



ScotPHO
Public Health Information for Scotland

Scottish Public Health Observatory

e-Newsletter
Issue 8
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Welcome to the eighth 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

Topical issues in public health

New website sections have recently been added to provide an overview of areas of topical public health interest that health intelligence can inform. The new sections include: the research that has been completed investigating the [Excess mortality in Scotland and Glasgow](#) after accounting for deprivation (the so-called Scottish Effect and Glasgow Effect); the potential role of [Vitamin D](#) in contributing to the health problems in Scotland; and the data and evidence relating to [Assets and asset-based approaches](#). New sections will soon be added on Sustainability and health, Rurality and health, and Epigenetics.

Knowledge, attitudes and motivations to health 2008-11

The report [Knowledge, attitudes and motivations to health 2008-11](#) was published by NHS Health Scotland on the ScotPHO website on 24th April 2013. This is the final report in the series, which ran between 2008 and 2011 as a module of the Scottish Health Survey. This report examines the links between knowledge,

Other developments in public health intelligence in Scotland

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

Glasgow Centre for Population Health

- The GCPH have produced four films for the [Understanding Glasgow](#) website reflecting lived experiences from the West of Scotland. [Working Men](#), [Sense of Place](#), [Young Mums](#) and [Bolting Doors, Mending Fences](#) cover issues such as intergenerational relationships, stigma, employment, regeneration, community spirit and parenthood.
- A new [Assets](#) area of the [Understanding Glasgow](#) website provides case studies of asset-based approaches from 19 community projects across Scotland.
- [The spatial distribution of deprivation](#) report examines whether the spatial patterning of deprivation can partly explain 'excess' mortality in Glasgow compared to Liverpool and Manchester.

Coming soon

- The "Cycling in Glasgow is good for health and the economy" report will demonstrate the health economic benefits from commuter cycling into and out of Glasgow city centre (publication date: 21st May 2013).
- Two further reports on the work examining [Excess mortality in Glasgow](#) will be published in May and June:
 - "Poverty, parenting, and poor health: comparing early years' experiences in Scotland, England and three city regions" (to be published in May);
 - "Exploring potential reasons for Glasgow's 'excess' mortality: results of a three-city survey of Glasgow, Liverpool and Manchester" (to be published in June).

attitudes, motivations and health behaviours. The final report combines the data collected over the four year period, allowing more detailed analysis and drawing on the wide pool of information about health-related behaviours, experiences and characteristics embedded within the Scottish Health Survey.

Scottish policies and strategies

This resource provides a short index to Scottish Government policies and supporting information relevant to population health, and particularly to population health improvement. Its purpose is to provide a quick reference tool with links to relevant documents and web pages. Broad areas covered include:

- [Social, economic and cultural context](#) (e.g. health inequalities, socioeconomic inequalities, literacy);
- [Health topics](#) (e.g. alcohol, tobacco, drugs, food and healthy eating);
- [Healthcare / conditions](#) (e.g. cancer, heart disease and stroke, hepatitis C);
- [Populations](#) (e.g. early years, homeless, equality and diversity);
- [Settings](#) (e.g. healthy environments, workplace, education).

Older people

This new website section aims to signpost information and data presented on the ScotPHO and other relevant websites relating to the health of older people. The section discusses: population demographics, Scotland's ageing population and its implications; health behaviours and clinical risk factors; clinical conditions and age - including how the incidence, prevalence and mortality rates of different diseases varies by age; and, age and inequalities in cause of death. See our new [Older People](#) section for further details.

Children and young people

This new website section aims to signpost information and data presented on the ScotPHO and other relevant websites relating to the health and wellbeing of children and young people up to the age of 24 years. The section discusses: trends in relative and absolute child poverty; the physical and mental health and wellbeing of children and young people; health behaviours; and, wider health determinants and risk factors. See our new [Children and Young People](#) section for further details.

March quarterly website update

Most of the 50 topics on the ScotPHO website are updated annually, with updates batched into four main quarterly releases in March, June, September and December. Sixteen topics were updated in our recent March update, with previously unpublished data included for seven topics. Our website updates are also notified on the [ISD website](#). The ISD tweet ([@NHSNSS](#)) for the March 2013 update was

Mental health indicators for Scotland

Adults

The report [Scotland's mental health: Adults 2012](#) was published in October 2012. This report was the second in a series based on the adult mental health indicator set, commissioned by the Scottish Government and developed by NHS Health Scotland in 2007.

We are inviting you to share your views on this report to help us understand the importance of the mental health indicators in your area of work. This will inform how best to present this information in the future so it is of greatest benefit to users. The questionnaire can be found on the report's publication page via the above hyperlink. If you would like to comment, please send your response to elaine.tod@nhs.net by **Friday 31st May**.

Children and young people

A set of [national mental health indicators for children and young people in Scotland](#) was established by NHS Health Scotland in November 2011. The first data report based on this indicator set will be published towards the end of 2013.

Scottish Health Survey

The Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) 2011 Annual Report was published on 25th September 2012, followed by a topic report on equality groups on 30th October 2012 (see the [SHeS Reports & Publications](#) web page).

The final SHeS 2011 dataset is now available from the [UK Data Archive](#) and combined year datasets (08-11, 09-11, 10-11) should be available soon. Users can download supporting documentation such as user guides, variables list and interviewer documents.

The 2012 annual report will be published on 24th September 2013 and will contain data on problem gambling for the first time.

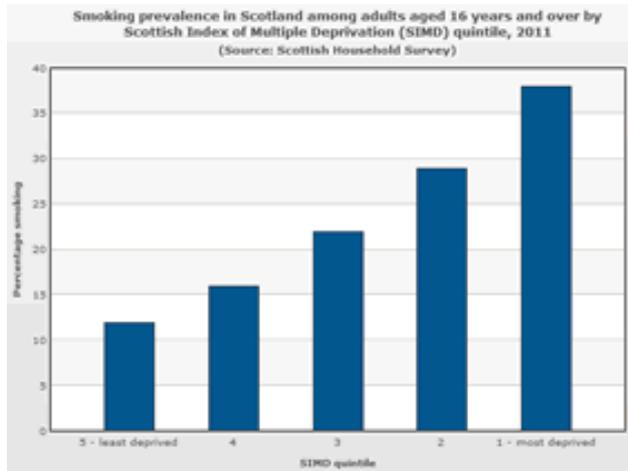
For any Scottish Health Survey queries please contact the SHeS Team at ScottishHealthSurvey@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Scottish Public Health Network

The Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN) has published [UK Welfare Reform: Final Guidance for NHS Boards in Scotland on mitigating actions](#). It outlines the UK Government's welfare reform programme and the potential impact on health and health services in Scotland. It suggests where health boards may want to focus any mitigating actions to reduce negative impacts. The guidance also outlines the work being taken forward by the Scottish Government's Welfare Reform and Health Impact Delivery Group.

Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics

"Deprivation levels continue to influence Scottish diets, smoking rates and death rates". This is illustrated in the graph below, which shows a strong gradient in adult smoking prevalence in Scotland across the deprivation quintiles with a higher prevalence in the more deprived quintiles.



ScotPHO website topic focus

Public health intelligence training course

In March 2011, ScotPHO successfully delivered a Public Health Intelligence Training Course to staff from NHS boards, national bodies, charities and local authorities. The 4-day course was attended by 40 delegates and was delivered in two parts. The [Data user](#) part was aimed at staff required to interpret and act upon public health data. The [Data producer](#) part was aimed primarily at analytical staff, giving an overview of various analytical techniques relevant to public health and also useful data sources. The presentations from the course are now available on our website via the above links.

Although there are currently no plans to repeat this training course, ScotPHO would consider requests by individual NHS boards and other relevant organisations to provide bespoke short training courses for a fee. If you would like to discuss this possibility further, please contact [Colin Fischbacher](#) (Tel: 0131 275 7063).

Coming soon on the ScotPHO website

We hope to add the following resources to the ScotPHO website over the coming months, so please check our [home page](#) regularly to see what's new on the website.

Reports:

- Long-term trends in health inequalities in Scotland.
- Interaction between protected characteristics and socioeconomic inequality.
- Children and young people mental health report.
- Availability of employment in Scotland.

Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics (SNS) is the Scottish Government's on-going programme to improve the availability, consistency and accessibility of small area statistics on a variety of topics in Scotland. Many indicators are available down to data zone level on the [SNS website](#). An Improvement Project is underway and the [ScotStat register](#) will be the main mechanism used to consult with and update users on progress. ScotPHO ISD loads around 160 health indicators, and the topics updated so far this year include: breastfeeding, GP practices and list size, and hospital admissions. Cancer registrations, childhood obesity and immunisations will be updated in May / June.

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

The [2012 release of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation \(SIMD\)](#) was published by the Scottish Government on 18th December 2012. It is based on 38 indicators (mainly for 2010-11) and populations for 2010. ISD's advice on analysing time trends has changed recently to include the possibility of using several / all SIMD releases. ISD has issued [advice and recommendations on deprivation measures](#), including practical guidance for analysts on attaching deprivation data to files, and answers to some FAQs.

Census 2011 and related developments

The National Records of Scotland (NRS) are currently working to a [Census Output Prospectus](#) in publishing results from the 2011 Scotland Census. These results will be used for [future publications](#) of mid-year population estimates, including rebased estimates for 2002-2011. New (reconfigured) data zone boundaries are being developed by the Scottish Government, and mid-year population estimates for these are planned for release by NRS in 2014. Carstairs Index scores and Consistent Areas Through Time (CATTs) geographies, based on the 2011 Census, are expected to be published by the MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit and University of St Andrews respectively, in late 2013.

Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey

The Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS) provides national policy makers with crucial data on which to develop, monitor and evaluate policies aimed at reducing the prevalence of substance use amongst young people in Scotland. Every 4 years the survey provides valuable data at NHS board, local authority and Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) level, helping inform service planning and reporting. The [last survey](#) was carried out during the autumn term of 2010 with a sample of over 37,000 pupils from S2 and S4 classes from across Scotland. In 2012, the Scottish Government carried out a [review of the survey content](#) and delivery arrangements. Fieldwork for the next SALSUS will now take place in 2013 and will provide data at national, NHS board, local authority and ADP level with reports due in 2014.

Website sections:

- Sustainability; Rurality; Epigenetics; Impact of recession; Working age adults; Gender; Religion; Marriage / civil partnership; Transgender.

Other resources:

- New on-line profiles tool: A facility to access multiple Health and Wellbeing Profiles in a single unified online resource. It will initially consist of existing products (2010 national profiles, Children and Young People profiles and Diabetes 2011 survey profiles) followed by soon to be published, topic specific profiles (tobacco, substance misuse and elderly). It will also be used to publish the next set of national level profiles due in 2014.

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