



06 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

In This Issue:

- Key messages.
- Diagnostic indicators at a glance.
- GP practices and denominator population.
- National syndromic indicators.
- Notes and further information.
- Appendix.

Key messages

Data to: 04 March 2018

There were further decreases in GP consultations for influenza-like illness during week 9 however rates remain above seasonally expected levels (figure 2).

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 3 - Severe weather action**
<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/uk/coldweatheralert/>

Diagnostic indicators at a glance:

Indicator	Trend	Level
Upper respiratory tract infection	decreasing	below baseline levels
Influenza-like illness	decreasing	above baseline levels
Pharyngitis	decreasing	below baseline levels
Scarlet fever	increasing	above baseline levels
Lower respiratory tract infection	decreasing	similar to baseline levels
Pneumonia	decreasing	similar to baseline levels
Gastroenteritis	decreasing	below baseline levels
Vomiting	no trend	below baseline levels
Diarrhoea	decreasing	below baseline levels
Asthma	decreasing	similar to baseline levels
Wheeze	decreasing	below baseline levels
Conjunctivitis	decreasing	below baseline levels
Mumps	no trend	similar to baseline levels
Measles	increasing	above baseline levels
Rubella	no trend	similar to baseline levels
Pertussis	no trend	similar to baseline levels
Chickenpox	no trend	below baseline levels
Herpes zoster	no trend	below baseline levels
Cellulitis	no trend	below baseline levels
Impetigo	no trend	below baseline levels

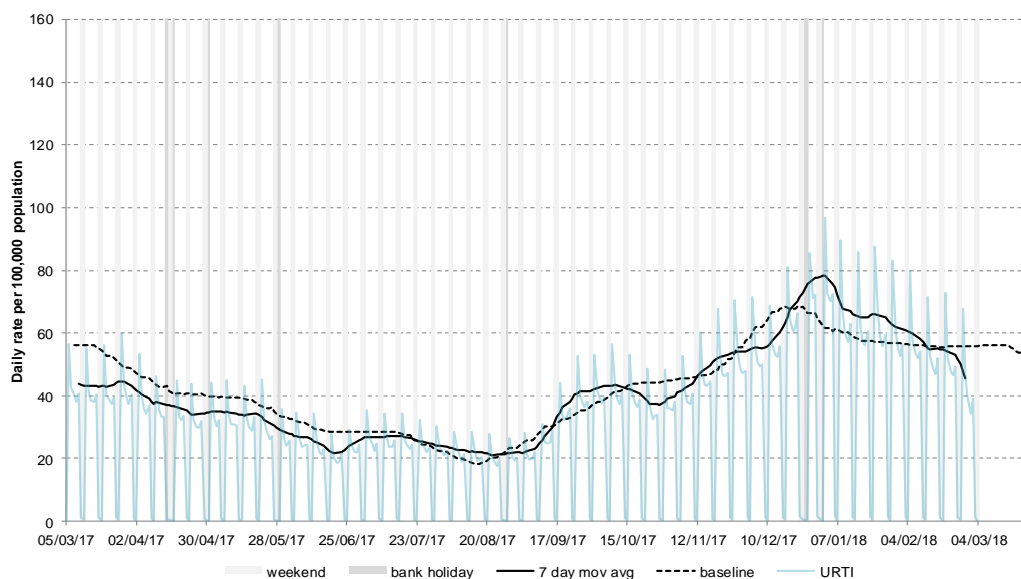
GP practices and denominator population:

Year	Week	GP Practices Reporting**	Population size**
2018	9	3,057	25.2 million

**based on the average number of practices and denominator population in the reporting working week.

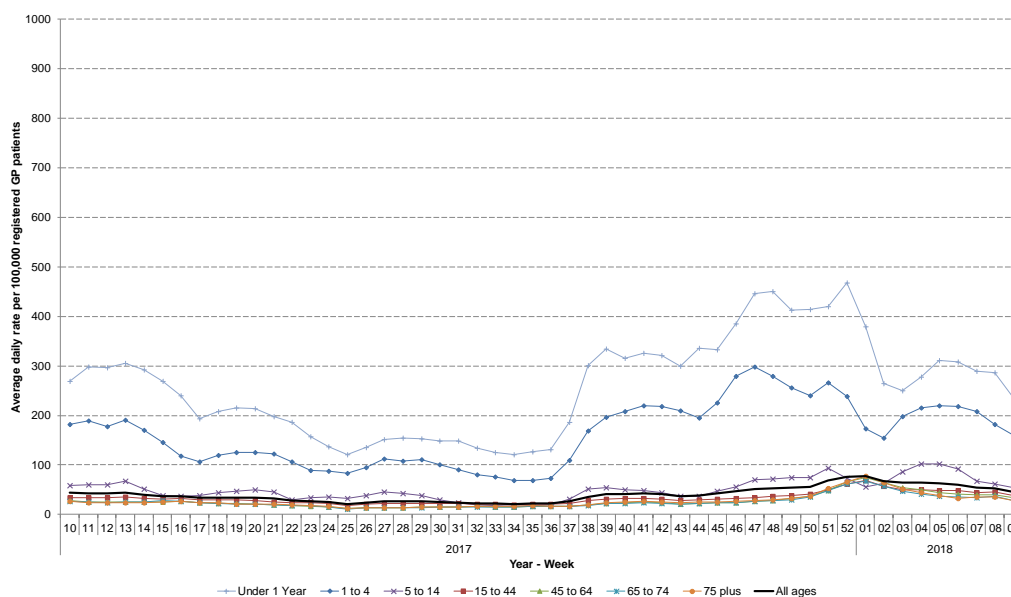
1: Upper respiratory tract infection (URTI)

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



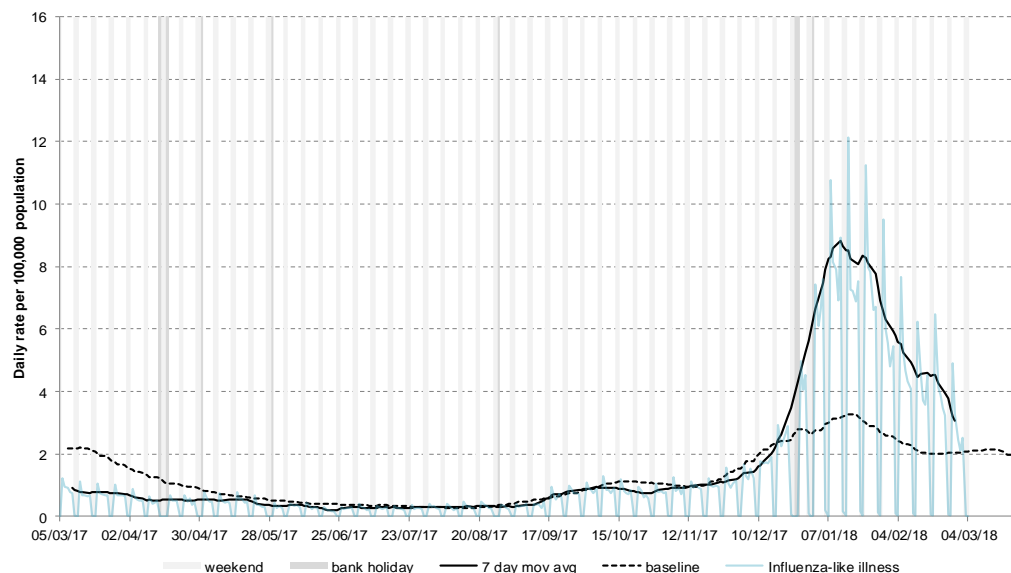
1a: Upper respiratory tract infection (URTI) by age

Average daily incidence rate by week per 100,000 population (all England).



2: Influenza-like illness

Daily incidence rates (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



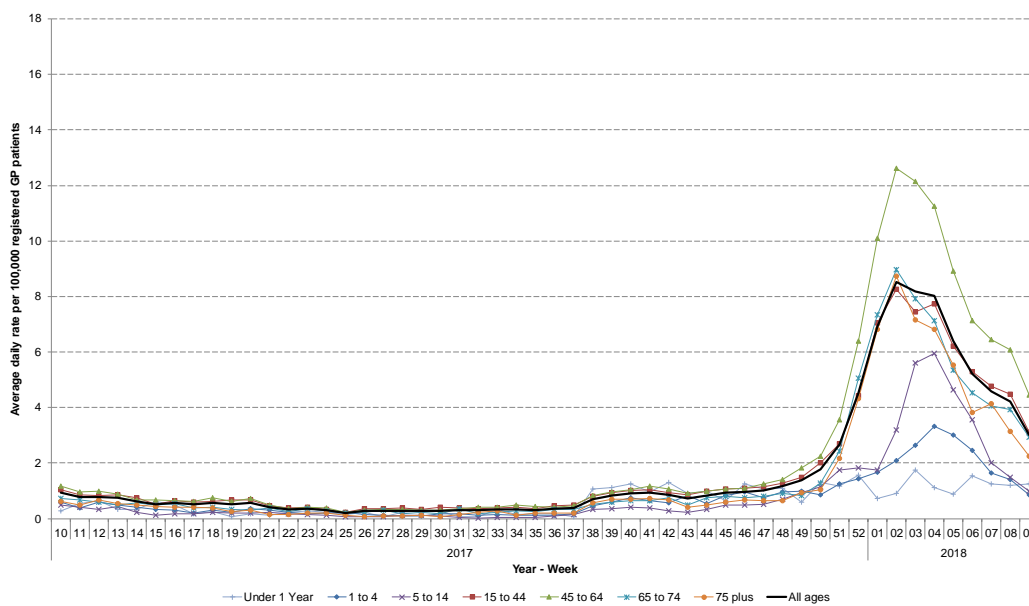
* 7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

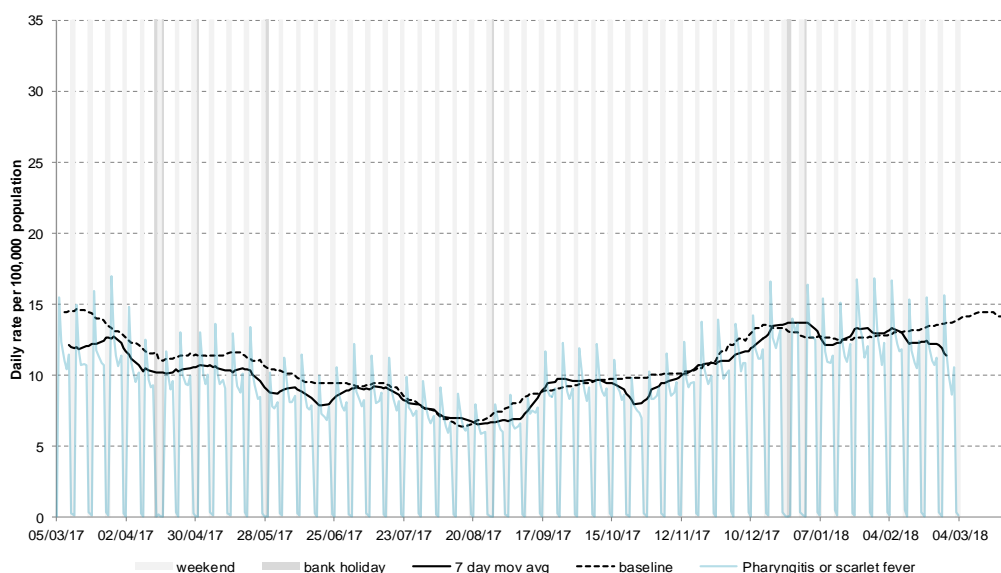
2a: Influenza-like illness by age

Average daily incidence rate by week per 100,000 population (all England).



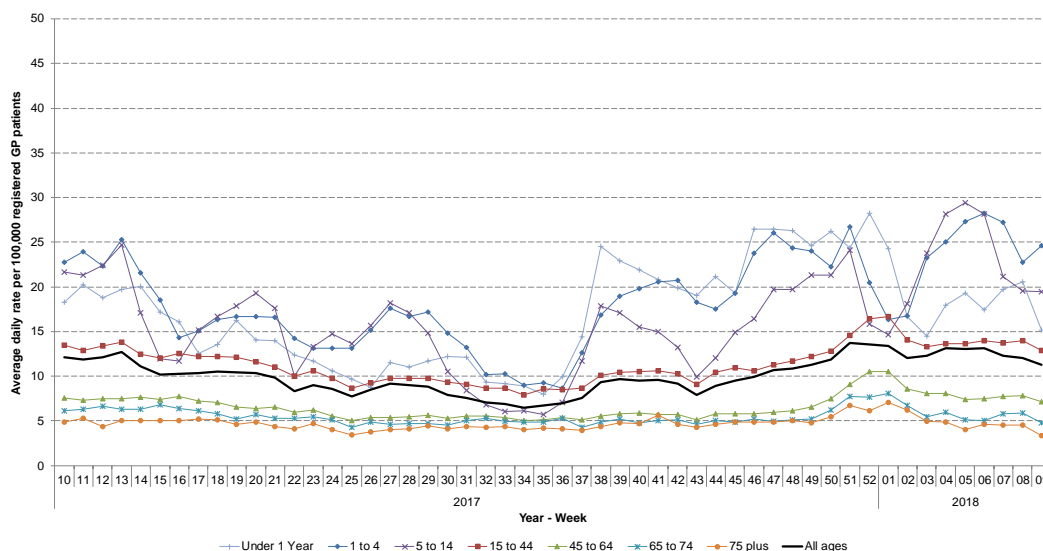
3: Pharyngitis or scarlet fever

Daily incidence rates (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



3a: Pharyngitis/scarlet fever by age

Average daily incidence rate by week per 100,000 population (all England).



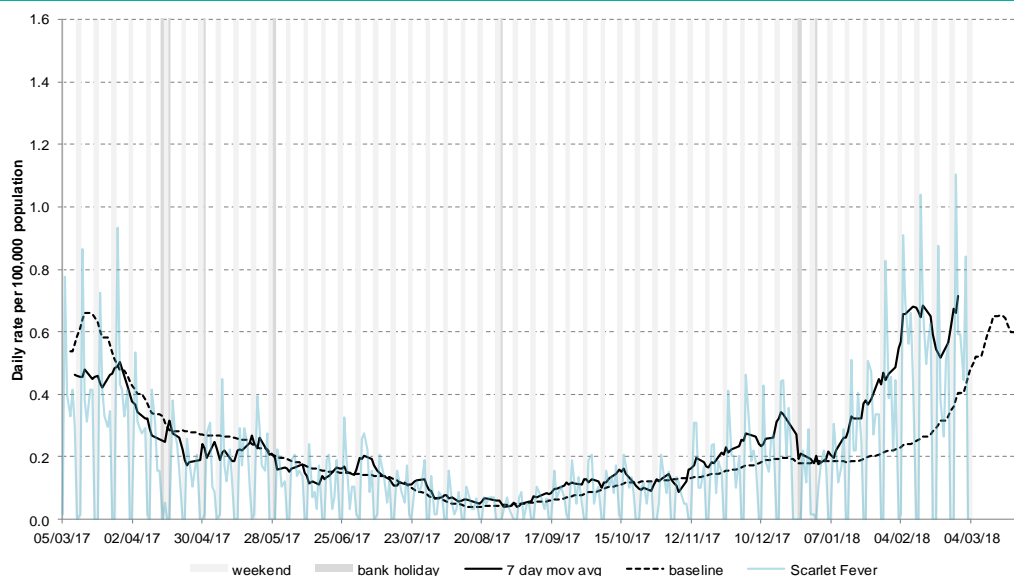
* 7-day moving average

05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

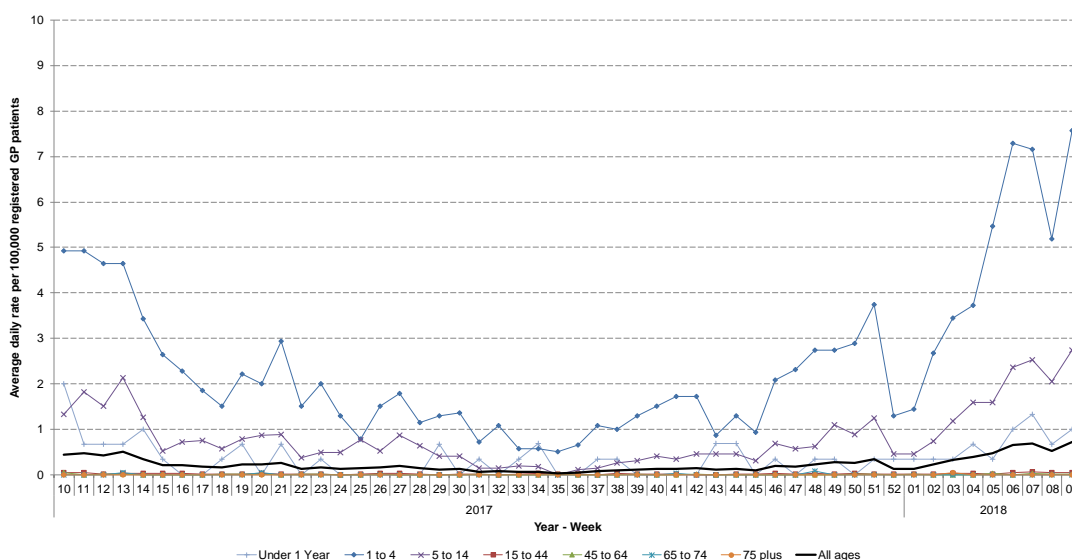
4: Scarlet fever

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, based on a denominator population of approximately 5.5 million patients)



4a: Scarlet fever by age

Average daily incidence rate by week per 100,000 population (all England, based on a denominator population of approximately 5.5 million patients).



Intentionally left blank

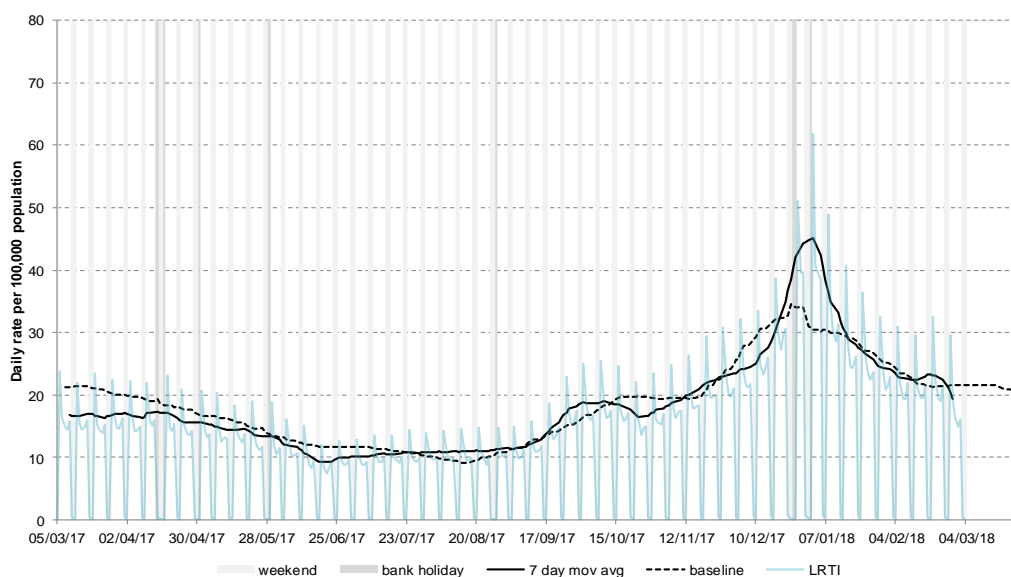
* 7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

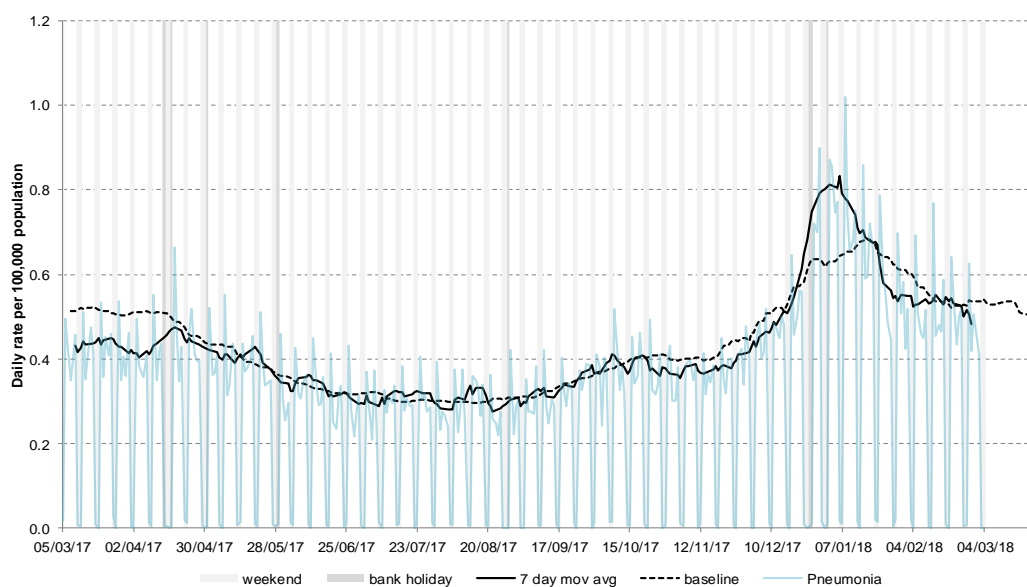
5: Lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI)

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



6: Pneumonia

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).

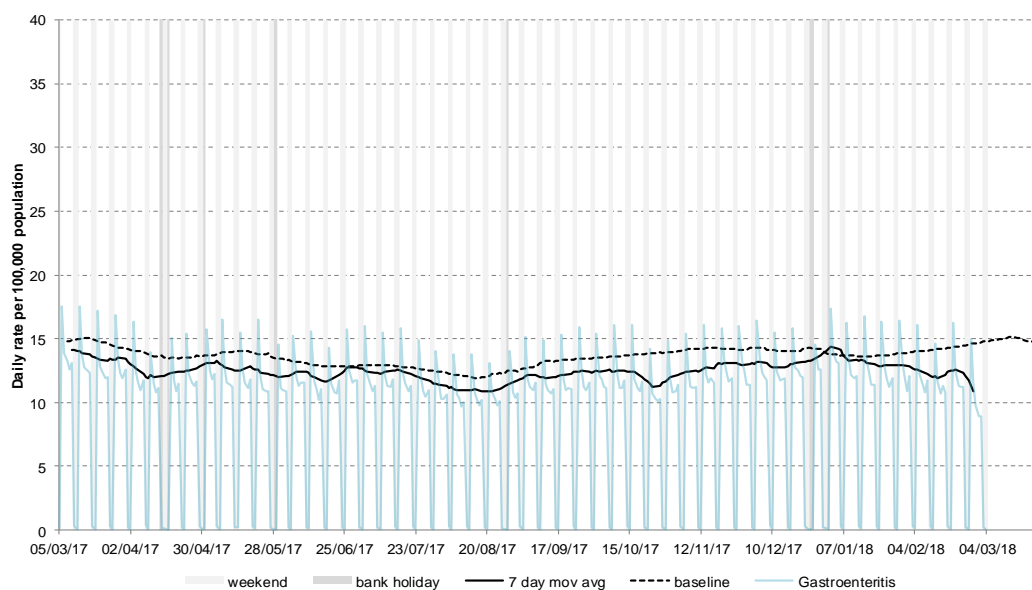


Intentionally left blank

* 7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

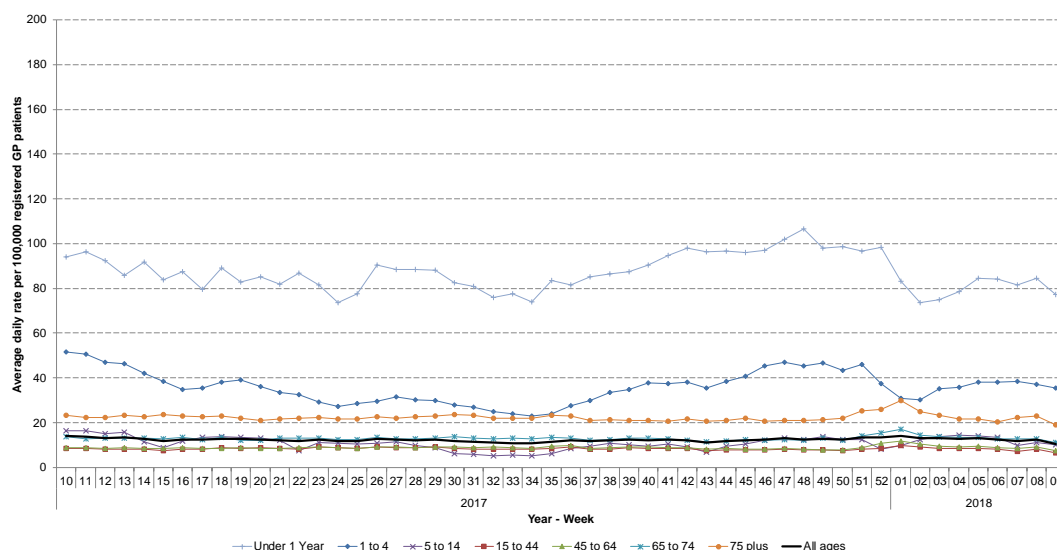
7: Gastroenteritis

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



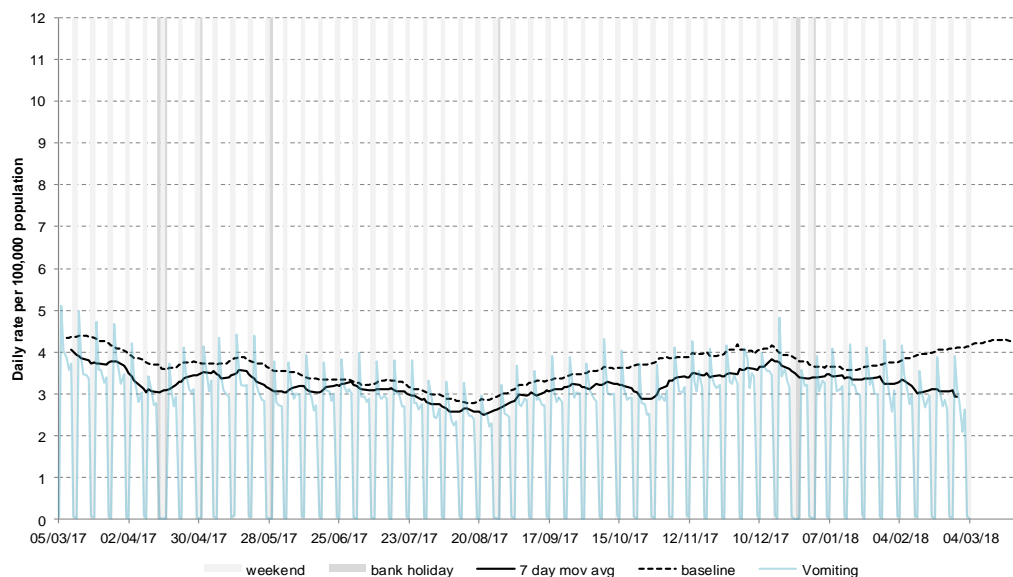
7a: Gastroenteritis by age

Average daily incidence rate by week per 100,000 population (all England).



8: Vomiting

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



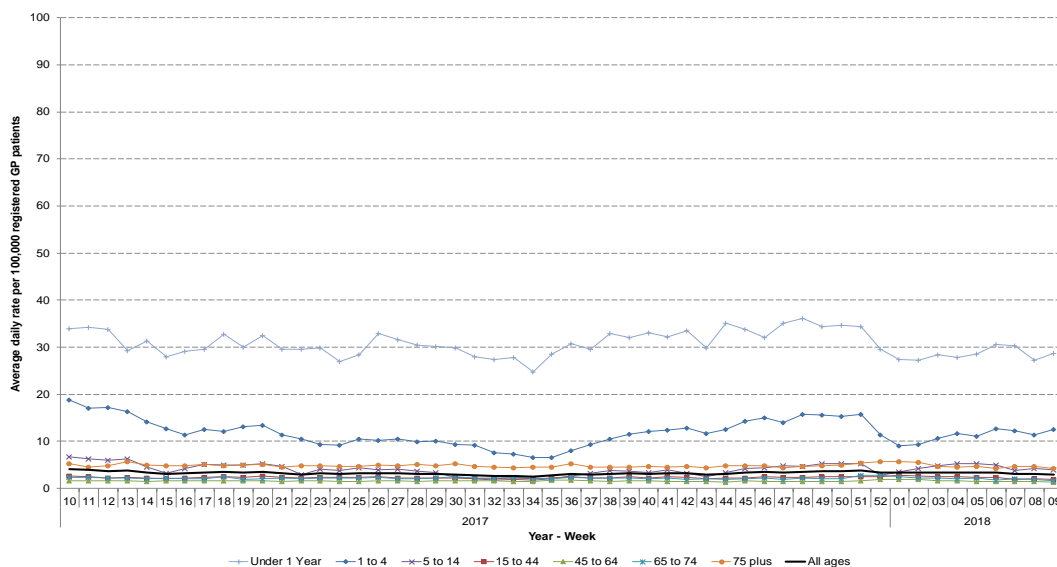
* 7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

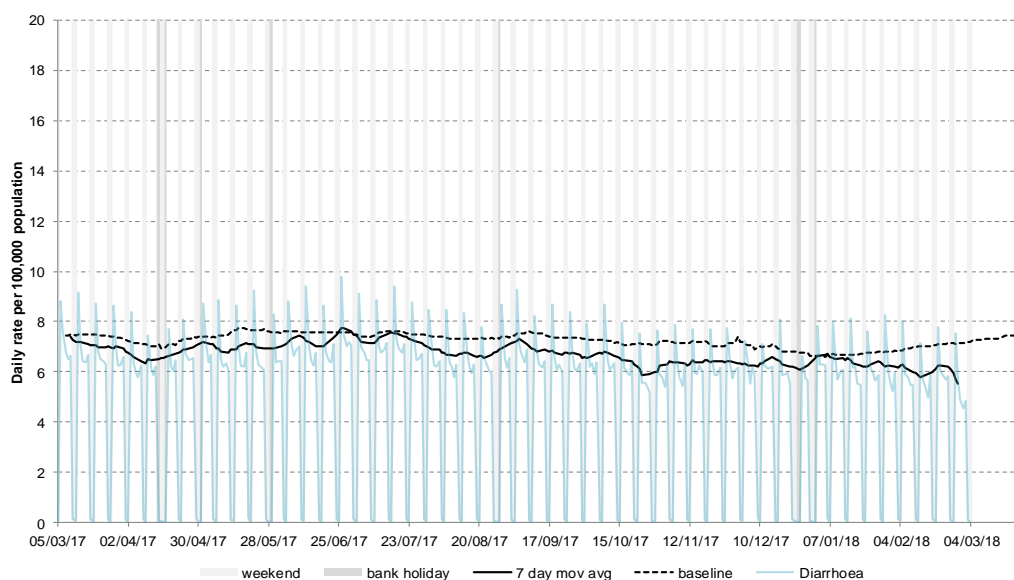
8a: Vomiting by age

Average daily incidence rate by week per 100,000 population (all England).



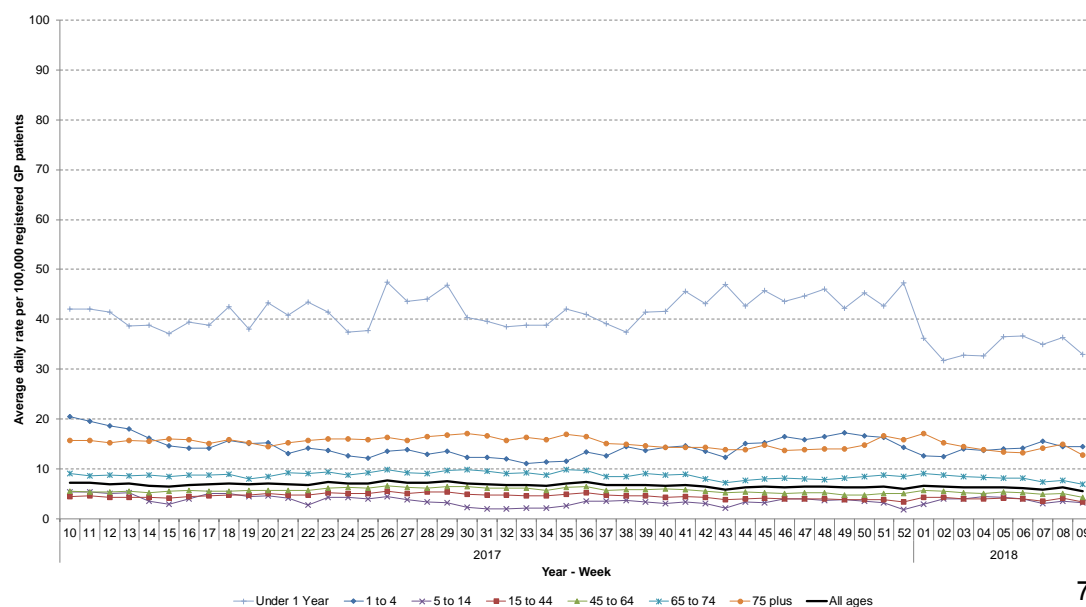
9: Diarrhoea

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



9a. Diarrhoea by age

Average daily incidence rate by week per 100,000 population (all England).



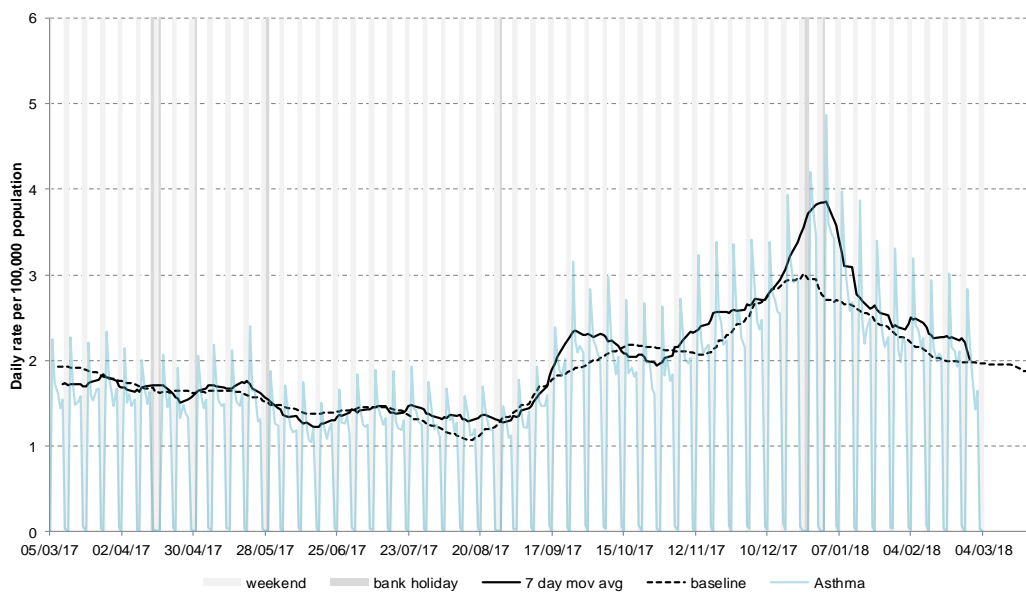
* 7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

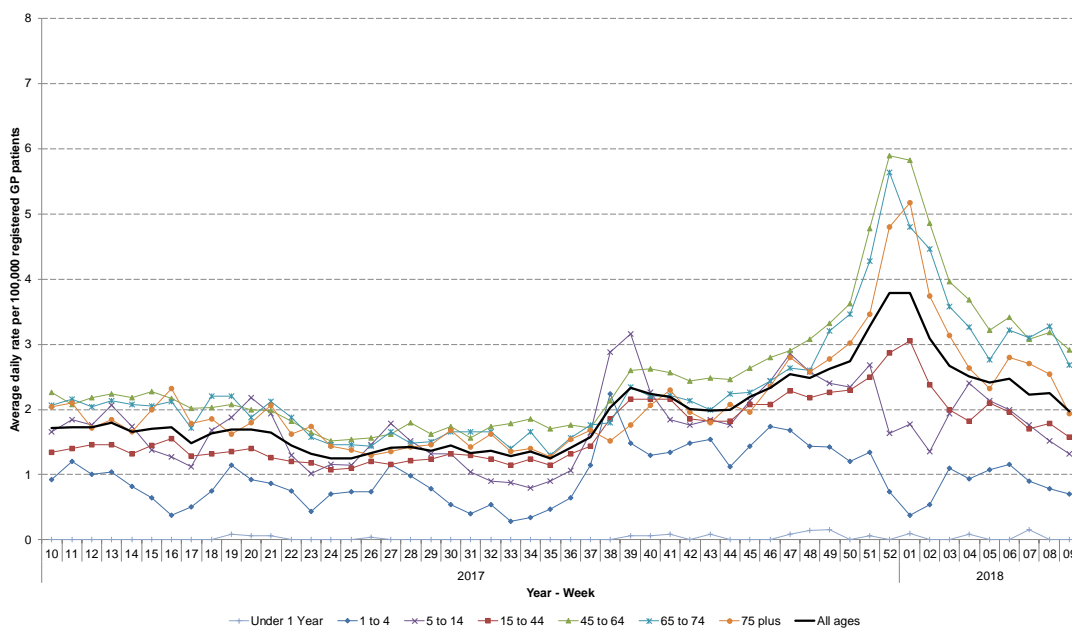
10: Asthma

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



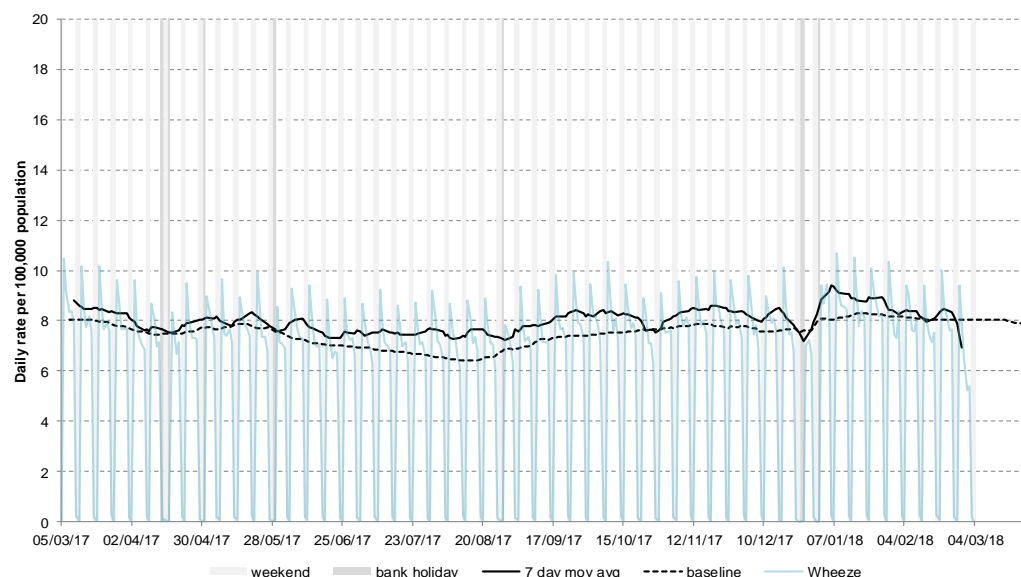
10a: Asthma by age

Average daily incidence rate by week per 100,000 population (all England).



11: Wheeze

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



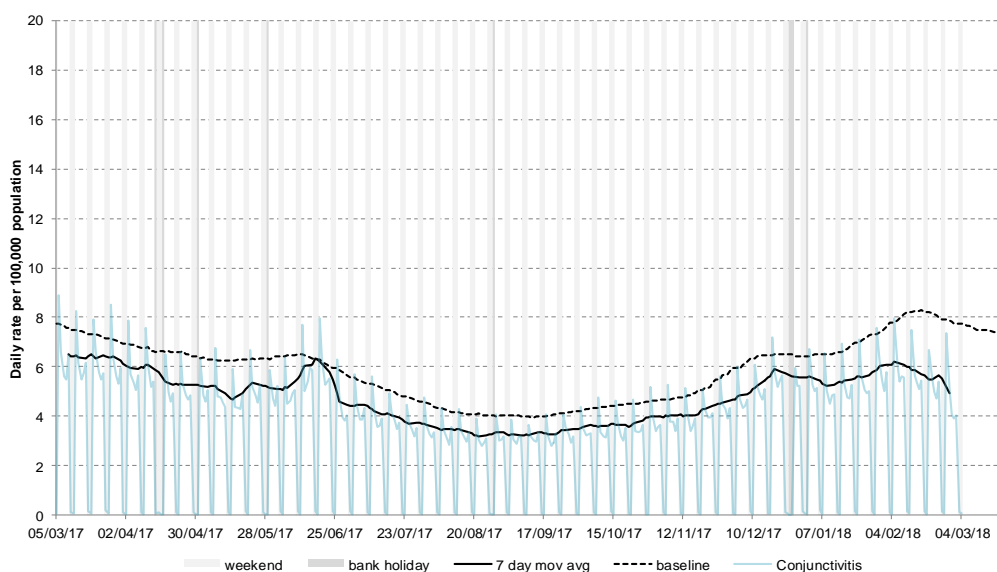
* 7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

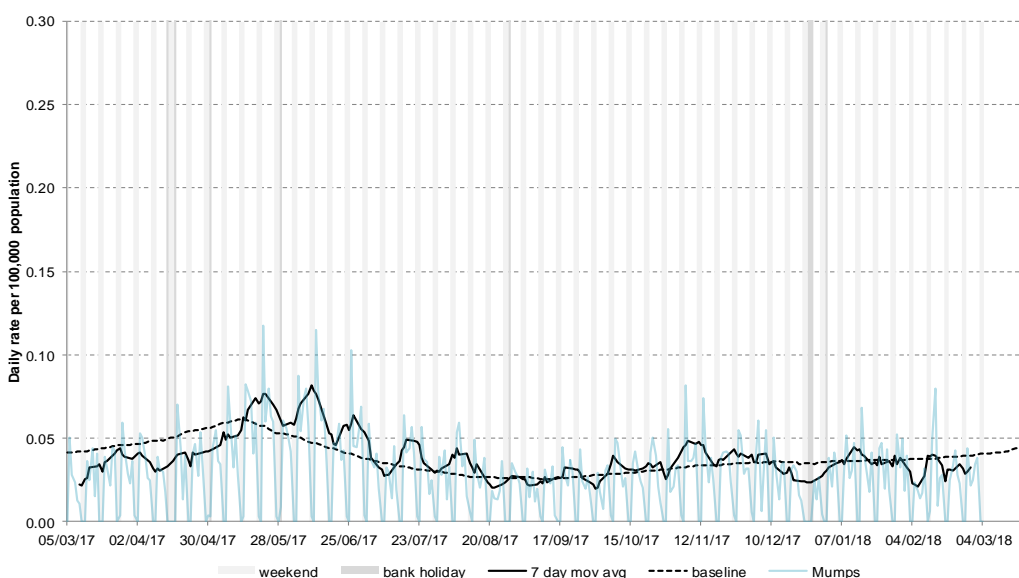
12: Conjunctivitis

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



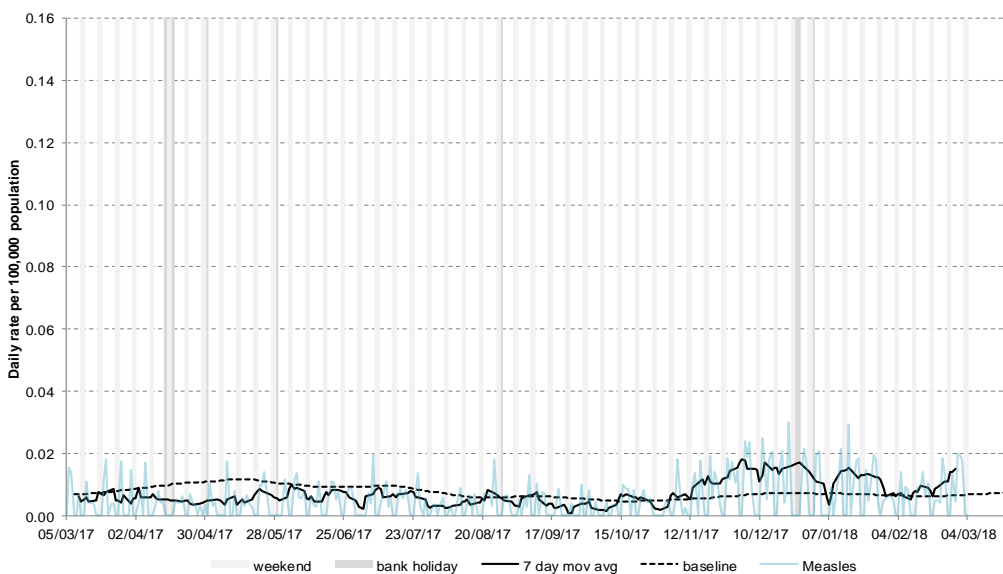
13: Mumps

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



14: Measles

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



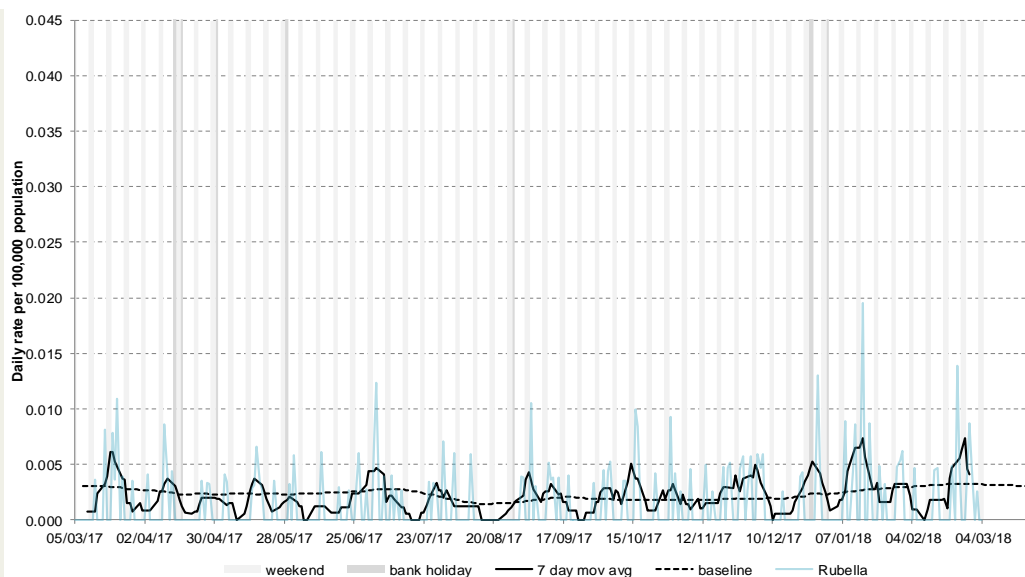
* 7-day moving average

05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

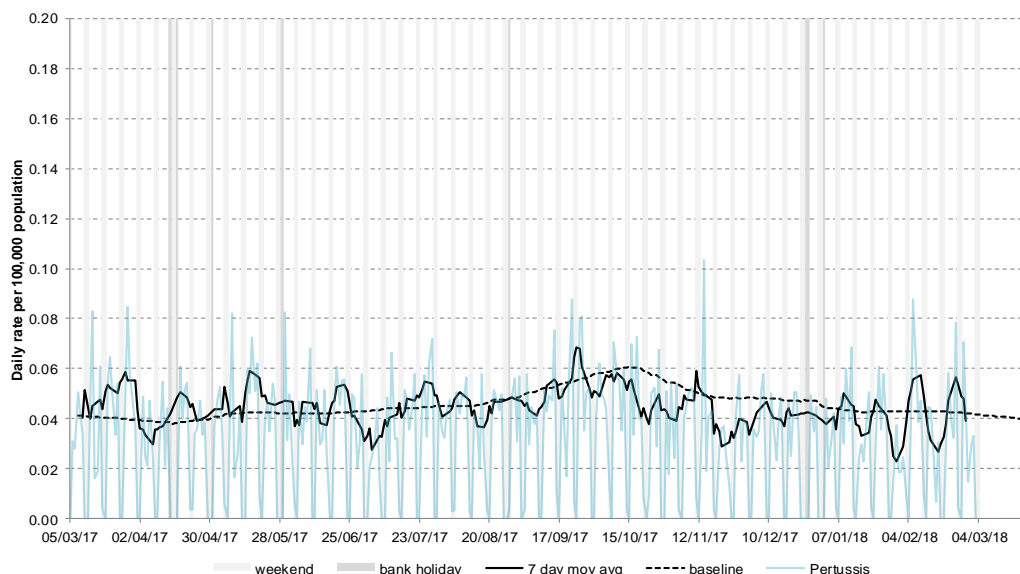
15: Rubella

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



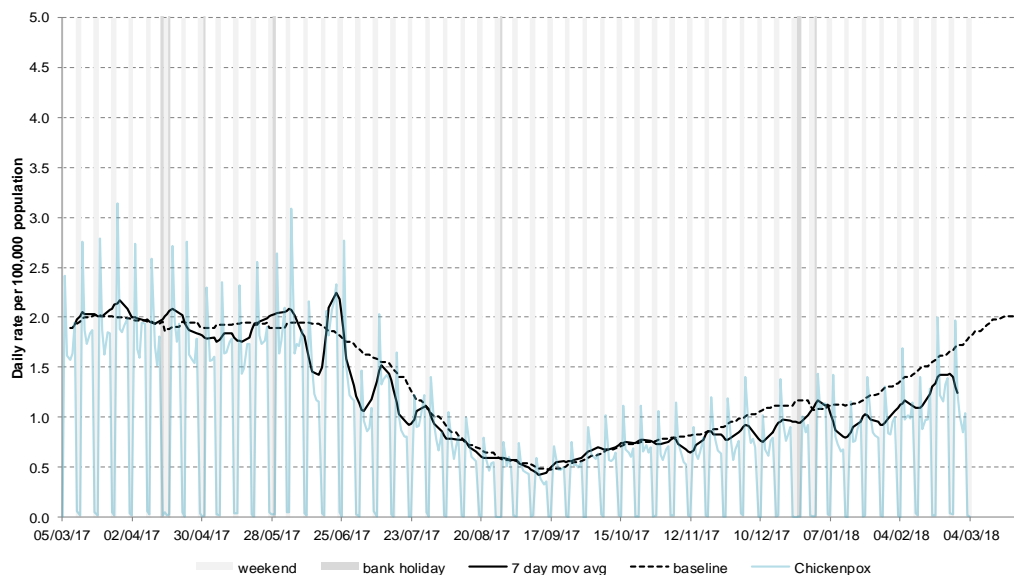
16: Pertussis

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



17: Chickenpox

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



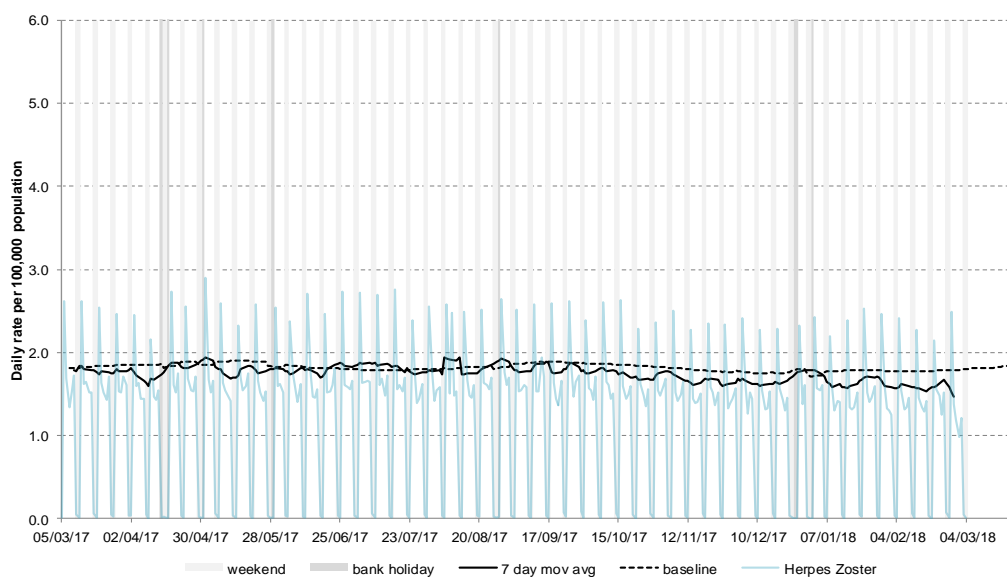
* 7-day moving average

05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

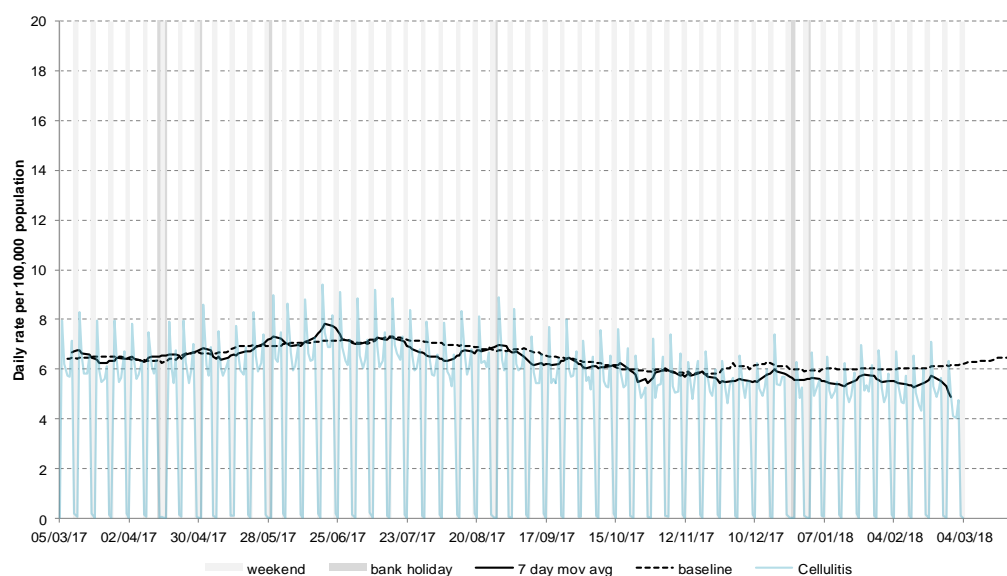
18: Herpes zoster

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



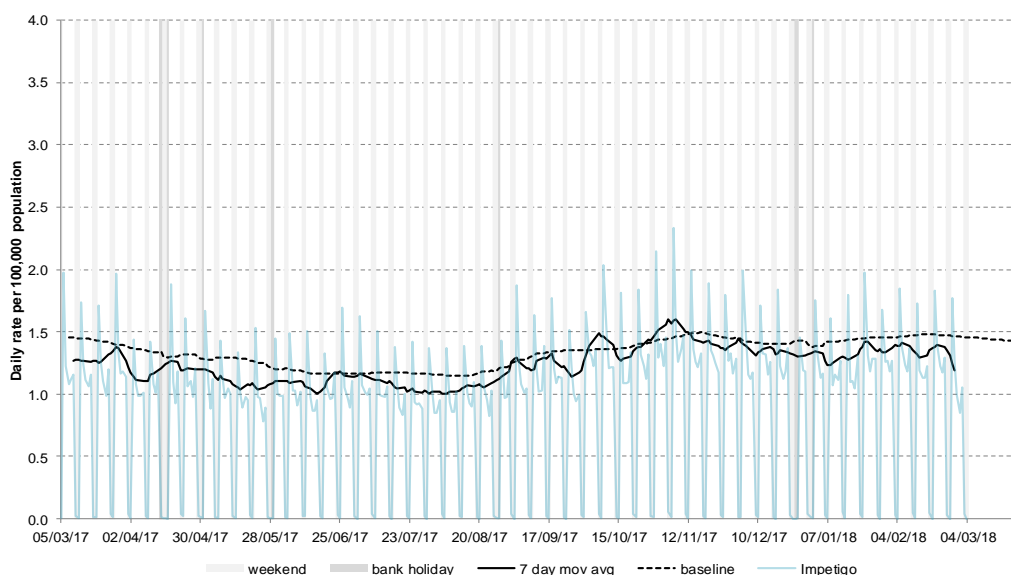
19: Cellulitis

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



20: Impetigo

Daily incidence rate (and 7-day moving average*) per 100,000 population (all England, all ages).



* 7-day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

Notes and further information

- The Public Health England GP in hours surveillance system is a syndromic surveillance system monitoring community-based morbidity recorded by GP practices.
- GP 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.
- This system captures anonymised GP morbidity data from two GP clinical software systems, EMIS, from version 1 of the QSurveillance® database, and TPP SystmOne.
- Baselines represent seasonally expected levels of activity and are constructed from historical data. Furthermore, they take into account any known substantial changes in data collection, population coverage or reporting practices. Baselines are refreshed using the latest data on a regular basis.

Maps:

- From week 40 2017 the levels of influenza-like illness (ILI) rates are illustrated in the bulletin appendix maps. The ILI intensity levels are calculated using the “Moving Epidemic Method” (MEM).¹ MEM is used as a standard methodology for setting influenza surveillance thresholds across Europe.²
- The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**
- The ILI thresholds have been calculated separately for each of the nine PHE Centres to allow for differences between areas e.g. background ILI rates are historically higher in London than other areas of England. However, upper tier Local Authority (utLA) ILI consultation rates are compared to Centre-level thresholds only and therefore utLAs with higher background rates than the Centre may appear to have higher ILI activity.
- ILI consultation rates presented for each utLA in the maps should be interpreted in context of regional and national ILI activity. The small numbers reported at this local level can often result in short-lived fluctuations in rates causing threshold exceedances that are out of context with national and regional activity. **utLA ILI data should therefore be interpreted with caution and interpreted in context with the national influenza report which can be found here:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/weekly-national-flu-reports>

- The maps on the following pages contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2015. Contains National Statistics data © Crown copyright and database right 2015.

¹ Vega T et al. *Influenza Other Respir Viruses*. 2013;7(4):546-58.

² Green HK et al. *Epidemiol Infect*. 2015;143(1):1-12.

Acknowledgements:

We thank and acknowledge the University of Nottingham, ClinRisk® and the contribution of EMIS and EMIS practices. Data source: version 1 of the QSurveillance® database.

We thank TPP, ResearchOne and the SystmOne GP practices contributing to this surveillance system.

Contact ReSST:

syndromic.surveillance
@phe.gov.uk

GP In Hours Syndromic Surveillance System Bulletin.

Produced by: PHE Real-time Syndromic Surveillance Team
6th Floor, 5 St Philip's Place, Birmingham, B3 2PW

Tel: 0344 225 3560 > Option 4 > Option 2 **Fax:** 0121 236 2215

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

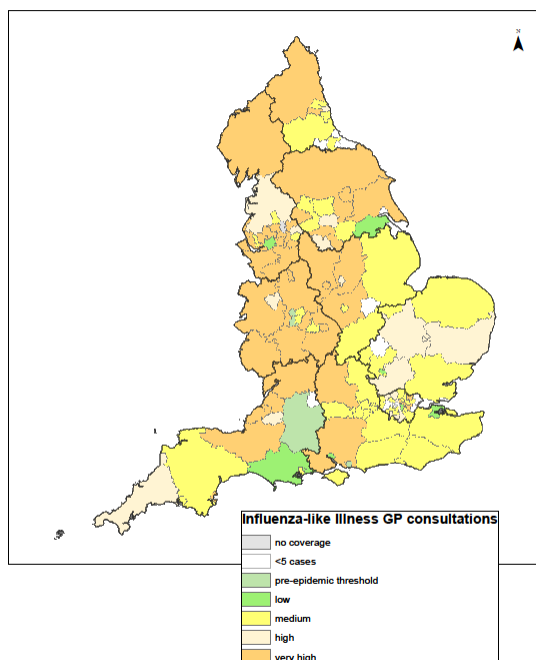
05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

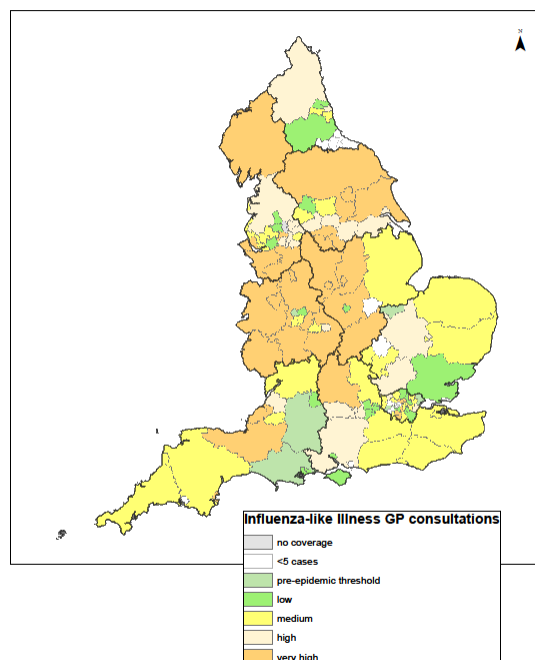
England

Influenza-like illness
GP consultations
by LA
(England)

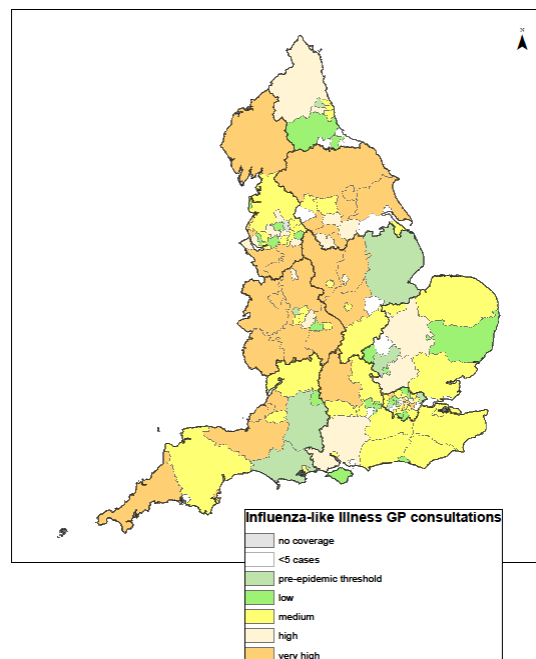
Week 6



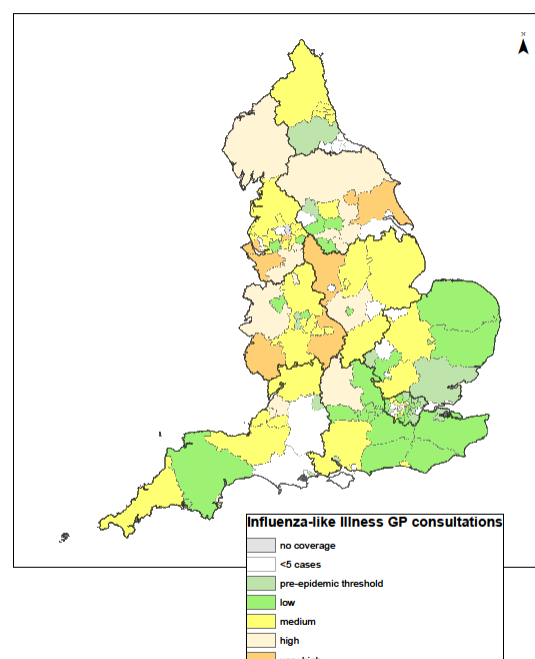
Week 7



Week 8



Week 9



PLEASE NOTE: The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**

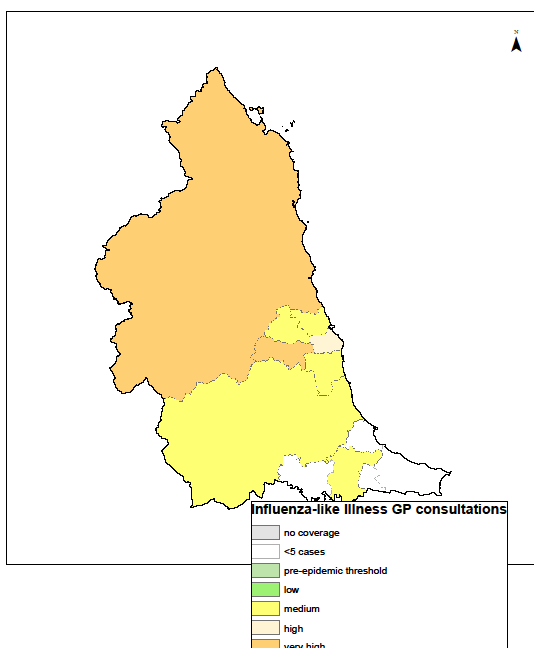
Please read the notes section (page 11) to understand the caveats and limitations on the use and interpretation of local ILI consultation data

Contains Ordnance Survey data ©Crown copyright and database right 2017. Contains National Statistics data.

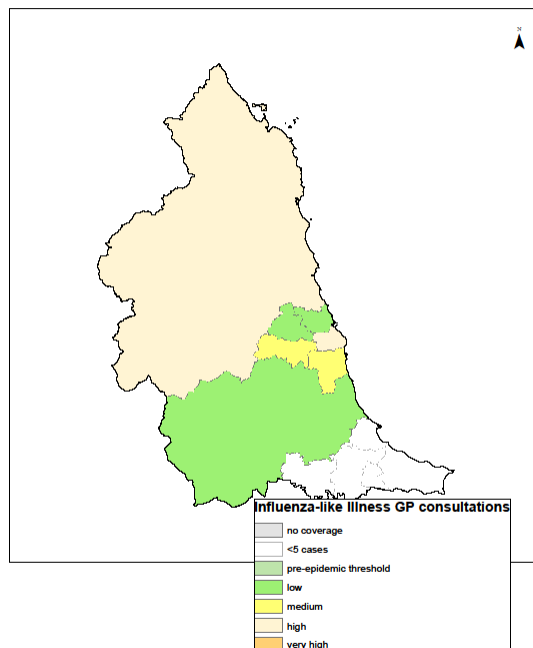
North East

Influenza-like illness GP consultations by LA (North East PHE Centre)

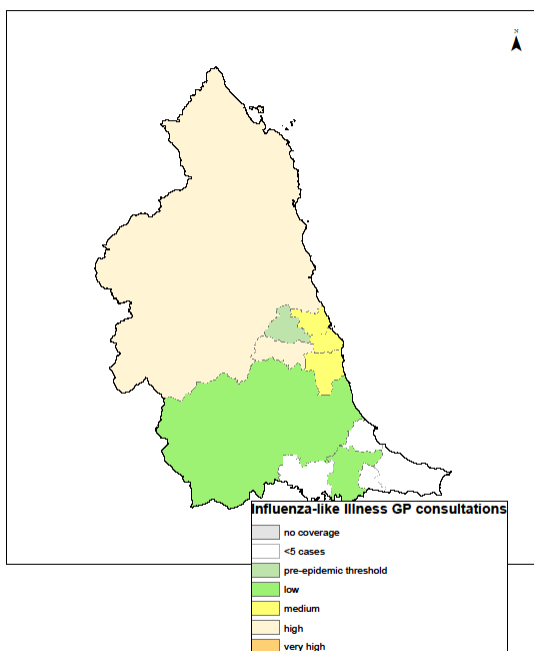
Week 6



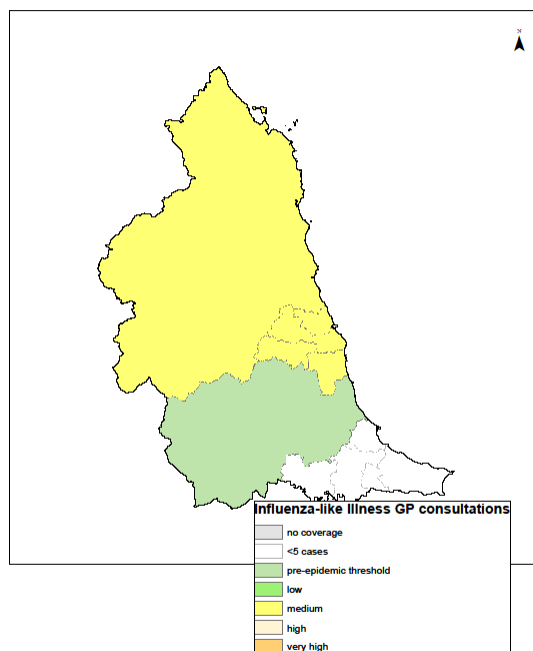
Week 7



Week 8



Week 9



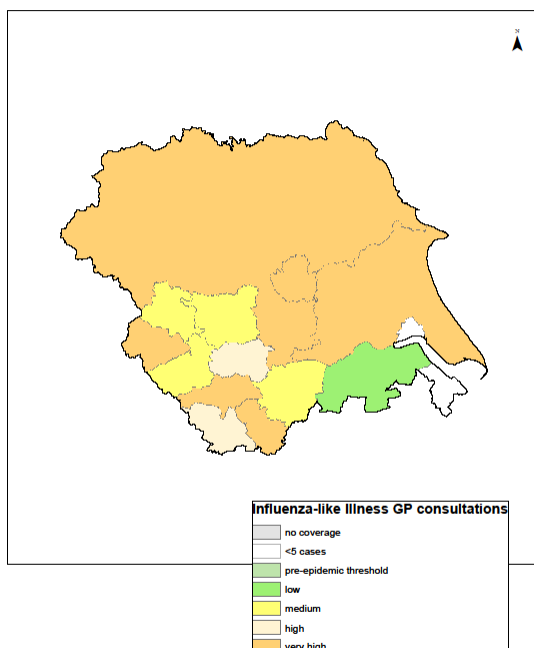
PLEASE NOTE: The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**

Please read the notes section (page 11) to understand the caveats and limitations on the use and interpretation of local ILI consultation data

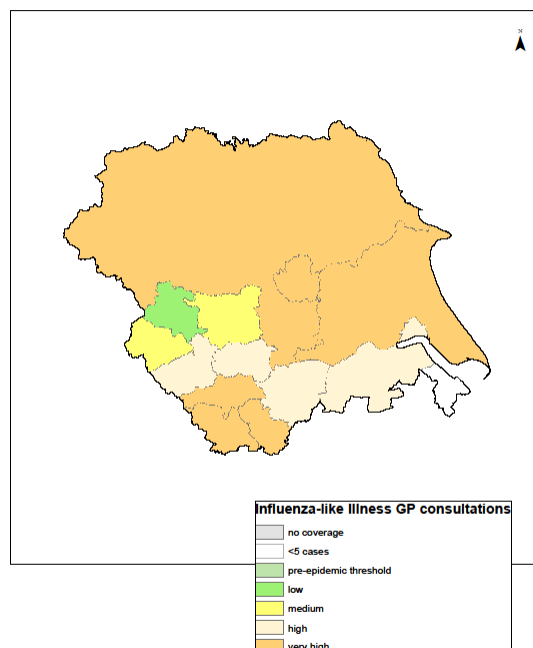
Yorkshire & Humber

Influenza-like illness GP consultations by LA (Yorkshire & Humber PHE Centre)

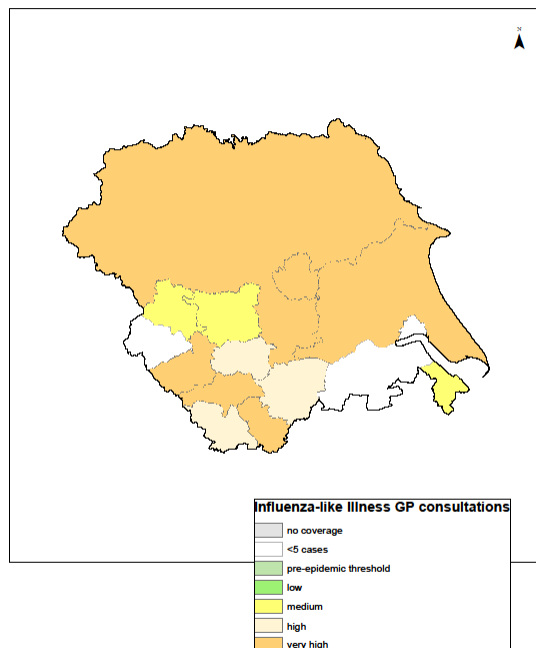
Week 6



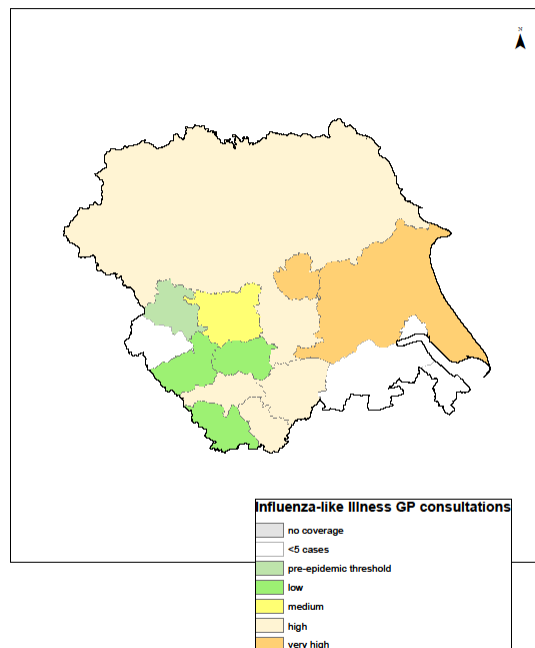
Week 7



Week 8



Week 9



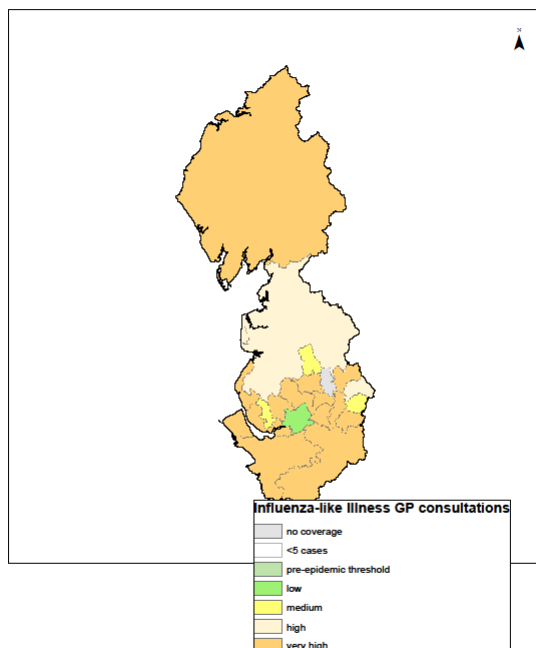
PLEASE NOTE: The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**

Please read the notes section (page 11) to understand the caveats and limitations on the use and interpretation of local ILI consultation data

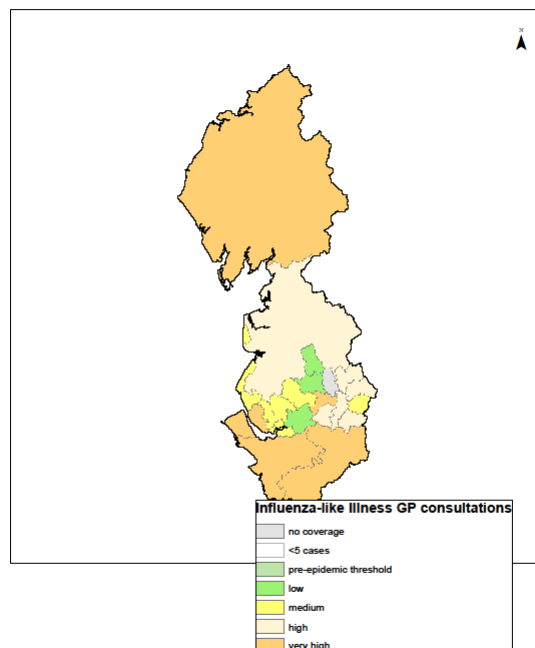
North West

Influenza-like illness GP consultations by LA (North West PHE Centre)

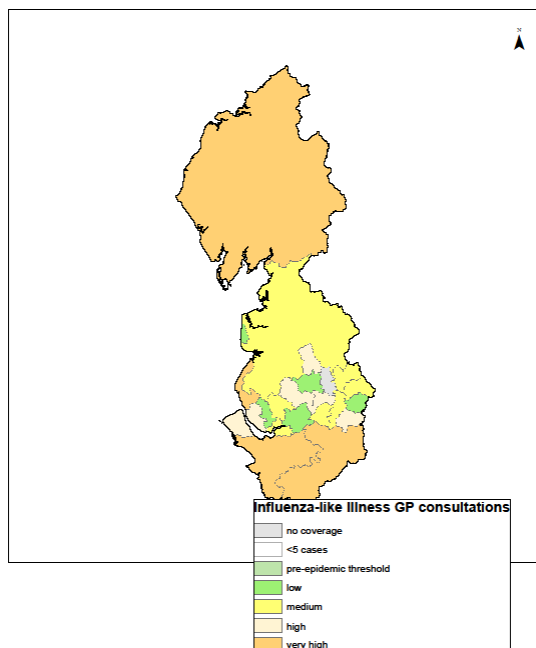
Week 6



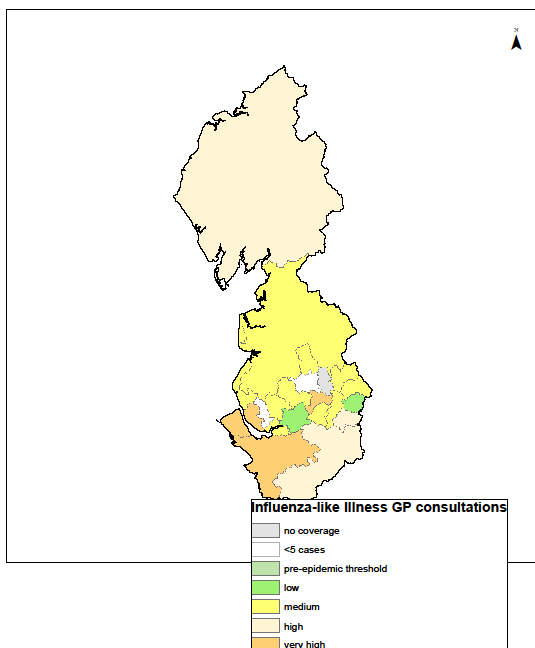
Week 7



Week 8



Week 9



PLEASE NOTE: The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**

Please read the notes section (page 11) to understand the caveats and limitations on the use and interpretation of local ILI consultation data

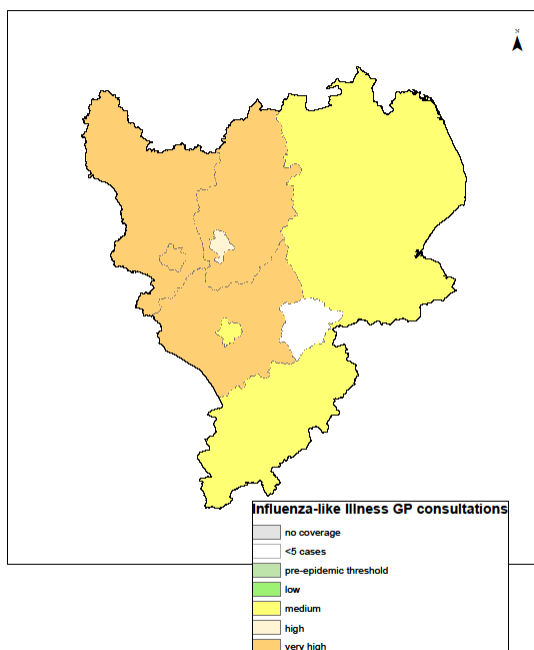
05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

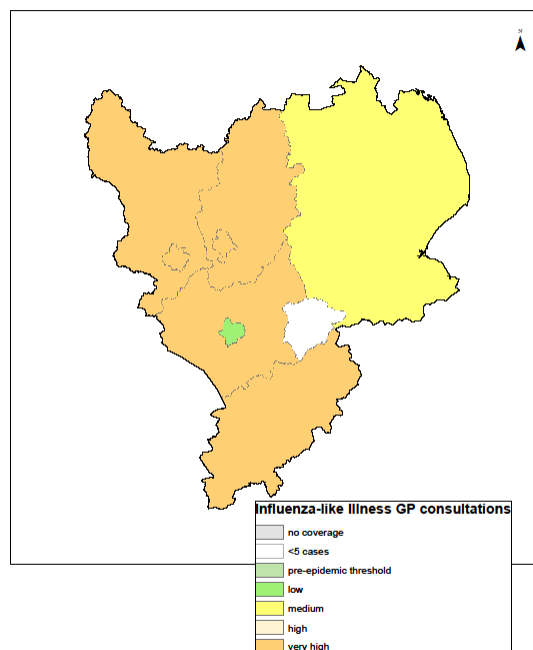
East Midlands

Influenza-like illness GP consultations by LA (East Midlands PHE Centre)

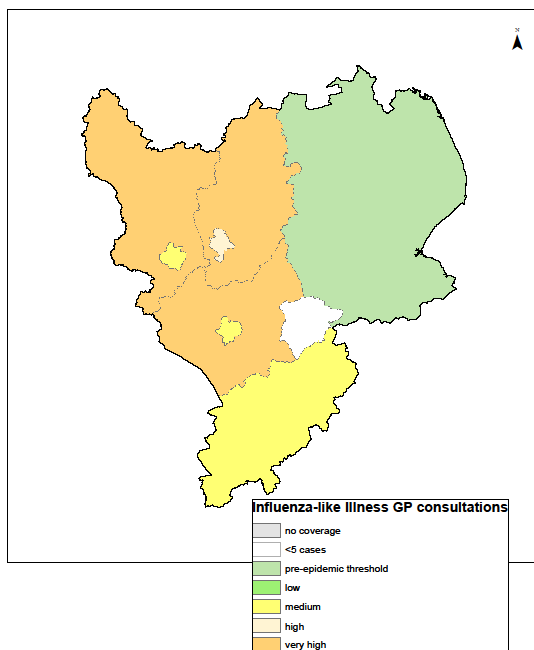
Week 6



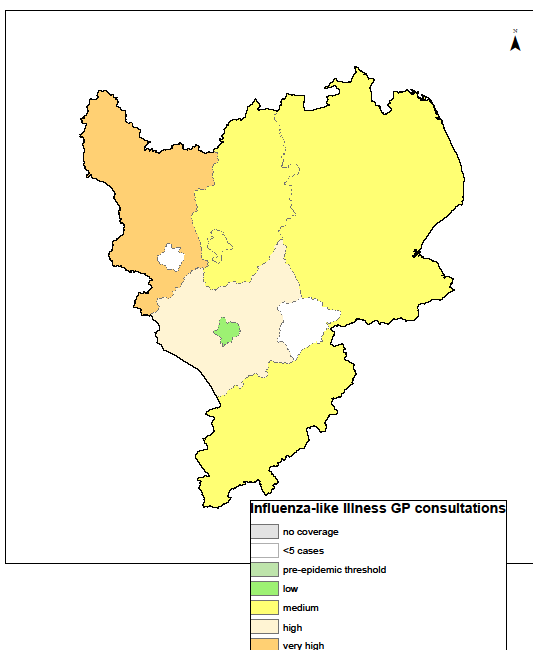
Week 7



Week 8



Week 9



PLEASE NOTE: The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**

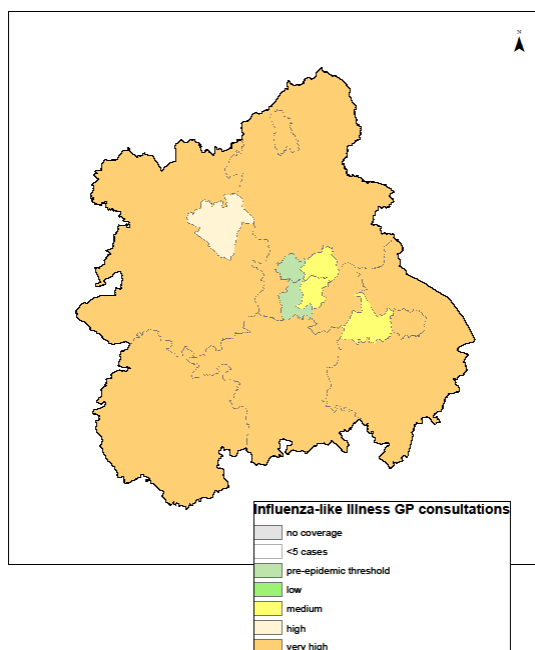
Please read the notes section (page 11) to understand the caveats and limitations on the use and interpretation of local ILI consultation data

Contains Ordnance Survey data ©Crown copyright and database right 2017. Contains National Statistics data.

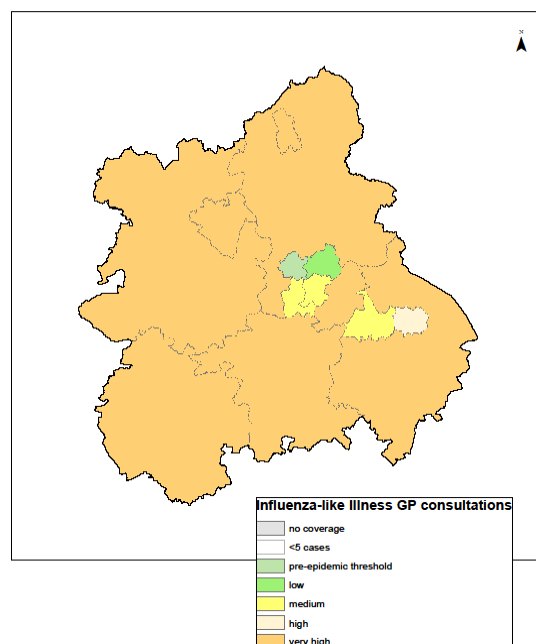
West Midlands

Influenza-like illness GP consultations by LA (West Midlands PHE Centre)

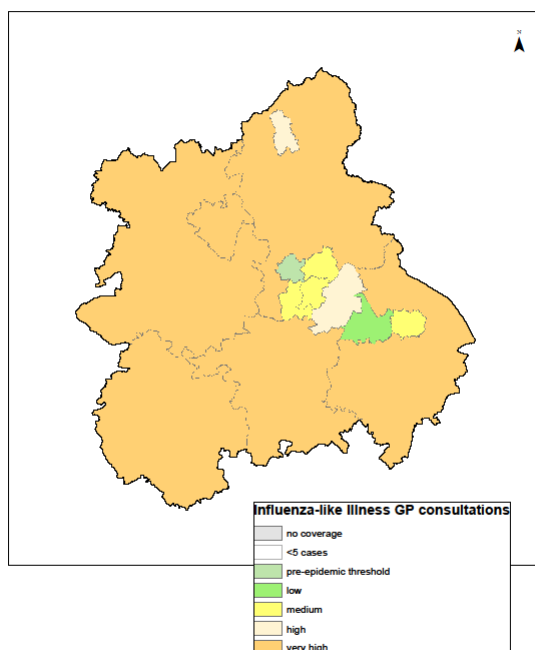
Week 6



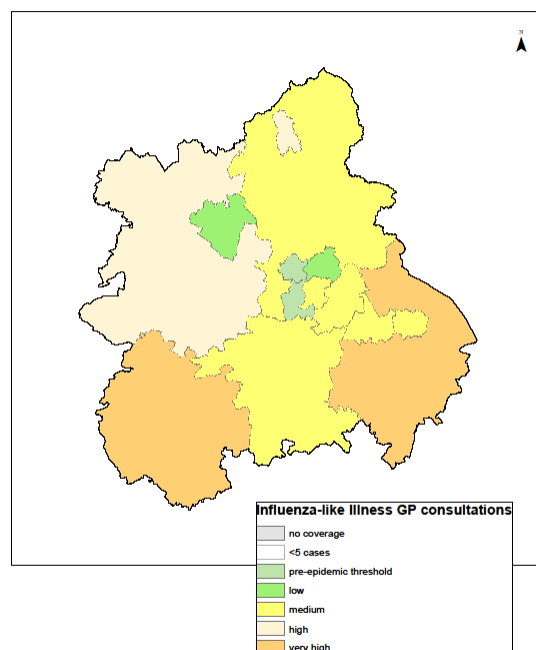
Week 7



Week 8



Week 9



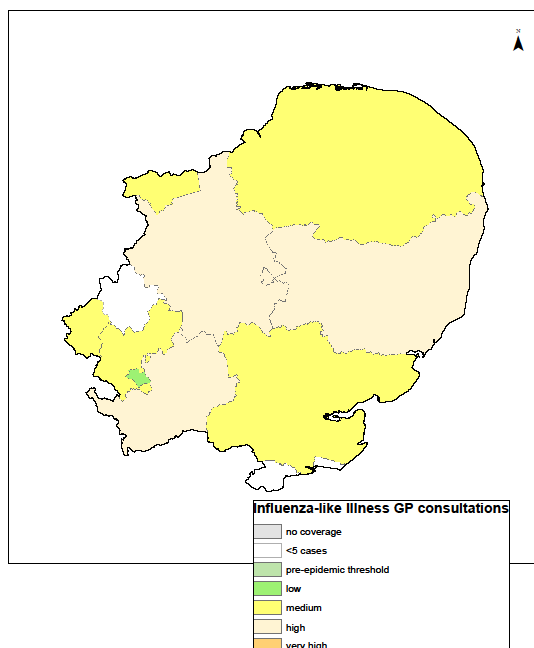
PLEASE NOTE: The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**

Please read the notes section (page 11) to understand the caveats and limitations on the use and interpretation of local ILI consultation data

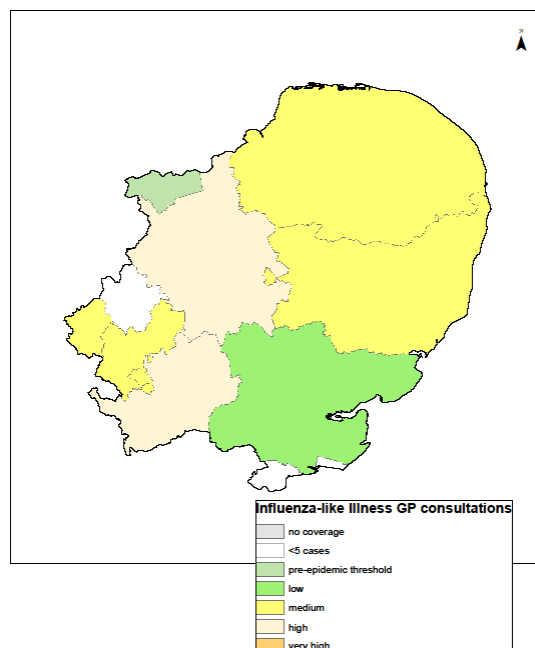
East of England

Influenza-like illness GP consultations by LA (East of England PHE Centre)

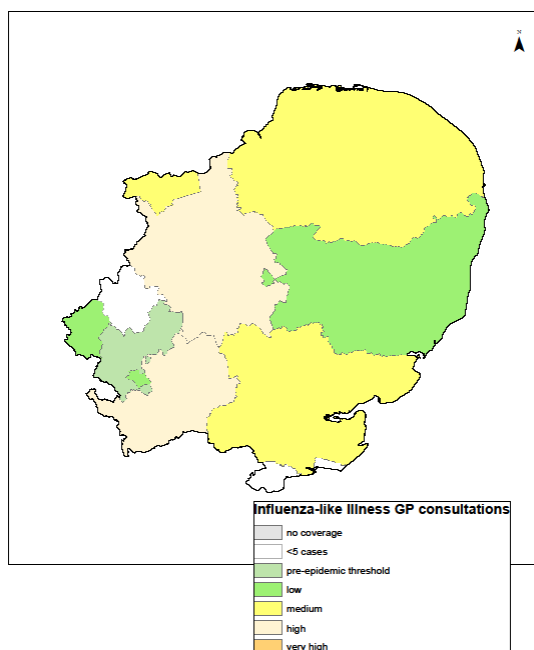
Week 6



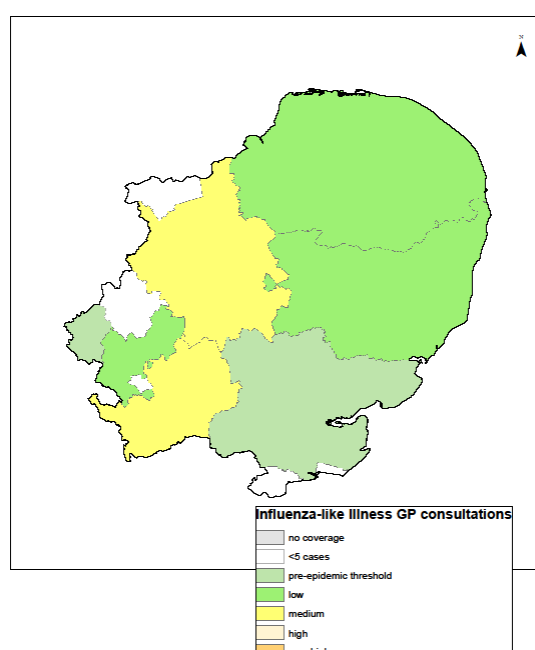
Week 7



Week 8



Week 9



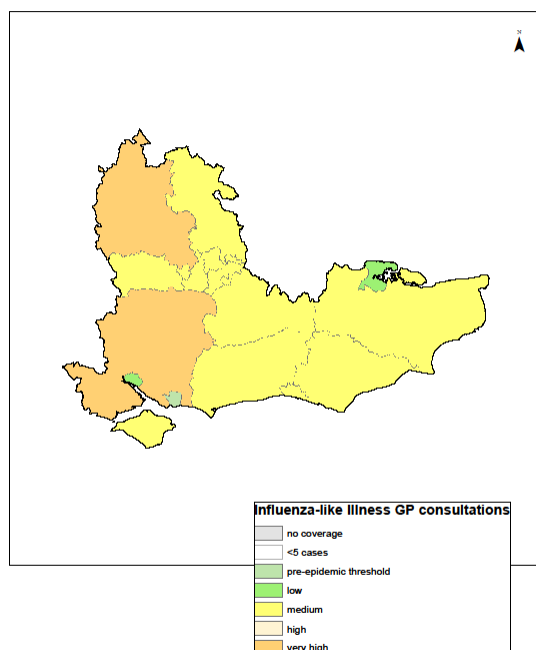
PLEASE NOTE: The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**

Please read the notes section (page 11) to understand the caveats and limitations on the use and interpretation of local ILI consultation data

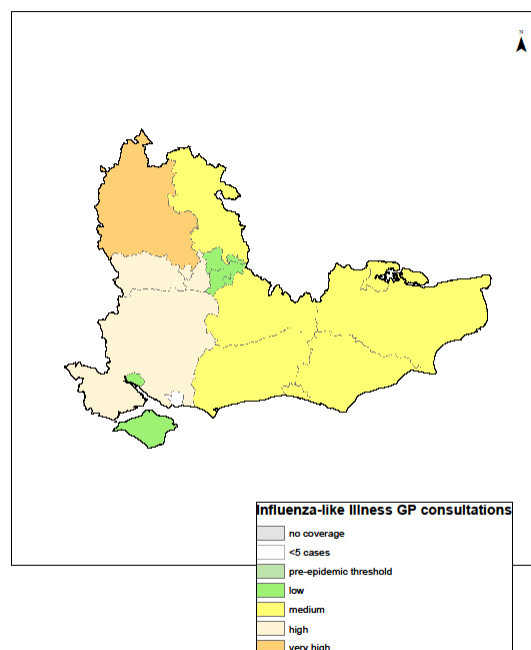
South East

Influenza-like illness
GP
consultations
by LA (South
East PHE
Centre)

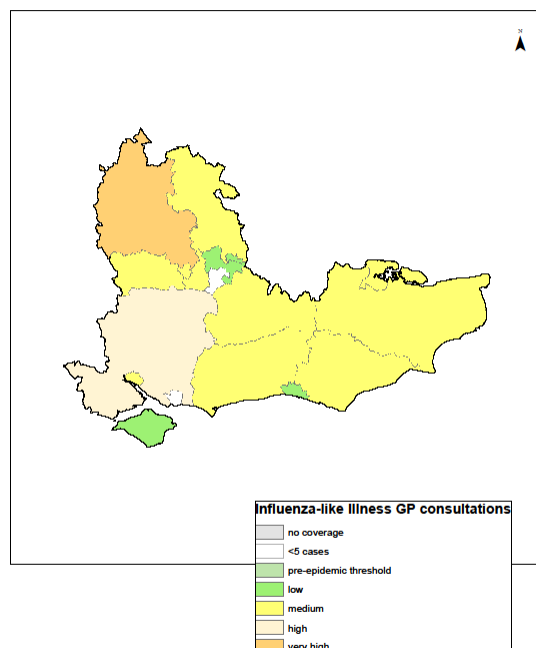
Week 6



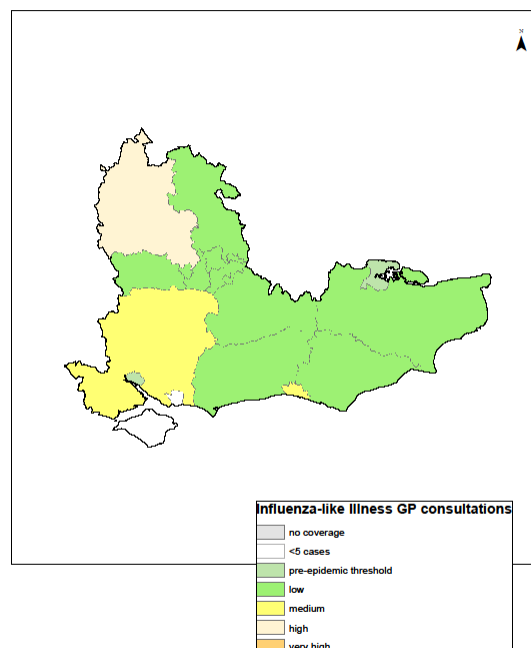
Week 7



Week 8



Week 9



PLEASE NOTE: The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**

Please read the notes section (page 11) to understand the caveats and limitations on the use and interpretation of local ILI consultation data

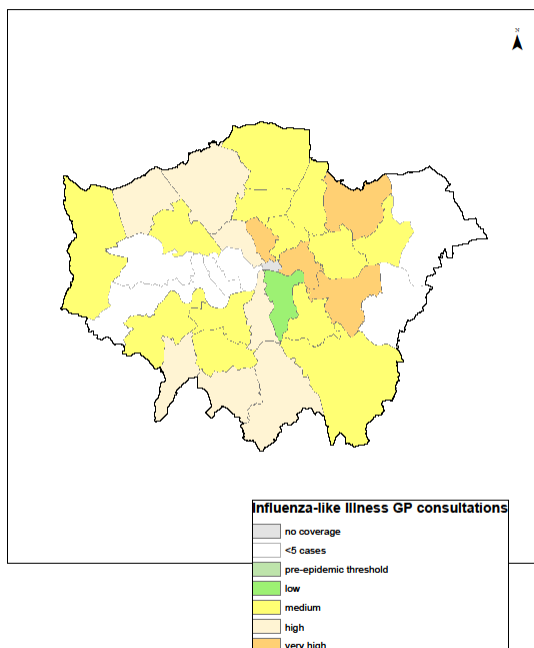
05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

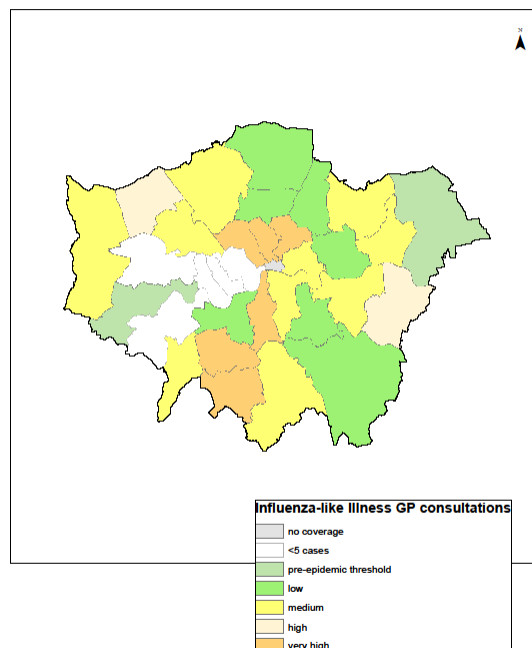
London

Influenza-like illness
GP
consultations
by LA
(London
PHE Centre)

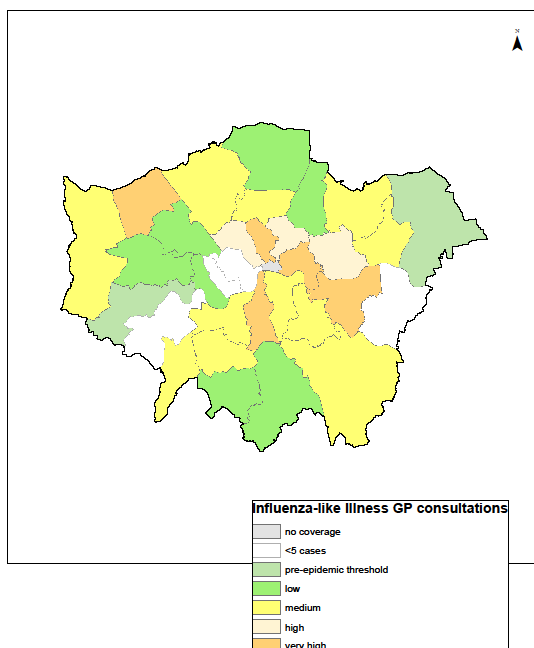
Week 6



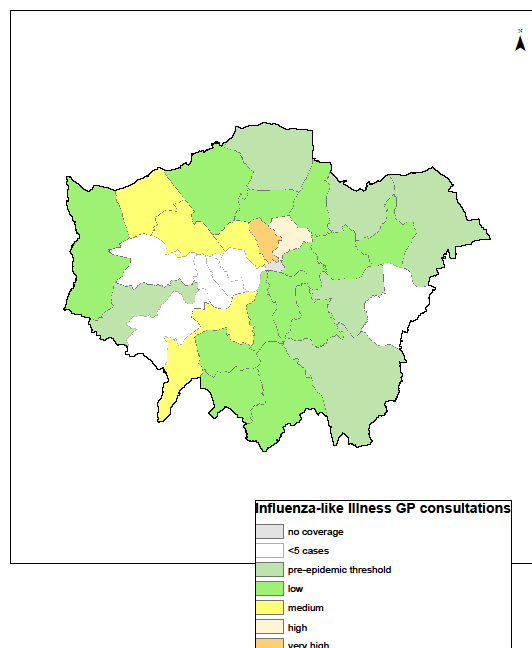
Week 7



Week 8



Week 9



PLEASE NOTE: The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**

Please read the notes section (page 11) to understand the caveats and limitations on the use and interpretation of local ILI consultation data

Contains Ordnance Survey data ©Crown copyright and database right 2017. Contains National Statistics data.

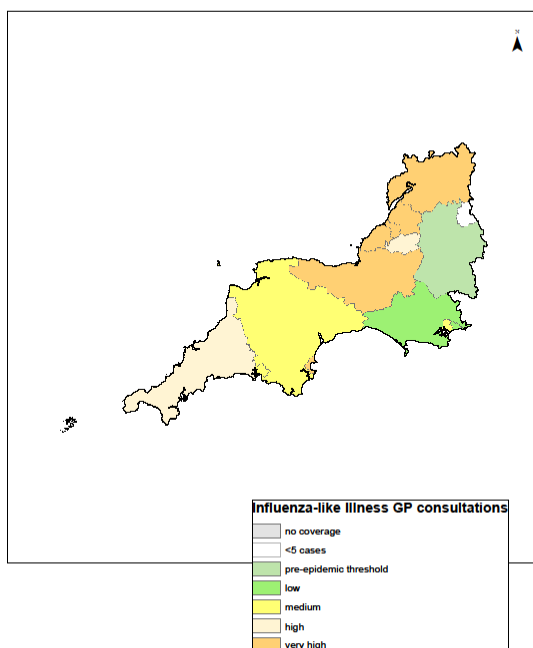
05 March 2018

Year: 2018 Week: 9

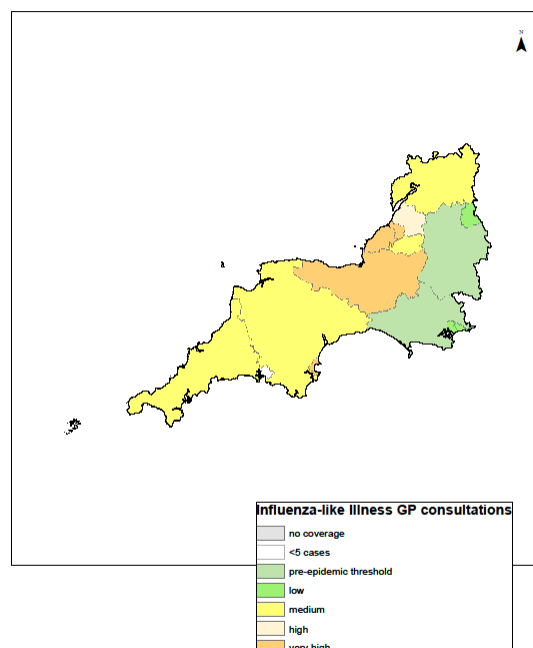
South West

Influenza-like illness
GP consultations
by LA (South West PHE
Centre)

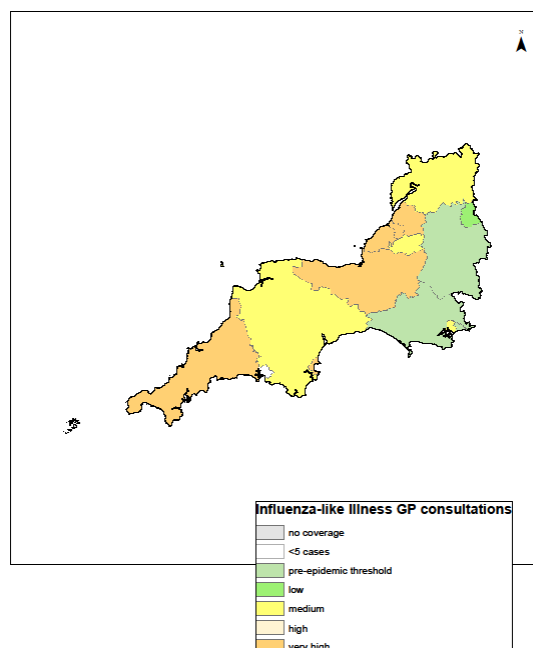
Week 6



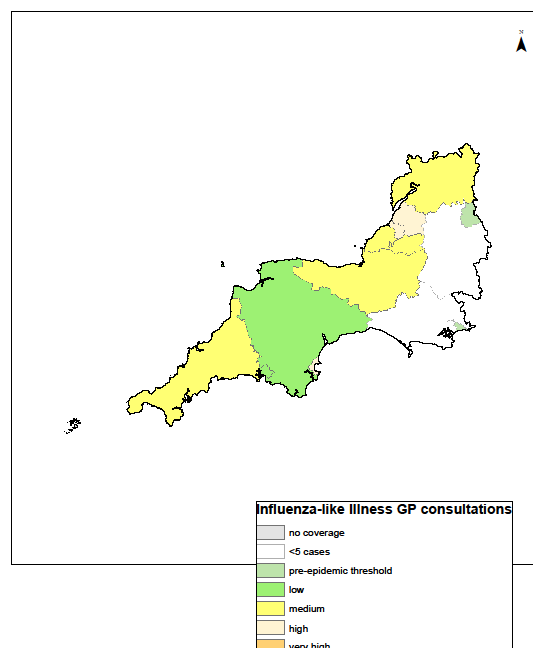
Week 7



Week 8



Week 9



PLEASE NOTE: The current ILI thresholds are based upon previous influenza seasons from 2012/13 onwards and therefore illustrate activity levels in relation to previous ILI activity recorded in the GPIH system. **ILI thresholds presented in the maps should be interpreted with caution and reference made to other GP surveillance systems incorporating more historical data, which are available in the PHE National Influenza Report.**

Please read the notes section (page 11) to understand the caveats and limitations on the use and interpretation of local ILI consultation data

Contains Ordnance Survey data ©Crown copyright and database right 2017. Contains National Statistics data.