

**STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE**  
**MONTHLY CRITICAL CARE BEDS AND CANCELLED URGENT OPERATIONS**  
**DATA, ENGLAND DECEMBER 2016**

**Main Findings – December 2016:**

**Critical Care Beds**

- There were 4,027 adult critical care beds available and 3,300 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 81.9%. This is lower than the occupancy rate observed last month, which was 83.9%, and higher than in December 2015 (80.2%).
- There were 456 paediatric critical care beds available and 357 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 78.3%. This is lower than the occupancy rate observed last month, which was 88.4%, and lower than in December 2015 (84.6%).
- There were 1,435 neo-natal critical care beds available and 1,034 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 72.1%. This is lower than the occupancy rate observed last month, which was 72.7% and higher than in December 2015 (70.4%).

Table 1 shows Critical Care Bed Occupancy rates since December 2014.

**Cancelled Urgent Operations**

- The number of urgent operations cancelled was 315 in December 2016, which compares to 446 in November 2016 and 332 in December 2015.

Table 2 shows information on urgent operations cancelled from December 2014 to December 2016.

The following trusts did not submit monthly critical care bed and cancelled urgent operations data in December 2016:

- Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (RTE)

Details of critical care data and cancelled urgent operations data for individual organisations are available at:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/critical-care-capacity/>

In addition, data on cancelled elective operations can be found at:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/cancelled-elective-operations/>

**Table 1 – Critical Care Bed Occupancy Rates – December 2014 to December 2016**

Month	Adult Critical Care			Paediatric Critical Care			Neonatal Critical Care		
	Open	Occupied	%	Open	Occupied	%	Open	Occupied	%
Dec-14	3,977	3,184	80.1%	450	367	81.6%	1,384	944	68.2%
Jan-15	4,021	3,521	87.6%	444	360	81.1%	1,389	1,009	72.6%
Feb-15	4,028	3,548	88.1%	435	330	75.9%	1,397	1,000	71.6%
Mar-15	4,025	3,476	86.4%	442	360	81.4%	1,393	995	71.4%
Apr-15	4,023	3,389	84.2%	434	368	84.8%	1,393	995	71.4%
May-15	3,962	3,269	82.5%	425	315	74.1%	1,396	1,009	72.3%
Jun-15	3,978	3,290	82.7%	428	328	76.6%	1,405	1,013	72.1%
Jul-15	3,981	3,313	83.2%	431	323	74.9%	1,404	990	70.5%
Aug-15	3,969	3,166	79.8%	429	307	71.6%	1,387	952	68.6%
Sep-15	3,962	3,284	82.9%	440	363	82.5%	1,401	1,047	74.7%
Oct-15	3,970	3,326	83.8%	443	362	81.7%	1,388	1,021	73.6%
Nov-15	3,996	3,350	83.8%	452	398	88.1%	1,417	1,000	70.6%
Dec-15	3,967	3,182	80.2%	455	385	84.6%	1,417	998	70.4%
Jan-16	4,021	3,466	86.2%	455	379	83.3%	1,404	978	69.7%
Feb-16	4,016	3,516	87.5%	451	368	81.6%	1,414	997	70.5%
Mar-16	4,015	3,428	85.4%	454	368	81.1%	1,414	989	69.9%
Apr -16	3,976	3,189	80.2%	454	360	79.3%	1,419	1,016	71.6%
May -16	4,008	3,341	83.6%	463	374	80.8%	1,421	1,071	75.4%
Jun -16	3,990	3,338	83.7%	468	393	84.0%	1,411	1,020	72.3%
Jul -16	4,027	3,324	82.6%	462	369	79.9%	1,406	979	69.6%
Aug -16	4,015	3,255	81.1%	461	349	75.7%	1,406	1,002	71.3%
Sep -16	4,035	3,323	82.4%	462	367	79.4%	1,408	994	70.6%
Oct -16	4,059	3,321	81.8%	461	352	76.4%	1,420	1,001	70.5%
Nov -16	4,055	3,403	83.9%	483	427	88.4%	1,401	1,018	72.7%
Dec -16	4,027	3,300	81.9%	456	357	78.3%	1,435	1,034	72.1%

Notes:

1. Data relating to the number of available and occupied critical care beds is a monthly snapshot taken at midnight on the last Thursday of each month and can fluctuate from month to month.
2. Before February 2011, data on Critical Care beds were published bi-annually in a separate collection. Therefore, Critical Care data published until January 2011 should be treated with a degree of caution.

**Table 2 – Cancelled Operations – December 2014 to December 2016**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Urgent Operations Cancelled</b>
December 2014	408
January 2015	396
February 2015	371
March 2015	313
April 2015	309
May 2015	300
June 2015	266
July 2015	296
August 2015	274
September 2015	308
October 2015	371
November 2015	243
December 2015	332
January 2016	293
February 2016	371
March 2016	359
April 2016	319
May 2016	339
June 2016	318
July 2016	299
August 2016	308
September 2016	369
October 2016	357
November 2016	446
December 2016	315

## **Statistical Notes to Editors**

### **1. Critical Care data**

Data relating to the number of available and occupied critical care beds is a monthly snapshot taken at midnight on the last Thursday of each month and can fluctuate from month to month.

### **2. Data Quality**

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

Critical care data published until January 2011 should be treated with a degree of caution as data on Critical Care beds was published bi-annually in a separate collection until January 2011. Since February 2011, there has been a significant improvement in the coverage and accuracy of this data.

### **3. Data Availability**

Monthly Sitreps data is published approximately 3 – 4 weeks after the end of the reference period.

### **4. 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 on the NHS England website at: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/code-compliance/>

### **5. Feedback Welcomed**

We welcome feedback on the content and presentation of Critical Care and Cancelled Operations 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](mailto:unify2@dh.gsi.gov.uk)

## **Additional Information**

For press enquiries please contact the NHS England media team on 0113 825 0958 or 0113 825 0959

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