

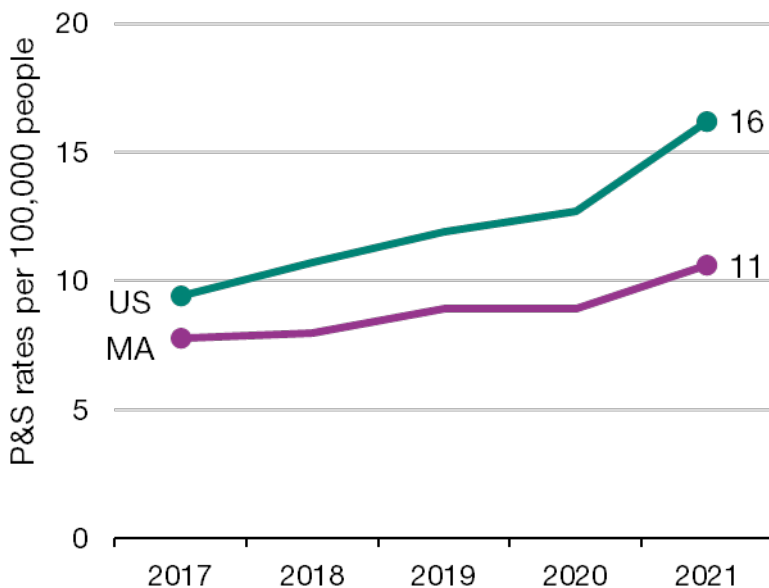


The most recent CDC data suggest that sexually transmitted infection rates have continued to rise.

In 2021, chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis continued to increase in the United States (US) – reaching a total of more than 2.5 million reported cases – a 7% increase overall from 2017 to 2021. CDC continues to support US jurisdictions like Massachusetts (MA) as we work together to turn the tide on STIs.

Syphilis & congenital syphilis rates are rising in the US and Massachusetts

Primary and secondary (P&S) syphilis are the most infectious stages of syphilis and represent new infections. From 2017 to 2021, P&S syphilis rates per 100,000 people **rose 72% in the US** and **rose 36% in Massachusetts**.



Congenital syphilis (CS) occurs when syphilis is passed to a baby during pregnancy. The growing rate of CS per 100,000 live births in the US mirrors the rising rates of P&S syphilis.

From 2017 to 2021, CS rates rose 219% in the US. In 2021, Massachusetts reported 9 cases of CS.

Routine screening and timely treatment of syphilis can prevent mother-to-child transmission during pregnancy.



Chlamydia & gonorrhea are the most common bacterial STIs in Massachusetts

2021 Cases in Massachusetts

26,950	8,240
new cases of chlamydia	new cases of gonorrhea

Chlamydia and **gonorrhea** are often asymptomatic. Preventing the spread of these STIs relies on screening to detect infections and starting treatment early.



CDC provided \$5,330,922 to Massachusetts to prevent and control STIs in 2022

\$1,625,651

Strengthening STD Prevention and Control for Health Departments (STD-PCHD) provides all states and 9 cities and territories with 5-year funding to prevent and control STIs. In 2022, total STD-PCHD funding was \$95.5 million. ¹

\$3,705,271

The **Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Workforce Development Funding** was a \$200 million per year investment to support 21st century outbreak response via the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

CDC also supports states' STI prevention and treatment efforts by:



Providing on-the-ground support



Promoting treatment best practices



Monitoring STI trends



Turning data into action

Prevention-focused policies can help reduce STI rates



Prenatal Syphilis Screening is legally required during the first visit **only** in Massachusetts. CDC recommends all pregnant women should be screened for syphilis at the first prenatal visit, and at 28 weeks and delivery if the mother lives in a community with high syphilis rates or is at risk for syphilis.



Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) provides patients' sex partners with STI treatment without a physical exam. **EPT is authorized** for treating chlamydia in Massachusetts.

For more information, visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/std>

¹ CDC STI funding and \$8,000,000 from CDC HIV funding.

This project was developed by the Research & Evaluation Group at Public Health Management Corporation in July 2023 and is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award (CDC-RFA-OT18-1802: Strengthening Public Health Systems and Services Through National Partnerships to Improve and Protect the Nation's Health) totaling \$300,000 with 100 percent funded by CDC/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CDC/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

