

MONTHLY NOTIFIABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE REPORT

Data contained within this monthly report are based on information recorded on EpiSurv by Public Health Service (PHS) staff as at 10 February 2023. Changes made to EpiSurv after this date will not be reflected in this report. The data are provisional and include cases that are still under investigation, some of which may become 'Not a case'. For this reason, comparisons between the current year and previous years should be treated with caution.

KEY NOTIFIABLE DISEASE TRENDS

COVID-19

There were 68,346 cases of COVID-19 notified in January 2023, compared with 146,911 in December 2022. Genomic testing of cases showed that several different variants were circulating throughout January, with CH.1.1, a descendant of BA.2.75, the most common. SARS CoV-2 detections in wastewater decreased throughout January. The main variants detected in wastewater were CH.1.1 and BA.2.75. See the [Ministry of Health website](#), the [Genomics Insights Dashboard](#) and [ESR's Wastewater Dashboard](#) for more information.

Enteric Diseases

There was an increase in notifications for several enteric diseases in January 2023, compared with the same month in 2022. Lower numbers in January 2022 were likely due to public health measures implemented against COVID-19. Notifications for campylobacteriosis and cryptosporidiosis in January 2023 were within the same range as in January 2016–2020 (pre-COVID-19), giardiasis and salmonellosis were lower, while STEC infection and yersiniosis were higher than in 2016–2020.

Invasive pneumococcal disease

There were 44 confirmed cases of invasive pneumococcal disease notified in January 2023, compared with 25 cases for the same month in 2022. Seven (15.9%) cases were aged under 5 years, 17 (38.6%) were 5–64 years, and 20 (45.5%) were aged 65 years and over. One death was reported in a case aged 65 years and over. A serotype was identified in 40/44 (90.9%) cases. The most common serotypes were 8 (27.2%, 12 cases), 19A (13.6%, 6 cases) and 3 (13.6%, 6 cases). There was one case of serotype 19A in a child aged under 5 years; the case was age-appropriately vaccinated with PCV10.

Legionellosis

There were 33 cases of legionellosis (31 confirmed and 2 under investigation) notified in January 2023, compared with 15 cases for the same month in 2022. Of the 27 confirmed cases where the species was identified, 20 (74.1%) were due to *Legionella longbeachae* which is associated with compost and potting mix and seven were due to *L. pneumophila* which is associated with warm water systems. Information on legionellosis is available on the Ministry of Health website [here](#).

OUTBREAKS

Ongoing outbreaks

One further case of hepatitis A was linked to the outbreak associated with frozen berries, bringing the total to 36 cases. All had identical (or near identical) genetic sequence profiles. New Zealand Food Safety investigations concluded that imported frozen berries from Serbia were the likely source.

TABLES

Tables for January are available as Excel files on the [Public Health Surveillance website](#).