

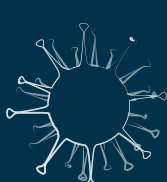
PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERS ARE KEY IN COMBATING SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES (STDs)

STDs ARE AT A RECORD HIGH



In 2017,

There were more than **2 million** cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis reported in the United States – the highest number ever.¹



Chlamydia

rates increased by

7%

(2016-2017)

More cases of chlamydia were reported to the CDC than any other condition.¹

Syphilis*

rates increased by

11%

(2016-2017)

Congenital syphilis rates increased by 44%. This poses devastating health consequences for women and their infants.¹

*primary and secondary



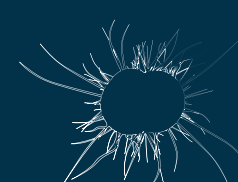
Gonorrhea

rates increased by

19%

(2016-2017)

30% of these new gonorrhea infections – or an estimated 246,000 cases – are resistant to at least one antibiotic.^{1,2}



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

STDs cost the United States approximately **\$16 billion**

in direct medical costs annually.³

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

In 2012,⁴

62%

of local STD programs experienced **budget cuts**. **Because of these cuts:**

43%



Reduced clinic hours for STD services

40%



Reduced routine STD screening

26%



Increased fees or copays for STD clinical services

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

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

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

1. CDC. "Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance 2017." Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/std/stats17/>. Accessed 10-8-2018.
 2. CDC. "Antibiotic Resistance Threats in the United States." Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/threat-report-2013/pdf/ar-threats-2013-508.pdf>. Accessed 11-19-2018.
 3. Owusu-Edusei K, Chesson HW, Gift TL, et al. "The Estimated Direct Medical Cost of Selected Sexually Transmitted Infections in the United States, 2008." *Sex Transm Dis*. 2013. 40(3):197-201. Available at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23403600>. Accessed 3-6-2018.
 4. Leichter JS, Heyer K, Peterman TA, et al. "US Public Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinical Services in an Era of Declining Public Health Funding: 2013-14." *Sex Transm Dis*. 2017. 44(8): 505-509. Available at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28703733>. Accessed 3-6-2018.



To learn more, visit www.astho.org/std and www.cdc.gov/std/stats17/. For local information, connect with your health department's STD program and visit www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/stateprofiles/default.htm.