

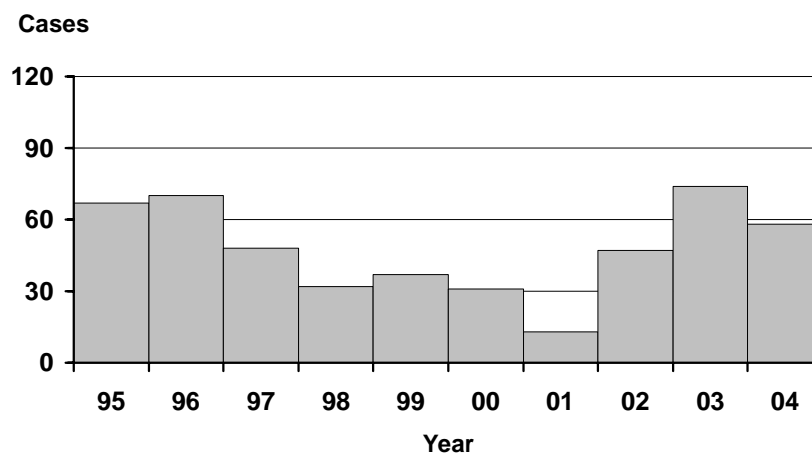
Early Syphilis

Early syphilis cases represent an aggregate of primary, secondary and early latent cases under one year's duration. The 58 early syphilis cases reported in 2003 show a 16-case (21.6%) decrease compared to 2003.

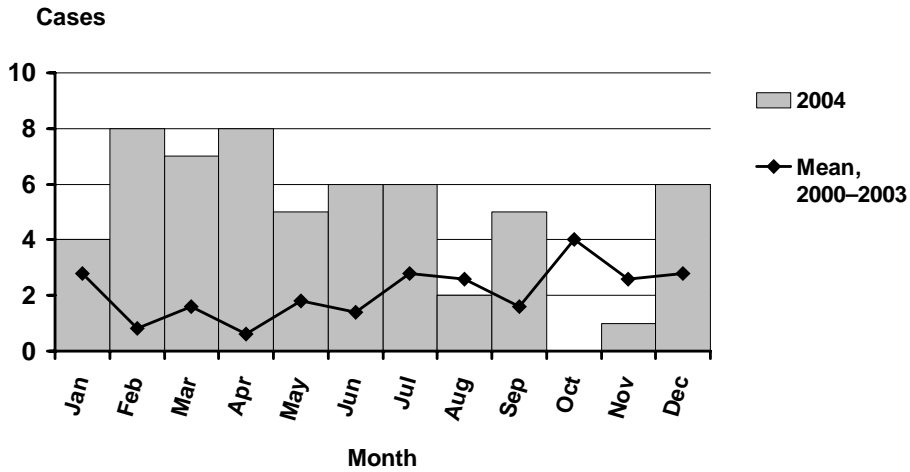
Syphilis is transmitted via vaginal, rectal or oral sex. Syphilis can be prevented by abstaining from sex outside a monogamous relationship with an uninfected partner. Those who are sexually active outside of a mutually monogamous relationship can protect themselves by using a condom when engaging in sexual activity.

The majority of the early syphilis cases reported during 2004 were among men who have sex with men. It is important to identify and treat persons with early syphilis to prevent late complications, such as brain and heart damage, and to prevent congenital infections. Moreover, people with primary and secondary syphilis more easily acquire and transmit HIV. An effective way to limit the spread of syphilis is to evaluate and treat recent sex partners of people with early syphilis.

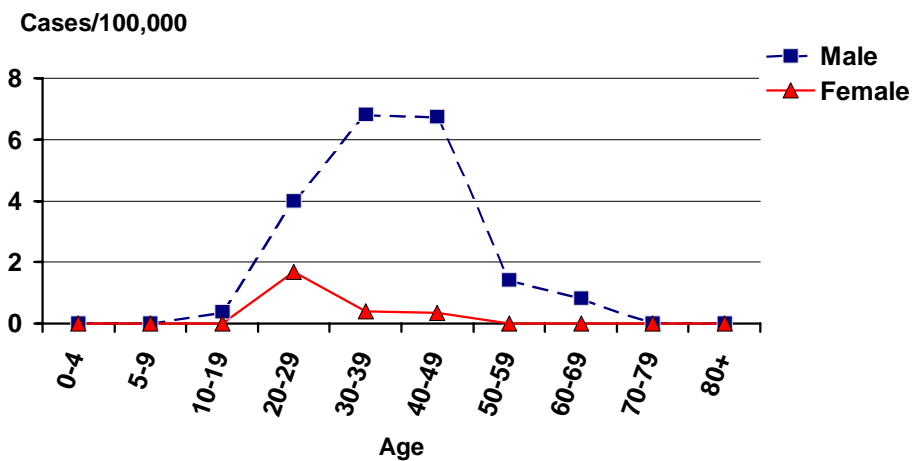
Early Syphilis by Year Oregon, 1995–2004



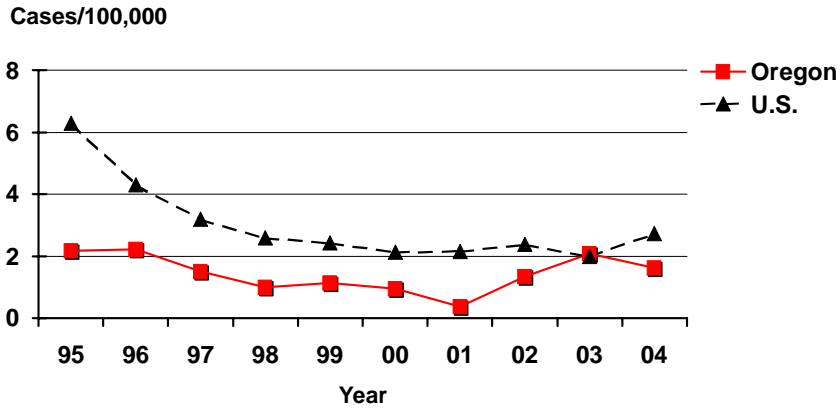
Early Syphilis by Report Month Oregon, 2004



Incidence of Early Syphilis by Age and Sex Oregon, 2004



Incidence of Early Syphilis Oregon vs. Nationwide 1995–2004



Incidence of Early Syphilis by County of Residence, Oregon 2004

