

STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE
MONTHLY CRITICAL CARE BEDS AND CANCELLED URGENT OPERATIONS
DATA, ENGLAND February 2018

Main Findings – February 2018:

Critical Care Beds

- There were 4,074 **adult critical care beds** available and 3,478 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 85.4%. This is lower than the occupancy rate observed last month, which was 86.7%, and higher than in February 2017 (84.4%).
- There were 459 **paediatric critical care beds** available and 364 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 79.3%. This is higher than the occupancy rate observed last month, which was 77.2% and lower than in February 2017 (80.4%).
- There were 1,435 **neo-natal critical care beds** available and 990 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 69.0%. This is lower than the occupancy rate observed last month, which was 70.9% and lower than in February 2017 (69.8%).

Table 1 shows information on critical care bed occupancy from February 2016 to February 2018

Cancelled Urgent Operations

- The number of urgent operations cancelled was 374 in February 2018, which compares to 361 in January 2018, and 317 in February 2017.
- The number of urgent operations cancelled for the second or subsequent time was 14 in February 2018

Table 2 shows information on urgent operations cancelled from February 2016 to February 2018

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 – February 2016 to February 2018

Month	Adult Critical Care			Paediatric Critical Care			Neonatal Critical Care		
	Open	Occupied	%	Open	Occupied	%	Open	Occupied	%
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	83.4%	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	82.5%	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	3,409	84.1%	483	427	88.4%	1,401	1,016	72.5%
Dec -16	4,027	3,300	81.9%	456	357	78.3%	1,437	1,031	71.7%
Jan-17	4,073	3,446	84.6%	463	378	81.6%	1,412	1,039	73.6%
Feb-17	4,084	3,445	84.4%	455	366	80.4%	1,407	982	69.8%
Mar-17	4,066	3,312	81.5%	460	373	81.1%	1,436	1,001	69.7%
Apr-17	4,064	3,351	82.5%	455	359	78.9%	1,414	996	70.4%
May-17	4,063	3,279	80.7%	454	362	79.7%	1,444	1,063	73.6%
Jun-17	4,079	3,281	80.4%	458	334	72.9%	1,421	1,043	73.4%
Jul-17	4,060	3,161	77.9%	452	354	78.3%	1,426	1,031	72.3%
Aug-17	4,041	3,228	79.9%	460	309	67.2%	1,424	1,008	70.8%
Sep-17	4,056	3,327	82.0%	460	372	80.9%	1,416	1,027	72.5%
Oct-17	4,071	3,296	81.0%	453	342	75.5%	1,418	989	69.7%
Nov-17	4,070	3,445	84.6%	474	393	82.9%	1,424	1,056	74.2%
Dec-17	4,060	3,336	82.2%	483	386	79.9%	1,420	1,008	71.0%
Jan-18	4,085	3,540	86.7%	457	353	77.2%	1,455	1,031	70.9%
Feb-18	4,074	3,478	85.4%	459	364	79.3%	1,435	990	69.0%

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 – February 2016 to February 2018

Month	Urgent Operations Cancelled	Urgent Operations Cancelled for the 2nd or more time
Feb-16	371	25
Mar-16	359	23
Apr -16	319	9
May -16	339	7
Jun -16	318	6
Jul -16	299	6
Aug -16	311	9
Sep -16	373	12
Oct -16	363	6
Nov -16	404	16
Dec -16	300	10
Jan-17	353	16
Feb-17	317	16
Mar-17	380	11
Apr-17	275	29
May-17	314	15
Jun-17	326	15
Jul-17	337	9
Aug-17	352	18
Sep-17	302	5
Oct-17	287	11
Nov-17	290	9
Dec-17	340	14
Jan-18	361	11
Feb-18	374	14

Statistical Notes to Editors

1. Critical Care data

The figures on Adult Critical Care, Paediatric Intensive Care and Neonatal Intensive Care bed occupancy are “snapshot” figures taken at midnight on the last Thursday of each month. Therefore they will not reflect varying levels of bed occupancy through the day, week and month.

The figures include all staffed beds that meet the definitions of high dependency, critical and intensive care as specified in the published guidance. This could include beds that meet the specified criteria for this collection, but which are in hospitals that do not have formally defined or commissioned intensive care units.

NHS England commissions paediatric critical care nationally; further information is available via the Paediatric Intensive Care Audit Network

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: england.nhsdata@nhs.net

Additional Information

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

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