PILOT · OUTTURN EDITION

NHS OUTLOOK

What was published, compared with the pre-release outlook

3 of 8 indicators improved on their previous result; 2 worsened. 6 performed better than forecast, and 7 remained inside their expected range. The weakest results against forecast were A&E four-hour and Urgent community response.

12 November 2026
8 indicators

Release months differ by measure; each row is dated.

3	**improved** 2 worsened	**6**	**beat forecast** 2 missed	**7**	**inside range** 1 outside

Forecast is the estimate published before the release. **Target outlook** is updated with the new results; its chance change is against the pre-release forecast. Green/red indicates whether actual performance was better/worse than forecast. Observed ambulance response times are rounded to the nearest second, as in AmbSYS. For Cat2, the 25-minute policy objective is a financial-year average; the model probability is now for the incident-weighted FY average and is provisional.

INDICATOR	PREVIOUS	FORECAST	ACTUAL	TARGET OUTLOOK updated 12 Nov 2026
URGENT CARE				
A&E four-hour performance → 95% constitutional standard	**74.4%** Sep 2026	**74.9%** Oct 2026 80% range 73.0%–76.7%	**74.0%** Oct 2026 Broadly unchanged 0.9 pp worse than forecast Within expected range	Mar 2027 **76.8%** Goal ≥82.0% <1% chance of meeting goal Little change since forecast
Category 2 ambulance response → 18-minute standard	**31 min 18 sec** Sep 2026	**33.7 min** Oct 2026 80% range 27.9 min–38.9 min	**32 min 45 sec** Oct 2026 Worsened 1 min 27 sec 1.0 min better than forecast Within expected range	FY 2026/27 **29.7 min** FY average goal ≤25.0 min 2% chance 2026/27 average meets goal (provisional) New annual-average basis; no comparable pre-release probability
PLANNED CARE				
RTT within 18 weeks → 92% constitutional standard	**65.2%** Aug 2026	**65.1%** Sep 2026 80% range 63.9%–66.3%	**65.8%** Sep 2026 Improved 0.6 pp 0.8 pp better than forecast Within expected range	Mar 2027 **66.6%** Goal ≥70.0% 6% chance of meeting goal Little change since forecast
Diagnostics waiting over six weeks → 1% operational standard	**24.7%** Aug 2026	**23.7%** Sep 2026 80% range 21.2%–25.6%	**22.6%** Sep 2026 Improved 2.1 pp 1.1 pp better than forecast Within expected range	Mar 2027 **20.8%** Goal ≤14.0% 7% chance of meeting goal Little change since forecast
Cancer treatment within 62 days → 85% constitutional standard	**71.9%** Aug 2026	**69.7%** Sep 2026 80% range 68.0%–71.1%	**70.7%** Sep 2026 Worsened 1.2 pp 0.9 pp better than forecast Within expected range	Mar 2027 **74.2%** Goal ≥80.0% 4% chance of meeting goal Little change since forecast
COMMUNITY				
Two-hour urgent community response → 70% national standard	**85.5%** Aug 2026	**85.9%** Sep 2026 80% range 85.2%–86.6%	**85.4%** Sep 2026 Broadly unchanged 0.4 pp worse than forecast Within expected range	Mar 2027 **86.0%** Goal ≥70.0% >99% chance of meeting goal Little change since forecast
Community waiting list within 18 weeks → 80% by March 2029	**75.8%** Aug 2026	**74.9%** Sep 2026 80% range 73.8%–75.9%	**76.1%** Sep 2026 Broadly unchanged 1.2 pp better than forecast Above expected range	Mar 2027 **75.6%** Goal ≥78.0% 15% chance of meeting goal Up 4pp since forecast
MENTAL HEALTH				
Talking Therapies within six weeks → 75% national standard	**83.4%** Aug 2026	**84.1%** Sep 2026 80% range 82.3%–85.6%	**84.2%** Sep 2026 Improved 0.8 pp 0.1 pp better than forecast Within expected range	Mar 2027 **84.7%** Goal ≥75.0% >99% chance of meeting goal Little change since forecast

How to read this. Outlooks are one-month-ahead forecasts made only with information available before release. The 80% range reflects historic forecast errors. The target-date column compares the projected value with the stated threshold for the indicated month. The chance is provisional and model-implied, estimated from the projected 80% range assuming a Normal distribution; it is not a validated probability of policy success or of sustaining the standard. Provider signals compare actual performance with a path fixed six months earlier; they are prompts for review, not rankings.

Sources. NHS England A&E attendances and emergency admissions · NHS England Ambulance Quality Indicators · NHS England referral to treatment waiting times · NHS England diagnostic waiting times and activity · NHS England cancer waiting times · NHS England two-hour urgent community response · NHS England community health services waiting lists · NHS Talking Therapies monthly statistics. Planning milestones and standards are cited in each indicator deep dive.