



Sexually Transmitted Infections in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, 2023

Reported Cases



Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Surveillance Report Milwaukee County—2023

Introduction

This report highlights data on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in Milwaukee County from 2023 as well as trends from the past five years. Additional STI data for Milwaukee County, statewide data and data by public health region can be found on the WI Department of Health Services (DHS) STI Unit [Surveillance Data web page](#).

This report recognizes that there are many systemic barriers and social factors driving the inequities seen in the data throughout the report. STIs can affect anyone; however, some communities have much higher rates of infection than others. These disparities are not due to behavioral practices alone. There are many different social conditions, policies, and systemic practices that put some people at higher risk for STIs, such as:

- Racism
- Discrimination
- Oppression
- Poverty
- Lack of access to sexual health education
- Lack of access to health care
- Stigma

Systemic conditions like these can lead to higher prevalence of STIs in the community. In communities with higher STI rates, it is easier for a person to get an STI because it is more likely that their sexual partner(s) have already been exposed.

Overview of 2023 data

This report provides an overview of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in Milwaukee County over the last five years, with focus on chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis. In 2023, a total of 15,764 cases of STIs were reported. Of these, **chlamydia** cases accounted for 66% (10,462), **gonorrhea** for 27% (4,326), and **syphilis** for 6% (976) of reported cases.

In 2023, there was an 8% decrease in the total number of reported cases compared to 2022 (17,025). Looking specifically at each STI, **chlamydia cases saw a marginal increase of 0.1%**, **gonorrhea decreased by 19.2%**, and **syphilis also decreased by 19.5%**.

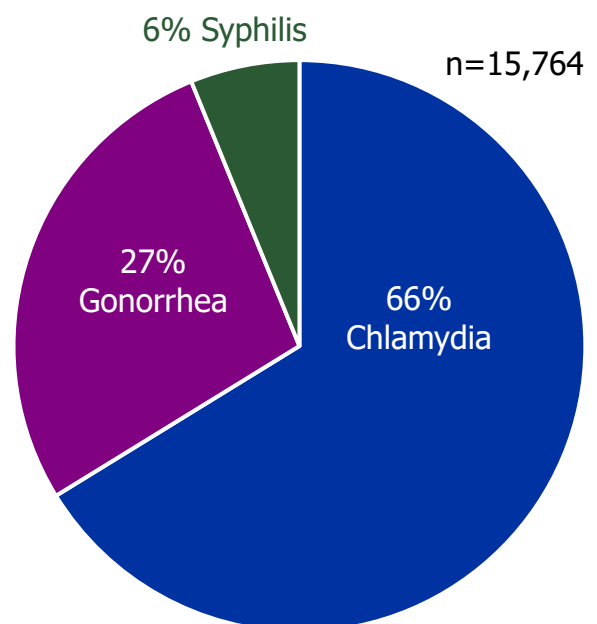


Figure 1.

In 2023, there was a significant decrease of 22.7% in reported cases of syphilis in 2023 compared to 2022.

Five-year trend of STI cases, Milwaukee County, 2019–2023.

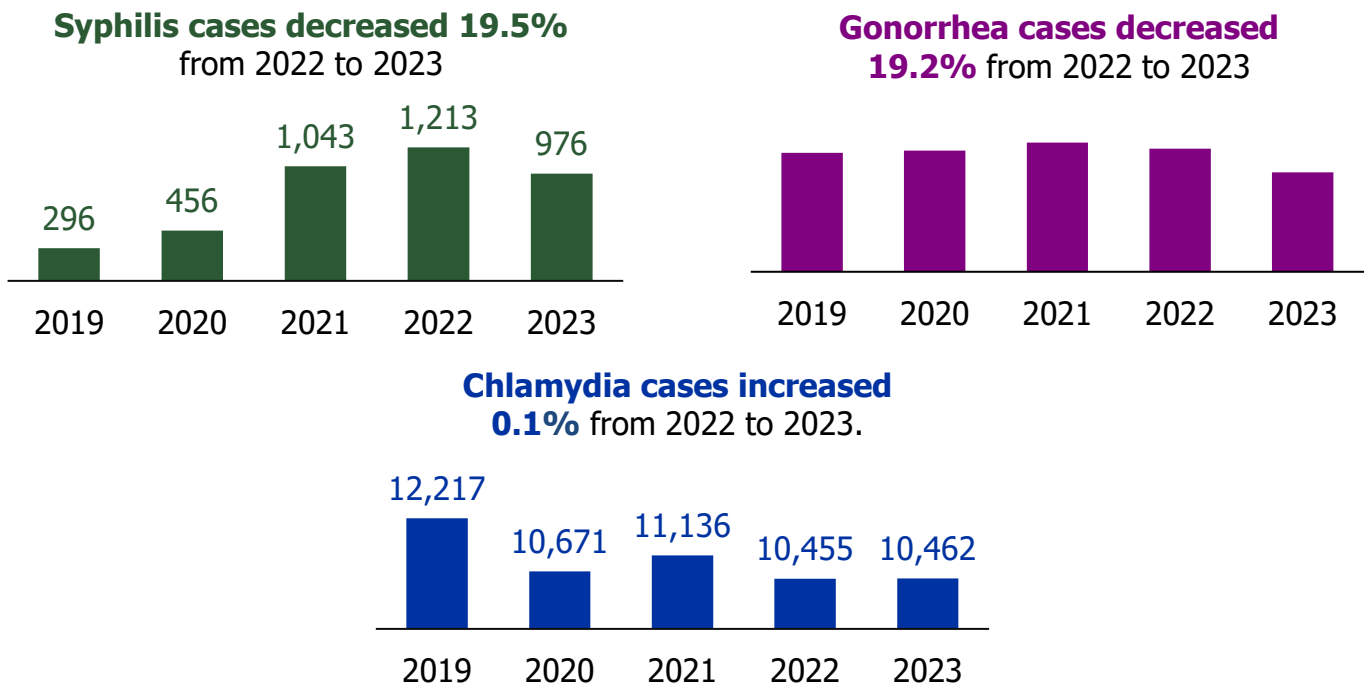
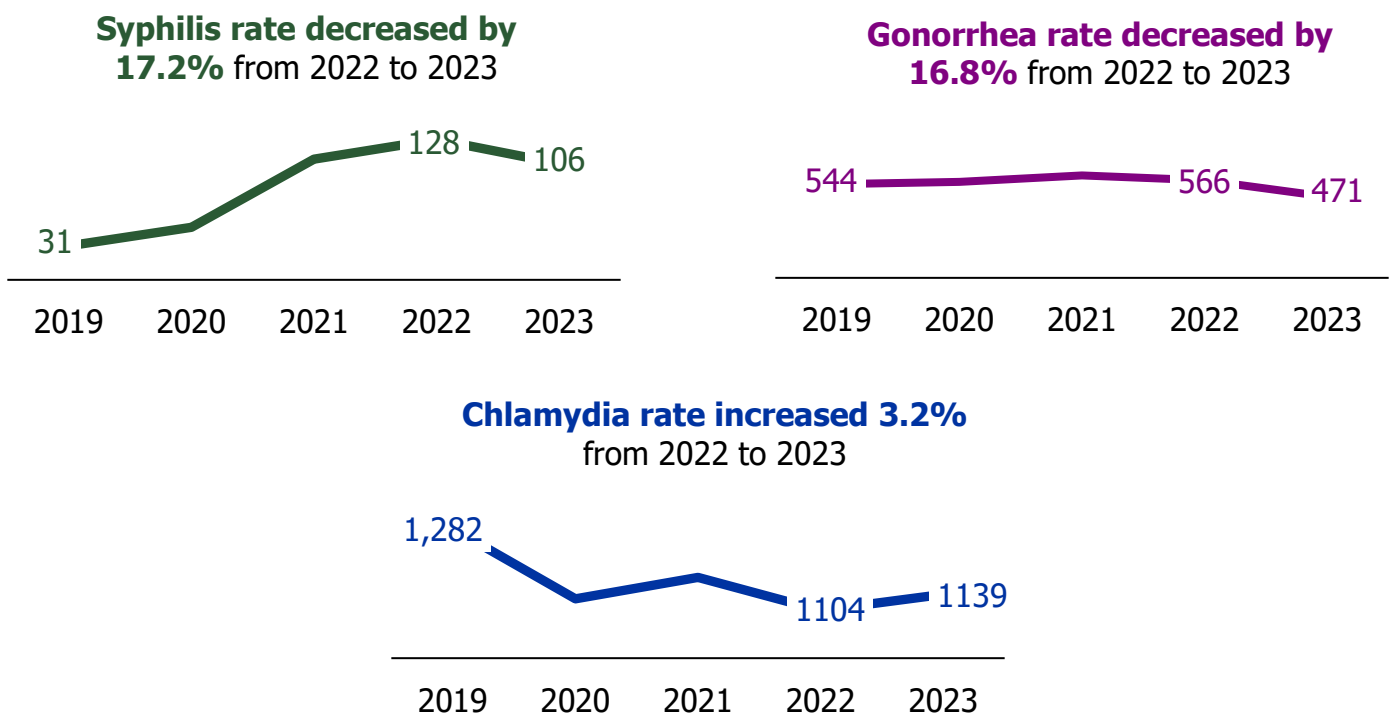


Figure 2.

In Milwaukee County, the syphilis rate per 100,000 people decreased by 16.8% from 2022 to 2023.

Five-year trend in reported STI cases per 100,000 people, Milwaukee County, 2019–2023.



Key takeaways from 2023 data:



Milwaukee County accounted for 54% of the total number of syphilis cases reported in Wisconsin. However, there was a 19.5% decrease in syphilis cases in the county in 2023.



In Milwaukee County, the rate of reported primary and secondary syphilis cases decreased by 34% compared to 2022. Additionally, the rate of primary and secondary syphilis cases decreased among both males and females.



The rate of chlamydia increased by 3%, while the rates of gonorrhea and syphilis decreased.

Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Surveillance Report

Reported Cases and Rates per 100,000 people by Gender, Race, Ethnicity, Age, and Region

Milwaukee County – 2023

	Chlamydia			Gonorrhea			Syphilis			Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
Total	10,462	100%	1,139	4,326	100%	471	976	100%	106	15,764	100%	1,716
Sex												
Male	3,743	35.8%	837	2,328	53.8%	521	602	61.7%	135	6,673	42.3%	1,492
Female	6,700	64.0%	1,421	1,974	45.6%	419	346	35.5%	73	9,020	57.2%	1,913
Transgender-Female	5	0.0%	-	10	0.2%	-	28	2.9%	-	43	0.3%	-
Transgender-Male	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-
Unknown	14	0.1%	-	14	0.3%	-	0	0.0%	-	28	0.2%	-
Race/Ethnicity												
White	1,122	10.7%	249	389	9.0%	86	123	12.6%	27	1,634	10.4%	363
Black	6,391	61.1%	2,672	3,217	74.4%	1,345	641	65.7%	268	10,249	65.0%	4,286
Native American	38	0.4%	767	17	0.4%	343	5	0.5%	*	60	0.4%	1,212
Asian	111	1.1%	233	26	0.6%	55	19	1.9%	40	156	1.0%	327
Two or More Races	11	0.1%	46^	7	0.2%	30	8	0.8%	34^	26	0.2%	110
Hispanic	1,447	13.8%	949	293	6.8%	192	142	14.5%	93	1,882	11.9%	1,234
Other/Unknown	1,342	12.8%	-	377	8.7%	-	38	3.9%	-	1,757	11.1%	-
Age												
0-4	3	0.0%	*	2	0.0%	*	18	1.8%	30	23	0.1%	39
5-9	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0
10-14	217	2.1%	356	95	2.2%	156	0	0.0%	0	312	2.0%	512
15-19	3,019	28.9%	4,947	1,209	27.9%	1,981	62	6.4%	102	4,290	27.2%	7,030
20-24	3,289	31.4%	5,107	1,091	25.2%	1,694	169	17.3%	262	4,549	28.9%	7,064
25-29	1,865	17.8%	2,527	734	17.0%	995	158	16.2%	214	2,757	17.5%	3,736
30-34	1,036	9.9%	1,418	522	12.1%	715	174	17.8%	238	1,732	11.0%	2,371
35-39	493	4.7%	769	263	6.1%	410	111	11.4%	173	867	5.5%	1,352
40-44	237	2.3%	403	148	3.4%	252	78	8.0%	133	463	2.9%	787
45-49	113	1.1%	225	83	1.9%	165	51	5.2%	101	247	1.6%	491
50+	190	1.8%	65	179	4.1%	61	155	15.9%	53	524	3.3%	179
Unknown												

*Rates based on five case counts or less are not shown; ^Rate is unreliable due to a count <12.

Wisconsin Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Surveillance Report

Reported Cases and Rates by Zip Code, Milwaukee County – 2022

Zip code/Post Office	Chlamydia			Gonorrhea			Syphilis			Total		
	Case	Percent	Rate	Case	Percent	Rate	Case	Percent	Rate	Case	Percent	Rate
53110 Cudahy	59	0.6%	324	10	0.2%	55^	8	0.8%	44^	77	0.5%	423
53129 Greendale	16	0.2%	114	8	0.2%	57^	0	0.0%	0	24	0.2%	171
53130 Hales Corners	15	0.1%	193	3	0.1%	*	0	0.0%	0	18	0.1%	231
53132 Franklin	116	1.1%	326	29	0.7%	81	7	0.7%	20^	152	1.0%	427
53154 Oak Creek	86	0.8%	237	17	0.4%	47	9	0.9%	25^	112	0.7%	308
53172 South Milwaukee	93	0.9%	446	19	0.4%	91	12	1.2%	58^	124	0.8%	595
53202 Milwaukee	197	1.9%	789	79	1.8%	316	19	1.9%	76	296	1.9%	1,186
53203 Milwaukee	27	0.3%	1,549	12	0.3%	688	1	0.1%	*	39	0.2%	2,238
53204 Milwaukee	571	5.5%	1,472	161	3.7%	415	63	6.5%	162	796	5.0%	2,053
53205 Milwaukee	216	2.1%	2,369	113	2.6%	1,239	30	3.1%	329	358	2.3%	3,926
53206 Milwaukee	715	6.8%	3,028	384	8.9%	1,626	62	6.4%	263	1,163	7.4%	4,925
53207 Milwaukee	151	1.4%	407	48	1.1%	129	12	1.2%	32^	212	1.3%	571
53208 Milwaukee	539	5.2%	1,846	288	6.7%	986	71	7.3%	243	898	5.7%	3,075
53209 Milwaukee	952	9.1%	1,970	452	10.4%	935	82	8.4%	170	1,491	9.4%	3,086
53210 Milwaukee	706	6.7%	2,736	345	8.0%	1,337	76	7.8%	295	1,127	7.1%	4,368
53211 Milwaukee	166	1.6%	483	62	1.4%	180	11	1.1%	32^	241	1.5%	701
53212 Milwaukee	507	4.8%	1,684	246	5.7%	817	60	6.1%	199	814	5.2%	2,703
53213 Milwaukee	59	0.6%	213	20	0.5%	72	4	0.4%	*	82	0.5%	295
53214 Milwaukee	237	2.3%	673	66	1.5%	187	15	1.5%	43	320	2.0%	909
53215 Milwaukee	604	5.8%	990	141	3.3%	231	59	6.0%	97	805	5.1%	1,319
53216 Milwaukee	749	7.2%	2,380	373	8.6%	1,185	54	5.5%	172	1,179	7.5%	3,746
53217 Milwaukee	66	0.6%	232	23	0.5%	81	6	0.6%	21^	95	0.6%	335
53218 Milwaukee	975	9.3%	2,282	466	10.8%	1,091	81	8.3%	190	1,522	9.6%	3,562
53219 Milwaukee	224	2.1%	653	43	1.0%	125	24	2.5%	70	292	1.8%	851
53220 Milwaukee	116	1.1%	426	37	0.9%	136	11	1.1%	40^	163	1.0%	599
53221 Milwaukee	165	1.6%	417	49	1.1%	124	21	2.2%	53	235	1.5%	593
53222 Milwaukee	209	2.0%	793	76	1.8%	289	21	2.2%	80	307	1.9%	1,166
53223 Milwaukee	379	3.6%	1,323	154	3.6%	538	37	3.8%	129	570	3.6%	1,990
53224 Milwaukee	363	3.5%	1,626	150	3.5%	672	25	2.6%	112	538	3.4%	2,410
53225 Milwaukee	456	4.4%	1,751	203	4.7%	780	39	4.0%	150	697	4.4%	2,677
53226 Milwaukee	77	0.7%	406	34	0.8%	179	6	0.6%	32^	117	0.7%	616
53227 Milwaukee	108	1.0%	450	25	0.6%	104	7	0.7%	29^	140	0.9%	584
53228 Milwaukee	54	0.5%	367	8	0.2%	54^	6	0.6%	41^	68	0.4%	462
53233 Milwaukee	277	2.6%	1,865	122	2.8%	822	33	3.4%	222	432	2.7%	2,909
53235 Milwaukee	39	0.4%	408	9	0.2%	94^	1	0.1%	*	49	0.3%	513
Zip specified	10,289	98.3%	1,084	4,275	98.8%	450	973	99.7%	103	15,553	98.4%	1,639
Zip not specified	173	1.7%	18	51	1.2%	5	3	0.3%	*	245	1.6%	26
County total	10,462	100.0%	1,105	4,326	100%	457	976	100.0%	103	15,798	100.0%	1,665

Wisconsin Syphilis Surveillance Report - Reported Cases and Rates per 100,000 people by Stage of Infection, Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Age Milwaukee County - 2023

	Primary			Secondary			Early latent			Early Total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
Total	143	100.0%	16	177	100.0%	19	200	100.0%	22	520	100.0%	57
Sex												
Male	109	76.2%	24	118	66.7%	26	123	61.5%	28	350	67.3%	78
Female	32	22.4%	7	52	29.4%	11	67	33.5%	14	151	29.0%	32
Transgender-Female	2	1.4%	-	7	4.0%	-	10	5.0%	-	19	3.7%	-
Transgender-Male	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-
Unknown	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-
Race/Ethnicity												
White	12	8.4%	3^	29	16.4%	6	22	11.0%	5	63	12.1%	14
Black	107	74.8%	45	117	66.1%	49	129	64.5%	54	353	67.9%	148
Native American	0	0.0%	0	1	0.6%	*	1	0.5%	*	2	0.4%	*
Asian	0	0.0%	0	1	0.6%	*	4	2.0%	*	5	1.0%	*
Two or More Races	2	1.4%	*	5	2.8%	*	1	0.5%	*	8	1.5%	34^
Hispanic	17	11.9%	72	18	10.2%	34	34	17.0%	22	69	13.3%	45
Other/Unknown	5	3.5%	-	6	3.4%	-	9	4.5%	-	20	3.8%	-
Age												
0-4	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0
5-9	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0
10-14	0	8.4%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0
15-19	12	23.1%	20^	14	7.9%	23	13	6.5%	21	39	7.5%	64
20-24	33	15.4%	51	32	18.1%	50	43	21.5%	67	108	20.8%	168
25-29	22	21.0%	30	28	15.8%	38	34	17.0%	46	84	16.2%	114
30-34	30	9.8%	41	32	18.1%	44	41	20.5%	56	103	19.8%	141
35-39	14	2.8%	22	22	12.4%	34	23	11.5%	36	59	11.3%	92
40-44	4	4.9%	*	14	7.9%	24	18	9.0%	31	36	6.9%	61
45-49	7	14.7%	14^	9	5.1%	18^	11	5.5%	22^	27	5.2%	54
50+	21	0.0%	7	26	14.7%	9	17	8.5%	6	64	12.3%	22
Unknown	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-	0	0%	-

Wisconsin Syphilis Surveillance Report - Reported Cases and Rates per 100,000 people by Stage of Infection, Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Age Milwaukee County - 2023

	Early latent			Late Latent			Congenital			All stage total		
	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates	Cases	Percent	Rates
Total	520	100.0%	57	438	100.0%	48	18	100.0%	2	976	100.0%	106
Sex												
Male	350	67.3%	78	245	55.9%	55	7	38.9%	2^	602	61.7%	135
Female	151	29.0%	32	184	42.0%	39	11	61.1%	2^	346	35.5%	73
Transgender Female	19	3.7%	-	9	2.1%	-	0	0.0%	-	28	2.9%	-
Transgender Male	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-
Unknown	0	0.0%	-	-	-	-	7	38.9%	-	602	61.7%	-
Race/Ethnicity												
White	63	12.1%	14	56	12.8%	12	4	22.2%	*	123	12.6%	27
Black	353	67.9%	148	278	63.5%	116	10	55.6%	4^	641	65.7%	268
Native American	2	0.4%	*	3	0.7%	*	0	0.0%	0	5	0.5%	*
Asian	5	1.0%	*	14	3.2%	29	0	0.0%	0	19	1.9%	40
Two or More Races	8	1.5%	34^	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	8	0.8%	34^
Hispanic	69	13.3%	45	70	16.0%	46	3	16.7%	*	142	14.5%	93
Other/Unknown	20	3.8%	-	17	3.9%	-	1	5.6%	-	38	3.9%	-
Age												
0-4	0	0%	0	0	0.0%	0	18	100.0%	30	18	1.8%	30
5-9	0	0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0
10-14	0	0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0
15-19	39	8%	64	23	5.3%	38	0	0.0%	0	62	6.4%	102
20-24	108	21%	168	61	13.9%	95	0	0.0%	0	169	17.3%	262
25-29	84	16%	114	74	16.9%	100	0	0.0%	0	158	16.2%	214
30-34	103	20%	141	71	16.2%	97	0	0.0%	0	174	17.8%	238
35-39	59	11%	92	52	11.9%	81	0	0.0%	0	111	11.4%	173
40-44	36	7%	61	42	9.6%	71	0	0.0%	0	78	8.0%	133
45-49	27	5%	54	24	5.5%	48	0	0.0%	0	51	5.2%	101
50+	64	12%	22	91	20.8%	31	0	0.0%	0	155	15.9%	53
Unknown	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-	0	0.0%	-

Technical Notes

1. This report is compiled by the Wisconsin STI Unit and are based on STI case surveillance data collected by the Wisconsin Division of Public Health (DPH). In Wisconsin, state statutes require both laboratories and health care providers to report cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, chancroid, and pelvic inflammatory disease to local health departments. STI case surveillance data is automatically sent to the Wisconsin STI Unit via WEDSS (Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System).
2. This report includes cases diagnosed within the specified period. Additional cases diagnosed within the specified period may continue to be reported. Thus, this report should be considered provisional, and it supersedes all previous reports.
3. Reporting of STI cases can be incomplete. Reporting rates can be varied by disease, geographic region, and demographic groups. At any time, reported STI cases represent only part of the total number of diagnosed cases, therefore STI surveillance data likely underestimates total STI morbidity.
4. Rate is calculated based on the population data available on WISH (Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health) system website. For this reason, rates are only available for cisgender males and cisgender females throughout the report. In these reports, rates presented are cases per 100,000 population (2022). Rates are not calculated for categories with small numbers of cases. See [each report](#) for the rate calculation threshold.
5. In this report, cases are allocated to the derived county at the time of diagnosis. Cases from federal, state, or certain private institutions are included, and geographic region for these cases are assigned as institution.
6. Cases residing outside Wisconsin and unknown state cases are not included in this report.
7. All races are non-Hispanic ethnicity. Under the category of race, Asian includes Asian Pacific Islander. American Indian and Alaska Native is named as Native American. Unknown is either race or ethnicity is unknown.
8. Rates based on five case counts or less are not shown, and rates based on case counts less than 12 are marked as statistically unreliable.

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