

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

Main Findings – AUGUST 2018:

Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 145,600 total delayed days in August 2018, of which 94,900 were in acute care. This is a decrease from August 2017, where there were 180,300 total delayed days, of which 115,900 were in acute care.
- The 145,600 total delayed days in August 2018 is equivalent to 4,697 daily DTOC beds. This compares to 4,516 in July 2018 and 5,816 in August 2017.
- Both the NHS and Social Care sectors have seen reductions in the volume of delayed transfers of care in the last year.
- 61.3% of all delays in August 2018 were attributable to the NHS, 31.3% were attributable to Social Care and the remaining 7.4% were attributable to both NHS and Social Care.
- The proportion of delays attributable to Social Care has decreased over the last year to 31.3%.
- The main reason for NHS delays in August 2018 was “Patients Awaiting further Non Acute NHS Care”. This accounted for 24,500 delayed days (27.4% 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. The 24,500 delays attributable to this reason shows a slight increase in comparison to July 2018 (23,900), but still contributes towards a general downward trend.
- The main reason for Social Care delays in August 2018 was “Patients Awaiting Care Package in their Own Home”. This accounted for 16,600 delayed days (36.3% of all Social Care delays), compared to 22,200 in August 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 since June 2018 these figures have increased slightly each month.
- Delays can occur in either an acute or non-acute care setting. The proportion of delays occurring in acute care in August 2018 was 65.2% compared to 64.3% in August 2017.

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

Table 2 shows the number of delayed transfers of care by type of care, reason for delay and responsible organisation for August 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-2018-19/>

Table 1 – Delayed Transfers of Care – August 2015 to August 2018

| Month | Delayed Transfers of Care | |
|----------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| | Total Days Delayed | DTOC Beds |
| 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 |
| May 2018 | 139,204 | 4,490 |
| June 2018 | 134,326 | 4,478 |
| July 2018 | 139,983 | 4,516 |
| August 2018 | 145,617 | 4,697 |

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 – August 2018

| Type of Care | Reason For Delay | Total Days Delayed | | |
|--------------|---|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | NHS | Social Care | Both |
| Acute | A) Awaiting completion of assessment | 6,048 | 4,936 | 1,458 |
| | B) Awaiting public funding | 1,561 | 418 | 94 |
| | C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc) | 20,909 | 0 | 0 |
| | Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability | 3,196 | 6,038 | 0 |
| | Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability | 7,995 | 4,231 | 472 |
| | E) Awaiting care package in own home | 7,461 | 10,566 | 2,951 |
| | F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations | 2,179 | 287 | 191 |
| | G) Patient or family choice | 10,698 | 800 | 0 |
| | H) Disputes | 383 | 43 | 0 |
| | I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act | 1,956 | 0 | 0 |
| Non-Acute | A) Awaiting completion of assessment | 2,092 | 1,557 | 483 |
| | B) Awaiting public funding | 1,005 | 724 | 604 |
| | C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc) | 3,577 | 0 | 0 |
| | Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability | 3,669 | 4,869 | 0 |
| | Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability | 2,456 | 3,132 | 2,083 |
| | E) Awaiting care package in own home | 2,302 | 6,005 | 2,160 |
| | F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations | 833 | 307 | 26 |
| | G) Patient or family choice | 5,594 | 1,182 | 0 |
| | H) Disputes | 494 | 242 | 0 |
| | I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act | 4,200 | 0 | 0 |
| O) Other | 645 | 300 | 205 | |
| All | Total | 89,253 | 45,637 | 10,727 |

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-2018-19/>

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 8th November, 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

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) statistician responsible for producing these data is:

Paul Steele
Operational Information for Commissioning (National)
NHS England
Room 5E15, Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7UE
For data queries, email: england.nhsdata@nhs.net