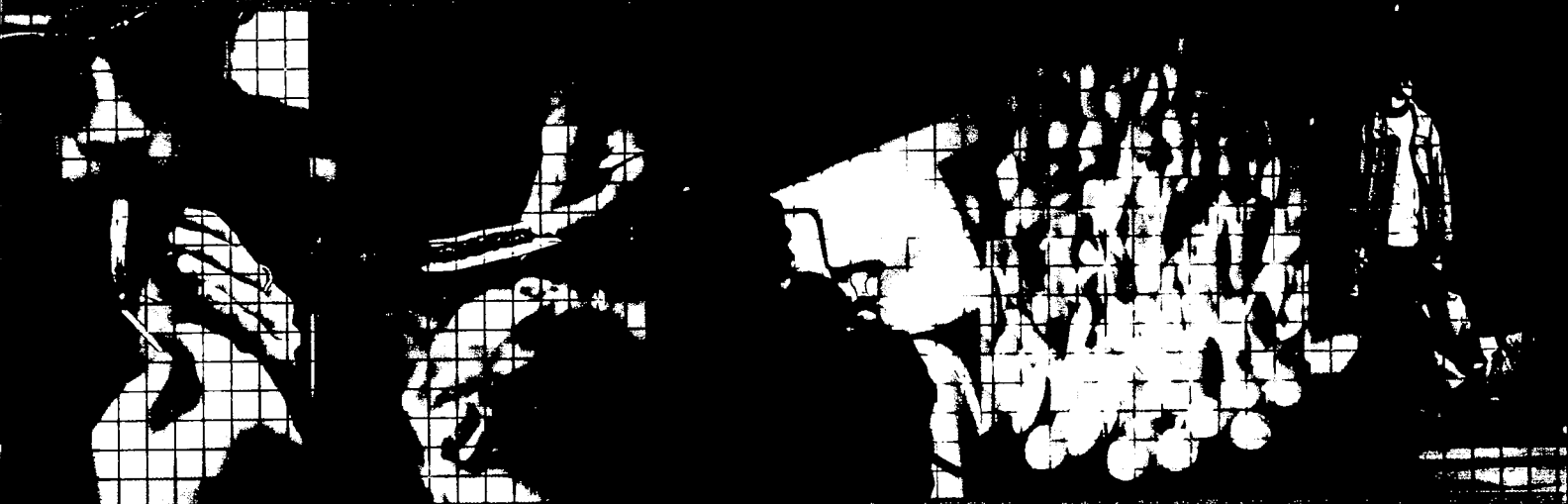


South
Eastern
Health
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Bord
Sláinte
an Oir-
Dheiscirt

Data Co-ordination Overview of Drug Misuse 2002



South Eastern Health Board

Data Co-ordination Overview of Drug Misuse

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ISSN: 1649-2366

Print & Design by Modern Printers Kilkenny.

INTRODUCTION

This is the third annual report of the Regional Data Co-ordinator. As in previous years the report gives a brief outline of data collected during the year.

The report refers to persons who attended the various treatment services, both statutory and voluntary within the South Eastern Health Board region for alcohol and/or drug misuse. The main sources of data are the counsellors in the South Eastern Health Board treatment services, both voluntary and voluntary residential services and the drug treatment clinics. Data is also included from the general hospitals within the Region, the Probation & Welfare Services, Community Based Drug Initiatives and the Gardai.

This year data has been included from three additional sources.

1. St. Senan's Hospital, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford – in-patient services.
2. The Cornmarket Project, Wexford Area Partnership. This is a voluntary service and offers free and confidential one to one counselling for substance misuse and other behavioural issues, structured day programmes for substance misusers and family support services.
3. Community Based Drug Initiatives. There are eight projects in the Region. The aim of the Community Based Drug Initiatives is to support local communities in increasing their awareness of drug related issues and to assist in developing strategies to reduce the demand for drugs in Communities.

The data collected during the year and as presented by the Data Co-ordinator is based on information supplied by the respective Services.



Regional/South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services

There are currently sixteen counsellors providing counselling services for the South Eastern Health Board within the five counties of the Region, including the provision of services to the two Drug Treatment Clinics.

Data from these Services is collected and collated from a form supplied by the Drug Misuse Research Division of the Health Research Board and is part of the National Drug Treatment Reporting System. The forms are completed by the Counsellors and one form is required to be completed for each individual treated during the twelve-month period running from 1 January to 31 December.

The figures from the Region include data collected from both statutory and voluntary treatment services. The figures are collated separately and include data from the South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services, the Drug Treatment Clinics, Aiséirí – Cahir and Wexford, Aislinn and Wexford Area Partnership.

The figures are based on those presenting to the treatment services and are not representative of prevalence of general drug and alcohol use.

In the Region 2,096 clients attended for or sought treatment at the South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services, In-patient services, St. Senan's Hospital, Enniscorthy, Aiséirí in Cahir and Wexford, Aislinn, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny, the Cornmarket Project, Wexford and Drug Treatment Clinics in Carlow and Waterford, from January to December 2002. This is an increase of 177 clients on 2001 figures. This increase may be due in part to the inclusion of additional data sources in 2002. However, this may balance with the fact that the community based counsellors for Carlow and Kilkenny provided data for part of the year only as they moved jobs.

5% of individuals who sought or received treatment during the year made contact with more than one of the Services. This figure has risen by 3% on year 2001. The majority of this increase is due to the crossover of clients between St. Senan's in-patient services and the counselling service based in St. Senan's.



Brackets in the following table refer to the reporting period for that particular service

S.E.H.B. Treatment Service Centre	Numbers Treated	Total Number Treated Per County
CARLOW		
Bagnelstown Health Centre	11	
Borris Health Centre	5	
Community Care Centre (Jan/Feb)	16	
Home visits	1	
¹ In-patient counselling service St. Dymphna's Hospital	19	
² Out-patient counselling service St. Dymphna's Hospital	279	
Tullow Health Centre	7	338
KILKENNY		
Ballyhale Health Centre (Jan-March)	1	
Callan Health Centre	8	
Castlecomer Health Centre	17	
Community Care (Jan/Feb)	4	
Graiguenamanagh Health Centre	9	
Kilcreene (Jan-March)	7	
² St. Canice's Hospital	20	
¹ St. Luke's Hospital	176	
Urlingford Health Centre	17	259
SOUTH TIPPERARY		
Carrick-on-Suir Health Centre	9	
Coolgreaney House	210	219
WATERFORD		
Brook House	337	
Cappoquin Day Centre	15	
Newport Day Centre, Dungarvan	38	
Waterside	43	433
WEXFORD		
Community Care	105	
Community Mental Health Centre, Wexford	33	
Enniscorthy Health Centre	7	
Gorey Health Centre	8	
¹ In-patient counselling service St. Senan's Hospital	62	
³ In-patient services St. Senan's Hospital	40	
New Ross Health Centre	11	
² Out-patient counselling service St. Senan's Hospital	2	268

¹Refers to counselling service based in respective hospital.

²Refers to service provided by counselling service to respective Psychiatric Hospital.

³Refers to In-patient Psychiatric Hospital data.

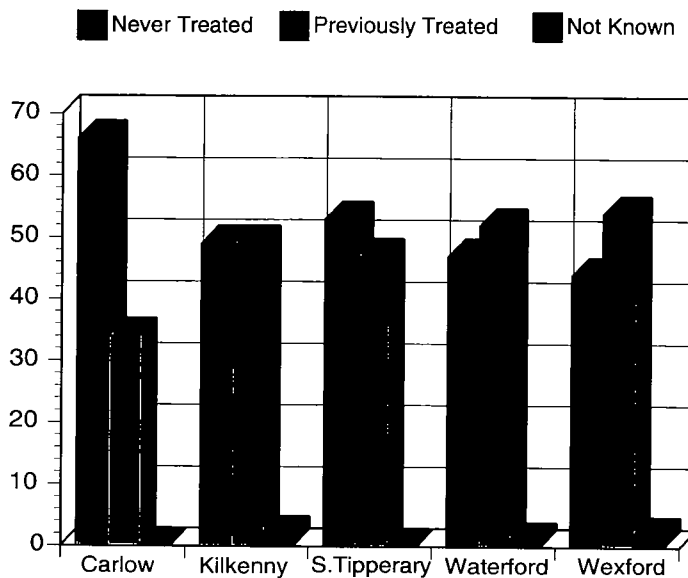
The following tables and charts for the **Region** includes data from the South Eastern Health Board treatment services, the voluntary sector and the two drug treatment services. Charts and tables for the **South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services** includes data from the services as listed in the above table.

EVER PREVIOUSLY BEEN TREATED FOR DRUG MISUSE

Region

	2002	2001	2000
Never previously treated	58%	57%	62%
Had previously been treated	41%	41%	35%
Not known	1%	1%	3%

South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services



Carlow services have a higher rate of clients who had never previously been treated – this may be due to the number of clients seen through the alcohol and drug education programmes that the Carlow service run. Waterford and Wexford services have a higher number of clients who had previously been treated than those who had not. In the case of the Waterford services this may be due to the high percentage of ongoing clients attending the services – 33%. In the case of the Wexford services, as stated above, this may be due to the crossover of clients seen by both the Psychiatric Hospital and the counselling service based in the hospital.

Of those who **had previously been treated for alcohol/drug misuse:**

- 17% of Carlow clients were ongoing.
- 10% of Kilkenny clients were ongoing.
- 17% of South Tipperary clients were ongoing.
- 33% of Waterford clients were ongoing.
- 7% of Wexford clients were ongoing.

The number of ongoing clients is down in all areas on 2001 figures except Wexford.

SOURCE OF REFERRAL

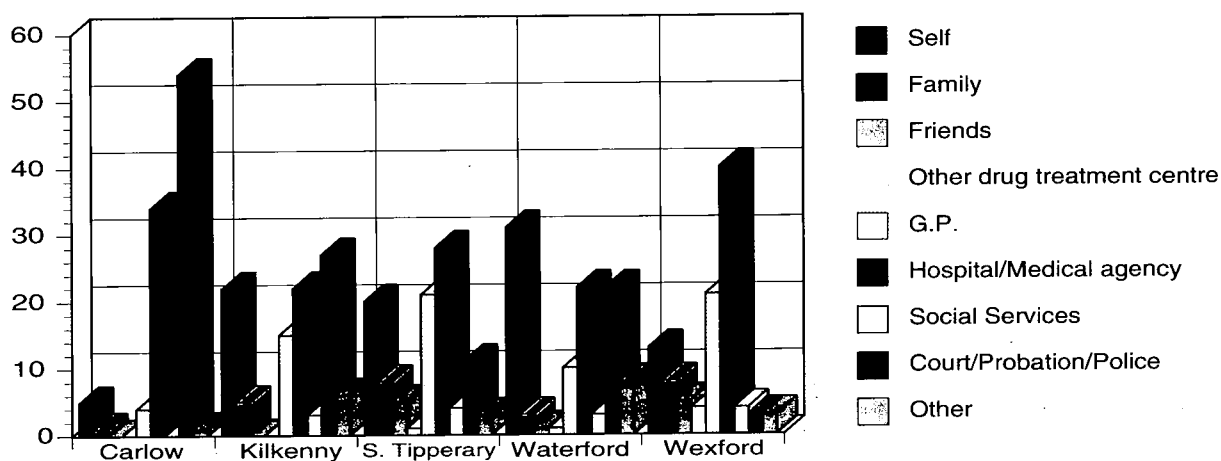
Region

Source of Referral	2002	2001	2000
Self	19%	19%	20%
Family	7%	7%	6%
Friends	4%	4%	5%
Other drug treatment centre	4%	2%	3%
G.P.	13%	12%	9%
Hospital/Medical Agency	22%	27%	28%
Social services	3%	2%	3%
Court/Probation/Police	21%	20%	22%
*Other	7%	8%	2%
Not known	0%	0%	1%

*Of "other" referrals, 41% came from counsellors – the information as supplied did not specify what type of counsellor. 13% came from employer or were work related. 8% came from hostels and 7% came from schools or school liaison officers.

Regionally, since 2000 there has been an increase of 4% on the number of referrals received from g.p.s and a decrease of 6% on the number of hospital/medical agency referrals. There has been increase of 5% of "other" referrals has mentioned above.

South Eastern Health Board Services



Referrals from Hospital/Medical Agency are highest from Wexford and Carlow Services. The same was true of previous years. This is due to the Counsellors being based in the in-patient hospital facility in Carlow and Wexford. However, there is a decrease of 9% in hospital/medical agency referrals from year 2001 figures in Carlow and an increase of just under 5% of self referrals since the counselling service based in St. Dymphna's hospital become an open referral service in latter 2002. Referrals from the Court/Probation/Police are highest in Carlow and Kilkenny services, with the majority coming from the Probation & Welfare Service. These figures are highest in Carlow and Kilkenny due to Alcohol and Drug Education Programmes being run on a regular basis. These Programmes are essentially a service provided for the Courts/Probation Services. There is an increase of 13% of g.p. referrals in the Wexford service on year 2001 figures, this may be due to the inclusion of data from St. Senan's hospital itself.

GENDER

Again as for the previous two years, throughout all services the majority of those attending for treatment of problem drug/alcohol misuse were males. However, there has been an increase of 1% in the percentage of females attending the services for each of the years, 2000 to 2002.

Region: 75% male 25% female.

AGE

		SOUTH EASTERN HEALTH BOARD SERVICES				
Age Group	Region	Carlow	Kilkenny	South Tipperary	Waterford	Wexford
10 – 19 yrs	15%	12%	5%	13%	16%	8%
20 – 29 yrs	32%	41%	38%	32%	37%	21%
30 – 39 yrs	21%	21%	19%	24%	18%	28%
40 – 49 yrs	18%	14%	20%	20%	13%	27%
50 – 59 yrs	10%	9%	12%	9%	11%	9%
60 – 69 yrs	3%	2%	4%	1%	4%	5%
70 – 79 yrs	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%

Those in the 20 to 29 year age groups had the highest numbers attending the treatment services. There has been relatively little change in the regional figures for age groups over the last three years.

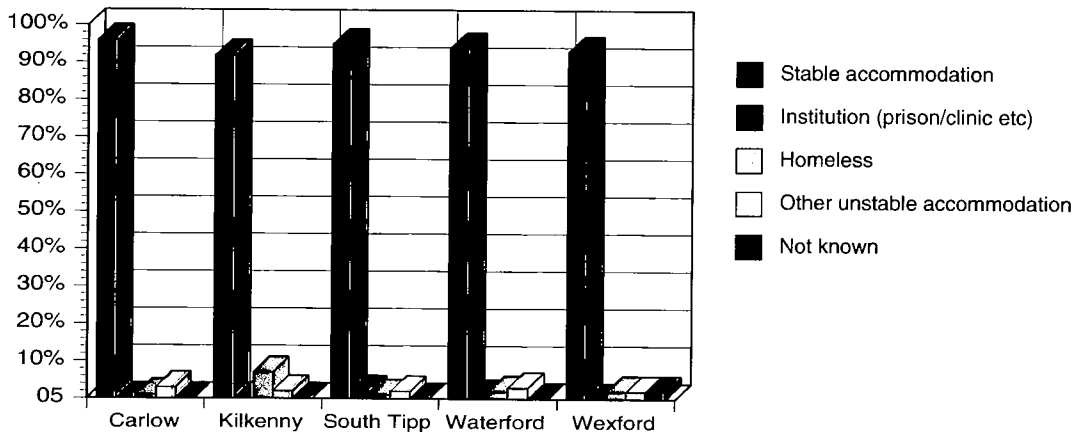
LIVING STATUS (where)

Region

LIVING STATUS	2002	2001
1. Stable accommodation	94%	85%
2. Institution (prison/clinic etc)	1%	1%
3. Homeless	2%	2%
4. Other unstable accommodation	2%	3%
5. Not known	1%	8%

The majority of those who attended all of the Services during 2002 lived in stable accommodation. There was an increase of 9% across all services in the number of clients living in stable accommodation. There was no change in the figures for those living in an institution or those who were homeless. There was a decrease of 7% in the "not known" figure on 2001 – this is due to improved reporting across all Services.

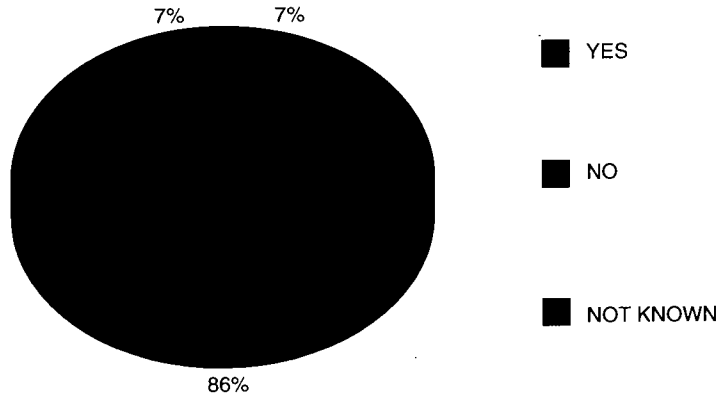
South Eastern Health Board Services:



LIVING WITH DRUG MISUSER(S)

Again, over the last three years there has been little change in figures, in that the majority of clients seeking or attending for treatment were not living with a drug misuser. This accounted for 85% of clients in 2000, 87% of clients in 2001 and 86% in 2002.

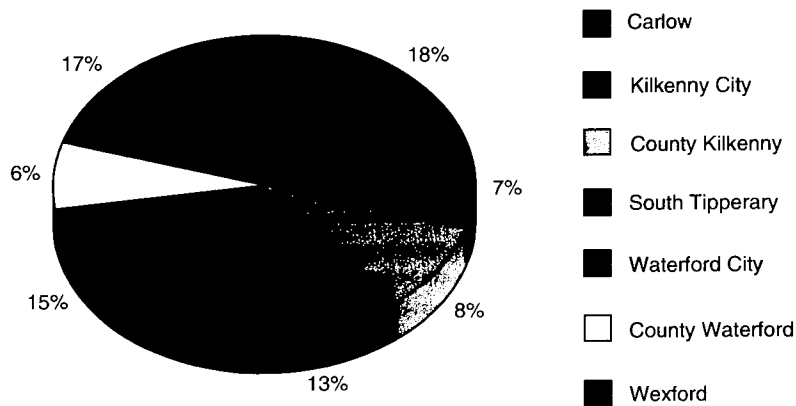
Region:



AREA OF RESIDENCE

Regionally, 84% of clients who sought treatment for problem alcohol/drug use had addresses in the South Eastern Health Board area. This is an increase of 1% on year 2001 and 2000 figures – 83% for both years. 66% of clients lived in an urban area and 33% in a rural area. It was not known in 1% of the cases whether the client lived in an urban or rural area.

Region:



NATIONALITY

Regionally, 97% of those who attended for treatment were Irish. There has been no change in this figure for the last number of years. Again, as in previous years the remaining 3% were mostly European, with the majority being from Great Britain.

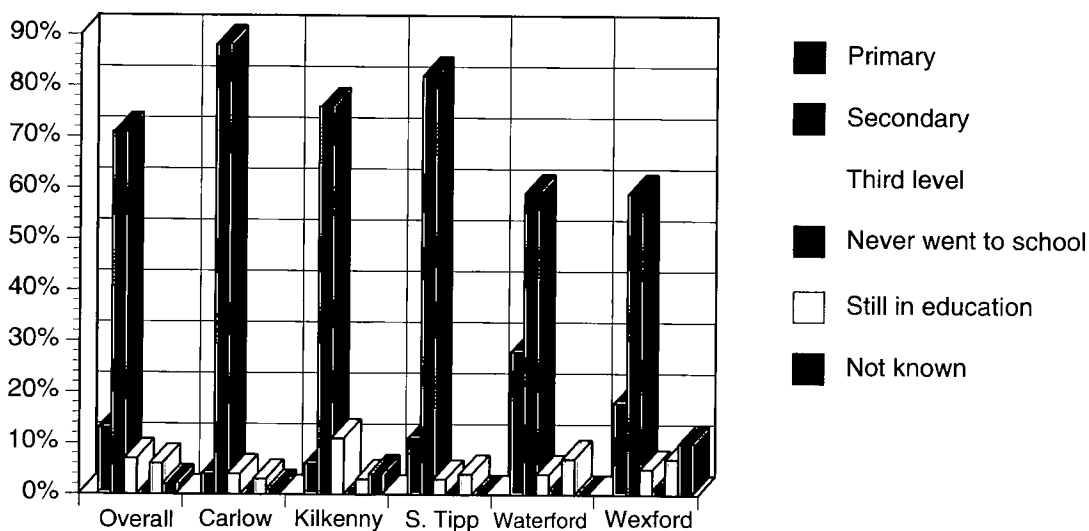
EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The table below refers to the employment status of clients who sought treatment or attended for treatment during 2002. Overall, as for years 2000 and 2001 the majority of clients were employed. However, this figure has decreased by 2% in the years 2000 to 2002. In the same period there has been a 3% increase in those who are retired and/or unable to work.

As with previous years, the majority of clients who attended the South Tipperary and Wexford services were unemployed. The employment status of clients who attended the Wexford services was not known in 3% of cases compared with 0% in other services. This is due to the inclusion of data from St. Senan's hospital (in-patient) where the majority of clients would have been admitted for detoxification purposes and would leave the hospital before all data could be collected.

Employment Status	Region	South Eastern Health Board Services				
		Carlow	Kilkenny	South Tipp	Waterford	Wexford
In paid employment	38%	50%	42%	31%	40%	27%
Unemployed	35%	30%	36%	37%	35%	37%
FAS/training course	4%	4%	5%	7%	4%	5%
Student	6%	3%	3%	5%	8%	7%
Housewife/husband	6%	5%	4%	6%	3%	11%
Retired/unable to work	8%	7%	10%	13%	9%	9%
Other	2%	1%	1%	0%	0%	2%
Not Known	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%

EDUCATION HIGHEST LEVEL REACHED



The majority of clients, 71% of the Regional figures, had reached second level before leaving full time education. There has been an increase of 3% in those who are still in full time education from 2000 (3%) to 2002 (6%).



PROBLEM DRUG USE – MAIN DRUG

Again, these next sets of figures relate to South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services, including the two Drug Treatment Clinics and the voluntary treatment services.

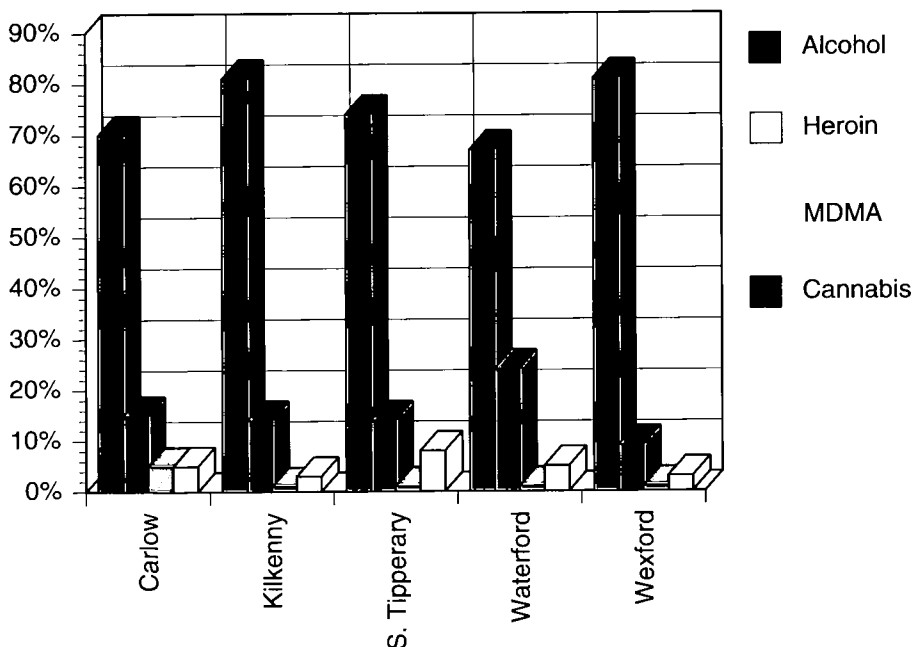
Alcohol is still the main drug for which treatment is sought in the South Eastern Health Board region in 2002. This figure is currently at 72%. However, this is a decrease of 5% on 2001 figures. Again as in year 2002 and 2001 figures, the four main drugs for which treatment was sought were alcohol, cannabis, heroin and MDMA. In 2002 these figures stand at alcohol 72%, cannabis 16%, heroin 5% and MDMA 4%. There has been an increase of 1% in heroin figures in each of the years 2000, 2001 and 2002.

Region:

Main Drug Name	% Year 2002	% Year 2002	% Year 2002
Alcohol	72%	77%	72%
Amphetamines	1%	1%	1%
Benzodiazepines	1%	1%	0.5%
Cannabis	16%	13%	17%
Cocaine	1%	1%	0.5%
Heroin	5%	4%	3%
MDMA	4%	3%	5%
Other Opiate Type Drugs	1%	0.4%	0.5%

Below is a breakdown of figures from the **South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services** (excluding the Drug Treatment Clinics) for the main drugs for which treatment was sought in the respective Services.

South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services



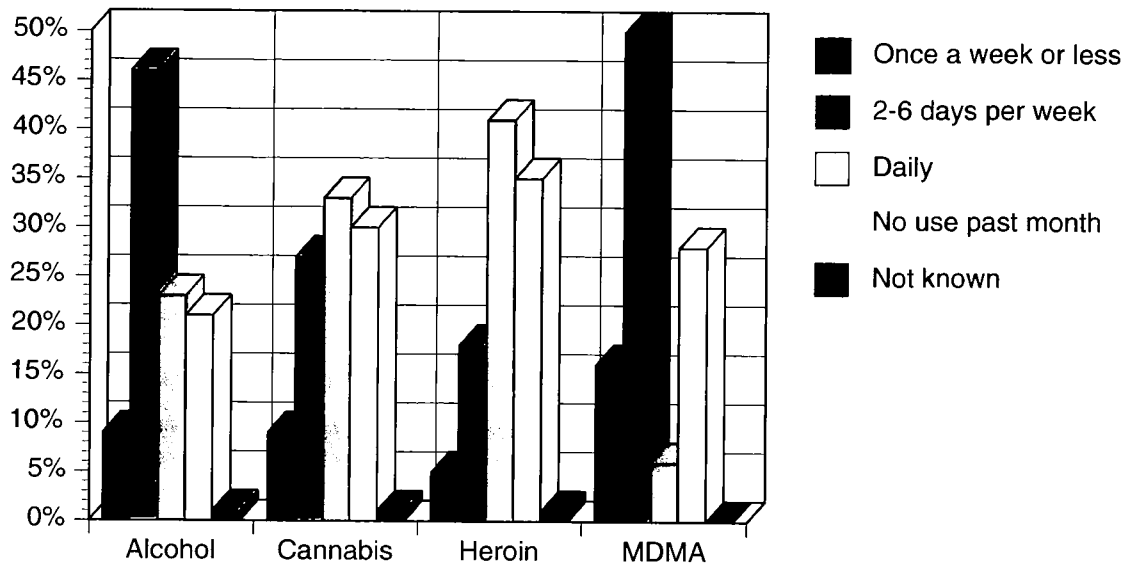
Alcohol figures for 2002 are down from those in 2001 in Kilkenny, South Tipperary and Waterford and remain the same for Carlow. However, the figures are up for alcohol in Wexford. The figures for cannabis are up 1% or 2% in Carlow, South Tipperary and Waterford but have increased by 50% in Kilkenny (7% in 2001 and 14% in 2002) and decreased by 50% in Wexford (18% in 2001 and 9% in 2002).

63% of clients had no secondary drugs of misuse. However of the 37% of clients who had a secondary drug of misuse, cannabis was the most frequently used secondary drug at 40%, followed by alcohol at 19% and MDMA at 18%.

MAIN DRUG – FREQUENCY OF USE PAST MONTH

In the Region of those who sought treatment for alcohol, cannabis, heroin and MDMA the following is a breakdown of the use of these drugs in the previous month prior to seeking treatment.

Region:



Comparing 2001 and 2002 data:

- in 2002 there is an increase in the use of alcohol, cannabis and MDMA once a week or less and a 3% decrease in the use of heroin once a week or less.
- in 2002 there is a decrease in the use of alcohol, cannabis and heroin 2-6 days per week and an increase in the use of MDMA 2-6 days per week
- daily use of alcohol remains the same for both years, whilst daily use of cannabis in 2002 is up 3%, down 4% for heroin and down 2% for MDMA
- in 2002 figures for those who had not used any drug in the previous month are up for alcohol, cannabis and heroin and down for MDMA.

MAIN DRUG – AGE AT FIRST USE

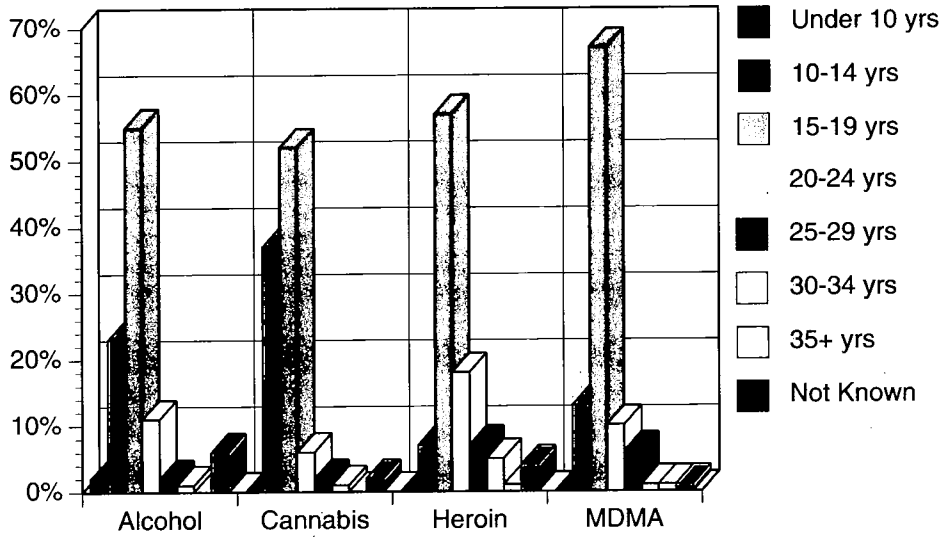
Of those who sought treatment for alcohol, cannabis, heroin and MDMA the following is a breakdown of the age that the clients first used the respective drugs.

Again, as for 'main drug - frequency of use past month above', these figures are based on data from all of the treatment services, both statutory and voluntary, within the Health Board area.

From the data received, the age of first use of all drugs is highest between the ages of 15 and 19. This is followed by those in the 10-14 year age group for alcohol, cannabis and MDMA and in the 20-24 year age group for heroin.



Region:



In the Region, of those who sought treatment for heroin use 25% had injected in the past month prior to treatment. This is an increase of 3% on 2001 figures but is still down 10% on 2000 figures. 5% had shared equipment in the past month compared with 4% in 2001 and 12% in 2000.

CONCERNED PERSONS

As in previous years, in 2002 the South Eastern Health Board treatment services received contacts from persons who were concerned about a family member/friends etc. alcohol and/or drug problem. Overall this accounted for 7% of the contacts to the services during the year and is an increase of 1% on 2001 figures.

Drug Treatment Clinics

The two drug treatment clinics in the Region, based in Carlow and Waterford are essentially for those who are addicted to opiates. G.P.'s also provide a drug treatment service but this is limited.

Based on data received from the Clinics, 31 people sought treatment at the Carlow clinic and 9 at the Waterford clinic during 2002. There has been no change in these figures from 2001.

As with the other treatment Services the majority of those who attended both clinics were male.

The highest numbers of those attending both clinics were in the 20-29 age group – this represented 50% of clients - down 12% on 2001.

The highest numbers of clients in both clinics who first used opiates were in the 15-19 age group, same as 2001. This represented 52% (55% in 2001) of Carlow clients and 56% (56% in 2001) of Waterford clients.

As with the other services the majority of those attending the Clinics were living in stable accommodation – 90% Carlow (84% in 2001) and 89% Waterford (78% in 2001).

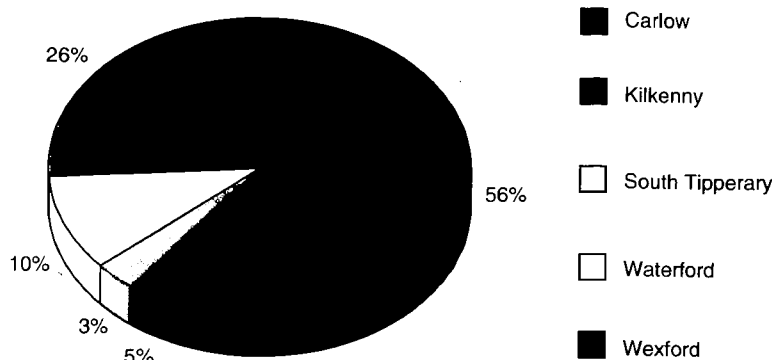
The majority of those attending the Carlow clinic were unemployed, 58%. However, 44% of Waterford clients were unemployed and 44% were employed - unlike year 2001 where the majority of clients in Waterford were unemployed (67%).

10% of those who attended the Carlow clinic had also sought treatment at another service in the Region during 2002. This figure is up 7% on 2001. However none of the Waterford clients had sought treatment elsewhere – down 11% on year 2001.

Area of Residence:

Combining data from both clinics the following chart shows the percentage of clients who had addresses in the South Eastern Health Board region.

Compared with 2001 figures, those attending the Clinics with addresses in Carlow are down 9%, up 2% for those with addresses in Kilkenny, down 2% for those with addresses in South Tipperary, down 3% for those with addresses in Waterford and up 12% for those with addresses in Wexford. 5% of those who attended the clinics had addresses in North Tipperary.



H.I.P.E. System

The Hospital In-patient Enquiry (HIPE) Scheme is a computer based health information system designed to collect clinical and administrative data on discharges and deaths from acute hospitals in Ireland. It is the principal source of national data on discharges from acute hospitals. The data collected by the HIPE system can be logically grouped into demographic, clinical and administrative data. Each HIPE discharge record represents one episode of care and patients may have been admitted to hospital(s) more than once with the same or different diagnoses. All of the data collected is coded in a standardised format for computer input and for subsequent analysis of the data.

There are just under one thousand codes under this System. Data reports were requested under five of these codes that obviously related to alcohol and drugs. **There may be higher instances of alcohol or drug related admissions to the hospitals not accounted for under these codes.**

Data was received from the H.I.P.E. Departments of:

Waterford Regional Hospital
 Wexford General
 Our Lady's Hospital, Cashel
 St. Joseph's Hospital, Clonmel
 St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny

Taking into account the routine time lag in chart coding the information as presented below is based on year 2001 to ensure a complete data set.

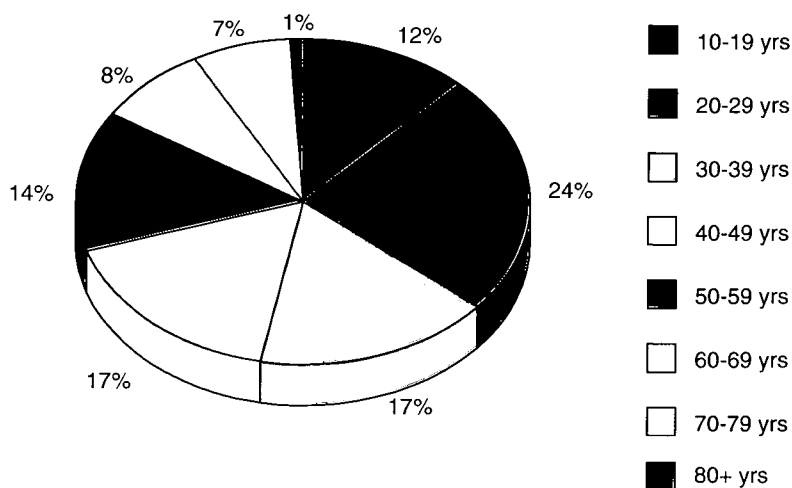
Based on the data received and the overall number of coded cases for each of the hospitals, the following is a breakdown under one or more of the following codes:

- a. Alcoholic Psychoses
- b. Drug Psychoses
- c. Alcohol Dependence Syndrome
- d. Drug Dependence
- e. Non-Dependent Abuse of Drugs.

Hospital	% Coded Admissions 2001	% Coded Admissions 2000
Our Lady's Cashel	2%	3%
St. Luke's Kilkenny	2%	2%
Wexford General	2%	2%
St. Joseph's Clonmel	2%	1%
Waterford Regional Hospital	1%	2%

The following breakdown includes data from all five hospitals.

Age Group



Overall the highest numbers of admissions to the hospitals were in the 20-29 year age group, the same as year 2000.

As with data received from all services the majority of admissions for all hospitals were male, 74%.

Area of Residence:

S.E.H.B.	% 2001	% 2000
Carlow	11%	9%
Kilkenny	17%	18%
South Tipperary	20%	9%
Waterford City	11%	21%
County Waterford	7%	11%
Wexford	26%	23%
National	7%	6%
Great Britain	1%	2%

A patient can have up to five diagnoses; therefore the data as presented below includes both primary and secondary diagnoses. However, 15% of the cases had a primary diagnoses under one or more of the five H.I.P.E. codes. From 2002 it will be possible to record up to ten diagnoses and procedures.

Based on the data received from all hospitals:

H.I.P.E. Codes	Percentage of Admissions
Alcoholic Psychoses	1%
Drug Psychoses	1%
Alcohol Dependence Syndrome	16%
Drug Dependence	1% (this figure includes barbiturates/opioids and unspecified drugs)
Non-Dependent Abuse Of Drugs	77% (this figure includes: 75% alcohol 1% drugs - cannabis/ barbiturates/ hallucinogens/ 1% both alcohol and drugs)
Multiple Diagnoses	4%

In-Patient Psychiatric Services

Data was received from St. Senan's Psychiatric Hospital, Enniscorthy from April 2002 and forms part of the National Drug Treatment Reporting System. No data has been received from in-patient psychiatric services for the National Drug Treatment Reporting System at the Department of Psychiatry, Waterford Regional Hospital, St. Michael's Psychiatric Unit, St. Joseph's Hospital, Clonmel and St. Luke's Hospital, Clonmel. Some data has been received from St. Dymphna's Hospital, Carlow and to a lesser extent St. Canice's Hospital, Kilkenny by the Treatment Services. However, these are in-patient clients who are seen by the addiction service and a counsellor will not see all in-patients.

Figures for St. Senan's are included in the regional figures and in the South Eastern Health Board breakdown figures under item 1. Data collected from St. Senan's includes clients who receive treatment for alcohol and/or drug misuse whether as a main diagnoses or in conjunction with another illness.

Between April and December 2002, 66 clients were treated for alcohol and or drug misuse in St. Senan's Hospital. 40% of these are not included in the figures as presented under item 1, as these were double counts within the reporting system, i.e. clients who were treated in more than one service during the reporting period. In this case there would have been a crossover of clients between in-patient clients and clients who would have also been seen by the counselling service based in St. Senan's. 96% of clients were admitted for detoxification.

The following is data from a report from the Mental Health Division, Health Research Board "Activities of Irish Psychiatric Services 2001" by Antoinette Daly/Dermot Walsh

Health board hospitals & general hospital psychiatric units. All admissions. Diagnosis. Ireland 2001. (Rates per 100,000 population aged 16 years and over).

South Eastern Health Board

Numbers with percentages.

Hospitals/Psychiatric Units	Alcoholic Disorders	Drug Dependence
St. Canice's Hospital, Kilkenny	90 21.9%	16 3.9%
St. Dymphna's Hospital, Carlow	95 32.3%	15 5.1%
St. Luke's Hospital, Clonmel	19 15.3%	8 6.5%
St. Otteran's Hospital, Waterford	6 12.5%	1 2.1%
St. Senan's Hospital, Enniscorthy	114 20.3%	31 5.5%
Psychiatric Unit, Waterford Regional Hospital	126 17.1%	16 2.2%
Psychiatric Unit, St. Joseph's Hospital, Clonmel	260 23.3%	50 4.5%

Aiséirí Services

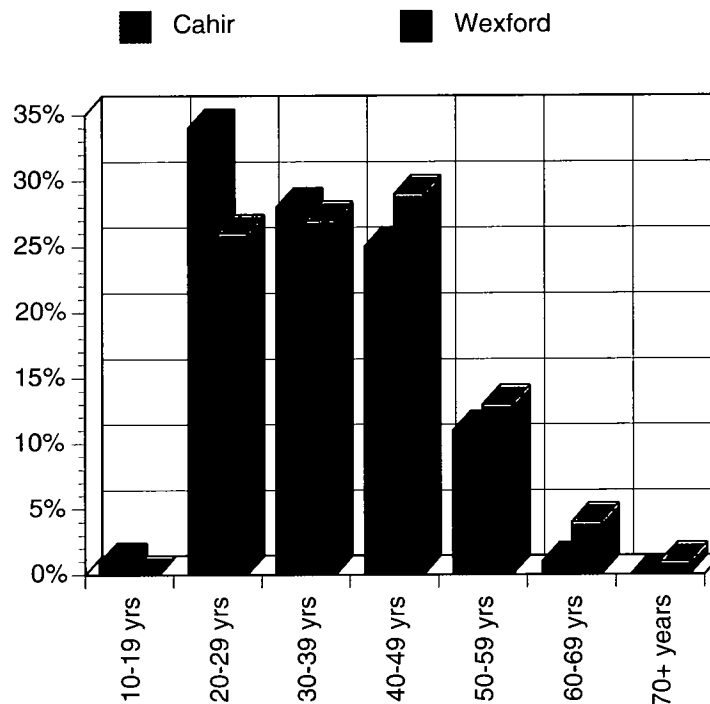
Based on the information supplied by the two Aiséirí Services in Cahir and Wexford, 165 people sought treatment for problem alcohol/drug use at the Cahir Centre during 2002 and 215 at the Wexford Centre.

3% of those who sought treatment at Cahir and 6% at Wexford had also sought treatment at another treatment centre in the Region.

As with the South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services the majority attending these services were male.

Age Group

In 2001, the majority of clients who sought treatment at both services during the year were in the 30-39 age group, this year the majority of Cahir clients were in the 20-29 age group and in the 40-49 age group in Wexford.

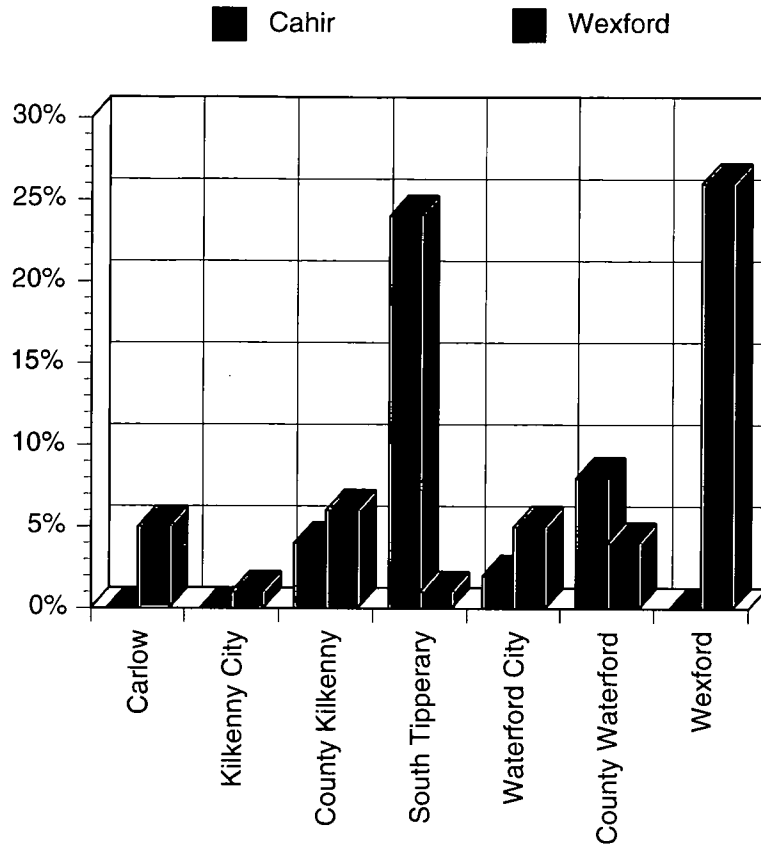


Area of Residence:

South Eastern Health Board Addresses

Year	Cahir	Wexford
2000	39%	48%
2001	35%	55%
2002	38%	48%

Figures for those attending Cahir with addresses in the South Eastern Health Board region fell in 2001 but increased again in 2002, while figures for Wexford increased in 2001 but fell in 2002. Both Services provide treatment on a national level.



Main Drug

As with the South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services the main drug for which treatment was sought was alcohol. The figure for alcohol is down 8% at the Cahir Centre, from 93% in year 2001 to 85% in 2002 and also down for the Wexford Centre, from 84% in 2001 to 80% in 2002. The figure for cannabis is up for both Centres in 2002, from 1% to 10% at Cahir and from 6% to 10% at Wexford. Heroin figures are down 2% at Cahir, from 3% in 2001 to 1% in 2002 and up 1% at Wexford, from 5% to 6%.

Main Drug	Aiséirí Cahir	Aiséirí Wexford
Alcohol	85%	80%
Amphetamines	1%	1%
Cannabis	10%	10%
Cocaine	0%	2%
Heroin	1%	6%
MDMA	2%	0%
Other Opiate Type Drugs	1%	2%

30% of Cahir clients had secondary drugs of misuse and 40% of Wexford clients. Cannabis was the main secondary drug of misuse for both Centres. This was followed by MDMA and amphetamines at the Cahir centre and alcohol and MDMA at the Wexford centre.

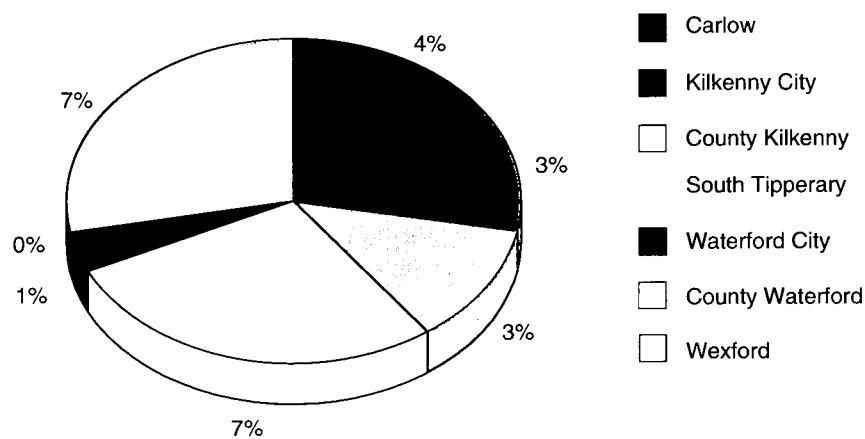
Aislinn Adolescent Addiction Treatment Centre

Aislinn Adolescent Addiction Treatment Centre is based in Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny and caters for 15 – 21 year olds. Like the Aiséirí Services, Aislinn provides treatment on a national level.

Based on information provided by the Service during 2002, 160 individuals sought treatment for problem drug and alcohol use. This was an increase of 9 on 2001 figures.

Area of Residence:

25% (down 3% on year 2001 figures and down 10% on 2000 figures) of those who sought treatment at Aislinn during the year had addresses in the South Eastern Health Board area. The following chart gives a breakdown of this figure.



There were no clients with addresses in County Waterford in 2002.

Main Drug

The main drugs for which treatment was sought were:

Main Drug	Aislinn
Alcohol	56%
Cannabis	29%
Heroin	10%
MDMA	4%
Prescribed medication	1%
Volatile Inhalants	1%

Again, as for year 2001, alcohol is still the main drug of misuse and similar to other treatment services within the Region, the number who attended for treatment of alcohol is down for 2002. 70% attended the service for problem alcohol use in 2001 and 56% in 2002, down 14%. There has been an increase of 9% in the cannabis figures from 2001 to 2002 data but this is still a decrease of 27% on year 2000 figures. Those attending for problem heroin use has increased 6% between the years 2000 and 2002, while attendance for problem MDMA use has decreased by 13% in the same period.

95% of Aislinn clients had a secondary drug of misuse, mainly cannabis, alcohol and MDMA. Unlike the South Eastern Health Board and Aiséirí Services, which are for the most part adult services, Aislinn had a significantly higher rate of secondary drug use amongst its' clients – 95% compared with 30% Aiséirí Cahir, 40% Aiséirí Wexford and 37% for the region as a whole (this figure would include data from Aislinn).

All clients who seek treatment at Aislinn are first assessed. 29% of those who were assessed did not take up treatment.

The Cornmarket Project

The Cornmarket Project, Wexford Area Partnership. This is a voluntary service and offers free and confidential one to one counselling for substance misuse and other behavioural issues, structured day programmes for substance misusers and family support services.

The data as presented below for the Cornmarket Project covers the period October to December 2002. During this period 25 new clients sought and/or attended for treatment.

69% of clients had never previously been treated for drug misuse, 23% had and it was not known in 8% of cases.

Similar to all services the majority of clients who attended the Cornmarket Project were in the 20-29 age group. This accounted for 46% of clients.

Area of Residence:

All clients had addresses in County Wexford. 58% lived in a rural area and 42% in an urban area.

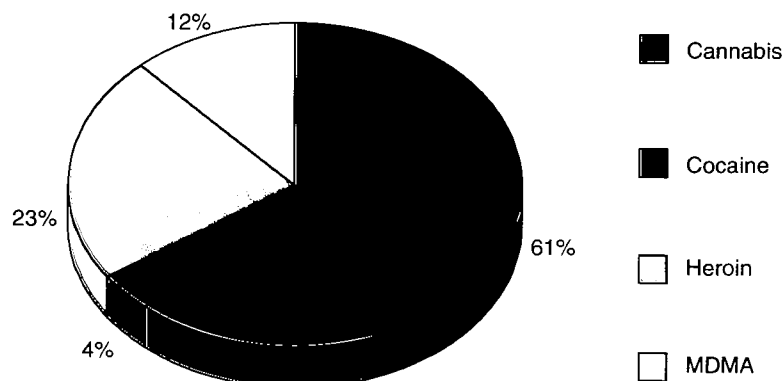
Referrals:

Referral	%
Self	12%
Family	31%
Friends	4%
Social Services	8%
Court/Probation/Police	42%
School	4%

Main Drug:

Of the 25 clients seen from October to December 2002, cannabis was the main drug for which treatment was sought during this period. However, it should be noted that clients did attend for treatment of alcohol misuse but this data was not submitted.

62% of clients had secondary drugs of misuse, the highest being cocaine, cannabis and MDMA respectively.



Probation & Welfare Services

Data from the Probation & Welfare Services is collected from Form A's which are the initial client referral sheet from the Courts to the Probation & Welfare Service. The quality of data presented below for these Services is therefore dependent on the amount of information recorded on the Form A's, which in some cases is minimal. It is therefore likely that there is an underestimation of the number of cases that involved alcohol and/or drugs.

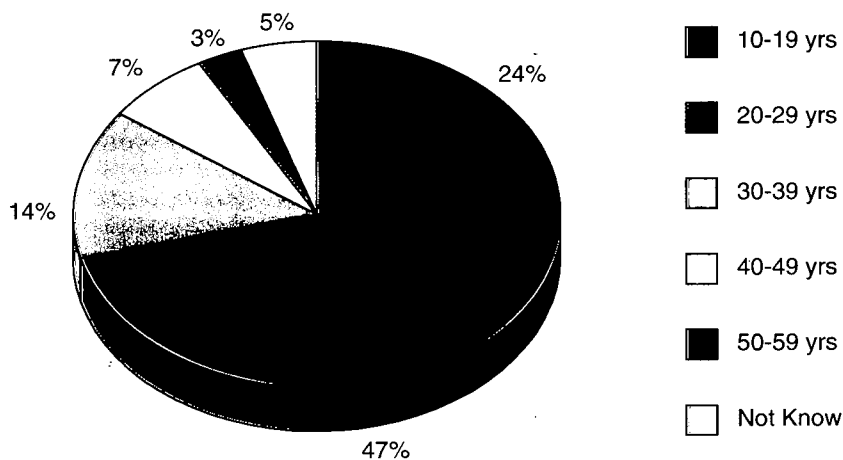
Based on the data collected, below is the percentage of cases in each area that involved alcohol and/or drugs.

Probation Service	% Cases Year 2002	% Cases Year 2001	% Cases Year 2000
Carlow	49%	52%	53%
Kilkenny	47%	35%	39%
South Tipperary	59%	41%	32%
Waterford	47%	50%	52%
Wexford	37%	65%	50%

As with all the Treatment Services the majority are male – overall 90% male and 10% female, which is a higher ratio of male/female than the Treatment Services.

Age Group

As with year 2000 and 2001 figures the majority of Probation & Welfare clients were in the 20 – 29 year age group, followed by those in the 10-19 year age group. The figure for 10-19 year olds is down 6% on year 2001 whilst the figure for 20-29 year olds is up 6% on year 2000 figures. The reverse was true for 2000/2001 figures.



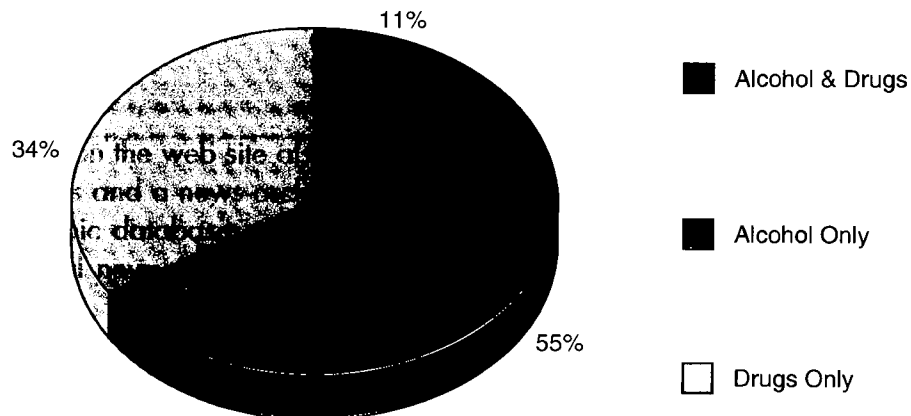
Area of Residence:

88% of clients had addresses in the South Eastern Health Board area. This is up 1% on year 2001 figures and up 4% from year 2000 figures.

Area	Percentages
Carlow Town	13%
Carlow County	2%
Kilkenny City	10%
Kilkenny County	9%
South Tipperary	14%
Waterford City	18%
Waterford County	9%
Wexford County	7%
Wexford Town	6%

Of the cases which involved alcohol and/or drugs:

The main drugs involved were Cannabis, MDMA and amphetamines alone or in combination with each other.



65% of the cases were referred to a treatment service for either screening, alcohol/drug awareness programmes or counselling.

The treatment services to which clients were referred were:

- Aiséirí Services
- Cornmarket Project, Wexford
- G.P.'s
- Rutland Centre
- Aislínn
- Cuan Mhuire
- Marist Rehab Centre, Athlone
- South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services

Community Based Drug Initiatives

As stated earlier, there are eight C.B.D.I. projects in the Region with a total of nine project workers. The projects are – Carlow C.B.D.I., Kilkenny Drugs Initiative, Kilkenny Rural Drugs Initiative, Clonmel C.B.D.I., Mid West Tipperary Drugs Initiative, Waterford C.B.D.I., County Waterford C.B.D.I., Southside Drugs Initiative and Wexford C.B.D.I. The aim of the Community Based Drug Initiatives is to support local communities in increasing their awareness of drug related issues and to assist in developing strategies to reduce the demand for drugs in Communities.

It was decided to include data from the Community Based Drug Initiatives as they are frontline projects and any data provided could act as an early warning system in changes of alcohol/drug use on the ground. 2002 was the first year of data collection from the C.B.D.I. projects in the Region. There were some initial difficulties in the collection of the data and it is hoped that the quality of data will improve for 2003.

The data as presented below is based on the number of individual contacts with the respective services and in no way reflects the overall work carried out by the C.B.D.I. project workers.

There were a total of 495 individual contacts made to the services in 2002. This figure is broken down by county as follows:

County	Total Individual Contacts
*Carlow	15
Kilkenny	140
*South Tipperary	178
*Waterford	144
Wexford	72

*Please note that some of the services in these counties did not have a full reporting year as there was no project worker employed outside the reporting period as stated below.

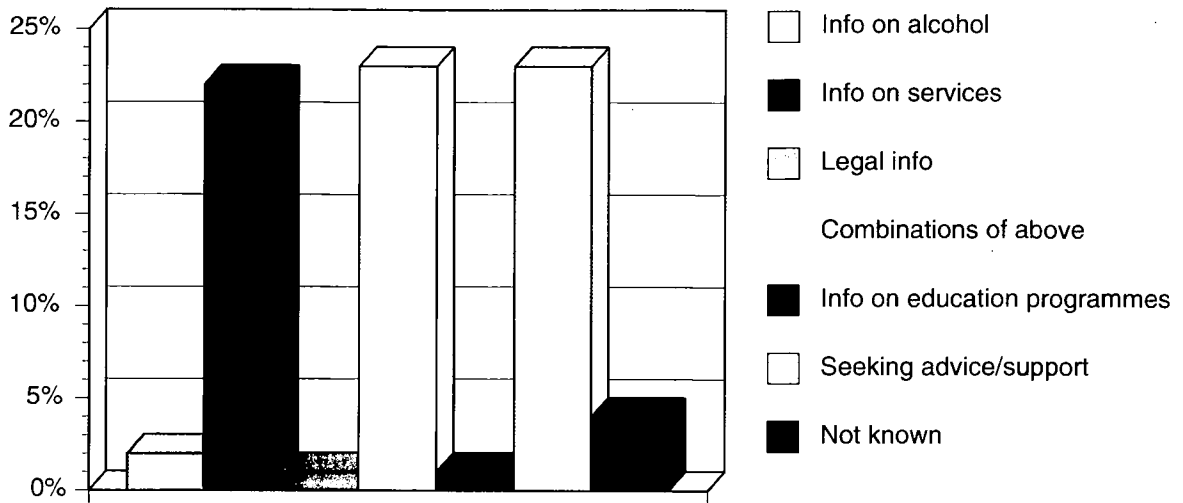
Service	Reporting Period
Carlow C.B.D.I.	January to July
Mid West Tipperary Drugs Initiative	August to December
County Waterford C.B.D.I.	January to September

Over all the Services, 38% of the contacts were male and 37% female. This is a much smaller ratio than in the treatment services. The gender was not known in 25% of the contacts.

The three main contacts to the services were made by a concerned parent/family member at 37%, followed by self-information only at 28% and self-user at 17%.

Enquiries

The following chart shows the type of information sought by the contacts for all the services during 2002.



48% of the contacts discussed more than one substance, mainly combinations of alcohol, cannabis, cocaine, ecstasy, heroin, prescribed medication and speed.

Outcome

28% of the contacts were referred to another service. Referrals were to both statutory and voluntary treatment services, social workers, community welfare services, other drug projects etc.

An Garda Síochána

The following data is taken from "An Garda Síochána Annual Report 2001".

Offences Involving Juvenile Offenders

Nationally, 17% of juvenile offences were drink related, mainly purchase/possession/consumption of alcohol and intoxicated in a public place. Possession of drugs made up 4.9% of offences and sale/supply accounted for 0.8%.

Drug Offences

Taking into account that the Garda Divisions are different from the South Eastern Health Board region, i.e. the South East Garda Region comprises:

Tipperary

Waterford/Kilkenny

Wexford/Wicklow

and Carlow comes under the Eastern Region with Kildare, the number of offences where proceedings commenced were highest for Cannabis, Ecstasy, Amphetamines and to a lesser extent heroin, cocaine and lsd.

The majority of persons against whom proceedings for all drug offences were commenced were over 21 years (57%) followed by those in the 17 to 21 age group (37%) and under 17 years 6%. Again as with all the services, the majority were male (92%).

Performance Indicators – South Eastern Health Board

Performance Indicators for the addiction services, under social inclusion and the community based alcohol programmes, under mental health are required on a quarterly basis. The information for these Performance Indicators is collated and submitted by the Data Co-ordinator on information supplied by the South Eastern Health Board treatment services under the existing National Drug Treatment Reporting System.

National Documentation Centre on Drug Use

The following paragraphs were taken from the Drugnet Ireland newsletter produced by the Drug Misuse Research Division of the Health Research Board, February 2003.

"The National Documentation Centre on Drug Use was opened on December 9 last by Noel Ahern TD, Minister of State with special responsibility for the drugs strategy. This state of the art information centre has been established by the Drug Misuse Research Division in the offices of the Health Research Board in Dublin.

The need to establish a collection of research documentation dealing with the issue of drugs in Ireland was recognised in the report of the Interim Advisory Committee on Drugs, which was published in February 2000. The National Documentation Centre on Drug Use is a unique information resource providing Irish researchers with access to electronic and hard copy documentation on all aspects of drug use.

Electronic Library

A central element of this resource is the Electronic Library of Irish drugs related research, which will be available to all visitors to the National Documentation Centre web site. The Electronic Library contains the full text of research reports, government publications, conference papers, journal articles and other documents dealing with the issue of drug use in Ireland. This material includes published in international academic journals as well as unpublished documentation and other material with limited circulation. All documents in the Electronic Library are catalogued on a special database, which contains an annotated bibliographic record for each item included.

Online Resources

In addition to this documentation the web site also contains a catalogue of the National Documentation Centre's collection of books and reports and a news archive which is updated daily. Visitors to the web site will also be able to use online bibliographic databases to help them with literature reviews and to keep abreast of current work in their area. A special news section is updated daily with summaries of reports from national, local, specialist and international press.

Registered Users

All visitors to the National Documentation Centre's web site are invited to become registered users. Registered users will have access to electronic copies of documents, which, because of licensing agreements with copyrights holders, are only available to a limited number of users. In addition to being allowed access to this material, registered users can also have remote access to our online bibliographic databases.

Special Library

The National Documentation Centre's special library in Holbrook House contains a collection of books, reports, specialist journals and a range of online bibliographic databases covering the social sciences, psychology, medicine and addiction-related topics. Visitors will be able to use all of these information resources in a comfortable and well-equipped setting. National Documentation Centre staff will be available to help with queries.

This documentation centre is open from 9.30am to 4.45pm, Monday to Friday.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Counsellors in the South Eastern Health Board Treatment Services, Aiséirí, Aislínn, The Cornmarket Project and St. Senan's Psychiatric Hospital for providing the data for this report. Ms. Ailish Delaney, Regional H.I.P.E. Co-ordinator and the H.I.P.E. Coders who submit the reports to me. I would also like to thank the Probation & Welfare Services and the C.B.D.I. project workers for their co-operation and the data they provided. Finally, to thank Dr. Neville de Souza and Mr. Tony Barden for their assistance and support.

Martina Kidd

Data Co-ordinator for Drugs.

June 2003.