National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report

Fortnight 14, 2020 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases

4 July to 17 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 (19/04/2020 to 17/07/2020).

[2]The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 17/07/2020. 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 (18/07/2019 to 17/07/2020).

[4]The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 17/07/2020. 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 FN14/2020

Disease group	Disease name	Disease code	Notification received date: State or Territory: ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Totals for Australia: This reporting period 04/07/2020 17/07/2020	Previous reporting Period 20/06/2020 03/07/2020	Same reporting period last year 04/07/2019 17/07/2019	Current year YTD 01/01/2020 17/07/2020	Historical 90 Day Period: Past Quarter 19/04/2020 17/07/2020	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Historical Yearly Period: Past Year 18/07/2019 17/07/2020	Yearly rolling 5 year mean 18/07/2014 17/07/2019	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	7	3	66	31	39.2	0.8	-	137	153.4	0.9	-
	Hepatitis B (unspecified)	052	3	94	-	25	2	3	45	22	194	221	236	2,807	1,270	1,521.8	0.8	-	5,293	6,089.6	0.9	-
	Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	040	-	-	-	10	1	-	-	2	13	27	32	370	169	166.0	1.0	-	806	697.4	1.2	-
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	7	112	3	64	2	8	47	29	272	283	304	4,066	1,804	2,427.8	0.7	-	7,774	9,936.6	0.8	-
	Hepatitis D	050	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	29	14	15.8	0.9	-	55	67.4	0.8	-
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism	045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	1	1.4	0.7	-
	Campylobacteriosis	005	26	302	12	214	101	27	214	78	974	961	1,170	16,191	5,861	6,148.2	1.0	-	33,690	27,169.0	1.2	-
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	1	10	-	11	4	1	5	3	35	22	54	1,939	337	904.6	0.4	-	2,927	3,938.8	0.7	-
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	055	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	2	3.0	0.7	-	14	16.2	0.9	-
	Hepatitis A	038	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	7	85	12	47.4	0.3	-	184	244.8	0.8	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	29	1	10.2	0.1	-	51	46.2	1.1	-
	Listeriosis	018	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	18	4	13.8	0.3	-	41	72.0	0.6	-
	Paratyphoid	080	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	45	2	14.4	0.1	-	73	80.6	0.9	-
	STEC	054	-	1	-	1	2	-	3	5	12	16	14	349	91	88.8	1.0	-	648	382.0	1.7	-
	Salmonellosis	030	1	49	11	76	19	2	28	58	244	295	367	8,485	2,314	3,512.0	0.7	-	14,489	16,118.2	0.9	-
	Shigellosis	031	-	9	6	7	1	-	3	5	31	28	85	1,315	198	449.6	0.4	-	2,619	1,803.6	1.5	-
	Typhoid Fever	035	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	1	88	7	26.8	0.3	-	161	141.8	1.1	-
Quarantinable diseases	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	COVID-19	081	5	140	1	3	1	-	2,905	32	3,087	767	-	11,493	4,681	-		4,681.0	11,493	-		11,493.0
	Cholera	008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	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	61	854	36	834	220	47	-	397	2,449	2,666	3,896	40,919	16,277	24,258.8	0.7	-	84,334	97,261.4	0.9	-
	Donovanosis	010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Gonococcal infection	011	18	346	32	256	46	4	36	122	860	1,019	1,356	17,300	6,505	6,645.8	1.0	-	32,564	25,514.4	1.3	-
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	-	20	3	21	3	-	9	26	82	158	220	2,494	982	1,032.8	1.0	-	5,197	3,954.2	1.3	-
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	-	1	1	3	2	-	54	9	70	80	86	1,514	655	538.8	1.2	26.2	2,699	2,114.0	1.3	240.2
	Syphilis congenital	047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	5	0.8	6.3	2.5	14	5.8	2.4	5.2
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	0.8	-	-	6	7.2	0.8	-
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	11	6	5.0	1.2	-	19	19.0	1.0	-
	Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	062	-	16	-	26	16	2	30	2	92	123	33,866	21,407	792	36,363.8	0.0	-	165,484	146,259.8	1.1	-
	Measles	021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	32	-	16.6	-	-	176	114.4	1.5	-
	Mumps	043	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	6	115	19	147.6	0.1	-	192	615.2	0.3	-
	Pertussis	024	-	14	-	5	14	-	27	2	62	110	354	3,358	723	3,087.6	0.2	-	9,198	16,194.2	0.6	-
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	-	22	2	7	8	1	7	13	60	44	113	592	214	523.8	0.4	-	1,728	1,824.2	0.9	-
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rotavirus	077	5	7	3	9	8	2	NN	10	47	47	186	1,281	271	875.2	0.3	-	5,800	4,109.2	1.4	-
	Rubella	029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	4.4	0.2	-	3	16.4	0.2	-
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.2	-	-
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	2	0.8	2.5	-	4	3.8	1.1	-
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073	3	NN	-	1	5	1	14	10	34	51	174	1,291	337	752.4	0.4	-	3,664	3,274.6	1.1	-
	Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	10	NN	17	1	116	11	50	54	259	317	606	7,590	2,740	2,440.8	1.1	-	15,307	9,432.8	1.6	-
	Varicella zoster (unspecified)	075	4	NN	5	376	43	7	1	86	522	515	431	6,969	3,404	3,474.8	1.0	-	12,285	14,353.4	0.9	-
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	-	19	-	16	1	-	-	-	36	26	8	473	298	112.2	2.7	95.6	569	417.0	1.4	-
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	34	-	16.4	-	-	83	92.8	0.9	-
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48	220	8	388.2	0.0	-	774	1,487.8	0.5	-
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	16	10	6.4	1.6	-	25	31.2	0.8	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection	059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	0.2	-	-	4	1.0	4.0	0.6
	Malaria	020	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	1	14	124	23	70.2	0.3	-	313	329.0	1.0	-
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	0.6	-	-
	Ross River virus infection	002	-	34	1	55	2	-	-	5	97	188	120	5,041	3,688	1,288.8	2.9	1,534.0	5,951	5,544.8	1.1	-
	West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	060	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1.0	-	-	1	1.6	0.6	-
Zoonoses	Anthrax	058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Australian bat lyssavirus infection	063	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Brucellosis	004	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	11	5	4.6	1.1	-	17	19.4	0.9	-
	Leptospirosis	017	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	1	7	1	3	61	29	33.6	0.9	-	84	116.2	0.7	-
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Ornithosis	023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	17	15	3.2	4.7	8.2	30	20.2	1.5	-
	Q fever	027	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	13	9	13	290	136	124.6	1.1	-	542	537.2	1.0	-
	Tularaemia	070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-		2.0	2	-		2.0
Other bacterial infections	Legionellosis	015	-	2	-	1	-	-	2	1	6	21	20	298	130	100.8	1.3	14.9	513	400.6	1.3	51.6
	Leprosy	016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	3.0	0.3	-	5	11.6	0.4	-
	Meningococcal disease (invasive)	022	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	4	8	52	17	54.8	0.3	-	163	257.0	0.6	-
	Tuberculosis	034	1	21	-	11	-	-	18	6	57	44	56	782	353	323.6	1.1	-	1,511	1,389.0	1.1	-
			145	2,086	133	2,051	618	116	3,501	984	9,637	8,063	43,883	159,694	54,446				429,717			

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 **(20/07/2020)**. 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.