

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Waiting Times in NHSScotland

Quarter ending 30 September 2016

Publication Date – 6 December 2016

About this release

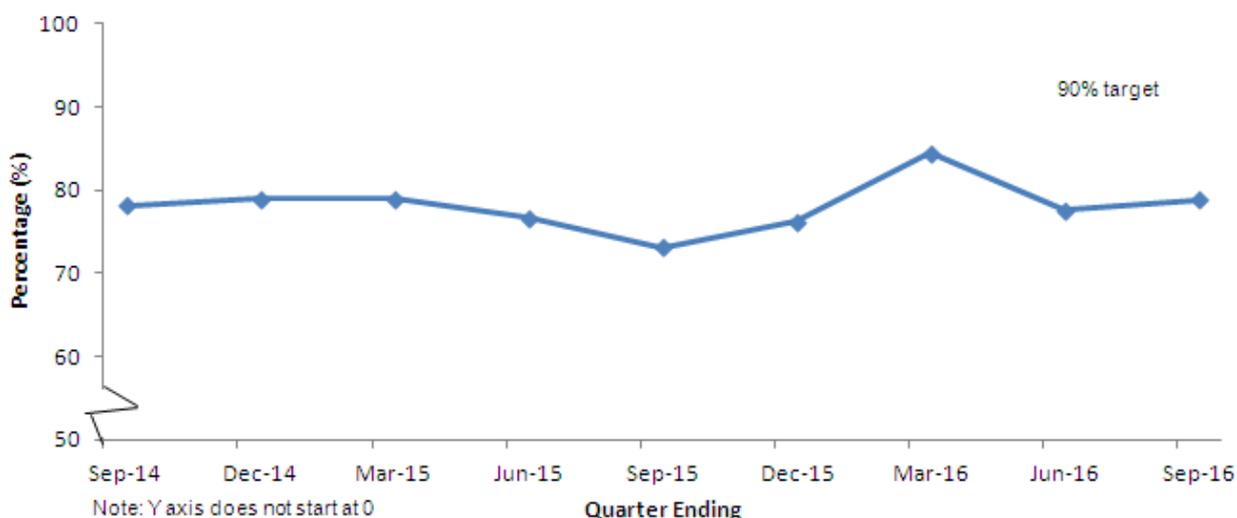
This publication by Information Services Division (ISD) summarises how long children and young people waited for mental health services provided by the NHS in Scotland.

Main Points

During the quarter ending September 2016:

- 4,025 children and young people started treatment at Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Scotland which is a decrease from the previous quarter (4,642) and quarter ending September 2015 (4,239)
- Nearly eight out of 10 (78.8%) were seen within 18 weeks. This compares with 77.6% in the previous quarter and 73.1% for the quarter ending September 2015
- The 18-week standard was met by six Boards (NHS Borders, NHS Dumfries & Galloway, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, NHS Orkney, NHS Tayside and NHS Western Isles). NHS Highland achieved the 18-week standard however the data submitted to ISD does not represent 100% of patients seen in the month due to data quality issues
- Across Scotland, over one in eight (13.4%) patients referred to CAMHS did not attend their first appointment. This compares with 13.1% in the previous quarter and 14.5% in the quarter ending September 2015

Percentage (%) of patients seen within 18 weeks by quarter - NHS Scotland



Background

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. 90% of children and young people should start treatment within 18 weeks of referral.

Scottish Government have asked Healthcare Improvement Scotland to lead a programme of work to improve access to CAMHS. ISD are a partner in this programme of work providing data, analytical and intelligence support working closely with NHS Boards.

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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](#) or you maybe interested in our other [Mental Health](#) and [Waiting Times](#) publications. Workforce information is also released today and can be found here. [CAMHS Workforce publication](#)

ISD and Official Stats

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