



Patients with learning disabilities in hospitals

A report about Welsh patients

April 2026



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Perfformiad a
Gwella

Performance and
Improvement

Published July 2026

How to use this document



This is an Easy Read version of: **Inpatients with learning disabilities in specialist hospitals(April 2026 Data).**



You might need help to read it. You can ask someone you know to help you.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Where the document says **we**, this means **Welsh Government**. For more information contact:

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Contents

About this report	4
What the report shows.....	6
Time spent in hospital	9
How we collect this information	10
Other information	11
Important words and terms.....	13

About this report



We collect information about:



- people with a learning disability living in Wales,



- staying overnight in hospitals.



People who stay in hospital overnight are called **inpatients**.



When we say **inpatient** in this report, we mean people with a learning disability from Wales.



We want to improve the information we collect about inpatients with a learning disability.



Groups like Stolen Lives Wales have been asking for this.



This report shows the latest information we have.



This is the first time we are sharing a report about it.

What the report shows



In April 2026, there were:

129 inpatients with a learning disability in:



- Learning disability hospitals.
- Mental health hospitals.



At least 13 new inpatients since the last time we collected information.



10 inpatients who had left hospital since the last time we collected information.



121 inpatients were in a learning disability hospital.



32 inpatients were in an **assessment and treatment unit**.

These assess and support patients. They are short-term. It is when patients cannot be supported safely in the community.



44 inpatients were getting care in a **continuing care hospital**.

These are for people that need ongoing support in hospital.



18 inpatients were in a **locked rehab hospital**.

This is a hospital that people cannot leave by choice.

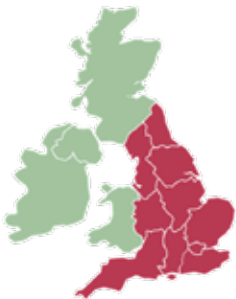


30 inpatients were in a **secure hospital**.

This is for people with risks that cannot be managed in less secure places.



111 inpatients were in hospitals in Wales.



18 were in England.



Most were in NHS hospitals. Some were in other hospitals.

Time spent in hospital



People were in hospital for different lengths of time.



It is common for inpatients to spend around 3 and a half years in hospital.



People usually stayed much shorter times in **assessment and treatment units**.



People stayed the longest times in **continuing care hospitals**.



22 inpatients were ready to leave hospital but had to wait. Some waited **over** a year to leave hospital.

How we collect this information



Every Health Board in Wales collects this information.



They collect it 4 times a year.



They send the information to Digital Health and Care Wales.



It was first collected in February 2022.



We must follow rules when collecting the information. This is to make sure it is good quality.



It is not official information. There are other rules that need to be followed to make it official. We may do this in the future.



The information helps us learn more about hospital care for people with learning disabilities.

Other information



We collect other information about people with a learning disability.



It is about inpatients in mental health hospitals and units.



You can read this information online:
[Patients in mental health hospitals and units in Wales with a learning disability.](#)



This was collected from 2009. It is official data.



It is like the information in this report. But it does not cover as many different types of hospital.



It is also only collected yearly.

Important words and terms

Assessment and Treatment Unit (ATU)

These assess and support patients. They are short-term. It is when patients cannot be supported safely in the community.

Continuing care hospital

These are for people that need ongoing support in hospital.

Locked rehab hospital

This is a secure or locked hospital. Some people may need this support before going somewhere less secure.

Secure hospital

This is for people with risks that cannot be managed in less secure places.