

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health



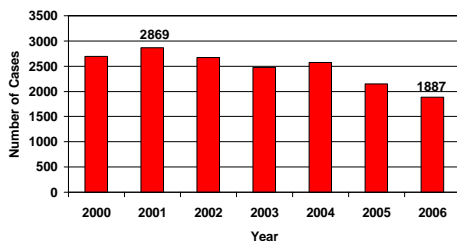
The Status of Gonorrhea,
Washington, DC, 2000-2006

In the United States, gonorrhea is the second most commonly reported notifiable disease, with 339,593 cases documented in 2005. The highest reported rates of gonorrhea are among sexually active teenagers, young adults, and African Americans.

Persons with gonorrhea are at risk of developing serious complications from the infection regardless of the presence or severity of symptoms.

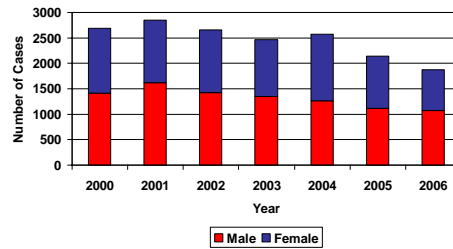
The number of cases of gonorrhea reported in the District of Columbia gradually decreased over the past 6 years, from 2869 in 2001 to 1887 in 2006 (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Gonorrhea, Washington, DC, 2000-2006



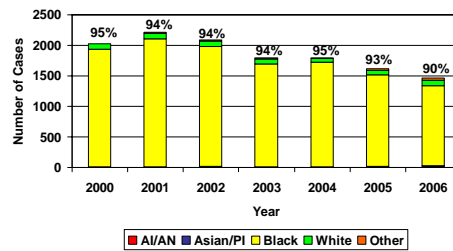
Unlike chlamydia, the number of cases of gonorrhea reported among males (in red) was equivalent to the number of cases reported among females (in blue) (Figure 2). This was true both locally and nationally.

Figure 2. Gonorrhea, by Sex, Washington, DC, 2000-2006



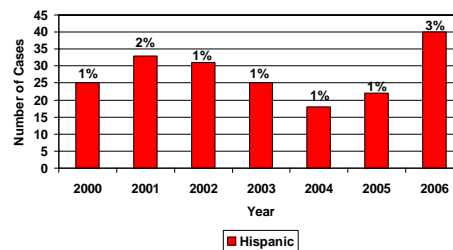
Most of the gonorrhea cases reported in Washington, DC were among African Americans (in yellow) (Figure 3). Between 2000 and 2004, among cases with race data available, the percentage of African American cases remained relatively stable (94%-95%). In 2006, the percentage decreased to 90%.

Figure 3. Gonorrhea, by Race, Washington, DC, 2000-2006



The number of cases of gonorrhea reported among Hispanics decreased from 2001 to 2004 – from 34 to 18, respectively - and then increased to 40 in 2006 (Figure 4).

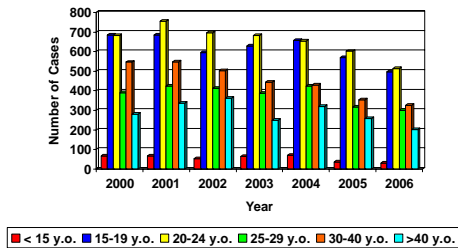
Figure 4. Gonorrhea, by Ethnicity, Washington, DC, 2000-2006



Among cases with ethnicity data available, though, the percentage of Hispanic cases remained relatively stable (from 1%-3%).

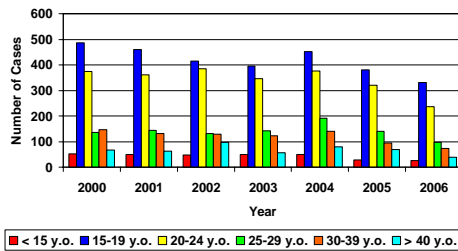
Most of the gonorrhea cases reported in the District were among 15-24 year olds (in dark blue and yellow) (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Gonorrhea, by Age Category, Washington, DC, 2000-2006



Among females, most of the gonorrhea cases were reported among 15-19 years olds (in dark blue) (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Gonorrhea Among Women, by Age Category, Washington, DC, 2000-2006

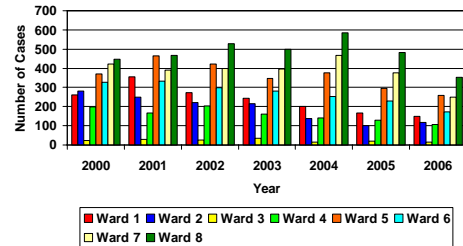


For each year, the most number of cases of gonorrhea were reported in Ward 8 (in dark green), followed closely by either Ward 5 (in orange) or Ward 7 (in cream) (Figure 7).

The number of cases of gonorrhea reported from the “STD Clinic” (in red) gradually decreased from 2001 to 2006 (Figure 8). From 2000 to 2005, the number of cases reported from

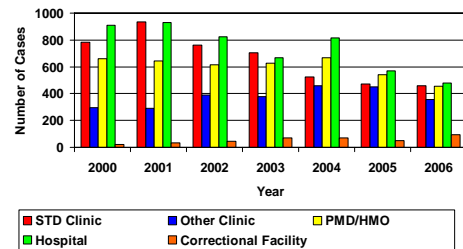
“Other Clinic” (in blue) gradually increased.

Figure 7. Gonorrhea, by Ward, Washington, DC, 2000-2006



Over the last 7 years, the number of cases reported from “Correctional Facility” (in orange) also gradually increased.

Figure 8. Gonorrhea, by Provider Type, Washington, DC, 2000-2006



In summary, the number of cases of gonorrhea reported in Washington, DC has decreased over the last 6 years. Cases were reported equally among males and females and were predominantly reported among Blacks and those 15-24 years of age.

CDC no longer recommends the use of fluoroquinolones for the treatment of gonococcal infections. Only the cephalosporins are recommended and available.

If you have any questions about the prevention, diagnosis, treatment or reporting of gonorrhea, please call the STD Control Program at (202) 727-9860(1) or (202) 442-4760.