Cancelled Planned Operations
Month Ending 31 January 2018
An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

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About this release

This release by the Information Services Division (ISD) provides information on the number of patients in NHSScotland who have had their planned hospital operation cancelled and the reason for this cancellation.

Main points

- The total number of planned operations across NHSScotland during January 2018 was 27,890, which is similar to January 2017 (27,879).

- 3,424 operations (12.3% of planned operations) were cancelled in January 2018, ranging from 5.0% to 24.5% across individual NHS Boards. This is an increase from 2,742 (9.8%) during January 2017.

- Of all planned operations: 1,249 (4.5%) were cancelled by the hospital due to capacity or non-clinical reasons; 1,065 (3.8%) were cancelled by the patient; 996 (3.6%) were cancelled by the hospital based on clinical reasons; 114 (0.4%) were cancelled due to other reasons.

- The increase in non-clinical/capacity reasons during December and January can be attributed to the rise in demand for beds due to increased emergency admissions across Scotland. In addition, NHS Highland had to cancel operations due to building works.
Background

These statistics are released monthly. Data include patients who are cancelled the day before, or on the day of their planned operation.

Data for this publication are submitted from NHS Board theatre systems.

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Further Information

A workbook containing data for Scotland, NHS Boards and hospitals is available.

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

The next release of this publication will be in April 2018.

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.

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.