

19th January 2022

Deputy Peadar Tóibín, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

Re PQ: 1756/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of phone calls received by the HSE drug and alcohol helpline in each of the past ten years in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

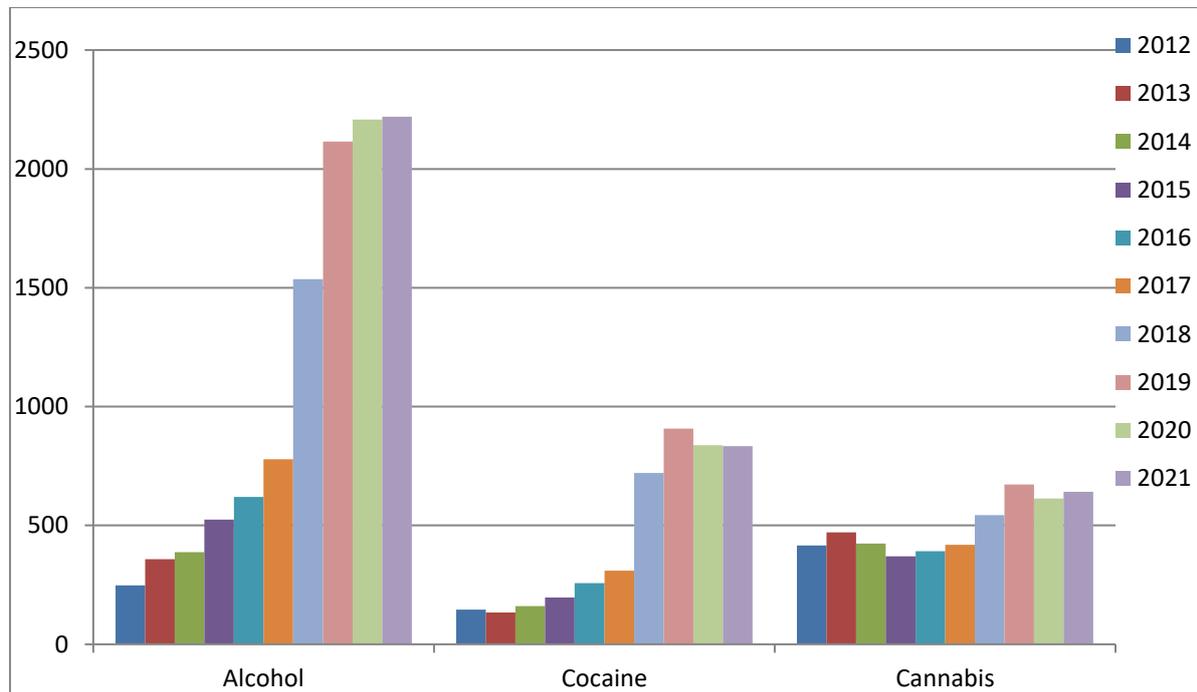
The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

Below is a table with the number of contacts (calls and emails) dealt with by the HSE Drugs and Alcohol Helpline 2012-2021. In this table we have given the overall number of contacts and also given a breakdown for the most referred to substances.

Table 1: Calls & emails dealt with per year by the HSE Drugs and Alcohol Helpline from 2012 to 2021

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
All Substance use/ addiction contacts	1517	1638	1558	1685	1772	2019	3506	4569	4401	4402
Alcohol contacts	248	358	388	524	620	779	1536	2115	2208	2220
Cocaine contacts	146	134	160	197	258	310	721	908	838	834
Cannabis contacts	416	471	424	370	392	418	544	673	613	641

Chart 1: Shows the most referred to substances in calls and emails to the HSE Drugs and Alcohol Helpline from 2012 to 2021



I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Doyle
National Lead, Social Inclusion