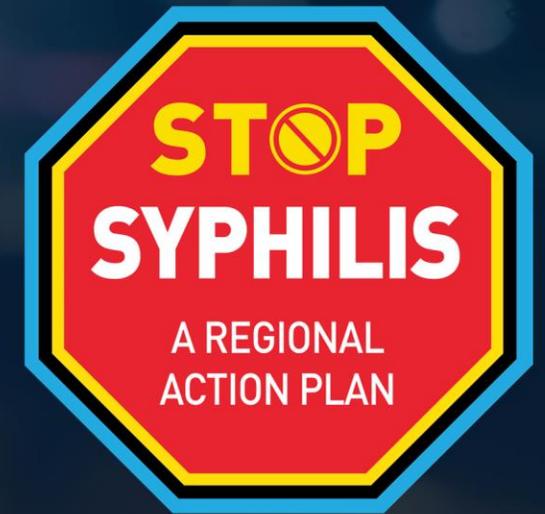




**Get Tested.**

**Get Treated.**

**Stop Syphilis.**





# Eastern Region **STOP Syphilis** Initiative

State Health Commissioner's Advisory Council on  
Health Disparity and Health Equity  
January 13, 2026

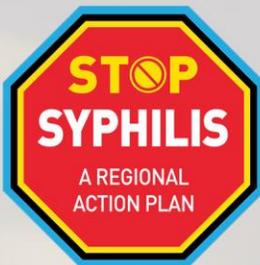
Susan B. Girois, MD MPH FACP  
Director, Norfolk Department of Public Health  
[Susan.Girois@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Susan.Girois@vdh.virginia.gov)





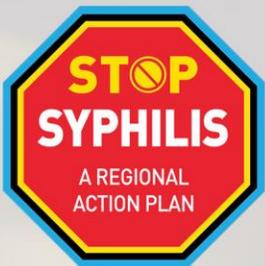
# Presentation Roadmap

- 2024 Data Overview
- The **STOP Syphilis** Initiative
- Early Impact Data



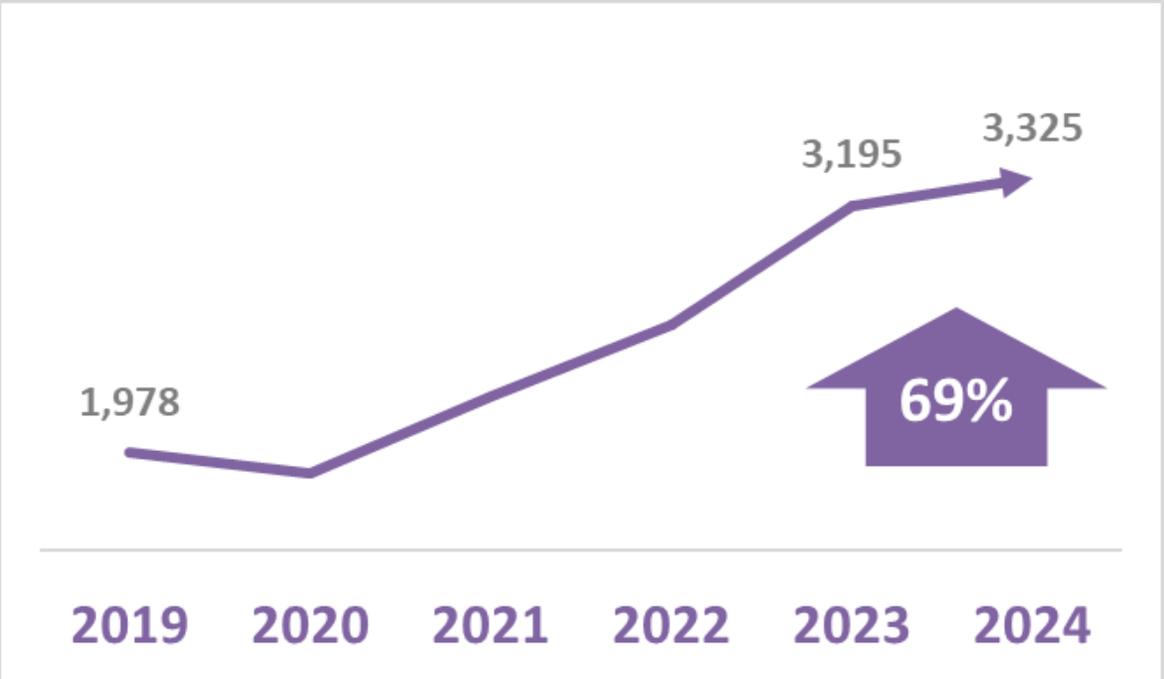


# 2024 Data Overview

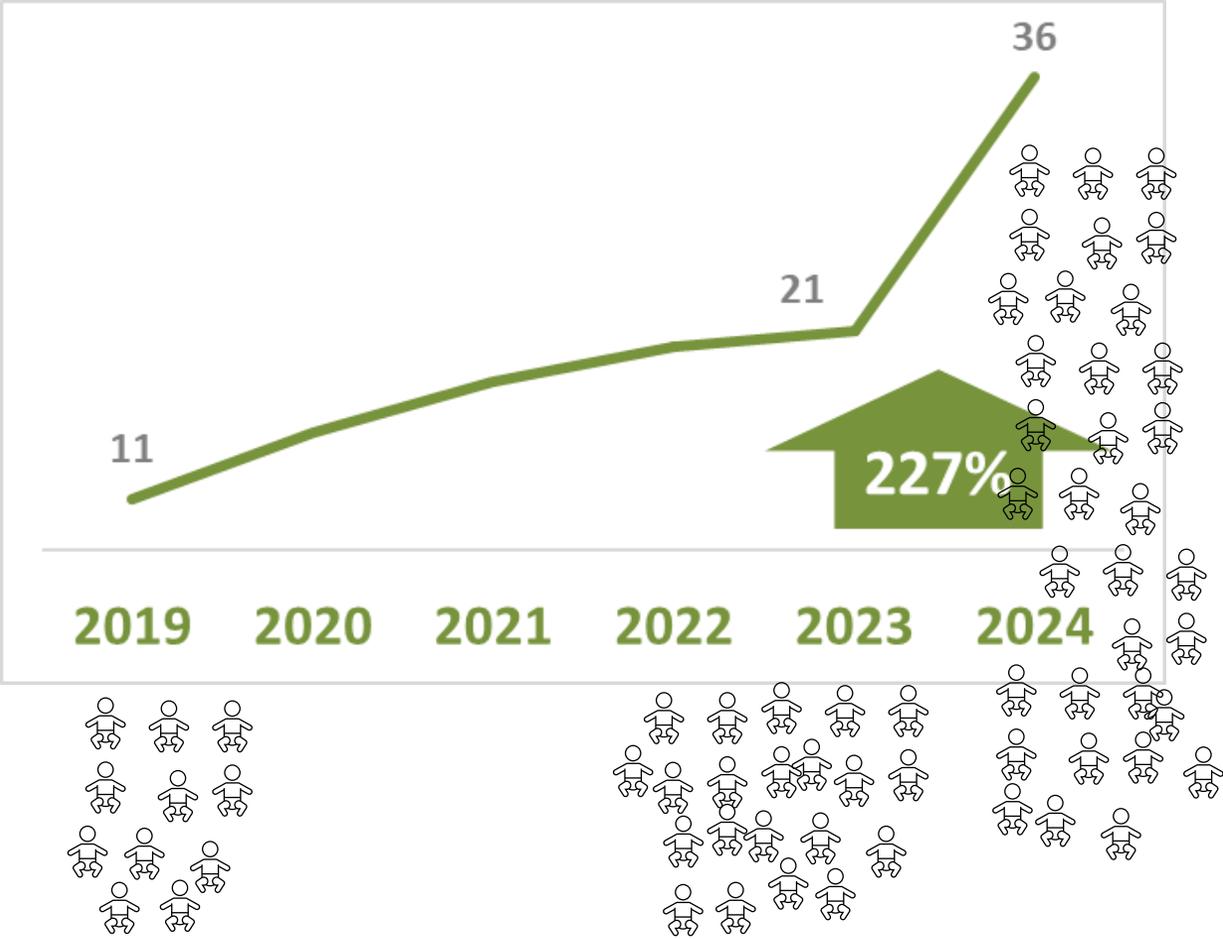


# Virginia Syphilis Diagnoses- 2019-2024

Syphilis Cases\*

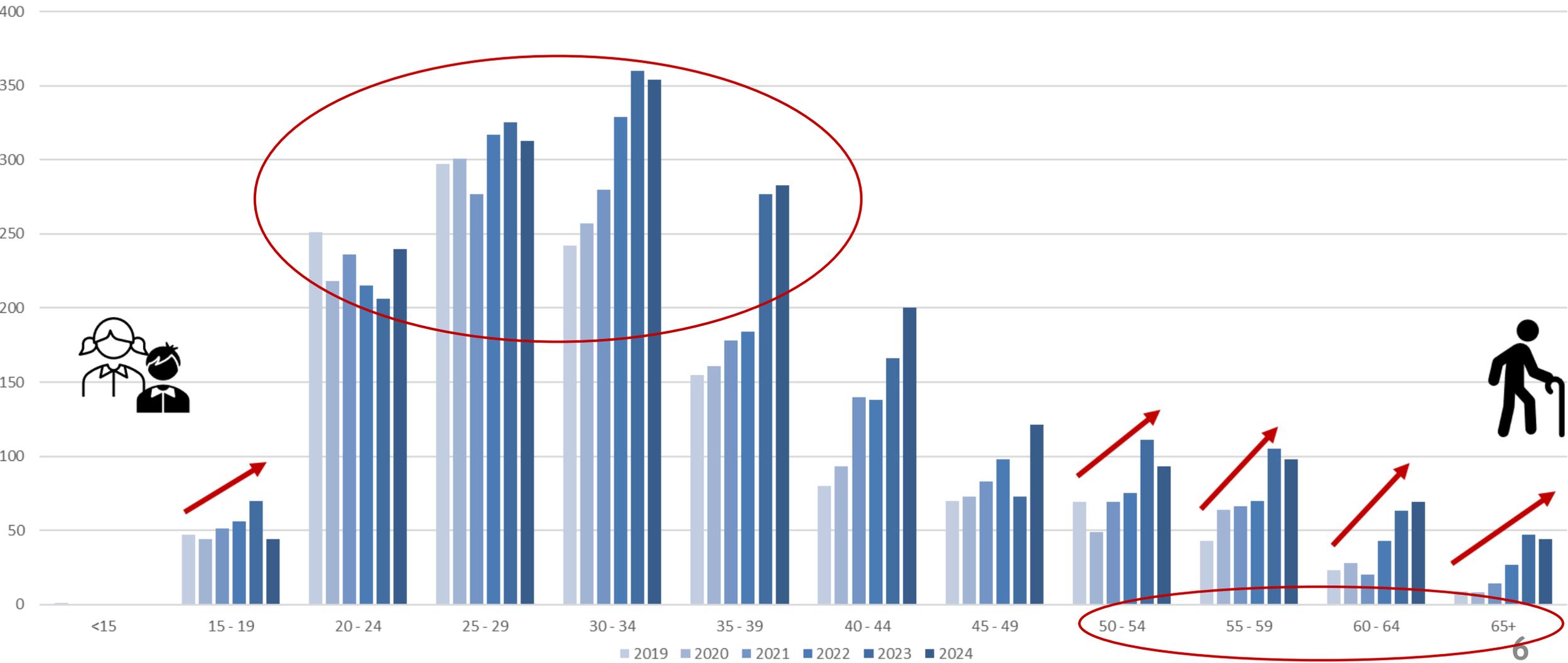


Congenital (newborn) Syphilis Cases



\* Includes all stages of syphilis

# Total Early Syphilis in Virginia- Cases Among Persons Aged 15-65+ by Age Group and Year, 2019-2024



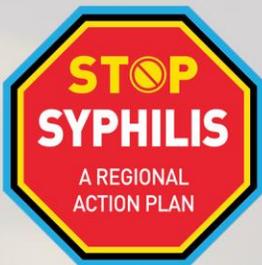




# Eastern Region **STOP Syphilis** Initiative

We aim to:

1. Reverse syphilis trends in all demographics within 5 years
2. Eliminate congenital syphilis (CS) within 2 years



# Eastern Region **STOP Syphilis** Initiative

April: VDH  
planning  
meeting

July 2024:  
First stakeholder  
meeting

Aug'24 – Mar'25:  
Virtual open-  
access meetings

April 2025:  
Public Launch

Tracking data

## Work groups

- Provider Education and Support
- Bridge to Case Management (DIS)
- Community Engagement and Awareness

Website [Stop Syphilis Now – Norfolk Health Department](#)

**Monthly updates** on data, initiatives, and Work Group progress.

Launch **START** the **STOP Syphilis** public awareness campaign

Contributions from **Riverside, Sentara, and Chesapeake Regional HS.**



# Eastern Region **STOP Syphilis** Initiative



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## Innovation & Tools

- New CDC Guidelines – routine testing recommended for people aged 15-44
- New Technologies:
  - **Point-of-care rapid testing**
  - Wastewater surveillance (Michigan)



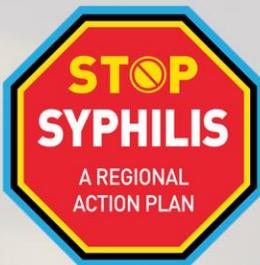
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
**MMWR**  
Recommendations & Reports





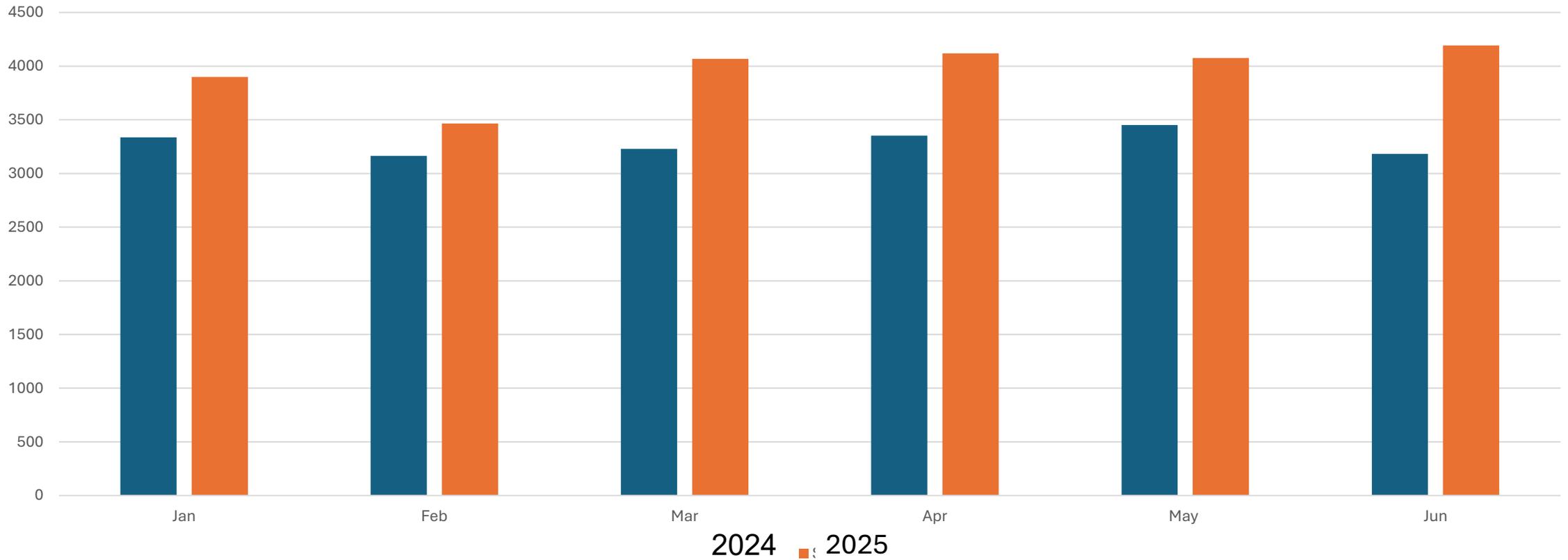
# Early impact data

- Sentara Health System
- Riverside Health System
- VDH – congenital syphilis

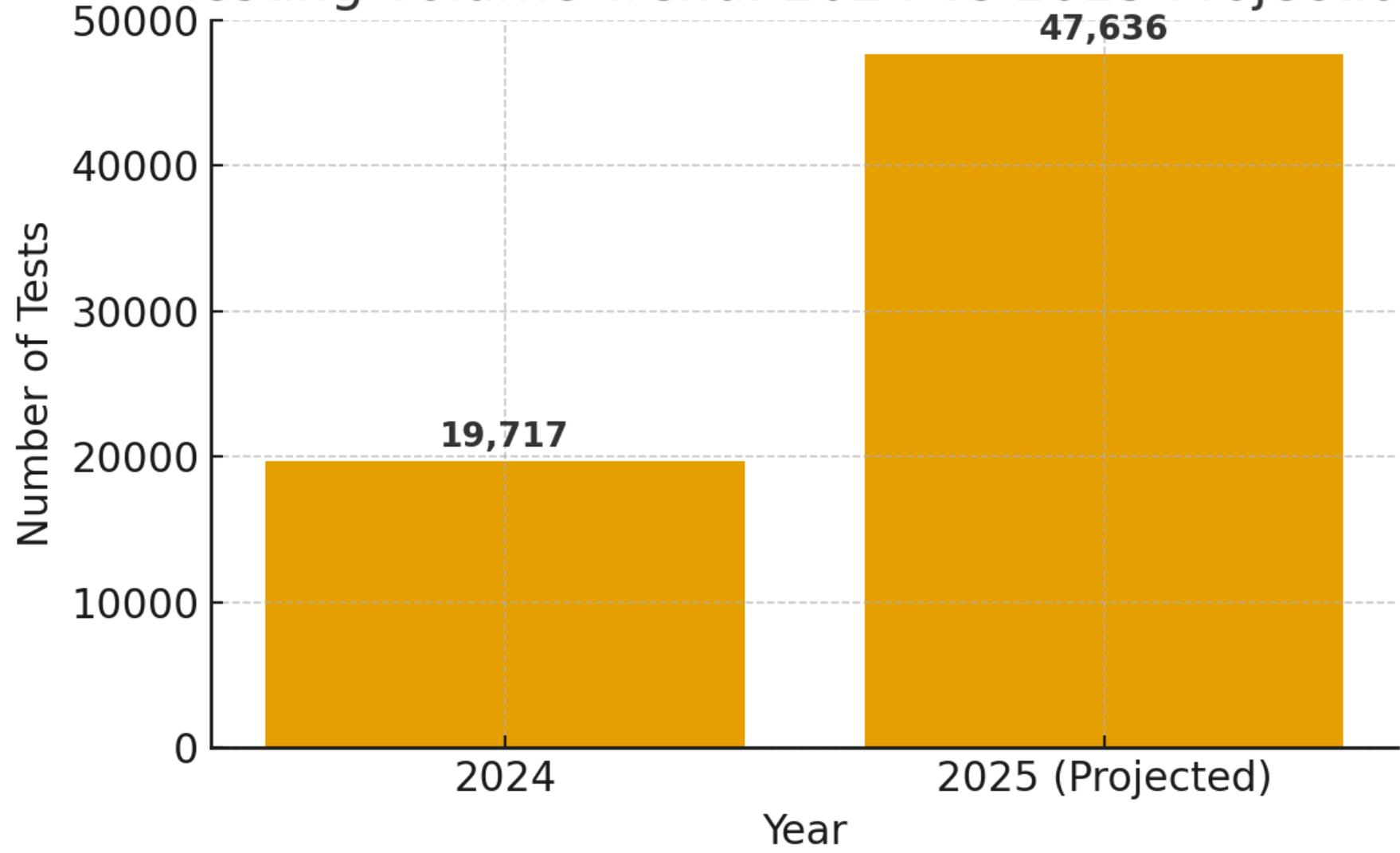


# Syphilis testing (IgG/IgM) trends, YoY comparison

Month by Month, Jan - June 2024 and 2025



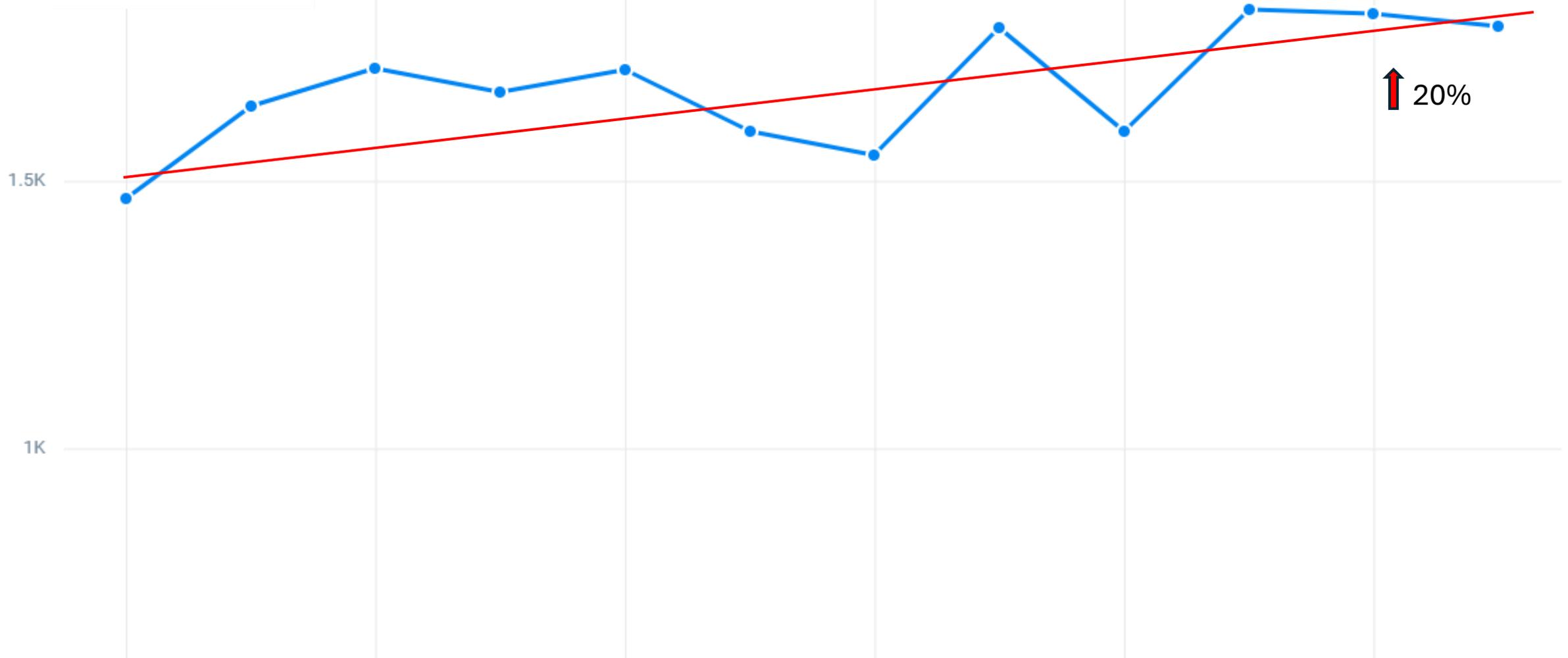
### Testing Volume Trend: 2024 vs 2025 Projection



# Nontreponemal and Treponemal Testing Trend Last 12 Months



Between 6/1/2024 and 5/31/2025 by month

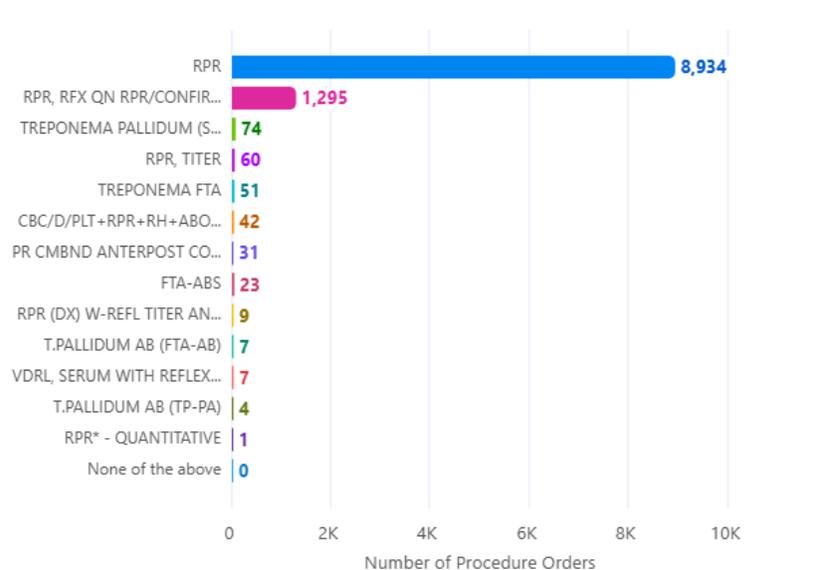


↑ 20%

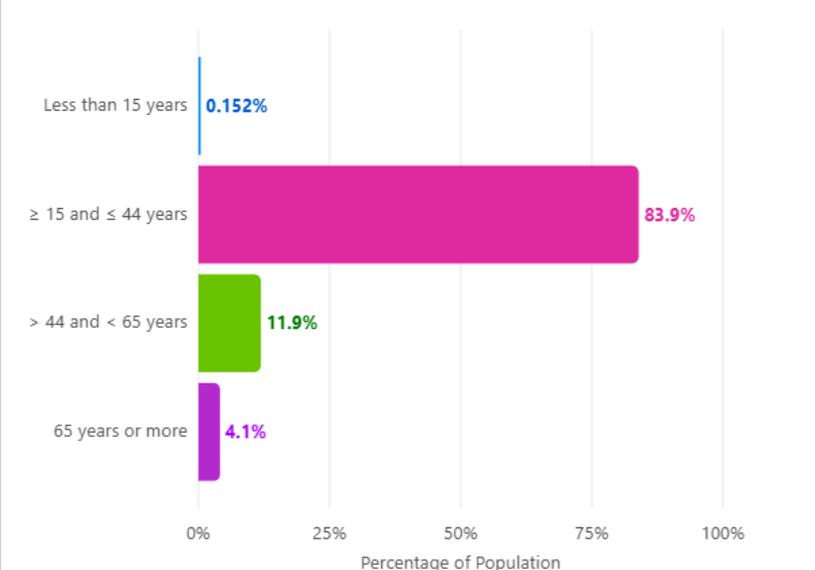
### Treponemal and Nontreponemal Test Ordering Trend Since 2020



### Treponemal and Nontreponemal Orders Last 6 Months by Test Type



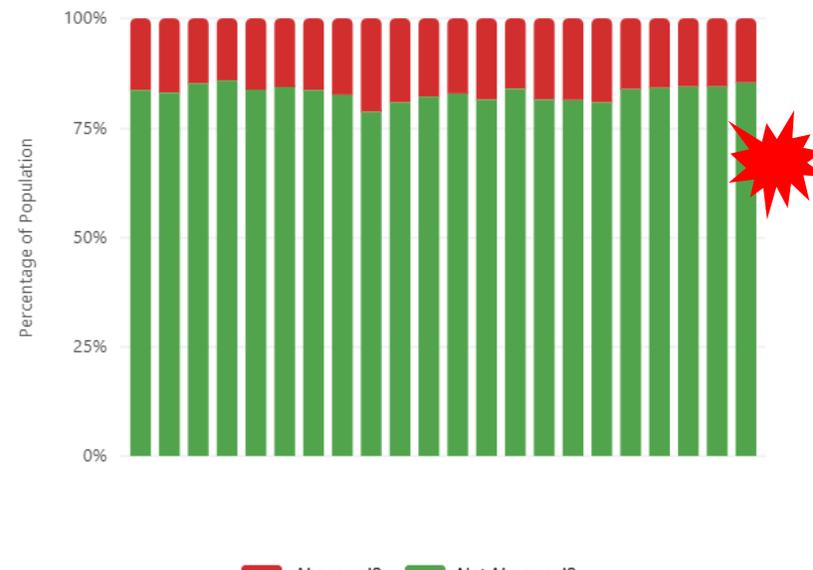
### Treponemal and Nontreponemal Orders Last 6 Months by Age Band



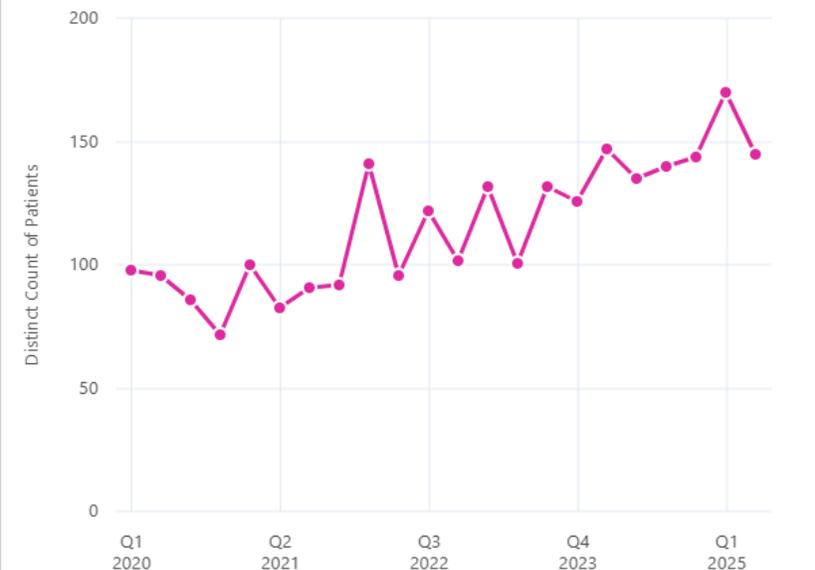
### Abnormal Treponemal and Nontreponemal Tests Trend



### Percentage Abnormal Treponemal and Nontreponemal Tests



### Number Unique Patients with Positive Tests Component



## TES Cases by District in Virginia

Annual counts of total early syphilis (TES) cases are based on the health district of the patient's residence at diagnosis using the VDH suppression rules as described in the footnote.

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 YTD	2025 Trend		
Eastern Region	Chesapeake	50	58	55	28	0	↓	49%
	Eastern Shore	0	2	3	3	0	→	
	Hampton	41	61	91	52	0	↓	43%
	Norfolk	146	158	147	100	0	↓	32%
	Peninsula	71	91	138	113	0	↓	
	Portsmouth	71	72	65	61	0	↓	
	Three Rivers	13	12	11	9	0	→	
	Virginia Beach	86	66	98	65	0	↓	34%
	Western Tidewater	26	46	41	29	0	↓	29%

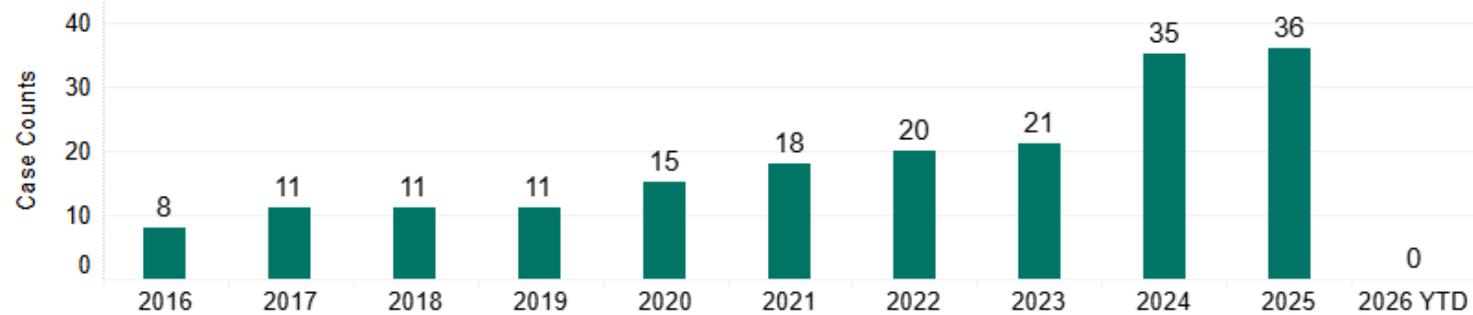
# Congenital Syphilis Cases in Virginia

Dashboard updated: 1/6/2026  
Data Through: 1/1/2026

**Total Congenital Syphilis Cases 2026 YTD (Year To Date) : 0**

## Congenital Syphilis Cases by Year in Virginia

Annual congenital syphilis case counts are based on year of birth (or stillbirth).



## Congenital Syphilis Cases by Region in Virginia

Annual congenital syphilis case counts are based on year of birth (or stillbirth). Region is based on the mother's residence at birth.

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 YTD
Central Region	5	7	12	15	0
Eastern Region	6	8	16	12	0
Northern Region	2	2	2	4	0
Northwest Region	2	3	0	1	0
Southwest Region	5	1	5	4	0

← Through 1/1/2026



# Concluding remarks

