



# County of San Diego Monthly STD Report

Volume 9, Issue 2: Data through October 2016; Report released March 9, 2017.



**Table 1. STDs Reported Among County of San Diego Residents, by Month and Previous 12 Months Combined.**

	2015		2016	
	Oct	Previous 12-Month Period*	Oct	Previous 12-Month Period*
Chlamydia	1635	16700	1622	18756
Female age 18-25	625	6709	582	7247
Female age ≤ 17	72	767	52	761
Male rectal chlamydia	60	544	45	590
Gonorrhea	379	3639	475	4813
Female age 18-25	47	496	61	620
Female age ≤ 17	7	59	10	107
Male rectal gonorrhea	49	484	58	639
Early Syphilis (adult total)	71	827	81	924
Primary	17	167	12	170
Secondary	25	322	23	322
Early latent	29	338	46	432
Congenital syphilis	1	7	2	9

\* Cumulative case count of the previous 12 months.

**Table 2. Selected STD Cases and Annualized Rates per 100,000 Population for San Diego County by Age and Race/Ethnicity, Year to Date.**

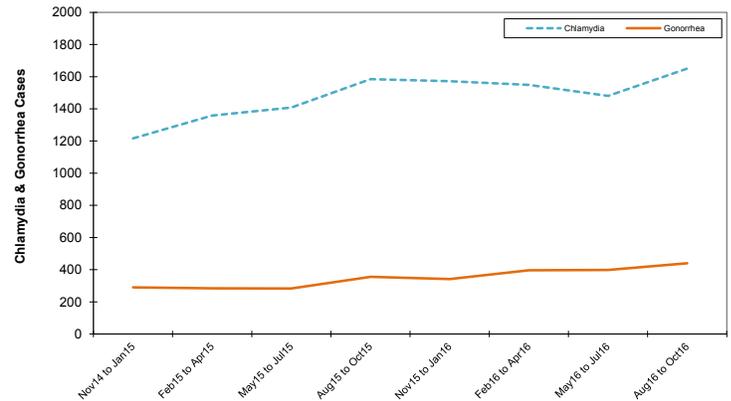
	All Races*		Asian/PI		Black		Hispanic		White	
	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate
<i>All ages</i>										
Chlamydia	15780	609.7	94	30.3	326	283.1	1093	121.6	745	59.0
Gonorrhea	4094	158.2	67	21.6	415	360.3	934	103.9	885	70.1
Early Syphilis	802	31.0	28	9.0	76	66.0	309	34.4	314	24.9
<i>Under 20 yrs</i>										
Chlamydia	2463	367.4	9	12.1	49	162.6	174	54.9	72	29.0
Gonorrhea	335	50.0	5	6.7	41	136.1	98	30.9	37	14.9
Early Syphilis	27	4.0	2	2.7	1	3.3	19	6.0	5	2.0

Note: Rates calculated using 2015 SANDAG population estimates.

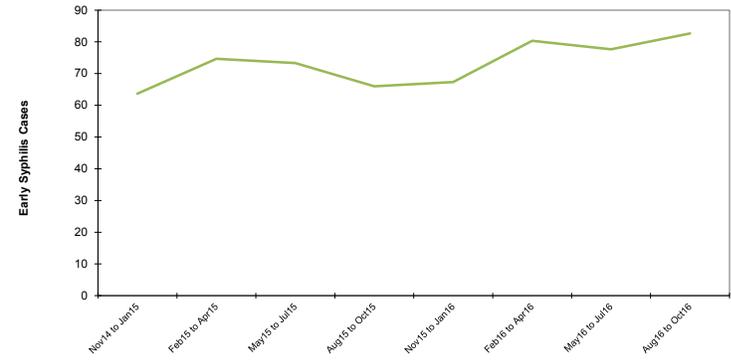
\* Includes cases designated as "other," "unknown," or missing race/ethnicity.

**Note: All data are provisional.** Case counts are based on the earliest of date of diagnosis, date of specimen collection, and treatment date. Totals for past months might change because of delays in reporting from labs and providers.

**Figure 1. Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Reported Among County of San Diego Residents, by 3-Month Period.**



**Figure 2. Early Syphilis Reported Among County of San Diego Residents, by 3-Month Period.**



## Urgent Health Alert: Limited Availability of Long-Acting Benzathine Penicillin G (Bicillin® L-A)

The County of San Diego has recently been notified of three local community healthcare providers whose supplies of long-acting benzathine penicillin G (Bicillin® L-A) have approached critically low levels. A national shortage of Bicillin® L-A, which is recommended for treatment of all stages of syphilis (excluding neuro/ocular syphilis) and all pregnant women with syphilis, was first reported to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on April 29, 2016<sup>[1][2]</sup>. Full recovery is not expected until the fourth quarter of 2017.

**Until supplies normalize, providers should prioritize the use of Bicillin® L-A for pregnant women who are infected with or exposed to syphilis, as there are no alternatives to Bicillin® L-A for congenital syphilis prevention. Partners/contacts of pregnant women who are infected with or exposed to syphilis also should be prioritized.** For other patients, depending upon current and anticipated supply of Bicillin® L-A at your facility, the County of San Diego recommends:

- Use of alternative treatment regimens, such as doxycycline, for syphilis cases other than pregnant women and their partners. Please see the [2015 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) STD Treatment Guidelines](#) for stage-specific alternative syphilis treatment regimens. Please note that other formulations of penicillin G, such as Bicillin® CR, are not acceptable alternatives to Bicillin® L-A for syphilis treatment.

Continued on page 2.

County of San Diego STD Clinics: [www.STDSanDiego.org](http://www.STDSanDiego.org)  
Phone: (619) 692-8550 Fax: (619) 692-8543  
STD Clinical Consultation Pager: (877) 217-1816 (8am-5pm, M-F)



Provider STD Reporting: (619) 692-8520; fax (619) 692-8541  
Sign up to receive Monthly STD Reports, email [STD@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:STD@sdcountry.ca.gov)



# County of San Diego Monthly STD Report

Volume 9, Issue 2: Data through October 2016; Report released March 9, 2017.



---

## Urgent Health Alert: Limited Availability of Long-Acting Benzathine Penicillin G (Bicillin® L-A) (cont.)

---

- Avoidance of Bicillin® L-A for the treatment of pharyngitis due to Group A  $\beta$ -hemolytic streptococci and primary rheumatic fever prophylaxis, and use of recommended oral regimens, such as penicillin V, amoxicillin, and azithromycin instead<sup>[3][4]</sup>.
- Avoidance of Bicillin® L-A for secondary rheumatic fever prophylaxis, if compliance is not an issue, and use of oral penicillin V instead<sup>[4]</sup>.
- Not giving extra doses of Bicillin® L-A in addition to what is recommended by CDC, as there is no evidence to support this practice, regardless of the HIV status of the patient.

Providers who are unable to obtain Bicillin® L-A due to the national shortage may refer patients to the County of San Diego STD clinics for treatment by calling (619) 692-8501. The referring facility must provide documentation of physical examination (including neurological examination), laboratory test results, stage of infection, and contraindication(s) to alternative syphilis treatment regimens. Referrals will be approved for the following patients:

- Pregnant women who have syphilis or have been exposed to syphilis.
- Partners/contacts of pregnant women who have syphilis or have been exposed to syphilis.
- Patients who were initiated on a multi-dose Bicillin® L-A treatment regimen prior to the publication of this report.
- Patients for whom there is a contraindication to alternative treatment regimens such as doxycycline or who are highly unlikely to comply with an oral treatment regimen (supporting documentation should be provided).

Updates regarding this shortage may be obtained at the [FDA Drug Shortage webpage](#). The County of San Diego will provide updated information about this shortage as it is received.