Ally Jo Salomon

Syphilis

 Syphilis is a genital ulcerative disease caused by the *Treponema pallidum* bacterium. If this disease is left untreated it can cause major health issues and can help transmit the HIV infection. In 2017 to 2018, the total number of reported cases with syphilis increased by 13.3%, which was the highest its been since 1991. The reported cases of people with P&S syphilis also increased by 14.4% from 2017 to 2018. As for the number of reported cases with early non-primary non-secondary syphilis, they also increased by 13.3% in 2017 to 2018. P&S syphilis had a total of 35,063 reported cases in 2018, which is much higher than it was in 2014 by 71.4%.

 The rate of reported P&S syphilis cases is highest in the west compared to the Midwest, which has the least amount of reported P&S syphilis cases. The northeast and south region of U.S are variable and are higher in some states than others. As for Virginia in particular, the number of reported P&S cases was 8.3%, which is much lower than western states like California with 19.2% reported cases. This shows that western states have higher rates of P&S syphilis compared to southern states like Virginia.

As for gender, in 2018, the rate of reported people with P&S syphilis was higher in men than in women. It was shown that men had more overall cases of P&S syphilis and has been increasing since 2000. Although, since 2013, women cases of P&S syphilis have increased and more than doubled in 2017 to 2018. Cases of P&S syphilis are increasing in both men and women, but men cases have been increasing for much longer than women cases. In 2000 and 2001, P&S syphilis cases were at a historic low, although they are now increasing every year since. It is shown that cases of P&S syphilis will continue to rise in future years as the P&S syphilis rate increases.