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**Texas Department of State
Health Services**

Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Registries (EMSTR) National, Program, and Texas Wristband Number Updates

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Committee (GETAC)

November 24, 2025

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EMSTR Program Manager

National Updates



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NEMSIS Updates (1 of 2)



The National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) is funded by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) Office of EMS.

- NEMSIS aims to improve understanding of, confidence in, and support for EMS data collection and analysis across all target audiences within the EMS community.
- NEMSIS goal is to provide a better understanding of EMS documentation that will lead to EMS data being used more effectively to improve patient care.
 - [An Annual National EMS Research Dataset](#) (approximately 65 million records)
 - [Public Dashboards and Data Cube](#)*
 - Dashboards for State Officials
 - National Data Dictionaries that are developed and maintained by NEMSIS i.e., [Version 3.5.0 – Critical Patch 6 Dictionary](#)

[Submit a Help Desk Ticket](#) to the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center with any questions.

*Data Cubes allow the user to run manipulations on the NEMSIS website using the Public Use Data Files (PUDFs).

NEMESIS Updates (2 of 2)

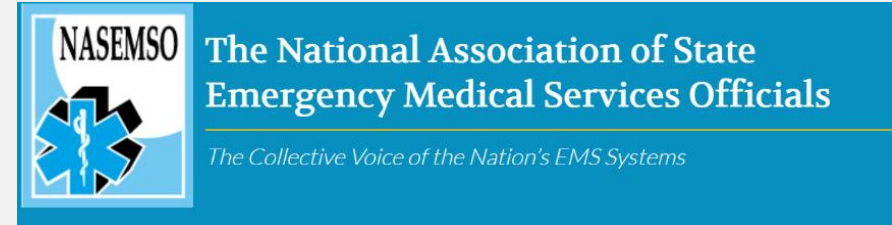


Critical Patch 5 and 6:

- In **April 2025**, NEMESIS released critical patch 5 creating a new optional element for collecting the patient's biological sex. Patch 6 changed the field value from ***Optional to Required***. NEMESIS required all submitters to follow this new standard by 11/04/2025.
- On **07/06/2025**, Texas made critical patch 5 available and sent weekly communications to agencies and vendors. EMSTR also put an article in the State EMS Newsletter encouraging implementation of the new fields.
- On **10/23/2025**, Texas implemented critical patch 6, completing the transition ahead of the federal schedule. All providers must use the new patient sex element for state submissions as of that date.

Note: EMSTR has no plans to implement NEMESIS Version 3.5.1. This is a minor dictionary revision. DSHS will include updates when NEMESIS deploys the next major revision, version 3.6.0. Texas is considering an implementation date closer to 2030, in accordance with the national transition.

NASEMSO Updates



The National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials (NASEMSO) Data Manager's Council provides guidance to NEMSIS, states, and agencies on implementing data dictionary and industry changes:

- Produced a [Blood Product Administration Guidance](#).
- Released an [Executive Order 14168](#) position statement on gender and sex and recommendations to maintain compliance while minimizing interruption.
- Developed a multi-state data request framework to minimize duplication between states and requestors.
- Developed an [algorithm](#) to uniformly calculate EMS times (response, time spent on scene, transport time, etc.) using NEMSIS elements.
- Working with DSHS and the Texas Water Safety Coalition on a case definition for identifying submersion incidences in the EMS dataset.

EMSTR – 2024 to Present



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About EMSTR

- EMSTR collects reportable event data from EMS providers, hospitals, justices of the peace, medical examiners, Long Term Acute Care (LTAC) facilities, and rehabilitation facilities.
- In November 2023, EMSTR launched a new data reporting system capable of collecting the Texas Wristband number in EMS and trauma patient records.

NOTE: An EMS response is a resulting action from a call for assistance where an EMS provider is dispatched to, responds to, provides care to, or transports a person.

EMSTR Updates

- 2024 EMS and trauma data closeout:
 - EMS – 4,801,876 records
 - Trauma – 183,759 records
- 2025* EMS and trauma progress:
 - EMS – 4,405,316 records
 - Trauma – 129,497 records

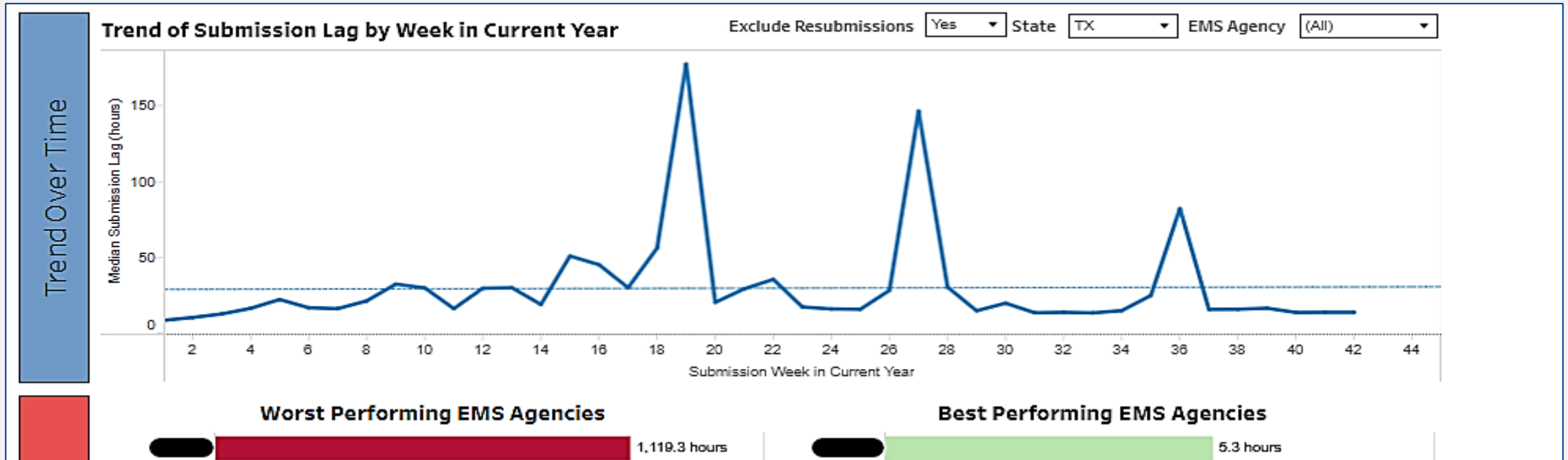
*As of 11/13/2025

NOTES:

- Most trauma facilities submit records on a quarterly basis.
- EMSTR anticipates closing the 2025 datasets on 05/01/2026.



Active Surveillance (1 of 2)



NEMSIS Submission Lag data pulled October 2025.

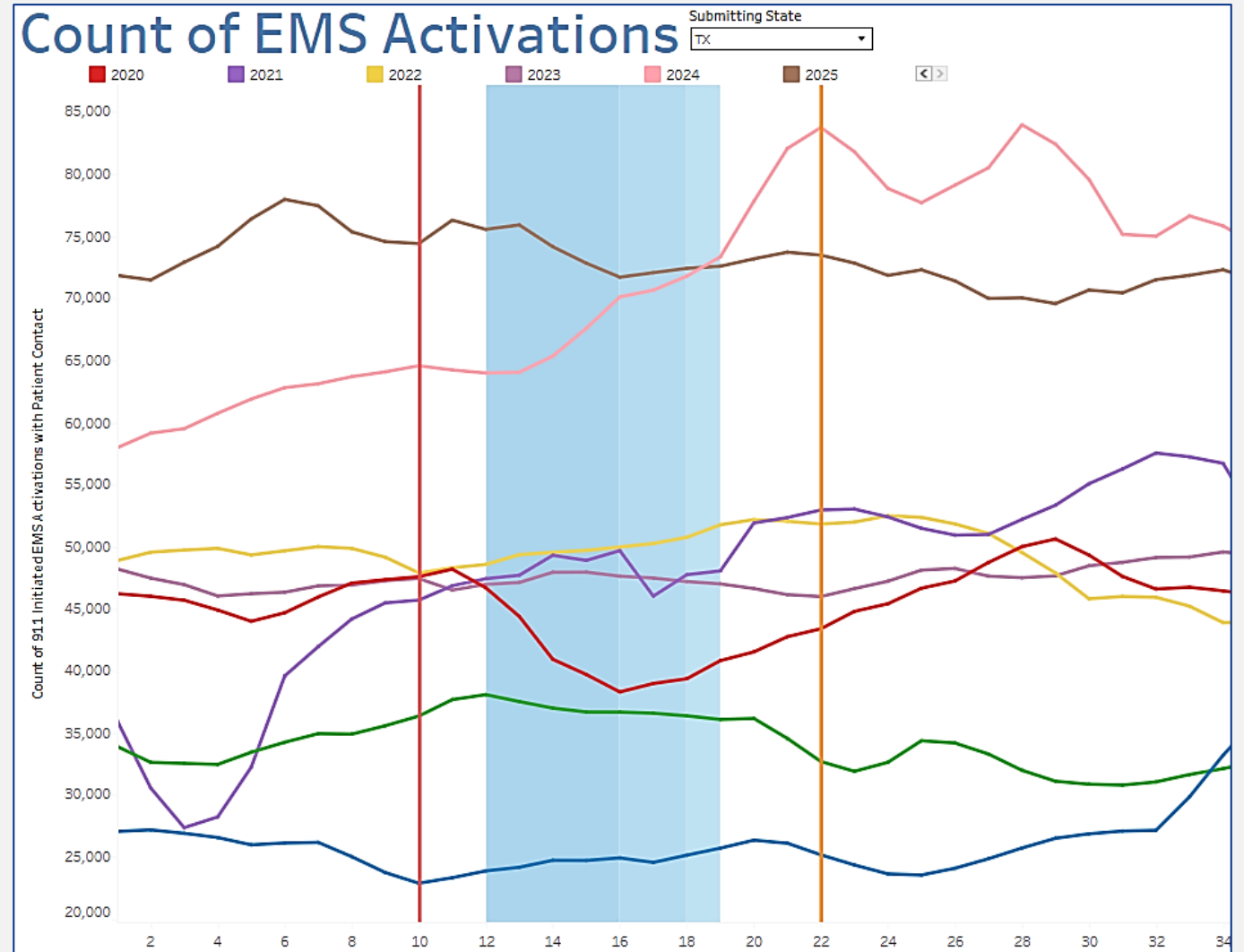
Major improvements in submission timeliness and record completeness:

- Approximately 85 Texas EMS providers send data in real-time.
- EMSTR recognized the top performers in the July EMS Newsletter and sent plaques to the Administrators of Record (AORs).
- Between Calendar Year (CY)2022 and CY2025 year-to-date The state **submission lag** reduced from a 10-day turn-around time to approximately 31 hours.

Active Surveillance (2 of 2)

- Regular Communications: From January through October, EMSTR contacted over 250 EMS providers, 120 trauma facilities and 250 general hospitals with missing data.
- Partnerships with the Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) and DSHS EMS/Trauma Systems to improve compliance.

NEMSIS EMS Activation Tracking Example



NEMSIS Activation data pulled October 2025.

Data Quality Webinar Series (1 of 2)

EMSTR hosts webinars every 6-8 weeks:

- Trainings focus on areas of performance improvement which are streamed live and recorded.
- DSHS Office of EMS Systems provides Continuing Education (CEs) for EMS personnel (CEs started with the September webinar).
- Attendance varies between 100-250 facilities.

Upcoming Events:

- EMS-AOR Training Video (To Be Released November 2025)

Posted:

- Documentation When it Matters Most for EMS ([September 11, 2025](#))
- Hospital Data Management Training ([October 30, 2025](#))

Data Quality Webinar Series (2 of 2)

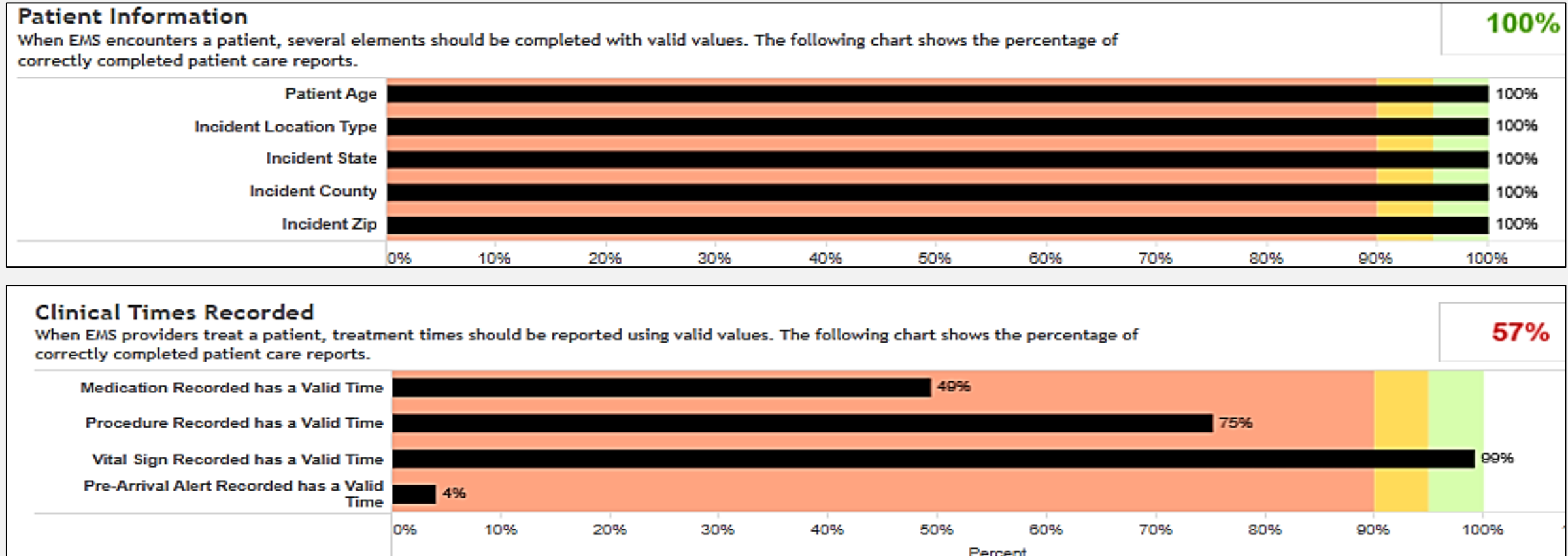
Hospital Topics

- Universal Unique Identifier (UUID), Texas Wristband, transfer facility, and prehospital provider information.
- Abbreviated Injury Score (AIS) and procedure coding improvements.

EMS Topics

- Stroke Assessment, Stroke Severity Scoring, Patient Identifiers, and Pre-Arrival Alert documentation.
- Blood product documentation, Texas Wristbands and improving Clinical Times documentation.

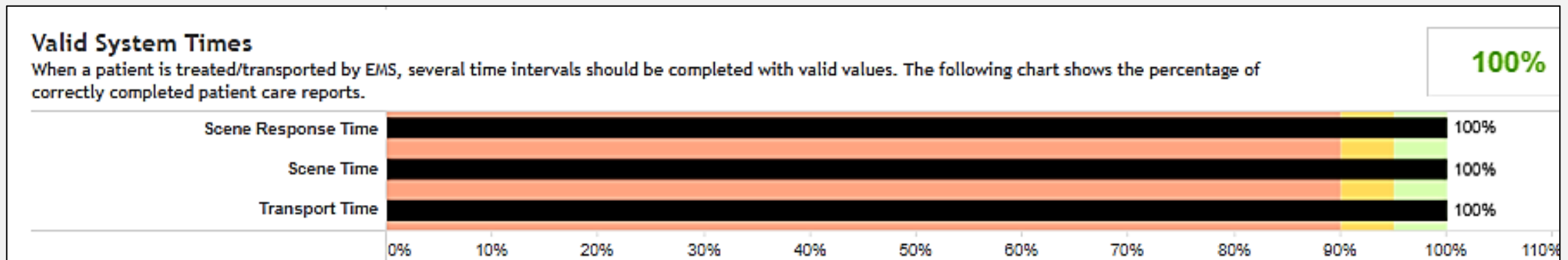
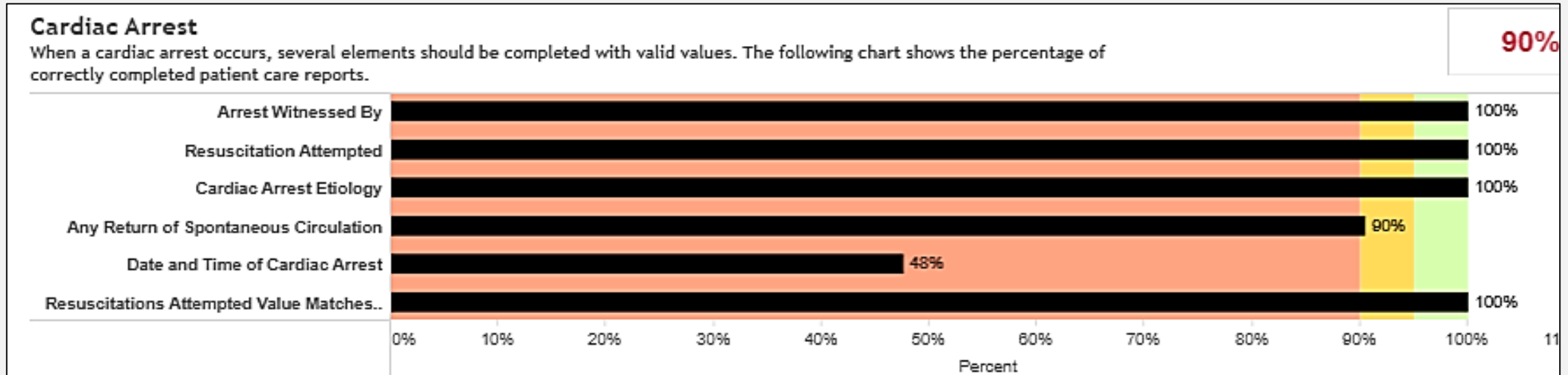
NEMESIS Can Identify Detailed Quality Issues (1 of 2)



NEMESIS Patient Information and Clinical Times data pulled October 2025.

- EMSTR can provide individual agency consultation(s).
- EMSTR is collaborating with third-party vendors.
- EMSTR identified and counseled approximately 120 providers with data quality issues in the areas shown above.

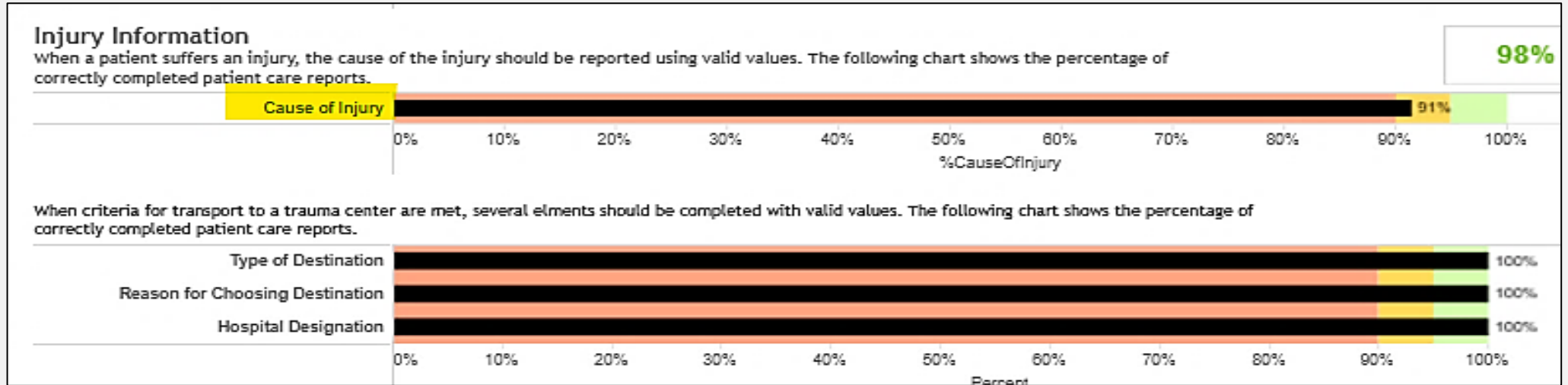
NEMSYS Can Identify Detailed Quality Issues (2 of 2)



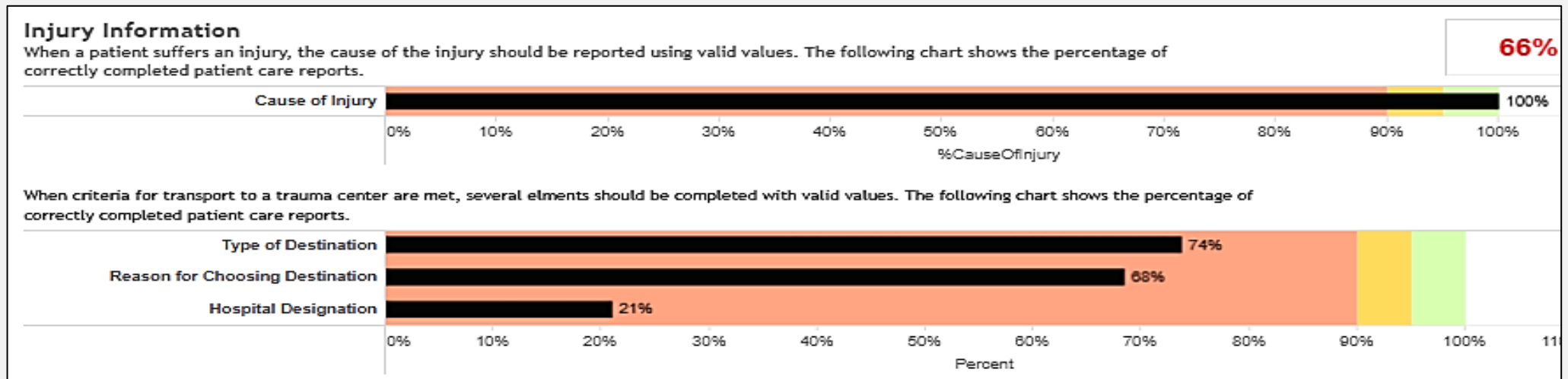
NEMSYS Cardiac Arrest and Valid System Times data pulled October 2025.

Example of Provider-Level Quality Issue Identification

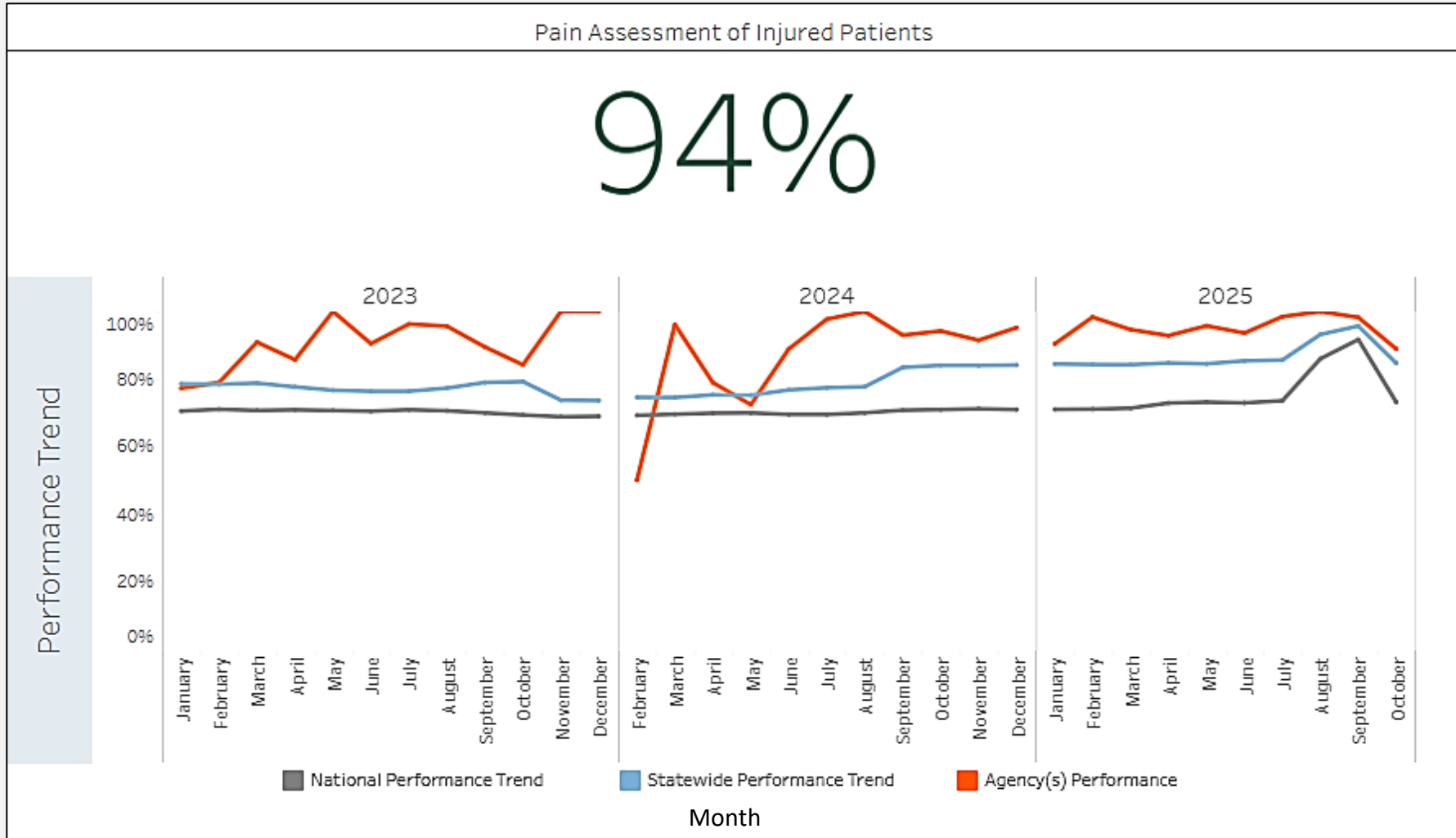
Provider A



Provider B



Drilling Down on Performance Issues (1 of 2)



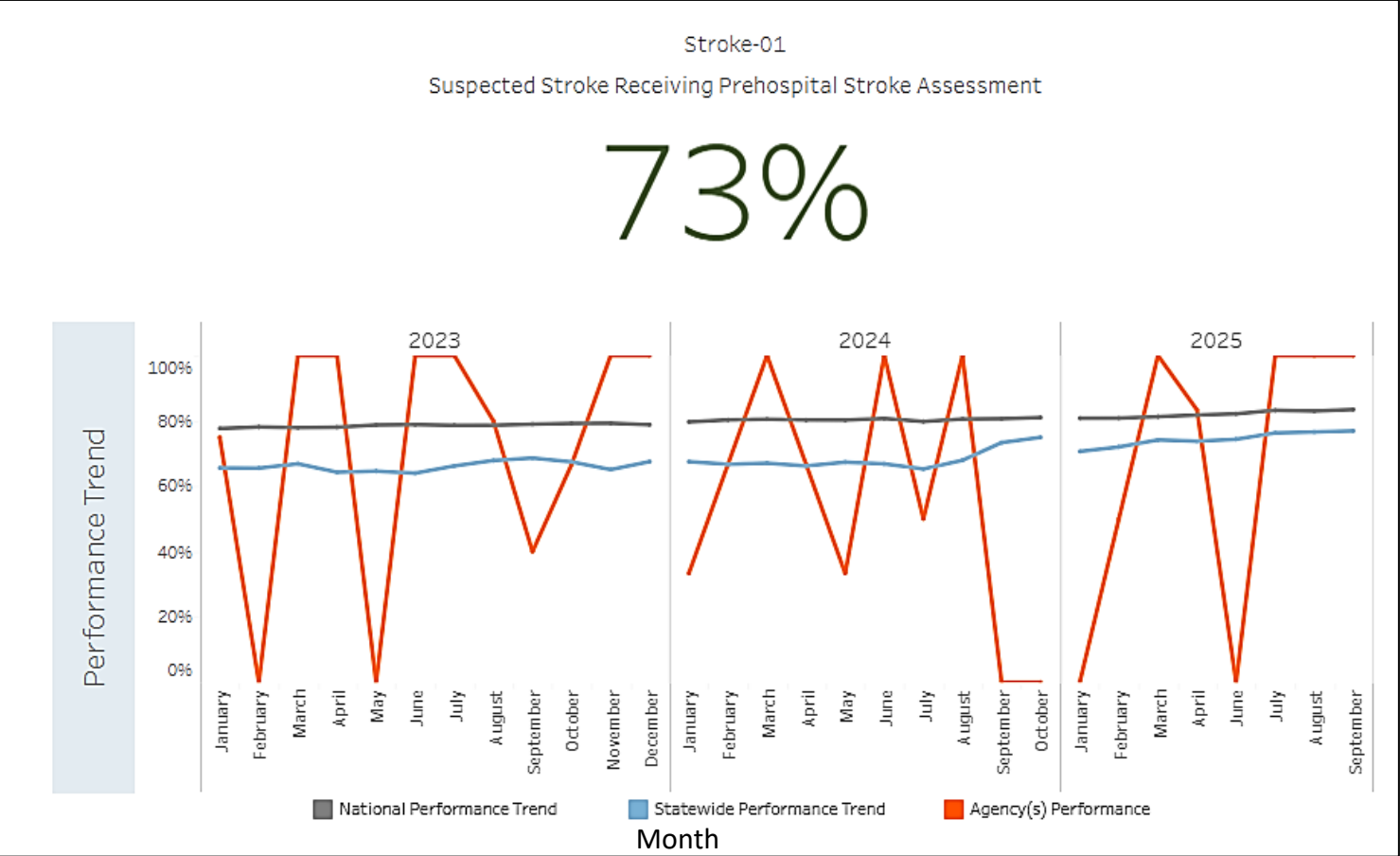
Example of how NEMESIS can help identify performance issues.

I.e., documenting/performing a pain assessment for a patient with a documented injury.

NEMESIS Pain Assessment data pulled October 2025.

For additional information on how these numbers are calculated, please see the [Companion Guide](#) posted on the NEMESIS webpage.

Drilling Down on Performance Issues (2 of 2)



NEMSIS Suspected Stroke data pulled October 2025.

EMSTR is working to improve statewide stroke assessment performance to align with GETAC recommendations

The example on the left is for an individual provider agency. Since the counts for strokes are low, there is some volatility to be expected.

For additional information on how these numbers are calculated please see the [Companion Guide](#), posted on the NEMSIS webpage.

Texas Wristband Number Update



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About The Wristband Process

- The Wristband number field allows the injured patient's files to be “*linked*” between the EMS and hospital continuum of care.
- The Wristband can contrast hospital patient disposition and diagnoses with EMS treatments, acuity, dispatch information, and initial impressions.

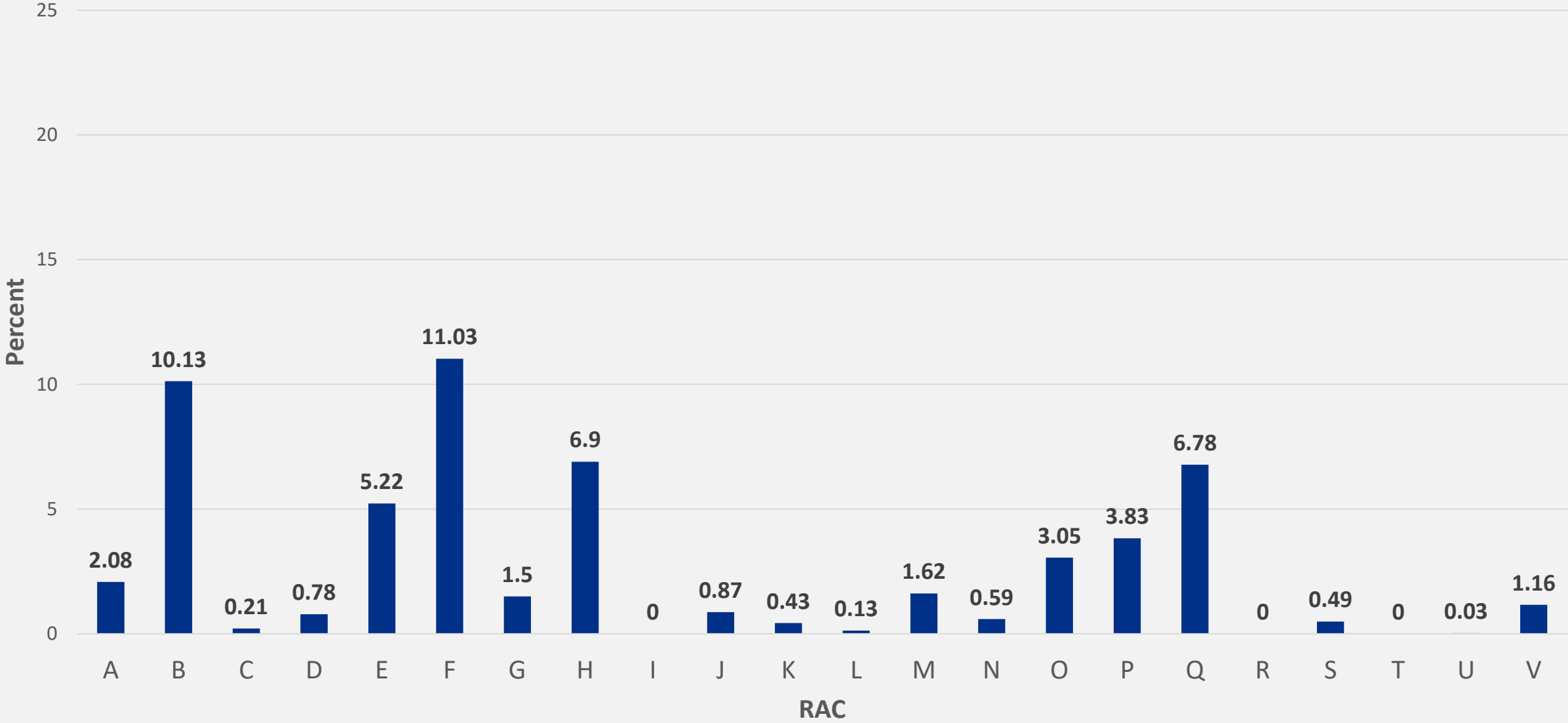


Wristband Completion – EMS

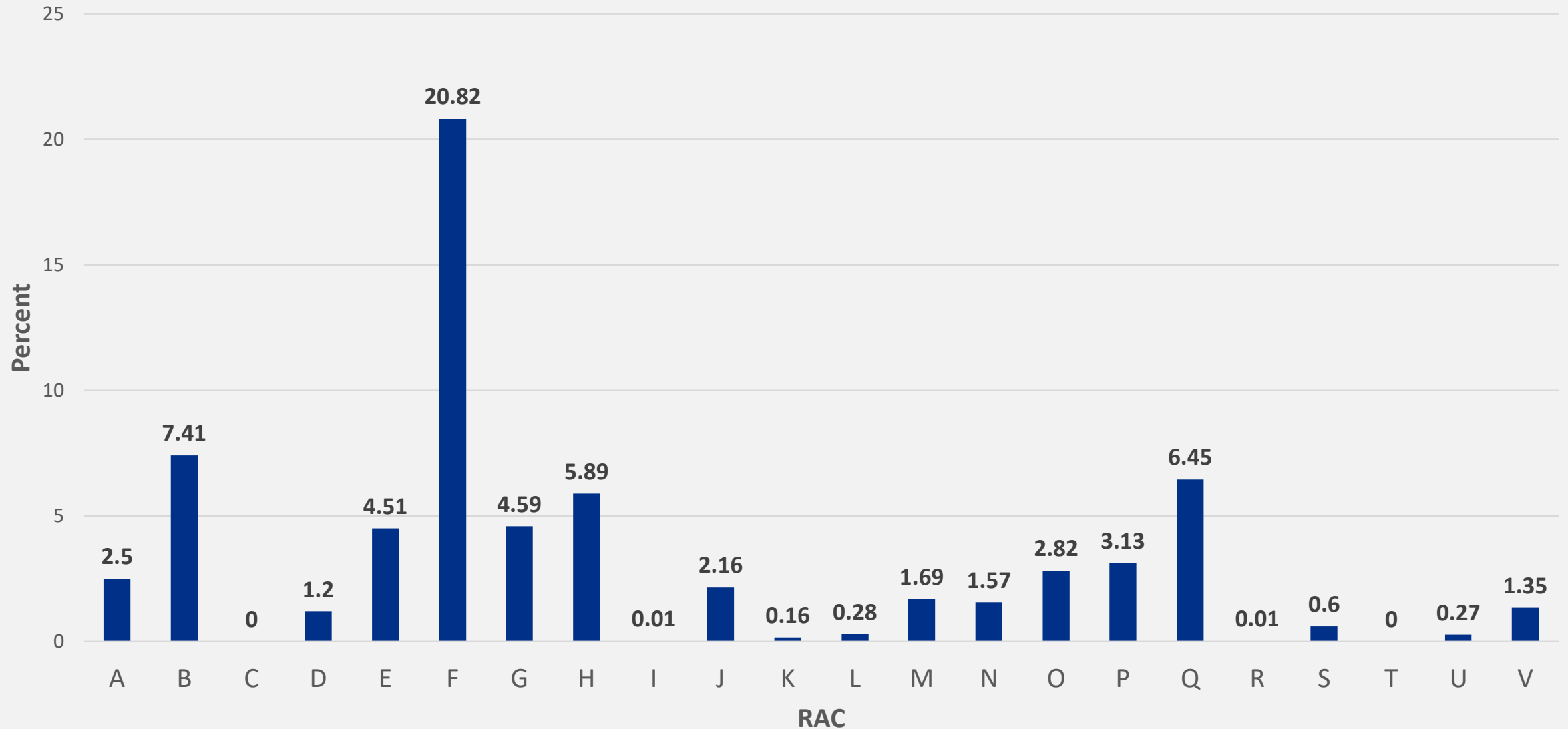
	2024	2025*
Total EMS Records with a Wristband Number Entered	178,172	154,498
Total EMS Records with Patient Contact Made	4,319,826	3,772,492
Percent	4.12%	4.10%

*2025 data pulled 10/31/2025.

EMS Wristband Completion by RAC, Texas, 2024



EMS Wristband Completion by RAC, Texas, 2025*



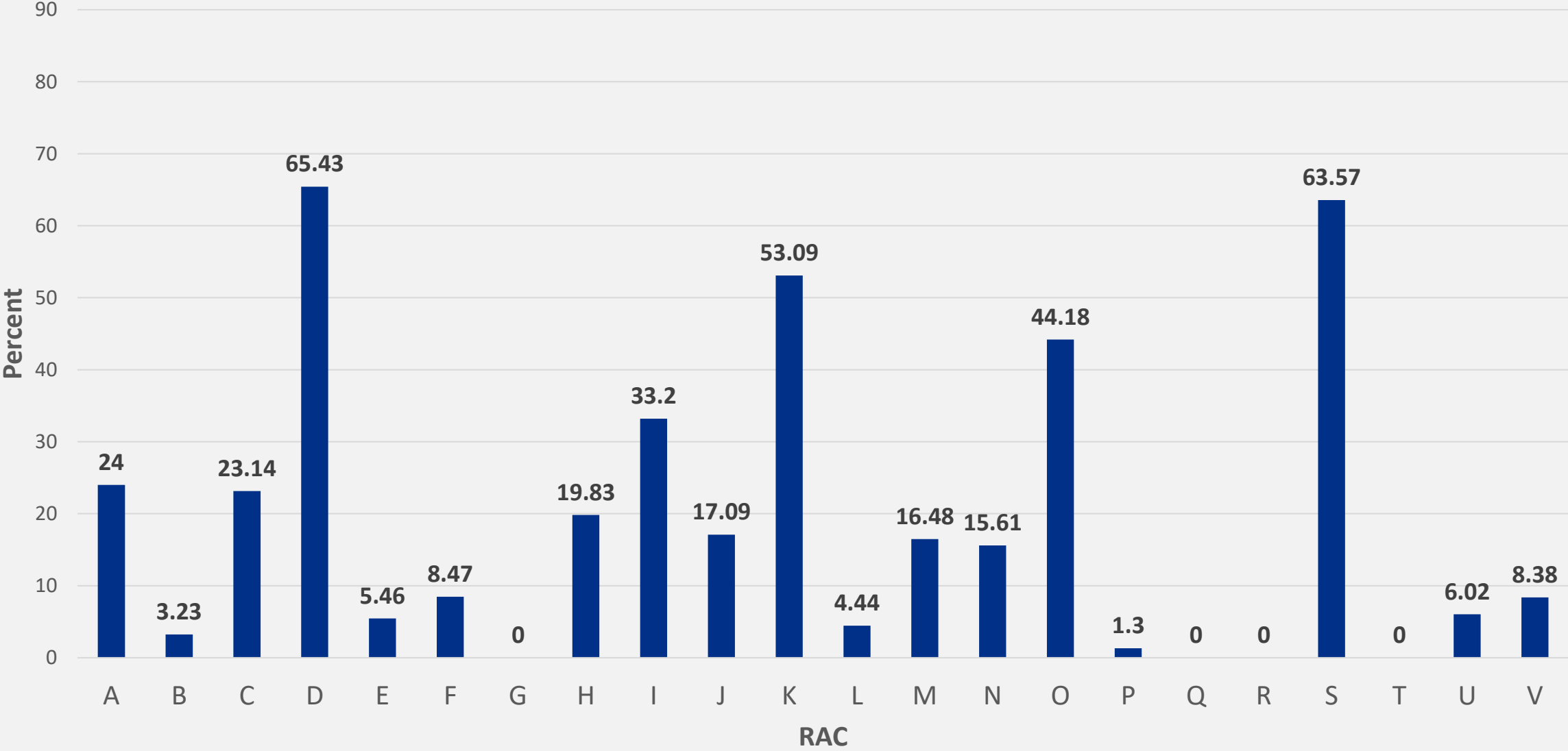
*2025 data pulled 10/31/2025.

Wristband Completion, Trauma, Texas

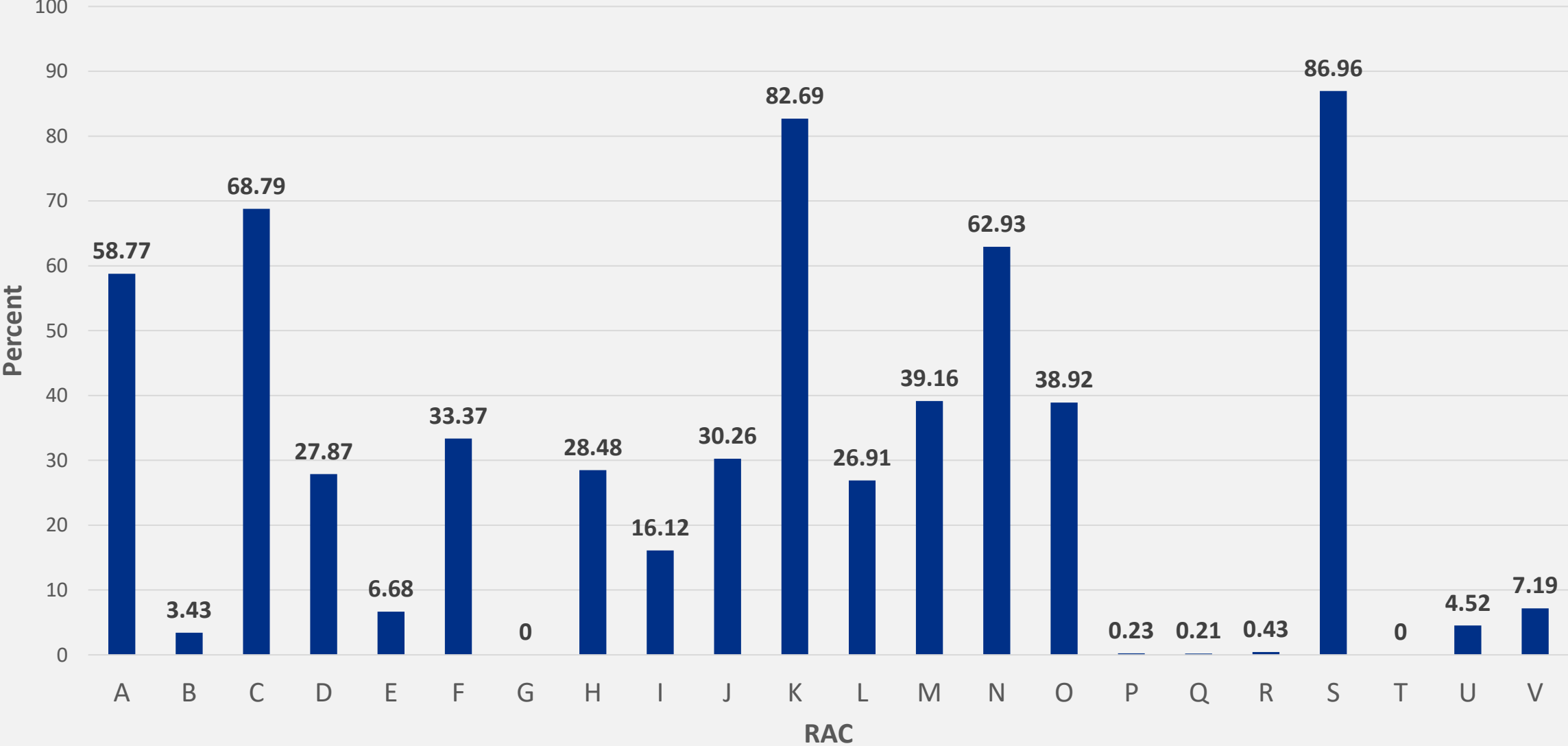
	2024	2025*
Total Trauma Records with a Wristband Number Entered	13,791	10,911
Total Trauma Patients Who Arrived by EMS	142,859	88,512
Percent	9.65%	12.33%

*2025 data pulled on 10/28/2025.

Trauma Wristband Completion by RAC, Texas, 2024



Trauma Wristband Completion by RAC, Texas, 2025*



*2025 data pulled on 10/28/2025.

Helpful Resources for Registry Users

- [EMSTR Reports SHARP Reporting Guide](#) - “How to” run each report available in EMSTR Online.
- [EMSTR FAQs](#) - Common questions and answers.
- [EMS Reporting Requirements](#) – Highlight Requirements for ePCR Reporting in Texas.
- [Data Quality Webinar Series](#) – EMSTR hosts these educational webinars every 6-8 weeks.
- [NEMESIS 3.5 Data Dictionary](#) – National EMS element listing and collection rules
- [NEMESIS Public Research Dataset](#) – National EMS Dataset (published through CY 2024)
- [NEMESIS Public Dashboards](#) – Analysis Tools



Thank you!

EMSTR Program Updates and Wristband Number Initiation

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