

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 October 2023. 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 previous years should be treated with caution.

KEY NOTIFIABLE DISEASE TRENDS

Measles

There were two confirmed measles cases notified in September 2023. One case was aged 30–39 years and the other case was aged under 1 year. The two cases were not associated with each other and had been overseas in different countries during the incubation period. For more details, see the media releases from Auckland Regional Public Health Service for the first case [here](#) and the second case [here](#).

Pertussis

There were 23 cases (20 confirmed and 3 probable) of pertussis notified in September 2023. Five cases were aged under 1 year, two were 1–4 years, four were aged 5–14 years, and 12 were aged 15 years and over. Eleven (47.8%) cases were European or Other ethnicity, eight (34.8%) were Pacific peoples, and three were Māori. Six cases were hospitalised, including four infants aged under 1 year. Three household outbreaks were reported involving 15 cases. More information on trends in pertussis notifications can be found on [ESR's Pertussis Dashboard](#).

Tuberculosis

There were 22 confirmed and 4 probable cases of tuberculosis notified in September 2023. The total confirmed and probable cases for the year to date is 203, compared with 192 for the same period in 2022. Of the 25 confirmed and probable cases with a site recorded, 12 (48.0%) were pulmonary only, 12 (48.0%) were extrapulmonary only, and one (4.0%) case had both pulmonary and extrapulmonary disease. The majority (23/26, 88.5%) of confirmed and probable cases were of Asian ethnicity. Of the 25 cases with information available, 23 were born outside New Zealand and the two cases who were not born outside New Zealand were living with a person born outside New Zealand.

OUTBREAKS

Clostridium perfringens infection

An outbreak of gastroenteritis due to *Clostridium perfringens* was reported from Hutt Valley district in September 2023, involving 12 cases (1 confirmed and 11 probable) that attended a catered birthday party. A food source could not be identified due to lack of completion of case questionnaires.

Cryptosporidiosis

An outbreak of cryptosporidiosis was reported from Southern district in September 2023, involving 68 confirmed cases. The cases were reported from Southern (54), Auckland (4), Waitematā (3), Canterbury (2), Nelson Marlborough (2), Waikato (1), Capital & Coast (1), and South Canterbury (1) districts. Epidemiological, laboratory and environmental investigations have implicated contamination of the Two Mile Queenstown drinking water supply as the outbreak source. A boil water notice was issued on 18 September. For more details, see the [Queenstown and Lakes District Council website](#).

Norovirus

There were 21 acute gastroenteritis outbreaks due to norovirus reported in September 2023. Approximately half (11/21, 52.4%) of the outbreaks were in long-term care facilities, four (19.0%) were in hospitals, two each were in childcare centres and food premises, and one each were in a household and a hospice.

Respiratory illness

There were nine respiratory illness outbreaks reported in September 2023. Seven were due to influenza-like illness/acute respiratory infection (one was identified as influenza B, one parainfluenza 2, and one rhinovirus), two were due to COVID-19, and one involved both influenza A and COVID-19 cases. Six outbreaks were in long term care facilities and three were in childcare centres.

Rotavirus

There were three outbreaks of acute gastroenteritis due to rotavirus reported in September 2023. Two were in childcare centres and one was in a long-term care facility. Rotavirus has been detected in seven outbreaks in 2023 to date, compared with none to five outbreaks for the same period for 2018–2022. Rotavirus vaccine has been included in the [National Immunisation Schedule](#) since 2014 and is currently given at 6 weeks and 3 months of age.

Typhoid fever

An outbreak of typhoid fever was reported in Tairāwhiti district in September 2023, involving 11 cases (8 confirmed and 3 probable). The cases were RSE workers living in shared accommodation. Ten cases were hospitalised. The likely source of the outbreak was an RSE worker who cooks and cleans for the group. Sequencing results for *Salmonella* Typhi isolates from five cases showed they were genetically related.

TABLES

Tables for September are available as Excel files on the [Ngā Kete Intelligence Hub](#).