2017 Health Disparities Report

Managed Care Quality and Monitoring Division
California Department of Health Care Services

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HSAG HEALTH SERVICES ADVISORY GROUP

DHCS
California Department of
HealthCareServices

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Commonly Used Abbreviations and Acronyms

The following is a list of abbreviations and acronyms used throughout this report.

- ***AAB***—*Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis*
- **ACE**—angiotensin converting enzyme
- ***ACR***—*All-Cause Readmissions*
- ***AMB–ED***—*Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits*
- ***AMB–OP***—*Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits*
- ***AMR***—*Asthma Medication Ratio*
- **ARBs**—angiotensin receptor blockers
- ***BCS***—*Breast Cancer Screening*
- ***CAP–1219***—*Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years*
- ***CAP–1224***—*Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months*
- ***CAP–256***—*Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years*
- ***CAP–711***—*Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years*
- ***CBP***—*Controlling High Blood Pressure*
- ***CCS***—*Cervical Cancer Screening*
- ***CDC–BP***—*Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control*
- ***CDC–E***—*Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
- ***CDC–H8***—*Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent)*
- ***CDC–H9***—*Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)*
- ***CDC–HT***—*Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
- ***CDC–N***—*Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy*
- ***CIS–3***—*Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3*
- **CMS**—Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
- **DHCS**—California Department of Health Care Services
- **EAS**—External Accountability Set
- **HbA1c**—hemoglobin A1c

- **HEDIS®**—Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set[1]
- **HIPAA**—Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996
- **HSAG**—Health Services Advisory Group, Inc.
- ***IMA–2***—*Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2*
- ***LARC***—*LARC Utilization*
- ***LBP***—*Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain*
- **MCP**—managed care health plan
- ***MPM–ACE***—*Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs*
- ***MPM–Diu***—*Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—Diuretics*
- **N**—number
- **NCQA**—National Committee for Quality Assurance
- **OB/GYN**—obstetrician-gynecologist
- **PCP**—primary care provider
- ***PPC–Pre***—*Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
- ***PPC–Pst***—*Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
- ***TCU***—*Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use*
- ***W–34***—*Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life*
- ***WCC–N***—*Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total*
- ***WCC–PA***—*Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total*

[1] HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

1. Executive Summary

Background

A health disparity is the difference in health outcomes between groups within a population.[2] To assess and improve health disparities, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) contracted with Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. (HSAG), to conduct a health disparities study using two groups of measures. The first, larger group of measures comprise the External Accountability Set (EAS) indicators reported by the 23 full-scope Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) for reporting year 2018 with data derived from calendar year 2017. EAS measures reflect clinical quality, timeliness, and access to care provided by MCPs to their beneficiaries, and each MCP is required to report audited EAS results to DHCS annually. The second group of measures are from two focused studies, Tobacco Cessation Focused Study and Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptive (LARC) Utilization Focused Study, which DHCS contracted with HSAG to conduct in 2018. Focused studies represent opportunities for DHCS to explore a particular topic through data to inform quality improvement activities. This health disparities report does not include data for fee-for-service beneficiaries in Medi-Cal. The goal of this health disparities analysis is to improve health care for Medi-Cal beneficiaries by evaluating the health care disparities affecting beneficiaries enrolled in Medi-Cal MCPs.

To identify and understand health disparities affecting Medi-Cal beneficiaries, it is important to consider the population mix of the Medi-Cal managed care program. In 2017, the racial/ethnic distribution of the Medi-Cal managed care population consisted of the following racial/ethnic groups: Hispanic or Latino (49 percent), White (20 percent), Other or Unknown (12 percent), Asian or Pacific Islanders (11 percent), and Black or African American (8 percent). In addition, the Medi-Cal managed care program's age distribution in 2017 was 17-year-olds and younger (40 percent), 18-to-64-year-olds (51 percent), and 65 and older (8 percent).[3] According to the *2003 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report*, disparities in access to care and quality of care were identified for the Black or African American group and Hispanic or Latino group when compared to the White group.[4] Although some disparities have narrowed since 2000, disparities continue to persist for these racial/ethnic groups as evidenced by the *2017 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report*, which showed that the Black or African American group and the Hispanic or Latino group experienced worse access to care when compared to the White group for 52.4 percent and 70.0 percent, respectively, of access to care

[2] Wyatt R, Laderman M, Botwinick L, Mate K, Whittington J. Achieving Health Equity: A Guide for Health Care Organizations. IHI White Paper. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Institute for Healthcare Improvement; 2016.

[3] Medi-Cal Managed Care Performance Dashboard, December 2017. Available at https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Documents/MMCD/December2017Release.pdf. Accessed on: Sept 10, 2019.

[4] National Healthcare Disparities Report, 2003. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; August 2007.

indicators.[5] For quality measures, the Hispanic or Latino group and the Black or African American group experienced worse quality of care when compared to the White group for 31.7 percent and 42.0 percent, respectively, of quality care indicators. Given national findings on demographic disparities and to improve health care for Medi-Cal beneficiaries, DHCS requested that HSAG evaluate racial/ethnic health care disparities affecting beneficiaries enrolled in Medi-Cal MCPs.

Medi-Cal Managed Care Program and Health Disparities

DHCS' vision is to preserve and improve the health of all Californians.[6] DHCS focuses on three interconnected goals to advance this strategy:

- Improve the health of all Californians.
- Enhance quality, including the patient care experience, in all DHCS programs.
- Reduce DHCS' per capita health care program costs.

One of the seven priorities for improving and maintaining overall health and well-being of Californians identified by DHCS is the elimination of disparities in health care among Californians. This health disparities report is a step toward reaching that goal by assessing the nature and extent of health disparities across the State and between subdivisions of the Medi-Cal population.

DHCS requested that HSAG evaluate indicator data collected for reporting year 2018 at the statewide level, which consists of data collected during calendar year 2017 also known as Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measurement year 2017. Several measures include more than one indicator; therefore, this report will refer to indicators rather than measures. The indicator set for this analysis included a total of 30 indicators: 27 HEDIS indicators; one indicator originally developed by DHCS and MCPs (with guidance from HSAG); and according to DHCS' request, one tobacco cessation indicator and one LARC utilization indicator. The indicators are grouped into the following domains: Preventive Screening and Children's Health, Preventive Screening and Women's Health, Care for Chronic Conditions, and Appropriate Treatment and Utilization. Please note, HSAG did not include the *Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow-Up Plan* indicators in the health disparities analysis due to unreliable data and inconsistent reporting by MCPs. For each indicator, except the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator and *LARC Utilization* indicator, MCPs used numerator and denominator criteria and minimum enrollment requirements defined by the applicable technical specification, such as the HEDIS specification for the Medicaid population. HSAG aggregated

[5] 2017 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; July 2018. AHRQ Pub. No. 18-0033-EF.

[6] DHCS Strategy for Quality Improvement in Health Care. California Department of Healthcare Services, Jan 2017. Available at https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Documents/DHCS_Quality_Strategy_2017.pdf. Accessed on Sept 10, 2019.

results from 23 full-scope MCPs[7] and then stratified these statewide rates by race/ethnicity, primary language, age, and gender.

Although HSAG stratified all indicators by race/ethnicity, primary language, age, and gender, HSAG only identified health disparities based on statistical analysis for the racial/ethnic stratification. To ensure the methodology to identify health disparities aligned with national standards, HSAG used the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS') *Racial and Ethnic Disparities by Gender in Health Care in Medicare Advantage* in developing the methodology, analysis, and report structure, when possible.[8]

Findings for racial/ethnic health disparities are presented in Section 3 of this report, and the indicator rates by demographic stratification (i.e., primary language, age, and gender) are located in Appendix A. Please note, HSAG uses "majority" throughout the report to refer to at least 50 percent.

Key Findings for Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities

Health disparities were identified when indicator rates for racial/ethnic groups were better than or worse than the rates for the White group (i.e., the reference group). If a racial/ethnic group's indicator rate was similar to the White group, then no health disparity was identified. Figure 1.1 displays the percentage and number of indicators (out of 28 possible indicators) for which rates for selected racial/ethnic groups were worse than, similar to, or better than the rates for the White group.

[7] Note: The *State Fiscal Year 2017–18 Tobacco Cessation Focused Study Report* includes results from two specialty health plans, while this report only includes results from MCPs; therefore, results in this report may differ from results presented in the focused study report.

[8] CMS Office of Minority Health and RAND Corporation. *Racial and Ethnic Disparities by Gender in Health Care in Medicare Advantage*. Baltimore, MD. 2017.

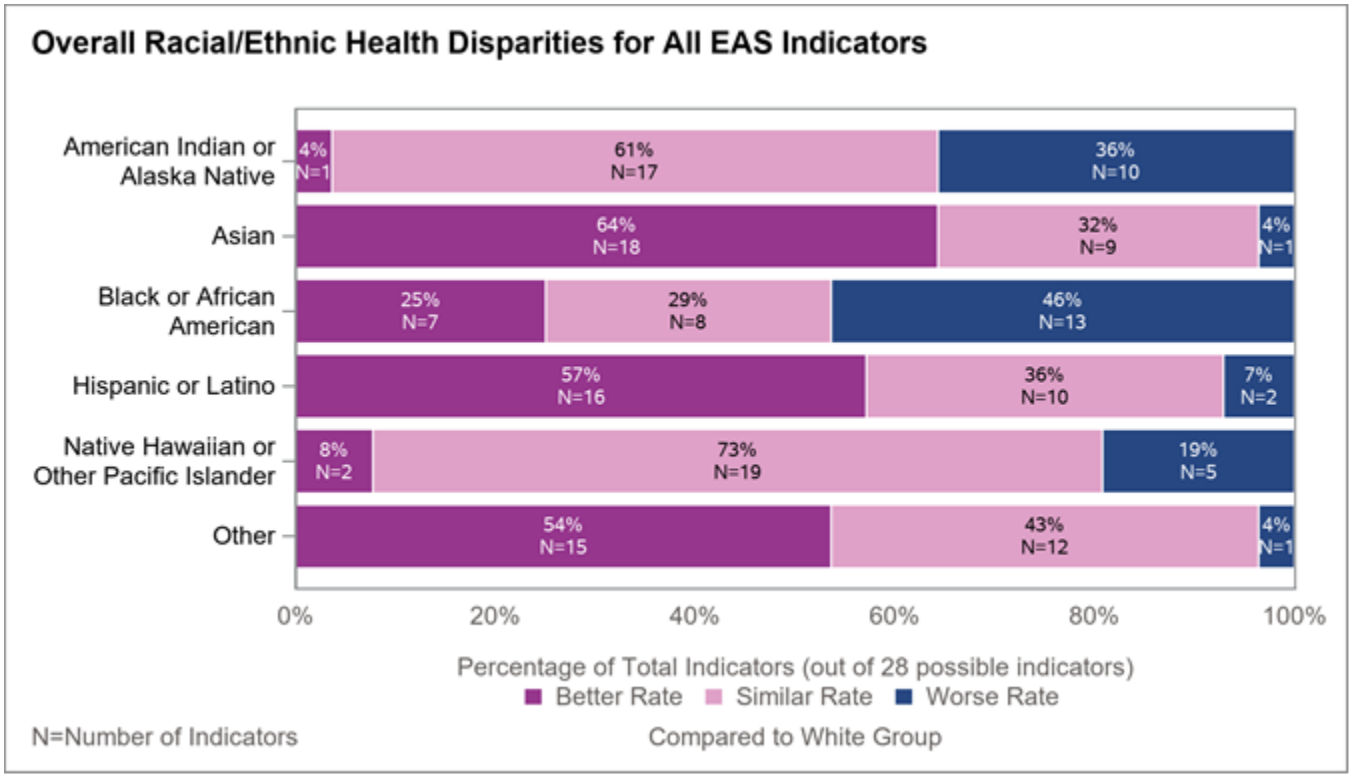
Figure 1.1—Overall Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities for All Indicators

Note: The *Ambulatory Care* indicators were not included in the racial/ethnic health disparities analysis.

For the *LARC Utilization* indicator and the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator, the Asian racial/ethnic group also includes the Asian or Pacific Islander racial/ethnic group, and the Other racial/ethnic group also includes any Unknown racial/ethnic groups.

The *LARC Utilization* indicator and the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator were not stratified by the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander racial/ethnic group; therefore, this racial/ethnic group has a total of 26 indicators.

Due to rounding, the percentage of total indicators may not equal 100 percent for some racial/ethnic groups.



American Indian or Alaska Native

- There were no domains where a majority of the indicator rates for the American Indian or Alaska Native group were better than the rates for the White group.
- For the Preventive Screening and Women's Health domain, a majority of the indicator rates for the American Indian or Alaska Native group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Asian

- For the following domains, a majority of the indicator rates for the Asian group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - Preventive Screening and Children's Health
  - Preventive Screening and Women's Health
  - Care for Chronic Conditions
- There were no domains where a majority of the indicator rates for the Asian group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Black or African American

- For the Appropriate Treatment and Utilization domain, a majority of the indicator rates for the Black or African American group were better than the rates for the White group.
- For the Care for Chronic Conditions domain, a majority of the indicator rates for the Black or African American group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Hispanic or Latino

- For the following domains, a majority of the indicator rates for the Hispanic or Latino group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - Preventive Screening and Children's Health
  - Preventive Screening and Women's Health
- There were no domains where a majority of the indicator rates for the Hispanic or Latino group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

- For the Appropriate Treatment and Utilization domain, a majority of the indicator rates for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group were better than the rates for the White group.
- There were no domains where a majority of the indicator rates for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Other

- For the following domains, a majority of the indicator rates for the Other group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - Preventive Screening and Children's Health
  - Preventive Screening and Women's Health
  - Appropriate Treatment and Utilization
- There were no domains where a majority of the indicator rates for the Other group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Overall Conclusions and Items for Consideration

The following are the overall conclusions for the Medi-Cal health disparities analysis:

- The rates for the Black or African American group were worse than those for the White group for approximately 46 percent of indicators in the analyses.
  - All indicators for which the Black or African American group rates were worse than those for the White group were related to health outcomes or access to care.
- The rates for the American Indian or Alaska Native group and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group were worse than those for the White group for approximately 36 percent and 19 percent, respectively, of indicators in the analyses.
- The rates for the Asian group and Hispanic or Latino group were better than the rates for the White group for approximately 64 percent and 57 percent, respectively, of indicators in the analyses.

Based on the overall conclusions for the Medi-Cal health disparities analysis, DHCS should consider the following:

- For the racial/ethnic groups with rates that were worse than the rates for the White group, DHCS should consider opportunities to increase MCP member-level engagement to identify contributors to health disparities and strategies to address these disparities where possible.
- For the racial/ethnic groups with rates that were better than the rates for the White group, DHCS should consider analyzing health disparities further to determine the additional factors that may be associated with higher rates, specifically, for the Asian and Hispanic or Latino groups.
- For the Asian group, DHCS should consider analyzing the sub-populations that comprise this group in more detail to determine if health disparities are consistent across all Asian sub-populations. Additionally, DHCS should consider analyzing whether health disparities across all Asian sub-populations vary based on geographic location (i.e., county).
- DHCS should consider using the Hispanic or Latino group as the reference group for future reports, given that the Hispanic or Latino group rates were better than the rates for the White group for a majority of indicators and that the Hispanic or Latino group is larger than the White group for almost all indicators.

2. Reader's Guide

Introduction

The "Reader's Guide" is designed to provide supplemental information to the reader that may aid in the interpretation and use of the results presented in this report.

Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plans

Table 2.1 displays the 23 full-scope Medi-Cal MCPs and the corresponding counties served for which data were aggregated and presented within this report.

Table 2.1—MCPs and Applicable Counties

MCP Name	Counties
Alameda Alliance for Health	Alameda
Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan	Alameda, Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Inyo, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, San Francisco, Sacramento, San Benito, Santa Clara, Sierra, Sutter, Tehama, Tuolumne, Tulare, Yuba
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan (prior to January 1, 2019, known as Care1st Health Plan)	San Diego
California Health & Wellness Plan	Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Imperial, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sierra, Sutter, Tehama, Tuolumne, Yuba
CalOptima	Orange
CalViva Health	Fresno, Kings, Madera
CenCal Health	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara
Central California Alliance for Health	Merced, Monterey, Santa Cruz
Community Health Group Partnership Plan	San Diego
Contra Costa Health Plan	Contra Costa
Gold Coast Health Plan	Ventura

MCP Name	Counties
Health Net Community Solutions, Inc.	Kern, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Diego, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare
Health Plan of San Joaquin	San Joaquin, Stanislaus
Health Plan of San Mateo	San Mateo
Inland Empire Health Plan	Riverside, San Bernardino
Kaiser NorCal (KP Cal, LLC)	Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento
Kaiser SoCal (KP Cal, LLC)	San Diego
Kern Family Health Care	Kern
L.A. Care Health Plan	Los Angeles
Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	Imperial, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego
Partnership HealthPlan of California	Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Trinity, Yolo
San Francisco Health Plan	San Francisco
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	Santa Clara

Summary of Performance Indicators

DHCS selected 30 indicators reported by the 23 full-scope Medi-Cal MCPs for inclusion in the analysis and report. The indicators were grouped into the following domains of care: Preventive Screening and Children's Health, Preventive Screening and Women's Health, Care for Chronic Conditions, and Appropriate Treatment and Utilization. While health disparities are displayed and discussed primarily at the indicator level in this report, grouping these indicators into domains allows Medi-Cal MCPs and DHCS to consider the results as a whole rather than in isolation when developing strategic changes to improve health care for Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Table 2.2 displays the selected indicators included in the analysis by domain. The indicator set included 27 HEDIS indicators; one indicator originally developed by DHCS and MCPs (with guidance from HSAG); and according to DHCS' request, one tobacco cessation indicator and one LARC utilization indicator—for a total of 30 indicators.

Table 2.2—Measure Indicators

Measure Indicator	Indicator
Preventive Screening and Children's Health	
Childhood Immunization Status	*Combination 3*
Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners	*12 to 24 Months*; *25 Months to 6 Years*; *7 to 11 Years*; *12 to 19 Years*
Immunizations for Adolescents	*Combination 2 (Meningococcal, Tdap, HPV)*
Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents	*Counseling for Nutrition—Total*; *Counseling for Physical Activity—Total*
Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life	*Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life*
Preventive Screening and Women's Health	
Breast Cancer Screening	*Breast Cancer Screening*
Cervical Cancer Screening	*Cervical Cancer Screening*
LARC Utilization	*LARC Utilization*
Prenatal and Postpartum Care	*Postpartum Care*; *Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
Care for Chronic Conditions	
Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications	*Angiotensin Converting Enzyme (ACE) Inhibitors or Angiotensin Receptor Blockers (ARBs)*; *Diuretics*
Asthma Medication Ratio	*Asthma Medication Ratio*
Comprehensive Diabetes Care	*Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg)*; *Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*; *Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Control (<8.0 Percent)*; *HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)*; *HbA1c Testing*; *Medical Attention for Nephropathy*
Controlling High Blood Pressure	*Controlling High Blood Pressure*
Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use	*Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use*
Appropriate Treatment and Utilization	
All-Cause Readmissions	*All-Cause Readmissions*
Ambulatory Care	*Emergency Department Visits*; *Outpatient Visits*

Measure Indicator	Indicator
Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis	*Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis*
Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain	*Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain*

Methodology Overview

For the 2017–18 contract year, HSAG evaluated indicator data collected for reporting year 2018 at the statewide level, which consisted of data collected during calendar year 2017 also known as HEDIS measurement year 2017.[9] HSAG aggregated the results from the 23 full-scope MCPs and then stratified these statewide rates for all indicators by demographic stratifications (i.e., race/ethnicity, primary language, age, and gender).

Although HSAG stratified all indicators by race/ethnicity, primary language, age, and gender, HSAG only identified health disparities based on statistical analysis for the racial/ethnic stratification. To ensure the methodology aligned with national standards, HSAG used CMS' *Racial and Ethnic Disparities by Gender in Health Care in Medicare Advantage* in developing the methodology, analysis, and report structure, when possible.[10]

The information below provides a high-level overview of the health disparities analyses conducted on the reporting year 2018 data for DHCS. For the detailed methodology, please see Appendix B.

Data Sources

HSAG received a CA-required patient-level detail file from each MCP for each HEDIS reporting unit containing beneficiary-level information, including the member ID, date of birth, and member months for beneficiaries included in the audited HEDIS rates. Additionally, the patient-level detail files indicated whether a beneficiary was included in the numerator and/or denominator for each applicable HEDIS indicator. HSAG validated the reporting year 2018 patient-level detail files against the audited HEDIS Interactive Data Submission System files to confirm numerator and denominator counts matched for each indicator. Additionally, DHCS provided supplemental files with demographic data (e.g., date of birth, gender, ZIP code, race/ethnicity, primary language) from DHCS' Management Information System/Decision Support System data system.

HSAG used the reporting year 2018 member-level files originally created by HSAG to produce results for the *State Fiscal Year 2017–18 Tobacco Cessation Focused Study Report*. The

[9] Please note that the *LARC Utilization* indicator uses data from calendar year 2015.

[10] CMS Office of Minority Health and RAND Corporation. *Racial and Ethnic Disparities by Gender in Health Care in Medicare Advantage*. Baltimore, MD. 2017.

reporting year 2018 member-level files contained the beneficiary's Medi-Cal ID, race/ethnicity, age, gender, MCP, and reporting unit for calendar year 2017. To calculate the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator, HSAG used numerator and denominator data from the member-level files. HSAG used the LARC dataset originally created by HSAG to produce the *State Fiscal Year 2017–18 LARC Utilization Focused Study Report*. The LARC dataset contained the race/ethnicity, primary language, age, gender, MCP, and reporting unit for female beneficiaries ages 15 to 44 years.

Statistical Analysis

HSAG combined the demographic files and the measure patient-level detail files to perform a health disparity analysis of the statewide racial/ethnic demographic stratifications using logistic regression. HSAG compared each race/ethnicity group to the White group (i.e., the reference group) for each indicator. The White racial/ethnic group was chosen as the reference group because it is used in most national health disparities reports and has historically been used as a reference point for reporting health care and non-health care disparities.

HSAG performed the logistic regression using SAS® software.[11] The *p*-value of the coefficient from the logistic regression was used to identify statistically significant differences when comparing the racial/ethnic groups to the reference group. For each indicator, HSAG also calculated an absolute difference for each racial/ethnic group by taking the absolute value of the difference between the rate for a racial/ethnic group and the rate for the reference group. For this report, a "health disparity" was defined as a rate for a racial/ethnic group with an absolute difference greater than or equal to 3 percentage points *and* a *p*-value of the coefficient of the logistic regression that is less than 0.05. When analyzing the rate for a racial/ethnic group, HSAG classified the rate in one of the following three categories based on the preceding analyses:

- Better Rate = The absolute difference from the reference group was greater than or equal to 3 percentage points, the *p*-value of the coefficient of the logistic regression was less than 0.05, and the rate for the racial/ethnic group was higher or more favorable than the rate for the reference group. In other words, the reference group showed a health disparity compared to the racial/ethnic group being evaluated.
- Worse Rate = The absolute difference from the reference group was greater than or equal to 3 percentage points, the *p*-value of the coefficient of the logistic regression was less than 0.05, and the rate for the racial/ethnic group was lower or less favorable than the rate for the reference group. In other words, the racial/ethnic group being evaluated showed a health disparity compared to the reference group.
- Similar Rate = The absolute difference from the reference group was less than 3 percentage points or the *p*-value of the coefficient of the logistic regression was greater than or equal to 0.05. This means no health disparities were identified when the racial/ethnic group was compared to the reference group.

[11] SAS® is a registered trademark of the SAS Institute, Inc.

For more information on how HSAG displayed the results from the statistical analysis, please refer to the "Evaluating Results" section below.

Evaluating Results

Within Section 3 of this report, indicator results are grouped and discussed by domain as shown in Table 2.2, starting with an overall domain-level figure. Following each domain-level figure, the narrative is organized by racial/ethnic group and describes indicators for which the rates for the racial/ethnic group were better than or worse than the rates for the White group. The results of the aggregate health disparity analyses for 28 indicators are presented within horizontal bar graphs in Section 3. Of note, due to limitations with the data, HSAG did not perform statistical analyses to identify health disparities for the *Ambulatory Care* indicators; therefore, these indicators are not included in Section 3 and are only presented in Appendix A. Within Appendix A, HSAG also presents indicator rates for the primary language, age, and gender demographic stratifications; however, statistical analysis was not performed on these demographic stratifications to identify health disparities.

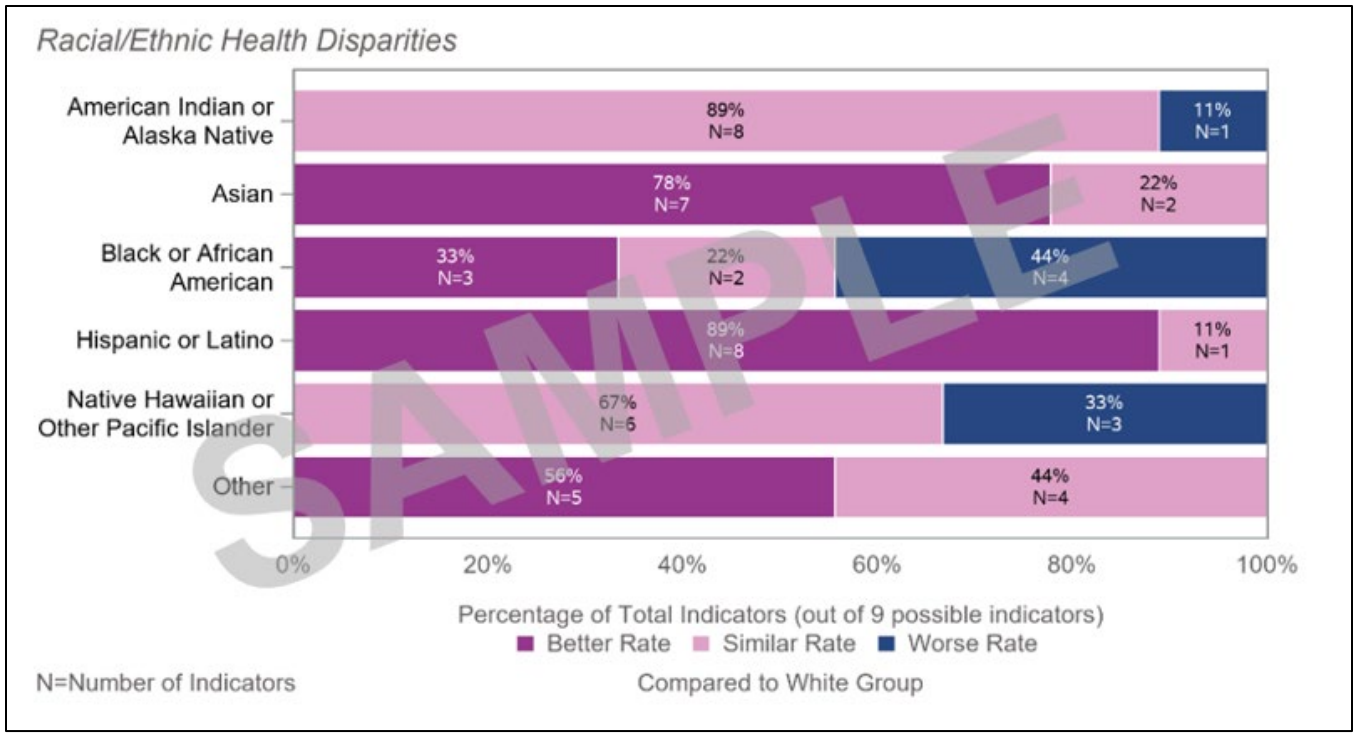
Additionally, Section 4 displays California-wide choropleth maps to show the geographic variability at the county level for four indicators (*Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years*, *Breast Cancer Screening*, *Asthma Medication Ratio*, and *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis*).

Figure Interpretation

Section 3 presents a horizontal stacked bar graph for each domain that displays the percentage of indicators that had a better rate, worse rate, or similar rate to the White group for each racial/ethnic group. In these figures, "N" represents the number of indicators within the domain. Please note, some racial/ethnic stratifications may not have the same number of indicators for a particular domain due to a lack of data (i.e., small numerator or small denominator) for a particular indicator. An example of the horizontal stacked bar graph figure is shown in Figure 2.1. All data in the sample figure are mock data.

Figure 2.1—Sample Domain-Level Horizontal Stacked Bar Graph

FIGURE CONTAINS MOCK DATA



Additionally, the "Executive Summary" includes a similar overall horizontal stacked bar graph that displays the percentage of indicators that had a better rate, worse rate, or similar rate to the White group for each racial/ethnic group across all indicators.

For each indicator presented within Section 3 of this report, horizontal bar graphs display the rates for each racial/ethnic group. The indicator three-letter abbreviation is used within the figure (e.g., CBP); however, the abbreviation is defined within the figure title. Health disparities are shown with arrows next to the rate on the bar graph indicating whether the rate for the racial/ethnic group being evaluated was a better rate (indicated by an upward arrow) or a worse rate (indicated by a downward arrow) than the rate for the reference group (i.e., White group). If no arrow is present, no health disparities were identified. "N" represents the total statewide denominator for an indicator for a particular group. A "Note" is included above each figure displaying the statewide denominator and rate for the "Unknown/Missing" racial/ethnic group, if applicable.

Additionally, the figures also display the minimum performance level, when applicable, as established by DHCS, which represents NCQA's Quality Compass® national Medicaid health maintenance organization 25th percentile for HEDIS 2018.[12] Of note, the minimum performance level is displayed not as a statistical benchmark for health disparities but to provide more information about overall performance for a specific indicator. Minimum

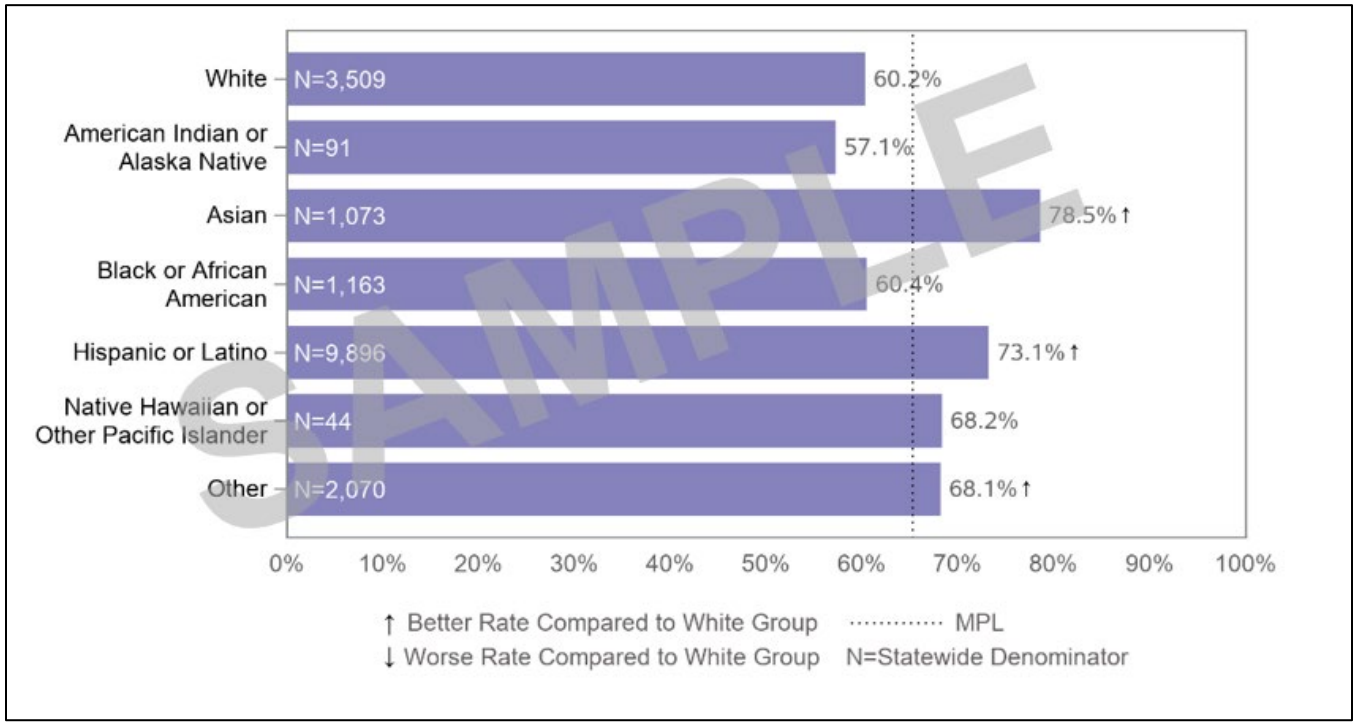
[12] Quality Compass® is a registered trademark of the NCQA.

performance level percentile data (i.e., Quality Compass rates) are the proprietary intellectual property of NCQA; therefore, this report does not display any actual percentile values. As a result, rate comparisons to minimum performance levels are illustrated within this report using proxy displays (i.e., the dotted line). Within each applicable figure, "MPL" represents the minimum performance level for an indicator, where applicable. An example of the horizontal bar graph figure is shown in Figure 2.2. All data in the sample figure are mock data.

Figure 2.2—Sample Indicator-Level Horizontal Bar Graph Figure

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 60.9 percent (N=75).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

FIGURE CONTAINS MOCK DATA

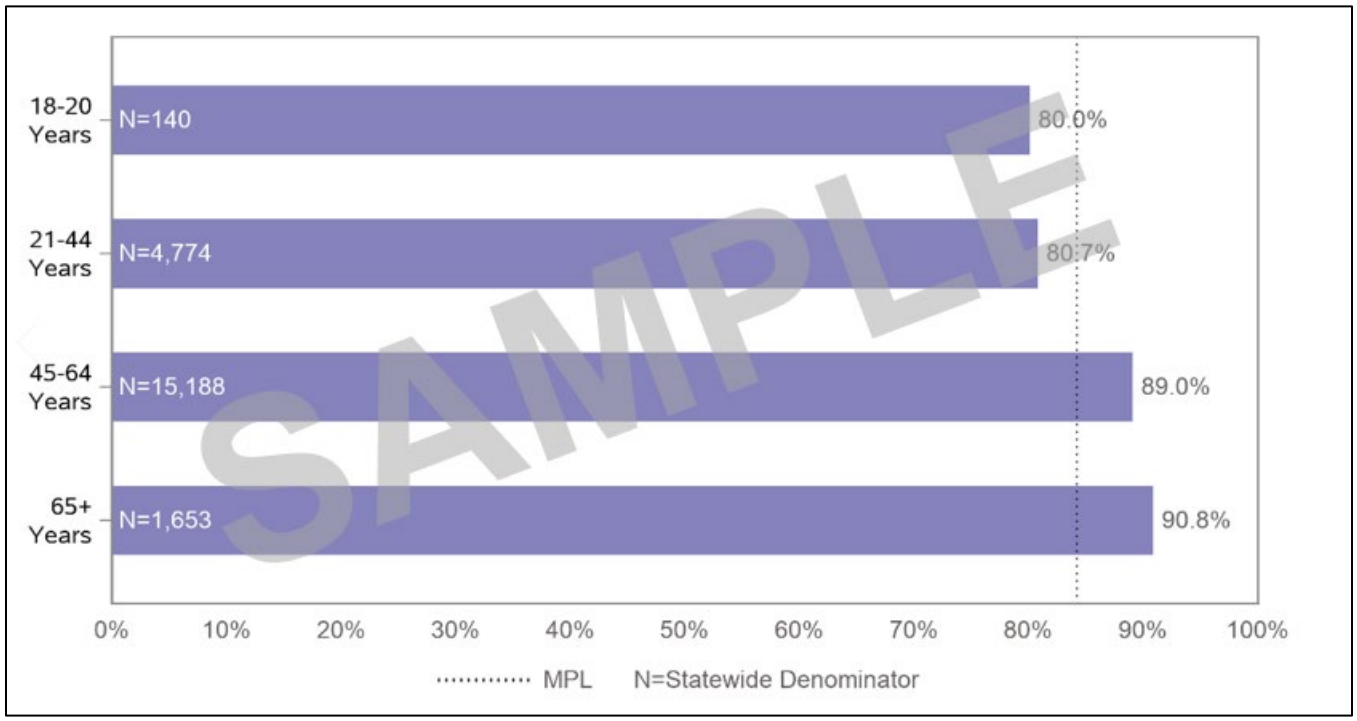


Within Appendix A, horizontal bar graphs display the indicator rates by demographic stratification (primary language, age, and gender). Statistical analysis was not performed on these demographic stratifications to identify health disparities; therefore, these rates are for information only. When available, the figures also display the minimum performance level for the corresponding indicator that represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile and, as noted previously, is displayed not as a statistical benchmark for health disparities but to provide more information about overall performance for a specific indicator. "MPL" represents the minimum performance level for an indicator, where applicable. "N" represents the total statewide denominator for an indicator for a particular group. A "Note" is included above each figure displaying the statewide denominator and rate for the "Unknown/Missing" group for the corresponding stratification, where applicable. An example of the horizontal bar graph by age is shown in Figure 2.3. All data in the sample figure are mock data.

Figure 2.3—Sample Horizontal Stacked Bar Graph by Demographic Stratification Figure

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing age group was 27.8 percent (N=352).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

FIGURE CONTAINS MOCK DATA



Choropleth Map Interpretation

The choropleth maps highlight regional performance differences for the select indicators. HSAG first assigned a county to each beneficiary based on the county code provided in the DHCS demographic file. If the county code was missing for a beneficiary in the demographic data file, HSAG used the ZIP code to determine the appropriate county. HSAG then calculated county-level rates for each indicator listed previously by summing the numerators and denominators for all beneficiaries within a county. For each indicator, HSAG and DHCS determined cut points (e.g., 60.00 percent, 65.00 percent, 70.00 percent, 80.00 percent) based on the distribution of county-level rates to display the variation of county performance. HSAG then created performance levels (Lowest Performance [darkest blue], Low Performance, Middle/Average Performance, High Performance, and Highest Performance [lightest blue]) based on the cut points for each indicator. Once the performance levels were set for each indicator, each county was shaded the corresponding color of the performance level.

Table 2.3 displays the performance levels and corresponding colors for each indicator. For county rates with a small denominator (i.e., less than 30) or small numerator (i.e., less than 11), HSAG shaded the county white.

Table 2.3—Performance Level and Corresponding Colors

Indicator	Performance Level and Corresponding Colors
Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years	Below 80.00%
	80.00% to 83.99%
	84.00% to 85.99%
	86.00% to 88.99%
	89.00%+
Breast Cancer Screening	Below 45.00%
	45.00% to 49.99%
	50.00% to 54.99%
	55.00% to 59.99%
	60.00%+
Asthma Medication Ratio	Below 53.00%
	53.00% to 57.99%
	58.00% to 62.99%
	63.00% to 66.99%
	67.00%+
Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis	Below 26.00%
	26.00% to 31.99%
	32.00% to 38.99%
	39.00% to 45.99%
	46.00%+

Cautions and Limitations

Hybrid Indicators

For hybrid indicators, NCQA recommends the submission of a sample of 411 beneficiaries per reporting unit to limit bias and to allow for results from the sample to be generalizable to the entire eligible population. As the rates for individual strata will be based on fewer than 411 beneficiaries, it should be noted that the stratified rates may not be generalizable to the total eligible population. Due to this caveat, the stratified rates produced for hybrid measures should be interpreted with caution. Additionally, HSAG did not weight the statewide rates for hybrid measures by the total eligible population; so, all MCPs, regardless of size, count equally toward the statewide rates. As such, performance may not be representative of actual statewide performance.

Limiting Beneficiaries

To match the age parameters for each indicator, HSAG limited the analysis to beneficiaries whose age was in one of the valid age groups for each indicator. For indicators in the Preventive Screening and Women's Health domain, HSAG only kept beneficiaries who were identified as female in the demographic file. Further, for the *Breast Cancer Screening* indicator and *Cervical Cancer Screening* indicator, the age groups were limited to women 52 to 74 years of age and 24 to 64 years of age, respectively. Additionally, HSAG included the "Unknown/Missing" group for race/ethnicity, primary language, and gender in the formal report as a note above the figures.

3. Findings

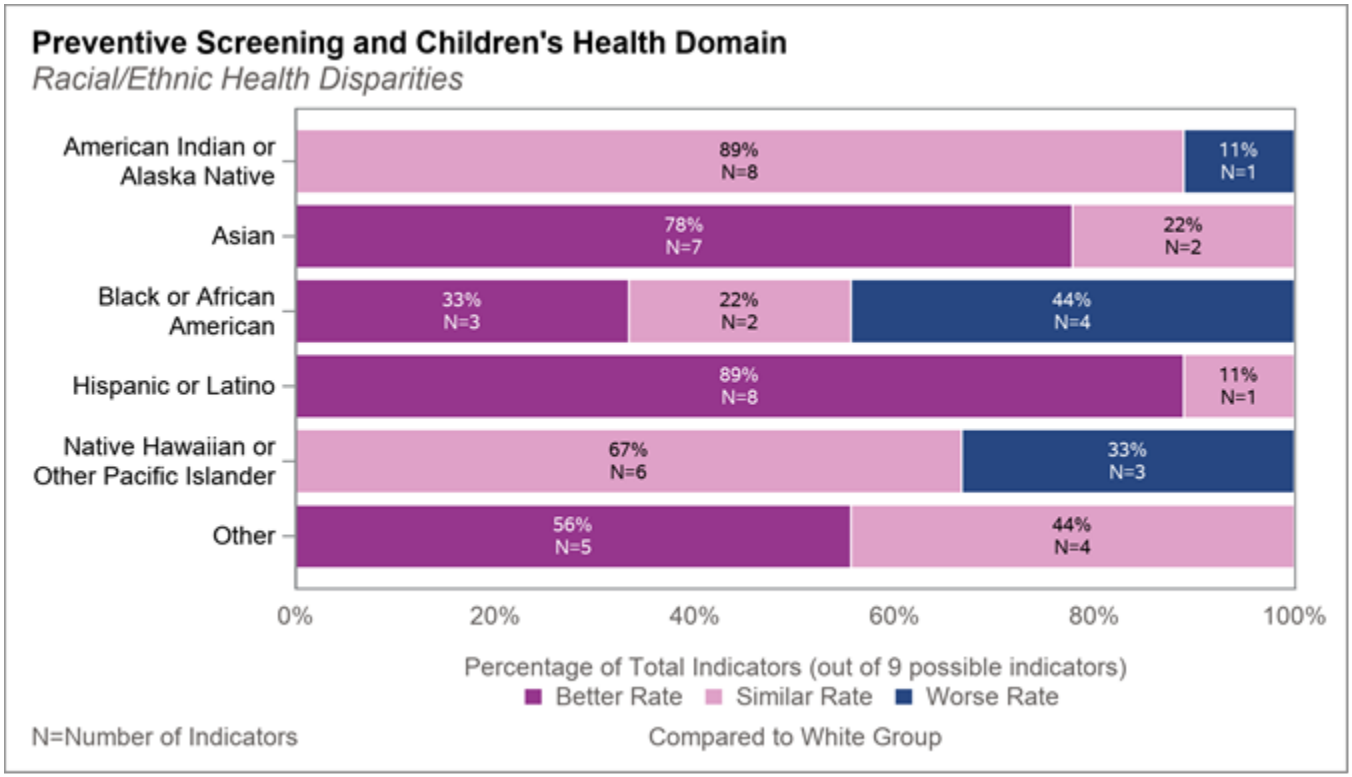
The Findings section presents the racial/ethnic health disparities results for each indicator, where applicable, organized by domain (Preventive Screening and Children's Health, Preventive Screening and Women's Health, Care for Chronic Conditions, and Appropriate Treatment and Utilization).

Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities: Preventive Screening and Children's Health Domain

Health disparities were identified when indicator rates for racial/ethnic groups were better than or worse than the rates for the White group (i.e., the reference group). If a racial/ethnic group's indicator rate was similar to the White group, then no health disparity was identified. Figure 3.1 displays the percentage and number of Preventive Screening and Children's Health domain indicators (out of nine possible indicators) for which rates for selected racial/ethnic groups were worse than, similar to, or better than the rates for the White group.

Figure 3.1—Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities Summary: Preventive Screening and Children's Health Domain

Note: Due to rounding, the percentage of total indicators may not equal 100 percent for some racial/ethnic groups.



American Indian or Alaska Native

- No rates for the American Indian or Alaska Native group were better than the rates for the White group.
- For *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total*, the rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was worse than the rate for the White group.

Asian

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Asian group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3*
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years*
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years*
  - *Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2*
  - *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total*
  - *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total*
  - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life*
- No rates for the Asian group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Black or African American

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Black or African American group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2*
  - *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total*
  - *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total*
- For the following indicators, the rates for the Black or African American group were worse than the rates for the White group:
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months*
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years*
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years*
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years*

Hispanic or Latino

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Hispanic or Latino group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3*
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years*
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years*
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years*
  - *Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2*
  - *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total*
  - *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total*
  - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life*
- No rates for the Hispanic or Latino group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

- No rates for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group were better than the rates for the White group.
- For the following indicators, the rates for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group were worse than the rates for the White group:
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years*
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years*
  - *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years*

Other

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Other group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3*
  - *Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2*
  - *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total*
  - *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total*
  - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life*
- No rates for the Other group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities: Preventive Screening and Children's Health Domain Indicator Results

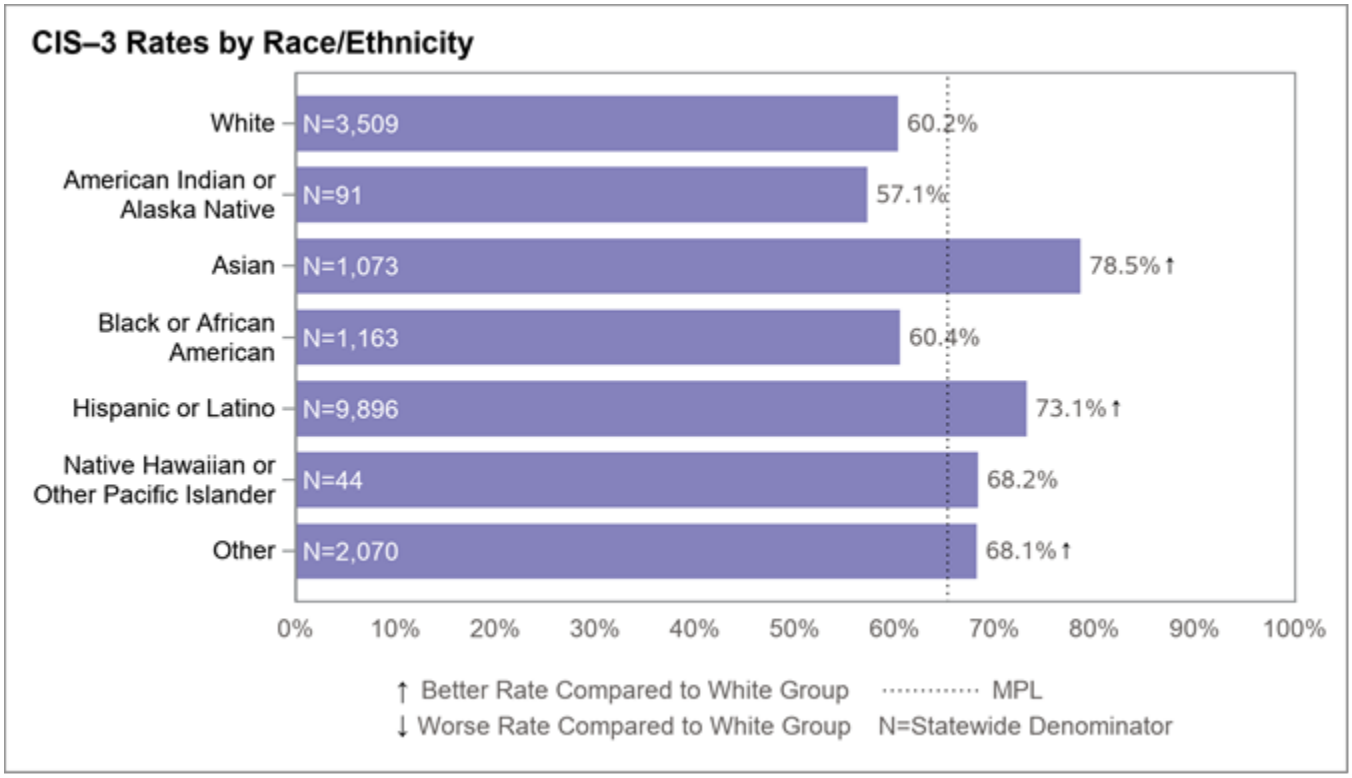
Figure 3.2 through Figure 3.10 display the racial/ethnic health disparities for each indicator included in the Preventive Screening and Children's Health domain. For each figure, the arrows highlight health disparities and indicate when the rates for the specific racial/ethnic groups were better than or worse than the rate for the White group. If the rate for the specific racial/ethnic group was similar to the rate for the White group, then no health disparity was identified and an arrow is not present.

Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3 (CIS–3)

The *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3* (*CIS–3*) indicator measures the percentage of children 2 years of age who had four diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis (DTaP); three polio (IPV); one measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR); three haemophilus influenza type B (HiB); three hepatitis B (HepB); one chicken pox (VZV); and four pneumococcal conjugate (PCV) vaccines by their second birthday. Figure 3.2 displays the statewide *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3* (*CIS–3*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.2—Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3 (CIS–3) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 61.8 percent (N=1,838).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



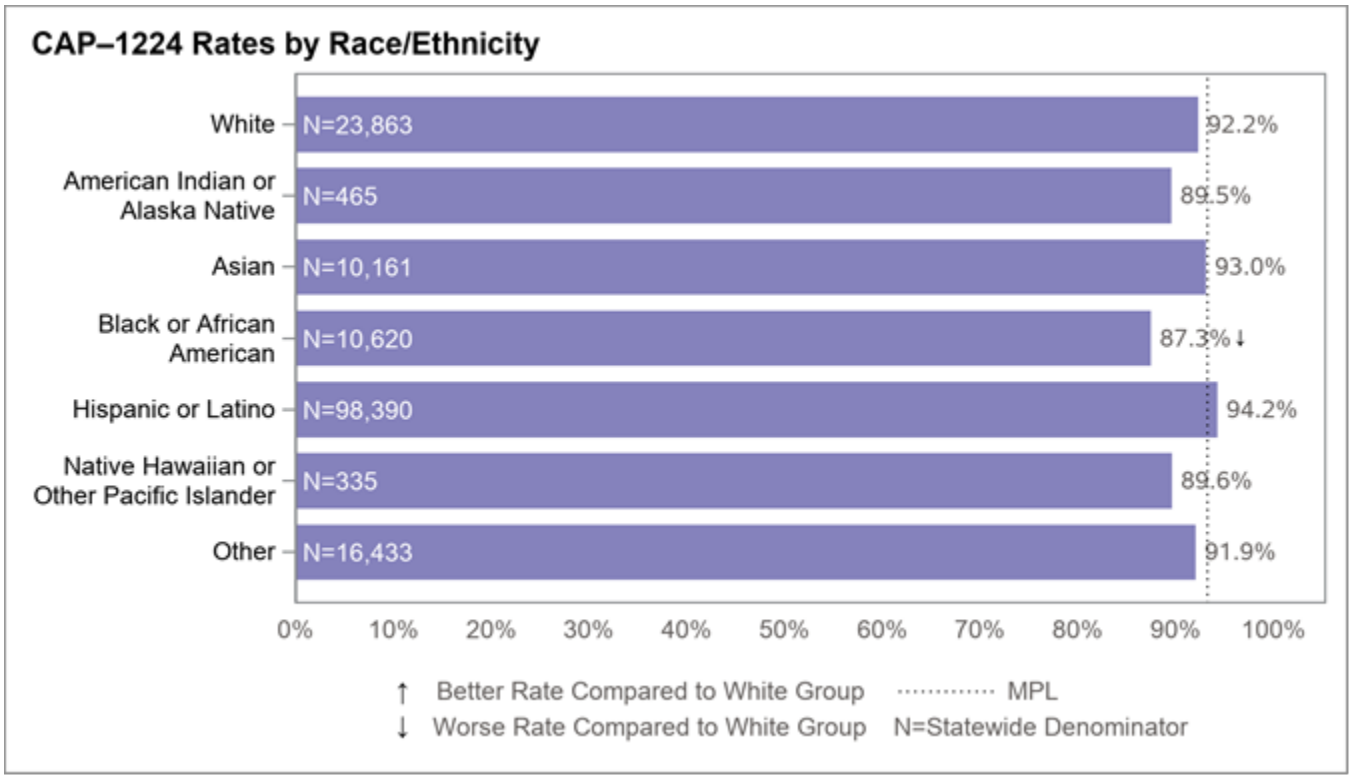
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 57.1 percent for the American Indian or Alaska Native group to 78.5 percent for the Asian group.
- Three health disparities were identified for the *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
- The rates for the following racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator:
  - White
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Black or African American

Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months (CAP–1224)

The *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months* (*CAP–1224*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 12 to 24 months of age who had a visit with a PCP. Figure 3.3 displays the statewide *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months* (*CAP–1224*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.3—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months (CAP–1224) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 92.0 percent (N=17,400).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 87.3 percent for the Black or African American group to 94.2 percent for the Hispanic or Latino group.
- One health disparity was identified for the *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months* indicator as the rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- The rates for the following racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator:
  - White

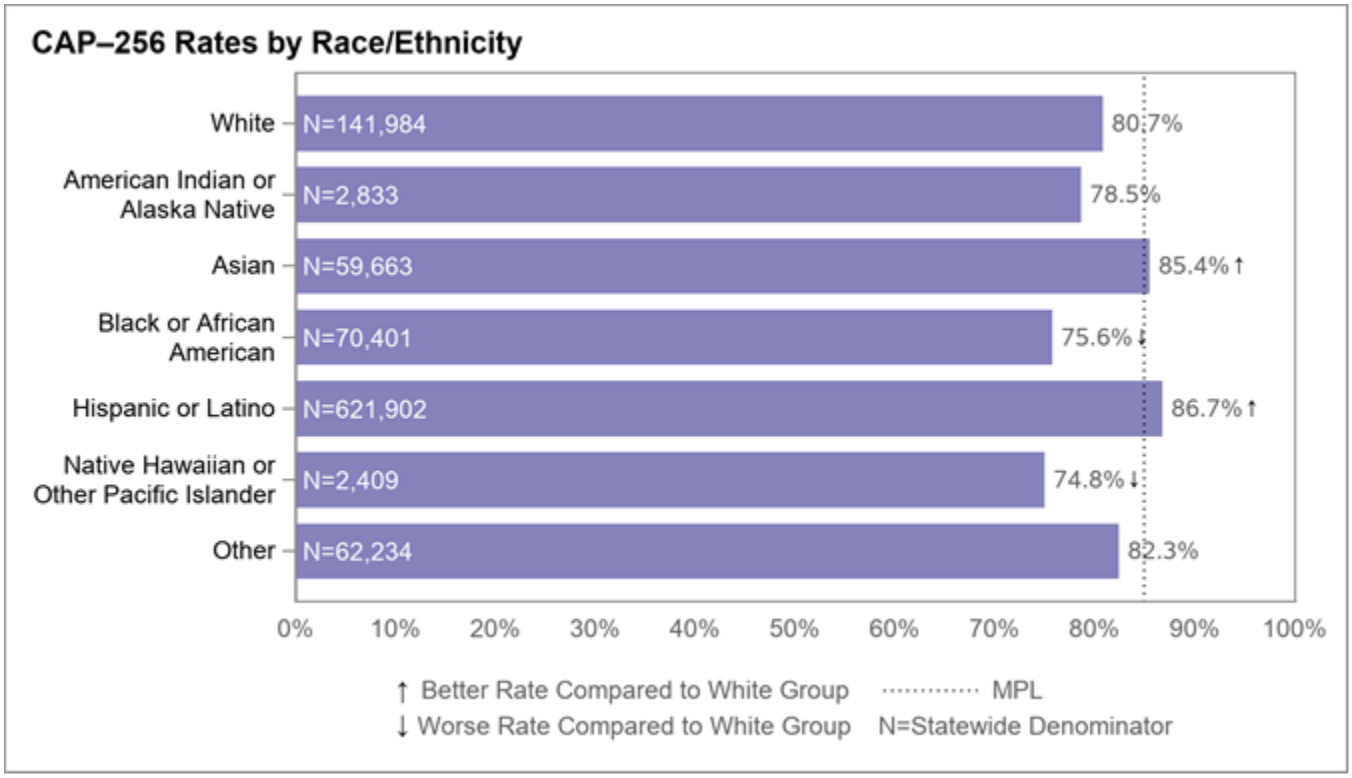
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Other

Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years (CAP–256)

The *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years* (*CAP–256*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 25 months to 6 years of age who had a visit with a PCP. Figure 3.4 displays the statewide *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years* (*CAP–256*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.4—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years (CAP–256) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 82.0 percent (N=57,998).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 74.8 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group to 86.7 percent for the Hispanic or Latino group.
- Four health disparities were identified for the *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.

  - The rate for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group was worse than the rate for the White group.

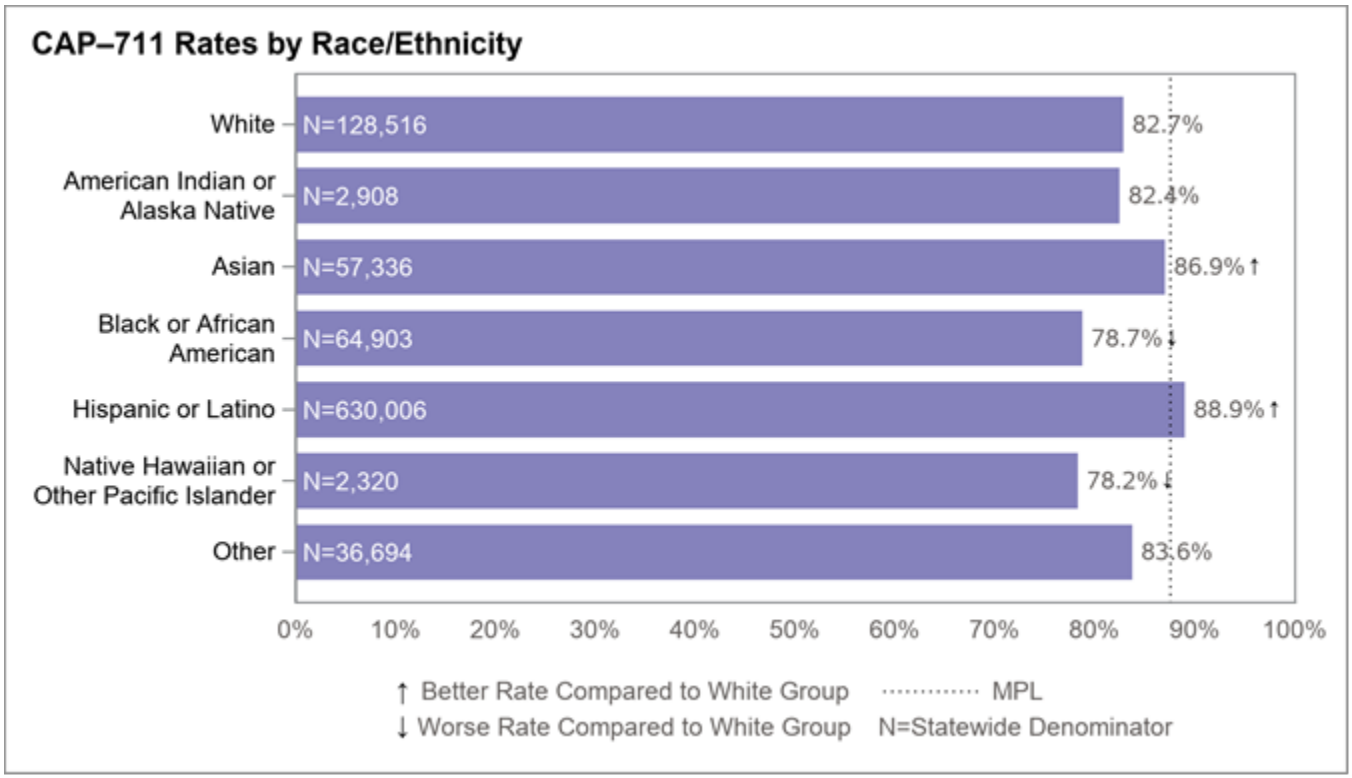
- The rates for the following racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator:
  - White
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Black or African American
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - Other

Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years (CAP–711)

The *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years* (*CAP–711*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 7 to 11 years of age who had a visit with a PCP. Figure 3.5 displays the statewide *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years* (*CAP–711*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.5—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years (CAP–711) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 83.7 percent (N=23,867).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 78.2 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group to 88.9 percent for the Hispanic or Latino group.
- Four health disparities were identified for the *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.

  - The rate for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group was worse than the rate for the White group.

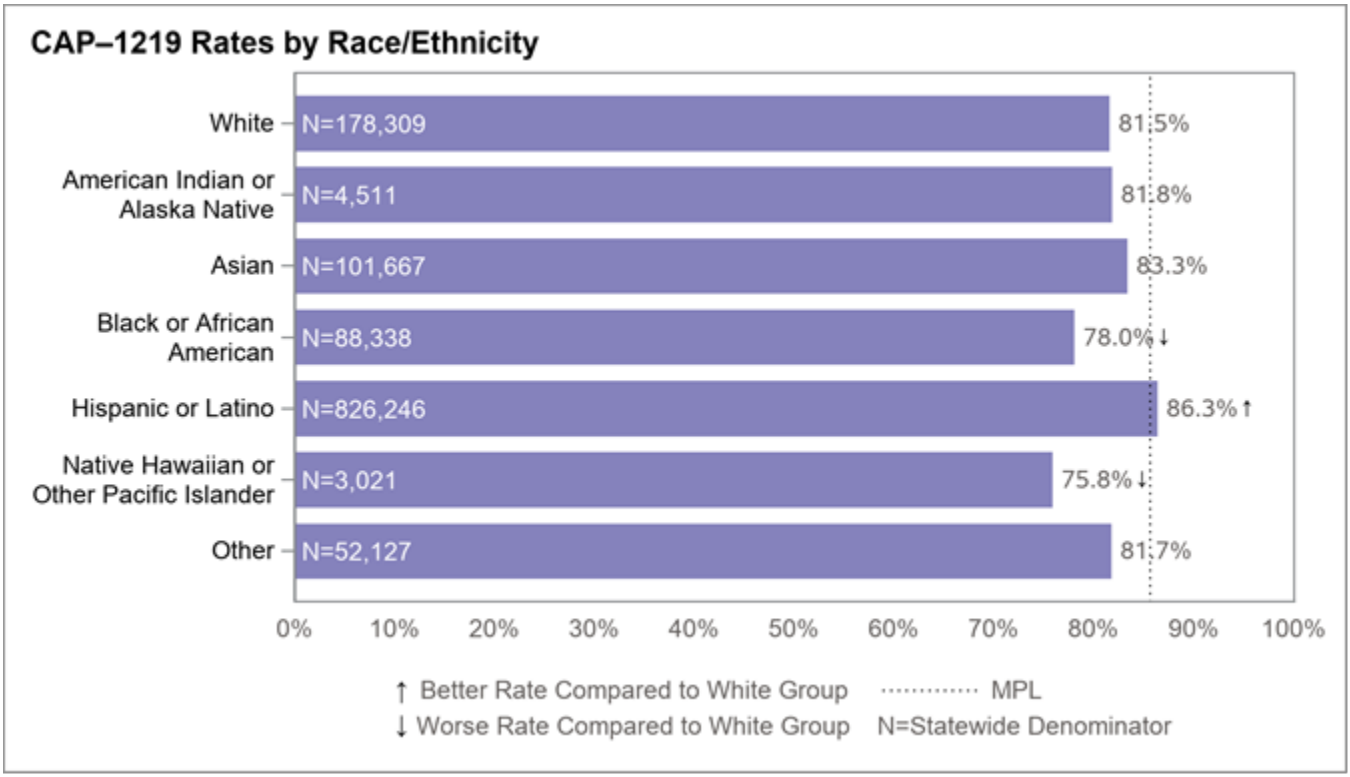
- The rates for the following racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator:
  - White
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Asian
  - Black or African American
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - Other

Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years (CAP–1219)

The *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years* (*CAP–1219*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 12 to 19 years of age who had a visit with a PCP. Figure 3.6 displays the statewide *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years* (*CAP–1219*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.6—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years (CAP–1219) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 79.6 percent (N=27,266).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 75.8 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group to 86.3 percent for the Hispanic or Latino group.
- Three health disparities were identified for the *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years* indicator:
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group was worse than the rate for the White group.

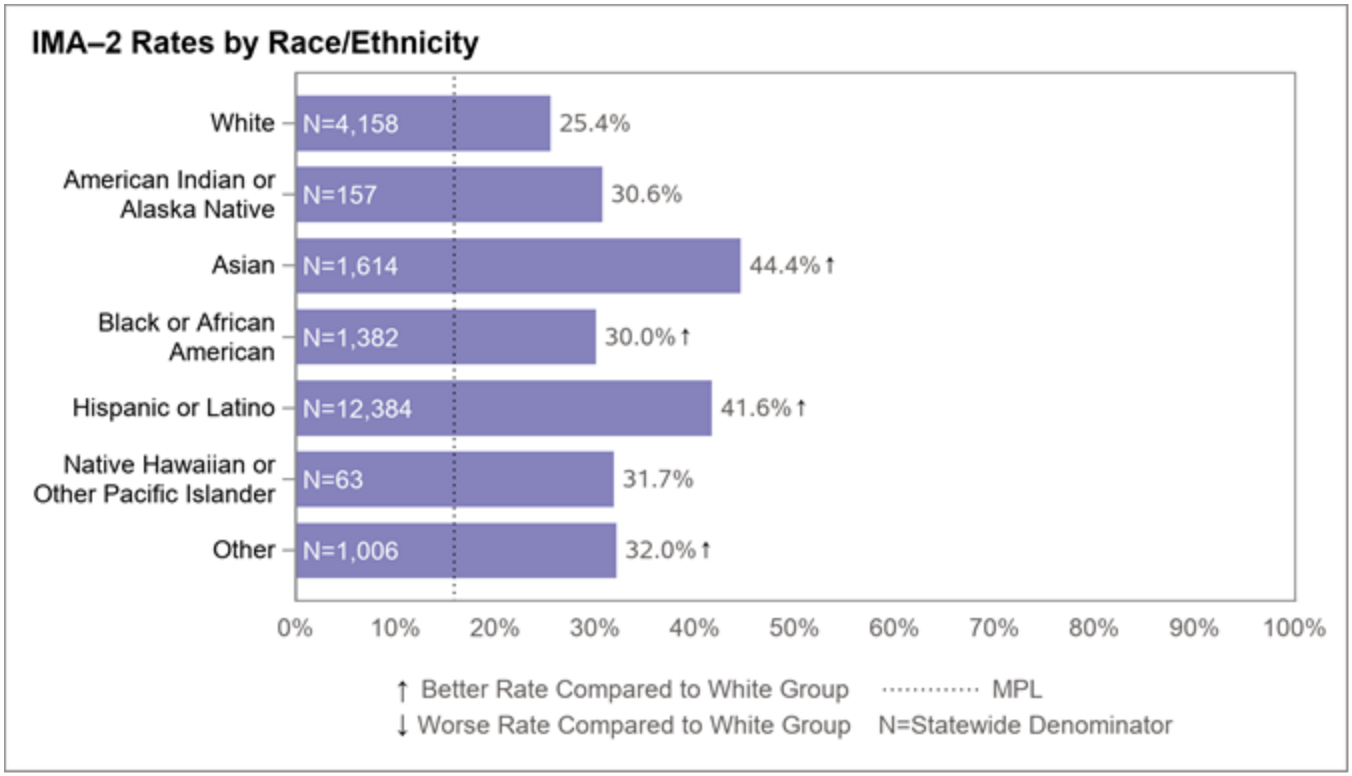
- The rates for the following racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator:
  - White
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Asian
  - Black or African American
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - Other

Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2 (IMA–2)

The *Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2* (*IMA–2*) indicator measures the percentage of adolescents 13 years of age who had one dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine; one tetanus, diphtheria toxoids, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine; and have completed the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine series by their 13th birthday. Figure 3.7 displays the statewide *Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2* (*IMA–2*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.7—Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2 (IMA–2) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 33.0 percent (N=409).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 25.4 percent for the White group to 44.4 percent for the Asian group.
- Four health disparities were identified for the *Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.

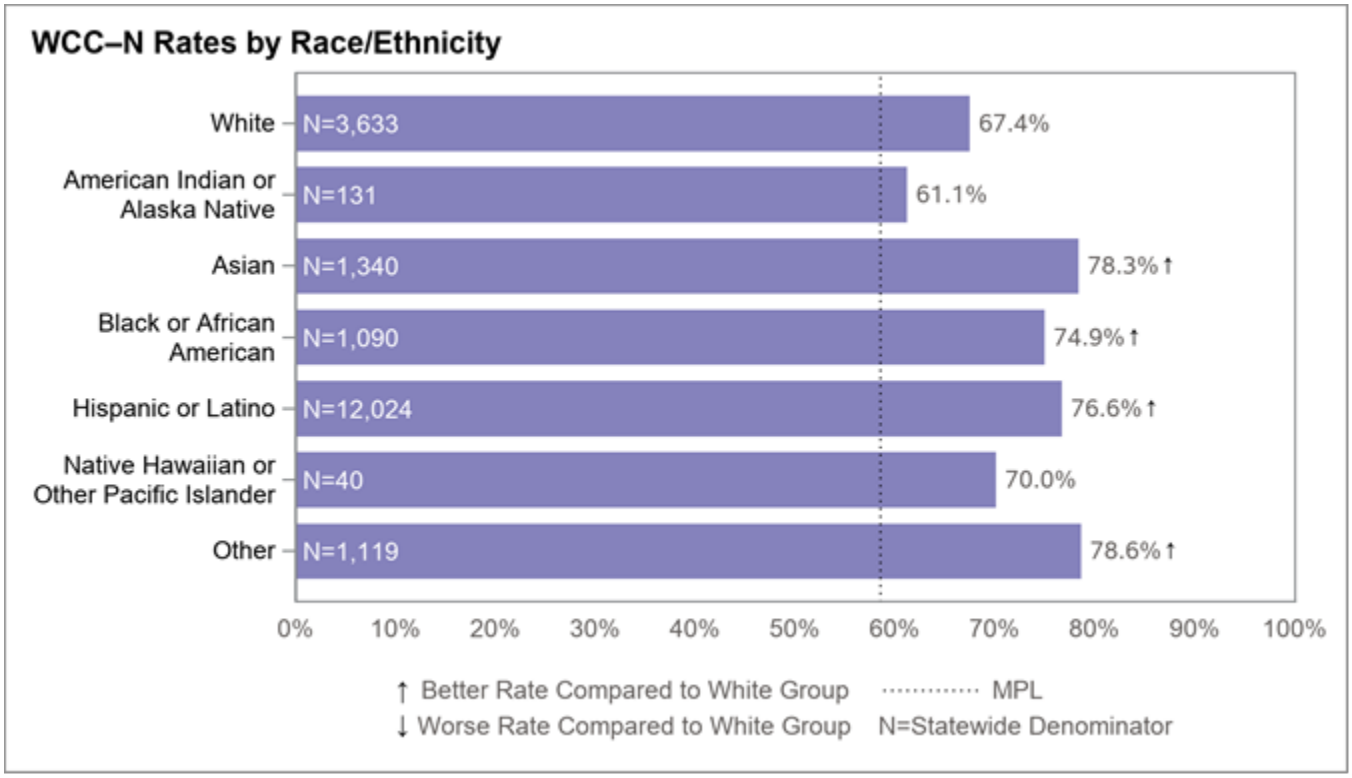
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups were above the minimum performance level for this indicator.

Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total (WCC–N)

The *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total* (*WCC–N*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 3 to 17 years of age who had an outpatient visit with a PCP or obstetrician-gynecologist (OB/GYN) and who had evidence of counseling for nutrition. Figure 3.8 displays the statewide *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total* (*WCC–N*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.8—Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total (WCC–N) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 72.6 percent (N=653).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 61.1 percent for the American Indian or Alaska Native group to 78.6 percent for the Other group.
- Four health disparities were identified for the *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.

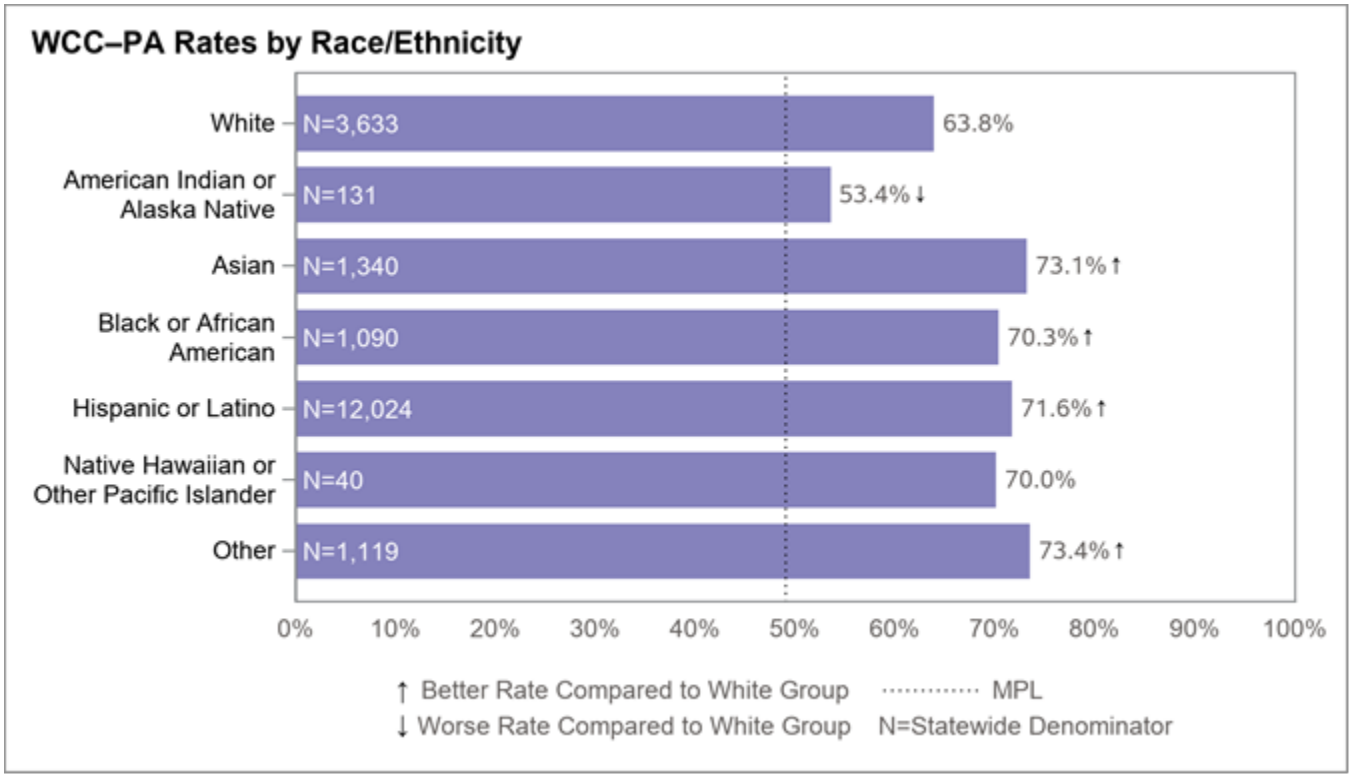
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
- No rates for the racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total (WCC–PA)

The *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total* (*WCC–PA*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 3 to 17 years of age who had an outpatient visit with a PCP or OB/GYN and who had evidence of counseling for physical activity. Figure 3.9 displays the statewide *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total* (*WCC–PA*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.9—Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total (WCC–PA) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 63.6 percent (N=653).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



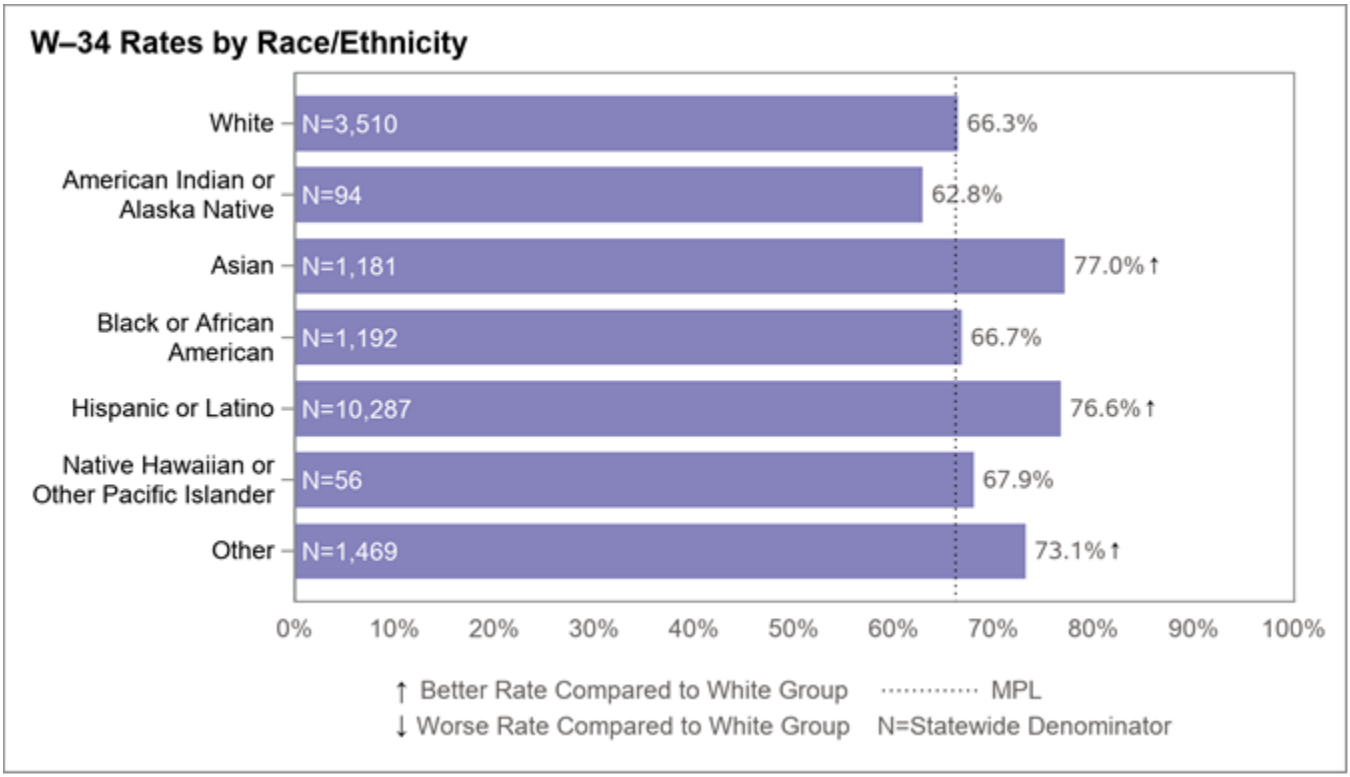
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 53.4 percent for the American Indian or Alaska Native group to 73.4 percent for the Other group.
- Five health disparities were identified for the *Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- No rates for the racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life (W–34)

The *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life* (*W–34*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 3 to 6 years of age who had one or more well-child visits with a PCP. Figure 3.10 displays the statewide *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life* (*W–34*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.10—Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life (W–34) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 67.8 percent (N=1,029).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 62.8 percent for the American Indian or Alaska Native group to 77.0 percent for the Asian group.
- Three health disparities were identified for the *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
- The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

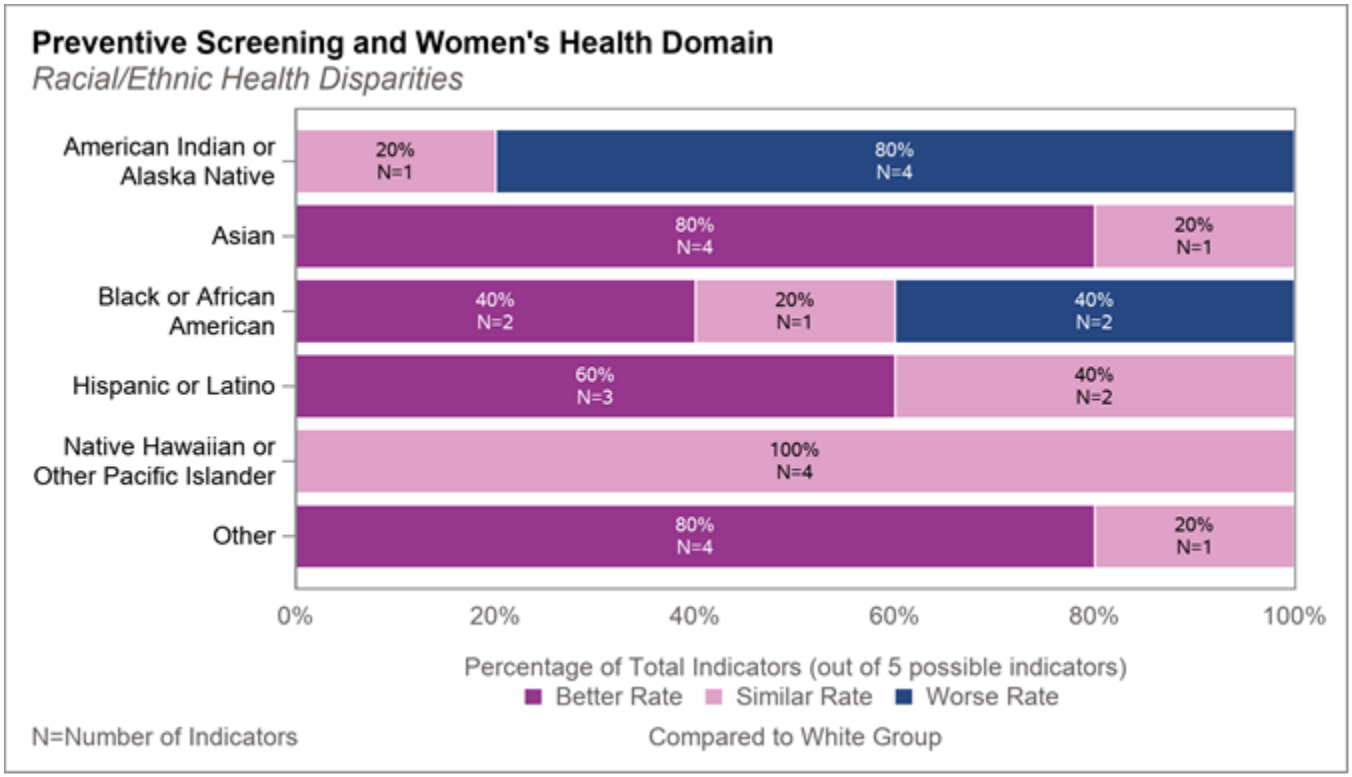
Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities: Preventive Screening and Women's Health Domain

Health disparities were identified when indicator rates for racial/ethnic groups were better than or worse than the rates for the White group (i.e., the reference group). If a racial/ethnic group's indicator rate was similar to the White group, then no health disparity was identified. Figure 3.11 displays the percentage and number of Preventive Screening and Women's Health domain indicators (out of five possible indicators) for which rates for selected racial/ethnic groups were worse than, similar to, or better than the rates for the White group.

Figure 3.11—Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities Summary: Preventive Screening and Women's Health Domain

Note: For the *LARC Utilization* indicator, the Asian racial/ethnic group also includes the Asian or Pacific Islander racial/ethnic group and the Other racial/ethnic group also includes any Unknown racial/ethnic groups.

The *LARC Utilization* indicator was not stratified by the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander racial/ethnic group; therefore, this racial/ethnic group has a total of four indicators for this domain.



American Indian or Alaska Native

- No rates for the American Indian or Alaska Native group were better than the rates for the White group.
- For the following indicators, the rates for the American Indian or Alaska Native group were worse than the rates for the White group:
  - *Breast Cancer Screening*
  - *Cervical Cancer Screening*
  - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
  - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*

Asian

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Asian group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Breast Cancer Screening*
  - *Cervical Cancer Screening*
  - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
  - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
- No rates for the Asian group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Black or African American

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Black or African American group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Breast Cancer Screening*
  - *Cervical Cancer Screening*
- For the following indicators, the rates for the Black or African American group were worse than the rates for the White group:
  - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
  - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*

Hispanic or Latino

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Hispanic or Latino group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Breast Cancer Screening*
  - *Cervical Cancer Screening*
  - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
- No rates for the Hispanic or Latino group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

- No rates for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group were better than or worse than the rates for the White group.

Other

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Other group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Breast Cancer Screening*
  - *Cervical Cancer Screening*
  - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
  - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
- No rates for the Other group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities: Preventive Screening and Women's Health Domain Indicator Results

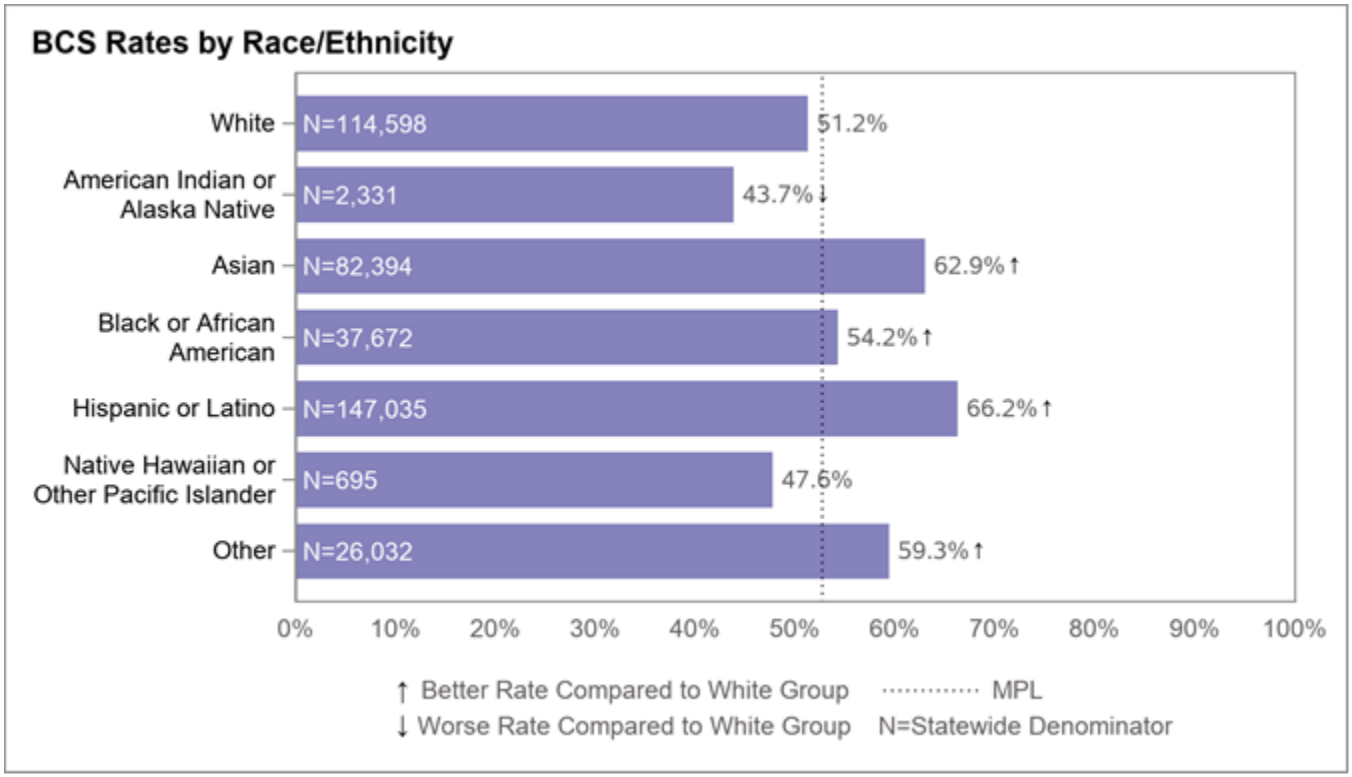
Figure 3.12 through Figure 3.16 display the racial/ethnic health disparities for each indicator included in the Preventive Screening and Women's Health domain. For each figure, the arrows highlight health disparities and indicate when the rates for the specific racial/ethnic groups were better than or worse than the rate for the White group. If the rate for the specific racial/ethnic group was similar to the rate for the White group, then no health disparity was identified and an arrow is not present.

Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)

The *Breast Cancer Screening* (*BCS*) indicator measures the percentage of women 50 to 74 years of age who had a mammogram to screen for breast cancer. Figure 3.12 displays the statewide *Breast Cancer Screening* (*BCS*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.12—Breast Cancer Screening (BCS) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 52.6 percent (N= 19,133).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



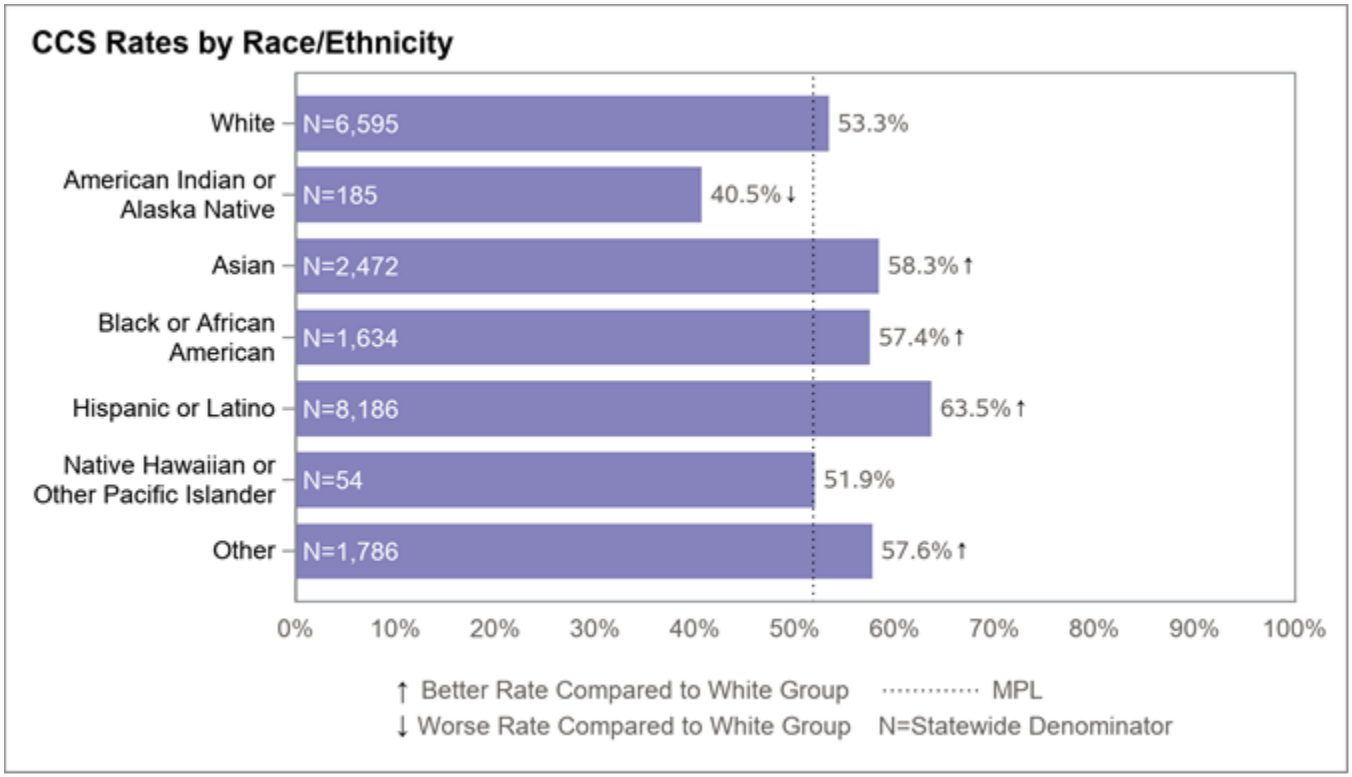
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 43.7 percent for the American Indian or Alaska Native group to 66.2 percent for the Hispanic or Latino group.
- Five health disparities were identified for the *Breast Cancer Screening* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- The rates for the following racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator:
  - White
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Cervical Cancer Screening (CCS)

The *Cervical Cancer Screening* (*CCS*) indicator measures the percentage of women 21 to 64 years of age who were screened for cervical cancer. Figure 3.13 displays the statewide *Cervical Cancer Screening* (*CCS*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.13—Cervical Cancer Screening (CCS) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 48.4 percent (N=566).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 40.5 percent for the American Indian or Alaska Native group to 63.5 percent for the Hispanic or Latino group.
- Five health disparities were identified for the *Cervical Cancer Screening* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

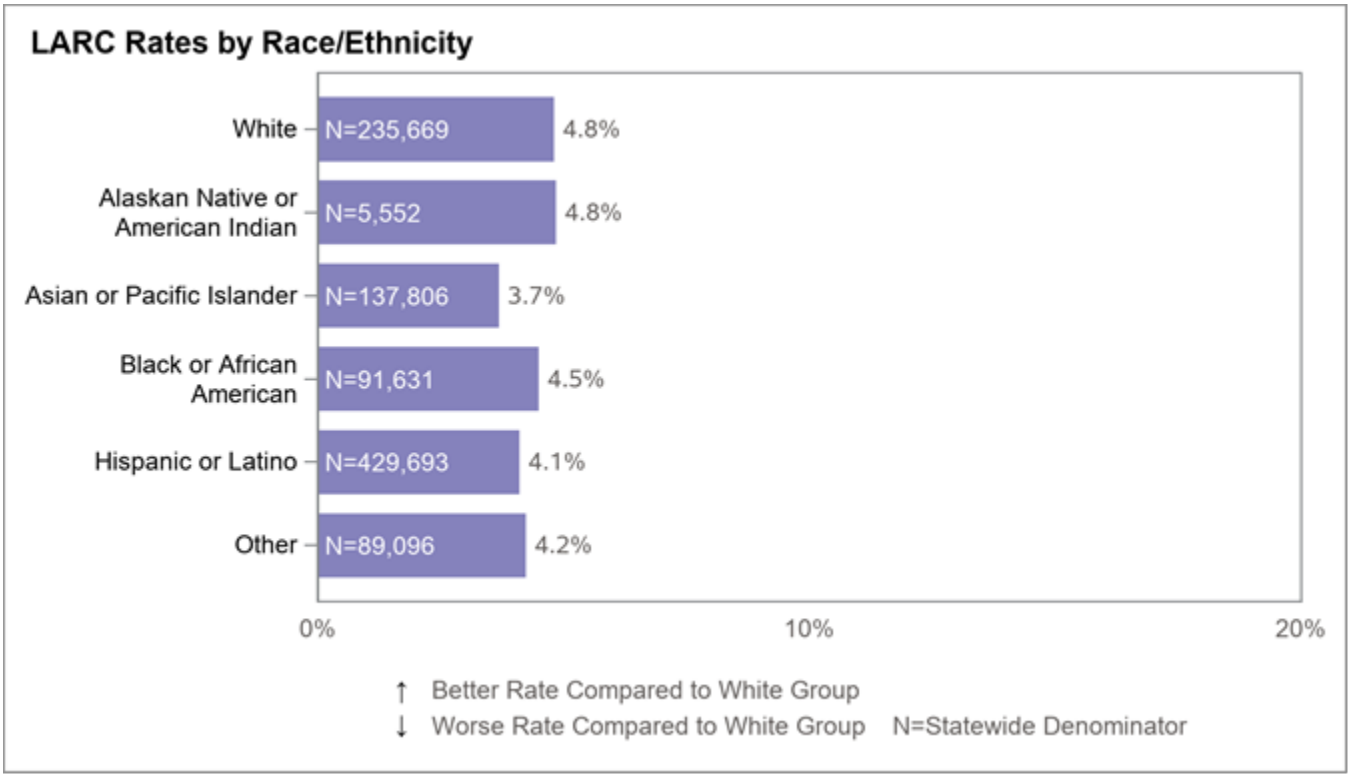
LARC Utilization (LARC)

The *LARC Utilization* (*LARC*) indicator measures the percentage of women 15 to 44 years of age who utilized LARC. Figure 3.14 displays the statewide *LARC Utilization* (*LARC*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.14—LARC Utilization (LARC) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: For *LARC Utilization*, the Unknown/Missing group is included in the Other group.

The *LARC Utilization* indicator was originally developed for the LARC Utilization Focused Study; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.



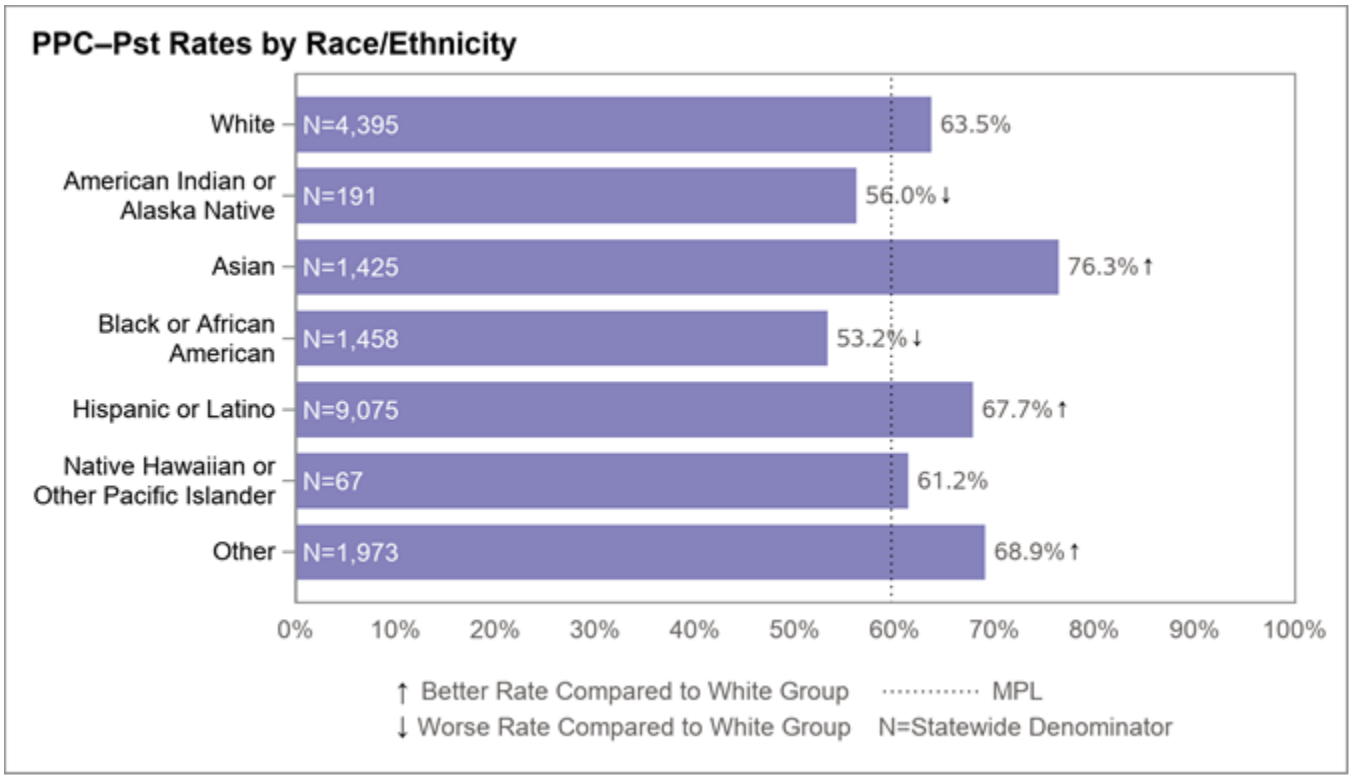
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 3.7 percent for the Asian or Pacific Islander group to 4.8 percent for the White group and the Alaskan Native or American Indian group.
- No health disparities were identified for the *LARC Utilization* indicator.

Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care (PPC–Pst)

The *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* (*PPC–Pst*) indicator measures the percentage of live birth deliveries that had a postpartum visit on or between 21 and 56 days after delivery. Figure 3.15 displays the statewide *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* (*PPC–Pst*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.15—Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care (PPC–Pst) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 64.1 percent (N=284).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 53.2 percent for the Black or African American group to 76.3 percent for the Asian group.
- Five health disparities were identified for the *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was worse than the rate for the White group.

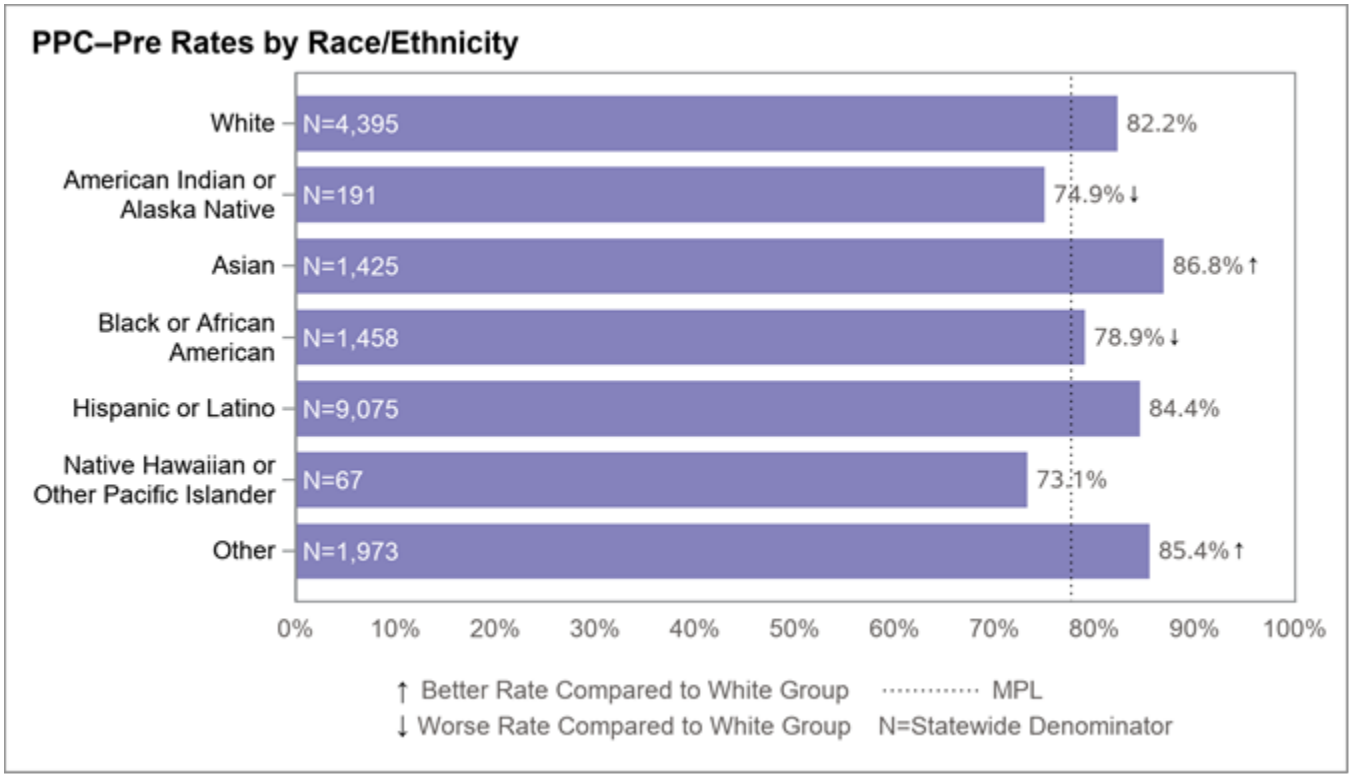
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- The rates for the following racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator:
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Black or African American

Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care (PPC–Pre)

The *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care* (*PPC–Pre*) indicator measures the percentage of live birth deliveries that received timely prenatal care. Figure 3.16 displays the statewide *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care* (*PPC–Pre*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.16—Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care (PPC–Pre) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 82.0 percent (N=284).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 73.1 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group to 86.8 percent for the Asian group.
- Four health disparities were identified for the *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was worse than the rate for the White group.

  - The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- The rates for the following racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator:
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities: Care for Chronic Conditions Domain

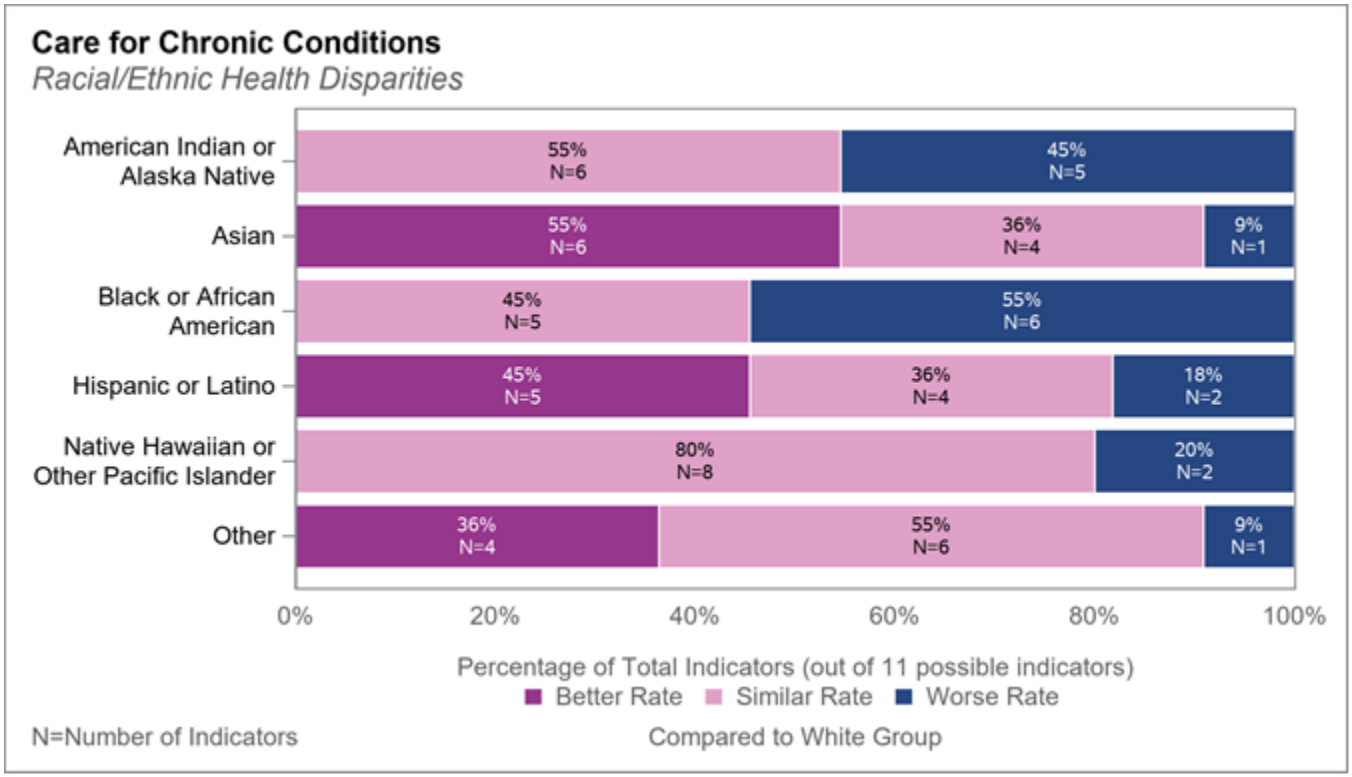
Health disparities were identified when indicator rates for racial/ethnic groups were better than or worse than the rates for the White group (i.e., the reference group). If a racial/ethnic group's indicator rate was similar to the White group, then no health disparity was identified. Figure 3.17 displays the percentage and number of Care for Chronic Conditions domain indicators (out of 11 possible indicators) for which rates for selected racial/ethnic groups were worse than, similar to, or better than the rates for the White group.

Figure 3.17—Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities Summary: Care for Chronic Conditions Domain

Note: For the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator, the Asian racial/ethnic group also includes the Asian or Pacific Islander racial/ethnic group, and the Other racial/ethnic group also includes any Unknown racial/ethnic groups.

The *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator was not stratified by the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander racial/ethnic group; therefore, this racial/ethnic group has a total of 10 indicators for this domain.

Due to rounding, the percentage of total indicators may not equal 100 percent for some racial/ethnic groups.



American Indian or Alaska Native

- No rates for the American Indian or Alaska Native group were better than the rates for the White group.
- For the following indicators, the rates for the American Indian or Alaska Native group were worse than the rates for the White group:
  - *Asthma Medication Ratio*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent)*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
  - *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use*

Asian

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Asian group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Asthma Medication Ratio*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent)*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
  - *Controlling High Blood Pressure*
- For the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator, the rate for the Asian group was worse than the rate for the White group.

Black or African American

- No rates for the Black or African American group were better than the rates for the White group.
- For the following indicators, the rates for the Black or African American group were worse than the rates for the White group:
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg)*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent)*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
  - *Controlling High Blood Pressure*
  - *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use*

Hispanic or Latino

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Hispanic or Latino group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs*
  - *Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—Diuretics*
  - *Asthma Medication Ratio*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
- For the following indicators, the rates for the Hispanic or Latino group were worse than the rates for the White group:
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent)*
  - *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use*

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

- No rates for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group were better than the rates for the White group.
- For the following indicators, the rates for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group were worse than the rates for the White group:
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent)*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)*

Other

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Other group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Asthma Medication Ratio*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)*
  - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
- For the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator, the rate for the Other group was worse than the rate for the White group.

Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities: Care for Chronic Conditions Domain Indicator Results

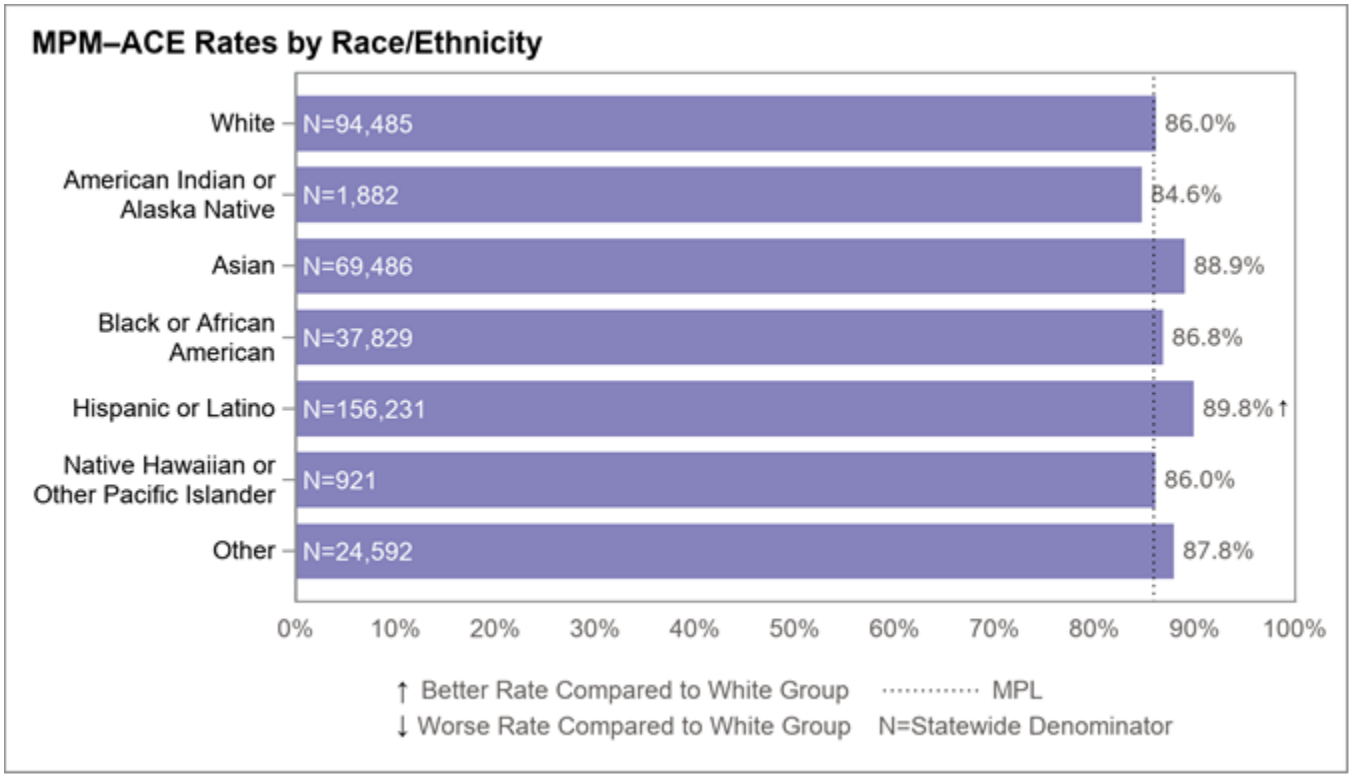
Figure 3.18 through Figure 3.28 display the racial/ethnic health disparities for each indicator included in the Care for Chronic Conditions domain. For each figure, the arrows highlight health disparities and indicate when the rates for the specific racial/ethnic groups were better than or worse than the rate for the White group. If the rate for the specific racial/ethnic group was similar to the rate for the White group, then no health disparity was identified and an arrow is not present.

Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs (MPM–ACE)

The *Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs* (*MPM–ACE*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 18 years of age and older who received at least 180 treatment days of ACE inhibitors or ARBs and at least one serum potassium and serum creatinine therapeutic monitoring test. Figure 3.18 displays the statewide *Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs* (*MPM–ACE*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.18—Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs (MPM–ACE) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 87.6 percent (N=15,876).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



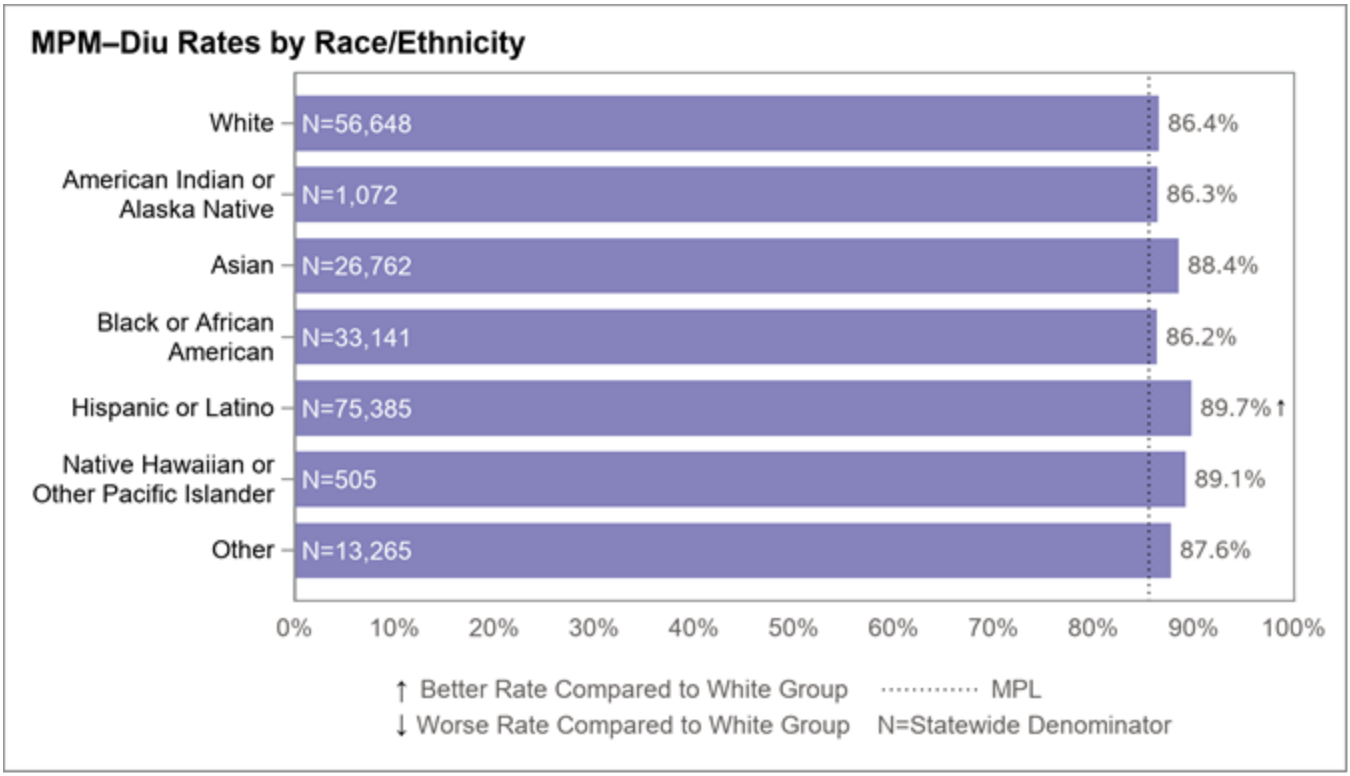
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 84.6 percent for the American Indian or Alaska Native group to 89.8 percent for the Hispanic or Latino group.
- One health disparity was identified for the *Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs* indicator as the rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
- The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—Diuretics (MPM–Diu)

The *Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—Diuretics* (*MPM–Diu*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 18 years of age and older who received at least 180 treatment days of diuretics and at least one serum potassium and serum creatinine therapeutic monitoring test. Figure 3.19 displays the statewide *Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—Diuretics* (*MPM–Diu*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.19—Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—Diuretics (MPM–Diu) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 87.0 percent (N=8,765).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



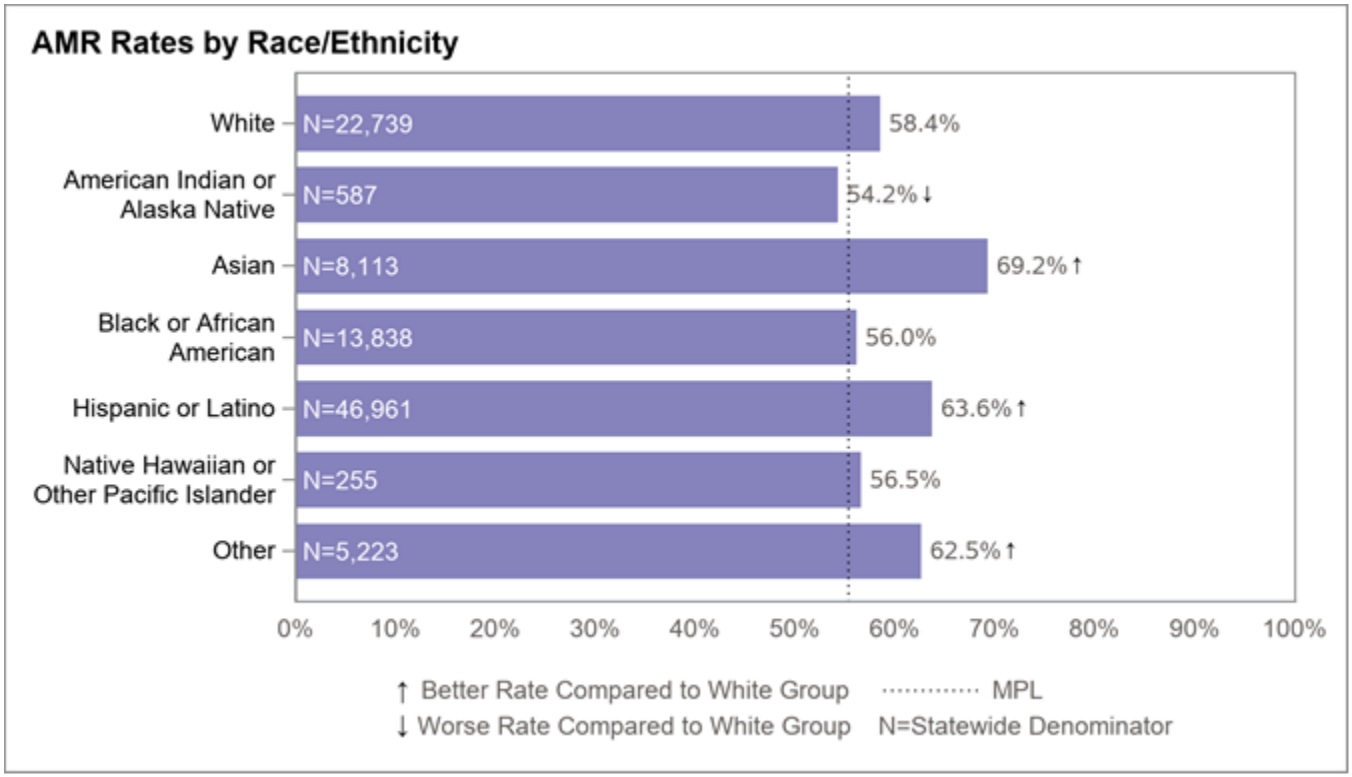
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 86.2 percent for the Black or African American group to 89.7 percent for the Hispanic or Latino group.
- One health disparity was identified for the *Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—Diuretics* indicator as the rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
- No rates for the racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR)

The *Asthma Medication Ratio* (*AMR*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 5 to 64 years of age who were identified as having persistent asthma and had a ratio of controller medications to total asthma medications of 0.50 or greater. Figure 3.20 displays the statewide *Asthma Medication Ratio* (*AMR*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.20—Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 63.2 percent (N=3,348).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



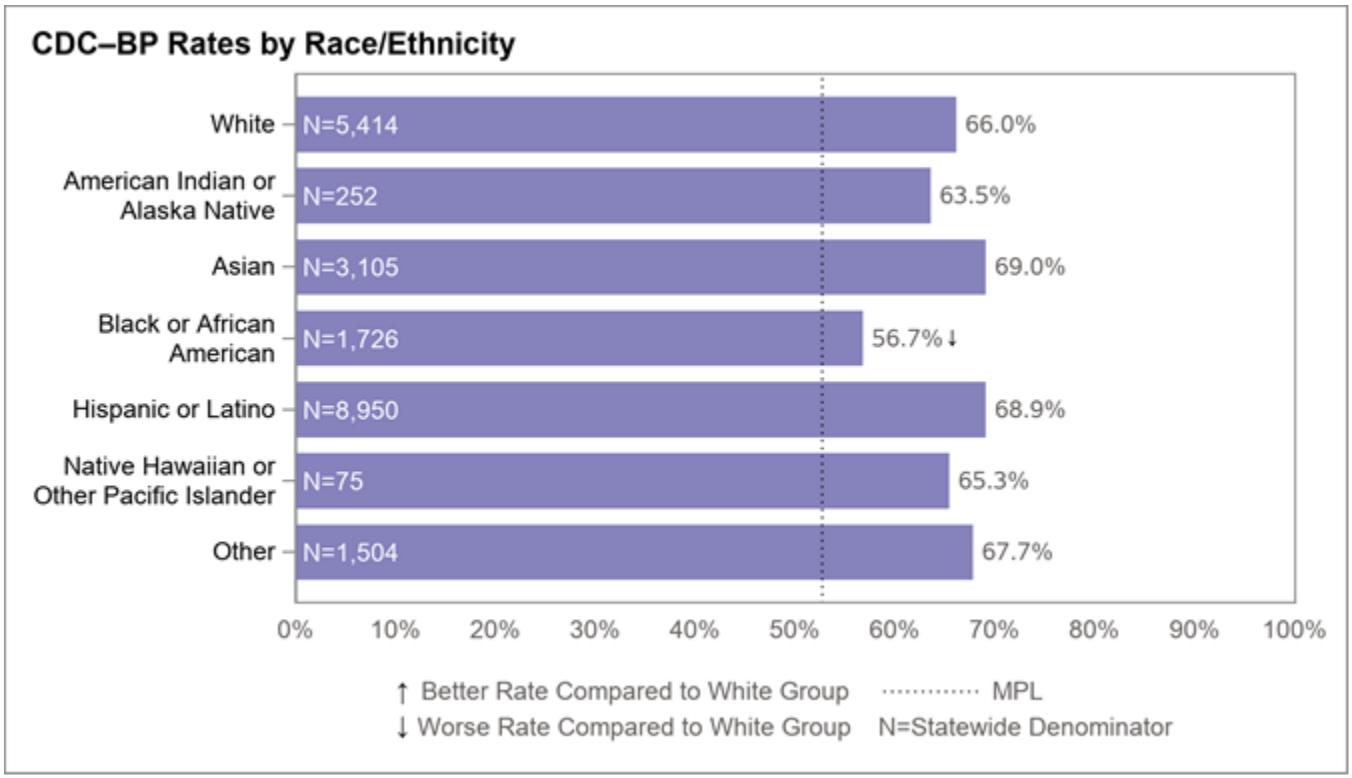
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 54.2 percent for the American Indian or Alaska Native group to 69.2 percent for the Asian group.
- Four health disparities were identified for the *Asthma Medication Ratio* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg) (CDC–BP)

The *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg)* (*CDC–BP*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 18 to 75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had controlled blood pressure (<140/90 mm Hg). Figure 3.21 displays the statewide *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg)* (*CDC–BP*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.21—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg) (CDC–BP) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 63.4 percent (N=729).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



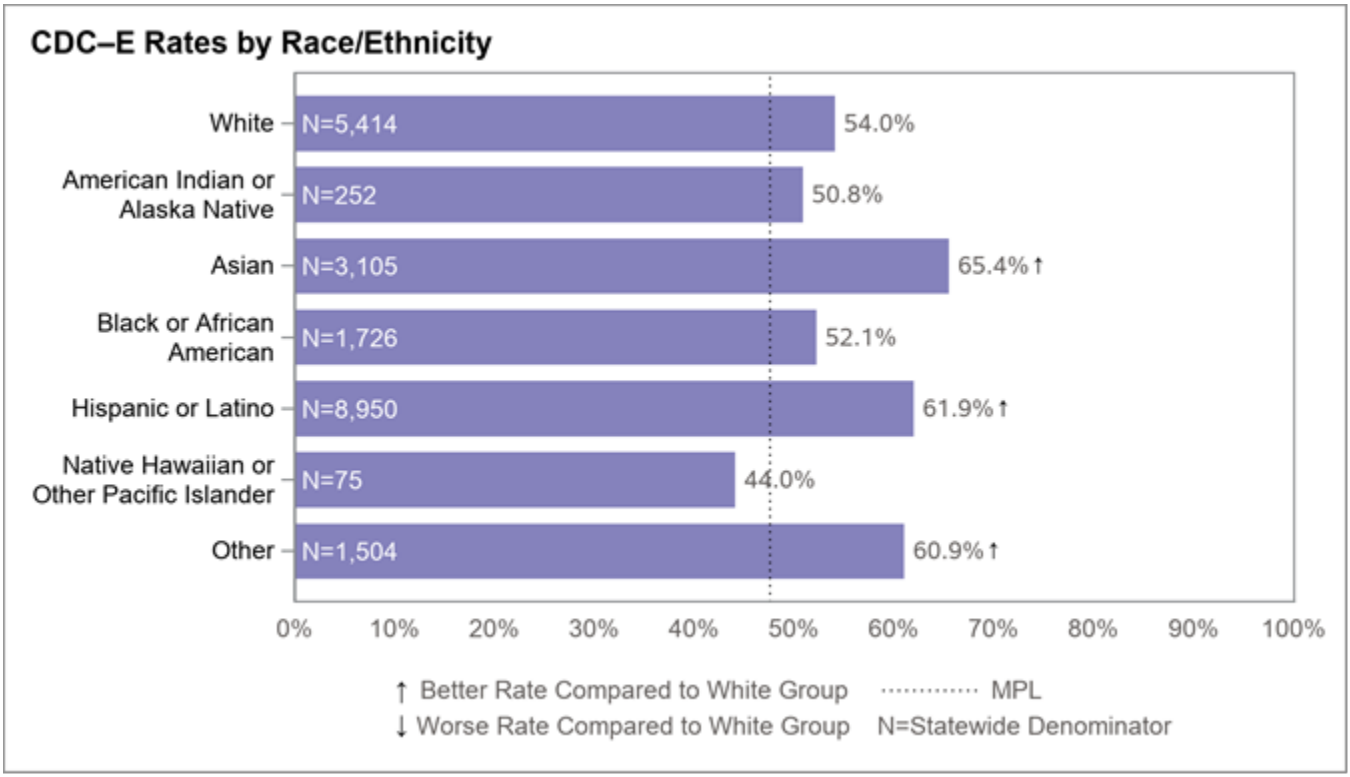
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 56.7 percent for the Black or African American group to 69.0 percent for the Asian group.
- One health disparity was identified for the *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control* indicator as the rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- No rates for the racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed (CDC–E)

The *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed* (*CDC–E*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 18 to 75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had screening or monitoring for diabetic retinal disease. Figure 3.22 displays the statewide *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed* (*CDC–E*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.22—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed (CDC–E) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 57.2 percent (N=729).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



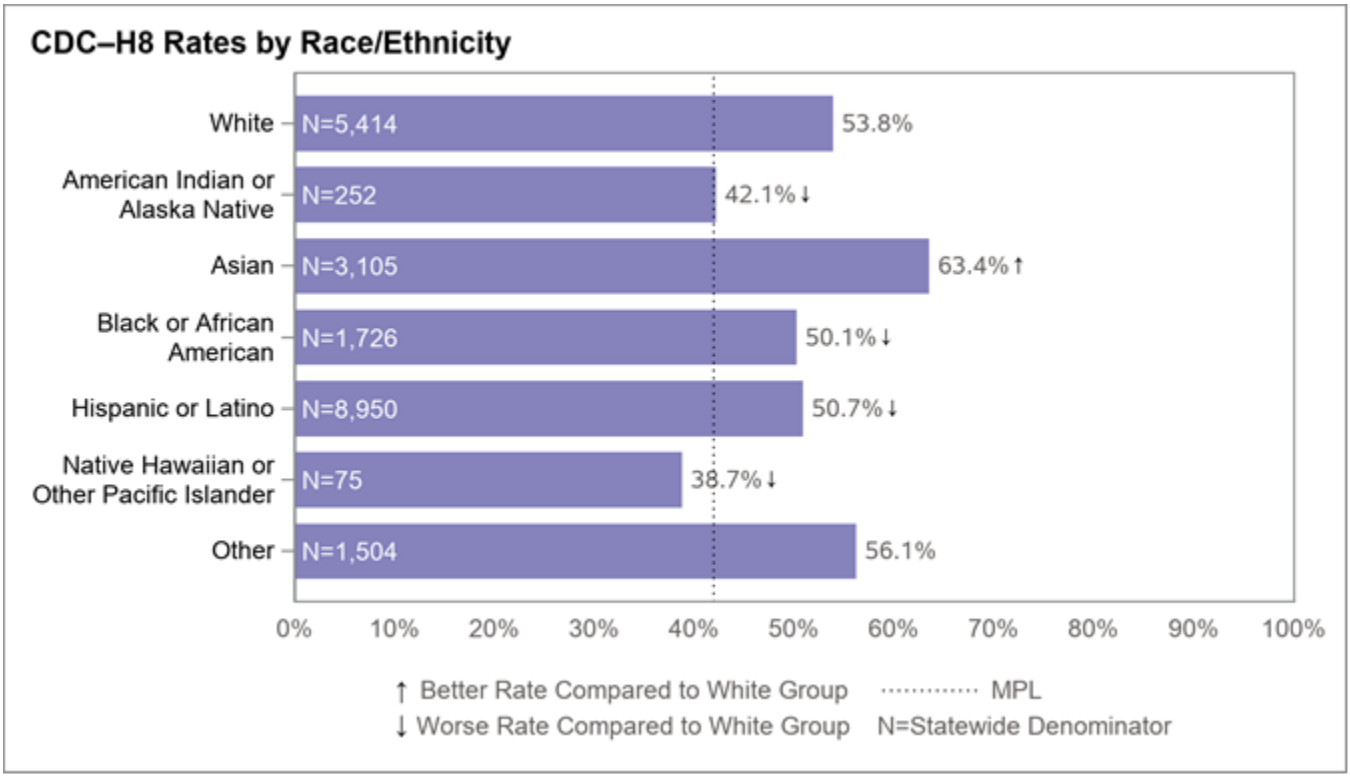
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 44.0 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group to 65.4 percent for the Asian group.
- Three health disparities were identified for the *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
- The rate for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group was below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent) (CDC–H8)

The *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent)* (*CDC–H8*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 18 to 75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had adequately controlled HbA1c levels (<8.0 percent). Figure 3.23 displays the statewide *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent)* (*CDC–H8*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group.

Figure 3.23—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent) (CDC–H8) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 55.3 percent (N=729).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 38.7 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group to 63.4 percent for the Asian group.
- Five health disparities were identified for the *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent)* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was worse than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.

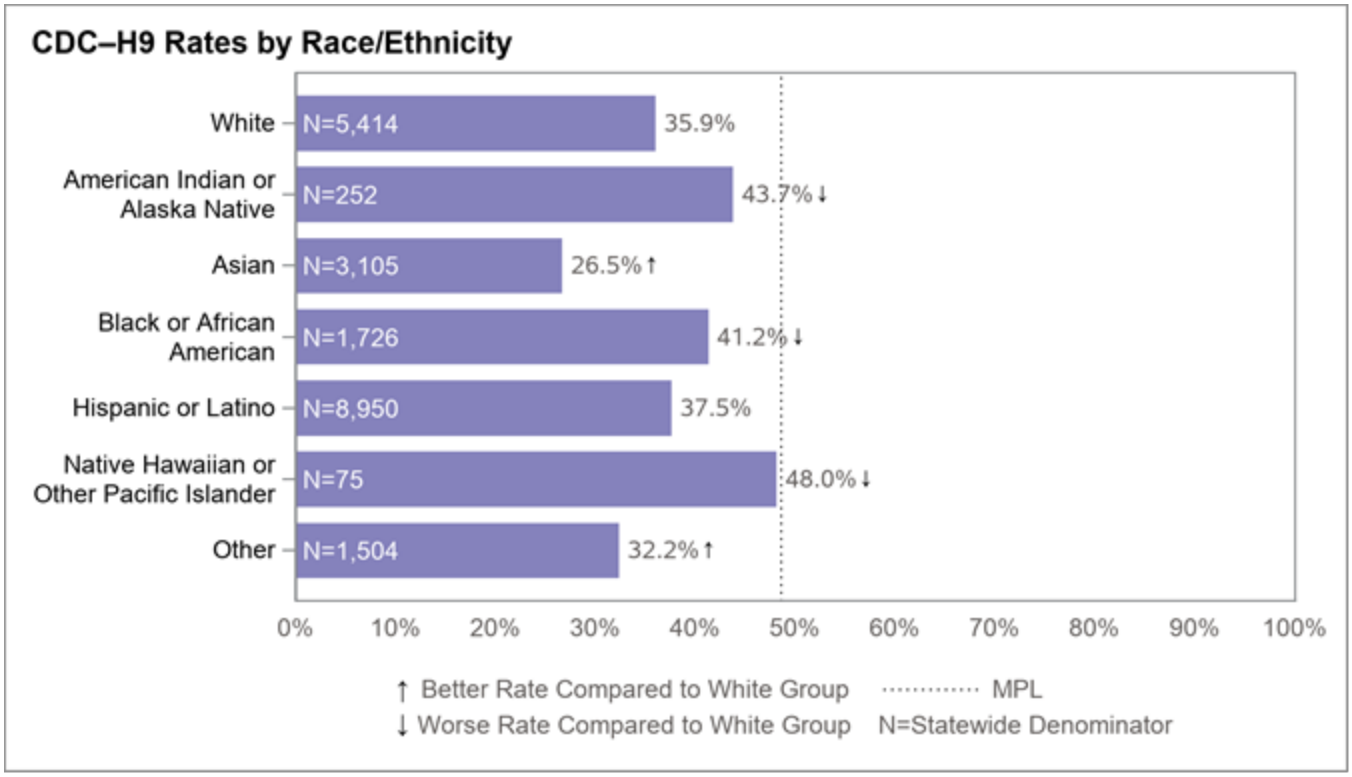
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was worse than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- The rate for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group was below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent) (CDC–H9)

The *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)* (*CDC–H9*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 18 to 75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had poorly controlled HbA1c levels (>9.0 percent). Figure 3.24 displays the statewide *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)* (*CDC–H9*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.24—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent) (CDC–H9) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 34.4 percent (N=729).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.
A lower rate indicates more favorable performance for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 48.0 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group to 26.5 percent for the Asian group.
- Five health disparities were identified for the *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.

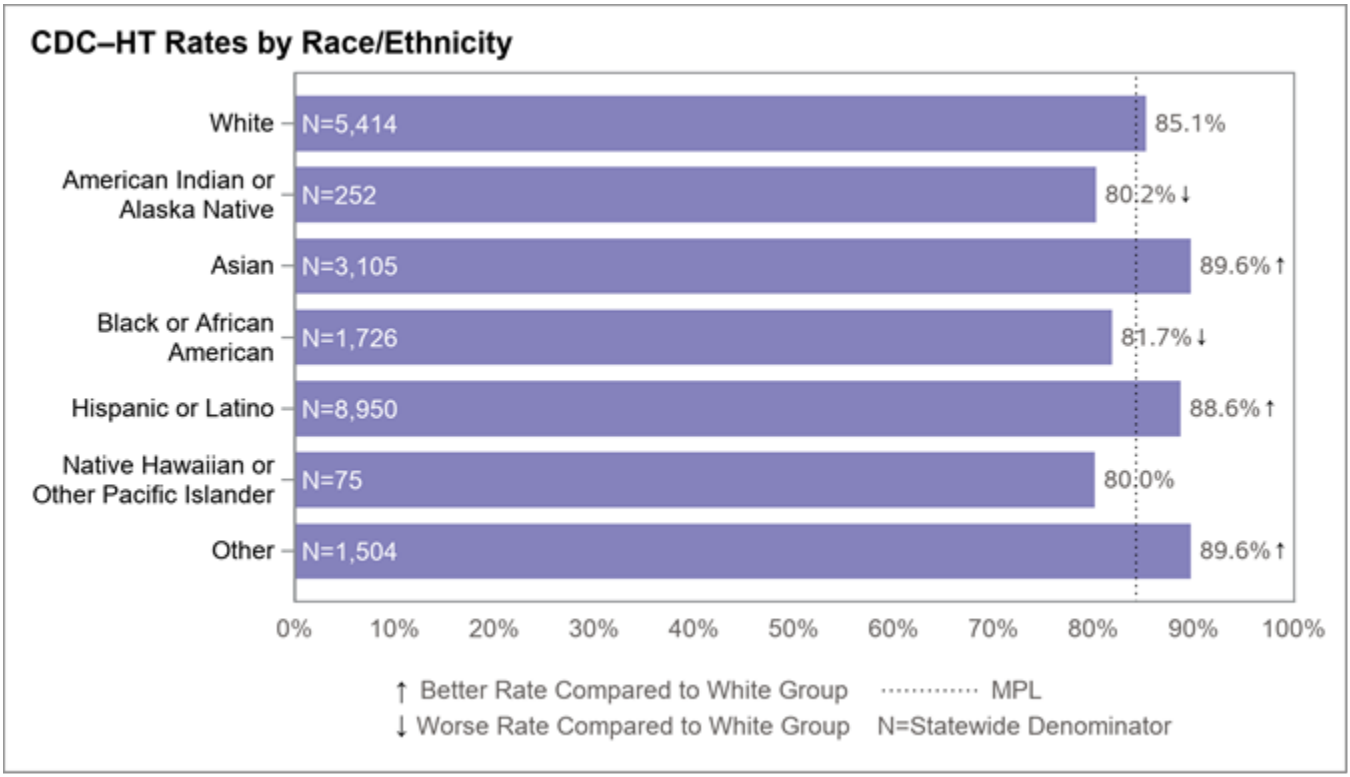
  - The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was worse than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- All rates for the racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator, indicating more favorable performance.

Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing (CDC–HT)

The *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing* (*CDC–HT*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 18 to 75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had an HbA1c test performed. Figure 3.25 displays the statewide *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing* (*CDC–HT*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.25—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing (CDC–HT) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 87.8 percent (N=729).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 80.0 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group to 89.6 percent for the Asian group and the Other group.
- Five health disparities were identified for the *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing* (*CDC–HT*) indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was worse than the rate for the White group.

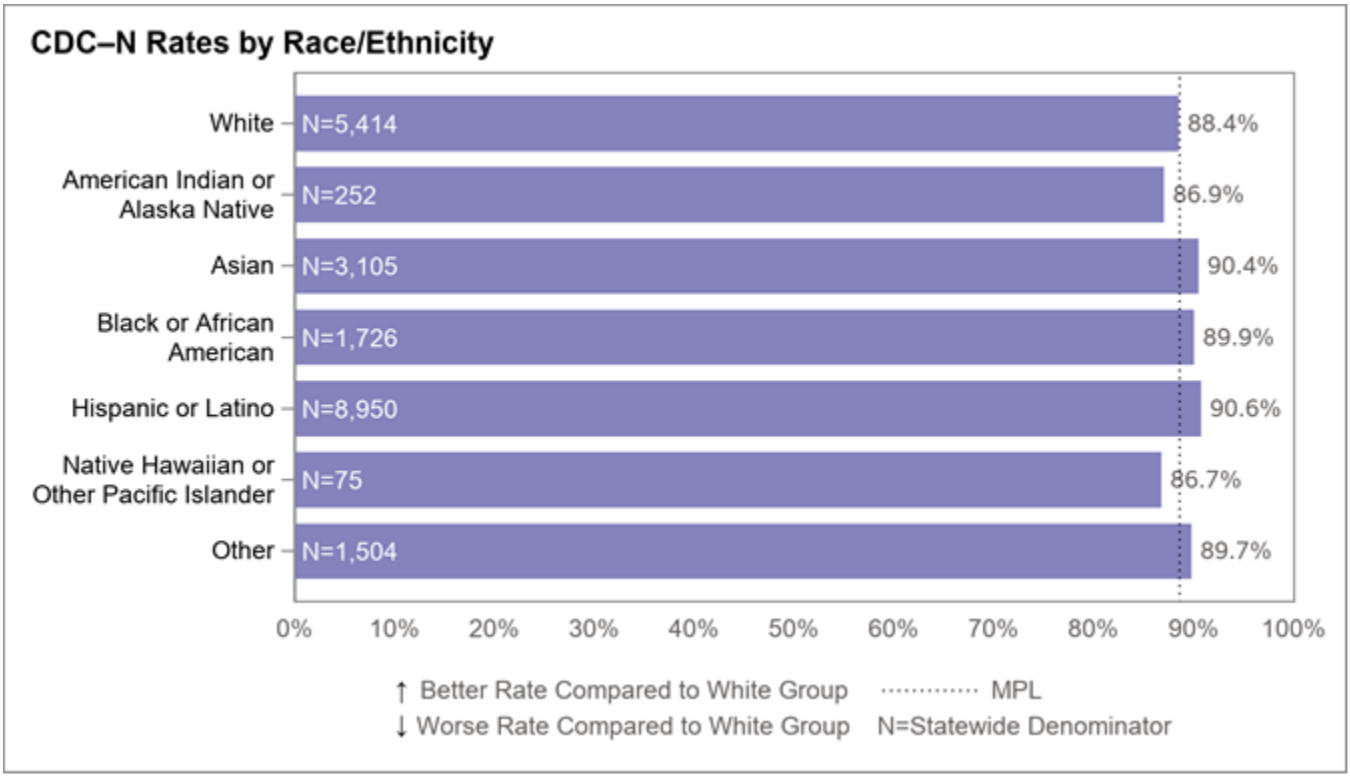
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- The rates for the following racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator:
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Black or African American
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy (CDC–N)

The *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy* (*CDC–N*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 18 to 75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who received nephropathy screening or monitoring or who had evidence of nephropathy. Figure 3.26 displays the statewide *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy* (*CDC–N*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group.

Figure 3.26—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy (CDC–N) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 90.4 percent (N=729).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



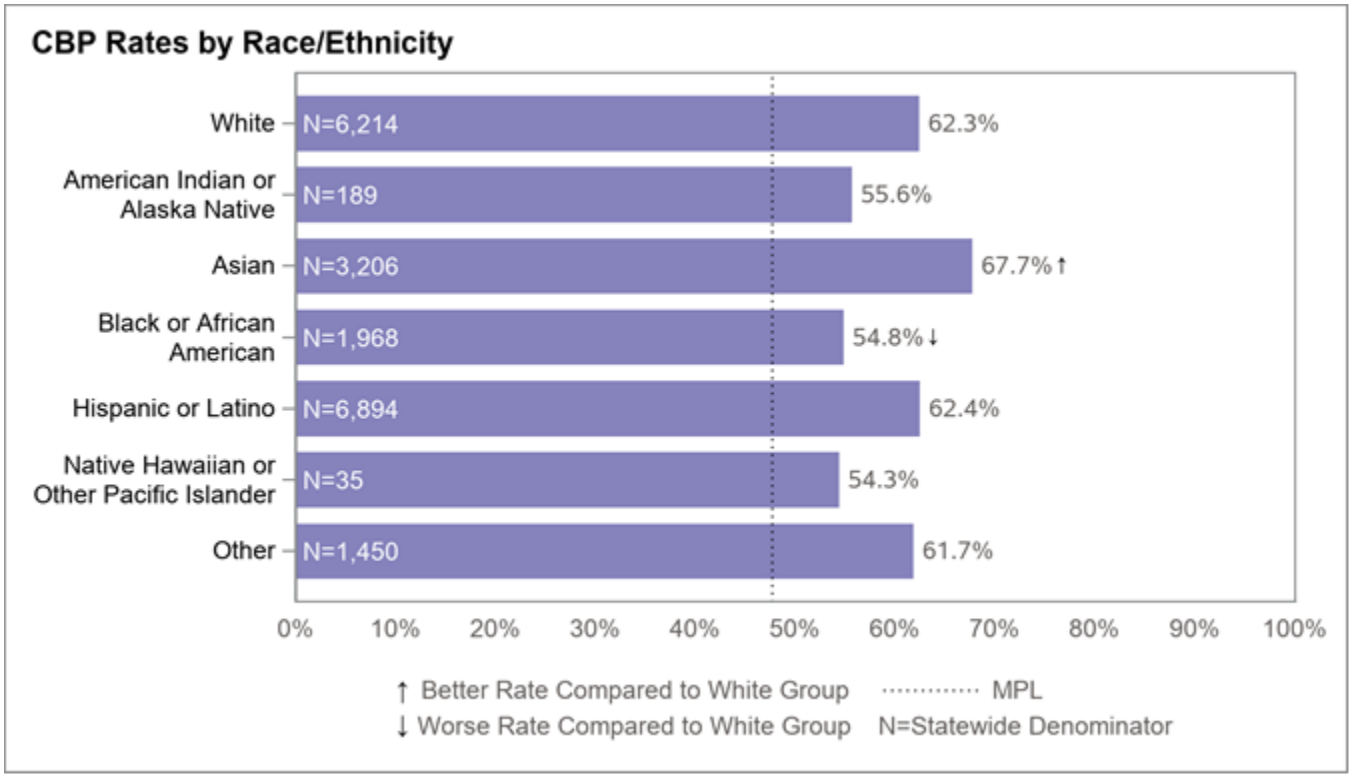
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 86.7 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group to 90.6 percent for the Hispanic or Latino group.
- No health disparities were identified for the *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy* indicator.
- The rates for the following racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator:
  - White
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Controlling High Blood Pressure (CBP)

The *Controlling High Blood Pressure* (*CBP*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 18 to 85 years of age who had a diagnosis of hypertension and whose blood pressure was adequately controlled. Figure 3.27 displays the statewide *Controlling High Blood Pressure* (*CBP*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.27—Controlling High Blood Pressure (CBP) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 63.0 percent (N=716).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 54.3 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group to 67.7 percent for the Asian group.
- Two health disparities were identified for the *Controlling High Blood Pressure* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- No rates for the racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

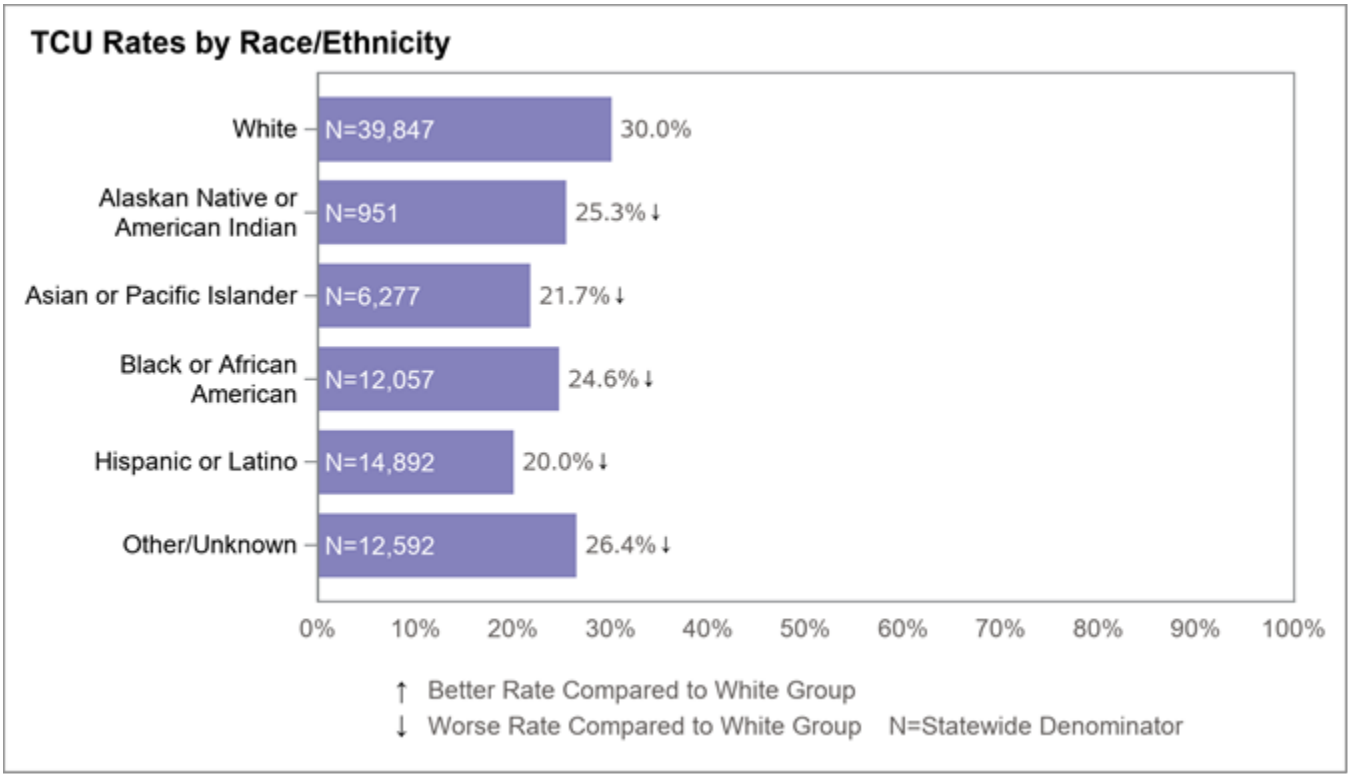
Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use (TCU)

The *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* (*TCU*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries 15 years of age and older who were identified as tobacco users and who received tobacco cessation therapy. Figure 3.28 displays the statewide *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* (*TCU*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.28—Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use (TCU) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The *State Fiscal Year 2017–18 Tobacco Cessation Focused Study Report* includes results from specialty health plans, while this report only includes results from MCPs; therefore, the results in this report may differ from results presented in the focused study report.

The *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator was originally developed for the Tobacco Cessation Focused Study; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.



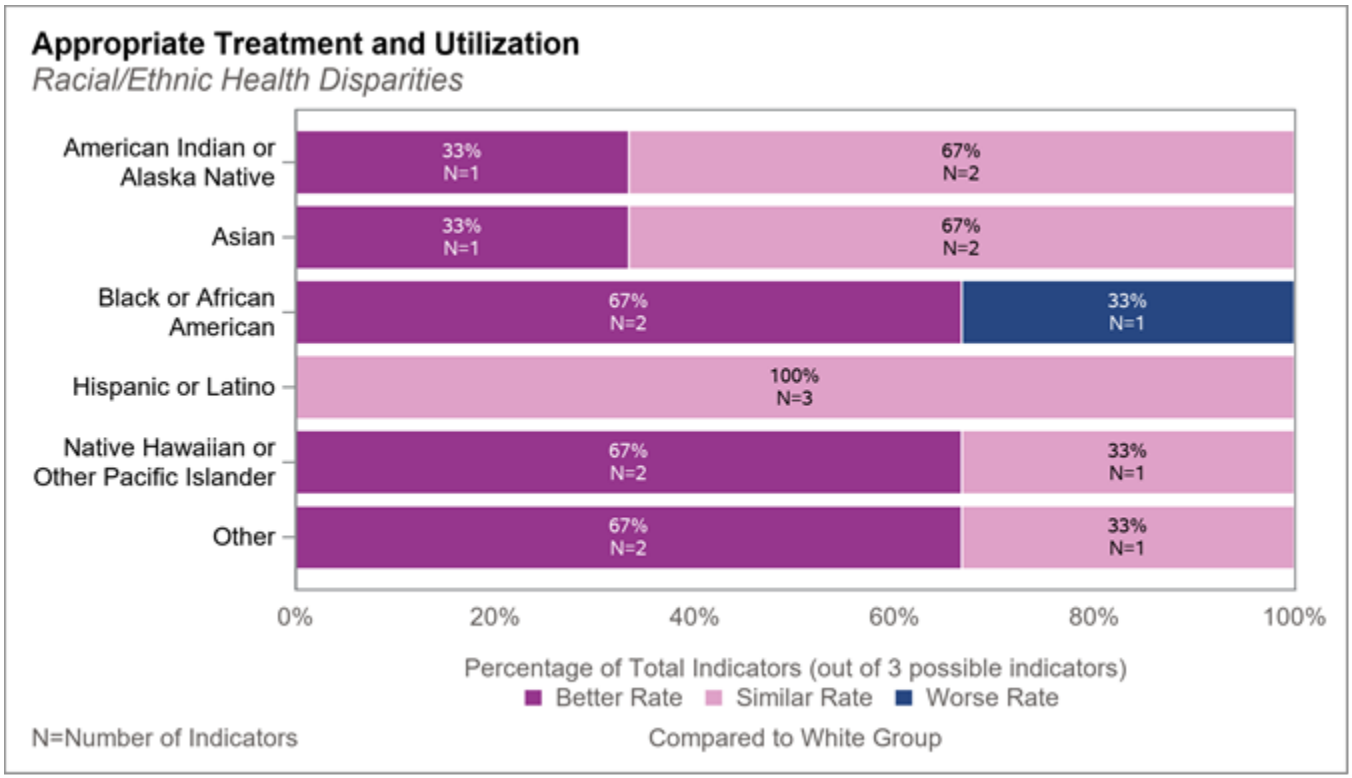
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 20.0 percent for the Hispanic or Latino group to 30.0 percent for the White group.
- Five health disparities were identified for the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator:
  - The rate for the Alaskan Native or American Indian group was worse than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Asian or Pacific Islander group was worse than the rate for the White group.

- The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- The rate for the Hispanic or Latino group was worse than the rate for the White group.
- The rate for the Other/Unknown group was worse than the rate for the White group.

Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities: Appropriate Treatment and Utilization Domain

Health disparities were identified when indicator rates for racial/ethnic groups were better than or worse than the rates for the White group (i.e., the reference group). If a racial/ethnic group's indicator rate was similar to the White group, then no health disparity was identified. Figure 3.29 displays the percentage and number of Appropriate Treatment and Utilization domain indicators (out of three possible indicators) for which rates for selected racial/ethnic groups were worse than, similar to, or better than the rates for the White group. Due to limitations with the data, statistical analyses to identify health disparities were not performed for the *Ambulatory Care* indicators; therefore, these indicators are not included in this section. To see the *Ambulatory Care* statewide rates stratified by race/ethnicity, see Appendix A.

Figure 3.29—Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities Summary: Appropriate Treatment and Utilization Domain



American Indian or Alaska Native

- For *Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis*, the rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was better than the rate for the White group.
- No rates for the American Indian or Alaska Native group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Asian

- For *All-Cause Readmissions*, the rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
- No rates for the Asian group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Black or African American

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Black or African American group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis*
  - *Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain*
- For *All-Cause Readmissions,* the rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.

Hispanic or Latino

- No rates for the Hispanic or Latino group were better than or worse than the rates for the White group.

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *All-Cause Readmissions*
  - *Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis*
- No rates for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Other

- For the following indicators, the rates for the Other group were better than the rates for the White group:
  - *All-Cause Readmissions*
  - *Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis*
- No rates for the Other group were worse than the rates for the White group.

Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities: Appropriate Treatment and Utilization Domain Indicator Results

Figure 3.30 through Figure 3.32 display the racial/ethnic health disparities for each indicator included in the Appropriate Treatment and Utilization domain, except for the *Ambulatory Care* indicators. To see the *Ambulatory Care* statewide rates stratified by race/ethnicity, see Appendix A. For each figure, the arrows highlight health disparities and indicate when the rates for the specific racial/ethnic groups were better than or worse than the rate for the White group. If the rate for the specific racial/ethnic group was similar to the rate for the White group, then no health disparity was identified and an arrow is not present.

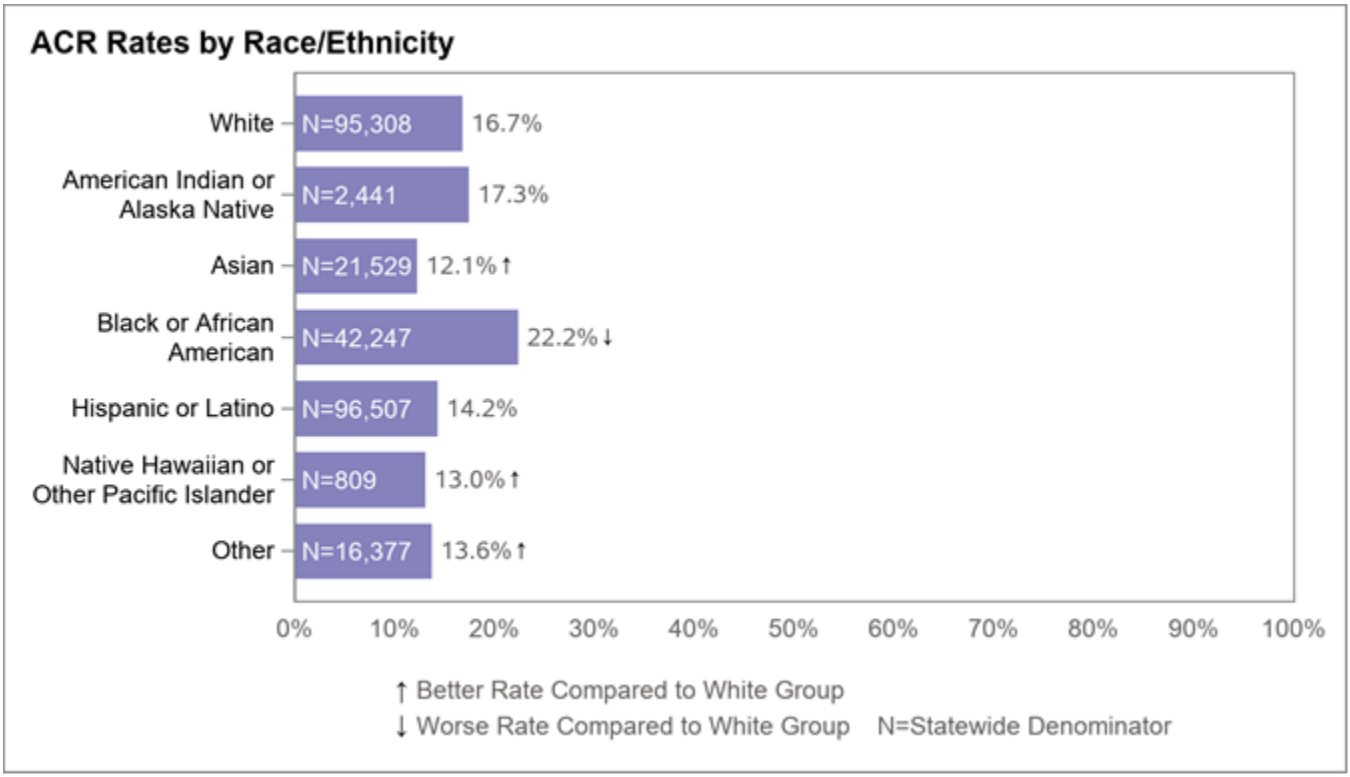
All-Cause Readmissions (ACR)

The *All-Cause Readmissions* (*ACR*) indicator measures the percentage of acute inpatient hospital stays for beneficiaries 21 years of age and older that were followed by an unplanned acute inpatient readmission for any diagnosis within 30 days. Figure 3.30 displays the statewide *All-Cause Readmissions* (*ACR*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities. A lower rate indicates more favorable performance for this indicator.

Figure 3.30—All-Cause Readmissions (ACR) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 19.5 percent (N= 11,532).

A lower rate indicates more favorable performance for this indicator.
The *All-Cause Readmissions* indicator was originally developed for the ACR Collaborative Quality Improvement Project; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.



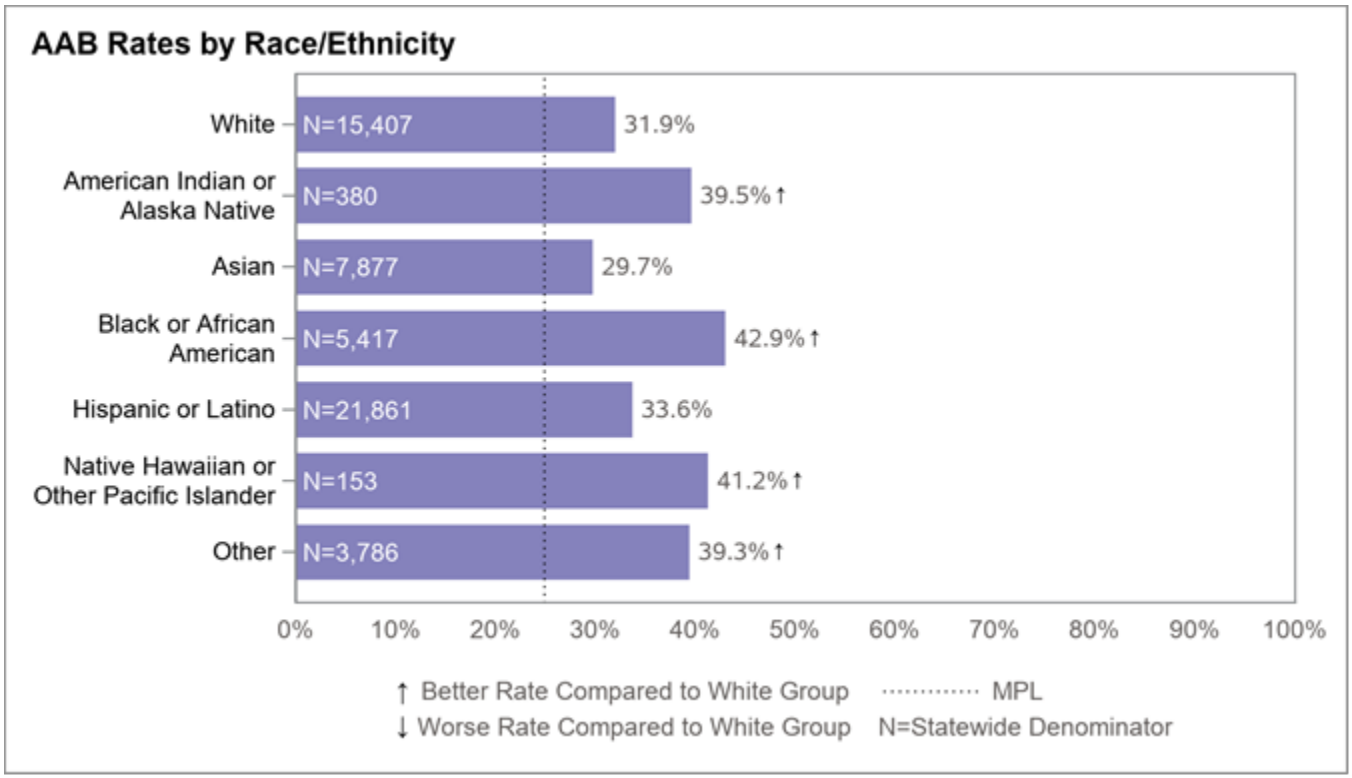
- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 22.2 percent for the Black or African American group to 12.1 percent for the Asian group.
- Four health disparities were identified for the *All-Cause Readmissions* indicator:
  - The rate for the Asian group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was worse than the rate for the White group.

Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis (AAB)

The *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis* (*AAB*) indicator measures the percentage of adults 18 to 64 years of age with a diagnosis of acute bronchitis who were not dispensed an antibiotic prescription on or three days after the diagnosis. Figure 3.31 displays the statewide *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis* (*AAB*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.31—Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis (AAB) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 32.4 percent (N=1,778).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 29.7 percent for the Asian group to 42.9 percent for the Black or African American group.
- Four health disparities were identified for the *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis* indicator:
  - The rate for the American Indian or Alaska Native group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Black or African American group was better than the rate for the White group.
  - The rate for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group was better than the rate for the White group.

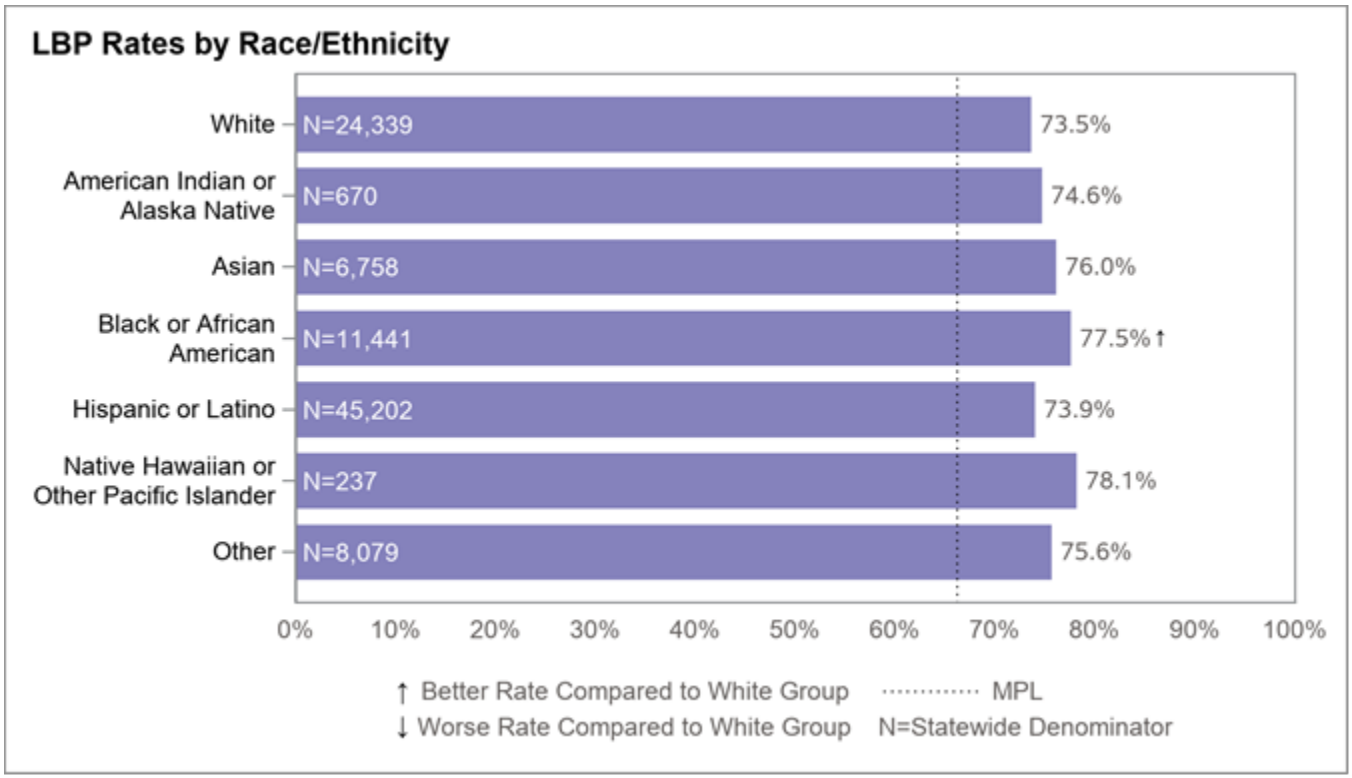
  - The rate for the Other group was better than the rate for the White group.
- No rates for the racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain (LBP)

The *Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain* (*LBP*) indicator measures the percentage of beneficiaries with a primary diagnosis of low back pain who did not have an imaging study (plain X-ray, magnetic resonance imaging [MRI], or computerized tomography [CT] scan) within 28 days of the diagnosis. Figure 3.32 displays the statewide *Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain* (*LBP*) rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group in addition to identified health disparities.

Figure 3.32—Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain (LBP) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 74.1 percent (N=2,502).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



- The rates for all racial/ethnic groups ranged from 73.5 percent for the White group to 78.1 percent for the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander group.
- One health disparity was identified for the *Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain* indicator as the rate for the Black or African American group was better than the rate for the White group.
- No rates for the racial/ethnic groups were below the minimum performance level for this indicator.

4. Geographic Variability by County for Select Indicators

The Geographic Variability by County for Select Indicators section presents county performance for four indicators identified by DHCS (*Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years*, *Breast Cancer Screening*, *Asthma Medication Ratio*, and *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis*).

As a reference for the Geographic Variability by County figures, Figure 4.1 displays a map of California with all counties labeled.

Figure 4.1—California Map by County

Figure 4.2—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years (CAP–256) Geographic Variability by County

NA indicates the rate had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30) or small numerator (i.e., less than 11).

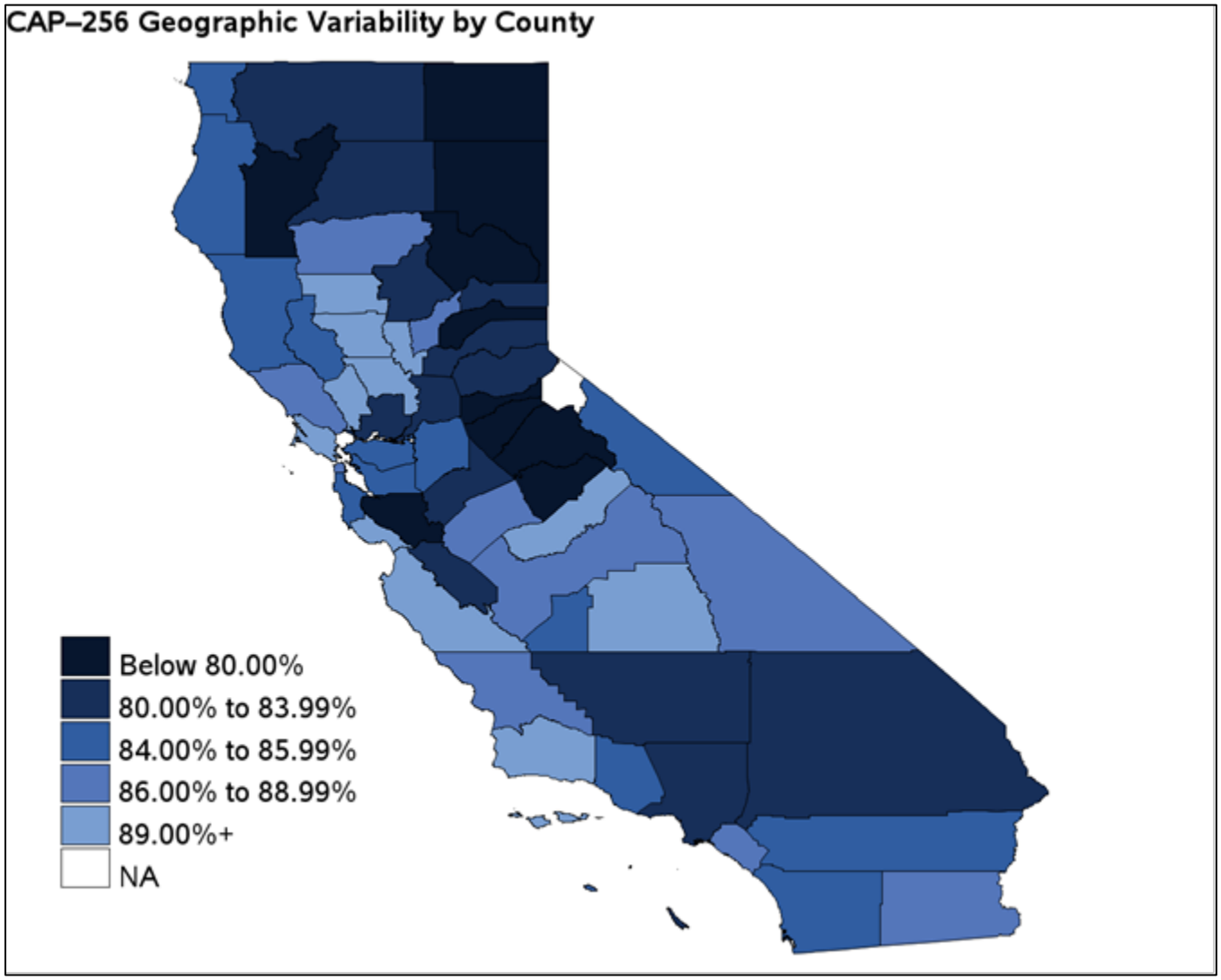


Figure 4.3—Breast Cancer Screening (BCS) Geographic Variability by County

NA indicates the rate had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30) or small numerator (i.e., less than 11).

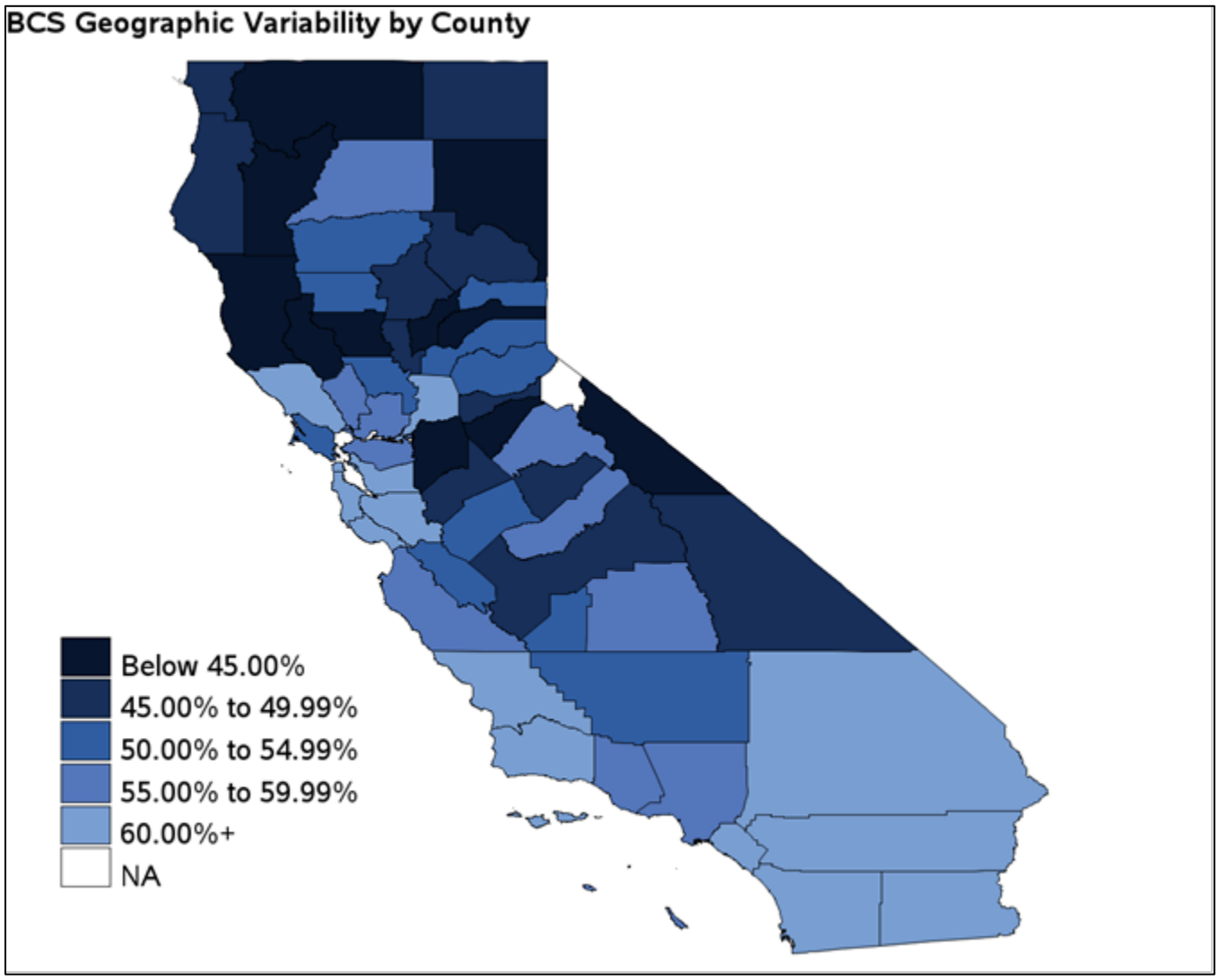


Figure 4.4—Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR) Geographic Variability by County

NA indicates the rate had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30) or small numerator (i.e., less than 11).

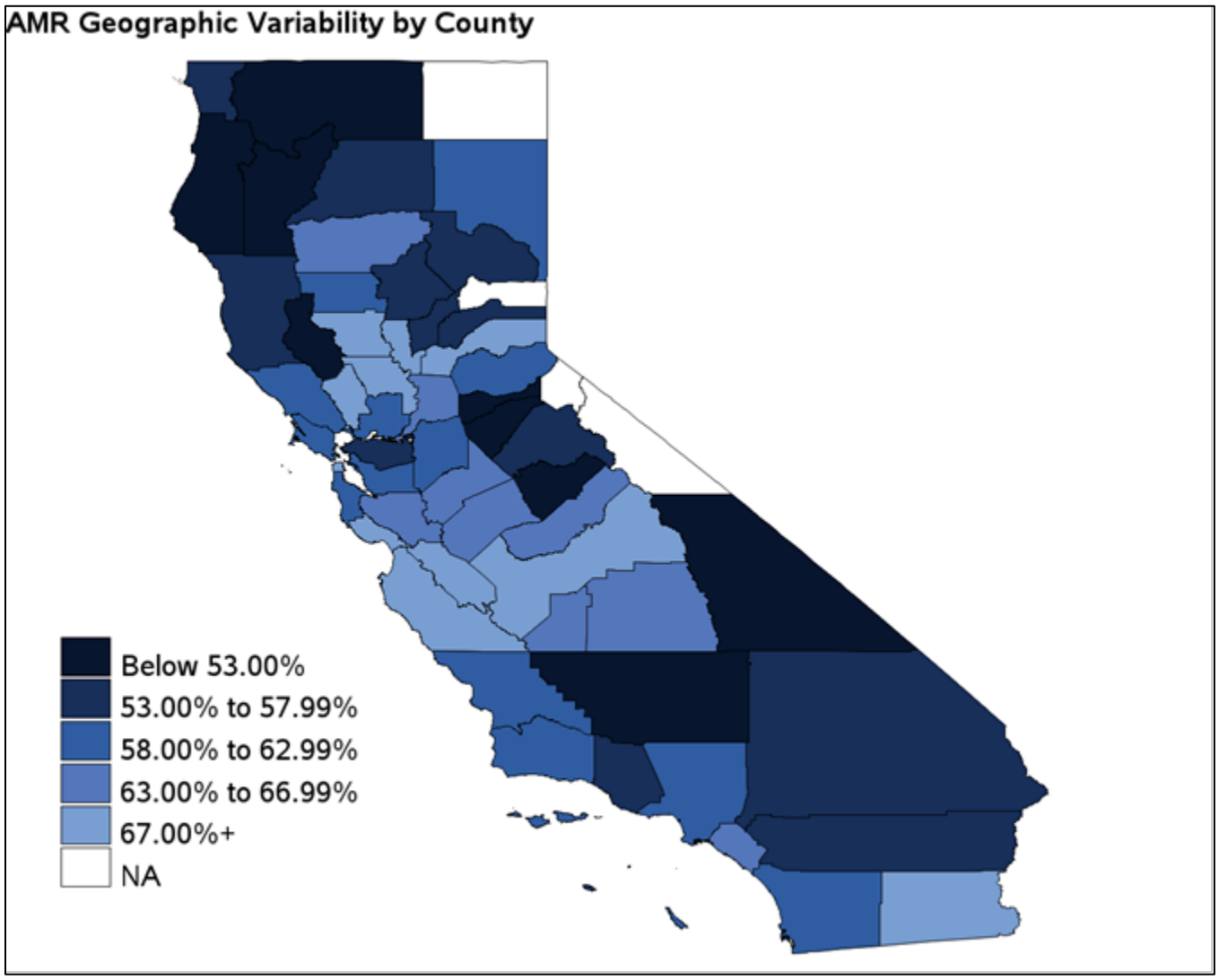
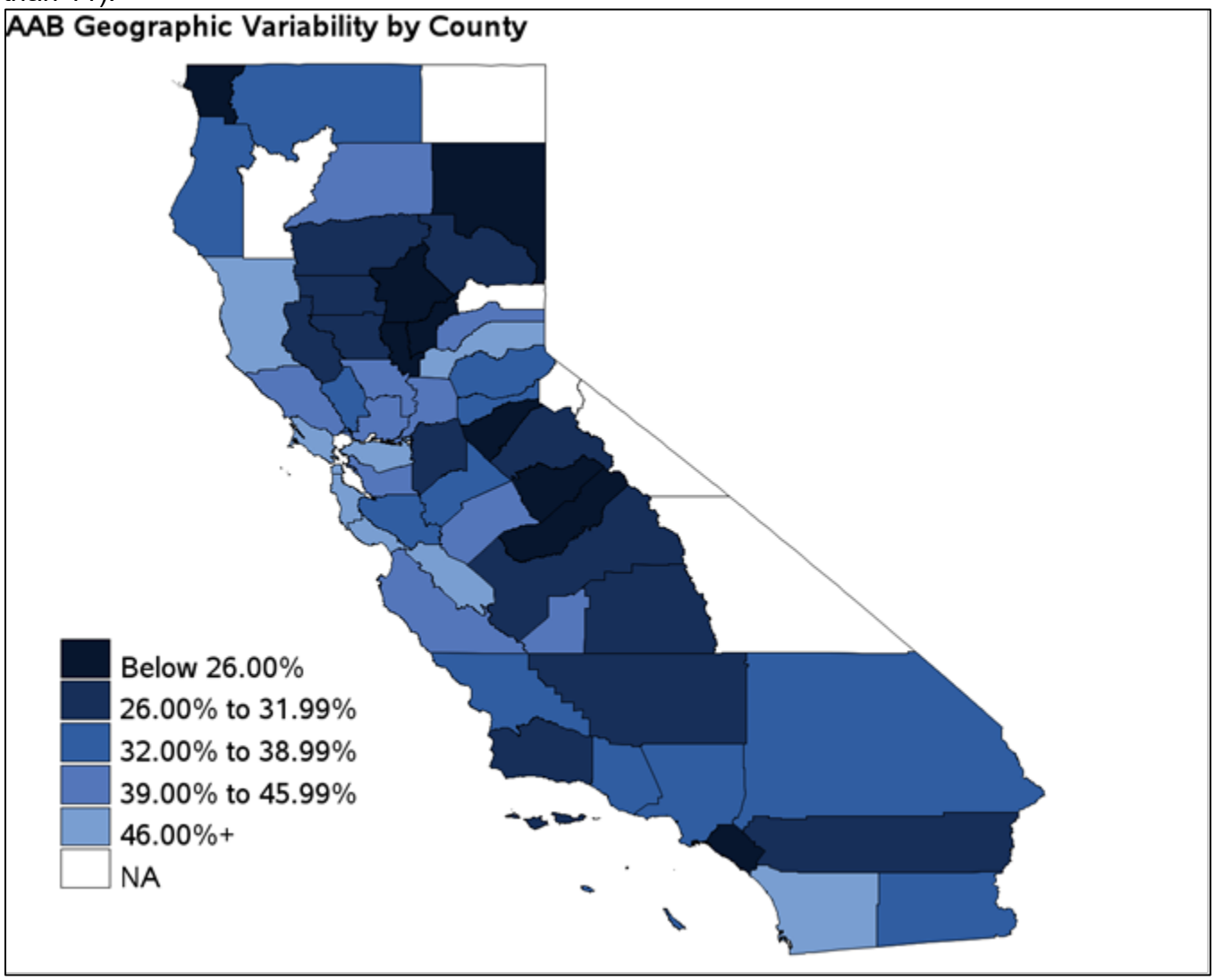


Figure 4.5—Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis (AAB) Geographic Variability by County

NA indicates the rate had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30) or small numerator (i.e., less than 11).



Appendix A. Demographic Stratification Results

Appendix A presents the racial/ethnic stratification results for the *Ambulatory Care* (*AMB*) indicators and the primary language, age, and gender stratification results for each indicator where appropriate, organized by domain (Preventive Screening and Children's Health, Preventive Screening and Women's Health, Care for Chronic Conditions, and Appropriate Treatment and Utilization).

Race/Ethnicity

Figure A.1 and Figure A.2 display the statewide rates by racial/ethnic group for the *Ambulatory Care* (*AMB*) indicators. Due to limitations with the data, HSAG did not perform analyses to identify health disparities for the *Ambulatory Care* (*AMB*) indicators.

Appropriate Treatment and Utilization Domain

Figure A.1 and Figure A.2 display the statewide Appropriate Treatment and Utilization indicator rates and denominator for each racial/ethnic group.

Ambulatory Care (AMB)

The *Ambulatory Care* (*AMB*) indicators summarize utilization of ambulatory care for Emergency Department Visits and Outpatient Visits.

Figure A.1—Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits (AMB–ED) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 42.8 emergency department visits per 1,000 member months (N=4,341,854).

The *Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits* indicator is a utilization indicator where a higher or lower rate does not indicate more favorable or less favorable performance; therefore, the minimum performance level is not displayed for this indicator.

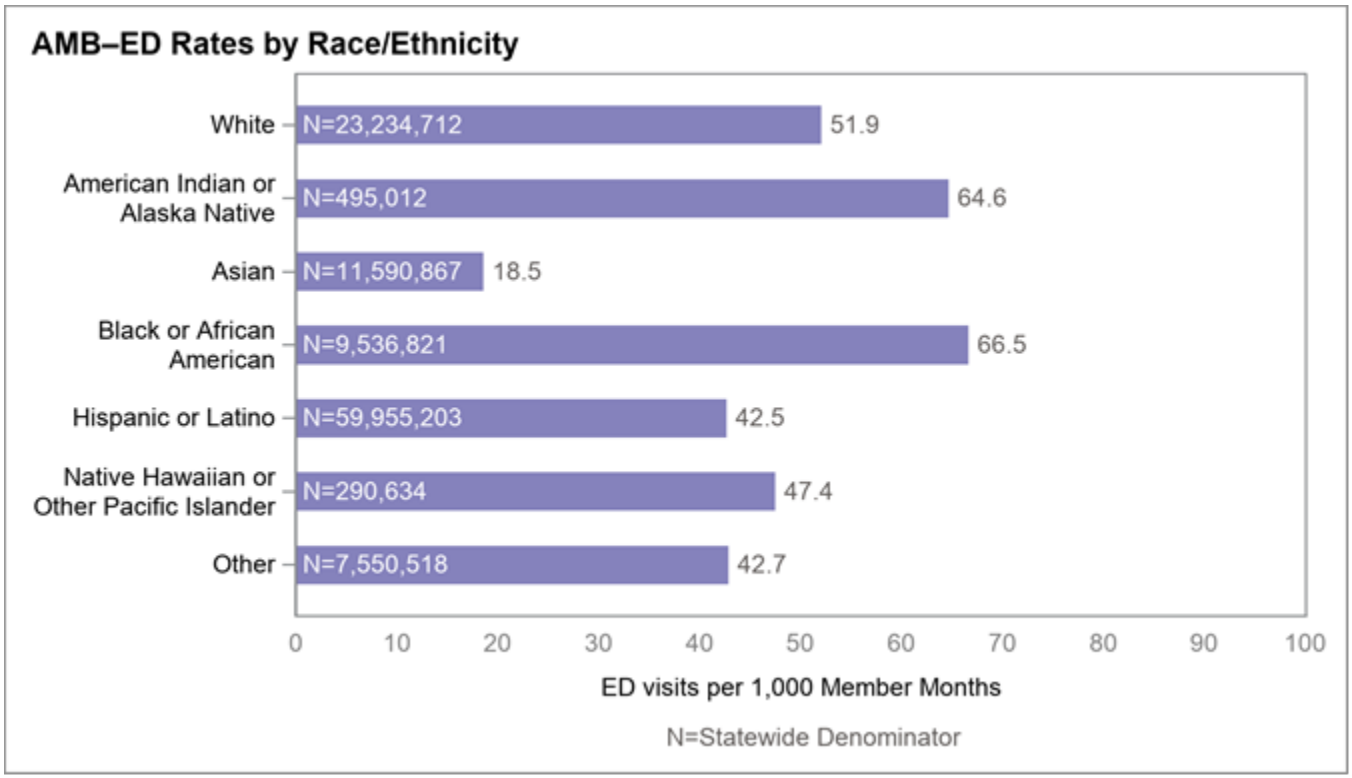
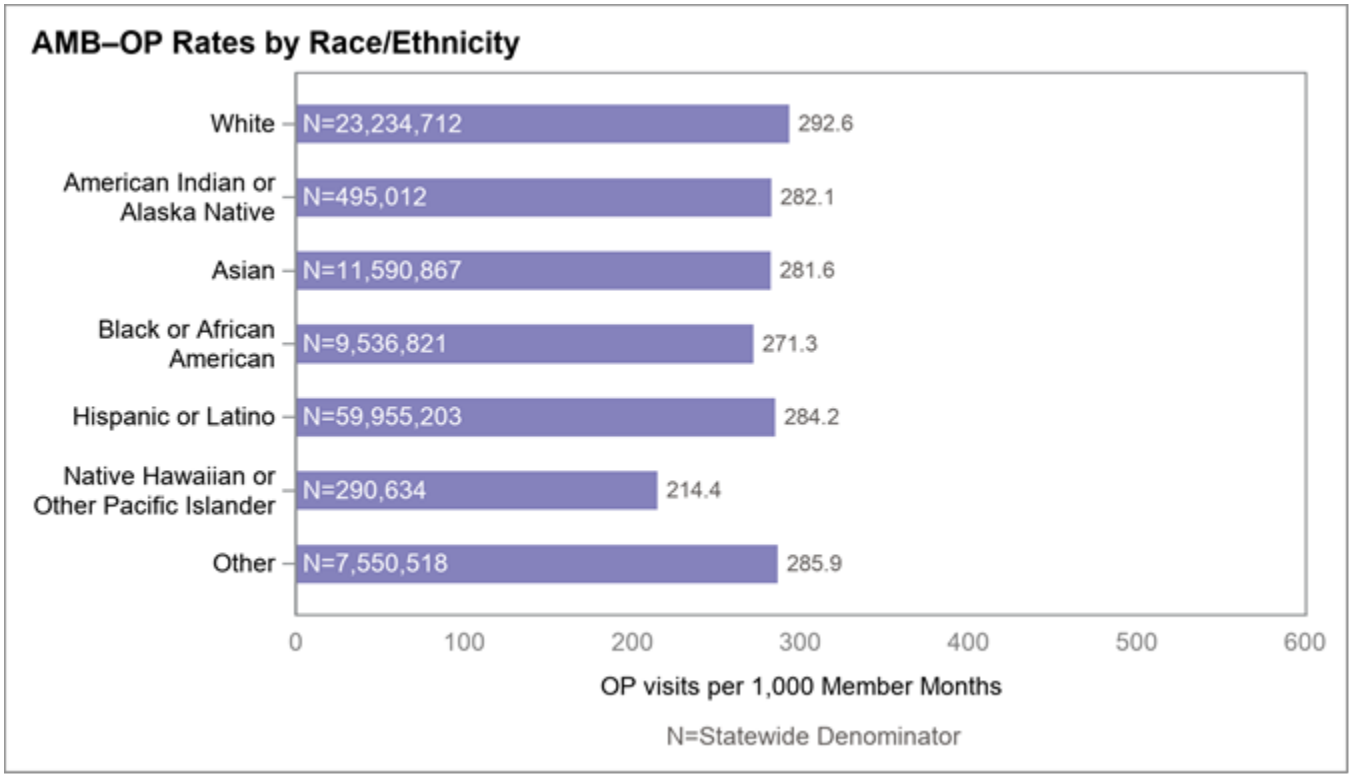


Figure A.2—Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits (AMB–OP) Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 288.9 outpatient visits per 1,000 member months (N=4,341,854).

The *Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits* indicator is a utilization indicator where a higher or lower rate does not indicate more favorable or less favorable performance; therefore, the minimum performance level is not displayed for this indicator.



Primary Language

Figure A.3 through Figure A.32 display the statewide rates by each primary language group for each indicator. Primary language stratifications were derived from the current threshold languages for Medi-Cal Managed Care counties as of June 2017. Please note, the rate for the Unknown/Missing group is only included as a note if the rate met the minimum denominator (i.e., 30 or more) and minimum numerator (i.e., 11 or more) requirements.

Preventive Screening and Children's Health Domain

Figure A.3 through Figure A.11 display the statewide Preventive Screening and Children's Health indicator rates and denominator for each primary language group.

Figure A.3—Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3 (CIS–3) Rates by Primary Language

NA indicates the rate for the primary language group had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

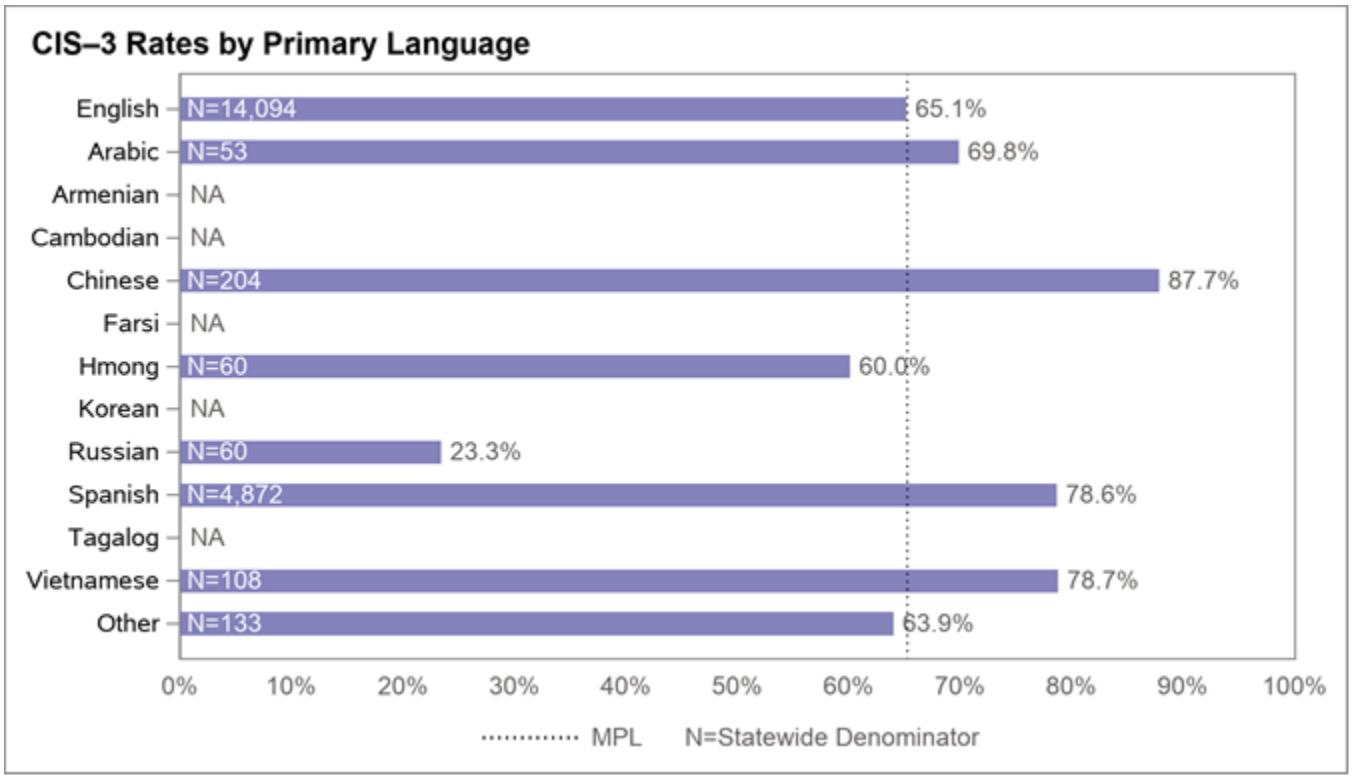


Figure A.4—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months (CAP–1224) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 65.1 percent (N=272).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

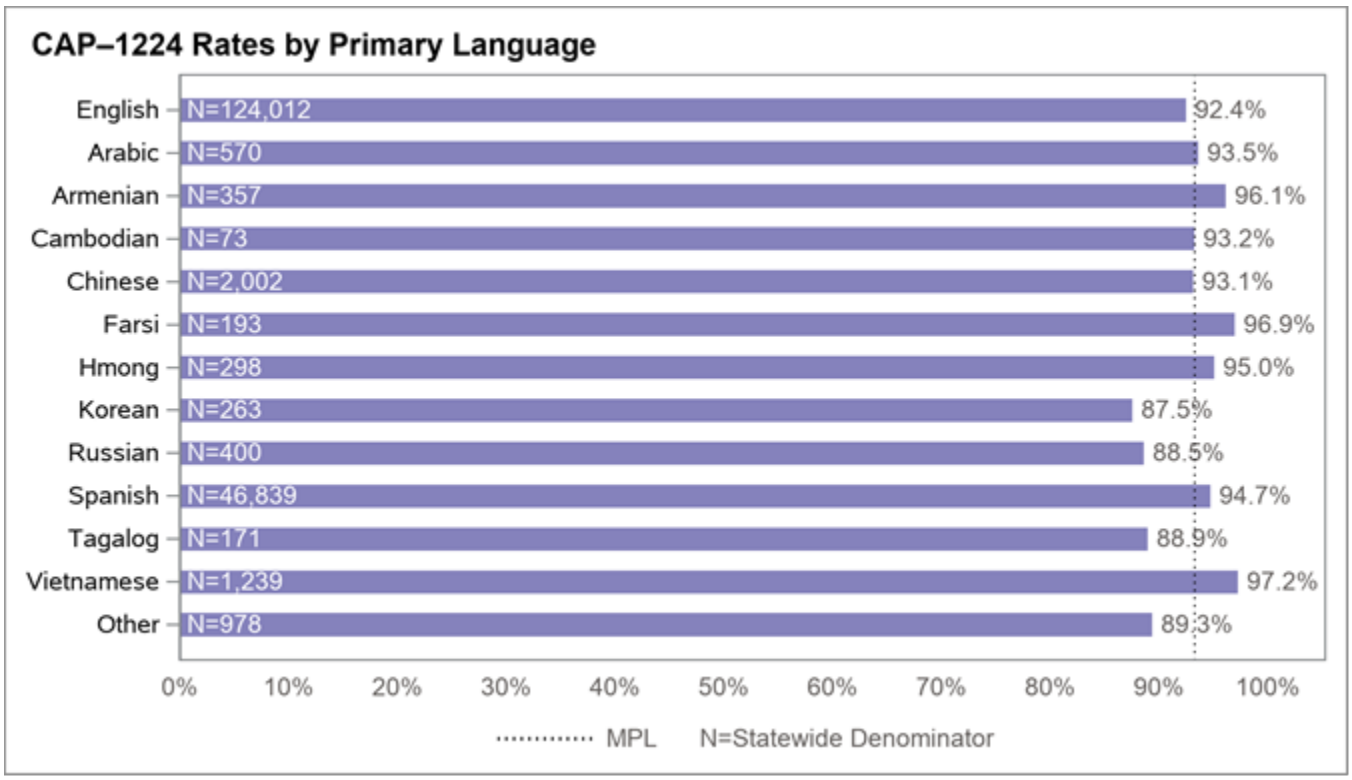


Figure A.5—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years (CAP–256) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 55.0 percent (N=1,020).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

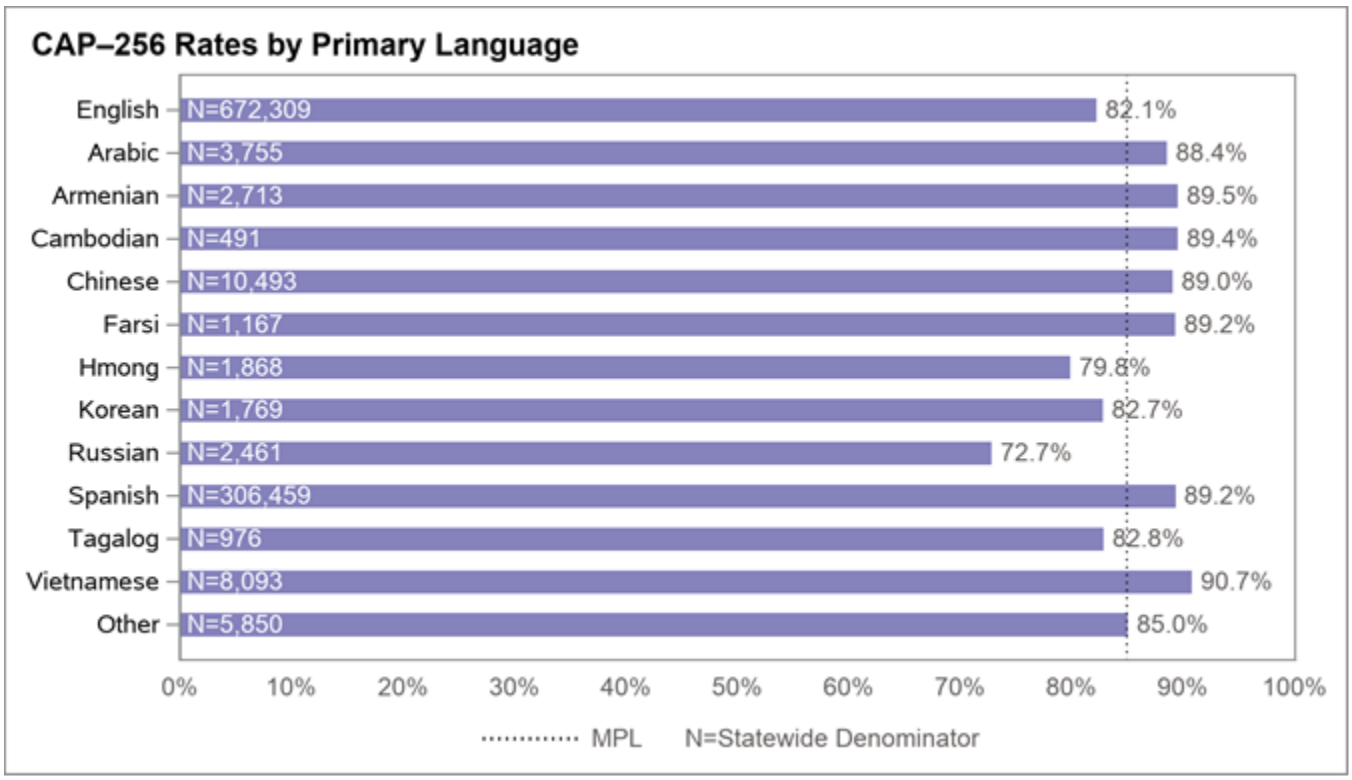


Figure A.6—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years (CAP–711) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 67.3 percent (N=382).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

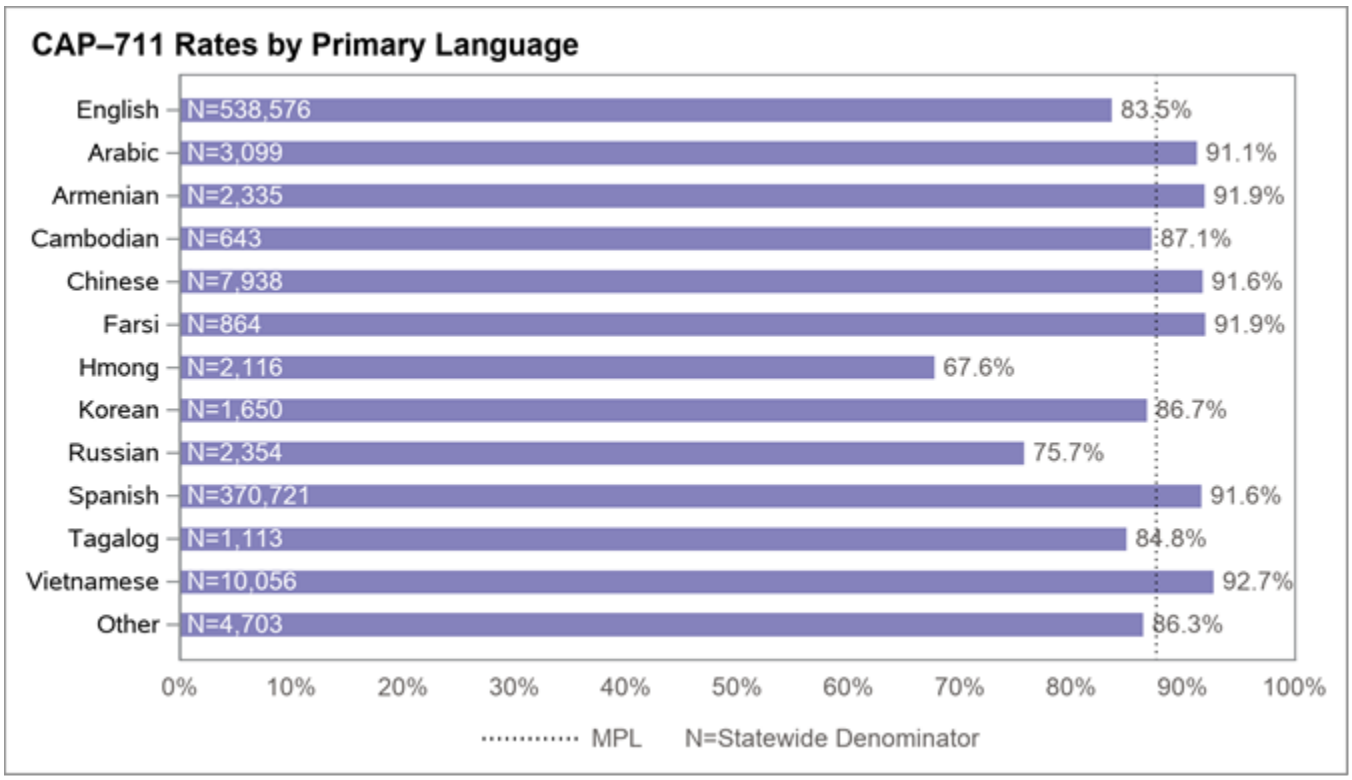


Figure A.7—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years (CAP–1219) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 61.7 percent (N=478).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

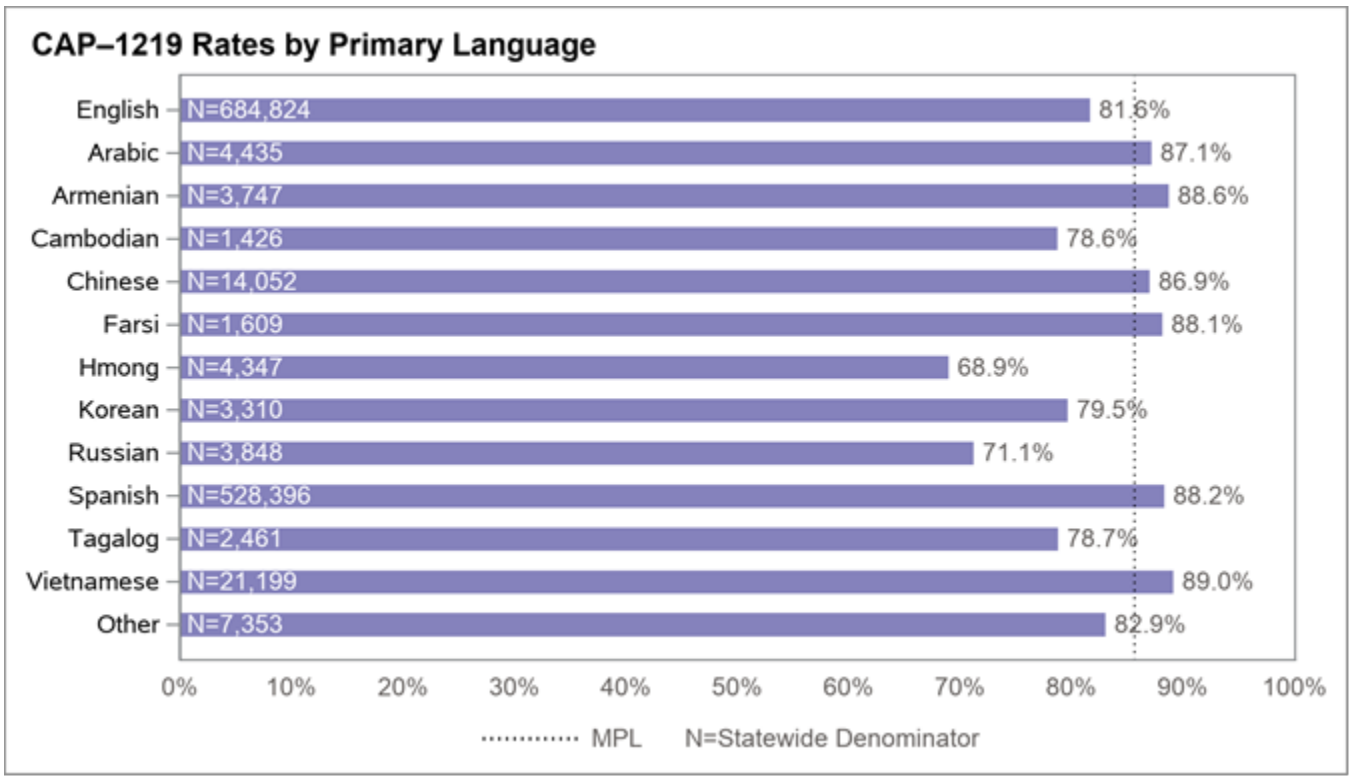


Figure A.8—Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2 (IMA–2) Rates by Primary Language

NA indicates the rate for the primary language group had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30).
S indicates fewer than 11 cases exist in the numerator for the primary language group; therefore, HSAG suppresses displaying the rate in this report to satisfy the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Rule's de-identification standard.

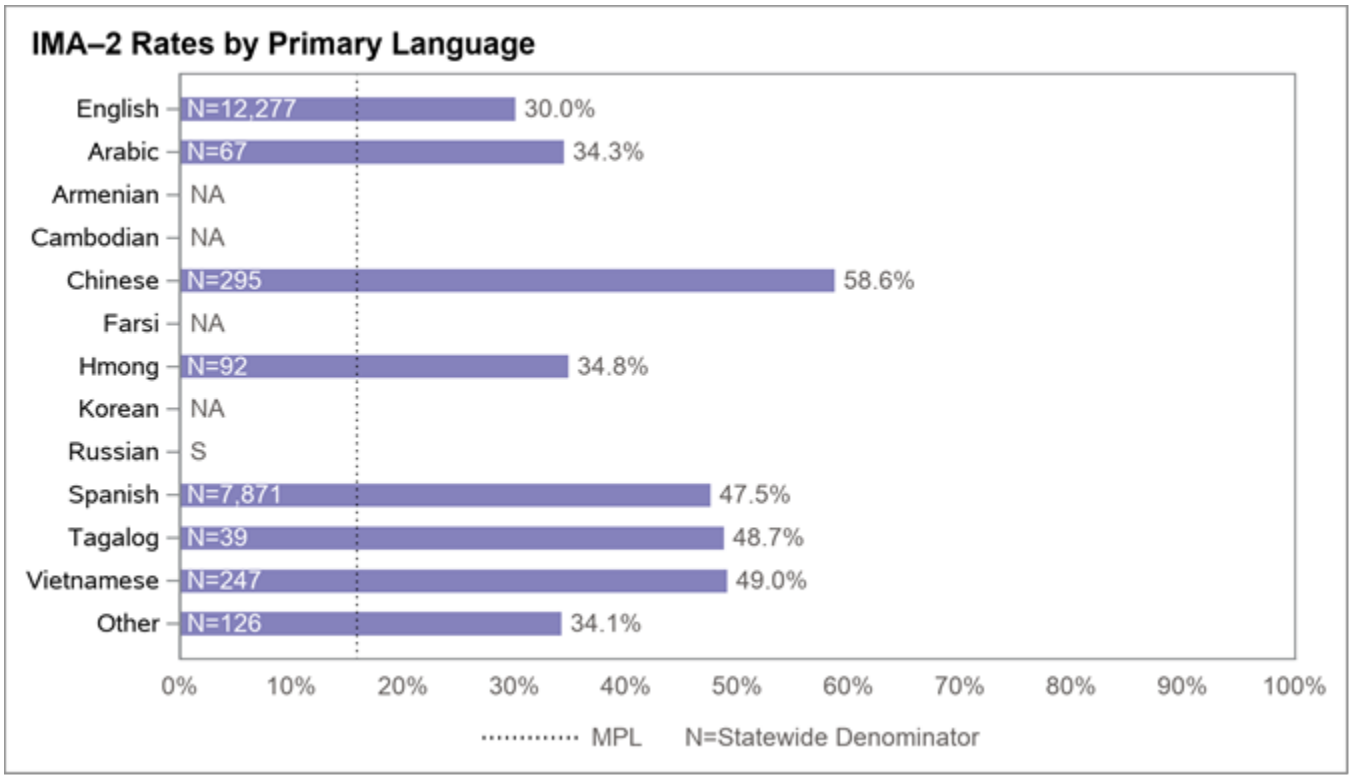


Figure A.9—Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total (WCC–N) Rates by Primary Language

NA indicates the rate for the primary language group had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

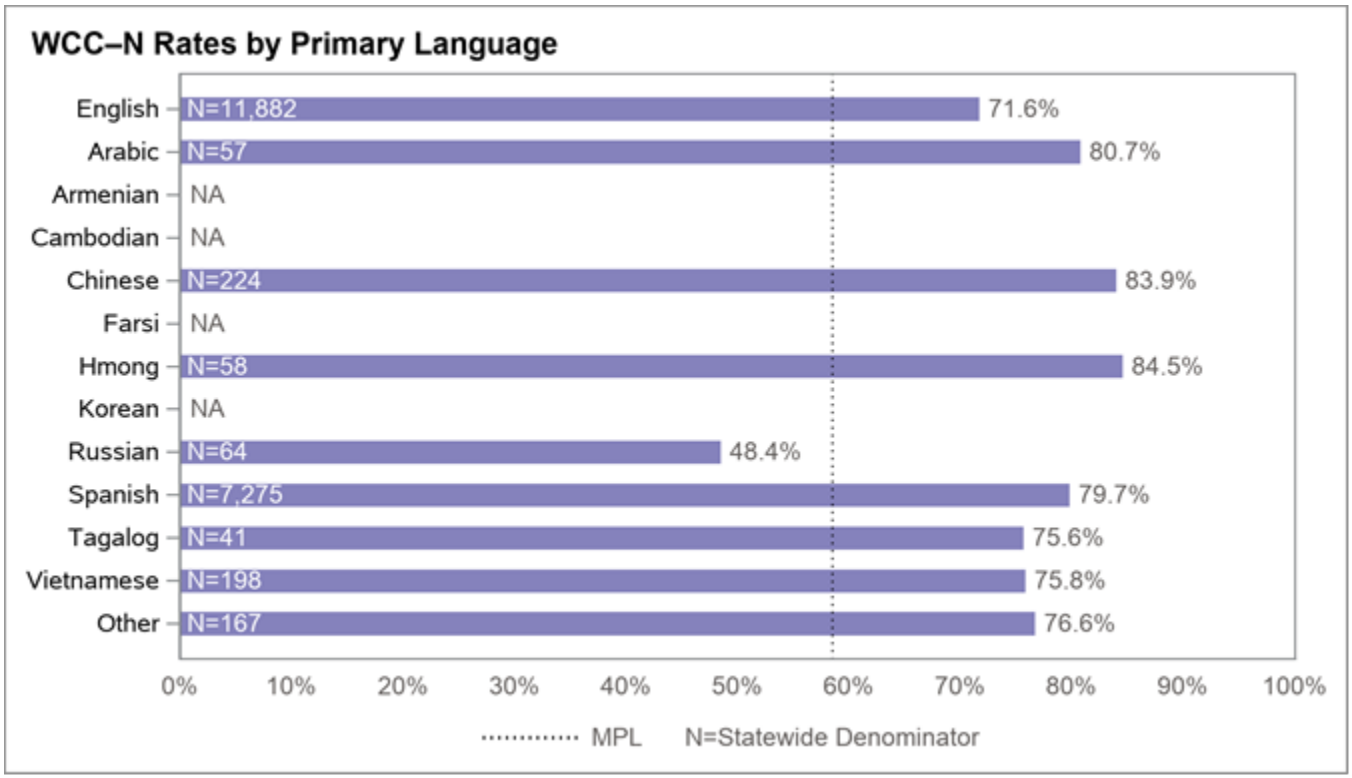


Figure A.10—Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total (WCC–PA) Rates by Primary Language

NA indicates the rate for the primary language group had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

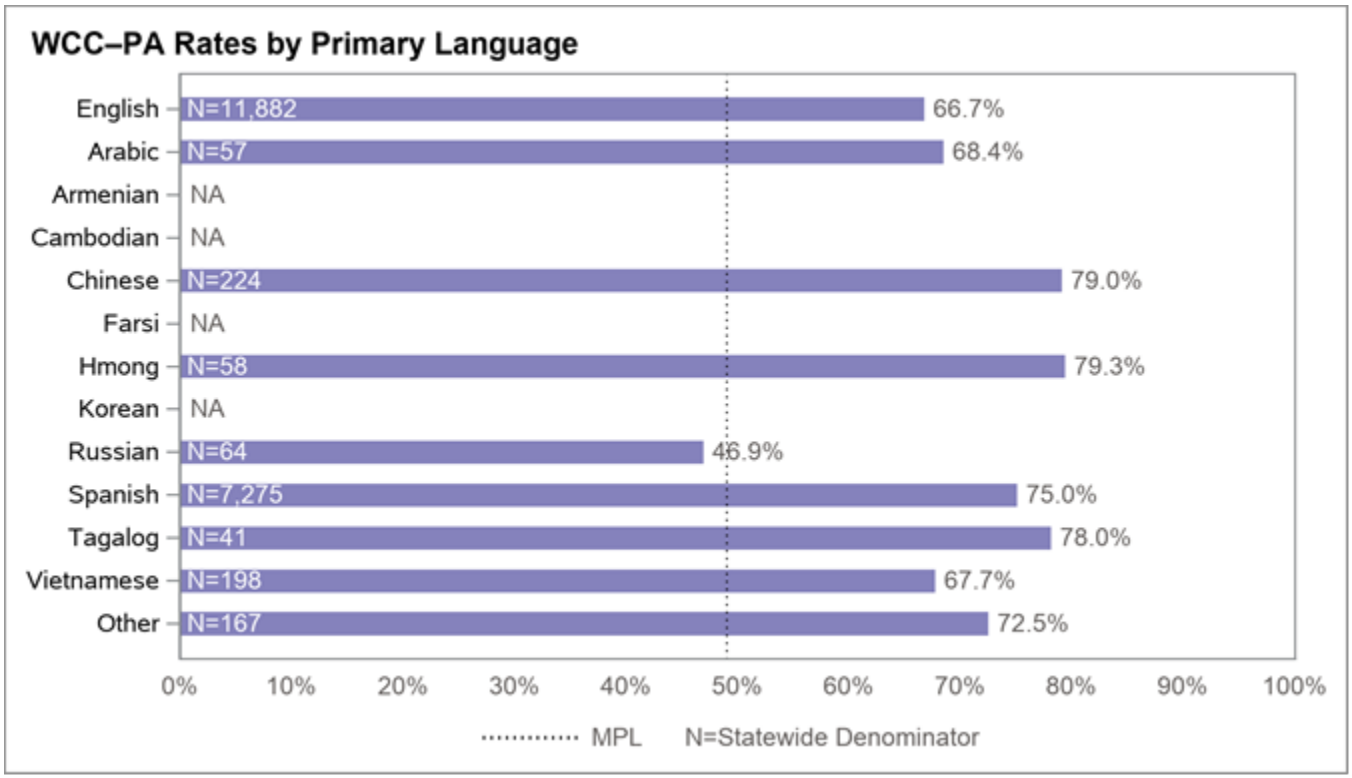
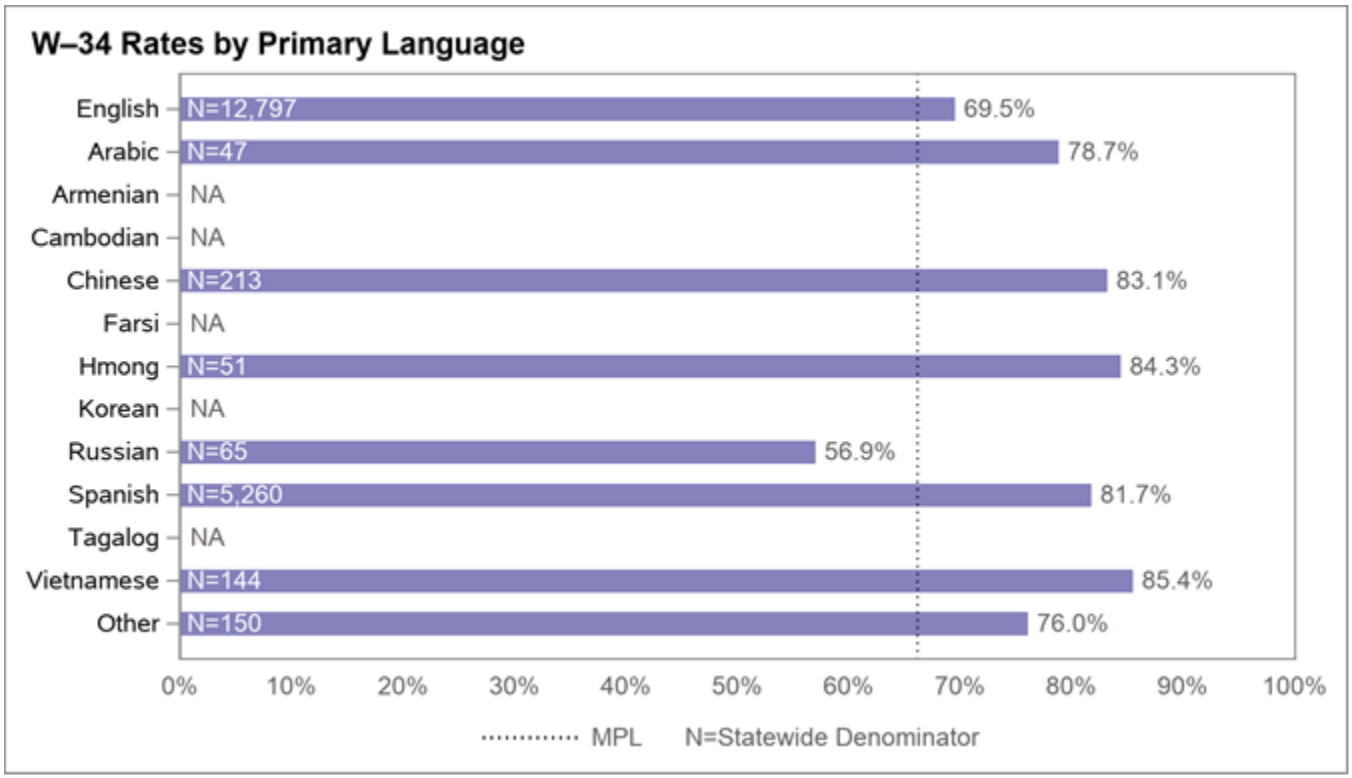


Figure A.11—Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life (W–34) Rates by Primary Language

NA indicates the rate for the primary language group had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



Preventive Screening and Women's Health Domain

Figure A.12 through Figure A.16 display the statewide Preventive Screening and Women's Health indicator rates and denominator for each primary language group.

Figure A.12—Breast Cancer Screening (BCS) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 44.7 percent (N=5,352).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

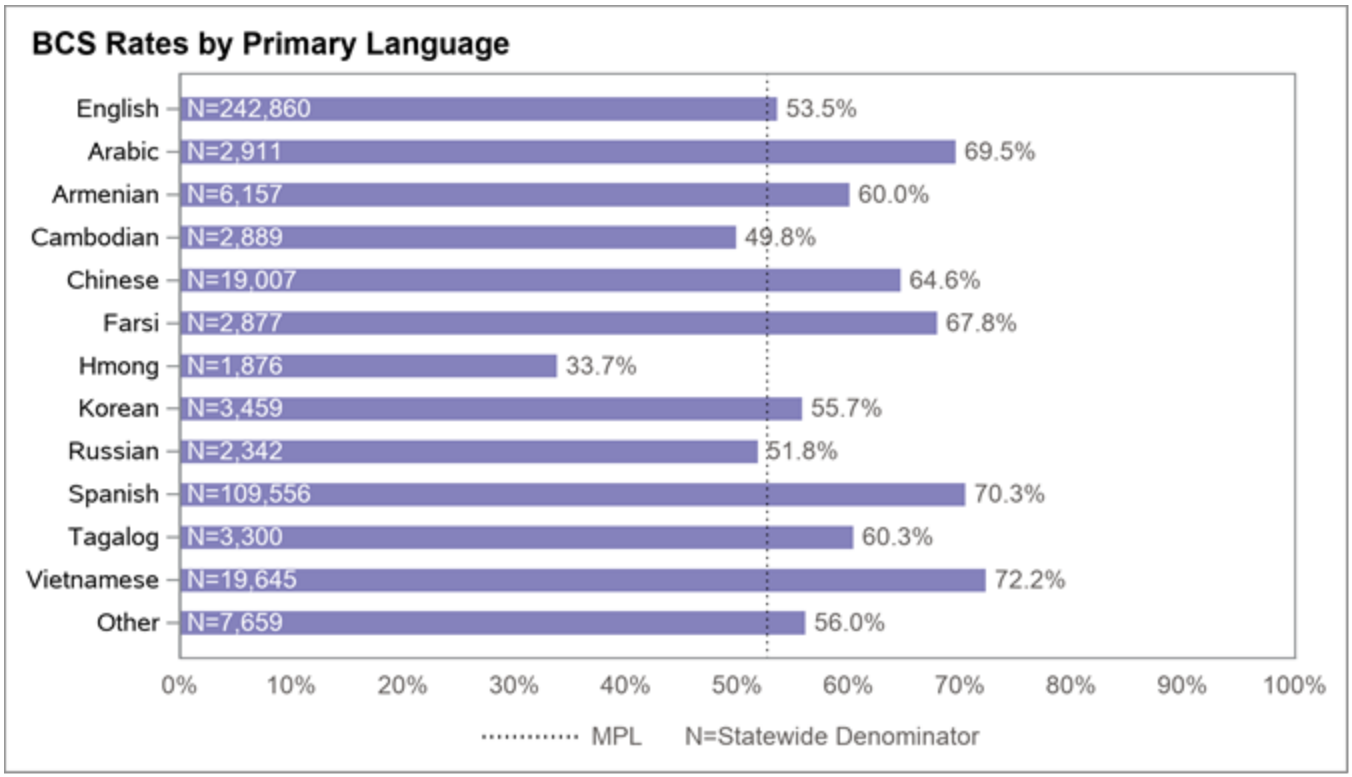


Figure A.13—Cervical Cancer Screening (CCS) Rates by Primary Language

NA indicates the rate for the primary language group had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30).
Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 31.9 percent (N=94).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

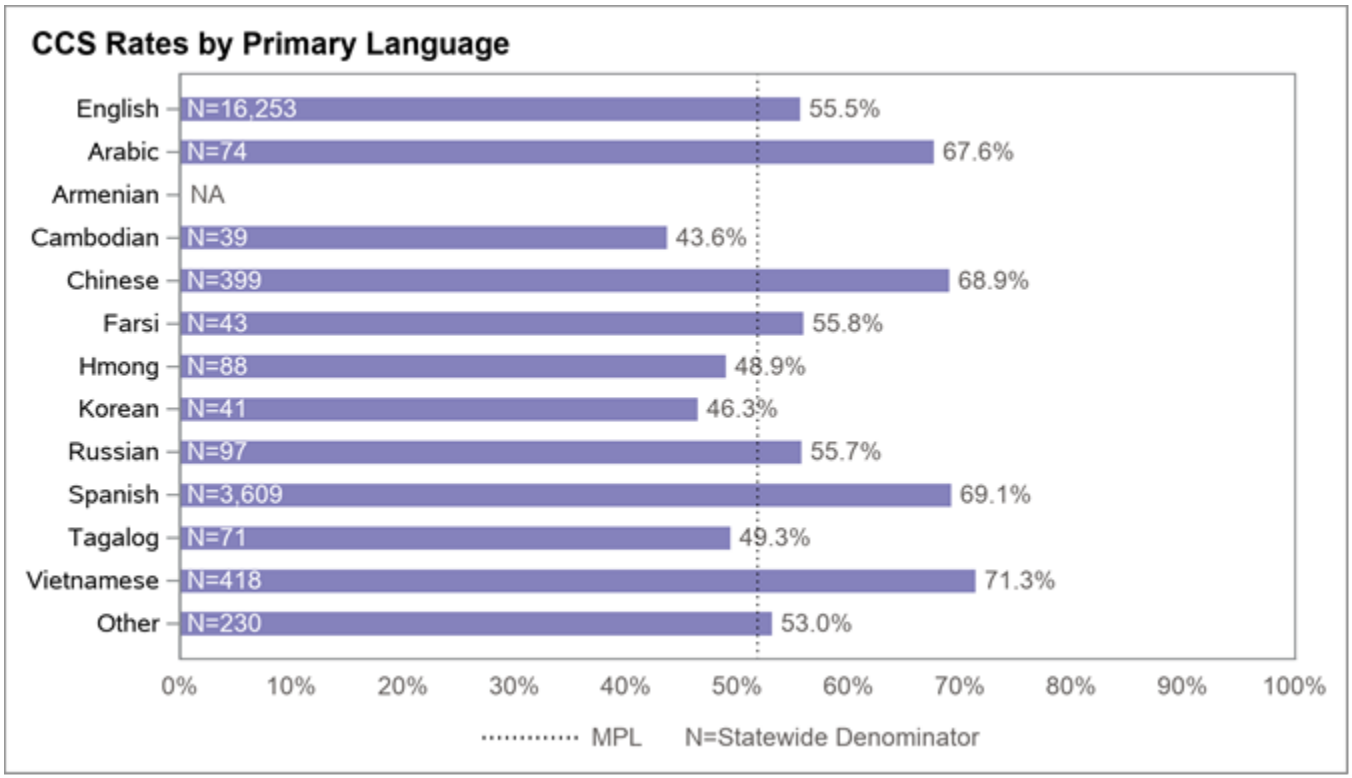


Figure A.14—LARC Utilization (LARC) Rates by Primary Language

The *LARC Utilization* indicator was originally developed for the LARC Utilization Focused Study; therefore, the language groups differ from the language groups used for other indicators.

The *LARC Utilization* indicator was originally developed for the LARC Utilization Focused Study; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.

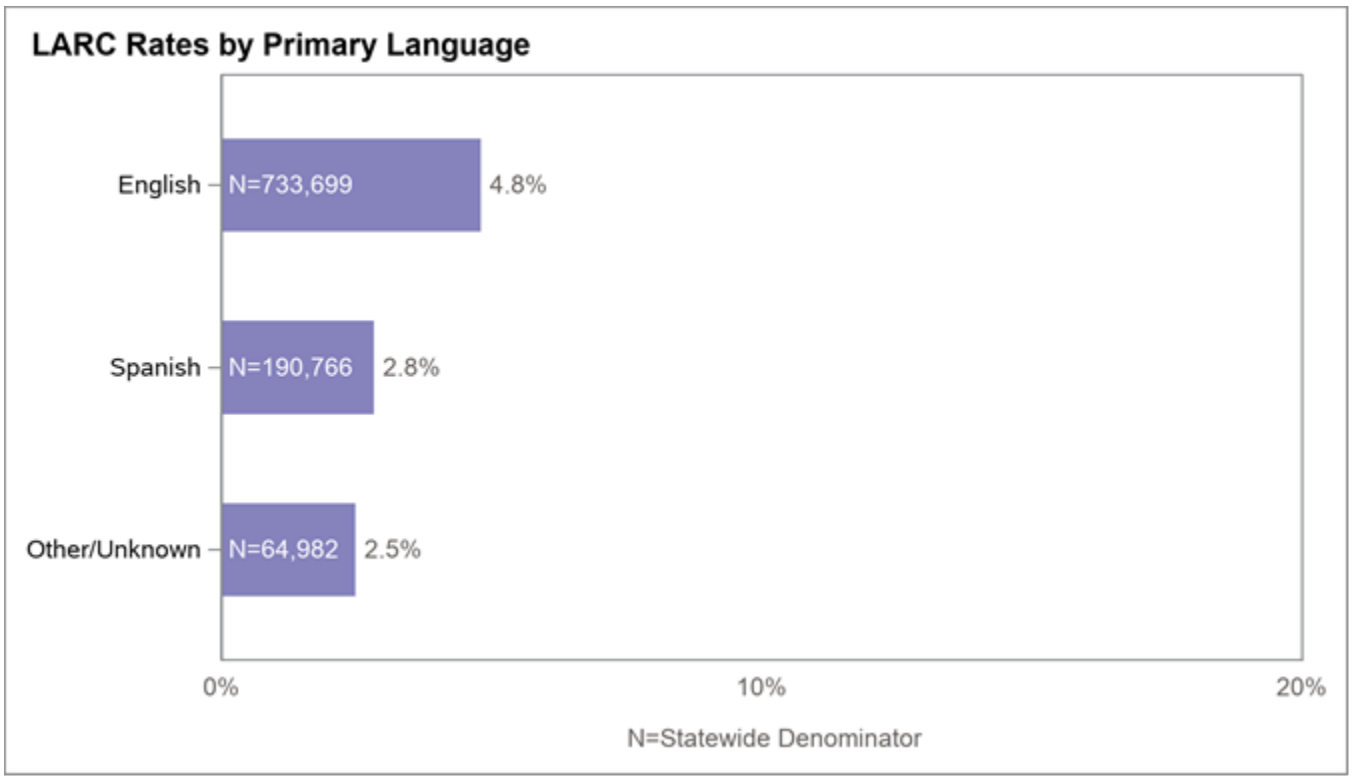


Figure A.15—Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care (PPC–Pst) Rates by Primary Language

NA indicates the rate for the primary language group had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

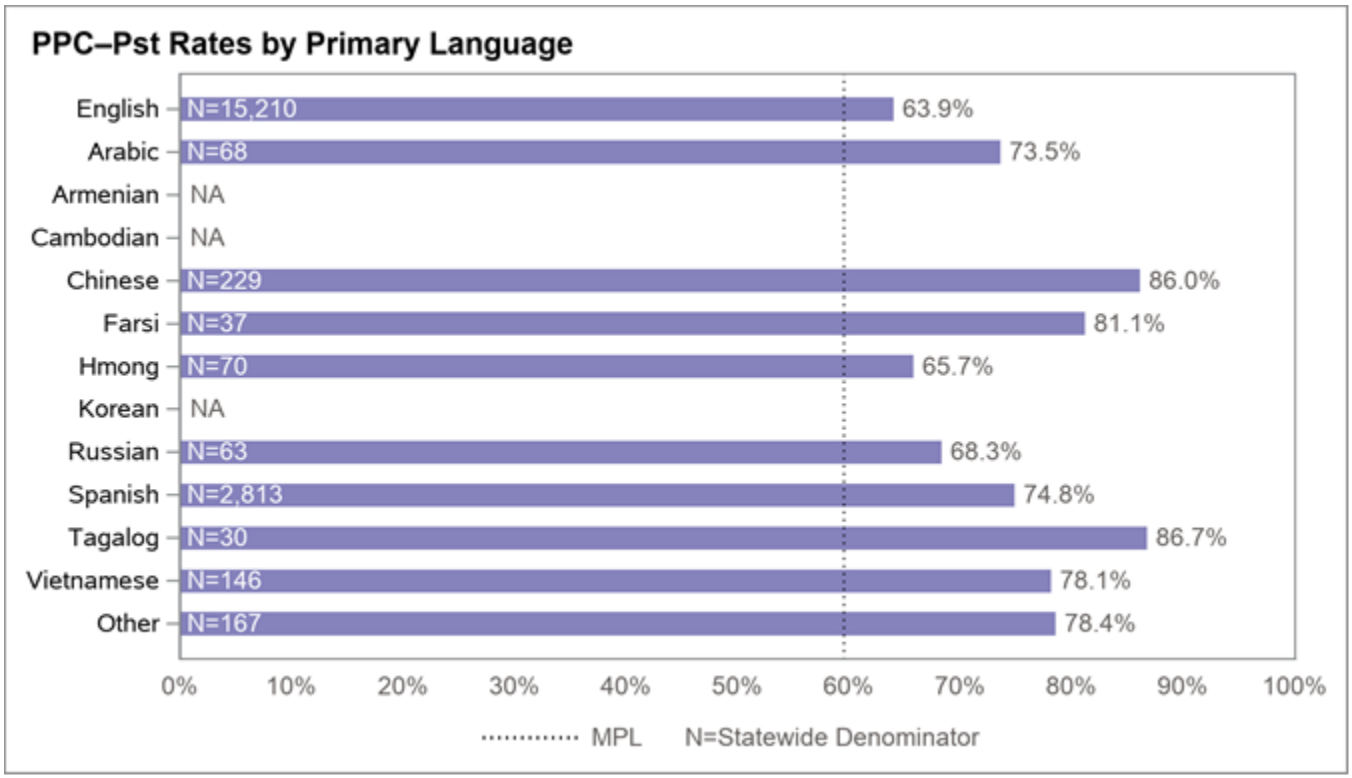
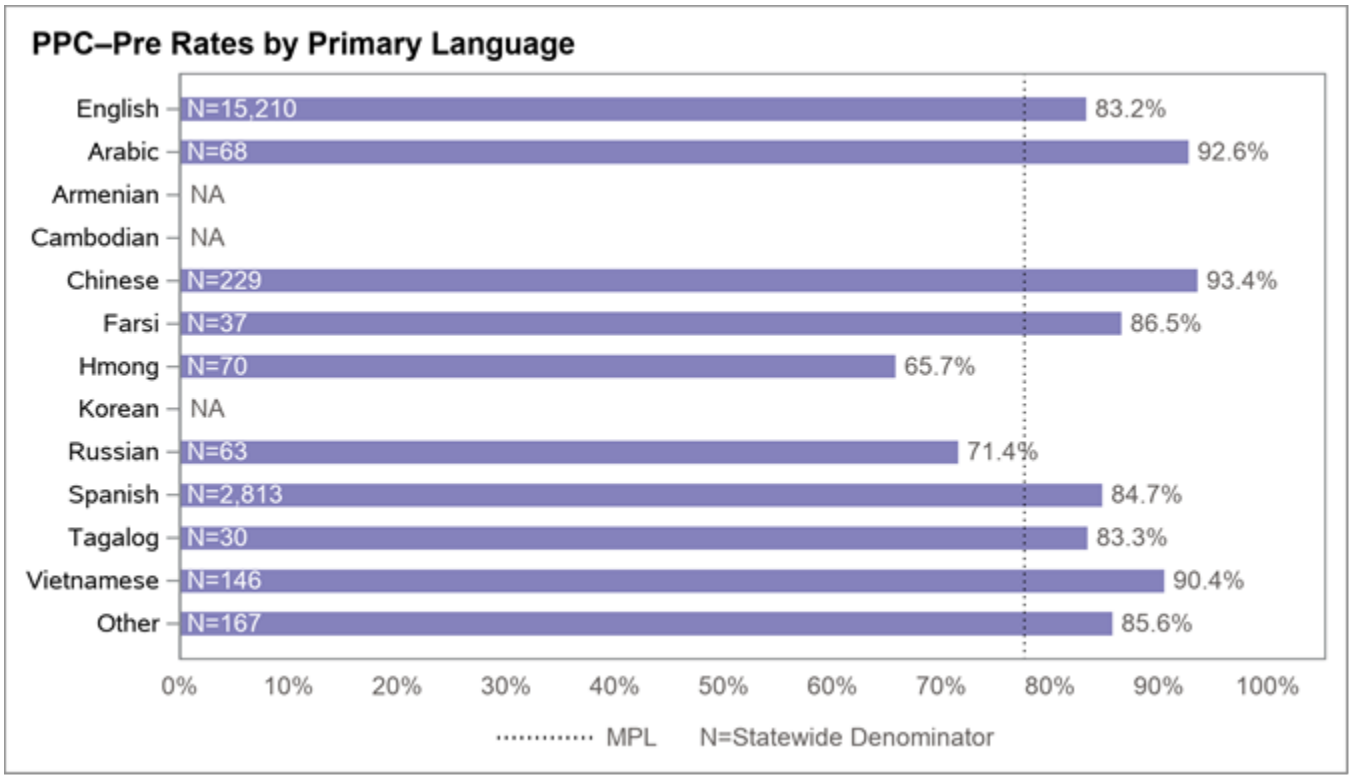


Figure A.16—Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care (PPC–Pre) Rates by Primary Language

NA indicates the rate for the primary language group had a small denominator (i.e., less than 30).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



Care for Chronic Conditions Domain

Figure A.17 through Figure A.27 display the statewide Care for Chronic Conditions indicator rates and denominator for each primary language group.

Figure A.17—Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs (MPM–ACE) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 88.2 percent (N=4,385).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

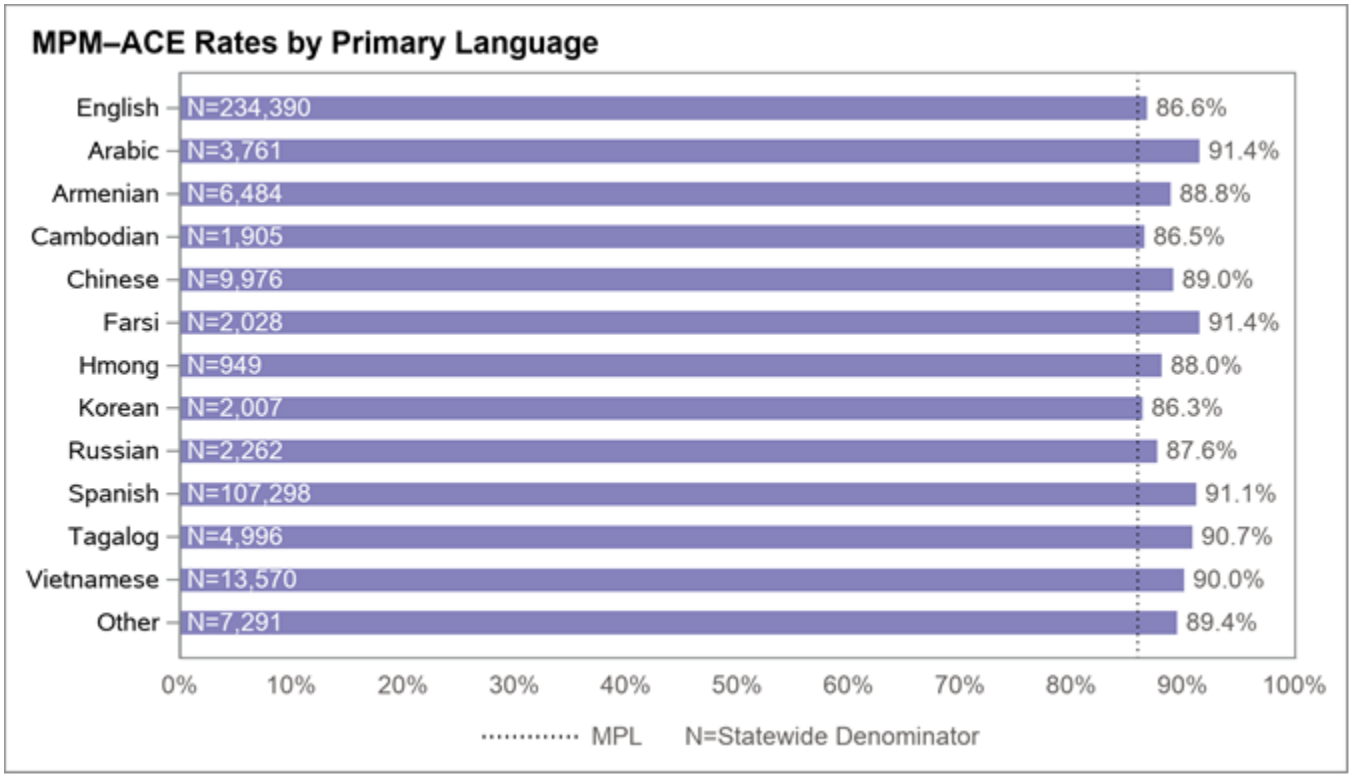


Figure A.18—Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—Diuretics (MPM–Diu) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 87.9 percent (N=2,339).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

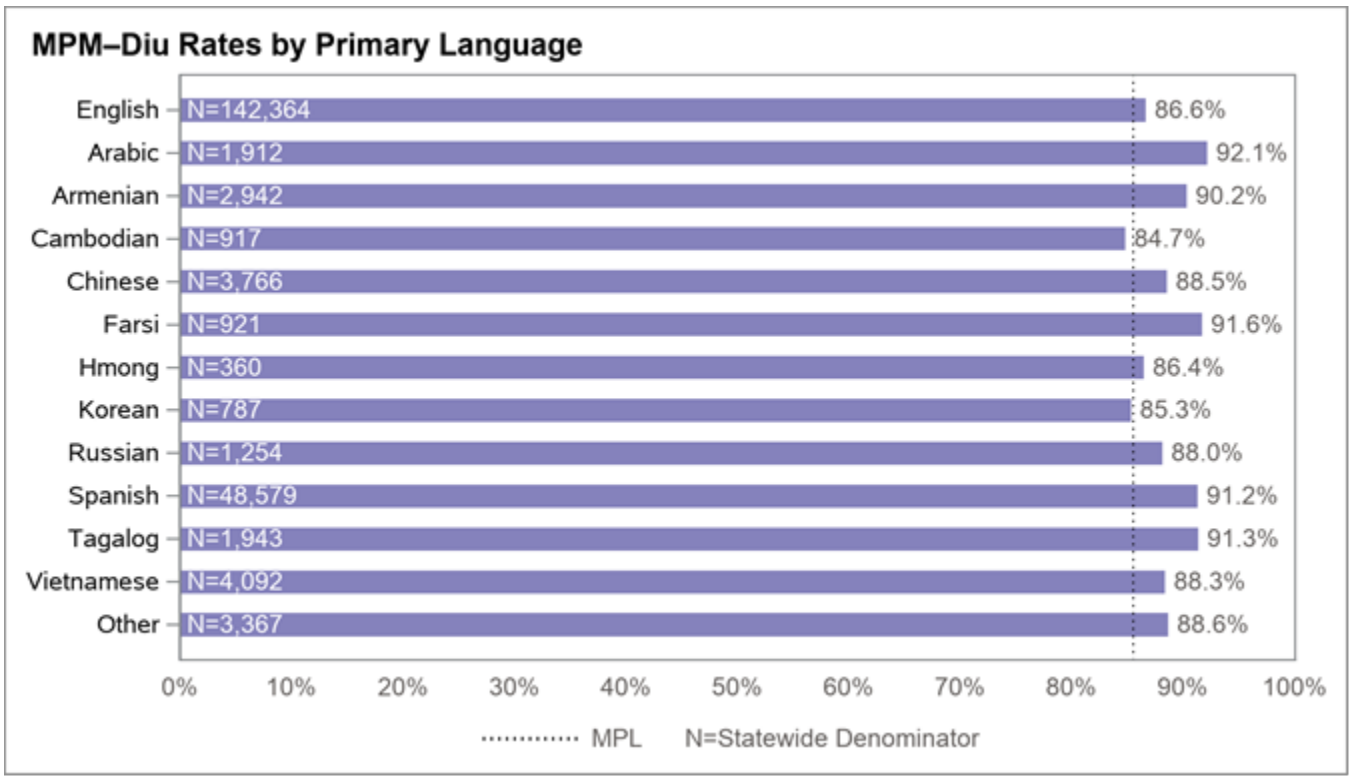


Figure A.19—Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 64.3 percent (N=476).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

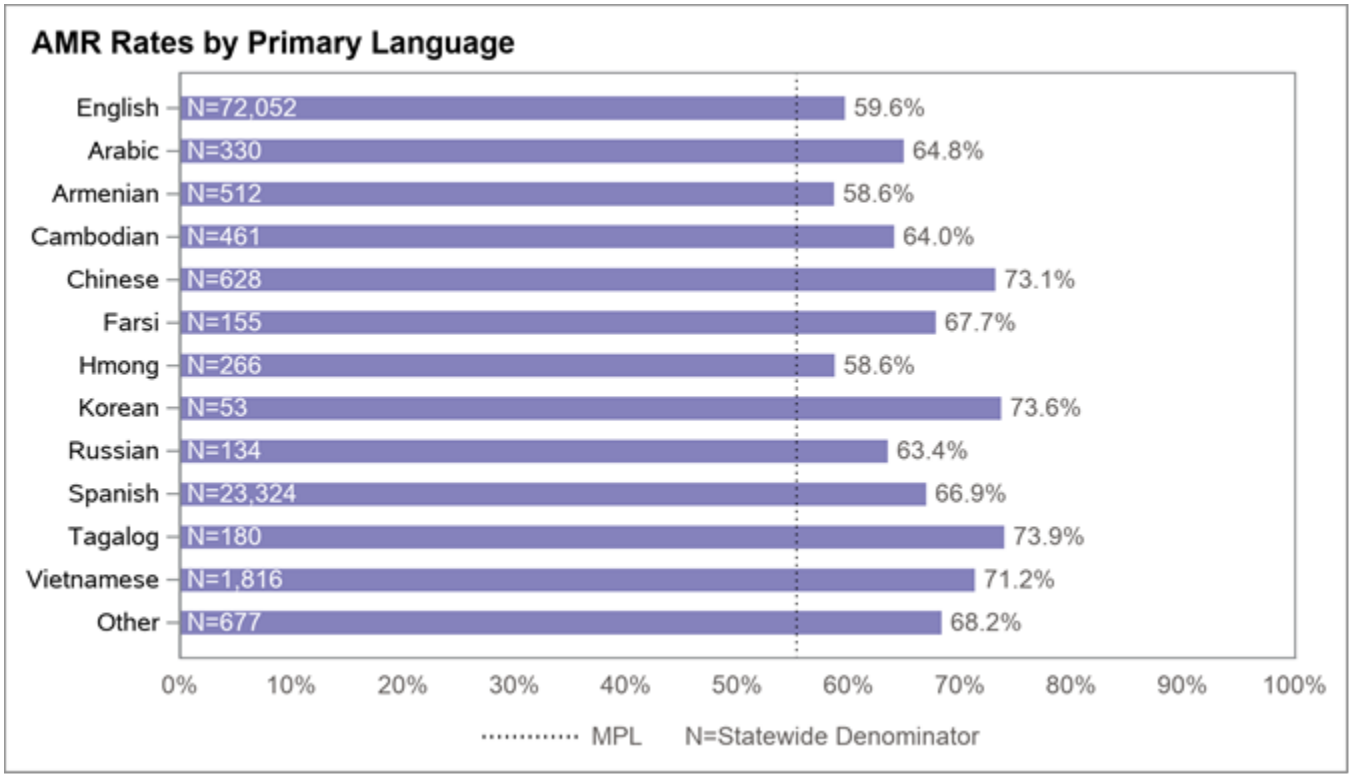


Figure A.20—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg) (CDC–BP) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 69.2 percent (N=227).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

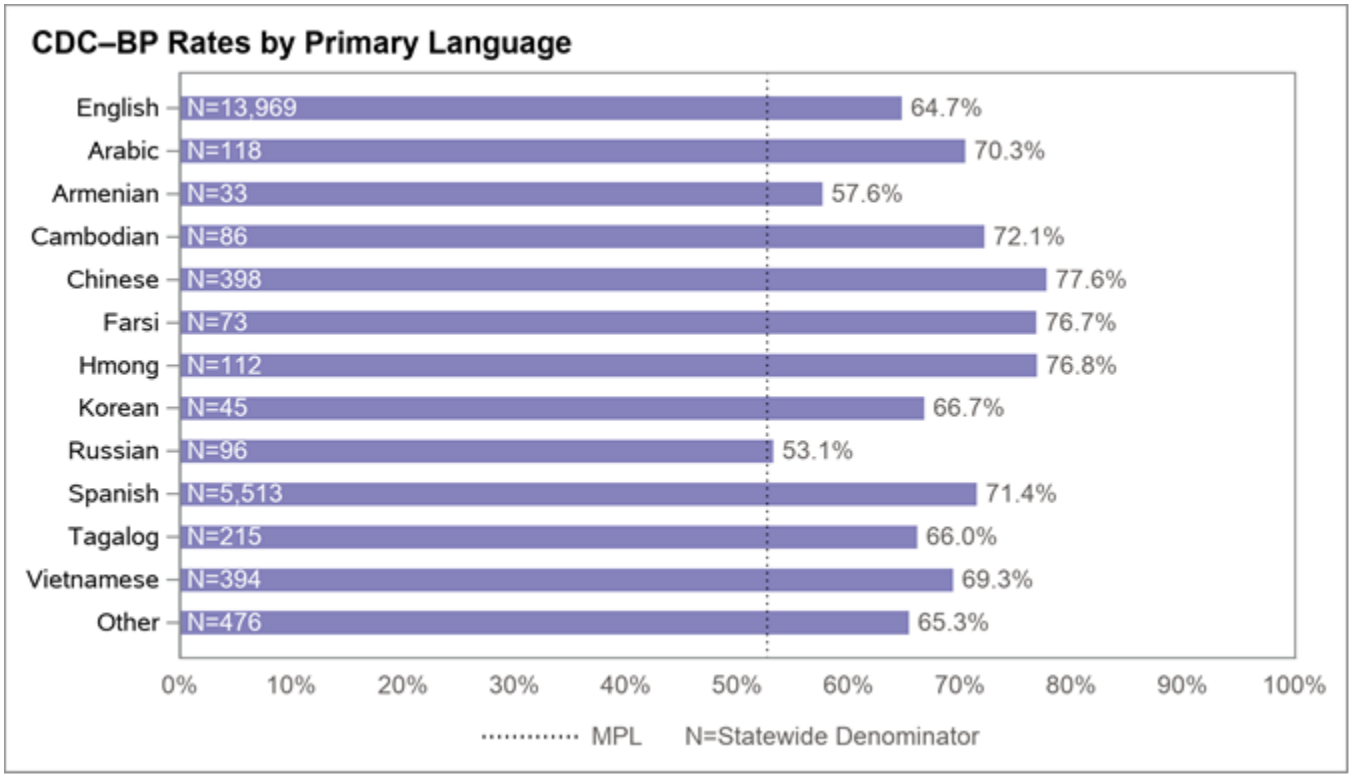


Figure A.21—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed (CDC–E) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 54.2 percent (N=227).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

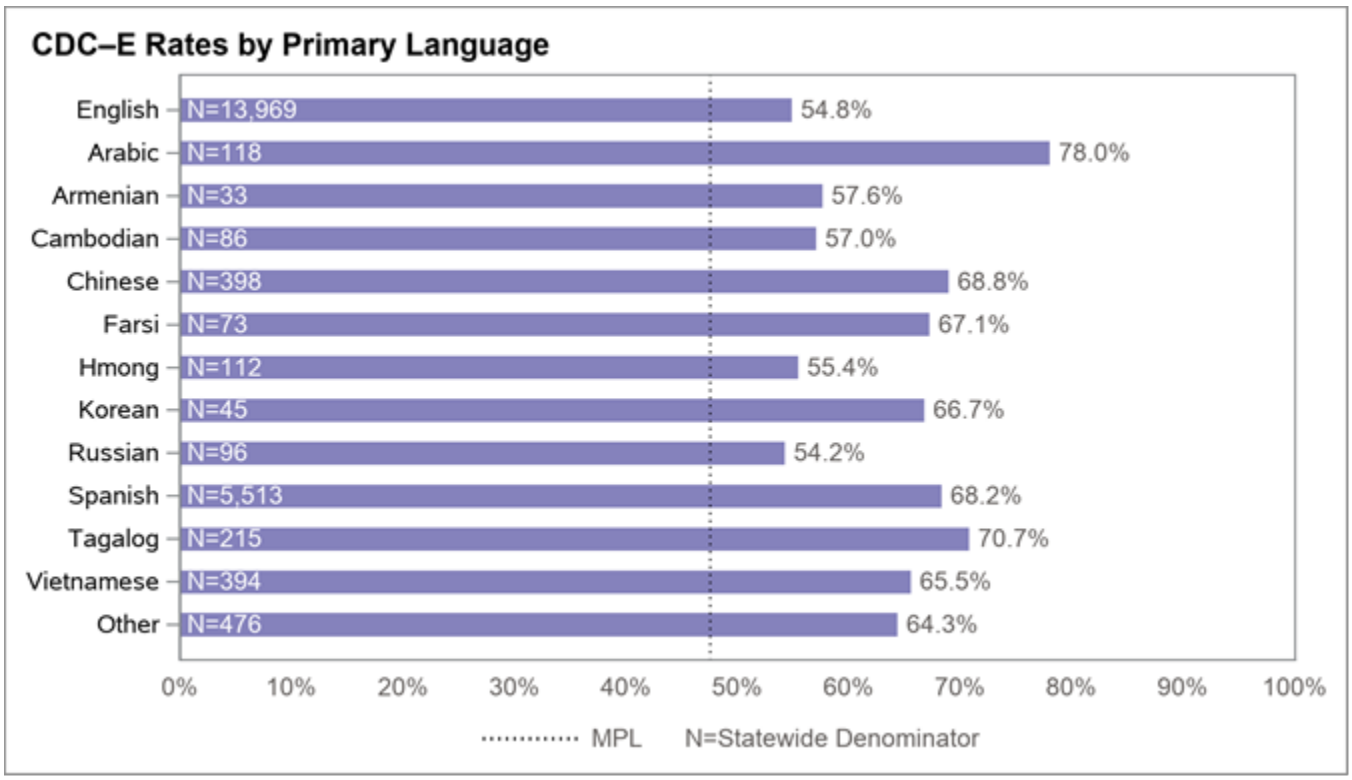


Figure A.22—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent) (CDC–H8) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 59.5 percent (N=227).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

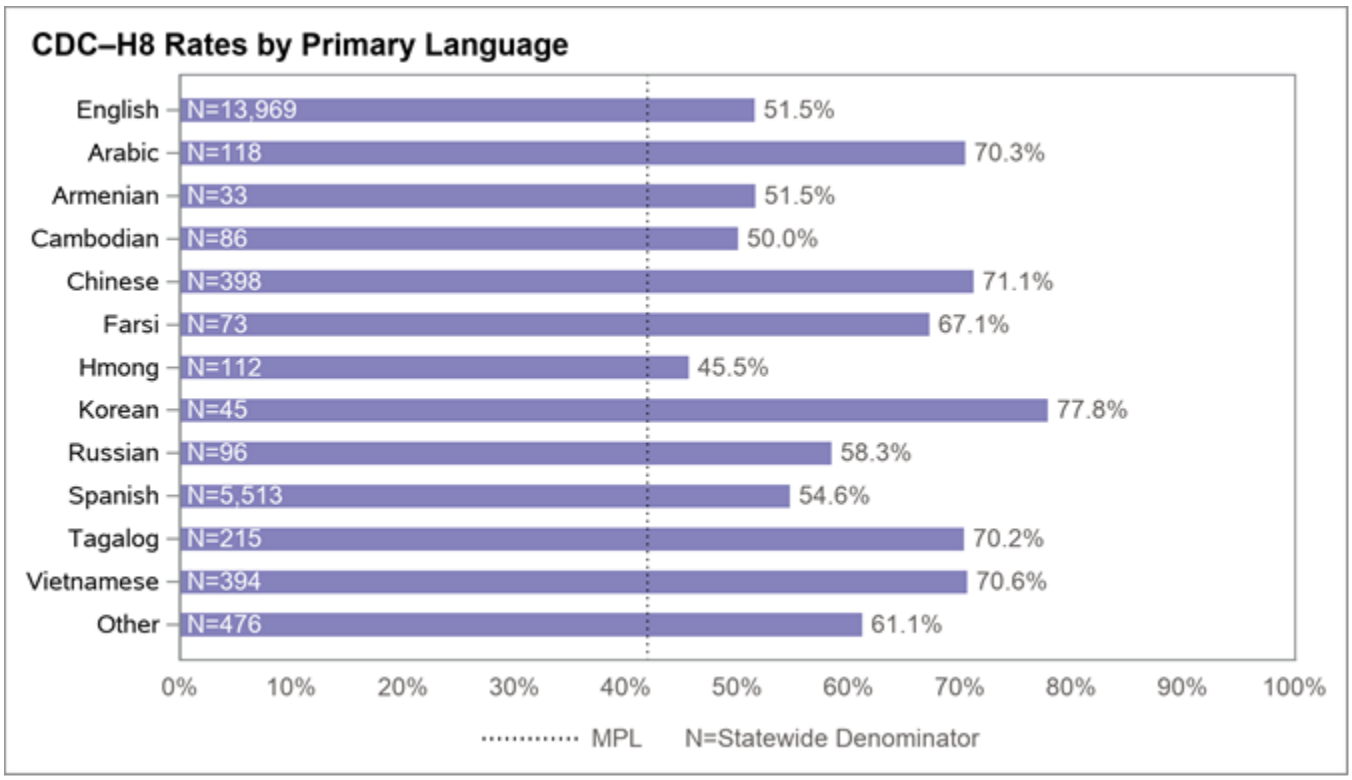


Figure A.23—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent) (CDC–H9) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 32.2 percent (N=227).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.
A lower rate indicates more favorable performance for this indicator.

S indicates fewer than 11 cases exist in the numerator for the primary language group; therefore, HSAG suppresses displaying the rate in this report to satisfy the HIPAA Privacy Rule's de-identification standard.

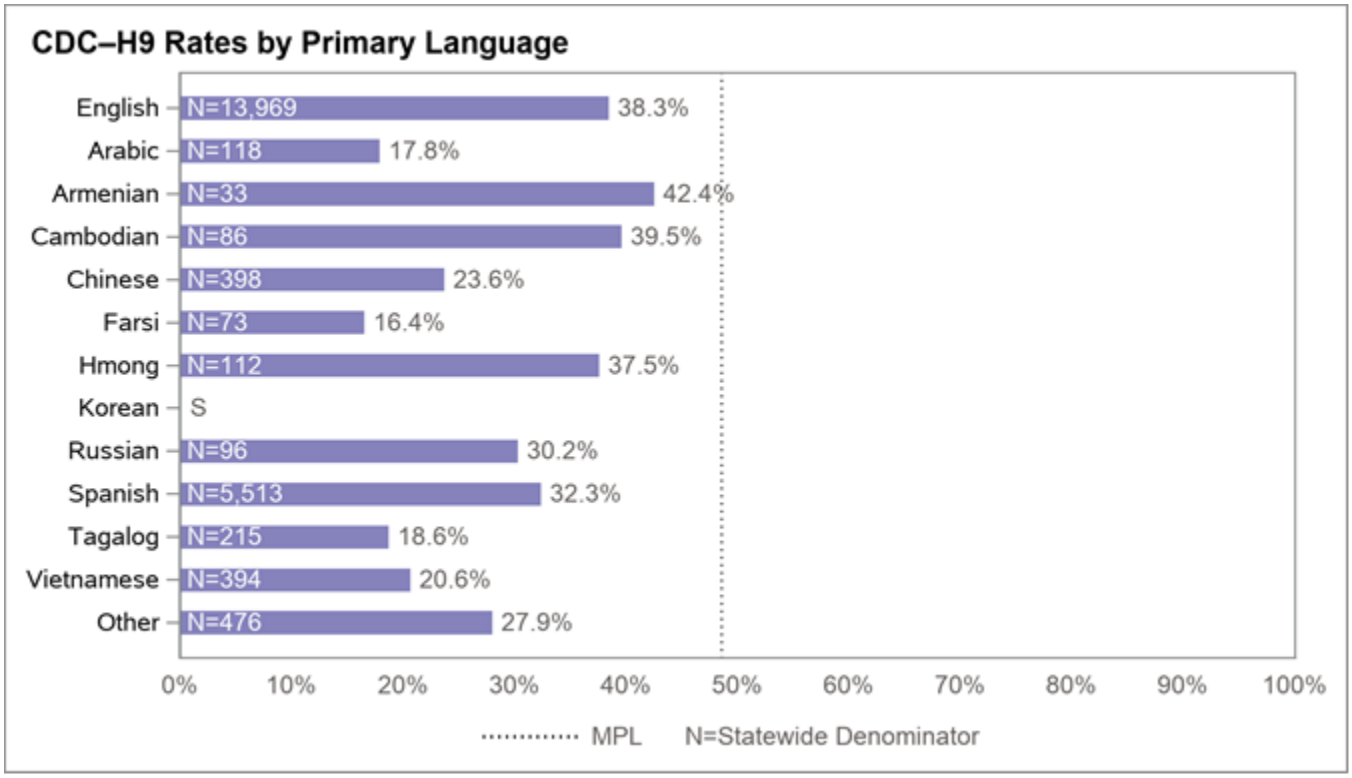


Figure A.24—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing (CDC–HT) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 86.3 percent (N=227).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

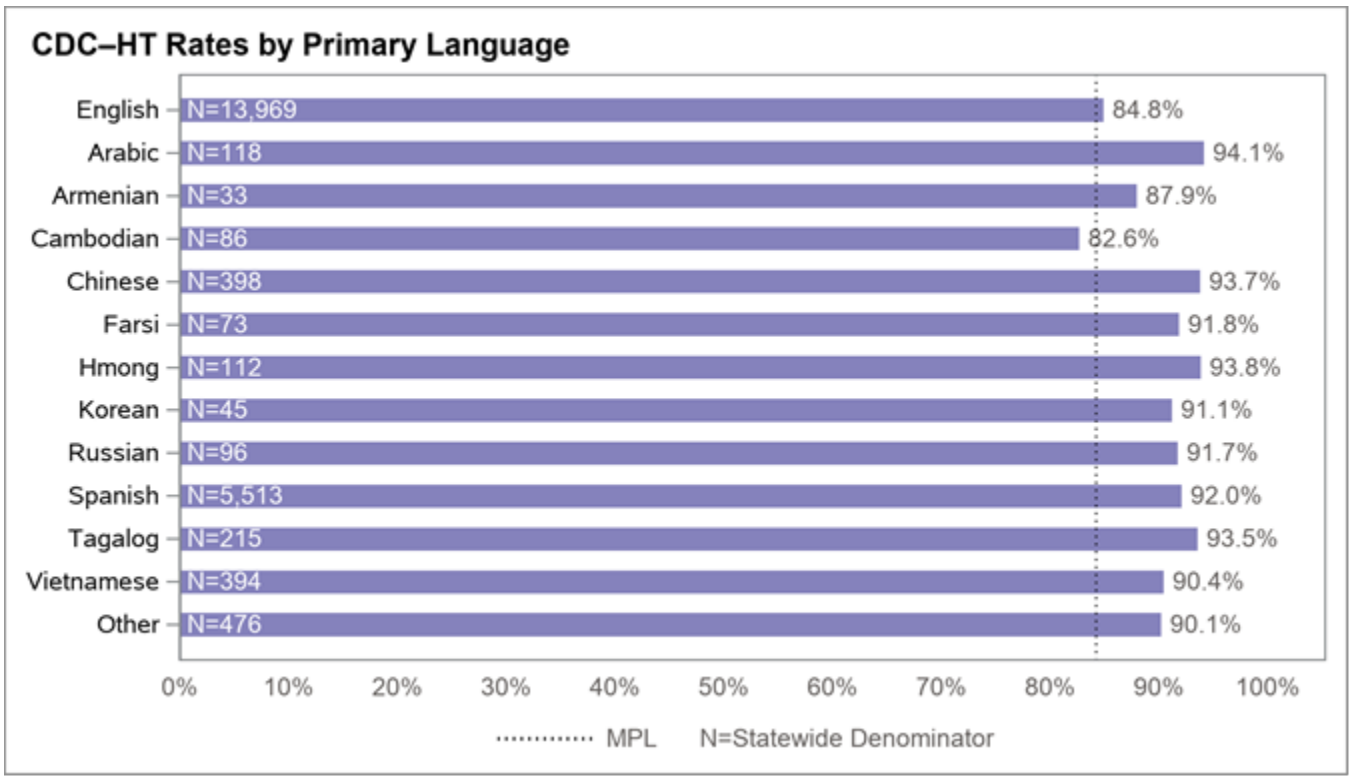


Figure A.25—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy (CDC–N) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 91.2 percent (N=227).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

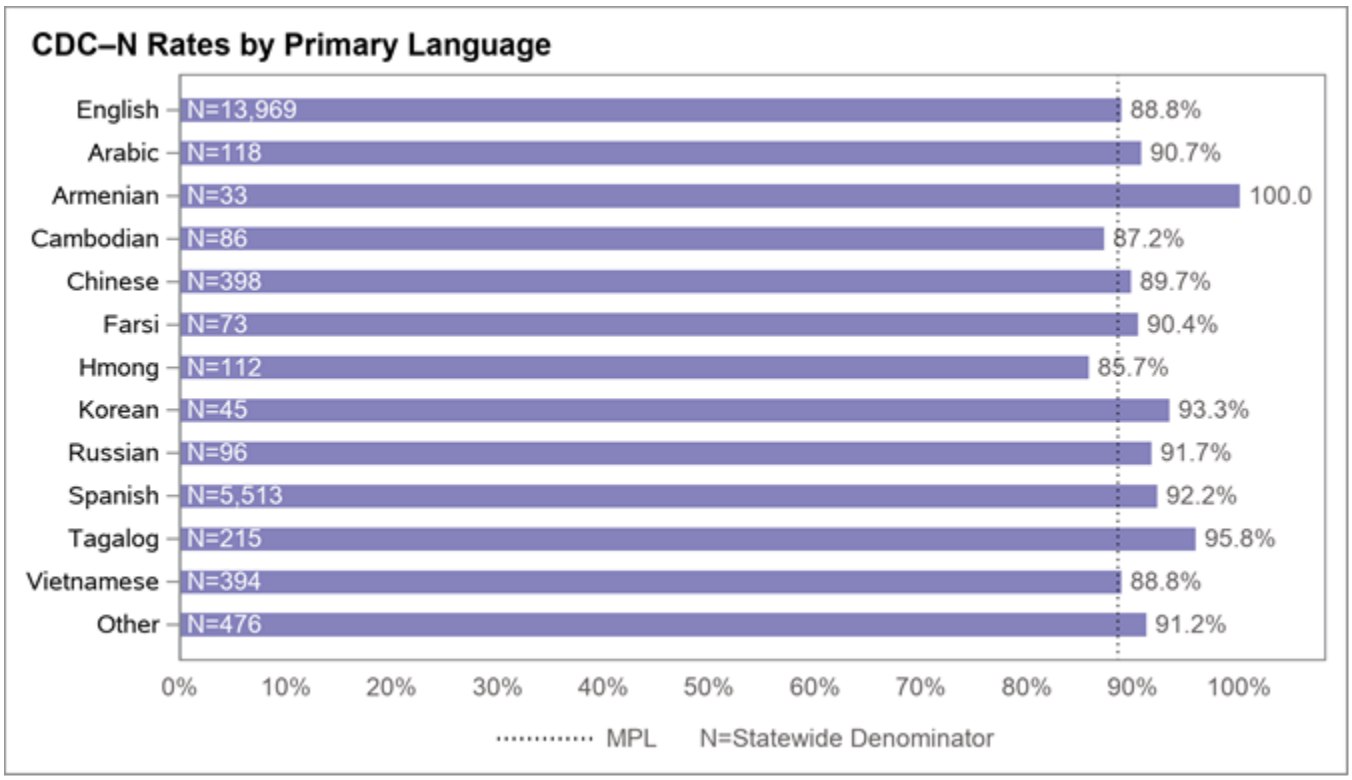


Figure A.26—Controlling Blood Pressure (CBP) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 66.8 percent (N=205).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

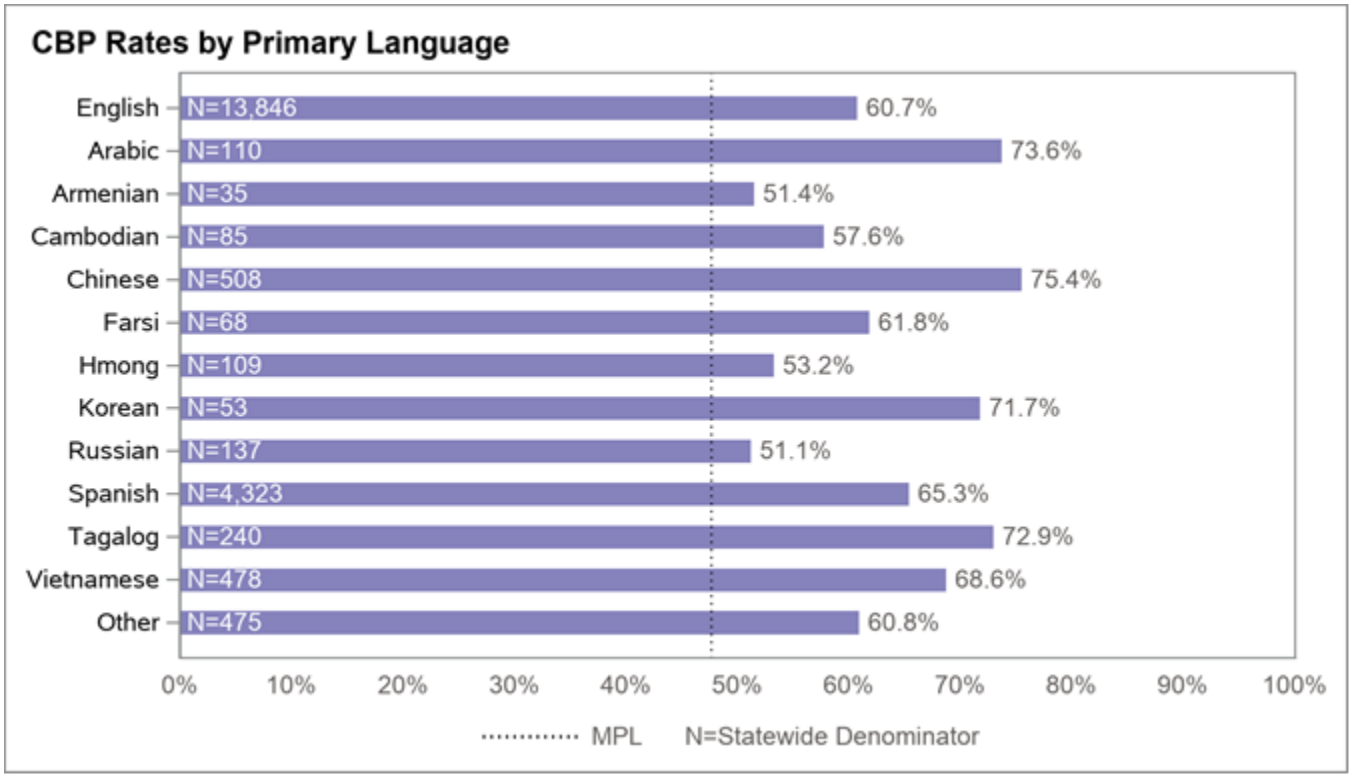


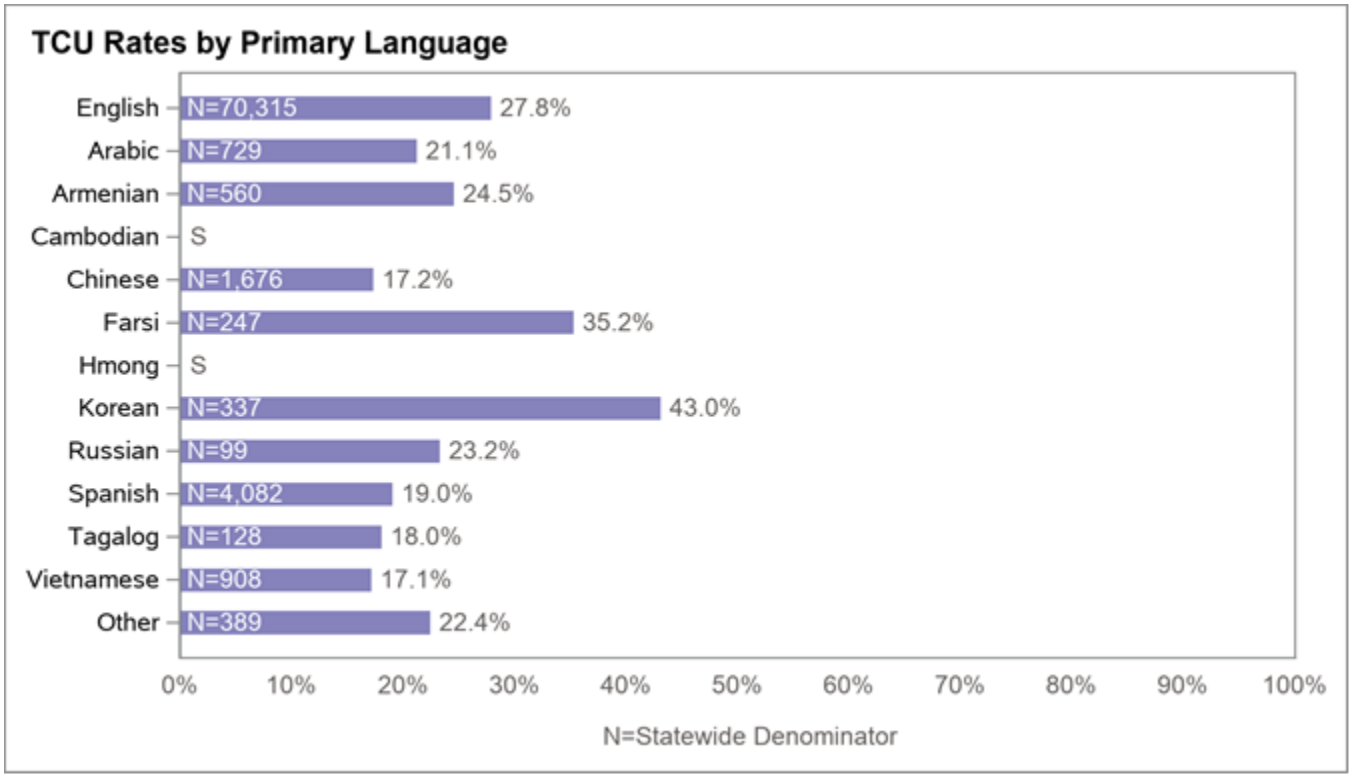
Figure A.27—Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use (TCU) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 19.0 percent (N=7,054).

The *State Fiscal Year 2017–18 Tobacco Cessation Focused Study Report* includes results from specialty health plans, while this report only includes results from MCPs; therefore, the results in this report may differ from results presented in the focused study report.

The *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator was originally developed for the Tobacco Cessation Focused Study; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.

S indicates fewer than 11 cases exist in the numerator for the primary language group; therefore, HSAG suppresses displaying the rate in this report to satisfy the HIPAA Privacy Rule's de-identification standard.



Appropriate Treatment and Utilization Domain

Figure A.28 through Figure A.32 display the statewide Appropriate Treatment and Utilization indicator rates and denominator for each primary language group.

Figure A.28—All-Cause Readmissions (ACR) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 17.8 percent (N=2,960).
A lower rate indicates more favorable performance for this indicator.
The *All-Cause Readmissions* indicator was originally developed for the ACR Collaborative Quality Improvement Project; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.

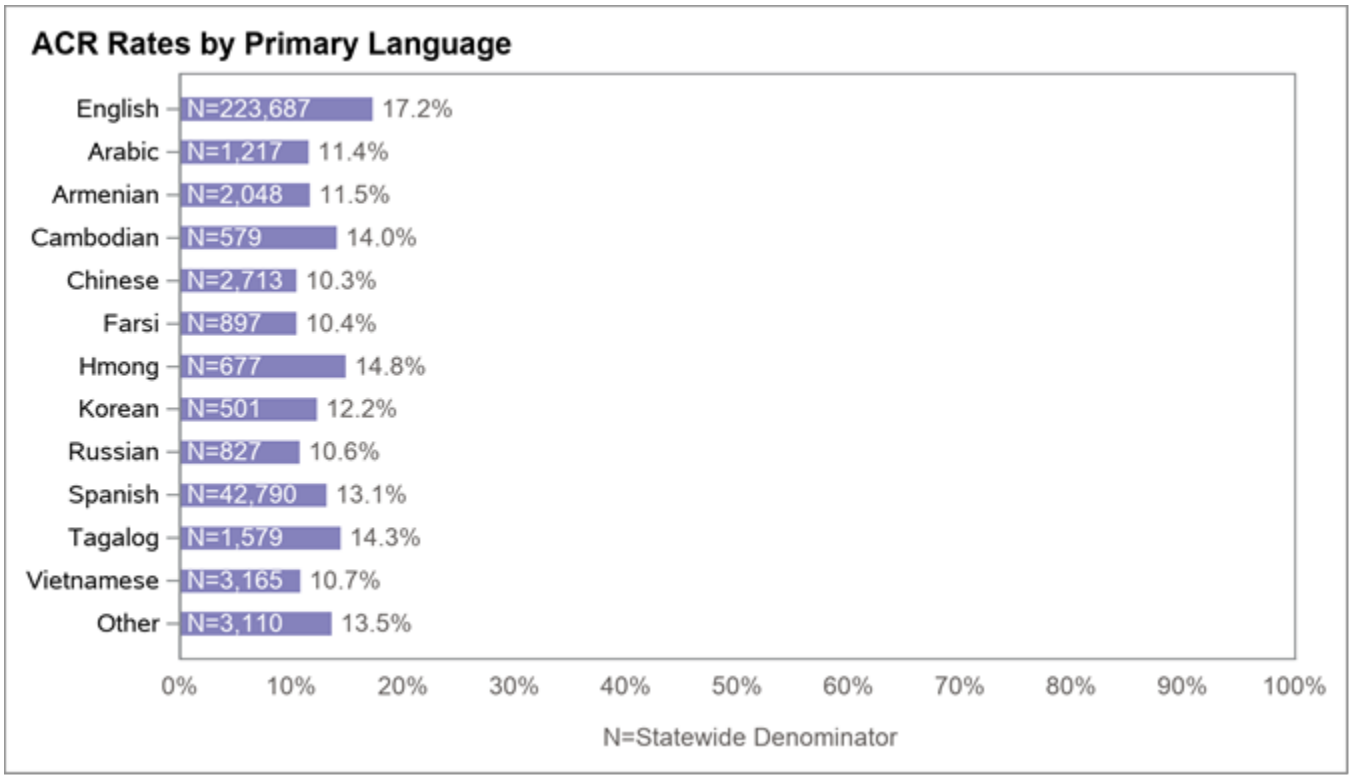


Figure A.29—Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits (AMB–ED) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 40.4 emergency department visits per 1,000 member months (N=442,224).
The *Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits* indicator is a utilization indicator where a higher or lower rate does not indicate more favorable or less favorable performance; therefore, the minimum performance level is not displayed for this indicator.

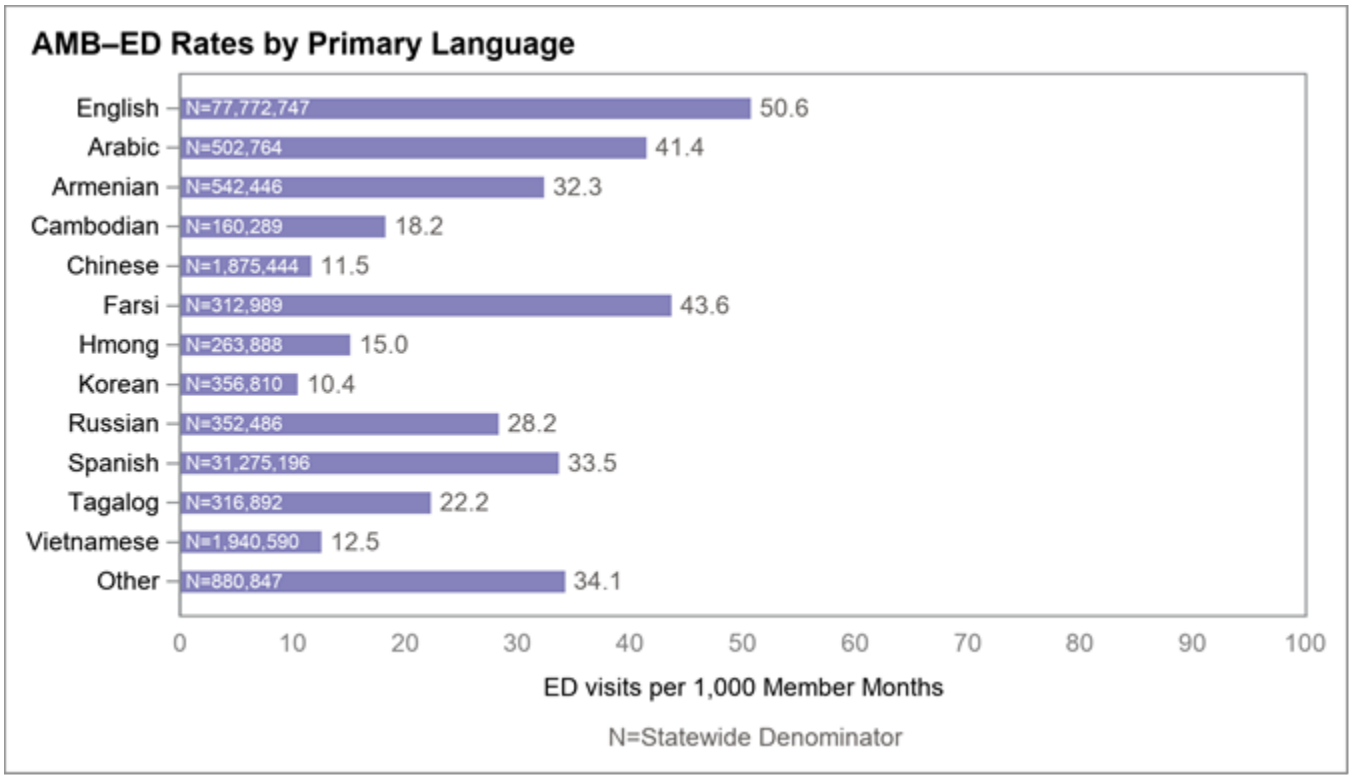


Figure A.30—Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits (AMB–OP) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 329.0 outpatient visits per 1,000 member months (N=442,224).

The *Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits* indicator is a utilization indicator where a higher or lower rate does not indicate more favorable or less favorable performance; therefore, the minimum performance level is not displayed for this indicator.

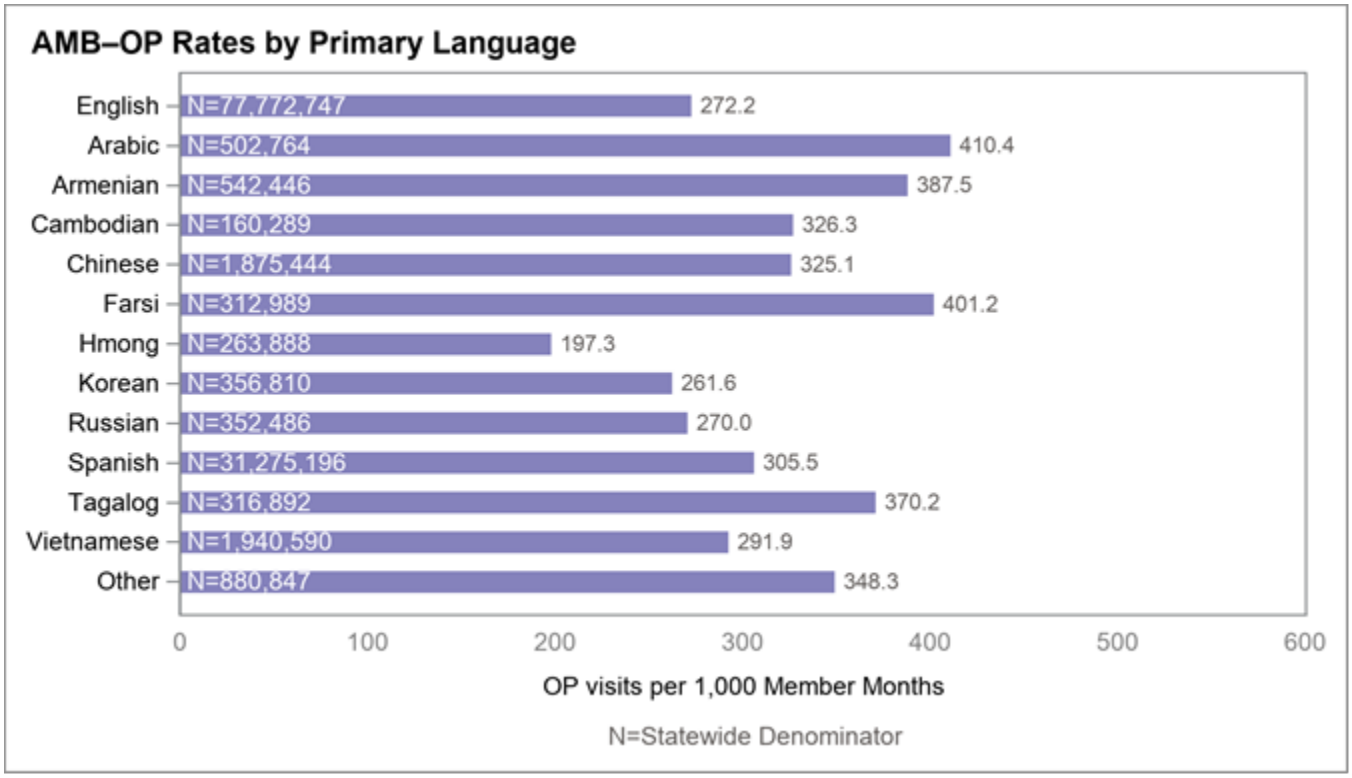


Figure A.31—Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis (AAB) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 30.9 percent (N=314).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

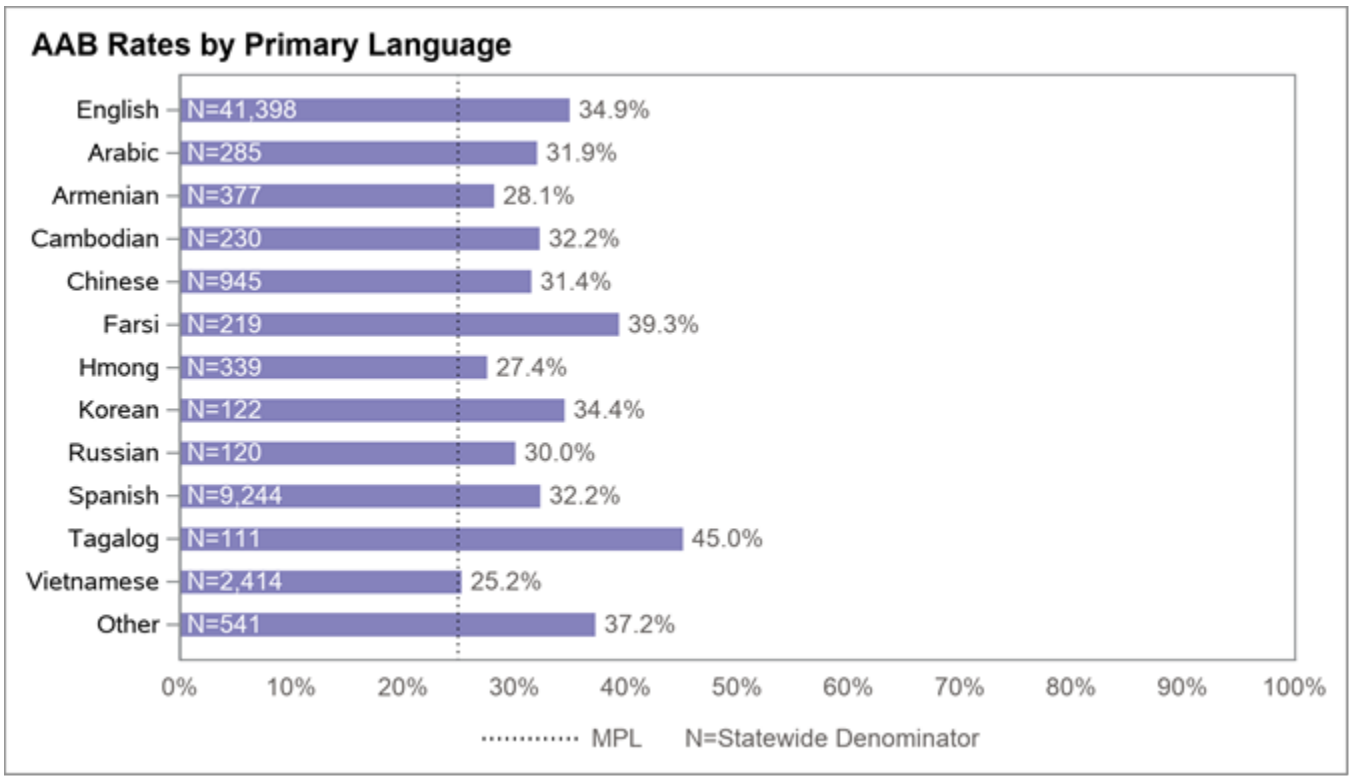
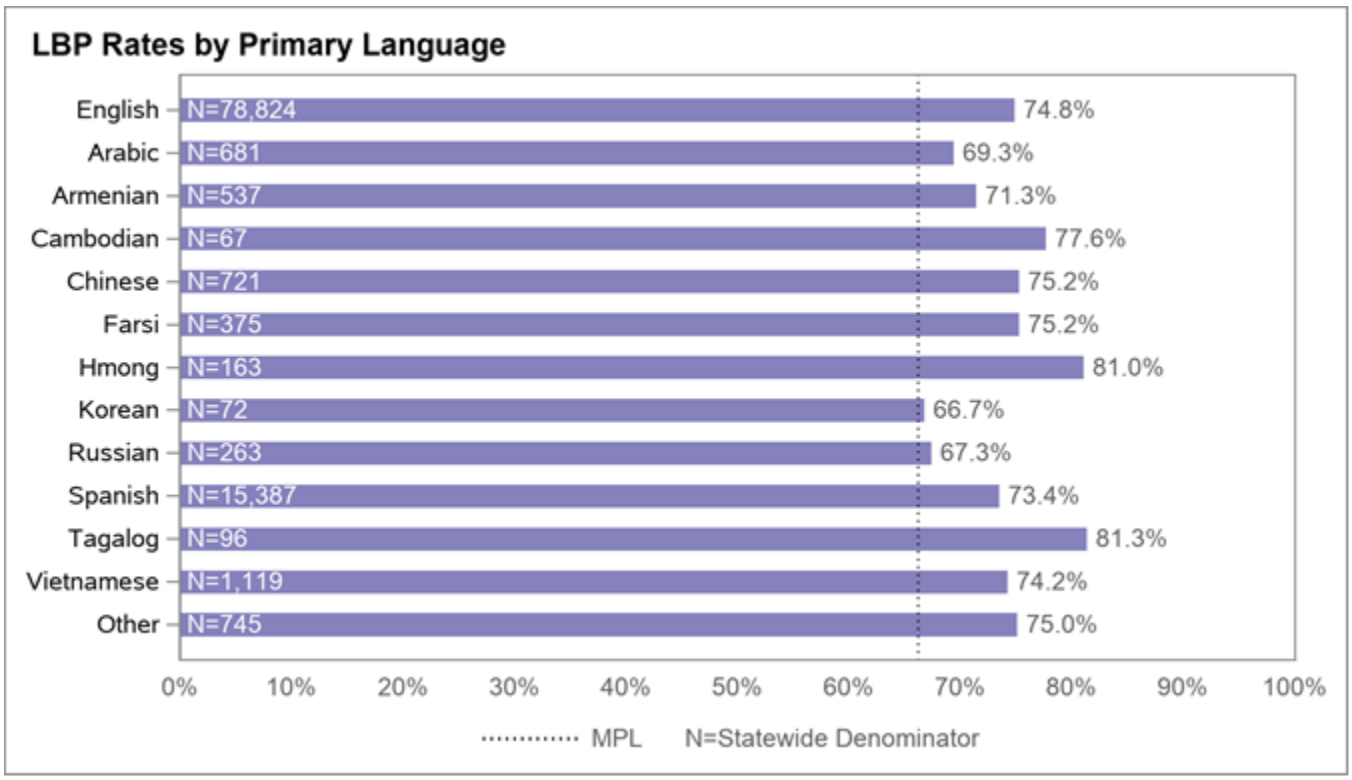


Figure A.32—Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain (LBP) Rates by Primary Language

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 74.7 percent (N=178).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



Age

Figure A.33 through Figure A.55 display the statewide rates by age group for each indicator. HSAG collaborated with DHCS to define the age groups for each indicator. Please note, HSAG did not present age stratifications for indicators with only one age group (e.g., *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months*).

Preventive Screening and Children's Health Domain

Figure A.33 and Figure A.34 display the statewide Preventive Screening and Children's Health indicator rates and denominator for each age group.

Figure A.33—Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total (WCC–N) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

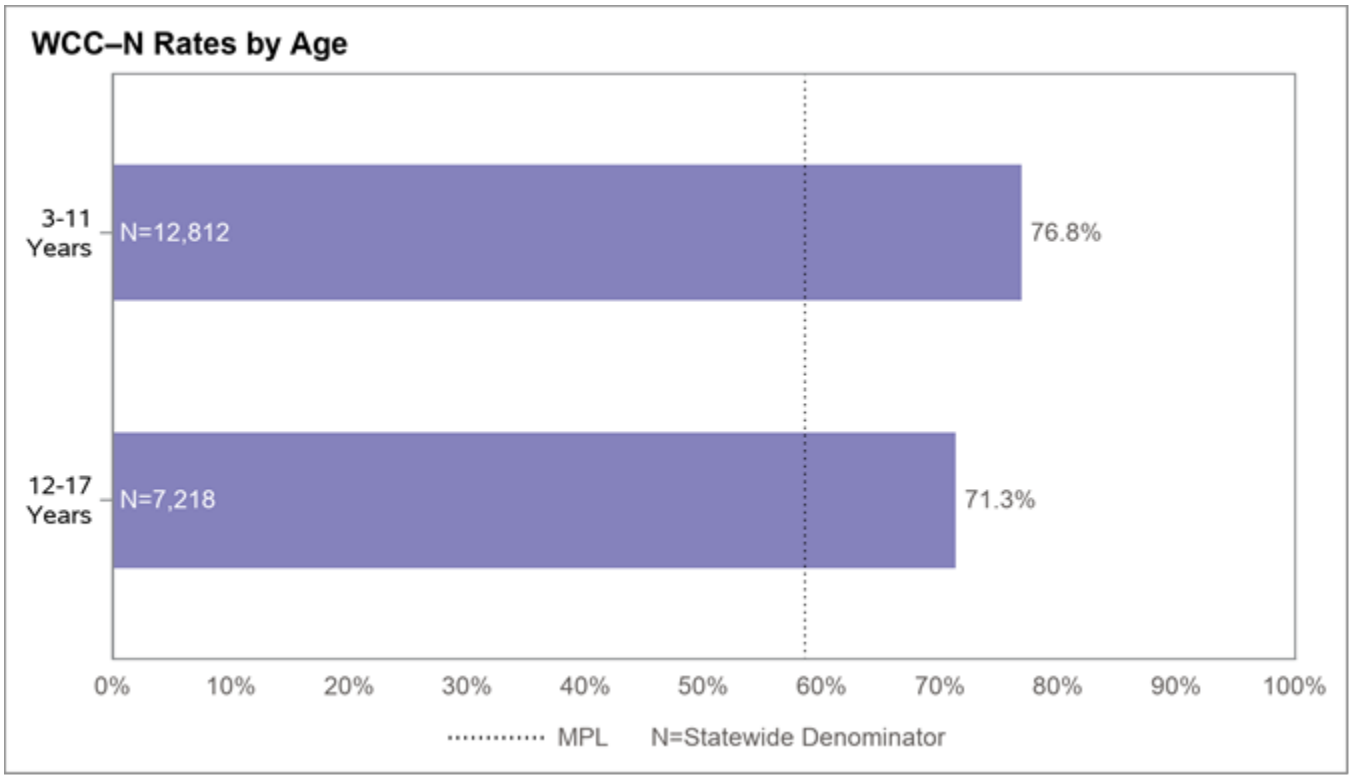
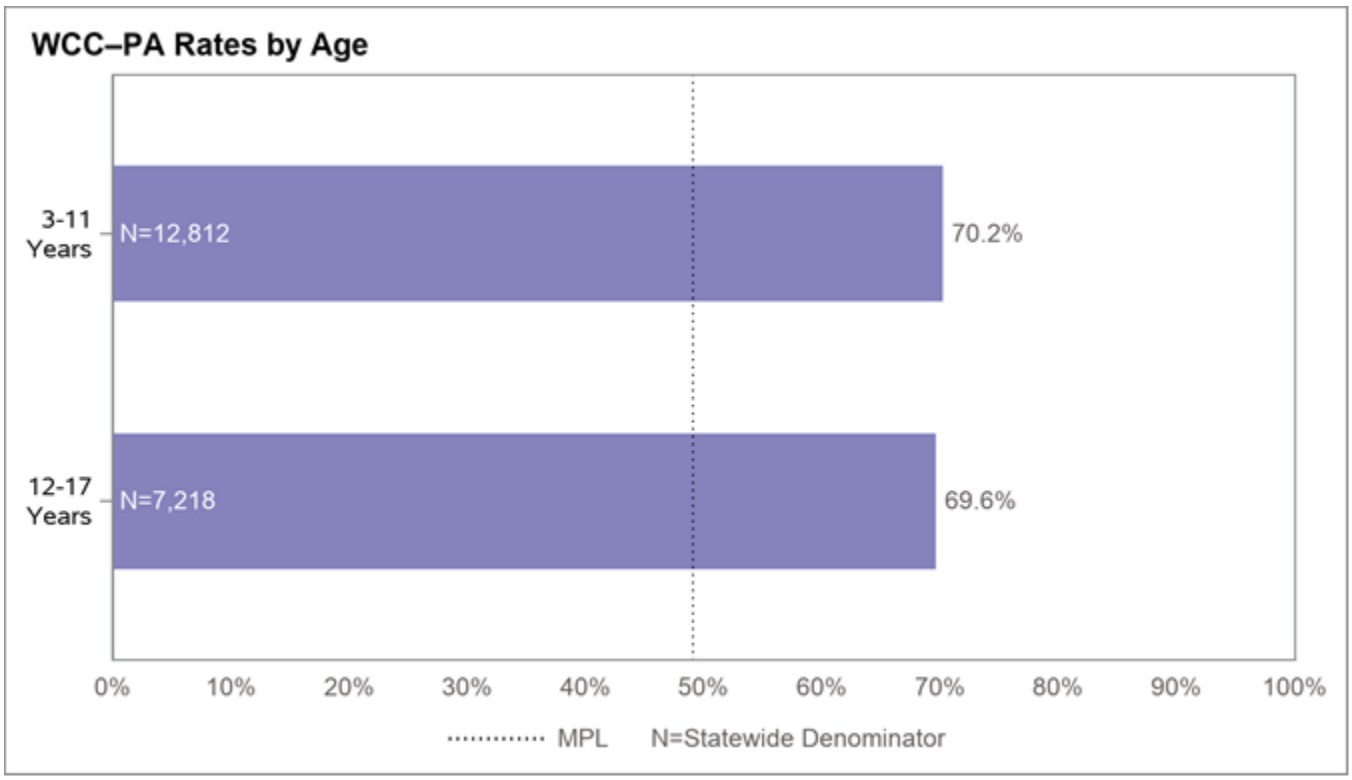


Figure A.34—Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total (WCC–PA) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



Preventive Screening and Women's Health Domain

Figure A.35 through Figure A.39 display the statewide Preventive Screening and Women's Health indicator rates and denominator for each age group.

Figure A.35—Breast Cancer Screening (BCS) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

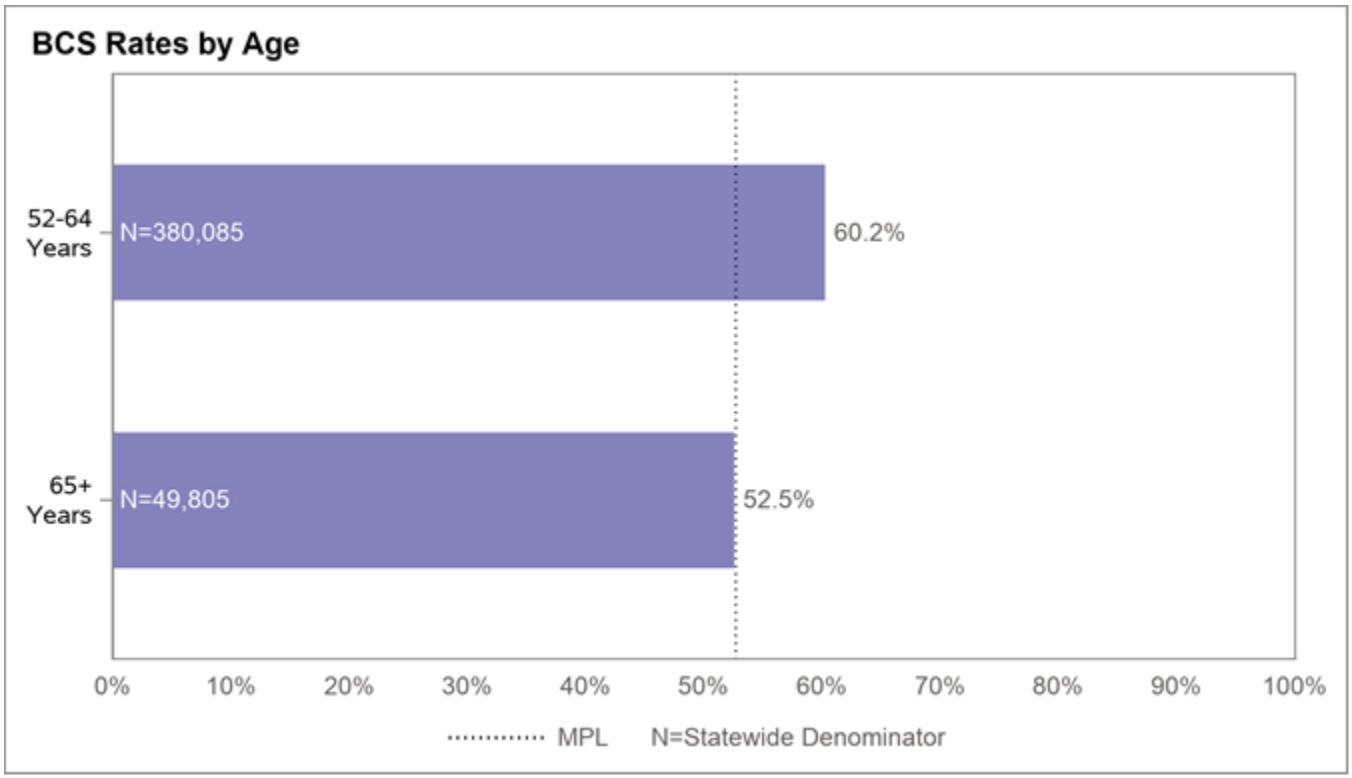


Figure A.36—Cervical Cancer Screening (CCS) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

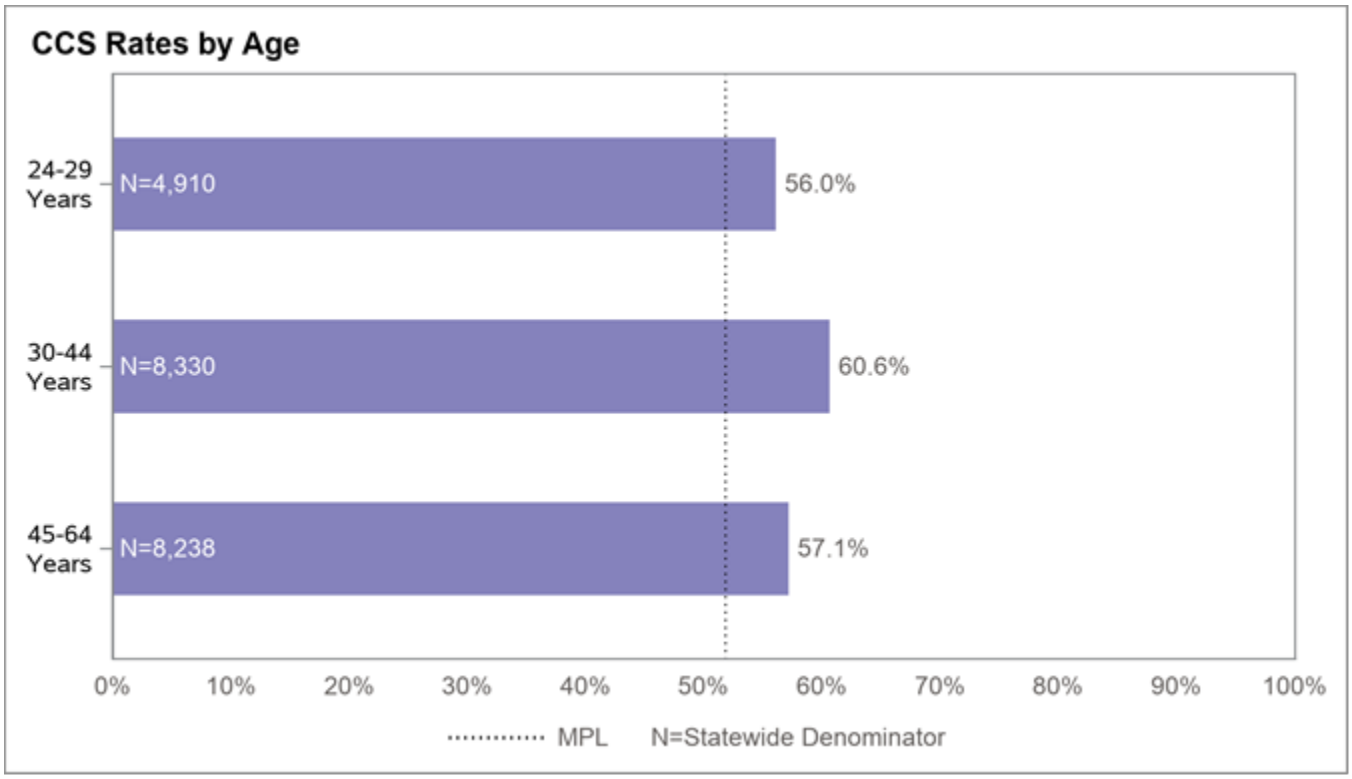


Figure A.37—LARC Utilization (LARC) Rates by Age

The *LARC Utilization* indicator was originally developed for the LARC Utilization Focused Study; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.

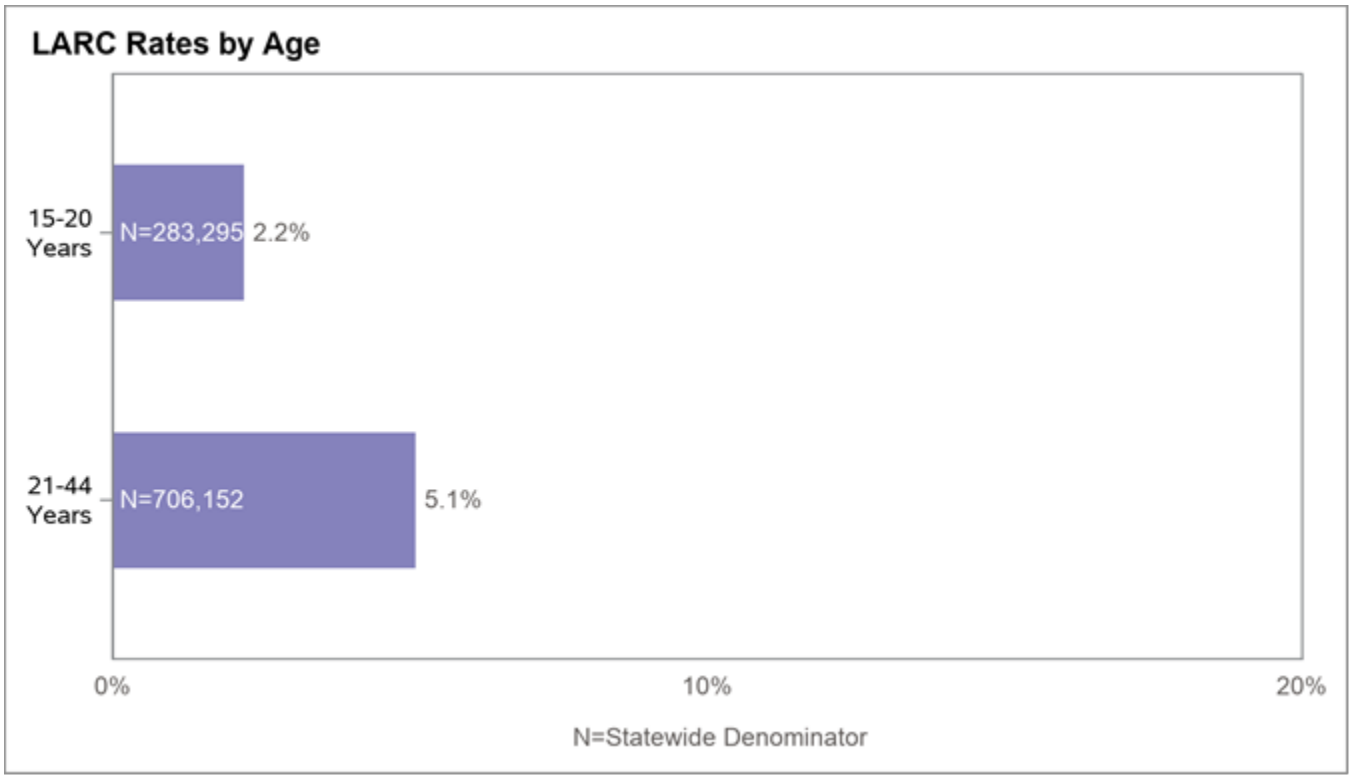


Figure A.38—Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care (PPC–Pst) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

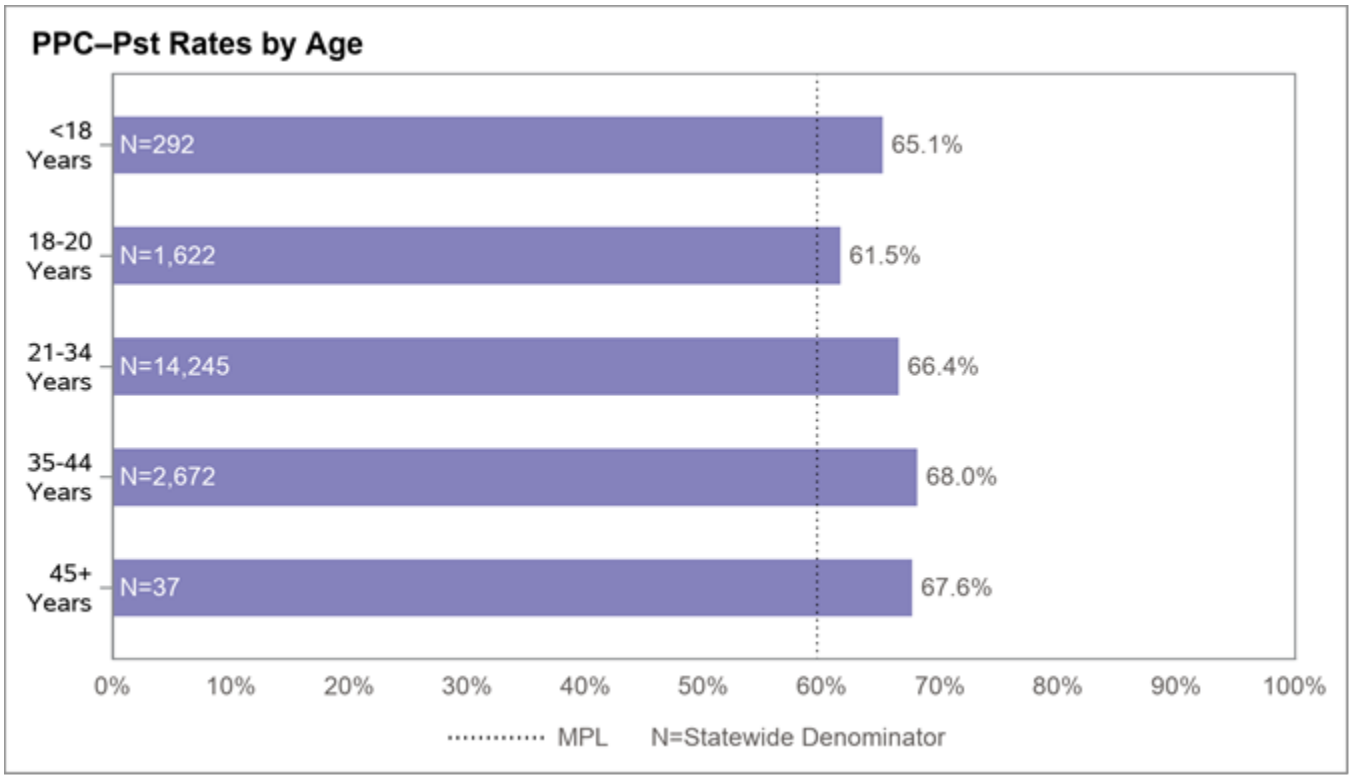
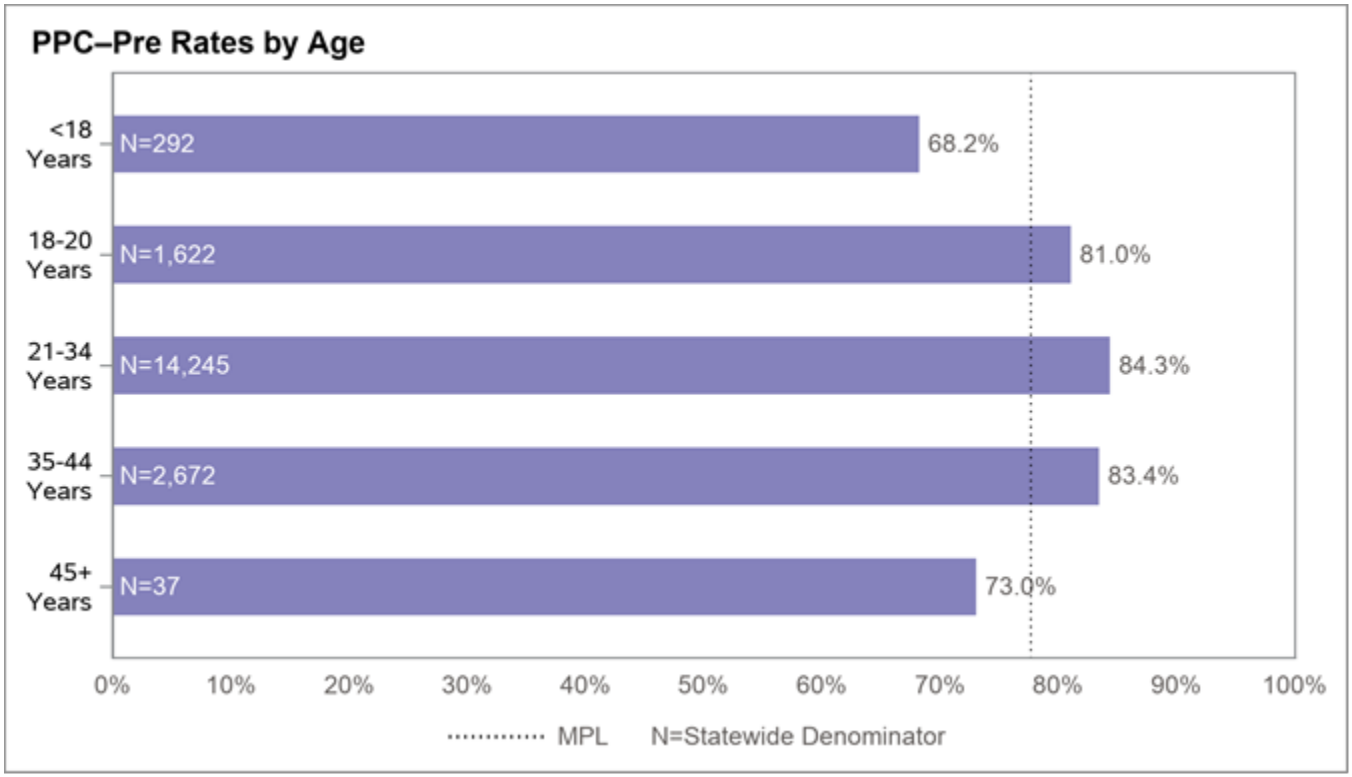


Figure A.39—Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care (PPC–Pre) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



Care for Chronic Conditions Domain

Figure A.40 through Figure A.50 display the statewide Care for Chronic Conditions indicator rates and denominator for each age group.

Figure A.40—Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs (MPM–ACE) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

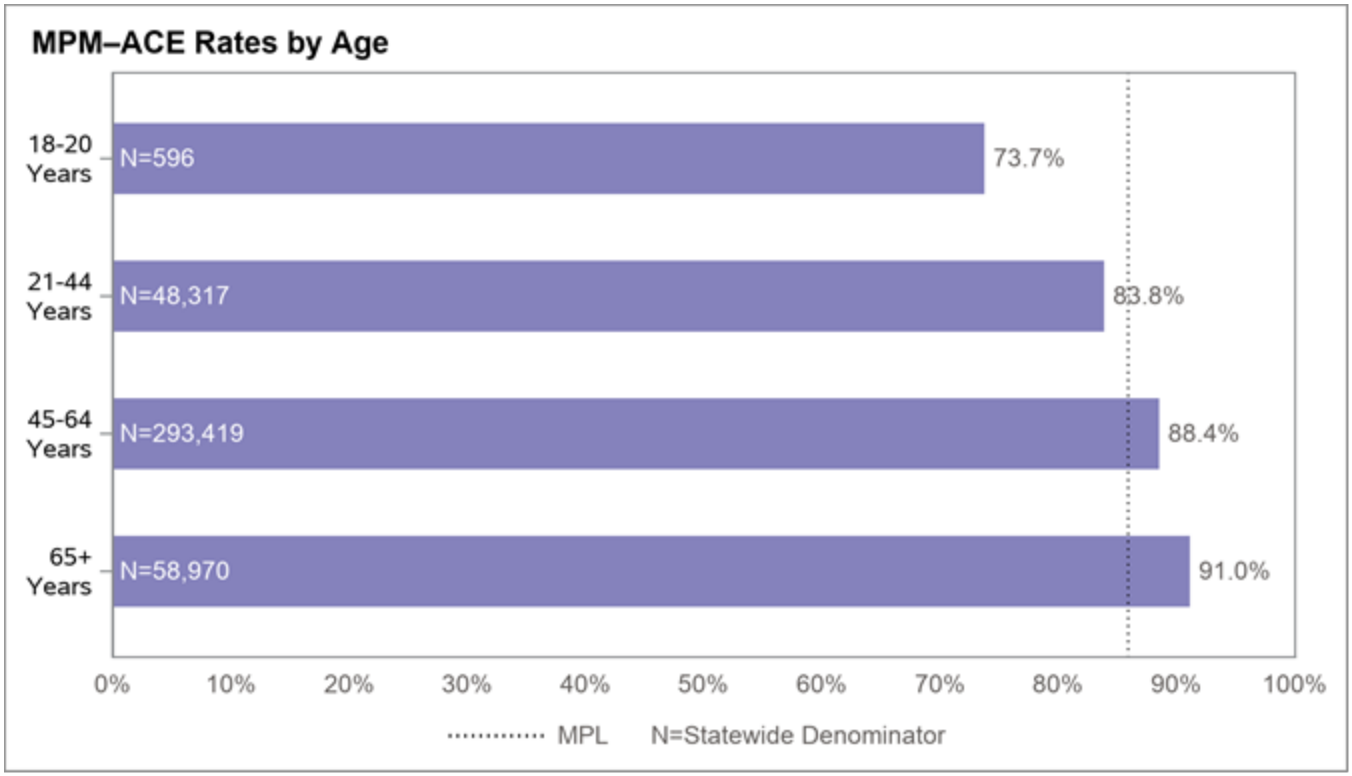


Figure A.41—Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—Diuretics (MPM–Diu) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

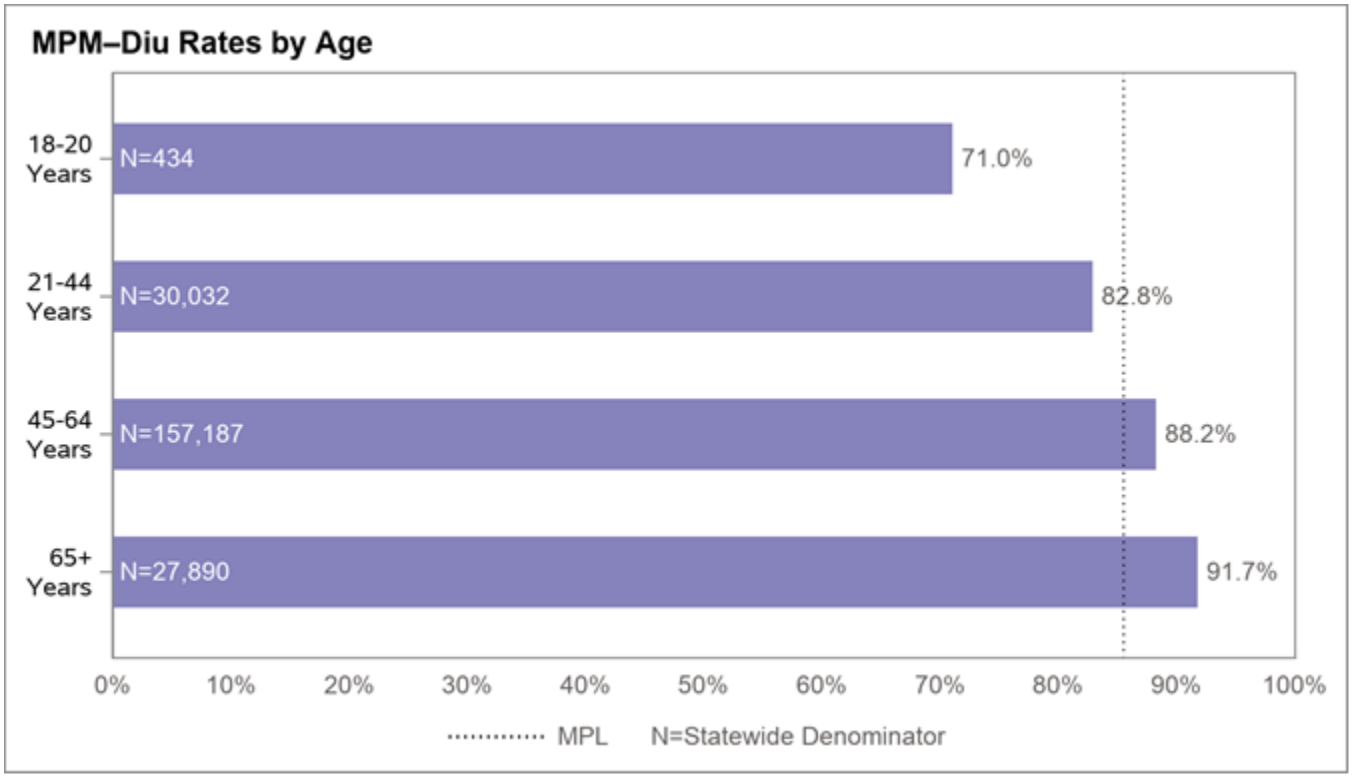


Figure A.42—Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

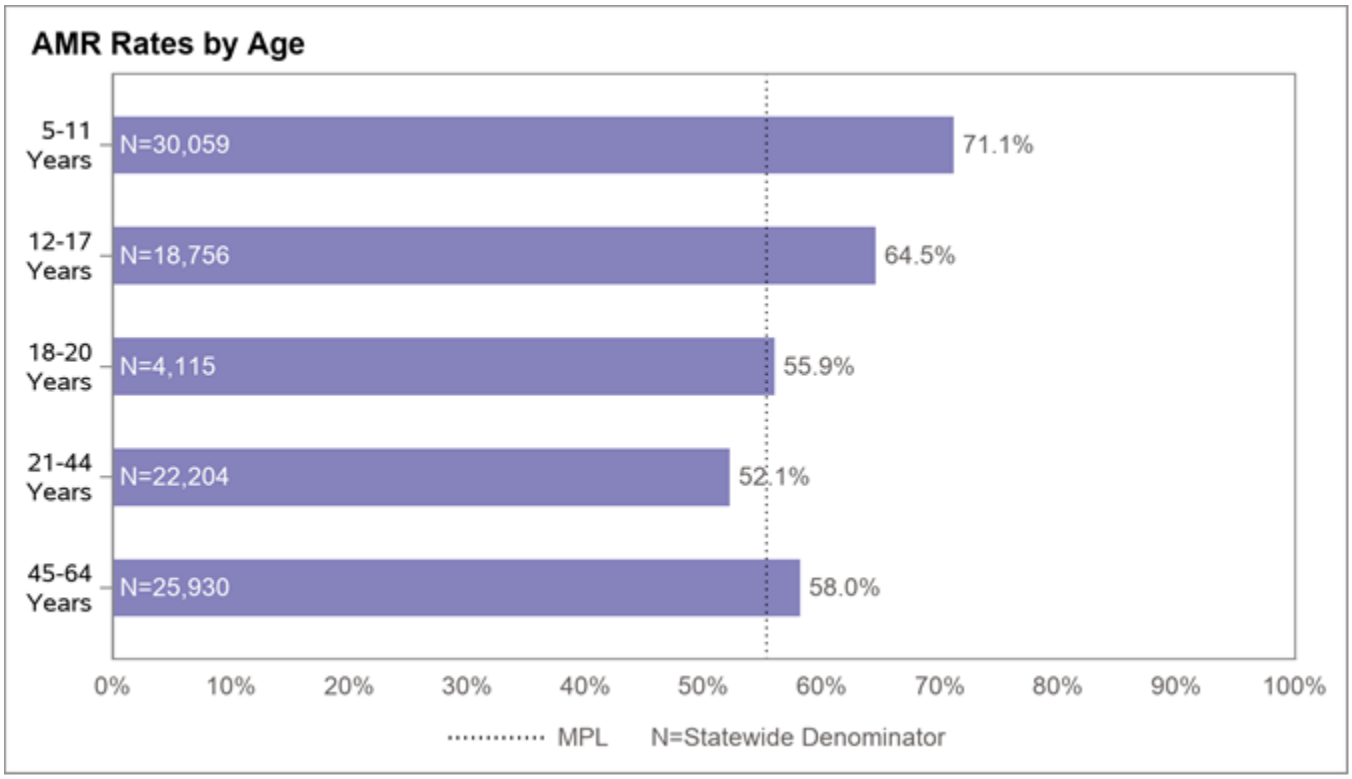


Figure A.43—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg) (CDC–BP) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

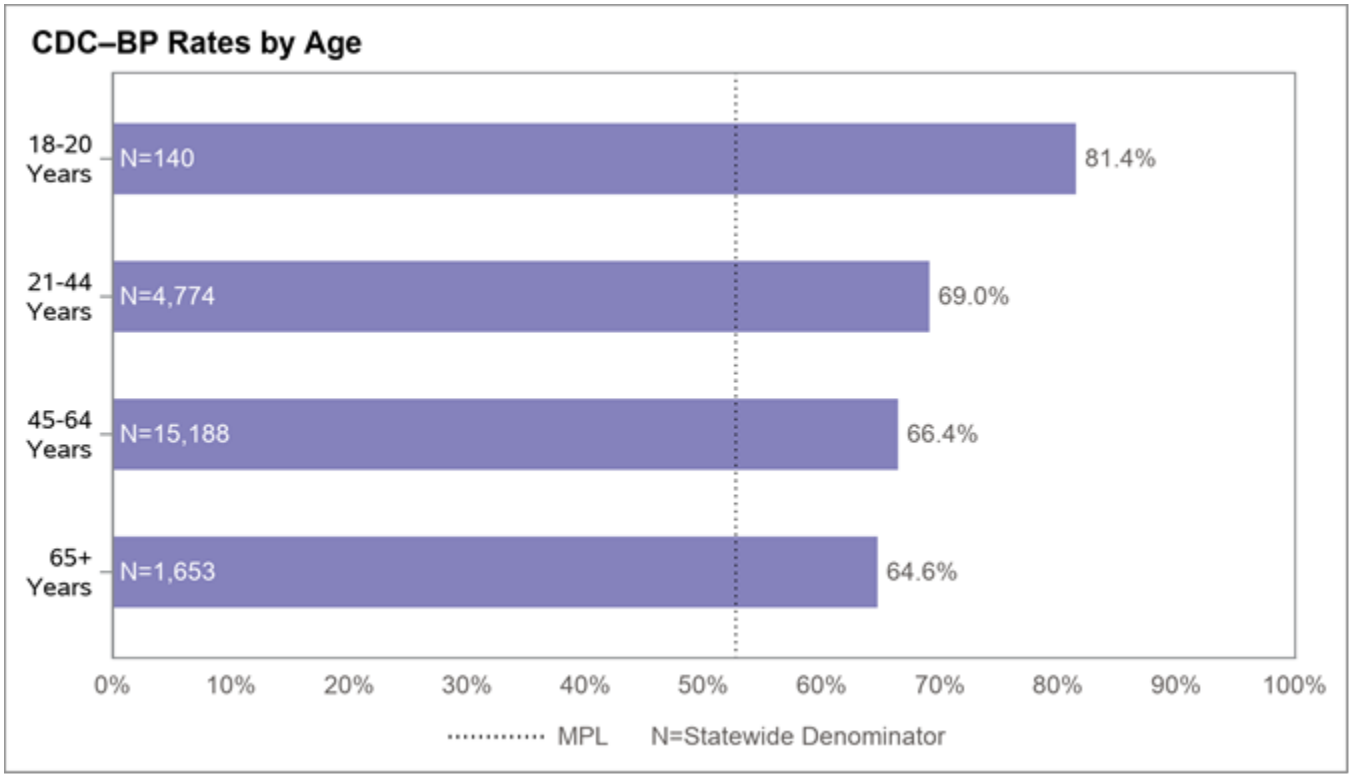


Figure A.44—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed (CDC–E) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

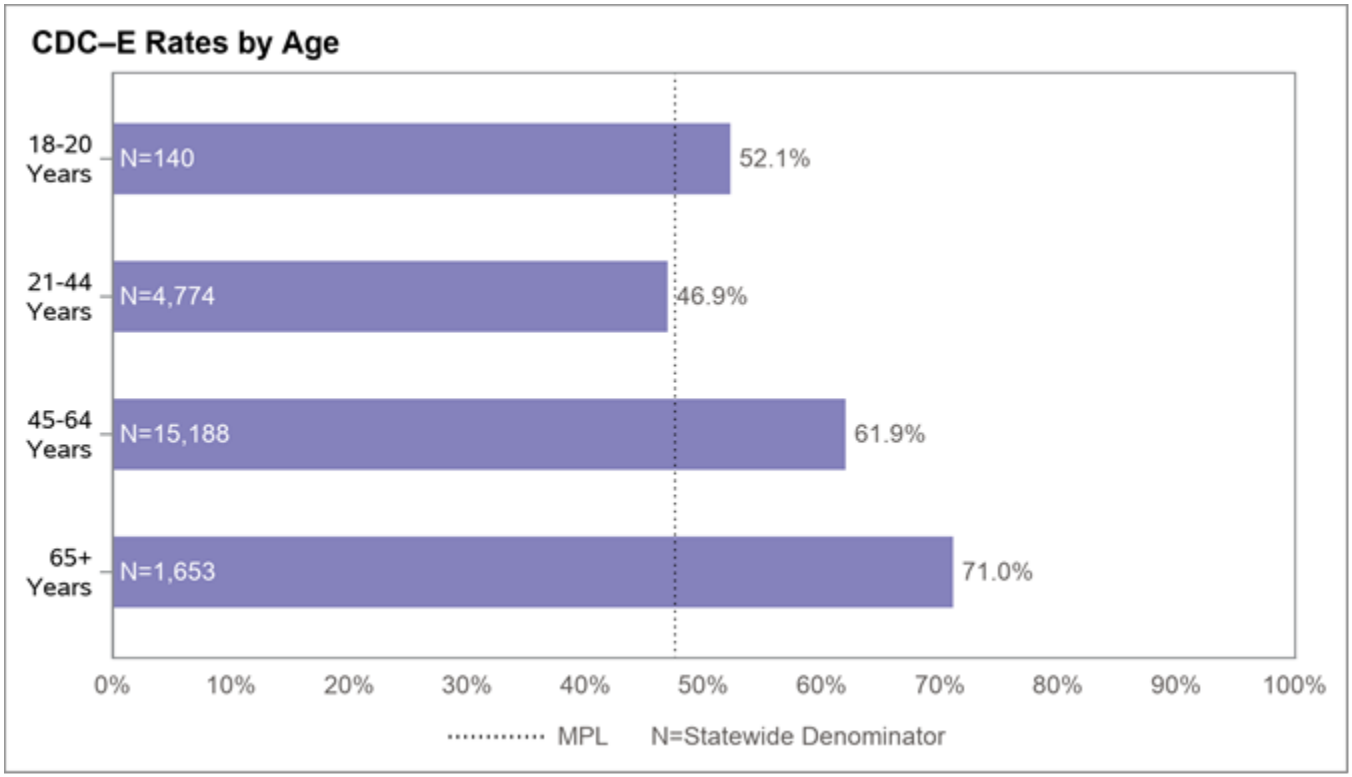


Figure A.45—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent) (CDC–H8) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

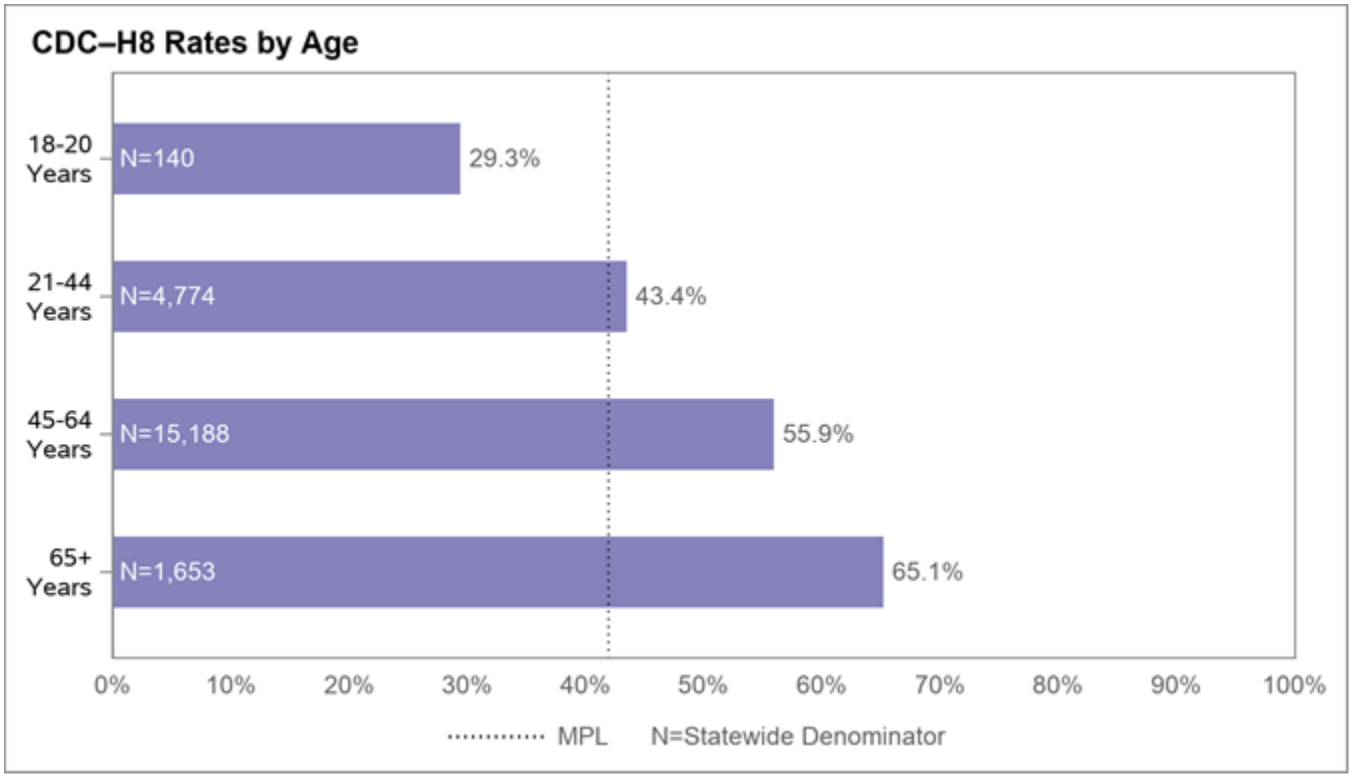


Figure A.46—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent) (CDC–H9) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.
A lower rate indicates more favorable performance for this indicator.

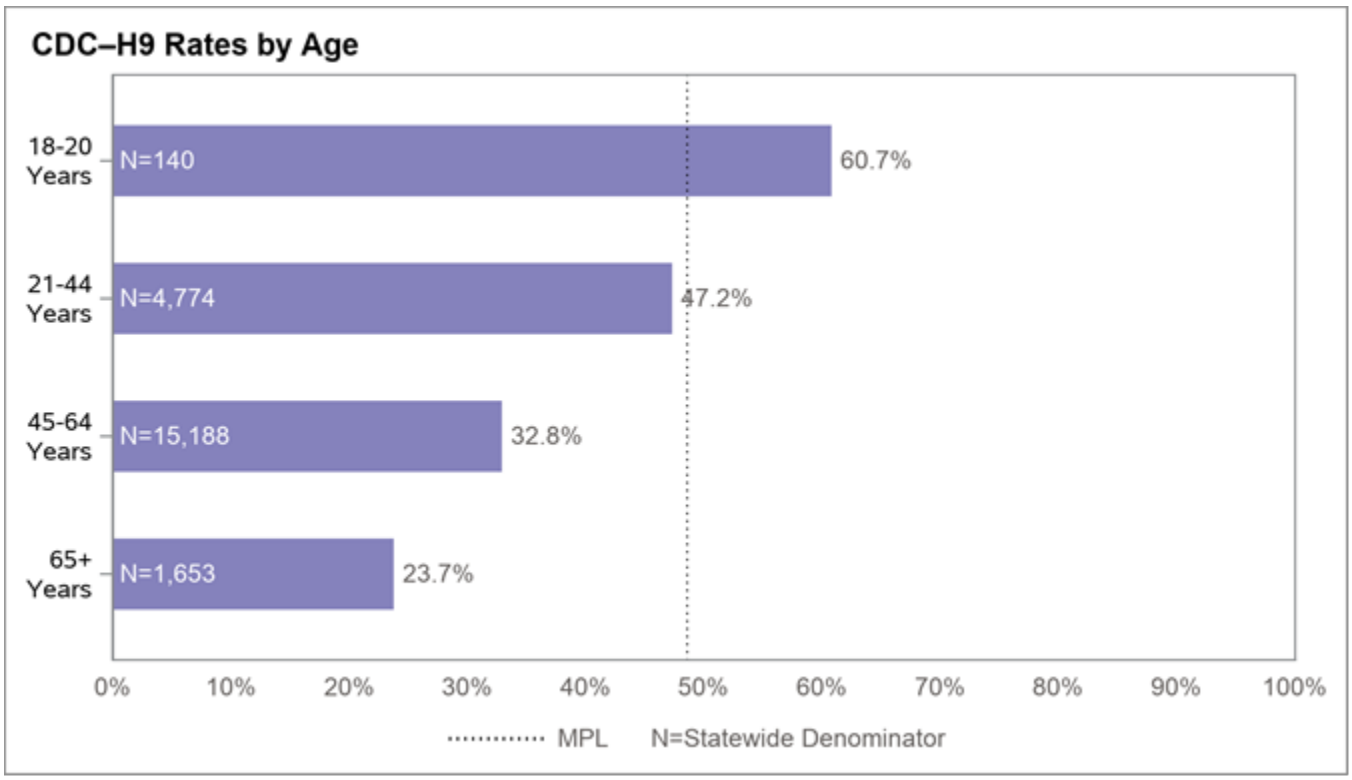


Figure A.47—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing (CDC–HT) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

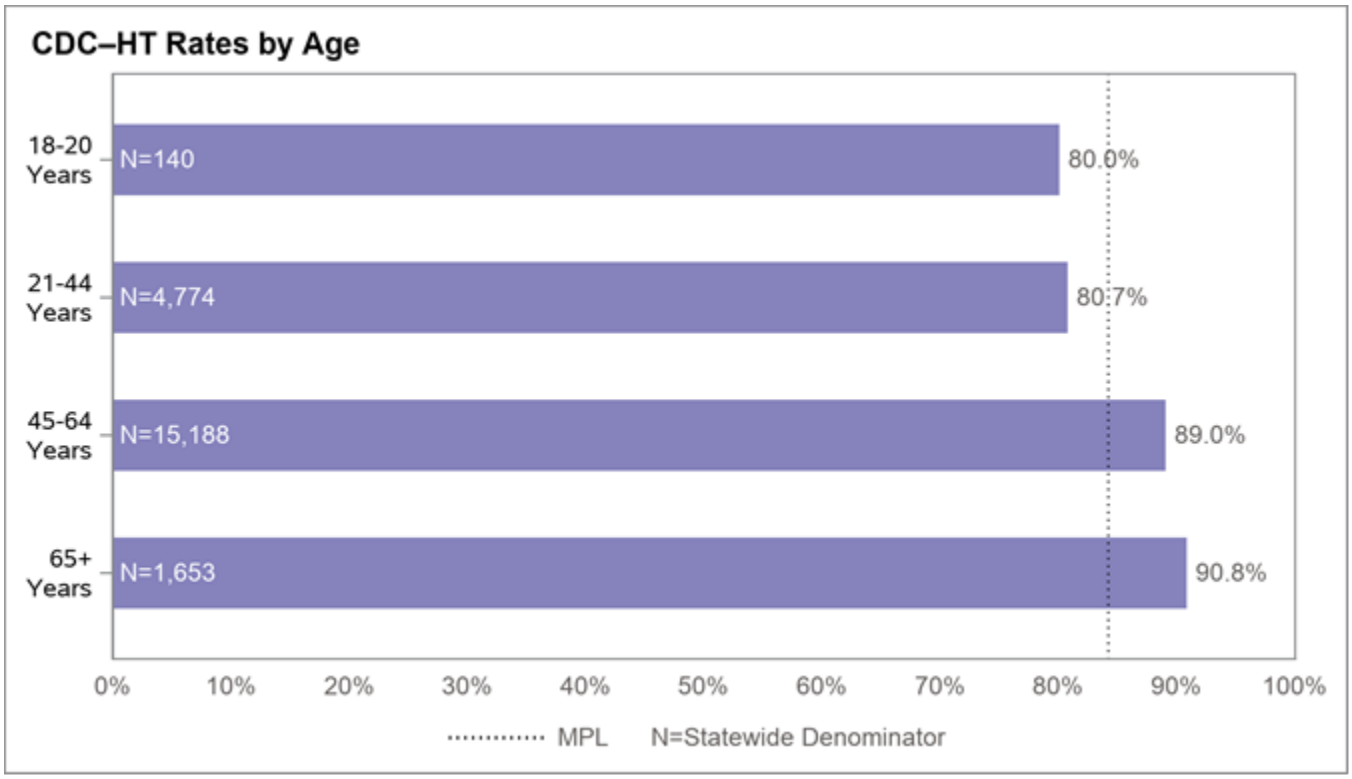


Figure A.48—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy (CDC–N) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

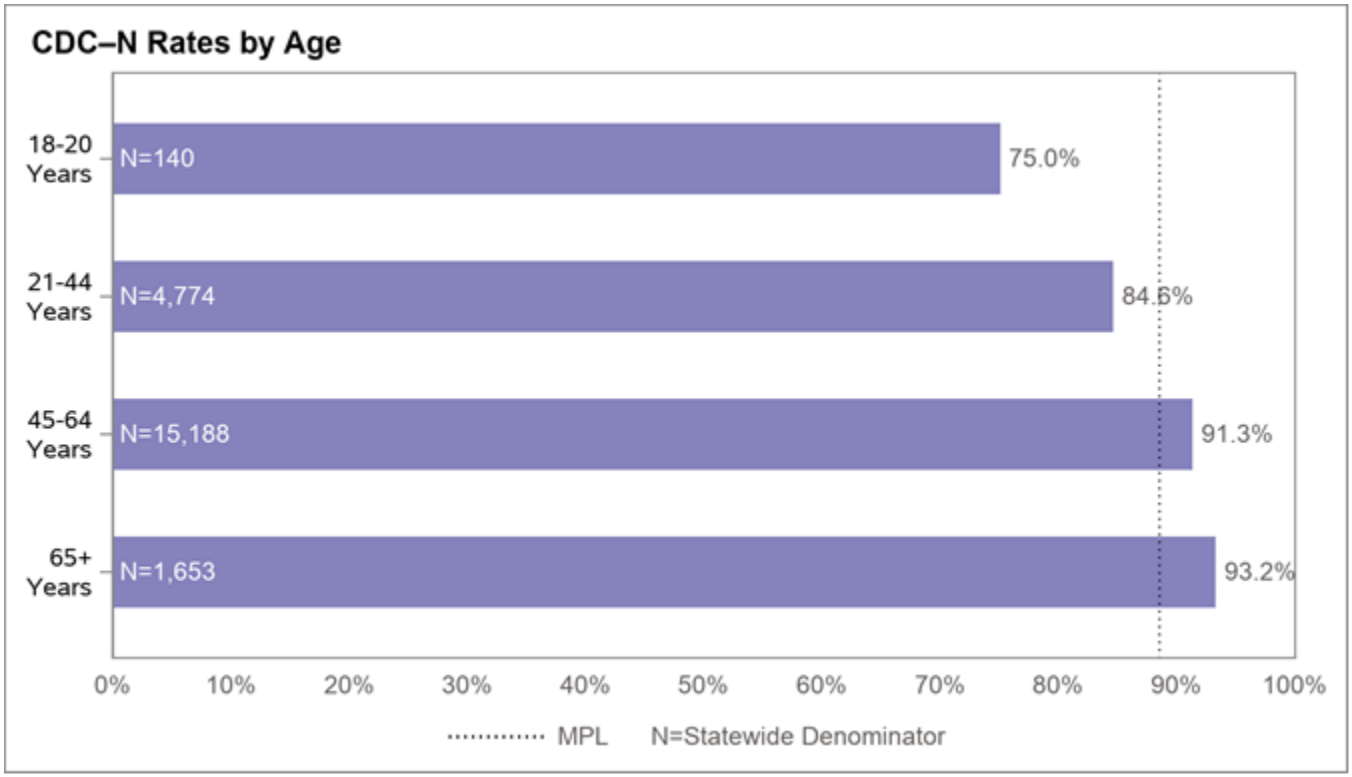


Figure A.49—Controlling Blood Pressure (CBP) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

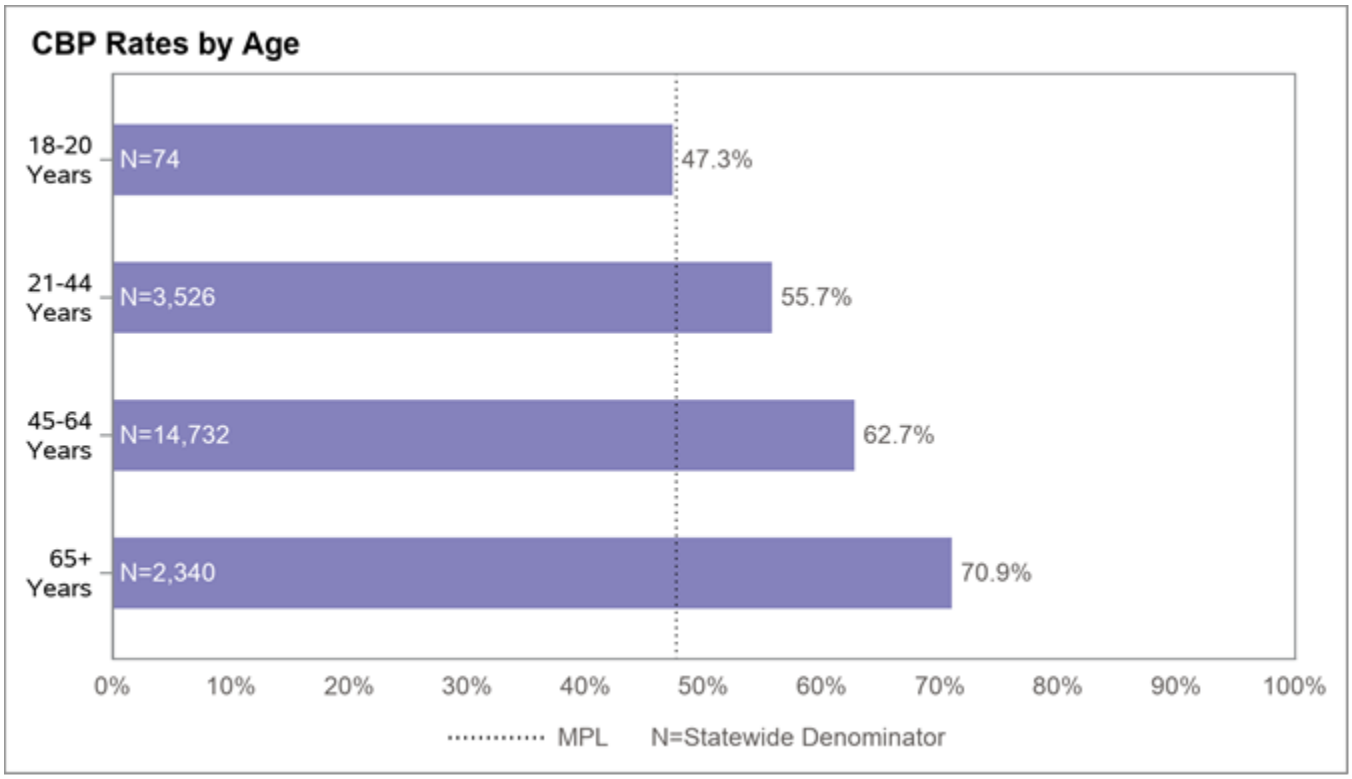
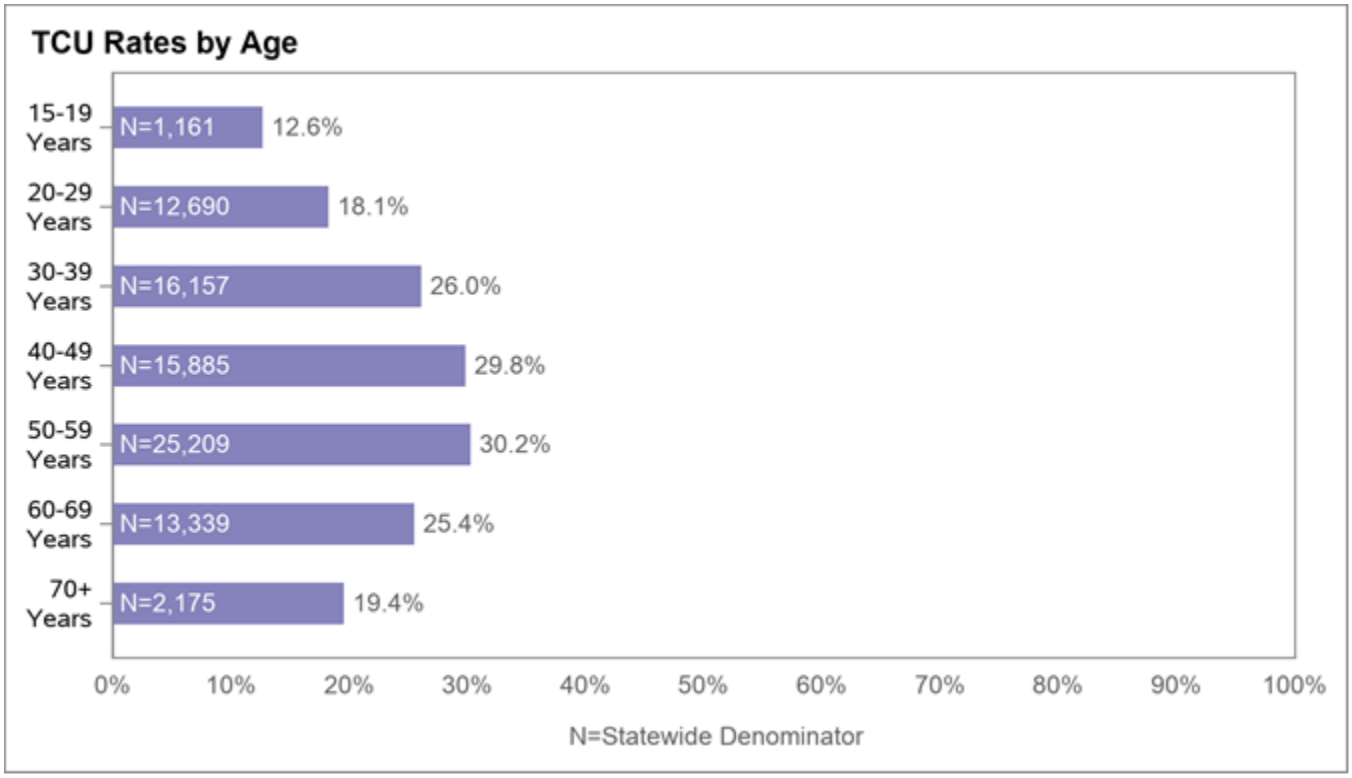


Figure A.50—Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use (TCU) Rates by Age

Note: The *State Fiscal Year 2017–18 Tobacco Cessation Focused Study Report* includes results from specialty health plans, while this report only includes results from MCPs; therefore, the results in this report may differ from results presented in the focused study report.
The *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator was originally developed for the Tobacco Cessation Focused Study; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.



Appropriate Treatment and Utilization Domain

Figure A.51 through Figure A.55 display the statewide Appropriate Treatment and Utilization indicator rates and denominator for each age group.

Figure A.51—All-Cause Readmissions (ACR) Rates by Age

A lower rate indicates more favorable performance for this indicator.
The *All-Cause Readmissions* indicator was originally developed for the ACR Collaborative Quality Improvement Project; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.

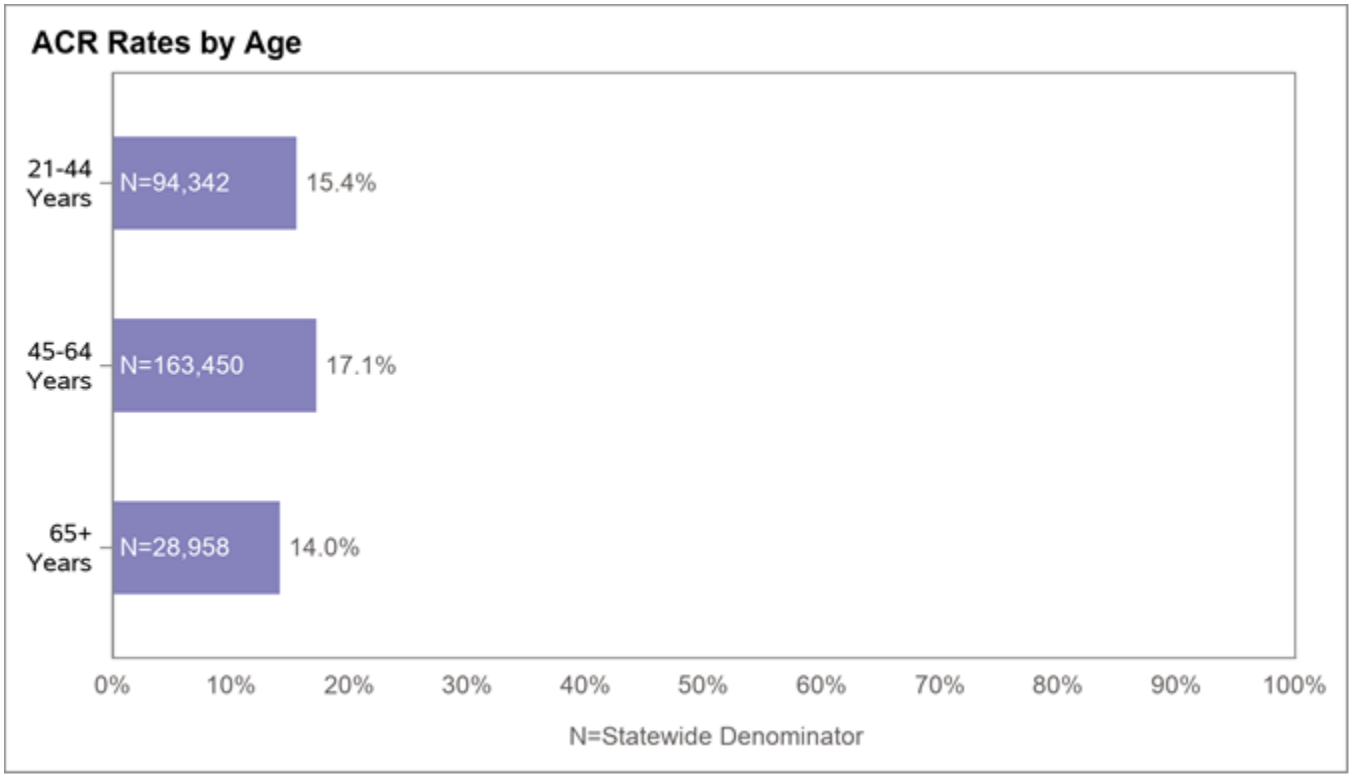


Figure A.52—Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits (AMB–ED) Rates by Age

The *Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits* indicator is a utilization indicator where a higher or lower rate does not indicate more favorable or less favorable performance; therefore, the minimum performance level is not displayed for this indicator.

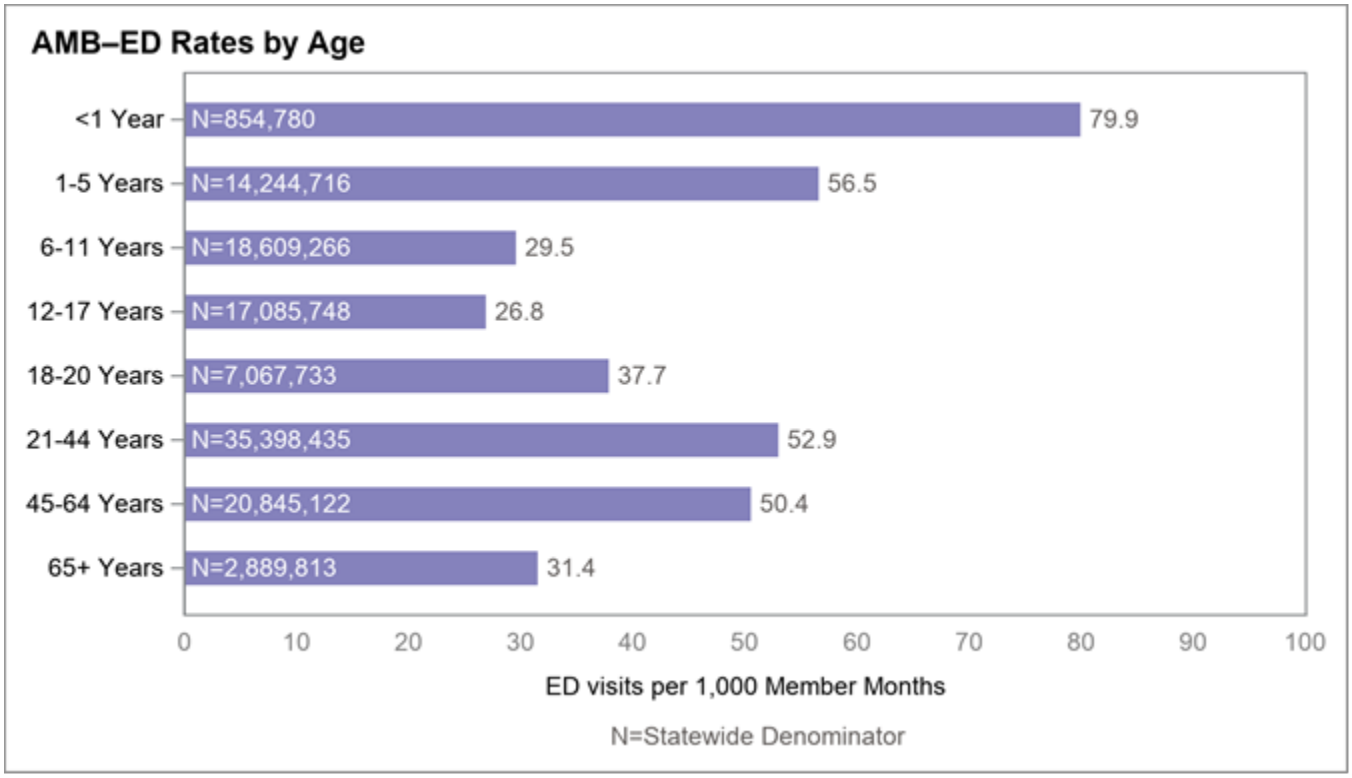


Figure A.53—Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits (AMB–OP) Rates by Age

The *Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits* indicator is a utilization indicator where a higher or lower rate does not indicate more favorable or less favorable performance; therefore, the minimum performance level is not displayed for this indicator.

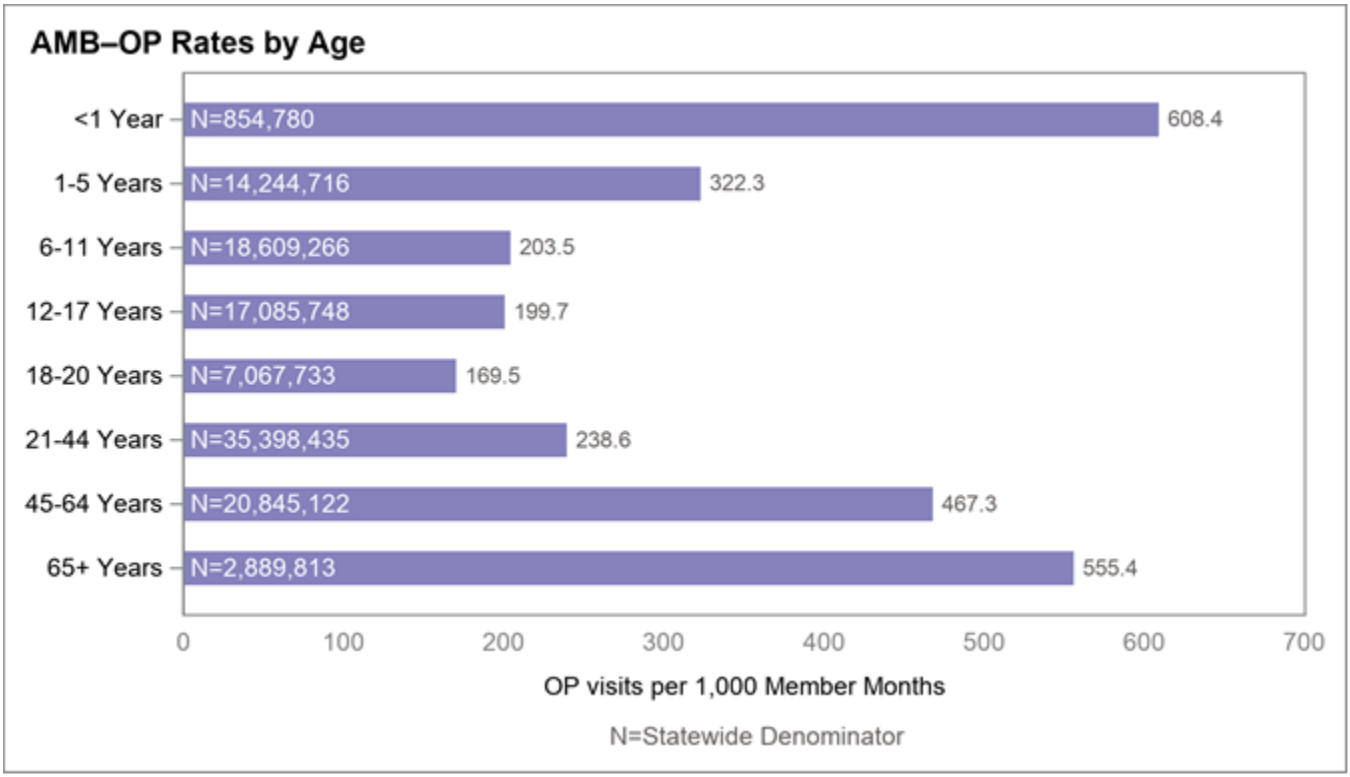


Figure A.54—Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis (AAB) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

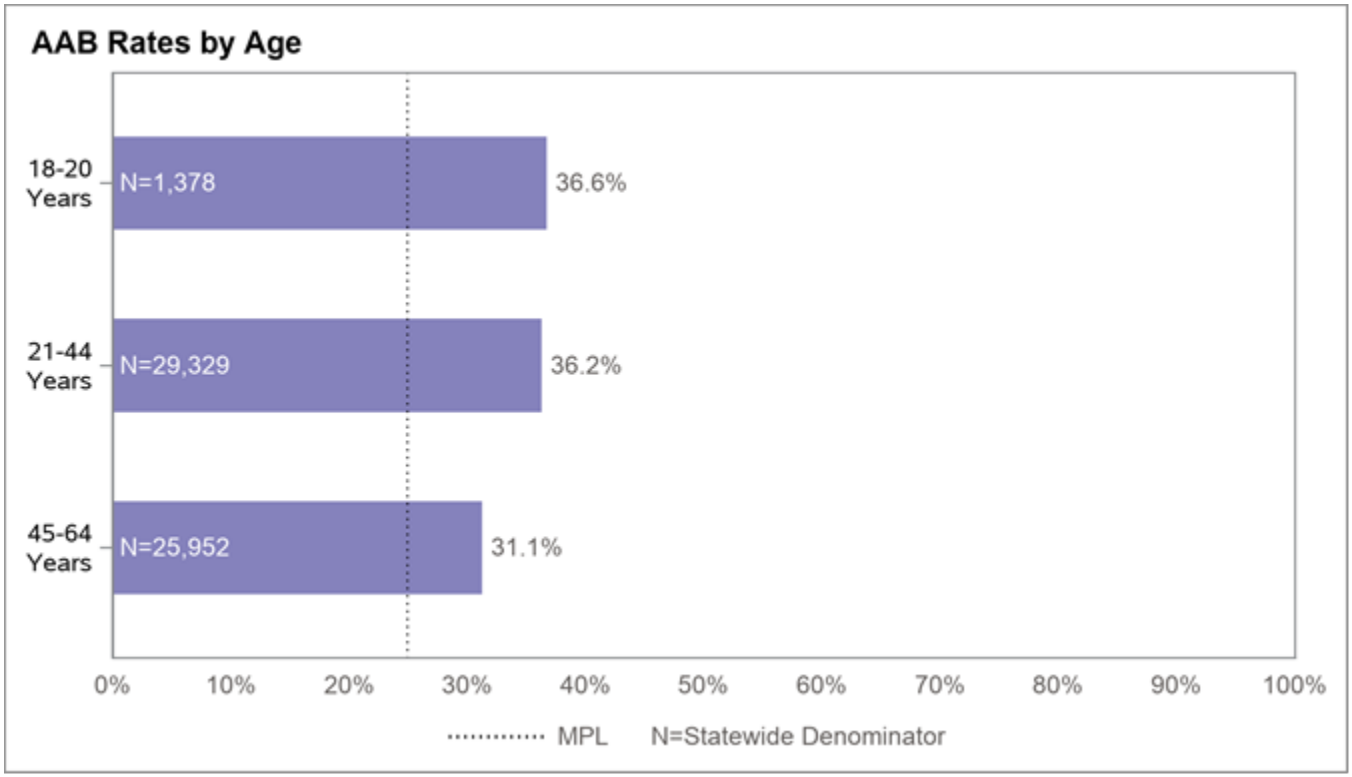
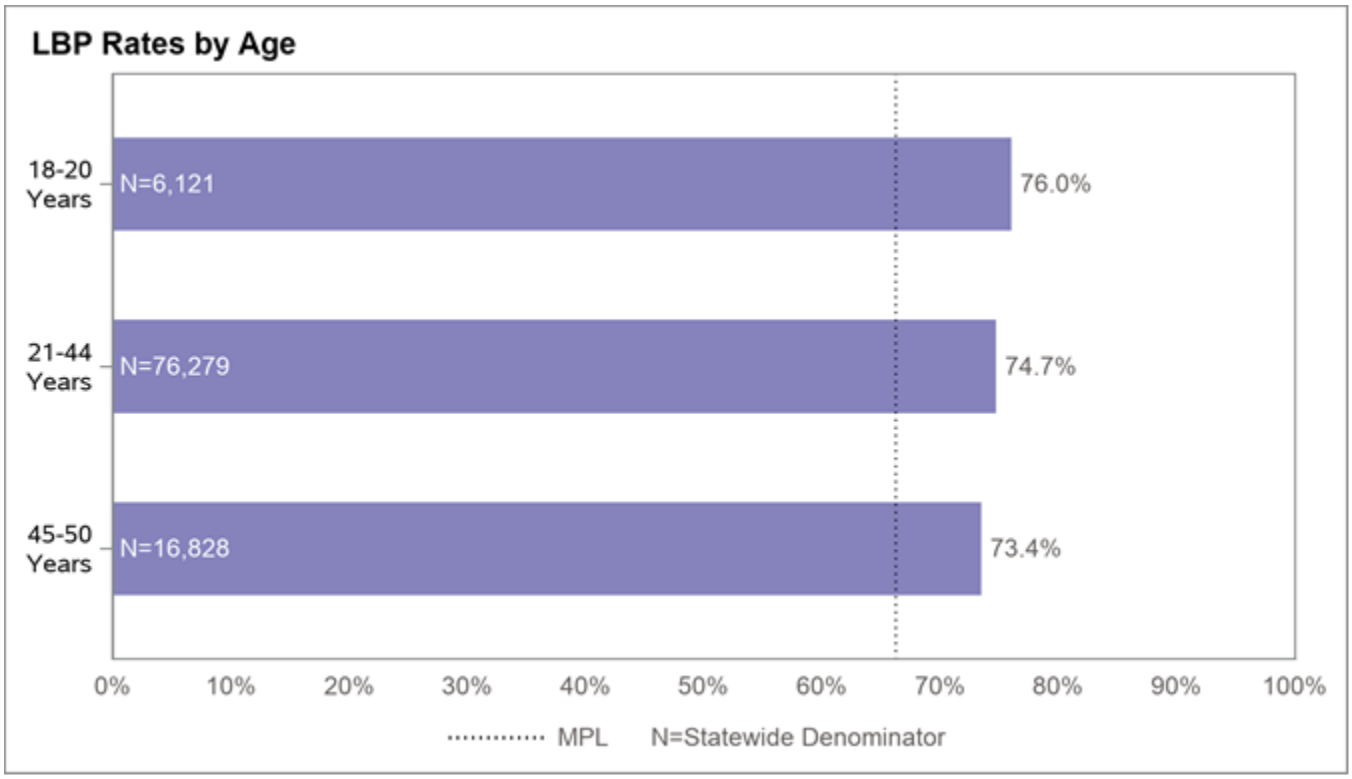


Figure A.55—Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain (LBP) Rates by Age

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



Gender

Figure A.56 through Figure A.80 display the statewide rates by gender for each indicator. Please note that gender stratifications were not reported for the following indicators: *Cervical Cancer Screening, Breast Cancer Screening*, *LARC Utilization,* and *Prenatal and Postpartum Care*.

Preventive Screening and Children's Health Domain

Figure A.56 through Figure A.64 display the statewide Preventive Screening and Children's Health indicator rates and denominator by gender.

Figure A.56—Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3 (CIS–3) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

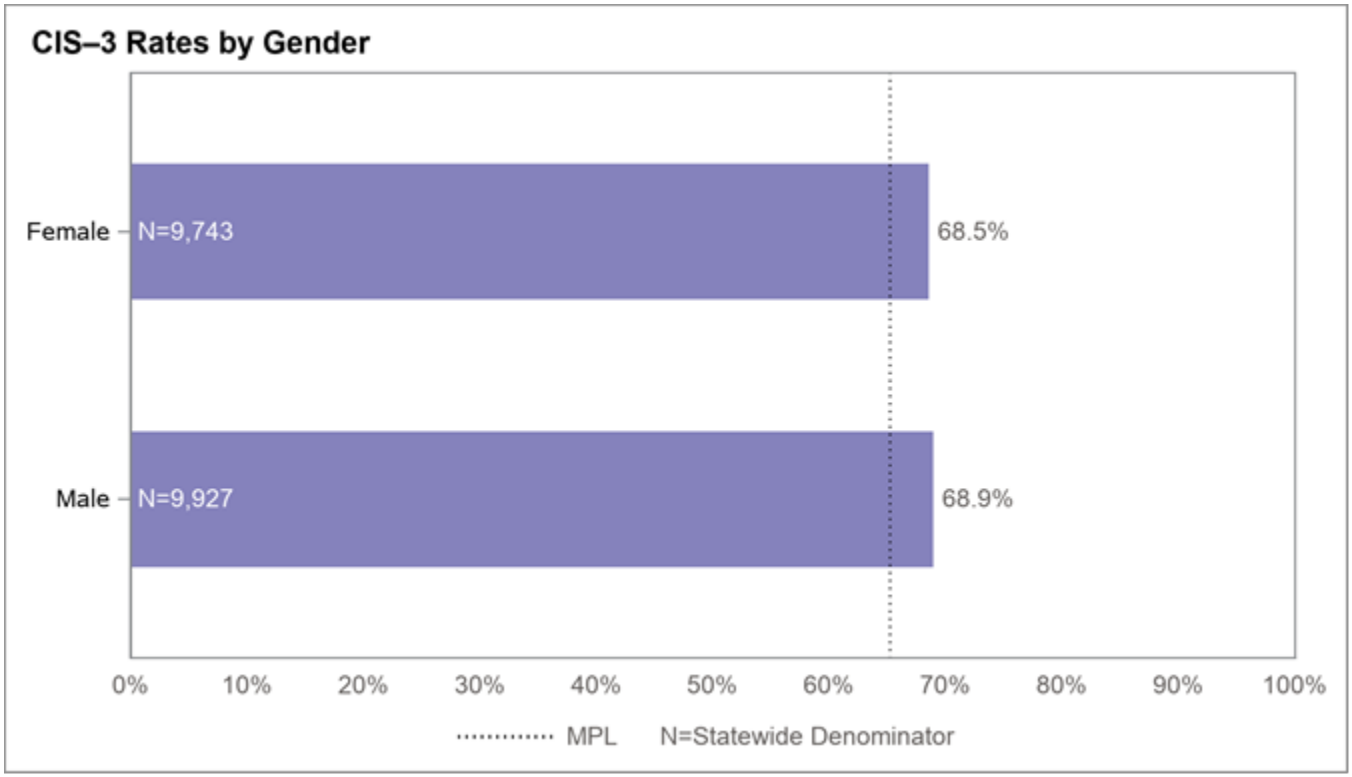


Figure A.57—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months (CAP–1224) Rates by Gender

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 64.8 percent (N=128).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

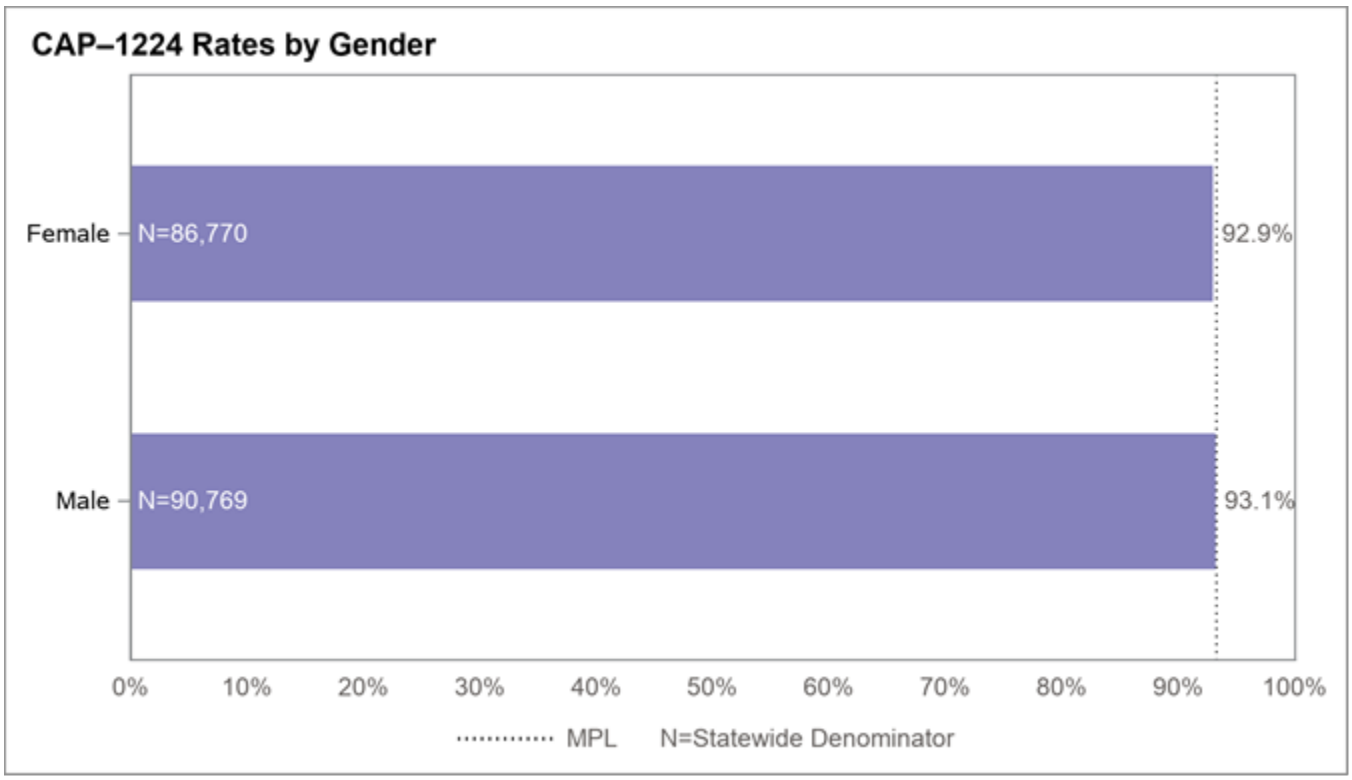


Figure A.58—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years (CAP–256) Rates by Gender

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 75.0 percent (N=376).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

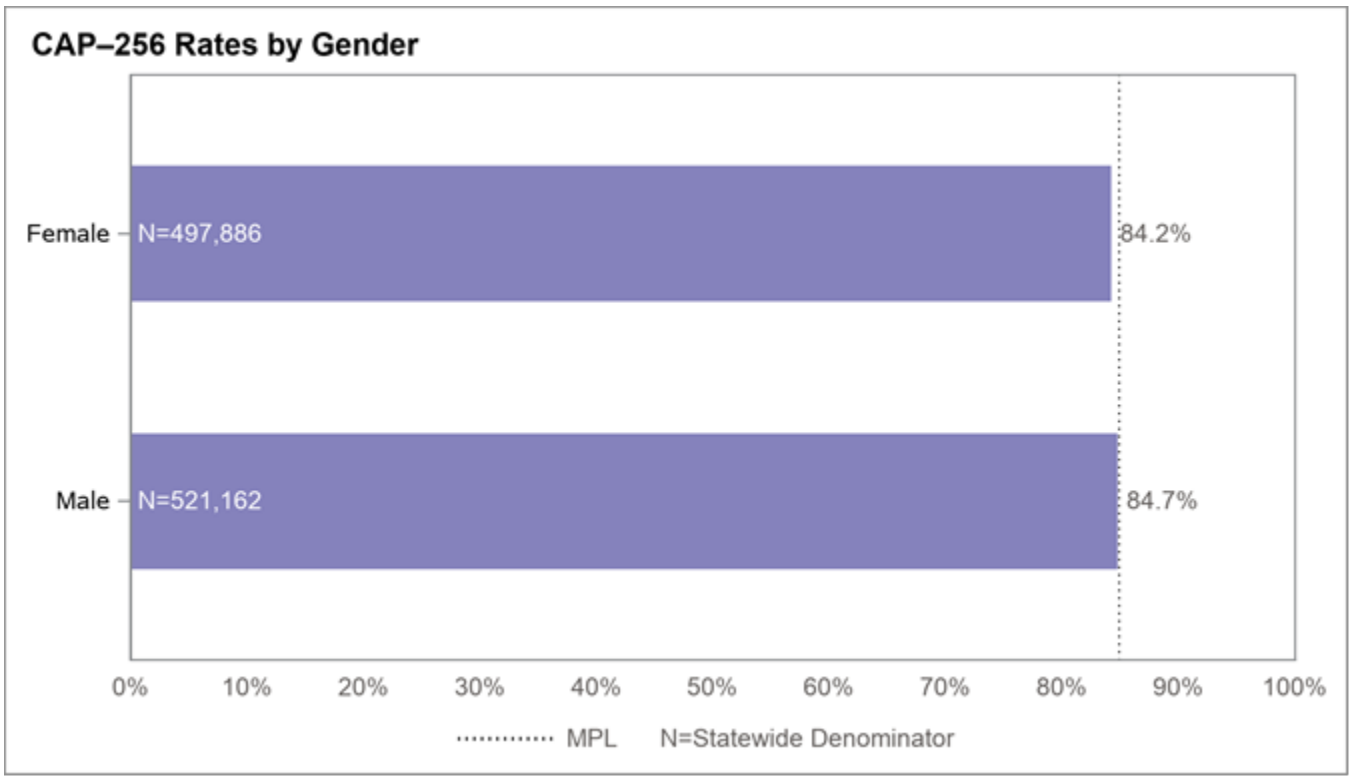


Figure A.59—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years (CAP–711) Rates by Gender

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 86.0 percent (N=172).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

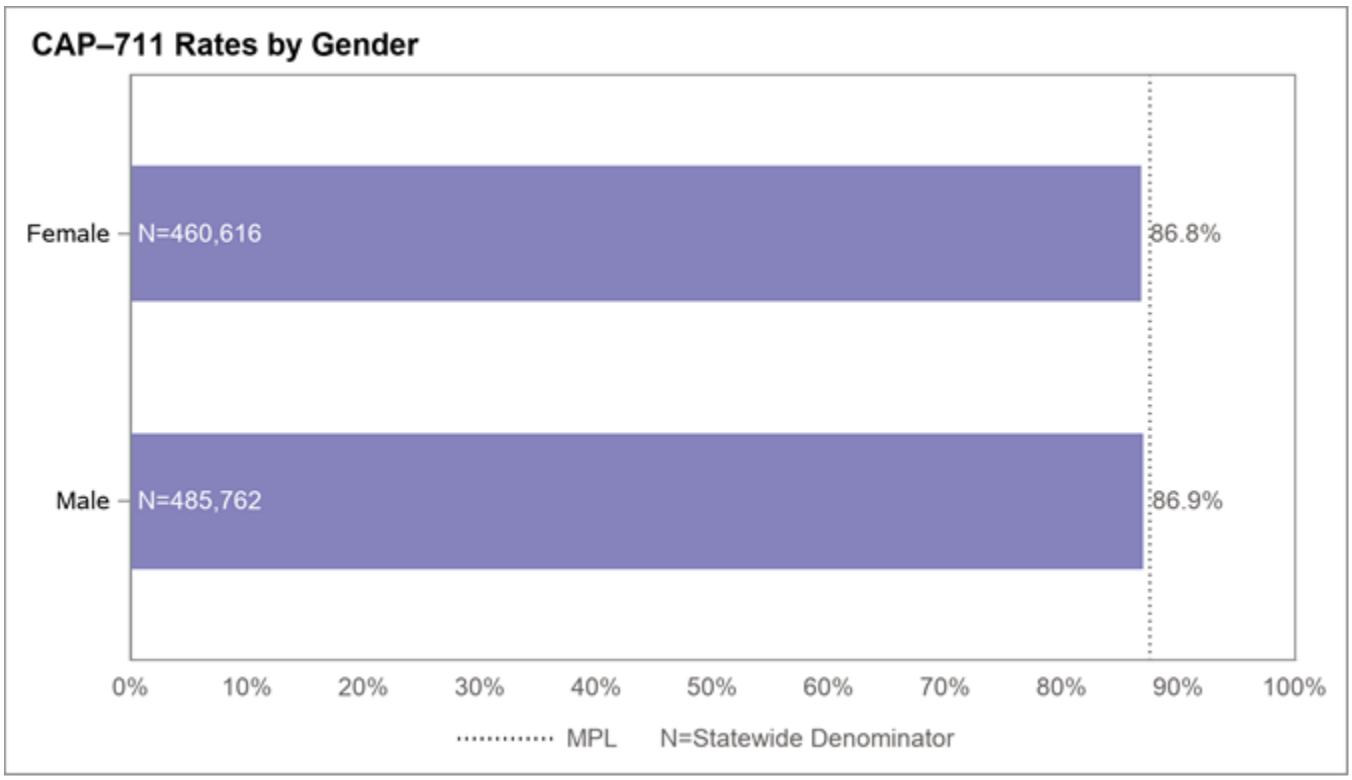


Figure A.60—Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years (CAP–1219) Rates by Gender

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 84.0 percent (N=175).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

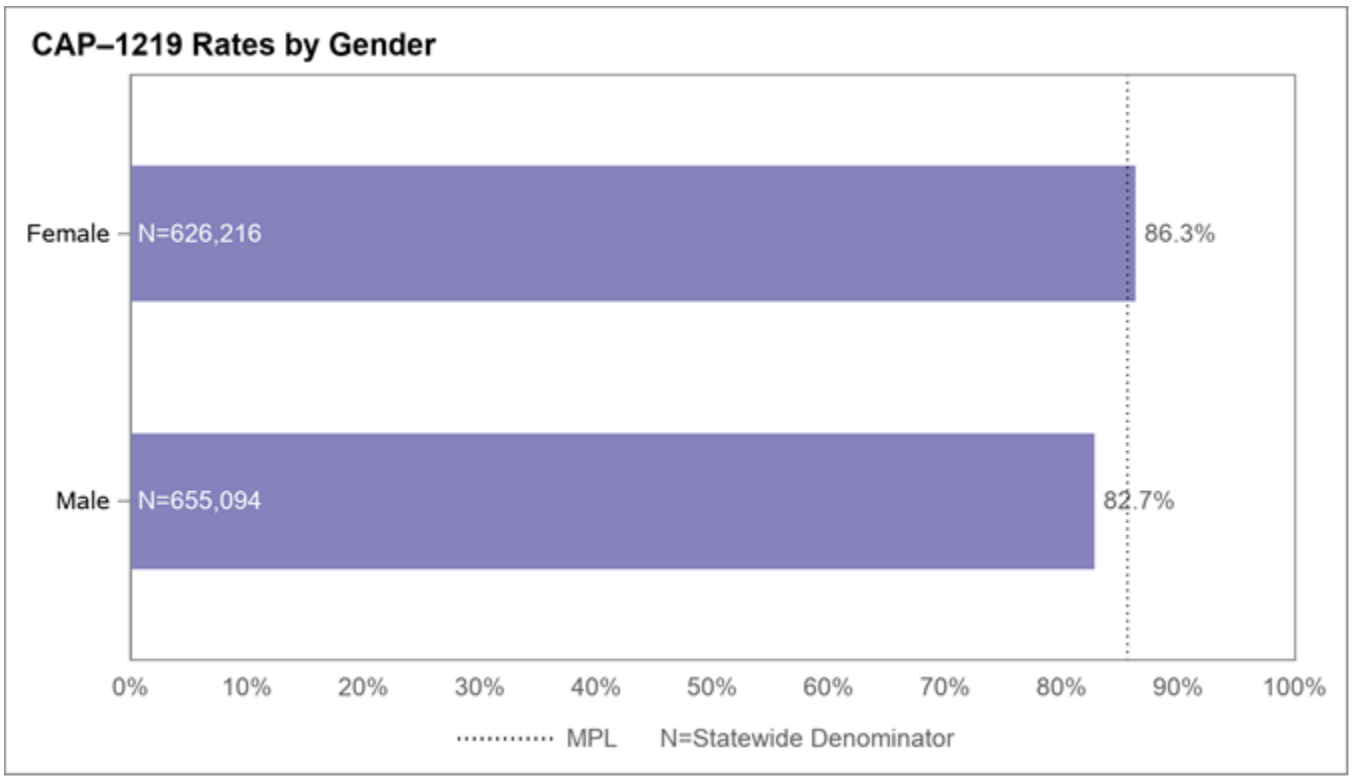


Figure A.61—Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2 (IMA–2) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

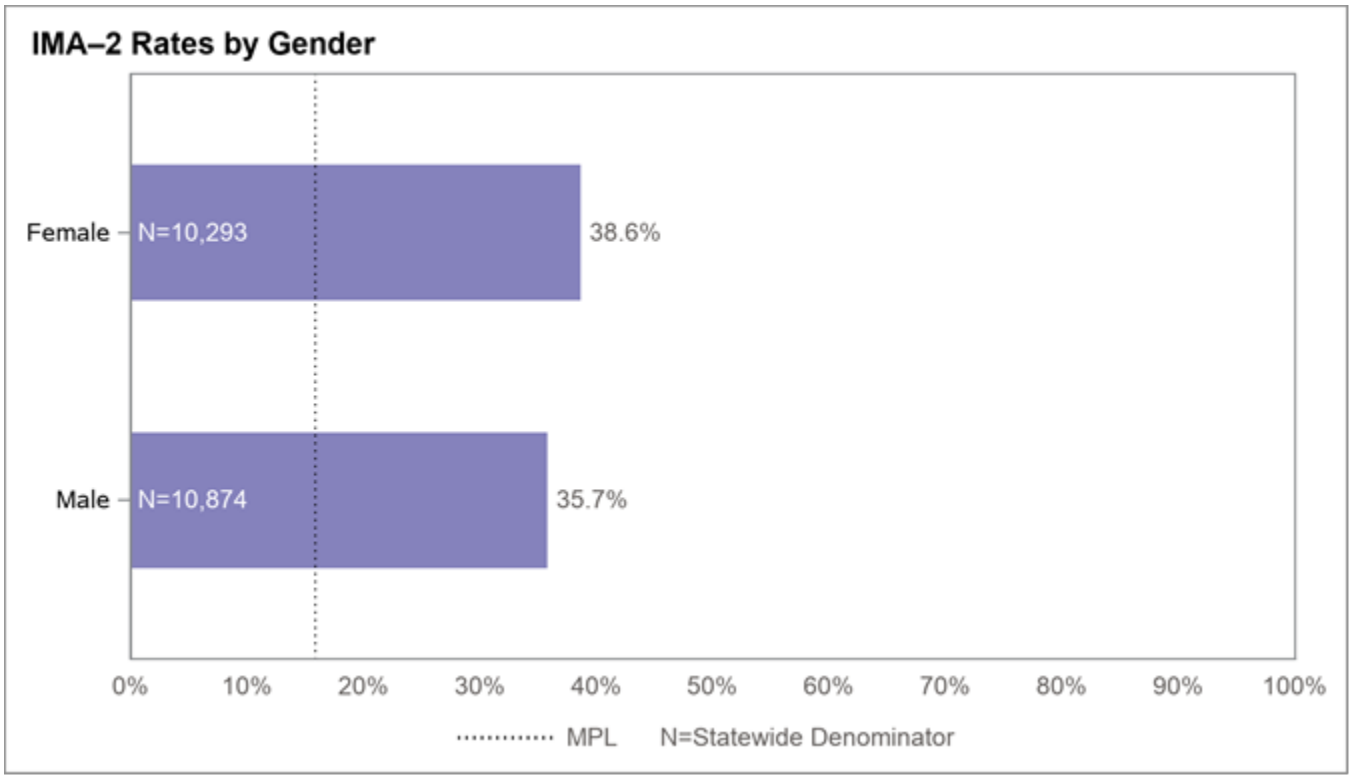


Figure A.62—Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total (WCC–N) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

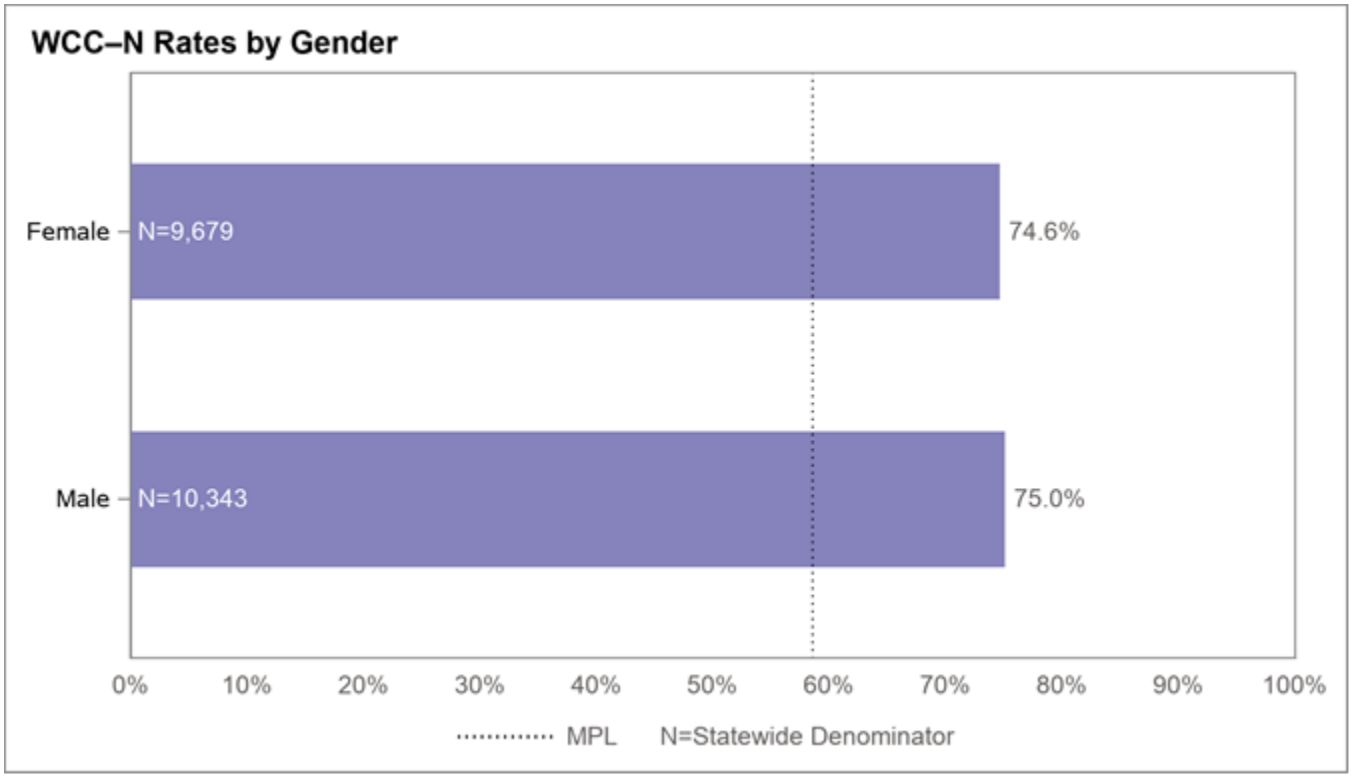


Figure A.63—Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Physical Activity—Total (WCC–PA) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

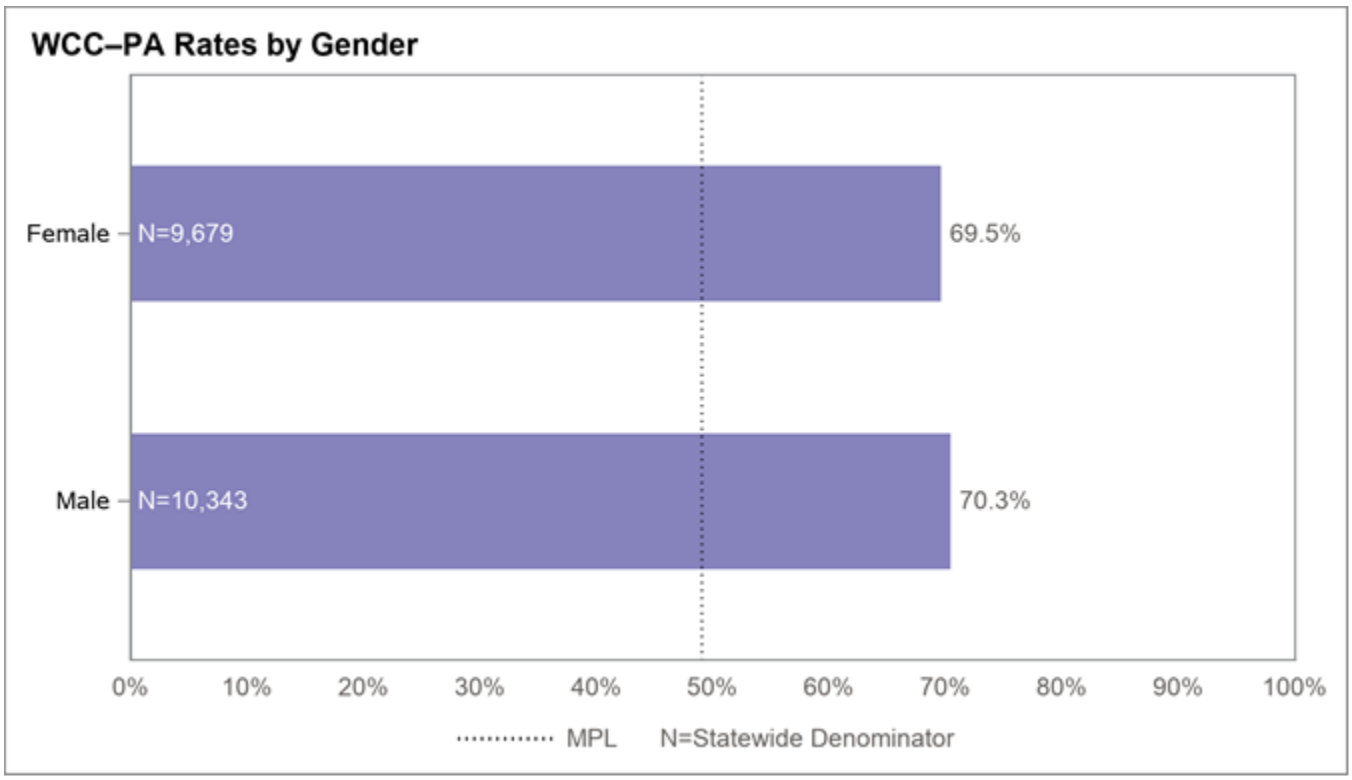
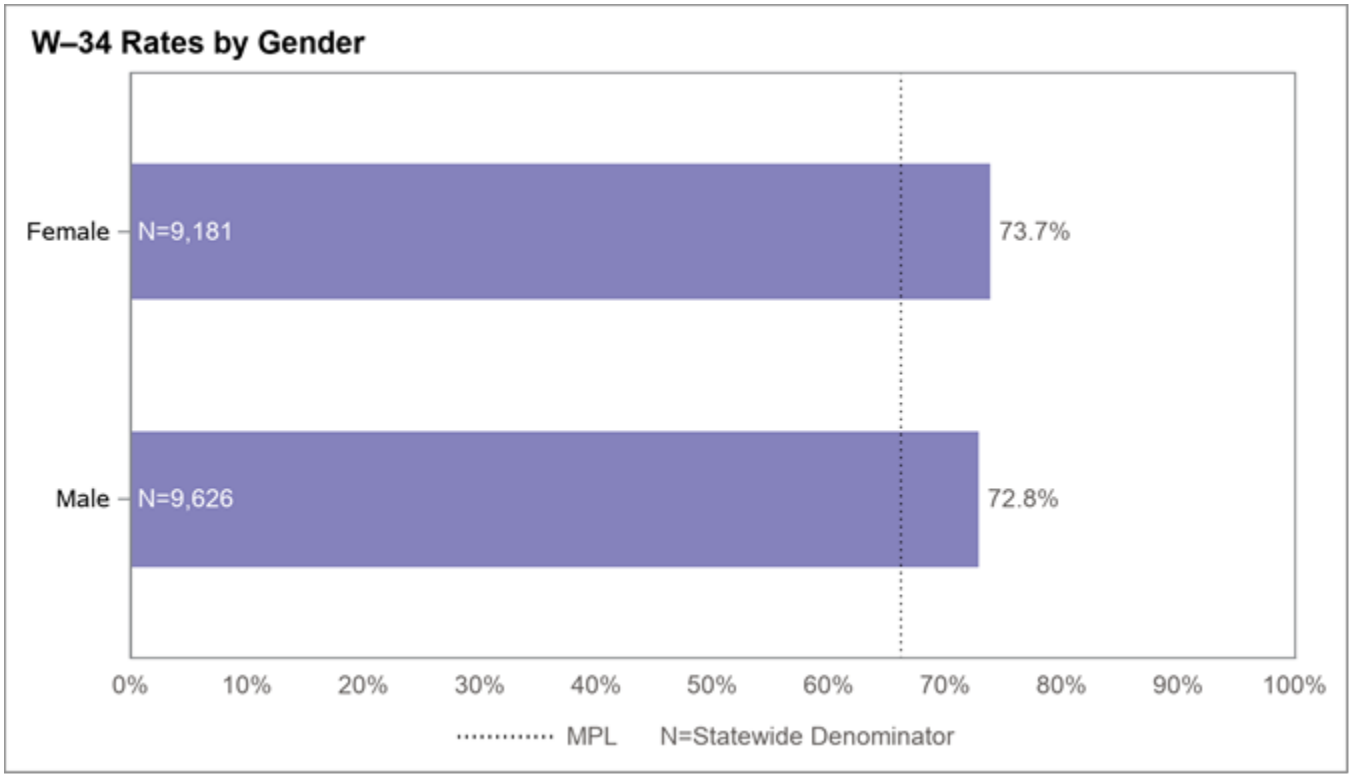


Figure A.64—Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life (W–34) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



Care for Chronic Conditions Domain

Figure A.65 through Figure A.75 display the statewide Care for Chronic Conditions indicator rates and denominator by gender.

Figure A.65—Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs (MPM–ACE) Rates by Gender

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 82.1 percent (N=56).
The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

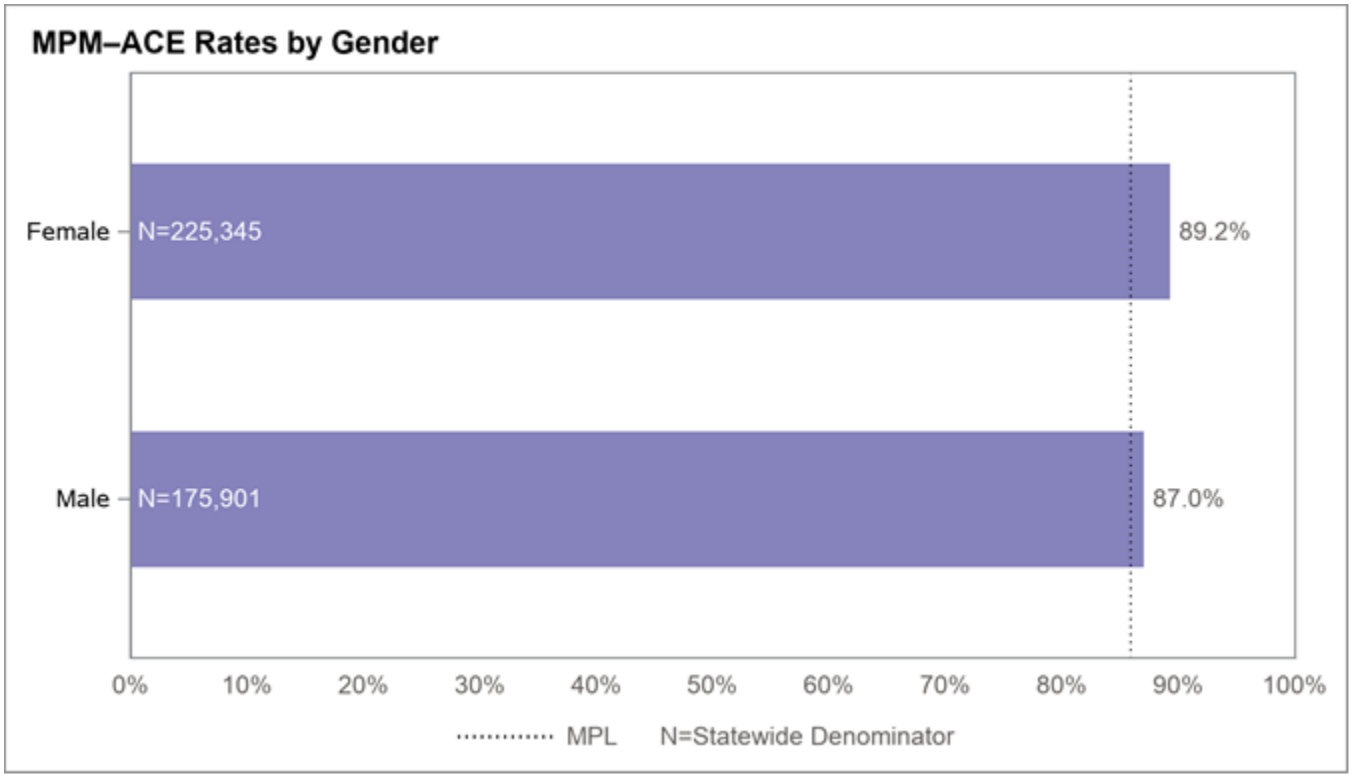


Figure A.66—Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—Diuretics (MPM–Diu) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

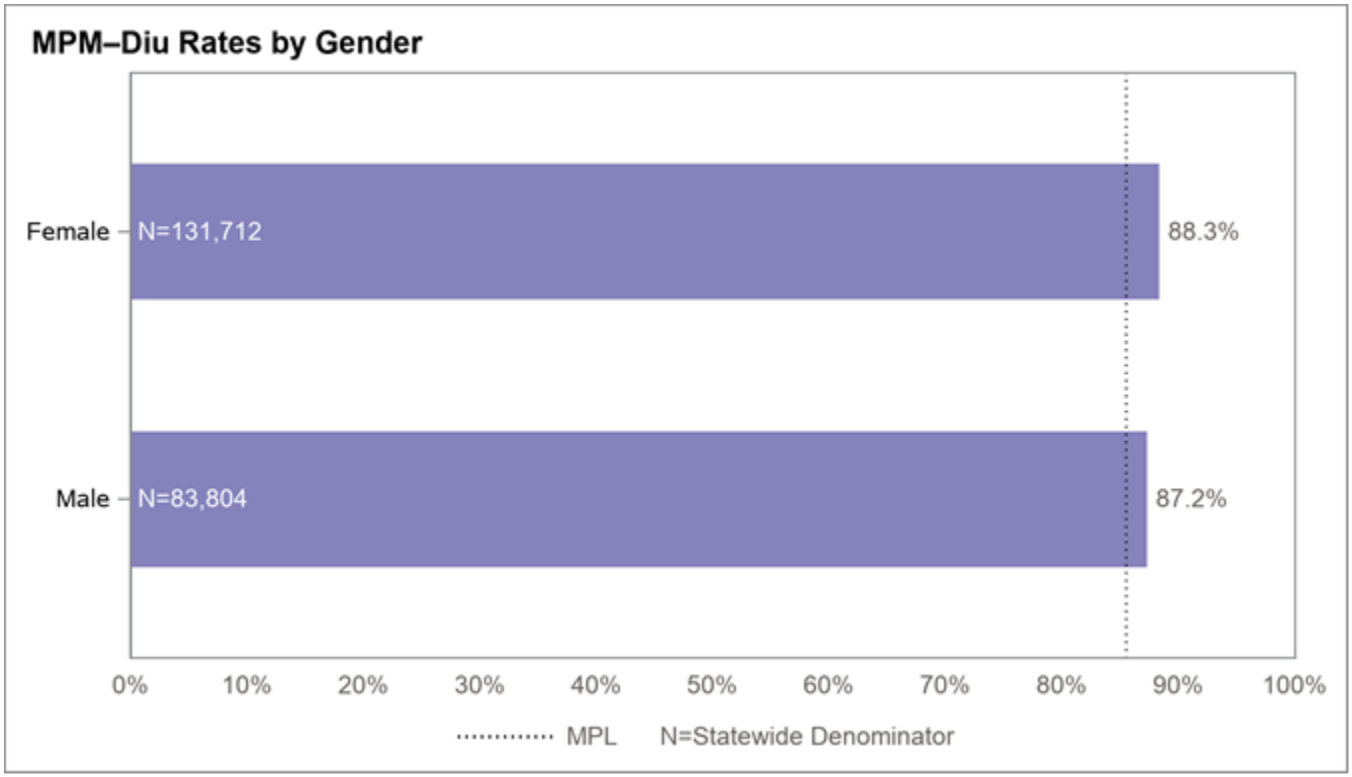


Figure A.67—Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

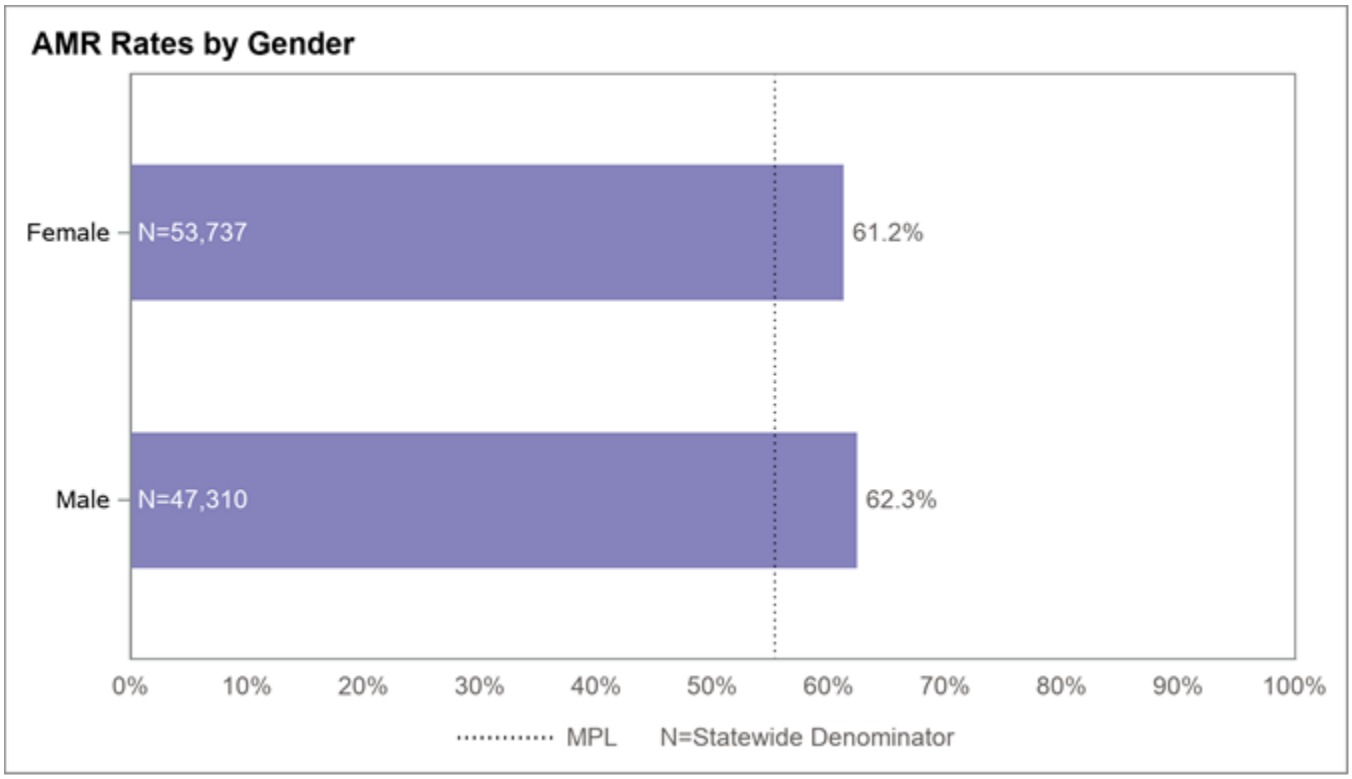


Figure A.68—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg) (CDC–BP) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

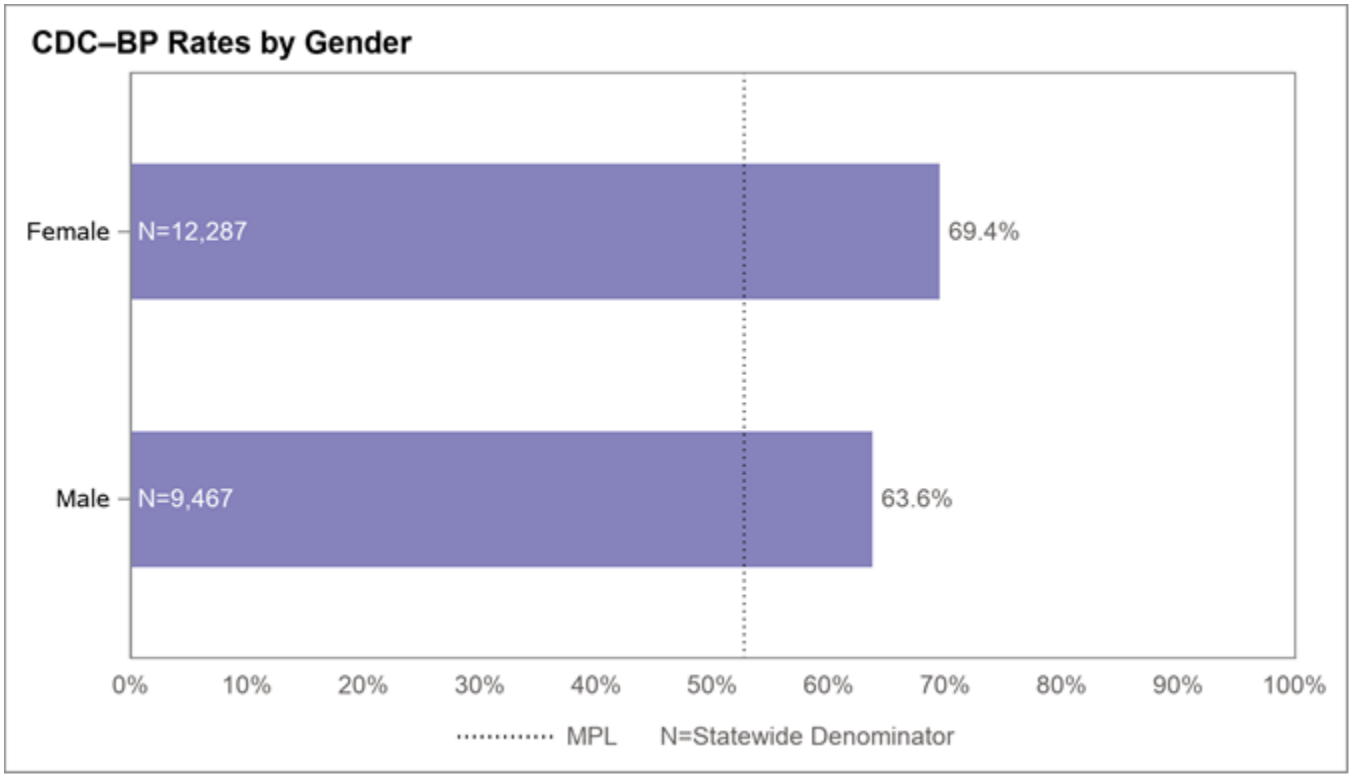


Figure A.69—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed (CDC–E) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

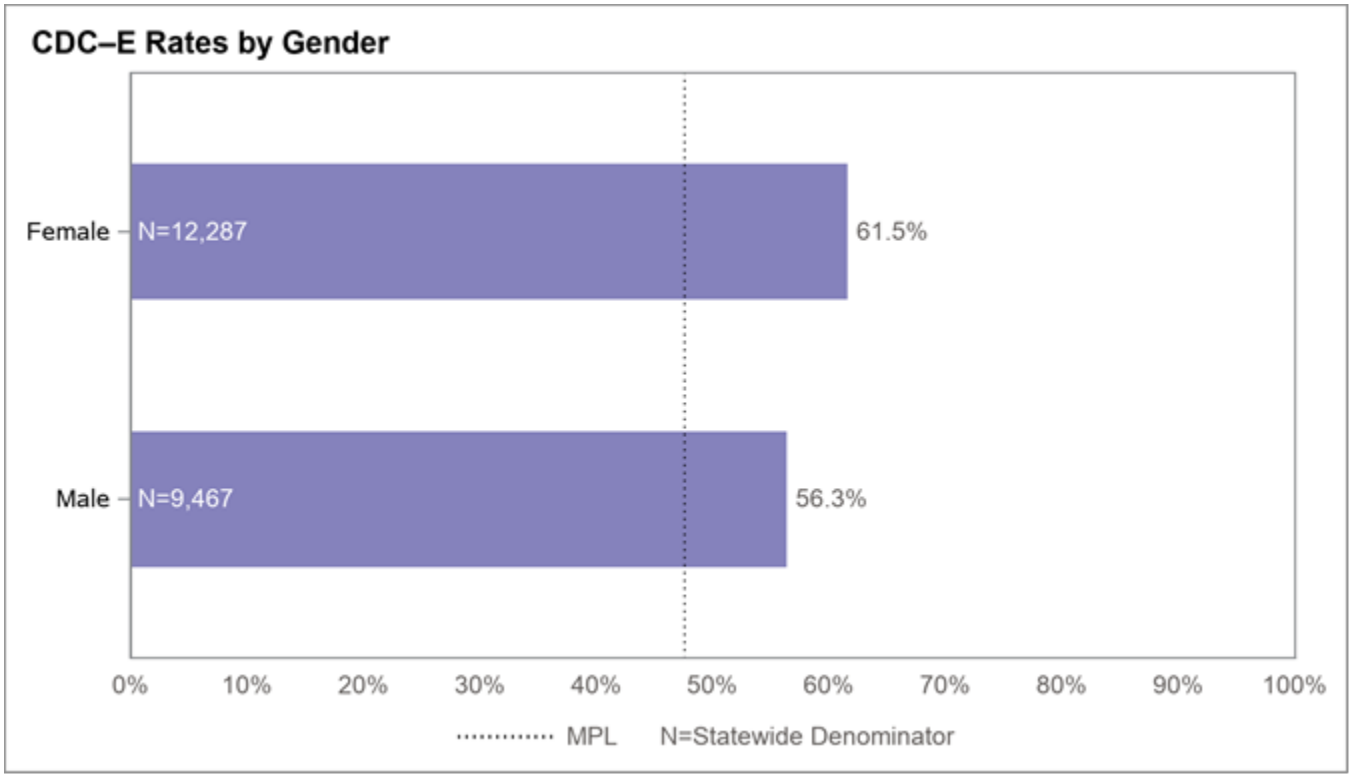


Figure A.70—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Control (<8.0 Percent) (CDC–H8) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

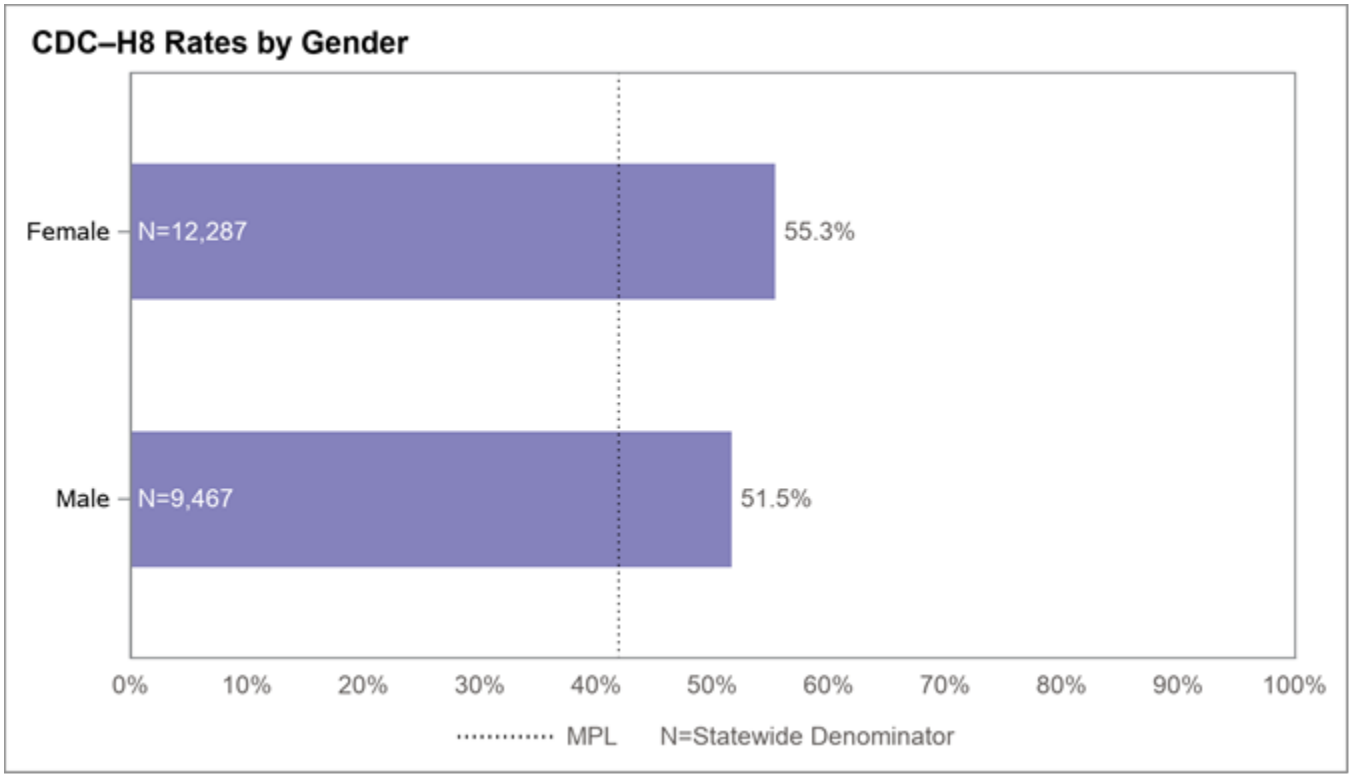


Figure A.71—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent) (CDC–H9) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.
A lower rate indicates more favorable performance for this indicator.

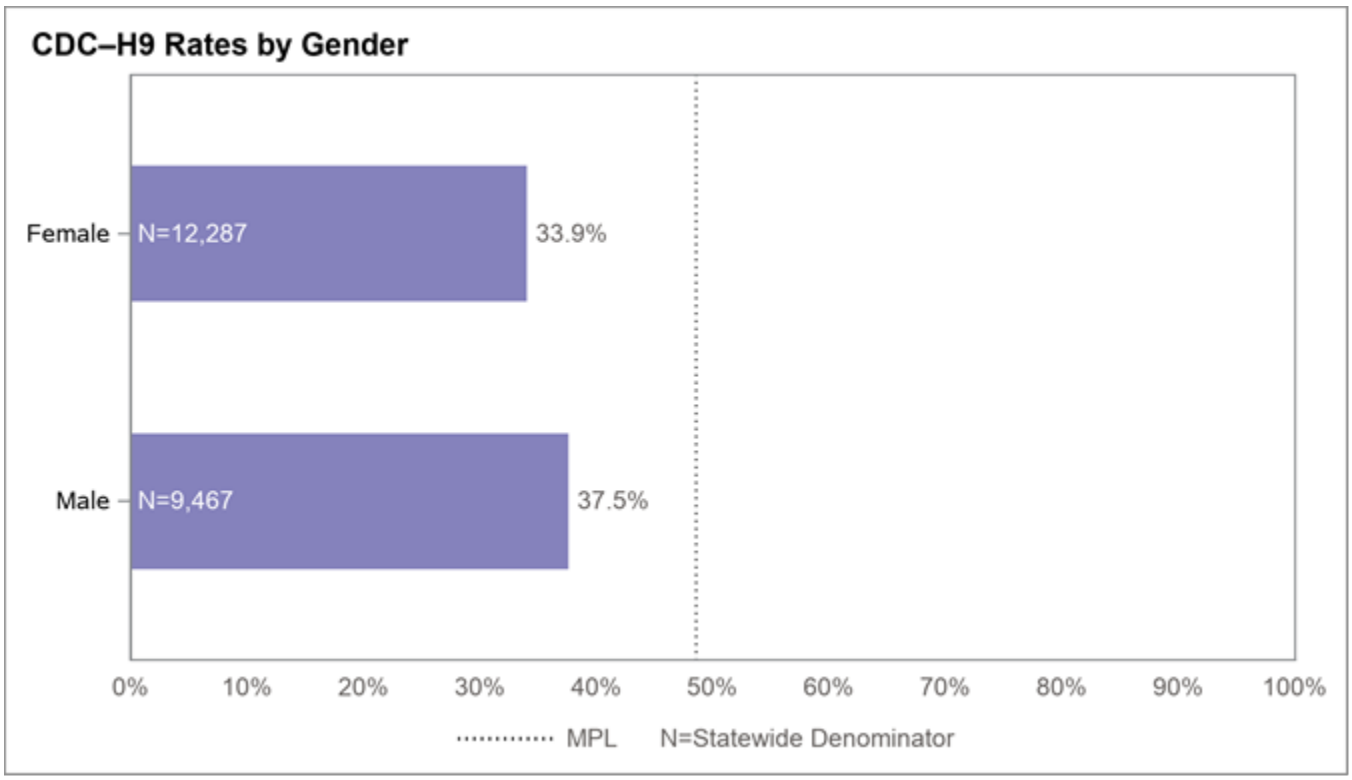


Figure A.72—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing (CDC–HT) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

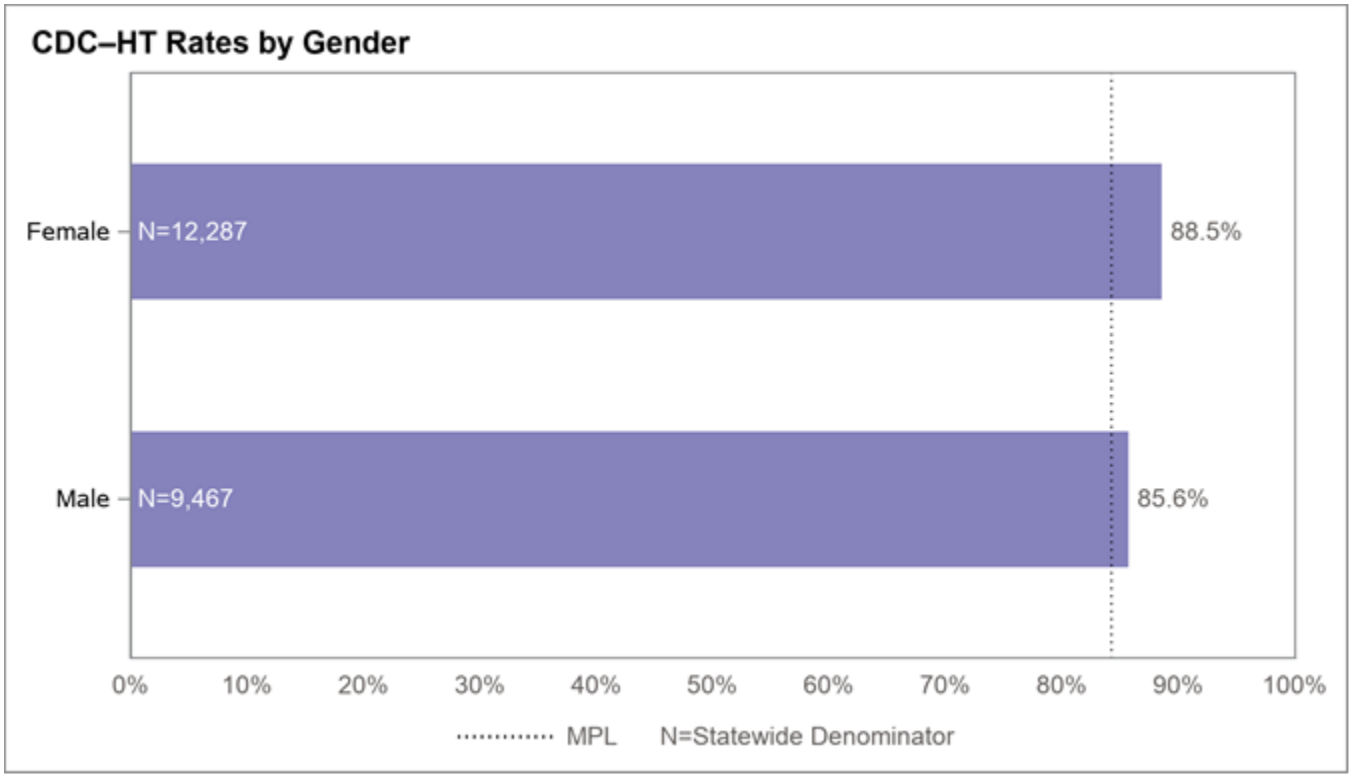


Figure A.73—Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy (CDC–N) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

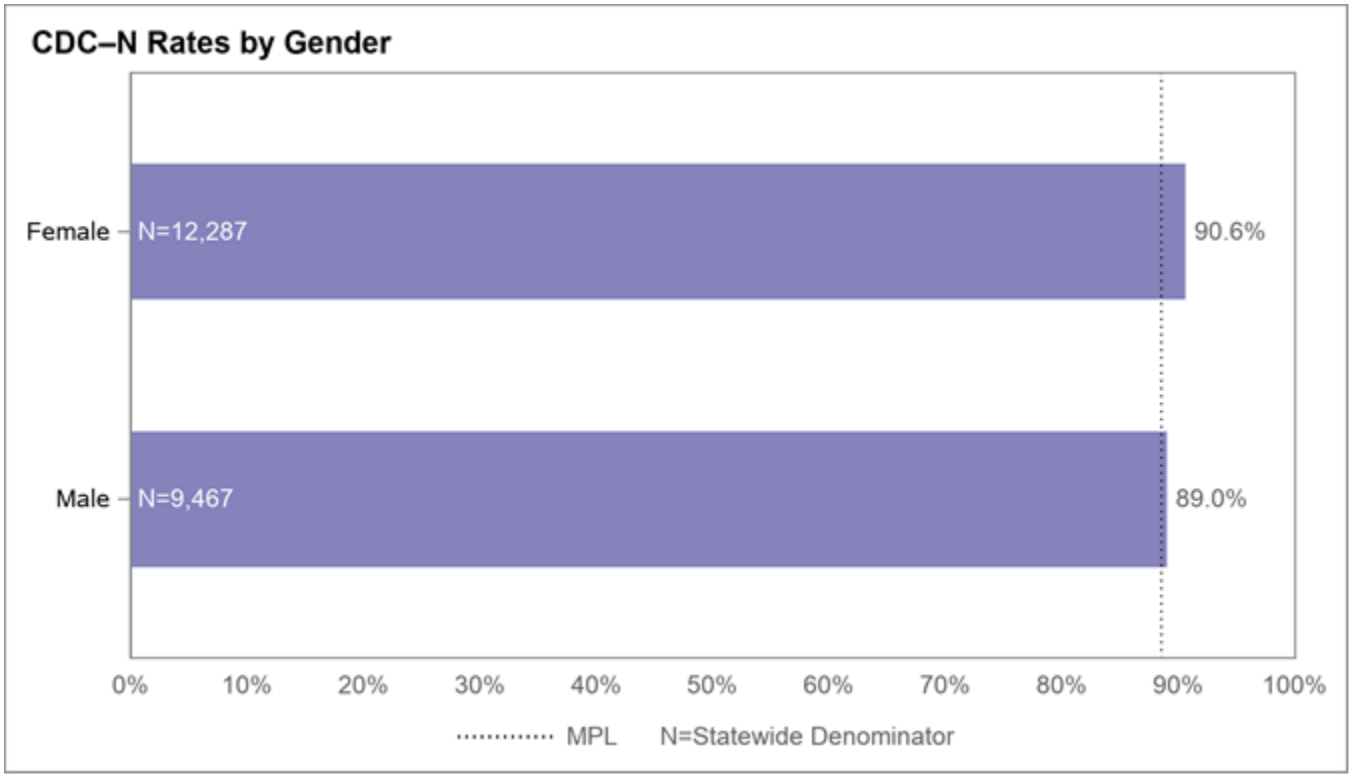


Figure A.74—Controlling Blood Pressure (CBP) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

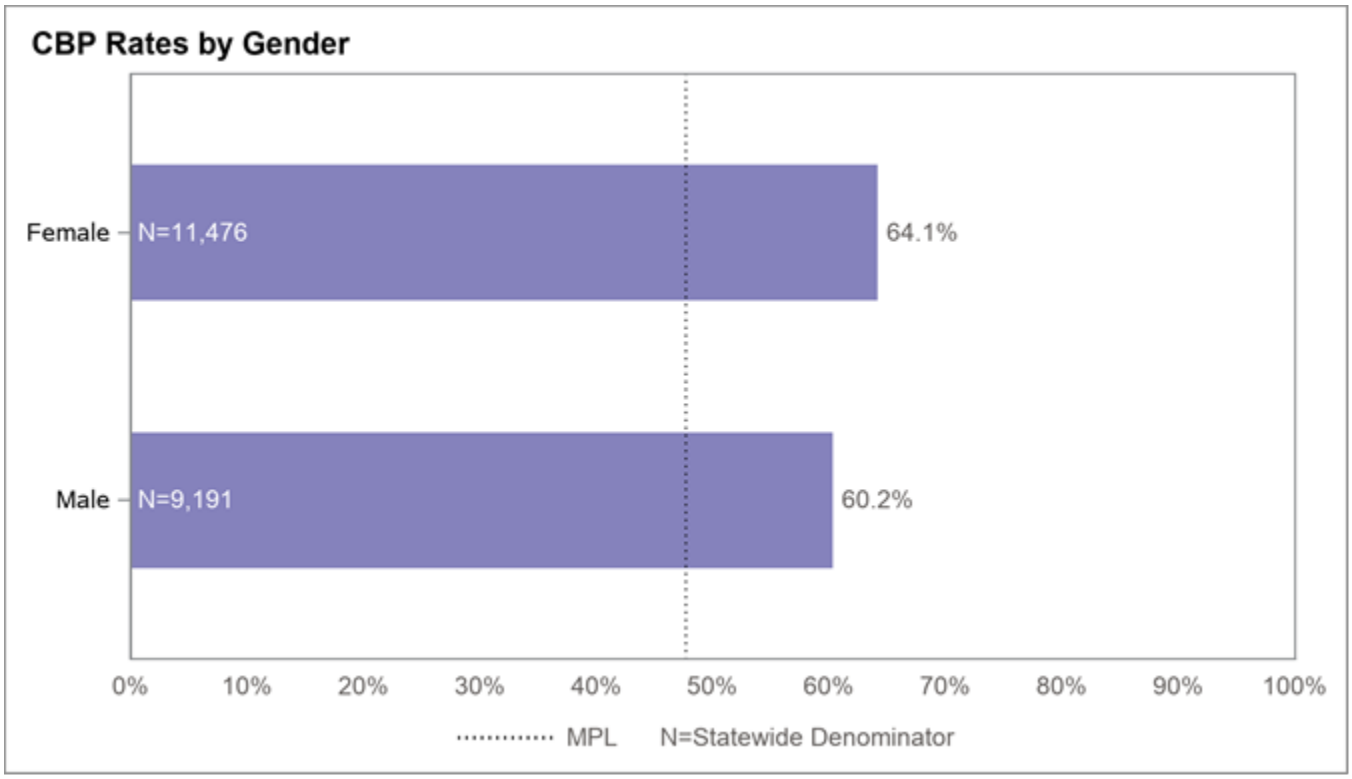
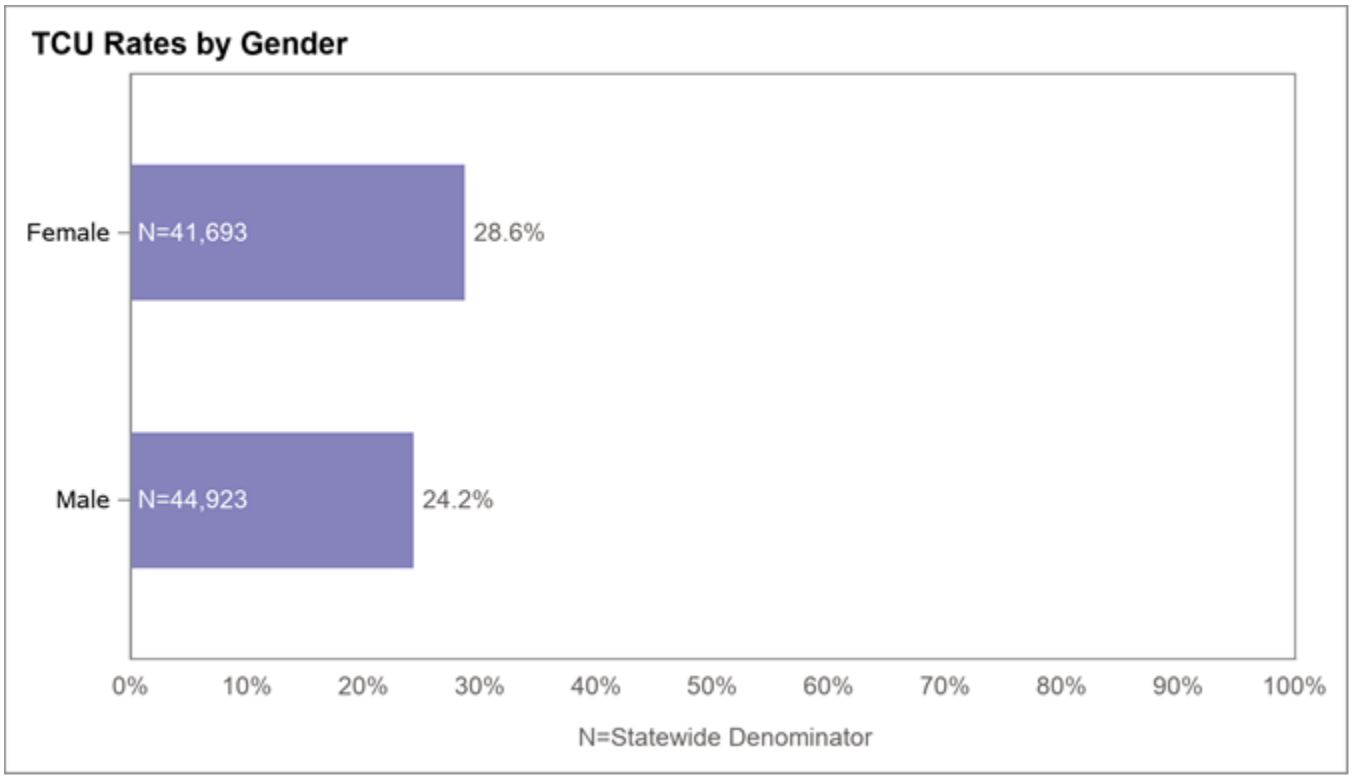


Figure A.75—Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use (TCU) Rates by Gender

Note: The *State Fiscal Year 2017–18 Tobacco Cessation Focused Study Report* includes results from specialty health plans, while this report only includes results from MCPs; therefore, the results in this report may differ from results presented in the focused study report.

The *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator was originally developed for the Tobacco Cessation Focused Study; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.



Appropriate Treatment and Utilization Domain

Figure A.76 through Figure A.80 display the statewide Appropriate Treatment and Utilization indicator rates and denominator by gender.

Figure A.76—All-Cause Readmissions (ACR) Rates by Gender

A lower rate indicates more favorable performance for this indicator.
The *All-Cause Readmissions* indicator was originally developed for the ACR Collaborative Quality Improvement Project; therefore, no minimum performance level was established for this indicator.

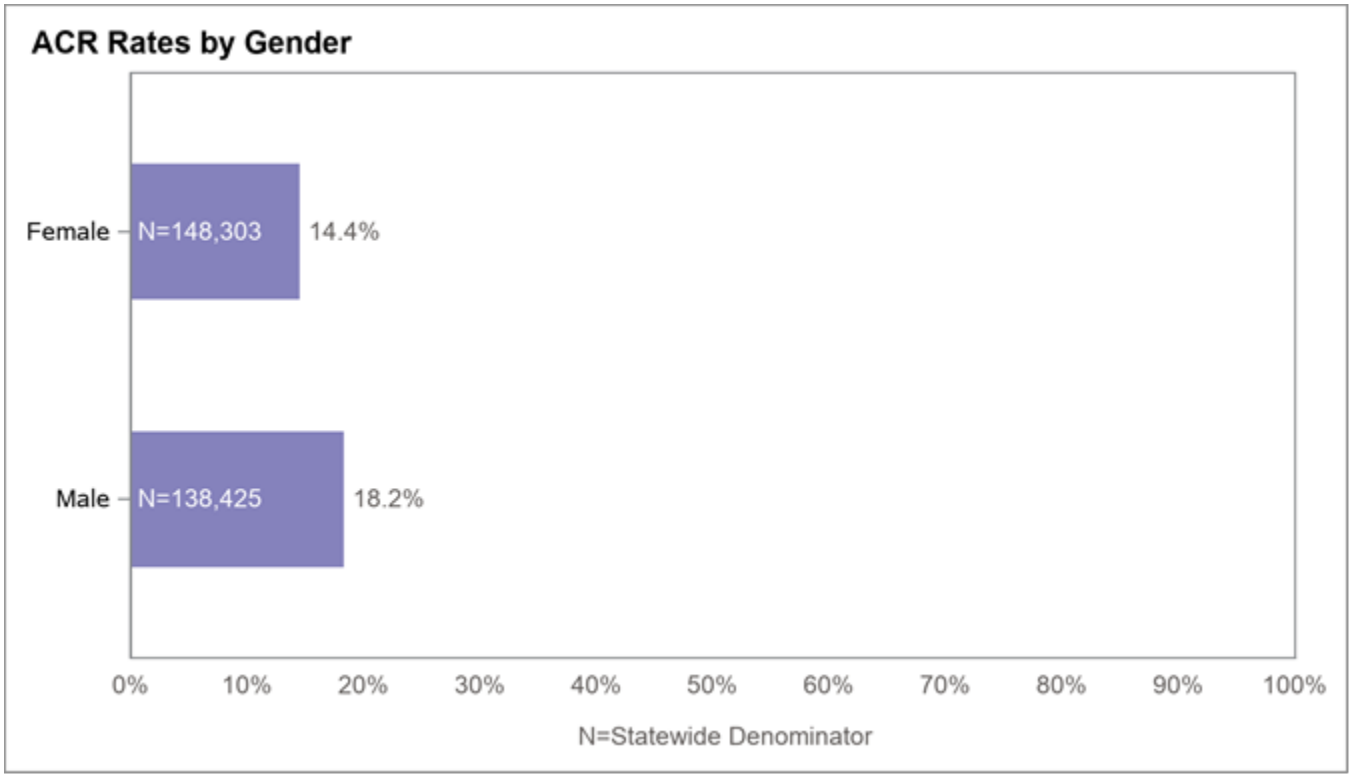


Figure A.77—Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits (AMB–ED) Rates by Gender

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 46.9 emergency department visits per 1,000 member months (N= 45,563).
The *Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits* indicator is a utilization indicator where a higher or lower rate does not indicate more favorable or less favorable performance; therefore, the minimum performance level is not displayed for this indicator.

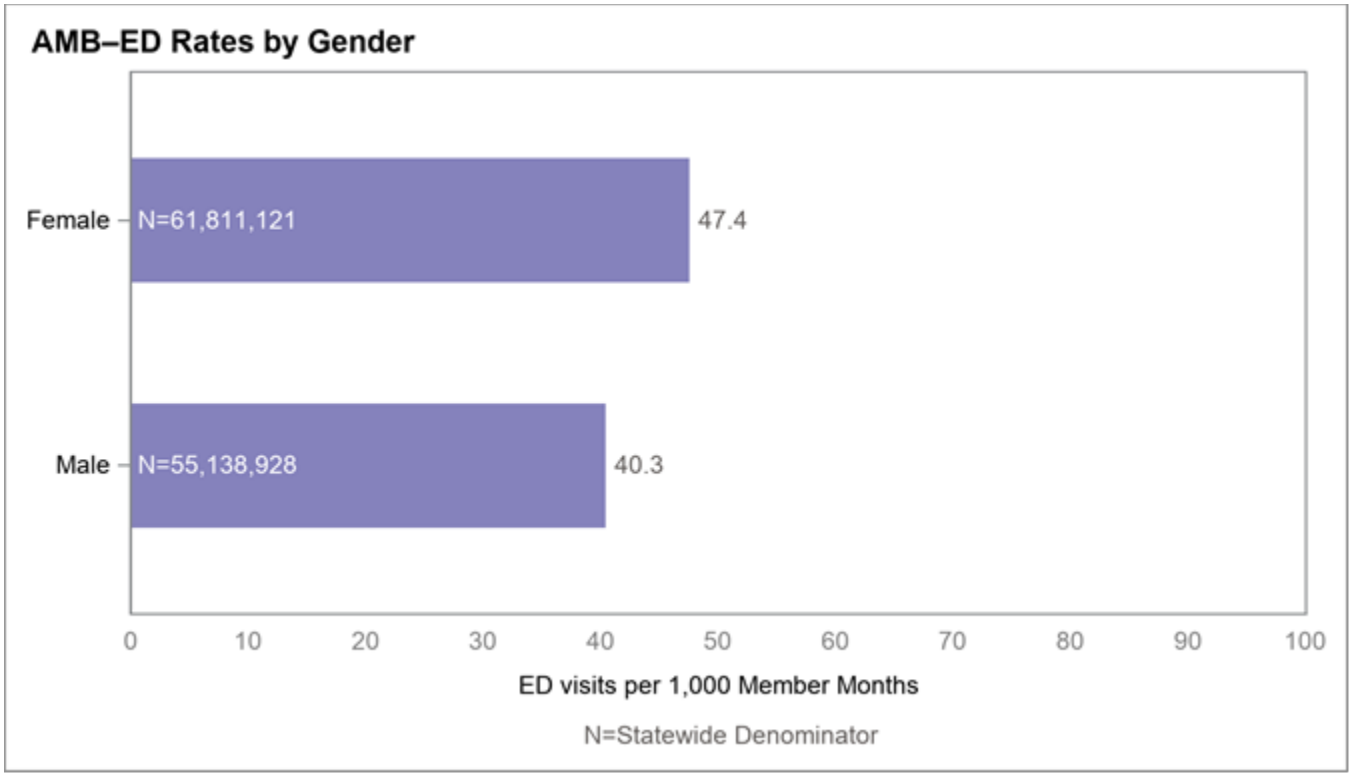


Figure A.78—Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits (AMB–OP) Rates by Gender

Note: The rate for the Unknown/Missing group was 315.3 outpatient visits per 1,000 member months (N= 45,563).
The *Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits* indicator is a utilization indicator where a higher or lower rate does not indicate more favorable or less favorable performance; therefore, the minimum performance level is not displayed for this indicator.

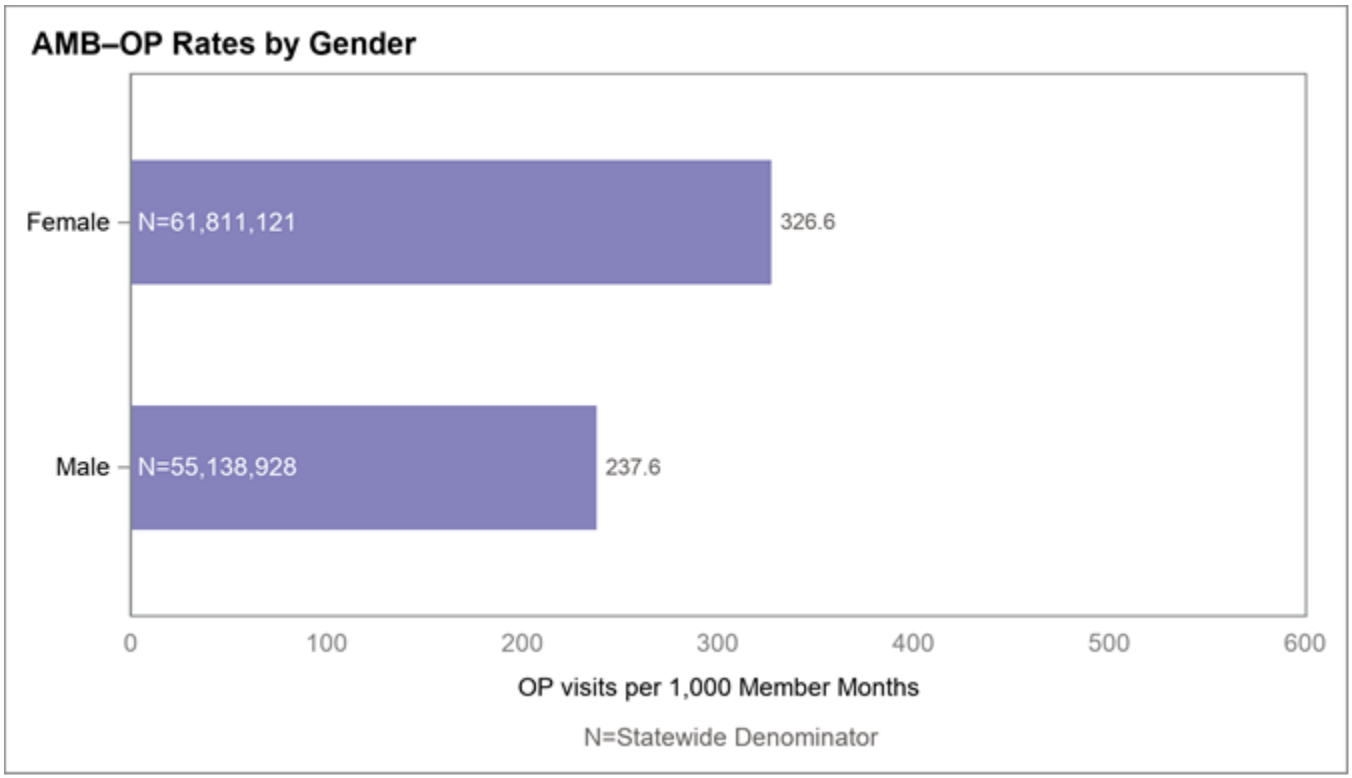


Figure A.79—Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis (AAB) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.

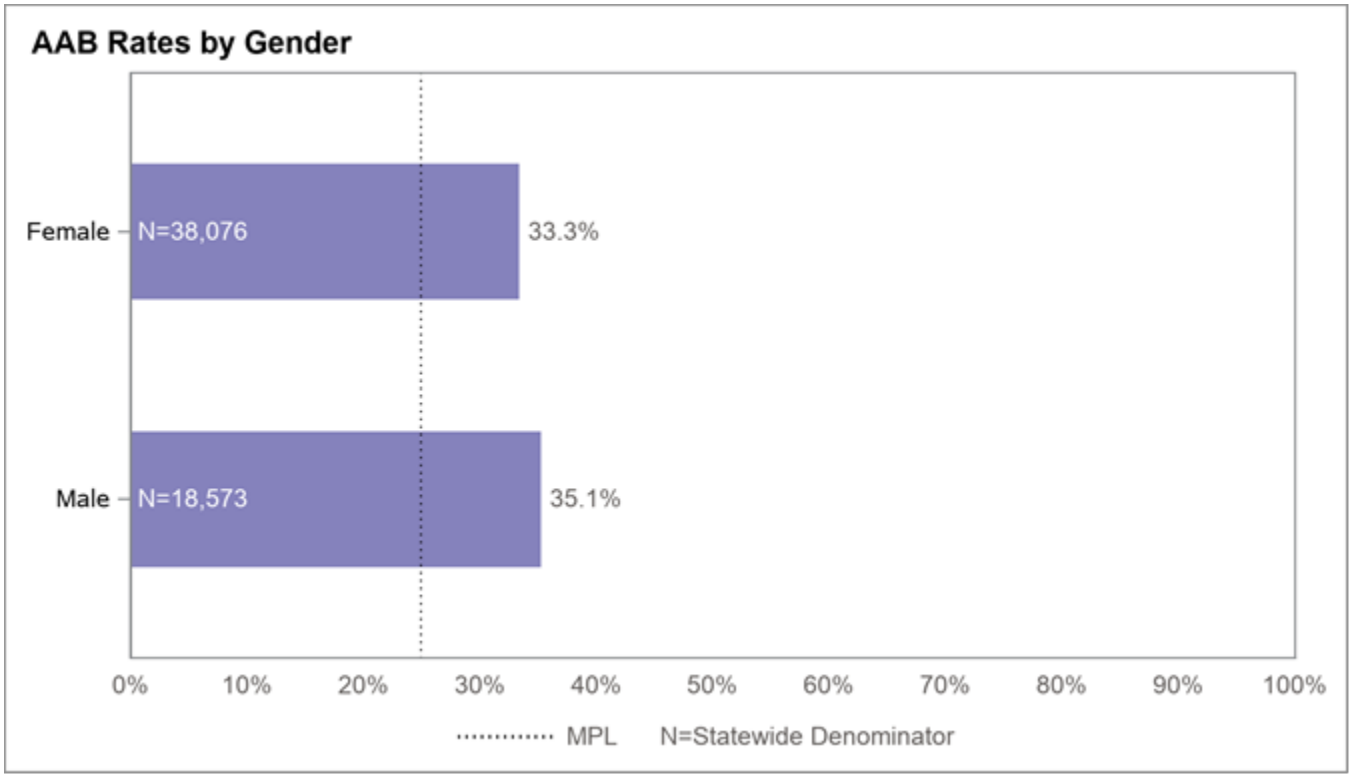
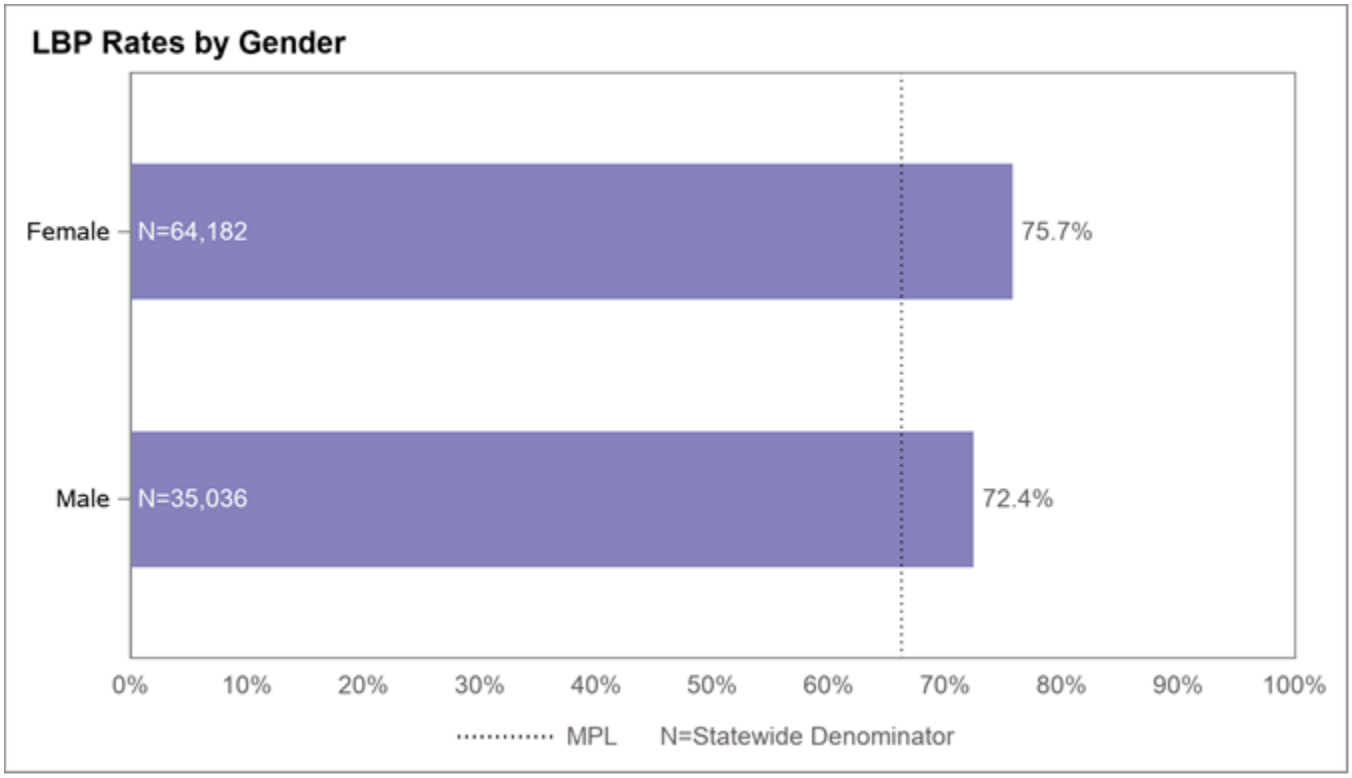


Figure A.80—Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain (LBP) Rates by Gender

The minimum performance level represents the national Medicaid 25th percentile for this indicator.



Appendix B. Methodology

Overview

A health disparity is the difference in health outcomes between groups within a population.[13] To assess and improve health disparities, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) contracted with Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. (HSAG), to conduct a health disparities study using two groups of measures. The first, larger group of measures comprise the External Accountability Set (EAS) indicators reported by the 23 full-scope Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) for reporting year 2018 with data derived from calendar year 2017. EAS measures reflect clinical quality, timeliness, and access to care provided by MCPs to their beneficiaries, and each MCP is required to report audited EAS results to DHCS annually. The second group of measures are from two focused studies, *Tobacco Cessation Focused Study* and *Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptive (LARC) Utilization Focused Study*, which DHCS contracted with HSAG to conduct in 2018. Focused studies represent opportunities for DHCS to explore a particular topic through data to inform quality improvement activities. The goal of the health disparities analysis is to improve health care for Medi-Cal beneficiaries by evaluating the health care disparities affecting beneficiaries enrolled in Medi-Cal MCPs. This report does not include data for fee-for-service beneficiaries in Medi-Cal.

For the 2017–18 contract year, HSAG evaluated measure data collected for reporting year 2018 at the statewide level, which consists of data collected during calendar year 2017 also known as Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®)[14] measurement year 2017. Several measures include more than one indicator; therefore, this report will refer to indicators rather than measures. The indicator set for this analysis included a total of 30 indicators: 27 HEDIS indicators; one indicator originally developed by DHCS and MCPs (with guidance from HSAG); and according to DHCS' request, one tobacco cessation indicator and one LARC utilization indicator. Please note, HSAG did not include the *Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow-Up Plan* indicators in the health disparities analysis due to unreliable data and inconsistent reporting by MCPs. For each indicator, except the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator and *LARC Utilization* indicator, MCPs used numerator and denominator criteria and minimum enrollment requirements defined by the applicable technical specification, such as the HEDIS specification for the Medicaid population. HSAG aggregated results from 23 full-scope MCPs[15] and then stratified the statewide rates for the 30 indicators by the following demographic stratifications:

- Race/ethnicity

[13] Wyatt R, Laderman M, Botwinick L, Mate K, Whittington J. Achieving Health Equity: A Guide for Health Care Organizations. IHI White Paper. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Institute for Healthcare Improvement; 2016.

[14] HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

[15] Note that the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator also includes results from two specialty health plans.

- Primary language
- Age
- Gender

Although HSAG stratified all indicators by race/ethnicity, primary language, age, and gender, HSAG only identified health disparities based on statistical analysis for the racial/ethnic stratification. To ensure the methodology aligned with national standards, HSAG used the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' *Racial and Ethnic Disparities by Gender in Health Care in Medicare Advantage* in developing the methodology, analysis, and report structure, when possible.

Data Sources

HSAG received a CA-required patient-level detail file from each MCP for each HEDIS reporting unit. The reporting year 2018 patient-level detail files followed HSAG's patient-level detail file instructions and included the member ID, date of birth, and member months for beneficiaries included in the audited HEDIS rates. Additionally, the patient-level detail files indicated whether a beneficiary was included in the numerator and/or denominator for each applicable HEDIS indicator. HSAG validated the patient-level detail files to ensure the numerator and denominator counts matched those reported by MCPs in the audited HEDIS Interactive Data Submission System files. Please note, it is possible that noncertified eligible beneficiaries were included by some or all MCPs in the reporting year 2018 HEDIS rates. HSAG used these patient-level detail files, along with supplemental files (e.g., demographic data provided by DHCS), to perform the evaluation. The following demographic file was obtained from DHCS' Management Information System/Decision Support System data system:

- CA-required demographic file
- Beneficiary's Medi-Cal ID
- Date of birth
- ZIP code
- Gender
- Race/Ethnicity
- Primary language
- County

HSAG used the reporting year 2018 member-level files originally created by HSAG to produce results for the *State Fiscal Year 2017–18 Tobacco Cessation Focused Study Report*. The reporting year 2018 member-level files contained the beneficiary's Medi-Cal ID, race/ethnicity, age, gender, MCP, and reporting unit for calendar year 2017. To calculate the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator, HSAG used numerator and denominator data from the member-level files. Since primary language was not part of the Tobacco Cessation Focused Study, HSAG used the beneficiary's Medi-Cal ID from the reporting year 2018 member-level files and combined it with the CA-required demographic file to determine primary language.

HSAG used the LARC dataset originally created by HSAG to produce the *State Fiscal Year 2017–18 LARC Utilization Focused Study Report*. The LARC dataset contained the race/ethnicity, primary language, age, gender, MCP, and reporting unit for female beneficiaries ages 15 to 44 years of age. Please note that the LARC dataset uses calendar year 2015 data, while the remainder of this 2017–18 Health Disparities Report analyzes calendar year 2017 data.

Combining Data

To calculate indicator rates for the demographic stratifications, HSAG first had to combine the indicator files provided by MCPs with the demographic file provided by DHCS. The following outlines HSAG's process for matching beneficiaries in the indicator files:

Step 1: Records that were missing demographic information for every field were deleted from the demographic file.

Step 2: For records missing demographic values (e.g., race/ethnicity, language, gender, or county), HSAG obtained the demographic values from another record in the demographic file using the following logic:

- HSAG prioritized records from the same reporting unit. If there were no records within the same reporting unit, then HSAG used records from other reporting units to retrieve missing information.
- HSAG prioritized the most recent non-missing observation within the measurement year using the following logic:
  - HSAG first tried to recover the missing demographic values from the most recent non-missing observation within calendar year 2017.
  - If HSAG could not recover the missing demographic values from a record within calendar year 2017, then the most recent non-missing observation from calendar year 2016 was used.
  - If HSAG could not recover the missing demographic values from a calendar year 2017 or calendar year 2016 record, then the earliest non-missing observation from calendar year 2018 was used.
- If HSAG could not obtain data for the missing demographic values, then they were assigned a value of "Unknown/Missing."

Step 3: HSAG combined the demographic file with the indicator file by Medi-Cal client identification number and prioritized matches within the same reporting unit first, using records from other reporting units when necessary and using the same logic as in Step 2. If a client identification number had multiple records in the demographic file with a date of birth within 10 years of each other, the most recent non-missing demographic information was used. Additionally, to avoid combining a parent record with a child record that contains the same client identification number, HSAG only considered a client identification number to match if the date of birth in the demographic file was within 10 years of the date of birth recorded in the

indicator file. If HSAG could not obtain county data from the demographic file, then HSAG did the following:

- If the county code was missing or was "Unknown," then HSAG imputed the county based on the ZIP code from the demographic file. If the ZIP code and the county were missing, then a county of "Unknown/Missing" was assigned.

Indicators and Stratifications

Table B.1 displays the demographic stratification groups for race/ethnicity, primary language, age, and gender.

Table B.1—Demographic Stratification Groups

Race/ethnicity stratifications for the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator and the *LARC Utilization* indicator are grouped as follows: Hispanic or Latino, White, Black or African American, Asian or Pacific Islander, Alaskan Native or American Indian, or Other/Unknown.

Primary language stratifications for the *LARC Utilization* indicator are grouped as follows: English, Spanish, or Other/Unknown.

Gender stratifications are not reported for the following indicators: *Breast Cancer Screening*, *Cervical Cancer Screening*, *LARC Utilization*, and *Prenatal and Postpartum Care.*

Stratification	Groups
Race/ethnicity	Hispanic or Latino, White, Black or African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Other, and Unknown/Missing (see Table B.2 for more detail)
Primary language	English, Spanish, Arabic, Armenian, Cambodian, Chinese (Mandarin or Cantonese), Farsi, Hmong, Korean, Russian, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Other, and Unknown/Missing
Age	Vary depending on indicator specifications (see Table B.3 for more detail)
Gender	Male and Female

Table B.2 displays the individual racial/ethnic groups that comprise the racial/ethnic demographic stratifications. Please note that for the analyses, the stratifications were collapsed into more meaningful comparison groups, as displayed in Table B.1. Racial/ethnic stratifications were based on data collection guidance from the federal Office of Management and Budget as well as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Primary language stratifications were derived from the current threshold languages for Medi-Cal Managed Care counties as of June 2017. Please note that for the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator and *LARC Utilization* indicator, HSAG used the stratifications from the original reports.

Table B.2—Racial/Ethnic Stratification Groups

For the *Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use* indicator, the Asian or Pacific Islander stratification includes the following racial/ethnic groups: Amerasian, Indian American, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Guamanian, Hawaiian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Samoan, Vietnamese, or Other Asian or Pacific Islander. The Other/Unknown stratification includes the following categories: No valid data reported; No response, client declined to state; or Other.

For the *LARC Utilization* indicator, the Asian or Pacific Islander stratification includes Asian and Other Asian or Pacific Islander.

*Some "Other Pacific Islanders" were erroneously included in the "Asian" group due to limitations of existing data fields.

Stratification	Groups
Hispanic or Latino	Hispanic or Latinx
White	White
Black or African American	Black or African American
Asian	Filipino, Amerasian, Chinese, Cambodian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Vietnamese, and Other Asian or Pacific Islander*
American Indian or Alaska Native	American Indian or Alaska Native
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Hawaiian, Guamanian, and Samoan
Other	Other
Unknown/Missing	Unknown/Missing

Because the age parameters for each indicator differ, HSAG collaborated with DHCS to define the following age groups for each indicator. Of note, each indicator includes an "Unknown/Missing" age group. Table B.3 displays the indicators included in the analysis, the reporting methodology for each indicator ("H" indicates hybrid and "A" indicates administrative), and the age groups for each indicator.

Table B.3—Indicators, Methodology, and Age Groups

Indicators	Methodology	Age Groups
Preventive Screening and Children's Health		
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3	H	2 Years
Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 24 Months	A	12 to 24 Months
Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years	A	25 Months to 6 Years
Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—7 to 11 Years	A	7 to 11 Years
Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—12 to 19 Years	A	12 to 19 Years
Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 2 (Meningococcal, Tdap, HPV)	H	13 Years
Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents—Counseling for Nutrition—Total; *Counseling for Physical Activity—Total*	H	3 to 11 Years 12 to 17 Years
Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life	H	3 to 6 Years
Preventive Screening and Women's Health		
Breast Cancer Screening	A	52 to 64 Years 65+ Years
Cervical Cancer Screening	H	24 to 29 Years 30 to 44 Years 45 to 64 Years
LARC Utilization	A	15 to 20 Years 21 to 44 Years

Indicators	Methodology	Age Groups
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care; *Timeliness of Prenatal Care*	H	<18 Years 18 to 20 Years 21 to 34 Years 35 to 44 Years 45+ Years
Care for Chronic Conditions		
Asthma Medication Ratio	A	5 to 11 Years 12 to 17 Years 18 to 20 Years 21 to 44 Years 45 to 64 Years
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg); *Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*; *Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Control (<8.0 Percent)*; *HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0 Percent)*; *HbA1c Testing*; *Medical Attention for Nephropathy*	H	18 to 20 Years 21 to 44 Years 45 to 64 Years 65+ Years
Controlling High Blood Pressure	H	18 to 20 Years 21 to 44 Years 45 to 64 Years 65+ Years
Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications—ACE Inhibitors or ARBs; *Diuretics*	A	18 to 20 Years 21 to 44 Years 45 to 64 Years 65+ Years
Tobacco Cessation Therapy Use	A	15 to 19 Years 20 to 29 Years 30 to 39 Years 40 to 49 Years 50 to 59 Years 60 to 69 Years 70+ Years

Indicators	Methodology	Age Groups
Appropriate Treatment and Utilization		
All-Cause Readmissions	A	21 to 44 Years 45 to 64 Years 65+ Years
Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits; *Outpatient Visits*	A	<1 Year 1 to 5 Years 6 to 11 Years 12 to 17 Years 18 to 20 Years 21 to 44 Years 45 to 64 Years 65+ Years
Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis	A	18 to 20 Years 21 to 44 Years 45 to 64 Years
Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain	A	18 to 20 Years 21 to 44 Years 45 to 50 Years

Rate Spreadsheets

After performing the analyses, HSAG compiled and produced indicator rate spreadsheets in a Microsoft Excel format that provided all indicator data for all stratifications (race/ethnicity, primary language, age, and gender). HSAG produced a statewide and 23 MCP-specific rate spreadsheets that contain applicable numerator, denominator, eligible population, demographic, and rate data for each reporting unit. HSAG did not suppress any data in the rate spreadsheets and did not weight rates.

Statistical Analysis

Using the beneficiary-level files created from matching the demographic records with the indicator files, HSAG performed a statewide-level disparity analysis of the racial/ethnic demographic stratification using logistic regression. To facilitate this, HSAG performed the procedures described below.

Pre-Analysis

Based on the methodology for combining data described above, HSAG created separate beneficiary-level files for each indicator containing the numerator, denominator, and matched demographic information for each beneficiary. HSAG limited the beneficiary-level files to beneficiaries with a non-zero denominator.

Some of the indicators were event-based rather than beneficiary-based, which allowed for denominators greater than one. To satisfy the requirements for performing a logistic regression, HSAG altered the indicator files to convert all observations to have dichotomous values for the numerator and denominator (e.g., if an observation had a denominator value of four and a numerator value of three, HSAG created four separate observations that each had a denominator value of one—three of which had a numerator value of one and one of which had a numerator value of zero). HSAG applied this logic to the following indicators:

- *All-Cause Readmissions*
- *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
- *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*

The rate spreadsheets contain data for all beneficiaries included in MCPs' indicator reporting; however, for this report, HSAG pulled a random sample of 411 beneficiaries for each Kaiser reporting unit for hybrid indicators since Kaiser reported all indicators that allowed for the hybrid option using administrative data only (except *Controlling High Blood Pressure*). This was done to limit the overrepresentation of Kaiser beneficiaries toward the statewide average for hybrid indicators.

Statewide-Level Health Disparity Analysis

HSAG performed a statewide-level health disparity analysis for the racial/ethnic demographic stratification. Specifically, HSAG compared each racial/ethnic group to the White group (i.e., the reference group) for each indicator. The White racial/ethnic group was chosen as the reference group because it is used in most national health disparities reports and has historically been used as a reference point for reporting health care and non-health care disparities. Since the *Ambulatory Care* indicator does not meet the assumptions for logistic regression (i.e., the numerator and denominator are not dichotomous), HSAG did not perform logistic regression for this indicator.

HSAG performed the logistic regression using the beneficiary-level file created from matching the demographic file to the indicator file and used the categorical variable of race/ethnicity as the independent variable and the dichotomous numerator variable as the dependent variable. Race/ethnicity was assigned to each beneficiary based on the race/ethnicity values provided by DHCS in the demographic file. The White racial/ethnic group was used as the reference group (i.e., all other racial/ethnic groups were compared to the White group). HSAG performed

the logistic regression using SAS® software.[16] The *p*-value of the coefficient from the logistic regression was used to identify statistically significant differences when comparing the racial/ethnic groups to the reference group.

For each indicator, HSAG calculated an absolute difference by taking the absolute value of the difference between the rate for a racial/ethnic group and the rate for the reference group. For this report, a "health disparity" was defined as a rate for a racial/ethnic group with an absolute difference greater than or equal to 3 percentage points *and* a *p*-value of the coefficient of the logistic regression that is less than 0.05. When analyzing the rate for a racial/ethnic group, HSAG classified the rate in one of the following three categories based on the preceding analyses:

- Better Rate = The absolute difference from the reference group was greater than or equal to 3 percentage points, the *p*-value of the coefficient of the logistic regression was less than 0.05, and the rate for the racial/ethnic group was higher or more favorable than the rate for the reference group. In other words, the reference group showed a health disparity compared to the racial/ethnic group being evaluated.
- Worse Rate = The absolute difference from the reference group was greater than or equal to 3 percentage points, the *p*-value of the coefficient of the logistic regression was less than 0.05, and the rate for the racial/ethnic group was lower or less favorable than the rate for the reference group. In other words, the racial/ethnic group being evaluated showed a health disparity compared to the reference group.
- Similar Rate = The absolute difference from the reference group was less than 3 percentage points; or, the *p*-value of the coefficient of the logistic regression was greater than or equal to 0.05. This means no health disparities were identified when the racial/ethnic group was compared to the reference group.

For more information on how HSAG displayed the results from the statistical analysis, please refer to the "Reporting" section below.

Reporting

HSAG produced a formal report focusing on racial/ethnic disparities at the statewide level. Since the report is public-facing, HSAG suppressed results with small denominators (less than 30) or small numerators (less than 11). In the Health Disparities Report, rates shown in bar graphs or text for indicators represent the total denominator divided by the total numerator as a percentage, unless otherwise indicated.

HSAG produced horizontal bar graphs for each indicator to display the rates for each racial/ethnic group. To highlight identified health disparities, HSAG displayed arrows next to the rate on the bar graph to indicate whether the rate for the racial/ethnic group being evaluated was a better rate (indicated by an upward arrow) or worse rate (indicated by a

[16] SAS® is a registered trademark of the SAS Institute, Inc.

downward arrow) than the rate for the reference group. No arrow represents similar rates compared to the reference group, which means no health disparities were identified. "N" represents the total statewide denominator for an indicator for a particular group.

In addition, HSAG produced a horizontal stacked bar graph for each domain (Preventive Screening and Children's Health, Preventive Screening and Women's Health, Care for Chronic Conditions, and Appropriate Treatment and Utilization) that displays for each racial/ethnic group the percentage of indicators within that domain that had a better rate, worse rate, or similar rate when compared to the reference group. A similar horizontal stacked bar graph was created to display overall racial/ethnic health disparities for all indicators analyzed in this study. "N" represents the number of indicators.

Within the appendix of the Health Disparities Report, HSAG also calculated indicator rates for the primary language, age, and gender demographic stratifications; however, statistical analysis was not performed on these demographic stratifications to identify health disparities. For each indicator, HSAG created horizontal bar graphs for all demographic stratifications that display the rates for each demographic group and indicate the minimum performance level for the corresponding indicator as established by DHCS, if applicable. The minimum performance levels for each indicator are based on NCQA's Quality Compass®[17] national Medicaid Health Maintenance Organization 25th percentile. The minimum performance level is displayed not as a statistical benchmark for health disparities but to provide more information about overall performance for a specific indicator. "N" represents the total statewide denominator for an indicator for a particular group.

Geographic Variability by County for Select Indicators

After review of the analyses with DHCS, HSAG developed California-wide choropleth maps to show geographic variability at the county level. DHCS determined that choropleth maps would be produced for the following select EAS measures:

- *Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years*
- *Breast Cancer Screening*
- *Asthma Medication Ratio*
- *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis*

To highlight regional performance differences, HSAG first assigned a county to each beneficiary based on the county code provided in the DHCS demographic file. If the county code was missing for a beneficiary in the demographic data file, HSAG used the ZIP code to determine the appropriate county. HSAG then calculated county-level rates for each indicator listed previously by summing the numerators and denominators for all beneficiaries within a county. For each indicator, HSAG and DHCS determined cut points (e.g., 60.00 percent, 65.00 percent, 70.00 percent, 80.00 percent) based on the distribution of county-level rates to display the variation of county performance. HSAG then created performance levels (Lowest

[17] Quality Compass® is a registered trademark of the NCQA.

Performance [darkest blue], Low Performance, Middle/Average Performance, High Performance, and Highest Performance [lightest blue]) based on the cut points for each indicator. Once the performance levels were set for each indicator, each county was shaded the corresponding color of the performance level. Table B.4 displays the performance levels and corresponding colors for each indicator.

Table B.4—Performance Level and Corresponding Colors

For county rates with a small denominator (i.e., less than 30) or small numerator (i.e., less than 11), HSAG shaded the county white.

Indicator	Performance Level and Corresponding Colors
Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners—25 Months to 6 Years	Below 80.00%
	80.00% to 83.99%
	84.00% to 85.99%
	86.00% to 88.99%
	89.00%+
Breast Cancer Screening	Below 45.00%
	45.00% to 49.99%
	50.00% to 54.99%
	55.00% to 59.99%
	60.00%+
Asthma Medication Ratio	Below 53.00%
	53.00% to 57.99%
	58.00% to 62.99%
	63.00% to 66.99%
	67.00%+
Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis	Below 26.00%
	26.00% to 31.99%
	32.00% to 38.99%
	39.00% to 45.99%
	46.00%+

Caveats

Hybrid Indicators

For hybrid measures, NCQA recommends the submission of a sample of 411 beneficiaries per reporting unit to limit bias and to allow for results from the sample to be generalizable to the entire eligible population. As the rates for individual strata will be based on fewer than 411 beneficiaries, it should be noted that the stratified rates may not be generalizable to the total eligible population. Due to this caveat, the stratified rates produced for hybrid indicators should be interpreted with caution. Additionally, HSAG did not weight the statewide rates for hybrid indicators by the total eligible population, so all MCPs, regardless of size, count equally toward the statewide rates. As such, performance may not be representative of actual statewide performance.

Limiting Beneficiaries

To match the age parameters for each indicator, HSAG limited the analysis to beneficiaries whose age was in one of the valid age groups for each indicator, as defined in Table B.3. For indicators in the Preventive Screening and Women's Health domain, HSAG only kept beneficiaries who were identified as female in the demographic file. Additionally, HSAG included the "Unknown/Missing" group for race/ethnicity, primary language, and gender in the formal report as a note above the figures.