

HEADLINE FIGURES

PEDW Statistics - Data for the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 NHS Hospital Admitted Patients - All Welsh Residents

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 1,068,400 Finished Consultant Episodes (FCEs) recorded, an increase of 3.1% on 2017-18 and an increase of 13.5% over the last ten years.
- Of these, 877,400 were admission episodes (the first in a spell). This represented an increase of 3.5% on the previous year. Since 2009-10, admission episode activity has increased by 9.7%.
- Emergency admissions continue to rise with an average annual growth rate of 1.5% since 2009-10.
- Emergency admissions make up the majority of admissions for Welsh residents (46.1%) in 2018-19.
- 339,100 admissions were from waiting lists (including booked admissions), representing an increase of 3.2% on the previous year. Over ten years, there were 6.5% more waiting list admissions in 2018-19 than in 2009-10.
- There were 756,100 (70.8%) ordinary inpatient episodes and 296,800 (27.8%) day cases. Mothers using delivery facilities made up the other 1.5% of all episodes.
- 52% of all episodes (93.5% of day case episodes) involved some form of procedure or intervention.
- There were 28,400 delivery episodes, a decrease of 3.4% on the previous year.
- 7.1% of admission episodes (62,000), took place outside of Wales in non-Welsh providers. This represents an increase of 4.1% on the previous year and an increase of 14.7% over the last ten years.

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 (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

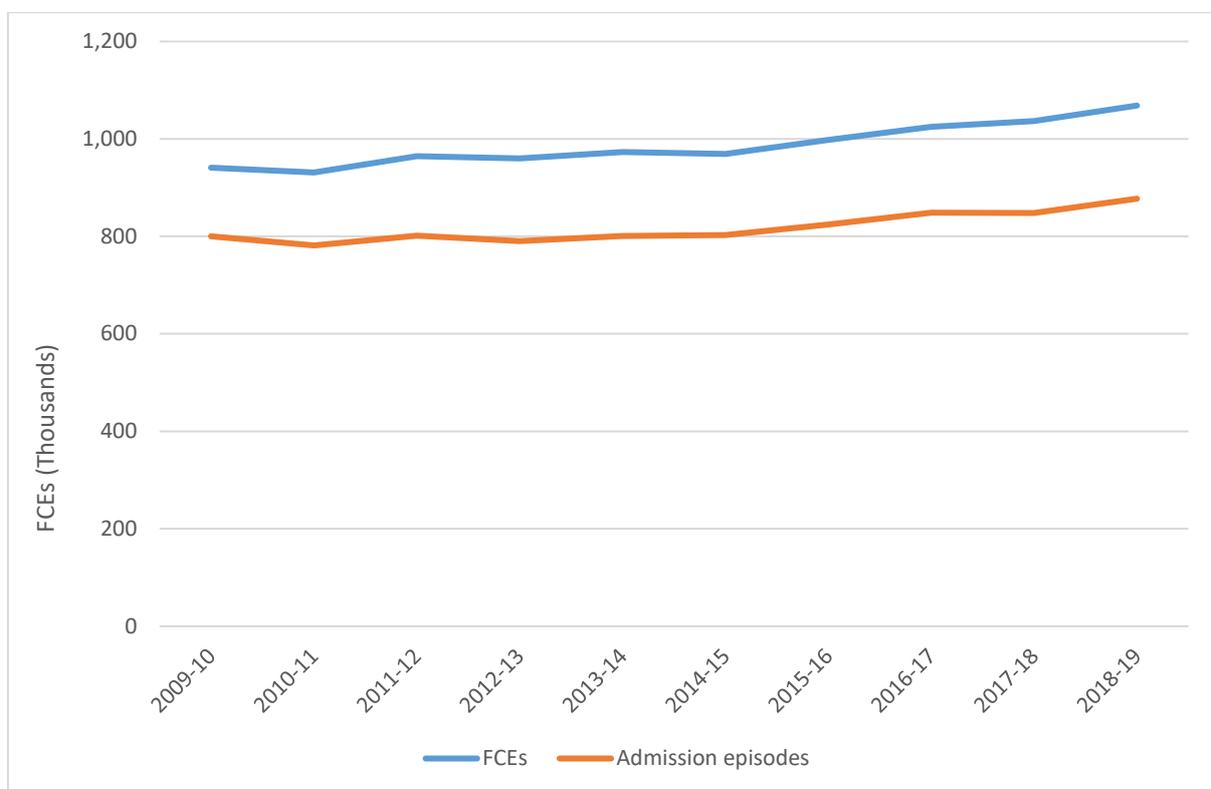


Chart 1 shows the volume of episodes and admission episodes each year. Admission episodes are the first episode within a spell of care. FCEs and admission episodes have both increased over the last ten years 2009-10 to 2018-19, FCEs have increased by 13.5% and admission episodes have seen a rise of 9.7%. Admission episodes have increased by 3.5% over the latest two years 2017-18 to 2018-19.

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

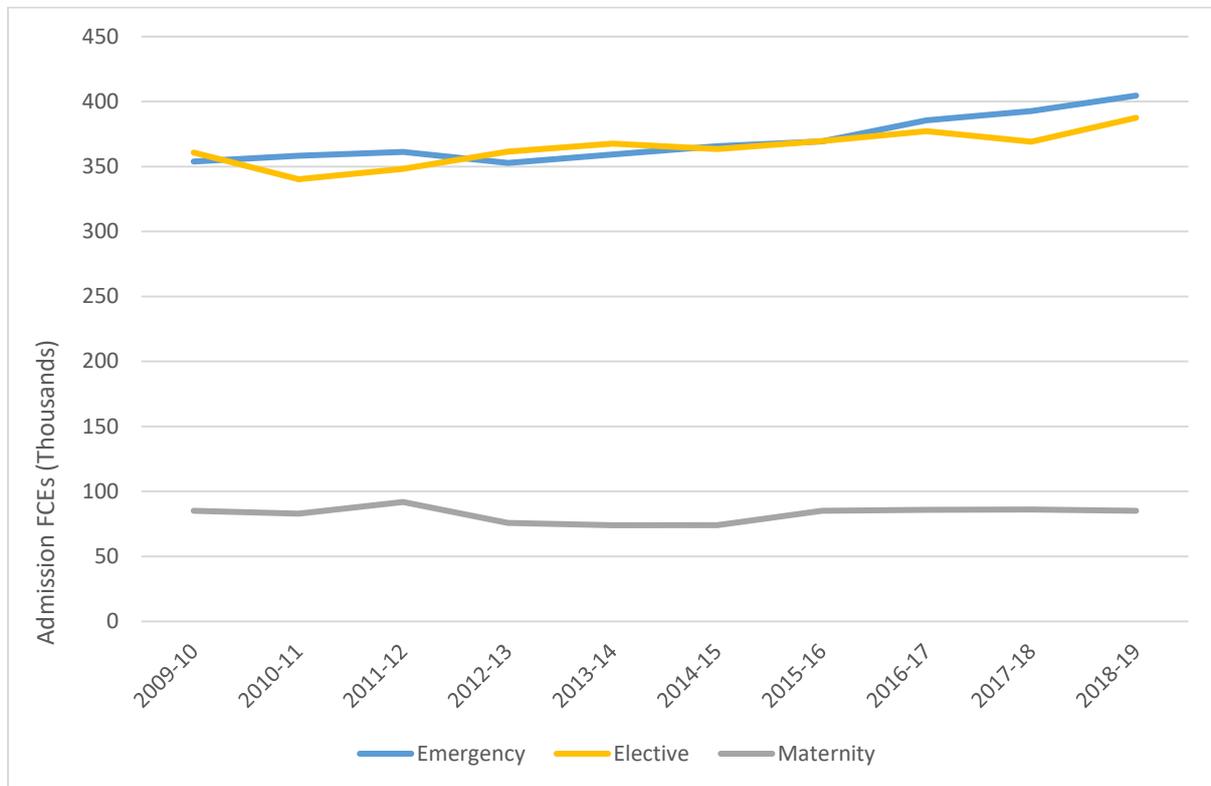


Chart 2 shows the volume of admission episodes split by admission method over time. Emergency admissions make up the majority of admissions for Welsh residents in 2018-19 and have shown a 14.3% rise in activity from 2009-10 to 2018-19. Elective admissions have been more variable and show an increase of 5% from last year. Over a 10 year period, 2009-10 to 2018-19, there has been an increase of 7.4%. Maternity admissions have also shown some variability over the last ten years, however, they have remained stable over the latest two years 2017-18 to 2018-19 with a slight decrease of 1.2%.

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NHS Hospital Admitted Patients - All Welsh Residents

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

Total	1,068,424	100.0%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	52.0%	

FCEs by Patient Classification

Inpatient FCEs	756,071	70.8%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	35.8%	
Day Case FCEs	296,815	27.8%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	93.5%	
Mothers Using Delivery Facilities Only: FCEs	15,532	1.5%
Patient Classification Unknown: FCEs	6	0.0%

FCEs by Patients' Age

0 - 4	66,851	6.3%
5 - 14	37,584	3.5%
15 - 24	70,135	6.6%
25 - 44	196,469	18.4%
45 - 64	234,382	21.9%
65 - 74	182,874	17.1%
75 - 84	178,141	16.7%
85 & Over	101,958	9.5%
Not known	30	0.0%

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

	FCEs	Bed days
All Specialties	756,071	4.7
All Non-Psychiatric Specialties Excluding Geriatrics	711,428	3.6
All Non-Psychiatric Specialties	745,351	4.1
All Psychiatric Specialties	10,684	49.4
Acute	640,216	3.9
Maternity	70,757	1.0
Geriatrics	33,923	13.0
Mental Illness	10,527	44.7
Learning Disability	157	370.5

Private Patients Treated in NHS Hospitals

FCEs (all patient classifications)	1,864	0.2%
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Delivery Episodes²

FCEs: Mothers giving birth (all patient classifications)	28,361	2.7%
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FCEs in Spell Breakdown

1 episode only	86.2%
2 episodes	9.2%
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			877,363	100.0%
	Inpatient	Daycase		
Elective admission episodes	91,575	295,970	387,549	44.2%
Waiting List	61,811	233,611	295,422	
Booked	8,643	35,047	43,691	
Planned	6,356	27,310	33,669	
Other Elective Admissions (transfers)	14,765	2	14,767	
Emergency admission episodes			404,605	46.1%
A&E			211,375	
GP			126,455	
Other Emergency			66,775	
Other admission episodes (including maternity)			85,209	9.7%

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

Total	877,550	100.0%
Deaths in hospital (including stillbirths)	16,030	1.8%

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	91,643	9.2	404,707	6.7	70,429	1.6	566,779	6.5
All Non-Psych Spec. excl. Geriatrics	86,558	6.2	377,130	5.1	70,381	1.6	534,069	4.8
All Non-Psychiatric	90,141	7.5	396,979	5.7	70,394	1.6	557,514	5.5
All Psychiatric Specialties	1,488	115.9	7,716	60.0	31	58.9	9,235	69.0
Acute	85,570	6.2	375,700	5.1	5,798	8.5	467,068	5.3
Maternity	766	2.2	1,312	1.5	64,583	1.0	66,661	1.0
Geriatrics	3,583	37.4	19,849	17.1	13	8.5	23,445	20.2
Mental Illness	1,449	100.4	7,611	45.3	30	60.0	9,090	54.1
Learning Disability*	39	693.8	105	1,124.5	1	**	145	1,001.1

Welsh Residents Treated in Non-Welsh Providers

FCEs	74,586	7.0%
Admission Episodes	61,955	7.1%

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

Total	168,571
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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).

* 3 patients have been recorded with an 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	22,483	22,478	42%	58%	0%	97%	150.2	88.0	1.5	1.0	75	1%	99%
Upper digestive tract	44,877	40,493	48%	52%	6%	88%	69.0	34.0	10.6	5.0	61	20%	80%
Heart (CABG)	960	662	81%	19%	23%	69%	87.3	74.0	15.9	11.0	69	100%	0%
Heart (PTCA)	4,477	3,433	73%	27%	65%	31%	76.8	49.0	3.2	2.0	66	85%	15%
Hip	7,428	7,186	38%	62%	31%	66%	275.7	222.0	8.4	4.0	72	100%	0%
Knee	5,009	4,995	49%	43%	1%	95%	305.7	249.0	5.1	4.0	70	100%	0%
Kidney transplant	166	164	67%	33%	63%	32%	13.6	13.0	13.2	10.0	51	100%	0
Diagnosis (anywhere in admitting episode)													
Sepsis	24,835	13,490	52%	48%	81%	2%	101.9	27.0	16.2	8.0	65	99%	0%