

**Program/Service Information Report**  
**Clinical Services Annual Review**  
**January 2023 to December 2023**

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**To:** Board of Health

**Meeting Date:** February 7, 2024

**Report No.:** **BH.01.FEB0724.C02**

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## Key Points.

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- WDGPH had **stable rates** for Hepatitis C (Hep C) in 2023
- WDGPH has **decreasing rates** of Gonorrhoea and all types of Syphilis cases in 2023.
- WDGPH reported one case of **multi-drug resistant Gonorrhoea**.
- WDGPH attained **100% compliance** to treatment for all active Tuberculosis (TB) cases in Wellington, Dufferin and Guelph (WDG).
- The WDGPH TB program **tripled** the number of Latent TB Infections (LTBI) clients treated in 2023.

## Program Requirements

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### Compliance with OPHS and Accountability Indicators:

In compliance

Not in compliance. If not in compliance, provide additional information about the variance and how it will be addressed.

# Highlights

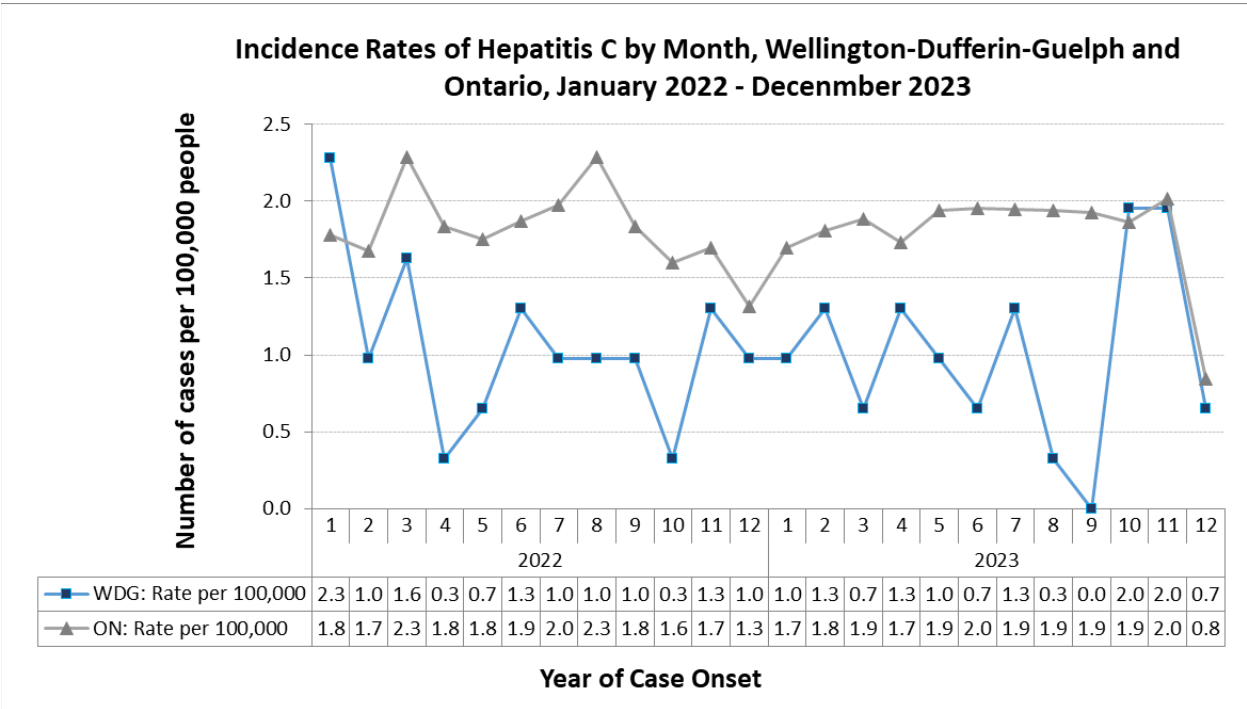
## Incidence Hepatitis C (Hep C)

Hepatitis C is a blood borne infectious disease reported to public health units to ensure appropriate follow up and management and to prevent escalation of disease.

Annual number of cases:

- WDG total number of cases (2022): 41
- WDG total number of cases (2023): 40

Monthly incidence rates (Number of cases per 100,000): WDG and Ontario:



The total number of cases of Hep C in WDG remained stable this year at 40 and was below the provincial average for the majority of 2023. Hep C continues to be part of the routine screening for most individuals attending WDGPH sexual health clinics. In July 2023, WDGPH created and participated in community events across the region to promote awareness of all types of Hepatitis.

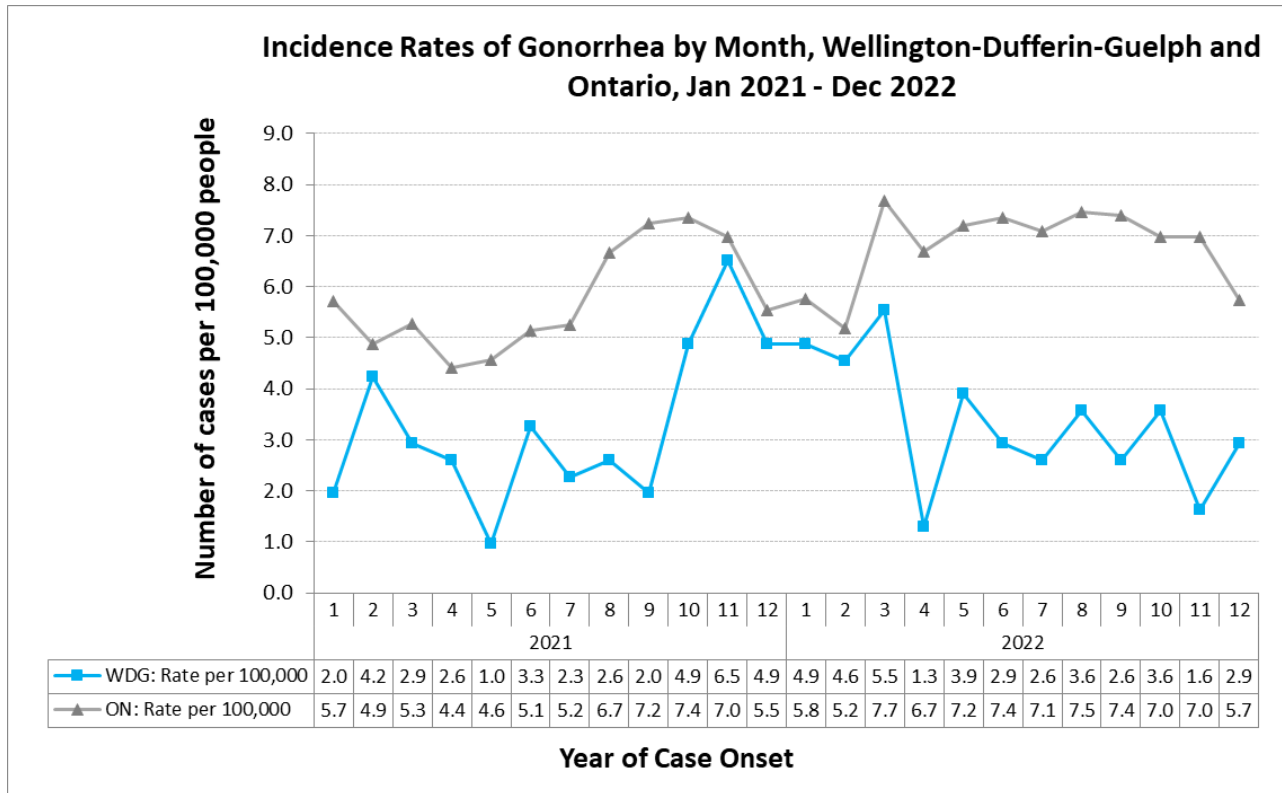
## Incidence of Gonorrhoea

Gonorrhoea is a sexually transmitted infectious disease reported to public health units to ensure appropriate follow up and management and to prevent escalation of disease.

Annual number of cases:

- WDG total number of cases (2022): **129**
- WDG total number of cases (2023): **122**

Monthly incidence rates (Number of cases per 100,000): WDG and Ontario:



The total number of Gonorrhoea cases decreased slightly in WDG during 2023 to 122 and was consistently well below the provincial average through the year. WDGPH did have one multi-drug resistant case of Gonorrhoea in 2023 which was the first case of its kind in Ontario. WDGPH sexual health clinics continue to provide prompt access to sexual health services, including screening for Gonorrhoea, to individuals throughout the region.

## Syphilis Incidence

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infectious disease reported to public health units to ensure appropriate follow up and management and to prevent escalation of disease. Syphilis is categorized three ways for this report:

**Infectious Syphilis:** a syphilis infection in the early stage. Infected individuals can spread the disease to other individuals.

**Non-Infectious or Latent Syphilis:** an individual who is still infected with syphilis but cannot spread the disease to another individual. In this stage the disease can impact other systems of the body.

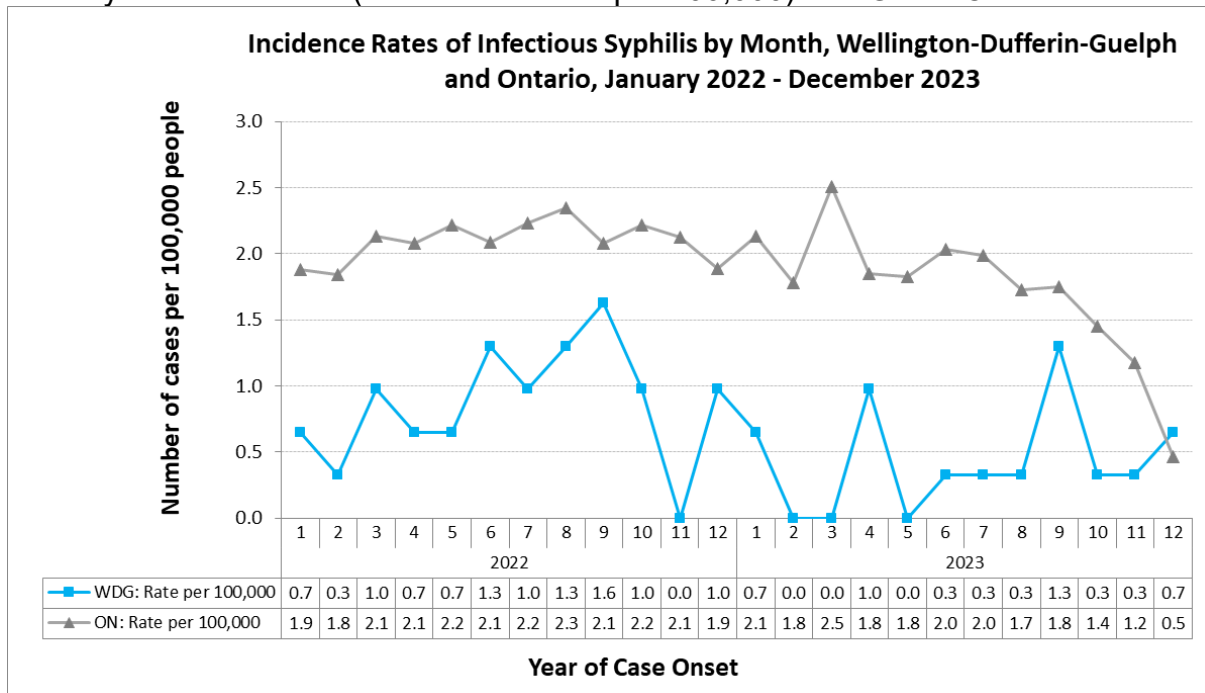
**Congenital Syphilis:** a disease that occurs when a mother with syphilis passes the infection on to her baby during pregnancy.

### Syphilis (Infectious)

Annual number of cases:

- WDG total number of cases (2022): **36**
- WDG total number of cases (2023): **19**

Monthly incidence rates (Number of cases per 100,000): WDG and Ontario:



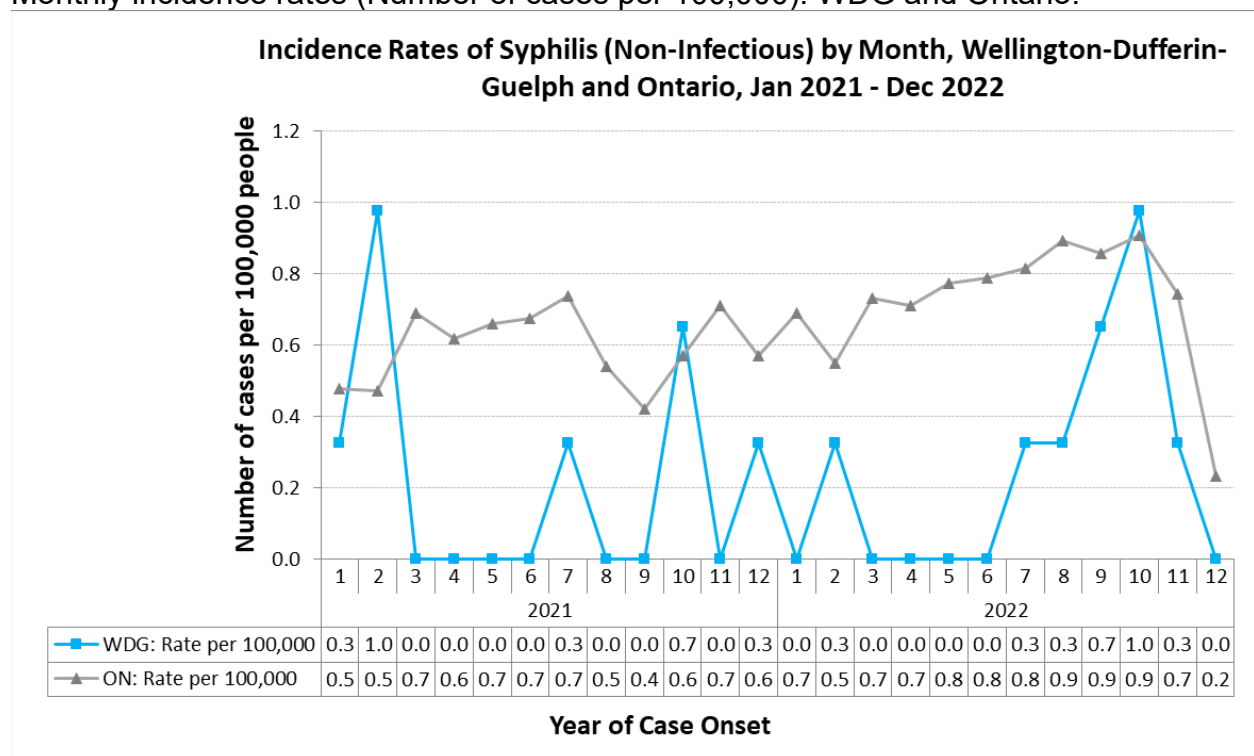
The number of total cases of infectious Syphilis in the WDG region decreased significantly in 2023 and the monthly rate remains well below the provincial rate. WDGPH sexual health clinics continue to promote screening for Syphilis for all at risk clients.

## Syphilis (Non-Infectious/Latent)

Annual number of cases:

- WDG total number of cases (2022): **16**
- WDG total number of cases (2023): **13**

Monthly incidence rates (Number of cases per 100,000): WDG and Ontario:



The total number of non-infectious syphilis cases in the WDG region decreased slightly in 2023. WDGPH sexual health clinics continue to promote screening for Syphilis for all at risk clients.

## Syphilis (Congenital)

There were three investigations for congenital syphilis in WDG in 2023 but no confirmed cases. The provincial case rate for congenital syphilis was 28 in 2023 and the WDG region continues to remain well below. WDGPH screens all clients requesting STI testing for syphilis at our sexual health clinics.

## Tuberculosis (TB)

TB is an infectious disease reported to public health units to ensure appropriate follow up and management and to prevent escalation of disease. TB is caused by a type of bacteria called a bacillus. TB bacilli can infect any part of the body but is most commonly found in the respiratory system. TB is categorized in 2 ways for this report:

**Infectious or Active TB**: a TB infection that is active and can be spread from the infected individual to other individuals.

**Non-Infectious or Latent TB**: an individual who has been exposed to the TB bacillus but cannot spread the disease to others.

WDGPH is responsible for monitoring the percentage of active TB infections that completed treatment.

- The WDGPH TB program had 100% compliance for active infections in 2023.
- WDGPH had 5 active infections of TB that started treatment in 2022 and completed treatment in 2023.
- WDGPH had 5 active infections in 2023 that started treatment and completed treatment in 2023.
- We currently have 7 active infections that started treatment in 2023 who will complete their treatment in 2024.

WDGPH also manages latent TB infections (LTBI) throughout our region. Not all LTBI require treatment. WDGPH focuses on treating those who are at highest risk.

- The WDGPH TB program had 75% compliance for LTBI in 2023.
- WDGPH had 23 LTBI that started treatment in 2022 and 60 LTBI that started treatment in 2023.
- Of those 60 latent cases, 45 completed treatment and 15 did not for various reasons including, pregnancy, medication intolerance and abnormal bloodwork.
- The WDGPH TB program tripled the number of LTBI clients treated in 2023.

## Related Reports

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[https://wdgpublichealth.ca/sites/default/files/bh.01.feb0123.c03 - clinical services annual review.pdf](https://wdgpublichealth.ca/sites/default/files/bh.01.feb0123.c03_-_clinical_services_annual_review.pdf)

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