

Sexually Transmitted Infections

[RACIAL & ETHNIC DISPARITIES](#)[GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES](#)[DOWNLOAD](#)

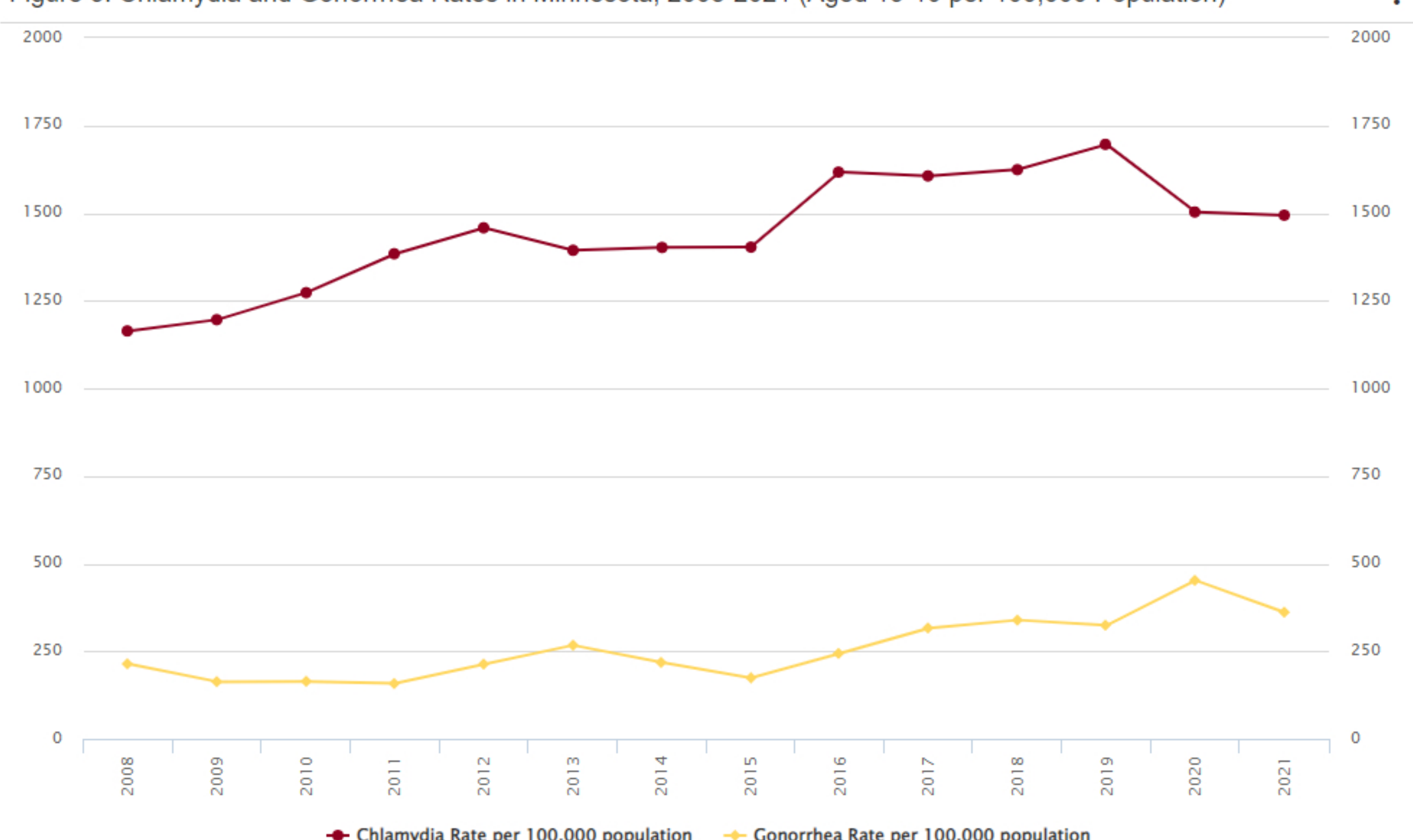
Although they account for only 6.5% of the population in Minnesota, adolescents age 15-19 accounted for (24.3)% of the chlamydia and 13.7% of the gonorrhea cases in Minnesota in 2020. (9,11)

Adolescents experience a disproportionately high rate of sexually transmitted infections. This is likely due to a combination of: biological, behavioral, and cultural factors; barriers to accessing health services such as transportation, cost, and concerns about confidentiality; and peer and media influences.(12)

From 2020 to 2021, gonorrhea and chlamydia rates decreased among Minnesota youth (Figure 5).

There were 11 new cases of HIV among 15-19 year old's in Minnesota in 2021. There are currently 53 adolescents (aged 15-19) living with HIV in Minnesota.(9)

Figure 5. Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Rates in Minnesota, 2008-2021 (Aged 15-19 per 100,000 Population)



Racial/ Ethnic Disparities

STI rates are disproportionately high in BIPOC youth in Minnesota (9).

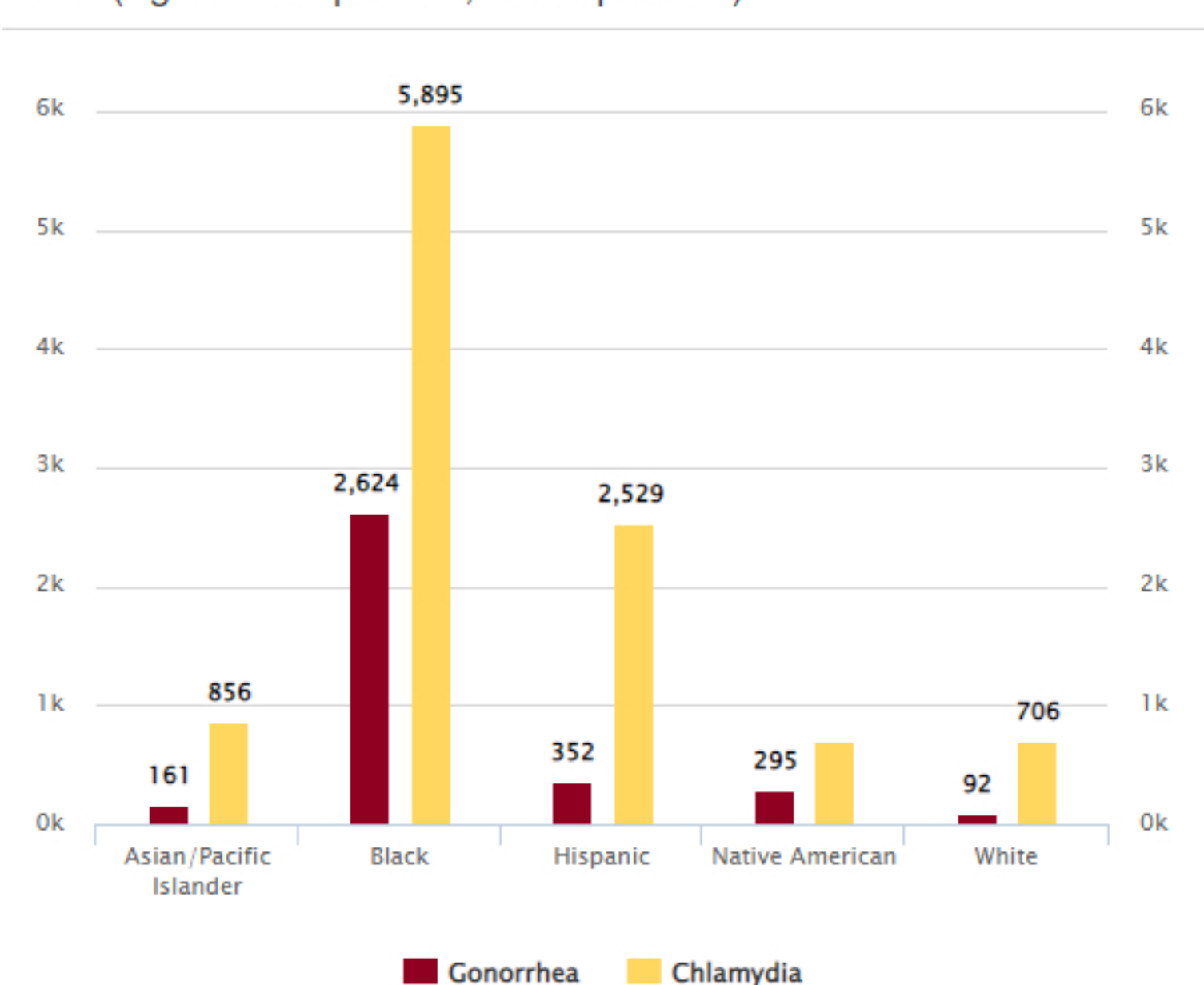
In 2021, the rates of gonorrhea were highest among Black youth. Gonorrhea rates for Black youth in Minnesota were 2.5 times higher compared to white youth.

Improving adolescent sexual health outcomes start where we live, learn, work, and play

Pregnancy, birth and STI rates among Minnesota's adolescents continue to vary across racial and ethnic groups, socioeconomic status and geography. While many programs and services focus on changing individual behaviors that lead to pregnancy, increasing attention is being paid to the social determinants that contribute to poor health outcomes through systematic lack of access to resources, power and opportunity.(13)

Higher rates of adolescent pregnancy have been linked with concentrated poverty, residential segregation, unemployment, and lack of access to health care and education.(14-17) Strategies to eliminate these persistent disparities must address the social determinants of health which disproportionately affect young people in communities of color.(18)

Minnesota Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Rates by Race/Ethnicity, 2021 (Aged 15-19 per 100,000 Population)



Racial categories are disaggregated as non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic Black.

Black is used to be consistent with state and national racial categories, and because data includes foreign-born and U.S. born populations.

Hispanic represents Hispanic ethnicity, accounting for persons who identify as Hispanic of any race. Persons of Hispanic ethnicity may also be counted in other racial categories.

Asian/Pacific Islander is used to be consistent with state racial categories; national racial categories have separate designations for Asian and for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander.

Geographic Disparities

Minnesota Counties with Highest Birth, Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Rates Among Youth Aged 15-19

Chlamydia rate:

(per 100,000 aged 15-19)

Hennepin: 2,264

Ramsey: 1,979

Cass: 1,915

Blue Earth: 1,893

Olmsted: 1,835

Becker: 1,808

Carlton: 1,770

Nobles: 1,744

Crow Wing: 1,597

Chippewa: 1,597

State of MN: 1494

Gonorrhea rate:

(per 100,000 aged 15-19)

Murray: 1,130

Hennepin: 976

Ramsey: 812

Blue Earth: 625

Cass: 522

Anoka: 472

Stearns: 432

Houston: 384

Clay: 367

Olmsted: 363

State of MN: 361

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