

# Publication Summary



## NHS Performs - Weekly Update of Emergency Department Activity and Waiting Times Statistics

Publication date – 29 September 2015

### About this Release

This is the official statistics release of weekly information on attendances at Emergency Departments published by the Information Statistics Division for NHS Scotland. It includes information on the number of attendances and length of time patients spend in Emergency Departments in Scotland.

Detailed Emergency Department information is available through:

- [NHS Performs](#) where you can view this information along with a range of other performance related information by individual hospital;
- as a [Data Table](#) that presents Emergency Department information for all hospitals within the same table.

The statistics in this weekly update cover Emergency Departments only, and include new data for the week ending 20 September 2015.

### Key Points

- During the week ending 20 September 2015:
  - There were 26,163 attendances at EDs across Scotland.
  - 94.4% of attendances at EDs were seen and subsequently admitted, transferred or discharged within 4 hours.
  - 88 (0.3%) patients spent more than 8 hours in the department
  - 2 patients (0%) spent more than 12 hours in the department.

### Background

There are 93 locations providing A&E services across Scotland. Of these, 30 are classed as Emergency Departments - larger A&E services that typically provide a 24 hour consultant led service. The 30 Emergency Departments are responsible for more than 8 out of every 10 A&E attendances, 19 out of 20 breaches of the four hour waiting time standard, and 19 out of 20 admissions from A&E to hospital.

Since 3 March 2015, official statistics on Emergency Department activity and waiting times information have been released weekly for the EDs in Scotland, derived from aggregate

information supplied by NHS Boards on the number of attendances and 4, 8, and 12 hour waits. Initially, the SG carried out the collection and [publication of weekly A&E information](#) . ISD took over the collection and [publication of weekly A&E information](#) for statistics covering the week ending 7 June 2015.

A [National Statistics publication on A&E Activity and Waiting Times](#) is released on the first Tuesday of every month. The statistics in the monthly publication cover attendances to all A&E services in Scotland and are derived from the A&E datamart which includes more detailed information. These statistics are subject to a higher level of quality assurance than the weekly statistics; however, there is good agreement between the two data sources. A comparison can be found online at [Emergency Care - Statistics](#).

Since 2007, the national standard for A&E waiting times is that new and unplanned return attendances at an A&E service should be seen and then admitted, transferred or discharged within four hours. This standard applies to all areas of emergency care such as EDs, assessment units, minor injury units, community hospitals, anywhere emergency care type activity takes place. A list of sites providing emergency care and their classification can be found online at [Emergency Care - Hospital Site List](#).

For information on how the Scottish Government (SG) monitors NHS Boards' performance within A&E Services, please see the [NHS Local Delivery Plan standards](#).

## Contact

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## Further Information

Further information can be found on the [Emergency Care](#) pages of the ISD Scotland website. A [metadata document](#) has been produced for this publication.

The monthly [ED Activity and Waiting Times publication](#) was released on 1 September 2015. This National Statistics publication covers all A&E services, and includes new data for the month of July 2015.

### 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/](http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/)