

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

Main Findings – April 2018:

Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 145,000 total delayed days in April 2018, of which 93,900 were in acute care. This is a decrease from April 2017, where there were 176,900 total delayed days, of which 115,500 were in acute care.
- The 145,000 total delayed days in April 2018 is equivalent to 4,833 daily DTOC beds. This compares to 4,987 in March 2018 and 5,896 in April 2017.
- Both the NHS and Social Care sectors have seen reductions in the volume of delayed transfers of care in the last year.
- 62.5% of all delays in April 2018 were attributable to the NHS, 30.3% were attributable to Social Care and the remaining 7.3% were attributable to both NHS and Social Care.
- The proportion of delays attributable to Social Care has decreased over the last year to 30.3%.
- The main reason for NHS delays in April 2018 was “Patients Awaiting further Non Acute NHS Care”. This accounted for 26,600 delayed days (29.4% 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, over the past few months the number has remained fairly stable.
- The main reason for Social Care delays in April 2018 was “Patients Awaiting Care Package in their Own Home”. This accounted for 15,500 delayed days (35.3% of all Social Care delays), compared to 24,200 in April 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. April 2018 data continues this decreasing trend.
- Delays can occur in either an acute or non-acute care setting. The proportion of delays occurring in acute care in April 2018 was 64.7% compared to 65.3% in April 2017.

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

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

Month	Delayed Transfers of Care	
	Total Days Delayed	DTOC Beds
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	176,886	5,896
May 2017	178,209	5,749
June 2017	177,881	5,929
July 2017	181,891	5,867
August 2017	180,285	5,816
September 2017	168,041	5,601
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	140,133	5,005
March 2018	154,602	4,987
April 2018	144,997	4,833

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 – April 2018

Type of Care	Reason For Delay	Total Days Delayed		
		NHS	Social Care	Both
Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	6,074	4,749	1,132
	B) Awaiting public funding	1,424	356	17
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	22,238	NA	NA
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	2,839	5,647	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	7,274	4,502	647
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	6,570	9,656	3,087
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	2,891	302	267
	G) Patient or family choice	11,200	712	NA
	H) Disputes	338	133	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	1,830	NA	NA
Non-Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	2,730	1,533	690
	B) Awaiting public funding	1,247	990	810
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	4,398	NA	NA
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	3,472	4,827	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	2,727	2,758	1,869
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	2,472	5,844	1,835
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	1,094	272	124
	G) Patient or family choice	4,988	1,109	NA
	H) Disputes	414	276	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	3,810	NA	NA
	O) Other	527	236	60
All	Total	90,557	43,902	10,538

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 - September 2017, and February 2018

Unscheduled revisions have been made this month to published data from April 2017 to September 2017 and to February 2018 in order to correct errors made in previously revised data. 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	176,746	176,886
May 2017	178,054	178,209
June 2017	177,760	177,881
July 2017	181,640	181,891
August 2017	179,903	180,285
September 2017	168,072	168,041
February 2018	140,161	140,133

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.

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 12th July, 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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