

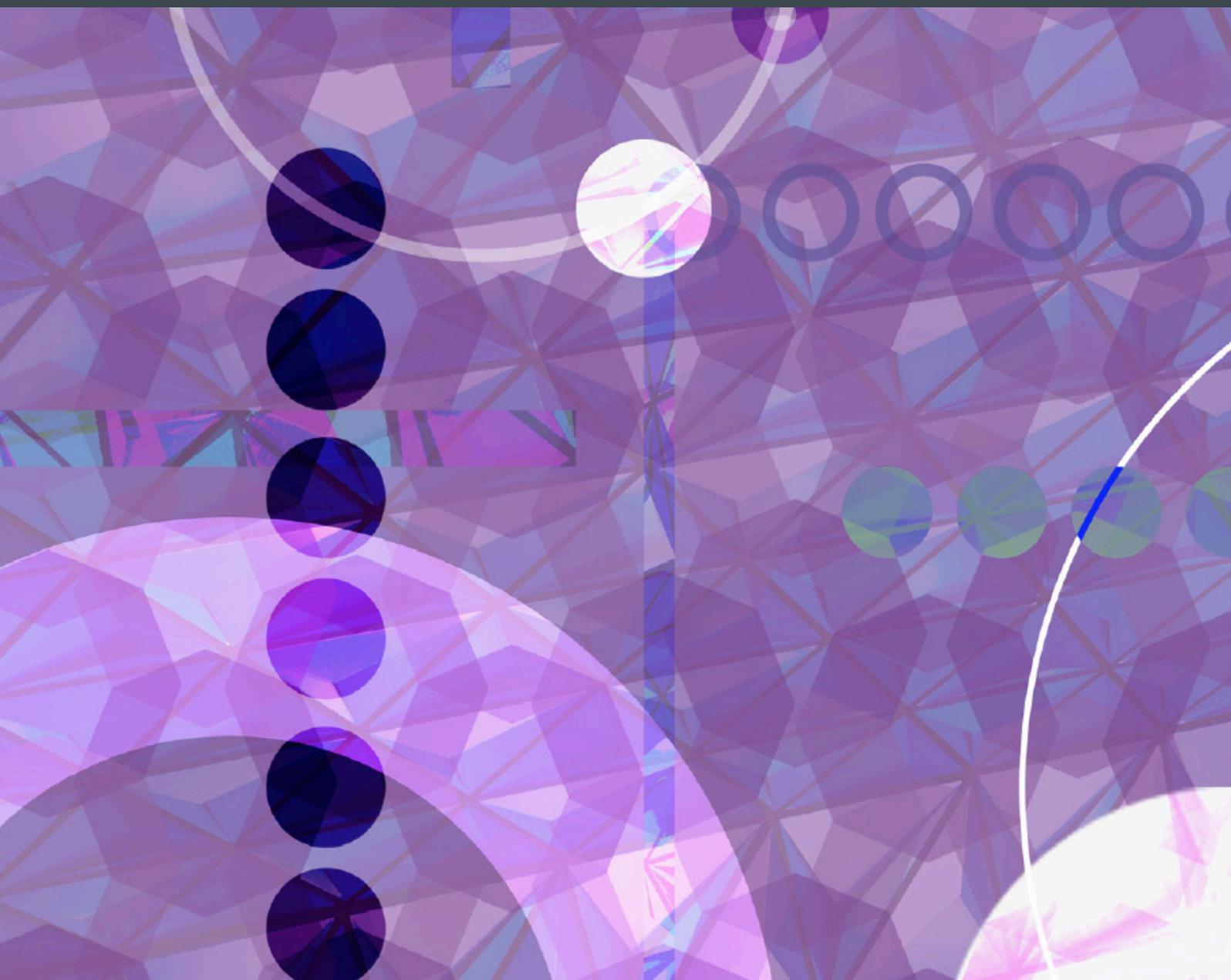
Criminal Justice Project: Drug Interventions Programme

Criminal Justice Intervention Team Activity in Liverpool: year ending March 2023

March 2024



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- In the year ending March 2022, there were 828 adult contacts (786 individuals) recorded by Liverpool Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT). This is a 62% increase on the 512 CJIT contacts in the previous twelve-month period and the highest number between 2017/18 and 2022/23.
- Around three in five (61%) CJIT contacts in 2022/23 were other criminal justice routes, followed by Required Assessments following a positive drug test for specified Class A drugs in a police custody suite (23%) and voluntary presentations following release from prison (17%).
- Just over three in five (63%) Liverpool CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2023 were taken onto the CJIT caseload, while a third (33%) did not want to engage with the CJIT.

LIVERPOOL RESIDENTS

- In the year ending March 2023, 194.9 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Liverpool Local Authority were in contact with Liverpool CJIT. The postcode districts with the highest number of Liverpool CJIT contacts were L4 and L6 (13% and 11% respectively).
- The average age of individuals assessed in the year ending March 2023 was 37 years. One-third (33%) were aged 30-39 years, followed by individuals aged 18-29 years (30%), 40-49 years (22%) and 50 years or over (16%).
- Around nine in ten (91%) individuals in contact with Liverpool CJIT in the year ending March 2023 stated they were men.
- Around nine in ten (91%) Liverpool CJIT contacts identified themselves as White British.
- Just over one in ten (12%) Liverpool residents considered themselves to have a disability; of which, just over two in five (43%) were recorded as other disability, while just over one-quarter (27%) were a behaviour and emotional disability, and one in seven (14%) were progressive conditions and physical health disability.
- Around one in twenty (4%) Liverpool residents stated they were a veteran of the British Armed Forces.
- Just over two in five (42%) Liverpool residents were in a rented home, followed by three in ten (30%) who reported other housing situations, a quarter (25%) who had no home of their own and 3% who owned their own home.
- One in ten (10%) reported they had a risk of homelessness in the next eight weeks.
- Around one in ten (11%) had parental responsibility for a child aged under 18 years; of which, around half (51%) had none of the children living with them the majority of the time.
- Of the main substances reported by Liverpool residents in the year ending March 2023, three in ten (30%) reported cannabis as their main substance, followed by cocaine (28%) and heroin (22%). Around half (51%) reported their second substance as crack, while for the third substance, around two in five (39%) reported cannabis and around three in ten (31%) reported alcohol.
- Just under three in five (56%) of the Liverpool CJIT contacts smoked their main substance, while three in ten (30%) administered their main substance intranasally and just over one in ten (12%) administered their main drug orally.

- Just under nine in ten (87%) stated they had never injected, while just over one in ten (12%) had previously injected but were not currently and 2% were currently injecting at the time of their assessment.
- Just over two in five (42%) of the clients who reported an opioid as their main substance in 2022/23 were issued with naloxone; of which, around three in five (59%) were supplied with injectable naloxone. Of the clients not issued with naloxone, just over three in five (62%) were offered naloxone but refused.
- One in six (17%) men consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT assessment; of these, over one in three (36%) consumed over 24 units of alcohol on an average day.
- Around half (51%) of the women consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT assessment; of these, around three in five (59%) consumed over 24 units of alcohol on an average day.
- Around half (51%) of the offences that prompted the current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system were Misuse of Drugs Act offences, followed by just over one in five (22%) offences categorised as 'other'.
- Of the clients taken onto the CJIT caseload, 103 (99 individuals) were referred to structured treatment in the year ending March 2023.
- Over half (54%) of the clients closed from the Liverpool CJIT caseload in the year ending March 2023 did not complete treatment, while around three in ten (29%) transferred prior to the completion of treatment and around one in six (18%) completed treatment. Notably, clients who dropped out of treatment accounted for 44% of the total number of discharges in the year.
- Of the Liverpool residents who completed treatment successfully, the average time on the CJIT caseload was 160 days.

Although the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) was decommissioned as a national programme by the Home Office in 2013, Liverpool Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT) continue to collect and submit the criminal justice dataset to the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) via the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS). The aim of CJITs is to identify and engage with adult offenders (aged 18 years and over) in the criminal justice system who use drugs and/or alcohol, and encourage them to engage with appropriate treatment services in order to reduce acquisitive crime. There is a body of evidence supporting this process at reducing offending for this population (Collins et al., 2016; Public Health Institute, 2015 & 2017; Public Health England and Ministry of Justice, 2017).

Under Merseyside Police's DIP drug testing process in the custody suites, if offenders test positive for specified Class A drugs (opiates and/or powder/crack cocaine) they are required to undergo a Required Assessment (RA). This is a key route into treatment, though there are other sources of referral, including: Conditional Cautioning; court mandated processes, such as Restriction on Bail and pre-sentence reports; requirement by the Offender Manager for those with a community sentence (Drug Rehabilitation Requirements and Alcohol Treatment Requirements); following release from prison; as well as voluntary presentations.

CJIT assessments determine whether further intervention is required to address drug and/or alcohol use and offending, and if necessary, encourage engagement with a range of appropriate treatment options. This is a key element of the work carried out by CJITs, as it provides wraparound support across four key areas: drug and alcohol use (harm reduction and overdose management); offending; physical and psychosocial health; and social functioning (housing, employment and relationships; Home Office, 2011). The CJIT dataset captures client information, episode details (including drug and alcohol use, and offending) and referrals to structured treatment.

This CJIT Activity report for Liverpool shows trends over a six-year period up to the year ending March 2023 for clients accessing the CJIT and where possible, comparisons to the Merseyside figures have been made.¹

Combating Drugs Partnerships

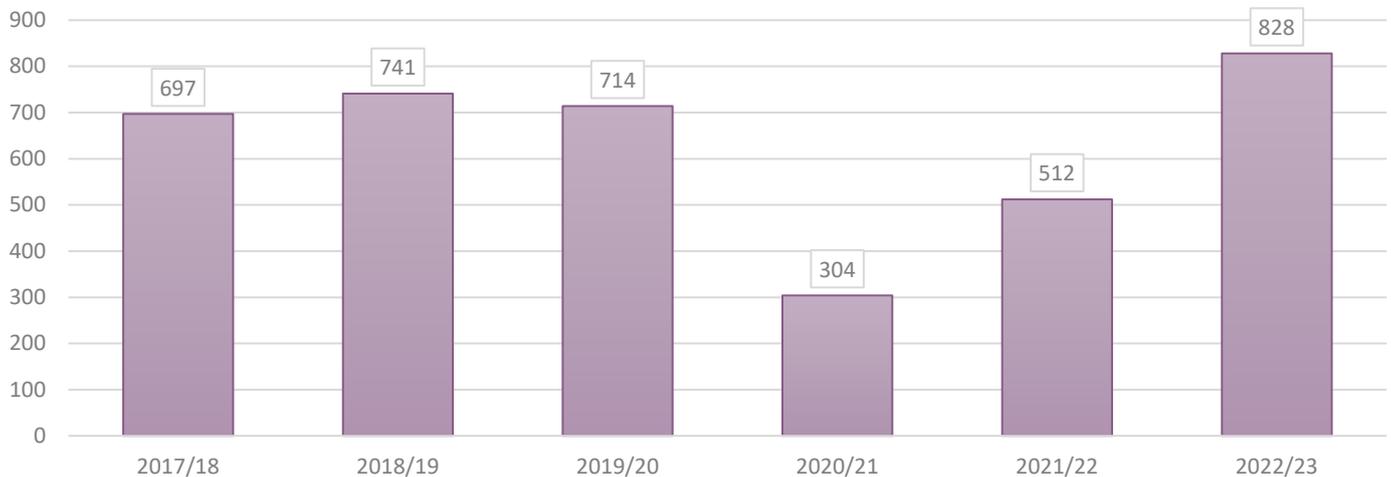
The Government's Drug Strategy stated its plan to reduce drug-related crime, deaths, harms and overall drug use (HM Government, 2021), outlining the requirement to establish and develop Combating Drugs Partnerships to oversee and co-ordinate its local delivery. Partnerships should lead a joint local needs assessment, a local drugs strategy delivery plan and regularly review progress (Home Office, 2022), through the National Combating Drugs Outcomes Framework, a means for monitoring progress nationally and locally (Home Office, 2023).

¹ Notes to accompany this report are available in [Appendix A](#). Supplementary data to support this report can be accessed here: [CJIT Activity in Merseyside: supplementary tables & charts \(end 2022/23\)](#).

OVERVIEW

In the year ending March 2023, there were 828 adult contacts (786 individuals) recorded by Liverpool Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT). This is a 62% increase on the 512 CJIT contacts in the previous twelve-month period (*Figure 1*) and notably, the largest number of CJIT contacts of the six-year period.

Figure 1: Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2022/23



CRIMINAL JUSTICE ROUTES IN LIVERPOOL

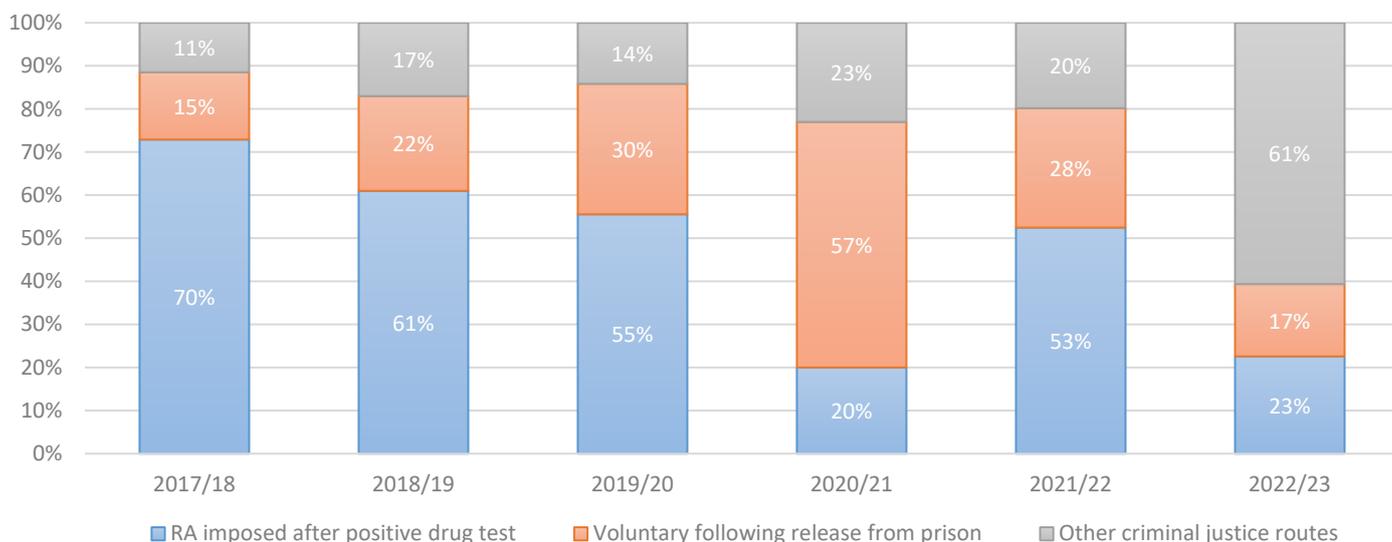
Figure 2 shows the criminal justice routes that led to the contact with Liverpool CJIT between 2017/18 and 2022/23. Around three in five of the CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2023 were other criminal justice routes (n=502, 61%)², followed by Required Assessments (RA) following a positive drug test for specified Class A drugs in a police custody suite (n=187, 23%) and voluntary presentations following release from prison (n=139, 17%).

The proportion of RAs in the year ending March 2023 is a 30% decrease on the previous twelve-month period (53%) and similar to the proportion in the year ending March 2021 (20%), when Merseyside Police suspended DIP drug testing in the custody suites for five months in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The proportion of clients who presented voluntarily following release from prison in 2022/23 is an 11% decrease on the previous year (28%), and the smallest proportion since the year ending March 2018 (15%). The CJIT contacts who presented through other criminal justice routes increased substantially in the year ending March 2023, an increase of 41% on the previous year, and the largest proportion of the six-year period (*Figure 2*). Notably, the increase in other criminal justice routes in the year ending March 2023 is attributed to an increase in Conditional Cautioning, which accounted for around two in five of all CJIT contacts in the year (n=343, 41%).

Furthermore, the proportion of clients who had contact Liverpool CJIT through the RA process in the year ending March 2023 is the smallest of the five Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 28%), while the proportion of other criminal justice routes is the second largest across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 52%). The proportion of CJIT contacts who presented voluntarily following release from prison is similar to the Merseyside total (20%).

² Other criminal justice routes: Conditional Cautioning = 343, required by offender management scheme/DRR/ATR/IOM = 64, voluntary - other 51, other = 23, requested by Offender Manager (post DRR/ATR) = 13, voluntary - following cell sweep <5, Restriction on Bail <5, voluntary - liaison and diversion <5, referred by treatment provider (post treatment) <5.

Figure 2: Referral routes of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2022/23



Focus on Conditional Cautioning

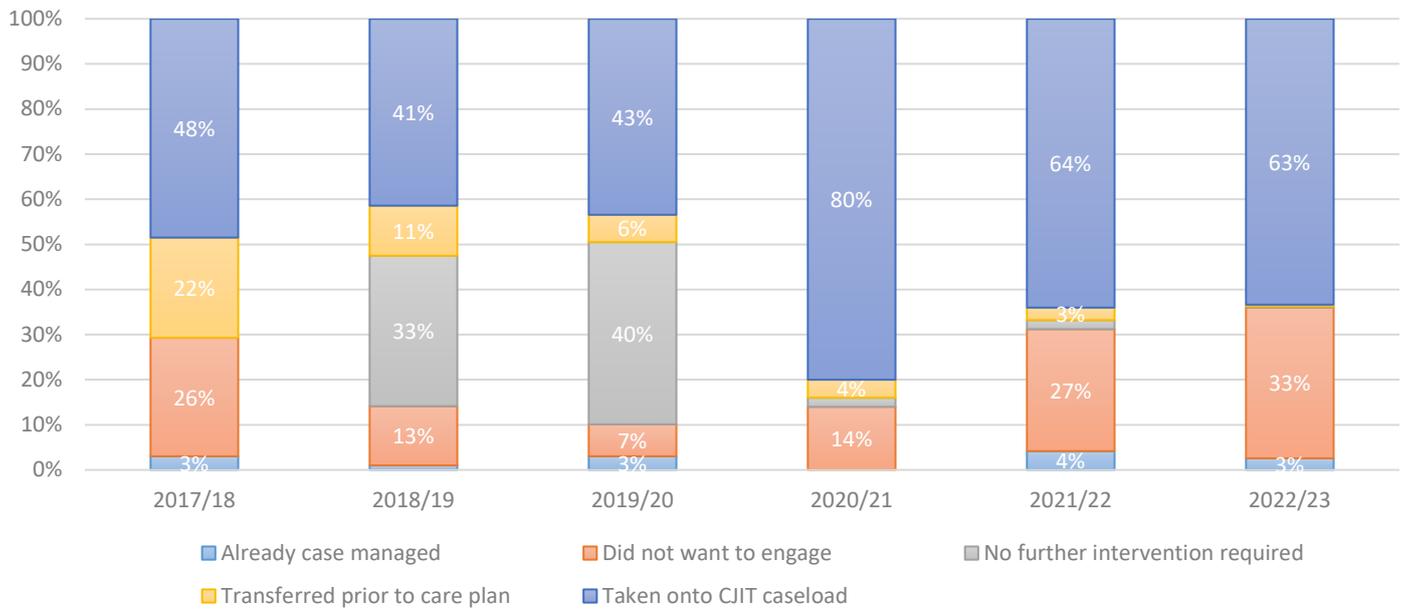
- Of the 343 Liverpool CJIT contacts issued with a Conditional Caution in the year ending March 2023, the majority (99%) were men and over two in five were aged 18-29 years (n=148, 44%).
- Around three in five reported cannabis as their main substance (n=201, 59%), while around three in ten reported powder cocaine (n=95, 28%).
- The majority of clients did not consume alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT assessment (n=329, 96%).
- Over nine in ten clients were given a Conditional Caution due to a Misuse of Drugs Act offence (n=320, 93%); all of which were possession.
- Following their assessment, just under three in five clients did not want to engage with the CJIT (n=196, 58%), while around two in five were taken onto the CJIT caseload (n=131, 39%).

OUTCOMES FOLLOWING CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSESSMENT

Just over three in five of the Liverpool CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2023 were taken onto the CJIT caseload (n=517, 63%), while a third did not want to engage with the CJIT (n=273, 33%; *Figure 3*).

The proportion of clients taken onto Liverpool CJIT’s caseload in 2022/23 is similar to the previous year (64%) and the third largest proportion of clients taken onto the caseload of the six-year period (*Figure 3*); however, it is the smallest proportion recorded by the Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 71%). Notably, the proportion of clients who did not want to engage following an assessment in the year ending March 2023 increased by 6% on the previous twelve-month period (27%) and is the largest proportion of the six-year period, as well as the largest of all the Merseyside areas (Merseyside total: 20%).

Figure 3: Outcomes following criminal justice assessment of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2022/23



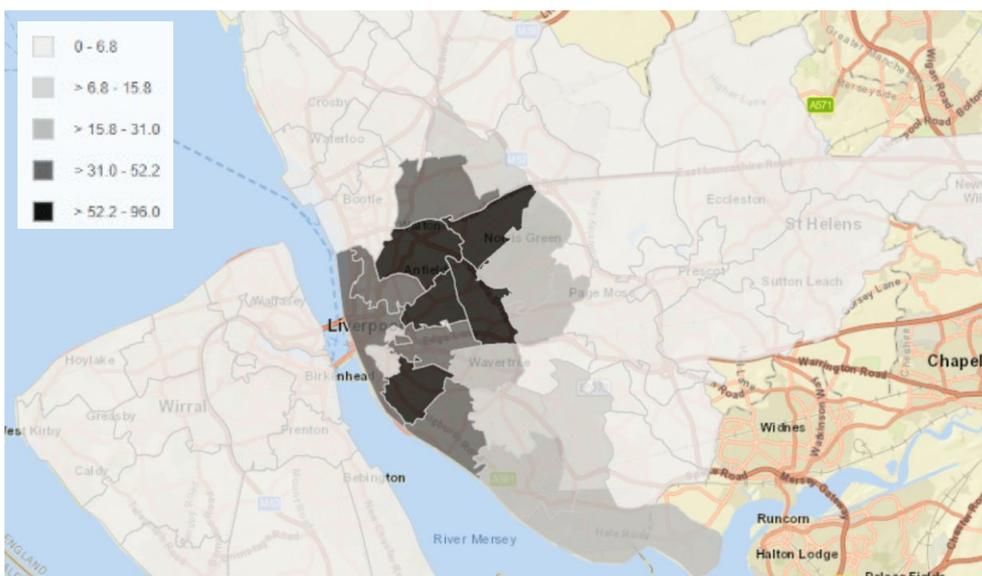
LIVERPOOL RESIDENTS

DEMOGRAPHICS

In the year ending March 2023, 194.9 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Liverpool LA were in contact with Liverpool CJIT, compared to 135.8 per 100,000 across Merseyside. This is the largest rate of individuals in contact with a Merseyside CJIT of the five Merseyside areas (see [Appendix B](#) for a table and map of all Merseyside areas).

Where recorded (n=756), the postcode districts that had the highest number of Liverpool CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2023 were L4 (n=96, 13%) and L6 (n=84, 11%; [Figure 4](#)).

Figure 4: Postcode area of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23 ³



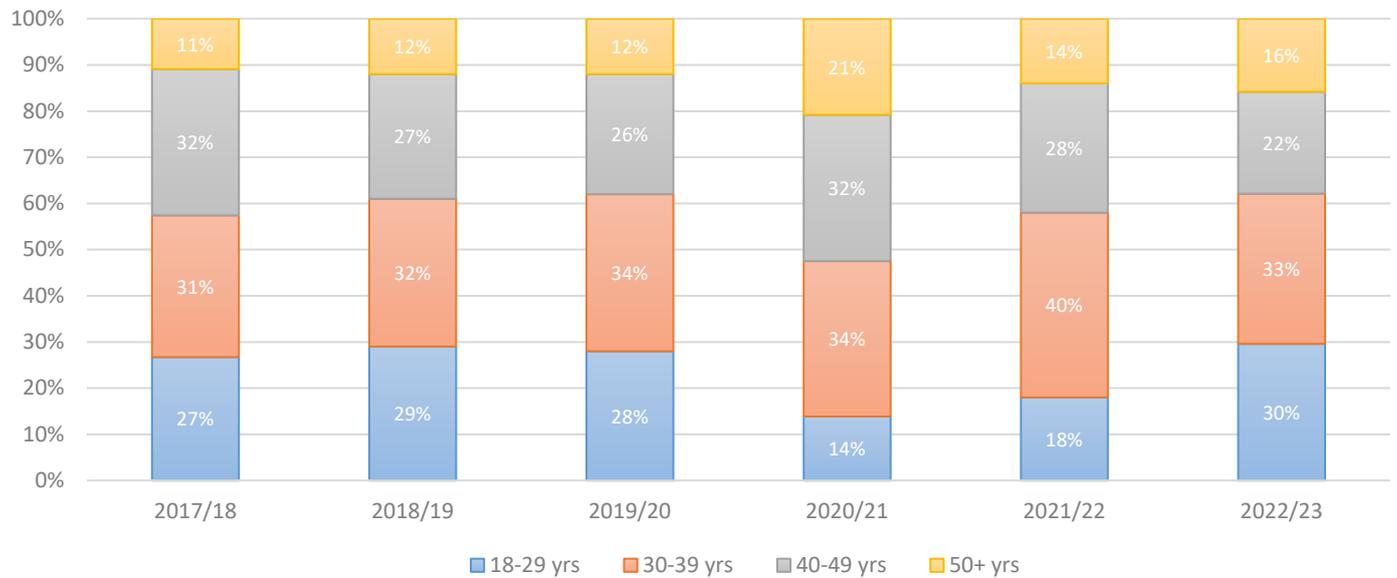
³ Note that there were 68 episodes (63 individuals) where the client did not have a postcode recorded as they were of No Fixed Abode or are normally resident outside of the UK.

AGE AND GENDER

Of the Liverpool residents assessed in the year ending March 2023, there were 784 individuals. The average age was 37 years (men = 36, women = 38). Looking at age groups, one-third of the individuals were aged 30-39 years (n=255, 33%), followed by individuals aged 18-29 (n=232, 30%), 40-49 years (n=173, 22%) and 50 years or over (n=124, 16%; *Figure 5*).

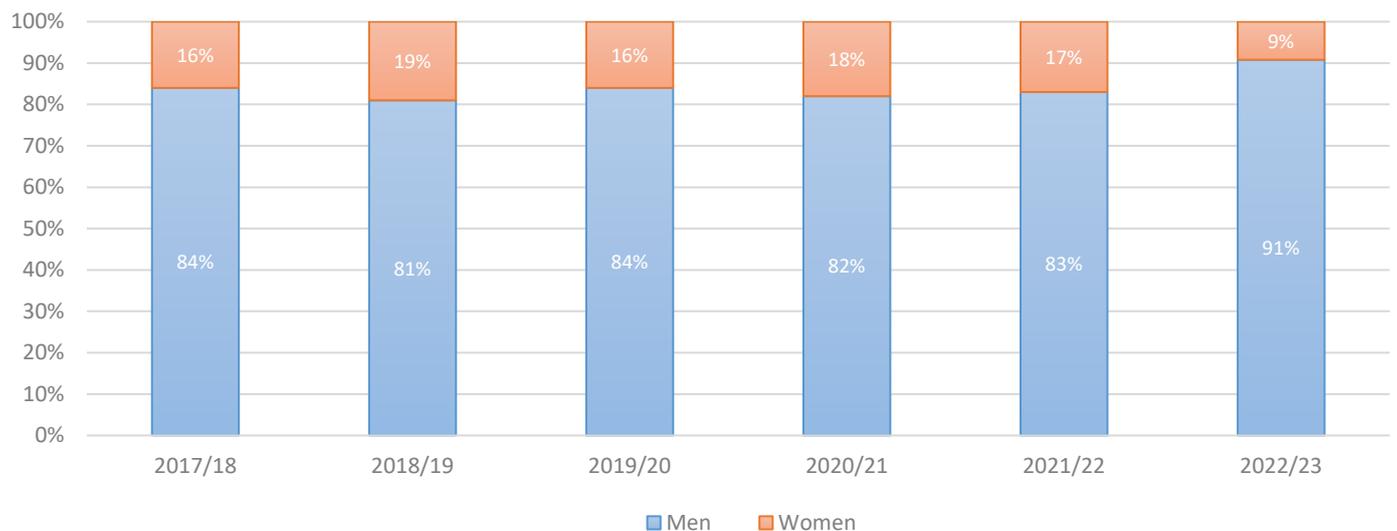
The proportion of individuals aged 18-29 years in 2022/23 is a 12% increase on the previous year and the largest of the six-year period, as well as the second largest of the five Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 27%).

Figure 5: Age group of Liverpool CJIT contacts (individuals), 2017/18 - 2022/23



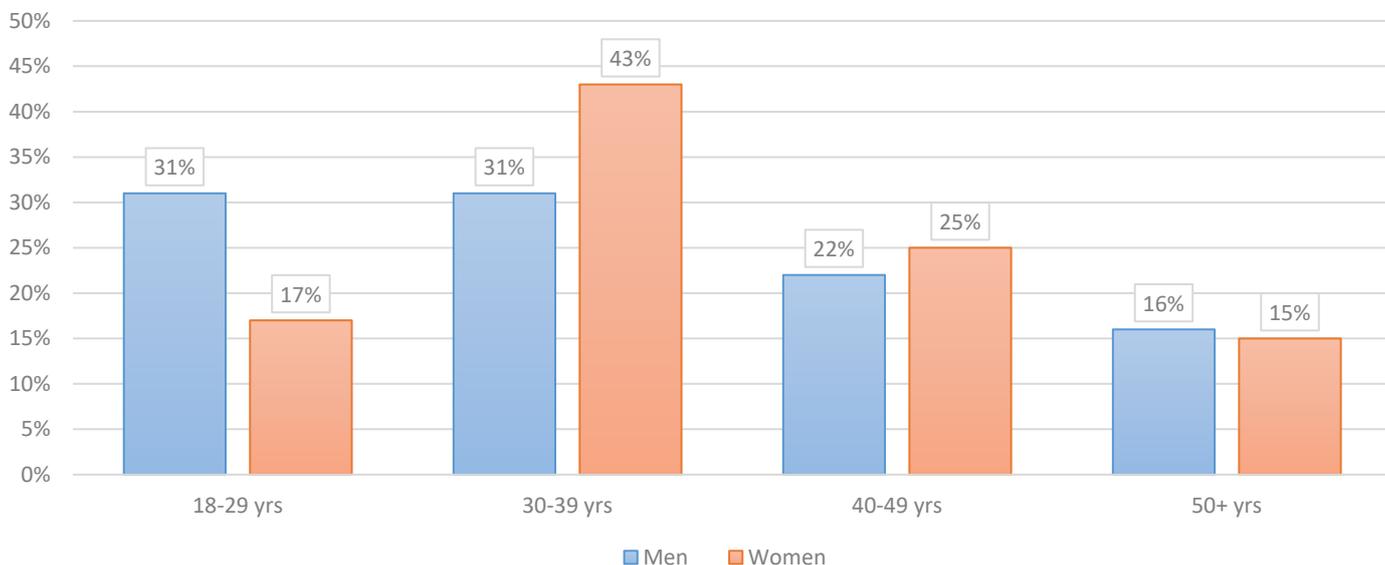
Around nine in ten individuals in contact with Liverpool CJIT in the year ending March 2023 stated they were men (n=711, 91%; *Figure 6*). This is an 8% increase on the previous twelve months and the largest proportion of men of the six-year period, as well as the largest across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 88%).

Figure 6: Gender of Liverpool CJIT contacts (individuals), 2017/18 - 2022/23



When comparing age group with gender in the year ending March 2023, there are some notable differences (*Figure 7*). There was a larger proportion of men than women aged 18-29 years (31% and 17% respectively), compared to a larger proportion of women than men aged 30-39 years (43% and 31% respectively). Proportions of men and women were similar for individuals aged 40-49 years (22% and 25% respectively) and 50 years or over (16% and 15% respectively).

Figure 7: Age group and gender of Liverpool CJIT contacts (individuals), 2022/23



ETHNICITY

Around nine in ten Liverpool CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2023 identified themselves as White British (n=707, 91%; *Figure 8*). This is a decrease on the previous year (94%), though it is in line with preceding years. Notably, this is the lowest proportion of the five Merseyside CJIT areas (Merseyside total: 93%).

Figure 8: Ethnicity of Liverpool CJIT contacts (individuals), 2022/23



707 (91%)

individuals identifying as White British

DISABILITY

Just over one in ten Liverpool residents in the year ending March 2023 considered themselves to have a disability (n=97, 12%; *Figure 9*). Although this is the largest proportion of clients stating they have a disability since the year ending March 2020 (16%), it is the smallest proportion of the five Merseyside areas (Merseyside total: 31%).

Figure 9: Disability status of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23

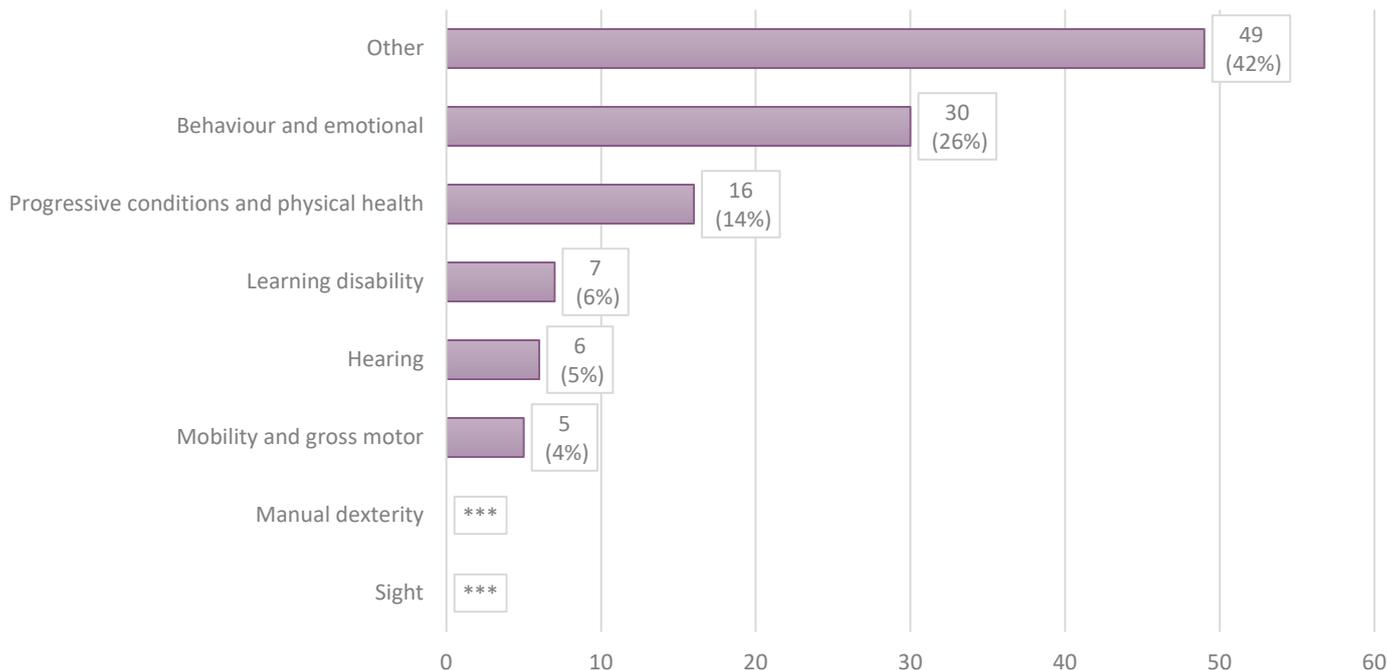


97 (12%)

clients consider themselves to have a disability

A total of 116 disabilities were recorded⁴; of which, just over two in five were recorded as other disability (n=49, 42%), while around one-quarter were a behaviour and emotional disability (n=30, 26%), and one in seven were progressive conditions and physical health disability (n=16, 14%; *Figure 10*).

Figure 10: Disabilities of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23



VETERAN

Around one in twenty Liverpool residents in the year ending March 2023 stated they were a veteran of the British Armed Forces (n=34, 4%; *Figure 11*). This is the largest proportion of clients stating they are a veteran since this was added to the CJIT dataset in April 2020.

Figure 11: Veteran status of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23



34 (4%)

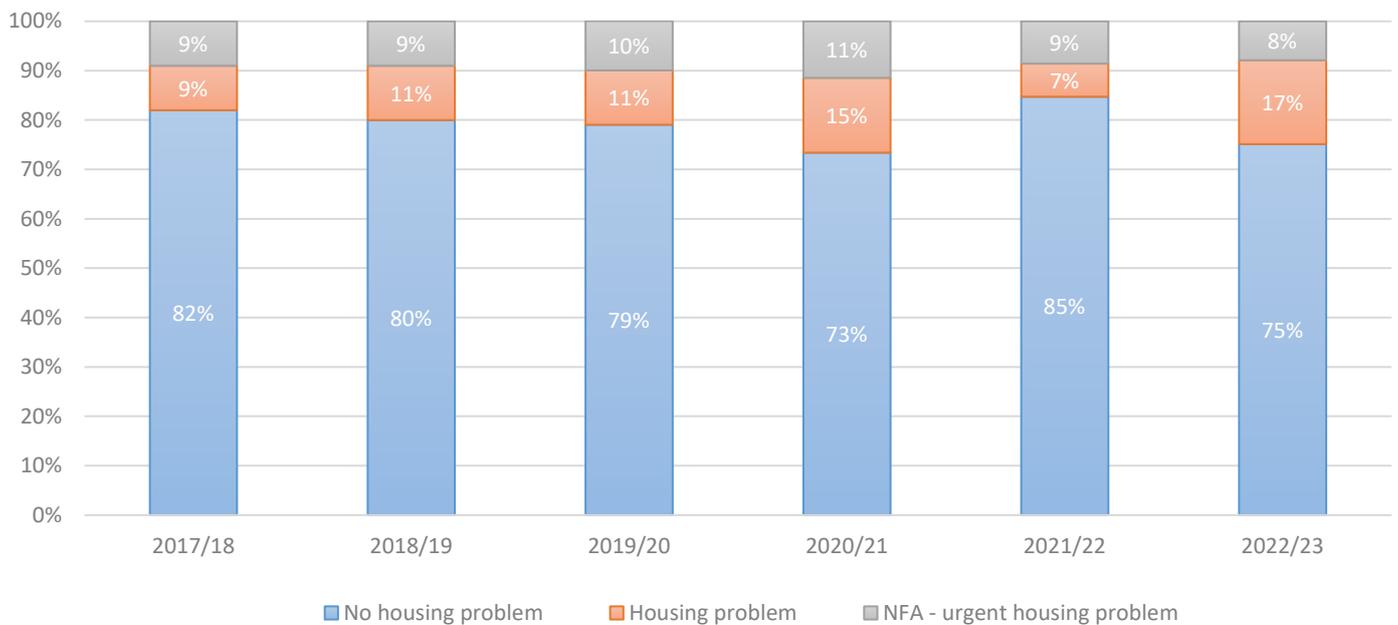
veterans of the British Armed Forces

⁴ Please note that clients may have up to three disabilities recorded.

HOUSING

While the majority of the Liverpool CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2023 reported no housing problem, a quarter had some form of a housing problem (n=205, 25%; *Figure 12*)⁵. This is the second largest proportion of clients reporting a housing problem of the six-year period, following the year ending March 2021 (27%; note the change in data recording), though it is smaller than the Merseyside figure (29%). Notably, the proportion of clients stating an urgent housing need due to being of no fixed abode (NFA)⁶ in 2022/23 (n=65, 8%) is the lowest of the six years and the same as the Merseyside total.

Figure 12: Housing need of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2022/23



In the year ending March 2023, just over two in five were in a rented home (n=344, 42%), followed by three in ten who reported other housing situations (n=250, 30%), a quarter who had no home of their own (n=205, 25%) and just 3% who owned their own home (n=25). Furthermore, one in ten of the total Liverpool residents reported they had a risk of homelessness in the next eight weeks (n=84, 10%).

⁵ Note that housing was updated in core dataset Q (April 2022) to capture details of clients' current housing situation (e.g., no home of their own - hostel, rented home only - self-contained - rents from a private landlord). These have been recoded as no housing problem, housing problem and NFA - urgent housing problem, in order to make comparisons to preceding years. Whether the client was threatened with homelessness (in the next 56 days, following assessment) was added to core dataset Q.

⁶ Non-urgent housing need includes: staying with friends/family short term, short stay hostel, short term B&B/hotel, placed in temporary accommodation by LA. Urgent housing need (NFA) includes: lives on streets/rough sleeper, uses night shelter (night-by-night basis)/emergency hostels, sofa surfing/sleeps on different friend's floor each night.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

In the year ending March 2023, around one in ten clients had parental responsibility for a child aged under 18 years (n=92, 11%; *Figure 13*). This is a decrease on the previous twelve-month period (16%) and is lower than the Merseyside figure (15%). Around half of the Liverpool CJIT contacts with parental responsibility had none of the children they are responsible for living with them the majority of the time (n=46, 51%), which is a decrease on the previous year (64%) and is lower than the Merseyside figure (61%).

Figure 13: Parental status of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23



92 (11%)

clients with parental responsibility

SUBSTANCE USE

Of the main substances reported by Liverpool residents in the year ending March 2023, three in ten reported cannabis as their main substance (n=244, 30%), followed by cocaine (n=234, 28%) and heroin (n=183, 22%; *Figure 14*). The proportion of cannabis increased substantially from 4% in the previous year, while proportions for other substances decreased. This change in trends can be attributed to the substantial increase in clients coming into contact with Liverpool CJIT through a Conditional Caution in 2022/23, by which around three in five (59%) reported cannabis as their main substance. Notably, the proportions of alcohol, crack and heroin in 2022/23 are smaller than the Merseyside figures (15%, 8% and 29% respectively), while the proportions of cannabis and cocaine are larger than the Merseyside figures (21% and 23% respectively), with cocaine the largest proportion of the Merseyside CJITs.

Figure 14: Main substances used by Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2022/23

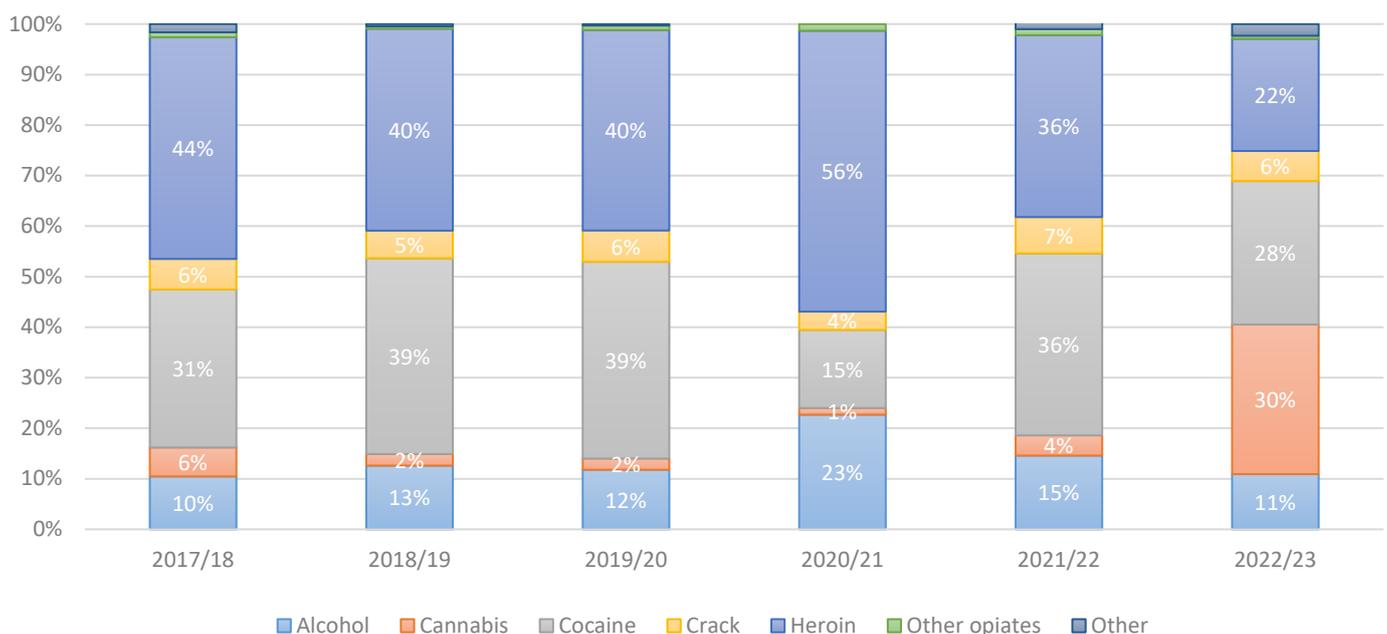


Figure 15 shows 2022/23 figures split by substance one, two and three. Around half reported their second substance as crack (n=160, 51%), while for the third substance, around two in five reported cannabis (n=24, 39%) and around three in ten reported alcohol (n=19, 31%).

Figure 15: Substances 1-3 used by Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23

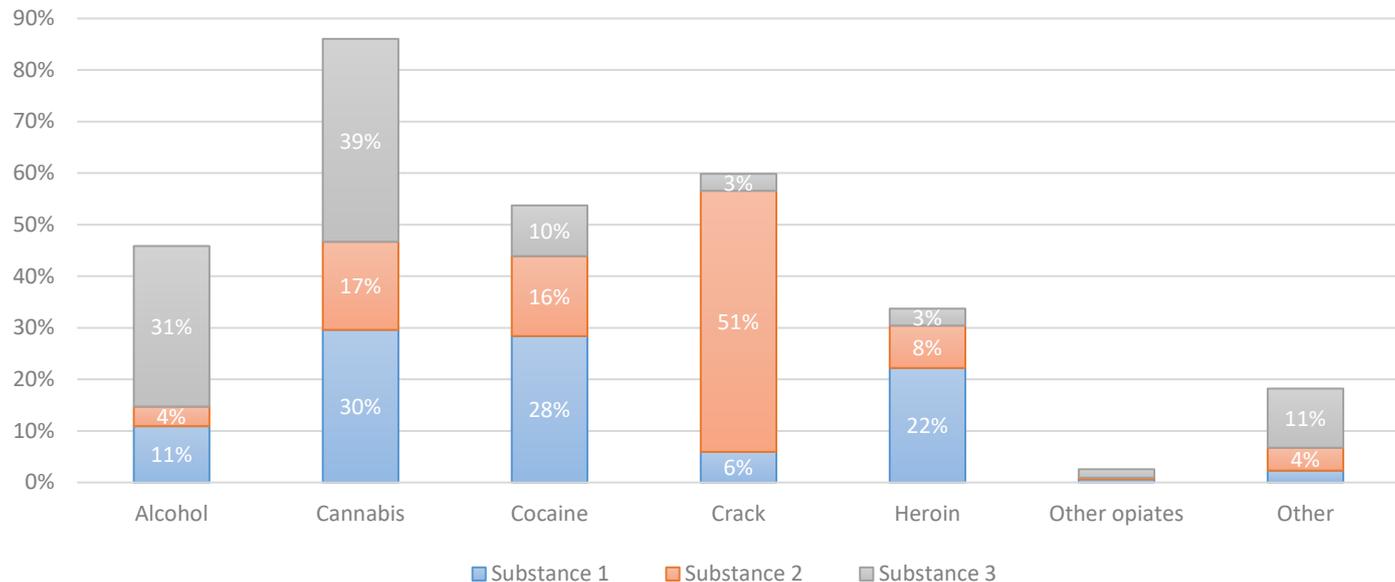


Figure 16 shows the proportions of the main substance by gender in the year ending March 2023. There were larger proportions of alcohol and heroin recorded as the main substance by women (34% and 41% respectively) when compared to men (8% and 20% respectively), while there were larger proportions of men who reported cannabis and cocaine (33% and 29% respectively) when compared to women (1% and 20% respectively). Notably, proportions were similar between men and women for crack.

Figure 16: Main substance and gender of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23

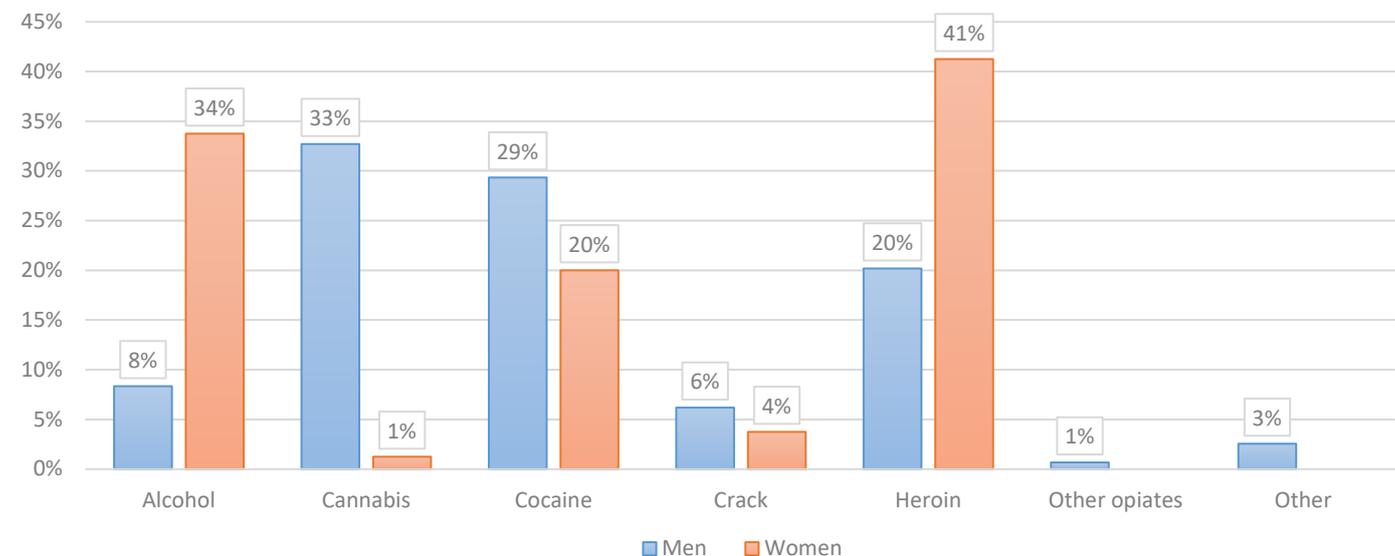
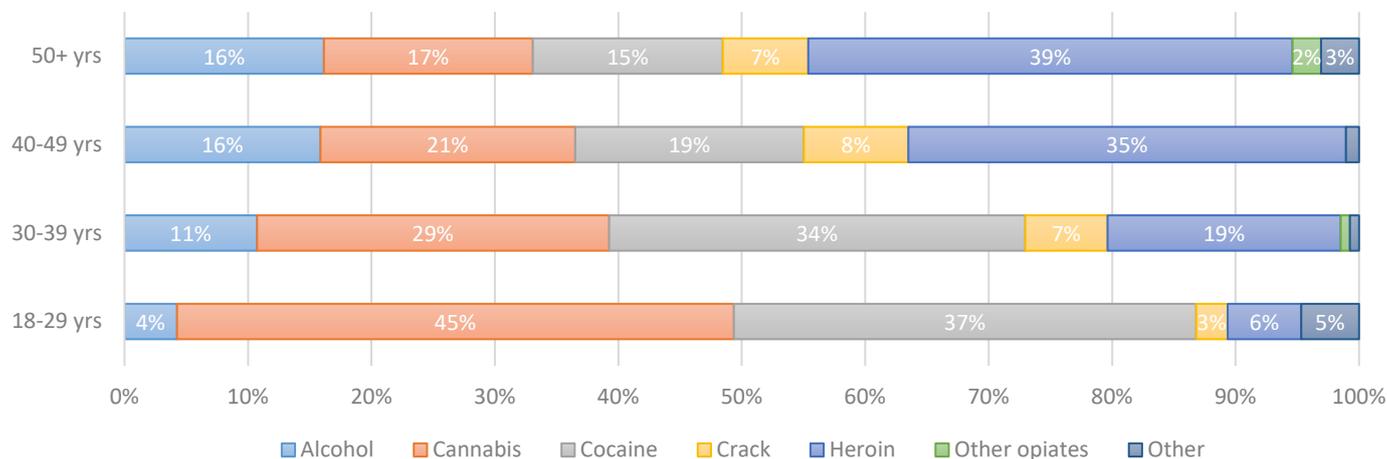


Figure 17 shows the proportions of the main substance for each age group in the year ending March 2023. Generally, there were larger proportions of cannabis and cocaine recorded as the main substance in the younger age groups and larger proportions of alcohol and heroin across the older age groups. Just under half (45%) and just over one in three (37%) 18-29 year olds reported cannabis and cocaine respectively as their main substance, and these proportions decreased as age increased. Proportions for alcohol were highest for clients aged 40-49 years and 50 years or over (both 16%), and around two in five (39%) clients aged 50 years or over reported heroin, which decreased as age decreased.

Figure 17: Main substance and age group of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23

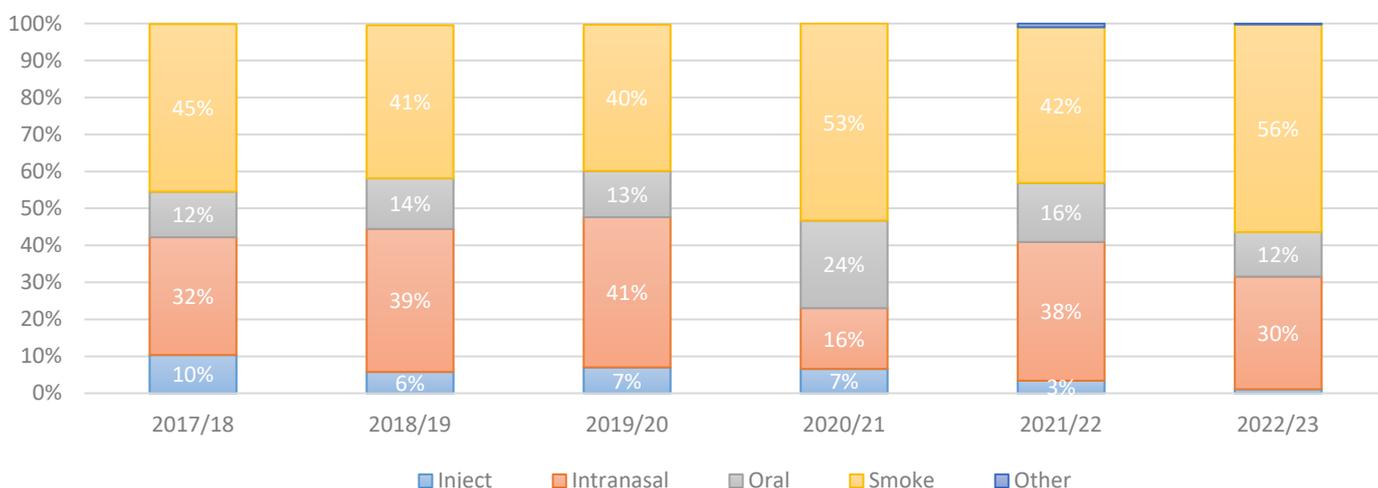


ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION

The route of administration of the main substance is shown in Figure 18. In the year ending March 2023, just under three in five of the Liverpool CJIT contacts smoked their main substance (n=463, 56%), while three in ten administered their main substance intranasally (n=251, 30%) and just over one in ten clients administered their main drug orally (n=99, 12%).

The proportion of clients in 2022/23 who smoked their main substance is the largest of the six-year period, though similar to the Merseyside figure (54%), while the proportions who administered their main substance intranasally and orally decreased when compared to the previous year. Liverpool CJIT contacts who used the intranasal method in the year ending March 2023, is the largest proportion across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 24%) and those who administered orally was, joint with another CJIT, the lowest of the Merseyside areas (Merseyside total: 17%).

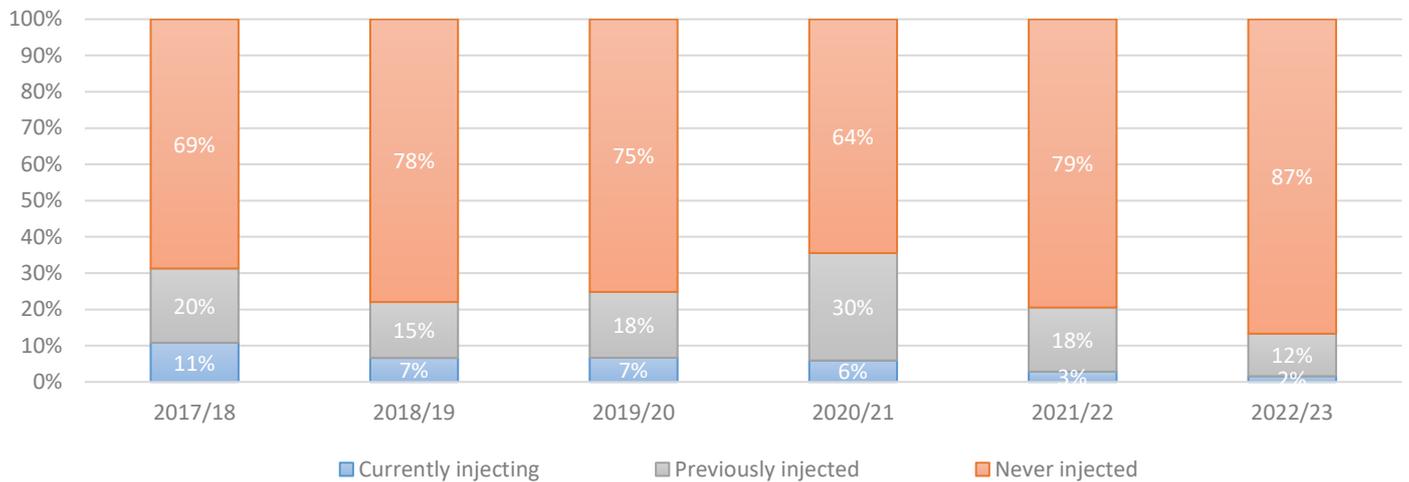
Figure 18: Route of administration of the main substance used by Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2022/23



INJECTING STATUS

Just under nine in ten Liverpool CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2023 stated they had never injected (n=710, 87%), which is the largest proportion of the six-year period (Figure 19) and greater than the Merseyside figure (81%). Just over one in ten clients in 2022/23 had previously injected but were not currently (n=96, 12%) and just 2% were currently injecting (n=13), both of which are the smallest proportions of the six years.

Figure 19: Injecting status of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2022/23



NALOXONE PROVISION

Just over two in five clients who reported an opioid as their main substance in 2022/23 were issued with naloxone (n=79, 42%), which is similar to the Merseyside figure (41%). Of the clients issued with naloxone, around three in five were supplied with injectable naloxone (n=47, 59%), while of the clients who were not issued with naloxone, just over three in five were offered naloxone but refused (n=68, 62%; Figure 20).

Figure 20: Issue of naloxone to Liverpool CJIT contacts who reported opiates as their main substance, 2022/23

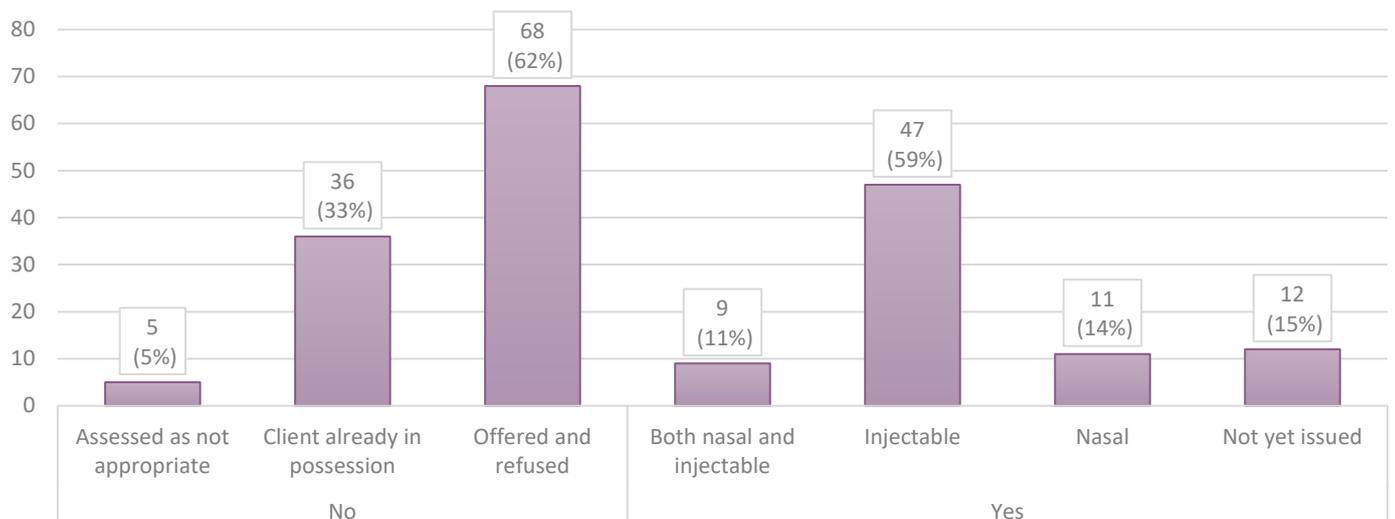
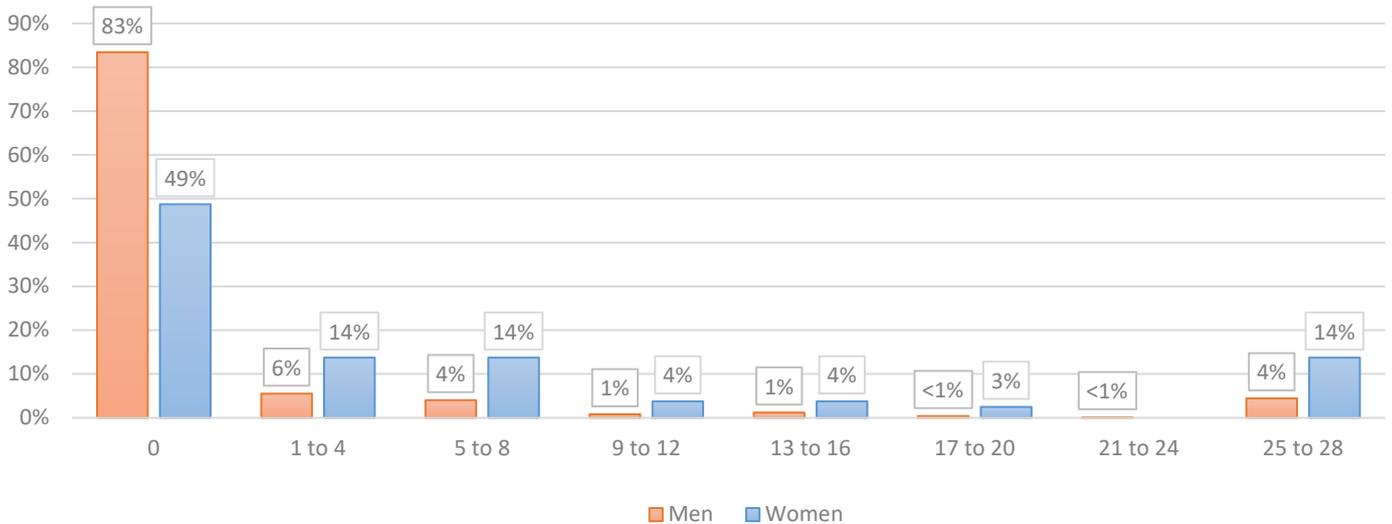


Figure 21 shows the number of days alcohol was consumed by Liverpool clients in the 28 days prior to their CJIT contact in the year ending March 2023. Over four in five men did not consume alcohol (n=620, 83%), which is a substantial increase on the previous twelve-month period (58%) and the largest proportion of the Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 66%).

For women, there were similar proportions who consumed alcohol (n=41, 51%) and did not consume alcohol (n=39, 49%) in the 28 days prior to their CJIT contact in 2022/23 (Figure 21). The proportion of women who consumed alcohol is an increase on the previous year (41%) and the largest proportion of the Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 45%).

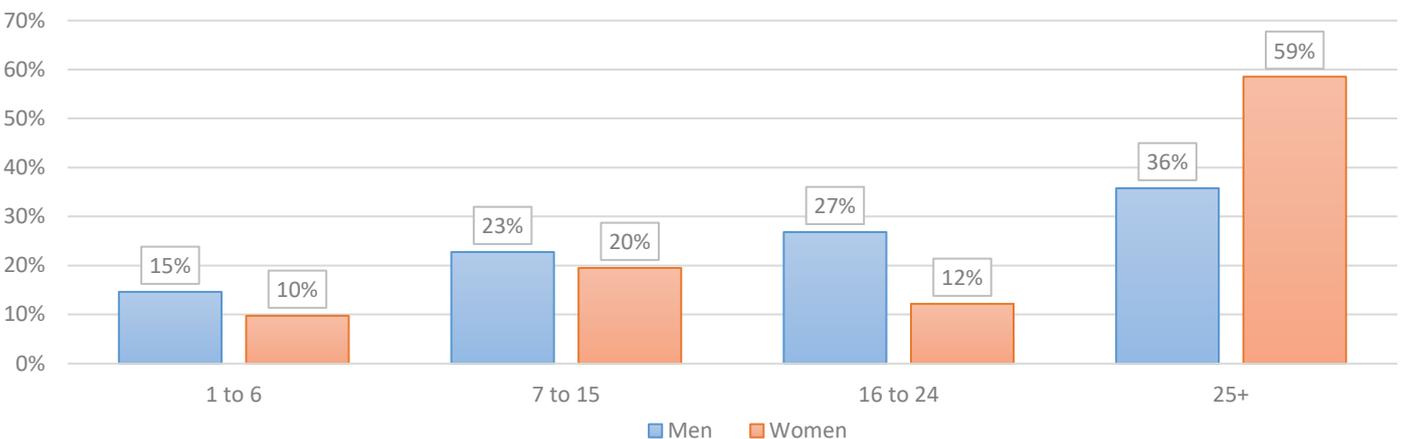
Figure 21: Number of drinking days in the 28 days prior to assessment for Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23



The daily average number of units of alcohol consumed by Liverpool residents in the 28 days prior to CJIT contact in the year ending March 2023 are shown in Figure 22. Of the 123 men who consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their assessment, over one in three consumed over 24 units of alcohol daily (n=44, 36%). This is an increase on the previous twelve-month period (24%) and the largest proportion across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 23%).

Of the 41 women who consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their assessment in the year ending March 2023, around three in five consumed over 24 units of alcohol daily (n=24, 59%; Figure 22). This is an increase on the previous twelve-month period (33%) and the largest proportion of the Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 39%).

Figure 22: Number of units of alcohol (daily average) consumed by Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23



OFFENDING

The offence that prompted Liverpool CJIT clients' current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system in the year ending March 2023 is shown in *Figure 23*. Around half of the offences were Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) offences (n=416, 51%)⁷, followed by just over one in five offences categorised as 'other' (n=179, 22%). The proportion of MDA offences is the largest of the five Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 38%), while the proportion of other offences is similar to the Merseyside figure (25%).

Figure 23: Offence that prompted current/most recent contact with the criminal justice system for Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23

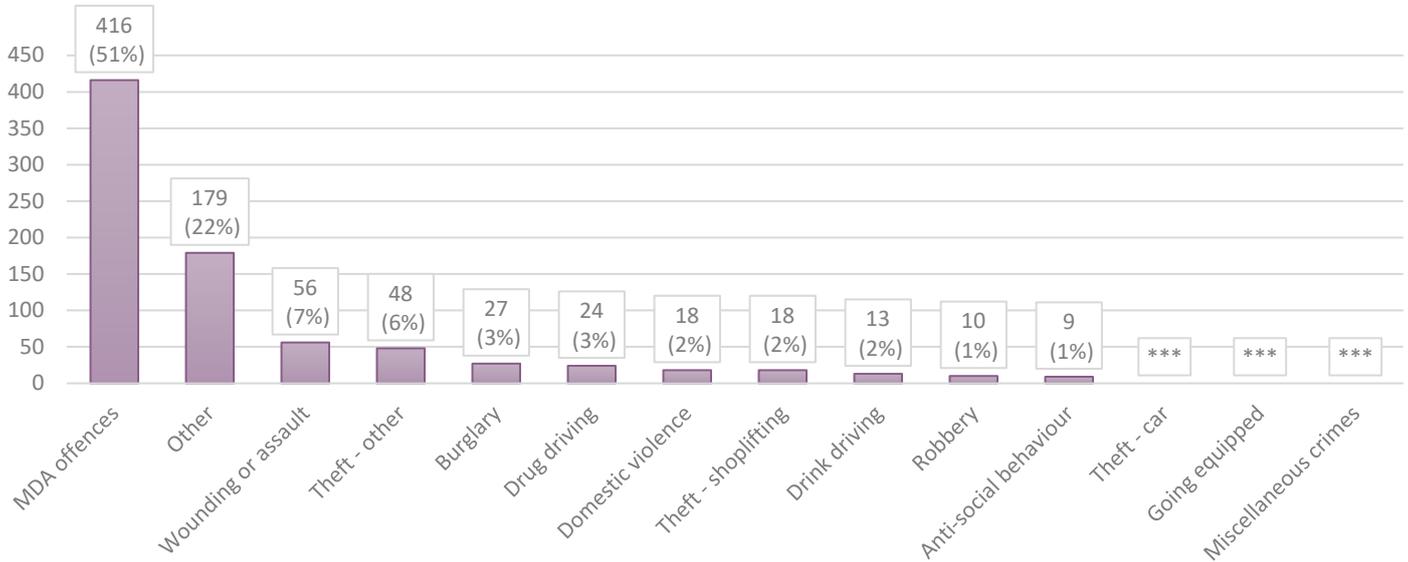
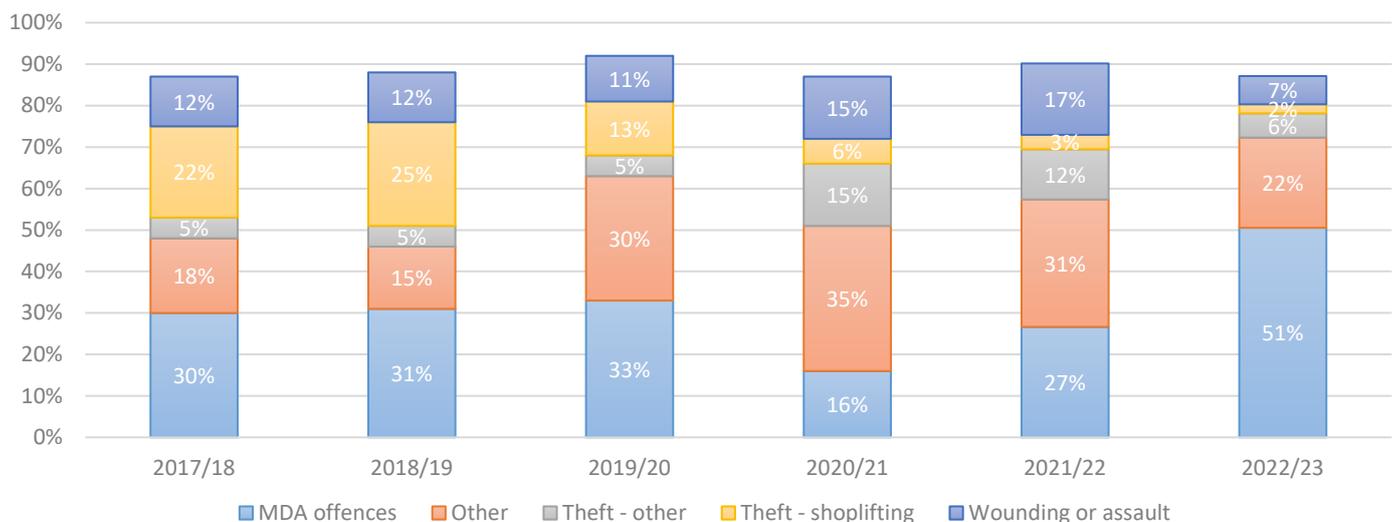


Figure 24 shows six-year trends of the main offending categories for Liverpool residents. There was a substantial increase in the proportion of MDA offences in the year ending March 2023, which is the largest proportion of the six years. Notably, all other offending categories in Figure 24 decreased in 2022/23⁸, with the proportion of wounding or assault the smallest of the six-year period.

Figure 24: Main offences that prompted current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system for Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2022/23

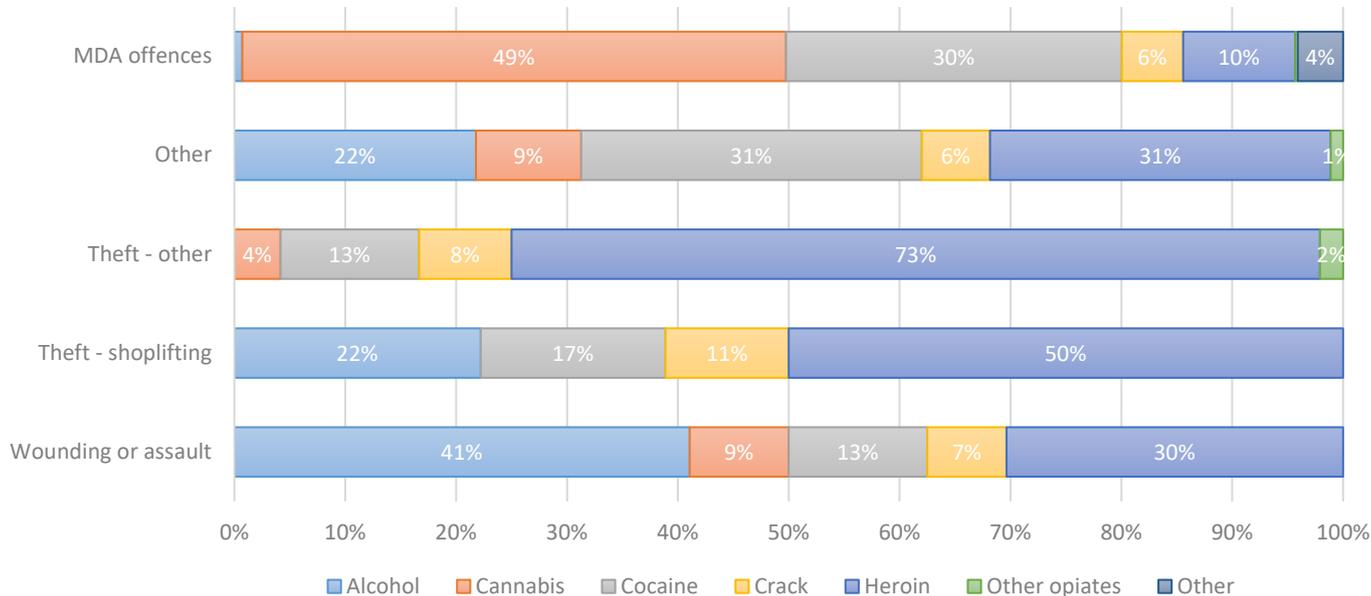


⁷ The majority of the MDA offences were possession (n=404, 97%), while the remainder were supply (n=12, 3%).

⁸ Note that anti-social behaviour, drink driving, drug driving and miscellaneous crimes against society were added as reference items to core dataset Q in April 2022, which may affect the trends of offences categorised as 'other'.

Figure 25 shows the proportions of the main substance for the most common offences recorded for Liverpool CJIT contacts assessed in the year ending March 2023. Of the episodes with MDA offences recorded, around half (49%) reported cannabis as the main substance, followed by cocaine (30%), while for other offences there were equal proportions of cocaine and heroin (both 31%). Just under three-quarters (73%) of theft - other and half (50%) of theft - shoplifting had heroin recorded as the main substance, while for wounding or assault, around two in five (41%) reported alcohol, followed by three in ten (30%) heroin.

Figure 25: Main substance and offence of Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23



REFERRALS TO STRUCTURED TREATMENT

Of the clients taken onto the CJIT caseload, 103 (99 individuals) were referred to structured treatment in the year ending March 2023 (Figure 26), which is a decrease on the 159 referrals (149 individuals) in the previous year⁹.

Figure 26: Referrals to structured treatment for Liverpool CJIT contacts, 2022/23



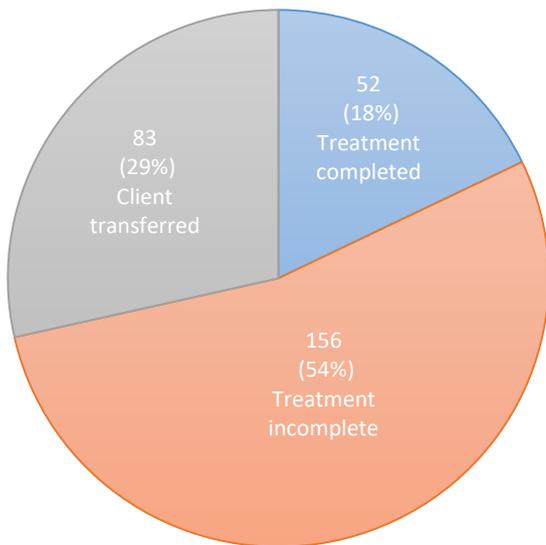
103 (99 individuals)
referrals to structured treatment

⁹ Clients not taken onto the CJIT caseload, and clients with the same caseload start date and discharge date as well as a 'prior to caseload' discharge reason (as these are deemed to have not been taken onto the CJIT caseload), have been excluded from these figures. Figures include referrals to structured treatment where the date was between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023, regardless of when the client was taken onto the CJIT caseload.

TREATMENT OUTCOMES

There were 471 clients (446 individuals) closed from the Liverpool CJIT caseload in the year ending March 2023¹⁰; however, only 62% of these had a valid 'from caseload' discharge reason recorded. Of the 291 clients with a 'from caseload' discharge reason recorded, over half did not complete treatment (n=156, 54%), while around three in ten transferred prior to the completion of treatment (n=83, 29%) and around one in six completed treatment (n=52, 18%; *Figure 27*). Notably, clients who dropped out of treatment accounted for 44% of the total number of discharges in the year.

Figure 27: Discharges from the Liverpool CJIT caseload, 2022/23



When compared to the other Merseyside areas, Liverpool had the largest proportion of clients who did not complete treatment (Merseyside total: 34%). Of the 156 Liverpool residents who did not complete treatment, over half were on the CJIT caseload for less than a month (n=84, 54%).

Of the 52 Liverpool residents who completed treatment successfully in the year ending March 2023, the average time on the CJIT caseload was 160 days (*Figure 28*), which is similar to the Merseyside average (154 days).

Figure 28: Average time on Liverpool CJIT caseload for clients who completed treatment, 2022/23



¹⁰ Figures include discharges from the CJIT caseload where the date was between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023, regardless of when the client was taken onto the caseload.

APPENDIX A: NOTES TO ACCOMPANY THIS REPORT

1. In 2020, Merseyside Police suspended drug testing in the custody suites for five months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This affected the proportion of Required Assessments carried out following a positive test for specified Class A drugs in the year ending March 2021.
2. The overview chapter (*Figures 1-3*) are for all Liverpool CJIT contacts in the year, while all other figures are for residents of Liverpool LA only, recorded by Liverpool CJIT.
3. Figures for age, gender and ethnicity are for individuals (*Figures 5-8*); however, this is not the case for other figures, as data may change for clients with more than one CJIT episode during the reporting year.
4. For instances where there are blank records or the client declines to answer, does not know or does not state a response, these have been excluded from the calculations; therefore, totals may not add up to the total number of CJIT contacts or individuals.
5. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.
6. Numbers less than five have been suppressed to maintain client confidentiality. Where there is only one number less than five in a category then two numbers have been suppressed to prevent back calculations from totals (e.g., <10).
7. The Merseyside figures are the totals recorded by all five Merseyside CJITs (Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral).
8. Throughout this report, cocaine includes cocaine hydrochloride and cocaine unspecified, while crack includes cocaine freebase (crack).
9. Supplementary data to support this report can be accessed here: [CJIT Activity in Merseyside: supplementary tables & charts \(end 2022/23\)](#).

APPENDIX B: RATES OF CJIT CONTACTS PER 100,000 ADULT POPULATION IN MERSEYSIDE, 2022/23

In the year ending March 2023, 135.8 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Merseyside were assessed by one of the local CJITs. Liverpool had both the highest number of individuals in contact with the CJIT in the twelve months ending March 2023 and the largest rate (194.9 per 100,000)¹¹.

CJIT/LA	CJIT contacts (individuals)	
	Number	Rate (per 100,000 adult population)
Knowsley	148	121.0
Liverpool	784	194.9
Sefton	203	89.2
St Helens	202	136.6
Wirral	249	97.0
<i>Total Merseyside residents (individuals)</i>	<i>1,571</i>	<i>135.8</i>



¹¹ Rates have been calculated using [mid-2022 population estimates](#) for each LA for adults aged 18 years or over. Figures show the residents of each of the CJIT areas (individuals only) i.e., Liverpool residents recorded by Liverpool CJIT.

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About the Public Health Institute

The Public Health Institute (PHI) within the Faculty of Health, Liverpool John Moores University, specialises in applied research and educational programmes addressing health issues at all levels from policy development to service delivery. PHI is committed to a multidisciplinary approach to public health and works in partnership with health services, local authorities, judicial bodies, environmental services, and community groups.

Influencing health service design and delivery, as well as health related policy, PHI's research has been at the forefront of the development of multi-agency strategies to promote and protect public health. PHI turns information and data into meaningful and timely intelligence.

Intelligence and Surveillance Team

The Intelligence and Surveillance Team provides data collection and monitoring systems to support public health reporting, evidence review, evaluation and research. The team have extensive experience across various datasets which contribute to the surveillance systems developed and managed by PHI.

DIP and criminal justice monitoring

PHI has been monitoring criminal justice interventions for offenders who use drugs and/or alcohol since the implementation of the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) in 2003. The Institute is commissioned to deliver the intelligence and surveillance of data collected for clients in contact with DIP across Merseyside.

The Intelligence and Surveillance Team has access to Merseyside Police records for drug tests carried out for specified Class A drugs in the custody suites and the criminal justice dataset, which collects information on clients in contact with the Criminal Justice Intervention Teams (CJITs) across Merseyside's treatment providers. Drug testing records are matched with the criminal justice dataset across the five Merseyside Local Authority areas, using a client attributor. This enables the monitoring of performance, identifying when individuals have attended their Required Assessment and engaged with DIP, and highlight any issues with the DIP process.

Intelligence is collated and presented through monthly and annual reports, and ad-hoc reporting in response to data requests. In partnership with commissioners, treatment providers and Merseyside Police, DIP monitoring in Merseyside has been continually developing to meet local needs.

