

# Infectious Syphilis and Congenital Syphilis in Canada, 2020\*



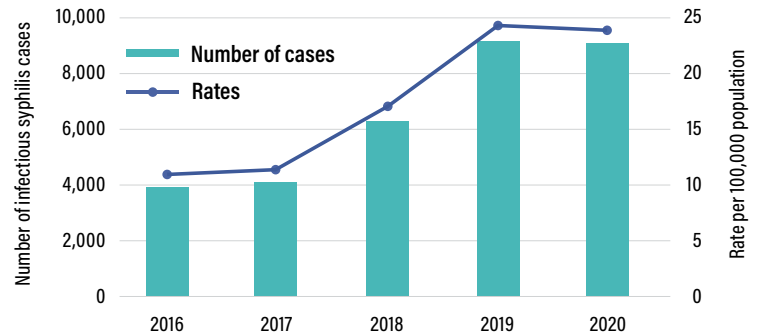
## 9,126 CASES

of infectious syphilis were reported in 2020, for a **rate of 24 per 100,000** population

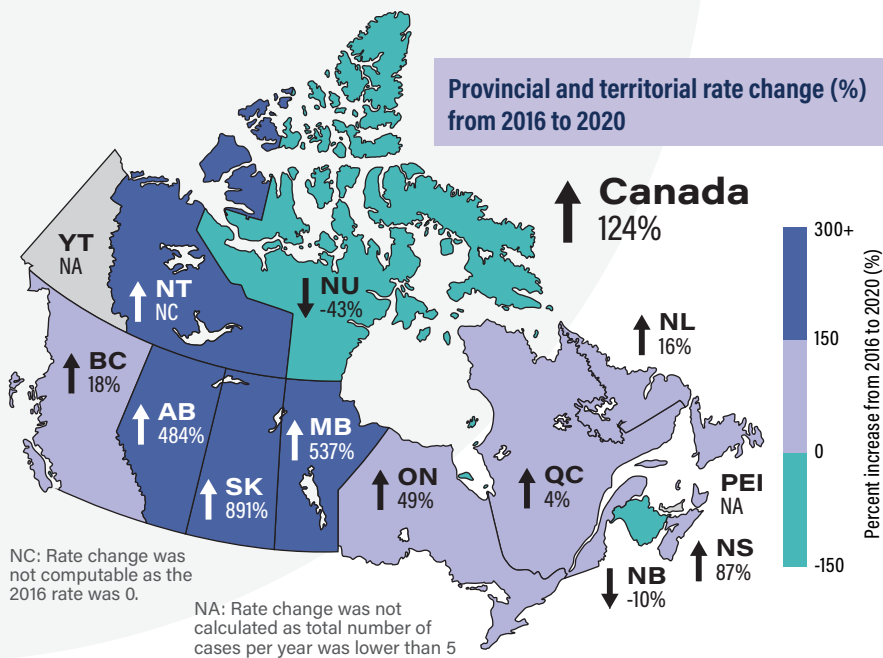


In the past 5 years (2016 to 2020), rates of infectious syphilis among females increased by **740%** while **male rates** increased by 70% during the same period

Number of cases and rates of infectious syphilis in Canada, 2016-2020



**2% decrease** in infectious syphilis rates from 2019 to 2020: Might be explained by decreased demand for and ability to deliver STBBI services (including testing) due to COVID-19 pandemic<sup>†</sup>

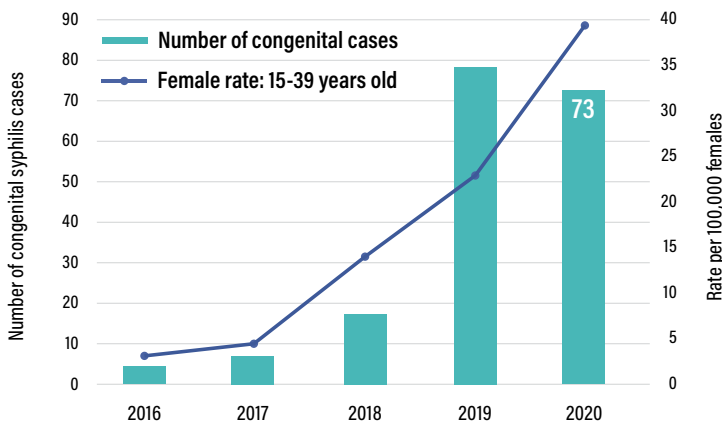


Nationally, **1 in 3 cases (30%)** are among females in 2020 (compared to 8% in 2016). Proportion of cases who are gbMSM is decreasing<sup>‡</sup>



**25 to 39 year olds** had the highest rate of infectious syphilis in 2020, but the highest rate increase in past five years was among **15-24 year olds**

Number of confirmed congenital syphilis cases and reported infectious syphilis rates among females aged 15-39



There were **73 CASES** of confirmed congenital syphilis in 2020

\* Data was directly obtained from all provinces and territories (PTs). Ten PTs submitted data for the full calendar year of 2020 while three PTs (NB, NL, NU) provided partial counts; annual counts were estimated. *Data for 2020 is preliminary.*

<sup>†</sup> Survey of the impact of COVID-19 on the ability to provide STBBI prevention, testing and treatment including harm reduction services in Canada. Public Health Agency of Canada, Centre for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control. 2021.

<sup>‡</sup> Gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men.

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