

County of San Diego Monthly STD Report

Volume 11, Issue 5: Data through February 2019; Report released July 16, 2019.



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

	2018		2019	
	Feb	Previous 12-Month Period*	Feb	Previous 12-Month Period*
Chlamydia	1743	20941	1762	22230
Female age 18-25	670	7877	638	8284
Female age ≤ 17	78	899	68	954
Male rectal chlamydia	75	574	110	1101
Gonorrhea	460	6077	461	6130
Female age 18-25	67	786	62	942
Female age ≤ 17	12	107	9	105
Male rectal gonorrhea	43	829	81	777
Early Syphilis (adult total)	76	1093	93	1111
Primary	10	173	12	180
Secondary	31	383	25	381
Early latent	35	537	43	551
Congenital syphilis	1	12	1	17

* 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	3803	689.5	119	181.4	242	919.4	903	490.1	709	277.8
Gonorrhea	991	179.7	31	47.3	98	372.3	266	144.4	194	76.0
Early Syphilis	193	35.0	15	22.9	16	60.8	84	45.6	65	25.5
<i>Under 20 yrs</i>										
Chlamydia	636	464.3	15	108.8	42	659.5	172	276.7	119	258.0
Gonorrhea	85	62.1	1	7.3	8	125.6	35	56.3	11	23.8
Early Syphilis	3	2.2	1	7.3	0	0.0	2	3.2	0	0.0

Note: Rates calculated using 2017 Preliminary Population Estimates; County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services Division, Community Health Statistics Unit. 7/2018.

* 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.

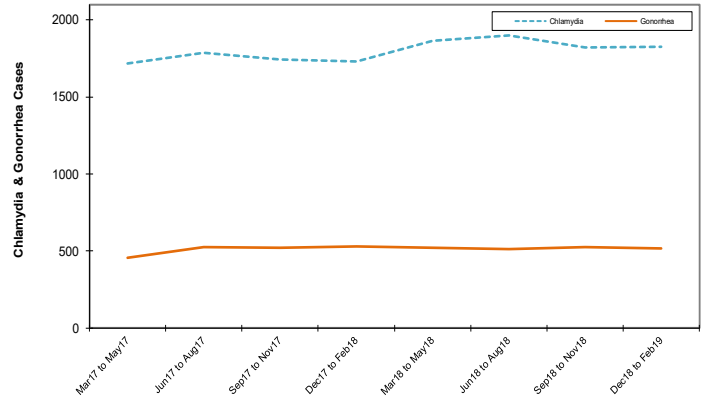
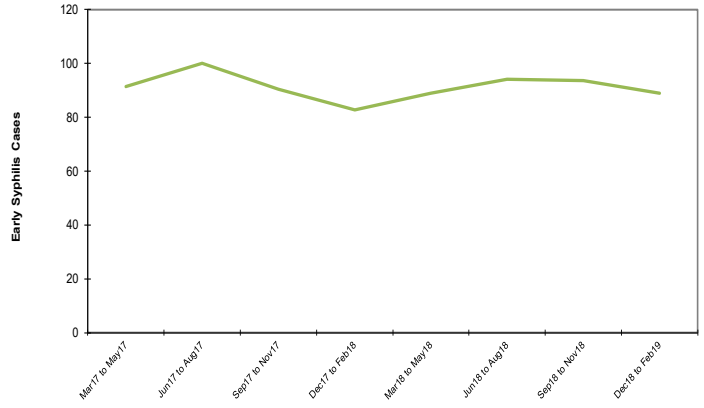


Figure 2. Early Syphilis Reported Among County of San Diego Residents, by 3-Month Period.



Editorial Note: Express Visits Coming Soon to County STD Clinics

In September 2019, the County of San Diego STD clinics will offer express or “drop-in” visits to eligible clients, with the objectives of increasing the capacity of the clinics to serve the community and facilitating regular and frequent STD and HIV testing by those who would benefit from it. While test-only visits (i.e., visits that forego full clinical evaluation and physical examination and focus instead on risk assessment and STD/HIV testing) have been available for several years, express visits will further streamline the process by reducing the number of questions that clients are asked and allowing clients to receive testing without an appointment. Further, clients will be able to self-collect most of the specimens that will be required for the visit, thereby increasing convenience and comfort for patients.

Express visits will be available for established clinic clients who: 1) do not have symptoms suggestive of an STD; 2) are not a known contact to a partner who has been diagnosed with an STD; 3) have not been referred by health department staff or another medical facility for STD treatment; and 4) are not pregnant. These clients will be asked to complete a very brief questionnaire to aid in test selection and then will see a clinic staff member who will discuss testing recommendations based on established protocols, provide specimen collection materials, and do a blood draw. The visit will not involve contact with a clinician (i.e., physician or nurse practitioner) and therefore will not require an appointment (at the main STD clinic) or having to wait until a clinician is available (at the regional STD clinics).

Express visits have been shown to increase clinic capacity and efficiency and decrease the costs of providing services, with the main drawback being the risk of missing diagnoses by not performing a physical examination [1][2][3][4]. As STD cases continue to increase in San Diego County, increasing the accessibility and convenience of STD testing is of paramount importance. Frequent STD testing reduces the time between infection and treatment and the amount of time during which onward transmission can occur.

More information about County of San Diego STD clinical services is available at <http://www.stdsandiego.org>.

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