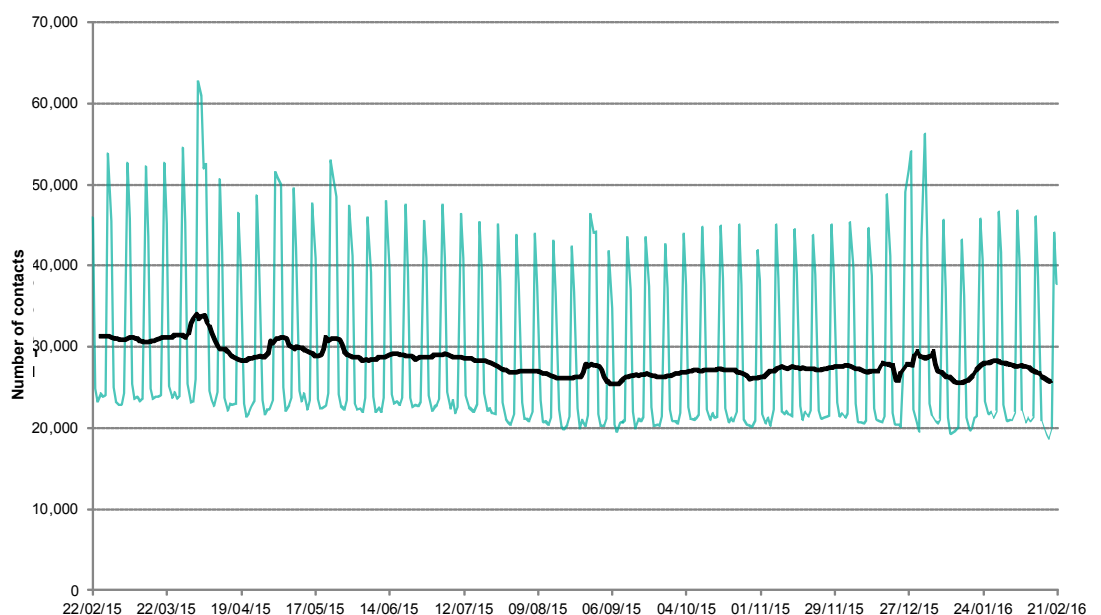# Key messages

Data to: 21 February 2016

Consultations for acute respiratory infection and influenza-like illness (ILI) remained stable during week 7 (figure 2 & 3), with the highest rates for ILI now being in the 15-24 and 25-44 years age groups (figure 3a).

A Cold Watch System operates in England from 1 November to 31 March each year. As part of the Public Health England Cold Weather Plan for England the PHE Real-time Syndromic Surveillance team will be monitoring the impact of cold weather on syndromic surveillance data during this period.
Cold weather alert level (current reporting week): **Level 1-3 Winter Preparedness and Action - Cold weather action**
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/uk/coldweatheralert/

Syndromic indicators at a glance:

Number of contacts and percentage of Read coded contacts.

Key indicator	No. of contacts	% Week 07	% Week 06	Trend*
All OOH contacts, all causes	180,257			
Acute respiratory infection	16,832	19.94	20.07	←→
Influenza-like illness	387	0.46	0.45	←→
Bronchitis/bronchiolitis	226	0.27	0.27	←→
Difficulty breathing/wheeze/asthma	1,986	2.35	2.21	←→
Pharyngitis	101	0.12	0.14	←→
Gastroenteritis	3,613	4.28	4.37	←→
Diarrhoea	785	0.93	0.97	←→
Vomiting	1,259	1.49	1.64	←→
Myocardial infarction	878	1.04	1.06	←→

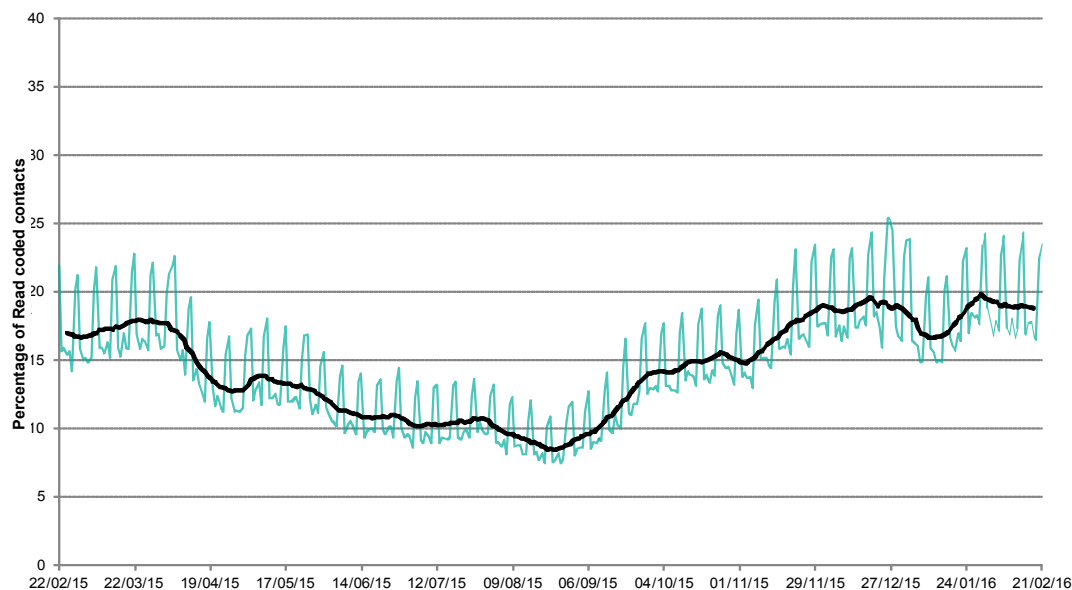*Trend: reports on the trend seen over previous weeks in the percentage of Read coded contacts.

1: Total out-of-hours contacts:

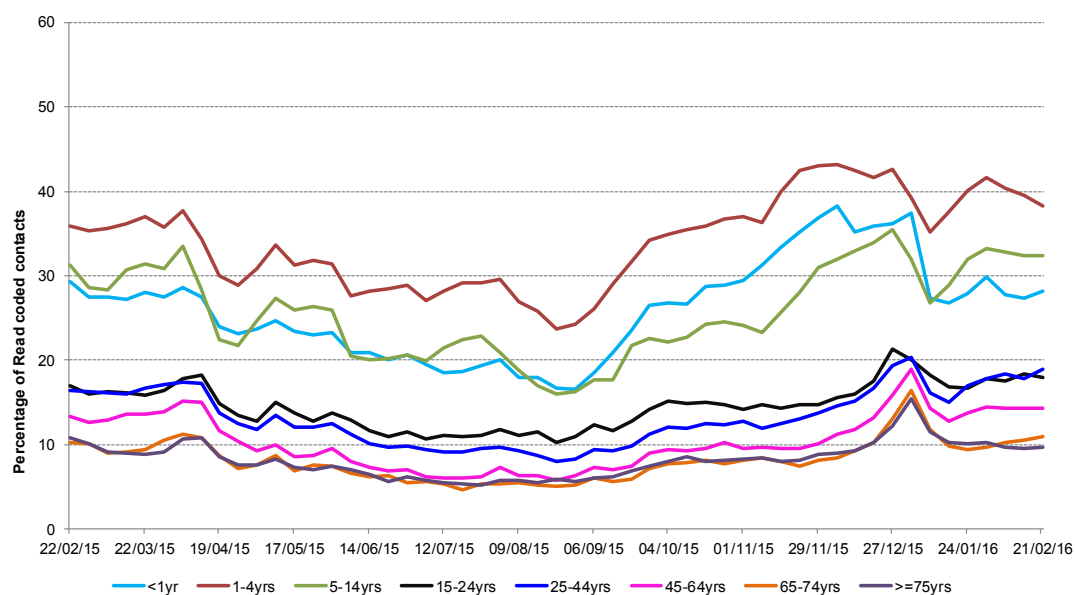Daily total number of out-of-hours and unscheduled contacts and 7 day average (adjusted for bank holidays).

2: Acute Respiratory Infection daily contacts.

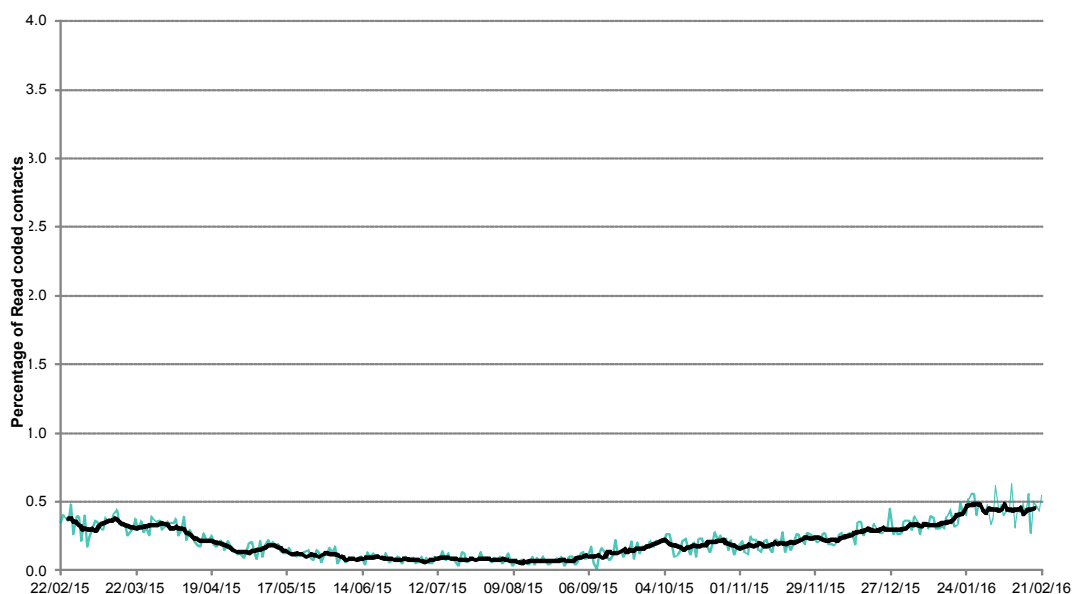Shown as a percentage of the total contacts with a Read code and as a 7 day average*.

2a: Acute respiratory infection weekly contacts by age group.

Legend: <1yr · 1-4yrs · 5-14yrs · 15-24yrs · 25-44yrs · 45-64yrs · 65-74yrs · >=75yrs

3: Influenza-like illness daily contacts.

Shown as a percentage of the total contacts with a Read code and as a 7 day average*.

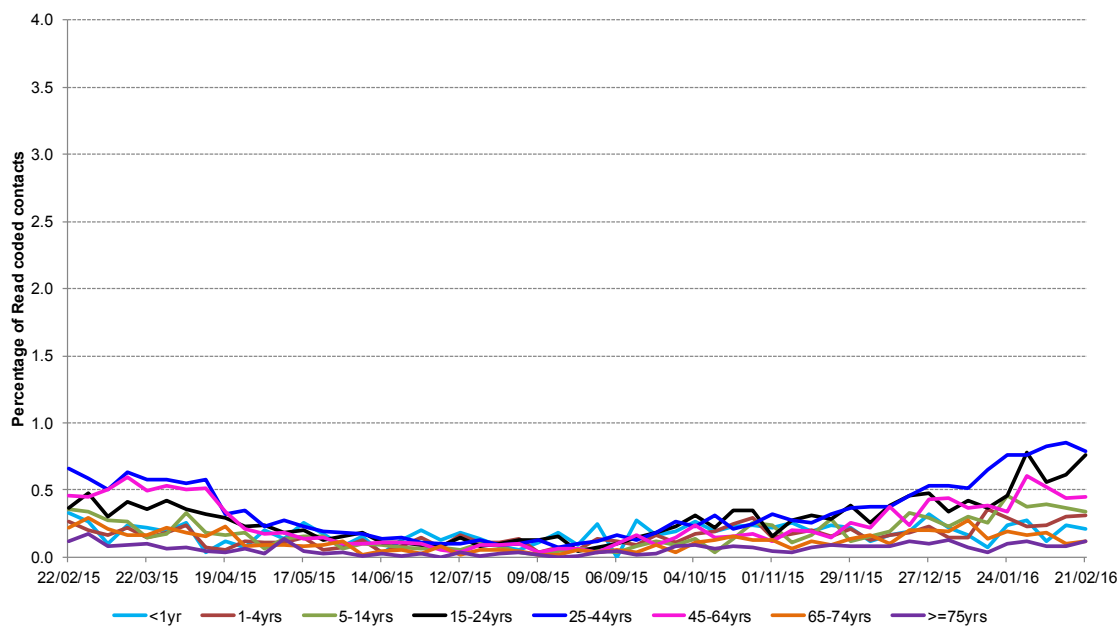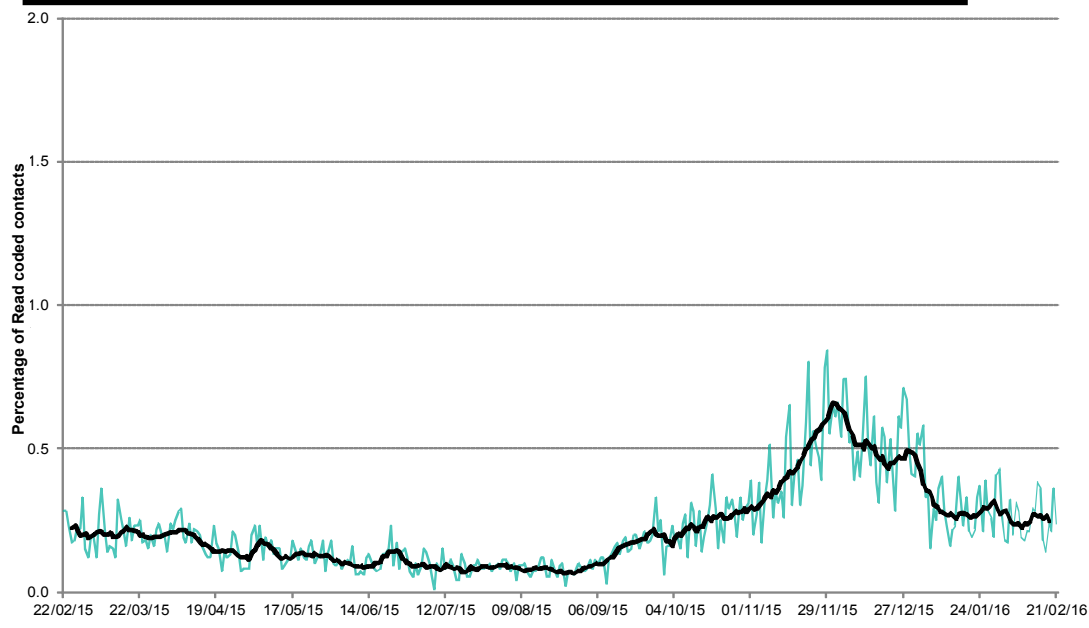*7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

24 February 2016

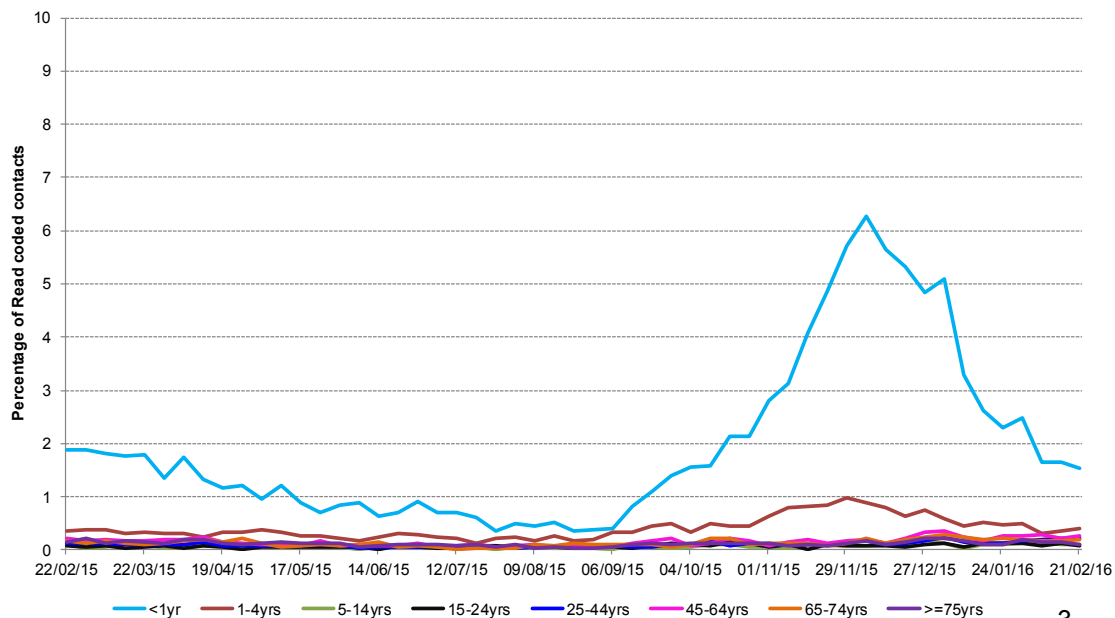**3a: Influenza-like illness daily contacts by age group.**

4: Bronchitis/ bronchiolitis daily contacts.

Shown as a percentage of the total contacts with a Read code and as a 7 day average*.

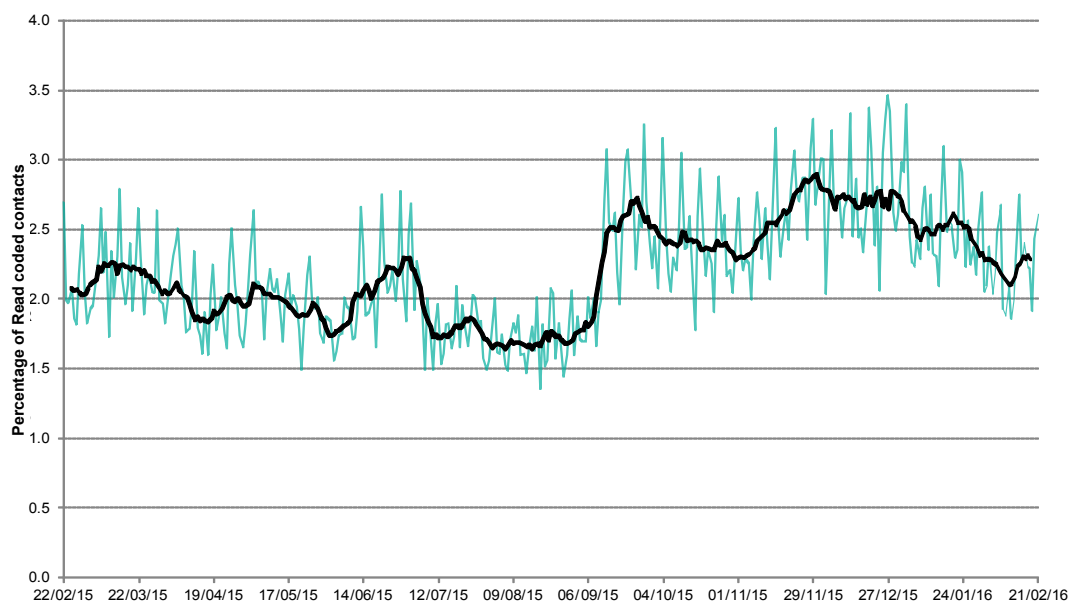**4a: Bronchitis/ bronchiolitis contacts by age group.**

*7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.
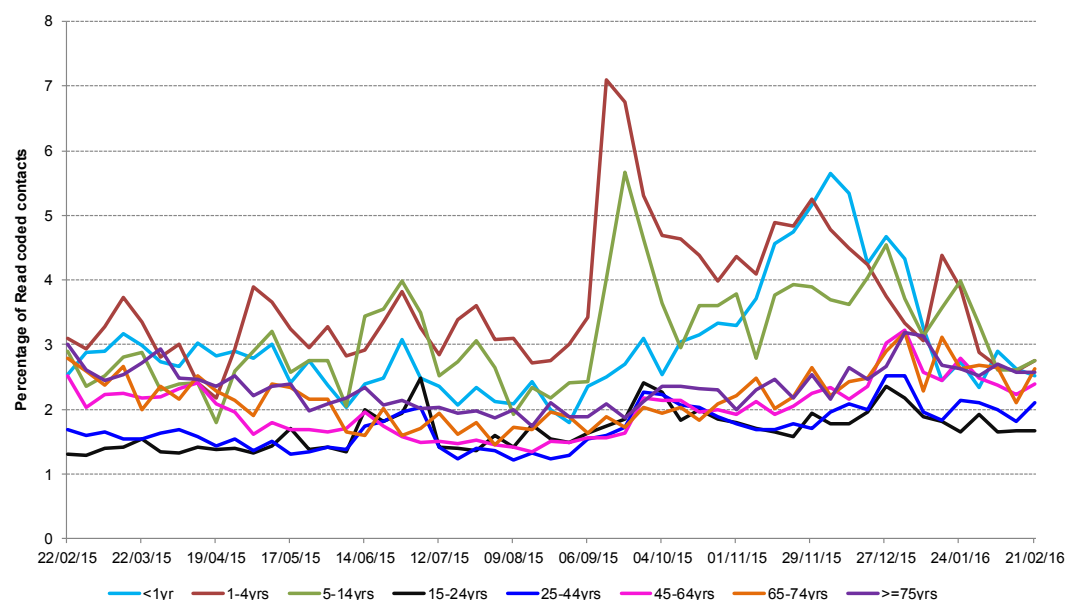
3

5: Difficulty breathing/ wheeze/asthma daily contacts.

Shown as a percentage of the total contacts with a Read code and as a 7 day average*.
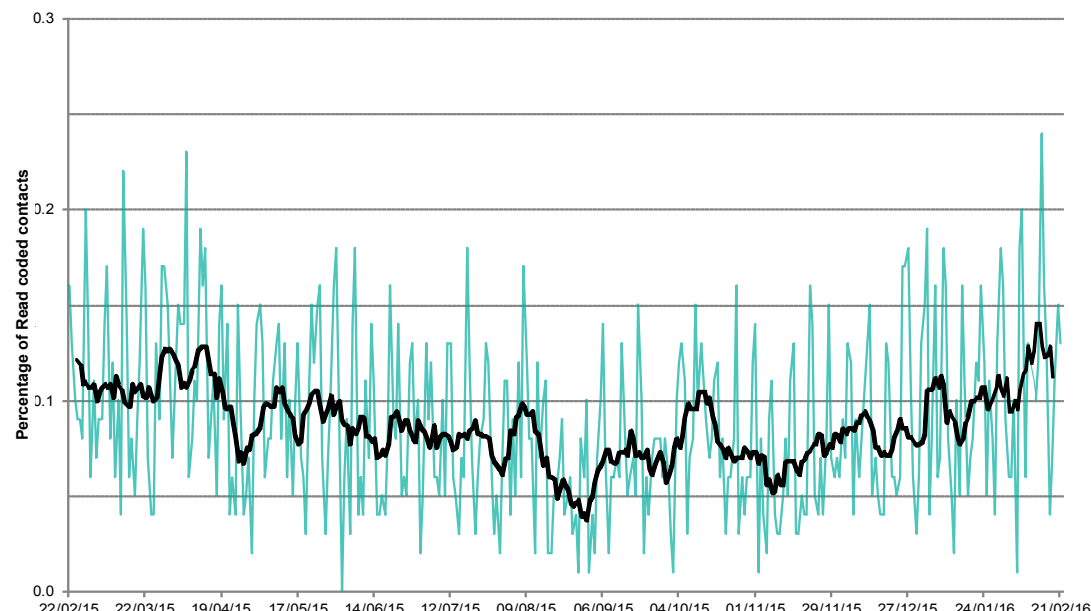

5a: Difficulty breathing/wheeze/ asthma weekly contacts by age group.

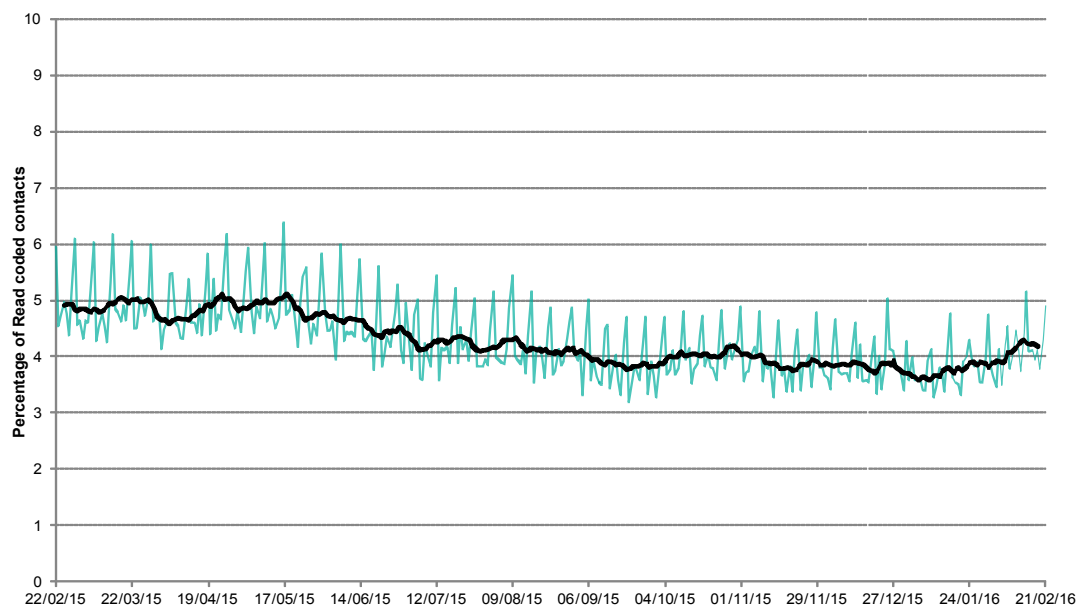**6: Acute pharyngitis and persistent sore throat.**

Shown as a percentage of the total contacts with a Read code and as a 7 day average*.

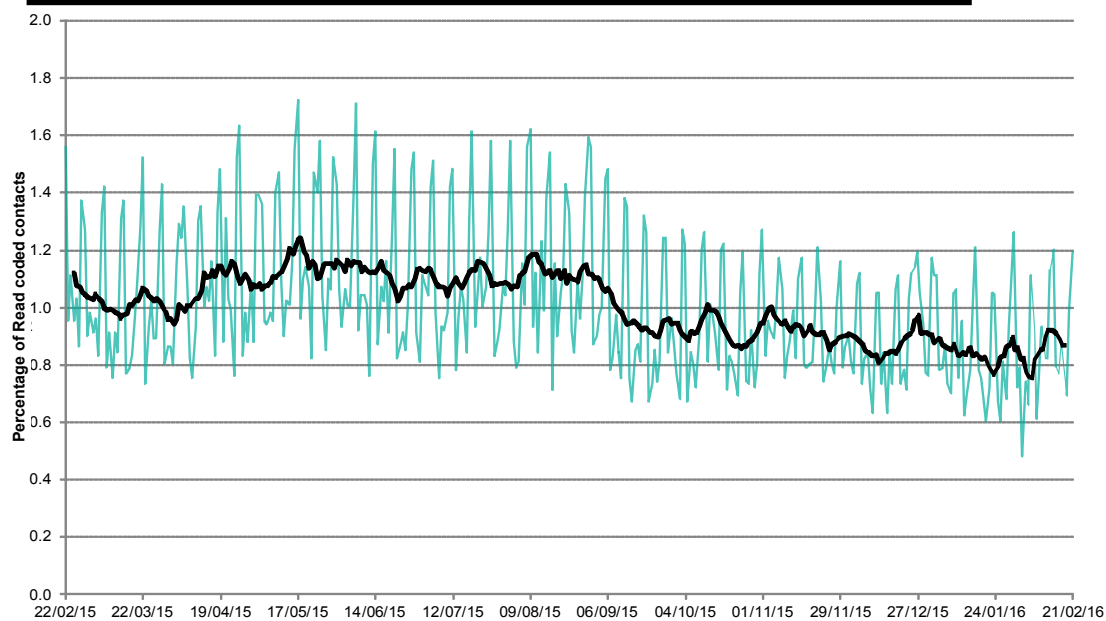*7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

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7: Gastroenteritis daily contacts

Shown as a percentage of the total contacts with a Read code and as a 7 day average*.
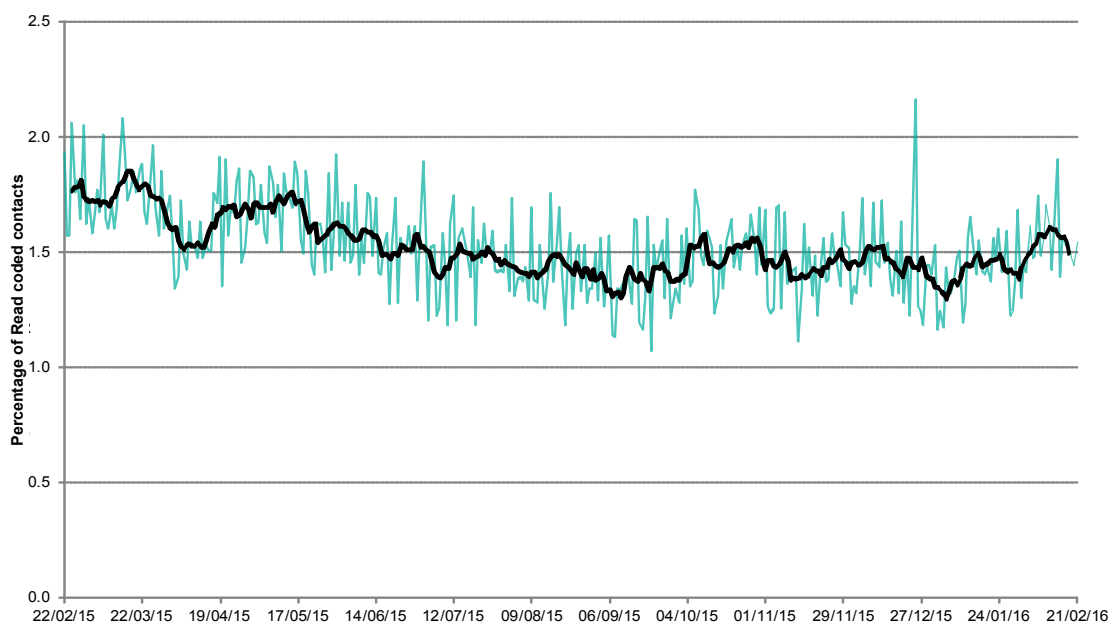

8: Diarrhoea daily contacts.

Shown as a percentage of the total contacts with a Read code and as a 7 day average*.

9: Vomiting daily contacts.

Shown as a percentage of the total contacts with a Read code and as a 7 day average*.

*7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

5

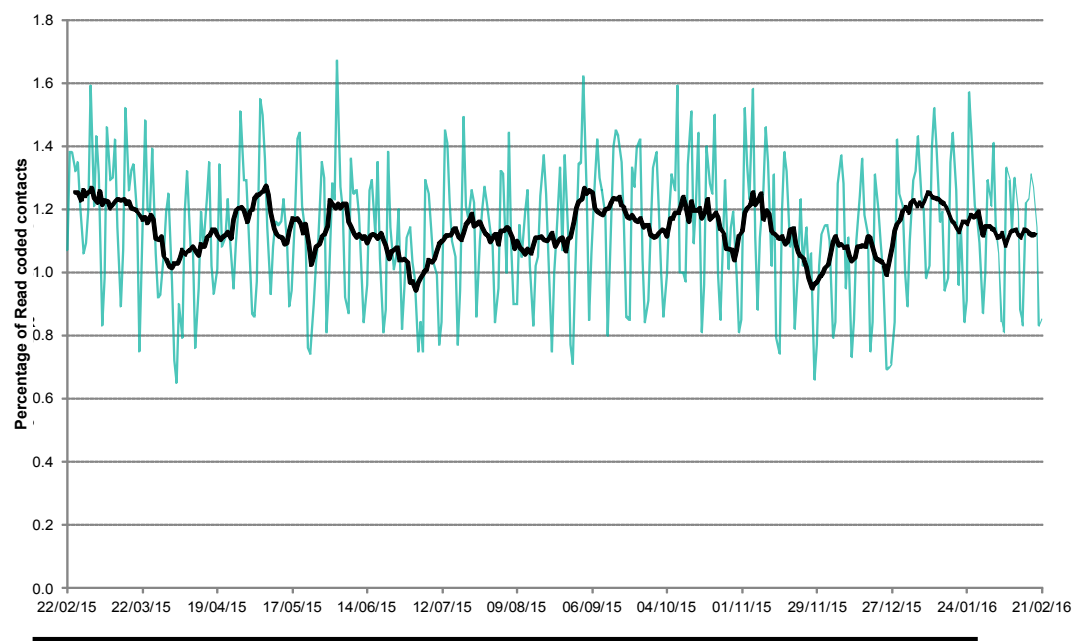**9a: Vomiting contacts by age group.**

Shown as a percentage of the total contacts with a Read code and as a 7 day average*.
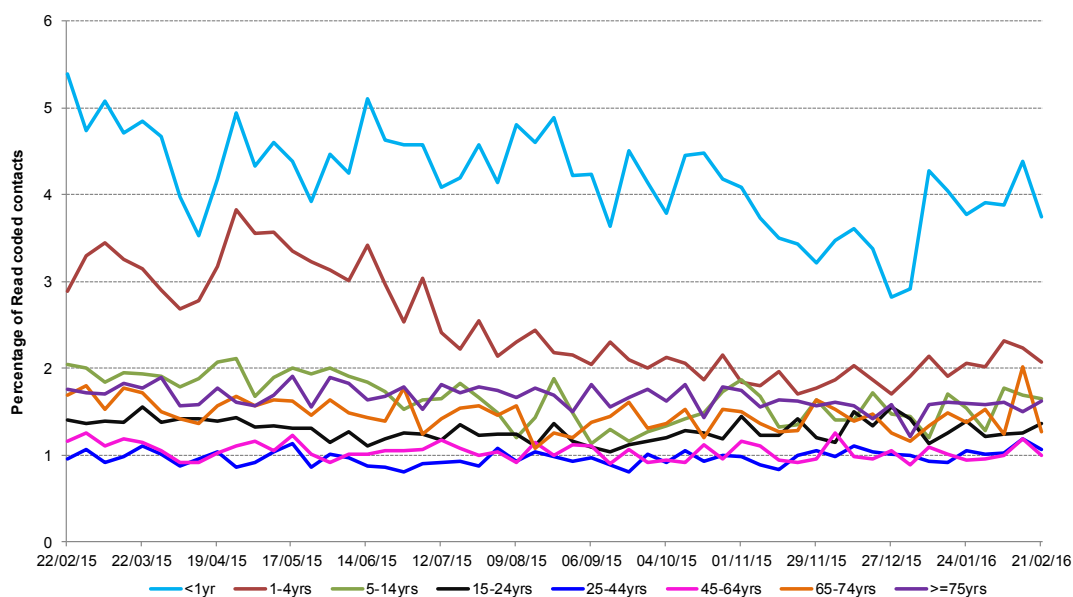
10: Myocardial Infarction daily contacts.

Intentionally left blank.

*7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

| 24 February 2016 | Year: 2016 Week: 07 |

Notes and caveats:

- This bulletin presents data from the Public Health England (PHE) GP Out-of-hours\Unscheduled Care Surveillance System (GP OOHSS).

- Fully anonymised data from GP out-of-hours (OOH) and unscheduled care service providers in England are being transferred to the PHE for analysis and interpretation by the PHE Real-time Syndromic Surveillance Team (ReSST).

- This new system supplements existing PHE syndromic surveillance systems by monitoring data on general practitioner consultations outside of routine surgery opening times (evenings, weekends and bank holidays) and unplanned contacts within NHS primary care.

- The key indicators presented within this bulletin are derived by grouping selected Read coded consultations.

- GP OOH consultation data are analysed on a daily basis to identify national and regional trends. A statistical algorithm underpins each system, routinely identifying activity that has increased significantly or is statistically significantly high for the time of year. Results from these daily analyses are assessed by the ReSST, along with analysis by age group, and anything deemed of public health importance is alerted by the team.

Further information:

The GP Out-of-Hours Surveillance System Bulletin can also be downloaded from the PHE Real-time Syndromic Surveillance website which also contains more information about syndromic surveillance:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/syndromic-surveillance-systems-and-analyses

Acknowledgements:

We are grateful to Advanced Health and Care and the GP out-of-hours and unscheduled care service providers who have kindly agreed to participate in this system.

PHE Out-of-Hours/Unscheduled Care Surveillance

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