





Westmeath alcohol-related harm profile 2019

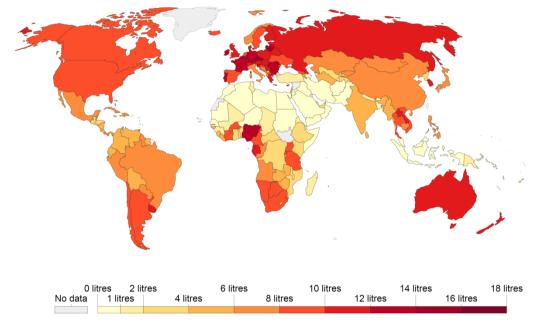
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Westmeath

Total alcohol consumption per capita (litres of pure alcohol), 2016



Total alcohol consumption per capita is based on projections for the amount of alcohol consumption (litres of pure alcohol) per person ages 15+ per year.



Source: World Bank CC BY

Key Facts Westmeath

In 2017, Westmeath was above average for mortality for all ages due to alcohol related causes (61.7 per 100,000 population, compared to National 58.6).

In 2017, the percentage of potential years of life lost (PYLL) per 100,000 population due to selected alcohol related causes are below average for females (233.8 per 100,000 population, National 298.2) and for males are above average (1211.6 per 100,000 population, National 1006.10).

In 2017, Westmeath was above average for hospital admission rate for mental and behaviour disorders due to alcohol (162.3 per 100,000 population, National 83.74) and below average for alcoholic liver disease (29.9 per 100,000 population, National 36.48).

In 2017, Westmeath was above average for psychiatric in-patient rates for alcohol disorders for first admissions (12.4 per 100,000 population, National 9.2) and for all admissions (30.04 per 100,000 population, National 24.1).

In 2017, Westmeath had average alcohol treatment rates at 142.7 per 100,000 population (National 153.2).

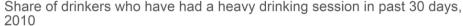
In January 2019, Westmeath ranked 9th for the number of liquor licenses with 321.05 per 100,000 population (National 273.13).

In 2017, the rate for alcohol related offences in Westmeath were above average for drink driving at 236.4 per 100,000 population, were average for disorderly conduct at 608.5 per 100,000 population and below average liquor licensing offences at 14,5 per 100,000, compared to the National rates (drink driving 153.8 per 100,000, disorderly conduct 528.4 and liquor licensing offences 17.3 respectively).

Alcohol Consumption in Ireland

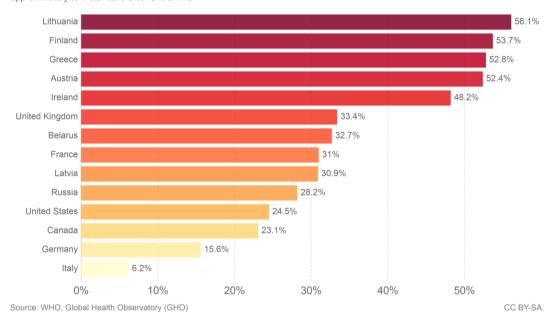
The figures for Ireland in 2016 show that per capita alcohol consumption was 13 litres of pure alcohol per person aged 15 years and over, an increase from 2015, when it was 10.93 litres. There were increases recorded in all categories of alcohol: spirits, cider, wine, and beer. The European Union average is 11.31, for OECD countries the average is 9.41 litres (according to the Our World in Data, WHO, Global Health Observatory.

Heavy episodic drinking (binge drinking) is defined as the proportion of adult drinkers (aged 15 and older) who have had at least 60 grams or more of pure alcohol on at least one occasion in the past 30 days. An intake of 60 grams of pure alcohol is approximately equal to 6 standard alcohol drinks. The chart below (selected countries) shows a of the share of drinkers only (i.e those who have drank less than one alcohol drink in the last 12 months are excluded) who had a heavy episode of drinking in the previous 30 days. In 2010 Ireland had some of the highest levels of binge drinking (5th highest in EU countries and 14th highest worldwide).



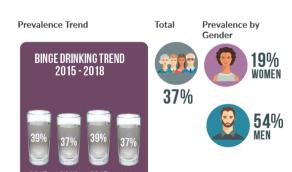


Heavy episodic drinking (drinkers only) is defined as the proportion of adult drinkers (15+ years) who have had at least 60 grams or more of pure alcohol on at least one occasion in the past 30 days. A consumption of 60 grams of pure alcohol corresponds approximately to 6 standard alcoholic drinks.



The Healthy Ireland Survey 2018:

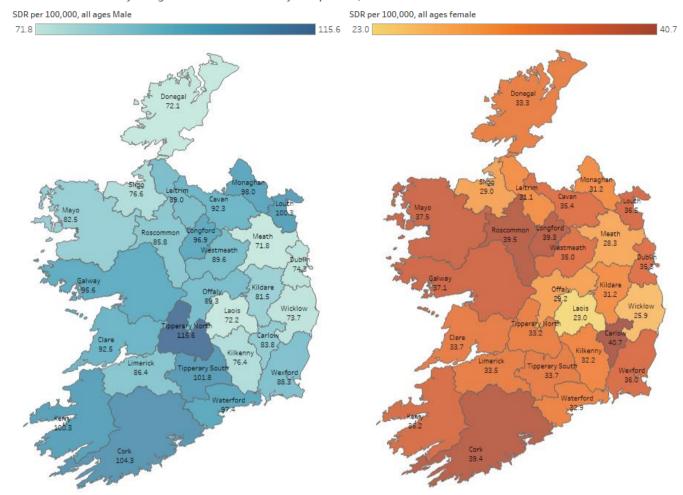
- Overall, 75% in Ireland have drunk alcohol in the past 12 months Those aged 25 to 44 are most likely to have drunk alcohol in the past 12 months (84%), with those aged 75 and older least likely to have done so (54%).
- In Ireland over half (55%) of drinkers, drink alcohol at least once a week with 30% of drinkers drinking on multiple days each week. Almost two out of every three (62%) men who drink do so at least once a week, and 48% of women drink this frequently.
- In Ireland 37% of drinkers binge drink on a typical drinking occasion. 22% of drinkers binge drink at least once a week, and 39% do so at least once a month.



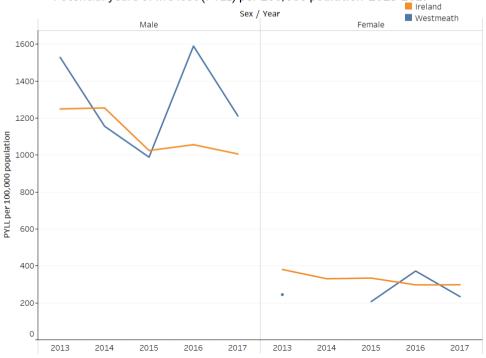
Source: https://health.gov.ie/healthy-ireland/research-and-data/

Alcohol Mortality

Five year age standardised mortality rate per 100,000 for selected alcohol related causes 2017



Mortality for selected alcohol causes Potential years of life lost (PYLL) per 100,000 poulation 2013-2017

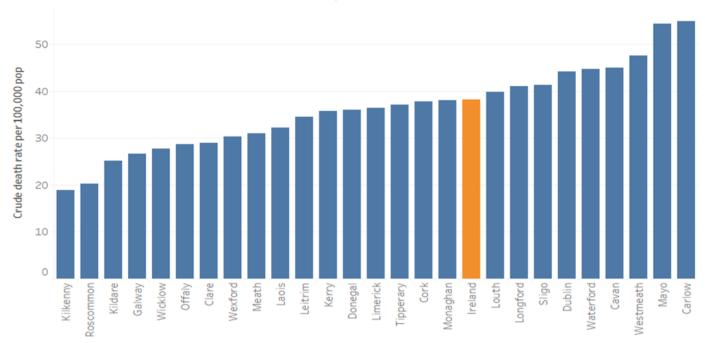


Source: PHIS, Personal Edition April 2019, Department of Health

Alcohol Mortality National Drug Related Death Index

The Irish National Drug-Related Deaths Index (NDRDI) records cases of death by drug and alcohol poisoning, and deaths among drug users and those who are alcohol dependent. The number year on year at county level is small.

Deaths due to poisoning where alcohol was implicated in the death - crude rate per 100,000, NDRDI, 2004-2016



Crude death rates were calculated using estimated 2011 population figures (as mid census data point between years 2004 – 2016) from CSO.

There were 1,753 poisonings where alcohol was implicated in the cause of death, recorded by the NDRDI during the reporting period 2004 to 2016. Forty-one (2.3%) of these deaths were among individuals *residing* in the county of Westmeath.

There were 369 poisoning deaths among alcohol dependent persons recorded by the NDRDI during the reporting period 2004 to 2016 where alcohol was NOT implicated in the death; There were less than five deaths among individuals *residing* in the county of Westmeath.

There were 10,046 non-poisoning deaths among persons known to be alcohol dependent recorded by the NDRDI during the reporting period 2004-2016. One hundred and thirty-seven (1.4%) of these deaths were among individuals *residing* in the county of Westmeath.

There were 890 non-poisoning deaths where deaths were NOT due to poisoning and person was NOT known to be alcohol dependent but alcohol was implicated in the deaths recorded by the NDRDI during the reporting period 2004-2016. Twenty (2.2%) of these deaths were among individuals *residing* in the county of Westmeath.

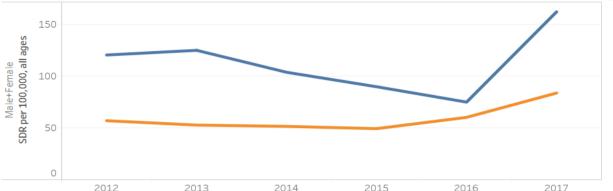
Source: NDRDI, HRB April 2019

Alcohol In-Patient

HIPE data relates to public hospitals. The figures graphed give an indication of the level of service use in the geographical area. Caution is warranted in interpreting this data as mental health problems are common in those requiring treatment for alcohol misuse and vice versa.

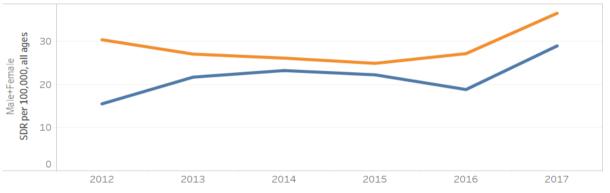
Age Standardised Hospital In-Patient Discharge Rate per 100,000 Mental & behavioural - alcohol 2012-2017, Ireland & Westmeath



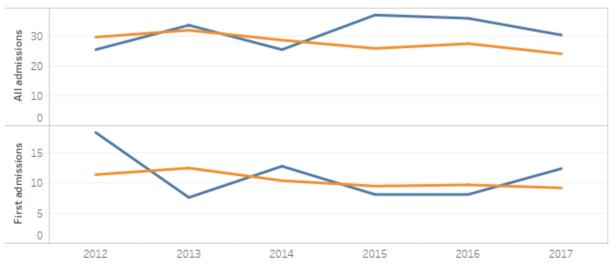


Age Standardised Hospital In-Patient Discharge Rate per 100,000 Alcoholic liver disease 2012-2017, Ireland & Westmeath

(blank values represent either no rate or where the number of cases was <5)



Psychiatric in-patient admission rate per 100,000 Alcohol Disorders 2012-2017 Ireland & Westmeath



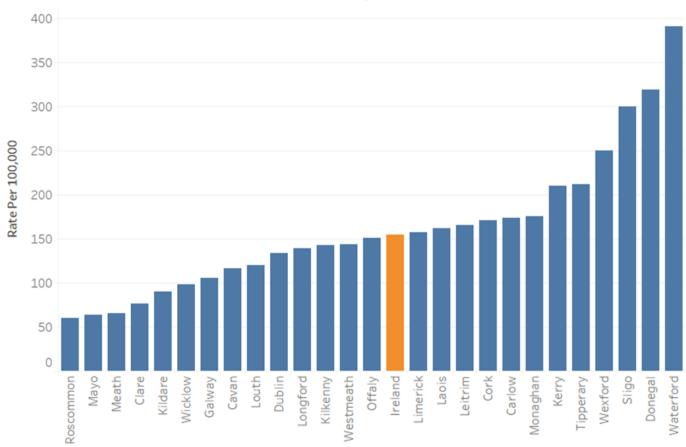
Source: PHIS: Personal Edition April 2019, Department of Health and National Psychiatric Inpatient Reporting System www.hrb.ie

Alcohol Drug Treatment

The National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS) data is affected by participation of services. While coverage of drug treatment is high, coverage of alcohol services, particularly provided by Mental Health Services is not uniform around the country and as such will impact on county level analysis. Psychiatric in-patient and those undergoing treatment for alcohol misuse may be similar population cohorts. Low usage of services in an area may be due to lack of capacity and may not indicate low alcohol harm.

| Alcohol Treatment Numbers 2012-2017 | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| County 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 | | | | | | | | |
| No. of cases | Westmeath | 234 | 197 | 243 | 206 | 239 | 128 | |
| No. of cases | Ireland | 8609 | 7819 | 7760 | 7618 | 7643 | 7350 | |
| % of Ireland | Westmeath | 2.7 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 1.7 | |

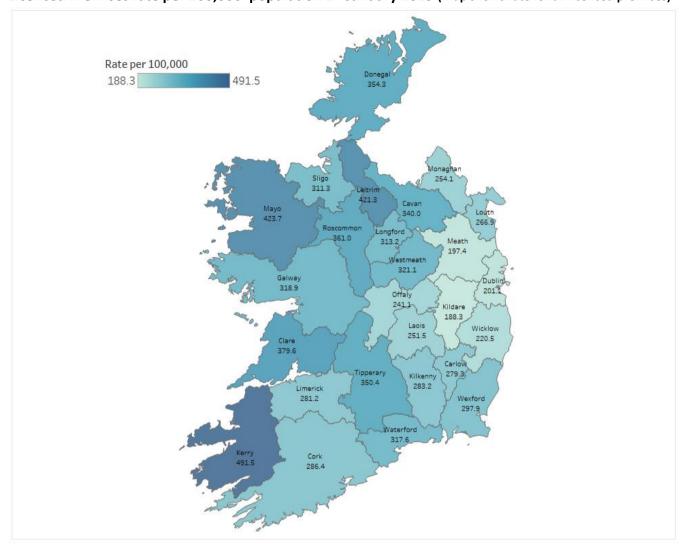
Alcohol Treatment - Crude Rate per 100,000, NDTRS, 2017



Source: Treatment figures from National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS), HRB. Population data used to calculate treatment rates sourced from Central Statistics Office (CSO) 2016 Census of Population 2016.

Alcohol Availability

Licenced Premises rate per 100,000 population 1st January 2019 (Map shows rate for all licenced premises)



| | Туре | Number | Rate per 100,000 |
|-----------|----------------------------|--------|------------------|
| Ireland | Manufacturer's Licence | 161 | 273 |
| | Off Licence | 3,154 | 66 |
| | Publican's Licence | 6,819 | 143 |
| | Special Restaurant Licence | 433 | 9 |
| | Wholesaler | 542 | 11 |
| | Wine Retailer's On Licence | 1,897 | 40 |
| | Total | 13,006 | 273 |
| Westmeath | Manufacturer's Licence | 1 | 1 |
| | Off Licence | 70 | 79 |
| | Publican's Licence | 159 | 179 |
| | Special Restaurant Licence | 11 | 12 |
| | Wholesaler | 13 | 15 |
| | Wine Retailer's On Licence | 31 | 35 |
| | Total | 285 | 321 |

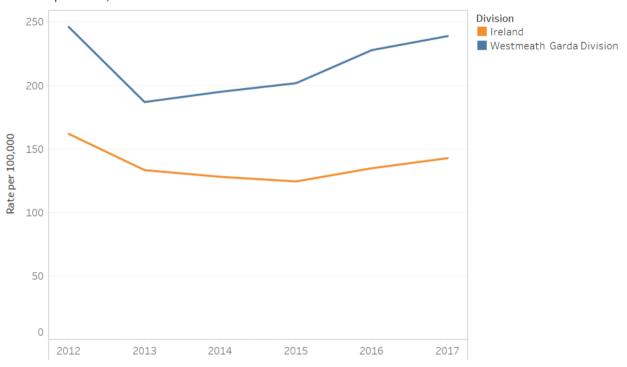
Alcohol – Societal Impact – Crime Offences

*Cautionary note regarding Recorded Crime Offences data sourced from Central Statistics Office (CSO)

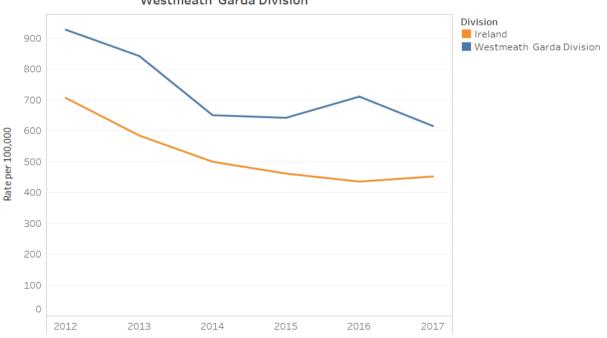
The publication by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) of Recorded Crime statistics is wholly dependent on the provision of PULSE data by An Garda Síochána (AGS). As users are aware, there has been a number of data quality issues identified in relation to PULSE data.

The CSO recognises that the deferral of these important statistics results in an information gap and is a source of frustration to users. The CSO has taken the decision to resume publication of Recorded Crime statistics under a new category "Under Reservation". This categorisation indicates that the quality of these statistics do not meet the standards required of official statistics published by the CSO.

Driving in charge of a vehicle while over legal alcohol limit per 100,000 Population, 2012 to 2017 Ireland & Westmeath Garda Division

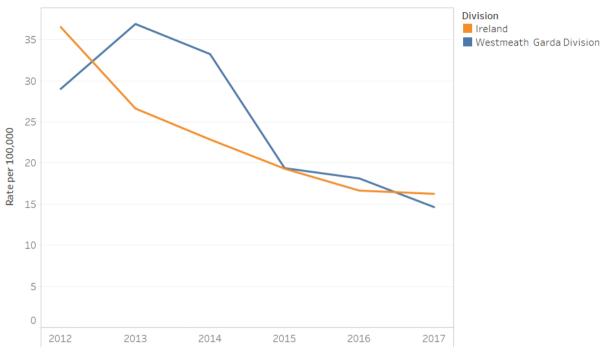


Disorderly conduct per 100,000 Population, 2012 to 2017 Ireland & Westmeath Garda Division



Alcohol - Societal Impact - Crime Offences

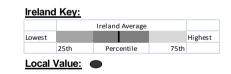
Liquor licensing offences per 100,000 Population, 2012 to 2017 Ireland & Westmeath Garda Division



Source: Quarterly Recorded Crime Release, Recorded Crime Offences, Central Statistics Office (CSO) available at www.cso.ie

Fact and Health Summary for Westmeath

The following charts show how people in this area compare with the rest of Ireland for key indicators. The black circle shows the score for this area and the black line shows the average for Ireland. For some indicators, being above average is preferable, whereas for others the opposite is the case. A more detailed interpretation is given on page 13.



| | Indicator | Local Number | Local Value | Irl Avg | Irl Low | Ireland Range | Irl High |
|----|--|-----------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------------|----------|
| | 5 Year Age Standardised Mortality per 100,000 Population 2017 | | | | | | |
| 1 | 5 year age standardised mortality for all causes and all ages | 2925 | 1051.7 | 1002.2 | 924.9 | | 1115.6 |
| 2 | 5 year age standardised mortality for Selected Alcohol Related causes | 215 | 61.7 | 58.6 | 46.5 | | 71.1 |
| | Age Standardised Treatment Rates per 100,000 Population 2017 | | | | | | |
| 3 | Hospital addmission rate for all causes | 38646 | 85509.6 | 55676.2 | 36016.9 | - | 104005.8 |
| 4 | Hospital admission rate for mental & behavioural disorder due to alcohol disease | 74 | 162.3 | 83.8 | 39.8 | • | 270.8 |
| 5 | Hospital admission rate for alcoholic liver disease | 12 | 28.9 | 36.5 | 12.9 | | 70.4 |
| 6 | Psyciatric hospital admission rate for alcohol disorders first admissions | n/a | 12.4 | 9.2 | 1.6 | • | 25.0 |
| 7 | Psyciatric hospital admission rate for alcohol disorders all admissions | n/a | 30.4 | 24.1 | 5.9 | | 62.6 |
| 8 | Alcohol treatment rate per 100,000 population | 128 | 142.7 | 153.2 | 60.3 | | 389.0 |
| | Societal Impacts Crime Statistics 2017 | | | | | | |
| 9 | Driving vehicle over the alcohol limit per 100,000 population | 212 | 236.4 | 153.8 | 98.8 | | 280.1 |
| 10 | Disorderly conduct offences per 100,000 population | 546 | 608.5 | 528.4 | 223.8 | | 1564.8 |
| 11 | Liquor licensing offences per 100,000 population | 13 | 14.5 | 17.3 | 4.4 | | 76.3 |

Fact and Health Summary for Westmeath

The following charts show how people in this area compare with the rest of Ireland for key indicators. The black circle shows the score for this area and the black line shows the average for Ireland. For some indicators, being above average is preferable, whereas for others the opposite is the case. A more detailed interpretation is given on page 13.

Westmeath

Ireland Key:

| | Ireland Average | | | | |
|--------|-----------------|------------|--|------|--|
| Lowest | Highest | | | | |
| | 25th | Percentile | | 75th | |

Local Value ●

| | Indicator | Local Number | Local Value | Iri Avg | Irl Low | Ireland Range | Irl High |
|----|--|-----------------|----------------|------------|------------|---------------|-------------|
| | 2016 Census Population | | | | | | |
| 1 | Population number and % of National | 88770 | 1.9 | 3.2 | 0.7 | | 11.6 |
| 2 | 5 year Population change 2011-2016 | 2606 | 3.0 | 3.2 | -1.2 | | 8.0 |
| | 2016 Census Indicators | | | | | | |
| | Age Groups | | | | | | |
| 3 | Age 0-4 | 6464 | 7.3 | 7.0 | 5.0 | | 8.4 |
| 4 | Age 5-9 | 6948 | 7.8 | 7.5 | 4.8 | | 9.1 |
| 5 | Age 10-14 | 6363 | 7.2 | 6.7 | 4.4 | | 7.9 |
| 6 | Age 15-19 | 5978 | 6.7 | 6.4 | 5.2 | | 7.0 |
| 7 | Age 20-24 | 5018 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 4.0 | | 10.8 |
| 8 | Age 25-29 | 5191 | 5.8 | 6.2 | 4.5 | | 11.0 |
| 9 | Age 30-34 | 6466 | 7.3 | 7.6 | 6.2 | | 10.6 |
| 10 | Age 35-39 | 6967 | 7.8 | 8.2 | 6.8 | | 9.8 |
| 11 | Age 40-44 | 6479 | 7.3 | 7.5 | 6.0 | | 8.8 |
| 12 | Age 45-49 | 6261 | 7.1 | 6.8 | 5.6 | | 7.5 |
| 13 | Age 50-54 | 5761 | 6.5 | 6.3 | 5.0 | | 6.9 |
| 15 | Age 55-59 | 5077 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 4.8 | | 6.8 |
| 14 | Age 60-64 | 4427 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 4.1 | | 6.8 |
| 15 | Age 65-69 | 3787 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 3.4 | | 6.8 |
| 16 | Age 70-74 | 2860 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 2.5 | | 6.8 |
| 17 | Age 75-79 | 2089 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 1.5 | | 6.8 |
| 18 | Age 80-84 | 1449 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 0.9 | | 6.8 |
| 19 | Age 84+ | 1185 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 0.7 | | 6.8 |
| | Age Discrete groupings | | | | | | |
| 20 | Age 0-14 | 19775 | 22.3 | 21.1 | 14.3 | | 25.1 |
| 21 | Age 15-64 | 57625 | 64.9 | 65.5 | 61.5 | | 71.9 |
| 22 | Age 65 and over | 11370 | 12.8 | 13.4 | 6.8 | | 17.6 |
| 23 | Age 0-17 | 23584 | 26.6 | 25.0 | 17.2 | | 29.3 |
| 24 | Age 18-64 | 53816 | 60.6 | 61.2 | 57.6 | | 69.2 |
| 25 | Dependency Population Ratio | 31145 | 54.0 | 52.7 | 39.0 | | 62.6 |
| | 2016 Census Indicators Society | | | | | | |
| 26 | Lone Parent housholds | 3417 | 9.7 | 9.5 | 7.8 | | 11.2 |
| 27 | persons with no formal or primary Education only | 7400 | 10.7 | 10.3 | 5.1 | | 17.2 |
| 28 | Semi, unskilled and agricultural workers | 10546 | 12.0 | 11.6 | 5.0 | | 15.3 |
| 29 | Unemployment | 7366 | 10.7 | 8.8 | 4.9 | | 13.0 |
| 30 | Households local authority/voluntary rented | 2545 | 8.0 | 9.4 | 4.9 | | 17.7 |
| 31 | Depriavtion | n/a | -1.8 | 0.6 | -6.2 | | 10.6 |
| 32 | White Irish | 72945 | 82.8 | 82.2 | 70.0 | | 89.5 |
| 33 | White Irish Traveller | 1008 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 0.2 | | 2.6 |
| | All other ethnic backgrounds | 14100 | 16.0 | 17.2 | 10.1 | | 28.1 |

Definitions and References for Westmeath

Page 1

Alcohol consumption is defined as annual sales of pure alcohol in litres per person aged 15 years and older. Alcohol use is associated with numerous harmful health and social consequences, including an increased risk of a range of cancers, stroke and liver cirrhosis. Alcohol also contributes to death and disability through accidents and injuries, assault, violence, homicide and suicide. Litres per capita (people aged 15 years and older 2016. http://www.who.int/gho/alcohol/en/ WHO Global Health Repository and Our World in Data Report on Alcohol. Ritchie H, Roser M. April 2018 https://ourworldindata.org/alcohol-consumption

Page 2

Litres per capita (people aged 15 years and older) 2016 and share of drinkers who have had a heavy drinking session in past 30 days 2010. http://www.who.int/gho/alcohol/en/ WHO Global Health Repository and Our World in Data Report on Alcohol. Ritchie H, Roser M. April 2018 https://ourworldindata.org/alcohol-consumption Healthy Ireland Survey 2018. Source: https://health.gov.ie/healthy-ireland/research-and-data/

Page 3

Five year age standardised death rate for selected alcohol related causes per 100,000 population by county and nationally 2013-2017. Source Public Health Information System (PHIS) personal Edition 2018. The cause of death category Selected Alcohol Related Cause is made up of deaths where the following ICD 10 codes was recorded as the primary cause of death: ICD-10: C15 Malignant neoplasm of oesophagus, C32 Malignant neoplasm of larynx, F10 Alcohol related disorders, K70 Alcoholic liver disease, K73 Chronic hepatitis, not elsewhere classified, K74 Fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver, K76 Other diseases of liver and External Causes V00-V99, W00-W99, X00-X99, Y00-Y99. This simple pooling of alcohol related deaths can help to better rank countries by alcohol related mortality and can be used to better track trends in deaths associated with alcohol than using separate causes. It is relatively rough indicator and it is NOT the estimate of alcohol attributable mortality, which is more complex and difficult to calculate Source: Public Health Information System (PHIS) Personal Edition, April 2019. Department of Health Potential Years of Life Lost 2013-2017. Source: Public Health Information System (PHIS) Personal Edition, April 2019. Department of Health

Page 4

Death due to alcohol poisoning and deaths among drug users and those who are alcohol dependent 2004-2016. National Alcohol-Related Deaths Index (NDRDI). Health Research Board (April 2019). Source Irish National Drug-Related Deaths Index. http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/26299 and www.hrb.ie/publications. Crude death rate calculated using population figures for 2006, 2011 and 2016 from Central Statistics Office, Census of Ireland. source www.cso.ie

Page 5

Hospital In-Patient Age Standardised rate per 100,000 for Alcoholic Liver Disease and Mental & Behavioural alcohol related discharges 2012-2017. Source Public Health Information System (PHIS) Personal Edition, April 2019. Department of Health. Hospital Admissions (Rate per 100,000 Pop.) by ICD 10 Diagnostic Group, Psychiatric In-Patient rate per 100,000 due alcohol disorders 2012-2017. Source: 2011; 2012: National Psychiatric Inpatient Reporting System (http://www.hrb.ie/health-information-evidence/mental-health/information-systems/npirs-national-psychiatric-in-patient-reporting-system/. Hosted on: www.cso.ie and PHIS Personal Edition, April 2019, Department of Health.

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Treated problem alcohol use in Ireland Health Research Board (2012-2017). The National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS) is an epidemiological database on treated problem drug and alcohol use in Ireland Interpretation of data3 factors must be taken into consideration when interpreting the figures in this paper.

- **1.**The number of alcohol treatment services reporting to the NDTRS, not all services participate in the system. In particular, the coverage for cases reporting alcohol as their main problem drug is incomplete in the west (Galway, Mayo and Roscommon). Up to 2007, the alcohol services managed by the mental health services had never been invited to take part in the reporting system. The process of recruiting services that have not participated in the NDTRS to date is ongoing.
- **2**. Each record in the NDTRS database relates to a treatment episode (a case), and not to a person. This means that the same person could be counted more than once in the reporting year if they had more than one treatment episode in that year.
- **3**. The place of residence is not always recorded, and an additional small number of cases lived outside Ireland. These cases could not be assigned to a specified HSE region or county.

National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS) data is affected by participation of services. While coverage of drug treatment is high, coverage of alcohol services, particularly provided by mental health services is not uniform around the country and as such will impact on county level analysis. Psychiatric in-patient and those undergoing treatment for alcohol misuse may be similar population cohorts. Low usage of services in an area may be due to lack of capacity and may not indicate low alcohol harm.

Definitions and References for Westmeath

Page 7

Current valid liquor licenses per 100,000. Current liquor licenses sourced from Irish Tax and Customs, Revenue website, http://www.revenue.ie/en/tax/excise/ 1st January 2019. Density of licensed premises rate per 100,000 population calculated using Census of Ireland data 2011-2016. Source: www.cso.ie

Page 8 and 9

Offence of Driving/in charge of a vehicle while over legal alcohol limit 2012-2017 rate per 100,000. Offence of disorderly conduct rate per 100,000 2012-2017. Liquor licensing offences rate per 100,000. Recorded Crime Offences (Number) by Type of Offence, Garda Division. Source http://www.cso.ie/px/pxeirestat/Statire/SelectVarVal/Define.asp?maintable=CJQ03. Rate per 100,000 population calculated using Census of Ireland data 2011- 2016. Source: www.cso.ie

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- (1-2) 5 year age standardised mortality rate for all causes and for selected alcohol related causes all ages 2017. PHIS personal Edition April 2019. Department of Health
- (3-5) Age standardised In-patient admissions rate per 100,000 for all causes, mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol, and alcoholic liver disease 2017. PHIS personal Edition April 2019. Department of Health
- (6-7) Psychiatric hospital admission rate for alcohol disorders first admissions and all admissions 2017. Source: 2011; 2012: National Psychiatric Inpatient Reporting System (http://www.hrb.ie/health-information-evidence/mental-health/information-systems/npirs-national-psychiatric-in-patient-reporting-system/. Hosted on: www.cso.ie and PHIS Personal Edition, April 2019, Department of Health.
- (8) Alcohol Treatment rate per 100,000 population. NDTRS). National Health Information Systems, Health Research Board. Available at http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/23564 and www.hrb.ie/publications. Figures for 2012-217 sourced directly from NDTRS, Health Research Board. Alcohol treatment rates calculated using Census of Ireland data 2011 and 2016. Source www.cso.ie
- (9-11) Offences of driving in vehicle over the alcohol limit per 100,000 2017. Liquor licensing offences 2017. Public disorderly offences 2017. Recorded Crime Statistics. Source hosted on Central Statistics http://www.cso.ie/px/pxeirestat/Statire/SelectVarVal/Define.asp?maintable=CJQ03

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Data (1-34)taken from Census of Ireland data 2016. Source www.cso.ie

- (1) Population of Ireland 2016 as a percentage of the National Population.
- (2) Population change 2011-2016 and percent change.
- (3-24) Percentage of the population of this area by age groups 2016.
- (25) Dependency ratio 2016—the proportion of the population in the 0-14 and 65 years and over age groups as a proportion of the 15-64 age group.
- (26) Percentage of lone parent households over the total number of households 2016.
- (27) Percentage of persons aged 15 and over who have either no formal education or whose highest level of education is at primary school level over the number of persons aged 15 and over who have ceased education 2016.
- (28) Percentage of persons in labour force who are semi, unskilled or agricultural workers 2016.
- (29) Percentage of persons aged 15-64 available in the labour force who are unemployed including first time job seekers 2016.
- (30) Percentage of households which are local authority or voluntary sector rented over the total number of households 2016.
- (31) Deprivation relative score 2011. The calculated deprivation level for this area. A scoring is given to the area based on a national average of zero and ranging from roughly -40 (being most disadvantaged to +40 (most affluent). For more information see www.pobal.ie.
- (32-34) The percentage of persons of white Irish, Traveller and all "other ethnicity" 2016.

Background and Information - Westmeath

How to interpret the spine tool

This user guide is designed to aid interpretation of the spine charts on page 8 in the health profiles (2017). The spine charts were developed utilising a spine tool developed by the West Midlands Public Health Observatory which is now part of Public Health England. The following explanation on how to interpret these charts is adapted from a document published by the West Midlands Public Health Observatory.

A spine chart is a data visualisation technique to present a number of indicators for an area. Each indicator's statistics are scaled so that the indicator's Ireland average (mean) value forms one dark vertical central line on the chart. An area's value for each indicator is presented as a circle against a shaded background showing the range and inter-quartile range of the local authority values across Ireland.

Range and interquartile range

Behind each local authority indicator value there is a shaded bar representing the range of values for local authorities across Ireland. The darker grey inner area of this bar represents the interquartile range. If areas were put in order of worst to best, the interquartile range would represent the worst and best values of the middle 50% of areas, i.e. those that are neither in the 25% worst nor the 25% best in all of Ireland. If the frequency distribution was a perfect normal distribution then the centre of the dark grey band (the median) would overlap the Ireland value (the mean) and the light grey tails would be equal length. The symmetry of the grey bars can give a general indication of:

- where there is skew or outliers in a particular direction: the light grey tail
 will be greater on one side than the other and the dark grey band may also
 be off-centre. In extreme cases the dark grey band (the interquartile
 range) may not overlap the mean Ireland value as the centre of the
 interquartile range is the median rather than the mean average.
- If the majority of areas are very close to the Ireland value but others are more spread out (central dark grey band is much narrower than the length combined of the light grey tails).
- Mean: This is another word for the average. It is defined as the sum of the
 observations divided by the number of observations.
- Median: This is the middle value in a range of values which have been put in order of lowest to highest. It is used instead of the mean if the data is skewed.
- Range: The range is described as the smallest and largest observations.
- Interquartile range: This is the range where the middle 50% of the observations lie the data on a chart the chart would look symmetrical.
- Normal distribution: This describes data which have a symmetrical distribution, with a characteristic 'bell' shape.
- Skew: This is used to describe data which does not have a symmetrical distribution. If you were to depict the data on a chart the chart would look lopsided or "skewed".

To watch a training video on Spine Tool interpretation click the link below: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=480Mswgcg8M

West Midlands Public Health Observatory (now Public Health England). Tools: Spine Chart Creator. Available online at

http://www.wmpho.org.uk/tools/

West Midlands Public Health Observatory. The Older People's Health and Wellbeing Atlas: User Guide (November 2012 update). Available online at http://www.wmpho.org.uk/olderpeopleatlas/Atlas/UserGuide_OlderPeopleAtlas.pdf

Definitions adapted from Public Health textbook on http://www.healthknowledge.org.uk/:

Additional information:

Further information on health determinants from census data, such as housing, water supply, time to travel to work, computer ownership, car ownership etc. are available at www.cso.ie.

Data and information gaps

- · Alcohol attributable mortality data
- Emergency Department data
- GP consultation data
- Total alcohol per capita (15+ years) consumption by county
- Social data (impact on children, relationships and employment)
- Interpretation of the recorded crime statistics

This is by no means an **exhaustive list** but it gives an indication of the data and information gaps that currently exist.

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Public Health England - Public Health England Health Profiles http://www.apho.org.uk/

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Background:

In 2016 the Alcohol Forum, selected clinical services and the Department of Public Health Medicine (DPHM), HSENE, HSENW and HSEW, collaborated on an exercise to scope the availability of data to describe alcohol-related harm in Ireland. The intention was to identify quality assured databases that provided data at county level to allow the development of a County Alcohol Harm profile for each county in Ireland. The purpose of the profile was to provide a baseline from which trends could be measured and to inform local planning and action to reduce alcohol harm. The profiles have the potential to become an important tool for a range of organisations and structures operating at the County level. This is the second issue of the Alcohol Related Harm Profile by County.

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