



ScotPHO
Public Health Information for Scotland

Scottish Public Health Observatory

e-Newsletter
Issue 9
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Welcome to the ninth ScotPHO e-Newsletter

In this e-Newsletter we feature some of the projects we've been working on over recent months and highlight other developments in public health intelligence in Scotland.

If you have any comments or questions about the e-Newsletter or the ScotPHO collaboration, please email us at scotpho@nhs.net.

If you have difficulty reading this e-Newsletter as an email, it is also attached to this email as a pdf file.

New on the ScotPHO website

Click on the headlines and / or hyperlinks below for more details

ScotPHO profiles update

Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2014: New data on the health and wellbeing of Scotland's 32 local authorities (LA) was published in January 2014. The individual LA profiles are based on a set of 65 health indicators, covering health outcomes (e.g. deaths and hospitalisations), behaviour (e.g. smoking, alcohol and drug use) and wider determinants of health (e.g. employment, education and the environment). Profiles relating to the revised NHS board boundaries were also published in April 2014.

Older People Profiles 65+, 75+ and 85+: New data on the health and wellbeing of Scotland's older people (aged 65+) was published in March 2014. The individual reports are based on a set of 27 health indicators, covering secondary care (e.g. hospitalisations and outpatient attendances), behaviour (e.g. alcohol use) and wider determinants of health (e.g. economy, social care and caring). The

Other developments in public health intelligence in Scotland

Glasgow Centre for Population Health

- In June this year, the GCPH published a new set of health and wellbeing profiles for Glasgow. There are 60 profiles in total, covering [Glasgow as a whole](#), the three sub-sectors of Glasgow's Community Health Partnership ([North East](#), [North West](#) and [South](#)), and 56 neighbourhoods across the city. The profiles are available on the [Understanding Glasgow](#) website.

Forthcoming

- An analysis of changes in housing, demography and health in Glasgow over the past 15 years (to be published in late autumn 2014).
- A qualitative study focusing on users assessments of the new Connect2 cycling and walking infrastructure in Glasgow (to be published in early 2015).
- A detailed analysis of trends in cycling and pedestrian casualties at a national and local level (to be published in early 2015).
- Joint GCPH / NHS Health Scotland work to update the synthesis of evidence around, and plausible explanations for, Scotland's high levels of excess mortality (aiming to publish in summer 2015). To support this 'synthesis' work, a number of new short-term projects have been commissioned looking at potential Scottish / English differences in e.g. housing quality, labour market, diet, scale of urban change and 'vulnerability' (reports due in spring 2015).

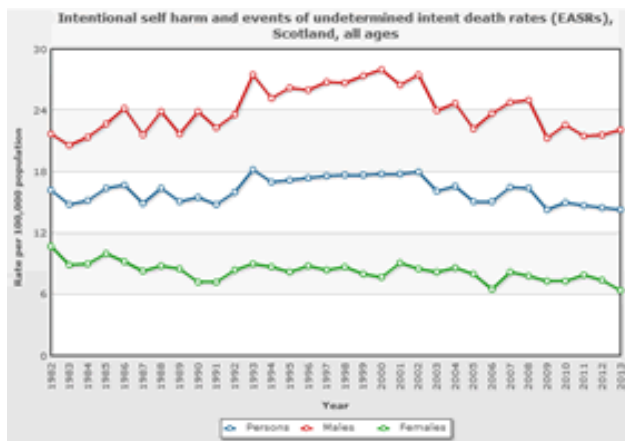
Mental health indicators for Scotland

reports are available at both local authority and NHS board (pre-2014 boundary configuration) level. Profiles for older people aged 75+ and 85+ based on equivalent indicators (data permitting) were published in August 2014.

Alcohol and Drugs Profiles: These profiles are two in a series of specialist profiles published as part of the ScotPHO Online Profiles Tool. They provide information on a host of indicators relating to alcohol and drug misuse at Alcohol & Drug Partnership (ADP) and NHS board level. First published in September 2013, there have been a number of updates to these profiles involving just under half of the indicators. Another major update is due later this month and we intend to move to more frequent updates adding new data as soon as it becomes available.

Suicide in Scotland

The update to the [Suicide](#) section, published in August 2014, includes newly-released data on deaths from suicide (intentional self-harm and events of undetermined intent) registered in Scotland in 2013. It includes trends by NHS board, local authority and deprivation decile. Overall, the suicide rate for persons tended to increase in the 1990s, but reduced by 19% between 2000-02 and 2011-13 - see graph below (blue line = persons, red line = males, green line = females). This was close to the target of a 20% reduction over this period.



Gender

This new website section focuses on health inequalities by sex and gender. It highlights some differences between males and females in mortality, and in the prevalence and incidence of selected clinical conditions. It also covers the differences in exposure to wider determinants of health and gender-based violence. The main approach is to signpost visitors to detailed information elsewhere on the ScotPHO website, and also to external sources and the NHS Health Scotland website. See our new [Gender](#) section for further details.

Identifying "deprived individuals"

The first systematic assessment of children and young people's mental health in Scotland, [Scotland's mental health: Children and young people 2013](#), was published by NHS Health Scotland in December 2013. The report is based on a core set of mental health indicators promoting consistent and sustainable national monitoring of mental wellbeing, mental health problems and associated contextual factors. The full report, summary briefing paper and other accompanying documents are all available via the report hyperlink above.

Scottish Health Survey

The Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) [2012 Annual Report](#) was published in September 2013, followed by a topic report on lung function in July 2014. Datasets and supporting documentation are also available from the [UK Data Service](#). The 2013 annual report will be released on 2nd December 2014. On the same day, Obesity Indicators statistics, which include several indicators based on Scottish Health Survey data, will be published. These reports will be followed by a topic report on mental health – final publication date yet to be announced – including detailed results for mental wellbeing and the general health questionnaire from the 2012 and 2013 surveys.

Please contact the SHeS team at ScottishHealthSurvey@scotland.gsi.gov.uk with any queries.

Scottish Public Health Network

The Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN) continues to undertake projects in support of public health practice in Scotland. Forthcoming publications include reports on violence prevention and Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Delivery. ScotPHN's recent work on behalf of the Scottish Public Health Obesity Special Interest Group (SPHOSIG) includes making recommendations to the Health Minister on the future of the child healthy weight programme and a review of the Obesity Route Map. The work on violence prevention and the child healthy weight programme was presented at the recent Faculty of Public Health Annual Scottish Conference. ScotPHN also supports the Health Economics Network for Scotland (HENS), the Scottish Managed Sustainable Health Network (SMaSH) and the Scottish Health and Inequalities Impact Assessment Network (SHIAN).

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Scottish Government have delayed the next release of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) due to delays in redrawing data zone boundaries. The next release will now be SIMD 2016 rather than 2015. The [November 2014 SIMD newsletter](#) from the Scottish Government explains the reasons for the delay.

Public Health Information Network for Scotland

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) was originally designed to identify concentrated areas of multiple deprivation. It has proven useful for describing deprivation in urban areas in Scotland, but for many rural areas it is much less satisfactory. Here the nature of deprivation is different - many deprived individuals live in areas that are not identified as deprived. This report, published in January 2014, reviews the possible alternative approaches to SIMD. While it concludes that there is no obvious alternative to SIMD, it identifies a number of areas that may be worth further exploration.

NHS Smoking Cessation Service Statistics

Reports are published twice yearly presenting information on quit attempts made with the help of NHS smoking cessation services, and quit outcomes, during both the calendar and financial year. The report [NHS Smoking Cessation Service Statistics \(Scotland\) 1st January to 31st December 2013](#) provides evidence of the reach and success of smoking cessation services during the 2013 calendar year. There were 103,431 (provisional figure) quit attempts made in Scotland in 2013. This is a 13% reduction on 2012, the first decrease seen in recent years, and could be partly explained by the rise in use of electronic cigarettes. The report [NHS Smoking Cessation Service Statistics \(Scotland\) 1st April 2011 to 31st March 2014](#) provides evidence of NHS boards achievement against their smoking cessation HEAT target (2011/12 to 2013/14). Thirteen of the 14 NHS boards met their HEAT target.

Geographical / boundary and population changes

Since July 2014, the ScotPHO website topic updates have gradually been adopting some new / different geographies and population updates, namely:

- Local authority (LA) geographies, rather than Community Health Partnerships.
- The new NHS board boundaries, which were introduced on 1st April 2014 to align with LAs / aggregates of LAs.
- Rebased mid-year population estimates from National Records of Scotland for 2002 to 2011 (revised in light of the 2011 Census population counts) for calculating rates.
- The new European Standard Population 2013 (ESP2013), rather than the old 1976 version, to calculate directly standardised rates.

Further information on developments relating to geography, population and also deprivation can be found on the [ISD Scotland](#) website.

Latest Publications by ScotPHO

Our new [Latest Publications by ScotPHO](#) web pages provide a chronological listing and summary of what we've published on our website and when. This includes our quarterly website updates, [ScotPHO reports](#) and other resources (such as updates to our [ScotPHO Online Profiles Tool](#)). Details of the recent [September quarterly website update](#) are included, which saw 17 website sections updated.

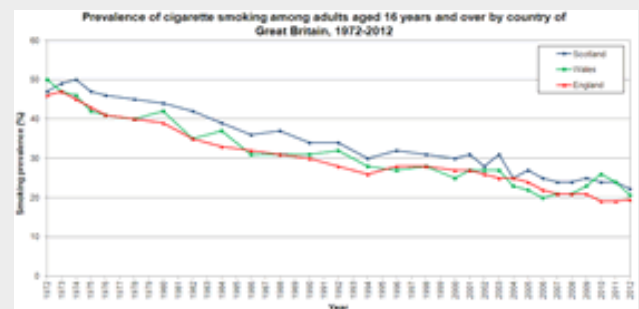
The Public Health Information Network for Scotland (PHINS) aims to keep public health professionals in Scotland up-to-date with national and local developments in public health information via bulletins, email updates and an annual seminar.

The 2014 seminar took place on Friday 10th October 2014 in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, with around 350 delegates attending. Presentations and discussion took place under the themes of 'Research perspectives at local, national and European level' and 'How can we narrow health inequalities in post-referendum Scotland?'. Speakers from the University of Glasgow, Health Scotland, GCPH, ISD Scotland, The Poverty Alliance and the STUC took part. Copies of the majority of the presentations are available to download from the [PHINS page](#) on the ScotPHO website.

ScotPHO website topic focus

Tobacco use

The most recent update of the [Tobacco use](#) section included a consolidation of its data pages, with a wide range of data on smoking in Scotland now presented in a more concise and clear way. The graph below shows that over the past 40 years smoking prevalence among adults has generally been higher in Scotland than in both England and Wales (Scotland = blue line, Wales = green line, England = red line). There was a clear downward trend in smoking prevalence in all three countries from the 1970s up to the early 1990s. Since then, however, the downward trend has been much less pronounced.



Coming soon on the ScotPHO website

Informing Investment to reduce health Inequalities (III) in Scotland project

ScotPHO will shortly be publishing findings from the *Informing Investment to reduce health Inequalities (III) in Scotland* research project. This project aims to provide modelled estimates of the impact of a range of interventions on health and health inequalities (including 'upstream', 'downstream', individually-focused and population-wide interventions). In addition, an Excel-based tool has been developed that allows users to vary interventions, targeting and other assumptions. This will allow the user to examine realistic scenarios for intervention impact over the short, medium and long term for Scotland overall and for health boards and local authority areas individually.

For further information contact
andrew.mcauley@nhs.net.

Rurality

A new Rurality section will soon be added to the ScotPHO website describing the population differences across the Scottish Government's remote and rural classification system. It is notable that the age profile of the population living in remote and rural areas is very different from urban and accessible areas, and the deprivation profile is also very different. This new section should help service planners to ensure that services meet the needs of their local population.

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