

Reported Early Syphilis Infections in Kansas Between 01-01-2007 and 12-31-2007



**Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention
STD Section**

<http://www.kdheks.gov/std>

“Mission- As the state’s environmental protection and public health agency, KDHE promotes responsible choices to protect the health and environment for all Kansans”

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State Summary:

Kansas had 53 reported early syphilis cases (infections less than 12 months duration) in calendar year (CY)2007. This was an eight case (18 %) increase compared to CY2006. Forty-one of the 53 (77%) total early syphilis cases reported in CY2007 resided in Wyandotte and Johnson Counties. Wyandotte reported 25 cases (47%) and Johnson reported 16 cases (30%). There were four early syphilis cases in Riley County and three in Sedgwick County. There were two cases in Butler County and one each in Cowley, Miami and Shawnee Counties.

Of the 53 reported early syphilis cases, 29 (55%) were diagnosed as primary or secondary (symptomatic) cases. Twenty-two (76%) of the 29 primary or secondary cases resided in either Wyandotte or Johnson Counties.

Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) interviewed all 53 early syphilis cases and were able to elicit 148 sexual partners and initiate 136 of these sexual partners for investigation. Additionally, DIS investigated 112 individuals in social networks (clusters) surrounding these cases. (Some individuals are deemed at risk for syphilis and are investigated but are not sexual contacts to syphilis cases.) Two hundred forty-eight individuals (4.7 individuals per case) were initiated for investigation. DIS identified eight new early syphilis infections from these investigations.

Whites accounted for 60% (32 cases) of the reported early syphilis cases in CY2007. African-Americans accounted for 32% (17 cases) of the reported early syphilis cases. Hispanic, with no race elicited, accounted for three cases or 6% of the early syphilis cases and American Indians accounted for one case (2%).

The male to female ratio of the 53 reported early syphilis cases in Kansas for CY2007 was 1:0.2 (40/13). The ratio is weighted heavily towards males due to the high percentage of cases among the men that reported having sex with men (MSM).

Forty percent (21) of the reported early syphilis cases were diagnosed through public providers. Within the MSM syphilis cases, individuals were typically urban, white, affluent and seeking diagnosis and treatment at their private medical provider's office. As a result, sixty percent (32) of the early syphilis cases in CY2007 were diagnosed by private providers.

The median age of an individual infected with early syphilis in Kansas for CY2007 was 38 years of age with the age range of 18 to 67 years of age. Sixty-four percent (34 cases) of the early syphilis cases were reported in individuals over 35 years of age. Fifteen percent (8 cases) were reported in the 20-24 age group and 9% (5 cases) were reported in the 25-29 age group. Eight percent (4 cases) were reported in the 15-19 age group and six percent (3 cases) in the 30-34 age group.

There were no congenital syphilis cases reported in Kansas for CY2007.



Men That Have Sex with Men (MSM) Syphilis Cases:

Early syphilis cases diagnosed in men that have sex with men (MSM) as well as co-infections with HIV was a continuing trend in Kansas for CY2007. Since the first half of 2004, 88 MSM have been diagnosed with early syphilis. Of those 88 men, 43 (49%) were co-infected with HIV.

In CY2007 there were a total of 53 reported early syphilis cases in Kansas of which 29 (55%) were MSM. Syphilis diagnosed in MSM is concentrated around men who frequent social/sexual networks out of the state, particularly in Kansas City, MO. In CY2007, 20 of the 29 (69%) MSM early syphilis cases reported in Kansas resided in either Wyandotte or Johnson Counties. Both these counties are adjacent to Kansas City, MO.

Thirty-eight percent (11/29) of syphilis cases diagnosed in MSM were co-infected with HIV.

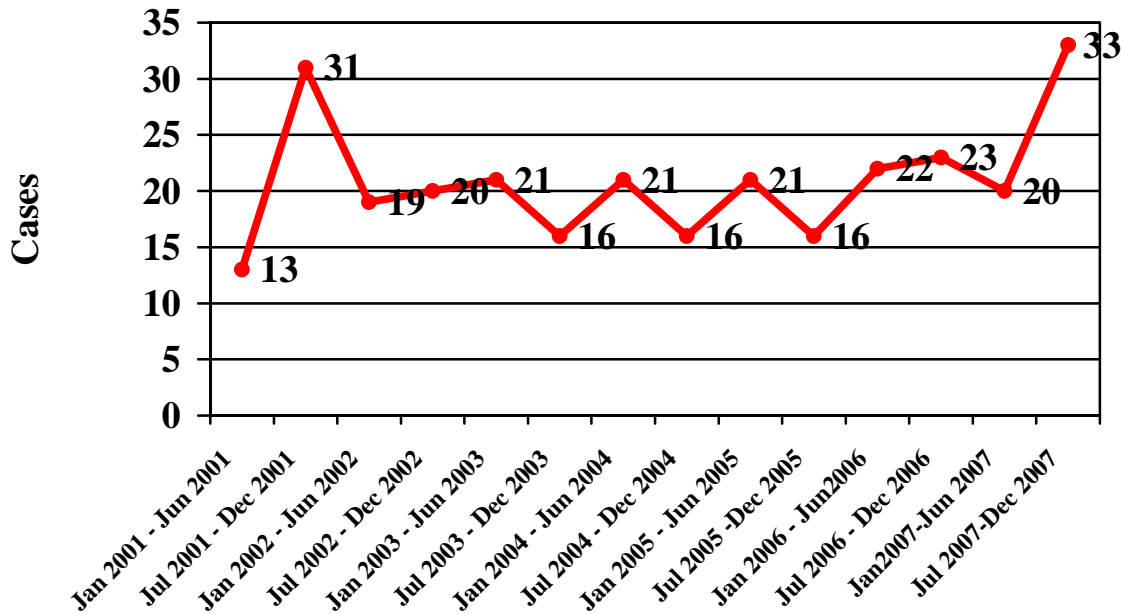
Re-emergence of Syphilis in Traditional Risk Groups in Wyandotte County:

Kansas experienced a 50% increase in reported syphilis cases not related to MSM from CY2006 (16) through CY2007 (24). All but two of these syphilis cases in CY2007 named drug use and/or money for sex and drugs as a risk in their interviews. Crack cocaine was the drug of choice by 86% (19/22) of the syphilis cases that admitted to drug use. Wyandotte County accounted for 79% (19/24) of syphilis cases not related to MSM in Kansas in CY2007.



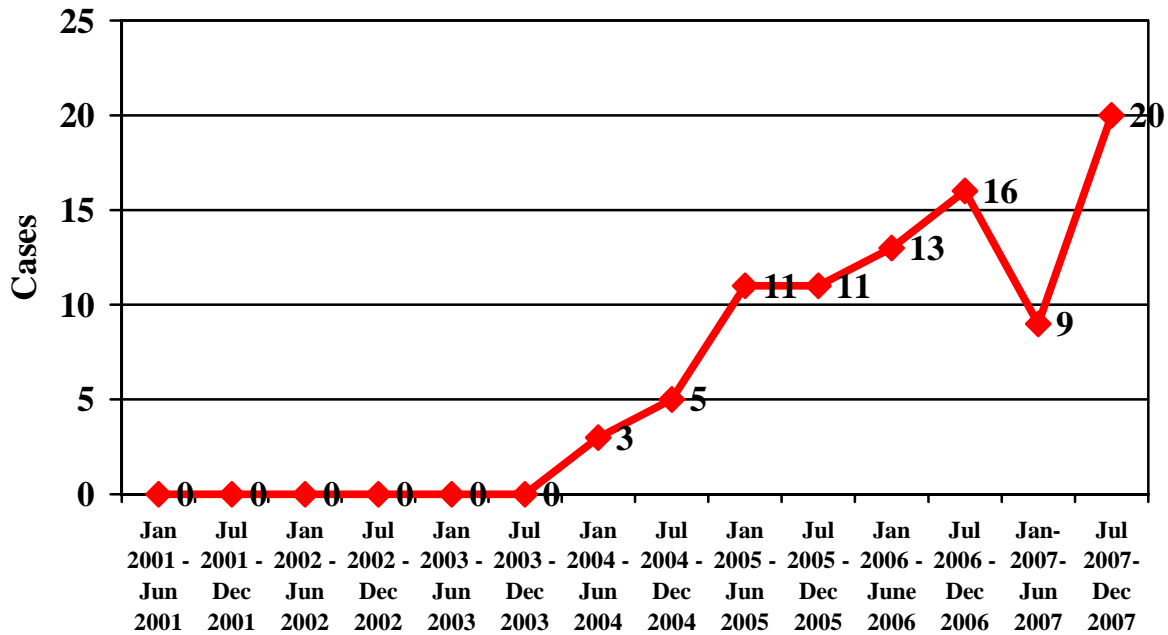
Total Early Syphilis in Kansas

January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2007



MSM Early Syphilis in Kansas

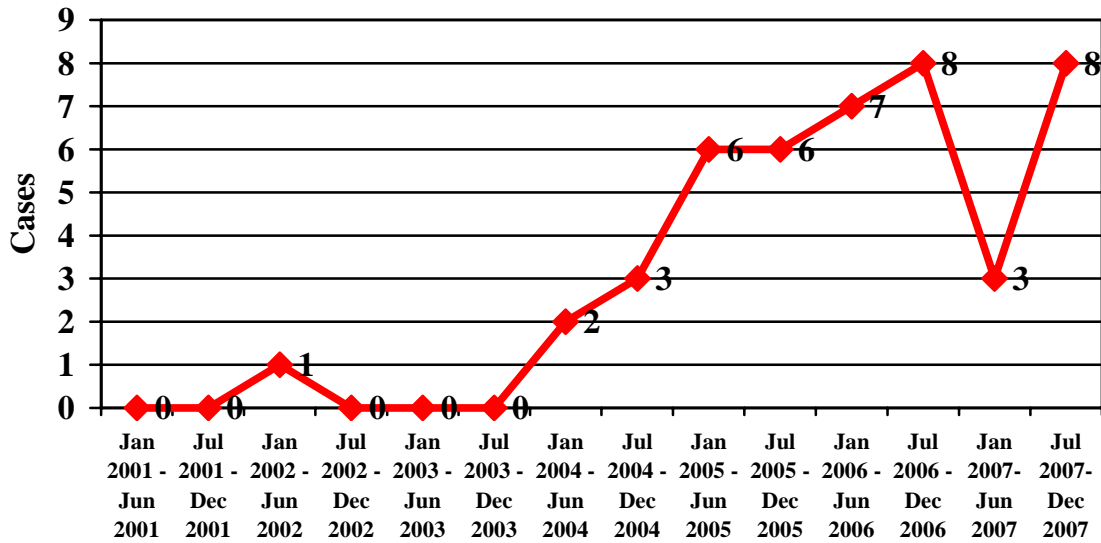
January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2007



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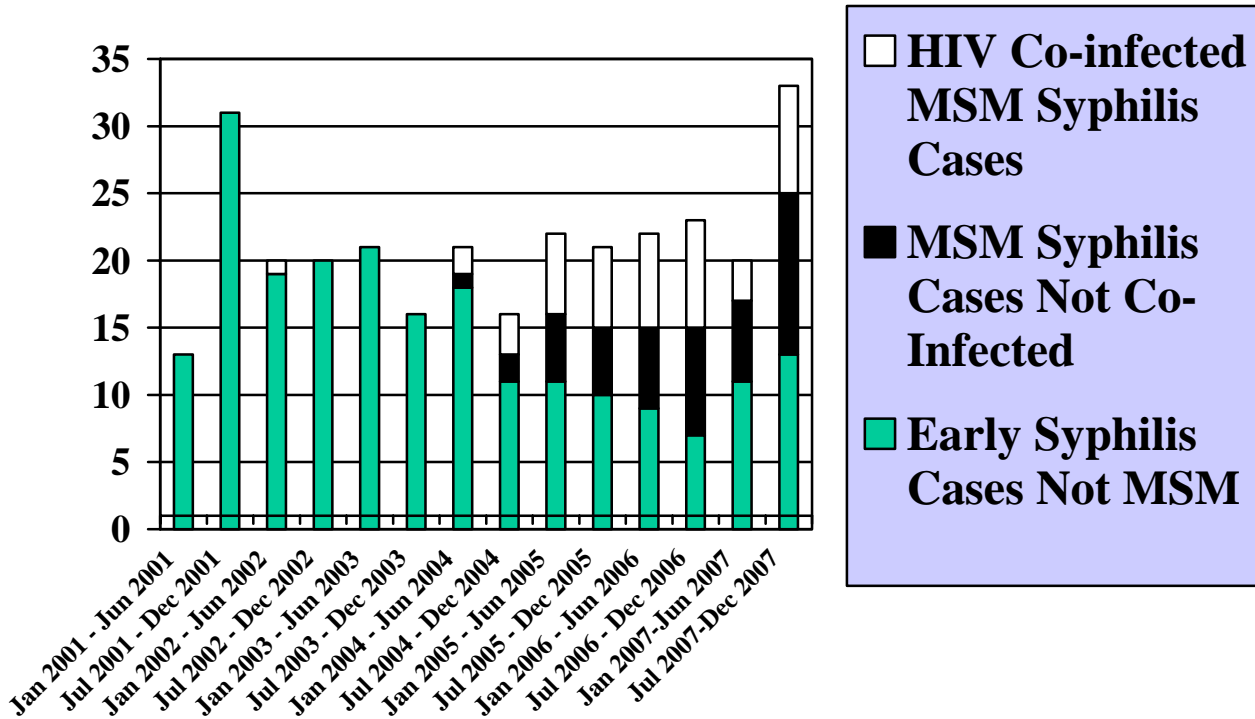
Early Syphilis in Kansas Co-infected with HIV

January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2007

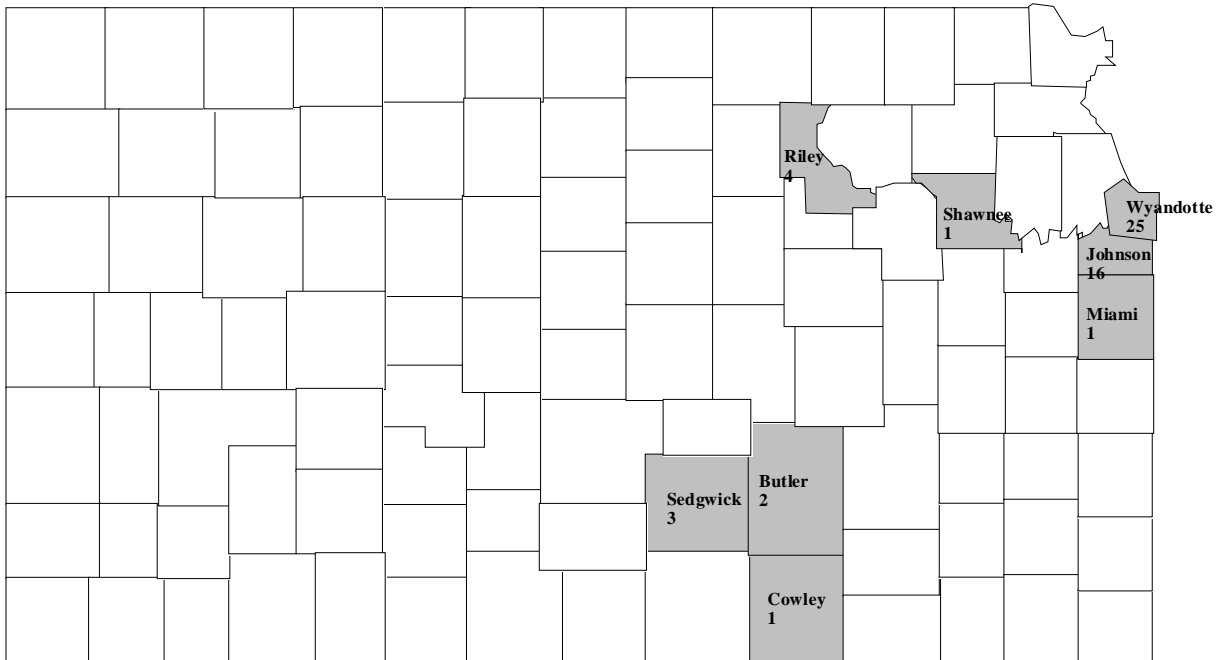


Total/MSM/HIV Co-infected Early Syphilis in Kansas

January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2007



State of Kansas Counties with Syphilis CY2007



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