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## **Meningococcal Surveillance Australia**

Reporting period 1 January to 31 March 2023

Monica M Lahra and Tiffany R Hogan for the National Neisseria Network

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# Communicable Diseases Intelligence

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## Quarterly Report

# Meningococcal Surveillance Australia

*Reporting period 1 January to 31 March 2023*

Monica M Lahra and Tiffany R Hogan for the National Neisseria Network

The reference laboratories of the National Neisseria Network, Australia report data on invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) cases confirmed by culture and/or molecular techniques for the Australian Meningococcal Surveillance Programme (AMSP). Culture-positive cases and molecular-based diagnoses are defined as IMD by the Communicable Diseases Network Australia National Guidelines for Public Health Units.<sup>1</sup> Data contained in the quarterly reports are restricted to a description of the number of cases by jurisdiction and serogroup, when known. Some minor corrections to data in Table 1 may be made in subsequent reports if additional data are received.

IMD notifications in Australia in the first quarter of 2023 were greater than in the corresponding period in 2022 but still below the 36 IMD cases reported in quarter one of 2019 (prior to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic).<sup>2</sup> Notably, the predominance of *N. meningitidis* serogroup B (MenB) IMD continued in the first quarter of 2023 (21/23, 91.3% of notifications), showing an increase from 84% in the fourth quarter of 2022.<sup>3</sup> In contrast, between 2019 and 2021, 50–62% of IMD was attributable to MenB.<sup>4</sup> A full analysis of laboratory-confirmed cases of IMD in each calendar year is contained in the AMSP annual report published in *Communicable Diseases Intelligence*.

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**Table 1: Number of laboratory confirmations of invasive meningococcal disease, Australia, 1 January to 31 March 2023, by serogroup and state or territory**

Jurisdiction	Year	Serogroup															
		A		B		C		W		Y		ND <sup>a</sup>		All			
		Q1	ytd <sup>b</sup>	Q1	ytd	1	ytd	Q1	ytd	Q1	ytd	Q1	ytd	Q1	ytd	Q1	ytd
Australian Capital Territory	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New South Wales	2023	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	7	7
	2022	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	4
Northern Territory	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Queensland	2023	0	0	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7
	2022	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
South Australia	2023	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
	2022	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Tasmania	2023	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Victoria	2023	0	0	3	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
	2022	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	4
Western Australia	2023	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	2022	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	4
<b>Australia</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>		

a ND: not determined.  
b ytd: year to date, data from 1 January to 31 March 2023.

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