Public Health England

Remote Health Advice

Syndromic Surveillance System: England

Key messages

Data to: 11 May 2017

There was nothing new to report during week 19*.

*Following the cyber attack on 12 May, we temporarily disconnected PHE from a number of NHS IT systems. This has resulted in syndromic surveillance data feeds from NHS health service providers being unavailable. PHE is currently working with the NHS to re-establish these links. This report covers data from Mon 8 to Thurs 11 May 2017 and therefore should be interpreted with caution due to the incomplete reporting (missing data Fri 12 to Sun 14 May) during week 19.

Syndromic indicators at a glance:

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

*Since week 47 2014 new baselines have been introduced for comparison with previous years. Baselines use historical data from the NHS Direct surveillance system to estimate seasonal trend but with levels adjusted to reflect changes since the switch to using NHS 111 data in September 2013.

Data summary:

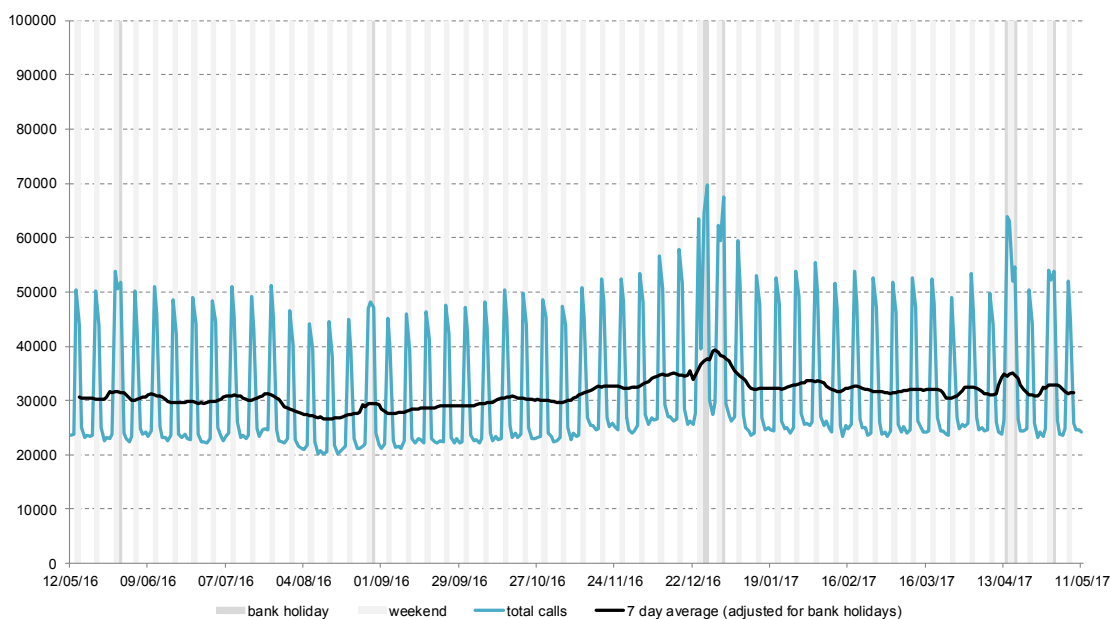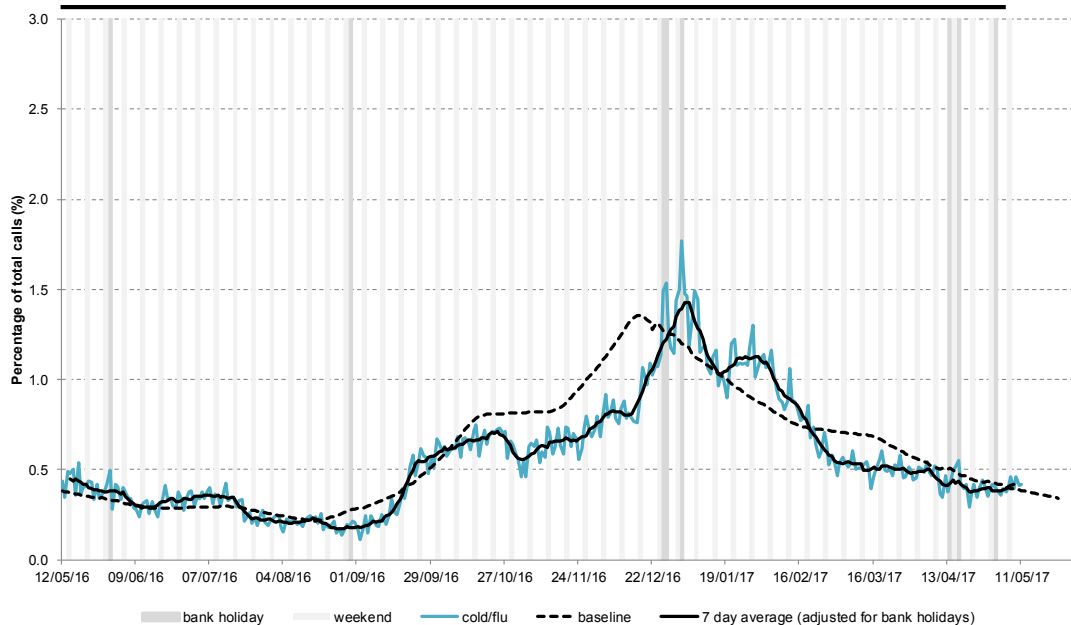| Year	Week	Total calls
2017	19	220,540

17 May 2017 Year: 2017 Week: 19

1: Total calls.

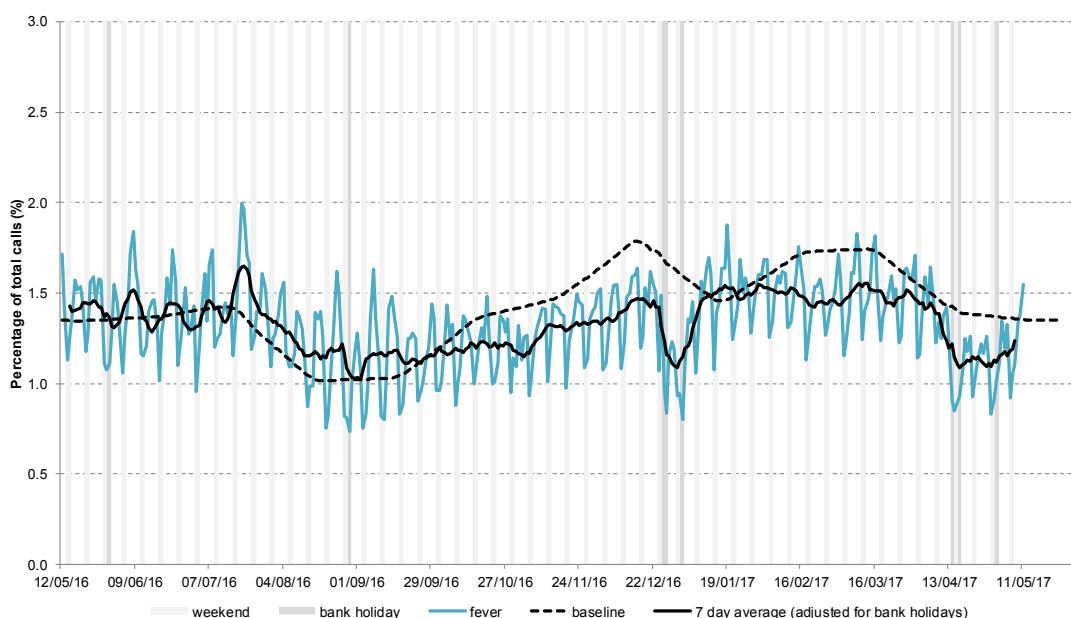The total number of syndromic calls recorded each day by NHS 111.

2: Cold/flu

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

3: Fever

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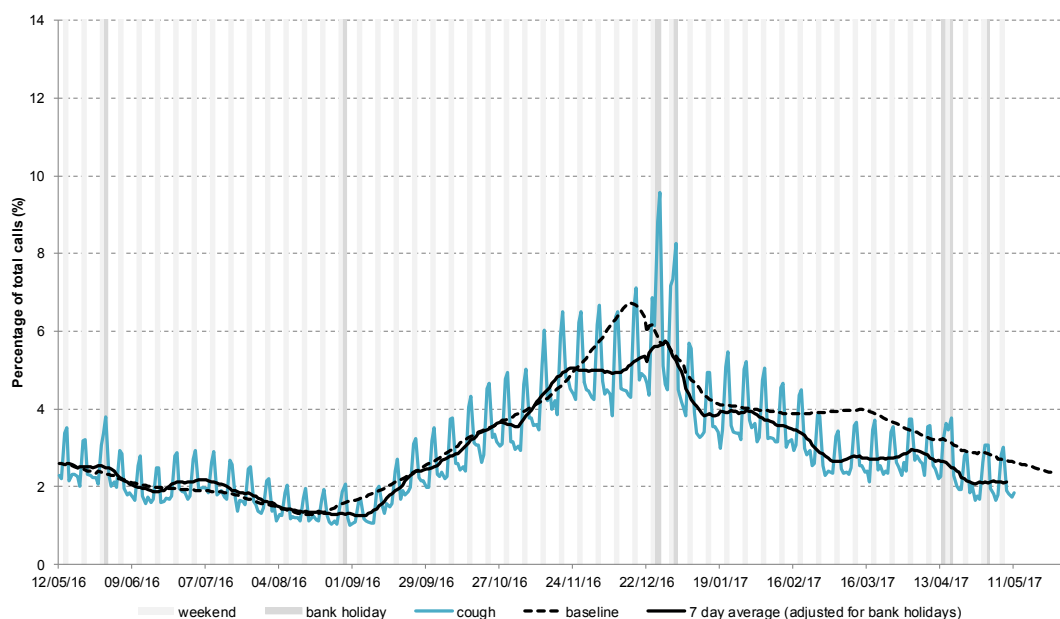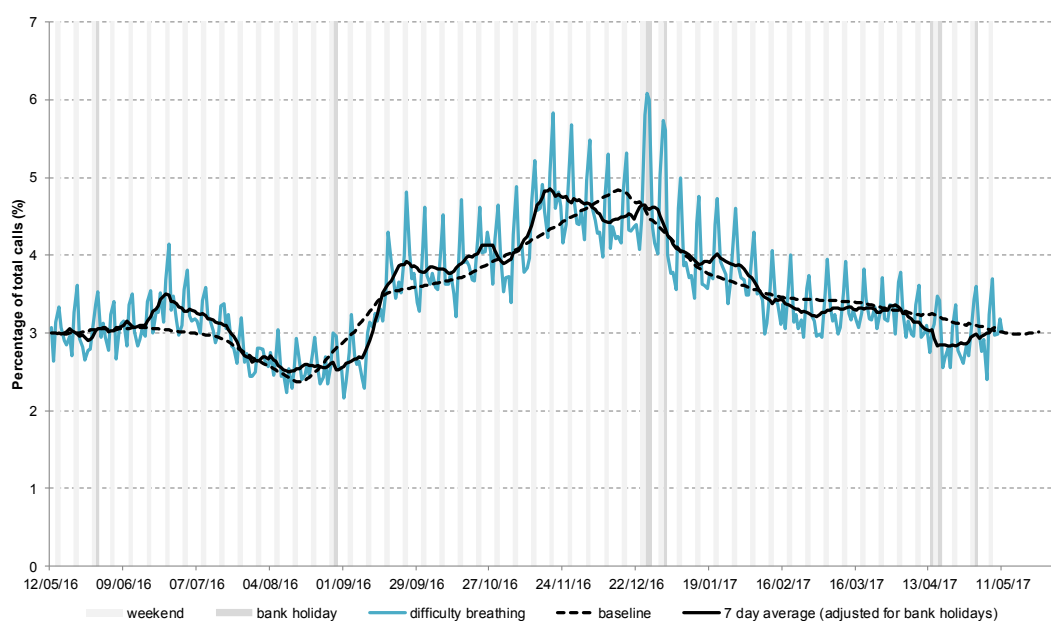
4: Cough

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.
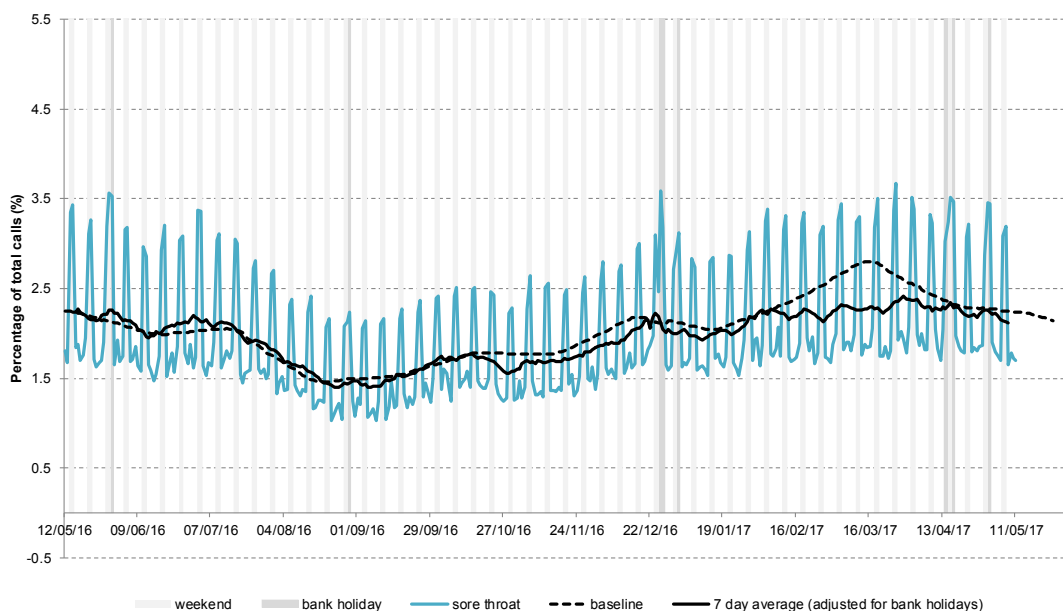

5: Difficulty breathing

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

6: Sore throat

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

7. Diarrhoea

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

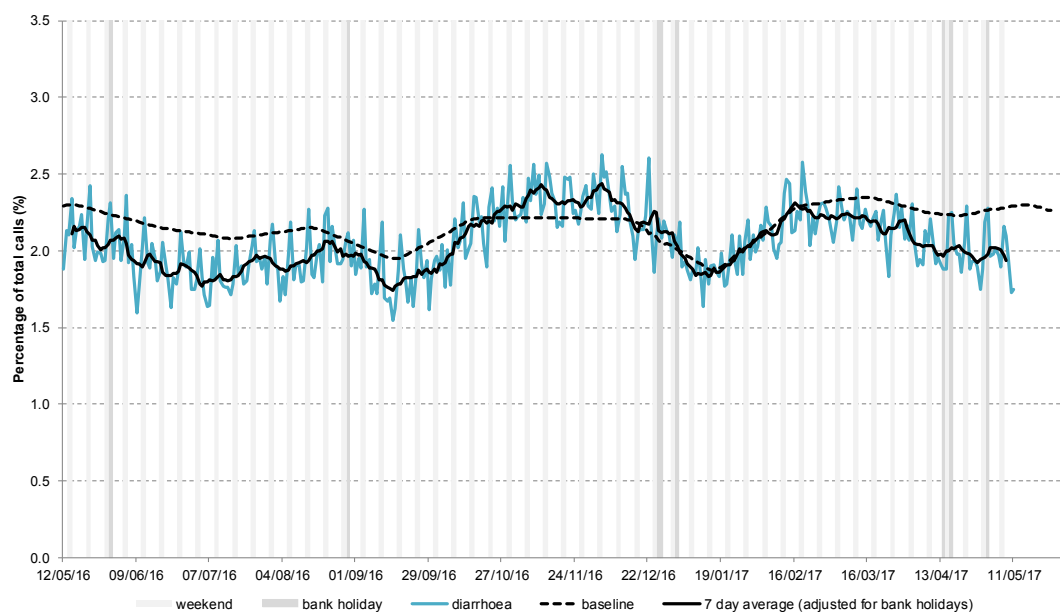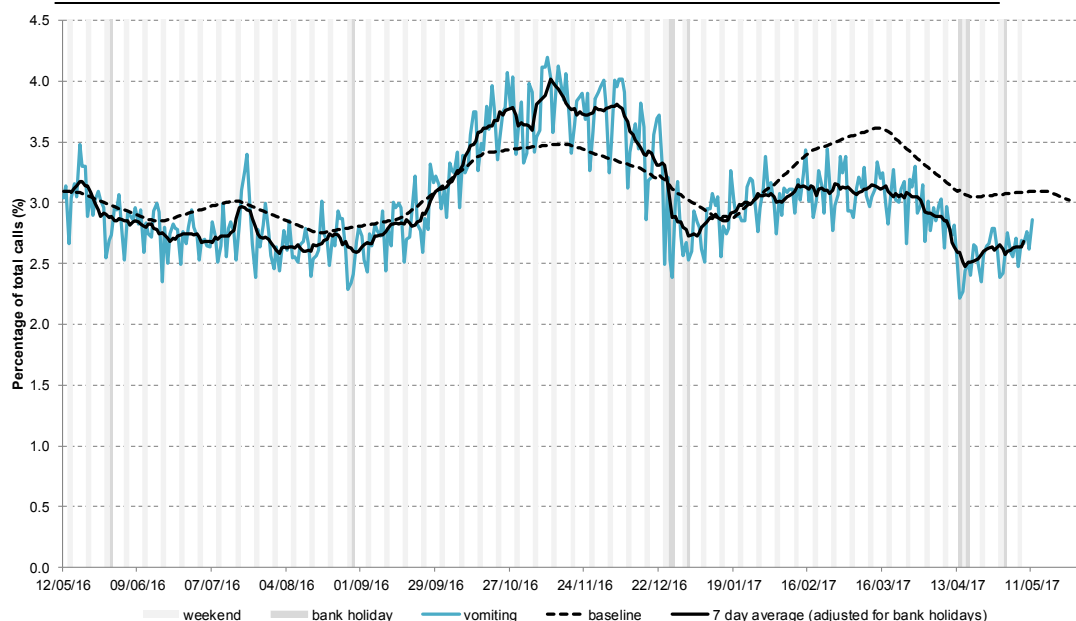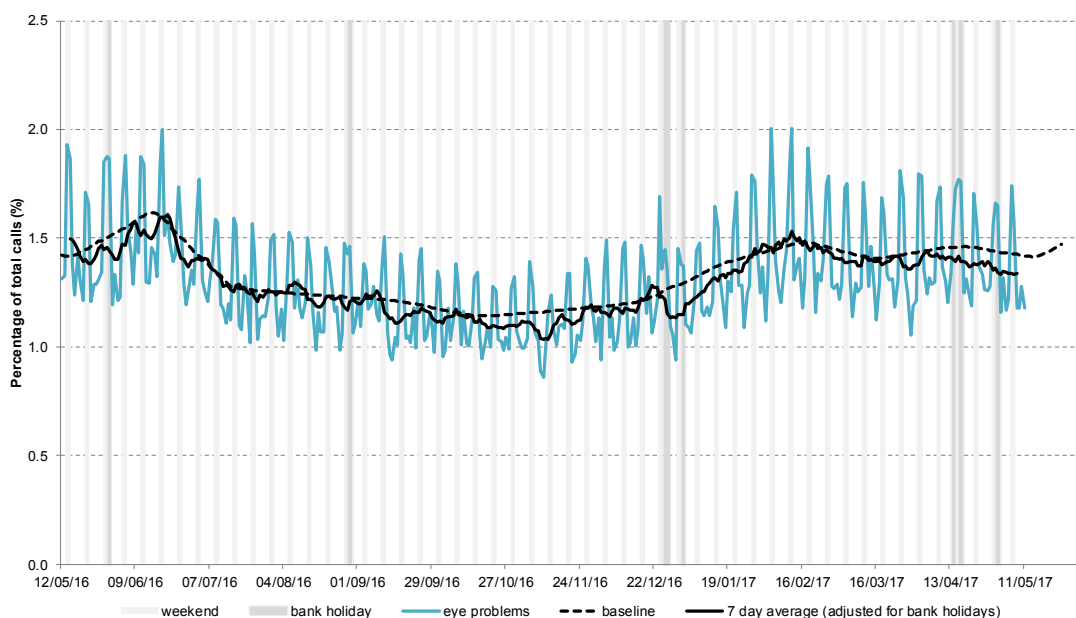## 8: Vomiting

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

9: Eye problems

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

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. Furthermore, 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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