



## FEBRUARY<sup>i</sup>



### Births and Deaths

The increase in mortality from respiratory and circulatory diseases will continue into February, the second coldest month of the year in terms of average temperatures. The number of deaths from circulatory diseases will be high throughout the month, although lower than the extremely high levels in January. Respiratory disease deaths will also be high in the first half of the month (again, at a lower level than seen in January), but in the latter part of the month will fall to lower levels.



### Poor Health and Illness

The high incidence of some measures of poor health and illness will be sustained in February. The number of cases of both heart failure and diabetes will continue to be high throughout the month, although both will be slightly lower than their respective levels in January.



### Injury and Violence

Following the predicted peak at the beginning of the year, February will be a quiet month for injury and violence; there is nothing striking expected in terms of road traffic accidents, self-harm, violence or falls.



### Gastro-intestinal Infections

As winter continues, so will the seasonal peak in reported cases of norovirus, first observed in the lead up to winter in November. The number of reported cases will be high during the month of February, but possibly slightly lower than experienced in January and expected in March.

<sup>i</sup> Definitions and data sources for all conditions - [www.nwpho.org.uk/healthcalendar/docs/about.pdf](http://www.nwpho.org.uk/healthcalendar/docs/about.pdf)