

European mortality bulletin, week 10, 2013:

Pooled analysis of week 10/2013 data, based on 14 countries or regions, showed excess mortality among people aged 65 and older since week 01/2013: all-cause mortality was around 3 z-scores above the baseline in weeks 1,2,3 and 4/2013, and has been around 4 to 5 z-scores in week 5,6,7, 8 and 9/2013. However, mortality in the most recent weeks may be overestimated, because of imprecise adjustment of delayed registrations.

No excess mortality in younger age groups has been detected so far this season. Results of pooled analysis may vary dependent on which countries are included in the weekly analysis.

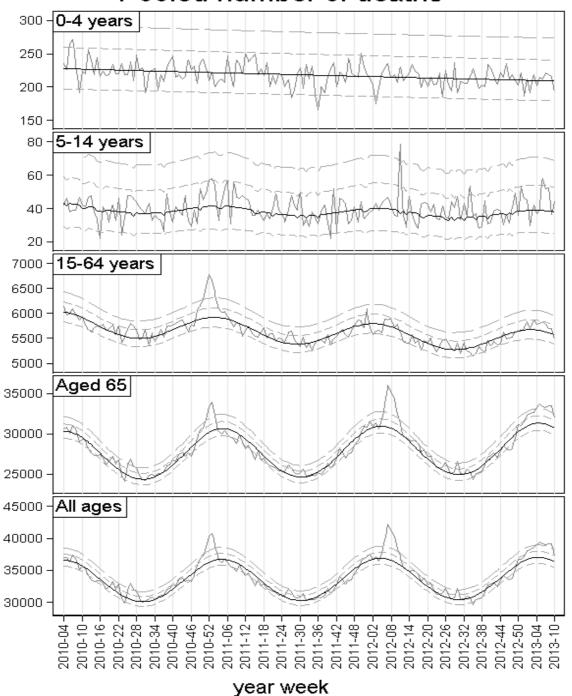
Individual country analysis showed a diverse temporal pattern of all-cause mortality in people aged 65 years and above. While in some countries mortality increased at the end of 2012 (Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, UK (England, Scotland), the increases observed in other countries started around 4 weeks later (France, Netherlands). Yet other countries had no or only very moderate mortality increases (i.e. to around 2 z-scores above the baseline) so far (Belgium, Finland, Germany (Berlin, Hesse), Portugal, Spain, Switzerland).

The highest excess mortality with peak values of around 6 z-scores has been observed in Denmark, where influenza activity has been dominated by A(H3N2) circulation.

The diverse mortality pattern may be explained by the pattern of influenza activity this season in Europe, but other factors such as extreme cold may also play a role.

European monitoring of excess mortality for public health action

Pooled number of deaths



Grey line: Observed delay-adjusted. Black line: Stratified baseline.
Quick dotted: Normal range (2 zscores). Slow dotted: Substantial increase (4 zscores)
EuroMOMO: week 10 year 2013

Pooled analysis was adjusted for variation between the included countries and for differences in local delay of reporting. Further details are available on http://www.euromomo.eu/results/pooled.html