

Publication Summary



Delayed Discharges in NHSScotland

Occupied Bed Days in December 2015 and
Census Figures for January 2016

Publication date – 23 February 2016

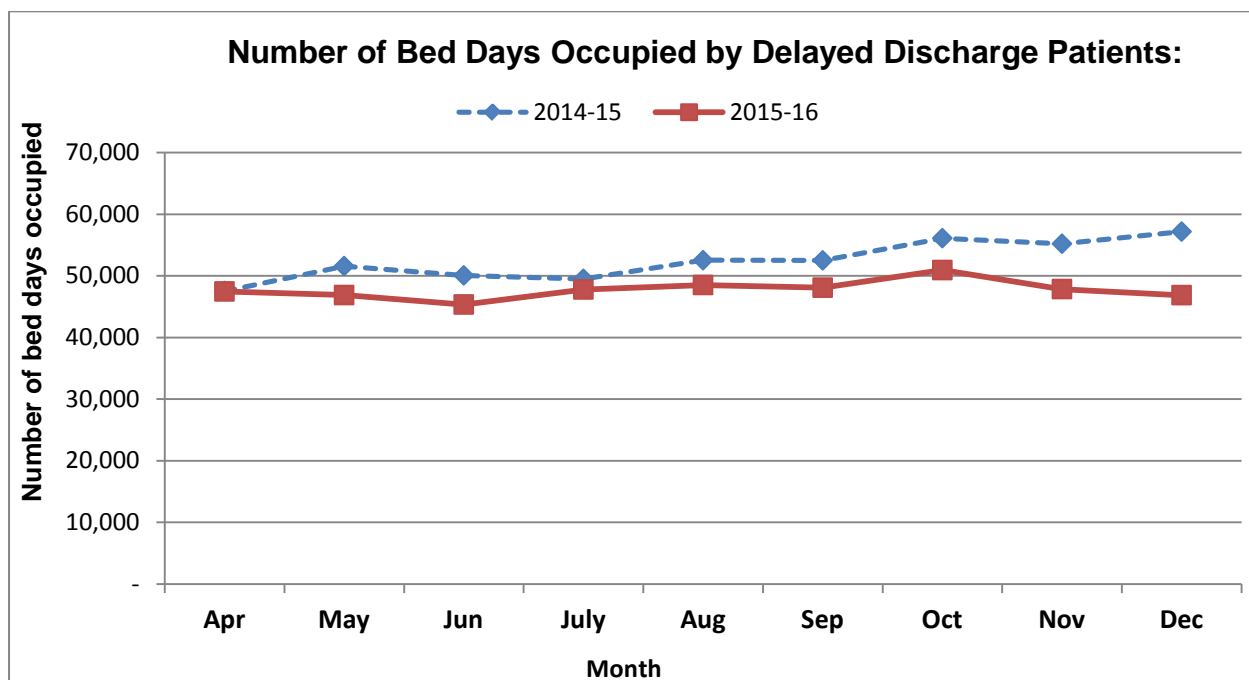


About this Release

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

Hospital Bed Days associated with delays in discharge in December 2015

- In December 2015, patients spent 46,878 days in hospital due to delays in discharge. This is a 2% decrease from November and an 18% decrease on the same period last year.
- Nationally, around 70% of these bed days are occupied by patients aged 75 and over.



Patients ready for discharge as at January 2016 census

- 1,142 patients were delayed at the January 2016 census. This is a 4% decrease on December 2015 and an 11% decrease on the same period last year.
- 31% of these delays (356) are for patients with specific complex care needs.
- Of the remaining 786 patients delayed at the census:
 - 29% (226) were awaiting place availability in a care home.
 - 28% (217) were awaiting completion of social care arrangements for living in their own home.
 - 25% (196) were awaiting completion of a post-hospital social care assessment.

Background

A delayed discharge is a hospital patient that is clinically ready for discharge from inpatient hospital care but continues to occupy a hospital bed beyond the ready for discharge date. Timely discharge from hospital is an important indicator of quality and is a marker for person centred, effective, integrated and harm free care.

We are carrying out work to improve data quality and reporting of this information. From April 2016 there will be a new national indicator measuring the proportion of patients experiencing a discharge delay of up to 72 hours.

From April 2016 there will also be changes to the national reporting requirements for delayed discharges. [Please see News and Updates on the Delayed Discharges section of our website for more details.](#)

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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 section of our website](#). For related topics, please see the [Health and Social Community Care](#) pages.

The next release of this publication will be 22 March 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](#).