Quarterly Acute Hospital Activity and NHS Beds Information for Scotland
Quarter ending 31 December 2018
A National Statistics publication for Scotland
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About this release
This release by Information Services Division (ISD) provides an update on a range of statistics on different aspects of hospital care, sourced from hospital administration systems across Scotland. These include information on trends in outpatient activity; inpatient and day case activity; and beds statistics. Data presented for 1 October to 31 December 2018 are provisional and subject to change in future publications as submissions may be updated to reflect a more accurate and complete set of data from NHS Boards.

Main Points

Outpatients

Outpatient attendances in NHSScotland, for quarters ending
December 2013 to December 2018

There were over one million (1,067,103) outpatient attendances between 1 October to 31 December 2018. Of these, 34% (359,023 attendances) were new cases. The remaining 66% (708,080 attendances) were patients returning for follow up appointments.
**Inpatients and Daycases**
There were 264,643 hospital admissions between 1 October to 31 December 2018. Of these, 47% (124,768) were emergency admissions; 12% (31,837) elective admissions; 40% (106,878) daycases and <1% (1,160) transfers.

**Beds**
There were on average 12,981 available staffed beds for all acute specialties in the quarter ending 31 December 2018. An available staffed bed is one that is available for inpatient or daycase care. For all acute specialties in the quarter ending 31 December 2018, the percentage occupancy was 87%.

**Data Quality** - There are known issues with the quality of data presented, in particular with statistics on new outpatient appointments not attended without prior warning (‘Did Not Attends’). For more information please see the Data Quality and Data Trends sections.

**Background**
Full definitions of outpatients, hospital admissions and available staffed beds are available in the Glossary Section. Further details are also available on the ISD Data Dictionary.

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**Further Information**
Disclosure control methods have been applied to the data in order to protect patient confidentiality, therefore some figures on total counts may not be additive.

Further information on this publication is available on the Quarterly Acute Hospital Activity and NHS Beds data web pages including outpatient and beds information available for all specialties.

The next release of Quarterly Acute Hospital Activity and NHS Beds Information in Scotland will be in November 2019. The Annual Acute Hospital Activity & NHS Beds Data publication will be released in August 2019.

**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.

**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.