

## RSC Communicable and Respiratory Disease Report for England

Week Number / Year

**15 / 2026**

Population

**19,544,399**

Dates

**06/04/2026 - 12/04/2026**

No. Practices

**1,835**

### Notes

All rates in this report are given per 100,000 population presenting in the week of the report. A rolling 5-year average rate is also provided as a historical comparison. Rates are provided for four regions (North, South, Midlands and East, and London). For acute respiratory infections, a breakdown by age group is also provided.

Rates are presented on a weekly basis, using ISO week numbers.

Please see page 20 for further explanatory notes on the data.

### Comments

The overall rates of influenza-like illness (ILI) have remained stable this week and are below the seasonal average for this time of year, however, there have been increases in the rates for the <1yr and 65+ yrs age groups offset by decreases in the rates for the 1-4yrs and 5-14yrs age groups, pages 3 and 4.

The overall rates of acute respiratory infections (ARI) have remained stable this week and are below the seasonal average for this time of year, page 7.

Swab positivity for all respiratory viruses remains low, page 4.

Rates of COVID-19 remains low, page 6.

Other comments:

- Rates of scabies remain above the seasonal average for this time of year, page 16.
- Tonsillitis and pharyngitis, otitis media, sinusitis, infected insect bites, impetigo, herpes zoster and urinary tract infection (UTI) consultation rates are currently above the five-year average. We believe this reflects identification of additional cases through the Pharmacy First scheme, and we are monitoring these changes.

## Seasonal Focus

In the "Change since last week" column, a change in rate of 5% to 10% is marked with a single arrow (↗ or ↘), while a change of more than 10% is marked with a double arrow (↗↗ or ↘↘). A flat line (—) indicates the rate was stable, changing less than 5%.

### Region Breakdown

	Acute respiratory infections (ARI)			Influenza-like illness (ILI)			Exacerbations of chronic lung disease (ECLD)		
	This week	Last week	Change since last week	This week	Last week	Change since last week	This week	Last week	Change since last week
London	160.7	181.6	↘ -20.9	2.4	3.0	↘ -0.6	7.2	7.5	— -0.4
Midlands And East	229.0	245.5	↘ -16.5	1.8	1.8	— 0.0	13.5	13.7	— -0.3
North	265.4	268.5	— -3.1	2.1	2.1	— 0.1	19.8	19.7	— 0.1
South	199.3	206.9	— -7.5	2.4	2.4	— 0.0	13.1	12.8	— 0.4
<b>National</b>	<b>216.2</b>	<b>227.1</b>	<b>— -10.9</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>— -0.1</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>— 0.0</b>

	Lower respiratory tract infections (LRTI)			Upper respiratory tract infections (URTI)			COVID-19		
	This week	Last week	Change since last week	This week	Last week	Change since last week	This week	Last week	Change since last week
London	38.9	39.0	— -0.1	120.3	141.2	↘ -20.9	0.2	0.2	↗ 0.1
Midlands And East	68.3	68.8	— -0.5	158.4	175.4	↘ -17.0	0.3	0.3	— 0.0
North	91.3	85.3	↗ 6.0	168.0	178.8	↘ -10.9	0.1	0.2	↘ -0.1
South	66.1	64.9	— 1.2	131.0	141.0	↘ -10.0	0.3	0.3	↗ 0.0
<b>National</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>— 1.8</b>	<b>145.1</b>	<b>159.0</b>	<b>↘ -13.9</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>— 0.0</b>

### Age Group Breakdown

	Acute respiratory infections (ARI)			Influenza-like illness (ILI)			Exacerbations of chronic lung disease (ECLD)		
	This week	Last week	Change since last week	This week	Last week	Change since last week	This week	Last week	Change since last week
<1yr	989.0	968.8	— 20.3	4.4	1.8	↗ 2.6	0.0	0.0	— 0.0
1-4yrs	716.1	853.6	↘ -137.5	1.1	2.1	↘ -1.1	0.4	1.6	↘ -1.2
5-14yrs	190.0	257.8	↘ -67.8	0.7	1.3	↘ -0.6	2.0	4.7	↘ -2.7
15-64yrs	168.3	168.8	— -0.5	2.5	2.6	— -0.1	9.5	9.7	— -0.2
65+yrs	263.9	248.1	↗ 15.8	2.1	1.7	↗ 0.4	40.0	37.4	↗ 2.6
<b>All ages</b>	<b>216.2</b>	<b>227.1</b>	<b>— -10.9</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>— -0.1</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>— 0.0</b>

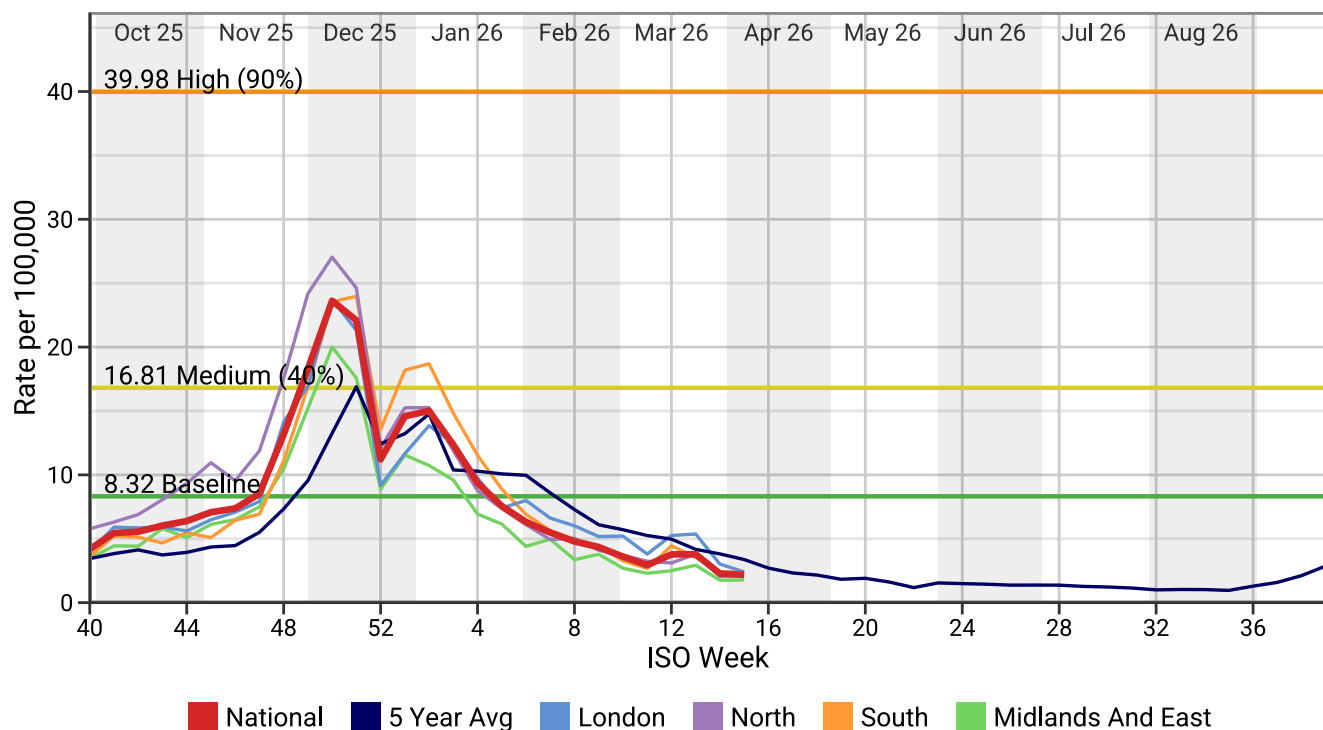
  

	Lower respiratory tract infections (LRTI)			Upper respiratory tract infections (URTI)			COVID-19		
	This week	Last week	Change since last week	This week	Last week	Change since last week	This week	Last week	Change since last week
<1yr	224.6	208.9	↗ 15.7	845.4	841.6	— 3.8	0.6	1.8	↘ -1.2
1-4yrs	118.8	135.0	↘ -16.1	664.7	791.7	↘ -127.0	0.3	0.7	↘ -0.4
5-14yrs	20.9	27.4	↘ -6.5	175.7	234.7	↘ -59.0	0.0	0.1	↘ 0.0
15-64yrs	45.5	44.1	— 1.4	119.8	122.1	— -2.3	0.2	0.2	↗ 0.0
65+yrs	160.3	148.5	↗ 11.8	75.1	76.0	— -0.9	0.5	0.5	↗ 0.1
<b>All ages</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>— 1.8</b>	<b>145.1</b>	<b>159.0</b>	<b>↘ -13.9</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>— 0.0</b>

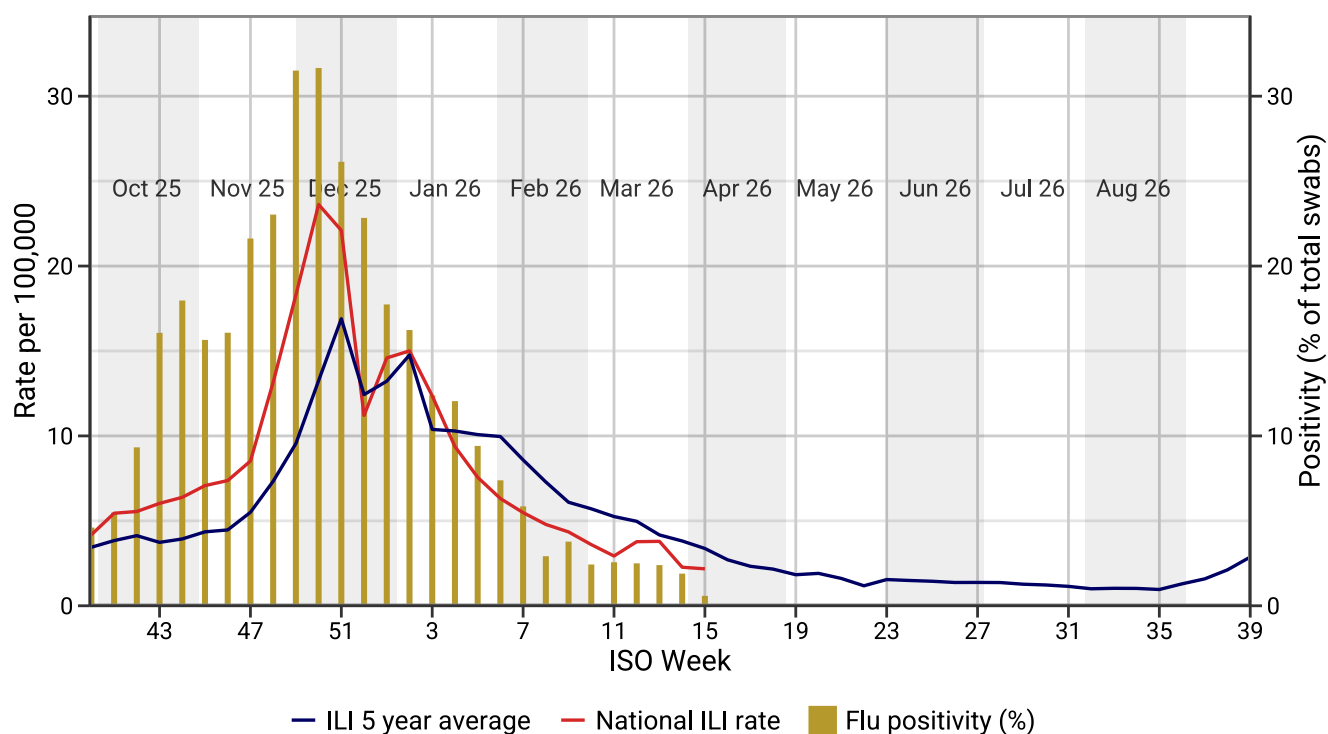
## 2025/26 Focus

### (A) Influenza-like Illness: national incidence rate by region

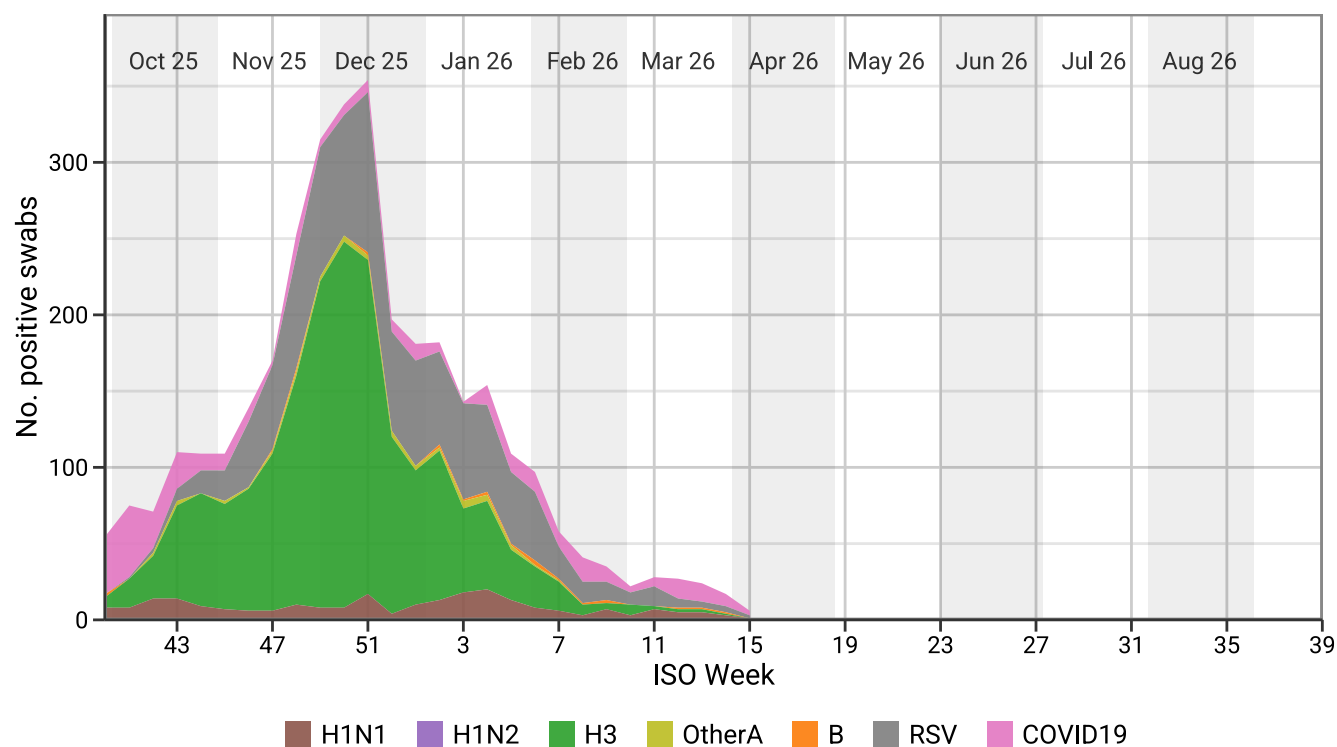
The horizontal lines in the following graph are thresholds derived from the Moving Epidemic Method (MEM) model. See p20 for more information.



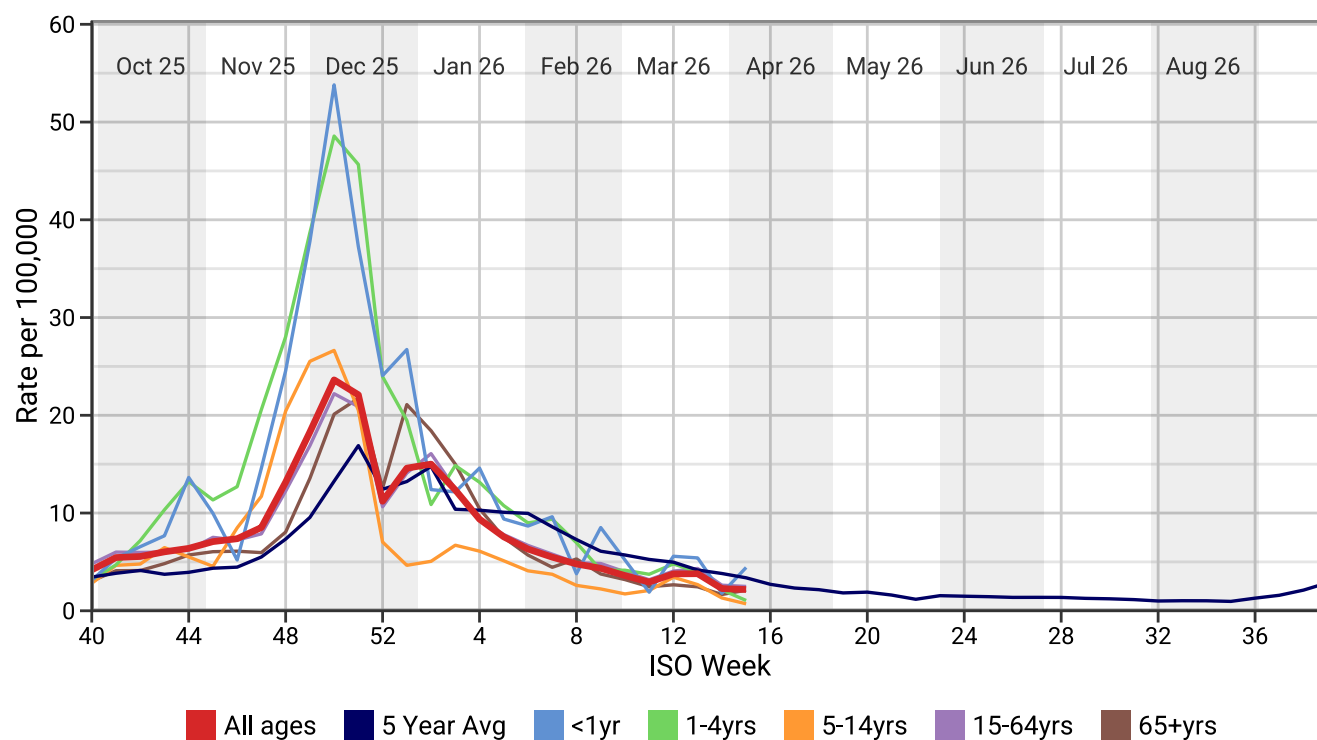
### (B) RCGP/UKHSA influenza virology swab surveillance



(C) RCGP/UKHSA RSV, influenza and SARS-CoV-2 virology swab surveillance (by strain)



(D) Influenza-like Illness: national incidence rate by age band



**(E) Influenza-like Illness: national incidence rate by age band**

This table shows the level of intensity of ILI by age band. MEM thresholds have been calculated separately for each age band - thresholds are shown in the second table. Refer to page 19 for more information.

	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
1-4yrs	0.8	1.1	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	2.8	2.5	3.2	4.7	7.2	10.3	13.2	11.3	12.7	20.6	28.0	38.7
5-14yrs	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.8	1.7	2.2	2.8	4.6	4.8	6.5	5.5	4.5	8.5	11.7	20.4	25.5
15-64yrs	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.9	2.0	2.2	3.7	4.8	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.2	7.5	7.2	7.9	12.3	16.9
65+yrs	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.6	2.7	3.1	4.1	4.1	4.8	5.7	6.0	6.1	5.9	8.1	13.5
All ages	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.6	1.7	2.0	3.3	4.2	5.4	5.6	6.0	6.4	7.1	7.4	8.5	13.2	18.3

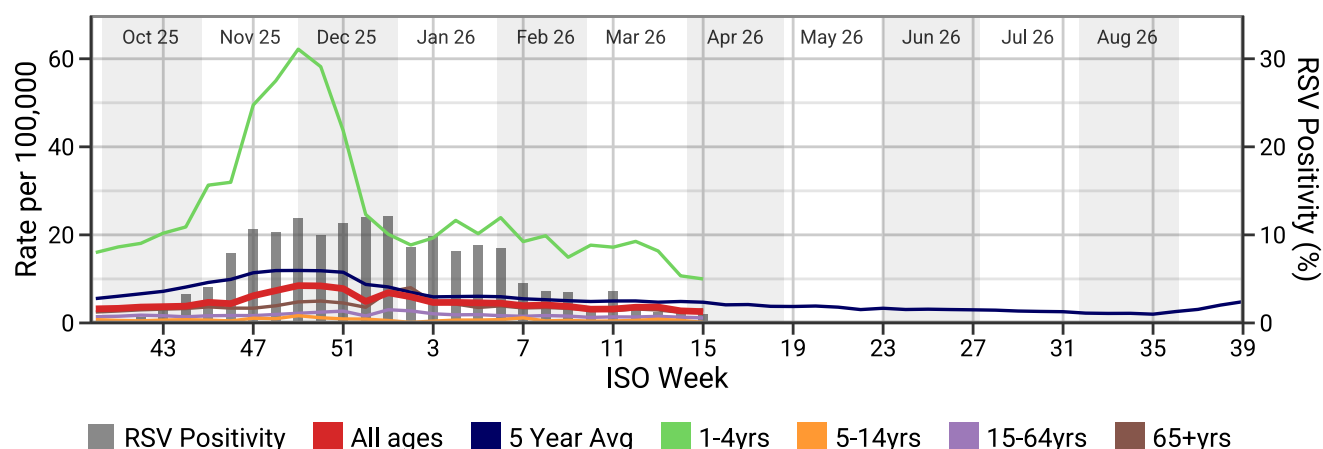
	50	51	52	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1-4yrs	48.6	45.7	23.9	19.5	10.9	14.9	13.1	10.8	9.0	9.4	7.0	4.2	4.1	3.7	4.8	4.0	2.1	1.1
5-14yrs	26.6	20.5	7.0	4.7	5.1	6.7	6.1	5.1	4.1	3.7	2.6	2.2	1.7	2.1	3.4	2.7	1.3	0.7
15-64yrs	22.2	20.9	10.6	14.1	16.1	12.5	9.4	7.8	6.7	5.8	4.9	4.8	4.0	3.2	4.1	4.3	2.6	2.5
65+yrs	20.1	21.7	12.6	21.1	18.4	15.0	10.4	7.5	5.7	4.4	5.3	3.8	3.2	2.5	2.7	2.5	1.7	2.1
All ages	23.6	22.1	11.2	14.6	15.0	12.4	9.4	7.6	6.3	5.5	4.8	4.3	3.6	2.9	3.8	3.8	2.3	2.2

	Below Threshold	Threshold to medium	Medium to high	High to very high	Above very high
1-4yrs	<7.86	7.86 to 16.38	16.38 to 30.29	30.29 to 39.75	39.75+
5-14yrs	<5.17	5.17 to 11.83	11.83 to 29.13	29.13 to 43.38	43.38+
15-64yrs	<9.81	9.81 to 18.31	18.31 to 44.31	44.31 to 65.49	65.49+
65+yrs	<8.10	8.10 to 14.49	14.49 to 37.90	37.90 to 57.96	57.96+
All Ages	<8.32	8.32 to 16.81	16.81 to 39.98	39.98 to 58.62	58.62+

**(F) Acute Bronchitis and Bronchiolitis: national incidence rate by age band**

Children under 1 year old are omitted from the following graph.

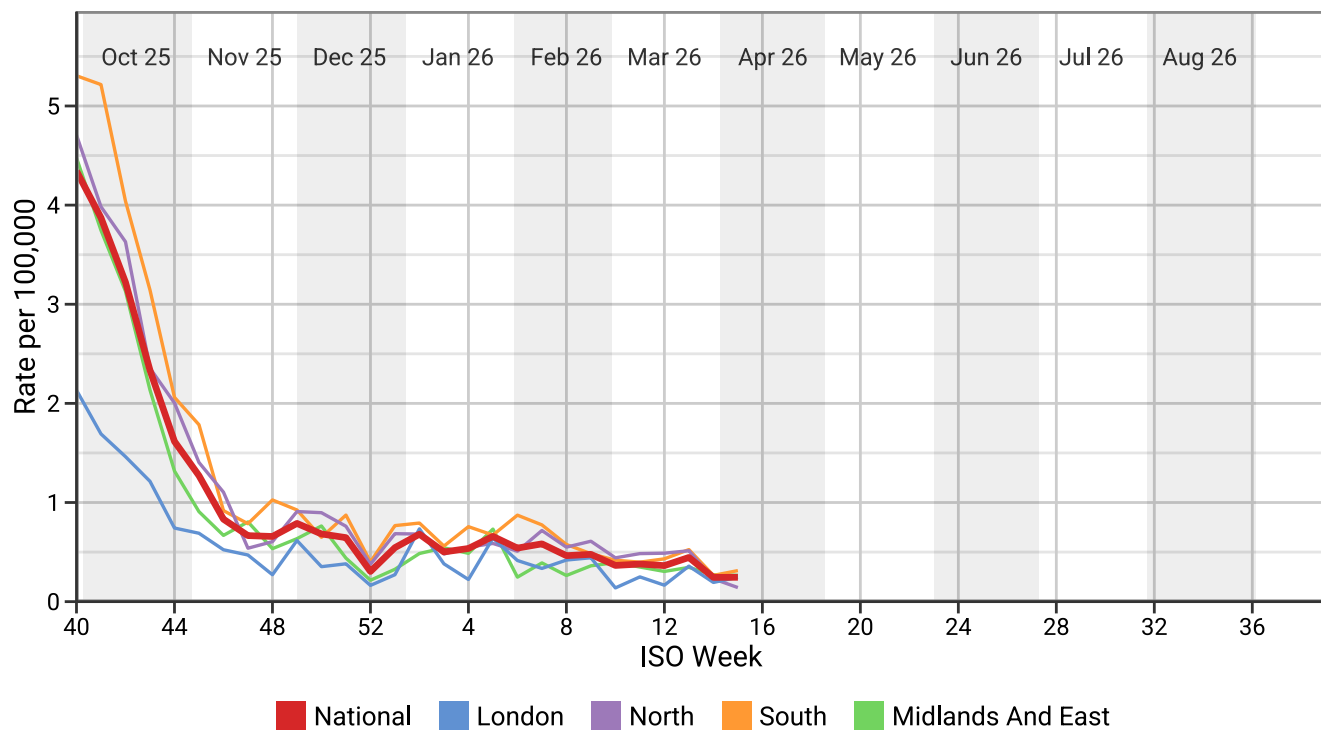
**Weekly incidence rates of influenza-like illness, and acute bronchitis and bronchiolitis (per 100,000)**

	Influenza-like illness (ILI)	ARI-Bronchitis and Bronchiolitis
<1yr	4.4	107.6
1-4yrs	1.1	10.0
5-14yrs	0.7	0.1
15-24yrs	2.1	0.5
25-44yrs	2.8	0.9
45-64yrs	2.3	1.7
65-74yrs	2.2	3.3
75-84yrs	1.9	2.6
85+yrs	2.3	2.9
All ages	2.2	2.6

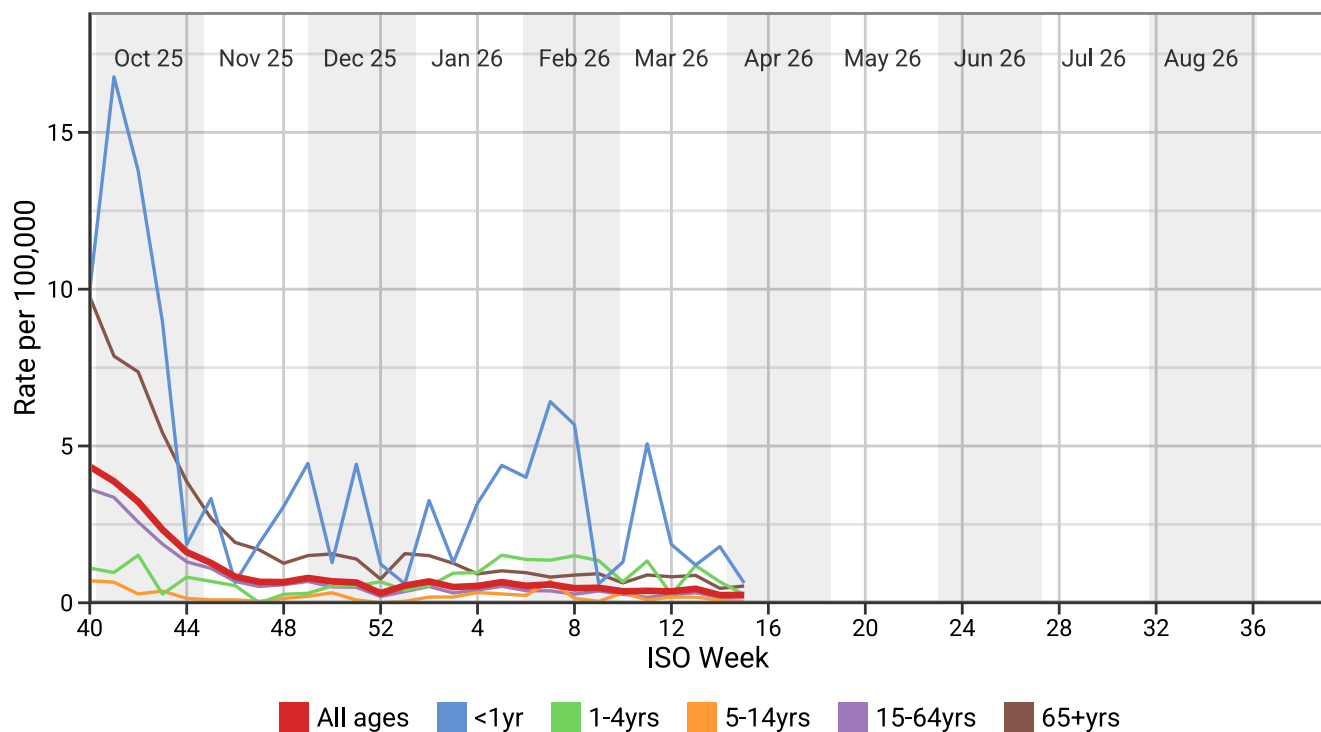
  

	Influenza-like illness (ILI)	ARI-Bronchitis and Bronchiolitis
London	2.4	1.6
Midlands And East	1.8	2.7
North	2.1	3.3
South	2.4	2.4
National	2.2	2.6

(G) COVID-19: national incidence rate by region

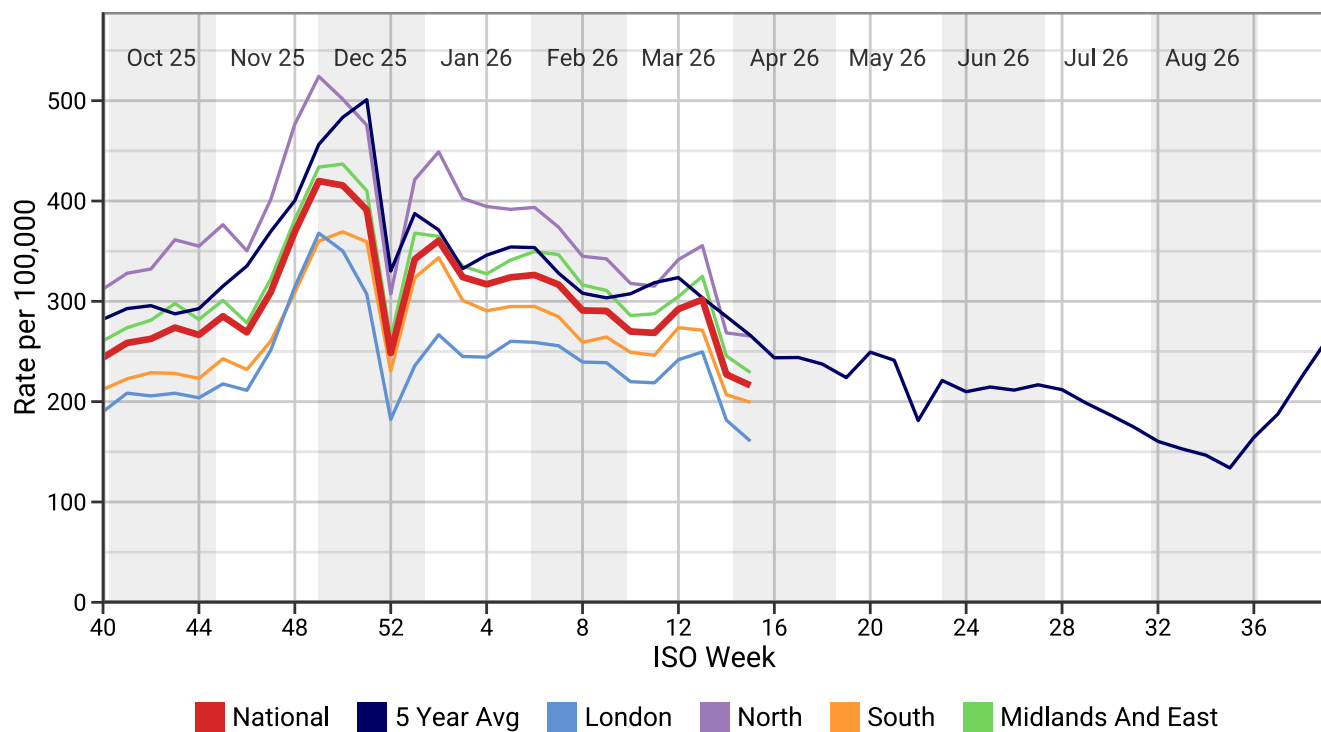


(H) COVID-19: national incidence rate by age band

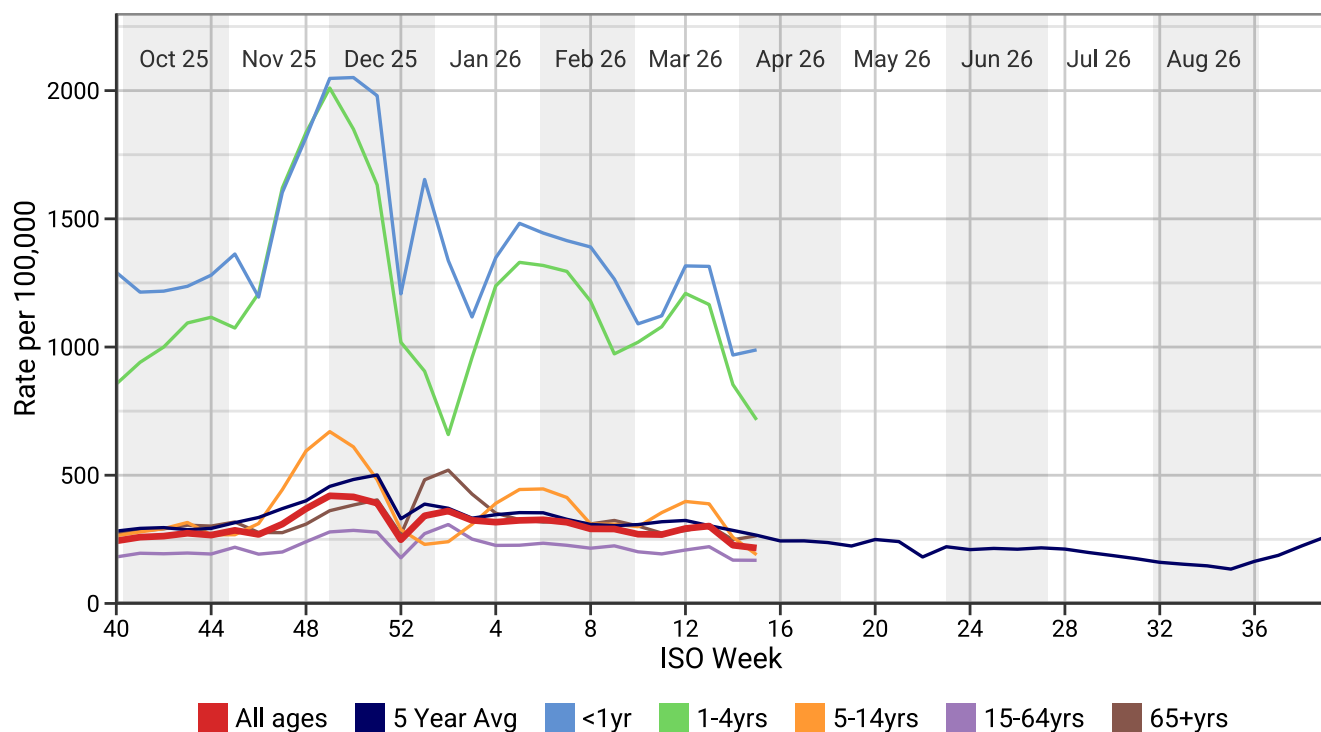


# 1. Respiratory Infections

## (I) Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI): national incidence rate by region



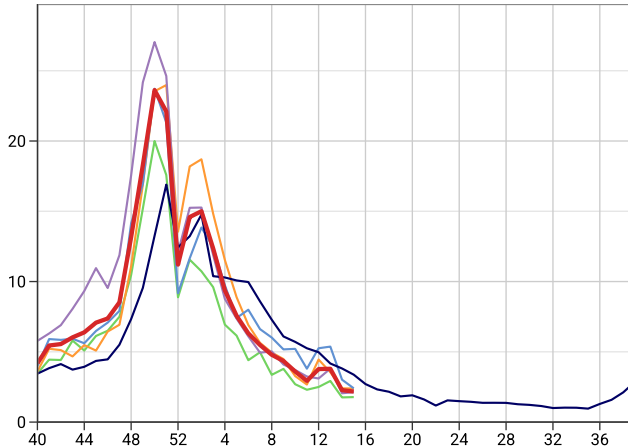
## (J) Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI): national incidence rate by age band



## Respiratory Infections - by region

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

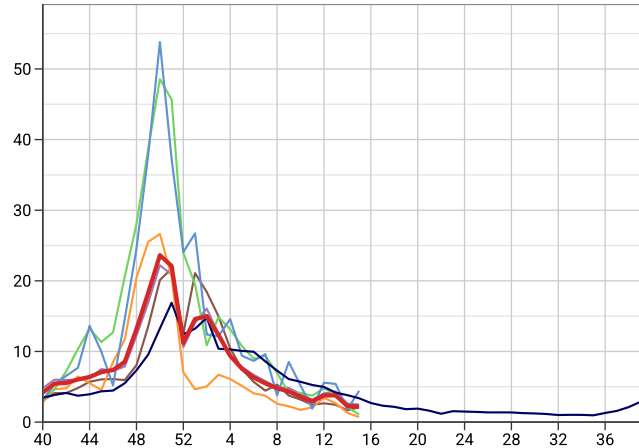
**Influenza-like illness (ILI)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



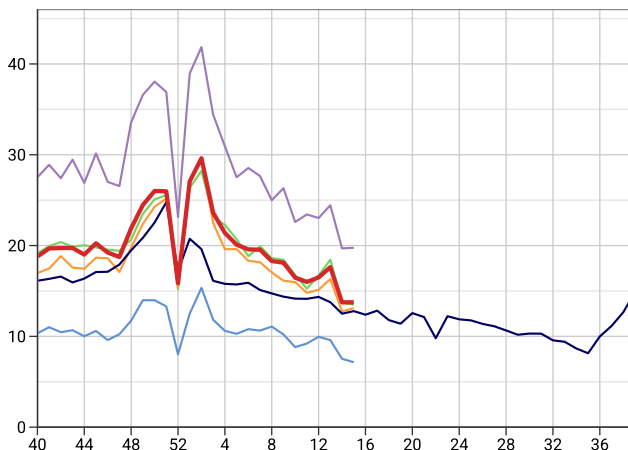
## Respiratory Infections - by age band

■ All ages ■ <1yr ■ 5-14yrs ■ 65+yrs  
■ 5 Year Avg ■ 1-4yrs ■ 15-64yrs

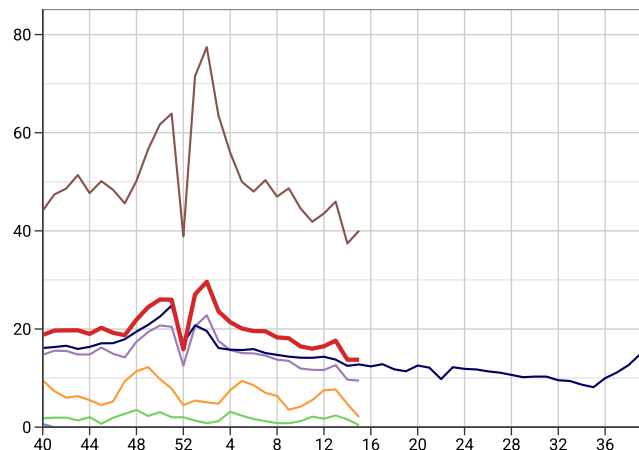
**Influenza-like illness (ILI)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



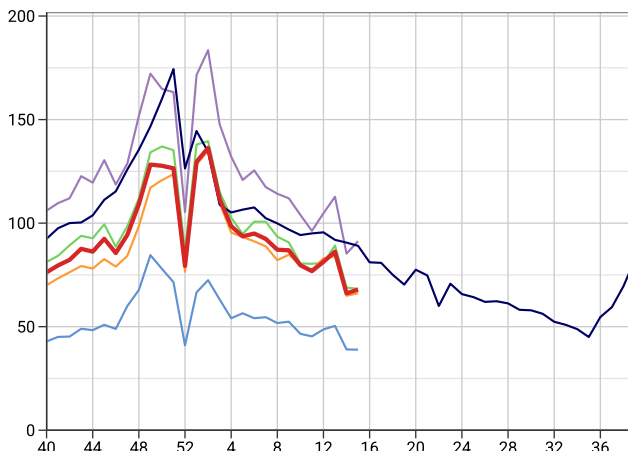
**Exacerbations of Chronic Lung Disease (ECLD)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



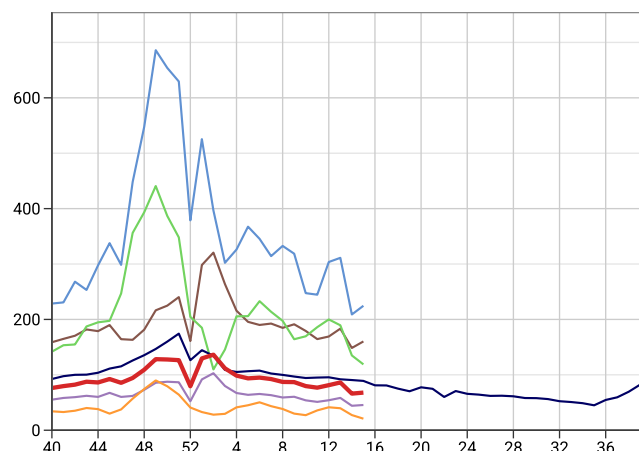
**Exacerbations of Chronic Lung Disease (ECLD)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**Lower Respiratory Tract Infections (LRTI)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**Lower Respiratory Tract Infections (LRTI)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average

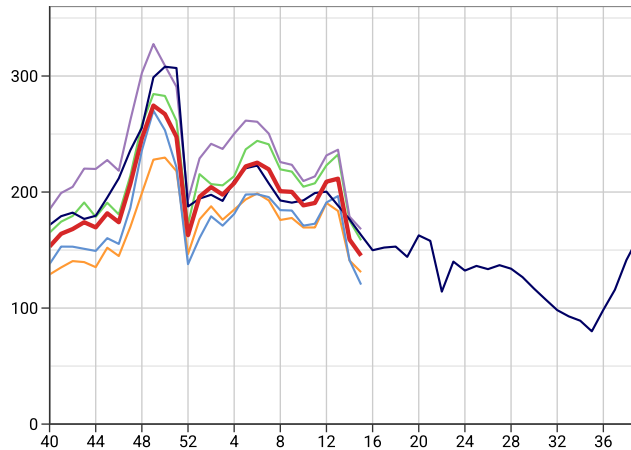




## Respiratory Infections - by region

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

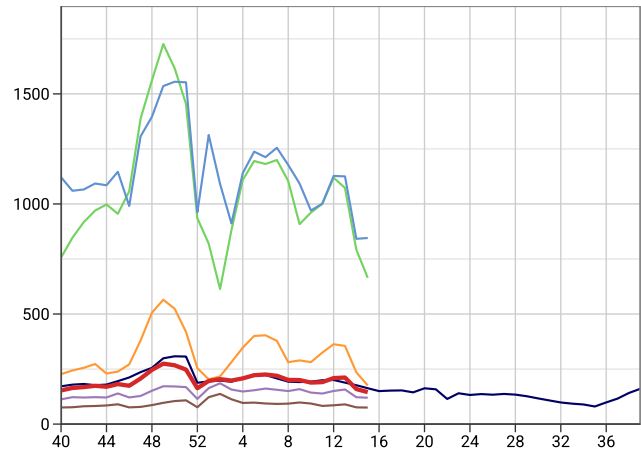
**Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



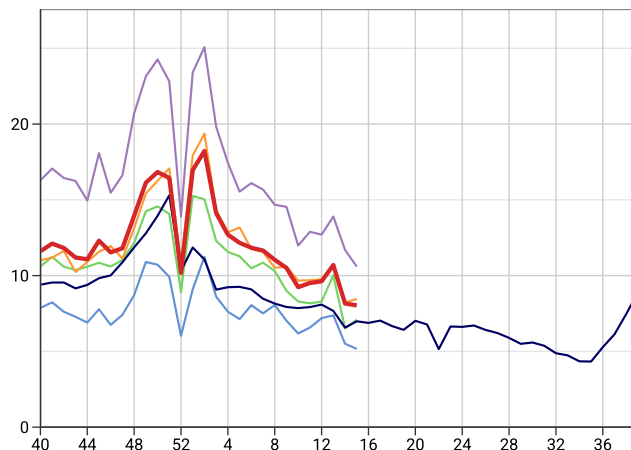
## Respiratory Infections - by age band

■ All ages ■ <1yr ■ 5-14yrs ■ 65+yrs  
■ 5 Year Avg ■ 1-4yrs ■ 15-64yrs

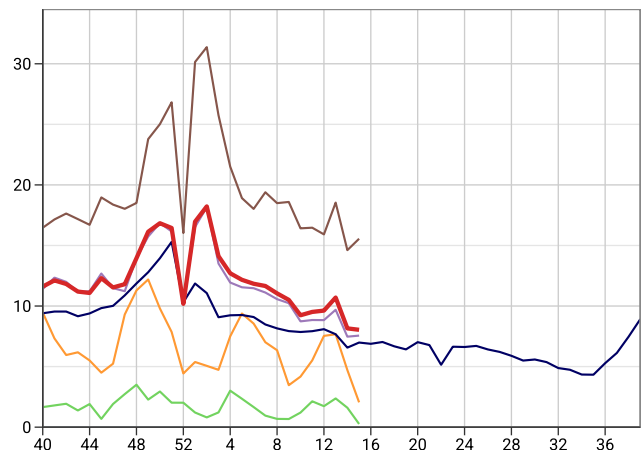
**Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



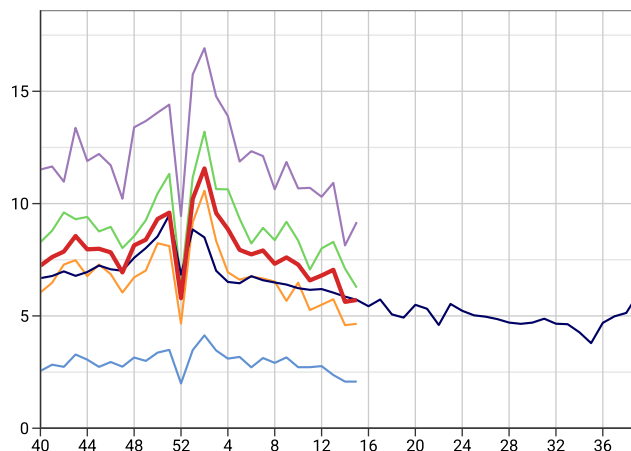
**ECLD - Asthma Exacerbations**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



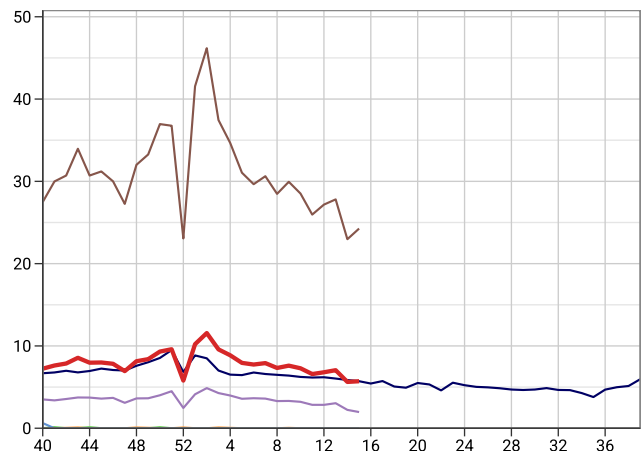
**ECLD - Asthma Exacerbations**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**ECLD - COPD Exacerbations**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



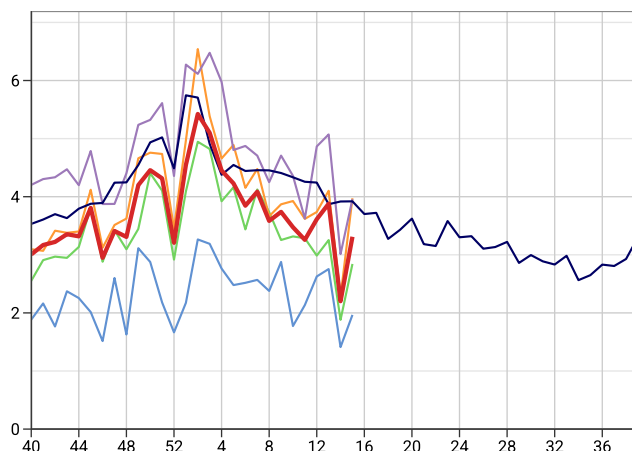
**ECLD - COPD Exacerbations**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



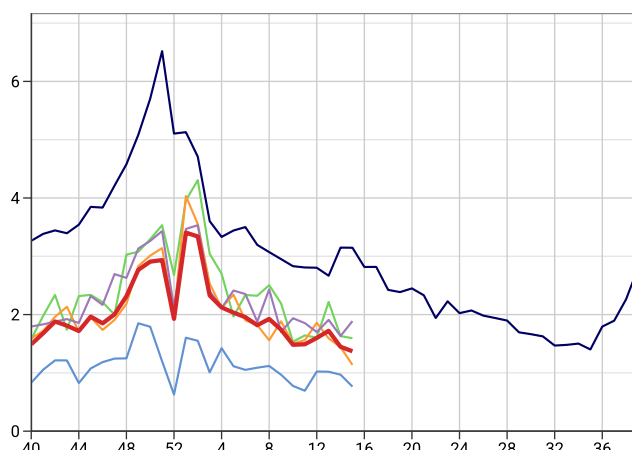
## Respiratory Infections - by region

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

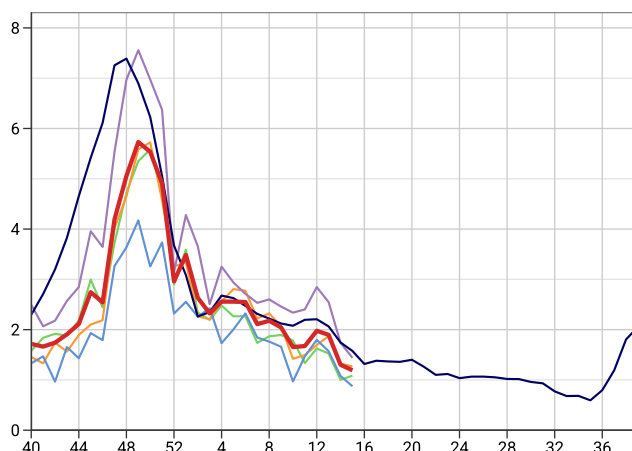
**LRTI - Pneumonia**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**LRTI - Acute Bronchitis**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



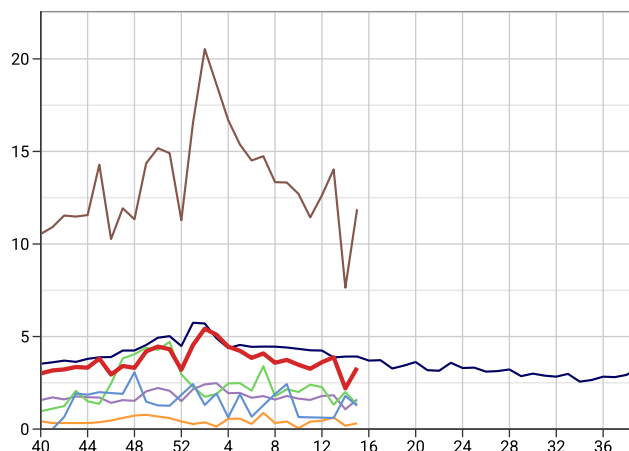
**LRTI - Bronchiolitis**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



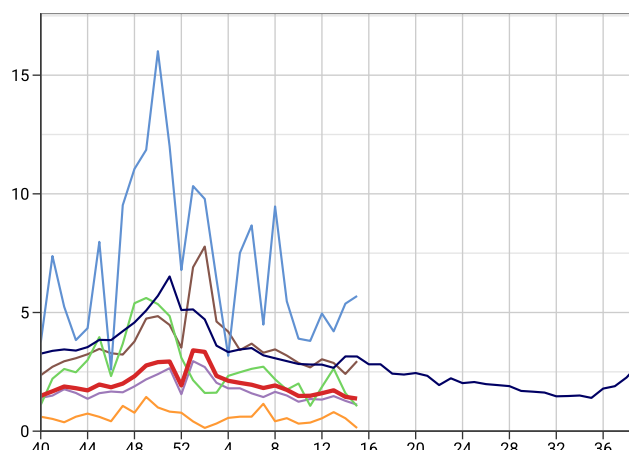
## Respiratory Infections - by age band

■ All ages ■ <1yr ■ 5-14yrs ■ 65+yrs  
■ 5 Year Avg ■ 1-4yrs ■ 15-64yrs

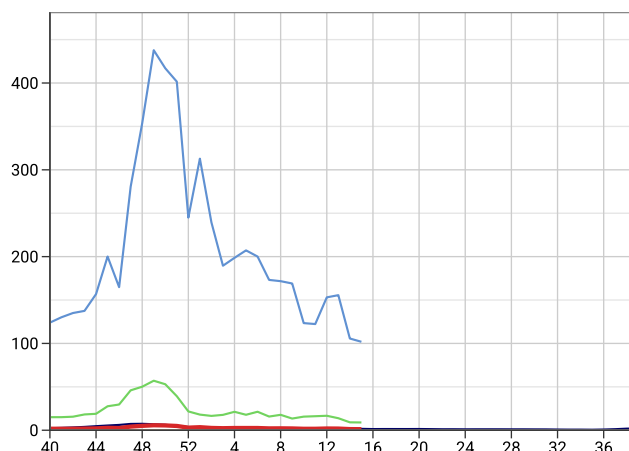
**LRTI - Pneumonia**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**LRTI - Acute Bronchitis**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



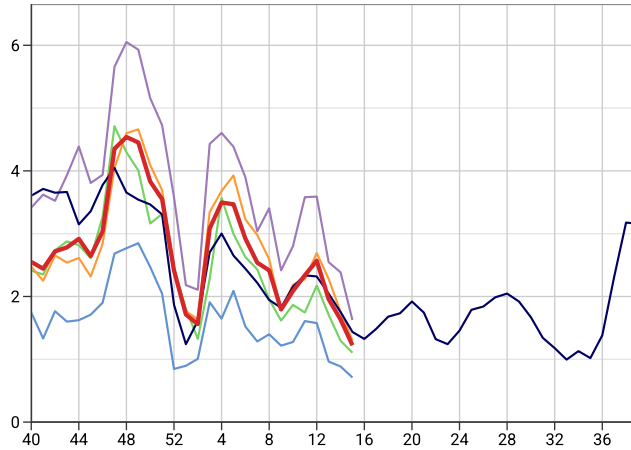
**LRTI - Bronchiolitis**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



## Respiratory Infections - by region

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

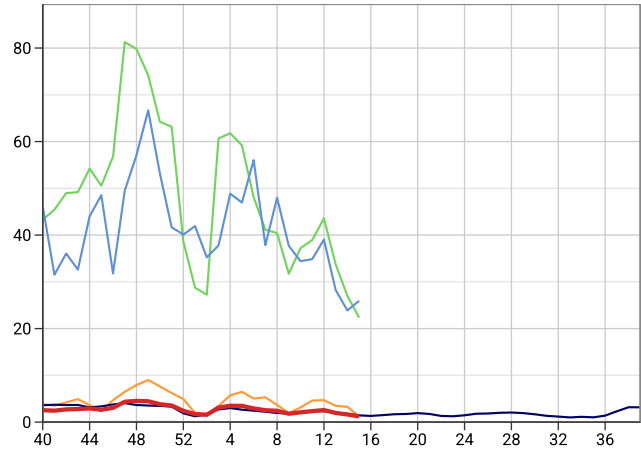
**URTI - Croup**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



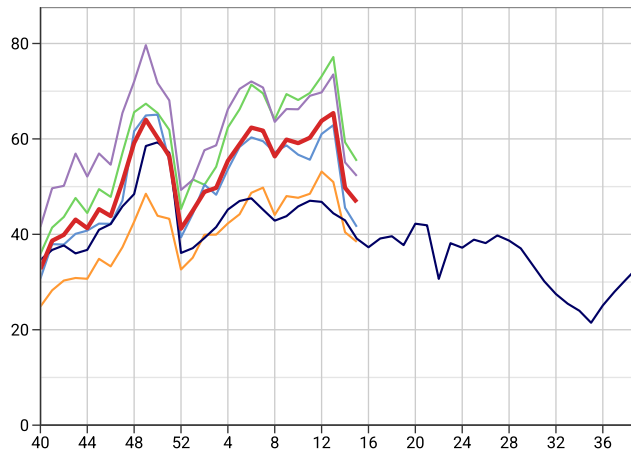
## Respiratory Infections - by age band

■ All ages 
 ■ <1yr 
 ■ 5-14yrs 
 ■ 65+yrs 
 ■ 5 Year Avg 
 ■ 1-4yrs 
 ■ 15-64yrs

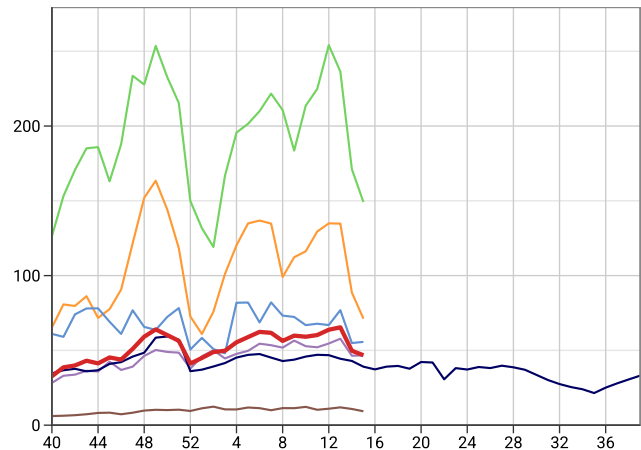
**URTI - Croup**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



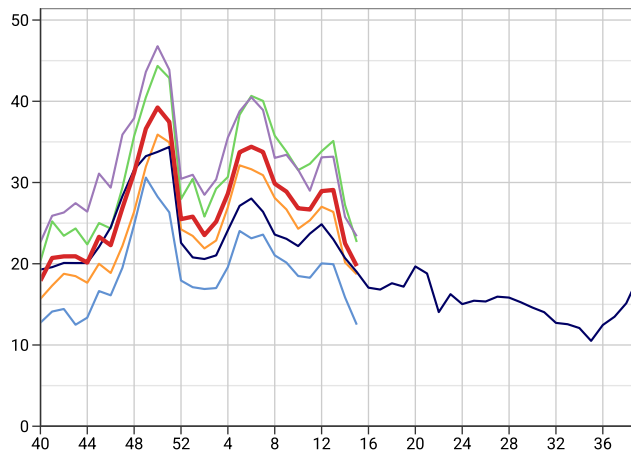
**URTI - Tonsillitis/Pharyngitis**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



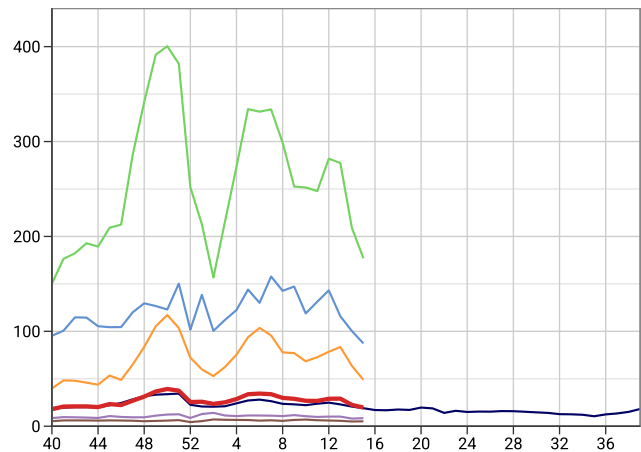
**URTI - Tonsillitis/Pharyngitis**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**URTI - Otitis Media**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



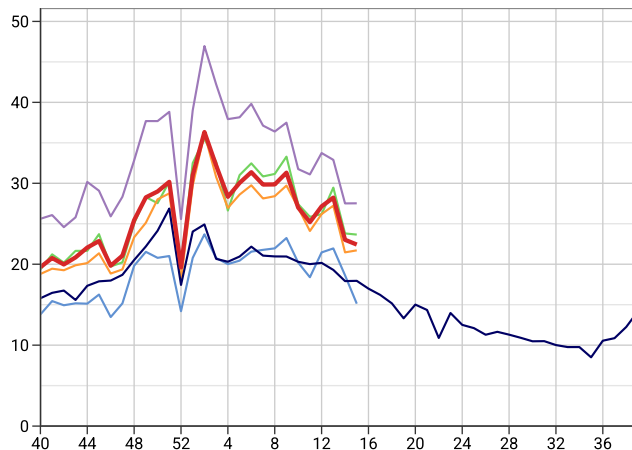
**URTI - Otitis Media**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



## Respiratory Infections - by region

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

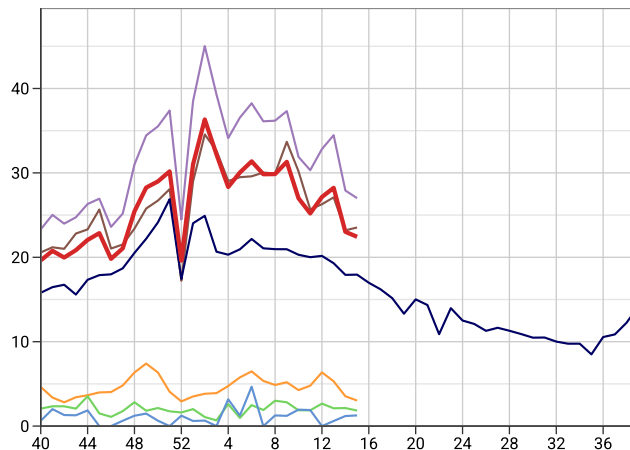
**URTI - Sinusitis**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



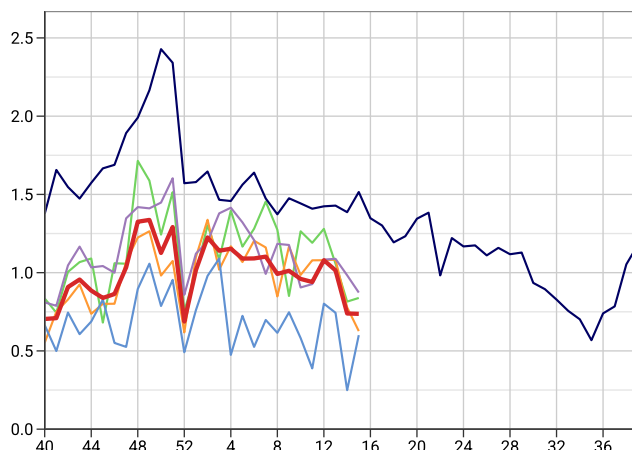
## Respiratory Infections - by age band

■ All ages ■ <1yr ■ 5-14yrs ■ 65+yrs  
■ 5 Year Avg ■ 1-4yrs ■ 15-64yrs

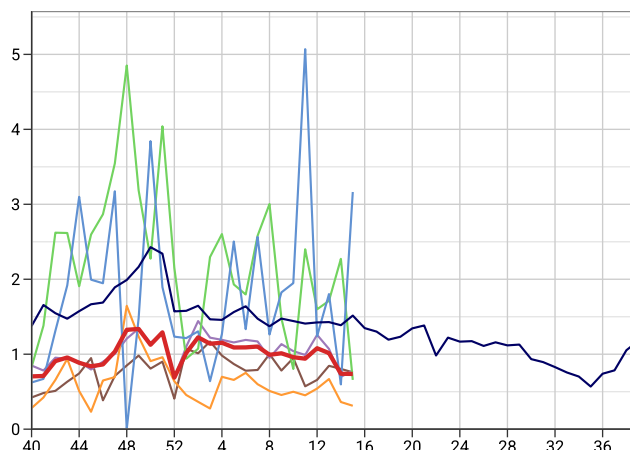
**URTI - Sinusitis**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**URTI - Laryngitis**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



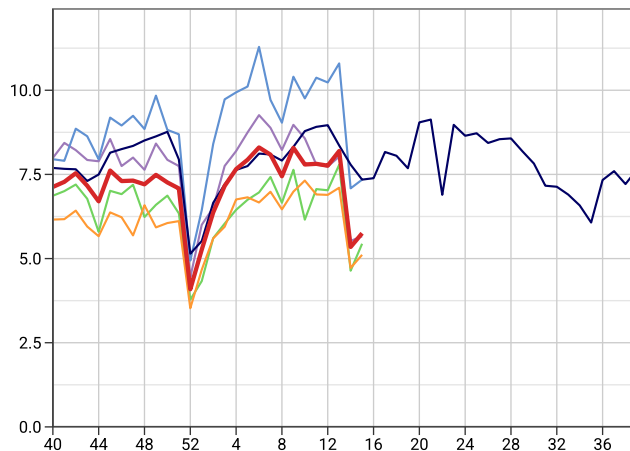
**URTI - Laryngitis**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by age band for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



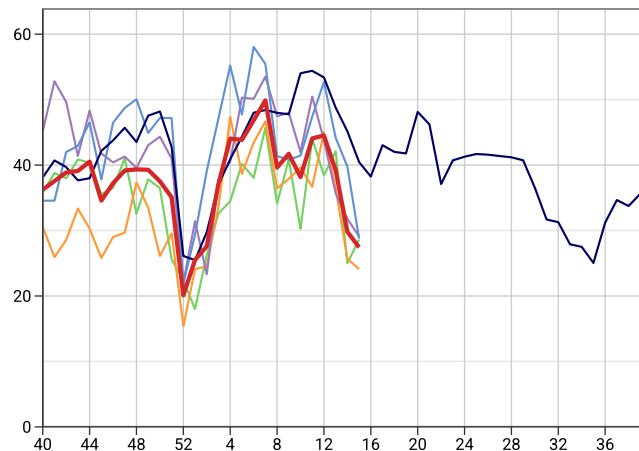
## 2. Water and Food Borne Disorders

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

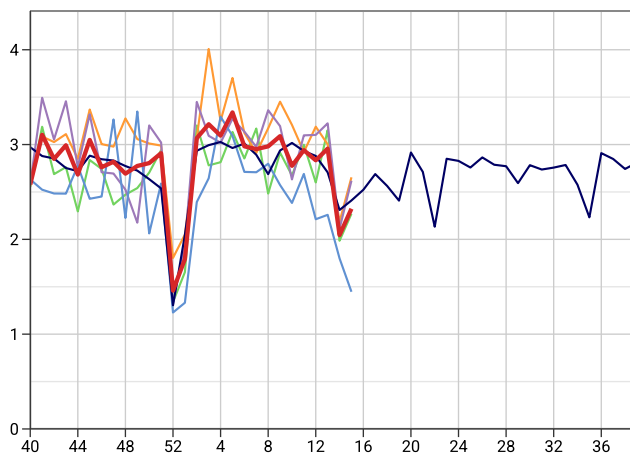
**Infectious Intestinal Disease (ICD10: A00-A09)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



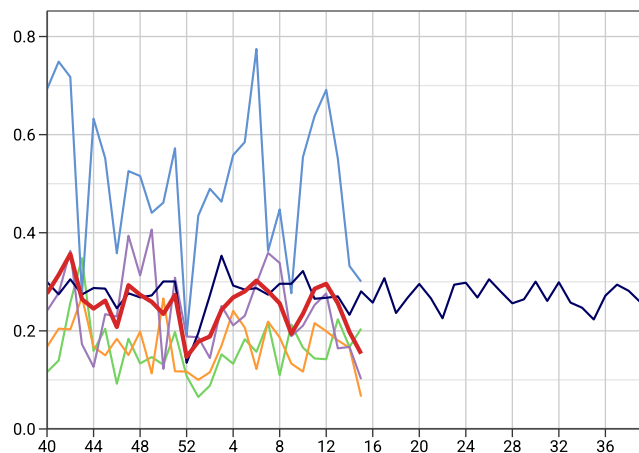
**Infectious Intestinal Disease (ICD10: A00-A09)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 0-4 years) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**Non-Infective Enteritis and Colitis (ICD10: K50-K52)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



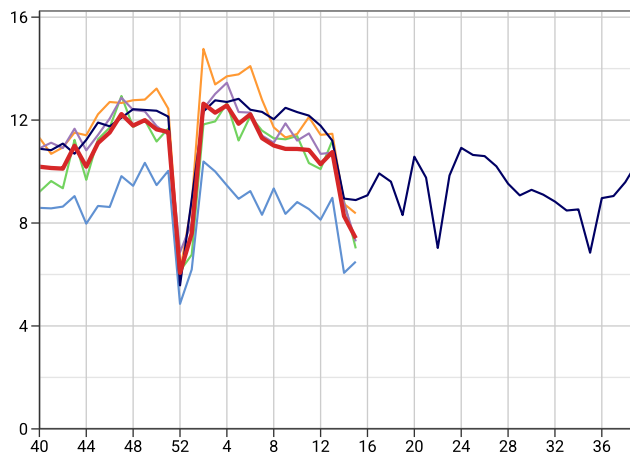
**Viral Hepatitis (ICD10: B15-B19)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



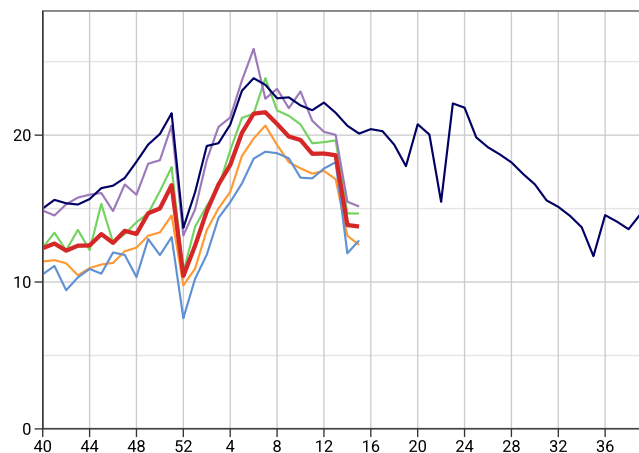
### 3. Environmentally Sensitive Disorders

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

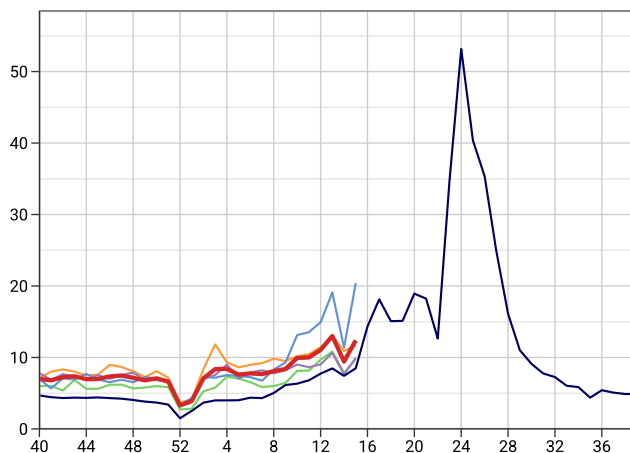
**Asthma (ICD10: J45-J46)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



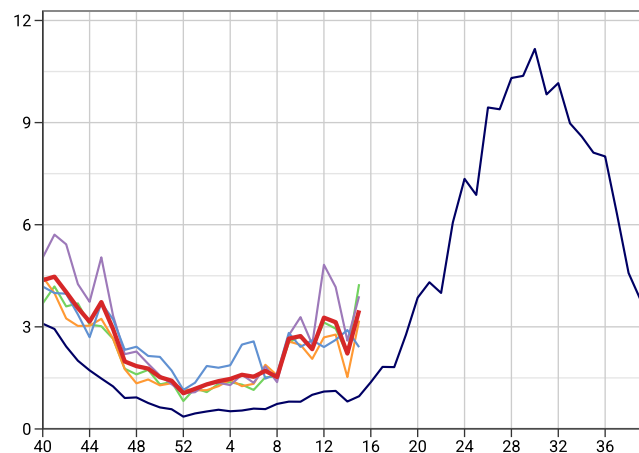
**Disorders of Conjunctiva (ICD10: H10-H13)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**Hayfever / Allergic Rhinitis (ICD10: J30)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



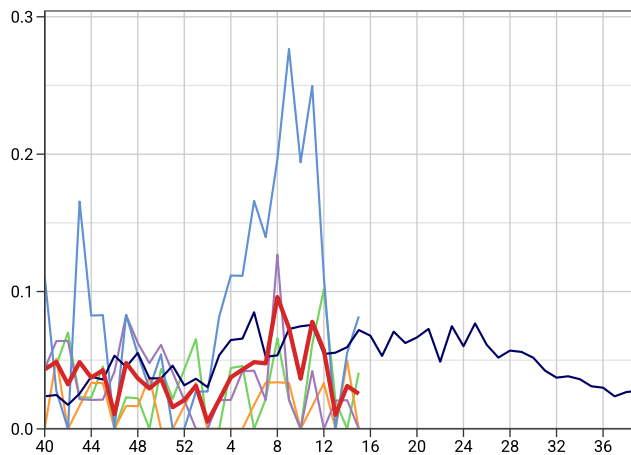
**Infected Insect Bites**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



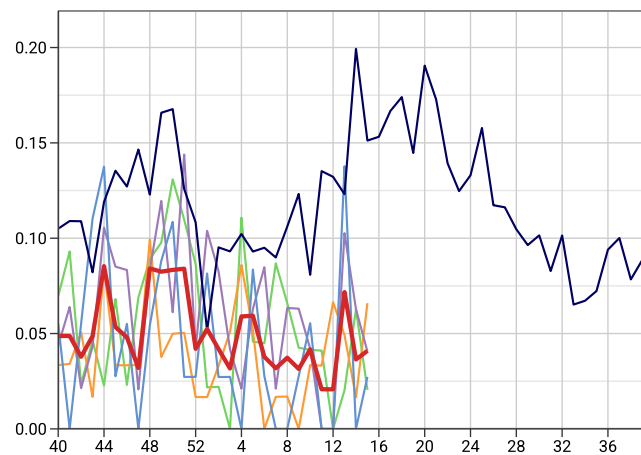
## 4. Vaccine Sensitive Disorders

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

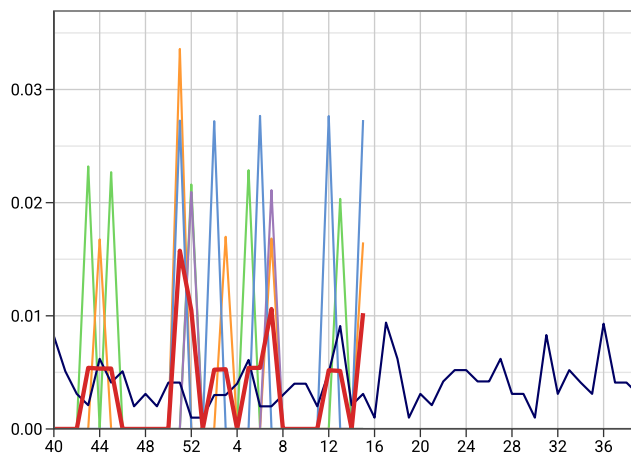
**Measles (ICD10: B05)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



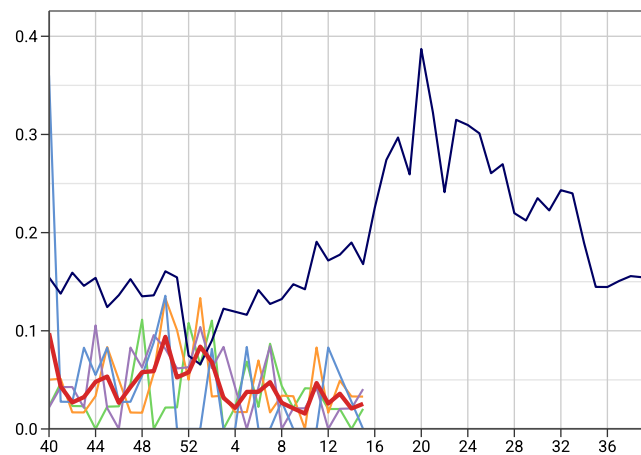
**Mumps (ICD10: B26)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**Rubella (ICD10: B06)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



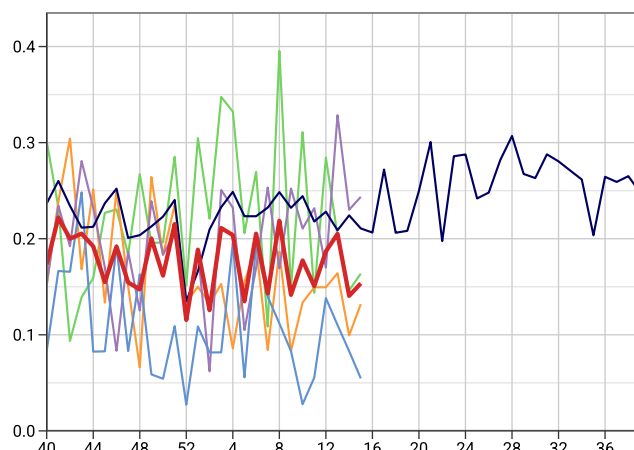
**Whooping Cough (ICD10: A37)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



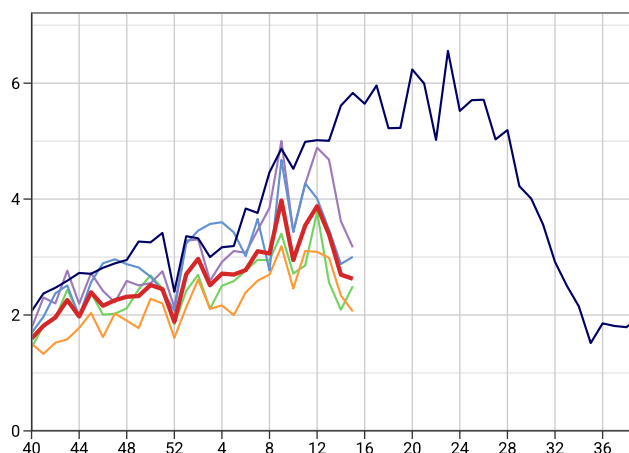
## 5. Skin Contagions

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

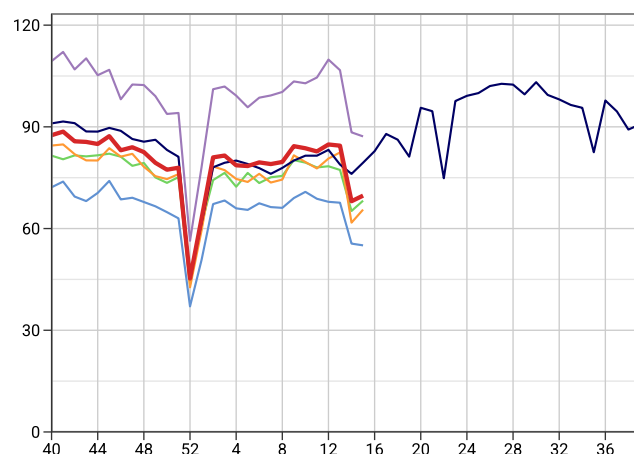
**Bullous Dermatoses (ICD10: L10-L14)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



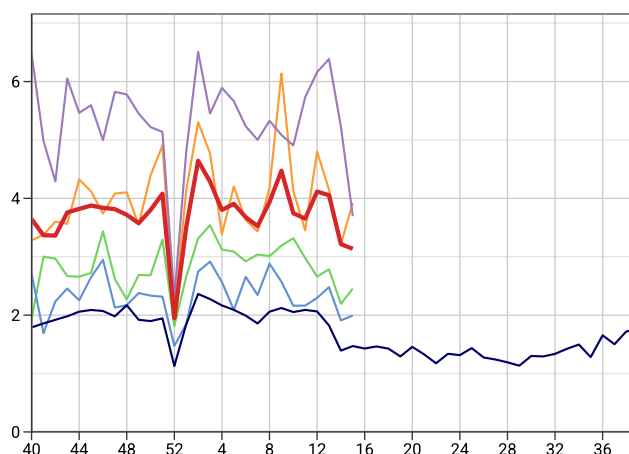
**Chickenpox (ICD10: B01)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



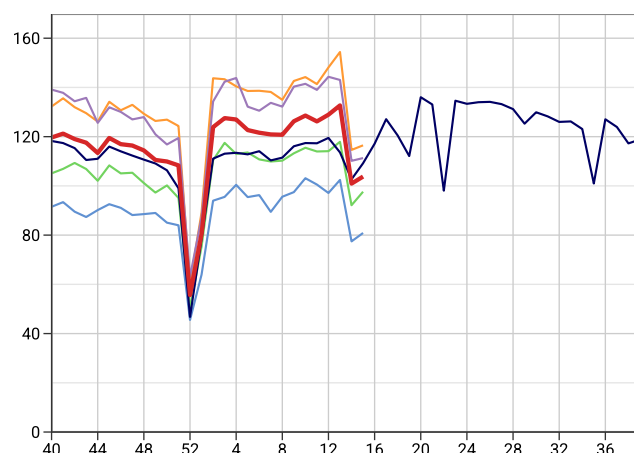
**Infections of Skin & Subcutaneous Tissue (ICD10: L00-L08)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



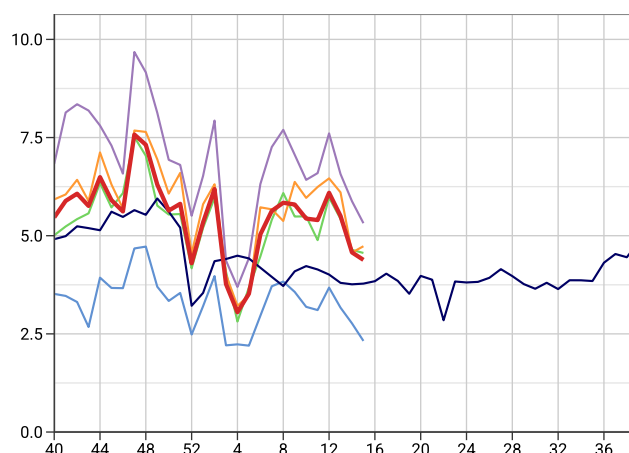
**Scabies (ICD10: B86)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



**Symptoms of Skin & Integument Tissue (ICD10: R20-R23),**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



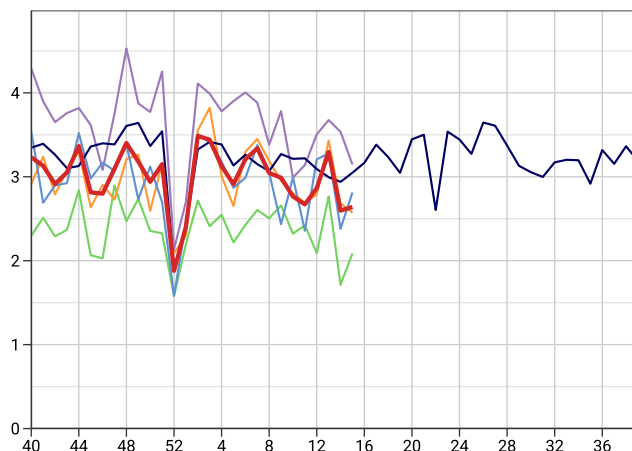
**Impetigo (ICD10: L01)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



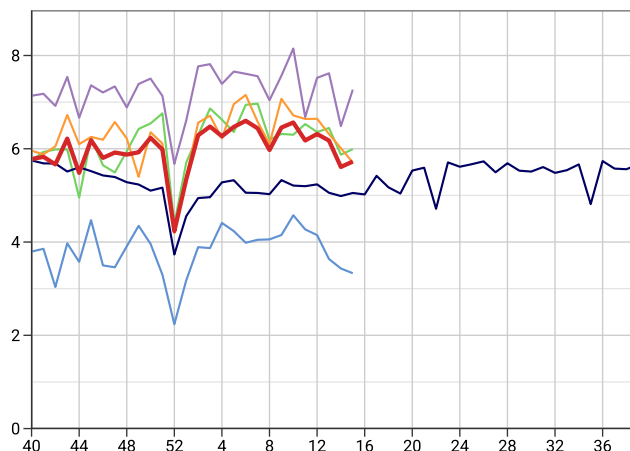


■ National 
 ■ 5 Year Avg 
 ■ London 
 ■ North 
 ■ South 
 ■ Midlands And East

**Herpes Simplex (ICD10: B00)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average

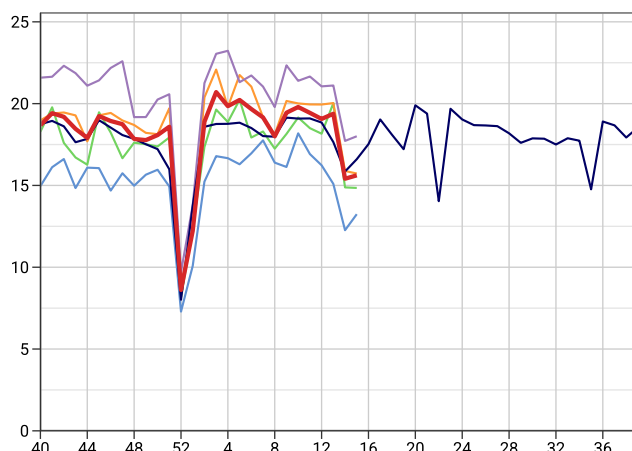


**Herpes Zoster (ICD10: B02)**  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average

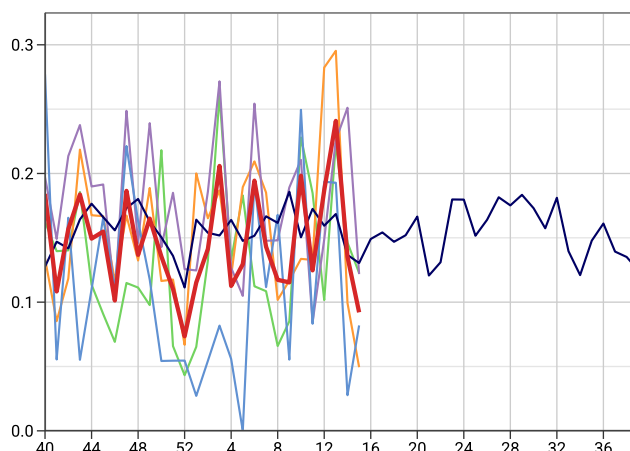


## 6. Disorders Affecting the Nervous System

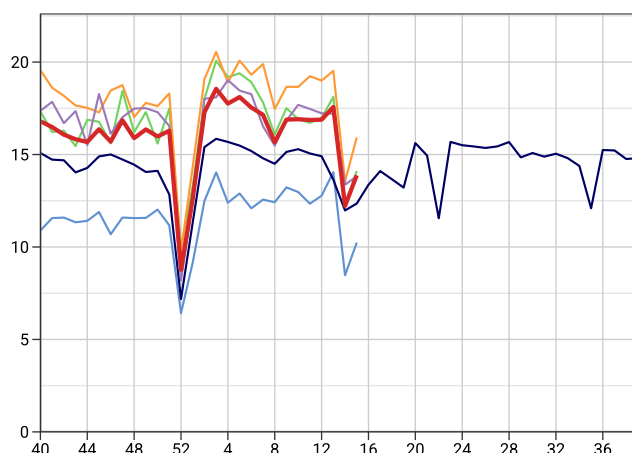
**Disorders of Peripheral Nervous System (ICD10: G50-G64,G70-G72), Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average**



**Meningitis/Encephalitis (ICD10: A170-A171,A390,A38-A85,A87,G00-G05), Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average**



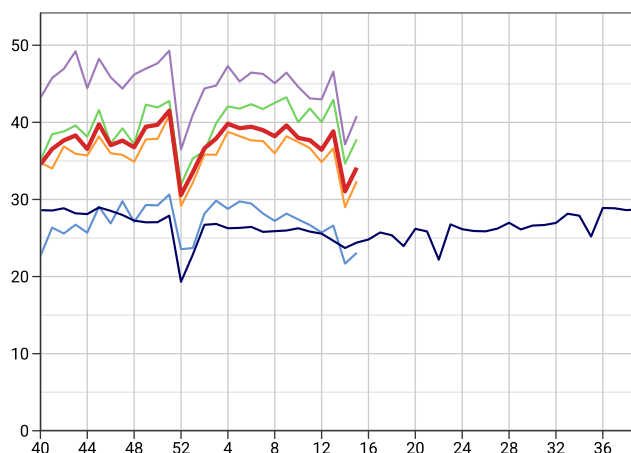
**Symptoms of Nervous & Musculoskeletal Systems (ICD10: R25-R29), Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average**



## 7. Genitourinary System Disorders

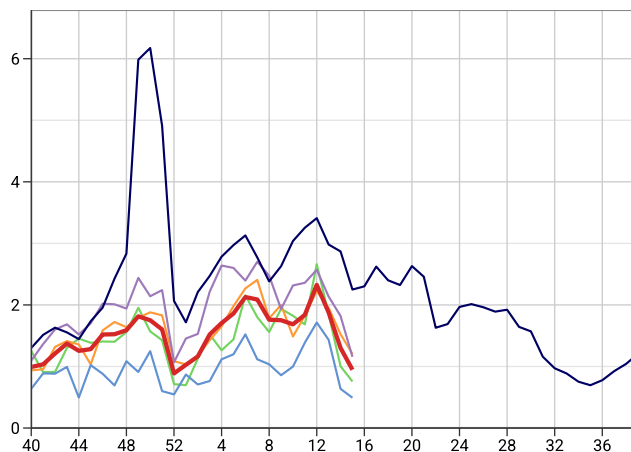
■ National 
 ■ 5 Year Avg 
 ■ London 
 ■ North 
 ■ South 
 ■ Midlands And East

Urinary Tract Infection/Cystitis (ICD10: N30,N390)  
 Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26  
 compared with 5 year average

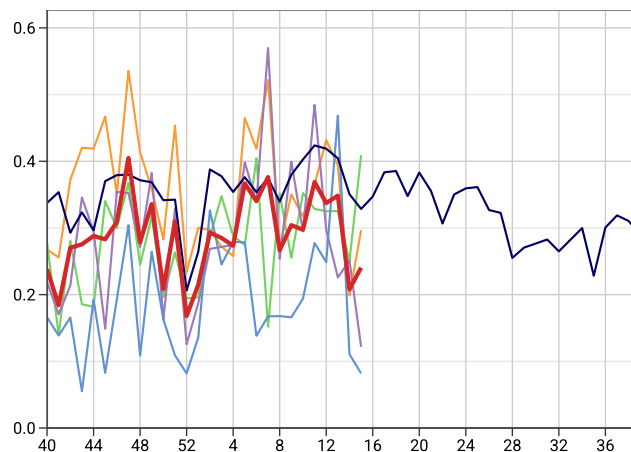


## 8. Other Disorders

Strep Sore Throat, Scarletina and Peritonsillar Abscess (ICD10:  
 A38,J020,J36), Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by  
 region for 2025/26 compared with 5 year average



Infectious Mononucleosis (ICD10: B27)  
 Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region for 2025/26  
 compared with 5 year average



## 9. Tabular Summary by Disease

	Week 12	Week 13	Week 14	Week 15
Dates	16/03/2026 - 22/03/2026	23/03/2026 - 29/03/2026	30/03/2026 - 05/04/2026	06/04/2026 - 12/04/2026
Population	19,266,956	19,513,245	19,215,281	19,544,399
Practice Count	1,820	1,834	1,798	1,835

Disease	Week 12		Week 13		Week 14		Week 15	
	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count
Acute Bronchitis	1.6	308	1.7	336	1.4	278	1.4	268
Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI)	292.3	56,308	301.7	58,878	227.1	43,635	216.2	42,251
Allergic Rhinitis	11.1	2,130	13.0	2,538	9.4	1,810	12.4	2,423
Asthma	10.3	1,982	10.8	2,099	8.3	1,589	7.4	1,448
Bronchiolitis	2.0	381	1.9	370	1.3	250	1.2	233
Bullous Dermatoses	0.2	36	0.2	40	0.1	27	0.2	30
COVID-19	0.4	70	0.4	87	0.2	47	0.2	48
Chickenpox	3.9	747	3.4	662	2.7	518	2.6	513
Conjunctival Disorders	18.7	3,612	18.6	3,636	13.9	2,667	13.8	2,693
Croup	2.6	495	2.0	382	1.6	314	1.2	239
ECLD - COPD exacerbations	6.8	1,310	7.1	1,376	5.6	1,081	5.7	1,116
ECLD - asthma exacerbations	9.6	1,854	10.7	2,088	8.2	1,567	8.0	1,571
Exacerbations of chronic lung disease (ECLD)	16.5	3,177	17.6	3,439	13.7	2,640	13.8	2,689
Herpes Simplex	2.9	552	3.3	643	2.6	499	2.6	516
Herpes Zoster	6.3	1,217	6.2	1,205	5.6	1,078	5.7	1,119
Impetigo	6.1	1,174	5.5	1,074	4.6	879	4.4	857
Infected Insect Bites	3.3	630	3.1	612	2.2	426	3.5	681
Infectious Intestinal Diseases	7.8	1,495	8.2	1,599	5.3	1,027	5.8	1,124
Infectious Mononucleosis	0.3	65	0.3	68	0.2	40	0.2	47
Influenza-like Illness (ILI)	3.8	727	3.8	740	2.3	436	2.2	425
Laryngitis	1.1	208	1.0	198	0.7	142	0.7	144
Lower respiratory tract infections (LRTI)	81.3	15,670	86.2	16,819	66.1	12,700	67.9	13,272
Measles	0.1	11	0.0	2	0.0	6	0.0	5
Meningitis and Encephalitis	0.2	36	0.2	47	0.1	26	0.1	18
Mumps	0.0	4	0.1	14	0.0	7	0.0	8
Non-infective Enteritis and Colitis	2.8	546	3.0	577	2.0	393	2.3	454
Peripheral Nervous Disease	19.1	3,673	19.4	3,782	15.4	2,961	15.6	3,052
Pneumonia	3.6	696	3.9	757	2.2	423	3.3	647
Rubella	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	2
Scabies	4.1	793	4.1	791	3.2	618	3.1	613
Sinusitis	27.1	5,230	28.2	5,508	23.0	4,423	22.4	4,384
Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Infections	84.8	16,339	84.4	16,478	68.1	13,078	69.7	13,625
Strep Throat and Peritonsillar Abscess	2.3	448	1.9	366	1.3	250	0.9	185
Symptoms involving Skin and Integument Tissues	128.9	24,841	132.7	25,893	100.9	19,393	103.8	20,284
Symptoms involving musculoskeletal	16.9	3,253	17.6	3,429	12.2	2,349	13.9	2,712
Tonsillitis and Pharyngitis	63.8	12,290	65.4	12,764	49.7	9,559	46.7	9,137
Upper respiratory tract infections (URTI)	209.0	40,259	211.5	41,275	159.0	30,557	145.1	28,368
Urinary Tract Infections	36.4	7,022	38.8	7,577	31.1	5,967	34.1	6,668
Viral Hepatitis	0.3	57	0.3	50	0.2	38	0.2	30
Whooping Cough	0.0	5	0.0	7	0.0	4	0.0	5

## Further Information

### Focus on winter respiratory infections and infections with epidemic or pandemic infection

A key role of the RSC is to monitor conditions that cause winter pressures on the NHS, as well as provide early warnings of outbreaks, epidemics, and pandemics. The RSC has been collecting data on infections since 1957, conducting sentinel surveillance since 1967 (with virology added in 1993), and serosurveillance from 2000.

Pages 2-6 of this report focus on influenza-like illness (ILI), virology data, and acute respiratory infections (ARI). ILI is the name given to clinically identified flu cases, around half of which will be due to the influenza virus (the other half will be due to other viruses).

### Measuring the level of circulating influenza

The level of influenza-like illness (ILI) is reported using intensity thresholds (Graph A, page 2 and Table E, page 4). These are calculated using the Moving Epidemic Method (MEM). MEM works by identifying seasonal epidemic peaks and then calculating a baseline threshold and intensity levels based on pre- and post-epidemic rates. This provides a better measure of severity of ILI than simply comparing it to the five-year average rate.

The MEM intensity levels for ILI are defined as follows:

<b>Threshold to Medium</b>	Below 40% percentile
<b>Medium to High</b>	From 40% to below 90% percentile
<b>High to Very High</b>	From 90% to below 97.5% percentile
<b>Above Very High</b>	At or above 97.5% percentile

The MEM methodology is used by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) to standardise reporting of influenza activity.

*More information about MEM can be found at:*

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22897919/>

### Rate of monitored conditions

Our monitored conditions are reported as the number of new cases each week per 100,000 population. We refer to this as the 'weekly incidence'. All conditions are shown with males and females combined.

The report's population, also called the denominator, is the registered population of RSC practices who share anonymised data for this report. The denominator varies weekly as patients register and deregister; additionally, a practice's data may not be included if there is an issue with data extraction.

### Five-year averages

In addition to weekly incidence rates, we plot a five-year average for most conditions. Previously a ten-year average was used, but this window was shortened to reflect faster changes in seasonal variations and therefore enable a more meaningful comparison to relevant historic trends. COVID-19 pandemic years are excluded from this calculation for some conditions.

## Regional rates of monitored conditions

In addition to a national rate, we present regional rates for all monitored conditions for four regions of England. The four RSC regions are aggregated NHS regions:

North	NHS North East and Yorkshire, and North West regions
Midlands and East	NHS East of England and Midlands regions
South	NHS South East and South West regions
London	NHS London region

## Reporting of acute respiratory infections (ARI) by age band

In addition to regional rates, we report rates by age band for ARI. We display five age bands: those aged under 1 year, 1-4 years, 5-14 years, 15-64 years, and those aged 65 years and over. We subdivide ARI into four categories:

- influenza-like illness (ILI);
- exacerbations of chronic lung disease (ECLD), mainly asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD);
- lower respiratory tract infections (LRTI), including bronchitis and pneumonia;
- upper respiratory tract infections (URTI), including tonsillitis and sinusitis.

*More information about our classification of ARI can be found at:*

<https://www.eurosurveillance.org/content/10.2807/1560-7917.ES.2024.29.35.2300682>

## About the RCGP Research and Surveillance Centre (RSC)

### What we do

Established in 1957, the Oxford-Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) Research and Surveillance Centre (RSC) is an internationally renowned source of information, analysis and interpretation concerning the onset, patterns, prevalence and trends over time of morbidity in primary care. The RSC provides weekly reports about health and disease: the Weekly Returns Service (WRS). The WRS has been produced since 1967, in collaboration with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and its predecessor bodies. The University of Oxford currently provides the WRS on behalf of RCGP and UKHSA.

The RSC is active in research and surveillance. In addition to the WRS, the RSC contributes data to UKHSA's Syndromic Surveillance system, and supports vaccine effectiveness studies. The role of general practice members of the RSC is set out in an annual commissioning letter.

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

[www.rcgp.org.uk/representing-you/research-at-rcgp/research-surveillance-centre](http://www.rcgp.org.uk/representing-you/research-at-rcgp/research-surveillance-centre)

### Our data extraction process and governance

Data are extracted on behalf of the RSC from practice computerised medical record systems, twice a week by Magentus Data Management, or daily by Optum.

Data are pseudonymised as close to source as possible. Data are held on secure servers at the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences (NDPCHS) at the University of Oxford. Our systems meet the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Further information about the NHS England approval of the RSC's data security can be found at:

<https://www.dsptoolkit.nhs.uk/OrganisationSearch/EE133863-MSD-NDPCHS>

### What the data is used for

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 the UK Health Security Agency.

In addition to the WRS, the data are used for other research studies. Any other uses of the data for research follow ethical approval or agreement from NIHR proportionate review, and where relevant Health Research Authority Confidential Advisory Group advice that further approval is not needed.

### Get in touch

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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