Detect Cancer Early Staging Data
Year 6 (1 January 2016 to 31 December 2017)
An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

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About this release
This release by Information Services Division presents data on patients diagnosed with cancer during the two-year period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2017.

Main Points
- For people with breast, colorectal or lung cancer, 25.3% were diagnosed at the earliest stage (stage 1). This is an 8.4% increase from the baseline (2010 and 2011 combined). This is below the Local Delivery Plan standard of a 25% increase from the baseline.
- For people with breast, colorectal or lung cancer in the most deprived areas, 22.6% were diagnosed at the earliest stage (stage 1). This is an 11.8% increase from the baseline.

Proportion of patients in Scotland diagnosed with breast, colorectal or lung cancer by stage and deprivation category; 2016 and 2017 combined

Source: ISD Detect Cancer Early data
For patients diagnosed with breast, colorectal or lung cancer in the most deprived areas of Scotland, the highest proportion were diagnosed at the most advanced stage of disease; stage 4 (30.3%) while for those living in the least deprived areas, the highest proportion were diagnosed at stage 2 (29.5%).

There has been an improvement in the recording of the data with fewer patients being recorded with a not known stage of disease – a baseline of 8.4% compared with 5.8% for the latest time-period.

Background

Cancer is one of the major causes of death in Scotland. In 2016, 15,814 people died of cancer in Scotland and approximately 31,300 people were diagnosed with cancer.

In February 2012 the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing formally launched the Detect Cancer Early programme. One aim of the Detect Cancer Early programme was to increase the proportion of people diagnosed with early stage disease (stage 1) by 25% by the end of 2015 concentrating on breast, colorectal and lung cancers, which collectively account for 43% of all cancers diagnosed in Scotland in 2016.

To help monitor performance towards the Detect Cancer Early Local Delivery Plan standard, the proportion of patients diagnosed at an early stage of disease (stage 1) for year 6 (2016 and 2017 combined), is compared with that of the baseline (2010 and 2011 combined).

The percentage of patients with cancer diagnosed with stage 1 disease can vary because of a number of factors including the presence and uptake of national screening programmes.

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Further Information

Find out more in the full report. The data from this publication is available to download from our web page.

For more information on Detect Cancer Early see the DCE section of our website. For related topics, please see the Cancer pages.

The next release of this publication will be 13 August 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.