Understanding Emergency Care in NHSScotland
When do patients attend Emergency Departments?

Publication Date – 24 May 2016

About this release

This official statistics publication, by the Information Services Division (ISD) for NHSScotland, is the latest in a series of publications focusing on different aspects of emergency care.

Main Points

This release focuses on 1.3 million attendances that take place at the 30 Emergency Departments in Scotland each year. It looks at the daily and weekly and seasonal patterns of attendance at Emergency Departments.

During the week, there are two peaks in patients arriving at Emergency Departments:
- Late morning is the peak for patients in older age groups
- Early evening is when children and young adults are most likely to attend

At the weekend, there is a single peak between 1pm and 2pm

More people attend Emergency Departments in summer months than in winter months
Contact

If you have any further questions about this publication, you can contact the team:

**Catriona Haddow**  
Principal Information Analyst  
0131 275 6341

**Anne Stott**  
Senior Information analyst  
0131 275 6820

Email: nss.isdunscheduledcare@nhs.net

Further Information

For the full report please visit [www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Emergency-Care](http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Emergency-Care). Detailed hospital, NHS Board and Scotland information is available online. A metadata document is also available.

Other emergency care publications are available for download from the ISD website, including; weekly performance statistics from the 30 Emergency Departments in Scotland, released every Tuesday; a monthly National Statistics publication reporting on all A&E services in NHSScotland, released on the first Tuesday of each month; publications reporting on GP Out of Hours services in Scotland.

---

**ISD and 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. [Further information about our statistics](http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Emergency-Care).