

# National Dental Inspection Program (NDIP)

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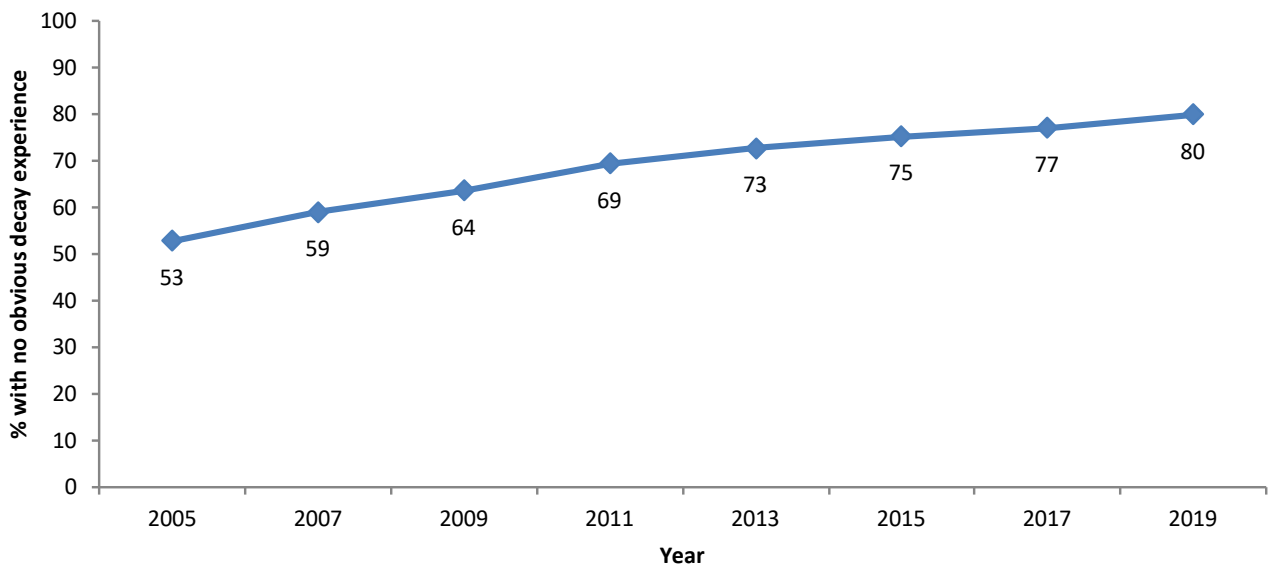
## About this release

This release by Information Services Division (ISD) provides information on findings of the Detailed Inspection programme of P7 children in school year 2018/19. The National Dental Inspection Programme (NDIP) is carried out annually under the auspices of the Scottish Dental Epidemiology Co-ordinating Committee on behalf of NHS Boards.

## Main points

- Children's dental health is continuing to improve in Scotland.
- Four out of five (80%) P7 children had no obvious decay experience in their permanent teeth in 2019. This is a large improvement since ISD started recording this information in 2005 when just over half of P7 children (53%) had no obvious decay experience.

### Percentage of P7 children with no obvious decay experience in Scotland; 2005-2019



- In 2019, the average number of P7 children's teeth affected by obvious decay experience was 0.42. This is less than a third of the average number recorded in 2005 (1.29).
- Clear dental health inequalities remain. Seven out of 10 (69.5%) P7 children from the most deprived areas have no obvious decay experience compared with almost nine out of 10 (88.1%) from the least deprived areas.

## Background

The National Dental Inspection Programme (NDIP) is carried out annually under the auspices of the Scottish Dental Epidemiology Co-ordinating Committee on behalf of NHS Boards. Its principal aims are to inform parents/carers of the dental health status of their children and, through appropriately anonymised, aggregated data, advise the Scottish Government, NHS Boards and other organisations concerned with children's health of dental disease prevalence at national and local levels. This ensures that reliable dental health information is available for planning initiatives directed towards health improvements.

Two school year groups are involved: i) at entry into Local Authority schools in primary one (P1) and ii) in primary seven (P7) before the move to secondary education. The Inspection Programme has two levels: a Basic Inspection (intended for all P1 and P7 children each year) and a Detailed Inspection (where a representative sample of either the P1 or the P7 age group is inspected in alternate years – this year it was P7 children). Note: no obvious decay experience means there are no obviously decayed, missing or filled teeth.

For the Detailed Inspections, each NHS Board is required to identify the number of Local Authority schools needed to obtain a representative sample of a given size from their P7 population. The sample sizes used provide adequate numbers to allow meaningful statistical comparisons between NHS Boards. Whole classes are randomly selected to simplify the process for schools while ensuring that results are representative of the P7 population in Scotland. There are robust methods for training and calibrated dental inspection teams from all Boards. Analysis is undertaken in collaboration with University of Glasgow.

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## Further Information

A more in-depth presentation of the results can be found at the [NDIP 2019 full report](#) or the [Executive Summary report](#).

ISD publishes information relating to the [general dental service \(GDS\) workforce](#) in Scotland.

ISD publishes an annual [NHS Adult & Child Fees and Treatments](#) report providing information on GDS fees paid to dentists and on treatments provided to children and adults.

ISD publishes an annual [NHS Registration and Participation](#) report providing information on NHS General Dental Services (GDS) registrations and participation (contact with GDS).

The [2012 Scottish Health Survey](#) covers dental health topics such as dental health problems and trends in prevalence of natural teeth.

The next release of this publication will be 19 October 2021 (the 2020 report will cover the Detailed Inspection of P1 children).

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## ISD and Official Statistics

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