

Chapter 24 Lesson 1: Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Introduction:

Each year, millions of teens and young adults develop sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Because these diseases often have no symptoms in their early stages, they often go undiagnosed and untreated. This report, published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), has statistics about how common STDs affect American teens.

STD Surveillance 2005 Special Focus Profiles: Adolescents and Young Adults

<http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats/adol.htm>

Directions

- Click on the link and read the report.
 - Then answer the following questions:
1. What fraction of all new cases of STDs occur in 15-to-24-year-olds?
 2. In 2005, did rates of gonorrhea among teens and young adults increase or decrease?
 3. Among American women, which age group has the highest rate of syphilis?
 4. Why are sexually active teens and young adults at higher risk for STDs than older adults?
 5. Which STD is most common among teen girls entering juvenile correction facilities?

Answers:

1. Nearly half
2. The rate increased for both age groups.
3. 20-to-24-year-olds
4. A combination of behavioral, biological, and cultural reasons
5. Chlamydia

Additional Links to Explore:

Use the links below to gather additional information on the activity topic. When appropriate, have students extend their research to include important concepts contained in these Web sites.

FASTATS: Sexually Transmitted Diseases

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/stds.htm>