

Table 4. Number of notifiable infectious diseases by case classification in 2004

Infectious disease	Confirmed	Probable	Possible	Not Specified	Total
Acute infectious gastroenteritis	1357	297	0	263	1917
Bacterial meningitis (not otherwise specified)	8	6	23	0	37
Brucellosis	2	57	0	1	60
Campylobacter infection	1286	0	0	425	1711
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i> (type A) food-borne disease	4	0	0	1	5
Creutzfeldt Jakob disease	4	0	0	0	4
Cryptosporidiosis	280	1	0	151	432
Enterohaemorrhagic <i>Escherichia coli</i>	66	0	0	1	67
Giardiasis	39	0	0	14	53
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> disease (invasive)	38	0	0	0	38
Hepatitis A (acute)	36	0	5	6	47
Hepatitis B (acute and chronic)	570	13	0	214	797
Hepatitis C	1006	0	0	148	1154
Influenza	74	0	1	5	80
Legionellosis	3	1	0	0	4
Leptospirosis	10	0	0	5	15
Listeriosis	9	0	0	2	11
Malaria	12	0	0	15	27
Measles	156	0	150	24	330
Meningococcal disease*	171	3	25	0	199
Mumps	85	13	82	244	424
Noroviral infection	1000	27	0	101	1128
Paratyphoid	2	2	0	0	4
Pertussis	42	1	21	29	93
Q fever	1	4	0	2	7
Rubella	4	1	32	12	49
Salmonellosis	242	74	0	99	415
Shigellosis	55	0	0	2	57
Staphylococcal food poisoning	0	0	0	3	3
Streptococcus group A infection (invasive)	32	0	0	3	35
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> infection (invasive)	160	0	4	10	174
Tetanus	0	0	0	1	1
Toxoplasmosis	26	0	0	7	33
Typhoid	6	0	0	1	7
Viral encephalitis	2	0	0	3	5
Viral meningitis	4	2	0	17	23
Yersiniosis	4	0	0	2	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>6796</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>1811</b>	<b>9452</b>

\*As per the case definitions, meningococcal disease notifications are classified as definite, presumed and possible. For convenience they are reported in this table as confirmed, probable and possible, respectively.

Please note the EARSS, STI and TB data are not included in this report. Data on these diseases can be found in separate chapters in this document

### Hepatitis C

There were 1154 (29.5/100,000) notifications of hepatitis C in 2004. Hepatitis C was specified as a notifiable infectious disease in Ireland for the first time in 2004. Prior to 2004 hepatitis C was only notifiable under the disease category viral hepatitis unspecified. In 2003, of the 85 viral hepatitis unspecified notifications 77 were reported as hepatitis C, one as hepatitis E while the organism was not reported for seven cases. A comprehensive report on viral hepatitis is presented as a separate chapter elsewhere within this document.

### Influenza

Influenza was first specified as a notifiable infectious disease in 2004. Eighty cases of influenza were notified in 2004, giving a notification rate of 2.0 per 100,000 population. Of the 80 influenza notifications, 40 were reported as influenza A virus, 30 as influenza B virus while organism details were not reported for the remaining 10 cases. A report on influenza activity during the 2004/2005 season is included elsewhere in this document.

### Legionellosis

Four cases of legionellosis were notified in 2004. All four cases were aged greater than 44 years. Three of the cases were male and one was female. Three of the cases were classified as confirmed while one was classified as probable. There was one death. Of the four cases one was community-acquired in Ireland, one was hospital-acquired while two were travel-associated (Ireland and USA). A case of Legionnaires' disease is defined as travel-associated if the patient spent one or more nights away from their home in accommodation used for commercial or leisure purposes e.g. hotels, holiday apartments etc. in the 10 days before the onset of illness. Travel-associated cases may involve travel within Ireland or travel abroad. Both travel-associated cases in 2004 were notified to the European Working Group for Legionella Infections (EWGLI) surveillance scheme. The aim of this surveillance scheme (EWGLI) is to detect cases of travel-associated Legionnaires' disease and thereby rapidly identify outbreaks and implement control measures.<sup>4</sup>