STATISTICAL PRESS NOTICE
MONTHLY DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE DATA, ENGLAND, JANUARY 2020

Main Findings – JANUARY 2020:

Delayed Transfers of Care

- There were 160,600 total delayed days in January 2020, of which 107,000 were in acute care. This is an increase from January 2019, where there were 135,400 total delayed days, of which 86,500 were in acute care.

- The 160,600 total delayed days in January 2020 is equivalent to an average of 5,182 people delayed per day. This compares to 4,369 in January 2019 and 4,777 last month and is the highest number since October 2017.

- The NHS and Social Care sectors have seen an increase in the volume of delayed transfers of care compared to the same month last year, and the number of delays jointly attributable has increased also.

- 60.0% of all delays in January 2020 were attributable to the NHS, 30.6% were attributable to Social Care and the remaining 9.4% were attributable to both NHS and Social Care.

- The proportion of delays attributable to the NHS has decreased over the last year from 61.4% to 60.0%, whilst Social Care attributable delays have increased from 30.5% to 30.6%.

- The main reason for NHS delays in January 2020 was "Patients Awaiting further Non-Acute NHS Care". This accounted for 29,800 delayed days (31.0% of all NHS delays). The number of delays attributable to this reason showed an increase between August 2015 and January 2017 but has been generally stable since May 2018.

- The main reason for Social Care delays in January 2020 was "Patients Awaiting Care Package in their Own Home". This accounted for 16,600 delayed days (33.7% of all Social Care delays). Delays attributable to this reason were generally decreasing between Summer 2018 and Summer 2019 but have increased again since then.

- Delays can occur in either an acute or non-acute care setting. The proportion of delays occurring in acute care in January 2020 was 66.6% compared to 63.9% in January 2019.

Table 1 shows information on delayed transfers of care from January 2017 to January 2020.

Table 2 shows the number of delayed transfers of care by type of care, reason for delay and responsible organisation for January 2020.

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

Table 1 – Delayed Transfers of Care – January 2017 to January 2020

Month	Delayed Transfers of Care	
	Total Days Delayed	Average Number of People Delayed per Day
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	145,347	4,845
May 2018	139,812	4,510
June 2018	135,088	4,503
July 2018	140,938	4,546
August 2018	146,866	4,738
September 2018	144,595	4,820
October 2018	146,610	4,729
November 2018	136,183	4,539
December 2018	128,799	4,155
January 2019	135,428	4,369
February 2019	127,207	4,543
March 2019	138,776	4,477
April 2019	130,773	4,359
May 2019	139,415	4,497
June 2019	135,089	4,503
July 2019	139,903	4,513
August 2019	148,872	4,802
September 2019	149,384	4,979
October 2019	152,522	4,920
November 2019	145,876	4,863
December 2019	148,101	4,777
January 2020	160,637	5,182

Table 2 – Delayed Transfers of Care by Type of Care, Reason for Delay and Responsible Organisation – January 2020

Type of Care	Reason For Delay	Total Days Delayed		
		NHS	Social Care	Both
Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	6,595	8,095	2,553
	B) Awaiting public funding	1,020	320	70
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	25,427	NA	NA
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	3,504	6,973	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	7,656	3,672	1,028
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	7,931	11,149	4,778
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	2,142	319	262
	G) Patient or family choice	9,866	1,094	NA
	H) Disputes	354	120	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	2,027	NA	NA
Non-Acute	A) Awaiting completion of assessment	1,852	1,500	322
	B) Awaiting public funding	1,182	772	864
	C) Awaiting further non-acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation services etc)	4,398	NA	NA
	Di) Awaiting residential home placement or availability	3,403	5,447	NA
	Dii) Awaiting nursing home placement or availability	2,328	2,491	2,466
	E) Awaiting care package in own home	2,717	5,439	2,442
	F) Awaiting community equipment and adaptations	1,019	245	104
	G) Patient or family choice	5,189	903	NA
	H) Disputes	464	253	NA
	I) Housing – patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	5,669	NA	NA
	O) Other	1,591	406	216
All	**Total**	96,334	49,198	15,105

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 Monthly 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 number of people delayed per day 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-2019-20/

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 population basis, i.e. Councils with Adult Social Services Responsibility (CASSRs) that are responsible for all patients who reside in their area.

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 **9th April 2020**.

5. Revisions

Revisions to previous months' data are made in line with NHS England and NHS Improvement'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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