

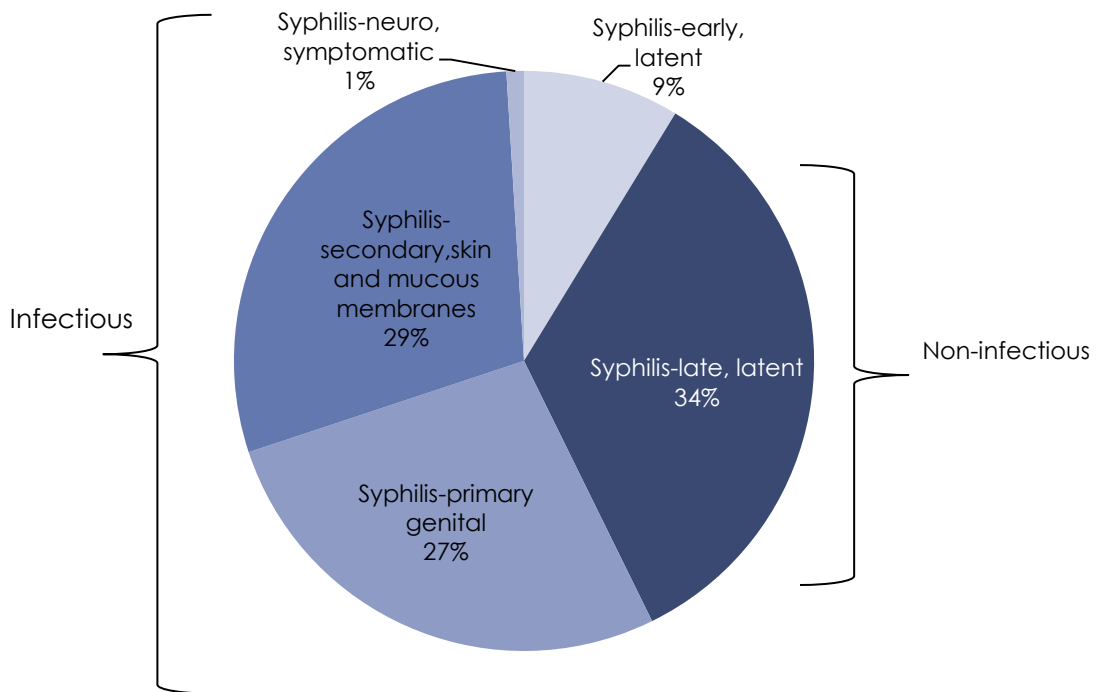
Syphilis by Disease Stage

Saskatoon Health Region, 2012 to 2016

Highlights

- A total of 103 cases of syphilis, including infectious and non-infectious cases, have been reported since 2012.
- Syphilis is reported by stage of the disease. Infectious syphilis includes primary, secondary and early latent infection. Non-infectious syphilis are late-latent cases. Late-latent cases receive treatment if they have not already been successfully treated. Just over one third of syphilis cases in the past five years (34%) were non-infectious late-latent infections, and did not pose a risk for ongoing transmission at the time of diagnosis.
- More than one in every five cases reported (27%) were primary infections, detected at the earliest stages of the disease.
- Secondary and early latent cases are infectious cases that have gone undetected beyond the primary stage of infection. The proportion of infectious cases that are secondary or early latent infections (38%) is an important indicator of delayed diagnosis and potentially ongoing transmission in the community. The longer the period between early (primary) infection and the secondary or early latent stage, the more likely infection can be transmitted to other individuals (up to one year).
- Symptomatic neurological syphilis represents the most severe form of syphilis, where the brain and spinal cord are infected. Neurosyphilis that is untreated is a life-threatening disease.

Figure 1: Percent Syphilis Cases by Disease Stage, Saskatoon Health Region, 2012 to 2016



Source: iPHIS