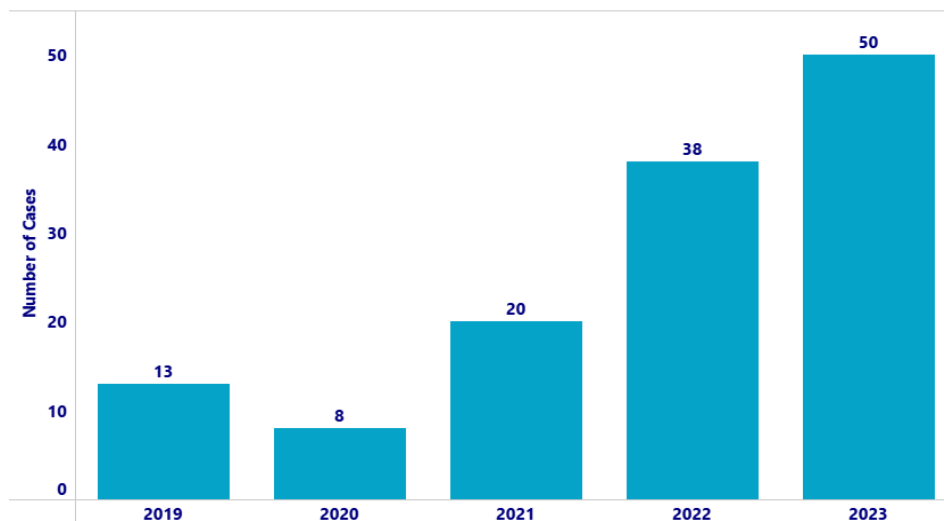


Syphilis Cases Continue Rising

According to the CDC, more than 2.5 million cases of syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia were reported in the United States in 2022. Syphilis cases (adult and congenital) have increased 80% in the past five years. More than 3,700 congenital syphilis cases were reported in 2022, reflecting an alarming 937% increase in the past decade (STI Surveillance Report, 2022).

In Indiana, adult syphilis increased 8.2% from 2021 to 2022. Reported cases of P and S syphilis decreased 5.4% from 2021 to 2022, and early non-primary/non-secondary syphilis cases also decreased 1.1%. Reported cases of late or unknown duration syphilis continued to increase from 2021 to 2022 (34.4%). Notable risk factors among syphilis cases include men who have sex with other men, incarceration in the past year, use of both injected and non-injected drugs like methamphetamines and heroin, and injection drug use in general.

Indiana Congenital Syphilis Morbidity, 2019-2023*



*Data are preliminary

Congenital Syphilis

One of the most notable increases for adult syphilis cases in Indiana continues to be among females of child-bearing age (15-44 years old). Syphilis cases among all females increased 37.3% from 2021 to 2022 compared to heterosexual males who had a 15% increase. Syphilis morbidity continues to increase among these groups in 2023, leading to the highest congenital syphilis morbidity ever in Indiana (N=50*).

Of babies with congenital syphilis in 2022, some common risk factors emerged. A majority were born in Marion County and had mothers with a history of injection drug/methamphetamine use, unstable housing, and domestic violence. Lack of prenatal care was also a concern among cases, as well as language barriers. Thirty-seven females had live births; one baby was a stillbirth.

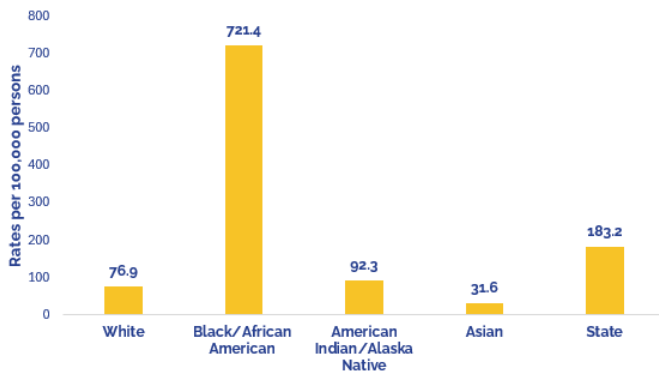
2022 Fast Facts

- 34,154 chlamydia cases (slight decrease in past five years)
- 12,519 gonorrhea cases (slight increase in the past five years)
- 2,121 syphilis cases (119% increase over the past five years)
- Cases of syphilis among women increased approximately 430% in the past five years.
- Thirty-eight congenital syphilis cases reported. Preliminarily for 2023, there are 50 cases.
- Congenital syphilis cases increased 1,800% in the past five years

Decrease in Gonorrhea Cases

Gonorrhea cases decreased in 2022 in Indiana and nationally. Indiana gonorrhea cases decreased by approximately 13% from 2021—the first decrease since 2013. There is currently no clear answer to explain the decline. Although case numbers have decreased, African American Hoosiers continue to have the highest rate of gonorrhea (721.4 cases per 100,000 persons in 2022) when compared with other races. This is almost four times the overall rate of gonorrhea in Indiana in 2022 (183.2 cases per 100,000 persons).

2022 Indiana Gonorrhea Rates, by Race



Mpox Overlaps with STIs

Since June 2022, there have been 315 mpox cases reported in Indiana. The majority of cases have been reported in Marion County (n=178), Lake County (n=29), and Tippecanoe County (n=11).

African American males continue to be disproportionately impacted, and the average age of those diagnosed is 34 years old. Those with the highest remain the same: people living with HIV and men who have sex with other men.

Disseminated Gonorrhea

Disseminated gonococcal infection (DGI) saw a 150% increase in Indiana from 2020 to 2022. However, only six cases were reported in 2023 leading to a 74% decrease from the 23 cases reported in 2022. Some of the most commonly reported risk factors overlap with the 2019 DGI outbreak in southwestern Michigan. STI surveillance will continue to monitor for DGI and encourage providers to reach out if they suspect a patient has DGI.

74% **Decrease in DGI cases from 2022 to 2023**

The most commonly reported risk factors among 2023 cases continue to be homelessness, methamphetamine use, and sharing needles/injection equipment or having sex with someone who injects drugs.

CDC releases 2022 STI Surveillance Report

The [Sexually Transmitted Infection Surveillance Report, 2022](#) provides the most current and complete data for nationally notifiable STIs. In 2022, chlamydia, adult, and congenital syphilis continued to increase in the United States; however, gonorrhea rates decreased by 8.7% nationally. CDC's annual report underscores that STIs must be a public health priority. In addition to the syphilis epidemic worsening, reported gonorrhea cases declined for the first time in at least a decade. CDC will continue to examine this finding closely and look to 2023 data for better understanding (STI Surveillance Report, 2022).

For additional information on STIs, visit the CDC's website: www.cdc.gov/std/statistics/2022/default.htm

