

## 2.2 Legionellosis

### Summary

Number of cases in 2011: 7  
Crude incidence rate: 1.5 per million

In 2011, there were seven cases of Legionnaires' disease notified in Ireland, a rate of 1.5 per million population. No deaths associated with Legionnaires' disease were reported.

Three cases were reported from HSE East, three from HSE South (South East), and one from HSE South (Cork and Kerry).

The majority of cases were male (85.7%). The median age was 68 years with a range from 57 to 91 years.

One of the seven cases was classified as probable. All six confirmed cases were diagnosed by urinary antigen test (UAT) and two had the organism cultured. The organism involved in the six cases confirmed by UAT was *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1. One of the cases where the organism was cultured was found to be monoclonal subtype Benidorm.

Five cases were travel-associated. Countries of travel included Indonesia (2), Ireland (1) and Italy (2). All five cases were linked to various travel related clusters. Of the two remaining cases, one was healthcare-associated and the other was assumed to be community acquired.

The peak month for notifications was November when three cases were notified.

Table 1. Number of legionnaires' disease cases per million population in Ireland, 2004-2011

Age group (years)	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<30	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
30-39	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	0
40-49	1	3	7	4	2	0	2	0
50-59	1	1	2	2	3	2	1	1
60-69	1	1	1	3	4	3	3	4
70+	1	1	2	2	2	2	4	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>CIR</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.5</b>

For details of denominator data used, please see Explanatory Notes section at the end of this document