

2020 STI Surveillance Data and COVID-19

STI case numbers in 2020 may be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The first stay at home orders for King County were issued near the end of quarter 1 and any observed decreases in STIs maybe be from changes in STI screening and/or changes in sexual behavior during the pandemic.

STI Case Counts

Table 1: King County STI morbidity

	2019		2020	
	2019Q4	YTD	2020Q4	YTD
Gonorrhea (GC)*	1248	4710	1067	4260
GC: MSM	579	2417	448	1567
Urethral GC	151	641	117	408
Rectal GC	281	1140	230	776
Pharyngeal GC	285	1262	217	747
GC: Women^	307	1087	280	1158
GC: MSW^	250	809	186	719
GC: Transgender‡	5	31	24	51
Chlamydia (CT)*	3595	11245	1990	8454
CT: Men	1694	5457	928	4023
CT: Women	1873	5723	1051	4387
CT: Transgender‡	5	31	10	26
Total Syphilis (all stages)*	226	1000	242	843
Primary and secondary	85	350	98	331
Early latent	90	400	80	318
Late + unk duration	51	247	63	192
Early syphilis: MSM	138	631	120	453
Early syphilis: Women	11	31	26	54
Early syphilis: MSW	9	38	17	55
Early syphilis: Transgender‡	3	9	3	20
Congenital syphilis	0	3	1	2

*Column may not equal total due to missing gender or sexual preference data.

^ Genital tract infection

‡ Transgender identity relies on reporting from medical providers and Partner Services Interviews. Data presented here are a potential undercount.

Table 2: King County newly diagnosed HIV cases*

	2019		2020	
	2019Q3	YTD	2020Q3	YTD
Total†	65	189	48	145
MSM	41	119	34	100
Women	17	40	7	26
MSW	2	5	0	3
Transgender‡	0	4	0	2

* Data shown for prior quarter due to reporting delay.

† Column may not equal total due to missing sexual preference data.

‡ Transgender identity relies on review of information documented in medical records and obtained through Partner Services Interviews. Data presented here are a potential undercount.

Trends in STI Morbidity

Figure 2: Quarterly King County STI morbidity among MSM**

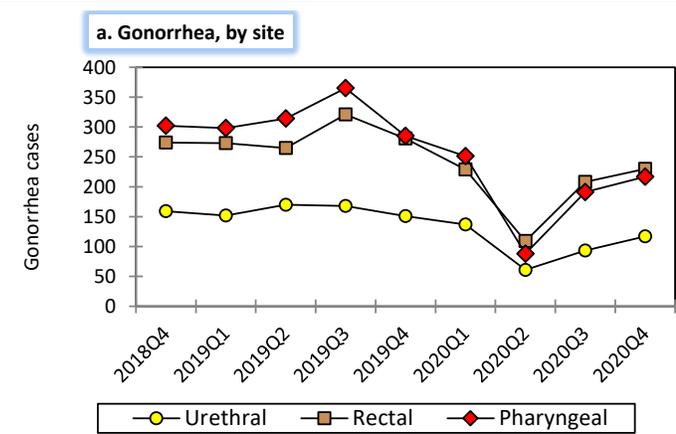
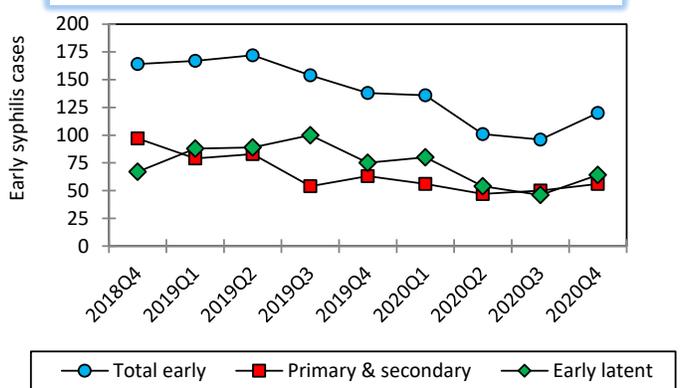


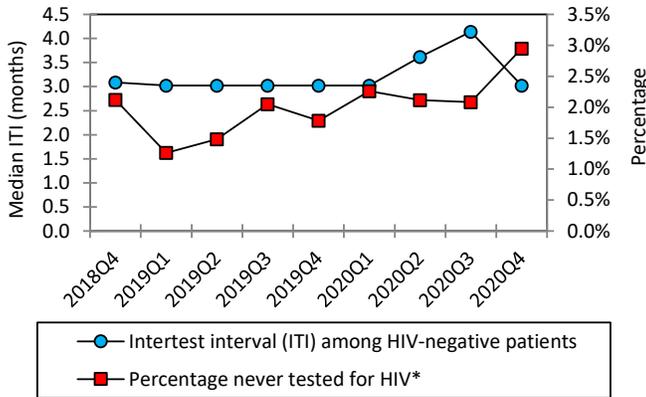
Figure 1: Quarterly King County STI morbidity, women and MSW**



**Footnote: Chlamydia case data on gender of sex partners and anatomic site of infection are incomplete for these time periods. For this reason chlamydia cases are not shown for MSM or MSW.

Trends in STI Morbidity

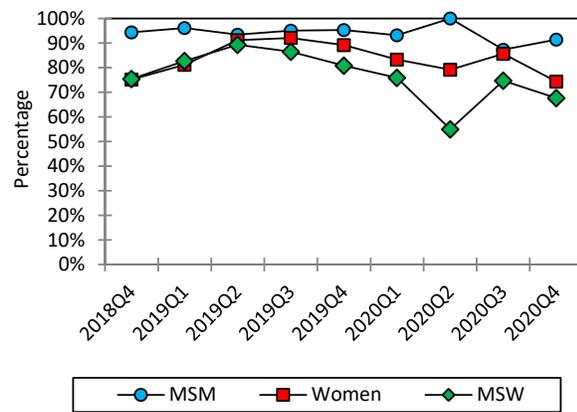
Figure 3: HIV testing among PHSKC Sexual Health Clinic patients, MSM (note different scales)



* Denominator includes patients who reported never testing or negative/unknown results

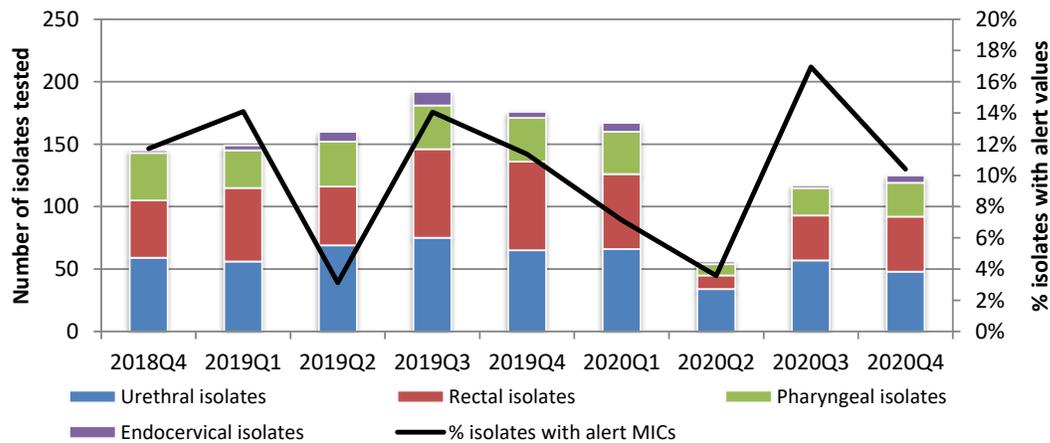
HIV testing should be performed annually on low-risk MSM and quarterly on high-risk MSM^a.

Figure 4: Percentage of King County residents with a bacterial STI tested for HIV (excludes HIV+ residents)



Anyone diagnosed with a bacterial STI should be tested for HIV.

Figure 5: Percentage of SURRG^b isolates with alert values for cephalosporins or azithromycin (note scales)



Alert value = Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC, lowest antibiotic concentration needed to halt bacterial growth) is higher than preset thresholds^c. Alert value MICs represent decreased susceptibility to an antibiotic but may not represent resistance.

Footnotes and Abbreviations:

MSM = Men who have sex with men
MSW = Men who have sex with women

^aHigh-risk = MSM with any one of the following in the prior year: diagnosis of a bacterial STI, methamphetamine or popper use, ≥10 sex partners (anal or oral), or unprotected anal sex with a partner of unknown or discordant HIV status
Low-risk = sexually active MSM who do not meet high-risk criteria

^bSURRG = Strengthening the U.S. Response to Resistant Gonorrhea Surveillance, supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

^cAlert values:
Ceftriaxone MIC ≥ 0.125 µg/ml
Cefixime MIC ≥ 0.25 µg/ml
Azithromycin MIC ≥ 2.0 µg/ml

Table 3: SURRG isolates with alert values for cephalosporins (ceph) or azithromycin (azi)

	2020Q4		YTD	
	N	(%)	N	(%)
Unique cases tested*	91		362	
MSM	64		257	
MSW	22		86	
Women	5		15	
Transgender	0		1	
Alert cases and % of cases with alert MICs	Azi	Ceph	Azi	Ceph
	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)
Unique alert cases*	8 (9)	0 (0)	30 (8)	0 (0)
MSM	7 (11)	0 (0)	27 (11)	1 (0)
MSW	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (1)	0 (0)
Women	1 (20)	0 (0)	2 (13)	0 (0)
Transgender	0 (-)	0 (-)	0 (0)	0 (0)

* Column may not equal total due to missing sexual preference data