About this Release

An extract from the existing ISD publication 'Births in Scottish Hospitals' this release includes information on the percentage of babies of healthy birthweight from April 2001 to March 2010 by NHS Board. A baby is considered to be of healthy birthweight (a weight appropriate for its gestational age) when it lies between the 5th and 95th centile (of a reference standard) for weight at its gestational age.

Key Points

- For the year ending March 2010 the percentage of babies with a healthy birthweight was 90.0%.

- The percentage of babies born at a healthy birthweight has remained relatively stable over the last ten years. There has, however, been a small reduction in the proportion of babies who are small for gestational age (from 4.8% in 2001 to 4.1% in 2010), largely balanced by a small increase in babies who are large for gestational age (from 5.6% in 2001 to 5.9% in 2010).

- Little variation is seen across the different NHS Boards in the percentage of babies with a healthy birthweight.

Background

The data in the accompanying tables are presented for live births sourced from SMR02 and have been produced by comparing the birthweights and gestations with a set of standard tables derived from Scottish data on all births from the years 1998-2003.
Contact

Kenny McIntyre
Senior Information Analyst
Nss.isdmaternity@nhs.net_0131 275 6557

Celina Davis
Principal Information Analyst
Nss.isdmaternity@nhs.net 0131 275 6199

Further Information

Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the ISD website

About ISD

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.

Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

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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. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.

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