

Sexually Transmitted Infections in Wisconsin, 2024 Western Region



Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) Surveillance Report Western Region – 2024

Introduction

The Wisconsin STI Regional Surveillance reports highlight STI data broken down by public health region. Additional statewide data and Milwaukee County specific data can be found on the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) STI Unit <u>Surveillance Data web page.</u>

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

In 2024, 2,108 cases of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) were reported in the Western Region. Of these, **chlamydia** accounted for 85% (1,797), **gonorrhea** accounted for 11% (242), and **syphilis** accounted for 3% (69) of cases. The reported number of STI cases in 2024 was 15% less than the number of cases reported in 2023 (2,477 cases).

Among the three STIs reported, the number of syphilis cases decreased by 20% in 2024. Chlamydia cases decreased by 15% and gonorrhea cases also decreased by 9% compared to 2023.

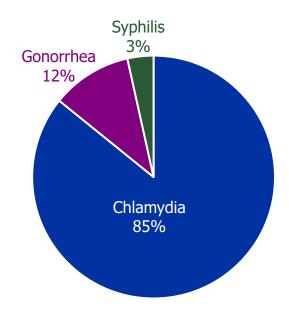


Figure 1.

The incidence of all reportable sexually transmitted infections declined in the Western Region from 2023 to 2024.

Trend of reported STI cases, Western Region, 2020–2024.

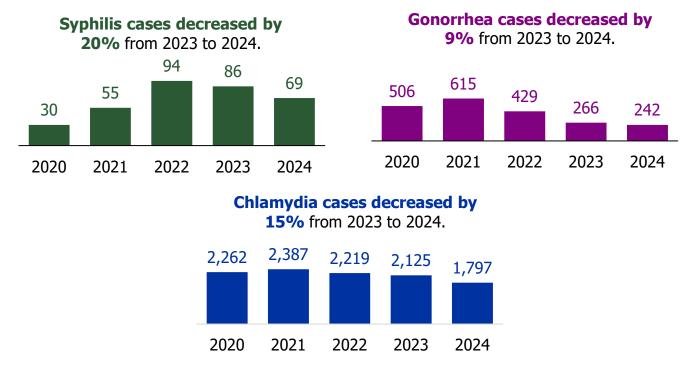
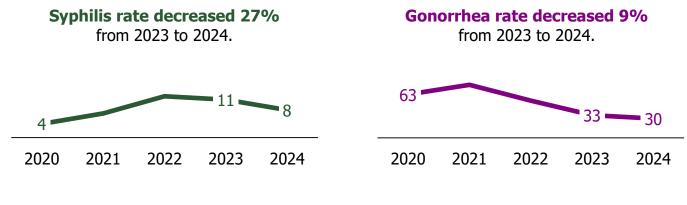


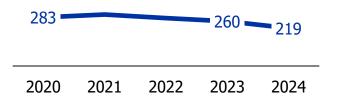
Figure 2.

In 2024, all STI rates decreased in the Western Region with the rates of syphilis decreasing the most (27%).

Rate of reported STI cases 100,000 people, Western Region, 2020–2024.



Chlamydia rate decreased 16% from 2023 to 2024.



Key takeaways from 2024 data:



Sexually transmitted infections are widespread, impacting people of all racial and ethnic groups, genders, and ages in the Western region. The populations at highest risk include people between ages of 15–29 years. In 2024, the syphilis rate among males was two times higher than among females in the western region.

In 2024, all STIs decreased in the Western Region. There was also a significant decrease (27%) in the rate of syphilis (all stages).

Racial and ethnic disparities were also observed: the syphilis rate among Black individuals was 8.9 times higher than among white individuals, 13.2 times higher than among Asian individuals, 4.4 times higher than among Native American individuals, and 3.1 times higher than among Hispanic individuals.

Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Surveillance Report Reported Cases and Rates per 100,000 people by Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Age Western Region - 2024

	Chlamydia				Gonorrhea			Syphilis			Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	
Total	1,797	100%	219	242	100%	30	69	100%	8	2,108	100%	257	
Gender													
Male	1,222	68%	295	130	54%	31	47	68%	11	1,399	66%	338	
Female	572	32%	141	110	45%	27	21	30%	5	703	33%	173	
Transgender Female	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	
Transgender Male	0	0%	-	1	0%	-	0	0%	-	1	0%	-	
Unknown	3	0%	-	1	0%	-	1	1%	-	5	0%	-	
Race/Ethnicity													
White	1,253	70%	169	153	63%	21	54	78%	7	1,460	69%	196	
Black	142	8%	1,523	52	21%	558	6	9%	64^	200	9%	2,145	
Native American	35	2%	517	3	1%	*	1	1%	*	39	2%	576	
Asian	38	2%	213	1	0%	*	1	1%	*	40	2%	224	
Two or More Races	7	0%	50^	0	0%	0	1	1%	*	8	0%	57^	
Hispanic	198	11%	694	12	5%	42	6	9%	21^	216	10%	757	
Other/Unknown	124	7%	-	21	9%	-	0	0%	-	145	7%	-	
Age													
0-4	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	1	1%	*	1	0%	*	
5-9	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	
10-14	9	1%	18^	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	9	0%	18^	
15-19	443	25%	773	33	14%	58	1	1%	*	477	23%	833	
20-24	743	41%	1,218	54	22%	88	5	7%	*	802	38%	1,314	
25-29	282	16%	600	42	17%	89	12	17%	26	336	16%	715	
30-34	146	8%	307	31	13%	65	14	20%	29	191	9%	402	
35-39	80	4%	163	32	13%	65	11	16%	22^	123	6%	251	
40-44	47	3%	92	15	6%	29	10	14%	20^	72	3%	141	
45-49	24	1%	54	12	5%	27	4	6%	*	40	2%	89	
50+	23	1%	7	23	10%	7	11	16%	3^	57	3%	18	

^{*}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 Reported Cases and Rates per 100,000 people by County. Western Region - 2024

	Chlamydia				Gonorrhe	a		Syphilis		Total			
Western	Case	Percent	Rates	Case	Percent	Rates	Case	Percent	Rates	Case	Percent	Rates	
Barron	79	4.4%	169	11	4.5%	23^	2	2.9%	*	92	4.4%	196	
Buffalo	13	0.7%	97	3	1.2%	*	2	2.9%	*	18	0.9%	134	
Burnett	9	0.5%	53^	2	0.8%	*	3	4.3%	*	14	0.7%	82	
Chippewa	109	6.1%	163	13	5.4%	19	5	7.2%	*	127	6.0%	190	
Clark	78	4.3%	224	3	1.2%	*	0	0.0%	0	81	3.8%	233	
Douglas	107	6.0%	242	13	5.4%	29	11	15.9%	25^	131	6.2%	296	
Dunn	112	6.2%	245	25	10.3%	55	5	7.2%	*	142	6.7%	310	
Eau Claire	356	19.8%	330	47	19.4%	44	8	11.6%	7^	411	19.5%	381	
Jackson	27	1.5%	129	4	1.7%	*	2	2.9%	*	33	1.6%	158	
La Crosse	382	21.3%	317	53	21.9%	44	13	18.8%	11	448	21.3%	372	
Monroe	105	5.8%	228	9	3.7%	20^	3	4.3%	*	117	5.6%	254	
Pepin	8	0.4%	108^	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	8	0.4%	108^	
Pierce	91	5.1%	212	10	4.1%	23^	1	1.4%	*	102	4.8%	237	
Polk	67	3.7%	146	8	3.3%	17^	2	2.9%	*	77	3.7%	168	
Rusk	35	1.9%	247	1	0.4%	*	2	2.9%	*	38	1.8%	269	
Saint Croix	128	7.1%	132	28	11.6%	29	5	7.2%	*	161	7.6%	166	
Trempealeau	75	4.2%	243	8	3.3%	26^	3	4.3%	*	86	4.1%	278	
Washburn	16	0.9%	95	4	1.7%	*	2	2.9%	*	22	1.0%	130	
Region total	1,797	100.0%	219	242	100.0%	30	69	100.0%	8	2108	100.0%	257	

^{*}Rates based on five case counts or less are not shown; ^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 Western Region- 2024

	Primary				Secondary			Early Latent			Early Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percen	t Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	
Total	10	100%	1^		7 100%	о́ 2^	9	100%	1^	26	100%	3	
Gender													
Male	7	70%	2^		6 86%	ó 1^	1	11%	*	14	54%	3	
Female	3	30%	*		1 149	*	8	89%	3^	12	46%	3	
Transgender Female	0	0%	-		0 09	ó -			-	0	0%	-	
Transgender Male	0	0%	-		0 09	, o -			-	0	0%	_	
Unknown	0	0%	-		0 09	ó -			-	0	0%	-	
Race/Ethnicity													
White	9	90%	1^		7 100%	ó 1^	8	89%	2^	24	92%	3	
Black	1	10%	*		0 09	*	0	0%	*	1	4%	*	
American Indian	0	0%	*		0 09	*	0	0%	*	0	0%	*	
Asian	0	0%	*		0 09	*	0	0%	*	0	0%	*	
Two or More			*			, 0			0			*	
Races	0	0%	·		0 09	0	0	0%	U	0	0%	·	
Hispanic	0	0%	*		0 09		1	11%	*	1	4%	*	
Other/Unknown	0	0%	-		0 09	, o -	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	
Age													
0-4	0	0%	0		0 09	ó 0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	
5-9	0	0%	0		0 09		0	0%	0	0	0%	0	
10-14	0	0%	0		0 09		0	0%	0	0	0%	0	
15-19	0	0%	0		0 09		0	0%	0	0	0%	0	
20-24	1	10%	*		0 09	ó 0	0	0%	0	1	4%	*	
25-29	1	10%	*		3 43%	*	1	11%	*	5	19%	*	
30-34	3	30%	*		1 149	*	1	11%	*	5	19%	*	
35-39	4	40%	*		1 149	*	3	33%	*	8	31%	16^	
40-44	0	0%	0		0 09	ó 0	3	33%	*	3	12%	*	
45-49	1	10%	*		2 29%	*	0	0%	0	3	12%	*	
50+	0	0%	0		0 09	6 0	1	11%	*	1	4%	*	

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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 Western Region - 2024

		Early Tota	ı	L	ate Laten	ıt		Congenita	I	All	All Stage Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent		Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	
Total	26	100%	3	42	100%	5	1	100%	0	69	100%	8	
Gender													
Male	14	54%	3	25	60%	6	1	100%	*	40	58%	10	
Female	12	46%	3	16	38%	4	0	0%	0	28	41%	7	
Transgender Female	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	
Transgender Male	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	
Unknown	0	0%	-	1	2%	-	0	0%	-	1	1%	-	
Race/Ethnicity													
White	24	92%	3	30	71%	4	0	0%	0	54	78%	7	
Black	1	4%	*	5	12%	*	0	0%	0	6	9%	64^	
American Indian	0	0%	*	1	2%	*	0	0%	0	1	1%	*	
Asian	0	0%	*	1	2%	*	0	0%	0	1	1%	*	
Two More Races	0	0%	*	1	2%	*	0	0%	0	1	1%	*	
Hispanic	1	4%	*	4	10%	*	1	100%	*	6	9%	21^	
Other/Unknown	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%		
Age													
0-4	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	*	1	1%	*	
5-9	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	
10-14	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	
15-19	0	0%	0	1	2%	*	0	0%	0	1	1%	*	
20-24	1	4%	*	4	10%	*	0	0%	0	5	7%	*	
25-29	5	19%	*	7	17%	15^	0	0%	0	12	17%	26	
30-34	5	19%	*	9	21%	19^	0	0%	0	14	20%	29	
35-39	8	31%	*	3	7%	*	0	0%	0	11	16%	22^	
40-44	3	12%	*	7	17%	14^	0	0%	0	10	14%	20^	
45-49	3	12%	*	1	2%	*	0	0%	0	4	6%	*	
50+	1	4%	*	10	24%	3^	0	0%	0	11	16%	3^	

^{*}Rates based on five case counts or less 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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