

STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE
MONTHLY DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE DATA, ENGLAND
NOVEMBER 2014

Main Findings – NOVEMBER 2014:

Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 5,026 patients delayed at midnight on the last Thursday of the month, of which 3,357 were acute patients.
- There were 139,658 total delayed days during the month, of which 94,046 were acute. 66.5% of all delays were attributable to the NHS, 26.5% were attributable to Social Care and 7.0%, where both agencies were responsible.
- The proportion of delays occurring in an acute care setting was 67.3% in November 2014. The proportion of acute delayed days has increased over the past year, with 63.1% of delayed days in November 2013 being in acute care.
- The main reason for NHS delays was “patients awaiting further non-acute NHS care”, this accounted for 26.9% of all NHS delays. The main reason for Social Care delays was “patients awaiting a care package in their own home”, this accounted for 26.7% of all Social Care delays. Where both the NHS and Social Care are attributable, the major reason for delay was “patients awaiting completion of assessment”, this accounted for 38.8% of delays attributed to both NHS and Social Care.
- Since June 2014 there has been an increasing trend in the total number of delayed days. The reason for a delay with the largest proportional increase was “patients awaiting nursing home placement or availability”, with an increase of 34.2% since June 2014. This was followed by “patients awaiting care package in own home”, with an increase of 29.6%.

Table 1 shows information on delayed transfers of care from August 2011 to November 2014. Table 2 shows the number of delayed transfers of care by type of care, reason for delay and responsible organisation for November 2014.

Details of delayed transfers of care data for individual organisations are available at:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/delayed-transfers-of-care/dtoc-data-2014-15/>

Table 1 –Delayed Transfers of Care – August 2011 to November 2014

Month	Delayed Transfers of Care	
	Patients Delayed	Total Days Delayed
August 2011	4,144	117,297
September 2011	4,165	117,194
October 2011	4,150	116,878
November 2011	4,165	114,705
December 2011	3,617	112,096
January 2012	4,094	111,934
February 2012	4,007	109,532
March 2012	4,028	119,736
April 2012	3,954	108,482
May 2012	3,857	119,331
June 2012	4,086	110,348
July 2012	4,031	117,200
August 2012	3,961	120,094
September 2012	4,102	114,264
October 2012	4,115	116,881
November 2012	3,894	116,169
December 2012	3,448	107,652
January 2013	4,188	125,716
February 2013	4,007	109,180
March 2013	4,053	115,158
April 2013	4,046	113,297
May 2013	4,184	120,550
June 2013	3,888	112,984
July 2013	3,961	111,951
August 2013	4,084	122,337
September 2013	4,231	118,864
October 2013	4,147	123,852
November 2013	4,200	116,932
December 2013	3,649	112,629
January 2014	4,221	124,289
February 2014	4,276	112,845
March 2014	4,327	123,061
April 2014	4,212	116,278
May 2014	4,520	126,854
June 2014	4,378	124,124
July 2014	4,618	133,724
August 2014	4,709	137,954
September 2014	4,966	138,068
October 2014	4,936	143,118
November 2014	5,026	139,658

Notes:

1. A change from weekly to monthly data in Aug-10 led to data quality issues with the first few months of delayed transfers of care data in the monthly collection.
2. Information on the numbers of people delayed on the last Thursday of the reporting period and the total number of Delayed Days are not directly comparable because the first is a 'snapshot' and the second a cumulative total.

Table 2 – Delayed Transfers of Care by Type of Care, Reason for Delay and Responsible Organisation – November 2014

Type of Care	Reason For Delay	Patients Delayed			Total Days Delayed		
		NHS	Social Care	Both	NHS	Social Care	Both
Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	504	167	112	14,499	4,126	2,527
	B) Awaiting public funding	60	24	2	1,919	539	57
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	757	NA	NA	21,256	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	261	104	37	7,377	3,431	1,126
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	122	137	NA	3,308	3,712	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	172	206	55	4,692	5,979	1,344
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	63	5	5	1,766	123	209
	G) Patient or family choice	467	25	NA	13,551	557	NA
	H) Disputes	31	2	NA	696	103	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	39	NA	NA	1,149	NA	NA
Non-Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	92	76	46	2,600	2,029	1,253
	B) Awaiting public funding	54	50	25	1,308	1,584	642
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	145	NA	NA	3,703	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	75	158	71	2,217	4,296	1,935
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	112	196	NA	3,069	5,311	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	61	141	21	1,574	3,885	478
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	33	13	5	986	302	159
	G) Patient or family choice	154	33	NA	4,502	845	NA
	H) Disputes	9	7	NA	259	182	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	92	NA	NA	2,493	NA	NA

Notes:

1. NA means the combination of reason and responsible organisation is not permitted.
2. Information on the numbers of people delayed on the last Thursday of the reporting period and the total number of Delayed Days are not directly comparable because the first is a 'snapshot' and the second a cumulative total.

Statistical Notes to Editors

1. Delayed Transfers of Care data

A delayed transfer of care occurs when a patient is medically fit for discharge from acute or non-acute care and is still occupying a bed. For a more detailed definition please read the guidance on NHS England's website at:
<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/delayed-transfers-of-care/>

Data on the number of patients with a delayed transfers of care is a monthly snapshot taken at midnight on the last Thursday of each month and can fluctuate from month to month. Data on the number of delayed days is a cumulative figure for the month and therefore, the two are not comparable.

Data on delayed transfers of care is collected from providers of NHS funded care and is split by:

- Local Authority that is responsible for each patient delayed
- Agency responsible for delay (NHS, Social Services or both)
- Type of care that the patient receives (acute or non-acute)
- Reason for delay

A detailed breakdown of the data can be found on NHS England's website in CSV format at:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/delayed-transfers-of-care/delayed-transfers-of-care-data-2014-15/>

2. Trust and Local Authority level data

Delayed transfers of care data covers NHS patients in English Hospitals, who may or may not reside in England and is published on both a trust and Local Authority basis.

Trust level reflects data at organisation level for those organisations that provide NHS funded care, for example acute Trusts, community providers, mental health trusts and Social Enterprise organisations.

Local Authority data reflects data on a regional population basis, i.e. Councils with Adult Social Services Responsibility (CASSRs) that are responsible for all patients who reside in their region.

3. Data Quality

Monthly delayed transfers of care data has been collected and published since August 2010. Prior to August 2010, data was collected weekly and was un-validated management information.

Delayed transfers of care data published during the early months of the collection from August 2010 to October 2010 should be treated with a degree of caution as a change from a weekly to a monthly data collection led to data quality issues. Since October 2010, there has been a significant improvement in the coverage and accuracy of this data.

4. Data Availability

Delayed Transfers of Care data is published approximately 3 – 4 weeks after the end of the reference period. The next publication of this report and accompanying data will be 23rd January 2015.

5. Revisions

Revisions to previous month's data are made in line with NHS England's revisions protocol for performance monitoring data. Future revisions will be made on a six monthly cycle. The revisions protocol can be found here:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/code-compliance/#Unifypolicy>

6. Feedback Welcomed

We welcome feedback on the content and presentation of Delayed Transfers of Care statistics within this Statistical Press Notice and those published on NHS England's website. Please email any comments on this, or any other issues regarding the SitReps data and statistics, to: unify2@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Additional Information

For press enquiries please contact the NHS England media team on 0113 825 0958 or 0113 8250959. Emails enquiries should be sent to: nhsengland.media@nhs.net

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