

European mortality bulletin, week 04, 2015:

Excess all-cause mortality have been observed among the elderly (65+) during the recent weeks in seven of 15 reporting countries.

Data from 15 countries or regions* was received, of these 13* was included in the pooled analyses. An excess number of deaths among the elderly was observed in Portugal, England, Scotland, Wales, the Netherlands, France and Spain. Excess all-cause mortality cannot with certainty be attributed to specific causes, but may be associated with the start of the influenza season, extreme cold or increase in acute respiratory illness. The current increase coincide with circulating influenza in most countries.

The pooled analyses, which may accumulate even minor increases in excess mortality across countries, do also detect excess all-cause among the elderly during the past weeks on higher levels compared to the previous four winter seasons.

Excess mortality levels in most recent weeks may be difficult to interpret because adjustment for delayed registrations may be imprecise. Further, results of pooled analyses may vary dependent on which countries were included in the weekly analyses.

Pooled analyses were adjusted for variation between the included countries and for differences in the local delay in reporting.

Further details are available on <http://www.euromomo.eu>

*Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, Northern Ireland (UK), Portugal, Scotland (UK), Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Wales (UK).

**Not included in the pooled analyses: Portugal and Northern Ireland (UK).

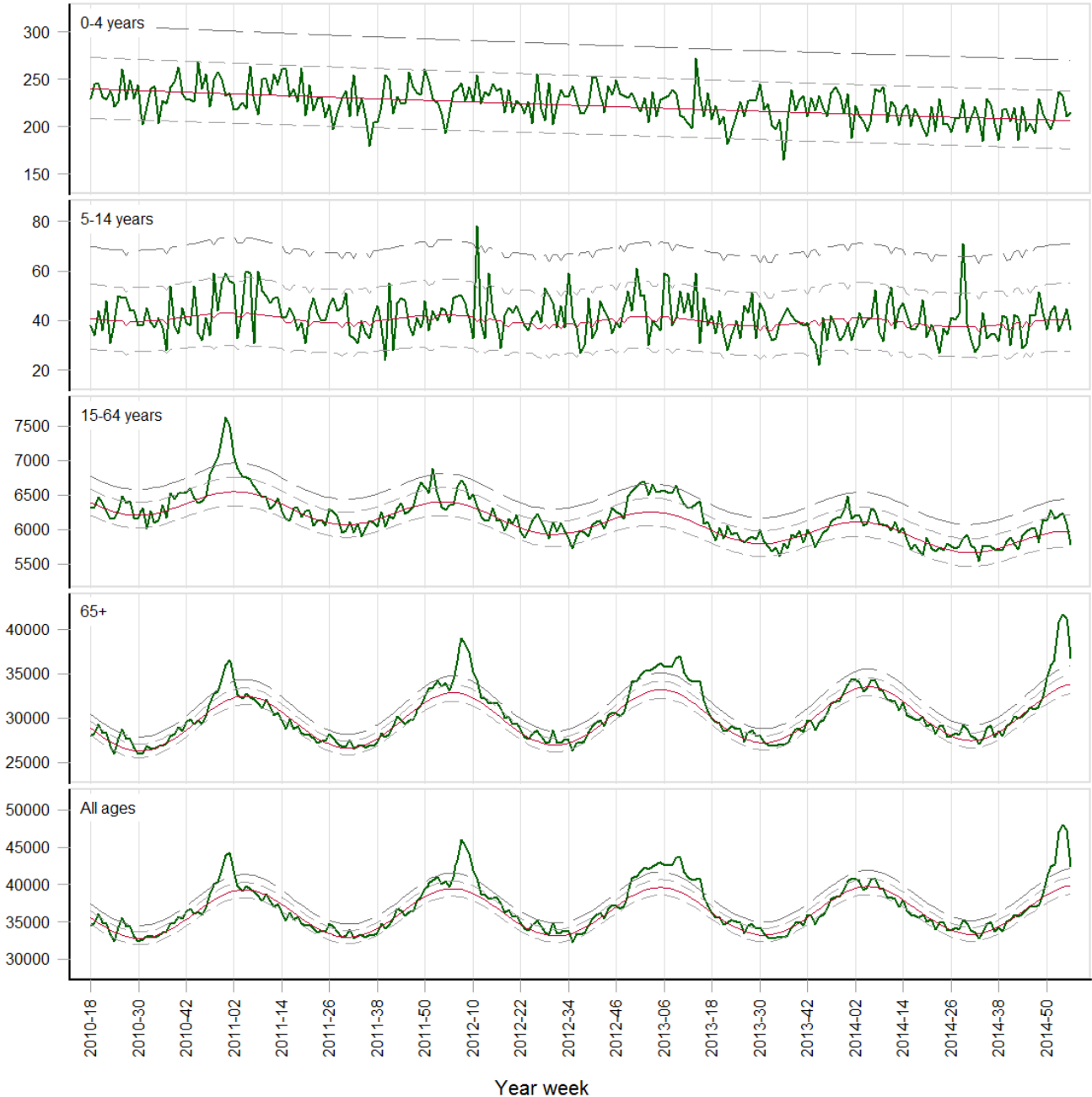
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Pooled number of deaths

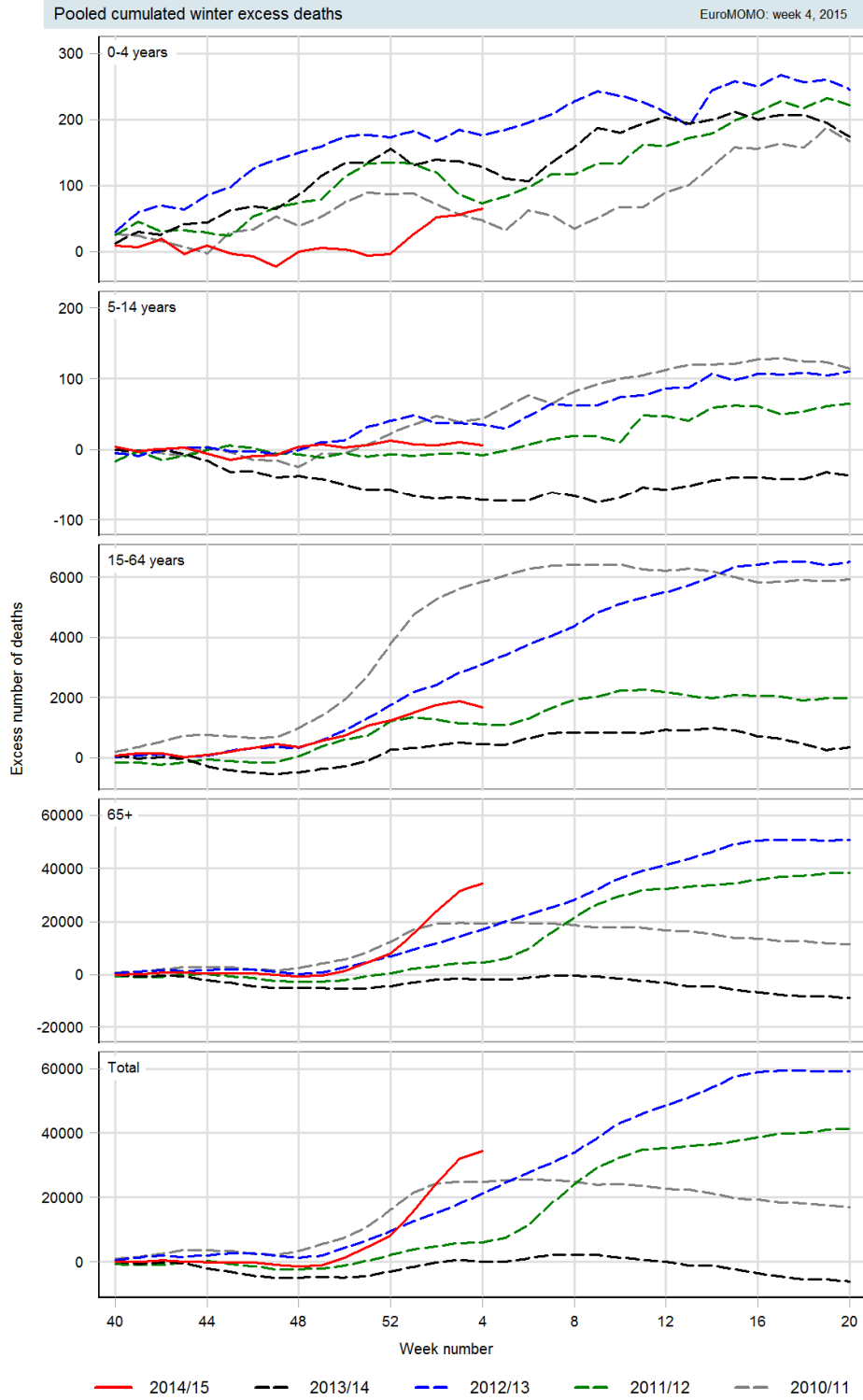
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— Stratified baseline — Delay-adjusted number of deaths
- - - Normal range (+- 2 z-scores) — Substantial increase (4 z-scores)

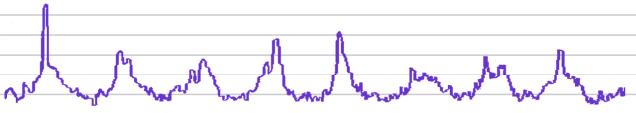
Participating countries:

Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK (England)
 UK (Scotland), UK (Wales)



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