

# Acute Diarrhea (AD)

Results of the 2025 - 2026 seasonal surveillance in primary care

## Organisation of AD surveillance to monitor gastroenteritis epidemics

Acute diarrhea (AD) is defined as the occurrence of at least three liquid or loose stools within the last 14 days, prompting a consultation.

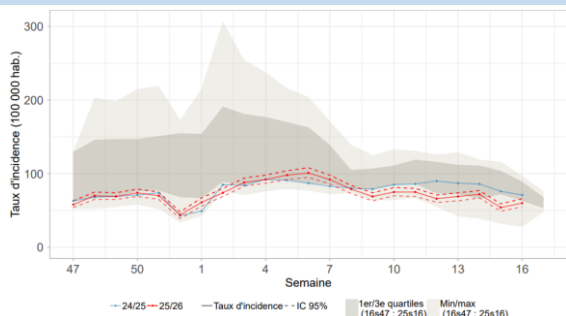
Historically, the Sentinelles network used a periodic regression model to detect gastroenteritis epidemics. However, this method has become obsolete due to the steady decline in cases since the 2017/2018 season.

To ensure a reliable comparison of epidemic dynamics between seasons, the Sentinelles network now uses a fixed reference period of 22 winter weeks, from week 47 to week 16. This period was chosen because it covers the earliest epidemic start week (week 47) and the latest epidemic end week (week 16) ever recorded.

Since 2024, the incidence of cases of AD cases seen in general practice has been estimated using data from the Sentinelles network and the EMR-IQVIA data warehouse.

To go further, you can reach [all the methods used by the Sentinelles network for surveillance by clicking here](#).

## Weekly incidence rates of AD cases seen in general practice

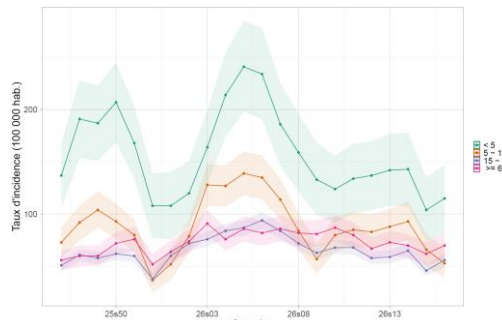


Weekly incidence rates of AD cases seen in general practice between 2025w47 and 2026w16 (red curve), comparison with 2024-2025 winter season (blue curve) and historical data (since 2016w47, shaded area), mainland France

Weekly incidence rates remained at a **low level of activity throughout the 2025-2026 winter season**, maintaining values close to historical minima, as they did during the 2024-2025 winter season. Peak intensity was reached in early February (2026w06), with an estimated incidence rate of **101 cases per 100,000 inhabitants** (95% CI [95; 108]).

Data sources: Sentinelles, IQVIA (EMR)

## Incidence rates of AD cases seen in general practice by age groups



Weekly incidence rates of cases of AD seen in general practice by age group, 2025-2026 season, mainland France

Over the 2025-2026 winter season, the estimated cumulated incidence rates in the various age groups were distributed as follows:

- **0-4 years**: 3,459 cases per 100,000 population (95% CI [3,293; 3,625]);
- **5-14 years**: 1,944 cases per 100,000 population [1,864; 2,024];
- **15-64 years**: 1,443 cases per 100,000 inhabitants [1,413; 1,473];
- **65 and over**: 1,607 cases per 100,000 population [1,553; 1,661].

Data sources: Sentinelles, IQVIA (EMR)

## Description of AD cases seen in general practice

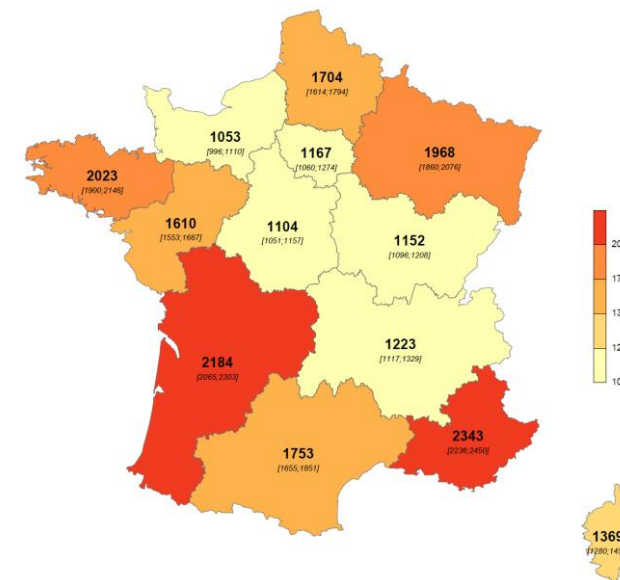
During the 2025-2026 winter season, **5,991 cases of AD** were reported by Sentinelles general practitioners. Descriptive information was collected **for 82% of them** (n= 4,901).

Their characteristics were as follows:

- **Median age**: 26 years (ranging from 1 month to 99 years);
- **Male/female sex ratio**: 0.96 (2,389 / 2,483);
- **Hospitalisation**: following consultation, hospitalization was requested for 0.5% of patients (23 / 4,679). Among these hospitalisation requests, the age categories most concerned were 0-4 years (10 cases, or 1.3% of 0-4 years) and 65 years and over (five cases, or 1.1% of 65 years and over).

Data sources: Sentinelles

## Cumulated incidence rates of AD cases by regions seen in general practice



Regional distribution of cumulated AD incidence rates per 100,000 inhabitants and 95% CI over the winter period (2025w47-2026w16), mainland France

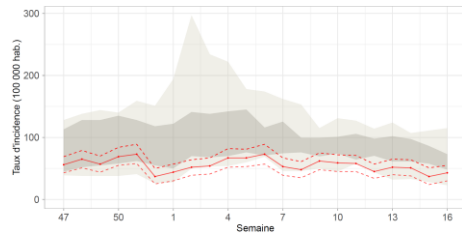
Over the 2025w47-2026w16 period, **Provence-Alpes Côte d'Azur, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Bretagne and Grand-Est** stood out as the four regions most affected by cases of AD in general practice, with cumulative incidence rates estimated at **2,343** (95% CI [2,236; 2,450]), **2,184** ([2,065; 2,303]), **2,023** ([1,900; 2,146]) and **1,968** ([1,860; 2,076]) cases per 100,000 inhabitants respectively.

For further details on a regional scale, please refer to the following page for a **breakdown of AD incidence rates by regions**.

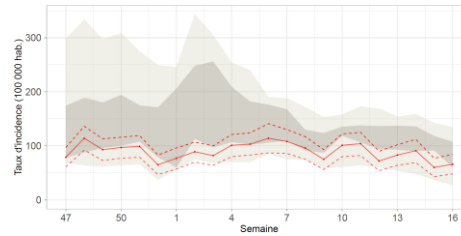
Data sources: Sentinelles, IQVIA (EMR)

# Evolution of the weekly AD incidence rates by regions during the 2025 – 2026 season in primary care

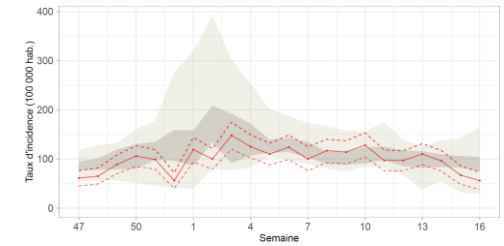
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes



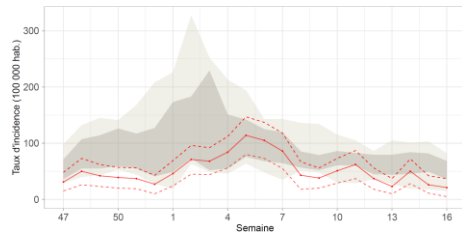
Grand Est



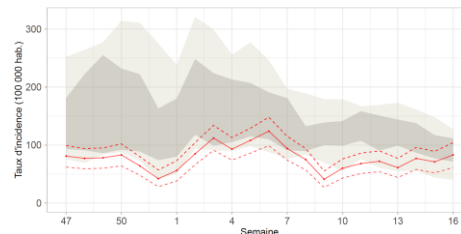
Nouvelle-Aquitaine



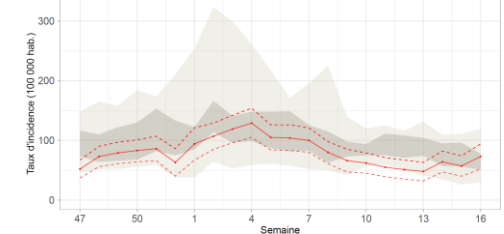
Bourgogne-Franche-Comté



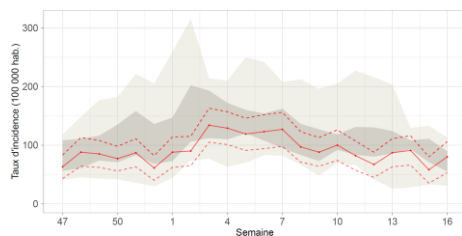
Hauts-de-France



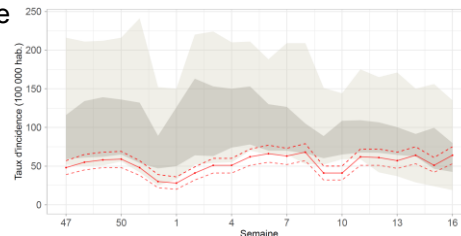
Occitanie



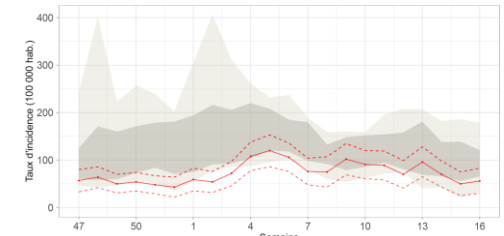
Bretagne



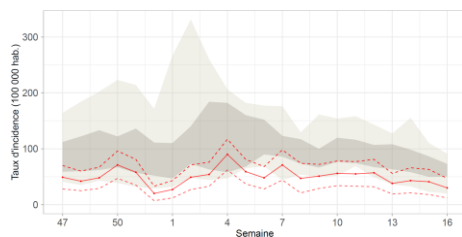
Ile-de-France



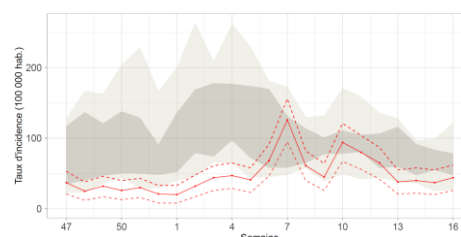
Pays de la Loire



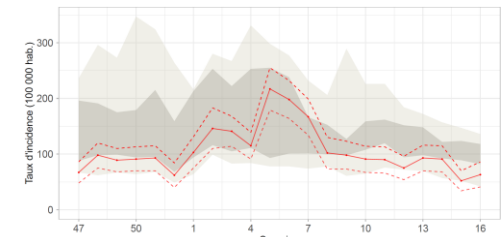
Centre-Val de Loire



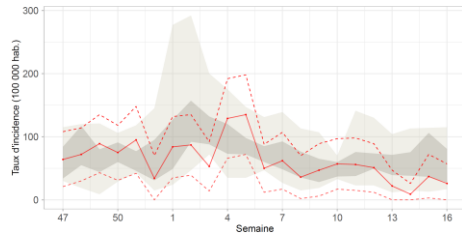
Normandie



Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



Corse



Data sources: Sentinelles, IQVIA (EMR)

**Légende :**

The red curve shows the trend in the incidence rate per 100,000 population for the 2025-2026 season, with its 95% confidence interval (red dotted curve).  
 The distribution of weekly incidence rates for previous years (2016-2025) is shown in grey, with quartiles and minimum/maximum values, so that current trends can be compared with historical data.  
 The scales are different from one region to another.

## Organisation of the surveillance

The surveillance data published in this bulletin come from:

- general practitioners in the **Sentinelles network** (Institut Pierre Louis d'Epidémiologie et de Santé Publique (Iplep), Sorbonne Université, Inserm);
- general practitioners in the Electronic Medical Records (EMR) data warehouse run by **IQVIA**.

Pooling these multi-source data enables us to provide more accurate estimates on a finer geographical scale, while limiting consolidation from one week to the next.

To find out more: [visit our page dedicated to common surveillance in primary care](#).

## Information and contacts




Publication manager: **Sentinelles network, Iplep**

To find all the weekly bulletins published by the Sentinelles network during the monitoring season, or to subscribe to receive them by email each week, visit our website: [weekly bulletin page](#).

You can find more information on the Sentinelles network website (<https://sentiweb.fr/>), in particular on :

- the organisation of surveillance;
- the statistical methods used;
- partnerships.

## CONTACT US

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## Partners and supervisory bodies

### Partners



HCL

### Sentinel network guardianships



## GP OR PRIVATE PAEDIATRICIAN?



Take part in research and health monitoring in primary care by joining the Sentinelles network ([become a Sentinelles doctor](#))!

## THERE IS ALSO GENERAL POPULATION SURVEILLANCE



Join the participatory cohort for monitoring influenza and Covid-19 epidemics by registering at <https://www.grippenet.fr>

You don't need to be a healthcare professional to take part!