

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 30 June 2025. 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 June 2025 and 30 June 2025.

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 30 June 2025

Specialty	Total Waiting	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Community Dental Practice	0	0	0
Ear, Nose & Throat	11	17	22
General Surgery	92	4	12
Gynaecology	6	3	9
Ophthalmology	141	16	40
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	5	3	14
Oral Surgery	28	10	16
Orthodontics	0	0	0
Paediatric	0	0	0
Paediatric Surgery	0	0	0
Pain Management	26	16	17
Plastic Surgery	0	0	0
Rheumatology	0	0	0
Trauma and Orthopaedic	73	9	30

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 30 June 2025. Within these figures there may be a small amount of patients who are typically waiting less than the figures shown.

Seen - between 1 June 2025 - 30 June 2025

Specialty	Total seen	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Community Dental Practice	0	0	0
Ear, Nose & Throat	0	0	0
General Surgery	25	5	12
Gynaecology	7	5	9
Ophthalmology	26	40	50
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	6	11	15
Oral Surgery	<5	16	21
Orthodontics	0	0	0
Paediatric	0	0	0
Paediatric Surgery	0	0	0
Pain Management	14	19	30
Plastic Surgery	0	0	0
Rheumatology	0	0	0
Trauma and Orthopaedic	6	6	11

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 - 30 June 2025. 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 30 June 2025

Specialty	Total Waiting	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Adolescent Psychiatry	0	0	0
Audiological Science	42	3	5
Cardiology	43	6	17
Dermatology	53	5	13
Diabetes	9	4	14
Dietetics	115	16	51
Ear, Nose & Throat	359	32	68
General Medicine	20	4	9
General Psychiatry	162	51	93
General Surgery	47	2	3
Gynaecology	29	3	4
Ophthalmology	278	25	65
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	8	18	43
Oral Surgery	95	9	33
Paediatric	32	4	13
Paediatric Surgery	0	0	0
Pain Management	42	8	24
Physiotherapy	168	6	28
Restorative Dentistry	8	7	29
Rheumatology	19	8	9
Speech and Language Therapy	251	74	156
Trauma and Orthopaedic	484	19	44

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 30 June 2025. Within these figures there may be a small amount of patients who are typically waiting less than the figures shown.

Seen - between 1 June 2025 - 30 June 2025

Specialty	Total seen	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Adolescent Psychiatry	0	0	0
Audiological Science	43	6	7
Cardiology	21	6	21
Dermatology	51	10	21
Diabetes	6	6	7
Dietetics	25	4	27
Ear, Nose & Throat	0	0	0
General Medicine	11	5	12
General Psychiatry	9	9	23
General Surgery	112	2	3
Gynaecology	45	4	7
Ophthalmology	76	83	98
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	39	5	31
Oral Surgery	23	4	31
Paediatric	<5	15	20
Paediatric Surgery	13	11	16
Pain Management	6	34	44
Physiotherapy	43	4	11
Restorative Dentistry	0	0	0
Rheumatology	0	0	0
Speech and Language Therapy	15	3	50
Trauma and Orthopaedic	97	38	48

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 - 30 June 2025. Within these figures there may be a small amount of patients who typically waited less than the figures shown.