National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report

Fortnight 20, 2020 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases

26 September to 09 October 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 (12/07/2020 to 09/10/2020).

[2]The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 09/10/2020. 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 (10/10/2019 to 09/10/2020).

[4]The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 09/10/2020. 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 FN20/2020

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 26/09/2020 09/10/2020	Previous reporting Period 12/09/2020 25/09/2020	Same reporting period last year 26/09/2019 09/10/2019	Current year YTD 01/01/2020 09/10/2020	Past Quarter 12/07/2020 09/10/2020	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Past Year 10/10/2019 09/10/2020	Yearly rolling 5 year mean 10/10/2014 09/10/2019	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	4	5	84	19	35.2	0.5	-	120	152.8	0.8	-
	Hepatitis B (unspecified)	052	-	53	4	21	4	2	31	21	136	166	204	3,893	1,181	1,505.2	0.8	-	5,077	6,040.6	0.8	-
	Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	040	1	-	-	12	-	-	1	-	14	23	42	514	143	174.0	0.8	-	760	705.6	1.1	-
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	5	81	5	67	-	7	45	36	246	282	265	5,662	1,781	2,312.6	0.8	-	7,433	9,893.2	0.8	-
	Hepatitis D	050	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	3	2	52	23	16.4	1.4	-	68	66.8	1.0	-
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism	045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	1.4	-	-
	Campylobacteriosis	005	32	331	9	241	91	42	297	102	1,145	1,168	1,347	22,863	7,074	6,660.2	1.1	-	32,308	27,939.4	1.2	-
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	1	8	-	10	6	3	21	4	53	39	54	2,171	253	489.8	0.5	-	2,792	3,936.4	0.7	-
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	055	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	13	6	3.6	1.7	-	17	16.2	1.0	-
	Hepatitis A	038	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	6	89	6	47.2	0.1	-	148	243.6	0.6	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	1	8.2	0.1	-	41	45.2	0.9	-
	Listeriosis	018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	30	11	13.6	0.8	-	38	72.2	0.5	-
	Paratyphoid	080	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	45	-	11.8	-	-	63	81.6	0.8	-
	STEC	054	-	2	-	-	13	1	2	2	20	12	19	441	93	86.0	1.1	-	634	400.0	1.6	-
	Salmonellosis	030	2	58	10	63	19	2	34	53	241	264	482	9,886	1,512	2,645.2	0.6	-	13,409	16,117.6	0.8	-
	Shigellosis	031	1	13	5	5	1	-	2	4	31	25	100	1,502	208	473.6	0.4	-	2,165	1,889.4	1.1	-
	Typhoid Fever	035	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	90	4	25.6	0.2	-	117	147.6	0.8	-
Quarantinable diseases	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	COVID-19	081	-	57	-	4	4	-	138	25	228	420	-	27,305	17,516	-		17,516.0	27,305	-		27,305.0
	Cholera	008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	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	45	835	20	834	184	38	88	315	2,359	2,729	3,257	57,958	17,458	23,509.8	0.7	-	77,465	98,323.6	0.8	-
	Donovanosis	010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Gonococcal infection	011	6	364	15	226	59	4	112	91	877	1,021	1,137	23,789	6,529	6,588.0	1.0	-	31,368	26,394.8	1.2	-
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	-	24	10	21	2	-	36	22	115	184	206	3,970	1,068	1,083.6	1.0	-	5,301	4,131.6	1.3	-
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	-	5	2	5	-	-	39	6	57	49	117	1,654	449	543.2	0.8	-	2,183	2,153.6	1.0	-
	Syphilis congenital	047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	12	3	2.8	1.1	-	15	5.8	2.6	5.4
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	2	1.6	1.3	-	8	7.0	1.1	-
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	16	8	5.4	1.5	-	18	19.2	0.9	-
	Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	062	-	2	1	12	1	1	5	-	22	38	7,347	21,749	372	103,752.6	0.0	-	35,104	161,911.2	0.2	-
	Measles	021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	32	-	30.0	-	-	108	119.6	0.9	-
	Mumps	043	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	6	137	13	144.0	0.1	-	180	614.0	0.3	-
	Pertussis	024	-	2	-	-	3	-	9	-	14	24	393	3,552	214	3,880.4	0.1	-	6,553	16,191.6	0.4	-
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	-	11	3	9	5	-	1	10	39	35	90	880	317	712.2	0.4	-	1,338	1,851.2	0.7	-
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rotavirus	077	-	10	1	5	14	2	NN	6	44	40	431	1,527	264	1,592.6	0.2	-	4,085	4,354.4	0.9	-
	Rubella	029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3.0	-	-	3	15.8	0.2	-
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	0.2	-	-
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	1.0	1.0	-	3	4.0	0.8	-
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073	5	NN	1	-	20	2	8	17	53	91	174	1,952	561	1,032.2	0.5	-	3,085	3,424.4	0.9	-
	Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	30	NN	14	-	68	11	60	67	250	323	660	11,448	2,891	2,566.4	1.1	-	15,391	9,962.2	1.5	-
	Varicella zoster (unspecified)	075	3	NN	4	364	58	11	177	102	719	885	389	10,481	4,375	3,591.2	1.2	-	13,120	14,336.2	0.9	-
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	-	6	-	12	-	-	-	-	18	17	11	612	155	68.2	2.3	52.6	655	411.4	1.6	-
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	37	2	20.6	0.1	-	64	93.6	0.7	-
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	225	3	273.8	0.0	-	482	1,497.2	0.3	-
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	17	2	7.8	0.3	-	19	32.6	0.6	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection	059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	0.4	-	-	2	1.2	1.7	-
	Malaria	020	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	5	15	135	14	92.6	0.2	-	223	334.0	0.7	-
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.6	-	-
	Ross River virus infection	002	-	16	1	24	1	-	2	12	56	62	67	5,518	426	541.6	0.8	-	5,913	5,488.4	1.1	-
	West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	060	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	1	1.4	0.7	-
Zoonoses	Anthrax	058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Australian bat lyssavirus infection	063	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Brucellosis	004	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	15	3	4.4	0.7	-	19	19.0	1.0	-
	Leptospirosis	017	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	1	1	71	16	23.8	0.7	-	85	114.2	0.7	-
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Ornithosis	023	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	26	8	4.2	1.9	1.2	35	19.6	1.8	4.0
	Q fever	027	-	6	-	5	1	-	-	1	13	15	29	377	93	125.2	0.7	-	511	541.4	0.9	-
	Tularaemia	070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-		-	2	-		2.0
Other bacterial infections	Legionellosis	015	-	6	-	2	2	1	9	5	25	14	14	390	93	84.2	1.1	-	507	400.8	1.3	29.0
	Leprosy	016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	3.0	0.7	-	6	11.8	0.5	-
	Meningococcal disease (invasive)	022	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	7	69	18	92.4	0.2	-	106	262.8	0.4	-
	Tuberculosis	034	1	20	-	14	-	3	15	6	59	61	48	1,165	402	350.6	1.1	-	1,544	1,396.8	1.1	-
			132	1,913	105	1,967	556	131	1,137	909	6,856	8,013	17,005	222,500	65,593				297,997			

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 **(13/10/2020)**. 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.