



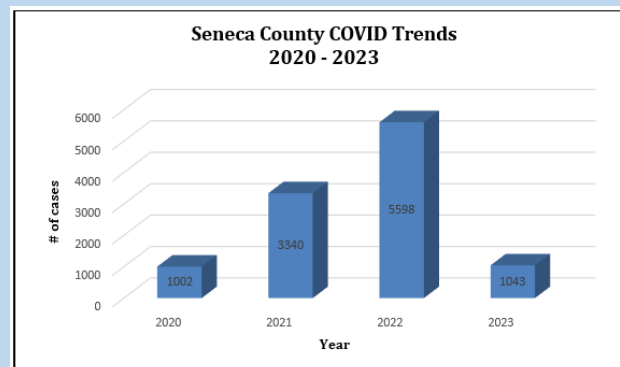
2023 Communicable Disease Snapshot

| Disease | # of cases |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Anaplasmosis | 6 |
| Babesiosis | 1 |
| Campylobacteriosis | 15 |
| Chlamydia | 56 |
| COVID-19 | 1043 |
| Cryptosporidiosis | 1 |
| Giardiasis | 8 |
| Gonorrhea | 22 |
| Group A Strep | 6 |
| Group B Strep | 1 |
| Haemophilus | 1 |
| Hepatitis A—Acute | 0 |
| Hepatitis B - Chronic | 8 |
| Hepatitis C - Acute | 0 |
| Hepatitis C - Chronic | 117 |
| Influenza A (2022-2023) | 718 |
| Influenza B (2022-2023) | 7 |
| Legionellosis | 1 |
| Mpox | 1 |
| Pertussis | 5 |
| Salmonellosis | 5 |
| Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli | 7 |
| Strep pneumoniae | 1 |
| Syphilis (new cases) | 14 |
| Vibriosis | 1 |
| Yersiniosis | 2 |

Communicable Disease Overview

Communicable disease staff monitored and investigated mostly routine diseases during 2023. The chart on the left shows the diseases investigated. Of note, there were 5 cases of lab-confirmed pertussis, 4 of which were within the Mennonite community, and 1 in a vaccinated public school student. We were made aware anecdotally that there were additional cases circulating within the Mennonite community that were not being reported. As a result, we saw an increase in the number of Mennonite families seeking pertussis vaccinations from the Health Department, which we were happy to provide. We also doubled our efforts in educating and promoting the pertussis vaccination to help prevent the continued spread of disease.

The bar graph below shows the trends for total number of Seneca County COVID-19 cases since the start of the pandemic in 2020. As shown in the graph, the number of cases reported in 2023 dropped significantly from the previous year. This may have been due to an actual decrease in the number of cases, or due to less cases being diagnosed and reported. We continue to promote staying home when sick and practicing good respiratory hygiene to decrease transmission of illness.



There are new reporting requirements for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and varicella. Effective 12/20/2023, laboratory-confirmed RSV in persons of any age, deaths caused by laboratory-confirmed RSV in persons younger than 18 years, and all varicella cases (not shingles/zoster) are included in the reportable communicable disease list in New York State. For questions on these reporting requirements, please contact our nursing department.

Thank you to our Seneca County medical providers for their cooperation in reporting communicable diseases and STIs. We value your partnership in helping us identify and mitigate potential outbreaks and for ensuring the health and wellness of our residents. For questions regarding this report or services provided by Seneca County Health Department, please contact us at (315) 539-1920

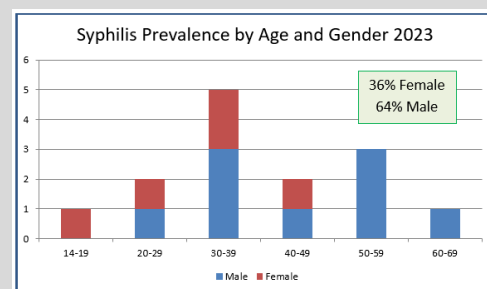
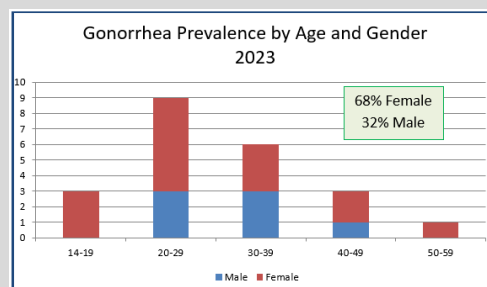
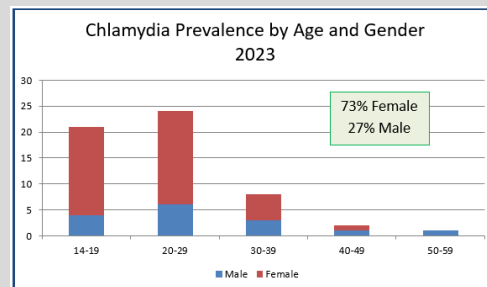
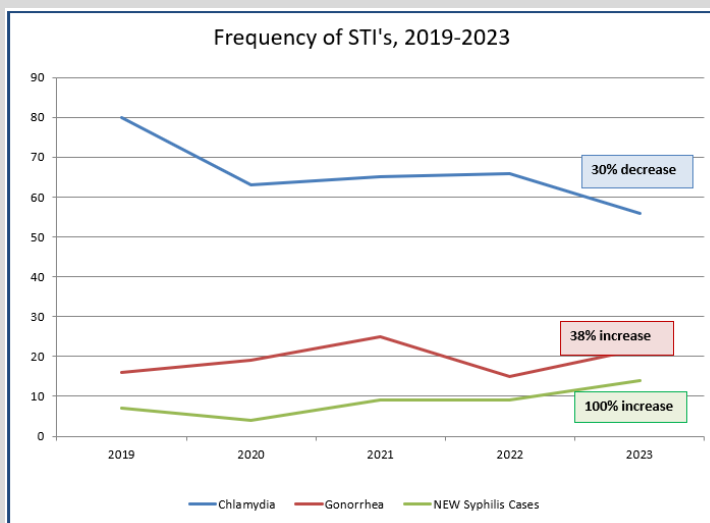
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Sexually Transmitted Infections

- The treatment of choice for chlamydia is doxycycline 100 mg orally twice daily for 7 days. When nonadherence to doxycycline regimen is a substantial concern, azithromycin 1 g regimen is an alternative treatment option but might require post-treatment evaluation and testing because it has demonstrated lower treatment efficacy among persons with rectal infection.
- The recommended treatment for gonorrhea is a single 500 mg dose of ceftriaxone IM. **The two drug approach is no longer recommended.** Because re-infection is common, men and women with gonorrhea should be retested three months after treatment of the initial infection, regardless of whether they believe that their sex partners were successfully treated.
- Primary, secondary or early latent syphilis is treated with a single IM injection of benzathine penicillin G (2.4 million units) while late latent syphilis or latent syphilis of unknown duration requires three doses at weekly intervals. Please contact Public Health for assistance with staging.



Rabies

In 2023 Seneca County held 4 free drive-thru rabies clinics which resulted in the vaccination of 334 animals. Environmental Health handled 66 bite reports resulting in 10 day confinements for the animals. Nineteen animals were sent for rabies testing, of which 1 cat tested positive for rabies. Twenty people were sent for post exposure rabies shots. It is very important to catch and save any bat found in the home, then contact the Health Dept. to determine if it needs to be tested for rabies.

Please remember that animal bites are reportable to Environmental Health. Please obtain as much information as possible about the biting animal so that we can follow up with the owner and ensure the animal is healthy or start rabies post-exposure treatment if necessary.

Tuberculosis

Sixteen tuberculosis skin tests (TST) were administered by Seneca County Public Health in 2023. Public Health received 8 referrals for follow up investigation, of those referrals— 1 was ruled in for Latent TB. This case started treatment but had to stop due to extensive medication allergies. We also received one interjurisdictional transfer of a latent TB case that was already undergoing treatment. No cases of active TB were identified in 2023.

CDC and NTCA preferentially recommend the following regimens for treatment of latent TB infection:

- Three months of once-weekly isoniazid plus rifapentine (3HP).
- Four months of daily rifampin (4R).
- Three months of daily isoniazid plus rifampin (3HR). If short-course treatment is not a feasible or available option, CDC and NTCA recommend six or nine months of daily isoniazid (6H/9H) as alternative, effective latent TB infection treatment regimens.