



Contact

Edrea Au, Public Information Officer

PIO_DCHHS@dallascounty.org

Dr. Philip Huang, Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dallas County Faces \$398 Million Economic Burden from Sexually Transmitted Infections, New Report Finds

DALLAS (July 30, 2025) – A new report released by Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS), *The Economic Cost of Sexually Transmitted Infections in Dallas County, TX*, reveals that the economic burden of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in the county reached a staggering **\$398.6 million in 2022**.

Published in the *Dallas County Medical Society Journal*, the report highlights the persistent and growing public health and economic threat posed by STIs, particularly **HIV**, which accounts for over **95 percent of total costs**.

“These numbers are a wake-up call. Prevention and early treatment aren’t just good medicine — they’re smart economics,” said **Dr. Philip Huang**, Director of DCHHS. “Investing in STI prevention, early diagnosis, and treatment is both a public health and fiscal imperative.” Dr. Huang said.

Key Findings:

- **Total STI costs in Dallas County in 2022: \$398.6 million**
- **HIV** accounted for **\$382.5 million**, or **95.9%** of total costs
- **Congenital syphilis** costs rose **33.8%** from 2021, reaching **\$8.6 million**
- **Non-HIV STI costs in 2022** (Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Syphilis) were **\$16.1 million**

A Call to Action

As Dallas County continues to battle the rising rates of STIs, health officials stress the importance of continued public health initiatives, including prevention, education, and accessible treatment options. Investments in STI prevention and care can help reduce the financial burden on individuals and the healthcare system.

To read the full published article, visit:

https://issuu.com/dallascms/docs/july_2025_dallas_medical_journal

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