

# The Facts About... Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Sexually Transmitted Diseases	Annual Cases	Total Cases
HIV or AIDS*	46,000	850,000
Chlamydia	3 million	2 million
Gonorrhea	650,000	Not Available
Syphilis	70,000	Not Available
Herpes	1 million	45 million
Human Papillomavirus	5.5 million	20 million
Hepatitis B	120,000	417,000
Trichomoniasis	5 million	Not Available

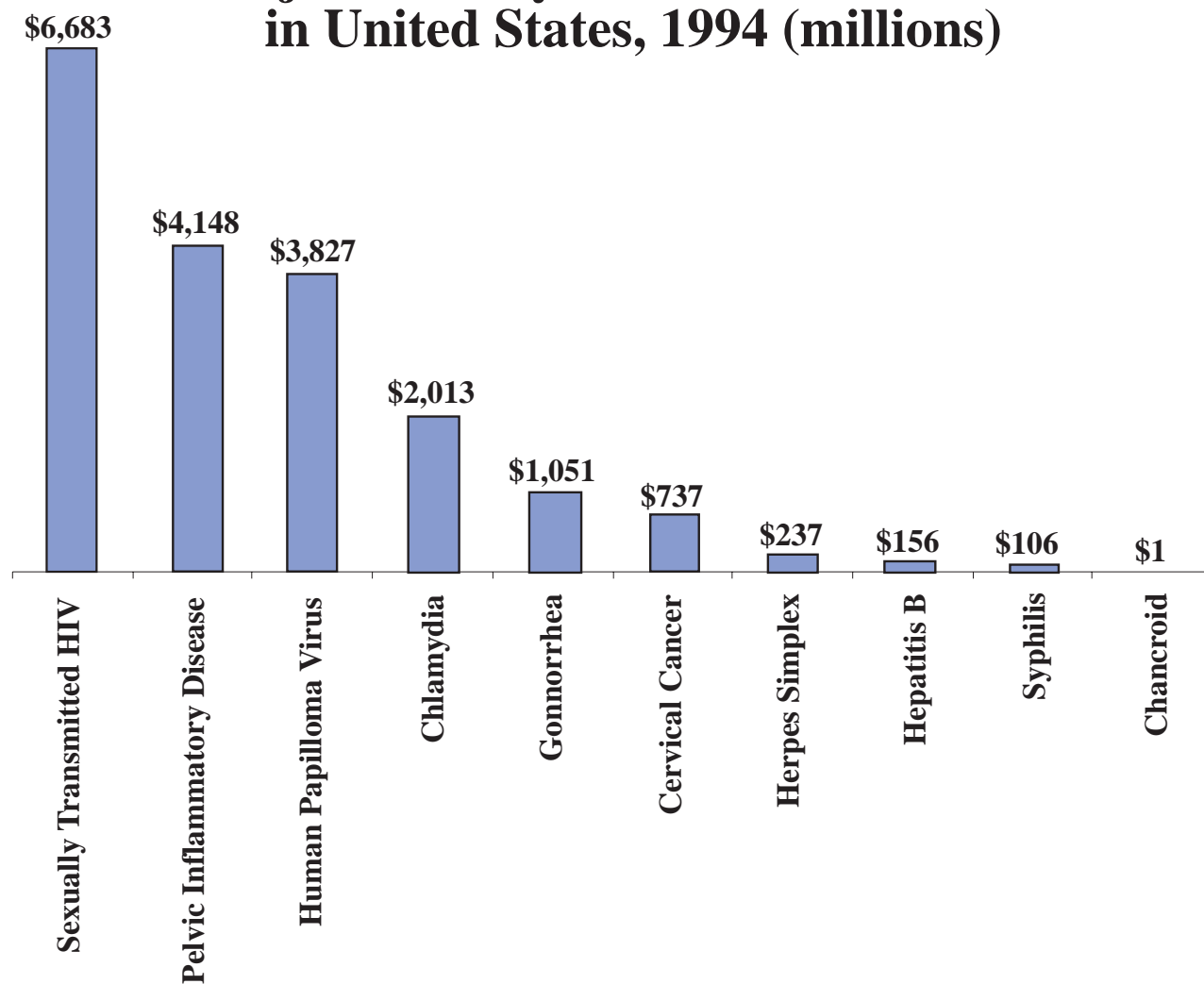
*Source: United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, citing "Estimates of the Incidence and Prevalence of Sexually Transmitted Diseases in the United States," 1999. \*HIV/AIDS estimates are from the National Center for Health Statistics. Most persons with HIV or AIDS are adults or adolescents, and the predominant mode of transmission is from sexual contact.*

**In the United States, more than 65 million people are currently living with incurable sexually transmitted diseases (STD), according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Sexually transmitted diseases are among the most common infectious diseases in the nation today. More than 20 STDs have been identified, and they affect more than 15 million men and women annually, roughly half of whom contract lifelong infections. Yet, STDs are one of the most under-recognized health problems in the country. In 1994, direct and indirect costs of major STDs and their complications were estimated to total nearly \$17 billion annually.**

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## Estimated Direct and Indirect Costs of Major Sexually Transmitted Diseases in United States, 1994 (millions)



Source: United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, citing Institute of Medicine "The Hidden Epidemic: Confronting Sexually transmitted Diseases," 1997

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, direct costs attributed to the treatment of STDs include expenditures for medical and non-medical services and materials, such as physician services, laboratory services, hospitalization, transportation, and medical supplies. Indirect costs include lost wages due to illness or premature death. STDs also result in intangible costs related to pain, suffering, and diminished quality of life.