Meningococcal Surveillance Australia

Reporting period 1 July to 30 September 2022

Monica M Lahra, Sanghamitra Ray and Tiffany R Hogan for the National Neisseria Network

The reference laboratories of the National Neisseria Network, Australia report data on invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) cases confirmed by culture and or molecular techniques for the Australian Meningococcal Surveillance Programme (AMSP). Culture-positive cases, where Neisseria meningitidis is grown from a normally sterile site or from skin lesions, and molecular-based diagnoses, are defined as IMD by the Public Health Laboratory Network definitions. Data contained in quarterly reports are restricted to a description of the numbers of cases by jurisdiction and serogroup, when known. Some minor corrections to data in Table 1 may be made in subsequent reports if additional data are received. Over the third quarter of 2022, IMD in Australia has continued to rise and now reaches almost double than in the third quarter of 2021 year to date; however, the 2022 year-to-date total is still approximately half that reported (n = 156) in the corresponding period in 2019 (pre-pandemic years). Of importance is the increase in representation of MenB disease in 2022, currently accounting for 80% of IMD nationally, compared to 50–62% MenB IMD reported in 2019 to 2021.1,2 A full analysis of laboratory-confirmed cases of IMD in each calendar year is contained in the AMSP annual report published in Communicable Diseases Intelligence.

# Author details

Monica M Lahra 1, 2   
Sanghamitra Ray 1   
Tiffany R Hogan 1

1. The World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for STI and AMR and Neisseria Reference Laboratory. NSW Health Pathology, Microbiology, Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick, NSW, 2031, Australia
2. The School of Medical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of New South Wales, Kensington, NSW, 2052, Australia

## Corresponding author

Professor Monica M Lahra,

World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for STI and AMR and Neisseria Reference Laboratory, Microbiology Department, NSW Health Pathology, Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick, NSW, 2031, Australia

Telephone: +61 2 9382 3678   
Facsimile: +61 2 9382 3720   
Email: monica.lahra@health.nsw.gov.au

# References

1. Lahra MM, Shoushtari M, Hogan TR. Meningococcal Surveillance Australia: Reporting period 1 July to 30 September 2020. Commun Dis Intell (2018). 2020:44. doi: https://doi.org/10.33321/cdi.2020.44.95.
2. Lahra MM, George RCR, Hogan TR. Australian Meningococcal Surveillance Programme Annual Report, 2021. Commun Dis Intell (2018). doi: https://doi.org/10.33321/cdi.2022.46.46.

****Table 1: Number of laboratory-confirmed cases of invasive meningococcal disease, Australia, 1 July to 30 September 2022, by serogroup and state or territory****

| Jurisdiction |  | Serogroup | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | A | | B | | C | | Y | | W | | NDa | | All | |
| Q3 | ytdb | Q3 | ytd | Q3 | ytd | Q3 | ytd | Q3 | ytd | Q3 | ytd | Q3 | ytd |
| Australian Capital Territory | 2022 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 2021 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New South Wales | 2022 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 13 | 22 |
| 2021 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 12 |
| Northern Territory | 2022 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 2021 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Queensland | 2022 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 23 |
| 2021 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 10 |
| South Australia | 2022 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 12 |
| 2021 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 |
| Tasmania | 2022 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 2021 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Victoria | 2022 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 11 |
| 2021 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| Western Australia | 2022 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 14 |
| 2021 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 7 |
| **Australia** | **2022** | **0** | **0** | **36** | **69** | **0** | **0** | **3** | **8** | **1** | **5** | **2** | **4** | **42** | **86** |
|  | **2021** | **0** | **0** | **4** | **23** | **0** | **0** | **2** | **11** | **3** | **9** | **0** | **4** | **9** | **47** |

a ND: not determined.

b ytd: year to date, data from 1 January to 30 September 2022.

**Communicable Diseases Intelligence**

ISSN: 2209-6051 Online

**Communicable Diseases Intelligence (CDI) is a peer-reviewed scientific journal published by the Office of Health Protection and Response, Department of Health and Aged Care. The journal aims to disseminate information on the epidemiology, surveillance, prevention and control of communicable diseases of relevance to Australia.**

**Editor:** Noel Lally

**Deputy Editor:** Simon Petrie

**Design and Production:** Kasra Yousefi

**Editorial Advisory Board:** David Durrheim, Mark Ferson, John Kaldor, Martyn Kirk and Linda Selvey

**Website**: <http://www.health.gov.au/cdi>

**Contacts**CDI is produced by the Office of Health Protection and Response, Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care, GPO Box 9848, (MDP 6) CANBERRA ACT 2601

**Email:** [cdi.editor@health.gov.au](mailto:cdi.editor@health.gov.au)

**Submit an Article**You are invited to submit your next communicable disease related article to the Communicable Diseases Intelligence (CDI) for consideration. More information regarding CDI can be found at: <http://health.gov.au/cdi>.

Further enquiries should be directed to: [cdi.editor@health.gov.au](mailto:cdi.editor@health.gov.au).

This journal is indexed by Index Medicus and Medline.

Creative Commons Licence - Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives CC BY-NC-ND

© 2022 Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Department of Health and Aged Care

This publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International Licence from <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/legalcode> (Licence). You must read and understand the Licence before using any material from this publication.

**Restrictions**The Licence does not cover, and there is no permission given for, use of any of the following material found in this publication (if any):

* the Commonwealth Coat of Arms (by way of information, the terms under which the Coat of Arms may be used can be found at [www.itsanhonour.gov.au](http://www.itsanhonour.gov.au/));
* any logos (including the Department of Health and Aged Care’s logo) and trademarks;
* any photographs and images;
* any signatures; and
* any material belonging to third parties.

**Disclaimer**Opinions expressed in Communicable Diseases Intelligence are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care or the Communicable Diseases Network Australia. Data may be subject to revision.

**Enquiries**Enquiries regarding any other use of this publication should be addressed to the Communication Branch, Department of Health and Aged Care, GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, or via e-mail to: [copyright@health.gov.au](mailto:copyright@health.gov.au)

**Communicable Diseases Network Australia**Communicable Diseases Intelligence contributes to the work of the Communicable Diseases Network Australia.  
<http://www.health.gov.au/cdna>