Seattle and King County Monthly Syphilis Report: September 2023

Public Health
Seattle & King County

Syphilis Cases by Stage, King County October 2021-September 2023

*Note: All data are preliminary and data for past months may change due to delays in reporting from labs and providers. This report includes cases reported through October 13, 2023.
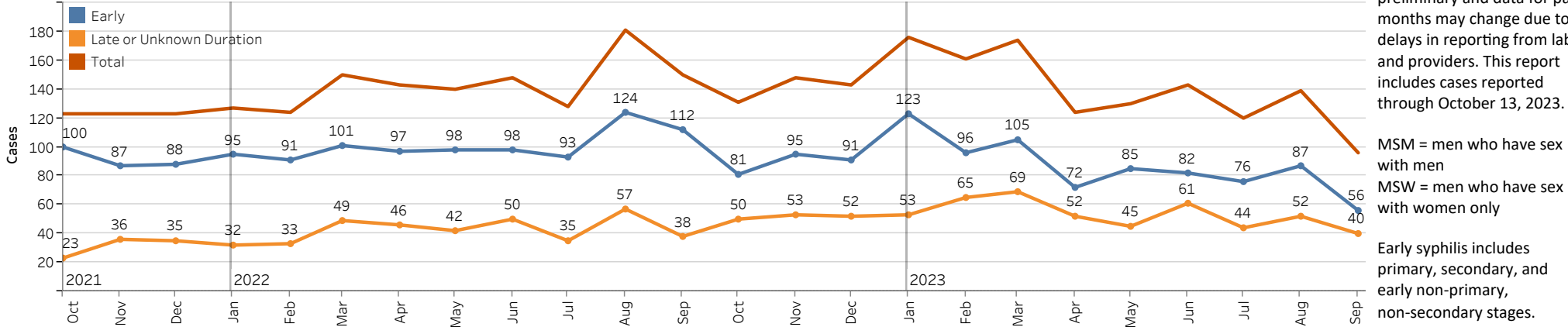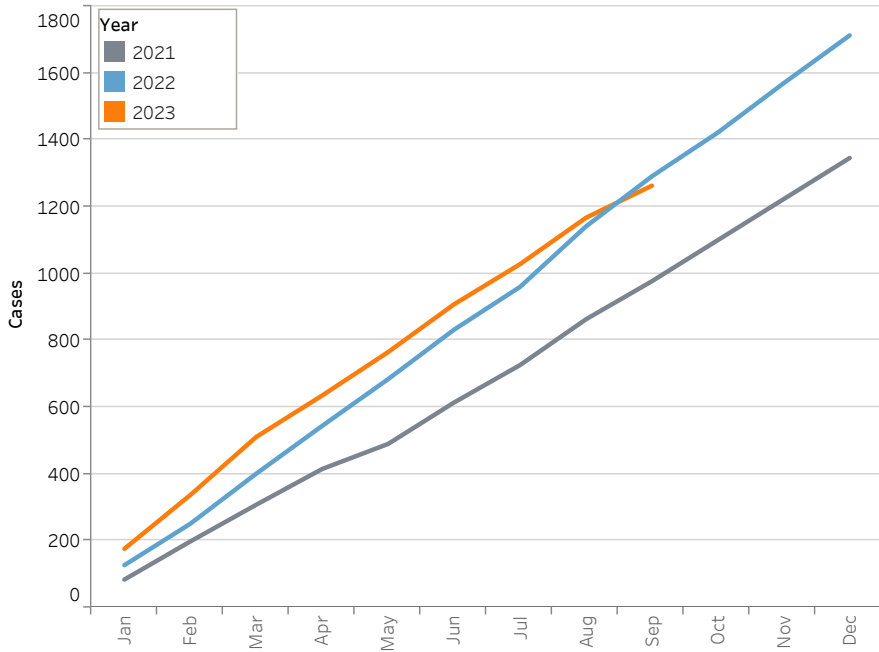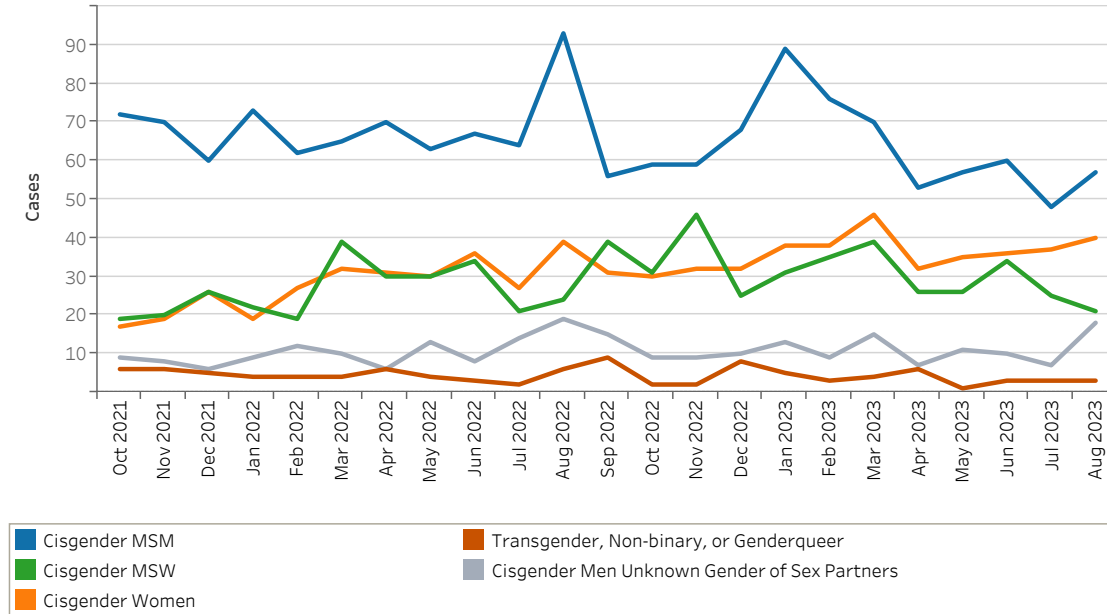
MSM = men who have sex with men

MSW = men who have sex with women only

Early syphilis includes primary, secondary, and early non-primary, non-secondary stages.

Cumulative Syphilis (all stages) Cases by Month and Year, King County 2021-2023

Syphilis (all stages) Cases by Gender and Gender of Sex Partners, King County October 2021-August 2023**

**Due to incomplete reporting cases for the most recent month are not shown by gender and gender of sex partners.

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Syphilis (all stages) cases by gender and gender of sex partners and year of diagnosis
Cases diagnosed January-September

	2022	2023
Cisgender Men Unknown Gender of Sex Partners	106	103
Cisgender MSM	613	542
Cisgender MSW	258	255
Cisgender Women	272	332
Transgender, Non-binary, or Genderqueer	42	31

Pregnant and congenital syphilis cases, King County October 2021-September 2023
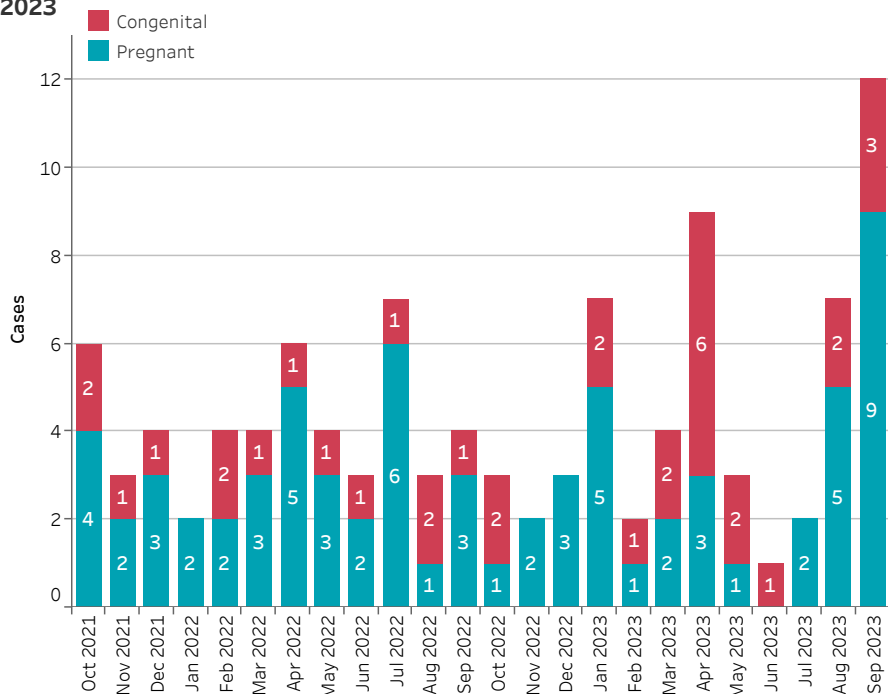
28 syphilis cases were **pregnant** at the time of diagnosis and **19 congenital** cases have been diagnosed in 2023.

Syphilis (all stages) cases by race/ethnicity, age, and risk among cisgender men who have sex with men (MSM), cisgender men who have sex with women (MSW), cisgender women, Seattle and South King County October 2021-September 2023[1]

	Region							
	Seattle				South King County			
Characteristics	MSM		MSW and Women		MSM		MSW and Women	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total Cases	934	100%	583	100%	385	100%	638	100%
Race/ethnicity								
American Indian/Alaska Native	10	1%	16	3%	6	2%	16	3%
Asian	71	8%	28	5%	26	7%	26	4%
Black	86	9%	165	28%	54	14%	150	24%
Hispanic/Latinx	196	21%	75	13%	112	29%	129	20%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	8	1%	7	1%	10	3%	13	2%
White	423	45%	215	37%	117	30%	208	33%
Multiracial	23	2%	24	4%	8	2%	29	5%
Other/Unknown	117	13%	53	9%	52	14%	67	11%
Age								
10-14	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3	0%
15-19	4	0%	10	2%	9	2%	27	4%
20-24	64	7%	46	8%	43	11%	76	12%
25-29	141	15%	86	15%	50	13%	100	16%
30-34	204	22%	93	16%	78	20%	113	18%
35-44	261	28%	176	30%	100	26%	169	26%
45-54	163	17%	100	17%	62	16%	87	14%
>=55	97	10%	72	12%	43	11%	63	10%
Total Interviewed	112	12%	248	43%	57	15%	338	53%
Risk factors among interviewed cases[2]								
Homeless (past 3 months)	12	11%	85	34%	5	9%	73	22%
Injection Drug Use (past year)	4	4%	19	8%	1	2%	15	4%
Methamphetamine Use (past year)	17	15%	71	29%	4	7%	73	22%
Opioids Use (past year)[3]	2	2%	47	19%	1	2%	37	11%
Substance Use (past year)[4]	17	15%	81	33%	4	7%	78	23%
Exchange Sex (past year)	3	3%	12	5%	4	7%	6	2%
No Risk Identified	93	83%	132	53%	48	84%	233	69%

[1]Note: All data are preliminary and data for past months may change due to delays in reporting from labs and providers. This report includes cases reported through October 13, 2023.

[2]Risk factors are limited to cases interviewed by Public Health staff. Percentages shown are among interviewed cases. No risk identified includes cases with no reported homelessness, injection drug use, methamphetamine use, opioid use, or exchange sex.

[3]Opioids not used as directed by a doctor. Includes fentanyl use.

[4]Substance use includes any injection drug, methamphetamine, or opioid use.