

Question on Notice

No. 1243

Asked on 12 December 2024

MR J MARTIN ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON T NICHOLLS)—

QUESTION

Will the Minister advise the number of presentations to drug and alcohol services (reported separately in a table by substance(s) in each Hospital and Health Service)?

ANSWER

I refer the Member to the answer to Question on Notice 1206 about alcohol and other drug services in Queensland. Queensland Health funds the delivery of specialist alcohol and other drug treatment services across Queensland through Hospital and Health Services (HHS) and non-government organisations (NGO) (inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Organisations).

Most state-funded specialist alcohol and other drug assessment and treatment is delivered in community settings through HHSs and NGOs.

From 1 January to 31 October 2024 there were 74,115 service contacts with 21,167 individual patients attending in-person to a HHS alcohol and other drug community-based service for assessment or treatment as well as 837 admissions to the two bed-based withdrawal units delivered by Metro North and Cairns and Hinterland HHSs.

These services were provided to support people with various drugs of concern, the most common being:

- analgesics including opioid and non-opioid pain medications such as codeine, morphine, oxycodone and fentanyl;
- cannabinoids such as cannabis;
- stimulants and hallucinogens including amphetamines;
- sedatives and hypnotics such as barbiturates and benzodiazepines; and
- alcohol.

A detailed breakdown of drugs of concern is presented in the table below by HHS. The data has been drawn from Queensland Health's Consumer Integrated Mental Health and Addiction application:

Number of presentations		Year
HHS	Drug of Concern	2024
Cairns and Hinterland	Alcohol	<5
	Analgesics	181
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	123
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	26

	Sedatives and Hypnotics	486
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	142
	Volatile Solvents	<5
Central Queensland	Alcohol	16
	Anabolic Agents and Selected Hormones	<5
	Analgesics	101
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	141
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	46
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	193
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	148
Central West	Nil drugs of concern recorded	
Darling Downs	Alcohol	48
	Analgesics	186
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	47
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	27
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	97
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	74
	Volatile Solvents	<5
Gold Coast	Alcohol	179
	Analgesics	272
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	35
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	52
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	68
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	113
Mackay	Alcohol	17
	Analgesics	66
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	30
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	68
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	53
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	42
Metro North	Alcohol	334
	Anabolic Agents and Selected Hormones	10
	Analgesics	729
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	2139
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	2757
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	799
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	1008
Metro South	Alcohol	261
	Analgesics	928
	Antidepressants and Antipsychotics	<5
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	135
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	45
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	93
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	348
	Volatile Solvents	8
North West	Alcohol	<5
	Anabolic Agents and Selected Hormones	<5
	Analgesics	28

	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	129
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	30
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	206
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	190
	Volatile Solvents	<5
South West	Alcohol	16
	Analgesics	10
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	12
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	<5
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	<5
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	21
Sunshine Coast	Alcohol	16
	Anabolic Agents and Selected Hormones	<5
	Analgesics	411
	Antidepressants and Antipsychotics	<5
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	104
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	28
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	436
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	248
Torres & Cape	Alcohol	11
	Analgesics	9
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	6
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	<5
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	7
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	6
Townsville	Alcohol	5
	Anabolic Agents and Selected Hormones	<5
	Analgesics	146
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	44
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	10
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	124
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	119
West Moreton	Alcohol	75
	Analgesics	388
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	83
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	8
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	189
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	236
	Volatile Solvents	<5
Wide Bay	Alcohol	57
	Analgesics	290
	Antidepressants and Antipsychotics	<5
	Cannabinoids and Related Drugs	55
	Miscellaneous Drugs of Concern	8
	Sedatives and Hypnotics	52
	Stimulants and Hallucinogens	114