



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Routine reports of gastrointestinal infections in humans, England and Wales: December 2018 and January 2019

Health Protection Report

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Common gastrointestinal infections in England and Wales

Table 1: Laboratory reports of common gastrointestinal infections in England and Wales reported to PHE: weeks 1-4 (31 December 2018 – 27 January 2019)

Laboratory reports *	1/19	2/19	3/19	4/19	Total reports 1-4/19	Cumulative total to 4/19	Cumulative total to 4/18
<i>Campylobacter</i> spp.	675	834	757	763	3029	3029	4712
<i>Cryptosporidium</i> spp.	40	53	46	34	173	173	303
<i>Giardia</i> spp.	83	90	93	77	343	343	496
<i>Salmonella</i> spp. †	81	106	112	89	388	388	415
<i>Shigella</i> spp.	19	51	62	57	189	189	112
STEC O157 †	4	2	4	8	18	18	11
Rotavirus	34	34	44	36	148	148	109
Norovirus	186	185	149	156	676	676	768

* Results are derived from Public Health England's Second Generation Surveillance System (SGSS) and are a composite of initial results from primary diagnostic laboratories (not yet subtyped) and results that have been subtyped at the relevant national reference laboratories. † Typhoidal and paratyphoidal *Salmonella* excluded. † Shiga toxin producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) O157 results are derived from Public Health England's National Enhanced Surveillance System for STEC.

Notes: All data are provisional.

Less common gastrointestinal infections in England and Wales

Table 2: Quarterly laboratory reports of less common gastrointestinal infections in England and Wales reported to PHE: weeks 40-52 (1 October 2018 – 31 December 2018)

Laboratory reports *	Total Reports Wk 40-52/2018	Cumulative total to 52/18	Cumulative total to 52/17
Astrovirus	90	410	392
Sapovirus	94	462	461
<i>Shigella boydii</i>	15	71	52
<i>Shigella dysenteriae</i>	10	35	32
Plesiomonas	18	73	76
<i>Vibrio</i> spp.	24	70	89
<i>Yersinia</i> spp.	16	172	104
<i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>	5	20	42
<i>Blastocystis hominis</i>	18	61	132
<i>Dientamoeba fragilis</i>	0	5	43

* Results are derived from Public Health England's Second Generation Surveillance System (SGSS) and are a composite of initial results from primary diagnostic laboratories (not yet subtyped) and results that have been subtyped at the relevant national reference laboratories.

Notes: All data are provisional.

Salmonella infections in England and Wales

Details of 571 *Salmonella* infections stratified by serotype reported in the previous period (weeks 48-52 2018) are given in the table below. In the current reporting period (weeks 1-4 2019), 377 *Salmonella* infections were reported.

Table 3: *Salmonella* infections (faecal specimens) in England and Wales, subtyped by serovar: (26 November 2018 - 30 December 2018)[‡]

Serotype	Total
<i>Salmonella</i> Enteritidis	170
<i>Salmonella</i> Typhimurium	121
<i>Salmonella</i> Infantis	23
<i>Salmonella</i> Newport	17
<i>Salmonella</i> Agona	9
Other <i>Salmonella</i> serovars	231
Total <i>Salmonella</i> infections (provisional data)	571

Shigella infections in England and Wales

Details of 233 *Shigella* infections stratified by species reported in the previous period (weeks 48-52 2018) are given in the table below. In the current reporting period (weeks 1-4 2019), 185 *Shigella* infections were reported.

Table 4: *Shigella* infections (faecal specimens) in England and Wales, subtyped by species: (26 November 2018 - 30 December 2018)[‡]

Species	Total
<i>Shigella</i> Sonnei	113
<i>Shigella</i> Flexneri	42
<i>Shigella</i> Boydii	2
<i>Shigella</i> Dysenteriae	2
<i>Shigella</i> not speciated	74
Total <i>Shigella</i> infections (provisional data)	233

[‡] Sub-typing results in Tables 2 and 3 are derived from data generated by Public Health England's Gastrointestinal Bacteria Reference Unit (GBRU). They are presented a month in arrears to allow for the lag between initial diagnosis at primary diagnostic laboratories and confirmatory (sub) typing at the reference laboratory.

Outbreaks of foodborne illness in England and Wales

Table 5: Quarterly reports of outbreaks of foodborne illness in England and Wales reported to PHE: weeks 40-52 (1 October 2018 – 31 December 2018)

Region	Organism	Number ill	Laboratory confirmed cases	Suspect vehicle	Evidence [§]
North West	Campylobacter	32	6	Duck liver parfait	A
East Midlands North	Clostridium perfringens	32	20	Minced lamb and potatoes (Shepherd's pie)	D
East Midlands North	Clostridium perfringens - fAFLP, CLP.132	12	7	Roast beef (slow cook)	MD
Thames Valley	Campylobacter and STEC O157	4	4	Lamb liver	D
Yorkshire and Humber	Norovirus (6) and Adenovirus (1)	50	7	N/a	D
North East	Norovirus - Genotype 2	3	1	Raw oysters	D
South East	Campylobacter	5	1	Chicken liver pate	MD
Greater Manchester	Clostridium perfringens - CLP.135	21	6	N/a	MAD
South West	Norovirus - Genotype 2	37	1	Oysters	A
West Yorkshire	Campylobacter	12	5	Chicken liver pate	D

[§] **Descriptive epidemiological evidence (D):** suspicion of a food vehicle in an outbreak based on the identification of common food exposures, from the systematic evaluation of cases and their characteristics and food histories over the likely incubation period by standardised means (such as standard questionnaires) from all, or an appropriate subset of, cases. **Microbiological evidence (M):** detection of a causative agent in a food vehicle or its component or in the food chain or its environment combined with detection in human cases, or clinical symptoms and an onset of illness in outbreak cases compatible with / pathognomonic to the causative agent identified in the food vehicle or its component or in the food chain or its environment. **Analytical epidemiological evidence (A):** a statistically significant association between consumption of a food vehicle and being a case in an outbreak demonstrated by studies such as a cohort study, a case-control study or similar studies

Notes: Outbreaks are reported once complete / information has been received from teams. Data are provisional.

About Public Health England

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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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