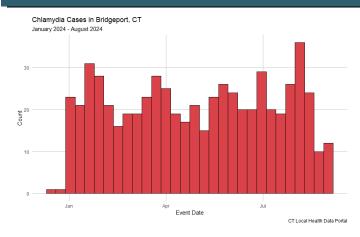


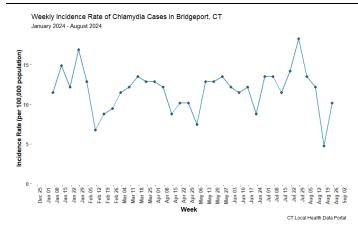
BRIDGEPORT CHLAMYDIA EPI REPORT

AUGUST 2024

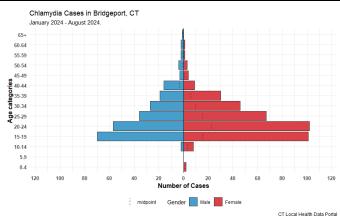
JANUARY 2024 - AUGUST 2024



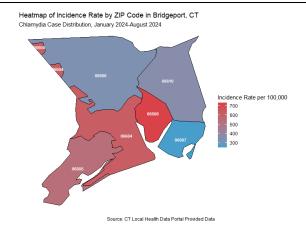
The data reveals fluctuations in case counts throughout the year. The highest number of cases occurred in January and July, with peaks reaching over 30 cases. There is a general rise in cases in late winter and summer, with more moderate counts observed in the spring months. In contrast, January starts with a very low number of cases, but quickly spikes, and there is another decrease toward the end of August. These trends suggest seasonal variations in chlamydia transmission, with higher rates occurring in the colder and warmer months.



The incidence rate fluctuates throughout the period, peaking in mid-January at over 15 cases per 100,000 population. After a sharp decline in early February, the rate steadily rises again, with smaller peaks in April and June. A notable spike occurs in late July, approaching 15 cases per 100,000. The rate drops sharply afterward, with a brief uptick at the end of August. These fluctuations suggest variable transmission rates throughout the year, with spikes in the winter and summer months, possibly related to behavioral patterns or seasonal factors.



Chlamydia cases in Bridgeport, CT, from January to August 2024, show a significant concentration of cases among young people, particularly females. Females aged 15-24 are the most affected, with the 20-24 age group having over 100 cases, compared to fewer than 60 cases in males of the same age group. Chlamydia cases decline sharply for both genders after age 30, with very few cases reported in those aged 50 and older. The data highlights a substantial gender disparity in younger populations, indicating the need for targeted sexual health education and prevention efforts, especially for teens and young adults in Bridgeport.



This heatmap shows the incidence rate of chlamydia cases by ZIP code in Bridgeport, CT, from January to August 2024. The areas with the highest incidence rates (over 700 cases per 100,000 population) are concentrated in ZIP code 06608, which is marked in dark red. Surrounding areas, including ZIP codes 06604, 06605, and 06606, also have elevated incidence rates ranging from 500 to 700 cases, shown in shades of orange. In contrast, ZIP codes 06607 and 06610 have the lowest incidence rates. between 300 and 400 cases, marked in bluegreen. This geographical distribution highlights areas of concern, particularly ZIP code 06608, where targeted public health interventions may be most needed.

PRECAUTIONS TO TAKE

- **Consistent Condom Use**: Use latex or polyurethane condoms during vaginal, anal, and oral sex. Condoms significantly reduce the risk of transmitting sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including chlamydia.
- **Regular Testing:** Since chlamydia can be asymptomatic, regular STI screenings are important, especially for sexually active individuals under 25, or those with new or multiple partners. Early detection helps prevent complications and reduces the risk of spreading the infection.
- Limit Sexual Partners: Reducing the number of sexual partners lowers the chances of exposure to chlamydia and other STIs. Engaging in mutually monogamous relationships with partners who have been tested and are free of STIs can also reduce risk.
- **Avoid Douching**: Douching can disrupt the natural balance of bacteria in the vagina, making it easier for infections, including chlamydia, to develop and spread.
- **Open Communication**: Talk openly with sexual partners about STI testing and prevention methods. Both partners being informed and taking preventive measures can lower the risk of infection.
- Abstinence or Mutual Monogamy: Abstaining from sexual activity or engaging in a mutually monogamous relationship where both partners are STI-free is the most effective way to prevent chlamydia.

DATA SOURCES

Connecticut Epidemiologic Disease Surveillance System

COVID Data Tracker - CDC

COVID Wastewater Data - CDC