

Syphilis in the Americas

2024 Estimates

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has updated regional syphilis estimates for the Americas. An estimated **4.2 million** new syphilis cases occurred in 2024 — **500,000 more** than in 2022 — representing a **15% increase**. Ninety percent of these new cases were concentrated in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). These updated figures, covering both syphilis transmission and congenital syphilis, highlight the need for a bolder coordinated response across the Region to reverse the trend and advance towards syphilis and congenital syphilis elimination.

4.2M

New syphilis cases in the Americas (2024)

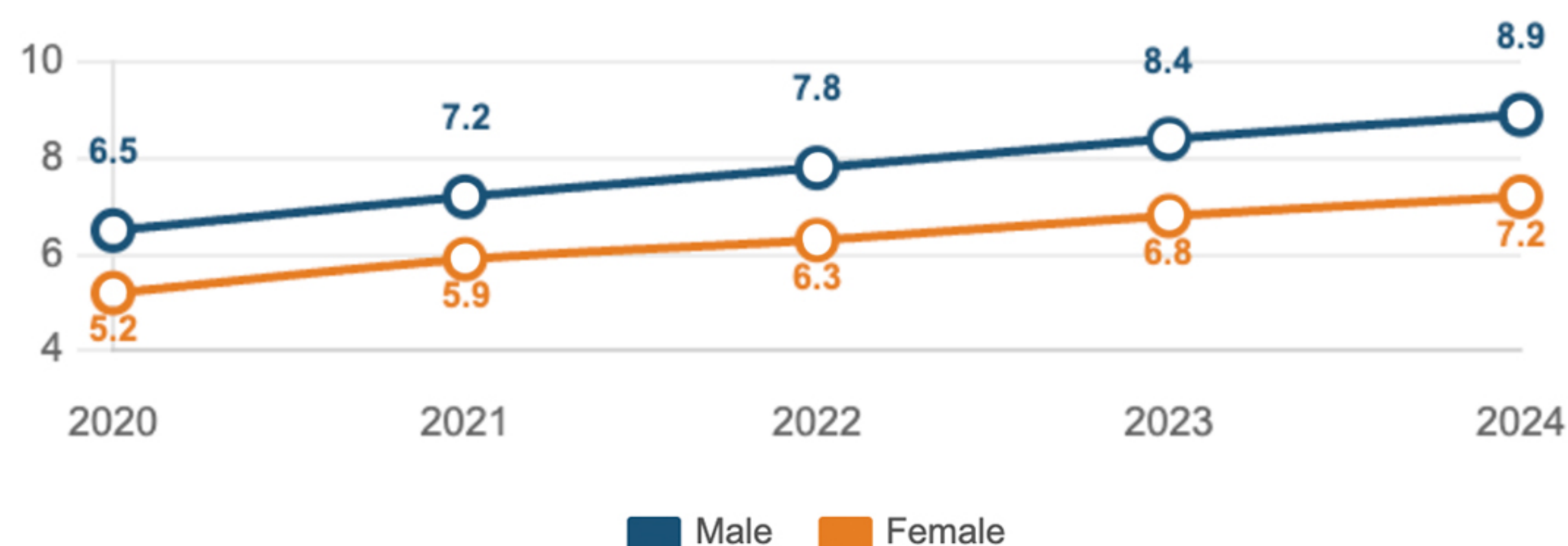
+15%

Increase vs. 2022 (+500,000 cases)

90%

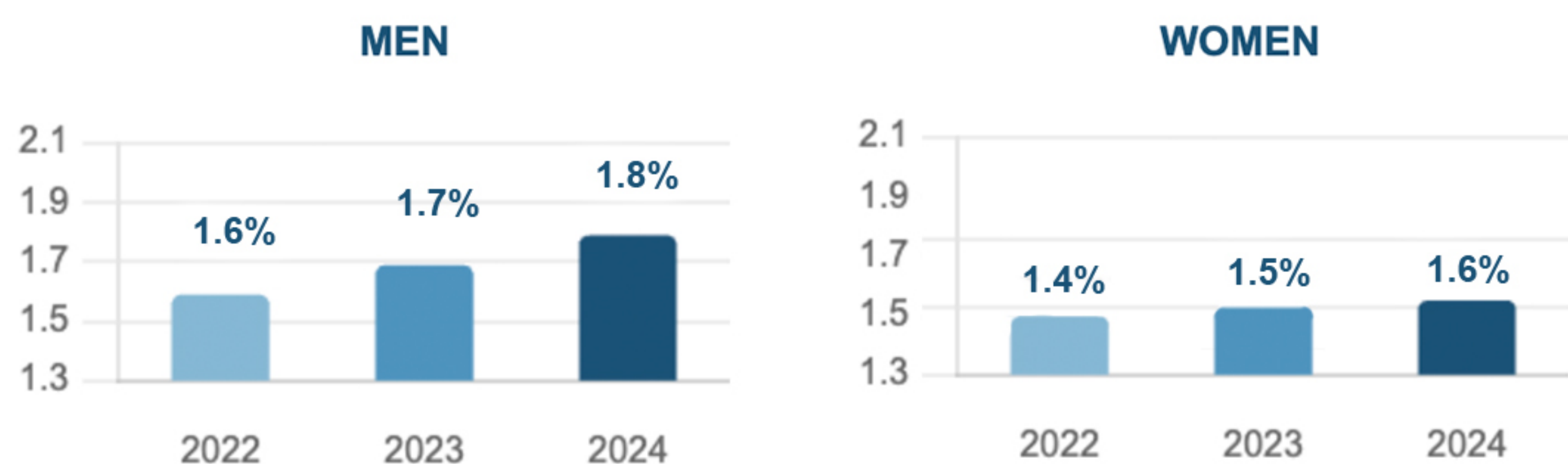
Of new cases concentrated in LAC

Syphilis Incidence Trends per 1000 population, 2020–2024



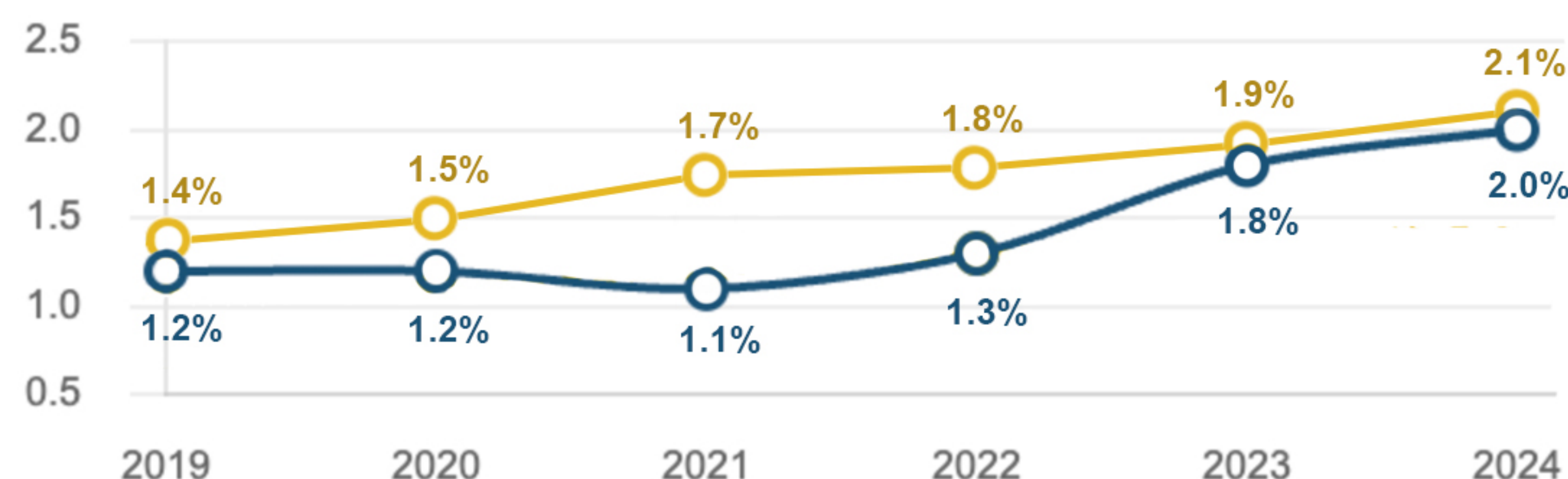
Source: PAHO/WHO estimates, 2025. Note: Estimates for people 15–49 years old.

Syphilis Prevalence Trends (%), 2022-2024



Source: PAHO/WHO estimates, 2025. Note: Estimates for people 15–49 years old.

Syphilis Prevalence among Pregnant Women in LAC (%), 2019-2024

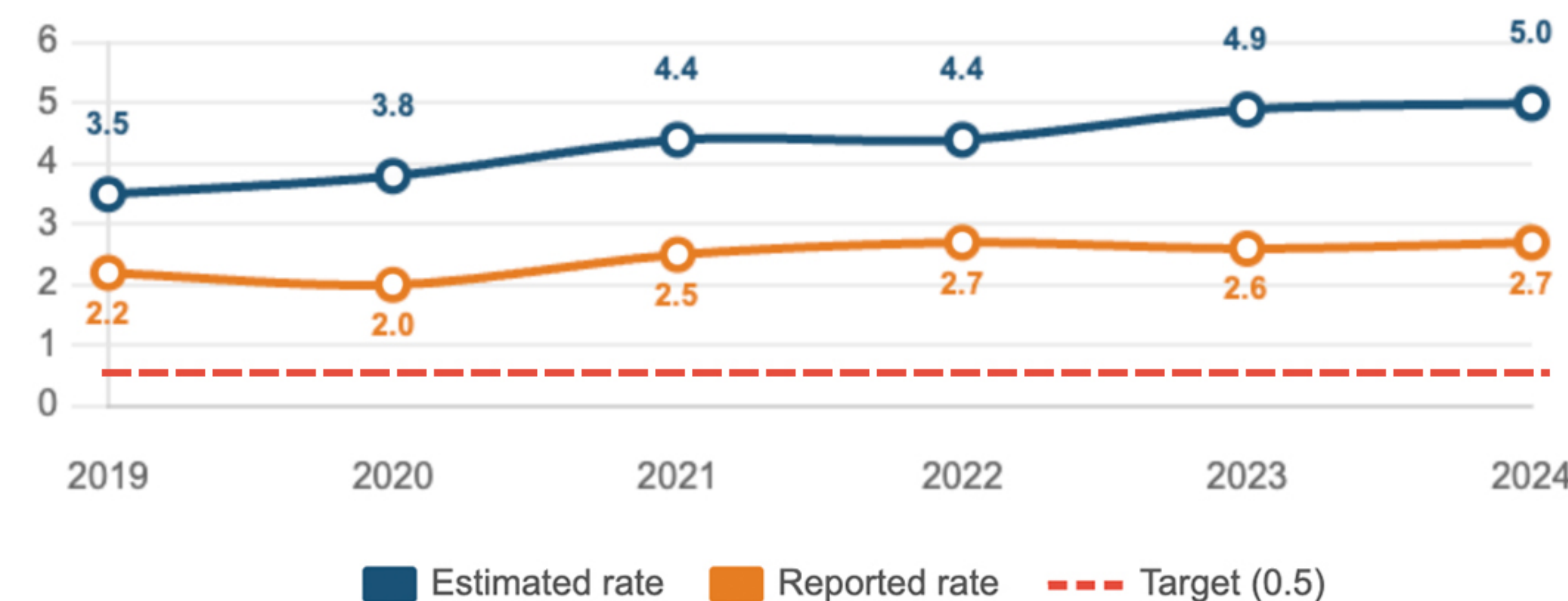


Reported positivity (29 countries & territories) Estimated prevalence

Source: WHO/UNAIDS. Country responses to the Global AIDS Monitoring report, 2019–2024; country reports for EMTCT validation 2019–2024, PAHO/WHO estimates, 2025

The estimated syphilis prevalence among pregnant women in LAC has been rising steadily, with estimated prevalence reaching **2.1%** in 2024, up from **1.4%** in 2019. Reported positivity of syphilis tests climbed to **2.0%**.

Congenital Syphilis rate in the Americas (per 1000 live births), 2019–2024



Source: PAHO 2025. Based on congenital syphilis cases reported by PAHO member states (2019–2024) and PAHO/WHO estimates, 2025.

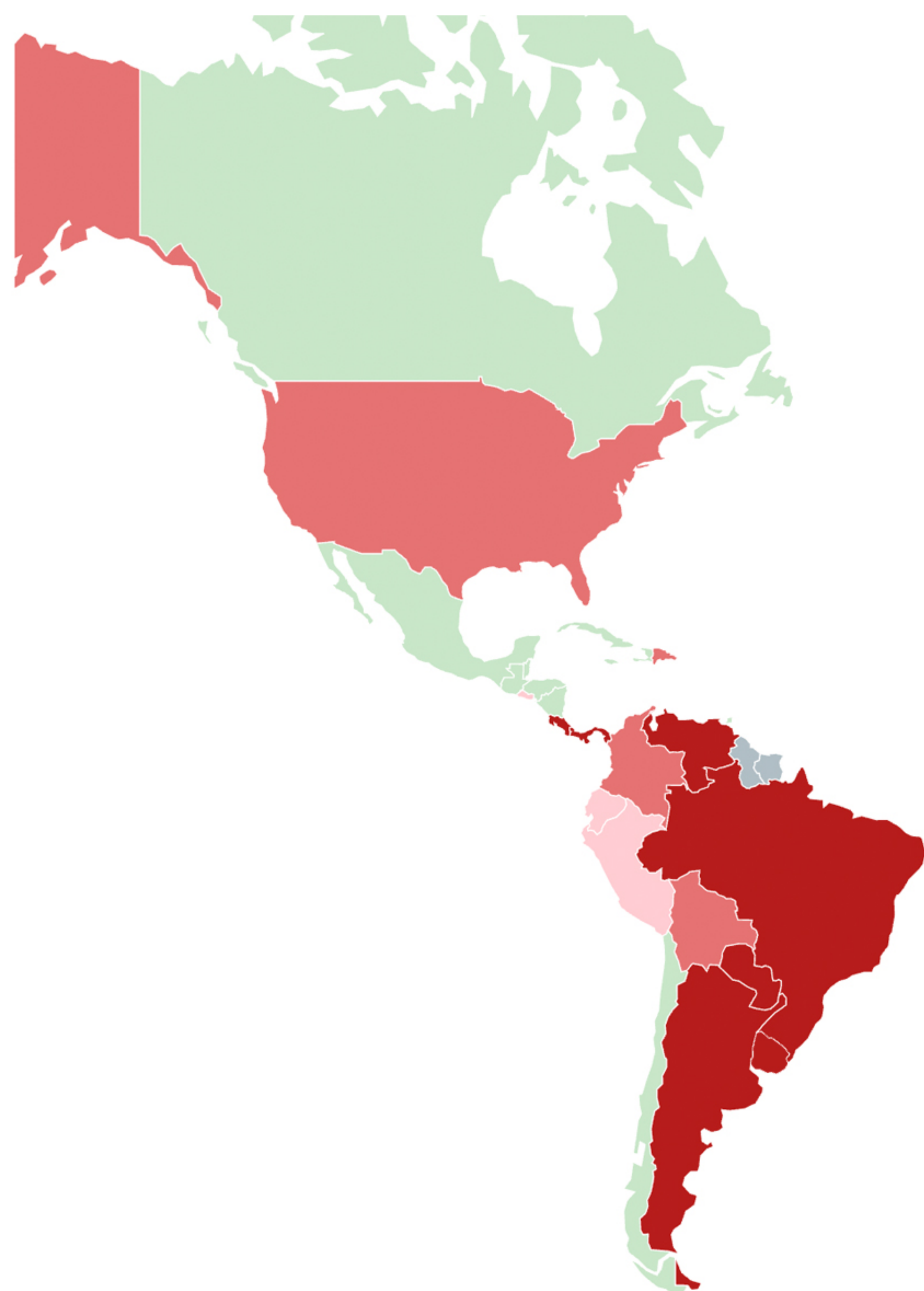
With an estimated **5.0 cases per 1000 live births** in 2024, congenital syphilis in the Americas underscores the importance of scaling up detection and treatment during pregnancy. Bridging the gap between reported and estimated cases offers a key opportunity to improve diagnosis and move closer to the elimination target of **0.5**.

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CONGENITAL SYPHILIS RATE BY COUNTRY (LAST REPORTED YEAR, 2022–2024)

In 2024, more than **34,000 cases** of congenital syphilis were reported in the Americas, while **66,000 cases were estimated**. The burden is concentrated in Eastern South America; however, at least **14 countries** in the region remain above the elimination target of 0.5 cases per 1000 live births.

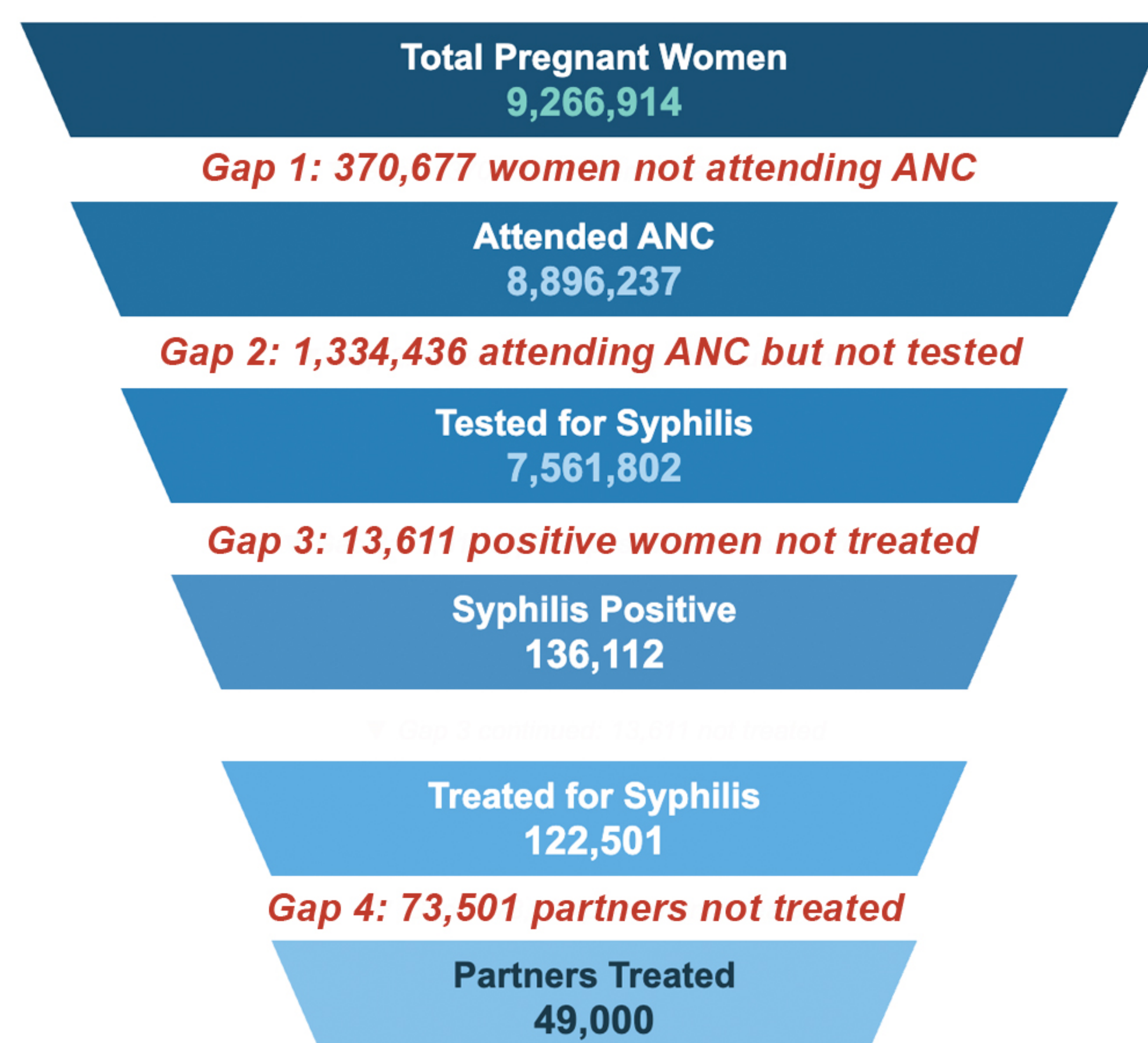


- > 2.00 cases per 1000 live births
- 1.00 – 2.00 cases per 1000 live births
- 0.50 – 0.99 cases per 1000 live births
- 0.00 – 0.49 cases per 1000 live births
- No data

Source: PAHO 2025. Based on congenital syphilis cases reported by PAHO member states (2022–2024) and PAHO/WHO estimates, 2025.

GAPS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF SYPHILIS IN PREGNANCY (LAC, 2024)

Critical gaps in the care cascade indicate that, in 2024, an estimated **1.79 million** pregnant women in Latin America and the Caribbean did not receive adequate antenatal care (ANC) to prevent congenital syphilis.



Total Gap: 1.79 million pregnant women

Source: PAHO 2025. PAHO Core indicators; Global AIDS Monitoring (GAM) country reports; García PJ et al., Sex Transm Dis 2015;42(8):457–62; Dallé J et al., Int J STD AIDS 2017;28(9):876–80.