

**Fiji Communicable Disease Bulletin .**  
**Issue 3: November 2008**

Table 1: Fiji Syndromic surveillance (NNDSS)

Syndrome	MONTH OF ONSET			
	August	September	October	2008 YTD (Jan-Oct)
Diarrhoea <sup>1</sup>	830	678	403	10,921
Diarrhoea with blood <sup>2</sup>	6	7	4	143
Influenza-like illness <sup>3</sup>	1030	879	726	12,209
Acute respiratory infection <sup>4</sup>	1919	1592	988	22,226
Acute fever & rash <sup>5</sup>	1	3	1	10
Acute flaccid paralysis <sup>5</sup>	0	2	0	5

Notes :

- Source: Fiji National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS); reported as "acute gastroenteritis", "enteritis", "gastroenteritis", "infective diarrhea", "mild gastroenteritis", or "infective enteritis".
- Source: NNDSS; reported as "dysentery amoebic & bacillary".
- Source: NNDSS; reported as "influenza", or "influenza-like illness".
- Source: NNDSS; reported as "acute respiratory infection", "acute respiratory illness", "upper respiratory tract infection".
- Source: Hospital Based Active Surveillance System (HBAS)

**Fiji NNDSS (Table 1)**

**Special note with Table 1:** Previous published monthly statistics are updated and may change as summaries are received daily from reporting health centers. It is therefore vital for regular, timely and accurate reporting by all relevant health staff to ensure further positive progress towards an effective and functioning surveillance system for Fiji

**Hospital-Based Active Surveillance System (HBAS):**

A suspected case of AFR was reported in Fiji for the month of October. Upon re-tests overseas the suspected sample came out negative. In addition for October there were 2 reported cases in the Solomon Islands and 1 case reported in Tuvalu.

**Laboratory data (Table 2)**

Retraction— 2008 case count of Leptospirosis is 32 and not 45 as reported previously. Due to the unavailability of reagents dengue tests have been rationalised and is therefore confined to the major divisional hospitals only. Reporting through line listings will however continue.

**Measles news update :**

Mataika House has recently met with WHO consultants to begin Regional Measles Accreditation for the institution. In addition EQA program results for measles with the Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Lab (VIDRL) came out at 100%. All IgM requests for measles are requested to be directed towards Mataika House.

**Lymphatic Filariasis**

The 2008 WHO strategy for MDA of anti filiarials was launched on 31/10/08 by the Ministry of Health. All MoH staff are expected to follow example set by the Minister in taking their tablets and by assisting in distribution of drugs to the public.

**Epi notes: Dengue fever update for Fiji**

Figure 1. Age distribution on reported Dengue cases for all Divisions

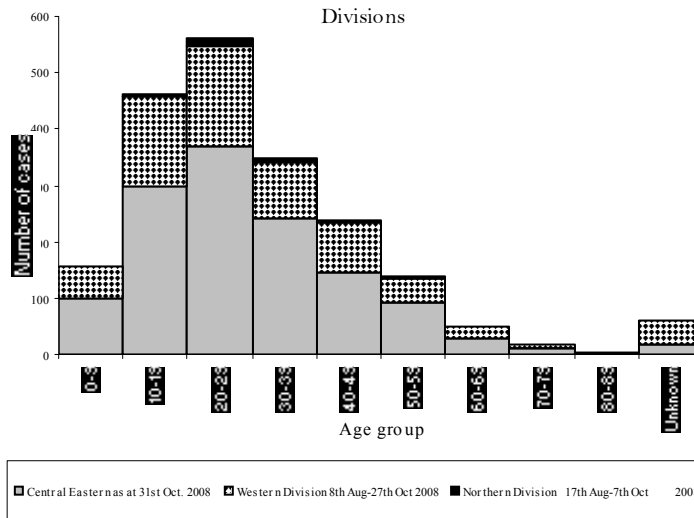


Figure 1, above shows the combined age distribution for reported dengue cases in Central Eastern, Western and Northern Divisions. In all divisions the highest number of cases appear to fall within three age groups: [10-19] [20-29] [30-39]. The most vulnerable age group is thought to be < 20 which accounts for 23% in the above graph. In comparison to the 1998 dengue outbreak where 2/3 out of the reported 24,000 cases were recorded for the same age group.

There have been no documented fatalities and no complete data for severe dengue (DHF). Estimations however is at 10% of reported cases based on hospitals admissions. Nb : Data sets & periods vary for each three divisions according to data availability.

Table 2 : Laboratory confirmed new cases from Fiji Centre for Communicable Disease Control (FCCDC) and divisional laboratories.

2008				
Selected Diseases	Tests requested October	Tests performed October	Positive October	2008 YTD (October)
Measles <sup>1</sup>	2	2	0	0
Rubella <sup>1</sup>	2	2	0	0
Dengue Fever <sup>1</sup>	103	1	1	247
Influenza <sup>1</sup>	8	8	0	0
Leptospirosis <sup>1</sup>	4	0	0	32
HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	n.a	n.a	n.a	12
Typhoid fever <sup>2</sup>	n.a	n.a	n.a	466
Cholera <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0

Notes :

- N.A : Not available  
Data Source : 1 : FCCDC Laboratory (Mataika House) 2: Divisional Laboratories, Labasa & Lautoka. \* CWHM & Labasa October data not available at this time  
Nb: HIV : As reported in the 2nd quarter .n.a: Not available at time of publication

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