

# 2015 Data Presentation: Program, Quality Management, and 2015 Needs Assessment



# Section 1: Program and Quality Management



# Who are Ryan White clients?

- Ryan White clients' demographic information:
  - Gender
  - Age
  - Race
  - Ethnicity
  - Geography
  - Annual Income
  - Housing Status
  - Insurance Status
  - Clients at or below 100% FPL
  - HIV Status

All demographic data was compiled from the Ryan White Program's centralized CAREWare database.

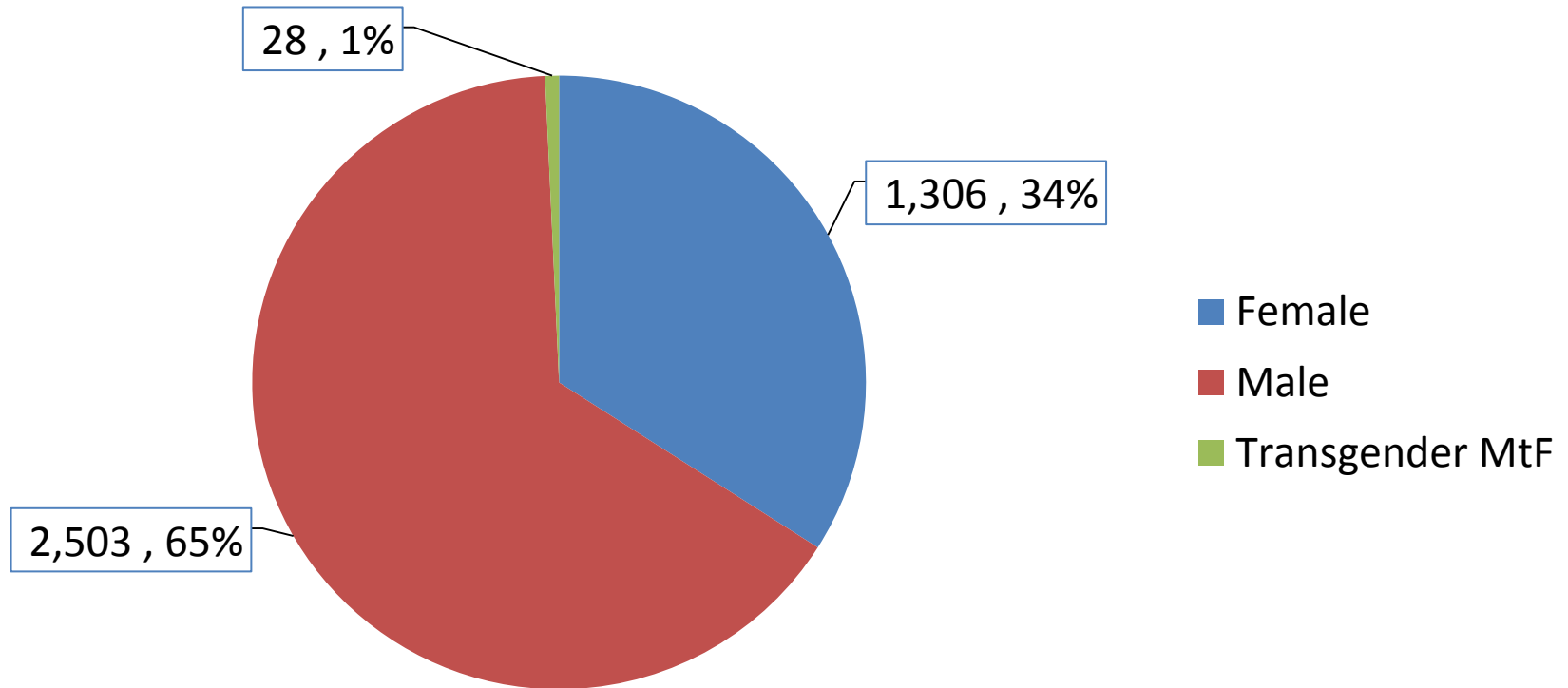
# Who are Ryan White clients?

**Male.**

**Ryan White Clients by Gender**

**03/01/2014 – 02/28/2015**

**Total = 3,837**

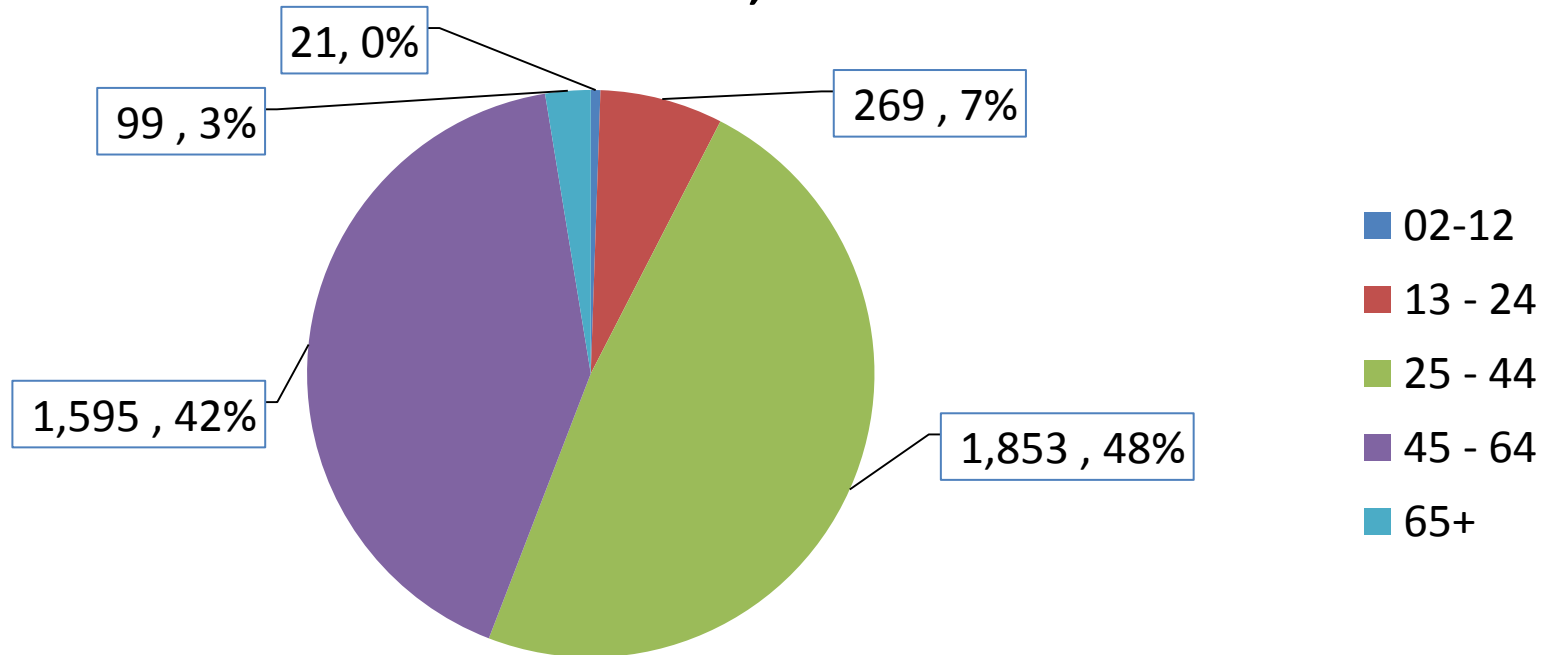


**Women account for 1 out of every 3 clients which is higher than the national average of 1 out of every 4.**

# Who are Ryan White clients?

**25 – 44 years old.**

**Ryan White Clients by Age  
03/01/2014 – 02/28/2015  
Total = 3,837**



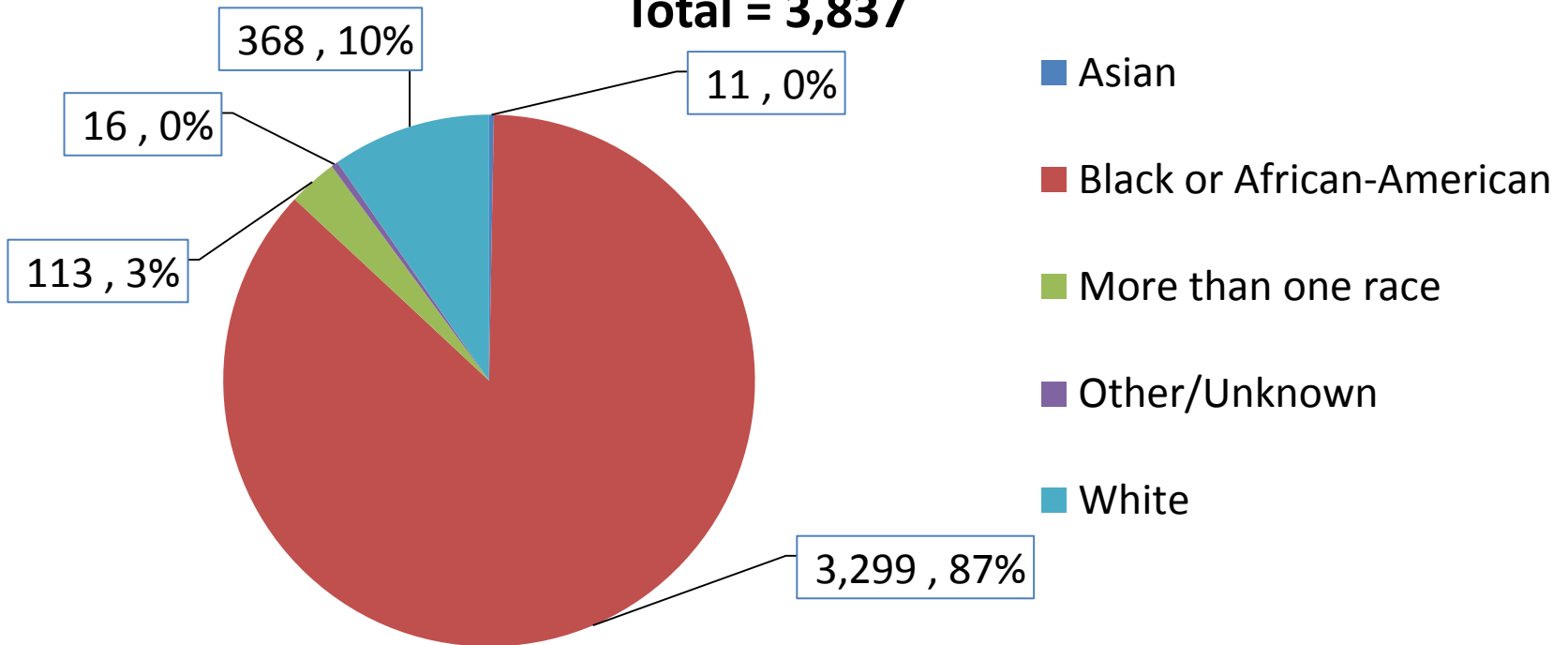
**90% of clients are between the ages of 25 and 64.**

# Who are Ryan White clients?

**African American.**

**Ryan White Clients by Race**  
**03/01/2014 – 02/28/2015**

**Total = 3,837**

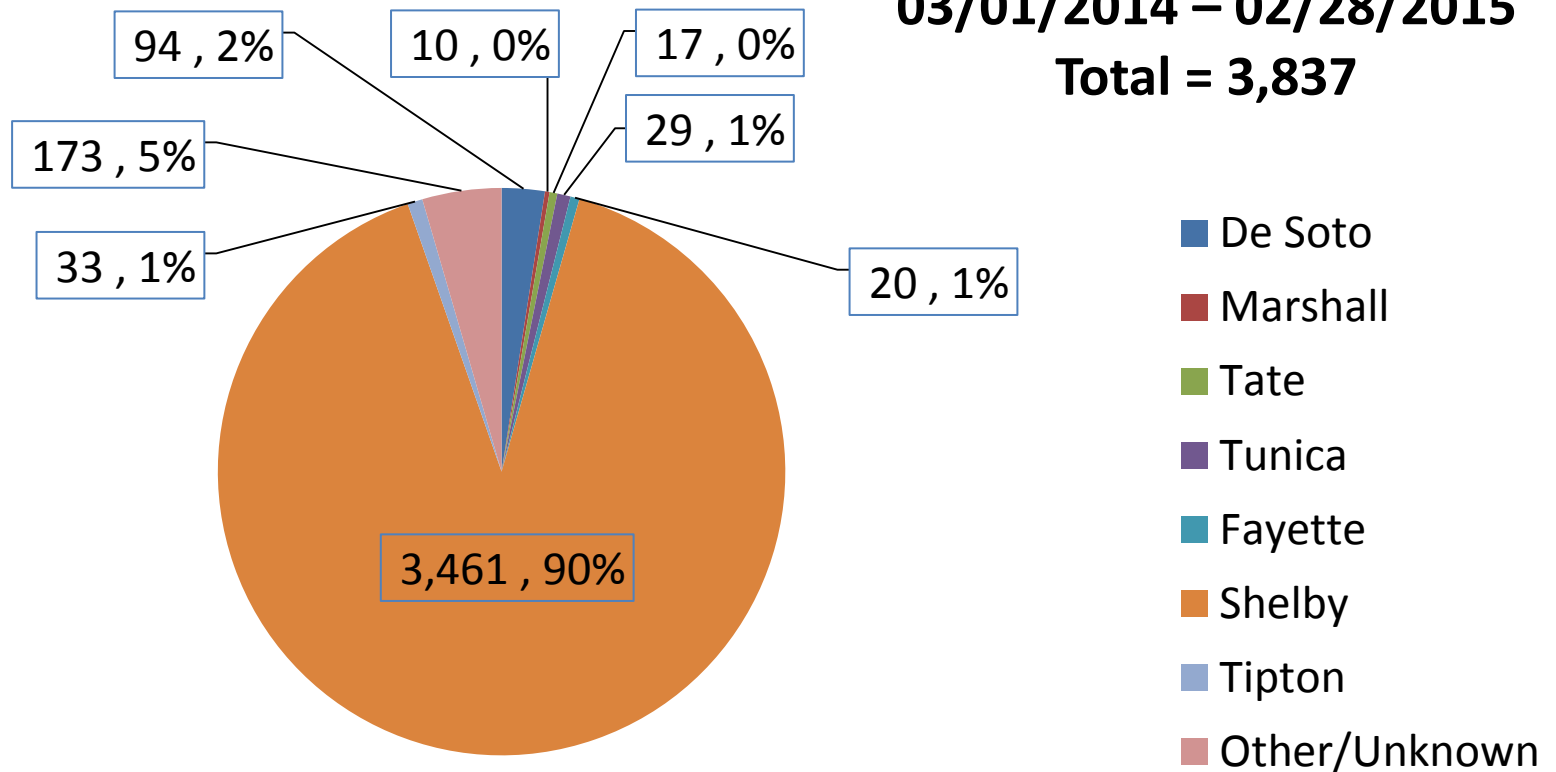


**79 clients (2.1%) identified their ethnicity as Hispanic.**

# Where do Ryan White clients live?

## Shelby County, TN.

**Ryan White Clients by County**  
**03/01/2014 – 02/28/2015**  
**Total = 3,837**



**10% of clients live outside of Shelby County, TN.**

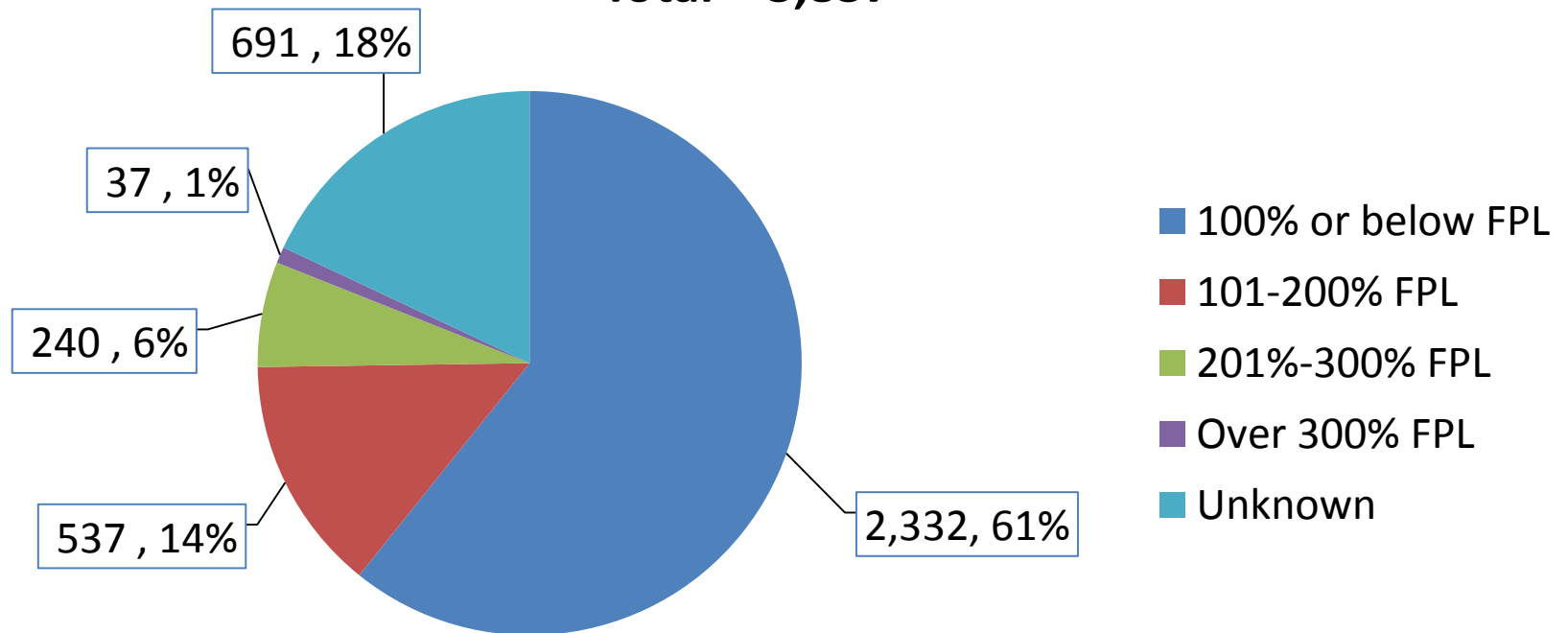
# Who are Ryan White clients?

**Making less than \$11,670 annually.**

## Ryan White Clients by Income

03/01/2014 – 02/28/2015

Total = 3,837

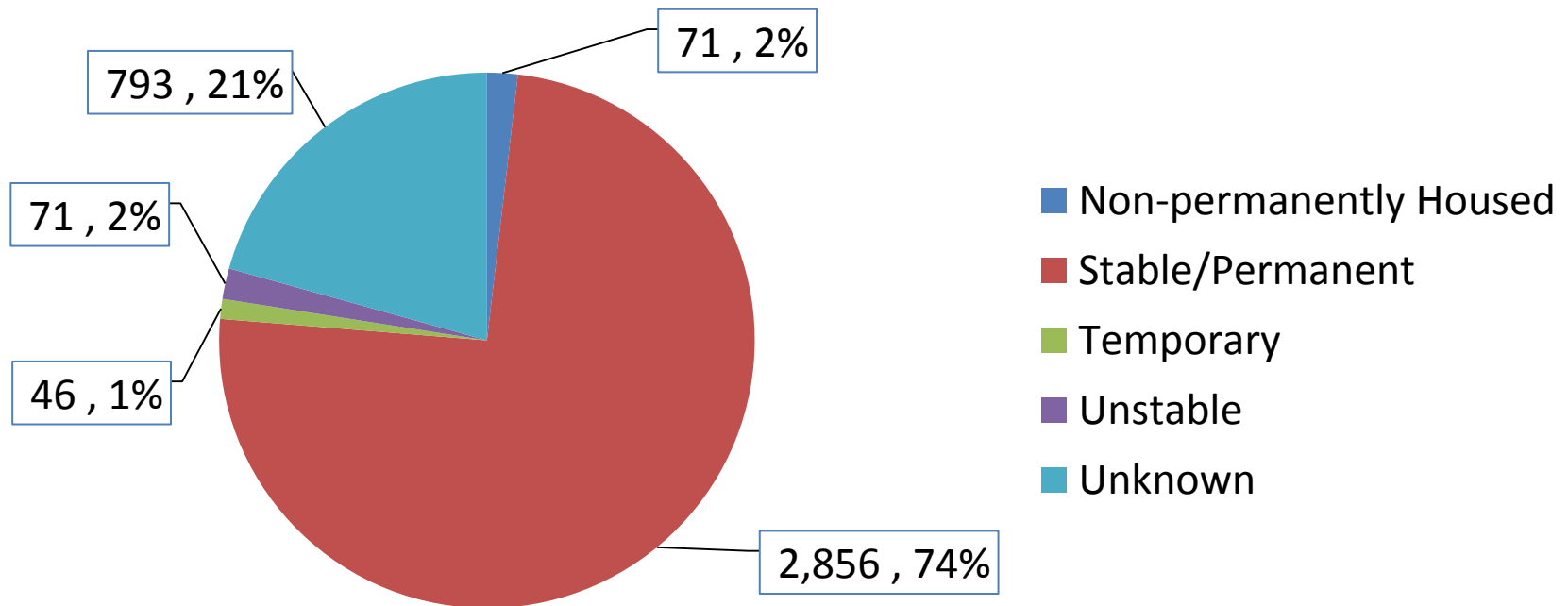


**\$11,670 is based on the 2015 Federal Poverty Line (FPL) for one person.**



# Who are Ryan White clients? **Stable/Permanently Housed.**

**Ryan White Clients by Housing Status**  
**03/01/2014 – 02/28/2015**  
**Total = 3,837**



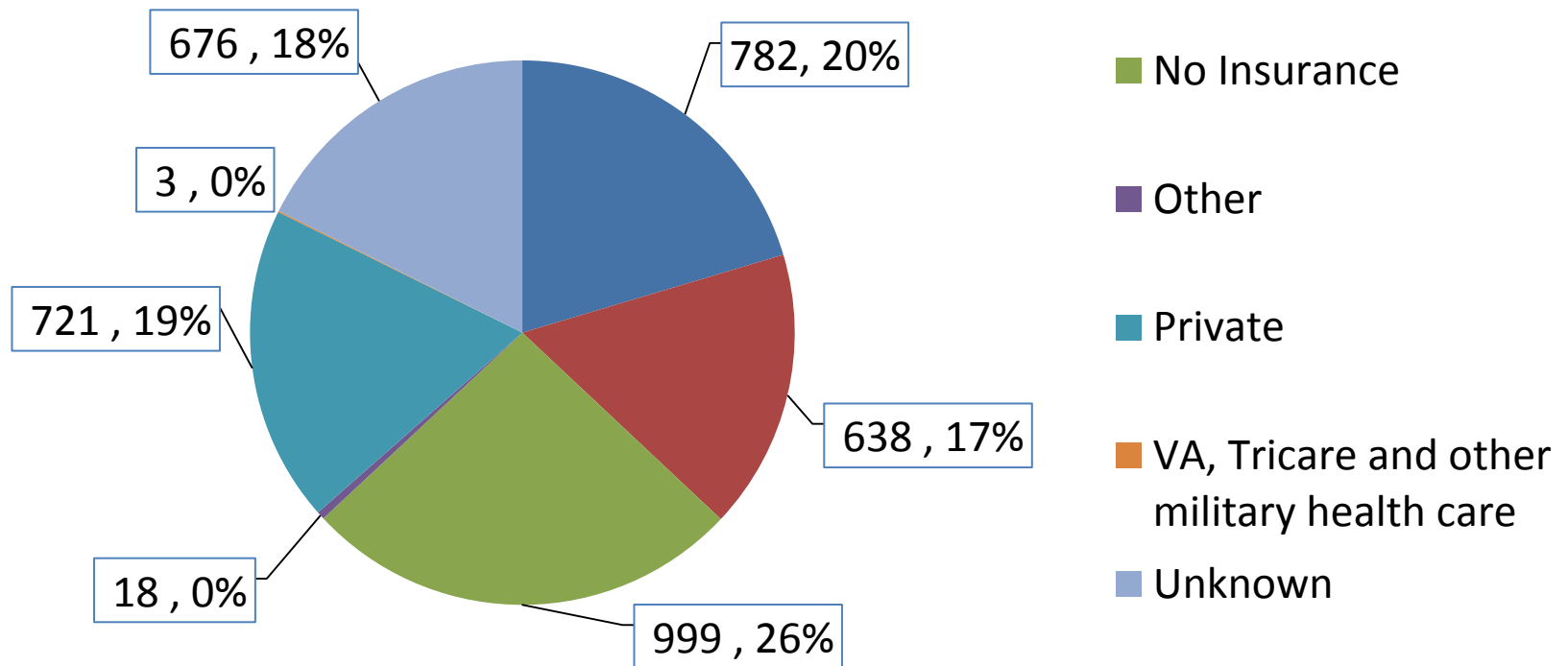
# Who are Ryan White clients?

## Insured.

### Ryan White Clients by Insurance Status

03/01/2014 – 02/28/2015

Total = 3,837



**Out of 3,837 clients, 2,162 (56%) of clients report being insured privately or publicly.**

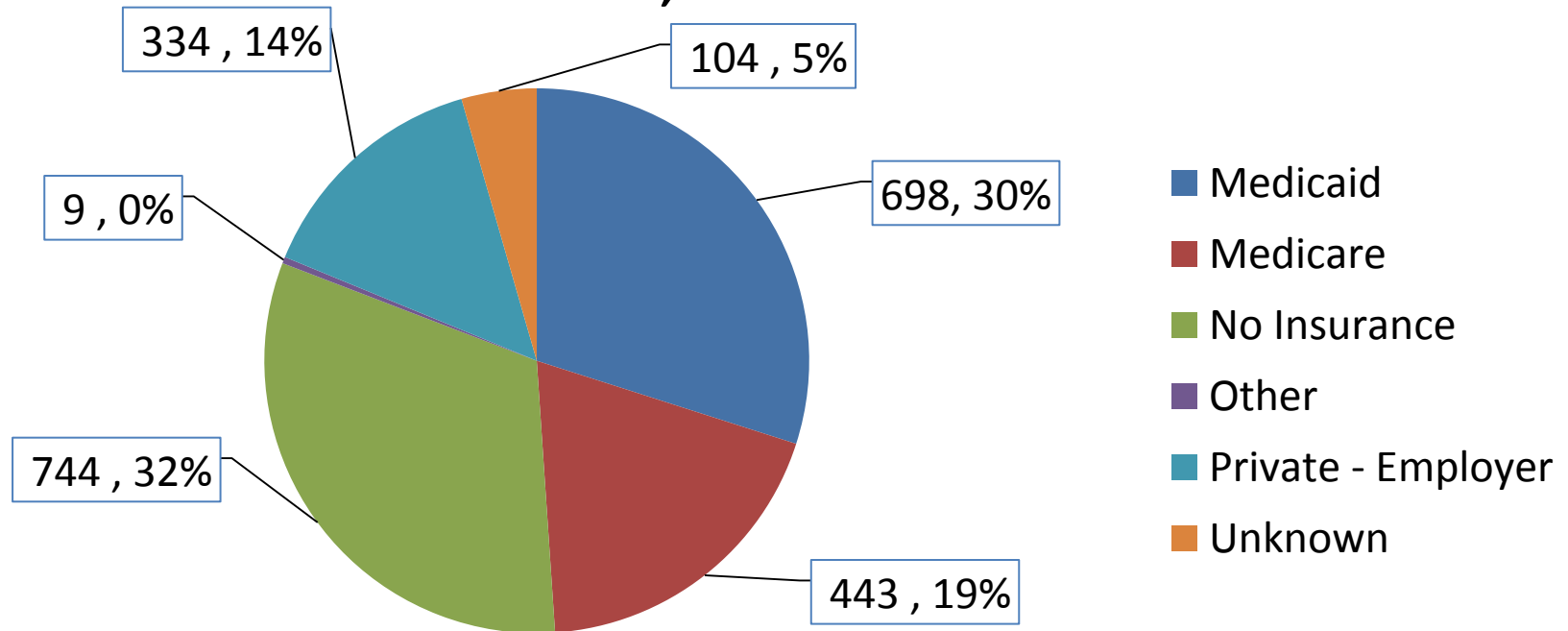
# Ryan White clients below 100% FPL?

## Insured.

Ryan White Clients at/or below 100% FPL

03/01/2014 – 02/28/2015

Total = 2,332



**1,475 (63%) clients at or below 100% FPL report being insured privately or publicly.**

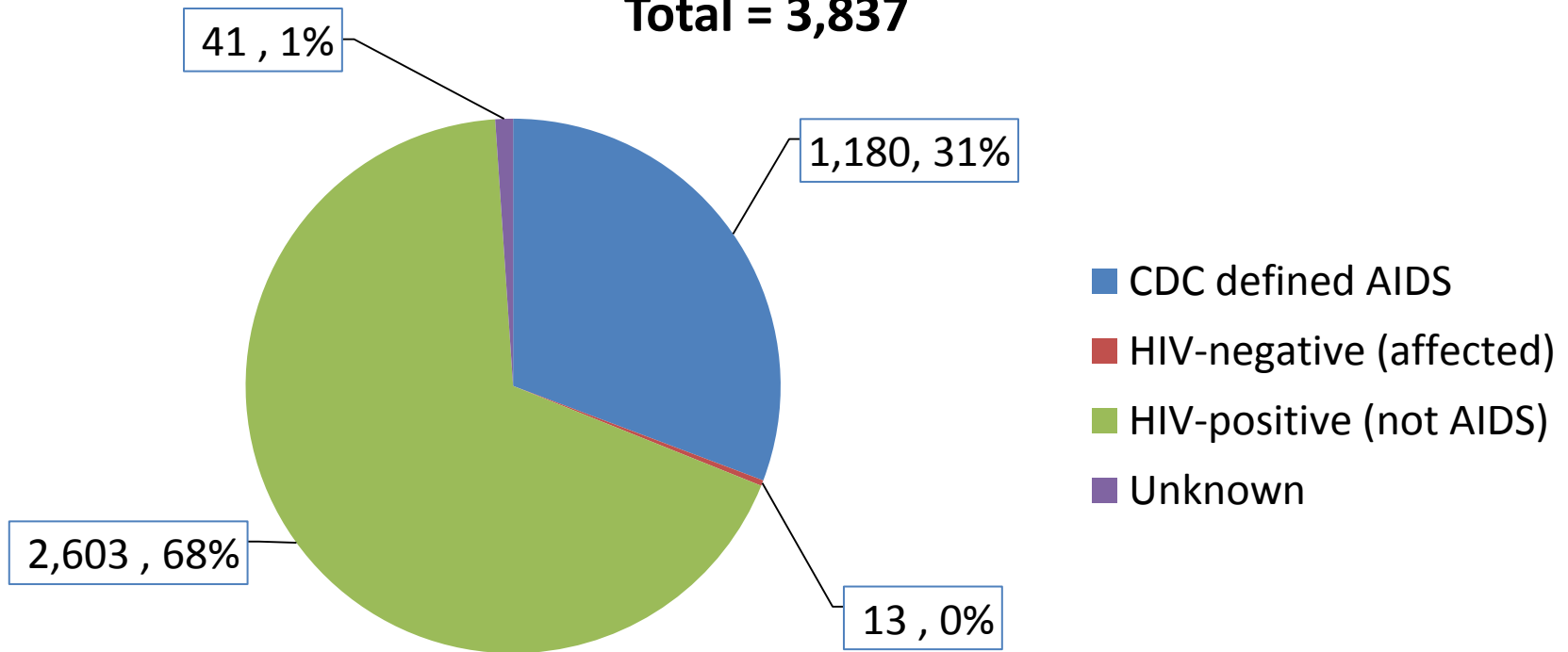
# Who are Ryan White clients?

**HIV-positive, not diagnosed with AIDS.**

## Ryan White Clients by HIV Status

03/01/2014 – 02/28/2015

Total = 3,837



# QUESTIONS?



Xavier J. Weddington with his recent Know Now. Live Longer. campaign poster on a bus shelter at Third Street and South Parkway.

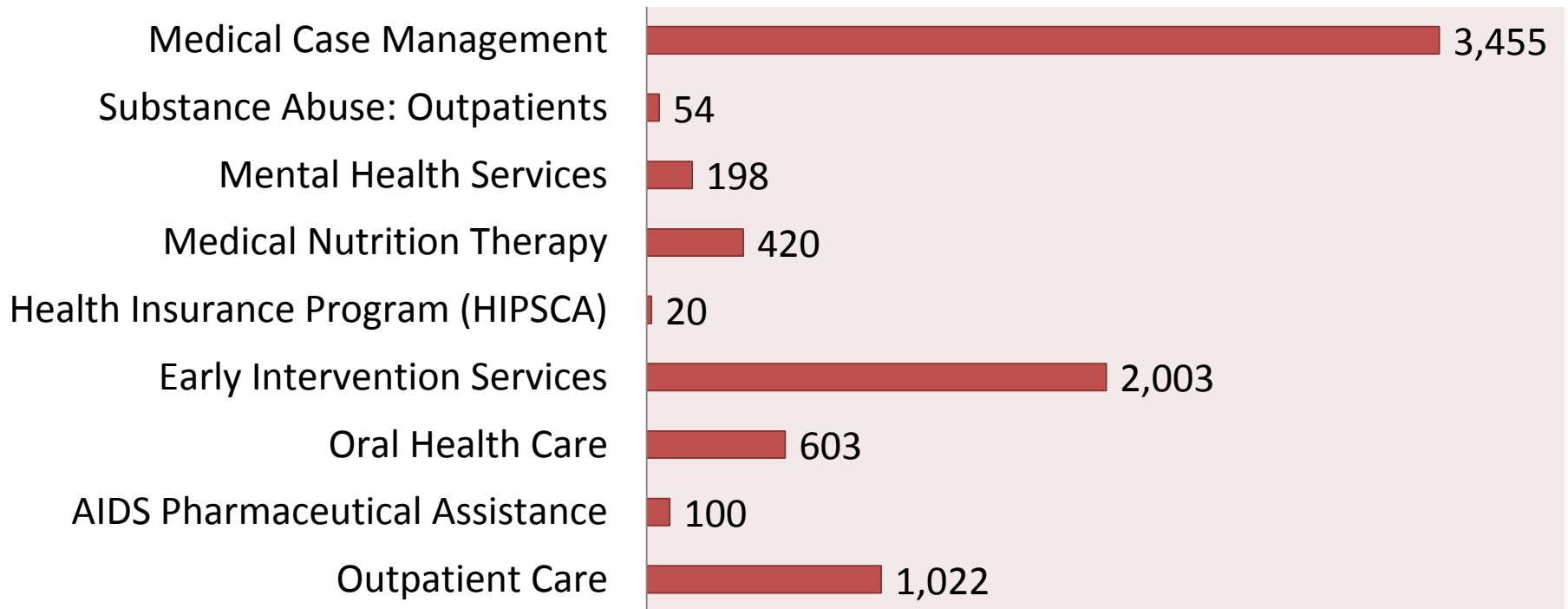
# How do Ryan White clients use services?

- Ryan White service utilization:
  - 2014 Utilization of Core Services
  - 2011 - 2014: Trends in Utilization of Core Services
  - 2014 Utilization of Support Services
  - 2011 - 2014: Trends in Utilization of Support Services

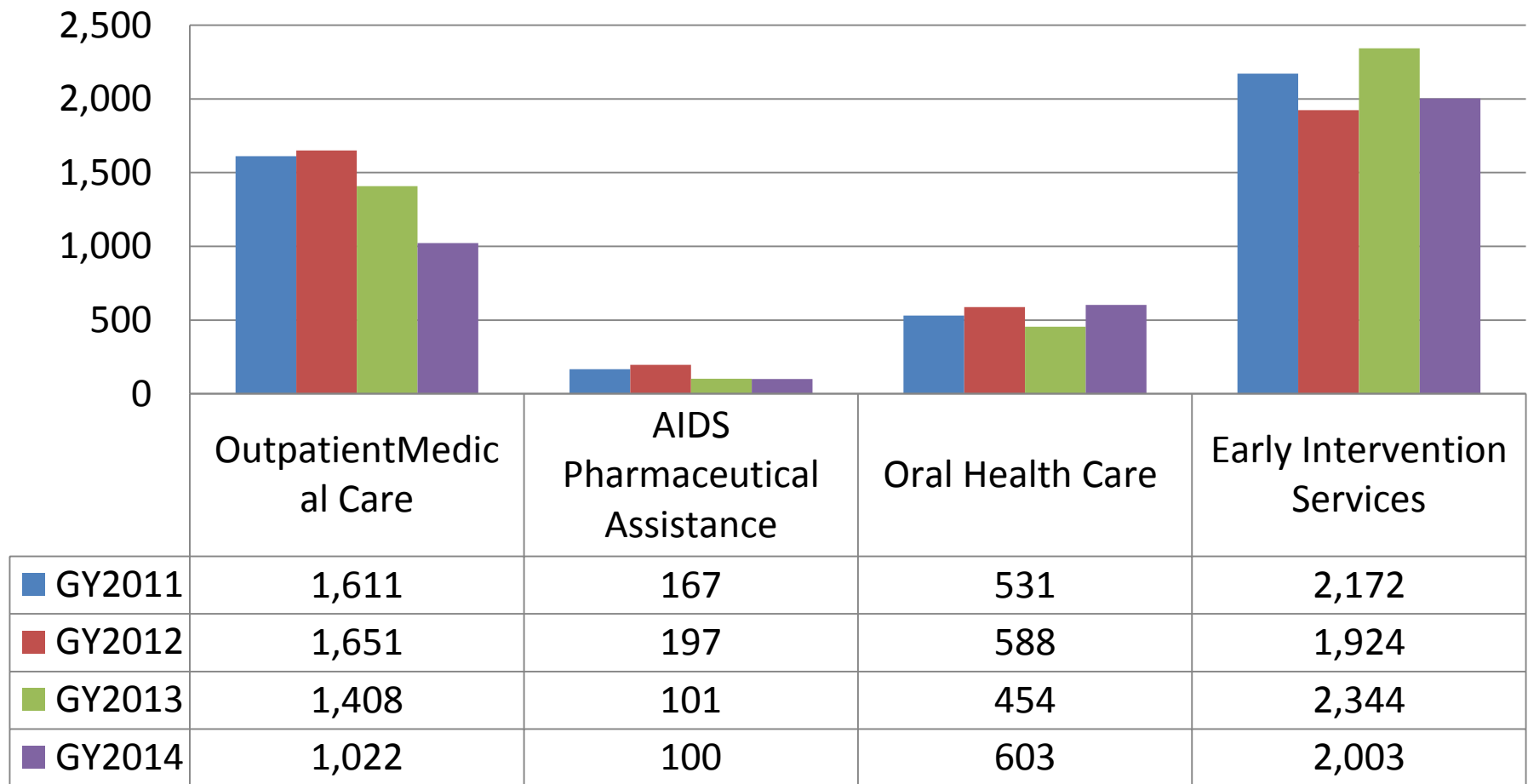
All utilization data was compiled from the Ryan White Program's centralized CAREWare database.

# What core services do Ryan White clients use?

Unduplicated Clients  
03/01/2014 to 02/28/2015



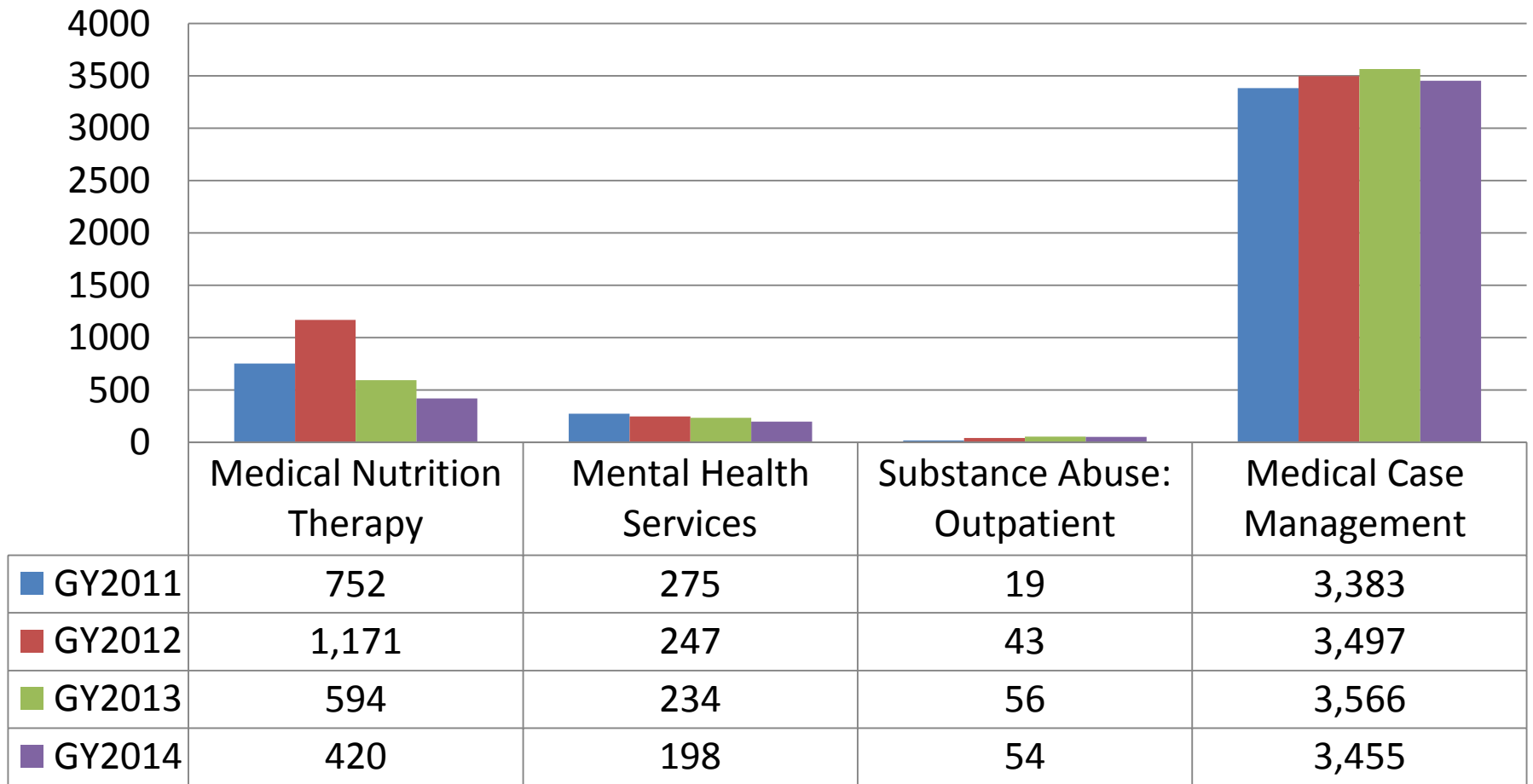
# What core services do Ryan White clients use?



**There has been an overall DECREASE in utilization of core services between 2013 and 2014, except Oral Health Care.**



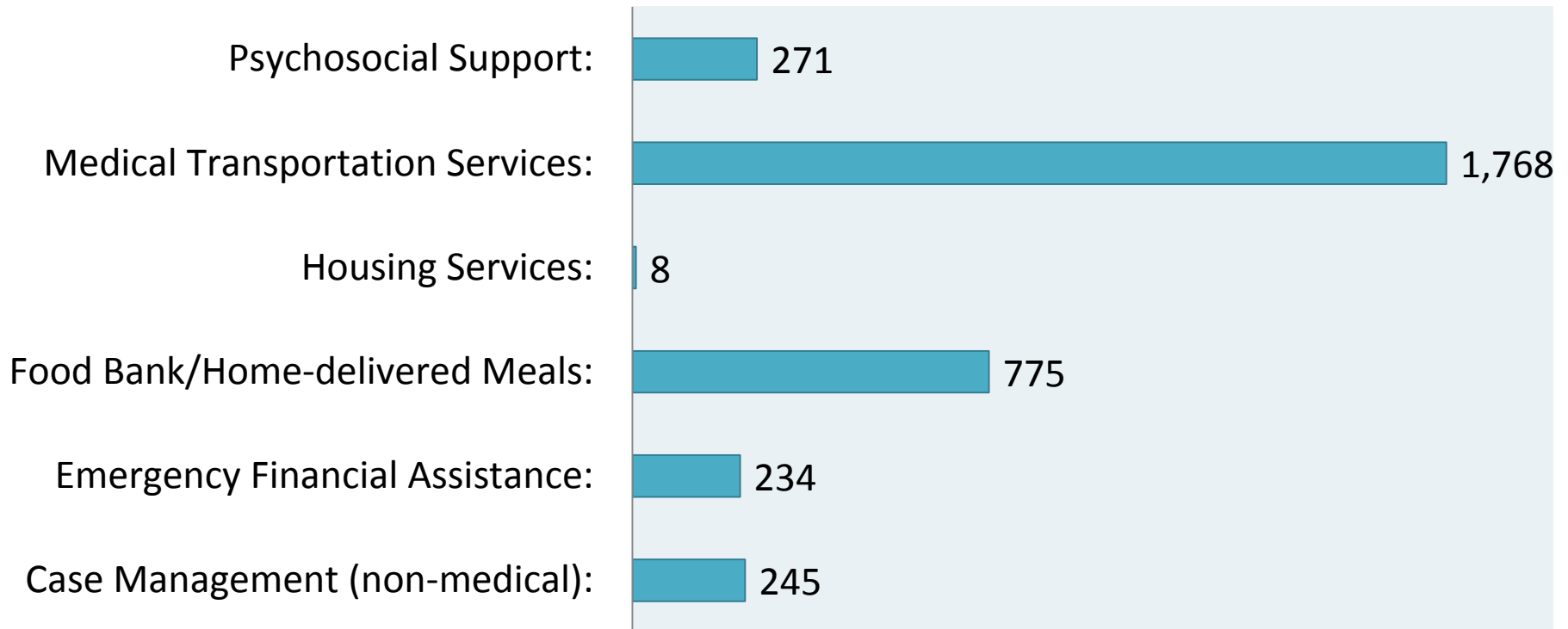
# What core services do Ryan White clients use?



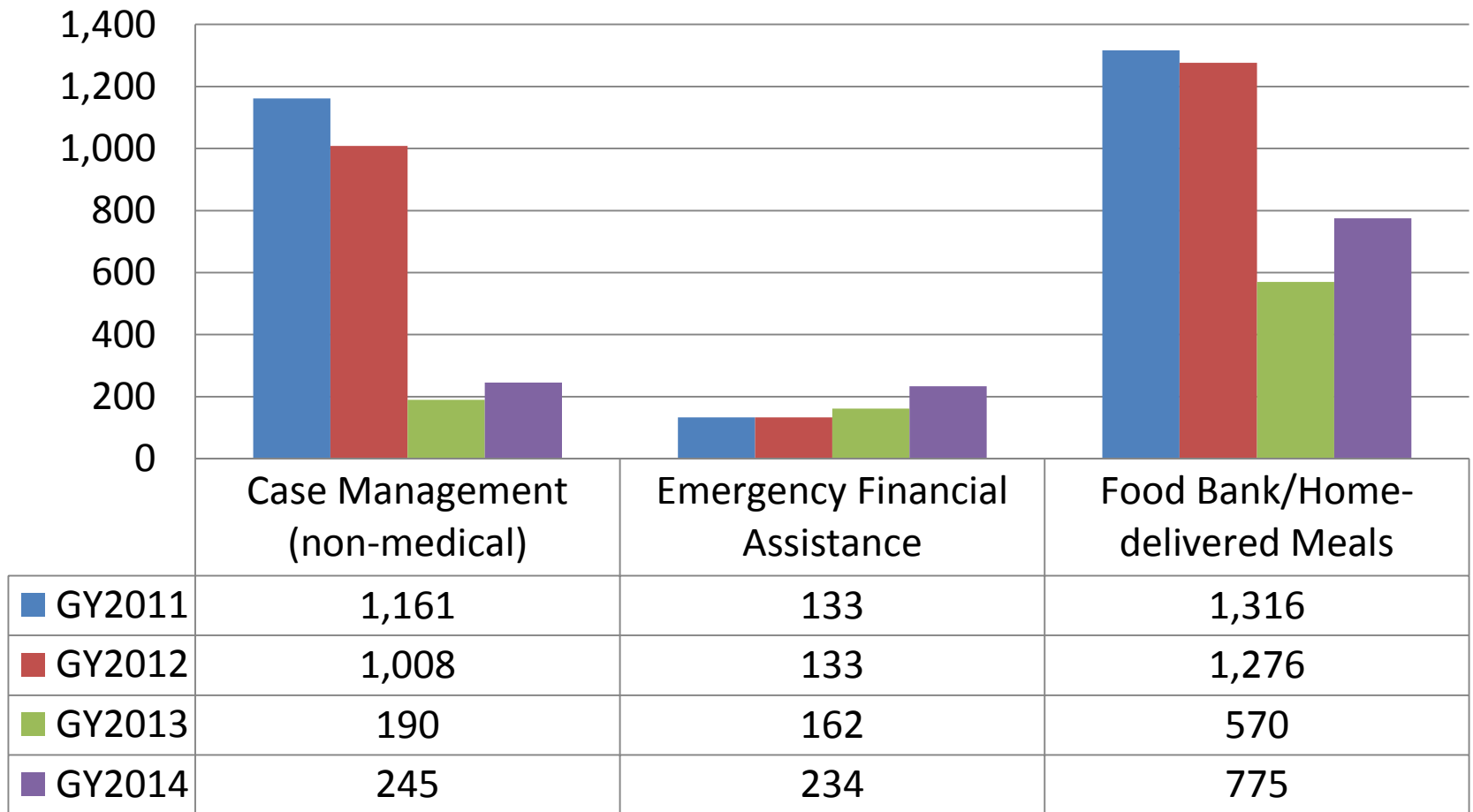
**There has been an overall DECREASE in utilization of core services between 2013 and 2014, except Oral Health Care.**

# What support services do Ryan White clients use?

**Unduplicated Clients**  
**03/01/2014 to 02/28/2015**

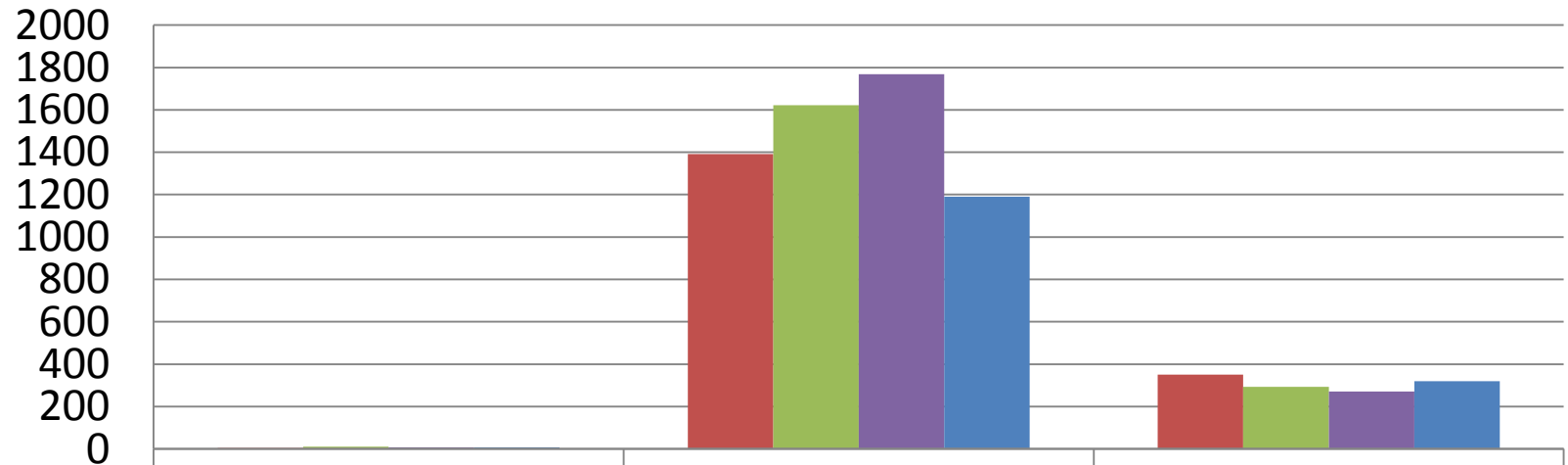


# What support services do Ryan White clients use?



**There has been an overall INCREASE in utilization of support services between 2013 and 2014, except Psychosocial Support.**

# What support services do Ryan White clients use?



	Housing Services	Medical Transportation Services	Psychosocial Support
GY2012	5	1,392	351
GY2013	10	1,622	293
GY2014	8	1,768	271
GY2011	7	1,190	319

**There has been an overall INCREASE in utilization of support services between 2013 and 2014, except Psychosocial Support.**

# QUESTIONS?

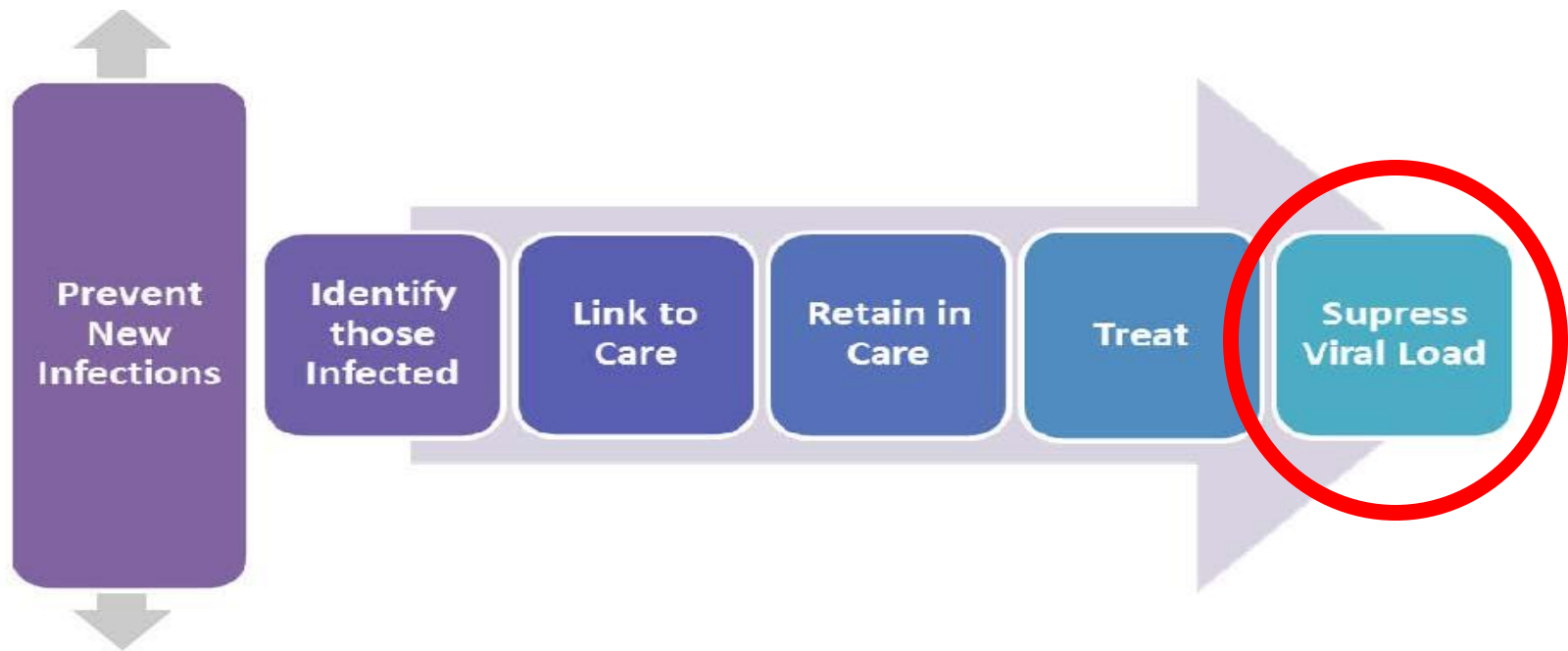


Marvell Terry,  
Dorcas Griffin,  
and Jennifer  
Pepper  
discussing the  
RW Program  
on Local ABC  
24.

# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

- Ryan White Performance Measures:
  - Viral Load Suppression by age, gender, and race
  - Prescription of ART by age, gender, and race
  - HIV Medical Visit Frequency by age, gender and race
  - Gap in HIV Medical Visits by age, gender, and race

All performance data was compiled from the Ryan White Program's centralized CAREWare database.

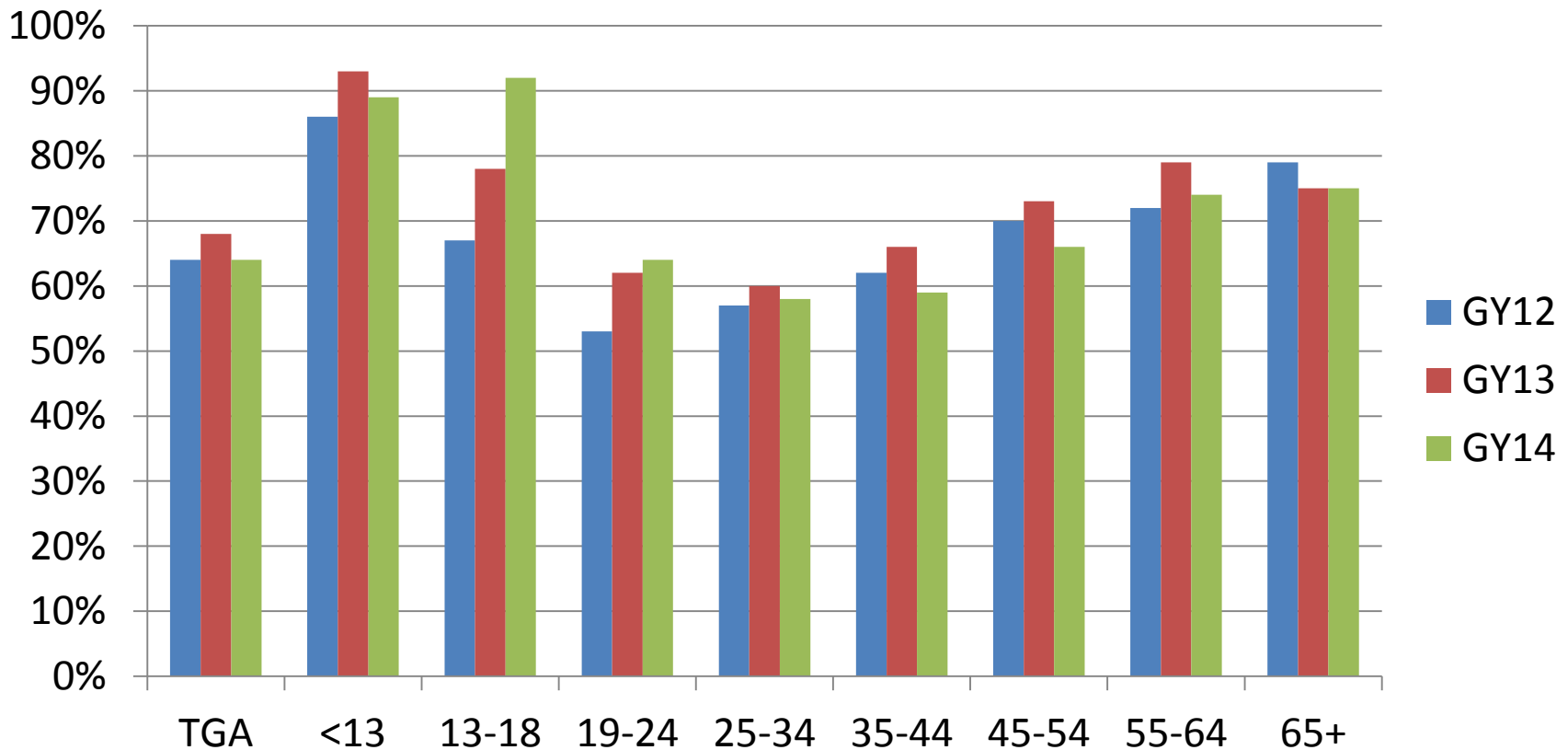


Percentage of patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of HIV with a HIV viral load less than 200 copies/mL at last HIV viral load test during the measurement year

## **VIRAL SUPPRESSION**

# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

## Viral Load Suppression by Age

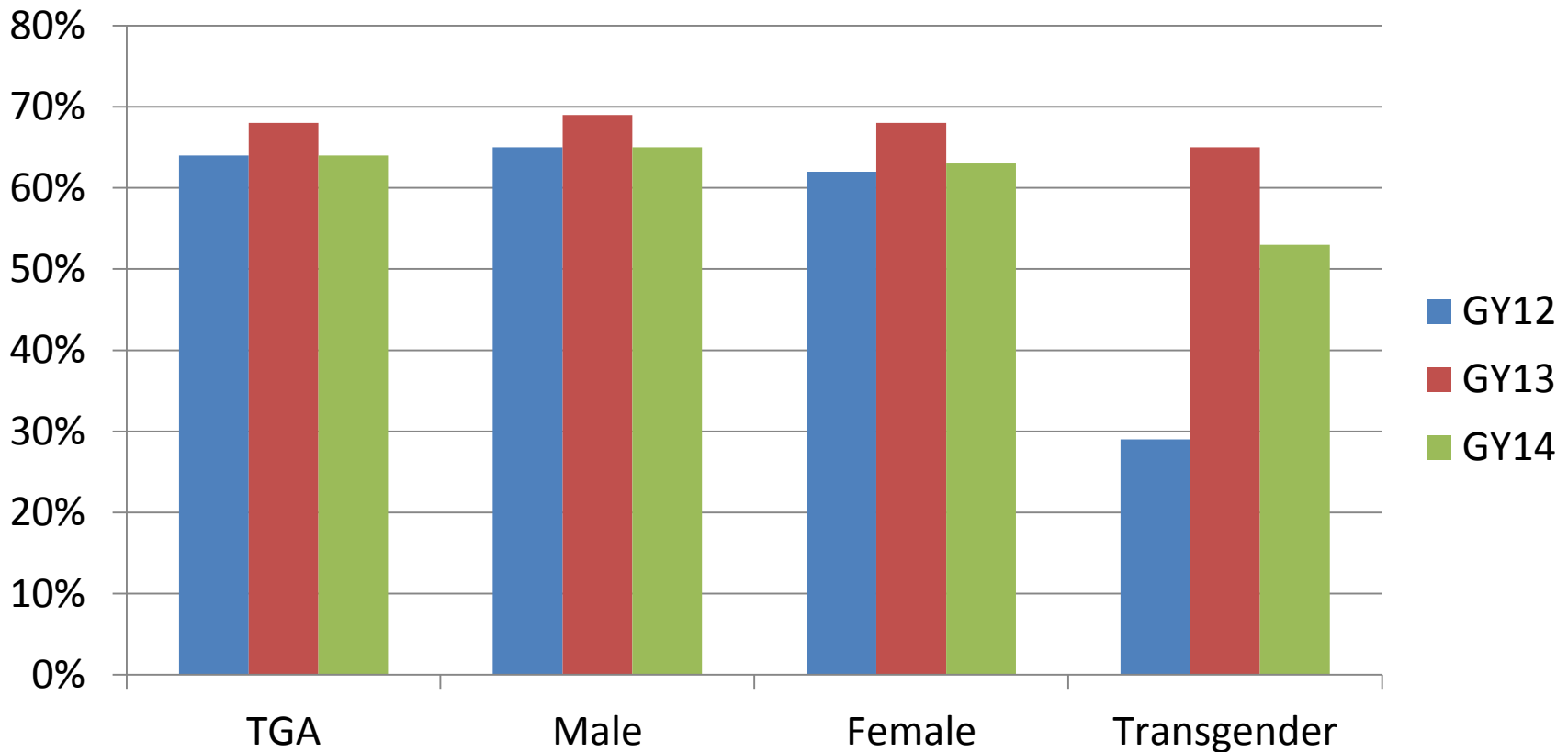


**Clients 18 years old and under have the highest levels of viral suppression.**



# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

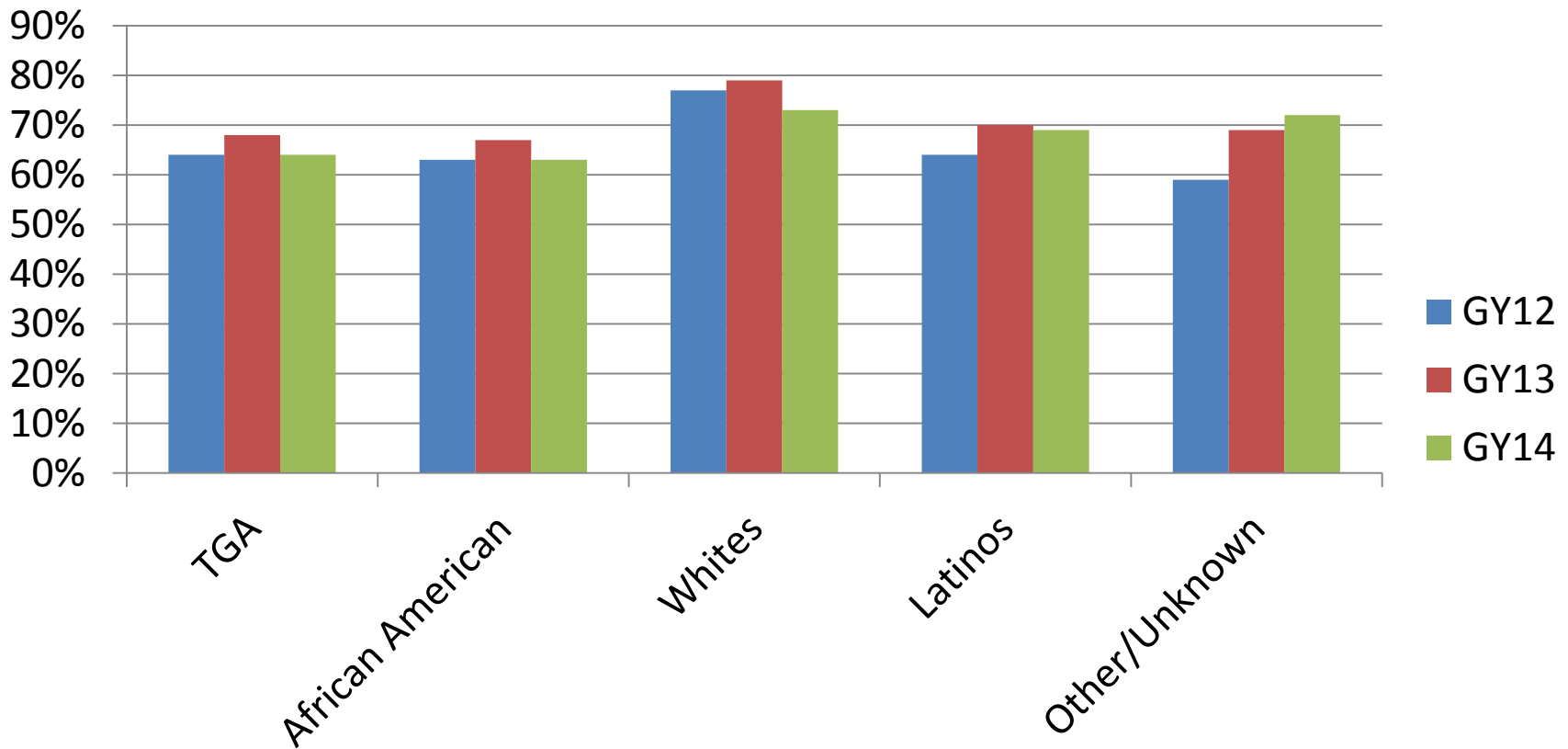
## Viral Load Suppression by Gender



**Transgender clients have the lowest levels of viral suppression.**

# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

## Viral Load Suppression by Race/Ethnicity



**African Americans and Latinos have lower levels of viral suppression than whites.**

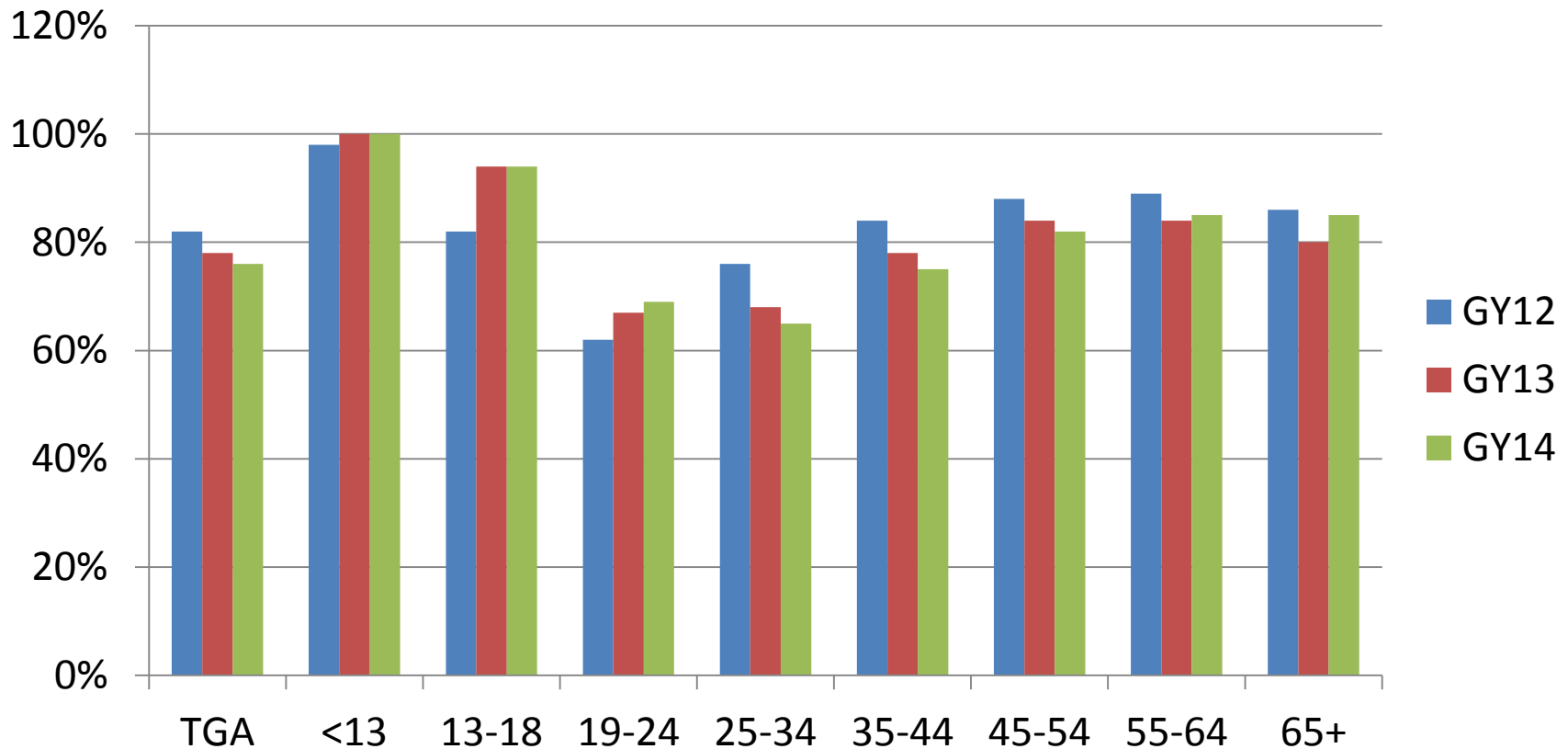


Percentage of patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of HIV prescribed antiretroviral therapy for the treatment of HIV infection during the measurement year

## **PRESCRIPTION OF ART**

# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

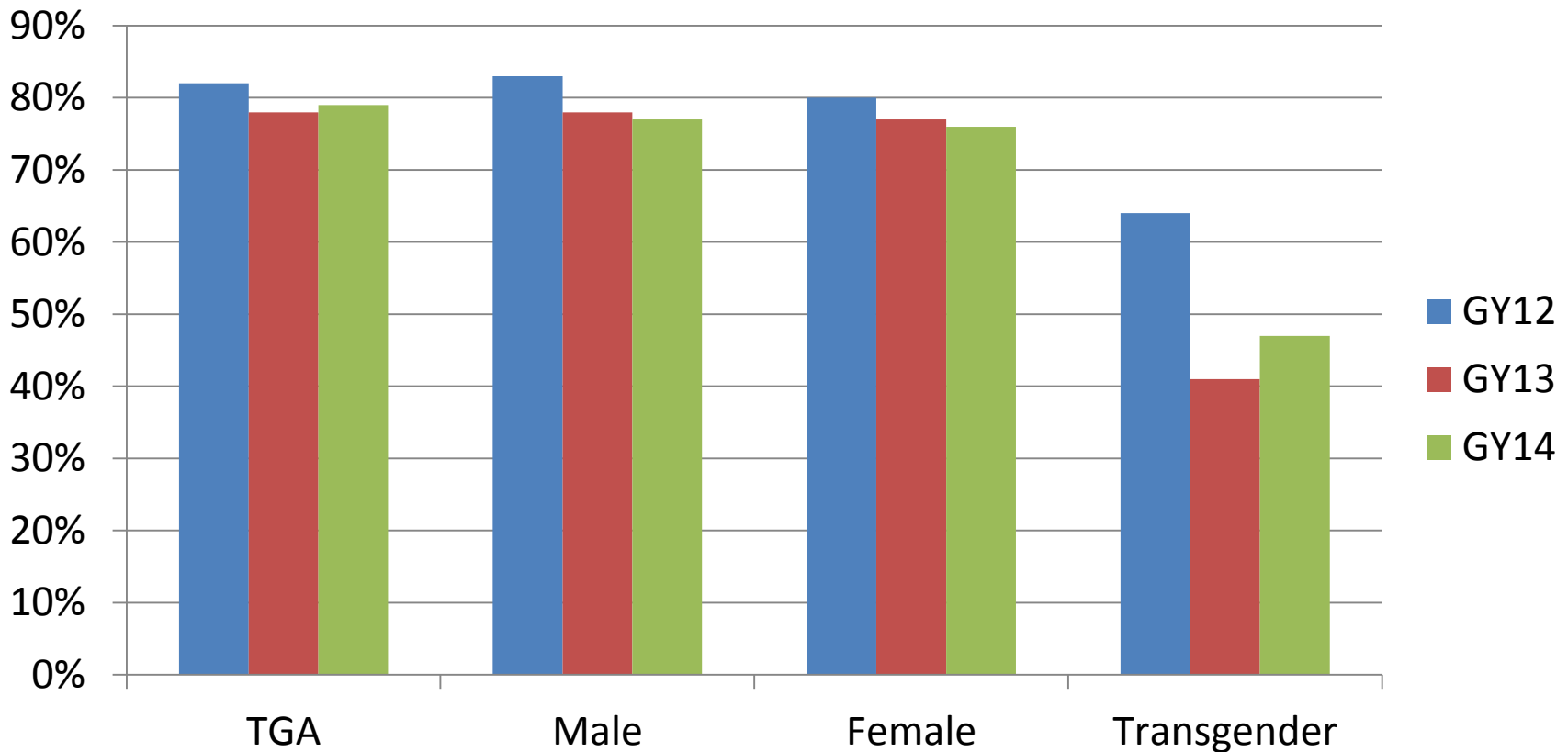
## Prescription of ART by Age



**Clients 18 years old and under have the highest levels of ART prescriptions.**

# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

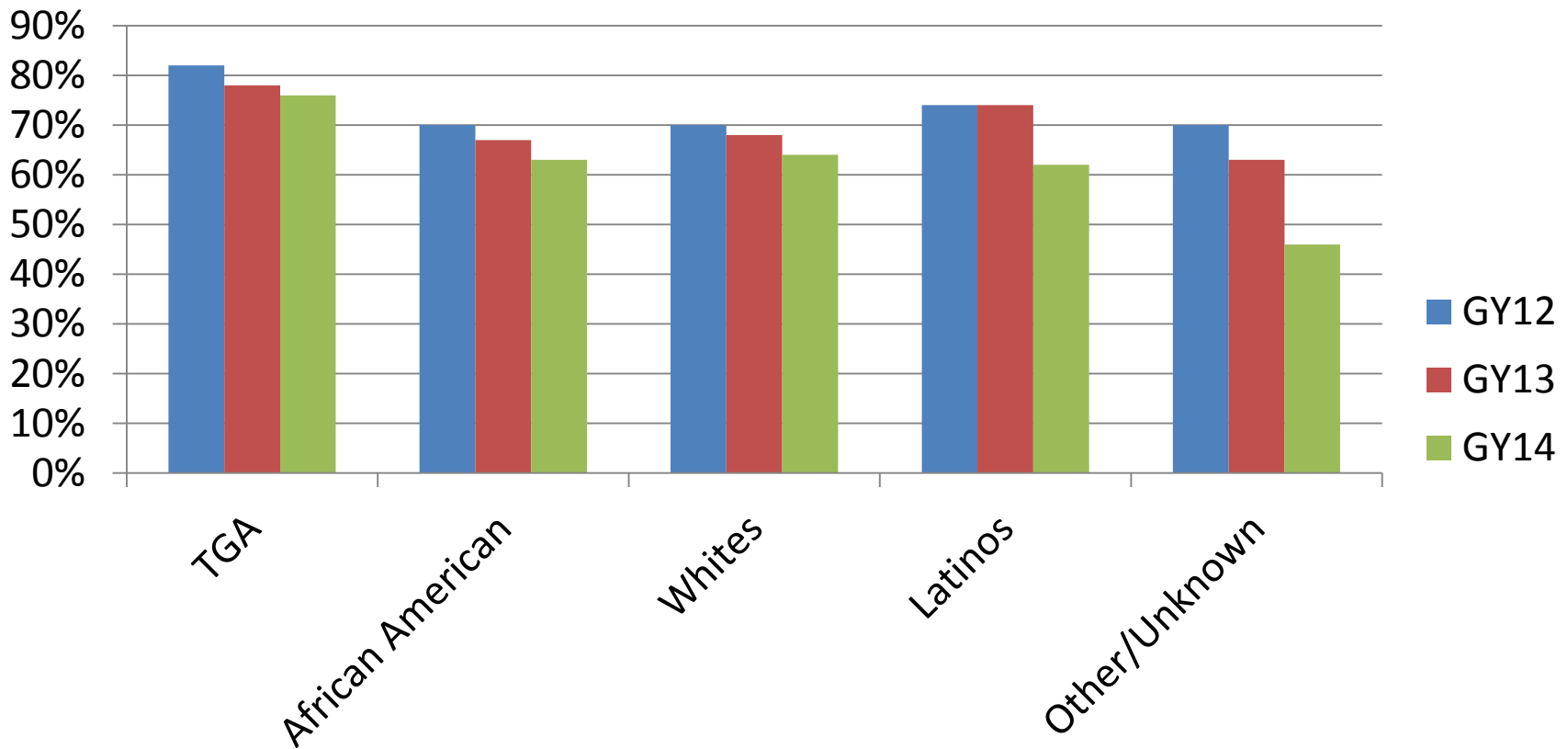
## Prescription of ART by Gender



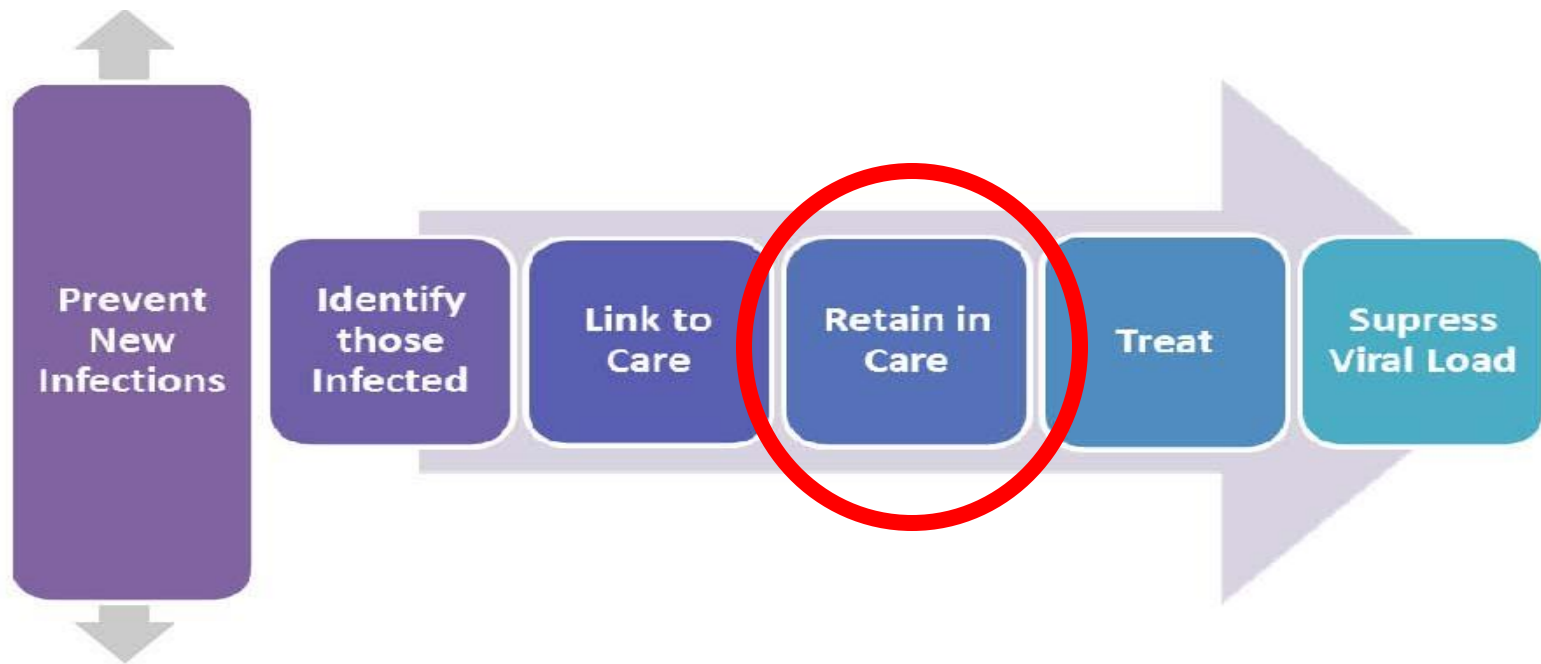
**Transgender clients are most likely not to be prescribed ART.**

# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

## Prescription of ART by Race/Ethnicity



**Levels of ART prescriptions are consistent among whites, African Americans, and Latinos.**

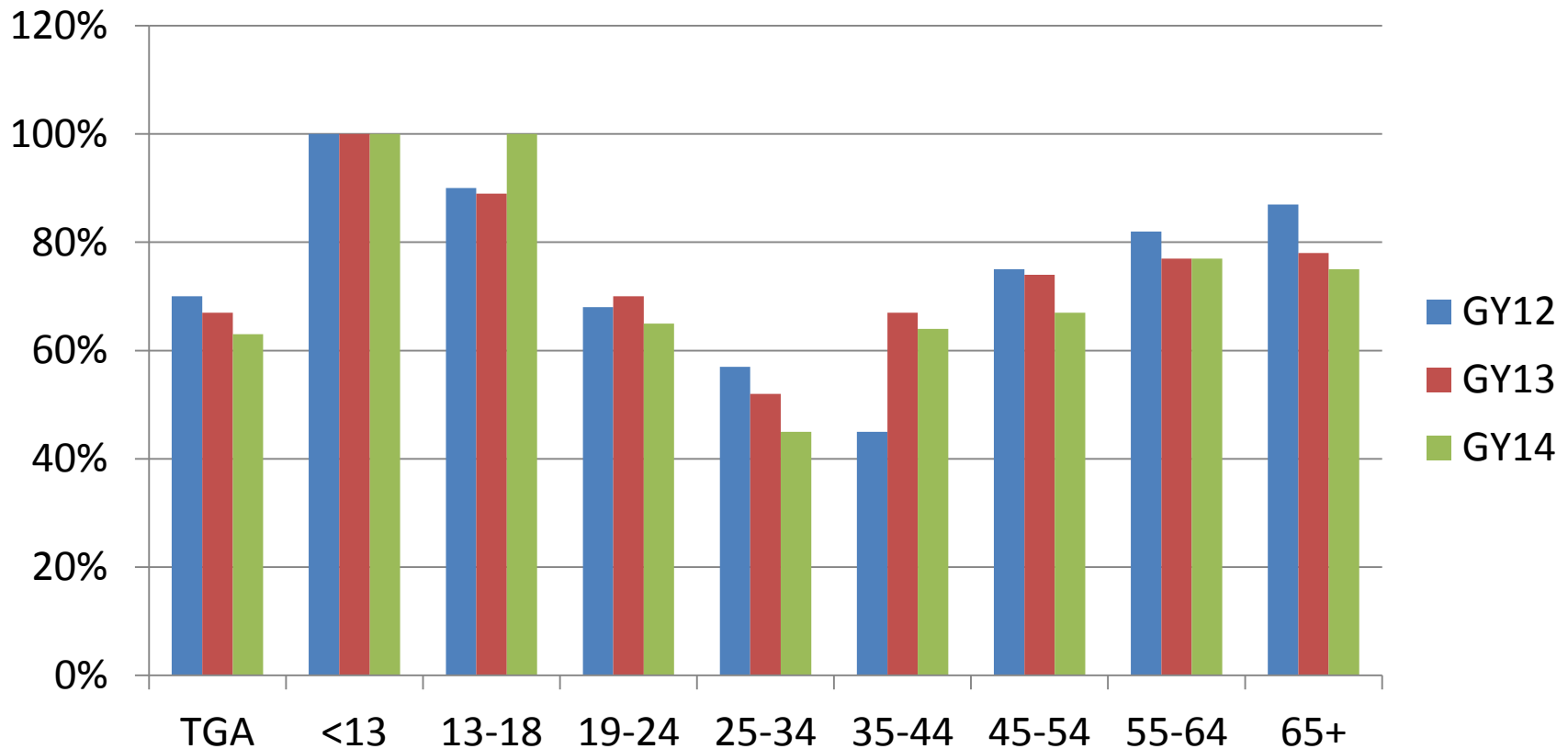


Percentage of patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of HIV who had at least one medical visit in each 6-month period of the 24-month measurement period with a minimum of 60 days between medical visits

## **MEDICAL VISIT FREQUENCY**

# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

## Medical Visit Frequency by Age

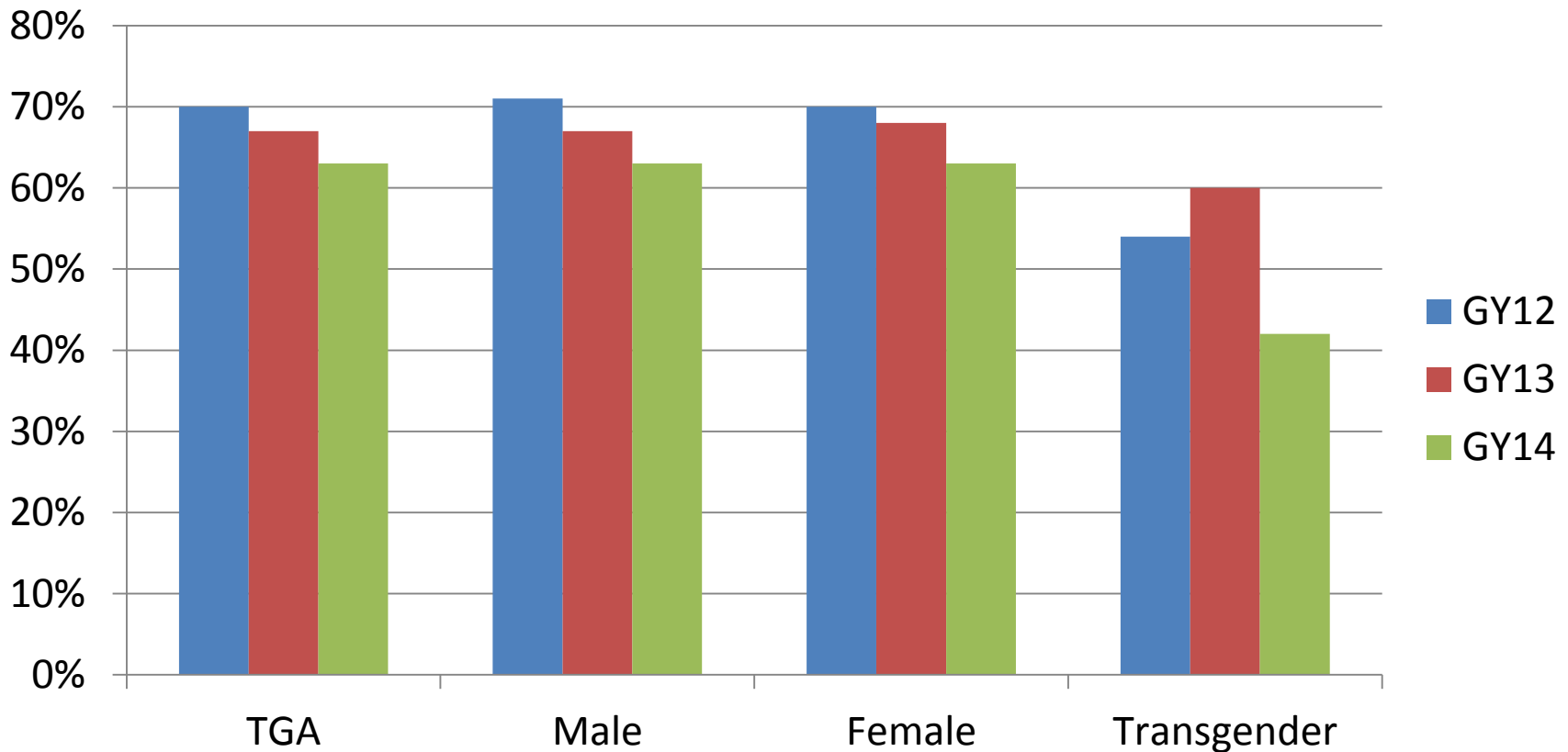


**Levels of ART prescriptions are consistent among whites, African Americans, and Latinos.**



# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

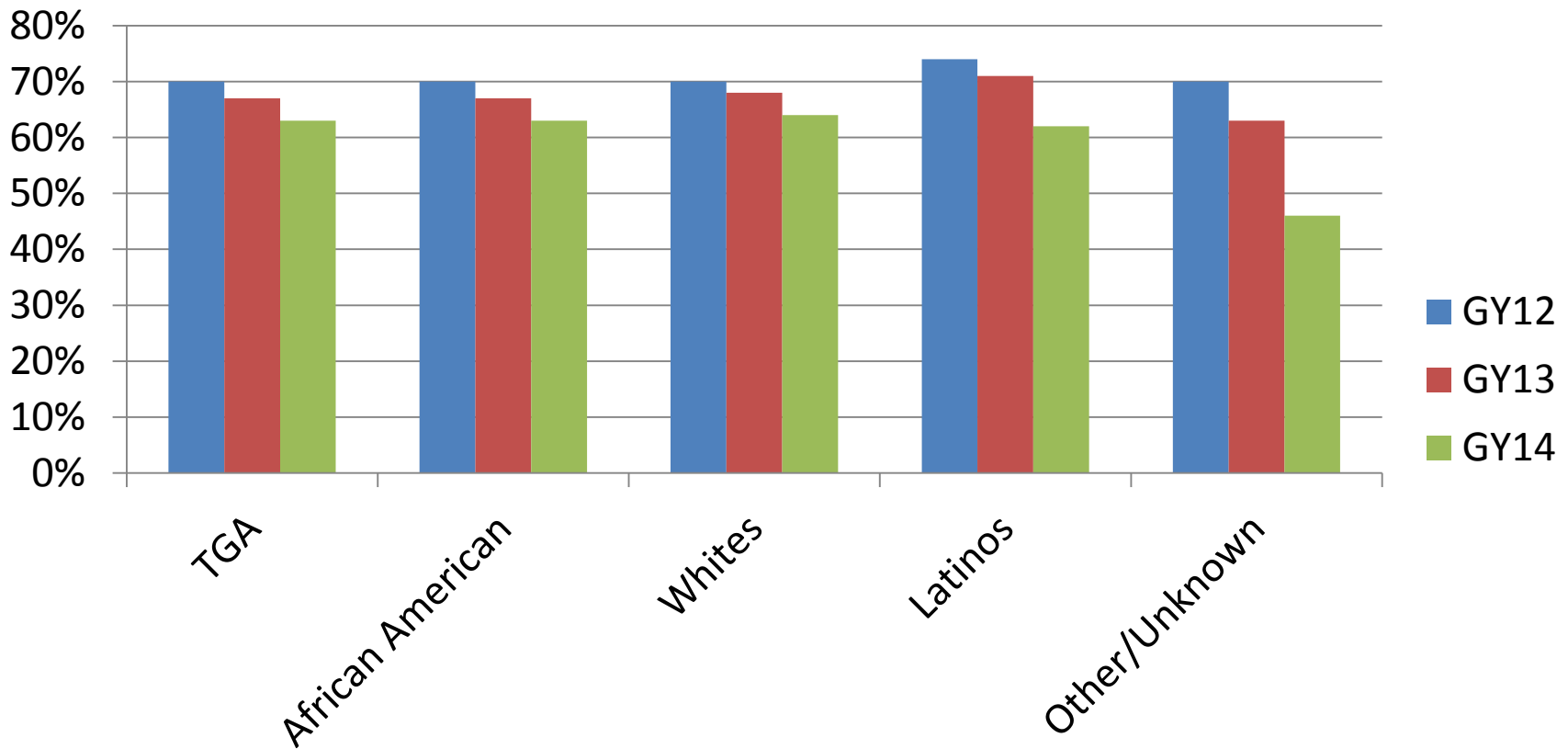
## Medical Visit Frequency by Gender



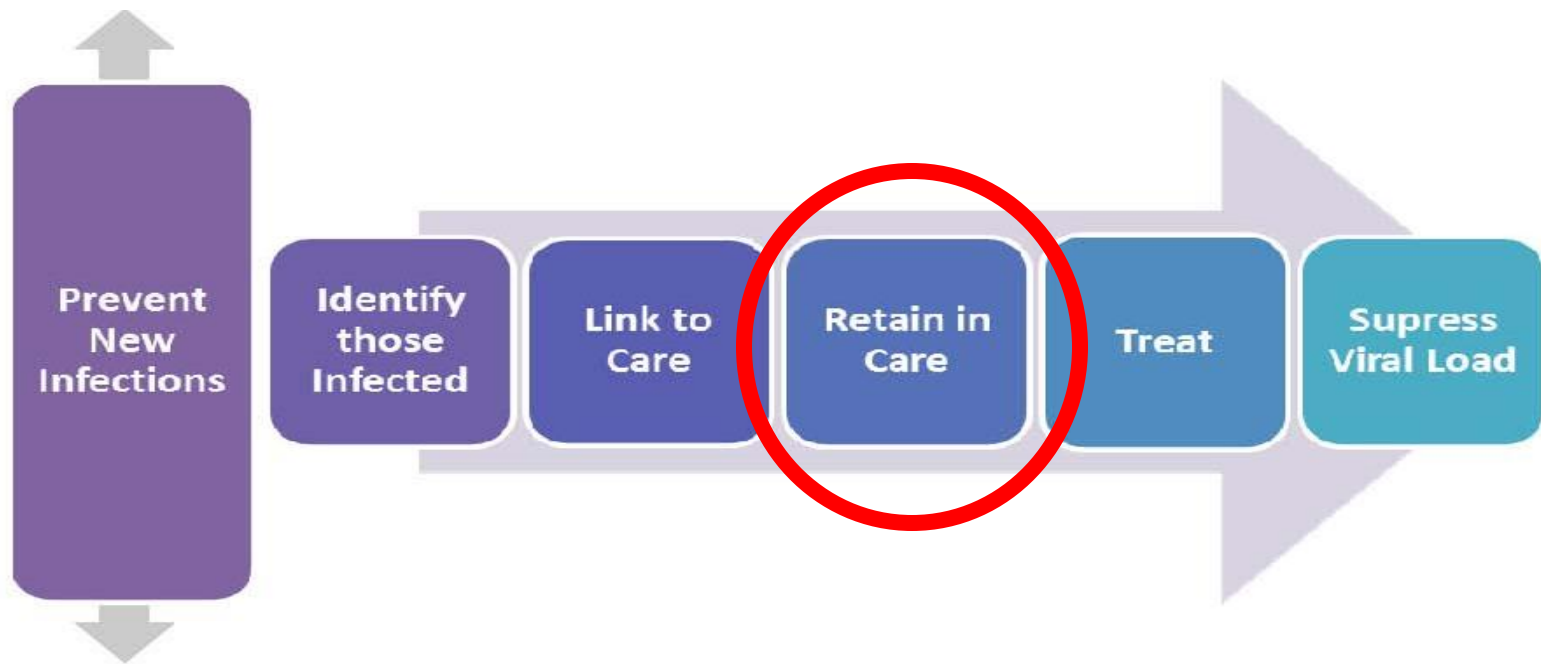
**Transgender clients are least likely to be retained in medical care.**

# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

## Medical Visit Frequency by Race/Ethnicity



**Levels of retention in medical care are consistent among whites, African Americans, and Latinos.**

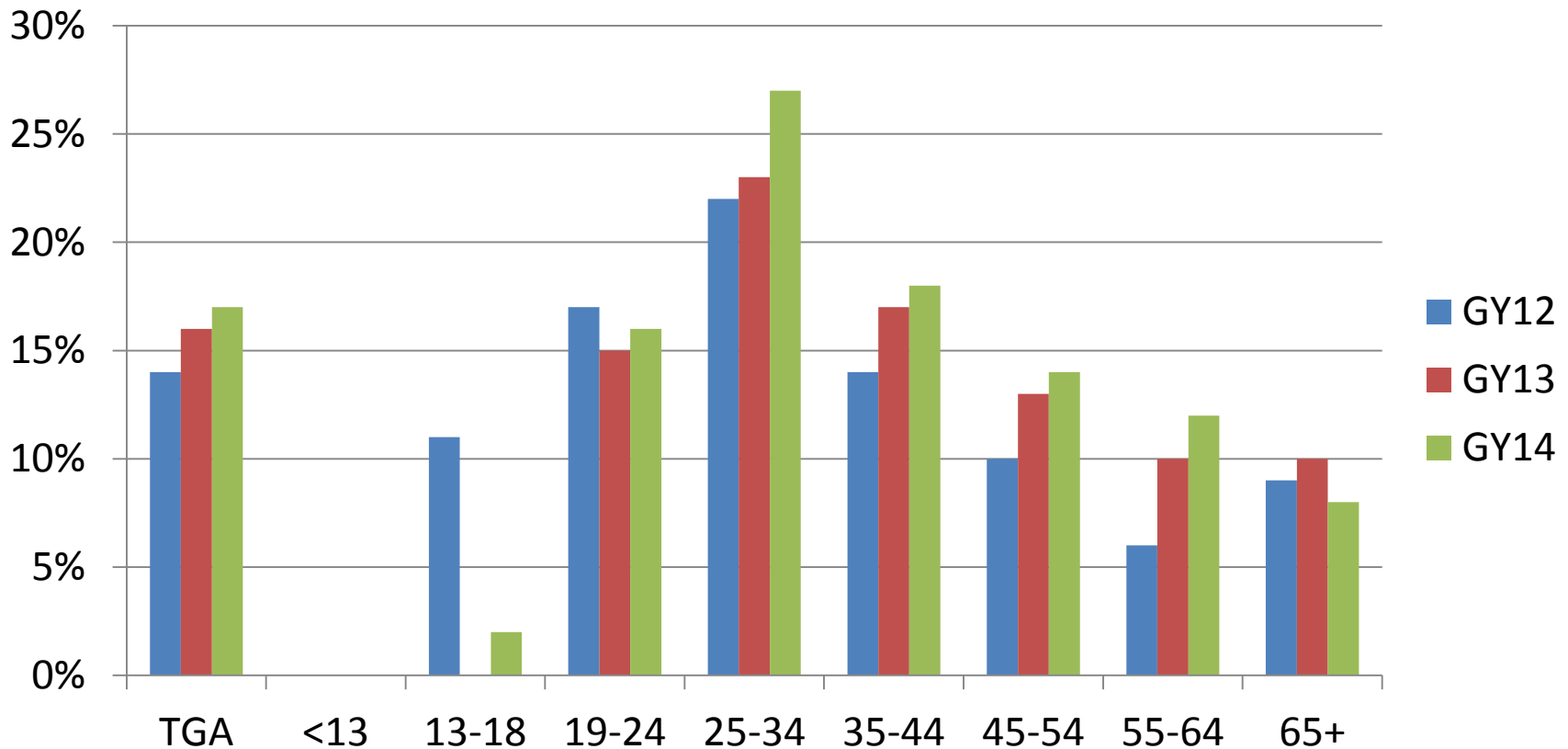


Percentage of patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of HIV who did not have a medical visit in the last 6 months of the measurement year

## **GAP IN MEDICAL VISITS**

# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

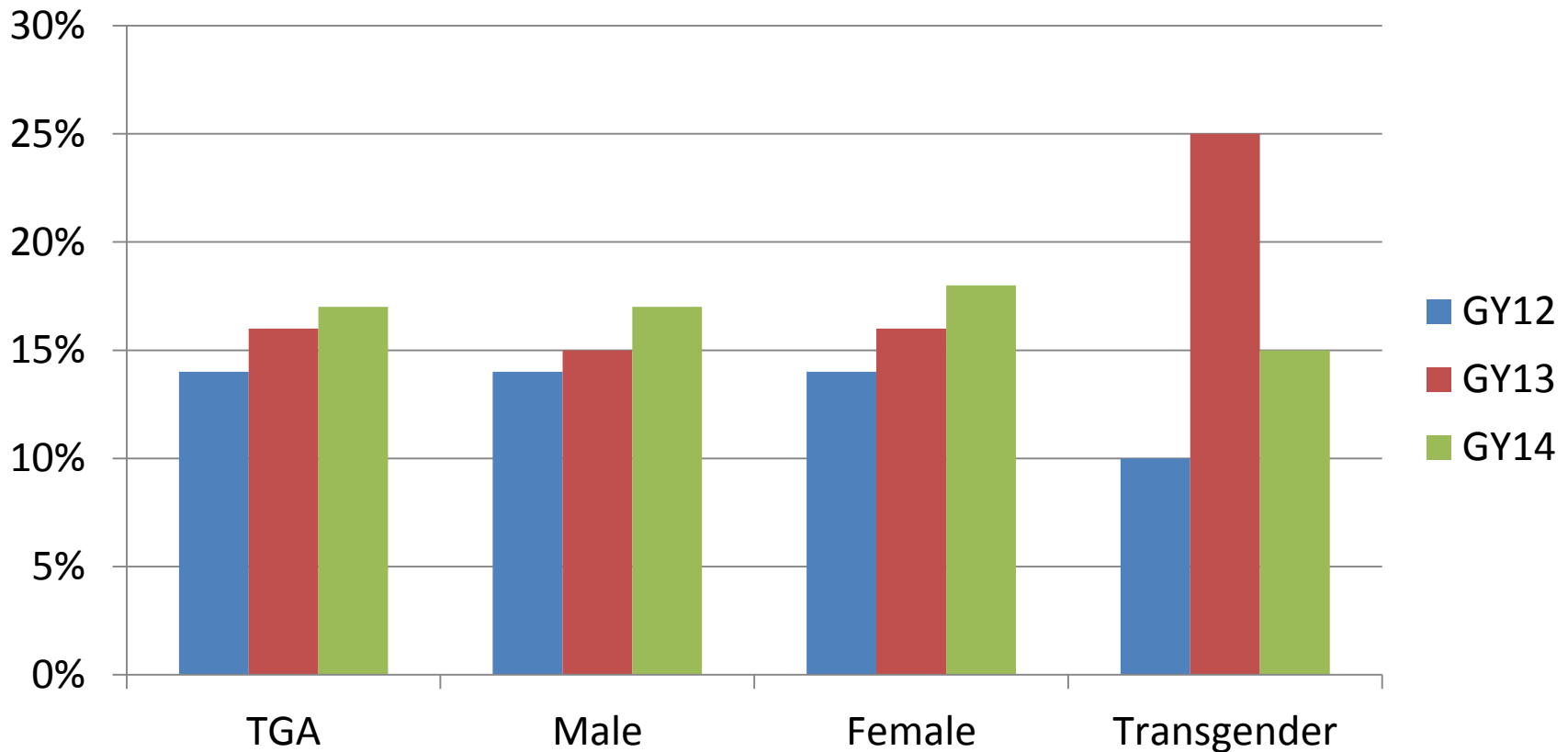
## Gap in Medical Visits by Age



**Clients between the ages of 25 and 34 are at highest risk for falling out of medical care.**

# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

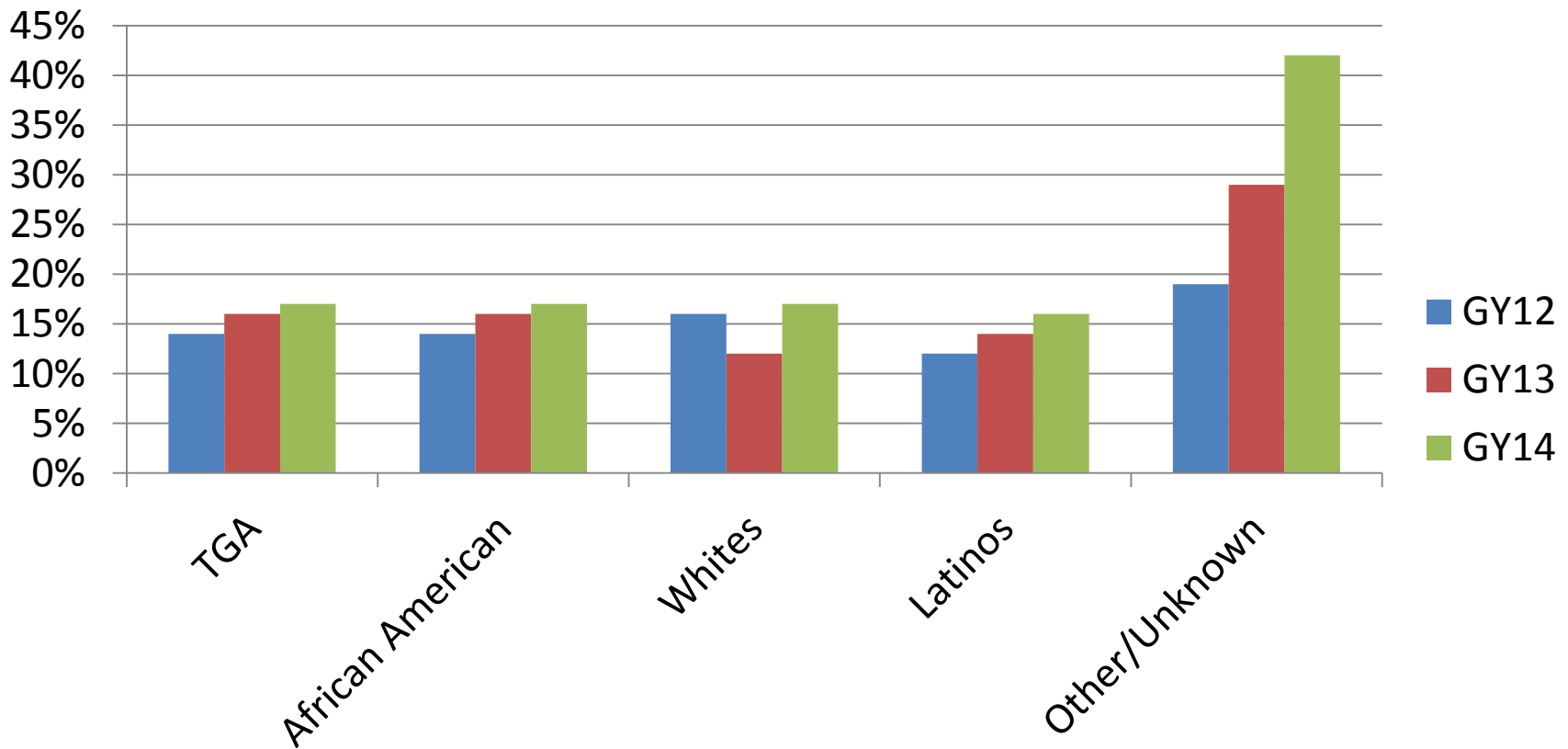
## Gap in Medical Visits by Gender



**Women are at slightly higher risk of falling out of medical care than men, and transgender clients are at the highest risk of falling out of medical care.**

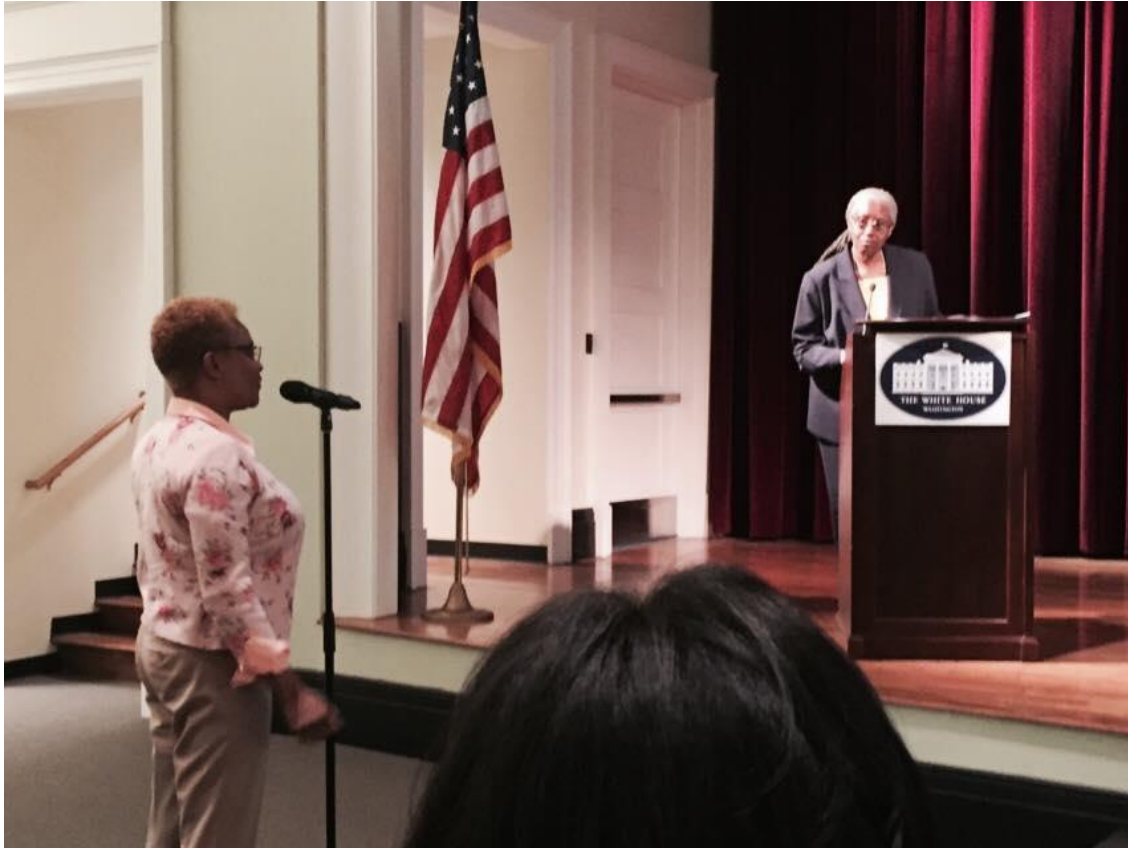
# Are Ryan White clients achieving healthy outcomes?

## Gap in Medical Visits by Race/Ethnicity



**Clients of Other/Unknown race are at highest risk for falling out of medical care.**

# QUESTIONS?



Mardrey Wade speaks to addressing the unique needs of women and children living with HIV at the ONAP Regional Listening Session in Nashville, TN

# Section 2: 2015 Consumer Needs Assessment





# 421 Complete Surveys

- Thank you to all those who assisted in administering the surveys and who took the survey!

# County of Residence

What county do you live in?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Shelby County, TN	91.0%	383
Crittenden County, AR	5.9%	25
Desoto County, MS	0.2%	1
Fayette County, TN	1.0%	4
Marshall County, MS	0.2%	1
Tate County, MS	0.2%	1
Tipton County, TN	1.0%	4
Tunica County, MS	0.2%	1
Other (please specify)	0.2%	1

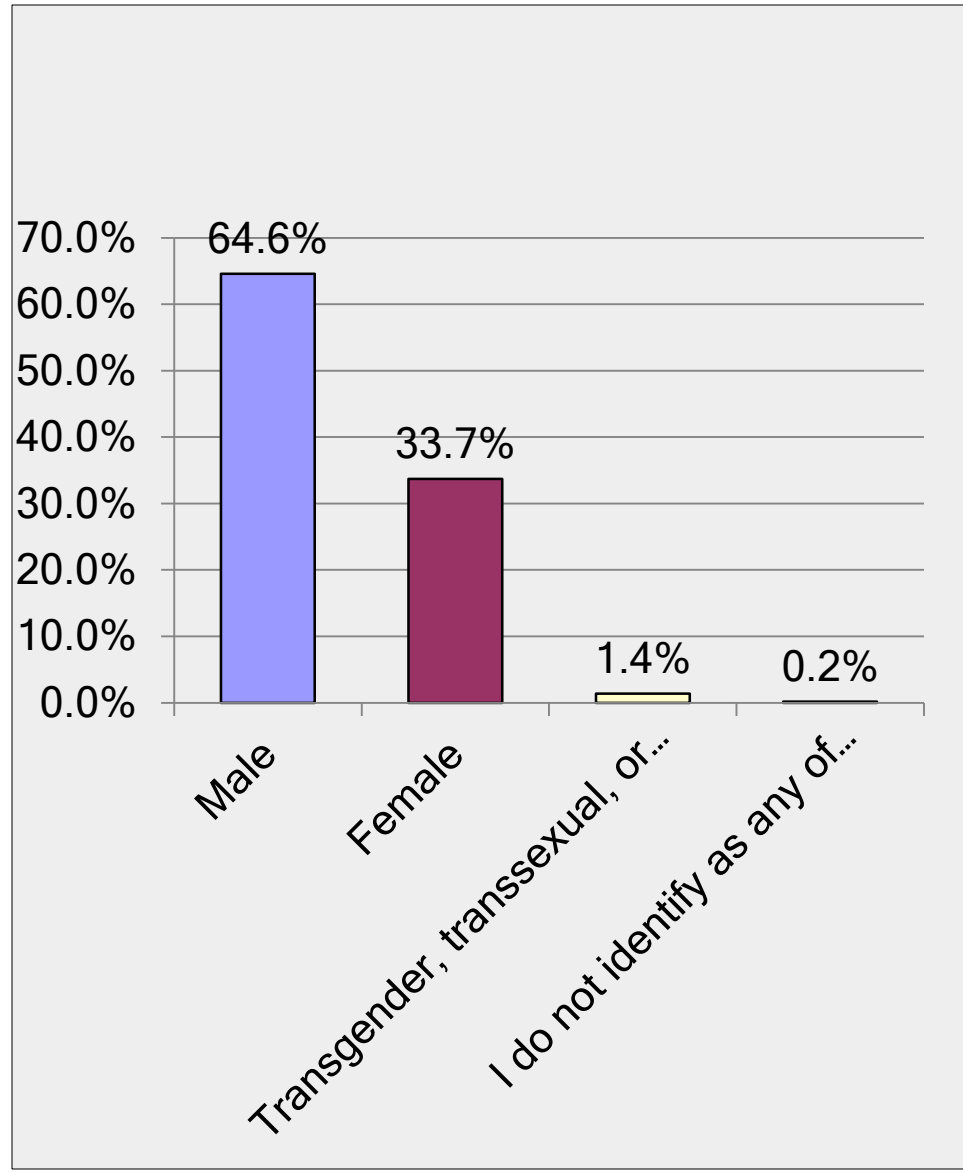
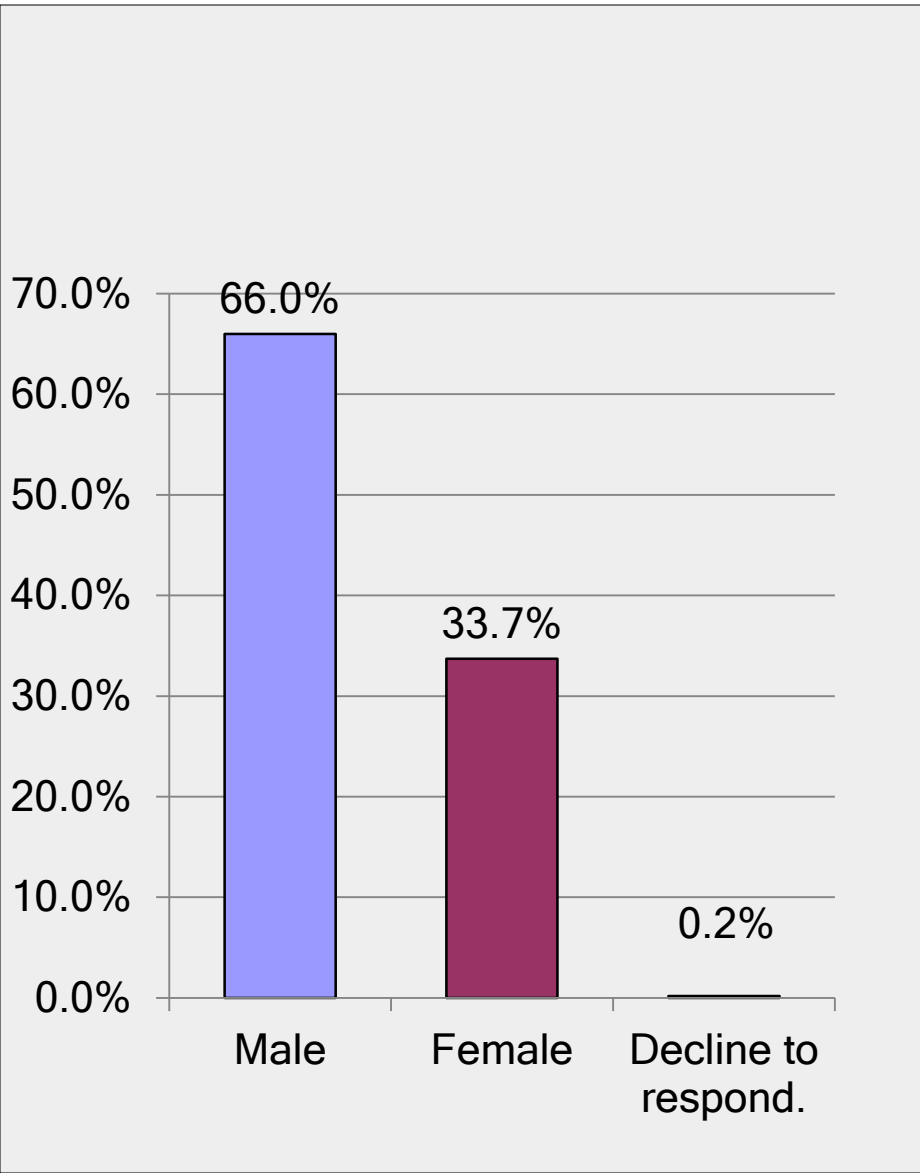
# Living Situation

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Stable	76.7%	323
Temporary	18.1%	76
Unstable	5.9%	25
No Response	0.0%	0

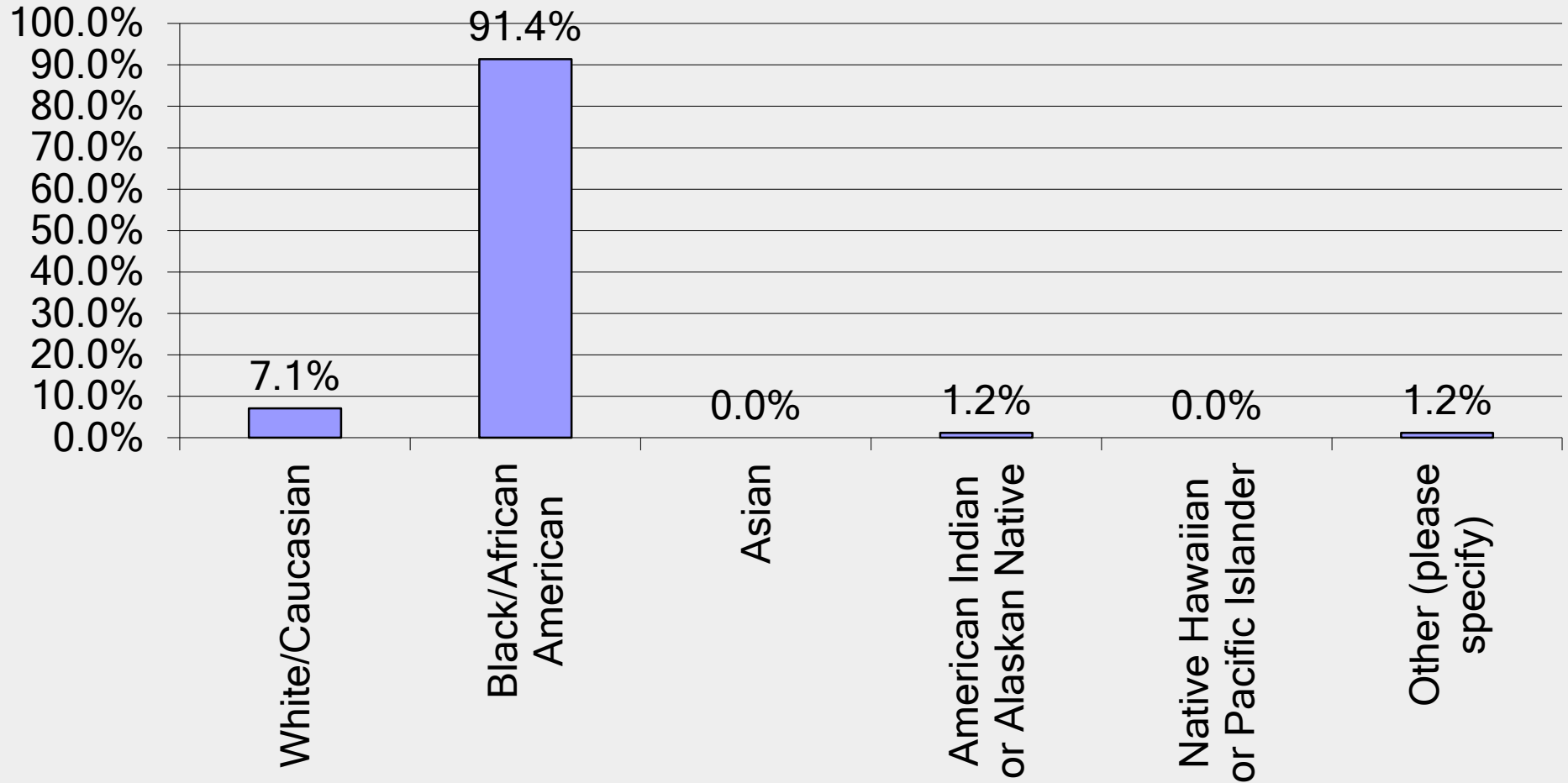
# Age Group

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Under 2	0.5%	2
2-12	0.0%	0
13-24	4.8%	20
25-44	34.4%	145
45-64	58.7%	247
65 or older	1.7%	7
Decline to respond.	0.0%	0

# Sex at birth/Gender identity



# Race



# Relationship Status

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Single	63.7%	268
Have a steady partner but not living together	9.0%	38
Married	7.8%	33
Living with partner	7.4%	31
Divorced	5.2%	22
Separated	4.5%	19
Widowed	1.7%	7
Not in a relationship	0.7%	3

# Employment

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Disability	39.9%	168
Unemployed and looking for work	21.1%	89
Unemployed and not looking for work	10.2%	43
Working a full-time job	10.0%	42
Working a part-time job	8.6%	36
Working off and on	3.8%	16
Student	3.1%	13
Self-employed	1.7%	7
Retired	1.2%	5
Decline to respond.	0.5%	2



# Education

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
High School Graduate or GED	38.7%	163
Some college or vocational school	26.8%	113
Less than high school	23.8%	100
College Graduate (Bachelor's Degree)	5.5%	23
Other (please specify)	3.3%	14
Graduate degree (Master's Degree, Doctorate, MD, PhD)	1.7%	7
Decline to respond.	0.2%	1

# Length of time in Ryan White funded care

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Longer than 4 years	68.6%	289
2-4 years	14.0%	59
Less than 12 months	10.7%	45
1-2 years	6.4%	27

# HIV/AIDS status

## HIV Diagnosis

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Over 10 years ago	56.1%	236
6-10 years ago	14.7%	62
1-3 years ago	12.8%	54
4-6 years ago	12.4%	52
Less than 1 year ago	2.9%	12
Decline to respond.	1.2%	5

## AIDS Diagnosis

- 13.1% of respondents had been diagnosed with AIDS.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Over 10 years ago	54.5%	30
4-6 years ago	16.4%	9
6-10 years ago	16.4%	9
1-3 years ago	7.3%	4
Less than 1 year ago	3.6%	2
Decline to respond.	1.8%	1

# Core Service Needs

- Top 6 Services that respondents “Need but don’t get service”:

Percentage	Service
15.90%	Oral health (4.82% didn’t know about services)
12.68%	Medical nutrition therapy
11.24%	Mental health services
8.67%	Home health care
8.63%	Home and community-based health services
7.64%	Health insurance premium and cost-sharing assistance for low-income individuals (6.21% didn’t know about services)

# Core Service Needs

- Black/African American consumers
  - Home/community type healthcare (+9.5% more than Caucasian consumers)
  - Health insurance assistance (+8.36% more than Caucasian consumers)
  - Oral Health (+6.05% more than Caucasian consumers)
- Consumers aged 25-44 were less likely to know about Health insurance assistance services.

# Support Service Needs

- Top 6 support services that consumers say they need but don't get

Service	Percentage
Emergency financial assistance	33.3%
Housing services	24.5%
Food bank/home-delivered meals	23.1%
Medical transportation services	18.3%
Legal services	13.3%
Referral for health care/supportive services	11.8%

# Support Service Needs

- Top 5 services that consumers said they needed but didn't know about

Answer Options	Percentage
Emergency financial assistance	13.9%
Housing services	7.7%
Food bank/home-delivered meals	7.2%
Psychosocial support services	6.9%
Medical transportation services	4.6%

# Supportive Service Needs

- 14.21% more Caucasian consumers reported needing emergency financial assistance (EFA) while 11.07% more Black/African American consumers reported not having know about its availability.
- 10.57% more males reported needing EFA.



# Cultural awareness

- Top 5 “Glows”
  - Age
  - HIV status
  - Gender Expression
  - Race
  - Method of address
- Top 5 “Grows”
  - Financial Status
  - Other illnesses
  - Sexual Orientation
  - Method of address
  - Community of origin
- Note:
  - No more than about 4 percent of people felt that providers didn’t treat them with respect in any of the 15 areas surveyed.

# Recommendations

- Increase consumer awareness about available services and available referrals
- Increase funding for:
  - Oral Health
  - Medical Nutrition
  - Mental Health
  - Health Insurance Assistance
- Increase funding for:
  - EFA
  - Food bank
  - Housing
  - Medical Transportation

# Section 3: 2015 Provider Needs Assessment



# Provider Representation

Provider	%	Number
Adult Special Care Clinic	37%	17
Christ Community Health Services	11%	5
Friends for Life	11%	5
Mobile Ministry of Dentistry	9%	4
Shelby County Health Department	7%	3
Hope House	4%	2
Le Bonheur	4%	2
Memphis Health Center	4%	2
Cocaine and Alcohol Awareness Program, Inc.	2%	1
East Arkansas Family Health Center	2%	1
Resurrection Health	2%	1
Sacred Heart Southern Missions	2%	1
The Church On The Square	2%	1
UT Medical Group Inc.	2%	1
Community Services Agency	0%	0
Crisis Center	0%	0
Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center	0%	0
St Jude	0%	0
Other (please specify)	0%	0

# Provider Experience

Length of service	%
6 or more years	39.1%
3-4 years	17.4%
Less than 6 months	10.9%
5-6 years	8.7%
6-12 months	6.5%
2-3 years	6.5%
4-5 years	6.5%
1-2 years	4.3%
Less than 1 month	0.0%

“I believe that Ryan White Programming is insufficient/does not meet the needs of:”

Answer Options	Respondents	%
Homeless	16	35%
Formerly incarcerated individuals	9	20%
People with substance abuse treatment needs	9	20%
Undocumented immigrants & Spanish-speaking clients	7	15%
Transgender	7	15%
Seniors/Elderly	7	16%
People with need for dental/oral health services	5	11%
Youth	4	9%
Latinos/Hispanics	3	7
MSM (Men who have sex with men)	3	7%
African Americans	2	4%
Women of childbearing age	1	2%

# Who answered the survey

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Medical Case Manager	34.7%	16
Early Intervention Specialist	10.9%	5
Physician	8.7%	4
Nurse	4.3%	2
Social Worker	4.3%	2
Psychologist	0.0%	0
Psychiatrist	0.0%	0
Other	37.0%	17

# Who are Ryan White Providers?

Age Range	%	#
25-44	62.2%	28
45-64	28.9%	13
13-24	4.4%	2
65 or older	4.4%	2

Gender Identity	%	#
Female	84.4%	38
Male	15.6%	7

Sexual Orientation	%	#
Straight	80.0%	36
Gay or lesbian	13.3%	6
I don't identify as any of these.	6.7%	3
Bisexual	0.0%	0

Race	%	#
Black	64.4%	29
White	31.1%	14
Other	4.4%	2
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	2.2%	1



# What I need most to better serve my consumers

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Transportation	54.3%	25
Training to provide more efficient services	47.8%	22
Less wait time for clients during visits	45.7%	21
Training on how to better advocate for clients/patients	43.5%	20
HIV care related training surrounding antiretroviral therapy, managing opportunistic infections, or monitoring/explaining a patient's health status	41.3%	19
Additional opportunities to share information between providers	41.3%	19
Training to enhance cultural competency	37.0%	17
Faster appointment scheduling	30.4%	14
Weekend hours	17.4%	8
Evening hours	10.9%	5
Other (please specify)	4.3%	2

# Biggest system wide change that would improve services for everyone

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Training about resources available to help PLHWA in this area	28.3%	13
More effective strategies to retain consumers in care	21.7%	10
More education for consumers on managing their illness	17.4%	8
Better ways to get consumers to care	10.9%	5
More current education for providers on treating HIV	6.5%	3
More provider locations	6.5%	3
A better understanding of the people my organization serves	4.3%	2
Other (please specify)	4.3%	2

# Biggest Barrier other than funding

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
We lack ways to get consumers to care (transportation)	21.7%	10
Too many consumers for the staff we have	17.4%	8
Consumers don't care about their HIV treatment	15.2%	7
Few effective strategies to retain consumers in care	13.0%	6
Little education for consumers on managing their illness	13.0%	6
Other (please specify)	10.9%	5
A lack of a good understanding of the people my organization serves	4.3%	2
Inconvenient hours or inaccessible provider locations	2.2%	1
Staff doesn't know about resources available for PLWHA in this area	2.2%	1
Providers don't seem current on HIV treatment	0.0%	0

## Providers Believe that these things are understood and respected about consumers:

Aspects of the consumer	% Agreeing
Age	93.5%
Race	93.3%
Other illnesses, including mental illnesses, that they have	93.3%
Their religious beliefs or lack of religious beliefs	89.1%
The appropriate way to address them and talk to them	88.9%
The people they are attracted to and have sex with	88.9%
Their HIV status	87.0%
Who they live with	87.0%
The type of job they have	87.0%
The type of place they live in	87.0%
Their educational level	87.0%
The amount of money they have	87.0%
The gender they express	84.8%
Their language, if it's not English	84.8%
The community they're from	60.9%

# Provider feelings about whether these things are understood and respected about consumers:

Aspects of the consumer	Neither agree nor disagree
Their language, if it's not English	30.4%
The people they are attracted to and have sex with	13.0%
The amount of money they have	13.0%
The community they're from	13.0%
Their religious beliefs or lack of religious beliefs	13.0%
The gender they express	11.1%
The type of job they have	10.9%
The type of place they live in	10.9%
Their educational level	10.9%
The appropriate way to address them and talk to them	10.9%
Who they live with	8.9%
Other illnesses, including mental illnesses, that they have	8.7%
Age	6.7%
Their HIV status	6.7%
Race	6.5%

Aspects of the consumer	Disagree
The appropriate way to address them and talk to them	8.7%
Race	6.5%
The type of job they have	2.2%
Their religious beliefs or lack of religious beliefs	2.2%
The gender they express	2.2%
The type of place they live in	2.2%
Who they live with	2.2%
Their language, if it's not English	0.0%
The people they are attracted to and have sex with	0.0%
The amount of money they have	0.0%
The community they're from	0.0%
Their educational level	0.0%
Other illnesses, including mental illnesses, that they have	0.0%
Age	0.0%
Their HIV status	0.0%

# Prevention

- 55-88% of respondents either didn't know about or have never referred to any of the prevention programs
  - ARTAS
  - SMILE program
  - Social Networking Strategies
  - CLEAR
  - Freecondomsmemphis.org
  - 3MV
  - TWISTA

# Recommendations

- Training on resources and referral availability, HIV and HIV meds, cultural understanding/competency, and advocacy
- Increased access to transportation to medical care for consumers
- Help providers find ways to do work more efficiently.
- Develop programs, resources, and referral networks for homeless and formerly incarcerated.

# Section 4: 2015 Consumer Focus Groups





# MEMPHIS TGA FOCUS GROUPS

- Northern MS
- Youth
- MSM

# FOCUS GROUPS

A qualitative research method that allows for questions to prompt discussion on a topic:

- to better understand experiences, knowledge, and opinions about HIV service needs for PLWHA
- to make a summary of the common themes and key insights emerging from the discussion

# FOCUS GROUP METHODS

- Research and developed questions based on previous assessments
- Discussion guide development and review with MSM Taskforce and Priorities and Comprehensive Planning Committee
- Planning
  - Secure participation from clients
    - Those completing consumer survey
    - Made contact agencies
  - Facilitator for sessions
  - Logistics for each session

Topic sections
1. Community Education
2. Ryan White Services
3. Cultural Competency
4. Barriers to Care
5. Prevention

# FOCUS GROUP METHODS

- Sources
  - Audio tapes
  - Transcripts (10 to 20 pages per group)
  - Field Notes
  - Observations
- Analysis process
  - Qualitative and quantitative data review
    - Qualitative data coding and organizing
    - Quantitative data compilation and frequencies
  - Interpreting data
  - Preparing reports and presentations

# MEMPHIS TGA FOCUS GROUPS

	<b>MSM</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Northern MS</b>
Conducted	May 29 <sup>th</sup>	June 9 <sup>th</sup>	June 11 <sup>th</sup> *
# of Participants	14	7	5**
Location	The Haven	St. Jude (Y-CAB)	Church Health Center-Wellness
Time	6:00pm	3:00pm	12:00pm
Incentives	\$20 Gift Card Lunch Transportation Reimbursement	\$20 Gift Card Lunch	\$20 Gift Card Lunch

*\*Facilitated by Denford Galloway*

*\*\*Memphis TGA Clients invited to participate, not included*

# MSM FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS

## (N=14)

- County
  - **Shelby: 79%**
  - Fayette: 21%
  - Desoto: 7%
- Age Group
  - 13-24 years old: 29%
  - **25-44 years old: 43%**
  - 45-64 years old: 29%
- Race
  - **African American: 93%**
  - White/Caucasian: 7%
- Education
  - High School Graduate: 14%
  - **Some College/School: 57%**
  - College Graduate: 29%
- Employment
  - Disability: 14%
  - Unemployed: 21%
  - **Employed: 36%**
  - Student: 29%
- Housing
  - Temporary: 29%
  - **Stable: 71%**

# FINDINGS FOR MSM FOCUS GROUP: COMMUNITY EDUCATION

## Important Issues

1. Availability of housing
2. Dealing with stigma
3. Disclosing status
4. Knowing resources to care for self
5. Getting better assistance for agencies
6. Being your own advocate
7. Dealing with mental health

## Risky Behaviors for Transmission

1. People not being honest
  - *Don't ask don't tell*
2. Anxiety
3. Drug use/sharing needles
4. Not using condoms
5. Prostitution

# FINDINGS FOR MSM FOCUS GROUP: RYAN WHITE SERVICES

## Most Satisfying Services

1. IAP
2. Food Pantry
3. Dental
4. Transportation
5. Psychosocial  
Support services

## Least Satisfying Services

1. Housing

Service Needed, but  
can't get

1. Housing



# FINDINGS FROM MSM FOCUS GROUP: CULTURAL COMPETENCY

## Positives

- Appreciate patience from providers
- “I feel welcomed at the new facility”

## Other

- “Would like more information on possibility of conceiving”

## Negatives

- “[I’m] treated different because of my mental health condition’
- “Not accommodating to my visual impairment”
- “Some staff at providers can be harsh”
- Talking with leaders at agencies when treated unfairly
- Lack being personable about patient

# FINDINGS FROM MSM FOCUS GROUP: BARRIERS TO CARE

1. Fear of Stigma
2. Denial
3. Being Homeless
4. Not knowing of HIV resources
5. Depression
6. Confidentiality issue
7. Wait time
8. Provider of services
  - location

## Suggestions to Improve Access Services/Stay in Care

1. “Maintaining a relationship with a provider in which you are comfortable with”
2. “There needs to be more homosexual advocates at the agencies”
3. Hold orientations to help guide, educate and motivate them

# FINDINGS FROM MSM FOCUS GROUP: PREVENTION

## Suggestions

1. More emphasis on collaborating with the Black Church
2. Put health & sex education back in school
3. Need to work with local school districts more
  - Develop comprehensive sex education program
  - Taught by qualified person; not coach, counselor
  - Hold rallies, open mics, forums for youth

## Transmission to Sex Partner

1. “I feel I have enough resource available to not infect my partner”
2. “You can get condoms free almost everywhere now”

# YOUTH FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS (N=7)

- County
  - **Shelby: 86%**
  - Fayette: 14%
- Sexual Identify
  - **Male: 72%**
  - Female: 14%
  - Transgender: 14%
- Age Group
  - **13-24 years old: 71%**
  - 25-44 years old: 29%
- Race
  - **African American: 100%**
- Education
  - High School Graduate: 29%
  - **Some College/School: 43%**
  - College Graduate: 29%
- Employment
  - Unemployed: 14%
  - **Employed: 57%**
  - Student: 43%%
- Housing
  - **Stable: 100%**

# FINDINGS FOR YOUTH FOCUS GROUP: COMMUNITY EDUCATION

## Important Issues

1. Stigma
2. Disclosing status
3. Not being accepted
4. Having sex
5. Being honest with sex partner
6. Confidentiality of status

## Risky Behaviors for Transmission

1. Unprotected sex
  - Sexual positions
  - Exposed damaged areas

# FINDINGS FOR YOUTH FOCUS GROUP: RYAN WHITE SERVICES

## Most Satisfying Services

1. Food Pantry
2. Outpatient services
3. “My case manager is so consistent”
4. Psychosocial support services

## Least Satisfying Services

1. “Transportation is sort of slacking”

## Service Needed, but don't know about

1. Dental

# FINDINGS FROM YOUTH FOCUS GROUP: CULTURAL COMPETENCY

## Positives

- “I’m treated very well and properly”
- I’m treated like family”

## Other

- Need more information about other providers before I turn 24 years old

## Negatives

- “I feel a little weird when I have to wear my badge”
- “They looked at my papers and talked ‘bout be like I wasn't even there”

# FINDINGS FROM YOUTH FOCUS GROUP: BARRIERS TO CARE

## Barriers

1. “[people] don’t believe they have it”
2. “[people] don’t believe care is free” ( no insurance)
3. “they can take care of it on their own
4. “Some people don’t care”
5. Fear that some will find out and disclose status
6. Lack of support
7. Low self esteem
8. Denial
9. Side effects of medicines
10. Having housing/being homeless

## Suggestions to Improve Access Services/Stay in Care

1. Support groups
2. Making services more accessible at various hours



# FINDINGS FROM YOUTH GROUP: PREVENTION

## Suggestions

- Need more places for free condoms

## Transmission to Sex Partner

1. “Since I’m protected, I can do it and still take my meds and he won’t be at risk”
2. “I feel like if someone else come around, I don’t mind telling to protect them”

# NORTHERN MS FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS (N=6)

- Sexual Identify
  - Male: 17%
  - **Female: 83%**
- Age Group
  - 25-44 years old: 33%
  - **45-64 years old: 67%**
- Race
  - **African American: 100%**
- Education
  - **< than High School: 33%**
  - **High School Graduate: 33%**
  - College Graduate: 17%
  - Graduate Degree: 17%
- Employment
  - **Disability: 67%**
  - Employed: 33%
- Housing
  - Temporary: 33%
  - **Stable: 67%**

# FINDINGS FOR NORTHERN MS FOCUS GROUP: COMMUNITY EDUCATION

## Important Issues

1. “Living long and having other health issues”
2. Stigma
3. Low self-esteem
4. “Finding balance in my life knowing how much I can do”
5. Not seeking help
6. “ Going out spreading it”

## Risky Behaviors for Transmission

1. Drugs and alcohol
2. Unprotected sex
3. Prostitution

# FINDINGS FOR NORTHERN MS FOCUS GROUP: RYAN WHITE SERVICES

## Most Satisfying Services

1. Medical services
2. Food bank
3. Dental
4. Mental Health
5. Eye care (EFA)
6. Transportation

## Least Satisfying Services

1. Housing

Service Needed, but  
can't get

1. Housing

# FINDINGS FROM NORTHERN MS FOCUS GROUP: CULTURAL COMPETENCY

## Positives

- “No, I’ll tell you quick...I’m HIV [positive]”
- Providers are always available
- I feel welcome...I love when they give me a hug”
- “They know our situation so they sit and talk to us”
- They show tough love, but they are always there”
- “when it gets difficult, we have connects where we can talk one-on-one”

## Other

- “they talk to me about sex and make sure I got what I need”

## Negatives

- N/A

# FINDINGS FROM NORTHERN MS FOCUS GROUP: BARRIERS TO CARE

1. “Lack of housing... we have some slum houses in our area”
  - “they want high price rent and I’m not going in an area were I’m not comfortable”
2. Fear of Stigma
3. Confidentiality issue
4. Wait time

## Suggestions to Improve Access Services/Stay in Care

1. “ more transportation for providers to do visits”
2. More housing options

# FINDINGS FROM NORTHERN MS FOCUS GROUP: PREVENTION

## Suggestions

1. Have free condoms
2. More opportunities for testing
3. Put up HIV and testing advertisements

## Transmission to Sex Partner

1. “She was up front in telling me what I need to do to stop him from getting it”

# CONCLUSION

- **Community Education**

- Participants consistently feel being stigmatized (based on special population) is an important issue
- Unprotected sex is the most risky transmission behavior

- **Ryan White Services**

- Consumers are most satisfied with outpatient/ambulatory medical care services
- Housing is indicated as a service with low consumer satisfaction



# CONCLUSION

- **Cultural Competency**

- MSM consumers were not treated differently because of status, but because of some other condition
- Youth felt uncomfortable when wearing identification
- MSM would like more conversations about having kids and Youth want information about care after aging out

- **Barriers to Care**

- Housing/Homeless
- Youth and MSMs suggested having support groups, orientations to improve access services/stay in care

- **Prevention**

- All groups suggested having more accessibility to condoms
- All groups felt confident in being able to do what they can to prevent transmission

# LIMITATIONS

- **Convenience-based sample**
  - may not represent the views of larger segments of the youth, MSM and Northern MS PLWHA population
  - Based on availability ( time, location, etc.)
- **Transcription**
  - Some parts were inaudible
  - Ability to recognize various participants for comments
  - Difficultly to analyze because it is unstructured
- **Censoring, conflict avoidance, or other unintended outcomes of the group process; having the possibility to skew the data**
  - Probing questions
  - Encouraging participants to speak their minds in order to reduce the impact of these biases