

# Communicable Diseases Surveillance

## Presentation of NNDSS data

In the March 2000 issue an additional summary table was introduced. Table 1 presents 'date of notification' data, which is a composite of three components: (i) the true onset date from a clinician, if available, (ii) the date the laboratory test was ordered, or (iii) the date reported to the public health unit. Table 2 presents data by report date for information only. In Table 2 the report date is the date the public health unit received the report.

Table 1 now includes the following summary columns: total current month 2000 data; the totals for previous month 2000 and corresponding month 1999; a 5 year mean which is calculated using previous, corresponding and following month data for the previous 5 years (*Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*, 2000:49;139-146); year to date (YTD) figures; the mean for the year to date figures for the previous 5 years; and the ratio of the current month to the mean of the last 5 years.

## Highlights for June 2000

*Communicable Diseases Surveillance consists of data from various sources. The National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) is conducted under the auspices of the Communicable Diseases Network Australia New Zealand. The CDI Virology and Serology Laboratory Reporting Scheme (LabVISE) is a sentinel surveillance scheme. In this report, data from the NNDSS are referred to as 'notifications' or 'cases', whereas those from the LabVISE scheme are referred to as 'laboratory reports'.*

*Three types of data are included in National Influenza Surveillance, 2000. These are sentinel general practitioner surveillance conducted by the Australian Sentinel Practice Research Network (ASPREN), the Department of Human Services (Victoria), the Department of Health (New South Wales) and the Tropical Influenza Surveillance Scheme, Territory Health (Northern Territory); laboratory surveillance data from the Communicable Diseases Intelligence Virology and Serology Laboratory Reporting Scheme (LabVISE); and the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Influenza Reference and Research; and absenteeism surveillance conducted by Australia Post. Data from ASPREN are referred to as 'consultations' or 'encounters'. For further information about these schemes, see Commun Dis Intell 2000;24:9-10.*

Compared with the 5-year mean, in June 2000 there was an increase in the number of cases of chlamydial infection (ratio 1.2), legionellosis (ratio 1.3) and meningococcal infection (ratio 1.3) (Figure 1).

**Figure 1. Selected<sup>1</sup> diseases from the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System, comparison of provisional totals for the period 1 to 30 June 2000 with historical data<sup>2</sup>**

### *Chlamydia*

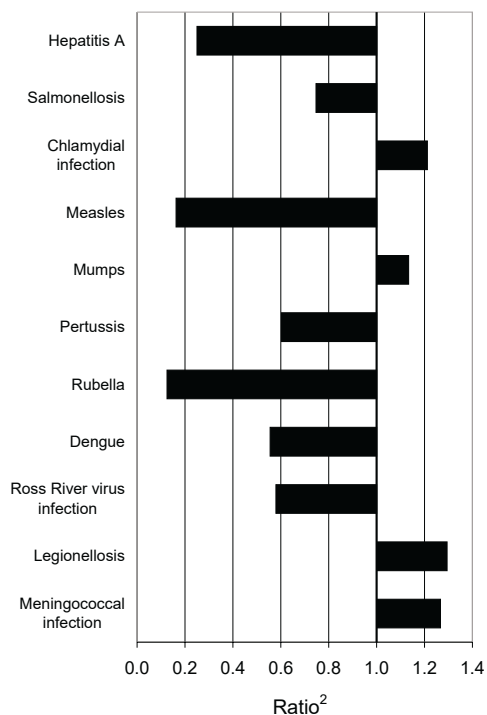
There were 996 notifications of chlamydial infection in June 2000 - a notification rate of 63.02/100,000 population (Figure 2); the Northern Territory and Queensland contributed most to the increase in notifications for this month (447.94/100,000 and 125.39/100,000 respectively). Part of this increase can be explained through the use of PCR urine-testing technology and screening programs in several States.

### *Encephalitis*

A renewed warning was issued in June 2000 by the Northern Territory government regarding Australian Encephalitis in the top end. There have been no further cases since May 2000 in Western Australia or the Northern Territory.

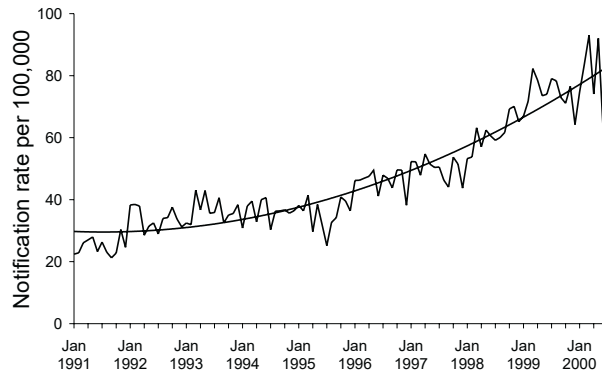
### *Foodborne illness outbreaks*

There is currently an increase in *Salmonella* Typhimurium phage-type 9 in Victoria. A common source of infections has not been identified. Two family clusters of 4 and 5 cases each have been identified one of which was thought to be related to a home cooked meal of chicken.



1. Selected diseases are chosen each calendar month according to current activity

**Figure 2. Notification rate of chlamydial infection, Australia, 1 January 1991 to 30 June 2000, by month of notification**



### Legionellosis

There were 22 notifications of legionellosis in June 2000 - a notification rate of 1.39/100,000 population. In Victoria there were three confirmed cases and one unconfirmed case of *L. pneumophila* serogroup 1 associated with a spa pool at a football club. The other cases were sporadic with no obvious sources.

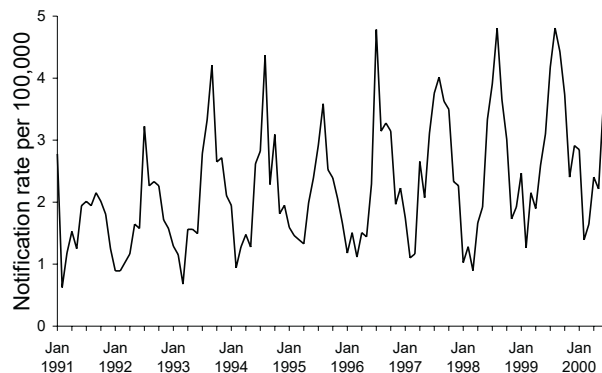
### Listeria

There were three cases of listeria in Western Australia. One case was a pregnant woman resulting in the still birth of her baby, who also tested positive, and another was a woman with end stage renal failure who was on haemodialysis. The Health Department of Western Australia issued a reminder to pregnant women, the elderly and people with lowered immunity to take special care to avoid food that may contain the bacterium *Listeria*. The reminder followed a recent state-wide survey of sandwiches served at cafes, bakeries and lunchbars, which found *Listeria monocytogenes* present in 11 of 228 samples.

### Meningococcal infections

There were 57 notifications of meningococcal infection in June 2000 - a notification rate of 3.61/100,000 population (Figure 3). Of these cases 33% were under 5 years of age

**Figure 3. Notification rates of meningococcal infections, Australia, 1 January 1991 to 30 June 2000, by month of notification**

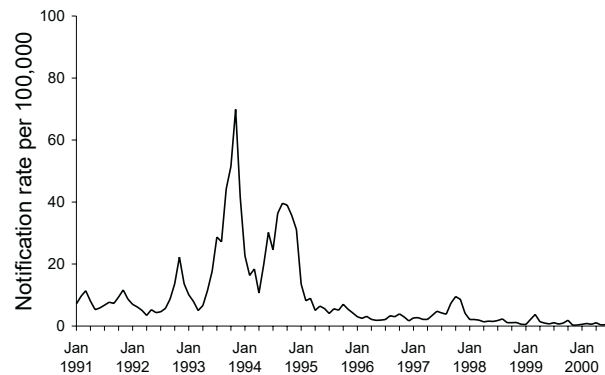


and 39% were in the 15-24 age range. The serogroups were available for 41 cases; of these 56%, 42% and 2% were serogroup B, C and Y respectively.

### Vaccine preventable diseases

All vaccine preventable diseases (except mumps) had fewer cases this month compared with the 5-year mean for June. There were two male and two female cases of *Haemophilus influenzae* type b reported in June, an increase in the number of notifications from May (one case). Of the June cases, one was a child aged less than 1 year, and the others were aged 33, 40 and 84 years; the immunisation status of all was unknown. For measles, the last 3 months have had the lowest number of notifications since the national notification system began (Figure 4). Of the seven cases in June, two were in children under 5 years and one was confirmed as having been imported from the United Kingdom.

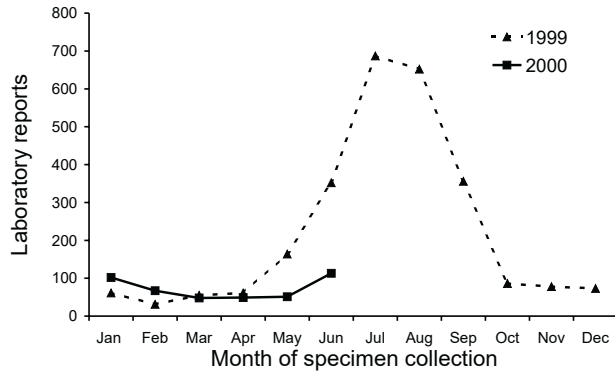
**Figure 4. Notification rate of measles, Australia, 1 January 1991 to 30 June 2000, by month of notification**



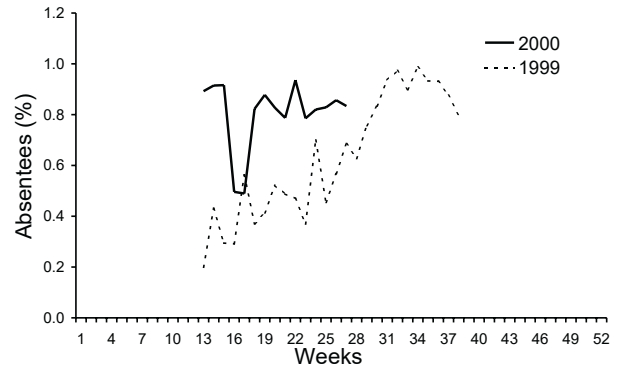
### Influenza

The New South Wales sentinel surveillance network reported the highest rate of consultations for influenza (10/1,000 patients). There were 113 laboratory reports for June 2000 - a decrease from 352 in June 1999 (Figure 5). Of the laboratory reports received in June 2000 (weeks 23-26), 70 were Influenza A and 40 were Influenza B with the percentage of influenza B increasing from 13% in week 23 to 44% in week 26 (Figure 6). Compared with June 1999, the percentage of Australia Post employees absent in June 2000 (weeks 23-26) for three or more consecutive days in 1 week increased (Figure 7). However, to date in 2000, there were fewer reports from laboratories of influenza - and from ASPREN of influenza-like illness - compared with 1999 (Figures 5 and 8).

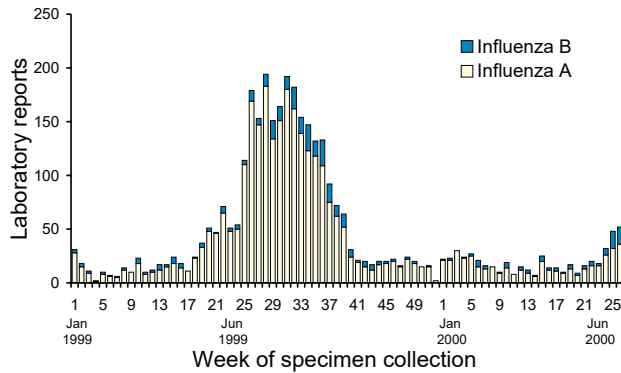
**Figure 5. Laboratory reports of influenza, 1999 to 2000, by month of specimen collection**



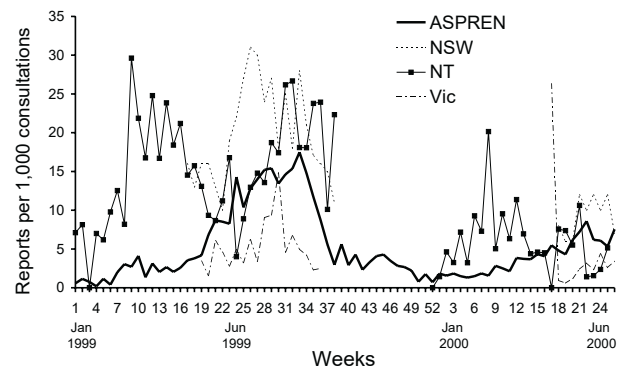
**Figure 7. Absenteeism rates in Australia Post, 1999 and 2000 to June 30**



**Figure 6. Laboratory reports of influenza, Australia, week 1 1999 to week 26 2000, by week of specimen collection**



**Figure 8. Sentinel general practitioner influenza consultation rates, week 1 1999 to week 26 2000, by scheme<sup>1</sup>**



1. Week 26, 2000, ASPREN data are for Australia other than the Northern Territory

## Tables

There were 5,419 notifications to the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) with a notification date in June 2000 (Table 1). Data by date of report for June 2000, are included in this issue of *Communicable Diseases Intelligence* (Table 2). The number of reports for selected diseases<sup>1</sup> have been compared with a 5 year mean, calculated using May to July data for the previous 5 years (Figure 1).

There were 2,132 reports received by the *CDI* Virology and Serology Laboratory Reporting Scheme (LabVISE) in the reporting period, 1 to 30 June 2000 (Tables 3 and 4).

The Australian Sentinel Practice Research Network (ASPREN) data for weeks 22 to 25, ending 25 June 2000, are included in this issue of *Communicable Diseases Intelligence* (Table 5).

## Tables

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The Australian Sentinel Practice Research Network (ASPREN) data for weeks 22 to 25, ending 25 June 2000, are included in this issue of *Communicable Diseases Intelligence* (Table 5).

**Table 1. Notifications of diseases received by State and Territory health authorities in the period 1 to 30 June 2000, by date of notification<sup>#</sup>**

Disease	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Total June 2000 <sup>1</sup>	Total May 2000 <sup>1</sup>	Total June 1999 <sup>1</sup>	Last 5 years mean	Year to date 2000	Last 5 years YTD mean	Ratio*
<b>Bloodborne</b>															
Hepatitis B (incident)	0	5	0	4	0	4	5	4	22	31	17	22	155	144	1.0
Hepatitis B (unspecified) <sup>2</sup>	0	246	0	61	0	5	159	59	530	713	779	586	3,995	3,474	0.9
Hepatitis C (incident)	0	4	0	-	3	1	4	3	15	21	16	15	161	95	1.0
Hepatitis C (unspecified) <sup>2</sup>	7	466	8	260	40	23	458	111	1,373	1,815	1,850	1,363	10,721	7,867	1.0
Hepatitis D	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	8	8	0.5
<b>Gastrointestinal</b>															
Botulism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.0
Campylobacteriosis <sup>3</sup>	21	-	18	325	107	31	307	136	945	1,189	942	931	6,286	5,586	1.0
Haemolytic uraemic syndrome	NN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	4	0.0
Hepatitis A	0	11	1	7	1	1	10	11	42	81	104	168	519	1,256	0.3
Hepatitis E	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0.0
Listeriosis	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	5	4	4	42	33	1.0
Salmonellosis	6	43	12	87	29	6	86	44	313	639	375	419	3,577	4,057	0.7
Shigellosis <sup>3</sup>	0	-	6	3	3	0	11	6	29	57	37	54	264	377	0.5
SLTEC,VTEC <sup>4</sup>	NN	0	0	NN	1	0	0	NN	1	1	3	2	18	7	0.5
Typhoid	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	5	5	39	44	0.4
Yersiniosis <sup>3</sup>	1	-	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	8	9	17	44	134	0.2
<b>Quarantinable</b>															
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0.0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	na
Rabies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	na
Viral haemorrhagic fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	na
Yellow fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	na
<b>Sexually transmissible</b>															
Chancroid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	na
Chlamydial infection <sup>5</sup>	14	174	72	367	39	33	156	141	996	1,455	1,170	822	7,595	4,958	1.2
Donovanosis	0	0	0	1	NN	0	0	0	1	1	0	4	9	24	0.3
Gonococcal infection <sup>6</sup>	0	50	83	79	13	2	75	81	383	613	439	385	3,078	2,411	1.0
Lymphogranuloma venereum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	na
Syphilis <sup>7</sup>	0	25	4	54	1	1	0	7	92	177	176	146	835	865	0.6

**Table 1 (continued). Notifications of diseases received by State and Territory health authorities in the period 1 to 30 June 2000, by date of notification<sup>#</sup>**

Disease	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Total June 2000 <sup>1</sup>	Total May 2000 <sup>1</sup>	Total June 1999 <sup>1</sup>	Last 5 years mean	Year to date 2000	Last 5 years YTD mean	Ratio*
<b>Vaccine preventable</b>															
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	na
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	4	1	5	5	10	28	0.8
Measles	0	0	0	2	1	0	4	0	7	6	11	43	61	306	0.2
Mumps	4	8	0	0	1	1	2	1	17	27	15	15	104	84	1.1
Pertussis	5	112	0	29	19	9	46	0	220	300	296	365	1,677	2,371	0.6
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	na
Rubella <sup>8</sup>	1	2	0	1	0	0	8	0	12	18	28	96	93	686	0.1
Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	4	3	1.0
<b>Vectorborne</b>															
Arbovirus infection NEC	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	10	4	3	58	40	0.3
Barmah Forest virus infection	0	9	0	22	0	0	1	0	32	75	41	52	340	488	0.6
Dengue	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	9	6	9	189	105	0.6
Malaria	2	21	3	27	1	0	6	1	61	134	41	61	540	420	1.0
Ross River virus infection	3	38	5	48	5	0	13	44	156	572	170	269	3,375	4,229	0.6
<b>Zoonoses</b>															
Brucellosis	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	7	15	0.3
Hydatid infection	0	NN	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	5	3	4	20	17	0.3
Leptospirosis	0	3	0	8	0	0	0	0	11	43	15	17	140	111	0.6
Ornithosis	0	NN	0	NN	0	0	0	1	1	6	3	6	37	39	0.2
Q fever	0	5	0	17	0	0	1	0	23	39	53	49	246	268	0.5
<b>Other</b>															
Legionellosis	0	3	0	8	1	0	8	2	22	41	18	17	310	113	1.3
Leprosy	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	4	1.0
Meningococcal infection	0	28	0	7	4	3	11	4	57	35	49	45	223	169	1.3
Tuberculosis	0	7	0	2	0	0	24	1	34	40	79	83	378	496	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>1,427</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1,396</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>5,419</b>	<b>8,176</b>	<b>6,768</b>	<b>6,082</b>	<b>45,167</b>	<b>41,341</b>	

- Totals comprise data from all States and Territories. Cumulative figures are subject to retrospective revision so there may be discrepancies between the number of new notifications and the increment in the cumulative figure from the previous period.
- Unspecified numbers should be interpreted with some caution as the magnitude may be a reflection of the numbers of tests being carried out.
- Not reported for NSW because it is only notifiable as 'foodborne disease' or 'gastroenteritis in an institution'.
- Infections with Shiga-like toxin (verotoxin) producing *E. coli* (SLTEC/VTEC).
- WA: genital only.
- NT, Qld, SA, Vic and WA: includes gonococcal neonatal ophthalmia.

- Includes congenital syphilis.
- Includes congenital rubella
- # Date of notification = a composite of three components: (i) the true onset date from a clinician, if available, (ii) the date the laboratory test was ordered, or (iii) the date reported to the public health unit.
- NN Not Notifiable.
- NEC Not Elsewhere Classified.
- Elsewhere Classified.
- na Not applicable.
- \* Ratio = ratio of current month total to mean of last 5 years calculated as described above.

**Table 2. Notifications of diseases received by State and Territory health authorities in the period 1 to 30 June 2000, by date of report\***

Disease <sup>1</sup>	State or Territory								Total this period	Year to date total
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA		
<b>Bloodborne</b>										
Hepatitis B (incident)	0	10	0	4	2	3	9	6	34	169
Hepatitis B (unspecified) <sup>2</sup>	0	366	0	66	23	6	177	74	712	4,259
Hepatitis C (incident)	0	8	0	-	7	1	5	4	25	190
Hepatitis C (unspecified) <sup>2</sup>	10	696	11	277	82	23	459	154	1,712	11,113
Hepatitis D	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	9
<b>Gastrointestinal</b>										
Botulism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Campylobacteriosis <sup>3</sup>	22	-	17	356	134	29	419	156	1,133	6,504
Haemolytic uraemic syndrome	NN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Hepatitis A	0	14	2	13	1	1	18	13	62	554
Hepatitis E	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Listeriosis	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	43
Salmonellosis	10	81	19	119	34	6	98	49	416	3,850
Shigellosis <sup>3</sup>	1	-	10	6	3	0	12	10	42	273
SLTEC, VTEC <sup>4</sup>	NN	0	0	NN	1	0	0	NN	1	21
Typhoid	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	44
Yersiniosis <sup>3</sup>	1	-	0	3	0	0	0	0	4	45
<b>Quarantinable</b>										
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rabies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Viral haemorrhagic fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sexually transmissible</b>										
Chancroid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chlamydial infection <sup>5</sup>	16	253	89	390	75	33	238	206	1,300	7,899
Donovanosis	0	0	0	1	NN	0	0	0	1	10
Gonococcal infection <sup>6</sup>	1	78	96	90	37	3	81	108	494	3,134
Lymphogranuloma venereum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syphilis <sup>7</sup>	0	48	12	61	0	1	1	9	132	910
<b>Vaccine preventable</b>										
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	5	11
Measles	0	0	0	3	1	0	4	0	8	63
Mumps	3	17	0	0	0	1	3	2	26	107
Pertussis	12	257	0	33	36	9	54	3	404	1,950
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rubella <sup>8</sup>	1	3	0	3	0	0	9	0	16	100
Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	5
<b>Vectorborne</b>										
Arbovirus infection NEC	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	5	55
Barmah Forest virus infection	0	14	1	27	0	0	1	2	45	358
Dengue	0	1	4	4	0	0	0	0	9	206
Malaria	2	22	6	41	3	1	12	1	88	558
Ross River virus infection	3	75	7	60	13	2	18	111	289	3,587

**Table 2 (continued). Notifications of diseases received by State and Territory health authorities in the period 1 to 30 June 2000, by date of report\***

Disease <sup>1</sup>	State or Territory								Total this period	Year to date total
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA		
<b>Zoonoses</b>										
Brucellosis	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	8
Hydatid infection	0	NN	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	20
Leptospirosis	0	5	0	16	0	0	0	0	21	147
Ornithosis	0	NN	0	NN	0	0	4	2	6	49
Q fever	0	5	0	17	0	1	1	0	24	260
<b>Other</b>										
Legionellosis	0	5	0	11	3	0	24	5	48	322
Leprosy	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Meningococcal infection	0	26	1	8	4	3	10	4	56	226
Tuberculosis	0	21	5	10	0	1	24	1	62	491
<b>Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>2,011</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>1,628</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>1,682</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>7,196</b>	<b>47,558</b>

1. Totals comprise data from all States and Territories. Cumulative figures are subject to retrospective revision so there may be discrepancies between the number of new notifications and the increment in the cumulative figure from the previous period.

2. Unspecified numbers should be interpreted with some caution as the magnitude may be a reflection of the numbers of tests being carried out.

3. Not reported for NSW because it is only notifiable as 'foodborne disease' or 'gastroenteritis in an institution'.

4. Infections with Shiga-like toxin (verotoxin) producing *E. coli* (SLTEC/VTEC).

5. WA: genital only.

6. NT, Qld, SA, Vic and WA: includes gonococcal neonatal ophthalmia.

7. Includes congenital syphilis.

8. Includes congenital rubella.

\* Date of report is the date the public health unit received the report.

NN Not Notifiable.

NEC Not Elsewhere Classified.

- Elsewhere Classified.

**Table 3. Virology and serology laboratory reports by contributing laboratories for the reporting period 1 to 30 June 2000<sup>1</sup>**

State or Territory	Laboratory	Reports this period	Total this period <sup>2</sup>
Australian Capital Territory	The Canberra Hospital	9	0
New South Wales	Institute of Clinical Pathology & Medical Research, Westmead	162	175
	New Children's Hospital, Westmead	138	167
New South Wales	Repatriation General Hospital, Concord	0	0
	Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown	55	58
	South West Area Pathology Service, Liverpool	0	0
Queensland	Queensland Medical Laboratory, West End	429	365
	Townsville General Hospital	0	0
South Australia	Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, Adelaide	412	458
Tasmania	Northern Tasmanian Pathology Service, Launceston	7	19
	Royal Hobart Hospital, Hobart	0	0
Victoria	Monash Medical Centre, Melbourne	0	3
	Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne	154	208
	Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory, Fairfield	171	213
Western Australia	PathCentre Virology, Perth	484	465
	Princess Margaret Hospital, Perth	100	374
	Western Diagnostic Pathology	11	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,132</b>	<b>2,511</b>

1. The complete list of laboratories reporting for the 12 months, January to December 2000, will appear in every report from January 2000 regardless of whether reports were received in this reporting period. Reports are not always received from all laboratories.

2. Total reports include both reports for the current period and outstanding reports to date.

**Table 4. Virology and serology laboratory reports by State or Territory<sup>1</sup> for the reporting period 1 to 30 June 2000, and total reports for the year<sup>2</sup>**

	State or Territory <sup>1</sup>								This period 2000	This period 1999	Year to date 2000 <sup>3</sup>	Year to date 1999
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA				
<b>Measles, mumps, rubella</b>												
Measles virus	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	5	3	26	130
Mumps virus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	31	30
Rubella virus	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	10	22	49
<b>Hepatitis viruses</b>												
Hepatitis A virus	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	6	9	26	94	199
Hepatitis D virus	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	4
<b>Arboviruses</b>												
Ross River virus	0	1	2	17	8	0	2	45	75	72	1,064	1,045
Barmah Forest virus	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	8	104	116
Dengue not typed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	2	164	33
Kunjin virus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	5
Flavivirus (unspecified)	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	37	17
<b>Adenoviruses</b>												
Adenovirus type 1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	6
Adenovirus type 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	5	7
Adenovirus type 19	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	6	0
Adenovirus type 37	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	9	9
Adenovirus type 40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	9	11	68	33
Adenovirus not typed/pending	0	12	1	2	44	0	13	20	92	97	541	538
<b>Herpes viruses</b>												
Cytomegalovirus	3	10	0	8	33	0	17	11	82	95	615	603
Varicella-zoster virus	1	3	0	20	7	0	24	44	99	100	745	806
Epstein-Barr virus	3	13	4	145	65	0	5	34	269	115	1,206	1,186
<b>Other DNA viruses</b>												
Molluscum contagiosum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	9	8
Parvovirus	0	0	0	0	4	0	8	12	24	39	166	208
<b>Picornavirus family</b>												
Echovirus type 30	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	102	6
Rhinovirus (all types)	0	9	0	0	0	0	1	26	36	42	208	186
Enterovirus not typed/pending	0	0	2	2	0	0	18	38	60	88	576	385
<b>Ortho/paramyxoviruses</b>												
Influenza A virus	3	13	0	1	43	0	5	8	73	322	339	629
Influenza A virus H3N2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	14	1	23
Influenza B virus	0	10	0	0	15	0	8	6	39	16	90	71
Parainfluenza virus type 1	0	3	0	2	14	0	6	6	31	5	179	23
Parainfluenza virus type 2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	5	28	21	83
Parainfluenza virus type 3	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	4	9	38	108	208
Respiratory syncytial virus	4	187	0	29	36	4	139	154	553	495	1,259	1,045
<b>Other RNA viruses</b>												
HTLV-1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	3	6
Rotavirus	0	53	0	0	29	0	6	52	140	200	349	538
<b>Other</b>												
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i> not typed	3	38	9	60	31	3	4	84	232	290	1,735	1,549
<i>Chlamydia pneumoniae</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
<i>Chlamydia psittaci</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	8	14	49	49
<i>Chlamydia</i> species	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	6	11
<i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i>	1	3	3	18	11	0	18	3	57	80	295	533
<i>Mycoplasma hominis</i>	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	6	4

**Table 4 (continued). Virology and serology laboratory reports by State or Territory<sup>1</sup> for the reporting period 1 to 30 June 2000, and total reports for the year<sup>2</sup>**

	State or Territory <sup>1</sup>								This period 2000	This period 1999	Year to date 2000 <sup>3</sup>	Year to date 1999
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA				
<i>Rickettsia</i> spp - other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	6	5
<i>Streptococcus</i> group A	0	4	2	11	0	0	4	0	21	46	181	74
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	8	8
<i>Bordetella pertussis</i>	3	2	0	8	8	1	21	6	49	46	274	322
<i>Legionella pneumophila</i>	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	14	15
<i>Legionella longbeachae</i>	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	6	2	35	19
<i>Cryptococcus</i> species	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	8	6
<i>Leptospira</i> species	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	8	7	31	16
<i>Treponema pallidum</i>	0	1	24	14	49	0	0	2	90	113	366	166
<i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	9	1
<i>Toxoplasma gondii</i>	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	7	5
<i>Echinococcus granulosus</i>	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	14	0
Total	22	375	47	358	414	8	317	591	2,132	2,439	11,201	11,018

1. State or Territory of postcode, if reported, otherwise State or Territory of reporting laboratory.
  2. From January 2000 data presented are for reports with report dates in the current period. Previously reports included all data received in that period.
  3. Totals comprise data from all laboratories. Cumulative figures are subject to retrospective revision, so there may be discrepancies between the number of new notifications and the increment in the cumulative figure from the previous period.
- No data received this period.

**Table 5. Australian Sentinel Practice Research Network reports, weeks 22 to 25, 2000**

Week number	22		23		24		25	
Week ending on	4 Jun 2000		11 Jun 2000		18 Jun 2000		25 Jun 2000	
Doctors reporting	63		65		69		69	
Total encounters	7,682		7,769		7,408		8,264	
Condition	Rate per 1,000		Rate per 1,000		Rate per 1,000		Rate per 1,000	
	Reports	encounters	Reports	encounters	Reports	encounters	Reports	encounters
Influenza	66	8.6	48	6.2	45	6.1	44	5.3
Chickenpox	12	1.6	11	1.4	10	1.3	13	1.6
Gastroenteritis	59	7.7	51	6.6	53	7.2	70	8.5
Gastroenteritis with stool culture	4	0.5	20	2.6	7	0.9	13	1.6
ADT immunisations	24	3.1	34	4.4	41	5.5	35	4.2

The NNDSS is conducted under the auspices of the Communicable Diseases Network Australia New Zealand. The system coordinates the national surveillance of close to 50 communicable diseases or disease groups endorsed by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Notifications of these diseases are made to State and Territory health authorities under the provisions of their respective public health legislations. De-identified core unit data are supplied fortnightly for collation, analysis and dissemination. For further information, see Commun Dis Intell 2000;24:6.

LabVISE is a sentinel reporting scheme. Currently 17 laboratories contribute data on the laboratory identification of viruses and other organisms. This number may change throughout the year. Data are collated and published in Communicable Diseases Intelligence every four weeks. These data should be interpreted with caution as the number and type of reports received is subject to a number of biases. For further information, see Commun Dis Intell 2000;24:10.

ASPREN currently comprises about 120 general practitioners from throughout the country. Between 7,000 and 8,000 consultations are reported each week, with special attention to 14 conditions chosen for sentinel surveillance in 2000. Communicable Diseases Intelligence reports the consultation rates for five of these. For further information, including case definitions, see Commun Dis Intell 2000;24:7-8.

## Additional Reports

### *Sentinel Chicken Surveillance Programme*

Sentinel chicken flocks are used to monitor flavivirus activity in Australia. The main viruses of concern are Murray Valley encephalitis (MVE) and Kunjin which cause the potentially fatal disease Australian encephalitis in humans. Currently 28 flocks are maintained in the north of Western Australia, seven in the Northern Territory, nine in New South Wales and ten in Victoria. The flocks in Western Australia and the Northern Territory are tested year round but those in New South Wales and Victoria are tested only from November to March, during the main risk season.

Results are coordinated by the Arbovirus Laboratory in Perth and reported bimonthly. For more information see *Commun Dis Intell* 2000;24:8-9.

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Sentinel chicken serology was carried out for 23 of the 28 flocks in Western Australia in May and June 2000. A new flock was established at the Bidyadanga Aboriginal community, approximately 150km south of Broome and was bled for the first time in June 2000. Widespread MVE was still detected in the Kimberley, Pilbara, Gascoyne and Midwest regions in May, however, the number of seroconversions declined in June, except for some areas of the Pilbara, particularly those sites near permanent water (Harding and Ophthalmia dams). The number of chickens positive for flavivirus antibodies by ELISA at each site and the identity of the infecting virus(es) are shown in Table 6. A number of the later seroconversions have not yet been confirmed.

High levels of MVE virus activity occurred in 2000 as a result of high wet season rainfall in the Kimberley region and high cyclonic rains and extensive flooding in the Pilbara, Gascoyne, Murchison and Midwest regions. MVE virus antibodies have been detected in chickens in the Murchison and Midwest regions for the first time this year. This is the furthest south the virus has ever been detected. A survey to determine MVE antibody levels in domestic chickens located in this region and areas further south and east is being carried out to determine the limit of MVE virus activity in Western Australia this year. A number of news media

**Table 6. Flavivirus seroconversions in Western Australian sentinel chicken flocks in May and June 2000**

Location	May 2000			June 2000		
	MVE	MVE/KUN	KUN	MVE	MVE/KUN	KUN
<b>Kimberley</b>						
Wyndham	1	1	1			
Kununurra	1					
Halls Creek	2					
Fitzroy Crossing	1					1
Derby*	3		1			
Curtain Air Base	4					
Lombadina				2		
Broome*	8 <sup>#</sup>					
<b>Pilbara</b>						
South Hedland	1	1				1
Karratha				4 <sup>#</sup>		
Harding Dam*				4	1	
Nullagine	1		1			
Tom Price				1		
Paraburdoo	2		1	4		
Ophthalmia Dam	6	1		2		
Newman	1					
Exmouth	4	2		1		1
<b>Gascoyne</b>						
Carnarvon	3					
<b>Mid-West</b>						
Dongara	4					

\* 2 flocks of 12 chickens at these sites

# These results have not yet been confirmed.

MVE Antibodies to Murray Valley encephalitis virus detected by ELISA.

KUN Antibodies to Kunjin virus detected by ELISA.

**Table 7. Flavivirus seroconversions in Northern Territory sentinel chicken flocks in May and June 2000**

Location	May 2000			June 2000		
	MVE	MVE/KUN	KUN	MVE	MVE/KUN	KUN
Alice Springs	1				1 <sup>#</sup>	
Howard Springs				1 <sup>#</sup>		
Leanyer	2					
Gove	1			3 <sup>#</sup>		
Tennant Creek	6 <sup>#</sup>					
Katherine	1					

<sup>#</sup> These results have not yet been confirmed.

MVE Antibodies to Murray Valley encephalitis virus detected by ELISA.

KUN Antibodies to Kunjin virus detected by ELISA.

warnings have been issued by the Health Department of Western Australia to alert residents living in the northern areas of Western Australia to the increased risk of disease. Additional warnings were also sent out by the Regional Public Health Units to Aboriginal communities in the regions. To date eleven cases of Australian encephalitis caused by MVE virus have been confirmed from Western Australia. In addition there have been several cases of non-encephalitic disease caused by Kunjin virus reported from Western Australia.

Serum samples from all seven of the Northern Territory sentinel chicken flocks were tested in our laboratory in May

2000 and from six flocks in June 2000. There were a number of seroconversions to flaviviruses in the flocks located at Alice Springs, Leanyer, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Gove in May and at Alice Springs, Howard Springs, and Gove in June. The number of chickens positive for flavivirus antibodies by ELISA at each site and the identity of the infecting virus(es) are shown in Table 7. A number of news media warnings have been issued by the Northern Territory Health Department and to date there have been four cases of Australian encephalitis confirmed from central Australia.

The MVE surveillance programs using sentinel chickens in New South Wales and Victoria finished in April 2000.

### HIV and AIDS Surveillance

National surveillance for HIV disease is coordinated by the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR), in collaboration with State and Territory health authorities and the Commonwealth of Australia. Cases of HIV infection are notified to the National HIV Database on the first occasion of diagnosis in Australia, by either the diagnosing laboratory (Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Tasmania, Victoria) or by a combination of laboratory and doctor sources (Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia). Cases of AIDS are notified through the State and Territory health authorities to the National AIDS Registry. Diagnoses of both HIV infection and AIDS are notified with the person's date of birth and name code, to minimise duplicate notifications while maintaining confidentiality.

Tabulations of diagnoses of HIV infection and AIDS are based on data available three months after the end of the reporting interval indicated, to allow for reporting delay and to incorporate newly available information. More detailed information on diagnoses of HIV infection and AIDS is published in the quarterly Australian HIV Surveillance Report, and annually in HIV/AIDS and related diseases in Australia Annual Surveillance Report. The reports are available from the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, 376 Victoria Street, Darlinghurst NSW 2010. Telephone: (02) 9332 4648; Facsimile: (02) 9332 1837; <http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/nchechr>.

HIV and AIDS diagnoses and deaths following AIDS reported for 1 to 29 February 2000, as reported to 31 May 2000, are included in this issue of Communicable Diseases Intelligence (Tables 8 and 9).

**Table 8. New diagnoses of HIV infection, new diagnoses of AIDS and deaths following AIDS occurring in the period 1 to 29 February 2000, by sex and State or Territory of diagnosis**

									Totals for Australia				
		ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	This period 2000	This period 1999	Year to date 2000	Year to date 1999
HIV diagnoses	Female	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	4	7	13	10
	Male	0	20	0	12	1	0	5	4	42	39	111	85
	Sex not reported	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Total <sup>1</sup>	0	21	0	14	1	0	5	5	46	46	126	95
AIDS diagnoses	Female	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	7	1
	Male	0	3	0	2	1	0	4	1	11	12	30	22
	Total <sup>1</sup>	0	5	0	3	1	0	4	1	14	13	37	23
AIDS deaths	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
	Male	1	3	0	3	1	0	2	0	10	6	13	27
	Total <sup>1</sup>	1	3	0	3	1	0	2	0	10	6	16	28

1. Persons whose sex was reported as transgender are included in the totals.

**Table 9. Cumulative diagnoses of HIV infection, AIDS and deaths following AIDS since the introduction of HIV antibody testing to 29 February 2000, by sex and State or Territory**

		State or Territory								Australia
		ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	
HIV diagnoses	Female	26	604	11	153	61	5	212	116	1,188
	Male	223	10,901	109	1,990	674	79	3,892	918	18,786
	Sex not reported	0	252	0	0	0	0	24	0	276
	Total <sup>1</sup>	249	11,775	120	2,150	735	84	4,142	1,038	20,293
AIDS diagnoses	Female	9	188	0	48	25	3	69	26	368
	Male	86	4,644	36	823	346	44	1,616	350	7,945
	Total <sup>1</sup>	95	4,844	36	873	371	47	1,692	378	8,336
AIDS deaths	Female	4	113	0	32	15	2	49	16	231
	Male	66	3,171	24	567	231	29	1,270	248	5,606
	Total <sup>1</sup>	70	3,292	24	601	246	31	1,325	265	5,854

1. Persons whose sex was reported as transgender are included in the totals.

## Childhood Immunisation Coverage

Tables 10 and 11 provide the latest quarterly report on childhood immunisation coverage from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR).

The data show the percentage of children fully immunised at age 12 months for the cohort born between 1 January and 31 March 1999 and at 24 months of age for the cohort born between 1 January and 31 March 1998, according to the Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule.

A full description of the methodology used can be found in *Commun Dis Intell* 1998;22:36-37.

Acceptance of a report does not imply a causal relationship between administration of the vaccine and the medical outcome, or that the report has been verified as to the accuracy of its contents.

It is estimated that 250,000 doses of vaccines are administered every month to Australian children under the age of six years.

**Table 10. Percentage of children immunised at 1 year of age, preliminary results by disease and State for the birth cohort 1 January to 31 March 1999; assessment date 30 June 2000**

Vaccine	State or Territory								Australia
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	
Total number of children	1,068	21,412	941	12,332	4,509	1,541	15,102	6,225	63,130
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (%)	91.5	88.2	84.2	90.4	91.9	92.8	91.2	88.8	89.8
Poliomyelitis (%)	91.2	88.4	84.6	90.3	91.8	92.6	91.3	88.8	89.8
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (%)	91.3	87.6	88.7	90.4	90.7	91.7	90.8	88.0	89.3
<b>Fully immunised (%)</b>	91.1	86.5	82.7	89.7	90.2	91.1	90.0	86.9	88.4
Change in fully immunised since last quarter (%)	-0.7	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	+1.1	+2.8	+0.6	+1.1	+0.3

**Table 11. Proportion of children immunised at 2 years of age, preliminary results by disease and State for the birth cohort 1 January to 31 March 1998; assessment date 30 June 2000<sup>1</sup>**

Vaccine	State or Territory								Australia
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	
Total number of children	1,102	21,148	956	12,392	4,579	1,517	14,842	6,196	62,732
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (%)	90.0	85.6	79.4	90.1	89.4	87.2	88.3	86.4	87.5
Poliomyelitis (%)	93.6	90.1	90.0	92.7	94.0	93.4	93.2	91.0	91.9
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (%)	89.0	84.8	86.3	90.1	88.8	86.4	88.3	85.6	87.2
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (%)	92.5	89.3	89.7	92.1	92.4	92.9	92.1	90.2	91.0
<b>Fully immunised (%)<sup>2</sup></b>	87.0	78.0	74.6	86.2	84.2	82.7	83.4	79.5	81.7
Change in fully immunised since last quarter (%)	+4.4	+4.2	+1.6	+4.7	+6.3	+4.0	+5.7	+6.2	+5.0

1. The 12 months age data for this cohort was published in *Commun Dis Intell* 1999;23:232.

2. These data relating to 2 year old children should be considered as preliminary. The proportions shown as "fully immunised" appear low when compared with the proportions for individual vaccines. This is at least partly due to poor identification of children on immunisation encounter forms.

Acknowledgment: These figures were provided by the Health Insurance Commission (HIC), to specifications provided by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care. For further information on these figures or data on the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register please contact the Immunisation Section of the HIC: Telephone 02 6124 6607.