

# Publication Summary



## Improving ethnic data collection for equality and diversity monitoring

April 2013 – March 2015

Publication date – 25<sup>th</sup> August 2015

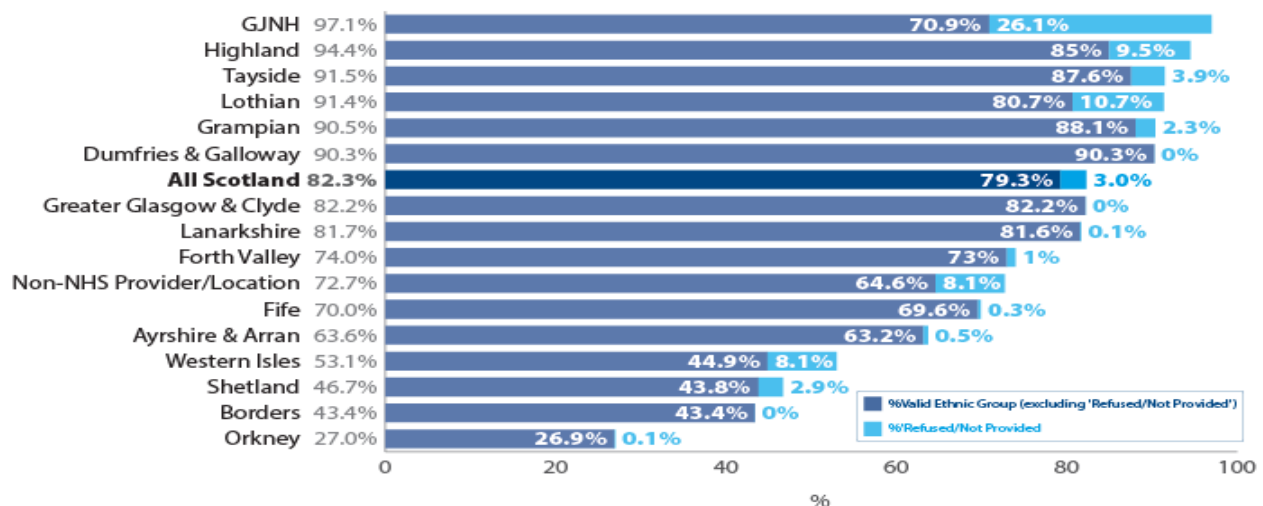
### About this Release

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 2015.

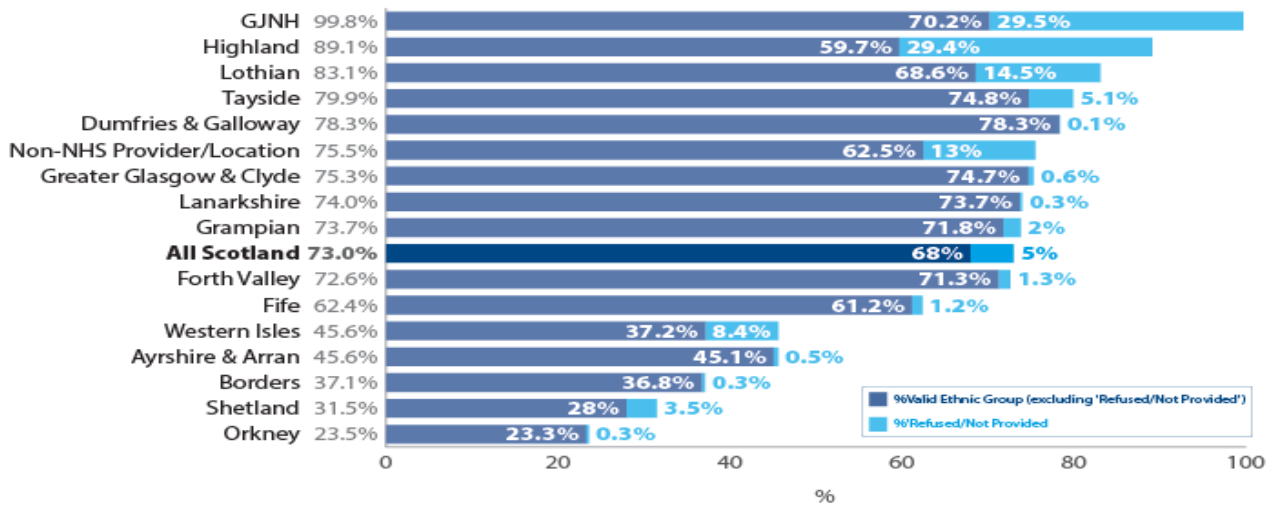
### Key Points

- For Scotland as a whole there has been a steady improvement in the recording of ethnic group over the last two years. However completeness of recording for inpatient and day case records (SMR01) for the last quarter remained at 82% and for new outpatient appointment records (SMR00) dropped by 1 percentage point to 73%.
- Increased recording of code '98' – 'Refused/Not provided' in SMR01 and SMR00 data has been seen in some Boards from 2012 onwards and is shown in lighter shading in the graphs below. This variation is being investigated locally.

**Figure 1: Percentage of hospital discharge episode records (SMR01) with a valid ethnic group by Health Board of treatment; January - March 2015.**



**Figure 2: Percentage of new outpatient appointment records (SMR00) with a valid ethnic group by Health Board of treatment; January - March 2015.**



## 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. Reliable information on the ethnic group of people admitted to hospital in Scotland is essential to reduce inequalities and ensure services are delivered fairly.

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