About this release
This publication from the Information Services Division presents information on patients with mental health problems treated as inpatients in Scottish hospitals.

Main points

Discharges for mental health conditions in all hospital wards

- Mental health discharges have reached over 39,000 for the first time since 1998/99.

- For the first time, in 2015/16 mental health discharges from non-psychiatric specialties were higher than those in psychiatric specialties.

- Since 1997/98 there has been an increase of over 5,000 people discharged with symptoms of ‘delirium’ from 225 in 1997/98 to 5,631 in 2015/16 this may be explained in part due to an aging population and better data recording.

- Discharges for ‘mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use’ have almost doubled (from 5,334 in 1997/98 to 10,298 in 2015/16).

- In 2015/16, people living in the most deprived areas were around four times more likely to experience psychiatric inpatient care than people living in the least deprived areas.
Patients treated in the Learning Disability specialty

- Discharges from the Learning Disability specialty fell sharply from around 4,700 to around 1,700, between 1997/98 and 2005/06, but have started to level out in more recent years.

- People in the most deprived areas were more than four times as likely to experience an episode of inpatient care in the Learning Disability specialty, than those living in the least deprived areas.

Background

Patients receiving inpatient care (including learning disability) in mental health (psychiatric) hospitals generate records held nationally on Scottish Morbidity Record 04 (SMR04). Patients receiving care as inpatients and day cases in acute (non-psychiatric hospitals generate records held nationally on Scottish Morbidity Record 01 (SMR01).

Contact

Andrew Massie  
Senior Information Analyst  
andrew.massie@nhs.net  
0131 275 6779

Suzanne Hill  
Principal Information Analyst  
suzannehill@nhs.net  
0131 314 1530  
Mental Health inbox  
nss.isdmentalhealth@nhs.net

Find out more

The Information Services Division publishes a range of mental health related information on the mental health section of the ISD website.

Full publication report

The next update of this publication is scheduled for December 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. Find out more about our statistics.