



Infection reports

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Enteric

Enteric fever surveillance quarterly report (England, Wales and Northern Ireland): first quarter 2014

This quarterly report summarises the epidemiology of laboratory confirmed cases of typhoid and paratyphoid reported in England, Wales and Northern Ireland between January and March 2014. It includes both reference laboratory and some enhanced enteric fever surveillance data; although not all enhanced surveillance data was available for the first quarter of 2014 at the time of publishing. All data presented below are provisional; more detailed reports will be produced on an annual basis. More information about enteric fever surveillance, including previous reports, is available on the enhanced enteric fever surveillance page of the HPA legacy website [1].

National summary

In the first quarter (Q1) of 2014, 56 laboratory confirmed cases of enteric fever were reported in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (table 1), 24% lower than the first quarter of 2013 and 45% below the rolling mean (102) for Q1 2007 to 2014 (figure 1). A decrease in case numbers has been seen for *S. Typhi* (32 in Q1 2014 compared to 48 in Q1 2013, 33% lower) (table 1).

Figure 1. Laboratory confirmed cases of enteric fever by organism, England, Wales and Northern Ireland: first quarter 2007-2014

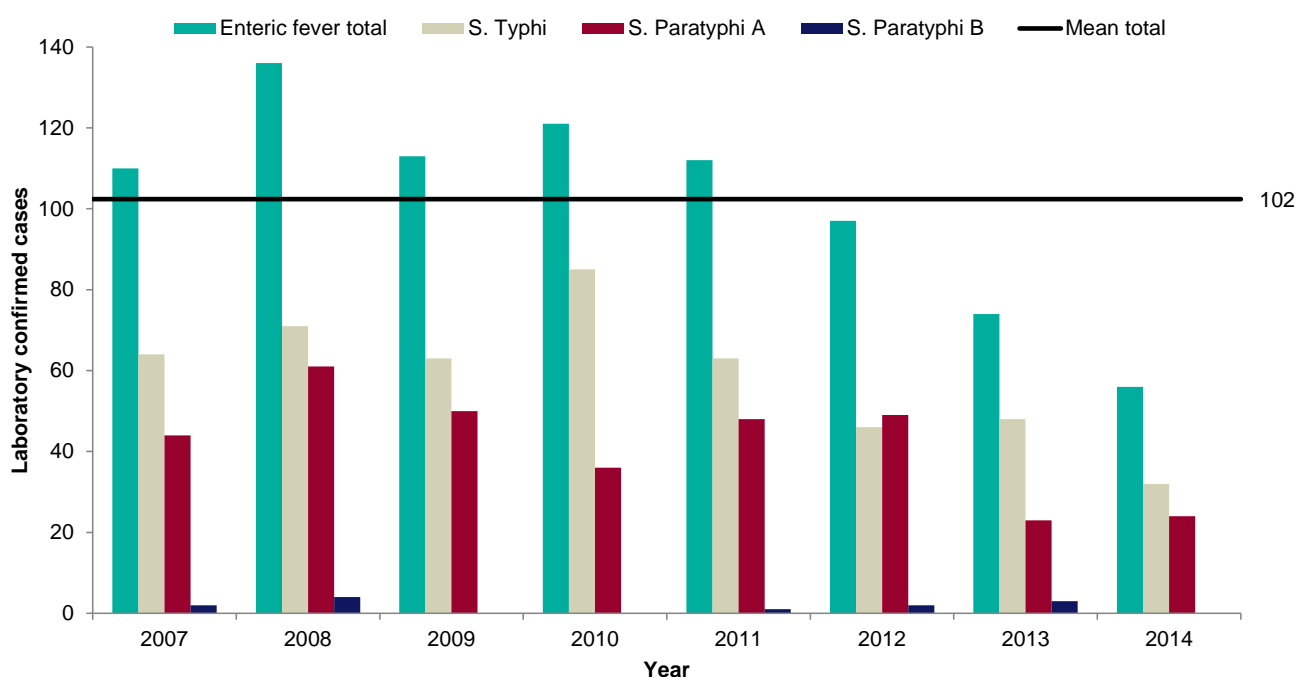


Table 1 Laboratory confirmed cases of enteric fever, England, Wales and Northern Ireland: first quarter 2007-2014

Organism	Laboratory confirmed cases							
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
<i>Salmonella</i> Typhi	32	48	46	63	85	63	71	64
<i>Salmonella</i> Paratyphi A	24	23	49	48	36	50	61	44
<i>Salmonella</i> Paratyphi B	-	3	2	1	-	-	4	2
<i>Salmonella</i> Typhi and Paratyphi A		-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Enteric fever total	56	74	97	112	121	113	136	110

Table 2 Laboratory confirmed cases of enteric fever by organism and phage type, England, Wales and Northern Ireland: first quarter 2014

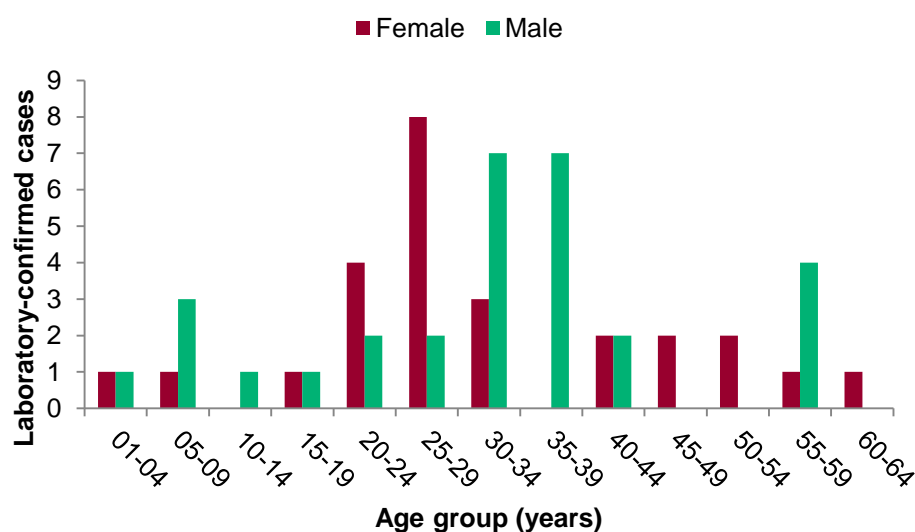
Phage type	S. Typhi	Phage type	S. Paratyphi A
PT E1	13	PT 2	7
PT E9 Var.	9	PT 13	6
PT O	3	PT 1	5
Untyp.VI	2	PT 1a	5
PT B2	2	PT 7	1
Untyp.VI 1	1	Total	24
Degr.VI	1		
PT A	1		
Total	32		

In general, *S. Typhi* phage types E9 var. and E1 and *S. Paratyphi A* phage types 13 and 1 occur most frequently [2]; however in Q1 2014, *S. Paratyphi* phage type 2 was the most frequently reported (table 2), although numbers are small.

Age/sex distribution

In the first quarter of 2014, the median age of cases was 31 years [range 3-62 years] and 14% were aged 16 years and under; 54% of cases were male (figure 2).

Figure 2. Laboratory confirmed cases of enteric fever by age and sex (N=56): first quarter 2014



Geographical distribution

London PHE Region reported 46% of the total cases during the first quarter of 2014 (table 3). Only regions are shown in this report as the numbers are too small to break the data down into PHE Centres; between one and five cases were reported by each of 13 PHE Centres during the first quarter in 2014. PHE Centre data is available for local PHE teams on request.

Table 3. Laboratory confirmed cases of enteric fever by region: first quarter 2014

Geographic area	Q1 2014	Q1 2013	% change
London Region	26	28	-7%
Midlands and East of England Region	6	23	-74%
North of England Region	12	11	+9%
South of England Region	12	10	+20%
Wales	-	2	-
Total	56	74	-24%

Travel history

Full travel history for enteric fever reported during the first quarter of 2014 was not available at the time of publishing. Country of travel was, however, available for 41/56 cases and, as in previous quarters, India and Pakistan were the most frequently reported countries of travel.

Data sources and acknowledgements

Data were collated and analysed by the Travel and Migrant Health Section, Centre for Infectious Disease Surveillance and Control, Colindale. Laboratory data were provided by Gastrointestinal Bacterial Reference Unit, Microbiology Services, Colindale. Other surveillance data were provided by Environmental Health Officers and local health protection colleagues in PHE through enteric fever enhanced surveillance.

References

1. HPA health protection website. Enhanced surveillance of enteric fever, <http://www.hpa.org.uk/Topics/InfectiousDiseases/InfectionsAZ/TravelHealth/GeneralInformation/trav30Enhancedsurveillanceofentericfever/>
2. Health Protection Report. Archived enteric routine data reports, <http://www.hpa.org.uk/hpr/archives/Infections/2012/enteric12.htm>
3. National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) website, <http://www.nathnac.org/>.