

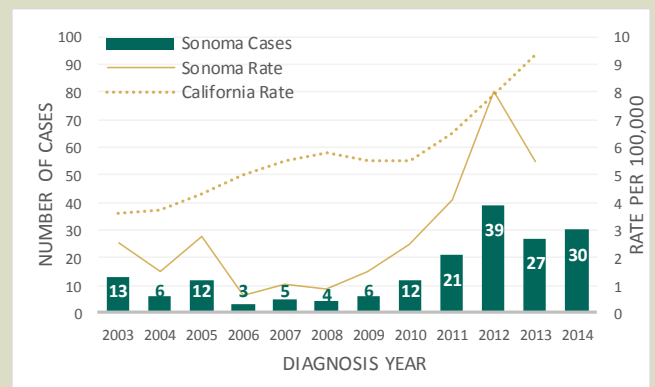


PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SYPHILIS

All reports of syphilis infection are reviewed by health department staff and staged based on symptoms and laboratory findings (i.e. primary, secondary, early latent, late, late latent, and congenital). Trend analysis for syphilis is limited to cases of primary or secondary disease, as they represent more recent infection and are likely infectious.

- The number of primary and secondary syphilis cases reported in Sonoma County increased in late 2010 and has continued through 2014 (figure).¹
- Of the 117 cases diagnosed between 2011 and 2014
 - 92% were male
 - 72% were White, non-Hispanic
 - 41% were HIV positive
- The rate of syphilis in neighboring counties (Marin, San Francisco, Napa, Alameda) has also been increasing, as has the rate in California overall.²
- Although the rate of syphilis infections in Sonoma County has increased along with that of California, the Sonoma County rate has been notably lower for all recent years excepting 2012 (figure).

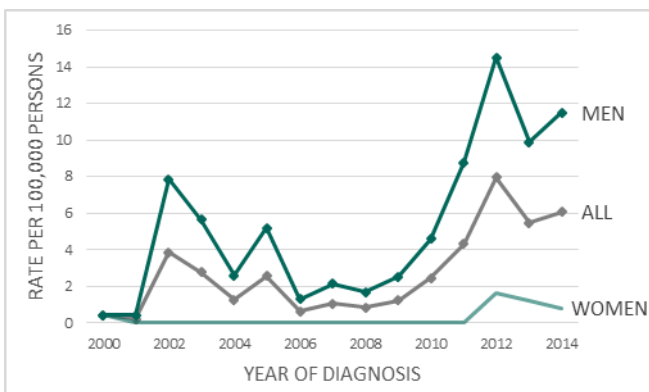
Cases and Rates of Syphilis by Diagnosis Year
Sonoma County and California, 2003-2013/2014



Gender

The rate of syphilis in Sonoma County has increased in both men and women, though the majority of cases are male. Prior to 2010, nearly all cases of syphilis were diagnosed among males and the overwhelming majority were MSM. Between 2010 and 2014, 9 women were diagnosed with syphilis, indicating a shift in epidemiology to include the heterosexual population.

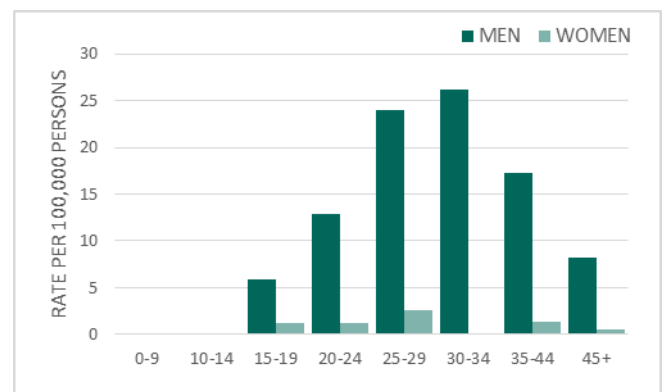
Syphilis Rates by Diagnosis Year and Gender
Sonoma County, 2003-2014



Age

Between 2010 and 2014, men aged 30-34 years had the highest average annual age-specific rate of syphilis, followed by the men aged 25-29 years. Among women, those aged 25-29 had the highest age-specific rate(). Of particular concern, one case of syphilis was diagnosed in a woman at time of delivery, resulting in a case of congenital syphilis in 2014.

Average Annual Rates of Syphilis by Age and Gender
Sonoma County, 2010-2014



References

1. Sonoma County data downloaded from the Automated Vital Statistics System (2000-2012) and the California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (2013-2014).
2. California Department of Public Health, STD Control Branch. Primary and Secondary Syphilis, Cases and Incidence Rates, California Counties and Selected City Health Jurisdictions, 2009-2013 Provisional Data. Available at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics/Pages/STDDDataTables.aspx> Accessed March 12, 2015.
3. All population data taken from: State of California, Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050*. Sacramento, CA, May 2012.