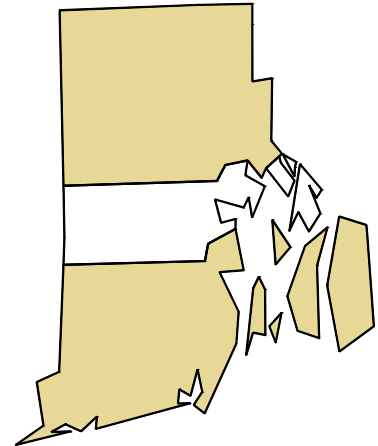




## Key features of syphilis in the U.S. in 2004

*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	

**Rhode Island Rates**

## Key features of syphilis in Rhode Island in 2004

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

- Rhode Island's 26 cases ranked 35 among 50 states, District of Columbia and 3 territories.
- Rhode Island's rate of 2.4 cases/100,000 population ranked 17 among 50 states, District of Columbia and 3 territories.
- Rhode Island'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 Rhode Island, 16 (62%) cases in 2004 were among males, compared to 83% nationally. The rate among males (3.1/100,000) was 0.7 times that of the U.S. male rate (4.7/100,000).
- In Rhode Island, 10 (38%) cases were among females, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among females (1.8/100,000) was 2.2 times that of the U.S. female rate (0.8/100,000).
- The ratio of male to female rates in Rhode Island was 1.7:1.0, lower than than the U.S. ratio of 5.3:1.0.

### Racial disparities (primary and secondary syphilis)

- In Rhode Island in 2004, the racial distribution of the 26 cases was: White = 15; Black = 3; Hispanics = 8; Asian = 0; American Indian = 0. The race adjusted rates (per 100,000 population) were: White = 1.7; Black = 5.4; Hispanics = 7.8; Asian = 0.0; American Indian = 0.0.
- 57.7% of cases were among Whites, compared to 40% nationally.
- 11.5% of cases were among Blacks, compared to 41% nationally. The rate among Blacks (5.4) was 3.2 times that of Whites (1.7).
- 30.8% of cases were among Hispanics, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among Hispanics (7.8) was 4.6 times that of Whites (1.7).
- 0.0% of cases were among Asians, compared to 2% nationally. The rate among Asians (0.0) was 0.0 times that of Whites (1.7).
- 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 (1.7).

### Congenital Syphilis

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

- Rhode Island had 1 congenital syphilis cases born in 2004.
- The congenital syphilis rate in the state was 7.8 cases/100,000 live births.
- The congenital syphilis rate in Rhode Island was 0.9 times the U.S. rate of 8.8/100,000 live births.

