

## Provisional information taken from 2008/09 provision of injecting equipment in Scotland survey

This publication reports on initial and provisional findings of a survey of injecting equipment provision (IEP) to injecting drug users in 2008/09 and the first 6 months of 2009. This is the second IEP survey carried out by ISD Scotland and was commissioned in the context of Phase II of the Scottish Hepatitis C Action Plan (<http://scotland.gov.uk/F>) which is funded by the Scottish Government and coordinated by Health Protection Scotland.

Electronic questionnaires were sent out to NHS Prevention Leads across Scotland in December 2009 who then distributed and collated the survey responses for their area. The survey results presented here exclude prisons.

The information presented here is developmental and as such it is known to be missing some IEP service information. Some IEP services have not responded to the survey and some services which have responded to the survey were not able to answer all the questions. As a result Table 1 focuses on the number of services who have responded to the survey compared to an estimation of the total number of IEP services.

Caution should be taken when attempting to compare results to the previous 2007/08 survey as both data quality and completeness may differ between the surveys.

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A fuller publication providing more extensive results from the 2008/09 injecting equipment survey is due to be published by ISD in Autumn 2010.

Source: Injecting Equipment Provision Survey (ISD Scotland)

**Table 1: Number of Pharmacy and Agency<sup>1</sup> Injecting Equipment Providers (IEPs) responding<sup>2</sup> to the Injecting Equipment Provision Survey in 2007/08 and 2008/09 Scotland and NHS Health Board<sup>3</sup>**

	2007/08 <sup>r</sup>		2008/09 <sup>p</sup>		2008/09 <sup>9</sup>
	Pharmacy needle exchanges	Agencies	Pharmacy needle exchanges	Agencies	Total estimated number of injecting equipment providers
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>244</b>
<b>NHS Health Board</b>					
NHS Ayrshire & Arran	8	2	7	1	8
NHS Borders	6	1	8	1	9
NHS Dumfries & Galloway <sup>4</sup>	8	3	9	3	13
NHS Fife <sup>5</sup>	18	5	15	3	20
NHS Forth Valley	11	1	14	1	15
NHS Grampian <sup>6</sup>	15	4	16	5	24
NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	44	6	58	14	73
NHS Highland <sup>7</sup>	9	3	12	5	17
NHS Lanarkshire	18	2	18	1	19
NHS Lothian	21	9	22	7	29
NHS Orkney <sup>8</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
NHS Shetland	-	1	1	1	2
NHS Tayside	11	3	*	1	14
NHS Western Isles	-	1	-	-	1

1. The figures presented in the table are developmental statistics and as such are subject to change.
  2. Some Health Board areas have missing data as not all services have yet responded to the Injecting Equipment Provision Survey 2008/09.
  3. Both pharmacy and agency needle exchanges will differ in size and as such the number of responses shown here can only be used to inform on the number of injecting equipment providers and the completeness of the survey. No conclusions can be drawn about the extent or size of services these responses represent.
  4. We are aware of one IEP agency in Dumfries & Galloway that did not submit a form in 2008/09
  5. We are aware of two IEP pharmacies in Fife that did not submit forms in 2008/09.
  6. We are aware of 3 IEP agencies in NHS Grampian that did not submit forms in 2008/09.
  7. Figures for 2007/08 do not include responses from Argyll and Bute.
  8. There are currently no IEP outlets available in Orkney
  9. Estimated figures supplied by NHS Board Prevention Leads.
- \* We are aware of IEP pharmacies operating in NHS Tayside however we did not receive any submissions for these.

- No data provided  
r Revised  
p Provisional

Source: Injecting Equipment Provision Survey (ISD Scotland)

**Table 2: Number of needles/syringes<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> reported to have been distributed, based on responses to the Injecting Equipment Provision Survey; 2007/08<sup>f</sup>, 2008/09<sup>p</sup> and April-Sept 2009/10<sup>p</sup> Scotland and NHS Health Board**

	2007/08 <sup>f</sup>	2008/09 <sup>p</sup>	April-Sept 2009/10 <sup>p</sup>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>4,332,966</b>	<b>4,123,568</b>	<b>2,231,642</b>
<b>NHS Health Board</b>			
NHS Ayrshire & Arran	285,658	389,980	145,327
NHS Borders	26,600	35,103	21,478
NHS Dumfries & Galloway	197,000	173,163	199,701
NHS Fife	483,493	236,017	116,960
NHS Forth Valley <sup>5</sup>	285,590	231,222	108,226
NHS Grampian	724,570	664,767	305,187
NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde <sup>6</sup>	1,076,244	991,875	618,807
NHS Highland	99286 <sup>7</sup>	125,138	78,536
NHS Lanarkshire	394,927	372,881	186,753
NHS Lothian <sup>8</sup>	653,448	690,362	316,526
NHS Orkney <sup>9</sup>	-	-	-
NHS Shetland <sup>10</sup>	7,630	21,154	12,896
NHS Tayside <sup>11</sup>	197,791	191,906	121,245
NHS Western Isles	15	-	-

1. The figures presented in the table are developmental statistics and as such are subject to change.
2. Some Health Board areas have missing data as not all services have yet responded to the Injecting Equipment Provision Survey 2008/09.
3. Not all services that responded provided figures for the number of needles/syringes distributed.
4. Some services provided data on the number of needles/syringes distributed on the basis of an estimate rather than actual values.
5. Figures for NHS Forth Valley for 2007/08 were based on a projection.
6. No figures were received for the Turning Point Scotland Drug Crisis Centre in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde for the periods 2008/09 and April-Sept 2009/10. In 2007/08, there were 184,514 needles/syringes distributed from this agency.
7. Does not include data from Argyll and Bute.
8. Two Agencies from NHS Lothian (Homeless Outreach Project and Castle Project) did not provide any figures on needles/syringes distributed for periods 2008/09 and April-Sept 2009/10.
9. There are currently no IEP outlets available in Orkney.
10. No figures were received from the pharmacy in NHS Shetland in 2007/08.
11. No figures for needles/syringes distributed were received from pharmacies in NHS Tayside.

- No data available

r Revised

p Provisional

Source: Injecting Equipment Provision Survey (ISD Scotland)

**Table 3: Number<sup>1</sup> of Injecting Equipment Providers who reported to the Injecting Equipment Provision survey as providing each item of injecting paraphernalia and the number that provided figures showing how many of each item they distributed in 2008/09<sup>p</sup> and April-Sept 2009/10<sup>p</sup>: Scotland<sup>2,3</sup>**

	Number of services that provided items of injecting paraphernalia	Respondents providing figures	
		2008/09 <sup>p</sup>	April-Sept 2009/10 <sup>p</sup>
Citric acid/Vitamin C	184	111	123
Filters	126	63	83
Water	26	8	12
Sharps bins	215	131	149
Wipes / swabs	201	120	140
Spoons / other forms of cooker	152	65	86
Syringe identifiers (e.g. colour coded)	80	3	5
Retractable needles	1	1	1

1. The figures presented in the table are developmental statistics and as such are subject to change.
2. Some Health Board areas within Scotland have missing data as not all services have yet responded to the Injecting Equipment Provision Survey 2008/09.
3. Both pharmacy and agency needle exchanges will differ in size and as such the number of responses shown here can only be used to inform on the number of injecting equipment providers and the completeness of the survey. No conclusions can be drawn about the extent or size of services these responses represent.

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Source: Injecting Equipment Provision Survey (ISD Scotland)

**Table 4: Number<sup>1,2</sup> of items of injecting paraphernalia provided, based on responses to the Injecting Equipment Provision survey, in 2008/09<sup>p</sup> and April-Sept 2009/10<sup>p</sup>: Scotland**

	2008/09 <sup>p</sup>	April to Sept 2009/10 <sup>p</sup>
Citric acid/Vitamin C	2,129,928	1,260,612
Filters	145,872	737,708
Water	62,229	36,948
Sharp bins	165,815	118,455
Wipes / swabs	2,229,516	1,510,488
Spoons / other forms of cooker	320,149	731,748
Syringe identifiers	10,939	9,487
Retractable Needles	2,000	2,900

1. The figures presented in the table are developmental statistics and as such are subject to change.
2. A number of IEP outlets did not provide figures for the number of items of injecting paraphernalia provided.

**p** Provisional

Source: Injecting Equipment Provision Survey (ISD Scotland)