About this release
This annual release from the Information Services Division reports on emergency hospital admissions and deaths as a result of unintentional injury.

Main Points
- Unintentional injuries accounted for approximately 1 in 10 emergency hospital admissions for adults and 1 in 8 for children in 2015/16.
- Those from the most deprived areas were more likely than those from the least deprived areas to have an unintentional injury.

Emergency hospital admissions as a result of an unintentional injury; adults aged 15 and over, year ending 31 March 2016

Data are adjusted for age and sex.
The horizontal line shows the level for Scotland as a whole.
I = 95% confidence intervals.
Source: ISD Scotland, SMR01 data; SIMD 2016

- 84% of unintentional injuries in those aged 65 and over were due to falls.
• Assaults have decreased: there were 2,413 emergency admissions to hospital resulting from assault in 2015/16, a decrease of almost 55% over the past ten years.

• Emergency hospital admissions for unintentional injuries have increased by 2% over the past ten years: in 2015/16 there were 55,547 compared to 54,393 in 2006/07.

• In 2015 there were 1,892 deaths in Scotland due to unintentional injury; 18 in children under the age of 15 and 1,874 in those aged 15 and over.

**Background**

Unintentional injuries can occur in any age group, but children and the elderly are more vulnerable. The term ‘unintentional injury’ is used rather than ‘accidents’ as ‘accident’ implies that events are unavoidable when actually a high proportion of these incidents are preventable.

The information comes from hospital administrative systems across Scotland, up to and including the financial year 2015/16 and from death registrations sourced from National Records of Scotland, up to and including calendar year 2015.

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**Further Information**

The Information Services Division publishes a range of emergency care information. You can find all our information on the [emergency care section of the ISD website](#).

Further information can be found in the full [Unintentional Injuries Report](#). For the first time in this publication we have included some new interactive visual content in the [Unintentional Injuries Dashboard](#). Information is presented over time, age group and gender.

The next release of this publication will be March 2018.