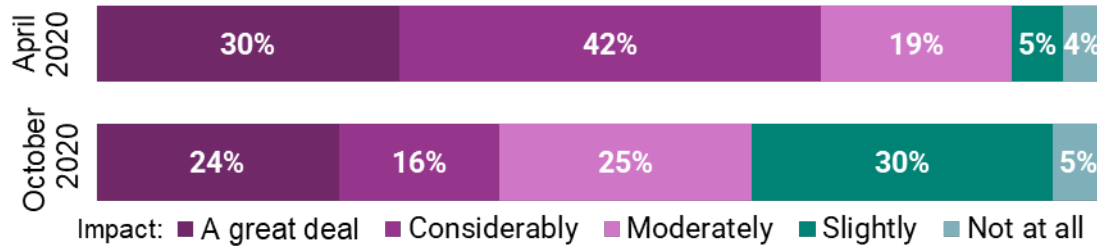


## New data suggest that Sexually Transmitted Infection rates in the US continued to rise during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) can lead to long-term health consequences like infertility, increased risk of HIV transmission, and, with syphilis, serious illness and even death in infants. Amid significant program disruptions [due to the COVID-19 pandemic](#), CDC continues to support US jurisdictions like Colorado as we work together to turn the tide on STIs.

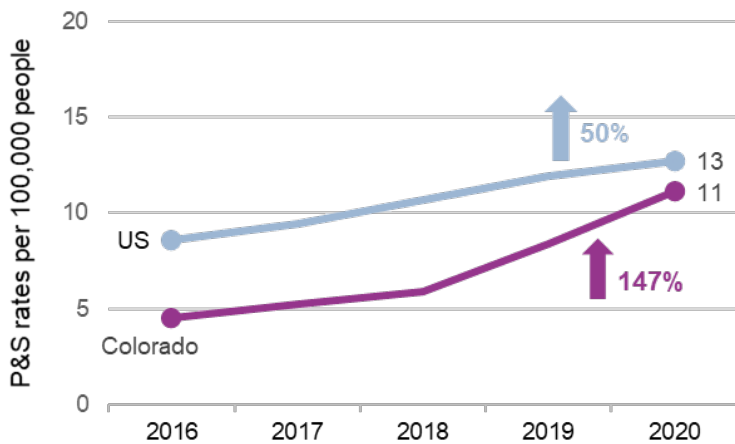
### Experienced STI program staff around the nation were reassigned to support COVID-19 response efforts

91% of jurisdictions reported that in April 2020, staff reassignment to COVID-19 work had moderate to a great deal of impact on STI program efforts, and 65% reported moderate to a great deal of impact in October 2020.

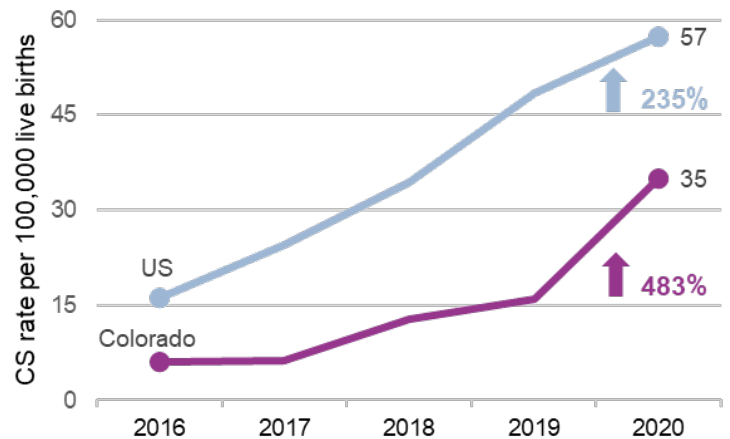


## Syphilis & congenital syphilis rates are rising in the US & Colorado

Primary and secondary syphilis (P&S) are the most infectious stages of syphilis and represent new infections. From 2016 to 2020, P&S syphilis rates rose 50% in the US and rose 147% in Colorado.



Congenital syphilis (CS) occurs when syphilis is passed to baby during pregnancy. From 2016 to 2020, CS rates rose 235% in the US and rose 483% in Colorado.



### Opportunities to identify, treat, and prevent congenital syphilis include:

- Early and adequate prenatal care
- Timely prenatal syphilis screening
- Adequate maternal treatment for syphilis
- Policy change

## Chlamydia and gonorrhea are the most common bacterial STIs in Colorado

2020 Cases in Colorado	
<b>26,137</b>	<b>9,686</b>
new cases of chlamydia	new cases of gonorrhea

Chlamydia and gonorrhea are often asymptomatic. Preventing the spread of these STIs relies on screening to detect infections and starting treatment early.





## CDC provided \$5,342,376 to Colorado to prevent and control STIs in 2021

**\$1,343,820**

**Strengthening STD Prevention and Control for Health Departments (STD-PCHD)** provides all states and 9 cities and territories with 5-year funding to prevent and control STIs. In 2021, total CDC PCHD funding was \$95.6 million.<sup>1</sup>

**\$3,044,289**

The **Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Workforce Development Funding** is a \$1 billion investment to support 21st century outbreak response via the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA).

**\$954,267**

**Strengthening the U.S. Response to Resistant Gonorrhea (SURRG)** addresses antibiotic-resistant gonorrhea through enhanced surveillance and infrastructure, rapid detection and response, and rapid field investigations. Antimicrobial Resistance Initiative Funding provided \$4,781,975 for SURRG nationally in 2019.

### CDC also supports states' STI prevention and treatment efforts by:



Providing on-the-ground support



Promoting treatment best practices



Monitoring STI trends



Turning data into action

### Prevention-focused policies can help reduce STI rates



**Prenatal Syphilis Screening is legally required** during the first visit only in Colorado. CDC recommends all pregnant women should be screened for syphilis at the first prenatal visit, and at 28 weeks and delivery if the mother lives in a community with high syphilis rates or is at risk for syphilis.



**Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT)** provides patients' sex partners with STI treatment without a physical exam. EPT **is authorized** for treating chlamydia and gonorrhea in Colorado.

For more information, visit:

[www.cdc.gov/std](http://www.cdc.gov/std)

<sup>1</sup> CDC STI funding and \$8,000,000 from CDC HIV funding.

