



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.



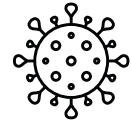
23 130
infectious disease
notifications in metropolitan
Perth in 2020
(down 46% from 2019)



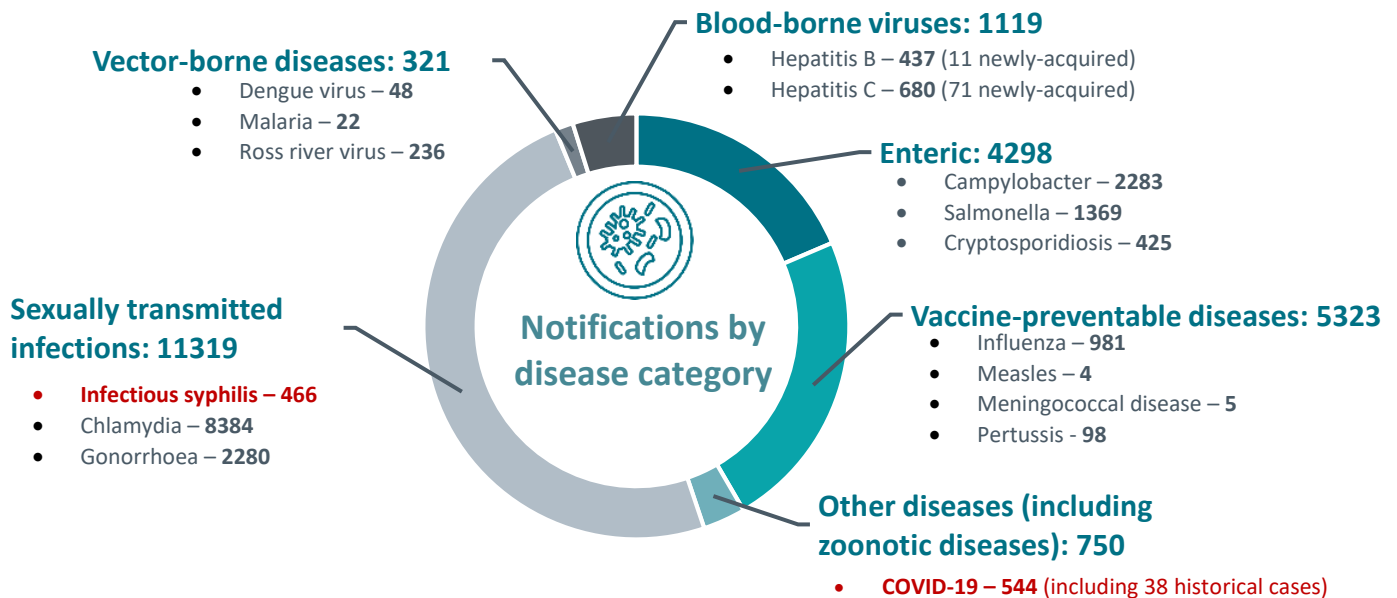
On the rise:
Syphilis
Cryptosporidiosis



94.5 %
of 12-month-olds
fully immunised in
metropolitan Perth; benchmark
95%



**New and
Emerging:**
COVID-19



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

Key issues

- Infectious syphilis continues to increase** and affects vulnerable and priority populations – people experiencing homelessness (4.9% of notifications), Aboriginal people (15.9%), women of childbearing age (19.5%) and pregnant women (3.9%). A syphilis outbreak was declared in Perth in July 2020.
- Testing, treatment, contact tracing and monitoring are vital to reduce cases of congenital and tertiary syphilis.
- In 2020, the global **COVID-19 pandemic** emerged. Statewide, there were **871 notifications for confirmed COVID-19**; 55.2% acquired their infection overseas, 33.4% at sea and 11.4% locally. Daily notifications peaked on 20 March. There were **544 notifications for confirmed COVID-19** (including 38 historical cases) in residents of metropolitan Perth.
- WA **suppressed community transmission of COVID-19** using a coordinated multiagency response, involving social distancing, border closures, and test, trace, isolate and quarantine processes.
- Measures taken in response to COVID-19 likely contributed to the **decrease in several other communicable diseases** including influenza, measles and pertussis.

