

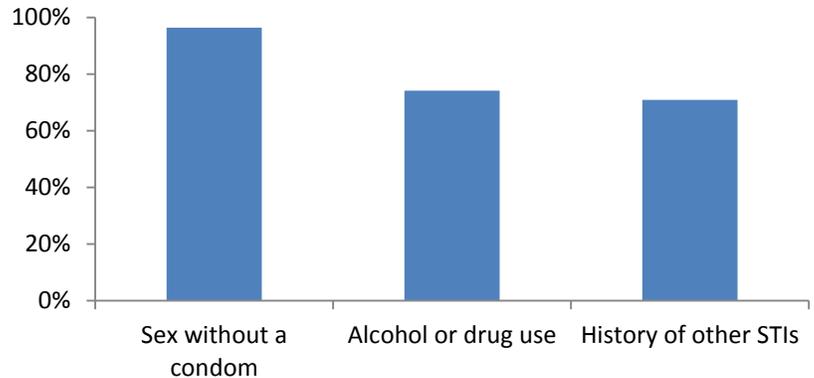
Prevention, testing, and treatment

Practicing safer sex is an important part of preventing the spread of syphilis and reducing the outbreak.

For syphilis cases in 2013:

- Almost all (96%) reported having sex without a condom.
- 74% reported alcohol or drug use, which can affect judgment around safe sex.
- 71% reported being infected with another sexually transmitted infection (STI) in the past year.

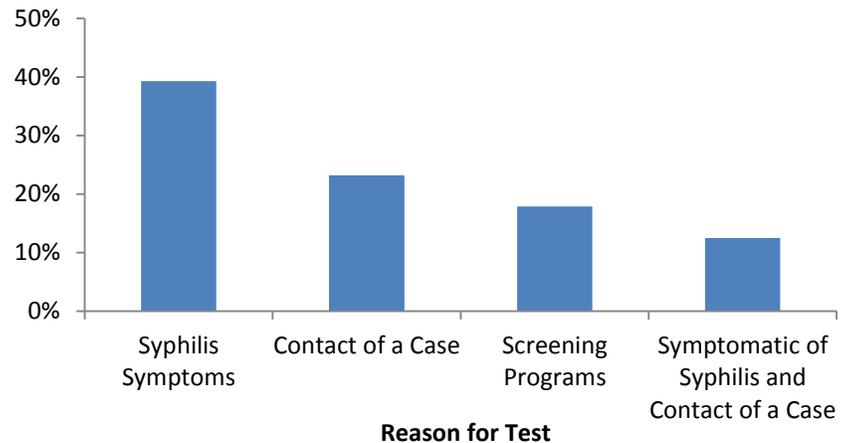
Reported Risk Factors among Syphilis Cases in the Year before Syphilis Diagnosis, Nunavut, 2013



Testing for syphilis and other STIs helps to ensure people get the treatment they need as early as possible. Syphilis is diagnosed with a blood test and can be treated with antibiotics.

- 39% reported getting testing because of symptoms. Many people infected with syphilis do not show symptoms and also need to get tested.
- 18% of cases were diagnosed from screening programs (such as STI and prenatal screening). This increased from 6% in 2012.

Reported Reason for Getting Testing among Syphilis Cases, Nunavut, 2013



Protect yourself and others; but most importantly respect yourself and your body.

- Use condoms every time you have sex.
- Get tested. Get treated. A blood test can determine if you have syphilis.
- Stop the spread of STIs by asking your partners to get tested.

For more information, visit www.irespectmyself.ca, ask your Community Health Representative, or go to your local health centre or public health.