



SITREP 16

NATIONAL MEASLES OUTBREAK 2019

Issued: **1530 hrs, 25 SEPTEMBER 2019**

IN CONFIDENCE – NOT FOR FURTHER DISTRIBUTION

New information in red text

All information is current as of 1300hrs 25 September 2019

National Situation

1. From 1 January 2019 to **25 September** 2019 there have been **1474** confirmed cases of measles notified across New Zealand (*as at 0845hrs 25 September*) based on ESR reporting. This is an increase of **31** cases nationally since *Executive Summary 17 provided on Tuesday 24 September*.
2. Over the last two weeks (*12 September to 25 September*) **267** cases have been reported nationally. During this period, case numbers have continued to increase rapidly in the Auckland region (**227** cases), with most cases reported in Counties Manukau District Health Board (CMDHB) (**145** cases). See *Appendix 1* for details.
3. As expected, most cases have been in unvaccinated people, or in those whose vaccination status is unknown. There have been no reported deaths associated with this outbreak.
4. Figures detailing weekly notifications of measles cases across New Zealand are included in *Appendix 2*. Figure 1 indicates that the weekly number of measles notifications may have plateaued over the past three weeks and may be decreasing. However, it is not yet possible to determine if the outbreak has peaked, and further data points are needed to confirm this trend. Notifications and associated trends will continue to be closely monitored over the next two to three weeks.
5. A detailed breakdown of cases by age, DHB, and vaccination status is available on the ESR Public Health Surveillance website.
<https://surv.esr.cri.nz/surveillance/WeeklyMeaslesRpt.php>

Auckland Situation

6. *As at 0845hrs 25 September*, there have been **1227** confirmed cases of measles in the Auckland region, which is an increase of **24** cases since *Executive Summary 17 provided on Tuesday 24 September*.
7. New cases are mainly occurring in South Auckland. In total **837** cases have occurred in CMDHB (see *Appendix 1* for details).

Auckland Region Response – Key Actions

Counties Manukau DHB

8. As at **24 September**, **355** cases have been admitted to Middlemore Hospital since June 2019. This currently includes **five** children with measles, admitted to a paediatric isolation **and one paediatric patient in Middlemore Emergency Department with suspected measles**. There are currently **three** adult in-patients in Middlemore.
9. **The Middlemore Hospital drop-in clinic has been closed.**
10. Additional vaccinations have been given through the outreach clinics in Counties Manukau to **6,025 people (to 23 September)**.

Other Regions' Response – Key Actions

Northland DHB

11. **As at 0845hrs 25 September**, there have been **53** cases of measles reported in Northland DHB since 1 January 2019.
12. **There has been a significant number of importations from the Auckland region in recent weeks and an increase in cases in school-aged children.**
13. Northland DHB are encouraging primary care practices to immunise as per the National Immunisation Schedule, and to actively recall 15-month to 4 year olds who have no record of MMR vaccination.
14. A drop-in immunisation clinic has been set up in Whangarei for two days per week **and an immunisation clinic has been set up in Kaitaia.**
15. Opportunistic immunisation is taking place at B4school checks and with other public health nurse contacts in the region.

Waikato DHB

16. As at **0845hrs 25 September**, there have been **35** cases of measles in Waikato DHB. The majority of these cases are linked to the Auckland outbreak. Contact tracing is underway to determine the source of exposure.
17. Waikato DHB activated its Emergency Operations Centre and have developed an action plan to address the increase in cases in the region and manage vaccine supply. **This is currently being updated.**
18. Drop-in vaccination clinics are ongoing in the region.

Bay of Plenty and Lakes DHBs

19. As at **0845hrs 25 September**, there have been **33** cases of measles in Bay of Plenty DHB, and **17** cases of measles in Lakes DHB.

Wellington Region

20. As at **0845hrs 25 September** there have been **22** confirmed cases of measles in the Wellington region since 1 January 2019.

21. On 20 September, a case of measles in the Hutt Valley was confirmed by Regional Public Health. The case had confirmed contact with a case in Auckland. Contact tracing and follow-up of workplace and household contacts is underway. The case had no flights or visits to public spaces during the infectious period.

22. A second case of measles was confirmed in the Hutt Valley on 22 September. The case had been in Auckland earlier this month participating in a secondary school cooking competition. **Regional Public Health is working closely with the school that the case attends.**

Southern DHB

23. As at **0845hrs 25 September 2019**, there have been **30** confirmed cases of measles in Southern DHB. **9** of these cases have been reported in the last two weeks (see *Appendix 1*), mainly in Queenstown.

Ministry of Health

24. Daily teleconferences continue to be held between the three Auckland DHBs and the NHCC.

Vaccine Stock and Distribution

25. Planning is underway to determine the best strategy for management and distribution of the additional 100,000 **doses that have been allocated to New Zealand.**

26. Up to 23 September, 183,820 MMR vaccinations have been given in New Zealand this year according to the National Immunisation Register. This is compared to 96,101 vaccinations given in the same time period in 2018.

Public Information Management / Media

27. Media interest continues for the Ministry of Health, PHARMAC and DHBs. Media releases and responses should mirror the Ministry messaging to ensure national consistency and should be reviewed by the NHCC team prior to release.

28. From 16 September to 22 September, 16.9% of all visits to the Ministry of Health website were related to measles. A total of 20,714 users were looking for measles information. Of these, 12,966 were from the Auckland region.

Page Title	Unique Pageviews	Entrances
2019 measles outbreak information	16,240	12,665
Measles	11,554	10,104
Measles information for health professionals	930	306
Protecting children who can't be immunised against measles	671	116
Measles stories	481	67
Post-exposure MMR vaccination and exclusion	127	44
Measles immunisation coverage	84	26
Measles like 'flu on crack' student says (video)	82	16
Family count themselves lucky after measles experience	67	13

29. The National Telehealth Service (Healthline) continues to experience high call volumes, particularly on weekdays. Below is an update on activity for the 24-hour period ending midnight **23 September 2019**.

23-Sep	
Total calls answered	1206
% above forecast	19%
Calls from IMAC line	49
Calls diverted to website	65
Triaged measles calls	102
% ED	3%
% A&M clinic	14%
% GP	50%
% self care	20%

30. PlunketLine report call volumes have decreased since the start of September.

Date	Day	% difference compared to expected
30-Aug	Fri	51%
31-Aug	Sat	26%
1-Sep	Sun	35%
2-Sep	Mon	30%
3-Sep	Tue	37%
4-Sep	Wed	49%
5-Sep	Thu	49%
6-Sep	Fri	41%
7-Sep	Sat	37%
8-Sep	Sun	5%
9-Sep	Mon	19%
10-Sep	Tue	20%
11-Sep	Wed	17%
12-Sep	Thu	5%
13-Sep	Fri	7%
14-Sep	Sat	14%
15-Sep	Sun	13%
16-Sep	Mon	7%
17-Sep	Tue	8%
18-Sep	Wed	0%
19-Sep	Thu	9%
20-Sep	Fri	0%
21-Sep	Sat	0%
22-Sep	Sun	4%
23-Sep	Mon	4%
24-Sep	Tue	5%

Next Report

The next report will be an Executive Summary at **1100hrs** on Thursday 26 September 2019.

Prepared by: Dean Manson, Intelligence

Approved by: Kath Blair, National Coordinator

Appendix 1. Cases per DHB in New Zealand

DHB	Cumulative Cases - 1 January 2019 to 25 September 2019	Cases in the last 14 days (12 September to 25 September)	Cases since last report	Status*
Northland	53	12	5	Auckland link
Waitemata	204	41	5	Outbreak ongoing
Auckland	186	41	2	Outbreak ongoing
Counties Manukau	837	145	17	Outbreak ongoing
Waikato	35	5	0	Auckland link
Lakes	17	5	0	Auckland link
Bay of Plenty	33	3	0	Auckland link
Tairāwhiti	0	0	0	-
Taranaki	6	0	0	Auckland link
Hawke's Bay	3	0	0	No recent cases
Whanganui	0	0	0	-
MidCentral	5	3	1	Auckland link
Hutt Valley	9	2	0	Auckland link
Capital and Coast	12	0	0	Auckland link
Wairarapa	1	0	0	No recent cases
Nelson Marlborough	0	0	0	-
West Coast	0	0	0	-
Canterbury	42	1	0	Auckland link
South Canterbury	1	0	0	No recent cases
Southern	30	9	1	Auckland link
Total	1474	267	31	

* This refers to areas with cases within the last 42 days (2 maximum incubation periods for measles).

Appendix 2

Figure 1. Number of confirmed measles notifications by week, 1 January–20 September 2019

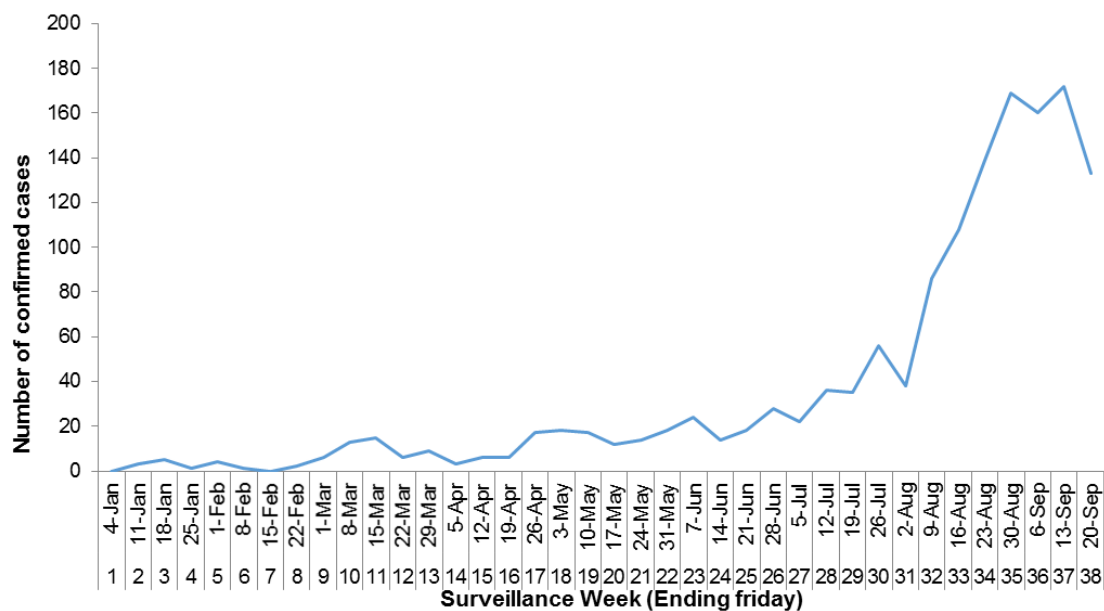


Figure 2. Number of confirmed cases by week and DHB for the last six months, 2019

