In 2018, there were more than 2.4 million cases combined of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis reported in the United States — the highest number ever reported.¹

STD rates increased by 5% (2017-2018)

Each year, an estimated 50,000 gonorrhea infections are drug-resistant.¹,³

STDs cost the United States approximately $16 billion in direct medical costs annually.²

However, health department efforts to prevent and control disease are increasingly threatened by budget cuts.

INVESTING IN HEALTH DEPARTMENT STD PROGRAMS IS CRITICAL IN IMPROVING THE NATION’S RESPONSE TO STDs

STDs are at a Record High

In 2012, 62% of local STD programs experienced budget cuts. Because of these cuts:

- Reduced clinic hours for STD services 43%
- Reduced routine STD screening 40%
- Increased fees or copays for STD clinical services 26%

STDs are at a Record High

Leaders in health departments across the United States are taking action to combat STDs by:

Monitoring and identifying emerging STD trends in their jurisdictions

Educating key stakeholders and the public with data and best practices for STD prevention and control

Linking individuals to care

Partnering with local community leaders and healthcare providers to promote available services to affected populations

PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERS ARE THE BEST LINE OF DEFENSE IN REDUCING STD RATES

IN ORDER TO PROTECT MORE AMERICANS FROM PREVENTABLE STDs, INVESTMENT IN STD PROGRAMS IS CRUCIAL.

PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERS ARE KEY IN COMBATTING SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES (STDs)


To learn more, visit www.astho.org/std and www.cdc.gov/std/stats18/.