

Merchants Quay Ireland

**Medically Supervised
Injection Facility (MSIF)**

August 2025



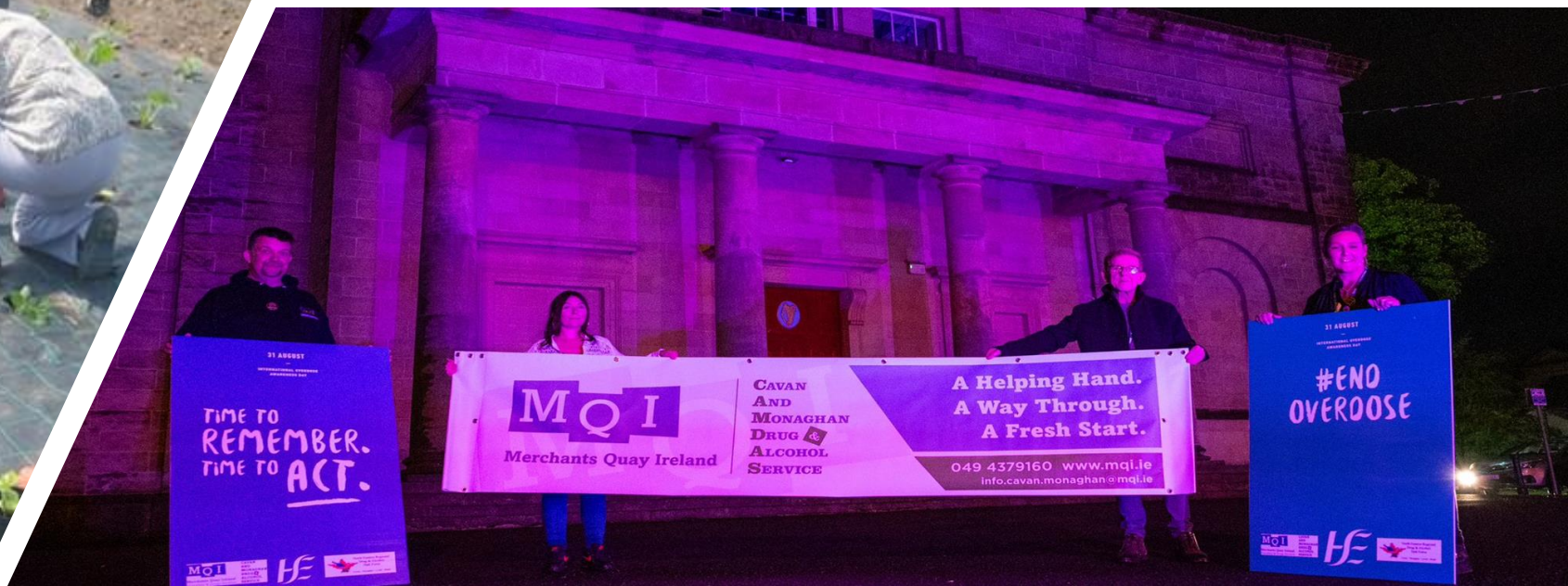
Merchants Quay Ireland
Homeless & Drugs Services

About Merchant's Quay Ireland

- Established in Dublin in 1991 as a homeless and addiction day service
- Ireland's first Needle Exchange
- Residential Detox, Rehabilitation and Aftercare Services
- Prison based Addiction Counselling Services
- Community Drug and Alcohol Services & Family Support



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Medically Supervised Injecting Facility (MSIF)

History

- Proposal for Supervised Injection Facility brought to Government in 2015
- Misuse of Drugs (Supervised Injection Facilities) Act 2017
- MQI wins public tender to deliver the service
- Planning permission submitted 2018
- Planning appeal and Judicial Review
- Final grant of planning December 2022
- MSIF Opens December 2024 as an 18-month pilot





Riverbank House - 2024

- Drop-in Food Service - 81,878 meals
- Showers - 4,027
- Needle Exchange - 22,896 visits
- Nursing visits - 2,251
- GP Service visits - 6,488
- Dental Service visits - 351
- Mental Health Interventions - 2,362
- Outreach Patrols - 751



The Overview



MQI opened
Ireland's first MSIF in
December 2024.



A safe and controlled
environment for
individuals who inject
drugs.



Reduce health risks
associated with drug
use, such as
overdoses,
transmission of
infectious diseases



Providing medical
supervision and
immediate care in
case of emergencies.

What Services Does the MSIF Provide?

Core Services:

- Injecting booths where clients inject pre-obtained drugs under medical supervision.
- Immediate response to overdoses
- Aftercare and monitoring
- Emergency GP and Nursing – wound care and infection control

Support Services:

- Harm reduction education, including safe injecting practices.
- Referrals to addiction, mental health and other social services.
- Provision of sterile injecting equipment
- Health checks and advice, including testing for blood-borne viruses.

How Does the MSIF Ensure Safety and Quality of Care?

Safety Protocols: Strict safety protocols to manage overdoses, prevent the spread of infectious diseases, and ensure a safe environment for clients and staff.

Quality Assurance: Regular staff training, ongoing service evaluation, and adherence to best practice guidelines

Data Collection and Monitoring: Ongoing monitoring of the impact, including data on overdose interventions, referrals to services, and client engagement.

Reception/ Waiting Area

- First point of contact for clients.
- Clients give basic personal identification details
- Staff explain how the facility works, what supports are available and give harm reduction/safety information
- Clients show their drug before moving to the next phase





Injecting Room/Clinical Area

Seven booths available.

Sterile injecting equipment provided

Nursing and Project staff present to ensure safety and support.

Safer injecting support – vein finding

Overdose intervention





GP/Nursing Rooms

- Overdose management
- Emergency health issues
- General nursing and doctor assessments
- Wound evaluation and care

Aftercare Area

Area for Clients after using in the injection booths

Staffed by project workers

Access information and advice about other health and social services

Tea/coffee and snacks available

Client led and based on a person-centred approach.



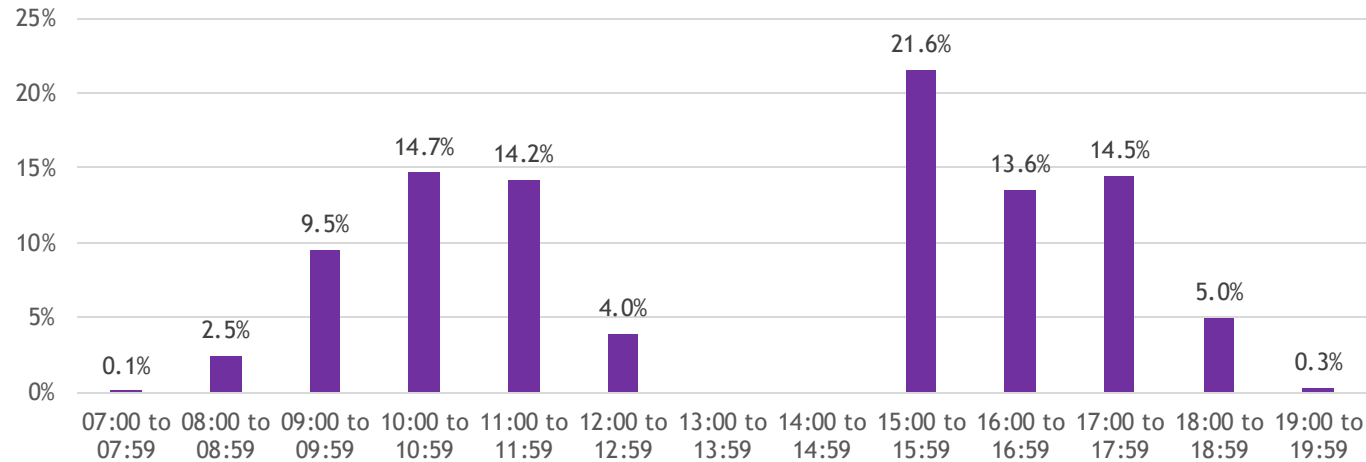
Service Numbers

Dec 2024 - Jul 2025

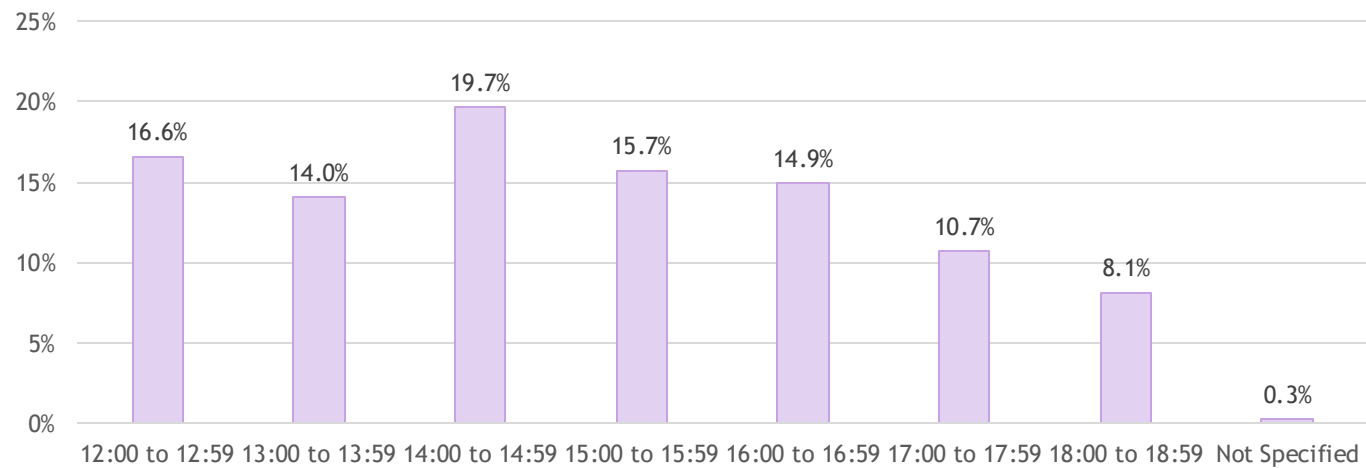
- ▶ 954 unique clients
- ▶ 7,475 visits
- ▶ 73% visits reported heroin use; 8% crack cocaine
- ▶ 76% Male
- ▶ 39% aged 35-44 yrs (91% aged 25-54yrs)

Visits by Time of Day

July 2025



► Weekdays



► Weekends

Overdose Interventions

Dec 2024 - Jul 2025

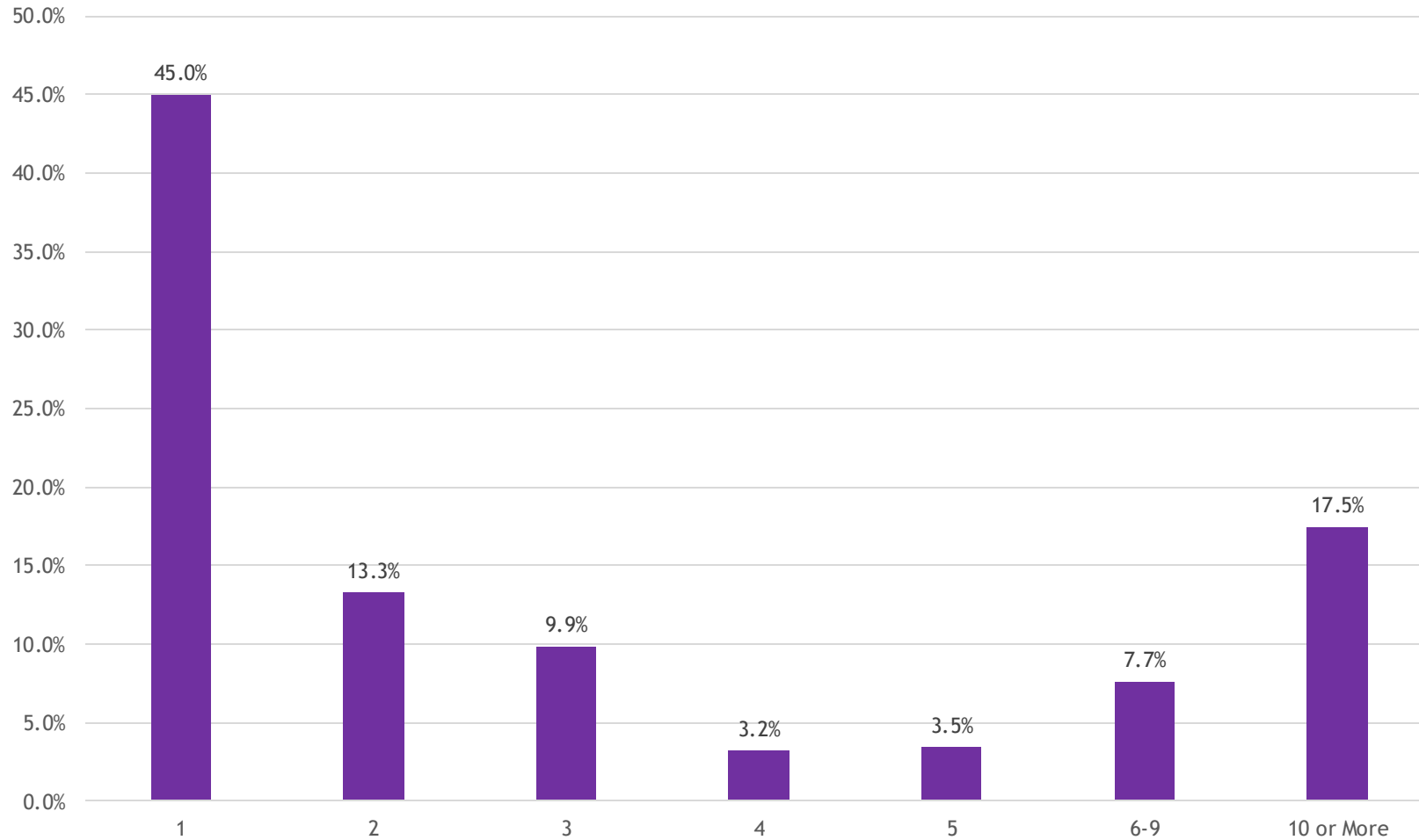
Indicators	Counts
Total Overdoses (Non-Fatal)	122
<i>Overdoses w/ Administration of Oxygen Only</i>	66
<i>Overdoses w/ Administration of Oxygen and Naloxone</i>	56
Ambulance Callouts (Overdose)	1*
Ambulance Callouts (Non-Overdose)	3

**This client presented while affected and was brought directly to the aftercare room. The client did not inject within the MSIF during this visit.*



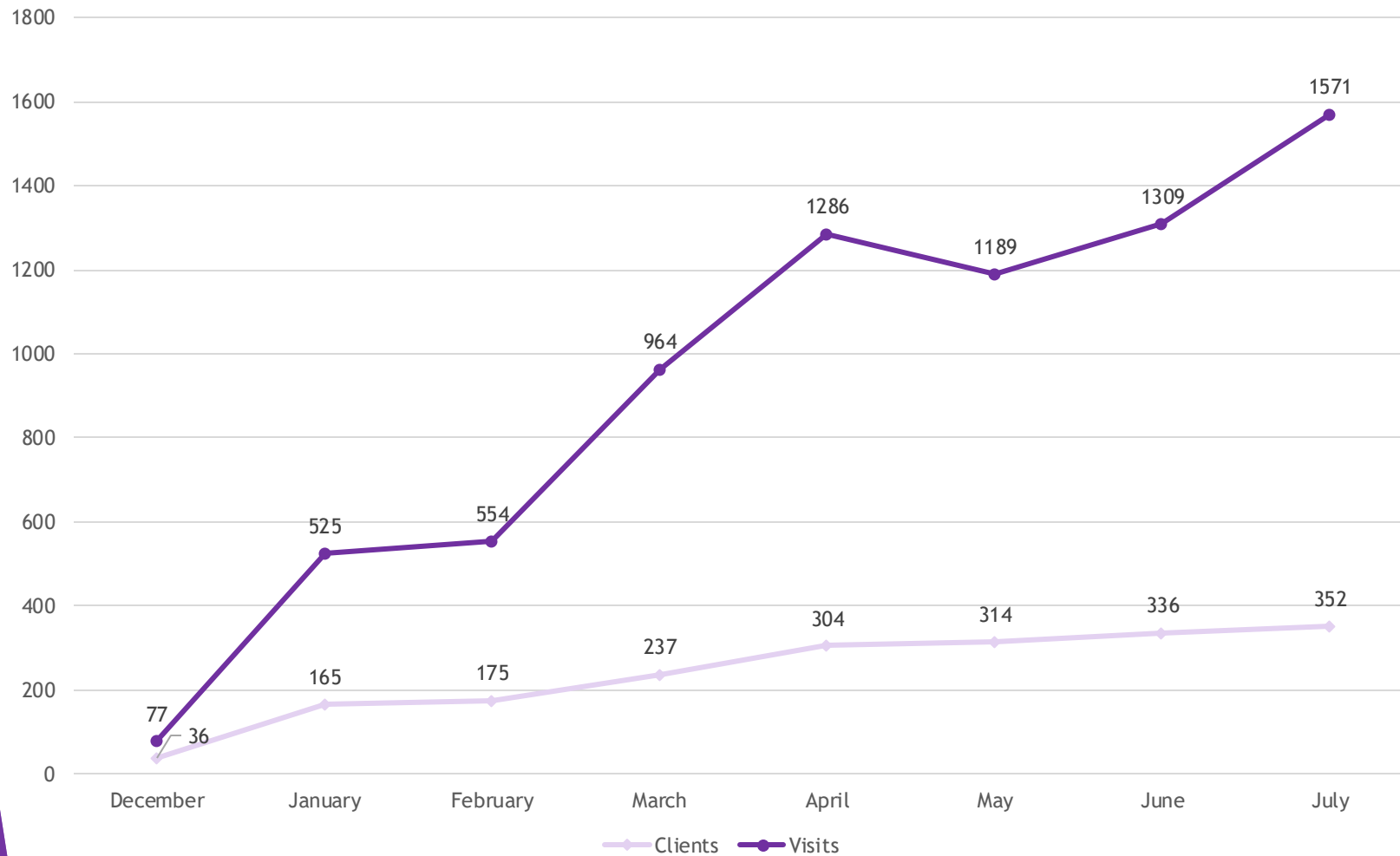
How Often Client Use the MSIF

Dec 2024 -Jul 2025



Use of MSIF since Launch

Dec 2024 - Jul 2025



Peer & Community Involvement

- Partnership between MQI and UISCE (Peer led advocacy organisation)
- Peer advisory group to inform the design of facility and opening hours
- Consultation between Gardaí, Peers and Community Representatives
- Street based co-ordination between Outreach Teams
- Peer voice in evaluation and feedback on operation
- Stakeholder forum before and after opening service



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Thank You