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.

Key Points
During the quarter ending June 2016:

- 4,642 children and young people started treatment at Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Scotland which is an increase to the previous quarter (4,496) and higher than the same period quarter ending June 2015 (4,463).
- 77.6% were seen within 18 weeks and half started their treatment within ten weeks. Whilst this is a decrease compared with the previous quarter (84.4%) there is a slight increase compared to the same period quarter ending June 2015 (76.7%).
- The 18 week standard was met by seven Boards (NHS Ayrshire & Arran, NHS Dumfries & Galloway, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, NHS Highland, NHS Orkney, NHS Tayside and NHS Western Isles).
- Across Scotland, 13.1% of patients referred to CAMHS did not attend their first appointment, compared to 12.1% in previous quarter and 12.6% in quarter ending June 2015.
Background

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.

Due to data quality issues, the reported figure for NHS Highland does not represent 100% of Tier 2 patients seen in month.

The main function of CAMHS 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 CAMHS 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.

Workforce information is also release today and can be found here. CAMHS Workforce publication

ISD and Official Stats

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.