

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORT, AUGUST 2002

TRENDS

Notifications of communicable diseases received through to June were largely in line with seasonal expectations (Figure 1, Table 1). Reports of the mosquito-borne **Barmah forest virus** infections declined after reaching high levels in autumn, especially in the Hunter and Mid North Coast. Reports of **influenza** continued to increase in winter, with influenza B (mostly due to the Hong Kong strain) responsible for most infections early in the season. At the

same time, reports of **invasive pneumococcal disease** rose, with the highest rates in children under five years of age and in adults over 65 years of age. Reports of cases of **psittacosis**, mostly linked to the outbreak identified in the Blue Mountains associated with exposures to wild birds (see *NSW Public Health Bulletin*, July 2002), reached record levels in June. Declines in reports of **cryptosporidiosis**, **pertussis** and **shigellosis** continued this month. ☒

FIGURE 1

REPORTS OF SELECTED COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, NSW, JANUARY 1996 TO JUNE 2002, BY MONTH OF ONSET

These are preliminary data: case counts for recent months may increase because of reporting delays. Laboratory-confirmed cases, except for measles, meningococcal disease and pertussis.

NSW population	
Male	50%
<5	7%
5-24	28%
25-64	52%
65+	13%
Rural*	42%

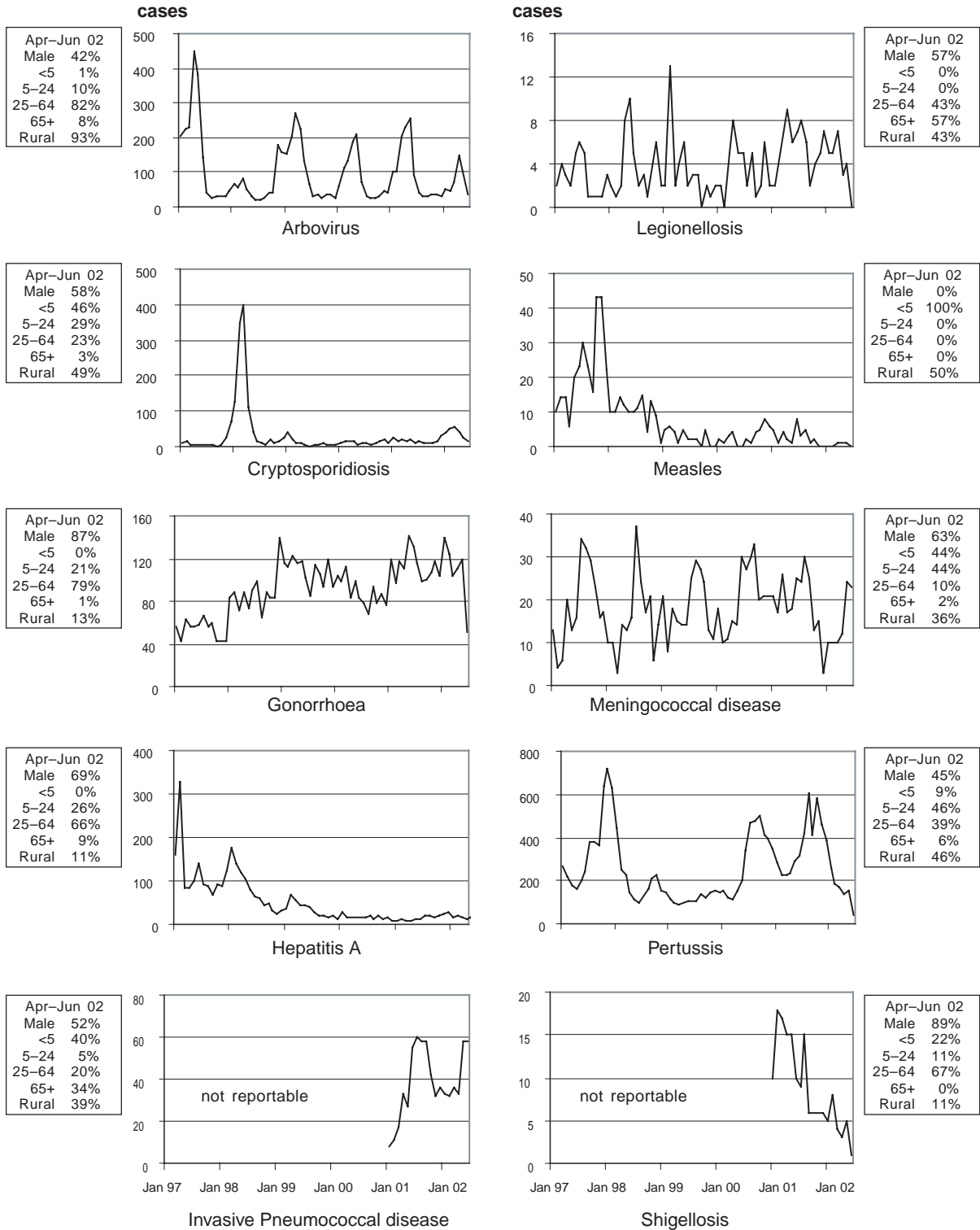


TABLE 1 **REPORTS OF NOTIFIABLE CONDITIONS RECEIVED IN JUNE 2002 BY AREA HEALTH SERVICES**

Condition	Area Health Service														Total for June*	To date†				
	CSA	NSA	WSA	WEN	SWS	CCA	HUN	ILL	SES	NRA	MNC	NEA	MAC	MWA			FWA	GMA	SA	CHS
Blood-borne and sexually transmitted																				
Chancroid*	-	38	23	18	-	17	27	18	97	-	-	15	2	11	8	14	10	-	364	2,533
Chlamydia (genital)*	35	8	8	2	-	1	1	4	51	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	103	704
Gonorrhoea*	26	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	38
Hepatitis B—acute viral*	-	35	37	4	-	4	3	7	40	-	1	3	2	2	2	-	-	-	185	1,810
Hepatitis B—other*	-	30	66	18	-	35	30	25	60	38	20	9	3	10	-	9	15	-	2	61
Hepatitis C—acute viral*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	407	3,631
Hepatitis C—other*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Hepatitis D—unspecified*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilis	10	2	5	-	-	2	-	1	28	3	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	56	392
Vector-borne																				
Barmah Forest virus*	-	-	1	-	-	2	10	-	1	8	24	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	48	278
Ross River virus*	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	-	5	9	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	23	148
Arboviral infection (Other)*	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	48
Malaria*	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	67
Zoonoses																				
Anthrax*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brucellosis*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Leptospirosis*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	22
Lysavirus*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Psittacosis*	-	-	-	21	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	26	34
Q fever*	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	2	6	1	-	-	-	-	14	112
Respiratory and other																				
Blood lead level*	2	4	-	-	-	2	4	4	3	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	23	166
Influenza*	6	13	8	3	2	-	2	1	22	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	60	121	
Invasive pneumococcal infection*	7	11	16	6	9	9	10	7	6	1	3	-	-	-	-	5	-	90	262	
<i>Legionella longbeachae</i> infection*	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	13	
<i>Legionella pneumophila</i> infection*	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	15	
Legionnaires disease (other)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Leprosy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection (invasive)	1	2	9	1	1	-	2	1	6	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	26	89	
Tuberculosis	4	4	-	1	4	-	2	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	214	
Vaccine-preventable																				
Adverse event after immunisation	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	86
<i>H. influenzae b</i> infection (invasive)*	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
Mumps*	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	16	
Pertussis	9	23	7	-	9	3	20	3	19	3	5	1	7	3	1	4	8	124	1,291	
Rubella*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Faecal-oral																				
Botulism	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cholera*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cryptosporidiosis*	4	1	-	1	1	-	-	5	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	20	242	
Food borne illness (not otherwise specified)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	6	27	
Gastroenteritis (in an institution)	4	-	-	-	-	-	58	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	188	-	280	682	
Giardiasis*	2	10	10	3	2	1	9	1	8	-	1	2	2	-	4	-	-	57	488	
Haemolytic uraemic syndrome	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	
Hepatitis A*	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	103	
Hepatitis E*	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	
Listeriosis*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Salmonellosis (not otherwise specified)*	5	14	15	2	13	2	3	5	6	13	1	3	1	4	-	5	1	93	1,337	
Shigellosis*	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	31	
Typhoid and paratyphoid*	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	
Verotoxin producing <i>E. coli</i> *	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	

* lab-confirmed cases only

+ includes cases with unknown postcode

* HIV and AIDS data are reported separately in the NSW Public Health Bulletin each quarter

CSA = Central Sydney Area	WEN = Wentworth Area	NRA = Northern Rivers Area	MAC = Macquarie Area	GMA = Greater Murray Area
NSA = Northern Sydney Area	SWS = South Western Sydney Area	MNC = North Coast Area	MWA = Mid Western Area	SA = Southern Area
WSA = Western Sydney Area	CCA = Central Coast Area	NEA = New England Area	FWA = Far West Area	CHS = Corrections Health Service