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Drugs and criminal justice

- 6.1 Drug-related offences and court proceedings
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6.1 Drug-related offences and court proceedings

Statistics on drug-related offences recorded by the police are available from quarterly statistical returns made by the Scottish police forces to the Scottish Executive Justice Department.

Statistics on persons prosecuted for drug-related offences are available from the Scottish Executive Justice Department's court proceedings database. They are derived from the information on court proceedings held on the police operational computer at the Scottish Criminal Record Office.

Offences are recorded in the year in which the offender was sentenced, which will in many cases not be the year in which the offence was committed. If a person was sentenced for drugs offences on more than one occasion during a single year, each occasion is recorded separately. Offenders with more than one offence (dealt with at the same court appearance) are counted as a single offender in the total number of offenders, and are classified by the main offence (i.e. the one with the severest penalty).

Court proceedings data for 2000 was not available at the time of publication.

97 Drug-related offences recorded by Scottish police forces : 1997 - 2000

(mainly Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 offences); council area¹, number and rate per 100 000 population

	1997		1998		1999		2000	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Scotland	29 386	574	31 460	614	31 870	623	31 431	615
Aberdeen City	1 675	776	1 694	795	1 617	760	1 334	631
Aberdeenshire	974	430	892	394	717	315	724	319
Angus	371	337	430	391	458	417	306	280
Argyll & Bute	315	348	420	467	372	415	450	507
Ayrshire East	517	424	615	507	773	639	787	652
Ayrshire North	669	479	798	571	721	517	845	609
Ayrshire South	564	491	777	679	752	658	537	471
Borders	383	361	342	322	719	676	733	686
Clackmannanshire	212	434	290	597	232	478	234	483
Dumfries & Galloway	1 041	707	790	536	700	477	448	307
Dunbartonshire East	277	250	321	293	284	257	318	287
Dunbartonshire West	702	734	681	718	515	542	712	753
Dundee City	744	500	871	594	738	511	707	495
Edinburgh City	2 481	551	1 928	428	2 927	648	2 858	630
Eilean Siar	56	198	98	351	83	301	47	173
Falkirk	581	406	700	486	680	471	624	432
Fife	1 939	557	2 148	616	1 508	432	1 248	356
Glasgow City	6 995	1 144	8 224	1 327	7 791	1 274	8 845	1 451
Highland	1 331	638	1 051	505	1 296	621	926	444
Inverclyde	847	979	793	929	769	903	901	1 065
Lanarkshire North	1 831	561	1 939	593	2 175	663	1 817	555
Lanarkshire South	1 182	385	1 218	397	1 482	482	1 512	492
Lothian East	185	208	174	194	208	230	340	372
Lothian West	657	431	630	412	907	586	865	552
Midlothian	410	508	283	350	326	399	402	489
Moray	228	265	256	298	288	338	261	307
Orkney Islands	37	186	54	276	58	296	29	149
Perth & Kinross	685	514	885	665	784	585	611	457
Renfrewshire	866	486	1 437	808	1 198	676	1 073	606
Renfrewshire East	225	254	285	324	312	349	428	477
Shetland Islands	66	287	74	323	95	418	82	365
Stirling	340	407	362	435	385	455	427	501

¹ Where the offence was detected or reported.

Source : The Scottish Executive Justice Department recorded crime series.

98 Drug-related offences recorded by Scottish police forces ; type of offence : 2000

(mainly Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 offences), council area¹

	Number				Rate per 100 000 population			
	Possession with intent to supply	Possession	Other ²	Total	Possession with intent to supply	Possession	Other ²	Total ³
Scotland	8 645	22 191	595	31 431	169	434	12	615
Aberdeen City	402	921	11	1 334	190	436	5	631
Aberdeenshire	152	566	6	724	67	249	3	319
Angus	80	225	1	306	73	206	1	280
Argyll & Bute	79	355	16	450	89	400	18	507
Ayrshire East	227	554	6	787	188	459	5	652
Ayrshire North	197	638	10	845	142	459	7	609
Ayrshire South	81	455	1	537	71	399	1	471
Borders	239	484	10	733	224	453	9	686
Clackmannanshire	68	165	1	234	140	340	2	483
Dumfries & Galloway	215	228	5	448	147	156	3	307
Dunbartonshire East	83	233	2	318	75	210	2	287
Dunbartonshire West	183	525	4	712	193	555	4	753
Dundee City	188	517	2	707	132	362	1	495
Edinburgh City	824	1 992	42	2 858	182	439	9	630
Eilean Siar	10	37	-	47	37	136	-	173
Falkirk	217	401	6	624	150	278	4	432
Fife	448	786	14	1 248	128	224	4	356
Glasgow City	2 408	6 066	371	8 845	395	995	61	1 451
Highland	154	758	14	926	74	363	7	444
Inverclyde	266	626	9	901	314	740	11	1 065
Lanarkshire North	449	1 357	11	1 817	137	414	3	555
Lanarkshire South	267	1 230	15	1 512	87	400	5	492
Lothian East	99	238	3	340	108	261	3	372
Lothian West	291	564	10	865	186	360	6	552
Midlothian	77	318	7	402	94	387	9	489
Moray	71	189	1	261	84	222	1	307
Orkney Islands	4	25	-	29	21	128	-	149
Perth & Kinross	255	355	1	611	191	266	1	457
Renfrewshire	351	716	6	1 073	198	405	3	606
Renfrewshire East	110	310	8	428	123	345	9	477
Shetland Islands	26	56	-	82	116	250	-	365
Stirling	124	301	2	427	146	353	2	501

1 Where the offence was detected or reported.

2 Includes illegal importation of drugs, production and manufacture of drugs, money laundering related offences, and other drug-related offences.

3 Components may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source : The Scottish Executive Justice Department recorded crime series.

99 | Persons convicted of drug offences in Scottish courts¹ : 1990 - 1999

type of offence and age of convicted person

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
All convicted persons² (=100%)	3 021	3 789	4 114	4 675	5 386	5 599	6 183	7 005	6 918	6 400
<i>percentage</i>										
Under 16 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 20 years	29	35	36	33	30	27	24	22	23	22
21 - 25 years	36	33	34	36	35	34	32	33	30	28
26 - 30 years	20	18	17	17	20	19	22	22	23	22
31 - 35 years	9	8	7	8	9	10	12	12	13	15
36 - 40 years	4	4	4	4	3	5	6	6	6	7
Over 40 years	3	3	2	2	3	4	4	4	5	5
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average age	25	24	24	24	25	25	26	26	26	27
Possession with intent to supply (=100%)	491	593	655	825	919	1 064	1 383	1 490	1 529	1 466
<i>percentage</i>										
Under 16 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 20 years	16	23	28	27	24	18	20	18	17	18
21 - 25 years	37	28	30	31	32	33	28	31	27	25
26 - 30 years	24	24	21	20	22	24	23	24	24	22
31 - 35 years	11	10	9	10	13	11	14	13	16	17
36 - 40 years	5	8	7	7	4	6	9	7	7	9
Over 40 years	5	7	5	5	5	7	7	7	8	9
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average age	27	27	26	26	26	27	27	27	28	29
Possession (=100%)	2 497	3 172	3 421	3 765	4 338	4 420	4 634	5 384	5 291	4 841
<i>percentage</i>										
Under 16 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 20 years	32	37	38	35	32	30	26	24	25	24
21 - 25 years	36	33	35	37	36	35	33	34	31	29
26 - 30 years	19	17	16	16	19	18	22	22	22	22
31 - 35 years	8	7	7	7	8	9	11	12	12	14
36 - 40 years	4	3	3	3	3	4	5	5	6	6
Over 40 years	2	2	1	2	2	4	3	3	4	4
Average age	24	24	23	24	24	25	25	26	26	26
Other² (=100%)	33	24	38	85	129	115	166	131	98	93
<i>percentage</i>										
Under 16 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 20 years	9	21	16	18	12	10	11	10	5	3
21 - 25 years	30	29	37	35	29	26	20	16	17	12
26 - 30 years	27	25	21	28	26	23	20	23	21	22
31 - 35 years	15	13	13	13	13	20	20	21	27	23
36 - 40 years	9	8	11	1	8	9	17	13	14	20
Over 40 years	9	4	3	5	12	13	12	18	15	20
Average age	29	26	27	26	29	30	31	32	32	34

1 Where main offence.

2 Includes illegal importation of drugs, production and manufacture of drugs, money laundering related offences, and other drug-related offences.

Source : The Scottish Executive Justice Department court proceedings database.

100 | Persons convicted of drug offences in Scottish courts¹ : 1990 - 1999

type of offence and sentence

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000
All convicted persons² (=100%)	3 021	3 789	4 114	4 675	5 386	5 599	6 183	7 005	6 918	6 400
<i>percentage</i>										
Males	91	92	92	92	91	91	89	89	88	87
Females	9	8	8	8	9	9	11	11	12	13
Possession with intent to supply (=100%)	491	593	655	825	919	1 064	1 383	1 490	1 529	1 466
<i>percentage</i>										
Admonition/ Caution	5	5	6	5	3	2	3	3	3	2
Absolute discharge/ No order made	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community Service	18	21	19	20	20	19	17	19	21	21
Probation	7	5	7	8	10	8	8	11	11	14
Fine	27	24	24	19	19	19	13	13	14	14
Custody - Less than 6 months	6	6	6	6	7	9	14	15	14	13
Custody - 6 months to 2 years	21	23	21	24	26	26	26	22	21	19
Custody - Over 2 years	17	14	15	18	13	16	18	17	15	17
Other ²	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Possession (=100%)	2 497	3 172	3 421	3 765	4 338	4 420	4 634	5 384	5 291	4 841
<i>percentage</i>										
Admonition/ Caution	11	10	10	8	9	9	7	7	8	10
Absolute discharge/ No order made	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Community Service	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	3	2	2
Probation/ SAO ³	2	2	1	1	2	2	3	4	4	5
Fine	82	83	84	86	86	84	83	82	81	78
Custody - Less than 6 months	3	3	3	2	2	3	4	4	4	4
Custody - 6 months to 2 years	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Custody - Over 2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other ²	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other⁴ (=100%)	33	24	38	85	129	115	166	131	98	93
<i>percentage</i>										
Admonition/ Caution	3	8	18	7	9	4	8	11	4	5
Absolute discharge/ No order made	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Community Service	12	-	3	5	10	11	17	15	16	18
Probation	-	-	3	4	2	3	5	4	7	11
Fine	82	83	68	80	72	64	55	58	51	53
Custody - Less than 6 months	3	-	-	1	2	3	4	5	8	4
Custody - 6 months to 2 years	-	8	8	2	2	12	8	6	8	6
Custody - Over 2 years	-	-	-	1	3	2	2	1	5	2
Other ²	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

1 Where main offence.

2 Other outcomes consist of remits to childrens' hearings, hospital and guardianship orders, insanity and compensation orders.

3 There were two supervised attendance orders imposed for possession in 1997.

4 Includes illegal importation of drugs, production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs, money laundering related offences, and other drugs-related offences.

Source : The Scottish Executive Justice Department court proceedings database.

101 | Persons convicted of drug offences¹ in Sheriff courts : 1999

	Possession with intent to supply			Possession			Other ²
	Number	Percentage custodial sentence	Percentage aged under 21	Number	Percentage custodial sentence	Percentage aged under 21	Number
Scotland	1 169	39	21	3 060	7	20	85
Aberdeen	83	30	37	195	8	24	2
Airdrie	33	61	12	118	6	25	2
Alloa	25	52	16	19	-	5	1
Arbroath	9	33	33	29	3	34	3
Ayr	27	56	26	110	10	20	1
Banff	2	-	100	20	15	40	1
Campbeltown	1	-	100	14	-	21	-
Cupar	9	11	11	5	-	40	-
Dingwall	6	83	17	24	-	17	1
Dornoch	-	-	-	1	-	100	-
Dumbarton	28	32	32	82	1	12	1
Dumfries	20	40	45	30	-	23	3
Dundee	21	29	10	77	4	16	-
Dunfermline	26	35	15	49	2	27	7
Dunoon	5	80	-	17	-	12	2
Duns	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Edinburgh	112	45	19	330	5	18	8
Elgin	12	58	25	41	-	29	2
Falkirk	28	32	25	45	7	18	3
Forfar	6	17	17	17	-	35	2
Fort William	5	60	40	10	10	10	-
Glasgow	357	41	17	733	11	13	10
Greenock	39	46	15	160	6	21	-
Haddington	6	67	17	27	4	19	-
Hamilton	46	17	11	173	2	20	2
Inverness	10	30	10	51	10	14	2
Jedburgh	4	100	-	3	-	33	-
Kilmarnock	38	58	26	108	14	26	4
Kirkcaldy	31	23	19	59	5	22	6
Kirkcudbright	3	67	33	14	7	21	2
Kirkwall	5	60	-	7	-	29	-
Lanark	8	25	25	24	8	38	2
Lerwick	2	-	50	12	8	50	-
Linlithgow	29	10	28	60	7	17	3
Lochmaddy	-	-	-	8	-	-	-
Oban	4	50	50	34	3	38	-
Paisley	31	52	19	122	6	23	2
Peebles	1	100	100	8	-	50	-
Perth	49	24	14	46	7	7	1
Peterhead	8	50	13	35	11	34	-
Portree	1	100	-	1	-	100	-
Rothesay	-	-	-	6	-	67	-
Selkirk	3	-	67	12	-	17	5
Stirling	16	44	19	29	7	21	1
Stonehaven	3	67	33	10	-	30	1
Stornoway	5	20	60	24	4	46	-
Stranraer	5	60	40	39	8	23	-
Tain	4	-	50	13	8	38	2
Wick	2	-	-	8	-	25	3

1 Where main offence.

2 Includes illegal importation of drugs, production and manufacture of drugs, money laundering related offences, and other drug-related offences.

Source : The Scottish Executive Justice Department court proceedings database.

102 | Persons convicted of drugs offences¹ in District courts : 1999

	Possession			Other ³
	Number	Percentage custodial sentence	Percentage aged under 21	Number
Scotland	1 710	-	31	-
Aberdeen City	94	1	36	-
Aberdeenshire	73	-	33	-
Angus	63	-	30	-
Argyll & Bute	7	-	29	-
Ayrshire East	54	-	31	-
Ayrshire North	58	-	47	-
Ayrshire South	109	-	27	-
Borders	40	-	13	-
Clackmannanshire	11	-	45	-
Dumfries & Galloway	27	-	30	-
Dunbartonshire East	23	-	61	-
Dunbartonshire West	49	-	33	-
Dundee City	109	-	21	-
Edinburgh City	45	-	-	-
Eilean Siar	-	-	18	-
Falkirk	48	-	29	-
Fife	73	-	30	-
Glasgow City ²	181	1	32	-
Highland	91	-	25	-
Inverclyde	33	-	55	-
Lanarkshire North	195	1	37	-
Lanarkshire South	94	-	31	-
Lothian East	5	-	60	-
Lothian West	47	-	26	-
Midlothian	13	-	38	-
Moray	29	-	24	-
Perth & Kinross	43	-	35	-
Renfrewshire	64	-	28	-
Renfrewshire East	10	-	50	-
Stirling	22	-	23	-

1 Where main offence

2 In addition, there were 74 convictions for possession of drugs in the Stipendiary Magistrates Court, 3% of which resulted in custodial sentences, and 23% of which involved persons aged under 21.

3 Includes illegal importation of drugs, production and manufacture of drugs, money laundering related offences, and other drug-related offences.

Source : The Scottish Executive Justice Department court proceedings database.

6.2 Seizures of controlled drugs

This section provides a selection of information on seizures of drugs controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

The source of statistics concerned with seizures of controlled drugs is a range of bulletins published annually by the Home Office under the general title “Statistics of drug seizures and offenders dealt with”. The figures relating to Scotland are published in the “Scotland Tables” which may be obtained from the Home Office at the address given on page 155.

The statistics of seizures cover seizures made during the year by police and by officials of HM Customs and Excise and other bodies. Seizures involving more than one drug are counted as a single seizure in the total number of seizures but are counted separately against each individual drug or drug class involved. Annual movements in quantities are often heavily affected by a small number of very large seizures. It should also be noted that changes in drug seizures do not necessarily imply similar changes in the prevalence of the misuse of controlled drugs. Drug misuse is a largely clandestine activity and the numbers of seizures are affected by both by changes in the amount, direction and effectiveness of enforcement effort and by changes in recording procedures.

The number of drug seizures in Scotland rose nearly four-fold between 1985 and 1995 ([Table 103](#)), and increased by a further 40 per cent by 1998. However, in 1999 there was a fall of 4.9 per cent in Scotland compared to 11.5 per cent across the UK as a whole (excluding HM Customs & Excise).

This is the first such recorded fall and is probably due to two main factors. Firstly, in recent years law enforcement agencies have been focusing more of their attention on Class A drugs such as heroin, cocaine and crack cocaine, in line with the aims of the UK Drug Strategy. Secondly, many ‘stops and searches’ under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 result in quantities of illegal drugs being recovered, usually Class B drugs such as cannabis and amphetamines. Following the publication in February 2001 of the MacPherson Report on the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, there was a substantial fall in the number of such ‘stops and searches’, and hence in drug seizures (see Corkery 2001).

These facts are demonstrated by [Table 105](#), which gives a breakdown of drug seizures over time by main drug type. It can be seen that the number of Class A seizures by Scottish police increased by 12.4 per cent between 1998 and 1999, whilst the number of Class B seizures fell by 7.4 per cent. There were increases in the number of seizures of heroin, cocaine, crack cocaine, ecstasy-type drugs, herbal cannabis and benzodiazepines during this period. Seizures of amphetamines and cannabis resin (the main form of cannabis recovered) fell substantially.

The number of seizures, however, is not necessarily reflective of the quantity of drugs recovered. [Table 105](#) also shows that the quantities of heroin, cocaine and methadone seized in Scotland reached record levels in 1999. Of particular note is the fact that the amount of heroin confiscated in 1999 was 5 times the quantity seized the previous year, itself a record. Between 1998 and 1999, there were also moderate increases in the seizures of crack cocaine, LSD and benzodiazepines. The quantity recovered of all forms of cannabis declined in 1999, as did the amount of amphetamines. The quantity of herbal cannabis seized fell to its lowest level for many years. It is important to note that large seizures can disproportionately affect the quantities seized, leading to large changes from year to year; an effect shown by the quantities of ecstasy-type drugs seized since 1995.

[Table 104](#) shows that the number of seizures of different drug types does not appear to be necessarily related to the number of inhabitants in a police force area. For example, Grampian Police made more seizures of crack cocaine than Strathclyde Police; the number of heroin seizures in Strathclyde were proportionately much higher than those in other police force areas.

Similarly, with regard to amounts recovered, the patterns do not always relate to population densities. For example, there were more ecstasy-type drugs recovered by the Lothian & Borders and Dumfries & Galloway forces than by Strathclyde Police. Quantities of cannabis resin seized are fairly even across all force areas, apart from Strathclyde which dominates the picture, as it does also with heroin and cocaine.

References

Corkery, J.M. (2001). Drug seizure and offender statistics, United Kingdom, 1999. *Statistical Bulletin 5/01*. London: Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate.

103 | Seizures of controlled drugs : 1985, 1990, 1995 - 1999

police force area or other organisation¹

	1985	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Police and other authorities							
Scotland	3 242	5 990	12 661	13 862	16 583	17 804	16 927
Central	78	283	633	589	598	829	604
Dumfries & Galloway	45	119	414	453	444	509	415
Fife	103	243	526	498	659	655	536
Grampian	220	324	1 125	1 391	1 518	1 682	1 467
Lothian & Borders	546	805	728	1 472	2 374	2 420	2 677
Northern	192	248	463	472	556	399	644
Strathclyde	1 848	3 463	7 937	7 990	9 370	10 045	9 529
Tayside	210	486	835	970	1 049	1 261	1 055
Other authorities	**	19	-	27	15	4	-
England	21 767	45 190	88 628	93 156	105 376	113 753	98 810
Wales	1 452	2 102	5 561	5 870	8 343	9 564	7 732
Northern Ireland	219	172	846	1 291	1 201	1 508	2 108
British Transport Police	**	**	**	**	1 006	1 276	1 639
Regional Crime Squad	**	**	**	**	128	68	161
Force missing, not recorded ²	**	**	-	-	-	-	-
UK Total	29 922	53 454	107 696	114 179	132 637	143 973	127 377
HM Customs & Excise	3 786	7 405	6 844	7 949	6 727	7 753	5 209
Total - all seizures	33 708	60 859	114 540	122 128	139 364	151 726	132 586

1 Seizures from joint operations involving HM Customs & Excise and the police are generally recorded against HM Customs & Excise. Seizures made by the Scottish Crime Squad are recorded by the appropriate police force.

2 Among English and Welsh police forces; not recorded before 1993.

** Not available

Source : Home Office.

104 | Seizures¹ of controlled drugs (number and quantity seized) ; drug type : 1999

police force area or other organisation²

NUMBER OF SEIZURES

	All drugs Total	Class A Drugs						Other	Total Class A
		Cocaine	Crack cocaine	Heroin	LSD	Ecstasy- type	Methadone		
Police and other authorities									
Scotland	16 927	327	34	2 513	54	748	113	77	3 652
Central	604	3	-	91	1	13	1	1	108
Dumfries & Galloway	415	3	-	132	3	11	1	1	147
Fife	536	2	-	59	2	23	-	1	85
Grampian	1 467	35	19	238	11	105	6	4	387
Lothian & Borders	2 677	66	-	190	6	175	38	13	444
Northern	644	6	-	20	2	33	2	1	60
Strathclyde	9 529	206	14	1 752	25	324	58	45	2 300
Tayside	1 055	6	1	31	4	64	7	11	121
Force not specified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
England	98 810	4 293	2 350	11 795	322	4 806	1 024	559	22 356
Wales	7 732	62	15	434	46	356	30	109	999
Northern Ireland	2 108	24	5	92	15	375	-	2	486
British Transport Police	1 639	38	26	184	12	55	12	10	329
Regional Crime Squads	161	42	-	40	3	37	-	-	102
UK Total³	127 377	4 786	2 430	15 058	452	6 377	1 179	757	28 924
HM Customs & Excise	5 209	869	6	158	17	125	7	188	1 315
Total - all seizures	132 586	5 655	2 436	15 216	469	6 502	1 186	945	30 239

QUANTITY SEIZED (kgs⁴)

	Class A Drugs							
	Cocaine	Crack cocaine	Heroin	LSD (doses)	Ecstasy- type	Methadone	Other	
Police and other authorities								
Scotland	33.4	0.4	203.9	533	91 912	2.0	-	
Central	-	-	0.5	6	867	-	-	
Dumfries & Galloway	0.2	-	0.5	102	28 378	-	-	
Fife	0.1	-	0.5	12	5 209	-	-	
Grampian	0.3	0.4	2.5	64	2 874	-	-	
Lothian & Borders	0.3	-	1.7	80	31 433	0.9	-	
Northern	0.1	-	0.1	16	1 685	-	-	
Strathclyde	32.0	-	197.9	253	19 725	1.0	-	
Tayside	0.2	-	0.1	-	1 741	-	-	
Other authorities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
England	71.2	13.9	439.5	15 653	484 681	53.5	44.5	
Wales	2.8	0.2	4.2	2 723	35 461	2.3	1.9	
Northern Ireland	1.1	-	0.5	1 660	198 377	-	-	
British Transport Police	12.9	-	22.6	698	511	1.7	-	
Regional Crime Squads	349.9	-	823.2	5 202	688 013	-	-	
UK Total³	471.3	14.5	1 493.9	26 469	1 498 955	59.5	46.4	
HM Customs & Excise	2 485.3	1.7	848.0	40 962	4 825 421	1.9	38.5	
Total - all seizures	2 956.6	16.1	2 341.9	67 431	6 324 376	61.4	84.9	

1 As a seizure can involve more than one drug, figures for individual drugs cannot be added to produce totals.

2 Seizures from joint operations involving HM Customs & Excise and the police are generally recorded against HM Customs & Excise (Number of seizures) or the lead agency (quantity seized). Seizures made by the Scottish Crime Squad are recorded by the appropriate police force.

3 Includes seizures made by British Transport Police in England and Wales.

4 All quantities are in kilograms except for LSD and Ecstasy-type (doses), and cannabis plants

Source : Home Office.

Seizures¹ of controlled drugs (number and quantity seized) ; drug type : 1999

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continued

NUMBER OF SEIZURES

Class B Drugs				Class C Drugs				Unknown		
Cannabis	Amphet- amines	Other	Total Class B	Benzo- diazepines	Temez- epam	Anabolic steroids	Total Class C	Total		
12 973	1 607	246	14 039	663	277	-	347	930	2	Police and other authorities
										Scotland
489	33	7	512	11	7	-	9	19	-	Central
271	36	1	287	11	-	-	1	12	1	Dumfries & Galloway
431	84	2	474	18	-	-	1	19	-	Fife
1 125	121	35	1 207	68	19	-	29	87	-	Grampian
2 232	346	70	2 433	112	24	-	39	136	-	Lothian & Borders
563	71	10	606	10	1	-	2	11	-	Northern
6 964	810	112	7 553	410	213	-	243	602	1	Strathclyde
898	106	9	967	23	13	-	23	44	-	Tayside
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Force not specified
71 569	10 154	274	78 907	1 101	201	78	59	1 388	416	England
6 105	1 181	16	6 914	96	58	9	4	163	9	Wales
1 729	113	-	1 782	20	-	-	11	23	-	Northern Ireland
1 280	66	1	1 330	3	1	-	1	5	1	British Transport Police
90	35	-	102	-	-	2	-	2	-	Regional Crime Squads
93 746	13 156	537	103 074	1 883	537	89	422	2 511	428	UK Total³
3 826	102	5	4 298	1	6	17	3	34	-	HM Customs & Excise
97 572	13 258	542	107 372	1 884	543	106	425	2 545	428	Total - all seizures

QUANTITY SEIZED (kgs⁴)

Class B Drugs				Class C Drugs				Unknown		
Cannabis (herbal)	Cannabis plants	Cannabis resin	Cannabis liquid	Amphet- amines	Other	Benzo- diazepines	Temez- epam	Anabolic steroids	Other	
14.8	1 790	1 126.4	0.6	53.0	0.3	1.9	0.4	-	-	Police and other authorities
										Scotland
0.1	-	32.1	-	2.2	-	-	-	-	-	Central
0.5	8	76.8	-	2.5	-	0.1	-	-	-	Dumfries & Galloway
0.3	76	56.8	-	1.9	-	-	-	-	-	Fife
2.4	729	40.2	-	1.1	-	0.3	-	-	-	Grampian
3.4	332	67.8	0.6	12.8	-	-	0.1	-	-	Lothian & Borders
1.7	134	69.3	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	Northern
5.9	479	717.0	-	30.5	0.2	1.4	0.3	-	-	Strathclyde
0.5	32	66.3	-	1.7	-	-	-	-	-	Tayside
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Other authorities
956.6	49 686	4 499.3	-	383.9	0.2	5.4	0.7	2.0	-	England
95.3	2 079	419.0	-	43.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	Wales
3.0	713	488.2	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	-	Northern Ireland
0.2	78	8.1	-	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	British Transport Police
518.7	1 009	5 838.6	-	415.3	-	-	-	25.0	-	Regional Crime Squads
1 588.6	55 355	12 379.6	0.6	900.7	0.5	7.3	1.2	27.0	-	UK Total³
14 278.6	11	40 636.1	1 806.7	1 117.6	500.0	-	-	46.8	1.5	HM Customs & Excise
15 867.2	55 366	53 015.7	1 807.3	2 018.3	500.5	7.3	1.2	73.8	1.6	Total - all seizures

105 | Number and quantity¹ of seizures² of class A, B and C drugs ; Scotland : 1985, 1990, 1995 - 1999

drug type

	Number of seizures						
	1985	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Class A	510	409	1 494	2 449	2 699	3 249	3 652
Cocaine	41	25	69	117	191	251	327
Crack cocaine	**	**	1	2	4	18	34
Heroin	388	114	738	1 206	1 787	2 421	2 513
LSD	53	171	107	139	100	83	54
Ecstasy-type ³	-	8	524	889	527	465	748
Methadone	7	19	44	112	111	118	113
Other Class A	35	88	49	132	131	54	77
Class B	3 000	5 318	11 354	11 666	14 417	15 154	14 039
Amphetamines	370	354	1 526	2 094	2 094	2 101	1 607
Cannabis (herbal)	296	111	586	1 031	573	445	497
Cannabis plants ⁴	127	40	273	263	191	127	109
Cannabis resin	2 526	5 212	9 902	9 446	12 565	13 496	12 684
Other Class B	3	103	122	205	334	357	246
Class C	5	541	745	1 124	828	1 210	930
Benzodiazepines	**	238	288	449	458	649	663
Temazepam	**	**	344	624	326	570	277
	Quantity seized (kgs)						
	1985	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Class A							
Cocaine	0.4	0.9	0.8	2.4	4.6	27.4	33.4
Crack cocaine	**	**	-	-	⁻⁷	0.36	0.42
Heroin	6.6	2.6	9.1	34.7	29.9	40.2	203.9
LSD ⁵	0.001	2 041	1 414	14 762	1 475	281	533
Ecstasy-type ^{3,5}	-	413	126 473	98 849	122 555	56 553	91 912
Methadone	⁻⁶	0.01	0.01	0.07	0.30	0.11	1.95
Other Class A	⁻⁷	⁻⁷	0.50	0.14	⁻⁷	0.07	⁻⁷
Class B							
Amphetamines	5.0	6.0	31.0	70.3	1 761.2	113.0	53.0
Cannabis (herbal)	708.7	103.1	18.4	90.3	66.8	813.9	14.8
Cannabis plants ⁴	718	175	2 519	2 068	34 782	52 906	1 790
Cannabis resin	71.8	104.2	353.6	398.9	3 603.2	11 940.1	1 126.4
Class C							
Benzodiazepines	**	0.36	0.20	0.59	0.15	0.64	1.87
Temazepam	**	**	0.32	3.03 ⁸	⁻⁷	58.62	0.38

1 Drugs are seized in a variety of forms but where possible, for the purpose of this table, amounts have been converted to weights. Seizures of unspecified quantities are not included.

2 As a seizure can involve more than one drug, figures for individual drugs cannot be added together to produce totals.

3 MDMA up until 1995.

4 Number of plants.

5 Number of doses. Data for 1985 are in kgs; from 1990, data refer to number of doses.

6 Less than 0.5 gram.

7 Less than 50 grams.

8 Equals 381 369 capsules.

** Not available.

Source : Home Office.

6.3 Drug misuse and treatment in Scottish prisons

Urine testing at reception into custody

Each year, random samples of prisoners are tested on admission to prison from the community. These samples cover only a small proportion of prison admissions (totaling around 25,000 each year), and are therefore indicative rather than definitive. It should be noted that due to the period between last drug use and testing after entry to prison, urine test results may under-report hard drug use (e.g. heroin) at the expense of cannabis use. Positive rates, and proportions of the drugs found, over the period 1998/99 to 2000/01 are presented below. However, it should be noted that these do not form a strictly random sample.

106 | Drugs detected by urine testing at reception into custody : 1998/99 - 2000/01

	Number tested	Percentage positive	Drugs detected as percentage of all tests taken ^{1,2}								
			Cannabis	Benzodi-azepines	Opiates	Metha-done	LSD	Amphet-amines	Barbit-urates	Cocaine	Temgesic
1998/99	286	73	49	43	42	8	-	3	-	4	-
1999/00	282	75	55	42	34	11	-	3	-	3	1
2000/01	593	77	63	52	39	12	-	2	-	5	1

1 Drug percentages do not add up to 100% due to poly-drug abuse.

2 Including prescribed drugs.

Source : The Scottish Prison Service (SPS).

It was recognised that the majority of these samples came from Aberdeen and Perth prisons, with only a small number taken from other locations. In order to address this, in October 2000, a separate random sample of 364 prisoners were tested from a spread of prisons which more closely reflect the intake of prisoners to each establishment in the Scottish Prison Service. While the numbers are still a very small proportion of prison admissions, they may give a more accurate indication of the substances used by prisoners entering prisons.

Positive rates, and proportions of the drugs found, in this October 2000 sample are presented below.

107 | Drugs detected by urine testing at reception into custody : October 2000 Scottish Prison Service establishment

	Number tested	Percent-age positive	Drugs detected as percentage of all tests taken ^{2,3}								
			Cannabis	Benzodi-azepines	Opiates	Metha-done	LSD	Amphet-amines	Barbit-urates	Cocaine	Temgesic
Scottish Prison Service Total	364	75	53	45	31	11	-	3	-	-	2
Aberdeen	19	74	84	84	58	16	-	5	-	11	-
Barlinnie	100	81	36	50	43	11	-	2	-	4	-
Cornton Vale	18	94	44	78	61	28	-	11	-	-	-
Dumfries ¹	17	47	29	12	6	6	-	-	-	-	-
Edinburgh	64	66	56	22	14	9	-	2	-	6	-
Greenock	41	78	51	46	37	7	-	5	-	5	2
Inverness	17	41	29	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Low Moss	29	79	45	52	38	7	-	-	-	3	-
Perth	41	80	93	49	27	22	-	2	2	5	2
Polmont	18	89	83	50	11	-	-	6	-	-	-

1 Adult prisoners only.

2 Including prescribed drugs.

3 Drug percentages do not add up to 100% due to poly-drug abuse.

Source : The Scottish Prison Service (SPS).

Where possible, these prisoners were also interviewed about their substance misuse and the results of 108 such interviews are shown below. The other interviews were not completed for a variety of reasons, including refusal to co-operate and release from prison. These results, shown in [Table 108](#) add useful additional information to the urine tests. Note: The results of these interviews are indicative only as they depend on the prisoners' willingness to divulge information.

108 | Self-reported substance misuse at reception into custody

(all sample, indicative only)

	Percentage reporting misuse of substance ¹
	(n = 108)
Heroin	68
Benzodiazepines	59
Cannabis	53
Tobacco	34
Alcohol	25
Cocaine (Powder)	22
Prescribed Methadone	17
Ecstasy	14
Illicit Methadone	9
Crack cocaine	9
Amphetamine	9
Temgesic	1
LSD	-
Volatile Substances	-
Other	3

¹ Drug percentages do not add up to 100% due to poly-drug abuse.

Source : The Scottish Prison Service (SPS).

Random mandatory drug testing (MDT) results

Each month, 10% of the prisoner population in each prison in Scotland is randomly selected for a urine drug test. Other reasons for targeted testing exist, but are not reported here. [Table 109](#) shows aggregate results for the service as a whole for the last five years. [Table 110](#) show the rates of positive results and the drugs found, by prison establishment, in 2000/01.

109 | Mandatory drug testing results : 1996/97 - 2000/01

SPS aggregate ; random tests of 10% of prison population

	Number tested	Percentage positive		Drugs detected as percentage of all tests taken ¹								
		All tests	In-prison ²	Cannabis	Benzo-diazepines	Opiates	Methadone	LSD	Amphetamines	Barbiturates	Cocaine	Temgesic
1996/97	2 364 ³	36	29	29	9	16	1	-	-	-	-	3
1997/98	7 070	29	23	20	5	13	1	-	-	-	-	2
1998/99	7 162	25	18	15	6	12	-	-	-	-	-	1
1999/00	6 605	22	15	11	5	9	-	-	-	-	-	1
2000/01	5 647	21	15	9	4	11	1	-	-	-	-	2

¹ Drug percentages do not add up to 100% due to poly-drug misuse.

² In-prison rate excludes those who may have misused the drugs for which they tested positive before entry to prison.

³ Due to the gradual phasing in of this data collection in 1996/97, this figure is lower than subsequent years and figures are indicative only.

Source : The Scottish Prison Service (SPS).

110 | Mandatory drug testing results : 2000/01

random tests of 10% of prison population

	Number tested	Percentage positive		Drugs detected as percentage of all tests taken ¹								
		All tests	In-prison ²	Cannabis	Benzo-diazepines	Opiates	Methadone	LSD	Amphetamines	Barbiturates	Cocaine	Temgesic
Scottish Prison Service Total	5 647	21	15	9	4	11	1	-	-	-	-	2
Aberdeen	184	28	19	10	10	18	1	-	-	1	1	1
Barlinnie	990	20	9	3	8	8	1	-	-	-	-	-
Castle Huntly	144	17	17	3	-	12	-	-	-	-	1	4
Cornon Vale	180	10	9	2	1	7	-	-	1	-	-	-
Dumfries Adults	56	34	16	21	4	23	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dumfries Females	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dumfries YOI	96	15	15	14	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	1
Edinburgh	676	25	19	14	3	15	1	-	1	-	1	2
Glenochil Adult	486	17	17	5	2	12	1	-	-	-	-	2
Glenochil YOI	120	8	8	6	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Greenock	290	28	14	7	7	16	-	-	-	-	-	1
Inverness	135	31	20	30	8	5	-	-	1	-	-	-
Low Moss	332	35	25	15	10	19	1	-	1	-	-	-
Noranside	127	7	7	1	-	5	1	-	1	-	-	2
Perth	452	27	20	16	7	14	-	-	-	-	-	3
Peterhead	316	4	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polmont	431	14	10	11	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	1
Shotts	498	27	27	11	1	20	-	-	-	-	-	6
Shotts NIC	59	31	31	14	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	2
Shotts Unit	6	67	67	67	8	33	-	-	17	-	-	-

1 Drug percentages do not add up to 100% due to poly-drug misuse.

2 In-prison rate excludes those who may have misused the drugs for which they tested positive before entry to prison.

Source : The Scottish Prison Service (SPS).

Drug treatment in prisons

In June 2000 the SPS launched its revised drug strategy. This aims to keep drugs out of prisons; to bring prisoners into drug treatment; to keep them in contact with treatment services; and to manage effectively transition between prison and community. [Table 111](#) shows what was achieved under this strategy during 2000/01.

111 | Scottish Prison Service drug strategy outputs : 2000/01

	Number of cases ⁵
Total recorded prison receptions ¹	23 472
Total addictions presentations ²	14 300
Offered assessment	9 800
Undertook assessment	7 600
Started treatment option ³	5 400
Throughcare appointment made	600
Attended throughcare appointment ⁴	175

1 Strategy monitoring process established early during the period, but does not include all cases.

2 Prisoners identified as having an issue with substance misuse.

3 Individuals who began working on the first item in their individualised care-plan.

4 Individual client confirmed by community agency as having attended first appointment.

5 Drop-out rate includes those released from custody.

Source : The Scottish Prison Service (SPS).