

**Table Z: Drug-related deaths on the basis of the 'wide' and 'baseline' definitions, deaths from some causes which may be associated with drug misuse, volatile substance abuse deaths, and deaths which involved New Psychoactive Substances, 2002 to 2012**

Cause of death	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>All drug-related deaths (on the 'wide' definition)</b>	566	493	546	480	577	630	737	716	692	749	734
of which:											
<b>on the basis used for this report's statistics (i.e. the Drug Strategy 'baseline' definition, as implemented by National Records of Scotland (NRS))</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>581</b>
deaths within the Drug Strategy 'baseline' definition, but excluded from this report's statistics because: <sup>1</sup>											
(a) cause of death was a secondary infection or a related complication <sup>2</sup>	10	9	6	12	13	10	23	22	33	16	14
(b) controlled substance was present only as part of a compound analgesic or a cold remedy	6	0	0	1	2	8	10	3	5	4	1
other deaths counted as 'drug-related' by the 'wide' definition - but not on the basis used for this report <sup>3</sup>	168	167	184	131	141	157	130	146	169	145	138
<b>Deaths from some causes which may be associated with present or past drug misuse <sup>4</sup></b>											
Underlying cause of death, with its ICD10 <sup>5</sup> code(s):											
Hepatitis C (B18.2)	3	5	5	10	14	12	18	21	19	25	22
HIV (B20-24)	33	33	16	31	19	21	18	17	21	16	18
Total all deaths from the specified causes	36	38	21	41	33	33	36	38	40	41	40
<b>Volatile Substance Abuse deaths</b>											
Deaths in Scotland - International Centre for Drugs Policy (ICDP) figures <sup>6</sup>	8	6	1	4	9	10	3	4	17	..	..
<b>Deaths which involved so-called 'New Psychoactive Substances' <sup>7</sup></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>
of											
(a) deaths for which one (or more) New Psychoactive Substances was implicated in, or potentially contributed, to the death	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	10	28	32
(i) included in this report's statistics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	26	30
of which:											
NPS the only substance(s) implicated in the death <sup>8</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	3
Other substance(s) also implicated in the death <sup>9</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	26	27
(ii) <u>not</u> included in this report's statistics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	2	2
of which:											
NPS the only substance(s) implicated in the death <sup>10</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	2
Other substance(s) also implicated in the death <sup>11</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
(b) deaths for which one (or more) New Psychoactive Substances was present but <u>not</u> considered to have contributed to the death	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	19	15
of which:											
(i) included in this report's statistics <sup>12</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	19	15
(ii) <u>not</u> included in this report's statistics <sup>13</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Footnotes**

- 1) Paragraph A3 in Annex A explains why these kinds of deaths are excluded from the standard definition of 'drug-related death' figures produced by NRS.
- 2) Including (e.g.) deaths caused by infections that resulted from the use of heroin which was contaminated by, say, anthrax.
- 3) Including (e.g.) accidental deaths which were caused by the use of drugs which were not controlled at the time, such as those before 16 April 2010 which resulted from using mephedrone (assuming that no controlled drugs were found in the body).
- 4) Only a proportion of deaths from these causes can be attributed to drug misuse - more information can be found in paragraph B8 of Annex B.
- 5) 'ICD10' is the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision.
- 6) More information can be found in paragraph B13 of Annex B about the statistics that it produces. A few deaths per year may be counted both in the 'ICDP' figures and in the standard drug-related death statistics produced by NRS.
- 7) The substances which are counted (for the purpose of these figures) as "New Psychoactive Substances" are described in Annex E
- 8) e.g. the death was after 15 April 2010, the cause of death was certified as "mephedrone intoxication", and no other substance was said to have been found
- 9) e.g. the cause of death was certified as "adverse effects of methadone and mephedrone". (The date of death is not a factor, because methadone has "always" been controlled.)
- 10) e.g. the death occurred up to 15 April 2010, the cause of death was certified as "mephedrone intoxication", and no other substance was said to have been found
- 11) e.g. the death occurred up to 15 April 2010, and both mephedrone and an uncontrolled volatile substance were said to be implicated in, or potentially contributed, to the death
- 12) e.g. the cause of death was given as "heroin, alcohol and diazepam toxicity", and BZP and TFMPP were also present
- 13) an artificial example would be a death which occurred up to 15 April 2010, co-codamol was said to be implicated in, or potentially contributed, to the death; mephedrone was said to be present but did not contribute