

National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times Report

July – September 2016

Publication Date – 20 December 2016

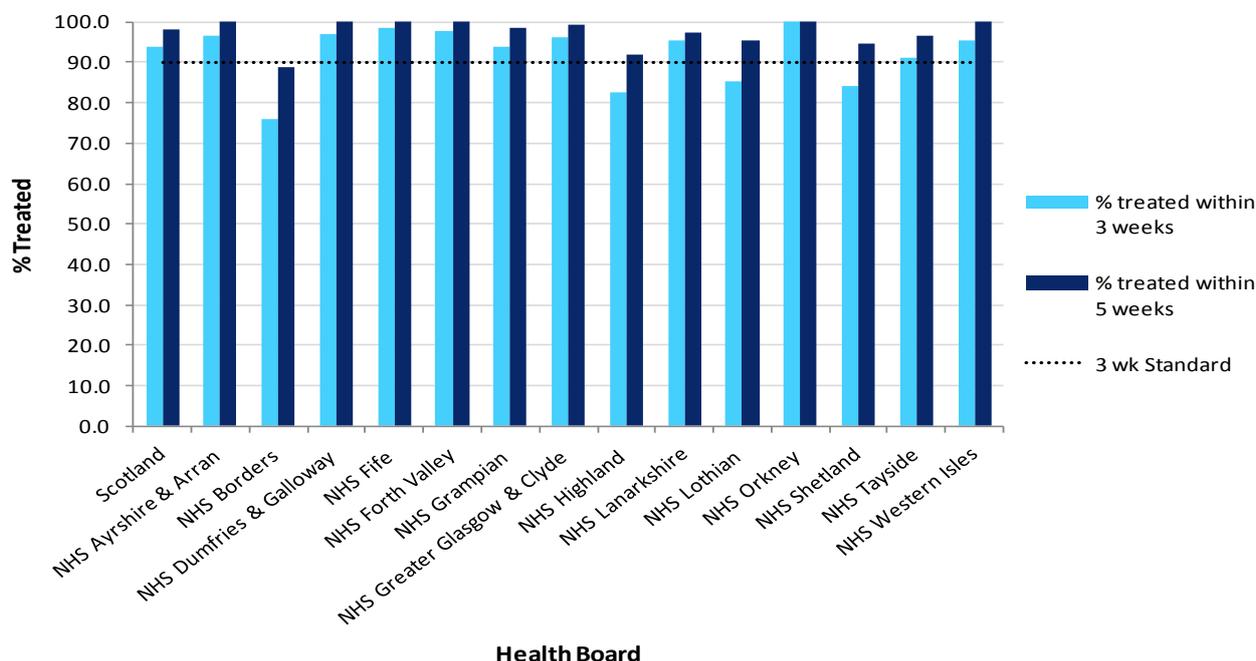
About this release

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

Main Points

- The quarterly trend over the past two years shows a high proportion of people receiving early access for their first drug or alcohol treatment. Of the 11,438 people who started their first treatment, 93.9% waited three weeks or less. More than half (56.9%) started their first treatment within one week of referral.
 - For the 7,156 people seeking alcohol treatment, 94.1% waited three weeks or less, similar to the previous quarter (95.7%).
 - For the 4,282 people seeking drug treatment, 93.7% waited three weeks or less, similar to the previous quarter (94.0%).
- At the end of this quarter, 2,991 people were waiting to start their first drug or alcohol treatment, of which 114 (3.8%) had been waiting more than six weeks. This is an increase from the previous quarter when 104 (3.4%) people were waiting more than six weeks.
- In prisons, 1,497 people started their first drug or alcohol treatment between July-September 2016, with 97.7% waiting three weeks or less and 74.5% waiting one week or less.
- All NHS Boards, except NHS Borders, NHS Highland, NHS Lothian and NHS Shetland met the Scottish Government's standard.

Percentage of people seen for drug or alcohol treatment, within three and five weeks, for all NHS Boards between July and September 2016



Background

The data in this publication is a snapshot of a dynamic database. This 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](#).

ISD and Official Stats

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