

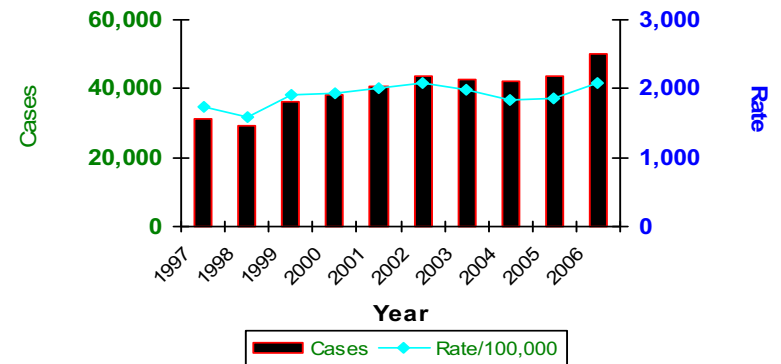
Bacterial STDs, ages 15-24

Bacterial sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis. This measure tracks cases of bacterial sexually transmitted diseases in persons age 15 through 24 in the community.

Why is this Important?

- Since chlamydia became reportable in Florida in September 1993, the 15-24 age group has consistently had at least 60% of all reported bacterial sexually transmitted diseases, and this percentage has steadily increased. In 2006, the 15-24 age group had 66% of all reported bacterial sexually transmitted diseases.
- Decreasing the case rate of bacterial sexually transmitted diseases in the 15-24 age group is important because these sexually transmitted diseases are often asymptomatic. When untreated, chlamydia and gonorrhea are common causes of pelvic inflammatory disease among females, which often leads to infertility and life-threatening ectopic pregnancy.
- If syphilis progresses to the late stage, it may damage the internal organs, including the brain, nerves, eyes, heart, blood vessels, liver, bones, and joints.
- People infected with bacterial sexually transmitted diseases are more likely to become infected with HIV if exposed.

**Reported Bacterial STDs
Among Males and Females, Age 15-24,
Cases and Rate per 100,000 Population,
Years 1997 - 2006**

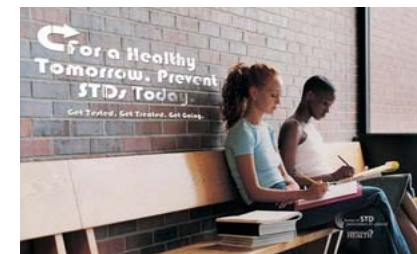
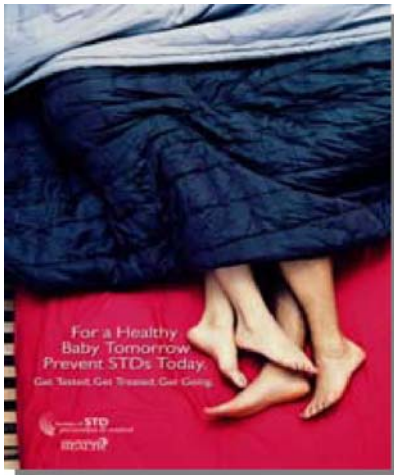


Year	Florida Cases	Florida Case Rate
1997	31,109	1,745
1998	29,119	1,588
1999	36,140	1,909
2000	38,055	1,940
2001	40,787	2,000
2002	43,437	2,082
2003	42,414	1,980
2004	42,016	1,837
2005	43,573	1,866
2006	50,090	2,087

Bacterial STDs, ages 15-24, cont'd

How is Florida Doing?

- During 2006, Florida had the highest bacterial sexually transmitted disease case rate per 100,000 population in the 15-24 age group compared to any year of the prior decade.





Bacterial STDs, ages 15-24, cont'd

What Influences Bacterial STDs?

- Patients may lack access to healthcare and or have misperceptions about personal health
- People can avoid contracting sexually transmitted diseases by abstaining from sexual contact or committing to a mutually monogamous relationship with a partner who has been tested and is known to be uninfected.
- Condom usage and screening initiatives can impact Bacterial Sexually Transmitted Disease rates.
- Access to health care and insurance coverage can impact the numbers of infected persons identified.
- Reporting from laboratories and health care practitioners that is timely, complete and accurate can reduce the spread of infection in a community.

What is the State's Role?

States Can

- Encourage early diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases.
- Promote screening among at-risk populations.
- Support the use of field delivered therapy when possible.
- Evaluate access to prevention and treatment services.



Florida Initiatives

April Sexually Transmitted Diseases Awareness Month

Florida has various statewide activities to support Sexually Transmitted Diseases Awareness Month, which have included: outreach screenings, presentations, targeted education to students, and radio talk shows.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases Awareness Ribbon

In 2006, Florida partnered with Oregon to develop a light green (PMS 352C) sexually transmitted diseases awareness ribbon. Since then, other states along with the National Coalition of Sexually Transmitted Diseases Directors have supported this ribbon effort.

InSPOT Florida

InSPOT.org/Florida is an online sexually transmitted diseases partner notification system that allows e-cards to be sent anonymously or from a user's personal email address. InSPOT became available to Floridians in May 2007.

Florida Medical Association (FMA)

The Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Diseases Prevention & Control partnered with the FMA to publish an entire journal devoted to adolescent sexual health in 2008.