

Publication Summary



Dental Statistics – NHS Registration and Participation

Statistics as at 30 September 2015

Publication date – 26 January 2016



About this Release

This release from Information Services Division provides information on NHS dental registrations in Scotland from September 2000 to September 2015 and contact with an NHS dentist (participation) from September 2006 to September 2015.

Key Points

Registration

- 89% (4.8 million) of the Scottish population are registered with an NHS dentist. Registration rates have been increasing since 2007 when new registration rules were introduced. At that time only 52% of the population (2.7 million) were registered with an NHS dentist.
- Children are more likely to be registered than adults (93% compared to 88%).

Participation

- At September 2015, 73% (3.5 million) of those registered had seen an NHS dentist within the last two years. This has been a steady decline since 2007 when 99% (2.6 million) had contact with an NHS dentist.
- Children are more likely than adults to have seen a dentist within the last two years (85% compared to 70%).
- Patients from the most deprived areas were less likely to see their dentist within the last two years than those from the least deprived areas; the gap was eight percentage points for children and 10 percentage points for adults.

Background

This release only includes data on patients registered with an NHS dentist, data for patients registered or treated by private dentists are excluded from this publication.

Participation is a measure of patient attendance at an NHS dental practice for examination or treatment in the two years prior to the time point of interest. The number of patients attending an NHS dental practice has increased, although registrations have seen a larger increase, resulting in an overall lowering of the participation rate. The participation information relates only to patients who are registered with an NHS dentist, it does not include patients who only see a dentist for occasional or emergency treatment.

Participation as a measure was introduced in September 2010 but has been calculated for data since September 2006 to allow a longer trend to be reported to show the effect of the changes to the registration rules.

Contact

Michael McStravick

Information Analyst

michael.mcstravick@nhs.net

0141 282 2044

Claire Clark

Senior Information Analyst

claire.clark2@nhs.net

0131 275 6145

Jill Ireland

Principal Information Analyst

jillireland1@nhs.net

0131 275 7253

Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Dental Registration and Participation Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#).

The Information Services Division published a wide range of dental statistics. You can find all our dental information at the [ISD Dental website](#).

The next release of this report is expected June 2016 and will present data as at 31 March 2016.

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](#).