
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 16 February 2021. 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

Overall decrease in notifications

There was a decrease in the incidence of most notifiable diseases in January 2021, compared with January 2020. This is most likely due to behavioural changes as a result of public health messaging about the COVID-19 pandemic, and the dramatic reduction in overseas travel.

COVID-19

There were 139 cases of COVID-19 reported in January 2021 (138 confirmed and 1 under investigation). Of the 138 confirmed cases, 135 (97.8%) were imported cases in managed isolation/quarantine (MIQ) facilities at the time of diagnosis and three were linked to an outbreak associated with an MIQ facility (see the following section for more details). Two cases were hospitalised, and no deaths were reported. More information can be found on the [ESR COVID-19 dashboard](#).

OUTBREAKS

COVID-19

An outbreak of COVID-19 involving five cases associated with an MIQ facility was reported in January 2021. The [first case](#) was detected in the community in Northland after they had left managed isolation. [Whole genome sequencing](#) confirmed the South African variant, B.1.351, and a link to another returnee in the same MIQ facility. Testing of additional returnees who had been in the facility at the same time revealed [three further cases](#) from Auckland.

TABLES

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