



2024



Boorloo (Perth) Public Health Unit

Perth notifiable diseases snapshot

Boorloo (Perth) Public Health Unit (Boorloo PHU) has responsibility for the public health management of notifiable infectious diseases to protect the community and prevent disease outbreaks.



61,939

Communicable disease notifications to Boorloo PHU in 2024.



On the rise

Pertussis, Dengue, Mpox, Enterics.



Immunisation

91.6% at 12 months (↓0.7%)
89% at 24 months (↓1.5%)
92.5% at 60 months (↓0.8%)



↓57%

RSV hospitalisations following introduction of nirsevimab

Sexually transmitted infections: 14,560

- Chlamydia – 10,103
- Gonorrhoea – 3,881
- Infectious syphilis – 406

Enteric diseases: 6,284

- Campylobacter – 3,758
- Salmonella – 1,258
- Cryptosporidiosis – 651

Blood-borne viruses: 1,173

- Hepatitis B – 447 (13 newly acquired)
- Hepatitis C – 714 (118 newly acquired, 7 reinfections)

Notifications by disease category

(excluding COVID-19)

Vaccine-preventable diseases: 18,983

- Influenza – 12,959
- Pertussis – 605
- Meningococcal disease – 11
- Measles – 5

Vector-borne diseases: 644

- Dengue virus – 452
- Ross River virus – 86
- Malaria – 49

Other diseases (including zoonotic diseases): 7,274

- RSV – 6,836
- IGAS – 144

Key issues

- **WA became the first state to provide RSV immunisation** to all infants in their first RSV season, reducing hospitalisations in this group by 57%.
- **The syphilis outbreak in Perth continued**, with some progress in reducing cases among women of childbearing age, pregnant people and Aboriginal people, but increasing case numbers seen among culturally and linguistically diverse populations and men who have sex with men.
- **Pertussis cases increased rapidly in late 2024 signalling the start of a new outbreak.** It is essential that healthcare providers test suspected cases in a timely manner and encourage pertussis immunisation to prevent transmission among children and hospitalisations.
- **Perth experienced its first sustained transmission of mpox**, but through case management and extensive contact tracing, transmission was stopped with no known ongoing spread.
- **Immunisation rates continued to fall** in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Boorloo PHU continues to support immunisation among priority populations in Perth.