

- **Treponema pallidum is the bacteria that causes the STD syphilis, and it is spreading globally.**
- **Infections dropped dramatically worldwide after World War 2 with the advent of penicillin.**
- **It re-emerged in several countries around 1990 and according to WHO, some 6.3 million people (aged 15-49) acquired an infection in 2016.**
- **Japan, following a large outbreak in the late 1960s, infections fell. Annually around 500-900 infections reported in the 2000s.**
- **Infections have been rising since around 2011 and while there was a decline in 2019-2020, cases have drifted upward since 2021.**

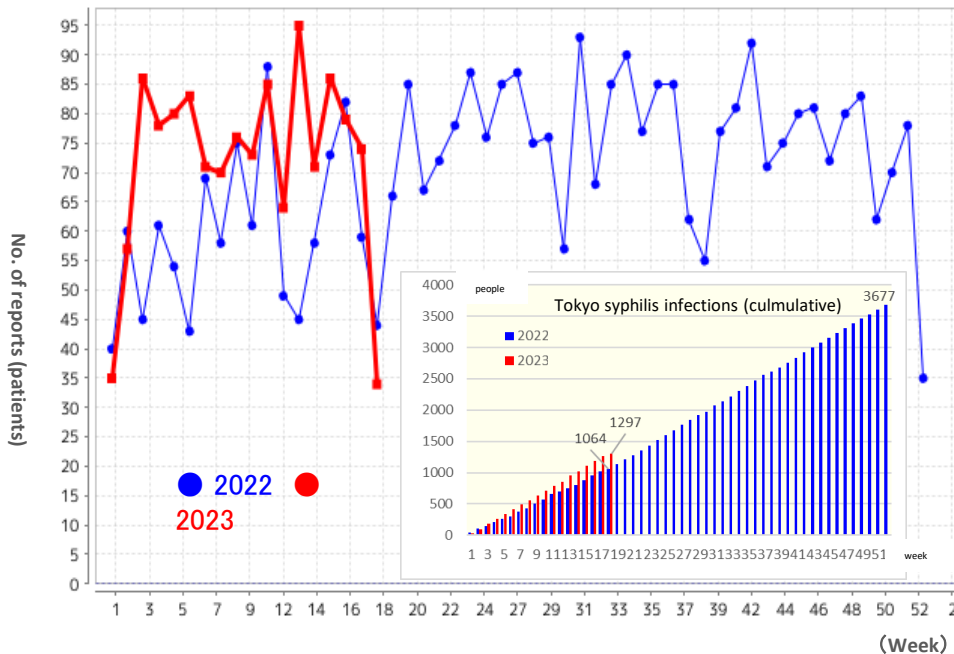
Symptoms

- ✓ **Japanese name “baidoku” (poison plum) derived from the resemblance of the red rash to bayberry fruit.**
- ✓ **Symptoms like lymph node inflammation and skin rash appear 2-3 weeks after infection.**
- ✓ **Antibiotics such as penicillin are effective against syphilis.**
- ✓ **Without treatment, symptoms progress to finally penetrating the central nervous system.**
- ✓ **In some cases, symptoms do not appear for years: this is asymptomatic syphilis.**
- ✓ **There is no immunity to syphilis, so it can infect a person repeatedly.**
- ✓ **Syphilis is a Class 5 disease in Japan under the Act on the Prevention of Infectious Diseases and Medical Care for Patients with Infectious Diseases.**

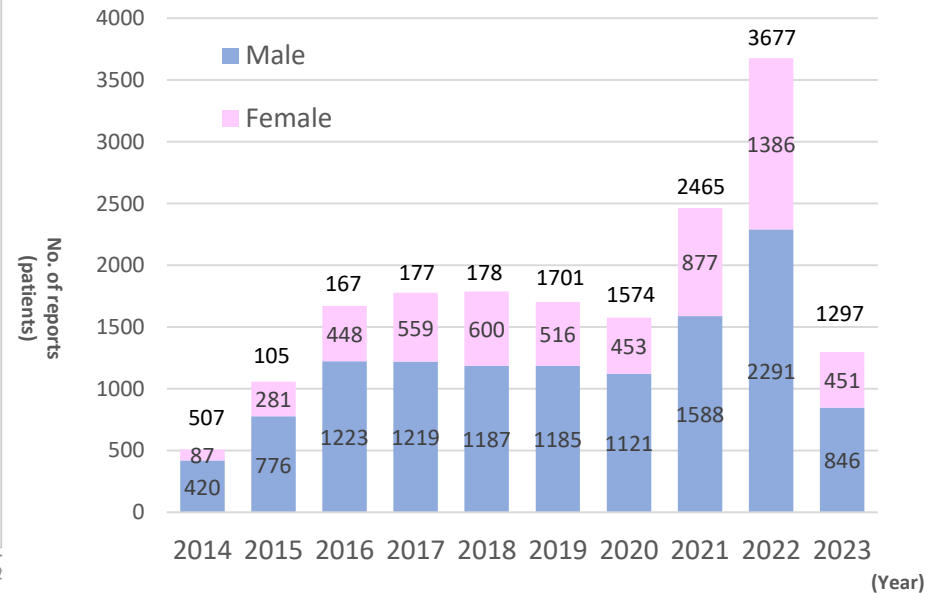
Status of syphilis infection in Japan

- Japan has seen a big jump from 2021 with **13,228 cases reported in 2022**, about 1.7 times more than the 7,983 cases reported in 2021.
- Like the country as a whole, Tokyo has also seen rising infections since 2021, the 3,677 reported in 2022 was 1.5 times the cases reported in 2021 at 2,465.
- Reported cases in Tokyo in 2023 are around 20% higher than 2022 (as of May 11)

Infections in Tokyo (weekly report)※ 2023 data as of May 11

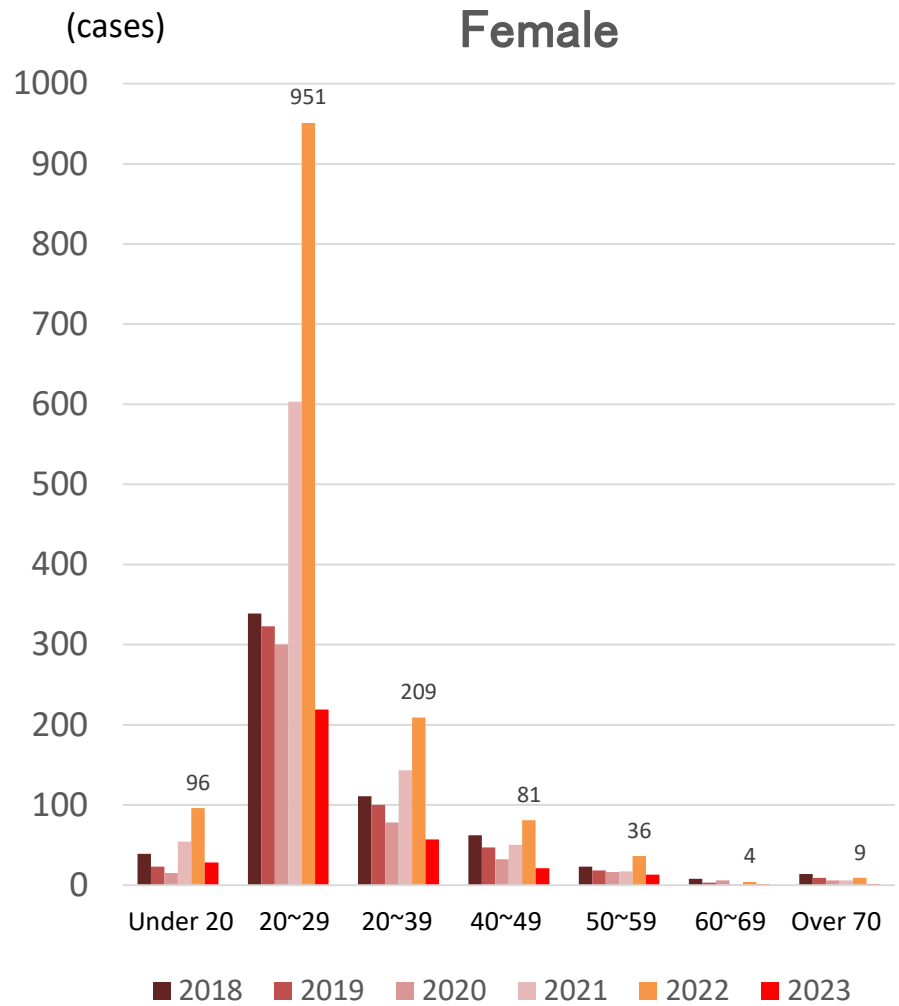
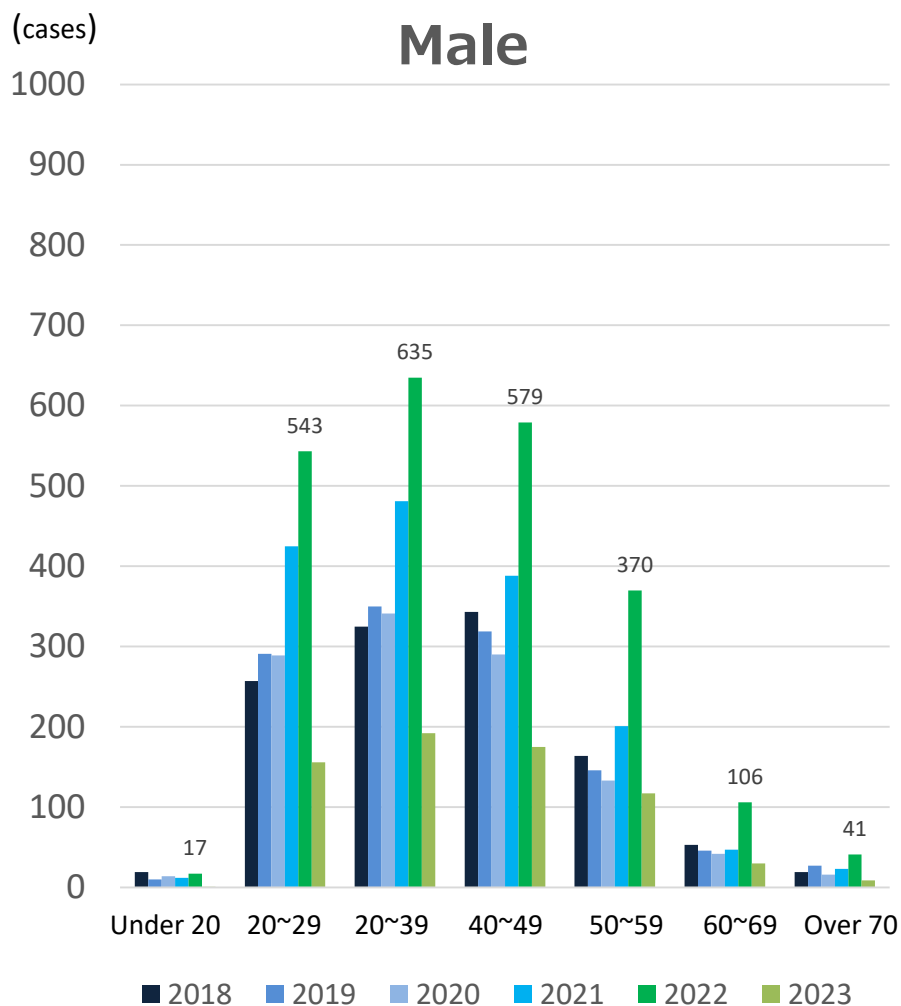


Infections in Tokyo (annual report) ※ 2023 data as of May 11



No. of reported patients in Tokyo by gender and age

※ 2023 data is up to Week 14



Women, 2020 excludes 1 person of unknown age

Response to syphilis in Tokyo

Strengthened testing and counselling

- **Year-round free and anonymous testing for syphilis and HIV in Tokyo Metropolitan Testing and Counselling offices**

- Tokyo Metropolitan Testing and Counselling office (Shinjuku East Gate)
- Tokyo Metropolitan Testing and Counselling office (Tama area)

Upcoming measures

- Increased testing (Extra anonymous and free testing times/extra testing in Tama area in June and November-December)
- Female-friendly testing (Ladies' Day established)

Strengthened education

- **Tokyo STD Navi is now online to promote correct understanding of STDs and proper behaviors**

URL <https://www.fukushihoken.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/seikansensho/index.html>

- Videos with accurate information about STDs, exhaustive information about testing and counselling
- **Direct outreach to youth through targeted ads, YouTube and more**
 - Streaming educational videos featuring people who have experienced syphilis and experts in the field

Upcoming measures

- Effective advertising with advice from Tokyo iCDC experts (focused advertising in a range of media)



Securing healthcare personnel

- Online training for healthcare workers, post video archive on STD Navi
- Post hospitals offering treatment for STDs on STD Navi (as of March 2023: 740 facilities)