



Royal College of
General Practitioners

RSC Communicable and Respiratory Disease Report for England

Key Statistics:

Week Number/Year.....27/2016
 Week Starting - Ending.....04/07/2016 - 10/07/2016
 No. of Practices.....144
 Population..... 1358917

National (England)

- **Allergic Rhinitis** : decreased from **38.0** in week 26 to **33.2** in week 27.
- **Asthma** : decreased from **13.6** in week 26 to **11.6** in week 27.
- **Common Cold & URTI NOS** : increased from **66.3** in week 26 to **74.9** in week 27.
- **Infectious Intestinal Diseases (IID)** : increased a little from **9.2** in week 26 to **9.5** in week 27.
- **Respiratory System Diseases** : was unchanged at **265.6** in week 26 compared with **268.4** in week 27.

Regional (North, South, London and Midlands and East)

- **Allergic Rhinitis** : decreased from **56.7** in week 26 to **51.6** in week 27 in the London region, decreased from **30.2** in week 26 to **26.5** in week 27 in the North region, decreased from **28.7** in week 26 to **26.1** in week 27 in the South region, and decreased from **44.9** in week 26 to **34.6** in week 27 in the Midlands And East region.
- **Asthma** : decreased from **16.0** in week 26 to **13.8** in week 27 in the London region, increased a little from **11.4** in week 26 to **11.9** in week 27 in the North region, decreased from **11.6** in week 26 to **8.6** in week 27 in the South region, and decreased from **17.9** in week 26 to **13.0** in week 27 in the Midlands And East region.
- **Common Cold & URTI NOS** : increased from **92.2** in week 26 to **100.1** in week 27 in the London region, was unchanged at **70.9** in week 26 compared with **72.1** in week 27 in the North region, increased from **45.8** in week 26 to **68.5** in week 27 in the South region, and was unchanged at **56.8** in week 26 compared with **57.6** in week 27 in the Midlands And East region.
- **Infectious Intestinal Diseases (IID)** : was unchanged at **9.9** in week 26 compared with **9.8** in week 27 in the London region, increased from **10.5** in week 26 to **13.3** in week 27 in the North region, decreased from **8.4** in week 26 to **7.2** in week 27 in the South region, and decreased from **6.9** in week 26 to **4.5** in week 27 in the Midlands And East region.
- **Respiratory System Diseases** : was unchanged at **300.3** in week 26 compared with **309.1** in week 27 in the London region, decreased a little from **278.4** in week 26 to **269.8** in week 27 in the North region, increased from **214.3** in week 26 to **248.6** in week 27 in the South region, and decreased from **279.6** in week 26 to **243.0** in week 27 in the Midlands And East region.

Comment:

The rate of hay fever / allergic rhinitis appears to be past its peak for this year.

With the exception of upper respiratory tract infections, other conditions are at or below seasonally expected levels.

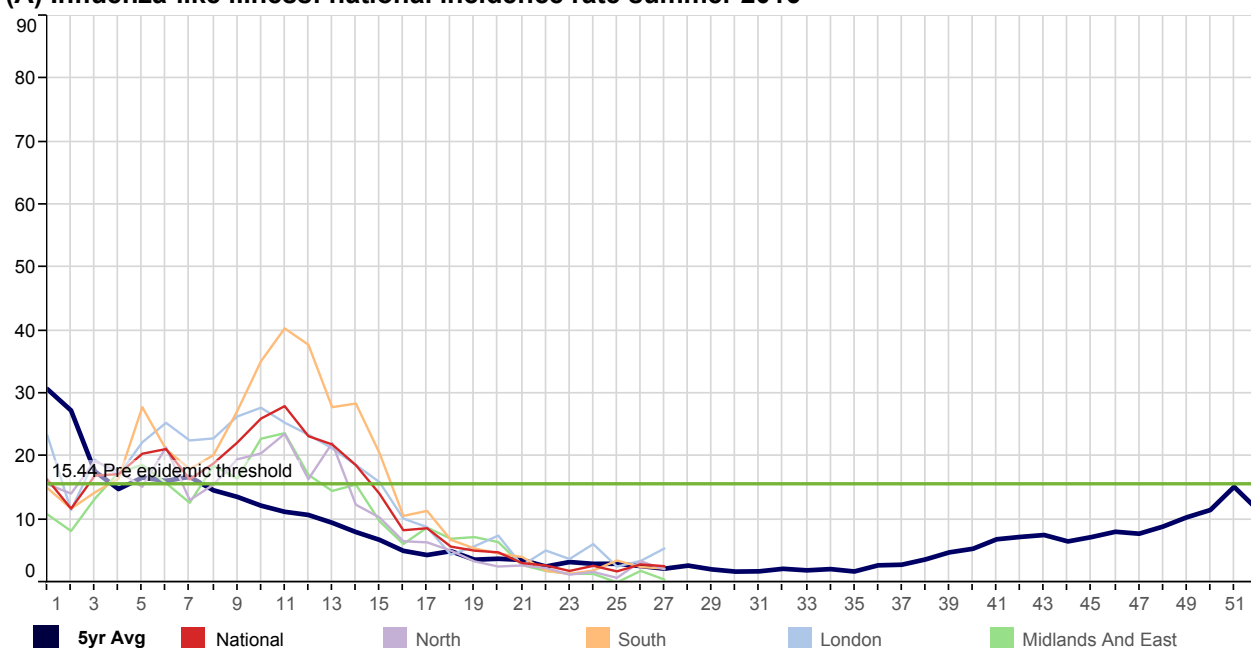
Spring/Summer Focus 2016

Please see page 13 for explanatory notes on the data.

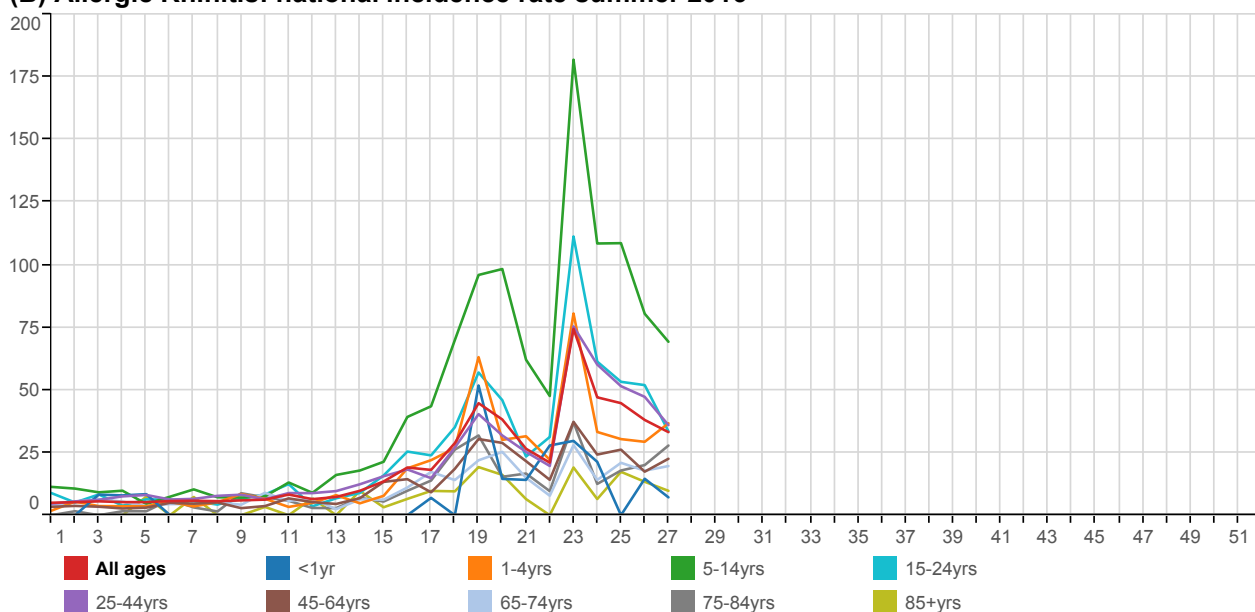
Weekly influenza-like illness and bronchitis incidence rates per 100,000 persons

	Bronchitis	Influenza-like illness		Influenza-like illness	Bronchitis
<1yr	149.9	0.0	London	5.4	43.5
1-4yrs	100.6	4.8	North	2.1	58.2
5-14yrs	30.6	0.0	South	2.2	54.7
15-24yrs	21.0	4.0	Midlands And East	0.4	57.1
25-44yrs	29.6	3.6	National	2.6	53.9
45-64yrs	52.5	3.3			
65-74yrs	84.8	0.0			
75-84yrs	125.2	0.0			
85+yrs	243.4	0.0			
All ages	53.9	2.6			

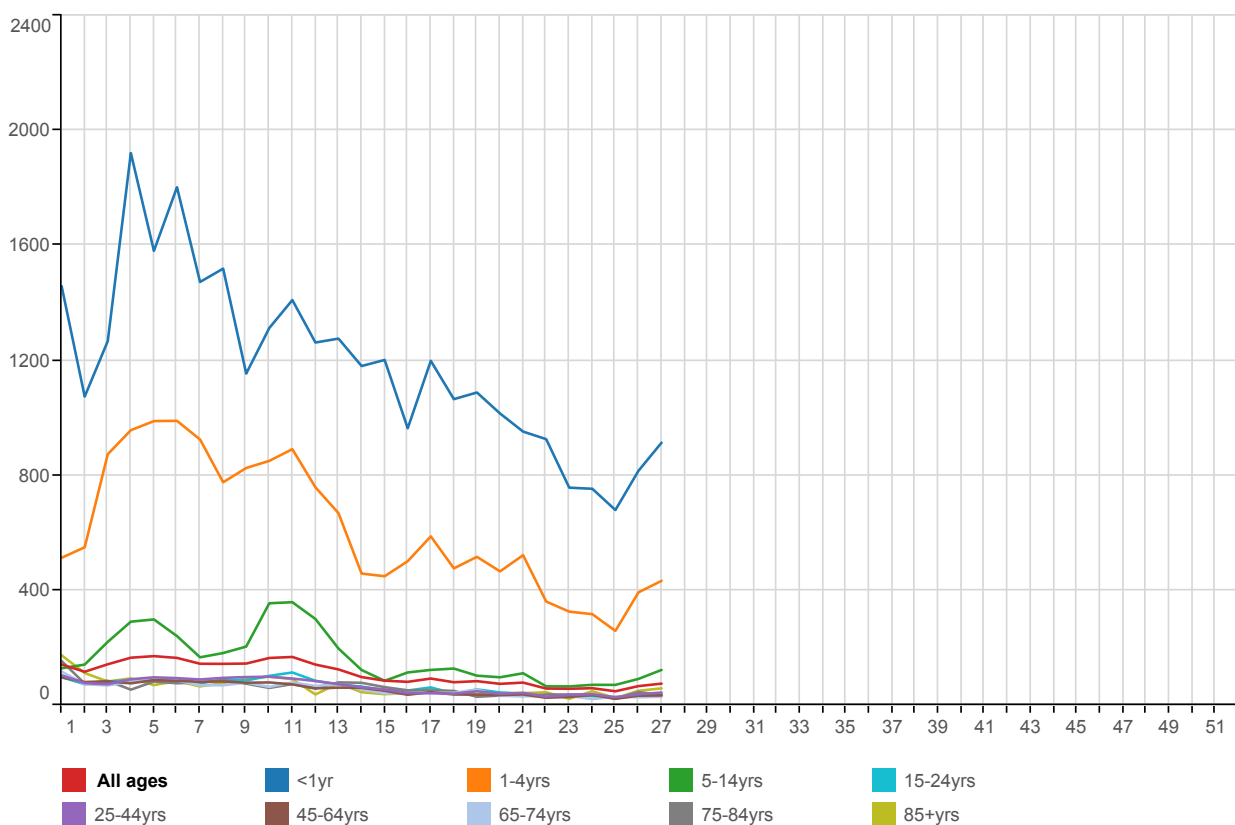
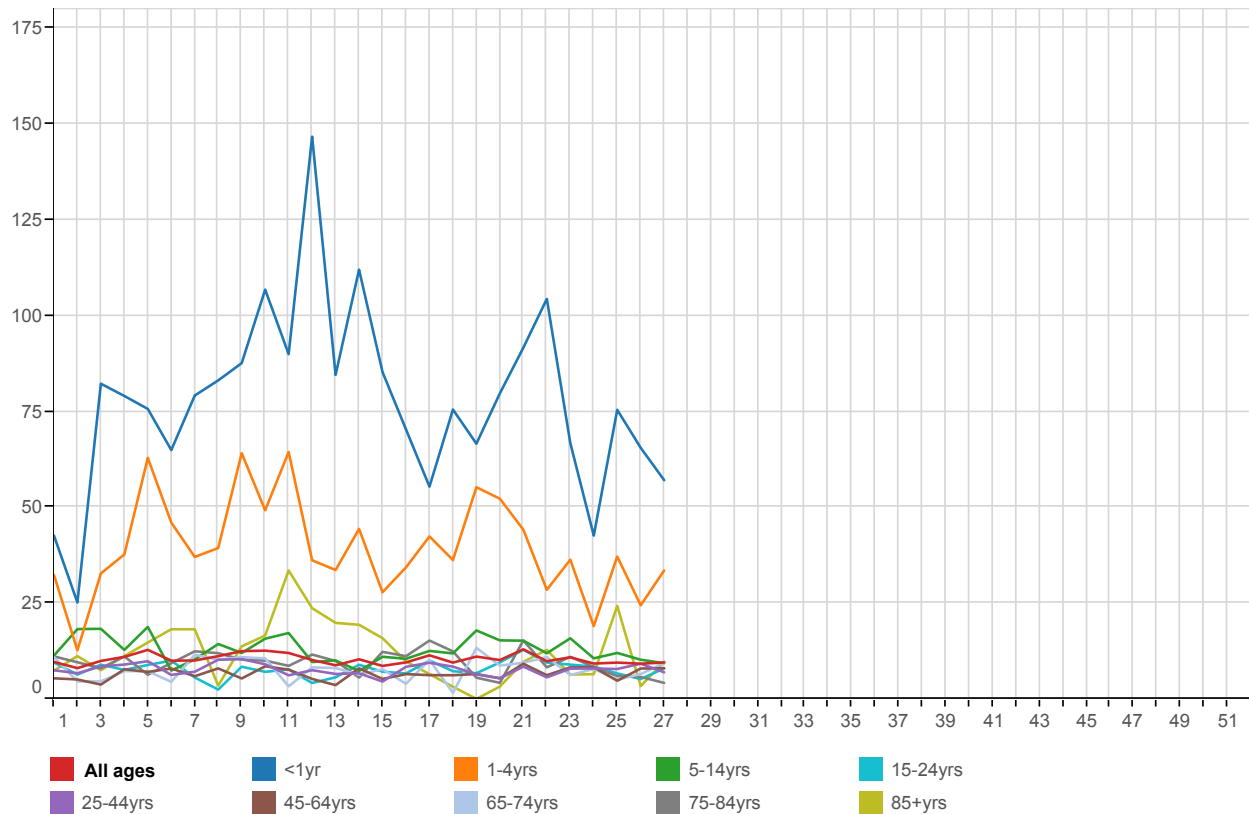
(A) Influenza-like illness: national incidence rate summer 2016*



(B) Allergic Rhinitis: national incidence rate summer 2016*



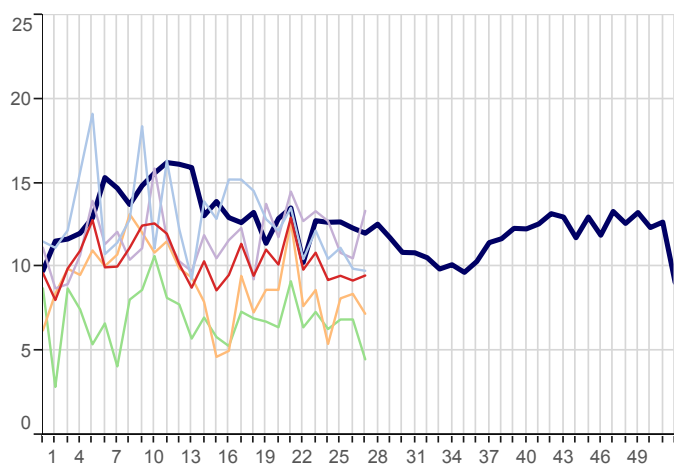
* The thresholds used are the agreed RCGP/ Public Health England levels for 2016. The rolling average line (blue) is based on 5 year historic RCGP RSC level.

(C) Common Cold & URTI NOS : national incidence rate 2016 by age group***(D) Infectious Intestinal Diseases : national incidence rate 2016 by age group***

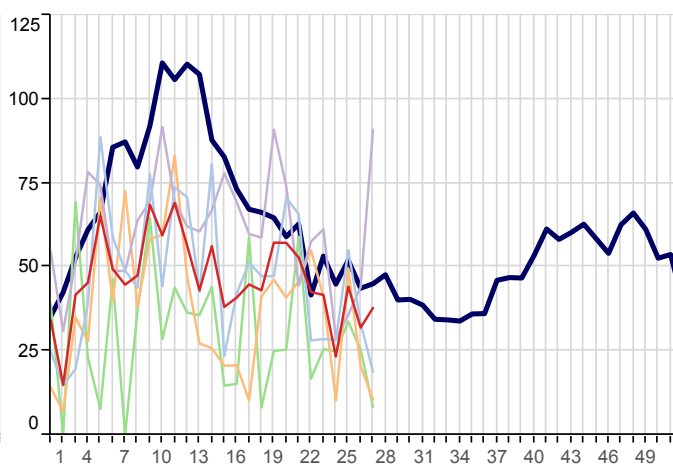
1. Water & Food Borne Disorders:

5yr Avg National London North South Midlands And East

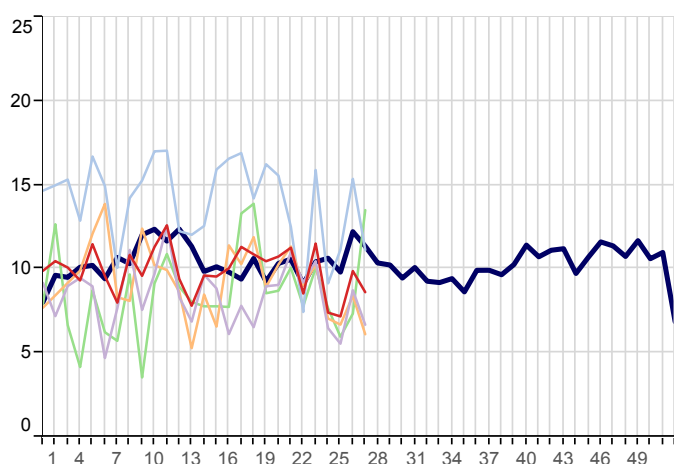
Infectious Intestinal Disease (ICD10: A00-A09)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 **all ages**) by regions
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



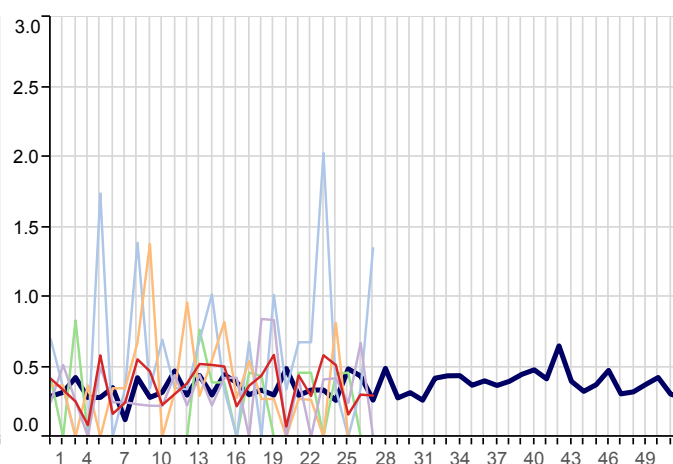
Infectious Intestinal Disease (ICD10: A00-A09)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 **0-4 years**) by regions
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



Non-Infective Enteritis & Colitis (ICD10: K50-K52)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



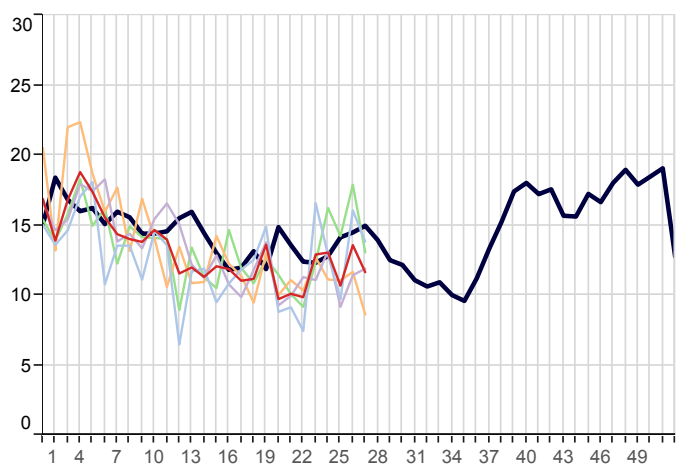
Viral Hepatitis (ICD10: B15-B19)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



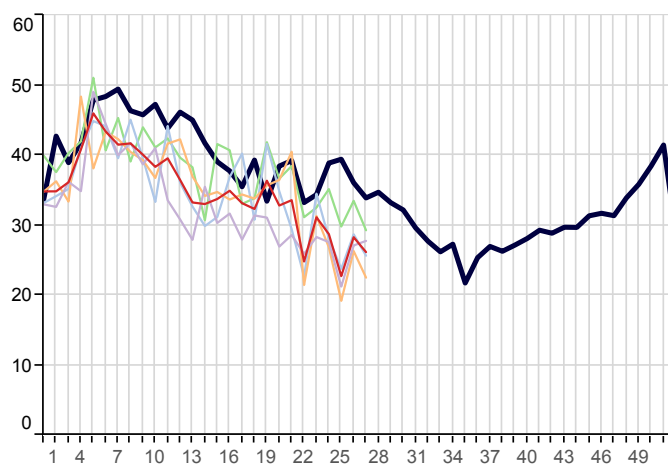
2. Environmentally Sensitive Disorders:

■ 5yr Avg ■ National ■ London ■ North ■ South ■ Midlands And East

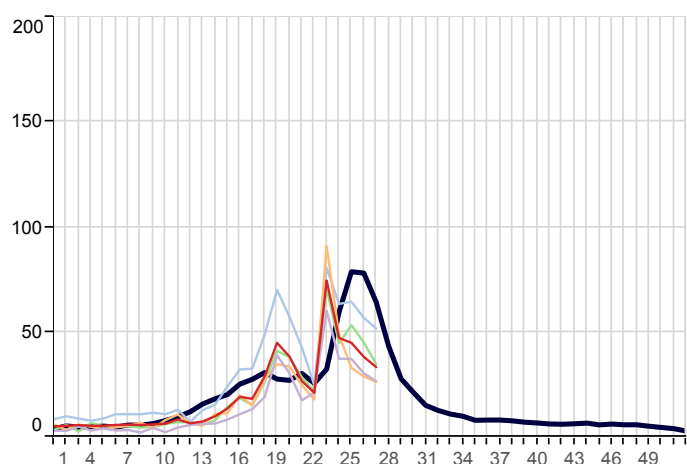
Asthma (ICD10: J45-J46)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



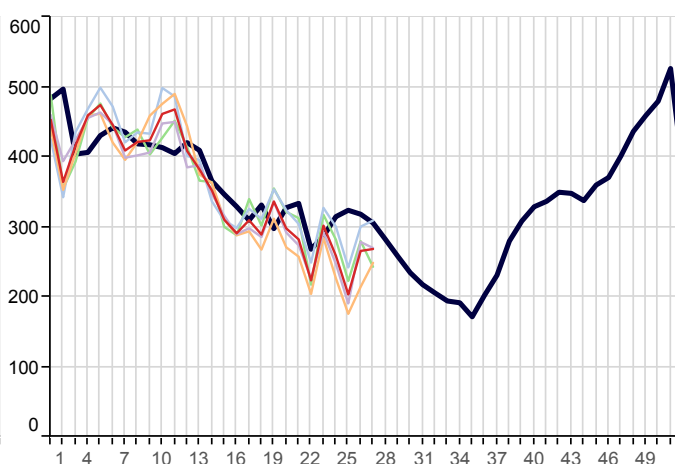
Disorders of Conjunctiva (ICD10: H10-H13)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



Hayfever/Allergic Rhinitis (ICD10: J30)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



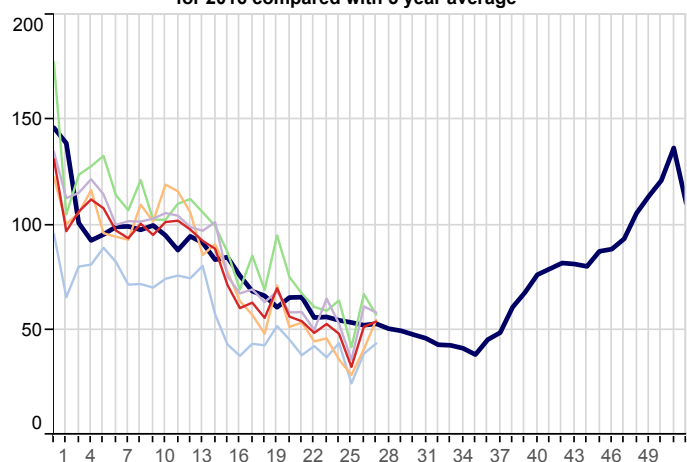
Symptoms involving Respiratory & Chest (ICD10: R05-R07,R09)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



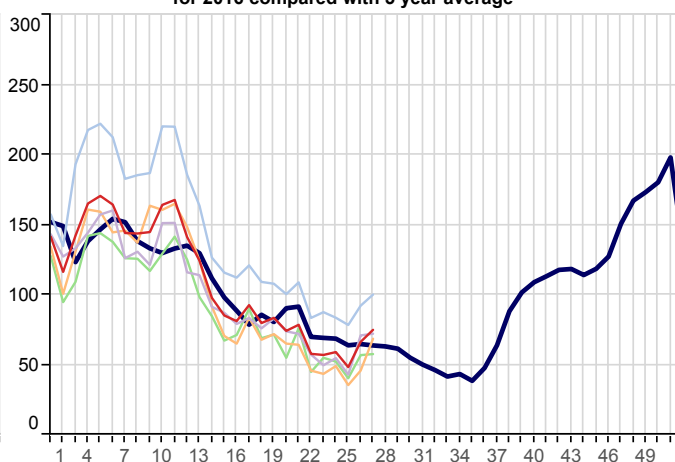
3. Respiratory Infections:

■ 5yr Avg ■ National ■ North ■ South ■ London ■ Midlands And East

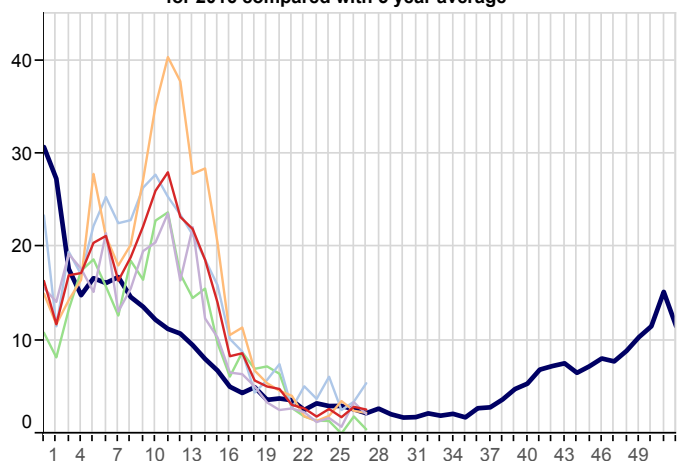
Acute Bronchitis (ICD10: J20-J21,J40)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



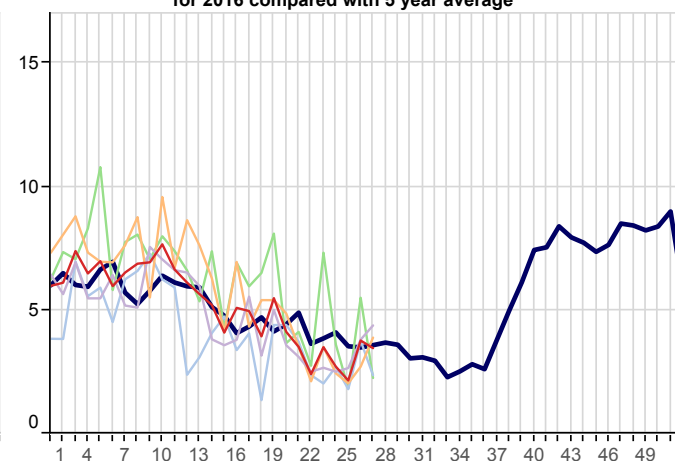
Common Cold (ICD10: J00,J06)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



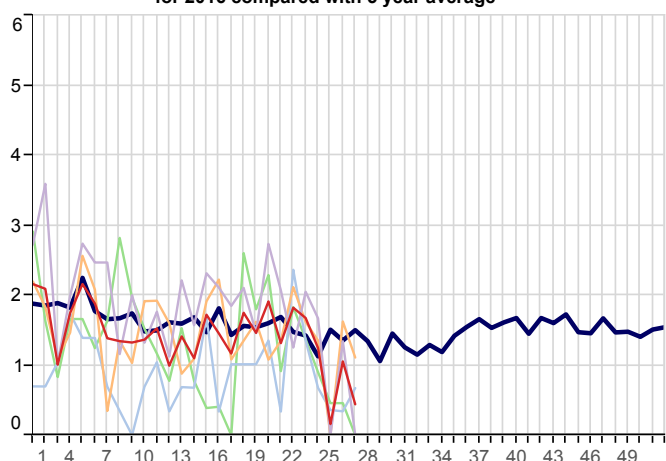
Influenza-Like Illness (ICD10: J09-J11)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



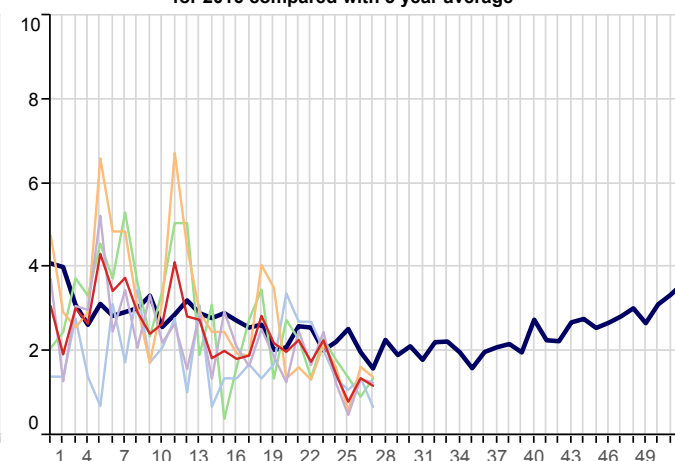
Acute Laryngitis/Tracheitis (ICD10: J04)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



Pleurisy (ICD10: R091)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



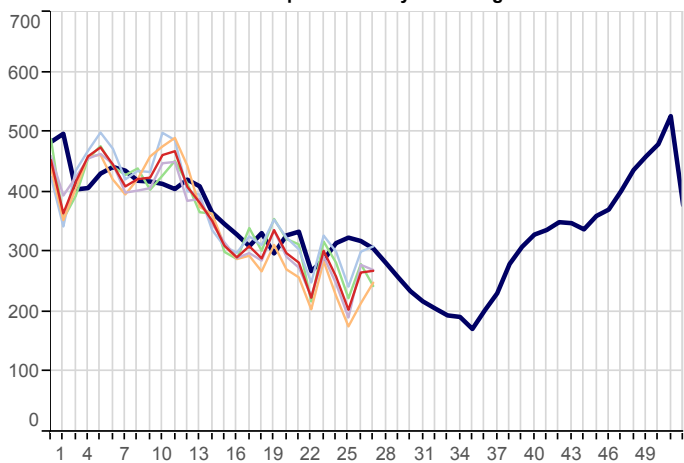
Pneumonia/Pneumonitis (ICD10: J12-J18)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



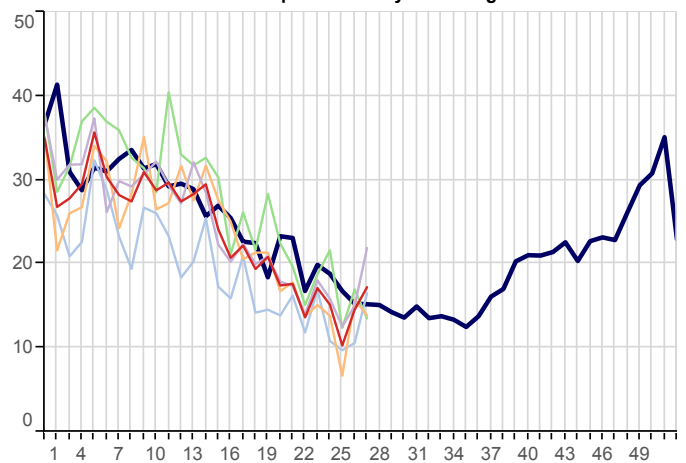
3. Respiratory Infections(Continued):

■ 5yr Avg ■ National ■ North ■ South ■ London ■ Midlands And East

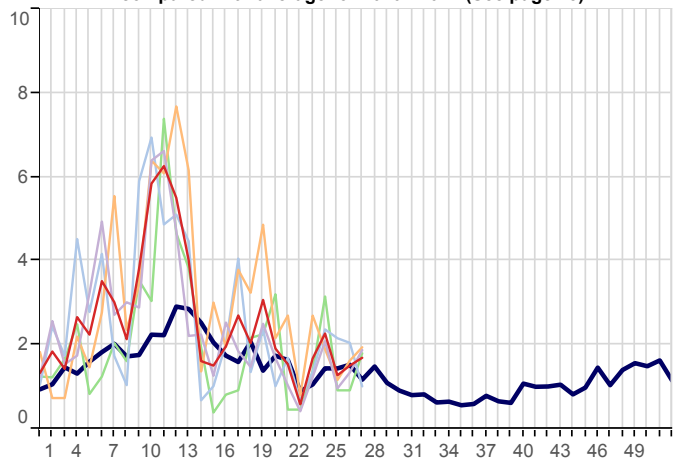
Respiratory System Diseases (ICD10: J00-J99)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



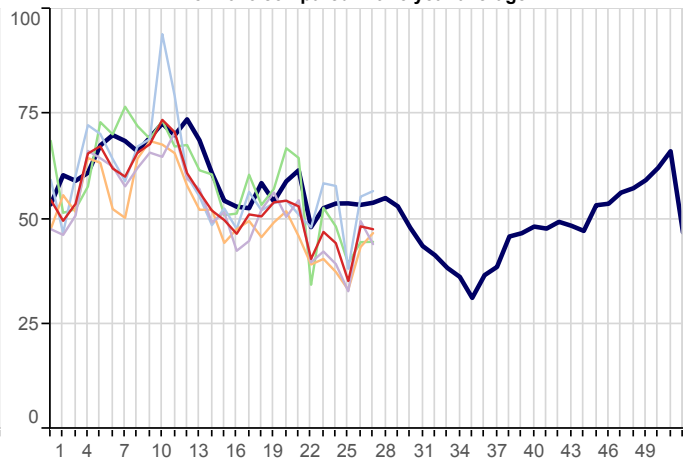
Acute Sinusitis (ICD10: J01)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



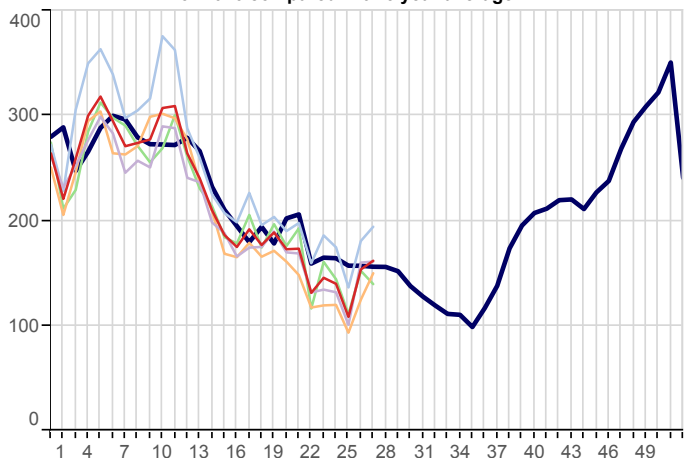
Strep Sore Throat, Scarletina and Peritonsillar Abscess (ICD10: A38,J02,J36)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2015
compared with average for 2010 - 2012 (See page 13)



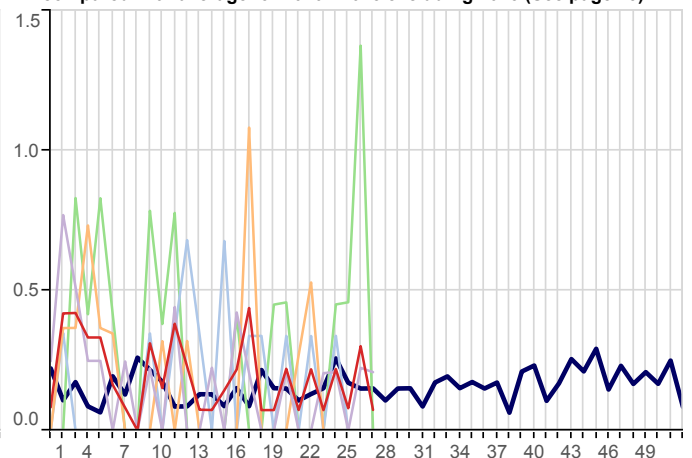
Acute Tonsillitis/Pharyngitis (ICD10: J02-J03)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI)(ICD10: J00-J06)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



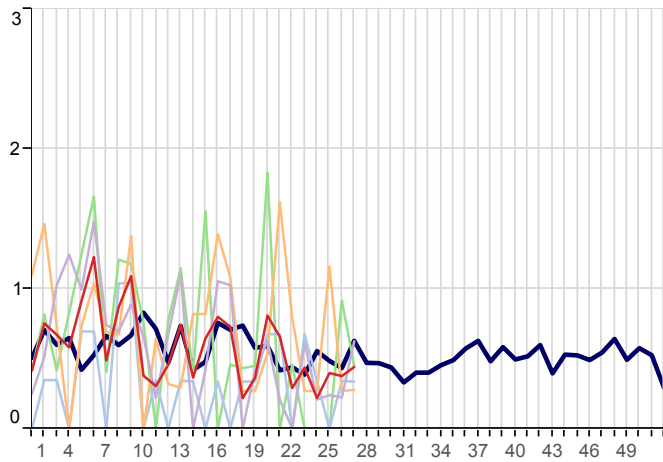
Whooping Cough (ICD10: A37)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2015
compared with average for 2010 - 2015 excluding 2013 (See page 13)



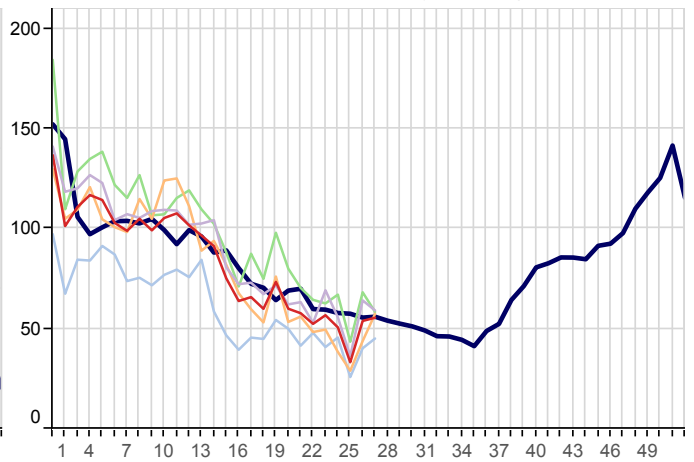
3. Respiratory Infections(Continued):

■ 5yr Avg
 ■ National
 ■ North
 ■ South
 ■ London
 ■ Midlands And East

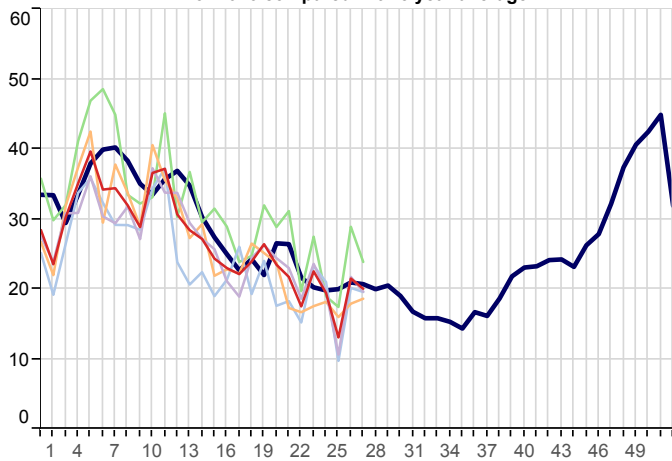
Infectious Mononucleosis (ICD10: B27)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



Lower Respiratory Tract Infections (LRTI)(ICD10: J20-J22)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



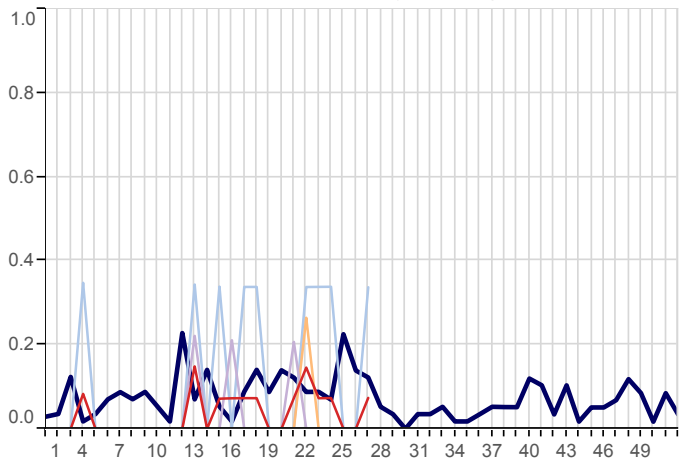
Acute Otitis Media (ICD10: H650-H651,H660,H669)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



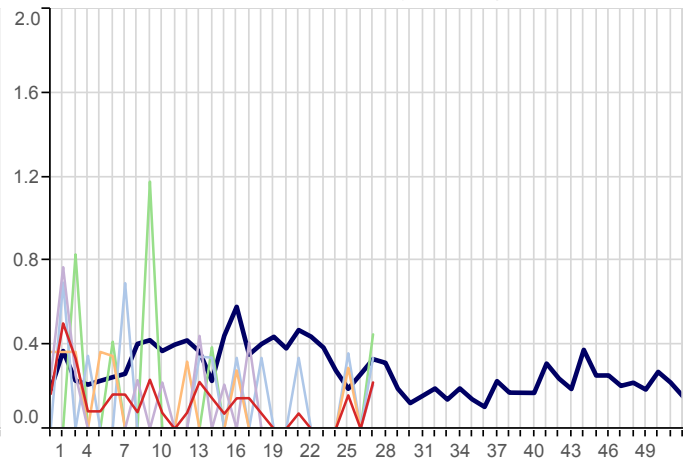
4. Vaccine Sensitive Disorders

5yr Avg National North South London Midlands And East

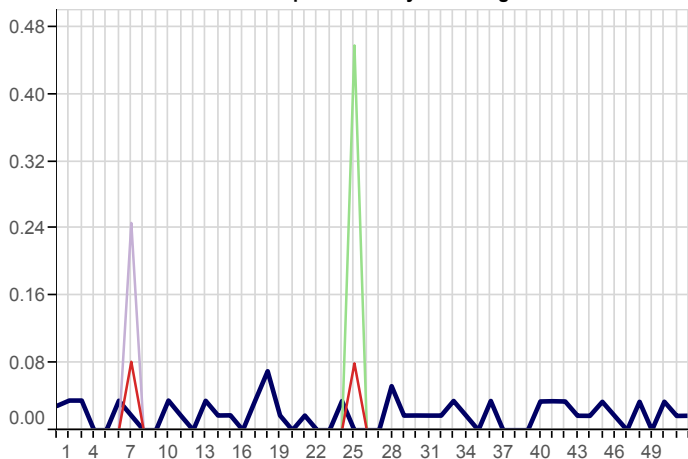
Measles (ICD10: B05)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



Mumps (ICD10: B26)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average

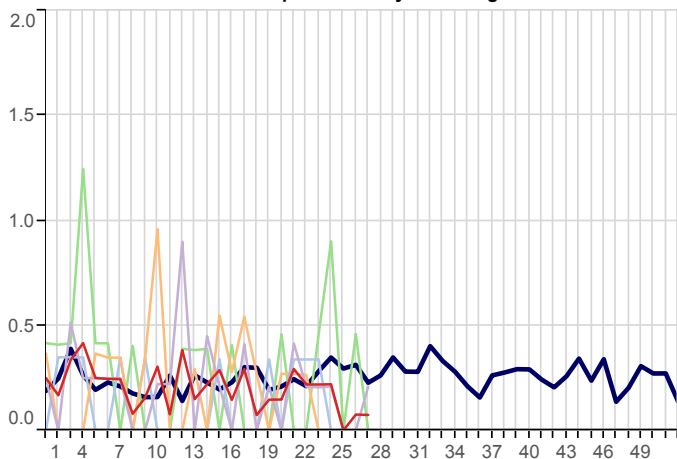


Rubella (ICD10: B06)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average

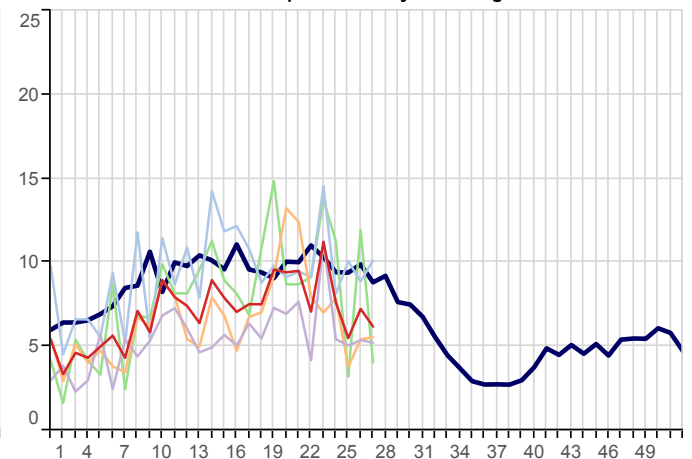


5. Skin Contagions

Bullous Dermatoses (ICD10: L10-L14)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



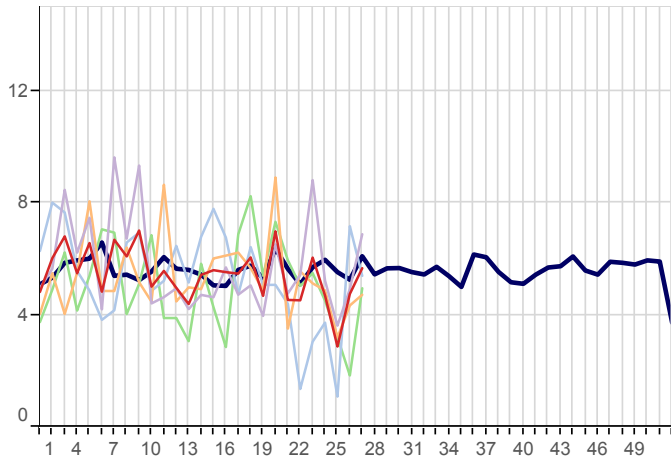
Chickenpox (ICD10: B01)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



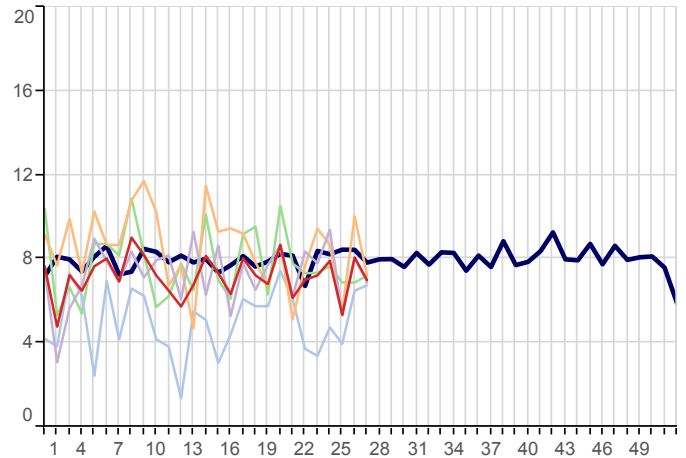
5. Skin Contagions (Continued)

5yr Avg National North South London Midlands And East

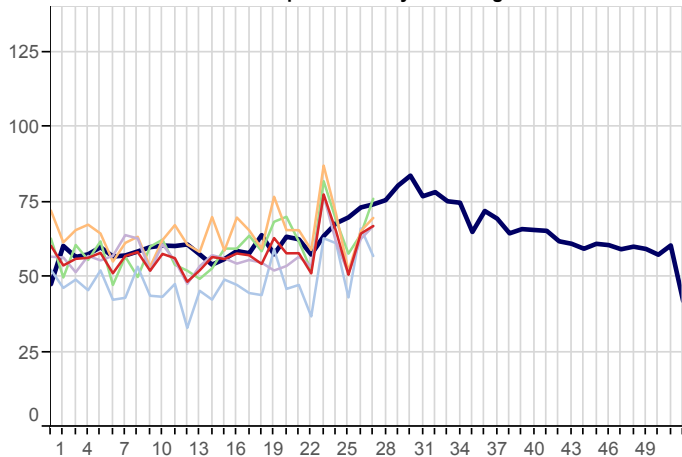
Herpes Simplex (ICD10: B00)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



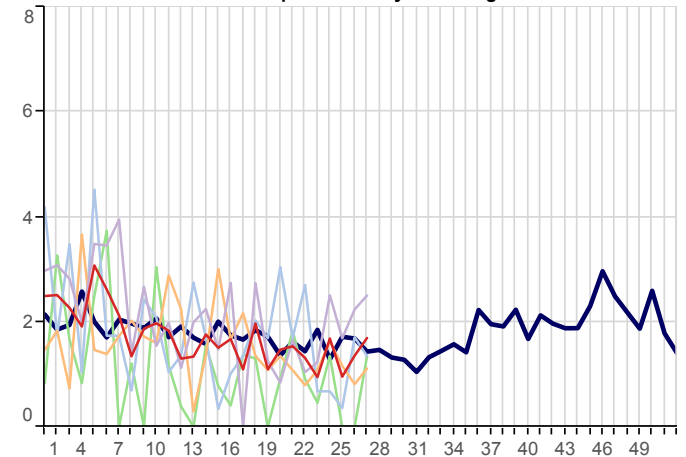
Herpes Zoster (ICD10: B02)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



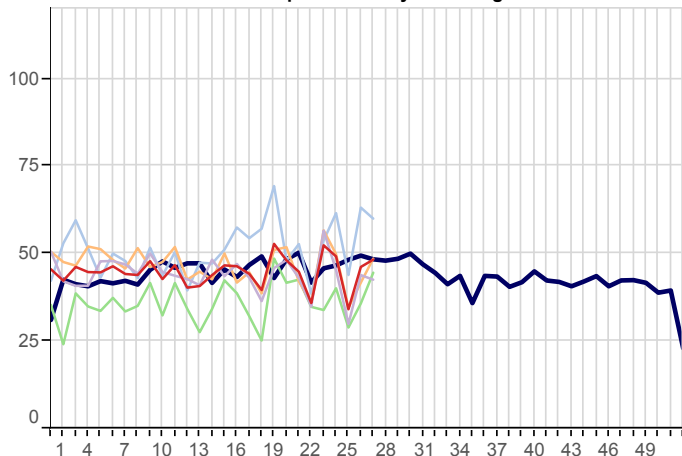
Infections of Skin & Subcutaneous Tissue (ICD10: L00-L08)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



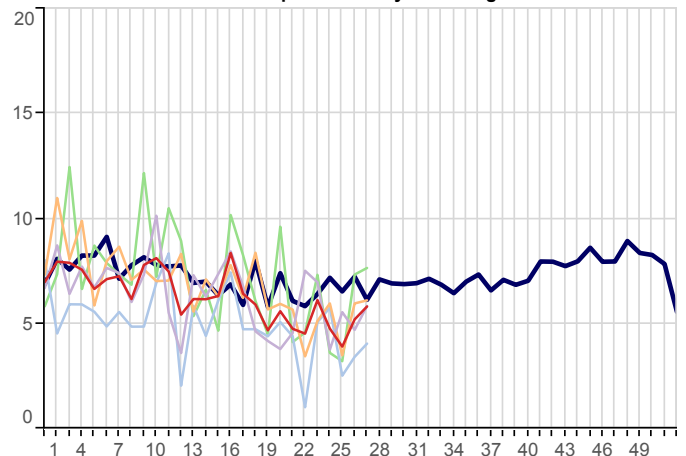
Scabies (ICD10: B86)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



Symptoms involving Skin & Oth Integument Tiss (ICD10: R20-R23)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



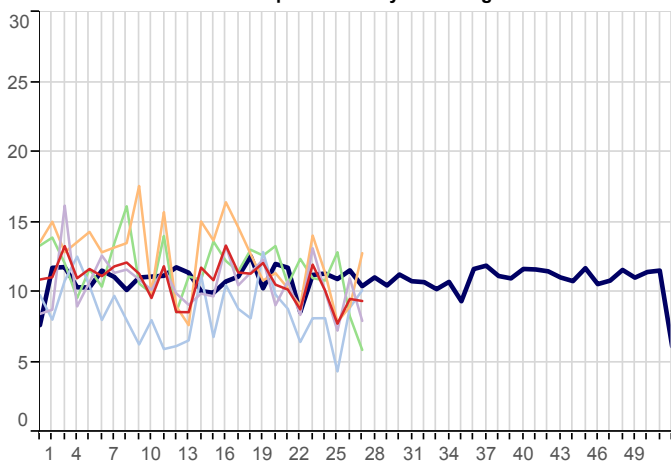
Impetigo (ICD10: L01)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



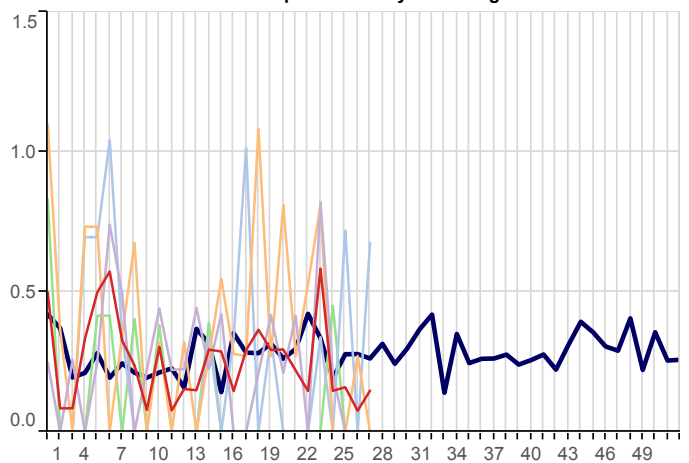
6. Disorders Affecting the Nervous System

5yr Avg National North South London Midlands And East

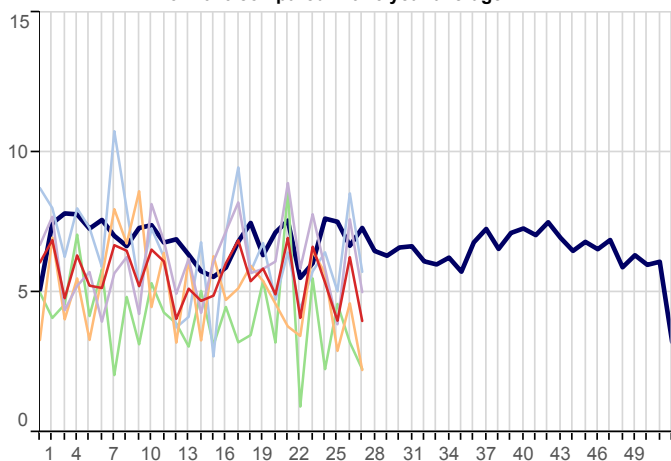
Disorders of The Peripheral Nervous System (ICD10: G50-G64,G70-G72)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



Meningitis/Encephalitis (ICD10: A170-A171,A390,A38-A85,A87,G00-G05)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average

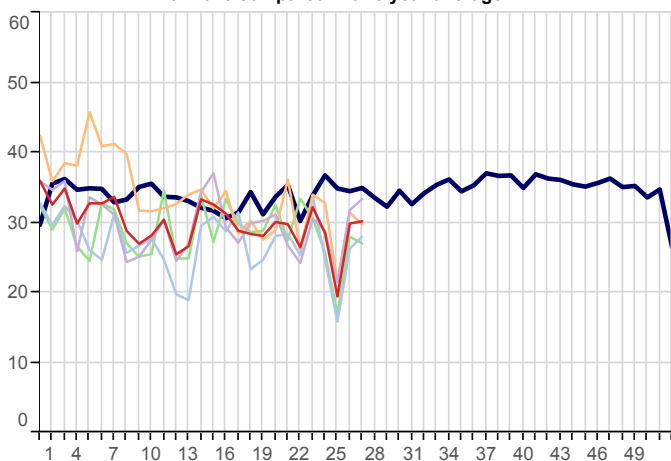


Symptoms Involving Nervous & Musculoskeletal (ICD10: R25-R29)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



7. Genitourinary System Disorders

Urinary Tract Infection/Cystitis (ICD10: N30,N390)
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region
for 2016 compared with 5 year average



8. Tabular Summary by Disease

Disease Name	Week beginning Week ending		04/07/2016 10/07/2016		27/06/2016 03/07/2016		20/06/2016 26/06/2016		13/06/2016 19/06/2016	
	Rate	Episodes	Rate	Episodes	Rate	Episodes	Rate	Episodes	Rate	Episodes
Allergic Rhinitis	33.2	451	38.0	505	44.8	562	47.1	643		
Asthma	11.6	158	13.6	180	10.7	134	13.0	178		
Acute Bronchitis	53.9	732	51.4	682	32.3	405	48.0	656		
Bullous Dermatoses	0.1	1	0.1	1	0.0	0	0.2	3		
Chickenpox	6.2	84	7.2	96	5.5	69	7.6	104		
Common Cold	74.9	1,018	66.3	880	48.3	606	59.0	806		
Conjunctival Disorders	26.1	355	28.3	375	22.7	285	28.7	392		
Herpes Simplex	5.7	77	4.7	63	2.9	36	4.7	64		
Herpes Zoster	7.0	95	8.1	107	5.3	67	7.9	108		
Impetigo	5.8	79	5.2	69	3.9	49	4.8	65		
Infectious Mononucleosis	0.4	6	0.4	5	0.4	5	0.2	3		
Influenza-like illness	2.6	35	2.9	38	1.8	22	2.6	36		
Infectious Intestinal Diseases	9.5	129	9.2	122	9.5	119	9.2	126		
Laryngitis and Tracheitis	3.5	47	3.8	50	2.2	27	2.7	37		
Lower Respiratory Tract Infections	55.6	755	53.9	716	33.3	418	50.7	693		
Measles	0.1	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.1	1		
Meningitis and Encephalitis	0.1	2	0.1	1	0.2	2	0.1	2		
Mumps	0.2	3	0.0	0	0.2	2	0.0	0		
Non-infective Enteritis and Colitis	8.6	117	9.9	131	7.2	90	7.4	101		
Otitis Media Acute	20.0	272	21.5	285	13.1	164	19.4	265		
Peripheral Nervous Disease	9.3	127	9.5	126	7.7	97	10.1	138		
Pleurisy	0.4	6	1.1	14	0.2	2	1.2	17		
Pneumonia and Pneumonitis	1.2	16	1.4	18	0.8	10	1.5	20		
Respiratory System Diseases	268.4	3,647	265.6	3,525	203.5	2,555	258.8	3,535		
Rubella	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.1	1	0.0	0		
Scabies	1.7	23	1.4	18	1.0	12	1.7	23		
Sinusitis	17.2	234	14.5	193	10.3	129	15.2	207		
Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Infections	67.0	910	64.4	855	50.7	637	65.2	891		
Strep Throat and Peritonsillar Abscess	1.7	23	1.5	20	1.3	16	2.3	31		
Symptoms involving musculoskeletal	4.0	54	6.3	83	4.0	50	5.3	73		
Symptoms involving Respiratory and Chest	20.2	275	18.3	243	15.7	197	18.8	257		
Symptoms involving Skin and Integument Tissues	48.3	656	46.2	613	34.1	428	49.2	672		
Tonsillitis and acute Pharyngitis	47.5	646	48.2	640	35.2	442	44.2	604		
Upper Respiratory Tract Infections	161.7	2,198	153.4	2,036	108.3	1,360	139.8	1,909		
Urinary Tract Infections	30.2	410	29.8	396	19.4	244	28.5	389		
Viral Hepatitis	0.3	4	0.3	4	0.2	2	0.5	7		
Whooping Cough	0.1	1	0.3	4	0.1	1	0.2	3		
Practice Count		144		140		137		145		
Denom		1,358,917		1,327,259		1,255,723		1,365,941		

FURTHER INFORMATION:

About the report

Summer focus

The first two pages of data within this report focus on the weekly incidence rates of Influenza-Like Illness, Allergic Rhinitis, Common Cold, and Infectious Intestinal Diseases.

Rate calculation

Each weekly incidence rate is presented per 100,000 population. All presentations are for males and females, and for all age groups, unless otherwise stated.

The denominator used for this report is taken from our most recent extract of data from GP practice systems, and includes all patients currently registered with eligible practices. The denominator varies week-on-week as patients register and deregister; it may also be the case that all patients from an individual practice are excluded because of problems with the data extraction from that practice in a specific week. Patients who have withheld consent for data-sharing are excluded.

In addition to the national rate, we present data for the four NHS England regions: North; Midlands and East; South; and London.

Five-year averages

Weekly rates are set against the five-year average, calculated from data for the calendar years 2011-2015. Previously we reported against a ten-year average. The change to a five-year average was made because longer-term trends in the incidence of disease have led to weekly rates for certain diseases becoming increasingly divergent from their ten-year average. The use of five-year averages lessens this effect and enables more meaningful comparison.

For two diseases, years with exceptionally high incidence have been excluded from the averages: for Whooping Cough, data from 2012 has been excluded; for Strep Sore Throat, Scarletina and Peritonsillar Abscess, data from 2013 and 2014 have been excluded so that similar rates in the future will appear as exceptional rather than normal in comparison.

Threshold calculation for Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)

We are now using the Moving Epidemic Method (MEM) to calculate threshold and intensity levels for Influenza-Like Illness. MEM works by identifying seasonal epidemic peaks and then calculates thresholds and intensity levels based on the pre and post epidemic values. This allows us to report the severity of ILI against multiple thresholds, rather than a simple comparison with the five-year average as the wide variation in ILI year on year, especially during the seasonal peak, makes the average less representative.

This methodology is used by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control to standardise reporting of influenza activity across Europe, and is also in use by Public Health England. Full details of the methodology can be found in: Vega et al. (2012) Influenza surveillance in Europe: establishing epidemic thresholds by the moving epidemic method. Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses 7(4), 546–558. For ease of graphical representation, the final threshold (Very High) is not included in Graph A, page 2.

About the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) Research and Surveillance Centre (RSC)

What we do

The RCGP RSC was established in 1957, with the current name in use since 2009. The Centre is an internationally renowned source of information, analysis, and interpretation concerning the onset, patterns, relevance and trends over time of morbidity in primary care. The RSC is an active research and surveillance unit that collects and monitors data; its most important research is the surveillance of influenza and the monitoring of vaccine effectiveness.

The RSC data and analytics hub is housed in the Section of Clinical Medicine and Ageing at the University of Surrey.

Further information about the RSC can be found on our website:

<http://www.rcgp.org.uk/clinical-and-research/our-programmes/research-and-surveillance-centre.aspx>

Our data extraction process and information governance

Data are extracted twice weekly from practice systems by Apollo Medical Software Solutions on the RCGP's behalf. Patients who have withheld consent for data sharing are excluded from the extraction process.

Data are pseudonymised as close to source as possible. Data are held on secure servers at the RCGP data and analytics hub in the Section of Clinical Medicine and Ageing at the University of Surrey. Both Apollo and the University of Surrey are registered and compliant with the Data Protection Act, and fully compliant with all relevant HSCIC and NHS data information governance best practice.

What the data is used for

The RCGP RSC has been providing reports weekly about health and disease, called the Weekly Returns Service (WRS) since 1964. The WRS monitors the number of patients consulting with new episodes of illness classified by diagnosis in England, and provides weekly incidence rates per 100,000 population for these new episodes of illness. It is the key primary care element of the national disease monitoring systems run by Public Health England. The bulletin can be found at the following URL:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/syndromic-surveillance-summary>

In addition to the WRS, the data is used for other research studies. Any other uses of the data for research follow ethical approval from the Health Research Authority (HRA), and, where relevant, HRA Confidential Advisory Group (CAG) advice that further approval is not needed. Full details can be found on our website:

<http://www.rcgp.org.uk/clinical-and-research/our-programmes/research-and-surveillance-centre.aspx>

For further information

For further information about the work of the RSC, or if you would like to be included on our email notification list, please contact:

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