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

Publication Date: 3 July 2018

About this release

This release by Information Services Division (ISD) provides a monthly update 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 May 2018 was 31,208, an increase of 4.0% from 29,997 during May 2017.

- 2,498 operations (8% of planned operations) were cancelled in May 2018, ranging from 2.5% to 11.4% across individual NHS Boards. This compares to 2,630 (8.8%) in May 2017.

- Of all planned operations: 1,015 (3.3%) were cancelled by the patient; 914 (2.9%) were cancelled by the hospital based on clinical reasons; 489 (1.6%) were cancelled by the hospital due to capacity or non-clinical reasons; 80 (0.3%) were cancelled due to other reasons.

- The peak in cancellations for non-clinical/capacity reasons in January 2018 (4.5%) was linked to increased emergency admissions causing additional demand for beds. The spikes in March 2018 for non-clinical/capacity reasons (4.1%) and other reasons (1.5%) were due to poor weather affecting patient and staff travel.
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.

Contact

Amye Thomson  Adam Rennie  Amanda Stewart
Information Analyst  Information Analyst  Senior Information Analyst
0141 207 1894  0141 282 2064  0131 314 1032

General Enquiries
nss.isdwaitingtimes@nhs.net

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 August 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.