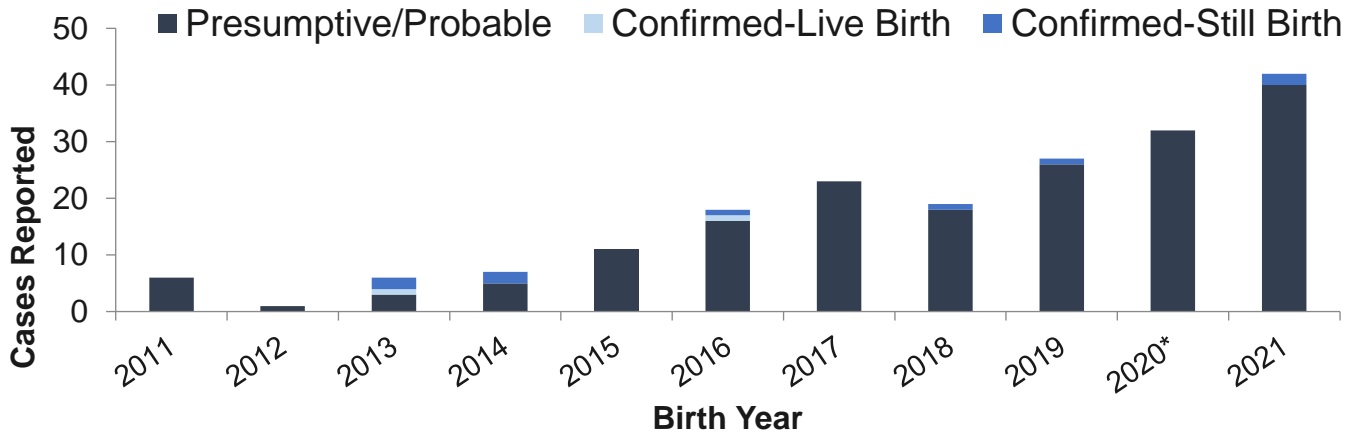




Congenital Syphilis in North Carolina, 2021

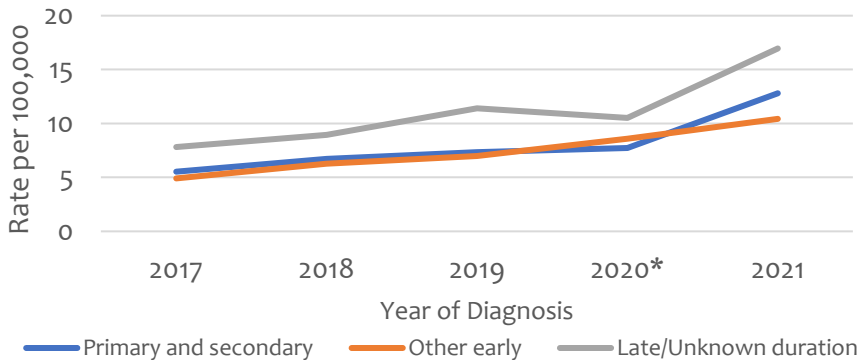


Congenital syphilis cases increased in 2021



Syphilis continues to increase in women 14-44

Syphilis Rates among Women aged 14-44 by Syphilis Stage
North Carolina, 2017-2021

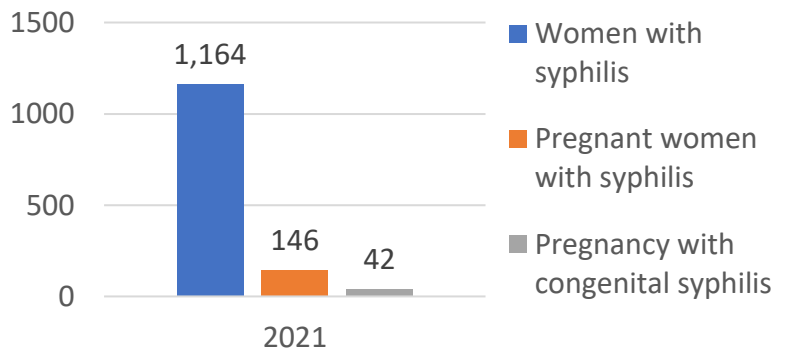


In 2021, 600 women were diagnosed with primary, secondary, or other early syphilis, and 562 were diagnosed with late/unknown duration syphilis.

Most women with syphilis during pregnancy are treated effectively

Most congenital syphilis is prevented

Women with Syphilis of Any Stage, NC 2021



*2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 7, 2022).



Congenital Syphilis in North Carolina, 2021



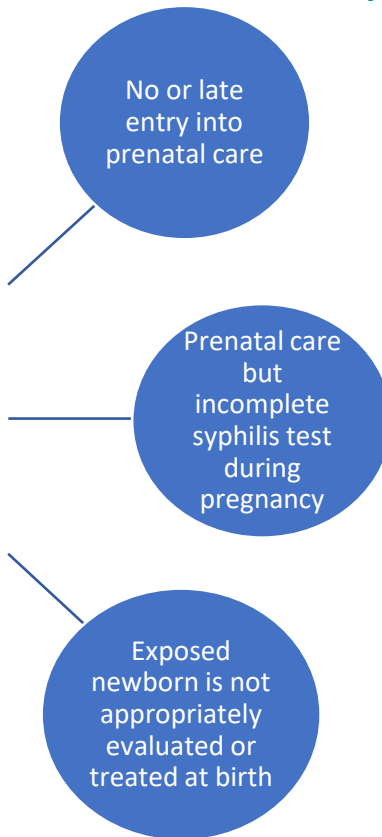
Syphilis testing during pregnancy is required for ALL women in NC

- Perform a thorough sexual health and behavioral risk assessment at every prenatal visit.
- Testing for syphilis is required at the first prenatal visit, between 28-30 weeks gestation, and at delivery.
- Treat all sexual partners of pregnant women diagnosed with syphilis to prevent re-infection.

Syphilis testing during pregnancy prevents congenital syphilis

How does a baby end up with congenital syphilis?

Findings from a review of NC congenital syphilis cases, 2016-2020



How to prevent?

- Identify women early in pregnancy and link to prenatal care.
- Test all women at delivery! This is the best safety net to identify infection among women and infants who had no or little prenatal care.
- Ensure **ALL** required testing is performed during pregnancy as described above and treat per the CDC guidelines.
- Ensure babies born to women who tested positive for syphilis are appropriately evaluated and treated for infection, per CDC guidelines.

What YOU can do

You deserve to have a healthy pregnancy and infant. Make sure that your doctor is testing you through out your pregnancy for STIs.