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## **Drug Seizures and Arrests**

### **Summary**

**Table 5.1 Drug Seizures and Arrests 2003/04 - 2004/05**

**Table 5.2 Seizure Incidents and Arrests by District Command Unit 2003/04 and 2004/05**

**The Following as an Extract from the Main Financial Year Document 2004/05**

# Drug Seizures and Arrests

## Summary

### Total Seizures

- A total of 2,402 drug seizure incidents were recorded in 2004/05, an increase of 2.3% on 2003/04. As in previous years cannabis was the drug most commonly seized.

### Class A Seizures

- The number of seizures involving Class A drugs was similar to the previous year (429 seizure incidents in 2004/05 compared with 431 in 2003/04).
- Ecstasy accounted for the greatest number of Class A seizure incidents. The number of ecstasy tablets seized increased by 57.6% from 222,888 in 2003/04 to 351,296 in 2004/05.
- During 2004/05, 21.33kg of cocaine powder was seized compared with 11.47kg in 2003/04. This was largely due to two major seizures (9kg in May 2004 and 6kg in July 2004).

### Class B Seizures

- As cannabis was reclassified to a Class C drug on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2004, comparisons of the overall number of Class B seizure incidents with previous years are misleading.
- The amount of amphetamine powder seized increased substantially during 2004/05 (79.1 kg compared with 17.3 kg in 2003/04). This was largely due to a major seizure of 50kg in December 2004.

### Class C (Cannabis) Seizures

- Seizures of cannabis (regardless of classification type) increased by 1.9% during the year from 1,984 in 2003/04 to 2,021 in 2004/05.
- There was a substantial decrease in the amount of cannabis resin seized during 2004/05 (933.0 kg compared with 2,204.2 kg in 2003/04). However this was still higher than the amount seized during 2002/03 (709.5kg).

### Arrests

- The number of persons arrested for drug related offences decreased by 22.7% from 1,754 in 2003/04 to 1,356 in 2004/05.

### Charges

- The number of persons charged or summonsed for drug related offences remained largely the same (1,077 in 2004/05 compared with 1,088 in 2003/04).

**Table 5.1: Drug Seizures and Arrests 2002/03 – 2004/05**

Drugs Seized		2002/03		2003/04		2004/05	
		No. of Seizures	Amount Seized	No. of Seizures	Amount Seized	No. of Seizures	Amount Seized
<b>Class A</b>							
Cocaine:	Powder (gms)	44	3,023.9	77	11,470.9	87	21,331.6
	Wraps	3	12	2	6	3	24
	'Crack' (gms)	1	50.0	3	9.2	0	0.0
Ecstasy:	Tablets	258	605,188	342	222,888	317	351,296
	Powder (gms)	2	1.1	9	72.1	6	43.41
	Capsules	5	25	1	20	2	4
LSD:	Doses	1	4	0	0	7	1,134
	Microdots	2	1	1	6	2	7,012
Opiates:	Powder (gms)	21	346	14	189.9	14	5.1
	Tablets	1	41	1	3	5	57
	Ampoules	1	1	1	20	0	0
	Mls	14	428.5	13	163.6	8	202.2
	Wraps	1	1	2	2	0	0
<b>All Class A<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>335</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Class B<sup>2</sup></b>							
Amphetamine:	Powder (kgs)	83	27.6	130	17.3	147	79.1
	Wraps	9	24	9	35	3	24
	Tablets	4	11	2	58	1	32
Barbiturates:	Tablets	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>All Class B<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>1,534<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,703<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>-</b>	<b>151<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Class C (Cannabis)<sup>3</sup></b>							
Cannabis <sup>3</sup> :	Resin (kgs)	1,366	709.5	1,819	2,204.2	1,841	933.0
	Herbal (kgs)	78	27.7	109	32.8	131	19.7
	Plants	29	202	59	1,173	43	574
	Oil (gms)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Joints	104	169	138	212	132	208
<b>All Cannabis<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>1,487</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,984</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,021</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Seizure Incidents<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>1,781</b>		<b>2,347</b>		<b>2,402</b>	
<b>'Street Value' of Drugs Seized</b>		<b>£11,082,910</b>		<b>£15,108,410</b>		<b>£9,507,689</b>	
<b>Persons Arrested</b>		<b>1,295</b>		<b>1,754</b>		<b>1,356</b>	
<b>Persons Charged</b>		<b>798</b>		<b>1,088</b>		<b>1,077</b>	

<sup>1</sup> As seizure incidents can involve more than one drug type, seizure figures for individual drugs cannot be added together to produce totals.

<sup>2</sup> Cannabis was reclassified from Class B to Class C on the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2004, as such Class B totals include cannabis seizure incidents prior to reclassification.

<sup>3</sup> For presentation purposes, total seizures of cannabis are presented together regardless of class.

**Table 5.2: Seizure Incidents and Arrests by District Command Unit 2003/04 – 2004/05**

DCU	Number of Seizure Incidents				Number of Arrests			
	2003/04	2004/05	Change	% Change	2003/04	2004/05	Change	% Change
Antrim	75	89	14	18.7	54	47	-7	-13.0
Ards	63	46	-17	-27.0	56	25	-31	-55.4
East Belfast	125	100	-25	-20.0	103	77	-26	-25.2
North Belfast	154	154	0	0.0	87	81	-6	-6.9
South Belfast	221	228	7	3.2	173	135	-38	-22.0
West Belfast	50	58	8	16.0	36	37	1	2.8
Carrickfergus	61	64	3	4.9	28	21	-7	-25.0
Castlereagh	55	48	-7	-12.7	44	29	-15	-34.1
Larne	40	10	-30	-75.0	32	5	-27	-84.4
Lisburn	88	121	33	37.5	74	98	24	32.4
Newtownabbey	57	45	-12	-21.1	31	18	-13	-41.9
North Down	98	116	18	18.4	54	65	11	20.4
<b>Urban Region</b>	<b>1087</b>	<b>1079</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>-134</b>	<b>-17.4</b>
Armagh	67	71	4	6.0	75	64	-11	-14.7
Ballymena	140	153	13	9.3	108	89	-19	-17.6
Ballymoney	9	13	4	44.4	4	6	2	50.0
Banbridge	49	32	-17	-34.7	53	21	-32	-60.4
Coleraine	138	147	9	6.5	116	92	-24	-20.7
Cookstown	76	76	0	0.0	56	17	-39	-69.6
Craigavon	102	126	24	23.5	77	52	-25	-32.5
Down	78	104	26	33.3	61	37	-24	-39.3
Dungannon & South Tyrone	90	74	-16	-17.8	47	25	-22	-46.8
Fermanagh	54	78	24	44.4	42	52	10	23.8
Foyle	141	146	5	3.5	124	89	-35	-28.2
Limavady	64	70	6	9.4	44	29	-15	-34.1
Magherafelt	56	42	-14	-25.0	42	33	-9	-21.4
Moyle	11	10	-1	-9.1	2	1	-1	-50.0
Newry & Mourne	78	60	-18	-23.1	48	35	-13	-27.1
Omagh	78	97	19	24.4	44	59	15	34.1
Strabane	29	24	-5	-17.2	39	17	-22	-56.4
<b>Rural Region</b>	<b>1260</b>	<b>1323</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>-264</b>	<b>-26.9</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2347</b>	<b>2402</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1754</b>	<b>1356</b>	<b>-398</b>	<b>-22.7</b>