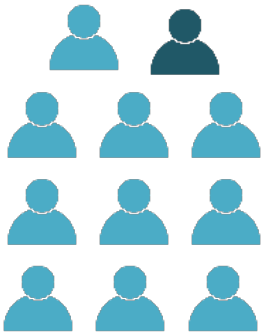


Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: Drugs Misuse Summary

Drug misuse is associated with a range of mental and physical health problems as well as a wide array of complex social issues.



Consumption

It is difficult to accurately estimate local drug use. National estimates suggest at least **one in eleven (9%)** adults aged 16-54, used drugs in the last year. This is equivalent to more than **20,000 Leicester residents**.

Cannabis is the most frequently used drug, followed by powder **cocaine** and **ecstasy**.



Source: Crime Survey for England and Wales, 2018/19



There are an estimated 2600 **crack cocaine and/or opiate** users in Leicester, of whom around half are in treatment.

Source: Public Health England, Estimates of opiate and crack cocaine use prevalence, 2017

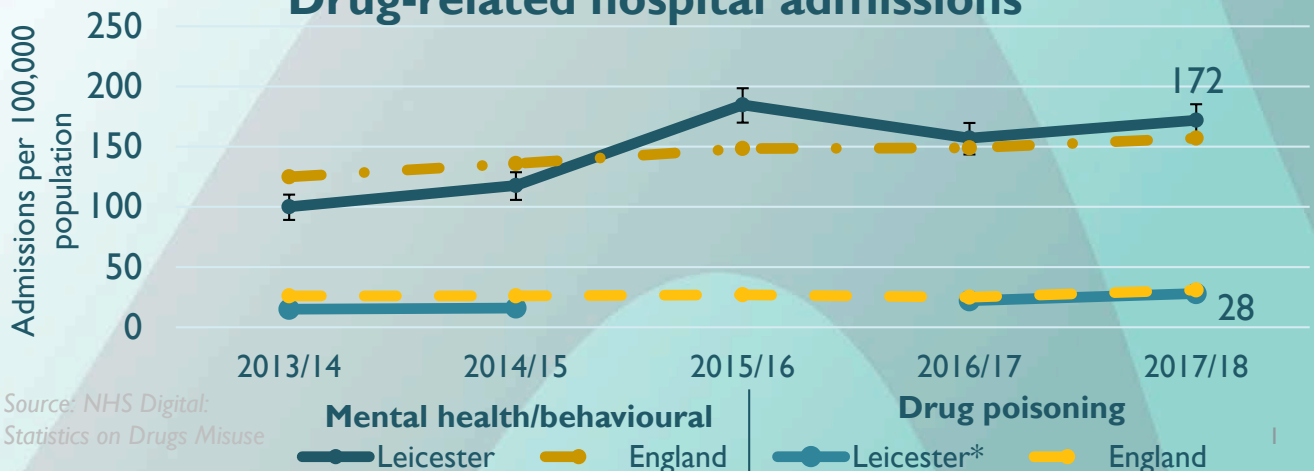
New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), such as the synthetic cannabinoid '**Spice**', have increased in popularity in recent years.



Impact

Hospital admissions for drug-related **poisoning** are similar to England. Admissions for drug-related **mental health and behavioural disorders** are significantly higher than England. Both have increased since 2013/14.

Drug-related hospital admissions



Source: NHS Digital: Statistics on Drugs Misuse

* Numbers were too low to present data for drug poisoning in Leicester for 2015/16

Current services in Leicester

Community-based treatment services:
Specialist treatment, recovery support, advice and guidance

Inpatient detox:
10-day detox provided locally, in Nottingham

Recovery community:
Advice, mutual aid, peer support

No.5 Recovery Hub:
recovery support for people living a 'street lifestyle'



Leicester's treatment population

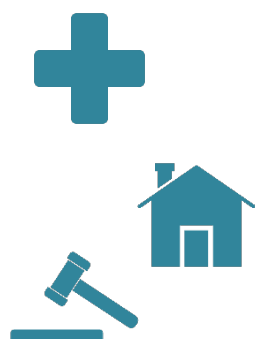
In 2018/19 1450 people accessed community-based drug treatment in Leicester. Four-fifths (78%) were opiate users and one in five (22%) were in treatment for non-opiates, with around half of those also receiving treatment for alcohol.

Some demographic groups are over-represented in the **treatment population** compared to Leicester's general adult (18+) population.

Aged 30-49	White ethnicity	Men
69%	86%	79%

Sources: National Drug Treatment Monitoring System, ONS, Census 2011; ONS Mid-year population estimates, 2018

Social issues associated with drugs misuse



People in drug treatment often have complex, wide-ranging needs. Those in drug treatment are more likely to have mental health needs, an insecure housing situation, be unemployed, and be in contact with the criminal justice system.

Drugs Misuse Chapter: Key statistics

Table 1. National comparisons*	Leicester	England
Adults in treatment at specialist drug misuse services: rate per 1000 population, 2017/18	5.1	4.4
Users of opiates or crack or both per 1000 population age 15-64, 2017	14	9
'Very high' user 'Complexity' score among community drug treatment population, 2018/19	43%	32%
Drug misuse deaths per 100,000 population-years, 2016-18	4.2	4.5
Referrals to community drug treatment from the criminal justice system, 2018/19	36%	13%
Opiate clients entering treatment with a mental health treatment need, 2018/19	61%	49%
Non-opiate clients entering treatment with a mental health treatment need, 2018/19	65%	54%
Alcohol and clients entering treatment with a mental health treatment need, 2018/19	73%	58%
Adults entering community treatment who are in regular employment, 2018/19	17%	29%
Adults entering treatment who had a problem with their housing situation, 2018/19	38%	18%
Children In Need episodes with alcohol as a factor, 2018/19	22%	21%

*Statistical significance is not shown here because it is not calculated for NDTMS sources, and not associated with 'better' or 'worse', or there are no significant differences, for the other data sources.

Sources: Public Health England, *Public Health Profiles*, <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/local-alcohol-profiles>; National Drug Treatment Monitoring System, *Diagnostic Outcomes Monitoring Executive Report*; Leicester Partnership Report, *Recovery Diagnostic Toolkit*; Department for Education, *Characteristics of children in need: 2018 to 2019*