



National Sexually Transmitted Disease Awareness Month

April 2011

United States

The CDC estimates that there are 19 million new STD infections each year in the United States. Compared to older adults, sexually active adolescents and young adults are at a higher risk for acquiring STDs due to behavioral, biological and cultural reasons. In 2009, persons age 15-24 acquired nearly 70% of new cases of STDs (chlamydia, gonorrhea, and primary & secondary syphilis).

Chlamydia infections are the most prevalent of all STDs. In 2009, the overall rate of reported chlamydia infections among women was almost three times higher than the rate among men.

Gonorrhea is the second most commonly reported notifiable disease in the US. In 2009, gonorrhea rates were highest among adolescents and young adults, ages 15-24. Compared to gonorrhea rates among white men and women, gonorrhea rates among black men and women were 26 and 17 times higher, respectively.

From 2007 to 2008, the rate of primary & secondary syphilis (P&S) increased in all racial/ethnic groups except American Indian/Alaska Natives. In 2009, rates increased among Asians, Blacks, and American Indians. In 2009, African Americans accounted for 52% of all reported cases of P&S.

Women with chlamydia or gonorrhea infections are at increased risk of developing Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) which can lead to reproductive system morbidity.

The rates of congenital syphilis increased from 2004-2008 after 14 years of decline. In 2009, national congenital syphilis rates decreased by just 4%. The highest rates of congenital syphilis are in the South and West regions of the US.

Louisiana

Chlamydia

In 2009, Louisiana had the 3rd highest chlamydia case rate in the nation, and 28,148 newly reported cases. The infection rate for chlamydia in Louisiana was 626.4 per 100,000, which was over 1.5 times higher than the national rate of 409.2 per 100,000.

Gonorrhea

In 2009, Louisiana had the 2nd highest reported gonorrhea case rate in the nation. Louisiana's gonorrhea case rate was 204.0 per 100,000 with 9,150 reported cases, which was more than twice as high as the national rate of 99.1 cases per 100,000.

For more information call the AIDS/STD Infoline at 1-800-99-AIDS-9 (1-800-992-4379) or visit www.HIV411.org.



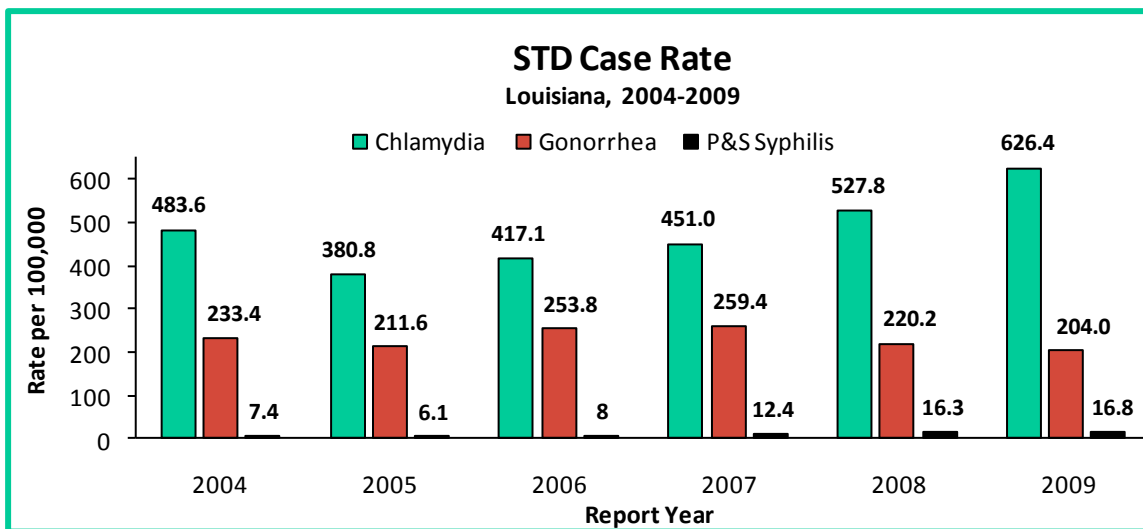
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Louisiana Continued

Syphilis

In 2009, Louisiana had the highest rate of primary & secondary syphilis (P&S) in the US at 16.8 per 100,000. Louisiana's syphilis case rate was almost 4 times higher than the national rate of 4.6 per 100,000. Mississippi and Louisiana were tied for the 6th highest rate of congenital syphilis in the nation. Louisiana reported 11 cases in 2009 and a case rate of 17.4 cases per 100,000 live births. Louisiana's congenital syphilis rate was 1.7 times higher than the national rate of 10.0 cases per 100,000 live births.



Young People 15-24 Years of Age

The most significantly impacted population for STDs in Louisiana is persons between the ages of 15-24 even though this age group makes up only 15% of Louisiana's population. In 2009, over 71% of chlamydia cases, 63% of gonorrhea cases, and 38% of P&S syphilis cases were among individuals between the ages 15-24.

HIV Infection

At the end of 2009, 17,155 persons were living with HIV infection in Louisiana. There were 1,242 new HIV diagnoses in Louisiana in 2009. The New Orleans region had the highest number and the 2nd highest case rate of new HIV diagnoses in Louisiana.

The HIV rate for African Americans continues to be disproportionately high; the rate for African Americans was eight times higher than among whites. Although African Americans make up only 32% of the state's population, 75% of newly-diagnosed HIV cases and 76% of newly-diagnosed AIDS cases were among African Americans in 2009.

Women represented 32% of new HIV diagnoses in 2009, and the primary mode of transmission for this group is high risk heterosexual (HRH) contact.

The primary mode of transmission for men in Louisiana is MSM. Among men in Louisiana in 2009, 71% of all new HIV diagnoses were MSM.

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