

# Eliminating Syphilis -- Dade County, FL

## Key features of syphilis in the U.S. in 2004

Syphilis is a preventable and curable sexually transmitted disease (STD). Syphilis disproportionately affects a small percentage of the population and research shows that these are often isolated groups involved in high-risk activities such as illicit drug use, exchanging sex for money or drugs, unprotected sexual intercourse and having multiple sex partners.

- U.S. primary and secondary (P&S) syphilis rate in 2004 was 2.7 cases/100,000 population (7,980 cases).
- U.S. congenital syphilis rate was 8.8 cases/100,000 live births (353 cases).
- Half of U.S. P&S cases in 2004 were in 20 counties, less than 1% of 3,140 counties.

# Key features of syphilis in Dade County, FL in 2004

## Primary and secondary syphilis cases, rates and rank

- Dade County, FL's 213 cases ranked 6 among 3,140 U.S. counties.
- Dade County, FL's rate of 9.1 cases/100,000 population ranked 53 among 3,140 U.S. counties.
- Dade County, FL's rate was 3.4 times the U.S. rate of 2.7 cases/100,000 population.

# Dade



Florida County Rates

## Male-female ratios (primary and secondary syphilis)

- In Dade County, FL 186 (87%) cases in 2004 were among males, compared to 83% nationally. The rate among males (16.4/100,000) was 3.5 times that of the U.S. male rate (4.7/100,000).
- In Dade County, FL 27 (13%) cases were among females, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among females (2.2/100,000) was 2.8 times that of the U.S. female rate (0.8/100,000).
- The ratio of male to female rates in Dade County, FL was 7.3:1.0, higher than than the U.S. ratio of 5.3:1.0.

## Racial disparities (primary and secondary syphilis)

- In Dade County, FL in 2004, the racial distribution of the 213 cases was: White = 41; Black = 76; Hispanics = 91; Asian = 0; American Indian = 0. The race-adjusted rates (per 100,000 population) were: White = 9.6; Black = 17.2; Hispanics = 6.6; Asian = 0.0; American Indian = 0.0.
- 19.7% of cases were among Whites, compared to 40% nationally.
- 36.6% of cases were among Blacks, compared to 41% nationally. The rate among Blacks (17.2) was 1.8 times that of Whites (9.6).
- 43.7% of cases were among Hispanics, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among Hispanics (6.6) was 0.7 times that of Whites (9.6).
- 0.0% cases were among Asians, compared to 2% nationally. The rate among Asians (0.0) was 0.0 times that of Whites (9.6).
- 0.0% cases were among American Indians, compared to 1% nationally. The rate among American Indians (0.0) was 0.0 times that of Whites (9.6).

## **Congenital Syphilis**

Syphilis can be transmitted from mother to fetus during pregnancy causing stillbirths or congenital syphilis that may result in lifelong health problems.

- Dade County, FL had 5 congenital syphilis cases born in 2004.
- The congenital syphilis rate in the county was 15.6 cases/100,000 live births.
- The congenital syphilis rate in Dade County, FL was 1.8 times the U.S. rate of 8.8/100,000.



