

## **INVASIVE MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE REPORT 10 January 2019**

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This report summarises invasive meningococcal disease notifications for the period from 1 January 2018 to 04 January 2019 (a cumulative summary). The information in this report is based on confirmed and probable cases reported up to 04 January 2019 (surveillance weeks 1–52, 2018, and week 1, 2019) and extracted from EpiSurv and the invasive pathogens laboratory results, ESR, on 08 January 2019. Data presented may be further updated and should be regarded as provisional.

Due to the Christmas break this report occurs three weeks after the previous report.

This report will be updated on a fortnightly basis. A more detailed quarterly report was published on 23 November 2018.

### **National trends**

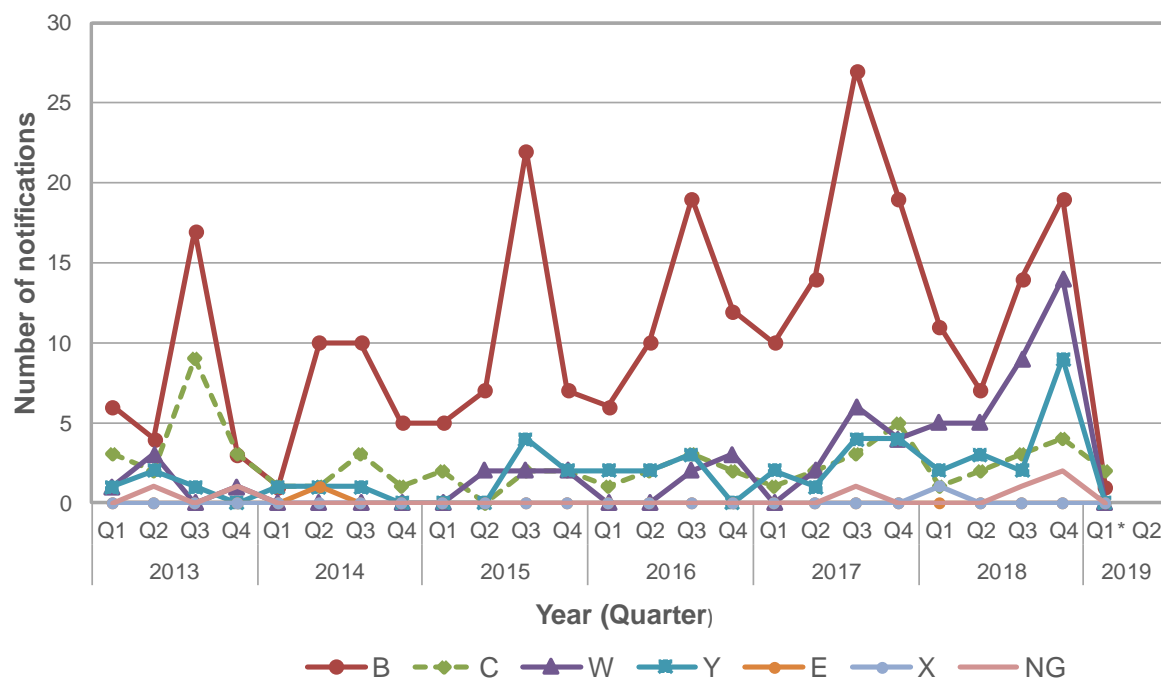
In the past three weeks (weeks 51–52, 2018 and week 1, 2019), eight new cases of invasive meningococcal disease were reported. The cases were from Bay of Plenty (3 cases), Northland, Southern, Waikato, Waitemata and Whanganui (1 case each) District Health Boards (DHBs). No deaths were reported.

The total number of reported cases for 2018 is 120 cases with 10 deaths. This is higher than the 112 cases and 9 deaths reported in 2017. There have been three cases and no deaths reported in 2019 year to date (YTD).

Although notifications in 2018 followed the usual seasonal pattern seen in New Zealand, whereby there is an increase in cases reported in winter and spring, there was a later peak than in recent years (Figure 1).

In 2018 117 (97.5%) cases were laboratory-confirmed and the group was determined for 113 cases: group B (51 cases), group W (33 cases), group Y (16 cases), group C (10 cases), non-groupable (NG) (2 cases) and group X (1 case) (Figure 1). In 2019 YTD all three (100%) cases were laboratory-confirmed with the group determined as: group C (2 cases) and group B (1 case).

Figure 1. Meningococcal disease notifications by group by quarter by year, 2013–2019\*



NG – non-groupable.

\*Cases reported up to 04 January 2019 only.

## Geographic distribution

In 2018 Northland DHB had the highest rate (7.4 per 100,000, 13 cases) followed by Whanganui (4.7 per 100,000, 3 cases), Bay of Plenty (4.3 per 100,000, 10 cases) and Southern (3.7 per 100,000, 12 cases) DHBs (Table 1).

The Auckland region (Waitemata, Auckland and Counties Manukau DHBs) had the highest group B notifications (17 cases) followed by Southern (8 cases) DHB. Northland DHB had the highest group W notifications (7 cases) (Table 1).

In 2019 YTD Bay of Plenty DHB has had two cases notified (both group C) and Waikato DHB has had one case notified (group B).

Table 1. Meningococcal disease notifications by DHB, 1 Jan–31 Dec 2018

| District Health Board | Group     |           |           |           |          |                 | Other lab-confirmed <sup>2</sup> | Probable <sup>3</sup> | Total      | Rate per 100,000* |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------|
|                       | B         | W         | Y         | C         | X        | NG <sup>1</sup> |                                  |                       |            |                   |
| Northland             | 0         | 7         | 3         | 1         | 0        | 0               | 1                                | 1                     | 13         | 7.4               |
| Waitemata             | 3         | 5         | 2         | 2         | 1        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 13         | 2.1               |
| Auckland              | 5         | 4         | 1         | 1         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 1                     | 12         | 2.3               |
| Counties Manukau      | 9         | 2         | 1         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 1                                | 0                     | 13         | 2.4               |
| Waikato               | 3         | 0         | 0         | 4         | 0        | 1               | 0                                | 0                     | 8          | 2.0               |
| Lakes                 | 0         | 2         | 1         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 3          | 2.8               |
| Bay of Plenty         | 5         | 2         | 0         | 1         | 0        | 0               | 1                                | 1                     | 10         | 4.3               |
| Tairāwhiti            | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 1          | 2.1               |
| Taranaki              | 3         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 4          | 3.4               |
| Hawke's Bay           | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 0          | 0.0               |
| Whanganui             | 2         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 3          | 4.7               |
| MidCentral            | 1         | 1         | 2         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 4          | 2.3               |
| Hutt Valley           | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 1               | 0                                | 0                     | 2          | 1.4               |
| Capital & Coast       | 4         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 6          | 1.9               |
| Wairarapa             | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 1          | 2.2               |
| Nelson Marlborough    | 2         | 0         | 2         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 4          | 2.7               |
| West Coast            | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 0          | 0.0               |
| Canterbury            | 4         | 3         | 2         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 1                                | 0                     | 10         | 1.8               |
| South Canterbury      | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 1          | 1.7               |
| Southern              | 8         | 3         | 1         | 0         | 0        | 0               | 0                                | 0                     | 12         | 3.7               |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>51</b> | <b>33</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b>        | <b>4</b>                         | <b>3</b>              | <b>120</b> | <b>2.5</b>        |

\*Rates should be interpreted with caution for DHBs with <5 cases.

<sup>1</sup> Non-groupable – group not determined but other strain characteristics were determined.

<sup>2</sup> Includes DNA laboratory-confirmed by PCR where no group or other strain characteristics were determined, or laboratory-confirmed isolates not received by the Meningococcal Reference Laboratory.

<sup>3</sup> Probable – A clinically compatible illness.

This report is available at: [https://surv.esr.cri.nz/surveillance/Meningococcal\\_disease.php](https://surv.esr.cri.nz/surveillance/Meningococcal_disease.php)