MONTHLY SURVEILLANCE REPORT

Data contained within this monthly report is based on information recorded on EpiSurv by public health service staff up until 3 April 2006. As this information may be updated over time, the results should be regarded as provisional only.

Table of contents

1. Key notifiable disease trends

- *Campylobacter:* 1256 campylobacter cases were notified in March 2006 compared to 769 cases notified in the same month of the previous year. (Figure 1). Canterbury DHB recorded the highest number of cases (202). For the 12 month period ending 31 March 2006, South Canterbury DHB recorded the highest annual incidence rate of 661.2 per 100 000 population (349 cases) compared to the national rate of 395.3 per 100 000 population. Overall, 48 cases were hospitalised. During the incubation period, 92 (7.3%) consumed food at a food premise (188/1256 completed data field), 22 (1.8%) consumed untreated water (223/1256 completed data field), 17 (1.4%) had faecal contact (229/1256 completed data field), and 15 (1.2%) had recreational water contact (230/1256 completed data field).

- *Hepatitis A:* 16 cases of Hepatitis A were notified in March 2006 compared to five notified cases in the same month of the previous year. The cases were reported from Counties Manukau (8), Waitemata (2), Auckland (2), Whanganui (2), Waikato (1), and Canterbury (1) DHBs. Six of the cases, two from Counties Manukau, two from Auckland, one from Waitemata and one from Canterbury DHBs, had been overseas during the incubation period. The countries visited were: Tonga (3), Australia (1), India (1), and Samoa (1).

- *Legionellosis:* six legionellosis cases were notified in March 2006 compared to five notified cases in the same month of the previous year. Two cases were reported from Northland, two from Counties Manukau, one each from Waitemata and Capital and Coast DHBs. Two cases were hospitalised. The cases range in age from 40 to 72 years. The species involved was identified for four of the six cases as *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1 (3 cases) and *L. longbeachae* serogroup 2 (1 case). Two cases from Counties Manukau had

contact with an environmental source of infection (one definite and one suspected), as part of the Beachlands outbreak.

- *Meningococcal disease:* based on the earliest date available[1], 14 cases of meningococcal disease were notified during March 2006, of which all (100%) were laboratory-confirmed, and none were fatal. In comparison, seven cases were notified the previous month, February 2006, and 15 cases were notified during the same month last year March 2005. For the 12 month period ending 31 March 2006, Wairarapa DHB recorded the highest incidence rate of 10.5 per 100 000 population (4 cases) while Waikato DHB recorded the highest number of cases (31) with an incidence rate of 9.8 per 100 000 population. The highest age-specific incidence rate was in infants aged less than one year (54.9 per 100 000 population, 30 cases), followed by those in the 1-4 years age group (14.3 per 100 000 population, 31 cases).

- *Pertussis:* 115 pertussis cases were notified in March 2006, of whom 27 (23.5%) were laboratory confirmed. The numbers of pertussis notifications per month have decreased from the peak in November 2004 when 613 cases were notified (Figure 2). One case was reported as being hospitalised. Canterbury DHB had the highest number of cases (41). For the 12 month period ending 31 March 2006, South Canterbury DHB had the highest incidence rate of 219.8 per 100 000 population (116 cases), compared to the national rate of 55.4 per 100 000 population. Over this period the incidence rate by age group was highest amongst infants aged less than one year (150.0 per 100 000 population). This was followed by children in the 10-14 years age group (98.0) and the 5-9 years age group (83.9).

- *VTEC:* 20 cases of VTEC infection were notified in March bringing the total number of notified cases to 36 for the year to date. In comparison, 11 cases were notified during March 2005. Hospitalisation status was recorded for 18 cases of whom five were hospitalised and one was identified with HUS. The ESR Enteric Reference Laboratory received isolates from 19 of the 20 cases. Eighteen were serotype O157 and one was non-O157. The cases were reported from Waikato (5 cases), Nelson-Marlborough (3), Otago (3), Auckland (2), and one each from Waitemata, Counties Manukau, Lakes, Hawke's Bay, Canterbury, South Canterbury, and Southland DHBs. The majority of the cases were in the 1-4 years age group (8 cases) followed by those in the 20-29 years age group (5 cases).

[1] The 'earliest' date refers to the earliest recorded date for the case (onset or hospitalisation date rather than report date, if available). 'Earliest' date, as opposed to 'report date' alone, is used throughout the analysis of meningococcal disease notification data.

2. Outbreaks

Completed outbreak reports
ESR received 13 completed reports via EpiSurv for outbreaks during March 2006. These are summarised in the table below.

Summary of completed outbreaks reported to ESR during March 2006

Organism/Toxin/Illness	Reporting Public Health Unit	Number of outbreaks	Total number of cases
Gastroenteritis	HB, WN	4	117
Giardia	CB	1	6
Hepatitis A	WG	1	2
Norovirus	HB, WN, WC, CB, NN	6	195
Salmonella	AK	1	2
Total		13	322

AK=Auckland; HB=Hawke's Bay; WG=Wanganui; WN=Wellington; WC=West Coast; NN=Nelson; CB= Canterbury

Interim outbreak reports
The following outbreaks have been reported as interim. The status of the outbreak and cases involved are subject to change, as more data becomes available.

Summary of interim outbreaks reported to ESR during March 2006

Organism/Toxin/Illness	Reporting Public Health Unit	Number of outbreaks	Total number of cases
Bordetella pertussis	WN	1	40
Campylobacter	AK	2	6
Cryptosporidium parvum	AK	1	3
Gastroenteritis	AK, WK, HB, WN, OT	26	142
Giardia	AK	2	6
Hepatitis A	AK	1	-
Legionella	AK	1	3
Norovirus	AK	4	84
Salmonella	AK	2	4
Shigella	AK	1	2
VTEC/STEC	MB	1	4
Total		42	294

AK=Auckland; WK=Waikato; HB=Hawke's Bay; WN=Wellington; OT=Otago; MB= Marlborough

3. Deaths from notifiable diseases

No deaths were reported this month.

4. Trends in selected diseases to March 2006

Figure 1: Campylobacteriosis notifications by month, January 2001 to March 2006

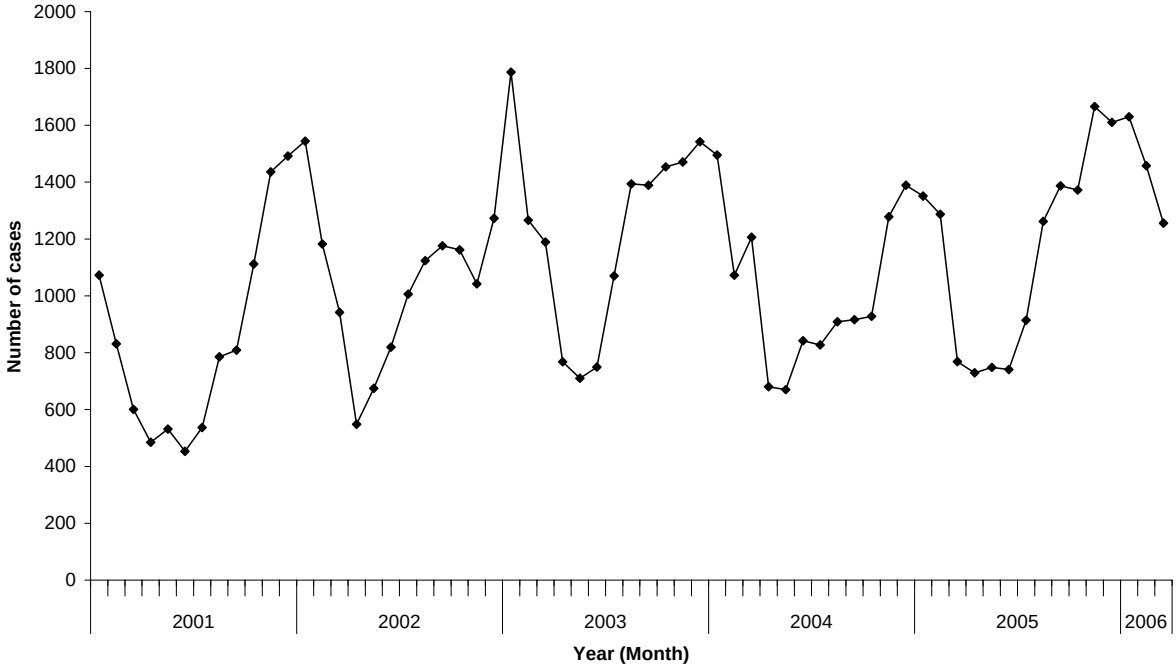
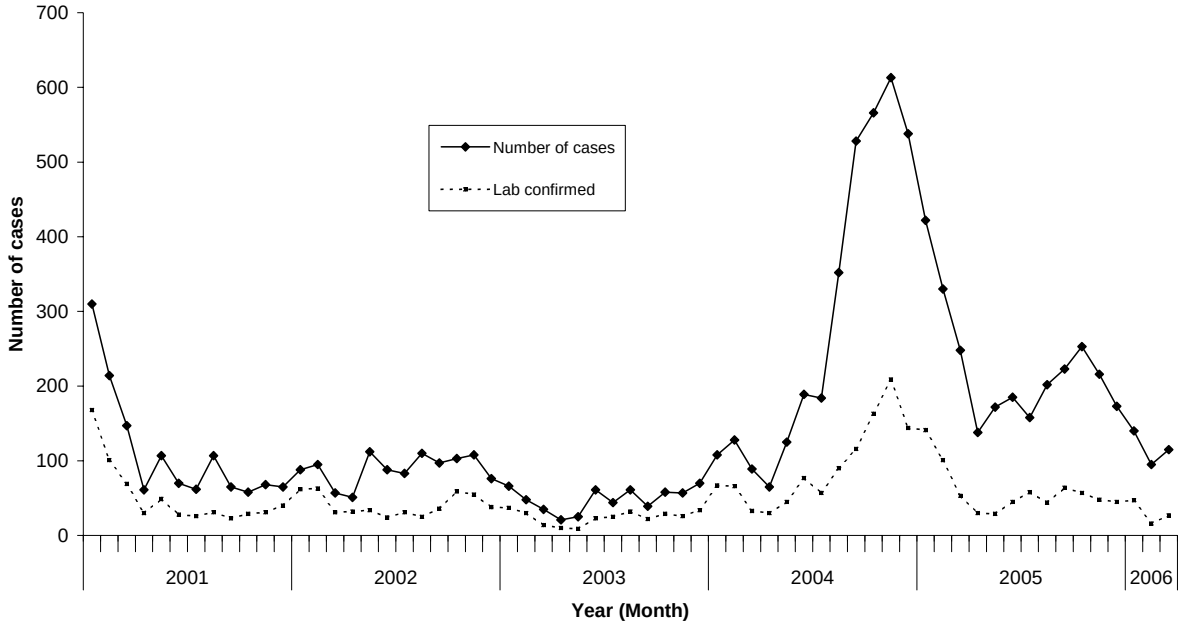


Figure 2: Pertussis notifications and laboratory confirmed cases by month, January 2001 to March 2006



4. Data Tables

Disease incidence and rates

Disease[1]	Current year - 2006 [2]			Previous year - 2005		
	Mar 2006 cases	Cumulative total since 1 January	Current rate[3]	Mar 2005 cases	Cumulative total since 1 January	Previous rate[3]
AIDS[4]	2	12	1.3	3	12	1.1
Campylobacteriosis	1256	4344	395.3	769	3407	317.0
Cryptosporidiosis	26	93	23.0	66	123	18.1
Dengue fever	2	4	0.3	0	3	0.1
Gastroenteritis[5]	116	316	18.3	70	189	34.2
Giardiasis	116	315	32.6	132	326	37.2
H. influenzae type b disease	1	1	0.2	1	1	0.1
Hepatitis A	16	64	2.6	5	16	1.3
Hepatitis B (acute)[6]	7	17	1.8	1	8	0.9
Hepatitis C (acute)[6]	2	8	0.8	2	7	0.5
Hydatid disease	0	0	0.1	0	0	0
Influenza[6]	4	5	22.4	5	10	23.8
Lead absorption	5	24	2.0	11	19	2.3
Legionellosis	6	17	2.2	5	20	1.7
Leprosy	1	2	0.1	0	1	0.1
Leptospirosis	6	27	2.4	8	22	2.5
Listeriosis	1	7	0.5	2	8	0.6
Malaria	4	9	0.8	3	12	0.9
Measles	2	8	0.6	1	3	0.7
Meningococcal disease[8]	14	31	5.5	16	51	9.0
Mumps	7	10	1.6	5	11	1.2
Paratyphoid fever	3	7	0.6	3	8	0.8
Pertussis	115	350	55.4	248	1000	111.3
Rheumatic fever	2	18	2.0	9	22	2.1
Rickettsial disease	0	0	0	0	0	0.1
Rubella	3	3	0.4	1	2	0.5
Salmonellosis	146	451	39.3	144	367	29.3
SARS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shigellosis	8	40	5.2	8	28	3.6
Tetanus	1	1	0	0	1	0.1
Tuberculosis	26	81	9.2	34	83	10.1
Typhoid fever	2	9	0.8	4	10	0.8
VTEC / STEC infection	20	36	2.8	11	22	2.0
Yersiniosis	35	113	11.2	25	102	10.0

Notes: [1] Other notifiable infectious diseases reported in March : Nil
[2] These data are provisional.
[3] Rate is based on the cumulative total for the current year (12 months up to and including March 2006) or the previous year (12 months up to and including March 2005), expressed as cases per 100 000
[4] All Aids data is provisional. Further information is available from the Aids Epidemiology Group, University of Otago.
[5] Cases of gastroenteritis from a common source or foodborne intoxication. Eg: staphylococcal intoxication
[6] Only acute cases of this disease are currently notifiable
[7] Surveillance data based on laboratory-reported cases only (as reported in ESR's Virology Weekly Reports)
[8] These totals and rates are based on the EpiSurv report date as opposed to the earliest available date used in the meningococcal disease section

Monthly totals for March 2006 and preceding 12 months

Disease	Mar 2006	Feb 2006	Jan 2006	Dec 2005	Nov 2005	Oct 2005	Sep 2005	Aug 2005	Jul 2005	Jun 2005	May 2005	Apr 2005	Mar 2005
AIDS[2]	2	7	3	1	1	4	3	4	1	3	12	7	3
Campylobacteriosis	1256	1458	1630	1610	1666	1372	1387	1262	914	741	748	729	769
Cryptosporidiosis	26	24	43	26	107	229	176	72	26	33	45	52	66
Dengue fever	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	4	1	0	0	0
Gastroenteritis[3]	116	134	66	18	43	44	40	42	36	56	54	35	70
Giardiasis	116	100	99	106	98	81	93	123	97	90	118	99	132
Haemophilus influenzae type b	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	1	1
Hepatitis A	16	15	33	7	7	3	5	5	4	2	0	2	5
Hepatitis B (acute)[4]	7	2	8	9	4	7	6	3	6	5	4	8	1
Hepatitis C (acute)[4]	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	3	1	7	3	0	2
Hydatid disease	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza[5]	4	0	1	3	3	3	40	51	393	278	45	15	5
Lead absorption	5	8	11	6	4	4	6	4	6	10	5	7	11
Legionellosis	6	8	3	9	5	9	4	10	12	2	9	5	5
Leprosy	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leptospirosis	6	13	8	5	2	13	7	10	7	7	4	9	8
Listeriosis	1	0	6	3	3	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	2
Malaria	4	3	2	1	2	0	1	0	3	2	6	5	3
Measles	2	5	1	0	3	5	0	3	1	1	3	0	1
Meningococcal disease[6]	14	9	8	11	17	16	13	18	36	28	16	20	16
Mumps	7	1	2	2	5	9	7	12	5	3	4	3	5
Paratyphoid fever	3	2	2	1	0	3	1	3	1	2	3	3	3
Pertussis	115	95	140	173	216	253	223	202	158	185	172	138	248
Rheumatic Fever	2	2	14	5	6	14	4	10	6	3	5	3	9
Rickettsial disease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Rubella	3	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	0	1
Salmonellosis	146	159	146	119	131	125	132	107	66	94	96	146	144
SARS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shigellosis	8	14	18	16	53	24	7	9	10	11	19	6	8
Tetanus	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis	26	31	24	24	27	30	23	37	21	33	33	35	34
Typhoid fever	2	1	6	3	1	0	0	2	3	7	3	1	4
VTEC/STEC infection	20	8	8	5	4	10	6	10	2	4	5	24	11
Yersiniosis	35	34	44	22	51	44	28	40	32	24	34	30	25

Notes: [1] Later data are provisional

[2] All Aids data is provisional. Further information is available from the Aids Epidemiology Group, University of Otago.

[3] Cases of gastroenteritis from a common source or foodborne intoxication eg, staphylococcal intoxication or toxic shellfish poisoning

[4] Only acute cases of this disease are currently notifiable

[5] Surveillance data based on laboratory-reported cases only (as reported in ESR's Virology Weekly Reports)

[6] These totals are based on the EpiSurv report date as opposed to the earliest available date used in the meningococcal disease section

Surveillance data by District Health Board - March 2006

Cases this month | Current rate[1]

Disease	Northland	Waitemata	Auckland	Counties Manukau	Waikato	Lakes	Bay of Plenty	Tairawhiti	Taranaki	Hawke's Bay	Whanganui	MidCentral	Hutt	Capital and Coast	Wairarapa	Nelson Marlborough	West Coast	Canterbury	South Conterbury	Otago	Southland
	Cases for March 2006,[2] and current rate [1,2] by District Health Board [3,4]																				
AIDS[3]	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		0	0	0	1	0	0	0
	1.4	2.0			0.6	1.0	0.6	0	0	1.4	0	0	2.1		0	0.8	2.1	4.4	0	0	1.0
Campylobacteriosis	24	151	134	105	70	47	40	0	29	32	14	20	48	113	4	33	5	202	34	101	50
	226.2	423.7	401.4	319.0	378.0	377.2	314.9	218.4	439.6	363.6	284.5	207.8	411.1	516.5	219.9	330.7	290.8	504.1	661.2	518.3	471.3
Cryptosporidiosis	0	1	3	3	0	0	1	5	0	1	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	4	0	0	3
	15.7	6.5	10.3	9.6	39.7	47.9	19.1	22.8	18.4	30.6	34.6	27.1	14.4	29.3	39.3	22.9	66.1	26.0	89.0	25.8	34.8
Dengue fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0
Gastroenteritis	0	6	7	7	24	3	2	0	0	4	0	31	5	9	0	12	1	4	0	1	0
	3.6	14.2	20.9	13.3	15.4	12.5	6.7	0	3.9	4.2	20.4	81.3	16.7	25.2	10.5	18.0	16.5	25.3	5.7	10.5	24.2
Giardiasis	5	13	14	17	14	3	5	0	3	6	1	3	2	7	1	8	0	5	2	6	1
	30.7	30.9	43.0	30.4	37.8	37.5	34.2	43.2	10.7	34.8	17.3	30.3	24.3	48.8	26.2	30.2	19.8	30.7	20.8	25.2	26.1
H. influenzae	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
type b disease	0	0.2	0.3	0.5	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0
Hepatitis A	0	2	2	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
	2.1	2.1	2.7	4.8	2.5	2.1	0.6	0	1.0	0	3.1	1.3	1.5	0.8	0	0	0	8.9	0	0.6	0
Hepatitis B	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
	0.7	2.6	3.8	2.7	0.3	1.0	1.1	4.6	0	0	1.6	0.6	0	0.4	2.6	0.8	0	3.5	0	3.5	1.0
Hepatitis C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
	1.4	0	0.8	0	0	2.1	0.6	2.3	1.9	0	0	0	2.3	0	2.6	0	0	3.5	0	0.6	0
Hydatids disease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lead absorption	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0.7	1.4	1.4	0.3	3.1	1.0	1.1	4.6	2.9	0.7	4.7	3.9	3.0	4.5	2.6	1.6	0	2.1	3.8	3.5	0
Legionellosis	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3.6	2.1	1.1	1.6	0.9	0	2.8	0	1.0	1.4	0	1.9	3.8	1.2	0	0	3.3	6.3	1.9	2.3	2.9
Leprosy	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leptospirosis	3	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	6.4	0	0	0.3	3.1	1.0	4.5	9.1	2.9	9.1	3.1	7.7	0	0.8	10.5	0.8	13.2	1.2	7.6	1.8	4.8
Listeriosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0.9	0.5	1.3	0.3	1.0	0.6	0	0	0.7	0	0.6	0	0.4	0	1.6	0	0	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0.5	0.5	2.9	1.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.4	0	0.8	3.3	0.5	0	0	0
Measles	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0.7	1.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0	1.1	0	0	0	1.6	0.6	0	0	0	0.8	6.6	1.2	1.9	0	0
Meningococcal	0	1	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	2	0
disease[5]	1.4	4.0	4.4	7.5	9.8	6.3	5.6	0	3.9	6.3	0	8.4	2.3	2.4	10.5	5.7	6.6	5.6	5.7	10.0	3.9
Mumps	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
	3.6	1.6	1.4	2.4	0.3	1.0	2.2	0	0	4.2	3.1	0	0	0.8	0	1.6	0	2.3	1.9	2.3	1.0
Paratyphoid fever	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0.9	0.8	1.6	0	0	1.1	0	0	1.4	0	0	2.3	0.4	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.6	1.0
Pertussis	2	3	1	2	15	2	9	0	0	4	0	2	3	9	0	7	2	41	2	1	10
	7.8	10.5	4.6	6.9	102.6	45.8	89.8	9.1	5.8	34.8	3.1	15.5	28.1	19.1	0	70.2	66.1	187.8	219.8	66.8	128.7
Rheumatic fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3.6	0.5	1.6	6.4	1.9	2.1	0.6	2.3	0	4.9	0	1.9	4.6	4.1	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0
Rickettsial disease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rubella	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
	0	0.5	1.4	0.3	0	0	1.1	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.4	0	0.8	0	0.2	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	5	15	10	12	8	4	13	0	6	3	1	4	4	9	1	6	0	18	6	12	9
	43.5	35.1	32.1	32.5	39.3	27.1	39.9	41.0	41.7	45.3	37.7	20.6	37.2	37.8	31.4	64.5	29.7	39.6	66.3	55.1	68.7
SARS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shigellosis	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	33.5	6.3	10.1	7.2	2.2	2.1	2.8	0	1.0	1.4	6.3	0	3.0	4.1	0	0.8	0	2.8	7.6	2.9	0
Tetanus	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis	0	4	5	3	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	1	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
	13.6	11.4	20.7	14.9	7.6	6.3	1.7	0	2.9	4.2	11.0	8.4	8.3	14.6	0	3.3	0	5.2	1.9	2.9	2.9
Typhoid fever	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
	0	0.7	0.8	3.7	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0.4	0	0.8	0	0.5	3.8	0.6	0
VTEC / STEC	0	1	2	1	5	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	3	1
	2.9	1.2	1.9	0.8	6.3	6.3	4.5	0	1.9	2.8	1.6	0.6	0.8	1.2	0	4.1	3.3	3.3	11.4	5.9	4.8
Yersiniosis	0	3	8	3	2	2	2	0	2	1	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	6	1	0	0
	3.6	10.2	12.0	8.3	6.0	9.4	6.2	6.8	5.8	8.4	20.4	5.8	3.8	22.8	2.6	13.1	33.0	17.3	20.8	18.2	7.7

1 Current rate is based on the cumulative total for the 12 months up to and including March 2006 expressed as cases per 100 000

2 These data are provisional

3 - AIDS data is reported for the greater Auckland and Wellington areas, rather than by District Health Board

- All Aids data is provisional. Further information is available from the Aids Epidemiology Group, University of Otago.

4 Further data are available from the local medical officer of health

5 These totals and rates are derived from the EpiSurv report date as oppoosed to the earliest available date used in the meningococcal disease section.