

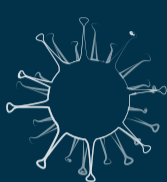
PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERS ARE KEY IN COMBATING SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES (STDs)

STDs ARE AT A RECORD HIGH



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



Chlamydia

rates increased by

3%

(2017-2018)

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

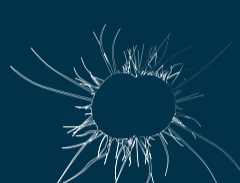
Gonorrhea

rates increased by

5%

(2017-2018)

Each year, an estimated 550,000 gonorrhea infections are drug-resistant.^{1,2}



Syphilis*

rates increased by

15%

(2017-2018)

Congenital syphilis rates increased by 40%. This poses devastating health consequences for women and their infants.¹

*primary and secondary



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 2018." Available at www.cdc.gov/std/stats18/. Accessed 11-1-2019.

2. CDC. "Drug-Resistant NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE." Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/DrugResistance/Biggest-Threats.html>. Accessed 11-13-2019.

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.