Remote Health Advice

Syndromic Surveillance System: England

Key messages

Data to:　　11/01/2015

There were decreases in NHS 111 cold/flu calls during week 2 (figure 2); calls decreased across all age groups (figure 2a).

NHS 111 calls for difficulty breathing and cough continued to decrease during week 2 (figures 4 & 5).

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 – Winter preparedness and action**
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/uk/coldweatheralert/

Syndromic indicators at a glance:

Indicator	Trend	Level *
Cold/flu	Decreasing	Above baseline levels
Fever	No trend	Below baseline levels
Cough	Decreasing	Above baseline levels
Difficulty breathing	Decreasing	Similar to baseline levels
Sore throat	No trend	
Diarrhoea	Decreasing	Below baseline levels
Vomiting	No trend	Below baseline levels
Eye problems	No trend	Similar to baseline levels

*Since week 47 2014 new baselines have been introduced for comparison with previous years. Baselines use historical data from the NHS Direct surveillance system to estimate seasonal trend but with levels adjusted to reflect changes since the switch to using NHS 111 data in September 2013.
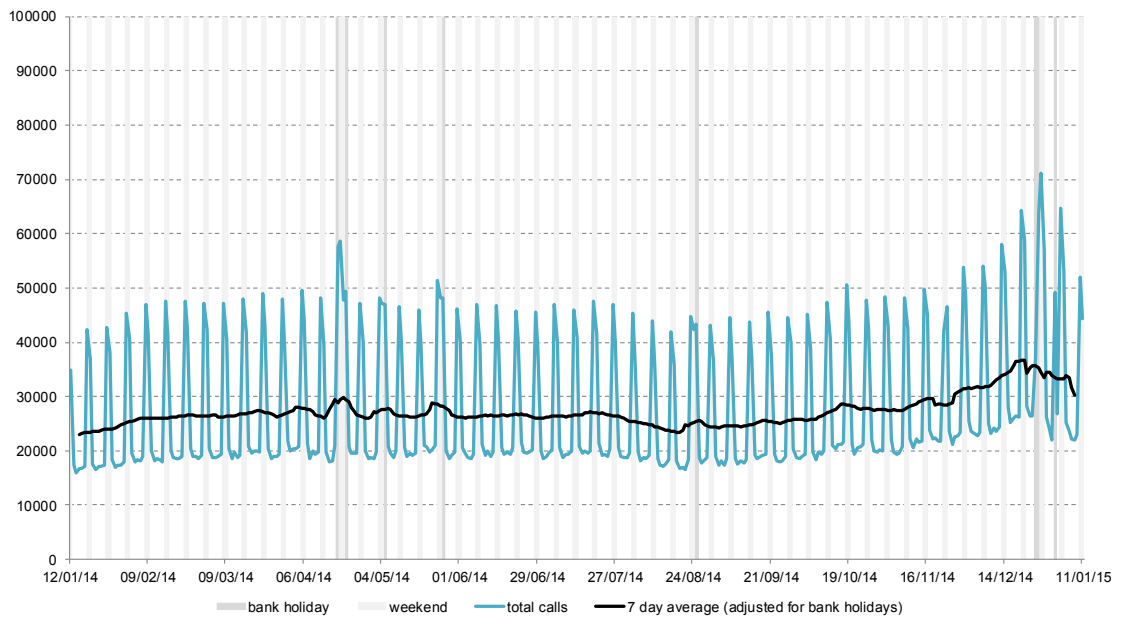
Data summary:

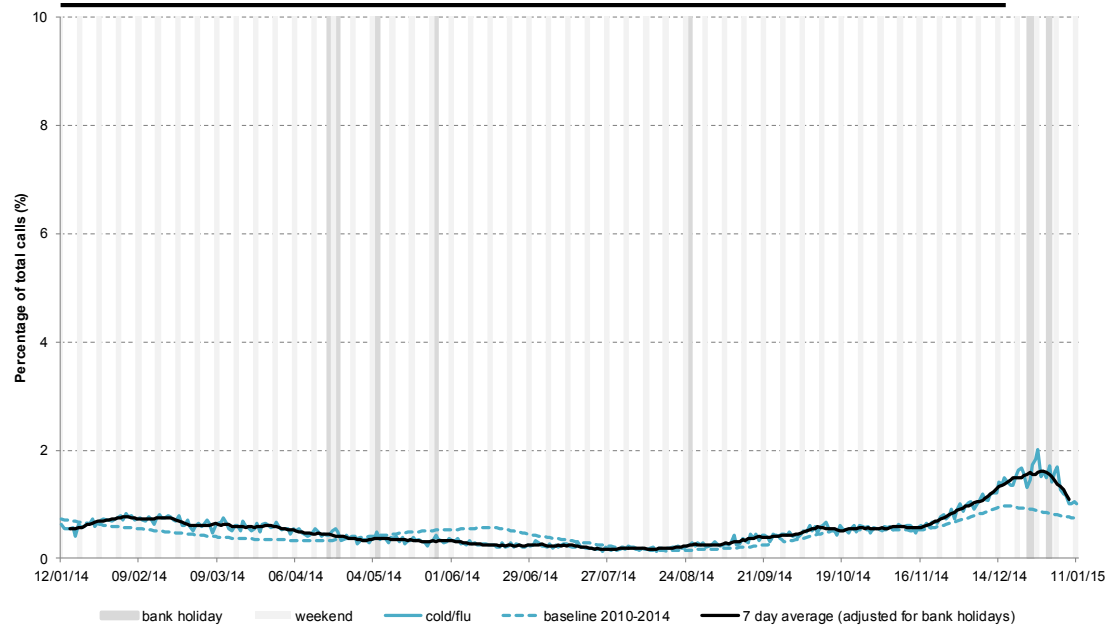| Year	Week	Total calls
2015	2	212,342

1: Total calls.

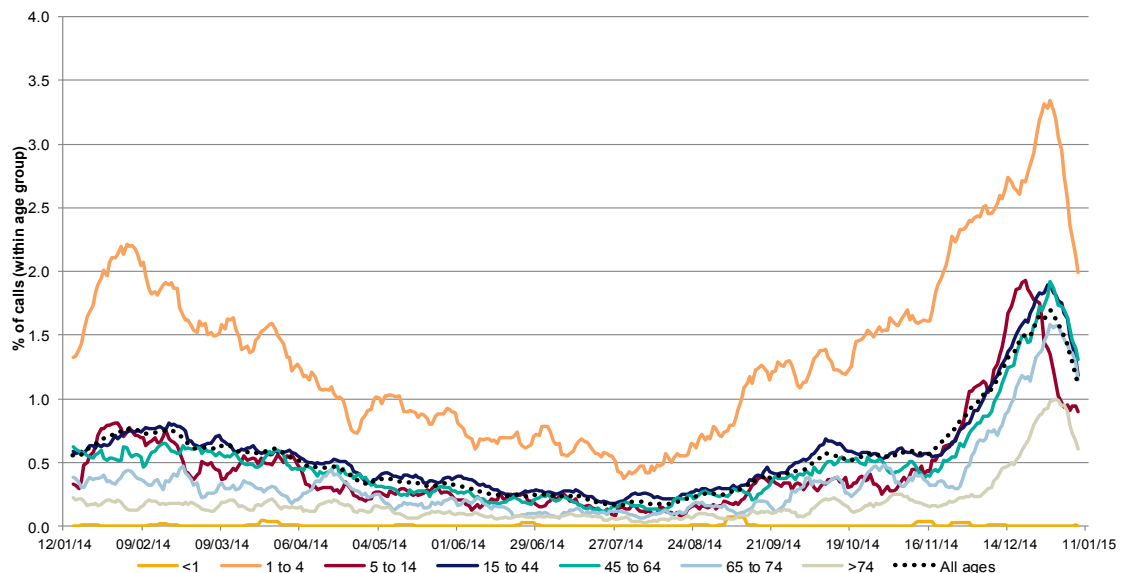The total number of syndromic calls recorded each day by NHS 111.

2: Cold/flu

Daily 'cold/flu' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2010, including data from NHS111 and NHS Direct.

2a: Cold/flu by age group

Cold/flu calls as a percentage of total calls within each age group, shown as a 7 day moving average.
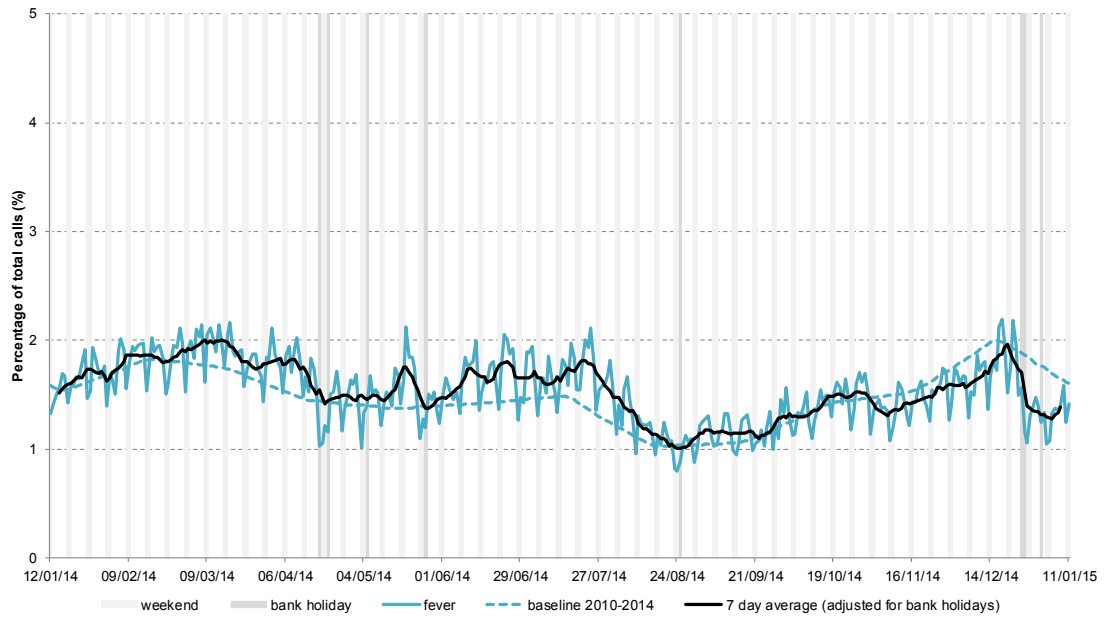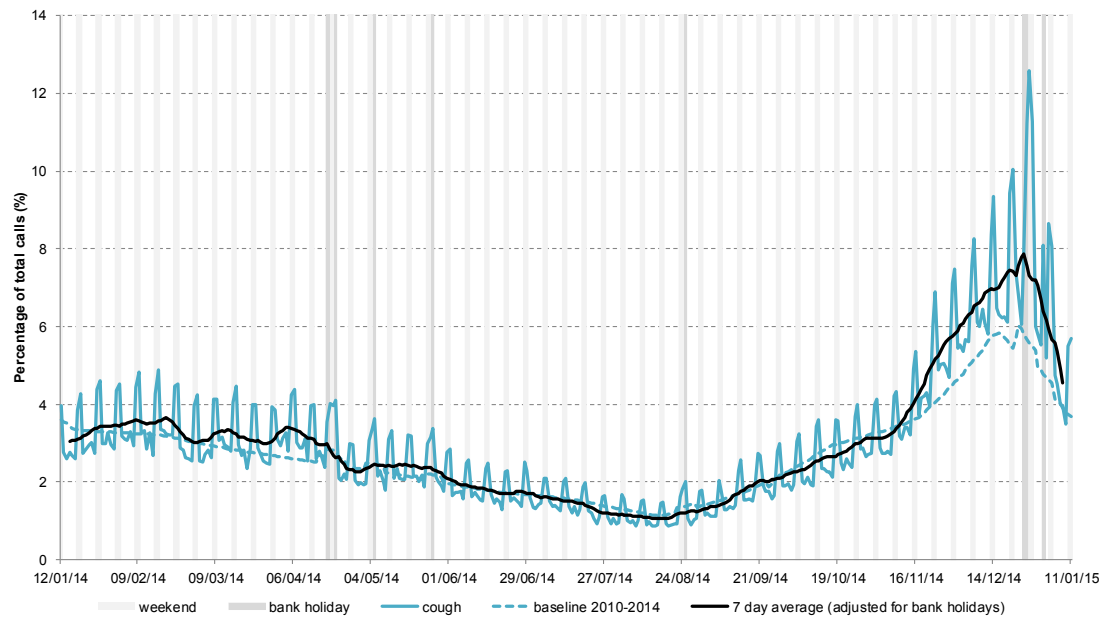
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3: Fever

Daily 'fever' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2010, including data from NHS111 and NHS Direct.
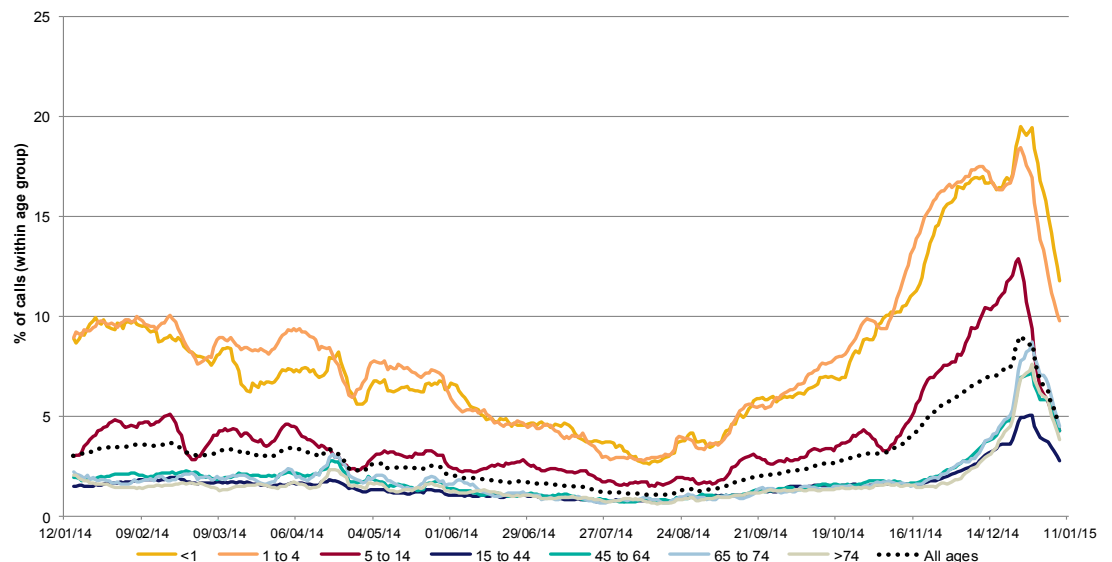

4: Cough

Daily 'cough' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2010, including data from NHS111 and NHS Direct.

4a: Cough by age group

Cough calls as a percentage of total calls within each age group, shown as a 7 day moving average.
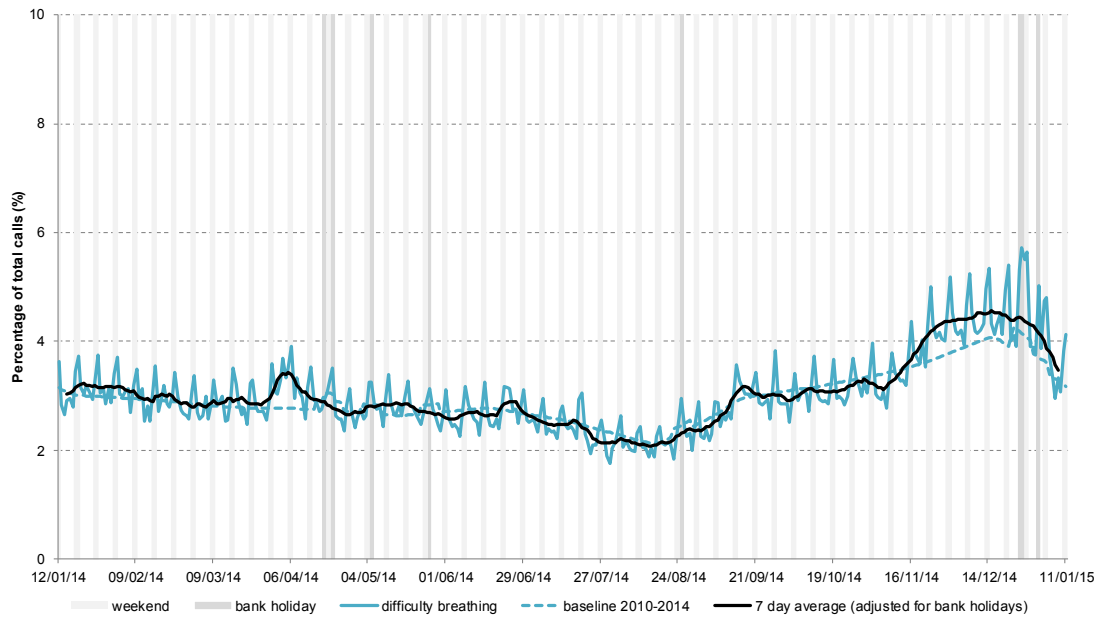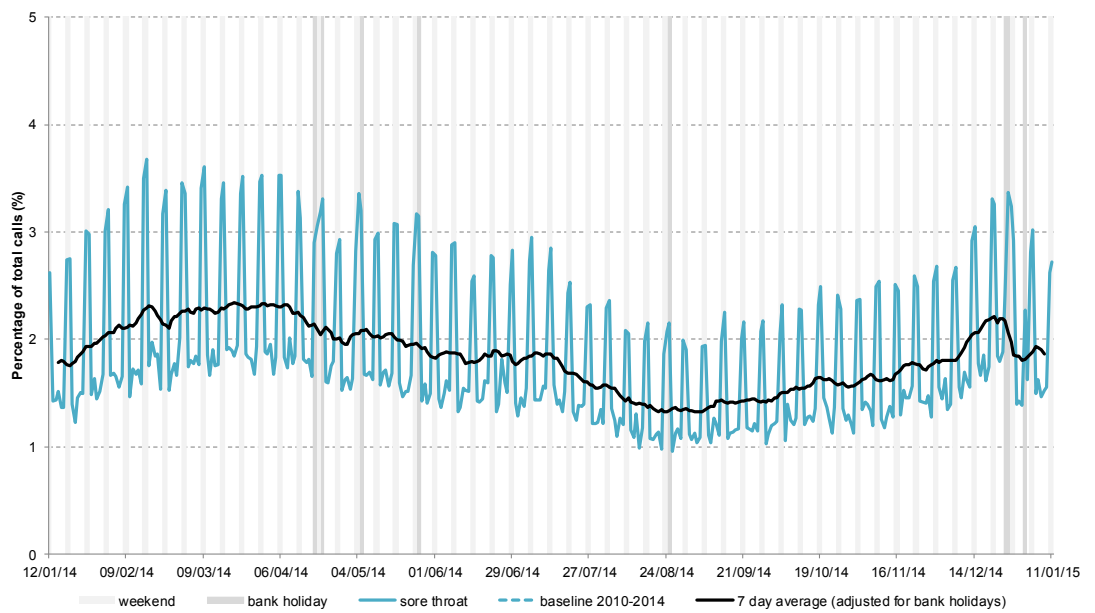
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5: Difficulty breathing

Daily 'difficulty breathing' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2010, including data from NHS111 and NHS Direct.

6: Sore throat

Daily 'sore throat' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines, constructed from historical data since 2010 and including data from NHS Direct and NHS111, are under construction and will be included for this indicator shortly.
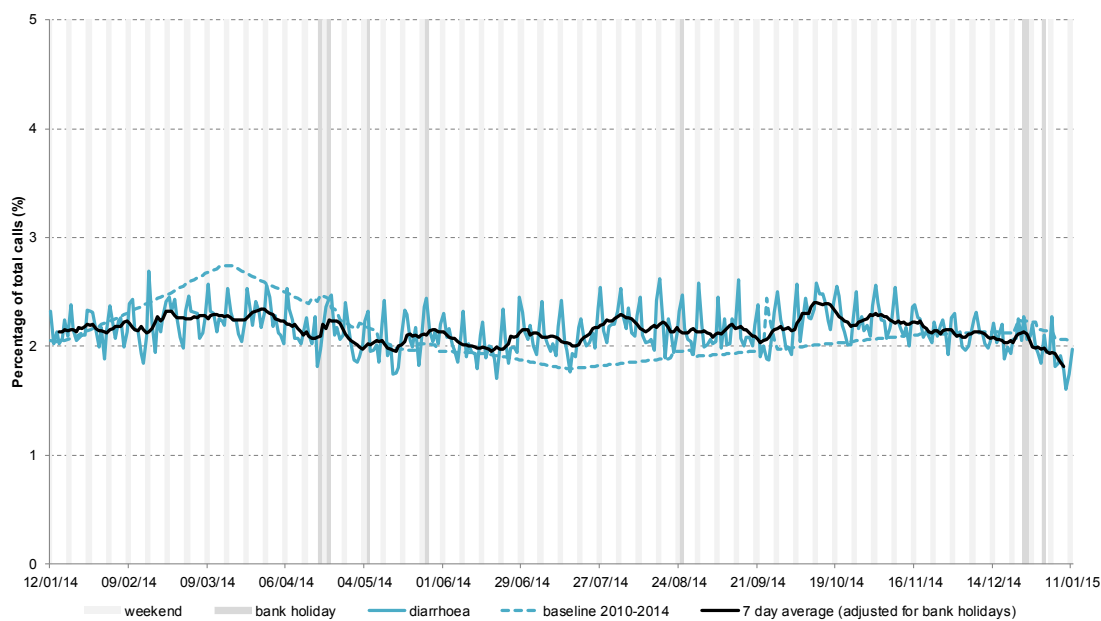

7: Intentionally left blank
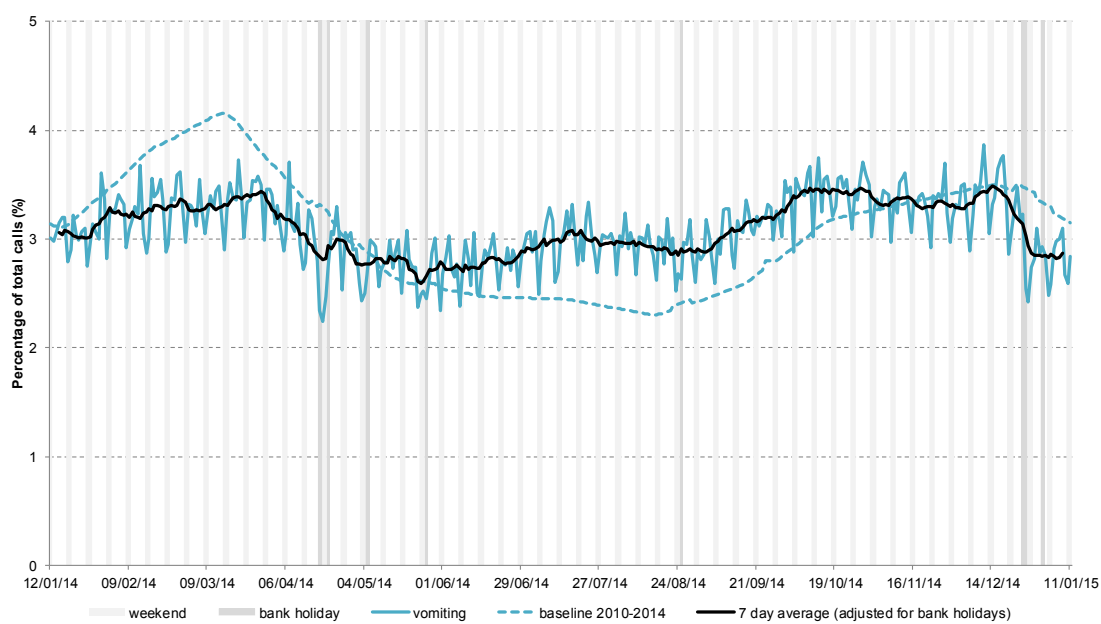
Intentionally left blank.

8: Diarrhoea

Daily 'diarrhoea' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2010, including data from NHS111 and NHS Direct.
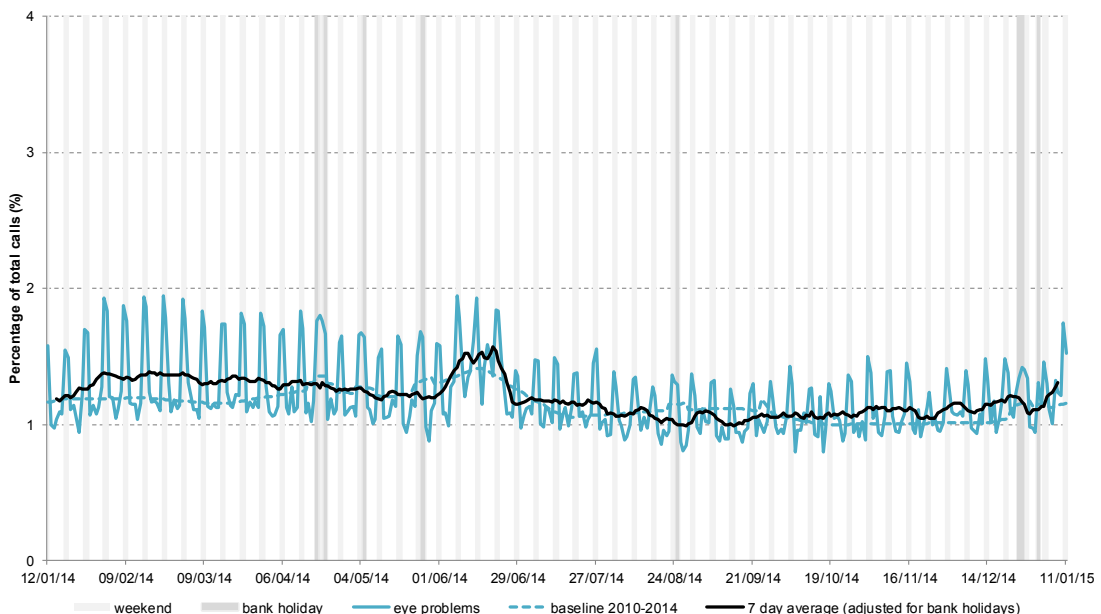

9: Vomiting

Daily 'vomiting' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2010, including data from NHS111 and NHS Direct.

10: Eye problems

Daily 'eye problems' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2010, including data from NHS111 and NHS Direct.

12 January 2015	**Year: 2015 Week: 2**

Introduction to charts:

- Weekends and bank holidays are marked by vertical **grey** lines (bank holidays **darker grey**).
- A 7-day moving average (adjusted for bank holidays) is overlaid on the daily data reported in each chart, unless specified.
- Baselines are constructed using historical data, including data from both NHS111 and the NHS Direct syndromic system (which was replaced by NHS 111 data in September 2013). Seasonal trends reflect the average over past years, with levels adjusted to reflect differences between NHS 111 and NHS Direct data.
- This new syndromic surveillance system is still under development and further analyses at PHE Centre level will be included in future bulletins.

Notes and further information:

Further information about NHS 111 can be found at:

http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/AboutNHSservices/
Emergencyandurgentcareservices/Pages/NHS-111.aspx

The Remote Health Advice Syndromic Surveillance 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:

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