

Delayed Discharges in NHSScotland

Occupied Bed Days in January 2016 and Census Figures for February 2016



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About this release

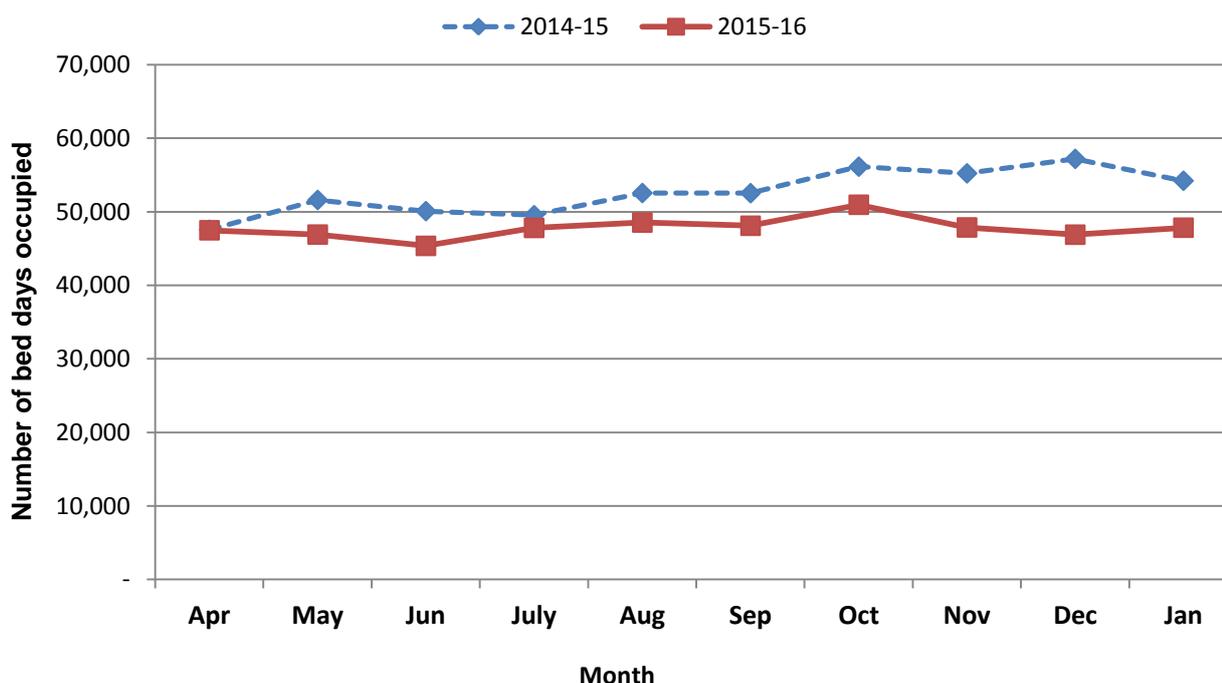
Information Services Division publish on a monthly basis the number of hospital bed-days associated with delayed discharges for a full calendar month, and the number of patients classified as a delayed discharge at the monthly census point (currently the 15th of the month).

Main Points

Hospital Bed-Days associated with delays in discharge in January 2016

- In January 2016, patients spent 47,827 days in hospital due to delays in discharge. This is a 12% decrease on the same period last year. Nationally, over 70% of these bed-days were accounted for by patients aged 75 and over.

Number of Bed Days Occupied by Delayed Discharge Patients



Patients ready for discharge as at February 2016 census

- 1,192 patients were delayed at the February 2016 census. This is a 4% increase on January 2016 and a 6% decrease on the same period last year.

- 30% of these delays (363) were for patients with specific complex care needs.
- Of the remaining 829 patients delayed at the census:
 - 30% (249) were awaiting place availability in a care home.
 - 26% (216) were awaiting completion of social care arrangements for living in their own home – awaiting social support.
 - 26% (216) 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 we will start to measure the number of patients delayed for less than 72 hours.

The Data Recording Manual and Reporting Guidelines are being revised. [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 26 April 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.](#)