

## Publication Summary



# Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Waiting Times in NHSScotland

Quarter ending 30 September 2015

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### About this Release

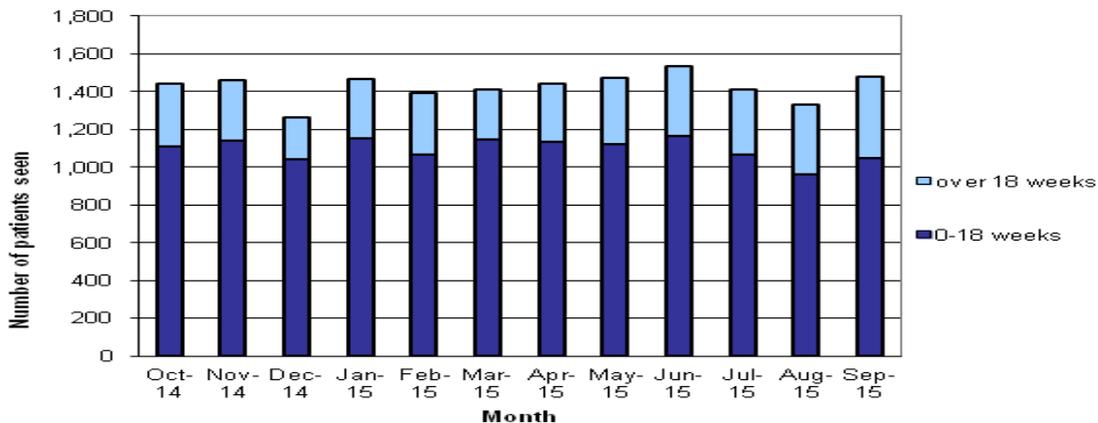
This publication by Information Services Division (ISD), contains information about how long children and young people waited for mental health services provided by the NHS in Scotland. The information is presented at a Scotland and NHS Board level.

The Scottish Government set a standard for the NHS in Scotland to deliver a maximum wait of 18 weeks from December 2014. The standard should be delivered for at least 90% of patients.

### Key Points

- Over 4,200 children and young people started treatment at CAMH services in Scotland, 73.0% were seen within 18 weeks. Half started their treatment within nine weeks. The trend in patients seen has been relatively stable over the last year as shown in the chart below.
- During the quarter ending September 2015, out of the 13 Boards (NHS Orkney were unable to submit data) the 18 week standard was met by five Boards (NHS Ayrshire & Arran, NHS Dumfries & Galloway, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, NHS Highland and NHS Western Isles).
- Across Scotland, 14.5% of patients referred to CAMH services did not attend their first appointment. These patients may still be on the waiting list.

Number of patients seen by month and waiting time, Oct 2014 to Sep 2015



## Background

The Scottish Government has set a standard for the NHS in Scotland to deliver a maximum 18 week waiting time from a patient’s referral to treatment for specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH) services from December 2014. Following the conclusion work on a tolerance level for CAMH services waiting times and engagement with stakeholders, the Scottish Government determined that the CAMH services standard should be delivered for at least 90% of patients.

The main function of CAMH services is to develop and deliver services for those children and young people who are experiencing the most serious mental health problems. They also have an important role in supporting the mental health capability of the wider network of children’s services.

Delivery of good quality CAMH services depends on timely access to healthcare. Early action is more likely to result in full recovery and, in the case of children and young people, minimises the impact on other aspects of their development, such as their education, so improving their wider social development outcomes.

You may also be interested in our other [Mental Health](#) and [Waiting Times](#) publications.

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## Further Information

Further information can be found in the [CAMHs Waiting Times in NHSScotland](#) report or on the [CAMHs pages of the ISD website](#)

### ISD and Official Statistics

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