

SDR 111/2008

31 July 2008

Health Statistics Wales 2008

The latest edition of 'Health Statistics Wales' is published today, containing a wide range of statistical information on the health of the population and the range and quality of health services in Wales.

This statistical release presents a selection of information contained in the publication.

Population and Vital statistics

In 2006:

- 17.7 per cent of the population of Wales were aged 65 or over and 5.4 per cent aged under 5 (*table 1.1*).
- There were 33,628 live births, up from 32,593 (3.2 per cent) in 2005 (*table 1.4*).
- The perinatal (6.9), neonatal (2.7) and infant mortality rates (4.1) were all lower or the same level as 2005 (*table 1.4*).
- There were 31,086 deaths, lower than the number in 2005 (32,104) (*table 1.4*).
- 36 per cent of deaths were due to diseases of the circulatory system, with a further 28 per cent due to cancer (*neoplasms*) and 13 per cent due to diseases of the respiratory system (*table 1.11*).

In 2004-06:

- Average life expectancy for women was 80.9 years, around 4 years more than for men (76.6 years) (*table 1.12*).

Contact: Tel: 029 2082 5080 **E-mail:** stats.healthinfo@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Next Update: July 2009 (provisional)

Cyhoeddwyd gan Y Gyfarwyddiaeth Ystadegol
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, Parc Cathays, Caerdydd, CF10 3NQ
Ffon - Swyddfa'r Wasg **029 2089 8099**, Ymholiadau Cyhoeddus **029 2082 5050**
www.cymru.gov.uk/ystadegau

Issued by Statistical Directorate
Welsh Assembly Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ
Telephone - Press Office **029 2089 8099**, Public Enquiries **029 2082 5050**
www.wales.gov.uk/statistics



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Lifestyle

Welsh Health Survey 2005-06

- 25 per cent of adults in Wales reported smoking at least occasionally (*table 2.1*).
- 39 per cent of adults in Wales consumed alcohol above the recommended limit (*table 2.1*).
- 19 per cent of adults reported binge drinking (*table 2.1*).
- Over half of adults (56 per cent) were classified as overweight or obese (*table 2.1*).

Other sources:

- The percentage of 15 year olds who smoked dropped between 2004 and 2006, with rates having peaked in 1996 for boys and 2000 for girls. Teenage girls were more likely than boys to smoke (23 per cent of 15 year old girls compared with 12 per cent of boys) (*table 2.2*).
- The percentage of 15 year olds who drank dropped between 2004 and 2006, with rates having peaked in 1996 for both boys and girls. Teenage boys were more likely than girls to drink weekly (42 per cent of 15 year old boys compared with 38 per cent of girls) (*table 2.2*).

Morbidity

Welsh Health Survey 2005-06:

- 1 in 5 adults in Wales reported being treated for high blood pressure (*table 3.1*).
- 1 in 11 adults in Wales reported being treated for a heart condition (excluding high blood pressure) (*table 3.1*).
- 1 in 10 adults in Wales reported being treated for asthma (*table 3.1*).
- 1 in 8 adults in Wales reported being treated for arthritis (*table 3.1*).
- 1 in 11 adults in Wales reported being treated for a mental illness (*table 3.1*).
- 1 in 17 adults in Wales reported being treated for diabetes (*table 3.1*).
- 1 in 9 children in Wales reported being treated for asthma (*table 3.2*).

Other sources:

- Around 17,200 new cases of malignant cancer (excluding skin) were registered in Wales in 2006. The commonest cancers were breast, trachea, bronchus & lung, prostate and colon accounting for 48 per cent of all new cases (*table 3.3*).
- The number of cases of syphilis, chlamydia, genital herpes and genital warts all increased between 2004 and 2005. Cases of gonorrhoea decreased over the same period (*table 3.6*).
- In 2006-07 there were 319 cases of MRSA (8.0 per 100,000 bed days), down from 390 (9.6 per 100,000 bed days) in 2005-06 (*table 3.10*).
- In 2006-07 there were around 2,700 cases of *Clostridium difficile* in hospital in-patients aged over 65, up from around 2,500 cases in the previous year (*table 3.10*).

Preventive medicine

In 2006-07:

- Around 96 per cent of children under 2 years old had completed the primary course of immunisations for this age group. The exception was MMR (measles, mumps and rubella), which continued to have the lowest completion rate to stand at 88 per cent, although this was an increase from 85 per cent the previous year (*table 4.1*).
- 75 per cent of women aged between 20 and 64 years had received cervical cytology screening tests in the previous 5 years and 64 per cent in the previous 3 years (*table 4.3*).
- 75 per cent of eligible women aged between 53 and 64 had been screened for breast cancer in the previous 3 years, a similar percentage as the previous year (*table 4.6*).

Family health services

- There were 1,936 General Medical Practitioners (GPs) as at 30 September 2007, 54 (3 per cent) more than the previous year (*table 5.1*).
- 65 per cent of children and 53 per cent of adults had received NHS dental treatment in the 24 months ending 31 March 2007 (*table 5.7*).
- 59 million prescription items were prescribed (and subsequently dispensed) by GPs in Wales during 2006-07, an increase of 4 per cent over the previous year. This equates to 19.1 items for each person registered with a GP in Wales (*table 5.10*).

NHS trust bed use and patient numbers

In the NHS in Wales:

Between 2005-06 and 2006-07:

- The number of in-patients (all specialties) rose by 12,200 (2 per cent) to 514,100 (*table 7.2*).
- The number of new outpatient attendances rose by 36,600 (5 per cent) to 812,600 (*table 7.3*).
- The number of new accident and emergency cases rose by 38,400 (4 per cent) to 980,400 (*table 7.3*).
- The average number of NHS hospital beds fell by 200 (2 per cent) to 13,600. (*table 7.2*).

In 2006-07:

- 26.9 per cent of births in NHS hospitals were by caesarean, compared to 26.2 per cent in 2005-06 (*table 7.15*).

Hospital treatment for Welsh residents

In 2006-07:

- 694,400 in-patients and day cases (excluding maternity) were treated. Of these 69.6 per cent were in-patients and 30.4 per cent day cases. (*table 8.1*)
- 47 per cent of in-patients and day cases were admitted to hospital as an emergency, the same percentage as the previous year (*table 8.2*).

Abortions

In 2006:

- There were 8,430 abortions, 666 (9 per cent) more than in 2005 (*table 9.1*).
- 61 per cent of abortions were to women aged between 20 and 34 (*table 9.2*).
- 60 per cent of abortions were performed before the 10th week of gestation in 2006. (*table 9.2*).

Hospital statistics for people with a mental illness

Between 2005-06 and 2006-07:

- Resident patients fell by 105 (5 per cent) to 1,885 (*table 10.1*).
- Average daily available beds fell by 56 (3 per cent) to 2,179 (*table 10.1*).
- Formal admissions to hospital fell by 174 (13 per cent) to 1,186 (*table 10.1*).

In 2006-07:

- 94 per cent of formal admissions were under Part II of the Mental Health Act (*table 10.2*).

Hospital statistics for people with a learning disability

Between 2005-06 and 2006-07:

- Resident patients fell by 19 (11 per cent) to 151 (*table 11.1*).
- Average daily available beds fell by 17 (8 per cent) to 192 (*table 11.1*).
- Total outpatient attendances fell by 281 (6 per cent) to 4,456 (*table 11.1*).

In 2006-07:

- 64 per cent of people resident at 31 March had a duration of stay of 2 years or more. (*table 11.5*).

Community health services

- The Community Dental Service screened 19,800 children and provided dental care for around 72,300 people in 2006-07 (*table 12.3*).
- Around 5,200 women attended community contraceptive clinics for emergency contraception, 20 per cent fewer than the previous year (*table 12.5*).

Patient transport services

In 2006-07:

- 1.6 million patient journeys were made by ambulance, 4 per cent less than the previous year (*Chart*).
- 56 per cent of category A calls (where there is an immediate threat to life) received an emergency response within 8 minutes (*table 13.2*).

- 85 per cent of category A emergency calls received an ambulance at the scene within the target time (*table 13.2*).
- 78 per cent of category B emergency calls were answered within the target time (*table 13.2*).
- 67 per cent of urgent patient journeys arrived at their destination not more than 15 minutes late (*table 13.2*).

Staffing

At 30 September 2007 (in terms of whole-time equivalents) there were:

- 21,443 qualified nursing, midwifery and health visiting staff in post, 463 (2.2 per cent) more than the previous year (*table 14.1*).
- 16,031 administrative and estates staff in post, 386 (2.4 per cent) less than the previous year (*table 14.1*).
- 1,869 hospital consultants in post, 242 (14.9 per cent) more than in 2005 (*table 14.1*).

Finance

In 2005-06

- Central Government spent £4,698 million on health in Wales, an increase of 6 per cent over the previous year (*table 15.1*).

In 2006-07

- Revenue expenditure by Local Health Boards, Dental Practice Board and Health Commission Wales was £4,516 million, an increase of 7 per cent over the previous year (*table 15.4*).

In 2007-08:

- A cash limit of £4,565 million has been allocated to Local Health Boards and Health Commission Wales, an increase of 8 per cent over 2006-07 (*table 15.2*).

Private health care

- There were 12,305 places in 300 adult care homes with nursing at 31 March 2007, 7 fewer homes but 3 more places than the previous year (*table 16.1*).
- 1,489 patients were treated privately in NHS hospital as in-patients during 2006-07, an increase of 6 per cent compared to the previous year (*table 16.3*).

UK comparisons

Compared to the other 3 UK countries Wales has:

- The highest percentage of the population who are aged 65 and over.
- The second highest life expectancy for men (after England) and third highest for women (after Northern Ireland and England).
- The third highest live birth rate (after Northern Ireland and England).

- The second highest crude death rate (after Scotland).
- The lowest perinatal (equal to Northern Ireland), neonatal and infant mortality rates.
- A lower number of hospital beds per head than Scotland, equal to Northern Ireland but higher than England.
- The highest number of prescription items dispensed per head of population but the lowest net ingredient cost per prescription item.
- The lowest percentage of the 65 plus population immunised against influenza.
- The highest average list size per GP.
- The lowest proportions of both male and female adults who smoke.