

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 2026. 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 2026 and 30 June 2026.

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 2026

Specialty	Total Waiting	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Community Dental Practice	0	0	0
Ear, Nose & Throat	32	34	35
General Surgery	52	2	7
Gynaecology	9	2	6
Ophthalmology	179	49	50
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	<5	15	15
Oral Surgery	11	5	21
Orthodontics	0	0	0
Paediatric	0	0	0
Paediatric Surgery	0	0	0
Pain Management	19	13	19
Plastic Surgery	0	0	0
Rheumatology	0	0	0
Trauma and Orthopaedic	123	11	23

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 2026. Within these figures there may be a small amount of patients who are typically waiting less than the figures shown.

Seen - between 1 June 2026 - 30 June 2026

Specialty	Total seen	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Community Dental Practice	0	0	0
Ear, Nose & Throat	0	0	0
General Surgery	29	2	10
Gynaecology	8	5	12
Ophthalmology	0	0	0
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	0	0	0
Oral Surgery	9	17	19
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	<5	12	17

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 2026. 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 2026

Specialty	Total Waiting	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Adolescent Psychiatry	0	0	0
Audiological Science	31	2	3
Cardiology	25	2	5
Dermatology	108	18	36
Diabetes	7	2	8
Dietetics	85	10	45
Ear, Nose & Throat	249	16	30
General Medicine	58	3	11
General Psychiatry	145	72	139
General Surgery	51	1	4
Gynaecology	45	2	4
Ophthalmology	164	11	23
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	9	39	41
Oral Surgery	155	16	30
Paediatric	14	4	7
Paediatric Surgery	7	5	9
Pain Management	62	17	33
Physiotherapy	100	4	20
Restorative Dentistry	10	7	28
Rheumatology	13	4	13
Speech and Language Therapy	251	92	199
Trauma and Orthopaedic	399	11	36

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 2026. Within these figures there may be a small amount of patients who are typically waiting less than the figures shown.

Seen - between 1 June 2026 - 30 June 2026

Specialty	Total seen	Median Wait	9 out of 10 waits
Adolescent Psychiatry	0	0	0
Audiological Science	34	3	4
Cardiology	21	4	5
Dermatology	28	10	16
Diabetes	8	3	7
Dietetics	25	4	50
Ear, Nose & Throat	0	0	0
General Medicine	37	5	11
General Psychiatry	8	18	39
General Surgery	99	3	4
Gynaecology	37	3	5
Ophthalmology	29	6	22
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	0	0	0
Oral Surgery	35	6	34
Paediatric	0	0	0
Paediatric Surgery	0	0	0
Pain Management	0	0	0
Physiotherapy	33	3	7
Restorative Dentistry	0	0	0
Rheumatology	12	11	21
Speech and Language Therapy	10	14	92
Trauma and Orthopaedic	84	20	40

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 2026. Within these figures there may be a small amount of patients who typically waited less than the figures shown.