

The Synergy Between HIV and STDs – Seizing the Opportunity for Providing Testing and Treatment

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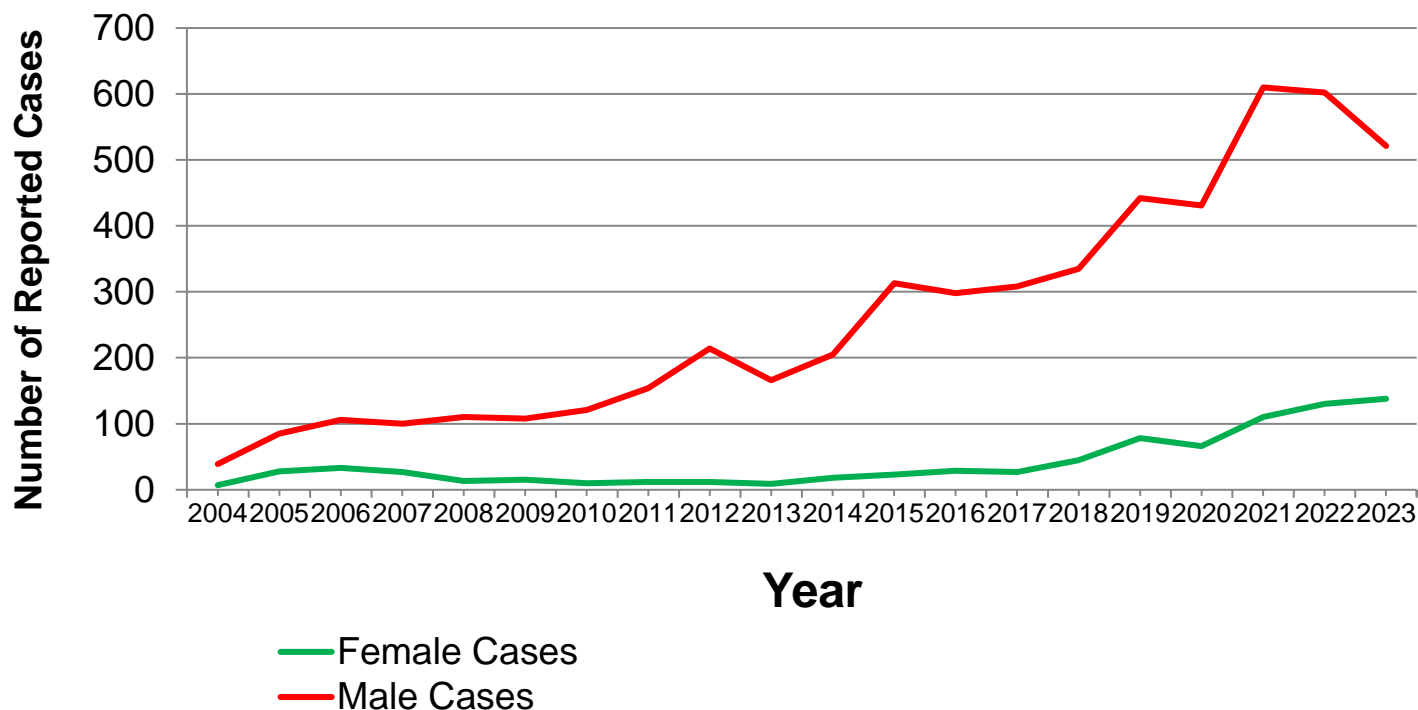
Take Home Message

- Reported cases of syphilis are increasing, especially in women 15 to 44 years of age
- If an HIV test is offered, a syphilis test should be included each and every time and vice versa
- All sexually active individuals should have a sexual history taken and be offered at a minimum, syphilis and HIV testing, chlamydia and gonorrhea testing whenever individuals seek care

State of STDs in Pennsylvania

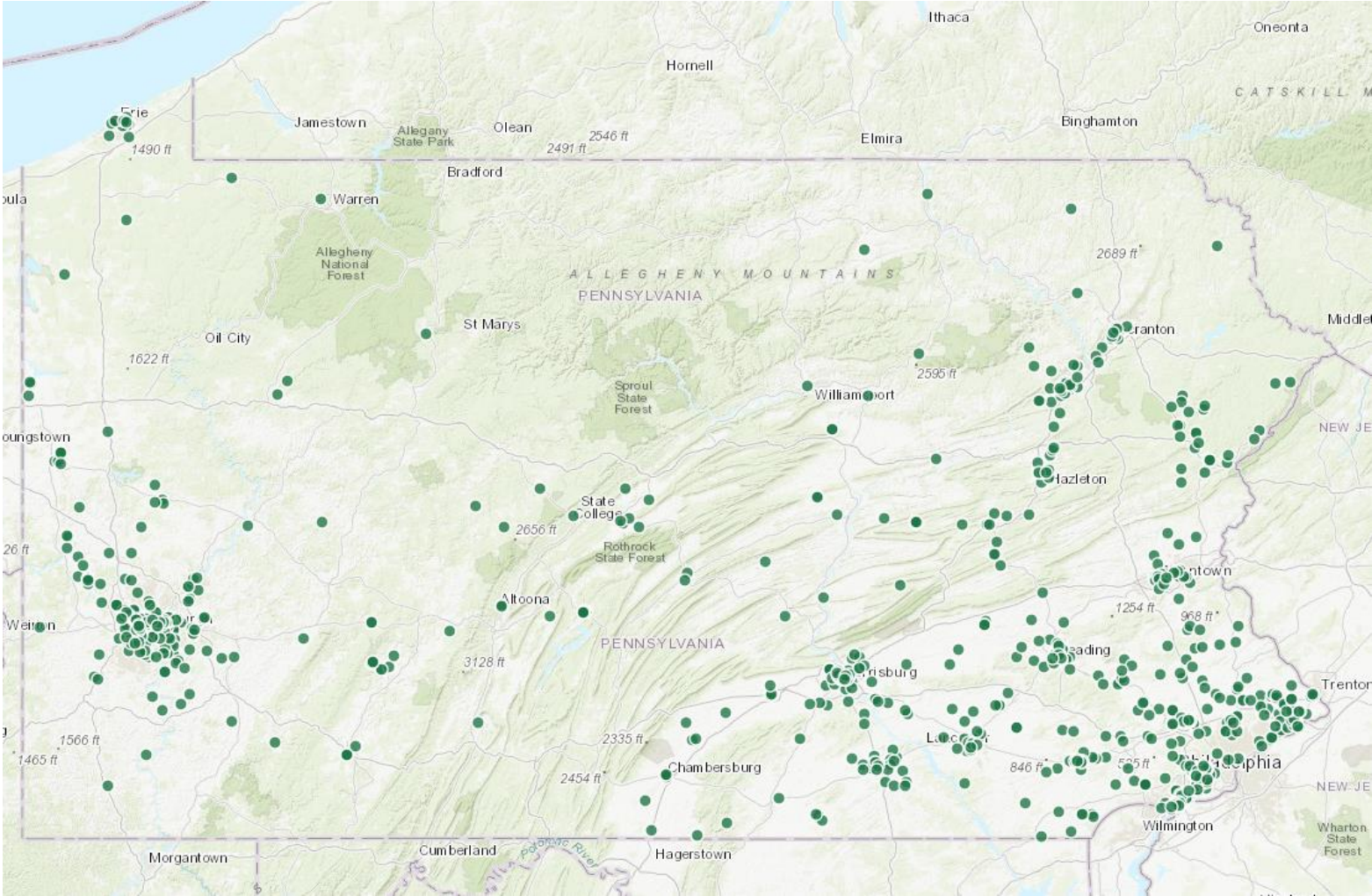
- Statewide reported primary and secondary (P&S) syphilis is at the highest rate in more than 30 years
- Reported early syphilis cases among women has increased from 17% of all cases in 2020 to 29% of all cases in 2023
- The number of reported congenital syphilis cases is at the highest rate in recorded history
- In CY 2022, a total of 13 congenital syphilis cases were reported in Pennsylvania (exclusive of Philadelphia)
- In CY 2023, a total of 29 congenital syphilis cases were reported in Pennsylvania (exclusive of Philadelphia)
- Individuals under the age of 30 accounted for:
 - ▀ 53% of the reported cases of P&S syphilis in 2023
 - ▀ 76% of the reported cases of gonorrhea in 2023
 - ▀ 89% of the reported cases of chlamydia in 2023

Reported Cases of Primary and Secondary Syphilis in Pennsylvania* 2004 to 2023

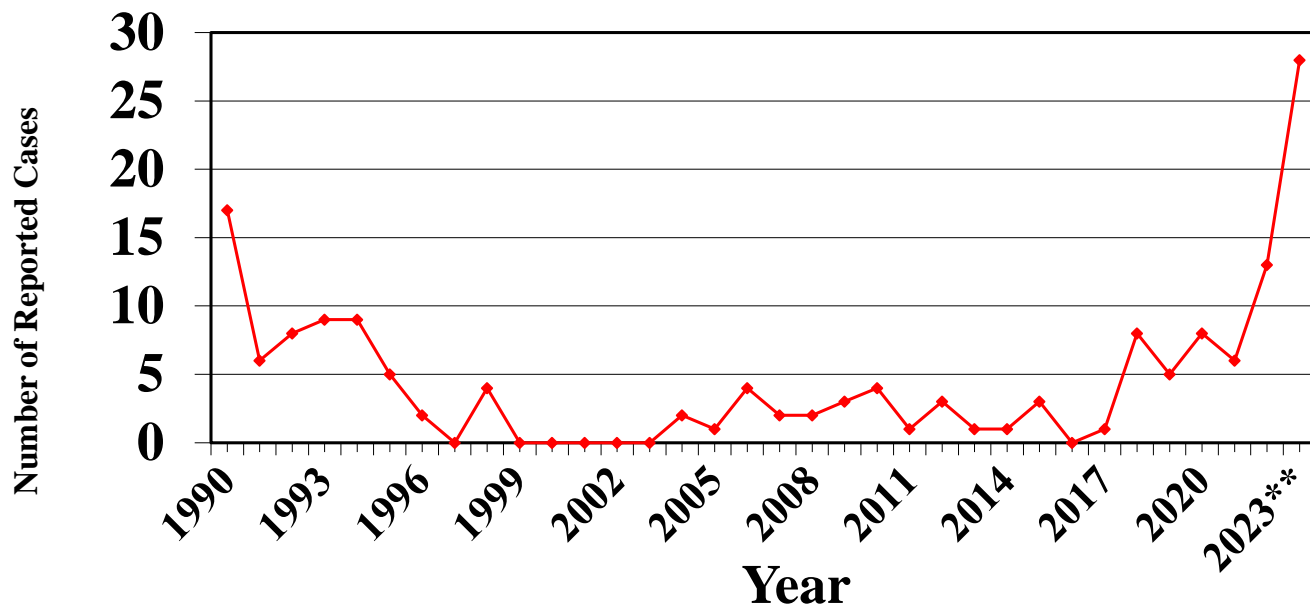


*Data Exclusive of Philadelphia

2023 Early Syphilis Pennsylvania (Exclusive of Philadelphia)

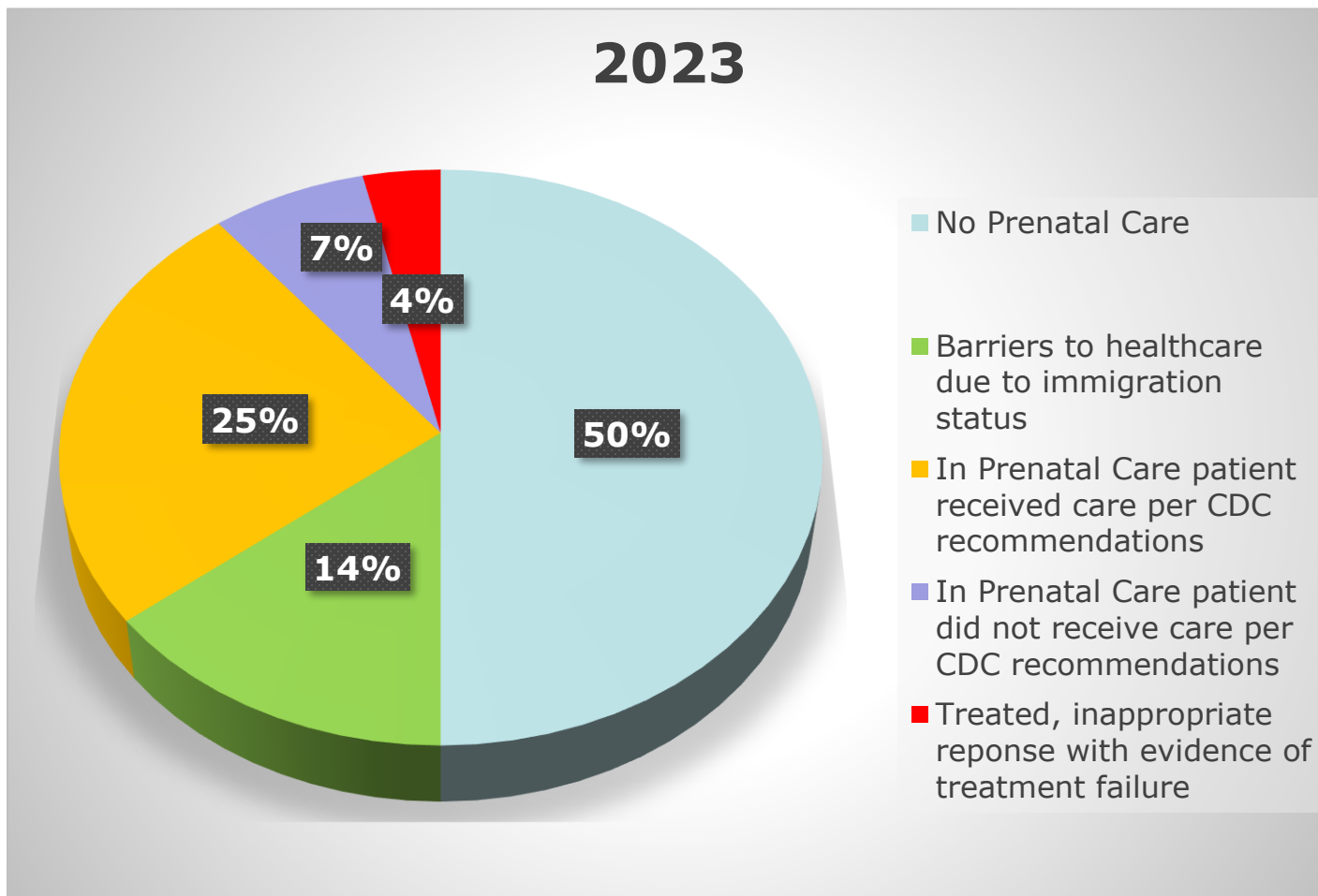


Reported Cases of Congenital Syphilis in Pennsylvania from 1990 through 2023*



*Exclusive of Philadelphia
**Reported as of 01.29.2024

Snapshot of Congenital Syphilis Cases Pennsylvania 2023

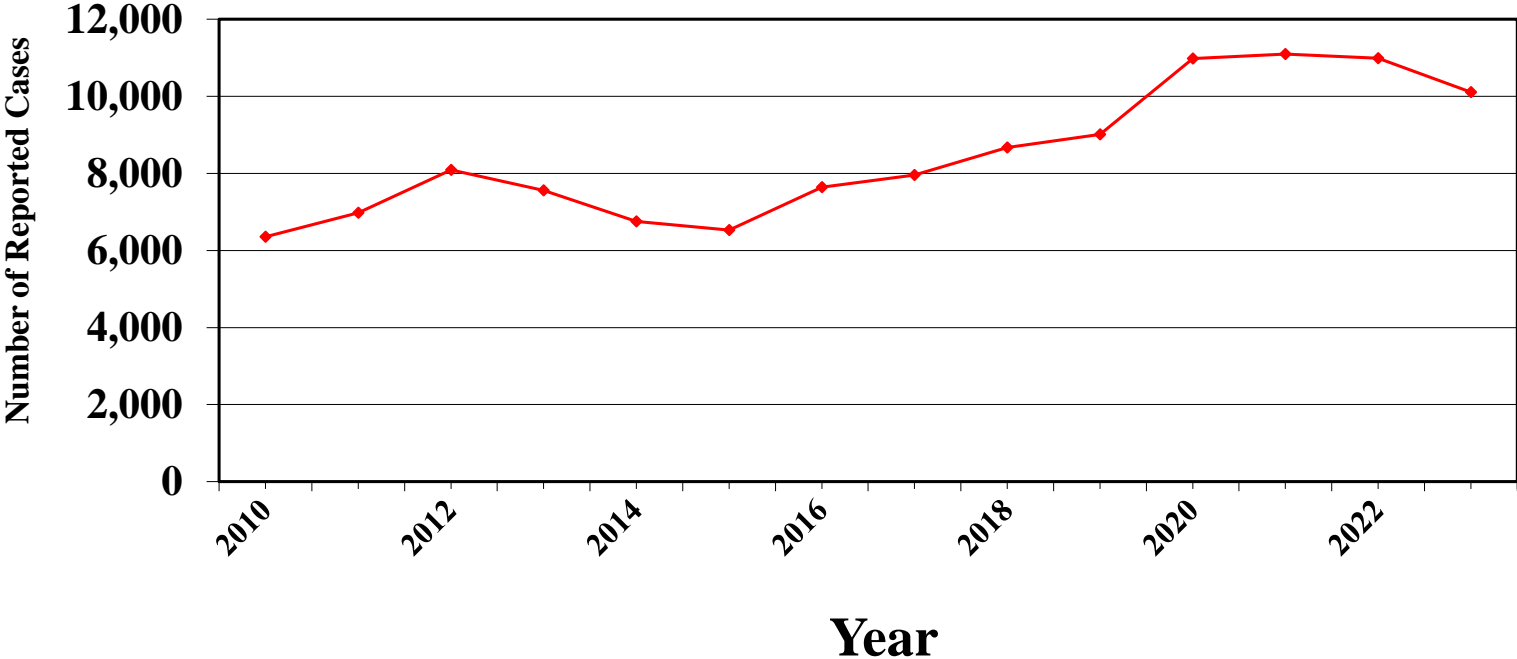


N=29

Congenital Syphilis Prevention Recommendations

- Sexually active individuals 15 to 44 should be routinely screened for HIV, Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia
- All pregnant individuals need to be enrolled in routine prenatal care
- All pregnant individuals need to have a syphilis and HIV test at the first prenatal visit
- All pregnant individuals need to have additional serologic testing for syphilis at:
 - ▀ The third trimester of pregnancy;
 - ▀ The delivery of a child; or
 - ▀ The delivery of a stillborn child
 - ▀ Or anytime when another concurrent STD is noted.

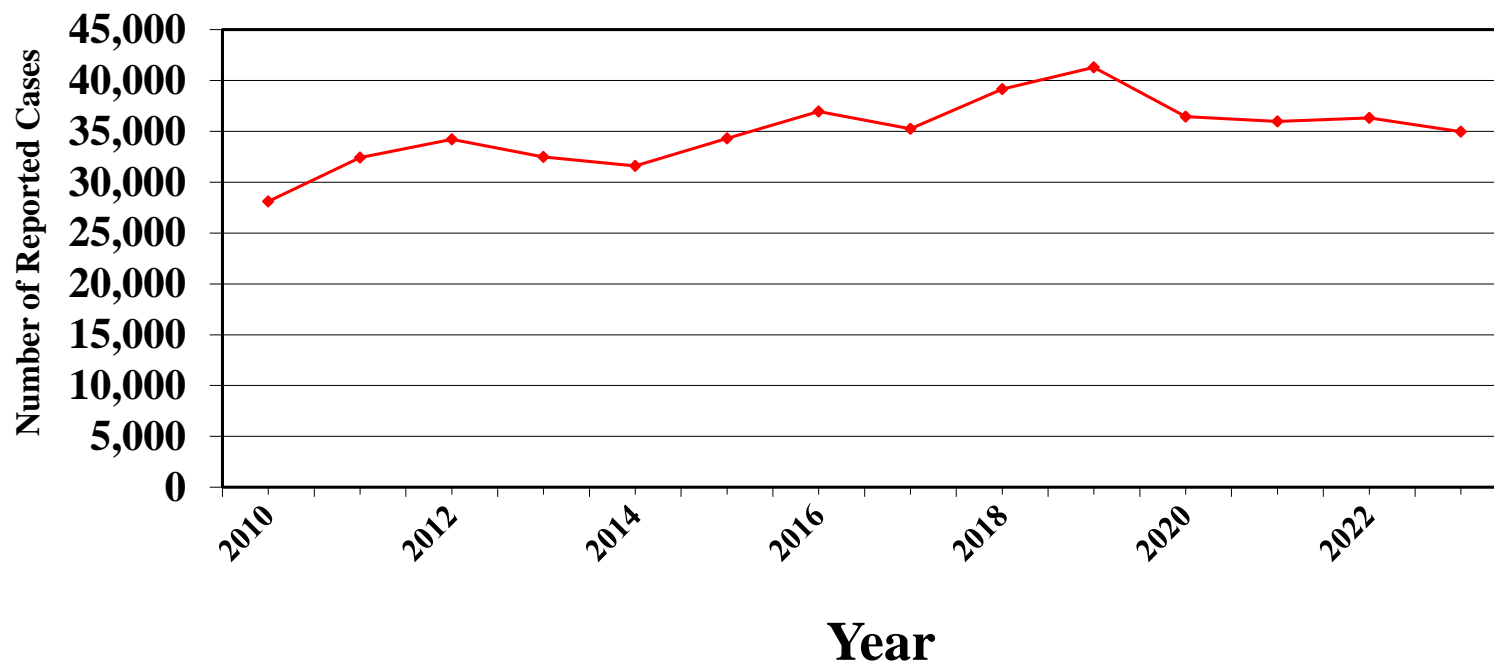
Reported Cases of Gonorrhea in Pennsylvania 2010 through 2023*



*Exclusive of Philadelphia

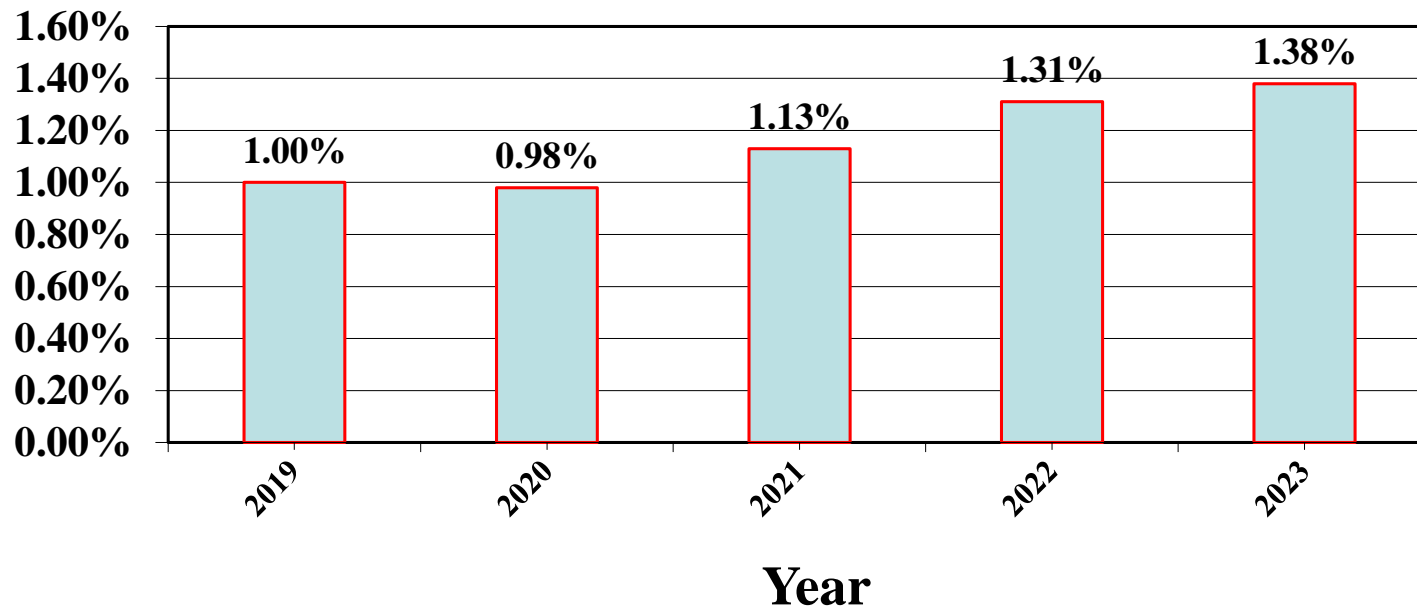


Reported Cases of Chlamydia in Pennsylvania 2010 through 2023*



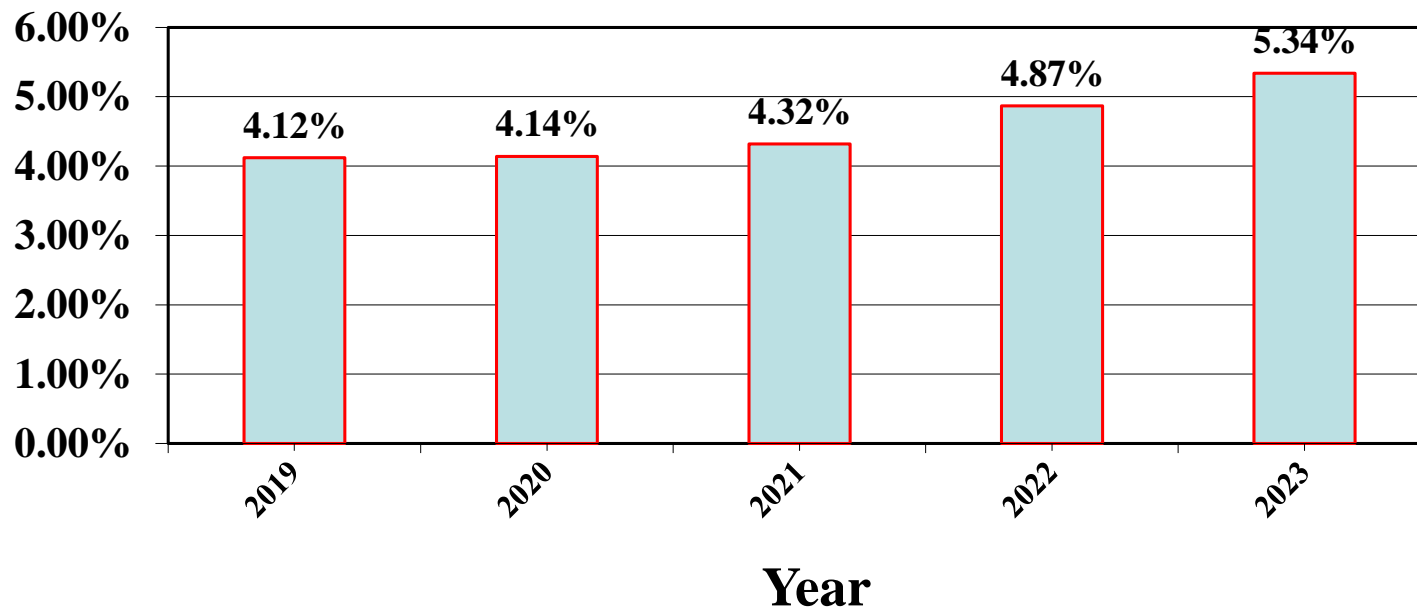
*Exclusive of Philadelphia

Reported Cases of Chlamydia in Pennsylvania 2019 through 2023* Among People Living with HIV



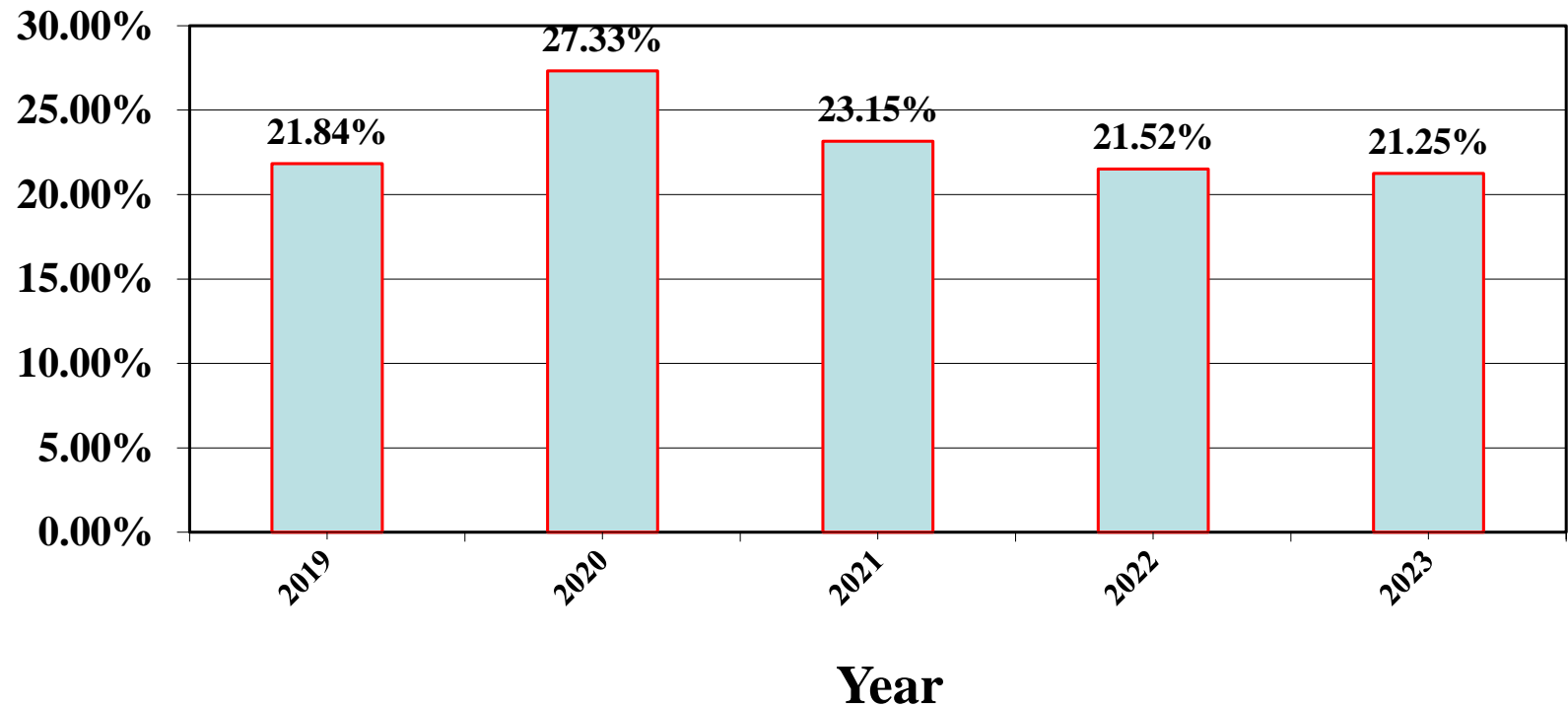
*Exclusive of Philadelphia

Reported Cases of Gonorrhea in Pennsylvania 2019 through 2019 through 2023* Among People Living with HIV



*Exclusive of Philadelphia

Reported Cases of Early Syphilis in Pennsylvania 2019 through 2023* Among People Living with HIV



*Exclusive of Philadelphia

STD Program Considerations

- STD/HIV Field staff support
 - Field staff are essential in communities
 - Partner Services
- Repeat STD infections
- Resistant Gonorrhea
 - Treatment failure and culturing capability
- HIV treatment and Pre-exposure Prophylaxis
 - Engaging patients for routine care and testing
- Post-exposure Prophylaxis Doxycycline (Doxy pep)
 - Recent CDC Guidelines
- Nationwide shortage of Bicillin for over a year
 - Primary treatment for syphilis
 - Use of Doxycycline for treatment

PA STD Program Ongoing Interventions for Prevention

- Conduct testing and treatment at state health centers and local health departments
- Provide additional patient access, in collaboration with the HIV Program, through a network of contracted HIV/STD providers – providing testing, treatment, PrEP and other related services
- Distributing statewide Health Advisories
- Engaging in community outreach utilizing contracted providers, county and municipal health departments and field staff who conduct outreach events, promotions, and field-based testing

Expanding Education to Providers

- Promote and educate providers on current CDC recommended STD testing and treatment practices.
- Continue to promote Grand Rounds with key regional hospitals focused on increasing morbidity in key populations with specific messaging focused prenatal screening recommendations.
- Raise awareness among providers for comprehensive Syphilis and HIV testing especially in conjunction with suspected GC/CT infections
- Conducting STD in-service trainings with our contracted PPA providers, state health center public health nurses, and private health systems.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases Contact Information

For more information for providers regarding treatment recommendations and reporting assistance please call the STD Program at
(717) 787-3981

For local information in your area
1-877-PA-HEALTH