

HEADLINE FIGURES

PEDW Statistics - Data for the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019

NHS Hospital Admitted Patients - All Welsh Providers

Summary

The annual PEDW data tables present analyses of the Patient Episode Database for Wales (PEDW) which is collated, validated and stored by the NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS) on behalf of the Welsh Government and the NHS in Wales. It is a rich source of information about patients admitted to hospitals in Wales. Data is based on 'Finished Consultant Episodes' (FCEs). Episodes describe the time a patient spends in the continuous care of one consultant within a provider spell. A provider spell is the continuous period of time that a patient spends in the care of one NHS health care provider (Local Health Board). The care starts with an admission episode and ends in discharge, transfer to another NHS provider or death. When the responsibility for a patient transfers from one consultant to another within a provider spell, one consultant episode will end and another one begins. However, in approximately 90% of cases, the provider spell consists of just one consultant episode.

Key Facts¹

In 2018/19:

- There were 1,008,300 Finished Consultant Episodes (FCEs) recorded, an increase of 3.1% from the previous year and 13% over the last ten years.
- Of these, 827,300 were admission episodes (the first in a spell), an increase of 3.5% from the previous year and an increase of 9.2% since 2009-10.
- Emergency admissions continue to rise increasing 3% in the latest year to 394,900, up from 344,000 in 2009-10 an increase of 14.8%.
- Emergency admissions make up the majority of admissions in NHS Wales (41% in 2018-19).
- There has been an increase in admissions from waiting lists (including booked admissions) in the latest year, 313,800 episodes were recorded up 3% on the previous year.
- 71.6% of episodes were ordinary inpatient episodes and 26.7% were day cases. Mothers using delivery facilities made up the other 1.6% of all episodes.
- 50.8% of all episodes (93.4% of day case episodes) involved some form of procedure or intervention.
- There were 27,800 delivery episodes, a decrease of 2.4% from the previous year and an overall decrease of 11.4% since 2009-10.
- 1.4% of admissions (11,200) were from patients not normally resident within Wales, an increase of 2.5% on the previous year, but 5.5% less than ten years ago.
- The number of day and night regular attender episodes in NHS Wales increased this year by 5.6%; 165,600 episodes took place compared to 158,400 last year.

¹ Figures in the Key Facts have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Percentage calculations are based on the un-rounded figures.

Data Quality

Primary diagnosis coding completeness: This data was extracted from the PEDW database in August 2019. The clinical coding section of the APC Data Quality Status report advises that five organisations (ABM, BCU, Cardiff & Vale, Powys and Velindre) met both clinical coding completeness targets. The other three met the national standard of 95% coded within 3 months of episode end date but failed to achieve the 98% target for rolling 12 months' data - Cwm Taf (94.1%), Hywel Dda (94.6%) and Aneurin Bevan with only 89.6.% records being complete.

Treatment specialty re-coding: From April 2016, new codes were introduced for describing specialties to add more detail to data collections. Currently, not all health boards are reporting this data consistently using the more detailed codes. For this publication, treatment specialties have been recoded as their previous description to avoid inconsistent reporting.

Treatment specialty data quality note: An increase of 23,000 episodes has been found between this year and last year's figures for General Medicine in Hywel Dda University Health Board (provider). Consequently, a combined decrease of 23,000 episodes has been found other specialties, in particular Respiratory Medicine, Cardiology, Gastroenterology and Geriatric Medicine. This is a reversal of last years' data where 26,000 episodes that had previously been recorded as General Medicine were recorded as other specialties. The Treatment Function Code (TFC) against which Health Boards record activity is determined locally. There can be cases where activity previously recorded against one specialty (e.g. General Medicine) can be moved to other specialties to enhance local reporting or service configuration. This is not necessarily related to the introduction of new TFCs in April 2016.

Assessment Unit Activity: Assessment and clinical decision units are often used as a potential alternative to admission, however, the configuration of these units within health boards along with current national data standards can result in this activity being recorded as admitted inpatient records. In addition to this, there is variation in the way that Local Health Boards (LHBs) report assessment unit activity and for this reason, it is difficult to identify. It is advised that care should be taken when comparing activity that may include Assessment Unit activity with other Health Boards and with previous years. This mainly affects emergency and maternity inpatient admissions and may also have an effect on length of stay and bed days.

Publication Links

- [PEDW Data on-line Notes and definitions](#)
- [2018/19 Data Quality Report](#)
- [NHS Wales Data Dictionary](#)

Trends

Charts 1 and 2 have been included to provide an indication of the trend for some of the key facts noted above over the last ten years (2009-10 to 2018-19). Data for years other than the latest year have been taken from previous publications.

Chart 1: Number of FCEs and admission episodes 2009-10 to 2018-19

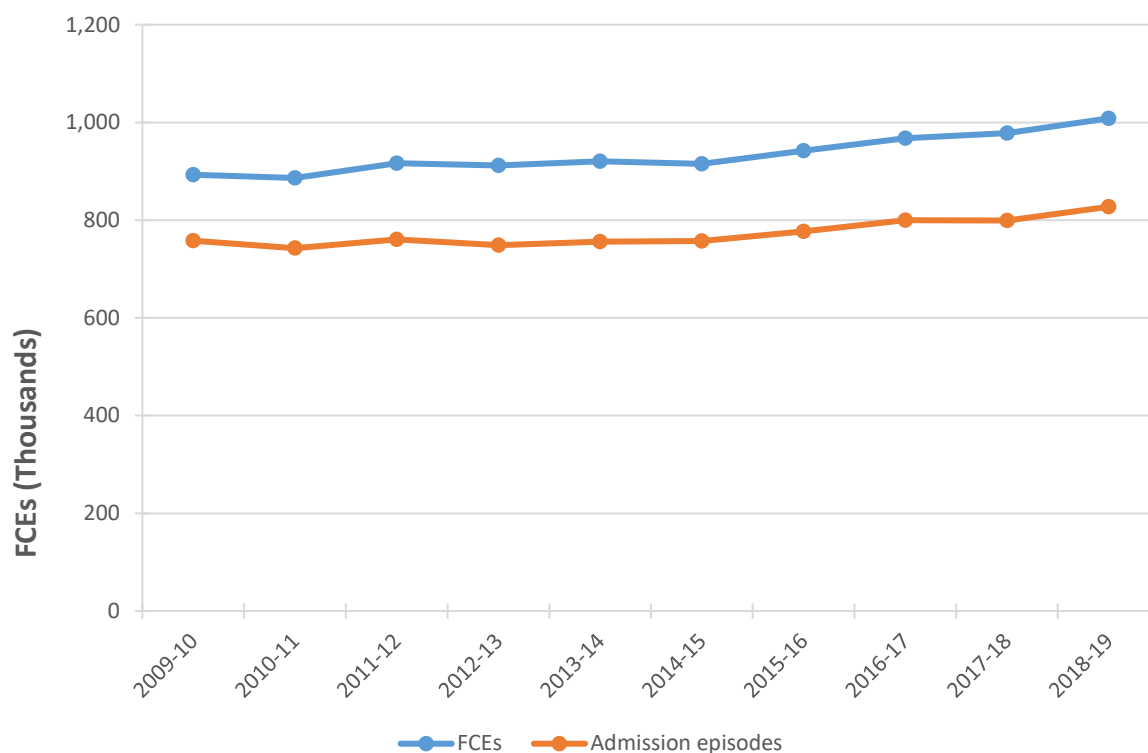


Chart 1 shows the volume of episodes and admission episodes each year. Admission episodes are the first episode within a spell of care. FCEs and admission episodes have increased over the last ten years 2009-10 to 2018-19 and both increased again in the latest year, 3.1% and 3.5%, respectively.

Chart 2: Number of admission episodes by admission method 2009-10 to 2018-19

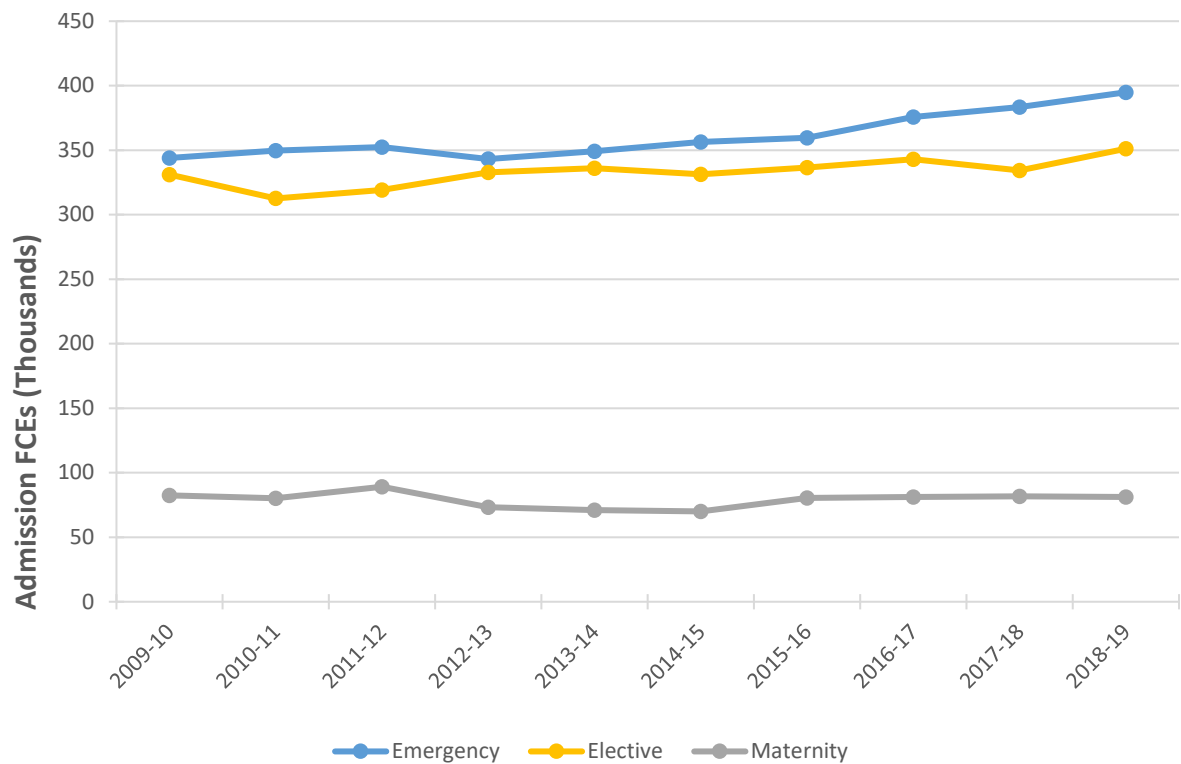


Chart 2 shows the volume of admission episodes split by admission method over time. Emergency admissions make up the majority of admissions in NHS Wales (41% in 2018-19) and there has been a year-on-year increase in emergency activity since 2012-13. The number of elective admissions has increased by 5% this year following a drop 2.5% in 2017-18. Maternity admissions have remained relatively stable in the last three years since 2015-16.

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NHS Hospital Admitted Patients - All Welsh Providers

Finished Consultant Episodes - FCEs (excl. Regular Attender episodes)

Total	1,008,348	100.00%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	50.8%	

FCEs by Patient Classification

Inpatient FCEs	722,247	71.6%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	34.9%	
Day Case FCEs	269,654	26.7%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	93.4%	
Mothers Using Delivery Facilities Only: FCEs	16,442	1.6%
Patient Classification Unknown: FCEs	5	0.0%

FCEs by Patients' Age

0 - 4	64,389	6.4%
5 - 14	34,495	3.4%
15 - 24	66,918	6.6%
25 - 44	188,116	18.7%
45 - 64	219,163	21.7%
65 - 74	170,333	16.9%
75 - 84	167,621	16.6%
85 & Over	97,282	9.6%
Not known	31	0.0%

FCEs and Average Bed days by Broad Specialty Groups (the specialty under which the patient is treated¹)

	FCEs	Bed days
All Specialties	722,247	4.8
All Non-Psychiatric Specialties Excluding Geriatrics	678,371	3.7
All Non-Psychiatric Specialties	711,230	4.1
All Psychiatric Specialties	11,003	49.2
Acute	609,789	3.9
Maternity	68,130	1.0
Geriatrics	32,859	13.3
Mental Illness	10,845	44.6
Learning Disability	158	369.9

Private Patients Treated in NHS Hospitals

FCEs (all patient classifications)	1,215	0.1%
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Delivery Episodes²

FCEs: Mothers giving birth (all patient classifications)	27,858	2.8%
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FCEs in Spell Breakdown

1 episode only	86.0%
2 episodes	9.4%
3 episodes	2.9%
4 or more episodes	1.7%

Admission Episodes (only the first episode of care in each hospital stay is counted).

Total			827,369	100.0%
	Inpatient	Daycase		
Elective admission episodes	82,234	268,904	351,143	42.4%
Waiting List	55,222	222,289	277,511	
Booked	7,200	29,107	36,309	
Planned	4,961	17,506	22,470	
Other Elective Admissions (transfers)	14,851	2	14,853	
Emergency admission episodes			394,905	47.7%
A&E			204,750	
GP			123,935	
Other Emergency			66,220	
Other admission episodes (including maternity)			81,321	9.8%

Discharge Episodes (only the last episode of care in each hospital stay is counted)

Total	827,574	100.0%
Deaths in hospital (including stillbirths)	15,605	1.9%

Discharge Episodes (inpatients only) and Average Length of Stay by Broad Specialty Groups (the specialty under which the patient is treated¹)

	Elective		Emergency		Other ³		All Admissions	
	FCEs	LOS	FCEs	LOS	FCEs	LOS	FCEs	LOS
All Specialties	82,305	9.9	395,026	6.8	65,746	1.4	543,077	6.6
All Non-Psych Spec. excl. Geriatrics	77,175	6.5	367,684	5.1	65,742	1.4	510,601	4.8
All Non-Psychiatric	80,776	7.9	387,034	5.7	65,745	1.4	533,555	5.5
All Psychiatric Specialties	1,517	117.6	7,991	59.2	1	**	9,509	68.5
Acute	76,212	6.4	366,232	5.1	3,719	8.3	446,163	5.3
Maternity	743	2.3	1,334	1.4	62,023	1.0	64,100	1.0
Geriatrics	3,601	37.5	19,350	17.4	3	**	22,954	20.5
Mental Illness	1,477	102.2	7,885	45.0	1	**	9,363	54.0
Learning Disability*	40	684.1	106	1,113.9	0	-	146	996.2

Non-Welsh Residents Treated in Welsh Providers

FCEs	13,623	1.4%
Admission Episodes	11,241	1.4%

***Regular Day and Night Attender Episodes (these episodes have not been included elsewhere)**

Total	165,641
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[1] In publications prior to 2012/13, the consultants main specialty was used for all specialty figures in the headlines publication. From 2012/13, to comply with current best practice and to match other publications, this was changed to the specialty under which the patient was treated. This means that specialty figures prior to 2012/13 will not be comparable to specialty figures provided for 2012/13 onwards in the headlines publication. Please refer to the NHS Wales data dictionary <http://www.datadictionary.wales.nhs.uk> for definitions.

[2] Please note that the definition for delivery episodes changed from the 2012/13 publication onwards, therefore the data will not be comparable to previous years. Please see the Notes and Definitions document accompanying this release for further information.

[3] Other refers to any other type of admission method other than elective or emergency (includes maternity admissions).

Please note percentage breakdowns may not always add up due to rounding.

* 3 patients have been recorded with exceptionally long LOS of > 18,000 days

**Calculated values such as average length of stay or average beddays are not provided where based on less than 10 values

	Finished Episodes	Admissions	Male	Female	Emerg	Waiting List	Waiting Time		Length of Stay		Mean Age	Inpatient	Day Case
							Mean	Median	Mean	Median			
Procedures (main)													
Cataract	21,086	21,082	42%	58%	0%	96%	154.1	90.0	1.5	1.0	75	1%	99%
Upper digestive tract	41,890	37,730	48%	52%	6%	89%	71.0	35.0	10.6	5.0	61	20%	80%
Heart (CABG)	761	482	80%	20%	22%	68%	103.2	93.0	17.0	13.0	69	100%	0%
Heart (PTCA)	4,358	3,333	73%	27%	67%	31%	78.1	49.0	3.2	2.0	66	85%	15%
Hip	6,609	6,389	38%	62%	34%	65%	296.5	242.0	8.9	4.0	73	100%	0%
Knee	4,409	4,395	43%	57%	1%	96%	328.0	265.0	5.2	4.0	70	100%	0%
Kidney transplant	120	119	68%	32%	73%	27%	16.2	14.0	13.1	10.0	52	100%	0%
Diagnosis (anywhere in admitting episode)													
Sepsis	23,481	12,986	52%	48%	81%	2%	110.9	29.0	16.1	8.0	64	99%	0%