

## STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE

### MONTHLY DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE DATA, ENGLAND, February 2018

#### Main Findings – February 2018:

##### Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 139,900 total delayed days in February 2018, of which 92,100 were in acute care. This is a decrease from February 2017, where there were 186,500 total delayed days, of which 124,600 were in acute care.
- The 139,900 total delayed days in February 2018 is equivalent to 4,996 daily DTOC beds. This compares to 4,913 in January 2018 and 6,660 in February 2017.
- 60.1% of all delays in February 2018 were attributable to the NHS, 32.0% were attributable to Social Care and the remaining 7.9% were attributable to both NHS and Social Care.
- The proportion of delays attributable to Social Care has decreased over the last year to 32.0% in February 2018, compared to 36.4% in February 2017.
- The main reason for NHS delays in February 2018 was “Patients Awaiting further Non Acute NHS Care”. This accounted for 24,500 delayed days (29.2% of all NHS delays). The number of delays attributable to this reason showed a general increase between August 2015 and September 2016, peaking in January 2017. Since then, the number has been generally decreasing with February 2018 fitting into this downward trend.
- The main reason for Social Care delays in February 2018 was “Patients Awaiting Care Package in their Own Home”. This accounted for 16,200 delayed days (36.1% of all Social Care delays), compared to 24,200 in February 2017. The number of delays attributable to this reason had been increasing steadily since April 2014 and reached a peak in December 2016. Delays attributable to this reason have been gradually decreasing since March 2017, and February 2018 data fits within this trend.
- Delays can occur in either an acute or non-acute care setting. The proportion of delays occurring in acute care in February 2018 was 65.8% compared to 66.8% in February 2017.

**Table 1** shows information on delayed transfers of care from February 2015 to February 2018.

**Table 2** shows the number of delayed transfers of care by type of care, reason for delay and responsible organisation for February 2018.

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

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/delayed-transfers-of-care/delayed-transfers-of-care-data-2017-18/>

**Table 1 – Delayed Transfers of Care –February 2015 to February 2018**

Month	Delayed Transfers of Care	
	Total Days Delayed	DTOC Beds
February 2015	134,353	4,798
March 2015	140,390	4,529
April 2015	138,030	4,601
May 2015	137,115	4,423
June 2015	139,538	4,651
July 2015	147,376	4,754
August 2015	145,093	4,680
September 2015	147,738	4,925
October 2015	160,130	5,165
November 2015	153,155	5,105
December 2015	154,008	4,968
January 2016	159,467	5,144
February 2016	158,055	5,450
March 2016	169,882	5,480
April 2016	168,018	5,601
May 2016	172,294	5,558
June 2016	173,122	5,771
July 2016	184,578	5,954
August 2016	187,851	6,060
September 2016	196,570	6,552
October 2016	200,095	6,455
November 2016	193,206	6,440
December 2016	195,445	6,305
January 2017	197,511	6,371
February 2017	186,490	6,660
March 2017	199,641	6,440
April 2017	176,945	5,898
May 2017	178,204	5,749
June 2017	178,042	5,935
July 2017	181,888	5,867
August 2017	180,065	5,809
September 2017	168,256	5,609
October 2017	170,089	5,487
November 2017	155,059	5,169
December 2017	145,318	4,688
January 2018	152,300	4,913
February 2018	139,889	4,996

Notes:

1. As of April 2017, patient snapshot data is no longer being collected.

**Table 2 – Delayed Transfers of Care by Type of Care, Reason for Delay and Responsible Organisation – February 2018**

Type of Care	Reason For Delay	Total Days Delayed		
		NHS	Social Care	Both
Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	6,506	5,153	1,282
	B) Awaiting public funding	1,157	176	25
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	21,907	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	7,224	4,335	385
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	3,185	5,418	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	6,819	10,269	2,930
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	2,183	263	214
	G) Patient or family choice	10,247	578	NA
	H) Disputes	419	177	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	1,226	NA	NA
Non-Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	2,262	1,753	800
	B) Awaiting public funding	1,088	1,001	1,031
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	2,605	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	2,472	3,067	1,935
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	2,762	5,140	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	2,625	5,928	2,285
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	682	336	99
	G) Patient or family choice	4,297	862	NA
	H) Disputes	543	229	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	3,422	NA	NA
O) Other	389	129	69	
<b>All</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>84,020</b>	<b>44,814</b>	<b>11,055</b>

Notes:

1. NA means the combination of reason and responsible organisation is not permitted.
2. As of April 2017, a new 'Other' category has been added for non-acute delays. This category is used for delays reported in NHS Digital's Mental Health Services Data Set (MHSDS v2.0) which cannot be mapped to existing codes within the NHS England Delayed Transfers of Care collection.

## 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/>

The daily DTOC beds measure is calculated by dividing the total number of delayed days in the month by the number of calendar days.

As of April 2017, the count of patients delayed on the last Thursday of the month is no longer being collected. Historical data for this measure will remain available on the NHS England Statistics website.

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:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/delayed-transfers-of-care/delayed-transfers-of-care-data-2017-18/>

### 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.

Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Trust (RY2) were unable to submit a return this month due to data quality issues.

#### **4. Data Availability**

Delayed Transfers of Care data is published approximately six weeks after the end of the reference period. The next publication of this report and accompanying data will be 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.

#### **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](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. Emails enquiries should be sent to: [nhsengland.media@nhs.net](mailto:nhsengland.media@nhs.net)

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