



# Sexually Transmitted Infections in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, 2024

## People 15–19 years of age



# Milwaukee County Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

## Surveillance Report

### People 15–19 years of age, 2024

## Introduction

This report highlights data on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among people 15–19 years in Milwaukee County from 2024 as well as trends from the past five years. Additional STI data for Milwaukee County, statewide data and data by public health region can be found on the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) STI Unit [Surveillance Data web page](#).

This report recognizes that there are many systemic barriers and social factors driving the inequities seen in the data throughout the report. STIs can affect anyone; however, some communities have much higher rates of infection than others. These disparities are not due to behavioral practices alone. There are many different social conditions, policies, and systemic practices that put some people at higher risk for STIs, such as:

- Racism
- Discrimination
- Oppression
- Poverty
- Lack of access to sexual health education
- Lack of access to health care
- Stigma

Systemic conditions like these can lead to higher prevalence of STIs in the community. In communities with higher STI rates, it is easier for a person to get an STI because it is more likely that their sexual partner(s) have already been exposed.

## Overview of 2024 data

In 2024, a total of 4,018 cases of STIs were reported among adolescents in Milwaukee County which was a 6.3% decrease compared to 2023 (4,290 cases). Of these, **chlamydia** accounted for 71% (2,875), **gonorrhea** for 28% (1,112), and **syphilis** for 1% (31) of cases.

The incidence of all three STIs decreased among Milwaukee adolescents in 2024. **Syphilis cases decreased by 50%** and **gonorrhea cases decreased by 8%**. **Chlamydia cases decreased by 5%**.

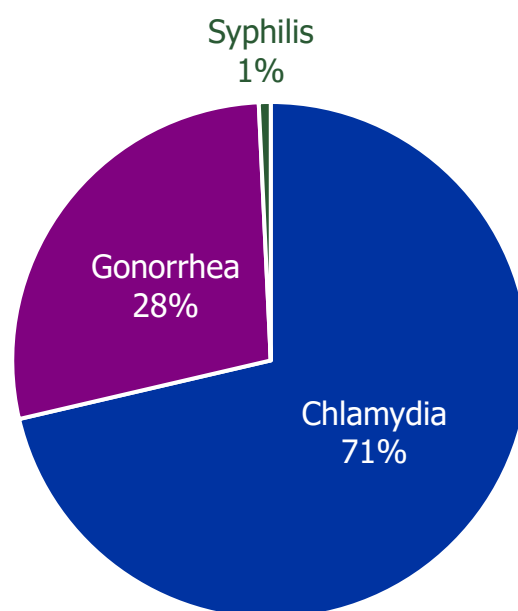




Figure 1.

**In Milwaukee County, the reported number of syphilis cases among people aged 15–19 years significantly decreased from 2023 to 2024.**

Five-year trend of STI cases among people 15–19 Years, Milwaukee County, 2020–2024.

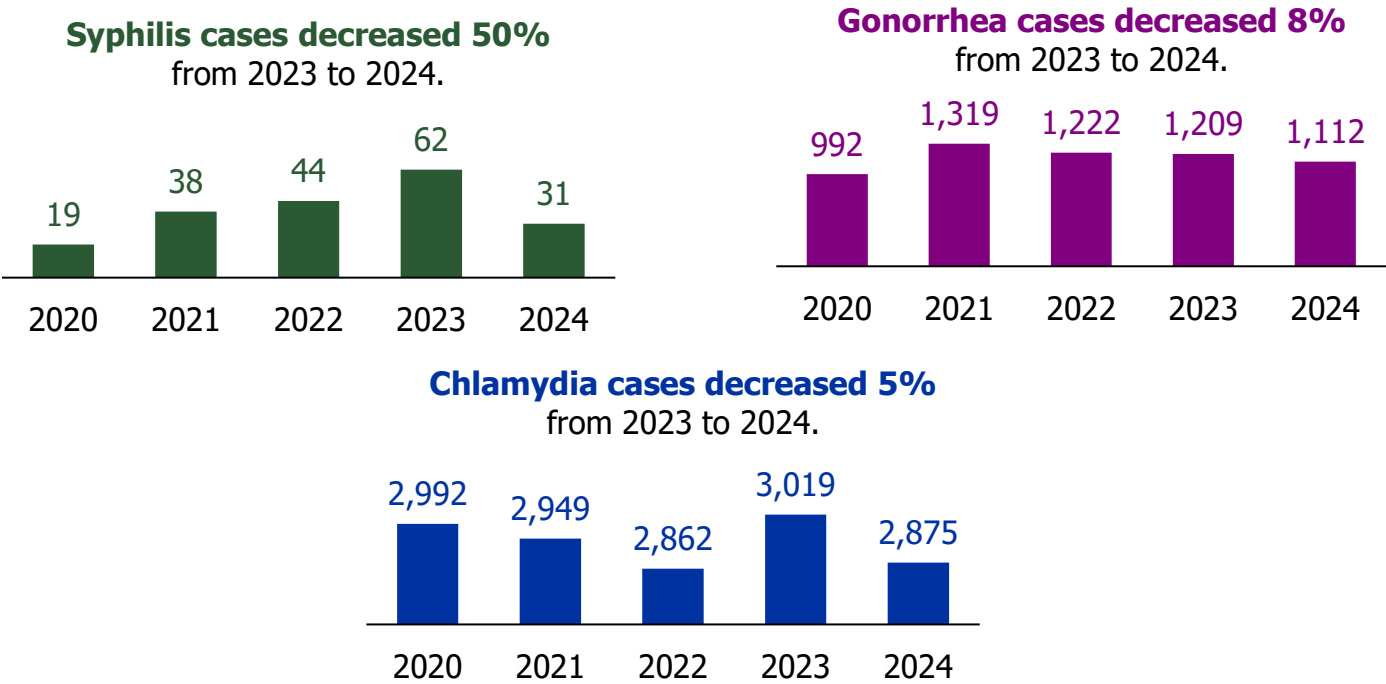
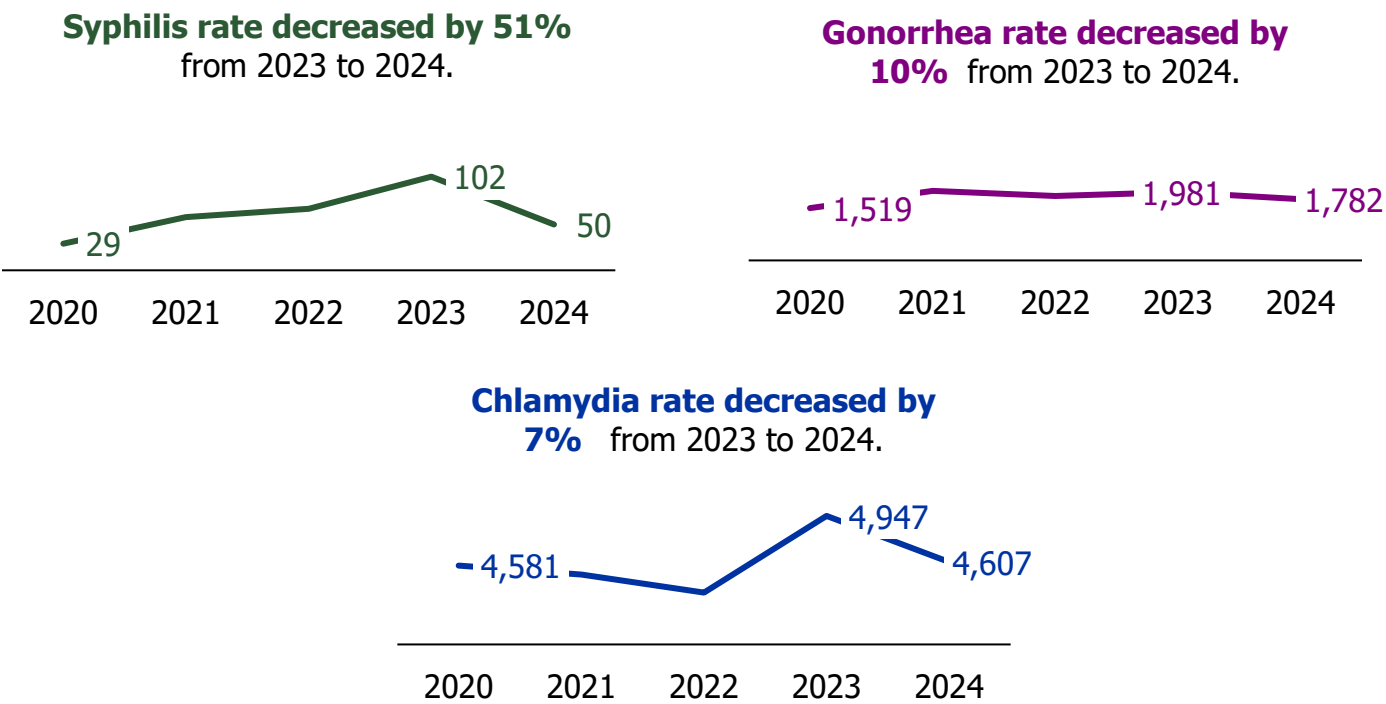


Figure 2.

**In 2024, there was a significant decrease (51%) in the syphilis rate among people aged 15–19 in Milwaukee County.**

Five-year trend of STI rates per 100,000 people among adolescents, Milwaukee County, 2020–2024.



## Key takeaways from 2024 data:



Sexually transmitted infections are widespread, impacting people of all racial and ethnic groups, gender, and ages in Milwaukee County.



There was a significant decrease in the rate of syphilis among people aged 15–19 years in Milwaukee County compared to 2023. The rates of chlamydia and gonorrhea also decreased over the last year.



Among all races and ethnicities, Black adolescents had the highest rate of STIs (chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis) in Milwaukee County.

# Milwaukee County Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance Report, 2024

## Reported Cases and Rates per 100,000 people by Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Region

### Person 15–19 years of age

	Chlamydia			Gonorrhea			Syphilis			Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
<b>Total</b>	2,875	100%	4,607	1,112	100%	1,782	31	100%	50	4,018	100%	6,439
<b>Gender</b>												
Male	866	30%	2,732	486	44%	1,533	14	45%	44	1,366	34%	4,309
Female	2,007	70%	6,536	626	56%	2,039	16	52%	52	2,649	66%	8,627
Transgender Female	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	1	3%	-	1	0%	-
Transgender Male	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
Other/Unknown	2	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	2	0%	-
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>												
White	183	6%	852	26	2%	121	0	0%	0	209	5%	973
Black	2177	76%	11,514	980	88%	5,183	27	87%	143	3,184	79%	16,839
Native American	6	0%	1,796	1	0%	*	0	0%	0	7	0%	2,096
Asian/NHOPI	14	0%	431	1	0%	*	0	0%	0	15	0%	462
Two or More Races	8	0%	277	1	0%	*	1	3%	35	10	0%	346
Hispanic	301	10%	1,938	43	4%	277	1	3%	6	345	9%	2,221
Other/Unknown	186	6%		60	5%		2	6%		248	6%	-
<b>Region of residence</b>												
Northeastern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southeastern	2,875	100%	4,615	1,112	100%	1,804	31	100%	48	4,018	100%	6,468
Southern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*Rates based on five case counts or less than five are not shown; ^Rate is unreliable due to a count <12.

# Milwaukee County Syphilis Surveillance Report - 2024

## Reported Cases and Rates per 100,000 people by Stage of Infection, Gender, Race, and Ethnicity and Region

	Primary			Secondary			Early Latent			Early Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
<b>Total</b>	4	100%	*	4	100%	*	5	100%	*	13	100%	21
<b>Gender</b>												
Male	3	75%	*	3	75%	*	1	20%	*	7	54%	22 <sup>^</sup>
Female	1	25%	*	1	25%	*	3	60%	*	5	38%	*
Transgender Female	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	1	20%	-	1	8%	-
Transgender Male	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
Unknown	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>												
White	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Black	4	100%	*	3	75%	*	4	80%	*	11	85%	58 <sup>^</sup>
Native American	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Asian	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Hispanic	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Two or More Races	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Other/Unknown	0	0%	-	1	25%	-	1	20%	-	2	15%	-
<b>Region of residence</b>												
Northeastern	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
Northern	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
Southeastern	4	100%	*	4	100%	*	5	100%	*	13	100%	21
Southern	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
Western	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-

\*Rates based on five case counts or less than five are not shown; <sup>^</sup>Rate is unreliable due to a count <12.

# Milwaukee County Syphilis Surveillance Report - 2024

## Reported Cases and Rates per 100,000 people by Stage of Infection, Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Region

	Early Total*			Late Latent*			All Stages Total*		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
<b>Total</b>	13	100%	21	18	100%	29	30	100%	50
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	7	54%	22^	7	39%	22^	14	45%	44
Female	5	38%	*	11	61%	36^	16	52%	52
Transgender Female	1	8%	-	0	0%	-	1	3%	-
Transgender Male	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
Unknown	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>									
White	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Black	11	85%	58^	16	89%	85	27	87%	143
Native American	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Asian	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Two or More Races	0	0%	0	1	6%	*	1	3%	*
Hispanic	0	0%	0	1	6%	*	1	3%	*
Other/Unknown	2	15%	-	0	0%	-	2	7%	-
<b>Region of residence</b>									
Northeastern	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
Northern	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
Southeastern	13	100%	21	18	100%	29	31	100%	50
Southern	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-
Western	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-

\*Rates based on five case counts or less than five are not shown; ^Rate is unreliable due to a count <12.

## Technical Notes

1. This report is compiled by the Wisconsin STI Unit and are based on STI case surveillance data collected by the Wisconsin Division of Public Health (DPH). In Wisconsin, state statutes require both laboratories and health care providers to report cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, chancroid, and pelvic inflammatory disease to local health departments. STI case surveillance data is automatically sent to the Wisconsin STI Unit via WEDSS (Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System).
2. This report includes cases diagnosed within the specified period. Additional cases diagnosed within the specified period may continue to be reported. Thus, this report should be considered provisional, and it supersedes all previous reports.
3. Reporting of STI cases can be incomplete. Reporting rates can be varied by disease, geographic region, and demographic groups. At any time, reported STI cases represent only part of the total number of diagnosed cases, therefore STI surveillance data likely underestimates total STI morbidity.
4. Rate is calculated based on the population data available on WISH (Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health) system website. For this reason, rates are only available for cisgender males and cisgender females throughout the report. In these reports, rates presented are cases per 100,000 population (2023). Rates are not calculated for categories with small numbers of cases. See [each report](#) for the rate calculation threshold.
5. In this report, cases are allocated to the derived county at the time of diagnosis. Cases from federal, state, or certain private institutions are included, and geographic region for these cases are assigned as institution.
6. Cases residing outside Wisconsin and unknown state cases are not included in this report.
7. All races are non-Hispanic ethnicity. Under the category of race, Asian includes Asian Pacific Islander. American Indian and Alaska Native is named as Native American. Unknown is either race or ethnicity is unknown.
8. Rates based on five case counts or less are not shown, and rates based on case counts less than 12 are marked as statistically unreliable.

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