National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report

Fortnight 16, 2020 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases

01 August to 14 August 2020

Infectious and congenital syphilis

Increases in infectious syphilis notifications are attributed to an on-going outbreak occurring in young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people residing in northern and central Australia, continued increases among men who have sex with men (MSM) in urban areas of Victoria (Vic) and New South Wales (NSW), and increases in non-Indigenous women residing in urban areas of Vic, NSW, Queensland (Qld) and Western Australia (WA).

Outbreak in remote Australia

In January 2011, an increase of infectious syphilis notifications among young (15-29 years) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people was identified in the North West region of Qld, following a steady decline at a national level in remote communities. Subsequent increases in infectious syphilis notifications were reported in the Northern Territory (NT) in 2013, WA in 2014 and South Australia (SA) in 2016, following sustained periods of low notification rates. The outbreak is of significant public health concern given the: elevated rates of infectious syphilis among women of child-bearing age, increasing the risk of congenital syphilis; and the concomitant risk of HIV transmission. For the latest information on the infectious syphilis outbreak, refer to the Department's website

Increases among MSM

Since 2010, increases in notifications of infectious syphilis have been reported in MSM, predominately 20-39 years of age, residing in urban areas of Vic and NSW.

Increases among non-Indigenous women

Since 2016, increases in notifications of infectious syphilis have been reported in non-Indigenous women aged predominately 20-39 years of age residing in urban areas of NSW, Vic, Qld and WA. As noted in the outbreak in remote Australia, increases in women of child-bearing age is of significant public health concern given the increased risk of congenital syphilis.

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.

[1]The past quarter (90 day) surveillance period includes the date range (17/05/2020 to 14/08/2020).

[2]The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 14/08/2020. The ratio is the notification activity in the past quarter (90 days) compared with the five year rolling mean for the same period.

[3]The past year (365 day) surveillance period includes the date range (15/08/2019 to 14/08/2020).

[4]The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 31/07/2020. 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.

ADT FN16/2020

Notification received date

Disease group	Disease name	Disease code	State or Territory								Totals for Australia				Historical 90 Day Period				Historical Yearly Period			
			ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas#	Vic	WA	This reporting period 01/08/2020 14/08/2020	Previous reporting Period 18/07/2020 31/07/2020	Same reporting period last year 01/08/2019 14/08/2019	Current year YTD 01/01/2020 14/08/2020	Past Quarter 17/05/2020 14/08/2020	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Past Year 15/08/2019 14/08/2020	Yearly rolling 5 year mean 15/08/2014 14/08/2019	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	3	8	73	22	40.2	0.5	-	129	154.6	0.8	-
	Hepatitis B (unspecified)	052	2	88	-	27	1	1	37	17	173	191	220	3,175	1,304	1,504.4	0.9	-	5,235	6,073.4	0.9	-
	Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	040	-	-	-	17	-	-	-	2	19	20	37	424	168	168.8	1.0	-	793	701.6	1.1	-
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	3	103	3	62	1	1	49	43	265	281	293	4,586	1,810	2,361.8	0.8	-	7,680	9,915.4	0.8	-
	Hepatitis D	050	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	5	5	3	39	24	16.2	1.5	2.3	62	68.0	0.9	-
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism	045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	-	1.4	-	-
	Campylobacteriosis	005	22	284	10	264	77	24	241	97	1,019	973	1,294	18,207	6,313	6,366.0	1.0	-	33,071	27,406.4	1.2	-
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	-	3	-	5	4	-	4	2	18	33	60	1,992	237	672.2	0.4	-	2,842	3,935.4	0.7	-
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	055	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	11	7	3.0	2.3	-	17	16.0	1.1	-
	Hepatitis A	038	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	84	1	44.2	0.0	-	168	246.0	0.7	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	30	2	10.6	0.2	-	48	45.2	1.1	-
	Listeriosis	018	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	1	23	8	11.8	0.7	-	44	72.4	0.6	-
	Paratyphoid	080	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	45	1	14.0	0.1	-	69	81.2	0.8	-
	STEC	054	-	4	-	-	7	-	2	4	17	10	19	377	93	82.4	1.1	-	641	388.0	1.7	-
	Salmonellosis	030	4	41	8	63	6	1	33	44	200	223	402	8,909	1,835	3,071.2	0.6	-	14,064	16,116.4	0.9	-
	Shigellosis	031	1	14	5	9	2	-	1	3	35	44	109	1,395	209	467.8	0.4	-	2,476	1,835.4	1.3	-
	Typhoid Fever	035	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	88	4	25.0	0.2	-	147	142.8	1.0	-
Quarantinable diseases	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	COVID-19	081	-	126	-	5	8	1	5,706	7	5,853	5,678	-	23,146	15,878	-		15,878.0	23,146	-		23,146.0
	Cholera	008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	1.4	-	-
	MERS-CoV	079	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Plague	025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rabies	028	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)	071	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Smallpox	069	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Viral haemorrhagic fever (NEC)	036	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Yellow fever	041	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
Sexually transmissible infections	Chlamydial infection	007	51	920	72	813	203	29	90	375	2,553	2,823	4,153	47,114	17,427	24,272.2	0.7	-	82,222	97,684.0	0.8	-
	Donovanosis	010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Gonococcal infection	011	5	292	56	218	58	2	45	112	788	980	1,360	19,313	6,563	6,622.2	1.0	-	31,920	25,855.2	1.2	-
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	-	19	6	33	2	-	24	30	114	130	226	2,904	1,038	1,065.0	1.0	-	5,159	4,012.8	1.3	-
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	-	-	-	2	1	-	50	15	68	57	121	1,600	522	551.4	0.9	-	2,575	2,122.0	1.2	80.6
	Syphilis congenital	047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	3	1.6	1.9	-	13	6.0	2.2	3.8
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	1	1.4	0.7	-	7	7.0	1.0	-
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	12	6	6.2	1.0	-	16	19.4	0.8	-
	Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	062	2	24	-	24	1	-	26	3	80	84	27,022	21,578	633	60,552.2	0.0	-	109,853	155,213.0	0.7	-
	Measles	021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	32	-	17.0	-	-	161	112.2	1.4	-
	Mumps	043	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	7	120	12	155.4	0.1	-	189	613.6	0.3	-
	Pertussis	024	2	5	-	4	3	1	17	1	33	58	476	3,455	480	3,287.0	0.1	-	8,375	16,214.0	0.5	-
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	-	17	3	17	6	-	9	9	61	52	90	708	295	639.6	0.5	-	1,615	1,830.2	0.9	-
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rotavirus	077	-	6	1	9	6	-	NN	8	34	47	182	1,369	287	999.4	0.3	-	5,538	4,139.6	1.3	-
	Rubella	029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	4.6	0.2	-	3	16.4	0.2	-
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.2	-	-
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	0.6	1.7	-	2	4.0	0.5	-
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073	1	NN	2	-	21	-	8	16	48	77	204	1,510	434	865.8	0.5	-	3,472	3,330.2	1.0	-
	Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	15	NN	8	-	87	1	63	69	243	398	627	9,107	3,052	2,499.2	1.2	-	15,568	9,614.8	1.6	-
	Varicella zoster (unspecified)	075	5	NN	2	398	48	7	299	125	884	721	420	8,403	3,990	3,644.8	1.1	-	12,877	14,346.4	0.9	-
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	-	7	2	16	-	-	-	-	25	34	12	533	255	89.8	2.8	97.7	607	416.0	1.5	-
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	6	37	2	18.8	0.1	-	75	94.0	0.8	-
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	68	223	4	351.4	0.0	-	634	1,491.0	0.4	-
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	18	10	7.6	1.3	-	21	32.4	0.6	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection	059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	0.6	-	-	2	1.4	1.4	-
	Malaria	020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	16	126	14	81.2	0.2	-	275	330.0	0.8	-
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.6	-	-
	Ross River virus infection	002	-	13	1	40	2	-	-	3	59	85	103	5,171	1,798	880.2	2.0	311.3	5,882	5,536.6	1.1	-
	West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	060	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	-	-	1	1.4	0.7	-
Zoonoses	Anthrax	058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Australian bat lyssavirus infection	063	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Brucellosis	004	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	13	6	4.8	1.3	-	18	18.8	1.0	-
	Leptospirosis	017	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	63	18	35.0	0.5	-	83	115.0	0.7	-
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Ornithosis	023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	19	10	4.0	2.5	2.8	30	20.0	1.5	-
	Q fever	027	-	6	-	5	-	-	-	-	11	9	20	318	113	121.4	0.9	-	531	537.8	1.0	-
	Tularaemia	070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-		1.0	2	-		2.0
Other bacterial infections	Legionellosis	015	-	2	-	1	1	-	1	1	6	12	11	319	96	89.2	1.1	-	515	397.8	1.3	58.0
	Leprosy	016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	3	3	3.2	0.9	-	7	11.6	0.6	-
	Meningococcal disease (invasive)	022	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	4	17	60	20	67.4	0.3	-	138	261.8	0.5	-
	Tuberculosis	034	-	14	-	8	-	-	22	9	53	60	60	900	376	330.6	1.1	-	1,513	1,391.0	1.1	-
			113	1,992	179	2,047	549	68	6,728	999	12,679	13,113	37,679	187,652	65,387				380,531			

Footnotes:

* Ratio of the 90 day prior surveillance period to the past 90 day 5 year rolling mean, or ratio of the year period prior surveillance period to the year period 5 year rolling mean.

NN = Not Notifiable, NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified

The data in this report are reliant on the provision of data from states and territories to the Australian Government Department of Health. Backlogs in notifications at the state or territory level may contribute to delays in reporting to the NNDSS. Notifications for some high volume conditions are only uploaded quarterly by some jurisdictions, which can result in apparent large variability over time. The NNDSS is a dynamic dataset, with data in this report representing data available on **(17/08/2020)**. Data in this report are subject to retrospective revision and may vary from data reported in published NNDSS reports and reports of notification data by states and territories.

- Tasmania data only valid until 7 August 2020 due to data transmission issues