

Publication Summary



Emergency Department Activity And Waiting Times

Publication date – 28 August 2012

About this Release

Data from Emergency Departments and departments that provide Accident and Emergency services has been submitted to ISD since July 2007. This was primarily established to support the 4-hour waiting time target. Since that time the dataset has been expanded and the information has been used to support a variety of other purposes both by NHS Boards and Scottish Government.

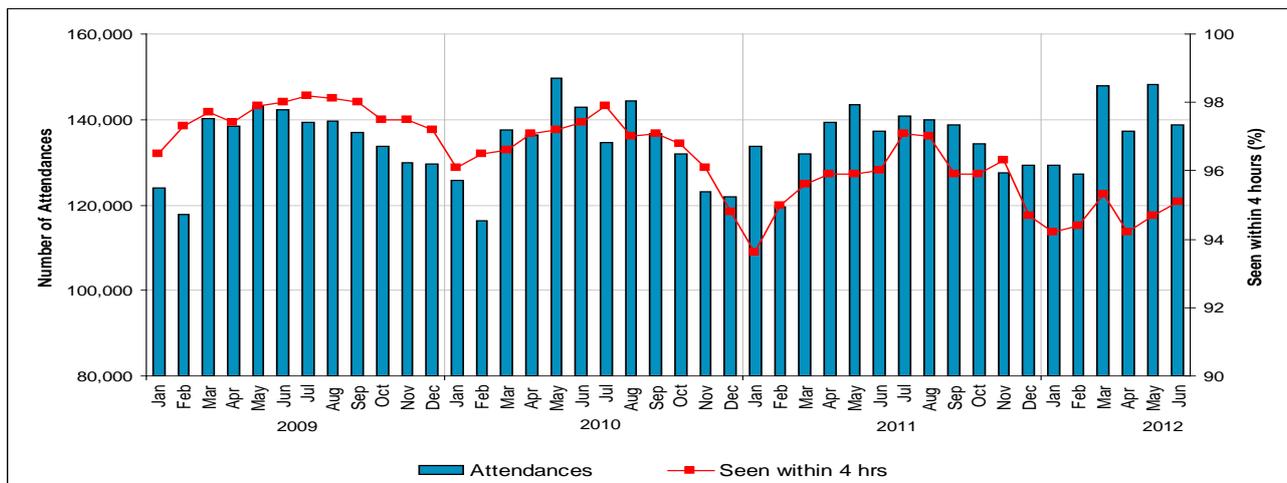
Throughout this report we refer to the collective term Accident and Emergency (A&E) Services which includes the following site types:

- 1) Emergency Departments (EDs) – a consultant-led, 24 hour service with full resuscitation facilities and designated accommodation for the reception of emergency patients
- 2) MIU/Other – smaller sites such as Minor Injury Units (MIUs), community A&Es or community casualty departments that are GP or nurse led

Key Points

- During the quarter ending 30 June 2012, the number of new and unplanned return attendances at all A&E services across Scotland was; 137,368 in April 2012, 148,180 in May 2012 and 138,879 in June 2012. The increase in May is similar to that shown in previous years where the increase in attendances at A&E is potentially thought to be a result of the start of the better weather, public holidays etc.
- During the quarter ending 30 June 2012, the proportion of new and unplanned return attendances at all A&E services across Scotland that were seen within 4 hours was; 94.2% in April 2012, 94.7% in May 2012 and 95.1% in June 2012.
- During the quarter ending 30 June 2012, the rate of new and unplanned return attendances (per 100,000 population) at all A&E services across Scotland was; 2,614 in April 2012, 2,820 in May 2012 and 2,643 in June 2012.
- Overall, males are more likely to attend Emergency Departments than females and younger (0-4 year olds) and older (80 year and over) people are more likely to attend ED with older people being more likely to be admitted.

Figure 3-1: Number of attendances at A&E Services across Scotland and proportion of those seen within 4 hours, January 2009 to June 2012



Background

Data on A&E service attendances across Scotland are collected and maintained by ISD in the national data warehouse known as the A&E data mart. Data is collected on local systems, then extracted and submitted to the data mart soon after the end of each month. All sites that provide emergency care are required to submit data to the A&E data mart.

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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/