



Births and Deaths

No peaks in births or circulatory and/or respiratory deaths are expected in May.



Poor Health and Illness

Conditions relating to excessive poor health and illness in May will be similar to those seen in April. The number of cases of heart failure will remain high in the first week of the month, but will then drop to more usual levels. Heart failure will not increase again until the last couple of weeks of the year.

Occurrences of chest pain, mental health illness and stroke, all of which increased to very high levels in April, are predicted to remain high throughout the entire month of May.



Injury and Violence

High levels of injuries and violence will continue in May. The high number of cases of self-harm will be maintained throughout May and beyond. Falls among 5 to 14 year olds are likely to be high this month and into the summer. In addition, falls among 15 to 34 year olds, first increasing at the beginning of April, will also be particularly high throughout May. However, these falls will decrease to more usual levels by the beginning of June.

Road traffic accidents, already at a high level, are expected to increase further in May. Weeks near the beginning and end of the month, coinciding with the two May bank holiday weekends, are predicted to be particularly high.

Whilst violence will be high throughout the month, the end of the month (which includes a bank holiday weekend), is predicted to be one of the worst weeks of the year for violence (alongside the high levels in the first week of the year due to the New Year's Eve/Day effect).



Gastro-intestinal Infections

A long period of increased gastro-intestinal infections is expected to begin in May, following a month in which Campylobacter, Cryptosporidium, norovirus and Salmonella are at relatively low levels.

Reported cases of Campylobacter, on the increase since the beginning of April, will reach high numbers in the second half of the month. This peak will continue throughout the rest of spring and the summer months.

ⁱ Definitions and data sources for all conditions - www.nwpho.org.uk/healthcalendar/docs/about.pdf