National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report

Fortnight 01, 2022 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases

17 January 2022 to 30 January 2022

Infectious and congenital syphilis

Increases in infectious syphilis notifications are attributed to an on-going outbreak occurring in 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, and increases in women (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous) predominately residing in urban areas of Australia.

Outbreak in northern and central Australia

In January 2011, an increase of infectious syphilis notifications among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people was identified in the North West region of Queensland, following a steady decline at a national level in remote communities. Subsequent increases in infectious syphilis notifications were reported in the Northern Territory in 2013, Western Australia in 2014 and South Australia 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 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 Australia.

Increases among women (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous)

Since 2016, increases in notifications of infectious syphilis have been reported in women (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous) aged predominately 20-39 years of age residing largely in urban areas in Australia. As noted in the outbreak in northern and central Australia, increases in women of childbearing 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.

For further information on national activities related to 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.

[1]The past quarter (90 day) surveillance period includes the date range (02/11/2021 to 30/01/2022).

[2]The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 30/01/2022. 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 (31/01/2021 to 30/01/2022).

[4]The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 30/01/2022. 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 FN02/2022

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 17/01/2022 30/01/2022	Previous reporting Period 03/01/2022 16/01/2022	Same reporting period last year 17/01/2021 30/01/2021	Current year YTD 01/01/2022 30/01/2022	Past Quarter 02/11/2021 30/01/2022	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Past Year 31/01/2021 30/01/2022	Yearly rolling 5 year mean 31/01/2016 30/01/2021	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	2	10	35.4	0.3	-	75	149.8	0.5	-
	Hepatitis B (unspecified)	052	3	52	-	31	-	-	23	22	131	138	158	273	1,181	1,219.0	1.0	-	4,868	5,685.8	0.9	-
	Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	040	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	2	10	17	33	27	138	173.8	0.8	-	714	692.2	1.0	-
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	1	58	-	53	1	3	48	31	195	150	291	348	1,431	2,097.0	0.7	-	6,705	9,337.4	0.7	-
	Hepatitis D	050	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	18	17.4	1.0	-	86	70.8	1.2	3.2
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism	045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	0.8	3.8	0.5	5	1.0	5.0	2.6
	Campylobacteriosis	005	25	356	17	376	105	48	188	157	1,272	1,280	1,545	2,649	10,266	9,435.4	1.1	-	36,941	31,207.6	1.2	-
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	-	15	3	27	2	1	7	5	60	79	82	143	468	744.0	0.6	-	1,826	3,618.6	0.5	-
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	055	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	4.0	0.3	-	7	14.8	0.5	-
	Hepatitis A	038	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	4	53.8	0.1	-	21	223.4	0.1	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	3	8.0	0.4	-	12	43.8	0.3	-
	Listeriosis	018	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	4	1	2	6	12	17.8	0.7	-	46	64.6	0.7	-
	Paratyphoid	080	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	21.0	0.1	-	5	75.8	0.1	-
	Salmonellosis	030	2	141	14	168	27	7	47	57	463	396	625	886	2,883	3,948.4	0.7	-	10,206	15,088.4	0.7	-
	Shigellosis	031	-	9	2	6	1	-	3	3	24	27	19	53	135	545.6	0.2	-	474	2,082.0	0.2	-
	STEC	054	-	4	-	1	7	-	4	4	20	24	33	45	187	167.4	1.1	-	613	533.0	1.2	-
	Typhoid Fever	035	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	4	6	31.2	0.2	-	18	141.8	0.1	-
Quarantinable diseases	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Cholera	008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.2	5.0	-	1	1.0	1.0	-
	COVID-19	081	6,397	233,401	2**	113,848	25,033	3,595	103,112	16**	485,404	821,568	113	1,366,009	1,588,664	258.6	6,143.3	1,587,264.5	1,732,888	5,795.4	299.0	1,701,191.6
	Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (M	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	59	788	4	702	177	50	469	407	2,656	2,043	3,615	4,762	17,808	23,536.0	0.8	-	83,900	100,467.4	0.8	-
	Donovanosis	010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Gonococcal infection	011	10	343	6	236	60	9	167	129	960	730	1,136	1,717	5,737	7,223.8	0.8	-	26,257	29,803.2	0.9	-
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	-	34	8	37	9	-	41	27	156	126	203	286	1,109	1,191.0	0.9	-	5,479	4,895.0	1.1	-
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	-	2	-	-	3	-	27	1	33	40	75	73	327	503.2	0.6	-	1,790	2,154.2	0.8	-
	Syphilis congenital	047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2.8	0.7	-	15	8.0	1.9	-
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.8	-	-	6	8.6	0.7	-
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5.4	0.4	-	17	19.4	0.9	-
	Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	062	-	1	-	1	-	-	6	2	10	29	28	39	188	10,154.8	0.0	-	736	147,192.4	0.0	-
	Measles	021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27.0	-	-	-	118.8	-	-
	Mumps	043	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	87.0	0.0	-	19	506.2	0.0	-
	Pertussis	024	-	1	1	4	-	-	10	1	17	17	13	36	117	3,106.6	0.0	-	567	11,781.8	0.0	-
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	-	6	1	2	3	-	9	4	25	45	26	74	252	355.0	0.7	-	1,368	1,803.6	0.8	-
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Rotavirus	077	-	5	-	25	26	3	7	18	84	163	34	255	1,234	1,089.4	1.1	-	2,660	4,176.6	0.6	-
	Rubella	029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	3	11.6	0.3	-
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2	-	-	4	4.6	0.9	-
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073	2	NN	-	-	2	-	16	6	26	50	68	78	380	973.6	0.4	-	1,892	3,636.8	0.5	-
	Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	23	NN	13	9	76	9	41	52	223	261	563	495	2,018	3,300.6	0.6	-	9,933	12,600.0	0.8	-
	Varicella zoster (unspecified)	075	7	NN	8	309	37	21	176	162	720	728	567	1,485	5,463	3,372.4	1.6	1,017.9	20,777	14,107.2	1.5	3,191.0
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	-	2	-	13	-	-	-	1	16	7	13	24	91	80.8	1.1	-	382	416.4	0.9	-
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	2	3	22.8	0.1	-	4	74.4	0.1	-
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	7	252.4	0.0	-	11	1,176.0	0.0	-
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.8	-	-	2	33.0	0.1	-
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection	059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	1	1.0	1.0	-
	Malaria	020	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	1	1	4	20	75.2	0.3	-	58	321.6	0.2	-
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	1	0.2	5.0	-
	Ross River virus infection	002	-	60	-	54	7	-	44	42	207	124	254	331	560	866.2	0.6	-	3,029	4,664.2	0.6	-
	West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	060	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	1.2	-	-
Zoonoses	Anthrax	058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Australian bat lyssavirus infection	063	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Brucellosis	004	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	4.6	0.2	-	17	18.8	0.9	-
	Leptospirosis	017	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	13	3	12	24.2	0.5	-	234	121.8	1.9	62.0
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Ornithosis	023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	9	9.4	1.0	-	32	28.6	1.1	-
	Q fever	027	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	5	12	17	17	86	127.0	0.7	-	474	520.8	0.9	-
	Tularaemia	070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	0.4	-	-
Other notifiable diseases	iGAS^	082	NN	NN	-	5	6	NN	NN	3	14	25	1	41	135	0.4	337.5	-	282	-	-	-
	Legionellosis	015	-	7	-	2	2	1	4	2	18	26	19	45	173	125.6	1.4	6.0	560	438.6	1.3	-
	Leprosy	016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	2.6	1.2	-	14	10.4	1.3	-
	Meningococcal disease (invasive)	022	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	2	2	5	19	54.4	0.3	-	77	240.0	0.3	-
	RSV^	083	NN	NN	-	38	2	NN	NN	151	191	302	-	541	1,373	-	-	-	2,019	-	-	-
	Tuberculosis	034	-	8	1	1	-	-	12	3	25	28	54	53	295	375.4	0.8	-	1,380	1,483.8	0.9	-
			6,529	235,289	77	115,927	25,585	3,747	104,453	1,140	492,765	828,125	9,565	1,380,229	1,641,171				1,956,112			

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

^ RSV and iGAS were listed as nationally notifiable diseases as of 1 July 2021. However, notification numbers presented here do not represent a national picture, as these conditions are not yet notifiable in all states and territories.

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 **(01/02/2022)**. 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.

** Due to data transmission delays, this number is not indicative of all notifications for this time period.