

STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE MONTHLY DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE DATA, ENGLAND, AUGUST 2016

Main Findings – August 2016:

Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 188,300 total delayed days in August 2016, of which 127,500 were in acute care. This is an increase from August 2015, where there were 145,100 total delayed days, of which 93,100 were in acute care. The 188,300 delayed days this month is the highest figure since monthly data was first collected in August 2010.
- 58.9% of all delays in August 2016 were attributable to the NHS, 33.3% were attributable to Social Care and the remaining 7.8% were attributable to both NHS and Social Care.
- The proportion of delays attributable to Social Care has increased over the last year to 33.3% in August 2016, compared to 30.8% in August 2015.
- The main reason for NHS delays in August 2016 was “patients awaiting further non-acute NHS care”. This accounted for 30,900 delayed days (27.8% of all NHS delays). The number of delays attributable to this reason showed a general increase between July 2015 and March 2016, but since then appears to be remaining broadly stable.
- The main reason for Social Care delays in August 2016 was “patients awaiting care package in their own home”. This accounted for 22,700 delayed days (36.1% of all Social Care delays), compared to 15,800 in August 2015. The number of delays attributable to this reason has been steadily increasing since February 2015.
- Delays can occur in either an acute or non-acute care setting. The proportion of delays occurring in acute care in August 2016 was 67.7% compared to 64.2% in August 2015.
- There were 6,400 patients delayed at midnight on the last Thursday of August 2016, of which 4,400 were acute patients. This compares to 5,100 patients, including 3,400 acute patients, which were delayed at midnight on the last Thursday of August 2015. The 6,400 patients delayed this month is the highest number since monthly data was first collected in August 2010.

Table 1 shows information on delayed transfers of care from August 2013 to August 2016.

Table 2 shows the number of delayed transfers of care by type of care, reason for delay and responsible organisation for August 2016.

Details of delayed transfers of care data for individual organisations are available at:
<http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/delayed-transfers-of-care/delayed-transfers-of-care-data-2016-17/>

Table 1 – Delayed Transfers of Care – August 2013 to August 2016

Month	Delayed Transfers of Care	
	Patients Delayed	Total Days Delayed
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	4,207	116,261
May 2014	4,516	126,779
June 2014	4,363	124,118
July 2014	4,612	133,903
August 2014	4,704	137,613
September 2014	4,960	138,267
October 2014	4,930	142,927
November 2014	5,063	140,949
December 2014	4,475	139,025
January 2015	5,221	150,392
February 2015	4,942	134,353
March 2015	4,948	140,390
April 2015	4,739	138,030
May 2015	4,972	137,115
June 2015	4,996	139,538
July 2015	4,888	147,376
August 2015	5,114	145,093
September 2015	5,247	147,738
October 2015	5,330	160,130
November 2015	5,573	153,155
December 2015	5,004	154,008
January 2016	5,781	159,641
February 2016	5,727	158,131
March 2016	5,628	169,928
April 2016	5,879	167,966
May 2016	6,010	172,195
June 2016	6,121	171,546
July 2016	6,364	184,188
August 2016	6,448	188,340

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 – August 2016

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	408	284	108	11788	8036	3041
	B) Awaiting public funding	70	21	4	2055	694	128
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	935	NA	NA	26823	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	415	237	34	12281	6933	918
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	143	182	NA	3593	5385	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	258	490	136	7131	14906	3970
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	74	6	7	2295	247	304
	G) Patient or family choice	452	40	NA	13259	980	NA
	H) Disputes	29	NA	NA	992	52	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	47	NA	NA	1734	NA	NA
Non-Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	116	101	54	3755	2958	1614
	B) Awaiting public funding	45	36	37	1481	1057	1156
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	139	NA	NA	4034	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	100	163	71	3342	4842	2370
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	112	204	NA	3641	6360	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	85	297	55	2493	7776	1118
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	39	17	2	984	358	59
	G) Patient or family choice	187	58	NA	5299	1485	NA
	H) Disputes	22	26	NA	653	738	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	102	NA	NA	3222	NA	NA
All	Total	3,778	2,162	508	110,855	62,807	14,678

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-2016-17/>

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 6 weeks after the end of the reference period. The next publication of this report and accompanying data will be 10th November 2016.

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

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 825 0959. Emails enquiries should be sent to: nhsengland.media@nhs.net

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