



Syphilis Among American Indians/Alaska Natives

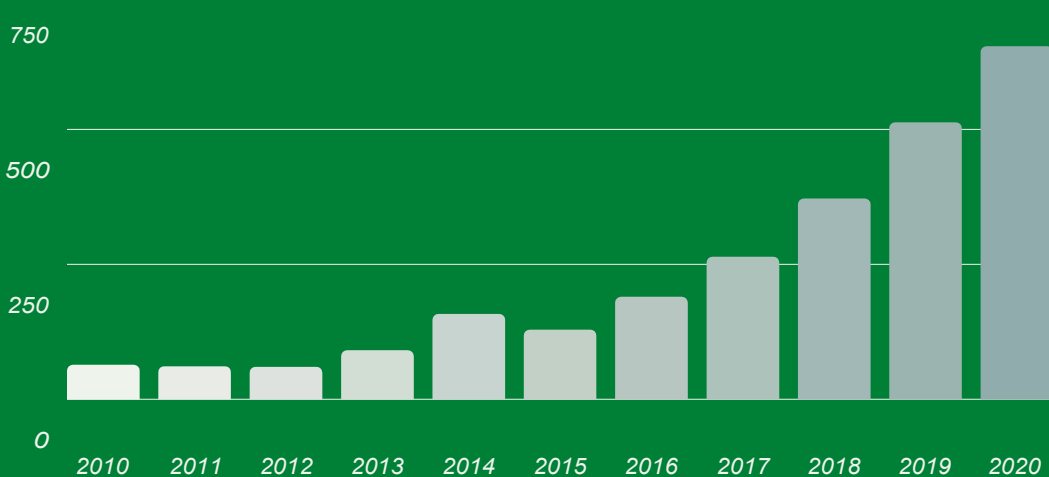
In recent years, Syphilis cases have been on the rise nationwide. In Arizona, the rates have been high as well, especially among American Indians/ Alaska Natives (AI/AN).¹

What is Syphilis?

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection (STI) that can cause serious health issues if left untreated. There are three main stages of syphilis: primary, secondary, and tertiary.²

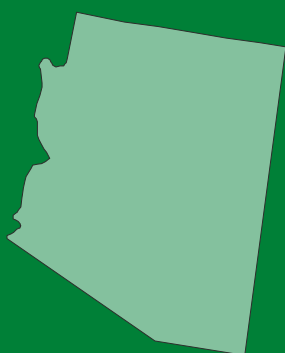


How is Syphilis affecting AI/ANs nationwide?



Primary and Secondary Syphilis cases in the United States were steady until 2013 when there was rapid increase in cases each year.¹

In 2020, Arizona had 172 new cases of primary and secondary syphilis among AI/ANs.¹



AI/ANs males had higher rates of contracting primary and secondary syphilis compare to AI/AN females in Arizona.¹



What does Syphilis look like?

The signs and symptoms of syphilis look different depending on the stage of syphilis you are in.²

Primary Syphilis

- A sore or sores are generally seen at the site of infections.²
- The sores can be in or around your genitals, anus, or mouth.²
- The sores are usually firm, round, and painless.²

Secondary Syphilis

- A skin rash, swollen lymph nodes, and fever can occur during the secondary Syphilis stage.²

The only way to know you have Syphilis is to get tested.

References

1. Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc., Tribal Epidemiology Center. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI), and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Surveillance among American Indians/Alaska Natives in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah from 2000-2020. September 2022.
2. STD Facts - Syphilis. Published June 28, 2022. Accessed February 24, 2023. <https://www.cdc.gov/std/syphilis/stdfact-syphilis.htm>.