

Communicable Diseases Weekly Report

Week 7, 13 February to 19 February 2022

In summary, we report:

- [Infant formula recall due to potential microbial contamination](#)
- [Novel coronavirus 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Summary of notifiable conditions activity in NSW](#)

For further information see NSW Health [infectious diseases page](#). This includes links to other NSW Health [infectious disease surveillance reports](#) and a [diseases data page](#) for a range of notifiable infectious diseases.

Infant formula recall

On 20 February 2022, specific batches of Elecare, Similac and Alimentum powdered infant formulas were recalled across Australia due to potential bacterial contamination with *Salmonella* and *Cronobacter*. The affected products were manufactured in the United States, where the issue was detected and remains under investigation by FDA authorities. These specialist infant formula are mainly used for children from birth to 12 months who have multiple allergies, such as cow's milk allergy, as well as other gastrointestinal disorders. They have been available by prescription at pharmacies, hospitals and via direct mail order. Symptoms of salmonellosis can include fever, vomiting and diarrhoea, while symptoms of *Cronobacter* infection may include fever, poor feeding, abdominal pain and irritability. Severe *Cronobacter* infections including septicaemia or meningitis may occur in younger infants. To date, there have been no confirmed cases in NSW among infants who have consumed affected batches of this product. Parents and caregivers have been advised to change to a suitable alternative formula as soon as one is sourced.

For further information see the [NSW Food Authority recall notice](#)

Novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)

For up-to-date information regarding the COVID-19 outbreak and the NSW response, please visit the [NSW Health COVID-19 page](#).

Summary of notifiable conditions activity in NSW

The following table summarises notifiable conditions activity over the reporting period (Table 1).

Table 1. NSW Notifiable conditions from 13 February to 19 February 2022, by date received*

		Weekly		Year to date				Full Year		
		This week	Last week	2022	2021	2020	2019	2021	2020	2019
Enteric Diseases	Campylobacter	244	251	1494	1730	1611	1823	11177	9457	11179
	Cryptosporidiosis	12	7	60	105	175	157	442	549	669
	Giardiasis	34	22	154	247	433	618	1499	1869	3323
	Listeriosis	1	0	2	2	1	1	22	20	16
	Rotavirus	5	5	35	45	240	106	356	500	1777
	Salmonellosis	94	88	570	734	786	755	3097	2884	3556
	Shigellosis	3	3	28	10	225	138	60	494	867
	STEC/VTEC	3	5	19	22	17	17	127	115	80
	Typhoid	3	1	5	0	18	17	2	37	64
Respiratory Diseases	Influenza	9	1	25	12	4335	3613	124	7487	116434
	Legionellosis	3	4	33	41	15	36	210	170	153
	Tuberculosis	4	8	42	81	66	69	560	624	589
Sexually Transmissible Infections	Chlamydia	487	475	2865	4255	4984	4574	25344	27251	32478
	Gonorrhoea	207	184	1176	1319	1853	1607	7628	9889	11691
Vaccine Preventable Diseases	Pertussis	1	0	3	6	613	1012	43	1404	6386
	Pneumococcal Disease (Invasive)	3	3	28	44	68	46	390	359	690
Vector Borne Diseases	Malaria	1	0	2	1	6	9	8	25	73
	Ross River	16	42	187	144	27	75	653	1990	593
Zoonotic Diseases	Q fever	5	0	15	29	44	56	174	206	248

* Notes on Table 1: NSW Notifiable Conditions activity

- Only conditions which had one or more case reports received during the reporting week appear in the table.
- Due to the rapidly evolving nature of the situation, data on COVID-19 notifications can be found separately on the NSW Health [Latest Updates on COVID-19](#) page.
- Data cells represent the number of case reports received by NSW public health units and recorded on the NSW Notifiable Conditions Information Management System (NCIMS) in the relevant period (i.e. by report date).
- Note that [notifiable disease data](#) available on the NSW Health website are reported by onset date so case totals are likely to vary from those shown here.
- Cases involving interstate residents are not included.
- The shigellosis case definition changed on 1 July 2018 to include probable cases (PCR positive only), hence case counts cannot be validly compared to previous years.
- Chronic blood-borne virus conditions (such as HIV, hepatitis B and C) are not included here. Related data are available from the [Infectious Diseases Data](#), the [HIV Surveillance Data Reports](#) and the [Hepatitis B and C Strategies Data Reports](#) webpages.
- Notification is dependent on a diagnosis being made by a doctor, hospital or laboratory. Changes in awareness and testing patterns influence the proportion of patients with a particular infection that is diagnosed and notified over time, especially if the infection causes non-specific symptoms.