

1.7 Rubella

Summary

Number of cases, 2009: 19
 Number of confirmed cases, 2009: 1
 Crude incidence rate, 2009: 0.4/100,000
 Crude confirmed incidence rate: 2009 0.02/100,000

In 2009, 19 cases (0.4/100,000) of rubella were notified in Ireland compared to 40 cases in 2008.

One of the cases in 2009 was classified as confirmed giving a crude confirmed incidence rate of 0.02 per 100,000 total population. The confirmed case was in the age group 25-34 years (figure 1). Eighteen cases in 2009 were classified as possible; the majority (=14, 78%) of these were less than three years of age (figure 1). The age specific incidence rates by case classification are shown in figure 2.

Of the 19 rubella cases 11 (58%) were male and eight (42%) were female. The confirmed case was male.

Rubella vaccine in Ireland is available as part of the combined measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine. In Ireland, vaccination with the first dose of MMR is

routinely recommended at twelve months of age and the second dose at four to five years of age.

Vaccination status was reported for 16 (84%) of the rubella cases in 2009. Seven cases (n=7/19, 37%) were unvaccinated and one case (n=1/19, 5%) was reported as incompletely vaccinated. Eight cases (n=8/19, 42%) were reported as completely vaccinated for their age, only one (n=1/19, 5%) of these were reported to have two doses of MMR. All 16 cases where vaccination status was reported were classified as possible cases.

The figures presented in this summary are based on data extracted from the Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on 31st August 2010. These figures may differ slightly from those published previously due to ongoing updating of notification data on CIDR.

WHO European data are available at <http://data.euro.who.int/CISID/>.

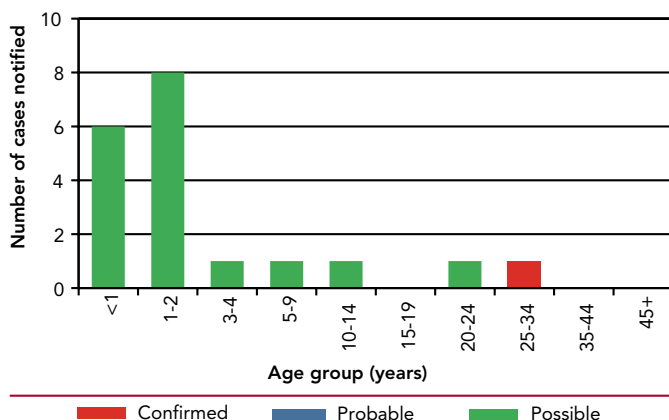


Figure 1. Number of notified rubella cases in 2009 by age group and case classification

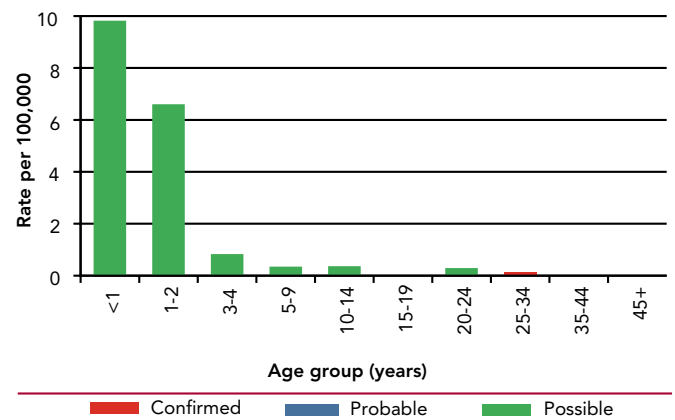


Figure 2. The age specific incidence rate (per 100,000 population) of notified rubella cases in 2009 by case classification