



Public Health
England

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Routine reports of gastrointestinal infections in humans (England and Wales): February and March 2020

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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 Public Health England: weeks: 09-13 (24 February 2020 – 29 March 2020)

Laboratory reports*	09/20	10/20	11/20	12/20	13/20	Total reports 09-13/20	Cumulative total to 13/20	Cumulative total to 13/19
<i>Campylobacter</i> spp.	930	898	850	721	394	3793	11560	10483
<i>Cryptosporidium</i> spp.	44	57	50	39	27	217	701	567
<i>Giardia</i> spp.	99	100	101	83	60	443	1252	1216
<i>Salmonella</i> spp.	93	115	115	105	67	495	1328	1229
<i>Shigella</i> spp.	59	54	59	43	31	246	762	629
STEC O157	3	4	5	3	0	15	38	59
Rotavirus	33	49	39	14	4	139	349	885
Norovirus	204	193	156	92	38	683	2422	2296

* Since 1 December 2014, data for these reports have been derived from the Second Generation Surveillance System (SGSS). Data reported prior to 1 December 2014 were generated using legacy laboratory reporting systems and may not be directly comparable to SGSS generated data. This caveat does not apply to STEC O157 data which is extracted from the National Enhanced Surveillance System for STEC, in place since 1 January 2009.

Note: At present it is not possible to ascertain the impact of the current COVID-19 pandemic on testing of gastrointestinal pathogens and reporting of these results to PHE. Therefore, the decline in reported cases since week 12 inclusive should be interpreted with caution.

Salmonella infections in England and Wales

Details of 390 *Salmonella* infections stratified by serotype reported in the previous period (weeks 05-08 2020) are given in the table below. In the current reporting period (weeks 09-13 2020), 495 *Salmonella* infections were reported.

Table 2. *Salmonella* infections (faecal specimens) in England and Wales stratified by serotype: weeks 05-08 (27 January 2020 – 23 February 2020)[‡]

Serotype	Total
<i>Salmonella</i> Typhimurium	90
<i>Salmonella</i> Enteritidis	87
<i>Salmonella</i> Stanley	17
<i>Salmonella</i> Virchow	12
<i>Salmonella</i> Newport	11
Other <i>Salmonella</i> serovars	173
Total <i>Salmonella</i> infections (provisional data)	390

[‡] Subtyping 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.

Notes: Since 1 December 2014, data for these reports have been derived from the Second Generation Surveillance System (SGSS). Data reported prior to 1 December 2014 were generated using legacy laboratory reporting systems and may not be directly comparable to SGSS generated data. All data are provisional. Phage typing for *Salmonella* spp. ceased as of 1 November 2015.

Shigella infections in England and Wales

Details of 257 *Shigella* infections stratified by species reported in the previous period (weeks 05–08 2020) are given in the table below. In the current reporting period (weeks 09–13 2020), 246 *Shigella* infections were reported.

Table 3. *Shigella* infections (faecal specimens) in England and Wales stratified by species: weeks 05-08 (27 January 2020 – 23 February 2020)[‡]

Species	Total
<i>Shigella sonnei</i>	59
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	62
<i>Shigella boydii</i>	7
<i>Shigella dysenteriae</i>	7
<i>Shigella</i> not speciated	122
Total <i>Shigella</i> infections (provisional data)	257

[‡] Subtyping 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.

Notes: Since 1 December 2014, data for these reports have been derived from the Second Generation Surveillance System (SGSS). Data reported prior to 1 December 2014 were generated using legacy laboratory reporting systems and may not be directly comparable to SGSS generated data. All data are provisional.

About Public Health England

Public Health England exists to protect and improve the nation's health and wellbeing, and reduce health inequalities. We do this through world-leading science, research, knowledge and intelligence, advocacy, partnerships and the delivery of specialist public health services. We are an executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care, and a distinct delivery organisation with operational autonomy. We provide government, local government, the NHS, Parliament, industry and the public with evidence-based professional, scientific and delivery expertise and support.

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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