About this Release
Diagnostic Waiting Times are an important component in the delivery of the 18 Weeks Referral to Treatment standard (a maximum whole journey waiting time of 18 weeks from general practitioner to treatment). This release details a summary of waiting times for total patients waiting, and those waiting over four and six weeks, for the eight key diagnostic tests and investigations from 30 June 2012 to 30 June 2014.

Key Points
On 31 March 2009, the Scottish Government introduced the waiting time standard that patients waiting for one of the eight key diagnostic tests and investigations would be waiting no longer than six weeks.

As at 30 June 2014:
- 56,591 patients in NHS Scotland were waiting for one of the eight key diagnostic tests and investigations. This is approximately 20% higher than 30 June 2013.
- 91.9% of patients waiting for a key diagnostic test had been waiting less than six weeks. When comparing to the position at 31 March 2014 and 30 June 2013, this has decreased from 95.4% and 97.0% respectively. The drop in performance is mainly due to the increase in patients waiting over six weeks for an Upper Endoscopy, Lower Endoscopy and Colonoscopy.
- The majority of the 4,608 patients waiting over six weeks in NHS Scotland were waiting to be seen in NHS Fife (39.2%) and NHS Grampian (28.9%).
Background
Information on the following eight key diagnostic tests and investigations waiting times has been collected nationally since 2006:

**Endoscopy**
- Upper Endoscopy
- Lower Endoscopy (excluding Colonoscopy)
- Colonoscopy
- Cystoscopy

**Radiology**
- CT Scan
- MRI Scan
- Barium Studies
- Non-obstetric ultrasound

Contact

**Jacqueline Ferguson**
Information Analyst
jacqueline.ferguson4@nhs.net
0141 282 2111

**Stuart Kerr**
Senior Information Analyst
stuartkerr2@nhs.net
0131 275 6363

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.

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. 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.

Further information on ISD’s statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the ISD website www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/