

# County of San Diego Monthly STD Report

Volume 13, Issue 6: Data through January 2021; Report released July 1, 2021.



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

	2020		2021	
	Jan	Previous 12-Month Period*	Jan	Previous 12-Month Period*
Chlamydia	2149	23231	1430	17622
Female age 18-25	807	8481	536	6682
Female age ≤ 17	59	820	50	641
Male rectal chlamydia	131	1357	113	1164
Gonorrhea	585	6457	641	6266
Female age 18-25	106	1026	92	971
Female age ≤ 17	9	94	13	121
Male rectal gonorrhea	64	813	97	818
Early Syphilis (adult total)	110	1161	132	1135
Primary	17	162	23	184
Secondary	31	388	54	395
Early latent	62	611	55	556
Congenital syphilis	2	21	2	15

\* 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.**

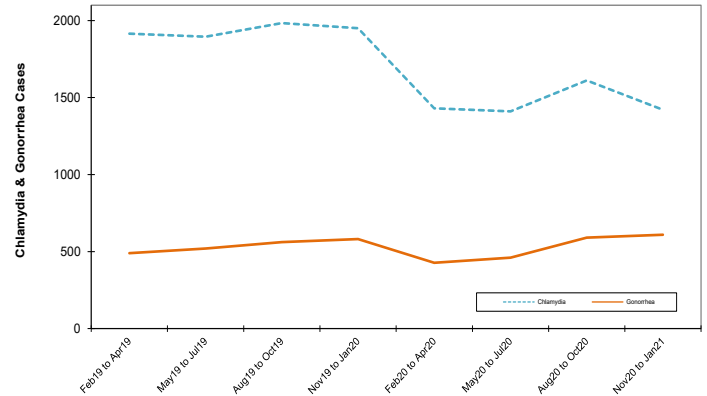
	All Races*		Asian/PI		Black		Hispanic		White	
	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate
<b>All ages</b>										
Chlamydia	1430	512.0	39	105.9	40	284.9	160	175.6	176	139.8
Gonorrhea	641	229.5	19	51.6	56	398.9	111	121.8	130	103.3
Early Syphilis	132	47.3	9	24.4	15	106.9	53	58.2	44	35.0
<b>Under 20 yrs</b>										
Chlamydia	224	309.9	5	62.5	5	142.5	25	82.5	30	114.2
Gonorrhea	61	84.4	1	12.5	3	85.5	7	23.1	2	7.6
Early Syphilis	1	1.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Note: Rates are calculated using 2019 Population Estimates; County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services Division, Community Health Statistics Unit. 6/2020.

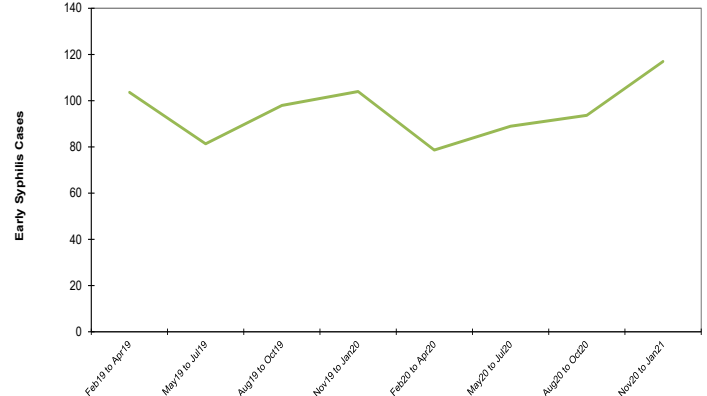
\* Includes cases designated as "other," "unknown," or missing race/ethnicity.

**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: Gonococcal Antimicrobial Susceptibility in San Diego County - 2019

The [Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project \(GISP\)](#) was established in 1986 to monitor trends in antimicrobial susceptibilities of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* strains in the United States and is a collaborative effort between participating STD clinics and their state or local public health authorities, regional laboratories, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Each month, urethral specimens from up to the first 25 men presenting with gonococcal urethritis are submitted for *N. gonorrhoeae* culture, and isolates are submitted to the GISP regional laboratory for antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) for penicillin, tetracycline, ceftriaxone, cefixime, ciprofloxacin, azithromycin, and gentamicin. The main County of San Diego STD clinic has been a participating GISP site since the project's inception. CDC uses GISP data to inform gonorrhea treatment recommendations, which were [last updated in December 2020](#). CDC has released a [GISP Supplement and Profiles](#) for participating sites based on isolates collected in 2019; the GISP profile for San Diego is shown on pages 295-304 of the document.

In San Diego, a total of 133 *N. gonorrhoeae* isolates were submitted to GISP in 2019, and approximately 65% of isolates were from men who have sex with men (MSM) (Figure C). Susceptibility to third generation cephalosporins remained high. There was no strain with an elevated minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) suggestive of decreased susceptibility to ceftriaxone (defined as  $\geq 0.125 \mu\text{g/ml}$ ); the last such strain was identified in 2016 (Figure G). The percentage of isolates with elevated MIC for cefixime (defined as  $\text{MIC} \geq 0.25 \mu\text{g/ml}$ ) was extremely low (around 1%) in 2019, which is consistent with the previous two years (Figure H). Despite the fact that fluoroquinolones have not been used to treat gonorrhea since 2007, over 60% of isolates had intermediate or total resistance to ciprofloxacin (Figure I). Further, close to 10% of strains had elevated MIC for azithromycin (defined as  $\text{MIC} \geq 2.0 \mu\text{g/ml}$ ), which is increased from previous years (Figure J) and one of the driving factors behind the removal of azithromycin and dual therapy from gonorrhea treatment guidelines. Click [here](#) for further information about current gonorrhea treatment recommendations.

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