

# Publication Summary



## Diagnostic Waiting Times

Quarter Ending 31 March 2015

Publication date – 26 May 2015



### About this Release

This release details a monthly summary of Diagnostic Waiting Times, which 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 referral 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 March 2013 to 31 March 2015.

### 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 March 2015:

- 60,098 patients in NHS Scotland were waiting for one of the eight key diagnostic tests and investigations. This is 10.9% higher than number of patients waiting at 31 March 2014.
- 91.2% of patients waiting for a key diagnostic test had been waiting less than six weeks. This compares to 95.4% at 31 March 2014 and 90.3% at 31 December 2014.
- The majority of the 5,314 patients waiting over six weeks in NHS Scotland were waiting to be seen in NHS Grampian (33.3%) and NHS Ayrshire & Arran (21.1%).

## 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

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## Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#)

### 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](http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/) [www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/](http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/)