





Infectious Syphilis Surveillance 2011-2015

Rhode Island Department of Health

Division of Preparedness, Response, Infectious
Disease and Emergency Medical Services

Center for HIV, Hepatitis, STDs, and TB Epidemiology



About Infectious Syphilis

- Infectious syphilis includes primary, secondary, and early latent stages of syphilis.
- Syphilis is a bacteria that is spread through sexual contact.
- Depending on the stage of syphilis, symptoms may include painless sores or a non-itchy body rash.
- High risk groups include gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men.



Data Overview, Infectious Syphilis

- There were 115 cases of infectious syphilis in RI in 2015.
- The incidence rate in RI was 10.9 cases per 100,000 in 2015.
- Infectious syphilis cases have increased in RI over the last 5 years.
- The highest rates of infectious syphilis are seen in Providence County.

Reported Cases of Infectious Syphilis, Rhode Island, 2011-2015

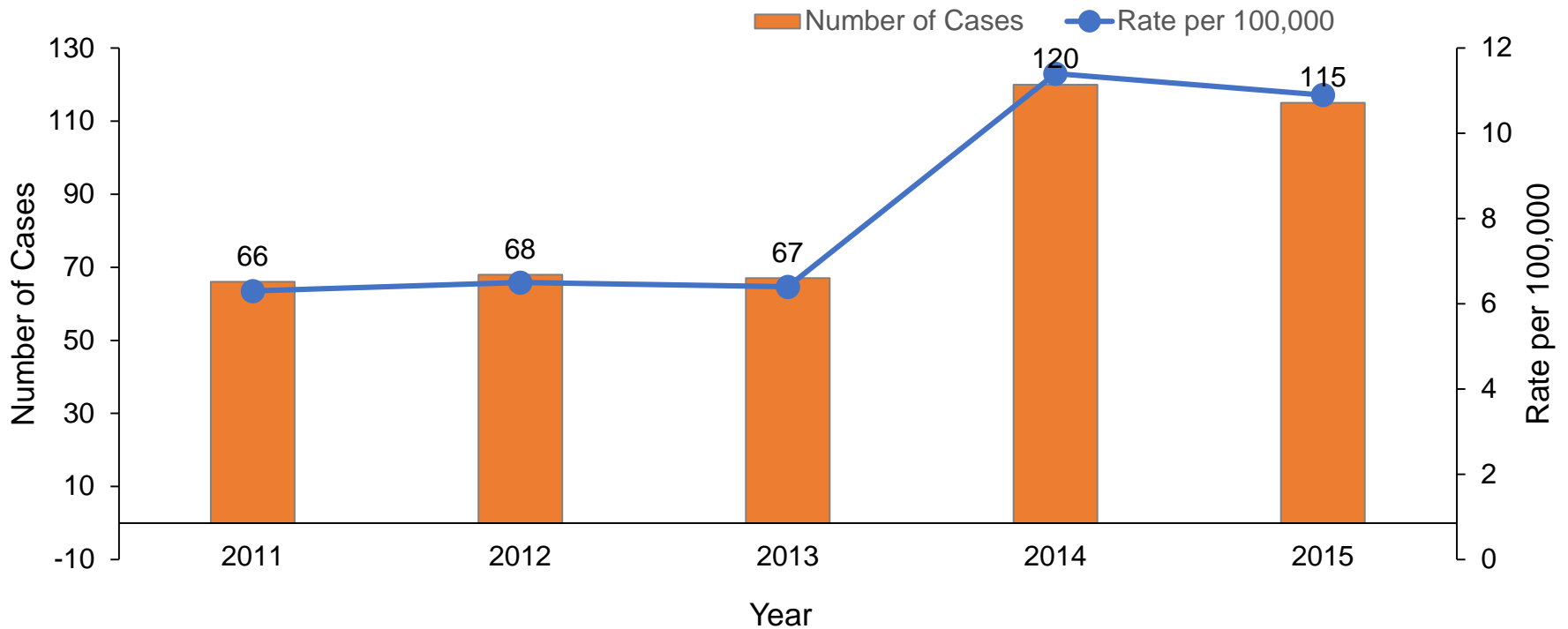


Figure 1: In 2015, there were 115 cases of infectious syphilis reported in RI, with a rate of 10.9 cases per 100,000 population. Infectious syphilis cases increased by 79% in 2014 and decreased by 4% from 2014 to 2015.

Rate of Infectious Syphilis, Age Group, Rhode Island, 2015

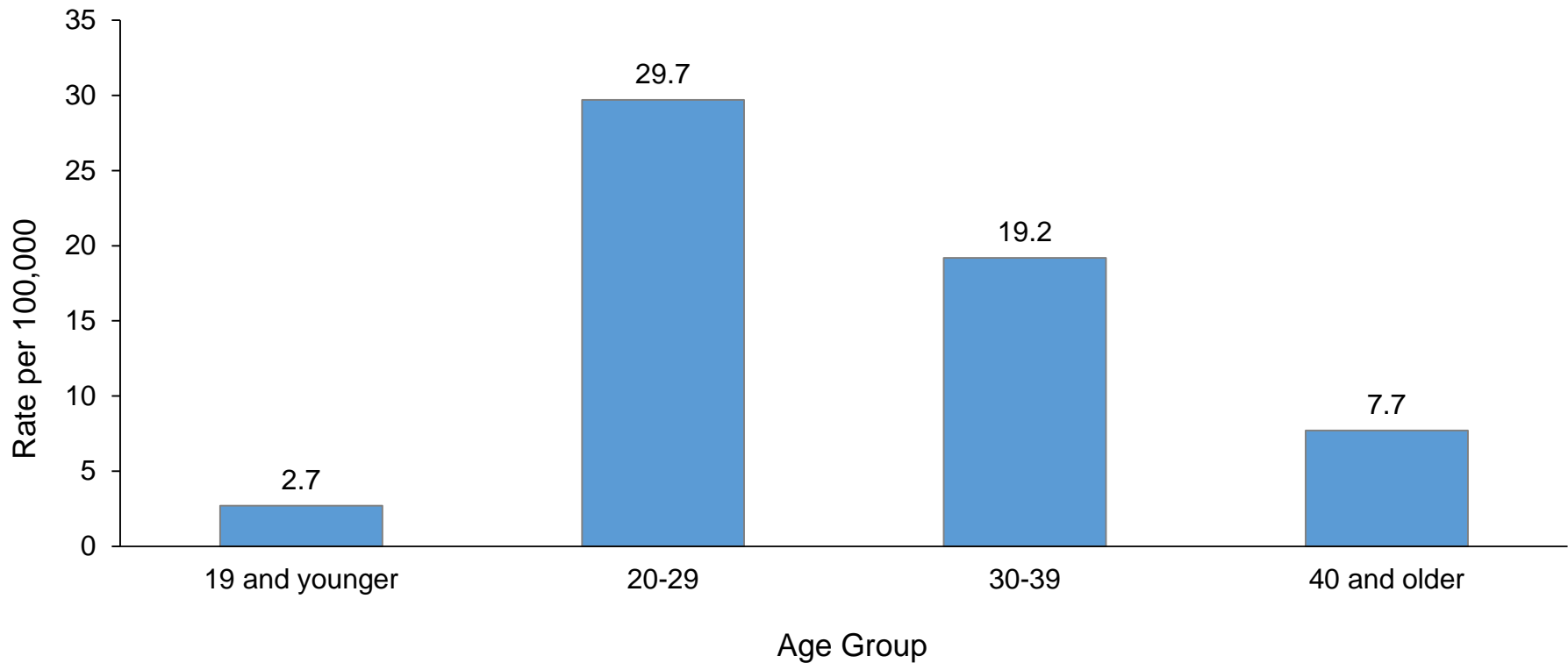


Figure 2: In 2015, infectious syphilis rates were highest in the 20-29 year old age group, followed by the 30-39 year old age group. Nationally, rates were also highest in the 20-29 year old age group.

Rate of Infectious Syphilis, Sex and Year, Rhode Island, 2011-2015

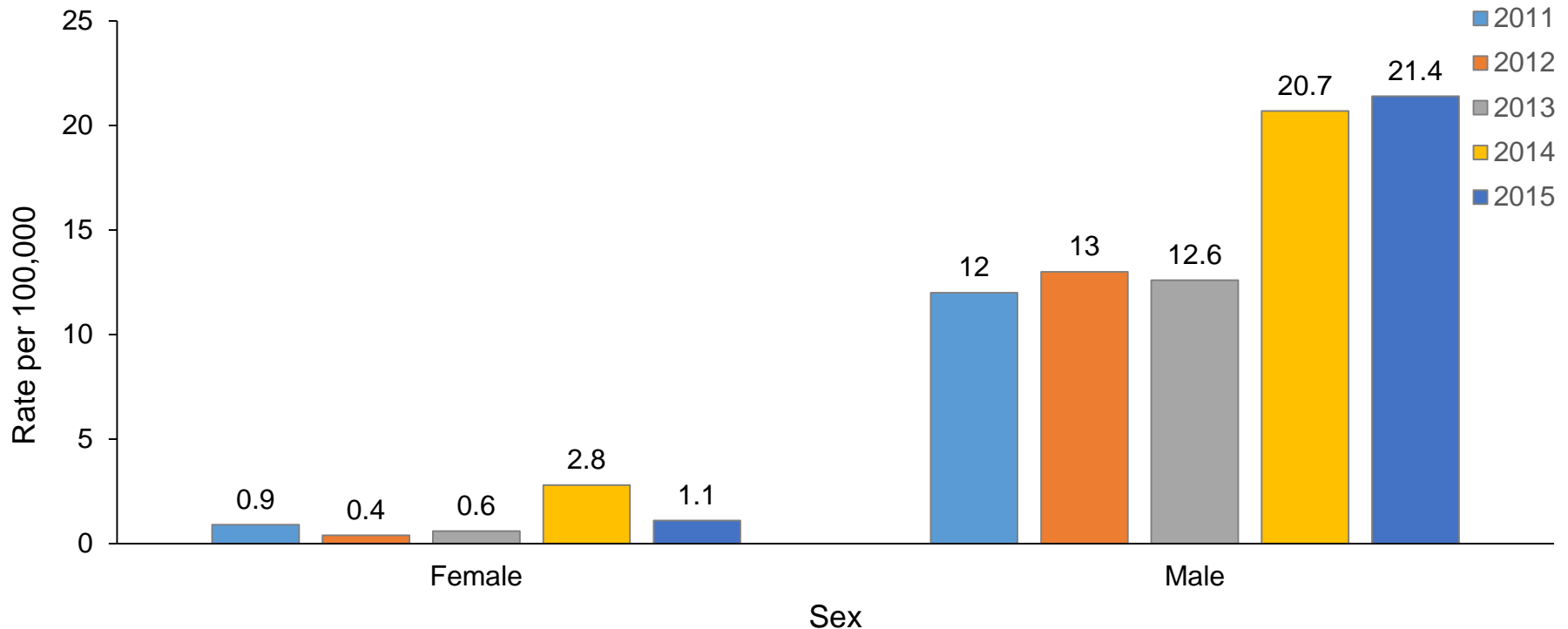


Figure 3: Infectious syphilis rates have been higher in males than in females over the last five years. In 2015, there were 6 cases in females and 109 cases in males. As seen in the rest of the country, gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men account for the majority of syphilis cases reported.

Rate of Infectious Syphilis, County and Year, Rhode Island, 2011-2015

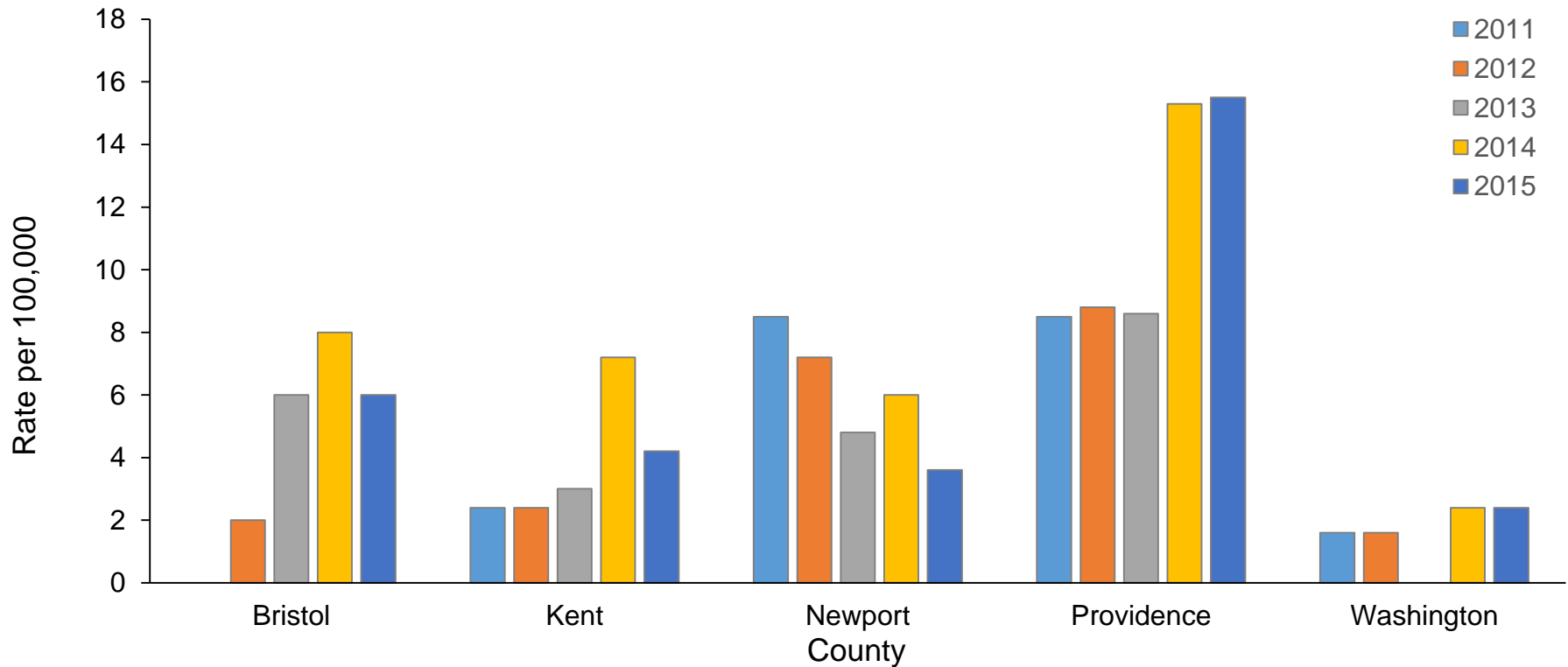


Figure 4: Between 2011 and 2015, rates of infectious syphilis were consistently higher in Providence County.

Infectious Syphilis Frequency and Rates by Year, Rhode Island, 2011-2015



Table 1. Frequency by Year

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of Cases	66	67	67	120	115

Table 2. Rate by Year

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Rate per 100,000	6.3	6.5	6.4	11.4	10.9

Infectious Syphilis Frequency, Age Group and Year, Rhode Island, 2011-2015



Table 3. Frequency by Age Group and Year

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
0-19	1	4	2	3	7
20-29	12	22	19	48	44
30-39	22	17	15	33	24
40 and older	31	25	31	36	40
Total	66	68	67	120	115

Infectious Syphilis Rates, Age Group and Year, Rhode Island, , 2011-2015



Table 4. Rate by Age Group and Year

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
0-19	0.4	1.5	0.8	1.1	2.7
20-29	8.1	14.9	12.8	32.4	29.7
30-39	17.6	13.6	12	26.4	19.2
40 and older	6	4.8	6	7	7.7

Infectious Syphilis Frequency and Rates, Sex and Year, Rhode Island, 2011-2015



Table 5. Frequency by Sex and Year

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Female	5	2	3	15	6
Male	61	66	64	105	109
Total	66	68	67	120	115

Table 6. Rate by Sex and Year

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Female	0.9	0.4	0.6	2.8	1.1
Male	12.0	13.0	12.6	20.7	21.4

Infectious Syphilis Frequency, County and Year, Rhode Island, 2011-2015



Table 7. Frequency by County and Year

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bristol	0	1	3	4	3
Kent	4	4	5	12	7
Newport	7	6	4	5	3
Providence	53	55	54	96	97
Washington	2	2	0	3	3
Unknown	0	0	1	0	2
All	66	68	67	120	115

Infectious Syphilis Rates by County and Year, Rhode Island, 2011-2015



Table 8. Rate by County and Year

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bristol	0.0	2.0	6.0	8.0	6.0
Kent	2.4	2.4	3.0	7.2	4.2
Newport	8.5	7.2	4.8	6.0	3.6
Providence	8.5	8.8	8.6	15.3	15.5
Washington	1.6	1.6	0.0	2.4	2.4



Notes on Data

- Case counts include only patients classified as confirmed cases.
- Rate is calculated per 100,000 population. The population denominator is based on 2010 US Census Population.



References

- <http://www.cdc.gov/std/syphilis/stdfact-syphilis.htm>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats15/syphilis.htm>