



# Sexually transmitted infections in England, 2020

In 2020 there were

# 317,901

diagnoses of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) made in England

Chlamydia **51%**

Gonorrhoea **18%**

Genital warts **9%**

Other STIs **23%**

Note: 2020 data are affected by the reconfiguration of sexual health services during the national response to COVID-19

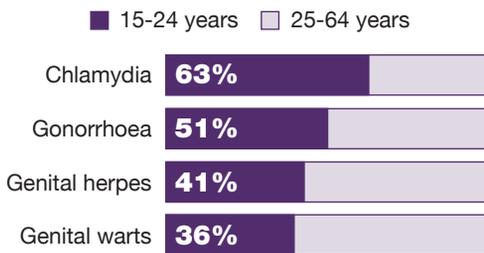
Percentages do not add up to 100% due to rounding

## Young heterosexuals are more likely to be diagnosed with an STI

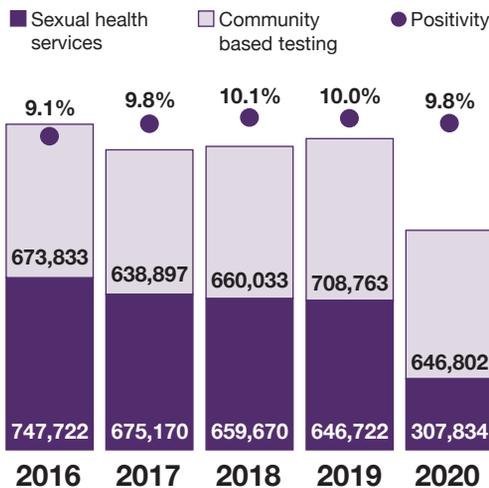


There was a **33% decrease in chlamydia tests** and a **28% decrease in chlamydia diagnoses** reported in young people aged 15 to 24 years between 2016 and 2020

Among heterosexuals attending sexual health services, **most chlamydia and gonorrhoea diagnoses were in people aged 15 to 24 years**



Among heterosexuals aged 15 to 24 years, men are **three** and women are **six** times more likely to be diagnosed with an STI than their counterparts aged 25 to 64 years



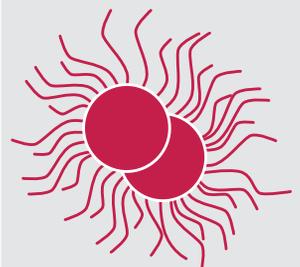
The number of sexual health screens (tests for chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)) decreased between 2019 and 2020



There was a 32% decrease in new STI diagnoses between 2019 and 2020



*Neisseria gonorrhoeae* has developed resistance to all antibiotics used for treatment, and is a high priority organism on the World Health Organization's global priority list of antibiotic-resistant bacteria.



Ceftriaxone monotherapy is currently recommended as first-line therapy. In 2019, three *N. gonorrhoeae* isolates submitted to the national reference laboratory were resistant to ceftriaxone. No ceftriaxone resistant cases have been reported in the UK since and there is a trend towards improved antimicrobial susceptibility among *N. gonorrhoeae* isolates.



## Gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (MSM) are more likely to be diagnosed with bacterial STIs than other men

The majority of syphilis and gonorrhoea diagnoses in men were in MSM

**83%** of syphilis

**67%** of gonorrhoea

HIV-diagnosed MSM are **at least twice** more likely to be diagnosed with an acute bacterial STI than those that are HIV-negative or of unknown HIV status

## People of Black ethnicity are disproportionately affected by STIs

The rate of **gonorrhoea** in people of Black ethnicity is 4x that of the general population



For **trichomoniasis**, the rate in people of Black ethnicity is 7x that of the general population

