

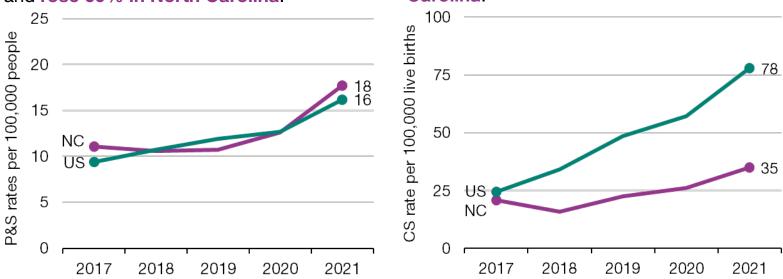
## The most recent CDC data suggest that <u>sexually transmitted infection</u> <u>rates</u> have continued to rise.

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. CDC continues to support US jurisdictions like North Carolina (NC) as we work together to turn the tide on STIs.

## Syphilis & congenital syphilis rates are rising in the US and North Carolina

Primary and secondary (P&S) syphilis are the most infectious stages of syphilis and represent new infections. From 2017 to 2021, P&S syphilis rates rose 72% in the US and rose 60% in North Carolina. Congenital syphilis (CS) occurs when syphilis is passed to a baby during pregnancy. From 2017 to 2021, CS rates rose 219% in the US and rose 68% in North Carolina.

**North Carolina** 



### Chlamydia & gonorrhea are the most common bacterial STIs in North Carolina

#### 2021 Cases in North Carolina

63,660	28,612
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 supports states' STI prevention and treatment efforts by:





Promoting treatment best practices





Turning data into action



CDC provided \$9,104,987 to North Carolina to prevent & control STIs in 2022	
\$3,067,964	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 2022, total STD-PCHD funding was \$95.5 million. <sup>1</sup>
\$5,472,349	The <u>Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Workforce</u> <u>Development Funding</u> was a \$200 million per year investment to support 21st century outbreak response via the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.
\$564,674	Strengthening the U.S. Response to Resistant Gonorrhea (SURRG) addresses antibiotic-resistant gonorrhea through enhanced surveillance and rapid detection, response, and field investigations. Antimicrobial Resistance Initiative Funding provided \$5,374,514 for SURRG nationally in 2022.



Experienced CDC field staff are an asset to programs they are directly embedded in, often filling leadership roles and providing expertise that may be challenging to sustain at the state and local level. Two of the 76 CDC STI prevention field staff positioned throughout the US are stationed in North Carolina health departments.

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



<u>Prenatal Syphilis Screening</u> is legally required during the first visit, third trimester, and delivery in North Carolina. 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 North Carolina.

For more information, visit: <u>http://www.cdc.gov/std</u>

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

This project was developed by the Research & Evaluation Group at Public Health Management Corporation in August 2023 and is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award (CDC-RFA-OT18-1802: Strengthening Public Health Systems and Services Through National Partnerships to Improve and Protect the Nation's Health) totaling \$300,000 with 100 percent funded by CDC/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CDC/HHS, or the U.S. Government.



