

Swindon small area alcohol analysis – February 2015

Alcohol admissions

This analysis is based on inpatient admissions to hospital. It is based on the methodology used in the Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF) indicator “alcohol related admissions to hospital” (#2.18). The inpatient data and this indicator/methodology identifies mainly the effects of long term alcohol misuse in older people.

This method uses a probabilistic basis using alcohol attributable fraction. This means it does not ascertain whether alcohol is involved in each individual admission, instead it allocates a fraction of an admission based on the patient’s diagnosis and age. E.g. a 54 year old man admitted for hypertension may be counted as 0.20 of an admission.

Table 1 shows that Broad Street has low admission rates and costs per person but the admissions that do occur are relatively expensive. The opposite is true for the DT15 and DS12 areas where admission rates and costs per person are high but the cost of the admissions that occur are relatively low compared to Swindon overall.

Table 1: Alcohol related admissions, 2013/14

Area	Number of admissions	Estimated population	Admissions per 1,000 pop	Total estimated cost	Estimated cost per person	Estimated cost per admission
DT11 (Broad St)	17.5	5,418	3.2	£28,041	£5.18	£1,604
DT15 (Victoria Rd)	16.6	1,430	11.6	£15,720	£10.99	£948
DT18 (Town Centre)	4.0	1,177	3.4	£4,621	£3.93	£1,158
DS12 (Old Town)	13.0	1,830	7.1	£14,188	£7.75	£1,095
DT15/DT18/DS12	33.5	4,437	7.6	£34,529	£7.78	£1,030
Swindon total	1,159.2	209,156	5.5	£1,491,659	£7.13	£1,287

Notes:

- 2013/14 data for Swindon residents and registered patients from the Central Southern Commissioning Support Unit
- Data may include more than one admission for the same patient.
- Methodology is the “narrow” method, i.e. alcohol related primary diagnosis or alcohol related external cause as the secondary diagnosis. See PHOF 2.18
- Crude rates are shown, i.e. not standardised so they don’t account for differences in age structure between areas.
- Population data has been estimated from 2011 Census output areas which do not match Police areas. Therefore any rates based on these populations should be treated with extreme caution.
- Costs are based on the 2013/14 Payments by Results national tariff. This may not be the actual cost of the hospital stay. Costs have been allocated by Health Resource Group (HRG) and represent the cost of the hospital episode and do not directly relate to any alcohol-related activity.

A&E Assault data

This analysis was based on A&E assault data for January 2011 – December 2014 from Great Western Hospital.

This was filtered to only include data where either the assailant or victim was recorded as having consumed alcohol (or alcohol and drugs) OR where the assault site was listed as “licensed premises”. This resulted in 796 incidents being included in the analysis.

The data included geographical information on the victim (postcode sector) and the assault site (exact location). This information was by no means comprehensive and this should be borne in mind when interpreting the analysis.

Incident location¹

241 out of the 796 incidents could be pinpointed to a postcode within Swindon (see caveats in footnotes).

Table 2: Alcohol related assaults recorded by GWH, 2011-2014

Area	Number of incidents
DT11 (Broad St)	7
DT15 (Victoria Rd)	48
DT18 (Town Centre)	85 (101)
DS12 (Old Town)	5
DT15/DT18/DS12	138 (154)
Swindon total	241 (256)

There were 16 incidents that were recorded as ‘town centre’ but couldn’t be assigned a postcode. These are included in table 2 as figures for DT18, DT15/DT18/DS12 and Swindon in brackets.

Incident rates have not been calculated because only resident populations are available and the majority of the assaults are likely to be linked to locations removed from where they live, e.g. licenced premises.

¹ Location details have been entered into the assaults spreadsheet as free text and the data quality is poor. Postcodes have been allocated where possible but assumptions have been made about road names e.g. changing street to drive to enable as many to be matched as possible. Some locations were too vague, e.g. West Swindon to be allocated a postcode.

Victim residence

Of the 796 alcohol related incidents, 280 occurred at identifiable locations within Swindon. Table 3 shows where the victims of these 280 incidents lived.

Table 3: Alcohol related assaults by victim's home postcode 2011-2014

Postcode Sector	Number of incidents	Incidents per 1,000 population
SN3	62	1.2
SN2	58	1.4
SN5	51	1.5
SN1	37	1.2
SN4	19	0.7
SN25	13	0.4
SN6	10	0.5
Other	30	N/A

Cost of A&E attendances

The cost of A&E attendances, according to the 2014/15 NHS national tariff², ranges from £57 to £235 depending on category of investigation and treatment. If attendances were evenly distributed between categories the average cost (at a type 1 or 2 dept.) is £127. This assumption produces the following costs for alcohol-related A&E attendances:

Table 4: Estimated cost of A&E attendances

Area/criteria	Attendances		Cost	
	Total (2011-14)	Annual Average (2011-14)	Total (2011-14)	Annual Average (2011-14)
Recorded by GWH	796	199	£101,092	£45,212
Identified as in Swindon UA	356	89	£25,273	£11,303
Incident location:				
Allocated to a Swindon UA postcode*	256	64	£35,212	£8,128
DT11 (Broad St) postcode	7	1.75	£889	£222
DT15 (Victoria Rd) postcode	48	12	£6,096	£1,524
DT18 (Town Centre) postcode*	101	25.25	£12,827	£3,207
DS12 (Old Town) postcode ^{\$}	5	1.25	£635	£159
DT15/DT18/DS12 combined*	138	34.5	£17,526	£4,382
Resident home postcode				
SN3	62	15.5	£7,874	£1,969
SN2	58	14.5	£7,366	£1,842
SN5	51	12.75	£6,477	£1,619
SN1	37	9.25	£4,699	£1,175
Other	72	18	£9,144	£2,286

Notes:

* includes 16 allocated to Swindon Town Centre

\$ many areas that might be considered 'Old Town', e.g. Wood St are actually within the Victoria Rd (DT15) police beat

² A&E prices from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-tariff-payment-system-2014-to-2015>