

Publication Summary



Childhood Immunisation Statistics

Quarter and Year ending 31 March 2012

Publication date – 29 June 2012



About this Release

Immunisation uptake rates for children in Scotland aged up to six years are published quarterly. This release includes uptake rates for the quarter and year ending 31 March 2012.

Each quarter ISD publish updated tables and charts on the ISD website presenting the latest immunisation uptake rates for children at 12 months, 24 months, 5 years and 6 years of age, by NHS Board and Community Health Partnership. There is no Publication Report to accompany these quarterly releases which are aligned with the publication of [quarterly immunisation uptake rates in the UK](#) by the Health Protection Agency (HPA). The HPA publication provides commentary on uptake rates in the UK and the individual member countries. ISD also publish a comprehensive [annual report on childhood immunisation uptake rates in Scotland](#) in March. The annual report presents statistics by calendar year and provides comprehensive commentary including an outline of the UK Childhood Immunisation Schedule, an explanation of trends in uptake rates and information on data accuracy. This release format follows a consultation with users in Autumn 2011 to review the frequency of publication of childhood immunisation statistics. See Appendix A1 of the annual report for further information.

Background

Children in Scotland are protected through immunisation against many serious infectious diseases. Vaccination programmes aim both to protect the individual and to prevent the spread of these illnesses within the population. As a public health measure, immunisations have been hugely effective in reducing the burden of disease. It is of public health concern when immunisation rates fall, as this increases the possibility of disease transmission and, hence, complications arising from outbreaks of infectious diseases.

In Scotland the target of the national immunisation programme is for 95% of children to complete courses of the following childhood immunisations by 24 months of age: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), Meningococcal group C (MenC) and Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV). An additional national target of 95% uptake of one dose of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella

(MMR) vaccine by five years of age (with a supplementary measure at 24 months) was introduced in 2006 to focus efforts on reducing the number of susceptible children entering primary school.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the latest [quarterly tables](#) and [calendar year report](#), and 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.

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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.

Further information on ISD's statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the [ISD website](#). Metadata and pre-release access information for this publication is available [here](#)