



Version 1, published 22 January 2014

## **Announcement of methodological changes to Breast Screening Programme, England, Statistics for 2012-13 [NS] <sup>1</sup>**

### Change to methodology for calculating coverage

Coverage is defined as the percentage of women in the population who are eligible for screening at a particular point in time, who have had a test with a recorded result at least once within the screening round, i.e. in the previous 3 years. Coverage data is submitted as part of the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) KC63 central return data set.

From 2013 there has been a change to the definition of coverage in the KC63 data set to include women who were screened following a short term recall. In previous years the number of women screened excluded women who had been invited under a short term recall invitation. The eligible population used as the denominator in the coverage calculation is unaffected. Coverage figures for March 2013 onwards will be affected by this change.

The number of women invited under a short-term recall is relatively small and this change is expected to have only a small impact on national coverage (increasing it by less than 0.1 percentage points).

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<sup>1</sup> [NS] denotes that the publication has National Statistics status