

# Publication Summary



## Diagnostic Waiting Times

Monthly data to 31 December 2014

Publication date – 24 February 2015



### 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 31 December 2012 to 31 December 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 31 December 2014:

- 51,954 patients in NHS Scotland were waiting for one of the eight key diagnostic tests and investigations. This is 10% higher than list size at 31 December 2013.
- 90.3% of patients waiting for a key diagnostic test had been waiting less than six weeks. When comparing to the position at 30 September 2014 and 31 December 2013, this has decreased from 91.0% and 96.2% respectively.
- The majority of the 5,018 patients waiting over six weeks in NHS Scotland were waiting to be seen in NHS Grampian (28.3%), NHS Fife (21.6%), NHS Ayrshire & Arran (17.6%) and NHS Lothian (13.1%).

## 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

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## 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

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