



European mortality bulletin, week 08, 2015:

Excess all-cause mortality has been observed among the elderly (65+) since the beginning of the year in 9 of 14 reporting countries.

An excess number of deaths among the elderly was observed in Portugal, England, Scotland, Wales, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland. Excess all-cause mortality cannot with certainty be attributed to specific causes, but may be associated with circulating influenza, extreme cold or increase in acute respiratory illness. The current excess coincide with circulating influenza A H3, and medium to high intensity ([FluNews Europe](#)) in most countries and additionally with cold snaps in Portugal and Spain in the first weeks of the year.

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 with the previous four winter seasons.

Data from 14 countries or regions* was received, of these 13* were included in the pooled analyses.

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, England (UK), Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, Northern Ireland (UK), Portugal, Scotland (UK), Spain, Switzerland and Wales (UK).

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

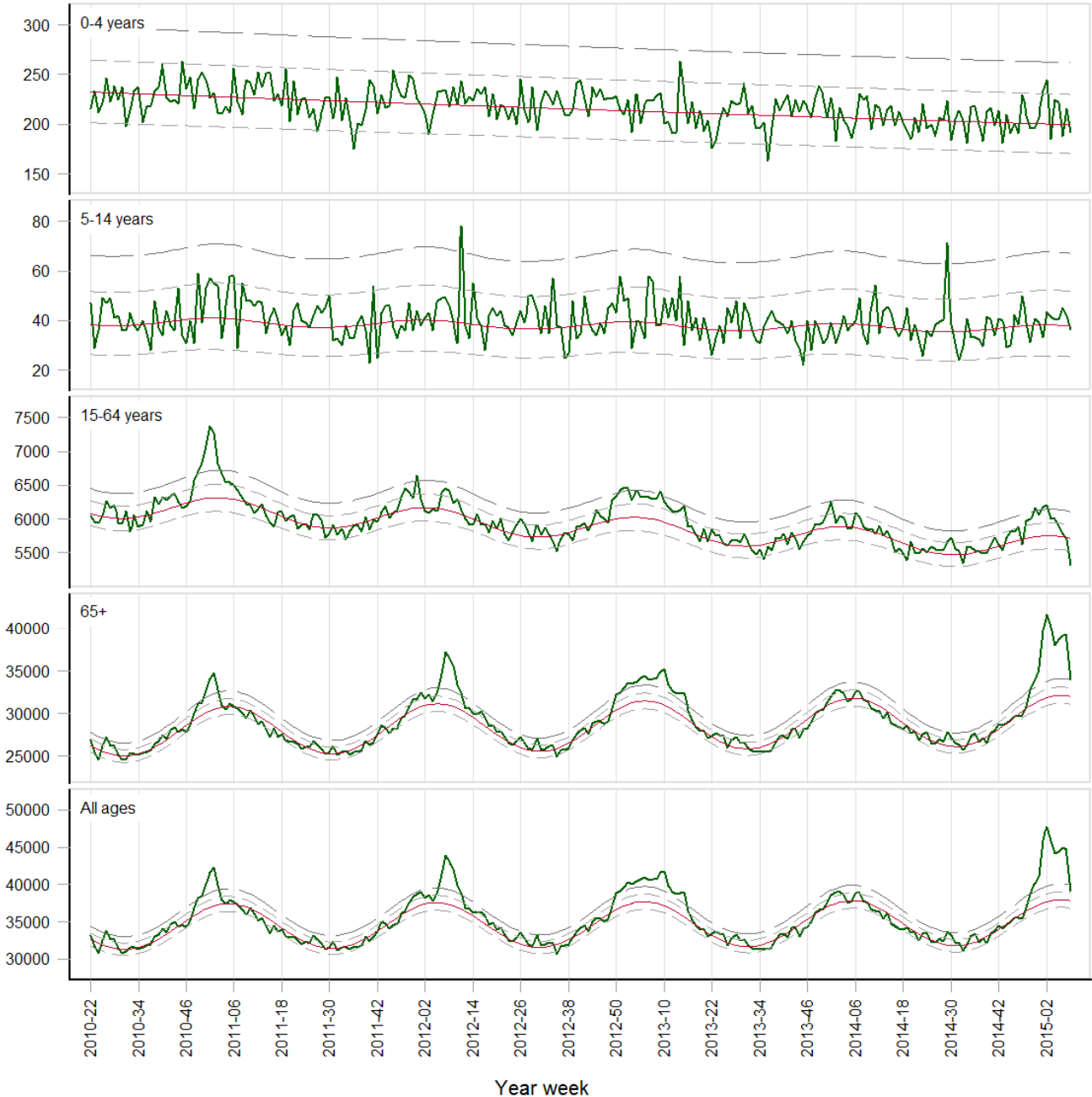
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Pooled number of deaths

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

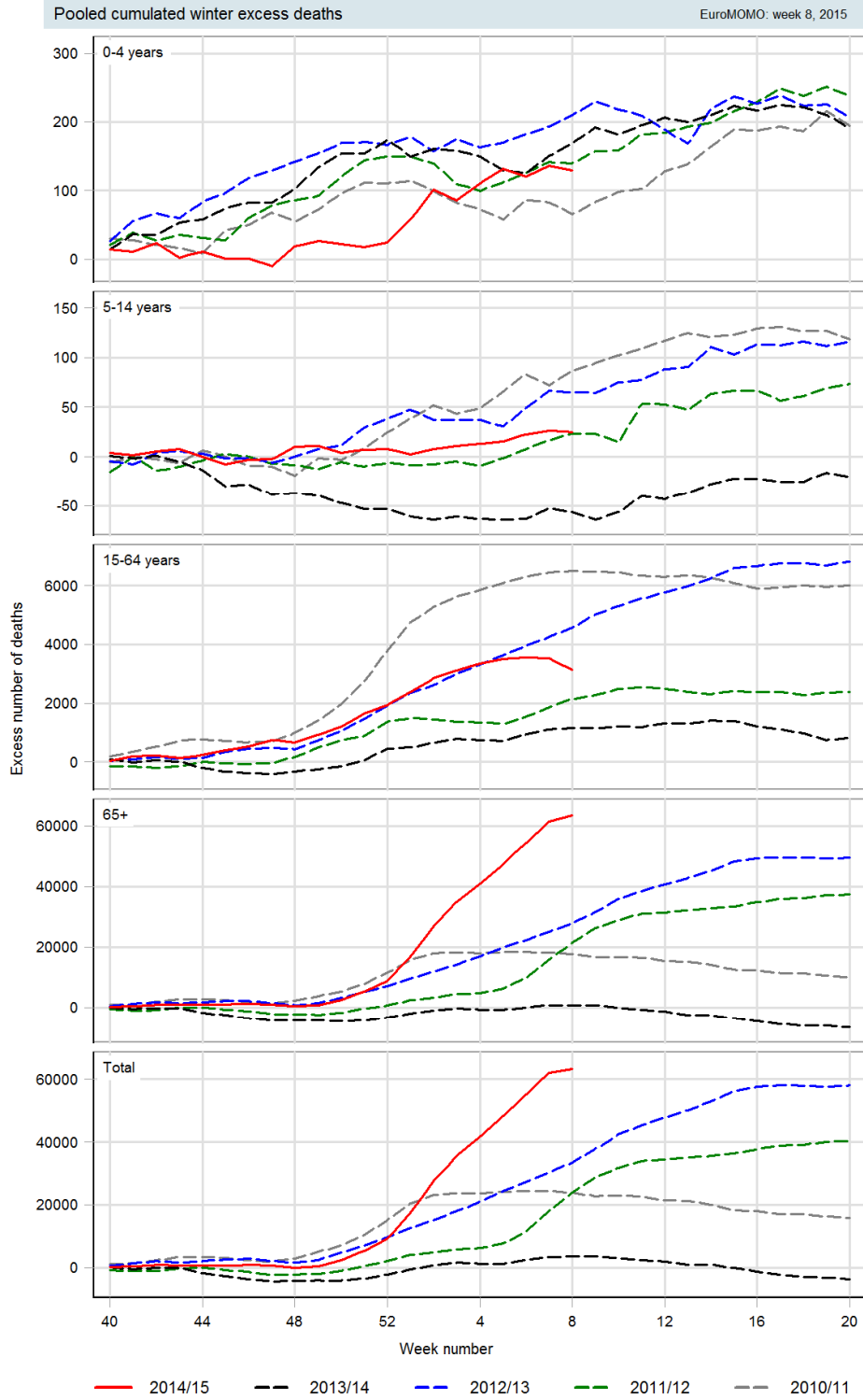
Participating countries:

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

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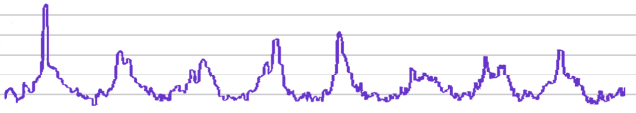
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Participating countries:

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