

Scottish Stroke Statistics

Year ending 31 March 2016



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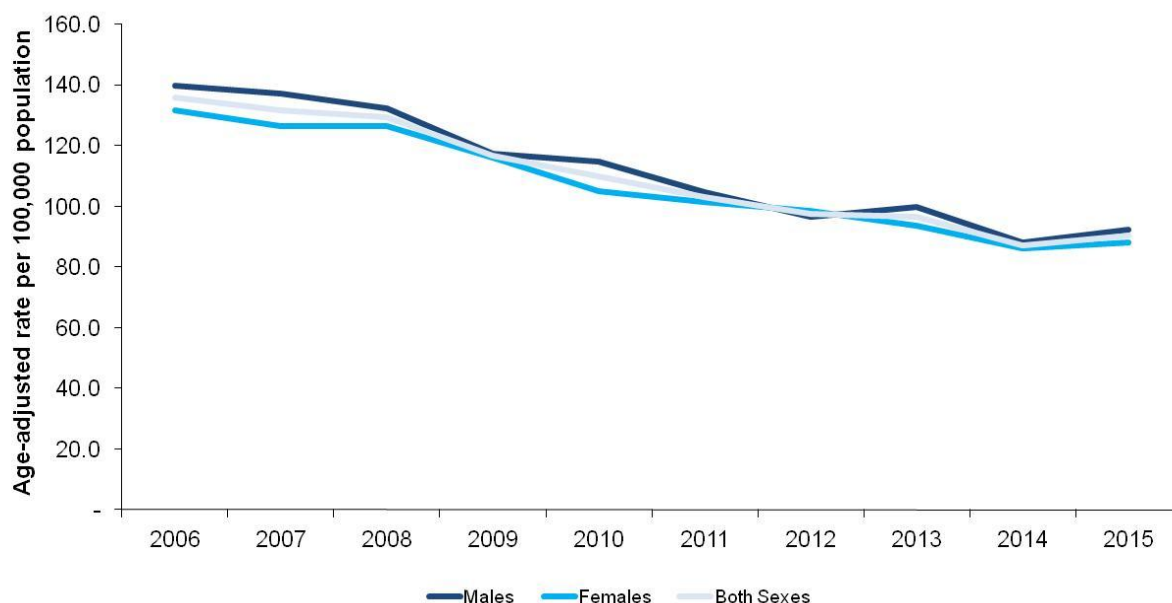
About this release

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

Main Points

- Cerebrovascular disease develops as a result of problems with the blood vessels supplying the brain. The incidence rate for cerebrovascular disease decreased over the last decade by 14.0%. Incidence rates were consistently higher in males than females.
- In the last decade, the mortality rate for cerebrovascular disease decreased by 33.5%.

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



- The mortality rate for cerebrovascular disease in the most deprived areas was 42.3% higher than in the least deprived areas in 2015.
- The percentage of people surviving 30 days or more following their first emergency admission to hospital with a stroke improved slightly over the last ten years from 80.7% in 2006/07 to 84.9% in 2015/16.
- The number of prescriptions for drugs to treat diseases of the circulation increased by 6.6% in the last ten years. Despite this increase, 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 decrease in rates of death over the last decade, there were 4,310 deaths in Scotland in 2015 where cerebrovascular disease, including stroke, is the underlying cause.

Scotland has a high prevalence of the risk factors associated with cerebrovascular disease such as smoking and high blood pressure. Treating and preventing stroke is a national clinical priority for Scotland as outlined in the [Stroke Improvement Plan](#).

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Further Information

The Information Services Division publishes a range of cerebrovascular disease-related information. You can find all our information on [stroke section of the ISD website](#). More information is also available from the [Scottish Stroke Care Audit](#). Further information can be found in the [Stroke Statistics report](#). The next update of this publication will be in January 2018.

Corresponding information on heart disease can be found on the [heart disease 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](#).