About this Release

This release by Information Services Division provides at a Scotland, NHS Board and individual hospital level, the number of patients in NHSScotland who have had their planned hospital operation cancelled and the reason for this cancellation.

Key Points

- The total number of planned operations across NHSScotland during January 2016 was 28,749. Of these, 3,197 (11.1%) operations were cancelled either by the hospital or by the patient, with individual NHS Boards ranging from 5.7% to 15.8%. This compares with a cancellation rate of 9.7% in the previous three months;

- Of all planned operations, 1,187 (4.1%) were cancelled by the patient, 996 (3.5%) were cancelled based on clinical reasons by the hospital and 806 (2.8%) were cancelled by the hospital due to capacity or non-clinical reasons;

- There has been an increase for non-clinical/capacity reasons (2.8%) compared to December 2015 (2%); this increase has occurred primarily across 5 Health Boards.

Chart 1: NHSScotland - Cancelled Planned Operations by Reason
Background

These statistics are released monthly. Data are provided by NHS Boards Theatre Systems and include patients who are cancelled the day before, or on the day of their elective operation. As the data builds over time Information Services Division will be able to report on trends in cancellations.

Data for this publication are submitted from the NHS Boards information systems used to plan and book operations.

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Further Information

A workbook containing data for Scotland, NHS Board and hospital is available here.

Further information can be found on the waiting times pages of the ISD website. A metadata document has been produced for this publication.

NHS Performs

A selection of information from this publication is included in NHS Performs. NHS Performs is a website that brings together a range of information on how hospitals and NHS Boards within NHSScotland are performing.

The next release of this data will be on 5 April 2016.

ISD and 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. Further information about our statistics.