

HEADLINE FIGURES

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

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 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 721,900 Finished Consultant Episodes (FCEs) recorded, a drop of 32% on 2019-20 and a reduction of 31% on the average of the last five years.
- Of these, 567,500 were admission episodes (the first in a spell), again a significant drop of 35% compared to 2019-20 where there were 876,300 admission episodes.
- Emergency admissions decreased by 25%, 302,300 in 2020-21 compared to 403,000 in 2019-20.
- Emergency admissions made up the majority of admissions for Welsh residents (53%) in 2020-21.
- Only 155,300 admissions were from waiting lists (including booked admissions) in 2020-21, down 54% on the previous year.
- There were 554,600 (77%) ordinary inpatient episodes and 150,300 (21%) day cases. Mothers using delivery facilities made up the other 2% of all episodes.
- 50% of all episodes (94% of day case episodes) involved some form of procedure or intervention.
- 7% of admission episodes (41,100), took place outside of Wales in non-Welsh providers.

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 (2011-12 to 2020-21). 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

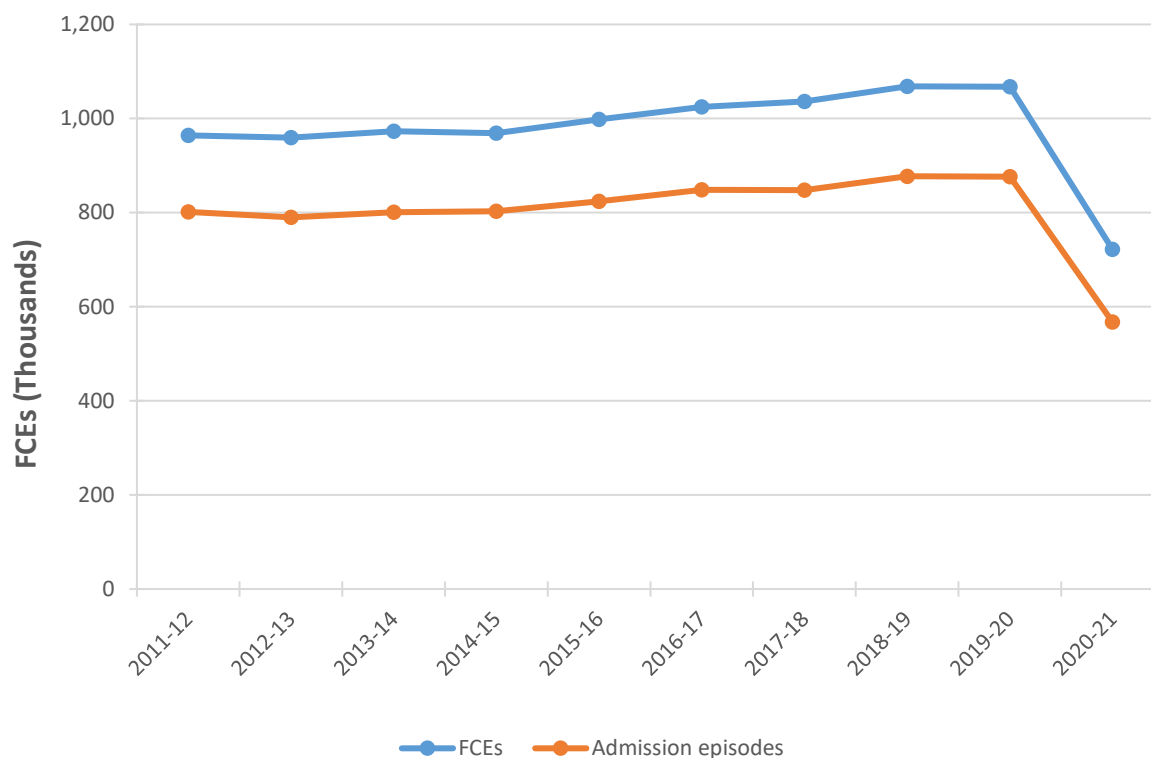


Chart 1 shows the volume of episodes and admission episodes each year. Admission episodes are the first episode within a spell of care. FCEs and admissions episodes dropped significantly in 2020-21. FCEs dropped by 32% on the previous year following year on year increases for FCEs since 2014-15. Admission episodes fell by 35% on the previous year following a period of relative stability over the previous five years.

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

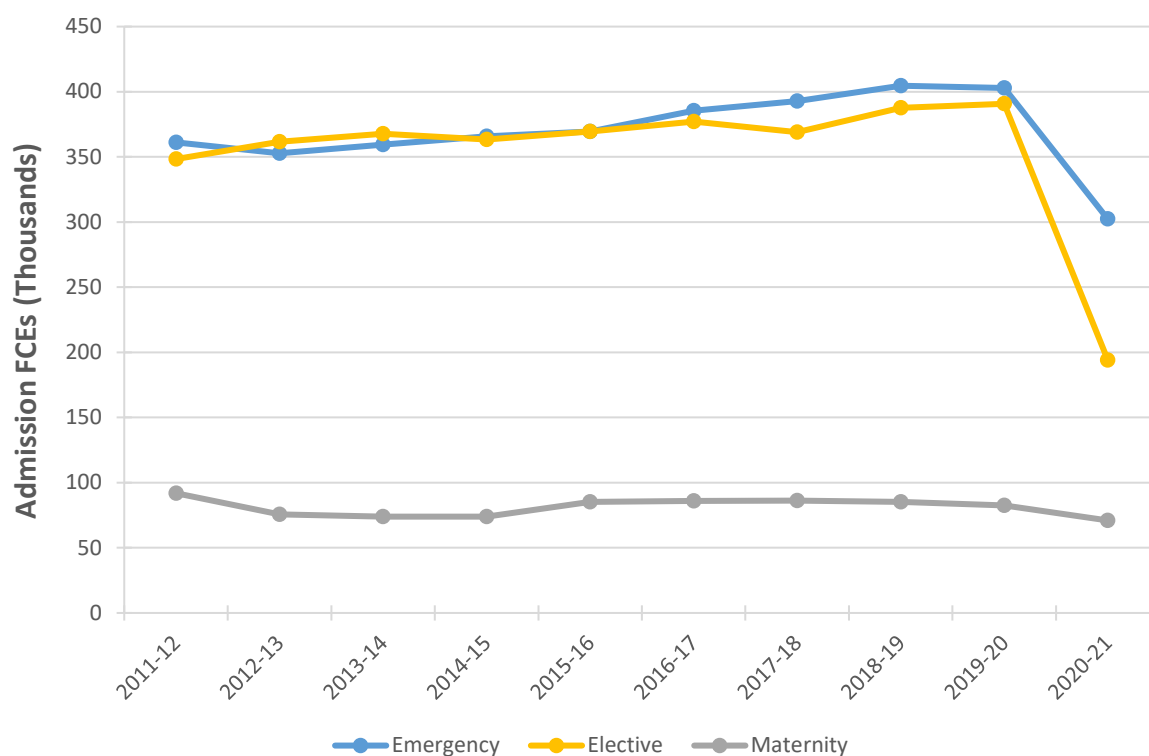


Chart 2 shows the volume of admission episodes split by admission method over time. Emergency admissions declined by 25% in 2020-21 following annual increases since 2012-13 however continued to make up the majority of admissions for Welsh residents in 2020-21, accounting for 53% of all admissions. Elective admissions dropped by 50% in 2020-21. Maternity admissions also experienced a decrease of 14% after having remained relatively stable for the previous five years.

HEADLINE FIGURES

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NHS Hospital Admitted Patients - All Welsh Residents

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

Total	721,946	100.0%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	50.4%	

FCEs by Patient Classification

Inpatient FCEs	554,563	76.8%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	38.7%	
Day Case FCEs	150,302	20.8%
Proportion of the above episodes with a procedure or intervention:	94.1%	
Mothers Using Delivery Facilities Only: FCEs	17,056	2.4%
Patient Classification Unknown: FCEs	25	0.0%

FCEs by Patients' Age

0 - 4	31,519	4.4%
5 - 14	19,493	2.7%
15 - 24	43,835	6.1%
25 - 44	138,272	19.2%
45 - 64	153,062	21.2%
65 - 74	122,121	16.9%
75 - 84	131,569	18.2%
85 & Over	81,928	11.3%
Not known	147	0.0%

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

	FCEs	Bed days
All Specialties	554,563	5.1
All Non-Psychiatric Specialties Excluding Geriatrics	513,772	3.9
All Non-Psychiatric Specialties	545,450	4.4
All Psychiatric Specialties	9,100	47.9
Acute	459,960	4.2
Maternity	52,847	1.0
Geriatrics	31,678	11.0
Mental Illness	8,962	46.2
Learning Disability	138	160.1

Private Patients Treated in NHS Hospitals

FCEs (all patient classifications)	308	0.0%
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Delivery Episodes²

FCEs: Mothers giving birth (all patient classifications)	24,967	3.5%
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FCEs in Spell Breakdown

1 episode only	83.0%
2 episodes	11.3%
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			567,464	100.0%
	Inpatient	Daycase		
Elective admission episodes	45,809	148,349	194,167	34.2%
Waiting List	21,659	107,050	128,709	
Booked	3,914	22,671	26,587	
Planned	4,276	18,626	22,909	
Other Elective Admissions (transfers)	15,960	2	15,962	
Emergency admission episodes			302,304	53.3%
A&E			180,078	
GP			67,978	
Other Emergency			54,248	
Other admission episodes (including maternity)			70,993	12.5%

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

Total	566,531	100.0%
Deaths in hospital (including stillbirths)	17,404	3.1%

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	45,656	13.4	301,452	7.0	53,633	1.7	400,741	7.0
All Non-Psych Spec. excl. Geriatrics	40,341	8.5	278,795	5.6	53,602	1.7	372,738	5.3
All Non-Psychiatric	44,413	10.6	295,040	6.1	53,614	1.7	393,067	6.0
All Psychiatric Specialties	1,238	112.6	6,407	47.6	19	52.5	7,664	58.1
Acute	39,167	8.7	277,316	5.6	5,555	6.6	322,038	6.0
Maternity	1,097	1.7	754	1.7	48,047	1.1	49,898	1.1
Geriatrics	4,072	31.2	16,245	15.6	12	16.7	20,329	18.7
Mental Illness	1,189	110.2	6,323	45.7	18	47.9	7,530	55.9
Learning Disability*	49	172.0	84	192.8	1	**	134	184.8

Welsh Residents Treated in Non-Welsh Providers

FCEs	51,894	7.2%
Admission Episodes	41,129	7.2%

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

Total	126,240
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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).

**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	6,388	6,387	43%	57%	0%	98%	275.2	233.0	5.8	1.0	74	2%	98%
Upper digestive tract	26,011	22,119	50%	50%	14%	78%	77.1	26.0	11.0	5.0	61	32%	68%
Heart (CABG)	470	355	81%	19%	32%	65%	156.3	118.5	14.1	10.0	67	100%	0%
Heart (PTCA)	4,195	3,120	72%	28%	70%	24%	87.8	57.0	2.7	2.0	66	90%	10%
Hip	2,776	2,547	32%	68%	79%	18%	367.5	336.0	11.9	8.0	78	100%	0%
Knee	459	446	44%	56%	10%	83%	411.2	375.5	6.3	3.0	70	99%	1%
Kidney transplant	70	67	66%	34%	72%	22%	51.9	19.0	10.9	8.0	44	100%	0%
Diagnosis (anywhere in admitting episode)													
Sepsis	18,157	9,741	53%	47%	78%	2%	71.2	19.0	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)

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*)