

Email: foi.tsdf@nhs.net
Our Ref: TSD10763

Dear Sir/Madam

Request for Information

We are writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information you requested.

A copy of the information is below:

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information relating to your Type 1 Emergency Department(s).
Unless otherwise stated, please provide the information for each calendar year 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and from 1 January 2026 to 30 June 2026.

1. Long A&E waits

Please provide the total number of patients whose total time in the Emergency Department (measured from arrival/registration to admission, transfer or discharge) fell within each of the following categories:

4 to less than 8 hours

8 to less than 12 hours

12 hours or more

Please provide this information broken down by calendar month.

Year	Month	4 to 8 hours	8 to 12 hours	12+ hours
2020	January	1742	394	173
2020	February	1231	224	142
2020	March	872	119	32
2020	April	205	9	6
2020	May	250	16	0
2020	June	379	19	<5
2020	July	311	24	0
2020	August	590	49	<5
2020	September	682	56	10
2020	October	861	124	16
2020	November	746	70	<5
2020	December	1101	135	18
2021	January	1003	194	18

2021	February	938	184	25
2021	March	1162	163	30
2021	April	1209	107	12
2021	May	1701	240	42
2021	June	1896	571	242
2021	July	1857	705	432
2021	August	1776	637	522
2021	September	1908	651	479
2021	October	1819	599	772
2021	November	1634	587	774
2021	December	1429	452	719
2022	January	1566	529	710
2022	February	1518	537	665
2022	March	1818	607	862
2022	April	1909	603	836
2022	May	2252	783	660
2022	June	2095	814	864
2022	July	2171	833	826
2022	August	2003	821	921
2022	September	1956	510	898
2022	October	1977	723	990
2022	November	2074	674	938
2022	December	2211	923	1166
2023	January	1697	589	831
2023	February	2001	644	585
2023	March	2011	625	961
2023	April	2175	613	576
2023	May	2234	765	860
2023	June	2108	590	785
2023	July	2410	655	623
2023	August	1927	488	801
2023	September	1901	512	665
2023	October	1888	569	824
2023	November	1722	529	774
2023	December	1860	516	633
2024	January	1820	615	848
2024	February	1903	554	823
2024	March	1993	643	843
2024	April	1921	678	712
2024	May	1760	554	787
2024	June	1866	611	658
2024	July	1993	730	574
2024	August	2013	643	530

2024	September	1943	757	786
2024	October	1681	592	981
2024	November	1842	595	856
2024	December	1959	737	794
2025	January	1614	651	821
2025	February	1472	565	680
2025	March	1827	707	617
2025	April	1774	605	416
2025	May	1922	773	690
2025	June	1898	618	495
2025	July	1936	596	460
2025	August	1854	622	428
2025	September	2024	683	660
2025	October	1952	880	588
2025	November	1962	735	550
2025	December	1793	691	521
2026	January	1705	664	918
2026	February	1694	765	742
2026	March	1892	981	735
2026	April	2223	830	677
2026	May	2153	897	842
2026	June	2128	917	809
2026	July	2068	819	952
2026	August	2045	857	1001
2026	September	540	180	328

2. Mental health attendances

Please provide the total number of attendances at your Type 1 Emergency Department(s) where the patient's primary presenting complaint, diagnosis, or clinical reason for attendance was recorded as a mental health condition or mental health crisis, for each reporting period.

If your Trust uses a specific coding definition or national dataset to identify these attendances, please use your standard reporting definition and briefly describe it.

Mental health attendances were identified where at least one of the following criteria was met: assignment to a relevant care group; referral to a relevant team, such as psychiatric liaison; selection of a relevant chief complaint; or recording of a mental health-related condition as the primary diagnosis. An attendance was counted if any one of these criteria applied.

The Trust implemented the EPIC electronic patient record system in early April 2026. Since then, the team-referred-to field has been missing from approximately 85% of the reporting data, resulting in an apparent decrease in identified mental health attendances. Figures from April 2026 onwards should therefore be interpreted with caution, as this may reflect incomplete data rather than a genuine reduction in activity. The issue cannot be resolved within the scope of this request.

Year	Month	MH Attendances
2020	January	331
2020	February	352
2020	March	281
2020	April	203
2020	May	282
2020	June	331
2020	July	346
2020	August	382
2020	September	323
2020	October	252
2020	November	233
2020	December	287
2021	January	256
2021	February	261
2021	March	320
2021	April	352
2021	May	374
2021	June	361
2021	July	336

2021	August	296
2021	September	329
2021	October	327
2021	November	303
2021	December	241
2022	January	315
2022	February	241
2022	March	270
2022	April	283
2022	May	360
2022	June	270
2022	July	295
2022	August	330
2022	September	266
2022	October	283
2022	November	280
2022	December	236
2023	January	305
2023	February	311
2023	March	342
2023	April	325
2023	May	392
2023	June	343
2023	July	386
2023	August	390
2023	September	385
2023	October	376
2023	November	304
2023	December	359
2024	January	363
2024	February	331
2024	March	362
2024	April	384
2024	May	431
2024	June	365
2024	July	432
2024	August	367
2024	September	357
2024	October	329
2024	November	341
2024	December	299
2025	January	312
2025	February	287

2025	March	374
2025	April	314
2025	May	363
2025	June	362
2025	July	394
2025	August	374
2025	September	316
2025	October	356
2025	November	358
2025	December	330
2026	January	337
2026	February	358
2026	March	341
2026	April	311
2026	May	260
2026	June	274
2026	July	254
2026	August	274
2026	September	106

3. Waiting time for a mental health bed following a decision to admit

For the patients identified in Question 2 who required admission to a mental health inpatient bed, please provide the number of patients who waited the following lengths of time from the recorded decision to admit (or equivalent timestamp if a decision-to-admit field is not recorded) until departure from the Emergency Department:

4 to less than 8 hours

8 to less than 12 hours

12 hours or more

The Trust does not hold confirmed information on admissions to mental health inpatient beds because it does not commission or operate these services. The figures provided are therefore estimates based on attendances identified as mental health-related under the methodology described in Question 2.

Patients were included where they were recorded as transferred to another provider either directly from the Emergency Department or following admission to the Trust's acute hospital. For this analysis, the receiving provider has been assumed to be Devon Partnership NHS Trust and the transfer to relate to a mental health bed. Waiting time was calculated from the recorded decision time in the Emergency Department to the patient's eventual transfer. Although recorded mental health attendances have decreased since April 2026, estimated waits of 12 hours or more have increased. This

may reflect data-quality issues or differences in recording following the introduction of EPIC, rather than a directly comparable change in performance. These figures should therefore be interpreted with caution.

Year	Month	4 to 8 Hrs	8 to 12 hrs	12+ Hrs
2020	January	0	0	0
2020	February	0	0	<5
2020	March	0	<5	<5
2020	April	0	<5	<5
2020	May	0	0	<5
2020	June	0	0	<5
2020	July	<5	0	<5
2020	August	<5	0	0
2020	September	0	0	<5
2020	October	<5	<5	<5
2020	November	0	0	<5
2020	December	0	0	6
2021	January	0	0	<5
2021	February	0	0	0
2021	March	0	0	<5
2021	April	0	<5	7
2021	May	0	<5	<5
2021	June	0	0	<5
2021	July	0	<5	<5
2021	August	<5	0	<5
2021	September	0	0	<5
2021	October	<5	0	<5
2021	November	0	<5	5
2021	December	0	0	<5
2022	January	0	0	<5
2022	February	0	<5	<5
2022	March	<5	0	5
2022	April	0	<5	<5
2022	May	0	0	5
2022	June	0	0	<5
2022	July	0	<5	<5
2022	August	0	<5	<5
2022	September	0	0	5
2022	October	0	0	<5
2022	November	<5	0	7
2022	December	0	<5	<5
2023	January	0	0	<5

2023	February	<5	0	<5
2023	March	0	0	8
2023	April	0	0	<5
2023	May	0	0	10
2023	June	0	<5	<5
2023	July	0	0	9
2023	August	0	0	<5
2023	September	0	0	8
2023	October	0	0	8
2023	November	<5	0	7
2023	December	0	<5	5
2024	January	<5	0	6
2024	February	0	<5	6
2024	March	0	0	<5
2024	April	0	0	8
2024	May	0	0	6
2024	June	0	<5	6
2024	July	<5	0	10
2024	August	0	0	7
2024	September	0	0	6
2024	October	0	0	5
2024	November	0	0	9
2024	December	0	0	8
2025	January	0	<5	<5
2025	February	0	0	10
2025	March	0	0	5
2025	April	<5	0	6
2025	May	0	<5	11
2025	June	<5	0	9
2025	July	0	0	6
2025	August	0	0	<5
2025	September	0	0	6
2025	October	0	0	12
2025	November	0	0	6
2025	December	<5	0	8
2026	January	0	<5	6
2026	February	0	0	<5
2026	March	0	0	12
2026	April	<5	0	19
2026	May	0	0	20
2026	June	<5	<5	19
2026	July	0	0	20
2026	August	<5	<5	20

2026	September	<5	0	6
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We do not actually hold information about admissions to mental health beds, as we do not commission/own them. What we have provided is an estimate based on (a) a mental health attendance as outlined above, where (b) the patient is listed as “transferred to another provider” straight from ED in which case we assume DPT are the other provider, or admitted as an inpatient to our acute hospital and then “transferred to another provider” at the conclusion of their stay with us, at which point assume they were waiting as an inpatient to be transferred to DPT for a MH bed. We have the difference between the decision time in ED, and their ultimate transfer. In this instance, despite lower overall attendances since April, the 12 hr waits are actually up, which could be down to data quality again or differences with the new system.

For further information regarding Mental Health, please contact Devon Partnership Trust. You can submit an FOI request to Devon Partnership Trust by email to: dpt.ig@nhs.net, or by letter to:

Information Governance Team

Devon Partnership NHS Trust

Prentice

Langdon Hospital

Exeter Road

Dawlish

EX7 0NR

Please provide this information for each reporting year.

If your Trust records a different but equivalent measure (for example, decision to admit by the mental health team, accepted for admission, or another recognised timestamp), please provide that data instead and explain the definition used.

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting.

If you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact us, quoting the FOI reference number above.

If you are unhappy with the way in which we have handled your request, please contact the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Lead in the first instance. If you wish to make a formal complaint, you should write to our Complaints Manager at Torbay and

South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, First Floor Bowyer Building, Torbay Hospital, Torquay TQ2 7AA or by email to tsdft.feedback@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will only make a decision once you have exhausted the complaints and/or internal review process provided by us. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or through this link <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team