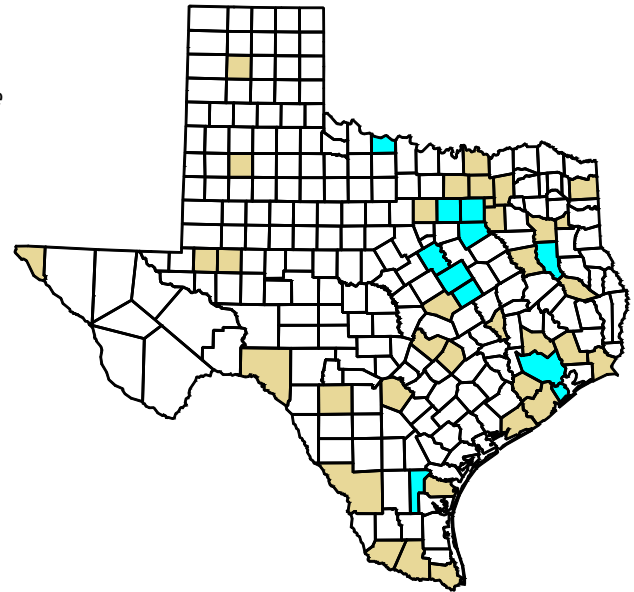




### Key features of syphilis in the U.S. in 2003

*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.



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

Texas Rates

### Key features of syphilis in Texas in 2003

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

- Texas' 654 cases ranked 3 among 50 states, District of Columbia and 3 territories.
- Texas' rate of 3 cases/100,000 population ranked 11 among 50 states, District of Columbia and 3 territories.
- Texas' rate was 1.2 times the U.S. rate of 2.5 cases/100,000 population.

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

- In Texas, 492 (75%) cases in 2003 were among males, compared to 83% nationally. The rate among males (4.5/100,000) was 1.1 times that of the U.S. male rate (4.2/100,000).
- In Texas, 162 (25%) cases were among females, compared to 17% nationally. The rate among females (1.5/100,000) was 1.8 times that of the U.S. female rate (0.8/100,000).
- The ratio of male to female rates in Texas was 3.1:1.0, lower than than the U.S. ratio of 4.9:1.0.

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

- In Texas in 2003, the racial distribution of the 654 cases was: White = 201; Black = 273; Hispanics = 164; Asian = 8; American Indian = 1. The race adjusted rates (per 100,000 population) were: White = 1.8; Black = 11; Hispanics = 2.2; Asian = 1.1; American Indian = 1.2.
- 31% of cases were among Whites, compared to 42% nationally.
- 42.2% of cases were among Blacks, compared to 39% nationally. The rate among Blacks (11) was 6.1 times that of Whites (1.8).
- 25.4% of cases were among Hispanics, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among Hispanics (2.2) was 1.2 times that of Whites (1.8).
- 1.2% of cases were among Asians, compared to 2% nationally. The rate among Asians (1.1) was 0.6 times that of Whites (1.8).
- 0.2% of cases were among American Indians, compared to 1% nationally. The rate among American Indians (1.2) was 0.7 times that of Whites (1.8).

#### Congenital Syphilis

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

- Texas had 77 congenital syphilis cases born in 2003.
- The congenital syphilis rate in the state was 20.7 cases/100,000 live births.
- The congenital syphilis rate in Texas was 2 times the U.S. rate of 10.3/100,000 live births.