



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

**Statistical Report No. 4**

## **DRUG SEIZURES & ARRESTS**

**1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2006 – 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2007**

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# 4. Drug Seizures and Arrests

## Summary

Table 4.1 Drug Seizures and Arrests  
2004/05 – 2006/07

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2005/06 and 2006/07

## 4. Drug Seizures and Arrests

### Summary

#### Total Seizures

- A total of 2,590 drug seizure incidents were recorded in 2006/07, a decrease of 6.4% on 2005/06. As in previous years cannabis was the drug most commonly seized.

#### Class A Seizures

- The number of seizures involving Class A drugs increased by 58.8% from 449 seizure incidents in 2005/06 to 713 in 2006/07.
- Ecstasy accounted for the greatest number of Class A seizure incidents. The number of ecstasy tablets seized increased by 28.9% from 92,107 in 2005/06 to 118,708 in 2006/07.
- The amount of cocaine powder seized has increased progressively over the last three years with 21.3 kg being seized in 2004/05 compared with 27.1 kg in 2005/06 and 36.1 kg in 2006/07.

#### Class B Seizures

- The number of seizures involving class B drugs increased by 33.1% from 154 seizure incidents in 2005/06 to 205 in 2006/07.
- Despite an increase in the number of amphetamine powder seizures during 2006/07 (138 in 2005/06 compared with 188 in 2006/07), the amount of amphetamine powder seized decreased from 73.7 kg in 2005/06 to 18.0 kg in 2006/07.

#### Class C (Cannabis) Seizures

- Seizures of cannabis decreased by 18.6%, from 2,347 in 2005/06 to 1,911 in 2006/07.
- There was a substantial increase in the amount of cannabis resin seized from 426.2 kg in 2005/06 to 3,683.5 kg in 2006/07. However, this can be explained by the largest ever seizure of cannabis resin in Northern Ireland, with 3.5 tonnes seized in Ards DCU in October 2006.
- Despite an increase in the number of herbal cannabis seizures from 180 in 2005/06 to 486 in 2006/07, the amount of herbal cannabis seized decreased from 68.6 kg in 2005/06 to 26.6 kg in 2006/07.

#### Arrests

- The number of persons arrested for drug related offences increased by 19.9% from 1,440 in 2005/06 to 1,726 in 2006/07.

#### Charges

- The number of persons charged or summonsed for drug related offences increased by 11.2% from 1,276 in 2005/06 to 1,419 in 2006/07.

**Table 4.1: Drug Seizures and Arrests 2004/05 – 2006/07**

Drugs Seized		2004/05		2005/06		2006/07	
		No. of Seizures	Amount Seized	No. of Seizures	Amount Seized	No. of Seizures	Amount Seized
<b>Class A</b>							
Cocaine:	Powder (gms)	87	21,331.6	168	27,123.8	278	36,139.7
	Wraps	3	24	11	38	15	42
	'Crack' (gms)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Ecstasy:	Tablets	317	351,296	256	92,107	411	118,708
	Powder (gms)	6	43.41	13	391.7	19	519.8
	Capsules	2	4	1	10	2	10
	Crystal (gms)	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	1,579.0
LSD:	Doses	7	1,134	14	306	2	7
	Microdots	2	7,012	1	2	5	120
Opiates:	Powder (gms)	14	5.1	30	321.8	43	592.4
	Tablets	5	57	0	0	1	1
	Ampoules	0	0	1	35	0	0
	Mls	8	202.2	11	385.1	8	159.1
	Wraps	0	0	0	0	11	24
<b>All Class A<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>429</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Class B</b>							
Amphetamine:	Powder (kgs)	147	79.1	138	73.7	188	18.0
	Wraps	3	24	11	32	8	98
	Tablets	1	32	5	258	14	143
Barbiturates:	Tablets	0	0	0	0	1	11
<b>All Class B<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>151</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Class C (Cannabis)</b>							
Cannabis:	Resin (kgs)	1,841	933.0	2,086	426.2	1,438	3,683.5
	Herbal (kgs)	131	19.7	180	68.6	486	26.6
	Plants	43	574	45	1,504	105	1,448
	Oil (gms)	0	0	0	0	2	12.0
	Joints	132	208	197	267	155	221
<b>All Cannabis<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>2,021</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,347</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,911</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Seizure Incidents<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>2,402</b>		<b>2,767</b>		<b>2,590</b>	
<b>'Street Value' of Drugs Seized</b>		<b>£9,507,689</b>		<b>£7,157,566</b>		<b>£22,512,384</b>	
<b>Persons Arrested</b>		<b>1,356</b>		<b>1,440</b>		<b>1,726</b>	
<b>Persons Charged</b>		<b>1,077</b>		<b>1,276</b>		<b>1,419</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.

**Table 4.2: Seizure Incidents and Arrests by DCU 2005/06 – 2006/07**

DCU	No. of Seizure Incidents				No. of Arrests			
	2005/06	2006/07	Change	% Change	2005/06	2006/07	Change	% Change
Antrim	97	87	-10	-10.3%	70	62	-8	-11.4%
Ards	40	37	-3	-7.5%	21	29	8	38.1%
East Belfast	100	81	-19	-19.0%	58	71	13	22.4%
North Belfast	215	229	14	6.5%	96	172	76	79.2%
South Belfast	219	266	47	21.5%	118	167	49	41.5%
West Belfast	68	97	29	42.6%	59	92	33	55.9%
Carrickfergus	50	29	-21	-42.0%	15	12	-3	-20.0%
Castlereagh	45	41	-4	-8.9%	16	24	8	50.0%
Larne	15	29	14	93.3%	9	9	0	0.0%
Lisburn	118	125	7	5.9%	67	69	2	3.0%
Newtownabbey	63	62	-1	-1.6%	28	34	6	21.4%
North Down	105	96	-9	-8.6%	56	44	-12	-21.4%
<b>Urban Region</b>	<b>1135</b>	<b>1179</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>28.1%</b>
Armagh	98	56	-42	-42.9%	104	59	-45	-43.3%
Ballymena	122	126	4	3.3%	78	74	-4	-5.1%
Ballymoney	14	9	-5	-35.7%	2	7	5	250.0%
Banbridge	46	28	-18	-39.1%	17	12	-5	-29.4%
Coleraine	181	232	51	28.2%	110	208	98	89.1%
Cookstown	98	74	-24	-24.5%	29	50	21	72.4%
Craigavon	191	196	5	2.6%	61	100	39	63.9%
Down	102	82	-20	-19.6%	32	37	5	15.6%
Dungannon & South Tyrone	101	76	-25	-24.8%	27	39	12	44.4%
Fermanagh	75	48	-27	-36.0%	74	33	-41	-55.4%
Foyle	163	136	-27	-16.6%	94	98	4	4.3%
Limavady	110	97	-13	-11.8%	45	69	24	53.3%
Magherafelt	40	40	0	0.0%	16	19	3	18.8%
Moyle	16	17	1	6.3%	4	11	7	175.0%
Newry & Mourne	80	65	-15	-18.8%	40	37	-3	-7.5%
Omagh	159	97	-62	-39.0%	75	62	-13	-17.3%
Strabane	36	32	-4	-11.1%	19	26	7	36.8%
<b>Rural Region</b>	<b>1632</b>	<b>1411</b>	<b>-221</b>	<b>-13.5%</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>13.8%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2767</b>	<b>2590</b>	<b>-177</b>	<b>-6.4%</b>	<b>1440</b>	<b>1726</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>19.9%</b>