

# National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times Report

January - March 2016

Publication Date – 28 June 2016

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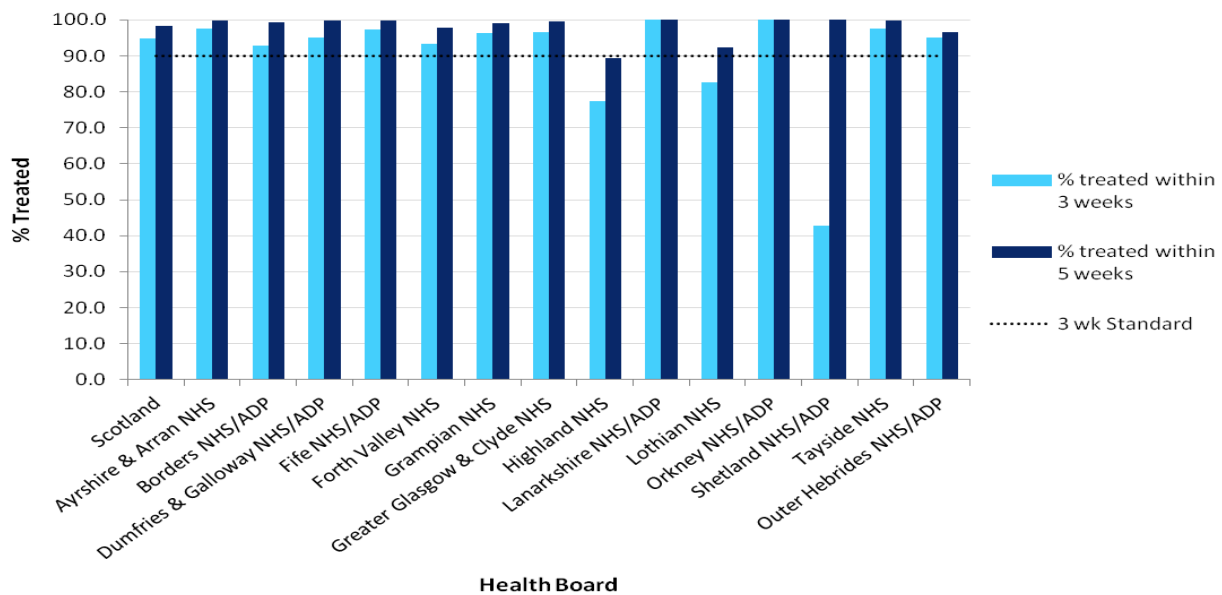
## About this release

This Information Services Division publication reports on the waiting times for people accessing drug and alcohol treatment services between January and March 2016. It contains information on the number of people seen for treatment, the length of time waited as well as types of treatment accessed.

## Main Points

- The proportion of people receiving early access to their first treatment for drug or alcohol misuse continues to be high and has been for the past two years. Of the 11,171 people who started their first treatment, 94.8% have waited three weeks or less. More than half (56.2%) started their first treatment within one week of referral.
  - For the 6,858 people seeking alcohol treatment, 95.2% waited three weeks or less, similar to the previous quarter (96.0%).
  - For the 4,313 people seeking drug treatment, 94.2% waited three weeks or less, similar to the previous quarter (94.0%).
- At the end of this quarter, 2,802 people were waiting to start their first drug or alcohol treatment, of which 114 (4.1%) had been waiting more than six weeks. This is a decrease from the previous quarter when 134 (5.4%) people were waiting more than six weeks.
- In prisons, 1,383 people started their first drug or alcohol treatment between January-March 2016, with 97.8% waiting three weeks or less and 79.9% waiting one week or less.
- All NHS Boards in Scotland met the Scottish Government's Local Delivery Plan standard except NHS Highland, NHS Lothian and NHS Shetland.

## Percentage of people seen for Drug or Alcohol treatment, within three and five weeks, for all NHS Boards between January and March 2016



## Background

The Scottish Government's Local Delivery Plan standard for drug and alcohol treatment states that 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. The data in this publication is a snapshot of a dynamic database, which means that data for previous quarters may not be the same as found in previous publications for the same time period. Data for the most recent quarter is provisional and may be revised in future publications.

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## Further Information

Further information can be found in the [National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times Report](#) or on the [ISD Website](#). Other ISD publications on drug and alcohol misuse can be found [here](#). The Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) provides information on various aspects of drug misuse in Scotland: [ScotPHO drug misuse section](#).

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## ISD and Official Stats

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