

Scottish Bowel Screening Programme Statistics

For invitations between 1 November 2014 and 31 October 2016

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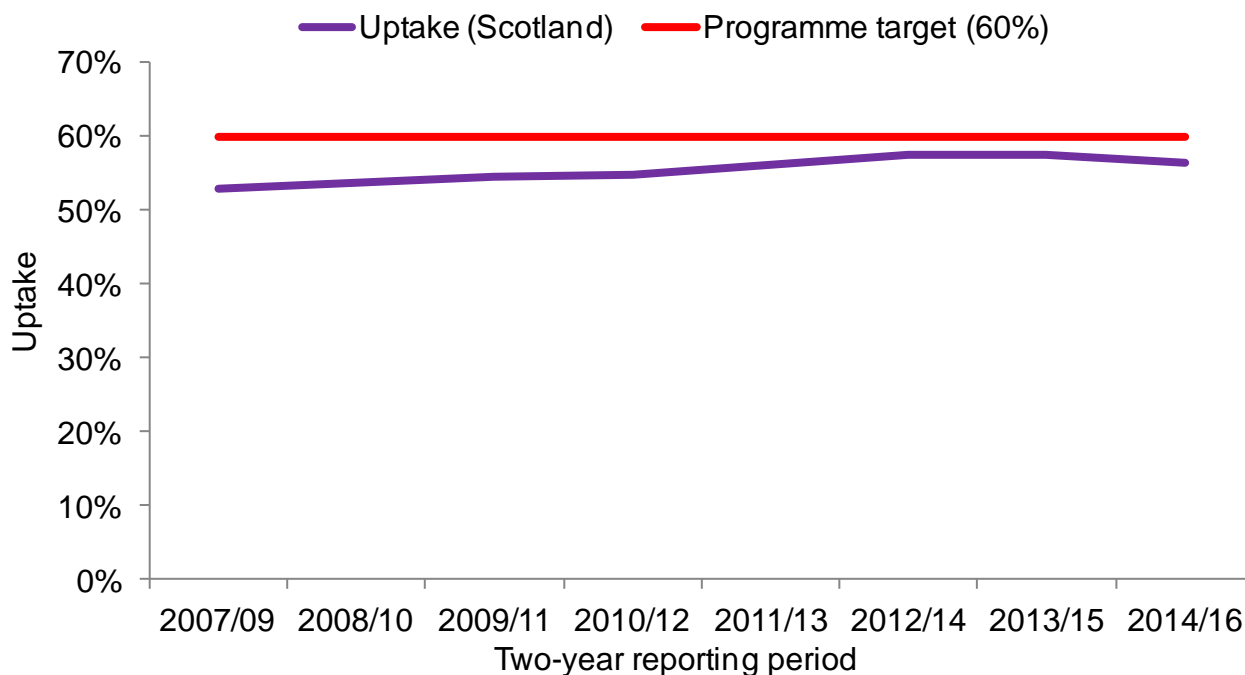
About this release

This release from Information Services Division (ISD) provides an update of the Scottish bowel screening statistics for the period 1 November 2014 to 31 October 2016 including uptake, laboratory workload and clinical outcomes.

Main Points

- For the two year reporting period 1 November 2014 to 31 October 2016 uptake was 56.4%, which was less than the uptake reported for the period 1 November 2013 to 31 October 2015 (57.5%).

Trend in uptake of bowel screening for all persons in Scotland by two-year period



- Uptake was lower in areas of higher deprivation. Uptake in the most deprived group was 43.4% compared with 65.7% in the least deprived group.
- Around two percent of those returning their screening kit received a positive test result. Of those with a positive test result, 6.5% had a bowel cancer.
- Three out of five screen detected cancers (61.3%) were diagnosed at the earliest two stages. The earlier a cancer is detected the greater the chances are of successful treatment.

Background

The Scottish Bowel Screening Programme started a phased roll-out in June 2007. By December 2009, all NHS Boards in Scotland were participating in the Programme.

This publication relates to men and women registered with a Community Health Index number aged between 50-74 years who are invited to participate and to be screened every two years. Eligible people are posted a screening kit which is completed at home. The kit is then returned to the central screening centre in Dundee and tested for hidden traces of blood in the stool. Since 1 April 2013, those aged over 74 can self-refer and opt into bowel screening.

A new bowel cancer test which simplifies the sample collection process is to be introduced with an aim to increase participation in Scotland's national bowel screening programme. The new home screening faecal immunochemical test (FIT) will require participants to return just one bowel motion sample instead of the three samples currently required. It is scheduled to be introduced in 2017.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [full publication report](#) or on the [ISD website](#).

The [Scottish Bowel Screening Programme Key Performance Indicators report](#), which includes a series of measures used to monitor and evaluate the Scottish Bowel Screening Programme, is available on the ISD website.

You can find more information on Detect Cancer Early (DCE) on the [ISD website DCE pages](#).

For related topics, please see [the Cancer pages](#) on the ISD website.

The next release of this publication will be 06 February 2018 (Key Performance Indicator report and summary only).

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