

HIGHLIGHTS – Syphilis Quarterly Report 2026-Q2

August 13, 2026



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

In 2026-Q2, 324 infectious syphilis cases were recorded in BC. Syphilis rate¹ of 6/100K was similar to the rate at time of outbreak declaration (2019-Q3).

Key Populations	Congenital Syphilis
Rate of infectious syphilis for women 15-49 was 7.5/100K, lower compared to 2025-Q2 (10/100K).	Congenital syphilis remained a concern with an additional 4 cases and a rate of 34/100K births. ²
Testing Episode Volumes	Regional Trends
78,978 testing episodes ³ were reported in 2026-Q2, which is a $\uparrow$ 1% change compared to 2025-Q2.	Interior Health observed the only rate increase (14%) compared to 2025-Q2.

Demographics

Northern Health has highest rate per 100K in 2026-Q2

Regional rate ¹ 2026-Q2	9 NH	8 VCH	6 ISLH	5 IH	4 FH
%Rate change (vs 2025-Q2)	$\downarrow$ 22%	$\downarrow$ 31%	$\downarrow$ 18%	$\uparrow$ 14%	$\downarrow$ 24%

Highest rates¹ by age group and sex were females aged 25-29 (6/100K) and males aged 25-29 (9/100K)

Sex/Gender (%cases 2026-Q2): 66% Male (66% in 2025-Q2), 34% Female (34% in 2025-Q2)
0% Transgender (0% in 2025-Q2), 0% X (0% in 2025-Q2)

Age group (rate¹ 2026-Q2): <15 years: -, 15-19 years: 3, 20-24 years: 7, 25-29 years: 15
30-39 years: 12, 40-59 years: 7, 60+ years: 1

Gender of Partner⁴

131 cases had gender of partner information in 2026-Q2

%WSM has decreased compared to 2025-Q2:	23% WSM in 2026-Q2 vs 29% in 2025-Q2
%MSW has decreased compared to 2025-Q2:	27% MSW in 2026-Q2 vs 29% in 2025-Q2
%gbMSM has increased compared to 2025-Q2:	47% gbMSM in 2026-Q2 vs 40% in 2025-Q2

Severe Outcomes

Highlighting cases linked to pregnancy and extra-genital manifestations

Maternal Syphilis⁵ 8% of 2026-Q2 female cases aged 15-49 were maternal cases

Congenital Syphilis⁵ 4 congenital cases in 2026-Q2 (vs 3 cases in 2025-Q2)

Congenital rate² 34 live cases/100K live births in 2026-Q2 (vs 26/100K in 2025-Q2)

15 syphilitic stillbirths and early neonatal losses (within 7-days of live birth) have been reported since 2019

Ocular & Neurosyphilis⁵ 2% of 2026-Q2 cases (vs 3% of 2025-Q2 cases)

Time to Treatment (Tx)

277 cases had time to Tx information in 2026-Q1

Time from syphilis diagnosis to treatment initiation, lagged one quarter to allow follow-up

Females experience longer time to Tx than males: 59% Male / 38% Female cases treated within 7 days

Majority receives Tx within 30-days: 94% Male / 86% Female cases treated within 30 days

MSW experience longer time to Tx than gbMSM: 55% MSW / 66% gbMSM cases treated within 7 days

Tx Completion

91% of cases started and 68% completed Tx in 2026-Q1

Tx completion is lagged one quarter to allow follow-up

%Tx not started is higher in females than males: 6% Male / 15% Female of cases did not start Tx

%Tx completed is higher in gbMSM than MSW: 71% MSW / 81% gbMSM of cases completed Tx

¹rate: cases per 100,000 population. ²congenital rate: live cases per 100,000 live births. ³One episode represents a 30-day testing window. ⁴Gender of Partner information updates over time, interpret historical comparison with caution. Gender of Partner categories: MSW - Men who report having sex with women only; WSM - Women who report having sex with men only, gbMSM - gay, bisexual or other men who have sex with men, for other gender of partner categories refer to [full report](#). ⁵Defined in [BC case definitions](#). [Data Notes](#): Case data are sourced from Intrahealth Profile EMR. Testing episodes are sourced from STIBBI Mart. Birth counts are sourced from Vital Statistics.