
MONTHLY NOTIFIABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE REPORT

Data contained within this monthly report are based on information recorded on EpiSurv by Public Health Service (PHS) staff as at 10 May 2019. Changes made to EpiSurv after this date will not be reflected in this report. The data are provisional and include cases that are still under investigation, some of which may become 'Not a case'. For this reason, comparisons between the current year and the previous year should be treated with caution.

KEY NOTIFIABLE DISEASE TRENDS

Enteric Diseases (including Acute Gastroenteritis)

Enteric infections are the most common notifiable diseases, and several, along with acute gastroenteritis, are increasing in incidence. This increase is partly due to changes in laboratory testing practices, with a shift from culture methods to multiplex PCR (which tests for several diseases at the same time). This means more diseases are likely to be detected and in a more timely manner. For further information, see the [2016 Annual Notifiable Disease Report Commentary](#).

Dengue Fever

There were 27 cases (26 confirmed and 1 probable) of dengue fever notified in April 2019, compared with 11 in April 2018. All of the cases had travelled overseas during the incubation period, and the majority (85%, 23 cases) had travelled to Fiji.

Measles

There were 41 cases (40 confirmed and 1 under investigation) of measles notified in April 2019, bringing the total for January–April to 109 cases. The majority of confirmed cases were reported from Waitemata (19 cases) and Bay of Plenty (14 cases) DHBs. See the latest [weekly measles surveillance report](#) for more information.

New Zealand is at ongoing risk of [importation from international travellers](#): The Ministry of Health issued a [media release](#) on 10 May 2019 reminding travellers to make sure they are fully immunised against measles before they go overseas.

Pertussis

Pertussis notifications have continued to decline since the beginning of 2019, and have now returned to expected levels.

OUTBREAKS

Giardia

An outbreak of *Giardia* was reported from Northland DHB in April 2019, involving 10 cases at a swimming pool. Whilst the pool water was not tested for presence of *Giardia*, all of the cases had visited the pool during the incubation period.

Measles

The measles outbreak that was reported from Auckland Regional Public Health in March continued during April with a further 31 cases linked to the outbreak. While most (19/31, 61.3%) cases were from Auckland DHBs, cases from four other DHBs (Bay of Plenty (9), Northland, Waikato and Lakes (1 each)) were also linked to the outbreak. Genotype B3 has been confirmed and is a different strain to the Canterbury outbreak.

A measles outbreak involving three cases was reported from Bay of Plenty DHB in April. The outbreak involved a mother, who had been in the Philippines during the incubation period, and her two unvaccinated children.

There were no further confirmed measles cases from Canterbury DHB during April, and the outbreak that began in February was [officially declared over](#) on 16 May.

TABLES

Tables for April are available as Excel files on the [Public Health Surveillance website](#).