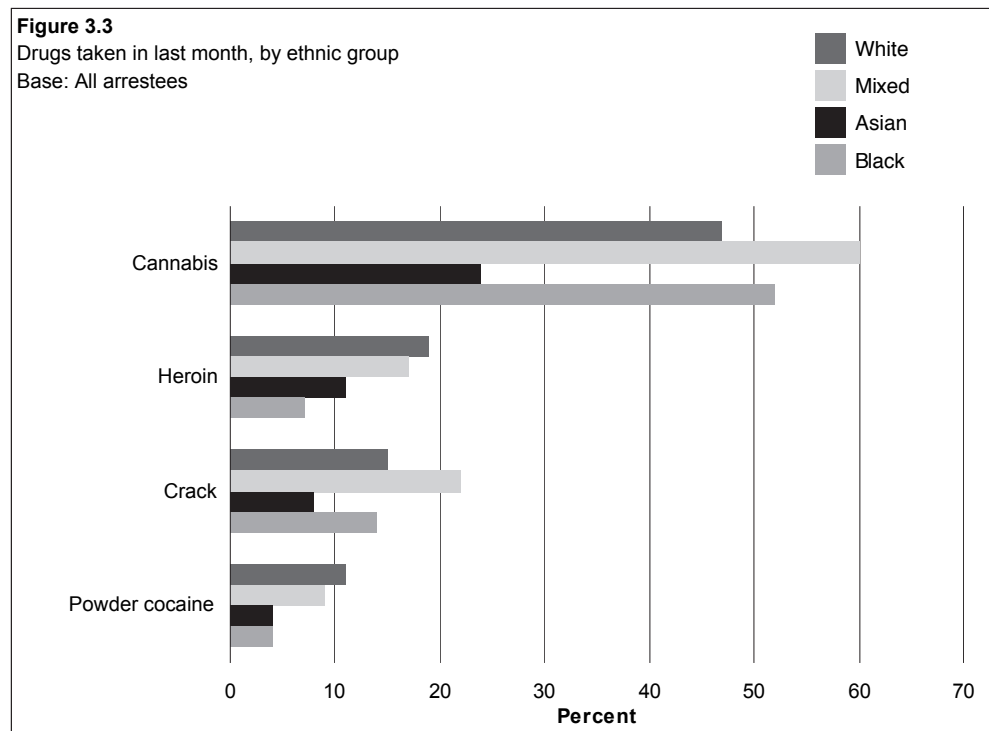
Patterns of drug use also varied with age. Use of cannabis in the last month decreased with age (57% of 17-24 year olds compared with 28% of those aged 35 years or over), as did use of powder cocaine (14% of 17-24 year olds compared with 5% of those aged 35 years or over). In contrast use of heroin in the last month was most prevalent among those aged 25-34 years (28%) compared with 15% of 17-24 year olds and 10% of those aged 35 or over. Use of crack was also most prevalent among the 25-34 age group.

(Table 3.1, Figure 3.2)



Use of cannabis and crack in the last month was lowest among Asian arrestees, but use was at a similar level among White, Black and Mixed ethnicity arrestees. For most other drugs, use was most prevalent among arrestees from White or Mixed ethnic backgrounds, and least prevalent among Black and Asian arrestees. For example, heroin use in the last month was 19% among White arrestees, 17% among arrestees from Mixed ethnic backgrounds, 7% among Black arrestees and 11% among Asian arrestees.

(Table 3.4, Figure 3.3)



Frequency of drug taking

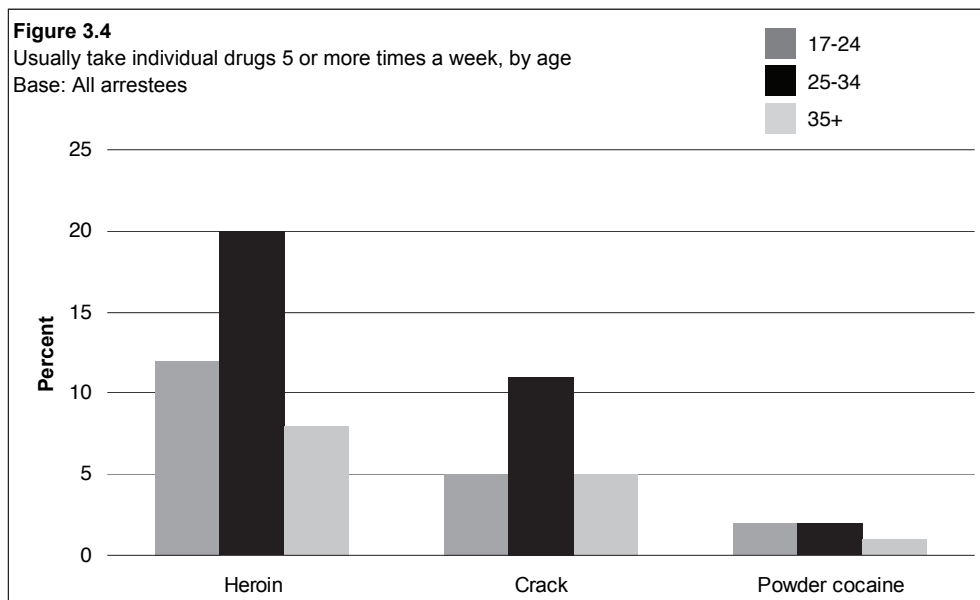
Arrestees who had ever used any of the ten individual drugs asked about, were asked how often they usually took each drug. Although similar proportions of arrestees had taken heroin and taken crack in the last month, heroin was used more frequently. In total 13% of arrestees usually took heroin at least 5 times a week compared with 7% who took crack at least 5 times a week and 2% who took powder cocaine at least 5 times a week.

(Tables 3.5-3.7)

Frequent use of heroin was most prevalent among 25-34 year olds with 20% who usually took heroin at least 5 times a week – equivalent figures for 17-24 year olds and those aged 35 and over were 12% and 8% respectively. In addition to this age pattern, young female arrestees were more likely to take heroin frequently than young male arrestees – for example 16% of arrested women aged 17-24 years took heroin on 5 or more days a week compared with 11% of men aged 17-24 years. Among those aged 25-34 years, women were also more likely to take heroin frequently, but there was no difference between men and women among those aged 35 years or over.

Frequent use of crack showed a similar pattern with age, and as with heroin use young women were more likely than young men to take crack frequently. However frequent use of powder cocaine was similar among all age groups.

(Tables 3.5-3.7, Figure 3.4)



Injecting drugs

Arrestees who had ever used amphetamines, heroin, crack, powder cocaine (or drugs other than the specific ten listed drugs) were asked whether they had ever injected drugs. Overall, 18% had ever injected drugs. Those aged between 25 and 34 were most likely to have ever injected drugs (30%) compared with 14% of those aged 17-24 and 12% of those aged 35 and over. There was no difference in the proportion of men and women who had ever injected drugs.

(Table 3.8)

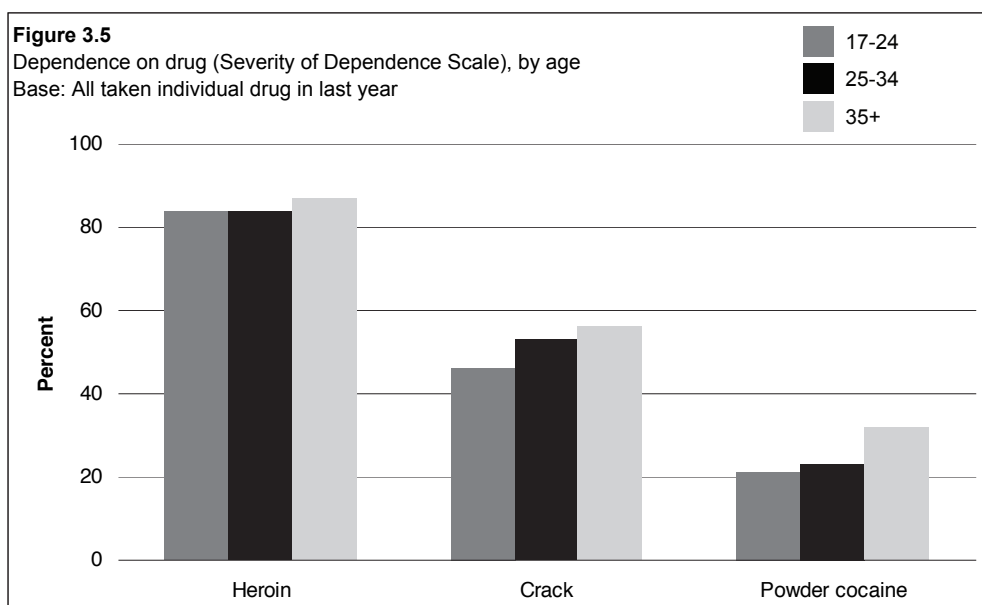
Among those who had taken drugs that could be injected, prevalence of having injected was highest among women (39% compared with 32% of men), and among those aged 25-34 (42% compared with 25% among 17-24 year olds and 33% among those aged 35 years or over).

(Table 3.9)

Dependence

Dependence on individual drugs was measured using the Severity of Dependence Scale (SDS), which uses five questions to measure dependence (See Appendix E). Dependence was only measured for heroin, crack and powder cocaine. Among those who had used individual drugs in the last year, dependence on heroin was greater than on crack or powder cocaine – 85% of those who had taken heroin in the last year were assessed as dependent. The equivalent figures for crack and powder cocaine were 52% and 23%.

(Tables 3.10-3.12, Figure 3.5)



Alcohol Misuse

Problematic alcohol use among arrestees was assessed using the Fast Alcohol Screening Test (FAST) which uses between one and four questions to screen for hazardous drinking (See Appendix E). Alcohol misuse is defined as having a FAST score of 3 or more.

Overall, 57% of arrestees were harmful or dependent drinkers (58% of men and 51% of women had a FAST score of 3 or more). Levels of alcohol misuse did not vary significantly with age.

(Table 3.13)

Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were more likely to misuse alcohol - 60% of this group had a FAST score of 3 or more, compared with 55% of those who had not taken HCC. However, the difference was restricted to 17 to 24 year olds: in this age group 65% of those who had used HCC in the last 12 months had a FAST score of 3 or more, compared with 52% of those who had not. This relationship is due to the link between powder cocaine use (which is more prevalent among young arrestees) and alcohol use - 74% of those who had used powder cocaine in the last year had a FAST score of 3 or more.

(Tables 3.14, 3.15, Figure 3.6)

Figure 3.6

FAST score of 3+, by age and taken HCC in last year

Base: All arrestees

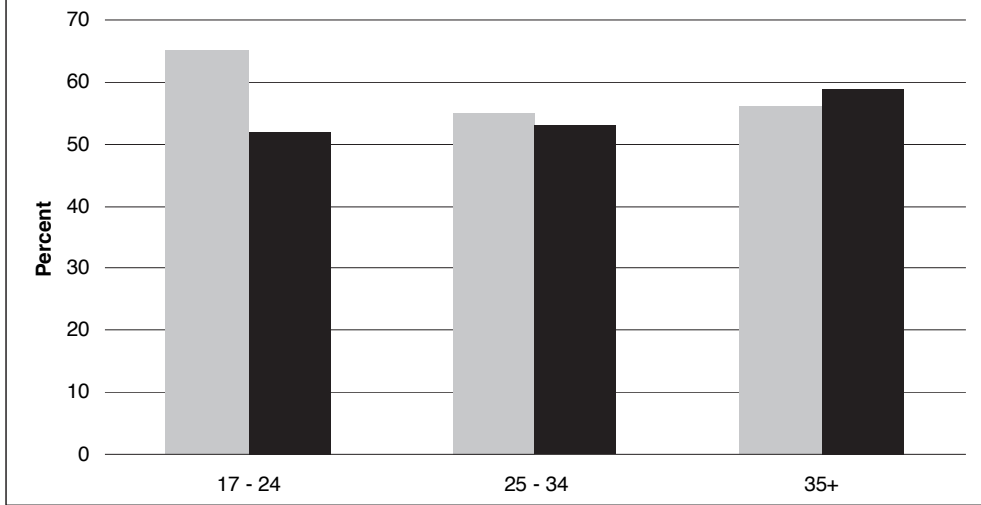


Table 3.1

Taken drugs in last month, by sex and age

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Taken drug in last month	Age			Total %
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Men				
Cannabis	59	51	30	48
Heroin	14	27	10	17
Crack	12	22	10	14
Powder cocaine	14	12	5	11
Tranquilisers	6	15	8	9
Ecstasy	15	9	3	10
Amphetamines	8	11	6	8
Unprescribed methadone	4	9	3	5
Magic Mushrooms	2	1	1	1
LSD	1	1	0	1
HCC	28	38	17	28
Any Drug	66	64	38	58
Women				
Cannabis	47	39	20	36
Heroin	21	35	12	22
Crack	17	32	11	19
Powder cocaine	8	5	2	5
Tranquilisers	11	20	12	14
Ecstasy	12	3	2	7
Amphetamines	7	10	4	7
Unprescribed methadone	6	6	2	5
Magic Mushrooms	2	-	0	1
LSD	1	-	1	1
HCC	28	43	15	28
Any Drug	58	57	33	49
Total				
Cannabis	57	49	28	46
Heroin	15	28	10	18
Crack	12	23	10	15
Powder cocaine	14	11	5	10
Tranquilisers	7	16	9	10
Ecstasy	15	8	3	9
Amphetamines	8	10	6	8
Unprescribed methadone	4	8	3	5
Magic Mushrooms	2	1	1	1
LSD	1	1	0	1
HCC	28	39	16	28
Any Drug	65	63	37	57
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	2692	1945	1779	6419
<i>Women</i>	420	290	361	1072
<i>Total</i>	3112	2235	2139	7491
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	2959	1860	1537	6359
<i>Women</i>	538	318	276	1132
<i>Total</i>	3497	2178	1813	7491

Table 3.2

Polydrug use in last month, by sex and age

All taken HCC in last month

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Polydrug use	Age			Total %
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Men				
Heroin only	17	22	18	19
Crack only	7	7	18	9
Powder cocaine only	39	19	18	27
Heroin and crack	24	39	32	32
Heroin and powder cocaine	2	1	3	2
Crack and powder cocaine	4	3	3	3
Heroin and crack and powder cocaine	7	8	8	8
Women				
Heroin only	20	21	21	21
Crack only	5	12	15	10
Powder cocaine only	13	6	4	8
Heroin and crack	45	56	52	51
Heroin and powder cocaine	4	-	-	2
Crack and powder cocaine	5	2	-	3
Heroin and crack and powder cocaine	7	3	8	6
Total				
Heroin only	18	22	18	20
Crack only	6	8	17	9
Powder cocaine only	36	17	16	25
Heroin and crack	27	42	35	34
Heroin and powder cocaine	2	1	3	2
Crack and powder cocaine	4	3	3	3
Heroin and crack and powder cocaine	7	7	8	8
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	743	743	296	1783
<i>Women</i>	116	125	53	294
<i>Total</i>	859	868	349	2077
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	849	757	334	1941
<i>Women</i>	182	154	62	398
<i>Total</i>	1031	911	396	2339

Table 3.3

Taken drugs in last year, by sex and age

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Taken drug in last year	Age			Total %
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Men				
Cannabis	65	56	34	53
Heroin	17	33	12	20
Crack	20	33	14	22
Powder cocaine	29	26	11	23
Tranquillisers	9	20	10	13
Ecstasy	32	22	6	22
Amphetamines	17	18	9	15
Unprescribed methadone	7	15	4	9
Magic Mushrooms	9	5	2	6
LSD	6	4	1	4
HCC	41	49	22	38
Any Drug	75	71	43	65
Women				
Cannabis	55	41	24	41
Heroin	26	39	14	25
Crack	28	40	14	26
Powder cocaine	23	11	5	14
Tranquillisers	18	26	19	21
Ecstasy	25	12	4	14
Amphetamines	14	15	6	12
Unprescribed methadone	16	15	3	11
Magic Mushrooms	7	1	0	3
LSD	5	0	1	2
HCC	40	49	18	35
Any Drug	69	62	41	58
Total				
Cannabis	64	54	32	52
Heroin	18	34	12	21
Crack	21	34	14	23
Powder cocaine	28	24	10	22
Tranquillisers	10	21	11	14
Ecstasy	31	21	6	21
Amphetamines	17	18	9	15
Unprescribed methadone	9	15	4	9
Magic Mushrooms	9	4	2	6
LSD	6	3	1	4
HCC	41	49	21	38
Any Drug	74	70	43	64
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	2692	1945	1779	6419
<i>Women</i>	420	290	361	1072
<i>Total</i>	3112	2235	2139	7491
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	2959	1860	1537	6359
<i>Women</i>	538	318	276	1132
<i>Total</i>	3497	2178	1813	7491

Table 3.4

Drug use in the last month, by ethnicity

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Used drug in last month	Ethnicity					Total %
	White %	Mixed %	Asian %	Black %	Other %	
Cannabis	47	60	24	52	37	46
Heroin	19	17	11	7	8	18
Crack	15	22	8	14	14	15
Powder cocaine	11	9	4	4	6	10
Tranquilisers	11	5	2	3	-	10
Ecstasy	10	8	2	4	2	9
Amphetamine	9	4	1	2	-	8
Unprescribed methadone	5	2	4	2	-	5
Magic mushrooms	1	2	1	1	3	1
LSD	1	2	1	0	-	1
HCC	29	30	15	17	19	28
Any drug	57	69	32	56	42	57
<i>Weighted bases</i>	<i>6287</i>	<i>253</i>	<i>288</i>	<i>557</i>	<i>92</i>	<i>7477</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	<i>6286</i>	<i>279</i>	<i>284</i>	<i>552</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>7479</i>

Table 3.5

Frequency of heroin use, by sex and age

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Frequency of heroin use	Age			Total %
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Men				
5 or more days a week	11	19	7	13
3 or 4 days a week	1	1	1	1
1 or 2 days a week	1	2	1	1
1 or 2 days a month	1	3	1	2
A few times a year	0	1	1	1
Less often than once a year	0	0	0	0
Only ever taken once	3	2	1	2
Used to take, don't take now	5	14	7	8
Never taken	78	57	81	73
Women				
5 or more days a week	16	27	8	17
3 or 4 days a week	2	2	0	1
1 or 2 days a week	0	1	1	1
1 or 2 days a month	1	2	1	2
A few times a year	0	1	0	1
Less often than once a year	1	0	0	1
Only ever taken once	2	2	0	1
Used to take, don't take now	8	10	6	8
Never taken	70	54	82	70
Total				
5 or more days a week	12	20	8	13
3 or 4 days a week	1	1	1	1
1 or 2 days a week	1	2	1	1
1 or 2 days a month	1	3	1	2
A few times a year	0	1	1	1
Less often than once a year	0	0	0	0
Only ever taken once	3	2	1	2
Used to take, don't take now	5	13	7	8
Never taken	77	57	82	72
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	2682	1937	1775	6398
<i>Women</i>	419	288	360	1067
<i>Total</i>	3101	2225	2135	7465
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	2950	1854	1531	6338
<i>Women</i>	536	315	275	1126
<i>Total</i>	3486	2169	1806	7464

Table 3.6

Frequency of crack use, by sex and age

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Frequency of crack use	Age			Total %
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Men				
5 or more days a week	4	10	5	6
3 or 4 days a week	1	2	1	2
1 or 2 days a week	2	5	1	3
1 or 2 days a month	3	5	2	3
A few times a year	2	3	2	2
Less often than once a year	0	0	0	0
Only ever taken once	4	4	2	3
Used to take, don't take now	11	19	8	13
Never taken	72	52	79	68
Women				
5 or more days a week	8	18	5	10
3 or 4 days a week	2	5	1	2
1 or 2 days a week	3	2	4	3
1 or 2 days a month	4	6	1	3
A few times a year	3	3	2	2
Less often than once a year	0	1	-	0
Only ever taken once	4	1	1	2
Used to take, don't take now	10	11	8	9
Never taken	65	55	78	67
Total				
5 or more days a week	5	11	5	7
3 or 4 days a week	2	3	1	2
1 or 2 days a week	2	4	2	3
1 or 2 days a month	3	5	2	3
A few times a year	2	3	2	2
Less often than once a year	0	0	0	0
Only ever taken once	4	3	1	3
Used to take, don't take now	11	18	8	12
Never taken	71	53	79	68
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	2678	1932	1775	6389
<i>Women</i>	416	288	361	1065
<i>Total</i>	3095	2220	2135	7454
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	2945	1849	1531	6328
<i>Women</i>	533	315	276	1124
<i>Total</i>	3478	2164	1807	7452

Table 3.7

Frequency of powder cocaine use, by sex and age

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Frequency of powder cocaine use	Age			Total %
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Men				
5 or more days a week	2	2	1	2
3 or 4 days a week	1	1	0	1
1 or 2 days a week	4	4	2	3
1 or 2 days a month	6	5	3	5
A few times a year	6	6	3	5
Less often than once a year	0	1	0	0
Only ever taken once	7	5	2	5
Used to take, don't take now	18	32	16	21
Never taken	56	46	74	58
Women				
5 or more days a week	1	1	-	1
3 or 4 days a week	0	1	1	1
1 or 2 days a week	2	1	0	1
1 or 2 days a month	3	2	1	2
A few times a year	6	3	1	3
Less often than once a year	0	0	0	0
Only ever taken once	6	3	2	4
Used to take, don't take now	22	25	13	20
Never taken	60	64	82	68
Total				
5 or more days a week	2	2	1	2
3 or 4 days a week	1	1	0	1
1 or 2 days a week	4	3	1	3
1 or 2 days a month	6	5	2	5
A few times a year	6	6	2	5
Less often than once a year	0	1	0	0
Only ever taken once	7	5	2	5
Used to take, don't take now	18	31	15	21
Never taken	57	48	75	59
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	2675	1930	1766	6375
<i>Women</i>	419	288	358	1065
<i>Total</i>	3094	2218	2124	7440
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
<i>Men</i>	2943	1847	1525	6318
<i>Women</i>	535	314	275	1124
<i>Total</i>	3478	2161	1800	7442

Table 3.8**Ever injected drugs, by sex and age***All arrestees**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Ever injected drugs	Age			Total %
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Men				
Yes	14	29	13	18
No	44	42	26	39
Never taken drugs that could be injected	42	28	62	43
Women				
Yes	20	31	10	20
No	37	31	22	31
Never taken drugs that could be injected	43	38	68	50
Total				
Yes	14	30	12	18
No	43	41	25	37
Never taken drugs that could be injected	42	30	63	44
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
Men	2670	1930	1761	6365
Women	416	288	350	1054
Total	3086	2218	2111	7419
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
Men	2935	1847	1520	6305
Women	531	314	272	1117
Total	3466	2161	1792	7422

Table 3.9**Proportion who had ever injected drugs among those who had taken drugs that could be injected, by sex and age***All arrestees who had taken drugs that could be injected**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Ever injected drugs	Age			Total %
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Men				
Men	24	41	33	32
Women	35	50	31	39
Total	25	42	33	33
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
Men	1545	1384	675	3605
Women	238	177	113	529
Total	1784	1561	788	4134
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
Men	1718	1353	695	3767
Women	320	219	118	657
Total	2038	1572	813	4424

Table 3.10**Dependence on heroin (Severity of Dependence Scale), by sex and age***All used heroin in last year**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Sex	Age			Total
	17-24	25-34	35+	
	<i>% dependent</i>			
Men	82	83	86	83
Women	93	89	90	91
Total	84	84	87	85
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
Men	455	637	213	1306
Women	107	113	49	269
Total	562	749	262	1575
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
Men	518	654	265	1438
Women	162	147	56	365
Total	680	801	321	1803

Table 3.11**Dependence on crack (Severity of Dependence Scale), by sex and age***All used crack in last year**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Sex	Age			Total
	17-24	25-34	35+	
	<i>% dependent</i>			
Men	46	53	56	51
Women	56	58	61	58
Total	48	54	57	52
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
Men	523	627	245	1395
Women	114	116	50	280
Total	637	743	295	1676
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
Men	614	637	279	1531
Women	170	139	57	366
Total	784	776	336	1897

Table 3.12**Dependence on powder cocaine (Severity of Dependence Scale), by sex and age***All used powder cocaine in last year**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Sex	Age			Total
	17-24	25-34	35+	
	<i>% dependent</i>			
Men	21	24	34	24
Women	23	10	9	18
Total	21	23	32	23
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
Men	778	503	187	1468
Women	96	33	16	145
Total	874	536	203	1613
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
Men	875	497	185	1557
Women	134	49	21	204
Total	1009	546	206	1761

Table 3.13

FAST Score, by sex and age

<i>All arrestees</i>		<i>Oct 2003-Sept 2004</i>		
FAST Score	Sex	Men	Women	Total
		%	%	%
17-24				
0-2		41	51	43
3+		59	49	57
25-34				
0-2		45	56	46
3+		55	44	54
35+				
0-2		42	41	42
3+		58	59	58
Total				
0-2		42	49	43
3+		58	51	57
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
17-24		2685	420	3105
25-34		1943	288	2231
35+		1773	361	2133
Total		6404	1069	7473
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
17-24		2953	536	3489
25-34		1860	315	2175
35+		1529	276	1805
Total		6345	1127	7472

Table 3.14

FAST Score, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

<i>All arrestees</i>		<i>Oct 2003-Sept 2004</i>		
FAST Score	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months	Yes	No	Total
		%	%	%
17-24				
0-2		35	48	43
3+		65	52	57
25-34				
0-2		45	47	46
3+		55	53	54
35+				
0-2		44	41	42
3+		56	59	58
Total				
0-2		40	45	43
3+		60	55	57
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
17-24		1275	1813	3105
25-34		1093	1131	2231
35+		456	1666	2133
Total		2825	4613	7473
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
17-24		1486	1986	3489
25-34		1133	1033	2175
35+		493	1299	1805
Total		3113	4320	7472

Table 3.15**FAST Score, by whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months***All arrestees**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

FAST Score	Taken drug in last year ^a			Total %
	Heroin %	Crack %	Cocaine %	
0-2	54	49	26	43
3+	46	51	74	57
<i>Weighted bases</i>	<i>1575</i>	<i>1677</i>	<i>1611</i>	<i>7473</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	<i>1802</i>	<i>1896</i>	<i>1759</i>	<i>7472</i>

a Note that there is some overlap between drugs taken in the last year.

4 Past contact with the criminal justice system

Introduction

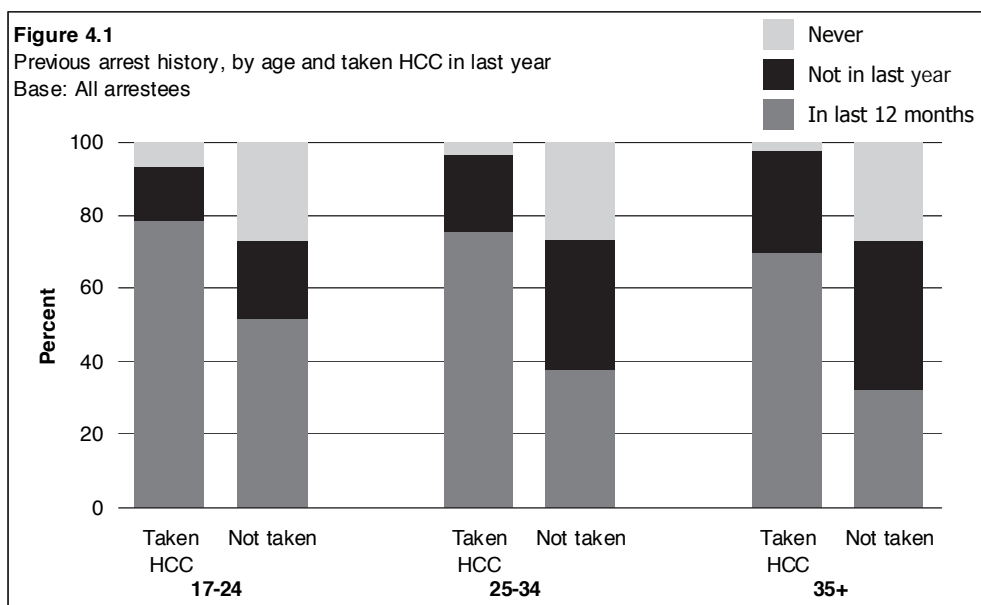
All arrestees were asked a range of questions about previous arrests, spells in prison and whether or not they had been subject to a number of interventions or measures relating to substance misuse, including those that form part of the Drug Interventions Programme. It should be noted that some of these measures were only in operation in some parts of the country and many will only be appropriate for certain types of offenders. There has also been a number of changes to the way in which the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) operates since the period covered by the survey. In particular, it should be noted that the provisions within DIP are generally only used for arrestees aged 18 and over, not the full age range (17 and above) covered in the survey.

Previous arrest history

All arrestees were asked whether they had been arrested before (not including their current arrest), and those that had been were asked how many times they had been arrested in the last 12 months.

Most arrestees had been arrested before - 55% had been previously arrested within the last 12 months and 27% had been arrested longer ago, although 19% had never been arrested before. Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months tended to have been arrested more recently and more often: 76% had been previously arrested in the last 12 months, and 24% had been arrested on five or more occasions in the past 12 months. Among those who had not taken HCC, 41% had been previously arrested in the last 12 months, and 7% had been arrested on five or more occasions in that period.

(Table 4.1)



There was a strong relationship between age and previous arrest history. Among those who had not taken HCC in the last 12 months, 52% of 17 to 24 year olds had been previously arrested in the last 12 months, compared with 38% of 25 to 34 year olds and 32% of those aged 35 years or over. There was a less pronounced relationship between age and previous arrest history among drug users. Among those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months, 78% of 17 to 24 year olds had previously been arrested in the last 12 months, compared with 75% of 25 to 34 year olds and 70% of those aged 35 years or over.

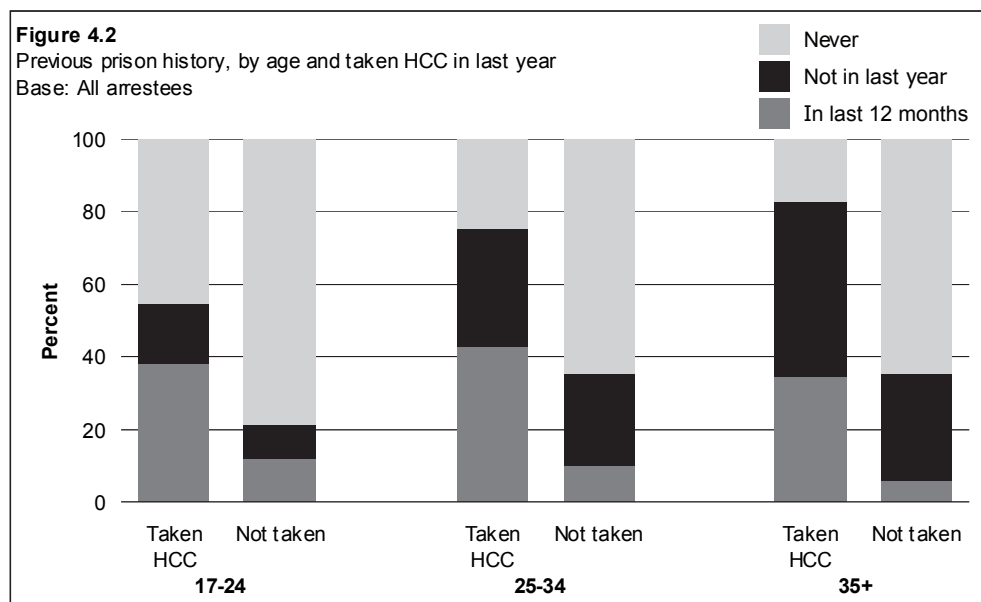
(Table 4.1, Figure 4.1)

Previous prison history

All arrestees who had previously been arrested were asked whether they had ever been in prison before and, if so, how long they had spent in prison in the last 12 months. In the analysis presented in this section, those who had not been arrested before are included in the "Never been to prison" category.

Overall, 21% of arrestees had been to prison in the last 12 months, 23% had been to prison longer ago, and 56% had never been in prison¹. Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were more likely to have been to prison; in the last 12 months 40% had been to prison compared with 9% of those who had not taken HCC. This pattern was seen in all age groups.

(Table 4.2, Figure 4.2)



Contact with arrest referral workers

Arrest referral schemes, partnerships between the police and local agencies, were developed to identify and assess drug-using offenders and refer them to specialist treatment or other interventions. At the time the survey was conducted, arrestees were asked if they would like to see an arrest referral worker, a dedicated substance misuse worker working in the police custody suite. Participation in the scheme was voluntary. Since 2002 arrest referral schemes have operated within all police forces in England and Wales² but their role and operation has evolved over time.

Respondents who said they had been arrested before were asked if they had ever been interviewed by a drug or alcohol arrest referral worker. Among those who had been previously arrested, 27% had ever had contact with arrest referral workers. This was higher among those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months (44%) than among those who had not (14%).

(Table 4.3)

Drug Treatment and Testing Orders

Drug Treatment and Testing Orders (DTTOs) are community sentences combining drug treatment, compulsory drug testing and court reviews of progress. DTTOs were introduced in three pilot areas in 1998, and subsequently extended to the rest of England and Wales in 2000.³

Among those who had previously been arrested, 18% of those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months had ever received a DTTO, compared with 1% of other arrestees. Among those who had taken HCC within the last 12 months, 25 to 34 year olds were the most likely to have received a DTTO: 23% had done so, compared with 15% of 17 to 24 year olds and 13% of those aged 35 years or over.

(Table 4.4)

Drug testing at charge

Drug testing at charge for adults aged 18 and over was introduced in three pilot areas in 2001, and subsequently extended, so that by September 2003, adults charged with certain 'trigger' offences were being tested in 30 Basic Command Unit areas. This had been extended to 66 areas by the end of the period covered by the report⁴. Oral fluid samples are tested for the presence of cocaine (crack or powder cocaine) and opiates.

Overall, 13% of arrestees said they had been tested for drugs on being charged at some time. This included 26% of arrestees at drug testing sites and 10% at other sites. (Since the question referred to previous arrests, arrestees could have been arrested and tested in a different custody suite.)

Within drug testing on charge sites, 39% of those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months and 15% of those who had not taken HCC had been tested.

(Table 4.5)

Notes and References

1. This includes arrestees who had not previously been arrested and those who had been arrested but had not been to prison.
2. Arrest referral schemes (now Drugs Workers), Drug Treatment and Testing Orders and testing on charge are components of the Drug Interventions Programme (formerly the Criminal Justice Interventions Programme) introduced in 2003 to provide an integrated programme of initiatives in areas with high levels of drug-related crime. Further details about the Drug Interventions Programme are available at:
<http://www.drugs.gov.uk/NationalStrategy/DrugsInterventionsProgramme>.
3. Drug Treatment and Testing Orders have been replaced by Drug Rehabilitation Requirements (DRRs), part of the community order of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 for adult offenders convicted of offences committed on or after 4th April 2005.
4. Trigger offences are offences known to be strongly associated with drug use. Those current over the time period covered by the report are listed in Appendix C of this report. Arrestees could also be tested at an Inspector's discretion if there were reasonable grounds to suspect that misuse of heroin and/or cocaine by the detainee caused or continued the offence. On 30th November 2005, the Home Secretary announced the implementation of testing on arrest as defined in Section 7 of the Drugs Act 2005. This commenced across the police force areas of Greater Manchester, South Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire on 1st December 2005 and was rolled out further to other areas in England on 31st March 2006.

Table 4.1

Previous arrest history, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Previous arrest history	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
17-24			
Never previously arrested	6	27	18
Not arrested in last 12 months	15	21	19
Arrested once in last 12 months	17	21	19
Arrested 2-4 times in last 12 months	34	23	27
Arrested 5+ times in last 12 months	28	8	16
Arrested in last 12 months	78	52	63
25-34			
Never previously arrested	4	27	15
Not arrested in last 12 months	21	35	28
Arrested once in last 12 months	19	19	20
Arrested 2-4 times in last 12 months	32	14	23
Arrested 5+ times in last 12 months	24	5	14
Arrested in last 12 months	75	38	57
35+			
Never previously arrested	2	27	22
Not arrested in last 12 months	28	40	37
Arrested once in last 12 months	20	16	17
Arrested 2-4 times in last 12 months	35	10	16
Arrested 5+ times in last 12 months	15	6	8
Arrested in last 12 months	70	32	41
Total			
Never previously arrested	5	27	19
Not arrested in last 12 months	20	32	27
Arrested once in last 12 months	18	19	19
Arrested 2-4 times in last 12 months	33	16	23
Arrested 5+ times in last 12 months	24	7	13
Arrested in last 12 months	76	41	55
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1269	1809	3105
25-34	1089	1131	2247
35+	456	1670	2150
Total	2814	4613	7505
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1475	1978	3488
25-34	1126	1034	2181
35+	493	1302	1818
Total	3095	4316	7490

Table 4.2

Previous prison history, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

<i>All arrestees</i>		<i>Oct 2003-Sept 2004</i>		
Previous prison history	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total	
	Yes	No		%
	%	%	%	
17-24				
Never previously arrested	6	27	18	
Never been to prison	39	52	47	
Not been to prison in last 12 months	16	9	12	
Been to prison in last 12 months	38	12	23	
25-34				
Never previously arrested	4	27	15	
Never been to prison	20	38	30	
Not been to prison in last 12 months	33	25	28	
Been to prison in last 12 months	43	10	26	
35+				
Never previously arrested	2	27	22	
Never been to prison	16	37	32	
Not been to prison in last 12 months	48	30	33	
Been to prison in last 12 months	34	6	12	
Total				
Never previously arrested	5	27	19	
Never been to prison	28	43	37	
Not been to prison in last 12 months	28	20	23	
Been to prison in last 12 months	40	9	21	
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
17-24	1269	1809	3105	
25-34	1089	1131	2247	
35+	456	1670	2150	
Total	2814	4613	7505	
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
17-24	1475	1978	3488	
25-34	1126	1034	2181	
35+	493	1302	1818	
Total	3095	4316	7490	

Table 4.3**Ever had contact with arrest referral workers, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months***All previously arrested**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Age	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		
	Yes	No	Total
	% ever had contact with arrest referral worker		
17-24	39	13	26
25-34	49	14	34
35+	43	14	22
Total	44	14	27
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1199	1329	2550
25-34	1056	831	1910
35+	448	1217	1683
Total	2703	3381	6146
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1398	1499	2927
25-34	1096	777	1892
35+	487	984	1491
Total	2982	3262	6313

Table 4.4**Ever had DTTO, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months***All previously arrested**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Age	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		
	Yes	No	Total
	% ever had DTTO		
17-24	15	1	8
25-34	23	2	14
35+	13	1	4
Total	18	1	9
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1199	1329	2550
25-34	1056	831	1910
35+	448	1217	1683
Total	2703	3381	6146
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1398	1499	2927
25-34	1096	777	1892
35+	487	984	1491
Total	2982	3262	6313

Table 4.5

Ever been drug tested at charge, by drug testing site and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All previously arrested

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Drug testing site	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total
	Yes	No	
	<i>% ever drug tested at charge</i>		
Drug testing site	39	15	26
Not drug testing site	15	6	10
Total	20	8	13
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
Drug testing site	636	725	1375
Not drug testing site	2067	2656	4772
Total	2703	3381	6146
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
Drug testing site	779	837	1629
Not drug testing site	2203	2425	4684
Total	2982	3262	6313

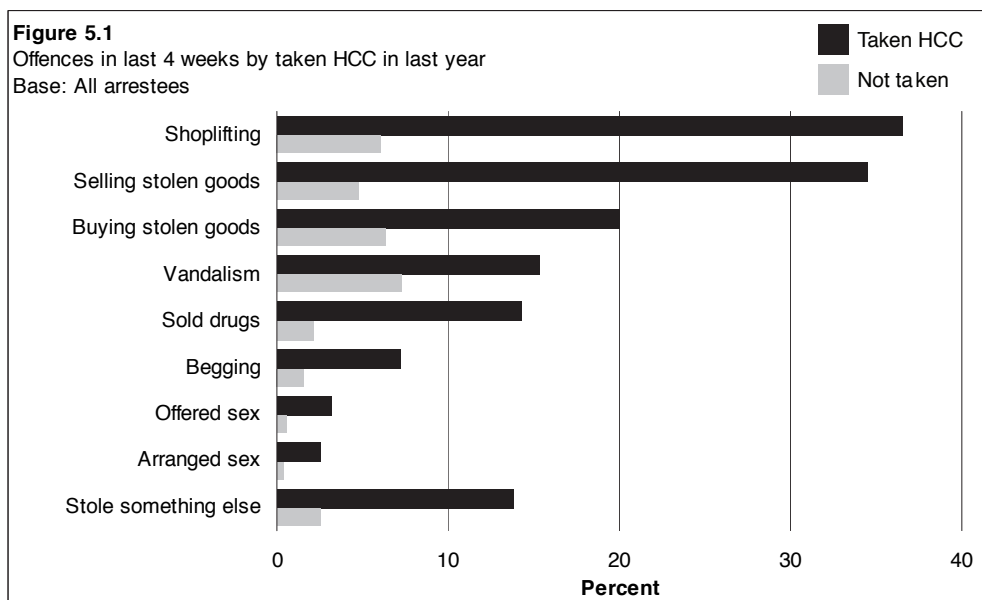
5 Offending

Offences committed

The history of arrestees' past offending behaviour was collected in the interview, and is therefore self-reported. Participants were not asked directly about their current arrest or the circumstances surrounding it, but were asked a series of questions about a range of different offences (whether they had committed the offence, how many times, and how much money they had made from committing the offence, if appropriate). Past offending was considered within two reference periods, the last four weeks for crimes which are likely to be committed frequently, and the last 12 months for less common offences. The focus was on offences most likely to be related to drug use.

Respondents reported offending behaviour from the last 4 weeks in relation to nine offences. Shoplifting was the most common offence reported by arrestees (18%), followed by selling stolen goods (16%), buying stolen goods (11%), vandalism (10%), selling drugs (7%) and stealing something else (7%). (Stealing something else was asked about **after** offences committed in the last 12 months, including theft of and from a motor vehicle, theft from a person, burglaries, robberies and frauds.) Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were more likely to have committed every offence than those who had not taken HCC. For example, 37% of those who had taken HCC had shoplifted in the last four weeks, compared with 6% of those who had not taken HCC in the last 12 months. However, the difference between those who had used HCC and those who had not was less marked for vandalism than for the other crimes.

(Table 5.1, Figure 5.1)

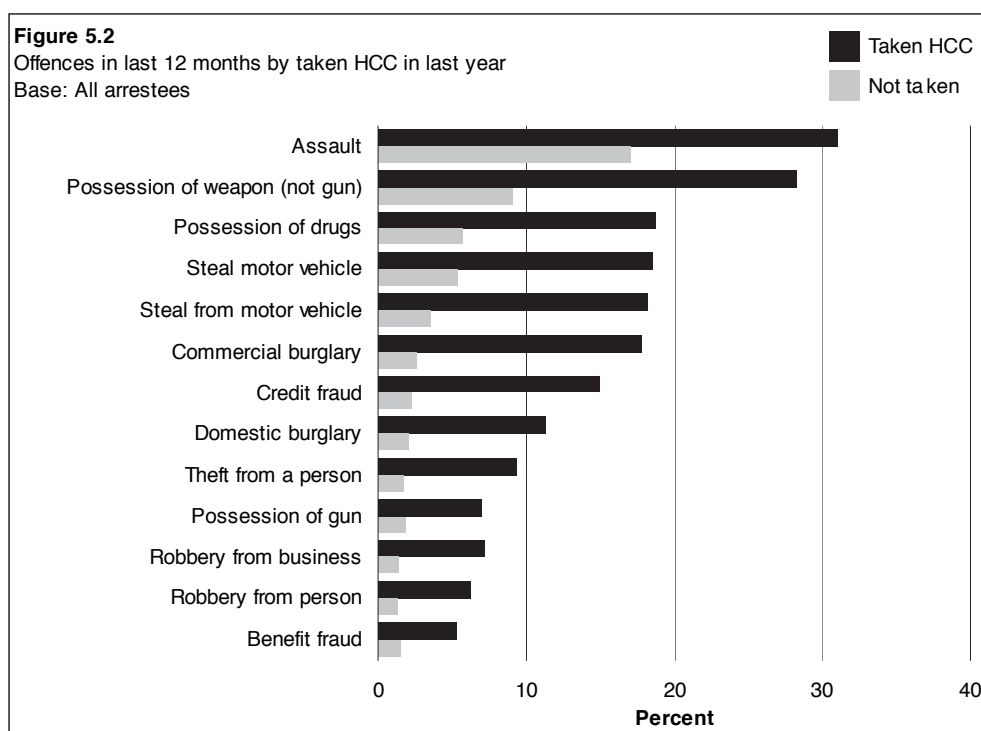


Younger arrestees were generally more likely to have committed most offences than older arrestees, but there were different relationships between age and offending among those who had and had not taken HCC in the last year. Among those who had not taken HCC in the last year, 17 to 24 year olds were most likely to have committed each of these types of crime, and, within this age group, vandalism and buying stolen goods were the most common offences. Among those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months, the prevalence of shoplifting and of selling stolen goods were at similar levels among 17 to 24 year olds and 25 to 34 year olds, but lower for those aged 35 years or over. Those aged 17-24 years were more likely to have committed each of the other types of crime with the exception of begging which was most prevalent among those aged 35 years or over.

(Table 5.1)

Among reported offences committed in the last 12 months, assault was most common (reported by 22% of all arrestees), followed by carrying a weapon other than a gun (16%). Arrest for possession of drugs (11%), stealing a motor vehicle (10%) and stealing from a motor vehicle (9%) were the next most common offences. Once again, those who had taken HCC were more likely to have carried out each type of offence, and levels of offending declined with age for all arrestees.

(Table 5.2, Figure 5.2)



Although those who had taken HCC made up less than half of the sample, they accounted for at least half of those who had committed each type of crime, and, for most offences, 75% or more. Those who had committed assault or vandalism were least likely to have taken HCC (53% and 56% respectively), and those who had arranged paid-for sex (82%), sold stolen goods (82%), sold drugs (81%), committed commercial burglary (81%) or credit card fraud (80%) were most likely to have taken HCC.

(Table 5.3)

Acquisitive crime

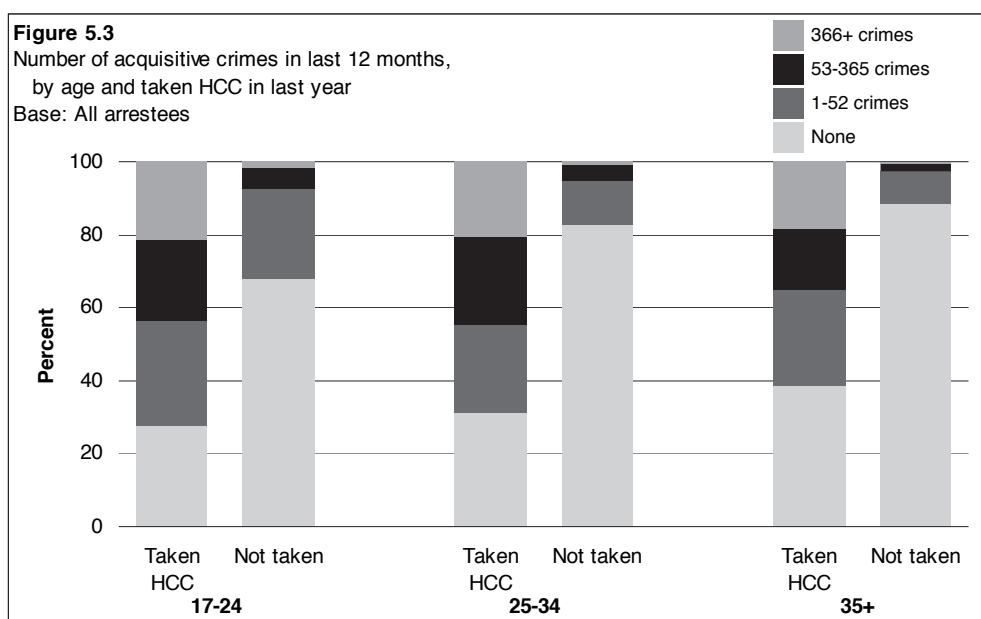
Acquisitive crimes are those where an offence is committed to obtain money or goods. A list of the offences defined as acquisitive crimes for the analysis in this report is contained in Appendix C. For offences where arrestees were asked how many times they had committed that offence in the last 4 weeks, their answers were multiplied by 13 and added to the number of offences committed for offences where a 12 month estimating period was used, to produce an annual estimate of the total number of acquisitive crimes.

Overall, 39% of arrestees had committed acquisitive crimes in the last 12 months - 20% had committed between 1 and 52 acquisitive crimes (fewer than one a week), 11% had committed between 53 and 365 (at least one a week, but fewer than one a day), and 9% had committed 366 or more in the last year, an average of at least one acquisitive crime every day. Those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months were more likely to have committed acquisitive crime and to have committed more of it than those who had not taken HCC. Of those who had taken HCC, 21% had committed at least 366 acquisitive crimes in the last year, compared to just 1% of those who had not taken HCC. Thus HCC users were much more likely to be high rate offenders than those who did not report HCC use.

(Table 5.4)

There was a strong relationship between acquisitive crime and age. Among those who had not taken HCC, older arrestees were much less likely to commit these crimes, and also tended to commit fewer of them. Among those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months, the likelihood of committing acquisitive crime also declined with age, from 72% of 17 to 24 year olds to 61% of those aged 35 years or above. However, the proportion of drug takers who committed the most acquisitive crimes, 366 or more in the last 12 months, did not vary with age.

(Table 5.4, Figure 5.3)



Crime committed to get drugs

All arrestees were asked whether they had committed any crimes in the last four weeks in order to buy or get hold of drugs - overall 15% of arrestees said that they had. This was much more likely among those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months, 36% of whom had committed a crime to get drugs, compared with 2% of those who had not taken HCC, and was even higher among those who had taken HCC in the last month (46%). Among those who had taken HCC, those aged 35 years or over were less likely than younger arrestees to have committed a crime to get drugs.

(Tables 5.5, 5.6)

Income from crime

For each type of offence that arrestees had committed, they were asked about the cash value of the proceeds of the offence, which was defined as "The cash value of goods is the value that you could sell or trade them for". A total estimated annual income was calculated from all these amounts (amounts from offences where questions were asked about a four week period were multiplied by 13). Arrestees were asked whether they thought this estimated annual income was accurate, and if not, then they were asked what the correct amount was. If arrestees gave their own estimate, this was used in place of the computed annual income. Note that this measure is a retrospective estimation of an annual income from crime, which may be subject to recall error and should be treated with caution.

In the last 12 months, 34% of arrestees claimed to have made money from crime. Overall, 16% had an income of less than £1000, 7% £1000 but less than £5000, and 11% had made £5000 or more. Those who had taken HCC were more likely to make money from crime, and the amounts they made tended to be larger. A total of 64% of them had made money from crime in the last 12 months, and 25% had made £5000 or more. Among those who had not taken HCC, 17% had any income from crime in the last year, and 3% had made £5000 or more.

(Table 5.7)

There was a relationship between age and income from crime. Among those who had taken HCC in the last 12 months, the proportion of arrestees who made money from crime declined with age from 66% of 17 to 24 year olds to 55% of those aged 35 years or over. There was a similar pattern among arrestees who had not taken HCC.

(Table 5.7, Figure 5.4)

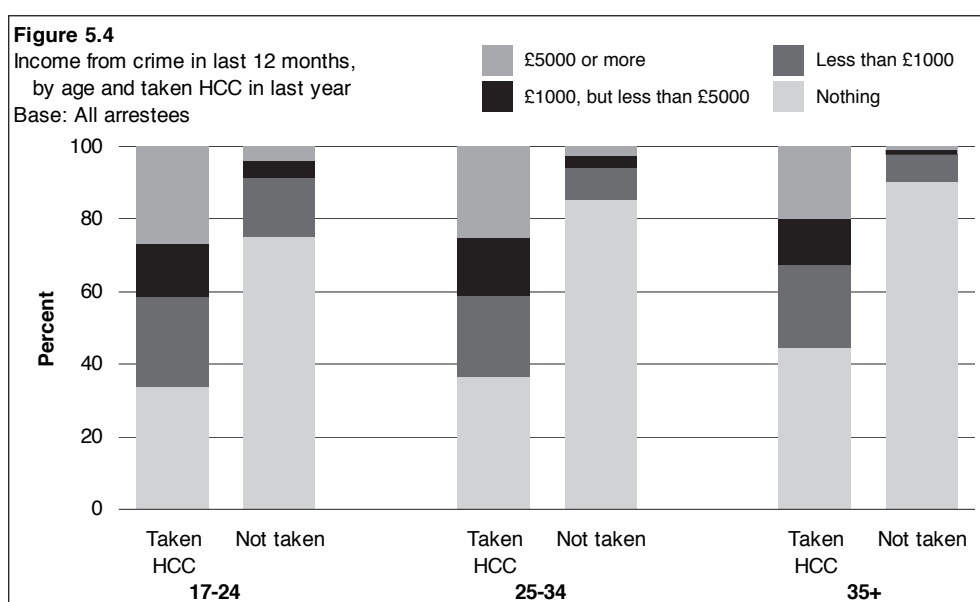


Table 5.1

Offences committed in last 4 weeks, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Offences committed in last 4 weeks	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
17-24			
Shoplifting	36	9	20
Selling stolen goods	38	8	21
Buying stolen goods	24	11	16
Vandalism	22	11	16
Stole something else	17	4	9
Sold drugs	17	4	9
Begging	5	1	3
Offered sex	4	1	2
Arranged sex	2	1	1
25-34			
Shoplifting	40	5	22
Selling stolen goods	35	5	20
Buying stolen goods	17	5	11
Vandalism	12	4	8
Stole something else	11	2	7
Sold drugs	13	1	7
Begging	8	1	5
Offered sex	2	0	1
Arranged sex	2	0	1
35+			
Shoplifting	32	4	10
Selling stolen goods	23	1	5
Buying stolen goods	17	2	6
Vandalism	7	5	5
Stole something else	12	1	4
Sold drugs	10	1	3
Begging	11	2	4
Offered sex	2	0	1
Arranged sex	4	0	1
Total			
Shoplifting	37	6	18
Selling stolen goods	34	5	16
Buying stolen goods	20	6	11
Vandalism	15	7	10
Stole something else	14	3	7
Sold drugs	14	2	7
Begging	7	2	4
Offered sex	3	1	2
Arranged sex	3	0	1
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1279	1816	3120
25-34	1096	1131	2247
35+	457	1672	2148
Total	2833	4622	7519
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1490	1990	3511
25-34	1136	1034	2190
35+	495	1305	1820
Total	3122	4331	7524

¹ 'Stole something else' was asked about after the offences listed in Table 5.2, which include various types of theft, robbery, burglary and fraud.

Table 5.2

Offences committed in last 12 months, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Offences committed in last 12 months	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
17-24			
Assault	41	25	31
Possession of weapon (not gun)	34	14	22
Arrest for possession of drugs	20	8	13
Steal motor vehicle	28	12	19
Steal from motor vehicle	24	7	14
Commercial burglary	22	5	12
Credit fraud	15	4	8
Domestic burglary	15	4	8
Theft from a person	13	4	7
Possession of gun	8	3	5
Robbery from business	10	3	6
Robbery from person	9	3	5
Benefit fraud	5	1	3
25-34			
Assault	24	14	19
Possession of weapon (not gun)	24	8	16
Arrest for possession of drugs	19	6	12
Steal motor vehicle	12	3	8
Steal from motor vehicle	15	2	8
Commercial burglary	16	1	9
Credit fraud	16	2	9
Domestic burglary	10	1	6
Theft from a person	6	1	3
Possession of gun	7	1	4
Robbery from business	5	1	3
Robbery from person	5	0	2
Benefit fraud	6	2	4
35+			
Assault	21	11	13
Possession of weapon (not gun)	23	4	8
Arrest for possession of drugs	17	3	6
Steal motor vehicle	6	0	2
Steal from motor vehicle	10	1	3
Commercial burglary	10	1	3
Credit fraud	11	1	3
Domestic burglary	6	0	2
Theft from a person	7	0	2
Possession of gun	6	1	2
Robbery from business	3	0	1
Robbery from person	2	0	1
Benefit fraud	5	1	2
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1279	1816	3117
25-34	1096	1131	2246
35+	457	1672	2146
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1490	1990	3507
25-34	1136	1034	2188
35+	495	1305	1818

Table 5.2 (cont)

Offences committed in last 12 months, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Offences committed in last 12 months	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
Total			
Assault	31	17	22
Possession of weapon (not gun)	28	9	16
Arrest for possession of drugs	19	6	11
Steal motor vehicle	18	5	10
Steal from motor vehicle	18	4	9
Commercial burglary	18	3	8
Credit fraud	15	2	7
Domestic burglary	11	2	6
Theft from a person	9	2	5
Possession of gun	7	2	4
Robbery from business	7	1	4
Robbery from person	6	1	3
Benefit fraud	5	2	3
<i>Weighted bases</i>	<i>2833</i>	<i>4622</i>	<i>7513</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	<i>3122</i>	<i>4331</i>	<i>7516</i>

Table 5.3

Proportion who had taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months by offence committed

<i>All arrestees</i>		<i>Oct 2003-Sept 2004</i>		
Offences		Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		
		Taken HCC	Weighted bases	Unweighted bases
Offences in last 4 weeks				
Arranged sex	%	82	86	95
Selling stolen goods	%	82	1191	1381
Sold drugs	%	81	502	576
Shoplifting	%	79	1312	1581
Offered sex	%	78	115	157
Stole something else	%	77	506	630
Begging	%	74	275	330
Buying stolen goods	%	66	852	955
Vandalism	%	56	766	822
Offences in last 12 months				
Commercial burglary	%	81	619	703
Credit fraud	%	80	527	627
Domestic burglary	%	77	414	477
Theft from a person	%	77	345	426
Robbery from business	%	76	266	305
Steal from motor vehicle	%	76	676	791
Robbery from person	%	75	233	284
Possession of gun	%	70	282	309
Benefit fraud	%	68	220	250
Steal motor vehicle	%	68	769	867
Possession of drugs	%	67	788	887
Possession of weapon (not gun)	%	66	1214	1334
Assault	%	53	1667	1764
Total				
Total	%	38	7455	7453

Table 5.4

Number of acquisitive crimes committed in last 12 months, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

<i>All arrestees</i>		<i>Oct 2003-Sept 2004</i>		
Number of acquisitive crimes in last 12 months	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total %	
	Yes %	No %		
17-24				
None	28	68	51	
1-52 crimes	29	25	26	
53-365 crimes	22	6	12	
366+ crimes	22	2	10	
Any acquisitive crimes	72	32	49	
25-34				
None	31	83	57	
1-52 crimes	24	12	18	
53-365 crimes	24	4	14	
366+ crimes	21	1	11	
Any acquisitive crimes	69	17	43	
35+				
None	39	89	78	
1-52 crimes	26	9	12	
53-365 crimes	16	2	5	
366+ crimes	19	1	4	
Any acquisitive crimes	61	11	22	
Total				
None	31	79	61	
1-52 crimes	27	16	20	
53-365 crimes	22	4	11	
366+ crimes	21	1	9	
Any acquisitive crimes	69	21	39	
<i>Weighted bases</i>				
17-24	1201	1736	2953	
25-34	1051	1100	2161	
35+	432	1623	2066	
Total	2686	4462	7183	
<i>Unweighted bases</i>				
17-24	1402	1912	3328	
25-34	1086	1003	2100	
35+	466	1272	1749	
Total	2955	4189	7180	

Table 5.5**Committed crime to get drugs in last 4 weeks, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months***All arrestees* *Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Age	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		
	Yes	No	Total
	% committed crime to get drugs in last 4 weeks		
17-24	35	3	16
25-34	39	2	20
35+	30	1	7
Total	36	2	15
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1260	1813	3086
25-34	1075	1131	2208
35+	448	1672	2126
Total	2784	4619	7424
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1467	1984	3464
25-34	1116	1034	2152
35+	485	1305	1798
Total	3069	4325	7417

Table 5.6**Committed crime to get drugs in last 4 weeks, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last month***All arrestees* *Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Age	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last month		
	Yes	No	Total
	% committed crime to get drugs in last 4 weeks		
17-24	48	4	16
25-34	48	3	20
35+	38	1	7
Total	46	3	15
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	843	2228	3086
25-34	850	1355	2208
35+	344	1772	2126
Total	2038	5358	7424
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1011	2439	3464
25-34	893	1255	2152
35+	389	1400	1798
Total	2294	5096	7417

Table 5.7

Income from crime in last 12 months, by age and whether taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Income from crime	Taken heroin, crack or cocaine in last 12 months		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
17-24			
Nothing	34	76	58
Less than £1000	24	16	20
£1000, but less than £5000	15	5	9
£5000 or more	26	4	13
Made any money from crime	66	24	42
25-34			
Nothing	35	85	61
Less than £1000	23	9	16
£1000, but less than £5000	16	3	9
£5000 or more	26	3	14
Made any money from crime	65	15	39
35+			
Nothing	45	91	81
Less than £1000	23	7	10
£1000, but less than £5000	12	1	4
£5000 or more	20	1	5
Made any money from crime	55	9	19
Total			
Nothing	36	83	66
Less than £1000	23	11	16
£1000, but less than £5000	15	3	7
£5000 or more	25	3	11
Made any money from crime	64	17	34
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1279	1816	3121
25-34	1096	1131	2248
35+	457	1672	2150
Total	2833	4622	7523
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1490	1990	3513
25-34	1136	1034	2190
35+	495	1305	1821
Total	3122	4331	7527

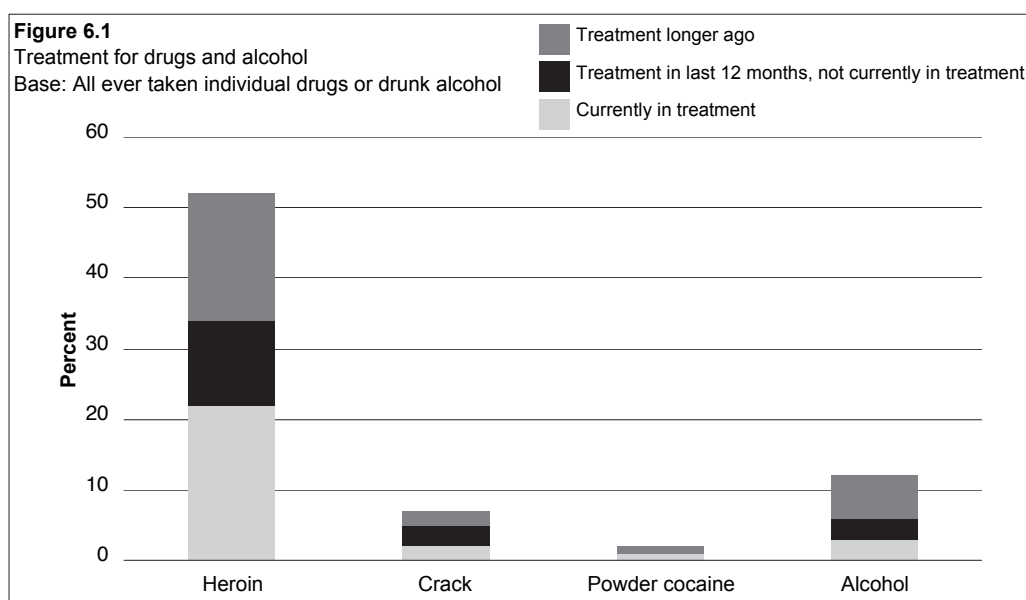
6 Treatment

Treatment for drug and alcohol use

Arrestees who had ever taken heroin, crack, cocaine or alcohol were asked a series of questions about treatment for each of the drugs they had taken. The questions included whether they had ever been offered treatment, had ever received treatment, had received treatment in the last 12 months, were currently receiving treatment or wanted treatment.

The treatment for drug use reported by arrestees was dominated by heroin treatment. Among those who had ever taken heroin, 58% had ever been offered treatment, 52% had received treatment (34% in the last 12 months) and 22% were currently receiving treatment.

(Table 6.1, Figure 6.1)



Treatment for other drugs was at a much lower level (although it should be noted that the types of treatment appropriate for these drugs are different to those for heroin). Among those who had ever used individual drugs (or taken alcohol), 52% had ever had treatment for heroin, 7% had ever had treatment for crack, 2% for cocaine and 12% for alcohol.

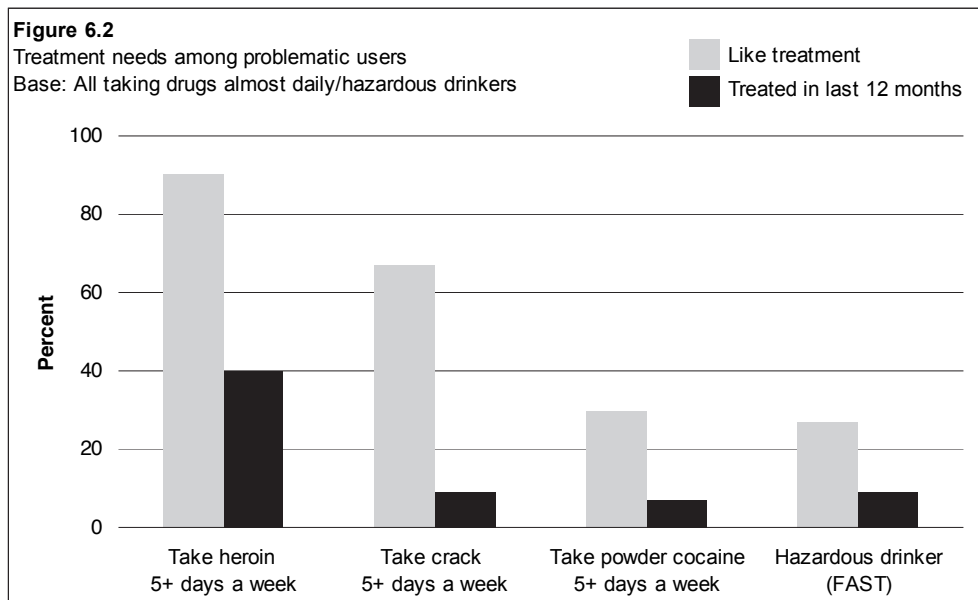
(Tables 6.1, 6.4, 6.7, 6.9, Figure 6.1)

Meeting treatment needs

There was some evidence that treatment was being successfully targeted at those arrestees with greater treatment needs. Among those who had ever taken heroin, 70% of those who reported using heroin five or more days a week had been offered treatment at some time declining to 41% of those who said they no longer used heroin or had used heroin once. Similarly 40% of those who took heroin five or more days a week had received treatment in the last 12 months, compared with 22% of those who said that they no longer used heroin or had used heroin once. However, 90% of those who

usually take heroin every day reported that they would like treatment for heroin, and this coupled with the fact that 60% of arrestees who usually take heroin five or more days a week have not received any treatment in the last 12 months, showed that there was still substantial unmet demand for heroin treatment.

(Tables 6.1, 6.2, Figures 6.1, 6.2)



There were similar patterns for other drugs and for alcohol. The largest gap between desire for treatment and receipt was among those who took crack – 67% of those who took crack five or more times a week wanted treatment, but only 9% had had treatment in the last 12 months. Equivalent figures for frequent powder cocaine users were 30% and 7%, and for hazardous drinkers (defined by FAST) were 27% and 9%.

(Tables 6.4-6.10, Figure 6.2)

Past treatment and current drug use

It is possible to a limited extent to examine the possible effects of treatment by looking at the current behaviour of those who have been treated for heroin longer than 12 months ago. Although the measure of past treatment may be unreliable and it could be that participants only attended one session rather than a whole course of treatment, it should provide an indication of the potential effects of treatment. Among those who were treated for heroin more than 12 months ago, 28% did not take heroin any more, but 59% usually took heroin on at least five days a week. Crack treatment appeared to be more successful (although the number of people reporting such treatment was very small) – among those who were treated for crack more than 12 months ago, 54% did not take crack any more, although 23% usually took crack on at least five days a week.

(Tables 6.3,6.6)

Table 6.1**Treatment for heroin, by frequency usually take heroin***All ever taken heroin**Oct 2003 - Sept 2004*

Treatment for heroin	Frequency usually take heroin				Total
	5+ days a week	1-4 days a week	More than once ever but less than 3 times a month	Do not use now*	
	%	%	%	%	%
Ever offered treatment	70	62	56	41	58
Ever received treatment	63	60	55	35	52
Received treatment in last 12 months	40	44	40	22	34
Currently receiving treatment	23	31	35	17	22
Currently receiving treatment	23	31	35	17	22
Treated in last 12 months, not currently in treatment	17	14	5	5	11
Treated longer ago	23	16	15	13	18
<i>Weighted bases</i>	963	142	166	752	2031
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	1139	165	174	808	2294

*includes those who said they had only used heroin once.

Table 6.2**Would like treatment for heroin, by frequency usually take heroin***All taken heroin in last 12 months**Oct 2003 - Sept 2004*

Like treatment for heroin	Frequency usually take heroin				Total
	5+ days a week	1-4 days a week	More than once ever but less than 3 times a month	Do not use now*	
	%	%	%	%	%
Like treatment for heroin	90	81	58	42	77
<i>Weighted bases</i>	949	140	165	291	1549
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	1121	161	173	315	1775

*includes those who said they had only used heroin once.

Table 6.3**Usual frequency take heroin, by whether treated for heroin***All ever taken heroin**Oct 2003 - Sept 2004*

Usual frequency take heroin	Treated for heroin			Total
	Treated in last 12 months	Treated longer ago	Never treated	
	%	%	%	%
5+ days a week	57	59	37	48
1-4 days a week	9	6	6	7
More than once ever but less than 3 times a month	10	7	8	8
Do not use now*	24	28	50	37
<i>Weighted bases</i>	678	366	976	2061
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	775	417	1090	2320

*includes those who said they had only used heroin once.

Table 6.4**Treatment for crack, by frequency usually take crack***All ever taken crack**Oct 2003 - Sept 2004*

Treatment for crack	Frequency usually take crack				Total
	5+ days a week	1-4 days a week	More than once ever but less than 3 times a month	Do not use now*	
	%	%	%	%	
Ever offered treatment	20	16	9	11	13
Ever received treatment	13	8	5	6	7
Received treatment in last 12 months	9	6	3	3	5
Currently receiving treatment	4	2	2	2	2
Currently receiving treatment	4	2	2	2	2
Treated in last 12 months, not currently in treatment	5	3	1	1	2
Treated longer ago	3	2	2	3	3
<i>Weighted bases</i>	481	326	442	1131	2386
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	568	361	509	1226	2673

*includes those who said they had only used crack once.

Table 6.5**Would like treatment for crack, by frequency usually take crack***All taken crack in last 12 months**Oct 2003 - Sept 2004*

Like treatment for crack	Frequency usually take crack				Total
	5+ days a week	1-4 days a week	More than once ever but less than 3 times a month	Do not use now*	
	%	%	%	%	
Like treatment for crack	67	41	19	15	36
<i>Weighted bases</i>	469	306	426	443	1648
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	555	341	485	485	1872

*includes those who said they had only used crack once.

Table 6.6**Usual frequency take crack, by whether treated for crack***All ever taken crack**Oct 2003 - Sept 2004*

Usual frequency take crack	Treated for crack			Total
	Treated in last 12 months	Treated longer ago	Never treated	
	%	%	%	
5+ days a week	41	23	19	20
1-4 days a week	17	11	14	14
More than once ever but less than 3 times a month	12	12	19	19
Do not use now*	29	54	48	47
<i>Weighted bases</i>	107	68	2194	2407
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	122	80	2451	2688

*includes those who said they had only used crack once.

Table 6.7**Treatment for powder cocaine, by frequency usually take powder cocaine***All ever taken powder cocaine**Oct 2003 - Sept 2004*

Treatment for powder cocaine	Frequency usually take powder cocaine				Total
	5+ days a week	1-4 days a week	More than once ever but less than 3 times a month	Do not use now*	
	%	%	%	%	%
Ever offered treatment	14	6	5	3	4
Ever received treatment	11	3	2	2	2
Received treatment in last 12 months	7	1	1	1	1
Currently receiving treatment	4	1	0	1	1
Currently receiving treatment	4	1	0	1	1
Treated in last 12 months, not currently in treatment	2	1	1	0	0
Treated longer ago	5	1	1	1	1
<i>Weighted bases</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>258</i>	<i>715</i>	<i>1909</i>	<i>3004</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>275</i>	<i>766</i>	<i>2107</i>	<i>3290</i>

*includes those who said they had only used powder cocaine once.

Table 6.8**Would like treatment for powder cocaine, by frequency usually take powder cocaine***All taken powder cocaine in last 12 months**Oct 2003 - Sept 2004*

Like treatment for powder cocaine	Frequency usually take powder cocaine				Total
	5+ days a week	1-4 days a week	More than once ever but less than 3 times a month	Do not use now*	
	%	%	%	%	%
Like treatment for powder cocaine	30	30	10	7	13
<i>Weighted bases</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>228</i>	<i>675</i>	<i>593</i>	<i>1600</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>242</i>	<i>714</i>	<i>666</i>	<i>1747</i>

*includes those who said they had only used powder cocaine once.

Table 6.9

Treatment for alcohol, by age and FAST Score

All ever taken alcohol

Oct 2003 - Sept 2004

Treatment for alcohol	FAST Score		Total %
	0-2 %	3+ %	
17-24			
Ever offered treatment	4	22	15
Ever received treatment	2	11	8
Received treatment in last 12 months	1	6	4
Currently receiving treatment	1	3	2
Currently receiving treatment	1	3	2
Treated in last 12 months, not currently in treatment	0	4	2
Treated longer ago	1	4	3
25-34			
Ever offered treatment	4	25	17
Ever received treatment	2	17	11
Received treatment in last 12 months	0	10	6
Currently receiving treatment	0	5	3
Currently receiving treatment	0	5	3
Treated in last 12 months, not currently in treatment	0	5	3
Treated longer ago	2	7	5
35+			
Ever offered treatment	5	34	23
Ever received treatment	3	27	18
Received treatment in last 12 months	1	13	9
Currently receiving treatment	0	7	4
Currently receiving treatment	0	7	4
Treated in last 12 months, not currently in treatment	1	7	4
Treated longer ago	2	13	9
Total			
Ever offered treatment	4	26	18
Ever received treatment	2	17	12
Received treatment in last 12 months	1	9	6
Currently receiving treatment	0	5	3
Currently receiving treatment	0	5	3
Treated in last 12 months, not currently in treatment	0	5	3
Treated longer ago	2	8	5
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1067	1772	2845
25-34	822	1189	2013
35+	741	1235	1984
<i>Total</i>	2633	4197	6845
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1226	1944	3178
25-34	811	1122	1935
35+	681	972	1662
<i>Total</i>	2720	4039	6778

Table 6.10**Would like to receive treatment for alcohol, by age and FAST Score***All drunk alcohol in last 12 months**Oct 2003 - Sept 2004*

Would like to receive treatment	FAST Score		Total
	0-2	3+	
	<i>% would like treatment</i>		
17-24	2	17	11
25-34	3	32	20
35+	2	35	22
Total	2	27	17
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	1062	1772	2839
25-34	825	1186	2013
35+	740	1231	1979
Total	2629	4190	6835
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1222	1941	3170
25-34	812	1119	1934
35+	679	966	1654
Total	2715	4027	6761

7 Availability and supply of drugs

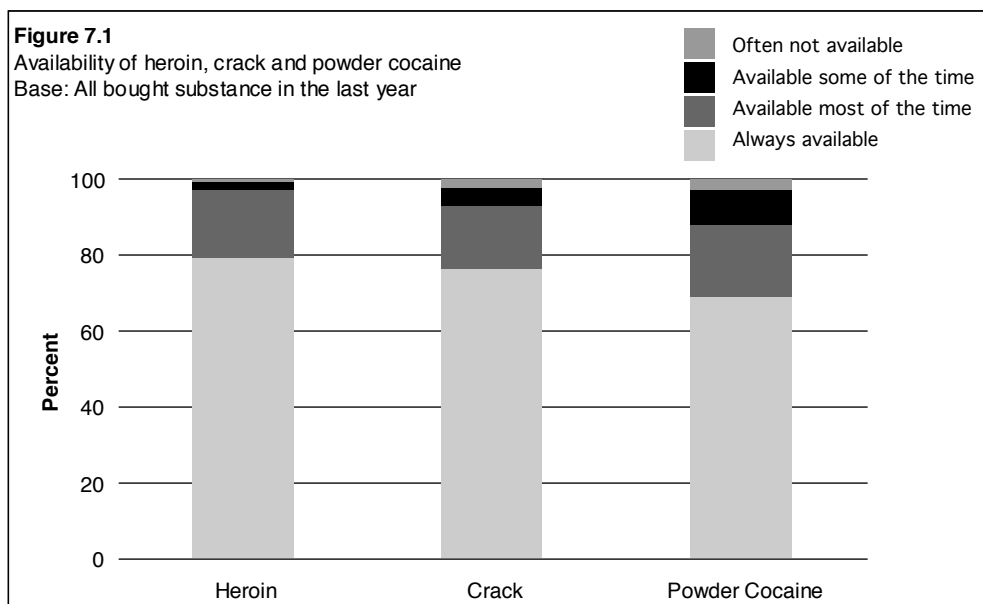
Availability of heroin, crack and powder cocaine

Arrestees who had bought heroin, crack or powder cocaine in the last year were asked how available each drug was when they had the money to buy it. Heroin, crack and powder cocaine were always available to a significant majority (among arrestees who had bought those individual drugs) when they had enough money to buy them. Among those had bought heroin in the last year, 79% said that it was available all the time and 18% reported it was available most of the time, while 2% said it was available to them only some of the time, and 1% said heroin was often not available.

Crack and powder cocaine followed a similar pattern of general availability to heroin, although powder cocaine was not as readily available as heroin or crack. Compared with the 79% who said heroin was always available, 77% of those who had bought crack in the last year said it was always available, and 69% of those who had bought powder cocaine in the last year said it was always available.

The availability of heroin, crack and powder cocaine was similar across all age ranges.

(Tables 7.1-7.3, Figure 7.1)



Selling drugs

All arrestees were asked whether they had ever sold heroin, crack or powder cocaine, even if they had never used or bought each drug. In total, 9% of arrestees had ever sold heroin, 5% had sold crack and 5% had sold powder cocaine. Those who had used individual drugs in the last year were much more likely to have ever sold them – for example, 33% of those who had taken heroin in the last year had ever sold it, compared with 3% of other arrestees.

(Tables 7.4-7.6)

Table 7.1**Availability of heroin, by age***All those who have bought heroin in the last year**Oct 2003- Sept 2004*

Availability of heroin	Age			Total
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Always available	79	79	79	79
Available most of the time	18	17	18	18
Available some of the time	2	3	2	2
Often not available	1	0	1	1
<i>Weighted bases</i>	<i>551</i>	<i>711</i>	<i>253</i>	<i>1515</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	<i>668</i>	<i>772</i>	<i>310</i>	<i>1751</i>

Table 7.2**Availability of crack, by age***All those who have bought crack in the last year**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Availability of crack	Age			Total
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Always available	76	76	79	77
Available most of the time	18	16	13	16
Available some of the time	4	5	6	5
Often not available	2	2	1	2
<i>Weighted bases</i>	<i>578</i>	<i>707</i>	<i>281</i>	<i>1566</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	<i>714</i>	<i>736</i>	<i>323</i>	<i>1774</i>

Table 7.3**Availability of powder cocaine, by age***All those who have bought powder cocaine in the last year**Oct 2003- Sept 2004*

Availability of powder cocaine	Age			Total
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Always available	72	66	69	69
Available most of the time	19	20	17	19
Available some of the time	6	12	10	9
Often not available	3	3	5	3
<i>Weighted bases</i>	<i>693</i>	<i>469</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>1334</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	<i>809</i>	<i>456</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>1435</i>

Table 7.4**Ever sold heroin, by age and whether taken heroin in last 12 months***All arrestees* *Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Sold heroin	Taken heroin in last 12 months		
	Yes <i>% sold heroin</i>	No	Total
17-24	34	3	9
25-34	31	3	13
35+	35	2	6
Total	33	3	9
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	559	2538	3101
25-34	748	1473	2223
35+	262	1873	2136
Total	1570	5886	7464
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	675	2802	3482
25-34	801	1364	2167
35+	321	1485	1809
Total	1798	5653	7461

Table 7.5**Ever sold crack, by age and whether taken crack in last 12 months***All arrestees* *Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Sold crack	Taken crack in last 12 months		
	Yes <i>% sold crack</i>	No	Total
17-24	16	3	6
25-34	15	2	6
35+	11	1	2
Total	15	2	5
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	638	2451	3095
25-34	742	1473	2219
35+	293	1830	2124
Total	1674	5756	7442
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	783	2685	3474
25-34	775	1383	2162
35+	333	1465	1802
Total	1892	5535	7441

Table 7.6

Ever sold powder cocaine, by age and whether taken powder cocaine in last 12 months

All arrestees *Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Sold powder cocaine	Taken powder cocaine in last 12 months		Total
	Yes	No	
	<i>% sold powder cocaine</i>		
17-24	15	2	6
25-34	16	2	6
35+	15	1	3
Total	15	2	5
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	868	2218	3093
25-34	535	1681	2217
35+	201	1916	2124
Total	1604	5818	7437
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	1002	2462	3472
25-34	543	1612	2158
35+	204	1590	1800
Total	1749	5667	7433

Appendix A: Response tables

The main issue which resulted in a low response rate was the difficulty in being able to approach arrestees to ask them to participate in the survey. Interviewers were governed by the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) which meant that they were not allowed to prolong the amount of time that an arrestee spent in custody – thus it was not possible to approach 21% of arrestees because there was not a long enough time gap to allow an interview. Other time issues (such as interviewer or police being unavailable when an arrestee was free to be approached) accounted for a further 11% of eligible arrestees not being approached. Some arrestees were also not fit to be interviewed either because they were drunk (10%), high on drugs (2%) or other reasons such as being mentally incapable (4%). In 8% of cases either the custody staff or interviewer felt that the arrestee was a potential safety risk and therefore did not approach them to take part. Other reasons accounted for a further 13% of eligible arrestees not being approached (which included refusals by the police or solicitors).

Thus, it was only possible to approach 32% of arrestees to ask them to take part – 72% of these agreed to take part, resulting in an overall response rate of 23%.

Response was similar among men and women, but slightly higher amongst younger arrestees (27% among 17-24 year olds, 22% among 25-34 year olds and 20% among those aged 35 years or over). There was a slight variation in response among different ethnic groups with Black arrestees slightly more likely to take part (26%) and Asian arrestees slightly less likely (21%).

The greatest variation in response was by type of arrest, which ranged from 7% for those arrested for being drunk and disorderly to 30% among those arrested for burglary.

(Tables A.1-A.3)

Table A.1

Response, by sex and age

All eligible arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Response	Age			Total %
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Men				
All eligible				
Interview	26	22	20	23
No time gap	21	19	19	21
Other time reason	12	11	10	11
Unfit due to alcohol	9	9	12	10
Unfit due to drugs	2	2	2	2
Other unfit	2	4	6	4
Safety risk	6	9	10	8
Refusal	9	10	8	9
Other reason	13	14	13	14
All approached				
Participation rate	75	69	71	72
Consent to take saliva sample				
Consented (all eligible)	23	20	18	20
Consented (all approached)	66	60	62	63
Women				
All eligible				
Interview	32	22	20	24
No time gap	21	20	20	21
Other time reason	11	12	11	11
Unfit due to alcohol	9	9	13	10
Unfit due to drugs	2	3	2	2
Other unfit	4	6	10	6
Safety risk	4	4	6	5
Refusal	8	9	8	8
Other reason	11	14	11	12
All approached				
Participation rate	81	71	71	75
Consent to take saliva sample				
Consented (all eligible)	29	20	17	21
Consented (all approached)	74	62	62	67
Bases				
<i>Men</i>				
<i>All eligible</i>	10829	7942	7470	28356
<i>All approached</i>	3782	2599	2120	8983
<i>Women</i>				
<i>All eligible</i>	1654	1370	1374	4763
<i>All approached</i>	648	429	386	1532

Table A.1 (cont.)

Response, by sex and age

All eligible arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Response	Age			Total %
	17-24 %	25-34 %	35+ %	
Total				
All eligible				
Interview	27	22	20	23
No time gap	21	19	19	21
Other time reason	12	11	10	11
Unfit due to alcohol	9	9	12	10
Unfit due to drugs	2	2	2	2
Other unfit	2	4	6	4
Safety risk	6	8	9	8
Refusal	9	10	8	9
Other reason	13	14	12	13
All approached				
Participation rate	76	69	71	72
Consent to take saliva sample				
Consented (all eligible)	24	20	18	20
Consented (all approached)	67	60	62	63
<i>Bases</i>				
<i>All eligible</i>	12485	9315	8846	33140
<i>All approached</i>	4431	3030	2506	10521

Table A.2

Response, by ethnic group

All arrestees

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Response	Ethnic group				Refused %	Total %
	White %	Black %	Asian %	Other %		
All eligible						
Interview	23	26	21	18	16	23
No time gap	21	16	21	12	34	21
Other time reason	11	10	12	7	6	11
Unfit due to alcohol	11	3	4	3	8	10
Unfit due to drugs	2	2	1	1	2	2
Other unfit	4	5	3	3	5	4
Safety risk	8	8	5	5	8	8
Refusal	9	14	8	6	5	9
Other reason	11	18	25	44	18	13
All approached						
Participation rate	73	65	72	76	77	72
Consent to take saliva sample						
Consented (all eligible)	21	20	16	16	14	20
Consented (all approached)	65	50	54	67	70	63
<i>Bases</i>						
<i>All eligible</i>	26646	2569	1372	979	1563	33140
<i>All approached</i>	8554	1020	398	230	314	10521

Table A.3

Response, by suspected offence

Response	Suspected offence											Total				
	Assault	Sex offence	Other violent offence	Burglary	Shoplifting	Other theft	Criminal damage	Drugs possession	Other drugs offence	Drink driving	Drunk/disorderly and other alcohol	Disorder	Driving while disqualified	Other offence	Total	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
All eligible																
Interview	22	17	22	30	29	27	24	27	28	17	7	16	27	21	23	
No time gap	22	21	19	21	21	22	22	21	21	22	14	15	25	25	21	
Other time reason	12	10	9	11	11	13	10	13	10	9	6	9	11	10	11	
Unfit due to alcohol	8	2	4	3	3	3	11	2	1	24	50	20	4	4	10	
Unfit due to drugs	1	0	2	2	3	2	2	6	4	3	2	2	1	1	2	
Other unfit	4	6	5	3	4	3	6	2	2	2	3	7	3	6	4	
Safety risk	10	14	14	5	5	5	8	4	6	4	7	12	4	6	8	
Refusal	8	6	9	12	11	11	7	10	10	7	3	7	10	9	9	
Other reason	13	22	16	13	13	15	11	14	17	13	7	12	16	18	13	
All approached																
Participation rate	73	73	71	72	72	72	76	72	73	70	68	70	73	70	72	
Consent to take saliva																
Consented (all eligible)	20	16	18	26	25	24	21	23	24	15	7	14	23	17	20	
Consented (all approached)	65	66	58	63	63	64	68	63	63	63	69	65	62	58	63	
Bases																
All eligible	5206	659	2766	2291	4364	4863	2386	1396	749	1762	1949	2919	779	1051	33140	
All approached	1564	157	861	944	1725	1842	737	515	289	425	201	648	295	318	10521	

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Appendix B: Comparison of self-reported drug use with drug testing of oral fluid samples

All arrestees were asked to provide a voluntary oral fluid sample. Samples were sent to Cozart Bioscience Ltd for analysis of recent drug use. Two stages of testing were employed.

An initial screening test was carried out and cases were classified as testing positive (or not) for cocaine and for opiates. The screening test levels for cocaine indicated for each sample are a result of the presence of cocaine and its many metabolites. However, a positive screening test is only a presumptive positive and should be confirmed by a more specific confirmatory test, e.g. gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS). The purpose of the confirmation test is to identify the exact compounds that are present in the sample. This test looks for specifically: cocaine, cocaethylene and benzoylecgonine. As the screening test is not 100% specific (very much like a pregnancy test) some samples screening positive close to the cut-off will confirm negative. These guidelines also apply to opiates.

Factors influencing the detection of illicit drugs like cocaine and heroin in biological samples are the purity of the drug, the amount of the dose taken and accurate recall of when drugs were last taken (e.g. a small dose of impure cocaine can disappear from the body and not be detected after a couple of hours). In the case of opiates, the factors are more complex. Over-the-counter medication (e.g. pholcodeine and codeine) and prescribed medication (dihydrocodeine, MST) are detected alongside heroin and its metabolites by the opiates test kit. It is very common for an individual to forget or not know that they should have declared medication containing opiates in the previous 48 hours. An individual may have correctly declared that they have not taken heroin in the last 48 hours but the positive test could be as a result of medication containing opiates.

Although overall levels of consenting to an oral fluid sample were high (85% of interviewed arrestees agreed to provide a sample), there were differences between those who had and had not taken drugs. Those who reported taking heroin in the last 48 hours were more likely to consent to providing a sample (89%) than those who reported that they had not taken heroin in the last 48 hours (85%). The same pattern was seen for recent reported use of crack or powder cocaine and consent to provide an oral fluid sample.

(Table B.1)

The proportion who screened positive for cocaine (15%) was higher than the proportion who reported having taken cocaine or crack in the last 48 hours (11%). As commented on above, factors such as the purity and amount of the drug, and when it was actually taken affect whether a screening test is positive. In total 74% of those who reported using cocaine or crack tested positive for cocaine, as did 7% of those who said that they had not used these drugs in the last 48 hours.

(Tables B.2, B.3)

The relationship between self-reported recent use of heroin and a positive screening for opiates was stronger than the equivalent relationship for cocaine (this may be due to false positives from taking medication containing opiates). In total 19% screened positive for opiates compared with 14% who reported using heroin in the last 48 hours. In total 88% of those who reported taking heroin in the last 48 hours screened positive for opiates, compared with 8% of those who said that they had not taken heroin in the last 48 hours.

(Tables B.2, B.4)

After the first six months of fieldwork, a review of the survey design was conducted which included selecting a subsample of screening tests for confirmatory testing based on the initial screening levels, use of opiates medication and self-reported drug use. 747 samples were purposively selected for confirmatory testing, of which 665 (89%) had sufficient sample to be analysed. 4 groups were identified for selection of the initial sample for confirmatory testing. These were

- Opiates screen >30 ng/ml & Opiates medication yes or not sure (all cases)
- Either screen >100 ng/ml & not used drug in last month (60 cases)
- Either screen >30 ng/ml (60 cases)
- Either screen 0-30 ng/ml & used in last 48 hours (60 cases)

As the selection of samples for confirmatory testing was purposive, results should be interpreted with caution as the sub-sample of confirmatory tests may not be representative. Among those who screened positive for cocaine, the proportion who had positive confirmatory tests for cocaine was similar among those who reported recent cocaine use (92%) and those who did not (93%). Among those who screened negative for cocaine, 9% of those who said they had taken cocaine in the last 48 hours had a positive confirmation test for cocaine compared with 2% of those who said they had not taken cocaine that recently.

(Table B.5)

Among those with a negative screen for opiates, none had a positive heroin confirmatory test, although it should be borne in mind that there were only a relatively small number of negative opiate screens that had confirmatory testing. Among those with a positive screen for opiates, there was a different rate of positive heroin confirmations between those reporting heroin use in the last 48 hours (41%) and those who said they had not used heroin in the last 48 hours (19%). The level of positive heroin confirmations from a positive opiate screen was much lower than the confirmatory tests for cocaine use from a positive cocaine screen, which would be expected given that the opiates screening tests picks up other substances than just heroin.

All positive opiates screens which had not had a confirmatory test and where there was sufficient remaining sample were given an additional morphine screen (which is a more targeted screen for heroin use). Among those who said they had taken opiates in the last 48 hours, 43% had a positive morphine screen compared with 41% who had a positive heroin confirmation (although among mutually exclusive groups of arrestees). Among those who said that they had not taken heroin in the last 48 hours, the rate of positive morphine screens was (20%) compared with 19% positive heroin confirmations.

(Table B.6)

In theory, it should therefore be possible to estimate the proportion that would test positive for heroin use as there was a 0% rate of positive heroin confirmations among those who screened negative for opiate use. However, this rate is based on a small number of cases that received confirmatory testing, and it would be necessary to test additional cases before generalising to a large number of cases to estimate an overall rate of positive heroin tests.

Table B.1

Consent to oral fluid sample, by whether taken heroin or cocaine/crack in last 48 hours

<i>All arrestees</i>		<i>Oct 2003-Sept 2004</i>			
Consent to saliva sample	Heroin in last 48 hours		Cocaine/crack in last 48 hours		Total
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
	%	%	%	%	%
Given consent	89	85	89	85	85
<i>Bases</i>	<i>1225</i>	<i>6235</i>	<i>931</i>	<i>6520</i>	<i>7501</i>

Table B.2

Screening tests for cocaine and opiates, by sex and age

<i>All with valid oral fluid sample</i>		<i>Oct 2003-Sept 2004</i>			
Positive screening tests	Age				Total
		17-24	25-34	35+	
	%	%	%	%	
Men					
Positive cocaine screen	12	21	12	15	
Positive opiates screen	13	28	15	18	
Positive screen for cocaine or opiates	21	37	21	26	
Positive screen for cocaine and opiates	4	12	6	7	
Women					
Positive cocaine screen	14	30	12	18	
Positive opiates screen	22	43	19	27	
Positive screen for cocaine or opiates	26	47	23	31	
Positive screen for cocaine and opiates	10	25	8	13	
Total					
Positive cocaine screen	12	22	12	15	
Positive opiates screen	14	30	16	19	
Positive screen for cocaine or opiates	21	38	21	26	
Positive screen for cocaine and opiates	5	14	6	8	
<i>Weighted bases</i>					
<i>Men</i>	<i>2031</i>	<i>1482</i>	<i>1370</i>	<i>4886</i>	
<i>Women</i>	<i>320</i>	<i>226</i>	<i>260</i>	<i>805</i>	
<i>Total</i>	<i>2351</i>	<i>1707</i>	<i>1630</i>	<i>5692</i>	
<i>Unweighted bases</i>					
<i>Men</i>	<i>2261</i>	<i>1401</i>	<i>1152</i>	<i>4817</i>	
<i>Women</i>	<i>426</i>	<i>243</i>	<i>206</i>	<i>875</i>	
<i>Total</i>	<i>2687</i>	<i>1644</i>	<i>1358</i>	<i>5692</i>	

Table B.3**Positive cocaine screen, by age and whether taken cocaine in last 48 hours***All with valid oral fluid sample**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Positive cocaine screen	Taken cocaine in last 48 hours		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
17-24	62	6	12
25-34	78	10	22
35+	84	6	12
Total	74	7	15
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	256	2291	2557
25-34	319	1458	1788
35+	135	1550	1693
Total	710	5302	6042
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	300	2555	2864
25-34	345	1399	1752
35+	148	1295	1450
Total	794	5251	6069

Table B.4**Positive opiates screen, by age and whether taken heroin in last 48 hours***All with valid oral fluid sample**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Positive opiates screen	Taken heroin in last 48 hours		Total %
	Yes %	No %	
17-24	83	5	14
25-34	89	11	30
35+	94	9	16
Total	88	8	19
<i>Weighted bases</i>			
17-24	303	2249	2557
25-34	436	1340	1788
35+	136	1551	1693
Total	876	5143	6042
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
17-24	378	2479	2864
25-34	490	1255	1752
35+	170	1272	1450
Total	1039	5008	6069

Table B.5**Confirmatory tests for cocaine, by cocaine screen result and whether reported taking cocaine in last 48 hours***All with valid oral fluid sample**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Confirmatory tests	Cocaine screen and recent cocaine use			
	Negative cocaine screen, not used last 48 hours %	Negative cocaine screen, used last 48 hours %	Positive cocaine screen, not used last 48 hours %	Positive cocaine screen, used last 48 hours %
Total	4860	208	406	587
Number confirmation tests ^a	289	87	83	205
% confirmation tests	6%	42%	20%	35%
% of CF tests that were positive	2%	9%	93%	92%

Table B.6**Confirmatory tests for heroin, by opiates screen result and whether reported taking heroin in last 48 hours***All with valid oral fluid sample**Oct 2003-Sept 2004*

Confirmatory tests	Opiates screen and recent heroin use			
	Negative opiates screen, not used heroin last 48 hours %	Negative opiates screen, used heroin last 48 hours %	Positive opiates screen, not used heroin last 48 hours %	Positive opiates screen, used heroin last 48 hours %
Total	4640	118	381	924
Number confirmation tests ^a	48	20	116	481
% confirmation tests	1%	17%	30%	52%
% of CF tests that were positive	0%	0%	19%	41%
Number morphine screens ^b	0	0	226	364
% morphine screens	0%	0%	59%	39%
% of morphine screens that were positive (for heroin use)	-	-	20%	43%
Number without CF test or morphine screen	4592	98	39	79
% without CF test or screen	99%	83%	10%	9%

a The main criteria for selecting samples for confirmatory analysis was whether arrestees took medication containing opiates, rather than a random selection of samples. The subgroups whose screening tests were given confirmatory tests were therefore not representative and it is not possible to generalise to all those with screening tests.

b Morphine screening tests were carried out after the initial confirmatory testing. Morphine screening tests were attempted on all positive opiate screens (except those where confirmatory testing had already taken place)

Appendix C: Definition of trigger offences and acquisitive crime

Definition of acquisitive crimes (self-reported) used in Arrestee Survey

- Gone into a shop and taken one or more things and then deliberately left the shop without paying in last 4 weeks
- Sold something to someone else that knew had been stolen in last 4 weeks
- Bought something that knew or thought had been stolen in last 4 weeks
- Begged in last 4 weeks
- Sold drugs in last 4 weeks
- Offered sex for money, drugs or something else in last 4 weeks
- Arranged for someone else to give sex for money, drugs or something else in last 4 weeks
- Stolen or driven away a car, van, motorbike or other motor vehicle without permission in last 12 months
- Stolen or tried to steal anything from the inside or outside of a vehicle, such as parts or personal possessions in last 12 months
- Got into someone's home without permission because wanted to steal or damage something in last 12 months
- Gone into any other types of buildings without permission because wanted to steal or damage something in last 12 months
- Used force, violence or threats against anyone to steal from a shop or any other business in last 12 months
- Used force, violence or threats against someone in order to steal something from them in last 12 months
- Stolen something from someone's hand, pocket or bag or anything else that they were carrying or wearing without the use of force, violence or threats in last 12 months
- Used a cheque book, credit card, store card or cash point card belonging to someone else without their permission in last 12 months
- Falsely claimed social security benefits, housing benefits or tax credits that were not entitled to in last 12 months
- Stolen anything else in the last 4 weeks

Due to a programming error, the amount of money made from stealing anything else in the last 4 weeks was not included in the estimated annual income from crime, although respondents were asked whether this estimate was accurate.

Definition used in the survey of whether reasons for arrest were acquisitive crimes or trigger offences

	Acquisitive crime	Trigger offence
Robbery	√	√
Burglary - dwelling	√	√
Burglary - non-dwelling	√	√
Theft person	√	√
Theft dwelling	√	√
Theft cycle	√	√
Theft from vehicle	√	√
Theft/Taking of vehicle	√	√
Theft from shops	√	√
Theft work/employer	√	√
Theft other	√	√
Handling stolen goods	√	√
Fraud/Forgery/Deception	√	√
Other theft of property	√	√
Drugs supply		√
Drugs possession		√
Begging	√	√
Prostitution - soliciting	√	
Making off without payment	√	√

Appendix D: Design and effect of weighting

There are five phases to creating the weights for the Arrestee Survey.

Phase 1

Weights designed to adjust for the selection of custody suites and the allocation of numbers of interviewer shifts to suites. These weights are the inverse of the probability of a randomly-selected shift being allocated to a suite. All arrestee numbers are projections of the eligible number of arrestees from the 2002 census of custody suites. The strata are constructed to have approximately equal numbers of arrestees.

Phase 2

Further multiplicative weights designed to adjust for the timing of interviewer shifts. We first use a separate set of police arrestee monitoring data relating to the period 2004-5, to estimate a regression of log custody duration on demographic characteristics and dummy variables representing the reason for arrest. The police data is then partitioned into three tertile groups based on predicted log duration, to identify groups of high, medium and low duration arrestees. Within each group, a non-parametric duration analysis is conducted, conditional on time of entry into custody. This analysis gives the projected probability that an arrestee, with any given characteristics and entering custody at any given time, will be in custody for some or all of an interview shift. This function is estimated non-parametrically and used to construct, for each arrestee, the inverse probability of being in custody during one of the randomly-assigned interviewer shifts. Separate weights are constructed in this manner for the pre- and post-January 2004 periods, which had different interview shift systems.

Phase 3

Further multiplicative weights designed to adjust for non-response. Weights are given for the interview and drug test samples, based on logistic regression models. These models generate response probabilities for the interview/no interview dichotomy, predicted from four separate logits for the subsamples of: white females; white males under 21; white males aged 21+; and members of an ethnic minority. The fitted probabilities are then smoothed by dividing the sample into 20 quantile groups and replacing each prediction by the sample response rate for the relevant quantile group. The reciprocals of these are then used as the response weights.

Phase 4

Weights designed to adjust for inter-individual variations in arrest frequency. These weights should be used if we wish to draw inferences about the population of arrestees (i.e. the set of people experiencing arrest during the course of the year) rather than the set of arrest events. The weights are based on the predicted mean annual number of arrests for each individual, from a negative binomial model fitted to data on the number of arrests in the previous 12 months. The predictions are smoothed by replacing them by average numbers of actual arrests (+1 for the current arrest) within 20 quantile groups and weights are calculated as the reciprocals of these means.

Phase 5

Comparison of weighted sample characteristics with population information from police arrestee monitoring data and further calibration weighting. Some preliminary explorations have been made, but it is not yet possible to implement this fully, owing to timing differences and incomplete coverage of the police monitoring data.

The weights used in this report are the product of the weights at phases 1 to 3, so we have not attempted to correct for the over-representation of people with high arrest frequency.

Non-response is a large issue for the Arrestee Survey, since the proportion of eligible arrestees who eventually yield an interview is quite low (23%). However, there is no necessary relationship between the response rate and biases in estimates calculated from the survey. Different forms of non-response may have quite different bias implications and those implications may vary between types of estimate. Unfitness for interview due to drugs would clearly cause bias in the estimation of mean rates of drug consumption. However, there are few sample losses from this source (2%); the analogous problem for alcohol is more serious (10%). The major source of interview loss is the lack of a time slot in the custody process (21%), which is related to the reason for arrest. The response weights attempt to minimise biases by controlling for reason for arrest, time/day of arrest and demographic characteristics.

The following table shows the effect of weighting on a selection of survey estimates. It also shows the design effect (Deff), which gives the factor by which the sampling variance exceeds the variance achievable in a random sample of the same size. The design effect depends on several factors, including weighting and the pattern of clustering of interviews within custody suites. In some cases the design effect is quite large, which means that the 95% confidence interval around survey estimates is considerably wider than it would be for a simple random sample.

Table D.1

Effect of weighting on survey estimates and confidence intervals

Oct 2003-Sept 2004

Estimate	Estimate		95% confidence interval		Deff
	Unweighted	Weighted	LCI	UCI	
Heroin use in last year	24.2%	21.2%	19.2%	23.1%	4.09
Crack use in last year	25.5%	22.5%	20.5%	24.5%	4.23
Powder cocaine use in last year	23.7%	21.7%	20.1%	23.3%	2.78
HCC use in last year	41.9%	38.0%	35.6%	40.4%	4.70
Ever injected	21.6%	18.2%	16.3%	20.2%	4.85
FAST score	54.5%	56.6%	53.9%	59.3%	5.65
Positive screening test for opiates	21.3%	19.5%	17.6%	21.4%	3.54
Positive screening test for cocaine	16.2%	15.1%	12.7%	17.6%	6.88
% heroin users receiving treatment in last year	69.4%	69.1%	64.2%	74.0%	2.95
Shoplifting in last 4 weeks - HCC users	40.1%	36.7%	33.5%	39.8%	3.28
Shoplifting in last 4 weeks - non-users	7.7%	6.0%	4.9%	7.1%	2.28
Any acquisitive crime in last 12 months - HCC users	68.4%	65.8%	63.0%	68.5%	2.49
Any acquisitive crime in last 12 months - non-users	23.9%	19.7%	17.7%	23.7%	2.80
Ever sold heroin	10.4%	9.0%	7.9%	10.2%	2.89
Ever sold crack	5.7%	4.8%	4.1%	5.5%	1.92
Ever sold powder cocaine	5.5%	4.7%	4.1%	5.3%	1.54
Committed crime to buy drugs in last 4 weeks - HCC users	38.4%	35.6%	32.5%	38.7%	3.20
Committed crime to buy drugs in last 4 weeks - non-users	2.2%	2.0%	1.4%	2.7%	2.29
Earned £5,000+ from crime in last 12 months - HCC users	27.7%	25.2%	22.9%	27.5%	2.24
Earned £5,000+ from crime in last 12 months - non-users	3.1%	2.6%	2.0%	3.1%	1.28
Ever been arrested prior to this event	83.8%	81.5%	79.8%	83.3%	3.81

Appendix E: Severity of Dependence Scale (SDS) and Fast Alcohol Screening Test (FAST)

Severity of Dependence Scale (SDS)

The questions that make up the SDS scale along with the scores for each answer were:

- In the last 12 months how often did you think your use of <drug> was out of control?
Never (0), Sometimes (1), Often (2), Always (3)
- In the last 12 months how often did the prospect of missing a <drug>hit make you anxious or very worried?
Never (0), Sometimes (1), Often (2), Always (3)
- In the last 12 months how often did you worry about your <drug>use?
Never (0), Sometimes (1), Often (2), Always (3)
- In the last 12 months how often did you wish you could stop using <drug>?
Never (0), Sometimes (1), Often (2), Always (3)
- How easy would you find it to stop or go without <drug>?
Very easy (0), Quite easy (1), Quite difficult (2), Very difficult (3)

Scores for all five questions are added together and a total score of 4 or more indicates potential dependence.

For a full description of the Severity of Dependence Scale (SDS - Gossop, M. Griffiths, P., Powis, B. & Strang, J. 1992) see <http://www.drugnet.bizland.com/assessment/screening.htm>

For the Arrestees Survey the question about being able to give up was changed from:

"How difficult would you find it to stop or go without <drug>?": "Not at all, A little, Quite difficult, Impossible" to

"How easy would you find it to stop or go without <drug>?": "Very easy, Quite easy, Quite difficult, Very difficult"

Thus findings are not compatible with other studies using the SDS.

Fast Alcohol Screening Test (FAST)

The questions that make up the FAST scale along with the scores for each answer were:

- "How often do you have 8 (6 for women) or more alcoholic drinks on one occasion?"
Never (0), Less than monthly (1), Monthly (2), Weekly (3), Daily or almost daily (4)
- "How often during the **last 12 months** have you been unable to remember what happened the night before because you had been drinking?"
Never (0), Less than monthly (1), Monthly (2), Weekly (3), Daily or almost daily (4)
- "How often during the **last 12 months** have you failed to do what was normally expected of you because of drinking?"
Never (0), Less than monthly (1), Monthly (2), Weekly (3), Daily or almost daily (4)
- "In the **last 12 months**, has a relative or a friend, or a doctor or other health worker been concerned about your drinking or suggested you cut down?"
No (0), Yes on one occasion (2), Yes on more than one occasion (4)

Scores for all four questions are added together and a total score of 3 or more indicates harmful or hazardous drinking.

For a full description of the FAST see: Health Development Agency and University of Wales College of Medicine, *Manual for the Fast Alcohol Screening Test (FAST)*. HDA, 2002 www.hda-online.org.uk/documents/manual_fastalcohol.pdf

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS (RDS)
MISSION STATEMENT

RDS is part of the Home Office. RDS staff are embedded within delivery groups working closely with front-line staff. The HO Chief Scientific Advisor, who is also Director of RDS, oversees professional development for RDS teams, quality assurance and strategic R & D issues.

The Home Office's purpose is to build a safe, just and tolerant society in which the rights and responsibilities of individuals, families and communities are properly balanced and the protection and security of the public are maintained.

RDS includes staff within the Government Statistical Service (GSS). One of the GSS aims is to inform Parliament and the members of the public about the state of the nation and provide a window on the work and performance of government, allowing the impact of government policies and actions to be assessed.

Therefore -

Research Development and Statistics in the Home Office improves policy making, decision taking and practice in support of the Home Office purpose and aims, to provide the public and Parliament with information necessary for informed debate and to publish information for future use.