

Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services

March 2024

Published 13 June 2024

This report presents findings from the out of area placements collection. The collection is expected to capture the details of all out of area placements in adult acute inpatient mental health services in England from both NHS and independent providers. NHS England is running this interim data collection in the Clinical Audit Platform (CAP) until the data becomes aligned and available from the Mental Health Services Dataset (MHSDS). The MHSDS is the chosen mechanism for the long-term collection of this data.

1. Key findings

- This monthly report of out of area placements in adult acute inpatient mental health services should be interpreted with caution as with the previous reports in this series. The limitations section sets these issues out more fully. Information on out of area placements in other types of mental health services are not available.
- This month, 41 organisations have participated in this collection out of the 57 organisations in scope. This means that 72 per cent of organisations have participated. The definition of participation can be found on page 5 of the report.
- This report only contains out of area placements that started on or after 17 October 2016 (the date this collection launched).

Table 1: Out of area placement activity (all and inappropriate) over the period, by region

England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Area	Out of area placements active at the end of the reporting period	
	All placements	Inappropriate placements
England	900	805
London	155	155
Midlands	210	200
East of England	105	105
South East	90	30
South West	45	45
North West	140	140
North East and Yorkshire	115	100
Unknown	35	30

Figures above only include placements which started on or after 17 October 2016. 72 per cent of organisations in scope for this collection participated in this month.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

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2. Introduction

The Government set a national ambition to eliminate inappropriate out of area placements in mental health services for adults in acute inpatient care by 2020-21. Inappropriate out of area placements are where patients are sent out of area because no bed is available for them locally, which can delay their recovery. It is essential to collect out of area placement data for these services in order to monitor progress towards achieving the ambition and to understand where and why out of area placements are happening. Having this information is critical to improving patient care and ultimately eliminating the practice of inappropriately sending patients out of area to receive acute inpatient care. This collection is for providers in England only.

NHS England is running this interim out of area placements data collection in the Clinical Audit Platform (CAP) until the data becomes aligned and available from the MHSDS. The MHSDS is the chosen mechanism for the long-term collection of this data and the interim collection is helping us understand the data quality issues to inform MHSDS guidance before full transition.

Only 'sending providers' need to submit data to this collection. The sending provider is the organisation that takes the decision to place a patient outside of their usual Community and Mental Health Team (CMHT) network of local services for acute mental health service provision.

3. Definition of out of area placements

An out of area placement for adult acute mental health inpatient care is defined as happening when:

A person with assessed acute mental health needs who requires¹ adult mental health acute inpatient care², is admitted to a unit that does not form part of their usual local network of services. By this we mean an inpatient unit that does not usually admit people living in the catchment of the person's local community mental health service, and where the person cannot be visited regularly by their care co-ordinator to ensure continuity of care and effective discharge planning.

For example, an out of area placement is a placement of a patient to any other provider that is not the patient's home provider, including:

- Any other NHS unit, regardless of distance travelled.
- Any Independent Service Provider (ISP), regardless of distance travelled.

For simplicity out of area placements for adult acute mental health inpatient care will be referred to as 'out of area placements' in this report. However, it is important to note that this report does not include information about out of area placements in other mental health services, such as specialist mental health inpatient services or services for children and young people.

Information on out of area placements in other types of mental health services are not available.

4. Limitations of the data

- 72 per cent of the organisations in scope participated in the collection this month. A participating organisation is one that is considered to be in scope and to have done at least one of the following three things during this period:
 - To have created a new out of area placement.
 - To have discharged an out of area placement.
 - To have confirmed that they had no out of area placements to discharge or create.
- It is unclear how many of the non-participating organisations would have data to submit and how many will have no data. Not all organisations within scope are expected to have data every month.
- This collection only includes out of area placements that have started since the beginning of the collection (17 October 2016). This means that the current maximum duration for an out of area placement in this report is 2,723 nights. It is believed that the number of out of area placements that are longer than this duration are minimal.

¹ NHS commissioned and funded non-specialist adult acute mental health beds

² The scope of this definition covers the following three acute bed types: adult mental health care, older adult mental health care (organic and functional), and psychiatric intensive care unit (PICU).

- The source of these statistics should be considered provisional as submitting organisations are able to amend and delete their data after the end of the period and resubmit in a later period. Therefore, the data contained in this report is subject to change in any future publications that cover the same time period.
- The number of recorded out of area placements nationally is very low which means that the figures are susceptible to random variation (chance). As the geographic area decreases, the potential for chance to have impacted the numbers increases. As such, caution is advised when comparing two different geographies, e.g. region.
- The out of area placements data collection requires that most data items be returned and as such has 100 per cent completeness in many fields. However, a completed field is not necessarily a valid field; for example, 100 per cent of records have a postcode but 4 per cent of the returned postcodes cannot be used to calculate a distance.

Please refer to the accompanying Data Quality Statement for further information.

4.1 Estimation of the impact of the collection start date on coverage

This collection only includes out of area placements that have started since the beginning of the collection (17 October 2016). This means that the current maximum duration for an out of area placement in this data collection is 2,723 nights.

Some out of area placements have a duration longer than this and as such are excluded. This means that the collection undercounts out of area placement activity.

The Mental Health Services Dataset (MHSDS) published a proxy measure about people receiving adult acute inpatient care away from their usual provider before the out of area placements collection became active.³

These measures are not affected by the start date issue and as such can be used to give an indicative measure of the impact of the start date on the out of area placement collection.

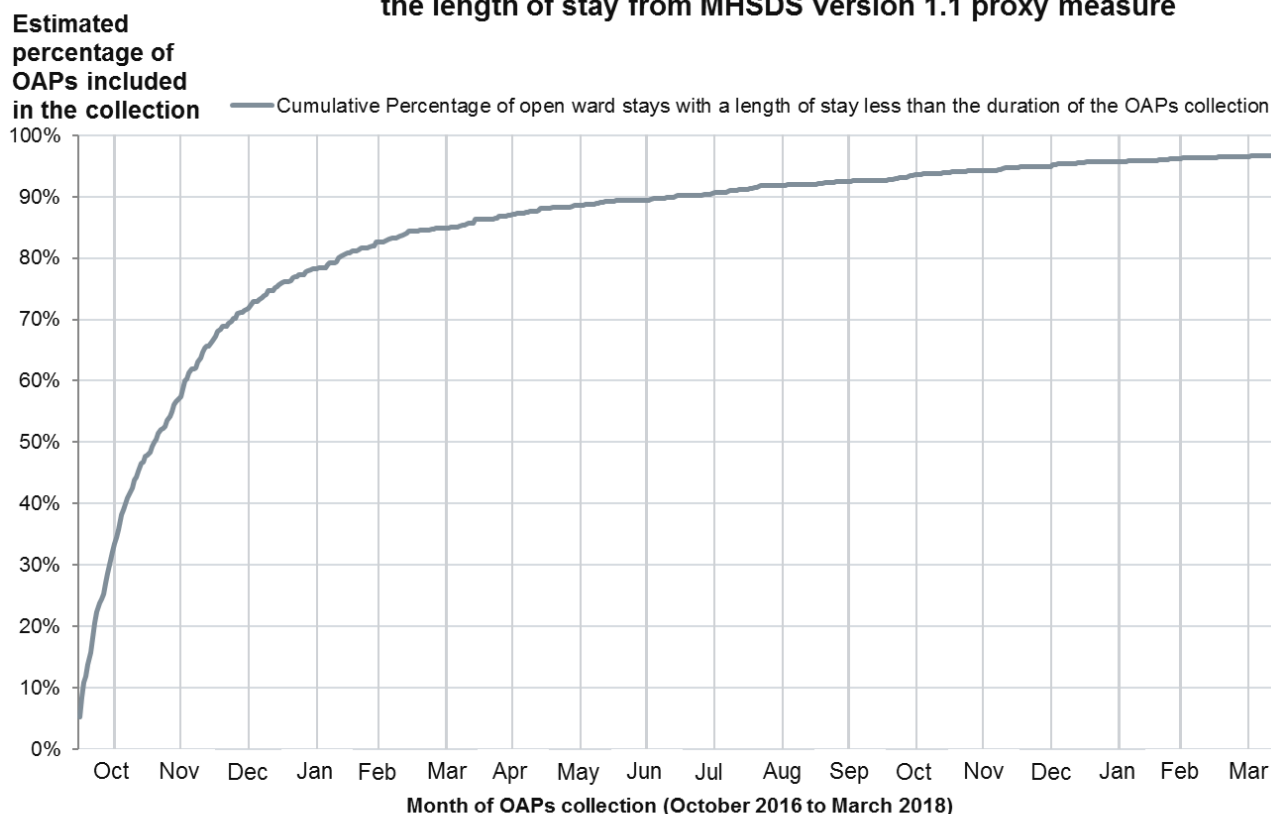
The MHSDS proxy measure and the out of area placement collection do not measure the same thing, but they are similar enough to provide a useful comparison.

Figure 1 provides a cumulative percentage of the MHSDS proxy measure with a duration that is shorter than the maximum duration of the out of area placement collection up to end of March 2018.

As the months across the bottom show, the longer that the out of area placement collection goes on the greater percentage of the total number of out of area placements are expected to be included in this collection.

³ These proxy measures can be identified in previous editions of the Mental Health Services Monthly Statistics publication series using the metric codes AMH34a, AMH35a, AMH60a, AMH60b, AMH60c and AMH60d
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Figure 1: Estimating the impact of the OAPs collection start date using the length of stay from MHSDS version 1.1 proxy measure



Source: MHSDS version 1.1 November Final

By now, the coverage has risen to the point where the impact of this issue on this report should be considered minimal.

5. Suppression

The data is suppressed to minimise the risk of individuals being identified.

- All counts of people or placements are rounded, including national totals. Numbers between 1 and 7 are rounded to 5 and all other numbers are rounded to the nearest 5.
- Zeroes are shown unsuppressed.
- Percentages are calculated using rounded numbers. This can lead to misleading figures when dealing with small numbers so where the denominator is less than 20, the percentage is suppressed.
- Other calculations, such as averages, are rounded to the nearest whole number.
- For percentages where the denominator is zero, the percentage is displayed as a dash (-). Where the numerator is zero, this is shown as a zero percentage.

6. Main Findings

The main findings of the out of area placements collection for this period are presented in the tables that follow.

The first section reports on all out of area placements while the second section reports solely on out of area placements that occurred due to unavailability of a local bed.

Further analysis can be found in the Excel file accompanying this report (a CSV file of the additional analysis is also available to support Open Data). This includes additional breakdowns of the data – as well as figures for the latest three month rolling period and the rolling year.

Comparisons between the figures used for this collection, and figures generated from MHSDS version 5.0, can be found in Appendix B and in the additional data sheet.

6.1 All out of area placements

Table 2: Participation in the out of area placement collection: by Region

England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Area	Percentage of organisations	
	Participating	Not Participating
England	72%	28%
London	67%	33%
Midlands	77%	23%
East of England	100%	0%
South East	50%	50%
South West	56%	43%
North West	67%	33%
North East and Yorkshire	90%	10%

A participating organisation is any organisation defined as in scope for this collection who, during the period, have either started an out of area placement, discharged an out of area placement, or submitted a return confirming they have no out of area placements to admit or discharge.

Please note that the percentage values are rounded to whole numbers so totals (Participating + Not Participating) may not add to 100%.

The list of organisations in scope for this collection and their participation status can be found in Appendix A.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

Table 3: Out of area placement activity over the period: by Region

England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Area	Out of area placements			Number of out of area placements by duration ⁽¹⁾				
	Active at period end	Started in period	Ended during period	1-7 nights	8-14 nights	15-30 nights	31-90 nights	91+ nights
England	900	485	495	50	70	160	195	25
London	155	65	80	5	15	30	25	5
Midlands	210	105	95	5	15	30	40	5
East of England	105	80	75	10	10	15	35	5
South East	90	20	15	5	5	10	5	0
South West	45	25	15	5	5	5	5	0
North West	140	85	100	10	15	30	40	5
North East and Yorkshire	115	85	95	10	10	35	30	5
Unknown	35	20	25	5	5	5	10	5

Figures above only include out of area placements which started on or after 17 October 2016. 72 per cent of organisations in scope for this collection participated in this month.

(1) Only includes out of area placements that have ended during this period. Out of area placements that are not closed have not been included. Includes out of area placements that started on or after 17 October 2016.

Please note that the number of out of area placements by duration are rounded to nearest 5 and therefore the sum of these values will not equal the out of area placements ending during period.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

Table 4: Distance travelled for out of area placements, active at any point in the period: by Region

England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Area	Number of out of area placements by distance					
	Less than 25km	25km or greater and less than 50km	50km or greater and less than 100km	100km or greater and less than 200km	200km or greater and less than 300km	300km or greater
England	165	125	295	390	250	85
London	40	45	70	45	15	10
Midlands	55	10	50	105	65	5
East of England	30	30	40	55	15	5
South East	5	15	35	30	5	5
South West	5	5	10	20	10	15
North West	5	10	20	75	95	25
North East and Yorkshire	20	5	65	45	40	15
Unknown	10	5	5	15	5	5

Figures above only include out of area placements which started on or after 17 October 2016. 72 per cent of organisations in scope for this collection participated in this month.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

Table 5: Out of area placement costs over the period: by Region
 England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Area	Total number of out of area placement days over the period	Percentage of out of area placement days with cost recorded ⁽²⁾	Total recorded costs (£) over the period	Average recorded daily cost (£) over the period ⁽³⁾	Lower quartile daily cost (£) over the period	Upper quartile daily cost (£) over the period
England	28,040	90%	17,731,059	700	600	762
London	4,980	99%	3,862,344	750	694	792
Midlands	6,375	67%	2,991,496	700	600	792
East of England	3,260	100%	2,307,416	710	650	750
South East	2,680	95%	1,645,319	620	530	700
South West	1,215	79%	661,518	602	600	792
North West	4,595	99%	3,360,534	710	695	792
North East and Yorkshire	3,735	95%	2,057,771	555	325	670
Unknown	1,200	96%	844,661	745	580	869

Figures above only include out of area placements which started on or after 17 October 2016. 72 per cent of organisations in scope for this collection participated in this month.

All cost figures are the total cost of the out of area placement. If the out of area placement ended there would still be a cost involved in the care of that patient. As such the cost figures should not be interpreted as potential savings.

(2) Patients with an average cost of £0 or £10 are not considered to have a cost recorded. A patient that has an out of area placement within the same organisation is considered to have a cost of £0.

(3) Average cost is the median cost.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

6.2 Out of area placements occurred due to unavailability of local bed

Table 6: Out of area placement activity over the period due to unavailability of bed: by Region
England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Area	Out of area placements			Number of out of area placements by duration ⁽⁴⁾				
	Active at period end	Started in period	Ended during period	1-7 nights	8-14 nights	15-30 nights	31-90 nights	91+ nights
England	805	455	475	45	70	150	180	25
London	155	65	75	5	15	30	25	5
Midlands	200	100	90	5	15	25	40	5
East of England	105	75	75	10	10	15	35	5
South East	30	5	5	0	5	5	5	0
South West	45	25	15	5	5	5	5	0
North West	140	85	95	10	15	30	40	5
North East and Yorkshire	100	80	90	10	10	35	30	5
Unknown	30	20	25	5	5	5	10	5

Figures above only include out of area placements which started on or after 17 October 2016. 72 per cent of organisations in scope for this collection participated in this month.

(4) Only includes out of area placements that have ended during this period. Out of area placements that are not closed have not been included. Includes out of area placements that started on or after 17 October 2016.

Please note that the number of out of area placements by duration are rounded to nearest 5 and therefore the sum of these values will not equal the out of area placements ending during period.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

Table 7: Distance travelled for out of area placements, active at any point during the period due to unavailability of bed: by Region

England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Area	Number of out of area placements by distance					
	Less than 25km	25km or greater and less than 50km	50km or greater and less than 100km	100km or greater and less than 200km	200km or greater and less than 300km	300km or greater
England	150	105	265	360	245	75
London	40	45	70	40	15	10
Midlands	50	10	45	100	65	5
East of England	25	25	35	55	15	5
South East	5	5	15	10	0	5
South West	5	5	10	20	5	15
North West	5	10	20	70	95	20
North East and Yorkshire	20	5	65	40	40	15
Unknown	5	5	5	15	5	5

Figures above only include out of area placements which started on or after 17 October 2016. 72 per cent of organisations in scope for this collection participated in this month.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

Table 8: Out of area placement costs over the period due to unavailability of bed: by Region
 England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Area	Total number of out of area placement days over the period	Percentage of out of area placement days with cost recorded⁽⁵⁾	Total recorded costs (£) over the period	Average recorded daily cost (£) over the period⁽⁶⁾	Lower quartile daily cost (£) over the period	Upper quartile daily cost (£) over the period
England	25,260	89%	16,020,585	700	611	762
London	4,840	99%	3,767,674	750	695	792
Midlands	6,105	68%	2,913,315	700	600	792
East of England	3,195	100%	2,263,491	710	650	750
South East	915	86%	502,903	611	575	700
South West	1,185	78%	645,048	602	600	792
North West	4,500	99%	3,299,443	710	695	792
North East and Yorkshire	3,470	95%	1,894,745	555	325	670
Unknown	1,045	95%	733,966	750	665	816

Figures above only include out of area placements which started on or after 17 October 2016. 72 per cent of organisations in scope for this collection participated in this month.

All cost figures are the total cost of the out of area placement. If the out of area placement ended there would still be a cost involved in the care of that patient. As such the cost figures should not be interpreted as potential savings.

(5) Patients with an average cost of £0 or £10 are not considered to have a cost recorded. A patient that has an out of area placement within the same organisation is considered to have a cost of £0.

(6) Average cost is the median cost.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

Appendix A: Participating organisations

Table 9: Participation in the out of area placement collection: by Organisation
England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Region	Organisation	Status
London	Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust	Not Participating
London	Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
London	Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
London	East London NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
London	North East London NHS Foundation Trust	Not Participating
London	Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
London	South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
London	South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust	Not Participating
London	West London NHS Trust	Participating
Midlands	Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
Midlands	Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust	Not Participating
Midlands	Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
Midlands	Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust	Participating
Midlands	Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
Midlands	Dudley Integrated Health and Care NHS Trust	Not Participating
Midlands	Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust	Participating
Midlands	Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust	Participating
Midlands	Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
Midlands	Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Not Participating
Midlands	North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust	Participating
Midlands	Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
Midlands	Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
East of England	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
East of England	Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
East of England	Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
East of England	Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
South East	Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
South East	Isle of Wight NHS Trust	Not Participating
South East	Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust	Not Participating
South East	Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust	Not Participating
South East	Solent NHS Trust	Participating
South East	Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust	Not Participating
South East	Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
South East	Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
South West	Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust	Not Participating
South West	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
South West	Devon Partnership NHS Trust	Participating
South West	Dorset Healthcare University NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
South West	Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust	Not Participating
South West	Livewell Southwest	Participating
South West	Somerset NHS Foundation Trust	Not Participating
North West	Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
North West	Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
North West	Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust	Participating

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North West	Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust	Not Participating
North West	North West Boroughs Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Not Participating
North West	Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
North East and Yorkshire	Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
North East and Yorkshire	Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
North East and Yorkshire	Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
North East and Yorkshire	Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
North East and Yorkshire	Navigo Health and Social Care CIC	Participating
North East and Yorkshire	North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust	Not Participating
North East and Yorkshire	Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
North East and Yorkshire	Sheffield Health & Social Care NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
North East and Yorkshire	South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Participating
North East and Yorkshire	Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	Participating

A participating organisation is any organisation defined as in scope for this collection who, during the period, have either started an out of area placement, discharged an out of area placement, or submitted a return confirming they have no out of area placement to admit or discharge.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

Appendix B: Comparison of inappropriate out of area placement days in month for March 2024 between the interim collection and MHSDS v5.0

Both the interim OAP collection, from which this report is generated, and the MHSDS v5.0 can generate figures for the number of inappropriate OAP days. This allows us to derive similar statistics for receiving organisations and show similarities and differences between how information about Out of Area Placements is being submitted to the two collections, how guidance on submitting this information may be being interpreted differently by different data providers, and identify any data quality issues that limit the ability of users to accurately interpret statistics derived from either source. The purpose of publishing statistics from both collections here is in order to inform service providers and commissioners of how this information is being interpreted nationally, and for NHS England to gather feedback to inform the future development of how these statistics are derived from the MHSDS. The statistics derived from the MHSDS are experimental and subject to change as a result of any feedback received.

The interim collection is currently the official source of data for information on Out of Area Placements until the quality of the MHSDS data has improved. When this occurs, the interim collection will be retired. It is important that providers continue to supply data to both the interim collection and MHSDS v5.0 while working to improve the data quality of both collections. NHS England will make analysis of the two data sets available to help senders and receivers improve their data.

Potential data quality issues have been identified as part of initial analysis of the MHSDS. Particularly cases have been identified where the information recorded about the referral indicates that the person has been referred out of area for adult acute inpatient mental health services, but that the information recorded about the ward the person is placed in indicates that they are in a specialised mental health bed, which is outside of the scope of these statistics. The reasons for these potential data quality issues will be explored following the publication of these statistics in order to inform how these statistics may be developed and interpreted. Any data quality issues identified may lead to the statistics derived from the MHSDS and the interim collection being less comparable.

The interim collection also does not include OAPs which began before the 17 October 2016. The statistics derived from the MHSDS do not have this limitation, as such the statistics derived from the two collections are not fully comparable.

The interim collection has been suppressed following the rules used for the rest of the report. MHSDS v5.0 has been suppressed following the rules of that publication.

Interim OAP collection suppression rules:

- All counts of people or placements are rounded, including national totals. Numbers between 1-7 are rounded to 5 and all other numbers are rounded to the nearest 5.
- Zeroes are shown unsuppressed.

MHSDS v5.0 suppression rules:

- Sub-national figures less than five, including zero, are replaced by *.
* All other sub-national numbers are rounded to the nearest 5.

MHSDS v5.0 has supplied all organisations that submitted a MHSDS return even if that organisation had no OAPs.

Where the interim collection has a value but the MHSDS v5.0 does not, then N/A has been placed in the MHSDS v5.0 column to show that was not a submitting organisation.

In both MHSDS v5.0 and the interim collection, NHS organisations are being reported at Trust level (3 character) and not at site level (5 character). We have attempted to publish private organisation at 5-character level but, in both collections, this has not always been possible.

The definition for an Out of Area Placement for adult acute mental health inpatient services is the same in both the interim collection and MHSDS v5.0. NHS England will continue to work with data providers to promote compliance with this definition in the information submitted to both collections and will publish any feedback received from providers about the implementation of these definitions so that users can understand how the statistics derived from both sources can be interpreted.

NHS England has developed guidance to support the improvement of the quality and completeness of data submitted to the Mental Health Services Dataset (MHSDS) used in the analysis of OAPs in adult acute mental health inpatient services. This guidance is available at:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/binaries/content/assets/website-assets/data-and-information/data-tools-and-services/data-services/mental-health-hub/out-of-area-placements-in-adult-acute-mental-health-inpatient-services.pdf>

Figures broken down by receiving organisation can be found in the additional data tables.

Table 10: Comparison of inappropriate OAP days in month between the interim collection and the MHSDS v5.0

England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Inappropriate OAP days in month			
Interim Collection	MHSDS v5.0		
All Inappropriate OAPs	All Inappropriate OAPs irrespective of bed type	Adult acute, Older Peoples Mental Health and PICU Ward Types	Adult acute, Older Peoples Mental Health and PICU Ward Types and Referrals starting from 17/10/2016
25,260	40,875	33,757	33,385

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

The MHSDS v5.0 data model allows providers to retrospectively submit data for any monthly reporting period until the end of year cut-off as part of the Multiple Submission Window Model (MSWM). For the 2022-23 period, providers are able to resubmit data for any previous months until the end of March 2023. (This was possible for the first time in MHSDS v4.0 but just for the end of year submission for March 2020 data). This model allows providers to improve the quality of previous submissions.

Therefore, any comparisons involving historical MHSDS data should be carried out with this information in mind.

Additional information on the MSWM for MHSDS is available here:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-sets/mental-health-services-data-set/multiple-submission-window-model-for-mhds>.

Appendix C: Open out of area placements with a duration of over 365 days by sending provider for data quality purposes

Out of area placements are often created on the collection system while still open and these out of area placements remain open until such time as the sending organisation closes them on the collection system. This means there is a possibility of an out of area placement having been closed in reality, but that not being shown in our system.

This list of organisations and the number of open out of area placements they have with a duration of over 365 days is to help organisations improve their data quality ahead of this measure being added to the main report.

As with all numbers in this report these numbers have been rounded. Organisations without any out of area placements over 365 days are not included in the table below.

Table 11: Open out of area placements with a duration of over 365 days by sending provider

England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Code	Name	Open out of area placements
	England	150
NR5	Livewell Southwest	5
R1A	Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust	5
RGD	Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	5
RH5	Somerset NHS Foundation Trust	5
RJ8	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	5
RMY	Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust	5
RNU	Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust	30
RPG	Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust	5
RQ3	Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust	20
RQY	South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust	15
RRE	Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	5
RRP	Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust	5
RT2	Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust	5
RTQ	Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust	5
RW5	Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust	5
RWK	East London NHS Foundation Trust	5
RWR	Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust	5
RWX	Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	30
RX4	Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	5
RXG	South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	5
RXM	Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	5
RXT	Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	5
RXV	Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	10
RYG	Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust	5

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

Appendix D: Changes between the published national figures and from the latest data for the previous 12 months

The out of area placement data published each month should only be considered provisional, as submitting organisations are able to amend and delete their data after the end of the reporting period. Therefore, the number of out of area placement days reported each month are subject to change. This means that the published figures for the latest three months may not be the same as if you added up the values previously published for those time periods.

While the most up to date information is used in the production of the three month and year to date figures, the magnitude of the changes resulting from retrospective amendments to the data has not always been clear. This analysis intends to remove this lack of clarity.

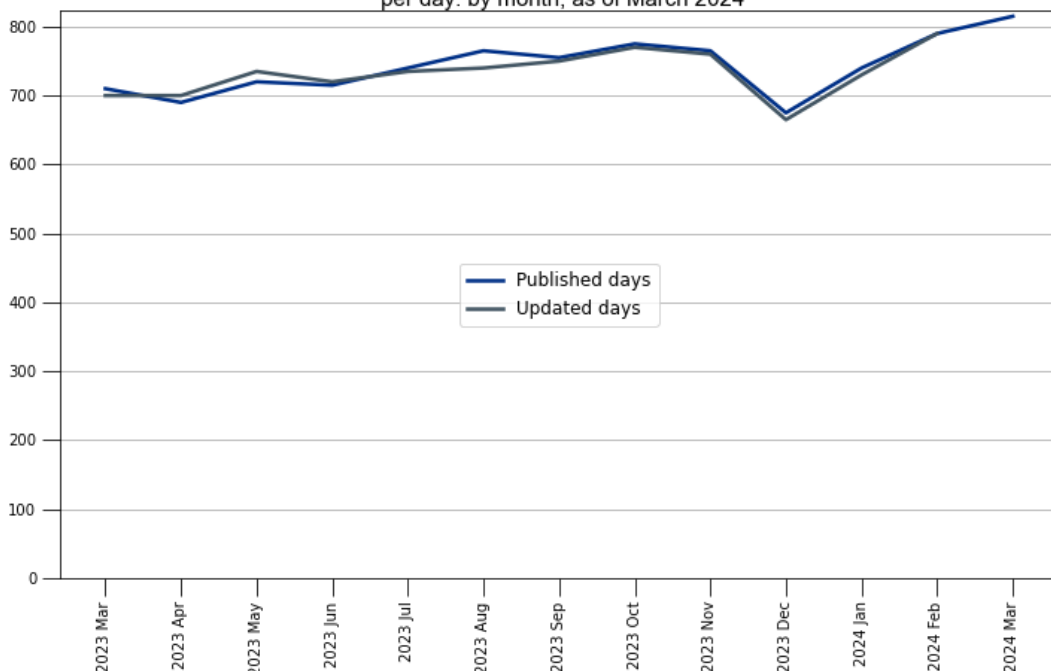
The most common cause for a decrease between published figures and updated figures is the submission of a missing discharge date and the most common cause for an increase is late submission of an out of area placement. Both can happen in the same month.

The submission of a missing discharge date drives down the number of out of area placement days without necessarily impacting the overall number of out of area placements. For example, in the original submission for September, if an out of area placement is shown as starting on the 1st and not ending it will count as 30 out of area placement days. If it is later updated to show it really closed on the 15th of September, then that will reduce the number of out of area placement days reported in that month from the originally published figures to the updated figures.

Figure 2 below shows the difference between the originally published national figures and the latest data for the previous 12 months, allowing people to see the level of change that has occurred as a result of improvements to data quality. This is not being presented as the total number of days in the month because a longer month has more days and so a higher total of out of area placement days would be expected. While this impact is expected to be small it would make perceiving any trend harder.

For this reason, Figure 2 is based around the average number of placements active per day in the relevant month. As an example, if September has a total of 3,000 out of area placement days, then on average 100 placements were active each day (3,000 out of area placement days divided by the 30 days in September).

Figure 2: Average number of inappropriate out of area placements per day: by month, as of March 2024



Notes

The published figures are based on the data available for the relevant months' publication. The updated figures are the data available for the latest months' publication.

No updated figures are available for the latest month.

Average number of OAP placements per day is the total number of OAP placements divided by the number of days in that month. This adjusts for the differing lengths of months.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

It is worth taking into consideration that the changes are the result of data quality work undertaken by submitting organisations and demonstrates an improvement in the quality and accuracy of the data. This is due to data quality investigations into very long term out of area placements and then supporting submitting organisations locate out of area placements that should have been closed and had not been.

The number of long-term out of area placements is 150 this month, which is greater than last month. It is still unclear if these out of area placements reflect genuine stays or are artefacts of data quality.

Table 12: Average number of inappropriate out of area placements per day: by Month, as of March 2024

England, 1 to 31 March 2024

Month	Originally Published	Updated as of March 2024
2023 Mar	710	700
2023 Apr	690	700
2023 May	720	735
2023 Jun	715	720
2023 Jul	740	735
2023 Aug	765	740
2023 Sep	755	750
2023 Oct	775	770
2023 Nov	765	760
2023 Dec	675	665
2024 Jan	740	730
2024 Feb	790	790
2024 Mar	815	

The published figures are based on the data available for the relevant months' publication. The updated figures are based on the data available for the latest months' publication.

No updated figures are available for the latest month.

Average number of out of area placements per day is the total number of out of area placements divided by the number of days in that month. This adjusts for the differing lengths of months.

Source: Out of Area Placements in Mental Health Services, March 2024

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