

# Publication Summary



## Acute Hospital Activity And NHS Beds Information



Year ending 31 March 2014

Quarter ending June 2014

Publication date – 30 September 2014

### About this Release

This publication summarises information on different aspects of hospital care, sourced from hospital administration systems across Scotland. The release includes long term trend information on outpatient, inpatient and daycase activity; medical diagnosis; operations; emergency admissions and childhood admissions in addition to more recent quarterly information on hospital activity and bed statistics.

### Key Points

- 4,634,362 outpatients were seen at consultant clinics in 2013/14, 1,508,498 of which were new outpatients. The number of new outpatient attendances has increased by 13.0% from 2004/05 when there were 1,335,069 new outpatient attendances.
- The return to new ratio for outpatient attendances has reduced steadily over the last nine years from 2.4 in 2004/05 to 2.1 in 2013/14. This has resulted in a lower proportional increase in the total number of outpatients seen at consultant clinics.
- Improving efficiency, by reducing unnecessary return outpatient appointments and the number of patients who do not attend pre-arranged appointments (DNAs) continues to be a priority for NHS boards. The percentage of new appointments which patients did not attend (DNAs) in 2013/14 was 9.8%, a reduction of 0.4% from 10.2% in 2012/13 and 1.3% from 11.7 in 2004/05.
- The total number of hospital discharge episodes from acute specialties in 2013/14 was 1,524,917; an increase of 22.9% from 1,240,311 in 2004/05. The rate of increase has fluctuated over the years. It peaked between 2007/08 and 2008/09 when there was an increase of 4.1% and reached a low of 0.3% the following year. More recently, figures show that over the last year number of discharge episodes increased by 3.0%.
- In 2013/14 there were 554,893 non-routine (emergency) inpatient discharges; an increase of 15.3% from 481,260 in 2004/05. The rate of increase peaked between 2006/07 and 2007/08

when the number of non-routine discharges increased by 4.2%. More recently, figures show that over the last year rate of increase has slowed to 0.6%.

- The average number of available staffed beds in acute specialties was recorded as 16,315 in the financial year 2013/14. This is a reduction of 7.1% from 17,559 beds in 2004/05.
- Across Scotland the rate of emergency bed days per 1,000 patients aged 75 and over reduced by 13.7% from 5,420 in 2009/10 to a provisional 4,677 in 2013/14.

### Background

Outpatient, inpatient and day case activity data and beds information are collected across NHSScotland and are based on nationally available information routinely drawn from hospital administrative systems across the country. Where possible, any missing or incomplete data has been estimated using the last complete data submission for the relevant NHS Boards. Details of the affected data can be found within the [Full Publication Report](#) and are highlighted within the relevant tables. Data for the latest time periods should therefore be treated as provisional.

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### Further Information

More information on these findings can be found in the [full Acute Hospital Activity and NHS Beds Information Publication Report](#). The [Acute Hospital Activity](#) web pages also provide further reading on this topic.

### About ISD

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### Official Statistics

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