



# County of San Diego Monthly STD Report

Issue No. 15: Data through March 31, 2010; Report prepared May 27, 2010.



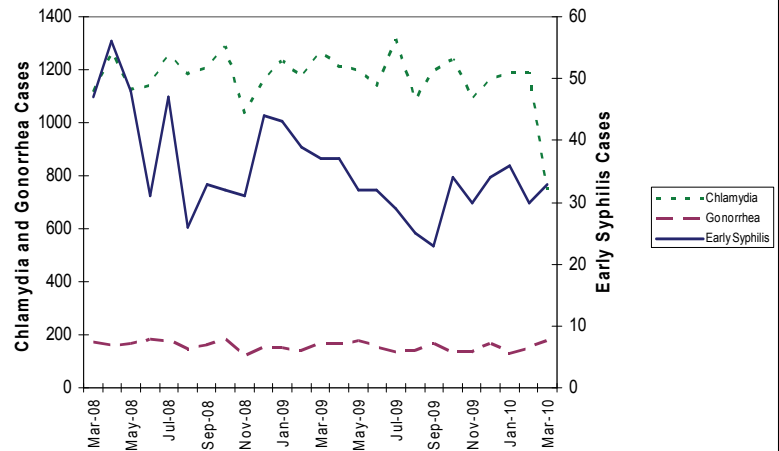
**Table 1. STDs reported among San Diego County residents, by month (March 2010), and year to date.**

	2010		2009	
	Mar	YTD	Mar	YTD
Gonorrhea	181	463	165	460
Female age 18-25	29	79	46	93
Female age ≤ 17	6	10	3	13
Male rectal gonorrhea	21	61	20	59
Chlamydia	748	3126	1266	3672
Female age 18-25	355	1430	590	1673
Female age ≤ 17	47	251	107	319
Male rectal chlamydia	18	73	22	78
Early Syphilis (adult total)	33	99	37	119
Primary	5	20	6	19
Secondary	14	34	12	48
Early latent	14	45	19	52
Neurosyphilis*	0	0	2	2
Congenital syphilis	0	1	1	3
Pelvic Inflammatory Disease	11	34	5	22
HIV Infection				
HIV (not AIDS)	55	133	59	156
AIDS	36	104	31	127

YTD: Year to Date

\*Includes confirmed and probable cases of neurosyphilis among cases of early syphilis only.

**Figure 1. STDs reported among San Diego County residents, by month. Scale for syphilis\* is different.**



\*Syphilis includes primary, secondary and early latent syphilis.

**Table 2. Selected STD cases and rates per 100,000 population for San Diego County by age and race/ethnicity, March 2010.**

	(All races)		Asian/PI		African American		Hispanic		White	
	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate
<b>All ages</b>										
Chlamydia	3126	98.5	103	30.5	245	147.1	581	60.6	387	24.5
Gonorrhea	463	14.6	17	5.0	52	31.2	68	7.1	78	4.9
Early syphilis	99	3.1	4	1.2	12	7.2	33	3.4	49	3.1
<b>Under 20 yrs</b>										
Chlamydia	812	92.2	26	31.4	86	168.8	205	525.0	80	23.2
Gonorrhea	47	5.3	2	2.4	9	17.7	9	23.0	3	0.9
Early syphilis	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.3

## Key Points

### Comparing 2010 with 2009:

- Early syphilis cases declined 17%
- Gonorrhea cases are stable

*Note: All data are provisional. Morbidity is based on date of diagnosis. If date of diagnosis is not available, date of specimen collection is used. Totals for past months might change because of delays in reporting from labs and providers.*

## EDITORIAL NOTE: Recent CDC Data on STDs and HIV in MSM Underscore the Importance of Taking a Sexual History

Men who have sex with men (MSM) in the United States are more than 40 times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV and syphilis diagnoses compared with other men or women have, according to an analysis by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released in March 2010. That stark health disparity underscores the need for healthcare providers to take a complete sexual history, so that they can appropriately test patients for HIV, syphilis, and other STDs.

The CDC analysis estimated that the proportion of the U.S. population comprised by MSM, defined as men reporting engaging in same-sex sexual behavior within the past five years, was 2% overall, and 4% of the male population. The CDC then calculated disease rates per 100,000 population using 2007 surveillance data for HIV and primary and secondary syphilis and United States Census data. Compared with other men and women, respectively, MSM had 44 and 40 times the rate of new HIV diagnoses and 46 and 71 times the rate of new syphilis diagnoses.

Those same health disparities for MSM exist in San Diego County. Among County residents diagnosed with syphilis during 2009, for example, 85% were MSM. Among County residents diagnosed with HIV through 2008, 81% were MSM. Sexually active MSM in San Diego County should be screened every 3–6 months for syphilis; urethral, anal, and pharyngeal gonorrhea and Chlamydia, ideally with nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs), if sexual activity has involved those anatomic sites; and HIV, if HIV status is negative or unknown.

For information on the CDC analysis, see the CDC press release (<http://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/newsroom/msmpressrelease.html>).

For information on taking a sexual history, see guides by the California Department of Public Health ([http://www.stdcheckup.org/provider/screen\\_history.html](http://www.stdcheckup.org/provider/screen_history.html)) and CDC (<http://www.cdc.gov/std/see/HealthCareProviders/SexualHistory.pdf>).

For more information about STD clinic hours: [www.STDSanDiego.org](http://www.STDSanDiego.org)

STD Clinical Consultation Pager: (877) 217-1816 (8 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except major holidays)

Provider STD Reporting: (619) 692-8520; fax (619) 692-8541

STD Clinic: (619) 692-8550; fax (619) 692-8543