About this release

Information Services Division publish on an annual basis, data from the Scottish Care Home Census for adults which takes place on 31 March each year. Data are presented for Scotland and each local authority for the period 2006 to 2016.

Main points

Between 2006 and 2016:

- The overall number of care home places available decreased by 4% (from 43,311 to 41,461) and the number of adults in care homes decreased by 3% (from 37,885 to 36,621).
- The number of long stay residents aged 85 or over increased by 12% (15,759 to 17,579) while those under 85 decreased by 18% (20,958 to 17,159).
- The number of adult residents with dementia increased by 30% (15,303 to 19,905).
- The number of short-stay and respite residents increased by 61% (1,168 to 1,883).
- The number of registered care home places in the private sector increased by 7% (29,619 to 31,583), while those in the public sector decreased by 28% (6,216 to 4,502) and those in the voluntary sector also decreased by 28% (7,476 to 5,376).

Background

The Scottish Care Home Census is collected on an annual basis and is intended to cover all adult care home establishments that are registered with the Care Inspectorate. The Care Inspectorate was established under the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 and is responsible for regulating a wide range of social services.

Care Homes for All Adults (age 18+): This includes care homes for older people, care homes for adults with acquired brain injuries, care homes for adults with alcohol and/or drug problems, care homes for adults with HIV/AIDS, and care homes for other vulnerable adults.

Long Stay Residents: Residents whose intention when admitted to an adult care home is to stay there for more than six weeks, regardless of how long they actually stay.

Respite residents: Residents who stay in an adult care home to provide respite or holiday relief to them and/or their carer. A period of respite is normally one night or one weekend or a few weeks at most.
**Short Stay residents**: Residents whose intention when admitted to an adult care home is to stay there for fewer than six weeks, and the reason for the short stay is not for respite relief. If a resident stays for longer than 6 weeks they are counted as a long stay resident instead.

**Coverage and Estimation**

947 (81%) of care homes open on 31 March 2016 submitted census data. 228 (19%) care homes open on 31 March 2016 did not submit data. Data not submitted by care homes are estimated by ISD Scotland.

**Contact**

Rachel Porteous  
Senior Information Analyst  
0131 275 7491  
Email: nss.carehomecensus@nhs.net

Peter McClurg  
Information analyst  
0131 275 7735

**Further Information**

Full details can be found in the Care Home Census 2016 report.  
There is also a workbook containing the supporting data, and glossary.  
All previous census reports are available on our Care Home Census pages.  
The next update of this publication will be in October 2017.

---

**ISD and Official Stats**

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.