

Publication Summary



Improving ethnic data collection for equality and diversity monitoring

April 2010 – March 2012

Publication date – 28th August 2012

About this Release

This release describes progress towards improving the completeness of ethnic group recording in acute hospital discharge records (SMR01) and new outpatient appointment records (SMR00). The two graphs below relate to the quarter January – March 2012.

Key Points

- For Scotland as a whole there have been substantial improvements in the recording of ethnic group. Over the last two years completeness of recording has increased from just over two-fifths to two-thirds for acute hospital discharges and has risen from just over one-quarter to almost half for new outpatients.
- Despite this improvement, the recording of ethnicity remains relatively low: a valid ethnic group code was recorded in only 67% of acute inpatient and day case records (SMR01) in the quarter ending March 2012 and only 48% of new outpatient appointment records (SMR00).
- Ethnic group recording for some Boards (for example NHS Borders and NHS Lanarkshire) may have been affected by the implementation of the new NHS Patient Management System (PMS).

Figure 1: Percentage of discharge episode records (SMR01) with a valid ethnic group by Health Board of Treatment; January – March 2012.

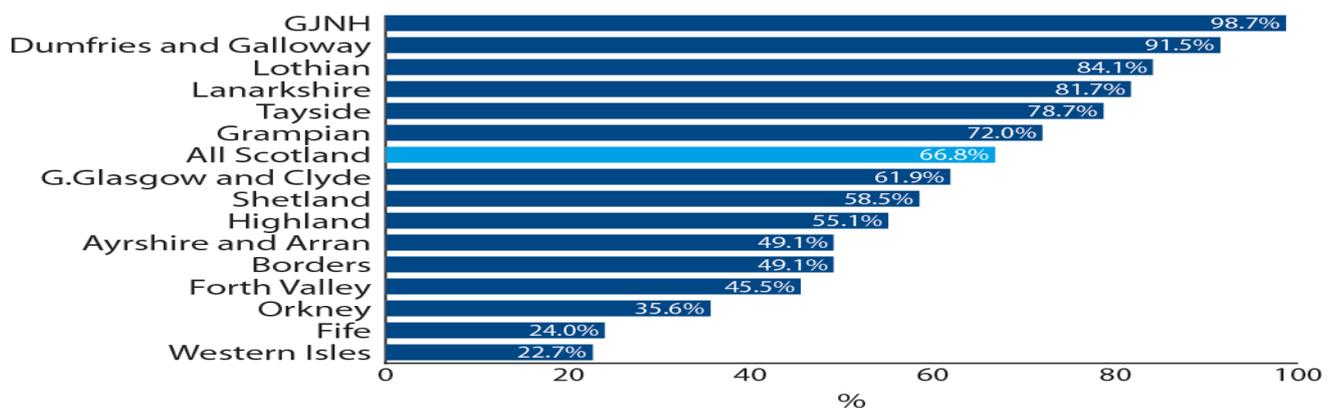
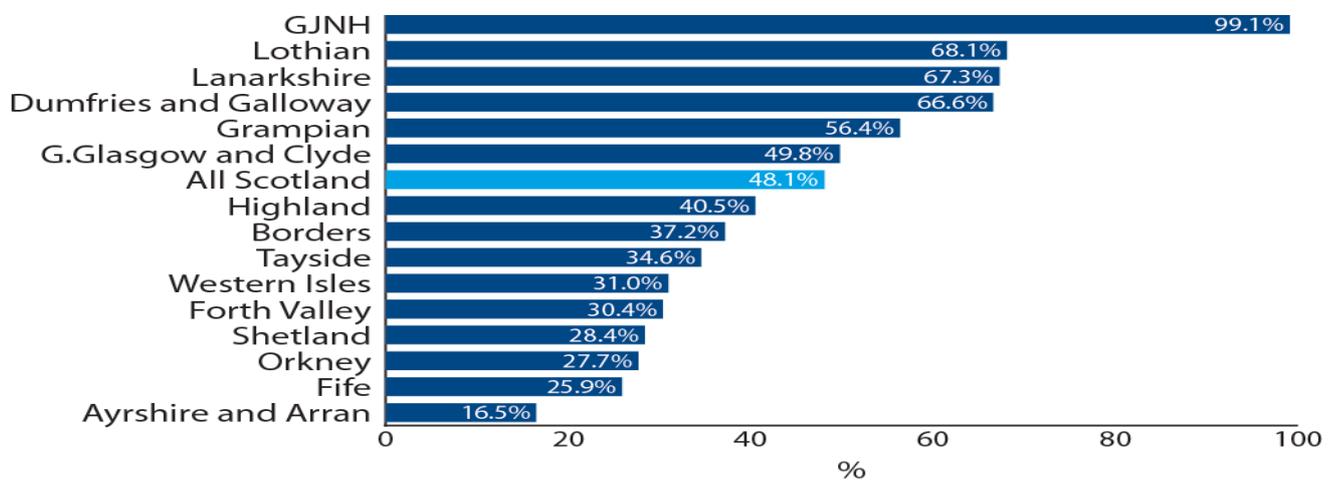


Figure 2: Percentage of new outpatient appointment records (SMR00) with a valid ethnic group by Health Board of Treatment; January – March 2012.



Background

The NHS Scotland Quality Strategy commits the NHS in Scotland to “understanding the needs of different communities, eliminating discrimination, reducing inequality, protecting human rights and building good relations by breaking down barriers that may be preventing people from accessing the care and services that they need”. The UK Government’s Equality Act requires public authorities to collect equality characteristics such as ethnicity to demonstrate that they are meeting the public sector equality duty.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#)

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