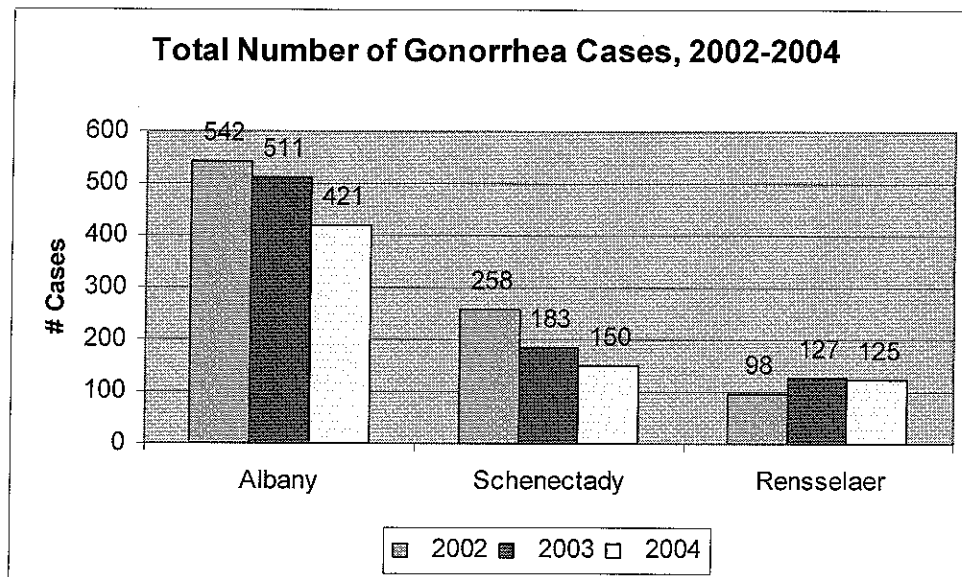


Sexually Transmitted Infections

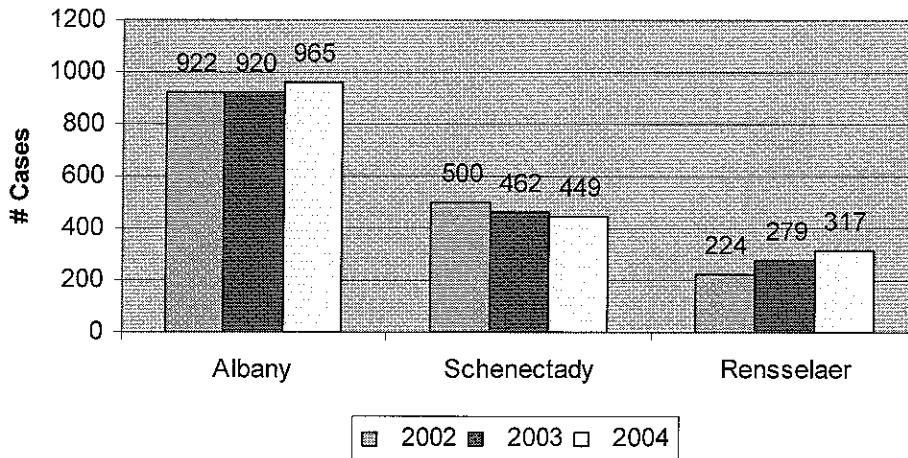
A high rate of pregnancies correlates with unprotected sexual activity. Unprotected sex can result in sexually transmitted infections (STIs), such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, herpes, genital warts, syphilis, pubic lice, vaginitis, non-gonococcal urethritis (NGU), trichomonas, and HIV & AIDS. There are three major STIs which are reportable to NYSDOH: chlamydia,¹ gonorrhea, and syphilis. The most recent available data from NYSDOH Bureau of STD Control is for the year 2004.

The incidence of STIs among adolescents and young adults is rising. This is particularly true in Rensselaer and Schenectady counties, which experienced 20% and 41% increases in gonorrhea from 2002 to 2004 (Figure 13). Albany County saw a 32% decrease in gonorrhea during the same period. Syphilis cases are rising in larger urban areas across the country. This has not been evidenced in the Capital Region which saw no new cases reported during the three-year period from 2002 to 2004¹.

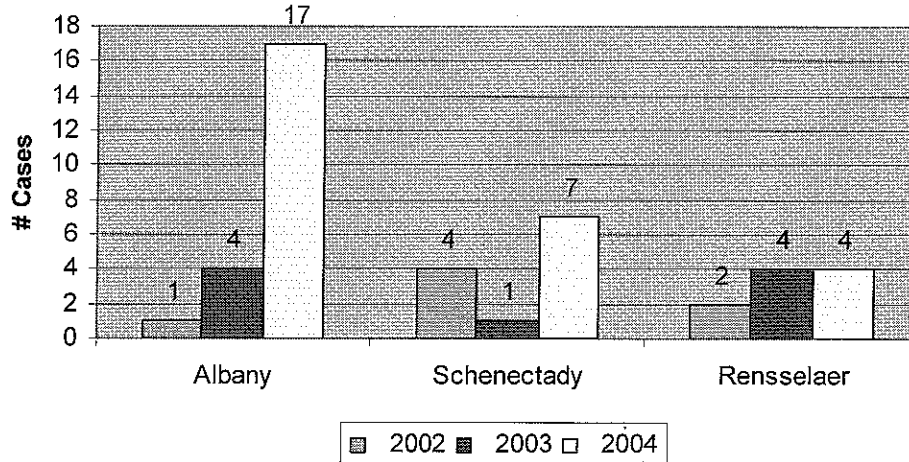


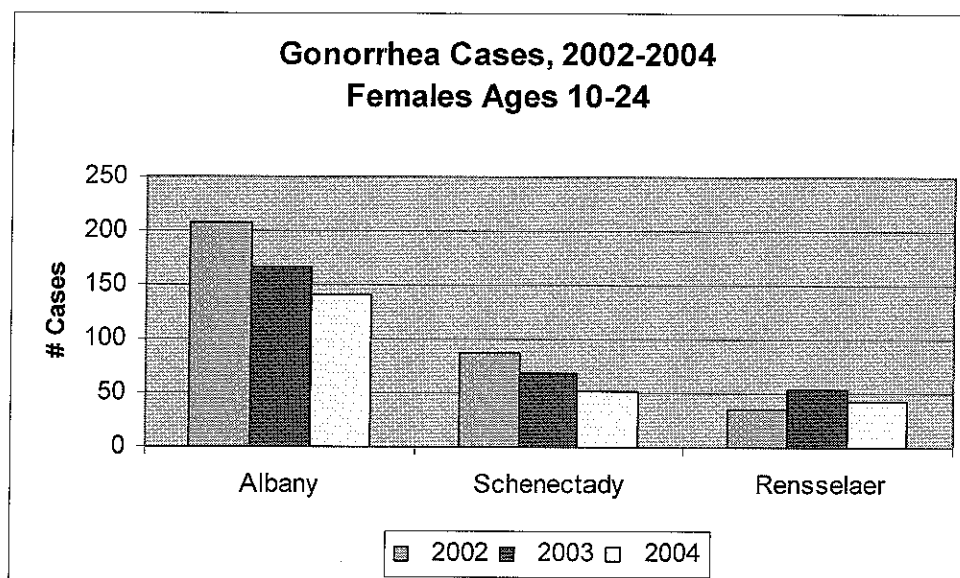
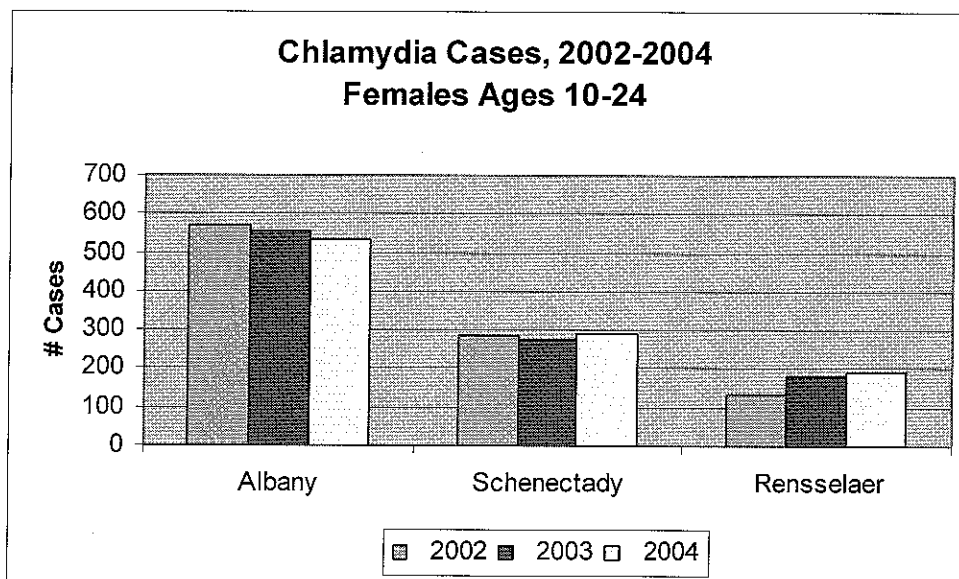
¹ Chlamydia became reportable on August 30, 2000

Total Number of Chlamydia Cases, 2002-2004



Total Number of Syphilis Cases, 2002-2004





Chlamydia is three times as common as gonorrhea. In New York State, females account for about three-quarters of chlamydia cases. This infection is especially prevalent among young women; among female chlamydia cases in New York State, female adolescents (15-19) and female young adults (20-24) account for approximately 77% of the cases.

i Data source: Bureau of STD Control, NYSDOH