CITY OF MILWAUKEE
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Clinical Laboratory Update

October 2025
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Sexually Transmitted Infections

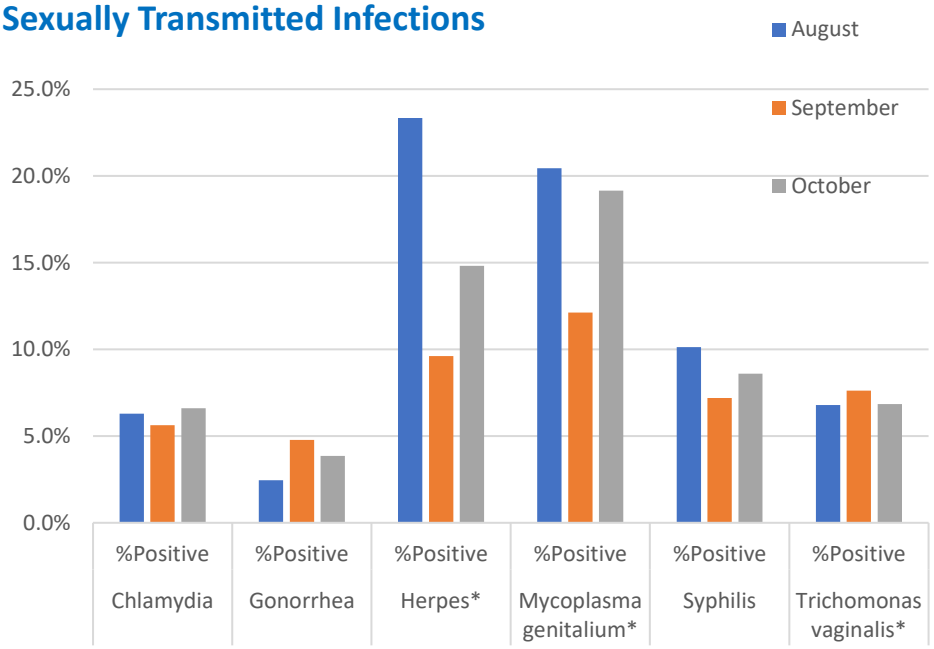

Figure 1: Percent positivity for specimens screened using molecular or serological assays for the given organism.

*Not reportable as per WI DHS 145.04 (3) (a)

Syphilis Surveillance

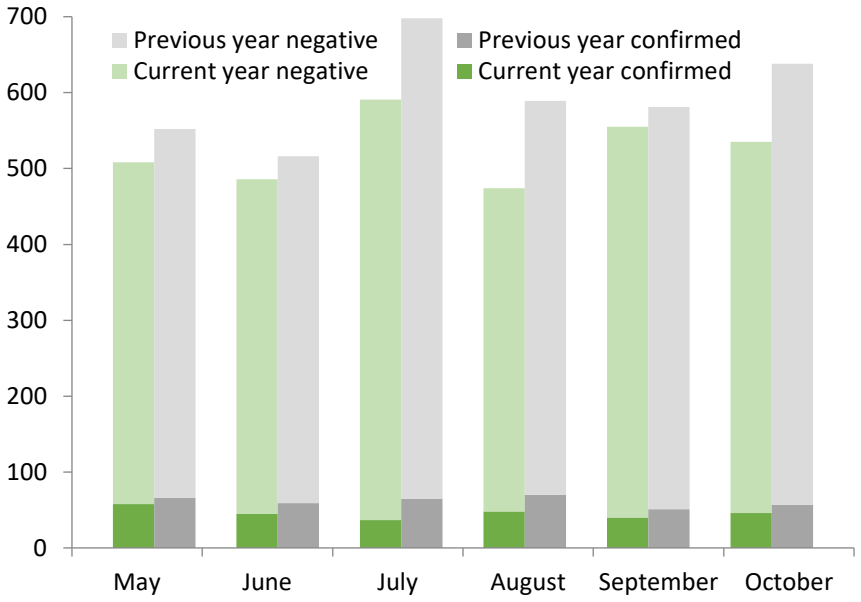

Figure 2: Monthly comparison of syphilis data with year over year comparisons.

Number of specimens screened at MHDL, darker bars represent confirmed tests.

Connect Milwaukee Health Department:

Vaccine Preventable Disease (VPD)

Elimination of disease is categorized into two types:

1. Elimination of VPD transmission is defined as the absence of a disease or infection caused by a specific agent (virus, bacterium) in a defined geographic area. Deliberate public health interventions, including vaccinations, must be continued to prevent the reemergence of these diseases.

2. Elimination of a VPD as a public health problem is defined as an intensive intervention measure with a specific disease reduction target. When elimination is achieved, continued actions through disease detection and vaccinations are required to maintain the target and to advance the interruption of transmission of these diseases.*

MHD works to eliminate the transmission of VPD's through more concentrated intervention measures, to prevent the reemergence of a disease within the Milwaukee community. The laboratory specifically supports these efforts by providing testing services to rapidly identify infectious agents in an effort to mitigate the spread of VPD's. Learn more about MHD's immunizations program:

https://city.milwaukee.gov/health/immunizations/ClinicServices.htm

MHDL Thanksgiving Day Hours

In observance of Thanksgiving, our office will be closed on Thursday, November 27th, and Friday, November 28th. We will resume normal business hours on Monday, December 1st, 2025.

Wishing you a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

*Taken from CDC Global Health website 4/4/22.

Links to related information & data:
MHD COVID-19 Situation
WSLH Laboratory Surveillance Report
WI SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Dashboard:
https://dataportal.slh.wisc.edu/
https://city.milwaukee.gov/CovidVax
CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker:
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview/index.html

New HIV Infections

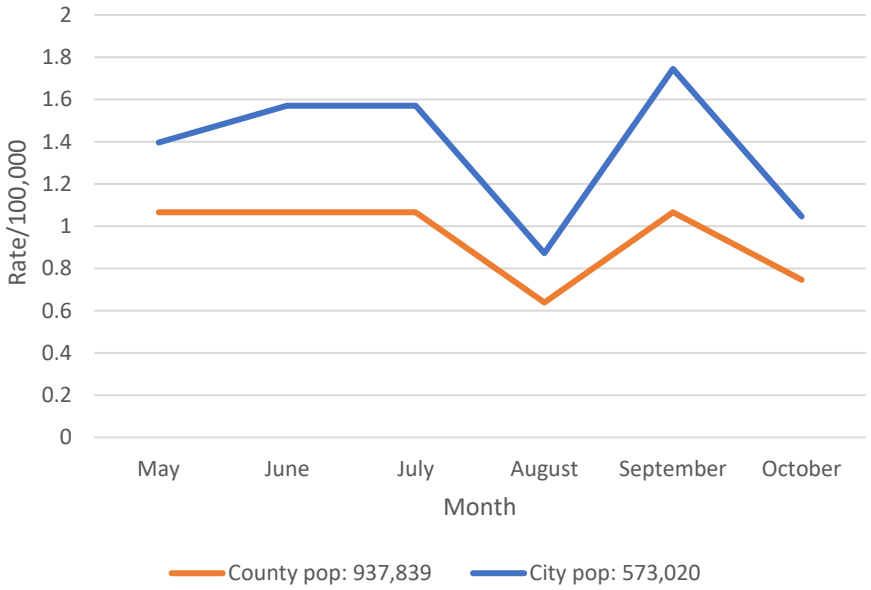

Figure 3: Monthly comparison of rate of new HIV infections in Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee, using data obtained from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. Numbers are provisional and subject to change. Population figures taken from 2020 census results.

For statewide HIV data, visit: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hiv/data.htm

Sexually Transmitted Infections by Source

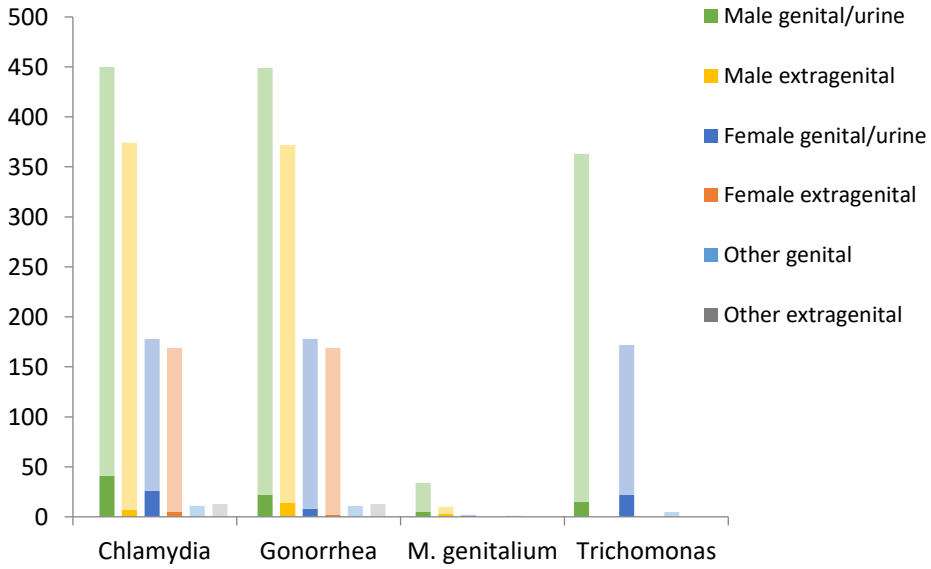

Figure 4: Distribution of STIs detected using NAAT. In October 2025, 5.8% of male, 8.9% of female and 0% of other gender specimens screened were positive for Chlamydia. 4.4% of male, 2.9% of female and 0% of other gender specimens were positive for Gonorrhea. 18.2% of male, 1 of the 2 female and 0% of other gender specimens were positive for *M. genitalium*. 4.1% of male specimens , 12.8% of female and 0% of the other gender specimens were positive for *Trichomonas*.

Note: Darker bars indicate positive specimens.

Gonorrhea Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing

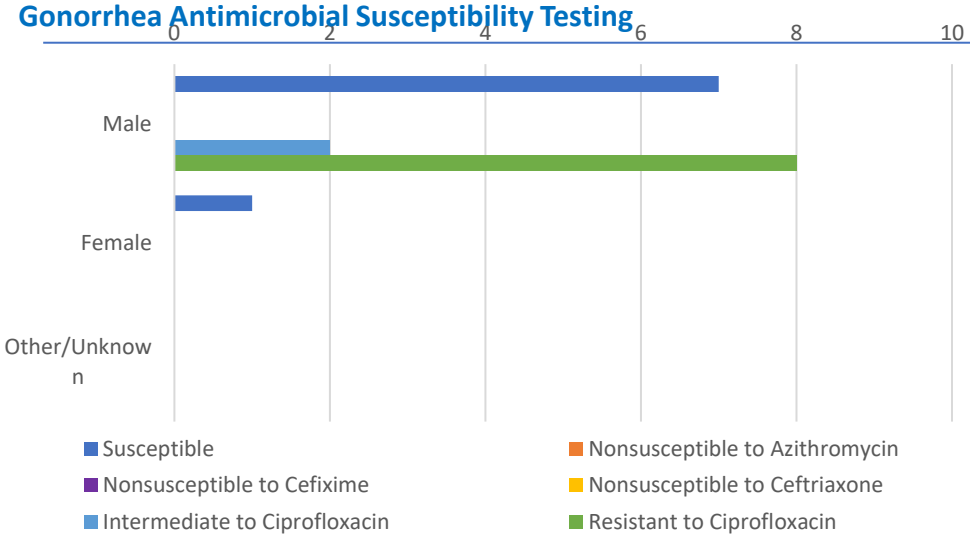

Figure 5: Antibiotic susceptibility profile of Gonorrhea isolates identified in males and females. In **September 2025**, 8 of 18 cultures tested were found to be resistant to Ciprofloxacin according to CLSI guidelines. MHDL tests for antibiotic resistance to Ceftriaxone, Cefixime and Ciprofloxacin, and Azithromycin on request.

Viral Surveillance

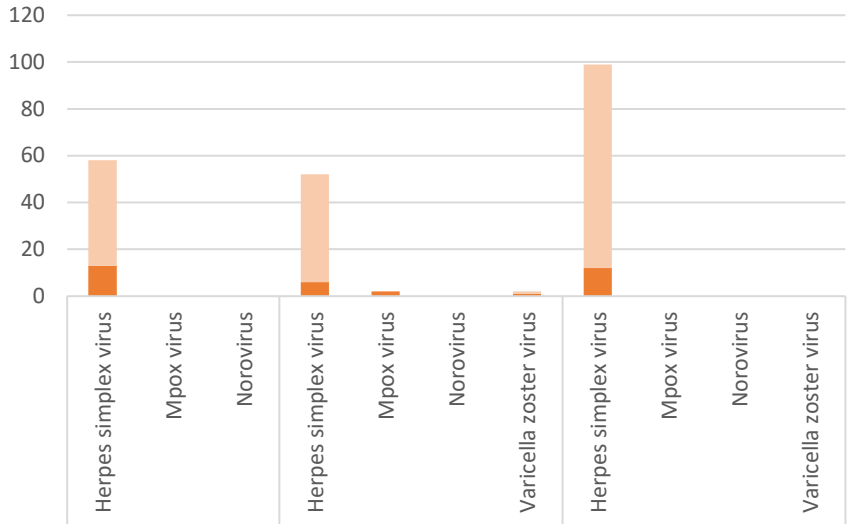

Figure 6: Specimens tested using molecular methods.

Note: Height of bar indicates number of specimens tested.

Dark orange bars indicate DNA/RNA detected by real-time PCR and/or nucleotide sequencing analysis, blue indicates inconclusive results.

Respiratory Infections

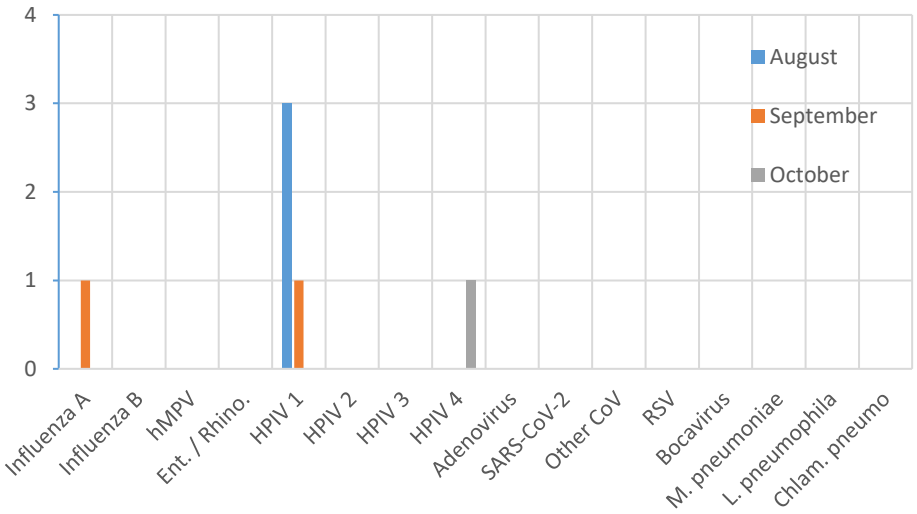

Figure 7: Respiratory pathogens detected using a Respiratory Pathogen Panel (RPP) and/or RT-PCR Influenza and Covid-19 assays.