

# Delayed Discharges in NHSScotland

## Occupied Bed Days in March 2016 and Census Figures for April 2016



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### About this release

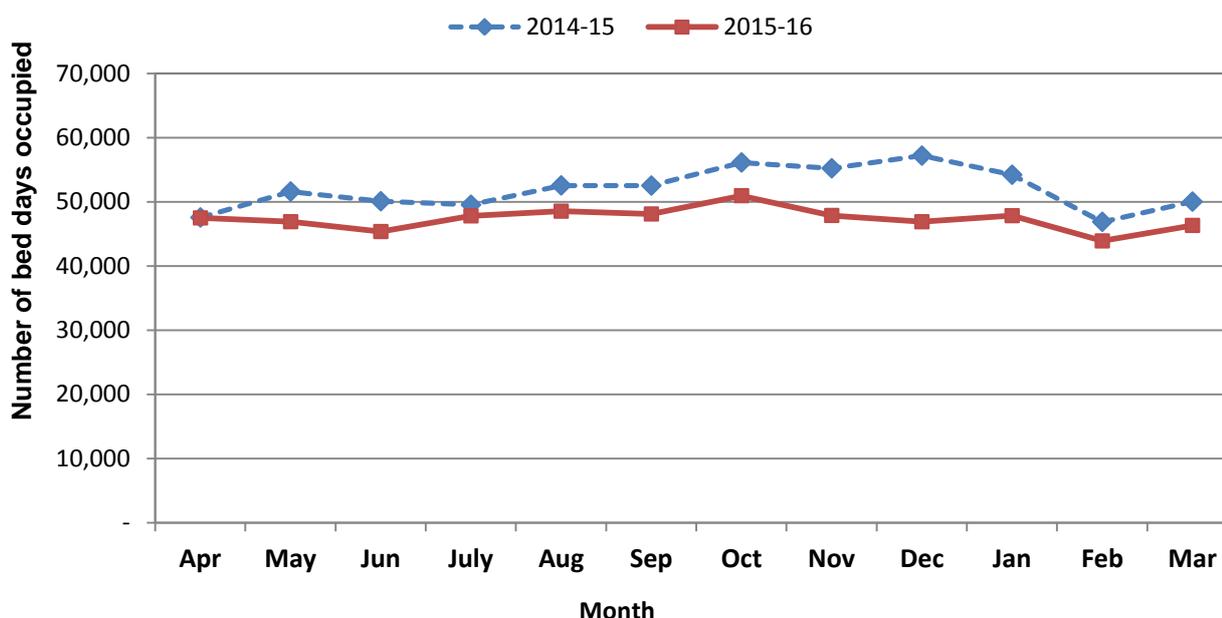
Information Services Division publish on a monthly basis the number of hospital bed days associated with delayed discharges for a full calendar month, and the number of patients classified as a delayed discharge at the monthly census point (currently the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month).

### Main Points

Hospital bed days associated with delays in discharge in March 2016

- In March 2016, patients spent 46,309 days in hospital due to delays in discharge. This is a 7% decrease on the same period last year.
- In the year ending March 2016, patients spent 55,585 fewer days delayed in hospital than in the previous year. This represents a 9% decrease.

### Number of Bed Days Occupied by Delayed Discharge Patients:



Patients ready for discharge as at April 2016 census

- 1,107 patients were delayed at the April 2016 census. This is a 5% decrease on March 2016 and a 1% increase on the same period last year.
- 33% of these delays (367) were for patients with specific complex care needs.
- Of the remaining 740 patients delayed at the census:
  - 247 (33%) were awaiting place availability in a care home
  - 189 (25%) were awaiting completion of a post hospital social care assessment
  - 150 (20%) were awaiting completion of social care arrangements for social care support to live in their own home

## 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.

Following work undertaken to improve data quality and reporting of delayed discharge information a revised data definitions manual and national data requirements will be effective from 1 July 2016. [Please see News and Updates on the Delayed Discharges section of our website for more details.](#)

## Contact

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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 21 June 2016. The annual publication will be released on 28 June 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.

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## ISD and Official Stats

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.](#)