Breast screening FAQs

Where do the data come from?
The majority of the analyses are based on the Scottish Breast Screening Programme (SBSP) Information System, which has been collecting information on breast screening since 1991.

What is the latest year of complete breast screening data?
Please see the ISD Breast Screening page www.isdscotland.org/breast_screening for details on the latest year of complete breast screening data.

Why are more recent data not available yet?
To achieve complete breast screening information, multiple data such as surgery and pathology need to be processed. To allow for treatment information to accrue, analysis is carried out 6 months after the last screening appointment for year ending 31st March.

When will the next publication be?
The Scottish Breast Screening Programme statistics are published by ISD Scotland on an annual basis at the end of April.

What do all the breast screening terms mean?
A glossary of terms used on the ISD breast screening pages is provided at the bottom of the ISD Breast Screening page www.isdscotland.org/breast_screening

What is your definition of deprivation?
Historically, ISD used mainly Carstairs 1991 to measure deprivation in Scotland. However, with the availability of Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD), ISD reviewed how deprivation should be measured in national health statistics. The appropriate measure of deprivation depends on the time period that you are analysing. Full details of the review and subsequent recommendations can be found on the Deprivation pages of our website.

Where can I get Breast Screening data covering England and Wales?
Data for England is collated by The Information Centre for Health and Social Care
Data for Wales is collated by Breast Test Wales