

Publication Summary



ScotPHO website quarterly update Publication date – 24th March 2015

About this Release

The following topics on the Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) website have been updated: asthma, coronary heart disease (CHD), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), community wellbeing, crime, deaths, deprivation, diabetes, diet and nutrition, drugs, education, epilepsy, ethnic minorities, high blood pressure, lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB) people, multiple sclerosis, obesity, older people, physical activity, physical environment, rurality (new section published this year), violence (new section published this year), Scottish policies and strategies, stroke, surveys and tobacco use.

The topics are presented in the ScotPHO style of web pages including text and charts and downloadable Excel charts and tables. The updates include collations of previously available information, and present summary data and statistics derived from published sources. Previously unpublished data are included for eight of these topics: asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), deaths, diabetes, drugs, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis and tobacco use. Some of the key findings for the new data are given below.

Key Points

Asthma

The number of patients with a diagnosis of asthma has increased over the last five years. However, the number of hospital admissions with asthma has declined over the same period.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

There is a continuing decline in the number of new admissions with COPD among men. This is likely to reflect the fact that smoking rates among Scottish men started to fall some time before they did so among women.

Deaths

There is a strong tendency for death rates to increase with increasing deprivation level. In 2013, the age-sex standardised mortality rate of the most deprived tenth of the population (decile) was nearly twice the rate of the least deprived decile (1,652 compared to 848 deaths per 100,000 population respectively).

Diabetes

Hospital admissions involving diabetes have increased steadily over the past 10 years, although part of this increase may be due to better recording. In 2013, diabetes was recorded as contributing to over 4,500 deaths in Scotland.

Drugs

- Recorded crime in Scotland - The crude Scotland rate of recorded offences for possession of controlled substances with intent to supply has fallen over the past three years from 12 per 10,000 population in 2010/11 to 7 per 10,000 population in 2013/14. In contrast, the rate of recorded offences for possession of controlled substances increased slightly from 52 per 10,000 population in 2010/11 to 57 in 2013/14.
- Criminal proceedings in Scotland - Of the drug-related criminal proceedings in 2013/14 where a charge was proved (6,713), 44% were for class A drugs (e.g. cocaine, ecstasy, heroin), 40% for class B drugs (e.g. amphetamines, cannabis) and 7% for class C drugs (e.g. benzodiazepines).

Epilepsy

Over the last 10 years, new hospital admissions for epilepsy have declined, while the numbers of deaths due to epilepsy has remained relatively stable.

Multiple Sclerosis

New hospital admissions for multiple sclerosis have risen since 2007/08 and are more frequent among women and those of working ages.

Tobacco use

Adult smoking by NHS health board: In 2013, the highest rate of smoking was in Lanarkshire (26%) and the lowest in Dumfries & Galloway and Shetland (16%). Please note that these estimates have not been age or sex standardised.

Background

The ScotPHO website contains comprehensive information on a wide range of topics grouped into sections including: Behaviour; Health, wellbeing and disease; and Clinical risk factors. Along with summary data and statistics, the website provides background information, interpretation, policy notes, commentaries on data sources, references and links to further information.

Contact

Shivani Karanwal
Senior Information Analyst
shivanikaranwal@nhs.net
0131 275 7773

Richard Lawder
Principal Information Analyst
Richard.Lawder@nhs.net
0131 275 6477

Roger Black
Head of Service
Roger.Black@nhs.net
0131 275 6064

Further Information

Further information can be found on the [ScotPHO website](#) 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 NHS SCOTLAND and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHS SCOTLAND as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

About ScotPHO

The Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) collaboration is led by ISD Scotland and NHS Health Scotland, and includes the Glasgow Centre for Population Health, National Records of Scotland and Health Protection Scotland. Our aim is to make public health information more accessible and usable to improve health and reduce inequalities in Scotland.