
MONTHLY SURVEILLANCE REPORT

Data contained within this monthly report is based on information recorded on EpiSurv by public health service staff up until 5 February 2008. As this information may be updated over time, the results should be regarded as provisional only.

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1. Key notifiable disease trends

- *Campylobacter*: 694 campylobacter cases were notified in January 2008 compared to 2045 cases notified in the same month of the previous year (Figure 1). The majority of the cases were reported from the Auckland region (257 cases, 37.0%). For the 12 month period ending 31 January 2008, Taranaki DHB recorded the highest annual incidence rate of 366.1 per 100 000 population (23 cases) compared to the national rate of 270.2 per 100 000 population. Overall, 33 cases were hospitalised. Among the cases for whom this information was recorded, 37.3% (38/102) had consumed food from a food premise, 33.6% (38/113) had contact with farm animals, 26.5% (22/83) had consumed untreated water, 18.8% (15/80) had consumed non-habitual water supply, 14.4% (13/90) had recreational water contact, 12.4% (11/89) had faecal contact, 11.2% (11/98) had contact with other symptomatic people, and 8.6% (13/151) were overseas during the incubation period.
- *Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)*: three Hib cases were notified in January 2008. The cases were reported from Bay of Plenty (2) and Capital and Coast (1) DHBs. Two cases were in the 1-4 years age group, while the other was in the 70+ years age group. The immunisation history was recorded for the two cases aged 1-4 years. One was immunised but the number of Hib-Hep B/Hib received was not recorded, the other was not immunised.
- *Hydatid disease*: one case of hydatid disease still under investigation was notified in January 2008. The case was from Canterbury DHB. The case had been to Antarctica and South Africa during the incubation period.

- *Meningococcal disease*: based on the earliest date available¹, 11 cases of meningococcal disease were notified during January 2008, 9 (81.8%) were laboratory-confirmed. In comparison, 11 cases were notified the previous month, December 2007, and eight cases were notified during the same month last year, January 2007. For the 12 month period ending 31 January 2008, Hawke's Bay DHB recorded the highest incidence rate of 10.0 per 100 000 population (15 cases), followed by Tairāwhiti (6.7 per 100 000, 3 cases), and Taranaki (4.8 per 100 000, 5 cases). The highest age-specific incidence rate was in infants aged less than one year (33.3 per 100 000 population, 19 cases), followed by those in the 1-4 years age group (14.6 per 100 000 population, 33 cases), and those in the 5-9 years age group (3.8 per 100 000 population, 11 cases).
- *Salmonellosis*: 196 cases of salmonellosis were notified in January 2008 compared to 107 notified cases in the same month of the previous year (Figure 2). The highest numbers of cases were reported from Waikato (29), Bay of Plenty (28), and Canterbury DHBs (22). Thirteen cases were hospitalised. The serotype involved was identified for 190 of the cases. The dominant serotypes were: *Salmonella* Chester (34 cases), *S. Infantis* (18), *S. Typhimurium* phage type 160 (13), *S. Saintpaul* (11), and *S. Typhimurium* phage type 1 (11).
- *VTEC/STEC*: 14 cases of VTEC/STEC were notified in January 2008 compared to seven notified cases in the same month of the previous year. The cases were reported from Canterbury (6), Waitemata, Counties Manukau, Nelson Marlborough (2 cases each), Capital and Coast and Otago (one case each) DHBs. Five cases were hospitalised. Two cases were aged less than seven years, while the remaining 12 cases were aged between 17-88 years. The serotype involved was identified for 13 cases, as VTEC O157. One case in the 1-4 years age group had haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS).
- *Yersiniosis*: 66 cases of yersiniosis were notified in January 2008 compared to 46 notified cases in the same month of the previous year. The highest numbers of cases were reported from Canterbury (28) DHB. Nine cases were reported from the Auckland region and seven cases from the Wellington region. Seventeen cases were hospitalised. Twenty five cases were aged over 60 years and eight cases were aged less than five years. The species was identified for 45 cases. The dominant species was *Yersinia enterocolitica* Biotype 1a (24 cases) followed by *Y. enterocolitica* Biotype 4 (10).

¹ The 'earliest' date refers to the earliest recorded date for the case (onset or hospitalisation date rather than report date, if available). 'Earliest' date, as opposed to 'report date' alone, is used throughout the analysis of meningococcal disease notification data.

2. Outbreaks

Completed outbreak reports

Seven outbreak reports were entered into EpiSurv and completed during January 2008. These are summarised in the table below.

Summary of completed outbreaks reported to ESR during January 2008

Organism/Toxin/Illness	Reporting Public Health District	Number of outbreaks	Total number of cases
Gastroenteritis	Wellington, West Coast	4	35
<i>Giardia</i>	West Coast	1	2
Norovirus	Auckland, Canterbury	2	31
Total		7	68

Interim outbreak reports

The following interim outbreaks have been reported. The status of the outbreak and cases involved are subject to change, as more data becomes available.

Summary of interim outbreaks reported to ESR during January 2008

Organism/Toxin/Illness	Reporting Public Health District	Number of outbreaks	Total number of cases
Gastroenteritis	Auckland, Taranaki, Wellington, Canterbury	13	92
<i>Giardia</i>	Auckland	1	2
Norovirus	Wanganui	1	53
<i>Salmonella</i>	Tauranga, Otago	2	8
<i>Shigella</i>	Wellington	1	10
Total		18	165

3. Deaths from notifiable diseases

Three deaths were reported for the month of January.

Disease	District Health Board	Age group	Sex
Listeriosis	Canterbury	70+ years	M
Meningococcal disease	Hawke's Bay	1-4 years	M
Tuberculosis disease – new case	Counties Manukau	70+ years	M

4. Trends in selected diseases to January 2008

Figure 1: Campylobacteriosis notifications by month by year, January 2003 – January 2008

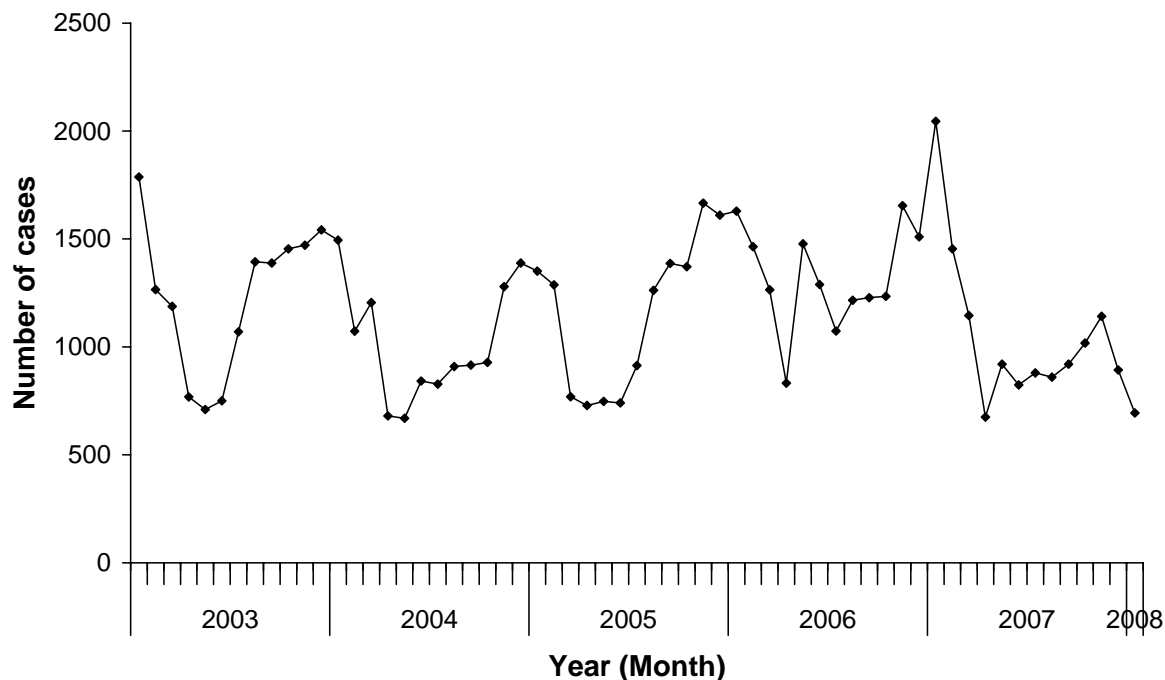
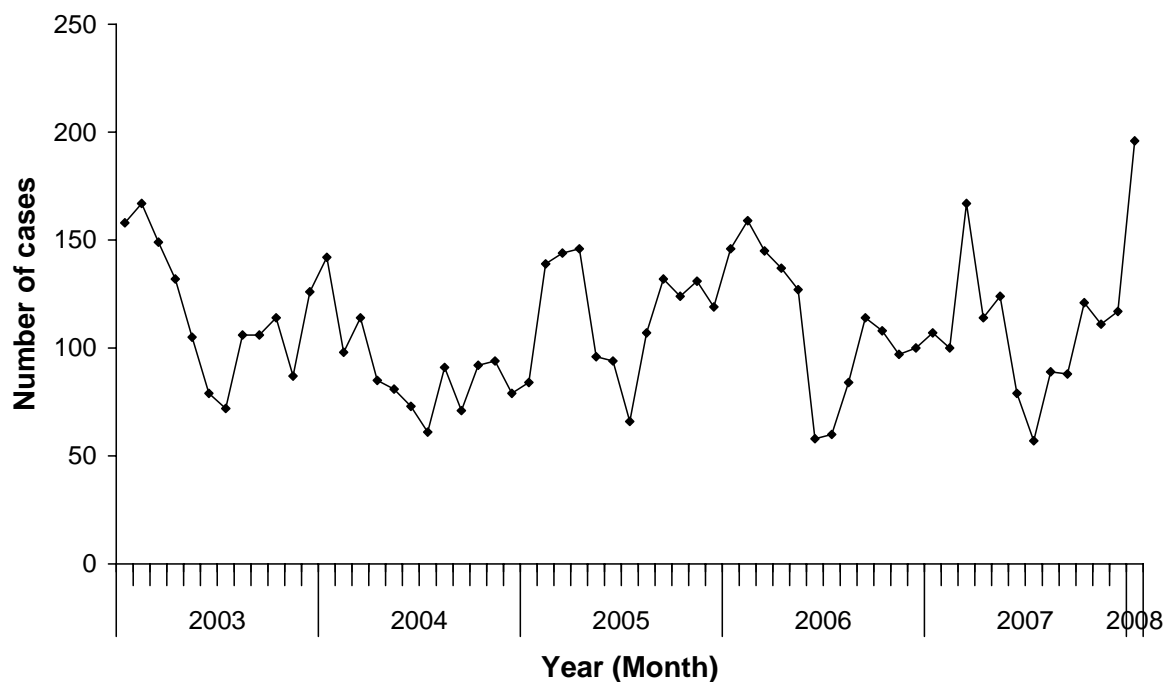


Figure 2: Salmonellosis notifications by month by year, January 2003 – January 2008



5. Data Tables

National Surveillance Data January 2008

Disease	Current Year - 2008 ¹			Previous Year - 2007		
	January 2008 Cases	Cumulative total since 1 January	Current 12 Month Rate ²	January 2007 Cases	Cumulative total since 1 January	Current 12 Month Rate ²
Campylobacteriosis	694	694	270.2	2045	2045	389.3
Cryptosporidiosis	27	27	21.5	43	43	17.6
Dengue fever	10	10	2.7	9	9	0.6
Gastroenteritis	61	61	14.6	64	64	22.5
Giardiasis	121	121	33.1	124	124	29.6
Haemophilus influenzae type b	3	3	0.4	0	0	0.2
Hepatitis A	6	6	1.1	3	3	2.2
Hepatitis B ⁴	14	14	1.8	12	12	1.6
Hepatitis C ⁴	2	2	0.7	4	4	0.8
Hydatid disease	1	1	0.2	0	0	0.0
Lead absorption	12	12	2.0	5	5	1.7
Legionellosis	11	11	1.5	13	13	1.5
Leptospirosis	7	7	1.5	14	14	2.2
Listeriosis	3	3	0.6	2	2	0.4
Malaria	3	3	0.6	1	1	0.7
Measles	0	0	0.6	2	2	0.5
Meningococcal disease ⁵	12	12	2.6	9	9	3.8
Mumps	14	14	2.0	6	6	1.2
Paratyphoid fever	2	2	0.5	2	2	0.5
Pertussis	11	11	6.9	51	51	24.7
Rheumatic fever	4	4	3.3	4	4	2.3
Salmonellosis	196	196	32.2	107	107	31.0
Shigellosis	11	11	3.1	6	6	2.2
Tetanus	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.0
Tuberculosis disease	29	29	7.1	20	20	8.4
Typhoid fever	1	1	1.0	8	8	1.1
VTEC/STEC infection	14	14	2.5	7	7	2.1
Yersiniosis	66	66	12.9	46	46	11.7

¹ These data are provisional

² Rate is based on the cumulative total for the current year (12 months up to and including January 2008) or the previous year (12 months up to and including January 2007), expressed as cases per 100 000

³ Cases of gastroenteritis from a common source or foodborne intoxication

⁴ Only acute cases of this disease are currently notifiable

⁵ These totals and rates are derived from the EpiSurv report date as opposed to the earliest available date used in the meningococcal disease section of this report

