

Publication Summary



Delayed Discharges in NHSScotland

Occupied Bed Days in October 2015 and
Census Figures for November 2015

Publication date – 22 December 2015

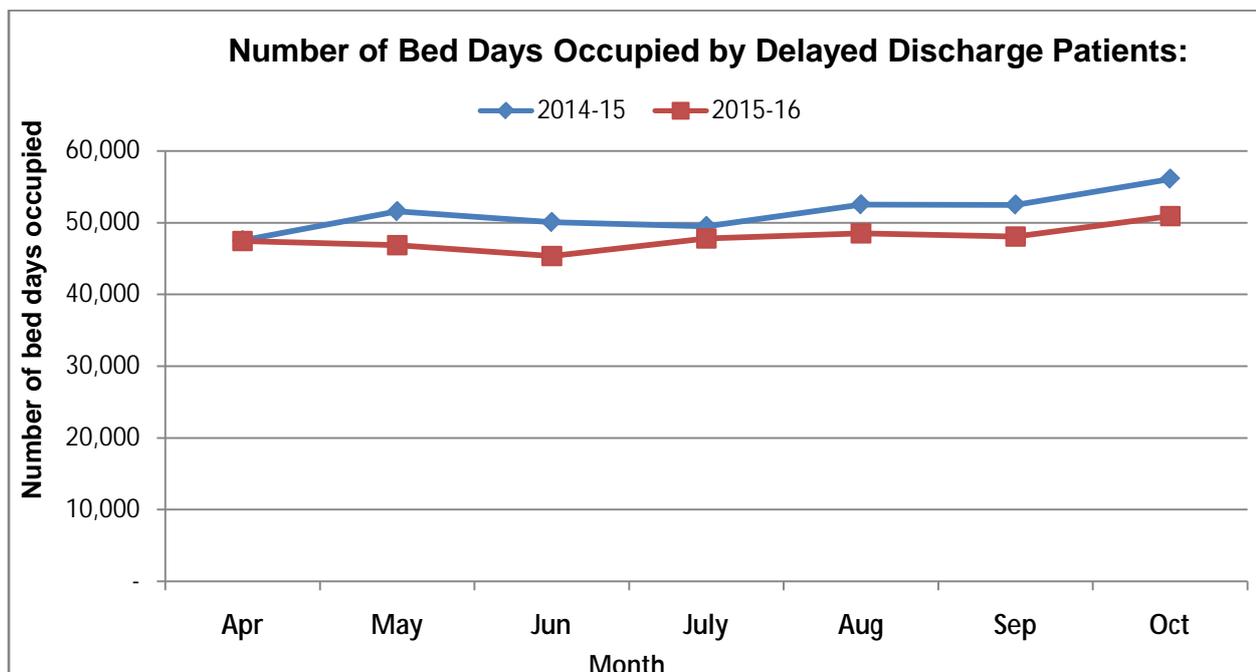


About this Release

Information Services Division (ISD) publish on a monthly basis the number of patients classified as a delayed discharge at the monthly census point (currently the 15th), and the number of hospital bed days associated with delayed discharges for the full calendar month preceding the census.

Hospital Bed Days associated with delays in discharge in October 2015

- In October 2015, there were 50,945 days spent in hospital associated with delays in discharge. This is a 6% increase from September and a 9% decrease on the same period last year.
- Nationally, 70% of these bed days are occupied by patients aged 75 and over.



Patients ready for discharge as at November 2015 census

- 1,294* patients were delayed at the November 2015 census. This is a 4% decrease on November 2014.
- Over a quarter of these delays (347) are for patients with specific complex care needs.
- Of the remaining 947 patients delayed at the census:
 - 29% (277) were awaiting place availability in a care home
 - 28% (267) were awaiting completion of social care arrangements for living in their own home – awaiting social support.
 - 20% (187) were awaiting completion of a post-hospital social care assessment.

*Please note that NHS Borders submitted an incorrect census file to ISD as part of the December publication. Unfortunately this emerged too late in the publication process to allow for the figures to be updated in time for the release. The net effect is an increase of 5 to the NHS Borders and Scotland delayed discharge totals. Revised NHS Borders figures for the November census will appear in the January 2016 publication.

Background

A delayed discharge is a **hospital inpatient who is clinically ready for discharge from inpatient hospital care and who continues to occupy a hospital bed beyond the ready for discharge date.**

Reliably achieving timely discharge from hospital is an important indicator of quality and is a marker for person centred, effective, integrated and harm free care. Older people may experience functional decline as early as 72 hours after admission and the risk increases with each day delayed in hospital. This increases the risk of harm and of a poor outcome for the individual and further increases the demand for institutional care or more intensive support at home.

From April 2016 there will be a move towards measuring the number of patients delayed for less than 72 hours.

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Further Information

The data from this publication is available to download [from our web page](#) along with a [background information and glossary](#), and [metadata](#) document.

For more information on Delayed Discharges [see the Delayed Discharges pages of the ISD website](#). For related topics, please see the [Health and Social Community Care](#) pages.

The next release of this publication will be 26 January 2016.

NHS Performs

A selection of information from this publication is included in [NHS Performs](#). NHS Performs is a website that brings together a range of information on how hospitals and NHS Boards within NHSScotland are performing.

ISD and Official Statistics

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of 'Official Statistics'. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Further information [about our statistics](#).