



Public Health
England

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Suspected and laboratory confirmed reported norovirus outbreaks in hospitals (England) and norovirus laboratory reports (England and Wales): weeks 40 to 43, 2018

Health Protection Report

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Suspected and laboratory confirmed reported norovirus outbreaks in hospitals: outbreaks occurring in weeks 40 to 43, 2018 (England)

The hospital norovirus outbreak reporting scheme (HNORS) recorded three outbreaks occurring between weeks 40 and 43 2018, all of which led to ward/bay closure or restriction to admissions and one of which (33 per cent) was recorded as laboratory confirmed due to norovirus. From week 01 (week beginning 1 January 2018) to week 43 (week beginning 22 October 2018), 284 outbreaks have been reported. Ninety-six per cent (272) of reported outbreaks resulted in ward/bay closures or restrictions to admissions and seventy-one per cent (202) were laboratory confirmed as due to norovirus.

Table: Suspected and laboratory-confirmed reported norovirus outbreaks in hospitals in England, with regional breakdown: outbreaks occurring in weeks 01-43 2018

PHE Centre	Outbreaks between weeks 40-43/2018			Outbreaks between weeks 01-43/2018		
	Outbreaks	Ward/bay closure †	Lab confirmed	Outbreaks	Ward/bay closure †	Lab confirmed
East of England						
East Midlands				7	6	4
London				3	3	3
North East				64	60	48
North West	1	1	1	13	13	7
South East	1	1		14	14	12
South West	1	1		108	103	88
West Midlands				52	50	27
Yorkshire and Humberside				23	23	13
Total	3	3	1	284	272	202

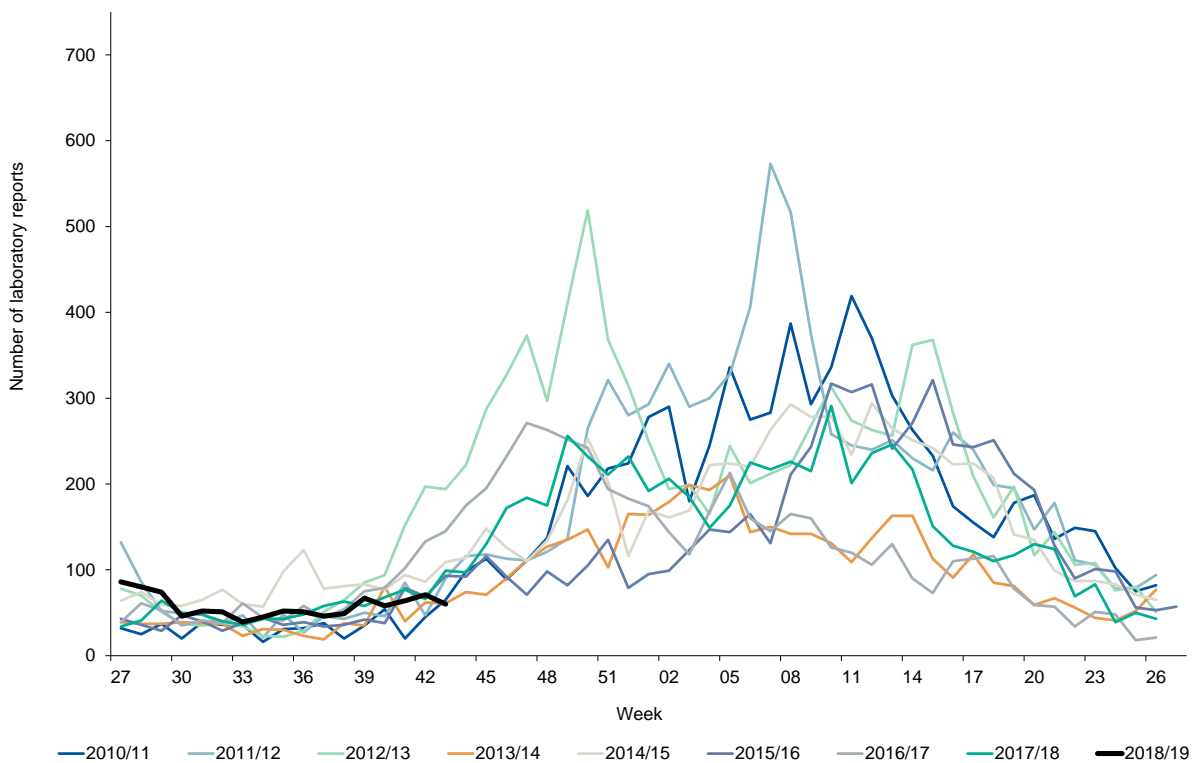
† Note: not all outbreaks result in whole wards closures, some closures are restricted to bays only

Norovirus laboratory reporting: data from SGSS (England and Wales)

From week 01, 2018 to week 43, 2018 there were 5137 laboratory reports of norovirus. This is comparable the average number of laboratory reports for the same period in the five years between 2013 and 2017 (5161).

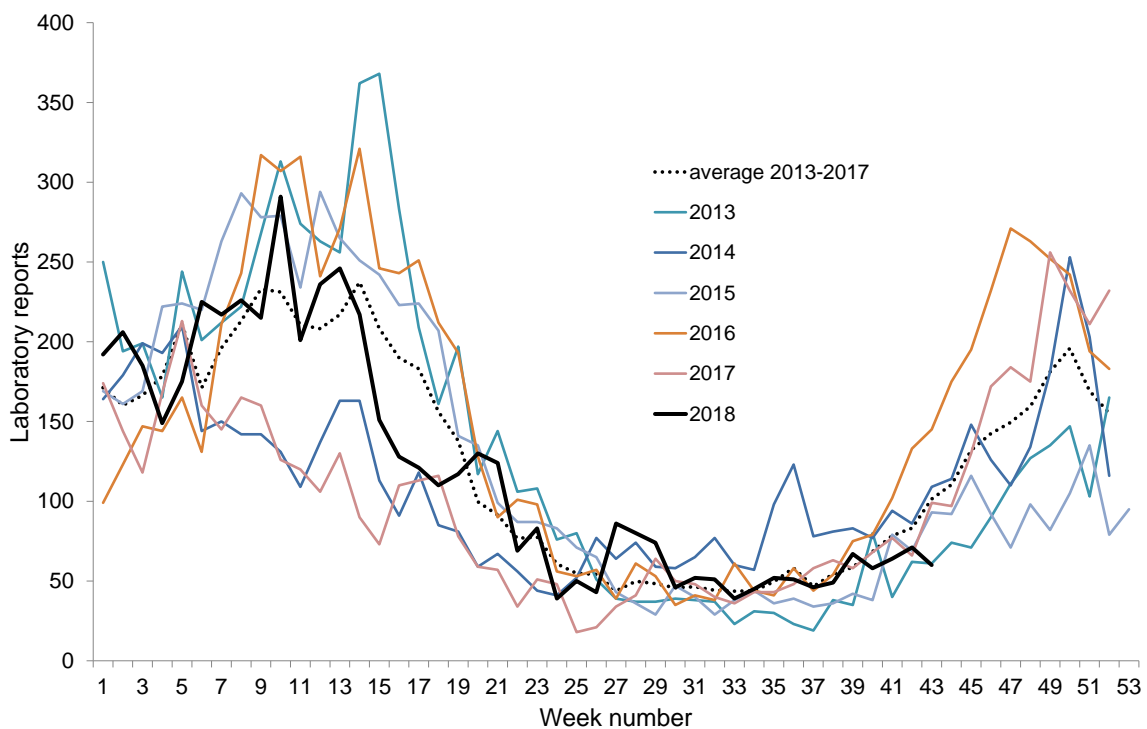
Note: Data from laboratory reporting are subject to a reporting delay and the number reported in the most recent weeks is likely to rise as further laboratory reports are received.

Figure 1: Seasonal comparison of laboratory reports of norovirus 2010/11-2018/19 (England and Wales)



Note. The norovirus season runs from week 27 in year 1 to week 26 in year 2, i.e. week 27 2016 – week 26 2017 July to June, in order to capture the winter peak in one season.

Figure 2: Current weekly norovirus laboratory reports compared to weekly mean reports 2013-2017 (England and Wales)



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About Health Protection Report

Health Protection Report is a national public health bulletin for England and Wales, published by Public Health England. It is PHE's principal channel for the dissemination of laboratory data relating to pathogens and infections/communicable diseases of public health significance and of reports on outbreaks, incidents and ongoing investigations.

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