



# Sexually Transmitted Infections in Wisconsin, 2021

People 20-24 years of age



# Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Surveillance Report - 2021

Despite the interruption of delivery of STI testing services due to the Covid – 19 pandemic, overall STI cases reported among aged 20-24 increased 3.5% in 2021. The most significant change observed in 2021 was a **104% increase in Syphilis** cases reported. In 2021, chlamydia cases increased by 5% and there was a decrease in gonorrhea cases by 5%.

Table 1.

## STIs among young adults continue to rise.

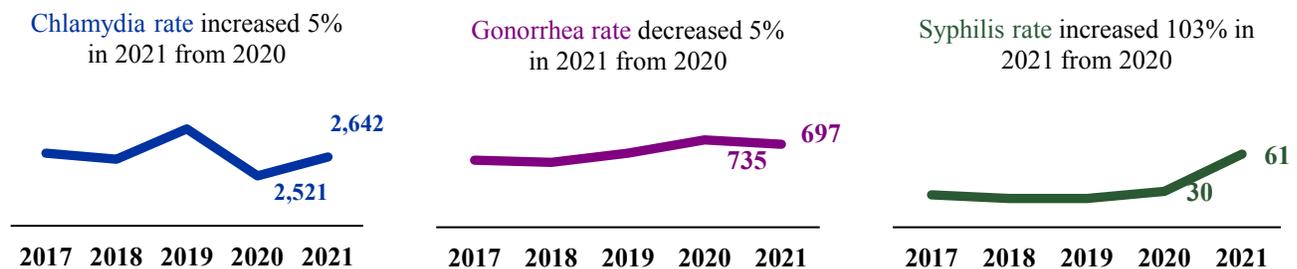
Number of Reported STI Cases and Rates (per 100,000 people) in Persons 20-24 years of age Wisconsin, 2017-2021

Disease	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate
<b>Chlamydia</b>	10,479	2,667	10,328	2,629	11,091	28,23	9,876	2,521	10,354	2,642
<b>Gonorrhea</b>	2,216	564	2144	546	2,451	624	2,881	735	2,731	697
<b>Syphilis</b>	106	27	96	24	95	24	117	30	239	61

FIGURE 1.

## Syphilis rate increased 103% among young adults in 2021.

Trends in chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis rates (per 100,000 people) among young adults Wisconsin, 2017 – 2021



## Key Points:



Sexually Transmitted Infections are widespread, impacting people of all racial and ethnic groups, gender, and ages in Wisconsin.



Rates of chlamydia and syphilis increased in 2021 among young adults in Wisconsin.



The most vulnerable populations include men and women between ages 20-35.

## Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Surveillance Report - 2021

### Reported Cases and Rates (per 100,000 people) by Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Age Persons 20-24 years of age

	Chlamydia			Gonorrhea			Syphilis			Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
<b>Total</b>	10,354	100.0%	2,642	2,731	100.0%	697	239	100%	61	13,324	100%	3,400
<b>Gender</b>												
Male	3,125	30.2%	1,567	1,472	53.9%	738	138	57.7%	69	4,735	35.5%	2,374
Female	7,209	69.6%	3,746	1,249	45.7%	649	93	38.9%	48	8,551	64.2%	4,443
Transgender Female	4	0.0%	-	7	0.3%	-	7	2.9%	-	18	0.1%	-
Transgender Male	5	0.0%	-	1	0.0%	-	1	0.4%	-	7	0.1%	-
Unknown	11	0.1%	-	2	0.1%	-	0	0.0%	-	13	0.1%	-
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>												
White	4,294	41.5%	1,463	643	23.5%	219	54	22.6%	18	4,991	37.5%	1,701
Black	3,310	32.0%	8,638	1,552	56.8%	4,050	133	55.6%	347	4,995	37.5%	13,035
Native American	117	1.1%	2,842	25	0.9%	607	8	3.3%	194^	150	1.1%	3,643
Asian	157	1.5%	864	26	1.0%	143	2	0.8%	*	185	1.4%	1,018
Hispanic	1,332	12.9%	3,519	275	10.1%	726	35	14.6%	92	1,642	12.3%	4,338
Other/Unknown	1,144	11.0%	-	210	7.7%	-	7	2.9%	-	1,361	10.2%	-
<b>Region of residence</b>												
Northeastern	1,647	15.9%	2,299	280	10.3%	391	22	9.2%	31	1,949	14.6%	2,720
Northern	495	4.8%	1,772	54	2.0%	193	10	4.2%	36^	559	4.2%	2,001
Southeastern	5,212	50.3%	3,545	1,787	65.4%	1,216	159	66.5%	108	7,158	53.7%	4,869
Southern	1,911	18.5%	2,253	471	17.2%	555	33	13.8%	39	2,415	18.1%	2,848
Western	1,028	9.9%	1,700	133	4.9%	220	15	6.3%	25	1,176	8.8%	1,945
Institutions**	61	0.6%	-	6	0.2%	-	0	0.0%	-	67	0.5%	-

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

\*\*Institutions' cases include cases from Federal/State facilities.

## Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Surveillance Report - 2021

### Reported Cases and Rates (per100,000 people) by Region and County

#### Persons 20-24 years of age

	Chlamydia			Gonorrhea			Syphilis			Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
All Regions	10,354	100%	2,642	2,731	100%	697	239	100%	61	13,324	100%	3400
<b>Northeastern</b>												
Brown	492	4.8%	3,129	90	3.3%	572	9	3.8%	57^	591	4.4%	3,759
Calumet	43	0.4%	1,604	2	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	45	0.3%	1,678
Door	27	0.3%	2,547	2	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	29	0.2%	2,736
Fond Du Lac	136	1.3%	2,467	29	1.1%	526	1	0.4%	*	166	1.2%	3,011
Green Lake	11	0.1%	1,211^	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	12	0.1%	1,322
Kewaunee	18	0.2%	1,766	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	19	0.1%	1,865
Manitowoc	100	1.0%	2,538	7	0.3%	178^	0	0.0%	0	107	0.8%	2,716
Marinette	49	0.5%	2,547	5	0.2%	*	0	0.0%	0	54	0.4%	2,807
Marquette	7	0.1%	1,104^	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	7	0.1%	1,104^
Menominee	10	0.1%	4,132	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	11	0.1%	4,545^
Oconto	29	0.3%	1,683	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	30	0.2%	1,741
Outagamie	208	2.0%	1,977	39	1.4%	371	4	1.7%	*	251	1.9%	2,385
Shawano	34	0.3%	1,707	4	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	38	0.3%	1,908
Sheboygan	117	1.1%	1,860	25	0.9%	397	6	2.5%	95^	148	1.1%	2,353
Waupaca	51	0.5%	2,139	3	0.1%	*	1	0.4%	*	55	0.4%	2,307
Waushara	15	0.1%	1,360	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	16	0.1%	1,451
Winnebago	300	2.9%	2,144	69	2.5%	493	1	0.4%	*	370	2.8%	2,644
Region total	1,647	15.9%	2,299	280	10.3%	391	22	9.2%	31	1,949	14.6%	2,720

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

## Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Surveillance Report - 2021

### Reported Cases and Rates (per100,000 people) by Region and County

#### Persons 20-24 years of age

	Chlamydia			Gonorrhea			Syphilis			Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
<b>Northern</b>												
Ashland	16	0.2%	1,858	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	16	0.1%	1,858
Bayfield	11	0.1%	2,030	0	0.0%	0	1	0.4%	*	12	0.1%	2,214
Florence	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0
Forest	8	0.1%	1,790 <sup>^</sup>	2	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	10	0.1%	2,237 <sup>^</sup>
Iron	2	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	2	0.0%	*
Langlade	14	0.1%	1,575	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	14	0.1%	1,575
Lincoln	24	0.2%	1,709	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	24	0.2%	1,709
Marathon	136	1.3%	1,892	17	0.6%	237	0	0.0%	0	153	1.1%	2,129
Oneida	21	0.2%	1,499	4	0.1%	*	1	0.4%	*	26	0.2%	1,856
Portage	146	1.4%	1,766	9	0.3%	109 <sup>^</sup>	2	0.8%	*	157	1.2%	1,899
Price	9	0.1%	1,721 <sup>^</sup>	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	9	0.1%	1,721 <sup>^</sup>
Sawyer	11	0.1%	1,627 <sup>^</sup>	4	0.1%	*	6	2.5%	888 <sup>^</sup>	21	0.2%	3,107
Taylor	12	0.1%	1,310	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	13	0.1%	1,419
Vilas	10	0.1%	1,292	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	10	0.1%	1,292 <sup>^</sup>
Wood	75	0.7%	2,036	17	0.6%	461	0	0.0%	0	92	0.7%	2,497
Region total	495	4.8%	1,772	54	2.0%	193	10	4.2%	36 <sup>^</sup>	559	4.2%	2,001
<b>Southeastern</b>												
Kenosha	316	3.1%	2,961	79	2.9%	740	6	2.5%	56 <sup>^</sup>	401	3.0%	3,757
Milwaukee	3809	36.8%	4,886	1453	53.2%	1,864	139	58.2%	178	5,401	40.5%	6,928
Ozaukee	59	0.6%	1,228	6	0.2%	125 <sup>^</sup>	0	0.0%	0	65	0.5%	1,352
Racine	438	4.2%	3,988	167	6.1%	1,520	10	4.2%	91 <sup>^</sup>	615	4.6%	5,599
Walworth	169	1.6%	1,947	16	0.6%	184	1	0.4%	*	186	1.4%	2,143
Washington	95	0.9%	1,335	18	0.7%	253	2	0.8%	*	115	0.9%	1,617
Waukesha	326	3.1%	1,490	48	1.8%	219	1	0.4%	*	375	2.8%	1,714
Region total	5,212	50.3%	3,668	1,787	65.4%	1,258	159	66.5%	112	7,158	53.7%	5,038

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## Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Surveillance Report - 2021 Reported Cases and Rates (per100,000 people) by Region and County Persons 20-24 years of age

	Chlamydia			Gonorrhea			Syphilis			Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rate	Cases	Percent	Rate*
<b>Southern</b>												
Adams	11	0.1%	1,419 <sup>^</sup>	2	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	13	0.1%	1,677
Columbia	60	0.6%	2,037	7	0.3%	238 <sup>^</sup>	1	0.4%	*	68	0.5%	2,308
Crawford	17	0.2%	2,351	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	18	0.1%	2,490
Dane	1094	10.6%	2,184	301	11.0%	601	21	8.8%	42	1,416	10.6%	2,827
Dodge	77	0.7%	1,719	10	0.4%	223 <sup>^</sup>	1	0.4%	*	88	0.7%	1,965
Grant	62	0.6%	1,070	10	0.4%	173 <sup>^</sup>	3	1.3%	*	75	0.6%	1,295
Green	38	0.4%	2,174	4	0.1%	*	1	0.4%	*	43	0.3%	2,460
Iowa	17	0.2%	1,548	3	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	20	0.2%	1,821
Jefferson	80	0.8%	1,625	17	0.6%	345	0	0.0%	0	97	0.7%	1,970
Juneau	32	0.3%	2,564	3	0.1%	*	1	0.4%	*	36	0.3%	2,885
Lafayette	10	0.1%	1,161 <sup>^</sup>	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	11	0.1%	1,278 <sup>^</sup>
Richland	16	0.2%	1,978	2	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	18	0.1%	2,225
Rock	293	2.8%	3,135	96	3.5%	1,027	3	1.3%	*	392	2.9%	4,194
Sauk	86	0.8%	2,568	14	0.5%	418	2	0.8%	*	102	0.8%	3,046
Vernon	18	0.2%	1,173	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	18	0.1%	1,173
<b>Region total</b>	<b>1,911</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>2,130</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>17.2%</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>2,415</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	<b>2,692</b>

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

## Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Surveillance Report - 2021

### Reported Cases and Rates (per100,000 people) by Region and County

#### Persons 20-24 years of age

	Chlamydia			Gonorrhea			Syphilis			Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
<b>Western</b>												
Barron	41	0.4%	1,973	7	0.3%	337 <sup>^</sup>	0	0.0%	0	48	0.4%	2,310
Buffalo	7	0.1%	1,072 <sup>^</sup>	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	7	0.1%	1,072 <sup>^</sup>
Burnett	14	0.1%	2,171	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	14	0.1%	2,171
Chippewa	42	0.4%	1,281	8	0.3%	244 <sup>^</sup>	2	0.8%	*	52	0.4%	1,586
Clark	28	0.3%	1,461	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	28	0.2%	1,461
Douglas	55	0.5%	2,275	13	0.5%	538	1	0.4%	*	69	0.5%	2,854
Dunn	75	0.7%	1,252	13	0.5%	217	0	0.0%	0	88	0.7%	1,469
Eau Claire	214	2.1%	1,690	24	0.9%	190	4	1.7%	*	242	1.8%	1,911
Jackson	12	0.1%	1,213	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	13	0.1%	1,314
La Crosse	324	3.1%	2,532	47	1.7%	367	5	2.1%	*	376	2.8%	2,938
Monroe	48	0.5%	2,003	1	0.0%	*	2	0.8%	*	51	0.4%	2,128
Pepin	0	0.0%	0	2	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	2	0.0%	*
Pierce	40	0.4%	868	3	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	43	0.3%	934
Polk	28	0.3%	1,337	4	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	32	0.2%	1,528
Rusk	6	0.1%	929 <sup>^</sup>	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	7	0.1%	1,084 <sup>^</sup>
Saint Croix	56	0.5%	1,147	7	0.3%	143 <sup>^</sup>	1	0.4%	*	64	0.5%	1,311
Trempealeau	32	0.3%	2,181	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	33	0.2%	2,249
Washburn	6	0.1%	976 <sup>^</sup>	1	0.0%	*	0	0.0%	0	7	0.1%	1,138 <sup>^</sup>
<b>Region total</b>	<b>1,028</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1,176</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>1,945</b>
Institutions**	61	0.6%	-	6	0.2%	-	0	12.6%	0	67	0.7%	-
<b>All Total</b>	<b>10,354</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,731</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,324</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>-</b>

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

## Wisconsin Syphilis Surveillance Report - Reported Cases and Rates (per 100,000 people) by Stage of Infection, Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Age Persons 20-24 years of age - 2021

	Primary			Secondary			Early latent			Early Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
<b>Total</b>	60	100%	15	47	100%	12	63	100%	16	170	100%	43
<b>Gender</b>												
Male	45	75.0%	23	23	48.9%	12	34	54.0%	17	102	60.0%	51
Female	14	23.3%	7	22	46.8%	11	25	39.7%	13	61	35.9%	32
Transgender Female	0	0.0%	-	1	2.1%	-	0	0.0%	-	1	0.6%	-
Transgender Male	1	1.7%	-	1	2.1%	-	4	6.3%	-	6	3.5%	-
Unknown	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>												
White	15	25.0%	5	7	14.9%	2 <sup>^</sup>	9	14.3%	3 <sup>^</sup>	31	18.2%	11
Black	28	46.7%	73	29	61.7%	76	43	68.3%	112	100	58.8%	261
Native American	2	3.3%	*	2	4.3%	*	2	3.2%	*	6	3.5%	146 <sup>^</sup>
Asian	1	1.7%	*	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	1	0.6%	*
Hispanic	13	21.7%	34	5	10.6%	*	8	12.7%	21 <sup>^</sup>	26	15.3%	69
Other/Unknown	1	1.7%	-	4	8.5%	-	1	1.6%	-	6	3.5%	-
<b>Region of residence</b>												
Northeastern	7	11.7%	10 <sup>^</sup>	3	6.4%	*	3	4.8%	*	13	7.6%	18
Northern	3	5.0%	*	2	4.3%	*	2	3.2%	*	7	4.1%	25 <sup>^</sup>
Southeastern	41	68.3%	28	37	78.7%	25	51	81.0%	35	129	75.9%	88
Southern	6	10.0%	7 <sup>^</sup>	4	8.5%	*	4	6.3%	*	14	8.2%	17
Western	3	5.0%	*	1	2.1%	*	3	4.8%	*	7	4.1%	12 <sup>^</sup>

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## Wisconsin Syphilis Surveillance Report - Reported Cases and Rates (per 100,000 people) by Stage of Infection, Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Age Persons 20-24 years of age - 2021

	Early Total			Late Latent			Congenital			All Stages Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
<b>Total</b>	170	100.0%	43	69	100.0%	18	0	0%	0	239	100%	61
<b>Gender</b>												
Male	102	60.0%	51	36	52.2%	18	0	0%	0	138	57.7%	69
Female	61	35.9%	32	32	46.4%	17	0	0%	0	93	38.9%	48
Transgender Female	1	0.6%	-	1	1.4%	-	0	0%	-	2	0.8%	-
Transgender Male	6	3.5%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0%	-	6	2.5%	-
Unknown	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0.0%	-
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>												
White	31	18.2%	11	23	33.3%	8	0	0%	0	54	22.6%	18
Black	100	58.8%	261	33	47.8%	86	0	0%	0	133	55.6%	347
Native American	6	3.5%	145 <sup>^</sup>	2	2.9%	*	0	0%	0	8	3.3%	193 <sup>^</sup>
Asian	1	0.6%	*	1	1.4%	*	0	0%	0	2	0.8%	*
Hispanic	26	15.3%	71	9	13.0%	25 <sup>^</sup>	0	0%	0	35	14.6%	96
Other/Unknown	6	8.0%	-	1	1.4%	-	0	0.0%	-	7	2.9%	-
<b>Region of residence</b>												
Northeastern	13	7.6%	18	9	13.0%	13 <sup>^</sup>	0	0%	0	22	9.2%	31
Northern	7	4.1%	25 <sup>^</sup>	3	4.3%	*	0	0%	0	10	4.2%	36
Southeastern	129	75.9%	91	30	43.5%	21	0	0%	0	159	66.5%	113
Southern	14	8.2%	16	19	27.5%	21	0	0%	0	33	13.8%	37
Western	7	4.1%	12 <sup>^</sup>	8	11.6%	13 <sup>^</sup>	0	0%	0	15	6.3%	25
<b>Total</b>	170	100.0%	43	69	100.0%	18	0	0%	0	239	100%	61

\*Rates based on five case counts or less are not shown. <sup>^</sup>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 vary 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 the WISH (Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health) system website. In these reports, rates presented are cases per 100,000 population (2020). 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 are not included in this report.
6. All races are non-Hispanic ethnicity. Under the category race, Asian includes Asian Pacific Islander and American Indian Alaska Native is named as Native American.
7. 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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For more information, contact:

Wisconsin STI Unit  
1 West Wilson Street  
PO Box 2659  
Madison, WI 53701-2659  
Telephone: 608-266-8479