

# Publication Summary



## 18 Weeks Referral to Treatment

Quarter ending 30 June 2015

Publication date – 25 August 2015

### About this Release

This release by Information Services Division (ISD) details the monthly summary of 18 Weeks Referral to Treatment (RTT) statistics to 30 June 2015 for NHSScotland.

### Key Points

- In June 2015, across NHSScotland, 88.3% of patients were reported as being seen within 18 weeks. This is a decrease when compared with the same period last year (91.1%). NHSScotland figures for April and May 2015 were 87.6% and 88.5% respectively.
- In June 2015, nine of the fifteen NHS Boards that submitted data were above the 90.0% standard; six NHS Boards were below it; NHS Highland (78.3%), NHS Ayrshire and Arran (80.2%), NHS Grampian (82.2%), NHS Lothian (85.9%), NHS Tayside (88.6%) and NHS Dumfries and Galloway (89.7%).

### Background

The 18 Weeks RTT standard builds on previous waiting time targets, which set maximum waiting times for stages of treatment, for first outpatient consultation, diagnostic tests and for inpatient and day case treatment. 18 Weeks RTT focuses on the entire patient journey from the initial referral to the start of treatment, including for the first time treatment undertaken in an outpatient setting.

NHS Boards continue to work closely with the Scottish Government and ISD to update IT and other systems in order to continue to improve the linking of all stages of a patient's journey to support the measuring and reporting against the 18 Weeks RTT Standard.

The Scottish Government has determined that the 18 Weeks RTT Standard should be delivered for at least 90.0% of patients. This standard allows, for example, the relatively small proportion of cases where it is not clinically appropriate for the patient to be seen and

treated within 18 weeks and also to take account of any exceptional increase in demand for secondary care services.

Due to recent implementations of Patient Management Systems, NHS Shetland have provided estimated figures for March and April 2015 and NHS Orkney have provided estimated figures for June 2015.

In June 2015, a total 118,888 of patient journeys eligible under the 18 weeks RTT standard were identified. The waiting time could be fully measured for 109,359 of these patients (92.0%). It was not possible to calculate the waiting time fully for 9,529 patients due to the complexity of linking individual patient journeys.

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## Further Information

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

### General Enquiries

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You may be interested in our other [waiting times](#) publications.

### 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/)