

**Fiji Communicable Disease Bulletin .**  
**Issue 1:September 2008**

Figure 1: Fiji Syndromic surveillance

| Syndrome                                  | MONTH OF ONSET |      |        |                   |
|---|----------------|------|--------|-------------------|
|   | June           | July | August | 2008 YTD (August) |
| Diarrhoea <sup>1</sup>                    | 817            | 812  | 720    | 9608              |
| Diarrhoea with blood <sup>2</sup>         | 20             | 9    | 6      | 131               |
| Influenza-like illness <sup>3</sup>       | 1271           | 504  | 486    | 9850              |
| Acute respiratory infection. <sup>4</sup> | 1984           | 1611 | 1535   | 18474             |
| Acute fever & rash <sup>5</sup>           | 2              | 0    | 1      | 6                 |
| Acute flaccid paralysis <sup>5</sup>      | 1              | 1    | 0      | 3                 |

Notes :

1 Source: Fiji National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS); reported as "acute gastroenteritis", "enteritis", "gastroenteritis", "infective diarrhea", "mild gastroenteritis", or "infective enteritis".

2 Source: NNDSS; reported as "dysentery amoebic & bacillary"

3 Source: NNDSS; reported as "influenza", or "influenza-like illness".

4 Source: NNDSS; reported as " pneumonia", " acute respiratory infection", " acute respiratory illness", " upper respiratory tract infection", " .

5 Source: Hospital Based Active Surveillance System (HBAS)

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

| Selected Diseases          | 2008                   |                        |                 |                   |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
|                            | Tests requested August | Tests performed August | Positive August | 2008 YTD (August) |
| Measles <sup>1</sup>       | 2                      | 0                      | 0               | 0                 |
| Rubella <sup>1</sup>       | 1                      | 0                      | 0               | 0                 |
| Dengue Fever <sup>1</sup>  | 123                    | 113                    | 60              | 114               |
| Influenza <sup>1</sup>     | 2                      | 0                      | 0               | 0                 |
| Leptospirosis <sup>1</sup> | 63                     | 0                      | 0               | 45                |
| HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>      | 162                    | 162                    | -               | 12                |
| Typhoid fever <sup>2</sup> | N.A                    | N.A                    | N.A             | 437               |
| Cholera <sup>2</sup>       | N.A                    | N.A                    | N.A             | 0                 |

Notes :

N.A : Not available

Data Source : 1 : FCCDC Laboratory (Mataika House) 2: Divisional Laboratories CWMH, Labasa & Lautoka Nb: HIV : As reported in the last quarter

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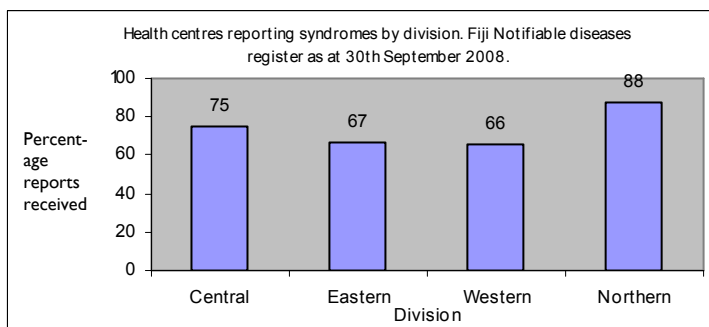
For any inquiries or suggestions, please contact Aggie on the number listed above.

**Introduction**

The Fiji Centre for Communicable Disease Control (FCCDC) is Fiji's National Public Health reference laboratory. It prioritizes eight diseases : dengue fever , leptospirosis , measles , rubella , cholera , typhoid , HIV Aids and influenza , under the PPHSN system. This monthly bulletin provides an update of all priority surveillance data from divisions and Mataika House. It will include two summaries : Figure 1 will be on Syndromic reporting and figure 2 will on laboratory surveillance data .

**Figure 1. Fiji National Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (NNDSS) and Hospital Based Surveillance System (HBAS)**

Fiji's Public Health Act requires that all medical officers of health (including all registered private doctors and Hospital Laboratory Pathologists ) are required to report weekly. Due to the lack of laboratory capabilities there is a need to surveil and report on syndromes (figure 1). AFR & AFP data is off the Pacific Hospital Based Active Surveillance System (HBAS) .The HBAS system consists of 58 hospitals across 20 Pacific countries and operates under PPHSN. Figure 3. below represents the averaged percentage of health facilities reporting by division via Fiji NNDSS.



**Figure 2. Laboratory Surveillance**

Figure 2 shows the number of tests requested , the number of tests processed and confirmed positive in August in addition to the total number of positive tests in 2008 (ytd). Duplicate tests on the same patient are not included in this table. Measles, rubella , leptospirosis, dengue fever , influenza and HIV tests are serological whilst typhoid fever and cholera are cultured.

**EPI NOTES**

**Dengue outbreaks in the pacific**

Fiji, Tonga, New Caledonia, Kiribati, Samoa and American Samoa have reported outbreaks of dengue fever in 2008. Whilst Dengue fever is not endemic in Fiji the last significant outbreak was in 1998-1999. In Kiribati & Fiji serotype 4 was found to be responsible for the outbreak. This serotype has not been identified in the Pacific since 1995. Patients with dengue fever present with fever and symptoms like headache, body ache, rash, vomiting, bleeding or conjunctivitis. A small percentage of the patients will develop severe dengue with bleeding and /or shock which has to be treated by intravenous fluids. Figure 4. below is an update of the number of dengue fever cases in Fiji.

Figure 4. Fiji Dengue fever update .September 30th, 2008

| Division              | Number of Dengue fever cases confirmed |
|-----------------------|--|
| North                 | 25                                     |
| Eastern               | 33                                     |
| Western               | 544                                    |
| Central               | 988                                    |
| Total number of cases | 1590                                   |

**Acknowledgements**

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