

National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report
Fortnight 06, 2022 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases
14 March 2022 to 27 March 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 (28/12/2021 to 27/03/2022).*

²*The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 27/03/2022. 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 (28/03/2021 to 27/03/2022).*

⁴*The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 27/03/2022. 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 FN06/2022			Notification received date																				
			State or Territory									Totals for Australia				Historical 90 Day Period				Historical Yearly Period			
			Disease group	Disease name	Disease code	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	This reporting period	Previous reporting Period	Same reporting period last year	Current year YTD	Past Quarter	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Past Year	Yearly rolling 5 year mean
											14/03/2022	28/02/2022	14/03/2021	01/01/2022	28/12/2021				28/03/2021	28/03/2016			
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	10	10	33.8	0.3	-	75	145.2	0.5	-
	Hepatitis B (unspecified)	052	5	69	-	50	1	5	29	21	180	217	164	1,109	1,144	1,366.2	0.8	-	4,877	5,648.0	0.9	-	
	Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	040	-	1	-	11	1	-	-	-	13	14	29	98	101	167.8	0.6	-	662	690.8	1.0	-	
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	4	111	2	62	-	10	32	31	252	265	260	1,325	1,364	2,174.8	0.6	-	6,486	9,183.0	0.7	-	
	Hepatitis D	050	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	15	15	16.4	0.9	-	80	71.6	1.1	-
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism	045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	0.8	2.5	-	5	1.2	4.2	2.1
	Campylobacteriosis	005	20	377	14	332	97	37	313	129	1,319	1,366	1,322	8,465	8,858	9,142.0	1.0	-	36,673	31,640.6	1.2	-	
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	1	18	1	16	3	1	10	24	74	58	59	421	436	1,237.6	0.4	-	1,768	3,353.2	0.5	-	
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	055	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.8	-	-	5	15.0	0.3	-	
	Hepatitis A	038	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	1	7	3	1	17	17	72.0	0.2	-	37	217.8	0.2	-
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	5	13.6	0.4	-	14	41.2	0.3	-
	Listeriosis	018	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	3	3	19	19	21.4	0.9	-	51	63.0	0.8	-
	Paratyphoid	080	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	-	8	8	31.0	0.3	-	12	70.8	0.2	-
	Salmonellosis	030	9	161	13	223	17	13	105	40	581	638	601	3,163	3,274	5,123.4	0.6	-	10,118	14,675.6	0.7	-	
	Shigellosis	031	-	11	8	6	7	-	6	4	42	31	24	178	185	610.8	0.3	-	515	2,051.6	0.3	-	
	STEC	054	-	10	-	1	10	-	7	16	44	34	28	188	201	183.0	1.1	-	638	550.6	1.2	-	
	Typhoid Fever	035	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	5	7	1	29	29	57.8	0.5	-	39	137.6	0.3	-
Quarantinable diseases	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Cholera	008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1.0	1.0	-
	COVID-19	081	7,608	282,873	408	36,097	61,105	4,419	40,423	14,207	447,141	250,784	164	2,534,944	2,623,348	956.6	2,742.4	2,619,135.1	2,901,599	5,950.6	487.6	2,873,269.3	
	Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (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	60	1,000	74	979	185	72	725	435	3,530	3,668	3,562	19,384	19,919	26,163.0	0.8	-	84,571	100,312.4	0.8	-	
	Donovanosis	010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Gonococcal infection	011	19	418	55	244	69	19	331	99	1,254	1,184	1,207	6,989	7,193	8,175.0	0.9	-	26,917	30,001.4	0.9	-	
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	2	19	8	27	4	1	49	22	132	185	216	1,073	1,112	1,290.2	0.9	-	5,423	4,970.2	1.1	-	
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	-	1	2	5	2	1	41	7	59	60	95	359	368	546.2	0.7	-	1,789	2,162.4	0.8	-	
	Syphilis congenital	047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	2.0	2.0	-	16	8.6	1.9	-
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	3	2.2	1.4	-	8	8.6	0.9	-	
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	3	2	2	5.2	0.4	-	15	19.8	0.8	-	
	Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	062	2	143	-	11	2	1	32	1	192	60	23	317	325	12,555.8	0.0	-	894	146,353.6	0.0	-	
	Measles	021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36.4	-	-	-	113.0	-	-	
	Mumps	043	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	4	4	108.0	0.0	-	15	458.2	0.0	-	
	Pertussis	024	-	3	-	6	1	-	8	1	19	26	20	119	122	2,404.2	0.1	-	538	11,065.4	0.0	-	
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	2	12	-	-	2	-	8	6	30	31	43	189	199	276.6	0.7	-	1,305	1,809.8	0.7	-	
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Rotavirus	077	-	21	-	24	12	-	7	10	74	80	53	561	617	656.8	0.9	-	2,845	4,119.2	0.7	-	
	Rubella	029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.6	-	-	2	11.0	0.2	-	
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1.4	0.7	-	4	4.4	0.9	-	
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073	4	NN	4	3	12	1	12	11	47	59	89	270	286	784.8	0.4	-	1,738	3,629.6	0.5	-	
	Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	14	NN	18	16	72	6	47	91	264	297	476	1,870	1,933	3,420.2	0.6	-	9,230	12,791.2	0.7	-	
Varicella zoster (unspecified)	075	2	NN	4	364	42	15	328	152	907	879	677	4,866	5,090	3,583.0	1.4	345.6	21,515	14,131.4	1.5	4,503.6		
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	1	3	-	13	-	-	1	1	19	18	26	82	82	102.8	0.8	-	352	417.0	0.8	-	
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	5	5	16.4	0.3	-	6	73.0	0.1	-	
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	-	8	8	266.6	0.0	-	18	1,086.8	0.0	-	
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2.8	0.4	-	2	26.0	0.1	-	
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection**	059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Malaria	020	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	3	7	4	1	23	23	83.8	0.3	-	71	312.6	0.2	-	
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.2	5.0	-	
	Ross River virus infection	002	1	29	7	61	27	-	44	56	225	328	166	1,656	1,673	1,543.4	1.1	-	3,388	4,687.2	0.7	-	
West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	060	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2	-	-		
Zoonoses	Anthrax	058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Australian bat lyssavirus infection	063	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Brucellosis	004	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	3	5.4	0.6	-	18	18.4	1.0	-	
	Leptospirosis	017	-	2	-	7	-	-	-	-	9	5	18	34	35	41.6	0.8	-	214	127.0	1.7	36.3	
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Ornithosis	023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	5.0	0.4	-	34	28.8	1.2	-	
	Q fever	027	-	5	-	15	-	-	-	-	20	13	22	92	95	143.8	0.7	-	459	520.8	0.9	-	
Tularaemia	070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	-		
Other notifiable diseases	IGAS^	082	-	NN	4	17	4	NN	NN	3	28	21	-	132	137	0.4	342.5	135.5	353	0.8	441.3	350.5	
	Legionellosis	015	-	7	-	10	3	1	4														