

Scottish Heart Disease Statistics

Year ending 31 March 2016



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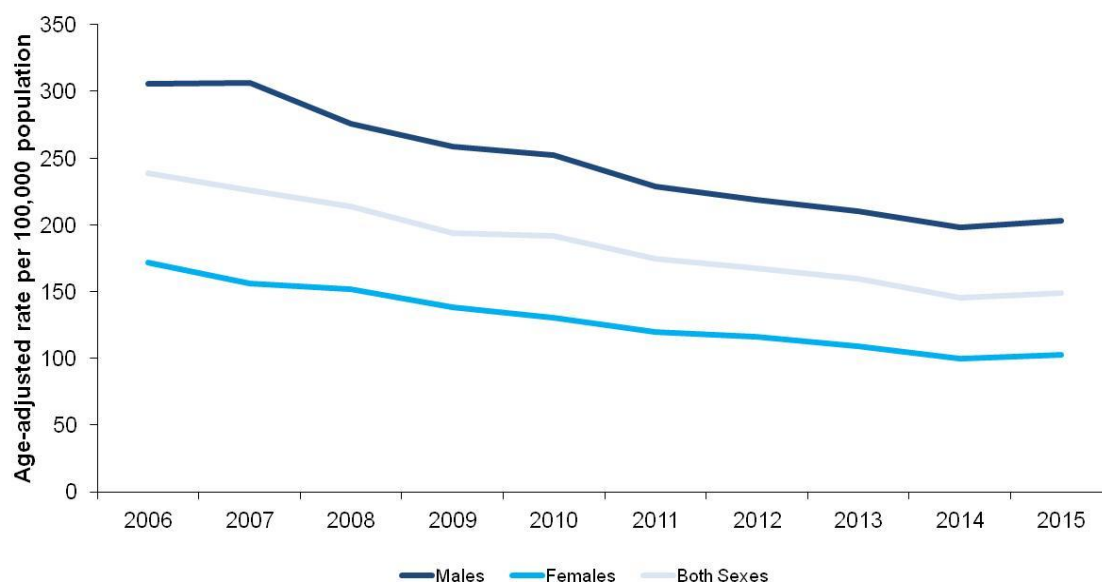
About this release

This release from the Information Services Division provides an annual update on heart disease in Scotland. The publication includes information on hospital activity, operations, incidence, 30-day survival following first emergency admission, GP prescribing, mortality and ambulance service activity.

Main Points

- There has been a steady downward trend in deaths from coronary heart disease in Scotland and the rest of the UK over the last ten years. In Scotland, the mortality rate fell by 37.6% between 2006 and 2015. However, coronary heart disease is still a leading cause of death and a national clinical priority for Scotland.

Figure 1. Coronary heart disease – age and sex adjusted mortality rates per 100,000 population, Scotland, 2006-2015



- The incidence rate for coronary heart disease decreased over the past decade by 27.3%. Incidence rates for coronary heart disease remain consistently higher in males than females.

- The reduction in death rates for coronary heart disease was seen in both the most and least deprived communities. The percentage reduction in deaths in the most deprived category (31.3%) over the last ten years was smaller than that in the least deprived category (38.5%).
- For an individual admitted to hospital as an emergency with their first heart attack, their chances of surviving at least 30 days improved over the last ten years from 84.9% to 92.9%.
- The number of prescriptions for drugs to treat diseases of the circulation increased by 6.6% in the last ten years. Despite this, the cost of prescriptions dispensed for these drugs has fallen by 44.6% over the last ten years to £116.8 million in 2015/16, reflecting falls in drug prices for these conditions

Background

Despite a substantial reduction in the rate of death from coronary heart disease (CHD) over the last decade, it remains one of the leading causes of death in Scotland ([Health of Scotland's population - Mortality Rates](#)). In 2015, there were 7,142 deaths in Scotland where CHD was the underlying cause.

Scotland has a high prevalence of the risk factors associated with heart disease ([British Heart Foundation](#)), such as smoking and physical inactivity. Treating and preventing heart disease is a national clinical priority for Scotland, as outlined in the [Heart Disease Improvement Plan](#).

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Further Information

The Information Services Division publishes a range of heart disease-related information. You can find all our information on the [heart disease section of the ISD website](#). Further information can be found in the [Heart Disease Statistics report](#). The next update of this publication will be in January 2018.

Corresponding information on stroke can be found on the [stroke section of the ISD website](#).

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](#).