

This report summarises confirmed measles notifications for the previous surveillance week (Week 35: 24–30 August 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 1015, 2 September 2019. Changes made to EpiSurv data after this time will not be reflected in this report. The results presented may be updated and should be regarded as provisional.

Figures 1 and 2 and Tables 1–4 show data for 2019. Figure 3 shows historical notifications of confirmed cases from 2009 to the end of the previous surveillance month.

Summary

There were 159 confirmed measles cases reported for Week 35/2019, bringing the total to 938 for the year to date with 328 (35.0%) hospitalisations. There are three ongoing outbreaks.

Figure 1. Number of confirmed measles notifications by week, 1 January–30 August 2019

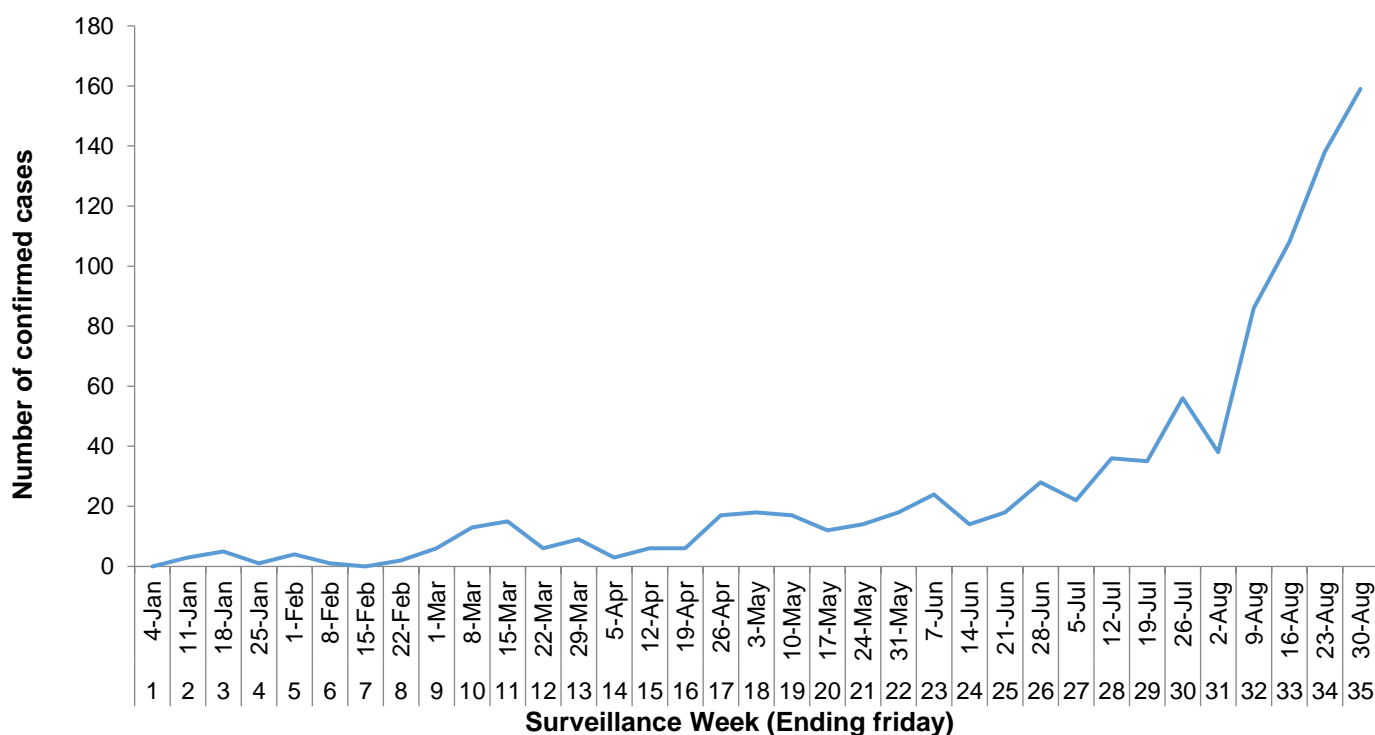


Table1: Number of confirmed measles cases for Week 34–35/2019 and cumulative number of cases for 2019 by district health board

District health board	Surveillance Week 34	Surveillance Week 35	2019 to date		
			Cumulative total	Number hospitalised	Percent hospitalised
Northland	2	4	28	7	25.0
Waitemata	14	13	139	68	48.9
Auckland	11	27	100	35	35.0
Counties Manukau	105	106	540	171	31.7
Waikato	1	5	22	5	22.7
Lakes	0	2	7	1	14.3
Bay of Plenty	2	1	28	15	53.6
Tairāwhiti	0	0	0	0	0.0
Taranaki	0	1	4	1	25.0
Hawke's Bay	0	0	3	2	66.7
Whanganui	0	0	0	0	0
MidCentral	0	0	1	0	0
Hutt Valley	0	0	7	1	14.3
Capital and Coast	1	0	12	3	25.0
Wairarapa	0	0	1	0	0
Nelson Marlborough	0	0	0	0	0
West Coast	0	0	0	0	0
Canterbury	0	0	41	17	41.5
South Canterbury	0	0	1	1	100.0
Southern	2	0	4	1	25.0
Total	138	159	938	328	35

Figure 2: Number of confirmed cases by week and DHB, 16 February–30 August 2019

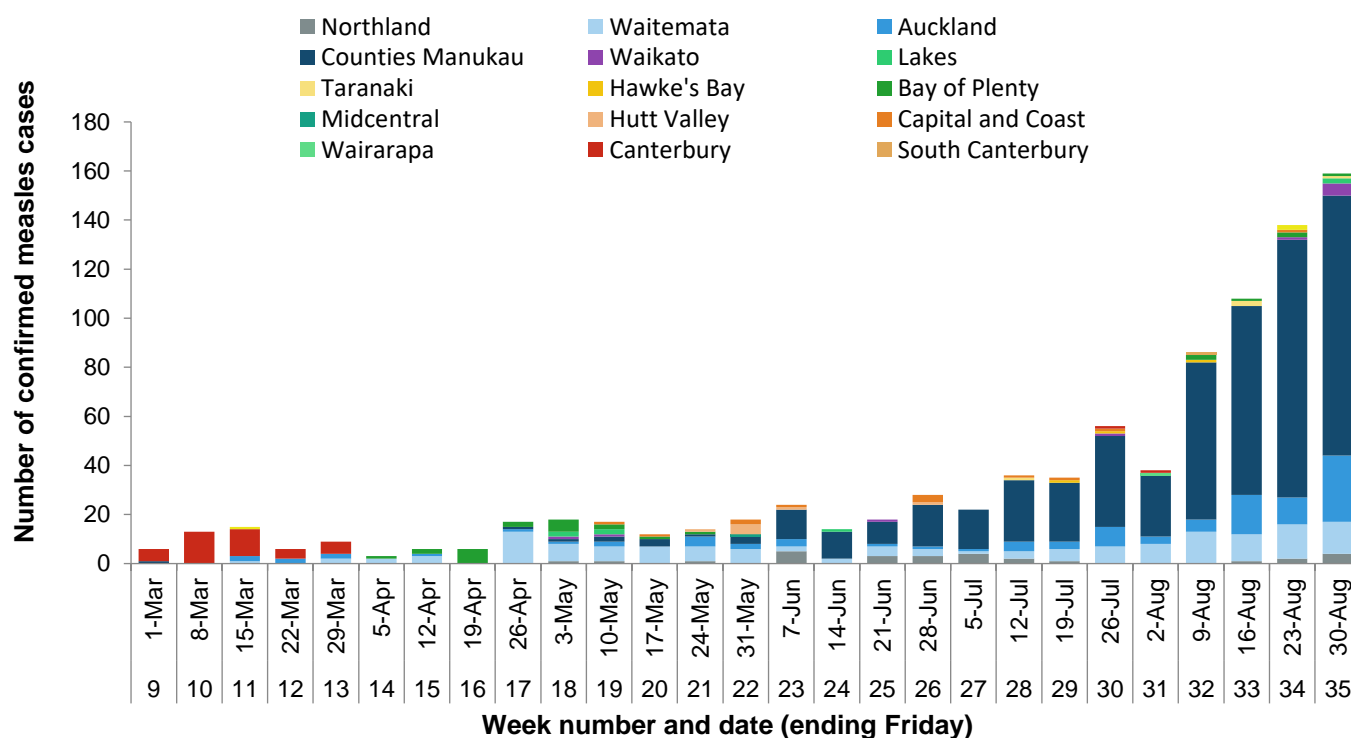


Table 2. Number of confirmed measles cases for Week 35/2019 and cumulative number of cases and hospitalisations for 2019 by age group

Age group	Surveillance Week 35	2019 to date		
		Cumulative total	Number hospitalised	Percent hospitalised
<12 months	18	125	80	64
12 months-2 years	19	130	62	47.7
3-4 years	2	28	8	28.6
5-9 years	4	31	3	9.7
10-19 years	30	195	47	24.1
20-29 years	66	288	88	30.6
30-49 years	18	126	31	24.6
50+	2	15	9	60
Total	159	938	328	35

Table 3. Number of confirmed measles cases for Week 35/2019 and cumulative number of cases and hospitalisations for 2019 by ethnic group

Ethnic group (prioritised)	Surveillance Week 35	2019 to date		
		Cumulative total	Number hospitalised	Percent hospitalised
Māori	34	225	90	40
Pacific peoples	66	354	141	39.8
Asian	5	60	16	26.7
MELAA ¹	2	7	2	28.6
European or Other	13	233	74	31.8
Unknown	39	59	5	8.5
Total	159	938	328	35

¹ Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

**Table 4. Immunisation status* of confirmed cases of measles,
1 January–30 August 2019**

Age group	Not vaccinated ¹	Partially vaccinated ²	Fully vaccinated ³	Unknown	Total number of cases
<12 months	118	0	0	7	125
12 months-2 years	113	0	4	13	130
3-4 years	22	0	4	2	28
5-9 years	20	2	5	4	31
10-19 years	96	7	17	75	195
20-29 years	77	5	22	184	288
30-49 years	24	7	1	94	126
50+	4	1	0	10	15
Total	474	22	53	389	938

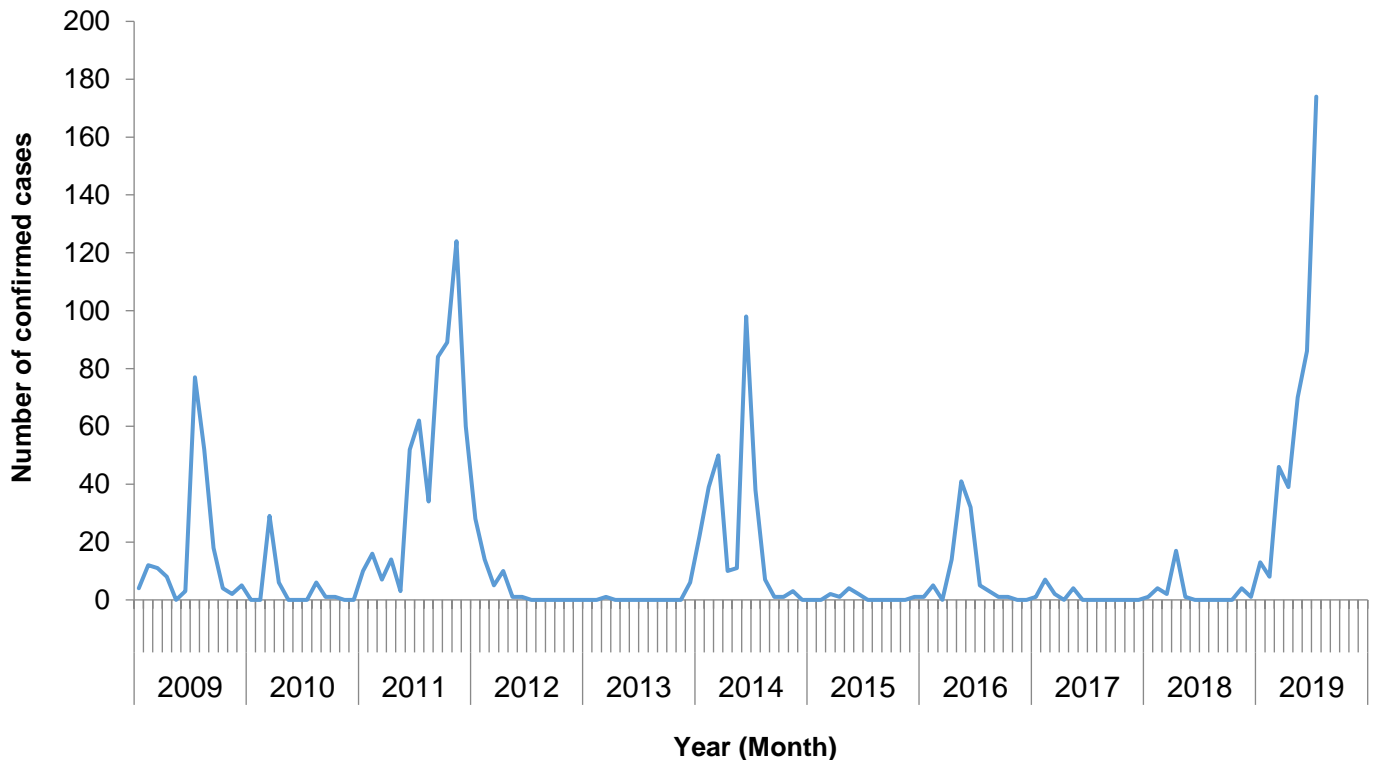
***Note:** Immunisation status in EpiSurv is based on either documentation or patient/caregiver recall.

¹**Not vaccinated:** A person who was reported not to have received any doses of vaccine, or a person who was reported to have received one dose of vaccine within 14 days of the onset of disease. (Includes 16 cases in the < 3 years age groups who received one dose of vaccine in the 14 days prior to onset.)

²**Partially vaccinated:** A person aged over 4 years who was reported to have received one dose of vaccine.

³**Fully vaccinated:** A child aged between 12 months and 4 years who was reported to have received one dose of vaccine or a person aged over 4 years who was reported to have received two doses of vaccine.

Figure 3. Number of measles notifications by month reported, January 2009 to July 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.

Note: 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.

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>