About this Release

This report examines where deaths from cancer occur in Scotland, taking into account demographic characteristics. Information is presented for all malignancies combined, and for the four main cancers (breast, colorectal, prostate and lung), for all of Scotland.

Key Points

- In the five year period, 2007-2011, half of the deaths in Scotland from cancer occurred in NHS hospitals (38,157 out of 76,510). A quarter of deaths from cancer were at home (19,457), while 18% were in hospices (13,894).

- The overall pattern described above has also been consistent over the 10 year period 2002-2011, with only a small decrease in the percentage of deaths occurring in hospital and a small increase in the percentage of deaths occurring at home.
**Background**

The Scottish Government's *Living and Dying Well Action Plan*, in conjunction with *Better Cancer Care* and the *Better Health, Better Care Action Plan*, addresses palliative and end of life care for patients with life limiting conditions such as organ failure, cancer and dementia. Information provided by this publication will assist the NHS in Scotland in ensuring that palliative and end of life care needs are recognised in all care settings.

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**Further Information**

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

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**About ISD**

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.

Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

**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. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.

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