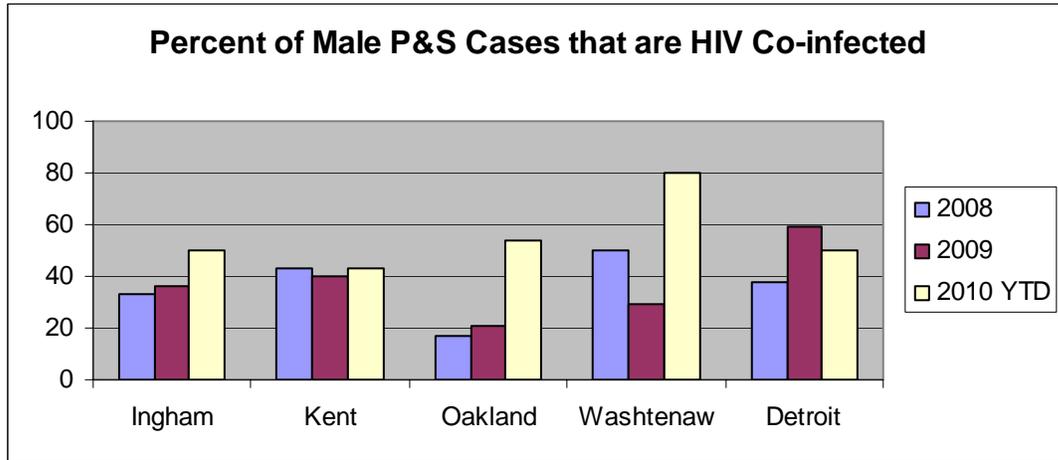


## Syphilis and HIV in Michigan 2008-2010 June 2010

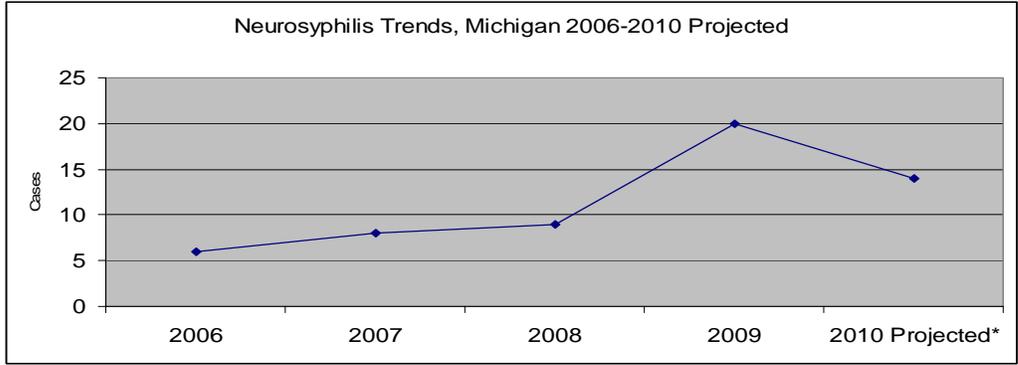
While Michigan did not report significantly more syphilis cases in 2009 compared to 2008, there was a significant increase in male cases, especially men who have sex with men (MSM) and HIV co-infected males. In 2008, Michigan reported 156 male cases of primary and secondary syphilis and in 2009 185 male cases, which is even more pronounced in light of a decrease of syphilis activity in Genesee County. The largest increases in male primary and secondary (P&S) syphilis cases between 2008 and 2009 were in Detroit (61 to 95), Ingham County (3 to 11), Kent County (7 to 15), Oakland County (6 to 14), and Washtenaw County (2 to 7). Although in smaller numbers, there has also been a significant increase in HIV and syphilis co-infected cases this year in many rural counties in Michigan in the upper Lower Peninsula.

Syphilis infections increase the likelihood of acquiring & spreading HIV infection two to five fold. Increases in syphilis among HIV+ MSM may be attributed to prevention fatigue, serosorting, a high rate of anonymous partners met on the Internet among some MSM and prevention messages not reaching marginalized populations



Jurisdiction	2008 Syphilis Cases	2009 Syphilis Cases	2010 YTD Syphilis Cases
Ingham	3	11	4
Kent	7	15	7
Oakland	6	14	13
Washtenaw	2	7	5
Detroit	55	95	12

The changing prevalence of HIV and syphilis co-infected cases has increased the number of cases reported with neurosyphilis in the last five years. Any individuals that demonstrate the following symptoms should have a CSF examination: neurologic or ophthalmic signs or symptoms, evidence of active tertiary syphilis, syphilis treatment failure, or HIV infection with late latent syphilis or syphilis of unknown duration.



What can you do to help? Know the signs and symptoms of syphilis, order the appropriate tests, treat according to the stage of diagnosis, and remember that partners are patients too. If you have any questions about local epidemiology, case management or referrals please contact Katie Macomber, STD Epidemiologist at [macomberk@michigan.gov](mailto:macomberk@michigan.gov) or 517-335-9807. For the most up to date information about treatment refer to [www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/](http://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/)