

INFORMATION
ANALYSIS
DIRECTORATE



Emergency Care Waiting Time Statistics for Northern Ireland

(January - March 2020)



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An Roinn Sláinte

Máinnystrie O Poustie

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NISRA

Northern Ireland
Statistics and Research Agency

Gníomhaireacht Thuaisceart Éireann
um Staitisticí agus Taighde

Reader Information

- Purpose:** This statistical release presents information on the time waited in emergency care departments (ED) in Northern Ireland. It reports on the performance against the DoH Ministerial target, including additional information on a number of clinical quality indicators set by the Department of Health (DoH).
- Guidance:** It is recommended that readers refer to the '**Emergency Care Waiting Time Statistics - Additional Guidance**' booklet, which details technical guidance, definitions and background information on the data used, including the security and confidentiality processes¹. This booklet is updated for each release and can be found at the following link:
<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/hs-niwtsecwt-guidance.pdf>
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Sarah Brown
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- Statistical Quality:** Information detailed in this release has been provided by HSC Trusts and was validated by Hospital Information Branch (HIB) prior to release. Information on: time to triage, age and time of day for attendances, GP referrals, emergency admissions, left before treatment complete, triage level, time to start of treatment, time waited for patients admitted and not admitted are **not** National Statistics, but have been included to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits. Further information on data included in this release is available at the link below:
<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/hs-niwtsecwt-guidance.pdf>
- Target Audience:** DoH, Chief Executives of HSC Board and Trusts in Northern Ireland, Health Care Professionals, Academics, HSC Stakeholders, Media & General Public.
- Further Copies:** statistics@health-ni.gov.uk
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¹ Information on Security and Confidentiality Processes is detailed in the Technical Notes on page 3.

Technical Notes

Data Collection

Information presented in this brief is based on a monthly patient-level download from the Regional Data Warehouse on the 8th of each month for all EDs. Data providers are supplied with technical guidance documents outlining the methodologies used in the collection, reporting, and validation of the information collected in this publication. These documents are available at the link below:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/emergency-care-activity-returns-and-guidance>

Currently there are two patient-level administrative systems used by HSC Trusts in Northern Ireland to record emergency care information;

- (i) The electronic Emergency Medicine System (e-EMS); and,
- (ii) SYMPHONY.

A National Statistics Publication

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

These statistics last underwent a full assessment against the Code of Practice in 2011:

https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/images-letterofconfirmationasnationalstatisticsassessmentreport15_tcm97-42663.pdf

Designation was awarded in March 2013: https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/images-assessmentreport153statisticsonhospitalwaitingtimesinnorthernirelan_tcm97-41176.pdf

Since the assessment, we have continued to comply with the Code of Practice for Statistics. A list of those who received 24-hour pre-release access to this publication is available online with the current quarterly publication found here:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/articles/emergency-care-waiting-times>

Waiting Time Information elsewhere in the United Kingdom (UK)

When comparing emergency care statistics it is important to know the type of department. Emergency care information sometimes refers only to Type 1 departments, and is not comparable with data which refers to all EDs. Two key differences are as follows: (i) waiting times at Type 1 EDs are higher than at other ED Types; (ii) fewer patients are admitted to hospital from Type 2 or 3 EDs.

There are also a number of key differences in how emergency care waiting times are reported in each UK Jurisdiction, and we would ask readers to be cautious when making comparisons across the UK. In particular, readers should avoid making comparisons between Northern Ireland and England on the 12 hour measurement, as these are not equivalent measures. Additional information on comparing emergency care waiting times information for Northern Ireland and England is detailed on pages 10 – 12 of the 'Additional Guidance' document at the link below:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/hs-niwts-ecwt-guidance.pdf>

DoH statisticians have also liaised with colleagues in England, Scotland and Wales to clarify differences between the emergency care waiting times reported for each administration and have produced a guidance document to provide readers with a clear understanding of these differences (link below).

<https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/UK-Comparative-Waiting-Times-AE-final.xlsx>

Contextual Information

Readers should be aware that contextual information about Northern Ireland and the health services provided is available to reference while using statistics from this publication.

This includes information on the current and future population, structures within the Health and Social Care system, the vision for the future health services, as well as targets and indicators. This information is available at the following link:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/contextual-information-using-hospital-statistics>

Security & Confidentiality Processes

Information on (i) the security and (ii) the confidentiality processes used to produce these and all statistics produced by the DoH, are detailed on our website at the links below:

Official Statistics & User Engagement:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/topics/doh-statistics-and-research/official-statistics-and-user-engagement>

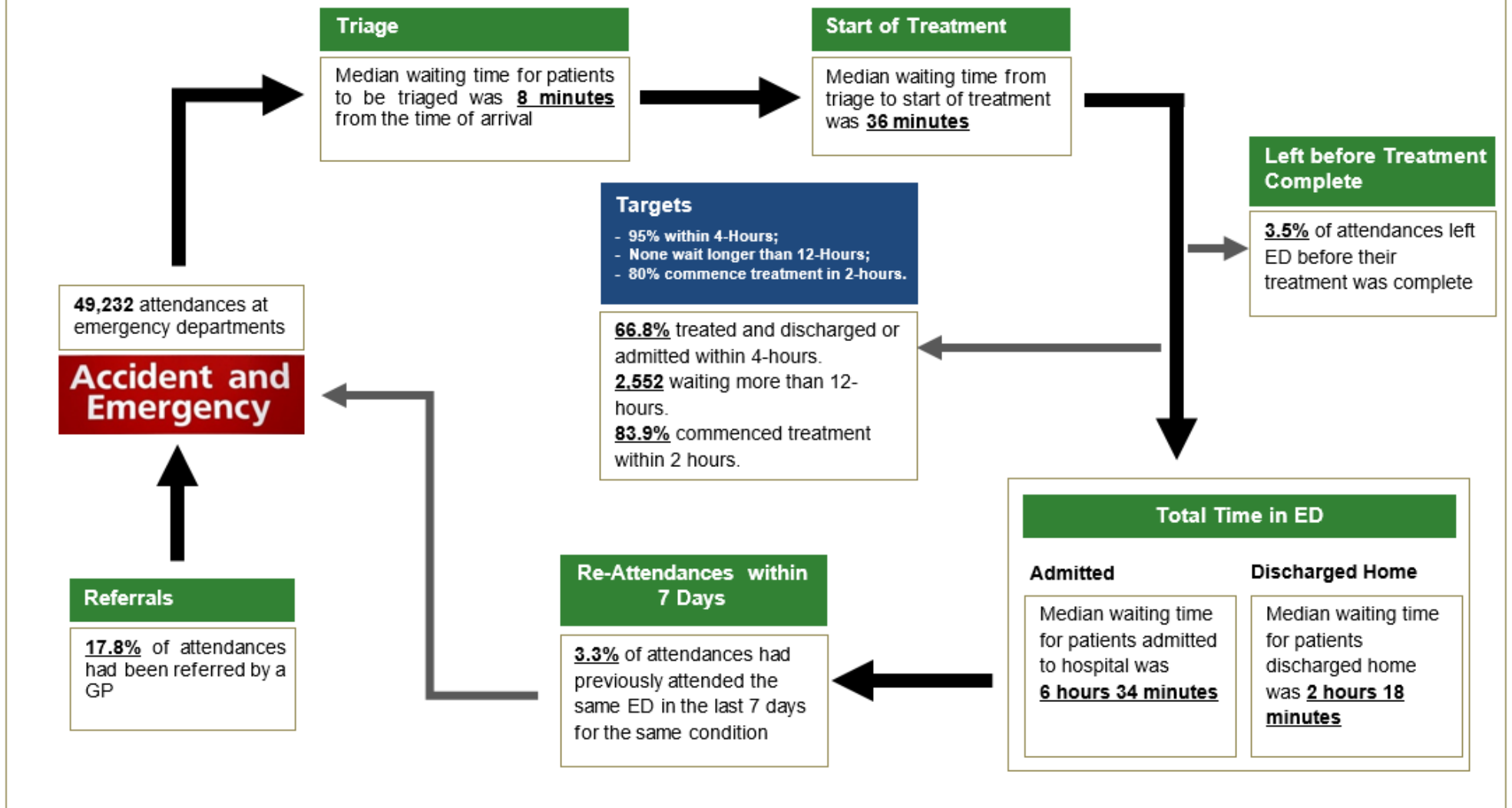
Statistical Charter:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/doh-statistics-charter>

Contents

Summary of Key Facts	5
Emergency Care Attendances: Who, Where, When, Why?	6
How many attend EDs?	6
Are more patients being admitted to hospital?	7
Which ED did people attend?	18
Who attends EDs?	9
What triage level do patients present with?	10
When do people attend EDs?	11
How many attendances were referred by a GP?	13
Do patients leave ED before their treatment is complete?	14
How many patients re-attend the same ED within a week?	15
How Long Do Patients Spend in Emergency Departments?	16
How are EDs performing?	16
How long did patients wait to be triaged?	19
How long did patients wait for their treatment to start?	21
What is the waiting time for treatment to start at Type 1 EDs?	22
Do patients admitted spend longer in EDs than those discharged home?	23
How long did patients admitted to hospital spend in an ED?	24
How long did patients discharged home spend in an ED?	25
Appendices	26
Appendix 1: About Hospital Information Branch (HIB)	26
Appendix 2: Emergency Care Departments and Opening Hours	27
Appendix 3: General Guidance on using the Data	29
Appendix 4: Additional Tables	30
Appendix 5: Further Information	41

SUMMARY OF KEY FACTS (March 2020)



Emergency Care Attendances: Who, Where, When, Why?

How Many Attend EDs?

Table 1 presents information on the number of new and unplanned review attendances at emergency care departments (ED) and the number of emergency admissions to hospital in Northern Ireland during March 2020, compared with the same month last year. ^{2, 3, 4, 5, 6}

Information for the last three months (January, February and March 2020) is detailed in Table 10 A on page 30.

Table 1: Attendances at Emergency Care Departments and Emergency Admissions to Hospital (March 2019 - March 2020)

Attendances	March 2019	March 2020	Difference	
New	67,551	46,720	-20,831	-30.8%
Unplanned Review	3,765	2,512	-1,253	-33.3%
Total Attendances	71,316	49,232	-22,084	-31.0%
Emergency Admissions	13,065	9,635	-3,430	-26.3%

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- Total attendances at EDs decreased by 31.0% (22,084) when compared with March 2019, from 71,316 to 49,232 in March 2020 (Table 1, Table 10A).
- Between March 2019 and March 2020, unplanned review attendances decreased by 33.3% (1,253) and new attendances decreased by 30.8% (20,831) (Table 1, Table 10A).
- There were 177,073 attendances at EDs during the quarter ending 31st March 2020, 13.3% (27,072) less than during the same quarter in 2019 (204,145).
- The number of emergency admissions to hospital from EDs decreased by 26.3% (3,430) between March 2019 (13,065) and March 2020 (9,635) (Table 1).

² Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10A.

³ Data on emergency admissions are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits. This is sourced from the ED Administrative Systems and will therefore differ slightly from the information included in the Hospital Statistics: Inpatients and Day Case Statistics which are sourced from the Hospital Inpatient System.

⁴ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

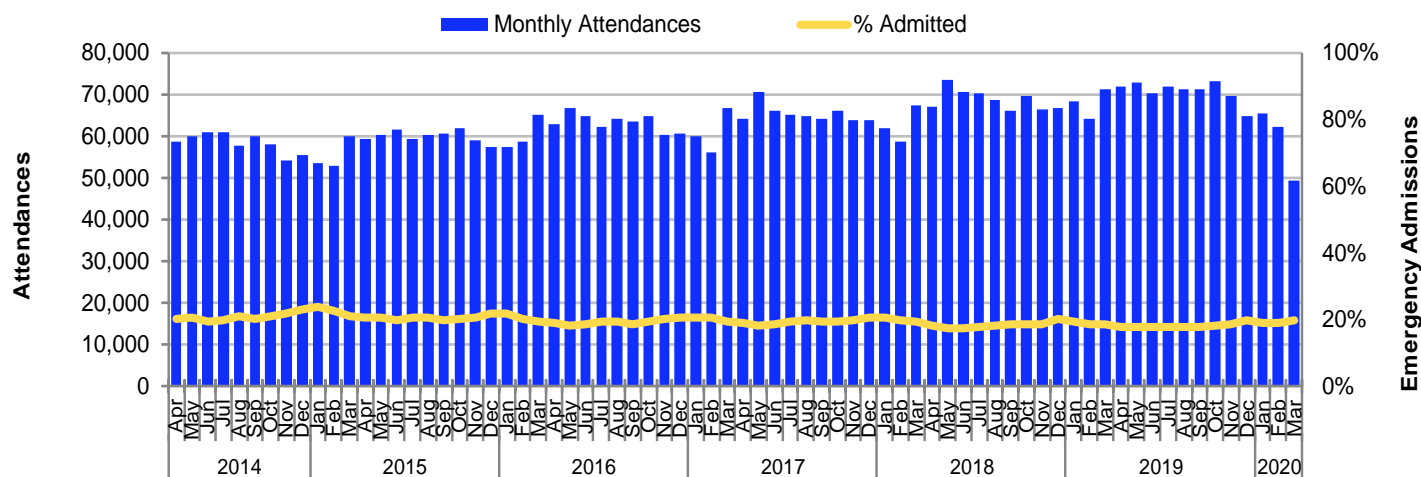
⁵ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁶ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Are More Patients Being Admitted To Hospital?

Figure 1 presents information on the number of new and unplanned review attendances at EDs and emergency admissions ⁷ to hospital each month, from April 2014. ^{8, 9, 10}

Figure 1: Attendances at Emergency Care Departments and Emergency Admissions to Hospital (April 2014 – March 2020)



- During each of the last six years, the percentage of ED attendances admitted to hospital was generally highest in December and January and lowest during May (Figure 1).
- The percentage of ED attendances admitted to hospital increases between November and January each year, then declines sharply from February each year (Figure 1).
- Attendances during all three months decreased when compared with the same month of the previous year.
 - During January 2020, there were 65,519 attendances at EDs, 4.3% (2,965) less than January 2019 (68,484);
 - During February 2020, there were 62,322 attendances at EDs, 3.1% (2,023) less than February 2019 (64,345); and,
 - During March 2020, there were 49,232 attendances at EDs, 31.0% (22,084) less than March 2019 (71,316).

⁷ Data on emergency admissions are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

⁸ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁹ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

¹⁰ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Which ED Did People Attend?

Table 2 details a summary of the number of new and unplanned review attendances at each Type 1 ED during March 2020 and the same month last year. It also details the total number of attendances at Type 2 and 3 EDs during this period ^{11, 12, 13, 14}

Table 2: Attendances at Emergency Care Departments (March 2019 – March 2020)

Department	New Attendances		Unplanned Review Attendances		Total Attendances	
	Mar 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Mar 2020
Mater	4,123	2,449	139	76	4,262	2,525
Royal Victoria	8,044	5,713	377	196	8,421	5,909
RBHSC	3,420	2,318	293	206	3,713	2,524
Antrim Area	7,330	5,898	489	320	7,819	6,218
Causeway	3,911	2,683	302	160	4,213	2,843
Ulster	8,150	6,009	201	127	8,351	6,136
Craigavon Area	6,922	4,850	540	342	7,462	5,192
Daisy Hill	4,620	2,848	264	161	4,884	3,009
Altnagelvin Area	5,782	3,807	332	267	6,114	4,074
South West Acute	2,878	2,343	220	182	3,098	2,525
Type 1	55,180	38,918	3,157	2,037	58,337	40,955
Type 2	5,428	3,468	216	243	5,644	3,711
Type 3	6,943	4,334	392	232	7,335	4,566
Northern Ireland	67,551	46,720	3,765	2,512	71,316	49,232

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- Between March 2019 and March 2020, total attendances decreased at Type 1, Type 2 and Type 3 departments (Table 2, Table 10A).
- Antrim Area (6,218) and the Ulster (6,136) were the busiest EDs during March 2020 (Table 2, Table 10A).
- All Type 1 EDs reported a decrease in attendances between March 2019 and March 2020 (Table 2, Table 10A).

¹¹ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10A.

¹² Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

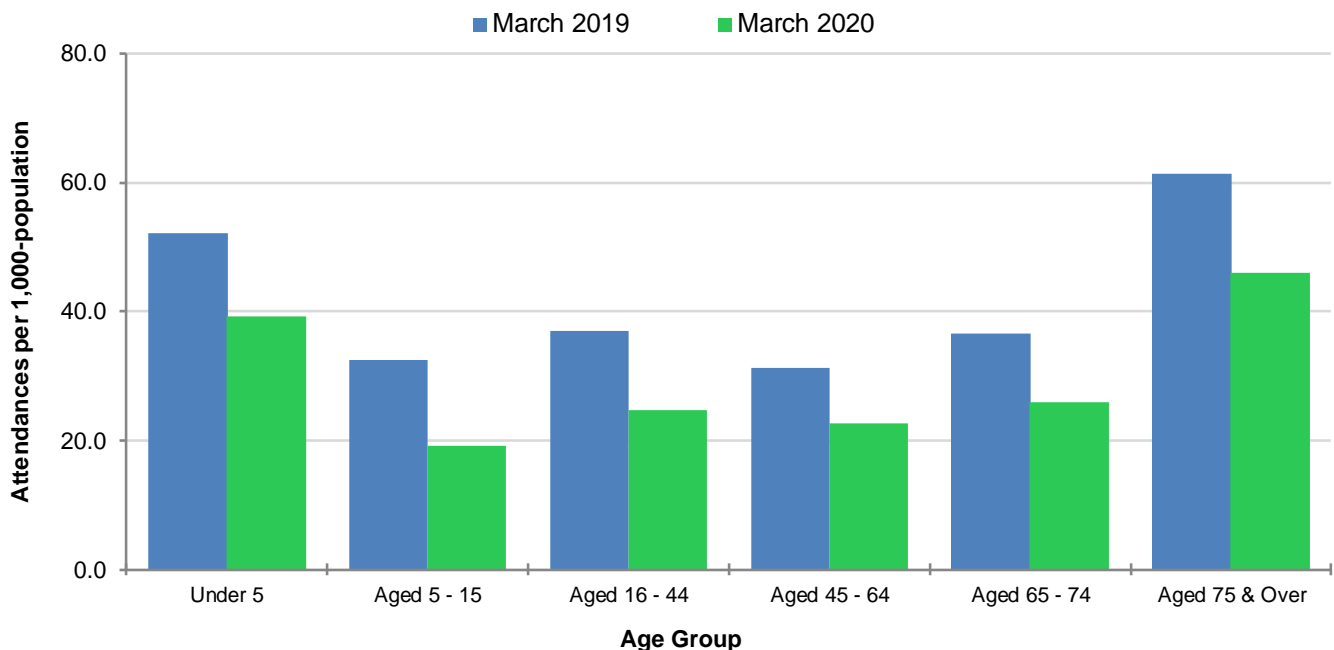
¹³ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Who Attends EDs?

Figure 2 presents information on the number of attendances at EDs per 1,000-population, broken down by the age group of those attending ^{15, 16, 17, 18, 19}

Figure 2: Attendances at Emergency Care Departments per 1,000-population, by Age Group (March 2019 – March 2020) ^{20, 21}



- During both March 2019 and March 2020, the highest number of attendances per 1,000-population was recorded for those Aged 75 & Over (61.5 and 46.0 respectively) (Figure 2, Table 10H).
- A high number of attendances per 1,000-population aged Under 5 was also recorded in both March 2019 and March 2020 (52.1 and 39.2 respectively) (Figure 2, Table 10H).
- The rate of attendances per 1,000-population decreased for all age groups between March 2019 and March 2020. (Figure 2, Table 10H).
- The lowest number of attendances per 1,000-population was recorded in the Aged 5 - 15 age group during March 2020 (19.2) (Figure 2, Table 10H).

¹⁵ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10H.

¹⁶ Data on the age of those attending ED are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

¹⁷ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁸ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

¹⁹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

²⁰ Excludes cases where the DOB could not be determined.

²¹ Based on the NISRA 2019 mid-year population estimate which was published on 6th May 2020.

What Triage Level Do Patients Present With?

The level which patients arriving at the ED were designated following triage by a health care professional is presented below. The five levels on the Manchester Triage Scale (MTS) below, act as a guide for the time within which a patient's treatment should commence. ^{22, 23}

Triage Level	Colour	MTS Priority	Waiting Time
Level 1	Red	Immediate	0 Minutes
Level 2	Orange	Very Urgent	10 Minutes
Level 3	Yellow	Urgent	60 Minutes
Level 4	Green	Standard	120 Minutes
Level 5	Blue	Non-Urgent	240 Minutes

In this report it is assumed that patients attending EDs triaged as Level 1 / 2 or 3 are in most urgent need of treatment, and those assessed as Level 4 / 5 are in less need of urgent treatment.

Table 3: Percentage Triaged in each Triage Group (March 2019 - March 2020) ^{24, 25, 26}

Department	Level 1 / 2		Level 3		Level 4 / 5	
	Mar 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Mar 2020
Mater	15.4%	18.5%	42.4%	46.3%	42.2%	35.2%
Royal Victoria	17.3%	20.3%	46.6%	48.5%	36.1%	31.2%
RBHSC	13.7%	12.2%	25.1%	23.4%	61.2%	64.4%
Antrim Area	18.7%	16.1%	54.3%	46.8%	27.1%	37.1%
Causeway	17.6%	20.7%	54.4%	50.6%	28.0%	28.7%
Ulster	21.4%	25.2%	49.9%	43.2%	28.6%	31.6%
Craigavon Area	29.8%	34.4%	47.3%	41.4%	22.9%	24.2%
Daisy Hill	32.7%	30.5%	49.6%	46.3%	17.7%	23.2%
Altnagelvin Area	30.7%	32.4%	32.8%	34.6%	36.5%	32.9%
South West Acute	17.1%	20.0%	47.5%	42.0%	35.4%	38.0%
Type 1	22.1%	23.7%	45.7%	42.9%	32.2%	33.4%
Type 2	7.1%	8.5%	29.2%	25.8%	63.8%	65.7%
Type 3	0.3%	0.4%	4.7%	2.4%	95.1%	97.1%
Northern Ireland	18.6%	20.3%	40.0%	37.8%	41.4%	41.8%

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- Over two thirds (66.6%) of attendances at Type 1 departments in March 2020 were triaged as level 1 / 2 or 3, compared with 67.8% in March 2019 (Table 3, Table 10L).
- Over a fifth (20.3%) of patients were triaged at level 1 / 2 in March 2020, higher than January 2020 (20.1%) and February 2020 (19.5%) (Table 3, Table 10L).
- During March 2020, over a third (34.4%) of patients attending Craigavon Area were triaged at level 1 / 2, compared with 12.2% of those attending the RBHSC (Table 3, Table 10L).

²² Data are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

²³ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

²⁴ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4: Table 10L.

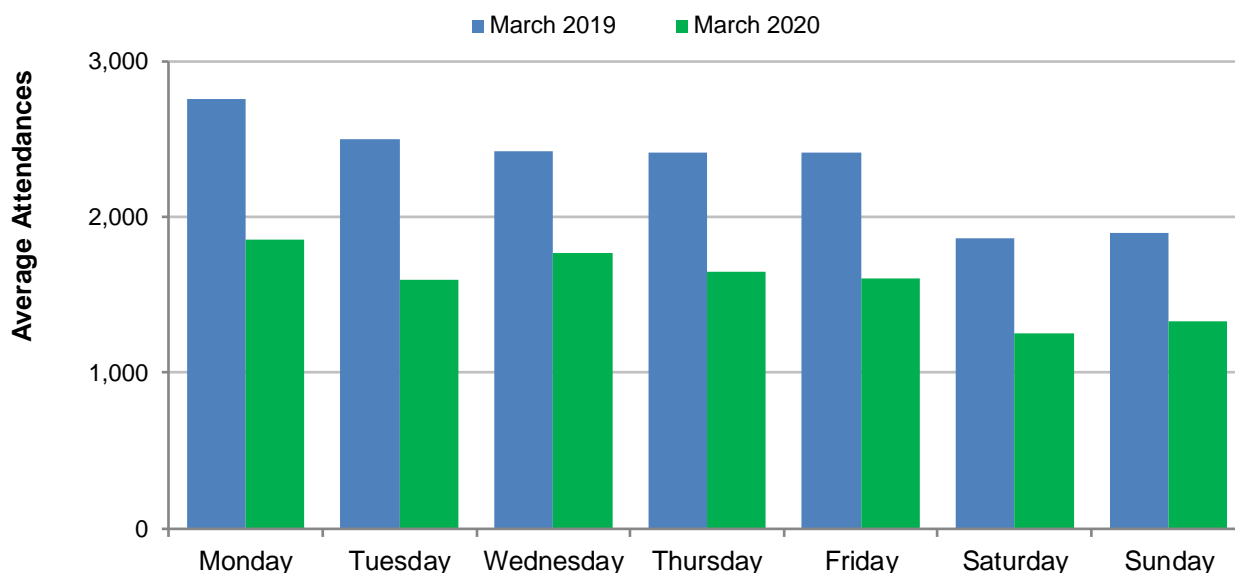
²⁵ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

²⁶ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

When Do People Attend EDs?

Figure 3 presents information on the average number of new and unplanned review attendances at EDs by day of the week during March 2019, compared with March 2020. ^{27, 28, 29, 30}

Figure 3: Average Number of Attendances at Emergency Care Departments by Day of Week (March 2019 - March 2020)³¹



- Overall, Monday was the busiest day at EDs during both March 2019 and March 2020, with over 1,850 daily attendances on average each Monday during March 2020 (Figure 3, Table 10I).
- The largest decrease in average daily attendances between March 2019 and March 2020 (906) was on a Tuesday (2,499 and 1,593 respectively) (Figure 3, Table 10I).
- The lowest average number of daily attendances was on a Saturday during March 2019 (1,865) and March 2020 (1,250) (Figure 3, Table 10I).

²⁷ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10I.

²⁸ Data on when patients attend ED are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

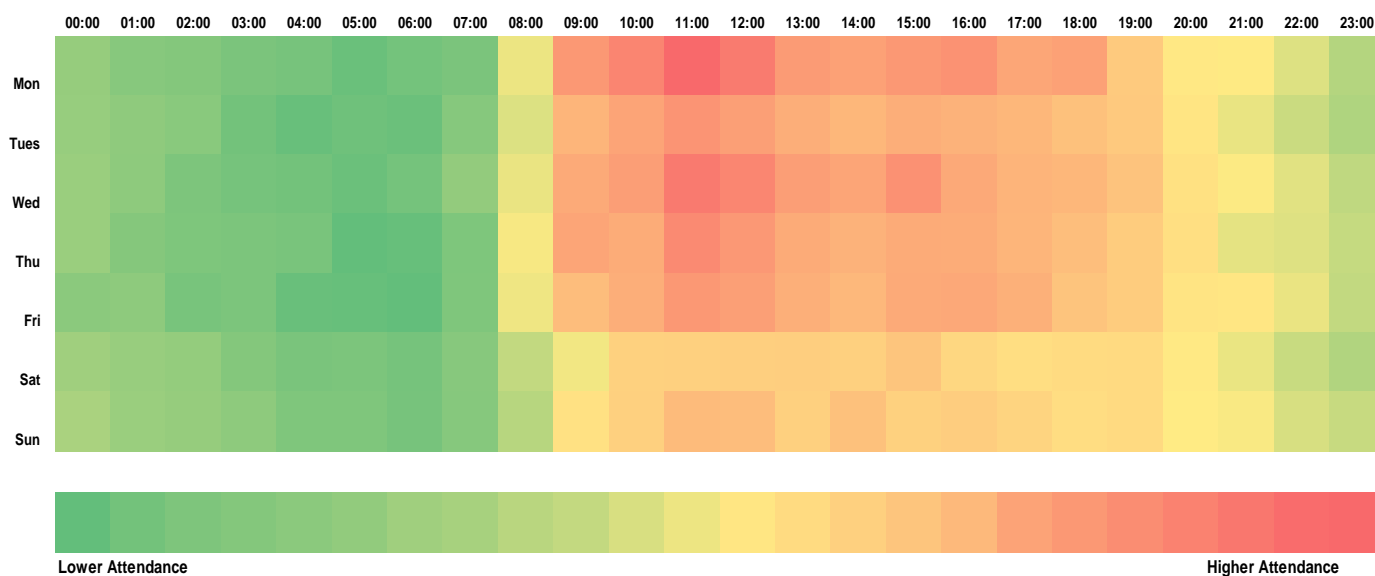
²⁹ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

³⁰ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

³¹ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

Figure 4 presents information on the number of new and unplanned review attendances during each day of the week and hour of the day in March 2020. The time shown refers to the hour of arrival, for example, 12:00 are those patients who arrived between 12:00pm (noon) and 12:59pm. ^{32, 33, 34}

Figure 4: Heat Map of Emergency Care Attendances by Day and Time (March 2020)³⁵



- Monday was the busiest day of the week during March 2020, with the highest number of attendances arriving between 11:00am and 11:59am (Figure 4).
- Saturday was the least busy day during March 2020, with the highest number of attendances arriving between 15:00pm and 15:59pm (Figure 4).
- Overall, the busiest hour of the day during March 2020 was between 11:00am and 11:59am, whilst the least busy hour was 5:00am to 5:59am (Figure 4).

³² Data on when patients attend ED are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

³³ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

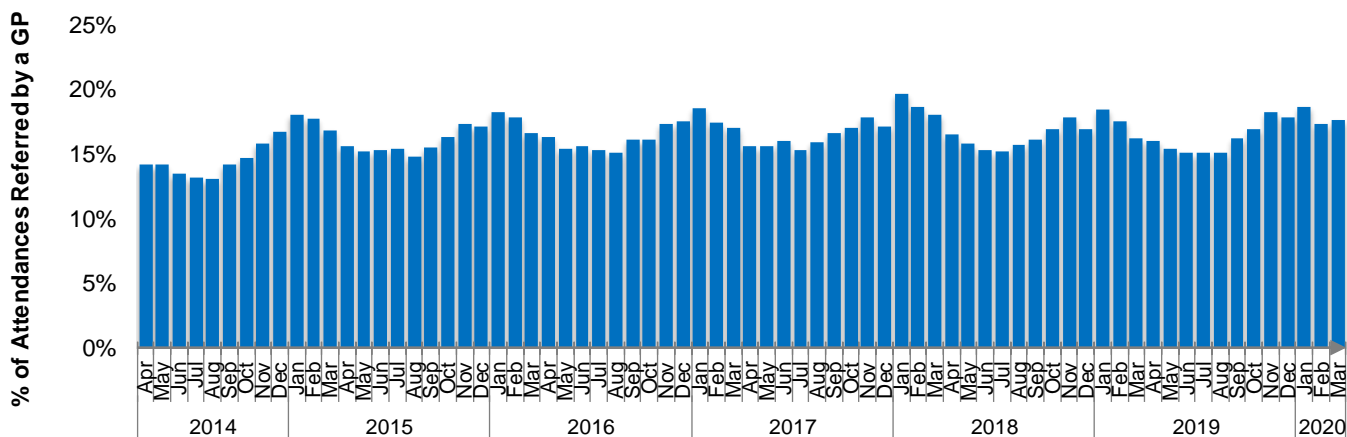
³⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

³⁵ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

How Many Attendances Were Referred by a GP?

Figure 5 presents information on the percentage of attendances at EDs that had been referred by a GP, from April 2014.^{36, 37, 38, 39}

Figure 5: Percentage of Attendances at Emergency Care Departments Referred by a GP (April 2014 – March 2020)⁴⁰



- In March 2020, over one in six (17.8%) attendances at EDs had been referred by a GP, compared with 16.3% in March 2019 (Figure 5, Table 10C).
- Type 1 EDs reported the highest percentage of attendances referred by a GP (19.8%) during March 2020, compared to 18.5% in March 2019 (Table 10C).
- Almost a third (31.8%) of attendances at Antrim Area had been referred by a GP during March 2020, compared with 9.2% of attendances in RBHSC (Table 10C).
- The percentage of attendances referred by a GP is generally highest during January each year, and lowest during July and August (Figure 5).

³⁶ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10C.

³⁷ Data on referrals to ED by GP's are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

³⁸ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

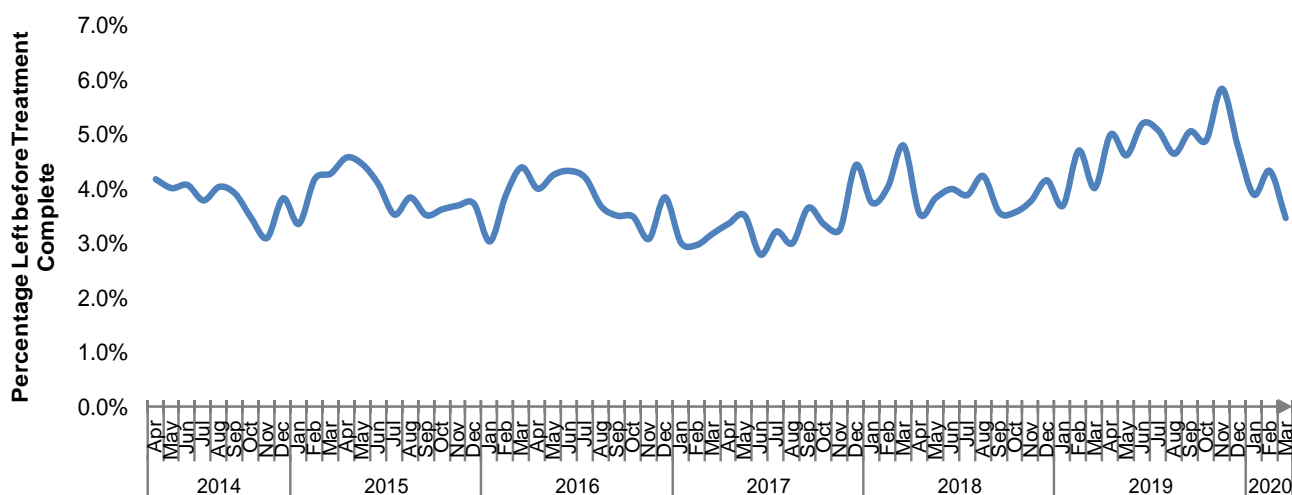
³⁹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁴⁰ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

Do Patients Leave ED Before Their Treatment is Complete?

Figure 6 presents information on the proportion of attendances which left an ED before their treatment was complete, from April 2014.^{41, 42, 43, 44}

Figure 6: Percentage of Attendances Leaving the Emergency Care Department before their Treatment was Complete (April 2014 – March 2020)⁴⁵



- During March 2020, 3.5% of all ED attendances left before their treatment was complete, compared with 4.0% in March 2019 (Figure 6, Table 10C).
- Type 1 EDs reported the highest percentage (4.0%) of patients leaving before their treatment was complete in March 2020, with 1.5% reported for Type 2 EDs and 0.6% for Type 3 EDs (Table 10C).
- The Mater (8.5%) reported the highest percentage of attendances leaving an ED before their treatment was complete during March 2020, compared with 7.7% in March 2019 (Table 10C).
- During the last 12 months, the percentage of attendances leaving ED before their treatment was complete was highest in November 2019 (5.8%) (Figure 6).

⁴¹ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10C.

⁴² Data on those leaving ED before their treatment was complete are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

⁴³ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

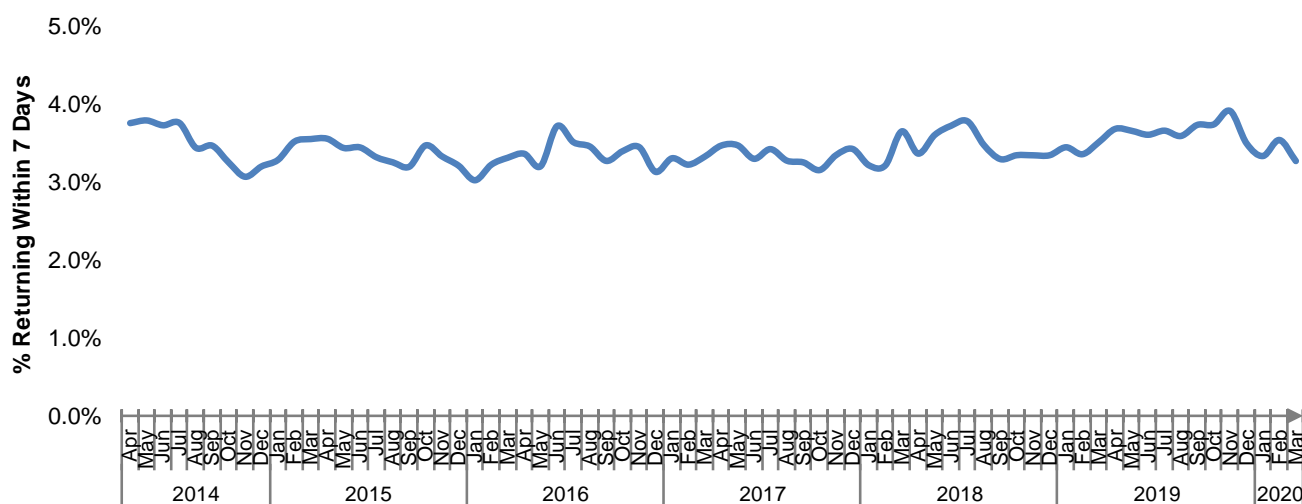
⁴⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁴⁵ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

How Many Patients Re-attend the Same ED within a Week?

Figure 7 presents information on the percentage of unplanned review attendances at EDs within 7 days of their original attendance for the same condition, from April 2014. ^{46, 47, 48, 49}

Figure 7: Percentage of Re-attendances at Emergency Care Departments within 7 Days (April 2014 – March 2020)⁵⁰



- The percentage of unplanned review attendances at EDs within 7 days of the original attendance for the same condition has changed slightly from April 2014, fluctuating between 3.0% and 3.9% of the total number of ED attendances (Figure 7).
- During March 2020, 3.3% of attendances had attended the same ED within 7 days of their original attendance, compared with 3.5% in March 2019 (Figure 7, Table 10C).
- RBHSC (5.7%) reported the highest percentage of unplanned review attendances within 7 days of the original attendance during March 2020 (Table 10C).

⁴⁶ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10C.

⁴⁷ Data on re-attendances within 7 days are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

⁴⁸ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁴⁹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁵⁰ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

How Long Do Patients Spend in ED?

Emergency Care Waiting Times Targets

The current DOH targets⁵¹ on emergency care waiting times in Northern Ireland for 2019/20 state that:

'95% of patients attending any Type 1, 2 or 3 emergency care department are either treated and discharged home, or admitted, within four hours of their arrival in the department; and no patient attending any emergency care department should wait longer than twelve hours.'

'By March 2020, at least 80% of patients to have commenced treatment, following triage, within 2 hours.'

This section describes the various data available to measure the length of time patients spend in EDs in Northern Ireland. It outlines these different measures and how they relate to each other. The different measures of the time spent in an ED include:

- **The Four and Twelve Hour Waiting Times Target;**

The most familiar mechanisms for monitoring ED performance are the 'four and twelve hour' measures, which report the percentage of patients treated and discharged or admitted from ED within 4 hours of their arrival and the number treated and discharged or admitted from ED within 12 hours of arrival.

- **Time to Triage (Initial Assessment / Triage);**

This refers to the time from arrival at ED to the start of a patient's triage by a medical professional for all attendances.

- **Time to Start of Treatment; and,**

The time taken to start a patient's treatment refers to the time from when a patient has been triaged until the start of their definitive treatment by a decision-making clinician.

- **Total Time spent in ED for both Admitted and Non-Admitted Patients.**

Similar to the four and twelve hour measurements, this information refers to the total length of time a patient spends in an ED from arrival to discharge or admission to hospital. However it presents the information separately for those discharged home and those admitted to hospital.

⁵¹ Further breakdown of EDs can be found in Appendix 4: Table 10B & Table 10J.

How are EDs Performing?

Table 4 details performance against the 4 and 12 hour components of the emergency care waiting times target in Northern Ireland. Waiting time is from arrival to discharge or admission to hospital.^{52, 53}

Table 4: Performance against Emergency Care Waiting Times Target (March 2019 - March 2020)⁵⁴

% Within 4 Hours	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Diff (Mar 2019 - Mar 2020)	
					No.	% pt
Type 1	62.3%	57.7%	56.7%	61.6%	-	-6.4%
Type 2	77.9%	81.6%	78.2%	84.6%	-	6.7%
Type 3	99.7%	99.7%	99.2%	99.6%	-	-0.1%
Total	67.4%	63.8%	62.8%	66.8%	-	-0.6%
Over 12 Hours	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Diff (Mar 2019 - Mar 2020)	
					No.	%
Type 1	2,527	5,794	4,640	2,533	6	-
Type 2	33	97	38	19	-14	-
Type 3	.	.	.	.	.	-
Total	2,560	5,891	4,678	2,552	-8	-
New & Unplanned Review Attendances	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Diff (Mar 2019 - Mar 2020)	
					No.	%
Type 1	58,337	53,564	50,835	40,955	-17,382	-29.8%
Type 2	5,644	5,601	5,154	3,711	-1,933	-34.2%
Type 3	7,335	6,354	6,333	4,566	-2,769	-37.8%
Total	71,316	65,519	62,322	49,232	-22,084	-31.0%

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- Two thirds (66.8%) of attendances in March 2020 were discharged or admitted within 4 hours, compared with 67.4% in March 2019 (Table 10B & 10J).
- Over six in ten (61.6%) attendances at Type 1 EDs in March 2020 waited less than 4 hours, compared with 84.6% at Type 2 EDs and 99.6% at Type 3 EDs (Table 4, Table 10B & 10J).
- Between March 2019 and March 2020, the number waiting over 12 hours decreased from 2,560 to 2,552, accounting for 5.2% of attendances in March 2020 (Table 4, Table 10B & 10J).
- During this period, EDs experienced a 31.0% decrease in attendances (71,316 to 49,232), whilst 4 hour performance decreased from 67.4% to 66.8% (Table 4, Table 10B & 10J).
- During the quarter ending 31st March 2020, almost two thirds (64.3%) of patients waited less than 4 hours at an ED, compared with 66.3% during the same quarter in 2019.
- Between January 2020 and March 2020, the percentage waiting less than 4 hours was highest in March 2020 (66.8%) and lowest in February 2020 (62.8%), whilst the number waiting over 12 hours was highest in January 2020 (5,891) and lowest in March 2020 (2,552) (Table 4, Table 10B).

⁵² Information on the comparability of this information with other UK jurisdictions is detailed on pages 6 – 8 of the additional guidance document found at the following link: <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/hs-ni-wts-ecwt-guidance.pdf>

⁵³ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁵⁴ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

Table 5 details the performance for both the four and twelve hour components of the emergency care waiting times target at each Type 1 ED in March 2020 compared with the same month last year. Information has also been included on the overall performance at Type 2 and 3 EDs during this period.^{55, 56, 57}

Table 5: Performance against the 4 and 12 Hour Components of the Emergency Care Waiting Times Target at Type 1 EDs (March 2019 - March 2020)⁵⁸

Department	4 Hour Performance		12 Hour Performance		Total Attendances	
	Mar 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Mar 2020
Mater	69.9%	63.2%	88	100	4,262	2,525
Royal Victoria	52.7%	54.1%	260	337	8,421	5,909
RBHSC	76.2%	81.9%	-	2	3,713	2,524
Antrim Area	63.6%	66.9%	298	291	7,819	6,218
Causeway	73.6%	71.3%	59	191	4,213	2,843
Ulster	57.0%	60.3%	756	495	8,351	6,136
Craigavon Area	52.5%	52.1%	457	507	7,462	5,192
Daisy Hill	68.4%	70.3%	238	185	4,884	3,009
Altnagelvin Area	65.6%	52.5%	216	319	6,114	4,074
South West Acute	64.4%	59.8%	155	106	3,098	2,525
Type 1	62.3%	61.6%	2,527	2,533	58,337	40,955
Type 2	77.9%	84.6%	33	19	5,644	3,711
Type 3	99.7%	99.6%	-	-	7,335	4,566
Northern Ireland	67.4%	66.8%	2,560	2,552	71,316	49,232

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- During March 2020, the RBHSC (81.9%) reported the highest performance of the four hour target at any Type 1 ED, whilst Craigavon Area (52.1%) reported the lowest (Table 5, Table 10B).
- No Type 1 ED achieved the 12-hour target during March 2020 (Table 5, Table 10B).
- Craigavon Area (507) reported the highest number of patients waiting over 12 hours during March 2020 (Table 5, Table 10B).
- Between March 2019 and March 2020, performance against the 12 hour target declined at six of the ten Type 1 EDs (Table 5, Table 10B).

⁵⁵ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4: Table 10B & Table 10J.

⁵⁶ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁵⁷ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

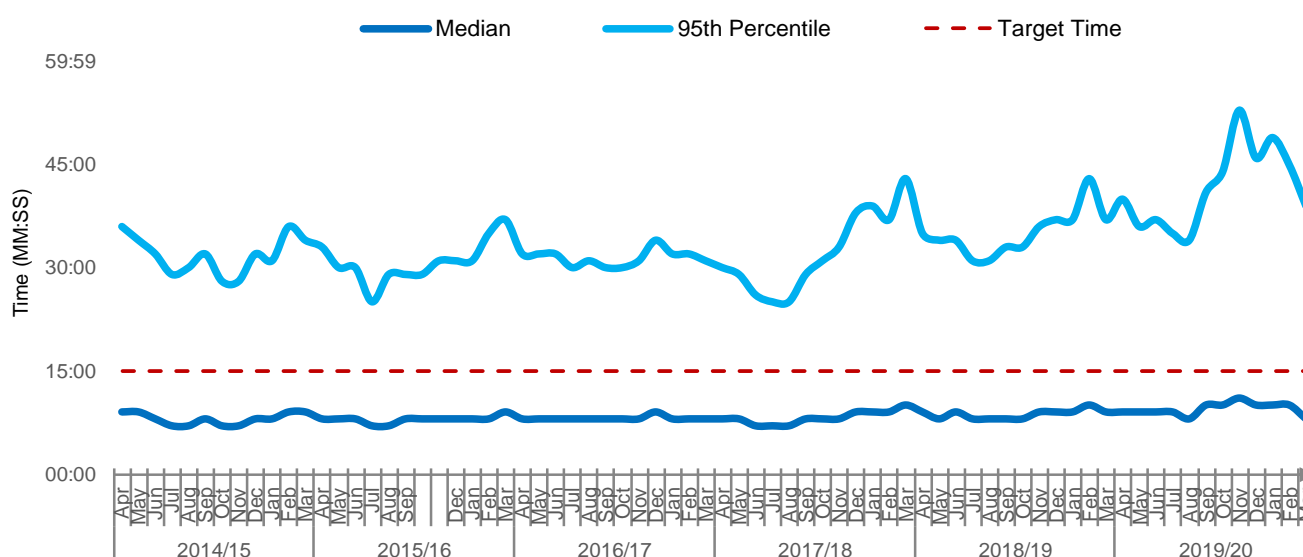
⁵⁸ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

How Long Did Patients Wait to be Triage?

Figure 9 details the length of time patients waited from the time of their arrival at an ED to their triage (initial assessment) by a medical practitioner, which includes a brief history, pain assessment and early warning scores, for all patients.^{59, 60}

Two aspects of the time waited are reported, including (i) the 95th percentile which is the time below which 95% of patients were triaged each month, and (ii) the median waiting time, which is the time below which 50% of patients were triaged.

Figure 9: Time from Arrival to Triage (April 2014 - March 2020)^{61, 62, 63}



- During March 2020, the median waiting time from arrival to triage was 8 minutes, 1 minute less than the time taken in March 2019 (9 minutes) (Figure 9, Table 10D).
- 95 percent of patients were triaged within 39 minutes of their arrival at an ED in March 2020, 2 minutes more than the time taken in March 2019 (37 minutes) (Figure 9, Table 10D).
- Almost three quarters (72.9%) of attendances were triaged within 15 minutes of their arrival at an ED during March 2020, compared with 73.8% in March 2019.
- During each of the last 3 months, the median waiting time from arrival to triage was longest in January and February 2020 (10 minutes) and shortest in March 2020 (8 minutes), and the time taken to triage 95 percent of patients was also longest during January 2020 (49 minutes) and shortest in March (39 minutes) (Table 10D).

⁵⁹ Data on time to triage are not National Statistics, and are included to provide users with a comprehensive view of ED activity and waits.

⁶⁰ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁶¹ Additional information on time to triage is detailed in Appendix 4: Table 10D.

⁶² Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁶³ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Table 6 presents information on the percentage of patients commencing treatment, following triage, within 2 hours at Type 1 EDs in March 2020, compared with the same month last year. Information has also been included on the overall performance at Type 2 and 3 EDs during this period.^{64 65}

Table 6: Performance against the Target to Commence Treating Patients within 2 Hours of them being Triaged (March 2019 - March 2020) ^{66, 67}

Department	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Mater	76.2%	67.4%	68.4%	79.3%
Royal Victoria	60.6%	66.0%	58.1%	76.9%
RBHSC	81.6%	89.1%	87.0%	90.4%
Antrim Area	67.8%	83.9%	70.2%	78.1%
Causeway	93.2%	96.2%	94.6%	95.8%
Ulster	80.0%	86.1%	82.7%	85.8%
Craigavon Area	61.6%	60.4%	58.5%	72.3%
Daisy Hill	72.0%	81.3%	74.9%	89.0%
Altnagelvin Area	80.3%	73.0%	64.4%	74.9%
South West Acute	87.2%	67.9%	75.9%	83.6%
Type 1	74.1%	76.7%	72.1%	81.3%
Type 2	89.0%	96.5%	91.6%	93.6%
Type 3	99.5%	99.1%	98.0%	99.3%
Northern Ireland	77.9%	80.5%	76.2%	83.9%

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- Over eight in ten (83.9%) patients attending EDs commenced their treatment within 2 hours of being triaged, compared with 77.9% in March 2019 (Table 6, Table 10K).
- During March 2020, over eight in ten (81.3%) patients commenced their treatment within 2 hours of being triaged at Type 1 EDs, compared with 93.6% at Type 2 EDs and 99.3% at Type 3 EDs (Table 6, Table 10K).
- Five Type 1 EDs (Causeway, RBHSC, Daisy Hill, the Ulster and South West Acute) achieved the 80% target in March 2020 (Table 6, Table 10K).
- During March 2020, Causeway (95.8%) reported the highest percentage commencing treatment within 2 hours, whilst Craigavon Area (72.3%) reported the lowest (Table 6, Table 10K).
- Between January and March 2020, the highest percentage of patients commencing treatment within 2 hours was in March 2020 (83.9%) whilst the lowest was in February 2020 (76.2%), (Table 6).

⁶⁴ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁶⁵ Additional information on the percentage of patients commencing treatment within 2 hours of triage is detailed in Appendix 4: Table 10K.

⁶⁶ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

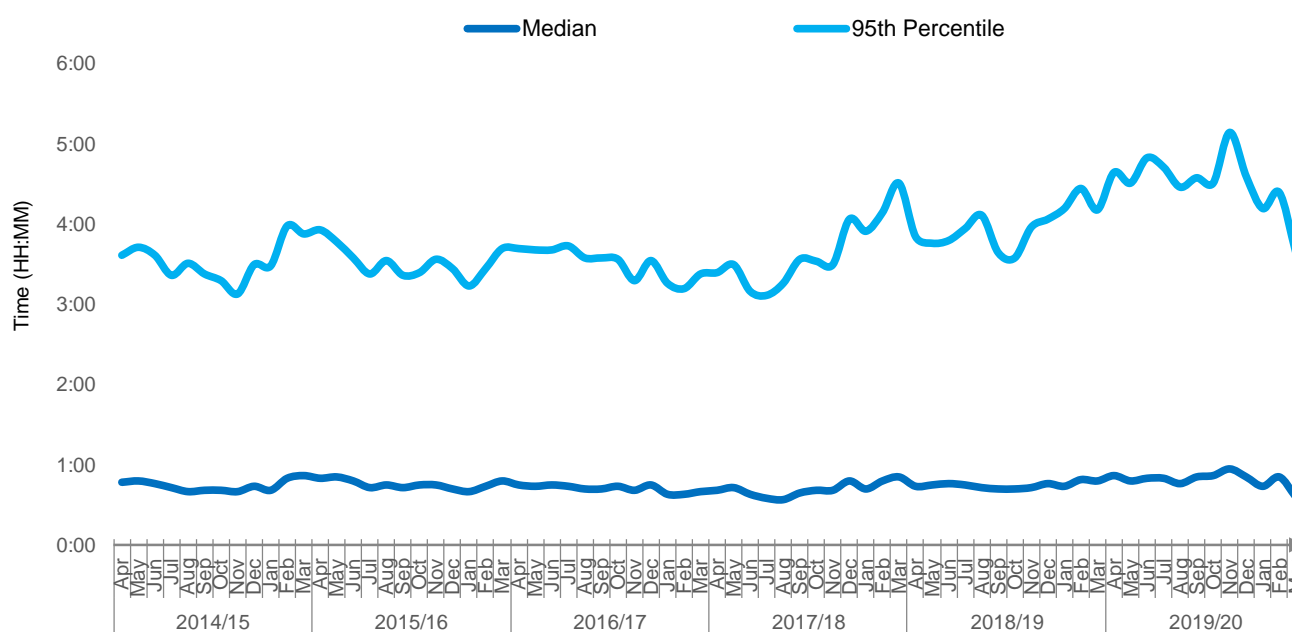
⁶⁷ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak

How Long Did Patients Wait for Their Treatment to Start?

Figure 10 shows information on the length of time patients waited for their treatment to start following triage (initial assessment) by a medical practitioner. The start of treatment refers to the beginning of a definitive treatment by a decision-making clinician.^{68, 69}

Two aspects of the time waited are reported, including (i) the 95th percentile which is the time below which 95% of patients commenced treatment each month, and (ii) the median waiting time, which is the time below which 50% of patients commenced treatment.

Figure 10: Time from Triage to Start of Treatment (April 2014 – March 2020)^{70, 71, 72, 73}



- The median waiting time from triage to start of treatment in March 2020 was 36 minutes, 12 minutes less than the time taken in March 2019 (48 minutes) (Figure 10, Table 10E).
- During March 2020, 95 percent of patients commenced treatment within 3 hours 39 minutes of being triaged, 32 minutes less than March 2019 (4 hours 11 minutes) (Figure 10, Table 10E).
- Across each of the last 3 months, the median waiting time to start of treatment was longest in February 2020 (51 minutes) and shortest in March 2020 (36 minutes), whilst the time within which 95 percent of patients started treatment was also longest in February 2020 (4 hours 24 minutes) and shortest in March 2020 (3 hours 39 minutes) (Table 10D).

⁶⁸ Data on start of treatment are not National Statistics, and are included to provide users with a comprehensive view of ED activity and waits

⁶⁹ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁷⁰ Additional information on time to triage is detailed in Appendix 4: Table 10E.

⁷¹ Information on start of treatment for Type 3 EDs does not include data for Omagh UCC after 6th March 2018.

⁷² Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁷³ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

What is the Waiting Time for Treatment to Start at Type 1 EDs?

Table 7 details the median and 95th percentile of the length of time waited from triage to the start of treatment at Type 1 EDs during March 2019 compared with March 2020. ^{74, 75}

Table 7: Time from Triage to Start of Treatment (March 2019 and March 2020) ^{76, 77, 78, 79}

Department	Median		95th Percentile	
	March 2019	March 2020	March 2019	March 2020
Mater	0:51	0:34	4:10	4:05
Royal Victoria	1:26	0:47	5:53	4:11
RBHSC	0:56	0:35	3:13	2:35
Antrim Area	1:20	0:57	4:46	3:30
Causeway	0:29	0:18	2:11	1:51
Ulster	0:50	0:37	3:59	3:24
Craigavon Area	1:29	1:03	5:50	5:46
Daisy Hill	1:14	0:38	3:56	2:55
Altnagelvin Area	0:43	0:49	3:27	4:44
South West Acute	0:33	0:26	3:06	4:16
Type 1	1:00	0:42	4:27	3:54
Type 2	0:42	0:30	2:28	2:08
Type 3	0:05	0:05	0:44	1:00
Northern Ireland	0:48	0:36	4:11	3:39

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- The median time waited at Type 1 EDs from triage to start of treatment by a medical professional was 42 minutes in March 2020, 18 minutes less than March 2019 (1 hour) (Table 7, Table 10E).
- Craigavon Area (1 hour 3 minutes) reported the longest median waiting time from triage to start of treatment during March 2020, whilst Causeway (18 minutes) reported the shortest median waiting time (Table 7, Table 10E).
- Craigavon Area reported the longest waiting time between triage and start of treatment, with 95 percent of attendances commencing treatment within 5 hours 46 minutes of being triaged; 4 minutes less than the time taken in March 2019 (5 hours 50 minutes) (Table 7, Table 10E).
- Causeway reported the shortest time to start of treatment during March 2020, with 95 percent of attendances commencing treatment within 1 hours 51 minutes of being triaged, 20 minutes less than the time taken in March 2019 (2 hour 11 minutes) (Table 7, Table 10E).

⁷⁴ Data on time to start of treatment are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

⁷⁵ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁷⁶ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10E.

⁷⁷ Information on start of treatment for Type 3 EDs does not include data for Omagh UCC after 6th March 2018.

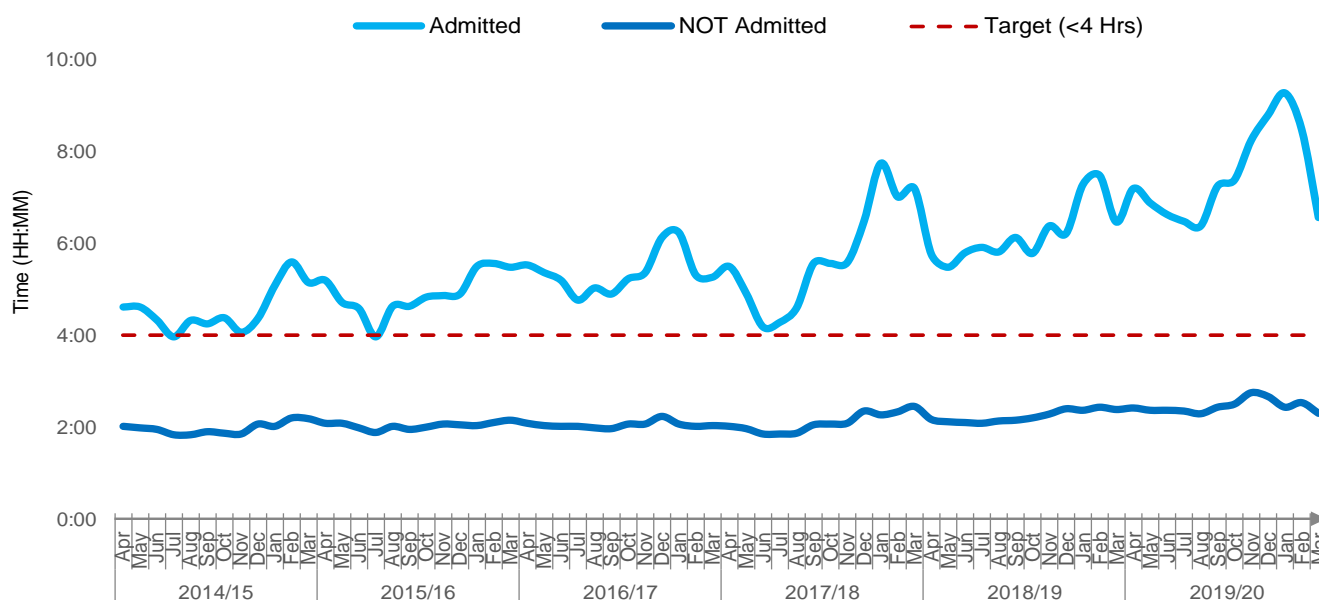
⁷⁸ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

⁷⁹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Do Patients Admitted Spend Longer in ED than Those Discharged Home?

Information detailed in Tables 8 and 9 indicates that patients admitted to hospital generally spend a longer period of time in an ED than those discharged home.^{80, 81, 82}

Figure 11: Median Time Spent in an Emergency Care Department for those (i) Admitted to Hospital and (ii) Discharged Home (April 2014 to March 2020)^{83, 84}



- During March 2020, the median time patients admitted to hospital spent in ED was 6 hours 34 minutes, compared to 2 hours 18 minutes for those discharged home (Figure 11, Table 10F & 10G).
- During March 2020, 95 percent of patients admitted to hospital waited up to 26 hours 45 minutes in ED, over three times longer than the time waited by 95 percent of those discharged home (7 hours 20 minutes) (Table 8 & 9).
- During the last 3 months, the median time patients admitted spent in ED was longest in January 2020 (9 hours 17 minutes) and shortest in March 2020 (6 hours 34 minutes) (Table 10F).
- During this period, the median time waited by patients discharged home was longest in February 2020 (2 hours 32 minutes) and shortest in March 2020 (2 hours 18 minutes) (Table 10G).
- During this period, the longest time waited by up to 95 percent of patients admitted was in January 2020 (32 hours 48 minutes) and shortest in March 2020 (26 hours 45 minutes) (Table 10F).
- During this period, the longest time waited by up to 95 percent of patients discharged home was in January 2020 (7 hours 56 minutes) and shortest in March 2020 (7 hours 20 minutes) (Table 10G).

⁸⁰ Data are not National Statistics, and are included to provide users with a comprehensive view of ED activity and waits.

⁸¹ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁸² Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁸³ Further breakdown of EDs can be found in Appendix 4, Table 10F and 10G.

⁸⁴ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

How Long did Patients Admitted to Hospital Spend in an ED?

Table 8 details the median and 95th percentile length of time spent in an ED from arrival to leaving the ED for those who **were admitted** to hospital.⁸⁵

Table 8: Total Time Spent in an Emergency Care Department for those Admitted to Hospital (March 2019 - March 2020)^{86, 87, 88, 89}

Department	Median		95th Percentile	
	March 2019	March 2020	March 2019	March 2020
Mater	5:43	6:50	14:27	19:51
Royal Victoria	6:57	6:34	14:48	21:53
RBHSC	4:07	3:59	8:16	7:47
Antrim Area	5:35	5:35	19:15	19:31
Causeway	5:24	6:35	11:57	29:10
Ulster	8:19	7:12	26:08	35:47
Craigavon Area	7:16	7:58	21:39	36:47
Daisy Hill	6:35	6:09	24:58	24:56
Altnagelvin Area	7:08	8:08	18:54	25:12
South West Acute	5:46	6:10	20:36	22:07
Type 1	6:35	6:40	21:38	27:02
Type 2	5:00	4:03	17:14	10:07
Type 3	0:29	6:04	2:13	11:20
Northern Ireland	6:28	6:34	21:33	26:45

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- The median time patients who were admitted to hospital spent in a Type 1 ED was 6 hours 40 minutes in March 2020, 5 minutes longer than the same month last year (6 hours 35 minutes) (Table 8, Table 10F).
- During March 2020, Altnagelvin Area reported the longest median waiting time from arrival to admission (8 hours 8 minutes), whilst the RBHSC reported the shortest time (3 hours 59 minutes) (Table 8, Table 10F).
- 95 percent of patients were admitted to hospital within 27 hours 2 minutes at Type 1 EDs in March 2020, 5 hours 24 minutes longer than in March 2019 (21 hours 38 minute) (Table 8, Table 10F).
- Between March 2019 and March 2020, Causeway reported the largest increase (from 11 hours 57 minutes to 29 hours 10 minutes) in the time taken for up to 95% of patients to be admitted to hospital (Table 8, Table 10F).

⁸⁵ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁸⁶ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10F.

⁸⁷ Readers should note that Type 3 data on time spent in EDs for patients admitted is provided by Omagh only. No other Type 3 ED produces these statistics.

⁸⁸ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

⁸⁹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

How Long Did Patients Discharged Home Spend in an ED?

Table 9 details the median and 95th percentile length of time spent in an ED from arrival to leaving the ED for those who **were discharged home**.⁹⁰

Table 9: Total Time Spent in Emergency Care Departments for those Discharged Home (March 2019 - March 2020)^{91, 92, 93}

Department	Median		95th Percentile	
	March 2019	March 2020	March 2019	March 2020
Mater	2:27	2:40	6:31	7:13
Royal Victoria	3:23	3:15	8:58	9:09
RBHSC	2:31	1:54	5:47	5:20
Antrim Area	2:49	2:31	7:08	6:41
Causeway	2:10	2:05	6:20	7:36
Ulster	2:48	2:43	7:27	7:22
Craigavon Area	3:13	3:13	8:13	8:54
Daisy Hill	2:32	2:09	6:36	6:01
Altnagelvin Area	2:44	3:18	6:30	9:15
South West Acute	2:47	2:50	7:31	8:04
Type 1	2:47	2:43	7:24	7:52
Type 2	2:09	1:49	5:57	5:17
Type 3	0:33	0:34	1:39	1:53
Northern Ireland	2:23	2:18	7:02	7:20

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- The median time patients discharged home (not admitted) spent in a Type 1 ED was 2 hours 43 minutes in March 2020, 4 minutes longer than the time taken during the same month last year (2 hour 47 minutes) (Table 9, Table 10G).
- In March 2020, 95 percent of attendances at Type 1 EDs were discharged home within 7 hours 52 minutes of their arrival, 28 minutes longer than the time taken in March 2019 (7 hours 24 minutes) (Table 9, Table 10G).

⁹⁰ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁹¹ Information for March 2019 and January, February and March 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10G.

⁹² Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

⁹³ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Appendices

Appendix 1: About Hospital Information Branch (HIB)

Hospital Information Branch within Information Analysis Directorate (IAD) is responsible for the collection, quality assurance, analysis and publication of timely and accurate information derived from a wide range of statistical information returns supplied by the Health & Social Care (HSC) Trusts and the HSC Board. Statistical information is collected routinely from a variety of electronic patient level administrative systems and pre-defined EXCEL survey return templates.



The Head of Branch is Principal Statistician, Ms. Siobhán Morgan. The Branch aims to present information in a meaningful way and provide advice on its use to customers in the HSC Committee, Professional Advisory Groups, policy branches within the DoH, other Health organisations, academia, private sector organisations, charity/voluntary organisations as well as the general public. The statistical information collected is used to contribute to major exercises such as reporting on the performance of the HSC system, other comparative performance exercises, target setting and monitoring, development of service frameworks as well as policy formulation and evaluation. In addition, the information is used in response to a significantly high volume of Parliamentary / Assembly questions and ad-hoc queries each year.

Information is disseminated through a number of key statistical publications, including: Inpatient Activity, Outpatient Activity, Emergency Care, Mental Health & Learning Disability and Waiting Time Statistics (Inpatient, Outpatient, Diagnostics, Cancer and Emergency Care).

A detailed list of these publications is available to view or download at the following link:

Website: <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/topics/doh-statistics-and-research>

Appendix 2: Emergency Care Departments and Opening Hours

There are three separate categories of emergency care facility included in this publication:

Type 1 departments are defined as those with a consultant-led service with designated accommodation for the reception of emergency care patients, providing both emergency medicine and emergency surgical services on a round the clock basis.

Type 2 departments are consultant-led service with designated accommodation for the reception of emergency care patients, but which does not provide both emergency medicine and emergency surgical services and/or has time-limited opening hours.

Type 3 departments are minor injury units (MIU) with designated accommodation for the reception of patients with a minor injury and/or illness. It may be doctor or nurse-led. A defining characteristic of this service is that it treats at least minor injuries and/or illnesses and can be routinely accessed without appointment.

Emergency Care Departments in Northern Ireland



Current Categorisation of Emergency Care Departments ⁹⁴

HSC Trust	Type 1 (24-hour assess)	Type 2 (Limited opening hours)	Type 3 (Minor Injuries Unit, MIU)
Belfast	Belfast City (Closed)		
	Mater	RVH (Eye Casualty) ⁹⁵ (9-5pm Mon-Fri) (8.30-1pm Sat)	
	Royal Victoria		
	Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children (RBHSC)		
Northern	Antrim Area		Whiteabbey ⁹⁶ (Closed)
	Causeway		Mid Ulster (9-5pm Mon-Fri)
South Eastern	Ulster	Lagan Valley (8-8pm Mon-Fri)	Ards MIU (9-5pm Mon-Fri)
		Downe ⁹⁷ (Closed)	Bangor MIU (9-5pm Mon-Fri)
Southern	Craigavon Area		South Tyrone (9-9pm Mon-Fri) (10-6pm Sat-Sun)
	Daisy Hill ⁹⁸ (Closed)		Armagh Community ⁹⁹ (Closed)
			Craigavon Respiratory ED (Covid-19) ¹⁰⁰
			Craigavon Paediatric ED ¹⁰¹
Western	Altnagelvin Area		Tyrone County (Closed)
	South West Acute		Omagh ¹⁰² (24-hour)

⁹⁴ Opening Hours are as of June 2017.

⁹⁵ RVH (RAES) refers to the Regional Acute Eye Services at the Royal Victoria Hospital.

⁹⁶ Temporarily closed on 1st December 2014.

⁹⁷ Temporarily closed 30th March 2020.

⁹⁸ Temporarily closed 28th March 2020.

⁹⁹ Temporarily closed on 17th November 2014.

¹⁰⁰ Opened on 29th March 2020.

¹⁰¹ Opened on 31st March 2020.

¹⁰² Tyrone County closed on 20th June 2017 and all emergency services were transferred to the new Omagh Hospital and Primary Care Complex on that date.

Appendix 3: General Guidance on using the Data

Guidance on using the Data

The data contained in this publication details a monthly analysis of emergency care waiting times in Northern Ireland. It is recommended that readers refer to the '*Emergency Care Waiting Time Statistics - Additional Guidance*' booklet, which details technical guidance, definitions and background information on the data used, including the security and confidentiality processes. This booklet is updated for each release and can be found at the following link:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/hs-niwts-ecwt-guidance.pdf>

Description of Data

Data on the number of new and unplanned review attendances at EDs in Northern Ireland by the length of time waited. New and unplanned review attendances at EDs are used to describe unplanned activity at EDs, with new attendances referring to the first attendance and unplanned reviews referring to any subsequent unplanned attendances for the same complaint.

Information on the length of time waited is collected and refers to the time waited from arriving at the ED until the time the patient is treated and discharged, or admitted to hospital.

- Number of new and unplanned review attendances at EDs – this is the number of new and unplanned review attendances at EDs during each calendar month. **It does not include planned review attendances.**
- The length of time patients wait refers to the time between entering the ED and being logged in at reception, until leaving the ED (treated and discharged, or admitted to hospital). It should also be noted that the length of time waiting for patients who **are to be** admitted to hospital continues until they have left the ED.
- An assessment of both the number of new and unplanned review attendances, and the length of time patients have waited, when compared with equivalent data for previous months, allow users to gauge the demand for emergency care services.
- Emergency care waiting times by type of department is presented to allow users to compare similar types of EDs in Northern Ireland, i.e. Type 1, 2 or 3 departments.
- Users should take into consideration, changes in the provision of emergency care services at specific sites in Northern Ireland when making comparisons with previous months. Such changes in the provision of services can be found in the document '*Emergency Care Waiting Time Statistics - Additional Guidance*' document at the following link:

Website: <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/articles/emergency-care-waiting-times>

Appendix 4: Additional Tables

Table 10A: New & Unplanned Review Attendances at Emergency Care Departments ^{103, 104, 105, 106}

Department	New Attendances				Unplanned Reviews				Total Attendances			
	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Mar-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
Mater	4,123	3,844	3,742	2,449	139	125	133	76	4,262	3,969	3,875	2,525
Royal Victoria	8,044	7,658	7,278	5,713	377	260	293	196	8,421	7,918	7,571	5,909
RBHSC	3,420	2,825	2,750	2,318	293	242	284	206	3,713	3,067	3,034	2,524
Antrim Area	7,330	7,011	6,701	5,898	489	388	422	320	7,819	7,399	7,123	6,218
Causeway	3,911	3,738	3,567	2,683	302	289	254	160	4,213	4,027	3,821	2,843
Ulster	8,150	7,452	7,135	6,009	201	205	193	127	8,351	7,657	7,328	6,136
Craigavon Area	6,922	6,155	5,596	4,850	540	502	523	342	7,462	6,657	6,119	5,192
Daisy Hill	4,620	4,092	4,052	2,848	264	212	246	161	4,884	4,304	4,298	3,009
Altnagelvin Area	5,782	5,212	4,628	3,807	332	357	297	267	6,114	5,569	4,925	4,074
South West Acute	2,878	2,738	2,526	2,343	220	259	215	182	3,098	2,997	2,741	2,525
Type 1	55,180	50,725	47,975	38,918	3,157	2,839	2,860	2,037	58,337	53,564	50,835	40,955
Eye Casualty	1,382	1,169	1,100	694	42	127	162	110	1,424	1,296	1,262	804
Downe	1,875	1,930	1,709	1,275	74	99	78	75	1,949	2,029	1,787	1,350
Lagan Valley	2,171	2,206	2,024	1,499	100	70	81	58	2,271	2,276	2,105	1,557
Type 2	5,428	5,305	4,833	3,468	216	296	321	243	5,644	5,601	5,154	3,711
Mid Ulster	915	795	807	540	39	24	24	25	954	819	831	565
Ards	995	1,011	974	858	33	39	32	30	1,028	1,050	1,006	888
Bangor	816	767	716	372	52	41	35	9	868	808	751	381
South Tyrone	2,758	2,232	2,339	1,738	129	112	117	97	2,887	2,344	2,456	1,835
Omagh	1,459	1,197	1,179	826	139	136	110	71	1,598	1,333	1,289	897
Type 3	6,943	6,002	6,015	4,334	392	352	318	232	7,335	6,354	6,333	4,566
Northern Ireland	67,551	62,032	58,823	46,720	3,765	3,487	3,499	2,512	71,316	65,519	62,322	49,232

¹⁰³ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁰⁴ CAH Paediatric ED C-19 and CAH Respiratory ED C-19 were opened in March 2020 in response to Covid-19 pandemic.

¹⁰⁵ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹⁰⁶ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak

Table 10B: Performance against Emergency Care Waiting Times Target ^{107, 108, 109, 110}

Department	4 - Hour Performance				12 - Hour Performance				Total Attendances			
	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Mater	69.9%	56.0%	59.0%	63.2%	88	321	202	100	4,262	3,969	3,875	2,525
Royal Victoria	52.7%	48.0%	45.6%	54.1%	260	926	765	337	8,421	7,918	7,571	5,909
RBHSC	76.2%	79.9%	80.0%	81.9%	.	.	.	2	3,713	3,067	3,034	2,524
Antrim Area	63.6%	66.0%	60.3%	66.9%	298	639	590	291	7,819	7,399	7,123	6,218
Causeway	73.6%	71.3%	70.3%	71.3%	59	292	288	191	4,213	4,027	3,821	2,843
Ulster	57.0%	59.5%	58.8%	60.3%	756	1,086	939	495	8,351	7,657	7,328	6,136
Craigavon Area	52.5%	45.8%	46.6%	52.1%	457	1,112	933	507	7,462	6,657	6,119	5,192
Daisy Hill	68.4%	67.0%	64.0%	70.3%	238	355	291	185	4,884	4,304	4,298	3,009
Altnagelvin Area	65.6%	51.2%	47.6%	52.5%	216	638	450	319	6,114	5,569	4,925	4,074
South West Acute	64.4%	45.8%	52.7%	59.8%	155	425	182	106	3,098	2,997	2,741	2,525
Type 1	62.3%	57.7%	56.7%	61.6%	2,527	5,794	4,640	2,533	58,337	53,564	50,835	40,955
Eye Casualty	72.8%	79.7%	75.4%	84.6%	.	.	.	.	1,424	1,296	1,262	804
Downe	86.4%	83.0%	85.3%	86.9%	22	82	34	18	1,949	2,029	1,787	1,350
Lagan Valley	73.8%	81.4%	73.8%	82.6%	11	15	4	1	2,271	2,276	2,105	1,557
Type 2	77.9%	81.6%	78.2%	84.6%	33	97	38	19	5,644	5,601	5,154	3,711
Mid Ulster	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	.	.	.	.	954	819	831	565
Ards	100.0%	99.9%	100.0%	99.9%	.	.	.	.	1,028	1,050	1,006	888
Bangor	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	.	.	.	.	868	808	751	381
South Tyrone	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	.	.	.	.	2,887	2,344	2,456	1,835
Omagh	98.9%	98.6%	95.9%	98.3%	.	.	.	.	1,598	1,333	1,289	897
Type 3	99.7%	99.7%	99.2%	99.6%	.	.	.	.	7,335	6,354	6,333	4,566
Northern Ireland	67.4%	63.8%	62.8%	66.8%	2,560	5,891	4,678	2,552	71,316	65,519	62,322	49,232

¹⁰⁷ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁰⁸ Information on the comparability of this information with other UK jurisdictions is detailed on pages 6 – 8 of the additional guidance document found at the following link: <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/hs-ni-wts-ecwt-guidance.pdf>

¹⁰⁹ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹¹⁰ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak

Table 10C: Percentage of Attendances (i) Referred by a GP; (ii) Who Left before Treatment was Complete; and (iii) Re-attended within 7 Days ^{111, 112, 113, 114}

Department	GP Referrals				Left Before Treatment				Unplanned reviews Within 7 Days			
	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Mater	13.8%	13.3%	12.3%	9.6%	7.7%	9.9%	10.0%	8.5%	2.4%	2.3%	2.4%	2.3%
Royal Victoria	18.6%	21.0%	18.8%	21.1%	7.7%	7.0%	9.0%	5.9%	3.0%	2.2%	2.8%	2.3%
RBHSC	13.8%	13.3%	15.0%	9.2%	3.8%	1.7%	2.0%	2.5%	5.7%	5.3%	6.3%	5.7%
Antrim Area	23.1%	25.9%	25.6%	31.8%	3.2%	1.4%	2.6%	1.8%	3.8%	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%
Causeway	20.6%	24.7%	23.3%	23.8%	2.4%	1.4%	1.9%	1.6%	4.2%	4.3%	4.3%	3.7%
Ulster	22.5%	25.8%	22.9%	21.9%	3.4%	2.6%	2.5%	2.4%	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%	1.6%
Craigavon Area	21.4%	24.4%	24.4%	22.2%	5.5%	5.9%	6.1%	5.4%	4.8%	4.8%	5.2%	4.2%
Daisy Hill	14.8%	14.5%	13.3%	9.9%	4.2%	3.6%	4.4%	2.6%	4.6%	3.8%	4.3%	3.8%
Altnagelvin Area	9.6%	15.0%	14.3%	11.7%	4.1%	5.7%	5.5%	5.4%	4.0%	4.6%	4.7%	4.9%
South West Acute	21.6%	22.9%	19.6%	19.1%	3.2%	6.2%	5.7%	4.8%	5.0%	6.2%	5.9%	4.7%
Type 1	18.5%	21.0%	19.8%	19.8%	4.7%	4.5%	5.0%	4.0%	3.8%	3.5%	3.8%	3.4%
Eye Casualty	13.0%	11.8%	12.2%	11.1%	0.6%	1.3%	1.2%	0.6%	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
Downe	16.6%	18.9%	14.3%	15.6%	1.1%	1.3%	1.3%	1.6%	2.1%	3.1%	3.1%	3.6%
Lagan Valley	11.4%	19.0%	16.2%	12.5%	3.5%	2.8%	2.9%	1.8%	2.5%	1.7%	1.9%	2.4%
Type 2	13.6%	17.3%	14.6%	13.3%	2.0%	1.9%	1.9%	1.5%	2.0%	2.0%	2.1%	2.5%
Mid Ulster	0.7%	2.1%	0.6%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	1.3%	1.4%	2.3%
Ards	0.7%	1.0%	0.6%	12.4%	0.7%	0.7%	0.1%	0.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.8%	1.6%
Bangor	0.8%	0.7%	0.4%	0.8%	0.5%	1.9%	0.8%	1.0%	3.2%	3.2%	2.9%	1.6%
South Tyrone	0.5%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	2.4%	2.4%	2.7%	2.8%
Omagh	2.3%	2.1%	2.3%	3.6%	1.3%	1.7%	3.0%	1.3%	5.5%	6.2%	5.5%	5.8%
Type 3	1.0%	1.3%	1.0%	3.5%	0.5%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Northern Ireland	16.3%	18.8%	17.4%	17.8%	4.0%	3.9%	4.3%	3.5%	3.5%	3.4%	3.6%	3.3%

¹¹¹ Data on referrals to ED by GP's, Left before treatment complete and unplanned re-attendances are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

¹¹² Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹¹³ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹¹⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Table 10D: Waiting Time from Arrival to Triage (Assessment)^{115, 116, 117, 118}

Department	Median				95 th Percentile			
	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Mater	0:09	0:13	0:11	0:10	0:28	0:52	0:43	0:40
Royal Victoria	0:12	0:17	0:19	0:13	0:49	1:14	1:17	0:57
RBHSC	0:13	0:09	0:09	0:08	0:53	0:35	0:40	0:35
Antrim Area	0:08	0:11	0:11	0:08	0:24	0:31	0:32	0:29
Causeway	0:09	0:10	0:10	0:09	0:25	0:31	0:31	0:30
Ulster	0:10	0:10	0:10	0:08	0:33	0:33	0:32	0:27
Craigavon Area	0:11	0:12	0:11	0:10	0:44	1:00	0:48	0:47
Daisy Hill	0:05	0:04	0:05	0:05	0:15	0:14	0:15	0:15
Altnagelvin Area	0:11	0:18	0:15	0:13	0:40	1:02	0:51	0:50
South West Acute	0:10	0:13	0:13	0:13	0:35	0:47	0:46	0:54
Type 1	0:10	0:11	0:11	0:09	0:38	0:51	0:47	0:41
Eye Casualty	0:20	0:20	0:21	0:14	1:18	1:13	1:12	1:09
Downe	0:06	0:07	0:06	0:08	0:20	0:24	0:24	0:28
Lagan Valley	0:09	0:08	0:08	0:08	0:25	0:21	0:22	0:24
Type 2	0:09	0:08	0:09	0:08	0:48	0:44	0:46	0:39
Mid Ulster	0:02	0:02	0:02	0:02	0:07	0:08	0:07	0:07
Ards	0:03	0:03	0:02	0:03	0:12	0:15	0:14	0:19
Bangor	0:04	0:04	0:05	0:04	0:20	0:18	0:21	0:19
South Tyrone	0:01	0:02	0:01	0:01	0:08	0:11	0:09	0:09
Omagh	0:09	0:09	0:09	0:07	0:36	0:36	0:37	0:28
Type 3	0:02	0:03	0:03	0:02	0:20	0:21	0:20	0:18
Northern Ireland	0:09	0:10	0:10	0:08	0:37	0:49	0:45	0:39

¹¹⁵ Data on time to triage are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

¹¹⁶ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹¹⁷ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹¹⁸ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Table 10E: Waiting Time from Triage (Assessment) to Start of Treatment^{119, 120, 121, 122, 123}

Department	Median				95 th Percentile			
	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Mater	0:51	1:12	1:10	0:34	4:10	5:53	5:19	4:05
Royal Victoria	1:26	1:06	1:28	0:47	5:53	6:01	6:37	4:11
RBHSC	0:56	0:39	0:45	0:35	3:13	2:35	2:44	2:35
Antrim Area	1:20	0:57	1:19	0:57	4:46	3:01	4:04	3:30
Causeway	0:29	0:24	0:27	0:18	2:11	1:49	2:04	1:51
Ulster	0:50	0:39	0:46	0:37	3:59	3:25	3:17	3:24
Craigavon Area	1:29	1:30	1:36	1:03	5:50	6:28	6:18	5:46
Daisy Hill	1:14	0:53	1:02	0:38	3:56	3:29	4:05	2:55
Altnagelvin Area	0:43	1:08	1:22	0:49	3:27	3:46	4:28	4:44
South West Acute	0:33	0:58	0:42	0:26	3:06	5:03	4:24	4:16
Type 1	1:00	0:54	1:03	0:42	4:27	4:33	4:44	3:54
Downe	0:31	0:27	0:29	0:31	2:03	1:55	2:01	2:15
Lagan Valley	0:51	0:36	0:46	0:30	2:42	1:47	2:29	2:02
Type 2	0:42	0:32	0:37	0:30	2:28	1:50	2:19	2:08
Mid Ulster	0:05	0:04	0:03	0:03	0:23	0:23	0:17	0:22
Ards	0:10	0:09	0:07	0:13	0:44	0:54	0:45	1:08
Bangor	0:05	0:05	0:06	0:08	0:31	0:56	0:38	0:50
South Tyrone	0:03	0:04	0:03	0:03	0:27	0:32	0:23	0:26
Omagh	0:11	0:13	0:18	0:13	1:31	1:55	2:52	1:50
Type 3	0:05	0:06	0:05	0:05	0:44	0:56	1:03	1:00
Northern Ireland	0:48	0:44	0:51	0:36	4:11	4:12	4:24	3:39

¹¹⁹ Data on time to start of treatment are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

¹²⁰ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹²¹ Due to a change in how information is recorded at Omagh UCC, data on the start of treatment is not available after 6th March 2018.

¹²² Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹²³ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Table 10F: Time Spent in an Emergency Care Department by those Admitted to Hospital^{124, 125, 126, 127}

Department	Median				95 th Percentile			
	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Mater	5:43	10:25	7:56	6:50	14:27	30:11	21:58	19:51
Royal Victoria	6:57	10:41	9:59	6:34	14:48	26:12	23:29	21:53
RBHSC	4:07	4:09	3:58	3:59	8:16	8:29	8:05	7:47
Antrim Area	5:35	6:17	6:38	5:35	19:15	27:26	30:31	19:31
Causeway	5:24	7:06	7:34	6:35	11:57	29:41	27:58	29:10
Ulster	8:19	12:48	11:15	7:12	26:08	48:01	39:53	35:47
Craigavon Area	7:16	13:26	13:10	7:58	21:39	38:10	39:11	36:47
Daisy Hill	6:35	8:23	8:02	6:09	24:58	25:31	22:47	24:56
Altnagelvin Area	7:08	11:12	8:58	8:08	18:54	28:23	25:50	25:12
South West Acute	5:46	9:54	6:32	6:10	20:36	29:30	22:05	22:07
Type 1	6:35	9:30	8:42	6:40	21:38	33:13	29:40	27:02
Eye Casualty	2:44	2:09	3:09	2:13	6:12	6:47	11:59	6:16
Downe	4:08	7:40	4:53	3:45	21:33	26:56	22:25	19:05
Lagan Valley	5:33	5:17	5:18	4:17	10:00	10:50	10:07	8:39
Type 2	5:00	5:34	5:11	4:03	17:14	23:45	16:50	10:07
Mid Ulster	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ards	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bangor	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Tyrone	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Omagh	0:29	2:45	1:26	6:04	2:13	8:01	4:10	11:20
Type 3	0:29	2:45	1:26	6:04	2:13	8:01	4:10	11:20
Northern Ireland	6:28	9:17	8:29	6:34	21:33	32:48	29:30	26:45

¹²⁴ Data on time spent in ED for those admitted and those discharged home are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits

¹²⁵ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹²⁶ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹²⁷ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak

Table 10G: Time Spent in an Emergency Care Department by those Discharged Home^{128, 129, 130, 131}

Department	Median				95 th Percentile			
	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Mater	2:27	3:11	3:04	2:40	6:31	9:49	8:24	7:13
Royal Victoria	3:23	3:30	3:44	3:15	8:58	10:25	11:01	9:09
RBHSC	2:31	2:11	2:12	1:54	5:47	5:31	5:30	5:20
Antrim Area	2:49	2:31	2:59	2:31	7:08	6:41	7:53	6:41
Causeway	2:10	2:16	2:17	2:05	6:20	6:47	6:53	7:36
Ulster	2:48	2:40	2:44	2:43	7:27	6:57	6:59	7:22
Craigavon Area	3:13	3:28	3:29	3:13	8:13	9:24	9:11	8:54
Daisy Hill	2:32	2:23	2:33	2:09	6:36	6:24	6:50	6:01
Altnagelvin Area	2:44	3:33	3:45	3:18	6:30	8:52	9:09	9:15
South West Acute	2:47	3:37	3:17	2:50	7:31	13:18	8:16	8:04
Type 1	2:47	2:54	3:01	2:43	7:24	8:35	8:30	7:52
Eye Casualty	2:45	2:27	2:40	2:04	6:07	6:09	6:07	5:22
Downe	1:30	1:33	1:29	1:34	5:21	5:36	5:13	5:13
Lagan Valley	2:25	1:57	2:19	1:55	6:20	5:16	6:00	5:17
Type 2	2:09	1:54	2:05	1:49	5:57	5:41	5:53	5:17
Mid Ulster	0:31	0:34	0:33	0:39	1:24	1:27	1:27	1:43
Ards	0:40	0:48	0:44	0:48	1:38	1:57	1:47	1:58
Bangor	0:35	0:39	0:38	0:39	1:29	1:43	1:30	1:47
South Tyrone	0:27	0:29	0:26	0:24	1:07	1:11	1:04	1:13
Omagh	0:48	0:53	0:58	0:47	2:33	2:57	3:41	2:39
Type 3	0:33	0:37	0:34	0:34	1:39	1:53	1:58	1:53
Northern Ireland	2:23	2:26	2:32	2:18	7:02	7:56	7:53	7:20

¹²⁸ Data on time spent in ED for those admitted and those discharged home are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits

¹²⁹ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹³⁰ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹³¹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak

Table 10H: Attendances at Emergency Care Departments per 1000-Population by Age Group^{132, 133, 134, 135, 136}

Age Group	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Under 5	52.1	43.5	43.7	39.2
Aged 5 - 15	32.5	25.5	24.6	19.2
Aged 16 - 44	37.0	33.8	32.6	24.7
Aged 45 - 64	31.3	29.9	27.9	22.6
Aged 65 - 74	36.5	35.7	33.5	25.9
Aged 75 & Over	61.5	63.4	57.5	46.0
Northern Ireland	37.7	34.6	32.9	26.0

Table 10I: Average Number of Attendances by Day of Week^{135, 136}

Day of Week	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Monday	2,757.0	2,530.0	2,610.3	1,855.0
Tuesday	2,498.8	2,267.0	2,268.5	1,593.0
Wednesday	2,425.5	2,127.6	2,278.0	1,765.3
Thursday	2,417.5	2,246.2	2,251.0	1,651.0
Friday	2,416.8	2,180.8	2,190.3	1,605.8
Saturday	1,864.6	1,701.8	1,704.6	1,250.0
Sunday	1,900.4	1,694.5	1,819.5	1,333.6

¹³² Based on the NISRA 2019 mid-year population estimate which was published on 6th May 2020.

¹³³ Data on age and when patients attend ED are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

¹³⁴ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹³⁵ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

¹³⁶ Du Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.e to the COVID-19 outbreak, readers should note that the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020.

Table 10J: Attendances at Emergency Care Departments, by Time Waited from Arrival to Discharge^{137, 138, 139}

Department	Under 4 Hours				Between 4 and 12 Hours				Over 12 Hours			
	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Mater	2,979	2,221	2,286	1,596	1,195	1,427	1,387	829	88	321	202	100
Royal Victoria	4,442	3,797	3,454	3,197	3,719	3,195	3,352	2,375	260	926	765	337
RBHSC	2,830	2,450	2,428	2,068	883	617	606	454	.	.	.	2
Antrim Area	4,975	4,880	4,292	4,157	2,546	1,880	2,241	1,770	298	639	590	291
Causeway	3,100	2,873	2,685	2,026	1,054	862	848	626	59	292	288	191
Ulster	4,762	4,556	4,310	3,702	2,833	2,015	2,079	1,939	756	1,086	939	495
Craigavon Area	3,914	3,046	2,852	2,703	3,091	2,499	2,334	1,982	457	1,112	933	507
Daisy Hill	3,342	2,882	2,750	2,114	1,304	1,067	1,257	710	238	355	291	185
Altnagelvin Area	4,009	2,851	2,345	2,137	1,889	2,080	2,130	1,618	216	638	450	319
South West Acute	1,996	1,372	1,444	1,510	947	1,200	1,115	909	155	425	182	106
Type 1	36,349	30,928	28,846	25,210	19,461	16,842	17,349	13,212	2,527	5,794	4,640	2,533
Eye Casualty	1,036	1,033	952	680	388	263	310	124	.	.	.	.
Downe	1,684	1,684	1,524	1,173	243	263	229	159	22	82	34	18
Lagan Valley	1,677	1,853	1,554	1,286	583	408	547	270	11	15	4	1
Type 2	4,397	4,570	4,030	3,139	1,214	934	1,086	553	33	97	38	19
Mid Ulster	953	819	831	565	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ards	1,028	1,049	1,006	887	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.
Bangor	868	808	751	381	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
South Tyrone	2,887	2,344	2,456	1,835	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Omagh	1,580	1,314	1,236	882	18	19	53	15	.	.	.	.
Type 3	7,316	6,334	6,280	4,550	19	20	53	16	.	.	.	.
Northern Ireland	48,062	41,832	39,156	32,899	20,694	17,796	18,488	13,781	2,560	5,891	4,678	2,552

¹³⁷ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹³⁸ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹³⁹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Table 10K: Percentage of Patients Commencing Treatment, Following Triage, within 2 Hours^{140, 141, 142, 143}

Department	% Commenced Treatment, Following Triage, within 2 Hours			
	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Mater	76.2%	67.4%	68.4%	79.3%
Royal Victoria	60.6%	66.0%	58.1%	76.9%
RBHSC	81.6%	89.1%	87.0%	90.4%
Antrim Area	67.8%	83.9%	70.2%	78.1%
Causeway	93.2%	96.2%	94.6%	95.8%
Ulster	80.0%	86.1%	82.7%	85.8%
Craigavon Area	61.6%	60.4%	58.5%	72.3%
Daisy Hill	72.0%	81.3%	74.9%	89.0%
Altnagelvin Area	80.3%	73.0%	64.4%	74.9%
South West Acute	87.2%	67.9%	75.9%	83.6%
Type 1	74.1%	76.7%	72.1%	81.3%
Downe	94.5%	96.0%	94.9%	92.2%
Lagan Valley	84.3%	96.9%	89.0%	94.8%
Type 2	89.0%	96.5%	91.6%	93.6%
Mid Ulster	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Ards	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.7%
Bangor	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
South Tyrone	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%
Omagh	97.7%	95.3%	90.2%	96.7%
Type 3	99.5%	99.1%	98.0%	99.3%
Northern Ireland	77.9%	80.5%	76.2%	83.9%

¹⁴⁰ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁴¹ Information on time to treatment is not recorded at Eye Casualty.

¹⁴² Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹⁴³ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Table 10L: Percentage Triage'd in each Triage Group^{144, 145, 146, 147}

Department	Triage'd Level (1/2)				Triage'd Level (3)				Triage'd Level (4/5)			
	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Mater	15.4%	16.7%	17.2%	18.5%	42.4%	49.6%	49.3%	46.3%	42.2%	33.7%	33.5%	35.2%
Royal Victoria	17.3%	20.8%	20.7%	20.3%	46.6%	48.8%	49.3%	48.5%	36.1%	30.4%	30.0%	31.2%
RBHSC	13.7%	11.7%	11.7%	12.2%	25.1%	25.2%	23.0%	23.4%	61.2%	63.1%	65.3%	64.4%
Antrim Area	18.7%	17.6%	17.1%	16.1%	54.3%	51.8%	51.9%	46.8%	27.1%	30.6%	31.0%	37.1%
Causeway	17.6%	19.9%	18.9%	20.7%	54.4%	54.8%	55.4%	50.6%	28.0%	25.4%	25.7%	28.7%
Ulster	21.4%	23.6%	21.5%	25.2%	49.9%	44.6%	46.2%	43.2%	28.6%	31.8%	32.4%	31.6%
Craigavon Area	29.8%	32.0%	32.9%	34.4%	47.3%	45.1%	43.9%	41.4%	22.9%	22.9%	23.2%	24.2%
Daisy Hill	32.7%	33.0%	31.3%	30.5%	49.6%	42.5%	43.9%	46.3%	17.7%	24.5%	24.9%	23.2%
Altnagelvin Area	30.7%	33.4%	34.3%	32.4%	32.8%	34.2%	33.0%	34.6%	36.5%	32.4%	32.7%	32.9%
South West Acute	17.1%	20.8%	20.8%	20.0%	47.5%	44.0%	44.5%	42.0%	35.4%	35.1%	34.7%	38.0%
Type 1	22.1%	23.7%	23.2%	23.7%	45.7%	44.8%	44.9%	42.9%	32.2%	31.5%	31.9%	33.4%
Eye Casualty	1.1%	1.4%	1.1%	1.4%	3.7%	5.6%	10.1%	9.5%	95.2%	93.0%	88.8%	89.2%
Downe	8.8%	12.2%	10.3%	10.5%	31.0%	36.4%	35.2%	32.7%	60.2%	51.4%	54.5%	56.7%
Lagan Valley	9.4%	8.7%	8.8%	10.4%	43.6%	31.0%	30.5%	28.4%	47.0%	60.2%	60.7%	61.2%
Type 2	7.1%	8.3%	7.4%	8.5%	29.2%	27.1%	27.1%	25.8%	63.8%	64.6%	65.4%	65.7%
Mid Ulster	0.1%	-	-	0.2%	0.9%	2.3%	3.9%	4.6%	99.0%	97.7%	96.1%	95.2%
Ards	0.3%	-	0.3%	0.1%	0.9%	0.8%	0.4%	0.6%	98.8%	99.2%	99.3%	99.3%
Bangor	-	0.5%	-	0.5%	0.7%	1.0%	0.8%	-	99.3%	98.5%	99.2%	99.5%
South Tyrone	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%	3.8%	3.5%	2.9%	2.9%	95.8%	96.2%	96.7%	96.5%
Omagh	0.3%	0.9%	1.3%	0.6%	13.2%	4.2%	3.6%	2.9%	86.5%	94.9%	95.1%	96.5%
Type 3	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.4%	4.7%	2.7%	2.5%	2.4%	95.1%	97.0%	97.0%	97.1%
Northern Ireland	18.6%	20.1%	19.5%	20.3%	40.0%	39.2%	39.1%	37.8%	41.4%	40.7%	41.4%	41.8%

¹⁴⁴ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁴⁵ Data on the triage level of those attending ED are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits

¹⁴⁶ Readers should note that Craigavon Area includes figures for two new departments, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED, both departments opened in March 2020.

¹⁴⁷ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Appendix 5: Further Information

Further information on Emergency Care Waiting Time Statistics, is available from:

Sarah Brown

Hospital Information Branch
Information & Analysis Directorate
Department of Health
Stormont Estate
Belfast, BT4 3SQ

☎ Tel: 028 90 522504

✉ Email: sarah.brown@health-ni.gov.uk

This Statistical bulletin and others published by Information and Analysis Directorate (IAD) are available to view or download from the DoH Internet site at:

Internet address: <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/topics/doh-statistics-and-research>