Welcome to the 10th ScotPHO e-Newsletter

In this e-Newsletter we feature some of the projects we've been working on over recent months and our ScotPHO stakeholders provide updates on current and planned public health-related projects.

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

New on the ScotPHO website

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

**Informing Investment to reduce health Inequalities (III)**

This new study / resource shows for the first time the extent to which regulatory and tax interventions which redistribute income are more effective at improving health and reducing health inequalities than interventions focused on individual health behaviours. The study 'Informing Investment to reduce health Inequalities in Scotland' (aka 'Triple-I') developed an interactive tool to model the impact of 11 interventions over a period of 20 years on health and health inequalities ranging from changes to income and employment to investment in smoking cessation, alcohol brief interventions and weight management services.

**ISD Scotland**

- Last year's Alcohol and Drug related hospital statistics publications included for the first time both patient and new patient analyses. The upcoming publications (both scheduled to be published on 13th October 2015) will build on this and also provide a much more interactive way of viewing the data. In addition, this year's publications will include information derived from the Mental Health Inpatient and Day Case (SMR04) dataset.

- Work continues on the Scottish Burden of Disease project, a collaborative research project involving ScotPHO partners. This aims to estimate the total burden of mortality and ill-health for a range of disease groupings. This information will help us to understand the main determinants of health in Scotland and inform policy.

**NHS Health Scotland**

- A report updating previously published alcohol sales and price band analyses with 2014 data was recently published by the Monitoring and Evaluating Scotland’s Alcohol Strategy (MESAS) team. We are currently working on papers to examine the role of factors external to the strategy on trends in alcohol-related harms.

- The Place Standard for Scotland, which
Outputs from the study include a commentary report and a set of interactive Excel tools which can be accessed on our Informing Investment to reduce health Inequalities (III) web page.

**Rurality and health**

Most of the Scottish land mass is rural, yet most of the population lives in urban areas. The health of populations is influenced by a wide range of factors, including the demographic structure, availability of housing and employment, crime and safety, accessibility of services, the physical environment and social networks. These in turn are systematically different between urban and rural areas. This new section explores some of the urban and rural differences in Scotland as this is likely to have a profound influence on health and on the provision of health and social services. See our new Rurality section for further details.

**Violence**

Violence has been a persistent problem across Scotland and can be defined as a public health problem. Data on violence was previously included in the Crime section of the ScotPHO website. However, creating a distinct section on violence provides more comprehensive information and data on violence and underlines the importance of a public health response to violence reduction. See our new Violence section for further details.

**NHS Smoking Cessation Service Statistics (Scotland) 1st January to 31st December 2014**

This report provides information about the reach and success rates for smoking cessation services in Scotland for calendar years 2009-2014. It includes quit rates at 1 and 3 months (for all years 2009-2014) and 12 months (for years up to 2013), by socio-demographic characteristics, cessation service setting (i.e. pharmacy / non-pharmacy, prison) and drug treatments used to support quit attempts, at a Scotland, NHS board and local authority level.

**Suicide in Scotland**

The Suicide section has been updated with the suicide figures for 2014. There were 696 suicides registered in Scotland in 2014, compared to 795 in 2013, indicating that the welcome declining trend in suicide rates in recent years appears to be continuing. Suicide rates are strongly related to deprivation level, with the rate for 2010-14 in the most deprived decile three times higher than in the least deprived. However, this inequality has decreased in absolute and relative terms between 2001-05 and 2010-14. The section considers how to maximise health and reduce health inequalities through improving the physical and social environment, will be published later this year.

- Two recent reports published by NHS Health Scotland are now available on the ScotPHO website:
  - Who is least likely to attend? An analysis of outpatient appointment 'Did Not Attend' (DNA) data in Scotland
  - The patterning of hospital discharges and bed-days by deprivation in Scotland (2011/12)

**Glasgow Centre for Population Health**

- An ‘evidence narrative’, synthesising ten years of GCPH research, was published at the end of 2014.
- The evaluation of Sistema Scotland was published in June 2015.
- A number of reports / papers have been, or will be, published in 2015 relating to Excess mortality in Scotland and Glasgow:
  - A series of research reports focussing on: the scale of urban change and its links to health; housing provision and quality; diet; employment / labour market (with NHS Health Scotland, forthcoming).
  - Research into ‘vulnerability’ and political impacts on health (with University of West of Scotland, forthcoming).
  - An overall synthesis of all the evidence for, and most likely drivers of, excess mortality in Scotland (with NHS Health Scotland and others, forthcoming).
- The Understanding Glasgow website continues to be a source of information on life circumstances and health in Glasgow, providing key indicators, showing trends and comparisons within the city and with other cities. Several new films describing people’s lives in Glasgow have been added and GCPH continues to use the Glasgow Game as a means of engaging in strategic issues for the city.
- A range of reports relating to active travel have been published by GCPH this year:
  - The Kelvingrove-Anderston route: views of cyclists and pedestrians was published in January 2015.
  - Trends in pedestrian and cyclist road casualties in Scotland was
includes details of the number and rate of suicides for Scotland, NHS board areas, local authority areas and for the UK overall. See the Suicide section for further details.

ScotPHO profiles update

Health and Wellbeing Profiles: A major revision of these profiles was released at the beginning of June 2015. The list of indicators was revised to include 56 indicators of health and wellbeing, 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). These indicators are made available for Scotland’s 32 local authorities and 14 NHS boards (using 2014 boundaries), as well as (where possible) the 1,235 Intermediate Zones. For most indicators time trend data is included back to 2002.

Continuous updating: All the profiles currently available in the Online Profiles Tool that use the latest NHS board boundaries (Health and Wellbeing, Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco) have now moved to a schedule of continuous updates of their indicators. So, as soon as new data for an indicator becomes available the individual indicator will be updated, meaning the profiles will always contain the latest data.

ScotPHO website topic focus

Income and Employment

The Income and employment (previously called ‘Income and economy’) section was updated and revised substantially in June. The Scottish Household Survey asks a question on how Scottish households have coped financially over the last year (Manage very well / Manage quite well / Get by alright / Don't manage very well / Have some financial difficulties / Are in deep financial trouble). Results are shown in the chart below for households reporting they did not manage well financially (combining Don't manage very well / Have some financial difficulties / Are in deep financial trouble). Results are shown in the chart below for households reporting they did not manage well financially (combining Don't manage very well / Have some financial difficulties / Are in deep financial trouble).

In 2013, 12% of Scottish households reported they did not manage well financially. Single parent, single adult and large family households (with two adults of any age and three or more children, or three or more adults of any age and one or more children) were most likely to report not managing well financially.

National Records of Scotland

- We recently published vital events reference tables for 2014, as well as drug-related deaths, alcohol-related deaths, suicides and age-standardised death rates.
- In Spring 2015 we carried out a consultation on NRS products and have since made changes to the data we publish on marriages as a result of the responses.
- We are continuing to focus more on using infographics and data visualisations to explain our data. Recent additions include interactive data visualisations on causes of death and fertility rates.

Scottish Government

- Scottish datazone boundaries were redrawn, with new '2011 datazone' boundaries published in November 2014.
- The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2015 will be released in May 2016, based on the new 2011 datazones.
- The Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) 2014 annual report will be published in September 2015. Previous publications, including the recent Physical Activity and Mental Health and Wellbeing topic reports, are available on the SHeS website. Datasets and supporting documentation are available from the UK Data Service.
- The Scottish Household Survey 2014 annual report was published on 26th August 2015, including information on smoking prevalence and general health and wellbeing.
- The Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS) topic report, ‘Multiple substance use among adolescents in Scotland’, will be released in September 2015.
- In October 2015, the Population Health team will release an update of the Long-term Monitoring of Health Inequalities report and, in November, an update of the Obesity Routemap indicators.

Scottish Public Health Network

The Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN) published guidance for public health on Health and Homelessness in June. A report on how public health can support care of the dying and the Scottish Public Health Obesity Special Interest Group (SPHOSIG) review of the Obesity Route Map will be available in September. Forthcoming projects will focus on fuel poverty, podiatry, skin cancer and...
Coming soon on the ScotPHO website

Health and Wellbeing Profiles interactive report

On 15th September we plan to launch an interactive version of the Health and Wellbeing Profiles overview report. This will allow users to have a more dynamic and detailed view of the six key indicators through interactive maps alongside the context of the report (Life expectancy; All cause mortality (age 15-44 years); Teenage pregnancy; Working-age population claiming out-of-work benefits; Children living in poverty; Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)).

Mental health profiles

We will shortly be publishing mental health profiles using a much more select group of mental health and wellbeing outcome indicators. This is so that we can use the Online Profiles Tool to facilitate comparisons between areas and to the Scottish mean.

Local authority profile reports

We are currently working on profile reports for local authorities, providing a textual summary of the key points specific to each area including spine charts and infographics.

The impact of welfare reform and recession on health and health inequalities

We will be publishing an update report this autumn on the impact of changes to social security and the recession on health and health inequalities in Scotland. See the baseline report. Recent work of the networks ScotPHN supports includes:

- The Scottish Managed Sustainable Health Network (SMaSH) briefings on sustainability and health;
- The Health Economics Network for Scotland (HENS) work on economics of prevention; and,
- The Scottish Health and Inequalities Impact Assessment Network (SHIIAN) guidance on rural development and community venues and facilities for sport, leisure and culture.

ScotPHN continues to support the Scottish Government through its work on mitigating the impact of welfare reform. Other work has included public health input to an independent parliamentary review of mesh implants and support of the Public Health Review engagement process.

MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit, University of Glasgow

Recent publications:

- Updated Carstairs scores have been published for Scotland. For the first time these have been provided at datazone and output area level as well as for postcode sectors.
- The causal effect of unemployment on mortality.
- Estimating confidence intervals for the concentration index.
- Adolescents less likely to take up smoking as a result of UK tobacco control laws.
- Lower levels of alcohol-related harms seen in survey respondents: implications for survey representativeness.

Ongoing studies:

- Evaluation of health in pregnancy grants in Scotland.