

# General Ophthalmic Services Statistics



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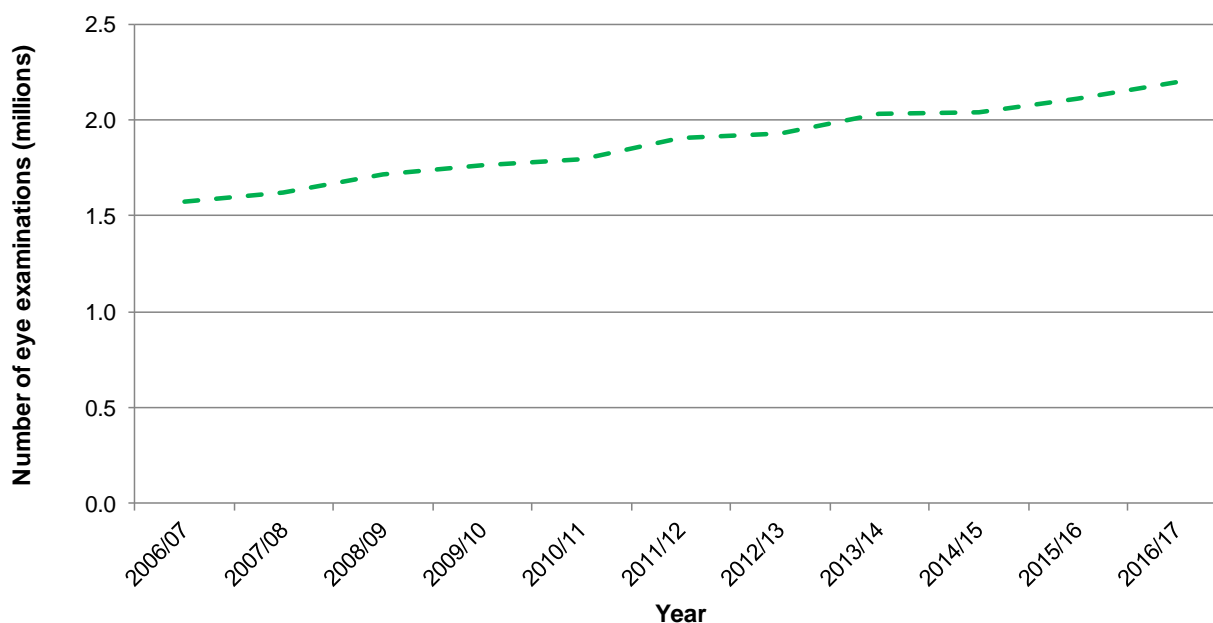
## About this release

Information Services Division publish information on NHS General Ophthalmic Services eye examinations and related findings annually. This publication provides statistics for 2016/17 with comparisons with previous years.

## Main points

- In 2016/17 around 2.2 million eye examinations were performed by optometrists working in Scottish local communities, the highest level reported since 2006/07.

Number of eye examinations, Scotland, by year; 2006/07 - 2016/17<sup>R</sup>



Source: OPTIX

<sup>R</sup> Figures for 2006/07 to 2015/16 have been updated following the identification of errors in the methodology

- Most patients attending for an eye examination were managed within primary care optometry (94%) and not referred for further investigation.
- Four in five claims were for initial eye examinations (primary examinations). The others were for emergency, additional or follow-up care (supplementary examinations).
- The most common reason for a supplementary examination was 'Sudden vision loss and floaters'.
- Clinical conditions were recorded during the eye examination. Cataracts were the most common of all the recorded conditions (17%).

## Background

### NHS General Ophthalmic Services

NHS General Ophthalmic Services in Scotland are provided by eye care professionals who use a wide variety of tests and procedures to examine the eyes of a patient during an eye examination. There are a number of possible outcomes following the examination including:

- No medical or corrective action needs to be taken
- A prescription for glasses / contact lenses needs to be issued
- A medical procedure may be required by the patient's General Practitioner (GP) or a hospital specialist.

In April 2010, a change in legislation reduced the frequency and circumstances under which a primary examination can be undertaken. If these conditions are not met, only a supplementary examination can be claimed (see [Ophthalmic Report](#) for further information).

## Contacts

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## Find out more

Further information can be found in the [Ophthalmic Report](#).

The Information Services Division published a wide range of ophthalmic statistics. You can find all our ophthalmic information at the [ISD Eye-Care website](#).

The next release of this report is expected September 2017 and will present data as at 31 March 2017.

## NHS Performs

A selection of information from this publication is included in [NHS Performs](#). NHS Performs is a website that brings together a range of information on how hospitals and NHS Boards within NHSScotland are performing.

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## 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. [Find out more about our statistics](#).