

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs), such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, and genital human papillomavirus (HPV) can pose serious, long-term health complications for adolescents and young adults.⁵⁶ Although young people aged 15–24 years represent only one-quarter of the sexually experienced population, they acquire nearly half of all new STIs.⁵⁷

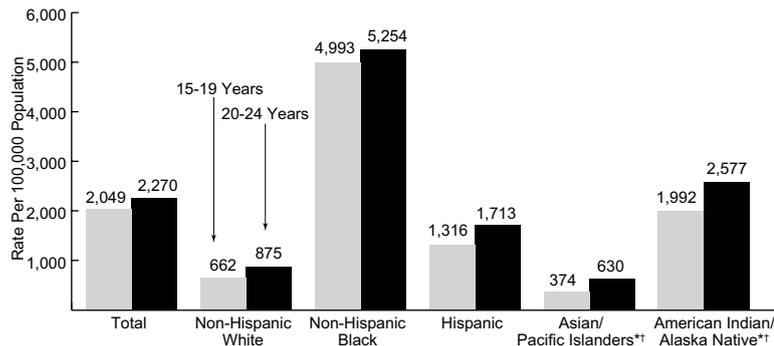
Among adolescents and young adults, Chlamydia continues to be the most common of all the STIs reported to the Centers for Dis-

ease Control and Prevention (CDC). There were 2,049 chlamydial infections per 100,000 adolescents aged 15-19 years and 2,270 per 100,000 young adults aged 20-24 years in 2010. Gonorrhea was less common, with rates of 410 and 490 per 100,000 in these age groups, respectively. Rates for both diseases vary by race and ethnicity. Among adolescents aged 15-19 years, the highest rate of chlamydia was reported among non-Hispanic Blacks (4,993 per 100,000), followed by American Indian/Alaska Natives (1,992 per 100,000). Rates of gonorrhea were also highest among these two racial/ethnic groups for adolescents and young adults.

Unlike chlamydia and gonorrhea, HPV infections are not required to be reported to the CDC; however, persistent infection of specific types of HPV can lead to cancer.⁵⁸ The overall prevalence of all types of HPV among females aged 14-59 is estimated to be 42.5 percent.⁵⁹ A vaccine for certain types of HPV was approved in 2006 for use in females aged 9–26 years and licensed in October 2009 for use in males aged 9-26 years.⁶⁰ In 2010, 53.0 percent of females aged 13–17 years had received at least one dose of the three-dose series.⁶¹

Reported Chlamydia Infection Rates Among Adolescents and Young Adults, by Age and Race/Ethnicity, 2010

Source (II.17): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, STD Surveillance System

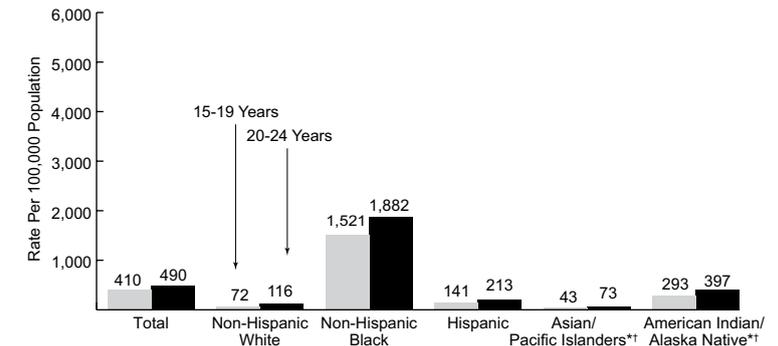


*Separate estimates for Asians and Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders were not available.

**May include Hispanics.

Reported Gonorrhea Infection Rates Among Adolescents and Young Adults, by Age and Race/Ethnicity, 2010

Source (II.17): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, STD Surveillance System



*Separate estimates for Asians and Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders were not available.

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