



## Key features of syphilis in the U.S. in 2003

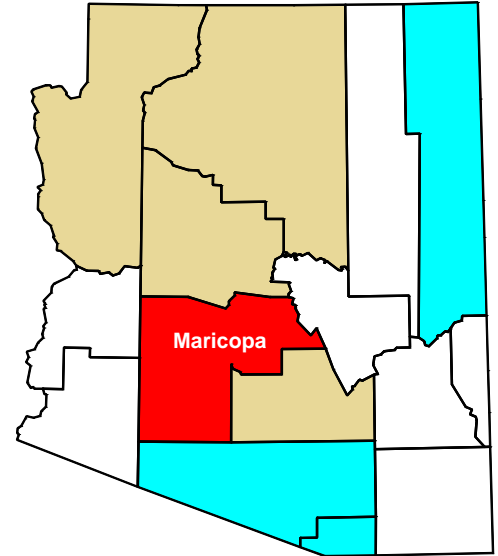
*Syphilis is a preventable and curable sexually transmitted disease (STD). Syphilis disproportionately affects a small percentage of the population and research shows that these are often isolated groups involved in high-risk activities such as illicit drug use, exchanging sex for money or drugs, unprotected sexual intercourse and having multiple sex partners.*

- U.S. primary and secondary (P&S) syphilis rate in 2003 was 2.5 cases/100,000 population (7,177 cases).
- U.S. congenital syphilis rate was 10.3 cases/100,000 live births (413 cases).
- Half of U.S. P&S cases in 2003 were in 19 counties, less than 1% of 3,140 counties.

## Key features of syphilis in Maricopa County, AZ in 2003

### Primary and secondary syphilis cases, rates and rank

- Maricopa County, AZ's 132 cases ranked 12 among 3,140 U.S. counties.
- Maricopa County, AZ's rate of 3.9 cases/100,000 population ranked 160 among 3,140 U.S. counties.
- Maricopa County, AZ's rate was 1.6 times the U.S. rate of 2.5 cases/100,000 population.



Rate (per 100,000 population)  
0.0      0.1-4.0  
>4.0      High Case

Arizona County Rates

### Male-female ratios (primary and secondary syphilis)

- In Maricopa County, AZ 88 (67%) cases in 2003 were among males, compared to 83% nationally. The rate among males (5.2/100,000) was 1.2 times that of the U.S. male rate (4.2/100,000).
- In Maricopa County, AZ 44 (33%) cases were among females, compared to 17% nationally. The rate among females (2.6/100,000) was 3.3 times that of the U.S. female rate (0.8/100,000).
- The ratio of male to female rates in Maricopa County, AZ was 2.0:1.0, lower than than the U.S. ratio of 4.9:1.0.

### Racial disparities (primary and secondary syphilis)

- In Maricopa County, AZ in 2003, the racial distribution of the 132 cases was: White = 47; Black = 15; Hispanics = 59; Asian = 0; American Indian = 7. The race-adjusted rates (per 100,000 population) were: White = 2.2; Black = 11.3; Hispanics = 6.4; Asian = 0.0; American Indian = 11.8.
- 36.4% of cases were among Whites, compared to 42% nationally.
- 11.4% of cases were among Blacks, compared to 39% nationally. The rate among Blacks (11.3) was 5.1 times that of Whites (2.2).
- 46.2% of cases were among Hispanics, compared to 16% nationally. The rate among Hispanics (6.4) was 2.9 times that of Whites (2.2).
- 0.0% cases were among Asians, compared to 2% nationally. The rate among Asians (0.0) was 0.0 times that of Whites (2.2).
- 5.3% cases were among American Indians, compared to 1% nationally. The rate among American Indians (11.8) was 5.4 times that of Whites (2.2).

### Congenital Syphilis

*Syphilis can be transmitted from mother to fetus during pregnancy causing stillbirths or congenital syphilis that may result in lifelong health problems.*

- Maricopa County, AZ had 24 congenital syphilis cases born in 2003.
- The congenital syphilis rate in the county was 42.3 cases/100,000 live births.
- The congenital syphilis rate in Maricopa County, AZ was 4.1 times the U.S. rate of 10.3/100,000.