

2022

GEORGIA HIV CARE CONTINUUM: PERSONS WITH HIV & NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV



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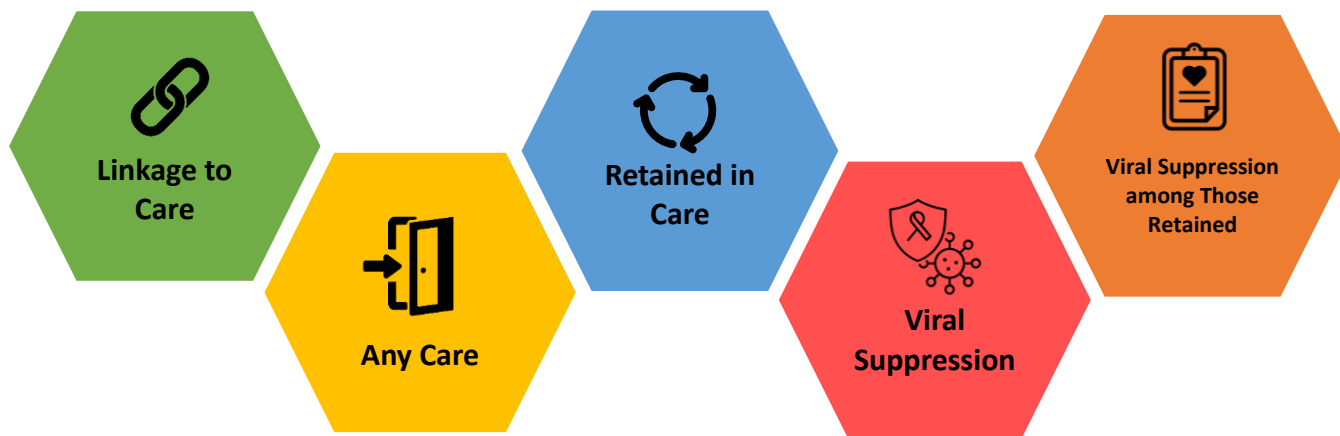
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WHAT IS THE HIV CARE CONTINUUM?

The HIV Care Continuum describes the proportion of persons with HIV (PWH) and newly diagnosed with HIV who are receiving HIV care and who have achieved viral suppression. It is based on reported CD4 count and viral load tests, which are utilized as proxy measures for receipt of HIV care. The HIV Care Continuum provides a means of monitoring progress toward the achievement of objectives outlined in the National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States, released by the White House in July 2010, and updated in 2023¹.

The HIV Care Continuum measures² are:

- **Linkage to care:** The percent of people who are seen for HIV care within one month of diagnosis
- **Any care:** Any care is a measure of minimal commitment to continued care with at least one HIV care visit in a year
- **Retained in care:** Retention in care more closely reflects the recommended standard of care with at least two HIV care visits at least three months apart in a year
- **Viral suppression:** A viral load (VL) of <200 copies/ml is considered virally suppressed. Viral suppression is important for helping patients live long and healthy lives, and for preventing forward transmission²
- **Viral suppression among those retained:** A VL <200 copies/ml among those who are retained in care



The HIV Care Continuum measures are calculated for two populations:

1. People with HIV in the given year (and diagnosed the prior year or earlier)
 - a. Note: Linkage to care is not presented for this population
2. People newly diagnosed with HIV in the given year

¹The White House. 2023. National HIV/AIDS Strategy 2023 Interim Action Report. Washington, DC. <https://files.hiv.gov/s3fs-public/2023-12/National-HIV-AIDS-Strategy-2023-Interim-Action-Report.pdf> Last Updated December 2023. [Accessed: February 12th, 2024]

¹U.S Department of Health and Human Services. *What Is the HIV Care Continuum?* <https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/policies-issues/hiv-aids-care-continuum> Last Updated October 2022. [Accessed: 02/12/2024]

²The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Evidence of HIV Treatment and Viral Suppression in Preventing the Sexual Transmission of HIV <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/risk/art/evidence-of-hiv-treatment.html>, Last Reviewed June 2022. [Accessed: February 12th, 2024]



TECHNICAL NOTES

Missing laboratory data: Missing laboratory data may result in underestimating HIV Care Continuum outcomes.


Small sub-populations: The number of individuals (n) in some sub-populations is small. Use caution in interpretation. Data is not displayed for subpopulations with fewer than 10 individuals.

Comparison of the HIV Care Continuum in Georgia to other geographical areas: Methodology for the Care Continuum and completeness of HIV data varies among jurisdictions, thus limiting direct comparisons with other states and jurisdictions or the national Care Continuum.

Individual percentage of values: Each bar in the continuum is independent of those preceding it; all percentages are of the total number of persons (n) diagnosed with HIV in each category.

HIV surveillance during the COVID-19 pandemic: After the COVID-19 pandemic was declared a national and state emergency in March 2020, access to healthcare services; including HIV testing, prevention, and care-related services; became reduced or temporarily suspended. The attainment of some care measures for people with and newly diagnosed with HIV decreased from 2019 to 2020, at least in part because changes in health care seeking patterns but returned to pre-COVID-19 levels in 2021 and 2022.

PERSONS WITH HIV (PWH), 2022





METHODS: PERSONS WITH HIV (PWH) CARE CONTINUUM, 2022

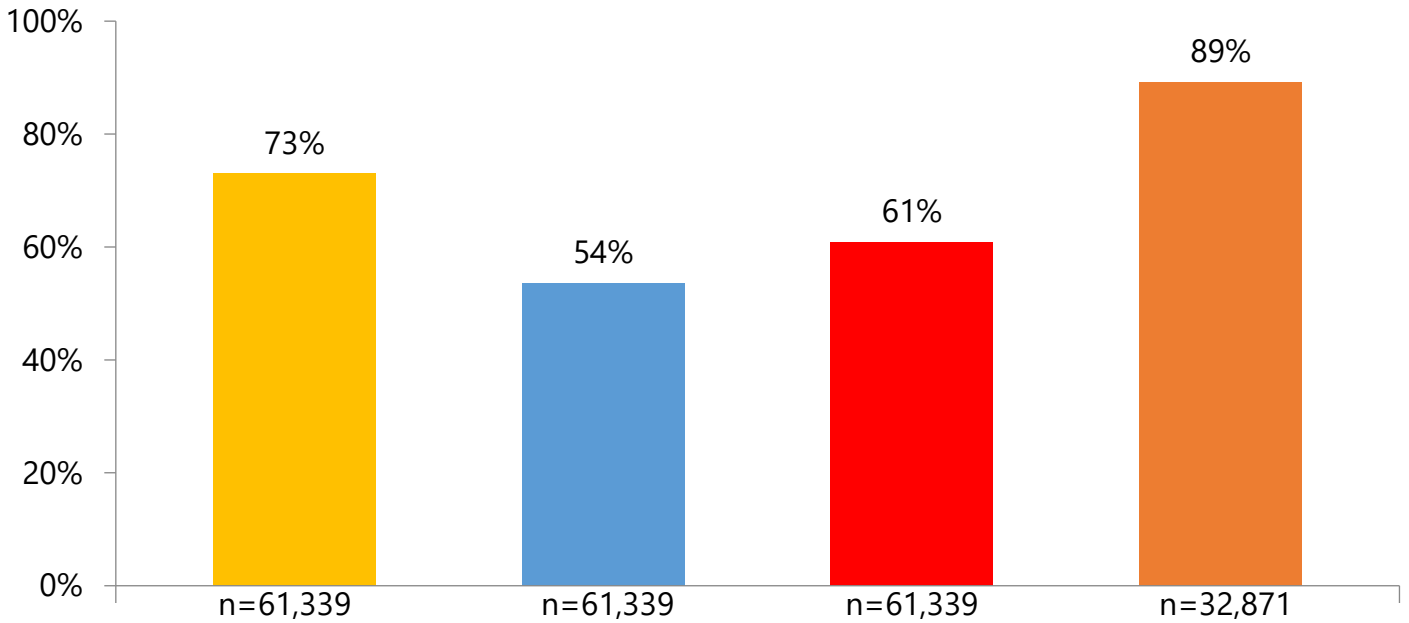
Population parameters:

- Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years
- Diagnosed with HIV by 12/31/2021, and alive as of 12/31/2022
- Last address of residence in 2022 was in Georgia

Care Continuum definitions:

- **Any care:** \geq one CD4 or viral load (VL) test in 2022
- **Retained in care:** \geq two CD4 or VL tests at least three months apart in 2022
- **Viral suppression:** Most recent VL in 2022 was <200 copies/ml
- **Viral suppression among those retained in care:** Most recent VL in 2022 was <200 copies/ml among those with \geq two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022

FIGURE 1. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV, GEORGIA, 2022



■ Any care ■ Retained in care ■ Viral suppression ■ Viral suppression among those retained in care

Adults and adolescents: \geq age 13, diagnosed by 12/31/2021, living as of 12/31/2022, with a current address in Georgia

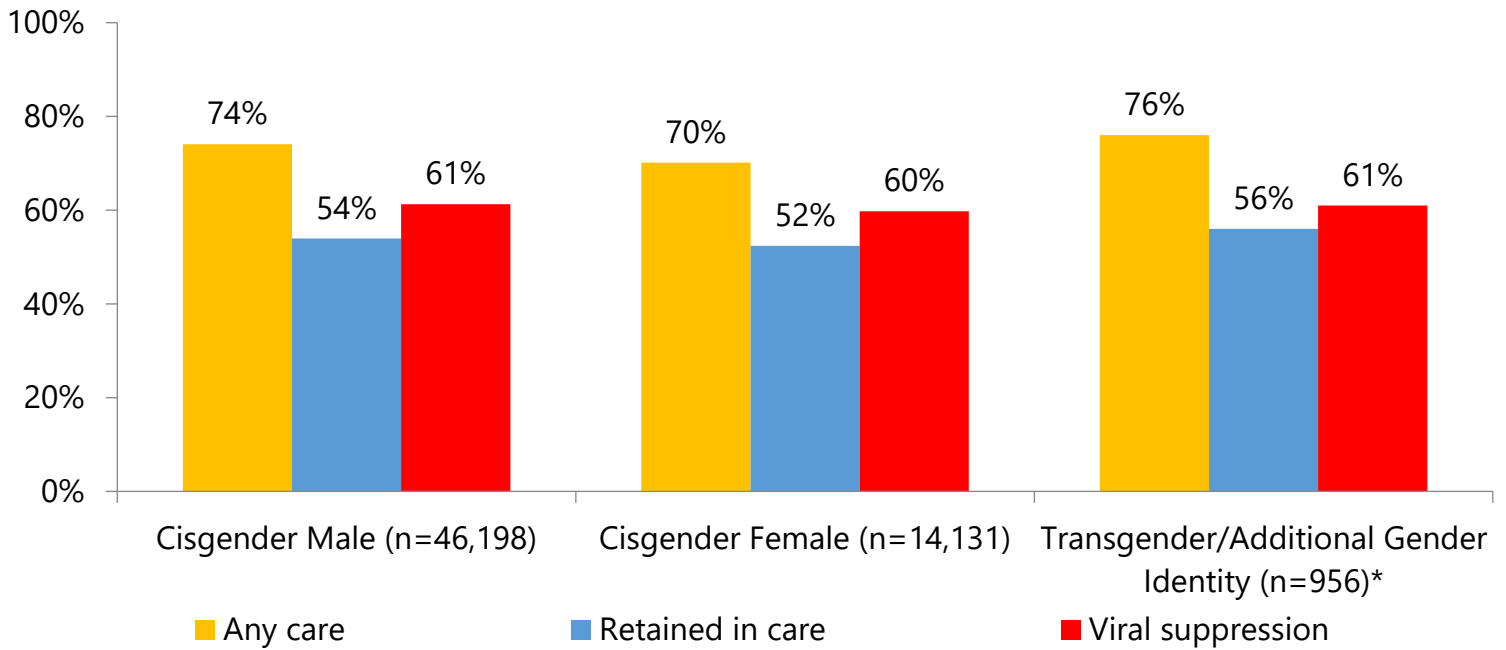
Any care: \geq 1 CD4 or viral load (VL) in 2022

Retained in care: \geq 2 CD4 or VL at least three months apart in 2022

Viral suppression: VL < 200 copies/ml on most recent VL in 2022

Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was < 200 copies/ml among those with \geq 2 CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022

FIGURE 2A. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV BY GENDER IDENTITY, GEORGIA, 2022



Adults and adolescents: \geq age 13, diagnosed by 12/31/2021, living as of 12/31/2022, with a current address in Georgia

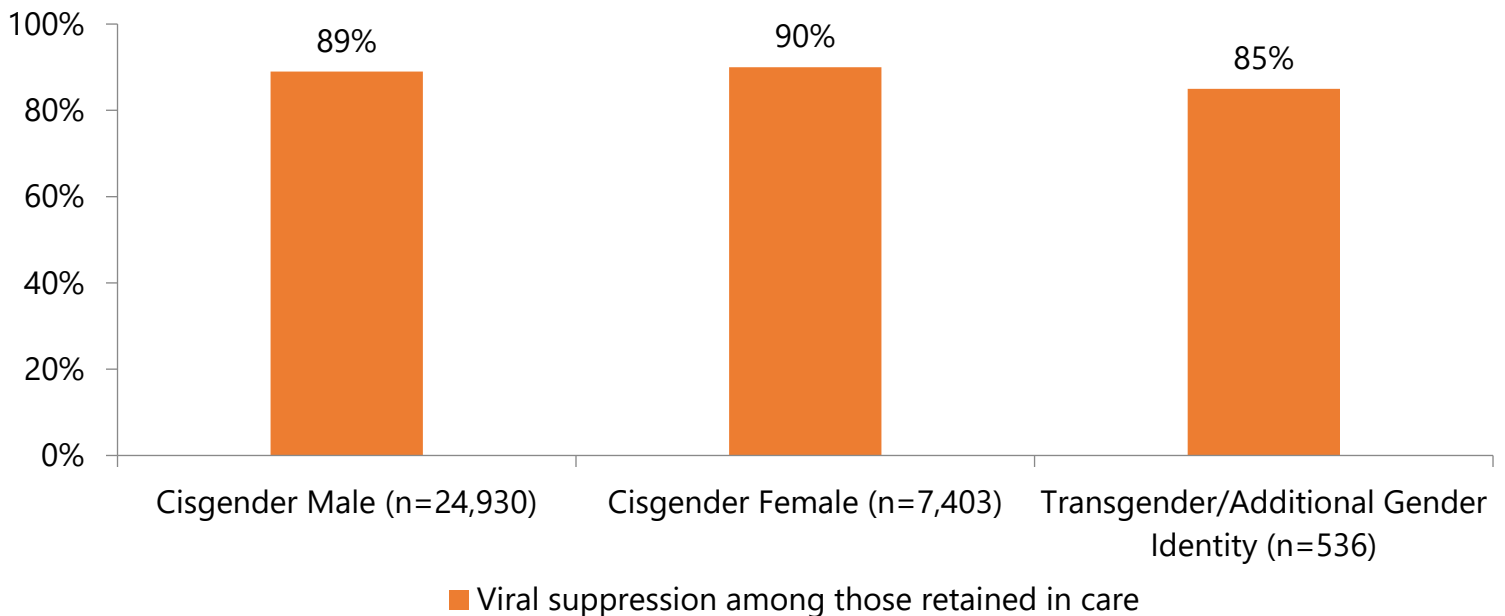
Any care: \geq one CD4 or viral load (VL) in 2022

Retained in care: \geq two CD4 or VL at least three months apart in 2022

Viral suppression: VL < 200 copies/ml on most recent VL in 2022

*Care continuum measures may be higher among transgender/additional gender identity populations because patients who receive HIV care may have better documentation of gender identity status in their medical records.

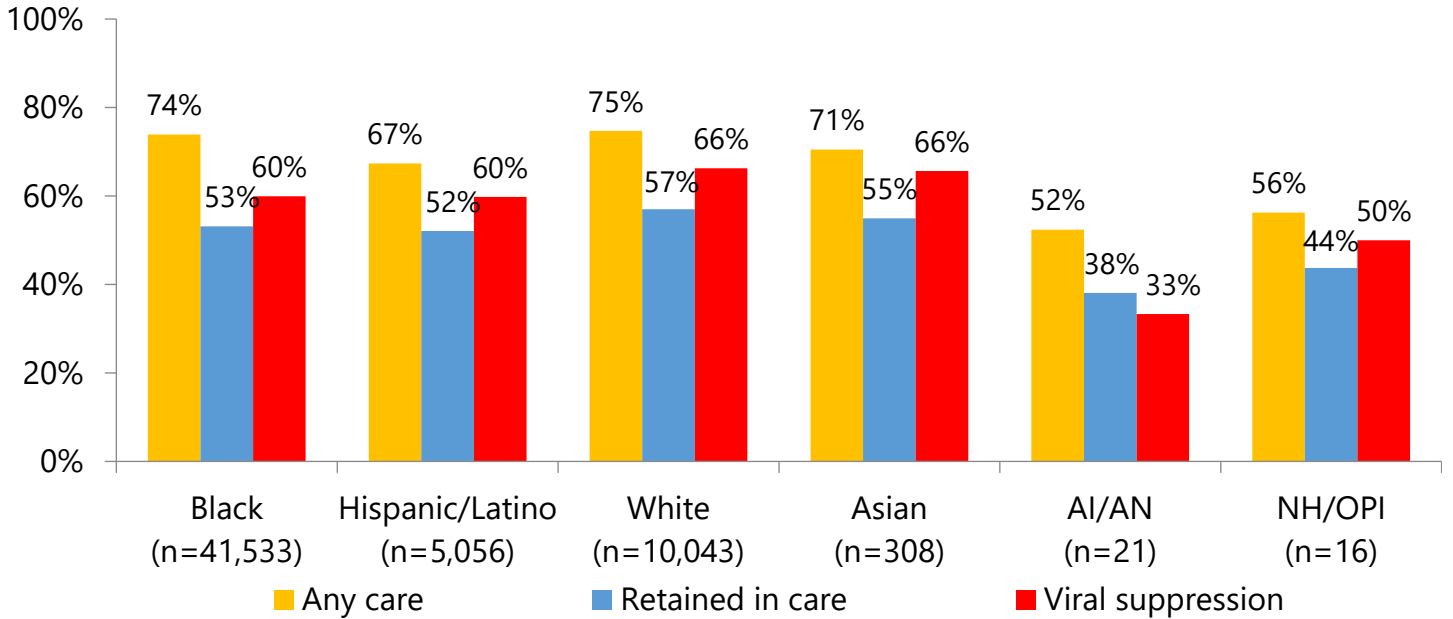
FIGURE 2B. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV BY GENDER IDENTITY, GEORGIA, 2022



Adults and adolescents: \geq age 13, diagnosed by 12/31/2021, living as of 12/31/2022, with a current address in Georgia

Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was < 200 copies/ml among those with \geq two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022.

FIGURE 3A. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV BY RACE/ETHNICITY, GEORGIA, 2022



AI/AN: American Indian/Alaska Native

NH/OPI: Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander

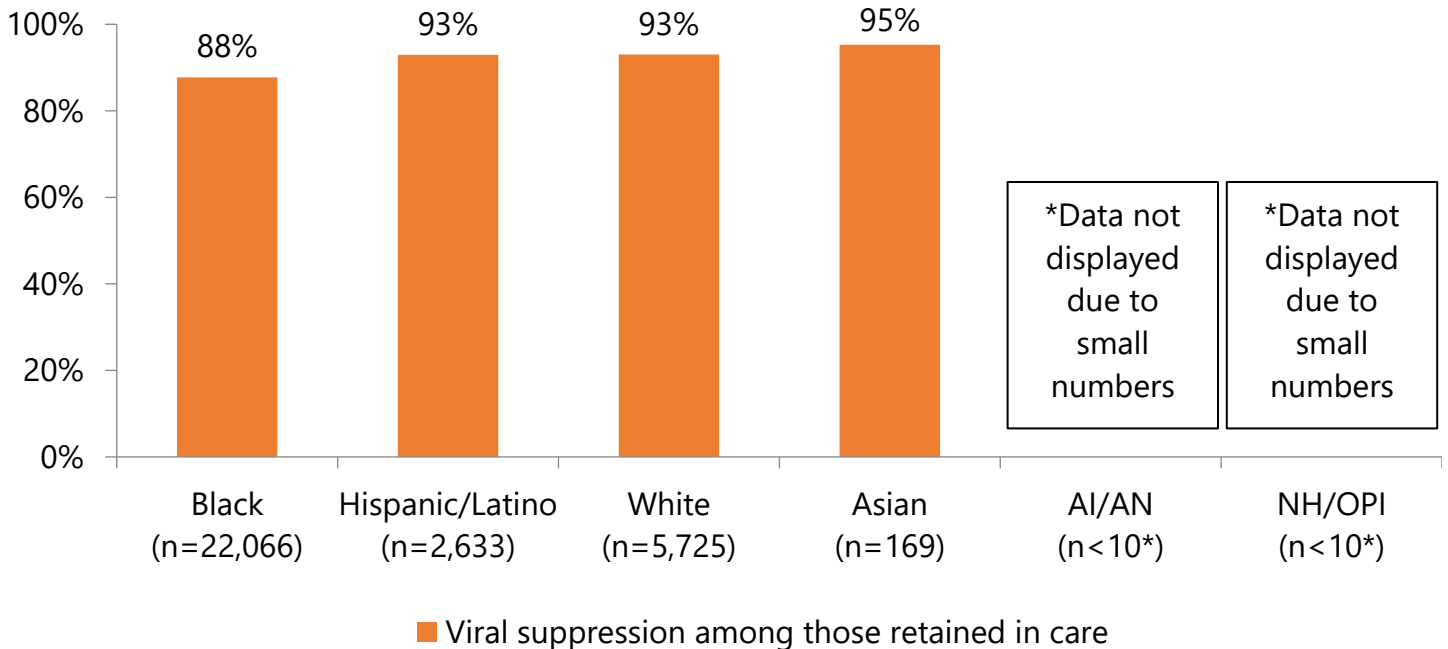
Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed by 12/31/2021, living as of 12/31/2022, with a current address in Georgia

Any care: ≥ one CD4 or viral load (VL) in 2022

Retained in care: ≥ two CD4 or VL at least three months apart in 2022

Viral suppression: VL < 200 copies/ml on most recent VL in 2022

FIGURE 3B. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV BY RACE/ETHNICITY, GEORGIA, 2022



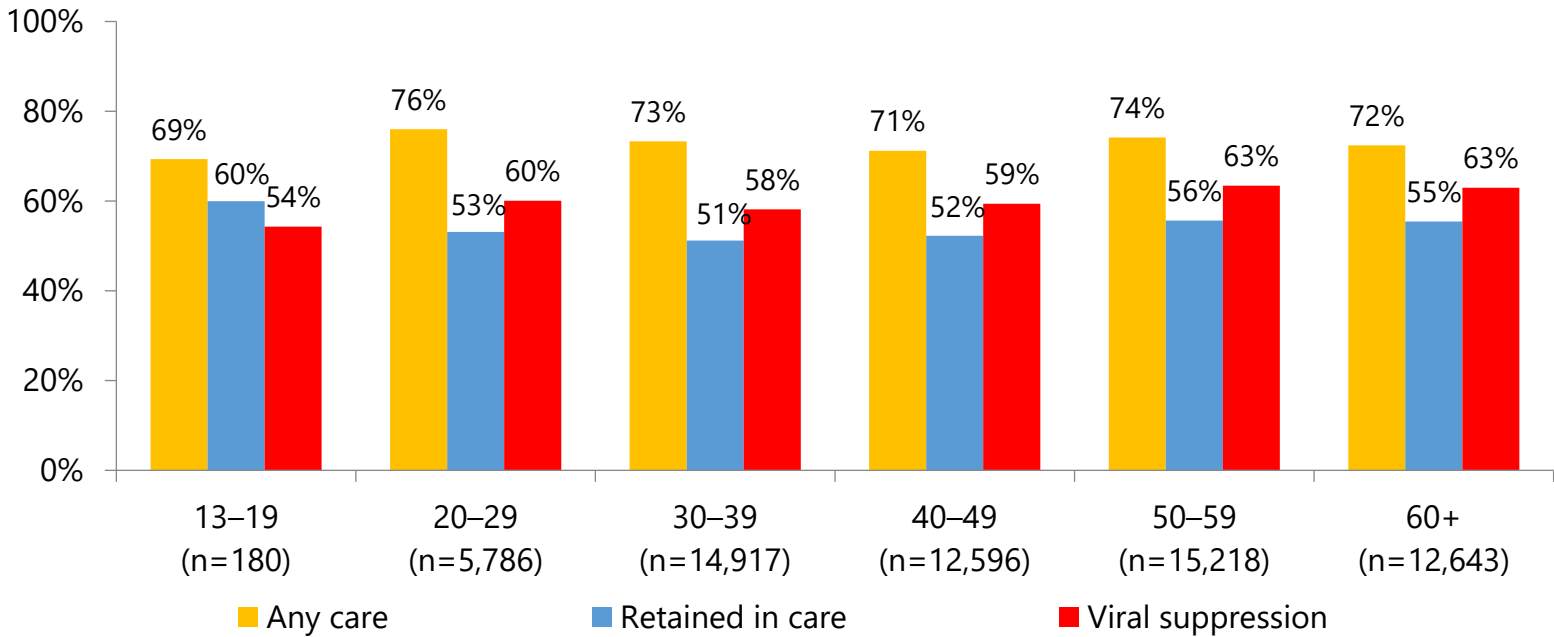
AI/AN: American Indian/Alaska Native

NH/OPI: Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander

Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed by 12/31/2021, living as of 12/31/2022, with a current address in Georgia

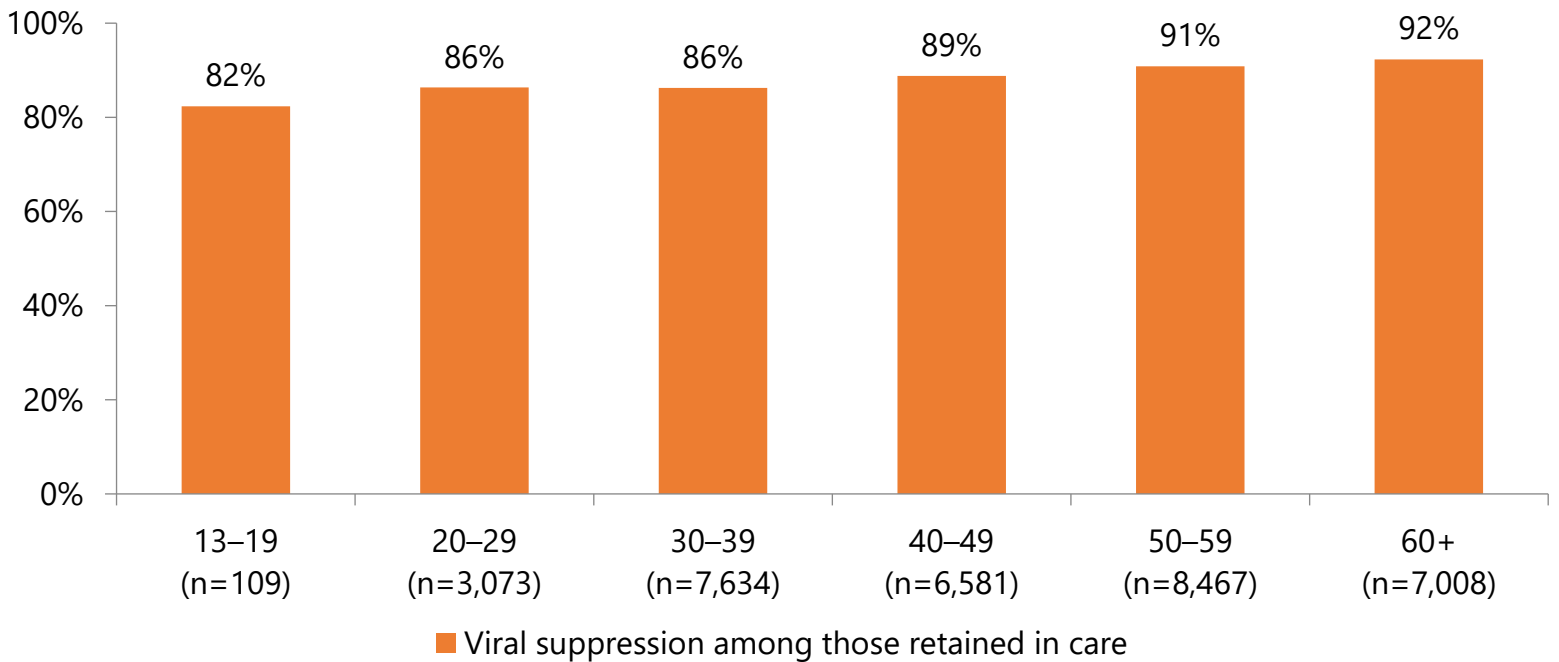
Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was < 200 copies/ml among those with ≥ two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022

FIGURE 4A. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV BY CURRENT AGE (IN YEARS), GEORGIA, 2022



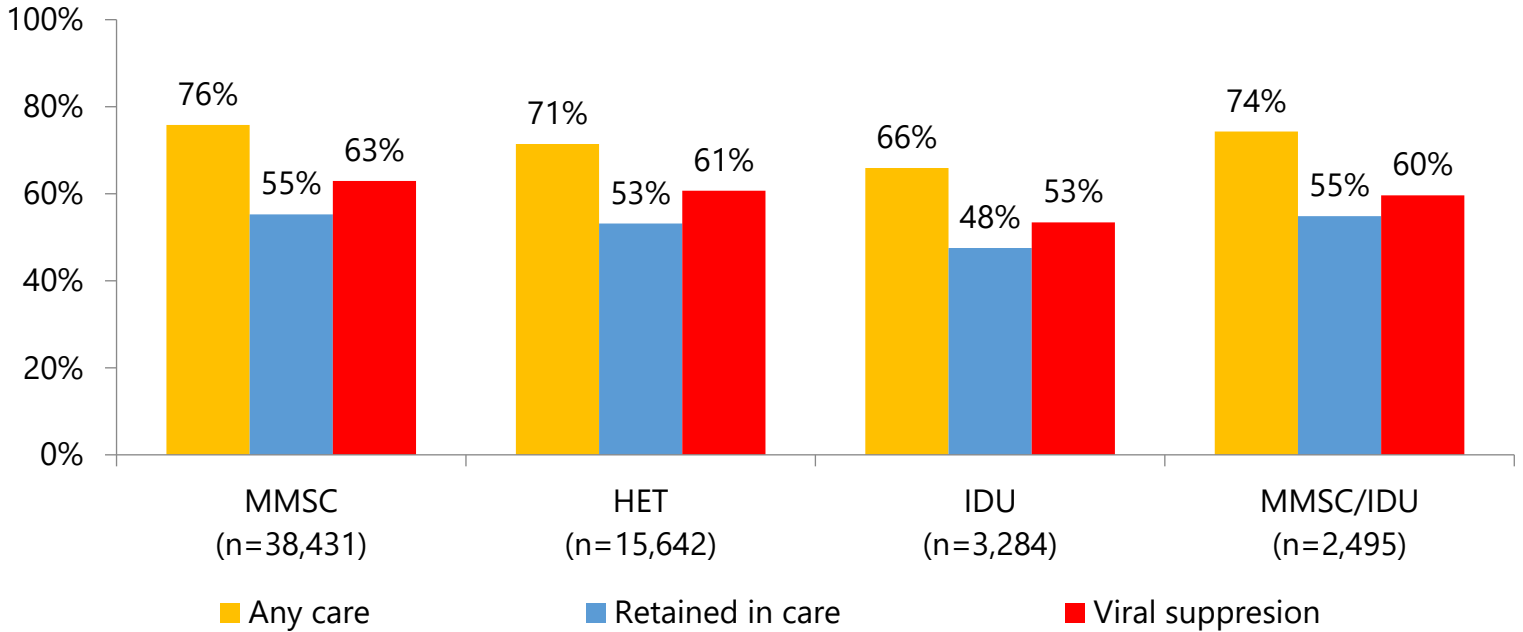
Adults and adolescents: \geq age 13, diagnosed by 12/31/2021, living as of 12/31/2022, with a current address in Georgia
 Any care: \geq one CD4 or viral load (VL) in 2022
 Retained in care: \geq two CD4 or VL at least three months apart in 2022
 Viral suppression: VL < 200 copies/ml on most recent VL in 2022

FIGURE 4B. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV BY CURRENT AGE (IN YEARS), GEORGIA, 2022



Adults and adolescents: \geq age 13, diagnosed by 12/31/2021, living as of 12/31/2022, with a current address in Georgia
 Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was < 200 copies/ml among those with \geq two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022.

FIGURE 5A. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV BY TRANSMISSION CATEGORY, GEORGIA, 2022



Note about calculating transmission category: Multiple imputation was used to assign transmission category where missing.

MMSC: Male-to-male sexual contact; IDU: Injection drug use; HET: Heterosexual contact

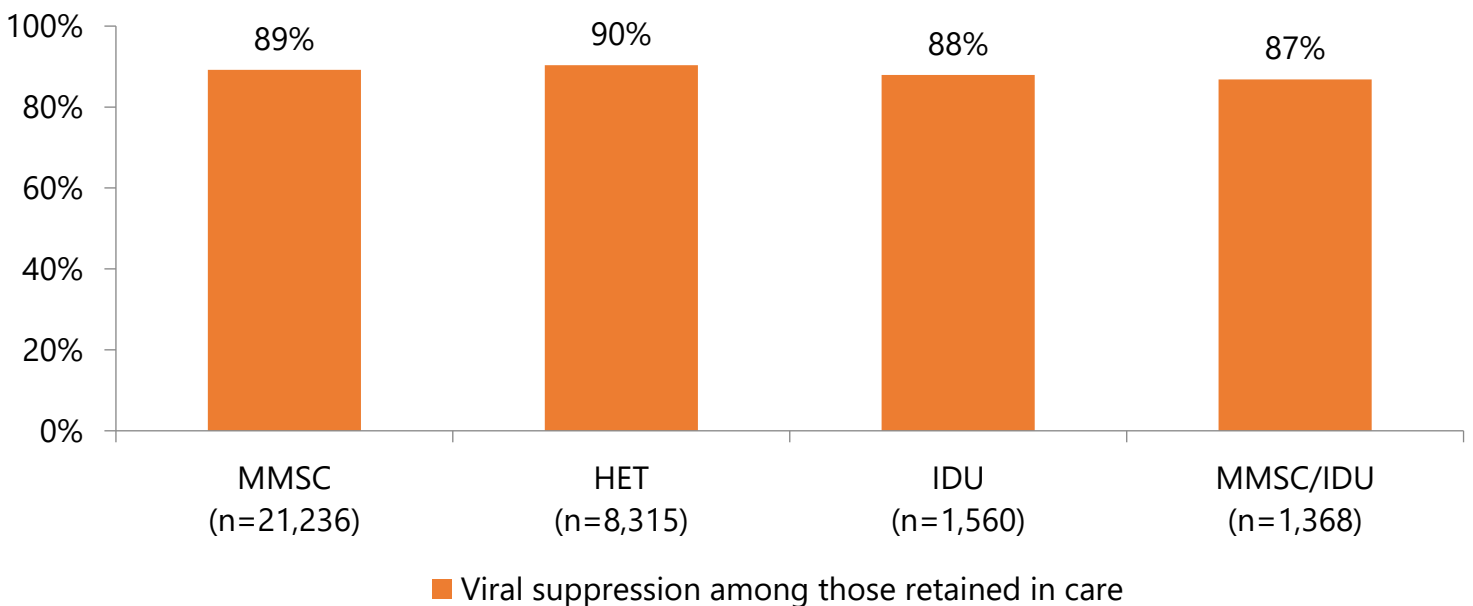
Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed by 12/31/2021, living as of 12/31/2022, with a current address in Georgia

Any care: ≥ one CD4 or viral load (VL) in 2022

Retained in care: ≥ two CD4 or VL at least three months apart in 2022

Viral suppression: VL < 200 copies/ml on most recent VL in 2022

FIGURE 5B. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV BY TRANSMISSION CATEGORY, GEORGIA, 2022



Note about calculating transmission category: Multiple imputation was used to assign transmission category where missing

MMSC: Male-to-male sexual contact ; IDU: Injection drug use; HET: Heterosexual contact

Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed by 12/31/2021, living as of 12/31/2022, with a current address in Georgia

Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was < 200 copies/ml among those with ≥ two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022

PERSONS NEWLY
DIAGNOSED WITH HIV,
2022





METHODS: PERSONS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV CARE CONTINUUM, 2022

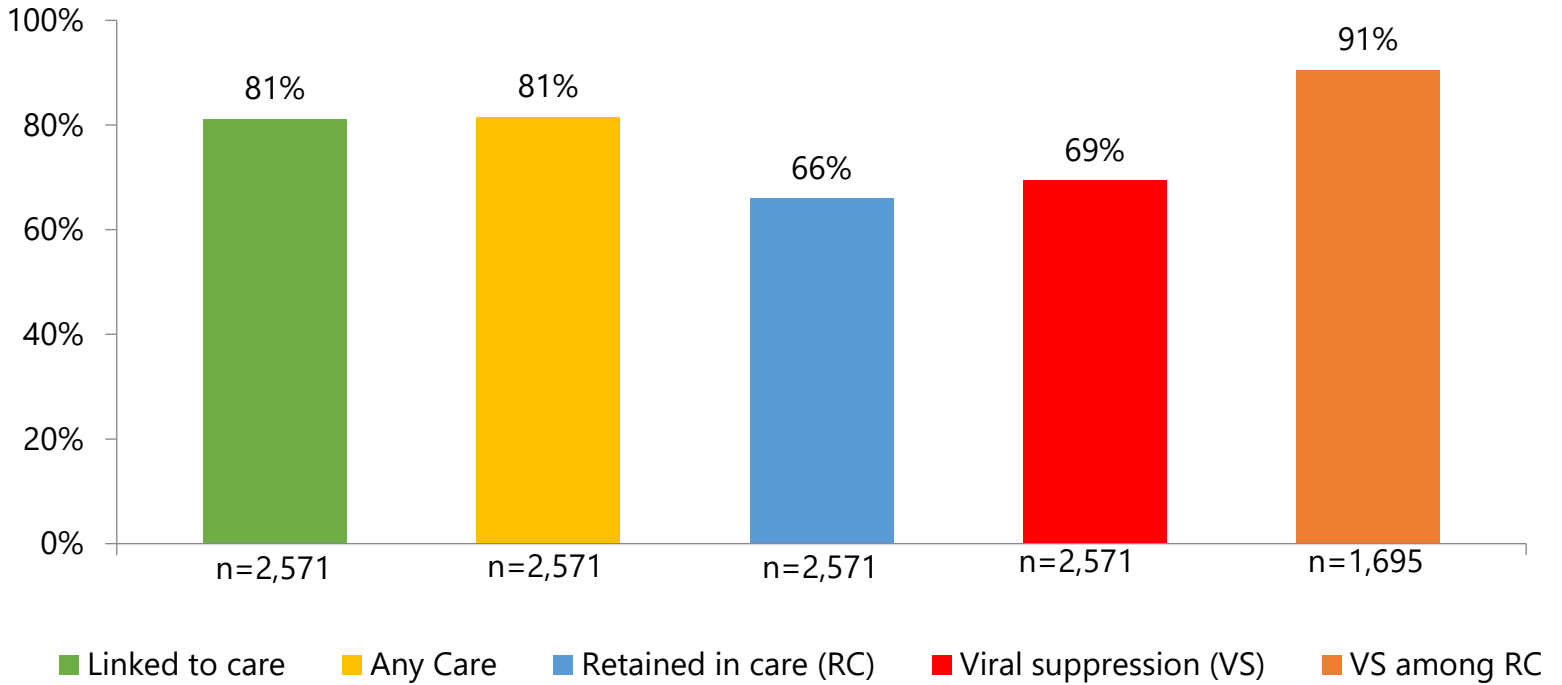
Population parameters:

- Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years
- Diagnosed with HIV in 2022, living as of 12/31/2023
- Address at HIV diagnosis in Georgia

Care Continuum definitions:

- **Linked to care:** CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis date, including the day of diagnosis
- **Any care:** \geq one CD4 or VL during the time period spanning 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis date
- **Retained in care:** \geq two CD4 or VL at least three months apart during the time period spanning 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis date
- **Viral suppression:** Most recent VL was <200 copies/ml during the time period spanning 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis date
- **Viral suppression among those retained in care:** Most recent VL in 2022 was <200 copies/ml among those with \geq two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022

FIGURE 6. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV, GEORGIA, 2022



Adults and adolescents: \geq age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023

Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia

Linked to care: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis

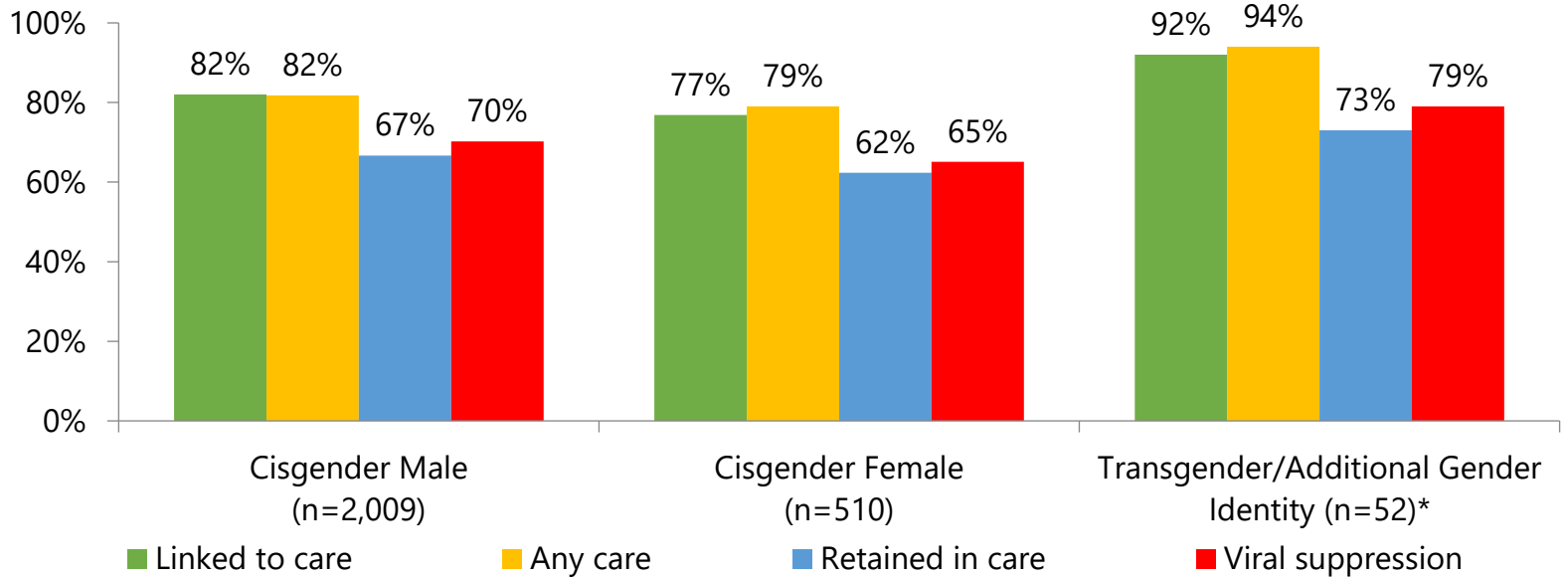
Any care: \geq one CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Retained in care: \geq two CD4 or VL at least three months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Viral suppression: VL < 200 copies/ml on most recent VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was < 200 copies/ml among those with \geq two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022

FIGURE 7A. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV BY GENDER IDENTITY, GEORGIA, 2022



Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023

Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia

Linked to care: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis

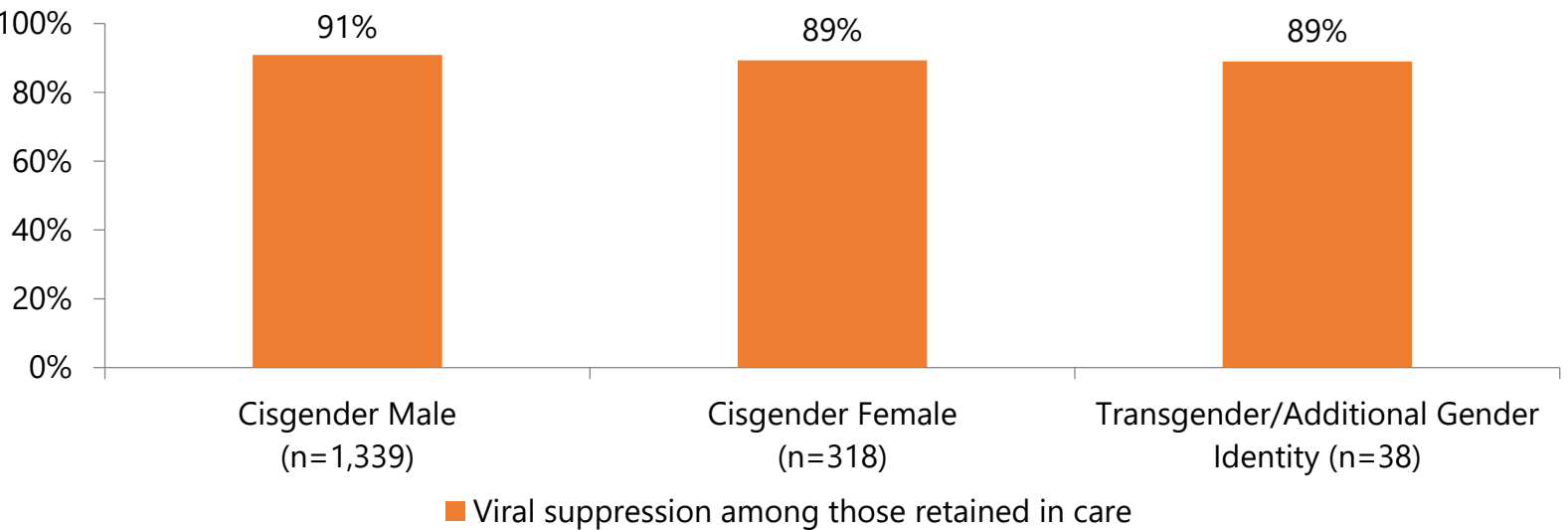
Any care: ≥ one CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Retained in care: ≥ two CD4 or VL at least three months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Viral suppression: VL < 200 copies/ml on most recent VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

*Care continuum measures may be higher among transgender/additional gender identity populations because patients who receive HIV care may have better documentation of gender identity status in their medical records.

FIGURE 7B. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV BY GENDER IDENTITY, GEORGIA, 2022



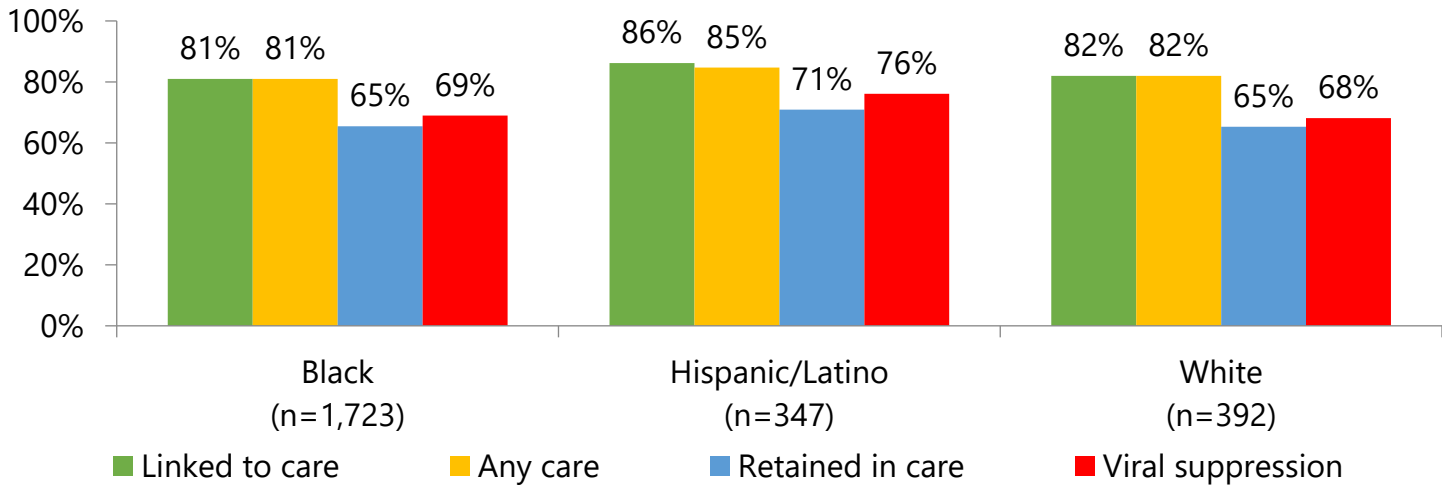
Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023

Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia

Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was < 200 copies/ml among those with ≥ two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022

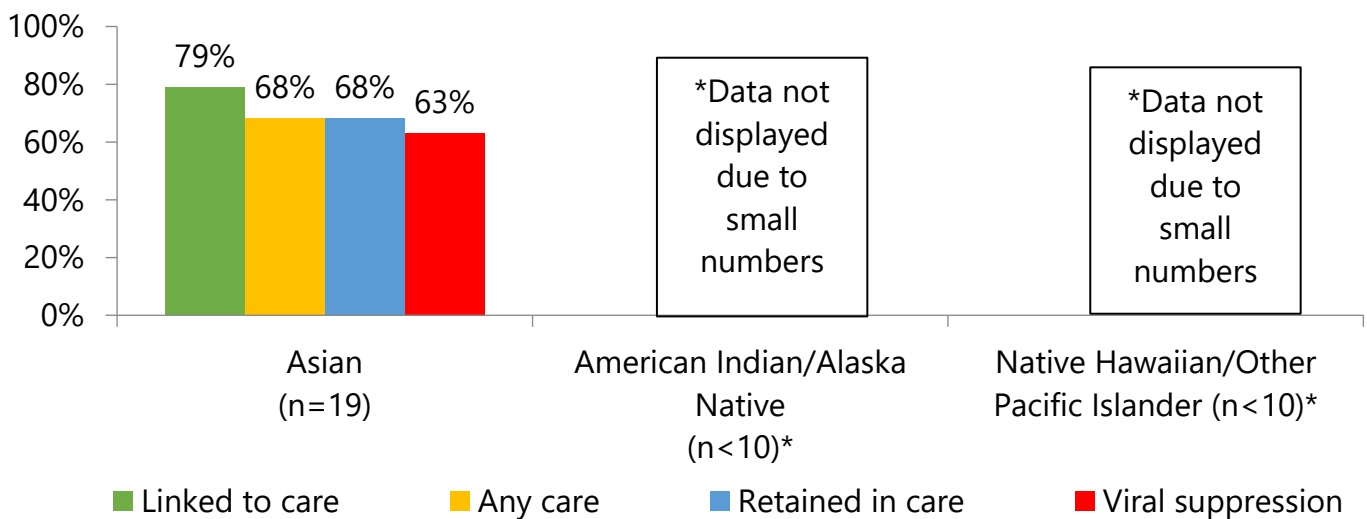
*Care continuum measures may be higher among transgender/additional gender identity populations because patients who receive HIV care may have better documentation of gender identity status in their medical records.

FIGURE 8A. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV BY RACE/ETHNICITY, GEORGIA, 2022



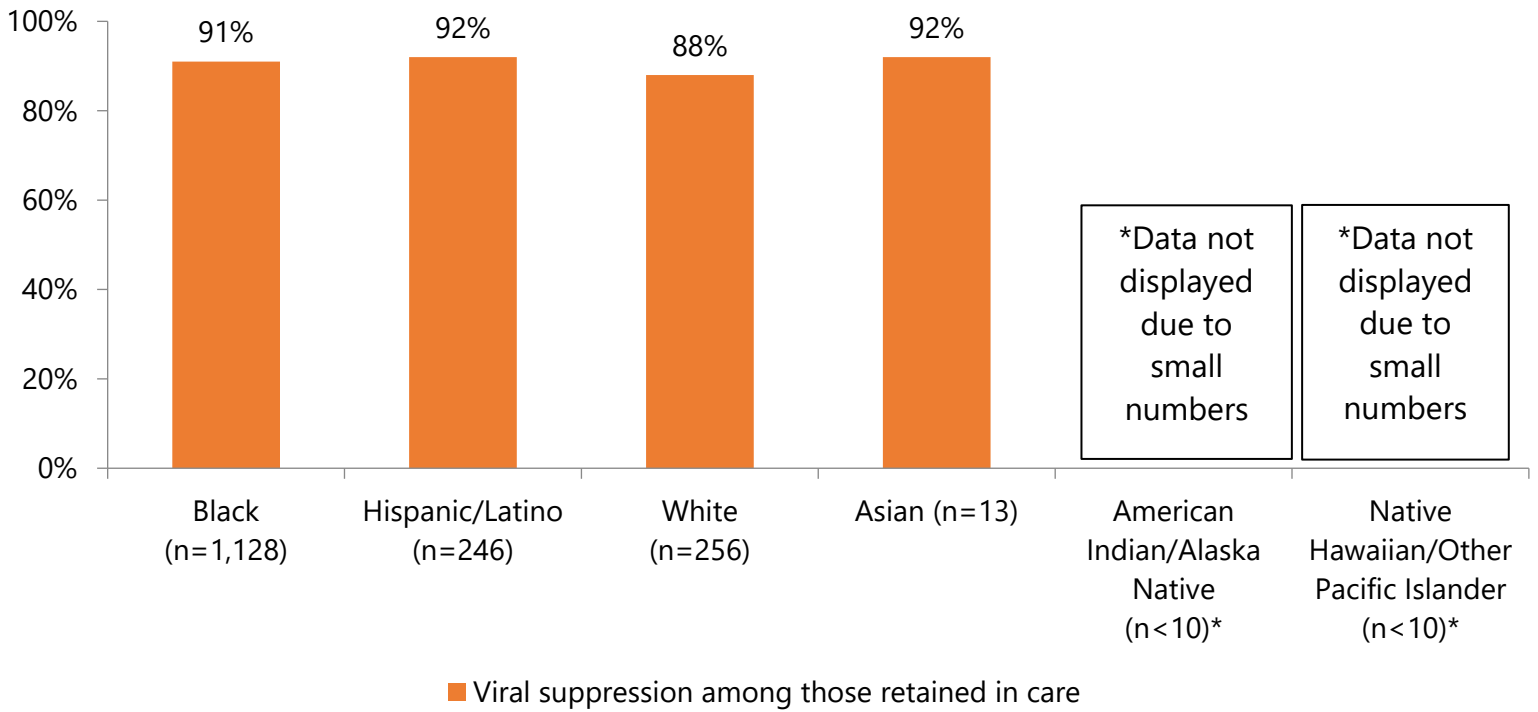
Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023
 Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia
 Linked to care: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis
 Any care: ≥ 1 CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
 Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL at least three months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
 Viral suppression: VL < 200 copies/ml on most recent VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

FIGURE 8B. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV BY RACE/ETHNICITY, GEORGIA, 2022



Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023
 Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia
 Linked to care: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis
 Any care: ≥ one CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
 Retained in care: ≥ two CD4 or VL at least three months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
 Viral suppression: VL < 200 copies/ml on most recent VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

FIGURE 8C. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV BY RACE/ETHNICITY, GEORGIA, 2022

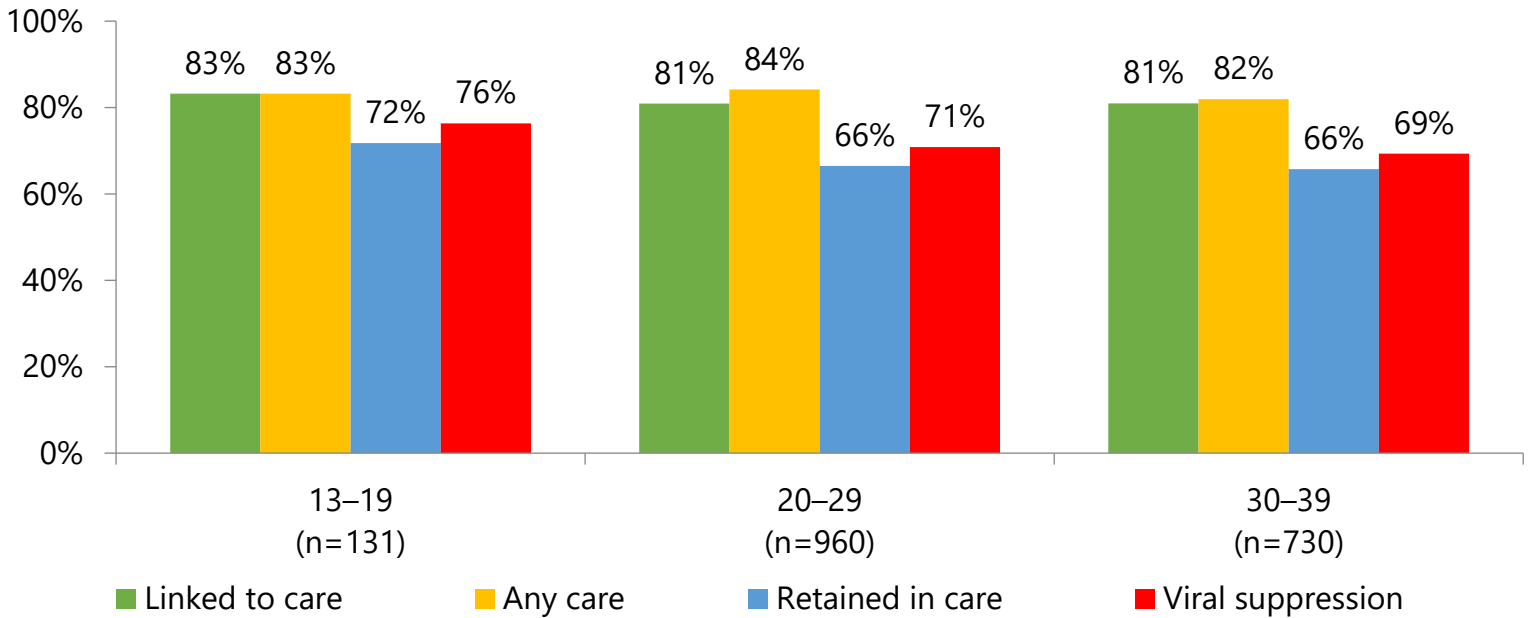


Adults and adolescents: \geq age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023

Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia

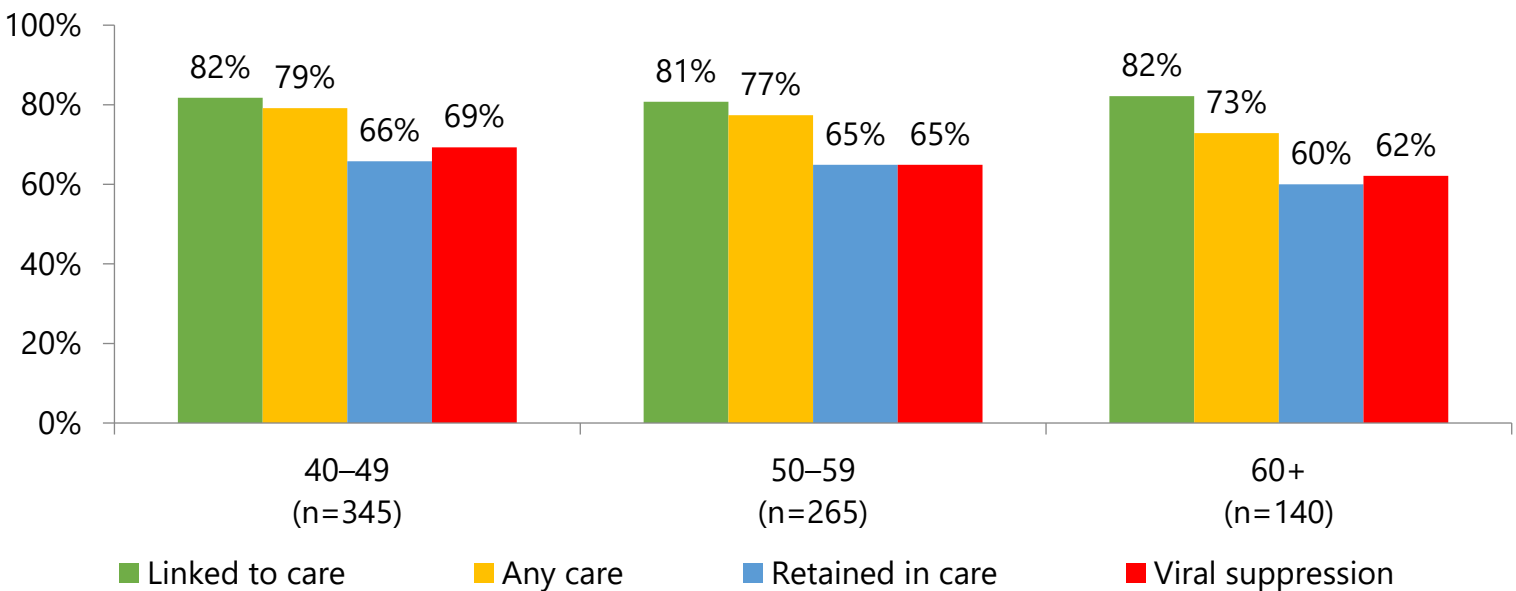
Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was <200 copies/ml among those with \geq two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022

FIGURE 9A. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV BY AGE AT DIAGNOSIS (IN YEARS), GEORGIA, 2022



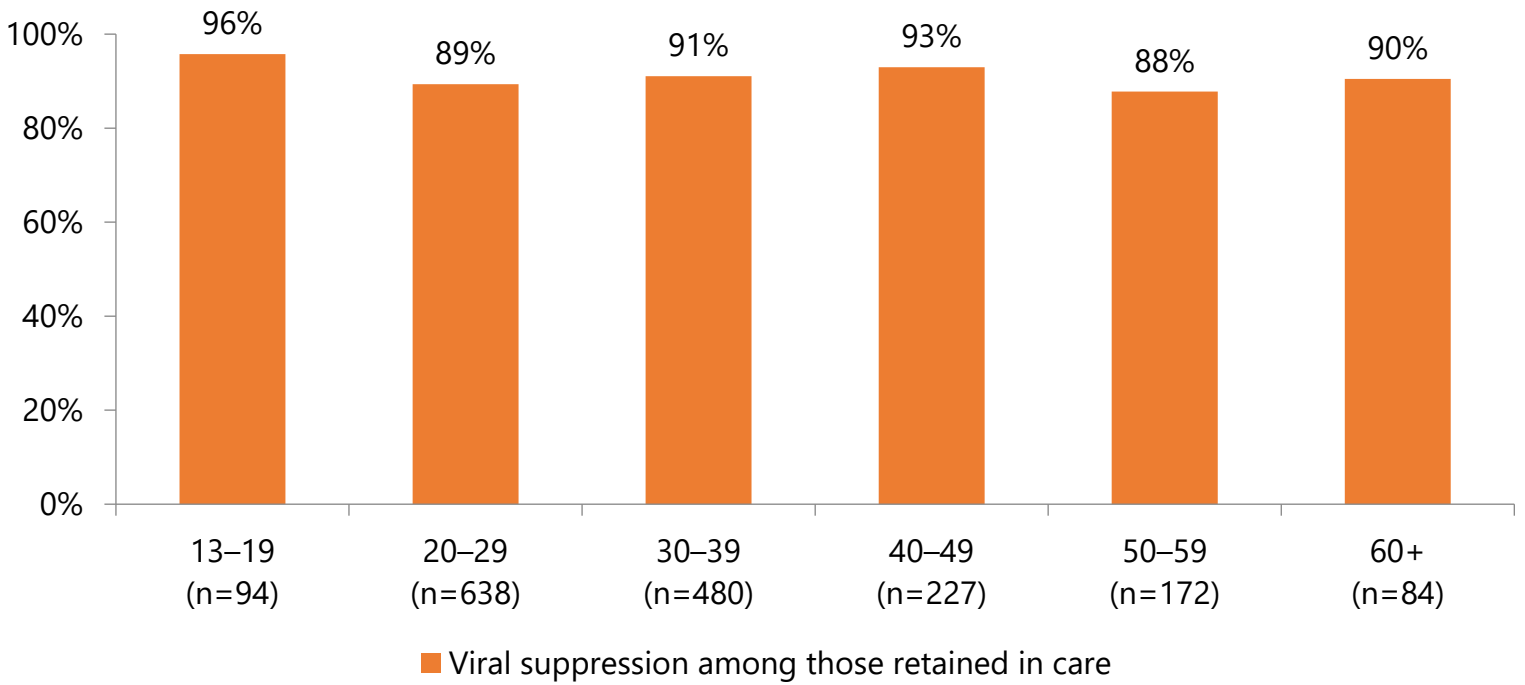
Adults and adolescents : ≥ age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023; Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia; Linked to care: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis; Any care: ≥ 1 CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis; Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL at least three months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis ; Viral suppression: VL<200 copies/ml on most recent VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

FIGURE 9B. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV BY AGE AT DIAGNOSIS (IN YEARS), GEORGIA, 2022



Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023; Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia; Linked to care: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis; Any care: ≥ one CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis; Retained in care: ≥ two CD4 or VL at least three months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis; Viral suppression: VL<200 copies/ml on most recent VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

FIGURE 9C. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV BY AGE AT DIAGNOSIS (IN YEARS), GEORGIA, 2022

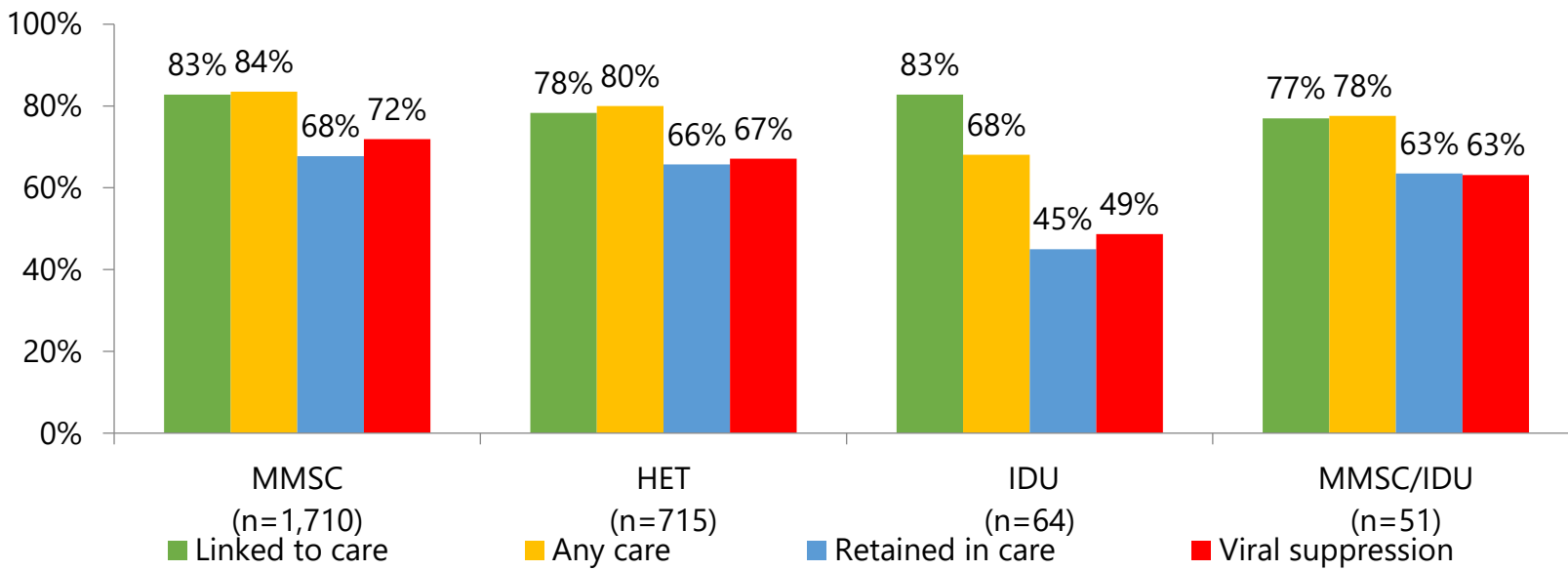


Adults and adolescents: \geq age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023

Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia

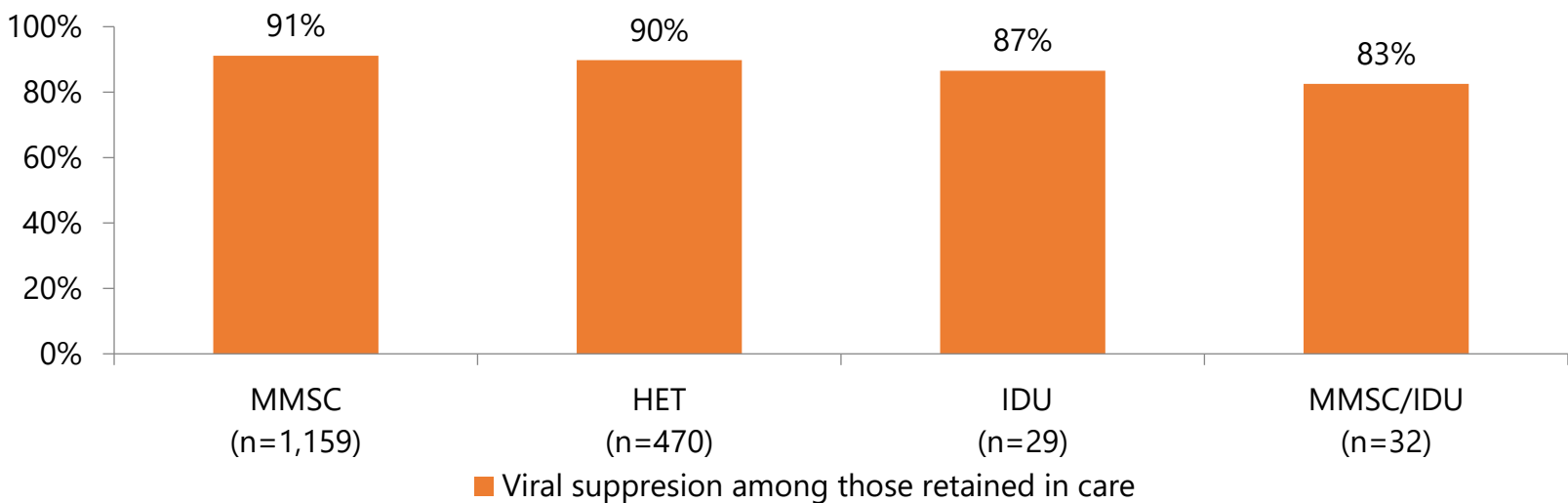
Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was <200 copies/ml among those with \geq two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022

FIGURE 10A. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV BY TRANSMISSION CATEGORY, GEORGIA, 2022



Note: Multiple imputation was used to assign transmission category where missing.
 MMSC: Male-to-male sexual contact; IDU: Injection drug use; HET: Heterosexual contact
 Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023
 Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia
 Linked to care: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis
 Any care: ≥ one CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
 Retained in care: ≥ two CD4 or VL at least three months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
 Viral suppression: VL < 200 copies/ml on most recent VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

FIGURE 10B. ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV BY TRANSMISSION CATEGORY, GEORGIA, 2022

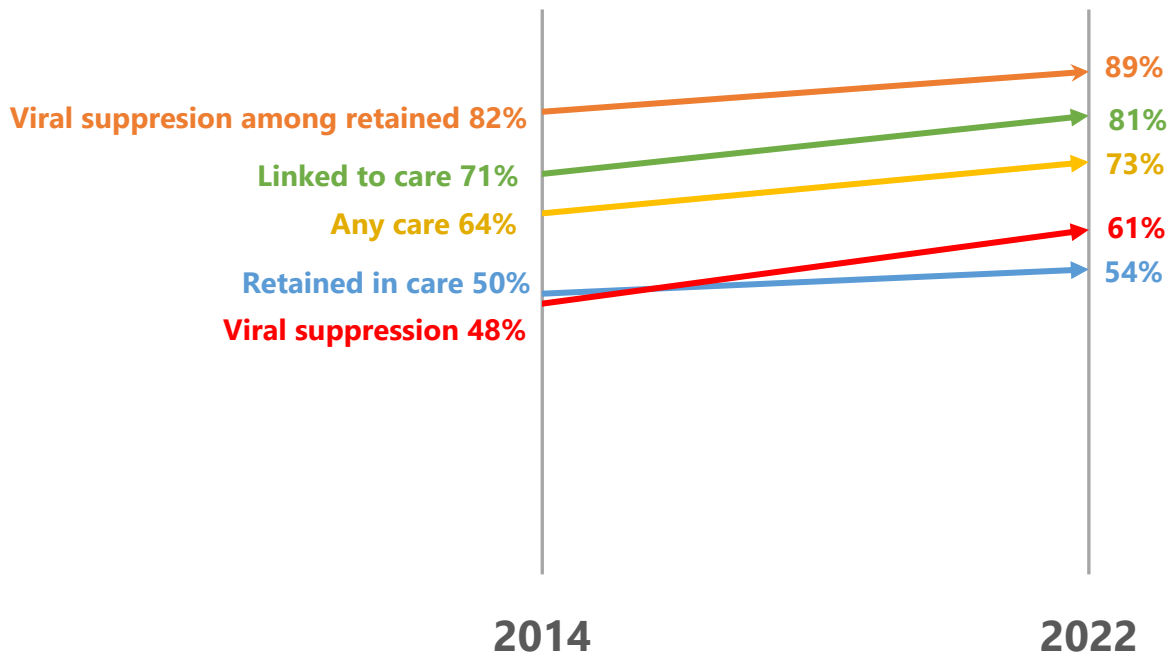


Note: Multiple imputation was used to assign transmission category where missing.
 MMSC: Male-to-male sexual contact; IDU: Injection drug use; HET: Heterosexual contact
 Adults and adolescents: ≥ age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023
 Address at HIV diagnosis within Georgia
 Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was < 200 copies/ml among those with ≥ two CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022


CARE CONTINUUM
MEASURES OVERTIME,
2014–2022



FIGURE 11. CARE CONTINUUM MEASURES OVERTIME AMONG ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV AND NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV, GEORGIA, 2014–2022



Any care, Retained in care, Viral suppression and Viral suppression among retained: Adults and adolescents : \geq age 13, diagnosed by 12/31/2021, living as of 12/31/2022, with a current address in Georgia
 Any care: \geq 1 CD4 or viral load (VL) test in 2022
 Retained in care: \geq 2 CD4 or VL tests at least three months apart in 2022
 Viral suppression: Most recent VL in 2022 was $<$ 200 copies/ml
 Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in 2022 was $<$ 200 copies/ml among those with \geq 2 CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least three months apart in 2022
 Linked to care: Adults and adolescents : \geq age 13, diagnosed 01/01/22-12/31/22, living as of 12/31/2023 who had a CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis



SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Additional data on HIV in Georgia:

Georgia Department of Public Health HIV Epidemiology Section's Main Website:

<https://dph.georgia.gov/epidemiology/georgias-hiv-aids-epidemiology-section>

- Prior year HIV Care Continuum Reports/Slides are available under "Care Continuum Data Archive":
<https://dph.georgia.gov/epidemiology/georgias-hiv-aids-epidemiology-section/hiv-care-continuum>
- Other resources available include surveillance summary reports, trends overtime, fact sheets, special reports, and presentations: <https://dph.georgia.gov/epidemiology/georgias-hiv-aids-epidemiology-section/hiv-aids-case-surveillance>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of HIV Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/default.html>

AIDSVu: <https://aidsvu.org/>

Reporting:

All health care providers diagnosing and/or providing care to a patient with HIV are required by Georgia law (O.C.G.A. §31-12-1) to report HIV infection using the HIV/AIDS Case Report Form.

Case report forms should be completed within seven (7) days of diagnosing a patient with HIV and/or AIDS or within seven (7) days of assuming care of an HIV positive patient who is new to the provider, regardless of whether the patient has previously received care elsewhere.

Adult and Pediatric case report forms are available at <https://dph.georgia.gov/epidemiology/georgias-hiv-aids-epidemiology-section/hiv-aids-case-reporting>

For more questions on HIV case reporting in Georgia please contact the HIV Surveillance Coordinator at 1-800-827-9769 (no faxing permitted). eFax: 404-506-9297

Requesting data:

To request data, please visit <http://dph.georgia.gov/phil-data-request> to create a PHIP data request account and login.

Please direct question to:

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Director

HIV Epidemiology Section

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