

## 3.7 Less common gastrointestinal infections

### Listeriosis

Thirteen cases of human listeriosis were notified in 2008 compared to 21 in 2007 and 7 in 2006.

There were two pregnancy-related cases and two neonatal cases reported.

There were also nine adult cases, five of which were reported as elderly (>65 years) and three of which were reported as suffering from an underlying illness that predisposed them to listeriosis. No information was available on the ninth case. There were 5 males, four females, and ages ranged from 24 to 94 years of age.

One of the neonatal cases died as a result of their infection, while one pregnancy resulted in a miscarriage. There were no deaths among the adult cases.

Since 2007, the National Salmonella Reference Laboratory has offered a national service for typing of *Listeria* strains. In 2008, ten human isolates were received for typing at NSRL (77%). The serotype distribution of these strains is outlined in the table below.

Listeriosis remains a hazard for the elderly, persons with underlying illness, and other vulnerable groups such as pregnant women and neonates.

*Listeriosis notifications by case type and serotype, Ireland 2008.*  
Typing data provided courtesy of Professor Martin Cormican and staff at the NSRL.

	Serotype 1/2	Serotype 4b	Not referred for serotyping	Total
Adult or juvenile	3	3	3	9
Pregnancy-related	1	1	0	2
Neonatal	0	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>