



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

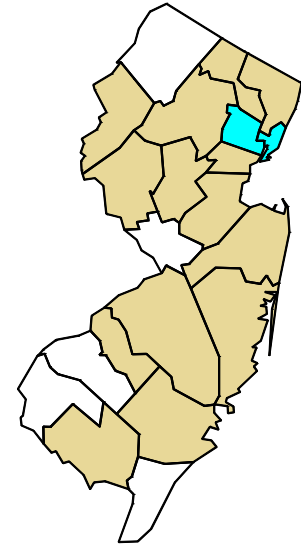
*Syphilis is a preventable and curable sexually transmitted disease (STD). Syphilis disproportionately affects a small percentage of the population and research shows that these are often isolated groups involved in high-risk activities such as illicit drug use, exchanging sex for money or drugs, unprotected 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 New Jersey in 2004

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

- New Jersey's 150 cases ranked 16 among 50 states, District of Columbia and 3 territories.
- New Jersey's rate of 1.7 cases/100,000 population ranked 26 among 50 states, District of Columbia and 3 territories.
- New Jersey's rate was 0.6 times the U.S. rate of 2.7 cases/100,000 population.



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

**New Jersey Rates**

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

- In New Jersey, 112 (75%) cases in 2004 were among males, compared to 83% nationally. The rate among males (2.7/100,000) was 0.6 times that of the U.S. male rate (4.7/100,000).
- In New Jersey, 38 (25%) 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 Jersey was 3.1:1.0, lower than than the U.S. ratio of 5.3:1.0.

#### Racial disparities (primary and secondary syphilis)

- In New Jersey in 2004, the racial distribution of the 150 cases was: White = 32; Black = 58; Hispanics = 34; Asian = 1; American Indian = 0. The race adjusted rates (per 100,000 population) were: White = 0.7; Black = 5.9; Hispanics = 3.3; Asian = 0.2; American Indian = 0.0.
- 25.3% of cases were among Whites, compared to 40% nationally.
- 46.7% of cases were among Blacks, compared to 41% nationally. The rate among Blacks (5.9) was 8.4 times that of Whites (0.7).
- 27.3% of cases were among Hispanics, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among Hispanics (3.3) was 4.7 times that of Whites (0.7).
- 0.7% of cases were among Asians, compared to 2% nationally. The rate among Asians (0.2) was 0.3 times that of Whites (0.7).
- 0.0% of cases were among American Indians, compared to 1% nationally. The rate among American Indians (0.0) was 0.0 times that of Whites (0.7).

#### 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 Jersey had 13 congenital syphilis cases born in 2004.
- The congenital syphilis rate in the state was 11.3 cases/100,000 live births.
- The congenital syphilis rate in New Jersey was 1.3 times the U.S. rate of 8.8/100,000 live births.

