Public Health England

Remote Health Advice

Syndromic Surveillance System: England

Key messages

Data to: 30 September 2018

NHS 111 call for difficulty breathing in children aged 0-14 years decreased during week 39 (figure 5a). Cough calls continued to increase in week 39 in line with seasonal expectations (figure 4).

Syndromic indicators at a glance:

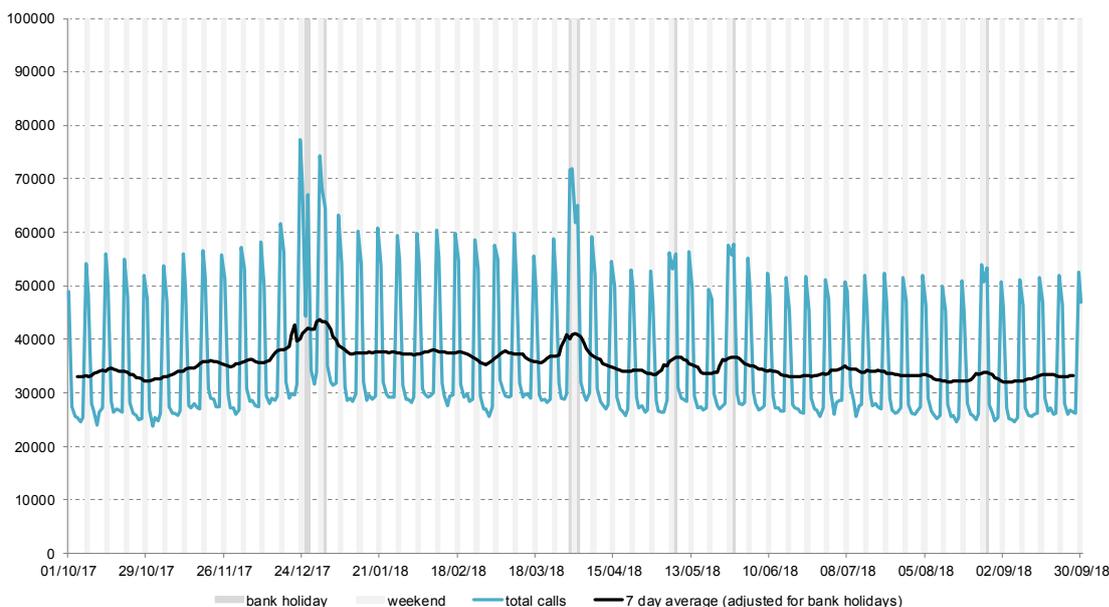| Indicator	Trend	Level *
Cold/flu	increasing	similar to baseline levels
Fever	increasing	below baseline levels
Cough	increasing	similar to baseline levels
Difficulty breathing	no trend	similar to baseline levels
Sore throat	increasing	below baseline levels
Diarrhoea	decreasing	below baseline levels
Vomiting	no trend	below baseline levels
Eye problems	no trend	below baseline levels

*Since week 47 2014 new baselines have been introduced for comparison with previous years.
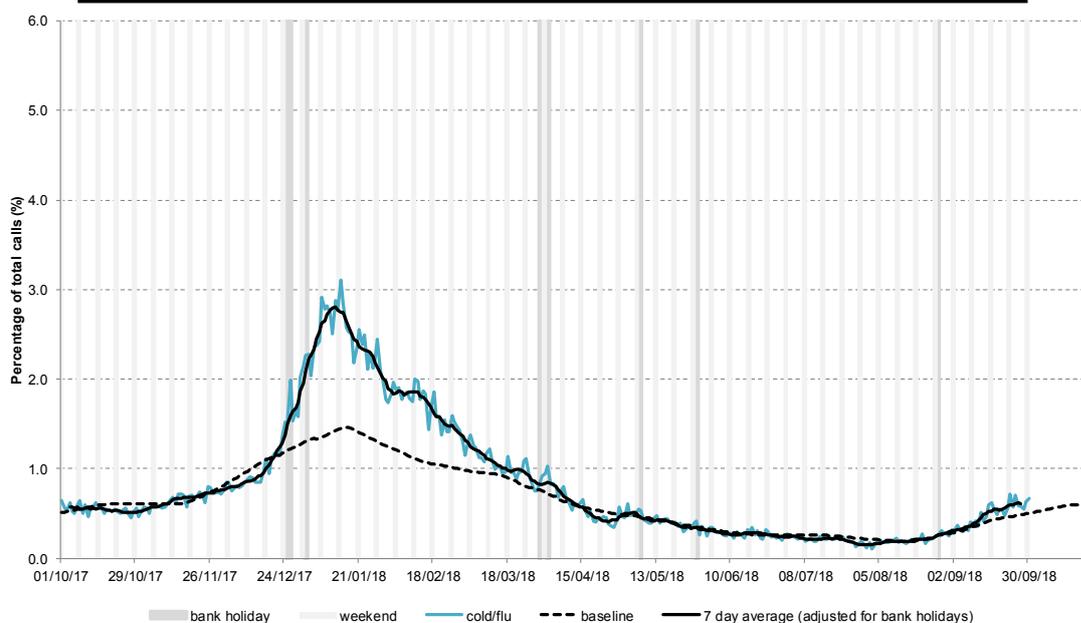
Data summary:

Year	Week	Total calls
2018	39	205,013

1: Total calls.

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

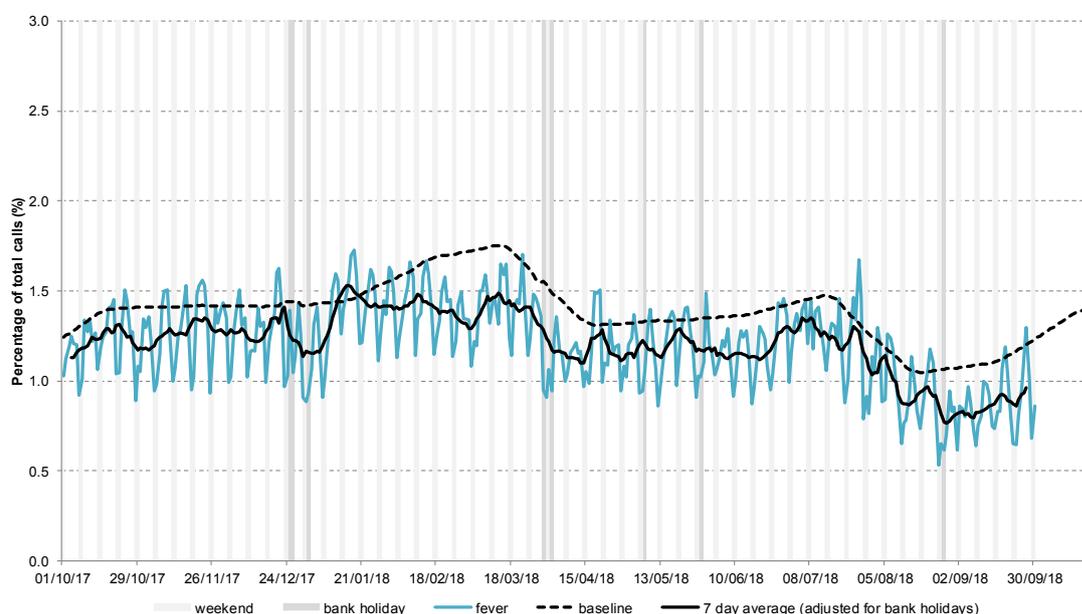Legend: bank holiday | weekend | total calls | 7 day average (adjusted for bank holidays)

2: Cold/flu

Daily 'cold/flu' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2013.

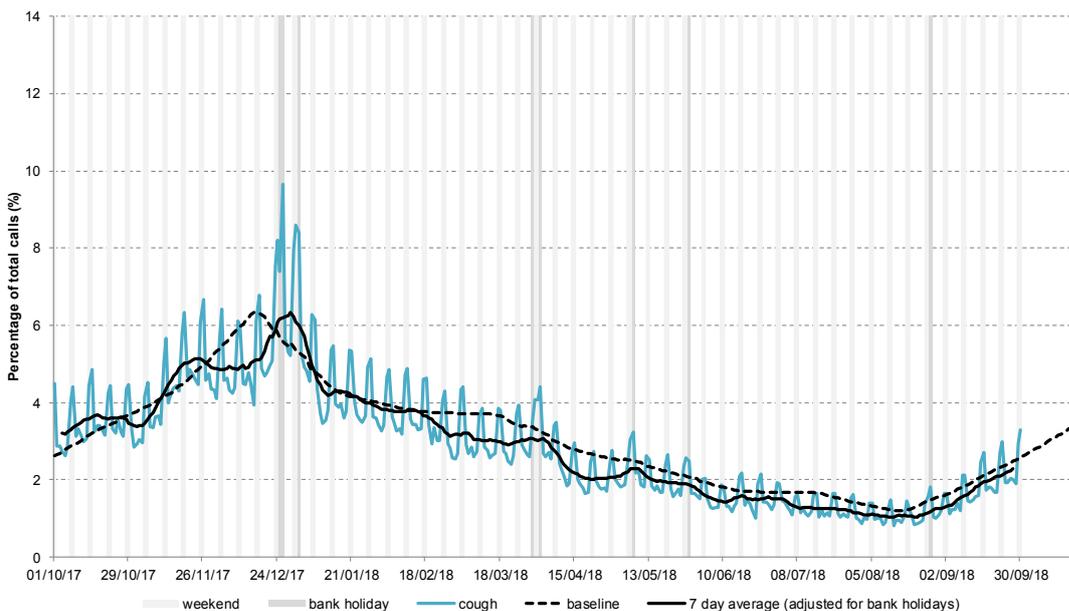Legend: bank holiday | weekend | cold/flu | baseline | 7 day average (adjusted for bank holidays)

3: Fever

Daily 'fever' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2013.

Legend: weekend | bank holiday | fever | baseline | 7 day average (adjusted for bank holidays)
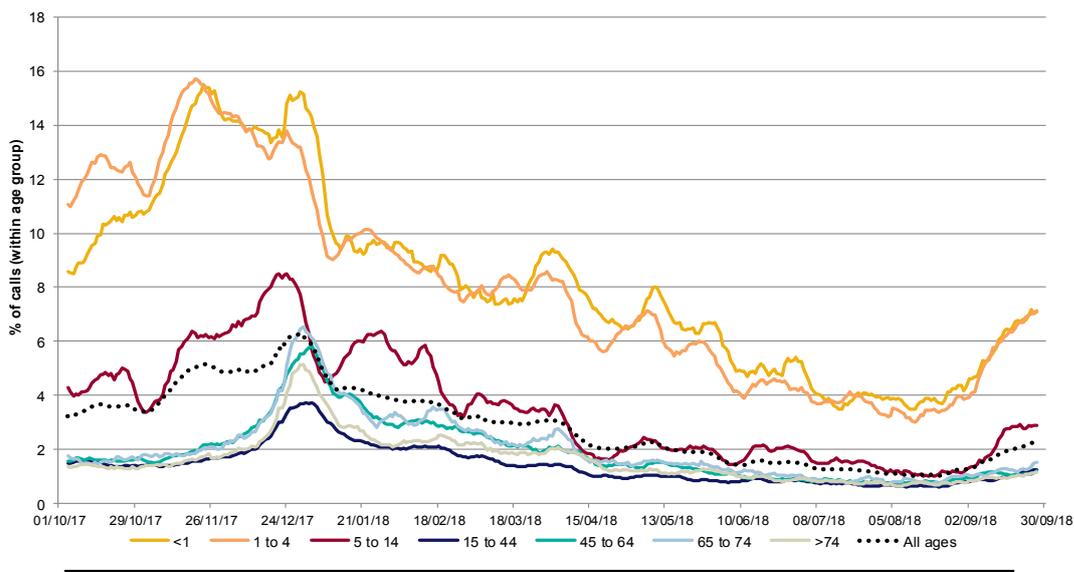
4: Cough

Daily 'cough' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2010, including data from NHS 111 and NHS Direct.

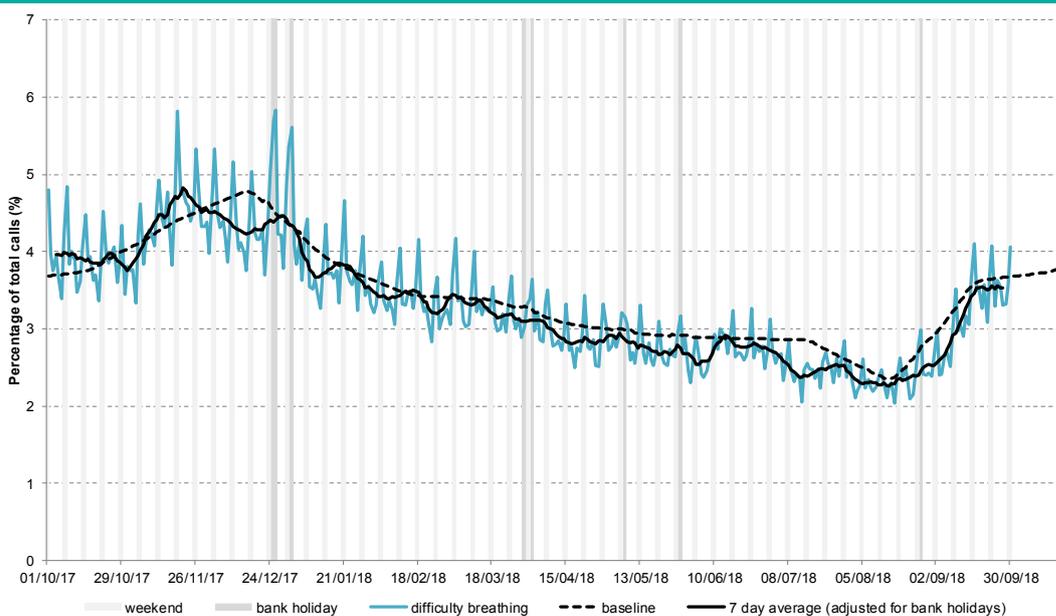## 4a: Cough calls by age group

Difficulty breathing calls as a percentage of total calls within each age group, shown as a 7 day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.
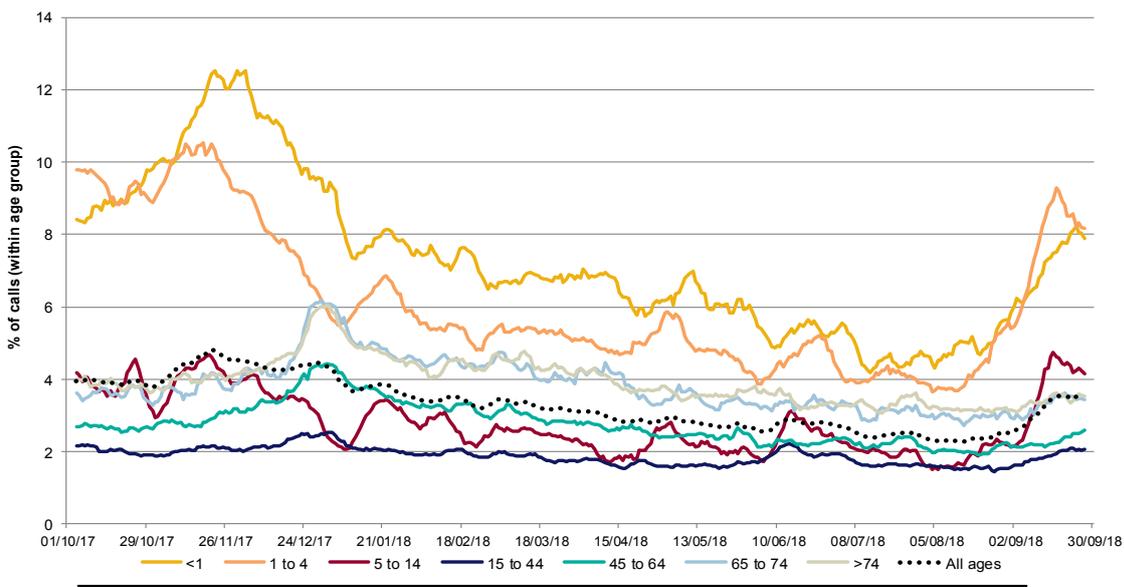

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5: Difficulty breathing

Daily 'difficulty breathing' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2013.

5a: Difficulty breathing calls by age group

Difficulty breathing calls as a percentage of total calls within each age group, shown as a 7 day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.
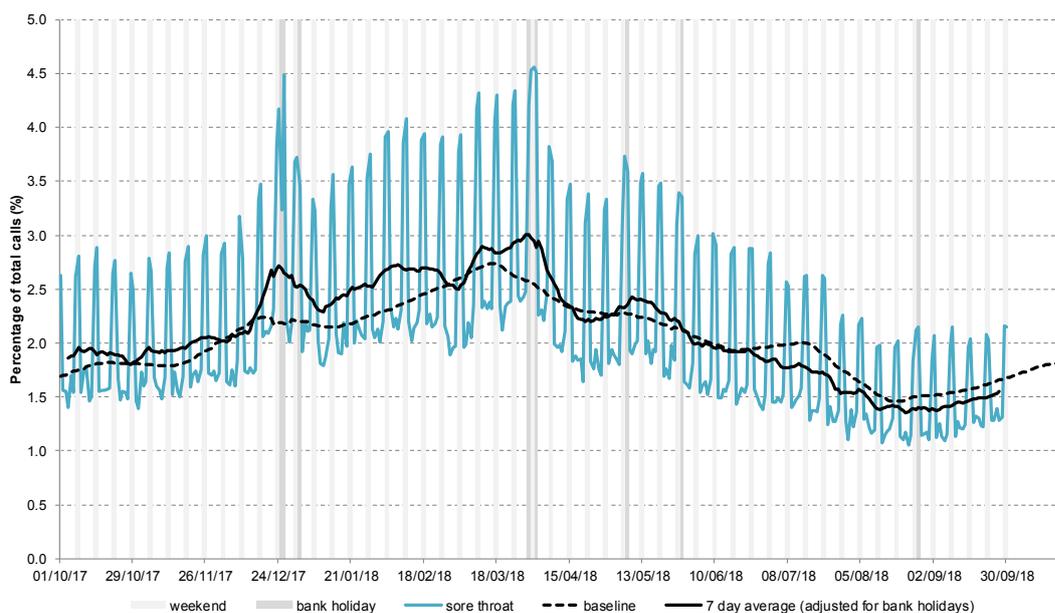

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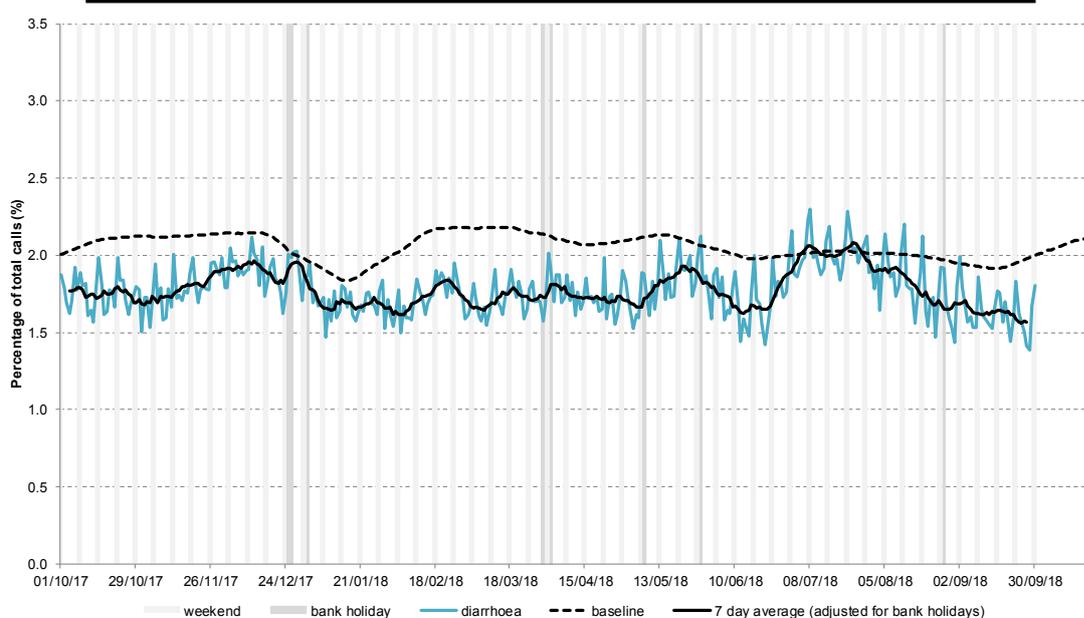
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6: Sore throat

Daily 'sore throat' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2013.
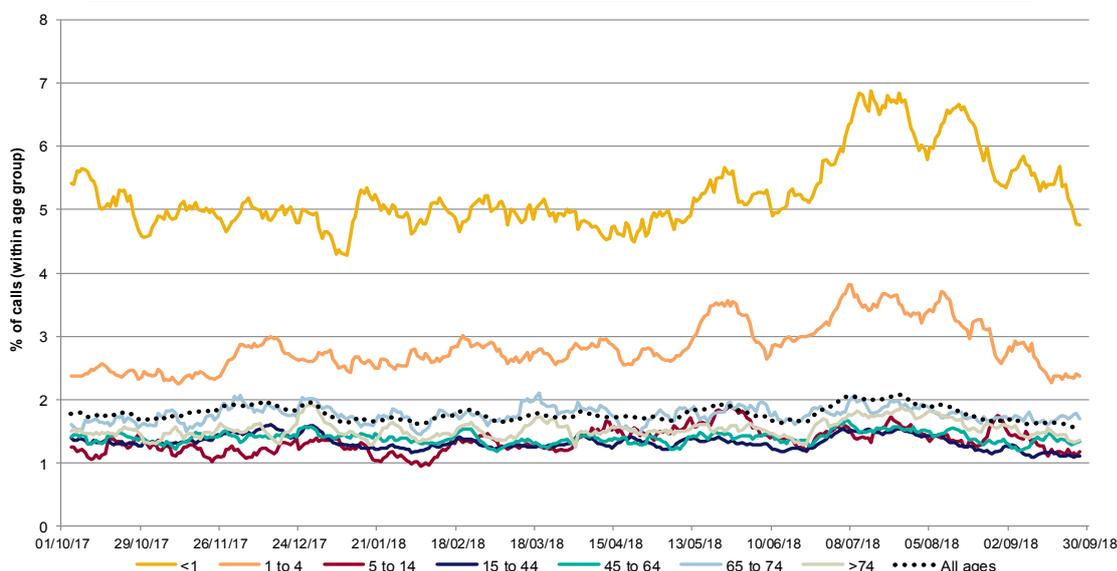

7. Diarrhoea

Daily 'diarrhoea' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2013.
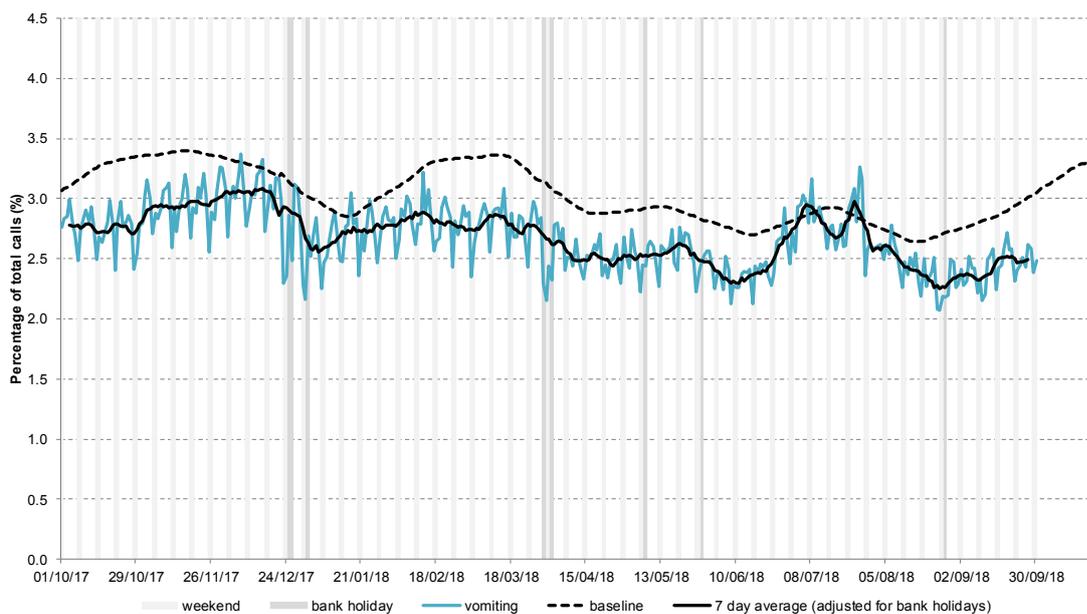

7a: Diarrhoea calls by age group

Diarrhoea calls as a percentage of total calls within each age group, shown as a 7 day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.
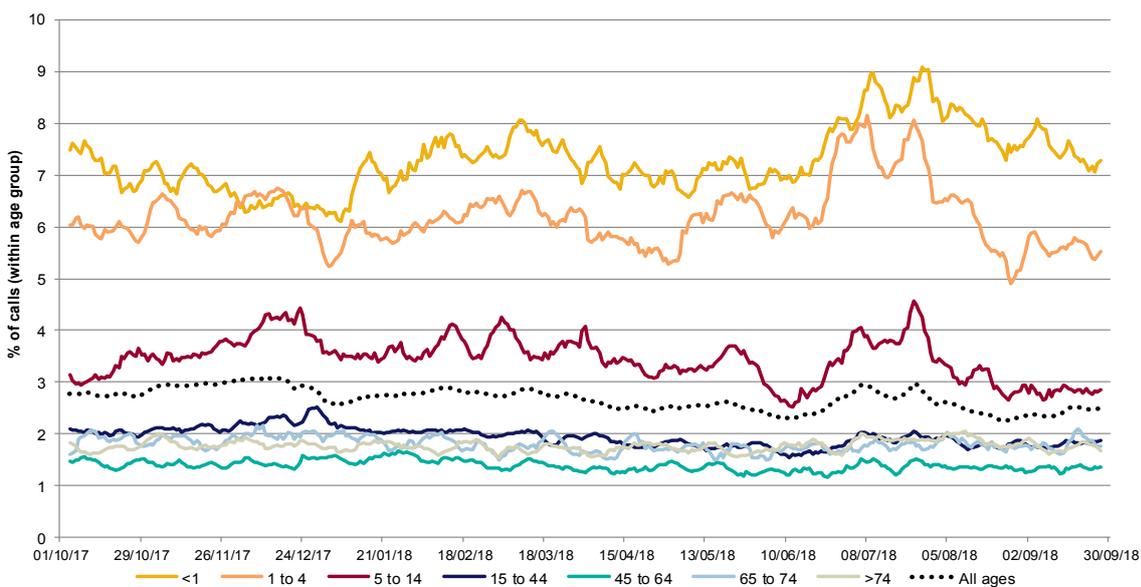
8: Vomiting

Daily 'vomiting' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2013.
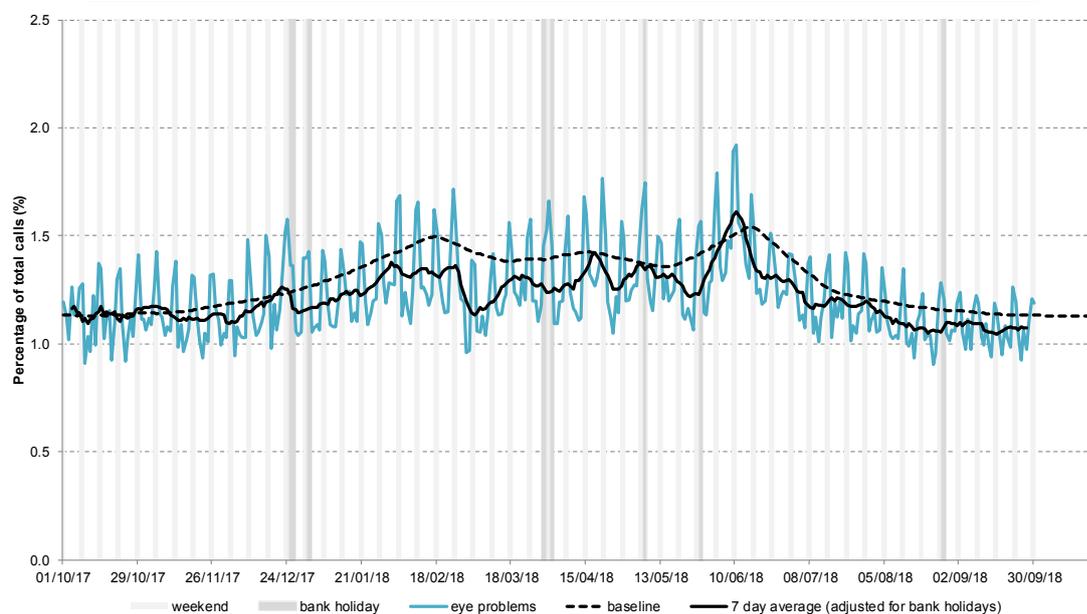

8a: Vomiting calls by age group

Vomiting calls as a percentage of total calls within each age group, shown as a 7 day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.
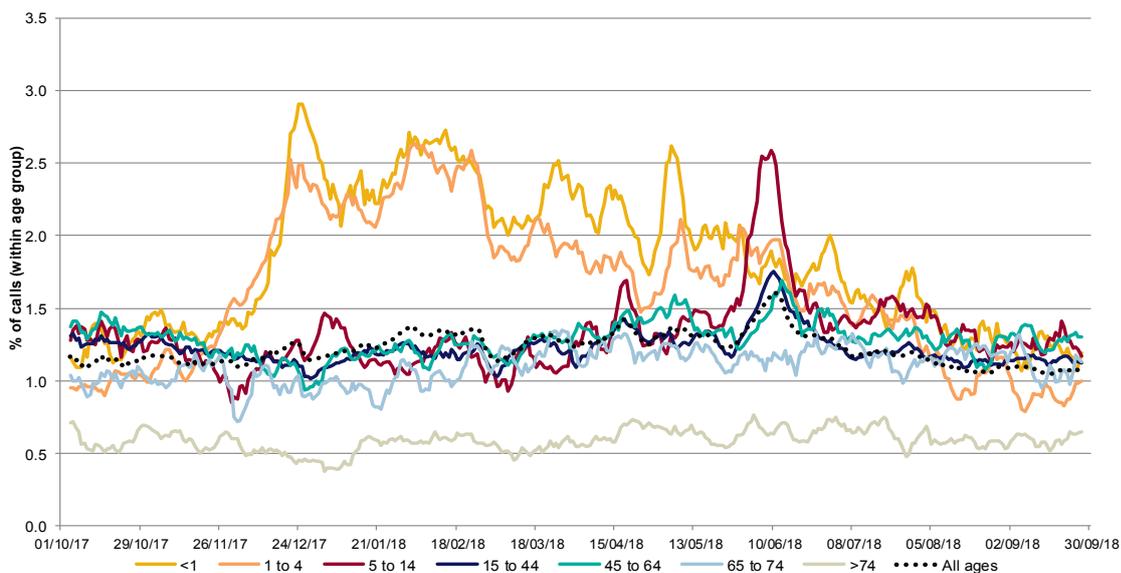

9: Eye problems

Daily 'eye problems' calls as a percentage of total calls. Baselines are constructed from historical data since 2013.

9a: Eye problems by age group

Eye problems calls as a percentage of total calls within each age group, shown as a 7 day moving average adjusted for bank holidays.

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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 represent seasonally expected levels of activity and are constructed from historical data since September 2013. 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.

- NHS 111 call 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.

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:

We are grateful to NHS 111 and to NHS Digital for their assistance and support in providing the anonymised call data that underpin the Remote Health Advice Syndromic Surveillance System.

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