

This report summarises confirmed measles notifications for the previous week (09–15 March 2019) and cumulative cases for 2019. The case classification used in this report is specified on the last page.

Information is based on data recorded on EpiSurv by public health service staff as at 0900hrs, 21 March 2019. Changes made to EpiSurv data after this date will not be reflected in this report. The results presented may be updated and should be regarded as provisional.

Figure 1 and Tables 1–4 show data for 2019. Figure 2 shows historical notifications of confirmed cases from 2009 to the current week in 2019.

Figure 1. Number of confirmed measles notifications by week and district health board, 2 January to 15 March 2019

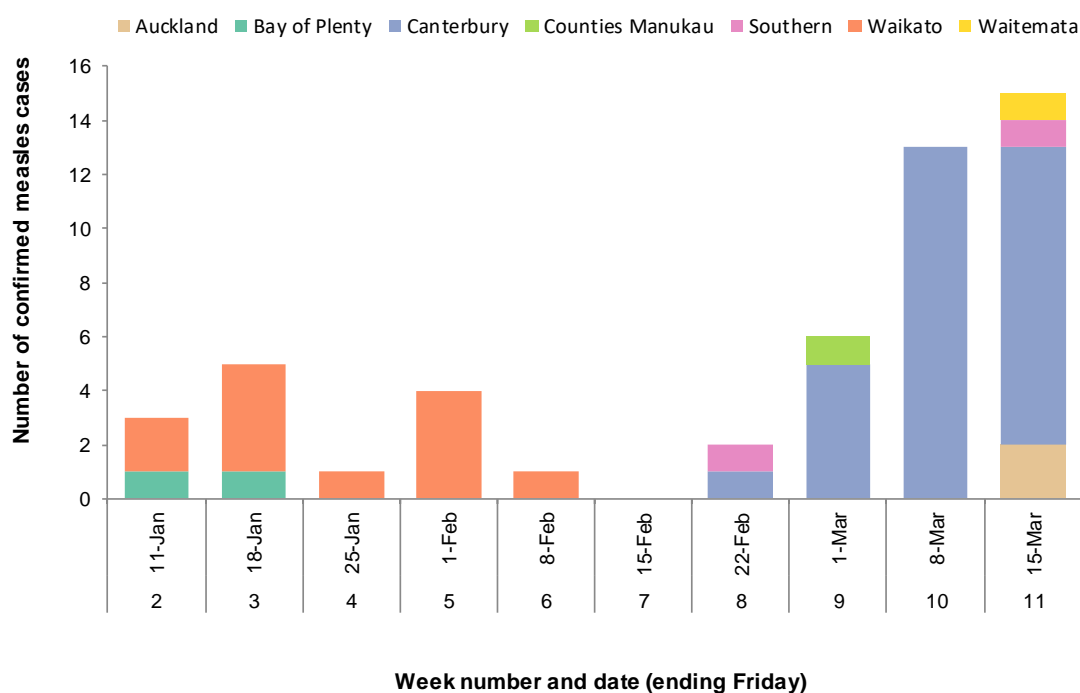


Table 1. Age distribution of confirmed measles cases for week 11/2019 and cumulative number of cases and hospitalisations for 2019

Age group (years)	09–15 March 2019	Cumulative total 2019	Number of hospitalisations 2019
<15 months	2	6	4
15 months - 3 years	1	3	2
4-9 years	0	1	0
10-19 years	3	16	2
20-29 years	5	11	3
30-49 years	3	11	4
50+	1	2	2
Total	15	50	17

Table 2. Number of confirmed measles cases for week 11 2019 and cumulative number of cases and hospitalisations for 2019 by ethnic group

Ethnic group (prioritised)	09–15 March 2019	Cumulative total 2019	Number of hospitalisations 2019
Māori	2	4	3
Pacific peoples	1	1	1
Asian	2	5	2
MELAA ¹	0	0	0
European or Other	9	38	10
Unknown	1	2	1
Total	15	50	17

¹Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

Table 3. Number of confirmed measles cases for week 11 2019 and cumulative number of cases for 2019 by district health board

District health board	09–15 March 2019	Cumulative total 2019
Waitemata	1	1
Auckland	2	2
Counties Manukau	0	1
Waikato	0	12
Bay of Plenty	0	2
Canterbury	11	30
Southern	1	2
Total	15	50

Table 4. Immunisation status of confirmed cases of measles recorded in EpiSurv reported 1 January to 15 March 2019

Age group (years)	Not vaccinated ¹	Vaccinated within 14 days ²	Partially vaccinated ³	Fully vaccinated ⁴	Total number of cases
<15 months	6	0	0	0	6
15 months - 3 years	1	1	0	1	3
4-9 years	1	0	0	0	1
10-19 years	15	0	0	1	16
20-29 years	6	1	2	2	11
30-49 years	8	0	3	0	11
50+	2	0	0	0	2
Total	39	2	5	4	50

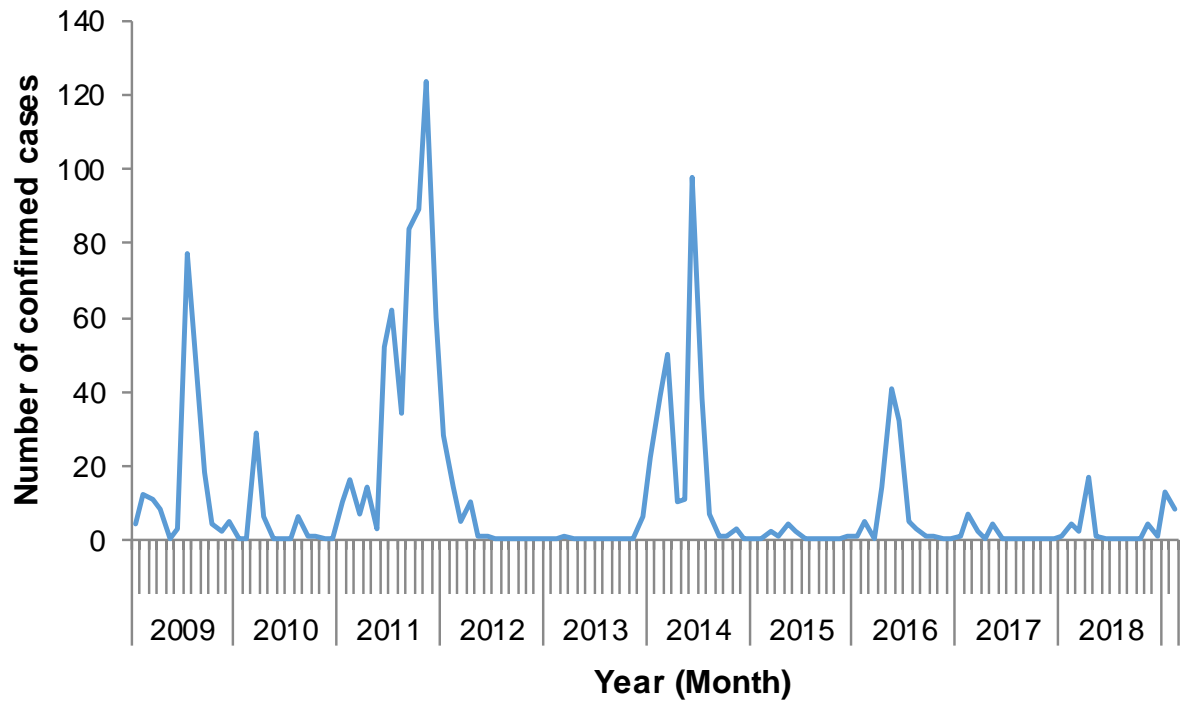
¹**Not vaccinated:** A person who has not received any doses of vaccine or recorded as unknown.

²**Vaccinated within 14 days:** A person who has received one dose of vaccine within 14 days of the onset of disease. [This acknowledges that the dose may have been given when they were incubating the disease and would not have offered protection. During outbreaks of measles people who have been contacts of cases of measles and who are unsure of their immune status may receive a dose of vaccine. If they develop symptoms testing identifies whether the illness is due to vaccine or non-vaccine type of virus. Any notifications that are found to be due to a vaccine strain are considered not to be measles cases and are removed from the analysis.]

³**Partially vaccinated:** A person aged over 4 years that has received one dose of vaccine.

⁴**Fully vaccinated:** A child aged between 12 months and 4 years who has received one dose of vaccine or a person aged over 4 years who has received two doses of vaccine.

Figure 2. Number of measles notifications by month reported, 2 January 2009 to 15 March 2019



Case classification for measles notification in New Zealand

- Confirmed** A clinically compatible illness that is laboratory-confirmed or epidemiologically-linked to a confirmed case.
- Probable** A clinically compatible illness.
- Under investigation** A case that has been notified, but information is not yet available to classify it as probable or confirmed.

Clinical description

An illness characterised by **all** of the following:

1. generalised maculopapular rash, starting on the head and neck
2. fever (at least 38°C if measured) present at the time of rash onset
3. cough or coryza or conjunctivitis or Koplik's spots present at the time of rash onset.

Laboratory test for diagnosis

If the case **received a vaccine** containing the measles virus in the 6 weeks prior to symptom onset then **laboratory confirmation requires**:

- evidence of infection with a wild-type virus strain obtained through genetic characterisation.

If the case **did not receive a vaccine** containing the measles virus in the 6 weeks prior to symptom onset, then **laboratory confirmation requires** at least one of the following:

- detection of IgM antibody specific to the virus
- IgG seroconversion or a significant rise (four-fold or greater) in antibody level for the virus between paired sera tested in parallel where the convalescent serum was collected 10 to 14 days after the acute serum
- isolation of measles virus by culture
- detection of measles virus nucleic acid.

See: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/communicable-disease-control-manual/measles>