

Dental Statistics – NHS Treatment and Fees

Statistics as at March 2016



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About this release

This annual release by Information Services Division provides information on the number of dental treatments undertaken on NHS Scotland patients, and fees paid to dentists.

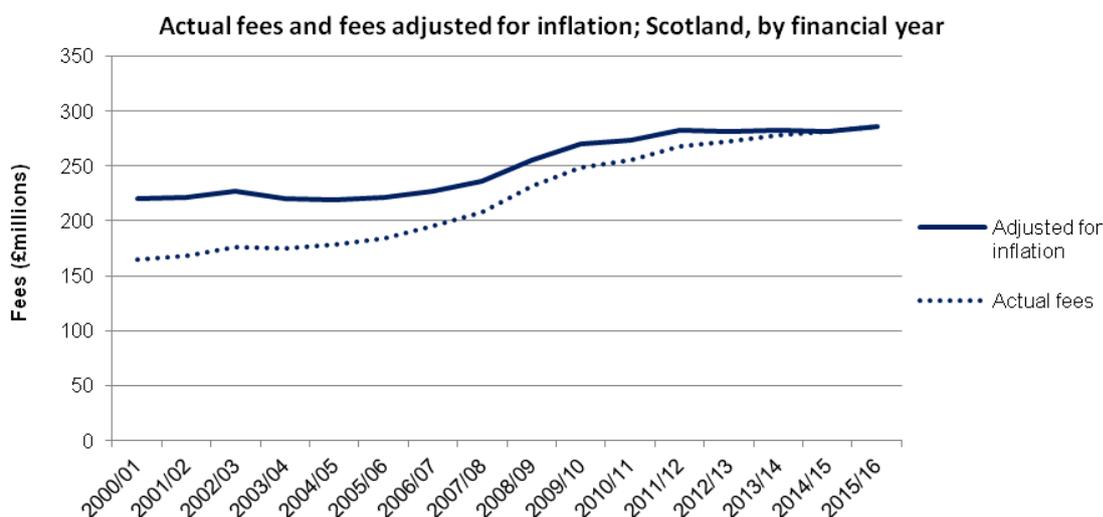
Main Points

Treatment

- In 2015/16, the number of treatments given to children was over 513,000, similar to recent years. Around a third (32%) of these were given under [Childsmile](#), which includes advice given on toothbrushing and diet.
- The numbers of teeth extractions (around 86,000) and fillings (around 363,000) given to children in 2015/16 are at their lowest, having steadily decreased since 2000/01 (from 133,000 and 775,000 respectively).
- The number of treatments given to adults has risen sharply from nearly 3 million in 2007/08 to over 4 million in 2015/16. This may be due to increasing numbers of patients participating in the General Dental Service.

Fees

- In 2015/16, around £268 million in General Dental Service fees was authorised in Scotland, an increase of £4.7 million (2%) compared to the previous year. When adjusted for inflation, these fees increased from 2004/05 until 2011/12 and have since stabilised.



- The actual cost per head of child population across Scotland was £70 in 2015/16. When adjusted for inflation, fees have been fairly stable at this level since 2012/13.
- The actual cost per head of adult population across Scotland was £49 in 2015/16. When adjusted for inflation, fees have remained fairly stable at this level since 2011/12.

Background

Treatment

NHS dentists can provide a wide range of treatments to their patients, from a simple examination to complex surgical treatment. The [Statement of Dental Remuneration \(SDR\)](#) lists all the items of service (IOS) (i.e. treatments) which dentists can provide and claim payment for.

Fees

Dentists are paid fees both for each patient they have registered with them and for the treatments they provide.

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Further Information

A [workbook](#) containing data for Scotland and NHS Board is available.

Further information can be found on the [Dental Care](#) pages of the ISD website.

The next release of this data will be September 2017.

ISD and Official Statistics

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of 'Official Statistics'. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. [Further information about our statistics.](#)