



Public Health
England

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Routine reports of gastrointestinal infections in humans (England and Wales): April and May 2020

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Common gastrointestinal infections in England and Wales (weeks 18-21/2020)

Table 1. Laboratory reports of common gastrointestinal infections in England and Wales reported to Public Health England: weeks: 18-21 (27 April 2020 – 24 May 2020)

Laboratory reports*	18/20	19/20	20/20	21/20	Total reports 18-21/20	Cumulative total to 21/20	Cumulative total to 21/19
<i>Campylobacter</i> spp.	431	544	674	830	2479	15302	18495
<i>Cryptosporidium</i> spp.	21	30	25	16	92	879	1092
<i>Giardia</i> spp.	35	23	41	27	126	1556	1930
<i>Salmonella</i> spp.	53	40	47	43	183	1668	2186
<i>Shigella</i> spp.	8	9	13	8	38	845	1153
STEC O157	1	1	3	3	8	55	101
Rotavirus	5	10	10	10	35	409	1816
Norovirus	6	9	4	13	32	2524	3485

* 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 (weeks 14-17/2020, serotyped)

Details of 156 salmonella infections stratified by serotype reported in the previous period (weeks 14-17 2020) are given in the table below. In the current reporting period (weeks 18-21 2020), 183 salmonella infections were reported.

Table 2. Salmonella infections (faecal specimens) in England and Wales stratified by serotype: weeks 14-17 (30 March 2020 – 26 April 2020)[‡]

Serotype	Total
<i>Salmonella</i> Typhimurium	60
<i>Salmonella</i> Enteritidis	29
<i>Salmonella</i> Infantis	6
<i>Salmonella</i> Newport	4
<i>Salmonella</i> Oranienburg	2
Other salmonella serovars	55
Total salmonella infections (provisional data)	156

[‡] 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 (weeks 14-17/2020, speciated)

Details of 44 shigella infections stratified by species reported in the previous period (weeks 14–17 2020) are given in the table below. In the current reporting period (weeks 18-21 2020), 38 shigella infections were reported.

Table 3. Shigella infections (faecal specimens) in England and Wales stratified by species: weeks 14-17 (30 March 2020 – 26 April 2020)[‡]

Species	Total
<i>Shigella sonnei</i>	9
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	16
<i>Shigella boydii</i>	2
<i>Shigella dysenteriae</i>	2
<i>Shigella</i> not speciated	15
Total shigella infections (provisional data)	44

[‡] 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.

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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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