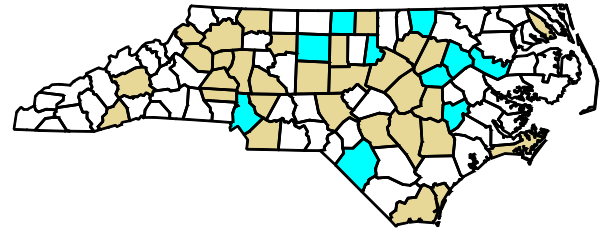




## Key features of syphilis in the U.S. in 2004

*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.



Rate (per 100,000 population)  
0.0      0.1-4.0  
>4.0

North Carolina Rates

## Key features of syphilis in North Carolina in 2004

### Primary and secondary syphilis cases, rates and rank

- North Carolina's 192 cases ranked 10 among 50 states, District of Columbia and 3 territories.
- North Carolina's rate of 2.3 cases/100,000 population ranked 18 among 50 states, District of Columbia and 3 territories.
- North Carolina's rate was 0.9 times the U.S. rate of 2.7 cases/100,000 population.

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

- In North Carolina, 144 (75%) cases in 2004 were among males, compared to 83% nationally. The rate among males (3.5/100,000) was 0.7 times that of the U.S. male rate (4.7/100,000).
- In North Carolina, 48 (25%) cases were among females, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among females (1.1/100,000) was 1.4 times that of the U.S. female rate (0.8/100,000).
- The ratio of male to female rates in North Carolina was 3.1:1.0, lower than than the U.S. ratio of 5.3:1.0.

### Racial disparities (primary and secondary syphilis)

- In North Carolina in 2004, the racial distribution of the 192 cases was: White = 54; Black = 125; Hispanics = 8; Asian = 0; American Indian = 5. The race adjusted rates (per 100,000 population) were: White = 0.9; Black = 6.8; Hispanics = 1.7; Asian = 0.0; American Indian = 4.8.
- 28.1% of cases were among Whites, compared to 40% nationally.
- 65.1% of cases were among Blacks, compared to 41% nationally. The rate among Blacks (6.8) was 7.6 times that of Whites (0.9).
- 4.2% of cases were among Hispanics, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among Hispanics (1.7) was 1.9 times that of Whites (0.9).
- 0.0% of cases were among Asians, compared to 2% nationally. The rate among Asians (0.0) was 0.0 times that of Whites (0.9).
- 2.6% of cases were among American Indians, compared to 1% nationally. The rate among American Indians (4.8) was 5.3 times that of Whites (0.9).

### Congenital Syphilis

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

- North Carolina had 9 congenital syphilis cases born in 2004.
- The congenital syphilis rate in the state was 7.7 cases/100,000 live births.
- The congenital syphilis rate in North Carolina was 0.9 times the U.S. rate of 8.8/100,000 live births.

