National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report

Fortnight 08, 2020 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases

11 April to 24 April 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.

Influenza

In 2020 up to 24 April, there have been 20,672 laboratory confirmed influenza cases reported to the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS). In the reporting period between 11 April and 24 April 2020 there have been 150 confirmed influenza cases. This is lower than the 5 year mean for this period (n=2,516), for the same period in 2019 (n= 8,056) and is the lowest number of notifications for this period since 2012 (n=284).

Elements of the COVID-19 response, including social distancing measures and the diversion of testing resources to COVID-19 diagnosis, are affecting the number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases notified to the NNDSS. These effects may differ by jurisdiction.

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 (11/04/2020 to 24/04/2020).

[2]The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 24/04/2020. 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 (25/04/2019 to 24/04/2020).

[4]The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 24/04/2020. 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 FN08/2020

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 11/04/2020 24/04/2020	Previous reporting Period 28/03/2020 10/04/2020	Same reporting period last year 11/04/2019 24/04/2019	Current year YTD 01/01/2019 24/04/2020	Past Quarter 26/01/2020 24/04/2020	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Past Year 25/04/2019 24/04/2020	Yearly rolling 5 year mean 25/04/2014 24/04/2019	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	5	5	9	38	33	38.0	0.9	-	144	156.8	0.9	-
	Hepatitis B (unspecified)	052	4	54	-	22	2	3	1	13	99	106	196	1,471	1,142	1,526.6	0.7	-	5,306	6,111.0	0.9	-
	Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	040	1	1	-	18	1	-	-	-	21	22	22	204	163	171.2	1.0	-	801	701.6	1.1	-
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	3	91	4	51	1	5	1	21	177	208	284	2,357	1,871	2,552.6	0.7	-	8,037	9,986.6	0.8	-
	Hepatitis D	050	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	2	15	8	15.6	0.5	-	63	66.8	0.9	-
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism	045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	1	1.4	0.7	-
	Campylobacteriosis	005	17	171	9	175	51	19	15	54	511	667	1,143	10,527	7,631	6,578.4	1.2	-	35,119	26,607.2	1.3	-
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	1	18	1	14	4	1	12	20	71	110	78	1,638	1,355	1,721.8	0.8	-	3,159	3,943.4	0.8	-
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	055	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	3	3.8	0.8	-	17	15.8	1.1	-
	Hepatitis A	038	-	-	-	4	-	-	5	1	10	9	7	79	64	86.2	0.7	-	216	243.4	0.9	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	28	25	14.4	1.7	4.2	58	47.6	1.2	-
	Listeriosis	018	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	3	-	15	10	22.6	0.4	-	46	74.0	0.6	-
	Paratyphoid	080	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	2	5	43	33	31.8	1.0	-	91	80.4	1.1	-
	STEC	054	-	5	-	1	3	-	1	2	12	16	26	265	205	106.4	1.9	-	700	361.0	1.9	-
	Salmonellosis	030	4	80	14	134	21	6	44	71	374	370	565	6,387	5,101	5,552.2	0.9	-	15,305	16,239.8	0.9	-
	Shigellosis	031	-	5	11	1	12	-	4	3	36	49	126	1,140	818	466.6	1.8	-	3,151	1,698.0	1.9	-
	Typhoid Fever	035	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	6	3	80	72	59.2	1.2	-	181	140.4	1.3	-
Quarantinable diseases	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	COVID-19	081	4	152	-	46	9	90	45	40	386	2,325	-	6,698	6,692	-		6,692.0	6,698	-		6,698.0
	Cholera	008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	0.4	-	-	-	1.6	-	-
	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	37	667	69	715	207	44	91	287	2,117	2,106	3,516	25,604	19,768	25,823.8	0.8	-	93,595	96,310.8	1.0	-
	Donovanosis	010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Gonococcal infection	011	6	282	16	152	58	3	257	148	922	1,056	1,140	11,022	8,309	6,853.4	1.2	-	34,291	24,636.0	1.4	-
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	2	26	16	27	8	-	4	24	107	87	165	1,399	1,021	995.8	1.0	-	5,421	3,764.8	1.4	-
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	-	3	-	4	2	1	9	1	20	55	101	665	541	539.8	1.0	-	2,385	2,078.2	1.1	-
	Syphilis congenital	047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	0.8	1.3	-	9	5.8	1.6	-
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1.6	0.6	-	7	6.8	1.0	-
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	4.2	0.2	-	21	18.8	1.1	-
	Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	062	4	33	8	36	17	1	41	10	150	306	8,056	20,672	15,778	12,312.8	1.3	-	296,071	120,556.0	2.5	25,571.1
	Measles	021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	32	15	47.6	0.3	-	206	123.6	1.7	-
	Mumps	043	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	2	6	2	6	90	71	165.8	0.4	-	203	613.4	0.3	-
	Pertussis	024	1	62	-	21	44	-	9	5	142	128	315	2,543	1,790	3,472.6	0.5	-	10,849	16,074.0	0.7	-
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	1	5	1	8	3	1	5	1	25	37	71	380	256	251.2	1.0	-	2,099	1,788.0	1.2	-
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rotavirus	077	-	8	-	1	2	-	NN	7	18	24	97	1,007	574	632.0	0.9	-	6,309	4,037.4	1.6	-
	Rubella	029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	6.4	0.2	-	7	15.8	0.4	-
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.2	-	-
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1.4	-	-	2	3.8	0.5	-
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073	-	NN	1	-	10	-	20	5	36	36	97	808	558	675.4	0.8	-	4,089	3,172.8	1.3	-
	Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	13	NN	7	-	72	2	100	73	267	270	405	3,944	2,761	2,460.8	1.1	-	14,843	9,026.2	1.6	-
	Varicella zoster (unspecified)	075	11	NN	2	314	32	13	426	72	870	621	499	5,145	4,429	3,474.8	1.3	77.8	13,818	14,172.0	1.0	-
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	-	8	-	17	-	-	-	-	25	25	6	179	155	148.0	1.0	-	337	439.6	0.8	-
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	34	23	21.0	1.1	-	96	94.2	1.0	-
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	4	7	16	52	214	154	487.0	0.3	-	1,183	1,496.8	0.8	-
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	5	5	12.8	0.4	-	17	31.6	0.5	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection	059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	0.4	-	-	4	1.0	4.0	0.6
	Malaria	020	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	4	7	14	103	81	88.8	0.9	-	368	328.8	1.1	-
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	-	0.6	-	-
	Ross River virus infection	002	-	207	10	546	3	-	6	8	780	408	129	1,750	1,660	2,595.2	0.6	-	3,666	5,564.6	0.7	-
	West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	060	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	2	1.4	1.4	-
Zoonoses	Anthrax	058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Australian bat lyssavirus infection	063	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Brucellosis	004	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	5	4.6	1.1	-	13	19.8	0.7	-
	Leptospirosis	017	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	30	21	38.2	0.5	-	79	115.8	0.7	-
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Ornithosis	023	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	2	3.0	0.7	-	19	20.6	0.9	-
	Q fever	027	-	8	-	7	1	-	-	1	17	8	16	150	101	142.2	0.7	-	506	537.4	0.9	-
	Tularaemia	070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
Other bacterial infections	Legionellosis	015	-	9	-	4	2	-	9	2	26	20	11	184	158	96.4	1.6	40.8	493	399.6	1.2	25.6
	Leprosy	016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.2	-	-	8	11.4	0.7	-
	Meningococcal disease (invasive)	022	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	4	5	4	37	26	43.8	0.6	-	200	254.0	0.8	-
	Tuberculosis	034	1	36	1	5	-	-	8	3	54	43	51	429	355	325.2	1.1	-	1,505	1,373.4	1.1	-
			111	1,941	171	2,330	572	190	1,114	881	7,310	9,167	17,239	107,437	83,847				571,814			

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 **(28/04/2020)**. 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.