Task

A summary on the trends on the performance against the A&E 4 hour standard.

**INTRODUCTION**

The raw data for this summary briefing was obtained from the Public Health Scotland website. The data with the title [A&E activity waiting times statistics XLSX | 1.2MB was downloaded and analysed.](https://publichealthscotland.scot/media/11124/ae_activity_waiting_times_feb2022.xlsx)

The 12-month period under consideration for this analysis is January 2021 to December 2021.

**KEY POINTS**

**PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE A&E 4 hour Standard (Jan 2021 – Dec 2021)**

**ACROSS NHS SCOTLAND**

Performance against the A&E 4-hour standard (performance) increased in winter 2020/21 but started dropping during spring 2021. The drop continued through summer 2021 and autumn 2021. By autumn 2021 performance against the A&E 4-hour standard was below 80% remained at this rate for a prolonged period of time.

ACROSS NHS HEALTH SCOTLAND

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NHS forth Valley had performance against the A&E falling below 80% at the beginning of the year but dropped and remained below 60% getting to the end of the year. NHS Shetland, NHS Orkney and NHS Western Isles had performance against the A&E waiting time above 95%. NHS Lothian and NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde had performance against the A&E standard above 80% at the beginning of the year but dropped and remained at 70% getting to the end of the year.

**SEASONALITY**

There was a decrease in attendance in Winter 2020/21 which lasted up to February 2021 while performance increased. After February 2021, attendance rose sharply in spring 2021 while performance against the A&E 4-hour standard began to fall. Total attendance across NHS Scotland flactuated between 100000 and 120000 during summer 2021 and autumn 2021 while performance continue to fall. At the beginning of winter 2021, Total attendance began to fall below 100000 while performance against the A&E waiting time began to rise.

**PERFORMANCE VARIATION BY SITE**

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Performance against the 4-hour A&E waiting time was above 95% for these Hospitals; Glibert Bain Hospital, Royal Aberdeen Children’s Hospital, Royal Hospital for Children and Young people Edinburgh, Western Isles Hospital, Balfour Hospital, Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow and Lorn & Island Hospital.

Performance against the 4-hour A&E waiting time was around or below 70% for these hospitals; Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Forth Valley Royal Hospital, University Hospital Wishaw and Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

**IMPACT NUMBER OF ATTENDANCES HAVE ON PERFORMANCE AGAINST A&E 4-HOUR STANDARD**

There is a negative correlation between percentage within 4-hours and attendance with an R square of 0.362. This means as attendance increases, performance against the 4-hour A&E decreases. If attendance increases by 1000, percentage within 4-hours decreases to 81.96%. If attendance increases to 2000, percentage within 4-hours decreases to 69.27%. In summary, attendance has a negative impact on performance against A&E 4 hour a standard.

**COMPARING PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE A&E**