

# **STI SURVEILLANCE**

## **Quarterly Report**

**January - March 2003**

Prepared by

***STI Surveillance Team***

June 2003

## **Acknowledgements**

The authors thank the staff at sexual health, family planning, student and youth clinics for providing STI surveillance data. We would also like to thank Donna Warren, ESR, for data entry.

# Table of Contents

<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Sexual Health Clinic STI Summary.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Update: Laboratory Surveillance of Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea in Auckland, Waikato and the Bay of Plenty, January to March 2003 .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Chlamydia .....	2
Gonorrhoea.....	3

# Introduction

This STI Surveillance Quarterly Report presents data collected by 25 sexual health clinics, 40 family planning clinics, and 16 student and youth health centres on chlamydia, gonorrhoea, genital herpes (1<sup>st</sup> diagnosis), genital warts (1<sup>st</sup> diagnosis), syphilis and non-specific urethritis (NSU; males only) for the current quarter. No cases of chancroid, granuloma inguinale (GI) or lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV) were reported during the quarter.

## Sexual Health Clinic STI Summary

Sexual health clinics reported 1070 confirmed cases of chlamydia and 154 confirmed cases of gonorrhoea for the current quarter.

Sexual health clinic data for the current quarter were compared with data from the same quarter in the previous year to identify national and regional trends. Key findings are presented in the table below. Please refer to the standard tables for more detailed information.

	STI rates <sup>1</sup>		Current quarter compared with the same quarter last year
	Jan - Mar 2003	Jan - Mar 2002	
<b>Chlamydia</b> <sup>2</sup>	5.9%	4.7%	Chlamydia rate increased by 1.2% nationally <sup>3</sup> . The greatest increase was in the Midland and Northern regions.
<b>Gonorrhoea</b> <sup>2</sup>	0.8%	0.9%	Gonorrhoea rate decreased by 0.1% nationally.
<b>Genital herpes</b>	0.9%	1.0%	Herpes rate decreased by 0.1% nationally <sup>3</sup> .
<b>Genital warts</b>	4.3%	4.5%	Warts rate increased by 0.2% nationally <sup>3</sup> . However, there was an increase in the Southern region.

<sup>1</sup> Rate = (total number of cases / total number of clinic visits) x 100, expressed as a percentage.

<sup>2</sup> Includes both confirmed and probable cases.

<sup>3</sup> This is the percentage difference between the earlier quarter rate and the current quarter rate. Percentage differences were calculated on a different basis in reports up to July - September 2001.

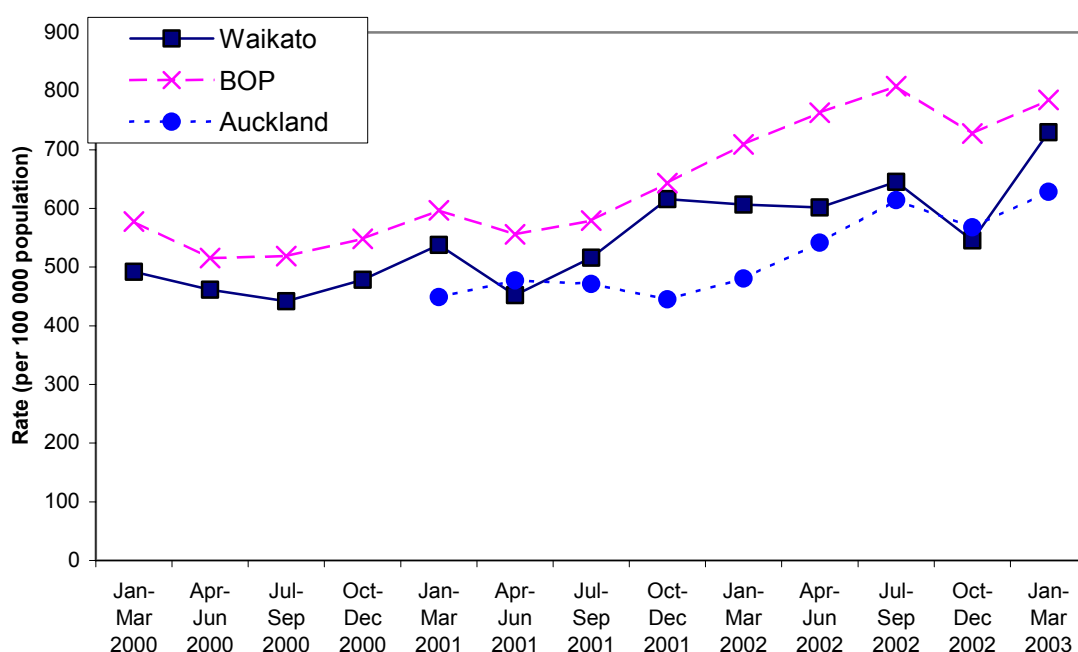
# Update: Laboratory Surveillance of Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea in Auckland, Waikato and the Bay of Plenty, January to March 2003

## Chlamydia

In the current quarter laboratories in Waikato tested 5947 specimens for chlamydia, of which 563 (9.5%) specimens or 563 cases (patients) were positive. During this same period, laboratories in the Bay of Plenty tested 4954 specimens, of which 538 (10.8%) specimens or 538 cases tested positive. In Auckland, laboratories tested 29572 specimens, of which 1859 (6.3%) specimens or 1843 cases were positive.

Rates of chlamydia for the current period were highest in the Bay of Plenty region (785 per 100 000). The rate of chlamydia in the Bay of Plenty was not significantly higher than rates in the Waikato (730 per 100 000), however, it was significantly higher than the Auckland region (628 per 100 000) ( $p < 0.0001$ ). The rate of chlamydia in Auckland was significantly higher than the rate in the Waikato Region ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Figure 1. Rates of chlamydia reported by region: January 2000 to March 2003**

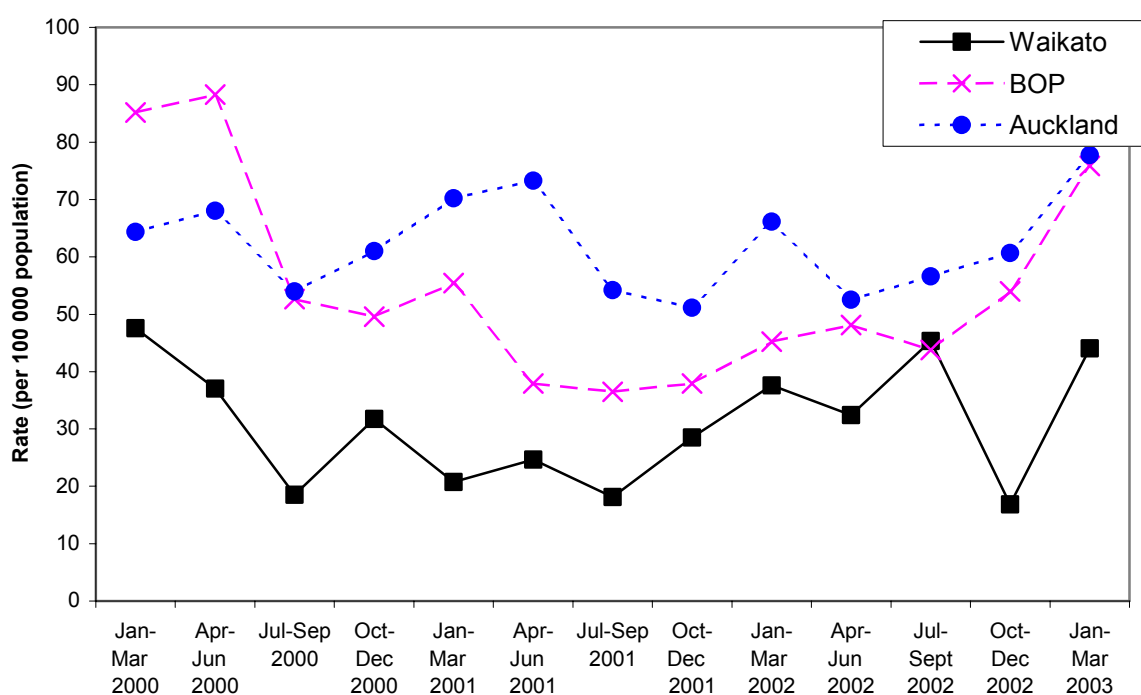


## Gonorrhoea

Laboratories in the Waikato region reported 34 patients with positive gonorrhoea test results during the current period. In the Bay of Plenty, laboratories reported 52 patients with positive results during the same period. Auckland laboratories reported 228 positive patients.

The rate of gonorrhoea for the current period was highest in Auckland (78 per 100 000). The rate of gonorrhoea in Auckland was not significantly higher than rates in Bay of Plenty (76 per 100 000), however, it was significantly higher than in the Waikato region (44 per 100 000) ( $p<0.05$ ). There was a significant difference between the rate of gonorrhoea in the Bay of Plenty and Waikato regions ( $p<0.05$ ).

**Figure 2. Rates of gonorrhoea reported by region: January 2000 to March 2003**



**Note:** Annualised disease rates were calculated by dividing the number of test-positive patients or specimens by 2001 census data from the Auckland, Waikato, and Bay of Plenty regions. For Auckland, census data from South Auckland, Central Auckland and North West Auckland health districts were used. For Waikato, census data from the Waikato health district was used. For the Bay of Plenty, census data from Tauranga, Eastern Bay of Plenty, Rotorua and Taupo health districts were used.