

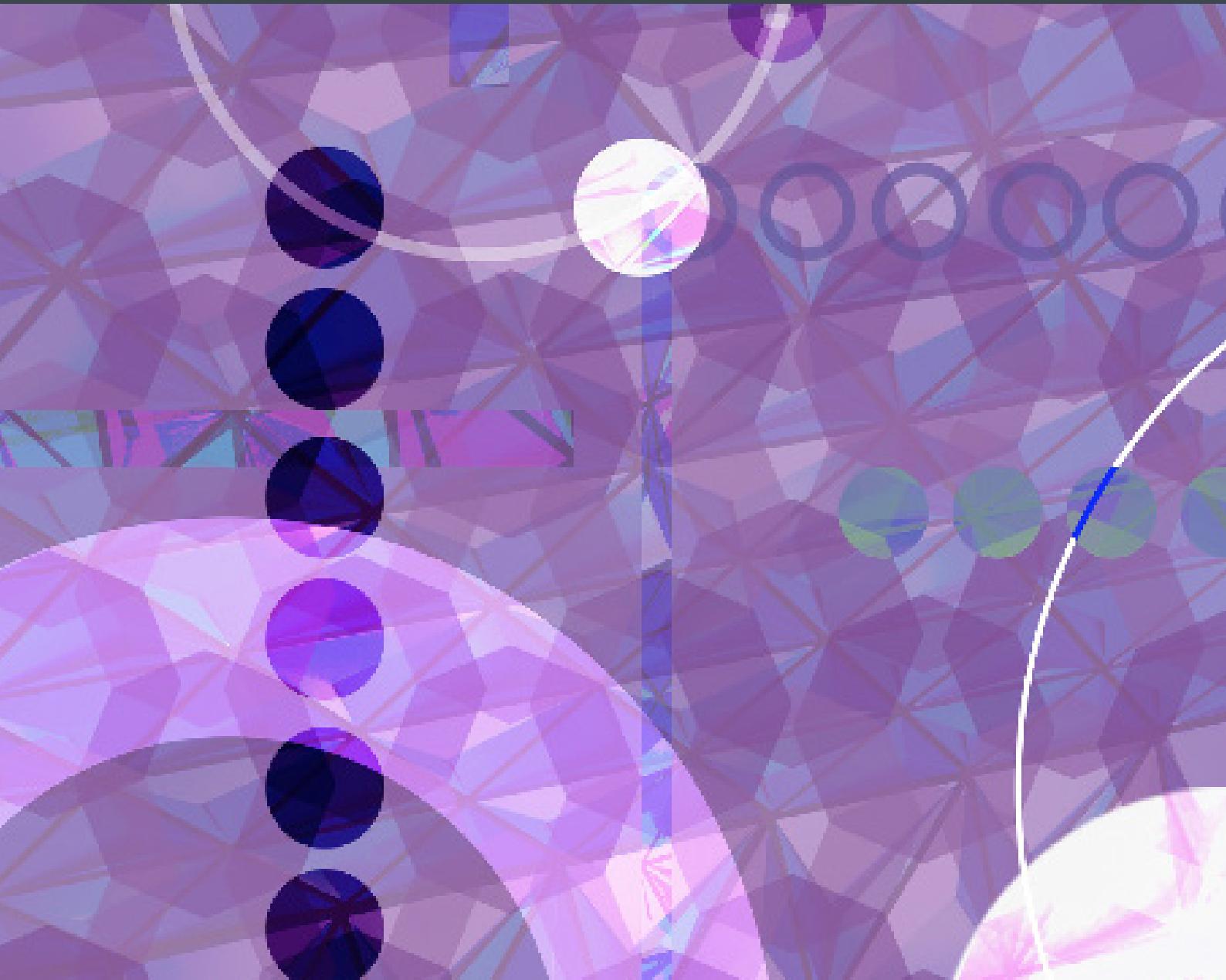
Drug Interventions Programme

Criminal Justice Intervention Team Activity in Knowsley
(2024/25)

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- In the year ending March 2025, there were 180 adult contacts (172 individuals) recorded by Knowsley Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT), which is a 33% decrease on the 269 episodes in the previous year.
- Seven in ten (70%) of the CJIT episodes in 2024/25 were other criminal justice routes, most of which were referrals made through the client's Offender Manager.
- Just under four in five (78%) Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2025 were taken onto the CJIT caseload.

Knowsley residents

- In the year ending March 2025, 129.6 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Knowsley Local Authority were in contact with Knowsley CJIT. The postcode districts with the highest number of Knowsley CJIT contacts were L36 and L32 (28% and 23% respectively).
- The average age of individuals assessed in the year ending March 2025 was 37.5 years (men = 36.8, women = 43.4). Individuals aged 18-29 years and 40-49 years each accounted for three in ten (30%), while around a quarter (24%) were aged 30-39 years and around one in six (16%) were aged 50 years or over.
- Just under nine in ten (88%) individuals in contact with Knowsley CJIT in the year ending March 2025 stated they were men.
- Almost all Knowsley CJIT contacts identified themselves as White British (96%).
- Around one in three (35%) Knowsley residents considered themselves to have a disability; of which, just over two in five (43%) were behaviour and emotional, followed by learning disability (18%), progressive conditions and physical health (15%), and mobility and gross motor (14%).
- Around one-third (34%) of the clients had parental responsibility for a child aged under 18 years; of which, around three-quarters (76%) had none of the children they are responsible for living with them the majority of the time.
- While the majority reported no housing problem at the time of their assessment, around a quarter (24%) had some form of a housing problem, including 5% with an urgent problem due to being of no fixed abode. Furthermore, 3% reported a risk of homelessness in the next eight weeks.
- Of the main substances reported by Knowsley residents in the year ending March 2025, around three in ten (29%) were cocaine (cocaine hydrochloride & cocaine unspecified), while around one-quarter were cannabis or heroin (24% and 23% respectively). Around a third (34%) reported cocaine as their second substance, followed by around three in ten (28%) who reported crack cocaine, while around half (48%) reported cannabis as their third substance.
- Just under half (46%) of the Knowsley CJIT contacts smoked their main substance, followed by clients who administered their main substance intranasally or orally (33% and 20% respectively).
- Around nine in ten (89%) stated they had never injected.
- Half (50%) of the clients who reported an opioid as their main substance in 2024/25 were issued with naloxone; of which, over half (55%) were supplied with nasal naloxone. Of the clients not issued with naloxone, 45% were offered but refused naloxone and 40% were in possession of adequate naloxone.

- Just over a quarter (27%) of the Knowsley residents who reported an opioid as their main substance have at some point been administered with naloxone to reverse the effects of an overdose.
- Just over half (53%) of the men and just over a third (35%) of the women consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT assessment. Of the men and women combined, around two in five (39%) consumed 7-15 units of alcohol on an average day.
- Misuse of Drugs Act offences accounted for around two in five (41%) of the offences that prompted the current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system, while around a third (32%) were categorised as 'other'.
- Of the clients on the CJIT caseload, 26 individuals were referred to structured treatment in the year ending March 2025.
- Just under two in three (63%) discharges in the year ending March 2025 were due to the completion of treatment, while one in five (20%) clients transferred prior to the completion of treatment and one in six (17%) did not complete treatment.
- Of the Knowsley residents who completed treatment successfully, the average time on the CJIT caseload was 181 days.

INTRODUCTION

Through the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP), Knowsley Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT) works with adults (aged 18 years or over) in the criminal justice system who use drugs and/or alcohol in order to reduce acquisitive crime (Collins et al., 2016; Collins et al., 2017; Cuddy et al., 2015; Public Health England and Ministry of Justice, 2017).

A key route in identifying people for DIP is Drug Testing on Arrest, whereby under certain criteria, adults are tested for specified Class A drugs (opiates and/or powder/crack cocaine) in police custody following an arrest. Those who test positive for specified Class A drugs are required to undergo a Required Assessment (RA) with their local CJIT. There are other sources of referral into DIP, 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 substance use and offending, and if necessary, encourage engagement with a range of appropriate interventions. CJITs provides wraparound support across four key areas (Home Office, 2011): drug and alcohol use (harm reduction and overdose management); offending; physical and psychosocial health; and social functioning (housing, employment and relationships). The CJIT dataset captures client information, episode details and referrals to structured treatment, which is submitted to the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) via the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS).

This CJIT Activity report for Knowsley shows trends over a six-year period up to the year ending March 2025 for clients accessing the CJIT and where possible, comparisons to the Merseyside figures have been made¹.

From criminalisation to harm reduction?

While traditional drugs policing has focused on enforcement and criminal sanctions, there's a growing shift towards diversion strategies, aiming to steer individuals away from the criminal justice system and into treatment, especially for offences including possession or those related to substance use.

A qualitative study of police-led diversion schemes in England and Wales highlighted that police are increasingly motivated by the harmful impacts of criminal sanctions and view diversion as a way to reduce these harms. This shift reflects a broader move towards harm reduction policing, which prioritises minimising the negative consequences of substance use and enforcement.

This research places drug diversion within a wider organisational transformation in policing, towards public health-oriented approaches that aim to prevent crime and improve community safety.

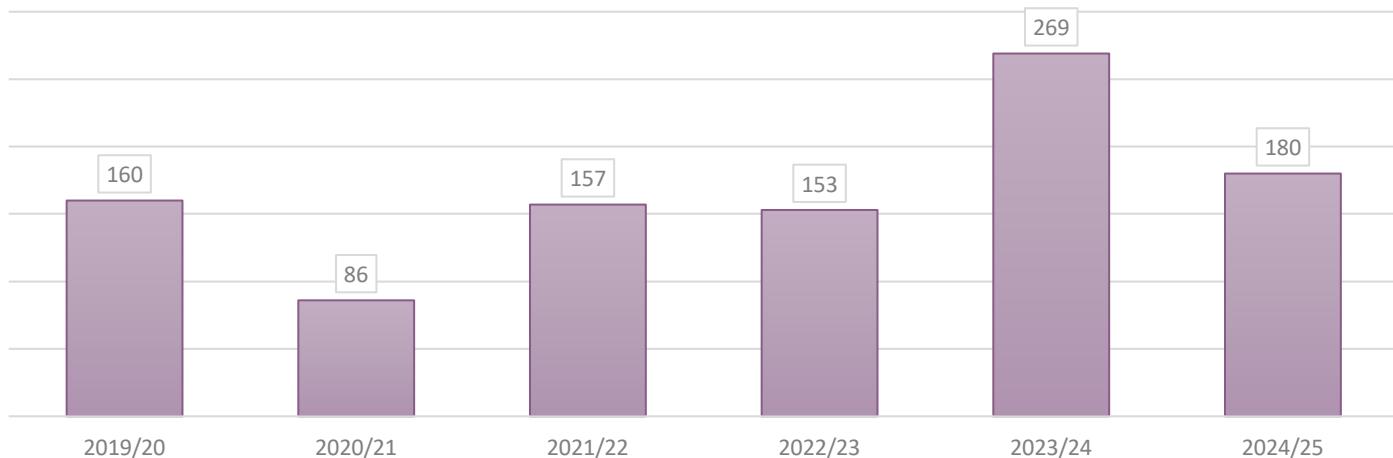
(Bacon, 2024)

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 \(end 2024/25\)](#).

OVERVIEW

In the year ending March 2025, there were 180 adult contacts (172 individuals) recorded by Knowsley Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT). Although this is a 33% decrease on the 269 CJIT episodes in the previous year, it is the second highest number of the six-year period (Figure 1).

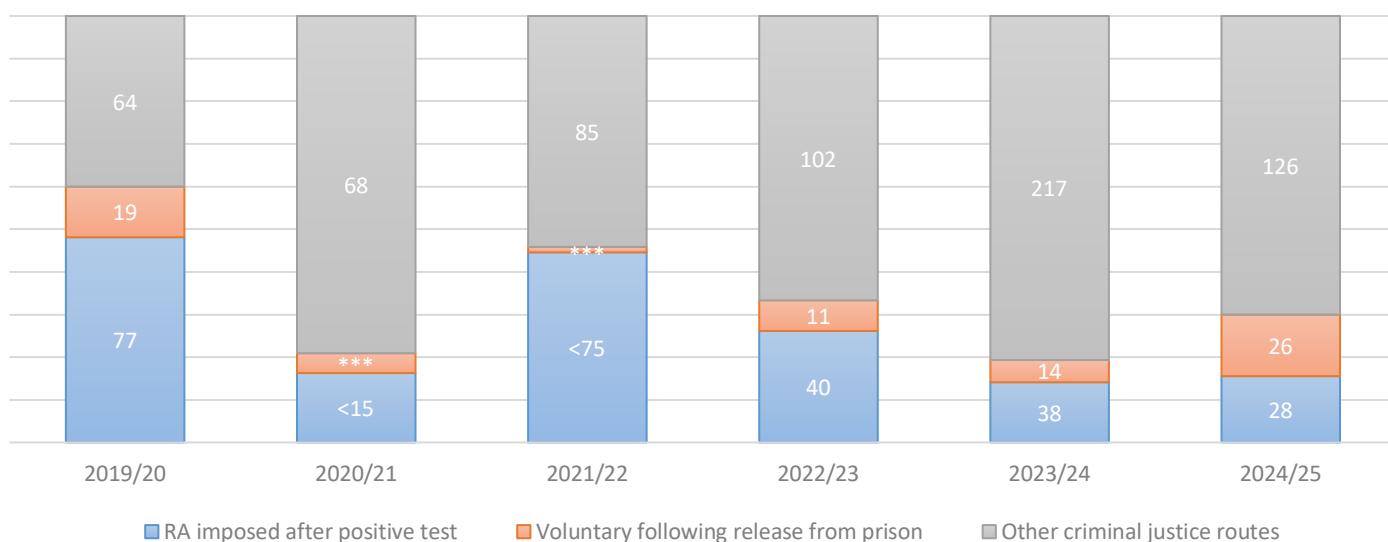
Figure 1: Knowsley CJIT episodes, 2019/20 - 2024/25



CRIMINAL JUSTICE ROUTES IN KNOWSLEY

Figure 2 shows the criminal justice routes that led to the contact with Knowsley CJIT between 2019/20 and 2024/25. Seven in ten (70%) CJIT episodes in the year ending March 2025 were other criminal justice routes². Although this is a 42% decrease on the previous year, it is the second highest number of the six-year period and the largest proportion of all CJIT contacts recorded by the five Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 39%). Furthermore, the number of clients who presented voluntarily in 2024/25 following release from prison is the highest of the six-year period.

Figure 2: Knowsley CJIT contacts by referral route, 2019/20 - 2024/25



² Other criminal justice routes: requested by Offender Manager (post DRR/ATR) = 46, required by offender management scheme/DRR/ATR/IOM = 42, Conditional Cautioning = 25, other = <15, referred by treatment provider (post treatment) <5. DRR = Drug Rehabilitation Requirement, ATR = Alcohol Treatment Requirement, IOM = Integrated Offender Management.

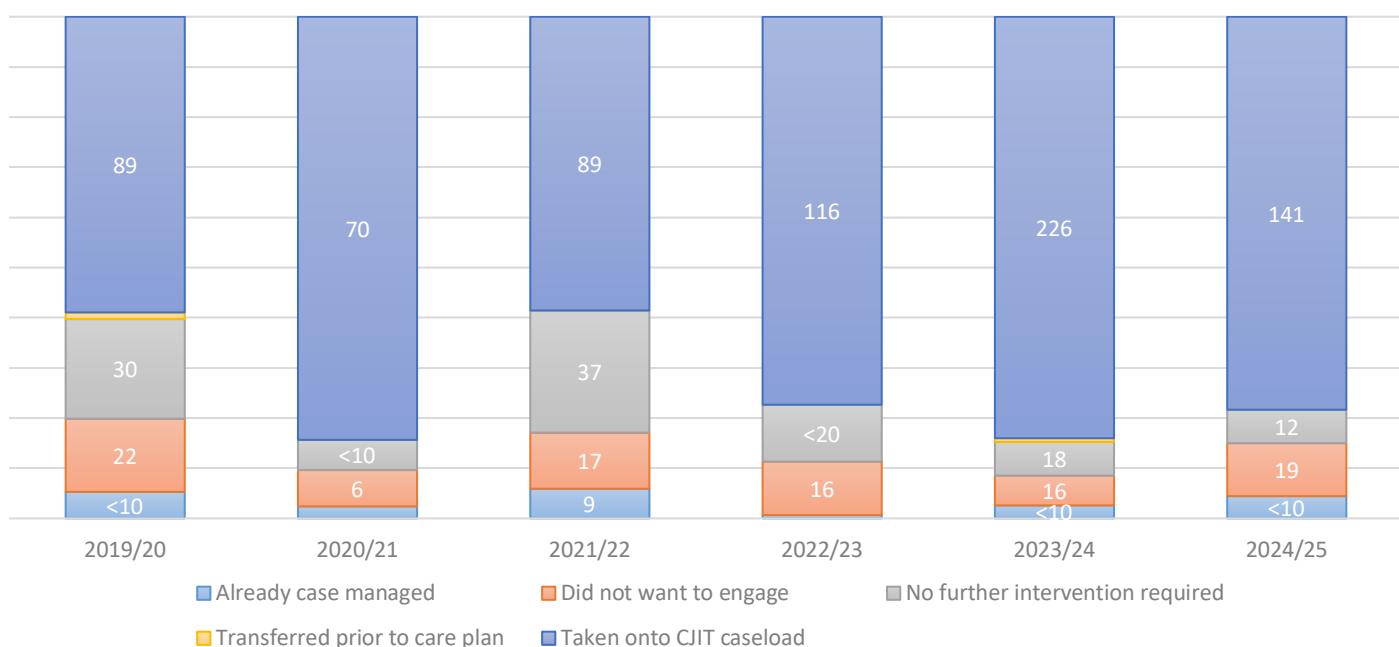
Offender Manager referrals

- In the year ending March 2025, there was a large number of clients who had contact with Knowsley CJIT through their Offender Manager, accounting for around half (49%) of the total CJIT contacts (requested by Offender Manager post DRR/ATR = 46, required by offender management scheme/DRR/ATR/IOM = 42).
- Of the total 88 Knowsley CJIT contacts referred by their Offender Manager in the year ending March 2025, just under nine in ten were men (n=77, 88%), while the average age was 36.3 years, with just under three in five aged 18-39 years (n=50, 57%).
- Alcohol (n=27, 31%) and cannabis (n=25, 28%) accounted for the largest proportions recorded as the main substance, followed by cocaine (cocaine hydrochloride & cocaine unspecified; n=17, 19%) and heroin (n=13, 15%).
- There were equal proportions of Misuse of Drugs Act offences and offences categorised as 'other', each accounting for around one-third (32%) of clients.

OUTCOMES FOLLOWING CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSESSMENT

Just under four in five (78%) Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2025 were taken onto the CJIT caseload (*Figure 3*), which is a larger proportion than the Merseyside total (71%). Notably, the number of clients who did not want to engage following their assessment in 2024/25 is the highest since 2019/20.

Figure 3: Knowsley CJIT contacts by outcome following criminal justice assessment, 2019/20 - 2024/25



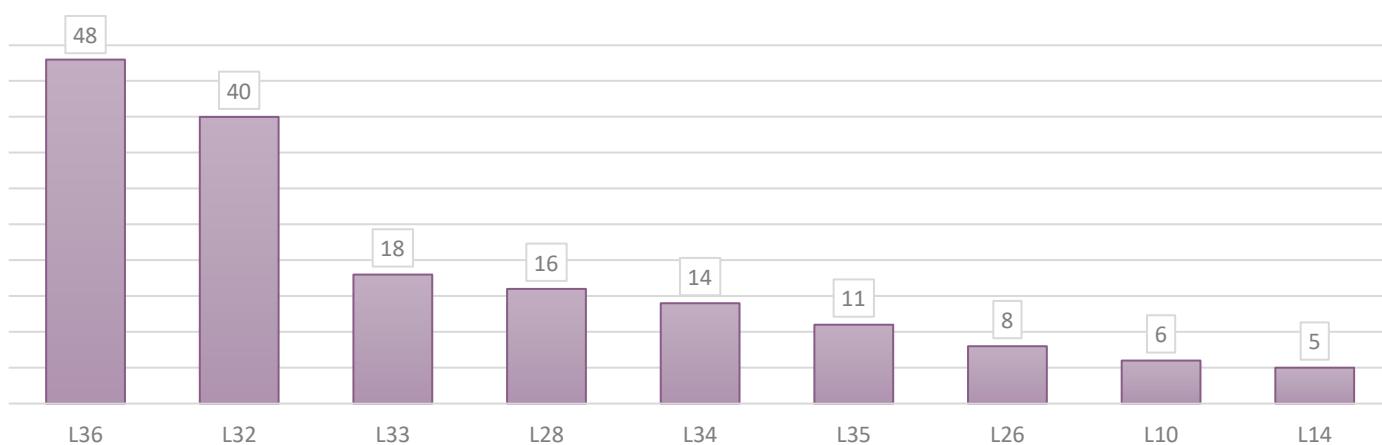
KNOWSLEY RESIDENTS

DEMOGRAPHICS

In the year ending March 2025, 129.6 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Knowsley Local Authority (LA) were in contact with Knowsley CJIT, compared to 169.4 per 100,000 across Merseyside. This is the third 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).

The postcode districts with the highest number of Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2025 were L36 (n=48, 28%) and L32 (n=40, 23%; *Figure 4*).

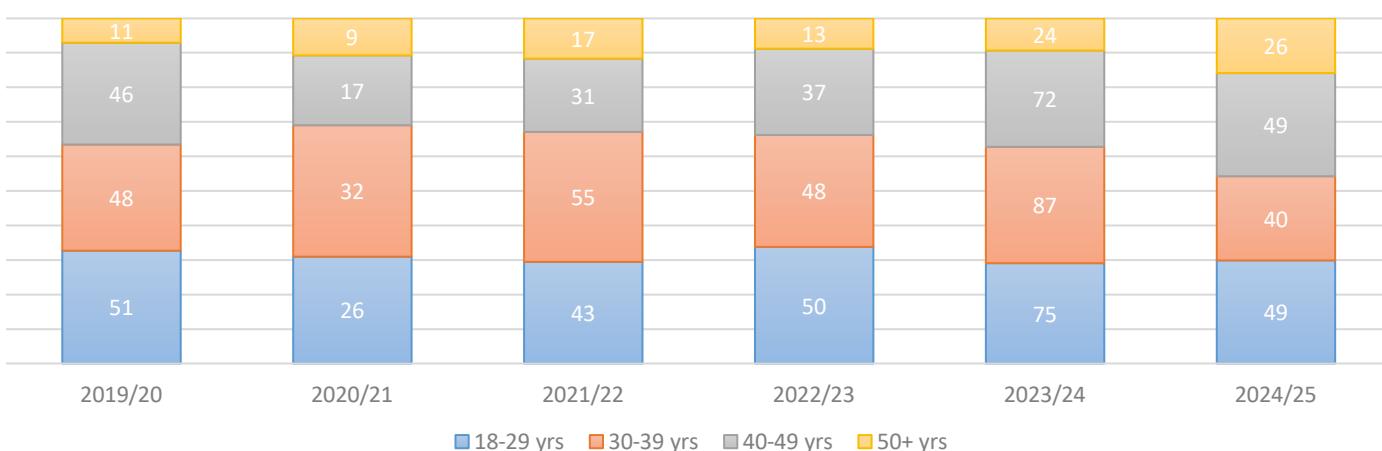
Figure 4: Knowsley residents by postcode area of residence (where there are 5+ episodes), 2024/25



AGE AND SEX

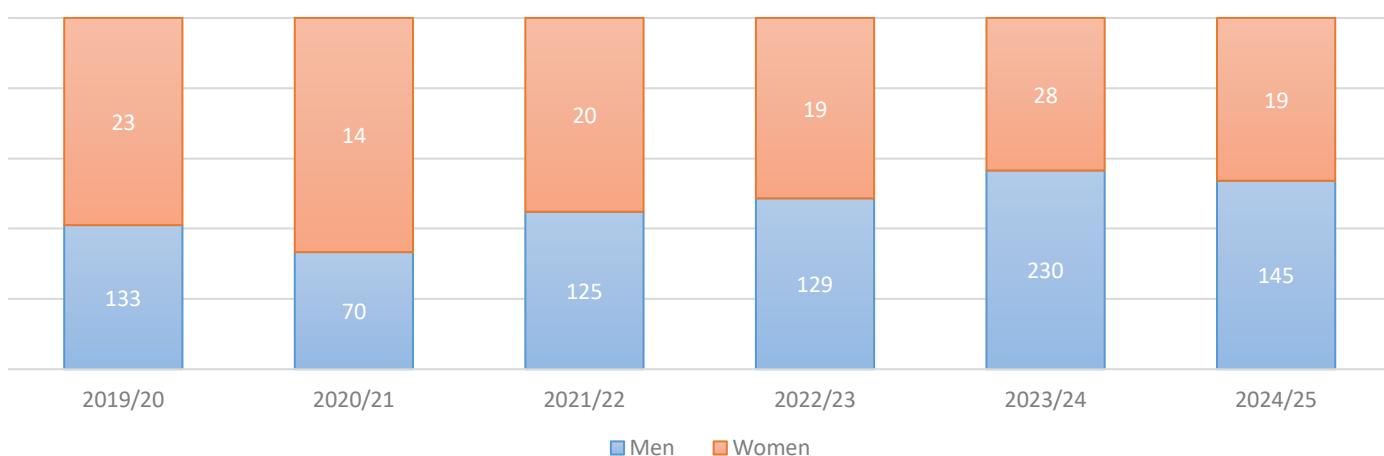
The average age of Knowsley residents assessed in the year ending March 2025 was 37.5 years (men = 36.8, women = 43.4). Notably, Knowsley had the oldest average age for women when compared to the other Merseyside areas. Looking at age groups, individuals aged 18-29 years and 40-49 years each accounted for three in ten (30%), while around a quarter (24%) were aged 30-39 years and around one in six (16%) were aged 50 years or over (*Figure 5*). Notably, Knowsley had the largest proportions of individuals aged 18-29 years and 40-49 years of the five Merseyside CJITS (Merseyside totals: 24% and 26% respectively). Furthermore, 2024/25 had the highest number of individuals aged 50 years or over of the six-year period, though the proportion is similar to the Merseyside total (18%).

Figure 5: Knowsley residents by age group (individuals), 2019/20 - 2024/25



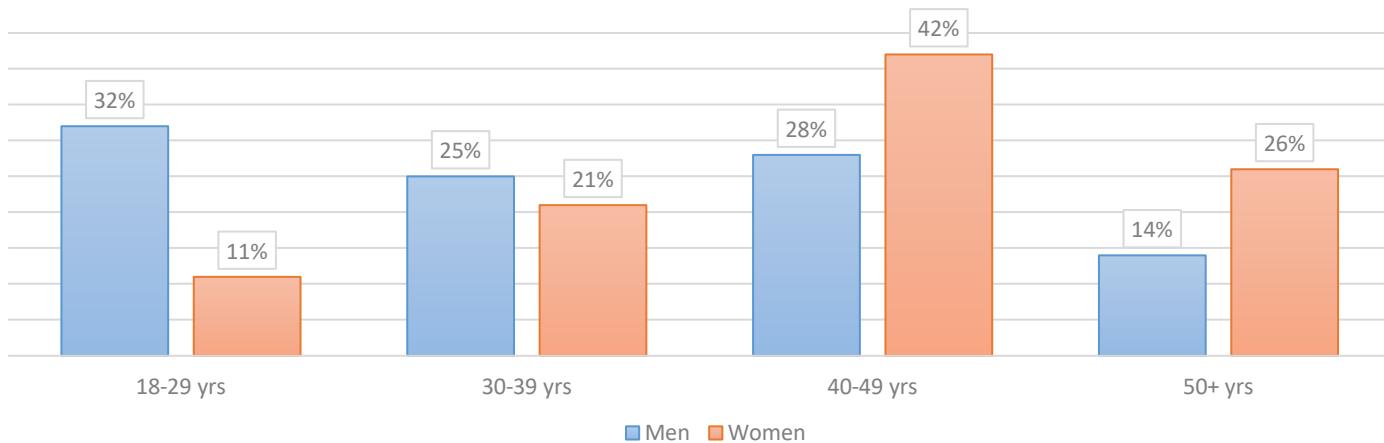
Just under nine in ten (88%) individuals in contact with Knowsley CJIT in the year ending March 2025 stated they were men, which is similar to the six-year average (87%; *Figure 6*) and the Merseyside total (86%).

Figure 6: Knowsley residents by sex (individuals), 2019/20 - 2024/25



When comparing age group with sex in the year ending March 2025, there are some notable differences (*Figure 7*). There was a substantially larger proportion of men aged 18-29 years than women (32% and 11% respectively), while there was a substantially larger proportion of women than men aged 40-49 years (42% and 28% respectively) and 50 years or over (26% and 14% respectively).

Figure 7: Knowsley residents by age group and sex (individuals), 2024/25



ETHNICITY

Where recorded, almost all Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2025 identified themselves as White British (96%; *Figure 8*), which is similar to the previous year's proportion (97%), though larger than the Merseyside figure (92%).

Figure 8: Knowsley residents by ethnicity (individuals), 2024/25



134 (96%)

individuals identifying as White British

DISABILITY

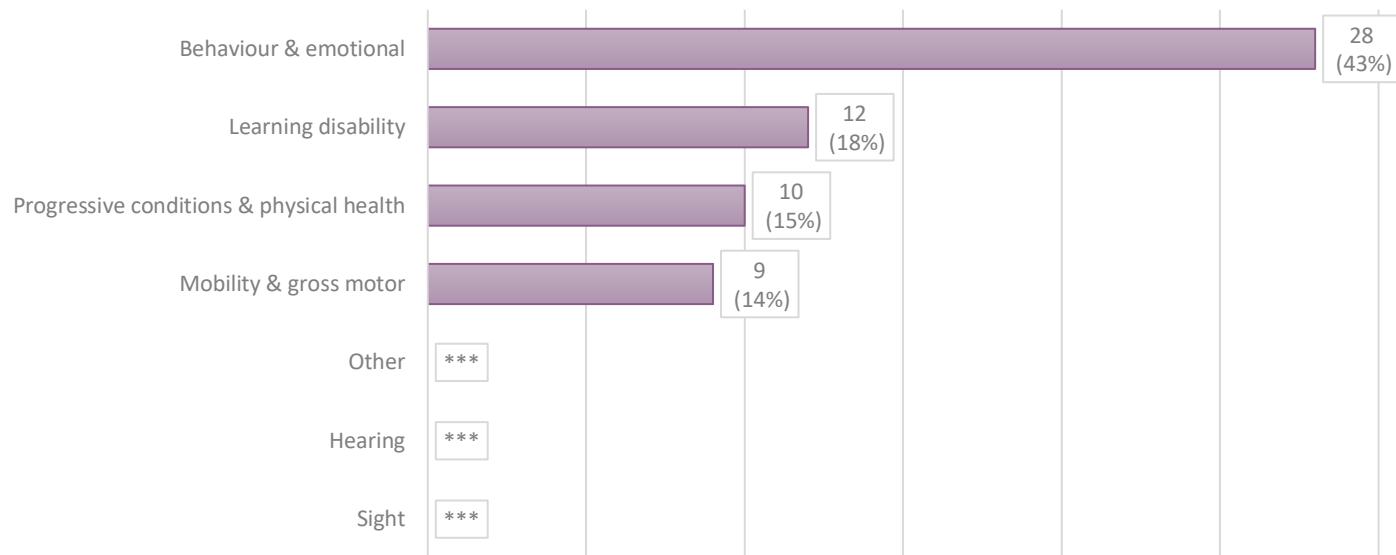
Around one in three (35%) Knowsley residents in the year ending March 2025 considered themselves to have a disability (*Figure 9*). This is a slight increase on the previous year's proportion (31%), though both similar to the six-year average (36%) and the Merseyside figure (34%).

Figure 9: Knowsley residents by disability status, 2024/25



A total of 65 disabilities were recorded³; of which, just over two in five (43%) were a behaviour and emotional disability, followed by a learning disability (18%), progressive conditions and physical health (15%), and mobility and gross motor (14%; *Figure 10*).

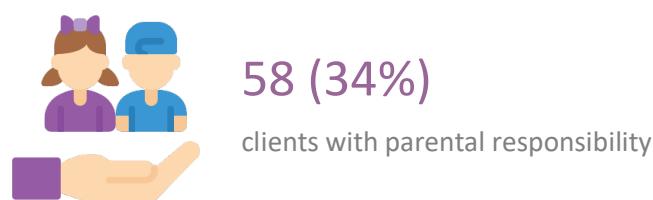
Figure 10: Knowsley residents by disability type, 2024/25



PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

In the year ending March 2025, around one-third (34%) of the Knowsley residents had parental responsibility for a child aged under 18 years (*Figure 11*), which is the same as the average of the past five years since this was added to the CJIT dataset, though a larger proportion than the Merseyside figure (26%).

Figure 11: Knowsley residents by parental status, 2024/25



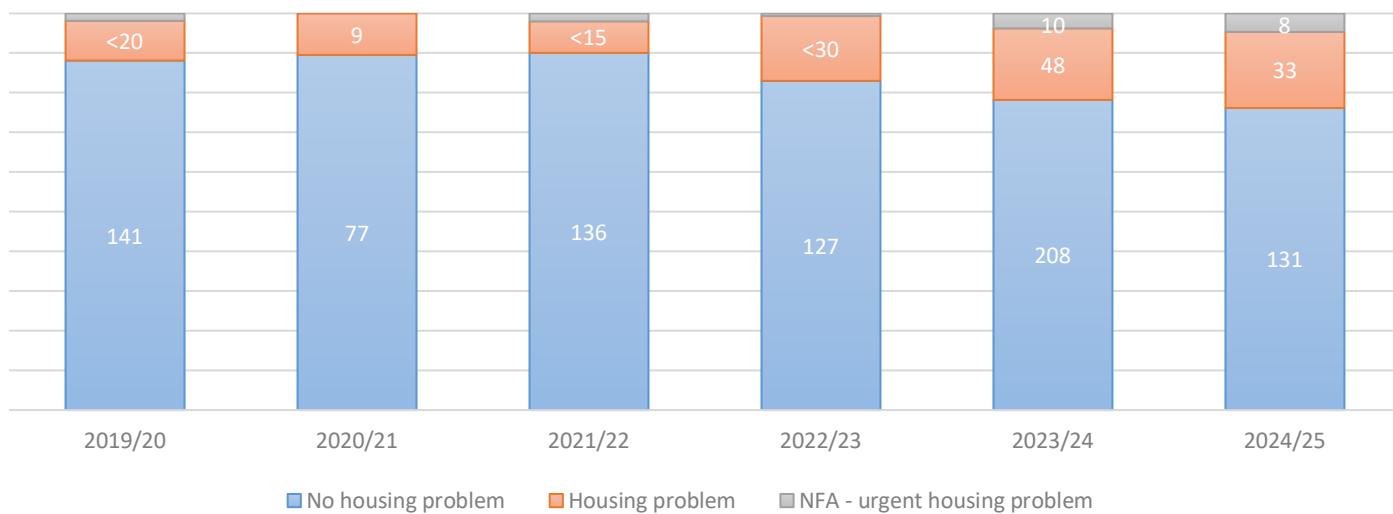
³ Note that clients may have up to three disabilities recorded.

Around three-quarters of the Knowsley CJIT contacts with parental responsibility had none of the children they are responsible for living with them the majority of the time (n=44, 76%). This is the largest proportion of the past five years since this was added to the CJIT dataset and just above the Merseyside figure (72%).

HOUSING SITUATION

While the majority of the Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2025 reported no housing problem, around a quarter (24%) had some form of a housing problem (housing problem = 33, NFA = 8; *Figure 12*)⁴. As a proportion of CJIT episodes, this is the largest of the six-year period, though it is smaller than the Merseyside total (30%).

Figure 12: Knowsley residents by housing problem, 2019/20 - 2024/25



Five (3%) Knowsley residents in the year ending March 2025 reported they had a risk of homelessness in the next eight weeks, which is a decrease on the previous year's proportion (5%) and the smallest proportion reported across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 12%).

SUBSTANCE USE

Of the main substances reported by Knowsley residents in the year ending March 2025, around three in ten (29%) were cocaine (cocaine hydrochloride & cocaine unspecified), while around one-quarter were either cannabis or heroin (24% and 23% respectively) and one in five (20%) were alcohol (*Figure 13*). Notably, Knowsley had the largest proportion of cannabis recorded of the Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 13%). Furthermore, there has been a substantial increase in the number of episodes with heroin recorded as the main substance in the past two years, with 2024/25 figures accounting for the highest number of the past decade, though figures continue to remain below the Merseyside total (27% in 2024/25).

⁴ NFA = no fixed abode. Note that the recording of housing was updated in the CJIT dataset in 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. 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, sofa surfing, squatting, use of night shelter (night-by-night basis)/emergency hostels.

Figure 13: Knowsley residents by main substance, 2019/20 - 2024/25

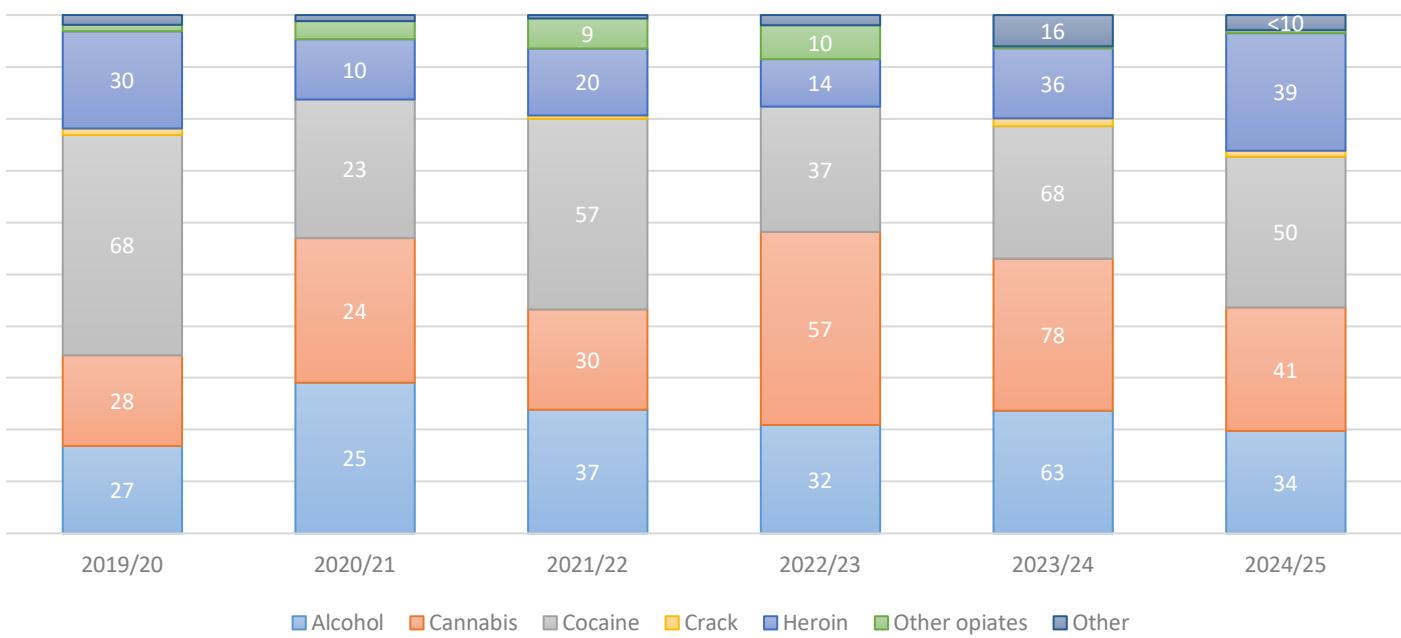


Figure 14 shows 2024/25 figures split by substance one, two and three. Around a third (34%) reported cocaine as their second substance, followed by just under three in ten (28%) who reported crack cocaine, while around half (48%) reported cannabis as their third substance. Notably, almost all of the episodes with crack cocaine recorded as the second substance had heroin recorded as the main substance (92%).

Figure 14: Knowsley residents by substances 1-3, 2024/25

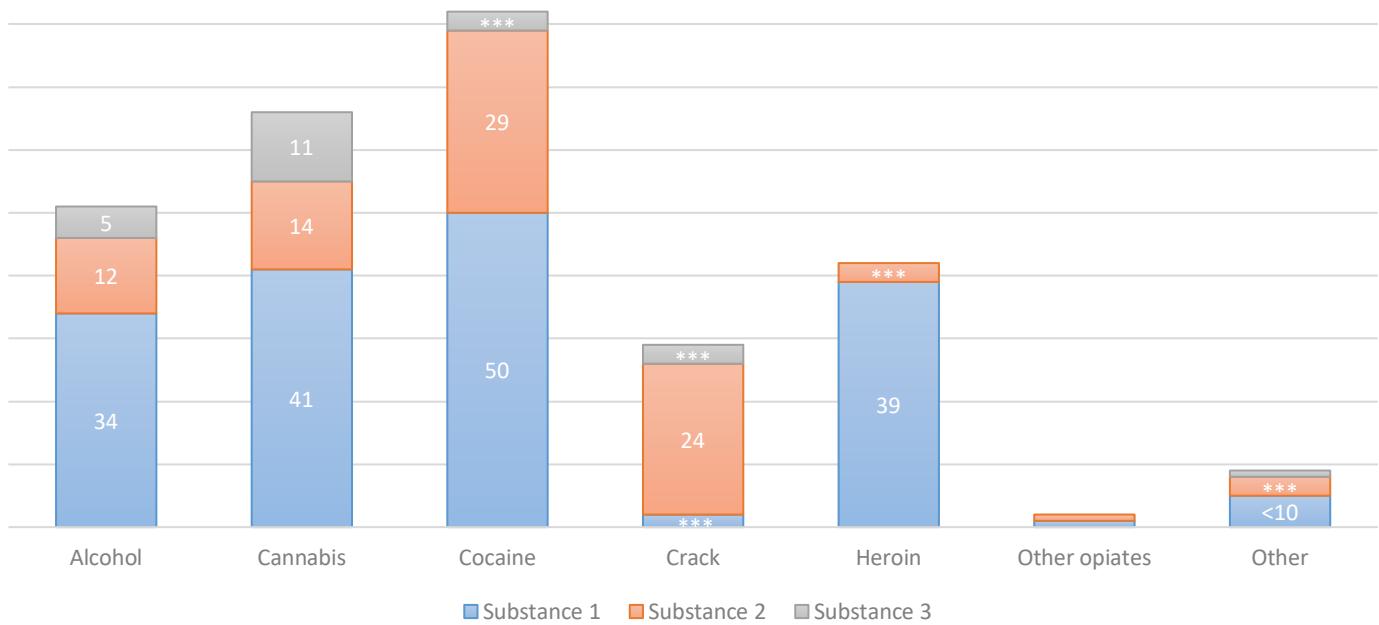


Figure 15 shows the proportions of the main substance by sex in the year ending March 2025, highlighting half (50%) of the women reported heroin as their main substance, compared to around one in five (19%) men. Furthermore, there were substantially larger proportions of cannabis and cocaine recorded as the main substance by men (25% and 33% respectively) than women (15% and 0 respectively).

Figure 15: Knowsley residents by main substance and sex, 2024/25

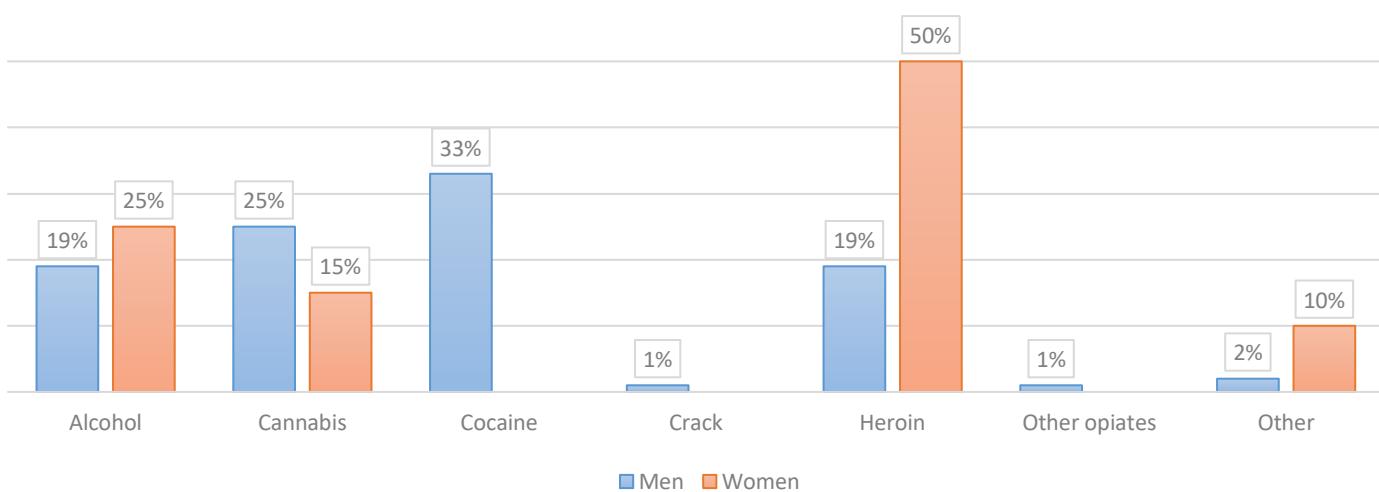
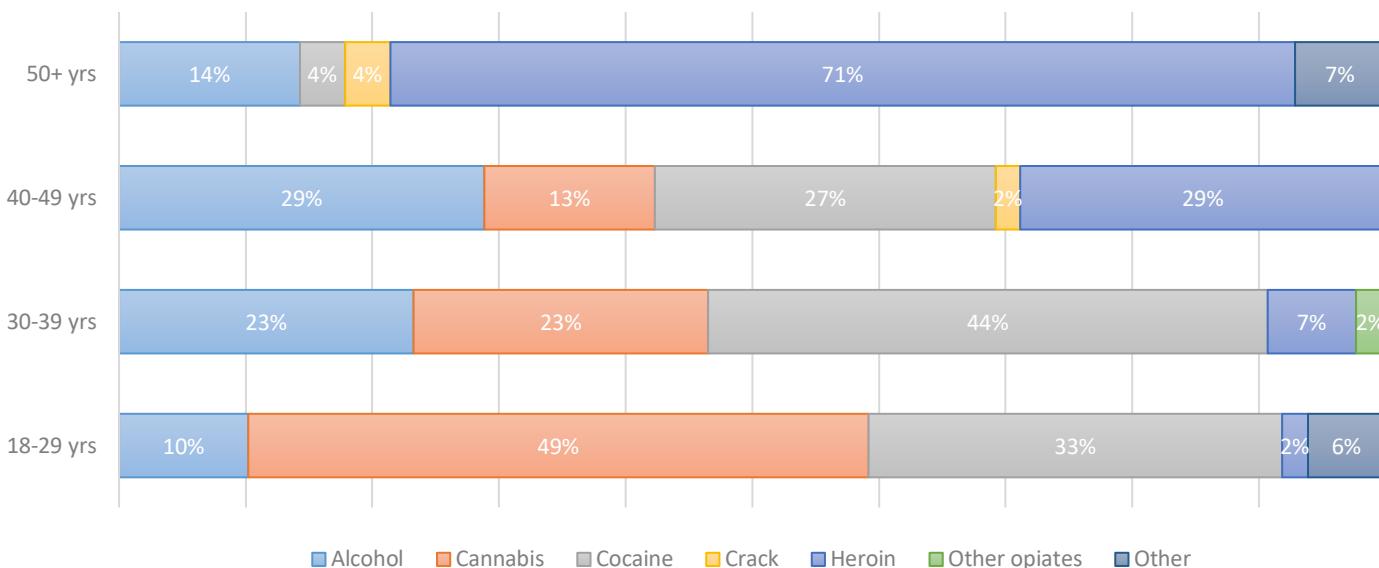


Figure 16 shows the proportions of the main substance for each age group in the year ending March 2025. Cocaine and cannabis were more likely to be the main drugs used by Knowsley residents aged 18-39 years, while alcohol was more likely for those aged 40-49 years and heroin was more likely for those aged 50 years or over. Specifically, around half (49%) of the 18-29-year-olds reported cannabis as their main substance, followed by a third (33%) who reported cocaine, while 44% of 30-39-year-olds reported cocaine and just under a quarter reported either alcohol or cannabis (23% each). There were similar proportions of alcohol, heroin and cocaine reported for 40-49-year-olds (29%, 29% and 27% respectively), and 71% aged 50 years or over reported heroin.

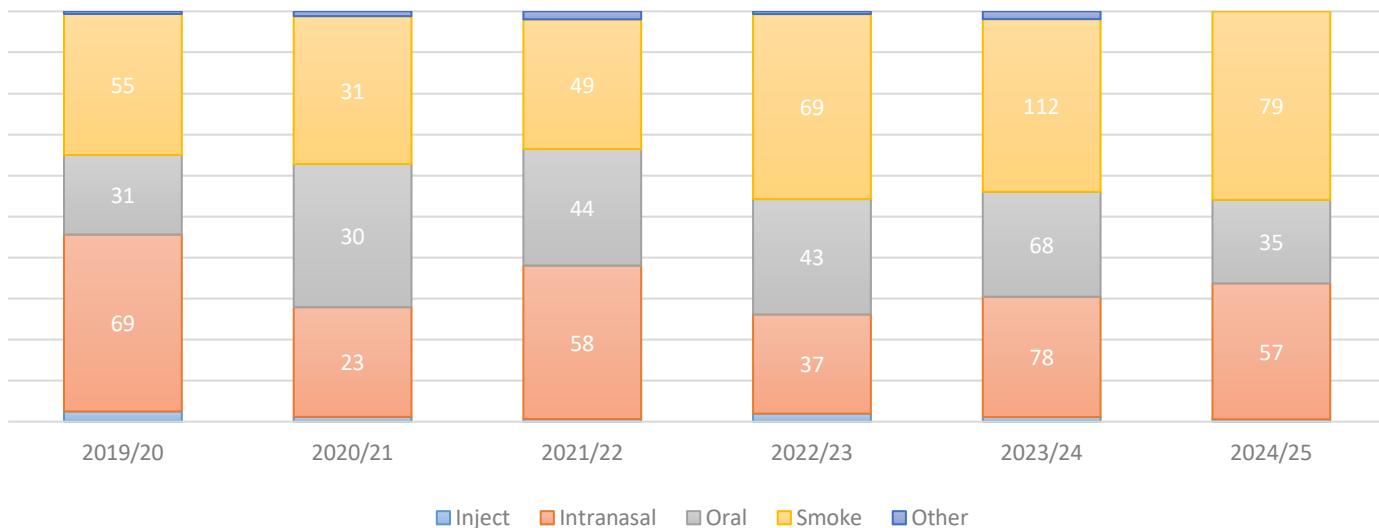
Figure 16: Knowsley residents by main substance and age group, 2024/25



ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION

The route of administration of the main substance is shown in *Figure 17*. In the year ending March 2025, just under half (46%) of the Knowsley CJIT contacts smoked their main substance, while one in three (33%) administered their main substance intranasally and one in five (20%) administered their main substance orally. These are similar proportions to the previous year and the Merseyside figures.

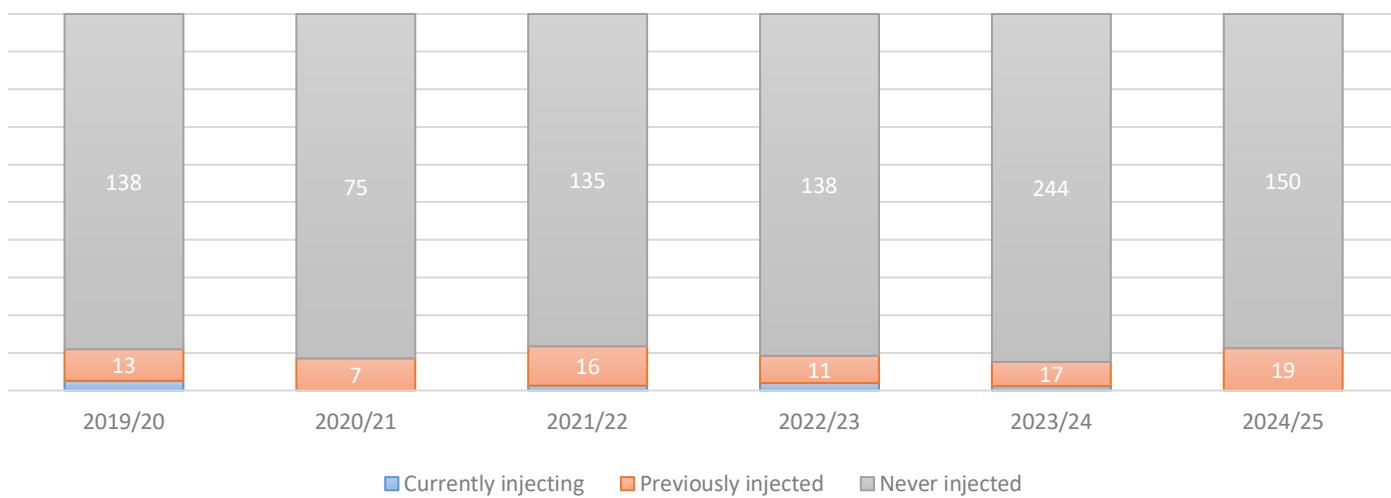
Figure 17: Knowsley residents by route of administration of the main substance, 2019/20 - 2024/25



INJECTING STATUS

Around nine in ten (89%) Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2025 stated they had never injected (*Figure 18*). Notably, Knowsley had the largest proportion of clients who never injected of the five Merseyside CJITs during the six-year period (Merseyside total in 2024/25: 80%).

Figure 18: Knowsley residents by injecting status, 2019/20 - 2024/25



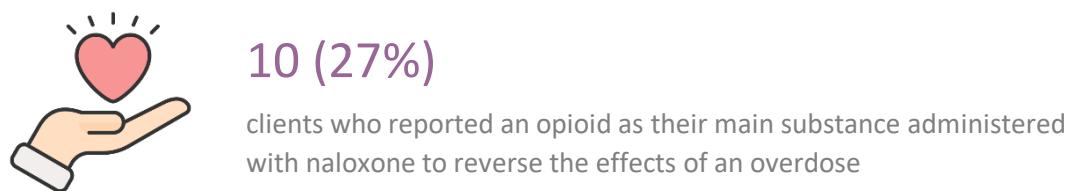
NALOXONE PROVISION

Half of the clients who reported an opioid as their main substance in the year ending March 2025 were issued with naloxone at the start of the current episode (n=20, 50%), which is the same number as the previous year and the largest proportion across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 34%).

Of the clients issued with naloxone in 2024/25, over half were supplied with nasal naloxone (n=11, 55%), which is a larger proportion than the Merseyside total (39%). While of the clients who were not issued with naloxone, 45% were offered but refused naloxone and 40% were in possession of adequate naloxone.

Furthermore, just over a quarter of the Knowsley residents who reported an opioid as their main substance in the year ending March 2025 have at some point been administered with naloxone to reverse the effects of an overdose (n=10, 27%; *Figure 19*), which is the largest proportion of the Merseyside areas (Merseyside total: 11%).

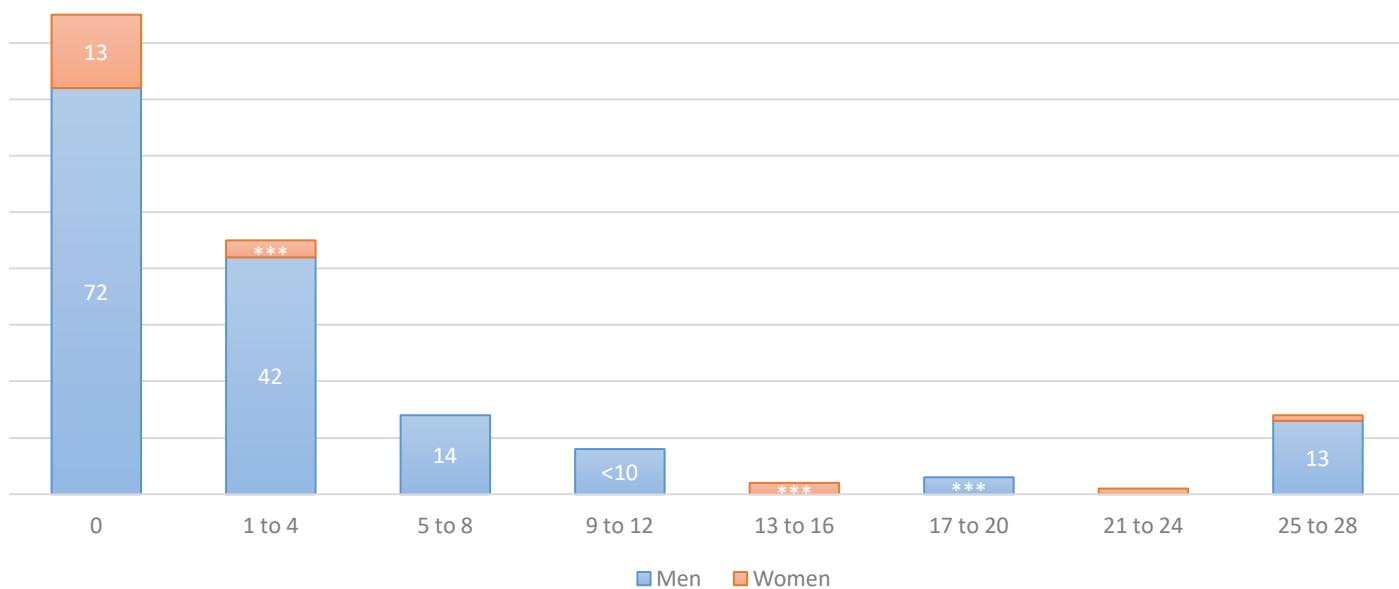
Figure 19: Knowsley residents administered with naloxone to reverse the effects of an overdose, 2024/25



ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

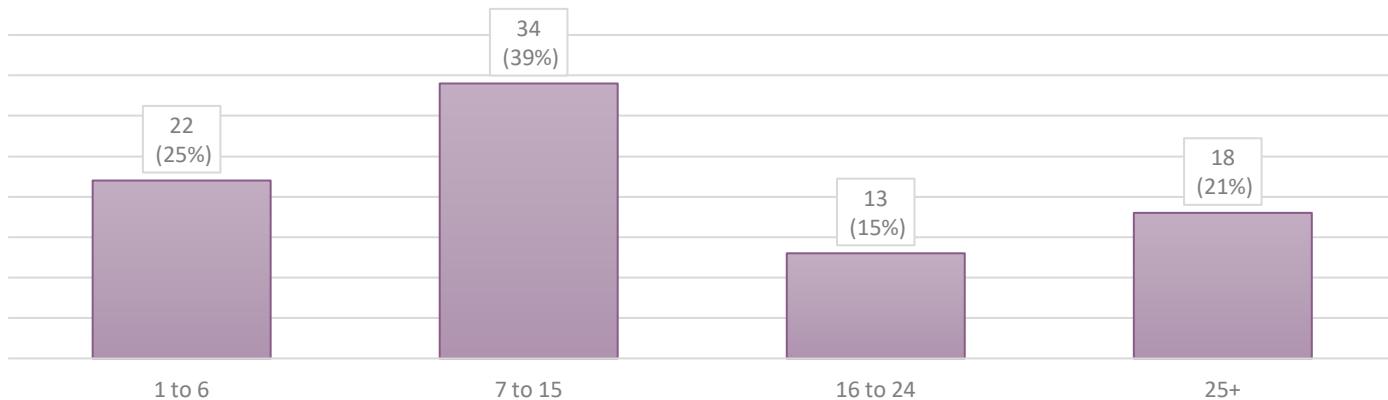
Figure 20 shows the number of days alcohol was consumed by Knowsley clients in the 28 days prior to their CJIT contact in the year ending March 2025. Just over half of the men consumed alcohol (n=80, 53%), which is similar to the previous year's proportion (49%), though a larger proportion than the Merseyside figure (45%). Noting that numbers are small, just over a third of the women consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT contact in 2024/25 (n=7, 35%; *Figure 20*), which is a decrease on the previous year's proportion (53%), and one of smallest proportions across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 42%).

Figure 20: Knowsley residents by number of drinking days in the 28 days prior to assessment and sex, 2024/25



The daily average number of units of alcohol consumed in the 28 days prior to CJIT contact in the year ending March 2025 are shown in *Figure 21*. Around two in five (39%) Knowsley residents consumed 7-15 units of alcohol daily, which is similar to the Merseyside figure (40%).

Figure 21: Knowsley residents by number of units of alcohol consumed on an average day, men & women combined, 2024/25



OFFENDING

The offence that prompted Knowsley CJIT clients' current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system in the year ending March 2025 is shown in *Figure 22*. Around two in five (41%) Knowsley residents reported Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) offences as the offence that brought them into contact with DIP in 2024/25 (possession = 51, 73%; supply = 19, 27%), while around a third (32%) were offences categorised as 'other'. Notably, these proportions are larger than the Merseyside figures (37% and 22% respectively).

Figure 22: Knowsley residents by offence that prompted current/most recent contact with the criminal justice system, 2024/25

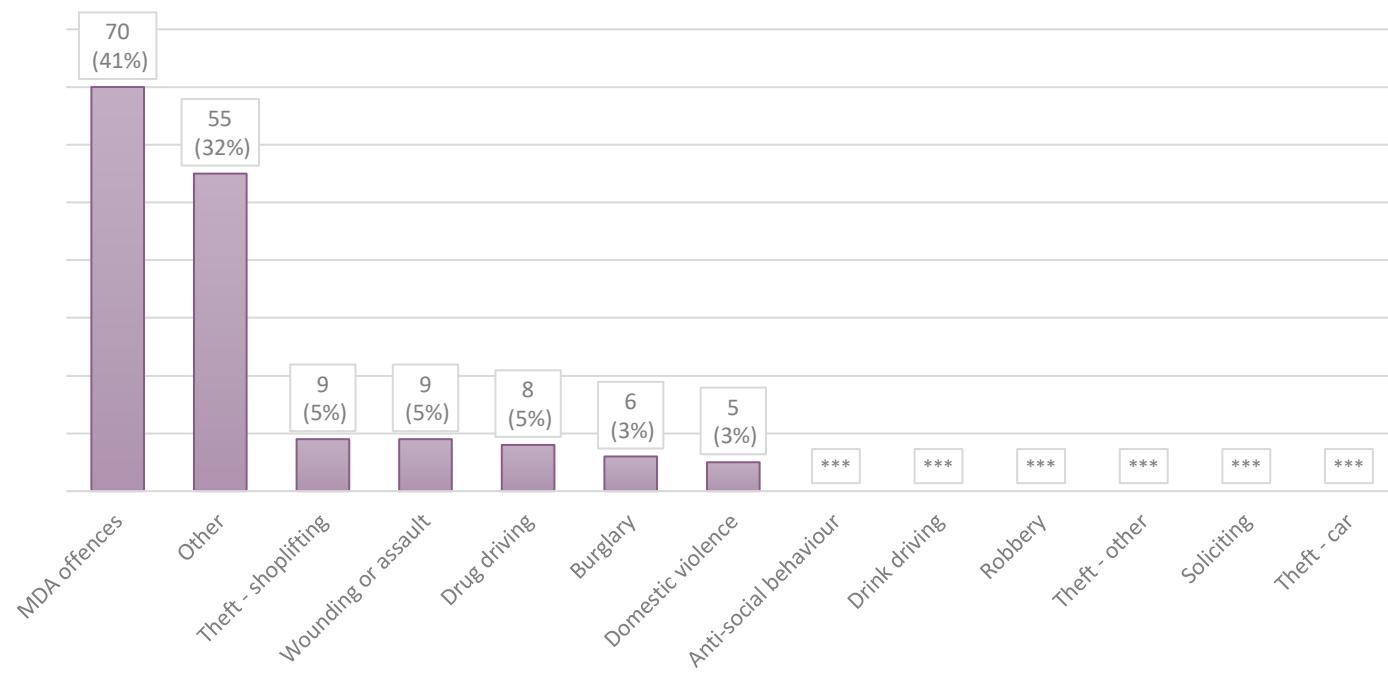


Figure 23 shows six-year trends of the main offending categories for Knowsley residents. Numbers of MDA offences and other offences in 2024/25 are the second highest of the six-year period. Specifically, supply-related MDA offences is a 111% increase on the previous year.

Figure 23: Knowsley residents by main offences that prompted current/most recent contact with the criminal justice system, 2019/20 - 2024/25

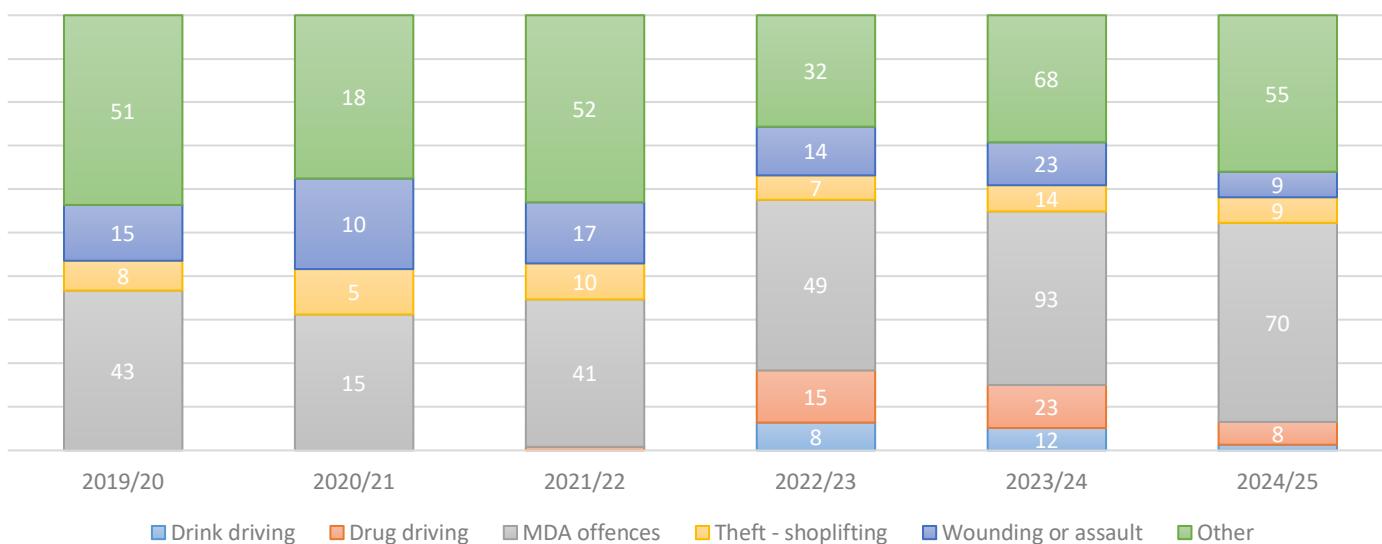
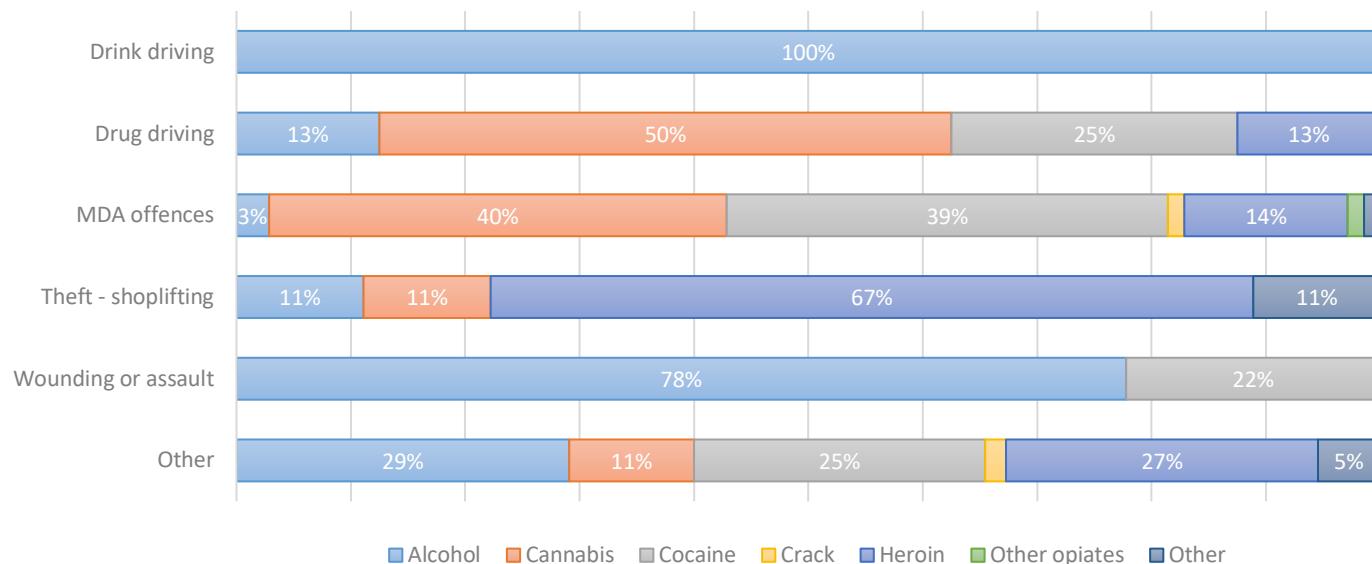


Figure 24 shows the proportions of the main substance reported for the most common offences for Knowsley CJIT contacts assessed in the year ending March 2025. All of the drink driving episodes had alcohol recorded as the main substance, while of the drug driving episodes, half (50%) reported cannabis as the main substance and one-quarter (25%) were cocaine. Cannabis and cocaine accounted for the largest proportions of episodes prompted by MDA offences (40% and 39% respectively), while heroin accounted for 67% of shoplifting-related episodes and alcohol accounted for 78% of wounding or assault. Furthermore, alcohol, heroin and cocaine accounted for the largest proportions of other offences (29%, 27% and 25% respectively).

Figure 24: Knowsley residents by main substance and offence, 2024/25



REFERRALS TO STRUCTURED TREATMENT

Of the clients on the CJIT caseload, 26 individuals were referred to structured treatment in 2024/25 (*Figure 25*)⁵. This is a 56% decrease on the 59 individuals in the previous year, though there was a 38% decrease in the number of clients taken onto the caseload in the year.

Figure 25: Knowsley residents by referrals to structured treatment, 2024/25



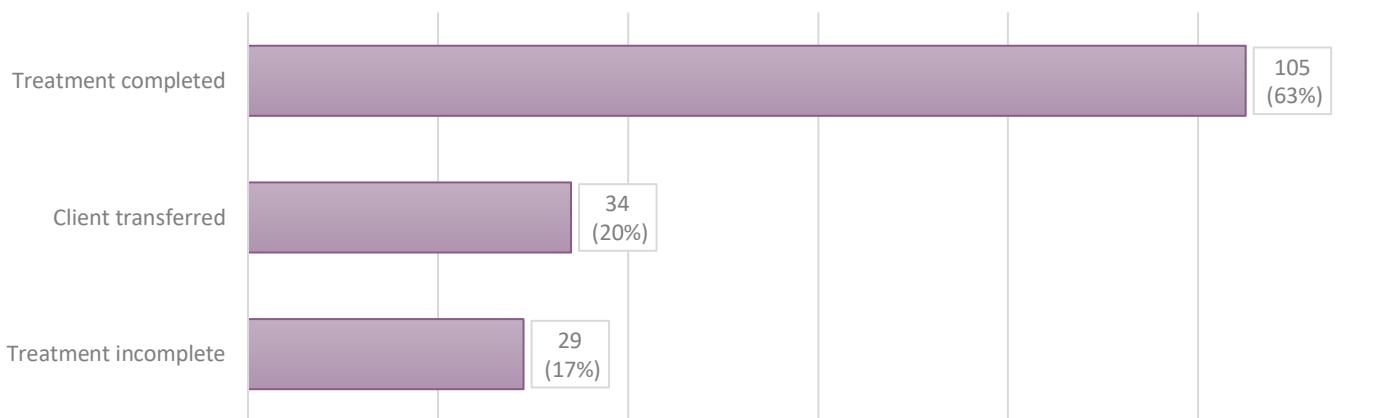
26 individuals

referred to structured treatment

TREATMENT OUTCOMES

There were 168 discharges (160 individuals) in the year ending March 2025⁵. Of these, just under two in three (63%) clients completed treatment, while one in five (20%) transferred prior to the completion of treatment and one in six (17%) did not complete treatment (*Figure 26*). Notably, when compared to the other Merseyside areas, Knowsley had the largest proportion of clients who successfully completed treatment by a substantial margin (Merseyside total: 27%).

Figure 26: Discharges from the Knowsley CJIT caseload, 2024/25



Of the 105 Knowsley residents who completed treatment successfully in the year ending March 2025, the average time on the CJIT caseload was 181 days (*Figure 27*), which is longer than the Merseyside average (172 days).

Figure 27: Average time on Knowsley CJIT caseload for clients who completed treatment, 2024/25



On average, clients successfully completed CJIT treatment in

181 days

⁵ Figures include referrals to structured treatment or discharges from the caseload where the date was between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025, regardless of when the client was taken onto the CJIT caseload. Clients not taken onto the CJIT caseload are excluded from these figures.

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 number 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 Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year, while all other figures are for residents of Knowsley LA only, recorded by Knowsley CJIT.
3. Figures for age, sex 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.
9. Supplementary data to support this report can be accessed here: [CJIT Activity in Merseyside: supplementary tables & charts \(end 2024/25\)](#).

In the year ending March 2025, 169.4 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Merseyside were assessed by one of the local CJITs. Knowsley had the lowest number of individuals in contact with the CJIT of the five Merseyside areas, though the third largest rate (129.6 per 100,000)⁶.

CJIT/LA	CJIT contacts (individuals)	
	Number	Rate (per 100,000 adult population)
Knowsley	164	129.6
Liverpool	927	225.5
Sefton	283	122.2
St Helens	326	215.5
Wirral	329	125.3
<i>Total Merseyside residents (individuals)</i>	<i>2,004</i>	<i>169.4</i>



⁶ Rates have been calculated using [mid-2024 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., Knowsley residents recorded by Knowsley CJIT.

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About the Public Health Institute

The Public Health Institute (PHI) within the Faculty of Health, Innovation, Technology and Science at 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 has extensive experience across various large-scale data sets which contribute to the surveillance systems developed and managed by PHI.

DIP monitoring

PHI has been monitoring criminal justice interventions for people in the criminal justice system 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 data set, 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 data set 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 (RA) and engaged with DIP, and highlight any issues with the RA, and wider DIP, processes.

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 is continually developing to meet local needs.

