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Measles epidemiology in Australia: 2014 to 2024

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Erratum

Measles epidemiology in Australia: 2014 to 2024

Erratum to https://doi.org/10.33321/cdi.2026.50.016.

This article, as originally published, contained a mis-compiled tabulation of the notified measles clusters within Australia for the period 2014–2024, inadvertently misrepresenting the distribution of measles clusters across the country during this period. The revised text passages and the revised table presented on the following pages correct these errors.

(The paragraph below replaces the first paragraph in column 2 of page 5 of the PDF)

Results

Between 2014 and 2024, there were 1,095 measles notifications (average annual notification rate 0.4 per 100,000 population per year). The highest annual notification rates were recorded in 2014 (1.4 per 100,000 per year) and 2019 (1.1 per 100,000 per year), when rates in the Northern Territory were 21.4 and 12.6 per 100,000 population per year, respectively. Although notification rates were highest among infants < 1 year of age (average 3.8 notifications per 100,000 population per year), people aged 20–49 accounted for 57.2% of total notifications (n = 626). Of cases with a known immunisation status (n = 766), there were 513 cases (66.9%) who reported being unvaccinated; 20.1% (n = 154) reported having received one dose of MMR vaccine prior to infection; and 12.1% (n = 93) reported two or more doses. For notifications where country of acquisition was available (n =1,077), just over half of cases (55.1%) were acquired in Australia. Where measles was acquired overseas (n = 493), the most common countries of acquisition were Indonesia (n = 99; 20.1%), the Philippines (n = 82; 16.6%) and India (n = 52; 10.5%). There were 148 clusters during the reporting period, of which the largest involved 29 linked cases in 2019. Of recorded clusters, 117 (79.1%) had a source country outside of Australia. Notifications tended to peak each year in the months coinciding with the end of Australian school holiday periods.

(The section below replaces the text above Table 7 of page 16 of the PDF)

Clusters

Clusters are identified in the NNDSS when more than one case is assigned a unique outbreak reference ID by the state or territory of notification. All cases sharing the outbreak reference ID are considered part of the cluster.

Of the 1,095 cases notified to the NNDSS during the reporting period, 640 (58.4%) were identified as part of a cluster.

There were a total of 148 clusters identified in the reporting period; of these, 117 (79.1%) had an overseas source country (i.e., at least one case linked in the cluster by NNDSS outbreak reference ID had a country of acquisition that was not Australia). Clusters without an identified overseas source country (i.e. all cases in the cluster had a place of acquisition country of Australia in the NNDSS) averaged 4.8 cases per cluster (range 2 to 22; Table 7).

The largest cluster occurred in 2019 in the Northern Territory (n = 29) and lasted 54 days. The most common genotypes of clusters (where genotype information was available for at least one case in the cluster) were B3 and D8 (Table 7).

(The following table replaces Table 7 on pp.16–17 of the PDF)

Table 7: Measles clusters,[a,b] Australia, 2014–2024

Year	Jurisdiction[c]	Number of linked cases[d]	First onset date	Last onset date	Source country[e,f]	Genotype[g]
2014	ACT	4	18/07/2014	25/07/2014	Imported, uic	B3
	NSW	2	10/02/2014	28/02/2014	Imported, uic	B3
		15	12/02/2014	11/03/2014	Philippines	B3
		3	17/02/2014	2/03/2014	Imported, uic	B3
		7	18/02/2024	14/03/2014	Imported, uic	B3
		4	17/03/2014	25/03/2014	Philippines	B3
		2	20/04/2014	22/04/2014	Vietnam	D8
		3	7/08/2014	19/08/2014	Vietnam	D8
	NT	28	12/01/2014	4/03/2014	Singapore	B3
		2	25/01/2014	7/02/2014	Singapore	B3
		3	28/10/2014	12/11/2014	Indonesia	D9
	Qld	2	27/01/2014	28/01/2014	Philippines	B3
		2	23/02/2014	7/03/2014	Vietnam	H1
		2	18/03/2014	30/03/2014	Papua New Guinea	B3
		7	28/03/2014	8/06/2014	Papua New Guinea	B3
		2	6/05/2014	19/05/2014	Papua New Guinea	B3
		8	9/05/2014	24/05/2014	Imported, uic	D9
		3	1/06/2014	21/06/2014	Papua New Guinea	B3
		2	17/06/2014	29/06/2014	Papua New Guinea	B3
		2	28/06/2014	3/07/2014	Philippines	B3
		2	28/06/2014	10/07/2014	Papua New Guinea	B3
		2	15/08/2014	29/08/2014	Indonesia	D8
		9	10/10/2014	13/11/2014	Indonesia	D8
		2	14/10/2014	28/10/2014	Myanmar/Malaysia	D9
		2	24/10/2014	24/10/2014	Papua New Guinea	B3
		3	15/10/2014	14/11/2014	Indonesia	D8
		2	15/04/2014	11/05/2014	Imported, uic	Unknown
	SA	4	1/01/2014	29/01/2014	Imported, uic	B3
		3	31/01/2014	3/03/2014	Philippines	B3
		2	3/06/2014	4/06/2014	Imported, uic	Unknown
	Tas.	3	6/07/2014	28/07/2014	Papua New Guinea	B3
	Vic.	7	1/01/2014	22/01/2014	Philippines	B3
		11	13/01/2014	1/03/2014	Philippines	B3
		9	4/07/2014	2/09/2014	Singapore	D8
		11	27/05/2014	1/07/2014	Imported, uic	B3
		5	23/12/2014	29/12/2014	Imported, uic	D8
		3	17/07/2014	11/08/2014	Vietnam	H1
		2	18/03/2014	7/04/2014	Philippines	B3
		4	27/06/2014	6/07/2014	Somalia	B3
		2	18/12/2014	24/12/2014	Vietnam/Germany	D9
		2	9/01/2014	20/01/2014	Sri Lanka	B3

Year	Jurisdiction[c]	Number of linked cases[d]	First onset date	Last onset date	Source country[e,f]	Genotype[g]
2015	NSW	3	13/01/2015	9/02/2015	India	D8
	Qld	5	2/03/2015	28/03/2015	Hong Kong	H1
		2	12/05/2015	19/05/2015	Imported, uic	H1
		11	15/07/2015	13/09/2015	Indonesia	D8
	SA	3	3/12/2015	14/12/2015	Indonesia	D8
	Vic.	4	8/01/2015	14/01/2015	Imported, uic	D8
		2	1/03/2015	12/03/2015	Ethiopia	B3
		2	28/01/2015	14/02/2015	India	D8
		9	28/02/2015	19/04/2015	India	D8
		2	19/05/2015	1/06/2015	Indonesia	D8
		2	28/08/2015	9/09/2015	Afghanistan	B3
	WA	3	2/06/2015	18/06/2015	Indonesia	D8
2016	NSW	3	27/03/2016	10/04/2016	Imported, uic	D8
	Qld	2	13/03/2016	27/03/2016	India	D8
		2	20/11/2016	1/12/2016	India	D4
		3	27/11/2016	30/12/2016	Indonesia	D8
		2	26/12/2016	27/12/2016	Imported, uic	Unknown
	SA	2	18/05/2016	27/05/2016	Indonesia	D8
		4	6/09/2016	21/09/2016	Thailand	D8
		2	13/09/2016	22/09/2016	Indonesia	D8
	Tas.	3	29/04/2016	12/05/2016	Nepal	D8
	Vic.	22	29/01/2016	22/03/2016	Imported, uic	D8
		2	4/03/2016	5/03/2016	Imported, uic	B3
		4	8/04/2016	26/04/2016	India	D8
		5	23/06/2016	3/07/2016	Imported, uic	D8
	WA	4	2/07/2016	19/07/2016	Indonesia	D8
		5	25/11/2016	28/12/2016	South-East Asia, nfd	D8
2017	NSW	18	2/03/2017	15/04/2017	Indonesia	D8
		5	6/09/2017	11/10/2017	Thailand	B3
	Qld	2	2/03/2017	12/03/2017	Indonesia	D8
	Vic.	9	7/09/2017	26/09/2017	Indonesia	D8
		3	9/05/2017	26/05/2017	Indonesia	D8
		3	27/09/2017	21/10/2017	South-East Asia, nfd	D8
	WA	6	6/01/2017	21/01/2017	Indonesia	D8
		4	25/07/2017	19/08/2017	Italy	B3
2018	NSW	4	2/08/2018	27/08/2018	Malaysia	B3
		3	4/09/2018	19/09/2018	Overseas – country unknown	B3
	Qld	6	12/03/2018	8/04/2018	Indonesia	D8
	Vic.	9	3/03/2018	20/03/2018	Malaysia	B3
		2	11/03/2018	19/03/2018	Indonesia	D8

Year	Jurisdiction[c]	Number of linked cases[d]	First onset date	Last onset date	Source country[e,f]	Genotype[g]
	Vic.	2	20/03/2018	30/03/2018	Thailand	D8
		3	7/08/2018	10/08/2018	Thailand	Unknown
	WA	2	17/03/2018	2/04/2018	Indonesia	D8
		3	26/03/2018	7/04/2018	India	D8
		10	23/07/2018	19/08/2018	Indonesia	D8
		3	25/07/2018	8/08/2018	Indonesia	D8
		6	19/10/2018	18/11/2018	Vietnam	D8
		3	27/11/2018	18/12/2018	Imported, uic	D8
		2	8/11/2018	8/11/2018	Philippines	B3
2019	NSW	2	6/01/2019	18/03/2019	Imported, uic	D8
		2	8/01/2019	9/01/2019	Sri Lanka	D8
		4	15/03/2019	1/04/2019	Thailand	D8
		4	10/03/2019	4/04/2019	Imported, uic	D8
		2	30/03/2019	1/04/2019	Philippines	B3
		3	10/04/2019	27/04/2019	New Zealand	B3
		3	19/08/2019	17/09/2019	United Arab Emirates	B3
		3	14/08/2019	30/08/2019	Chile	D8
		2	16/08/2019	2/09/2019	New Zealand	D8
		2	31/08/2019	11/09/2019	New Zealand	D8
	NT	29	6/02/2019	31/03/2019	Vietnam	D8
	Qld	4	16/02/2019	8/03/2019	Overseas – country unknown	D8
		2	30/03/2019	3/04/2019	Imported, uic	D8
		2	19/03/2019	27/03/2019	Imported, uic	D8
		3	16/07/2019	30/07/2019	Philippines	B3
		6	11/10/2019	25/11/2019	Imported, uic	Unknown
		2	4/12/2019	19/12/2019	Imported, uic	B3
		4	1/10/2019	20/10/2019	New Zealand	D8
		2	12/07/2019	31/07/2019	New Zealand	D8
		2	24/09/2019	11/10/2019	New Zealand	D8
		6	16/10/2019	28/10/2019	Imported, uic	D8
		13	2/10/2019	5/11/2019	Imported, uic	D8
		2	2/07/2019	4/07/2019	Overseas – country unknown	D8
		2	31/10/2019	13/11/2019	Samoa	B3
		6	16/11/2019	17/12/2019	Samoa	B3
	Vic.	2	10/01/2019	10/01/2019	Imported, uic	B3
		2	3/02/2019	21/02/2019	Philippines	B3
		10	3/05/2019	24/05/2019	Imported, uic	D8
		2	23/04/2019	11/05/2019	Thailand	D8
		2	16/07/2019	31/07/2019	Philippines	B3

Year	Jurisdiction[c]	Number of linked cases[d]	First onset date	Last onset date	Source country[e,f]	Genotype[g]
	Vic.	2	30/08/2019	8/09/2019	New Zealand	B3
		2	29/09/2019	15/10/2019	New Zealand	D8
		3	28/10/2019	13/11/2019	Samoa	B3
		8	18/11/2019	1/12/2019	Samoa	B3
		2	12/11/2019	22/11/2019	Thailand	D8
	WA	5	9/01/2019	31/01/2019	Imported, uic	D8
		2	15/01/2019	26/01/2019	Vietnam	D8
		3	29/01/2019	12/02/2019	Philippines	B3
		2	24/02/2019	11/03/2019	Vietnam	D8
		3	4/07/2019	21/07/2019	Singapore	D8
		2	29/06/2019	13/07/2019	South-East Asia, nfd	D8
		22	23/09/2019	15/10/2019	New Zealand	D8
		2	1/10/2019	12/10/2019	Thailand	D8
		2	29/09/2019	17/10/2019	Indonesia	D8
2020	NSW	2	30/01/2020	1/02/2020	Imported, uic	D8
	Qld	2	10/01/2020	18/01/2020	India	D8
		2	23/01/2020	23/01/2020	Singapore	B3
	WA	2	8/01/2020	26/01/2020	Thailand	D8
2021[h]	—	—	—	—	—	—
2022	Vic.	3	4/11/2022	15/11/2022	Saudi Arabia/Malaysia	D8
2023	Qld	3	16/03/2023	4/04/2023	Pakistan	B3
	SA	3	19/03/2023	3/04/2023	Indonesia	D8
	WA	2	19/09/2023	30/09/2023	Indonesia	D8
2024	NSW	4	8/02/2024	25/03/2024	India/Vietnam	D8/B3
	Qld	2	5/02/2024	18/02/2024	Thailand	Unknown
	SA	4	17/03/2024	8/04/2024	England	B3
	Vic.	2	18/01/2024	28/01/2024	Indonesia	D8
		3	29/02/2024	17/03/2024	Imported, uic	D8
	WA	2	1/03/2024	16/03/2024	Pakistan	B3

a Clusters are defined as per outbreak reference IDs entered by reporting states and territories to the NNDSS.

b Excludes clusters with less than 2 linked cases.

c ACT: Australian Capital Territory; NSW: New South Wales; NT: Northern Territory; Qld: Queensland; SA: South Australia; Tas.: Tasmania; Vic.: Victoria; WA: Western Australia.

d Number of linked cases includes 1 source case per cluster.

e uic: unknown index case; nfd: not further differentiated.

f Clusters marked 'Imported, uic' had place of acquisition of Australia for all linked cases in the NNDSS; however, this does not represent endemic virus transmission within Australia

g Genotype is based on the most common genotype associated with the cluster, which may not be complete for every case linked by a given outbreak reference number.

h No measles cases were notified in 2021.

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