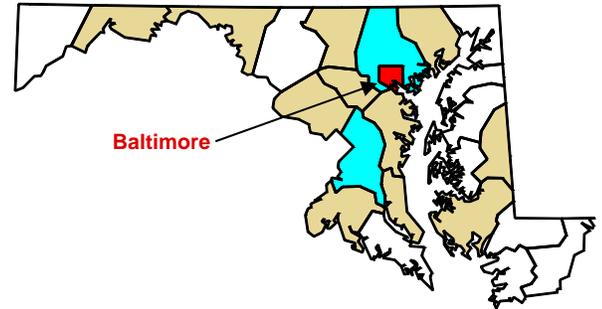




## Key features of syphilis in the U.S. in 2003

*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	High Case

## Key features of syphilis in Baltimore (City), MD in 2003

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

- Baltimore (City), MD's 153 cases ranked 11 among 3,140 U.S. counties.
- Baltimore (City), MD's rate of 24.3 cases/100,000 population ranked 9 among 3,140 U.S. counties.
- Baltimore (City), MD's rate was 9.7 times the U.S. rate of 2.5 cases/100,000 population.

### Maryland County Rates

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

- In Baltimore (City), MD 103 (67%) cases in 2003 were among males, compared to 83% nationally. The rate among males (35.2/100,000) was 8.4 times that of the U.S. male rate (4.2/100,000).
- In Baltimore (City), MD 50 (33%) cases were among females, compared to 17% nationally. The rate among females (14.9/100,000) was 18.6 times that of the U.S. female rate (0.8/100,000).
- The ratio of male to female rates in Baltimore (City), MD was 2.4:1.0, lower than than the U.S. ratio of 4.9:1.0.

### Racial disparities (primary and secondary syphilis)

- In Baltimore (City), MD in 2003, the racial distribution of the 153 cases was: White = 37; Black = 103; Hispanics = 3; Asian = 0; American Indian = 0. The race-adjusted rates (per 100,000 population) were: White = 20.6; Black = 26.9; Hispanics = 25.8; Asian = 0.0; American Indian = 0.0.
- 26.1% of cases were among Whites, compared to 42% nationally.
- 71.9% of cases were among Blacks, compared to 39% nationally. The rate among Blacks (26.9) was 1.3 times that of Whites (20.6).
- 2% of cases were among Hispanics, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among Hispanics (25.8) was 1.3 times that of Whites (20.6).
- 0.0% cases were among Asians, compared to 2% nationally. The rate among Asians (0.0) was 0.0 times that of Whites (20.6).
- 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 (20.6).

### Congenital Syphilis

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

- Baltimore (City), MD had 5 congenital syphilis cases born in 2003.
- The congenital syphilis rate in the city was 51.9 cases/100,000 live births.
- The congenital syphilis rate in Baltimore (City), MD was 5 times the U.S. rate of 10.3/100,000.