

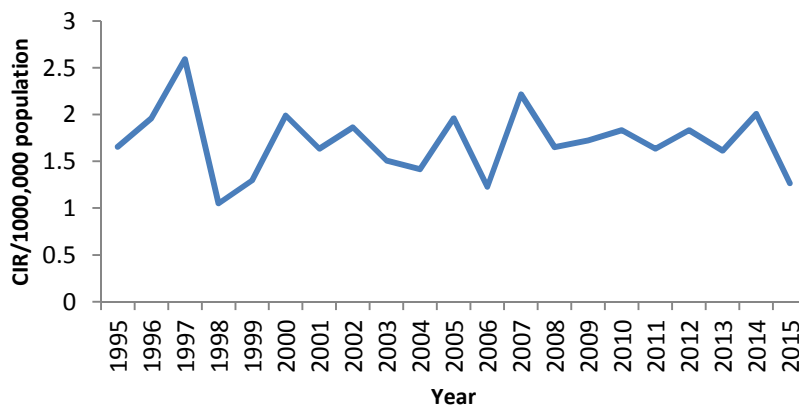
## Key Points

- In 2015 the crude incidence rate of trichomoniasis decreased to 1.3 per 100,000 population (n=58), the lowest rate since 2006
- All reported cases were among women with the highest rate among women aged 20-24 years (6.6/100,000 population)

Trichomoniasis is a common sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by the microorganism *Trichomonas vaginalis*. Trichomoniasis can affect both males and females, though men with trichomoniasis can be asymptomatic.

In 2015, all laboratories reported trichomoniasis data via the Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system. All cases of trichomoniasis reported by clinicians were also entered into CIDR. This is the third year for which national case-based data are available for trichomoniasis.

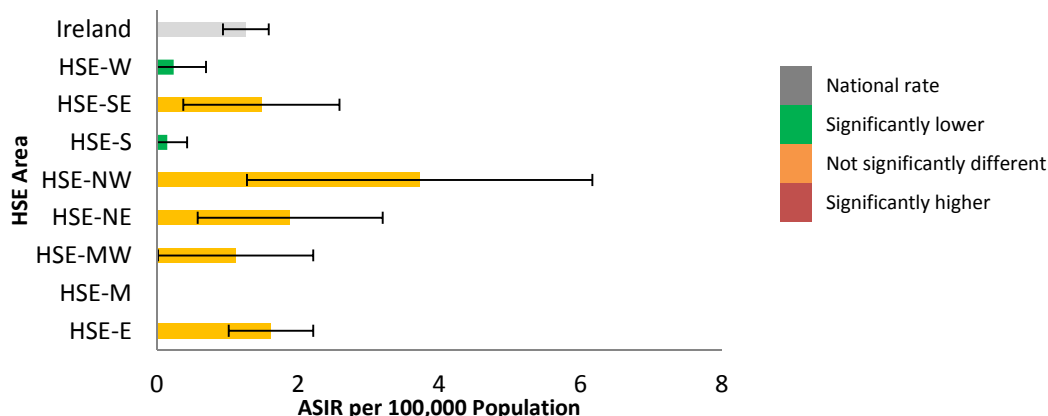
**Figure 1: Trend in CIR of trichomoniasis in Ireland, 1995-2015**



As of 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016, there were 58 cases of trichomoniasis notified in Ireland during 2015, a decrease of 37% compared to 2014 (n=92). The crude incidence rate (CIR) for 2015 was 1.3 per 100,000 population, the lowest rate since 2006 (1.2 per 100,000 population; figure 1).

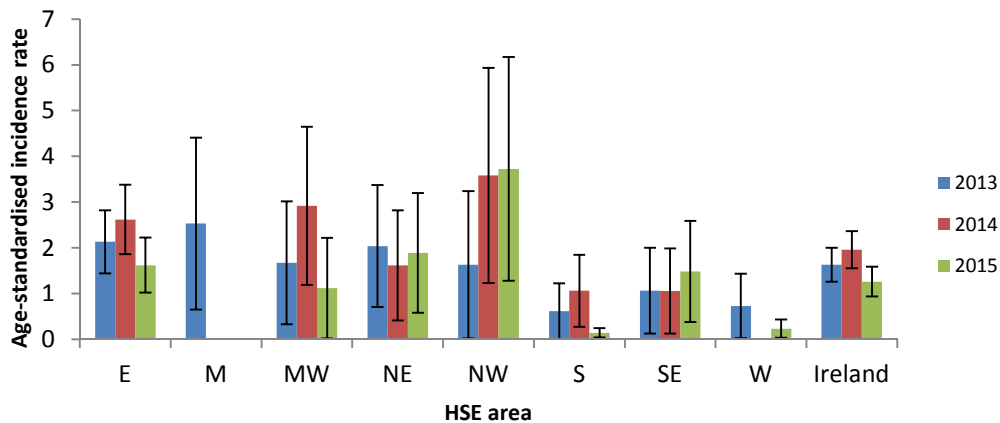
Cases were reported from all HSE areas, except HSE Midlands. The majority of cases (n=28; 48%) were reported in HSE East. The highest age-standardised incidence rate (ASIR) in 2015 was in HSE Northwest (3.7/100,000) (figure 2). The ASIR in HSE West and HSE South were significantly below the national rate.

**Figure 2: Age-standardised incidence rate (ASIR) of trichomoniasis by HSE area compared with national rate, 2015**



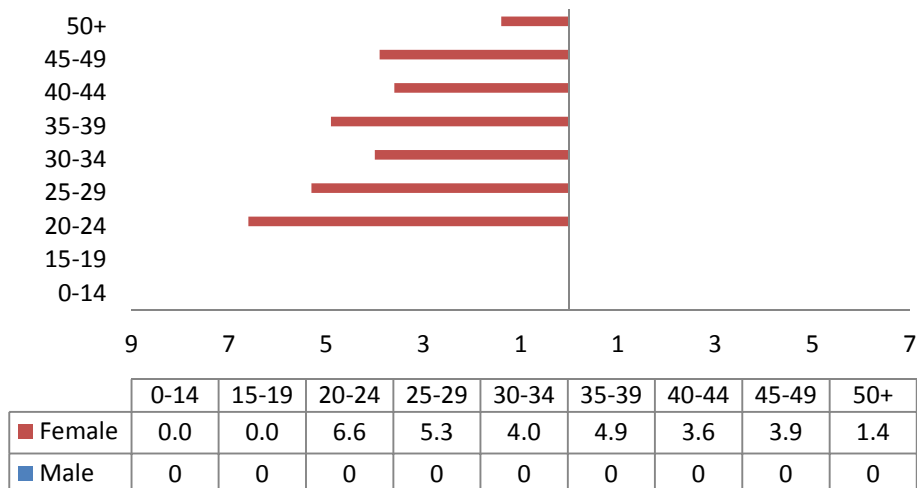
Compared to 2014 the largest increase in ASIR was in HSE Southeast (from 1.0/100,000 to 1.9/100,000) but the rate was not significantly different to the national rate (figure 2). The largest decrease in AISR was in HSE Midwest where the rate decreased from 2.9 in 2014 to 1.1/100,000 (figure 3).

**Figure 3: Age-standardised incidence rate of trichomoniasis by HSE area<sup>4</sup>, 2013-2015**



All 58 cases were in females. The median age was 35 years (range 20-59 years), which is slightly older than in 2014 (median age was 33 years, range 18-75 years). The highest age- and gender-specific rates were in 20-24 year old females (6.6/100,000) and 25-29 year old females (5.3/100,000) (figure 4).

**Figure 4: Gender- and age-specific rate of trichomoniasis, 2015 (n=58)**



Patient type (reflecting the service at which the patient was diagnosed) was recorded for over two-thirds (n=41) of trichomoniasis cases in 2015. Just over one third of cases (n=20) were diagnosed in general practice and 25% (n=15) were diagnosed in STI clinics. Approximately 10% of cases were diagnosed in emergency departments or other hospital settings.

Four patients diagnosed with trichomoniasis in 2015 were also diagnosed with another STI during 2015: chlamydia (n=1), hepatitis C (n=1), HIV (n=1), and gonorrhoea (n=1).

## **Technical Notes**

1. Data are analysed by date of notification in CIDR.
2. Data for this report were extracted from CIDR on 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2016, and were correct at the time of publication.
3. Percentages are rounded up in the text and provided to one decimal place in the tables.
4. The counties covered by each HSE area are as follows: HSE East: Dublin, Kildare & Wicklow; HSE Midlands: Laois, Longford, Offaly & Westmeath; HSE Midwest: Clare, Limerick & N. Tipperary; HSE Northeast: Cavan, Louth, Meath & Monaghan; HSE Northwest: Donegal, Leitrim & Sligo; HSE South: Kerry & Cork; HSE Southeast: Carlow, Kilkenny, S. Tipperary, Waterford & Wexford; HSE West: Galway, Mayo & Roscommon.
5. Age-standardised incidence rates were calculated using the direct method in which the national population was taken as the standard population. Population data were taken from Census 2011 from the Central Statistics Office. Data were aggregated into the following age groups for the analysis: 0-4 years, 5-9 years, 10-14 years, 15-19 years, 20-24 years, 25-34 years, 35-44 years, 45-54 years, 55-64 years and ≥65 years.