



2022

Metropolitan Communicable Disease Control

Perth notifiable diseases snapshot

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



42,905 notifications

↑ 97.2% from 2021
(excluding COVID-19 cases)



On the rise

Syphilis | Influenza
Travel-related diseases



↑ 1.2%

Aboriginal vaccine
coverage at 12 months



Newly notifiable

Mpox

Sexually transmitted infections: 11,450

- Chlamydia - 8,632
- Gonorrhoea - 2,161
- Infectious syphilis - 552

Vector-borne diseases: 400

- Dengue virus - 61
- Ross River virus - 282
- Malaria - 33

Enteric (gastrointestinal) diseases: 4,293

- Campylobacter - 3,121
- Salmonella - 693

Vaccine preventable diseases: 15,316

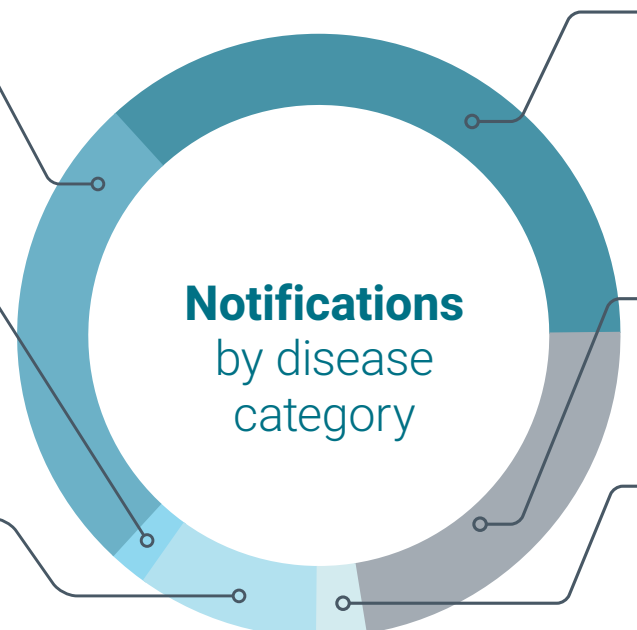
- Influenza - 10,548
- Meningococcal disease - 14
- Measles - 0
- Pertussis - 21

Other diseases (including zoonotic diseases): 9,673

- RSV - 9,385
- IGAS - 141

Blood-borne viruses: 954

- Hepatitis B - 350
(newly-acquired 6)
- Hepatitis C - 543
(newly-acquired 50)



Key trends

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

- Infectious syphilis notifications continue to increase, including among priority populations such as pregnant women, people experiencing homelessness, and women of childbearing age.
- MCDC continues to respond to the syphilis outbreak in metropolitan Perth using a collaborative and coordinated approach involving multiple stakeholders.

Immunisation was challenged by COVID-19

- Overall, immunisation coverage appears to be trending downward since 2021, likely due to the focus on COVID-19 and the reduced awareness about childhood immunisation.
- Despite these trends, there was a 1.2 percent increase in coverage among Aboriginal children at 12 months of age in 2022.
- Moorditj Start, a MCDC program that provides support to parents of Aboriginal infants to start the immunisation schedule, is being rolled out across Perth in 2023 after a successful pilot in 2022.

New infectious disease threats continue to emerge

- MCDC managed seven cases of mpox, a zoonotic disease endemic to West Africa that spread widely in 2022, with cases confirmed in at least 74 countries.
- WA recorded 1.28 million COVID-19 cases and 828 COVID-19 related deaths in 2022, after borders opened in March 2022 with high vaccination coverage.

