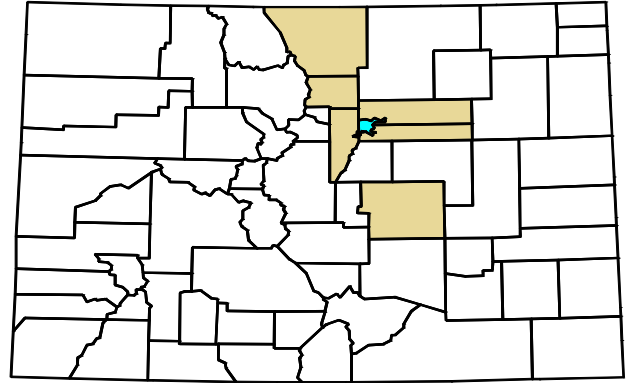




### Key features of syphilis in the U.S. in 2003

*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 2003 was 2.5 cases/100,000 population (7,177 cases).
- U.S. congenital syphilis rate was 10.3 cases/100,000 live births (413 cases).
- Half of U.S. P&S cases in 2003 were in 19 counties, less than 1% of 3,140 counties.



### Key features of syphilis in Colorado in 2003

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

- Colorado's 39 cases ranked 31 among 50 states, District of Columbia and 3 territories.
- Colorado's rate of 0.9 cases/100,000 population ranked 35 among 50 states, District of Columbia and 3 territories.
- Colorado's rate was 0.4 times the U.S. rate of 2.5 cases/100,000 population.

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

#### Colorado Rates

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

- In Colorado, 34 (87%) cases in 2003 were among males, compared to 83% nationally. The rate among males (1.5/100,000) was 0.4 times that of the U.S. male rate (4.2/100,000).
- In Colorado, 5 (13%) cases were among females, compared to 17% nationally. The rate among females (0.2/100,000) was 0.3 times that of the U.S. female rate (0.8/100,000).
- The ratio of male to female rates in Colorado was 6.7:1.0, higher than than the U.S. ratio of 4.9:1.0.

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

- In Colorado in 2003, the racial distribution of the 39 cases was: White = 22; Black = 8; Hispanics = 6; Asian = 0; American Indian = 1. The race adjusted rates (per 100,000 population) were: White = 0.7; Black = 4.2; Hispanics = 0.7; Asian = 0.0; American Indian = 2.8.
- 59% of cases were among Whites, compared to 42% nationally.
- 20.5% of cases were among Blacks, compared to 39% nationally. The rate among Blacks (4.2) was 6 times that of Whites (0.7).
- 15.4% of cases were among Hispanics, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among Hispanics (0.7) was 1 times that of Whites (0.7).
- 0.0% of cases were among Asians, compared to 2% nationally. The rate among Asians (0.0) was 0.0 times that of Whites (0.7).
- 2.6% of cases were among American Indians, compared to 1% nationally. The rate among American Indians (2.8) was 4 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.*

- Colorado had 3 congenital syphilis cases born in 2003.
- The congenital syphilis rate in the state was 4.4 cases/100,000 live births.
- The congenital syphilis rate in Colorado was 0.4 times the U.S. rate of 10.3/100,000 live births.