



2021

Metropolitan Communicable Disease Control

Notifiable diseases in Perth snapshot

Metropolitan Communicable Disease Control has responsibility for the public health management of notifiable infectious diseases to protect the community and prevent disease outbreaks.



21,756

infectious disease notifications in metropolitan Perth in 2021
(↓down 5.9% from 2020)



On the rise

Syphilis



94.4%

of 12 month olds fully immunised in metropolitan Perth
(benchmark 95%)



Newly notifiable

Invasive Group A Streptococcus
Respiratory syncytial virus

Enteric (gastrointestinal) diseases: 3,321

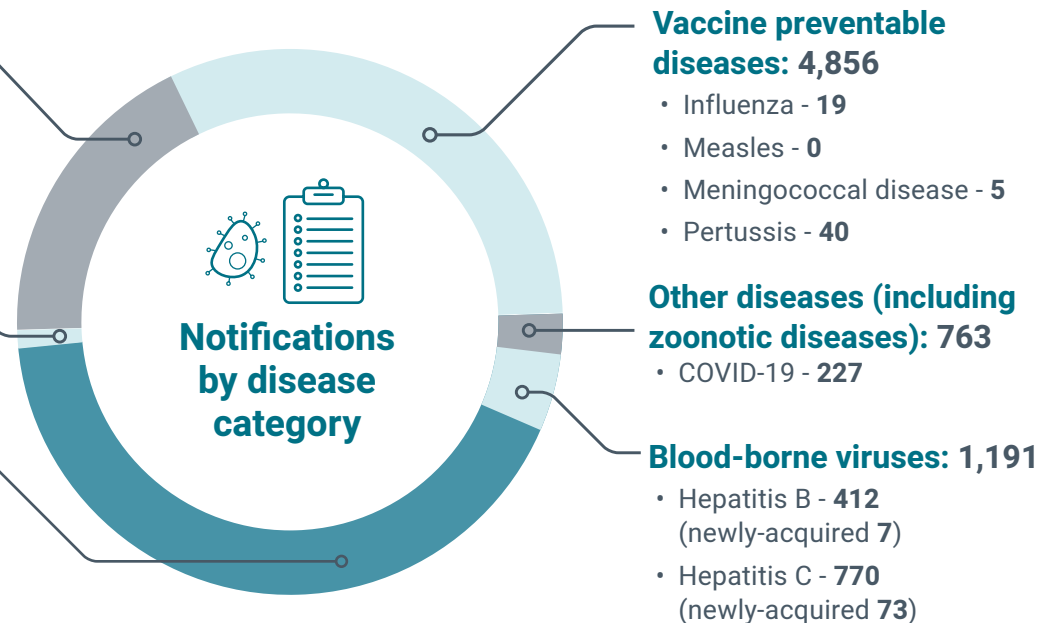
- Campylobacter - 2,437
- Salmonella - 639

Vector-borne diseases: 395

- Dengue virus - 0
- Malaria - 9
- Ross River virus - 375

Sexually transmitted infections: 11,229

- Chlamydia - 8,721
- Gonorrhoea - 1,871
- Infectious syphilis - 477



Vaccine preventable diseases: 4,856

- Influenza - 19
- Measles - 0
- Meningococcal disease - 5
- Pertussis - 40

Other diseases (including zoonotic diseases): 763

- COVID-19 - 227

Blood-borne viruses: 1,191

- Hepatitis B - 412 (newly-acquired 7)
- Hepatitis C - 770 (newly-acquired 73)

Selected infectious diseases listed only; disease category totals may be more than the sum of the listed individual diseases.

Key issues

Infectious syphilis is increasing, and the syphilis outbreak in metropolitan Perth is ongoing.

- Infectious syphilis notifications continued to increase, including among priority populations such as pregnant women, people experiencing homelessness, and women of childbearing age.
- The syphilis outbreak response continued to focus on testing, treating, contact tracing, monitoring, and using a collaborative multi-organisational approach to management of syphilis in priority groups.



The state-wide public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic continued in 2021.

- There were 300 COVID-19 cases across WA, of which 227 were residents of metropolitan Perth.
- COVID-19 public health measures continued to lessen the impact of some other notifiable communicable diseases, as seen in the decline in influenza, measles and pertussis notifications, and potential rabies exposures.

