

## 4.3 Other Non-IID Zoonotic Diseases

### Toxoplasmosis

During 2012, 36 cases of toxoplasmosis were notified compared to 32 in 2011 and 36 cases in 2010.

One congenital case was reported. The remaining 31 cases ranged in age from 15 to 61 years (median, 31 years). As in previous years, female cases were more common (64%). The high number of cases reported among women of child-bearing age is probably a reflection of enhanced testing during pregnancy (Table 1).

### Q Fever

One probable and five confirmed cases of Q fever were notified during 2012, three of which were admitted to hospital (50%).

There were five male cases and one female case (Table 2), and they ranged in age from 35 to 70 years (median age, 60 years). Cases were reported from five different HSE-areas: two in HSE-S and one each in HSE-E, HSE-M, HSE-SE, and HSE-MW.

Although no details are collected on potential sources of infections for notified cases in Ireland, the disease is commonly acquired through occupational exposure to infected sheep and other small ruminants, e.g. by farmers, veterinarians, and abattoir workers.

### Brucellosis

During 2012, there were two cases of brucellosis notified, one paediatric and one adult. This compares with between one and three cases per annum over the previous four years. Both cases were reported as *Brucella* species, and one case was associated with travel to Asia.

Despite the reporting of a paediatric case this year, the age and sex distribution for brucellosis in recent years in Ireland has tended towards adult males, suggesting that occupational exposure is likely to be a major transmission route for this disease.

### Echinococcosis

In 2012, there were no notifications of echinococcosis. Prior to this there have only been four cases of echinococcosis notified in Ireland since the disease became notifiable in 2004; in 2008, two adult cases were notified, and one adult case was notified each in 2009 and 2010.

Because of the long incubation period for this disease, it is possible that these infections occurred many years ago.

### Trichinosis

No cases of trichinosis were notified in Ireland in 2012.

Table 1: Toxoplasmosis notifications by age and sex, Ireland 2012

Age group	Male	Female	Total
<1 yr	0	1	1
1-4 yrs	0	0	0
5-14 yrs	0	0	0
15-24 yrs	4	0	4
25-44 yrs	7	20	27
45-64 yrs	2	2	4
65+ yrs	0	0	0
Total	13	23	36

Table 2: Q fever notifications by age and sex, Ireland 2012

Age group	Male	Female	Total
<5 yr	0	0	0
5-14 yrs	0	0	0
15-24 yrs	0	0	0
25-44 yrs	1	1	2
45-64 yrs	1	0	1
65+ yrs	3	0	3
Total	5	1	6