

Mental health data sources

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This document provides a summary of mental health data sources used by the Welsh Government. It includes background information on the data sources, what data is available, how frequently it is released, and web links for further information.

We actively encourage feedback from our users and are specifically interested in how you may use the information in this article.

If you have any comments or require further information please contact us at stats.healthinfo@gov.wales. For queries related to specific data sources, please use the relevant contact details throughout the document.

This document was last updated in November 2021.

Children and young people attending counselling

Background information

Local authorities in Wales provide provision of independent counselling services for children and young people aged between 11 and 18 on the site of each secondary school that it maintains and for pupils in Year 6 of primary school.

Counselling in this context gives children and young people the opportunity to talk face to face with a counsellor about their worries and concerns, to work through difficult feelings so that they can learn to manage them. Where appropriate counselling may lead to a referral to another service (for example, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), child protection services).

Published by: Knowledge and Analytical Services, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Annual (March)

Availability: Data is available by local authority and main presenting issues on referral (including a number of mental health conditions, for example, self-harm, anxiety, anger, stress, eating disorder, suicide etc)

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Counselling for children and young people](#)
StatsWales website is at: [Counselling for children and young people](#)

Contact: school.stats@gov.wales

Children receiving care and support with mental health issues

Background information

Following the commencement of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act in April 2016, the children in need census has been discontinued and replaced by the children receiving care and support census. The children receiving care and support census is based on the definition of eligible children who have care and support, i.e. children (under the age of 18) who have a care and support plan. This includes those children who have a care and support plan at 31 March that has been in place for at least 3 months.

Published by: Knowledge and Analytical Services, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Annual (March)

Availability: Data is available by local authority

Web links:

Statistical releases are at [Wales Children Receiving Care and Support Census](#)
StatsWales website is at [Children receiving care and support](#)

Contact: stats.pss@gov.wales

Delayed transfer of care

Background information

A delayed transfer of care is experienced by an inpatient in a hospital, who is ready to move on to the next stage of care but is prevented from doing so for one or more reasons.

Published by: Knowledge and Analytical Services, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Monthly, postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic; last update: 19 March 2020.

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Welsh Government suspended delayed transfers of care reporting requirements, along with many other datasets. In the interim, Welsh Government introduced the **COVID-19 Discharge Requirements**, which included an updated discharge process with increased focus on rehabilitation and reablement to improve patient flow and support better outcomes.

The NHS Delivery Unit has been collecting interim weekly delayed discharge data to provide Welsh Government with management information to support the new arrangements. This data does not measure delayed transfers of care in the same way as the previous data collection, and has not been assessed against the standards of the Code of Practice for Statistics. Options for future collection and publication of data and performance measures will be developed as soon as possible, as work in this area has been delayed due to other priorities relating to COVID-19 pandemic.

Availability: Data includes monthly breakdowns by combinations of delay reason, local health board provider, local authority of residence, age type of facility and delay band.

Information is included by facility (i.e. mental health only or excluding mental health); length of delay; stage of delay (i.e. 'Waiting for assessment or move within the NHS' or 'Waiting to leave hospital' or 'Next stage not known').

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Delayed transfers of care](#)
StatsWales website is at: [Delayed Transfers of Care](#)
Quality report is at: [Delayed transfers of care: quality report](#)

Contact: stats.healthinfo@gov.wales

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)

Background information

Contains details about requests for authorisation of the deprivation of liberty safeguards. When an individual lacks mental capacity to consent to care or treatment, it is sometimes in their best interests to deprive them of their liberty so that they are protected from harm. The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (introduced in 2009) provide a legal framework to ensure that people are deprived of their liberty only when there is no other way to care for them or safely provide treatment and ensure that, when this is necessary, people's human rights are protected.

Published by: Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW), Welsh Government and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW)

Frequency of publication: Annual (March)

Availability: Data is available by a variety of categories (including type of referral, number of authorisations, gender and age) and by local health board and local authority.

Web links:

CIW: [Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards \(DoLS\)](#)

HIW: [National and Local Review Reports](#)

Contact: hiw.pim@gov.wales

Detentions under Section 135 and 136 of the Mental Health Act

Background information

The Mental Health Act 1983 (which was amended in 2007) is the law in Wales and England that allows people with a mental disorder to be admitted to hospital, detained and treated without their consent – whether for their own health, safety, or for the protection of other people.

Section 135 allows the police to enter a person's home and take a person to (or keep them at) a place of safety so that a mental health assessment can be done. The police must have a warrant from the magistrate's court allowing them to access a person's home.

Section 136 allows the police to take a person to (or keep them at) a place of safety.

Published by: Delivery & Performance Division, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Quarterly

Availability: Data on the number of Section 135 and 136 detentions in Wales by age, gender, ethnicity, place of safety and outcome of assessment. Data is available by local health board.

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Detentions under Section 135 and 136 of the Mental Health Act](#)

StatsWales website is at: [Detentions under Section 135 and 136 of the Mental Health Act](#)

Quality report is at: [Detentions under Section 135 and 136 of the Mental Health Act: quality report](#)

Contact: hss.performance@gov.wales

General medical services contract (Quality Assurance and Improvement Framework) (QAIF)

Background information

The data is taken from the national General Medical Services (GMS) Quality Assurance and Improvement Framework (QAIF) which replaced the previous Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) in October 2019. The QAIF rewards contractors for the provision of quality care and helps to embed quality improvement into general practice. This includes maintaining up-to-date disease registers for certain conditions including mental health conditions and dementia.

Published by: Knowledge and Analytical Services, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Annual (Spring)

Availability: Data is available at GP practice, cluster and local health board level.

Data is shown in terms of achievement against a range of indicators, exception reporting and the number and age profile of patients on disease registers i.e. prevalence, including registers for 'Mental Health' and 'Dementia'.

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [General medical services contract \(Quality Assurance and Improvement Framework\)](#)

StatsWales website is at: [GMS contract](#)

Contact: stats.healthinfo@gov.wales

Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010

Background information

The Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 was passed by the National Assembly for Wales and, as such, has the same legal status in Wales as other Mental Health Acts. However, whilst the 1983 and 2007 Mental Health Acts are largely about compulsory powers, and admission to or discharge from hospital, the 2010 Measure is all about the support that should be available for people with mental health problems in Wales wherever they may be living.

- **Part 1** seeks to ensure more mental health services are available within primary care.
- **Part 2** gives all people who receive secondary mental health services the right to have a Care and Treatment Plan.
- **Part 3** gives all adults who are discharged from secondary mental health services the right to refer themselves back to those services.
- **Part 4** offers every in-patient access to the help of an independent mental health advocate.

Published by: Delivery & Performance Division, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Quarterly

Availability: Data is available by local health board

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Mental Health \(Wales\) Measure 2010](#)

StatsWales website is at: [Mental Health Measure](#)

Quality report is at: [Mental Health \(Wales\) Measure 2010: quality report](#)

Contact: hss.performance@gov.wales

NHS Expenditure Programme Budgets

Background information

Data on NHS expenditure by programme budget category (which reflect the International Classification of Diseases Version 10 (ICD 10) codes), includes expenditure and costs per head of the population for mental health services.

Published by: Knowledge and Analytical Services, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Annual (April)

Availability: Data is available by commissioning sector and local health board.

Web links:

Statistical releases are at [NHS expenditure programme budgets](#)

StatsWales website is at [NHS programme budget](#)

Contact: stats.healthinfo@gov.wales

NHS Hospital Activity (including bed use and outpatient statistics)

Background information

Contains details of bed utilisation at NHS sites in Wales, patients admitted to NHS mental health facilities and independent hospitals as well as outpatient attendances and outpatient referrals.

The admission data changed to the KP90 data collection form and guidance were made for 2008-09 to take into account changes to the Mental Health Act 1983 made by Mental Health Act 2007. These changes may affect comparisons with data for previous years.

Published by: Knowledge and Analytical Services, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Annual (vary throughout the year)

Availability:

NHS admissions: Information on patients admitted to NHS mental health facilities and independent hospitals during the year. Data is available by local health board, gender and legal status (on admission and changes in status during year).

NHS Beds: Information is included by health board and specialty (including mental illness). Measures such as average daily available beds, average daily occupied beds and percentage occupancy are included.

Outpatient Attendances: Information is included by health board and specialty (including adult mental illness and child and adolescent psychiatry). Measures such as new attendances, total attendances and outpatient's appointments who did not attend are included. However, the outpatient dataset covers consultant or

independent nurse led appointments only, appointments with other health professionals and telemedicine are not captured.

Outpatient Referrals: Information is included by local health board (by both provider and residence) and specialty (including adult mental illness and child and adolescent psychiatry, forensic psychiatry, psychotherapy and old age psychiatry). Measure such as source or referrals is included.

Web links:

NHS admissions

Statistical releases are at: [Admission of patients to mental health facilities](#)
StatsWales website is at: [Admissions to mental health facilities](#)

NHS Beds

Statistical releases are at: [NHS beds](#)
StatsWales website is at: [NHS beds](#)
Quality report is at: [NHS beds: quality report](#)
Quality information: [NHS beds: quality information](#)

Outpatient Attendances

Statistical releases are at: [Outpatient activity](#)
StatsWales website is at: [Outpatient attendances by treatment function](#)

Outpatient Referrals

Statistical releases are at: [NHS activity and performance summary](#)
StatsWales website is at: [Referrals](#)
Quality report is at: [NHS Wales referrals for first outpatient appointments](#)

Contact: stats.healthinfo@gov.wales

NHS staff

Background information

A census of all staff directly employed by the NHS (including those for mental health services) undertaken on a quarterly basis, taken from the NHS Electronic Staff Record (ESR).

Published by: Knowledge and Analytical Services, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Quarterly

Availability: Data includes breakdowns by staff group, grade, location (NHS organisation) and area of work. It is available by local health board.

Information is included by measure (i.e. full-time equivalent and headcount) and specialty. Hospital medical and dental specialties include Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Forensic Psychiatry, General Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Old Age Psychiatry). Nursing staff includes those working in the area of Community Psychiatry, Other Psychiatry and Learning Disabilities, as well as Community Psychiatric Nurses and Community Learning Disability Nurses.

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Staff directly employed by the NHS](#)
StatsWales website is at: [NHS staff](#)
Quality report is at: [Staff directly employed by the NHS](#)

Contact: stats.healthinfo@gov.wales

Patient Episode Database for Wales (PEDW)

Background information

PEDW is the main source of comparative hospital admission. It contains records of the admission episode received by all patients in NHS hospitals in Wales and for Welsh residents treated in NHS hospitals in England. Individual records are submitted to PEDW on the basis of a patient's admission episode i.e. the first episode in a patient's provider spell of care. (*Admissions do not represent the number of inpatients, as a patient may have more than one admission within the year*).

Published by: Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW)

Frequency of publication: Annual (November/December)

Availability: Data is available online by specialty and primary diagnosis (for mental health) using International Classification of Diseases Version 10 (ICD 10) codes:

- **Self-harm:** based on any mention of diagnosis using ICD10 codes X60 to X84.
- **Eating disorder:** based on any mention of diagnosis using ICD10 code F50.
- Diagnosed with a **mental illness:** based on primary diagnosis using ICD10 codes to identify mental illness

Primary diagnosis is main condition treated or investigated during a patient episode of care.

See more in [Annex A](#) for further details on International Classification of Diseases Version 10 (ICD 10) codes.

Data is available on request at local health board (residence and provider) level via a bespoke analysis service. See 'Contact' below for details.

Web links:

PEDW online tables: [Annual PEDW Data Tables - Digital Health and Care Wales](#)

Contact: pdit.requests@wales.nhs.uk

Psychiatric Census

Background information

Contains information on patients resident in NHS mental health hospitals and mental health units in NHS hospitals that may have other specialties, at 31 March. Includes patients with a learning disability as well as those with a mental illness. The census does not include Welsh residents who are patients in hospitals outside Wales.

Published by: Knowledge and Analytical Services, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Annual (October)

Availability: Data is available by local health board, speciality, age, gender, length of stay, legal status and commissioning authority.

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Patients in mental health hospitals and units](#)

StatsWales website is at: [Psychiatric census](#)

Contact: stats.healthinfo@gov.wales

Pupils in maintained schools with special educational needs

Background information

A child has special needs if they have learning difficulties which requires special educational provision to be made for them. A learning difficulty means that the child has significantly greater difficulty in learning than most children of the same age or that the child has an impairment or health condition or is using British Sign Language and needs different educational facilities from those that the school generally provides for children.

Pupils with special educational needs may have Statements issued by the LA or may have their needs identified by the school. In the latter case they come under one of two further categories: School Action or School Action Plus.

Published by: Knowledge and Analytical Services, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Annual (July)

Availability: Data is available by local authority and broad categories relating to the type of learning difficulty e.g. behavioural, emotional or social difficulties.

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Schools' census results: April 2021](#)

StatsWales website is at: [Special educational needs data from the School Census](#)

Contact: school.stats@gov.wales

Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (sCAMHS)

Background information

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) provides a mix of primary and secondary care specialist NHS services for children and young people with mental health problems as defined by the Mental Health Measure 2010. The service offers assessment and treatment when children and young people have emotional, behavioural or mental health difficulties as well as promoting emotional wellbeing and preventative mental health services and treatment to children and young people. Children and young people and their families can be referred to CAMHS if they are finding it hard to cope with family life, school or the wider world. Primary and secondary service provision forms part of a continuum of care offered, with secondary care patients experiencing greater complexity, severity and risk in their presentation.

Published by: Delivery & Performance Division, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Monthly

Availability: Data on the waiting times for sCAMHS by local health board (residence and provider).

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Specialist Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service first appointment waiting times](#)

StatsWales website is at: [First appointment waiting times](#)

Quality report is at: [Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services \(sCAMHS\) first appointment waiting times: quality report](#)

Contact: hss.performance@gov.wales

Suicide

Background information

Based on the National Statistics definition of suicide; this includes all deaths from intentional self-harm for persons aged 10 years and over and deaths caused by injury or poisoning where the intent was undetermined for those aged 15 years and over.

The deaths included in the National Statistics definition are defined using the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10) for years 2001 onwards and International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision (ICD-9) for years prior to 2001.

Suicide statistics are presented based on the year these deaths were registered rather than the year of occurrence and due to registration delays some deaths will not have occurred in the same year in which they were registered.

Published by: Office for National Statistics

Frequency of publication: Annual (September)

Availability:

Suicides in the UK presents statistics on the number of suicides, age-standardised and age-specific mortality rates by sex for the UK and its constituent countries. Additional statistics are also presented for England and Wales including suicide method and the number of deaths and mortality rates by subnational areas.

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Suicides in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](#)

Statistical tables are at: [All data related to Suicides in England and Wales: 2020 registrations - Office for National Statistics](#)

Quality and methodology report is at: [Suicide rates in the UK QMI - Office for National Statistics](#)

Statistical article: [Suicide in Wales since 1981 - Office for National Statistics](#)

Contact: health.data@ons.gov.uk

Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (WEMWBS)

Background information

The National Survey for Wales (NSW) includes the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWBS), a scale of 14 self-assessed questions that measures mental wellbeing. Scores range from 14 to 70, a higher score suggests stronger mental wellbeing. All results are for adults aged 16 and over. In line with other studies, long-term illness, material deprivation and being younger were associated with low mental well-being. Healthy, physically active people were more likely to have high mental well-being.

Published by: National Survey for Wales, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Every two years

Availability: Information on Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (WEMWBS) of adults in Wales by:

- age and gender
- WIMD deprivation quintile
- local authority and health board

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Mental well-being \(National Survey for Wales\)](#)

StatsWales website is at: [Mental health and wellbeing](#)

Contact: surveys@gov.wales

Women who were recorded as having a mental health condition during their initial assessment during pregnancy

Background information

These statistics are derived from the Maternity Indicators dataset (MI ds) which are provided to the Welsh Government by Digital Health and Care Wales.

This source combines records from a mother's initial assessment with a child's birth record and enabled Welsh Government to monitor its initial set of outcome indicators and performance measures (Maternity Indicators) which were established to measure the effectiveness and quality of Welsh maternity services.

Published by: Knowledge and Analytical Services, Welsh Government

Frequency of publication: Annual (Spring)

Availability: Data is available by local health board.

Number of mothers reported that they had a mental health condition at their initial assessment, by age.

Note not all health boards have recorded data for this measure consistently so there are limitations in using this data.

Web links:

Statistical releases are at: [Maternity and birth statistics](#)

Quality report is at: [Maternity and birth statistics: quality report](#)

Contact: stats.healthinfo@gov.wales

Annex A: Patient Episode Database for Wales (PEDW) Coding

Diagnosed with a mental illness, based on primary diagnosis using ICD10 codes to identify mental illness. Primary diagnosis is main condition treated or investigated during a patient episode of care.

F00-F09 Organic, including symptomatic, mental disorders

F10-F19 Mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance abuse

F20-F29 Schizophrenia, schizotypal and delusional disorders

F30-F39 Mood (affective) disorders

F40-F48 Neurotic, stress-related and somatoform disorders

F50-F59 Behavioural syndromes associated with physiological disturbances and physical factors

F60-F69 Disorders of adult personality and behaviour

F70-F79 Mental retardation

F80-F89 Disorders of psychological development

F90-F98 Behavioural and emotional disorders with onset usually occurring in childhood and adolescence

F99 Unspecified mental disorder

Eating disorder

F50 Eating Disorder

International self-poisoning and self-harm

X60 - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to nonopioid analgesics, antipyretics and antirheumatics

X61 - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, antiparkinsonism and psychotropic drugs, not elsewhere classified

X62 - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics [hallucinogens], not elsewhere classified

X63 - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to other drugs acting on the autonomic nervous system

X64 - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to other and unspecified drugs, medicaments and biological substances

X65 - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to alcohol

X66 - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to organic solvents and halogenated hydrocarbons and their vapours

X67 - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to other gases and vapours

X68 - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to pesticides

X69 - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to other and unspecified chemicals and noxious substances

X70 - Intentional self-harm by hanging, strangulation and suffocation

X71 - Intentional self-harm by drowning and submersion

- X72 - Intentional self-harm by handgun discharge
- X73 - Intentional self-harm by rifle, shotgun and larger firearm discharge
- X74 - Intentional self-harm by other and unspecified firearm discharge
- X75 - Intentional self-harm by explosive material
- X76 - Intentional self-harm by smoke, fire and flames
- X77 - Intentional self-harm by steam, hot vapours and hot objects
- X78 - Intentional self-harm by sharp object
- X79 - Intentional self-harm by blunt object
- X80 - Intentional self-harm by jumping from a high place
- X81 - Intentional self-harm by jumping or lying before moving object
- X82 - Intentional self-harm by crashing of motor vehicle
- X83 - Intentional self-harm by other specified means
- X84 - Intentional self-harm by unspecified means