

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

Main Findings – September 2016:

Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 196,200 total delayed days in September 2016, of which 134,300 were in acute care. This is an increase from September 2015, where there were 147,700 total delayed days, of which 97,700 were in acute care. The 196,200 delayed days this month is the highest figure since monthly data was first collected in August 2010.
- 57.8% of all delays in September 2016 were attributable to the NHS, 34.4% 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 34.4% in September 2016, compared to 30.8% in September 2015.
- The main reason for NHS delays in September 2016 was “patients awaiting further non-acute NHS care”. This accounted for 32,700 delayed days (28.8% of all NHS delays). The number of delays attributable to this reason showed a general increase between July 2015 and March 2016, before levelling off for several months. This month, the number of delays attributable to this reason is showing signs of increasing again.
- The main reason for Social Care delays in September 2016 was “patients awaiting care package in their own home”. This accounted for 24,800 delayed days (36.7% of all Social Care delays), compared to 15,900 in September 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 September 2016 was 68.4% compared to 66.2% in September 2015.
- There were 6,800 patients delayed at midnight on the last Thursday of September 2016, of which 4,600 were acute patients. This compares to 5,200 patients, including 3,500 acute patients, which were delayed at midnight on the last Thursday of September 2015. The 6,800 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 September 2013 to September 2016.

Table 2 shows the number of delayed transfers of care by type of care, reason for delay and responsible organisation for September 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 – September 2013 to September 2016

Month	Delayed Transfers of Care	
	Patients Delayed	Total Days Delayed
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
September 2016	6,777	196,246

Notes:

- 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 – September 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	400	312	114	11,608	8,802	3,527
	B) Awaiting public funding	60	21	11	2,097	775	163
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	971	NA	NA	28,212	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	416	294	42	11,769	8,144	919
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	137	204	NA	4,065	5,887	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	268	553	123	7,709	15,923	3,365
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	81	11	12	2,305	247	456
	G) Patient or family choice	465	54	NA	14,507	1,347	NA
	H) Disputes	23	5	NA	784	55	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	55	NA	NA	1,591	NA	NA
Non-Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	127	88	66	3,752	3,013	1,786
	B) Awaiting public funding	41	41	25	1,383	1,231	768
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	152	NA	NA	4,462	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	129	147	92	3,558	4,549	2,502
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	115	221	NA	3,642	6,366	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	81	356	71	2,382	8,858	1,723
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	16	10	6	868	282	89
	G) Patient or family choice	171	66	NA	5,523	1,734	NA
	H) Disputes	24	14	NA	695	381	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	86	NA	NA	2442	NA	NA
All	Total	3,818	2,397	562	113,354	67,594	15,298

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 8th December 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

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) statistician responsible for producing these data is:

Katie Tither
Operational Information for Commissioning (National)
NHS England
Room 5E15, Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7UE
For data queries, email: unify2@dh.gsi.gov.uk