

National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report
Fortnight 02, 2025 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases
06 January 2025 to 19 January 2025

Infectious and congenital syphilis

Infectious syphilis notifications are continuing to increase across Australia. Detailed analysis of infectious and congenital syphilis trends in Australia are reported quarterly in the [National syphilis surveillance reports](#).

Syphilis response

The CDNA and BBV STI Standing Committee (BBVSS) are, in collaboration, developing priority public health actions, including those related to workforce and community engagement, to ensure progress is made towards reducing the incidence of syphilis and elimination of congenital syphilis in Australia. For further information on national activities related to syphilis, including the [Don't fool around with syphilis](#) campaign, refer to the [National Response to Syphilis](#) webpage on the Department's website.

Mpox

Mpox, or monkeypox virus infection, is a viral infection that can be transmitted from person-to-person through physical contact. It commonly presents as a mild illness with a rash but can be severe. In the past 12 months (20 January 2024 – 19 January 2025), there have been 1,452 cases of mpox reported to the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS). In the past 3 months (22 October 2024 – 19 January 2025), there have been 451 cases of mpox notified compared to 8 cases in the same time period in 2023/2024. In this reporting period (6 January 2025 – 19 January 2025), 56 cases of mpox have been notified (22 in Victoria, 14 in New South Wales, 10 in the Australian Capital Territory and 10 in Western Australia). While the number of notifications in the past three months are high compared to the same three-month period in 2023/2024, mpox notifications peaked in September 2024 and have been decreasing in recent months.

Japanese encephalitis virus infection

Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) infection is most commonly asymptomatic, but some cases can result in severe disease and death. JEV is a flavivirus and transmitted to humans through bites from infected mosquitos. In this reporting period there was 1 confirmed locally acquired case of JEV infection notified for a resident of Queensland who spent time in the Goondiwindi Local Area and Central Queensland. In December 2024 there were 2 cases of JEV infection notified to the NNDSS including 1 confirmed locally acquired case of JEV infection in a Victorian resident and 1 probable JEV infection in a Queensland resident who acquired their infection in Timor Leste.

Interpretative Notes

Selected diseases are chosen each fortnight based on either exceeding two standard deviations from the 90 day and/or 365 day five year rolling mean or other disease issues of significance identified during the reporting period. All diseases reported are analysed by notification receive date. Data are extracted each Monday of a CDNA week.

Totals comprise data from all States and Territories. Cumulative figures are subject to retrospective revision so there may be discrepancies between the number of new notifications and the increment in the cumulative figure from the previous period.

¹The past quarter (90 day) surveillance period includes the date range (22/10/2024 to 19/01/2025).

²The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 19/01/2024. The ratio is the notification activity in the past quarter (90 days) compared with the five year rolling mean for the same period.

³The past year (365 day) surveillance period includes the date range (20/01/2024 to 19/01/2025).

⁴The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 19/01/2024. The ratio is the notification activity in the past year (365 days) compared with the five year rolling mean for the same period.

The five year rolling mean and the ratio of notifications compared with the five year rolling mean should be interpreted with caution. Changes in surveillance practice, diagnostic techniques and reporting may contribute to increases or decreases in the total notifications received over a five year period. Ratios are to be taken as a crude measure of current disease activity and may reflect changes in reporting rather than changes in disease activity.