



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Technical Notes

Suggested Citation

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance 2019*. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2021.

Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance 2019 presents statistics and trends for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in the United States through 2019. This annual publication is intended as a reference document for policy makers, program managers, health planners, researchers, and others who are concerned with the public health implications of these diseases. The figures and tables in this edition supersede those in earlier publications of these data. The surveillance information in this report is based on case notification data provided to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) and data collected through projects and programs that monitor STDs in various settings, including the National Job Training Program (NJTP), the STD Surveillance Network (SSuN), and the Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project (GISP).

The majority of data included presents trends in diagnoses of three STDs: chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis, including congenital syphilis. It is important to note that these data reflect only a portion of STDs occurring in the US population. Over 30 pathogens can be sexually transmitted, including common STDs, such as herpes simplex virus, which causes genital herpes, and human papillomavirus, which can lead to genital warts and cervical cancer. Additionally, STDs are often asymptomatic and may not be diagnosed. Published estimates of the burden of STDs in the United States, including estimated prevalence, incidence, and cost, can be found in the January 2021 special issue of the journal *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, available here: <https://journals.lww.com/stdjournal/pages/collectiondetails.aspx?TopicalCollectionId=4> 

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