



## Story Behind the Curve

This measure assesses the percentage of sexually active women 16-24 years of age who were screened for chlamydia. Screening is essential because the majority of women who have the condition do not experience symptoms. The main objective of chlamydia screening is to prevent pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), infertility and ectopic pregnancy, all of which have very high rates of occurrence among women with untreated chlamydia infection.

Chlamydia trachomatis is the most common sexually transmitted disease (STD) in the U.S. Risk factors associated with becoming infected with chlamydia are the same risks for contracting other STD's (e.g., multiple sex partners). Chlamydia is more prevalent among adolescent and young adult women.