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

Main Findings – March 2018:

Critical Care Beds

- There were 4,064 **adult critical care beds** available and 3,355 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 82.6%. This is lower than the occupancy rate observed last month, which was 85.4%, and higher than in March 2017 (81.5%).
- There were 455 **paediatric critical care beds** available and 358 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 78.7%. This is lower than the occupancy rate observed last month, which was 79.3% and lower than in March 2017 (81.1%).
- There were 1,434 **neo-natal critical care beds** available and 1,026 occupied, giving an occupancy rate of 71.5%. This is higher than the occupancy rate observed last month, which was 69.0% and higher than in March 2017 (69.7%).

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

Cancelled Urgent Operations

- The number of urgent operations cancelled was 400 in March 2018, which compares to 374 in February 2018, and 380 in March 2017.
- The number of urgent operations cancelled for the second or subsequent time was 20 in March 2018

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

Month	Adult Critical Care			Paediatric Critical Care			Neonatal Critical Care		
	Open	Occupied	%	Open	Occupied	%	Open	Occupied	%
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%	1,430	1,011	70.7%
May-17	4,063	3,279	80.7%	454	362	79.7%	1,460	1,075	73.6%
Jun-17	4,079	3,281	80.4%	458	334	72.9%	1,437	1,058	73.6%
Jul-17	4,060	3,161	77.9%	452	354	78.3%	1,442	1,046	72.5%
Aug-17	4,041	3,228	79.9%	460	309	67.2%	1,440	1,016	70.6%
Sep-17	4,056	3,327	82.0%	460	372	80.9%	1,432	1,041	72.7%
Oct-17	4,071	3,296	81.0%	453	342	75.5%	1,434	1,004	70.0%
Nov-17	4,070	3,445	84.6%	474	393	82.9%	1,440	1,066	74.0%
Dec-17	4,060	3,336	82.2%	483	386	79.9%	1,438	1,020	70.9%
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%
Mar-18	4,064	3,355	82.6%	455	358	78.7%	1,434	1,026	71.5%

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 – March 2016 to March 2018

Month	Urgent Operations Cancelled	Urgent Operations Cancelled for the 2nd or more time
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	255	25
May-17	300	12
Jun-17	303	9
Jul-17	321	7
Aug-17	323	16
Sep-17	302	5
Oct-17	287	11
Nov-17	290	9
Dec-17	342	15
Jan-18	361	11
Feb-18	374	14
Mar-18	400	20

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.

From June 2018, NHS England will be aligning the publication of the Monthly SitReps collection with the monthly NHS England publication of the Combined Performance Statistics to improve data coherence. Therefore, the next release of data for this collection will be 14th June 2018 (relating to April 2018). The full set of publication dates is described in the 12 months statistics calendar.

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/

Revisions covering April 2017 to December 2017 (inclusive) have been published this month. Revisions affect neonatal critical care bed occupancy and cancelled operations data. The impact is minimal at national level, however changes to urgent operations are more notable particularly for April to August. The table below summarises the revisions

at England level. All revised data are published on the NHS England statistics webpages.

| | Neonatal critical care cots (or beds) | | | | | | Number in Reporting Period | | | |
| | Number open at Last Thursday on Reporting Period | | Number occupied at last Thursday on Reporting | | % of Open Beds Occupied | | Urgent Operations Cancelled | | Urgent Operations Cancelled for the | |
	Previous	Revised	Previous	Revised	Previous	Revised	Previous	Revised	Previous	Revised
Apr-17	1,414	1,430	996	1,011	70.4%	70.7%	275	255	29	25
May-17	1,444	1,460	1,063	1,075	73.6%	73.6%	314	300	15	12
Jun-17	1,421	1,437	1,043	1,058	73.4%	73.6%	326	303	15	9
Jul-17	1,426	1,442	1,031	1,046	72.3%	72.5%	337	321	9	7
Aug-17	1,424	1,440	1,008	1,016	70.8%	70.6%	352	323	18	16
Sep-17	1,416	1,432	1,027	1,041	72.5%	72.7%	302	302	5	5
Oct-17	1,418	1,434	989	1,004	69.7%	70.0%	287	287	11	11
Nov-17	1,424	1,440	1,056	1,066	74.2%	74.0%	290	290	9	9
Dec-17	1,420	1,438	1,008	1,020	71.0%	70.9%	340	342	14	15

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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