About this Release

Vaccination programmes for children in Scotland aim to both protect the individual child from many serious infectious diseases but also to prevent the spread of disease within the wider population.

The Information Services Division provides a quarterly update of immunisation uptake rates for children at 12 months, 24 months, five years and six years of age, by NHS Board and Local Authority. The statistics in this update are for the quarter ending 30 June 2015 and are available in downloadable data tables.

Background

As a public health measure, immunisations have been very effective in reducing the burden of disease. It is of public health concern when immunisation rates fall, as this increases both the possibility of disease transmission and complications arising from outbreaks of infectious diseases. In Scotland, the national immunisation programme target 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).

There is an additional national target of 95% uptake for one dose of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine by five years of age (with a supplementary measure at 24 months). This target was introduced in 2006 to focus efforts on reducing the number of susceptible children entering primary school.
Further Information

All of the statistics in this update are available in downloadable data tables.

We also make available background metadata and information on our pre-release access.

ISD’s quarterly publication timetable mirrors the release of Public Health England’s quarterly immunisation uptake rates.

Our annual report on childhood immunisation uptake rates in Scotland is published in March. This report provides comprehensive commentary on immunisation including an outline of the UK childhood immunisation schedule, statistics by calendar year and an explanation of trends in uptake rates.

All of our published information is available on the childhood immunisation pages of our website.

Tables showing uptake rates by Community Health Partnership (CHP) have been replaced by Local Authority tables. CHPs ceased to exist on 1 April 2015.

ISD have streamlined this publication so that uptake rates for each vaccine are only reported at the most relevant age stages. This change has been implemented following a user consultation. ISD received four responses to this consultation, all in support of the changes.

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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.

Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

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 www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/