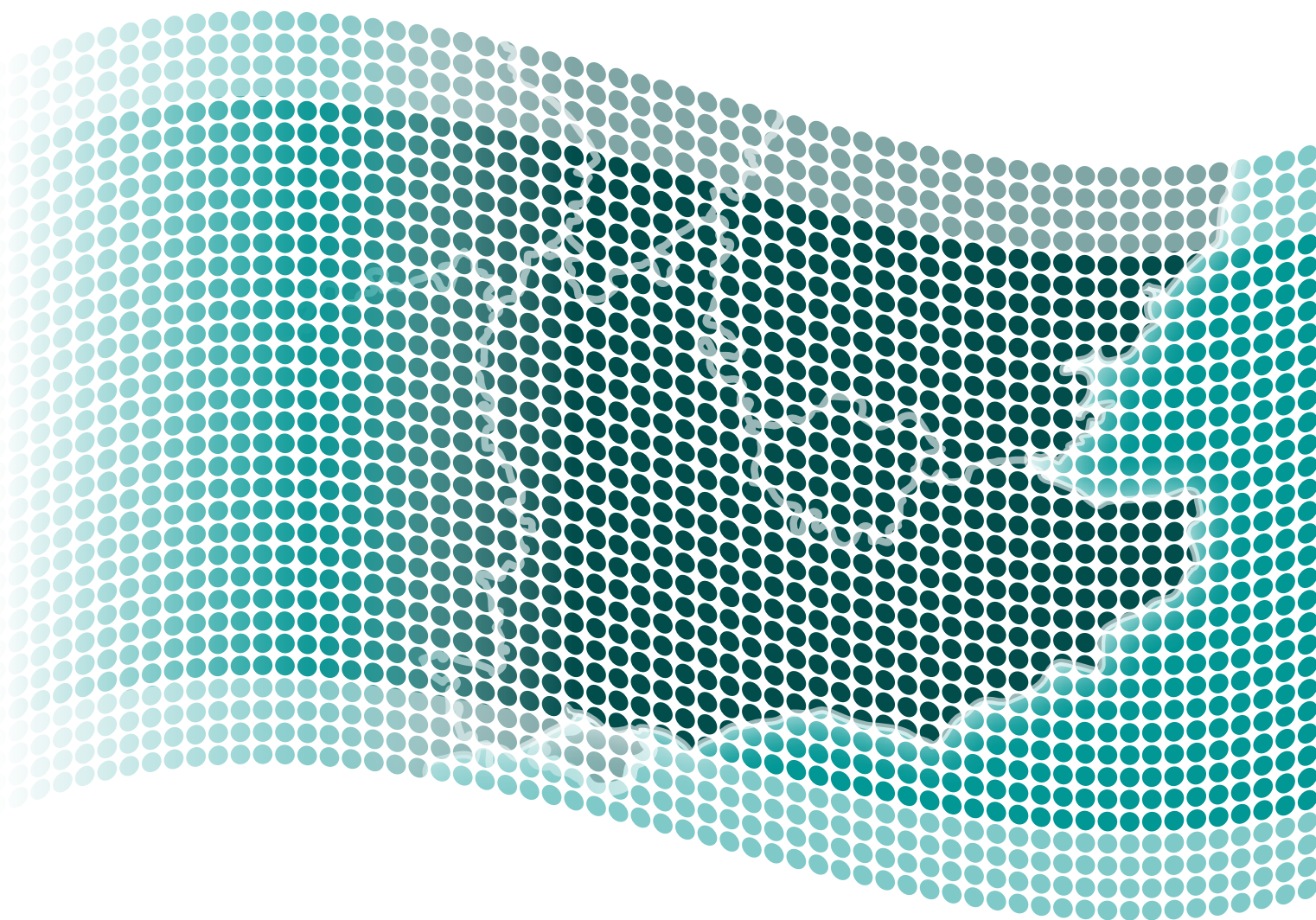


DTMU Analysis

Drug treatment in the South East:
Analysis of the 2008/09 NDTMS dataset

JANUARY 2010



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South East Public Health Observatory

DELIVERED BY



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Introduction

As part of our requirement to provide analysis on the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) data, we have developed DTMU Analysis. DTMU Analysis is a series of short reports produced by the Drug Treatment Monitoring Unit (DTMU), that aim to provide readers with a snapshot of data relating to many different areas of drug treatment.

The South East is one of nine Government Office regions in England. The South East is split into 19 Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) areas; these areas are coterminous with County Councils and Unitary Authority areas. Throughout this report all the Drug and Alcohol Action Team areas will be referred to as DAAT areas; however a number of the areas are known by other titles such as Drug Action Teams (DAT) or Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs). The Drug Treatment Monitoring Unit (DTMU), based within the South East Public Health Observatory (SEPHO), manages and analyses NDTMS data for the South East.

This report summarises data from the NDTMS for April 2008 to March 2009 for adults and young people in drug treatment resident in the South East. Adults with alcohol as their primary drug have been excluded from this analysis. A lot of the data presented in this report are for the South East region as a whole, with some analysis by Drug & Alcohol Action Team (DAAT), more data for DAATs will be published in the annual DAAT Profiles in early 2010.

Data in this report may not match exactly to the data published by the National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse (NTA) due to differences in methodology. DTMU are using a new methodology for the 2008/09 NDTMS analysis, therefore data in this report are not directly comparable to previously published analysis.

A 2008/09 NDTMS methodology document has been published by DTMU which outlines the methods used by DTMU for the analysis of 2008/09 NDTMS data. This document can be downloaded from www.dtmu.org.uk/reports.

Key Messages

- There were 21,800 adults and 3,090 young people in drug treatment during 2008/09.
- The average age of adult (aged 18 years and over) clients in treatment was 33.5 years.
- 72% of adults in treatment were male, 62% of young people (aged 17 years and under) in treatment were male.
- The South East has a rate of adults in drug treatment of 393.7 per 100,000 population aged 18-75 years.
- The majority of adult clients reported heroin as their primary drug.
- Alcohol and cannabis are the most commonly reported primary drugs for young people.
- Over 10,600 adults were discharged from drug treatment, 57% were planned.
- 41% of young people were referred into drug treatment via the criminal justice system and 21% through education services.

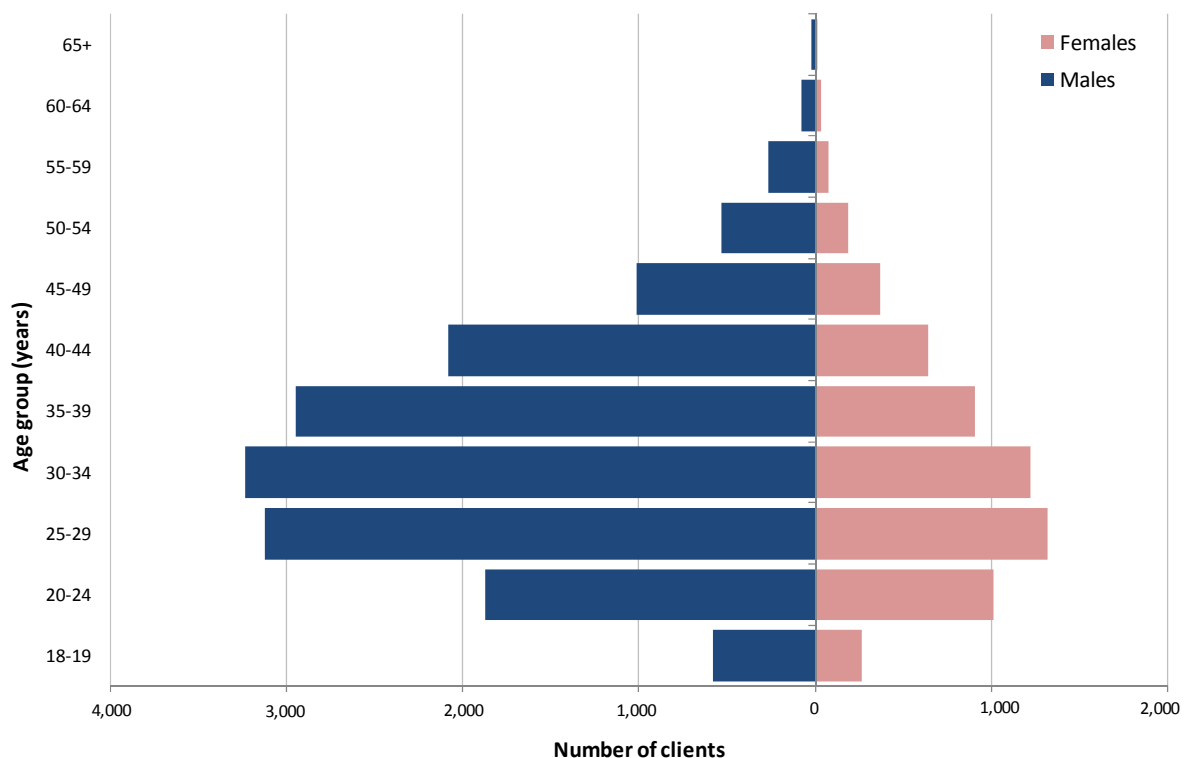
Adults (aged 18 years and over) in drug treatment

Client demographics

During 2008/09 there were approximately 21,800 adults resident in the South East region in contact with the drug treatment system. Seventy-two percent of adults in treatment were male, a ratio of 2.6 males to every female. Males aged between 25 and 34 years were the largest demographic of adults in treatment.

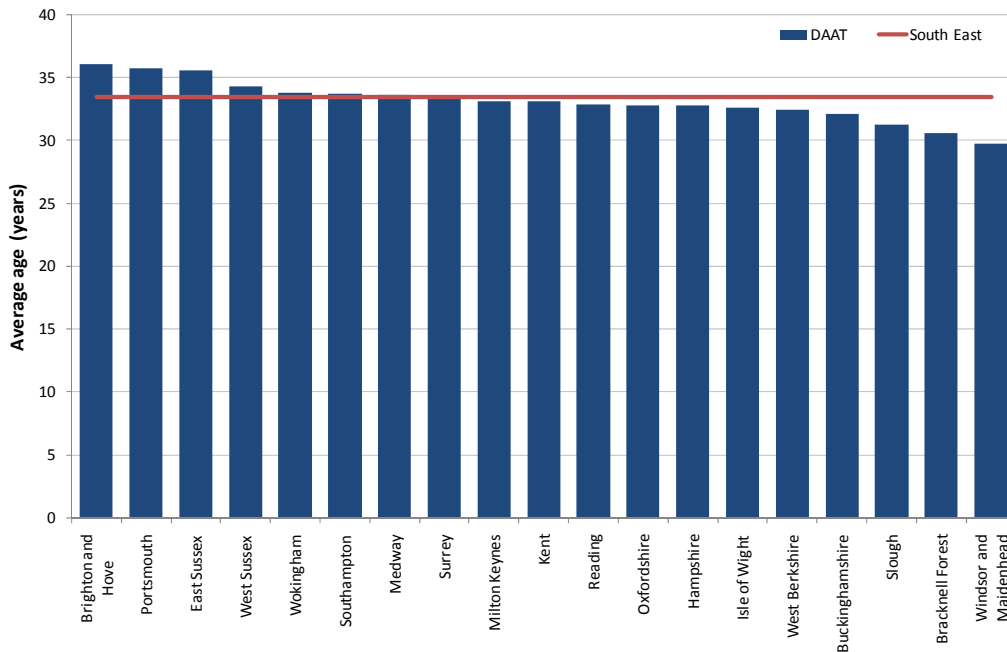
The female adult treatment population were, on the whole, younger than the male treatment population with 43% of females were aged between 18 and 29 compared to 35% of males. One-quarter of the adult male treatment population were aged between 40 and 75 years.

Figure 1: Number of adult clients in drug treatment by age and sex. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA



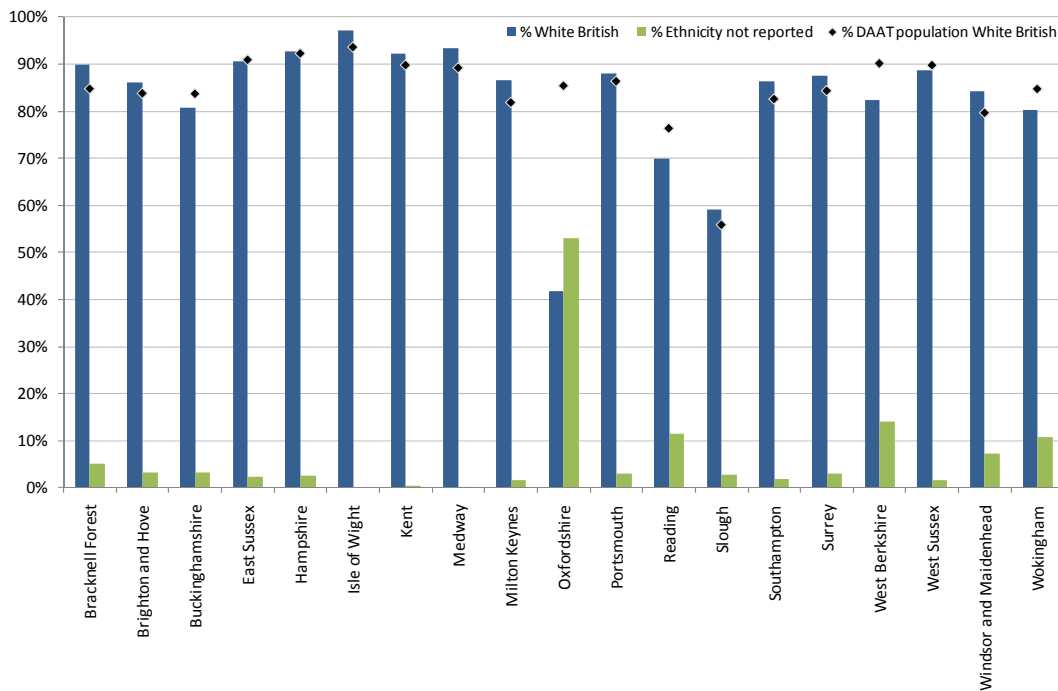
The average age of adult clients in treatment during 2008/09 was 33.5 years. The average age of adult clients varies across the DAATs in the South East ranging from 36.1 years in Brighton and Hove to 29.7 years in Windsor and Maidenhead. Portsmouth, East Sussex, West Sussex, Wokingham, Southampton and Medway DAATs, along with Brighton and Hove DAAT have a higher client average age than the South East.

Figure 2: Average age of adult clients in drug treatment by DAAT of residence. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA



There is substantial variation between DAATs in the proportion of the adult treatment population who are from BME groups. 9.3% of adults in treatment resident in the South East are from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups. Most DAATs have a lower proportion of BME clients compared to the general DAAT population. The proportion of adult clients whose ethnicity was not recorded on NDTMS is included in Figure 3 as high rates of non-reporting can invalidate the analysis.

Figure 3: Percentage of adult clients in drug treatment from BME groups by DAAT of residence. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA, Office for National Statistics 2009

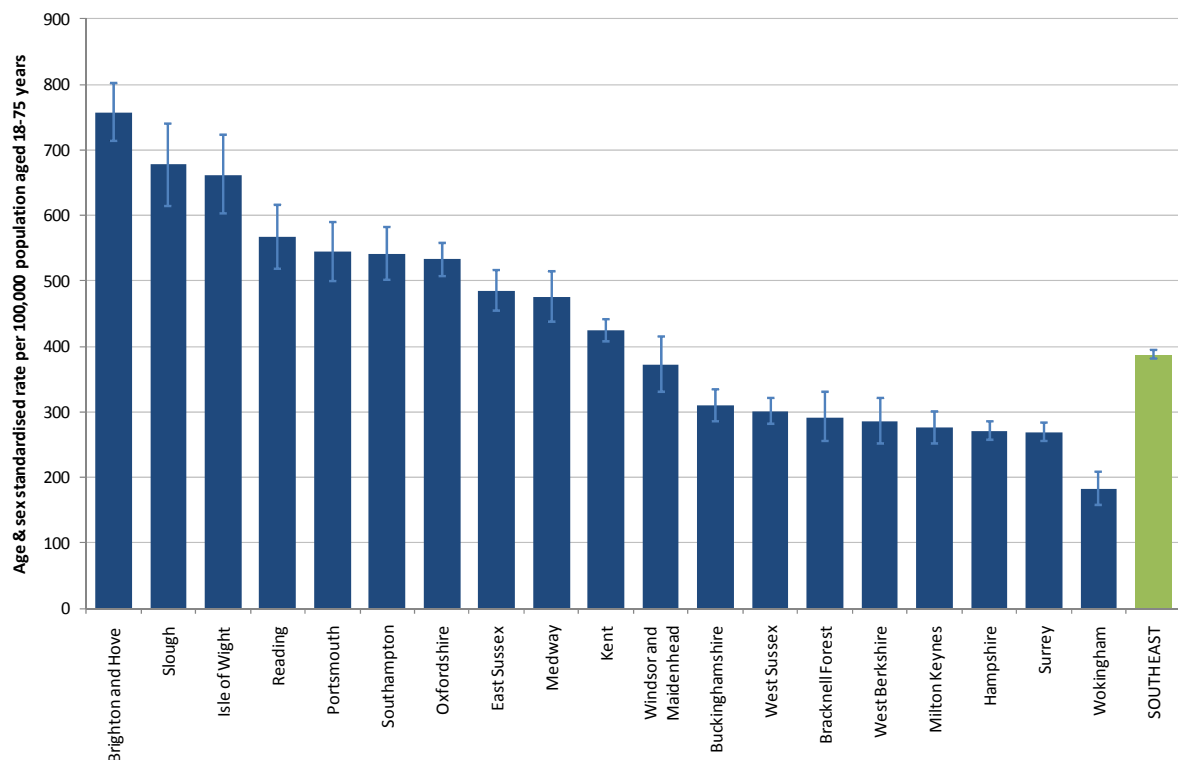


Data in Appendix 1 show the numbers of clients in treatment within and outside their DAAT of residence.

Age standardised rate of adults in drug treatment by DAAT

The South East has a rate of adults in drug treatment of 393.7 per 100,000 population aged 18-75 years. These rates vary across DAAT areas from 801.8 per 100,000 in Brighton and Hove to 209.1 per 100,000 in Wokingham. Reading, the Isle of Wight, and Slough also have rates above 600 per 100,000 population.

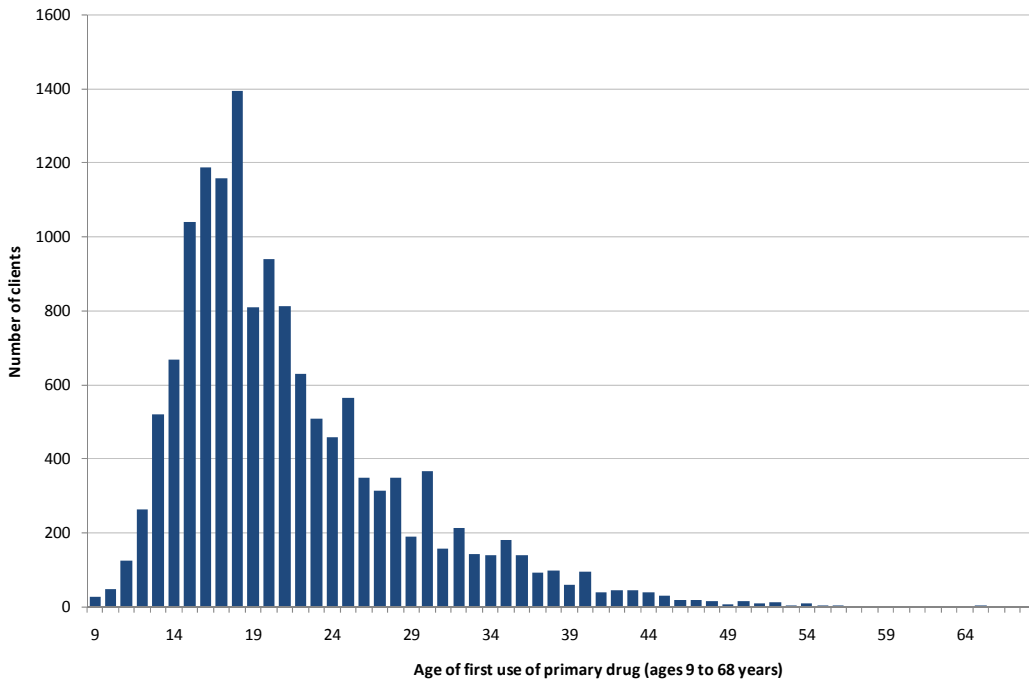
Figure 4: Adult clients in drug treatment by DAAT of residence directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA



Age of first use of primary drug

Over one-quarter (27%) of adult clients' age of first use of primary drug was not recorded on NDTMS. One-third of the clients whose data were recorded reported they were aged between 15 and 18 years at first use of their primary drug. Over 1,600 clients (11.5%) reported they were aged between 9 and 14 years at first use of their primary drug.

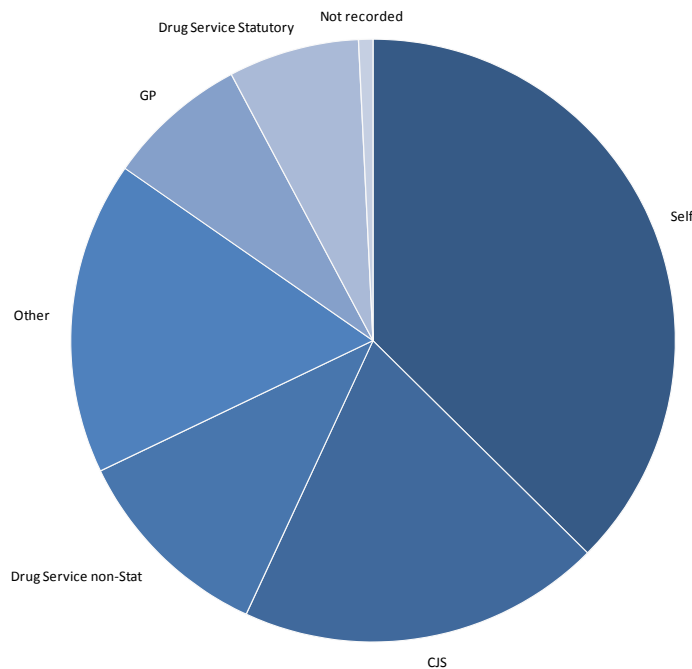
Figure 5: Distribution of adult clients age of first use of primary drug. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA



Referral source

During 2008/09 41% of adult clients self referred into treatment. The criminal justice system (CJS) was the second largest source of referral into drug treatment, 21% of adult clients were referred via the CJS. Twenty percent of adult clients were referred into their latest treatment episode in 2008/09 by other drug treatment services (statutory and non-statutory). Referral source was not recorded for 183 adult clients (0.8%).

Figure 6: Referral source of adult clients in drug treatment. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA



Primary and secondary drugs

The majority of adult clients, both male (67%) and female (64%) in drug treatment during 2008/09, resident in the South East, reported heroin as their primary drug. Cannabis was the second most common primary drug, reported by 9% of males and 7% of females. A slightly higher proportion of females reported crack as their primary drug, 5%, compared to 4% of males in treatment.

Figure 7: Primary drug of adult clients in drug treatment by sex. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

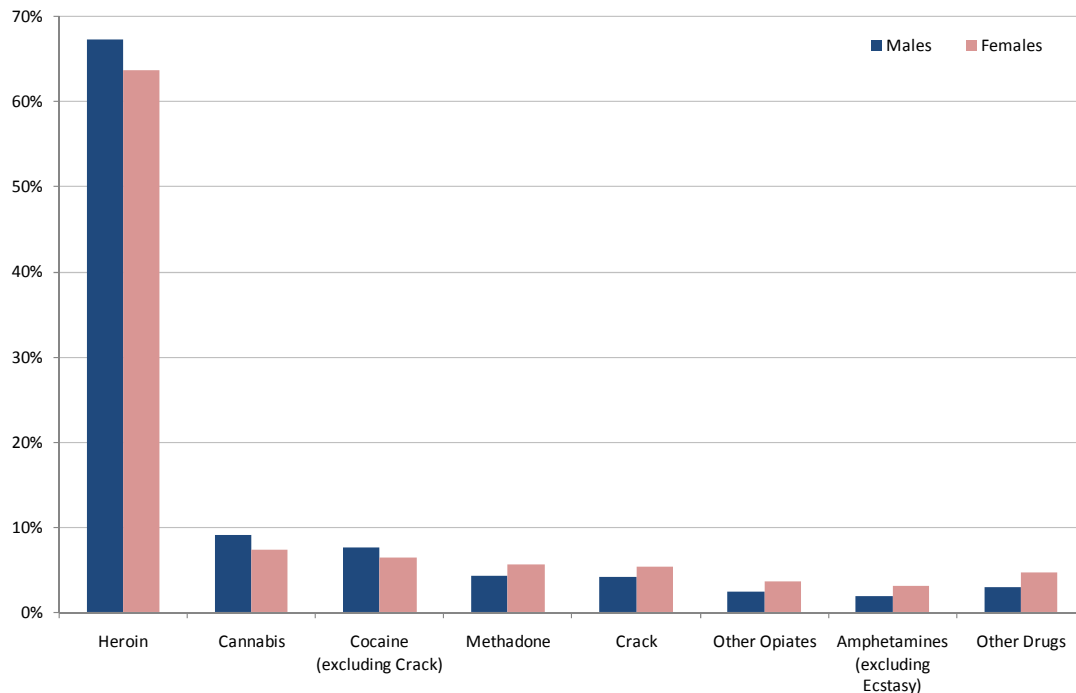


Figure 8 illustrates the difference in the number of adult clients in treatment in DAATs within the South East and within those the numbers of clients who are Problematic Drug Users (PDUs) or non-PDUs. The population size of DAAT areas in the South East varies considerably, therefore it is expected to see a large variation in the number of people in drug treatment. The majority of clients in all DAAT areas are PDUs, the proportion of clients that are PDUs differs between DAATs.

As shown in Figure 9, 29% of clients reporting heroin as their primary drug reported crack as a secondary drug, 42% recorded no other problem drug. One-third of clients reporting crack as a primary drug reported heroin as a second drug. Over 30% of clients with cocaine as a primary drug reported alcohol as a second problem drug.

Figure 8: Number of adult clients in drug treatment by DAAT of residence by PDU status. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

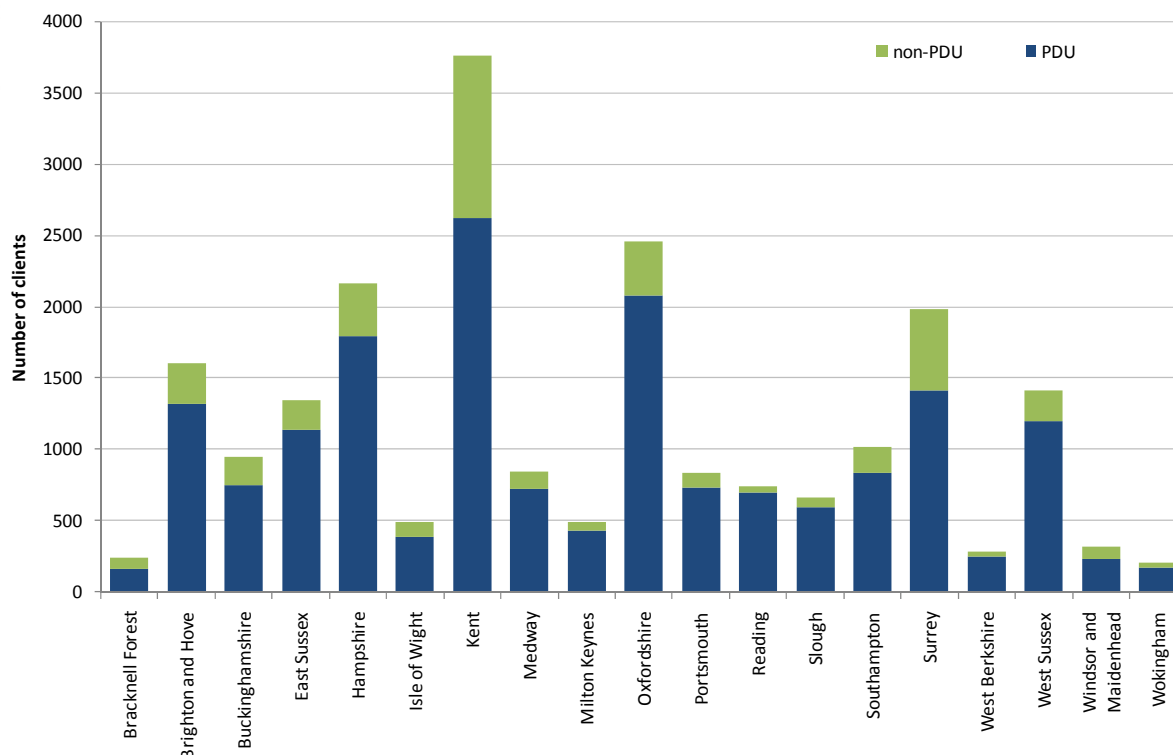


Figure 9: Secondary drug of adult clients in drug treatment by primary drug. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

		Primary drug						
		Heroin	Cannabis	Cocaine	Methadone	Crack	Other Opiates	Other
Secondary drug	Alcohol	5.8%	32.4%	31.5%	7.3%	15.4%	10.4%	15.3%
	Benzodiazepines	4.2%	1.3%	0.9%	11.6%	1.4%	9.9%	3.6%
	Cannabis	6.0%	-	23.9%	5.7%	16.9%	5.7%	15.7%
	Cocaine	3.1%	13.8%	-	1.0%	6.5%	2.0%	5.9%
	Crack	29.1%	2.2%	3.4%	3.0%	-	3.4%	2.6%
	Heroin	-	1.7%	1.5%	20.4%	33.0%	7.8%	5.0%
	Methadone	6.0%	0.6%	-	-	1.0%	2.0%	1.2%
	Other Opiates	2.1%	0.8%	0.5%	2.7%	0.8%	2.0%	2.2%
	Other	2.0%	8.9%	9.8%	2.6%	3.2%	5.2%	6.2%
	No second drug	41.8%	38.1%	28.4%	45.8%	21.8%	51.6%	42.3%

Accommodation need and parental status

Accommodation need for adults in treatment during 2008/09 was not recorded for 30% of clients. Fifty-five percent of clients reported they had no housing problem, 15% reported either no fixed abode (NFA) or a housing problem.

One-quarter of adults in treatment during 2008/09 did not have their parental status recorded on NDTMS. Over one-third (36%) of clients reported they did not have children, 18% of clients have some or all of their children living with them.

Figure 10: Accommodation need and parental status of adult clients in drug treatment. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

	Number	Percentage
Accommodation status		
No housing problem	11912	54.7%
Housing problem	2040	9.4%
NFA - urgent housing problem	1213	5.6%
YP living with parents or other relatives	117	0.5%
Independent YP in settled accommodation	41	0.2%
Other	52	0.2%
Not recorded	6419	29.5%
Parental status		
No children/ not a parent	7869	36.1%
Some or all of children living with client	3810	17.5%
Children living away from client	3827	17.6%
Other	721	3.3%
Not recorded	5567	25.5%

Treatment interventions

The data presented in Figure 11 are for all treatment interventions during 2008/09, individual clients may be counted more than once if they had more than one treatment intervention. Specialist prescribing is the most common treatment intervention for adult clients resident in the South East, during 2008/09 39% of all interventions were specialist prescribing, an additional 11% of interventions were GP prescribing.

Figure 12 demonstrates the differences in treatment provision across DAATs in the South East. Over half of treatment interventions with clients resident on the Isle of Wight were recorded as structured psychosocial interventions, whereas in Portsmouth this figure was only 1%. It is possible that some treatment interventions were recorded incorrectly by treatment agencies.

During 2008/09 over 10,600 adults were discharged from drug treatment, 57% of discharges were planned, defined as treatment completed or treatment completed drug free.

Figure 11: Treatment interventions of adult clients in drug treatment. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

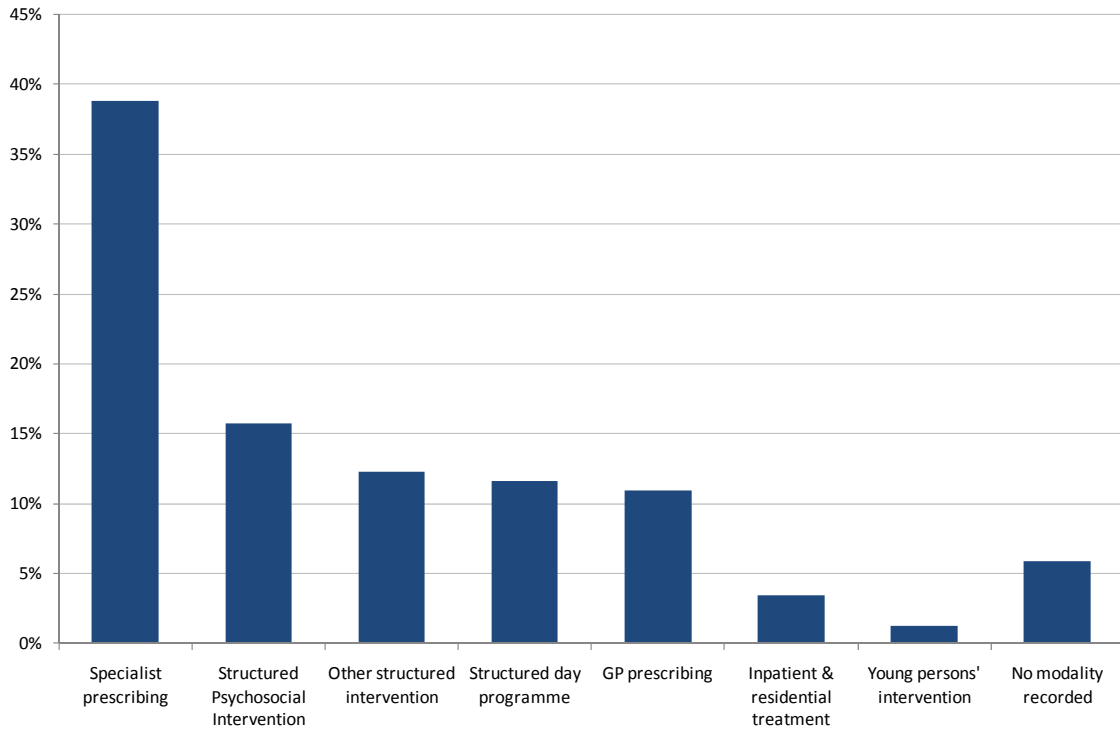
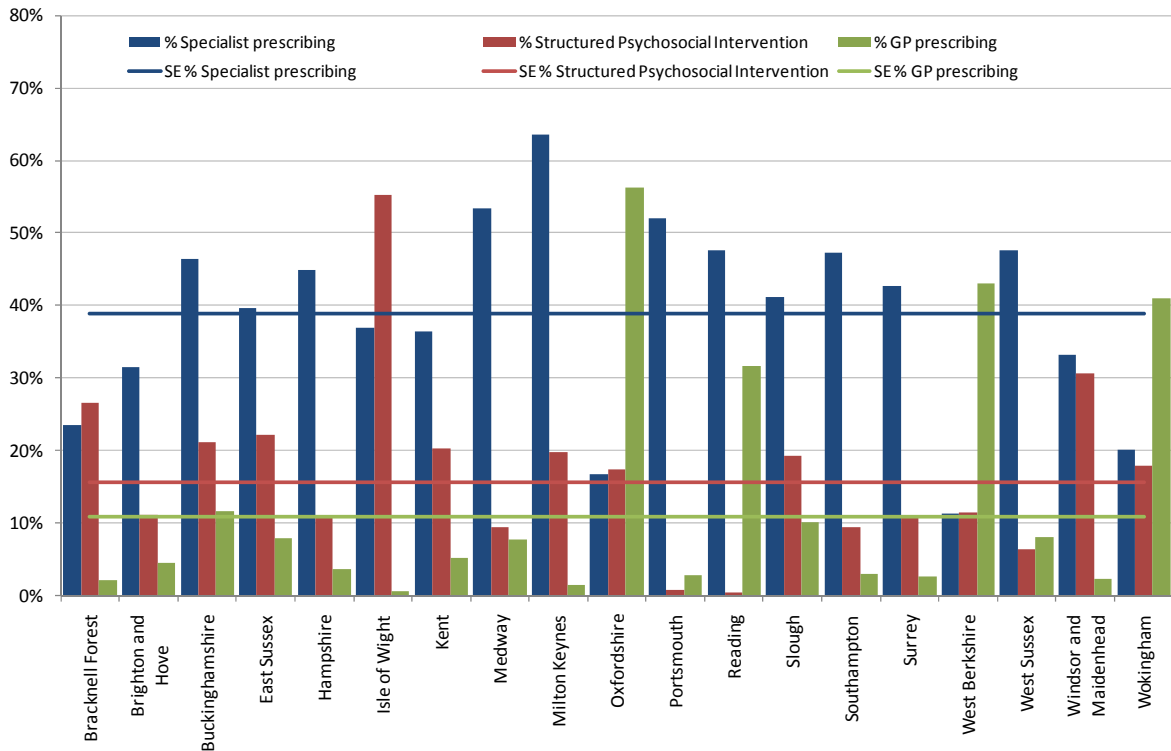


Figure 12: Selected treatment interventions of adult clients in drug treatment by DAAT of residence. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

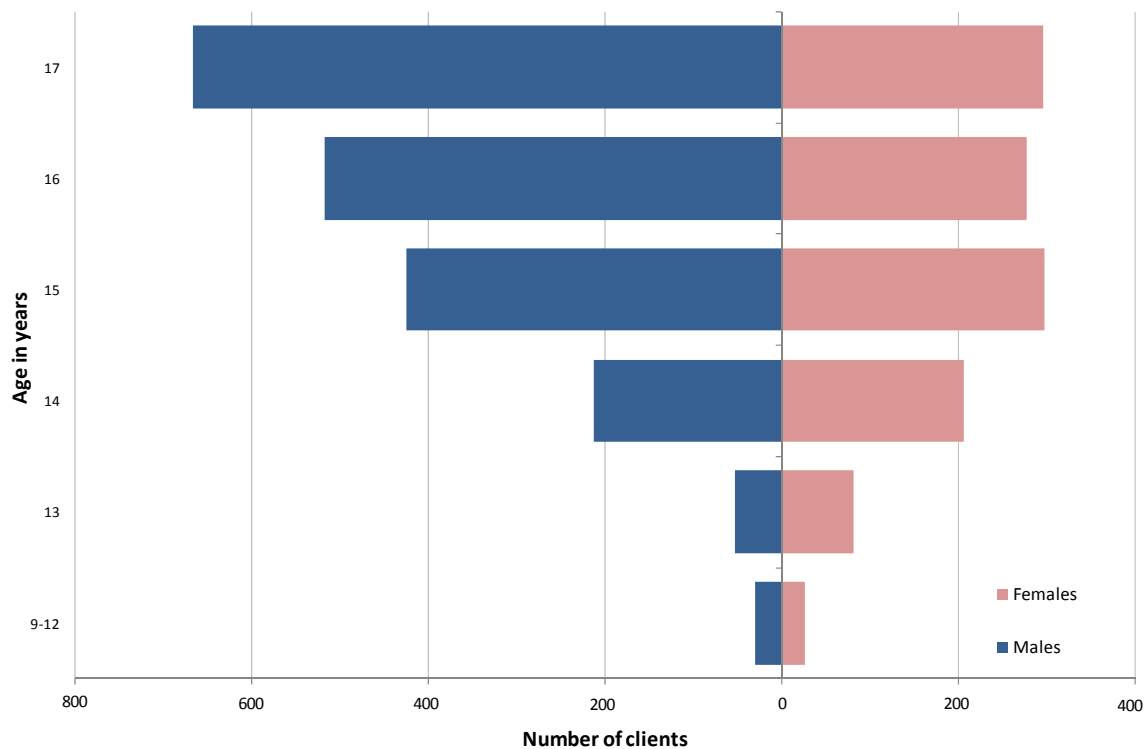


Young people (aged 9-17 years) in drug treatment

Client demographics

During 2008/09 there were approximately 3,090 young people in drug treatment resident in the South East. Sixty-two percent of young people in treatment were male, a ratio of 1.6 males to every female. The split between sexes differs by DAAT in the South East, as illustrated in Figure 14, Southampton and Isle of Wight DAATs have slightly more females than males in drug treatment.

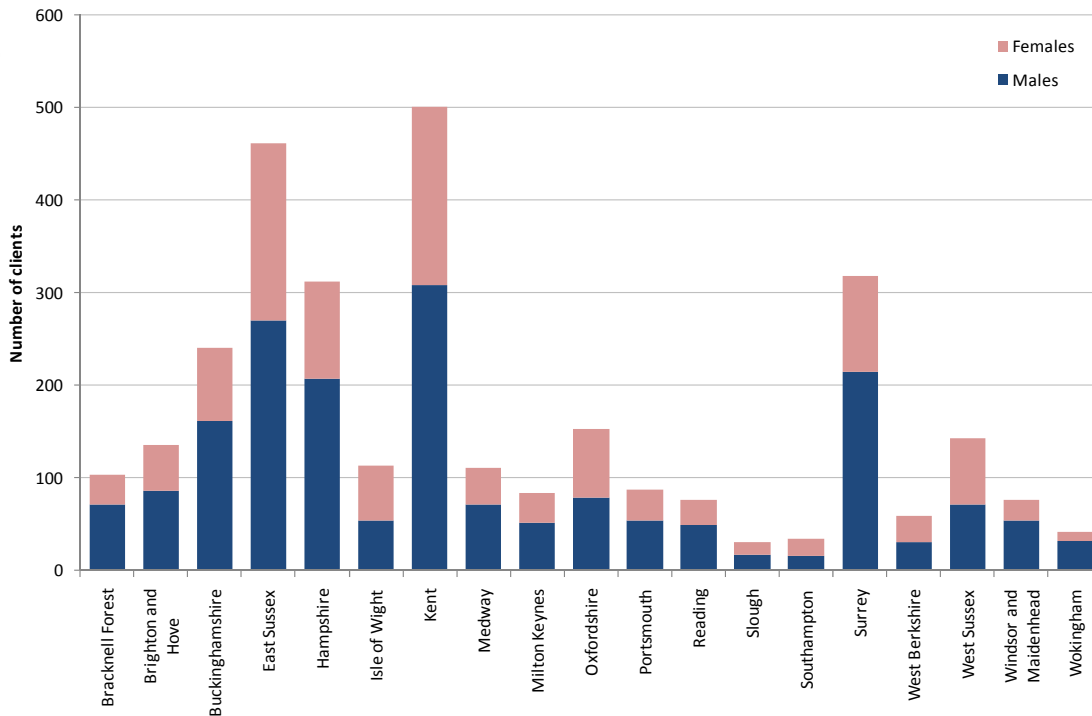
Figure 13: Number of young people in drug treatment by age and sex. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA



Twenty-seven percent of females in treatment were aged between 9 and 14 years, compared to 16% of males. The male treatment population is older compared to females, 35% of males in treatment were 17 years compared to 25% of females.

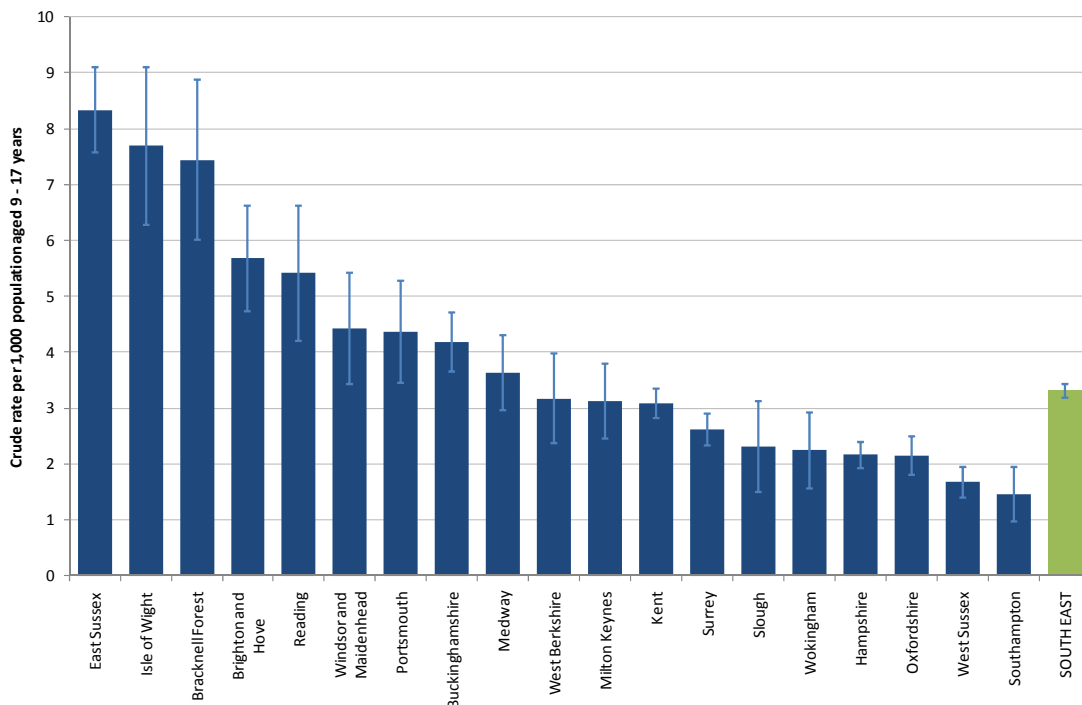
The majority of the young people in drug treatment resident in the South East are from White ethnic groups (86%), 3% were from Mixed ethnic groups, 5% of clients' ethnicity was not recorded on NDTMS.

Figure 14: Number of young people in drug treatment by sex and DAAT of residence. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA



The crude rate of young people in drug treatment in the South East is 3.3 per 1,000 population aged 9-17 years. This rate varies between DAATs from 8.3 per 1,000 in East Sussex to 1.5 per 1,000 in Southampton. The Isle of Wight and Bracknell Forest DAATs also have a rate over 7 per 1,000 population in drug treatment.

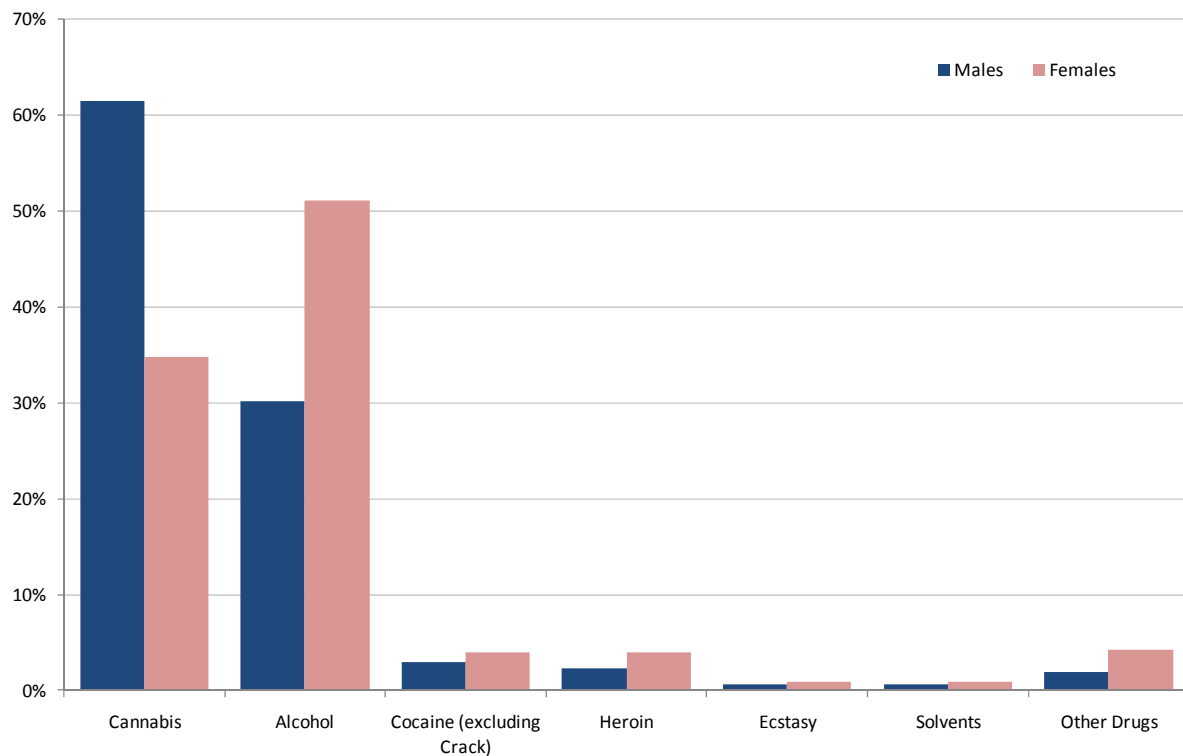
Figure 15: Young people in drug treatment by DAAT of residence, crude rate per 1,000 population aged 9-17 years. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA, ONS mid-year population estimates 2008



Primary and secondary drugs

The primary drug of young people in treatment differs by sex, with a higher proportion of females reporting alcohol as their primary drug than males and a higher proportion of males than females reporting cannabis as their primary drug. Alcohol and cannabis are by far the most commonly reported primary drugs for both sexes. Four percent of females and 3% of males reported cocaine as their primary drug and 4% of females and 2% of males reported heroin as their primary drug.

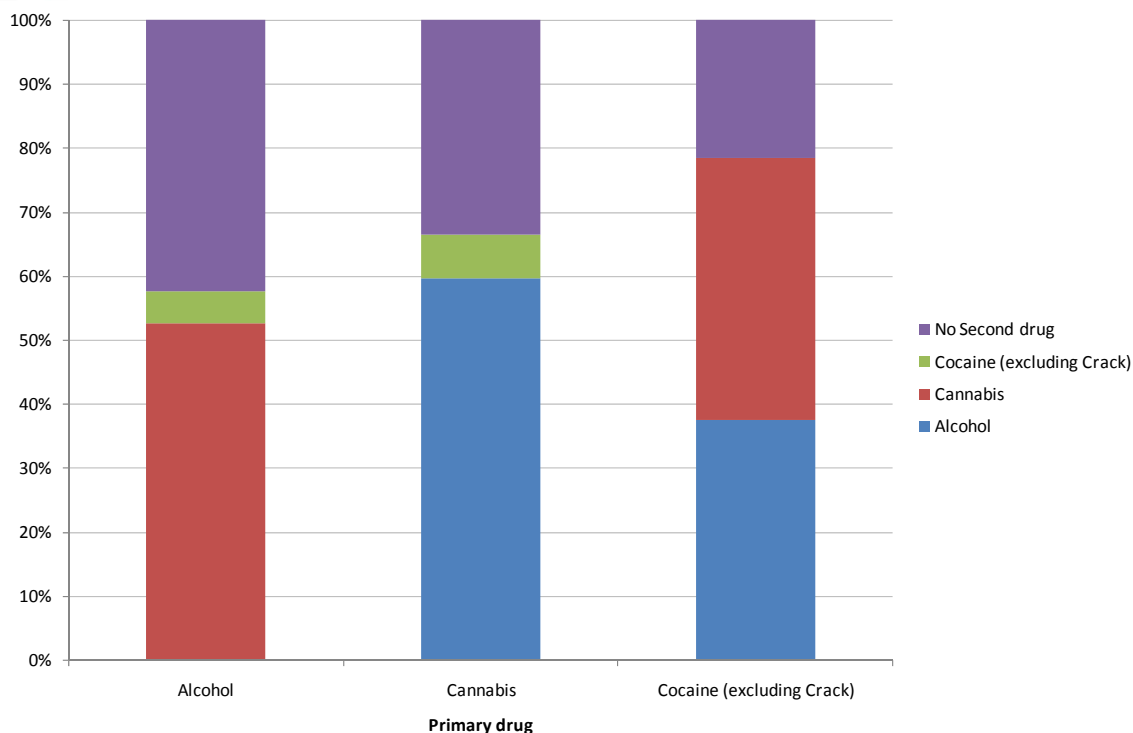
Figure 16: Primary drug of young people in drug treatment by sex. Source: NDTMS, NTA



Of all young people in treatment reporting alcohol as their primary drug over half reported cannabis as a second drug and around 40% did not report a second drug. Nearly 60% of young people reporting cannabis as their primary drug reported alcohol as their secondary drug. Close to 80% of clients in treatment for primary cocaine use reported either alcohol or cannabis as a secondary drug.

Over 80% of clients stated they have never injected drugs, 2.5% reported they are currently or have previously injected drugs, however, the injecting status was not recorded for 15% of clients. As expected considering alcohol and cannabis are the most common primary drug, half of clients reported smoking as the route of administration for their primary drug and 39% reported an oral drug route.

Figure 17: Secondary drug of young people in treatment by primary drug. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA



Accommodation need

Two-thirds of young people in drug treatment live with parents or other relatives. Accommodation need was not reported for 442 (14%) of young people in drug treatment resident in the South East.

Figure 18: Accommodation need status for young people in drug treatment. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

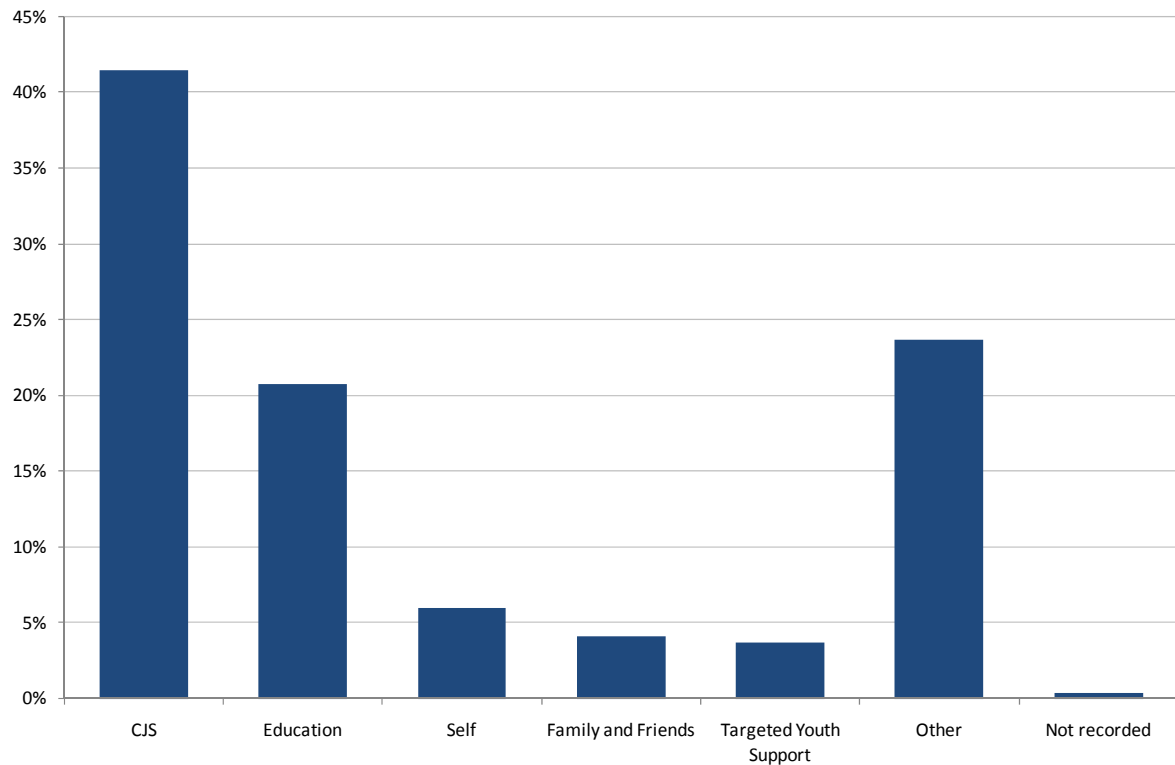
	Number	Percentage
YP living with parents or other relatives	2051	66.5%
LAC living in care	161	5.2%
Independent YP in settled accommodation	124	4.0%
Independent YP in unsettled accommodation	110	3.6%
No housing problem	62	2.0%
Independent LAC in settled accommodation	46	1.5%
Independent LAC in unsettled accommodation	31	1.0%
Other	59	1.9%
Not recorded	442	14.3%

LAC = Looked After Children

Treatment journey

Unlike adults, a small proportion of young people (6%) self refer into drug treatment. During 2008/09 41% of young people were referred into drug treatment via the CJS and 21% through education services. 'Other' includes more than 20 sources of referral.

Figure 19: Referral source for young people in drug treatment. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA



The data presented in Figure 20 are for all treatment interventions during 2008/09, individual clients may be counted more than once if they had more than one treatment intervention. Half of the treatment interventions for clients aged 9-17 years were young persons psychosocial interventions, 30% were young persons harm reduction services.

Figure 21 demonstrates the differences in treatment provision for young people across DAATs in the South East. Bracknell Forest, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire, Surrey and West Sussex DAATs have a considerably higher proportion of young persons psychosocial interventions compared to harm reduction services. Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and West Sussex DAAT areas reported no young persons harm reduction interventions during 2008/09, this may be due to incorrect reporting of treatment interventions in these DAAT areas.

During 2008/09 over 2,300 young people were discharged from drug treatment, 69% of discharges were planned, defined as treatment completed or treatment completed drug free.

Figure 20: Treatment interventions of young people in drug treatment. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

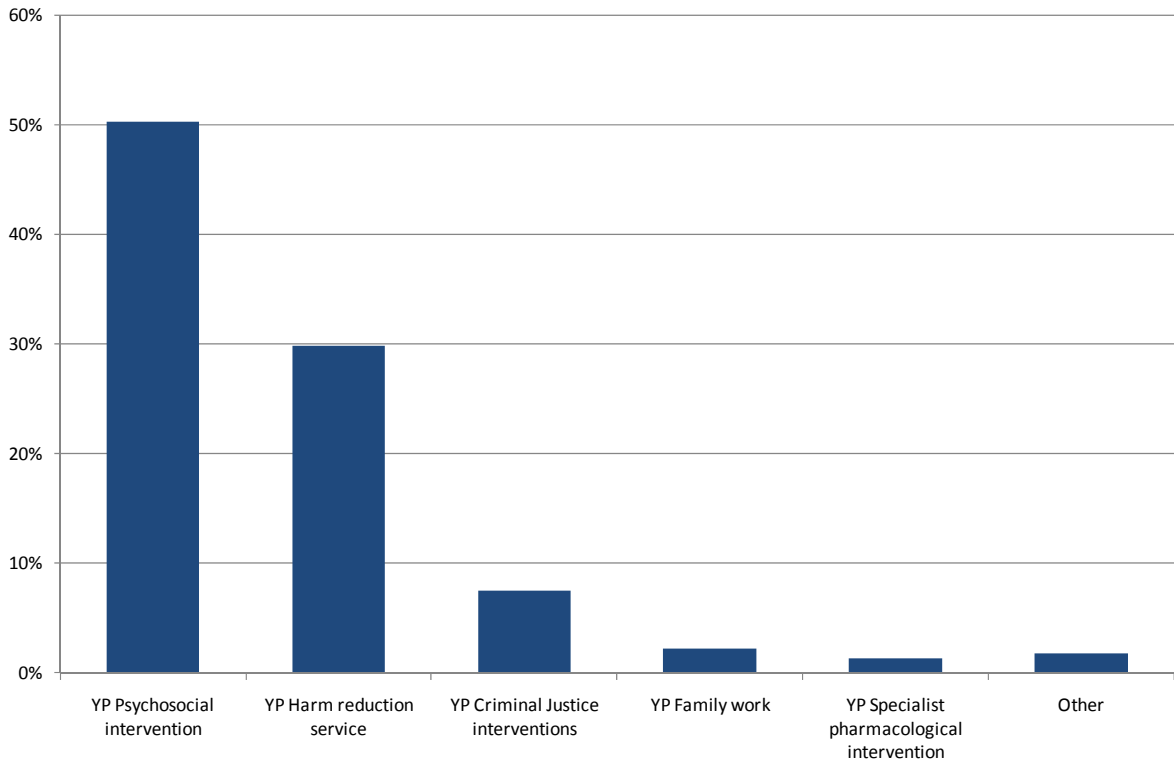
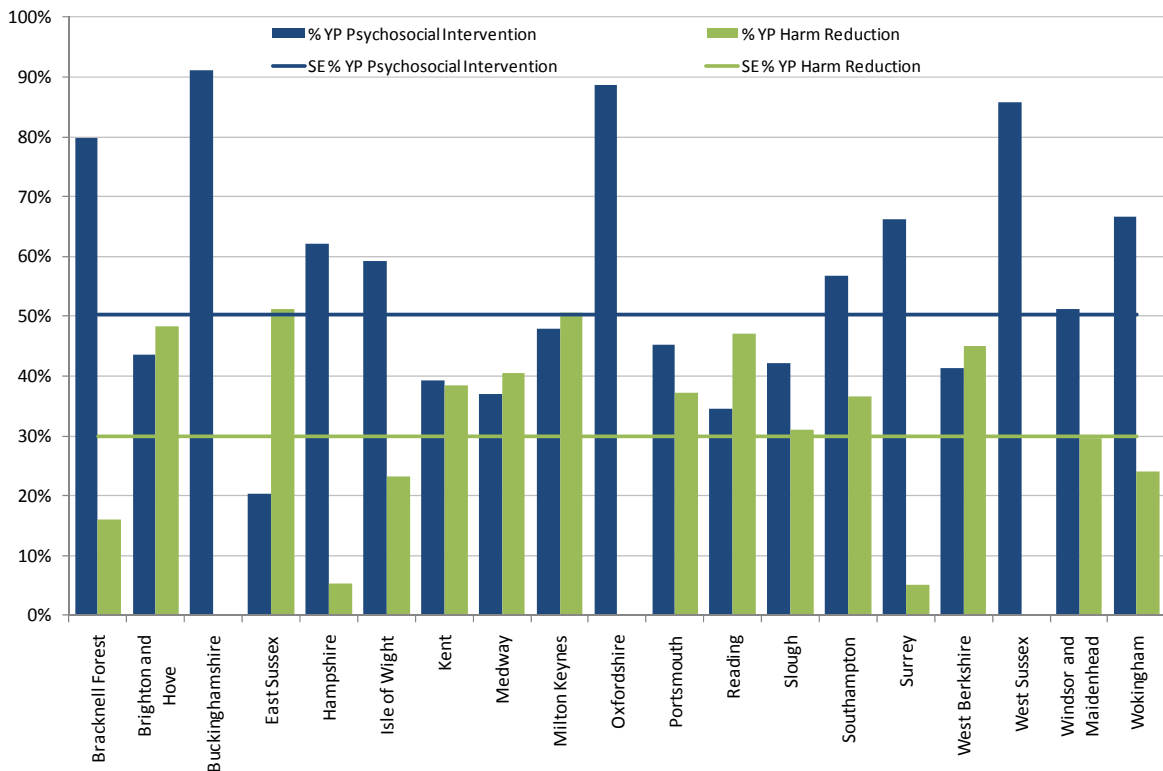


Figure 21: Selected treatment interventions of young people in drug treatment by DAAT of residence. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA



Data completeness

The NDTMS dataset is used to profile the treatment population, the treatment journeys of clients and the outcomes of treatment, within analysis reports, needs assessments, to support continued funding for drug treatment services and to monitor the effectiveness of the treatment system for key government targets. Without a comprehensive NDTMS dataset the data in these reports will not show an accurate picture of the treatment system and treatment population.

This section is a regular feature in DTMU Analysis in order to support the ongoing work to improve data quality between treatment agencies, Drug and Alcohol Action Teams (DAATs), the Drug Treatment Monitoring Unit (DTMU) and the National Treatment Agency (NTA).

Figure 22: Percentage of adult clients' data not recorded on NDTMS for 2008/09. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

	Ethnicity	Accom- modatio n need	Parental status	Age of 1st use	Route	Referral source	Injecting status	Children with
Bracknell Forest	-	17.6%	22.3%	17.2%	2.9%	-	13.4%	45.0%
Brighton and Hove	-	39.8%	38.1%	38.6%	14.3%	1.2%	10.9%	78.9%
Buckinghamshire	2.0%	31.3%	27.6%	31.7%	6.2%	-	9.0%	28.2%
East Sussex	0.4%	29.5%	25.6%	22.6%	8.8%	-	9.8%	71.6%
Hampshire	0.8%	38.3%	30.6%	14.4%	4.8%	-	28.2%	56.9%
Isle of Wight	-	42.4%	2.0%	50.1%	-	-	2.2%	51.7%
Kent	-	4.0%	5.0%	18.6%	4.3%	0.6%	7.5%	29.3%
Medway	-	2.6%	3.7%	17.8%	5.1%	-	6.4%	42.0%
Milton Keynes	-	2.9%	26.1%	41.7%	-	-	6.4%	51.3%
Oxfordshire	52.4%	72.6%	74.6%	50.9%	30.3%	2.4%	54.3%	70.3%
Portsmouth	2.8%	32.1%	22.6%	53.8%	8.4%	-	16.6%	39.4%
Reading	0.7%	48.8%	64.4%	71.7%	7.4%	-	34.9%	77.9%
Slough	0.9%	18.0%	19.4%	13.2%	2.7%	-	8.4%	31.8%
Southampton	-	35.4%	15.7%	5.9%	15.3%	-	17.4%	36.4%
Surrey	0.3%	14.6%	2.1%	2.7%	1.5%	0.8%	12.6%	24.1%
West Berkshire	-	63.3%	63.3%	67.1%	7.4%	-	48.4%	68.2%
West Sussex	1.6%	21.6%	6.4%	21.3%	5.5%	3.8%	12.0%	49.9%
Windsor and Maidenhead	-	19.5%	24.8%	19.5%	1.9%	-	16.0%	51.3%
Wokingham	-	46.8%	50.2%	54.2%	7.9%	-	36.0%	71.4%

See following page for a key to the shading

Figure 23: Percentage of YP clients' data not recorded on NDTMS for 2008/09. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

	Ethnicity	Accom- modation need	Parental status	Route	Referral source	Injecting status	Children With
Bracknell Forest	-	5.8%	-	-	-	-	10.6%
Brighton and Hove	-	3.7%	-	-	-	5.1%	10.3%
Buckinghamshire	-	2.9%	2.1%	-	-	12.4%	15.4%
East Sussex	15.2%	19.7%	1.9%	-	-	--	
Hampshire	-	9.6%	11.2%	-	-	7.7%	20.2%
Isle of Wight	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.5%
Kent	-	3.4%	2.8%	-	-	25.1%	31.5%
Medway	-	-	-	-	-	-	23.4%
Milton Keynes	-	-	7.1%	-	-	-	33.3%
Oxfordshire	44.4%	35.9%	82.4%	27.5%	-	43.1%	9.2%
Portsmouth	-	31.8%	36.4%	-	-	-	17.0%
Reading	-	-	9.1%	-	-	-	14.3%
Slough	-	19.4%	19.4%	-	-	19.4%	61.3%
Southampton	-	14.7%	35.3%	-	-	-	17.6%
Surrey	1.6%	12.3%	12.6%	1.9%	-	17.9%	27.4%
West Berkshire	-	-	-	-	8.5%	-	--
West Sussex	3.5%	93.7%	93.7%	93.7%	-	94.4%	95.1%
Windsor and Maidenhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
Wokingham	-	-	11.9%	-	-	-	45.2%

Key to shading

Green	Less than 5 clients' data not recorded
Blue	>0% to <20% clients' data not recorded
Amber	20% to <50% clients' data not recorded
Red	50% to 100% clients' data not recorded

The tables in Figures 22 and 23 show the proportion of non-reporting of NDTMS data fields that are relevant to this report for each DAAT area. The percentage is the proportion of client episodes in 2008/09 where no data were recorded for the field. Clients may be counted more than once for multiple episodes. Adult clients with alcohol as their primary have been excluded.

There is variation in data collection across DAAT areas and between data collected for adults and for young people. Further work is needed to improve the collection of the Children With, Age of 1st use of primary drug, and parental status fields to provide a more valid dataset for analysis.

Appendix 1

Adults in drug treatment by DAAT of residence and DAAT of treatment, 2008/09. Source: NDTMS 2008/09, NTA

- Numbers less than 5 have been suppressed

DAAT residence	DAAT treatment																				
	Bracknell Forest	Brighton and Hove	Buckinghamshire	East Sussex	Hampshire	Isle of Wight	Kent	Medway	Milton Keynes	Oxfordshire	Portsmouth	Reading	Slough	Southampton	Surrey	West Berkshire	West Sussex	Windsor and Maidenhead	Wokingham	Not SEPHO	
Bracknell Forest	121	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Brighton and Hove	-	1589	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Buckinghamshire	-	-	873	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
East Sussex	-	7	-	1295	-	-	6	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	26
Hampshire	-	-	-	-	1792	-	-	-	-	-	37	5	-	52	262	-	-	-	-	-	20
Isle of Wight	-	-	-	-	-	486	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kent	-	-	-	-	-	-	3695	21	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Medway	-	-	-	-	-	-	64	774	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Milton Keynes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	472	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Oxfordshire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2385	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
Portsmouth	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	814	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Reading	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	721	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Slough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	630	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Southampton	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	967	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Surrey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1908	-	6	-	-	-	58
West Berkshire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91	-	-	-	-	-
West Sussex	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1296	-	-	-	32
Windsor and Maidenhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	185	-	-	-	-	118	-	-	8
Wokingham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	125	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Wokingham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7

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