

# ***Vitamin A Deficiency (VAD) among Filipino Preschool Children, Pregnant and Lactating Women: 1993 - 2013***

***Leah A. Perlas, Carl Vincent D. Cabanilla,  
Joselita Rosario C. Ulanday, Josefina A. Desnacido,  
Juanita M. Marcos, Marites V. Alibayan,  
Charmaine A. Duante and Mario V. Capanzana***



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# METHODS

## PARTICIPANTS:

- *Preschool children, 6 mos – 5 years*
- *Pregnant women*
- *Lactating mothers*



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# ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

## Guidelines Used for the Interpretation of Vitamin A Biochemical Data

Level	Serum Retinol	
	( $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ )	( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ )
Deficient	< 10	< 0.35
Low	10 - 19	0.35 - 0.69
Acceptable	20 - 49	0.70 - 1.74
High	$\geq 50$	$\geq 1.75$

(WHO/UNICEF/HKI/IVACG, 1972)



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# ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Prevalence cut-offs to define VAD in a population and its level of public health significance <sup>1</sup>

Public health importance  
(degree of severity)

Serum or plasma retinol  
<20 µg/dL / 0.70 µmol/L  
in preschool-age children  
and pregnant women<sup>2</sup> (%)

**Mild**

**≥ 2 - <10**

**Moderate**

**≥ 10 - < 20 \***

**Severe**

**≥ 20**

<sup>1</sup> WHO, 2009

<sup>2</sup> Adopted the WHO, 1996 cut-off for children, 6 – 71 mos as there is no WHO cut-off for pregnant women

\* The moderate range includes the minimum prevalence of 15% currently recommended by the Micronutrient Forum/IVACG as the cut-off at or above which VAD should be considered of public health significance among PS children and pregnant women

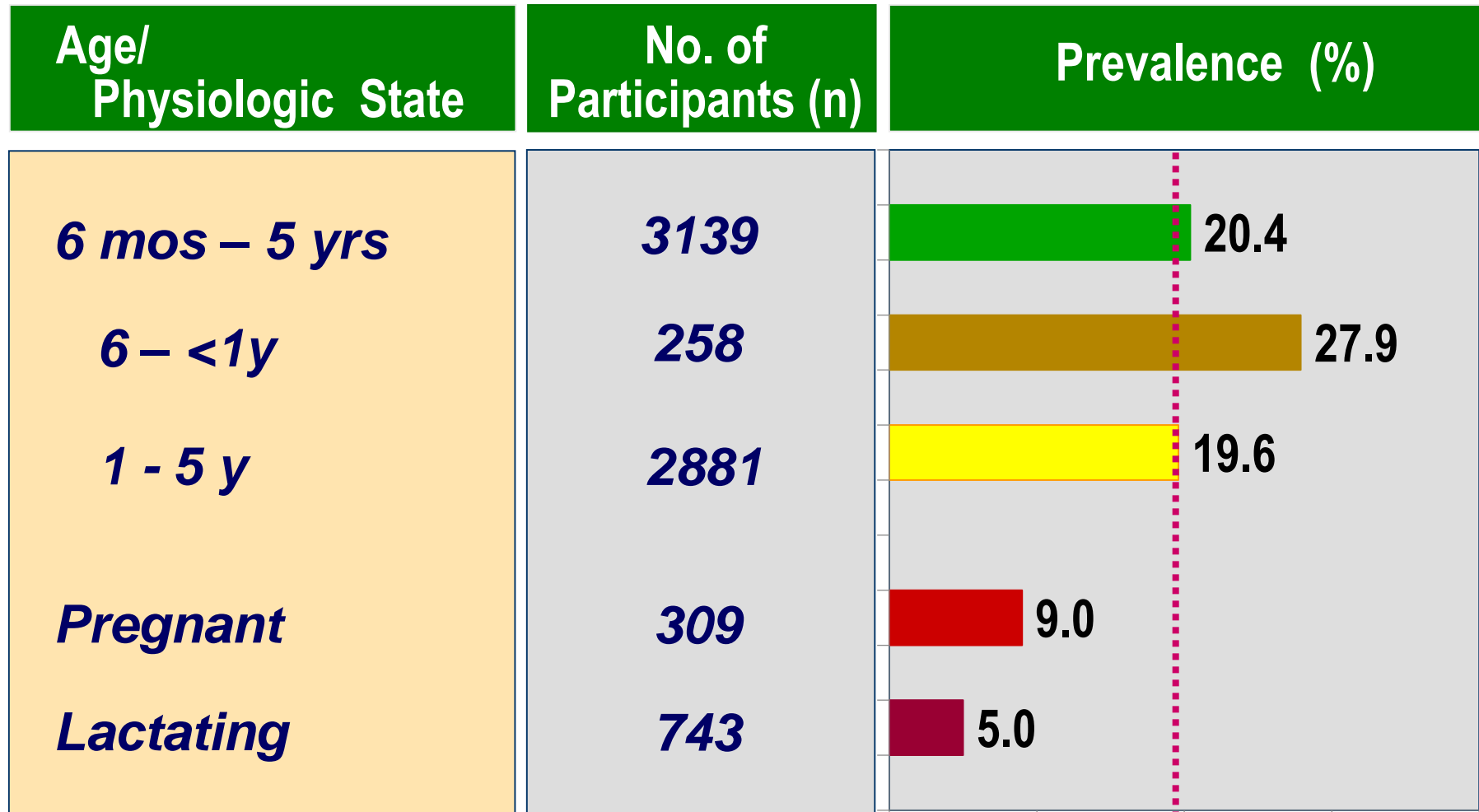
# *RESULTS*



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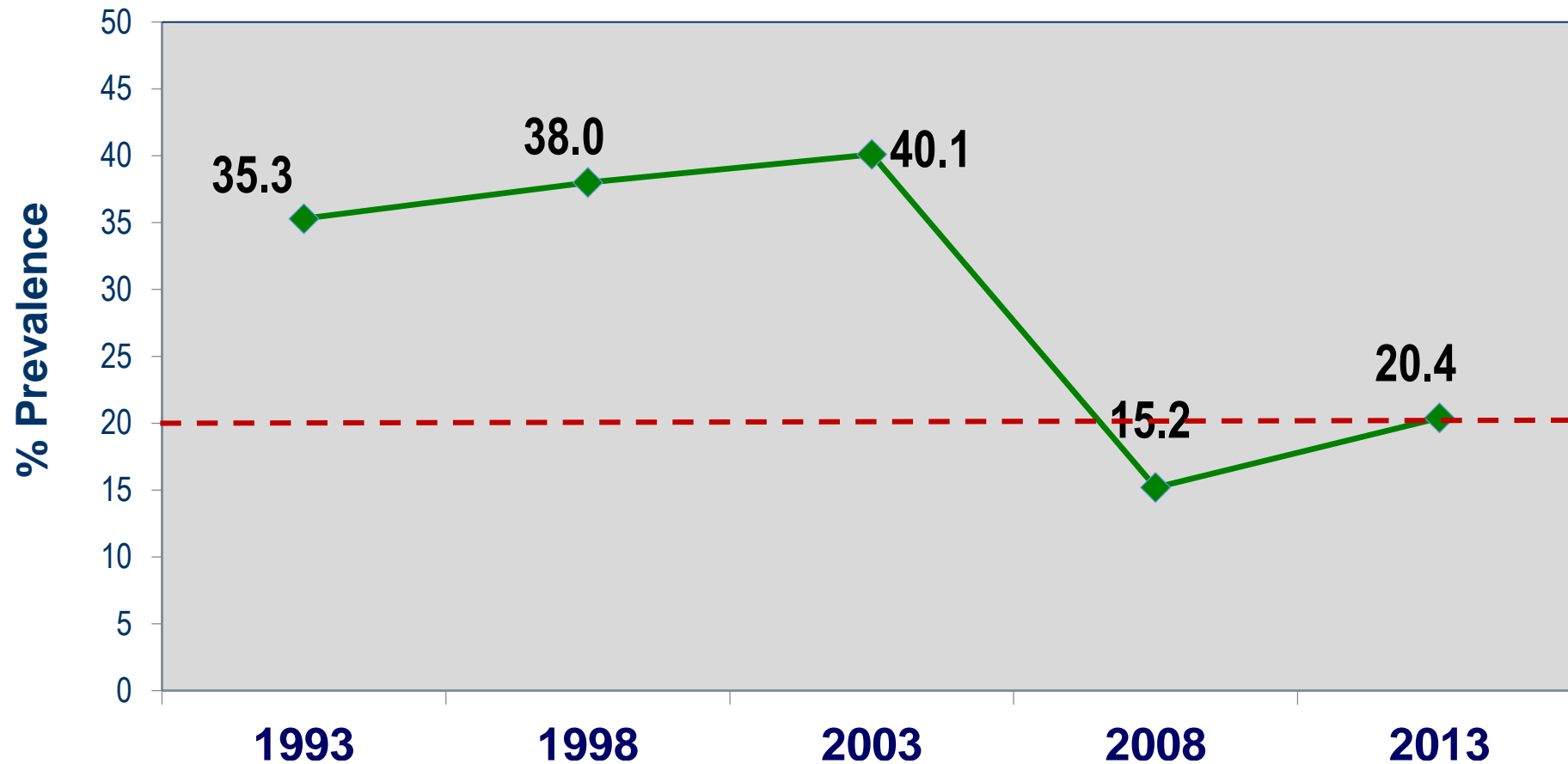
# Prevalence of VAD by age and physiologic state, Philippines: 2013



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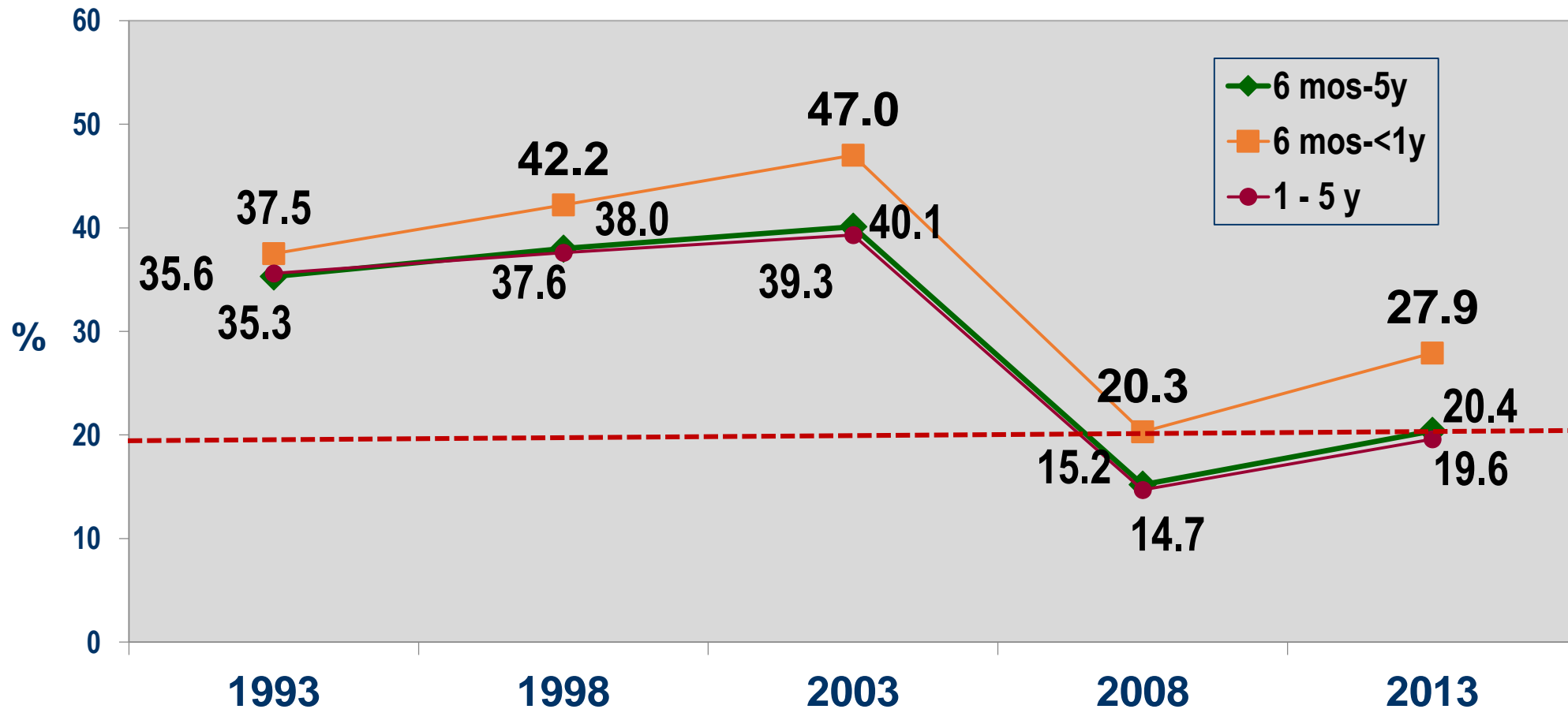
# Trends in the prevalence of VAD among children, 6 mos - 5 yrs Philippines: 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013



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# Trends in the prevalence of VAD among children Philippines: 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013

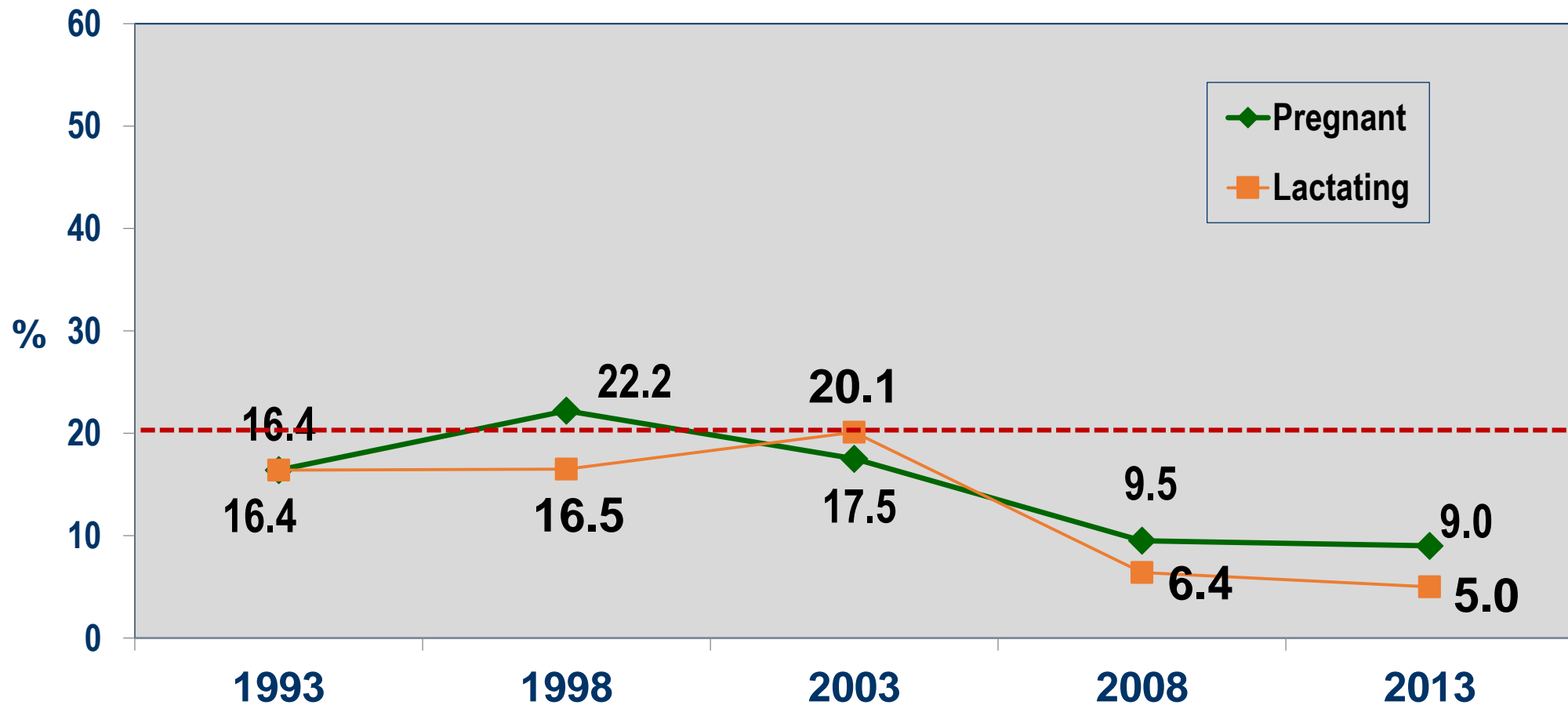


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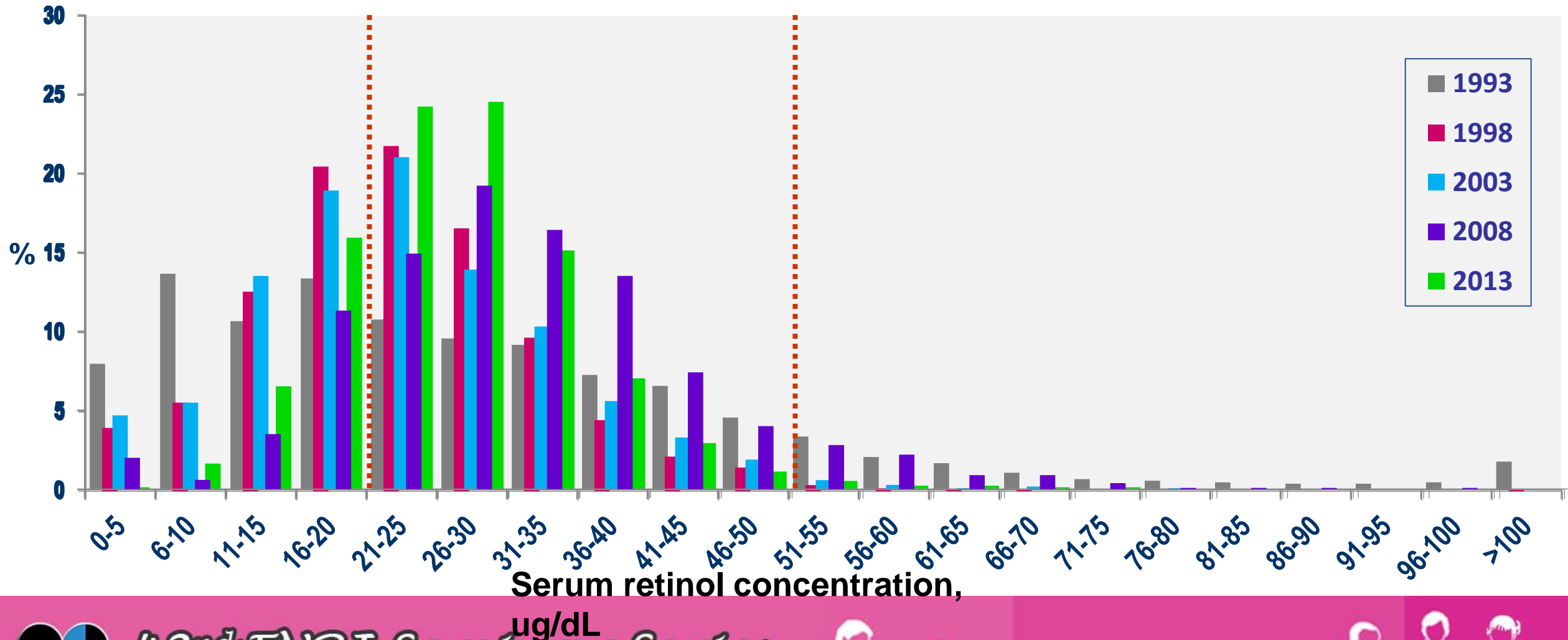
# Trends in the prevalence of VAD among pregnant and lactating women, Philippines: 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013



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# Distribution of serum retinol among preschool children, Philippines: 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013



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# SUMMARY

- VAD prevalence among preschool children is a problem of “severe” public health importance
- There was a decreasing trend in VAD prevalence among the among pregnant women and lactating mothers



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# *THANK YOU*



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