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European monitoring of excess mortality for public health action

European Mortality Bulletin, week 4 2017:

Data from 19 countries or regions were received this week and included in the pooled analysis of excess all-cause mortality.

Many participating countries across the European region continue to see a marked increase in all-cause mortality among the elderly aged 65 years. A substantial increase has similarly been observed in the the age group 15-64 years.

The excess in mortality this season seems to follow the pattern of the winter season in 2014/15, but seems in some countries to exceed the high mortality levels of 2014/15. The excess mortality appears to coincide with a high level of influenza activity in many countries, dominated by circulation of influenza A(H3N2), which usually leads to increased mortality in the elderly. It is however still premature to make projections of the overall impact of this year's influenza season; some countries have also experienced extremely cold weather in the the past weeks, which may have contributed to the excess mortality.

The excess mortality in the past weeks should be interpreted with caution because adjustments made for delayed registrations may be imprecise. Furthermore, results of pooled analyses may vary depending on which countries were included in the weekly analyses. Pooled analyses are 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

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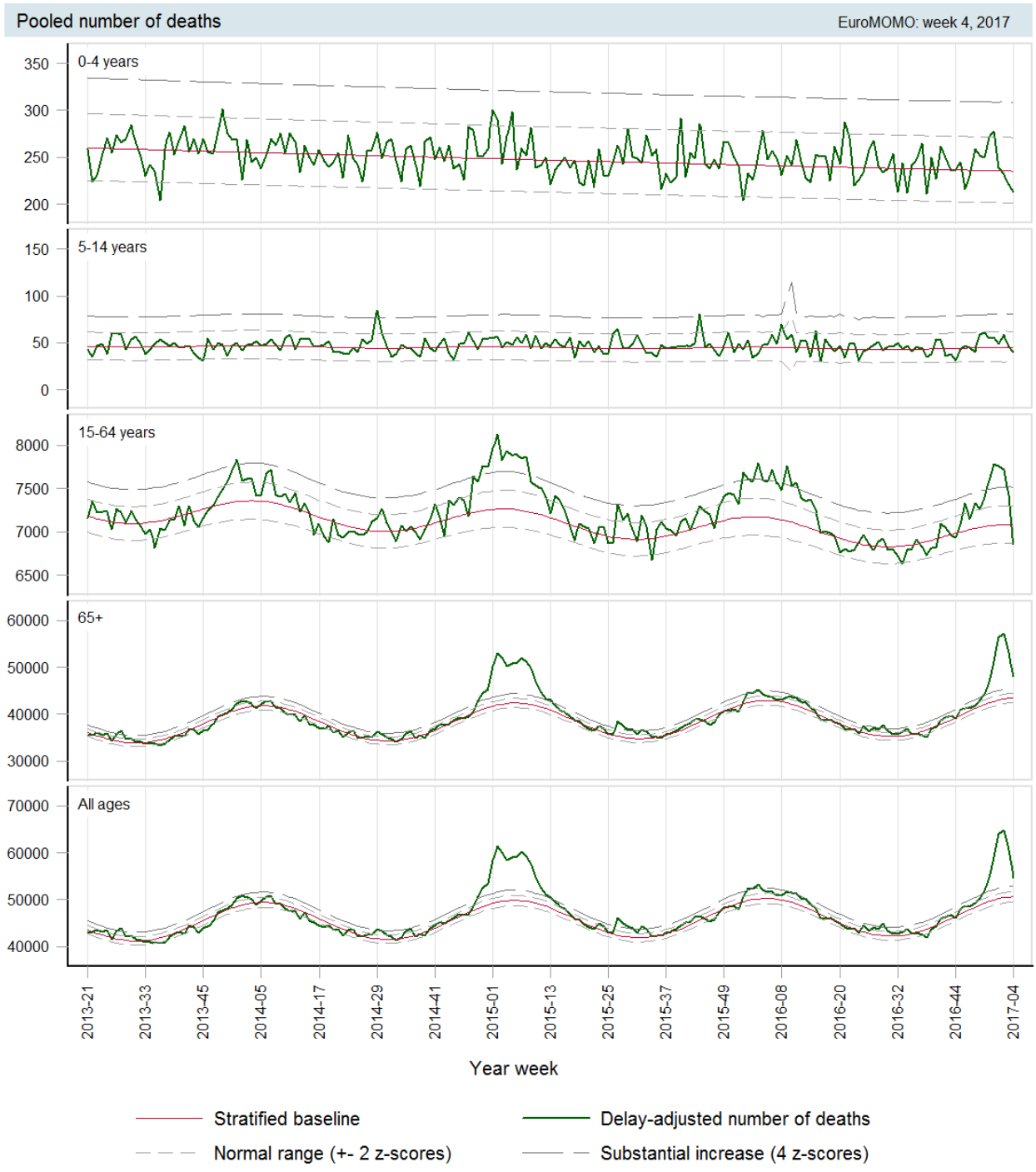

Participating countries:
Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Netherlands
Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK (England), UK (Scotland), UK (Wales)

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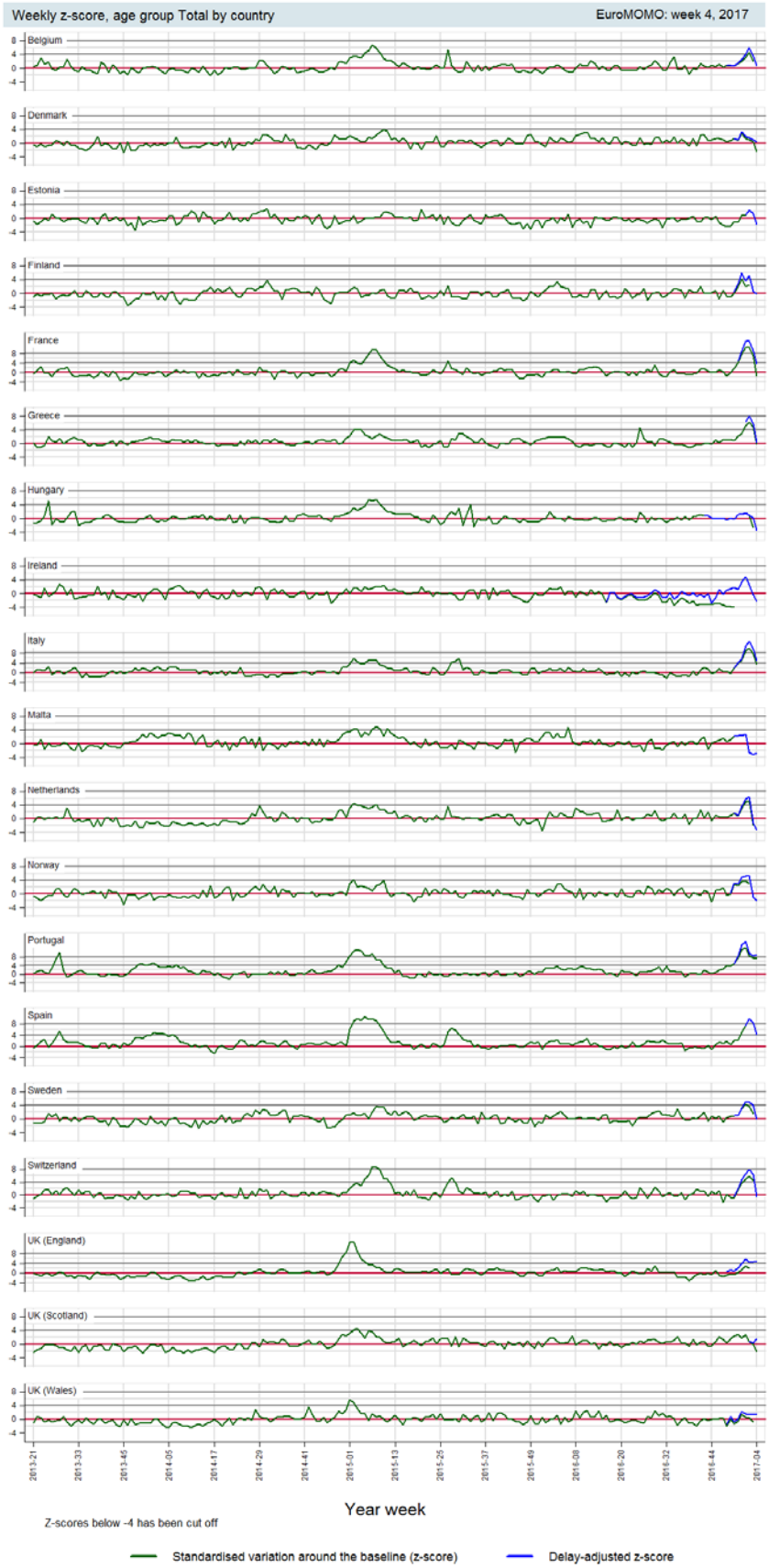

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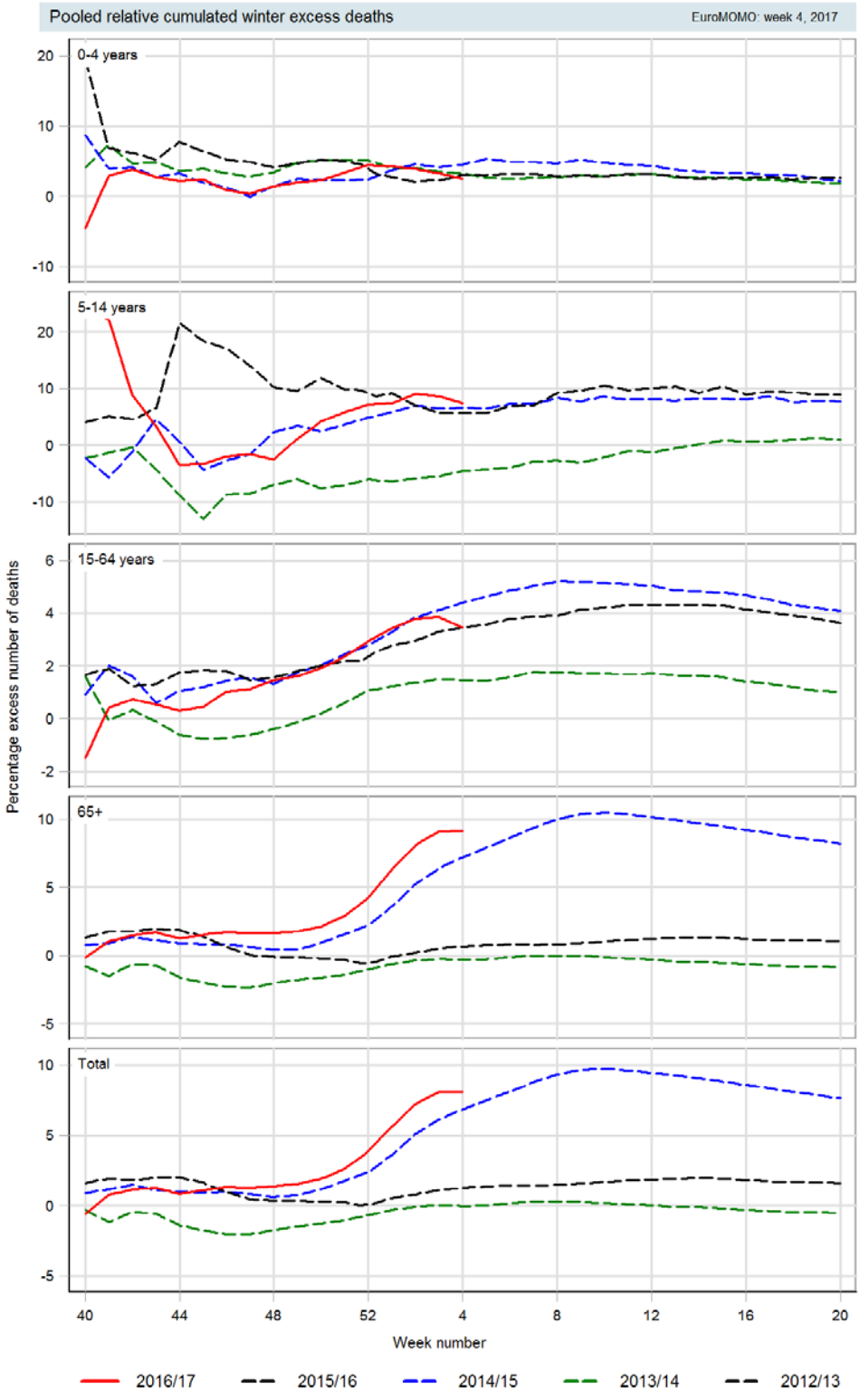

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