

# Communicable Diseases Weekly Report

## Week 14, 2 April to 8 April 2023

In this report we provide information regarding Sydney WorldPride and a summary of notifiable conditions activity in NSW over the reporting period Week 14, 2 April to 8 April 2023.

For surveillance data on COVID-19 and influenza please see the latest [NSW Respiratory Surveillance Report](#).

For up-to-date information regarding the Japanese encephalitis outbreak and the NSW response, please visit the [NSW Health Japanese encephalitis page](#).

Information on notifiable conditions is available at the NSW Health [infectious diseases page](#). This includes links to other NSW Health [infectious disease surveillance reports](#) and a [diseases data page](#) for a range of notifiable infectious diseases.

## Sydney WorldPride (17 February to 5 March 2023)

Between February and March 2023, Sydney hosted the 50<sup>th</sup> Australian Gay Pride Week, the 45<sup>th</sup> Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, and the first WorldPride held in the southern hemisphere. A total of 500,000 total attendees were anticipated, including 70,000 visitors from outside greater Sydney. The festival hosted over 300 events, including seven ‘super events’, with the latter having a range of 10,000-50,000 attendees.

In collaboration with several key partners, including the Sydney WorldPride organisers and ACON, NSW Health developed a range of key messages about prevention and management of communicable diseases that were distributed to attendees and health professionals. A NSW Health [webpage for Sydney WorldPride](#) was established to share these messages and information on health issues. A social media campaign advertising the webpage and key messages ran between 25 January and 17 March 2023, driving 10,504 web page views.

To support any increase in health seeking behaviour of event attendees and visitors to Sydney, particularly for sexual health, some publicly funded sexual health services (PFSHS) in key areas of metropolitan Sydney had extended hours of operation. Mpox vaccine was also administered at these sites to eligible individuals, including international travellers, and people were encouraged to seek mpox testing if symptomatic.

The NSW Sexual Health Infolink (SHIL) also had extended hours of operation during WorldPride. SHIL has four dedicated phone lines: general public, health professionals, HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) and dried-blood spot (DBS) testing for HIV and hepatitis C. Calls to the four phonedlines increased by 13% during WorldPride compared to the same period prior (Table 1). The health professional’s phonenumber had the greatest increase of 42%.

**Table 1: NSW Sexual Health Infolink (SHIL) phone calls received before and during the Sydney WorldPride.**

SHIL phonedlines	Number of calls received in the pre-World Pride period*	Number of calls received during the World Pride period^	Increase (%)
General Public	813	891	10
Health Professional	67	95	42
HIV post-exposure prophylaxis	59	72	22
Dried blood spot testing for HIV and hepatitis C	26	32	23
<b>Total calls</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>13</b>

\*Pre-WorldPride period included calls received from 10/01/2023 to 09/02/2023 (30 days)

^WorldPride period included calls received from 10/02/2023 to 12/03/2023 (WorldPride +1-week either side, 30 days)

## Disease activity during Sydney WorldPride

No communicable disease outbreaks linked to WorldPride were detected, however there were a small number of notifications of shigellosis in men who have sex with men (MSM) who most likely acquired their infection in the Sydney region in [Week 11 \(12 to 18 March 2023\)](#). There were no mpox diagnoses among residents or visitors; the last notification of mpox in NSW was in November 2022.

## Summary of notifiable conditions activity in NSW

The following table summarises notifiable conditions activity over the reporting period alongside reports received in the previous week, year to date and in previous years (Table 2).

**Table 2. NSW Notifiable conditions from 2 April - 8 April 2023, by date received\***

		Weekly		Year to date					Full Year			
		This week	Last week	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2022	2021	2020	2019
Enteric Diseases	Campylobacter	158	216	3430	3355	3896	3450	3356	13347	13015	11052	12071
	Cryptosporidiosis	11	8	176	114	207	319	320	463	444	548	669
	Giardiasis	46	58	696	373	581	865	1292	1410	1585	1986	3420
	Hepatitis A	2	4	27	4	0	18	28	37	8	19	61
	Hepatitis E	1	0	3	1	0	11	5	8	1	15	24
	Listeriosis	1	0	9	5	6	6	2	33	22	20	16
	Paratyphoid	3	1	20	3	0	15	29	12	1	17	39
	Rotavirus	29	31	930	109	90	295	187	1803	356	500	1777
	STEC/VTEC	3	4	52	39	40	36	24	144	126	115	79
	Salmonellosis	42	90	1093	1134	1257	1462	1399	2967	3100	2885	3552
	Shigellosis	9	10	261	67	26	343	246	460	60	494	867
Typhoid	3	4	38	11	0	29	32	47	2	37	64	
Other	Invasive Group A Streptococcus	12	10	178	0	-	-	-	144	0	0	0
Respiratory Diseases	Influenza	1079	945	7241	693	17	7127	8171	116314	125	7481	116402
	Legionellosis	3	2	65	70	70	42	56	273	215	171	154
	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	1621	1277	8205	1	-	-	-	5669	0	0	0
	Tuberculosis	11	7	162	108	153	132	149	529	559	625	589
Sexually Transmissible Infections	Chlamydia	541	661	8814	6608	8319	8889	9058	25856	25309	27227	32473
	Gonorrhoea	221	239	3399	2538	2588	3190	3260	10227	7625	9878	11684
Vaccine Preventable Diseases	LGV	2	1	13	4	10	30	17	29	36	44	69
	Measles	1	1	2	0	0	16	28	1	0	16	58
	Meningococcal Disease	1	0	10	3	4	6	9	36	23	22	59
	Pertussis	1	3	28	13	11	1126	1771	81	44	1400	6387
	Pneumococcal Disease (Invasive)	12	3	102	56	92	109	90	533	386	342	686
	Rubella	1	0	1	1	0	0	7	1	1	1	9
Vector Borne Diseases	Tetanus	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Barmah Forest	1	2	42	28	40	36	21	89	111	271	63
	Dengue	10	10	94	10	1	69	128	169	4	78	460
	Murray Valley Encephalitis	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Zoonotic Diseases	Ross River	7	8	155	416	328	124	203	725	661	1990	596
	Psittacosis	1	1	5	2	2	1	2	18	18	31	11

### \* Notes on Table 2: NSW Notifiable Conditions activity

- Only conditions which had one or more case reports received during the reporting week appear in the table.
- Surveillance data on COVID-19 can be found in the [NSW Respiratory Surveillance Report](#).
- Data cells represent the number of case reports received by NSW public health units and recorded on the NSW Notifiable Conditions Information Management System (NCIMS) in the relevant period (i.e. by report date).
- Note that [notifiable disease data](#) available on the NSW Health website are reported by onset date so case totals are likely to vary from those shown here.
- Cases involving interstate residents are not included.
- Chronic blood-borne virus conditions (such as HIV, hepatitis B and C) are not included here. Related data are available from the [Infectious Diseases Data](#), the [HIV Surveillance Data Reports](#) and the [Hepatitis B and C Strategies Data Reports](#) webpages.
- Notification is dependent on a diagnosis being made by a doctor, hospital or laboratory. Changes in awareness and testing patterns influence the proportion of patients with a particular infection that is diagnosed and notified over time, especially if the infection causes non-specific symptoms.