

Table 9: Drug-related deaths by sex and age-group: average for 2010 to 2014, and relative to the estimated number of problem drug users.

	2010-2014 Average number of drug-related deaths per year	Problem drug users (aged 15-64) in 2012/13 ¹				Annual average drug-deaths: 2010-2014 per 1,000 problem drug users in 2012/13 ⁴		
		Estimate	95% Confidence interval ²		+ / - ³	Estimate	Likely range of values	
			Lower end	Upper end			From ⁵	To ⁵
All	558	61,500	59,900	63,300	3%	9.1	8.8	9.3
Males	411	43,300	..	..	..	9.5	..	..
Females	147	18,200	..	..	..	8.1	..	..
15 to 24	49	10,500	..	..	..	4.7	..	..
25 to 34	162	21,500	..	..	..	7.5	..	..
35 to 64	336	29,500	..	..	..	11.4	..	..
Males								
15 to 24	39	6,400	..	..	..	6.1	..	..
25 to 34	126	14,700	..	..	..	8.5	..	..
35 to 64	240	22,200	..	..	..	10.8	..	..
Females⁶								
15 to 24	11	4,100	..	..	..	2.6	..	..
25 to 34	37	6,800	..	..	..	5.4	..	..
35 to 64	95	7,300	..	..	..	13.1	..	..

Footnotes

- 1) Estimates of problem drug users aged 15 to 64, as published by the Information Services Division (ISD) of NHS National Services Scotland - REVISED estimates, as published by ISD on 4 March 2016.
- 2) The 95 per cent Confidence Intervals are the range within which it is expected that the true value will lie. On the basis of statistical theory, there is only a 5 per cent chance that a 95 per cent Confidence Interval will not include the (unknown) true value of the quantity which is being estimated - so, on average, one would expect that 19 out of 20 of all 95 per cent Confidence Intervals will include the (unknown) true values. ISD did not publish confidence intervals for the numbers for each sex or for each age-group.
- 3) The average of the percentage differences between (a) the estimate and the lower end of the 95 per cent Confidence Interval and (b) the estimate and the upper end of the 95 per cent Confidence Interval. It is calculated using the rounded values of the estimate and the two ends.
- 4) These death rates are broad indications only, as (e.g.) the estimated numbers of problem drug users may be subject to wide confidence intervals.
- 5) The 'from' value in the range for the rate is calculated using the upper end of the 95 per cent Confidence Interval for the estimated number of problem drug users, and the 'to' value in the range for the rate is calculated using the lower end of the 95 per cent Confidence Interval for the estimated number of problem drug users.
- 6) The 'female' figure for each age-group has been estimated by subtracting the corresponding 'male' figure from the total for the age-group. ISD did not publish estimates of the number of female problem drug users broken down by age-group because of their potential unreliability.