

INFORMATION
ANALYSIS
DIRECTORATE



Emergency Care Waiting Time Statistics for Northern Ireland

(April - June 2020)



Published 23rd July 2020



Department of
Health

An Roinn Sláinte

Máinnystrie O Poustie

www.health-ni.gov.uk



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-niwt-ecwt-guidance.pdf>
- Authors:** Sarah Brown, Kieran Taggart and Siobhán Morgan
- Publication Date:** 23rd July 2020
- Issued by:** Hospital Information Branch, Information & Analysis Directorate
Department of Health
Stormont Estate, Belfast, BT4 3SQ
- Contact Information:** We invite you to feedback your comments on this publication to:
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Email: sarah.brown@health-ni.gov.uk
- 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-niwt-ecwt-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>

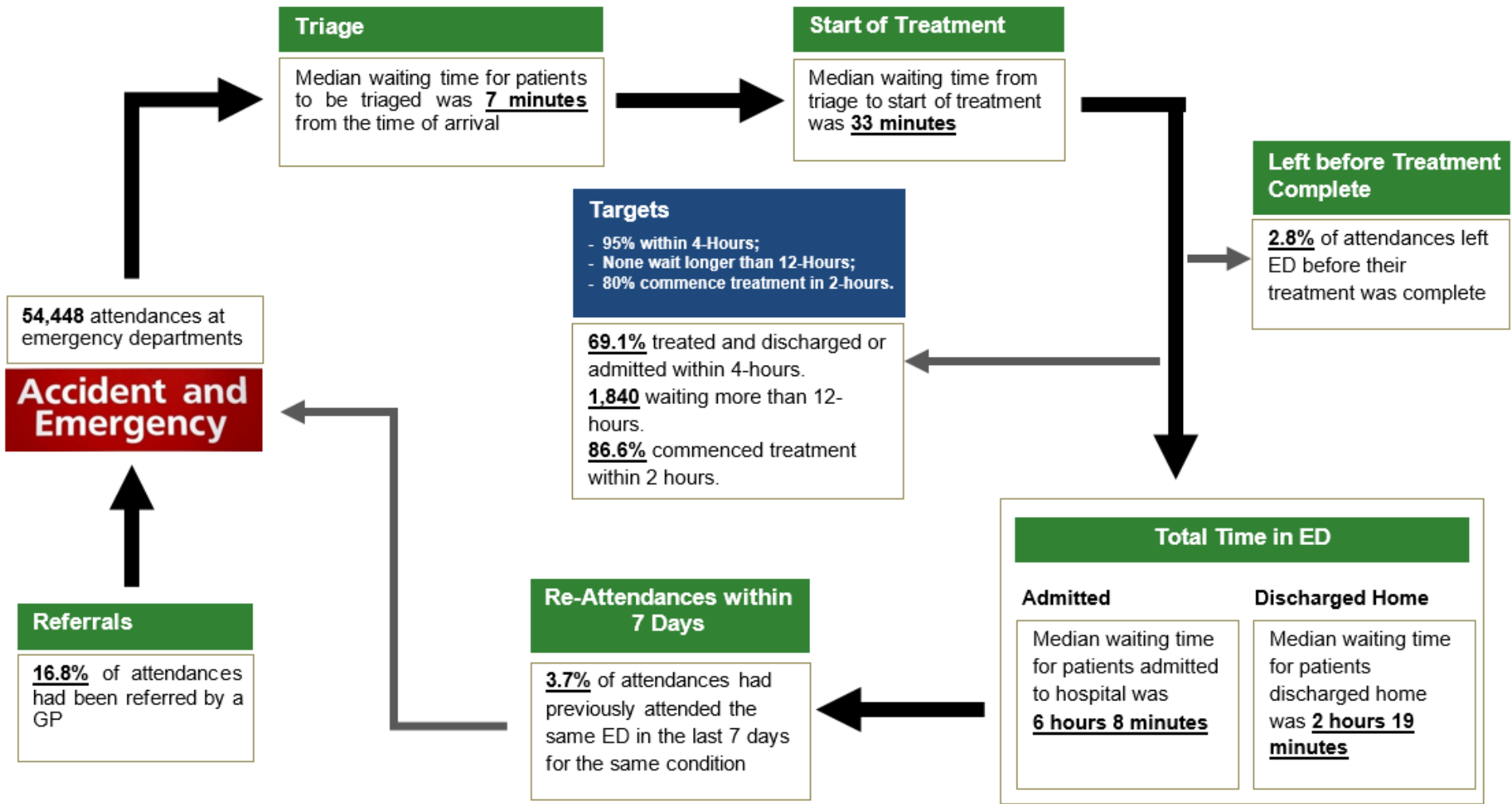
Statistical Charter:

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

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SUMMARY OF KEY FACTS (June 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 June 2020, compared with the same month last year.^{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7}

Information for the last three months (April, May and June 2020) is detailed in Table 10A on page 30.

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

Attendances	June 2019	June 2020	Difference	
New	66,438	51,210	-15,228	-22.9%
Unplanned Review	3,842	3,238	-604	-15.7%
Total Attendances	70,280	54,448	-15,832	-22.5%
Emergency Admissions	12,425	10,360	-2,065	-16.6%

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- Total attendances at EDs decreased by 22.5% (15,832) when compared with June 2019, from 70,280 to 54,448 in June 2020 (Table 1, Table 10A).
- Between June 2019 and June 2020, unplanned review attendances decreased by 15.7% (604) and new attendances decreased by 22.9% (15,228) (Table 1, Table 10A).
- There were 139,428 attendances at EDs during the quarter ending 30th June 2020, 35.2% (75,762) less than during the same quarter in 2019 (215,190).
- The number of emergency admissions to hospital from EDs decreased by 16.6% (2,065) between June 2019 (12,425) and June 2020 (10,360) (Table 1).

² Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 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.

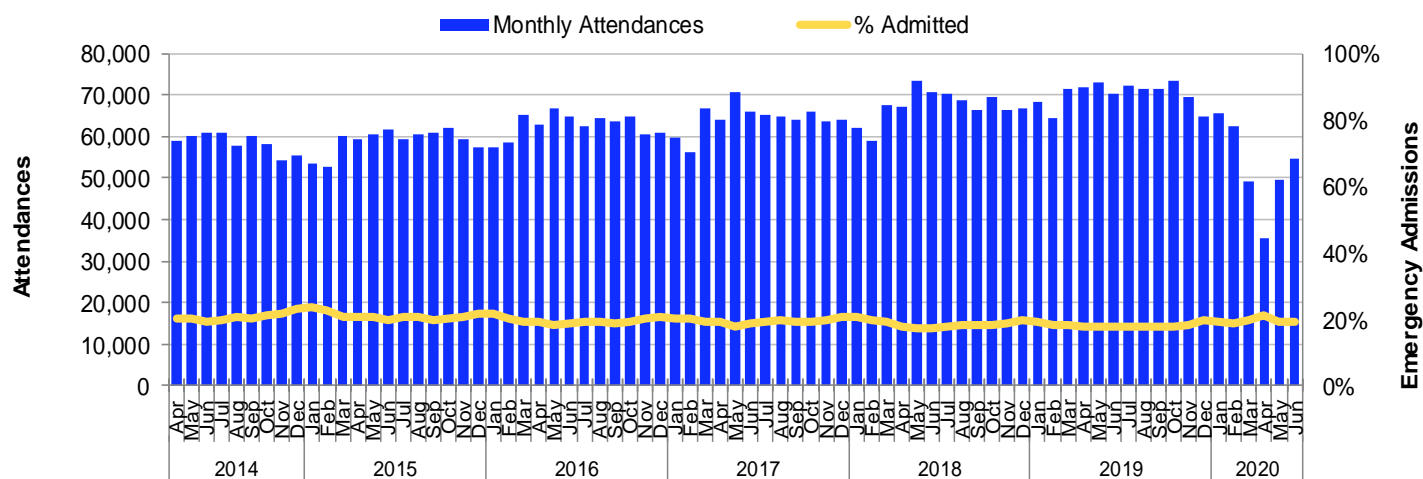
⁶ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁷ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Are More Patients Being Admitted To Hospital?

Figure 1 presents information on the number of new and unplanned review attendances at EDs and emergency admissions⁸ to hospital each month, from April 2014.^{9, 10, 11, 12}

Figure 1: Attendances at Emergency Care Departments and Emergency Admissions to Hospital (April 2014 – June 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 of the latest quarter decreased when compared with the same month of the previous year.
 - During April 2020, there were 35,439 attendances at EDs, 50.8% (36,530) less than April 2019 (71,969);
 - During May 2020, there were 49,541 attendances at EDs, 32.1% (23,400) less than May 2019 (72,941); and,
 - During June 2020, there were 54,448 attendances at EDs, 22.5% (15,832) less than June 2019 (70,280).

⁸ 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.

⁹ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁰ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

¹¹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹² Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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 June 2020 and the same month last year. It also details the total number of attendances at Type 2 and 3 EDs during this period ^{13, 14, 15, 16, 17}

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

Department	New Attendances		Unplanned Review Attendances		Total Attendances	
	Jun 2019	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Jun 2020
Mater	4,090	684	143	4	4,233	688
Royal Victoria	8,009	8,496	317	436	8,326	8,932
RBHSC	3,205	2,174	276	161	3,481	2,335
Antrim Area	7,181	6,716	392	383	7,573	7,099
Causeway	3,855	3,213	266	251	4,121	3,464
Ulster	8,106	7,655	231	237	8,337	7,892
Craigavon Area	6,587	8,149	606	685	7,193	8,834
Daisy Hill	4,330	-	369	-	4,699	-
Altnagelvin Area	5,559	5,047	327	409	5,886	5,456
South West Acute	3,054	2,534	280	285	3,334	2,819
Type 1	53,976	44,668	3,207	2,851	57,183	47,519
Type 2	5,283	2,216	229	110	5,512	2,326
Type 3	7,179	4,326	406	277	7,585	4,603
Northern Ireland	66,438	51,210	3,842	3,238	70,280	54,448

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- Between June 2019 and June 2020, total attendances decreased at Type 1, Type 2 and Type 3 departments (Table 2, Table 10A).
- The Royal Victoria (8,932) and Craigavon Area (8,834) were the busiest EDs during June 2020 (Table 2, Table 10A).
- Of the 10 Type 1 EDs, Craigavon Area (1,641, 22.8%) and the Royal Victoria (606, 7.3%) reported the only increases in attendances during June 2020, compared with June 2019 (Table 2, Table 10A).

¹³ Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10A.

¹⁴ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁵ 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.

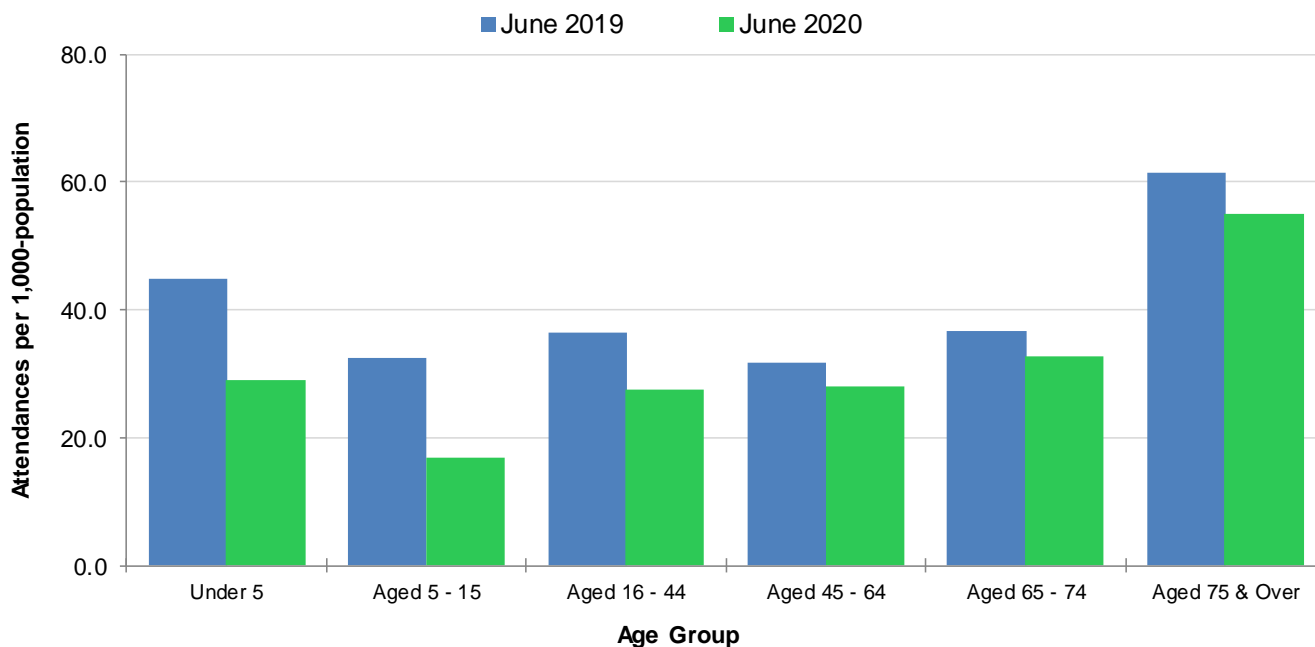
¹⁶ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹⁷ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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^{18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23}

Figure 2: Attendances at Emergency Care Departments per 1,000-population, by Age Group (June 2019 – June 2020)^{24, 25}



- During both June 2019 and June 2020, the highest number of attendances per 1,000-population was recorded for those Aged 75 & Over (61.4 and 55.0 respectively) (Figure 2, Table 10H).
- The lowest number of attendances per 1,000-population was recorded in the Aged 5 - 15 age group during June 2020 (17.0) (Figure 2, Table 10H).
- The rate of attendances per 1,000-population decreased for all age groups between June 2019 and June 2020. (Figure 2, Table 10H).

¹⁸ Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10H.

¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

²¹ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

²² Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

²³ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

²⁴ Excludes cases where the DOB could not be determined.

²⁵ 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.^{26, 27}

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 (June 2019 - June 2020)^{28, 29, 30, 31}

Department	Level 1 / 2		Level 3		Level 4 / 5	
	Jun 2019	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Jun 2020
Mater	14.4%	31.2%	44.6%	46.1%	41.0%	22.6%
Royal Victoria	18.4%	16.2%	45.5%	46.6%	36.1%	37.2%
RBHSC	11.5%	8.7%	21.5%	20.6%	67.1%	70.7%
Antrim Area	19.5%	18.1%	54.3%	51.4%	26.2%	30.5%
Causeway	18.2%	17.2%	54.4%	48.8%	27.4%	34.0%
Ulster	22.3%	22.0%	45.9%	43.8%	31.8%	34.2%
Craigavon Area	30.2%	28.3%	45.9%	39.9%	23.9%	31.7%
Daisy Hill	28.5%	-	44.2%	-	27.4%	-
Altnagelvin Area	30.9%	31.5%	29.0%	33.9%	40.2%	34.6%
South West Acute	15.9%	14.8%	44.0%	41.9%	40.1%	43.3%
Type 1	21.9%	21.4%	43.7%	42.5%	34.4%	36.1%
Type 2	7.2%	7.6%	28.6%	26.0%	64.2%	66.4%
Type 3	0.3%	0.2%	5.3%	2.7%	94.4%	97.0%
Northern Ireland	18.3%	19.0%	38.2%	38.4%	43.5%	42.6%

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- Almost two thirds (63.9%) of attendances at Type 1 departments in June 2020 were triaged as level 1 / 2 or 3, compared with 65.6% in June 2019 (Table 3, Table 10L).
- Almost a fifth (19.0%) of patients were triaged at level 1 / 2 in June 2020, less than April 2020 (22.1%) and May 2020 (19.7%) (Table 3, Table 10L).
- During June 2020, almost a third of patients attending Altnagelvin Area (31.5%) and the Mater (31.2%) were triaged at level 1 / 2, compared with 8.7% of those attending the RBHSC (Table 3, Table 10L).

²⁶ Data are not National Statistics, but have been published to provide users with a comprehensive view of emergency care activity and waits.

²⁷ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

²⁸ Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4: Table 10L.

²⁹ 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.

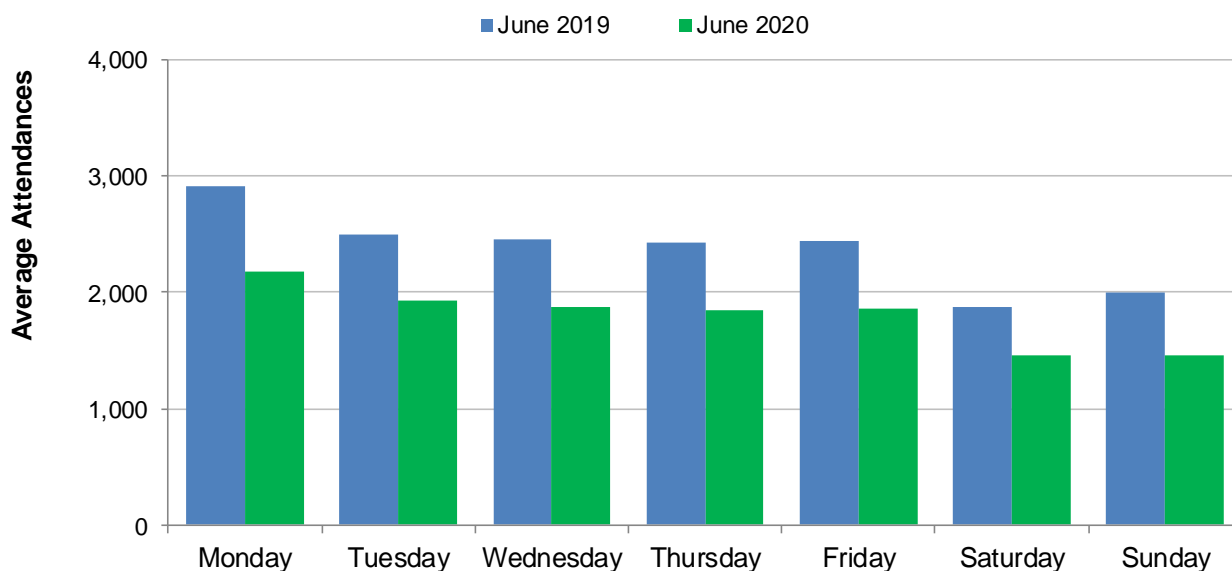
³⁰ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

³¹ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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 June 2019, compared with June 2020. ^{32, 33, 34, 35}

Figure 3: Average Number of Attendances at Emergency Care Departments by Day of Week (June 2019 - June 2020)^{36, 37}



- Overall, Monday was the busiest day at EDs during both June 2019 and June 2020, with over 2,180 daily attendances on average each Monday during June 2020 (Figure 3, Table 10I).
- The largest decrease in average daily attendances between June 2019 and June 2020 (732) was on a Monday (2,913 and 2,181 respectively) (Figure 3, Table 10I).
- The lowest average number of daily attendances was on a Saturday during June 2019 (1,877) and June 2020 (1,455) (Figure 3, Table 10I).

³² Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10I.

³³ 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.

³⁴ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

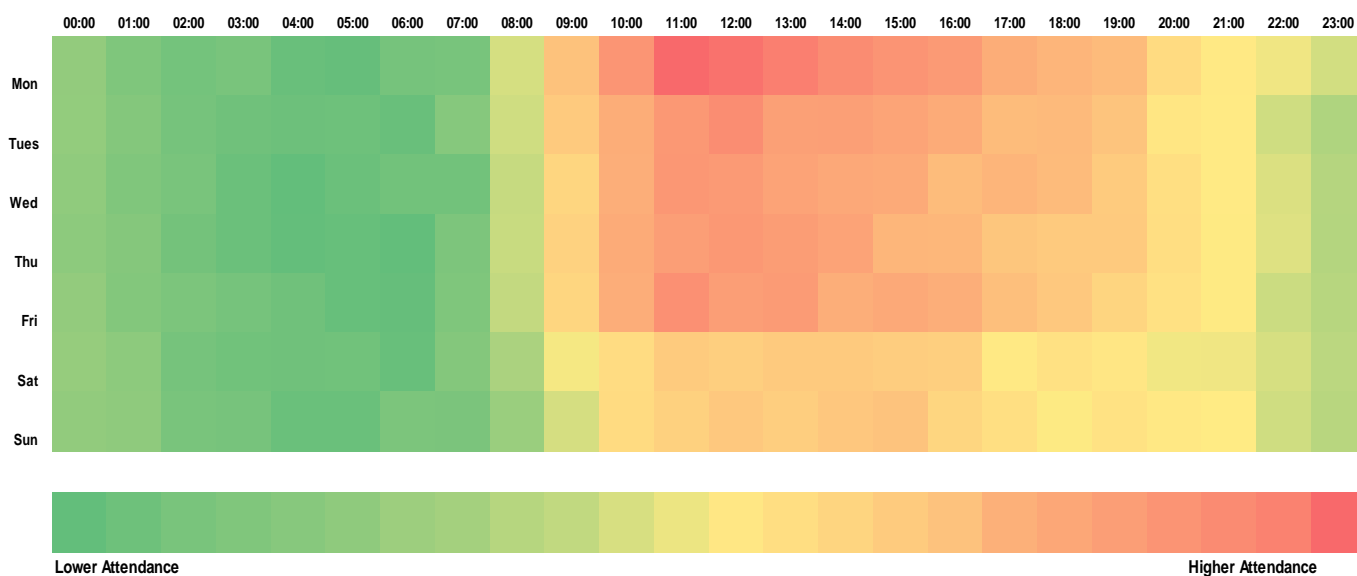
³⁵ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

³⁶ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

³⁷ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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 June 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. ^{38, 39, 40}

Figure 4: Heat Map of Emergency Care Attendances by Day and Time (June 2020)^{41, 42}



- Monday was the busiest day of the week during June 2020, with the highest number of attendances arriving between 11:00am and 11:59am (Figure 4).
- Saturday was the least busy day during June 2020, with the highest number of attendances arriving between 13:00pm and 13:59pm (Figure 4).
- Overall, the busiest hour of the day during June 2020 was between 11:00am and 11:59am, whilst the least busy hour was 4:00am to 4:59am (Figure 4).

³⁸ 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.

³⁹ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁴⁰ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

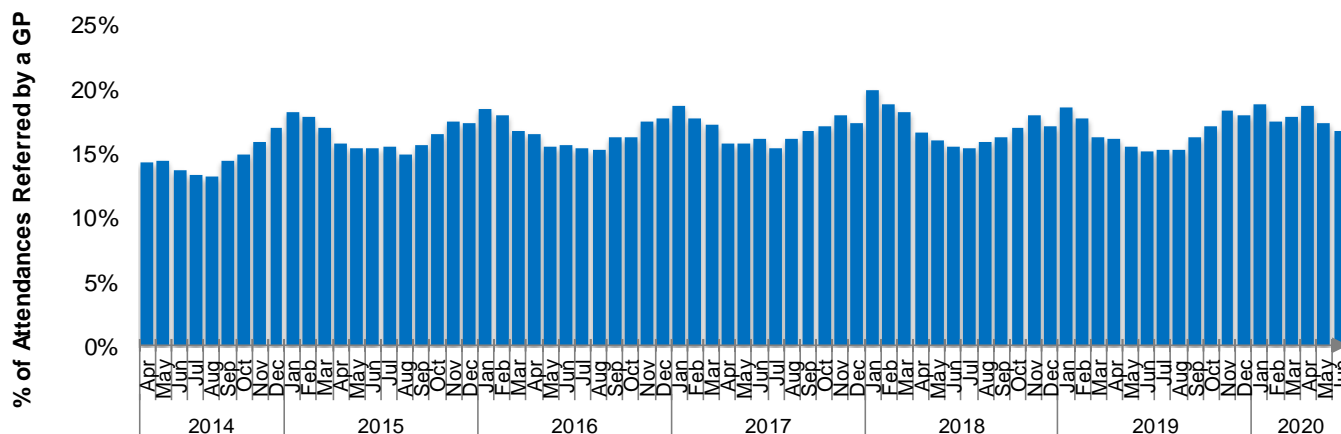
⁴¹ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁴² Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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.^{43, 44, 45, 46}

Figure 5: Percentage of Attendances at Emergency Care Departments Referred by a GP (April 2014 – June 2020)^{47, 48}



- In June 2020, over one in six (16.8%) attendances at EDs had been referred by a GP, compared with 15.2% in June 2019 (Figure 5, Table 10C).
- Type 1 EDs reported the highest percentage of attendances referred by a GP (18.7%) during June 2020, compared to 17.3% in June 2019 (Table 10C).
- Almost a quarter (23.9%) of attendances at the Ulster had been referred by a GP during June 2020, compared with 2.1% 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).

⁴³ Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10C.

⁴⁴ 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.

⁴⁵ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁴⁶ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

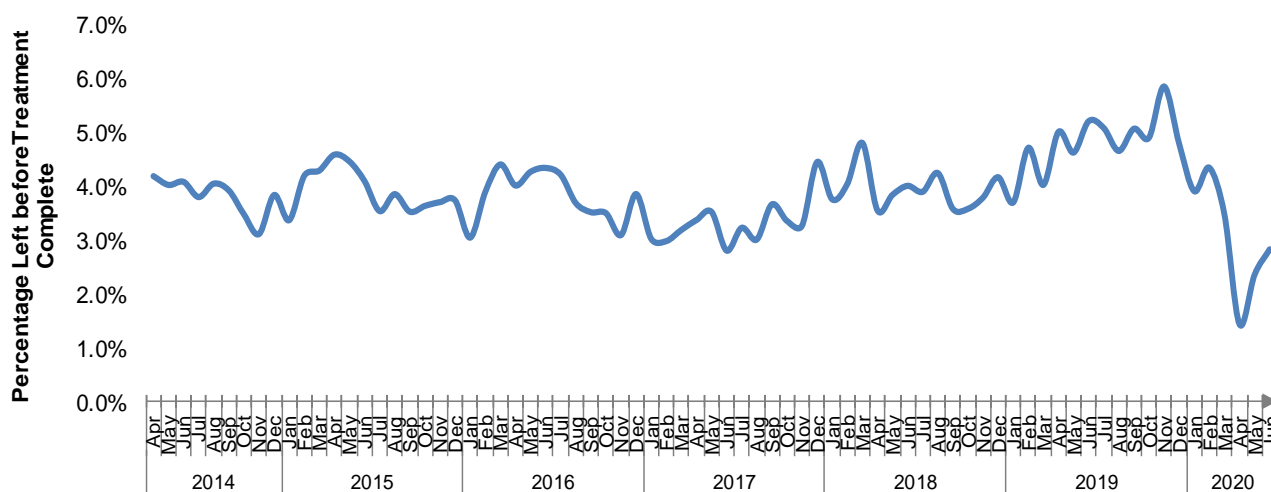
⁴⁷ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁴⁸ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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.^{49, 50, 51, 52}

Figure 6: Percentage of Attendances Leaving the Emergency Care Department before their Treatment was Complete (April 2014 – June 2020)^{53, 54}



- During June 2020, 2.8% of all ED attendances left before their treatment was complete, compared with 5.2% in June 2019 (Figure 6, Table 10C).
- Type 1 EDs reported the highest percentage (3.2%) of patients leaving before their treatment was complete in June 2020, with 1.3% reported for Type 2 EDs and 0.2% for Type 3 EDs (Table 10C).
- The Royal Victoria (6.6%) reported the highest percentage of attendances leaving an ED before their treatment was complete during June 2020, compared with 10.9% in June 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).

⁴⁹ Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10C.

⁵⁰ 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.

⁵¹ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁵² Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

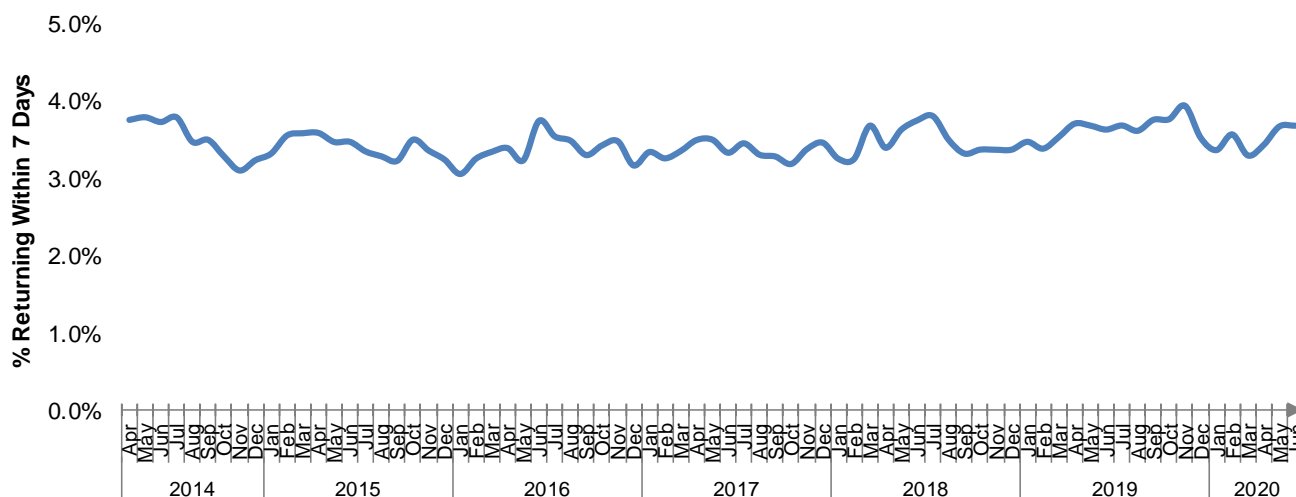
⁵³ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁵⁴ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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. ^{55, 56, 57, 58}

Figure 7: Percentage of Re-attendances at Emergency Care Departments within 7 Days (April 2014 – June 2020)^{59, 60}



- 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 3.1% and 3.9% of the total number of ED attendances (Figure 7).
- During June 2020, 3.7% of attendances had attended the same ED within 7 days of their original attendance, compared with 3.6% in June 2019 (Figure 7, Table 10C).
- Omagh (6.6%) reported the highest percentage of unplanned review attendances within 7 days of the original attendance during June 2020 (Table 10C).

⁵⁵ Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10C.

⁵⁶ 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.

⁵⁷ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁵⁸ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁵⁹ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁶⁰ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

How Long Do Patients Spend in ED?

Emergency Care Waiting Times Targets

The current DOH targets⁶¹ on emergency care waiting times in Northern Ireland for 2020/21 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 2021, 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.

⁶¹ 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. ^{62, 63}

Table 4: Performance against Emergency Care Waiting Times Target (June 2019 - June 2020)^{64,65}

% Within 4 Hours	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Diff (Jun 2019 - Jun 2020)	
					No.	%
Type 1	61.3%	71.9%	67.6%	65.5%	-	4.2%
Type 2	81.2%	88.4%	86.7%	83.4%	-	2.2%
Type 3	99.7%	99.9%	99.9%	99.7%	-	0.0%
Total	67.0%	74.5%	70.8%	69.1%	-	2.1%
Over 12 Hours	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Diff (Jun 2019 - Jun 2020)	
					No.	%
Type 1	2,829	231	821	1,839	-990	-
Type 2	6	.	.	1	-5	-
Type 3	.	.	.	.	.	-
Total	2,835	231	821	1,840	-995	-
New & Unplanned Review Attendances	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Diff (Jun 2019 - Jun 2020)	
					No.	%
Type 1	57,183	31,546	43,778	47,519	-9,664	-16.9%
Type 2	5,512	1,443	2,126	2,326	-3,186	-57.8%
Type 3	7,585	2,450	3,637	4,603	-2,982	-39.3%
Total	70,280	35,439	49,541	54,448	-15,832	-22.5%

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- Two thirds (69.1%) of attendances in June 2020 were discharged or admitted within 4 hours, compared with 67.0% in June 2019 (Table 10B & 10J).
- Over six in ten (65.5%) attendances at Type 1 EDs in June 2020 waited less than 4 hours, compared with 83.4% at Type 2 EDs and 99.7% at Type 3 EDs (Table 4, Table 10B & 10J).
- Between June 2019 and June 2020, the number waiting over 12 hours decreased from 2,835 to 1,840, accounting for 3.4% of attendances in June 2020 (Table 4, Table 10B & 10J).
- During this period, EDs experienced a 22.5% decrease in attendances (70,280 to 54,448), whilst 4 hour performance increased from 67.0% to 69.1% (Table 4, Table 10B & 10J).
- During the quarter ending 30th June 2020, almost three quarters (71.1%) of patients waited less than 4 hours at an ED, compared with 66.6% during the same quarter in 2019.
- Between April 2020 and June 2020, the percentage waiting less than 4 hours was highest in April 2020 (74.5%) and lowest in June 2020 (69.1%), whilst the number waiting over 12 hours was highest in June 2020 (1,840) and lowest in April 2020 (231) (Table 4, Table 10B).

⁶² 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>

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

⁶⁴ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁶⁵ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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 June 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. ^{66, 67, 68}

Table 5: Performance against the 4 and 12 Hour Components of the Emergency Care Waiting Times Target at Type 1 EDs (June 2019 - June 2020) ^{69, 70}

Department	4 Hour Performance		12 Hour Performance		Total Attendances	
	Jun 2019	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Jun 2020
Mater	71.0%	68.2%	86	3	4,233	688
Royal Victoria	46.6%	52.4%	476	112	8,326	8,932
RBHSC	86.7%	91.4%	-	-	3,481	2,335
Antrim Area	64.1%	72.1%	266	231	7,573	7,099
Causeway	69.8%	77.8%	189	103	4,121	3,464
Ulster	56.0%	66.4%	589	449	8,337	7,892
Craigavon Area	50.5%	65.0%	609	551	7,193	8,834
Daisy Hill	66.7%	-	261	-	4,699	-
Altnagelvin Area	66.8%	56.9%	132	339	5,886	5,456
South West Acute	62.0%	68.6%	221	51	3,334	2,819
Type 1	61.3%	65.5%	2,829	1,839	57,183	47,519
Type 2	81.2%	83.4%	6	1	5,512	2,326
Type 3	99.7%	99.7%	-	-	7,585	4,603
Northern Ireland	67.0%	69.1%	2,835	1,840	70,280	54,448

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- During June 2020, the RBHSC (91.4%) reported the highest performance of the four hour target at any Type 1 ED, whilst the Royal Victoria (52.4%) reported the lowest (Table 5, Table 10B).
- RBHSC was the only Type 1 ED to achieve the 12-hour target during June 2020 (Table 5, Table 10B).
- Craigavon Area (551) reported the highest number of patients waiting over 12 hours during June 2020 (Table 5, Table 10B).
- Between June 2019 and June 2020, performance against the 12 hour target improved at all of the ten Type 1 EDs, with exception on Altnagelvin. (Table 5, Table 10B).

⁶⁶ Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4: Table 10B & Table 10J.

⁶⁷ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁶⁸ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁶⁹ 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.

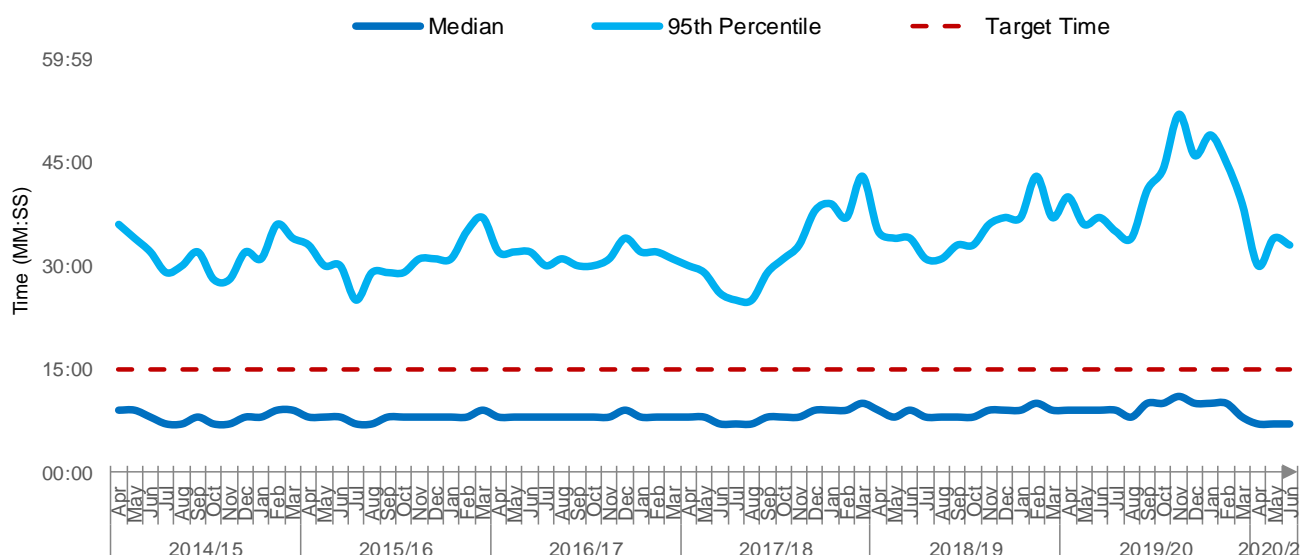
⁷⁰ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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.^{71, 72}

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 - June 2020)^{73, 74, 75, 76}



- During June 2020, the median waiting time from arrival to triage was 7 minutes, 2 minutes less than the time taken in June 2019 (9 minutes) (Figure 9, Table 10D).
- 95 percent of patients were triaged within 33 minutes of their arrival at an ED in June 2020, 4 minutes less than the time taken in June 2019 (37 minutes) (Figure 9, Table 10D).
- Over three quarters (78.5%) of attendances were triaged within 15 minutes of their arrival at an ED during June 2020, compared with 72.3% in June 2019.
- During each of the last 3 months, the median waiting time from arrival to triage was the same (7 minutes), and the time taken to triage 95 percent of patients was also longest during May 2020 (34 minutes) and shortest in April (30 minutes) (Table 10D).

⁷¹ Data on time to triage are not National Statistics, and are included to provide users with a comprehensive view of ED activity and waits.

⁷² Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁷³ Additional information on time to triage is detailed in Appendix 4: Table 10D.

⁷⁴ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁷⁵ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁷⁶ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 6 presents information on the percentage of patients commencing treatment, following triage, within 2 hours at Type 1 EDs in June 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.^{77 78}

Table 6: Performance against the Target to Commence Treating Patients within 2 Hours of them being Triageed (June 2019 - June 2020)^{79, 80, 81}

Department	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Mater	75.2%	99.7%	100.0%	99.8%
Royal Victoria	55.7%	92.1%	67.4%	70.7%
RBHSC	91.4%	99.9%	99.6%	99.5%
Antrim Area	66.4%	93.2%	90.5%	83.3%
Causeway	89.7%	99.6%	98.9%	97.4%
Ulster	74.2%	97.4%	94.0%	90.5%
Craigavon Area	55.1%	92.5%	93.4%	87.3%
Daisy Hill	69.5%	-	-	-
Altnagelvin Area	81.0%	97.3%	89.1%	77.6%
South West Acute	80.7%	96.3%	93.9%	90.3%
Type 1	71.4%	95.2%	89.0%	84.9%
Type 2	89.1%	99.8%	98.2%	98.2%
Type 3	99.2%	99.5%	100.0%	99.4%
Northern Ireland	76.0%	95.6%	90.1%	86.6%

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- Over eight in ten (86.6%) patients attending EDs commenced their treatment within 2 hours of being triaged, compared with 76.0% in June 2019 (Table 6, Table 10K).
- During June 2020, over eight in ten (84.9%) patients commenced their treatment within 2 hours of being triaged at Type 1 EDs, compared with 98.2% at Type 2 EDs and 99.4% at Type 3 EDs (Table 6, Table 10K).
- Seven Type 1 EDs (Mater, RBHSC, Causeway, Ulster, South West Acute, Craigavon Area and Antrim Area) achieved the 80% target in June 2020 (Table 6, Table 10K).
- During June 2020, the Mater (99.8%) reported the highest percentage commencing treatment within 2 hours, whilst the Royal Victoria (70.7%) reported the lowest (Table 6, Table 10K).
- Between April and June 2020, the highest percentage of patients commencing treatment within 2 hours was in April 2020 (95.6%) whilst the lowest was in June 2020 (86.6%), (Table 6)..

⁷⁷ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁷⁸ Additional information on the percentage of patients commencing treatment within 2 hours of triage is detailed in Appendix 4: Table 10K.

⁷⁹ 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.

⁸⁰ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak

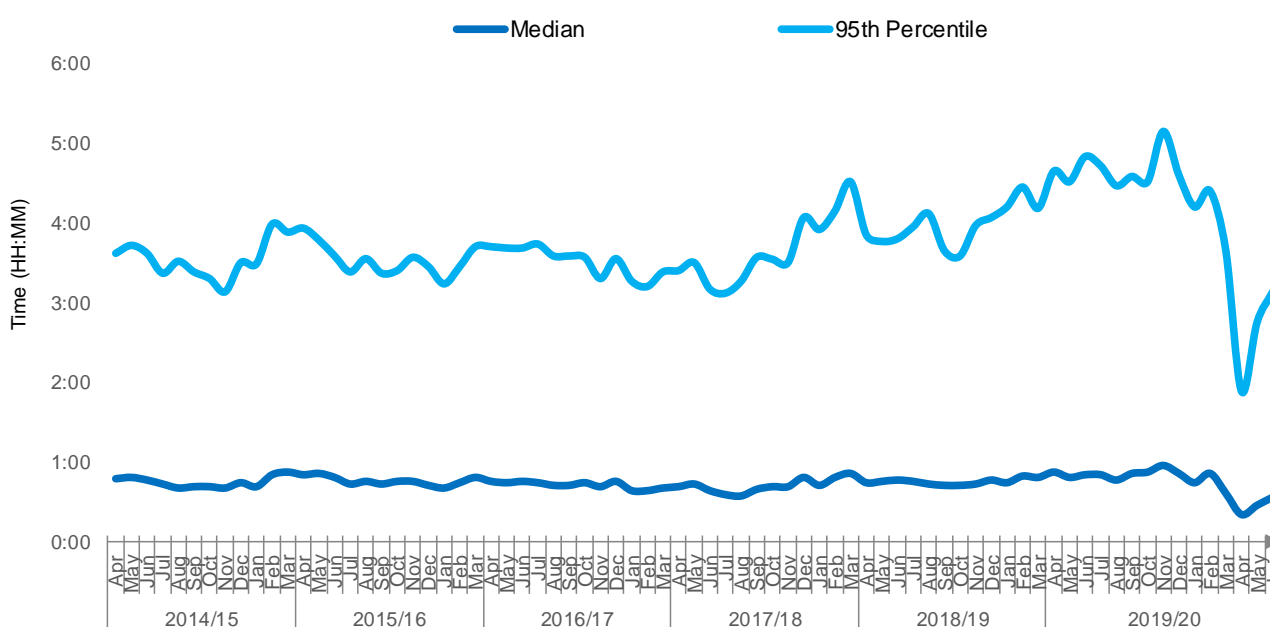
⁸¹ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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.^{82, 83}

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 – June 2020)^{84, 85, 86, 87}



- The median waiting time from triage to start of treatment in June 2020 was 33 minutes, 17 minutes less than the time taken in June 2019 (50 minutes) (Figure 10, Table 10E).
- During June 2020, 95 percent of patients commenced treatment within 3 hours 8 minutes of being triaged, 1 hour 42 minutes less than June 2019 (4 hours 50 minutes) (Figure 10, Table 10E).
- Across each of the last 3 months, the median waiting time to start of treatment was longest in June 2020 (33 minutes) and shortest in April 2020 (20 minutes), whilst the time within which 95 percent of patients started treatment was also longest in June 2020 (3 hours 8 minutes) and shortest in April 2020 (1 hours 53 minutes) (Table 10D).

⁸² Data on start of treatment are not National Statistics, and are included to provide users with a comprehensive view of ED activity and waits

⁸³ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁸⁴ Additional information on time to triage is detailed in Appendix 4: Table 10E.

⁸⁵ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁸⁶ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁸⁷ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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 June 2020 compared with June 2019. ^{88, 89}

Table 7: Time from Triage to Start of Treatment (June 2019 and June 2020) ^{90, 91, 92, 93}

Department	Median		95th Percentile	
	June 2019	June 2020	June 2019	June 2020
Mater	0:50	0:08	4:37	0:44
Royal Victoria	1:36	1:06	6:55	4:55
RBHSC	0:39	0:18	2:18	1:05
Antrim Area	1:19	0:52	5:03	3:01
Causeway	0:32	0:17	2:35	1:35
Ulster	1:00	0:35	4:47	2:26
Craigavon Area	1:44	0:41	7:33	2:55
Daisy Hill	1:15	-	4:06	-
Altnagelvin Area	0:51	0:51	3:32	3:45
South West Acute	0:35	0:23	3:56	2:50
Type 1	1:03	0:39	5:14	3:16
Type 2	0:40	0:18	2:30	1:25
Type 3	0:07	0:04	1:01	0:33
Northern Ireland	0:50	0:33	4:50	3:08

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 39 minutes in June 2020, 24 minutes less than June 2019 (1 hour 3 minutes) (Table 7, Table 10E).
- The Royal Victoria (1 hour 6 minutes) reported the longest median waiting time from triage to start of treatment during June 2020, whilst the Mater (8 minutes) reported the shortest median waiting time (Table 7, Table 10E).
- The Royal Victoria reported the longest waiting time between triage and start of treatment, with 95 percent of attendances commencing treatment within 4 hours 55 minutes of being triaged; 2 hours less than the time taken in June 2019 (6 hours 55 minutes) (Table 7, Table 10E).
- The Mater reported the shortest time to start of treatment during June 2020, with 95 percent of attendances commencing treatment within 44 minutes of being triaged, 3 hours 53 minutes less than the time taken in June 2019 (4 hour 37 minutes) (Table 7, Table 10E).

⁸⁸ 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.

⁸⁹ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁹⁰ Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10E.

⁹¹ 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.

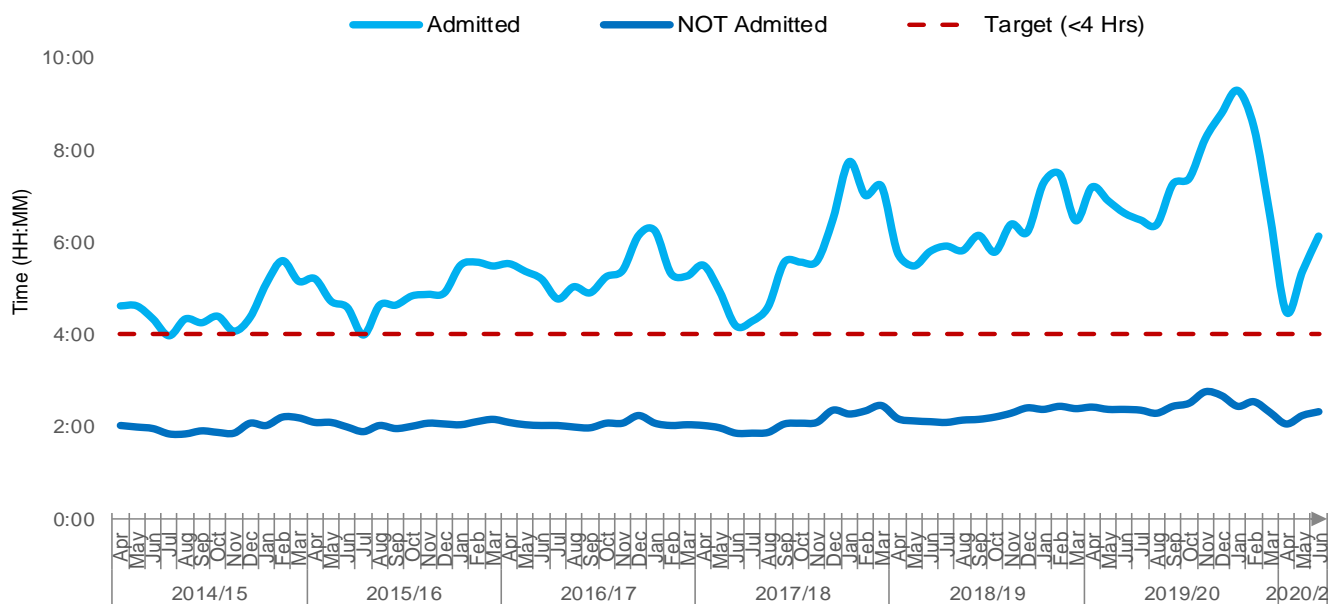
⁹² Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁹³ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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.^{94, 95, 96}

Figure 11: Median Time Spent in an Emergency Care Department for those (i) Admitted to Hospital and (ii) Discharged Home (April 2014 to June 2020)^{97, 98, 99}



- During June 2020, the median time patients admitted to hospital spent in ED was 6 hours 8 minutes, compared to 2 hours 19 minutes for those discharged home (Figure 11, Table 10F & 10G).
- During June 2020, 95 percent of patients admitted to hospital waited up to 20 hours 37 minutes in ED, over three times longer than the time waited by 95 percent of those discharged home (6 hours 46 minutes) (Table 8 & 9).
- During the last 3 months, the median time patients admitted spent in ED was longest in June 2020 (6 hours 8 minutes) and shortest in April 2020 (4 hours 29 minutes) (Table 10F).
- During this period, the median time waited by patients discharged home was longest in June 2020 (2 hours 19 minutes) and shortest in April 2020 (2 hours 3 minutes) (Table 10G).
- During this period, the longest time waited by up to 95 percent of patients admitted was in June 2020 (20 hours 37 minutes) and shortest in April 2020 (10 hours 8 minutes) (Table 10F).
- During this period, the longest time waited by up to 95 percent of patients discharged home was in June 2020 (6 hours 46 minutes) and shortest in April 2020 (6 hours 6 minutes) (Table 10G).

⁹⁴ Data are not National Statistics, and are included to provide users with a comprehensive view of ED activity and waits.

⁹⁵ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

⁹⁶ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

⁹⁷ Further breakdown of EDs can be found in Appendix 4, Table 10F and 10G.

⁹⁸ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

⁹⁹ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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. ¹⁰⁰

Table 8: Total Time Spent in an Emergency Care Department for those Admitted to Hospital (June 2019 - June 2020)^{101, 102, 103, 104, 105}

Department	Median		95th Percentile	
	June 2019	June 2020	June 2019	June 2020
Mater	5:49	3:22	17:49	7:57
Royal Victoria	8:07	5:49	17:27	11:30
RBHSC	3:35	2:53	7:14	6:07
Antrim Area	5:26	5:03	17:44	17:45
Causeway	7:54	5:28	23:46	18:30
Ulster	7:21	7:20	23:06	21:14
Craigavon Area	8:05	8:36	23:52	25:29
Daisy Hill	7:10	-	23:05	-
Altnagelvin Area	6:33	8:11	14:16	23:59
South West Acute	6:20	5:23	22:11	11:57
Type 1	6:48	6:10	21:15	20:45
Type 2	4:31	4:23	8:57	8:37
Type 3	0:33	2:13	2:15	3:59
Northern Ireland	6:38	6:08	21:00	20:37

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 10 minutes in June 2020, 38 minutes less than the same month last year (6 hours 48 minutes) (Table 8, Table 10F).
- During June 2020, Craigavon Area reported the longest median waiting time from arrival to admission (8 hours 36 minutes), whilst the RBHSC reported the shortest time (2 hours 53 minutes) (Table 8, Table 10F).
- 95 percent of patients were admitted to hospital within 20 hours 45 minutes at Type 1 EDs in June 2020, 30 minutes less than in June 2019 (21 hours 15 minutes) (Table 8, Table 10F).
- Between June 2019 and June 2020, Altnagelvin reported the largest increase (from 14 hours 16 minutes to 23 hours 59 minutes) in the time taken for up to 95% of patients to be admitted to hospital (Table 8, Table 10F).

¹⁰⁰ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁰¹ Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10F.

¹⁰² 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.

¹⁰³ 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.

¹⁰⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹⁰⁵ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

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**.^{106, 107}

Table 9: Total Time Spent in Emergency Care Departments for those Discharged Home (June 2019 - June 2020)^{108, 109, 110}

Department	Median		95th Percentile	
	June 2019	June 2020	June 2019	June 2020
Mater	2:28	2:23	6:49	7:38
Royal Victoria	3:44	3:28	9:58	8:15
RBHSC	2:07	1:26	4:43	4:12
Antrim Area	2:44	2:19	7:27	5:47
Causeway	2:17	1:59	6:55	5:36
Ulster	2:58	2:28	7:53	6:17
Craigavon Area	3:19	2:47	9:58	7:41
Daisy Hill	2:39	-	6:27	-
Altnagelvin Area	2:44	3:18	6:39	7:02
South West Acute	2:55	2:16	8:40	6:26
Type 1	2:49	2:38	8:02	7:02
Type 2	2:04	1:44	5:40	5:23
Type 3	0:36	0:31	1:53	1:34
Northern Ireland	2:22	2:19	7:32	6:46

Source: Regional Data Warehouse, Business Services Organisation

- The median time patients discharged home (not admitted) spent in a Type 1 ED was 2 hours 38 minutes in June 2020, 11 minutes less than the time taken during the same month last year (2 hour 49 minutes) (Table 9, Table 10G).
- In June 2020, 95 percent of attendances at Type 1 EDs were discharged home within 7 hours 2 minutes of their arrival, 1 hour less than the time taken in June 2019 (8 hours 2 minutes) (Table 9, Table 10G).

¹⁰⁶ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁰⁷ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

¹⁰⁸ Information for June 2019 and April, May and June 2020 is detailed in Appendix 4, Table 10G.

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 from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

Appendix 1: 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 ¹¹¹

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) ¹¹² (9-5pm Mon-Fri) (8.30-1pm Sat)	
	Royal Victoria		
	Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children (RBHSC)		
Northern	Antrim Area		Whiteabbey ¹¹³ (Closed)
	Causeway		Mid Ulster (9-5pm Mon-Fri)
South Eastern	Ulster	Lagan Valley (8-8pm Mon-Fri)	Ards MIU (9-5pm Mon-Fri)
		Downe ¹¹⁴ (Closed)	Bangor MIU ¹¹⁵ (Closed)
Southern	Craigavon Area		South Tyrone (9-9pm Mon-Fri) (10-6pm Sat-Sun)
	Daisy Hill ¹¹⁶ (Closed)		Armagh Community ¹¹⁷ (Closed)
			Craigavon Respiratory ED (Covid-19) ¹¹⁸
			Craigavon Paediatric ED ¹¹⁹
Western	Altnagelvin Area		Tyrone County (Closed)
	South West Acute		Omagh ¹²⁰ (24-hour)

¹¹¹ Opening Hours are as of June 2017.

¹¹² RVH (RAES) refers to the Regional Acute Eye Services at the Royal Victoria Hospital.

¹¹³ Temporarily closed on 1st December 2014.

¹¹⁴ Temporarily closed 30th March 2020.

¹¹⁵ Temporarily closed 12th March 2020.

¹¹⁶ Temporarily closed 28th March 2020.

¹¹⁷ Temporarily closed on 17th November 2014.

¹¹⁸ Opened on 29th March 2020.

¹¹⁹ Opened on 31st March 2020.

¹²⁰ 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 ^{121, 122, 123, 124, 125}

Department	New Attendances				Unplanned Reviews				Total Attendances			
	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun-19	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jun-19	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20
Mater	4,090	649	526	684	143	6	3	4	4,233	655	529	688
Royal Victoria	8,009	5,814	8,126	8,496	317	242	382	436	8,326	6,056	8,508	8,932
RBHSC	3,205	1,551	2,099	2,174	276	115	156	161	3,481	1,666	2,255	2,335
Antrim Area	7,181	4,450	6,005	6,716	392	235	378	383	7,573	4,685	6,383	7,099
Causeway	3,855	1,801	2,709	3,213	266	172	259	251	4,121	1,973	2,968	3,464
Ulster	8,106	5,061	7,160	7,655	231	95	186	237	8,337	5,156	7,346	7,892
Craigavon Area	6,587	5,796	7,469	8,149	606	394	612	685	7,193	6,190	8,081	8,834
Daisy Hill	4,330	.	.	.	369	.	.	.	4,699	.	.	.
Altnagelvin Area	5,559	3,104	4,598	5,047	327	211	358	409	5,886	3,315	4,956	5,456
South West Acute	3,054	1,686	2,507	2,534	280	164	245	285	3,334	1,850	2,752	2,819
Type 1	53,976	29,912	41,199	44,668	3,207	1,634	2,579	2,851	57,183	31,546	43,778	47,519
Eye Casualty	1,314	353	581	563	46	52	75	40	1,360	405	656	603
Downe	1,935	.	.	.	99	.	.	.	2,034	.	.	.
Lagan Valley	2,034	998	1,417	1,653	84	40	53	70	2,118	1,038	1,470	1,723
Type 2	5,283	1,351	1,998	2,216	229	92	128	110	5,512	1,443	2,126	2,326
Mid Ulster	891	349	470	697	37	22	23	31	928	371	493	728
Ards	1,041	407	557	768	40	13	19	29	1,081	420	576	797
Bangor	886	.	.	.	45	.	.	.	931	.	.	.
South Tyrone	2,824	992	1,562	1,963	127	33	66	87	2,951	1,025	1,628	2,050
Omagh	1,537	542	787	898	157	92	153	130	1,694	634	940	1,028
Type 3	7,179	2,290	3,376	4,326	406	160	261	277	7,585	2,450	3,637	4,603
Northern Ireland	66,438	33,553	46,573	51,210	3,842	1,886	2,968	3,238	70,280	35,439	49,541	54,448

¹²¹ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹²² CAH Paediatric ED C-19 and CAH Respiratory ED C-19 were opened in March 2020 in response to Covid-19 pandemic.

¹²³ 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.

¹²⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹²⁵ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 10B: Performance against Emergency Care Waiting Times Target ^{126, 127, 128, 129, 130}

Department	4 - Hour Performance				12 - Hour Performance				Total Attendances			
	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Mater	71.0%	76.3%	68.4%	68.2%	86	1	2	3	4,233	655	529	688
Royal Victoria	46.6%	69.2%	51.6%	52.4%	476	13	115	112	8,326	6,056	8,508	8,932
RBHSC	86.7%	90.3%	90.3%	91.4%	.	.	.	.	3,481	1,666	2,255	2,335
Antrim Area	64.1%	71.6%	74.0%	72.1%	266	115	123	231	7,573	4,685	6,383	7,099
Causeway	69.8%	80.4%	79.7%	77.8%	189	11	73	103	4,121	1,973	2,968	3,464
Ulster	56.0%	71.4%	68.0%	66.4%	589	21	205	449	8,337	5,156	7,346	7,892
Craigavon Area	50.5%	69.2%	69.4%	65.0%	609	33	108	551	7,193	6,190	8,081	8,834
Daisy Hill	66.7%	.	.	.	261	.	.	.	4,699	.	.	.
Altnagelvin Area	66.8%	67.8%	63.4%	56.9%	132	28	172	339	5,886	3,315	4,956	5,456
South West Acute	62.0%	71.8%	71.1%	68.6%	221	9	23	51	3,334	1,850	2,752	2,819
Type 1	61.3%	71.9%	67.6%	65.5%	2,829	231	821	1,839	57,183	31,546	43,778	47,519
Eye Casualty	77.7%	97.5%	94.8%	89.1%	.	.	.	.	1,360	405	656	603
Downe	89.2%	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	2,034	.	.	.
Lagan Valley	75.6%	84.9%	83.1%	81.4%	2	.	.	1	2,118	1,038	1,470	1,723
Type 2	81.2%	88.4%	86.7%	83.4%	6	.	.	1	5,512	1,443	2,126	2,326
Mid Ulster	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	.	.	.	.	928	371	493	728
Ards	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	.	.	.	.	1,081	420	576	797
Bangor	100.0%	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	931	.	.	.
South Tyrone	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	.	.	.	.	2,951	1,025	1,628	2,050
Omagh	98.6%	99.7%	99.8%	98.5%	.	.	.	.	1,694	634	940	1,028
Type 3	99.7%	99.9%	99.9%	99.7%	.	.	.	.	7,585	2,450	3,637	4,603
Northern Ireland	67.0%	74.5%	70.8%	69.1%	2,835	231	821	1,840	70,280	35,439	49,541	54,448

¹²⁶ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹²⁷ 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>

¹²⁸ 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.

¹²⁹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹³⁰ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 10C: Percentage of Attendances (i) Referred by a GP; (ii) Who Left before Treatment was Complete; and (iii) Re-attended within 7 Days ^{131, 132, 133, 134, 135}

Department	GP Referrals				Left Before Treatment				Unplanned reviews Within 7 Days			
	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Mater	12.1%	15.3%	17.5%	16.5%	8.6%	0.3%	0.2%	2.5%	2.5%	0.8%	0.6%	0.4%
Royal Victoria	17.2%	23.4%	21.3%	20.2%	10.9%	2.6%	6.2%	6.6%	2.7%	2.7%	3.1%	3.4%
RBHSC	10.9%	1.8%	2.3%	2.1%	3.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.5%	5.3%	4.8%	4.5%	4.3%
Antrim Area	22.0%	28.5%	25.8%	23.0%	3.4%	1.0%	1.3%	1.4%	3.1%	3.0%	3.3%	3.2%
Causeway	20.5%	28.9%	23.8%	22.5%	2.9%	1.0%	1.5%	1.7%	4.0%	4.9%	5.4%	4.3%
Ulster	21.8%	21.5%	23.5%	23.9%	4.3%	1.2%	1.5%	1.6%	1.9%	1.3%	1.6%	1.8%
Craigavon Area	19.4%	16.0%	16.0%	16.2%	8.6%	2.0%	2.0%	2.6%	5.4%	4.4%	4.2%	4.5%
Daisy Hill	12.6%	-	-	-	5.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.6%	-	-	-
Altnagelvin Area	9.7%	8.3%	8.5%	10.6%	5.3%	1.5%	3.1%	5.4%	4.3%	4.6%	5.1%	5.5%
South West Acute	19.8%	21.1%	19.5%	21.2%	5.3%	1.2%	2.2%	2.4%	6.4%	6.2%	6.2%	6.4%
Type 1	17.3%	19.7%	18.9%	18.7%	6.1%	1.5%	2.6%	3.2%	3.8%	3.5%	3.8%	3.8%
Eye Casualty	14.2%	50.9%	6.9%	4.6%	1.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	1.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.8%
Downe	15.1%	-	-	-	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.9%	-	-	-
Lagan Valley	12.2%	18.7%	15.7%	11.7%	2.6%	1.6%	1.4%	1.8%	2.5%	2.5%	2.1%	2.0%
Type 2	13.8%	27.7%	12.9%	9.9%	1.9%	1.2%	1.0%	1.3%	2.3%	1.9%	1.6%	1.7%
Mid Ulster	1.6%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	3.0%	1.8%	2.6%
Ards	0.9%	0.7%	1.0%	0.6%	0.8%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	1.5%	1.0%	1.4%	1.5%
Bangor	0.4%	-	-	-	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%	-	-	-
South Tyrone	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	2.4%	2.0%	2.3%	2.3%
Omagh	0.9%	1.9%	3.3%	3.8%	2.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.8%	6.0%	7.7%	9.0%	6.6%
Type 3	0.7%	0.8%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	3.0%	3.4%	3.8%	3.2%
Northern Ireland	15.2%	18.7%	17.4%	16.8%	5.2%	1.4%	2.4%	2.8%	3.6%	3.4%	3.7%	3.7%

¹³¹ 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.

¹³² Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹³³ 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.

¹³⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹³⁵ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 10D: Waiting Time from Arrival to Triage (Assessment)^{136, 137, 138, 139, 140}

Department	Median				95 th Percentile			
	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Mater	0:09	0:03	0:03	0:05	0:30	0:27	0:25	0:29
Royal Victoria	0:13	0:13	0:15	0:12	0:48	0:52	1:02	0:53
RBHSC	0:11	0:07	0:08	0:08	0:45	0:17	0:19	0:20
Antrim Area	0:10	0:07	0:08	0:08	0:27	0:24	0:23	0:24
Causeway	0:10	0:07	0:08	0:09	0:30	0:22	0:23	0:25
Ulster	0:11	0:07	0:06	0:07	0:31	0:25	0:23	0:24
Craigavon Area	0:10	0:04	0:04	0:04	0:49	0:18	0:18	0:20
Daisy Hill	0:04	-	-	-	0:14	-	-	-
Altnagelvin Area	0:11	0:09	0:11	0:13	0:38	0:29	0:42	0:49
South West Acute	0:11	0:09	0:09	0:09	0:38	0:31	0:32	0:32
Type 1	0:10	0:07	0:08	0:08	0:37	0:31	0:36	0:35
Eye Casualty	0:23	0:05	0:07	0:10	1:23	0:30	0:44	0:40
Downe	0:06	-	-	-	0:23	-	-	-
Lagan Valley	0:08	0:06	0:06	0:06	0:21	0:18	0:22	0:19
Type 2	0:08	0:05	0:06	0:07	0:50	0:21	0:28	0:28
Mid Ulster	0:03	0:02	0:03	0:03	0:09	0:14	0:13	0:14
Ards	0:03	0:01	0:02	0:02	0:16	0:10	0:10	0:09
Bangor	0:06	-	-	-	0:29	-	-	-
South Tyrone	0:01	0:01	0:01	0:01	0:09	0:08	0:08	0:07
Omagh	0:08	0:04	0:04	0:04	0:36	0:27	0:23	0:27
Type 3	0:03	0:02	0:02	0:02	0:22	0:15	0:13	0:14
Northern Ireland	0:09	0:07	0:07	0:07	0:37	0:30	0:34	0:33

¹³⁶ 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.

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 from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹⁴⁰ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 10E: Waiting Time from Triage (Assessment) to Start of Treatment^{141, 142, 143, 144, 145}

Department	Median				95 th Percentile			
	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Mater	0:50	0:05	0:06	0:08	4:37	0:46	0:38	0:44
Royal Victoria	1:36	0:30	1:13	1:06	6:55	2:20	4:41	4:55
RBHSC	0:39	0:14	0:15	0:18	2:18	0:55	1:04	1:05
Antrim Area	1:19	0:25	0:36	0:52	5:03	2:15	2:27	3:01
Causeway	0:32	0:12	0:13	0:17	2:35	0:55	1:17	1:35
Ulster	1:00	0:21	0:29	0:35	4:47	1:33	2:08	2:26
Craigavon Area	1:44	0:28	0:30	0:41	7:33	2:25	2:14	2:53
Daisy Hill	1:15	-	-	-	4:06	-	-	-
Altnagelvin Area	0:51	0:19	0:31	0:51	3:32	1:39	2:42	3:45
South West Acute	0:35	0:13	0:18	0:23	3:56	1:40	2:08	2:50
Type 1	1:03	0:22	0:30	0:39	5:14	1:57	2:52	3:16
Downe	0:29	0:14	0:18	0:18	2:00	0:58	1:18	1:25
Lagan Valley	0:52	-	-	-	2:49	-	-	-
Type 2	0:40	0:14	0:18	0:18	2:30	0:58	1:18	1:25
Mid Ulster	0:06	0:05	0:05	0:06	0:38	0:20	0:21	0:23
Ards	0:11	0:04	0:04	0:04	0:52	0:18	0:22	0:23
Bangor	0:14	-	-	-	1:04	-	-	-
South Tyrone	0:03	0:01	0:01	0:02	0:29	0:09	0:12	0:16
Omagh	0:16	0:11	0:09	0:09	1:43	1:20	0:58	1:15
Type 3	0:07	0:03	0:03	0:04	1:01	0:36	0:31	0:33
Northern Ireland	0:50	0:20	0:27	0:33	4:50	1:53	2:45	3:08

¹⁴¹ 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.

¹⁴² Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁴³ 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.

¹⁴⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹⁴⁵ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 10F: Time Spent in an Emergency Care Department by those Admitted to Hospital^{146, 147, 148, 149, 150}

Department	Median				95 th Percentile			
	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Mater	5:49	2:47	3:04	3:22	17:49	7:18	8:03	7:57
Royal Victoria	8:07	4:30	6:04	5:49	17:27	9:07	11:22	11:30
RBHSC	3:35	3:15	3:07	2:53	7:14	7:02	6:12	6:07
Antrim Area	5:26	4:30	4:25	5:03	17:44	13:27	13:58	17:45
Causeway	7:54	3:58	5:04	5:28	23:46	8:51	18:44	18:30
Ulster	7:21	4:15	5:40	7:20	23:06	8:21	16:01	21:14
Craigavon Area	8:05	5:12	6:17	8:36	23:52	10:28	12:41	25:29
Daisy Hill	7:10	-	-	-	23:05	-	-	-
Altnagelvin Area	6:33	5:29	6:28	8:11	14:16	10:43	18:17	23:59
South West Acute	6:20	4:51	4:55	5:23	22:11	8:10	9:00	11:57
Type 1	6:48	4:30	5:24	6:10	21:15	10:08	13:33	20:45
Eye Casualty	3:18	1:51	2:11	2:01	5:18	2:10	5:44	6:19
Downe	3:48	-	-	-	8:31	-	-	-
Lagan Valley	5:01	3:25	4:07	4:28	9:06	7:05	7:57	8:37
Type 2	4:31	3:15	3:58	4:23	8:57	7:05	7:57	8:37
Mid Ulster	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ards	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bangor	.	-	-	-	.	-	-	-
South Tyrone	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Omagh	0:33	1:18	1:19	2:13	2:15	2:45	2:11	3:59
Type 3	0:33	1:18	1:19	2:13	2:15	2:45	2:11	3:59
Northern Ireland	6:38	4:29	5:22	6:08	21:00	10:08	13:27	20:37

¹⁴⁶ 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

¹⁴⁷ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁴⁸ 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.

¹⁴⁹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹⁵⁰ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 10G: Time Spent in an Emergency Care Department by those Discharged Home^{151, 152, 153, 154, 155}

Department	Median				95 th Percentile			
	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Mater	2:28	2:24	2:47	2:23	6:49	6:59	7:18	7:38
Royal Victoria	3:44	2:12	3:28	3:28	9:58	6:34	8:30	8:15
RBHSC	2:07	1:20	1:24	1:26	4:43	4:20	4:21	4:12
Antrim Area	2:44	2:15	2:15	2:19	7:27	5:41	5:26	5:47
Causeway	2:17	1:47	1:50	1:59	6:55	5:59	5:17	5:36
Ulster	2:58	2:35	2:27	2:28	7:53	6:28	6:14	6:17
Craigavon Area	3:19	2:41	2:38	2:47	9:58	6:51	6:49	7:41
Daisy Hill	2:39	-	-	-	6:27	-	-	-
Altnagelvin Area	2:44	2:36	3:02	3:18	6:39	6:16	7:06	7:02
South West Acute	2:55	2:14	2:10	2:16	8:40	5:34	6:23	6:26
Type 1	2:49	2:20	2:32	2:38	8:02	6:19	6:54	7:02
Eye Casualty	2:33	1:28	1:34	1:59	5:57	3:26	3:59	4:31
Downe	1:28	-	-	-	4:41	-	-	-
Lagan Valley	2:31	1:18	1:32	1:36	6:02	5:18	5:14	5:35
Type 2	2:04	1:21	1:33	1:44	5:40	5:01	5:01	5:23
Mid Ulster	0:38	0:44	0:45	0:46	1:45	1:51	1:48	1:58
Ards	0:43	0:35	0:35	0:38	1:44	1:10	1:17	1:20
Bangor	0:50	-	-	-	1:56	-	-	-
South Tyrone	0:26	0:21	0:21	0:22	1:09	1:00	0:54	0:54
Omagh	0:56	0:46	0:37	0:42	2:42	2:24	2:02	2:26
Type 3	0:36	0:31	0:29	0:31	1:53	1:41	1:27	1:34
Northern Ireland	2:22	2:03	2:14	2:19	7:32	6:06	6:37	6:46

¹⁵¹ 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

¹⁵² Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁵³ 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.

¹⁵⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹⁵⁵ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 10H: Attendances at Emergency Care Departments per 1000-Population by Age Group^{156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161}

Age Group	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Under 5	44.9	22.5	28.9	29.0
Aged 5 - 15	32.5	9.7	14.8	17.0
Aged 16 - 44	36.4	16.5	24.2	27.5
Aged 45 - 64	31.8	18.7	25.9	28.0
Aged 65 - 74	36.6	22.5	31.1	32.8
Aged 75 & Over	61.4	39.1	50.1	55.0
Northern Ireland	37.1	18.7	26.2	28.8

Table 10I: Average Number of Attendances by Day of Week^{160, 161}

Day of Week	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Monday	2,912.5	1,374.8	1,833.0	2,180.6
Tuesday	2,500.5	1,251.5	1,778.5	1,934.2
Wednesday	2,458.0	1,223.4	1,670.8	1,872.8
Thursday	2,422.0	1,214.2	1,660.8	1,846.5
Friday	2,436.8	1,229.8	1,682.4	1,862.5
Saturday	1,877.2	1,016.3	1,348.0	1,455.3
Sunday	1,996.2	964.3	1,326.0	1,456.0

¹⁵⁶ Based on the NISRA 2019 mid-year population estimate which was published on 6th May 2020.

¹⁵⁷ 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.

¹⁵⁸ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁵⁹ Readers should note 2020 figures include two additional EDs, Craigavon Respiratory (Covid-19) ED and Craigavon Paediatric ED.

¹⁶⁰ Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, readers should note that the reduction in attendances at EDs during March 2020.

¹⁶¹ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 10J: Attendances at Emergency Care Departments, by Time Waited from Arrival to Discharge^{162, 163, 164, 165}

Department	Under 4 Hours				Between 4 and 12 Hours				Over 12 Hours			
	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Mater	3,006	500	362	469	1,141	154	165	216	86	1	2	3
Royal Victoria	3,878	4,192	4,391	4,676	3,972	1,851	4,002	4,144	476	13	115	112
RBHSC	3,017	1,505	2,037	2,135	464	161	218	200	.	.	.	.
Antrim Area	4,853	3,356	4,722	5,115	2,454	1,214	1,538	1,753	266	115	123	231
Causeway	2,877	1,587	2,365	2,695	1,055	375	530	666	189	11	73	103
Ulster	4,665	3,680	4,992	5,239	3,083	1,455	2,149	2,204	589	21	205	449
Craigavon Area	3,629	4,284	5,611	5,745	2,955	1,873	2,362	2,538	609	33	108	551
Daisy Hill	3,132	-	-	-	1,306	-	-	-	261	-	-	-
Altnagelvin Area	3,932	2,247	3,141	3,102	1,822	1,040	1,643	2,015	132	28	172	339
South West Acute	2,066	1,329	1,958	1,933	1,047	512	771	835	221	9	23	51
Type 1	35,055	22,680	29,579	31,109	19,299	8,635	13,378	14,571	2,829	231	821	1,839
Eye Casualty	1,057	395	622	537	303	10	34	66	.	.	.	.
Downe	1,815	-	-	-	215	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Lagan Valley	1,601	881	1,222	1,402	515	157	248	320	2	.	.	1
Type 2	4,473	1,276	1,844	1,939	1,033	167	282	386	6	.	.	1
Mid Ulster	928	371	493	728	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ards	1,081	420	576	797	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bangor	931	-	-	-	.	-	-	-	.	-	-	-
South Tyrone	2,951	1,025	1,628	2,050	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Omagh	1,670	632	938	1,013	24	2	2	15	.	.	.	.
Type 3	7,561	2,448	3,635	4,588	24	2	2	15	.	.	.	.
Northern Ireland	47,089	26,404	35,058	37,636	20,356	8,804	13,662	14,972	2,835	231	821	1,840

¹⁶² Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁶³ 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.

¹⁶⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹⁶⁵ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 10K: Percentage of Patients Commencing Treatment, Following Triage, within 2 Hours^{166, 167, 168, 169, 170}

Department	% Commenced Treatment, Following Triage, within 2 Hours			
	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Mater	75.2%	99.7%	100.0%	99.8%
Royal Victoria	55.7%	92.1%	67.4%	70.7%
RBHSC	91.4%	99.9%	99.6%	99.5%
Antrim Area	66.4%	93.2%	90.5%	83.3%
Causeway	89.7%	99.6%	98.9%	97.4%
Ulster	74.2%	97.4%	94.0%	90.5%
Craigavon Area	55.1%	92.5%	93.4%	87.3%
Daisy Hill	69.5%	-	-	-
Altnagelvin Area	81.0%	97.3%	89.1%	77.6%
South West Acute	80.7%	96.3%	93.9%	90.3%
Type 1	71.4%	95.2%	89.0%	84.9%
Downe	94.9%	-	-	-
Lagan Valley	83.7%	99.8%	98.2%	98.2%
Type 2	89.1%	99.8%	98.2%	98.2%
Mid Ulster	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Ards	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Bangor	100.0%	-	-	-
South Tyrone	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Omagh	96.5%	97.9%	99.9%	97.0%
Type 3	99.2%	99.5%	100.0%	99.4%
Northern Ireland	76.0%	95.6%	90.1%	86.6%

¹⁶⁶ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁶⁷ Information on time to treatment is not recorded at Eye Casualty.

¹⁶⁸ 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.

¹⁶⁹ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹⁷⁰ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Table 10L: Percentage Triage'd in each Triage Group^{171, 172, 173, 174, 175}

Department	Triage'd Level (1/2)				Triage'd Level (3)				Triage'd Level (4/5)			
	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020
Mater	14.4%	38.1%	34.0%	31.2%	44.6%	54.6%	55.5%	46.1%	41.0%	7.3%	10.5%	22.6%
Royal Victoria	18.4%	19.9%	16.7%	16.2%	45.5%	50.7%	47.4%	46.6%	36.1%	29.4%	35.9%	37.2%
RBHSC	11.5%	8.9%	8.9%	8.7%	21.5%	20.8%	20.9%	20.6%	67.1%	70.3%	70.2%	70.7%
Antrim Area	19.5%	17.7%	19.0%	18.1%	54.3%	51.3%	50.8%	51.4%	26.2%	31.0%	30.2%	30.5%
Causeway	18.2%	19.5%	17.9%	17.2%	54.4%	52.5%	50.0%	48.8%	27.4%	27.9%	32.1%	34.0%
Ulster	22.3%	26.5%	22.9%	22.0%	45.9%	42.5%	42.7%	43.8%	31.8%	31.0%	34.4%	34.2%
Craigavon Area	30.2%	32.1%	29.1%	28.3%	45.9%	40.2%	40.8%	39.9%	23.9%	27.7%	30.2%	31.7%
Daisy Hill	28.5%	-	-	-	44.2%	-	-	-	27.4%	-	-	-
Altnagelvin Area	30.9%	32.5%	30.4%	31.5%	29.0%	34.9%	33.5%	33.9%	40.2%	32.6%	36.0%	34.6%
South West Acute	15.9%	21.4%	16.7%	14.8%	44.0%	42.9%	42.5%	41.9%	40.1%	35.7%	40.8%	43.3%
Type 1	21.9%	24.5%	22.0%	21.4%	43.7%	43.5%	42.6%	42.5%	34.4%	32.0%	35.4%	36.1%
Eye Casualty	1.4%	2.2%	0.2%	3.0%	5.3%	13.6%	7.0%	16.3%	93.3%	84.2%	92.8%	80.8%
Downe	7.9%	-	-	-	28.9%	-	-	-	63.2%	-	-	-
Lagan Valley	10.2%	9.5%	9.7%	9.2%	43.5%	32.1%	33.8%	29.4%	46.3%	58.4%	56.5%	61.4%
Type 2	7.2%	7.4%	6.7%	7.6%	28.6%	26.9%	25.5%	26.0%	64.2%	65.6%	67.8%	66.4%
Mid Ulster	0.1%	-	0.2%	0.1%	2.3%	2.7%	2.5%	2.9%	97.6%	97.3%	97.3%	97.0%
Ards	0.1%	-	-	-	0.8%	1.4%	0.5%	0.4%	99.1%	98.6%	99.5%	99.6%
Bangor	0.1%	-	-	-	0.4%	-	-	-	99.5%	-	-	-
South Tyrone	0.3%	0.8%	0.3%	0.2%	4.9%	3.3%	2.6%	4.1%	94.8%	95.9%	97.1%	95.7%
Omagh	0.7%	0.8%	0.1%	0.5%	13.2%	0.6%	1.7%	1.6%	86.1%	98.6%	98.2%	98.0%
Type 3	0.3%	0.5%	0.2%	0.2%	5.3%	2.3%	2.1%	2.7%	94.4%	97.2%	97.7%	97.0%
Northern Ireland	18.3%	22.1%	19.7%	19.0%	38.2%	40.0%	38.9%	38.4%	43.5%	37.9%	41.4%	42.6%

¹⁷¹ Readers should note that those on an ambulatory care pathway delivered outside the ED are not included in these statistics.

¹⁷² 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

¹⁷³ 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.

¹⁷⁴ Readers should note the reduction in attendances at EDs from March 2020, at the start of the COVID19 outbreak.

¹⁷⁵ Readers should note the temporary closure of Bangor, Downe and Daisy Hill EDs in March 2020, see Appendix 2 for details.

Appendix 5: Further Information

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

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