



# Current Drug Prevalence and Abuse Situation in Sri Lanka

---

*Research Division  
National Dangerous Drugs Control Board  
Ministry of Defence*

# **Prevalence of Drug Abuse in Sri Lanka**

# National Prevalence Survey on drug use 2019

## Methodology

- **Direct Estimation method**
- Head counting of drug users in GN Division levels
- **Indirect Estimation methods**
  - Benchmark and multiplier estimation
  - Capture recapture process

# National Prevalence - 2019

<b>Drug type</b>	<b>Total*</b>
<b>Cigarette / Tobacco products</b>	2,406,581
<b>Alcohol</b>	3,035,143
<b>Heroin</b>	92,540
<b>Cannabis</b>	301,898
<b>Pharmaceutical Tablets</b>	24,211
<b>Other</b>	115,234

# Drug Prevalence by Gender & Age

Drug type	වයස අවුරුදු 18 ට අඩු (Below 18 years)		වයස අවුරුදු 18 හෝ ඊට වැඩි (18 years and above)		එකතුව Total
	ස්ත්‍රී (Female)	පුරුෂ (Male)	ස්ත්‍රී (Female)	පුරුෂ (Male)	
සිගරට් (Cigarette)	282	122,432	23,284	2,260,583	2,406,581
මද්‍යසාර (Alcohol)	906	121,170	19,680	2,893,387	3,035,143
හෙරොයින් (Heroin)	64	6,147	1,320	85,009	92,540
ගංජා (Cannabis)	81	30,421	1,483	269,913	301,898
ඖෂධමය පෙති වර්ග (Pharmaceutical Tablets)	71	4,628	219	19,293	24,211
වෙනත් (Other)	265	9,636	4,000	101,423	115,324

# Drug prevalence (as a percentage of general population)

මත්ද්‍රව්‍ය වර්ගය Drug type	වයස අවුරුදු 14 ට වැඩි ස්ත්‍රී ජනගහනයට ප්‍රතිශතයක් ලෙස (As a percentage for total female population of above 14 years)%	වයස අවුරුදු 14 ට වැඩි පුරුෂ ජනගහනයට ප්‍රතිශතයක් ලෙස (As a percentage for total male population of above 14 years) %	වයස අවුරුදු 14 ට වැඩි සමස්ත ජනගහනයට ප්‍රතිශතයක් ලෙස (As a percentage for total population of above 14 years) %
සිගරට් (Cigarette)	0.3	31.1	15
මද්‍යසාර (Alcohol)	0.2	39.4	18.9
හෙරොයින් (Heroin)	0.017	1.2	0.6
ගංජා (Cannabis)	0.02	3.9	1.9
ඖෂධමය පෙති වර්ග (Pharmaceutical Tablets)	0.003	0.31	0.15
වෙනත් (Other)	0.1	1.5	0.7

# Estimated Drug Use population : Per Million

## Estimated Drug Use Population (Per Million)



**Cannabis**  
**19000**



**Heroin**  
**6000**



**Pharmaceutical Drugs**  
**2000**



**Alcohol**  
**189000**



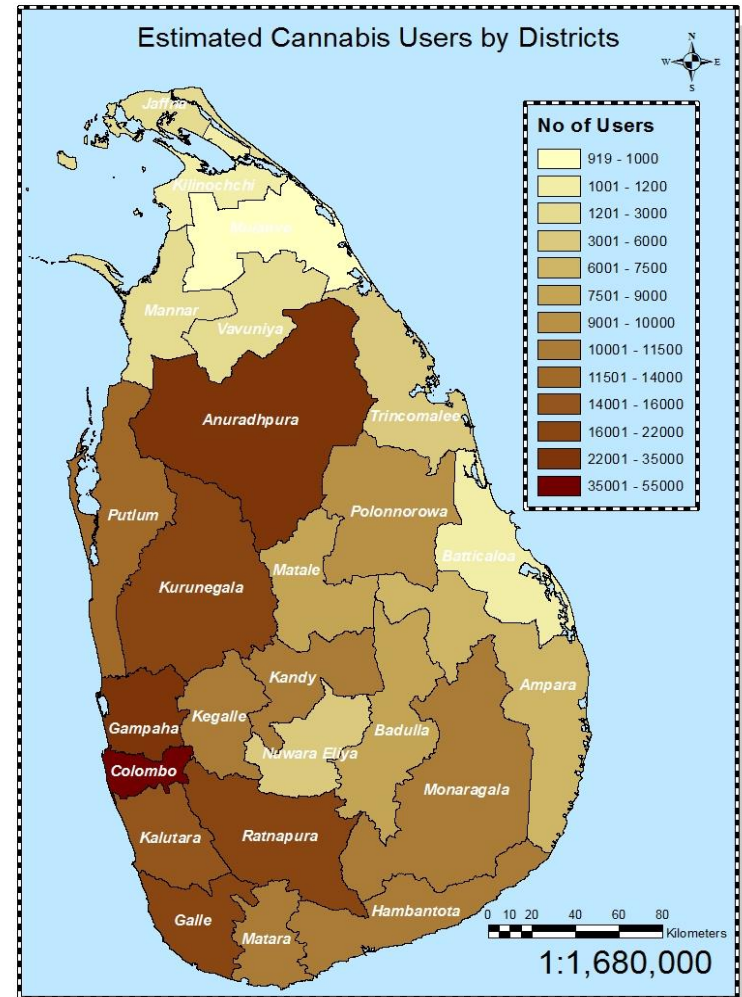
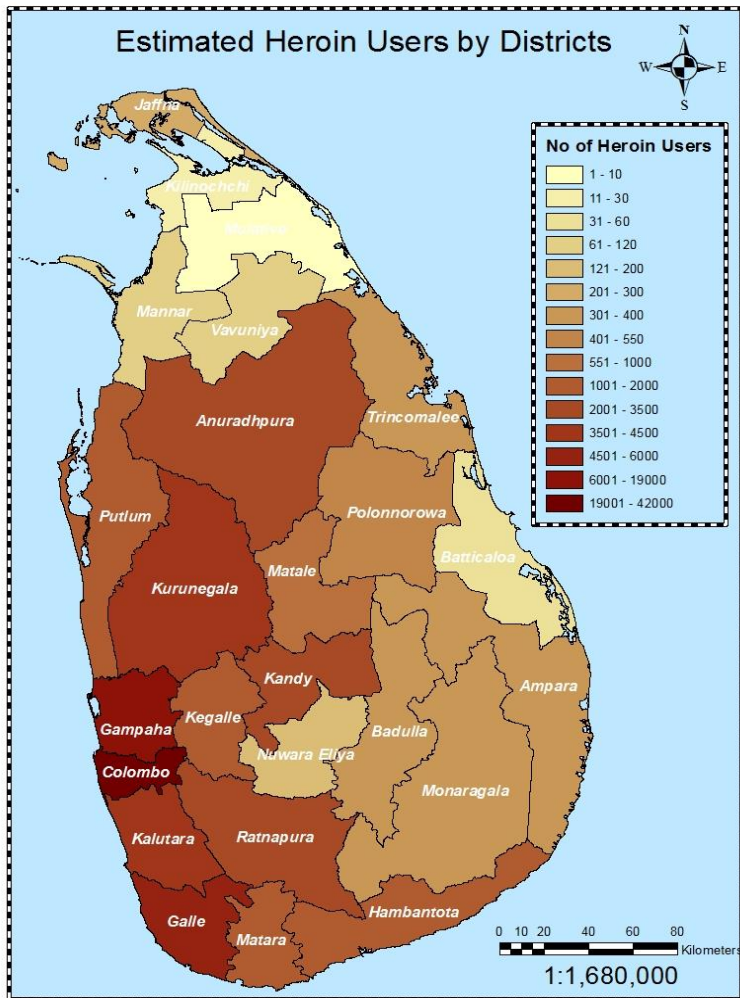
**Cigarette**  
**150000**

# Drug prevalence by drug use pattern

Drug type	Drug use pattern		Total*
	Daily	Occasionally	
<b>Cigarette</b>	1,613,777	792,804	2,406,581
<b>Alcohol</b>	1,063,383	1,971,760	3,035,143
<b>Heroin</b>	70,862	21,678	92,540
<b>Cannabis</b>	178,643	123,255	301,898
<b>Pharmaceutical Tablets</b>	12,932	11,279	24,211

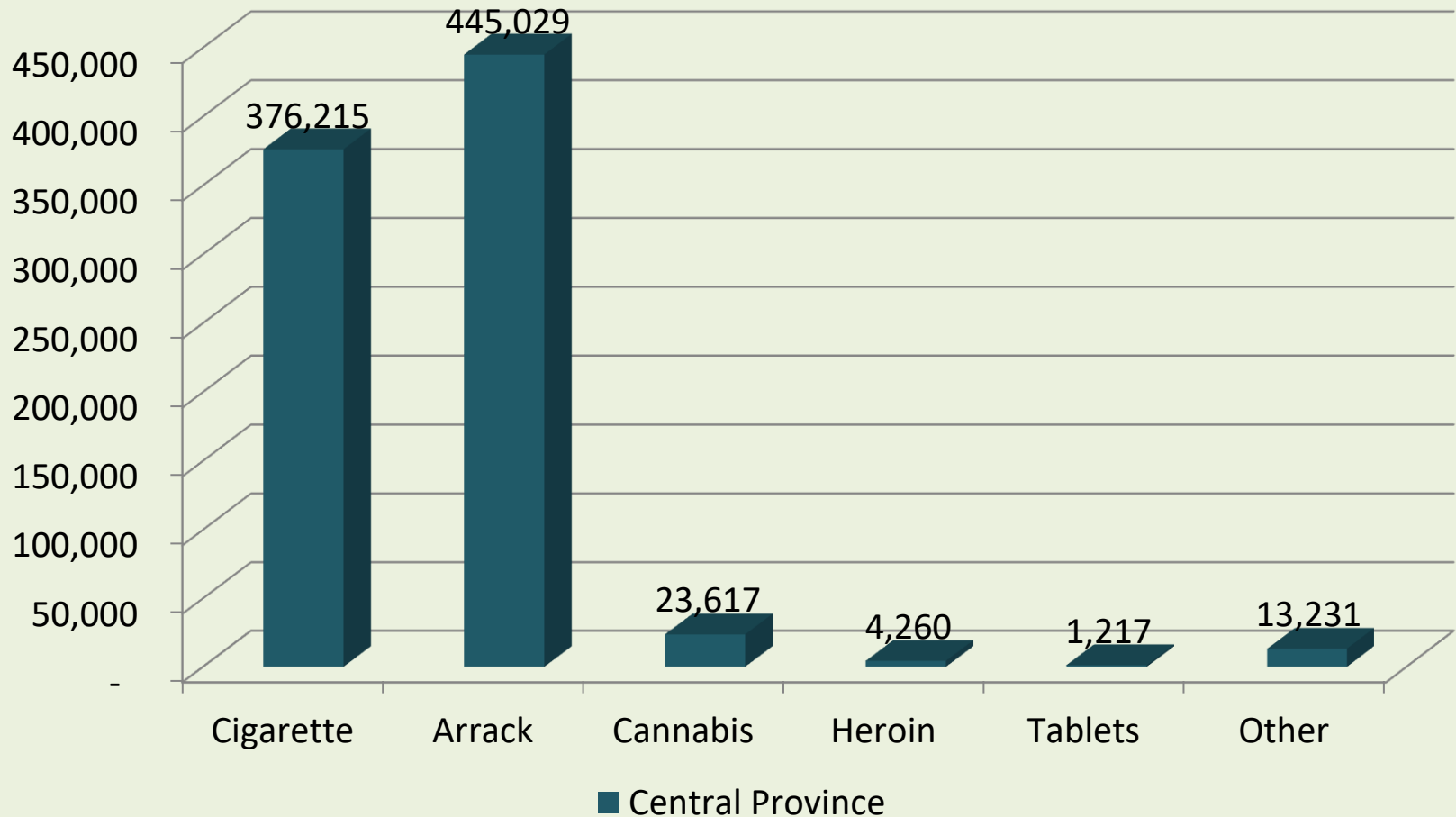
*\* Poly drug users are represented in estimation figures.*

# District wise prevalence of drug use



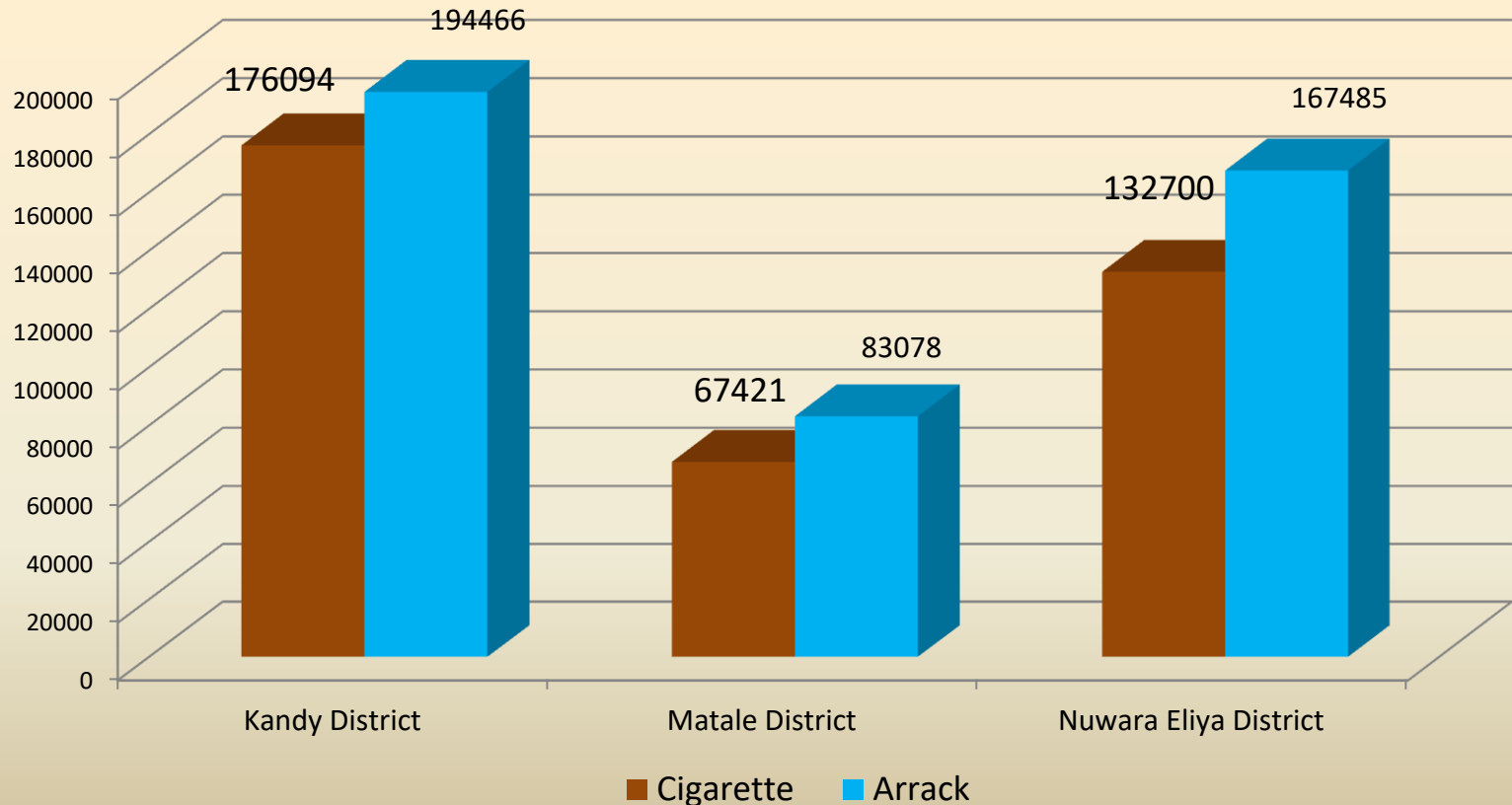
# Drug Prevalence in Central province

# Estimated drug use population in Central province

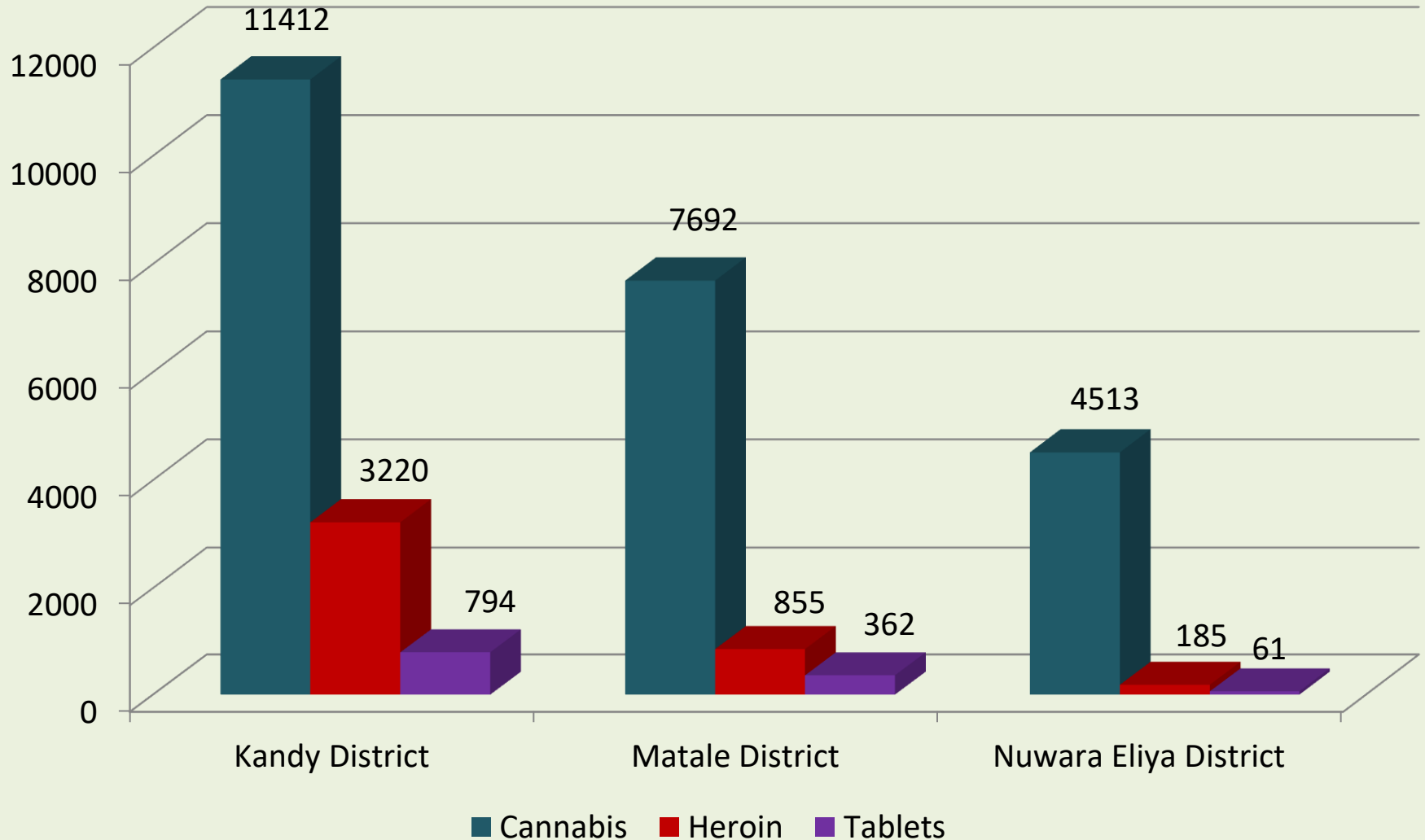


# District wise prevalence in Central province

## Prevalence of Cigarette and Alcohol use

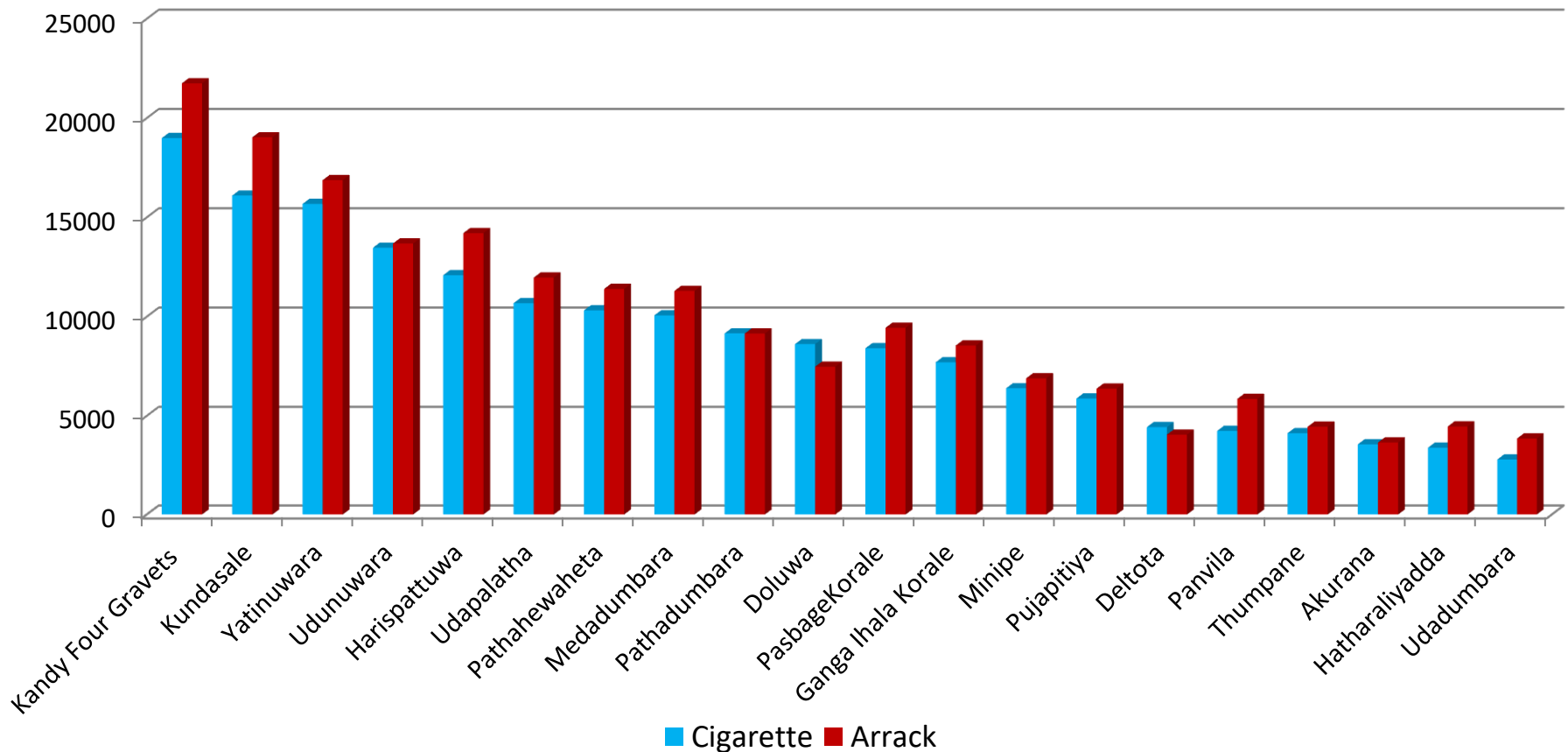


# Prevalence of Heroin, Cannabis and Tablets use

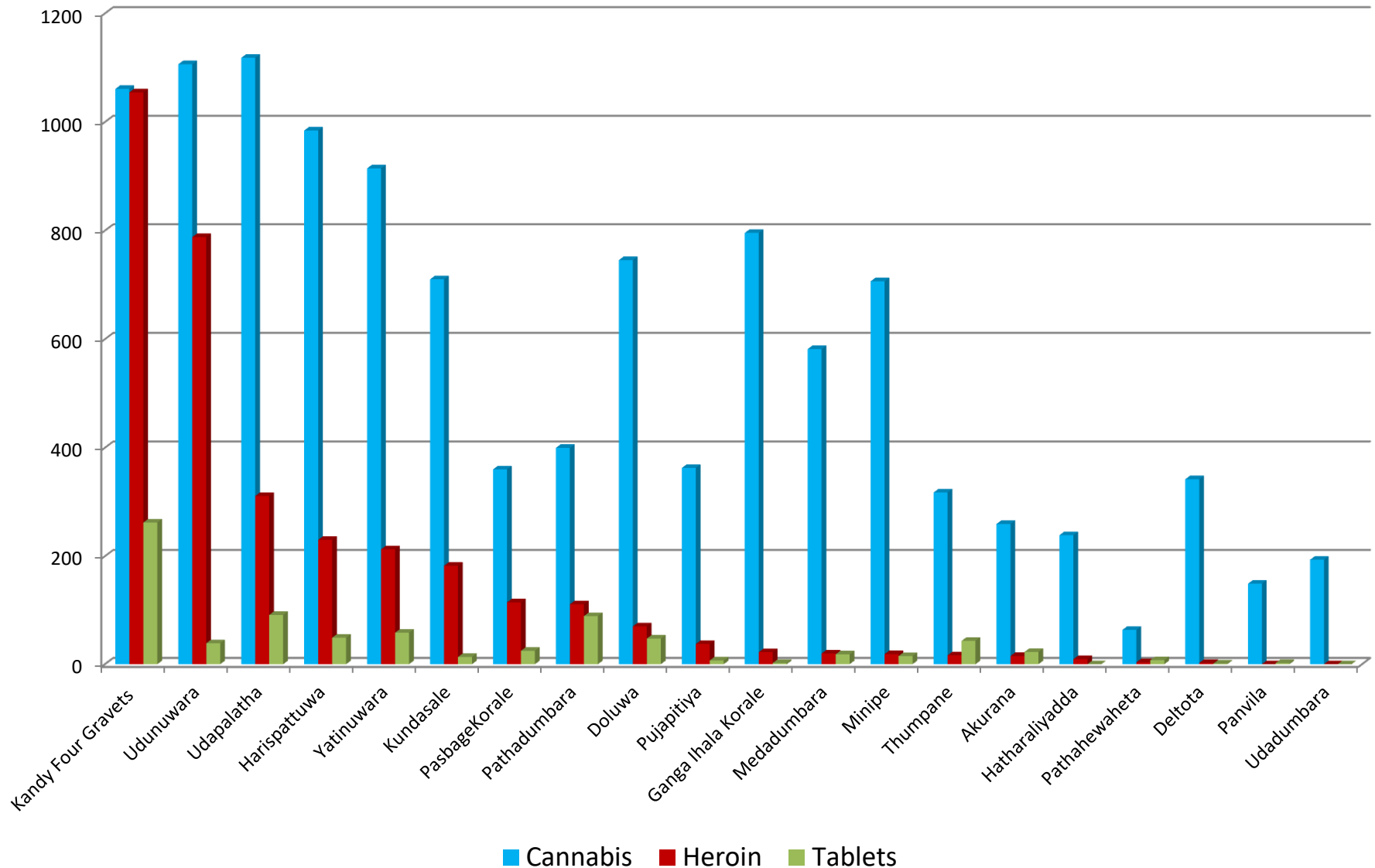


# DS wise prevalence in Kandy District

## Prevalence of Cigarette and Alcohol use

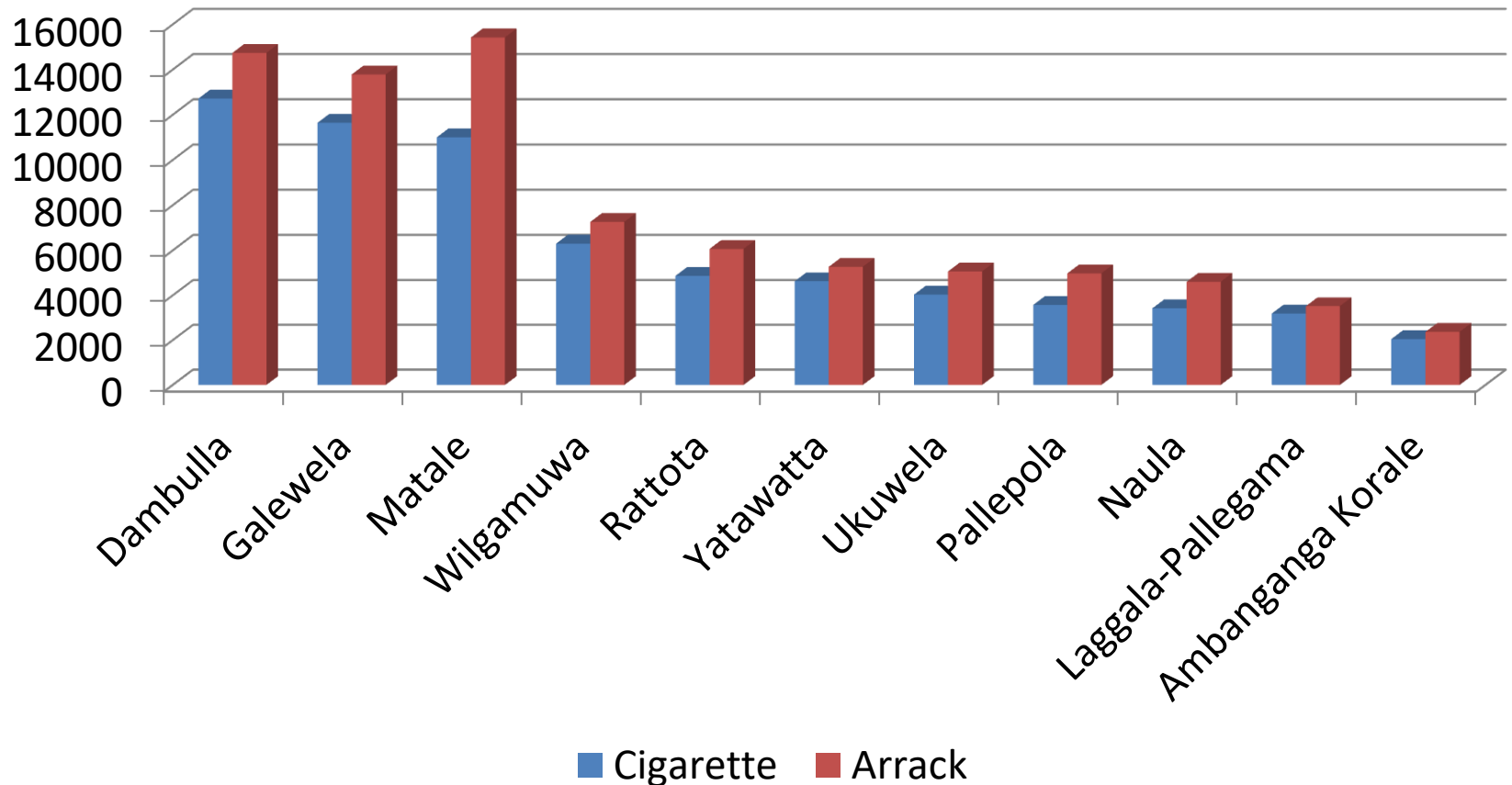


# Prevalence of Cannabis, Heroin and Tablets use

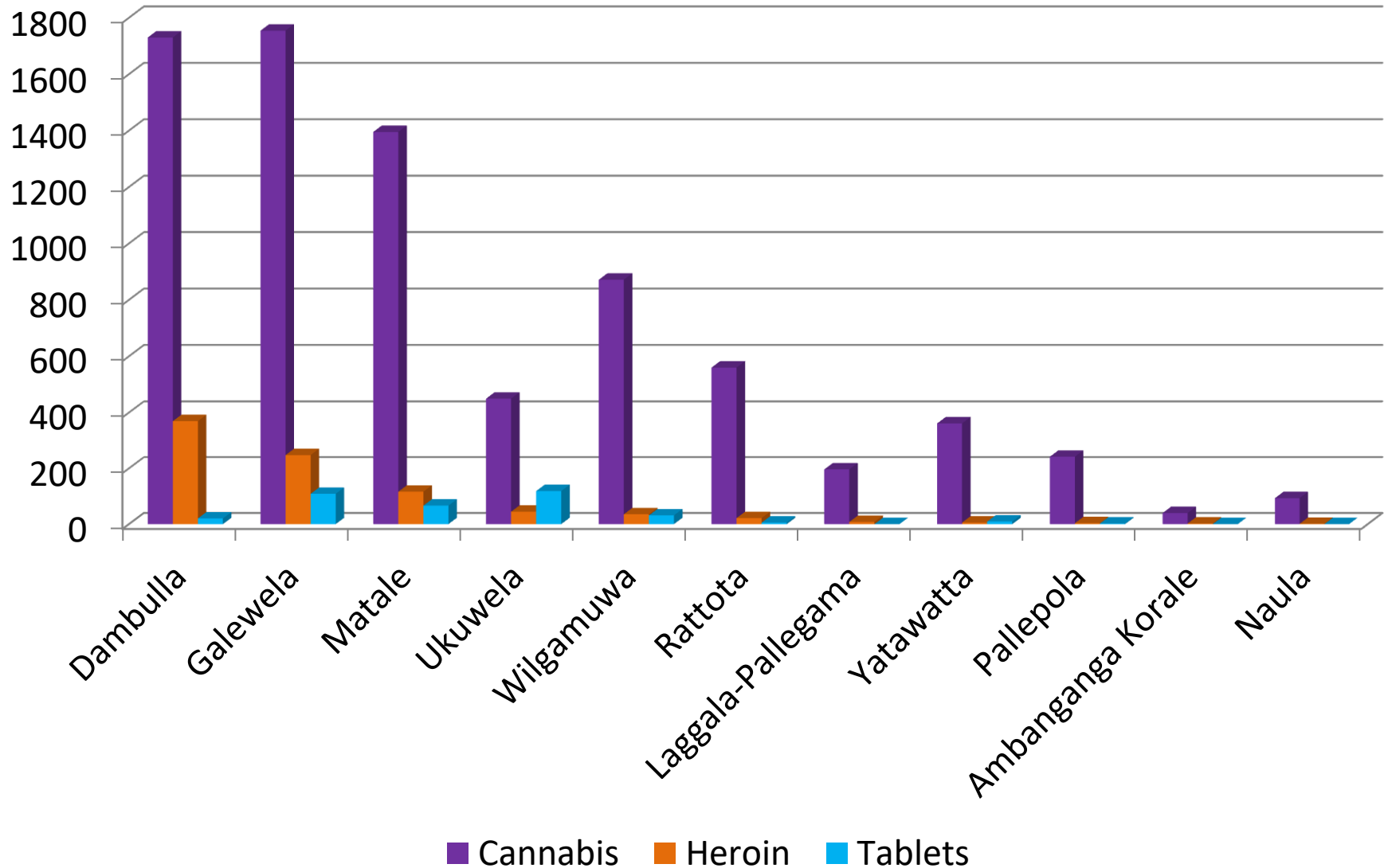


# DS wise prevalence in Matale District

## Prevalence of Cigarette and Alcohol use

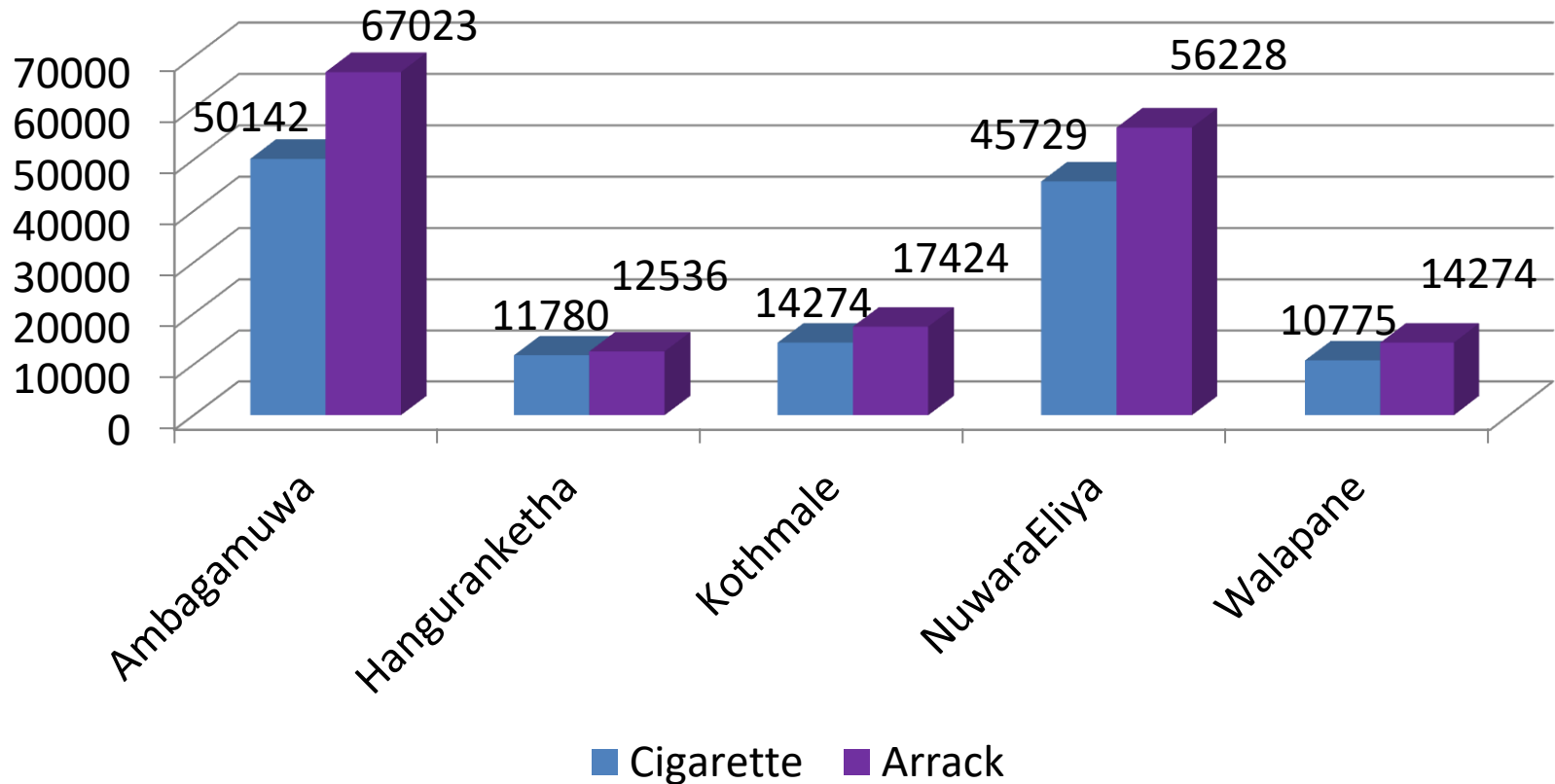


# Prevalence of Cannabis, Heroin and Tablets use

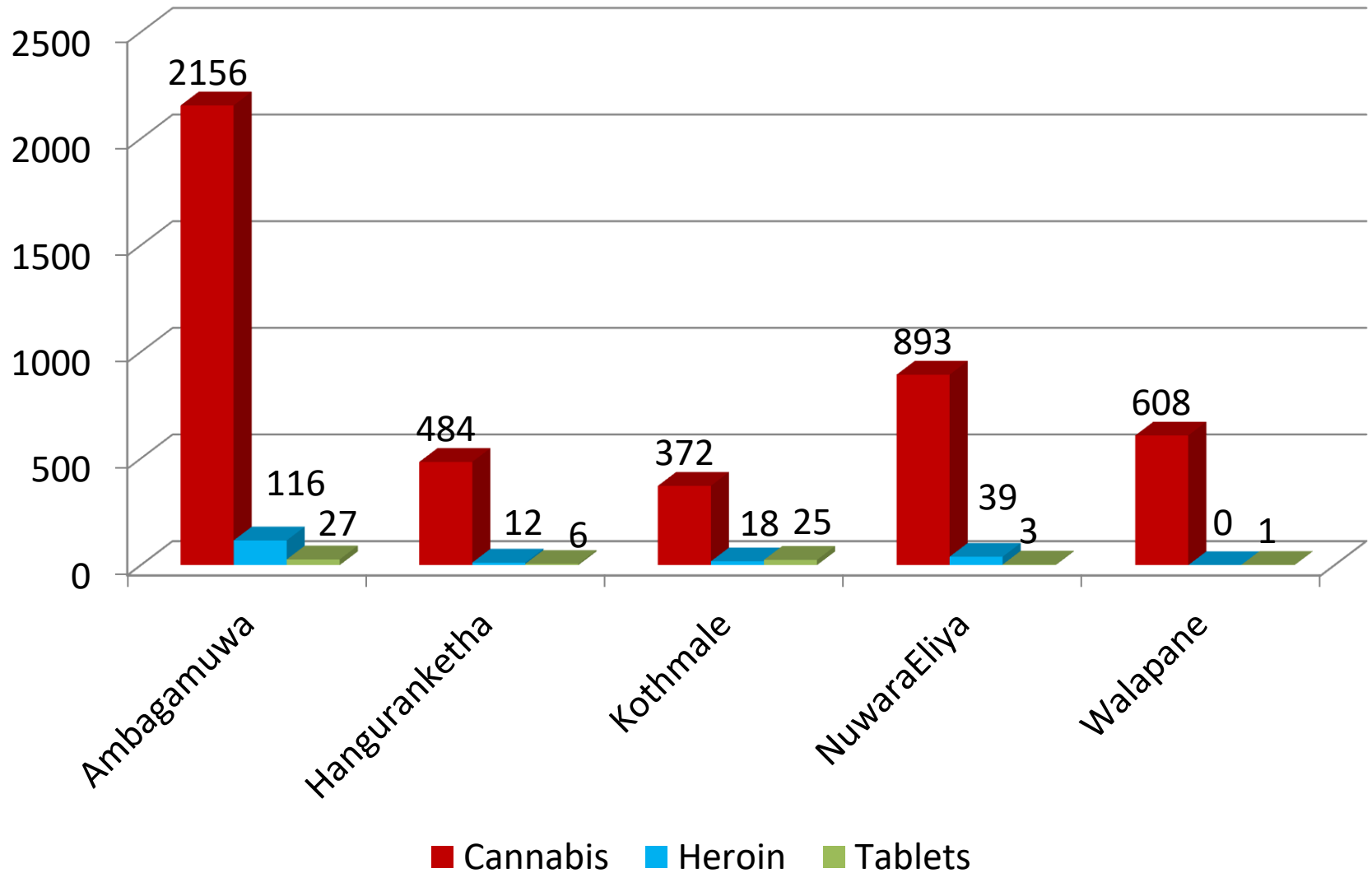


# DS wise prevalence in Nuwara Eliya District

## Prevalence of Cigarette and Alcohol use



# Prevalence of Cannabis, Heroin and Tablets use



**Thank you....**