

This document presents some key findings from Dumfries and Galloway Alcohol and Drug Partnership's (ADP) Information Pack. The information pack was designed to help inform the ADP's strategy for local alcohol and drug services.

1. Describing Dumfries and Galloway

Nearly half of all people in Dumfries and Galloway live in areas classified as rural. This is more than double the average for Scotland.

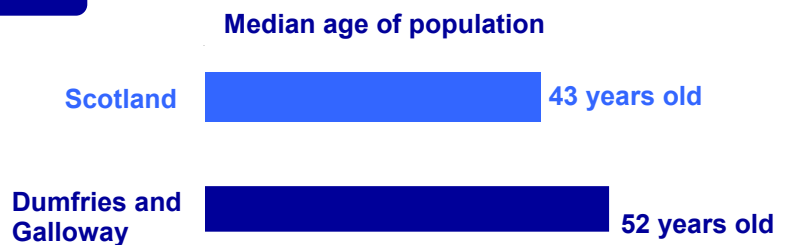


A third of the Dumfries and Galloway population live in areas classified as remote in terms of accessibility.



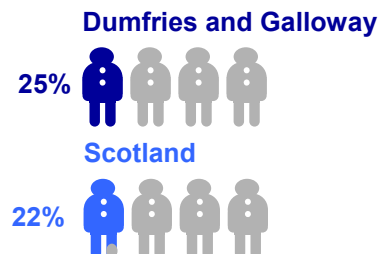
2. The population of Dumfries and Galloway

Dumfries and Galloway has a greater proportion of older adults than Scotland with an **older average age** than Scotland.



3. Alcohol use in Dumfries and Galloway

1 in 4 people aged 16 or over in Dumfries and Galloway regularly drink over the recommended weekly alcohol limit. This is similar to the average for Scotland.



The rate of alcohol specific deaths in Dumfries and Galloway has **remained consistently lower** than Scotland over the past 25 years.



4. Drug use in Dumfries and Galloway

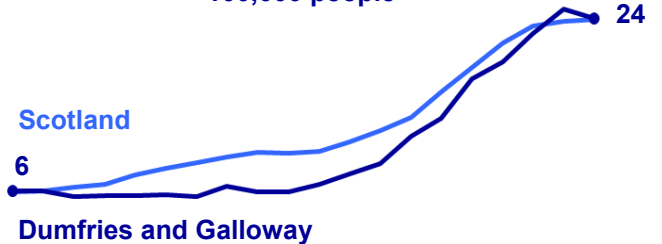
An estimated **1,300 people** aged 15 to 64 have opioid dependence in Dumfries and Galloway. As a proportion of the population, this is the similar to Scotland.

Estimated proportion of population with opioid dependence



In Dumfries and Galloway, drug related deaths have significantly increased over the last 25 years. In recent years, the rate of drug related deaths in Dumfries and Galloway has risen so that it is now **the same as the rate** for Scotland.

Rate of drug related deaths for every 100,000 people



5. Impacts on the wider system

Despite recent decreases, Dumfries and Galloway continues to have a **higher crime rate** for the possession of drugs than Scotland.

Rate of drug possession crimes for every 10,000 people



In recent years, the rate of driving offences relating to drug or alcohol use has been higher in Dumfries and Galloway than Scotland. The rate for Dumfries and Galloway was almost twice as high in 2024/25.

Rate of driving offences relating to drug or alcohol use for every 10,000 people



6. Existing support and treatment

Alcohol and drug support is provided by a range of services across Dumfries and Galloway. The intensity of support provided varies from person to person, with some people needing more intensive support than others.

Some of the available support and treatment options include:

- ♦ take home Naloxone kits
- ♦ injecting equipment provision
- ♦ structured treatment with a drug and alcohol service
- ♦ residential rehabilitation
- ♦ family support services



More information is available in the Drug and Alcohol Information Pack.