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Discharge delays

NHS England publishes statistics of patients remaining in hospital who no longer meet the criteria for staying.

1. **Do you collate these statistics for your trust?**

Belfast Trust collates statistics on the number of patients who have been declared medically fit and their discharge has been delayed in The Royal Victoria, Mater, Belfast City and Musgrave Park Hospitals.

2. **When did you begin to collate these statistics?**

Approximately - from 2008

3. **Please provide these statistics for your trust for each of the last five years, if collated for this period, showing figures for each month of those years.**

The data below relates to the number of patients whose discharge has been delayed after they have been declared medically fit. A discharge is regarded as complex when it can only take place following the implementation of significant home based or other community based services (including residential or nursing home services). This data excludes paediatrics, patients who are awaiting assessment and patients coded as having no significant delay.

Number of patients whose discharge has been delayed in Belfast Trust, by month of discharge, in each of the last five years

		Delay Group			
Fiscal Year of Discharge	Month of Discharge	COMPLEX	SIMPLE	TRANSFER	Grand Total
FY2018/2019	April	401	552		**953**
	May	486	679		**1165**
	June	453	583		**1036**
	July	436	600		**1036**
	August	433	554		**987**
	September	447	494		**941**
	October	541	539		**1080**

	November	460	595		**1055**
	December	457	594		**1051**
	January	488	518		**1006**
	February	338	460		**798**
	March	321	546		**867**
FY2018/2019 Total		**5261**	**6714**		**11975**
FY2019/2020	April	339	532		**871**
	May	474	506		**980**
	June	378	511		**889**
	July	453	571		**1024**
	August	428	536		**964**
	September	376	538		**914**
	October	536	535		**1071**
	November	520	490		**1010**
	December	432	430		**862**
	January	598	427		**1025**
	February	518	453		**971**
	March	507	587		**1094**
FY2019/2020 Total		**5559**	**6116**		**11675**
FY2020/2021	April	267	478		**745**
	May	467	413		**880**
	June	548	399		**947**
	July	577	449		**1026**
	August	535	463		**998**
	September	744	386		**1130**
	October	628	350		**978**
	November	602	345		**947**
	December	589	447		**1036**
	January	775	393		**1168**
	February	649	379		**1028**
	March	737	525		**1262**
FY2020/2021 Total		**7118**	**5027**		**12145**

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FY2021/2022	April	674	452		**1126**
	May	627	521		**1148**
	June	727	500		**1227**
	July	641	505		**1146**
	August	614	444		**1058**
	September	629	485		**1114**
	October	589	476		**1065**
	November	616	520		**1136**
	December	519	506		**1025**
	January	535	441		**976**
	February	536	469		**1005**
	March	578	552		**1130**
FY2021/2022 Total		**7285**	**5871**		**13156**
FY2022/2023	April	593	532		**1125**
	May	623	564		**1187**
	June	548	569		**1117**
	July	470	463		**933**
	August	476	597		**1073**
	September	512	567		**1079**
	October	475	545		**1020**
	November	501	557		**1058**
	December	507	569		**1076**
	January	478	536		**1014**
	February	461	587		**1048**
	March	480	628		**1108**
FY2022/2023 Total		**6124**	**6714**		**12838**
FY2023/2024	April	396	616		**1012**
	May	398	626		**1024**
	June	498	642		**1140**
	July	445	582	< 5	**1028**
	August *	483	591	50	**1124**
FY2023/2024 Total		**2220**	**3057**	**51**	**5328**

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*New guidance on reporting delayed transfers of care was updated in July 2023 to include new codes for Transfers as well as simple and complex.

Use of < 5 (less than five): We are unable to provide an exact figure - exempt from release under section 40(2) of the FOI Act - as this could make patients personally identifiable. Disclosure would constitute a breach of the principles of the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.