

National Communicable Diseases Surveillance Report

Fortnight 09, 2022 Summary Notes for Selected Diseases

18 April 2022 to 01 May 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 (01/02/2022 to 01/05/2022).*

²*The quarterly (90 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 90 days up to 01/05/2022. 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 (02/05/2021 to 01/05/2022).*

⁴*The yearly (365 day) five year rolling mean is the average of 5 intervals of 365 days up to 01/05/2022. 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 FN09/2022

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	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by	
											18/04/2022 01/05/2022	04/04/2022 17/04/2022	18/04/2021 01/05/2021	01/01/2022 01/05/2022	01/02/2022 01/05/2022					02/05/2021 01/05/2022	02/05/2021 01/05/2021		
Bloodborne diseases	Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	039	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	15	12	33.0	0.4	-	77	142.6	0.5	-	
	Hepatitis B (unspecified)	052	3	61	-	37	1	1	46	13	162	211	177	1,610	1,259	1,412.6	0.9	-	4,948	5,612.2	0.9	-	
	Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	040	-	-	-	13	-	-	1	3	17	17	35	156	123	170.0	0.7	-	650	697.2	0.9	-	
	Hepatitis C (unspecified)	053	1	77	-	53	-	6	36	16	189	228	274	1,848	1,474	2,332.0	0.6	-	6,386	9,077.6	0.7	-	
	Hepatitis D	050	-	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	5	3	3	25	20	15.0	1.3	-	85	71.8	1.2	-	
Gastrointestinal diseases	Botulism	045	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	0.2	5.0	-	5	1.2	4.2	2.1	
	Campylobacteriosis	005	24	307	13	259	84	31	165	114	997	1,243	1,430	11,325	8,375	7,909.0	1.1	-	36,631	32,192.6	1.1	-	
	Cholera	008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0.4	2.5	-	2	1.2	1.7	-	
	Cryptosporidiosis	061	-	16	3	28	3	-	21	9	80	112	92	667	518	1,258.6	0.4	-	1,855	3,206.6	0.6	-	
	Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	055	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	2	3.6	0.6	-	6	15.0	0.4	-	
	Hepatitis A	038	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	3	1	30	27	72.2	0.4	-	49	215.6	0.2	-	
	Hepatitis E	051	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	7	4	15.2	0.3	-	15	41.4	0.4	-	
	Listeriosis	018	-	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	5	1	32	26	17.0	1.5	-	62	61.0	1.0	-	
	Paratyphoid	080	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	4	2	-	16	15	26.0	0.6	-	20	69.4	0.3	-	
	Salmonellosis	030	6	163	19	193	21	7	49	37	495	488	462	4,400	3,438	4,723.4	0.7	-	10,139	14,491.6	0.7	-	
	Shigellosis	031	1	11	5	4	2	-	6	5	34	33	10	268	209	525.4	0.4	-	567	2,039.0	0.3	-	
	STEC	054	-	5	-	-	7	-	5	11	28	30	28	261	212	170.2	1.2	-	655	557.8	1.2	-	
Typhoid Fever	035	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	6	-	45	41	57.0	0.7	-	54	136.4	0.4	-		
Listed Human diseases	Avian influenza in humans (AIH)	076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	COVID-19	081	11,121	166,632	1,041	29,281	57,041	3,315	41,202	42,829	352,462	452,899	318	3,691,084	2,273,604	1,609.2	1,412.9	2,265,927.3	4,058,670	6,012.2	675.1	4,032,660.7	
	Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV)	079	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Plague	025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)	071	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Smallpox	069	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Viral haemorrhagic fever (NEC)	036	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow fever	041	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sexually transmissible infections	Chlamydial infection	007	50	812	39	705	141	57	639	277	2,720	3,553	3,450	28,151	22,411	25,784.4	0.9	-	85,478	99,840.6	0.9	-	
	Donovanosis	010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Gonococcal infection	011	13	363	50	190	60	5	162	97	940	1,237	1,160	9,878	7,723	7,969.4	1.0	-	27,101	30,091.8	0.9	-	
	Syphilis < 2 years	066	1	44	4	28	8	-	58	18	161	199	261	1,628	1,243	1,380.2	0.9	-	5,588	5,284.4	1.1	-	
	Syphilis > 2 years or unspecified duration	067	-	7	2	6	1	-	35	5	56	68	66	597	464	488.8	0.9	-	1,671	1,902.4	0.9	-	
	Syphilis congenital	047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	4	1.8	2.2	-	15	9.0	1.7	-	
Vaccine preventable diseases	Diphtheria	009	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	15	15	1.6	9.4	11.6	20	8.4	2.4	8.6	
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4.6	0.2	-	13	19.4	0.7	-	
	Measles	021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35.4	-	-	-	109.6	-	-	
	Meningococcal disease (invasive)	022	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	2	4	22	17	39.0	0.4	-	70	236.2	0.3	-	
	Mumps	043	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	7	6	106.0	0.1	-	17	437.6	0.0	-	
	Pneumococcal disease (invasive)	065	1	14	3	10	4	-	13	4	49	46	52	306	230	281.8	0.8	-	1,298	1,812.2	0.7	-	
	Poliovirus infection	026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Rotavirus	077	-	14	1	17	9	2	8	12	63	61	58	722	449	537.2	0.8	-	2,868	4,081.4	0.7	-	
	Rubella	029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.6	-	-	2	10.6	0.2	-	
	Rubella congenital	046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Tetanus	033	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.4	-	-	2	4.4	0.5	-	
	Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	073	12	NN	1	2	6	2	5	5	33	43	81	375	285	721.0	0.4	-	1,707	3,639.4	0.5	-	
	Varicella zoster (shingles)	074	20	NN	5	3	61	13	55	47	204	280	365	2,687	1,999	3,276.8	0.6	-	9,323	12,949.8	0.7	-	
Varicella zoster (unspecified)	075	1	NN	3	272	32	18	191	97	614	772	775	6,507	4,987	3,568.0	1.4	195.7	21,046	14,136.4	1.5	3,873.2		
Respiratory diseases	Influenza (laboratory confirmed)	062	80	1,682	58	622	181	8	814	13	3,458	1,191	30	5,234	5,194	13,486.0	0.4	-	5,742	145,816.0	0.0	-	
	Legionellosis	015	-	11	-	2	-	-	3	4	20	17	17	192	135	124.2	1.1	-	541	454.0	1.2	-	
	Pertussis	024	1	-	-	-	1	-	7	1	10	19	33	158	122	2,033.2	0.1	-	524	10,765.4	0.0	-	
	RSV^	083	5	NN	1	591	6	NN	NN	20	623	485	-	2,708	2,158	-	-	2,158.0	4,174	-	4,174.0		
	Tuberculosis	034	-	16	-	6	-	1	15	6	44	56	65	331	275	356.0	0.8	-	1,288	1,490.8	0.9	-	
Vectorborne diseases	Barmah Forest virus infection	048	-	6	-	3	-	-	-	-	9	11	16	116	92	124.0	0.7	-	344	415.6	0.8	-	
	Chikungunya virus infection	078	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	7	5	13.6	0.4	-	8	70.6	0.1	-	
	Dengue virus infection	003	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	4	6	-	23	20	217.8	0.1	-	32	1,009.2	0.0	-	
	Flavivirus infection (unspecified)	001	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2.2	0.5	-	2	23.0	0.1	-	
	Japanese encephalitis virus infection**	059	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Malaria	020	-	-	-	6	2	-	-	1	9	3	1	37	33	76.0	0.4	-	84	308.8	0.3	-	
	Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection	049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	1	0.2	5.0	-	
	Ross River virus infection	002	-	9	2	30	7	1	12	10	71	121	164	2,024	1,624	1,851.0	0.9	-	3,374	4,631.0	0.7	-	
West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	060	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	-	1.4	-	-		
Other	Anthrax	058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Australian bat lyssavirus infection	063	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Brucellosis	004	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	4.8	0.4	-	16	18.8	0.9	-	

ADT FN09/2022

ADT FN09/2022			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 18/04/2022 01/05/2022	Previous reporting Period 04/04/2022 17/04/2022	Same reporting period last year 18/04/2021 01/05/2021	Current year YTD 01/01/2022 01/05/2022	Past Quarter 01/02/2022 01/05/2022	Quarterly rolling 5 year mean	Ratio past quarter/5 year mean*	Exceeds quarterly rolling mean +2 SD by	Past Year 02/05/2021 01/05/2022	Yearly rolling 5 year mean 02/05/2016 01/05/2021	Ratio past year/5 year mean*	Exceeds yearly rolling mean +2 SD by	
Zoonoses	Leptospirosis	017	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	5	3	25	53	47	55.6	0.8	-	205	147.8	1.4	-	
	Lyssavirus infection (NEC)	064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Ornithosis	023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4.2	-	-	35	28.6	1.2	-	
	Q fever	027	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	13	13	26	142	113	137.8	0.8	-	458	521.0	0.9	-	
	Rabies	028	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Tularaemia	070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	
Other notifiable diseases	iGAS [^]	082	-	NN	3	20	4	NN	NN	6	33	20	-	201	157	0.4	392.5	155.5	421	0.8	526.3	418.0	
	Leprosy	016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1.6	-	-	12	10.0	1.2	-	
			11,341	170,275	1,254	32,399	57,685	3,467	43,554	43,661	363,636	463,497	9,487	3,773,927	2,339,173				4,294,356				

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

** Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) cases are reported separately on the JEV outbreak webpage, accessible at: <https://www.health.gov.au/health-alerts/japanese-encephalitis-virus-jev/about>

[^] 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 (09/05/2022). 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.