



# County of San Diego Monthly STD Report

Issue No. 26: Data through February 28, 2011; Report prepared May 4, 2011.



**Table 1. STDs reported among San Diego County residents, by month (February 2011), and year to date.**

	2011		2010	
	Feb	YTD	Feb	YTD
<b>Gonorrhea</b>	154	309	152	279
Female age 18-25	22	47	25	51
Female age ≤ 17	4	11	1	4
Male rectal gonorrhea	23	41	24	40
<b>Chlamydia</b>	1214	2516	1187	2377
Female age 18-25	535	1130	519	1076
Female age ≤ 17	93	179	116	204
Male rectal chlamydia	35	57	25	56
<b>Early Syphilis (adult total)</b>	30	71	39	77
Primary	11	23	5	17
Secondary	9	24	13	24
Early latent	10	24	21	36
<b>Neurosyphilis*</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Congenital syphilis</b>	0	0	1	1
<b>HIV Infection</b>				
HIV (not AIDS)	29	82	44	78
AIDS	20	38	39	68

YTD: Year to Date

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

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

	(All races)		Asian/PI		African American		Hispanic		White	
	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate	cases	rate
<b>All ages</b>										
Chlamydia	2516	78.0	82	23.5	213	127.3	502	50.8	394	24.8
Gonorrhea	309	9.6	10	2.9	45	26.9	54	5.5	70	4.4
Early syphilis	71	2.2	3	0.9	7	4.2	21	2.1	39	2.5
<b>Under 20 yrs</b>										
Chlamydia	539	61.4	6	7.2	62	125.8	124	34.8	74	22.0
Gonorrhea	33	3.8	2	2.4	4	8.1	7	2.0	8	2.4
Early syphilis	1	0.1	1	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

## Editorial Note: "We All Test": Syphilis Testing Reminders for Gay Men

Primary and secondary syphilis increased 146% in San Diego County from 2003 to 2010, with gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM) accounting for 91% of the 269 primary and secondary cases in the County in 2010. The County of San Diego (COSD) recommends that sexually active MSM be tested for syphilis (and other STDs) every 3-6 months. Data from San Diego and the rest of the United States, however, show that many MSM are not regularly tested for syphilis. In fact, in a recent national [study](#), only 39% of MSM reported a syphilis test in the past year. As a result, many syphilis cases are not identified until the early latent stage after which they have already passed the infectious period and may have unknowingly transmitted syphilis to others. In 2010, 40% of the reported cases of early syphilis in San Diego County were early latent cases.

To encourage more gay men and other MSM to regularly get tested for syphilis, in 2010 COSD and Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS) launched "We All Test: Fighting Syphilis in San Diego", a campaign that provides MSM with the opportunity to sign up to receive text message and/or email syphilis testing reminders every 3-6 months. Since then, over 500 MSM have registered to receive testing reminders. While men can go directly to the campaign website, [www.WeAllTest.com](http://www.WeAllTest.com), to register for reminders, nearly 90% of the sign-ups have been because a clinician or other medical provider encouraged the individual to register.

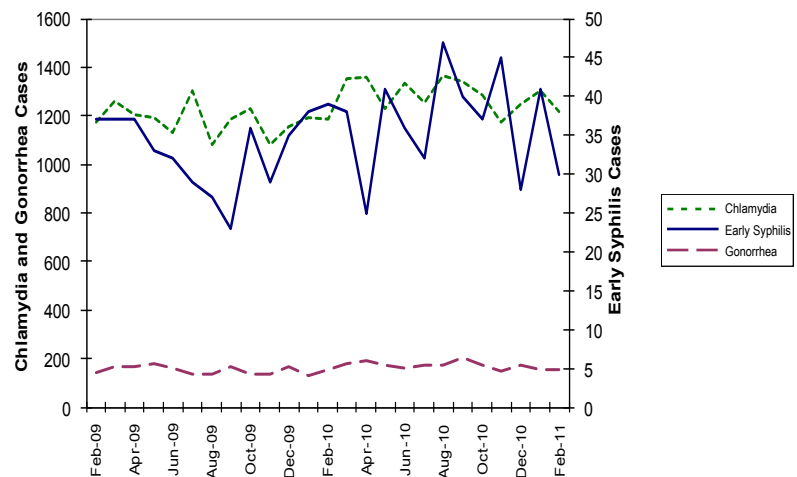
In order to help facilitate those medical provider assisted sign-ups, COSD and FHCS created easy to complete sign-up forms that can be kept in exam rooms. To inquire about getting "We All Test" sign-up forms for your practice, please contact Tom Gray at [tom.gray@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:tom.gray@sdcounty.ca.gov) or (619) 692-8835.

Note: This report, also accessible through the "Reports and Statistics" link at [www.STDSanDiego.org](http://www.STDSanDiego.org), contains hyperlinks to other documents.

Information about the County of San Diego STD Clinics: [www.STDSanDiego.org](http://www.STDSanDiego.org)  
 STD Clinical Consultation Pager: (877) 217-1816 (8 a.m.-5 p.m., M-F, except major holidays)

Provider STD Reporting: (619) 692-8520; fax (619) 692-8541  
 STD Clinic: (619) 692-8550; fax (619) 692-8543

**Figure 1. Chlamydia, early syphilis\* and gonorrhea cases reported among San Diego County residents, by month.**



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

### Key Points, comparing reported cases in 2011 with 2010

- Early syphilis has decreased 8%
- Chlamydia has increased 6%
- Gonorrhea has increased 11%

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.

