

Publication Summary



National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times Report

January-March 2013

Publication Date – 25 June 2013

About this Release

The Scottish Government has set a target that by March 2013, 90% of people who need help with their drug or alcohol problem will wait no longer than three weeks for treatment that supports their recovery.

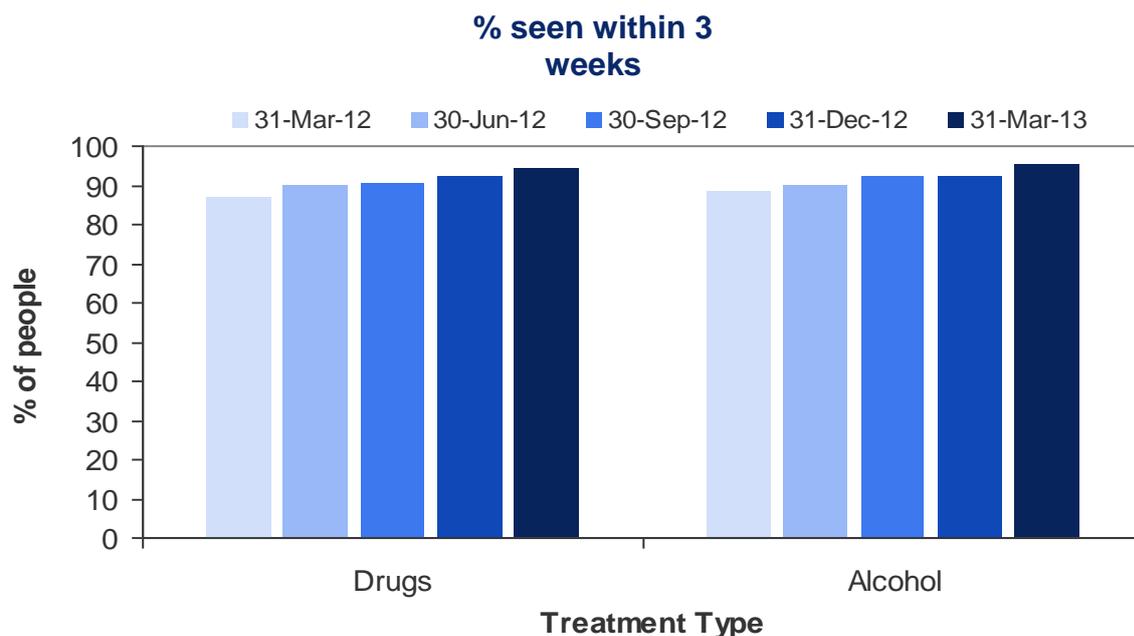
This release from the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times Database (DATWT) contains quarterly data from 1 January 2013 to 31 March 2013 at national, NHS Board and Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) level. The report is on the full client journey for both drug and alcohol treatments and so contains information on the number of people seen, the time waited and types of treatment accessed.

When DATWT data are extracted for reporting it is a snapshot of what is on the system at that time. The DATWT is a dynamic database, which means that data for previous quarters are updated and so may not be the same as found in previous publications for the same time period. Data for the most recent quarter is provisional and as such is subject to revisions in future publications.

Key points

- In January-March 2013, 94.6% of the 10,897 people who started their first drug or alcohol treatment had waited 3 weeks or less (HEAT A11 target), compared to 92.1% in the previous quarter. Therefore, the target of 90% has been exceeded at a national level.
- 94.9% of the 7,090 people who started alcohol treatment between January and March 2013 had waited 3 weeks or less, compared to 92.0% in the previous quarter.
- 94.2% of the 3,807 people who attended an appointment for drug treatment waited 3 weeks or less, compared to 92.2% in the previous quarter.
- Of the 2,832 people who were still waiting to start drug or alcohol treatment, 73 people, or 2.6%, had waited more than 6 weeks at the end of March 2013, compared to 121 people, or 4.5% in the previous quarter.

People Referred for Drug or Alcohol treatment in Scotland:



Background

Data from treatment service providers are collected in the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times database which went live across Scotland on 1 April 2011. The system enables the measurement of the full wait from referral to treatment for both drug and alcohol services, and calculates the time a person waits for treatment. Information is also collected on whether the individual could not or did not attend offered appointments and allows for periods of unavailability to be recorded. Previously, information was only collected on drug treatment waiting times. Trend data for drug waiting times prior to April 2011 is not published as the current data is not comparable with data from the old system.

Contact

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or 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. 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/