



Syphilis

Maine Surveillance Report | 2021

Case Information:

101

Cases of infectious syphilis

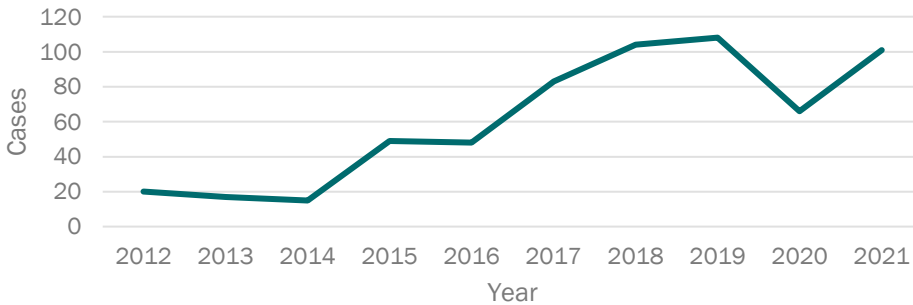
7.4

Cases per 100,000 people

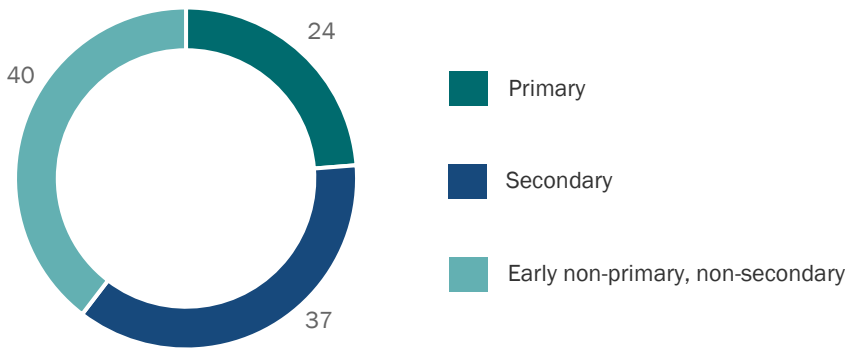
405%

Increase since 2012

Infectious Syphilis Cases in Maine, 2012-2021



2021 Cases by Stage:



Prevention & Screening:

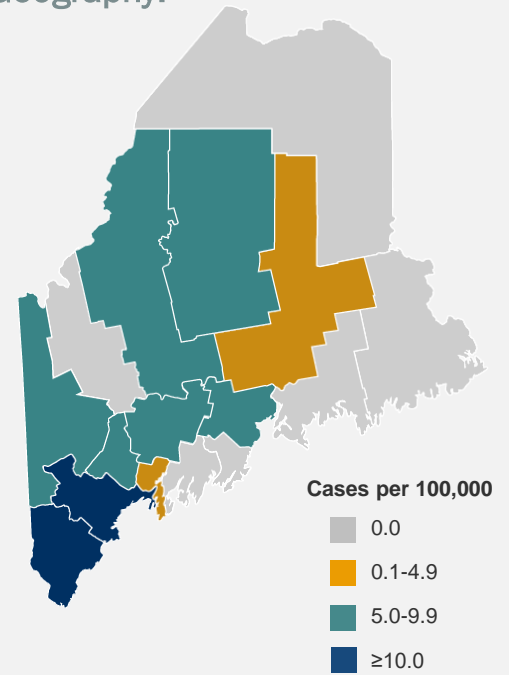
- Consistent and correct use of condoms to prevent contact with a syphilis lesion, which may be inside the vagina or rectum and go unnoticed
- Being in a long-term mutually monogamous relationship with a partner who has been tested and is known to be uninfected
- Sexual partners of infected patients should receive preventive treatment
- All pregnant people should be tested at their first prenatal visit, at the beginning of the third trimester, and at delivery if at high risk
- Pregnant people infected with syphilis should be treated immediately to prevent congenital syphilis
- Men who have sex with men, including those with HIV, should be tested annually if sexually active and as frequently as every 3 to 6 months if there are multiple sex partners or substance use

Demographics:



- 87.1% Male
- 80.2% White, Non-Hispanic
- Age range 17-70 years
- Median age 36 years

Geography:



For more information visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/std/syphilis/stdfact-syphilis-detailed.htm>

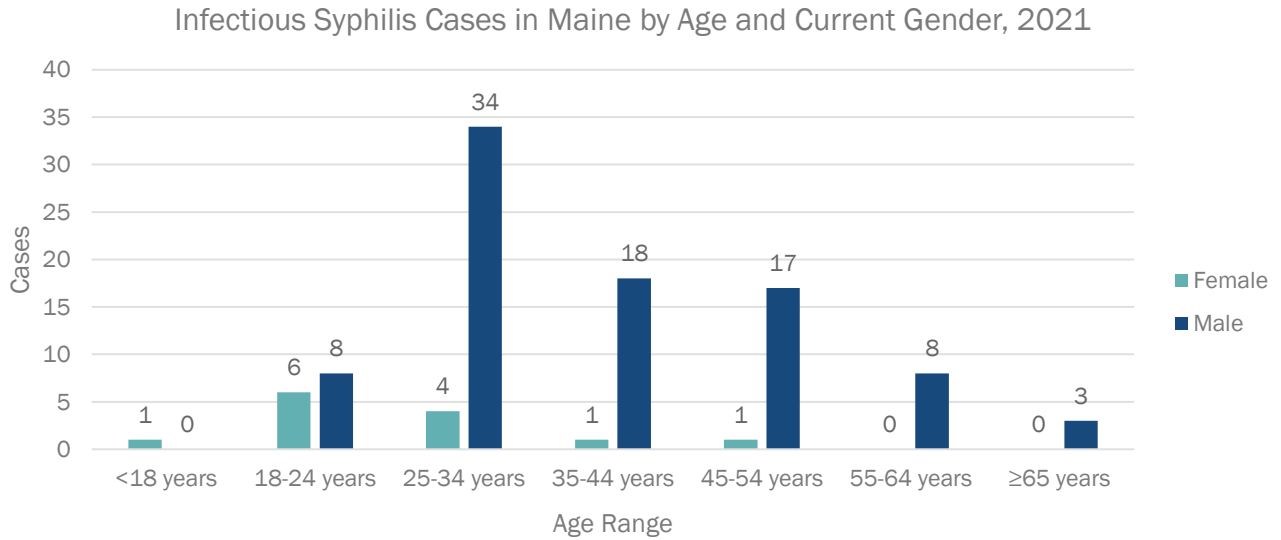
<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/hiv-std/contacts/std.shtml>

<https://www.cdc.gov/std/syphilis/whatYouCanDo.htm>

<https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/toc.htm>



Case Demographics:



Contact Investigations:



76%

Cases interviewed

248

Number of partners reported

8%

Cases identified by partner or health department referral

55%

Cases reported male to male sexual contact

0

Cases reported being pregnant in the past year

13%

Cases coinfecting with HIV

Treatment:

Stage	Recommended Regimen	Alternative Regimen
Primary, secondary, and early latent: adults (including pregnant women and people with HIV infection)	benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units IM in a single dose	
Late latent adults (including pregnant women and people with HIV infection)	benzathine penicillin G 7.2 million units total, administered as 3 doses of 2.4 million units IM each at 1-week intervals	
Neurosyphilis, ocular syphilis, and otosyphilis	aqueous crystalline penicillin G 18–24 million units per day, administered as 3–4 million units by IV every 4 hours or continuous infusion, for 10–14 days	procaine penicillin G 2.4 million units IM 1x/day PLUS probenecid 500 mg orally 4x/day, both for 10–14 days
For children or congenital syphilis	See Sexually Transmitted Infections Treatment Guidelines, 2021 .	