

**Unmet Need,  
Linkage to Care,  
Retention in Care among  
HIV+ Texans**

By

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# Background

- Unmet need is the need for medical care by individuals with HIV who are aware of their HIV status, but are not receiving regular primary health care.
- If not “in care” then “out of care.”

# Unmet Need Definition

- HRSA's definition: An individual with HIV or AIDS has an unmet need when there is no evidence that (within the last 12 months) s/he received:
  1. a viral load test
  2. a CD4 test
  3. provision of anti-retroviral therapy
  
- Texas DSHS definition adds:
  1. A medical visit
  2. Record of a prescription

Source: Kahn et al. 2003, HRSA

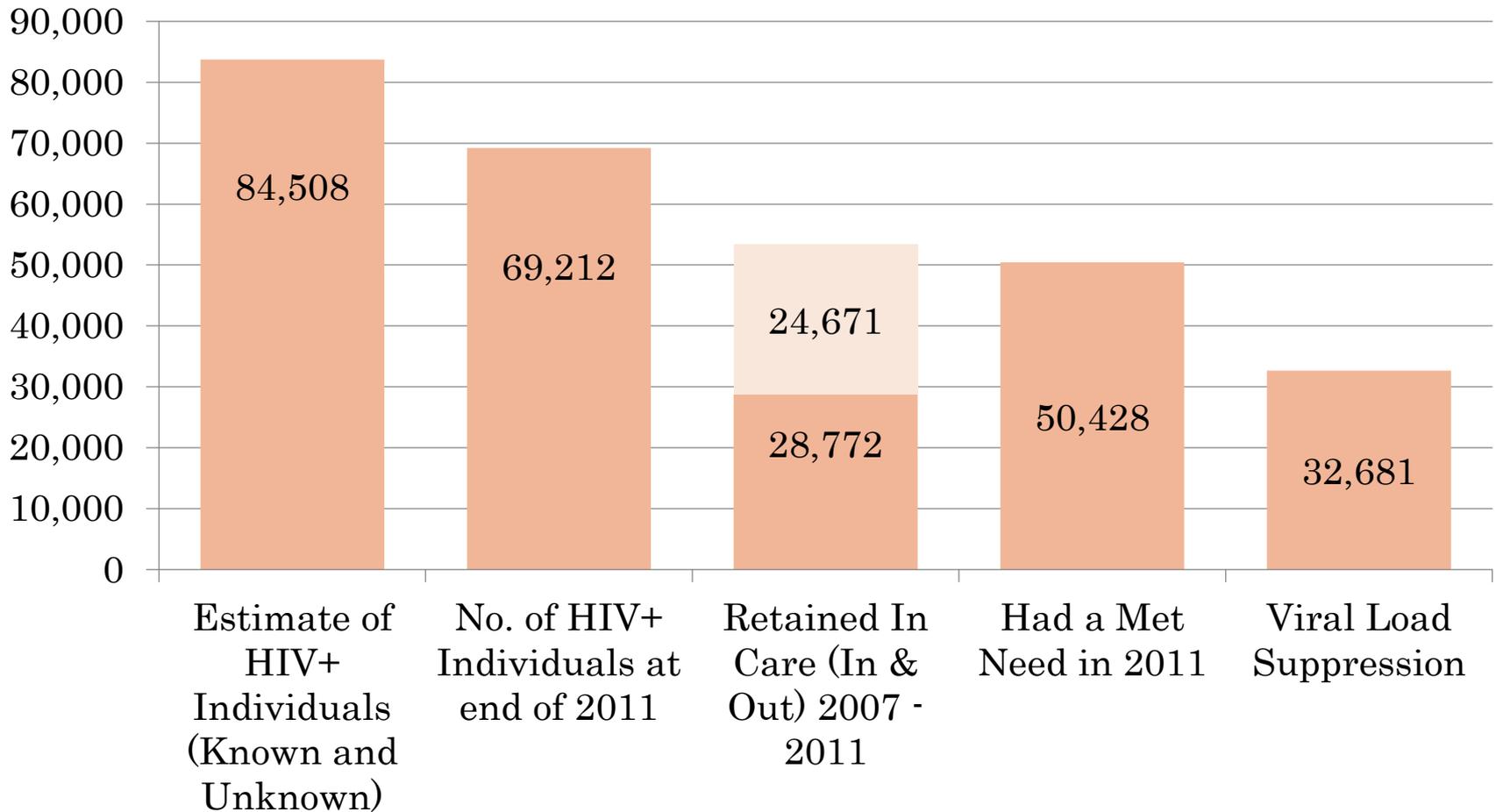
# Definitions

- Unmet Need
- Linkage to Care – met need within 3 months of HIV/AIDS diagnosis
- Retention in Care – met need each year
  - Demographics
  - Where they live
  - What subgroups/populations are most likely to be out of care

# Why Estimate Unmet Need?

- Ryan White Care Act requirements
- Health care utilization patterns
- How to respond to unmet need
- Track unmet need over time

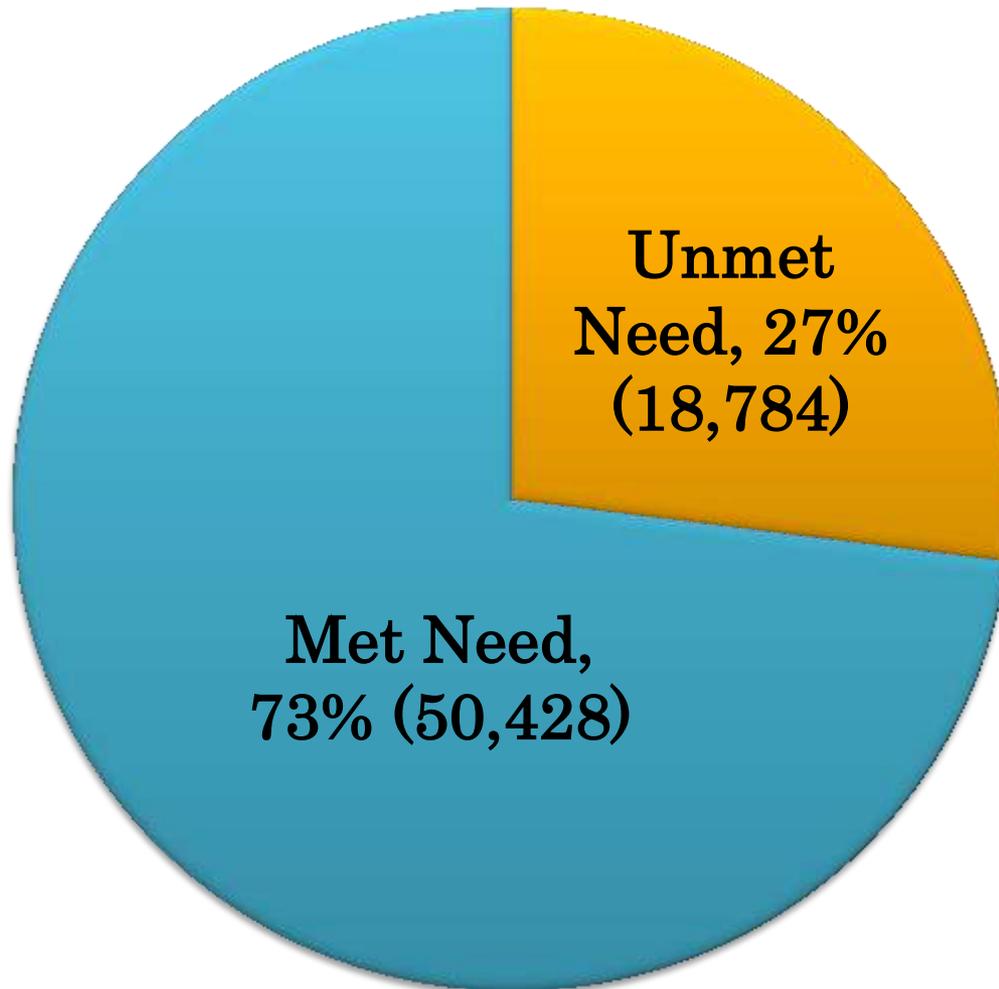
# Treatment Cascade



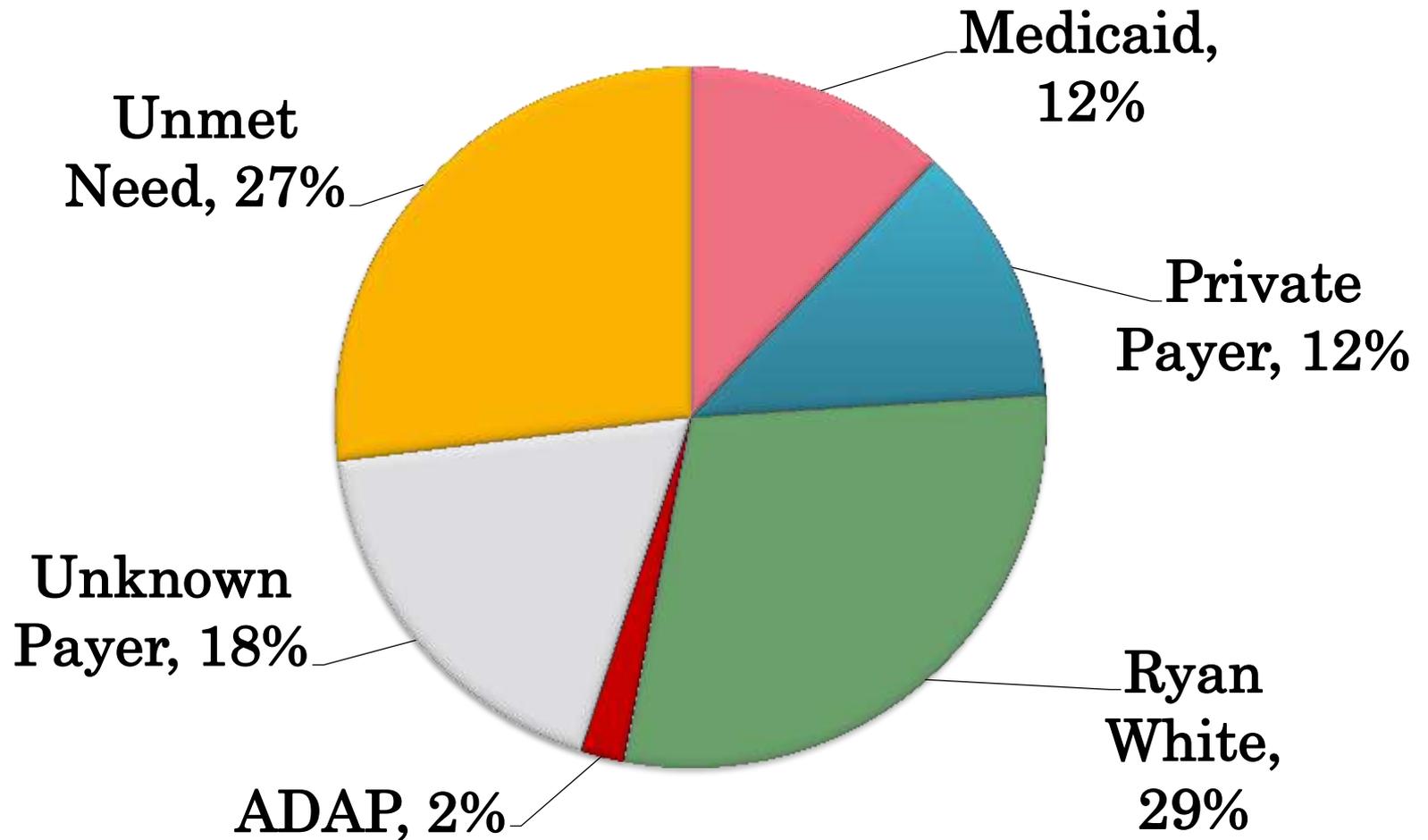
# Methodology

- Population size of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH)
  - Enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS)
- Patterns in health care utilization
  - Electronic Lab Records (ELR)
  - Medicaid
  - Private Payers
  - AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)
  - AIDS Regional Information & Evaluation System (ARIES)

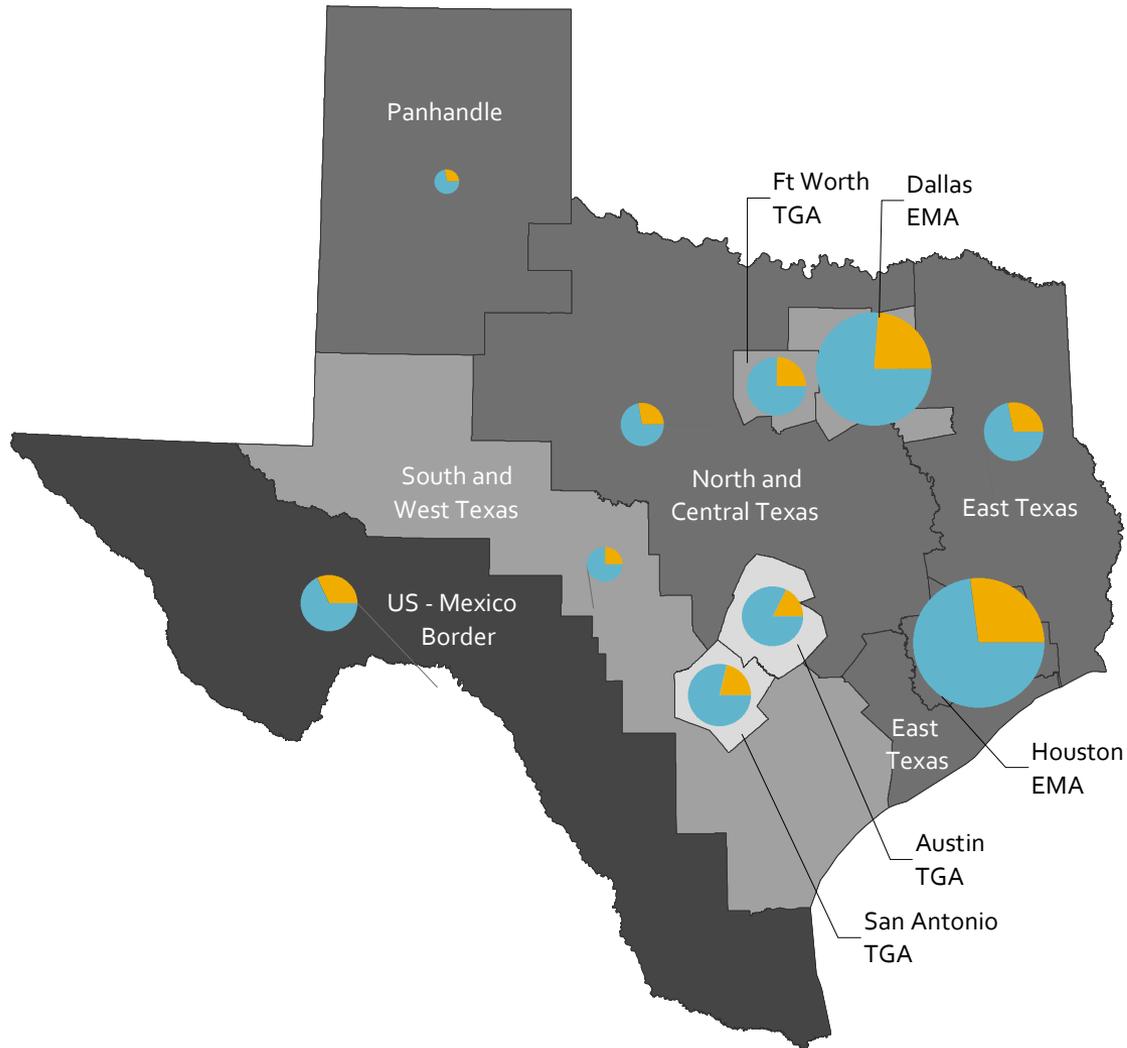
# Unmet Need, 2011



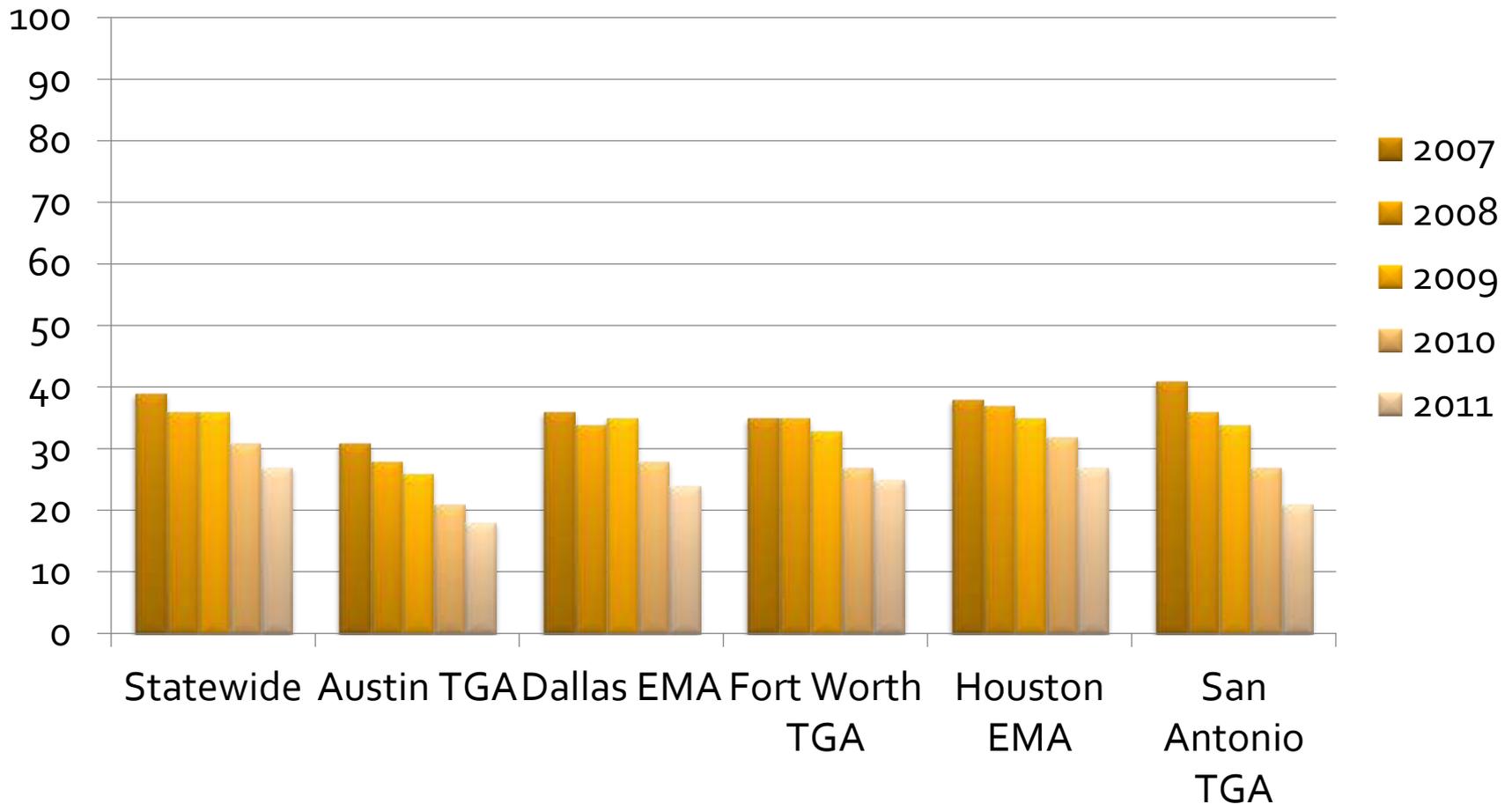
# Unmet and Met Need, 2011



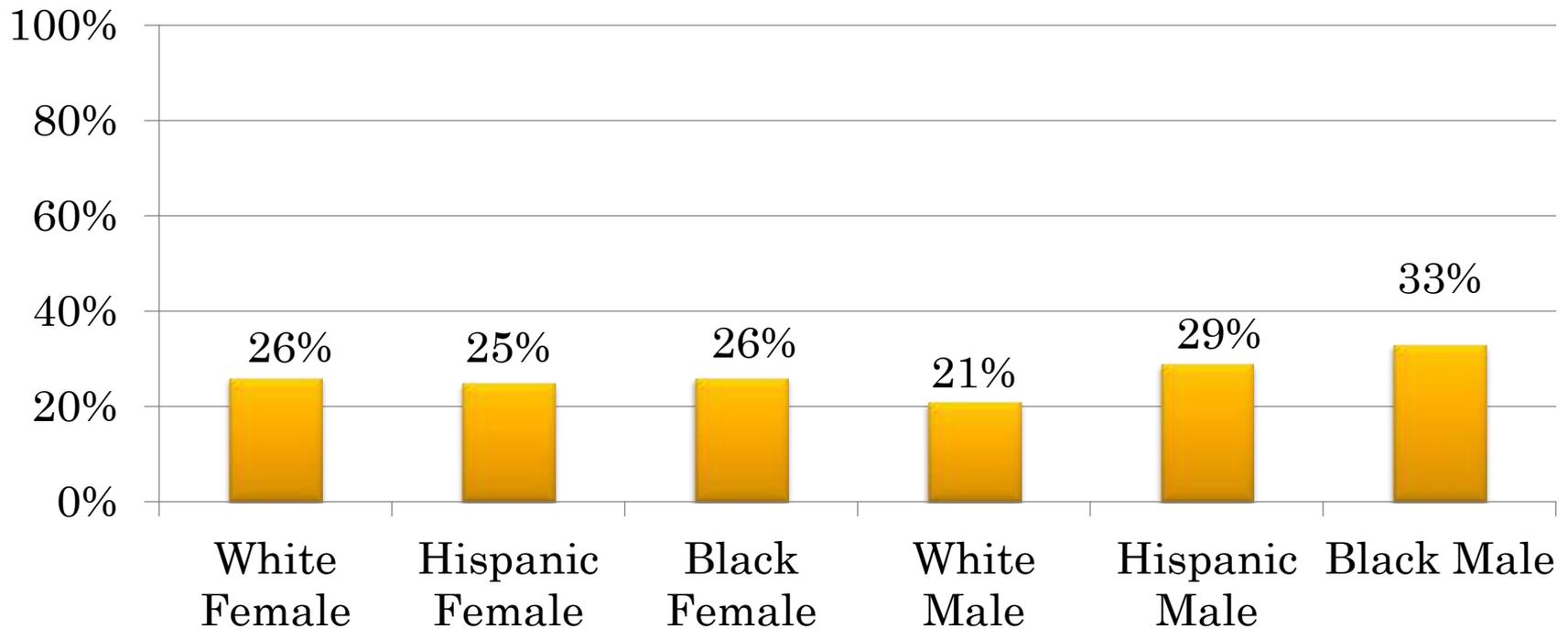
# Map of Unmet Need in Texas



# %Unmet Need by Area, 2007-2011

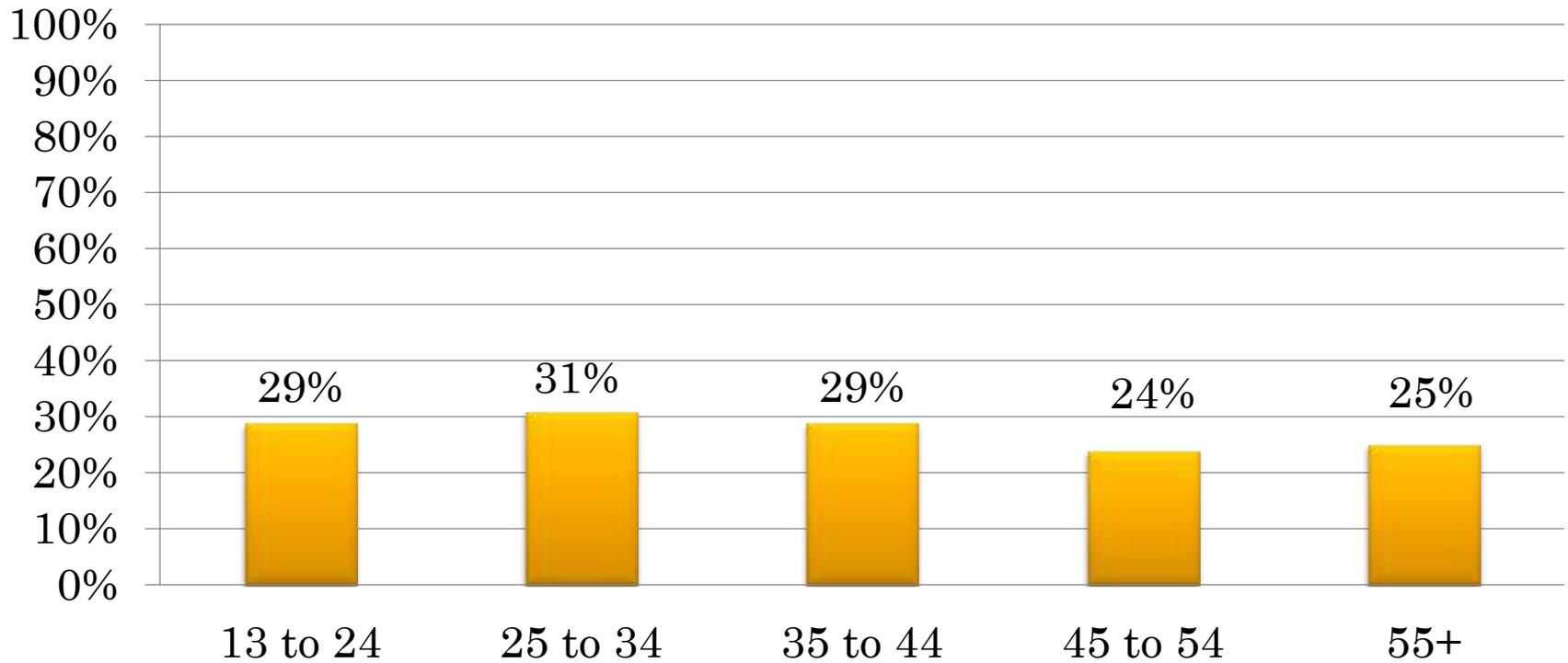


# Unmet Need by Sex and Race-Ethnicity, 2011



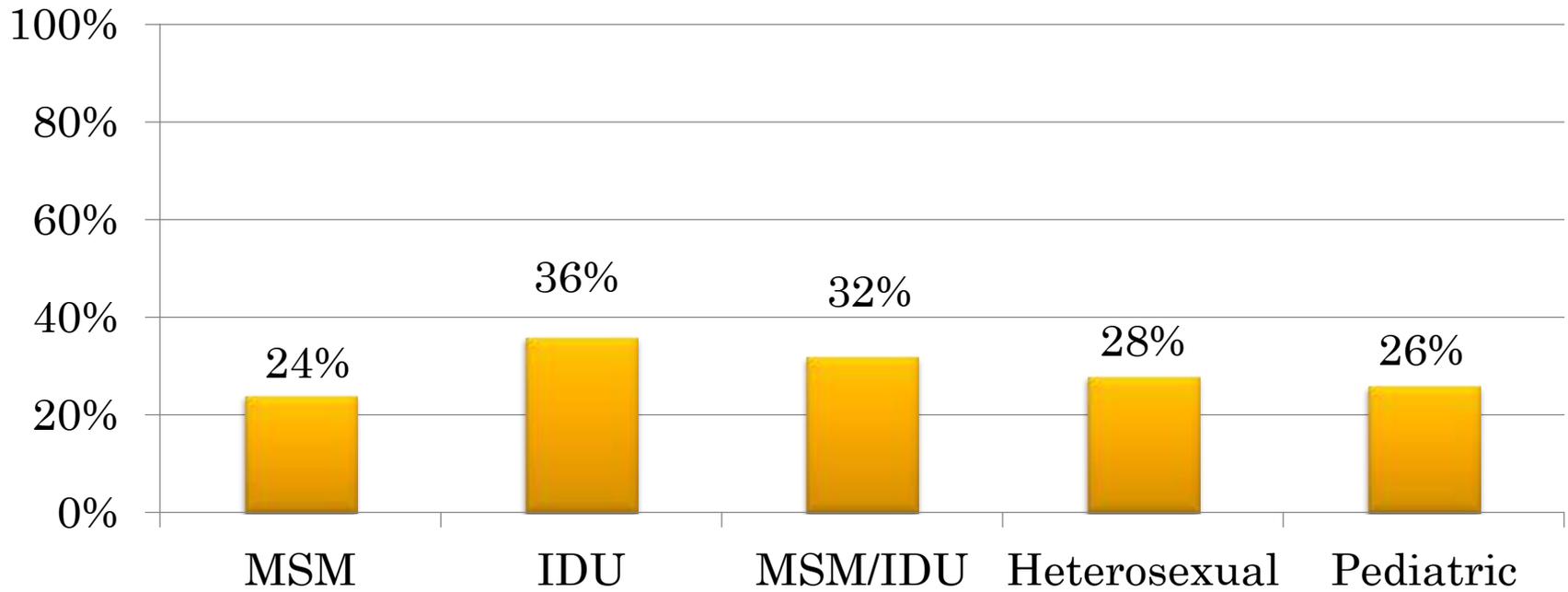
|      |      |      |       |       |       |
|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 719  | 772  | 2352 | 4042  | 4683  | 5871  |
| 2802 | 3123 | 9021 | 19086 | 15948 | 17684 |

# Unmet Need by Age, 2011



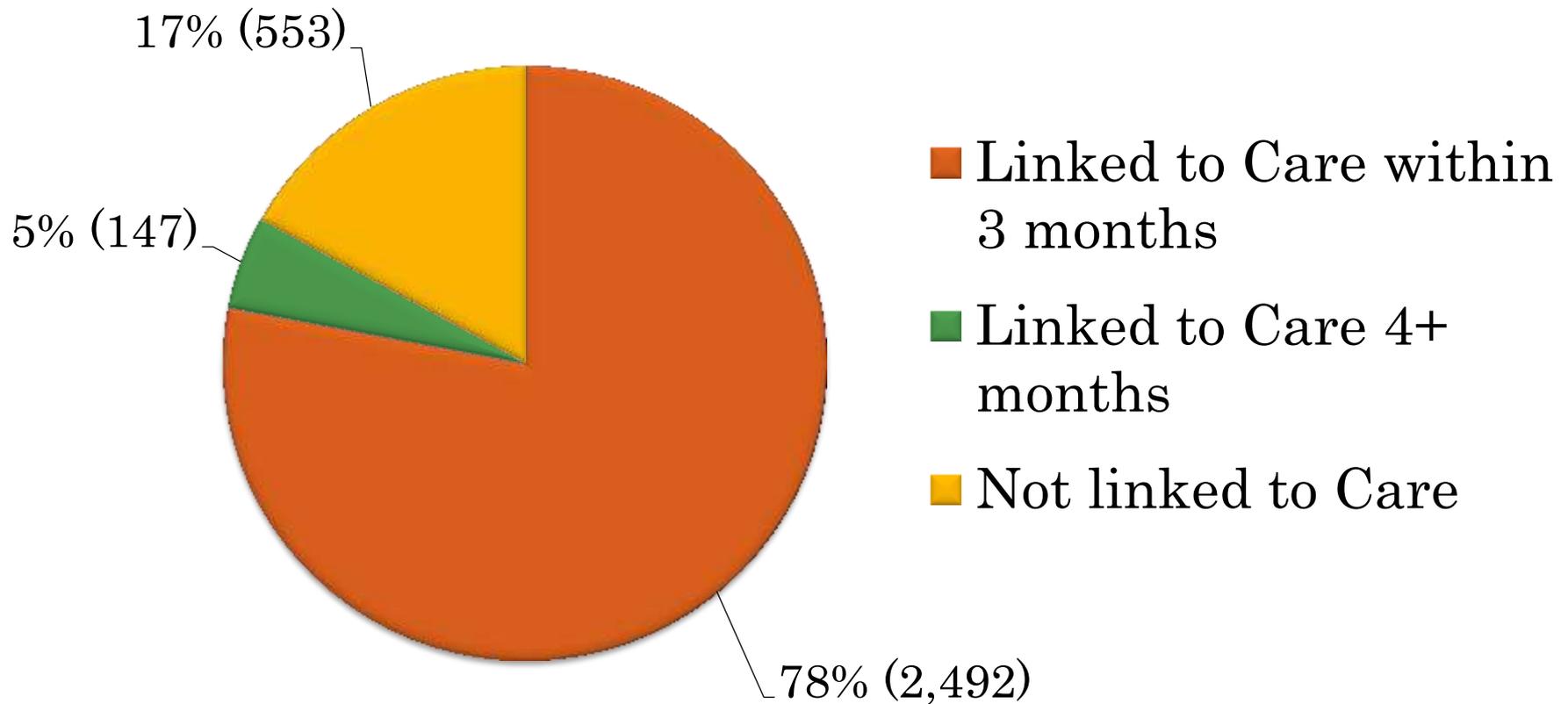
|      |       |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1068 | 3864  | 5612  | 5370  | 2808  |
| 3654 | 12451 | 19360 | 22449 | 11060 |

# Unmet Need by Mode, 2011

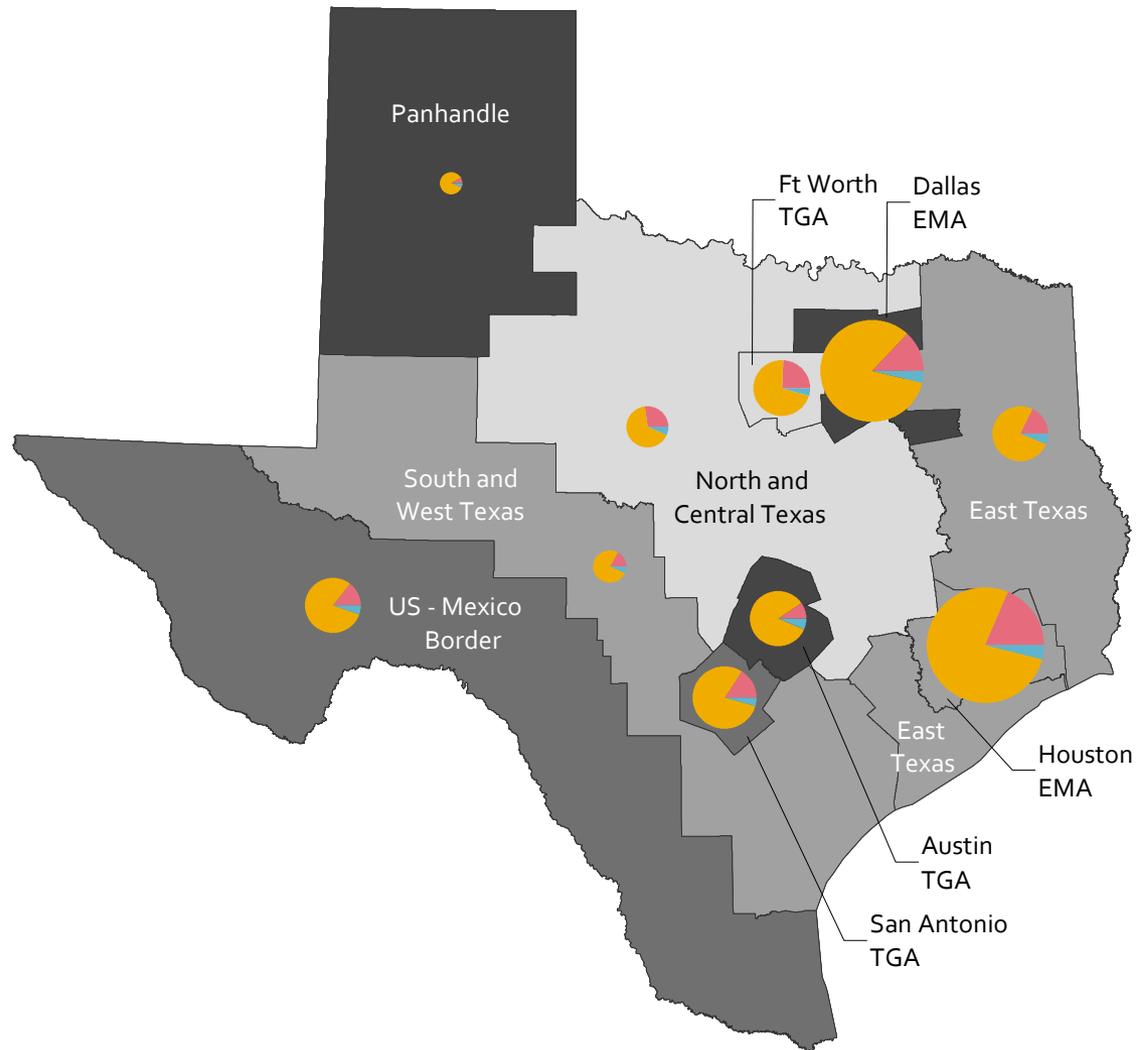


|       |      |      |       |     |
|-------|------|------|-------|-----|
| 9411  | 3192 | 1367 | 4591  | 183 |
| 38554 | 8885 | 4288 | 16642 | 712 |

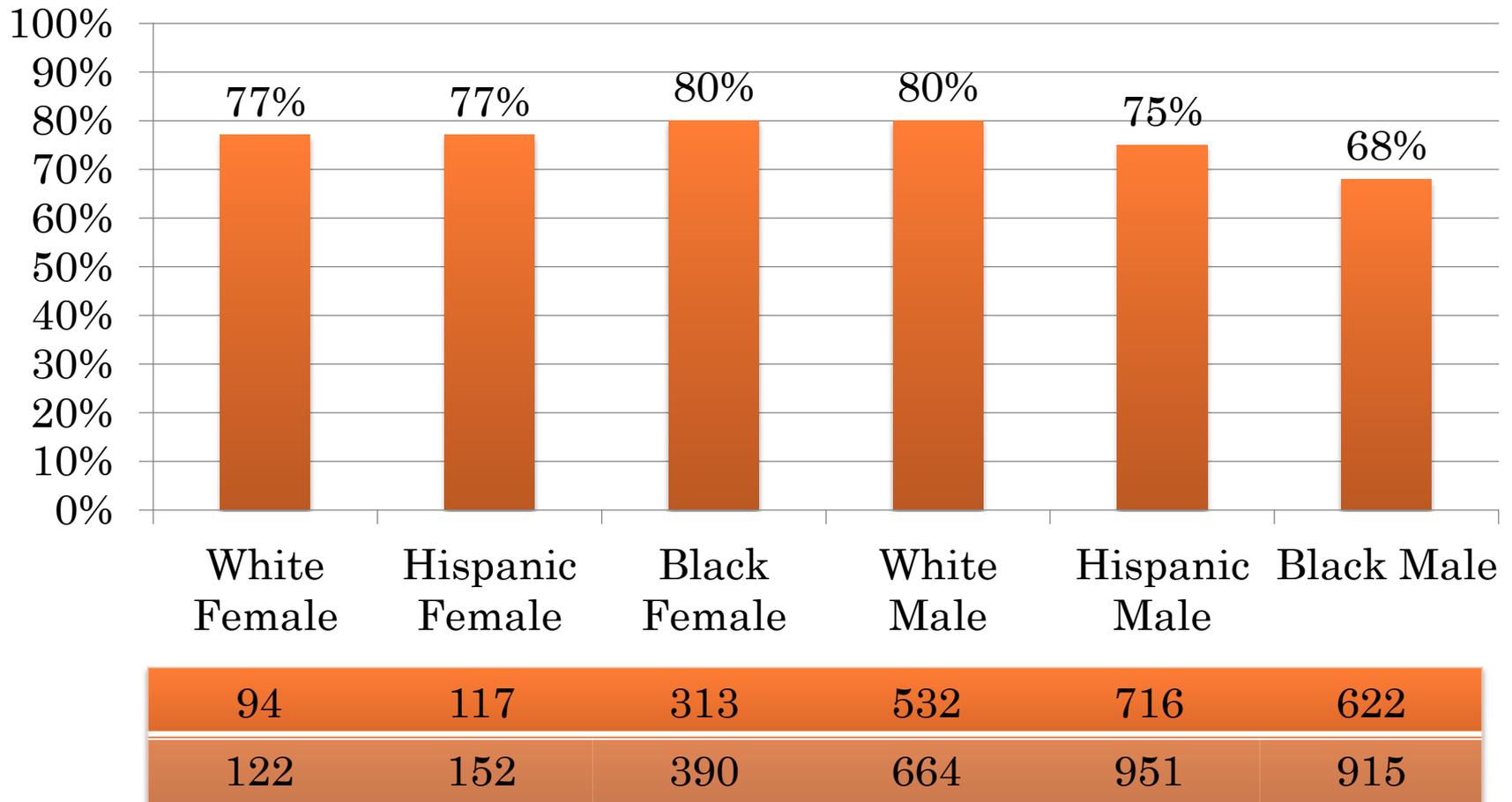
# Linkage to Care, 2011



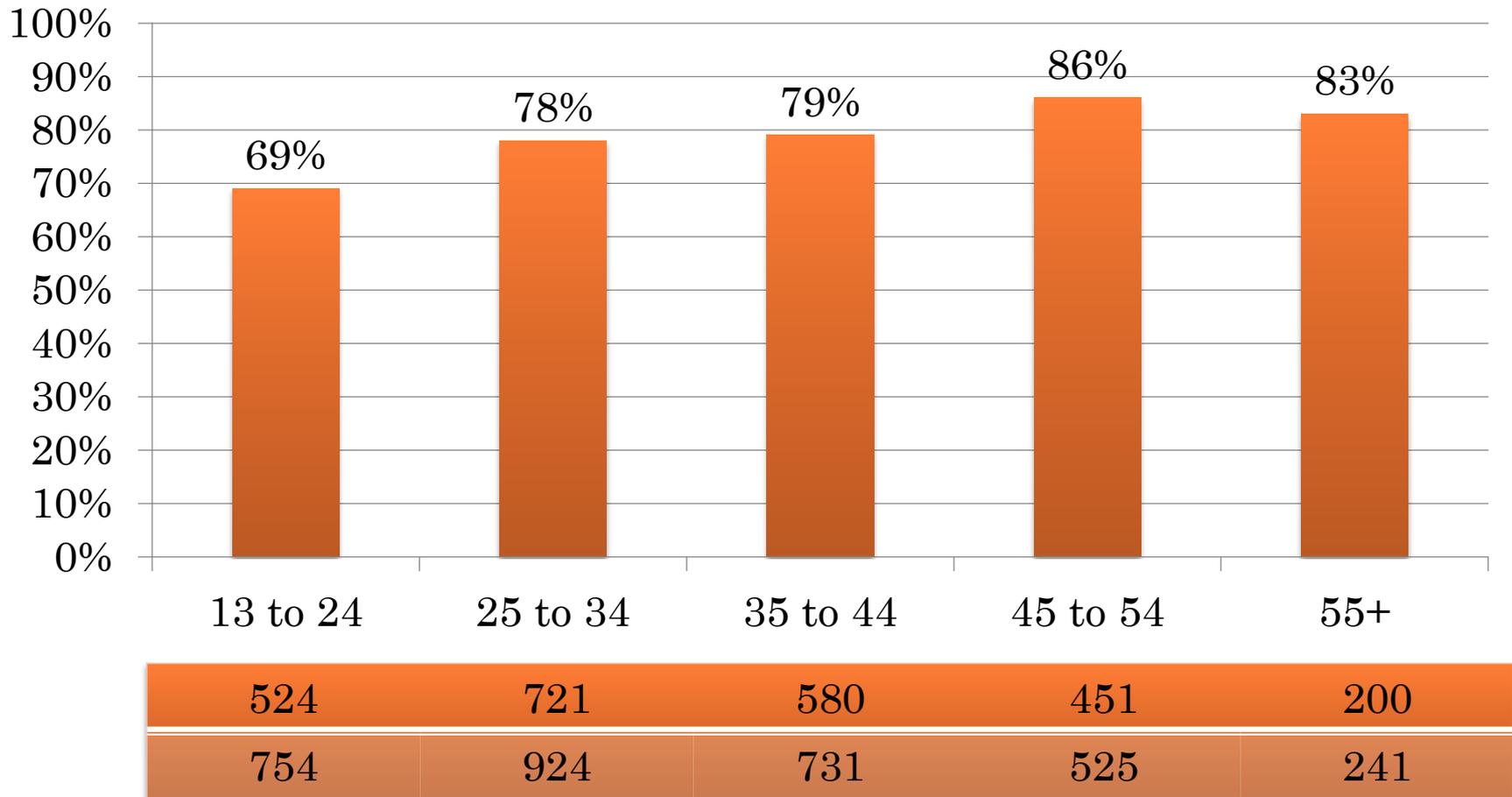
# Map of Linkage to Care in Texas



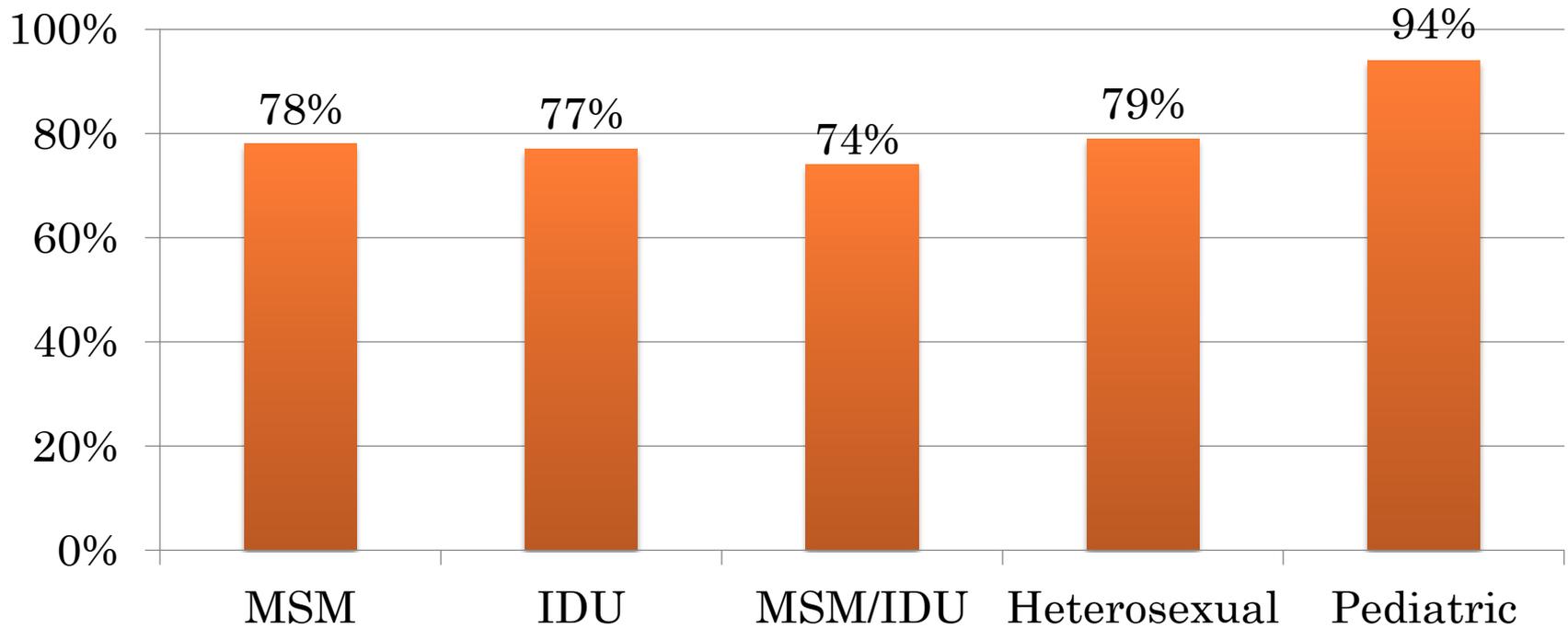
# Linkage to Care by Sex and Race-Ethnicity, 2011



# Linkage to Care by Age, 2011

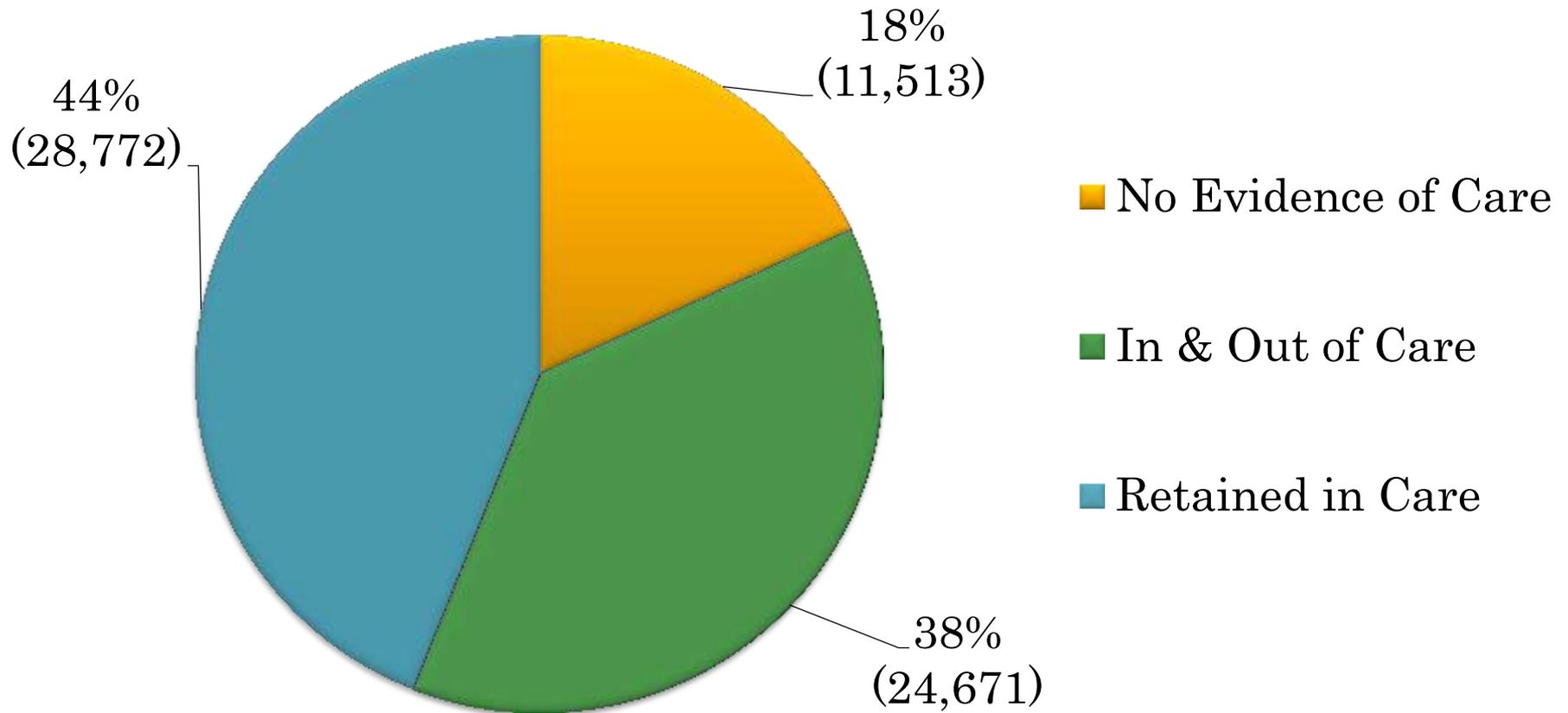


# Linkage to Care by Mode, 2011

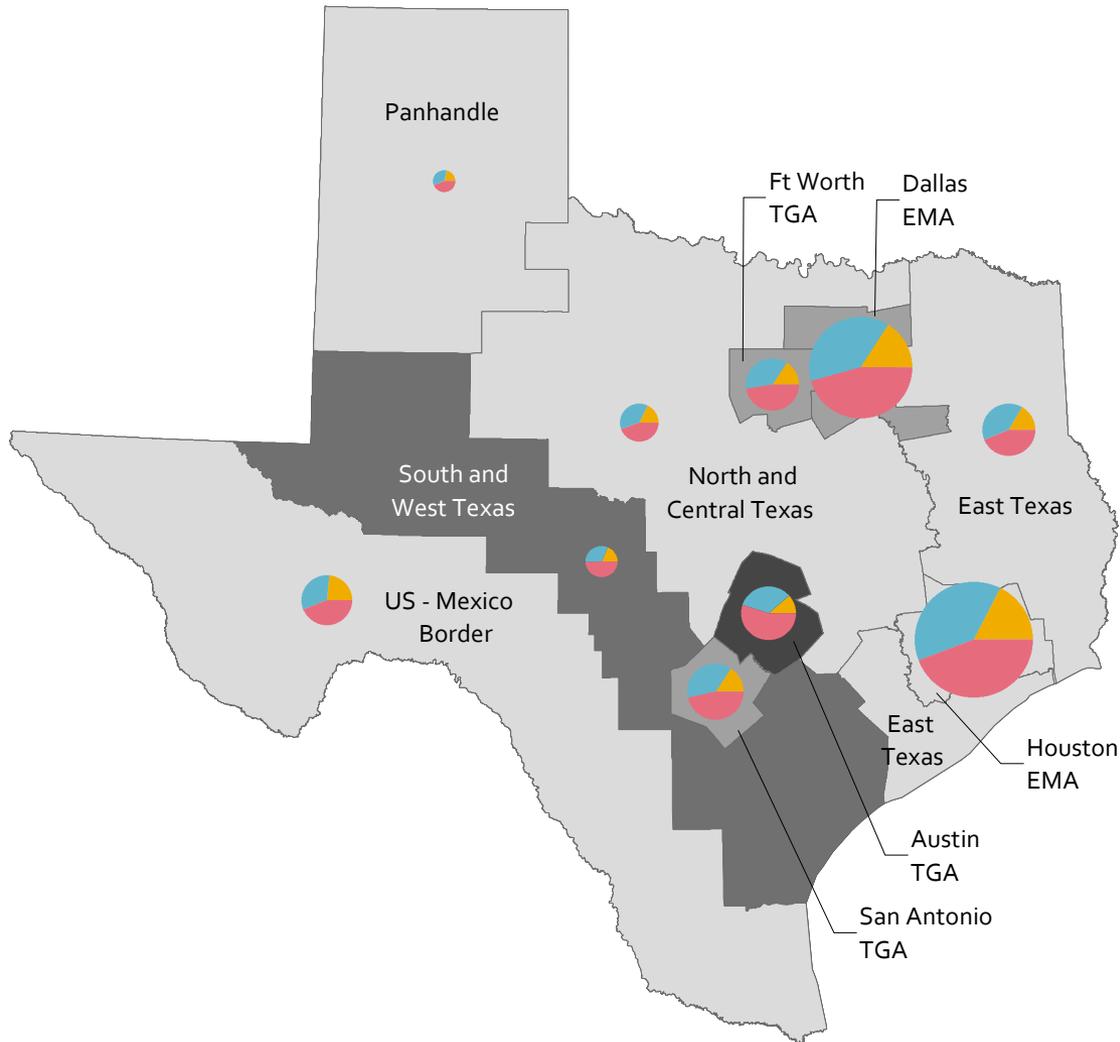


|      |     |     |     |    |
|------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| 1602 | 178 | 74  | 621 | 17 |
| 2057 | 230 | 100 | 787 | 18 |

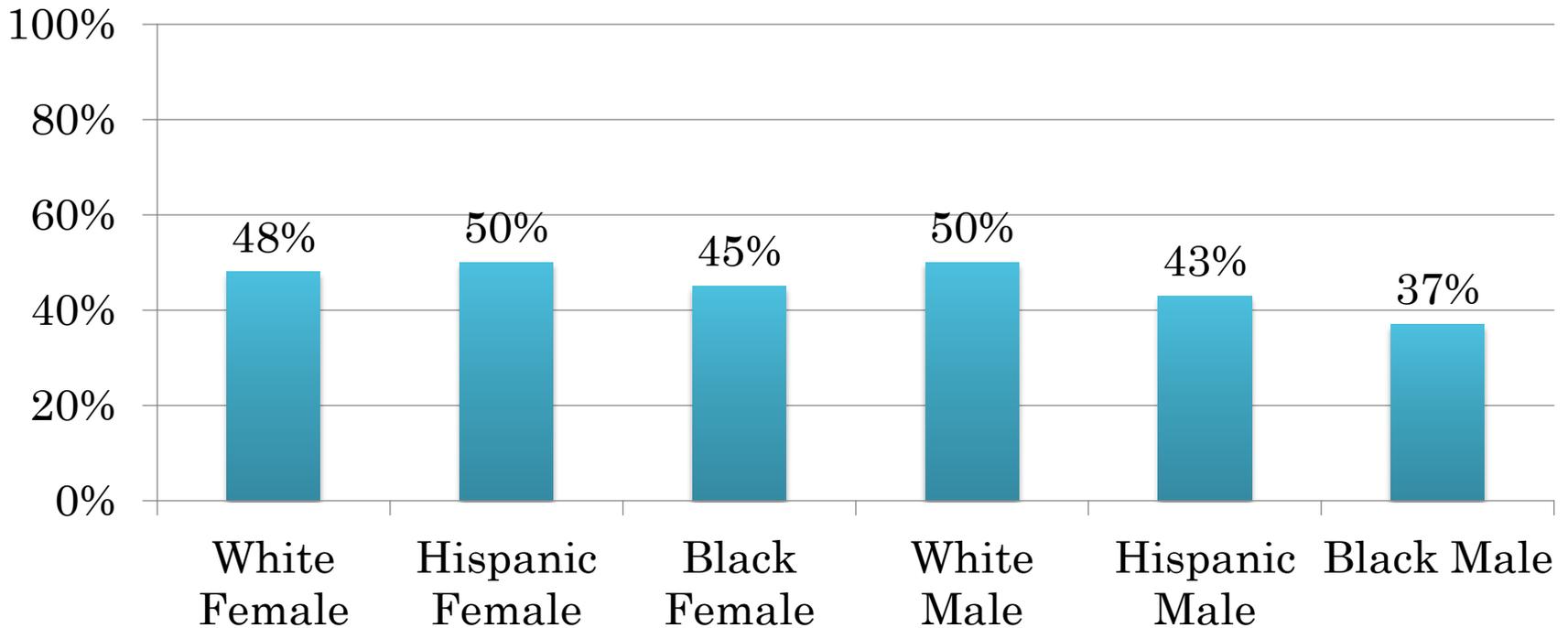
# Retention in Care, 2007-2011



# Retention in Care in Texas, 2007-2011

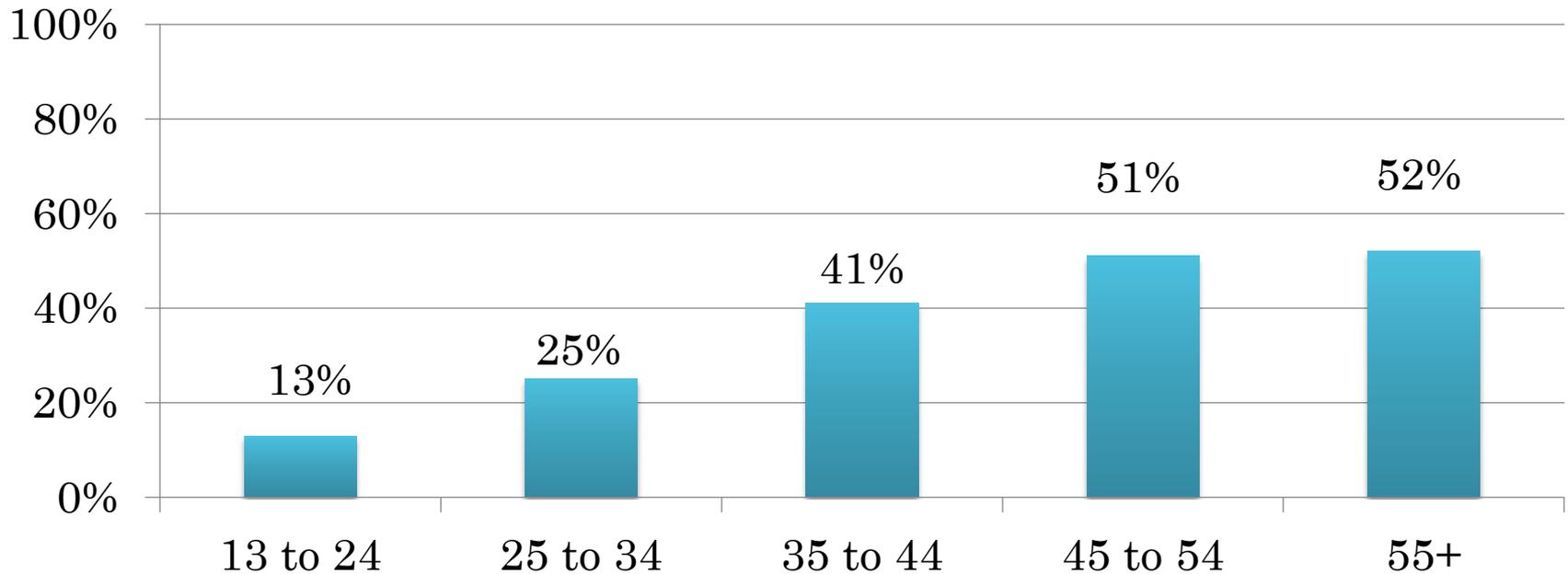


# Retention in Care by Sex and Race-Ethnicity, 2007-2011



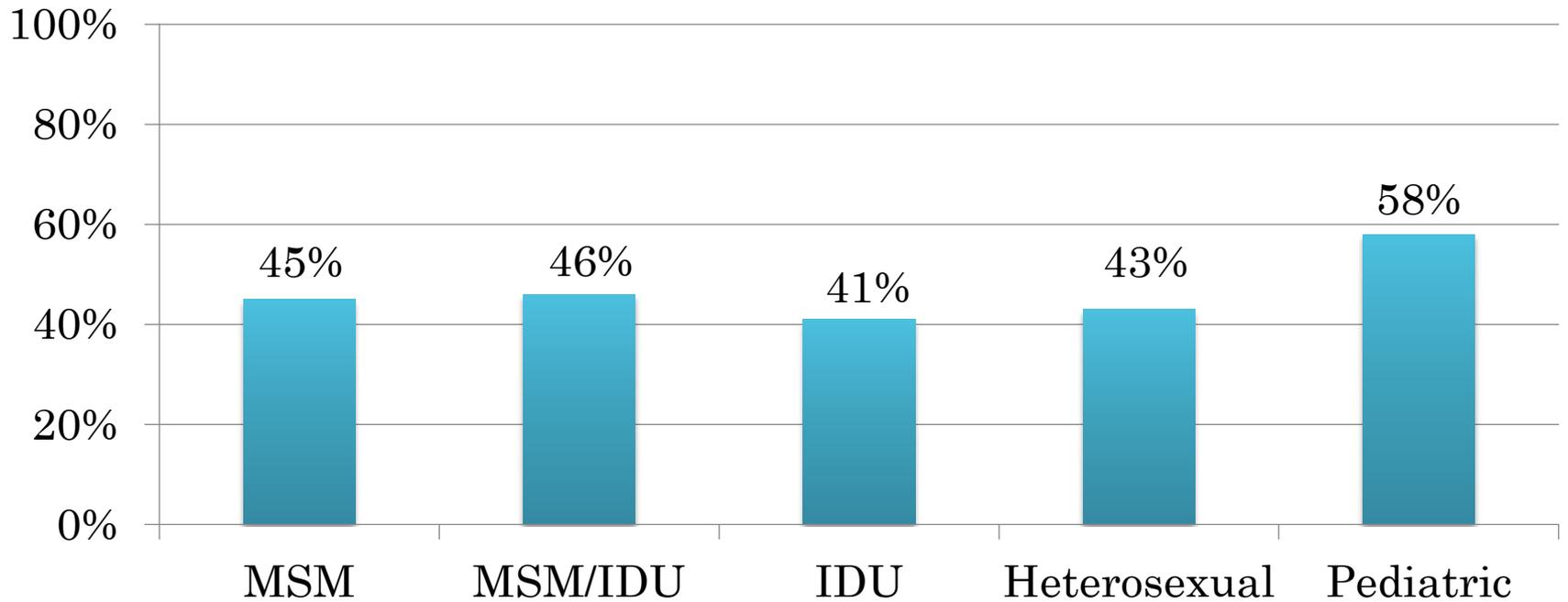
|      |      |      |       |       |       |
|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1275 | 1475 | 3820 | 9184  | 6346  | 6122  |
| 2650 | 2938 | 8513 | 18238 | 14740 | 16475 |

# Retention in Care by Age, 2007-2011



|      |       |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 481  | 3175  | 7877  | 11435 | 5706  |
| 2706 | 11168 | 18401 | 21724 | 10740 |

# Retention in Care by Mode, 2007-2011



|       |      |      |       |     |
|-------|------|------|-------|-----|
| 16101 | 1925 | 3507 | 6768  | 398 |
| 35766 | 4162 | 8593 | 15615 | 689 |

# Summary

- Unmet Need is going down
- MSM have high linkage and retention
- Linkage and Retention Efforts
  - Black males
  - Under 25 years

# Limitations

- Data
  - A small number of labs do not report viral load data
  - Medicare
  - Veteran's Administration
  - Smaller private payer sources
- Matching process is imperfect.
- Out-of-state migration may account for some of the unmet need estimate.

# Future Directions

- To ensure equitable access to care
- Improve ways to get PLWH into care
- Keep PLWH in care
- Social support
- Neighborhood characteristics
- Viral suppression

# The End

For more info, see the HIV Epi Profile:

[www.dshs.state.tx.us/hivstd/reports/HIVandAIDSinTexas.pdf](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/hivstd/reports/HIVandAIDSinTexas.pdf)

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