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England

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Suspected and laboratory-confirmed reported norovirus outbreaks in hospitals: outbreaks occurring in weeks 22 to 26, 2018

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Suspected and laboratory confirmed reported norovirus outbreaks in hospitals: outbreaks occurring in weeks 22 to 26, 2018 (England)

The hospital norovirus outbreak reporting scheme (HNORS) recorded eight outbreaks occurring between weeks 22 and 26 2018, all of which led to ward/bay closures or restriction to admissions and four of which (50 per cent) were recorded as laboratory confirmed due to norovirus. From week 01 (week beginning 1 January 2018) to week 26 (week beginning 25 June 2018), 252 outbreaks have been reported. Ninety-six per cent (243) of reported outbreaks resulted in ward/bay closures or restrictions to admissions and seventy-two per cent (182) were laboratory confirmed as due to norovirus.

Table: Suspected and laboratory-confirmed reported norovirus outbreaks in hospitals in England, with regional breakdown: outbreaks occurring in weeks 01-26 2018

PHE Centre	Outbreaks between weeks 22-26/2018			Outbreaks between weeks 01-26/2018		
	Outbreaks	Ward/bay closure †	Lab confirmed	Outbreaks	Ward/bay closure †	Lab confirmed
East of England						
East Midlands				1	1	1
London				3	3	3
North East				62	58	47
North West	1	1	1	11	11	7
South East				11	11	9
South West	2	2	1	86	84	74
West Midlands	5	5	2	55	52	28
Yorkshire and Humberside				23	23	13
Total	8	8	4	252	243	182

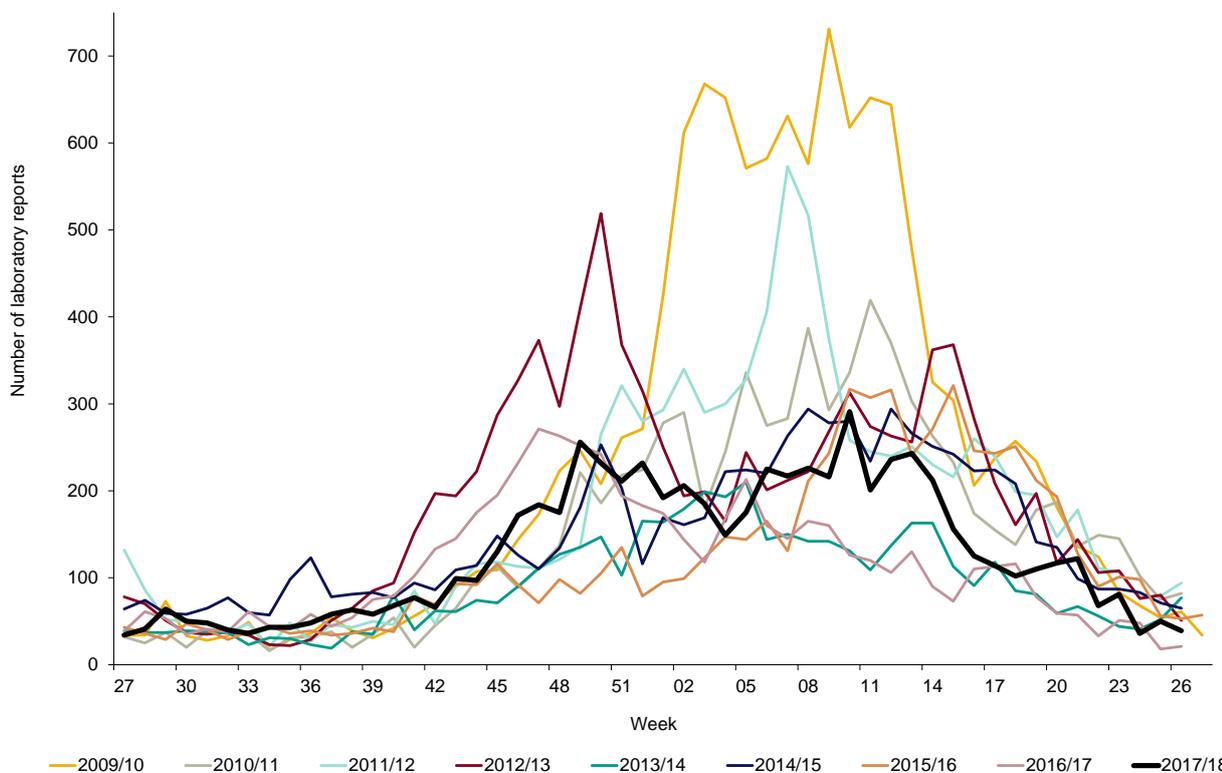
† Note: not all outbreaks result in whole wards closures, some closures are restricted to bays only

Norovirus laboratory reporting: data from SGSS (England and Wales)

From week 01, 2018 to week 26, 2018 there were 4094 laboratory reports of norovirus. This is 2 per cent lower than the average number of laboratory reports for the same period in the seasons between 2013 and 2017 (4197).

Note: Data from laboratory reporting are subject to a reporting delay and the number reported in the most recent weeks is likely to rise as further laboratory reports are received.

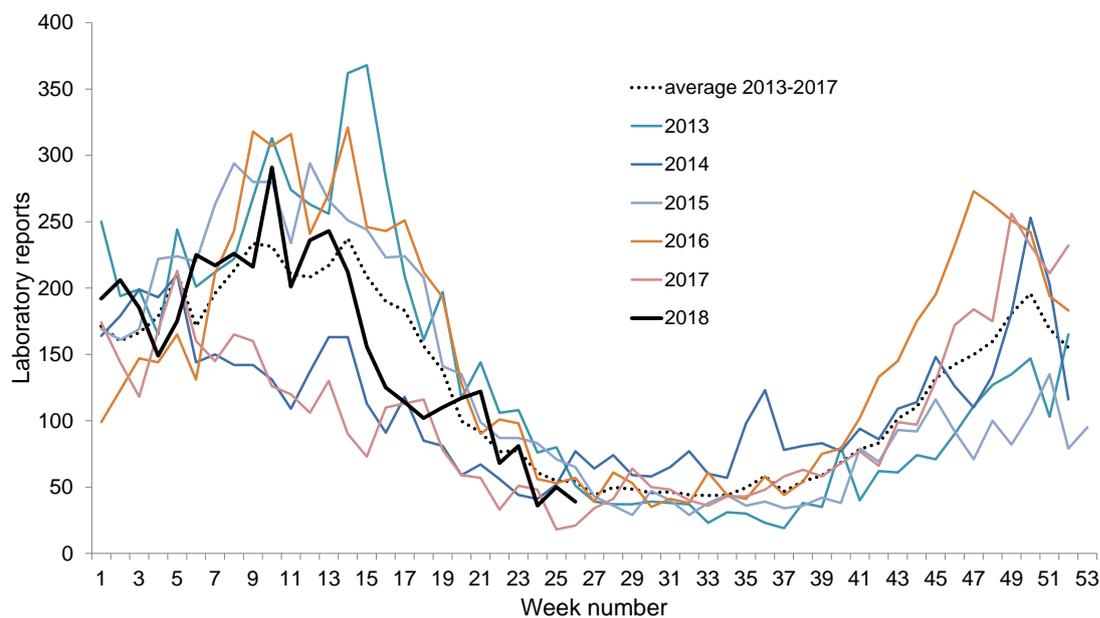
Figure 1: Seasonal comparison of laboratory reports of norovirus 2009/10-2017/18 (England and Wales)



Note. The norovirus season runs from week 27 in year 1 to week 26 in year 2, i.e. week 27 2016 – week 26 2017 July to June, in order to capture the winter peak in one season.

Figure 2: Current weekly norovirus laboratory reports compared to weekly mean reports 2013-2017 (England and Wales)

Current weekly norovirus laboratory reports compared to weekly mean reports 2013-2017



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About Health Protection Report

Health Protection Report is a national public health bulletin for England and Wales, published by Public Health England. It is PHE's principal channel for the dissemination of laboratory data relating to pathogens and infections/communicable diseases of public health significance and of reports on outbreaks, incidents and ongoing investigations.

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