

Sexually Transmitted infections (STIs) are More Challenging Than Ever Before. There are serious health consequences of untreated STIs

Overview

1 in 5 People in the US have an STI
totaling nearly **68 MILLION** infections in 2018

26 MILLION new STIs in 2018
almost **HALF** of new STIs were among youth aged 15-24 in the US

New STIs total nearly **\$16 BILLION** in direct medical costs

[At A Glance \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov)

What are the most common STIs in the United States?

Chlamydia, trichomoniasis, genital herpes, and HPV account for 98% of all prevalent STIs in 2018.

Gonorrhea, hepatitis B virus (HBV), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and syphilis are additional sexually transmitted infections of concern.

GET TESTED NEBRASKA

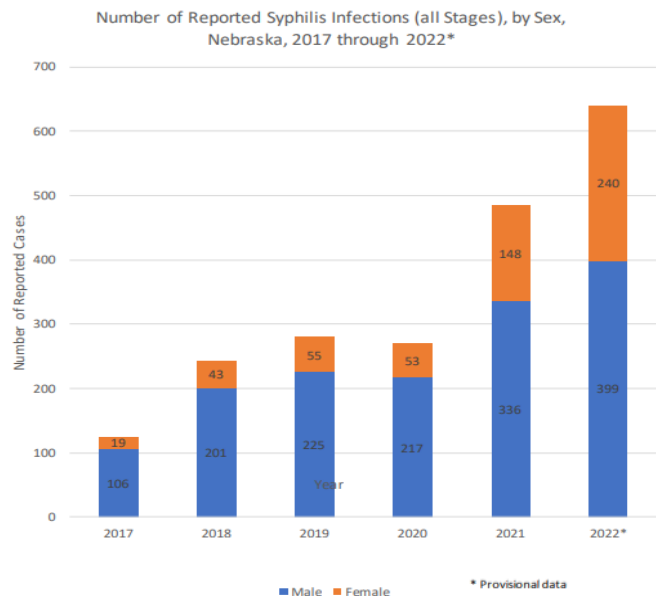
FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL HIV AND STI TESTING

Find testing sites near you.

DID YOU KNOW?

STI or STD?

STI (sexually transmitted infections) is the preferred a more common term, as not all infections cause symptoms (disease) but can still be transmitted to others.



Source: Unpublished NE DHHS Data. Increase in syphilis rates is a risk factor for contracting other STI's like HIV.

KIDS HEALTH ZONE

QUICK LINKS

- [Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance, 2021 \(cdc.gov\)](#)
- [STI Prevention, Surveillance and Partner Services](#)
- [Primary Prevention Methods \(cdc.gov\)](#)
- [What are STDs? #FactCheck \(amaze.org\)](#)
- [STD Prevention Beyond Condoms \(amaze.org\)](#)
- [STI \(Spanish version\)](#)
- [CDC On Demand \(Order factsheets, educational materials\)](#)

Prevention

- [The only way to completely avoid STIs is to not have vaginal, anal, or oral sex.](#)
- Be in a mutually monogamous relationship
- Use condoms each time
- Get tested regularly



MYTH BUSTER!!!

MYTH: *You cannot acquire an STI from oral sex.*

TRUTH: It is still possible to get certain STIs in the throat, like chlamydia or gonorrhea and may make it easier to spread STIs to other areas of the body.

Gonorrhea is an STI that is common in people ages 15-24. It is spread through vaginal, anal, or oral sex with someone who has gonorrhea. Prevention includes the use of a condom every time they have sex. *A pregnant person with gonorrhea can pass the infection to their infant during childbirth which can cause serious health problems.*

Chlamydia is easily cured, but frequently people have no symptoms and may not know they have the disease. CDC recommends that women under 25 and women with risk factors should test every year. *Can cause permanent damage that causes difficulty getting pregnant and fatal ectopic pregnancy.*

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the US. **HPV vaccine** is available and recommended for both genders at age 11 or 12 years (but can start at age 9). There are medications that can shorten or prevent outbreaks, but not cure. *HPV can cause health problems like cancer (cervix, vulva, vagina, penis, or anus).*

Syphilis is easy to cure in its early stages but can have very serious complications when left untreated. Syphilis is spread by direct contact with a syphilis sore during vaginal, anal, oral sex and can spread from a mother to her unborn baby. *Approximately 40% of babies born to women with untreated syphilis can be stillborn or die from the infection as a newborn. Passed on to newborns can cause cataracts, deafness, seizures, or death.*

Genital Herpes is caused by two types of viruses-herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1) which causes oral herpes (cold sores) and herpes simplex virus type 2 (HSV-2) which causes genital herpes. Condoms may not fully protect you from getting herpes. *Health effects include painful genital ulcers that can develop in extragenital lesions (e.g., buttocks, groin, thigh, finger, or eye), aseptic meningitis, and be passed onto newborns.*

HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) infections are mostly acquired through sex or sharing needles. If you have another STI, you may be more likely to get or transmit HIV. There is no cure for HIV/AIDS, but medications can control the infection and prevent the disease.

Mgen (Mycoplasma genitalium) is a STI that can infect the cervix, inside the penis (urethra), or the rectum. People with *Mgen* often have no symptoms. Someone with symptoms may notice; vaginal discharge, a burning sensation when peeing, and discharge from the penis. *Left untreated, Mgen can cause serious and permanent health problems in women, including pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). Some of the complications of PID are; formation of scar tissue that blocks fallopian tubes; ectopic pregnancy (pregnancy outside the uterus); infertility (not being able to get pregnant); and long-term pelvic/abdominal pain.*