

Publication Summary



National Dental Inspection Programme

2011 Report

Publication date – 29th November 2011

About this Release

This Report is the annual survey of Primary 1 / Primary 7 children's dental health, which gathers information to inform parents/carers of the oral health status of their children and, through appropriately anonymised, aggregated data, advise the Scottish Government, NHS Boards and other organisations concerned with children's health of oral disease prevalence at national and local levels.

From 2011, the Report is being published by ISD Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Dental Epidemiology Coordinating Committee (SDECC).

Key Points

- There is a continuing trend of improvement in the oral health of P7 children in Scotland over time, with 69.4% having no obvious decay experience in 2010/11.
- For the first time, all NHS Boards across Scotland have achieved the target of 60% of P7 children with no obvious decay experience.
- The average number of teeth affected by obvious decay experience has decreased from 1.29 to 0.70 over the past six years.
- Although the average number of teeth affected by obvious decay experience is now only 0.70, for those children who do have caries experience the average number of teeth affected by decay is 2.32.
- Socioeconomic inequalities in the oral health of P7 children persist, with those from all but the most deprived backgrounds having reached the 2010 National Target of 60% with no obvious decay experience.

Background

It is important for a child's dental wellbeing to be assessed so that children and their parents/carers can maintain oral health and take necessary steps to remedy any problems that may have arisen. There is also a need to monitor children's dental health at national and NHS Board level so that reliable oral health information is available for planning and evaluating initiatives directed towards health improvements. The National Dental Inspection Programme (NDIP) aims to fulfil these functions by providing an essential source of information for keeping track of the dental health of children in Scotland.

Two key age groups are involved: i) those having just entered Local Authority schools in primary one (P1) and ii) those in primary seven (P7) about to make the move to secondary education. The Inspection Programme has two levels: a *Basic Inspection* (intended for all P1 and P7 children) and a *Detailed Inspection* (where a representative sample of either the P1 or the P7 age group is inspected in alternate years). This Report focuses on the results of the *Detailed Inspection*. Limited information relating to the *Basic Inspection* can be found at the end of this Report.

In the school year 2010/11, the *Detailed Inspection* programme involved P7 school children.

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Further Information

Further information can be found on the [NDIP page of the ISD website](#), along with [the full report](#) and [executive summary](#).

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](http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/) www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/