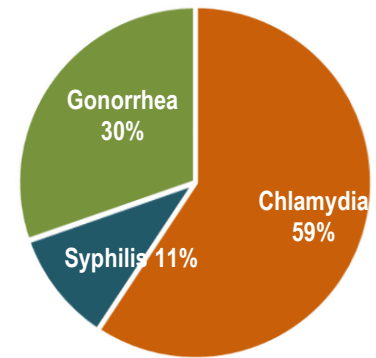


Sexually Transmitted Infections Los Angeles County, 2024

After over a decade of steep increases in sexually transmitted infections (STIs), Los Angeles County (LAC) observed a 15% decrease in total syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia cases, from 89,823 cases in 2023 to 76,671 cases in 2024. These improvements must however be interpreted within the context of historical levels, against which today's rates are still alarmingly high. In 2010, for example, there were a total of 55,818 cases of syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia. In 2024, chlamydia accounted for more than half of the reported cases (59%), followed by gonorrhea (30%) and syphilis (11%). Forty-two percent of all syphilis cases were early syphilis, indicating the presence of risk for further transmission. **These data do not include Long Beach and Pasadena.**¹

Total STI Cases, Los Angeles County, 2024 (N=76,671)

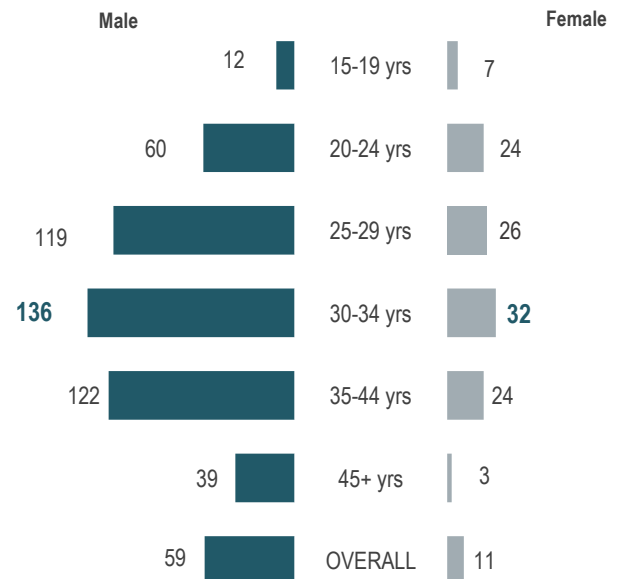


EARLY SYPHILIS

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection caused by the bacterium, *Treponema pallidum* and is a known risk factor for HIV infection. If untreated it can cause significant health issues including damage to the brain, nerves, eyes, or heart. Early syphilis includes the infectious stages of syphilis infection.

The overall rate of reported early syphilis cases in LAC decreased for the third consecutive year and was 36 per 100,000 (3,344 cases) in 2024. Rates among males were over 5 times greater than in females (59 vs. 11 per 100,000, respectively). However, the decrease in rates from 2023 to 2024 in males was steeper than in females (35% vs 17%, respectively). Males represented 79%, females 16% and transgender persons 5% of all early syphilis cases.² Rates in males and females aged 30-34 years (136 per 100,000 and 32 per 100,000, respectively) were higher compared with all other age groups of the same gender. Among males, Blacks as well as Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) had the highest rates of early syphilis (121 and 117 per 100,000, respectively). Among females, Blacks had the highest rate (32 per 100,000). Due to small numbers, syphilis rates were unstable for all American Indian and Alaska Natives (AIAN), and for NHPI and Asian females and therefore rates for these groups are not presented.

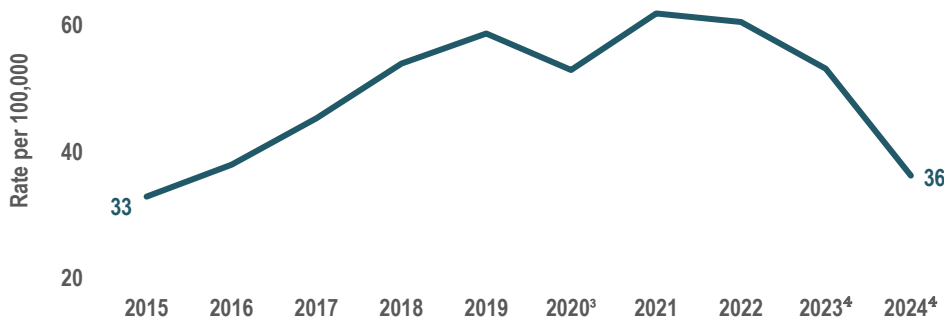
Early Syphilis Rates* by Gender and Age Group, 2024²



*Rate per 100,000

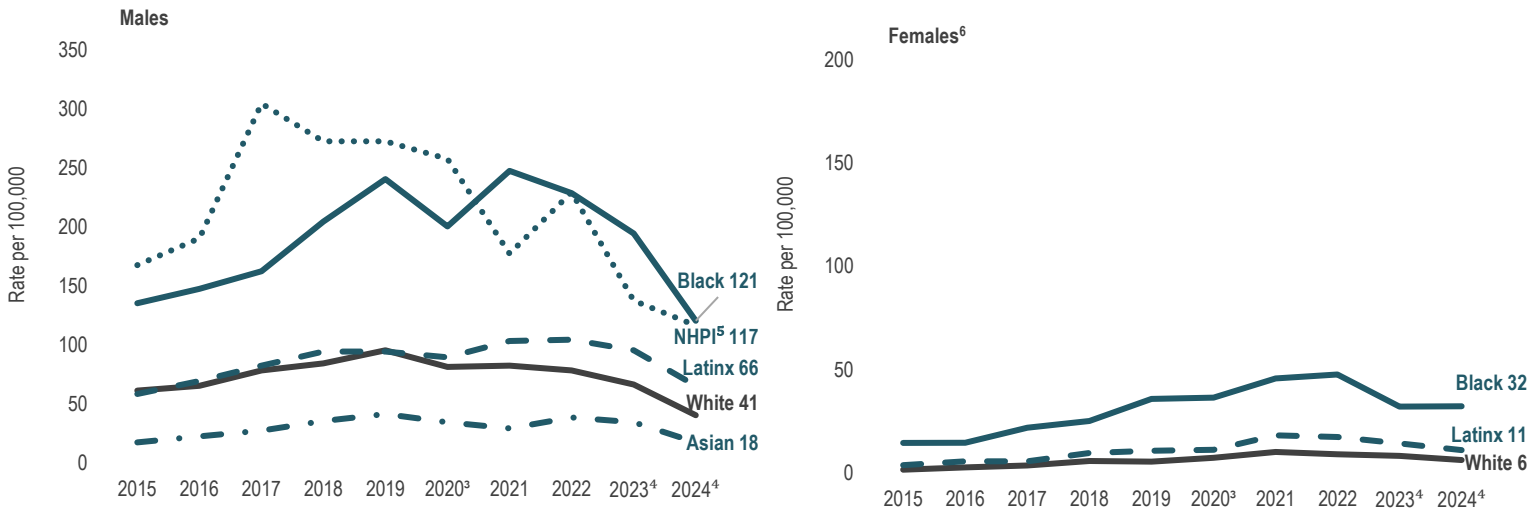
The early syphilis rate has been decreasing since its peak in 2021.

Early Syphilis Rates, Los Angeles County, 2015-2024.



1. Data source: LAC Division of HIV and STD Programs. Data as of September 22, 2025.
2. Transgender rates cannot be calculated due to a lack of population size estimates.
3. In 2020, there was a noted decrease in STI reporting due to decreased screening and increased telemedicine during the COVID-19 stay at home orders. All 2020 data presented in this snapshot should be viewed with caution.
4. 2023-2024 data are provisional due to reporting delays.

Black and NHPI males, and Black females continue to be disproportionately impacted by early syphilis.
Early Syphilis Rates by Gender and Race/Ethnicity, 2015-2024

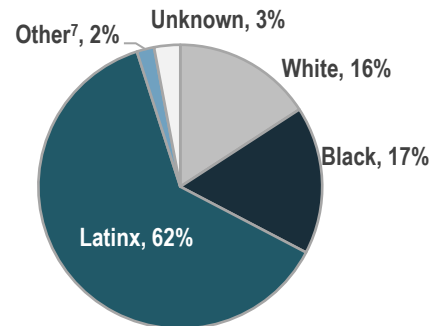


CONGENITAL SYPHILIS

Congenital syphilis is caused by the bacterium *Treponema pallidum*. It occurs when this bacterium is transmitted from mother to fetus during pregnancy, resulting in a wide array of clinical presentations including preterm birth, miscarriage, stillbirth and serious birth defects in infants.

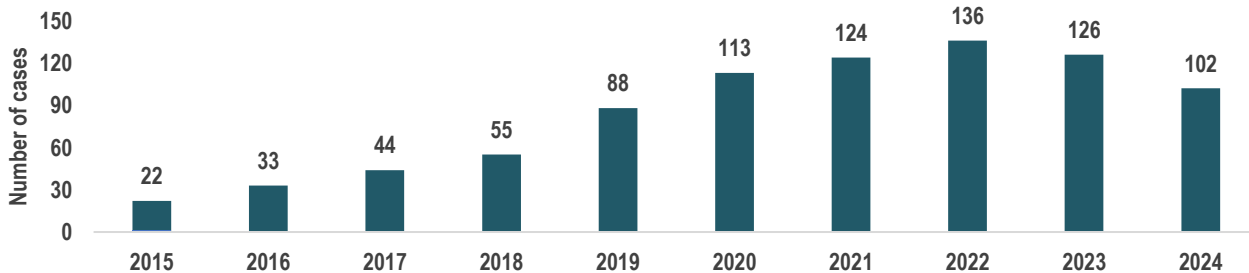
A total of 102 cases of congenital syphilis were reported in 2024, reflecting a rate of 120 cases per 100,000 live births. Despite a decline in reported cases over the past two years, the current number of cases is still over 4 times greater than that observed in 2015. Latinx represented more than half of all congenital syphilis birthing parents (62%) while Blacks, Whites and Other⁷ race/ethnicity groups represented 17%, 16% and 2% of birthing parents, respectively.

Race/Ethnicity of Birthing Parent, Congenital Syphilis Cases, 2024



Congenital syphilis cases in Los Angeles County have been decreasing since 2023.

Number of Congenital Syphilis Cases, 2015-2024



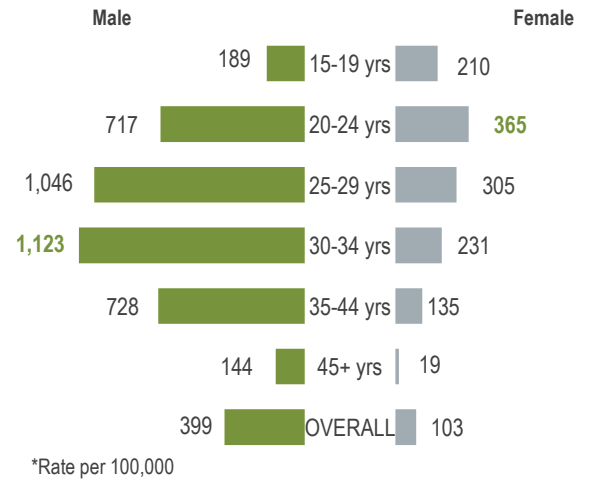
5. Note that the 2024 rate for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander males is unstable due to small numbers. Rates for American Indian and Alaska Native males are not shown due to small numbers and unstable rates.
 6. Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander and American Indian and Alaska Native female rates are not shown due to small numbers and unstable rates.
 7. "Other" category includes Asian, NHPI, AIAN and multi-race birthing parents.

GONORRHEA

Gonorrhea is caused by the bacterium *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and is one of the most reported sexually transmitted infections in Los Angeles County. It can cause infection in the genitals, rectum, and throat. If untreated, gonorrhea can cause serious health problems including infertility in men and women. It may also increase the risk of HIV infection. Though gonorrhea is treatable, it has progressively developed resistance to the antibiotic drugs prescribed for treatment.

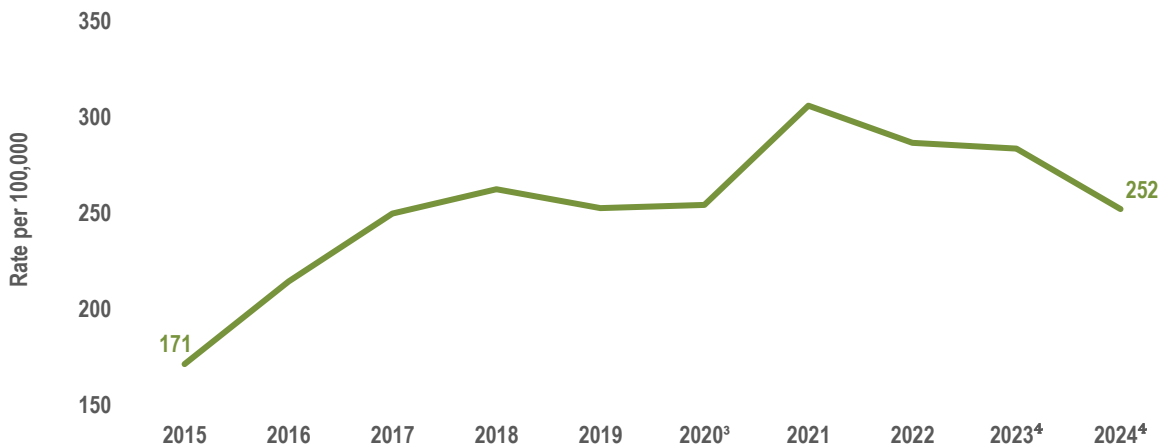
The overall rate of reported gonorrhea cases in LAC decreased for the third consecutive year and was 252 per 100,000 (23,272 cases) in 2024. Rates among males were almost 4 times greater than rates among females in 2024 (399 vs. 103 per 100,000, respectively). Males represented 77%, females 21% and transgender persons represented 2% of the gonorrhea cases.² By age, rates were highest among males aged 30-34 years and females aged 20-24 years (1,123 and 365 per 100,000, respectively). AIAN, Black, and NHPI males as well as Black females had the highest rates compared with other race/ethnicities. Gonorrhea rates were unstable for AIAN females due to small numbers and therefore these rates are not presented in the figure.

Gonorrhea Rates* by Gender and Age Group, 2024



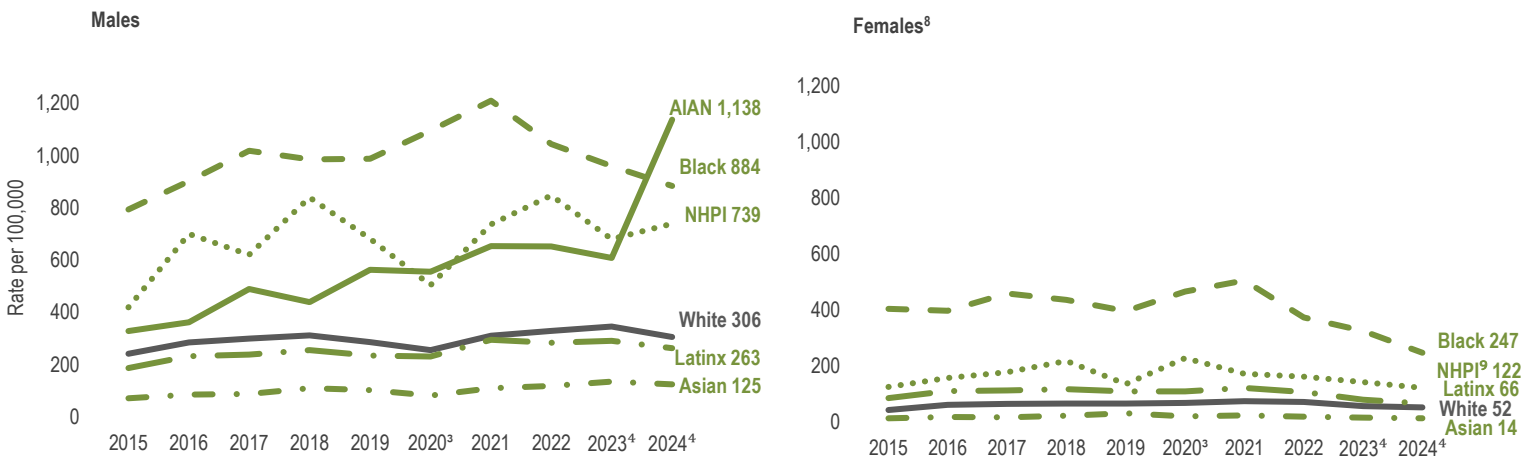
The Gonorrhea rate has been decreasing since its peak in 2021.

Gonorrhea Rates, Los Angeles County, 2015-2024



AIAN, Black, and NHPI males as well as Black females had higher gonorrhea rates.

Gonorrhea Rates by Gender and Race/Ethnicity, 2015-2024



8. American Indian and Alaska Native female rates are not shown due to small numbers and unstable rates.

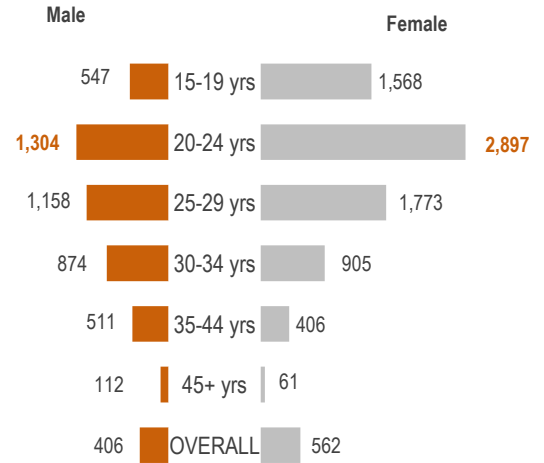
9. Note that the 2024 rate for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander females is unstable due to small numbers.

CHLAMYDIA

Chlamydia is caused by the bacterium *Chlamydia trachomatis* and is the most frequently reported sexually transmitted infection in Los Angeles County. Chlamydia can be transmitted via vaginal, rectal, or oral sex. Chlamydia can cause epididymitis in men and pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) in women. Severe outcomes may include infertility in women.

Chlamydia rates peaked in 2019. In 2024, there were 45,459 chlamydia cases reported in LAC, reflecting a case rate of 493 per 100,000. Rates among females were 1.4 times greater than males (562 vs. 406 per 100,000). Males represented 40%, females 58% and transgender persons 1% of all chlamydia cases.² Chlamydia was most prevalent among males and females 20-24 years of age (1,304 and 2,897 per 100,000, respectively). *Note that health care providers in the State of California are no longer required to report chlamydia cases but the reporting requirement for laboratories continues. Consequently, chlamydia data in this report reflect data reported by laboratories only and may be underreported by health care providers. Since providers are no longer reporting chlamydia cases, race/ethnicity information are not complete and therefore rates cannot be calculated for race/ethnicity categories.*

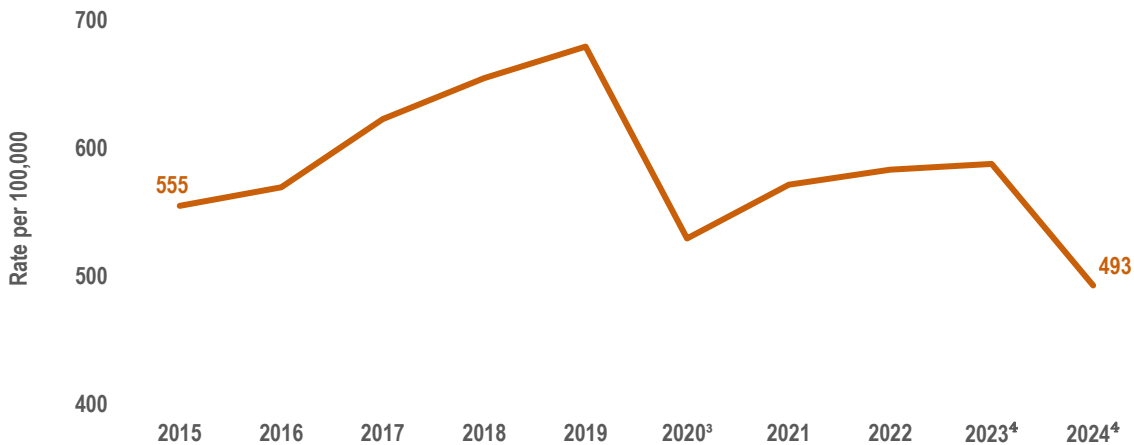
Chlamydia Rates* by Age Group and Gender, 2024



*Rate per 100,000

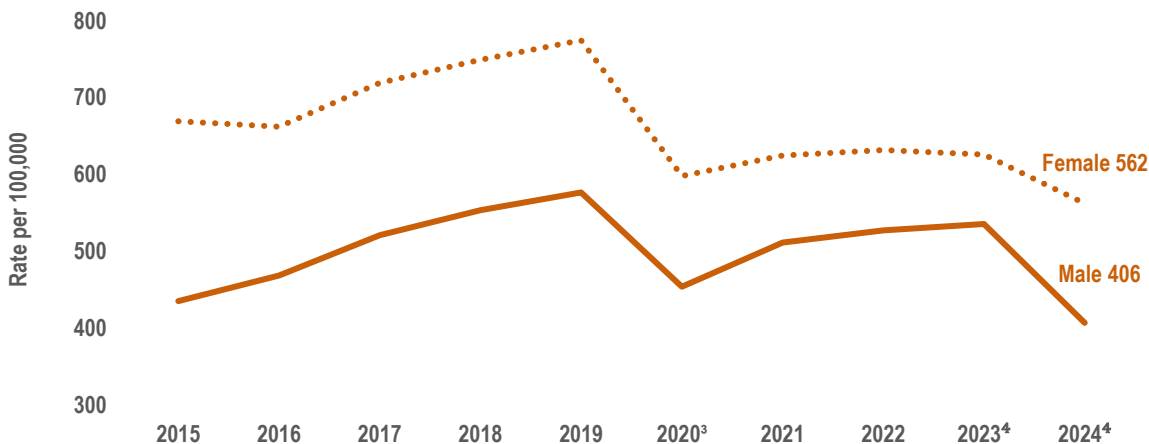
The Chlamydia rate has been decreasing since its peak in 2019.

Chlamydia Rates, Los Angeles County, 2015-2024



Rates among females have been consistently higher than males.

Chlamydia Rates by Gender, 2015-2024



Suggested Citation:

Division of HIV and STD Programs, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. 2024 STI Surveillance Snapshot. <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp/Reports.htm>. Published April 2026. Accessed [date].