

STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE MONTHLY DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE DATA, ENGLAND, March 2018

Main Findings – March 2018:

Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 154,600 total delayed days in March 2018, of which 102,600 were in acute care. This is a decrease from March 2017, where there were 199,600 total delayed days, of which 132,800 were in acute care.
- The 154,600 total delayed days in March 2018 is equivalent to 4,987 daily DTOC beds. This compares to 5,006 in February 2018 and 6,440 in March 2017.
- 61.6% of all delays in March 2018 were attributable to the NHS, 30.7% were attributable to Social Care and the remaining 7.7% were attributable to both NHS and Social Care.
- The proportion of delays attributable to Social Care has decreased over the last year to 30.7% in March 2018, compared to 37.2% in March 2017.
- The main reason for NHS delays in March 2018 was “Patients Awaiting further Non Acute NHS Care”. This accounted for 29,400 delayed days (30.9% of all NHS delays). The number of delays attributable to this reason showed a general increase between August 2015 and January 2017. Since then, the number has been generally decreasing, until the first months of 2018, which have shown another increase in delays.
- The main reason for Social Care delays in March 2018 was “Patients Awaiting Care Package in their Own Home”. This accounted for 17,300 delayed days (36.5% of all Social Care delays), compared to 25,700 in March 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, although the last 3 months have shown a slight increase in the number of delays.
- Delays can occur in either an acute or non-acute care setting. The proportion of delays occurring in acute care in March 2018 was 66.3% compared to 66.5% in March 2017.

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

Table 2 shows the number of delayed transfers of care by type of care, reason for delay and responsible organisation for March 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 –March 2015 to March 2018

Month	Delayed Transfers of Care	
	Total Days Delayed	DTOC Beds
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	176,746	5,892
May 2017	178,054	5,744
June 2017	177,760	5,925
July 2017	181,640	5,859
August 2017	179,903	5,803
September 2017	168,072	5,602
October 2017	169,864	5,479
November 2017	155,137	5,171
December 2017	145,040	4,679
January 2018	151,291	4,880
February 2018	140,161	5,006
March 2018	154,602	4,987

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 – March 2018

Type of Care	Reason For Delay	Total Days Delayed		
		NHS	Social Care	Both
Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	6,756	5,679	1,256
	B) Awaiting public funding	1,652	274	39
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	25,763	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	7,378	4,801	582
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	3,111	6,128	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	7,784	11,096	3,574
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	2,459	234	256
	G) Patient or family choice	11,058	694	NA
	H) Disputes	316	134	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	1,550	NA	NA
Non-Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	2,625	1,643	736
	B) Awaiting public funding	1,188	760	1,080
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	3,618	NA	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	2,674	3,125	2,007
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	3,482	5,139	NA
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	2,556	6,228	2,282
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	1,050	133	68
	G) Patient or family choice	4,816	935	NA
	H) Disputes	681	271	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	4,013	NA	NA
O) Other	642	183	93	
All	Total	95,172	47,457	11,973

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.

Table 3 – Revisions to Delayed Transfers of Care April 2017 – February 2018

In line with NHS England policy, revisions were made this month to published data from April 2017 to February 2018. A summary of the impact at national level is shown in Table 3 below. Details of the trust who have submitted revisions can be found in the individual monthly Excel downloads.

Month	Total Delayed Days	
	Previous	Revised
April 2017	176,945	176,746
May 2017	178,204	178,054
June 2017	178,042	177,760
July 2017	181,888	181,640
August 2017	180,065	179,903
September 2017	168,256	168,072
October 2017	170,089	169,864
November 2017	155,059	155,137
December 2017	145,318	145,040
January 2018	152,300	151,291
February 2018	139,889	140,161

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.

Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust supplied a partial submission that did not include delays for patients from Bromley local authority.

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 14th June, 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: england.nhsdata@nhs.net

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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