Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**

Quarterly Surveillance Report

Notifiable Sexually Transmissible Infections and Blood-borne Viruses in Western Australia

Period ending 30 September 2024 Vol. 25 (3), issued November 2024

health.wa.gov.au

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Notes:

1. All data in this report are provisional and subject to future revision.
2. To help place the data in this report in perspective, comparisons with other reporting periods are provided. As no formal statistical testing has been conducted, some caution should be taken with interpretation.
3. Notifications for Christmas Island, Curtin, Leonora, Perth, and Yongah Hill Immigration Detention Centres have been excluded from all analyses because of potential bias introduced through the inclusion of cases detected by screening of asylum seekers at these locations in previous years.

Summary

- The gonorrhoea notification rate increased by 26% in comparison to the previous 12-month period due to a combination of increased testing and increased disease transmission (Figure 2).
- Despite increased testing, the syphilis notification rate decreased by 8% in comparison to the previous 12-month period due to decreased disease transmission (Figure 3).
- The number of HIV notifications among MSM increased by 48% in comparison to the previous 12-month period (Table 16). The reasons for this are being investigated.

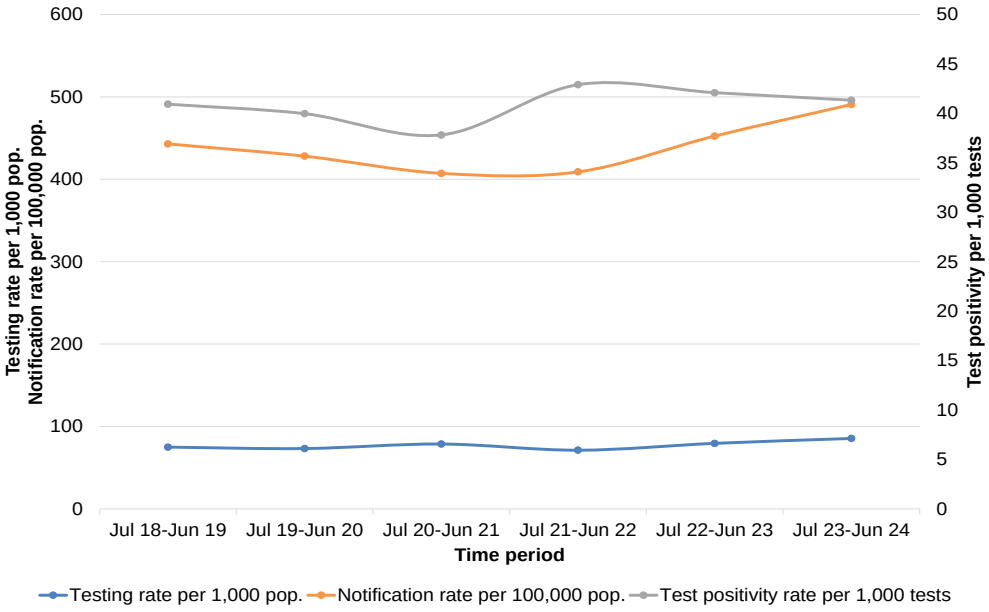
Table 1 Number and percentage change of STI and BBV notifications by reporting period, WA

Disease category	Disease	2nd quarter			12-month period: 01 Jul to 30 Jun			
		2nd quarter 2024	5 year mean for 2nd quarter[1]	2nd quarter % change[2]	01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24	01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	5 year mean for 01 Jul - 30 Jun[3]	01 Jul - 30 Jun Change[4]
STIs	Chlamydia	3,287	2,724.0	21%	13,201	12,086	11,269.0	17%
	Gonorrhoea	1,254	888.0	41%	5,136	4,045	3,538.2	45%
	Infectious syphilis	197	177.2	11%	688	782	710.6	-3%
	STI Total	**4,738**	**3,789.2**	**25%**	**19,025**	**16,913**	**15,517.8**	**23%**
BBVs	Hepatitis B (Newly acquired)	4	4.3	-8%	29	17	17.0	71%
	Hepatitis B (Unspecified)[5]	133	111.4	19%	518	439	452.6	14%
	Hepatitis B (Total)	137	115.8	18%	547	456	469.6	16%
	Hepatitis C (Newly acquired)[6]	28	23.4	20%	151	70	92.0	64%
	Hepatitis C (Unspecified)[5]	222	191.2	16%	776	791	835.4	-7%
	Hepatitis C (Total)	250	214.6	16%	927	861	927.4	0%
	BBV Total	**387**	**330.4**	**17%**	**1,474**	**1,317**	**1,397.0**	**6%**
HIV	Diagnosed in WA	29	14.4	101%	81	63	69.6	16%
	Previously diagnosed overseas	13	12.6	3%	37	7	27.6	34%
	HIV Total	**42**	**27.0**	**56%**	**118**	**70**	**97**	**21%**
Combined total		**5,167**	**4,146.6**	**25%**	**20,617**	**18,300**	**17,012.0**	**21%**

Notes: [1] Historical five-year mean (i.e., from 2019 to 2023) for the current quarter.
[2] Percentage change of the number of notifications in the current quarter compared to the historical five-year mean of the same quarter. Positive values indicate an increase compared to the historical five-year mean of the same quarter. Negative values indicate a decrease compared to the historical five-year mean of the same quarter.
[3] Historical five-year mean (i.e., from 2019 to 2023) for the current 12-month period.
[4] Percentage change of the number of notifications in the current 12-month period compared to the historical five-year mean for the same 12-month period. For interpretation of positive and negative values, see note 2.
[5] Notifications were analysed by optimal date of onset except for unspecified hepatitis B and unspecified hepatitis C notifications have been analysed by specimen date as a batch of retrospective notifications were received in March 2021.
[6] Newly acquired hepatitis C data should be interpreted with caution as laboratory information used to determine if a case had a documented seroconversion within the past two years has not been routinely available since September 2020.

Chlamydia

Figure 1 Chlamydia testing rate, notification rate and test positivity rate in WA over the past six 12-month periods.



- In comparison to the previous 12-month period, the chlamydia testing rate increased by 7% (from 79.5 to 85.4 per 1,000 pop.), the notification rate increased by 8% (from 452.5 to 490.9 per 100,000 pop.), and the test positivity rate remained stable (from 42.1 to 41.3 per 1,000 tests). This suggests that the increase in notifications over this period may have resulted from increased testing (Figure 1).

Table 2 Number and proportion of chlamydia notifications in WA by sex, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Sex	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male	6,231	47%	5,662	47%
Female	6,969	53%	6,423	53%
Male:Female ratio	0.9	N/A	0.9	N/A
Total	**13,201**	**100%**	**12,086**	**100%**

Notes: N/A = Not applicable
In addition to the number of notifications above, there was one notification in a transgender person in the current reporting period and one notification in a transgender person in the previous reporting period.

Table 3 Number and proportion of chlamydia notifications in WA by age group, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Age group (Years)	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0–9	0	0%	0	0%
10–14	59	0%	58	0%
15–19	2,117	16%	2,321	19%
20–24	3,981	30%	4,019	33%
25–29	2,858	22%	2,341	19%
30–34	1,694	13%	1,360	11%
35–39	1,017	8%	809	7%
40–44	640	5%	490	4%
45–49	327	2%	273	2%
50–54	214	2%	149	1%
55–59	145	1%	130	1%
60+	148	1%	136	1%
Unknown	1	0%	0	0%
Total	**13,201**	**100%**	**12,086**	**100%**

- Chlamydia notifications among those aged 15 to 24 years remained stable while notifications among those aged 25 to 34 years increased by 23% in comparison to the previous 12-month period (Table 3).

Table 4 Number and rate of chlamydia notifications in WA by Aboriginality, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Aboriginality	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24			Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23		
	Number	Percent	Rate	Number	Percent	Rate
Aboriginal	1,955	15%	1,491.7	1,814	15%	1,425.4
Non-Aboriginal	10,613	80%	388.5	9,665	80%	358.2
Unknown	633	5%	N/A	607	5%	N/A
Aboriginal:Non-Aboriginal ratio	0.2	N/A	3.8	0.2	N/A	4.0
Total	**13,201**	**100%**	**458.8**	**12,086**	**100%**	**426.7**

Notes: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population
N/A = Not applicable

Table 5 Number and rate of chlamydia notifications in WA by region, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

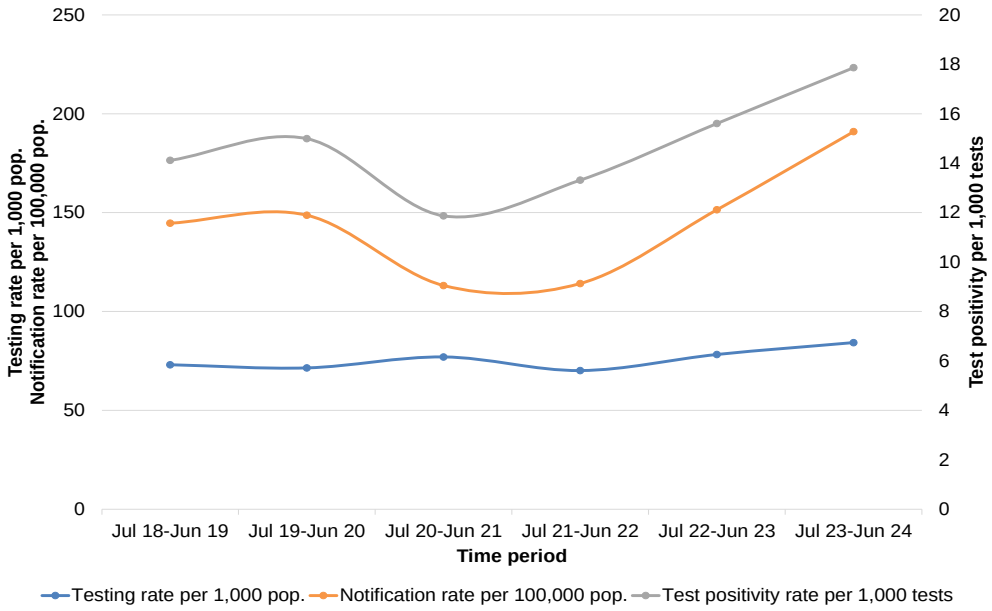
Region	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Goldfields	345	601.2	302	528.2
Great Southern	189	287.3	150	230.3
Kimberley	684	1,709.6	706	1,788.6
Metropolitan	10,387	450.2	9,455	416.9
Midwest	267	384.6	261	380.4
Pilbara	463	798.9	419	720.6
South West	608	303.1	561	284.5
Wheatbelt	178	225.0	180	229.0
Other	80	N/A	52	N/A
Unknown	0	N/A	0	N/A
Total	**13,201**	**458.8**	**12,086**	**426.7**

Notes: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population
Metropolitan = East Metropolitan + North Metropolitan + South Metropolitan
Other = Overseas residents diagnosed in WA
Unknown = Unknown residential address within WA
N/A = Not applicable

- Chlamydia notification rates increased in most regions with the Great Southern region recording the largest increase (25% increase), while the rate remained stable in the Kimberley, Midwest and Wheatbelt regions (Table 5).

Gonorrhoea

Figure 2 Gonorrhoea testing rate, notification rate and test positivity rate in WA over the past six 12-month periods.



- In comparison to the previous 12-month period, the gonorrhoea testing rate increased by 8% (from 78.2 to 84.3 per 1,000 pop.), the notification rate increased by 26% (from 151.5 to 191.0 per 100,000 pop.), and the test positivity rate increased by 14% (from 15.6 to 17.9 per 1,000 tests). This suggests that the increase in notifications over this period may

have resulted from a combination of increased testing and increased disease transmission (Figure 2).

Table 6 Number and proportion of gonorrhoea notifications in WA by sex, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Sex	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male	3,067	60%	2,446	60%
Female	2,069	40%	1,599	40%
Male:Female ratio	1.5	N/A	1.5	N/A
Total	**5,136**	**100%**	**4,045**	**100%**

Notes: N/A = Not applicable

- Compared to the previous 12-month period, the number of gonorrhoea notifications increased among both males and females, with the male:female ratio remaining stable (Table 6).

Table 7 Number and proportion of gonorrhoea notifications in WA by age group, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Age group (Years)	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0–9	3	0%	1	0%
10–14	37	1%	23	1%
15–19	558	11%	532	13%
20–24	1,053	21%	835	21%
25–29	1,030	20%	785	19%
30–34	876	17%	669	17%
35–39	604	12%	481	12%
40–44	417	8%	301	7%
45–49	221	4%	174	4%
50–54	140	3%	121	3%
55–59	89	2%	60	1%
60+	108	2%	63	2%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%
Total	**5,136**	**100%**	**4,045**	**100%**

- Those aged 20 to 29 years comprised 41% of gonorrhoea notifications, and notifications among this age group increased by 29% in comparison to the previous 12-month period (Table 7).

Table 8 Number and rate of gonorrhoea notifications in WA by Aboriginality, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Aboriginality	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24			Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23		
	Number	Percent	Rate	Number	Percent	Rate
Aboriginal	1,392	27%	1,062.1	1,190	29%	935.1
Non-Aboriginal	3,635	71%	133.1	2,763	68%	102.4
Unknown	109	2%	N/A	92	2%	N/A
Aboriginal:Non-Aboriginal ratio	0.4	N/A	8.0	0.4	N/A	9.1
Total	**5,136**	**100%**	**178.5**	**4,045**	**100%**	**142.8**

Notes: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population
N/A = Not applicable

- The gonorrhoea notification rate increased by 14% among Aboriginal people and by 30% among non-Aboriginal people, resulting in a lower rate ratio compared to the previous 12-month period. The number of notifications with unknown Aboriginality increased by 18% in comparison to the previous 12-month period but represented only 2% of all notifications in the current reporting period (Table 8).

Table 9 Number and crude of gonorrhoea notifications in WA by region, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

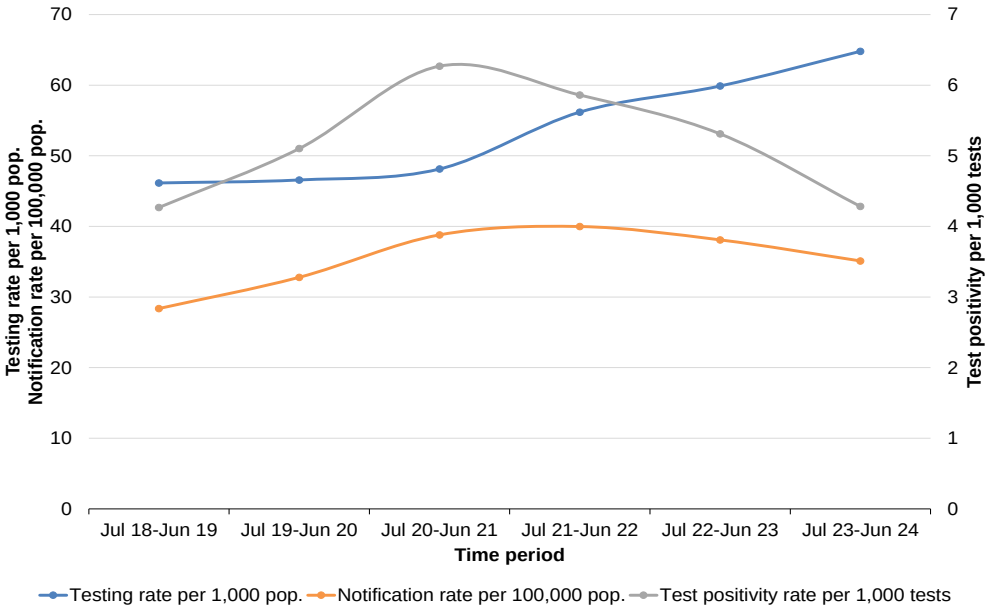
Region	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Goldfields	240	418.2	185	323.6
Great Southern	39	59.3	19	29.2
Kimberley	496	1,239.7	524	1,327.5
Metropolitan	3,792	164.4	2,857	126.0
Midwest	115	165.7	85	123.9
Pilbara	193	333.0	198	340.5
South West	181	90.2	119	60.3
Wheatbelt	48	60.7	37	47.1
Other	31	N/A	21	N/A
Unknown	1	N/A	0	N/A
Total	**5,136**	**178.5**	**4,045**	**142.8**

Notes: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population
Metropolitan = East Metropolitan + North Metropolitan + South Metropolitan
Other = Overseas residents diagnosed in WA
Unknown = Unknown residential address within WA
N/A = Not applicable

- Gonorrhoea notification rates increased in most regions with the Great Southern region recording the largest increase (103% increase), while the rate remained stable in the Kimberley and Pilbara regions (Table 9).

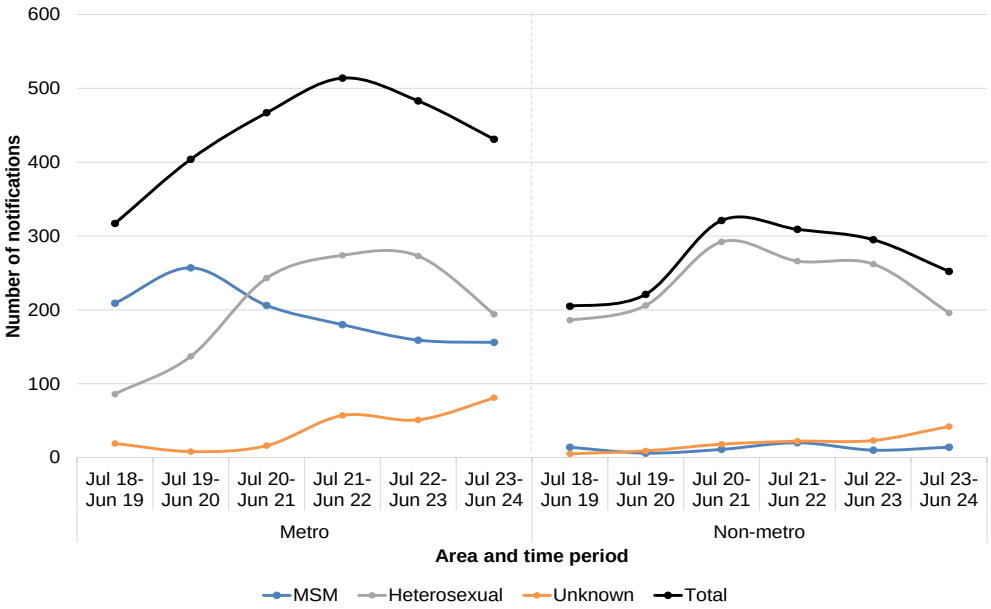
Infectious syphilis

Figure 3 Syphilis testing rate, notification rate and test positivity rate in WA over the past six 12-month periods.



- In comparison to the previous 12-month period, the syphilis testing rate increased by 8% (from 59.9 to 64.8 per 1,000 pop.), the notification rate decreased by 8% (from 38.1 to 35.1 per 100,000 pop.), and the test positivity rate decreased by 19% (from 5.3 to 4.3 per 1,000 tests). This suggests that the decrease in notifications over this period may have resulted from decreased disease transmission (Figure 3).
- Four congenital syphilis cases were reported in the current 12-month period, all in the Perth metropolitan area: two in Aboriginal children and two in non-Aboriginal children. The most recent case was notified in October 2023.

Figure 4 Number of infectious syphilis notifications in WA by area and sexual exposure category, for the two most recent 12-month periods.



- In comparison to the previous 12-month period, the number of notifications without sexual exposure information ('Unknown') increased by 59% in the Perth metropolitan area (n=81 vs. 51) and by 83% in the non-metropolitan area (n=42 vs. 23) (Figure 4). This makes it difficult to interpret true trends by sexual exposure category.

Table 10 Number and proportion of infectious syphilis notifications in WA by sex, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Sex	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male	422	61%	479	61%
Female	266	39%	303	39%
Male:Female ratio	1.6	N/A	1.6	N/A
Total	**688**	**100%**	**782**	**100%**

Notes: N/A = Not applicable
In addition to the number of notifications above, there were two notifications among transgender people in the previous reporting period.

Table 11 Number and proportion of infectious syphilis notifications in WA by age group, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Age group (Years)	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0–9	0	0%	0	0%
10–14	4	1%	2	0%
15–19	44	6%	64	8%
20–24	81	12%	121	15%
25–29	119	17%	147	19%
30–34	131	19%	140	18%
35–39	104	15%	127	16%
40–44	93	14%	58	7%
45–49	47	7%	48	6%
50–54	27	4%	27	3%
55–59	17	2%	29	4%
60+	21	3%	19	2%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%
Total	**688**	**100%**	**782**	**100%**

- Infectious syphilis notifications decreased or remained stable in all age groups with the exception of those aged 40 to 44 years, which increased by 60% (Table 11).

Table 12 Number and rate of infectious syphilis notifications in WA by Aboriginality, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Aboriginality	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24			Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23		
	Number	Percent	Rate	Number	Percent	Rate
Aboriginal	271	39%	206.8	351	45%	275.8
Non-Aboriginal	407	59%	14.9	426	54%	15.8
Unknown	10	1%	N/A	5	1%	N/A
Aboriginal:Non-Aboriginal ratio	0.7	N/A	13.9	0.8	N/A	17.5
Total	**688**	**100%**	**23.9**	**782**	**100%**	**27.6**

Notes: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population
N/A = Not applicable

- The infectious syphilis notification rate decreased by 25% among Aboriginal people and by 6% among non-Aboriginal people, resulting in a lower rate ratio compared to the previous 12-month period (Table 12).

Table 13 Number and rate of infectious syphilis notifications in WA by region, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Region	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Goldfields	43	74.9	26	45.5
Great Southern	11	16.7	6	9.2
Kimberley	67	167.5	104	263.5
Metropolitan	431	18.7	483	21.3
Midwest	25	36.0	32	46.6
Pilbara	82	141.5	101	173.7
South West	12	6.0	20	10.1
Wheatbelt	12	15.2	6	7.6
Other	4	N/A	3	N/A
Unknown	1	N/A	1	N/A
Total	**688**	**23.9**	**782**	**27.6**

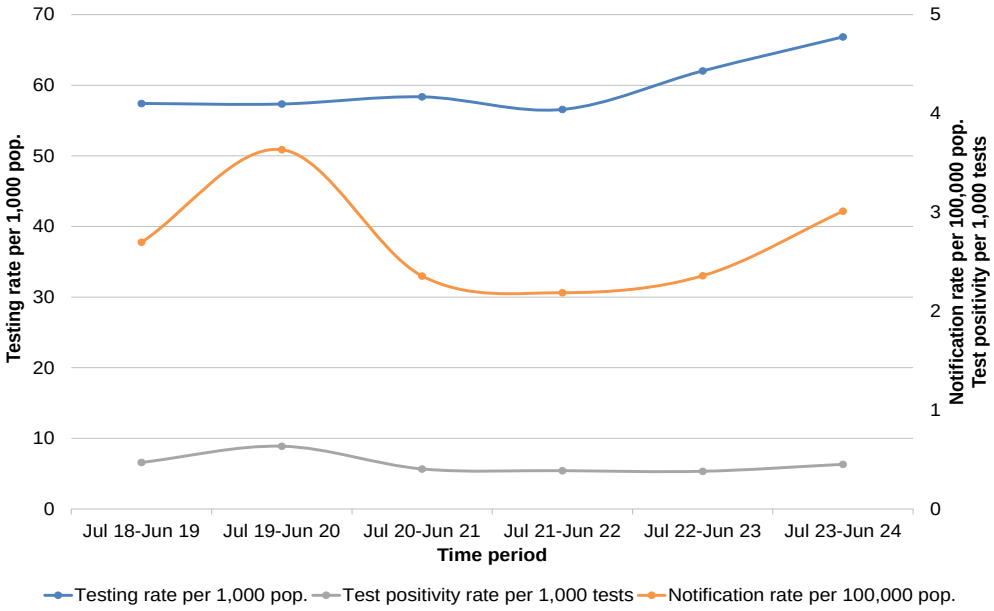
Notes: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population
Metropolitan = East Metropolitan + North Metropolitan + South Metropolitan
Other = Overseas residents diagnosed in WA
Unknown = Unknown residential address within WA
N/A = Not applicable

- Trends in the infectious syphilis notification rate varied between regions. The notification rate remained highest in the Kimberley region but decreased by 36% in comparison to the previous 12-month period. The rate increased by 82% in the Great Southern region (Table 13).

HIV

- The following analysis of HIV notifications data includes cases diagnosed for the first time in WA and excludes notifications of HIV cases previously diagnosed overseas.

Figure 5 HIV testing rate, notification rate and test positivity rate in WA over the past six 12-month periods.



- A total of 81 HIV cases were notified in the July 2023 to June 2024 period, a 29% increase compared to the previous 12-month period (n=63) (Table 1).
- In comparison to the previous 12-month period, the HIV testing rate increased by 7%, the notification rate increased by 28% and the test positivity rate increased by 20% (Figure 4).
- In the July 2023 to June 2024 period the number of HIV notifications among males increased by 33% compared to the previous 12-month period (48 to 64 cases), while number of female cases increased slightly (12 to 16 cases). The male:female ratio for new HIV diagnoses remained stable at 4.0:1 over the last two 12-month periods.

Table 14 Number and proportion of HIV notifications in WA by age group, for the two most recent 12-month periods (excludes cases previously diagnosed outside WA).

Age group (Years)	1 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24 Period		1 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23 Period	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0–9	0	0%	0	0%
10–14	0	0%	0	0%
15–19	1	1%	0	0%
20–24	9	11%	3	5%
25–29	11	14%	7	11%
30–34	9	11%	17	27%
35–39	14	17%	8	13%
40–44	13	16%	10	16%
45–49	4	5%	4	6%
50–54	4	5%	4	6%
55–59	8	10%	4	6%
60+	8	10%	6	10%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%
Total	**81**	**100%**	**63**	**100%**

- The number of HIV notifications increased or remained stable across most age groups over the two 12-month reporting periods. The largest increase was reported in cases aged 20 – 24 years, where the number of notifications increased 4-fold (Table 14).
- The median age of HIV notifications in the July 2023 to June 2024 period was 38 years (range: 19 to 74 years) and slightly older than the previous 12-month period (37 years; range: 21 to 68 years).

Table 15 Number and crude rate of HIV notifications in WA by Aboriginality, for the two most recent 12-month periods (excludes cases previously diagnosed outside WA).

Aboriginality	1 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24 Period		1 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23 Period	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Aboriginal	3	2.7	4	3.6
Non-Aboriginal	77	3.0	59	2.3
Unknown	1	N/A	0	N/A
Aboriginal:Non-Aboriginal ratio	0.04	0.9	0.07	1.6
Total	**81**	**3.0**	**63**	**2.3**

Note: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population

- There were three new cases of HIV among Aboriginal people in the July 2023 to June 2024 period, a 25% decrease compared to the previous 12-month period. The crude HIV notification rate for Aboriginal people is sensitive to small changes in the number of cases notified and was 0.9 times the rate reported for non-Aboriginal people in the current period (Table 15).

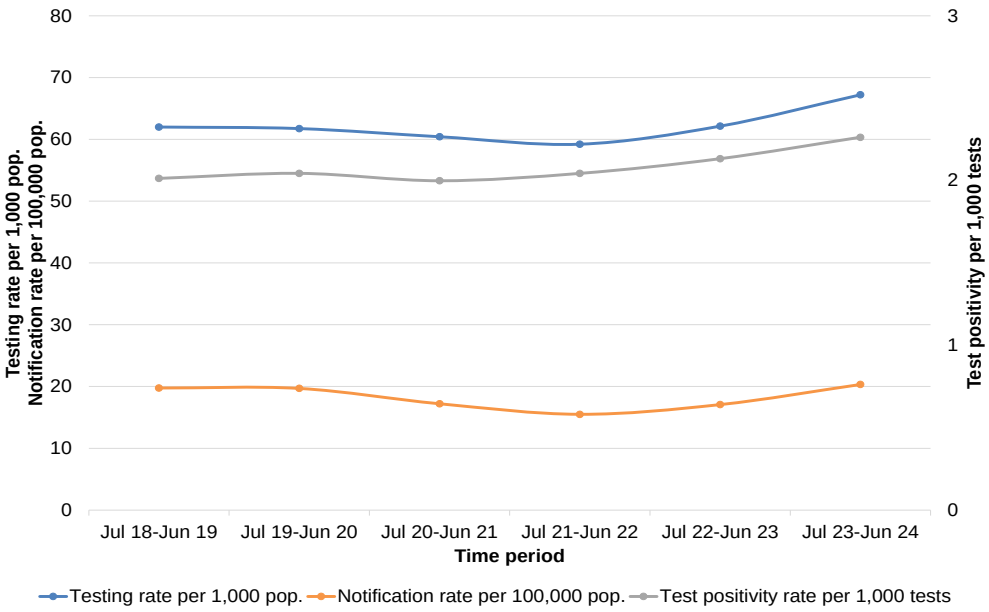
Table 16 Number and proportion of HIV notifications in WA by exposure, for the two most recent 12-month periods (excludes cases previously diagnosed outside WA).

Exposure category	1 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24 Period		1 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23 Period	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Men who have sex with men	40	49%	27	44%
Male Heterosexual	19	23%	14	23%
Female Heterosexual	16	20%	12	19%
Male and Female IDU	1	1%	4	6%
Other/unknown	5	6%	5	8%
Total	**81**	**100%**	**62**	**100%**

- Compared to the previous 12-month period, there was a 48% increase in the number of HIV notifications in MSM in the current period (Table 16). Over half of these cases in the current period had acquired their infection in Australia (60%; n=24). The reasons for this increase are being investigated.
- Compared to the previous 12-month period, there was a 36% increase in the number of male HIV notifications attributed to heterosexual exposure (Table 16). Most of these cases in the current period had acquired HIV overseas (79%; n=15).
- Compared to the previous 12-month period, there was a 33% increase in the number of female HIV notifications attributed to heterosexual exposure (Table 16). Most of these cases had acquired HIV overseas (75%; n=12).

Hepatitis B

Figure 5 Hepatitis B testing rate, notification rate and test positivity rate in WA over the past six 12-month periods.



- In comparison to the previous 12-month period, the hepatitis B testing rate increased by 8% (from 62.1 to 67.2 per 1,000 pop.), the notification rate increased by 19% (from 17.1 to 20.3 per 100,000 pop.), and the test positivity rate increased by 6% (from 2.1 to 2.3 per 1,000 tests). This suggests that the increase in notifications over this period may have resulted from a combination of increased testing and increased disease transmission (Figure 6).

Table 17 Number and proportion of newly acquired and unspecified hepatitis B notifications in WA, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Disease status	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Newly acquired	29	5%	17	4%
Unspecified	518	95%	439	96%
Total	**547**	**100%**	**456**	**100%**

- In comparison to the previous 12-month period, the number of newly acquired hepatitis B notifications increased by 71% and the number of unspecified hepatitis B notifications increased by 18% (Table 17).

Table 18 Number and proportion of hepatitis B notifications (newly acquired + unspecified) in WA by sex, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Sex	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male	267	49%	255	56%
Female	280	51%	201	44%
Male:Female ratio	1.0	N/A	1.3	N/A
Total	**547**	**100%**	**456**	**100%**

Note: N/A = Not applicable

- The number of total hepatitis B notifications increased by 5% among males and by 39% among females compared to the previous 12-month period (Table 18).

Table 19 Number and proportion of hepatitis B notifications (newly acquired + unspecified) in WA by age group, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Age group (Years)	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0–9	3	1%	1	0%
10–14	1	0%	0	0%
15–19	11	2%	5	1%
20–24	22	4%	15	3%
25–29	53	10%	47	10%
30–34	78	14%	71	16%
35–39	74	14%	52	11%
40–44	73	13%	57	13%
45–49	58	11%	47	10%
50–54	44	8%	43	9%
55–59	39	7%	39	9%
60+	91	17%	79	17%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%
Total	**547**	**100%**	**456**	**100%**

- Those aged 30 to 44 years comprised 41% of total hepatitis B notifications, and notifications among this age group increased by 25% in comparison to the previous 12-month period (Table 19).

Table 20 Number and rate of hepatitis B notifications (newly acquired + unspecified) in WA by Aboriginality, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Aboriginality	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24			Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23		
	Number	Percent	Rate	Number	Percent	Rate
Aboriginal	33	6%	25.2	35	8%	27.5
Non-Aboriginal	450	82%	16.5	362	79%	13.4
Unknown	64	12%	N/A	59	13%	N/A
Aboriginal:Non-Aboriginal ratio	0.1	N/A	1.5	0.1	N/A	2.1
Total	**547**	**100%**	**19.0**	**456**	**100%**	**16.1**

Notes: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population
N/A = Not applicable

- The total hepatitis B notification rate decreased by 8% among Aboriginal people and increased by 23% among non-Aboriginal people (Table 20).

Table 21 Number and rate of hepatitis B notifications (newly acquired + unspecified) in WA by region, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

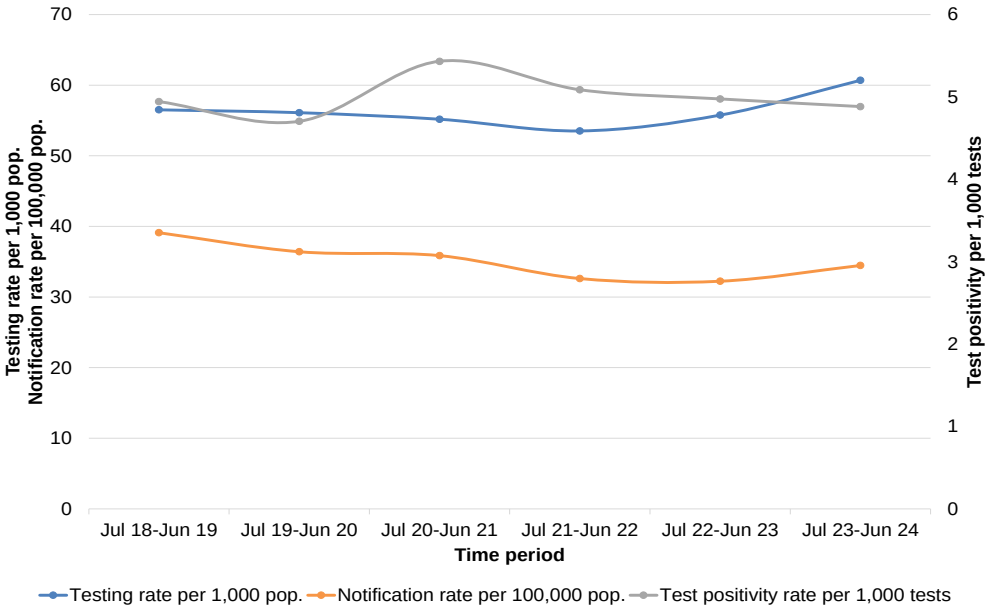
Region	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Goldfields	7	12.2	7	12.2
Great Southern	7	10.6	4	6.1
Kimberley	15	37.5	13	32.9
Metropolitan	470	20.4	385	17.0
Midwest	10	14.4	14	20.4
Pilbara	18	31.1	13	22.4
South West	12	6.0	11	5.6
Wheatbelt	5	6.3	2	2.5
Other	3	N/A	7	N/A
Unknown	0	N/A	0	N/A
Total	**547**	**19.0**	**456**	**16.1**

Notes: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population
Metropolitan = East Metropolitan + North Metropolitan + South Metropolitan
Other = Overseas residents diagnosed in WA
Unknown = Unknown residential address within WA
N/A = Not applicable

- Trends in the total hepatitis B notification rate varied between regions and the small number of notifications in most non-metropolitan regions makes it difficult to interpret any changes in trends (Table 21).

Hepatitis C

Figure 6 Hepatitis C testing rate, notification rate and test positivity rate in WA over the past six 12-month periods.



- In comparison to the previous 12-month period, the hepatitis C testing rate increased by 9% (from 55.8 to 60.7 per 1,000 pop.), the notification rate increased by 7% (from 32.2 to 34.5 per 100,000 pop.), and the test positivity rate remained stable (from 5.0 to 4.9 per 1,000 tests). This suggests that the increase in notifications over this period may have resulted from increased testing (Figure 7).

Table 22 Number and proportion of hepatitis C notifications in WA by disease status, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Disease status	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Newly acquired	151	16%	70	8%
Unspecified	776	84%	791	92%
Total	**927**	**100%**	**861**	**100%**

- In comparison to the previous 12-month period, the number of newly acquired hepatitis C notifications more than doubled, while the number of unspecified hepatitis C notifications remained stable.

Table 23 Number and proportion of hepatitis C notifications (newly acquired + unspecified) in WA by sex, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Sex	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male	654	71%	582	68%
Female	273	29%	279	32%
Male:Female ratio	2.4	N/A	2.1	N/A
Total	**927**	**100%**	**861**	**100%**

Note: N/A = Not applicable

- The number of total hepatitis C notifications increased by 12% among males and remained stable among females compared to the previous 12-month period (Table 23).

Table 24 Number and proportion of hepatitis C notifications (newly acquired + unspecified) in WA by age group, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Age group (Years)	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0–9	1	0%	2	0%
10–14	0	0%	1	0%
15–19	31	3%	26	3%
20–24	120	13%	101	12%
25–29	126	14%	119	14%
30–34	113	12%	122	14%
35–39	132	14%	89	10%
40–44	86	9%	97	11%
45–49	92	10%	68	8%
50–54	57	6%	70	8%
55–59	63	7%	65	8%
60+	106	11%	101	12%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%
Total	**927**	**100%**	**861**	**100%**

- The largest proportion of total hepatitis C notifications was among those aged 25 to 39 years and notifications among this age group increased by 12% in comparison to the previous 12-month period. Notifications among those aged 50 to 54 years decreased by 19% (Table 24).

Table 25 Number and rate of hepatitis C notifications (newly acquired + unspecified) in WA by Aboriginality, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Aboriginality	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24			Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23		
	Number	Percent	Rate	Number	Percent	Rate
Aboriginal	317	34%	241.9	304	35%	238.9
Non-Aboriginal	538	58%	19.7	516	60%	19.1
Unknown	72	8%	N/A	41	5%	N/A
Aboriginal:Non-Aboriginal ratio	0.6	N/A	12.3	0.6	N/A	12.5
Total	**927**	**100%**	**32.2**	**861**	**100%**	**30.4**

Notes: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population
N/A = Not applicable

Table 26 Number and rate of hepatitis C notifications (newly acquired + unspecified) in WA by region, for the two most recent 12-month periods.

Region	Current reporting period 01 Jul 23 - 30 Jun 24		Previous reporting period 01 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Goldfields	30	52.3	15	26.2
Great Southern	46	69.9	42	64.5
Kimberley	21	52.5	31	78.5
Metropolitan	696	30.2	647	28.5
Midwest	40	57.6	32	46.6
Pilbara	26	44.9	22	37.8
South West	47	23.4	49	24.8
Wheatbelt	17	21.5	19	24.2
Other	4	N/A	4	N/A
Unknown	0	N/A	0	N/A
Total	**927**	**32.2**	**861**	**30.4**

Notes: Rate = Crude notification rate per 100,000 population
Metropolitan = East Metropolitan + North Metropolitan + South Metropolitan
Other = Overseas residents diagnosed in WA
Unknown = Unknown residential address within WA
N/A = Not applicable

- Trends in the total hepatitis C notification rate varied between regions. Most notable were the almost doubling of the rate in the Goldfields region and 33% decrease in the Kimberley region (Table 26).

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