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SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY 2019 *PRELIMINARY* DATA SLIDES

*County of San Diego
Health and Human Services Agency
Division of Public Health Services
HIV, STD, and Hepatitis Branch*





Preface

This publication, *Sexually Transmitted Diseases in San Diego County, 2019 Preliminary Data Slides*, includes *preliminary* reported disease data collected through 2019 for chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis. All tables and figures published here supersede those in prior publications. *Due to delays in data closure due to COVID-19, these slides are based on preliminary data and will be replaced with a complete data slide set when final data are available.*

This slide set provides a comprehensive picture of reported sexually transmitted disease (STD) trends and current morbidity in San Diego. These data are compiled to guide policy and program development within the County of San Diego HIV, STD and Hepatitis Branch, local STD programs, and other public health agencies.

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Case Counts and Rates



- These slides include *preliminary case counts* and **rates** of reportable STDs.
- Rates take population size into account and indicate the impact of STDs on a group or population.
- In this report, rates are expressed as the number of cases per 100,000 persons in a group or population.
- Population estimate source: 2019 Revised Vintage Population Estimates; County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services Division, Community Health Statistics Unit. 6/2020.
- The following is an example of the difference between cases and rates:

Region	Case Count	Population	Rate per 100,000 <i>$\frac{\text{Case Count} * 100,000}{\text{Population}}$</i>
A	10,000	200,000	5,000
B	10,000	100,000	10,000

Despite having the same number of affected individuals (10,000), the rate for Region B is higher than Region A because there are fewer inhabitants. Accounting for the population size allows for a more consistent comparison of the level of disease per person between regions.

STD/HIV Screening Recommendations

United States Preventive Services Task Force

- Chlamydia and gonorrhea screening in sexually active females aged 24 years and younger (Grade B)
- Chlamydia and gonorrhea screening in sexually active females aged 25 years and older with risk factors (Grade B)
- Screening for syphilis in persons who are at increased risk for infection (Grade A)
- Early screening for syphilis in all pregnant women (Grade A)
- Screening for HIV infection of adolescents and adults aged 15 to 65 years, and younger adolescents and older adults at increased risk of infection (Grade A)
- Screening for HIV infection in all pregnant women (Grade A)
- Offering of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to persons who are at high risk of HIV acquisition (Grade A)

Source: <https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org>



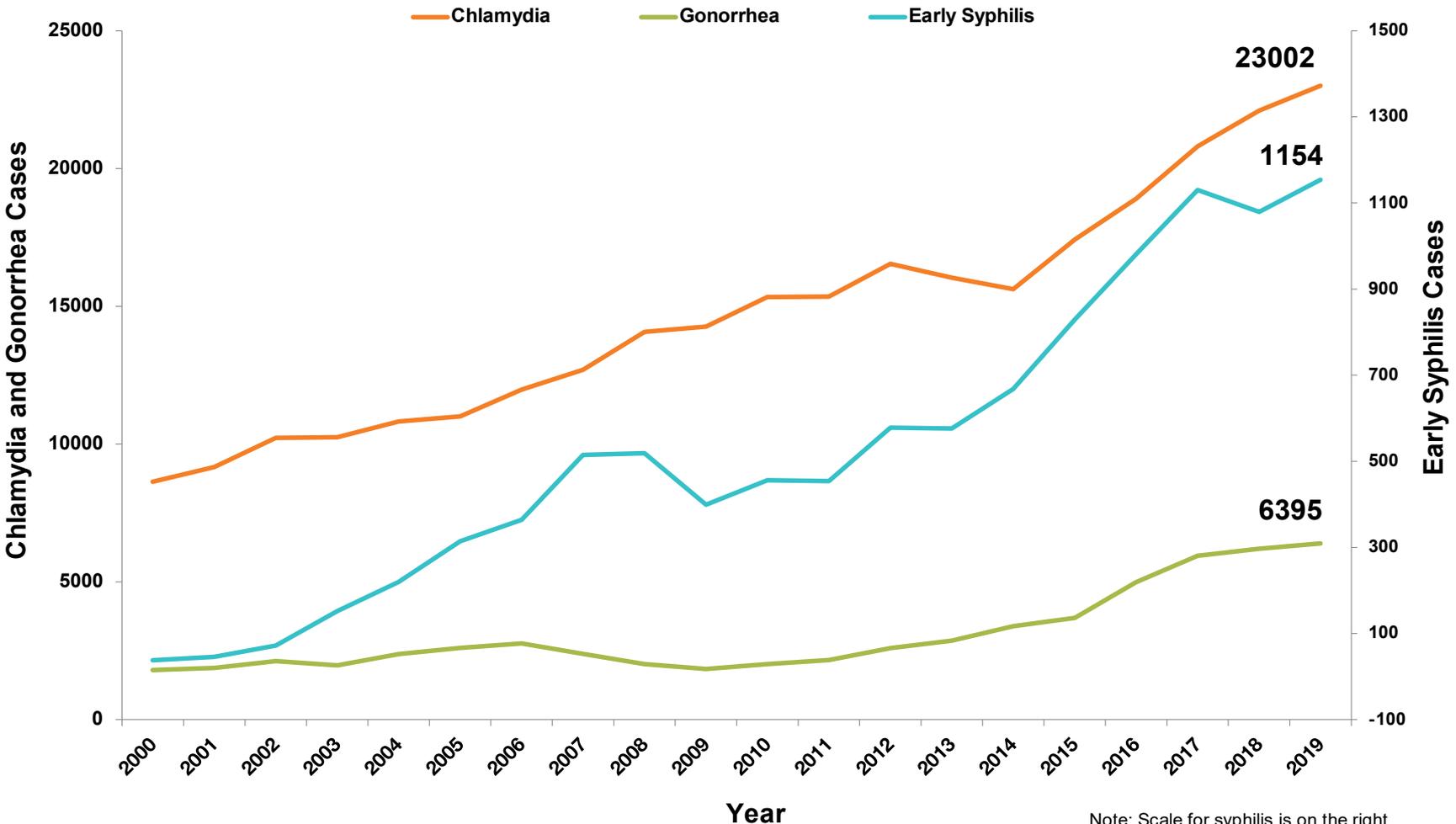
Key Points

STDs in San Diego County

- From 2018 to 2019, reported cases and rates of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and early syphilis increased in San Diego County as follows:
 - **Chlamydia:**
 - 23,002 cases (4.1% increase from 2018)
 - Rate of 686.3 cases per 100,000 (3.7% increase from 2018)
 - **Gonorrhea:**
 - 6,395 cases (3.1% increase from 2018)
 - Rate of 190.8 cases per 100,000 (2.7% increase from 2018)
 - **Early Syphilis:**
 - 1,154 cases (7.0% increase from 2018)
 - Rate of 34.4 cases per 100,000 (6.5% increase from 2018)



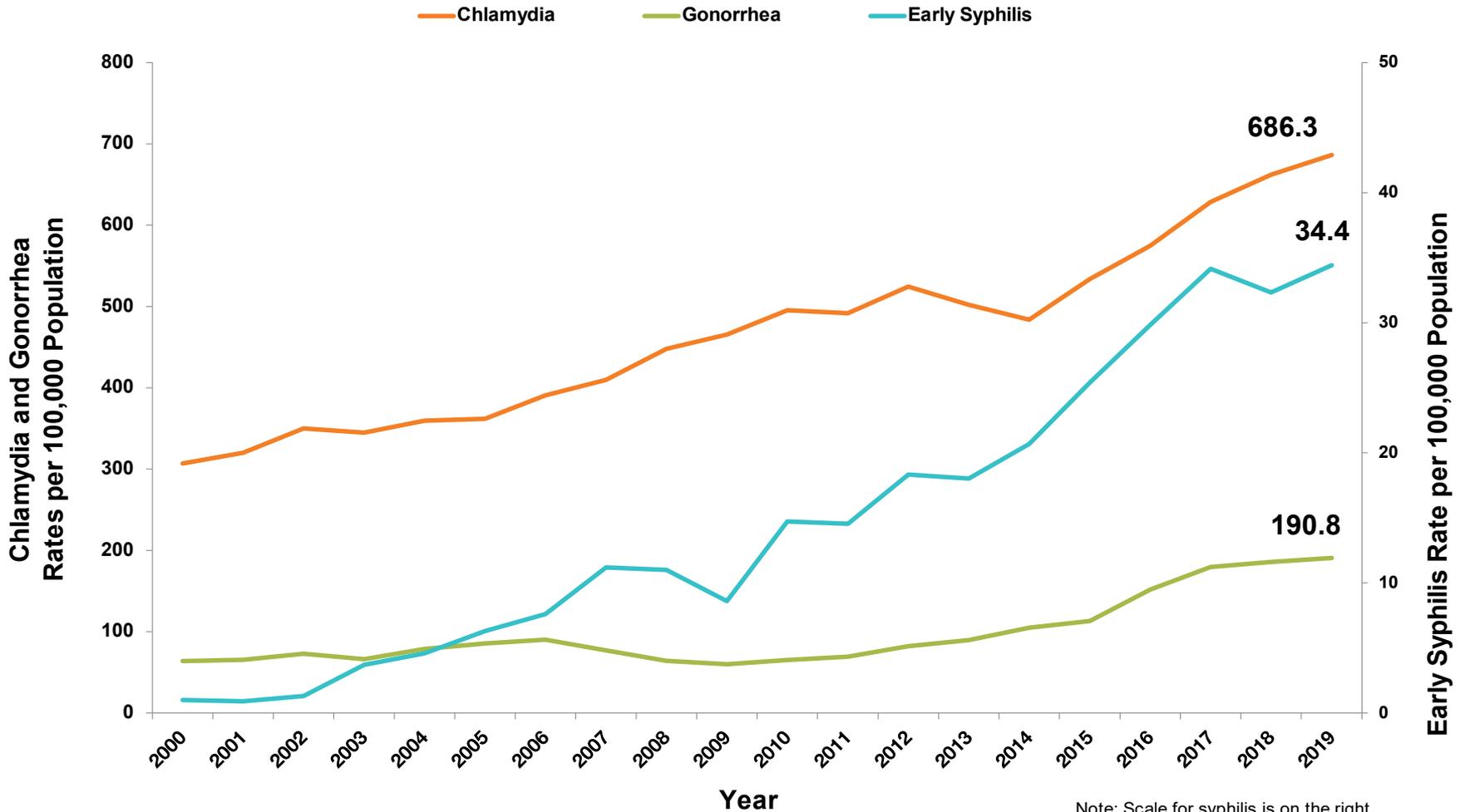
Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, and Early Syphilis Cases, San Diego County, 2000 - 2019



Note: Scale for syphilis is on the right.



Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, and Early Syphilis Rates, San Diego County, 2000 - 2019



Note: Scale for syphilis is on the right.

Chlamydia



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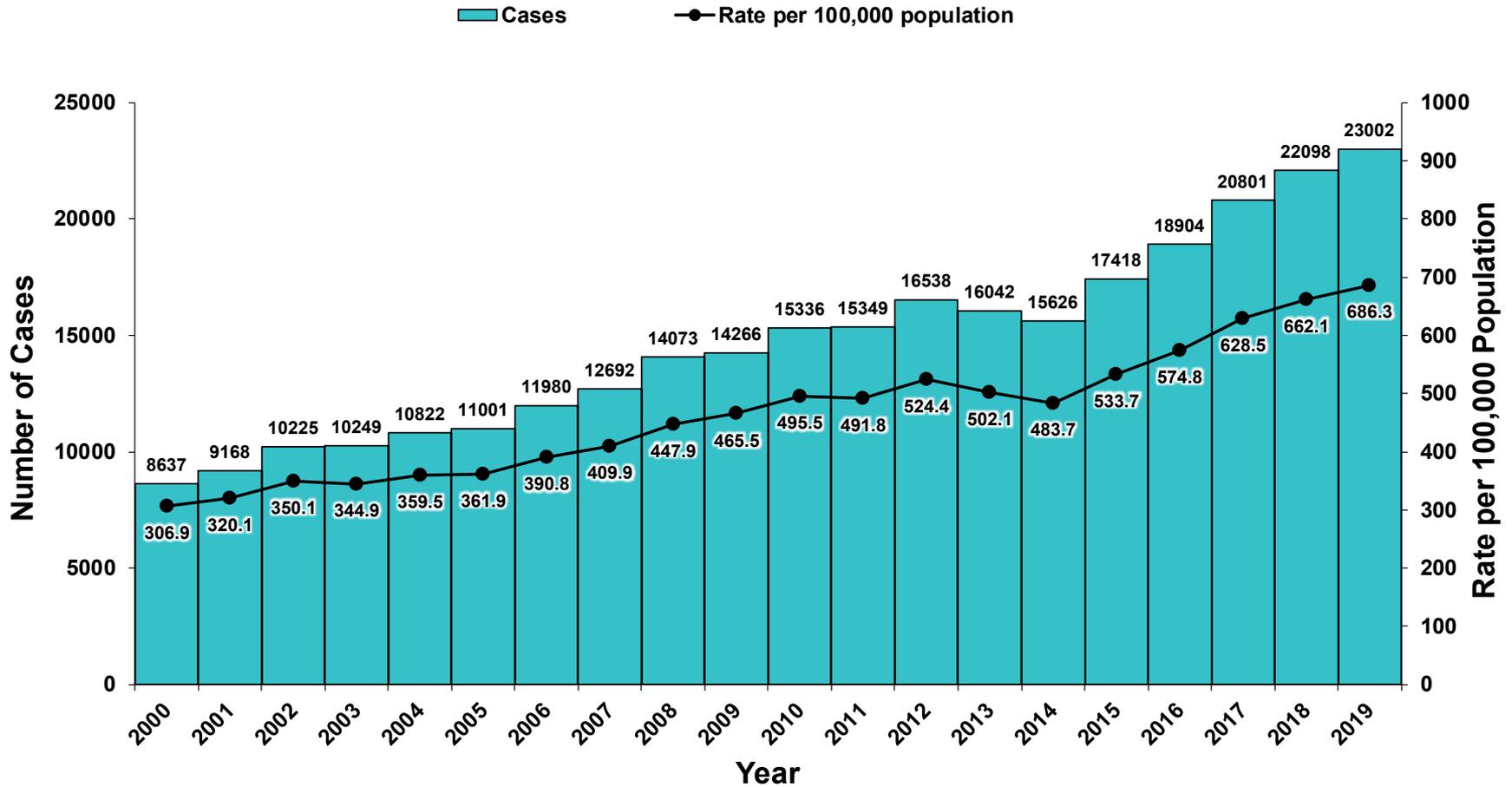
Key Points

Chlamydia in San Diego County

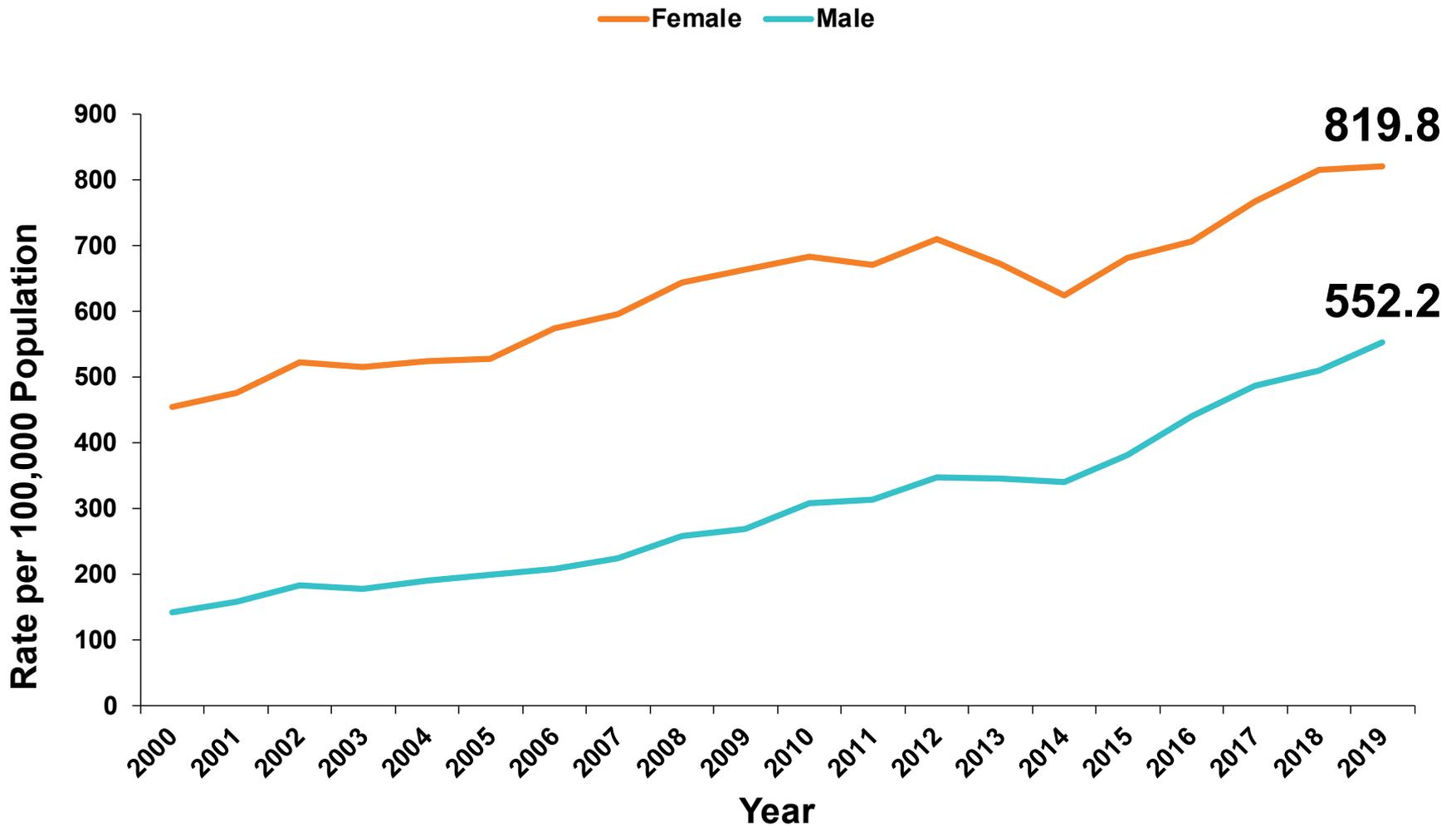
- Chlamydia is the most commonly reported disease in San Diego County and in California.
- Cases of chlamydia increased by 4.1% from 22,098 cases in 2018 to 23,002 cases in 2019.
- The overall rate of chlamydia increased by 3.7% from 662.1 cases per 100,000 in 2018 to 686.3 cases per 100,000 in 2019.
- The rate of chlamydia in women is 1.5 times the rate in men.
- Young women, aged 20 to 24 years, have the highest rate of infection.
- Based on limited race/ethnicity data, rates of chlamydia among African-American/black women and men were higher than those of other populations.



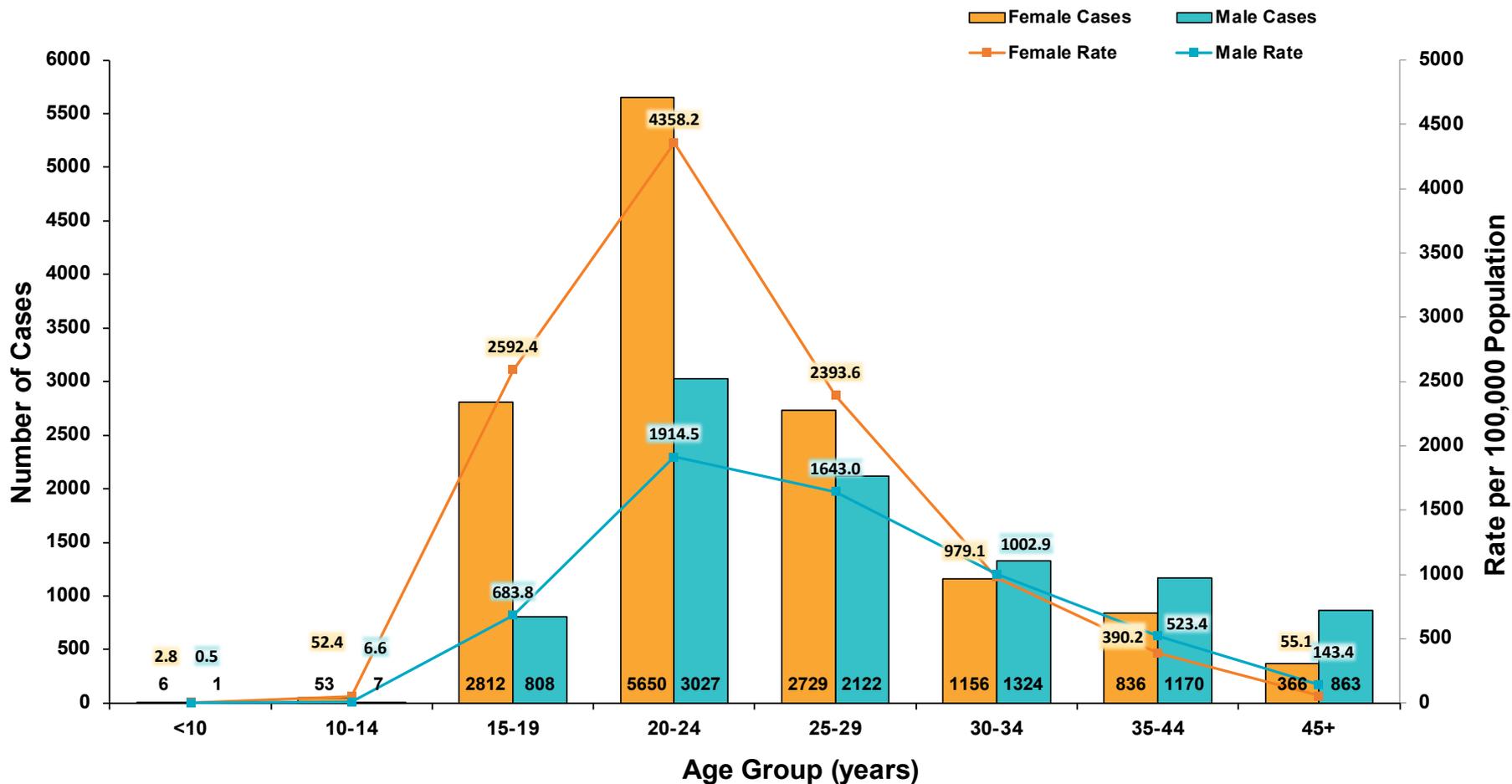
Chlamydia Cases and Rates by Year San Diego County, 2000 - 2019



Chlamydia Rates by Gender and Year San Diego County, 2000 - 2019

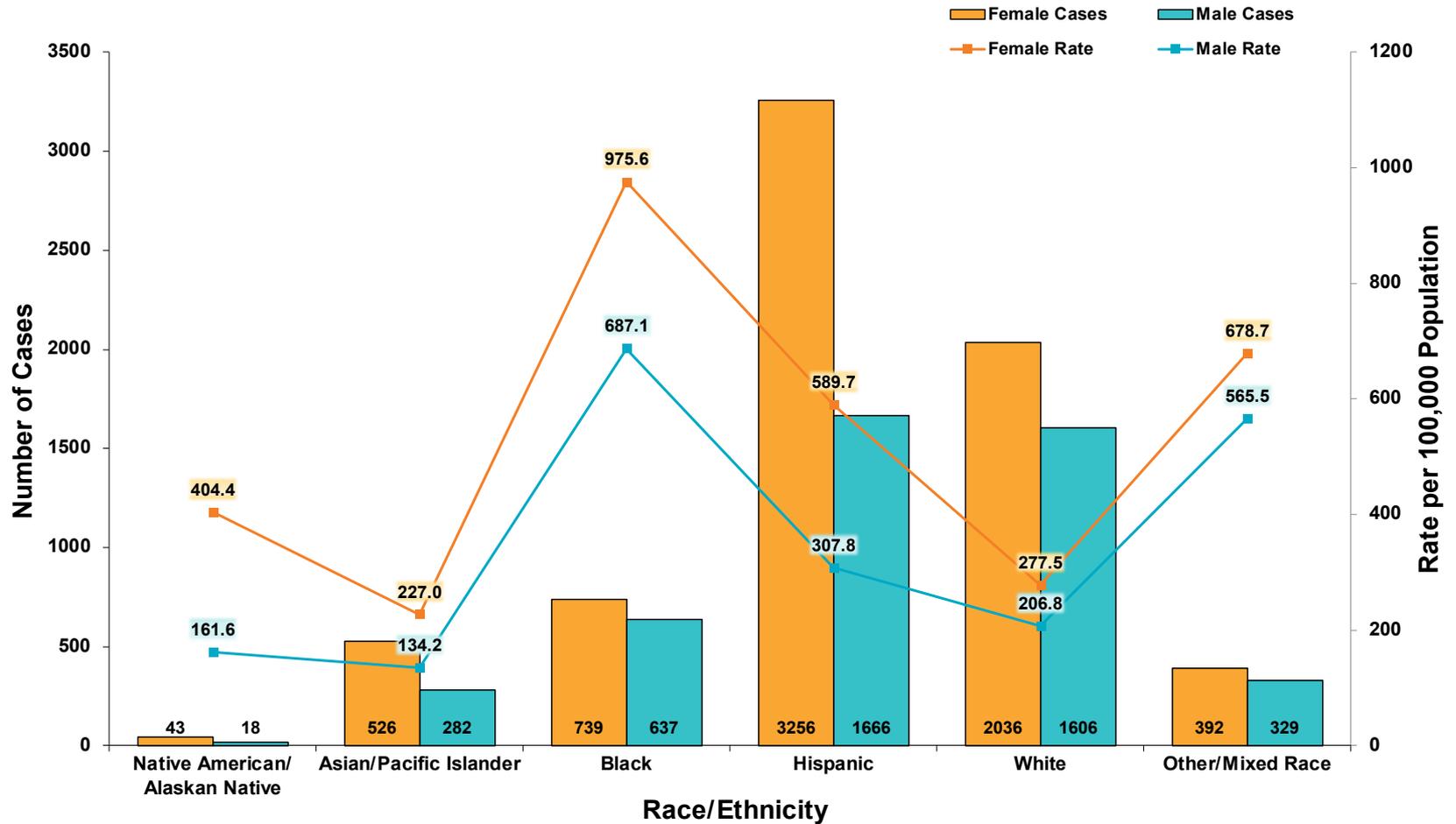


Chlamydia Cases and Rates by Gender and Age San Diego County, 2019



Note: 44 cases were missing gender information and 27 were missing age information. One case was missing both gender and age information.

Chlamydia Cases and Rates by Gender and Race/Ethnicity San Diego County, 2019



Note: 50% of cases are missing race/ethnicity or gender information and are not included in counts above.

Gonorrhea



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Key Points

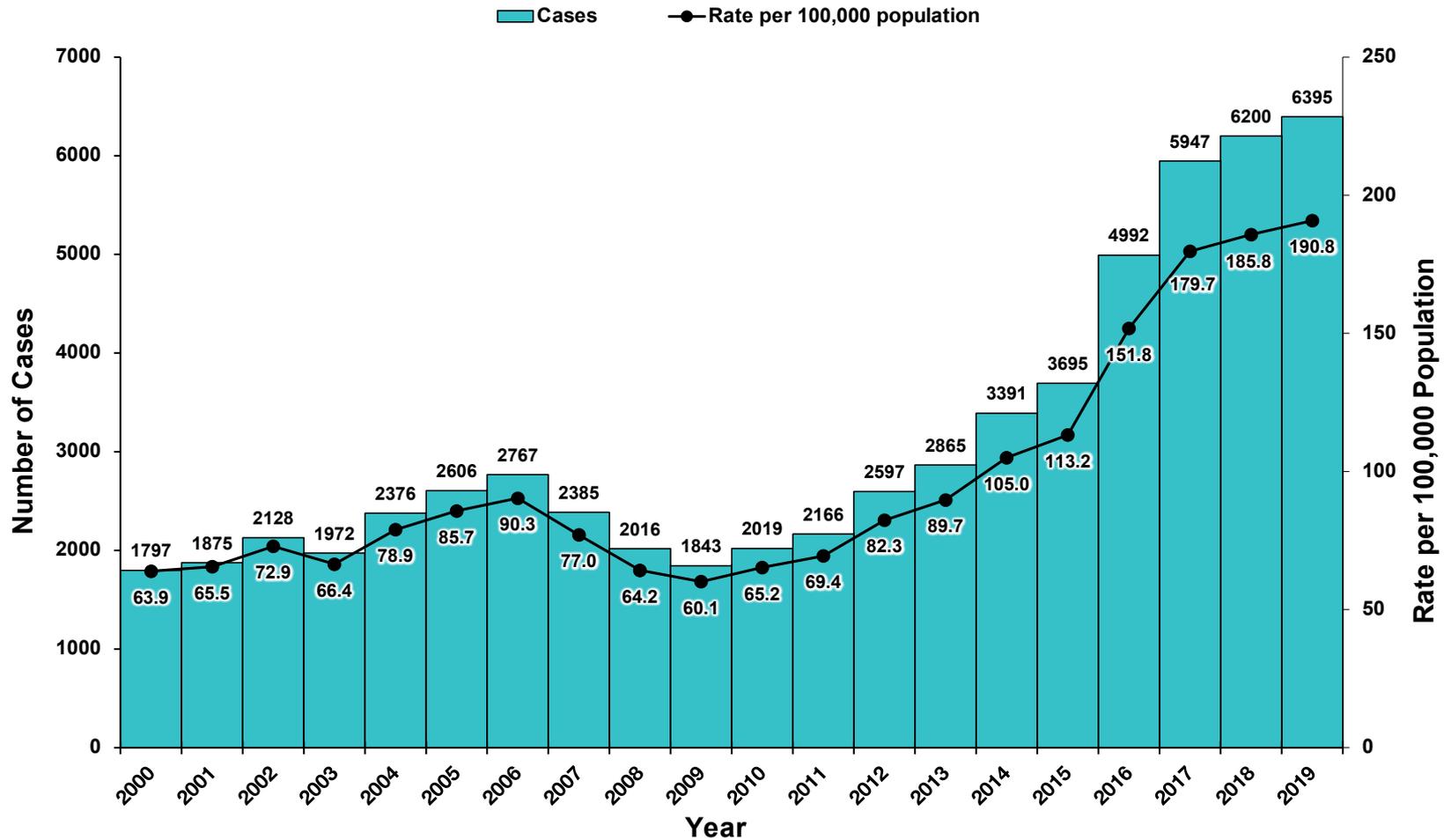
Gonorrhea in San Diego County

- Cases of gonorrhea increased by 3.1% from 6,200 cases in 2018 to 6,395 cases in 2019.
- The overall rate of gonorrhea increased by 2.7% from 185.8 cases per 100,000 in 2018 to 190.8 cases per 100,000 in 2019.
- The rate of gonorrhea in males is 1.9 times the rate in females. Of men with gonorrhea, 32% had rectal and/or pharyngeal infection.
- Men aged 20 to 34 years have the highest rates of infection.
- The rate of gonorrhea in African-American/black males is 4.3 times that of white males and 2.4 times that of Hispanic males; the rate of infection in African-American/black females is 4.7 times that of white females and 2.5 times that of Hispanic females.

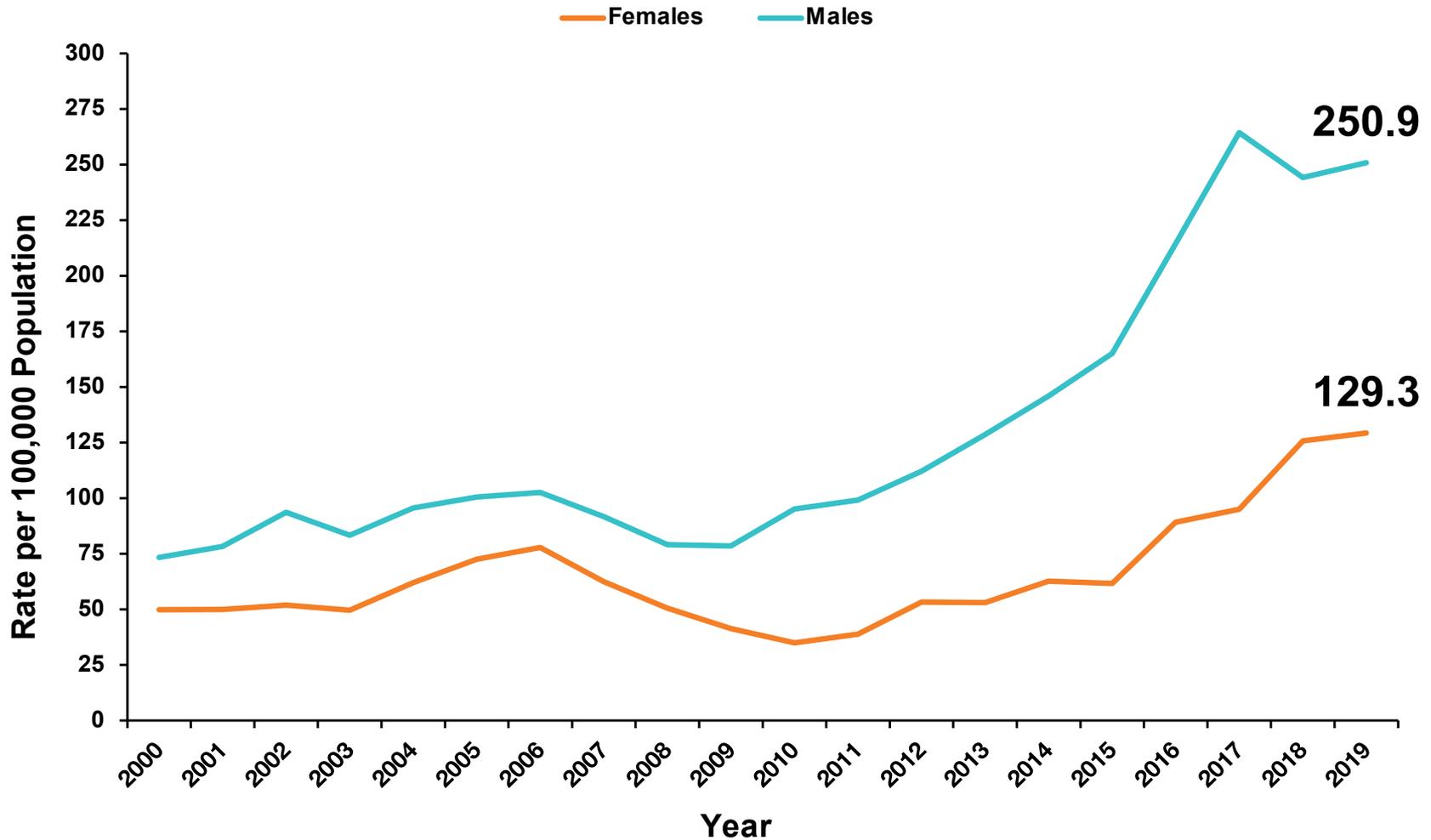


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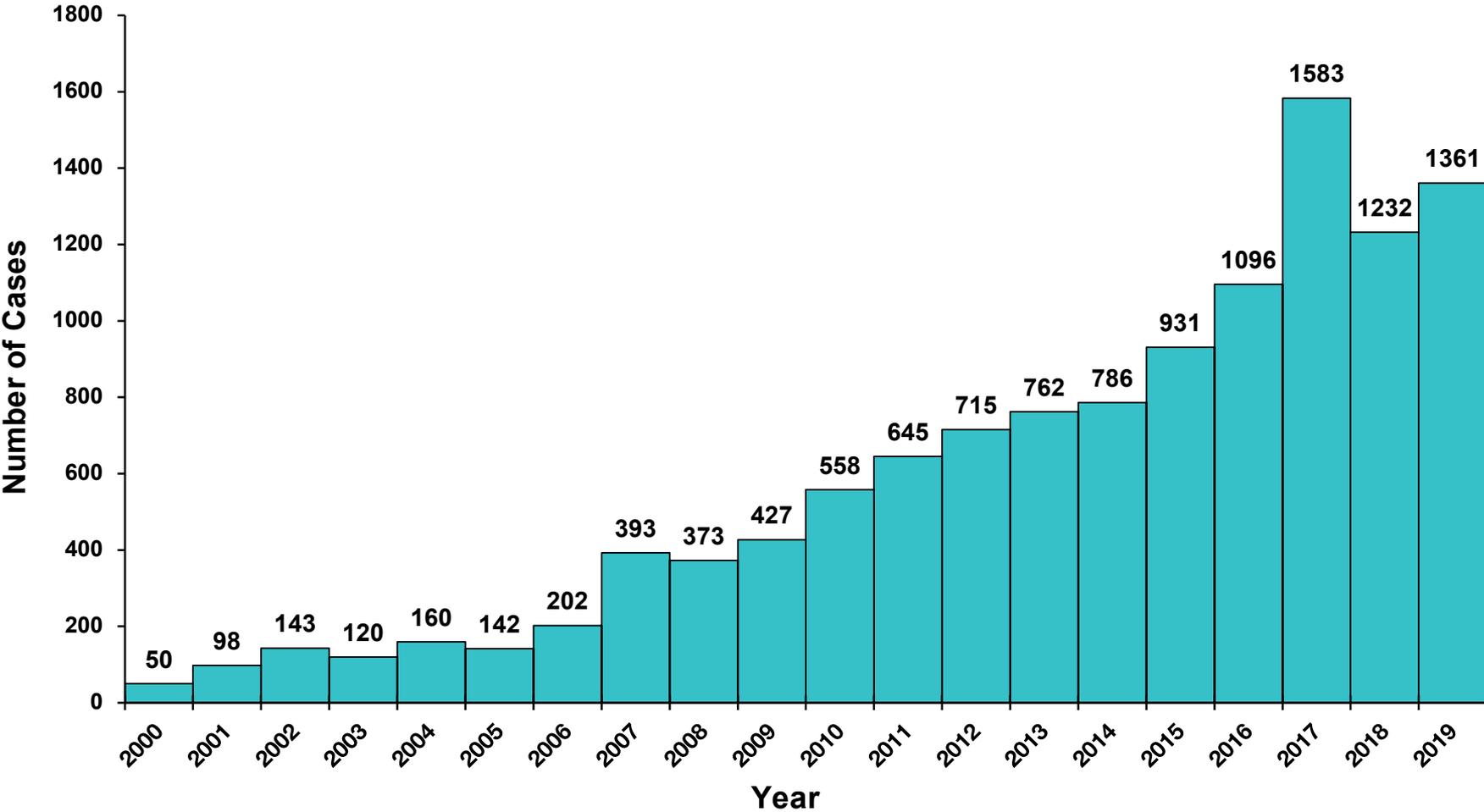
Gonorrhea Cases and Rates by Year San Diego County, 2000 - 2019



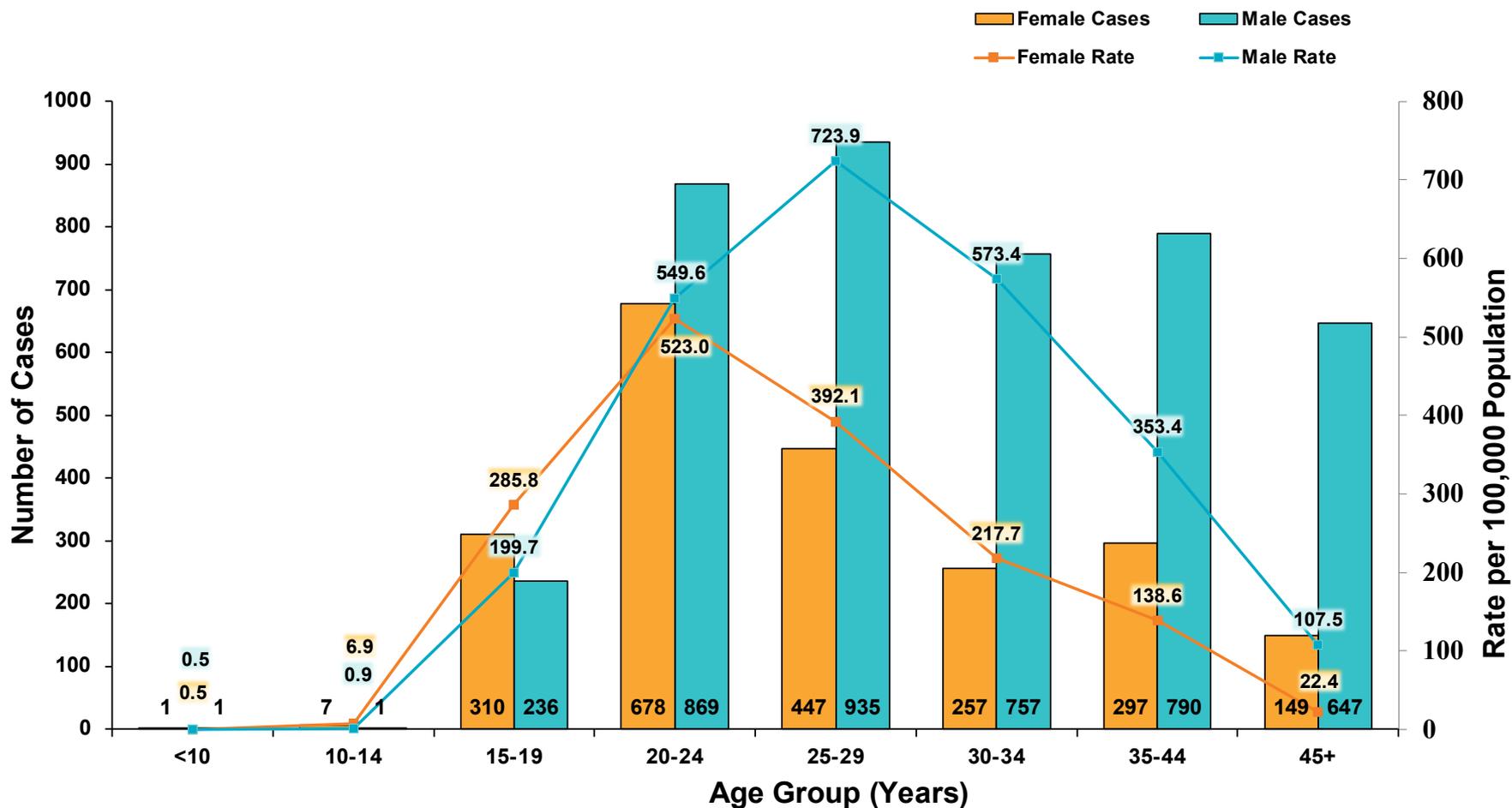
Gonorrhea Rates by Gender and Year San Diego County, 2000 - 2019



Rectal or Pharyngeal Gonorrhea in Males San Diego County, 2000 - 2019

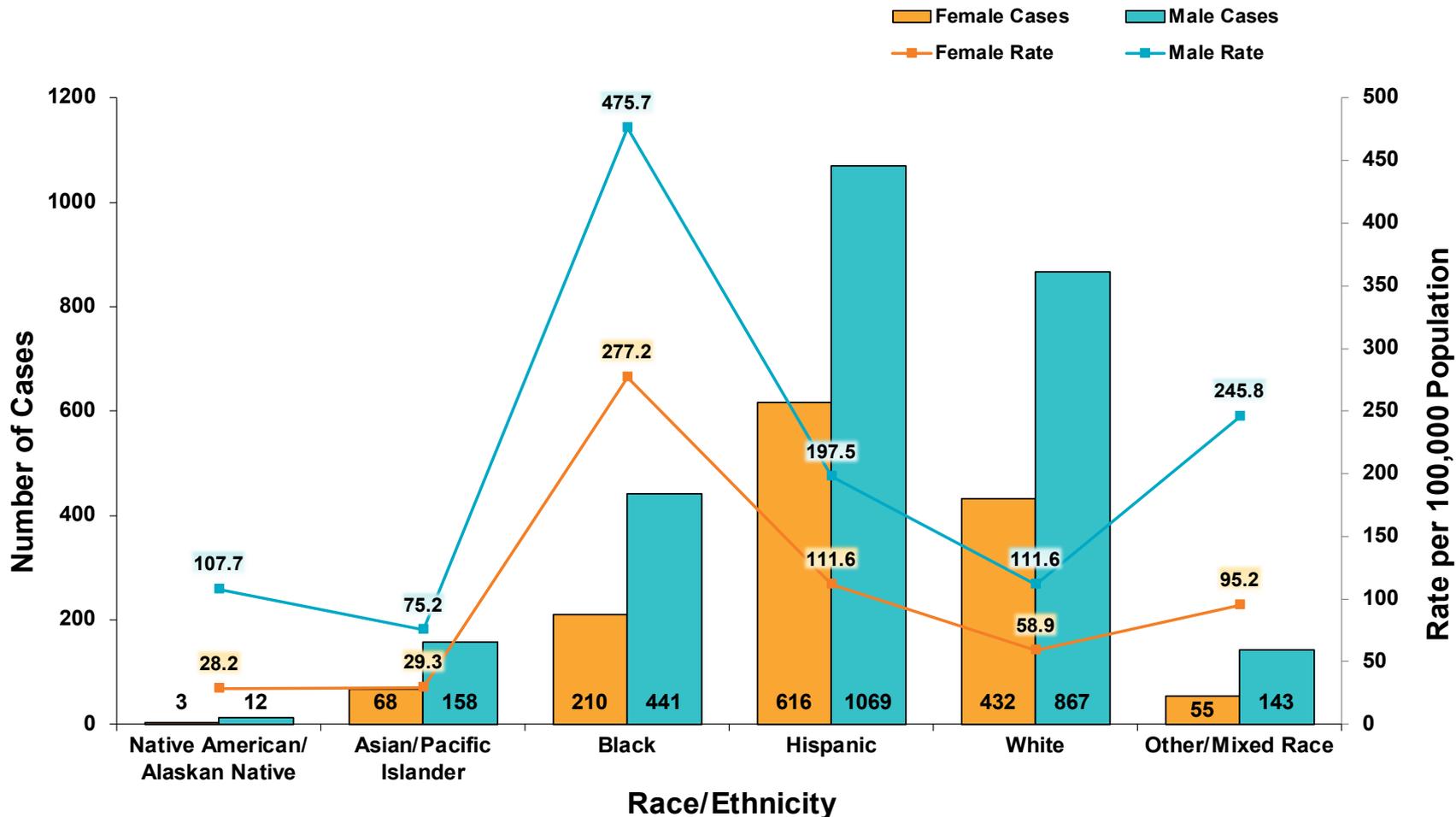


Gonorrhea Cases and Rates by Gender and Age San Diego County, 2019



Note: 6 cases were missing gender information and 6 cases were missing age information. One case was missing both gender and age information.

Gonorrhea Cases and Rates by Gender and Race/Ethnicity San Diego County, 2019



Note: 36.4% of cases are missing race/ethnicity or gender information and are not included in counts above.

Syphilis



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Key Points

Syphilis in San Diego County

- Cases of early syphilis increased by 7.0% from 1,079 cases in 2018 to 1,154 cases in 2019.
- The overall rate of early syphilis increased by 6.5% from 32.3 cases per 100,000 in 2018 to 34.4 cases per 100,000 in 2019.
- The majority of early syphilis cases 81.5% are men who have sex with men (MSM). An estimated 53.4% of MSM early syphilis cases are co-infected with HIV.
- Rates are highest among males aged 25 to 34 years.
- Although the rate of early syphilis among men was 10.6 times that among women, the rate among women increased at a faster rate from 2018 to 2019 (63.9% female rate increase vs. 3.0% male rate increase).
- African-American/black males have the highest rate of infection; the rate of infection in African-American/black males is 2.3 times that of white males.



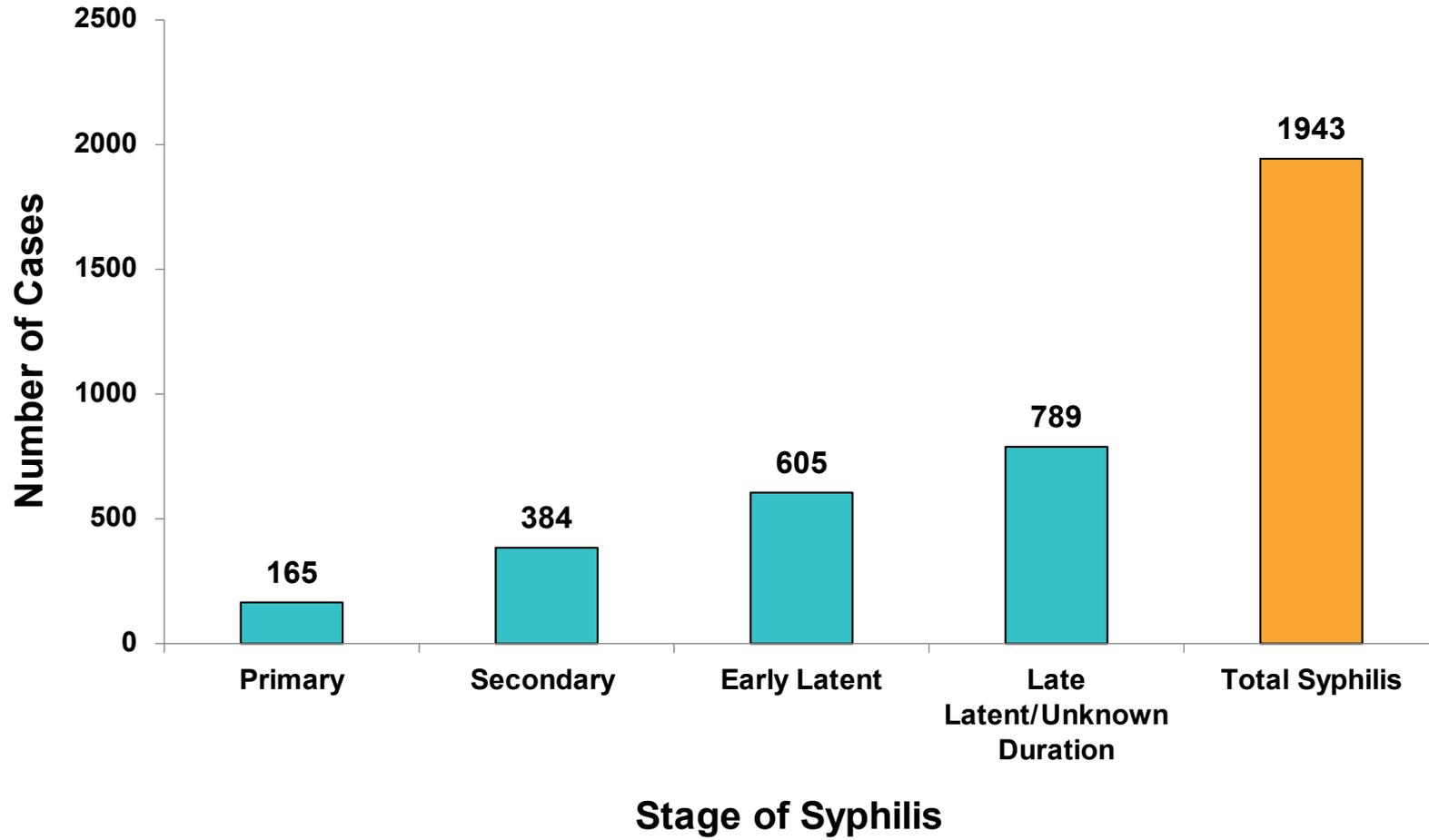
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Syphilis Stages and Significance

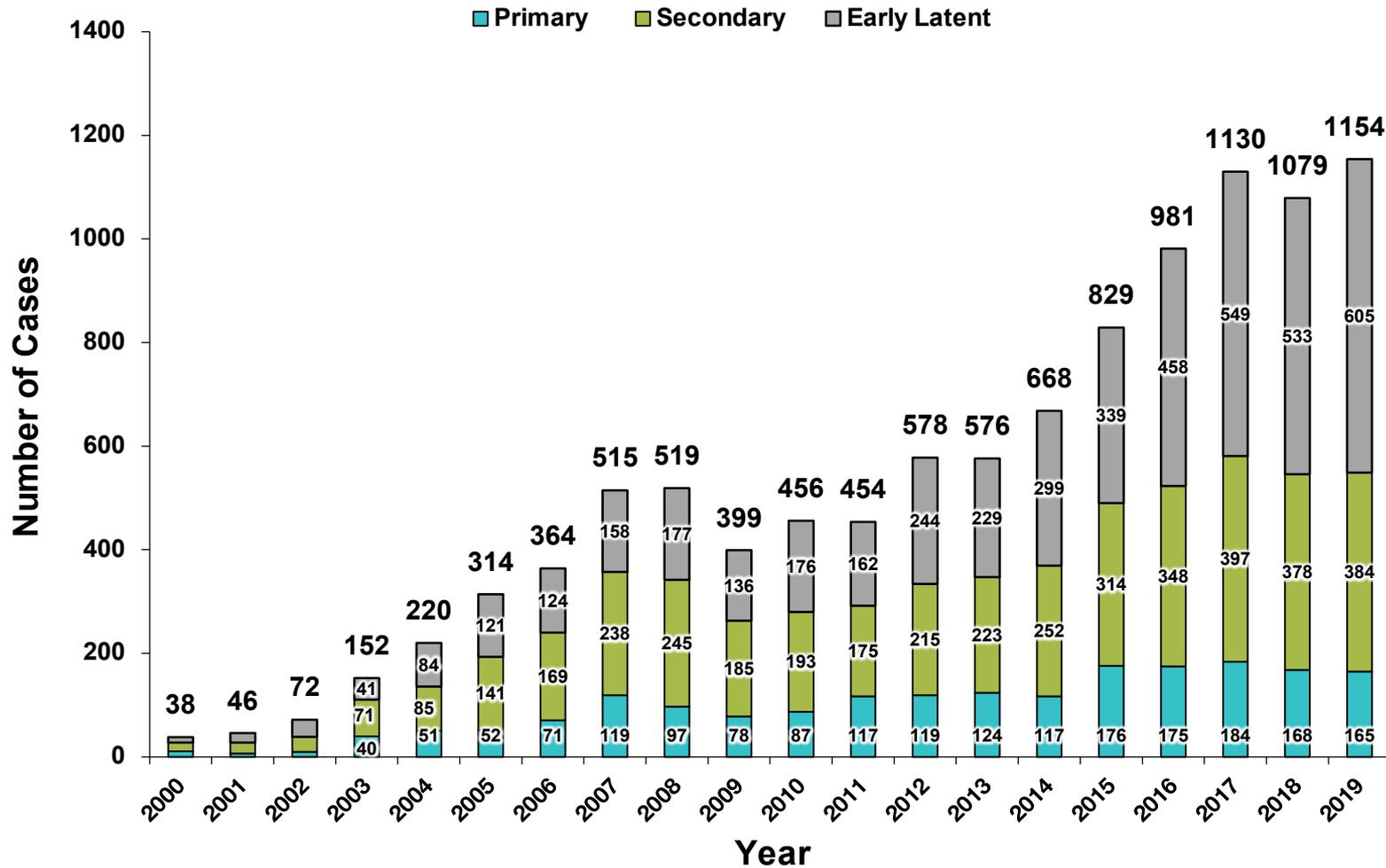
- Primary: painless ulcer(s) at site of initial contact with bacteria (*Treponema pallidum*)
- Secondary: widespread infection with variable presentation; typical findings include, but are not limited to, rash (often involves palms and soles), condylomata lata (wart-like lesions), mucous patches, and/or patchy alopecia.
- Early latent: no signs or symptoms of active infection; infection can be proven to have occurred <1 year ago.
- Late latent: no signs or symptoms of active infection; infection occurred ≥ 1 year ago, or duration is unknown.
- Sexual transmission between adults is only possible during early syphilis (i.e., primary, secondary, & early latent stages).
- Transmission from mother to child can occur during any stage of infection.



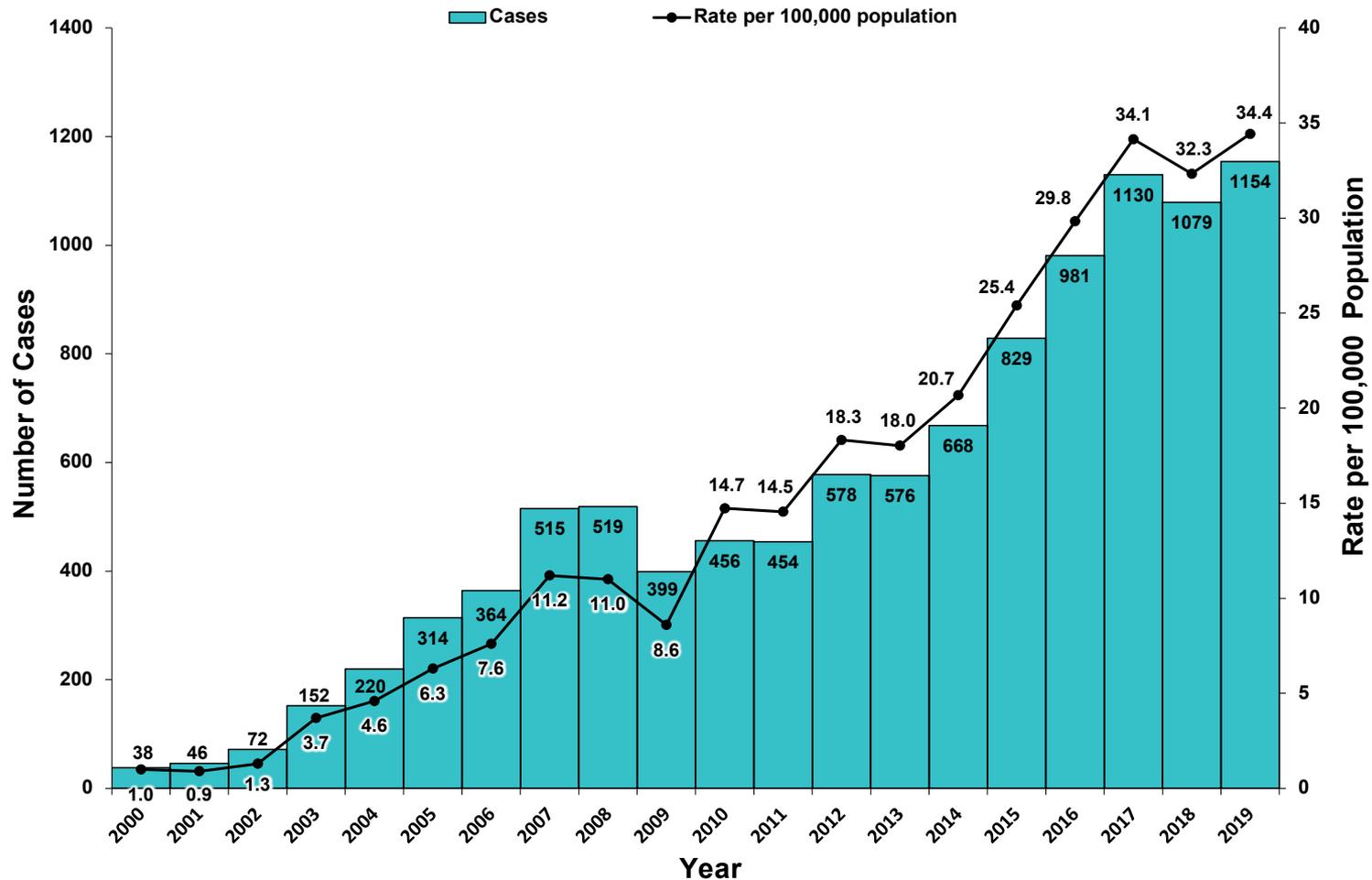
Case Count by Stage of Syphilis San Diego County, 2019



Early Syphilis Cases by Year and Stage San Diego County, 2000 - 2019



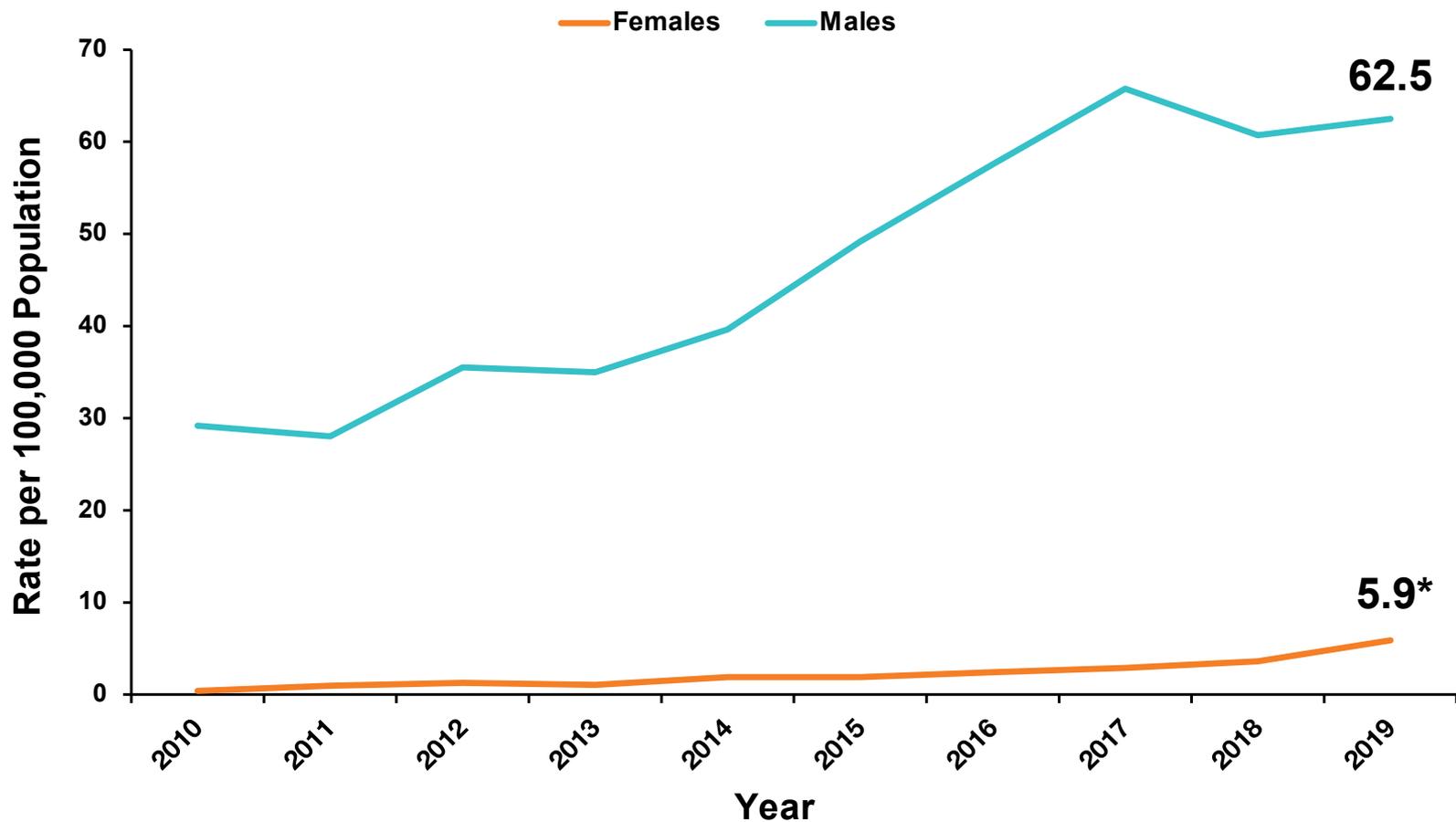
Early Syphilis Cases and Rates by Year San Diego County, 2000-2019



Note: Early Syphilis includes primary, secondary and early latent stages of infection.

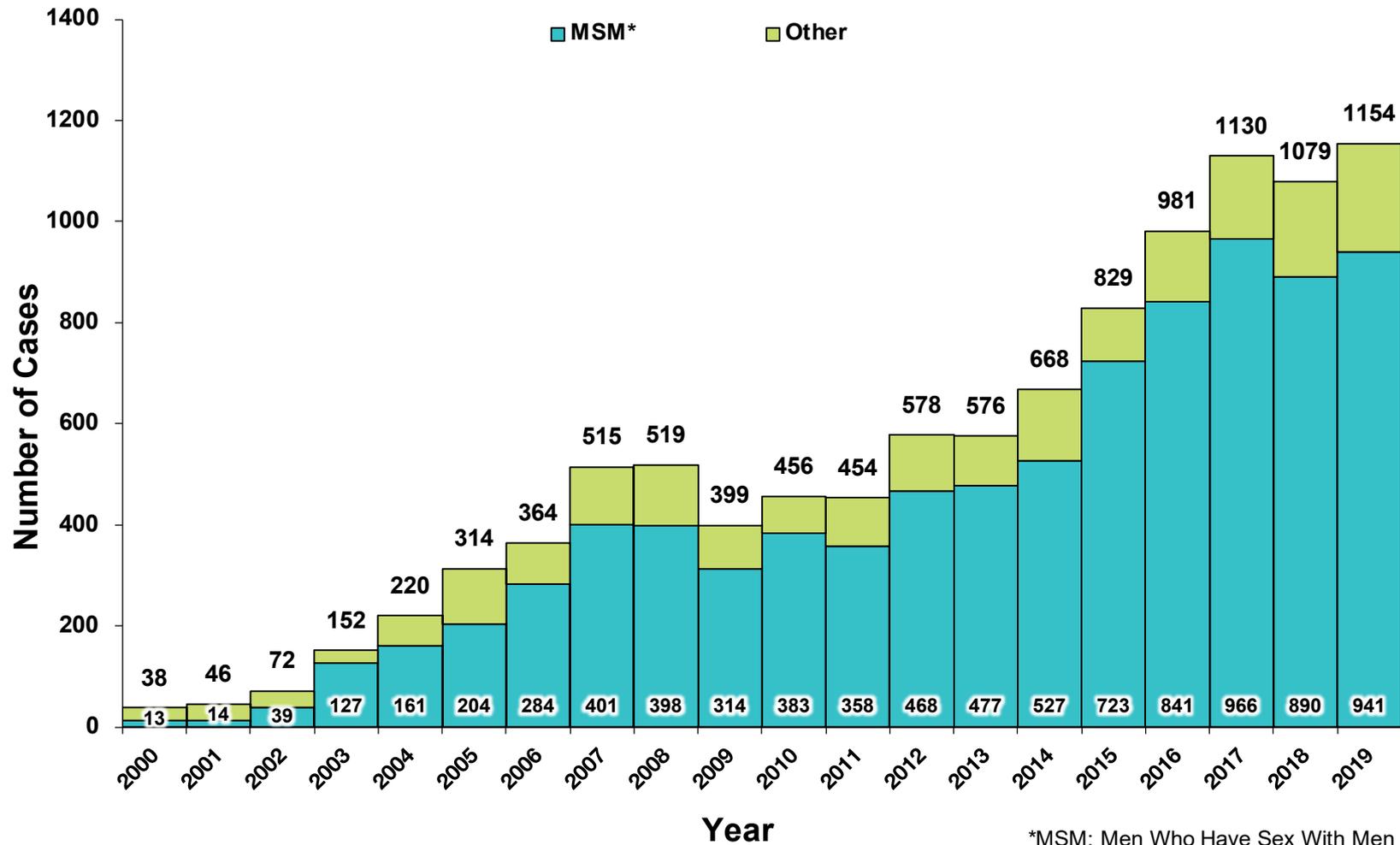


Early Syphilis Rates by Gender and Year San Diego County, 2010 - 2019



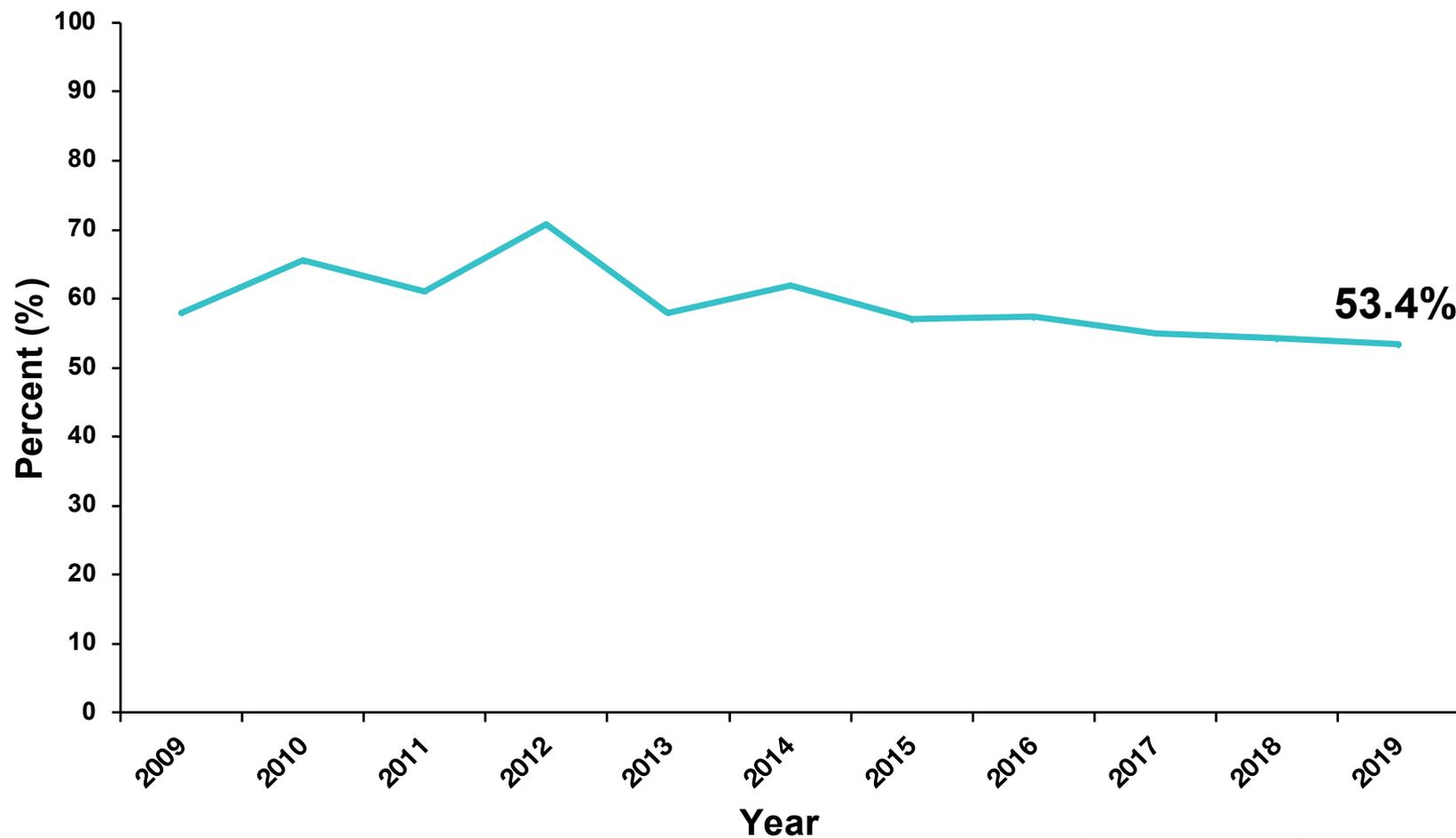
* Between 2018 and 2019 the female early syphilis rate increased by 64% and the number of cases increased by 63%.

Early Syphilis Cases by Year San Diego County, 2000-2019



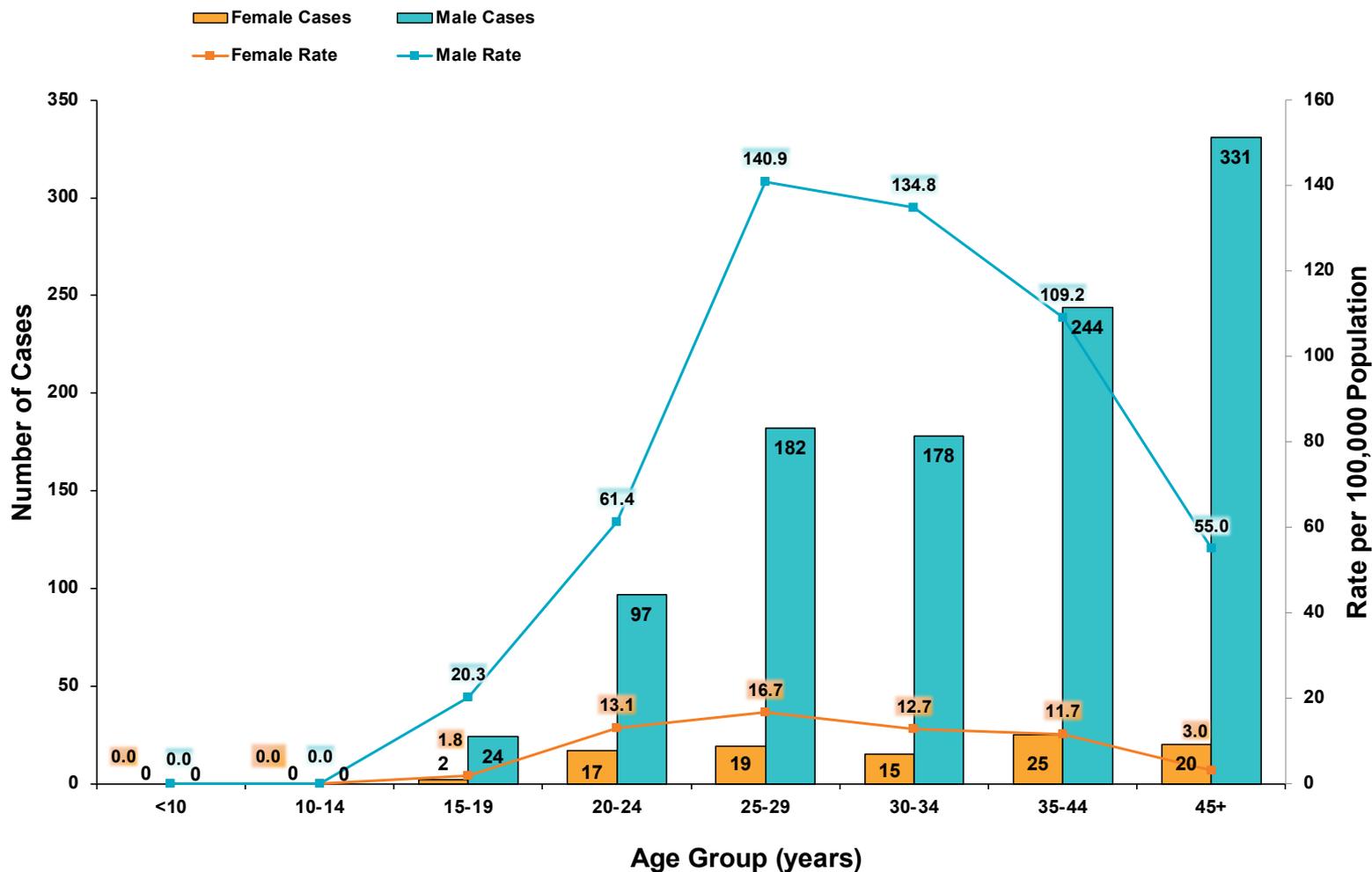
*MSM: Men Who Have Sex With Men

Percent of MSM* Early Syphilis Cases Co-Infected with HIV by Year San Diego County, 2009 - 2019

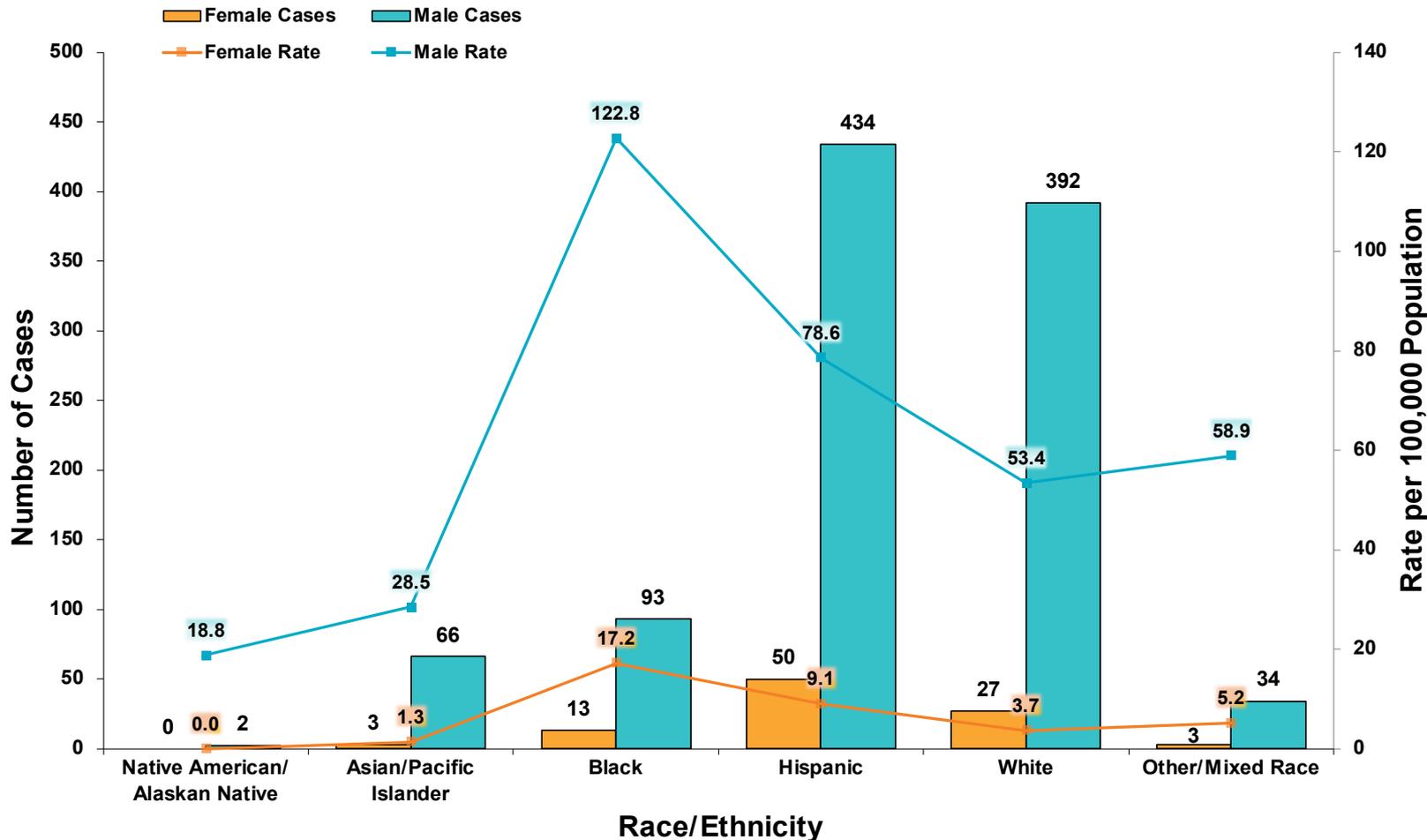


*MSM: Men Who Have Sex With Men

Early Syphilis Cases and Rates by Gender and Age San Diego County, 2019



Early Syphilis Cases and Rates by Gender and Race/Ethnicity San Diego County, 2019



Note: Counts exclude 37 cases missing race/ethnicity information.

Female & Congenital Syphilis



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Key Points

Female & Congenital Syphilis in San Diego County

- Cases and rates of syphilis of any stage and early (i.e., primary, secondary, and early latent) syphilis in females aged 15-49 years (i.e. women of childbearing potential) have been increasing overall from 2015-2019.
 - Cases of total syphilis (all stages) increased by 52.9% from 187 cases in 2018 to 286 cases in 2019, and the rate increased by 47.4% from 24.7 cases per 100,000 in 2018 to 36.4 cases per 100,000 in 2019. Twenty percent of syphilis cases were pregnant at the time of diagnosis.
 - Cases of early syphilis increased by 56.4% from 55 cases in 2018 to 86 cases in 2019. The rate of early syphilis in women of childbearing age in 2019 increased significantly and was 1.5 times higher than it was in 2018 ($p < 0.05$).
- Congenital syphilis rates have steadily increased from 2015 through 2019, with the largest increase by 45.8% between 2018-2019, though none of the increases in rates was statistically significant.
- Of congenital syphilis cases reported in 2019, 14.3% resulted in stillbirth.



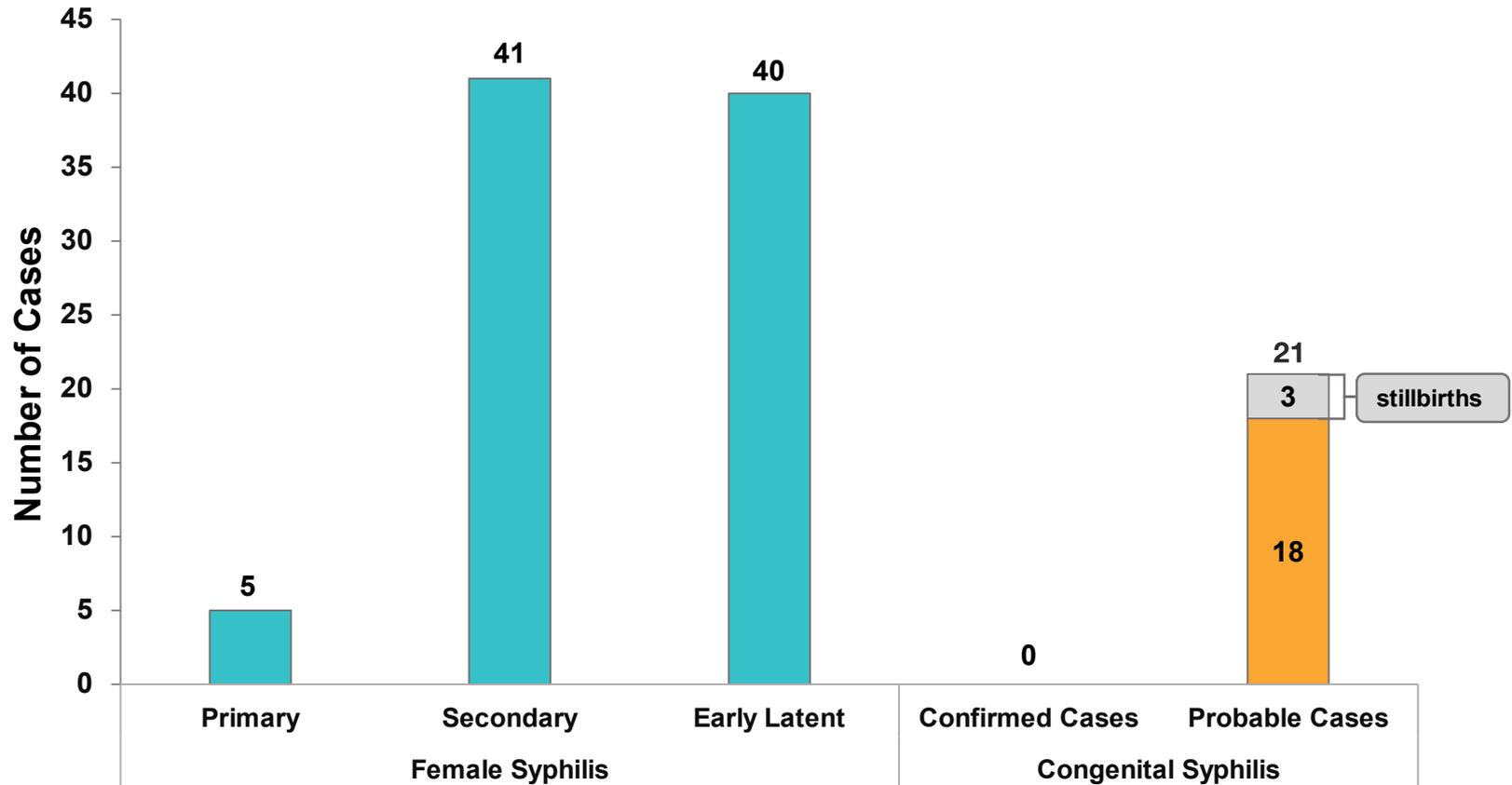
Congenital Syphilis Surveillance Definitions

- Congenital Syphilis (C.S.): any infant whose mother had untreated or inadequately treated* syphilis at the time of delivery, regardless of findings in the infant or child.
- Confirmed C.S.: Infant or child in whom *Treponema pallidum* is identified by darkfield microscopy, direct fluorescent antibody, or other specific stains in specimens from lesions, placenta, umbilical cord, or autopsy material.
- Probable C.S.: Meets case definition of C.S. This may also include an infant or child with a reactive treponemal test for syphilis and evidence of C.S. on physical examination, cerebrospinal fluid analysis, and/or long bone X-ray.
- Syphilitic Stillbirth: Fetal death in which mother had untreated or inadequately treated* syphilis at the time of delivery of either a fetus after a 20-week gestation or a fetus weighing >500 grams.

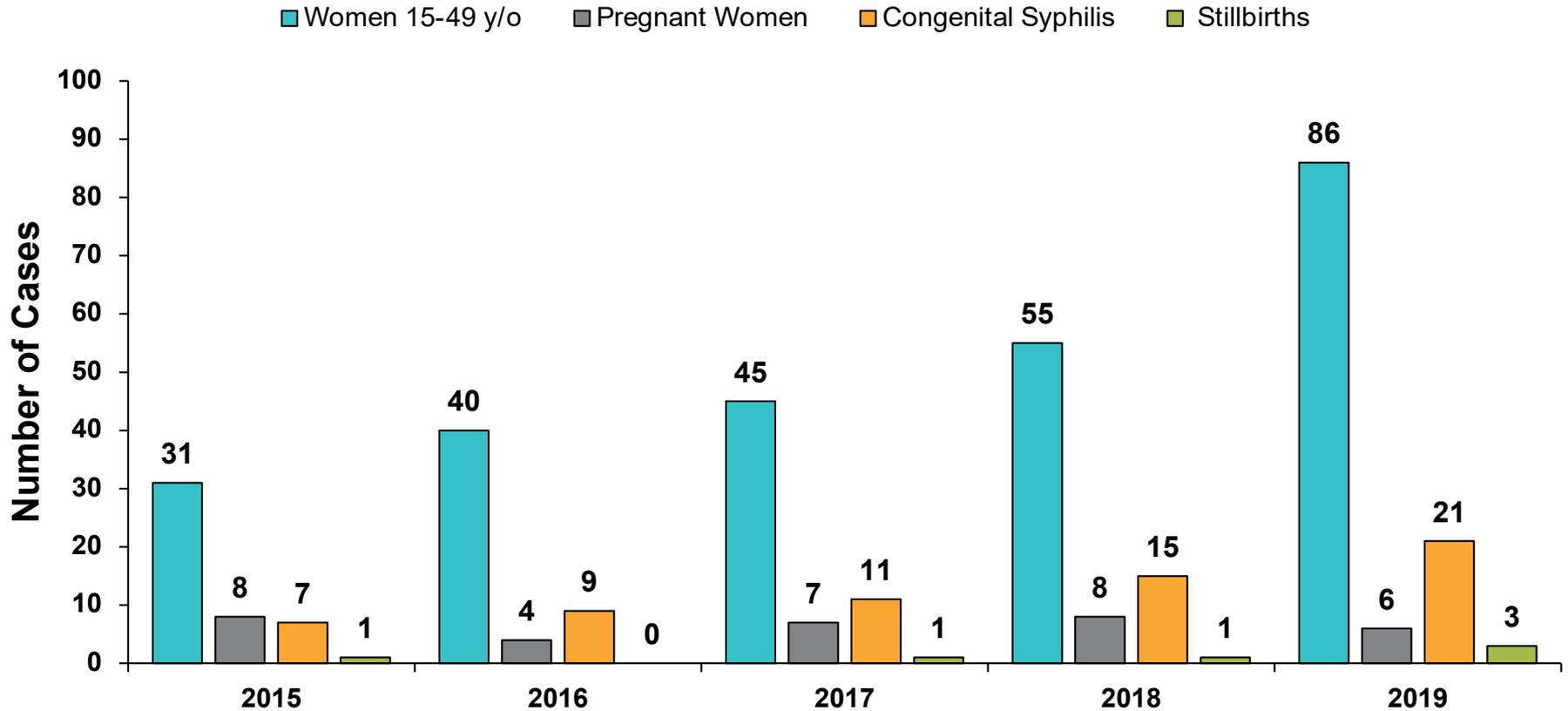
*Inadequate maternal treatment refers to incomplete treatment, treatment that is not in accordance with national guidelines, and/or treatment that was not initiated at least 30 days prior to delivery.



Cases of Syphilis in Women of Childbearing Age and Congenital Syphilis San Diego County, 2019

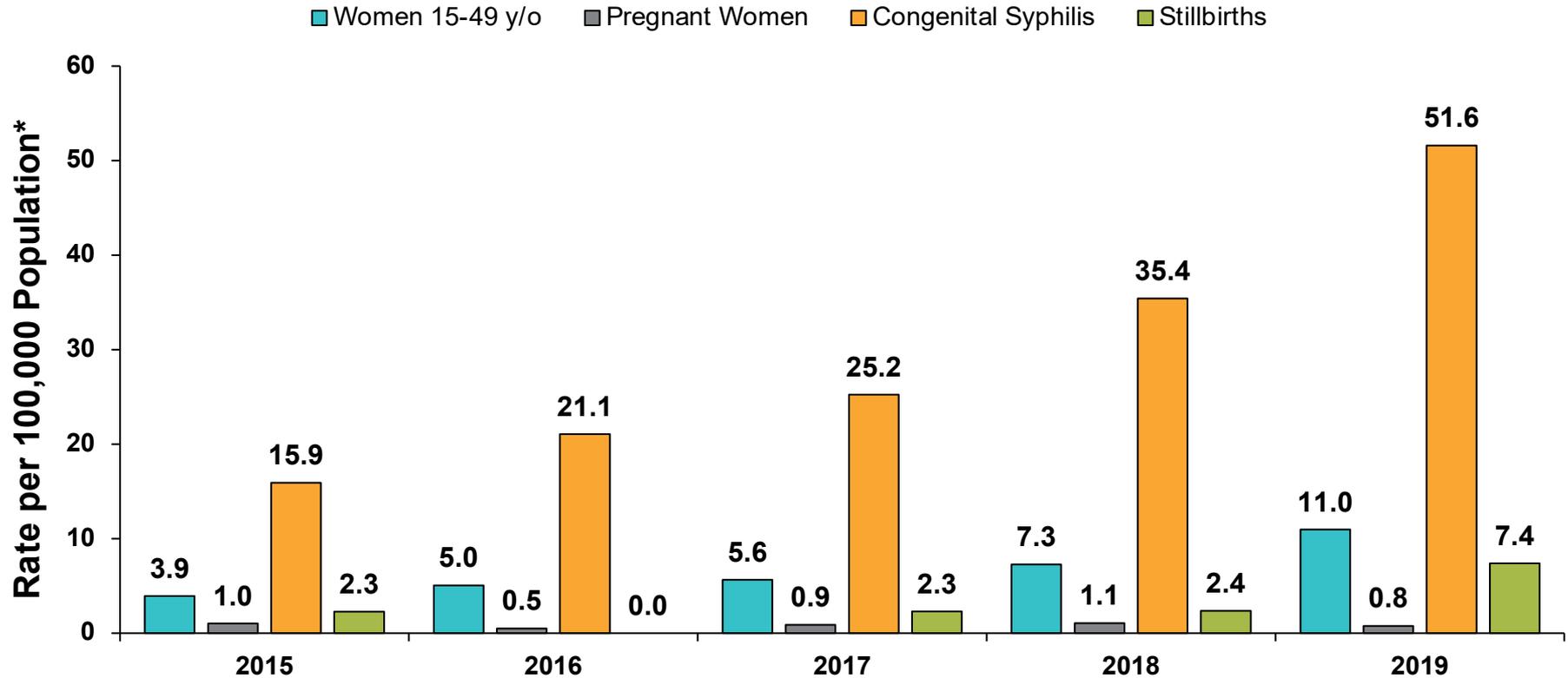


Cases – Early Syphilis in Women of Childbearing Age (15-49 y/o) & Pregnant Women, Congenital Syphilis, & Stillbirths San Diego County, 2015 - 2019



Note: Early syphilis includes primary, secondary, and early latent stages of syphilis.
Syphilitic stillbirths are included in the congenital syphilis case counts.

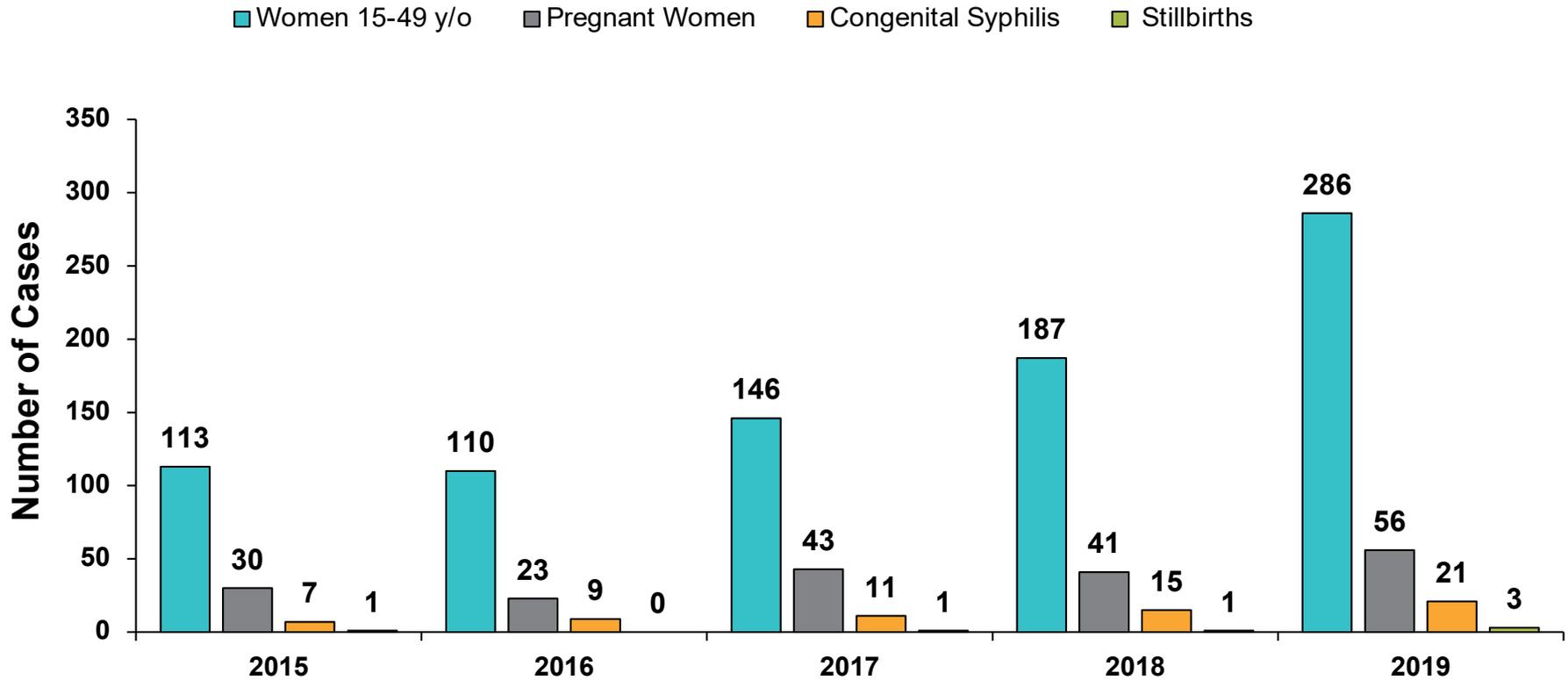
Rates – Early Syphilis in Women of Childbearing Age (15-49 y/o) & Pregnant Women, Congenital Syphilis, & Stillbirths San Diego County, 2015 - 2019



Note: Early syphilis includes primary, secondary, and early latent stages of syphilis.
 *Rates for women 15-49 y/o and pregnant women were defined based on population estimates of women 15-49 years of age.
 Rates for congenital syphilis and stillbirths were defined based on the number of live births.

Cases - Syphilis (All Stages) in Women of Childbearing Age (15-49 y/o) & Pregnant Women, Congenital Syphilis, & Stillbirths

San Diego County, 2015 - 2019



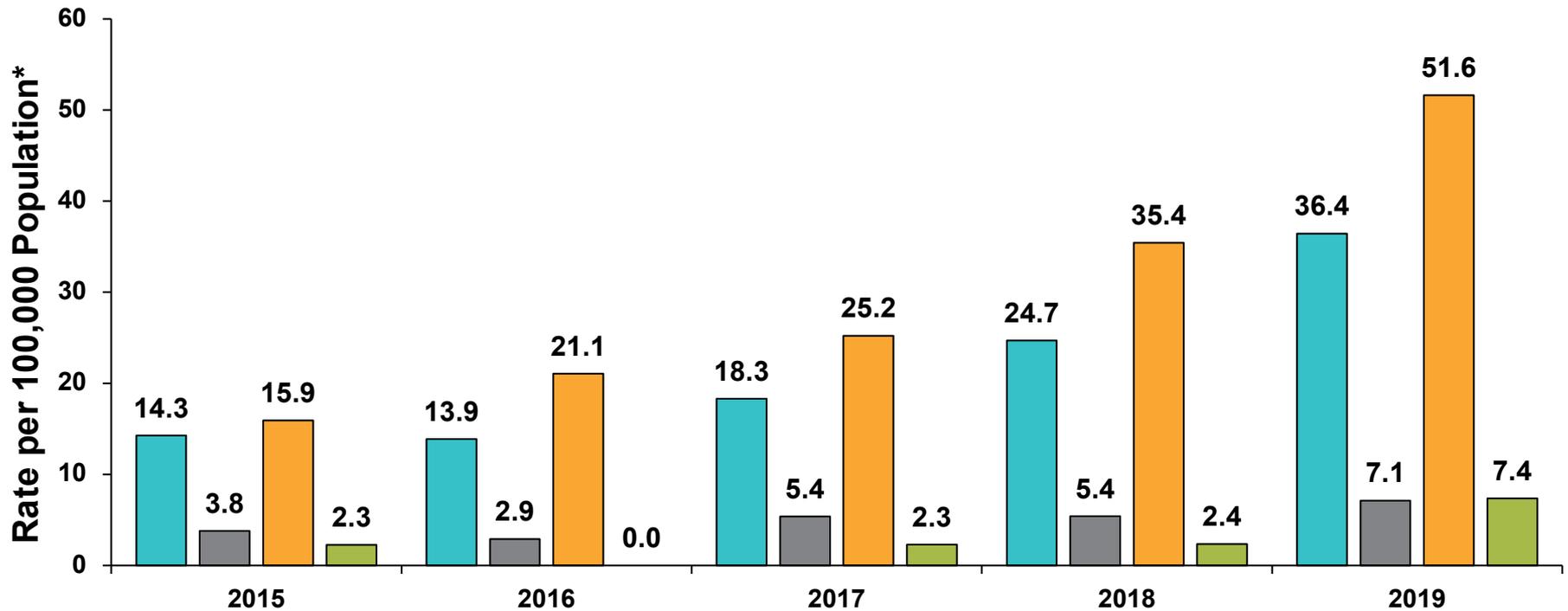
Note: Syphilis includes all stages of syphilis. Syphilitic stillbirths are included in the congenital syphilis case counts.

Rates - Syphilis (All Stages) in Women of Childbearing Age (15-49 y/o) & Pregnant Women, Congenital Syphilis, & Stillbirths

San Diego County, 2015 - 2019



■ Women 15-49 y/o ■ Pregnant Women ■ Congenital Syphilis ■ Stillbirths



Note: Syphilis includes all stages of syphilis.

*Rates for women 15-49 y/o and pregnant women were defined based on population estimates of women 15-49 years of age. Rates for congenital syphilis and stillbirths were defined based on the number of live births.

Contact Information



For questions or requests for data that are not included in these slides, please send an e-mail to std@sdcountry.ca.gov, or visit www.STDSanDiego.org (click on “Reports and Statistics”).