

# Eliminating Syphilis -- New York County, NY

# 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.

# New York



### **New York County Rates**

# Key features of syphilis in New York County, NY in 2004

# Primary and secondary syphilis cases, rates and rank

- New York County, NY's 328 cases ranked 4 among 3,140 U.S. counties.
- New York County, NY's rate of 21 cases/100,000 population ranked 13 among 3,140 U.S. counties.
- New York County, NY's rate was 7.8 times the U.S. rate of 2.7 cases/100,000 population.

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

- In New York County, NY 321 (98%) cases in 2004 were among males, compared to 83% nationally. The rate among males (43.1/100,000) was 9.2 times that of the U.S. male rate (4.7/100,000).
- In New York County, NY 7 (2%) cases were among females, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among females (0.9/100,000) was 1.1 times that of the U.S. female rate (0.8/100,000).
- The ratio of male to female rates in New York County, NY was 50.7:1.0, higher than than the U.S. ratio of 5.3:1.0.

### Racial disparities (primary and secondary syphilis)

- In New York County, NY in 2004, the racial distribution of the 328 cases was: White = 66; Black = 66; Hispanics = 47; Asian = 6; American Indian = 1. The race-adjusted rates (per 100,000 population) were: White = 15.9; Black = 48.8; Hispanics = 19.4; Asian = 6.6; American Indian = 47.2.
- 35.4% of cases were among Whites, compared to 40% nationally.
- 35.4% of cases were among Blacks, compared to 41% nationally. The rate among Blacks (48.8) was 3.1 times that of Whites (15.9).
- 25.3% of cases were among Hispanics, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among Hispanics (19.4) was 1.2 times that of Whites (15.9).
- 3.4% cases were among Asians, compared to 2% nationally. The rate among Asians (6.6) was 0.4 times that of Whites (15.9).
- 0.6% cases were among American Indians, compared to 1% nationally. The rate among American Indians (47.2) was 3 times that of Whites (15.9).

# **Congenital Syphilis**

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

- New York County, NY had 1 congenital syphilis case born in 2004.
- The congenital syphilis rate in the county was 5 cases/100,000 live births.
- The congenital syphilis rate in New York County, NY was 0.6 times the U.S. rate of 8.8/100,000.



