

National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report
Fortnight 13, 2020 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases
20 June to 3 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.

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 (05/04/2020 to 03/07/2020).*

²*The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 03/07/2020. The ratio is the notification activity in the past quarter (90 days) compared with the five year rolling mean for the same period.*

³*The past year (365 day) surveillance period includes the date range (04/07/2019 to 03/07/2020).*

⁴*The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 03/07/2020. 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 FN13/2020			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	Previous reporting period	Same reporting period last year	Current year YTD	Past Quarter	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Past Year	Yearly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by
			20/06/2020 03/07/2020	06/06/2020 19/06/2020	20/06/2019 03/07/2019	01/01/2020 03/07/2020	05/04/2020 03/07/2020	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	04/07/2019 03/07/2020	04/07/2014 03/07/2019	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by								
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	1	6	2	8	61	32	39.8	0.8	-	137	152.8	0.9	-
	Hepatitis B (unspecified)	052	3	78	-	38	1	1	44	35	200	206	232	2,590	1,166	1,524.0	0.8	-	5,312	6,095.0	0.9	-
	Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	040	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	2	12	35	29	346	167	166.2	1.0	-	814	696.4	1.2	-
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	4	125	6	75	3	4	37	33	287	280	357	3,796	1,718	2,443.4	0.7	-	7,809	9,952.2	0.8	-
	Hepatitis D	050	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	5	1	27	14	16.2	0.9	-	56	67.8	0.8	-
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism	045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	1	1.2	0.8	-
	Campylobacteriosis	005	12	250	5	232	120	45	64	93	821	943	1,146	15,071	5,330	6,120.8	0.9	-	33,740	27,079.2	1.2	-
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	-	8	1	5	1	-	-	5	21	38	72	1,904	382	1,066.0	0.4	-	2,946	3,939.8	0.7	-
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	055	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	2	3.4	0.6	-	13	15.8	0.8	-
	Hepatitis A	038	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	83	18	51.2	0.4	-	189	244.2	0.8	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	28	2	10.8	0.2	-	52	46.8	1.1	-
	Listeriosis	018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	16	2	15.4	0.1	-	39	72.8	0.5	-
	Paratyphoid	080	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	45	5	14.8	0.3	-	76	80.8	0.9	-
	STEC	054	-	2	1	-	4	-	-	6	2	15	16	23	90	93.6	1.0	-	649	380.4	1.7	-
	Salmonellosis	030	2	66	10	82	16	5	46	63	290	343	391	8,237	2,390	3,863.2	0.6	-	14,608	16,133.0	0.9	-
	Shigellosis	031	-	4	5	3	1	-	7	5	25	29	84	1,281	199	440.0	0.5	-	2,670	1,795.4	1.5	-
	Typhoid Fever	035	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	85	8	31.0	0.3	-	159	142.2	1.1	-
Quarantinable diseases	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	COVID-19	081	-	89	1	2	3	-	647	9	751	190	-	8,386	2,649	-	-	2,649.0	8,386	-	-	8,386.0
	Cholera	008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	-	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	45	960	34	803	214	62	-	441	2,559	2,461	4,362	38,339	15,596	24,538.4	0.6	-	85,650	97,155.6	0.9	-
	Donovanosis	010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Gonococcal infection	011	5	386	31	266	71	4	43	128	934	1,019	1,285	16,117	6,230	6,674.2	0.9	-	32,737	25,369.8	1.3	-
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	-	27	11	29	-	-	18	30	115	155	237	2,341	964	1,025.0	0.9	-	5,263	3,926.2	1.3	-
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	1	-	2	5	1	-	47	7	63	88	104	1,423	665	542.2	1.2	11.5	2,694	2,109.4	1.3	220.2
	Syphilis congenital	047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	9	5	1.4	3.6	1.3	14	5.8	2.4	5.2
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	0.8	1.3	-	8	6.8	1.2	-
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	8	3	5.0	0.6	-	17	19.0	0.9	-
	Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	062	1	22	-	24	6	1	48	12	114	86	32,308	21,305	848	28,825.4	0.0	-	199,249	139,982.8	1.4	-
	Measles	021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	-	21.0	-	-	183	117.2	1.6	-
	Mumps	043	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	3	2	112	22	153.0	0.1	-	195	616.0	0.3	-
	Pertussis	024	-	30	-	4	6	-	67	1	108	66	421	3,297	807	3,100.6	0.3	-	9,492	16,189.6	0.6	-
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	1	13	2	13	5	-	2	8	44	40	110	532	186	464.8	0.4	-	1,781	1,820.0	1.0	-
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Rotavirus	077	2	9	3	10	7	-	NN	4	35	29	164	1,201	218	802.6	0.3	-	5,907	4,089.6	1.4	-
	Rubella	029	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	4.8	0.2	-	3	16.4	0.2	-
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	0.8	1.3	-	3	3.8	0.8	-
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073	3	NN	1	-	14	1	6	23	48	56	191	1,219	341	721.2	0.5	-	3,766	3,255.0	1.2	-
Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	10	NN	18	-	89	10	43	74	244	328	594	6,903	2,563	2,442.4	1.0	-	15,220	9,358.6	1.6	-	
Varicella zoster (unspecified)	075	10	NN	3	402	48	17	-	85	565	410	475	6,000	2,920	3,522.8	0.8	-	11,752	14,350.4	0.8	-	
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	-	11	-	13	-	-	-	-	24	51	4	417	272	122.6	2.2	52.2	521	419.0	1.2	-
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	34	1	16.4	0.1	-	87	93.2	0.9	-
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	218	17	410.6	0.0	-	820	1,492.6	0.5	-
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	16	11	7.4	1.5	-	25	31.4	0.8	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection	059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	0.2	-	-	4	1.0	4.0	0.6
	Malaria	020	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	11	121	26	68.0	0.4	-	324	331.4	1.0	-
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	-	0.6	-	-
Ross River virus infection	002	-	55	1	110	1	1	1	10	179	320	128	4,811	4,059	1,510.2	2.7	1,549.2	5,841	5,548.8	1.1	-	
West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	060	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.8	-	-	2	1.4	1.4	-	
Zoonoses	Anthrax	058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Australian bat lyssavirus infection	063	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Brucellosis	004	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	10	4	3.8	1.1	-	17	20.0	0.9	-
	Leptospirosis	017	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	4	4	56	28	32.0	0.9	-	82	116.8	0.7	-
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Ornithosis	023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	14	3.4	4.1	7.3	28	20.2	1.4	-
	Q fever	027	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	6	22	19	268	126	126.6	1.0	-	533	537.2	1.0	-
Tularaemia	070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	2.0	2	-	-	2.0	
Other bacterial infections	Legionellosis	015	-	6	-	3	5	-	2	4	20	16	16	291	141	103.2	1.4	16.7	526	399.0	1.3	66.0
	Leprosy	016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2.4	0.4	-	7	11.6	0.6	-
	Meningococcal																					