

# Publication Summary

## Dental Statistics – NHS Registration and Participation

Update of statistics as at 30 September 2014

Publication date – 27 January 2015



### About this release

This release provides information on NHS dental registrations from September 2000 to September 2014 and participation (contact with an NHS dentist) from September 2006 to September 2014.

### Key Points

#### Registration

- Almost 9 out of 10 people in Scotland are now registered with an NHS dentist, the highest reported rate (87%; over 4.6 million).
- Children are more likely to be registered than adults (92% compared with 85%).
- Registration has been increasing since 2007, as a result of several changes in the time after which registration lapses have been introduced.
- There was some variation in registration rates across the NHS Boards, particularly for adults.
- In September 2014, there was no deprivation gap between registration rates in children (89% for the most deprived; 90% for the least deprived).
- A different picture is seen for adults. In September 2014, those living in the most deprived areas were more likely to be registered with an NHS dentist than those living in the least deprived areas (87% for the most deprived; 81% for the least deprived).

#### Participation

- 74% of those registered with an NHS dentist in September 2014 had seen their dentist within the last two years.
- Children are more likely than adults to have seen the dentist within the last two years (86% compared with 71%).
- Both adults and children are more likely to have seen their dentist within the last two years if they live in the least deprived areas:
  - Most deprived children – 83%
  - Least deprived children – 91%
  - Most deprived adults – 68%
  - Least deprived adults – 77%

## Background

Data on patients registered with an NHS dentist is published in this release.

Participation is a measure of patient attendance at an NHS dental practice for examination or treatment in the two years prior to the time point of interest.

This measure is restricted to only those patients who are registered with an NHS dentist and therefore does not include patients who only see a dentist for occasional or emergency treatment.

Participation as a measure was formally introduced in September 2010 but has been calculated for data since September 2006 in this publication to allow a longer trend to be reported to show the effect of the changes to the registration rules.

Several changes have been made to this publication to provide long term trend information about both registrations and participation. These include changes to the data extracts, the populations, the NHS Board boundaries and the deprivation measures. These changes are detailed in the report and the impact of the changes in the supporting Appendices.

## Contact

### Claire Clark

Senior Information Analyst

[claire.clark2@nhs.net](mailto:claire.clark2@nhs.net)

0131 275 6145

### Jill Ireland

Principal Information Analyst

[jillireland1@nhs.net](mailto:jillireland1@nhs.net)

0131 275 7253

### Catherine Thomson

Service Manager, NI&I, ISD

[catherine.thomson@nhs.net](mailto:catherine.thomson@nhs.net)

0131 275 7198

## Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#).

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