

# Sexually Transmitted Disease in Maine

Data from the Maine CDC  
HIV, STD and Viral Hepatitis Program

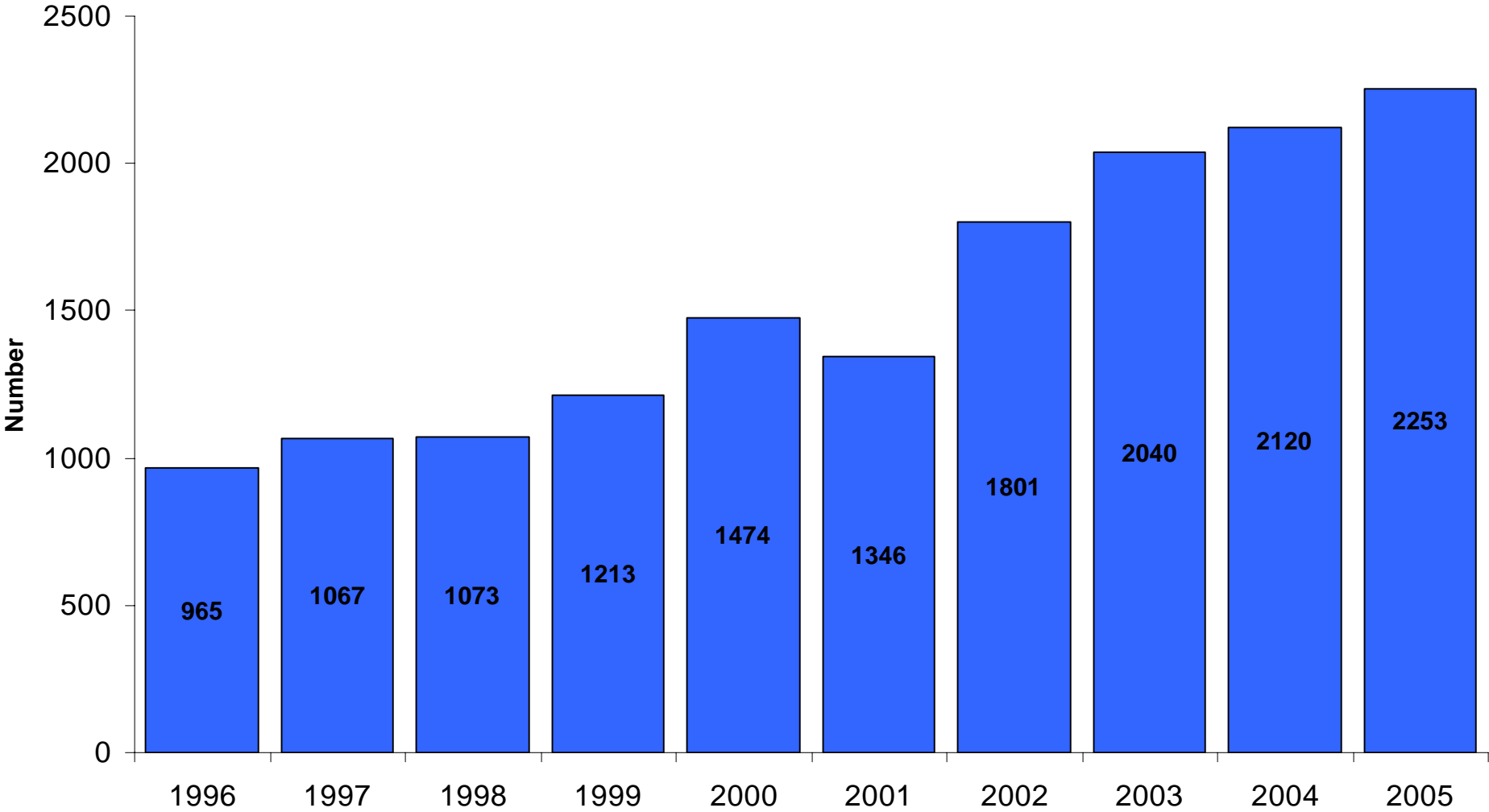
Contact: Mark Griswold  
(207) 287-5193  
[mark.griswold@maine.gov](mailto:mark.griswold@maine.gov)

# Overview

- The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (formerly the Bureau of Health) collects data for approximately 70 diseases of public health importance, including certain sexually transmitted diseases (STD).
- The following slides highlight gonorrhea, chlamydia and syphilis data received through December 31, 2005. Each data slide is followed by a “comments” slide that provides interpretation and analysis.
- Maine physicians and clinical labs are required to report diagnoses of the above STD to Maine CDC.\* Disease reports provide critical public health information; this slide set is one example of how these data are used.

\*For more information about reporting requirements, contact Mark Griswold at (207) 287-5193 or [mark.griswold@maine.gov](mailto:mark.griswold@maine.gov)

# Figure 1: Maine Chlamydia Diagnoses, 1996-2005

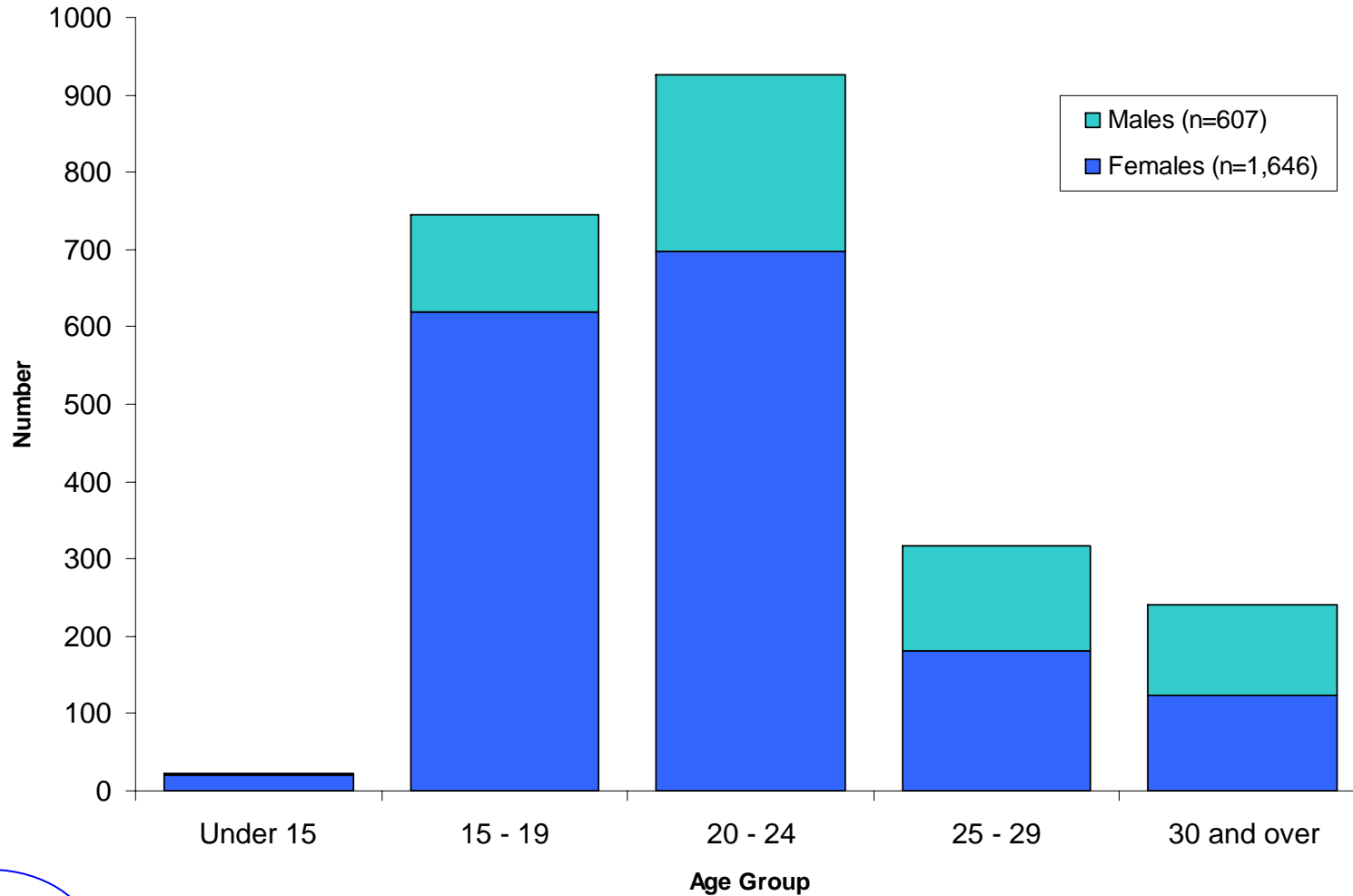


Maine CDC  
2/2006

# Comments, Figure 1

- Figure 1 shows chlamydia diagnoses reported to Maine CDC from 1996 to 2005.
- Chlamydia is the most frequently reported STD in the state. During 2005, more than 2,200 cases were reported.
- Apart from a slight decline in 2001, the number of diagnoses increased each year between 1996 and 2005.
- The number of 2005 reports represents an increase of 6% over the 2004 total.

**Figure 2: 2005 Chlamydia Diagnoses  
by Age Group (total=2,253)**



Maine CDC  
2/2006

# Comments, Figure 2

- Figure 2 shows 2005 chlamydia diagnoses by age group.
- People 24 years old and under are disproportionately affected by this disease, accounting for three-quarters of all 2005 cases.
- Females are diagnosed with chlamydia much more often than males, comprising 73% of all reports. This does not mean greater numbers of women are infected with the disease; women are tested for the disease more frequently than men, and may be more likely to exhibit symptoms.

Table 1: 2005 Chlamydia Rates per 100,000 Population, by County  
 (Counties are listed in rank order by rate per 100,000 population)

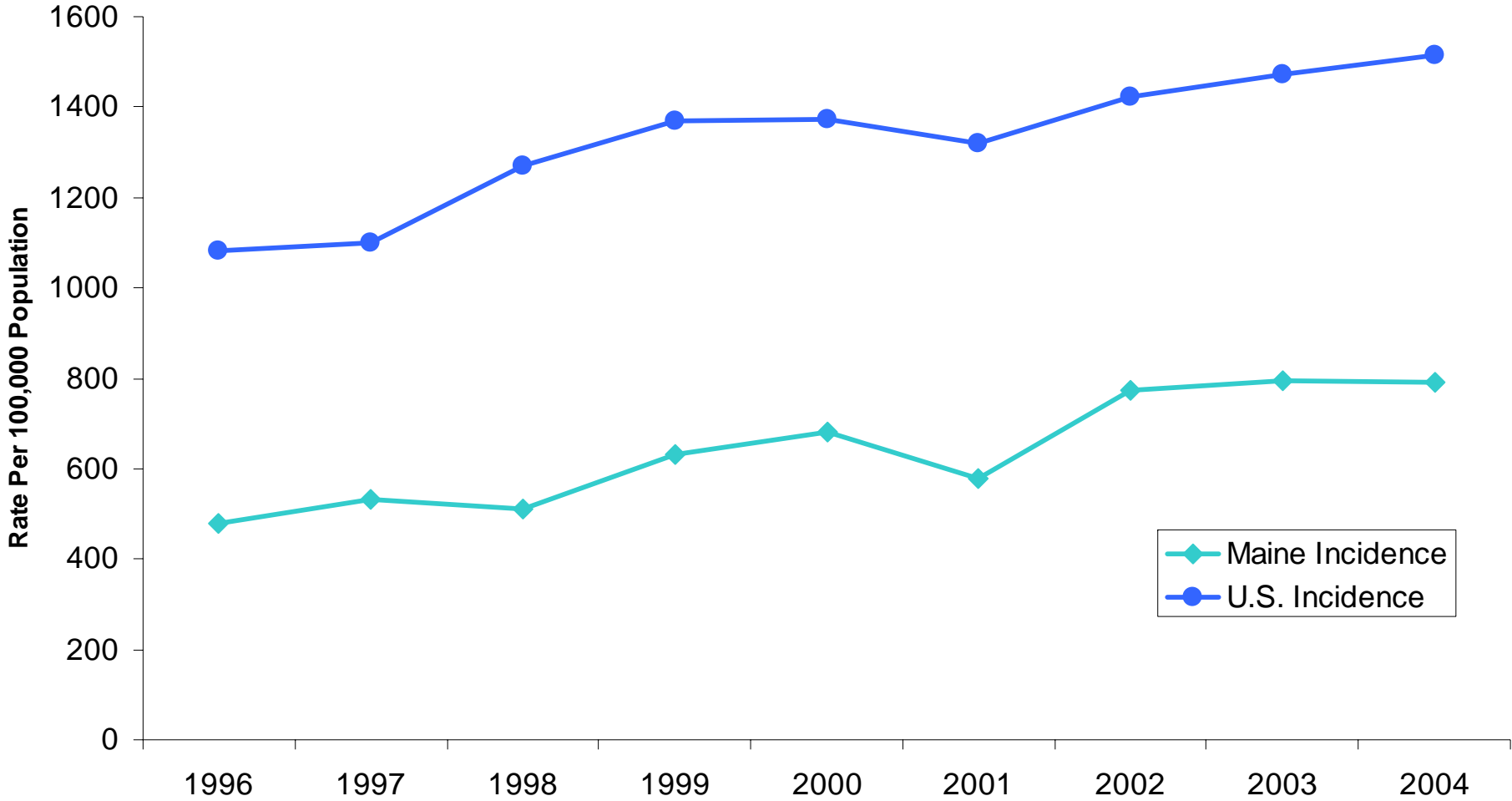
County	Rate per 100,000 pop	Number of cases
Androscoggin	298.7	310
Cumberland	225.1	598
Penobscot	208.4	302
<b>Maine</b>	<b>176.7</b>	<b>2253</b>
Washington	167.9	57
Kennebec	163.9	192
York	156.9	293
Hancock	142.9	74
Sagadahoc	136.3	48
Piscataquis	133.4	23
Knox	128.7	51
Aroostook	127.1	94
Franklin	122.2	36
Somerset	112	57
Oxford	100.4	55
Waldo	99.2	36
Lincoln	80.3	27

# Comments, Table 1

- Table 1 lists the number of 2005 chlamydia diagnoses and rate per 100,000 population by county, with counties listed in rank order by rate. The statewide rate is included in the rank order.
- Androscoggin, Cumberland and Penobscot Counties have chlamydia rates that are higher than the statewide rate.



**Figure 3: U.S. and Maine Chlamydia Incidence  
Among Persons Aged 15-19 Years, 1996-2004**

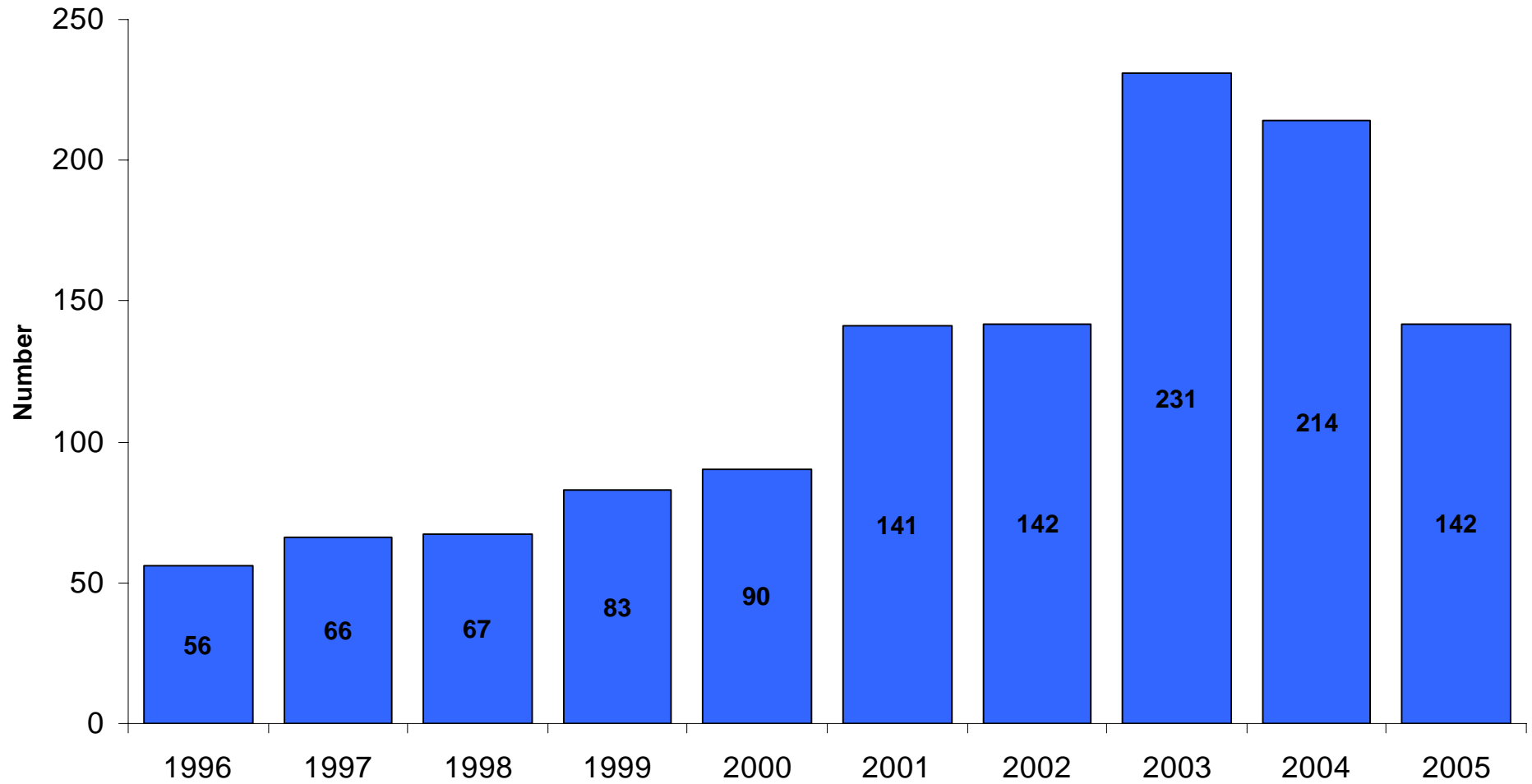


Maine CDC  
2/2006

# Comments, Figure 3

- Figure 3 compares Maine rates and US rates of chlamydia among 15-19 year-olds from 1996 to 2004 (the last year for which US data are currently available) .
- Rates among Maine 15-19 year-olds increased during the past 9 years, rising from 480 per 100,000 population in 1996 to a high of 796 in 2003. Rates declined slightly in 2004 to 792/100,000 pop.
- Despite increases among 15-19 year-olds, Maine rates are low compared to US rates. In 2004, the Maine rate was approximately half the US rate.

# Figure 4: Maine Gonorrhea Diagnoses, 1996 to 2005

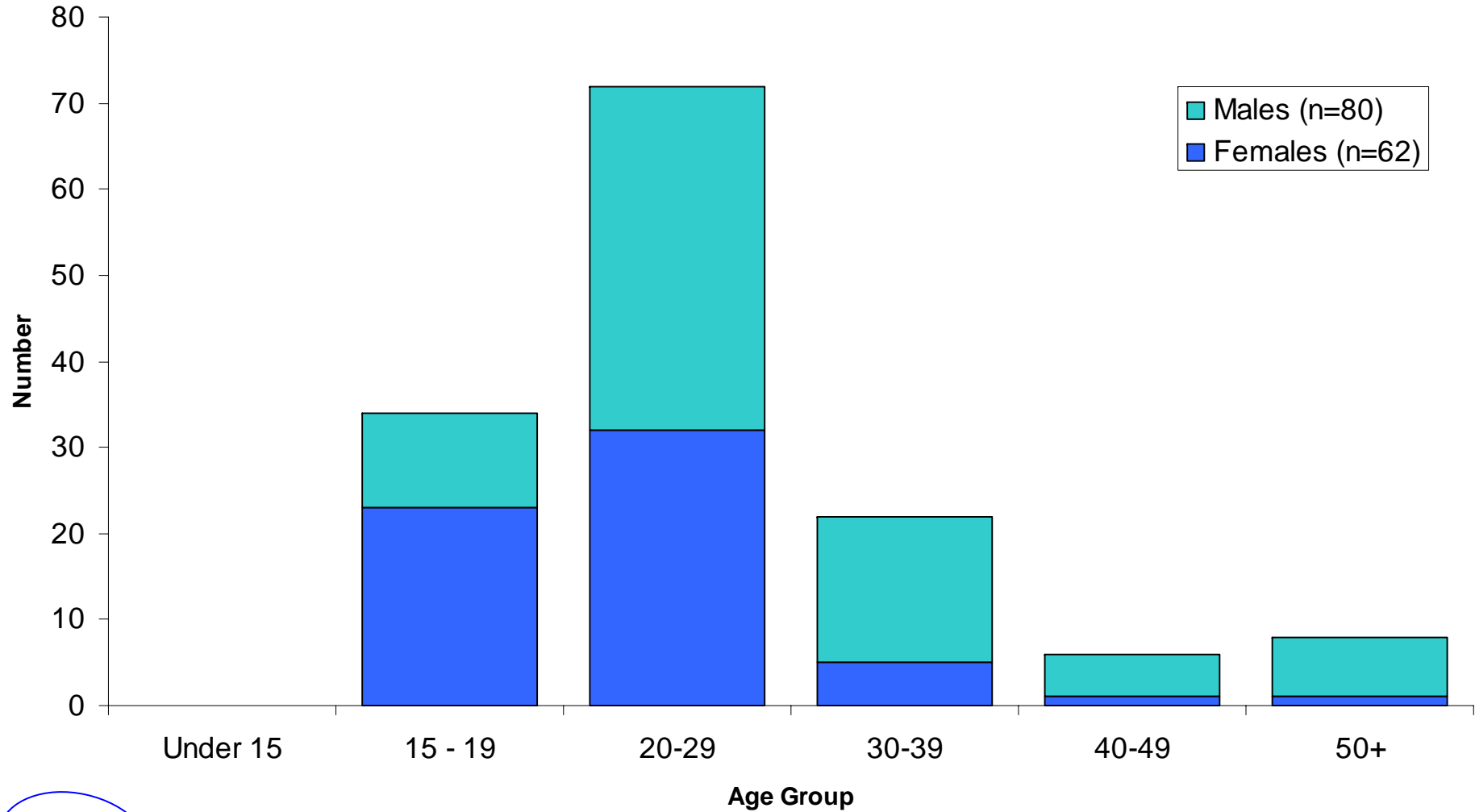


Maine CDC  
2/2006

# Comments, Figure 4

- Figure 4 shows gonorrhea diagnoses reported to Maine CDC from 1996 to 2005.
- Although there was a marked increase in the number of gonorrhea diagnoses in 2003, there were decreases during both 2004 and 2005.
- One hundred forty-two cases were diagnosed in 2005, representing a 34% decrease over the 2004 total.

# Figure 5: 2005 Gonorrhea Diagnoses by Age Group (total=142)



Maine CDC  
2/2006

# Comments, Figure 5

- Figure 5 shows 2005 gonorrhea diagnoses by age group and sex.
- Gonorrhea affects a slightly older age range than chlamydia. Just over half of 2005 diagnoses occurred in the 20-29 age range, and approximately one quarter were less than 20 years-old.
- Males comprised approximately 56% all gonorrhea diagnoses. The greater proportion of male diagnoses is likely due to diagnoses among males who have sex with males (MSM), who accounted for one-quarter of cases reported in 2005.

Table 2: 2005 Gonorrhea Rates per 100,000 Population, by County  
 (Counties are listed in rank order by rate per 100,000 population)

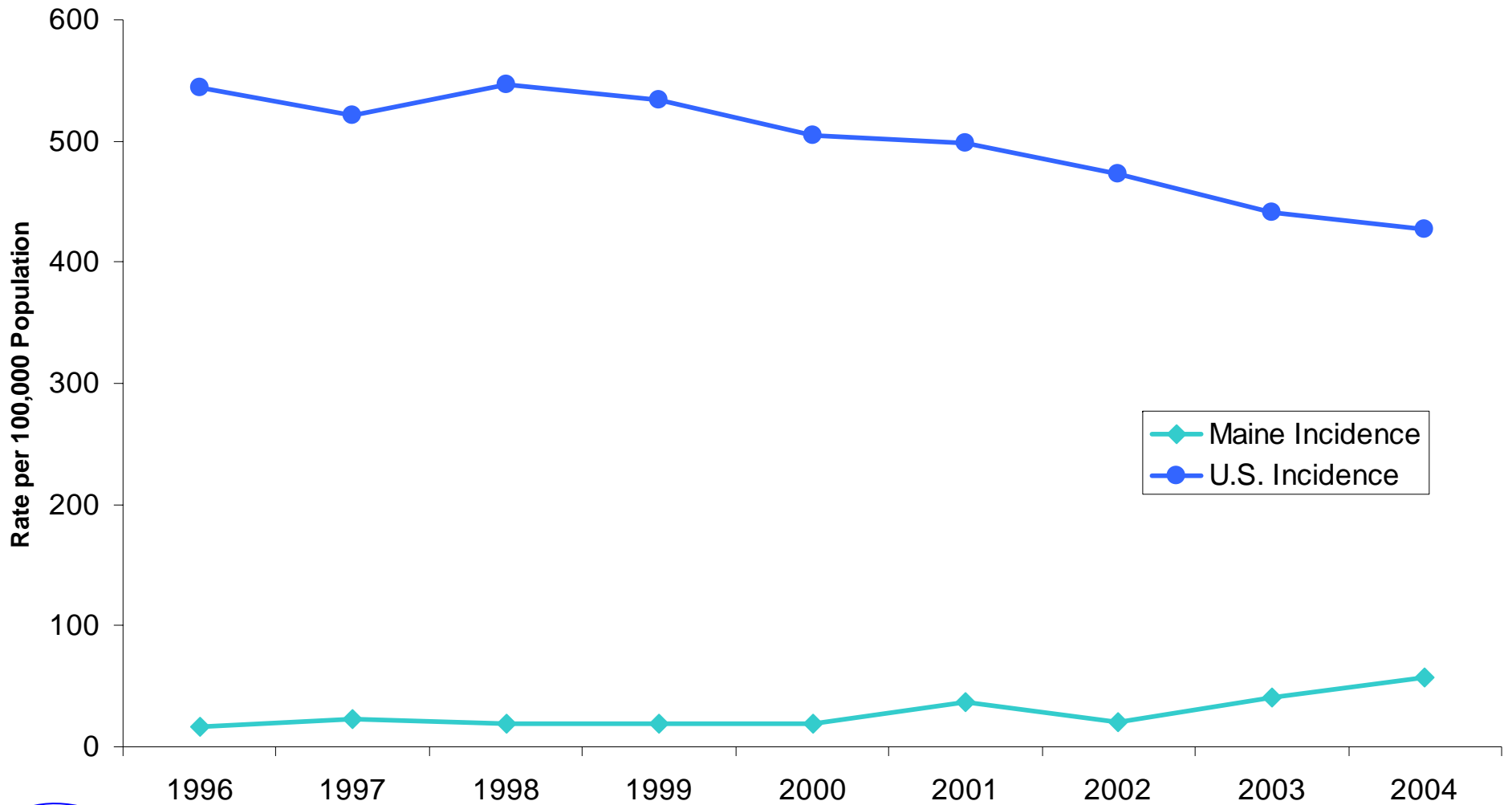
County	Rate per 100,000 pop	Number of cases
Androscoggin	30.8	32
Cumberland	21.1	56
<b>Maine</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>142</b>
Aroostook	10.8	8
Kennebec	9.4	11
Washington	8.8	3
Waldo	8.3	3
Penobscot	7.6	11
Hancock	5.8	3
York	4.3	8
Somerset	3.9	2
Franklin	3.4	1
Lincoln	3	1
Sagadahoc	2.8	1
Knox	2.5	1
Oxford	1.8	1
Piscataquis	0	0

# Comments, Table 2

- Table 2 lists the number of 2005 gonorrhea diagnoses and rate per 100,000 population by county, with counties listed in rank order by rate. The statewide rate is included in the rank order.
- Two counties, Androscoggin and Cumberland, have gonorrhea rates that are higher than the statewide rate.



**Figure 6: U.S. and Maine Gonorrhea Incidence Among Persons Aged 15 to 19 Years, 1996-2004**

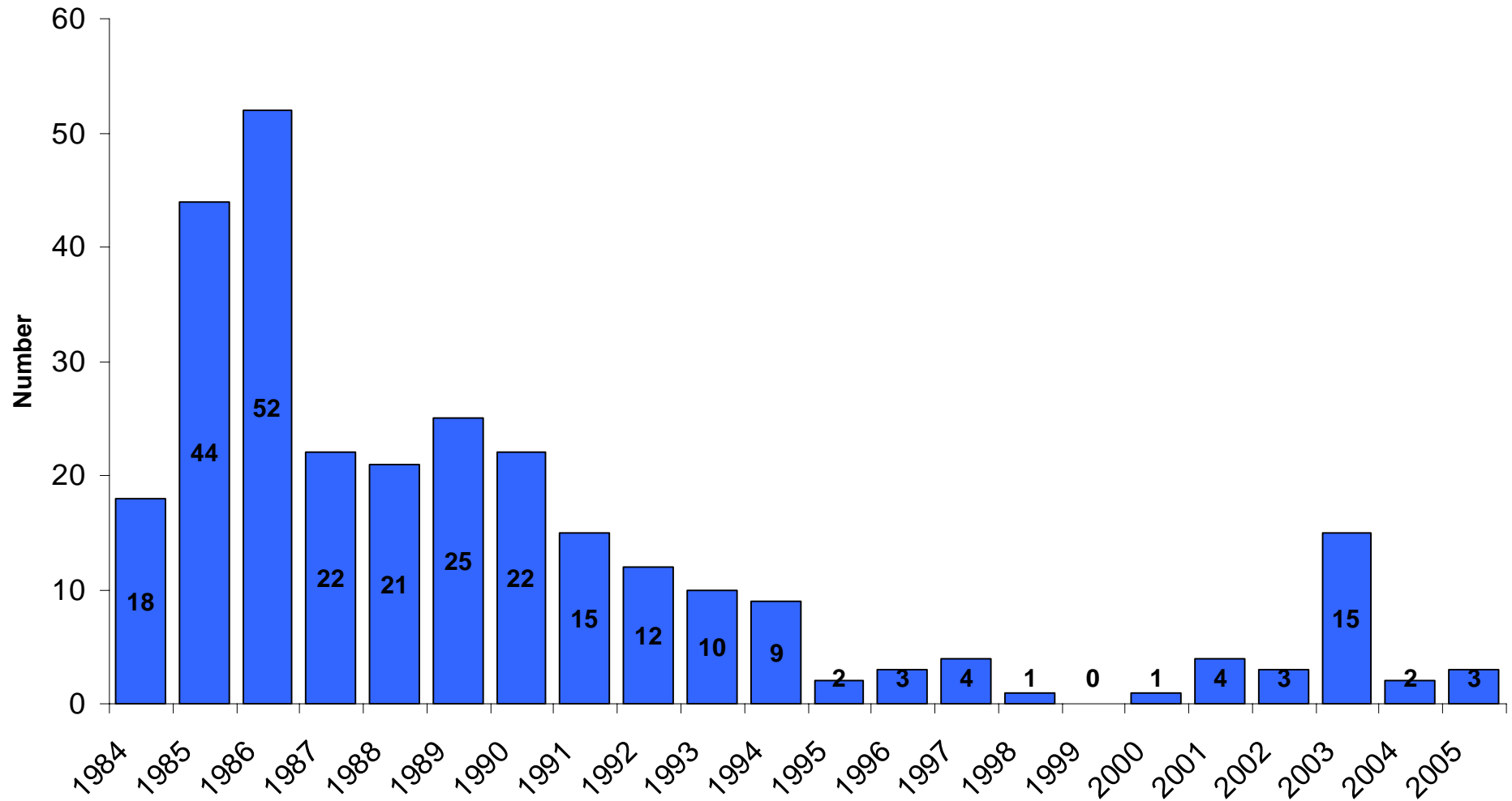


Maine CDC  
2/2006

# Comments, Figure 6

- Figure 3 compares Maine rates and US rates of gonorrhea among 15-19 year-olds from 1996 to 2004 (the last year for which US data are currently available) .
- Gonorrhea rates among 15-19 year-olds in Maine increased slightly during the past decade, rising from 17 cases/100,000 pop. in 1996 to 57 in 2004.
- Like chlamydia, Maine gonorrhea rates much lower than US rates. In 2004, the US rate among 15-19 year-olds was approximately 7 times higher than the Maine rate.

# Figure 7: Early Syphilis Diagnosed in Maine, 1984-2005



Maine CDC  
2/2006

# Comments, Figure 7

- Figure 7 shows “early syphilis” (which includes syphilis infections of less than one year’s duration) diagnosed in Maine during the past two decades, since 1984. After peaking in the mid-1980s, syphilis steadily declined until 1999, when there were no diagnoses reported in the state.
- During 2003, syphilis reemerged as in infectious disease of note in Maine, with 15 diagnoses reported. This total was greater than any annual total since 1991.
- An increased number of syphilis diagnoses was not maintained during 2004 and 2005. In 2005, only three diagnoses were noted.