

# Waiting times for planned (elective) care

Our waiting times statistics include information on waiting times for planned (elective) care. They exclude information about emergency (unscheduled) care. The information provides an overview of patients who are currently on an NHS Orkney waiting list as at 31 May 2024. The statistics included relate to the wait you may experience to:

- Attend a particular outpatient clinic for the first time (known as a new outpatient attendance)
- Receive treatment under the national Treatment Time Guarantee (TTG) standard as an inpatient or day case

The waiting times figures are displayed in weeks and show patients who have either completed their wait and have been seen at a new outpatient appointment or have been admitted for treatment between 1 May 2024 and 31 May 2024.

For patients currently on an NHS Orkney waiting list, some will have waited less than the median waiting time\* whilst others will have waited longer. We use the 90th percentile to show that out of every 10 patients, 9 are currently waiting less than the number of weeks indicated.

The wait experienced by our patients may vary from the median for a number of reasons, and this includes:

- The clinical need of the patient
- The urgency of the care required
- The availability of services
- The number of patients waiting to be treated

**To note** – Decisions about waiting times will always be made by a clinician and influenced by a clinical decision or the urgency of the care required. Statistics are likely to fluctuate as NHS Orkney addresses the backlog of patients waiting for planned care, consistent with Health Boards across NHS Scotland.

To ensure patient confidentiality, waiting times statistics are not included if there were less than 5 patients waiting or seen for treatment in the period (indicated as '<5' on each table).

## Patients who need to go off island for care and treatment

NHS Orkney waiting times figures are only for patients waiting for an appointment or treatment here in Orkney. If patients need to go off island for treatment/appointment, please click on the Health Board where you have been referred to view their waiting times statistics.

The next set of statistics will be published the third week of every month and will provide an update on waiting times for the previous month.

For more information please visit [NHS Inform](#).

\* The median wait time is used to calculate the typical length of time patients are currently waiting or have waited to be seen.

# Inpatient Waiting Times by specialty

## Currently waiting - as at 31 May 2024

Specialty	Total Waiting	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Community Dental Practice	0	0	0
Ear, Nose & Throat	14	12	12
General Surgery	41	2	19
Gynaecology	5	1	5
Ophthalmology	137	36	72
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	<5	6	8
Oral Surgery	6	1	4
Orthodontics	0	0	0
Paediatric	0	0	0
Paediatric Surgery	0	0	0
Pain Management	37	27	47
Plastic Surgery	0	0	0
Rheumatology	0	0	0
Trauma and Orthopaedic	55	9	20

The table above shows the median number of weeks that patients on an NHS Orkney Inpatient Waiting List have been waiting for an appointment or treatment as at 31 May 2024. Within these figures there may be a small amount of patients who are typically waiting less than the figures shown.

## Seen - between 1 May 2024 - 31 May 2024

Specialty	Total seen	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Community Dental Practice	0	0	0
Ear, Nose & Throat	6	12	17
General Surgery	21	4	14
Gynaecology	5	8	13
Ophthalmology	0	0	0
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	0	0	0
Oral Surgery	8	12	17
Orthodontics	0	0	0
Paediatric	0	0	0
Paediatric Surgery	0	0	0
Pain Management	0	0	0
Plastic Surgery	0	0	0
Rheumatology	0	0	0
Trauma and Orthopaedic	6	5	10

The table above shows the average number of weeks that patients on an NHS Orkney Inpatient Waiting List had waited before being seen for an appointment or treatment between 1 - 31 May 2024. Within these figures there may be a small amount of patients who typically waited less than the figures shown.

# Outpatient Waiting Times by specialty

## Currently waiting - as at 31 May 2024

Specialty	Total Waiting	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Adolescent Psychiatry	0	0	0
Audiological Science	67	4	7
Cardiology	26	2	5
Dermatology	33	2	6
Diabetes	5	4	6
Dietetics	128	23	78
Ear, Nose & Throat	229	16	35
General Medicine	54	6	14
General Psychiatry	127	24	63
General Surgery	151	5	11
Gynaecology	12	2	5
Ophthalmology	335	33	60
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	30	13	55
Oral Surgery	157	24	54
Paediatric	25	5	36
Paediatric Surgery	<5	3	5
Pain Management	51	20	40
Physiotherapy	139	6	30
Rheumatology	18	7	13
Speech and Language Therapy	202	60	129
Trauma and Orthopaedic	427	17	33

The table above shows the median number of weeks that patients on an NHS Orkney Outpatient Waiting List have been waiting for an appointment or treatment as at 31 May 2024. Within these figures there may be a small amount of patients who are typically waiting less than the figures shown.

## Seen - between 1 May 2024 - 31 May 2024

Specialty	Total seen	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Adolescent Psychiatry	0	0	0
Audiological Science	0	0	0
Cardiology	26	7	26
Dermatology	58	6	12
Diabetes	7	4	5
Dietetics	0	0	0
Ear, Nose & Throat	15	38	40
General Medicine	22	9	16
General Psychiatry	0	0	0
General Surgery	146	4	16
Gynaecology	40	3	6
Ophthalmology	22	4	9
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	0	0	0
Oral Surgery	25	18	59
Paediatric	29	12	16
Paediatric Surgery	0	0	0
Pain Management	0	0	0
Physiotherapy	0	0	0
Rheumatology	12	7	14
Speech and Language Therapy	0	0	0
Trauma and Orthopaedic	87	33	41

The table above shows the average number of weeks that patients on an NHS Orkney Outpatient Waiting List had waited before being seen for an appointment or treatment between 1 - 31 May 2024. Within these figures there may be a small amount of patients who typically waited less than the figures shown.