

HIV & STDs in Utah: 2019 Surveillance Update

In 2019, **134 New HIV Diagnoses** were reported to the Utah Department of Health for a rate of 4.2 cases per 100,000 persons. This is a slightly higher rate of new HIV diagnoses compared with 2018 and the 5-year average rate. Disease investigation specialists at the local health departments interviewed more than 80% of these individuals and 77% were linked to HIV care within 30 days of diagnosis.

At the end of 2018, there were **2,625 People Living With Diagnosed HIV** (PLWDH) in Utah. The Utah Department of Health works with local health departments to improve access to care for these individuals and consequently improve viral suppression rates.

11,071 Chlamydia, **2,883 Gonorrhea**, and **428 Syphilis** cases were reported in 2019. This is the highest number of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) ever reported in Utah. The rate of chlamydia has been steadily increasing with 345.3 cases per 100,000 persons reported this year, a 19.6% increase from the 2015 rate. Gonorrhea continues to be reported more frequently in Utah with a more than 800% rate increase since a low of 9.8 cases per 100,000 persons was reported in 2011. Although, 2019 saw a slight decrease when compared with previous years. In 2019, the rate of gonorrhea was 89.9 cases per 100,000 persons, which represents a 2.0% decrease from the 2018 rate.

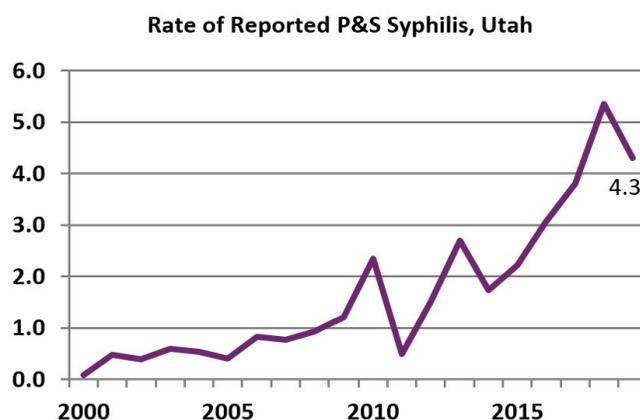
Syphilis has recently been experiencing a resurgence throughout the U.S. and Utah. In 2019, the Utah rate of primary and secondary (P&S) syphilis was 4.3 cases per 100,000 persons. This represents a 19.7% decrease from the 2018 rate; while this reduction in cases from the previous year is encouraging, there remains a general upward trend in rates that is concerning.

Syphilis is concentrated in Utah along the Wasatch Front with more than 70% of 2019 P&S syphilis cases reported in Salt Lake County. The majority of syphilis cases occur among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (MSM). In 2019 79.0%, or nearly eight out of ten P&S syphilis cases, reported being MSM.

For more information on the rates of STDs and HIV in Utah, please contact the Utah Department of Health, Bureau of Epidemiology at 801-538-6191 or visit <https://ptc.health.utah.gov/>.

For information on HIV prevention, testing, and treatment resources, please visit <https://hivandme.com/>

For more information on STD risks, symptoms, treatment, and prevention, please visit <https://catchtheanswers.utah.gov/>.



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Table 1: Reported Cases and Rates of HIV and STDs, Utah, 2015-2019

	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	Cases	Rate [§]	Cases	Rate [§]	Cases	Rate [§]	Cases	Rate [§]	Cases	Rate [§]
HIV	123	4.1	139	4.6	118	3.8	122	3.9	134	4.2
PLWDH [¶]	2,865	96.1	3,005	98.8	2,965	95.6	3,088	97.9	-	-
Chlamydia	8,611	288.8	9,460	311.0	10,135	326.8	10,558	334.8	11,071	345.3
Gonorrhea	1,560	52.3	2,100	69.0	2,541	81.9	2,895	91.8	2,883	89.9
Syphilis, Primary	27	0.9	37	1.2	47	1.5	77	2.4	53	1.7
Syphilis, Secondary	39	1.3	56	1.8	71	2.3	92	2.9	85	2.7
Syphilis, Early Latent	36	1.2	61	2.0	87	2.8	105	3.3	120	3.7
Syphilis, Late or Unknown	88	3.0	106	3.5	97	3.1	146	4.6	170	5.3
Syphilis, Congenital	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0	4	0.1

Table 2: Reported Cases and Rates of HIV and STDs by Local Health District, Utah, 2019

	HIV		Chlamydia		Gonorrhea		P&S Syphilis		EL Syphilis	
	Cases	Rate [§]	Cases	Rate [§]	Cases	Rate [§]	Cases	Rate [§]	Cases	Rate [§]
Bear River	3	-	391	205.7	39	20.5	0	0.0	1	-
Central Utah	1	-	135	160.9	11	13.1*	1	-	0	0.0
Davis County	10	2.8*	1,155	323.6	229	64.2	15	4.7	8	2.2*
Salt Lake County	82	7.1	5,710	495.2	1,898	164.6	97	10.3	80	6.1
San Juan	0	0.0	55	329.7	16	95.9	0	0.0	1	-
Southeastern Utah	2	-	91	215.3	15	35.5	2	-	0	0.0
Southwest Utah	8	3.1*	701	274.0	84	32.8	6	2.3*	3	-
Summit County	1	-	132	315.6	24	57.4	3	-	2	-
Tooele County	0	0	188	265.2	47	66.3	0	0.0	0	0.0
TriCounty	1	-	96	163.0	25	42.5	0	0.0	0	0.0
Utah County	22	3.4	1,362	209.1	246	37.8	5	0.8*	18	2.8
Wasatch County	0	0	57	173.4	7	21.3*	0	0.0	0	0.0
Weber-Morgan	4	1.5*	998	375.7	243	91.5	9	3.4*	7	2.6*

[§] Rate per 100,000 persons

[¶] Estimated number of PLWDH as of December 31st of the reported year (does not include new HIV diagnoses)

* Use caution in interpreting, the estimate has a relative standard error greater than 30% and does not meet UDOH standards for reliability.

Note: Estimates for PLWDH are not yet available for 2019. Rate estimates with relative standard errors greater than 50% have been suppressed.

Data Source: Utah Department of Health, UT-NEDSS (reportable disease surveillance system)



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