Georgia HIV Care Continuum, 2021

Persons Living with & Newly Diagnosed

HIV Epidemiology Section, Georgia Department of Public Health / 2021

What is the HIV Care Continuum?

- The HIV Care Continuum describes the proportion of persons living 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 (NHAS), released by the White House in July 2010, and updated in 2021[1].

[1]The White House. *National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States 2022–2025. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/National-HIV-AIDS-Strategy.pdf, Last Updated August 2022. [Accessed: April 11th, 2023]*

What is the HIV Care Continuum? (continued)

The HIV Care Continuum measures[1] are:

- Linkage to care: The percent of people who are seen for HIV care within 1 month of diagnosis
- Any care: Any care is a measure of minimal commitment to continued care with at least 1 HIV care visit in a year
- Retained in care: Retention in care more closely reflects the recommended standard of care with at least 2 HIV care visits at least 3 months apart in a year
- Viral suppression: A viral load (VL) <200 copies/ml is the important to prevent progression to AIDS and to eliminate viral transmission. Studies have shown that viral suppression reduces transmission by 96%[2]
- Viral suppression among those retained: A VL < 200 copies/ml among those who meet the definition of retention in care.

The HIV Care Continuum measures are calculated for two populations:

1. People living with HIV in the given year (and diagnosed the prior year or earlier)
2. People newly diagnosed with HIV in the given year

[1]U.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: April 11th, 2023]*

[2]The 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: April 11th, 2023]*

Caveats and Clarifications

- Missing laboratory data may result in underestimating care continuum outcomes.
- 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.
- Methodology for the care continuum and completeness of HIV data varies among jurisdictions, thus limiting direct comparisons with other states or the national care continuum.
- 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 living 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.

Persons Living with HIV, 2021

2021 PLWH, Care Continuum Methods

Population parameters:

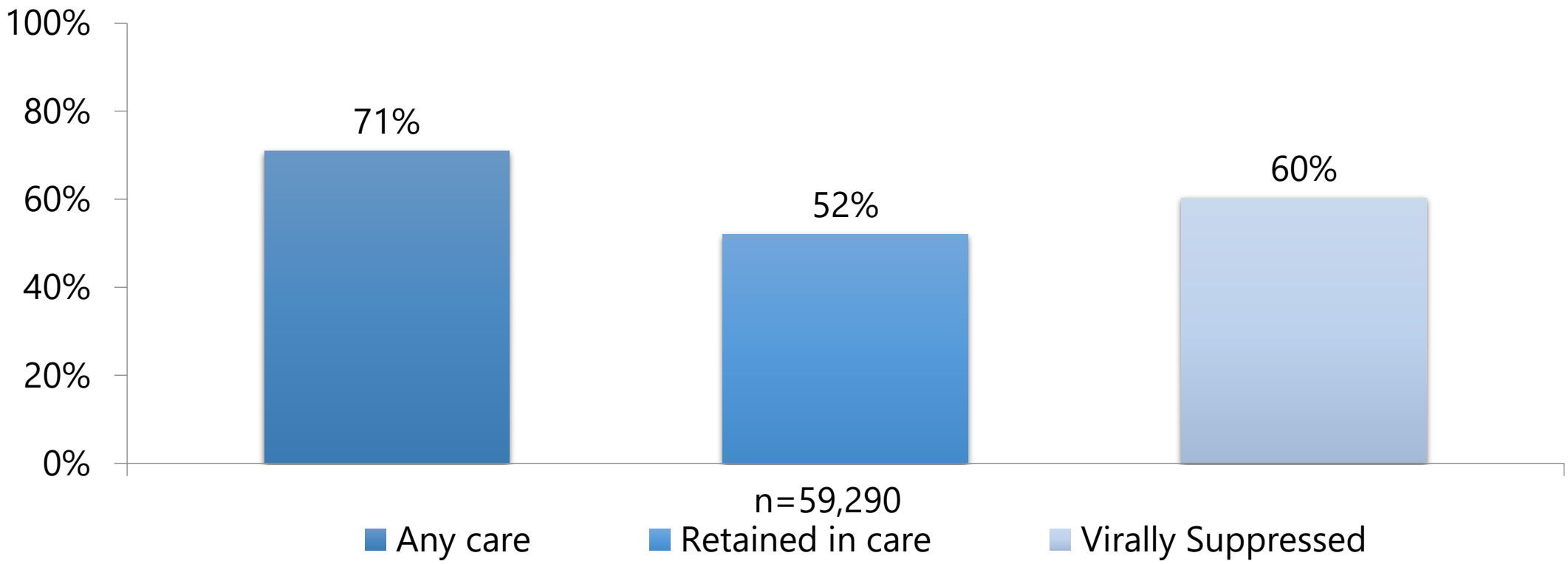
- Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years
- Diagnosed with HIV by 12/31/2020, and alive as of 12/31/2021
- Last address of residence in 2021 was in Georgia

Care continuum definitions:

- Any care: ≥1 CD4 or viral load (VL) test in 2021
- Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL tests at least 3 months apart in 2021
- Viral suppression: Most recent VL in 2021 was <200 copies/ml

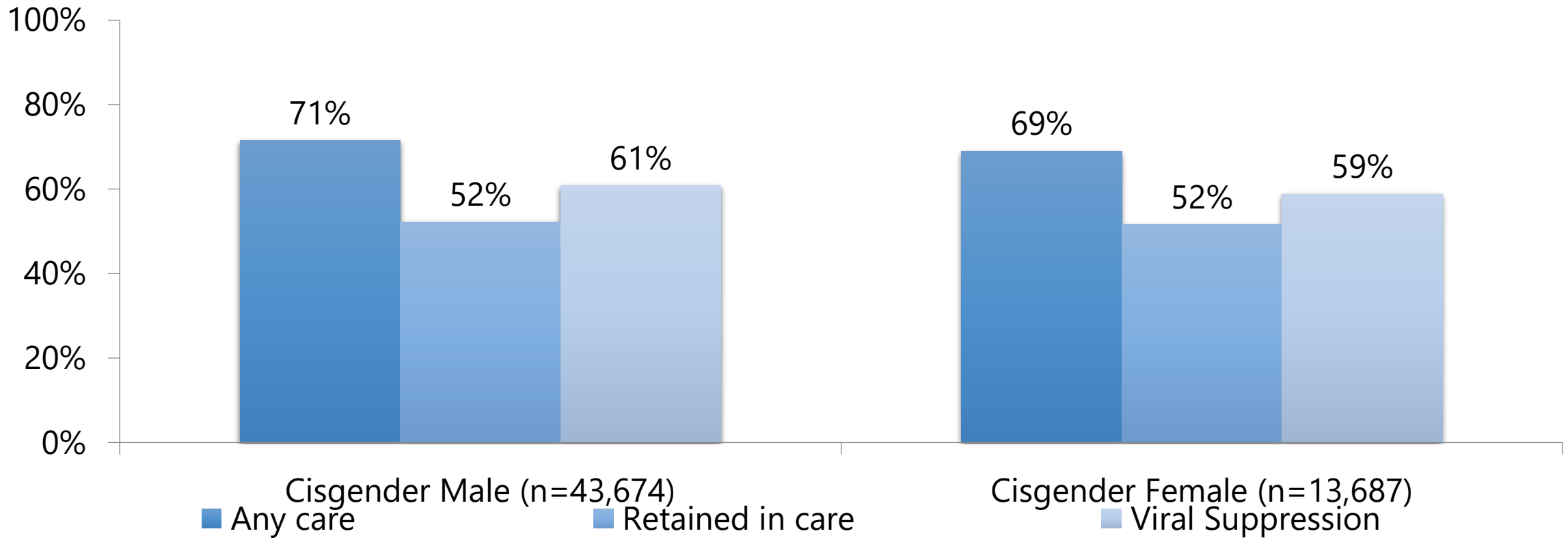
PLWH: Persons living with HIV

Adults and Adolescents Living with HIV, Georgia, 2021



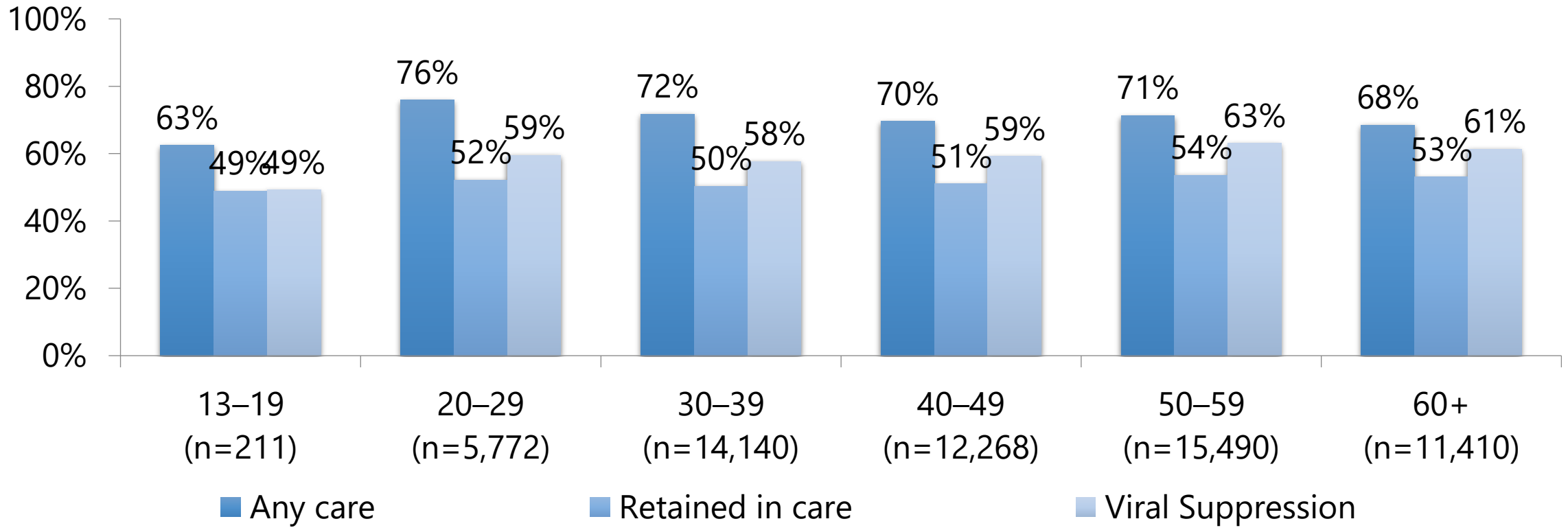
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed by 12/31/2020, living as of 12/31/2021, with a current address in Georgia
Any care: ≥1 CD4 or viral load (VL) test in 2021
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL tests at least 3 months apart in 2021
Viral suppression: Most recent VL in 2021 was <200 copies/ml

Adults and Adolescents Living with HIV, by Gender, Georgia, 2021



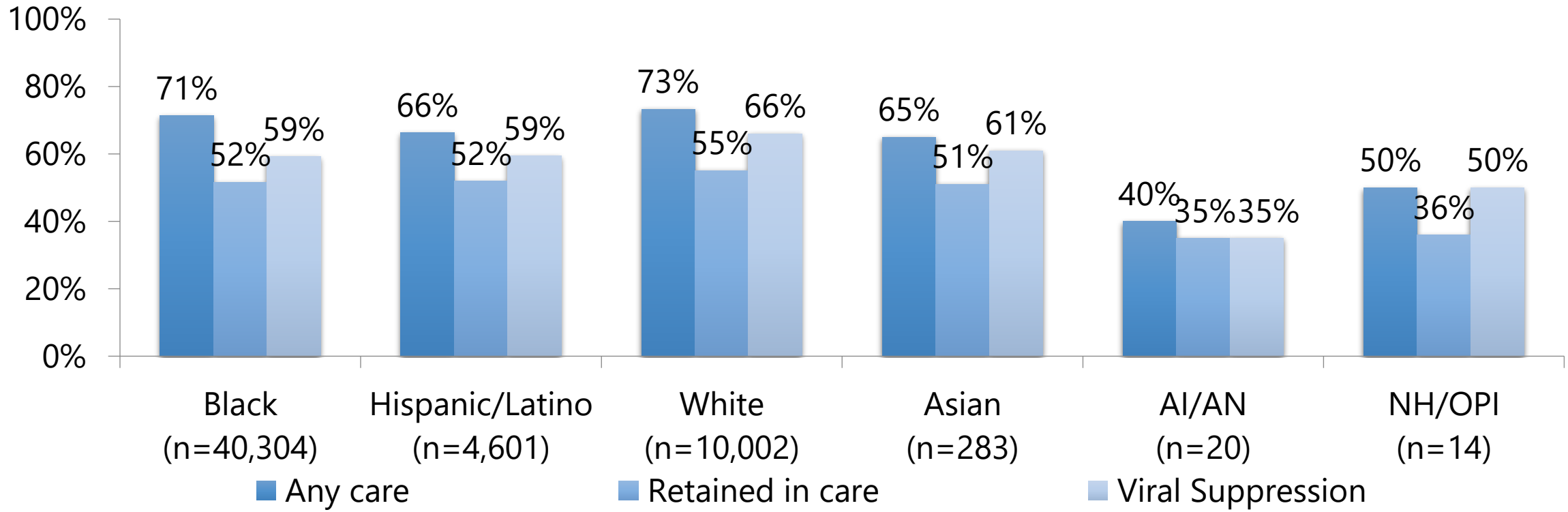
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed by 12/31/2020, living as of 12/31/2021, with a current address in Georgia
Any care: ≥1 CD4 or viral load (VL) test in 2021
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL tests at least 3 months apart in 2021
Viral suppression: Most recent VL in 2021 was <200 copies/ml

Adults and Adolescents Living with HIV, by Current Age (in Years), Georgia, 2021



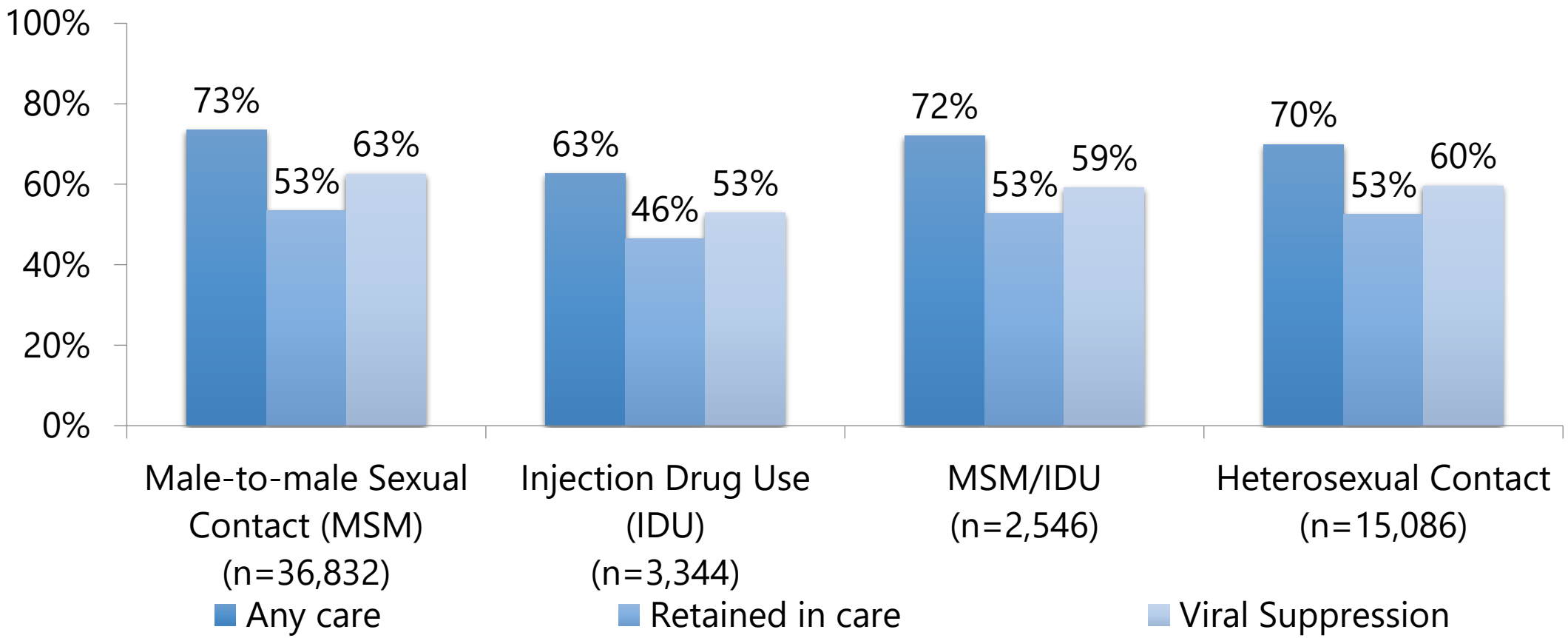
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed by 12/31/2020, living as of 12/31/2021, with a current address in Georgia
Any care: ≥1 CD4 or viral load (VL) test in 2021
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL tests at least 3 months apart in 2021
Viral suppression: Most recent VL in 2021 was <200 copies/ml

Adults and Adolescents Living with HIV, by Race/Ethnicity, Georgia, 2021



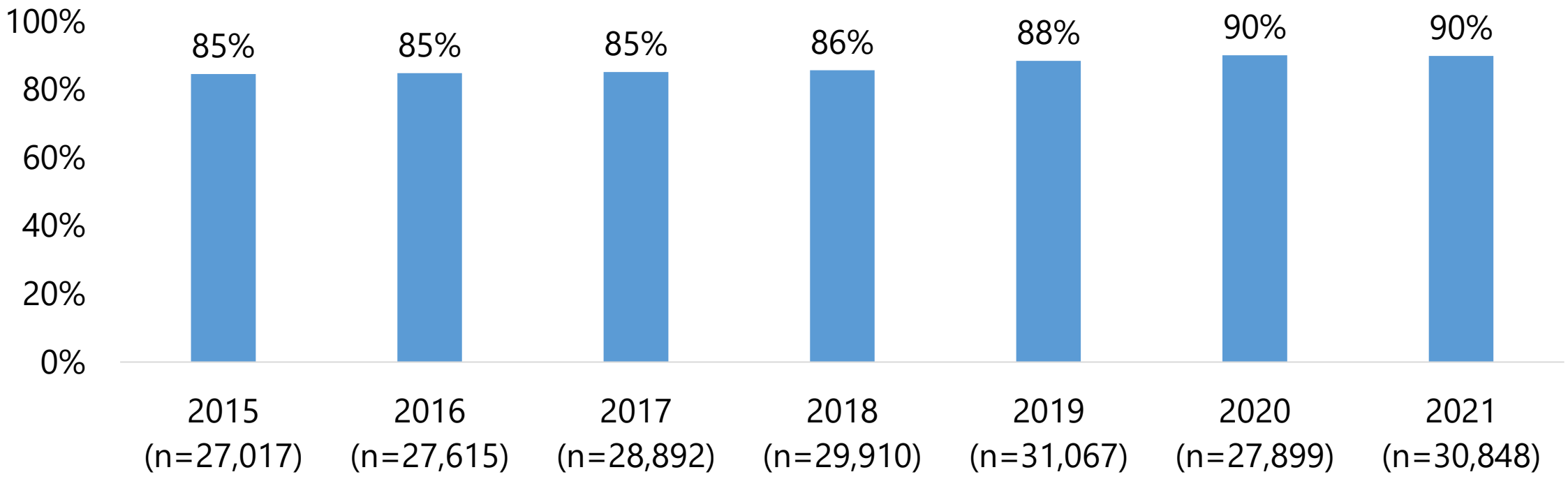
AI/AN: American Indian/Alaska Native
NH/OPI: Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed by 12/31/2020, living as of 12/31/2021, with a current address in Georgia
Any care: ≥1 CD4 or viral load (VL) test in 2021
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL tests at least 3 months apart in 2021
Viral suppression: Most recent VL in 2021 was <200 copies/ml

Adults and Adolescents Living with HIV, by Transmission Category, Georgia, 2021



Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed by 12/31/2020, living as of 12/31/2021, with a current address in Georgia
Any care: ≥1 CD4 or viral load (VL) test in 2021
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL tests at least 3 months apart in 2021
Viral suppression: Most recent VL in 2021 was <200 copies/ml

Viral suppression among Adults and Adolescents Retained in Care, Georgia, 2015-2021



n = number retained in care
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed by 12/31 of previous year, living as of 12/31 of reporting year, living in Georgia
Viral suppression among those retained in care: Most recent VL in reporting year was <200 copies/ml among those with ≥ 2 CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least 3 months apart in reporting year

Persons Newly Diagnosed with HIV, 2021

2021 New Diagnoses, Care Continuum Methods

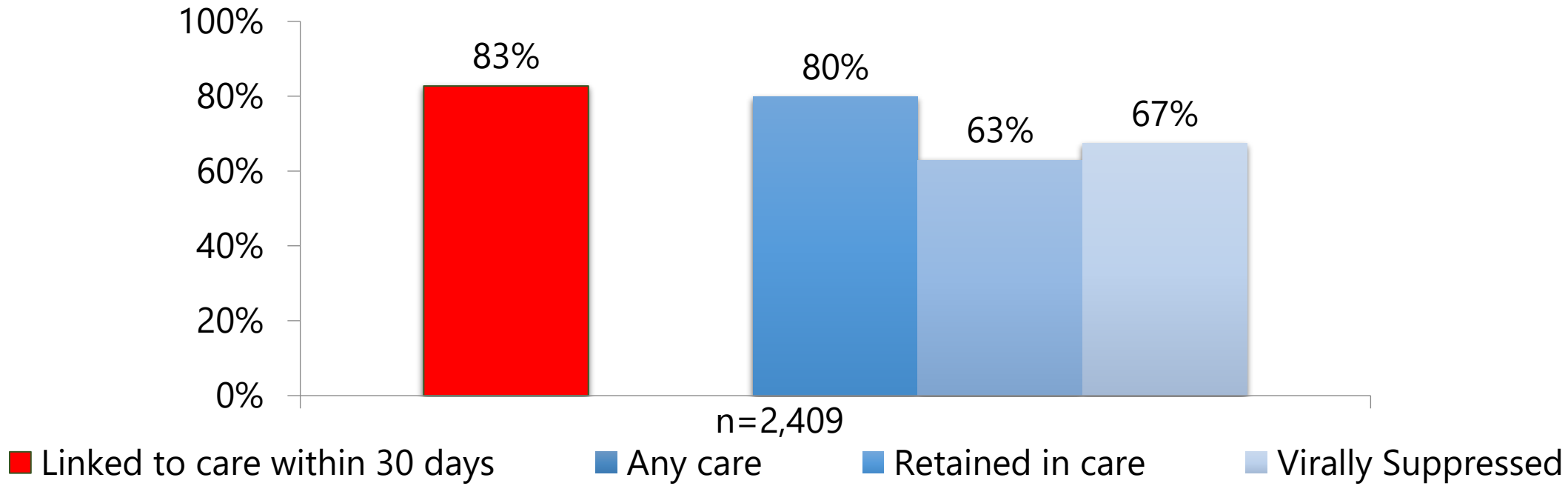
Population parameters:

- Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years
- Diagnosed with HIV in 2021, living as of 12/31/2022
- Address at HIV diagnosis in Georgia

Care continuum definitions:

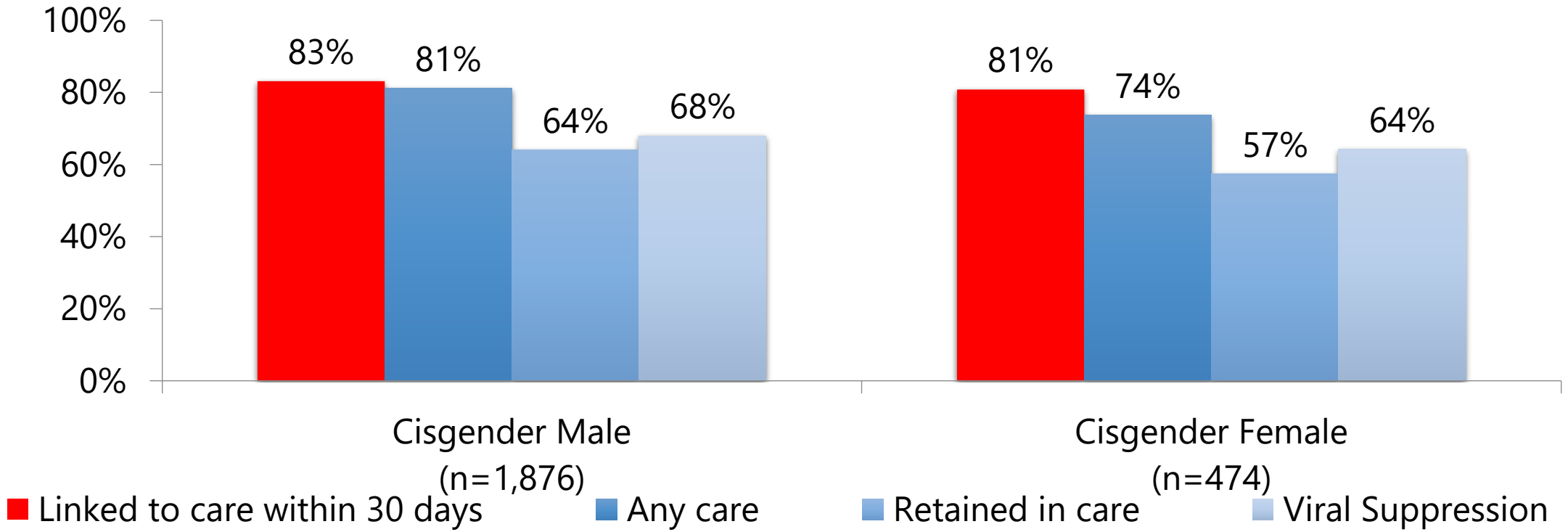
- Linked to care: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis date, including the day of diagnosis
- Any care: ≥ 1 CD4 or VL during the time period spanning 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis date
- Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL at least 3 months apart during the time period spanning 30 days 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

Adults and Adolescents Newly Diagnosed with HIV, Georgia, 2021



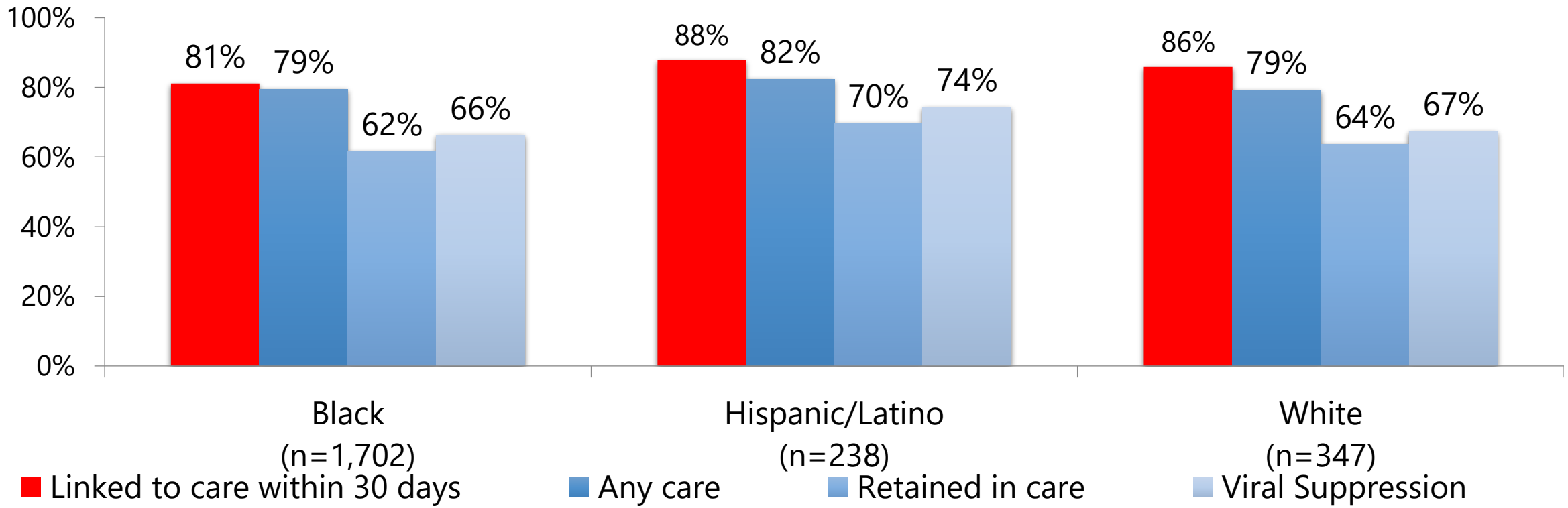
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed 01/01/21-12/31/21, living as of 12/31/2022
Address at HIV diagnosis in Georgia
Linked to care within 30 days: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis
Any care: ≥ 1 CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL at least 3 months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Viral suppression: ≥ Most recent VL was <200 copies/ml during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Adults and Adolescents Newly Diagnosed with HIV, by Gender, Georgia, 2021



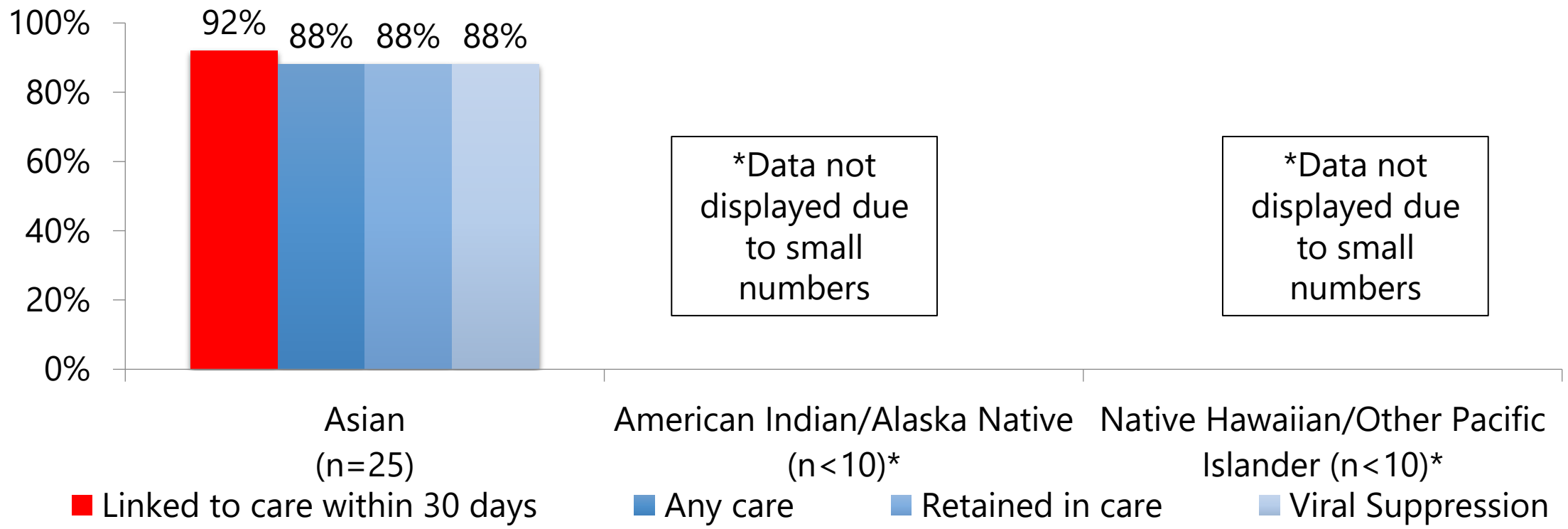
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed 01/01/21-12/31/21, living as of 12/31/2022
Address at HIV diagnosis in Georgia
Linked to care within 30 days: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis
Any care: ≥ 1 CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL at least 3 months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Viral suppression: ≥ Most recent VL was <200 copies/ml during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Adults and Adolescents Newly Diagnosed with HIV, by Race/Ethnicity, Georgia, 2021



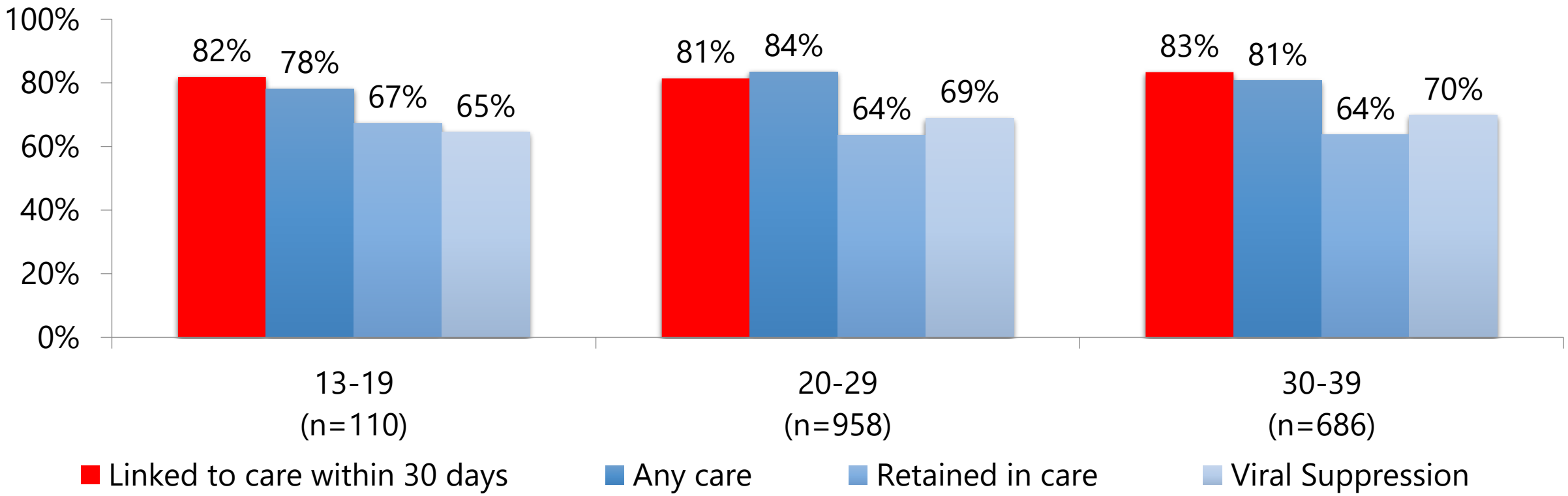
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed 01/01/21-12/31/21, living as of 12/31/2022
Address at HIV diagnosis in Georgia
Linked to care within 30 days: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis
Any care: ≥ 1 CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL at least 3 months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Viral suppression: ≥ Most recent VL was <200 copies/ml during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Adults & Adolescents Newly Diagnosed with HIV, by Race/Ethnicity, Georgia, 2021 (cont.)



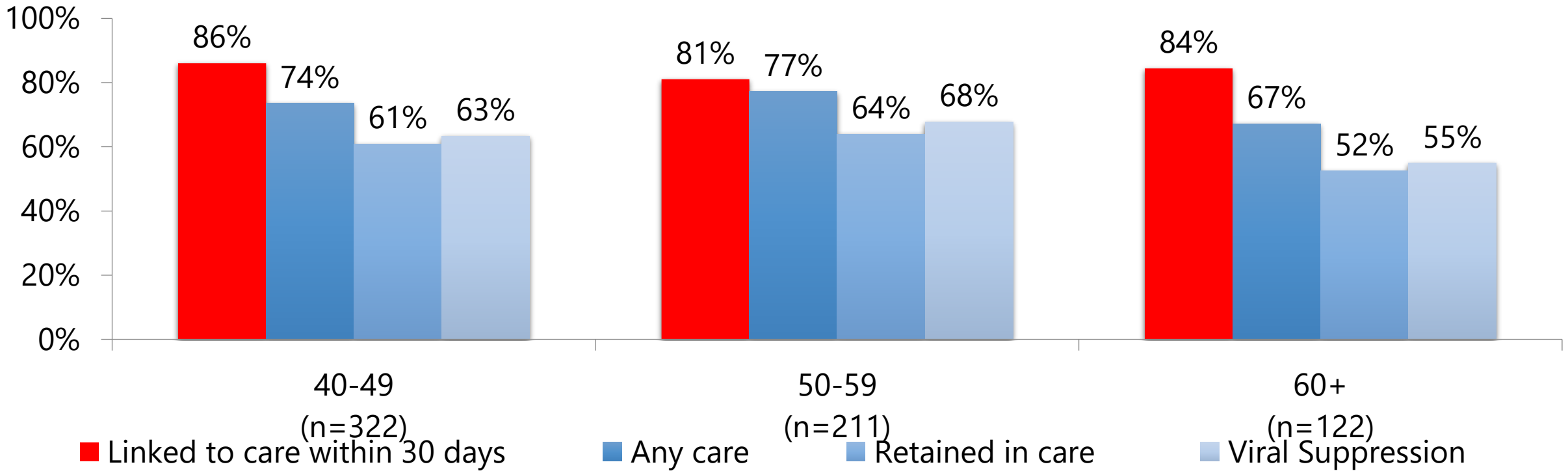
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed 01/01/21-12/31/21, living as of 12/31/2022
Address at HIV diagnosis in Georgia
Linked to care within 30 days: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis
Any care: ≥ 1 CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL at least 3 months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Viral suppression: ≥ Most recent VL was <200 copies/ml during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Adults & Adolescents Newly Diagnosed with HIV, by Current Age (in Years), Georgia, 2021



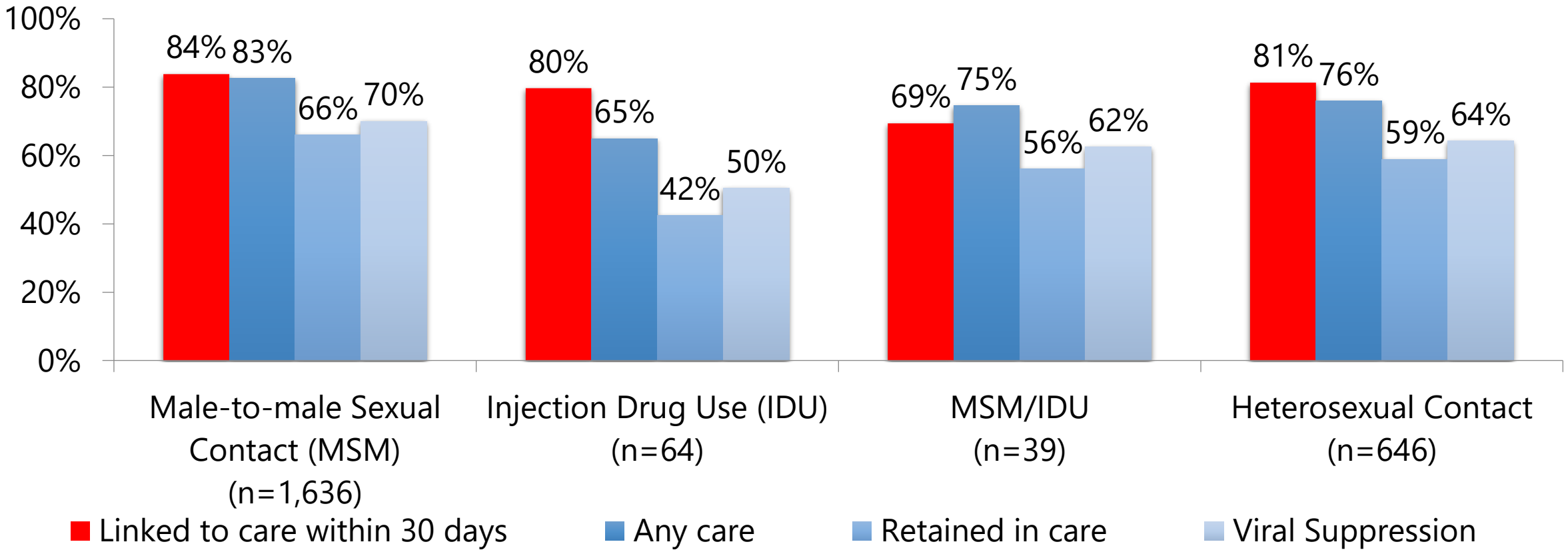
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed 01/01/21-12/31/21, living as of 12/31/2022
Address at HIV diagnosis in Georgia
Linked to care within 30 days: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis
Any care: ≥ 1 CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL at least 3 months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Viral suppression: ≥ Most recent VL was <200 copies/ml during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Adults & Adolescents Newly Diagnosed with HIV, by Current Age (in Years), Georgia, 2021



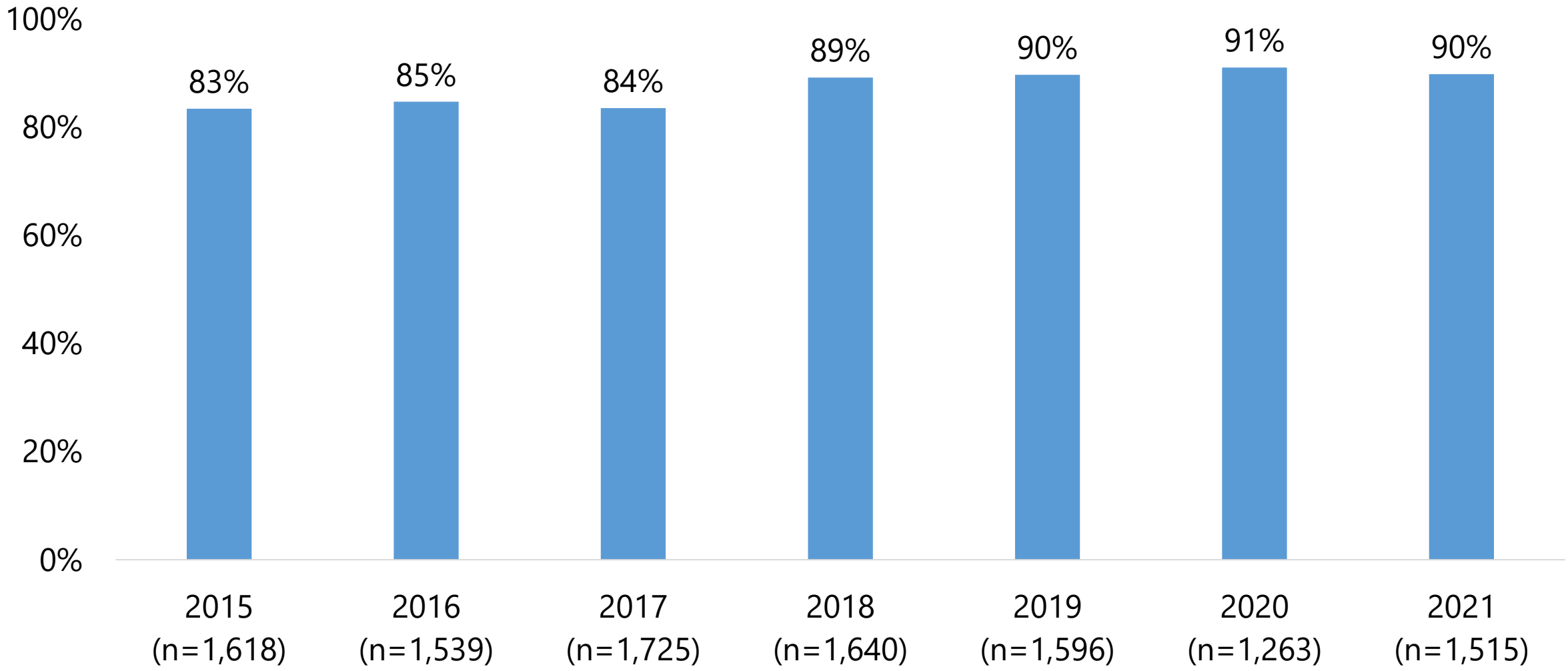
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed 01/01/21-12/31/21, living as of 12/31/2022
Address at HIV diagnosis in Georgia
Linked to care within 30 days: CD4 or viral load (VL) within 30 days of diagnosis
Any care: ≥ 1 CD4 or VL during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Retained in care: ≥ 2 CD4 or VL at least 3 months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Viral suppression: ≥ Most recent VL was <200 copies/ml during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

Adults & Adolescents Newly Diagnosed with HIV, by Transmission Category, Georgia, 2021



Note about calculating transmission category: Multiple imputation was used to assign transmission category where missing.
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed 01/01/21-12/31/21, living as of 12/31/2022
Address at HIV diagnosis in Georgia
Linked to care within 30 days: 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 3 months apart during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis
Viral suppression: ≥ Most recent VL was <200 copies/ml during 30 days to 13 months after diagnosis

VS* Among Newly Diagnosed Adults & Adolescents Retained in Care Georgia, 2015-2021



*Viral Suppression
n = number retained in care
Adults and adolescents ages ≥ 13 years, diagnosed during reporting year, living as of subsequent year. Address at HIV diagnosis in Georgia
VS among those retained in care: Most recent VL in reporting year was <200 copies/ml among those with ≥ 2 CD4 or viral load (VL) tests at least 3 months apart in reporting year

Suggested Citation:

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For more information on HIV in Georgia, visit:

https://dph.georgia.gov/epidemiology/georgias-hivaids-epidemiology-section

For data requests:

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

Questions

For more information, please contact:

Jenna Gettings, DVM MPH
Director
HIV/AIDS Epidemiology
jenna.gettings@dph.ga.gov