



## 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 DeKalb County, GA in 2004

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

- DeKalb County, GA's 117 cases ranked 16 among 3,140 U.S. counties.
- DeKalb County, GA's rate of 17.4 cases/100,000 population ranked 17 among 3,140 U.S. counties.
- DeKalb County, GA's rate was 6.4 times the U.S. rate of 2.7 cases/100,000 population.

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

- In DeKalb County, GA 110 (94%) cases in 2004 were among males, compared to 83% nationally. The rate among males (33.5/100,000) was 7.1 times that of the U.S. male rate (4.7/100,000).
- In DeKalb County, GA 7 (6%) cases were among females, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among females (2/100,000) was 2.5 times that of the U.S. female rate (0.8/100,000).
- The ratio of male to female rates in DeKalb County, GA was 16.6:1.0, higher than than the U.S. ratio of 5.3:1.0.

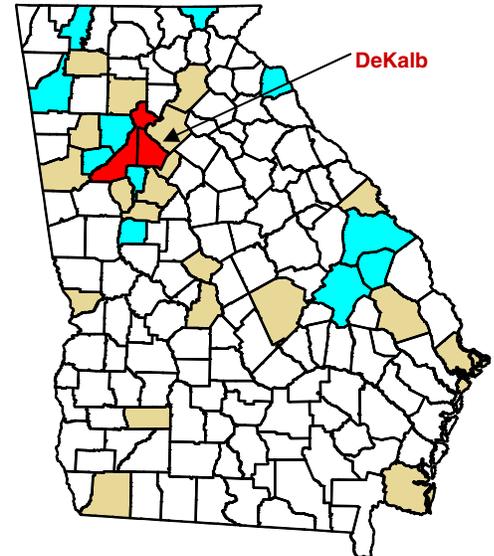
### Racial disparities (primary and secondary syphilis)

- In DeKalb County, GA in 2004, the racial distribution of the 117 cases was: White = 29; Black = 74; Hispanics = 4; Asian = 1; American Indian = 0. The race-adjusted rates (per 100,000 population) were: White = 14.5; Black = 21.4; Hispanics = 6.8; Asian = 3.7; American Indian = 0.0.
- 26.5% of cases were among Whites, compared to 40% nationally.
- 68.4% of cases were among Blacks, compared to 41% nationally. The rate among Blacks (21.4) was 1.5 times that of Whites (14.5).
- 3.4% of cases were among Hispanics, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among Hispanics (6.8) was 0.5 times that of Whites (14.5).
- 0.9% cases were among Asians, compared to 2% nationally. The rate among Asians (3.7) was 0.3 times that of Whites (14.5).
- 0.0% cases were among American Indians, compared to 1% nationally. The rate among American Indians (0.0) was 0.0 times that of Whites (14.5).

### Congenital Syphilis

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

- DeKalb County, GA had 3 congenital syphilis cases born in 2004.
- The congenital syphilis rate in the county was 28.3 cases/100,000 live births.
- The congenital syphilis rate in DeKalb County, GA was 3.2 times the U.S. rate of 8.8/100,000.



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

Georgia County Rates

