SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS AMONG YOUNG AMERICANS

Youth bear disproportionate share of STIs

15-24 make up just 27% of the sexually active population

But account for 50% of the 20M new STIs in the U.S. each year



Consequences particularly severe for young women

Undiagnosed STIs cause **24,000** women to become infertile each year

Ages 15-24 Ages 25+

Young people account for a substantial proportion of new STIs



Total Infections: 820,000

(all ages)

Chlamydia 2.9 million

HPV

14.1 million

Genital Herpes

776,000

HIV

47.500 *Ages 13-24 **Syphilis**

55,400

Many do not know they're infected because STIs often have no symptoms

Data are cases among youth ages 15-24

Gonorrhea

Chlamydia

200,000 570,000

1 million

1.8 million

Diagnosed & reported

Estimated total new infections

Unique factors place youth at risk



Insufficient Screening

Many young women don't receive the chlamydia screening CDC recommends



Confidentiality Concerns

Many are reluctant to disclose risk behaviors to doctors



Biology

Young women's bodies are biologically more susceptible to STIs



Lack of Access to Healthcare

Youth often lack insurance or transportation needed to access prevention services



Multiple Sex Partners

Many young people have multiple partners, which increases STI risk

Young people can protect themselves

GET VACCINATED **AGAINST HPV**

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