

Surveillance report.

Annual Surveillance of *Cryptosporidium* in Scotland, 2017

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In 2017, HPS received 509 laboratory reports of *Cryptosporidium* (Figure 1). This represents a decrease of 277 (35.2%) on 2016 when there were 786 reports, and also a decrease on the average number of cases over the past ten years (2007-2016) of 599 cases per annum. The reports in 2017 reflect the year on year variation observed in the annual totals for *Cryptosporidium*.

Reports of *Cryptosporidium* show two peaks during the year (Figure 2), the first in the spring is mainly due to cases of *C. parvum*, the second peak in the autumn is due to both *C. hominis* and *C. parvum*.

The rates of *Cryptosporidium* vary with age band. The highest rates are among young males, with a rate of 29 per 100,000 for males aged 0-4 years, with a second peak among females aged 20-40 years. The lowest rates in both males and females were among those aged 50 years and over (Figure 3).

Since 2011, a proportion of all isolates are speciated each year by the Scottish Parasite Diagnostic and Reference Laboratory, in addition to any isolates thought to be associated with an incident or outbreak. Of the 509 reports of *Cryptosporidium* in 2017, 224 (44%) were speciated, and 138 (61.6%) were identified as *Cryptosporidium parvum* and 84 (37.5%) as *Cryptosporidium hominis*. This is slightly higher proportion of *C. parvum* and correspondingly lower proportion of *C. hominis* than the proportions in 2016 of 53% and 47% respectively, but the proportions in 2017 were very similar to those in 2014 and 2015 of approximately 60% and 40% respectively.

Figure 1: Laboratory reports of *Cryptosporidium* reported to HPS 2008-2017.



Figure 2: Laboratory reports of *Cryptosporidium* in 2017 by four-week period.

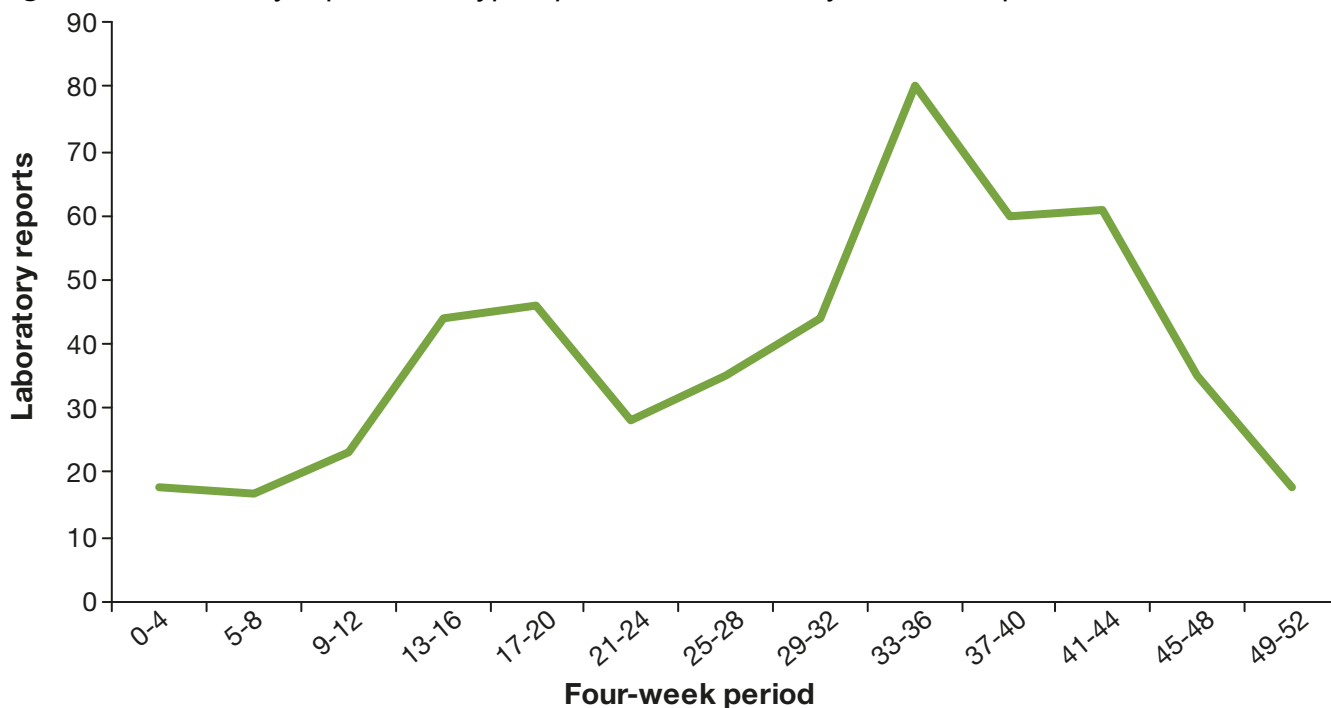
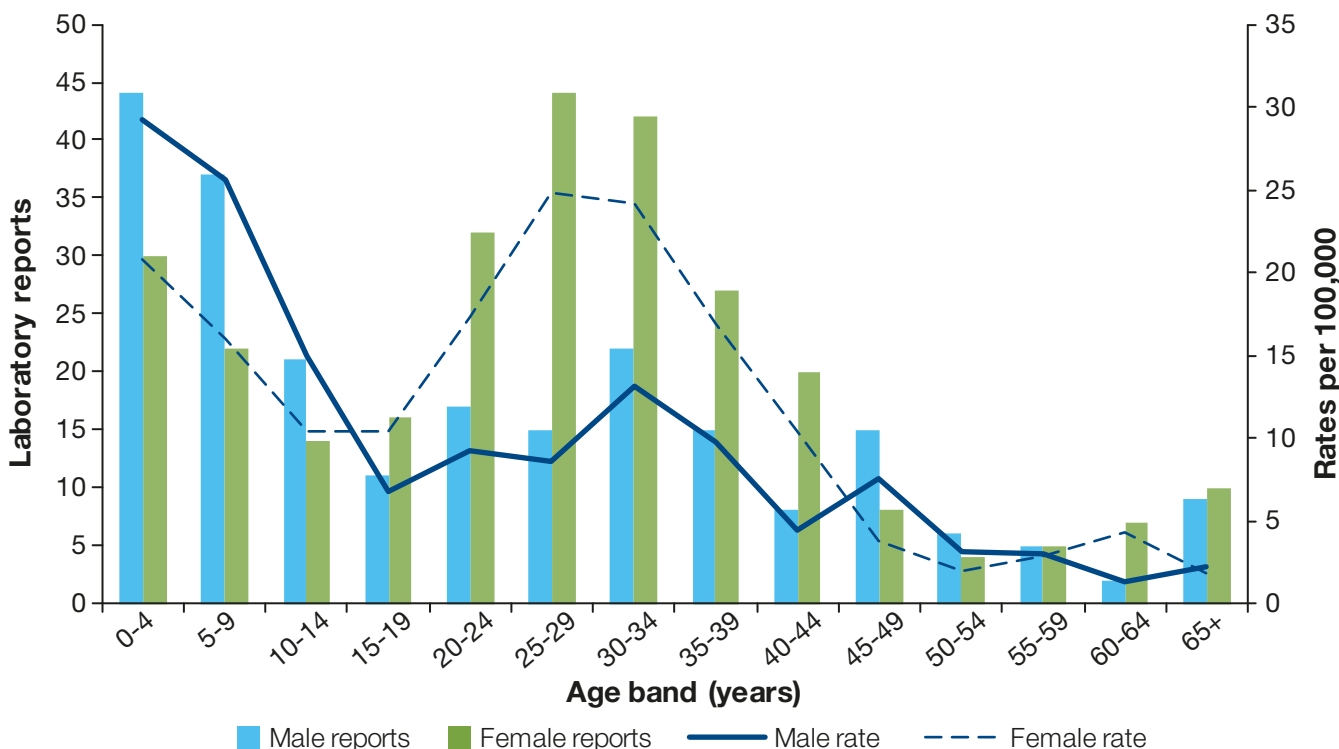


Figure 3: Number of laboratory reports and rate per 100,000 of *Cryptosporidium* by age band and sex.



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