

# SYPHILIS

## Data sources:

NBPSDHU regional syphilis (infectious and other) confirmed cases – Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS), extracted 2015/10/19.

Public Health Ontario. Query: Ontario: Counts by Age and Gender. Toronto, ON: Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion 2016 Oct 19 [cited 2016 Oct 24] Available from: <http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/DataAndAnalytics/Query/Pages/default.aspx>

NBPSDHU & Ontario Population – 2006-2015 Population estimates, IntelliHEALTH database, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care [2016/10/25]

## Rate calculations:

Crude rates were age-standardized using the Direct Method and standard 1991 Canadian population. Confidence intervals (95%) were calculated for age-standardized rates based on the gamma distribution (Fay and Feuer, 1997; Tiwari and al., 2006) in STATA IC/14.1 (2013) for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU) region and Ontario.

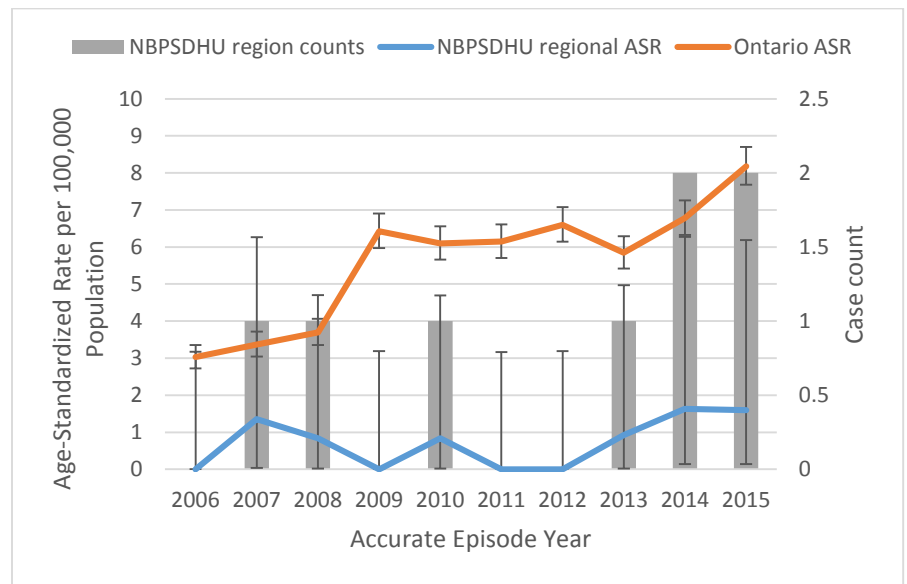
## Interpretation of a significant difference:

A statistic interpreted as 'significantly different' from another is an estimate found to be statistically meaningful; the difference is unlikely due to chance. Error bars noted in figures within this report illustrate 95% confidence intervals. If there is no overlap in range, the difference can be described as statistically significant.

## Overall rates of Infectious Syphilis

In 2015, two cases of infectious syphilis were identified within the NBPSDHU region in 2015 (see Figure 1 & Table 1). The age-standardized rate (ASR) for confirmed infectious syphilis cases in the NBPSDHU region has remained stable between 2006 and 2015, while the age-standardized rate for Ontario has increased significantly by almost three times the rate in 2006.

Figure 1. Count and Age-Standardized Rate per 100,000 Population of Confirmed Infectious Syphilis Cases, by Region, 2006 – 2015



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## Definitions:

### *Infectious syphilis case:*

Includes confirmed cases of primary, secondary, infectious neurosyphilis, and early latent syphilis as defined by the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care (Infectious Diseases Protocol: Syphilis, Appendix B. Available from [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph\\_standards/docs/syphilis\\_cd.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph_standards/docs/syphilis_cd.pdf).)

### *Other syphilis case:*

Includes confirmed non-infectious neurosyphilis, late latent, and unspecified syphilis cases as defined by the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care (Infectious Diseases Protocol: Syphilis, Appendix B. Available from [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph\\_standards/docs/syphilis\\_cd.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph_standards/docs/syphilis_cd.pdf).)

Table 1. Count and Age-Standardized Rate per 100,000 Population of Confirmed Infectious Syphilis Cases, by Region, 2006 – 2015

Accurate Episode Year	NBPSDHU Regional Case Count	NBPSDHU Regional Age-Standardized Rate (95% CI)	Ontario Age-Standardized Rate (95% CI)
2006	0	0.0 (0.0, 3.2)	3.0 (2.7, 3.4)
2007	1	1.4 (0.0, 6.3)	3.4 (3.0, 3.7)
2008	1	0.8 (0.0, 4.7)	3.7 (3.4, 4.1)
2009	0	0.0 (0.0, 3.2)	6.4 (6.0, 6.9)
2010	1	0.8 (0.0, 4.7)	6.1 (5.7, 6.6)
2011	0	0.0 (0.0, 3.2)	6.1 (5.7, 6.6)
2012	0	0.0 (0.0, 3.2)	6.6 (6.1, 7.1)
2013	1	0.9 (0.0, 5)	5.8 (5.4, 6.3)
2014	2	1.6 (0.1, 6.3)	6.8 (6.3, 7.3)
2015	2	1.6 (0.1, 6.2)	8.2 (7.7, 8.7)

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## Overall rates of Other Syphilis

The age-standardized rate for other syphilis confirmed cases has been stable since 2006 within the NBPSDHU region, but has decreased significantly in Ontario (see Figure 2 & Table 2). A median of two cases occurred within the NBPSDHU region between 2006 and 2015.

Figure 2. Count and Age-Standardized Rate per 100,000 Population of Confirmed Other Syphilis Cases, by Region, 2006 – 2015

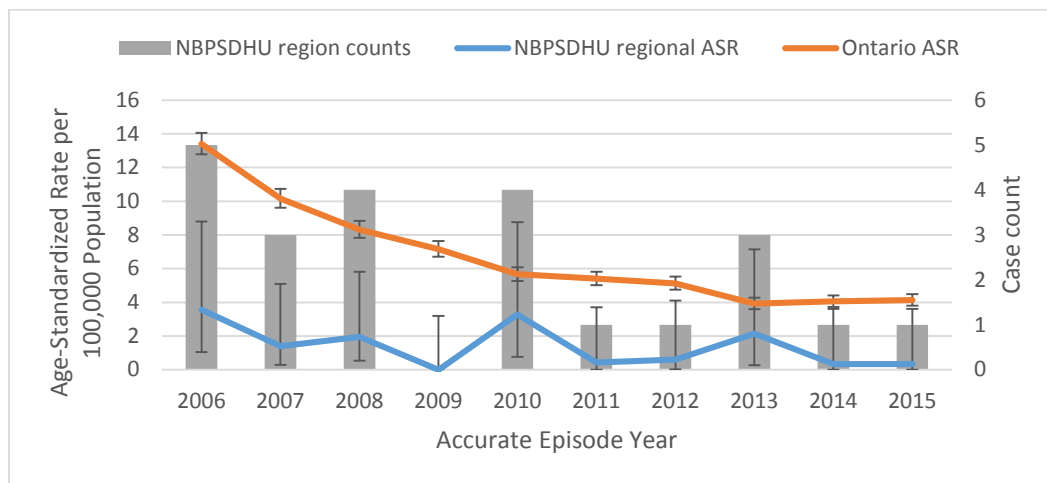


Table 2. Count and Age-Standardized Rate per 100,000 Population of Confirmed Other Syphilis Cases, by Region, 2006 – 2015

Accurate Episode Year	NBPSDHU Regional Case Count	NBPSDHU Regional Age-Standardized Rate (95% CI)	Ontario Age-Standardized Rate (95% CI)
2006	5	3.6 (1.1, 8.8)	13.4 (12.8, 14)
2007	3	1.4 (0.3, 5.1)	10.2 (9.6, 10.7)
2008	4	1.9 (0.5, 5.8)	8.3 (7.8, 8.8)
2009	0	0.0 (0.0, 3.2)	7.2 (6.7, 7.6)
2010	4	3.3 (0.8, 8.8)	5.7 (5.3, 6.1)
2011	1	0.4 (0.0, 3.7)	5.4 (5, 5.8)
2012	1	0.6 (0.0, 4.1)	5.1 (4.7, 5.5)
2013	3	2.1 (0.3, 7.2)	3.9 (3.6, 4.3)
2014	1	0.3 (0, 3.6)	4.1 (3.7, 4.4)
2015	1	0.3 (0, 3.6)	4.1 (3.8, 4.5)