

# Place of Death from Cancer in Scotland (2015)

Publication Date – 22 November 2016



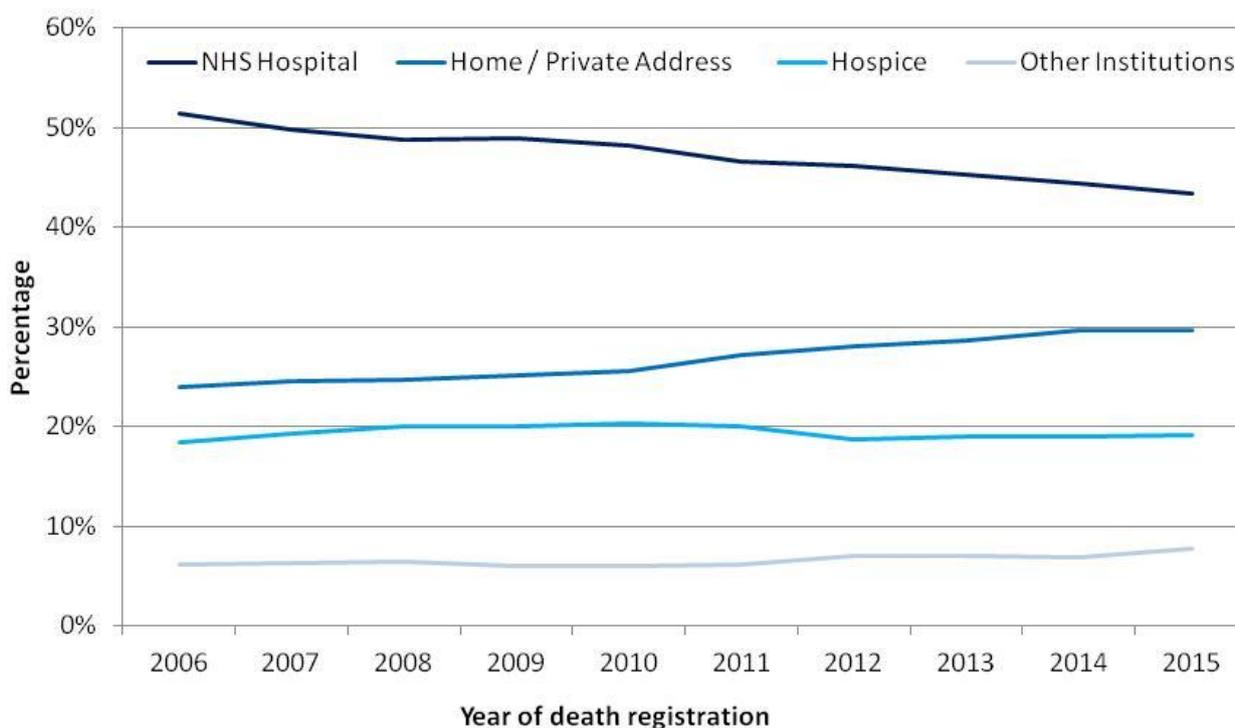
## About this release

This release from the Information Services Division reports on the setting where death from cancer occurred in Scotland for 2006-2015. Information is presented for deaths in Scotland from all cancers combined and for the four most common causes of death from cancer (lung, colorectal, breast and prostate cancers).

## Main Points

- Over the last ten years, the percentage of people who died from any cancer in an NHS hospital has reduced from 51% in 2006 to 43% in 2015. The percentage of people who died at home has increased from 24% to 30% over the same time period.

**Figure 1. Trends in place of death from any cancer by year of death registration, Scotland, 2006-2015**



Source: Death data from National Records of Scotland (NRS); data from ISD SMR01 (hospital inpatient and day case) records were used to obtain further details of place of death.

- In the latest five year time period, 2011-2015, for people who lived in urban areas, 28% died at home and 20% died in a hospice. For residents of rural areas, 33% died at home and 14% died in a hospice. This may reflect differences in hospice availability between urban and rural areas, as well as patient preference.

## Background

The Scottish Government's [Strategic Framework for Action on Palliative and End of Life Care](#) together with [Beating Cancer: Ambition and Action](#) address palliative and end of life care for patients with life limiting conditions.

The Strategic Framework for Action on Palliative and End of Life Care states that “the focus must be on how health and social care integration will improve the organisation and delivery of palliative and end of life care within hospitals and communities, including hospices, care at home, in care homes and other relevant social care services.” It further specifies as one of the National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes, that “people, including those with disabilities or long term conditions, or who are frail, are able to live, as far as reasonably practicable, independently and at home or in a homely setting in their community.”

Information in this report could assist the NHS and social care partners in Scotland in assessing the palliative and end of life care needs in all care settings.

## Contact

**Mor Kandlik Eltanani**  
Senior Information Analyst  
0131 275 6644

**Andrew Deas**  
Principal Information Analyst  
0131 275 7030

Email: [nss.isdCANCERSTATS@nhs.net](mailto:nss.isdCANCERSTATS@nhs.net)

## Further Information

The Information Services Division publish a wide range of cancer statistics. [You can find all our cancer information on our website](#) including cancer [incidence](#), [mortality](#) and [survival](#) statistics.

Further information on this release can be found in the [Place of Death from Cancer in Scotland report](#).

The next release of this publication will be in November 2019.

---

## 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](#).