

STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE MONTHLY DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE DATA, ENGLAND, JANUARY 2019

Main Findings –JANUARY 2019:

Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 135,700 total delayed days in January 2019, of which 86,800 were in acute care. This is a decrease from January 2018, where there were 151,400 total delayed days, of which 99,000 were in acute care.
- The 135,700 total delayed days in January 2019 is equivalent to 4,377 daily DTOC beds. This compares to 4,883 in January 2018 and 4,173 in December 2018.
- 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 January 2019 were attributable to the NHS, 30.5% were attributable to Social Care and the remaining 8.1% were attributable to both NHS and Social Care.
- The proportion of delays attributable to Social Care has decreased over the last year to 30.5%.
- The main reason for NHS delays in January 2019 was “Patients Awaiting further Non Acute NHS Care”. This accounted for 24,500 delayed days (29.4% of all NHS delays). The number of delays attributable to this reason showed an increase between August 2015 and January 2017. Since March 2018, the number has been generally decreasing, although the delayed days in January 2019 is an increase on the previous month (21,400 in December 2018).
- The main reason for Social Care delays in January 2019 was “Patients Awaiting Care Package in their Own Home”. This accounted for 13,900 delayed days (33.6% of all Social Care delays) 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 2018.
- Delays can occur in either an acute or non-acute care setting. The proportion of delays occurring in acute care in January 2019 was 63.9% compared to 65.4% in January 2018.

Table 1 shows information on delayed transfers of care from January 2016 to January 2019.

Table 2 shows the number of delayed transfers of care by type of care, reason for delay and responsible organisation for January 2019.

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 – January 2016 to January 2019

Month	Delayed Transfers of Care	
	Total Days Delayed	DTOC Beds
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	151,383	4,883
February 2018	140,364	5,013
March 2018	154,494	4,984
April 2018	145,181	4,839
May 2018	139,533	4,501
June 2018	134,726	4,491
July 2018	140,361	4,528
August 2018	146,841	4,737
September 2018	144,536	4,818
October 2018	146,861	4,737
November 2018	137,388	4,580
December 2018	129,374	4,173
January 2019	135,683	4,377

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 – January 2019

Type of Care	Reason For Delay	Total Days Delayed		
		NHS	Social Care	Both
Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	5,597	5,285	1,371
	B) Awaiting public funding	979	284	104
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	20,733	NA	NA
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	3,767	5,898	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	6,427	3,442	445
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	6,221	8,538	2,595
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	1,986	331	264
	G) Patient or family choice	9,337	828	NA
	H) Disputes	305	62	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	1,961	NA	NA
Non-Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	1,907	1,192	469
	B) Awaiting public funding	836	760	660
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	3,720	NA	NA
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	3,717	4,829	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	1,791	2,913	2,605
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	2,751	5,396	2,345
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	799	112	36
	G) Patient or family choice	5,012	673	NA
	H) Disputes	269	299	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	4,031	NA	NA
O) Other	1,061	582	158	
All	Total	83,207	41,424	11,052

Notes:

1. NA means the combination of reason and responsible organisation is not permitted.
2. As of April 2018, 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 December 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 December 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 11th April 2019.

5. Revisions

Revisions to previous months' 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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