# **National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report**

# Fortnight 15, 2020 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases

# 18 July to 31 July 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.

### **Legionellosis**

Increases associated with infection from L. pneumophila have been associated with recent outbreaks identified in Victoria and New South Wales.

#### **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.

<sup>1</sup>The past quarter (90 day) surveillance period includes the date range (03/05/2020 to 31/07/2020).

<sup>2</sup>The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 31/07/2020. The ratio is the notification activity in the past quarter (90 days) compared with the five year rolling mean for the same period.

<sup>3</sup>The past year (365 day) surveillance period includes the date range (01/08/2019 to 31/07/2020).

<sup>4</sup>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.

										Notification received date												
AD	T FN15/2020		State or Territory								Totals for Australia				Historical 90 Day Period				Historical Yearly Period			
Disease group		e									This was a stim	Previous	Same	Comment		Outambank		Exceeds		Yearly		Exceeds
		роз а	5	≥	<b>L</b>	2	∢	s		⋖	This reporting period	reporting	reporting period last	Current year YTD	Past Quarter	Quarterly rolling	Ratio past	quarterly	Past Year	rolling 5 year	Ratio past	yearly
	Disease name	seas	¥	NS	Z	Qld	SA	Tas	>	W		Period	year			5 year	quarter/5 year mean*	rolling mean +2 SD		mean	year/5 year mean*	rolling mean +2 SD
		ă									18/07/2020 31/07/2020	04/07/2020 17/07/2020	18/07/2019 31/07/2019	01/01/2020 31/07/2020	03/05/2020 31/07/2020	mean		by	01/08/2019 31/07/2020	01/08/2014 31/07/2019		by
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	31/07/2020	4	8	,,	28	37.8	0.7	-	135	154.2	0.9	-
	Hepatitis B (unspecified) Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	052 040	2	76 -	-	35	3	3	30	28	177	206 25	205 31		1,300	1,529.0	0.9	-	5,279 803	6,081.0 698.6	0.9	-
	Hepatitis C (inewly acquired) Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	3	117	1	10 76	-	7	38	30	12 272	273	317	397 4,345	172 1,828	168.4 2,413.6	1.0 0.8	-	7,734	9,925.0	0.8	-
	Hepatitis D	050	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	1	5	1	-	34	19	15.4	1.2	-	60	67.4	0.9	-
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism Campylobacteriosis	045 005	- 19	320	- 7	208	108	- 38	144	92	936	985	1,342	17,140	6,090	0.4 6,311.0	1.0	-	33,297	1.4 27,315.8	1.2	-
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	-	7	-	5	4	1	14	1	32	36	78		284	789.4	0.4	-	2,882	3,939.6	0.7	-
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS) Hepatitis A	055 038	-	- 1	-	1	-	-	-	1	3	- 3	6		6	3.4 45.2	1.8 0.1	-	16 179	16.2 246.2	1.0 0.7	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2		2	10.0	0.2	-	50	45.4	1.1	-
	Listeriosis	018 080	-	-	-	-	-		1	2	3	2	1 2		7	13.6 15.4	0.5 0.1	-	44 71	72.0 80.6	0.6 0.9	-
	Paratyphoid STEC	054	-	- 3	-	1	- 4	-	- 2	1	- 11	- 13			86	85.0	1.0	-	644	385.8	1.7	-
	Salmonellosis	030	2	57	10	55	13	2	29	53	221	250	445		2,075	3,295.6	0.6	-	14,270	16,123.2	0.9	-
	Shigellosis Typhoid Fever	031 035	-	- 11	- 11	10	- 4	-	- 2	- 4	- 42	32	114 6		202	464.4 26.0	0.4	-	2,548 155	1,822.8 142.4	1.4	-
	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
Quarantinable diseases	COVID-19 Cholera	081	-	183	-	12 -	-	<u>1</u>	4,577 -	18	4,793 -	3,951 -	-	17,882	10,834	- 0.2	-	10,834.0	17,882 -	- 1.4	-	17,882.0 -
	MERS-CoV	079	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Plague	025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rabies Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)	028 071	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Smallpox	069	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Viral haemorrhagic fever (NEC) Yellow fever	036 041	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
Sexually transmissible infections	Chlamydial infection	007	56	856	36	909	215	50	-	414	2,536	2,578	4,152	43,801	16,665	24,467.4	0.7	-	83,064	97,520.0	0.9	-
	Donovanosis	010 011	-	- 275	-	-	- 61	- 6	- 57	- 1.41	- 818	1 001	1 200	18,366	- C 572	6,691.8	1.0	-	- 22.220	-	1.2	-
	Gonococcal infection Syphilis < 2 years	066	-	275	22 8	253 27	3	-	24	141 19	101	1,001 143	1,286 221	2,708	6,573 1,015	1,057.8	1.0	-	32,338 5,189	25,692.0 3,983.4	1.3 1.3	-
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	-	5	2	6	2	2	27	8	52	65	87	1,545	589	546.8	1.1	-	2,641	2,115.8	1.2	173.7
Vaccine preventable diseases	Syphilis congenital Diphtheria	047 009	-	-	-	- 1	-	-	-	-	- 1	-	-	9	5	0.8	6.3 1.3	2.0	14 7	5.8 7.0	2.4 1.0	5.6
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	11	6	5.8	1.0	-	16	19.2	0.8	-
	Influenza (laboratory confirmed) Measles	062 021	1	15 -	-	19	- 4	-	30	6	75 -	98	28,781 10	21,488	683	45,954.8 16.2	0.0	-	136,784 166	151,287.0 114.0	0.9 1.5	-
	Mumps	043	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	10	117	17	149.6	0.1		193	615.8	0.3	-
	Pertussis	024	-	10	1	3	5	1	30	5	55	66	444	3,417	567	3,188.2	0.2	-	8,813	16,201.4	0.5	-
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive) Poliovirus infection	065 026	- 1	15 -	- 3	15 -	-	- 1	- 4	- 11	52 -	- 62	139	647	248	588.0	0.4	-	1,644	1,830.2	0.9	-
	Rotavirus	077	-	6	1	8	16	2	NN	9	45	55		1,334	292	948.0	0.3	-	5,685	4,132.2	1.4	-
	Rubella Rubella congenital	029 046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		1	4.6	0.2	-	- 3	16.4 0.2	0.2	-
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		1	0.8	1.3	-	2	4.0	0.5	-
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073 074	13	NN NN	1 14	-	14 104	4 17	17 56	24 79	62 283	40 334	209 638		421 3,156	803.8 2,479.6	0.5 1.3	-	3,597	3,309.4 9,525.4	1.1 1.6	-
	Varicella zoster (shingles) Varicella zoster (unspecified)	074	7	NN	3	401	68	19	178	109	785	808	411		3,714	3,665.2	1.0	-	15,697 12,636	14,358.0	0.9	-
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	-	14	-	16	-	1	-	2	33	36			276	103.0	2.7	92.0	591	415.6	1.4	-
	Chikungunya virus infection  Dengue virus infection	078 003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	5 76		7	16.4 376.0	0.1 0.0	-	80 701	93.8 1,491.6	0.9	-
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	16	8	7.2	1.1	-	20	32.2	0.6	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection  Malaria	059 020	-	- 1	-	- 1	- 1	-	-	-	- 3	- 2	2 24		- 18	0.6 76.6	- 0.2	-	2 291	1.4 329.6	1.4 0.9	-
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- 2	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	0.6	-	-
	Ross River virus infection	002	-	23	-	50	2	-	-	2	77	100	96		2,707	1,067.0	2.5	934.3	5,915	5,546.2	1.1	-
Zoonoses	West Nile/Kunjin virus infection Anthrax	060 058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	-	-	- 1	1.6	0.6	-
	Australian bat lyssavirus infection	063	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Brucellosis Leptospirosis	004 017	-	-	-	- 4	-		-	-	- 4	1 6	- 2	12 63	6 29	4.2 34.6	1.4 0.8	-	18 84	19.4 115.6	0.9	-
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	0.7	-
	Ornithosis	023	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	18	11	3.6	3.1	3.8	30	20.0	1.5	-
	Q fever Tularaemia	027 070	-	- 2	-	- 6	-	-	-	-	- 8	15 	15	301	128	123.6	1.0	1.0	538 2	537.4	1.0	2.0
Other bacterial infections	Legionellosis	015	-	2	-	-	1	-	3	4	10	7	8	310	117	96.2	1.2	5.9	517	397.8	1.3	60.1
	Leprosy Meningococcal disease (invasive)	016 022	-	-	-	2	-		- 2	-	1 4	- 4	- 16	57	20	2.6 59.4	0.8	-	6 152	11.6 259.2	0.5 0.6	-
	Tuberculosis	034	1	19	-	13	-	1	11	6	51	58	56	838	350	324.2	1.1	-	1,511	1,391.0	1.1	-
Footnotes:			110	2,041	120	2,154	638	156	5,279	1,072	11,573	11,269	39,443	174,428	60,581				404,997			

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 (03/08/2020). 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.