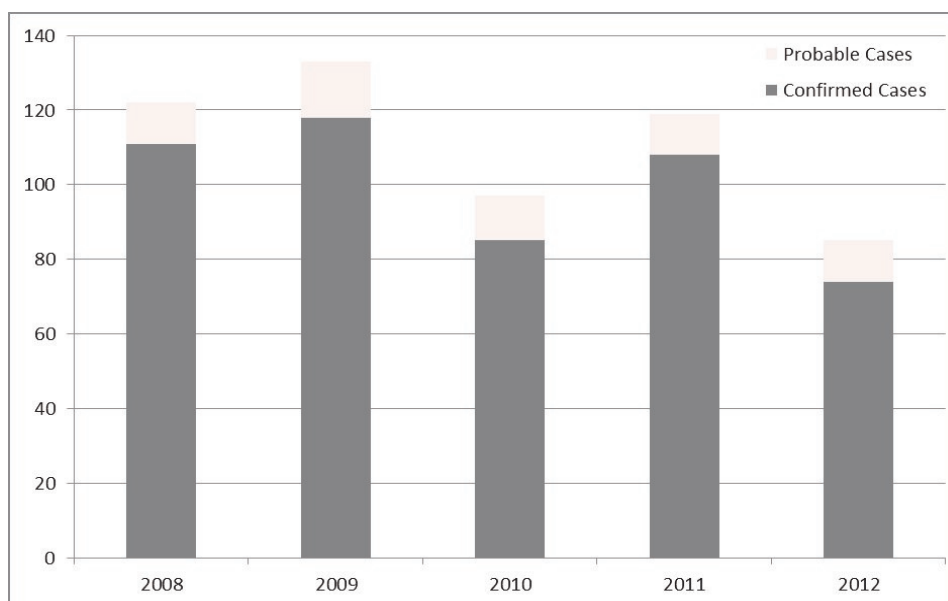


Notifications of Meningococcal Disease cases in New Zealand

There were 85 cases of meningococcal disease notified in 2012 (figure 1), equating to a notification rate of 1.9% per 100,000 population, the lowest in New Zealand for two decades. The less than one year old age group continue to experience a highest burden from the disease (Lopez and Sexton 2013).

The notifications for meningococcal disease in New Zealand were at a high between 1991 and 2004. The annual number of notifications nationally during this time numbered well over 500 cases some years (Lopez and Sexton 2013). More recently, the number of notifications has been slowly returning to pre-1991 levels, when the number of notifications per year were about 200 cases per year at their highest.

FIGURE 1: Notifications of confirmed and probable meningococcal disease cases New Zealand 2008-2012



Source: ESR (2013)

References

Institute of Environmental Science and Research Ltd (ESR). 2013. Direct communication with statistics department. Wellington, New Zealand.

Lopez, L. and Sexton, K. 2013. 'The epidemiology of meningococcal disease in New Zealand 2012'. Institute of Environmental Science and Research Ltd (ESR). Wellington, New Zealand

Institute of Environmental Science and Research Ltd (ESR). 2013. Direct communication with statistics department. Wellington, New Zealand.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Decrease in total number of notifications:** Nationally notifications of confirmed and probable cases of meningococcal disease has decreased since 2008 (figure 1).
- Disproportionally effects young children:** The less than one year-old age group is much more affected than any other.

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