

This report summarises confirmed measles notifications for the previous surveillance week (Week 41: 5–11 October 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 0835, 14 October 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 86 confirmed measles cases reported for Week 41/2019, bringing the total to 1790 for the year to date with 590 (33.0%) hospitalisations. There are two ongoing outbreaks.

Figure 1. Number of confirmed measles notifications by week, 1 January–11 October 2019

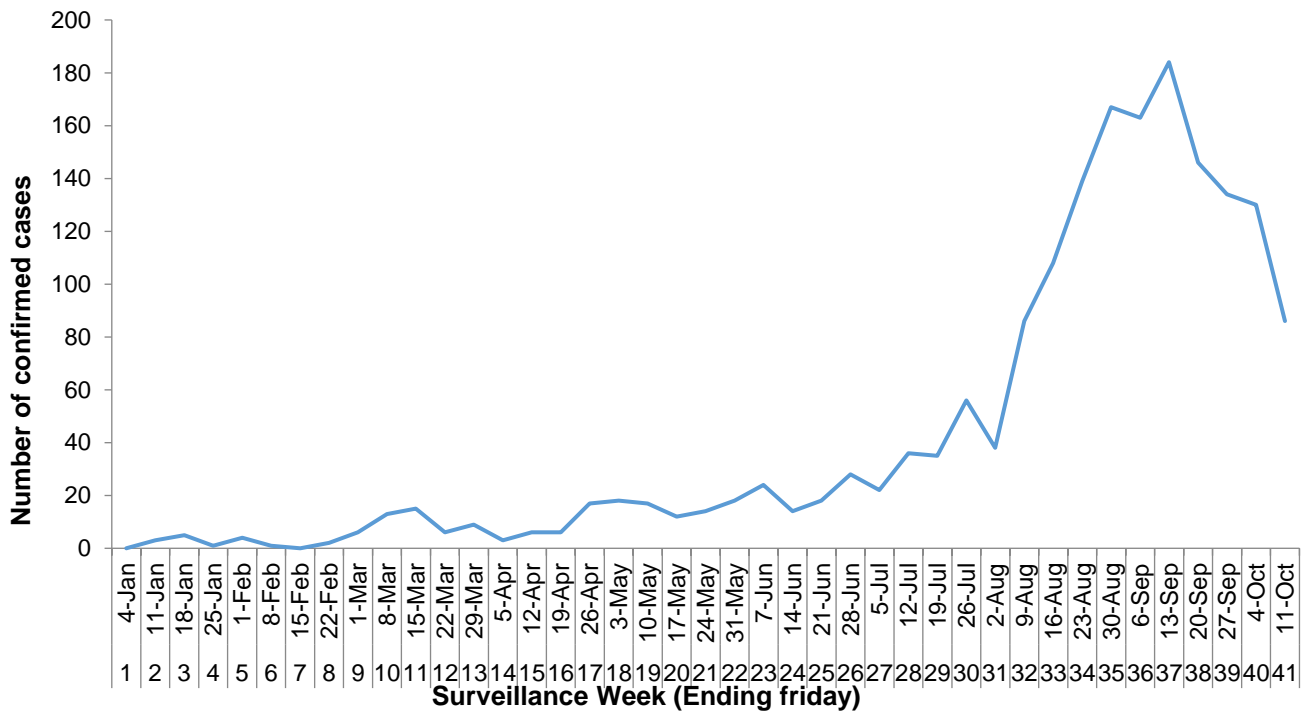


Table1: Number of confirmed measles cases for the last two surveillance weeks and cumulative number of cases for 2019 by district health board

District health board	Surveillance Week 40	Surveillance Week 41	2019 to date		
			Cumulative total	Number hospitalised	Percent hospitalised
Northland	12	4	77	15	19.5
Waitemata	18	6	245	95	38.8
Auckland	23	9	228	85	37.3
Counties Manukau	42	53	981	329	33.5
Waikato	3	1	40	10	25.0
Lakes	2	1	22	6	27.3
Bay of Plenty	1	1	39	17	43.6
Tairāwhiti	0	0	0	0	0.0
Taranaki	0	1	7	3	42.9
Hawke's Bay	3	1	7	2	28.6
Whanganui	0	0	0	0	0.0
MidCentral	0	1	7	0	0.0
Hutt Valley	0	0	9	1	11.1
Capital and Coast	3	1	16	5	31.3
Wairarapa	0	0	1	0	0.0
Nelson Marlborough	0	0	0	0	0.0
West Coast	0	0	0	0	0.0
Canterbury	1	0	43	17	39.5
South Canterbury	0	0	1	1	100.0
Southern	22	7	67	4	6.0
Total	130	86	1790	590	33.0

Figure 2: Number of confirmed cases by week and DHB for the last six months, 2019

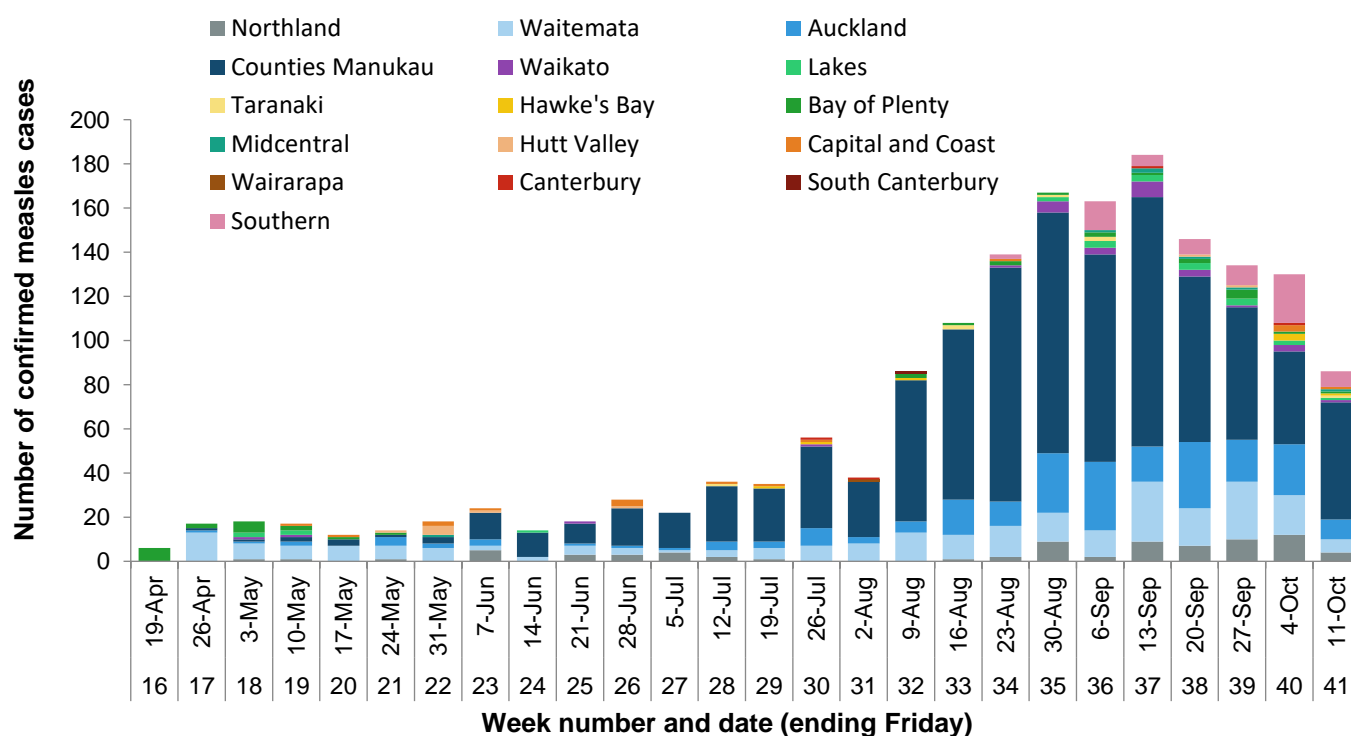


Table 2. Number of confirmed measles cases for Week 41/2019 and cumulative number of cases and hospitalisations for 2019 by age group

Age group	Surveillance Week 41	2019 to date		
		Cumulative total	Number hospitalised	Percent hospitalised
<12 months	11	226	137	60.6
12 months-2 years	8	213	110	51.6
3-4 years	2	45	13	28.9
5-9 years	1	65	6	9.2
10-19 years	15	361	86	23.8
20-29 years	31	594	166	27.9
30-49 years	17	259	57	22
50+	1	27	15	55.6
Total	86	1790	590	33

Table 3. Number of confirmed measles cases for Week 41/2019 and cumulative number of cases and hospitalisations for 2019 by ethnic group

Ethnic group (prioritised)	Surveillance Week 41	2019 to date		
		Cumulative total	Number hospitalised	Percent hospitalised
Māori	13	412	163	39.6
Pacific peoples	41	718	262	36.5
Asian	9	122	32	26.2
MELAA ¹	0	25	7	28
European or Other	13	439	111	25.3
Unknown	10	74	15	20.3
Total	86	1790	590	33

¹ Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

**Table 4. Immunisation status* of confirmed cases of measles,
1 January–11 October 2019**

Age group	Not vaccinated ¹	Partially vaccinated ²	Fully vaccinated ³	Unknown	Total number of cases
<12 months	223	0	0	3	226
12 months-2 years	189	0	12	12	213
3-4 years	39	0	5	1	45
5-9 years	48	4	5	8	65
10-19 years	180	12	41	128	361
20-29 years	185	13	49	347	594
30-49 years	48	13	4	194	259
50+	5	1	0	21	27
Total	917	43	116	714	1790

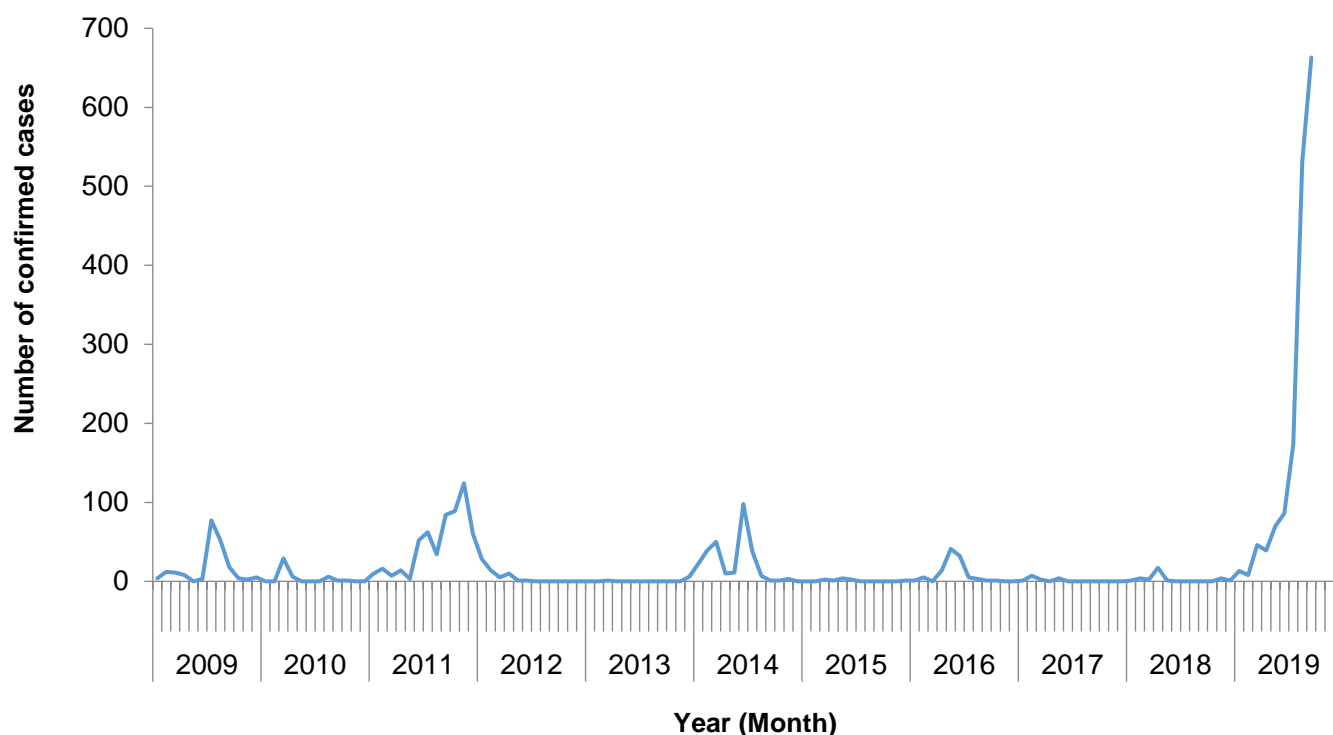
***Note:** Immunisation status in EpiSurv is based on either documentation or patient/caregiver recall.

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 80 cases 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 September 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>