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England

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Suspected and laboratory confirmed reported norovirus outbreaks in hospitals: outbreaks occurring in weeks 18 to 21, 2018

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Suspected and laboratory confirmed reported norovirus outbreaks in hospitals: outbreaks occurring in weeks 18 to 21, 2018 (England)

The hospital norovirus outbreak reporting scheme (HNORS) recorded 22 outbreaks occurring between weeks 18 to 21, 2018, 21 of which (95 per cent) led to ward/bay closures or restriction to admissions and 17 of which (77 per cent) were recorded as laboratory confirmed due to norovirus. From week 1 (week beginning 1 January 2018) to week 21 (week beginning 21 May 2018), 230 outbreaks have been reported. Ninety-six per cent (221) of reported outbreaks resulted in ward/bay closures or restrictions to admissions and 72 per cent (166) were laboratory confirmed as due to norovirus.

Suspected and laboratory-confirmed reported norovirus outbreaks in hospitals in England, with regional breakdown: outbreaks occurring in weeks 1-21 2018

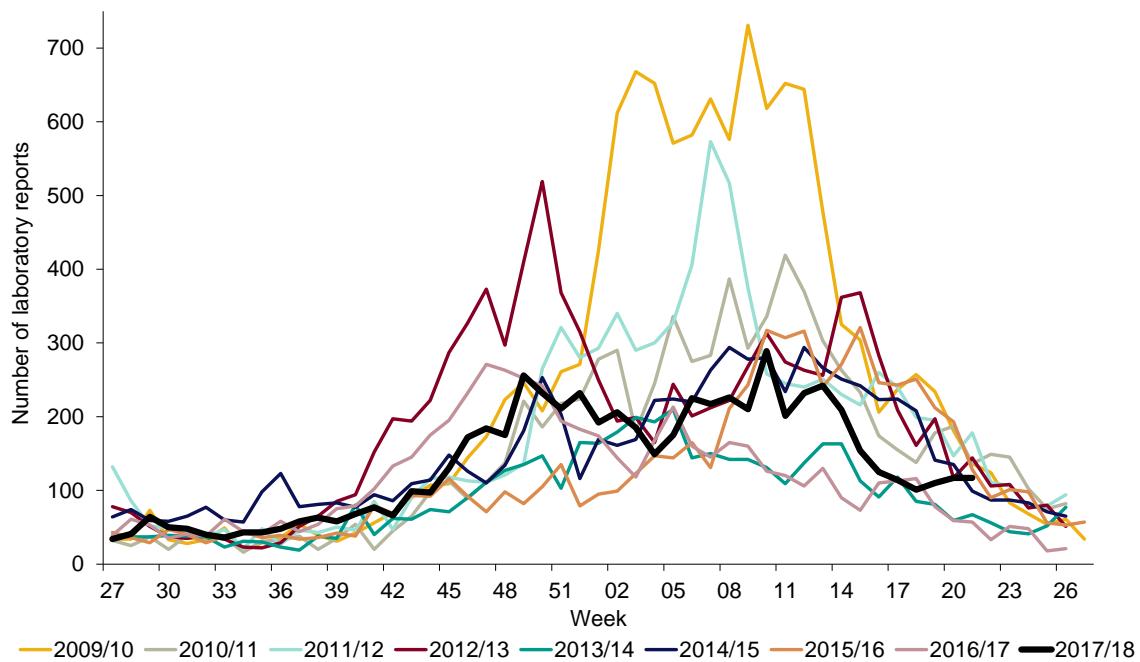
PHE Centre	Outbreaks between weeks 18-21/2018			Outbreaks between weeks 01-21/2018		
	Outbreaks	Ward/bay closure †	Lab confirmed	Outbreaks	Ward/bay closure †	Lab confirmed
East of England	–	–	–	–	–	–
East Midlands	–	–	–	–	–	–
London	–	–	–	3	3	3
North East	4	4	2	56	52	41
North West	2	2	–	10	10	6
South East	4	4	3	11	11	9
South West	3	3	3	78	76	68
West Midlands	9	8	9	49	46	26
Yorkshire and Humberside	–	–	–	23	23	13
Total	22	21	17	230	221	166

† 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)

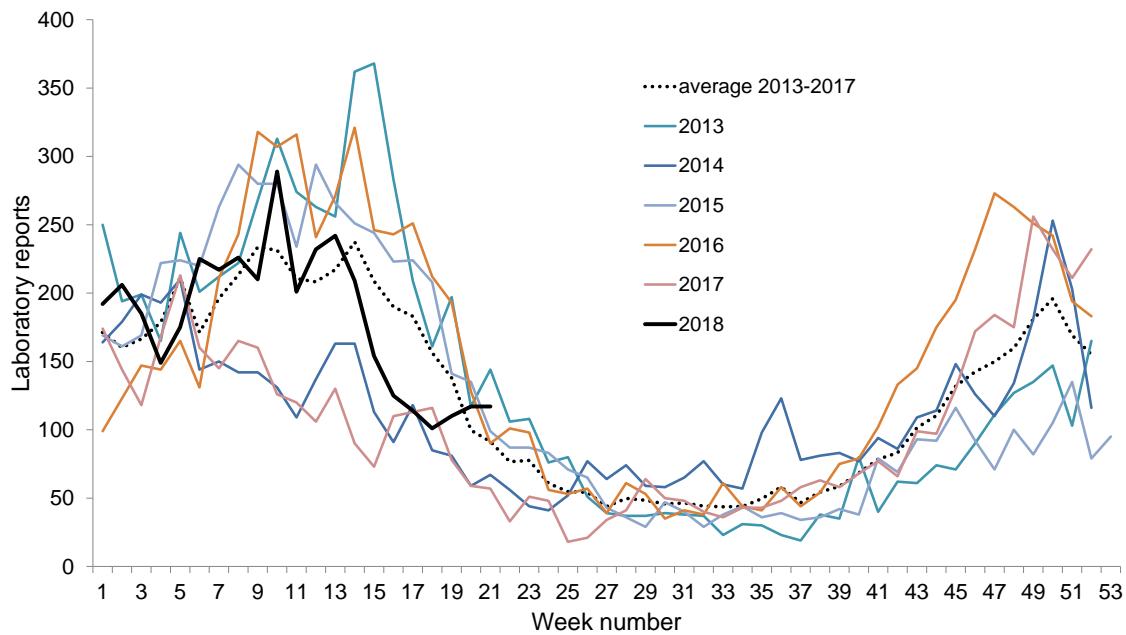
From week 1 2018 to week 21, 2018, there were 3796 laboratory reports of norovirus. This is two per cent lower than the average number of laboratory reports for the same period in the seasons between 2013 and 2017 (3873).

Figure 1. Seasonal comparison of laboratory reports of norovirus 2009/10 - 2017/18 (England and Wales)



Note: The norovirus season runs from week 27 in year 1 to week 26 in year 2, ie 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)



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.

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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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