



Rhode Island STD and HIV Epidemiology Summary

STD Highlights

Chlamydia

Reports of chlamydia in Rhode Island continue to steadily increase. In 2010, there were 3,840 cases of chlamydia reported in Rhode Island. Additional trends in 2010 are as follows:

- Females accounted for 71% of cases, while males represented 29%, resulting in a female-to-male ratio of 2.5 to 1.
- By age, rates are highest in 15-24 year olds among both males and females.
- By race/ethnicity African Americans are most disproportionately affected (rate of 1,458 cases per 100,000), followed by Hispanics (964 cases per 100,000), and non-Hispanic whites (165 cases per 100,000).
- Geographically, reported cases of chlamydia are concentrated in Providence County with 81% of cases reported in 2010.

Gonorrhea

There were 291 gonorrhea cases reported in 2010—the lowest number reported in Rhode Island since 1962. This is a dramatic decrease from 2003 when Rhode Island saw a peak of 973 cases of gonorrhea. Additional trends:

- 42% of gonorrhea cases were reported in females and 58% were reported in males in 2010.
- Among females, rates in 2010 were highest in 15-24 year olds; Among males, rates were highest in 20- 29 year olds.
- By race/ethnicity, rates for 2010 were highest among non-Hispanic blacks (253 cases per 100,000), followed by Hispanics (57 cases per 100,000).
- 91% of gonorrhea cases in 2010 were among residents of Providence County.

Infectious Syphilis (primary, secondary, and early latent stages)

Reports of infectious syphilis in Rhode Island have increased since 2001 when infectious syphilis was virtually eliminated from Rhode Island. In 2010, 61 cases of infectious syphilis were reported, representing a 79% increase from the number of cases reported in 2009.

- Males accounted for 95% of cases of infectious syphilis reported in 2010.
- Unlike gonorrhea and chlamydia, where infection is distributed mostly among the 15-24 year old population, the cases of infectious syphilis reported among males in Rhode Island in 2010 had an average age of 36 years old.
- 93% of males with infectious syphilis in 2010 were men who have sex with men (MSM).
- Of the MSM, 50% were HIV-positive by self-report.

Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of Reported Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, and Syphilis Cases, Rhode Island, 2010

Disease	Chlamydia	Gonorrhea	Infectious Syphilis*	Syphilis (All other stages)
Characteristics:				
Total Number of Cases	3480	291	61	18
Rate per 100,000 population [^]	330.6	27.6	5.8	1.7
Sex				
Male	1002	170	58	15
Female	2478	121	3	3
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Race/Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic White	1055	56	35	6
Non-Hispanic Black	609	105	8	<5
Hispanic (All races)	957	58	11	6
Asian/Pacific Islander	56	<5	<5	0
American Indian/ AK Native	27	<5	<5	0
Other/Unknown	776	66	5	<5
Age (Years)				
< 10	0	0	0	0
10 – 14	28	<5	0	0
15 – 19	1139	63	<5	<5
20 – 24	1361	91	9	<5
25 – 29	515	62	7	<5
30 – 34	223	27	9	<5
35 – 39	108	20	7	<5
40 – 44	46	12	7	5
45 – 54	49	11	18	<5
55 – 64	8	<5	<5	<5
65 +	<5	0	<5	<5
Unknown	<5	0	0	0

*Primary, secondary, and early latent

[^] Based on 2010 RI population, U.S. 2010 Census

Table 2: Reported STDs, 2006-2010, Rhode Island

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Chlamydia	3142	3177	3317	3615	3480
Gonorrhea	509	402	307	322	291
Infectious Syphilis	20	46	25	34	61
Syphilis (all other stages)	51	30	30	30	18

HIV Highlights

Between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2010 a total of 1,451 Rhode Island residents newly diagnosed with HIV reported to HEALTH-RI. This number provides a minimum estimate of HIV infection, as it does not include HIV infected individuals who have not been tested yet and those who get tested anonymously. (Table 5).

Of the 1,451 HIV cases diagnosed and reported to HEALTH-RI from January 1, 2000 – December 31, 2010:

- Males accounted for 73% of the cases and females accounted for 27%.
- The majority of cases were between the ages of 30 and 39 (35%).

By Race/Ethnicity:

- Among men, whites accounted for the majority of case (47%), followed by African Americans (24%) and Hispanics (26%).
- Among women, African Americans accounted for the majority of cases (42%), followed by Hispanics (30%) and whites (25%).

By mode of exposure to HIV:

- Among men, ‘MSM’ is the leading mode of exposure (50% of cases), followed by ‘No Risk Specified’ (24%) and Intravenous Drug Use (11%).
- Among women, ‘No Risk Specified’ is the leading mode of exposure (41% of cases), followed ‘Heterosexual Contact’ (39%) and Intravenous Drug Use (17%).

By county of residence:

- The majority of the cases (84%) reported were from Providence County.

Table 5: Demographic Characteristics of RI HIV Cases, Jan. 1, 2006 to Dec. 31, 2010

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010*
Gender					
Male	90 (73%)	98 (81%)	79 (67%)	95 (76%)	84 (79%)
Female	33 (27%)	23 (19%)	39 (33%)	30 (24%)	22 (21%)
Total	123 (100%)	121 (100%)	118 (100%)	125 (100%)	106 (100%)
Age Group					
<13	<5 *	<5*	<5*	<5*	<5*
13-19	<5 *	<5*	<5*	<5*	8 (7%)
20-29	23 (19%)	6 (5%)	21 (18%)	30 (24%)	20 (19%)
30-39	42 (34%)	21 (17%)	36 (31%)	29 (23%)	27 (25%)
40-49	38 (31%)	37 (31%)	42 (36%)	36 (29%)	27 (25%)
50+	17 (14%)	34 (28%)	17 (14%)	27 (22%)	24 (23%)
Total	123 (100%)	121 (100%)	118 (100%)	125 (100%)	106 (100%)
Race/Ethnicity					
White	63 (51%)	62 (51%)	48 (41%)	39 (31%)	47 (44%)
African American	34 (28%)	30 (25%)	33 (28%)	33 (26%)	26 (25%)
Hispanic	22 (18%)	25 (21%)	35 (30%)	50 (40%)	27 (26%)
Asian	<5 *	<5 *	<5 *	<5 *	<5*
Native American	<5 *	<5 *	<5 *	<5 *	<5*
Total	123 (100%)	121 (100%)	118 (100%)	125 (100%)	106 (100%)
Risk Factor					
MSM	51 (41%)	47 (39%)	48 (41%)	59 (47%)	54 (51%)
IDU	12 (10%)	18 (15%)	19 (16%)	8 (6%)	6 (6%)
MSM / IDU	<5*	6(5%)	<5 *	<5 *	<5*
Heterosexual Contact	35 (28%)	11 (9%)	22 (19%)	16 (13%)	13 (12%)
Transfusion	<5*	<5*	<5 *	<5 *	<5*
Mother with HIV/HIV Risk	<5 *	<5 *	<5 *	<5 *	<5*
No Risk Specified	21 (17%)	35 (29%)	26 (22%)	36 (29%)	32 (30%)
Total	123 (100%)	121 (100%)	118 (100%)	125 (100%)	106 (100%)
County of Residence					
Homeless	<5 *	<5 *	<5 *	<5 *	<5*
Bristol	<5 *	<5 *	9 (8%)	<5 *	<5*
Kent	6 (5%)	6 (5%)	<5 *	7 (5%)	9 (9%)
Newport	5 (4%)	7 (6%)	<5 *	8 (6%)	8 (8%)
Providence	105 (85%)	99 (82%)	102 (86%)	100 (80%)	81 (77%)
Washington	6 (5%)	6 (5%)	<5 *	6 (5%)	6 (6%)
Total	123 (100%)	121 (100%)	118 (100%)	125 (100%)	106 (100%)