

HEADLINE FIGURES

PEDW Statistics - Data for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

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 Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW) 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

COVID-19 has greatly impacted Admitted Patient Care in 2020/21, admissions across all areas have reduced, please see below for details:

In 2020/21:

- There were 677,500 Finished Consultant Episodes (FCEs) recorded, representing a decrease of 33% on the previous year. There has been a 31% reduction of FCEs on the average of the last five years.
- Of these, 532,400 were admission episodes (the first in a spell), which is a decrease of 36% on the previous year.
- Emergency admissions were down by 25% (99,700), falling to 292,700 emergency admissions in 2020-21.
- Emergency admissions made up the majority of admissions in NHS Wales (55% in 2020-21).
- There were 141,400 admissions from waiting lists (including booked admissions) which is a significant fall of 55% on 2019-20.
- 78% of episodes were ordinary inpatient episodes and 20% were day cases. Mothers using delivery facilities made up the other 2% of all episodes.
- 49% of all episodes (94% of day case episodes) involved some form of procedure or intervention.
- There were 24,400 delivery episodes, a decrease of 6% from the previous year and an overall decrease of 25% from 2011-12.
- 1% of admissions (6,000) were from patients not normally resident within Wales, down 46% on the previous year.
- The number of day and night regular attender episodes in NHS Wales decreased this year by 21%; 157,000 episodes took place last year compared to 123,800 this 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 November 2021. The clinical coding section of the APC Data Quality Status report advises that three organisations (BCUHB, Powys and Swansea) met both clinical coding completeness targets while another three organisations (Aneurin Bevan, Cwm Taf and Hywel Dda) failed to meet either of them. Aneurin Bevan (92.8%), Cwm Taf (89.1%) and Hywel Dda (85.9%) failed to achieve the national standard of 95% coded within 3 months of episode end date, while Aneurin Bevan (92.8%), Cardiff & Vale (96.8%), Cwm Taf (89.1%), Hywel Dda (85.9%) and Velindre (97.6%) failed to achieve the 98% target for rolling 12 months' data.

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.

Data validity data quality note: The validity targets for Main Specialty (Consultant) and Speciality of Treatment Code are being met every year by all organisations apart from Powys. The records that are causing this low validity mainly relate to activity where a general practitioner is responsible for the patient during their inpatient stay and/or where the patient is treated under the specialty of general practice. The main specialty code relating to GPs changed when the list of values for this data item was revised in April 2015 as per DSCN 2014 / 078 and the specialty of treatment codes for general practice ceased to be valid in April 2016 as per DSCN 2014/089. Although other organisations have also submitted such activity, this issue has been highlighted in Powys as it accounts for a high proportion of their overall activity. An upgrade to the WPAS system is needed before the validity of these data items will improve.

Publication Links

- [PEDW Data on-line Notes and definitions](#)
- [2020/21 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 (2010-11 to 2019-20). Data for years other than the latest year have been taken from previous publications.

Chart 1: Number of FCEs and admission episodes 2011-12 to 2020-21

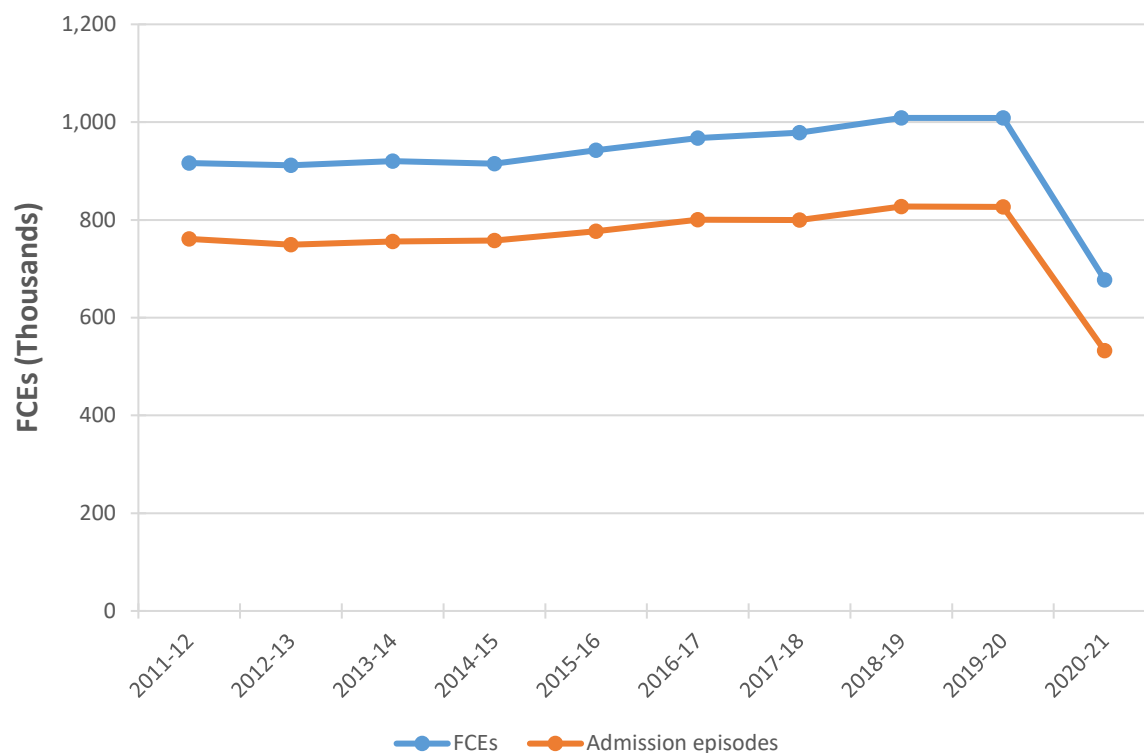


Chart 1 shows the volume of episodes and admission episodes each year. Admission episodes are the first episode within a spell of care. Both FCEs and admission episodes dropped significantly on the previous year. FCEs experienced a drop of 33% and admissions a drop of 36%. This followed an overall increase in the previous ten years.

Chart 2: Number of admission episodes by admission method 2011-12 to 2020-21

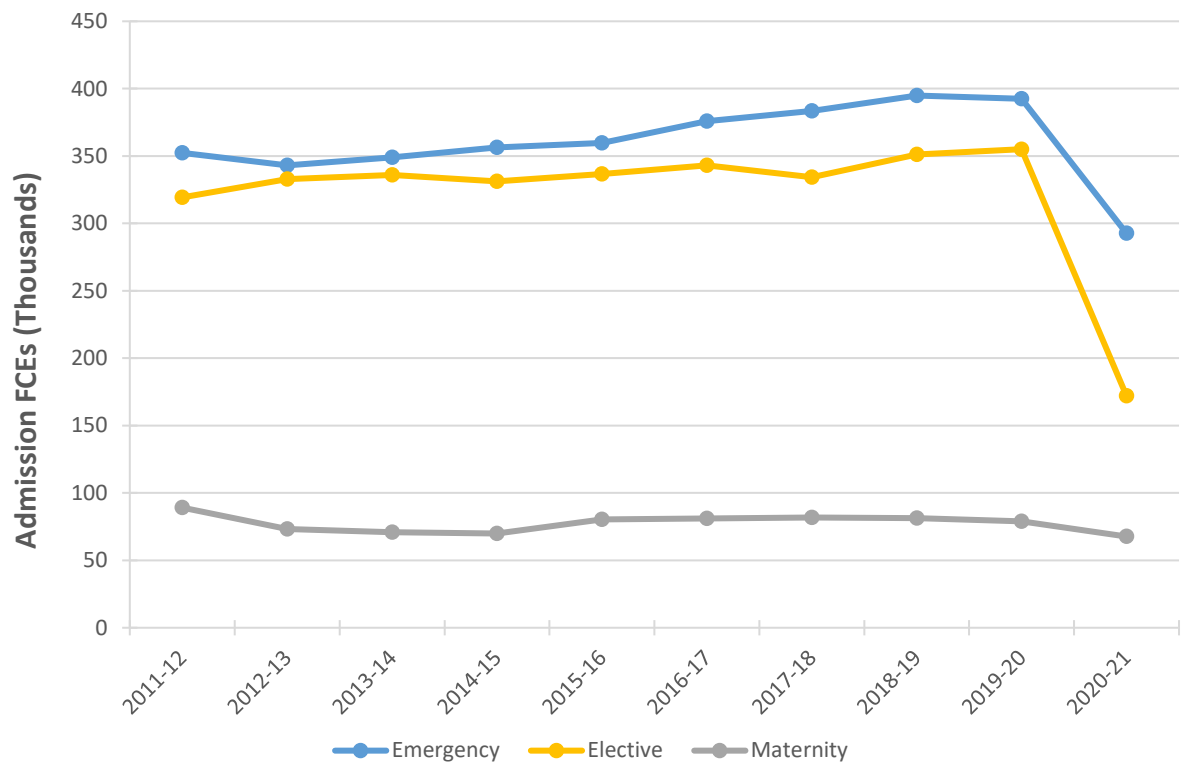


Chart 2 shows the volume of admission episodes split by admission method over time. Emergency admissions make up the majority of admissions in NHS Wales (55% in 2020-21). Both emergency admissions and elective admissions dropped significantly in 2020-21. Maternity admissions also experienced a noticeable drop of 14% having remained relatively stable in the previous five years.

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NHS Hospital Admitted Patients - All Welsh Providers

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

Total	677,529	100.00%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	49.3%	

FCEs by Patient Classification

Inpatient FCEs	526,780	77.75%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	38.1%	
Day Case FCEs	133,119	19.65%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	94.1%	
Mothers Using Delivery Facilities Only: FCEs	17,606	2.60%
Patient Classification Unknown: FCEs	24	0.00%

FCEs by Patients' Age

0 - 4	29,278	4.3%
5 - 14	17,213	2.5%
15 - 24	41,333	6.1%
25 - 44	132,357	19.5%
45 - 64	142,627	21.1%
65 - 74	113,767	16.8%
75 - 84	123,180	18.2%
85 & Over	77,734	11.5%
Not known	40	0.0%

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

	FCEs	Bed days
All Specialties	526,780	5.2
All Non-Psychiatric Specialties Excluding Geriatrics	487,068	3.9
All Non-Psychiatric Specialties	516,871	4.4
All Psychiatric Specialties	9,193	47.8
Acute	435,877	4.3
Maternity	50,928	1.0
Geriatrics	29,803	11.4
Mental Illness	9,056	46.0
Learning Disability	137	161.4

Private Patients Treated in NHS Hospitals

FCEs (all patient classifications)	92	0.0%
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Delivery Episodes²

FCEs: Mothers giving birth (all patient classifications)	24,421	3.6%
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FCEs in Spell Breakdown

1 episode only		82.8%
2 episodes		11.5%
3 episodes		3.5%
4 or more episodes		2.2%

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

Total			532,350	100.0%
	Inpatient	Daycase		
Elective admission episodes	40,789	131,204	172,002	32.3%
Waiting List	18,406	100,436	118,842	
Booked	2,996	19,527	22,525	
Planned	3,372	11,239	14,618	
Other Elective Admissions (transfers)	16,015	2	16,017	
Emergency admission episodes			292,657	55.0%
A&E			172,337	
GP			66,831	
Other Emergency			53,489	
Other admission episodes (including maternity)			67,691	12.7%

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

Total	531,459	100.0%
Deaths in hospital (including stillbirths)	16,889	3.2%

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	40,639	14.5	291,846	7.1	49,861	1.5	382,346	7.1
All Non-Psych Spec. excl. Geriatrics	35,296	9.1	269,220	5.5	49,853	1.5	354,369	5.3
All Non-Psychiatric	39,401	11.4	284,642	6.1	49,859	1.5	373,902	6.0
All Psychiatric Specialties	1,210	113.9	6,525	47.5	2	**	7,737	57.9
Acute	34,202	9.3	268,423	5.5	3,651	7.1	306,276	6.0
Maternity	1,038	1.7	745	1.7	46,202	1.1	47,985	1.1
Geriatrics	4,105	31.2	15,422	15.7	6	**	19,533	19.0
Mental Illness	1,161	111.5	6,440	45.6	2	**	7,603	55.7
Learning Disability*	49	172.0	85	192.5	0	-	134	185.0

Non-Welsh Residents Treated in Welsh Providers

FCEs	7,477	1.1%
Admission Episodes	6,015	1.1%

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

Total	123,848
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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.

* 6 patients have been recorded with an exceptionally long LOS of > 500 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	5,924	5,923	43%	57%	0%	98%	285.9	243.0	6.4	1.0	74	2%	98%
Upper digestive tract	24,237	20,550	50%	50%	14%	78%	75.7	26.0	11.3	6.0	61	32%	68%
Heart (CABG)	328	242	81%	19%	26%	71%	181.3	149.5	14.8	10.0	67	100%	0%
Heart (PTCA)	4,094	3,031	72%	28%	71%	24%	87.7	56.5	2.7	2.0	66	90%	10%
Hip	2,451	2,236	31%	69%	85%	12%	453.1	415.5	12.7	9.0	79	100%	0%
Knee	281	268	42%	58%	15%	78%	527.3	482.5	7.9	3.0	70	100%	0%
Kidney transplant	53	53	66%	34%	83%	15%	**	**	10.7	8.0	47	100%	0%
Diagnosis (primary)													
Cancer	58,341	52,000	50%	50%	16%	75%	52.1	14.0	7.4	3.0	65	42%	58%
Ischaemic Heart Disease	13,624	8,131	64%	36%	71%	19%	80.1	49.5	4.9	2.0	70	90%	10%
Influenza, pneumonia etc	30,230	18,366	49%	51%	90%	5%	112.5	30.0	8.4	4.0	68	98%	2%
Hernia	3,055	2,670	64%	36%	62%	34%	284.1	272.0	3.3	1.0	59	81%	19%
Head Injuries	7,143	5,675	53%	47%	94%	1%	15.5	4.5	5.4	1.0	56	99%	1%
Diagnosis (anywhere in admitting episode)													
Sepsis	16,883	9,205	52%	48%	78%	2%	87.1	25.5	15.3	8.0	64	99%	0%

Notes

** Figures have been suppressed due to low numbers

Percentages have been rounded to nearest whole number

Procedures (codes are from the OPCS Classification of Interventions and Procedures Version 4.7)

1. Cataract: Extraction and prosthesis of lens (C71 - C75)
2. Upper Digestive Tract: Includes operations on oesophagus, stomach, pylorus, duodenum, jejunum and ileum (G01 - G82)
3. Heart (Coronary Artery Bypass Graft): Includes replacement of coronary artery, connection of thoracic artery to coronary artery and other methods of bypass (K40 - K46)
4. Heart (Percutaneous Transluminal operations on Coronary Artery): Includes balloon and laser angioplasty (K49, K50, K51 and K75)
5. Hip: Total prosthetic replacement of hip joint (W37 - W39), prosthetic replacement of head of femur (W46 - W48), hybrid prosthetic replacement of hip joint (W93-W95)
6. Knee: Total prosthetic replacement of knee joint (W40-W42)
7. Kidney: All transplantations of kidneys (M01)

Diagnosis (codes are from the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD10) 4th Edition, published by the WHO)

8. Cancer: All neoplasms - both benign and malignant (C00 - D48)
9. Ischaemic Heart Disease: Includes myocardial infarction (I20 - I25)
10. Influenza, pneumonia etc: Also includes bronchitis, rhinitis, pharyngitis, disorders of nose and nasal sinuses, tonsils, adenoids, laryngitis, emphysema and asthma. J09: Influenza due to identified avian influenza virus added for 2012/13 publication (J09 - J47)
11. Hernia: Inguinal, femoral, umbilical, ventral, diaphragmatic and abdominal hernia (K40 - K46)
12. Head injuries: Includes fracture of facial bones, skull, mandible, tooth and injury to cranial nerves and eye (S00 - S09).
13. Sepsis: Any mention of a Sepsis diagnosis in any of the 14 diagnosis fields in the admitting episode of care. Includes: Brucellosis (A23), Other zoonotic bacterial diseases nec (A28), Streptococcal sepsis (A40), Other sepsis (A41), Bacterial sepsis of newborn (P36), Puerperal sepsis (O85), Salmonella sepsis (A021), Shigellosis unspecified (A039), Septicaemic plague (A207), Anthrax sepsis (A227), Acute and fulminating melioidosis (A241), Erysipelothrix sepsis (A267), Listerial sepsis (A327), Tetanus neonatorum (A33X), Acute meningococcaemia (A392), Meningococcaemia unspecified (A394), Actinomycotic sepsis (A427), Other gonococcal infections which includes sepsis (A548), Genital tract and pelvic infection following abortion and ectopic and molar pregnancy (O080), Other infection during labour (O753), Systemic inflammatory response syndrome of infectious origin without organ failure (R650), Systemic inflammatory response syndrome of infectious origin with organ failure (R651), Septic Shock (R572), plus the following pairs of codes which are dagger/asterisk code pairs which must be present together: A390+ Meningococcal meningitis (G01*), A391+ Waterhouse-Friderichsen syndrome (E351*)