

# County of San Diego Monthly STD Report

Volume 16, Issue 2: Data through September 2023; Report released March 5, 2024.



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

	2022		2023	
	Sep	Previous 12-Month Period*	Sep	Previous 12-Month Period*
Chlamydia	1567	18412	1211	17119
Female age 18-25	565	6426	371	5623
Female age ≤ 17	43	569	45	583
Male rectal chlamydia	130	1717	130	1738
Gonorrhea	671	7785	518	6859
Female age 18-25	96	1177	53	809
Female age ≤ 17	3	100	8	98
Male rectal gonorrhea	137	1517	116	1546
Early Syphilis (adult total)	91	1104	47	916
Primary	30	186	6	156
Secondary	24	356	16	258
Early latent	37	562	25	502
Congenital syphilis	4	37	0	42

\* 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.**

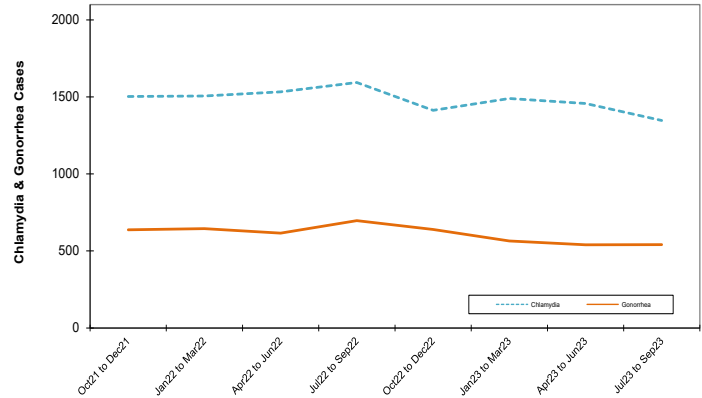
	All Races*		Asian/PI		Black		Hispanic		White	
	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate
<i>All ages</i>										
Chlamydia	12880	522.4	381	118.4	375	348.9	1273	151.2	1613	153.9
Gonorrhea	4940	200.4	171	53.1	260	241.9	780	92.7	852	81.3
Early Syphilis	672	27.3	28	8.7	76	70.7	298	35.4	191	18.2
<i>Under 20 yrs</i>										
Chlamydia	1760	284.2	30	46.9	72	268.9	157	58.1	229	113.2
Gonorrhea	330	53.3	3	4.7	33	123.3	66	24.4	20	9.9
Early Syphilis	13	2.1	1	1.6	2	7.5	9	3.3	0	0.0

Note: Rates are calculated using 2022 Population Estimates; County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services Division, Community Health Statistics Unit. 10/2023.

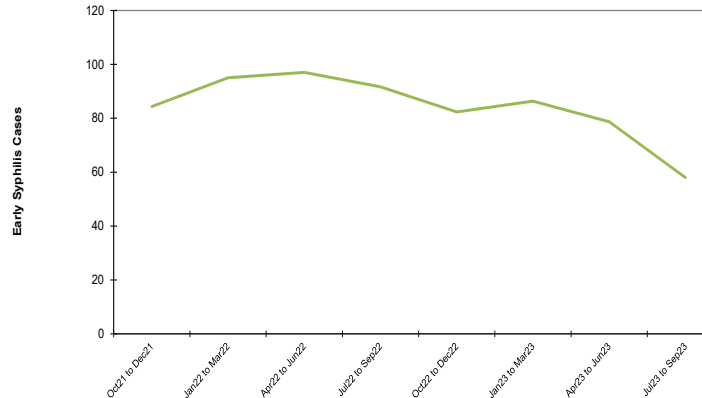
\* Includes cases designated as "other," "unknown," or missing race/ethnicity.

**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: 2022 Sexually Transmitted Infection Data Now Available Online

Although reported cases and rates of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and early (i.e., primary, secondary, and early latent) syphilis remained stable or slightly decreased from 2021 to 2022, sexually transmitted infection (STI) morbidity remains the highest it has been for the last three decades. Further, cases and rates of congenital syphilis, which is considered a sentinel public health event, continued to increase in 2022, and two syphilitic stillbirths were reported in the region in 2022. 2022 STI surveillance data slides are now available at <http://www.stdsandiego.org> by clicking on the “Reports and Statistics” tab. Key observed trends include:

- 35 cases of congenital syphilis, including two syphilitic stillbirths, with a rate of 87.8 cases per 100,000 live births (a 14.3% rate increase from 2021 and a 70.2% rate increase from 2019).
- 1,131 reported cases of early syphilis, with a rate of 34.4 cases per 100,000 population (a 9.7% rate decrease from 2021 and no change from 2019).
- 7,694 cases of gonorrhea, with a rate of 234.1 cases per 100,000 population (a 1.6% rate decrease from 2021 and a 22.7% rate increase from 2019).
- 18,144 cases of chlamydia, with a rate of 551.9 cases per 100,000 population (a 1.2% rate increase from 2021 and a 19.6% rate decrease from 2019).

County of San Diego STD Clinics: [www.STDSanDiego.org](http://www.STDSanDiego.org)  
 Phone: (619) 692-8550 Fax: (619) 692-8543  
 STD Clinical Consultation Line: (619) 609-3245 (8am-5pm, M-F)



Provider STD Reporting: (619) 692-8520; fax (619) 692-8541  
 Sign up to receive Monthly STD Reports,  
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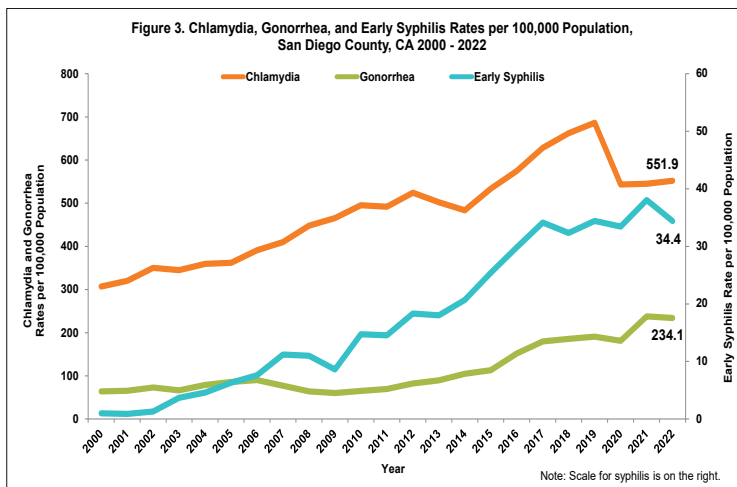


## Editorial Note (Continued): 2022 Sexually Transmitted Infection Data Now Available Online

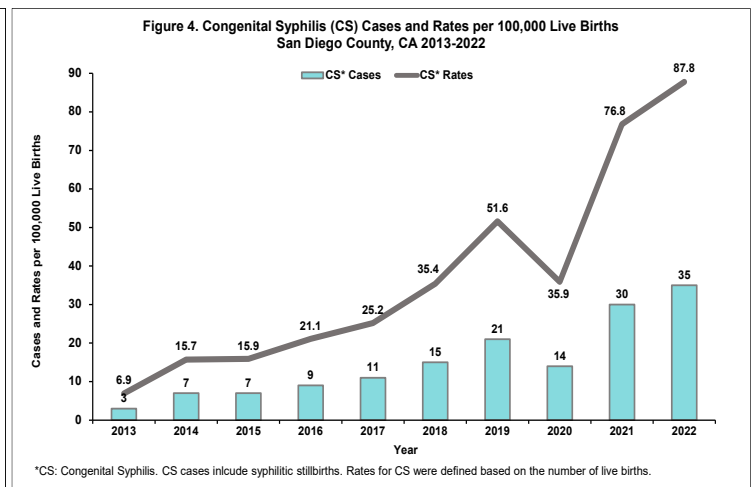
Significant health disparities persist, with disproportionate impacts of STIs on communities of color, men who have sex with men (MSM), and youth. The rates of early syphilis, for which race/ethnicity information is most complete, among Black men and women were 3.5 and 4.3 times the rates among White men and women, respectively. MSM accounted for 65.7% of reported early syphilis cases in 2022. The highest rates of chlamydia, which remains the most reported bacterial STI, were among women aged 15-29 years. These disparities highlight the importance of ensuring access to sexual health care and recommended STI prevention information and testing to all populations.

Providers can decrease the impact of STIs in the region by:

- Providing safe, welcoming, and inclusive spaces that allow diverse populations to access sexual healthcare.
- Conduct appropriate STI screening and testing and, if indicated, treatment according to the [2021 STI Treatment Guidelines \(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)\)](#).
- Ensure that people who are capable of pregnancy or pregnant receive appropriate syphilis screening and, if diagnosed with syphilis, prompt treatment based on [CDC guidelines](#). For additional guidance and resources, please refer to the [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\) 2020 Expanded Syphilis Screening Recommendations for the Prevention of Congenital Syphilis](#) and visit the [American Academy of Pediatrics California Chapter 3 website](#).
- [Report](#) cases of syphilis, gonorrhea, and chancroid to the HIV, STD, and Hepatitis Branch within the required timeframes.
- Spread the word about STIs and sexual health by promoting [STI Awareness Week \(April 14-20, 2024\)](#). Ready-made and customizable social media graphics and messages to promote STI Awareness Week are available through CDC.



Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Public Health Services, HIV, STD, and Hepatitis Branch. February 2024. Sexually Transmitted Infections in San Diego County, 2022 Data Slides. [www.STDSanDiego.org](http://www.STDSanDiego.org)



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