

# Publication Summary



## Scottish Health Service Costs

Year ended 31 March 2015

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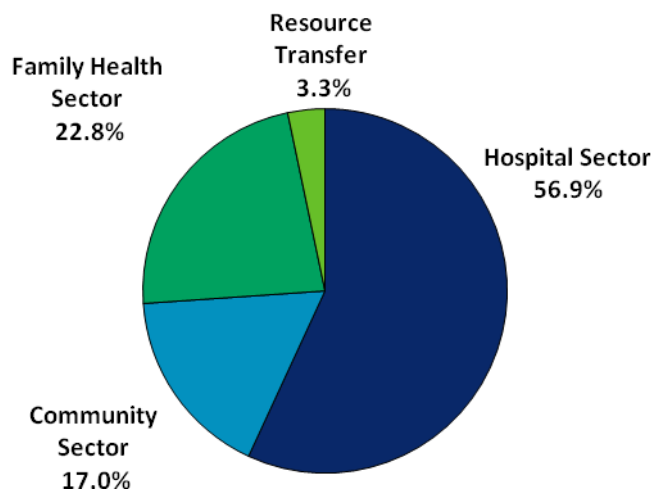
### About this Release

This release from the Information Services Division provides an annual update on how £10.8 billion of health operating costs were spent in 2014/15 in providing hospital and primary care to patients, through geographical NHS Boards, the State Hospital and the Golden Jubilee National Hospital. Information on expenditure in the Scottish Ambulance Service and in National Services Scotland is also provided.

### Key Points

- Total NHS Board operating costs increased by 3.4% to £10.8bn in cash terms, not adjusting for inflation, compared to 2013/14. In real terms, once inflation has been taken into account, total operating costs increased by 2.0% compared to 2013/14.

**Figure: Percentage of Operating Costs by Sector, 2014/15**



- Almost half of the total operating costs (47.8% or £5.2bn) were accounted for by hospital and community sector staff.
- Expenditure within the hospital sector was £6.1bn, an increase of 3.4% in cash terms compared to 2013/14 (2.0% in real terms). The hospital sector accounts for the largest part of expenditure (56.9%).
- Within the community sector, £1.8bn was spent, a cash terms increase of 4.9% compared to 2013/14 (3.4% in real terms). The community sector contains the smaller hospitals which serve their local communities, as well as community services delivered outside hospitals.
- Family health sector expenditure, which includes the cost of running local GP practices as well as local pharmacy, dental and ophthalmic services, amounted to just under £2.5bn in 2014/15 – a cash terms increase of 2.6% (1.2% in real terms) compared to 2013/14.

## Background

Scottish Health Service Costs (often referred to as the 'Cost Book') is published annually by ISD, with the support of the Scottish Government Health Department (SGHD). The Costs Book is the only source of published costs information for NHSScotland, and provides a detailed analysis of where its resources are spent. The information contained within this report is used in many applications; for example, to ensure greater efficiency by allowing benchmarking comparisons to be made between health care providers.

The information is primarily derived from [Scottish Financial Returns \(SFRs\)](#) compiled by NHS Boards. Some figures for the current year may not be directly comparable to those for previous years; while every attempt is made to make comparisons of the data possible, changes in accounting methodology must be considered, along with other factors such as organisational change or missing data. See [Summary of Changes](#) for more information.

## Contact

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## Further Information

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

ISD holds and maintains a range of data relating to health finance in Scotland. This can be found within the [Finance](#) pages of the ISD website.

### 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](#).