

Reported Cases of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) in Adolescents (13 - 19 yrs)

Mecklenburg County

2004 - 2008

	2004			2005			2006			2007			2008		
	Total Cases	13-19 yrs Cases	Percent 13 - 19 yrs	Total Cases	13-19 yrs Cases	Percent 13 - 19 yrs	Total Cases	13-19 yrs Cases	Percent 13 - 19 yrs	Total Cases	13-19 yrs Cases	Percent 13 - 19 yrs	Total Cases	13-19 yrs Cases	Percent 13 - 19 yrs
Syphilis*	82	5	6%	142	10	7%	194	14	7%	141	6	4%	94	2	2%
Gonorrhea	2019	571	28%	2082	588	28%	2072	584	28%	1173	299	25%	1865	522	28%
Chlamydia	3186	1330	42%	3527	1426	40%	2836	1093	39%	1740	656	38%	4221	1393	33%
HIV	344	11	3%	327	10	3%	16	390	4%	387	20	5%	498	20	4%

*Syphilis or Early Syphilis cases include primary, secondary and early latent syphilis reports.

INTERPRETATION OF CHART

TOTAL CASES: Total reported cases for each STD for the calendar year.

13 - 19 YR CASES: Number of STD cases among persons 13-19 year old for each calendar year.

% 13 - 19 YRS: Percent of total STD cases that are 13 - 19 years of age.

Source: NC DHHS, HIV/STD Prevention and Care

Technical Notes

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs):

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea case reports are influenced by multiple factors in addition to the occurrence of the infection within the population. For example changes in screening practices, use of diagnostic tests with differing test performance, and/or changes in reporting practices may mask true increases or decreases in disease reporting. Therefore caution should be exercised in interpreting short-term trends in case reporting.

Racial and ethnic minorities are over-represented among persons of lower socioeconomic status in the United States and may utilize public clinics more than whites. Since STD reporting from public clinics may provide more complete reporting than private providers, the difference in rates between whites and racial/ethnic minorities may be overestimated^{1,4}. However, this reporting bias does not fully explain the disparity between racial/ethnic groups. Limited access to quality health care, poverty and higher disease prevalence also contribute to disparate rates for racial/ethnic minorities.

HIV DISEASE CASES:

HIV Disease covers the entire spectrum of disease, from initial infection of the virus to the deterioration of the immune system and presentation of opportunistic infections (full-blown AIDS). The time that it takes for each person to go through these stages varies. However, the process of HIV disease is fairly slow and usually takes several years from infection to the development of AIDS. In surveillance and case reporting, the term HIV disease includes:

- persons with a diagnosis of HIV infection (not AIDS),
- persons previously reported with an HIV infection who have progressed to AIDS, or
- persons with a concurrent diagnoses of HIV infection and AIDS.

HIV disease cases are counted by the date on which HIV infection was first diagnosed and reported. In some cases the date of infection is based on the date of report for an AIDS diagnosis because the infected individual was never reported with an HIV infection prior to the AIDS diagnosis.