



# TIIG

INJURY SURVEILLANCE IN THE NORTH WEST OF ENGLAND

## Assault attendances to Arrowe Park Emergency Department: April 2012 to March 2013

As part of the Trauma and Injury Intelligence Group (TIIG) injury surveillance system, Arrowe Park Emergency Department (ED) collect detailed data from assault patients (at reception) concerning the circumstances of their assault, to support local violence prevention activity. This report provides a summary of data collected from 1,435 assault attendances to the ED between April 2012 and March 2013. More detailed data (e.g. assault location) are available for community safety, and other relevant partners, via the author.

### Patient demographics

More than half (51%) of assault attendees were aged 15 to 29 years and the majority (70%) were male (Table 1). Males aged 15 to 29 years accounted for over two-thirds (36%) of all assault attendees.

### Time and date of ED attendance

The highest number of assault attendees presented at the ED during August 2013 (n=151), whilst March had the lowest recorded number (n=92) (Figure 1). Table 2 shows the time and date of assault attendances between April 2012 and March 2013. Almost one in four (23%) of all assault attendees presented on a Sunday and almost three in ten (27%) of these occurred between midnight and 3.59am. Twenty one per cent of assault attendees presented on a Saturday and close to a third (31%) of these occurred between midnight and 3.59am.

### Arrival mode and source of referral

Figure 2 shows the arrival mode of all assault attendees presenting to Arrowe Park ED between April

2012 and March 2013. Over four in ten (45%) of assault attendees arrived by private transport, while 42% arrived by ambulance. Table 3 shows that the majority (89%) of attendees self-referred, whilst 3% of attendees were referred by the emergency services.

### Location of assault

Table 4a gives the location of assault. Almost four in ten (38%) of assaults occurred in a public space, 17% were reported to have occurred in the home and 17% occurred on a street/road. Of all assaults that occurred in a public space or on the street/road, the majority (78% and 81% respectively) of victims were male. Of all assaults that occurred in the home, 57% of victims were female.

Table 4b shows the location in which assaults were reported to have taken place. Birkenhead Town Centre showed the highest prevalence of assault, accounting for 26% of all assault attendances between April 2012 and March 2013. The second highest proportion (13%) of assaults was reported to have taken place in Wallasey/Seacombe.

### Alcohol consumption

Table 5 shows the number of assault attendees who had or had not consumed alcohol in the three hours prior to the incident. Forty four per cent of attendees had not consumed alcohol and 51% had. Of the 51% who had, 70% were male. Table 6 shows that June had the highest proportion of assault attendances reporting that they had consumed alcohol (64%).

### Weapon / time of incident

From May 2010, data has been collected on the time and day of the assault as well as weapon used. However between April 2012 and March 2013, a small proportion of data was missing (see [Box 1](#)). Where reported, assaults were most prevalent on a Saturday and Sunday (42%). Almost eight in ten (78%) of all assaults used a body part as a weapon.

Of the 51% of assault victims who reported to have consumed alcohol in the three hours prior to the incident, 43% stated the incident occurred on a Saturday or Sunday (where this information was collected).

### Informing the police

Data was collected on whether or not assault attendees had or intended to inform the police of the incident. A small proportion of this data was missing (see [Box 1](#)). Of the data collected, over two thirds (67%) assault attendees said that they had informed or intended to inform the police of the incident.

### Further information regarding the attacker

Data was also collected on the assault attendee's relationship to the attacker, whether or not this was a repeat incident, the number of attackers and whether or not the patient perceived their attacker to be drunk. A small proportion of this data was missing (see [Box 1](#)). Of the data collected, over half (55%) of all victims reported that they had been assaulted by a stranger. Over three quarters (76%) of victims reported that they had not been assaulted by the attacker before and close to four in ten of victims (38%) believed their attacker to be drunk. For over six in ten (61%) of assaults, victims reported that they were attacked by one person. Almost a quarter of assault victims (24%) reported that they were attacked by more than two people.

### Disposal

[Table 7](#) shows the disposal method of assault attendees. Over four in ten (45%) of all assault attendees were discharged without follow-up, while 12% were admitted to hospital.

### Patient area of residence

[Figure 3](#) shows the number of assault attendees to Arrowe Park ED between April 2012 to March 2013 by area of residence according to lower super output area (LSOA). The

### Box 1: Data collection: quality and quantity

Overall, data collection is excellent and in line with national guidance which recommends that detailed assault data are collected for at least 70% of ED assault patients, to be most effective for violence prevention. A small proportion of data (less than 1%) are missing for the following key questions: weapon of use, police informed, relationship with attacker, number of attackers, repeat incident and whether or not the patient perceived their attacker to be drunk. This does not include cases where patients were unable to or refused to give information. A higher proportion of data is missing for date of incident (59%).

top five LSOAs on Wirral for assault attendances to Arrowe Park ED were:

- E01007291 (33)
- E01007126 (31)
- E01007293 (25)
- E01007129 (24)
- E01007127 (20)

The top five middle super output areas (MSOAs) on Wirral for assault attendances to Arrowe Park ED were:

- E02001482 (101)
- E02001487 (94)
- E02001493 (72)
- E02001477 (69)
- E02001474 (52)

[Figure 4](#) shows the reported location of assaults for April 2012 to March 2013, (obtained from free text data; 88% completion) by LSOA. The top five reported LSOA assault locations on Wirral were:

- E01007126 (105)
- E01007160 (80)
- E01007128 (48)
- E01006650 (45)
- E01007235 (35)

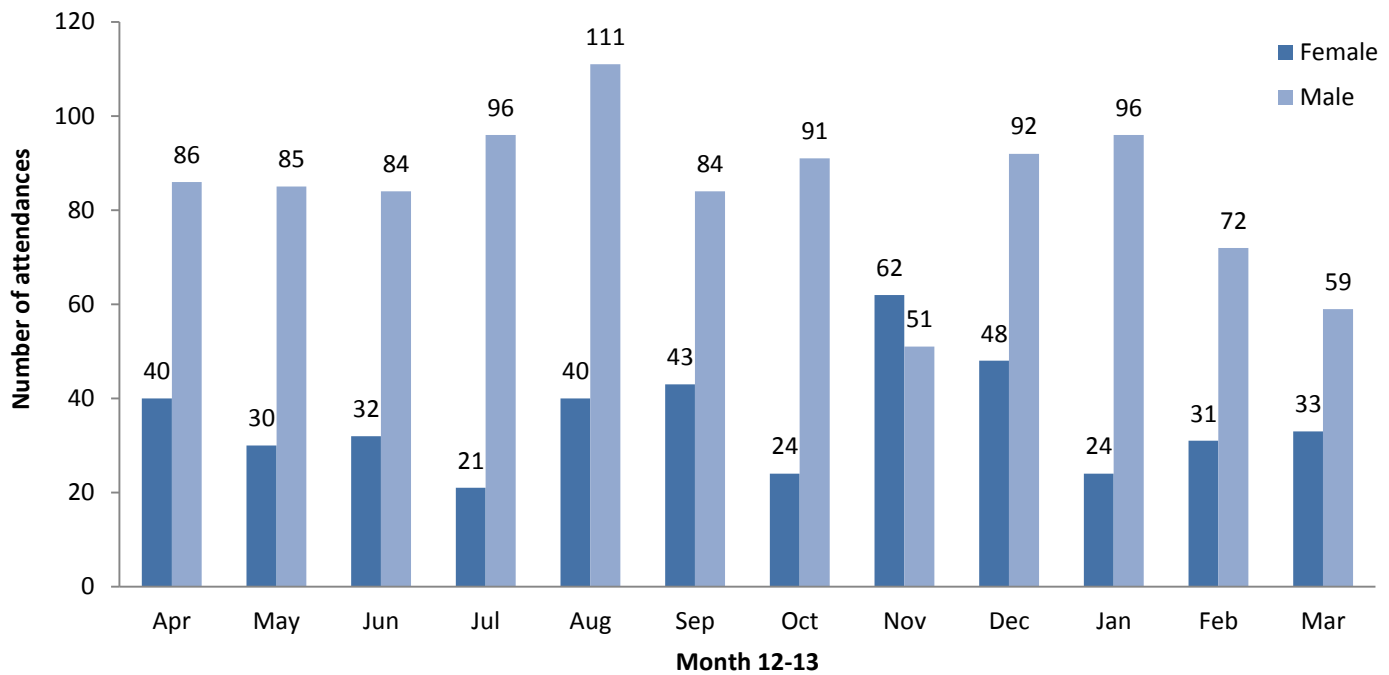
The top five reported MSOA assault locations on Wirral were:

- E02001482 (188)
- E02001486 (86)
- E02001487 (70)
- E02001379 (67)
- E02001493 (67)

**Table 1: Assault attendees by gender and age group, Arrowe Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013<sup>1</sup>**

	Age group						
Gender	0 - 4	5 - 14	15 - 29	30 - 59	60 plus	Total	%
Female	***	21	217	178	<15	428	30
Male	***	47	520	414	<25	1007	70
Total	***	68	737	592	<40	1435	100

**Figure 1: Assault attendances by gender and month, Arrowe Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013**

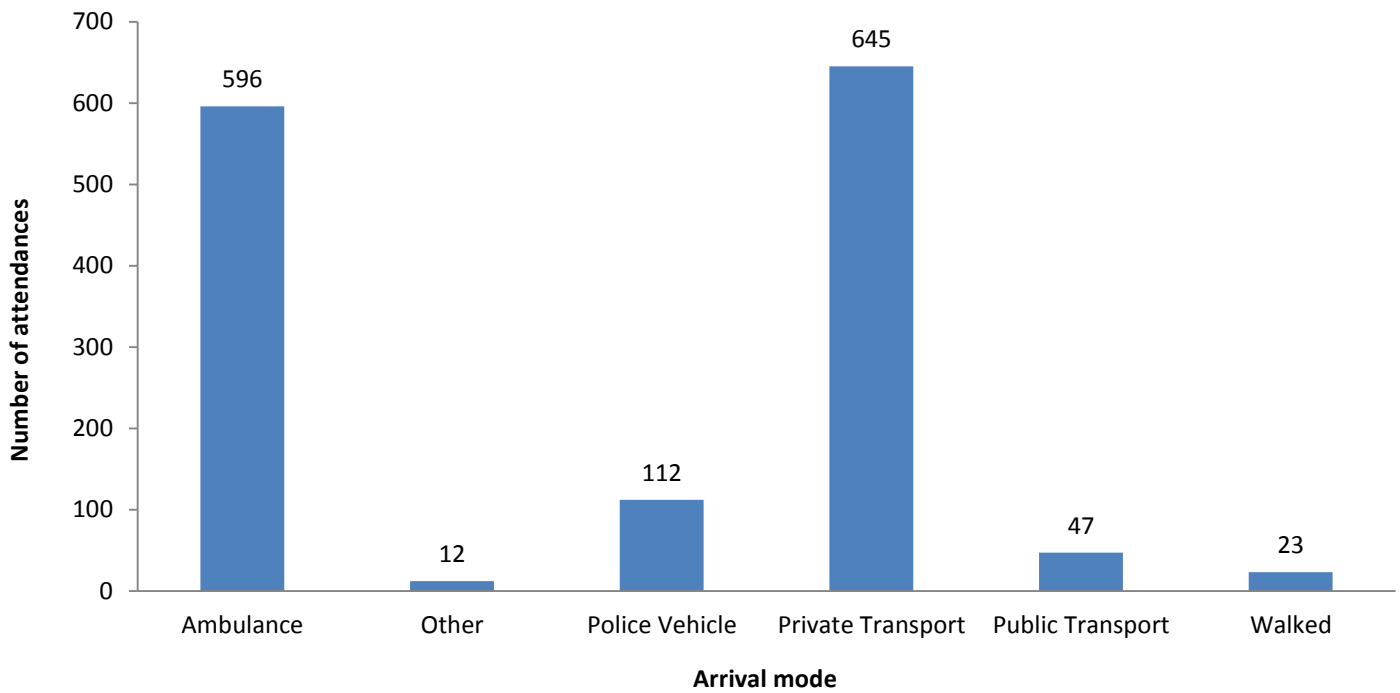


**Table 2: Assaults attendances by time and day of attendance, Arrowe Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013**

	Time group													
Day	0 - 1.59	2 - 3.59	4 - 5.59	6 - 7.59	8 - 9.59	10 - 11.59	12 - 13.59	14 - 15.59	16 - 17.59	18 - 19.59	20 - 21.59	22 - 23.59	Total	%
Sun	46	46	44	18	11	19	27	29	14	25	23	33	335	23
Mon	14	13	8	***	<10	10	16	10	19	15	25	17	156	11
Tue	18	19	8	0	8	14	19	16	12	19	15	17	165	11
Wed	16	7	6	***	***	6	14	12	12	10	18	14	120	8
Thu	19	8	7	***	***	12	9	9	17	12	19	23	139	10
Fri	22	20	10	7	11	11	17	9	17	26	28	44	222	15
Sat	34	57	34	12	22	25	22	24	15	11	22	20	298	21
Total	169	170	117	45	62	97	124	109	106	118	150	168	1435	100

<sup>1</sup>Please note that, throughout this report, where attendance numbers are less than five and can be back calculated from totals they have been suppressed (\*\*\*). Where there is only one number less than 5, two numbers will be suppressed at the next level (e.g.<6).

**Figure 2: Assault attendances by arrival mode, Arrowe Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013**



**Table 3: Assault attendances by source of referral, Arrowe Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013<sup>1</sup>**

Source of referral	Number	%
Self-referral	1277	89
Police	72	5
Emergency services	42	3
Other	27	2
Educational establishment	6	0
Health care provider: same or other	***	<1
Work	***	<1
Unknown	***	<1
General medical practitioner	***	<1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1435</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>1</sup>Please note that, throughout this report, where attendance numbers are less than five and can be back calculated from totals they have been suppressed (\*\*\*). Where there is only one number less than 5, two numbers will be suppressed at the next level (e.g.<6).

**Table 4: Assault attendances by a) location of incident and gender, and b) general area of incident location, Arrowe Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013**

4a)

Location	Gender		Total	%
	Female	Male		
Public space	120	431	551	38
Domestic violence/home	139	105	244	17
Street/road	45	195	240	17
Other	42	55	97	7
Public house	14	65	79	6
Night club	17	41	58	4
Work	29	13	42	3
Public park	7	34	41	3
School	***	<24	24	2
Hospital	6	5	11	1
Railway station	***	<10	11	1
Details withheld by patient	***	***	6	0
Leisure facility	0	6	6	0
Unknown	***	<6	6	0
Shop/shopping centre	0	5	5	0
Football ground/crowd	0	***	***	0
On public transport	0	***	***	0
Bus station	0	***	***	0
Car park	0	***	***	0
Road/car rage	0	***	***	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>1007</b>	<b>1435</b>	<b>100</b>

4b)

General area of incident location	Number	%
Birkenhead city centre	378	26
Wallasey/Seacombe	187	13
Bidston/Prenton/Oxton	126	9
Other	116	8
New Ferry/Rock Ferry	105	7
Liverpool city centre	86	6
Greasby/Upton/Arrowe Park	81	6
Moreton/Leasowe	74	5
New Brighton	54	4
Bromborough/Eastham	49	3
Heswall/Pensby/Thingwall	48	3
Bebington	45	3
West Kirby	34	2
Neston/Parkgate	21	1
Meols/Frankby/Hoylake	11	1
Refused to answer	8	1
Ellesmere Port/Cheshire Oaks	6	0
Unknown	6	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1435</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 5: Assault attendances by whether the patient had consumed alcohol within three hours prior to the incident, Arrowe Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013**

Alcohol consumed	Gender			%
	Female	Male	Total	
Yes	220	515	735	51
No	182	444	626	44
Unable to answer	<25	<40	63	4
Refused to answer	***	<10	<10	0
Unknown	0	***	***	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>1007</b>	<b>1435</b>	<b>100</b>

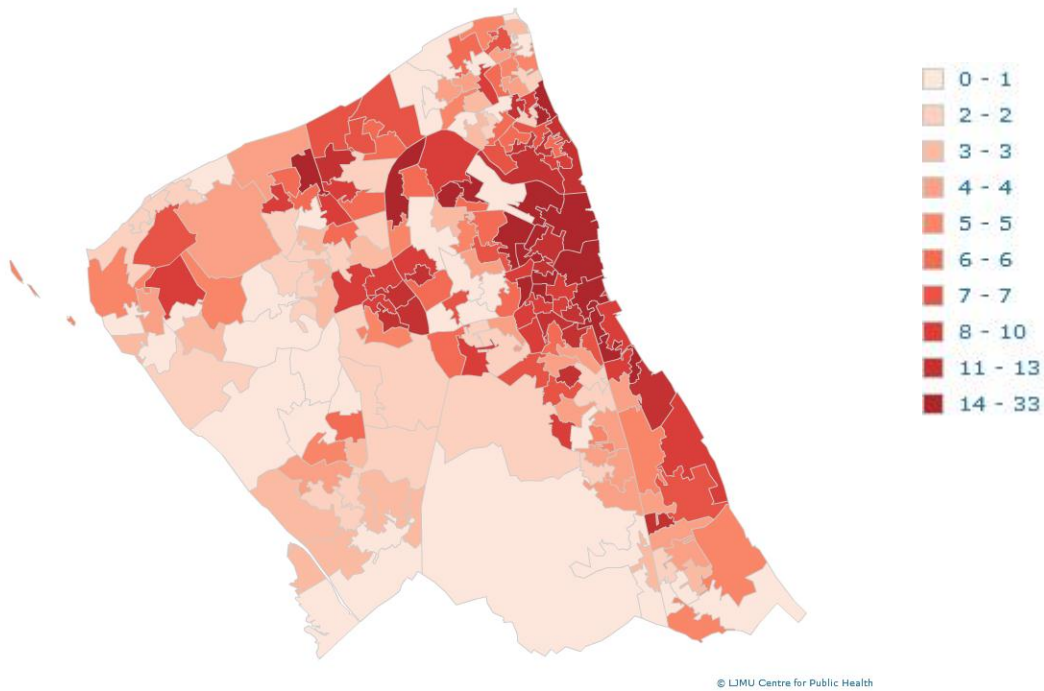
**Table 6: Assaults attendances by whether the patient had consumed alcohol within three hours prior to the incident by month, Arrowe Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013**

Alcohol consumed	Month												Total	%
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		
Yes	53	54	74	50	84	62	52	63	73	67	57	46	735	51
No	61	53	37	61	59	<65	<65	<50	60	<50	38	40	626	44
Unknown/ unable/ refused to answer	12	8	5	6	8	***	***	***	7	***	8	6	74	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>1435</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 7: Assault attendees by disposal method, Arrowe Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013**

Disposal method	Number	%
Discharged - no follow-up required	645	45
Admitted	177	12
Left department before assessment	151	11
Discharged - GP to follow-up	133	9
Discharged - max clinic	73	5
Discharged – ear, nose and throat clinic	54	4
Discharged other	50	3
Left department against advice	47	3
Discharged - fracture clinic	27	2
Discharged - GP practice nurse	27	2
Discharged - adult ED clinic review	17	1
Transferred to other health care provider	17	1
Discharged - ophthalmology clinic	10	1
Discharged - school nurse to follow-up	***	<1
Unknown	***	<1
Discharged - district nurse to follow-up	***	<1
Discharged - primary care assessment unit	***	<1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1435</b>	<b>100</b>

**Figure 3: Assault attendances by lower super output area of residence, Arrows Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013**



**Figure 4: Assault attendances by lower super output area of reported location of incident, Arrows Park ED, April 2012 to March 2013**

