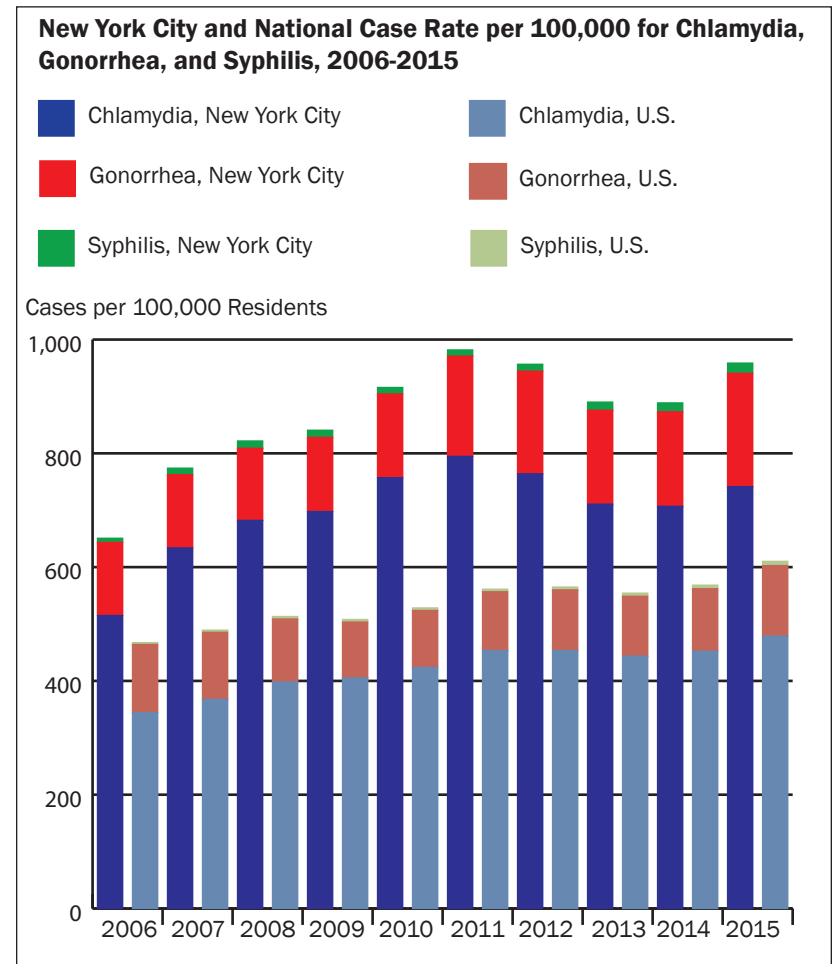


With Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases Rising in New York City, What Happened to Spending on Treatment and Prevention?

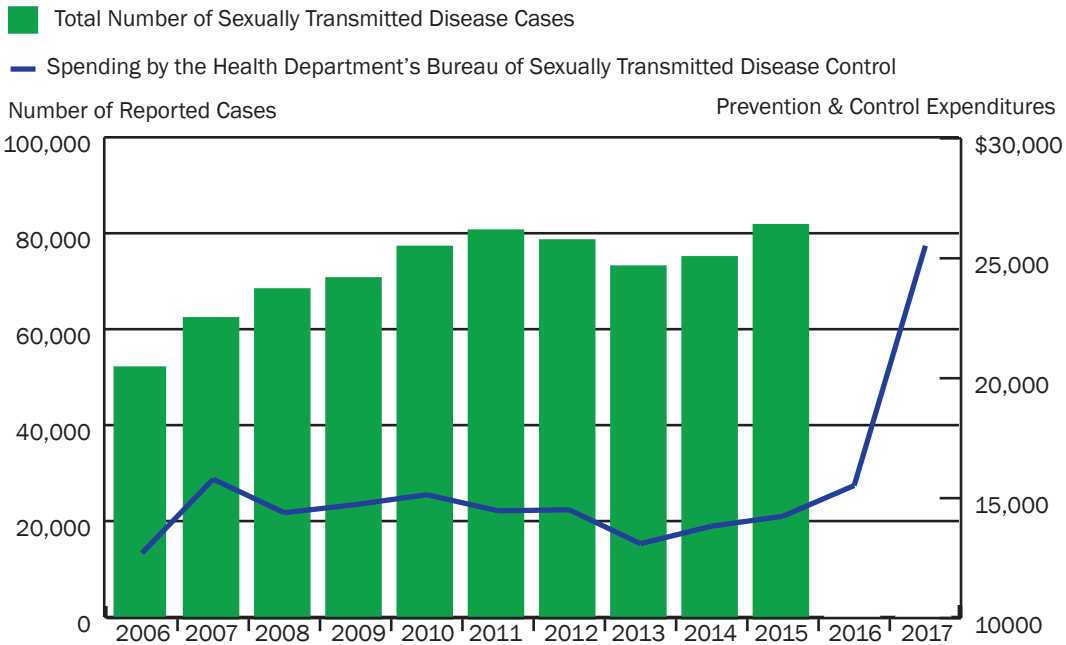
Cases of sexually transmitted diseases—chlamydia, gonorrhea, and (primary and secondary) syphilis—have reached their highest reported levels in 30 years in New York City and record levels nationwide. Officials at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have suggested that some of the increase in cases of sexually transmitted diseases can be attributed to budget cuts to state and local programs that provide testing and treatment. The director of the National Center for HIV/AIDS Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention declared in October, “STD [sexually transmitted disease] rates are rising and many of the country’s systems for preventing STDs have eroded.”

- The rate of reported cases of sexually transmitted diseases per 100,000 New York City residents continually outpaced the national rate over a recent 10-year period.
- For 2015, the city’s Department of Health and Mental Hygiene reported 1,521 cases of (primary and secondary) syphilis, a rate of 17.9 cases per 100,000 residents (up 16 percent since 2014), 16,913 cases of gonorrhea, or 199 per 100,000 (up 21 percent), and 62,965 cases of chlamydia, or 742 per 100,000 (up 6 percent).
- The number of reported cases of the three sexually transmitted diseases continued to rise over the first six months of 2016, with syphilis cases up 28 percent compared with the first six months of 2015, gonorrhea up 7 percent, and chlamydia up 6 percent.



Total Syphilis, Gonorrhea, and Chlamydia Cases and Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Spending on Prevention and Control

Dollars in thousands



NOTES: Actual spending in fiscal years 2006-2016 for sexually transmitted disease prevention and treatment. For fiscal year 2017, budgeted as of the January 2017 financial plan. Total number of syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia cases reported by calendar year.

- Despite the rise in sexually transmitted diseases in New York City over the 2006 through 2016 period, spending by the health department's Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Disease Control peaked at \$15.8 million in fiscal year 2007. Measured in inflation-adjusted dollars, spending actually fell 20 percent over the 2007-2016 period.
- Spurred by the growing number of cases, the city's budget for the Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Disease Control has jumped by \$10 million for fiscal year 2017—a 65 percent increase over 2016—to \$25.5 million. Most of that increase came from Mayor de Blasio and the City Council's NYC Plan to End the AIDS Epidemic, which allocated \$23.4 million for HIV/AIDS prevention and support services in 2017.

SOURCES: Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Disease Control; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Mayor's Office of Management and Budget

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