



Public Health
England

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Laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England and Wales, 2018

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Laboratory reports of hepatitis C: 2018

During 2018, there were 10,669 confirmed laboratory reports of hepatitis C in England and Wales (Table 1). The demographic breakdown of individuals with reported hepatitis C per quarter was relatively consistent with more reports among males and in the 25 to 54 years old age group.

Table 1: Laboratory reports of hepatitis C by age, sex, and quarter, England and Wales, 2018*

Age group (years)	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Total
	Jan-Mar			Apr-Jun			Jul-Sep			Oct-Dec			
	Female	Male	NK										
<1	14	23	0	17	19	1	13	10	0	11	21	0	129
1 to 4	4	5	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	5	1	1	21
5 to 9	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	5	0	12
10 to 14	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	5	3	1	15
15 to 24	33	52	0	32	36	1	44	53	1	47	50	1	350
25 to 34	180	374	4	196	370	3	188	338	4	206	388	9	2,260
35 to 44	211	537	3	216	564	5	198	489	2	239	625	5	3,094
45 to 54	140	459	2	174	424	2	156	448	2	180	472	7	2,466
55 to 64	121	251	3	92	242	0	118	227	2	129	237	2	1,424
≥65	86	116	0	78	108	0	88	116	1	92	118	1	804
NK	0	7	24	1	7	1	2	3	17	3	10	19	94
Total	792	1826	36	809	1773	13	810	1686	29	919	1930	46	10,669**

* Laboratory reports are not reliable for differentiating acute and chronic infections. Due to late reporting, numbers or each quarter may have changed slightly since their HPR quarterly reports.

** Provisional data.

Overall, there was a 3.3% decrease in the number of reports received during 2018 compared to 2017 (10,669/11,028). Due to late reporting, the 2017 numbers have slightly increased since the 2017 annual HPR report.

Laboratory reports are presented by Operational Delivery Networks (ODNs). ODNs were launched in April 2013 following the publication of the NHS England strategy to sustain and develop clinical networks.

ODNs are the networks through which hepatitis C treatment is being delivered across England.

In 2018, 10,384 out of 10,669 individuals have been allocated to an ODN (Table 2).

Table 2: Individuals allocated to ODNs, England and Wales, 2018*

Primary ODN	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Barts	116	95	107	116	434
Birmingham	226	221	169	181	797
Bristol and Severn	118	131	137	141	527
Cheshire and Merseyside	25	18	46	96	185
Eastern Hepatitis Network	132	184	191	200	707
Greater Manchester and Eastern Cheshire	143	150	185	390	868
Humber and North Yorkshire	62	66	74	45	247
Kent Network via Kings	35	43	28	32	138
Lancashire and South Cumbria	98	100	118	103	419
Leicester	78	65	77	100	320
North Central London	139	136	144	124	543
North East and Cumbria	96	159	199	205	659
Nottingham	125	131	105	85	446
South Thames Hepatitis Network	293	266	230	209	998
South West Peninsula	24	12	15	57	108
South Yorkshire	152	112	111	116	491
Surrey Hepatitis Services	51	46	44	108	249
Sussex Hepatology Network	108	81	95	67	351
Thames Valley Hep C ODN	58	74	60	92	284
Wessex Hep C ODN	68	63	68	67	266
West London	261	173	176	172	782
West Yorkshire	124	137	129	175	565

* Provisional data

Notes

ODNs are based on NHS England Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) geographic boundaries. NHS England allocates a primary or lead ODN for CCGs which may cross two ODNs. Bristol and Severn, Surrey Hepatitis Services, Sussex Hepatology Network and North East and Cumbria were ODNs which between them had 233 individuals that could also be assigned to a second ODN.

In 2015 laboratory reports of cases of hepatitis C intermittently failed to be uploaded to SGSS. This has now been resolved and any previously missing data has been included.

The number of laboratory reports by PHE Centre is presented below. Reports were assigned to a PHE Centre according to i) the patient's place of residence ii) the postcode of the patient's registered GP practice, or iii) the postcode of the source laboratory. During 2018, the greatest number of hepatitis C reports were received from London (n=2,686) followed by the North West (n=1,529) and Yorkshire and Humber (1,250) PHE Centres (Table 3).

Table 3: Laboratory reports of hepatitis C by region, England and Wales (2008-2018)*

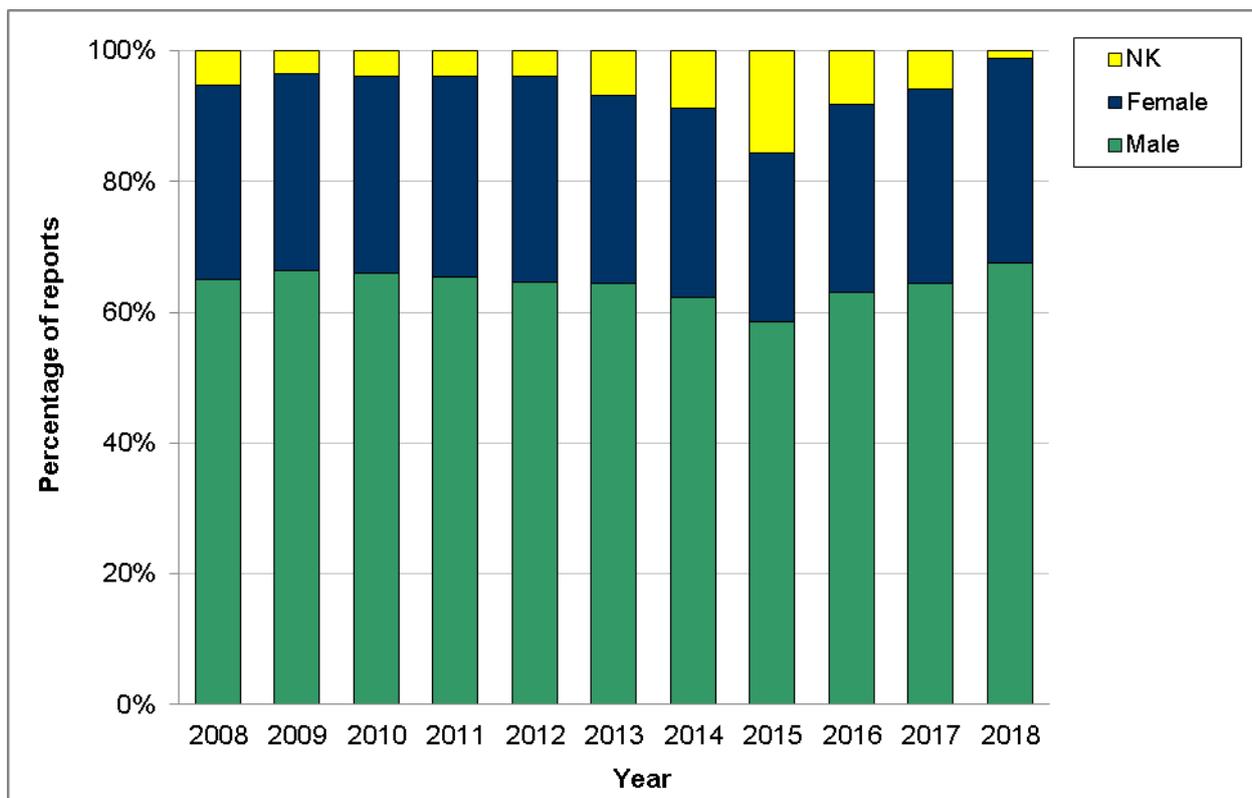
PHE Centre	Year										
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
East Midlands	637	599	545	730	758	672	694	550	790	783	809
East of England	694	620	550	844	744	709	717	782	922	935	777
London	978	860	974	2008	2717	3091	3655	3780	3794	3157	2686
North East	163	267	309	307	287	352	273	218	220	328	589
North West	1710	2130	1840	1529	1896	2032	1454	1308	948	943	1529
South East	1177	1219	1251	1333	1500	1209	1305	1248	1364	1160	1113
South West	1155	1012	736	990	1136	1029	918	958	858	932	813
West Midlands	687	872	782	791	765	801	624	846	1145	1051	821
Yorkshire and Humber	1385	1085	975	1489	1349	1901	1746	1712	1396	1279	1250
Wales***	515	382	364	577	640	849	896	969	756	460	282
Total	9,101	9,046	8,326	10,598	11,792	12,645	12,282	12,371	12,193	11,028	10,669**

* Due to back dated and late reporting, annual numbers have changed since their HPR reports.

** Provisional data

***non PHE Centre

Figure 1: Percentages of hepatitis C laboratory reports by sex, England and Wales (2008-2018)*



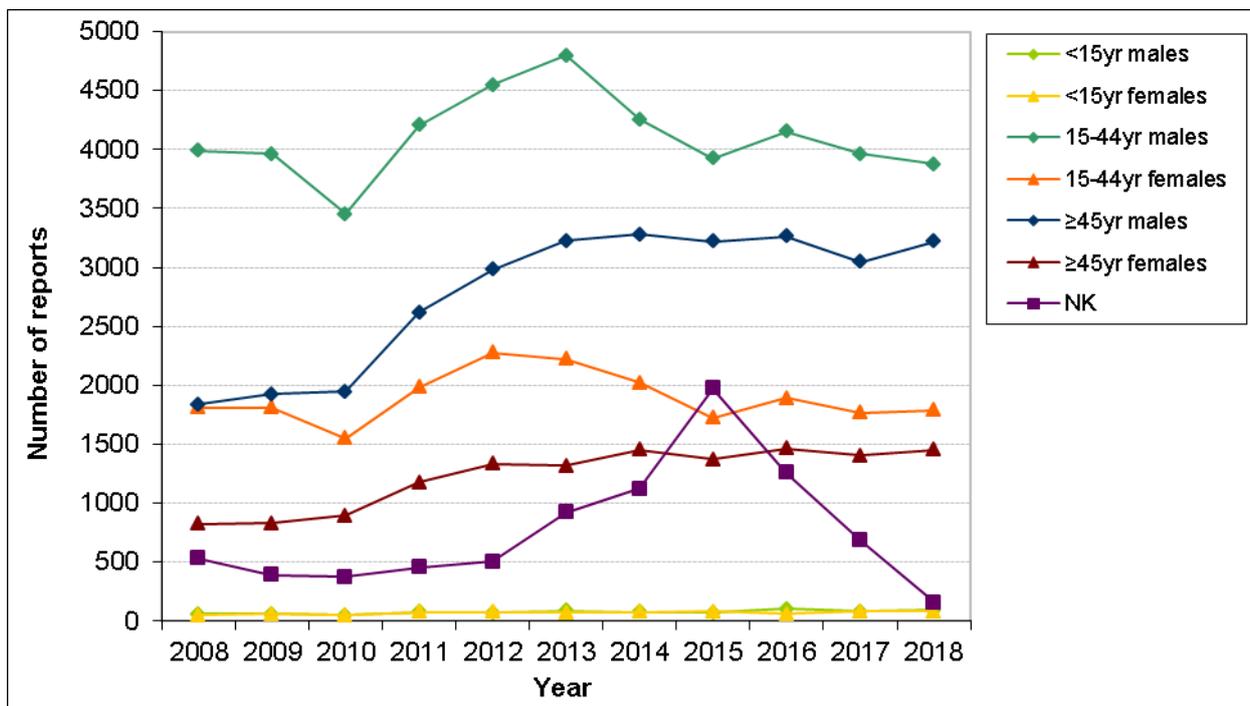
* Due to back dated and late reporting, the annual numbers have changed since their HPR reports.

Age and sex were well completed (>98.5% complete) (Figure 1). Where known, males accounted for 68.4% (7,188/10,512) of reports during 2018 which was consistent with previous years (Figure 1).

During 2018, 53.9% of hepatitis C reports were among the 15 to 44 year old age group, a further 44.4% were among the 45 years and over age group, with under 1.7% of reports among the under 15 years old age group.

Since 2008, the highest number of reports has consistently been in the 15 to 44 year age group (Figure 2), however proportionally there has been a slight year on year decrease in the proportion of hepatitis C reports among the 15 to 44 year old age group and an increase in the proportion of reports among the 45 years and over age group. The proportion of reports among the less than 15 years old age group has remained low at less than 2% per year.

Figure 2: Laboratory reports of hepatitis C by age and sex, England and Wales (2008-2018)*



* Due to back dated and late reporting, the annual numbers have changed since their HPR reports.

Laboratory data - caveats

The substantial reduction in cases of hepatitis C reports in Yorkshire and Humber seen in 2016 was due to Leeds Royal Infirmary experiencing reporting issues, which resulted in laboratory reports from mid-September to December 2016 not being uploaded to SGSS as well as this a change in reporting codes at the Hull Royal Infirmary laboratory had also resulted in some missing data in 2016.

In the North West, the Royal Liverpool had experienced in 2016 specific IT issues which resulted in no tests being uploaded to SGSS during 2016, which may explain some of the substantial reduction in cases of hepatitis C reports in the region.

In the South West of England throughout 2016 a number of laboratories merged. During this period the South West Centre saw a decrease in reports.

Derivation of surveillance data

For this report as in 2017 laboratory reports from SGSS were processed using Microsoft Access 2010. This process matches the automated process that was used previously to extract and de-duplicate hepatitis C laboratory reports from SGSS.

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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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