National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report

Fortnight 07, 2021 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases

29 March to 11 April 2021

<u>Infectious and congenital syphilis</u>

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 women (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) 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 and related national activities, refer to the <u>Department's website</u>.

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 women (Indigenous and non-Indigenous)

Since 2016, increases in notifications of infectious syphilis have been reported in women (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) 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.

Syphilis response

On 23 March 2021, the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) endorsed the *National strategic approach for responding to rising rates of syphilis in Australia 2021* (Strategic Approach) prepared through the Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) and BBV STI Standing Committee (BBVSS). The Strategic Approach builds on and intersects with existing national activities related to syphilis and provides specific focus for efforts towards rising rates of syphilis and adverse outcomes in Australia.

The CDNA and BBVSS are, in collaboration, developing priority public health actions, including those related to workforce and community engagement, to ensure progress is made towards reducing the incidence of syphilis and elimination of congenital syphilis in Australia. These actions will be provided to AHPPC for endorsement in the coming months.

For further information on national activities related to STIs, including syphilis, refer to the Department's website.

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.

¹The past quarter (90 day) surveillance period includes the date range (12/01/2021 to 11/04/2021).

²The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 11/04/2021. The ratio is the notification activity in the past quarter (90 days) compared with the five year rolling mean for the same period.

³The past year (365 day) surveillance period includes the date range (12/04/2020 to 11/04/2021).

⁴The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 11/04/2021. 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.

ΔΓ	OT FN07/2021										Notification received date											
	71-11NO//2021		State or Territory							Totals for Australia				Historical 90 Day Period				Historical Yearly Period				
Disease group	Disease name	de	ACT		TN						This reporting	Previous	Same reporting	Current year		Quarterly		Exceeds		Yearly rolling		Exceeds
		Disease co		NSN		Old	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	period	reporting Period	period last	YTD	Past Quarter	rolling	Ratio past quarter/5	quarterly rolling	Past Year	5 year	Ratio past year/5 year	yearly rolling
											20/02/2021		year	01/01/2021	12/01/2021	5 year mean	year mean*	mean +2 SD	12/04/2020	mean	mean*	mean +2 SE
											29/03/2021 11/04/2021	15/03/2021 28/03/2021	29/03/2020 11/04/2020	01/01/2021 11/04/2021	12/01/2021 11/04/2021			by	12/04/2020 11/04/2021	12/04/2015 11/04/2020		by
	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	18	14	37.6	0.4	-	102	151.6	0.7	-
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (unspecified) Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	052 040	- 6	48	-	17 18	-	- 3	47	13	134 18	161 24	144 23	1,265 189	1,175 173	1,499.6 174.0	0.8 1.0	-	4,799 666	5,952.2 718.0	0.8	-
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	3	93	3	43	4	4	36	31	217	266	216	1,986	1,830	2,461.0	0.7	-	7,217	9,733.2	0.7	-
	Hepatitis D Botulism	050 045	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	22	20	14.6 0.8	1.4	-	79 2	66.6 1.2	1.2 1.7	-
	Campylobacteriosis	005	25	434	11	368	93	26	5	96	1,058	1,254	662	10,540	9,328	7,639.6	1.2	-	32,079	29,575.6	1.1	-
	Cryptosporidiosis Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	061 055	-	7	- 11	9	- 1	-	- 11	2	41	56 -	109	555	492	1,671.0 4.8	0.3	-	1,444 13	3,980.8 16.0	0.4	-
Gastrointestinal diseases	Hepatitis A	038	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	4	3	83.6	0.0	-	25	240.6	0.8	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	18.0	-	-	3	49.6	0.1	-
	Listeriosis Paratyphoid	018	-	-	-	-	-	-	- 1	-	1	- 3	2		11 -	22.6 38.0	0.5	-	44	69.2 86.6	0.6	-
	STEC	054	-	6	-	1	5	-	6	3	21	25	16	198	184	149.8	1.2	-	516	480.0	1.1	-
	Salmonellosis Shigellosis	030	- 2	111	22 7	211	33	10	55 1	57 2	501 17	612 26	361 48	4,476 153	3,837 135	5,587.4 636.8	0.7	-	10,471 714	15,920.4 2,119.6	0.7	-
	Typhoid Fever	031	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	4	4	66.0	0.2	-	22	154.4	0.1	-
	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	- 67	- 3	- 16	- 12	-	- Д	- 22	- 155	- 165	2 206	1 002	- 071	1 271 6	0.7	-	- 22.264	1 200 /	10.1	16 212 7
	COVID-19 Cholera	081	-	67 -	-	46 -	- 13	-	- 4	- 22	155 -	165 -	2,306 -	1,082 -	871 -	1,271.6 0.4	0.7	-	23,264	1,288.4 1.4	18.1 -	16,213.7 -
Quarantinable diseases	MERS-CoV	079	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Plague Rabies	025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)	071	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Smallpox Viral haemorrhagic fever (NEC)	069 036	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Yellow fever	030	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Chlamydial infection	007	52	901	45	730	173	41	25	390	2,357	2,943	2,655	21,822	20,007	27,409.4	0.7	-	83,531	100,206.8	0.8	-
Sexually transmissible infections	Donovanosis Gonococcal infection	010 011	10	316	- 41	172	57	7	- 64	99	766	981	1,087	7,379	6,693	7,945.0	0.8	-	26,930	28,247.4	1.0	-
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	1	38	9	18	6	-	54	34	160	198	153	1,390	1,264	1,193.0	1.1	-	5,111	4,484.4	1.1	-
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration Syphilis congenital	067 047	-	- 4	-	- 4	-	-	30	6 1	44	57 1	76 -	432	395 6	562.2 1.2	0.7 5.0	2.2	1,795 19	2,194.4 7.0	0.8 2.7	- 7.1
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2.4	0.4	-	7	8.0	0.9	-
	Haemophilus influenzae type b Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	012 062	-	1 2	-	- 17	- 3	- 1	- 5	- 1	1 29	3 25	298	7 214	6 190	4.0 14,339.0	1.5 0.0	-	22 1,552	19.0 166,279.6	1.2 0.0	-
	Measles	021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46.6	-	-	-	127.8	-	
	Mumps	043 024	-	- 2	-	1	-	-	- 7	-	1	20	4 171	10	8	173.0	0.0	-	60	623.4 15,596.4	0.1	-
	Pertussis Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	1	14	3	8	4	-	13	2	12 45	47	41	154 276	138 240	3,390.0 259.4	0.0	-	1,252 1,046	1,901.0	0.1	-
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rotavirus Rubella	077	- 1	13	-	- 14	10	- 1	NN -	- 5	48	50	30	307 1	258 1	690.2 5.2	0.4	-	1,085	4,746.6 14.0	0.2	-
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.2	-	-
	Tetanus Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	033	- 12	- NN	- 3	- 1	- 8	1	1 15	- 22	1 62	- 65	72	3 419	3 369	1.6 754.4	1.9 0.5	-	2,254	3.8 3,611.4	2.1 0.6	1.6
	Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	12	NN	13	4	63	8	40	98	238	312	507	2,316	2,066	3,031.6	0.7	-	12,671	11,076.6	1.1	-
	Varicella zoster (unspecified) Barmah Forest virus infection	075 048	4	NN 5	- 2	338 13	53	31	- 4	85	517 18	542 25	373 30	4,870 136	4,308 128	3,465.4 116.2	1.2	-	15,439 717	14,215.2 377.0	1.1 1.9	- 172.8
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		- 18	-	2		2	116.2	0.1	-	4	87.2	0.0	- 1/2.8
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18		1	410.4	0.0	-	15	1,396.6	0.0	-
	Flandidan infantian /	004				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		2	0.2	0.2	-	12	33.0	0.4	-
Vectorborne diseases	Flavivirus infection (unspecified) Japanese encephalitis virus infection	001 059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	0.2	-	-	-	1.2	- 1	
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria	059 020	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	3	1	7	12	12	99.0	0.1	-	62	347.4	0.2	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	059 020 049		-	-	- 1			-					12	12	99.0			62		0.2	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection Ross River virus infection West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	059 020 049 002 060	-	- - - 43	- - - 4	1 - 29	1 - 1	-	-	- 1	3 - 119 -	1 - 157 -	7 - 429 -	12 - 1,599 -	12 - 1,415 -	99.0 - 1,632.0 -	0.1	- - - -	62 - 6,772 -	347.4 0.4 4,316.6 1.6	0.2	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection Ross River virus infection West Nile/Kunjin virus infection Anthrax	059 020 049 002 060 058	-	- - 43 -	- - - 4	29 -	1 - 1 -	- - 1	- - 28 -	1 - 13 -	3 - 119 - -	1 - 157 -	7 - 429 -	12 - 1,599 - -	12 - 1,415 - -	99.0 - 1,632.0 - -	0.1	- - - -	62 - 6,772 - -	347.4 0.4 4,316.6 1.6	0.2 - 1.6	- - -
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection Ross River virus infection West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	059 020 049 002 060	-	- - - 43	- - - 4	1 - 29	1 - 1	- - 1	- - 28	1 - 13	3 - 119 -	1 - 157 -	7 - 429 -	12 - 1,599 - - -	12 - 1,415 -	99.0 - 1,632.0 -	0.1	- - - -	62 - 6,772 -	347.4 0.4 4,316.6 1.6	0.2 - 1.6	- - -
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection Ross River virus infection West Nile/Kunjin virus infection Anthrax Australian bat lyssavirus infection Brucellosis Leptospirosis	059 020 049 002 060 058 063 004	-	- - - 43 - - - - 1	- - 4 - - -	1 - 29 - - - 7	1 - 1 - -	- - 1 - -	- 28 - - -	1 13 - - - -	3 - 119 - - - - 8	1 - 157 - - - 1 15	7 - 429 - - - - 1 2	12 - 1,599 - - - - 3 81	12 - 1,415 - - - - 3 77	99.0 - 1,632.0 - - - 5.2 38.4	0.1	- - - - - - - 16.6	62 - 6,772 - - - - 15 147	347.4 0.4 4,316.6 1.6 - - 19.6 115.4	0.2 - 1.6 -	- - - - - -
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection Ross River virus infection West Nile/Kunjin virus infection Anthrax Australian bat lyssavirus infection Brucellosis	059 020 049 002 060 058 063 004	-	- - 43 - -	- - 4 - -	1 - 29 - - -	1 - 1 - -	1 -	- 28 - - -	1 - 13 - - -	3 - 119 - - -	1 - 157 - - - 1	7 - 429 - - - - 1	12 - 1,599 - - - - 3 81	12 - 1,415 - - - 3	99.0 - 1,632.0 - - - - 5.2	0.1	- - - - -	62 - 6,772 - - - - 15	347.4 0.4 4,316.6 1.6 - - 19.6	0.2 - 1.6 -	- - - -
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection Ross River virus infection West Nile/Kunjin virus infection Anthrax Australian bat lyssavirus infection Brucellosis Leptospirosis Lyssavirus infection (NEC) Ornithosis Q fever	059 020 049 002 060 058 063 004 017 064 023		- - - - - - - - 1	- - - - - - - -	1 -29 - - - - 7 - - 9	1 - 1 2	- 1	- - 28 - - - - - - -	1 13 - - - -	3 - 119 - - - - - 8 - - - - 13	1 - 157 - - - 1 155 - - 22	7 - 429 - - - 1 2 - 2 8	12 - 1,599 - - - - 3 81 - 6	12 - 1,415 - - - 3 77 - 4 138	99.0 - 1,632.0 - - - - 5.2 38.4	0.1 0.9 0.6 2.0	- - - - - 16.6	62 - 6,772 - - - 15 147 - 63 470	347.4 0.4 4,316.6 1.6 - 19.6 115.4	0.2 - 1.6 - 0.8 1.3	- - - - - - - - 30.2
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection Ross River virus infection West Nile/Kunjin virus infection Anthrax Australian bat lyssavirus infection Brucellosis Leptospirosis Lyssavirus infection (NEC) Ornithosis Q fever Tularaemia	059 020 049 002 060 058 063 004 017 064 023 027		- - - 43 - - - - 1 - - 2	- - - - - - - - -	1 29 7 - 9	1 2	- - - - - - - - -	- 28 - - - - - - -	13	3 - 119 - - - - - 8 - - - 13	1	7 	12 - 1,599 - - - 3 3 81 - 6 144	12 - 1,415 - - - 3 77 - 4 138	99.0 - 1,632.0 - - - 5.2 38.4 - 4.0 143.8	0.1 0.9 0.6 2.0 1.0	- - - - - 16.6	62 - 6,772 - - - 15 147 - 63 470	347.4 0.4 4,316.6 1.6 - 19.6 115.4 - 18.8 542.4	0.2 - 1.6 - 0.8 1.3 3.4 0.9	- - - - - - - - 30.2
Zoonoses	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection Ross River virus infection West Nile/Kunjin virus infection Anthrax Australian bat lyssavirus infection Brucellosis Leptospirosis Lyssavirus infection (NEC) Ornithosis Q fever Tularaemia Legionellosis	059 020 049 002 060 058 063 004 017 064 023		- - - - - - - - 1	- - - - - - - -	1 -29 - - - - 7 - - 9	1 - 1 2	- 1	- - 28 - - - - - - -	1 - 13 - - - - - -	3 - 119 - - - - - 8 - - - - 13	1 - 157 - - - 1 155 - - 22	7 - 429 - - - 1 2 - 2 8	12 - 1,599 - - - 3 3 81 - 6 144	12 - 1,415 - - - 3 77 - 4 138	99.0 - 1,632.0 - - - 5.2 38.4 - 4.0 143.8	0.1 0.9 0.6 2.0	- - - - - 16.6	62 - 6,772 - - - 15 147 - 63 470	347.4 0.4 4,316.6 1.6 - 19.6 115.4 - 18.8 542.4	0.2 - 1.6 - - 0.8 1.3	- - - - - - - - 30.2
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection Malaria Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection Ross River virus infection West Nile/Kunjin virus infection Anthrax Australian bat lyssavirus infection Brucellosis Leptospirosis Lyssavirus infection (NEC) Ornithosis Q fever Tularaemia Legionellosis	059 020 049 002 060 058 063 004 017 064 023 027 070		- - - - - - - - 1 - - - - - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - - -	1 	1 2 - 2	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	- -28 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1 13 	3 - 119 - - - - 8 8 - - 13 - 22 -	1 - 157 1 15 22 - 26	7 	12 - 1,599 - - - 3 81 - 6 144 - 177	12 - 1,415 - - - 3 77 - - 4 138 - 163	99.0 - 1,632.0 - - - 5.2 38.4 - 4.0 143.8 - 110.0	0.1 0.9 0.6 2.0 1.0 1.5	- - - - - 16.6 - - - - 3.3	62 - 6,772 - - - 15 147 - 63 470 2	347.4 0.4 4,316.6 1.6 - 19.6 115.4 - 18.8 542.4 -	0.2 - 1.6 - 0.8 1.3 3.4 0.9	- - - - - - - - 30.2 - 2.0 37.0

^{*}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 (14/04/2021). 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.