

**E1****Drug-related offences and court proceedings****Key Points****Overview of drug-related offences**

- In 2002 there were 40 379 drug-related offences recorded by Scottish police forces, which is a rate of 799 per 100 000 population. (Table E1.1)
- In 2002, 74 per cent (29 768) of drug related offences were for possession. A further 25 per cent (10 139) were for possession with intent to supply. (Table E1.2)

**5 year trends - 1998 to 2002**

- From 1998 to 2000, the annual number of drug-related offences remained stable at between 31 400 and 31 900. In 2001, the number of drug related offences increased by 15 per cent to 36 175, and between 2001 and 2002 they rose by a further 12 per cent to 40 379. This represents an overall increase of 28 per cent in the last 5 years. (Table E1.1)

**Geographical profile**

- The rate per 100 000 population was highest in Glasgow City (1 616), Inverclyde (1 370) and West Dunbartonshire (1 014). (Table E1.1)
- The majority of areas have experienced a rate increase per 100 000 population over the last 5 years; exceptions were Aberdeenshire, Dumfries & Galloway, Fife, Orkney Islands and Renfrewshire which were either stable or showed slight reductions. (Table E1.1)

**Background information****Drug-related offences**

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.

**Persons convicted of drug offences**

Statistics on persons convicted for drug-related offences are available from the Scottish Executive Justice Department's court proceeding 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 drug offences on more than one offence (dealt with at the same court appearance) they are counted as a single offender in the total number of persons convicted, and are classified by the main offence (i.e. the one with the severest penalty). The figures for 2002 were not available at time of publication.

## E1.1 Drug-related offences recorded by Scottish police forces : 1998 - 2002

(mainly Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 offences); council area <sup>1</sup>, number and rate per 100 000 population

|                     | 1998          |            | 1999          |            | 2000          |            | 2001          |            | 2002          |            |
|---------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|
|                     | Number        | Rate       | Number        | Rate       | Number        | Rate       | Number        | Rate       | Number        | Rate       |
| <b>Scotland</b>     | <b>31 460</b> | <b>620</b> | <b>31 870</b> | <b>628</b> | <b>31 431</b> | <b>621</b> | <b>36 175</b> | <b>716</b> | <b>40 379</b> | <b>799</b> |
| Aberdeen City       | 1 694         | 786        | 1 617         | 753        | 1 334         | 625        | 1 550         | 741        | 2 071         | 990        |
| Aberdeenshire       | 892           | 394        | 717           | 316        | 724           | 319        | 787           | 346        | 757           | 333        |
| Angus               | 430           | 392        | 458           | 418        | 306           | 281        | 401           | 371        | 489           | 452        |
| Argyll & Bute       | 420           | 458        | 372           | 406        | 450           | 494        | 389           | 427        | 512           | 562        |
| Ayrshire East       | 615           | 508        | 773           | 641        | 787           | 655        | 785           | 656        | 950           | 793        |
| Ayrshire North      | 798           | 580        | 721           | 526        | 845           | 620        | 872           | 643        | 1 054         | 777        |
| Ayrshire South      | 777           | 686        | 752           | 666        | 537           | 478        | 896           | 802        | 992           | 888        |
| Borders             | 342           | 323        | 719           | 680        | 733           | 690        | 661           | 615        | 647           | 602        |
| Clackmannanshire    | 290           | 599        | 232           | 481        | 234           | 486        | 295           | 615        | 351           | 732        |
| Dumfries & Galloway | 790           | 531        | 700           | 472        | 448           | 304        | 649           | 441        | 775           | 526        |
| Dunbartonshire East | 321           | 294        | 284           | 261        | 318           | 293        | 465           | 433        | 460           | 429        |
| Dunbartonshire West | 681           | 717        | 515           | 545        | 712           | 758        | 666           | 717        | 941           | 1 014      |
| Dundee City         | 871           | 582        | 738           | 499        | 707           | 482        | 904           | 627        | 1 167         | 809        |
| Edinburgh City      | 1 928         | 432        | 2 927         | 655        | 2 858         | 637        | 3 118         | 696        | 3 863         | 862        |
| Eilean Siar         | 98            | 356        | 83            | 305        | 47            | 175        | 112           | 427        | 94            | 359        |
| Falkirk             | 700           | 487        | 680           | 470        | 624           | 431        | 844           | 580        | 831           | 571        |
| Fife                | 2 148         | 620        | 1 508         | 435        | 1 248         | 358        | 1 645         | 469        | 1 944         | 554        |
| Glasgow City        | 8 224         | 1 401      | 7 791         | 1 336      | 8 845         | 1 533      | 9 388         | 1 626      | 9 330         | 1 616      |
| Highland            | 1 051         | 503        | 1 296         | 620        | 926           | 443        | 1 370         | 658        | 1 434         | 689        |
| Inverclyde          | 793           | 924        | 769           | 902        | 901           | 1 064      | 995           | 1 190      | 1 145         | 1 370      |
| Lanarkshire North   | 1 939         | 602        | 2 175         | 675        | 1 817         | 565        | 2 197         | 684        | 3 105         | 966        |
| Lanarkshire South   | 1 218         | 402        | 1 482         | 490        | 1 512         | 500        | 1 864         | 617        | 1 733         | 574        |
| Lothian East        | 174           | 197        | 208           | 233        | 340           | 378        | 217           | 239        | 507           | 559        |
| Lothian West        | 630           | 411        | 907           | 586        | 865           | 551        | 1 166         | 729        | 1 129         | 706        |
| Midlothian          | 283           | 353        | 326           | 404        | 402           | 496        | 404           | 502        | 444           | 552        |
| Moray               | 256           | 295        | 288           | 332        | 261           | 301        | 261           | 301        | 324           | 374        |
| Orkney Islands      | 54            | 276        | 58            | 299        | 29            | 150        | 27            | 141        | 41            | 213        |
| Perth & Kinross     | 885           | 658        | 784           | 580        | 611           | 453        | 745           | 551        | 959           | 710        |
| Renfrewshire        | 1 437         | 820        | 1 198         | 687        | 1 073         | 618        | 1 224         | 712        | 1 212         | 705        |
| Renfrewshire East   | 285           | 323        | 312           | 352        | 428           | 481        | 342           | 382        | 296           | 330        |
| Shetland Islands    | 74            | 326        | 95            | 422        | 82            | 370        | 98            | 447        | 87            | 397        |
| Stirling            | 362           | 427        | 385           | 451        | 427           | 496        | 838           | 973        | 735           | 853        |

<sup>1</sup> Where the offence was detected or reported.

Source : The Scottish Executive Justice Department recorded crime series.

## E1.2 Drug-related offences recorded by Scottish police forces ; type of offence : 2002

(mainly Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 offences), council area<sup>1</sup>

|                     | Number                           |               |                    |               | Rate per 100 000 population      |            |                    |                    |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                     | Possession with intent to supply | Possession    | Other <sup>2</sup> | Total         | Possession with intent to supply | Possession | Other <sup>2</sup> | Total <sup>3</sup> |
| <b>Scotland</b>     | <b>10 139</b>                    | <b>29 768</b> | <b>472</b>         | <b>40 379</b> | <b>201</b>                       | <b>589</b> | <b>9</b>           | <b>799</b>         |
| Aberdeen City       | 615                              | 1 450         | 6                  | 2 071         | 294                              | 693        | 3                  | 990                |
| Aberdeenshire       | 161                              | 595           | 1                  | 757           | 71                               | 262        | 0                  | 333                |
| Angus               | 116                              | 371           | 2                  | 489           | 107                              | 343        | 2                  | 452                |
| Argyll & Bute       | 80                               | 428           | 4                  | 512           | 88                               | 470        | 4                  | 562                |
| Ayrshire East       | 299                              | 629           | 22                 | 950           | 250                              | 525        | 18                 | 793                |
| Ayrshire North      | 278                              | 753           | 23                 | 1 054         | 205                              | 555        | 17                 | 777                |
| Ayrshire South      | 240                              | 746           | 6                  | 992           | 215                              | 668        | 5                  | 888                |
| Borders             | 178                              | 453           | 16                 | 647           | 166                              | 422        | 15                 | 602                |
| Clackmannanshire    | 79                               | 271           | 1                  | 351           | 165                              | 565        | 2                  | 732                |
| Dumfries & Galloway | 342                              | 416           | 17                 | 775           | 232                              | 282        | 12                 | 526                |
| Dunbartonshire East | 122                              | 330           | 8                  | 460           | 114                              | 308        | 7                  | 429                |
| Dunbartonshire West | 184                              | 748           | 9                  | 941           | 198                              | 806        | 10                 | 1 014              |
| Dundee City         | 296                              | 866           | 5                  | 1 167         | 205                              | 601        | 3                  | 809                |
| Edinburgh City      | 1 329                            | 2 501         | 33                 | 3 863         | 297                              | 558        | 7                  | 862                |
| Eilean Siar         | 14                               | 77            | 3                  | 94            | 53                               | 294        | 11                 | 359                |
| Falkirk             | 230                              | 599           | 2                  | 831           | 158                              | 412        | 1                  | 571                |
| Fife                | 672                              | 1 228         | 44                 | 1 944         | 192                              | 350        | 13                 | 554                |
| Glasgow City        | 2 002                            | 7 183         | 145                | 9 330         | 347                              | 1 244      | 25                 | 1 616              |
| Highland            | 271                              | 1 143         | 20                 | 1 434         | 130                              | 549        | 10                 | 689                |
| Inverclyde          | 274                              | 855           | 16                 | 1 145         | 328                              | 1 023      | 19                 | 1 370              |
| Lanarkshire North   | 553                              | 2 531         | 21                 | 3 105         | 172                              | 788        | 7                  | 966                |
| Lanarkshire South   | 273                              | 1 449         | 11                 | 1 733         | 90                               | 480        | 4                  | 574                |
| Lothian East        | 147                              | 354           | 6                  | 507           | 162                              | 390        | 7                  | 559                |
| Lothian West        | 311                              | 806           | 12                 | 1 129         | 194                              | 504        | 8                  | 706                |
| Midlothian          | 120                              | 318           | 6                  | 444           | 149                              | 395        | 7                  | 552                |
| Moray               | 58                               | 263           | 3                  | 324           | 67                               | 303        | 3                  | 374                |
| Orkney Islands      | 19                               | 19            | 3                  | 41            | 99                               | 99         | 16                 | 213                |
| Perth & Kinross     | 374                              | 580           | 5                  | 959           | 277                              | 429        | 4                  | 710                |
| Renfrewshire        | 259                              | 941           | 12                 | 1 212         | 151                              | 547        | 7                  | 705                |
| Renfrewshire East   | 43                               | 248           | 5                  | 296           | 48                               | 277        | 6                  | 330                |
| Shetland Islands    | 26                               | 60            | 1                  | 87            | 119                              | 273        | 5                  | 397                |
| Stirling            | 174                              | 557           | 4                  | 735           | 202                              | 647        | 5                  | 853                |

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 drugs-related offences.

3 Components may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source : The Scottish Executive Justice Department recorded crime series.