

County of San Diego Monthly STD Report

Volume 15, Issue 11: Data through June 2023; Report released December 20, 2023.



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

	2022		2023	
	June	Previous 12-Month Period*	June	Previous 12-Month Period*
Chlamydia	1516	18221	1328	17330
Female age 18-25	533	6421	434	5841
Female age ≤ 17	33	581	53	555
Male rectal chlamydia	148	1670	146	1716
Gonorrhea	612	7878	556	7345
Female age 18-25	104	1233	61	913
Female age ≤ 17	4	108	7	87
Male rectal gonorrhea	130	1456	144	1617
Early Syphilis (adult total)	97	1148	66	969
Primary	21	180	12	179
Secondary	29	376	19	272
Early latent	47	592	35	518
Congenital syphilis	4	36	6	39

* 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	8309	501.2	220	120.5	215	271.5	786	138.2	959	126.3
Gonorrhea	3335	201.2	104	57.0	160	202.1	473	83.2	556	73.2
Early Syphilis	449	27.1	16	8.8	53	66.9	189	33.2	138	18.2
<i>Under 20 yrs</i>										
Chlamydia	1160	262.0	20	48.7	45	208.3	103	54.5	135	82.0
Gonorrhea	205	46.3	2	4.9	18	83.3	36	19.0	12	7.3
Early Syphilis	10	2.3	1	2.4	2	9.3	6	3.2	0	0.0

Note: Rates are calculated using 2021 Population Estimates; County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services Division, Community Health Statistics Unit. 9/2022.

* 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.

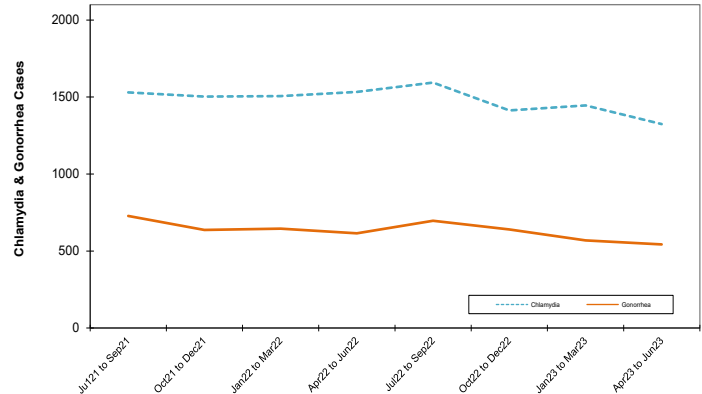
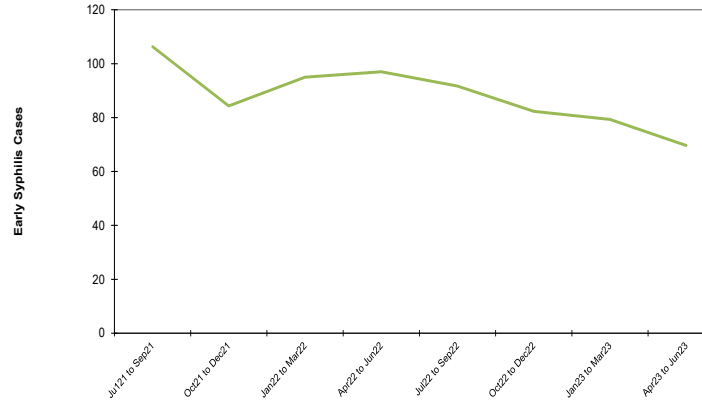


Figure 2. Early Syphilis Reported Among County of San Diego Residents, by 3-Month Period.



Editorial Note: CDC Report Highlights Missed Opportunities for Preventing Congenital Syphilis

Lack of timely testing and adequate treatment during pregnancy contributed to most of the congenital syphilis (CS) cases reported in the United States in 2022, according to a recent report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In 2022, a total of 3,761 CS cases were reported in the United States, including 231 (6%) stillbirths and 3,530 (84%) liveborn infants with 51 (1%) infant deaths. This represents a 31.7% increase in CS cases from 2021. Among all CS cases reported in 2022, the birth parent of most cases (3,302 or 87.8%) received either no or non-timely testing (1,385 or 36.8%), or no or nondocumented (423 or 11.2%) or inadequate (1,494 or 39.7%) treatment during pregnancy [1].

CS is preventable through timely testing and adequate treatment of syphilis during pregnancy, and the success rate of treatment with benzathine penicillin G in preventing CS has been reported to be as high as 98% [2]. Since many CS cases are associated with no or delayed prenatal care during pregnancy (37% of infants with CS in the recent CDC report), screening for syphilis at encounters outside traditional prenatal and primary care settings (e.g., emergency department, jail intake, syringe service program, maternal and child health programs) may help identify and treat persons with syphilis who may not otherwise receive adequate prenatal care [1].

Adequate treatment of syphilis during pregnancy is defined as treatment using benzathine penicillin G that is appropriate for the stage of infection based on CDC guidelines. To effectively prevent CS, treatment of syphilis in pregnancy should be initiated at least 30 days prior to delivery. Efforts to minimize time from establishment of care to testing and from testing to treatment and to ensure availability of benzathine penicillin G for treatment of syphilis in pregnancy are essential to prevent new CS cases in the region.

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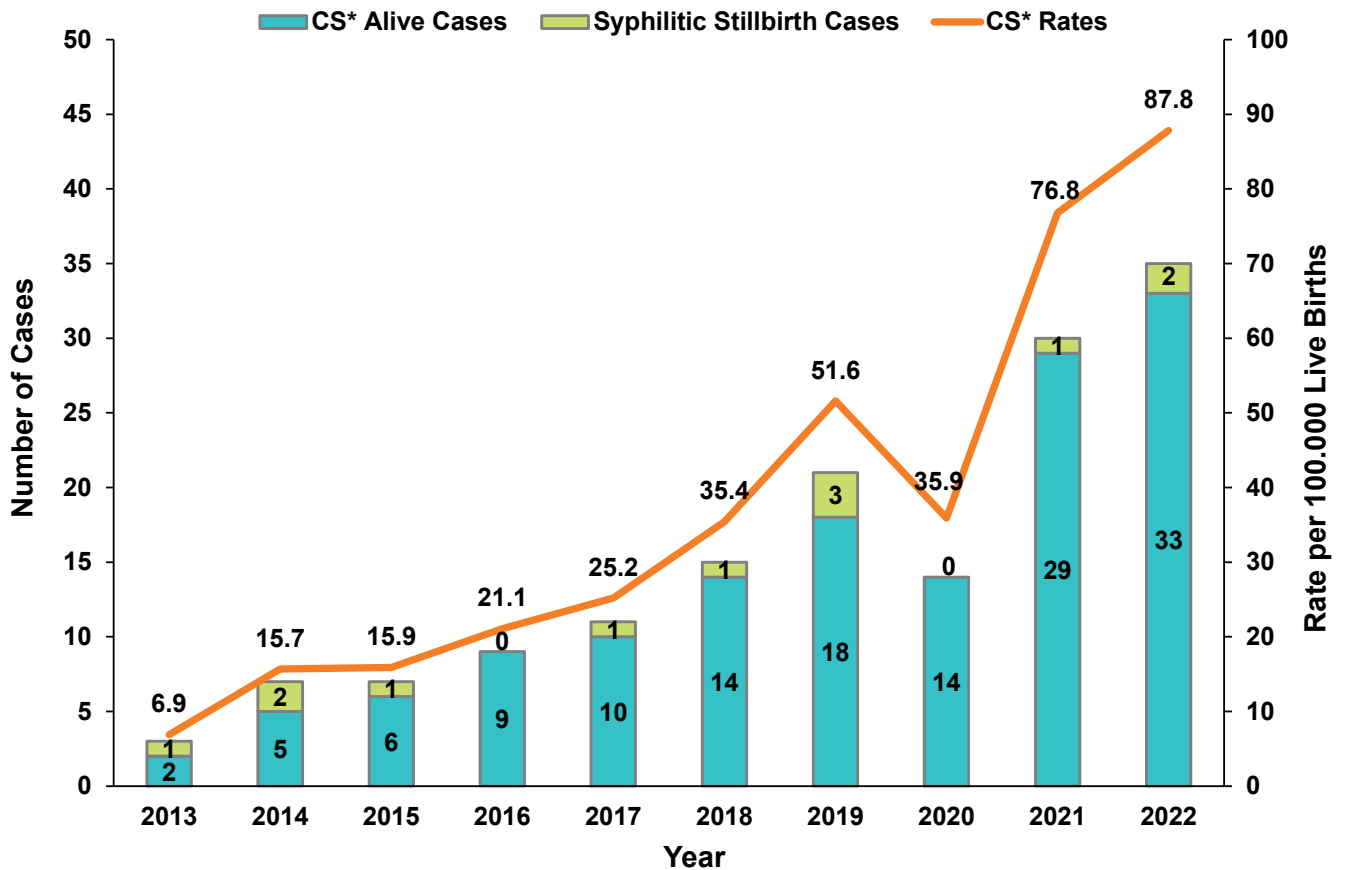
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Editorial Note (Continued):

In 2022, a total of 35 CS cases, including two stillbirths, were reported in San Diego County, a 17% increase from 30 cases in 2021 and a 1,067% increase from 3 cases in 2013 (unpublished data from the HIV, STD, and Hepatitis Branch, Public Health Services Department, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency). Twelve syphilitic stillbirths have been reported in the region from 2013-2022.

Figure 3. Congenital Syphilis (CS) Cases and Rates per 100,000 Live Births, San Diego County, CA, 2013-2022.



*CS: Congenital Syphilis. Rates for congenital syphilis were defined based on the number of live births and include syphilitic

