National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report

Fortnight 18, 2020 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases

29 August to 11 September 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 (14/06/2020 to 11/09/2020).

[2]The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 11/09/2020. 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 (12/09/2019 to 11/09/2020).

[4]The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 11/09/2020. 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 FN18/2020

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 29/08/2020 11/09/2020	Previous reporting Period 15/08/2020 28/08/2020	Same reporting period last year 29/08/2019 11/09/2019	Current year YTD 01/01/2020 11/09/2020	Past Quarter 14/06/2020 11/09/2020	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Past Year 12/09/2019 11/09/2020	Yearly rolling 5 year mean 12/09/2014 11/09/2019	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	5	78	22	38.8	0.6	-	125	153.6	0.8	-
	Hepatitis B (unspecified)	052	4	79	-	33	1	2	14	18	151	210	205	3,577	1,298	1,532.0	0.8	-	5,193	6,057.8	0.9	-
	Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	040	-	2	-	16	-	-	-	6	24	23	23	473	154	171.6	0.9	-	787	704.8	1.1	-
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	10	105	3	73	1	12	25	32	261	269	326	5,139	1,803	2,376.6	0.8	-	7,522	9,912.6	0.8	-
	Hepatitis D	050	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	4	1	46	22	17.4	1.3	-	65	68.6	0.9	-
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism	045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	1.4	-	-
	Campylobacteriosis	005	27	296	7	251	121	34	201	121	1,058	1,166	1,335	20,505	6,721	6,527.8	1.0	-	32,702	27,661.6	1.2	-
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	-	5	-	11	10	-	19	1	46	37	46	2,078	218	538.8	0.4	-	2,813	3,937.0	0.7	-
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	055	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	7	3.0	2.3	0.3	16	16.4	1.0	-
	Hepatitis A	038	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	5	86	3	48.2	0.1	-	156	245.8	0.6	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	29	-	10.2	-	-	43	44.8	1.0	-
	Listeriosis	018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	2	27	11	13.2	0.8	-	40	72.0	0.6	-
	Paratyphoid	080	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	-	12.0	-	-	67	80.6	0.8	-
	STEC	054	-	2	-	1	7	-	2	3	15	17	22	409	94	84.0	1.1	-	633	395.2	1.6	-
	Salmonellosis	030	4	62	8	67	19	2	41	44	247	218	381	9,379	1,590	2,734.2	0.6	-	13,800	16,091.6	0.9	-
	Shigellosis	031	-	15	2	4	3	-	-	2	26	27	107	1,447	200	485.4	0.4	-	2,294	1,864.4	1.2	-
	Typhoid Fever	035	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	10	89	4	23.0	0.2	-	130	145.4	0.9	-
Quarantinable diseases	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	COVID-19	081	-	126	-	30	3	1*	927	8	1,095	2,573	-	26,553	19,056	-		19,056.0	26,553	-		26,553.0
	Cholera	008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	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	37	950	29	915	195	27	53	408	2,614	2,794	4,144	52,736	17,769	24,087.6	0.7	-	79,540	98,071.6	0.8	-
	Donovanosis	010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Gonococcal infection	011	10	385	18	241	71	6	120	126	977	1,062	1,282	21,766	6,745	6,625.0	1.0	-	31,759	26,160.6	1.2	-
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	-	20	8	22	3	1	28	41	123	142	232	3,516	1,075	1,097.6	1.0	-	5,290	4,073.6	1.3	-
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	-	2	3	4	-	-	51	13	73	65	123	1,538	448	552.6	0.8	-	2,291	2,136.4	1.1	-
	Syphilis congenital	047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	11	2	2.2	0.9	-	15	6.0	2.5	5.8
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	1.4	0.7	-	7	7.0	1.0	-
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	13	7	5.6	1.3	-	16	19.2	0.8	-
	Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	062	-	10	1	21	2	-	2	1	37	57	23,703	21,667	521	96,099.8	0.0	-	57,483	160,496.2	0.4	-
	Measles	021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	32	-	20.2	-	-	146	111.8	1.3	-
	Mumps	043	-	2	1	2	2	-	-	-	7	-	10	129	15	160.8	0.1	-	184	613.8	0.3	-
	Pertussis	024	-	4	-	1	1	2	14	1	23	30	473	3,512	356	3,574.2	0.1	-	7,456	16,217.0	0.5	-
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	-	15	1	11	3	1	6	8	45	47	121	805	337	709.8	0.5	-	1,478	1,841.4	0.8	-
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rotavirus	077	-	5	-	12	8	-	NN	10	36	31	372	1,440	271	1,206.4	0.2	-	4,954	4,223.8	1.2	-
	Rubella	029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2.8	0.4	-	3	16.0	0.2	-
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.2	-	-
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	0.4	-	-	2	4.0	0.5	-
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073	9	NN	2	1	18	1	9	25	65	76	213	1,724	488	981.0	0.5	-	3,241	3,387.8	1.0	-
	Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	14	NN	11	-	83	8	59	77	252	329	630	10,267	2,959	2,519.2	1.2	-	15,505	9,788.6	1.6	-
	Varicella zoster (unspecified)	075	10	NN	2	428	70	24	254	107	895	787	513	9,468	4,206	3,628.8	1.2	-	12,954	14,352.2	0.9	-
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	-	8	-	11	-	-	-	-	19	23	8	577	184	75.4	2.4	56.8	635	414.2	1.5	-
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	2	19.0	0.1	-	69	94.4	0.7	-
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	223	2	312.6	0.0	-	551	1,494.2	0.4	-
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	2	6.4	0.3	-	19	32.4	0.6	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection	059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	0.4	-	-	2	1.4	1.4	-
	Malaria	020	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	11	128	10	88.2	0.1	-	244	332.4	0.7	-
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.6	-	-
	Ross River virus infection	002	-	16	3	36	1	-	-	5	61	61	96	5,311	698	622.0	1.1	-	5,841	5,514.0	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	14	5	5.0	1.0	-	18	18.8	1.0	-
	Leptospirosis	017	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	66	15	32.6	0.5	-	84	113.8	0.7	-
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Ornithosis	023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	22	6	3.4	1.8	0.3	32	19.6	1.6	1.3
	Q fever	027	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	1	11	8	16	342	82	122.8	0.7	-	522	537.0	1.0	-
	Tularaemia	070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-		-	2	-		2.0
Other bacterial infections	Legionellosis	015	-	3	-	2	1	2	-	1	9	14	19	347	87	81.4	1.1	-	512	398.6	1.3	49.8
	Leprosy	016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	3.2	0.6	-	6	11.8	0.5	-
	Meningococcal disease (invasive)	022	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	15	65	22	80.0	0.3	-	118	264.0	0.4	-
	Tuberculosis	034	1	27	-	7	-	2	16	10	63	64	59	1,033	383	342.8	1.1	-	1,529	1,392.8	1.1	-
			126	2,149	99	2,207	624	124	1,843	1,073	8,247	10,148	34,568	206,792	67,904				325,448			

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 **(14/09/2020)**. 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.

Tasmanian COVID notification is a probable case, not a confirmed COVID case as of **14/09/2020**