This monthly release aims to provide users with an overview of NHS performance statistics in key areas. Official statistics are designed to give informative and impartial information about the performance of the NHS.

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Key Statistics

Accident and Emergency
- In the last 12 months there has been a 2.2% growth in the number of people attending A&E and a 4.3% growth in the number of people admitted to hospital as an emergency. There were over 23.95m attendances to A&E in the last twelve months and 6.08m emergency admissions to hospital.
- In May 2018, 90.4% of patients were seen within 4 hours. This is compared with 89.7% in May 2017.

Ambulances
- There were 696,799 incidents in England in May 2018, 22,477 per day, that either received a face-to-face response from an ambulance service or were resolved on the telephone.
- The mean average response time during May 2018 for Category C1 was 7 minutes and 46 seconds.

Delayed Transfers of Care
- In April 2018 patients spent a total of 145,000 extra days in hospital beds waiting to be discharged, compared to 176,900 in April 2017.
- This equates to an average of 4,833 beds occupied each day in April 2018 by a patient subject to a delayed transfer of care, compared to 5,896 in April 2017.

Referral to Treatment
- Almost 16 million patients started treatment in the last 12 months. This represents a 2.1% increase on the previous year.
- At the end of April 2018, there were 4.0m people on the waiting list for treatment. The waiting list has increased by 6.2% when compared to a year earlier. At the end of April 2018, of those waiting, 87.5% had been waiting for 18 weeks or less, a fall from 89.9% in April 2017.

NHS Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care
- The total number of Decision Support Tools (DSTs) completed for the Standard NHS CHC assessment route was 15,981 in Q4 2017/18. Of these, 2,236 (14%) were completed in an acute hospital setting.
- Of the 19,257 Standard NHS CHC referrals completed in Q4 2017/18, 12,776 (66%) were completed within 28 calendar days.

Cancer Waiting Times
- In the last 12 months there has been a 5.2% growth in the number of patients seen following an urgent GP referral compared to the preceding 12 months. As well as a 3.2% increase in those starting first definitive treatment for a new primary cancer and a 3.8% increase in those receiving a first treatment for cancer following an urgent referral for cancer.
- In April 2018, 90.8% of people were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer, 97.3% started a first definitive treatment for a new primary cancer and 82.3% of people received a first definitive treatment for cancer following an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer within 62 days.

Early intervention in Psychosis
- There were 1,235 patients waiting to start treatment at the end of April 2018. In April 2018, 74.4% of patients experiencing First Episode Psychosis (FEP) started treatment within two weeks of referral.

Improving Access to Psychological Therapies
- 52.5% of patients referred to IAPT services recovered in March 2018, against a target of 50.0%. The proportion recovering increased by 1.5 percentage points between the complete years of 2014-15 and 2015-16.
Urgent and Emergency Care

Access

Accident and Emergency

- There were a record 2.16m attendances in May 2018, 4.6% more than in May 2017. Attendances in the last 12 months were 2.2% higher than the preceding 12 month period.

- The number of attendances admitted, transferred or discharged within 4 hours was 1.95m - 90.4% of the total. This is a 5.4% increase on the equivalent figure for May 2017 (1.85m seen within 4 hours).

- The number of patients seen in over 4 hours was 208,137 compared to 212,872 in May 2017, a decrease of 2.2%.

- There were 534,118 emergency admissions in May 2018, 5.6% more than in May 2017. Admissions in the last 12 months period were up 4.3% on the preceding 12 month period.

- There were 39,238 patients waiting more than 4 hours from decision to admit to admission (2.6% lower than May 2017). Of these, 106 patients waited more than 12 hours (7.8% lower than in May 2017).

NHS 111

- There were 1.4m calls offered in England in May 2018, an increase of 7.9% on May 2017. There were 16.1m calls in the last 12 months, 7.9% more than the previous 12 months.

- Of calls offered to NHS 111 in May 2018, the proportion abandoned after waiting longer than 30 seconds was 3.1%, up from 2.2% in May 2017. Of calls answered by NHS 111 in May 2018, 84.8% were answered within 60 seconds compared with 89.2% in May 2017.

- Of calls triaged, the proportion that received any form of clinical input was 51.1% in May 2018, the highest since NHS 111 began. In May 2017 the figure was 39.7%.

Ambulances

- There were 696,799 incidents in England in May 2018, 22,477 per day, that either received a face-to-face response from an ambulance service or were resolved on the telephone.

- The mean average response times across England in May 2018 were 7 minutes 46 seconds for Category C1 and 21 minutes 17 seconds for Category C2. These increased by 1.6% and 5.1% respectively compared with April 2018.

- For cardiac arrest patients who had resuscitation commenced or continued by an Ambulance Service in England in January 2018, the proportion discharged alive from hospital was 6.5%, similar to the proportions for December 2017 (7.1%) and January 2017 (7.4%).
Quality

Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 144,997 delayed days in April 2018, compared to 176,886 in April 2017. This is a decrease of 18.0%.

- These days equate to a daily average of 4,833 beds occupied by DTOC patients in April 2018 and 5,896 in April 2017.

- The proportion of delays attributable to NHS in April 2018 was 62.5%, up from 54.8% in April 2017. The remaining delays were attributed as follows: 30.3% Social Care (down from 38.1% in April 2017) and 7.3% Both (up from 7.1% in April 2017).
Planned Care

Access

Referral to Treatment (RTT)

- 1.3m patients started consultant-led treatment in April 2018. There were 15.9m completed RTT pathways in the 12 months to April 2018. The number of completed RTT pathways in the 12 months to April 2018 increased by 2.1%, having taken account of trusts not submitting data.

- Of patients on the waiting list at the end of April 2018, 87.5% had been waiting less than 18 weeks, thus not meeting the 92% standard. This compares to 89.9% at the end of April 2017.

- The number of RTT patients waiting to start treatment at the end of April 2018 was 4.0 million. Taking account of trusts not submitting data, the waiting list increased by 6.2% over April 2017.

- The number of patients on the waiting list who were waiting under 18 weeks increased between April 2017 and April 2018 from 3.4m to 3.5m, and the number of patients waiting over 18 weeks rose from 382,000 to 500,000. This comparison will be affected by differences in the trusts not submitting data in each period.

- 2,882 patients were waiting more than 52 weeks. This compares to 1,568 in April 2017, and 391 patients five years ago (April 2013). This comparison will be affected by differences in the trusts not submitting information in each period.

Diagnostic Tests

- 1.8m diagnostic tests were undertaken in April 2018, a decrease of 2.9% on the previous year (adjusted for working days).

- The number of tests conducted over the last twelve months is up 2.9% (adjusted for working days) on the preceding twelve month period.

- 2.5% of the patients waiting for one of the 15 key diagnostic tests at the end of April 2018 had been waiting six weeks or longer from referral, compared to the 1% operational standard.
Quality

Mixed Sex Accommodation

- In April 2018, providers of NHS-funded healthcare reported 1,584 breaches of MSA guidance in relation to NHS patients in sleeping accommodation. This compares to 1,853 in March 2018 and 314 in April 2013.
- Of the 151 acute trusts that submitted data for April 2018, 107 (70.9%) reported zero sleeping breaches.
- The MSA breach rate in April 2018 was 1.0 per 1,000 FCEs, 1.0 in March 2018 and 0.2 in April 2013.

NHS Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care

- The total number of Decision Support Tools (DSTs) completed for the Standard NHS CHC assessment route was 15,981 in Q4 2017/18. Of these, 2,236 (14%) were completed in an acute hospital setting.
- Of the 19,257 Standard NHS CHC referrals completed in Q4 2017/18, 12,776 (66%) were completed within 28 calendar days.
- The number of incomplete referrals exceeding 28 calendar days was 5,449 as at the last day of Q4 2017/18. Of these: 877 exceeded by up to 2 weeks; 610 exceeded by more than 2 weeks and up to 4 weeks; 1,250 exceeded by more than 4 weeks and up to 12 weeks; 1,152 exceeded by more than 12 weeks and up to 26 weeks; 1,560 exceeded by more than 26 weeks.
- The total number of people eligible for NHS CHC was 54,411 as at the last day of Q4 2017/18. Of these, 37,114 were eligible via the Standard NHS CHC assessment route and 17,297 were eligible via the Fast Track assessment route.
- The Fast Track referral conversion rate was 96% in Q4 2017/18.
- The Standard NHS CHC assessment conversion rate was 26% in Q4 2017/18.
- The total number of people eligible for NHS-funded Nursing Care was 76,817 as at the last day of Q4 2017/18.

Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs)

Statistics in this section are already in the public domain and are routinely published by NHS Digital.

- PROMs assess the quality of care delivered to NHS patients for hip and knee replacements by using short, self-completed questionnaires before and after a procedure. Health gain on Oxford Hip and Knee Scores is measured from 0 (worst) to 48 (best), and is calculated by using the difference in scores from the pre- and post-operative questionnaires.
• The average health gain reported for hip and knee replacements has increased very slightly year on year over time, but the proportion of patients reporting improvement has largely remained unchanged.

• Participation in PROMs for hip and knee procedures has increased since PROMs was launched.

• Data for 2016/17 is provisional, with data added cumulatively until a final publication, due August 2018. This is due to post-operative questionnaires being sent out 6 months after the replacement procedure. Charts shown here contain all data returned to NHS Digital up to March 2018.

Source: Patient Reported Outcome Measures, NHS Digital

PROMs Hip Replacement Procedures, Average Health Gain
Oxford Hip Score, 2012/13 to 2016/17 (provisional data)
Cancer

Access

Cancer Waiting Times

- Two week wait: 174,190 people were seen following an urgent referral for suspected cancer in April 2018. There were 1,961,241 people seen in the 12 months to April 2018, an increase of 5.2% (96,748 more patients) on the previous 12 months period.

- 90.8% of people in April 2018 were seen by a specialist within two weeks of an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer. The operational standard specifies that 93% of patients should be seen within this time.

- 31 day wait: 23,804 patients started a first definitive treatment for a new primary cancer in April 2018. There were 291,283 people seen in the 12 months to April 2018, an increase of 3.2% (8,899 more patients) on the previous 12 months period.

- 97.3% of patients in April 2018 received a first definitive treatment for a new primary cancer. The operational standard specifies that 96% of patients should be treated within this time.

- 62 day wait: 12,473 patients received a first treatment for cancer following an urgent GP referral in April 2018. There were 148,710 people seen in the 12 months to April 2018, an increase of 3.8% (5,457 more patients) on the previous 12 months period.

- 82.3% of patients received a first definitive treatment for cancer following an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer within 62 days in April 2018, this equates to 10,264 patients being treated within the standard. The operational standard specifies that 85% of patients should be treated within this time.

- A national breast cancer campaign for women over 70 years of age ran from 22 February to 31 March 2018. This campaign was expected to increase women referred for both breast cancer and breast symptoms during the campaign period and for a number of months after the campaign, and affect performance against the two week wait standards.

Cancer Registrations

Statistics in this section are already in the public domain and are routinely published by the Office for National Statistics.

- Generally, cancer registrations have increased following advances in medicine which have resulted in an ageing population and improved detection of cancers. Advances in medicine and early detection of cancers have reduced the number of people dying from the disease.

- The number of new diagnosed cases of cancer in England continues to rise and, in 2016, there were 303,100 cancers registered (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers) – equivalent to 828 new cases being diagnoses each day. This has increased from 275,800 cancers registered in 2010.
• Breast (15.2%), prostate (13.4%), lung (12.7%) and colorectal (11.5%) cancers continue to account for over half (52.7%) of the cancer registrations in England for all ages combined.

• Since 2010, the age-standardised rates* of cancer registrations per 100,000 people have increased in females (from 532.8 to 541.1 per 100,000 females) but have fallen for males (from 680.3 to 663.4 per 100,000 males).

• Between 2010 and 2016, mortality rates, due to cancer, for both males and females fell from 348.1 to 323.7 per 100,000 males and from 236.7 to 226.7 per 100,000 females.

Cancer Emergency Presentations

Statistics in this section are already in the public domain and are routinely published by Public Health England.

• Between July and September 2017, of 67,539 cancer patients first presenting at hospital in England, 12,977 (19.2%) presented as an emergency.

• In England, the annual average proportion of cancer patients who first presented as an emergency has gradually fallen over the last five years reported, from 20.5% in October 2012 to September 2013 to 19.2% in October 2016 to September 2017.

• At CCG level, there was an approximate threefold variation in the proportion of cancer patients who first presented as an emergency in the most recent quarter (July to September 2017); across the 207 CCGs the proportion varied from 11.2% to 28.9%

Quality

Cancer Survival Estimates

Statistics in this section are already in the public domain and are routinely published by the Office for National Statistics.

• Adults diagnosed with late cancer (stage 4) in 2015, which had already spread to other parts of the body, have lower 1-year survival compared with those diagnosed in the earliest stage (stage 1), with the lowest survival in lung cancer in men (17.1%) and women (21.6%).

• Conversely, adults diagnosed with melanoma of the skin, prostate and breast cancer (women only) in the earliest
stage now have 1-year survival that is comparable to the general population of the same age who have not been diagnosed with cancer.

- For all childhood cancers (diagnosed in England followed up to the end of the most recently completed calendar year) combined, the general trend of increasing 5-year survival has continued. For children (0 to 14 years), 5-year survival has increased from 81.7% for those diagnosed in 2011 to 84.0% predicted for those children diagnosed in 2017. Since there is a small difference between 5-year and 10-year survival estimates, children who survive for five years often live at least a further five years after diagnosis.
Mental Health

Access

Early Intervention in Psychosis

- The number of patients waiting to start treatment (incomplete pathways) was 1,235 at the end of April 2018. Of these 619 were waiting for more than two weeks.

- 74.4% of patients started treatment within two weeks in April 2018. The waiting time standard of 50% was therefore met. This compares to 75.9% the previous month and 72.5% in April 2017.

- Providers are continuing to work on data quality, and issues identified by them may ultimately impact on performance against the standard – any single month’s data should therefore be treated with caution.

Out of Area Placements

These statistics are already in the public domain and are routinely published by NHS Digital.

- The Government set a national ambition to eliminate inappropriate Out of Area Placements (OAPs) in mental health services for adults in acute inpatient care by 2020-21. Inappropriate OAPs are where patients are sent out of area because no bed is available for them locally which can delay their recovery.

- The latest data published relates to the position at the end of March 2018 and reports that there were 645 Out of Area Placements (OAPs) active, of which 620 were Inappropriate.

- These figures for OAPs should be interpreted with caution, as with all of the previous reports in this series. These figures only contain OAPs that started on or after 17 October 2016 (the date this OAPs collection launched). It is estimated that due to this starting point, this report only include around 95 per cent of all OAPs active during the collection period (if all providers in scope had submitted data).

- This month, 54 organisations have participated in this collection out of 57 organisations in scope. This means that 95 per cent of organisations have participated.

Children and Young People with an Eating Disorder

These statistics are published quarterly by NHS England.

- By 2020, 95% of children and young people referred for assessment or treatment for an eating disorder should receive treatment within one week if the case is urgent, and four weeks if the case is routine.

- 78.9% of patients started urgent treatment within one week in Q4 2017-18. This compares to 76.9% in Q3 2017-18 and 68.7% in Q4 2016/17.
Mental Health Services – Contacts and Referrals

Statistics in this section are already in the public domain and are routinely published by NHS Digital.

- The number of new referrals into NHS funded secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services during March 2018 was 280,613. This is an increase of 5.1% (13,731) compared to the average number of new referrals per month between March 2017 and February 2018.

- In January 2016 the scope of statistics for secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services was expanded to include services for children and young people. Due to this, comparable figures are not available prior to this date.

- The number of people in contact with NHS funded secondary mental health, learning disabilities and autism services on 28 February 2018 was 1,254,365. This is an increase of 31,442 compared to the average number of people in contact at the end of each month between March 2017 and February 2018.

Quality

Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT)

These statistics are already in the public domain and are routinely published by NHS Digital.

- 52.5% of referrals recovered in March 2018, compared to 49.3% in 2016-17 and 46.3% in 2015-16. 67.6% of referrals reliably improved in March 2018, compared to 65.1% in 2016-17 and 62.2% in 2015-16. 50.0% of referrals reliably recovered in March 2018, compared to 47.0% in 2016-17 and 44.0% in 2015-16.

- There were 1,385,664 new referrals to IAPT services in 2016-17; 1% less than in 2015-16. 965,379 referrals entered treatment in 2016-17; 1%, or 11,857 referrals, more than in 2015-16.

- 567,106 referrals finished a course of IAPT treatment in 2016-17; 6%, or 29,975 referrals more than in 2015-16.

- 87.5% waited less than 6 weeks in 2016-17 and 98.2% waited less than 18 weeks in 2016-17.