

2017 STD Update

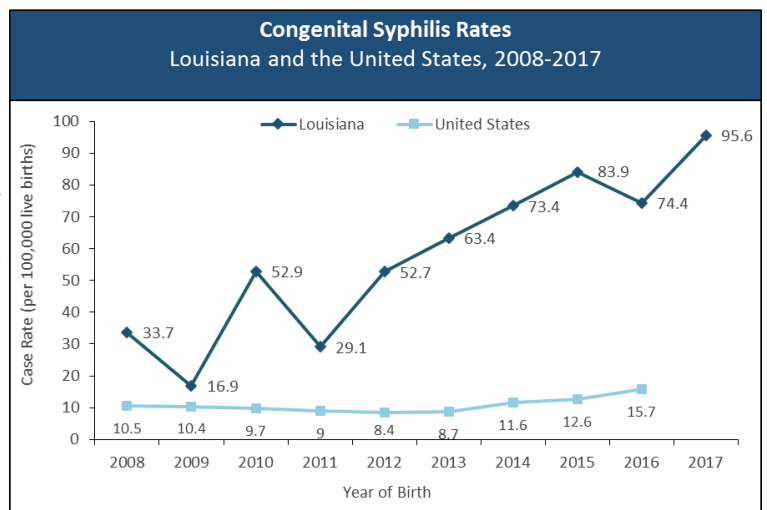
Congenital Syphilis, Louisiana

A case of congenital syphilis occurs when a pregnant women with a syphilis infection passes the infection on to her infant in utero or during delivery. This may result in stillbirth, death of the newborn, or significant future health and developmental problems. Congenital syphilis can be prevented by early detection of maternal syphilis and treatment at least 30 days before delivery. Below are CDC recommended treatments for different stages of syphilis during pregnancy.

Stage of Syphilis	Recommended Treatment
Primary, Secondary, or Early Latent Syphilis	2.4 M units benzathine penicillin (1 dose)
Latent, Duration Unknown	7.2 M units benzathine penicillin (3 doses at 1 week intervals)

Louisiana and the United States

- In 2017, Louisiana reported 59 cases of congenital syphilis, a 23% increase from 48 cases in 2016.
- In 2016, Louisiana ranked 1st in the U.S. for congenital syphilis case rates with a rate of 74 cases per 100,000 live births (48 cases), which was over five times the national rate of 16 cases per 100,000 live births.
- The 2017 U.S. congenital syphilis case rate has not yet been released; however, Louisiana's case rate has increased from 74 cases per 100,000 live births to nearly 96 cases per 100,000 live births in 2017.



Louisiana

In 2017, there were a total of 59 cases of congenital syphilis in Louisiana:

- Every public health region reported at least one case of congenital syphilis in 2017.
- **58%** of cases occurred in three regions of Louisiana: Lafayette (Region 4), Monroe (Region 8), and Shreveport (Region 7).
- **85%** of mothers were black, **12%** were white, and **5%** were Hispanic/Latina.
- **54%** of mothers were under the age of 25 at time of delivery.
- **88%** mothers received timely prenatal care that began at least 2 months prior to delivery. Of those women:
 - **14%** did not have a timely syphilis screening (at least 45 days prior to delivery).
 - Of those who had a timely syphilis test, **68%** were not retested during pregnancy.
 - **50%** did not have a third trimester test.

Congenital Syphilis Cases Geographic Distribution By Public Health Region, 2017

