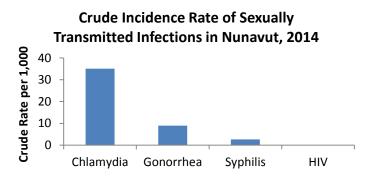
## **Sexually Transmitted Infection Rates in Nunavut, 2007–2014**



Sexual health is an important part of overall health and well-being. Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) are a major health concern in Nunavut and represent most of the reported communicable diseases. This report focuses on chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis. No new cases of HIV were reported from 2007–2014.



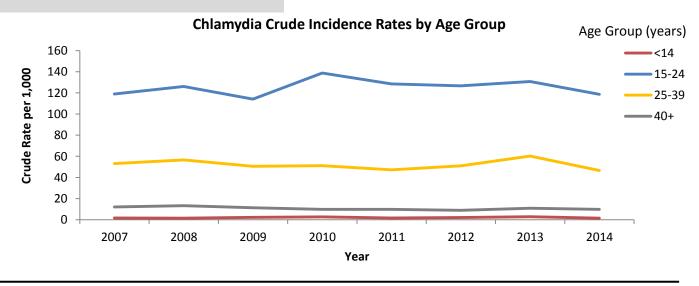
#### **CHLAMYDIA**

Chlamydia is a bacterial infection and the most commonly reported STI in Canada and in Nunavut. Many people with chlamydia do not show any signs but can still pass the infection on to others. Some people may have symptoms, such as unusual discharge, burning when urinating, and pain during sex. If left untreated, it can cause serious long-term health problems such as lower abdominal pain, testicular pain, infertility and sterility (unable to have children). A urine test can determine if you have chlamydia.

#### **Nunavut facts:**

- Chlamydia was the most commonly reported STI in 2014, with 1,285 new reported infections.
- Almost one-third (30%) of the reported infections in 2014 were in the 15–19 age group.
- The number of reported infections in 2014 is the lowest seen in Nunavut since 2009.

# Chlamydia Age-Standardized Incidence Rates\* 40 30 Nunavut Canada 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 Year



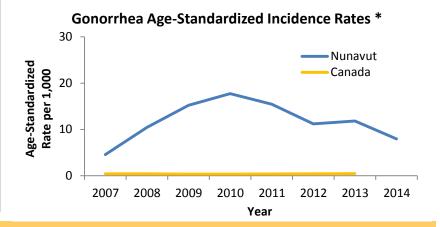
<sup>\*</sup>Age-standardized to 1991 Canadian population. National data for 2014 was not available at time of report.

#### **GONORRHEA**

Gonorrhea is a bacterial infection and is the second most commonly reported STI in Canada. Gonorrhea has similar symptoms and long-term health effects as chlamydia. Usually people cannot tell if they have gonorrhea but can still pass on the infection to others. A urine test can determine if you have the infection.

#### **Nunavut facts:**

- The gonorrhea rate appears to be decreasing, with 326 new reported infections in 2014.
- Most (66%) of the reported infections in 2014 were in the 15-24 age group.
- There were more reported infections for women in the younger age groups.



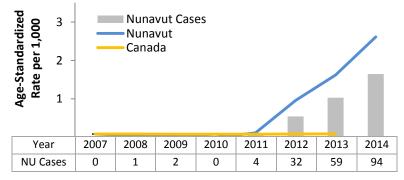
#### **SYPHILIS**

Syphilis is a bacterial infection and has been on the rise throughout Canada. Many people with syphilis do not show any signs but can still pass on the infection to others. Some people who are infected with syphilis may show symptoms such as sores around the genitals, mouth, or anus and rash on the palms or feet. If untreated, it can cause serious damage to the heart, brain, and other organs, and can even lead to death. A blood test can determine if you have syphilis.

#### **Nunavut facts:**

- Syphilis used to be rare in Nunavut, but an outbreak began in 2012. There were 94 cases in 2014.
- The average age of cases in 2014 is 31 years old, with more female cases (56%).

### Syphilis Age-Standardized Incidence Rates\*





Protect yourself and others; but most importantly respect yourself and your body.

- Use condoms every time you have sex.
- Get tested. Get treated.
- Stop the spread of STIs by asking your partners to get tested.

For more information, visit <u>www.irespectmyself.ca</u>, ask your Community Health Representative, or go to your local health centre or public health.

<sup>\*</sup>Age-standardized to 1991 Canadian population. National data for 2014 was not available at time of report.