About this Release

Annual update of breast screening statistics to 31st March 2012; includes NHS Breast Screening Programme Performance Standards, attendance figures, cancer detection rates, uptake by deprivation category, biopsy results and screening outcomes.

Key Points

Figure 1. Percentage uptake\(^1\) rates by NHS Board of Residence: 1\(^{st}\) April 2007 to 31\(^{st}\) March 2012. Three year rolling periods\(^2\), females aged 50-70

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1 Only routine appointments are included in the above figures. Self/GP referral and early recall appointments are excluded.
2 Women are invited to attend screening once every three years and NHS Boards are not necessarily screened evenly throughout the three year period.
3 New NHS Board areas including parts of former Argyll & Clyde.
NHSBSP Performance Standards, at 31st March 2012:

- Looking at three year performance standard attendance figures, uptake has dropped slightly from 74.9% in 2008-11 to 74.5% in 2009-12.
- Greater Glasgow and Clyde were the only NHS Board not to meet the minimum performance attendance standard of >70% of women invited during the previous three years. The attendance rate for Greater Glasgow and Clyde was 70.8% in 2008-11 but dropped slightly to 69.8% in 2009-12.
- In 2011-12, all but one of the NHS Breast Screening Programme Minimum Performance Standards and all but 3 of the 13 targets were met.

Background
The UK was one of the first countries in the world to establish a national population-based breast screening programme. The UK National Health Service Breast Screening Programme (NHSBSP), a UK-wide programme of free mammographic screening for breast cancer, was introduced in 1988 following a recommendation from a working party established by the four UK Departments of Health and chaired by Sir Patrick Forrest.

Within Scotland, data are collected by each of the six screening centres (which are supported by 19 mobile units) and retained on the Scottish Breast Screening Programme (SBSP) Information System. More information on the SBSP dataset can be found on our Data sources page. Data are routinely extracted from the SBSP Information system and analysed by ISD Scotland to help evaluate and monitor the effectiveness of the programme in Scotland.

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Further Information
Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the ISD website.

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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