



CUSTODIAL HISTORY AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE 2017



16th Survey Bulletin

Research, Strategy and Innovation

Róisín Broderick and James Carnie

March 2018

Executive Summary

Custodial history

One fifth (20%) of prisoners said that they were on remand at the time of completing the 2017 prisoner survey; 80% had been sentenced. Over a quarter of prisoners said that they had ‘never’ previously been on remand (29%). Sixteen percent of those reporting had been on remand ‘over 10 times’ and one tenth between ‘6 and 10 times’ (11%).

One third of those reporting had ‘never’ previously served a prison sentence (35%), while four in ten had served between ‘1 and 5 sentences’ (39%), 11% between ‘6 and 10 sentences’ and 15% had served ‘over 10 sentences’.

Overall drug use

There is a considerable difference between those prisoners who had ‘never’ served a custodial sentence before and those who had served ‘over 10 times’ in relation to illegal drug use in prison (14% & 77% respectively) and illegal drug use in the last month (6% & 50% respectively). Just under half (48%) of the ‘over 10 times’ group were being prescribed methadone compared to six percent of the ‘never’ group.

Overall drug use at time of offence

Over half of prisoners who reported that their drug taking was a problem for them on the outside had been in prison on a sentence ‘6-10 times’ (57%) or ‘over 10 times’ (57%), compared with a fifth who had ‘never’ served a sentence (19%). Six in ten, who had served ‘6-10 sentences’ (64%) or ‘over 10 sentences’ (62%) had been under the influence of drugs at the time of their offence compared with a fifth (20%) of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence.

Overall drug treatment

One fifth of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence in prison (20%) were assessed for drug use on their admission to prison compared to over two thirds (69%) of those who have served ‘over ten times’. Four times as many prisoners who had served ‘over 10 sentences’ (48%) had received help/treatment for their drug problem during a prison sentence, compared to those who had ‘never’ served a sentence (12%).

Overall alcohol use

Just under half of those who had served ‘over 10 sentences’ (45%) were drunk at the time of their offence, compared to 29% of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence. Twice as many of those in prison who served ‘over 10 times’ revealed that alcohol had affected their relationships with their family compared to the ‘never’ served a sentence before group (40% & 21% respectively)

AUDIT

Three quarters of prisoners drink alcohol, with a fifth doing so four or more times a week (18%). On a typical day when they are drinking, nearly a third of prisoners said that they would drink 10 or more drinks (31%). Almost a quarter of prisoners said that they have six or more drinks on one occasion weekly (22%), with a further 19% saying they would do this daily or almost daily.

Two thirds of those who said they had ‘never’ been in prison (66%) said that no one has been injured as a result of their drinking compared to only 38% of those serving ‘over 10 sentences’.

Similarly, three quarters (77%) of those who had 'never' been in prison before said 'no' when asked if a friend or relative or a doctor/health worker had been concerned about their drinking and suggested they cut down compared to 54% of those serving 'over 10 sentences'.

Overall Smoking

The more times an offender appears in custody, the more likely he or she is to smoke: 52% of the 'never' in custody group, 68% of the '1-5 times' group, 83% of the '6-10 times' group and 87% of the 'over 10 times' group were smokers. Although more than half of all smokers (53%) did express the desire to stop only one third would like to see smoke free prison introduced.

In Care

Of those prisoners who had been in prison 'over 10 times', half (49%) said that they were in care as a child compared to one in ten (12%) of those who had 'never' been in prison, one quarter (27%) of those in prison '1-5 times', and four in ten (38%) of those who have been in prison '6-10 times'. A similar pattern can be seen for those in care at the age of 16.

Mental Health and Well Being

When looking at mental health by the number of times respondents have been in prison, it can be seen that generally the more times a respondent has served a sentence the less likely they are to respond positively when asked questions regarding their mental health and well-being.

Violence

Around a quarter of those in prison 'over 10 times' said that they were involved in (29%) or convicted (26%) of violence towards their spouse or partner compared

to those who had 'never' been in prison before (20% and 14% respectively).

Over a third of those in prison 'over 10 times' (38%) said they were a victim of violence from their spouse or partner compared to a quarter (26%) of those who had 'never' been in prison before. Those in prison 'over 10 times' (51%) were much more likely than those who had 'never' been in prison (30%) to say that as a child they witnessed violence between their parents/carer.

Knife Crime

Looking at knife crime by the number of times a prisoner has been on a sentence, the data show that the more times a respondent has been in prison, the more likely it is that they would have been involved in knife crime. Over two thirds (69%) of those who had been in prison 'over 10 times' said that they have carried a knife compared to a fifth (20%) of those who have 'never' previously been in prison.

Six in ten (62%) of those serving 'over 10 sentences' said that they have previously used a knife to injure someone compared to 13% of those who had 'never' served a sentence. Similarly, almost two thirds (64%) of those serving 'over 10 sentences' said that they have been a victim of knife crime, with a fifth (21%) of those who had 'never' served a sentence before stating this.

Male offenders' drug use

Of the 'never' been in prison group, only six percent had used drugs in prison in the last month compared to half (49%) of the 'over 10 sentences' group. Just under half (47%) of the 'over 10 times' group were being prescribed methadone compared to 4% of the 'never' group.

One third of those who had served 'over 10 times' (33%) reported using New Psychoactive substances prior to coming into prison compared to one in ten (11%) of those who had 'never' served a custodial sentence. Half of the 'over 10 times' group (49%) reported using New Psychoactive Substance during their time in prison compared to a minority 6% of those who had 'never' served a sentence before.

Male drug use at time of offence

Over half of male offenders who had served 'over 10 sentences' (56%) reported that their drug taking was a problem for them on the outside, compared to one fifth (18%) of those who had 'never' served a sentence.

Six in ten male offenders who served a sentence 'over 10 times' (62%) had been under the influence of drugs at the time of their offence compared to two in ten who had 'never' served a sentence (18%).

A third of those with 'over 10 sentences' had committed their offence to get money for drugs (35%), compared to only six per cent of those who had 'never' served a sentence.

Male offenders' drug treatment

Seven in ten male offenders who served 'over 10 sentences' reported that if they were offered help for their drug problem outside prison (70%) and in prison (68%) that they would take it, compared with a fifth of those who had 'never' served a sentence (17% and 18% respectively).

Half of those who had been in prison 'over 10 times' (49%) were worried that drug taking would be a problem for them on release into the community compared to five percent of the 'never' been in prison group.

Almost half of those in the 'over 10 times' group had been given the chance to receive treatment for drug use during their sentence (46%) and had received help/treatment during their sentence (48%) compared to the 'never' group (16% and 11% respectively).

Male offenders' alcohol use

Four in ten male offenders reported being drunk at the time of their offence (39%), of these half had served a sentence '6 to 10 times' (51%), four in ten '1 to 5 times' (43%) and 'over ten times' (44%) and over a quarter had 'never' (29%) served a sentence in prison.

Over three times as many men in the 'over 10 times' group (30%) had experienced difficulties in holding down a job, compared to 8% in the 'never' group.

Twice as many male offenders in the 'over 10 times' group (39%) conceded that drinking had affected their relationship with their family compared to those who had 'never' served a prison sentence before (20%).

Just over a quarter of male offenders in the 'over 10 times group' (26%) were worried that alcohol will be a problem for them upon their release compared to seven percent of those in the 'never' group.

Male offenders Smoking

The more times a male offender appears in custody, the more likely he is to smoke: 52% of the 'never' group, 67% of the '1-5 times' group, 82% of the '6-10 times' group and 87% of the 'over 10 times' group were smokers. However, over half of male smokers (53%) did express the desire to stop.

Half of prisoners in each group said they would use the prison stop smoking service. Three quarters in each group stated that

they would use e-cigs if they were available in prison. A significantly higher percentage of many male offenders in the 'never' group (41%) would like to see smoke-free prisons compared with those in the 'over 10 times' group (24%).

Women in custody drug use at time of offence

Twice as many women who had served 'over 10 sentences' (68%) reported that their drug taking was a problem for them on the outside compared to those who had 'never' served a sentence (33%). Three quarters of women who served a sentence '1-5 times' (75%) or '6-10 times' (75%) had been under the influence of drugs at the time of their offence compared to a third (34%) of those who had 'never' served a sentence.

Women in custody drug treatment

Three quarters of women who served 'over 10 sentences' (77%) reported that if they were offered help for their drug problem in prison they would take it compared with one third of those who had 'never' served a sentence (34%). Twice as many of those who had been in prison 'over 10 times' (40%) were worried that drug taking would be a problem for them on release into the community compared the 'never' (21%) been in prison group.

Half of those women who have served a prison sentence 'over 10 times' (53%) were assessed for drug use upon their admission to prison compared to one third of those who had 'never' served a custodial sentence group (32%).

Women in custody alcohol use

Just over half of women in custody (52%) who had served a sentence 'over 10 times'

reported being drunk at the time of their offence, compared to one third (31%) of those who had 'never' been in prison before. Between a third and a half of the women conceded that drinking had affected their relationship with their family, suggesting an entrenched problem with alcohol in the community setting.

Half of those who had served a sentence 'over 10 times' (50%) were worried that alcohol would be a problem for them upon their release, compared to 15% of those who had 'never served a sentence.

Women in custody Smoking

The more times a women appears in custody, the more likely she is to smoke: 53% of the 'never' group, 90% of the '1-5 times' group, 87% of the '6-10 times' group and 91% of the 'over 10 times' group were smokers. However, almost half of these women (48%) did express the desire to stop smoking.

Half of women in each group said they would use the prison stop smoking service. Three quarters in each group stated that they would use e-cigs if they were available in prison. A significantly higher percentage of many women in the 'never' group (47%) would like to see smoke-free prisons compared with those in the 'over 10 times' group (19%).

Introduction

This Bulletin, which deals specifically with the custodial history of prisoners held by the Scottish Prison Service, is one of a number of thematic commentaries presenting the key findings from the 2017 Prisoner Survey.

The Survey, which is undertaken in each of the 15 Scottish prisons, involves all Scottish prisoners.¹ Of the 93% of males and six per cent of females in custody, 80% were convicted and 20% were untried. One third of those in custody were aged between 30 and 39 years, a quarter (23%) were age 21 to 29 years and one fifth (20%) were 40 to 49 years of age. A minority 7% were aged between 16 and 20 years and the remaining 20% of the prisoners reporting in the survey were 50 years of age and over.

Content and coverage

The Survey is conducted every two years and focuses upon the core elements of prison life: living conditions, family contact, healthcare, relationships and atmosphere. It also seeks views on such issues as perceived safety, bullying, drug use, military service mental health and in care as a child. As it is completed in a relatively short timeslot it purposely avoids detailed questions on complex issues.

The Survey is distributed to all prisoners and all establishments within Scotland, so in that regard, the exercise is a census. The 2017 questionnaire was translated into three key foreign languages and interpreters were also provided as necessary on fieldwork day.

¹ The 2017 Survey fieldwork covered the period May to July 2017. Establishments were given the option either to distribute the questionnaires or have the research team do so. Prior to these visits, posters were displayed in prominent areas in the prison informing prisoners and staff of the Survey and the day it would take place in their establishment. The evening prior to the Survey, each prisoner was given a leaflet informing them of the Survey and its aims. On the day of the Survey, prisoners were issued with a survey form by a member of the Survey Team or prison staff. After being given the chance to complete the questionnaire in the privacy of their cell, the completed forms (sealed in an envelope) were personally collected by a member of the Survey Team or prison staff. This methodology helps ensure that when handing out the forms each prisoner is given a brief explanation of why the Survey is taking place and has an opportunity to ask questions.

Custodial history

Prison History

One fifth (20%) of prisoners said that they were on remand at the time of completing the 2017 prisoner survey; 80% had been sentenced.

Respondents' remand and custodial history is outlined in Table 1. This shows that prisoners were more likely to report being on remand between '1 and 5 times' (43%). Over a quarter of prisoners said that they had 'never' previously been on remand (29%). Sixteen percent of those reporting had been on remand 'over 10 times' and one tenth between '6 and 10 times' (11%).

One third of those reporting had 'never' previously served a prison sentence (35%), while four in ten had served between '1 and 5 sentences' (39%), 11% between '6 and 10 sentences', and 15% had served 'over 10 sentences'.

Table 1. Prison History	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
Number of times on remand	29	43	11	16
Number of times previously on a sentence	35	39	11	15

Sentence length

Table 2 below shows the sentence length of those prisoners reporting in the survey. One third are serving a sentence of over 1 year up to 4 years (35%), followed by a quarter serving over 4 years up to 10 years (23%), and one fifth serving over 3 months and up to 12 months (20%). A minority (5%) are serving over 10 years, and one in ten respondents are serving a Life/WLT sentence (11%).

Table 2. Sentence length			
Up to 90 days	6	Over 4 yrs. up to 10 yrs	23
Over 3 months up to 12	20	Over 10 years	5
Over 1 yrs up to 4 yrs	35	Life/WLT	11

Two fifths of prisoners said that they had previously served a sentence in the community (41%). Just over a quarter said that they have received a custodial sentence as a result of breaching a community sentence (27%).

Overall drug use

Table 3 shows a considerable difference between those prisoners who had 'never' served a custodial sentence before and those who had served 'over 10 times' in relation to illegal drug use in prison (14% & 77% respectively) and illegal drug use in the last month (6% & 50% respectively).

Just under half (48%) of the ‘over 10 times’ group were being prescribed methadone compared to six percent of the ‘never’ group.

Table 3 Drug use

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
Ever used illegal drugs in prison?	14	41	68	77
Used illegal drugs in the last month?	6	21	39	50
Ever injected drugs in prison?	1	2	8	19
Are you being prescribed methadone?	6	16	36	48
Prior to coming into prison have you ever used New Psychoactive Substances?	11	17	30	33
During your time in prison have you ever used New Psychoactive Substances?	5	16	35	39

Overall drug use at time of offence

Over half of prisoners who reported that their drug taking was a problem for them on the outside had been in prison on a sentence ‘6-10 times’ (57%) or ‘over 10 times’ (57%), compared with a fifth who had ‘never’ served a sentence (19%). Six in ten, who had served ‘6-10 sentences’ (64%) or ‘over 10 sentences’ (62%) had been under the influence of drugs at the time of their offence compared with a fifth (20%) of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence.

One third of those who served ‘over 10 sentences’ had committed their offence to get money for drugs (35%), compared with seven percent of prisoners who had ‘never’ served a sentence. Half of those who had served ‘over 10 sentences’ (50%) reported receiving treatment for their drug use before imprisonment compared with one in ten (8%) of those who had ‘never’ served a prison sentence. Table 4 highlights the increasing drug use amongst those prisoners who have served more sentences.

Table 4 Drug use at the time of offence

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
My drug taking was a problem for me on the outside	19	36	57	57
I was under the influence of drugs at the time of my offence	20	39	64	62
I committed my offence to get money for drugs	7	12	24	35
I was receiving treatment for my drug use before my imprisonment	8	13	29	50

Overall drug treatment

Over two thirds of those prisoners who served ‘over 10 sentences’ reported that if they were offered help for their drug taking in prison/outside prison that they would take it (70% and 69% respectively) compared with a fifth (18% and 20% respectively) of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence.

One fifth of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence in prison (20%) were assessed for drug use on their admission to prison compared to over two thirds (69%) of those who have served ‘over ten times’.

Four times as many prisoners who had served ‘over 10 sentences’ (48%) had received help/treatment for their drug problem during a prison sentence, compared to those who had ‘never’ served a sentence (12%).

Almost half of the ‘over 10 times’ group (48%) were worried that drug taking would be a problem on release, compared to seven per cent of the ‘never’ been in prison group (Table 5).

Table 5 Help/treatment for drug problem

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
If I was offered help for my drug problem on the outside, I would take it	18	36	61	70
If I was offered help for my drug problem in prison, I would take it	20	39	60	69
I am worried that my drug taking will be a problem for me when I get out	7	21	39	48
I was assessed for drug use upon my admission to prison	20	38	65	67
I have been given the chance to receive treatment for drug use during my sentence	17	28	38	46
I have received help/treatment for drug use during my sentence	12	24	37	48

Overall alcohol use

Just under half of those who had served ‘over 10 sentences’ (45%) were drunk at the time of their offence, compared to 29% of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence. Over three times as many prisoners who had served ‘over 10 sentences’ said that they were worried that alcohol would be a problem for them when they got out (28%) compared to those who had not served a sentence before (8%). A similar percentage of the ‘over 10 times’ group (31%) admitted that drinking had affected their ability to hold down a job, compared to 9% of the ‘never’ in prison group.

Twice as many of those in prison who served ‘over 10 times’ revealed that alcohol had affected their relationships with their family compared to the ‘never’ served a sentence before group (40% & 21% respectively - see Table 6).

Table 6 Alcohol use at the time of offence

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 Times
I was drunk at the time of my offence	29	43	49	45
My drinking affected my ability to hold down a job	9	19	25	31
My drinking affected my relationship with my family	21	36	45	40
If I was offered help in Prison for alcohol problems I would take it	29	43	46	45
If I was offered help on the outside for alcohol I would take it	27	40	44	47
I am worried that alcohol will be a problem for me when I get out	8	21	31	28

AUDIT

As part of the 2017 survey, the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) was incorporated into the section asking prisoners about their alcohol use prior to going to prison. Table 7 shows the responses to each of the 10 AUDIT questions for the overall prisoner survey sample.

Three quarters of prisoners drink alcohol, with a fifth doing so four or more times a week (18%). On a typical day when they are drinking, nearly a third of prisoners said that they would drink 10 or more drinks (31%). Almost a quarter of prisoners said that they have six or more drinks on one occasion weekly (22%), with a further 19% saying they would do this daily or almost daily.

Around one fifth of prisoners said that weekly or daily/almost daily that they: found they were not able to stop drinking once they had started (23%); failed to do what was normally expected of them because of their drinking (19%); needed a first drink in the morning to get themselves going after a heavy drinking session (17%); had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking (20%); or had been unable to remember what happened the night before because they had been drinking (20%).

Table 7 AUDIT

How often do you have a drink containing alcohol?	Never	Monthly or less	2 to 4 times a month	2 to 3 times a week	4 or more times a week
	24	24	17	18	18
How many drinks containing alcohol do you have on a typical day when you are drinking?	1 or 2	3 or 4	5 or 6	7, 8 or 9	10 or more
	19	16	18	16	31
	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily
How often do you have six or more drinks on one occasion?	27	19	13	22	19
How often during the last year have you found that you were not able to stop drinking once you had started?	67	5	4	9	14
How often during the last year have you failed to do what was normally expected from you because of your drinking?	70	7	5	8	11
How often during the last year have you needed a first drink in the morning to get yourself going after a heavy drinking session?	76	4	3	5	12
How often during the last year have you had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking?	67	9	4	7	13
How often during the last year have you been unable to remember what happened the night before because you had been drinking?	63	10	7	9	11
	No	Yes, but not in the last year	Yes, during the last year		
Have you or anyone else been injured as a result of your drinking?	53	31	17		
Has a relative or friend or a doctor/health worker been concerned about your drinking or suggested you cut down?	63	18	19		

A full breakdown by the number of times a prisoner has been in custody can be found in the Annex. When looking at the AUDIT questionnaire in relation to sentence frequency, generally, the more sentences a prisoner has served, the more likely they are to engage in harmful drinking.

Over a quarter of offenders who had been in prison ‘over 10 times’ (27%) said they drank a drink containing alcohol 4 or more times a week compared to one in ten who had ‘never’ been in prison (11%). Twice as many of those who had been in prison ‘over 10 times’ (41%) said that they had 10 or more drinks containing alcohol on a typical day when they are drinking compared to those who had ‘never’ been in prison before (21%).

A third of offenders serving 'over 10 times' said that daily or almost daily they would have six or more drinks on one occasion (33%) compared to only ten per cent of those who had 'never' served a sentence. A quarter of those serving 'over 10 sentences' (23%) said that daily or almost daily they found that they were not able to stop drinking once they had started compared to six per cent of those who had 'never' served a sentence.

Two thirds of those who said they had 'never' been in prison (66%) said that no one has been injured as a result of their drinking compared to only 38% of those serving 'over 10 sentences'. Similarly, three quarters (77%) of those who had 'never' been in prison before said 'no' when asked if a friend or relative or a doctor/health worker had been concerned about their drinking and suggested they cut down compared to 54% of those serving 'over 10 sentences'.

One fifth of prisoners who had served 'over 10 sentences' (20%) compared to only three per cent who had 'never' been in prison before said that daily or almost daily they had failed to do what was normally expected from them because of their drinking.

One quarter (23%) of those serving 'over 10 sentences' said that they daily or almost daily in the last year have needed a first drink in the morning to get themselves going after a heavy drinking session compared to five per cent who had 'never' been in prison.

Again, one fifth (20%) of those serving 'over 10 sentences' said that they daily or almost daily had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking compared to seven per cent of those who had 'never' served a sentence.

Lastly, 18% of those who have been in prison 'over 10 times' compared to six per cent of those who had 'never' been in prison said that daily or almost daily in the last year they have been unable to remember what happened the night before because they had been drinking (See Annex).

Overall Smoking

The more times an offender appears in custody, the more likely he or she is to smoke: 52% of the 'never' in custody group, 68% of the '1-5 times' group, 83% of the '6-10 times' group and 87% of the 'over 10 times' group were smokers. Although more than half of all smokers (53%) did express the desire to stop only one third would like to see smoke free prison introduced (see Annex).

In Care

There is a strong correlation between the number of times a prisoner has been in prison and whether they were previously in care. Of those prisoners who had been in prison 'over 10 times', half (49%) said that they were in care as a child compared to one in ten (12%) of those who had 'never' been in prison, one quarter (27%) of those in prison '1-5 times', and four in ten (38%) of those who have been in prison '6-10 times'. A similar pattern can be seen for those in care at the age of 16 (see Annex).

Mental Health and Well Being

Prisoners were asked questions on mental health by way of an instrument known as the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (WEMWBS) (See Table 8). When looking at mental health by the number of times respondents have been in prison, it can be seen that generally the more times a respondent has served a sentence the less likely they are to respond positively when asked questions regarding their mental health and well-being (see Table 8).

Table 8 Mental health & well-being	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
Have you been in prison on a sentence before?				
I've been feeling optimistic about the future	71	67	63	60
I've been feeling useful	59	55	54	59
I've been feeling relaxed	71	65	62	62
I've been feeling interested in other people	64	54	40	49
I've had energy to spare	68	63	62	62
I've been dealing with problems well	82	71	65	61
I've been thinking clearly	83	74	67	65
I've been feeling good about myself	65	63	58	55
I've been feeling close to other people	58	50	46	44
I've been feeling confident	68	66	66	59
I've been able to make up my own mind about things	87	85	82	75
I've been feeling loved	56	49	49	49
I've been interested in new things	69	65	63	52
I've been feeling cheerful	69	64	58	60

Violence

Around a quarter of those in prison 'over 10 times' said that they were involved in (29%) or convicted (26%) of violence towards their spouse or partner compared to those who had 'never' been in prison before (20% and 14% respectively).

Over a third of those in prison 'over 10 times' (38%) said they were a victim of violence from their spouse or partner compared to a quarter (26%) of those who had 'never' been in prison before. Those in prison 'over 10 times' (51%) were much more likely than those who had 'never' been in prison (30%) to say that as a child they witnessed violence between their parents/carer.

Knife Crime

Looking at knife crime by the number of times a prisoner has been on a sentence, the data show that the more times a respondent has been in prison, the more likely it is that they would have been involved in knife crime. Over two thirds (69%) of those who had been in prison ‘over 10 times’ said that they have carried a knife compared to a fifth (20%) of those who have ‘never’ previously been in prison.

Six in ten (62%) of those serving ‘over 10 sentences’ said that they have previously used a knife to injure someone compared to 13% of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence. Similarly, almost two thirds (64%) of those serving ‘over 10 sentences’ said that they have been a victim of knife crime, with a fifth (21%) of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence before stating this. A full breakdown can be found in Table 9.

Table 9 Knife crime Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
Have you ever carried a knife?	20	43	64	69
Have you carried a knife in the 12 months before coming into prison?	10	23	35	32
Have you been a victim of knife crime?	21	41	59	64
Have you ever used a knife to injure someone?	13	36	52	62
Have you ever been cautioned by the Police for carrying a knife?	10	28	50	59
Have you ever been convicted of a knife crime?	15	35	53	61
If you were cautioned for carrying a knife would this stop you?	49	39	41	38
Are you a gang member?	3	7	10	17

Bullying and Safety

Roughly similar numbers of those who had ‘never’ been in prison before (17%) and those who had been in prison ‘over 10 times’ (18%) reported that they have been bullied in the last month in prison. Again, similar numbers of those who had ‘never’ been in prison before (15%) and those who had been in prison ‘over 10 times’ (19%) reported that they feared for their safety in the last month (See Annex).

Custodial history of male offenders

Male offenders' drug use

Table 10 shows a considerable difference between those male prisoners who had 'never' served a custodial sentence before and those who had served 'over 10 times' in relation to and illegal drug use in prison (13% & 76% respectively). Of the 'never' been in prison group, only six percent had used drugs in prison in the last month compared to half (49%) of the 'over 10 sentences' group. Just under half (47%) of the 'over 10 times' group were being prescribed methadone compared to 4% of the 'never' group.

One third of those who had served 'over 10 times' (33%) reported using New Psychoactive substances prior to coming into prison compared to one in ten (11%) of those who had 'never' served a custodial sentence. Four in ten of the 'never' group (49%) reported using New Psychoactive Substance during their time in prison compared to a minority 6% of those who had 'never' served a sentence before.

Table 10 Male Offenders Drug use

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
Ever used illegal drugs in prison?	13	39	66	76
Used illegal drugs in the last month?	6	22	37	49
Ever injected drugs in prison?	1(n=6)	3(n=24)	6(n=17)	19(n=6)
Are you being prescribed methadone?	4	15	36	47
Prior to coming into prison have you ever used New Psychoactive Substances?	11	16	30	33
During your time in prison have you ever used New Psychoactive Substances?	6	17	35	39

Male drug use at time of offence

Over half of male offenders who had served 'over 10 sentences' (56%) reported that their drug taking was a problem for them on the outside, compared to one fifth (18%) of those who had 'never' served a sentence.

Six in ten male offenders who served a sentence 'over 10 times' (62%) had been under the influence of drugs at the time of their offence compared to two in ten who had 'never' served a sentence (18%). A third of those with 'over 10 sentences' had committed their offence to get money for drugs (35%), compared to only six per cent of those who had 'never' served a sentence. This can be seen in Table 11.

Table 11 Male Offenders Drug use at the time of offence

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 Times
My drug taking was a problem for me on the outside	18	35	56	56
I was under the influence of drugs at the time of my offence	18	37	64	62
I committed my offence to get money for drugs	6	10	23	35
I was receiving treatment for my drug use before my imprisonment	6	12	29	50

Male offenders' drug treatment

Table 12 shows that seven in ten male offenders who served 'over 10 sentences' reported that if they were offered help for their drug problem outside prison (70%) and in prison (68%) that they would take it compared with a fifth of those who had 'never' served a sentence (17% and 18% respectively).

Half of those who had been in prison 'over 10 times' (49%) were worried that drug taking would be a problem for them on release into the community compared to five percent of the 'never' been in prison group.

Two thirds of male offenders in the 'over 10 times group' were assessed for drug use upon their admission to prison compared to one fifth of those who had 'never' served a prison sentence (18%).

Almost half of those in the 'over 10 times' group had been given the chance to receive treatment for drug use during their sentence (46%) and had received help/treatment during their sentence (48%) compared to the 'never' group (16% and 11% respectively).

Table 12 Male Offenders Help/treatment for drug problem

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 Times
If I was offered help for my drug problem on the outside, I would take it	17	33	62	70
If I was offered help for my drug problem in prison, I would take it	18	37	59	68
I am worried that my drug taking will be a problem for me when I get out	5	19	39	49
I was assessed for drug use upon my admission to prison	18	37	65	67
I have been given the chance to receive treatment for drug use during my sentence	16	26	38	46
I have received help/treatment for drug use during my sentence	11	22	36	48

Male offenders' alcohol use

Four in ten male offenders reported being drunk at the time of their offence (39%), of these half had served a sentence '6 to 10 times' (51%), four in ten '1 to 5 times' (43%) and 'over ten times' (44%) and over a quarter had 'never' (29%) served a sentence in prison.

Over three times as many men in the 'over 10 times' group (30%) had experienced difficulties in holding down a job, compared to 8% in the 'never' group.

Twice as many male offenders in the 'over 10 times' group (39%) conceded that drinking had affected their relationship with their family compared to those who had 'never' served a prison sentence before (20%).

Just over a quarter of male offenders in the 'over 10 times group' (26%) were worried that alcohol will be a problem for them upon their release compared to seven percent of those in the 'never' group (see Table 13).

Table 13 Male Offenders Alcohol use at the time of offence

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 Times
I was drunk at the time of my offence	29	43	51	44
My drinking affected my ability to hold down a job	8	17	27	30
My drinking affected my relationship with my family	20	35	47	39
If I was offered help in Prison for alcohol problems I would take it	28	42	47	44
If I was offered help on the outside for alcohol I would take it	25	40	45	45
I am worried that alcohol will be a problem for me when I get out	7	20	32	26

Male offenders Smoking

The more times a male offender appears in custody, the more likely he is to smoke: 52% of the 'never' group, 67% of the '1-5 times' group, 82% of the '6-10 times' group and 87% of the 'over 10 times' group were smokers. However, over half of male smokers (53%) did express the desire to stop.

Half of prisoners in each group said they would use the prison stop smoking service. Three quarters in each group stated that they would use e-cigs if they were available in prison. A significantly higher percentage of male offenders in the 'never' group (41%) would like to see smoke-free prisons compared with those in the 'over 10 times' group (24%) (See Annex).

Custodial history of women in custody

Table 14 shows the differences between those women who have ‘never’ served a custodial sentence before and those who had served ‘over 10 times’ in relation to drug use in prison (20% & 90% respectively) and illegal drug use in prison in the last month (11% & 67% respectively).

Table 14 Drug use of women in custody

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
Ever used illegal drugs in prison?	20	67	92	90
Used illegal drugs in the last month?	11	11	77	67
Ever injected drugs in prison?	0	0	23(n=3)	16(n=3)
Are you being prescribed methadone?	23	33	55	60
Prior to coming into prison have you ever used New Psychoactive Substances?	13	31	39	37
During your time in prison have you ever used New Psychoactive Substances?	2	11	39	40

Women in custody drug use at time of offence

Table 15 highlights the increasing drug use amongst those prisoners who have served more sentences, although it should be noted that the ‘baseline’ figures for the ‘never’ in prison group are considerable higher than male counterparts, again confirming the proportionally greater problematic drug use in the community of those women who end up in custody.

Twice as many women who had served ‘over 10 sentences’ (68%) reported that their drug taking was a problem for them on the outside compared to those who had ‘never’ served a sentence (33%). Three quarters of women who served a sentence ‘1-5 times’ (75%) or ‘6-10 times’ (75%) had been under the influence of drugs at the time of their offence compared to a third (34%) of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence.

Table 15 Women’s drug use at the time of offence

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
My drug taking was a problem for me on the outside	33	59	77	68
I was under the influence of drugs at the time of my offence	34	75	73	59
I committed my offence to get money for drugs	16	44	40	35
I was receiving treatment for my drug use before my imprisonment	24	37	40	52

Women in custody drug treatment

Three quarters of women who served ‘over 10 sentences’ (77%) reported that if they were offered help for their drug problem in prison they would take it compared with one third of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence (34%). Twice as many of those who had been in prison ‘over 10 times’ (40%) were worried that drug taking would be a problem for them on release into the community compared the ‘never’ (21%) been in prison group.

Half of those women who have served a prison sentence ‘over 10 times’ (53%) were assessed for drug use upon their admission to prison compared to one third of those who had ‘never’ served a custodial sentence group (32%). (See Table 16).

Table 16 Women’s drug treatment

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
If I was offered help for my drug problem on the outside, I would take it	34	66	60	77
If I was offered help for my drug problem in prison, I would take it	37	70	73	83
I am worried that my drug taking will be a problem for me when I get out	21	42	53	40
I was assessed for drug use upon my admission to prison	32	61	67	53
I have been given the chance to receive treatment for drug use during my sentence	21	58	60	56
I have received help/treatment for drug use during my sentence	24	55	60	53

Women in custody alcohol use

Just over half of women in custody (52%) who had served a sentence ‘over 10 times’ reported being drunk at the time of their offence, compared to one third (31%) of those who had ‘never’ been in prison before. Between a third and a half of the women conceded that drinking had affected their relationship with their family, suggesting an entrenched problem with alcohol in the community setting. This can be seen in Table 17.

Half of those who had served a sentence ‘over 10 times’ (50%) were worried that alcohol would be a problem for them upon their release, compared to 15% of those who had ‘never’ served a sentence.

Table 17 Women in custody alcohol use at the time of offence

Have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 Times
I was drunk at the time of my offence	31	45	13	52
My drinking affected my ability to hold down a job	13	37	0	50
My drinking affected my relationship with my family	31	42	13	58
If I was offered help in Prison for alcohol problems I would take it	39	61	27	68
If I was offered help on the outside for alcohol I would take it	38	51	14	72
I am worried that alcohol will be a problem for me when I get out	15	38	7	50

Women in custody Smoking

The more times a women appears in custody, the more likely she is to smoke: 53% of the ‘never’ group, 90% of the ‘1-5 times’ group, 87% of the ‘6-10 times’ group and 91% of the ‘over 10 times’ group were smokers. However, almost half of these women (48%) did express the desire to stop smoking.

Half of women in each group said they would use the prison stop smoking service. Three quarters in each group stated that they would use e-cigs if they were available in prison. A significantly higher percentage of many women in the ‘never’ group (47%) would like to see smoke-free prisons compared with those in the ‘over 10 times’ group (19%) (See Annex).

Conclusion

Successive Prisoner Surveys have been able to report a decline in self-reported drug use since the early 2000s. The number of prisoners reporting they have 'ever used illegal drugs in prison' decreased from 58% in 2001 to 39% in 2017.

However, this thematic Bulletin has examined custodial history and substance misuse and has found, not unexpectedly, that the greater the number of times an offender has been incarcerated, the greater the association with problematic drug and alcohol use. It is not entirely clear though, whether it is increasingly problematic substance misuse which leads to repeat offending and successive jail sentences or whether successive jail sentences prompt and promote hazardous substance misuse in the community and in prison as a mechanism for coping with life's adversities. Common sense would suggest that both of these propositions have explanatory power and in reality, probably act in consort to reinforce chaotic lifestyles, substance misuse, addiction and offending behaviour.

Prisoner Survey 2017 Overall Custodial History Comparison

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=920	n=1039	n=295	n=390
Have you ever served a sentence in the community?	18	49	59	57
Have you ever received a custodial sentence as a result of breaching a community sentence?	4	29	51	61
DRUG USE OUTSIDE				
My drug taking was a problem for me ON THE OUTSIDE	19	36	57	57
I was under the influence of drugs at the time of my offence	19	39	64	62
I committed my offence to get money for drugs	7	12	24	35
I was receiving treatment for my drug use before my imprisonment	8	13	29	50
Prior to coming in to prison have you ever used new psychoactive substances (legal highs)?	11	17	30	33
DRUG USE IN PRISON				
Have you EVER used ILLEGAL drugs in prison?	14	41	68	77
If YES , has your drug use changed during your current period in prison?	76	84	84	81
If YES , in what way?				
Increased	9	13	17	14
Decreased	30	28	29	39
Same use but different drugs	3	8	19	16
Only started using in prison	18	13	6	10
Now stopped using	39	37	29	22
Are you sharing your cell with a drug user?				
YES	3	8	16	21
NO	89	89	81	75
DON'T KNOW	8	3	3	4
Have you used ILLEGAL drugs in the LAST MONTH while in THIS PRISON ?	6	21	39	50
Have you EVER INJECTED drugs IN PRISON ?	1(n=6)	3(n=24)	8(n=21)	19(n=68)
Have you INJECTED drugs IN PRISON in the LAST MONTH ?	0	1(n=4)	4(n=10)	2(n=7)
If YES , you INJECTED in the LAST MONTH , did you share your works?	0	n=1	n=4	n=4
During your time in prison have you ever used new psychoactive substances (Legal highs)?	5	17	35	39
DRUG SERVICES				
Are you being prescribed methadone?	6	16	36	48
If YES, is this prescription:				
a REDUCING dose	25	29	18	14
a MAINTENANCE dose	50	39	49	59
a STABILISING dose	25	33	33	27
If I was offered help for my drug problem ON THE OUTSIDE , I would take it	18	36	61	70
If I was offered help for my drug problem IN PRISON , I would take it	20	39	60	69
I am worried that my drug taking will be a problem when I get out	7	21	39	48
I was assessed for drug use upon my admission to prison	19	38	65	67
I have been given the chance to receive treatment for drug use during my sentence	17	28	38	46
I have received help/treatment for drug use during my sentence	12	24	37	48

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=920	n=1039	n=295	n=390
ALCOHOL				
I was drunk at the time of my offence	29	43	49	45
My drinking affected my ability to hold down a job	9	19	25	31
My drinking affected my relationships with family	21	36	45	40
If I was offered help IN PRISON for alcohol problems I would take it	29	43	46	45
If I was offered help ON THE OUTSIDE for alcohol problems I would take it	27	40	44	47
I am worried that alcohol will be a problem for me when I get out	8	21	31	28
Have you used alcohol in the LAST MONTH while in THIS PRISON?	1(n=10)	4(n=32)	7(n=18)	6(n=20)
I was assessed for alcohol use on my admission to prison	22	31	35	37
I have been given the chance to receive treatment for alcohol problems during my sentence	20	24	23	25
I have received help/treatment for alcohol problems during my sentence	12	16	14	16
AUDIT				
How often do you have a drink containing alcohol in the community?				
Never	24	25	22	22
Monthly or less	30	21	21	21
2 to 4 times a month	19	17	15	12
2 to 3 times a week	16	19	15	19
4 or more times a week	11	19	27	27
How many drinks containing alcohol do you have on a typical day when you are drinking in the community?				
1 or 2	27	17	7	13
3 or 4	17	17	6	17
5 or 6	20	16	23	15
7, 8 or 9	16	16	22	15
10 or more	21	35	42	41
Have you or anyone else been injured as a result of your drinking?				
No	66	52	40	38
Yes, but not in the last year	25	32	32	41
Yes, during the last year	9	16	29	21
Has a relative or friend or a doctor/health worker been concerned about your drinking or suggested you cut down?				
No	77	65	55	54
Yes, but not in the last year	14	18	20	24
Yes, during the last year	10	17	25	22
How often do you have six or more drinks on one occasion?				
Never	31	25	22	24
Less than monthly	22	19	16	16
Monthly	17	12	10	11
Weekly	21	25	24	17
Daily or almost daily	10	20	28	33
How often during the last year have you found that you were not able to stop drinking once you had started?				
Never	78	67	59	55
Less than monthly	6	4	6	6
Monthly	4	3	4	7
Weekly	7	11	11	8
Daily or almost daily	6	15	21	23

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=920	n=1039	n=295	n=390
How often during the last year have you failed to do what was normally expected from you because of your drinking?				
Never	82	67	59	58
Less than monthly	5	8	9	8
Monthly	4	5	5	6
Weekly	6	9	10	7
Daily or almost daily	3	11	18	20
How often during the last year have you needed a first drink in the morning to get yourself going after a heavy drinking session?				
Never	86	75	69	63
Less than monthly	4	5	2	5
Monthly	2	2	5	4
Weekly	3	5	6	6
Daily or almost daily	5	12	18	23
How often during the last year have you had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking?				
Never	76	65	61	57
Less than monthly	8	8	10	9
Monthly	3	5	6	6
Weekly	5	9	8	9
Daily or almost daily	7	14	16	20
How often during the last year have you been unable to remember what happened the night before because you had been drinking?				
Never	73	62	54	53
Less than monthly	10	10	11	8
Monthly	7	5	6	11
Weekly	4	12	11	9
Daily or almost daily	6	11	19	18
SMOKING				
Are you a SMOKER ?	52	68	83	87
If YES , do you want to give up smoking?	52	53	54	51
Have you received advice on smoking & its related health risks since coming to Prison?	46	45	45	52
Are you aware of the stop smoking service in this prison?	74	77	79	79
Have you been referred to the stop smoking service in this prison?	28	32	29	32
Would you use the prison stop smoking service?	51	53	59	55
Have you ever used e-cigs?	56	55	46	45
If e-cigs were available in prison would you use them?	70	70	70	73
Would you like to see smoke-free prisons introduced?	41	22	27	24
VIOLENCE				
Have you ever been involved in violence towards your spouse or partner?	20	25	26	29
Have you ever been convicted of an offence involving violence to your spouse or partner?	14	21	23	26
Have you ever been a victim of violence from your spouse or partner?	26	31	36	38
As a child did you ever witness any violence between your parents/carer?	30	42	52	51
CARE				
Were you ever in care as a child?	12	27	38	49
Were you in care at the age of 16?	54	57	55	58

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=920	n=1039	n=295	n=390
CARRYING A KNIFE				
Have you ever carried a knife?	20	43	64	69
Have you carried a knife in the 12 months before coming into prison?	10	23	35	32
Have you been a victim of knife crime?	21	36	59	64
Have you ever used a knife to injure someone?	13	31	52	62
Have you ever been cautioned by the Police for carrying a knife?	10	28	50	59
Have you ever been convicted of a knife crime?	15	35	53	61
If you were cautioned for carrying a knife would this stop you?	49	39	41	38
Are you a gang member?	3(n=22)	7(n=71)	10(n=27)	17(n=61)
BULLYING & SAFETY				
Bullying (Have you been bullied in the last month)	17	14	13	18
Safety (Feared for Safety in the last month)	15	17	18	19
MENTAL HEALTH & WELL BEING				
I've been feeling optimistic about the future	71	67	63	60
I've been feeling useful	59	55	54	59
I've been feeling relaxed	71	65	62	62
I've been feeling interested in other people	64	54	39	47
I've had energy to spare	68	63	62	62
I've been dealing with problems well	82	71	65	61
I've been thinking clearly	83	74	67	65
I've been feeling good about myself	65	63	58	55
I've been feeling close to other people	58	50	46	44
I've been feeling confident	68	66	66	59
I've been able to make up my own mind about things	87	85	82	75
I've been feeling loved	56	49	49	49
I've been interested in new things	69	65	63	52
I've been feeling cheerful	69	64	58	60

Prisoner Survey 2017 Male Offenders Custodial History Comparison

	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	n=836	n=974	n=284	n=368
Have you ever served a sentence in the community?	19	48	59	59
Have you ever received a custodial sentence as a result of breaching a community sentence?	4	29	50	62
DRUG USE OUTSIDE				
My drug taking was a problem for me ON THE OUTSIDE	18	35	56	56
I was under the influence of drugs at the time of my offence	18	37	64	62
I committed my offence to get money for drugs	6	10	23	35
I was receiving treatment for my drug use before my imprisonment	6	12	29	50
Prior to coming in to prison have you ever used new psychoactive substances (legal highs)?	11	16	30	33
DRUG USE IN PRISON				
Have you EVER used ILLEGAL drugs in prison?	13	39	66	76
If YES , has your drug use changed during your current period in prison?	76	84	83	82
If YES , in what way?				
Increased	10	14	18	15
Decreased	34	28	29	40
Same use but different drugs	4	9	17	16
Only started using in prison	13	13	6	9
Now stopped using	39	35	29	21
Are you sharing your cell with a drug user?				
YES	3	8	16	21
NO	89	89	80	75
DON'T KNOW	7	4	4	4
Have you used ILLEGAL drugs in the LAST MONTH while in THIS PRISON ?	6	22	37	49
Have you EVER INJECTED drugs IN PRISON ?	1(n=7)	3(n=24)	6(n=17)	19(n=65)
Have you INJECTED drugs IN PRISON in the LAST MONTH ?	0	1(n=4)	3(n=7)	2(n=7)
If YES , you INJECTED in the LAST MONTH , did you share your works?	0	25(n=1)	43(n=3)	67(n=4)
During your time in prison have you ever used new psychoactive substances (Legal highs)?	6	17	35	39
DRUG SERVICES				
Are you being prescribed methadone?	4	15	36	47
If YES, is this prescription:				
a REDUCING dose	19	26	17	15
a MAINTENANCE dose	48	38	49	58
a STABILISING dose	33	36	33	27
If I was offered help for my drug problem ON THE OUTSIDE , I would take it	16	33	62	70
If I was offered help for my drug problem IN PRISON , I would take it	18	37	59	68
I am worried that my drug taking will be a problem when I get out	5	19	39	49
I was assessed for drug use upon my admission to prison	18	37	65	67
I have been given the chance to receive treatment for drug use during my sentence	16	26	38	46
I have received help/treatment for drug use during my sentence	11	22	36	48

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=836	n=974	n=284	n=368
ALCOHOL				
I was drunk at the time of my offence	29	43	51	44
My drinking affected my ability to hold down a job	8	17	27	30
My drinking affected my relationships with family	20	35	47	39
If I was offered help IN PRISON for alcohol problems I would take it	28	42	47	44
If I was offered help ON THE OUTSIDE for alcohol problems I would take it	25	40	45	45
I am worried that alcohol will be a problem for me when I get out	7	20	32	26
Have you used alcohol in the LAST MONTH while in THIS PRISON?	1(n=8)	4(n=32)	7(n=18)	6(n=18)
I was assessed for alcohol use on my admission to prison	21	30	36	35
I have been given the chance to receive treatment for alcohol problems during my sentence	20	23	24	23
I have received help/treatment for alcohol problems during my sentence	10	15	15	15
AUDIT				
How often do you have a drink containing alcohol in the community?				
Never	24	25	23	23
Monthly or less	29	21	20	21
2 to 4 times a month	19	17	15	11
2 to 3 times a week	17	19	15	19
4 or more times a week	11	18	27	26
How many drinks containing alcohol do you have on a typical day when you are drinking in the community?				
1 or 2	27	17	7	14
3 or 4	19	16	6	18
5 or 6	21	17	23	15
7, 8 or 9	15	16	23	14
10 or more	19	34	42	41
Have you or anyone else been injured as a result of your drinking?				
No	67	53	39	38
Yes, but not in the last year	24	32	31	41
Yes, during the last year	9	15	30	21
Has a relative or friend or a doctor/health worker been concerned about your drinking or suggested you cut down?				
No	78	66	54	54
Yes, but not in the last year	13	18	20	24
Yes, during the last year	10	16	26	22
How often do you have six or more drinks on one occasion?				
Never	30	25	23	24
Less than monthly	22	19	14	16
Monthly	16	12	11	11
Weekly	23	26	24	18
Daily or almost daily	9	18	28	32
How often during the last year have you found that you were not able to stop drinking once you had started?				
Never	78	68	58	55
Less than monthly	6	4	6	7
Monthly	4	4	4	8
Weekly	7	11	11	8
Daily or almost daily	6	14	21	22

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=836	n=974	n=284	n=368
How often during the last year have you failed to do what was normally expected from you because of your drinking?				
Never	83	68	58	59
Less than monthly	5	8	9	9
Monthly	4	6	5	6
Weekly	6	9	10	7
Daily or almost daily	3	10	18	19
How often during the last year have you needed a first drink in the morning to get yourself going after a heavy drinking session?				
Never	86	76	68	63
Less than monthly	4	5	2	5
Monthly	2	3	5	4
Weekly	3	5	6	7
Daily or almost daily	5	11	18	21
How often during the last year have you had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking?				
Never	76	66	59	57
Less than monthly	9	8	10	9
Monthly	4	5	6	6
Weekly	5	9	9	9
Daily or almost daily	6	13	16	19
How often during the last year have you been unable to remember what happened the night before because you had been drinking?				
Never	73	63	53	54
Less than monthly	11	10	11	9
Monthly	8	6	6	11
Weekly	4	11	12	9
Daily or almost daily	5	10	18	17
SMOKING				
Are you a SMOKER ?	52	67	82	87
If YES , do you want to give up smoking?	52	54	55	52
Have you received advice on smoking & its related health risks since coming to Prison?	46	45	44	52
Are you aware of the stop smoking service in this prison?	74	78	78	79
Have you been referred to the stop smoking service in this prison?	27	32	29	31
Would you use the prison stop smoking service?	51	53	60	55
Have you ever used e-cigs?	57	55	44	44
If e-cigs were available in prison would you use them?	70	69	71	72
Would you like to see smoke-free prisons introduced?	41	34	27	24
VIOLENCE				
Have you ever been involved in violence towards your spouse or partner?	18	23	25	27
Have you ever been convicted of an offence involving violence to your spouse or partner?	14	20	22	25
Have you ever been a victim of violence from your spouse or partner?	22	28	34	37
As a child did you ever witness any violence between your parents/carer?	28	41	52	50
CARE				
Were you ever in care as a child?	11	26	36	49
Were you in care at the age of 16?	51	55	51	57

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=836	n=974	n=284	n=368
CARRYING A KNIFE				
Have you ever carried a knife?	20	44	64	69
Have you carried a knife in the 12 months before coming into prison?	10	23	35	32
Have you been a victim of knife crime?	21	37	61	65
Have you ever used a knife to injure someone?	13	32	52	63
Have you ever been cautioned by the Police for carrying a knife?	10	29	51	61
Have you ever been convicted of a knife crime?	14	36	54	61
If you were cautioned for carrying a knife would this stop you?	49	39	40	39
Are you a gang member?	2(n=19)	8(n=71)	9(n=25)	17(n=57)
BULLYING & SAFETY				
Bullying (Have you been bullied in the last month)	15	14	13	19
Safety (Feared for Safety in the last month)	14	18	17	20
MENTAL HEALTH & WELL BEING				
I've been feeling optimistic about the future	70	67	64	60
I've been feeling useful	57	55	55	57
I've been feeling relaxed	72	65	61	62
I've been feeling interested in other people	63	52	38	45
I've had energy to spare	68	64	62	63
I've been dealing with problems well	83	72	66	61
I've been thinking clearly	84	74	67	65
I've been feeling good about myself	67	65	58	55
I've been feeling close to other people	57	48	45	44
I've been feeling confident	69	67	67	58
I've been able to make up my own mind about things	87	85	82	76
I've been feeling loved	57	48	49	58
I've been interested in new things	69	65	64	52
I've been feeling cheerful	67	63	58	59

Prisoner Survey 2017 Women's Custodial History Comparison

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=84	n=65	n=15	n=22
Have you ever served a sentence in the community?	14	61	53	23
Have you ever received a custodial sentence as a result of breaching a community sentence?	5	39	67	57
DRUG USE OUTSIDE				
My drug taking was a problem for me ON THE OUTSIDE	33	59	77	68
I was under the influence of drugs at the time of my offence	34	75	73	59
I committed my offence to get money for drugs	16	44	40	35
I was receiving treatment for my drug use before my imprisonment	24	37	40	52
Prior to coming in to prison have you ever used new psychoactive substances (legal highs)?	13	31	39	37
DRUG USE IN PRISON				
Have you EVER used ILLEGAL drugs in prison?	20	67	92	90
If YES , has your drug use changed during your current period in prison?	79	86	100	71
If YES , in what way?				
Increased	0	3(n=1)	8(n=1)	0
Decreased	8(n=1)	26(n=8)	33(n=4)	20(n=2)
Same use but different drugs	0	3(n=1)	33(n=4)	20(n=2)
Only started using in prison	50(n=6)	16(n=5)	0	20(n=2)
Now stopped using	42(n=5)	52(n=16)	25(n=3)	40(n=4)
Are you sharing your cell with a drug user?				
YES	2	7	15	27
NO	88	93	85	73
DON'T KNOW	10	0	0	0
Have you used ILLEGAL drugs in the LAST MONTH while in THIS PRISON ?	11	11	77	67
Have you EVER INJECTED drugs IN PRISON ?	0	0	31(n=4)	0
Have you INJECTED drugs IN PRISON in the LAST MONTH ?	0	0	23(n=3)	0
If YES , you INJECTED in the LAST MONTH , did you share your works?	0	0	33(n=1)	0
During your time in prison have you ever used new psychoactive substances (Legal highs)?	2	11	39	40
DRUG SERVICES				
Are you being prescribed methadone?	23	33	55	60
If YES, is this prescription:				
a REDUCING dose	36	43	20	0
a MAINTENANCE dose	55	43	60	75
a STABILISING dose	9	14	20	25
If I was offered help for my drug problem ON THE OUTSIDE , I would take it	34	66	60	77
If I was offered help for my drug problem IN PRISON , I would take it	37	70	73	83
I am worried that my drug taking will be a problem when I get out	21	42	53	40
I was assessed for drug use upon my admission to prison	32	61	67	53
I have been given the chance to receive treatment for drug use during my sentence	21	58	60	56
I have received help/treatment for drug use during my sentence	24	55	60	53

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=84	n=65	n=15	n=22
ALCOHOL				
I was drunk at the time of my offence	31	45	13	52
My drinking affected my ability to hold down a job	13	37	0	50
My drinking affected my relationships with family	31	42	13	58
If I was offered help IN PRISON for alcohol problems I would take it	39	61	27	68
If I was offered help ON THE OUTSIDE for alcohol problems I would take it	38	51	14	72
I am worried that alcohol will be a problem for me when I get out	15	38	7	50
Have you used alcohol in the LAST MONTH while in THIS PRISON?	3(n=2)	0	0	10(n=2)
I was assessed for alcohol use on my admission to prison	27	41	13	68
I have been given the chance to receive treatment for alcohol problems during my sentence	27	36	13	45
I have received help/treatment for alcohol problems during my sentence	26	22	7	29
AUDIT				
How often do you have a drink containing alcohol in the community?				
Never	31	26	27	6
Monthly or less	33	15	47	11
2 to 4 times a month	12	6	0	22
2 to 3 times a week	8	15	7	17
4 or more times a week	16	40	20	44
How many drinks containing alcohol do you have on a typical day when you are drinking in the community?				
1 or 2	28	10	20	6
3 or 4	2	20	10	0
5 or 6	10	5	20	13
7, 8 or 9	24	12	0	38
10 or more	36	54	50	44
Have you or anyone else been injured as a result of your drinking?				
No	58	38	54	37
Yes, but not in the last year	35	30	39	47
Yes, during the last year	8	32	8	16
Has a relative or friend or a doctor/health worker been concerned about your drinking or suggested you cut down?				
No	69	49	77	53
Yes, but not in the last year	20	24	15	26
Yes, during the last year	11	27	8	21
How often do you have six or more drinks on one occasion?				
Never	33	22	29	15
Less than monthly	17	14	36	10
Monthly	19	14	0	15
Weekly	7	9	14	0
Daily or almost daily	24	42	21	60
How often during the last year have you found that you were not able to stop drinking once you had started?				
Never	78	53	67	47
Less than monthly	4	2	7	0
Monthly	0	0	0	0
Weekly	3	6	7	11
Daily or almost daily	16	39	20	42

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=84	n=65	n=15	n=22
How often during the last year have you failed to do what was normally expected from you because of your drinking?				
Never	76	52	73	47
Less than monthly	9	10	7	0
Monthly	3	2	0	0
Weekly	4	8	0	16
Daily or almost daily	9	29	20	37
How often during the last year have you needed a first drink in the morning to get yourself going after a heavy drinking session?				
Never	88	59	80	58
Less than monthly	0	6	0	0
Monthly	1	0	0	0
Weekly	3	4	0	0
Daily or almost daily	8	31	20	42
How often during the last year have you had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking?				
Never	73	48	80	56
Less than monthly	6	8	0	0
Monthly	0	2	0	0
Weekly	7	6	0	11
Daily or almost daily	14	37	20	33
How often during the last year have you been unable to remember what happened the night before because you had been drinking?				
Never	68	43	73	37
Less than monthly	9	8	0	0
Monthly	2	2	7	11
Weekly	9	25	0	11
Daily or almost daily	13	22	20	42
SMOKING				
Are you a SMOKER ?	53	90	87	91
If YES , do you want to give up smoking?	49	50	31	42
Have you received advice on smoking & its related health risks since coming to Prison?	44	55	54	61
Are you aware of the stop smoking service in this prison?	76	75	85	84
Have you been referred to the stop smoking service in this prison?	37	35	15	44
Would you use the prison stop smoking service?	50	53	31	61
Have you ever used e-cigs?	46	57	69	58
If e-cigs were available in prison would you use them?	73	77	54	78
Would you like to see smoke-free prisons introduced?	47	22	27	19
VIOLENCE				
Have you ever been involved in violence towards your spouse or partner?	37	48	53	70
Have you ever been convicted of an offence involving violence to your spouse or partner?	20	29	27	30
Have you ever been a victim of violence from your spouse or partner?	70	80	73	50
As a child did you ever witness any violence between your parents/carer?	46	61	53	75
CARE				
Were you ever in care as a child?	23(n=18)	46(n=28)	73(n=11)	52(n=11)
Were you in care at the age of 16?	67(n=12)	68(n=19)	81(n=9)	80(n=8)

How many times have you been in prison on a sentence before?	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	Over 10 times
	n=84	n=65	n=15	n=22
CARRYING A KNIFE				
Have you ever carried a knife?	20	31	60	64
Have you carried a knife in the 12 months before coming into prison?	10	23	20	38
Have you been a victim of knife crime?	22	13	40	46
Have you ever used a knife to injure someone?	18	25	53	45
Have you ever been cautioned by the Police for carrying a knife?	10	25	47	41
Have you ever been convicted of a knife crime?	20	31	33	64
If you were cautioned for carrying a knife would this stop you?	49	37	53	24
Are you a gang member?	4	0	20(n=3)	18(n=4)
BULLYING & SAFETY				
Bullying (Have you been bullied in the last month)	31	11	13	14
Safety (Feared for Safety in the last month)	17	7	20	10
MENTAL HEALTH & WELL BEING				
I've been feeling optimistic about the future	75	61	62	63
I've been feeling useful	70	59	38	95
I've been feeling relaxed	72	66	69	73
I've been feeling interested in other people	74	74	61	59
I've had energy to spare	64	60	70	53
I've been dealing with problems well	78	69	46	60
I've been thinking clearly	79	66	69	56
I've been feeling good about myself	57	52	69	67
I've been feeling close to other people	67	66	54	69
I've been feeling confident	55	48	38	69
I've been able to make up my own mind about things	90	87	61	67
I've been feeling loved	58	57	54	68
I've been interested in new things	73	61	69	50
I've been feeling cheerful	80	75	46	75

