



VIRTUAL  
2020 NATIONAL  
RYAN WHITE  
CONFERENCE ON  
HIV CARE & TREATMENT

# Transgender People Living With HIV in Texas: *Exploring the Continuum of Care*

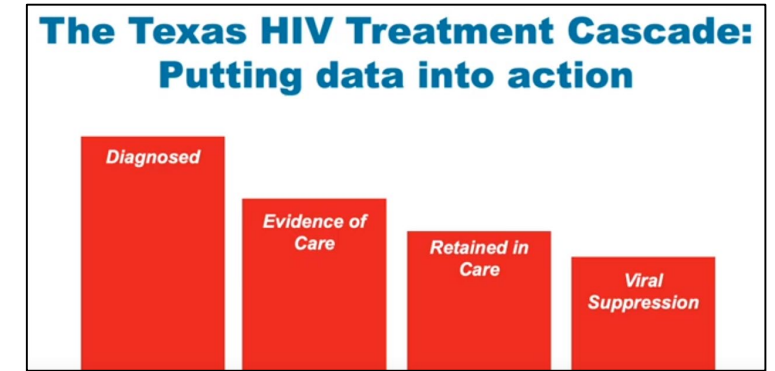
**Ann Dills, MSW**

*HIV Systems Consultant*

*Texas Department of State Health Services*

*HIV/STD Branch*

- Data Literacy & Terminology
- Collecting Gender Identity
- Epidemiology of Transgender People Living With HIV (PLWH) in Texas
- HIV Continuum of Care and Health Outcomes for Transgender Women  
Living with HIV
- Understanding disparities in care for Transgender People
- Moving Forward



<https://achievingtogethertx.org/hiv-in-texas-overview/>

# Data Sources



**What populations are most impacted by HIV?**

**What health disparities exist?**

**What parts of our system are working well?**

**What parts of our system aren't meeting the needs of communities?**



**Gender Identity** is an individual's internal understanding of their gender. **Everyone has a gender identity.**

- *Transgender Women (MTF)*
- *Transgender Men (FTM)*
- *Cisgender Women*
- *Cisgender Men*
- *Non-Binary*

Gender identity terms	% of respondents
Transgender	65%
Trans	56%
Trans woman (MTF, male to female)	32%
Trans man (FTM, female to male)	31%
Non-binary	31%
Genderqueer	29%
Gender non-conforming or gender variant	27%
Gender fluid/fluid	20%
Androgynous	18%
Transsexual	18%
Agender	14%
Two-spirit	7%
Bi-gender	6%
Butch	5%
Crossdresser	5%
Multi-gender	4%
Third gender	4%
Intersex	3%
Drag performer (king/queen)	2%
A.G. or aggressive	1%
Stud	1%
Travesti	1%
Bulldagger	<1%
Fa'afafine	<1%
Mahu	<1%
A gender not listed above	12%

## *Factors influencing data collection and quality*



### **If/How somebody is asked about their gender identity**

- Culture of the local agency
- Comfort level and competency of the staff asking the question
- Comfort level of the client in answering the question

**How that information is entered into the data collection system**



# Collecting Gender Identity

## *Where do we collect gender identity among PLWH*

- 2014 – Texas HIV Surveillance System began collecting gender identity on the HIV Case Report Form (CRF)
- Routine matches with other data sources
  - Ryan White (ARIES, HIV2000)
  - Prevention (STD\*MIS)
  - Medical Monitoring Project (Texas and Houston MMP)
- Medical Record Abstraction
  - When data sources have conflicting information



## *How do we collect gender identity among PLWH*

### 1. Current Gender Identity

- Male
- Female
- Transgender Male
- Transgender Female
- Alternate Gender Identity
- Unknown

### 2. Assigned Sex at Birth

- Male
- Female
- Unknown

# Collecting Gender Identity

*How is this data entered into data collection systems*

## Ryan White

Male
Female
Transgender MTF
Transgender FTM
Other
Unknown
Client refused to report

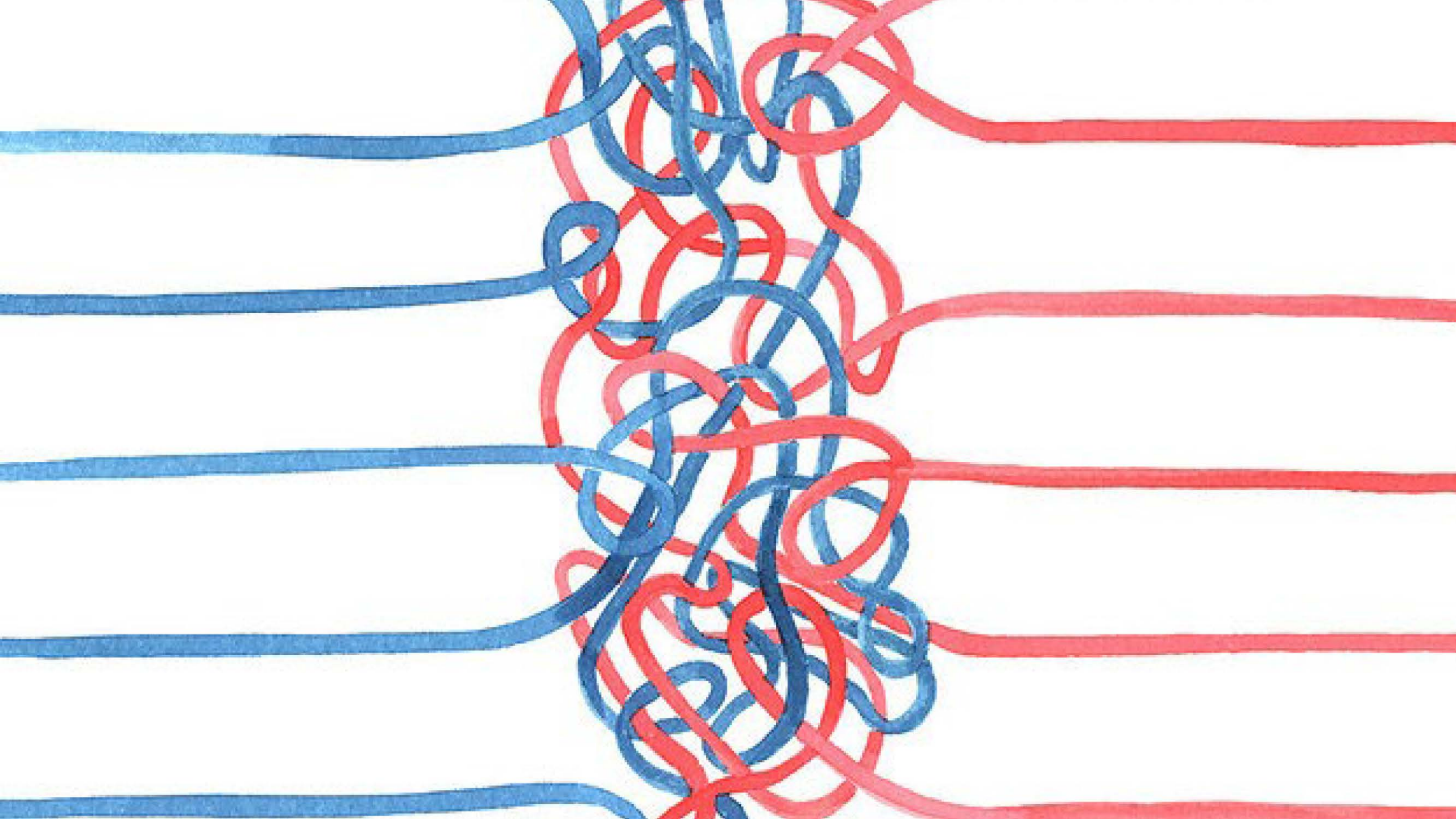
Sex:	<input type="text"/>	▼
	M	
	F	
	U	
	T	

## Prevention Programs

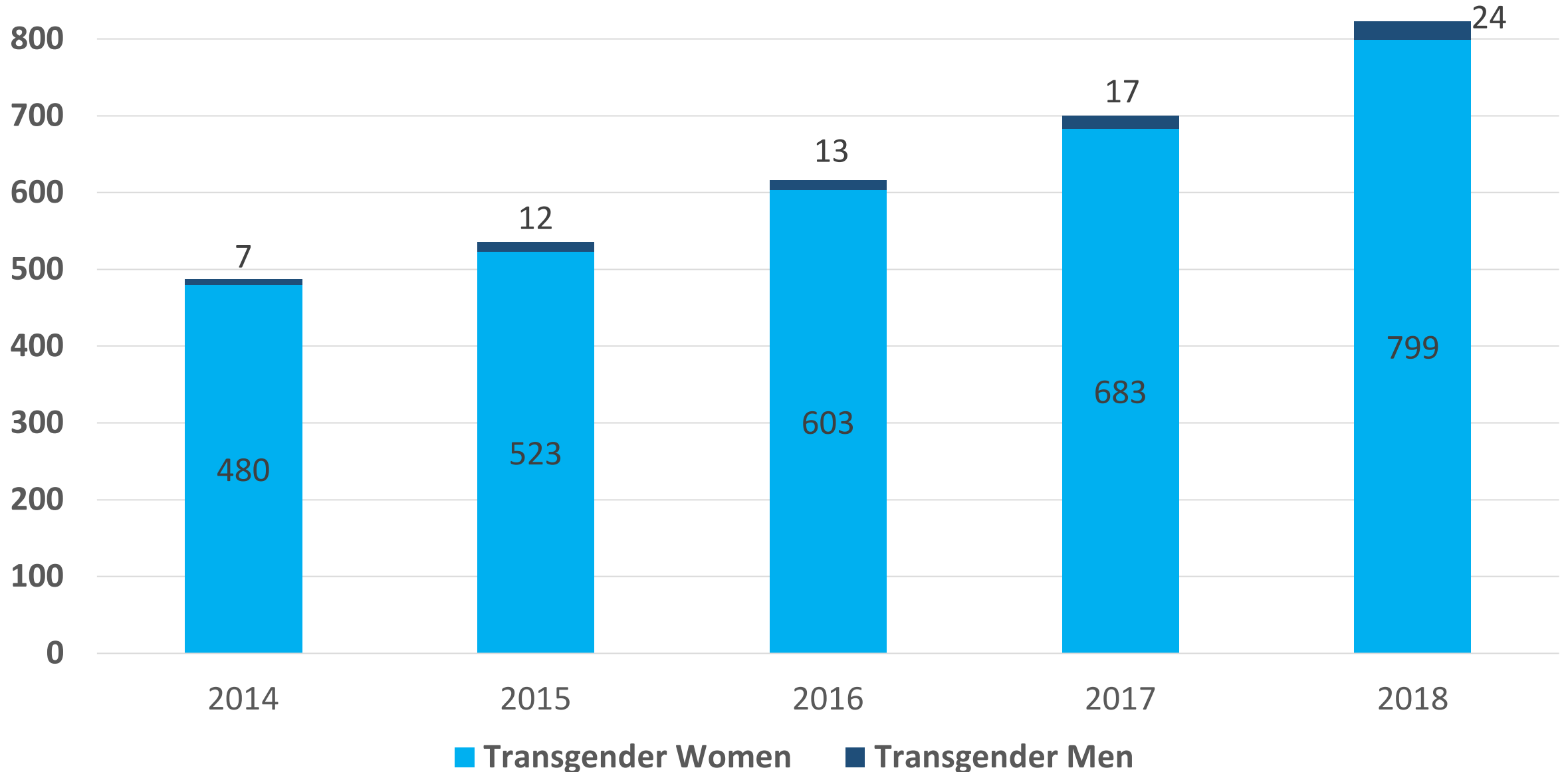
SEX CODES	
LOCAL CODE	LOCAL TYPE
0	NOT TRANS
1	MTF
2	FTM
9	UNKNOWN

## Medical Monitoring Project

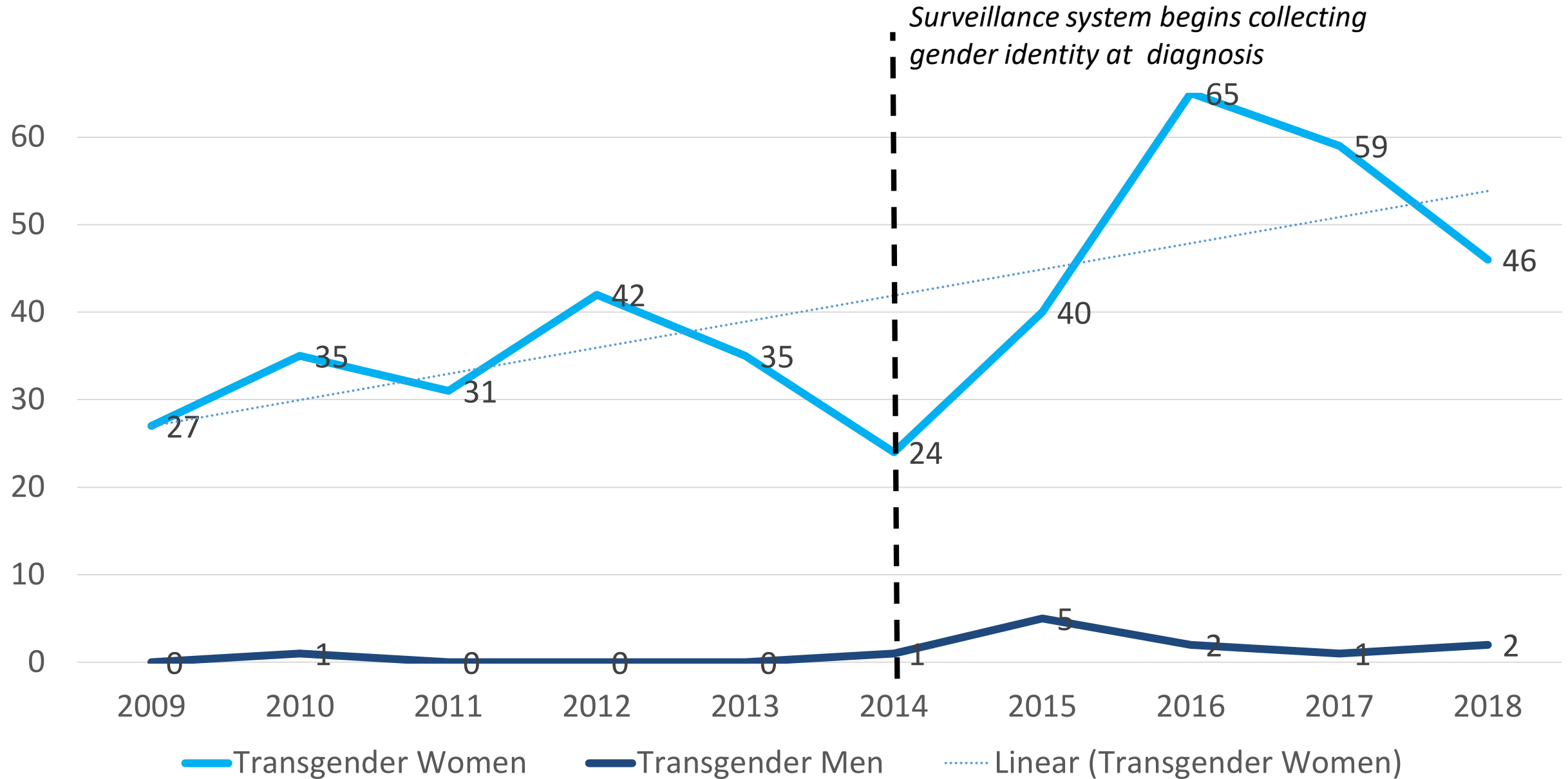
1 Male
2 Female
3 Transgender
8 Don't Know
7 Refused to Answer



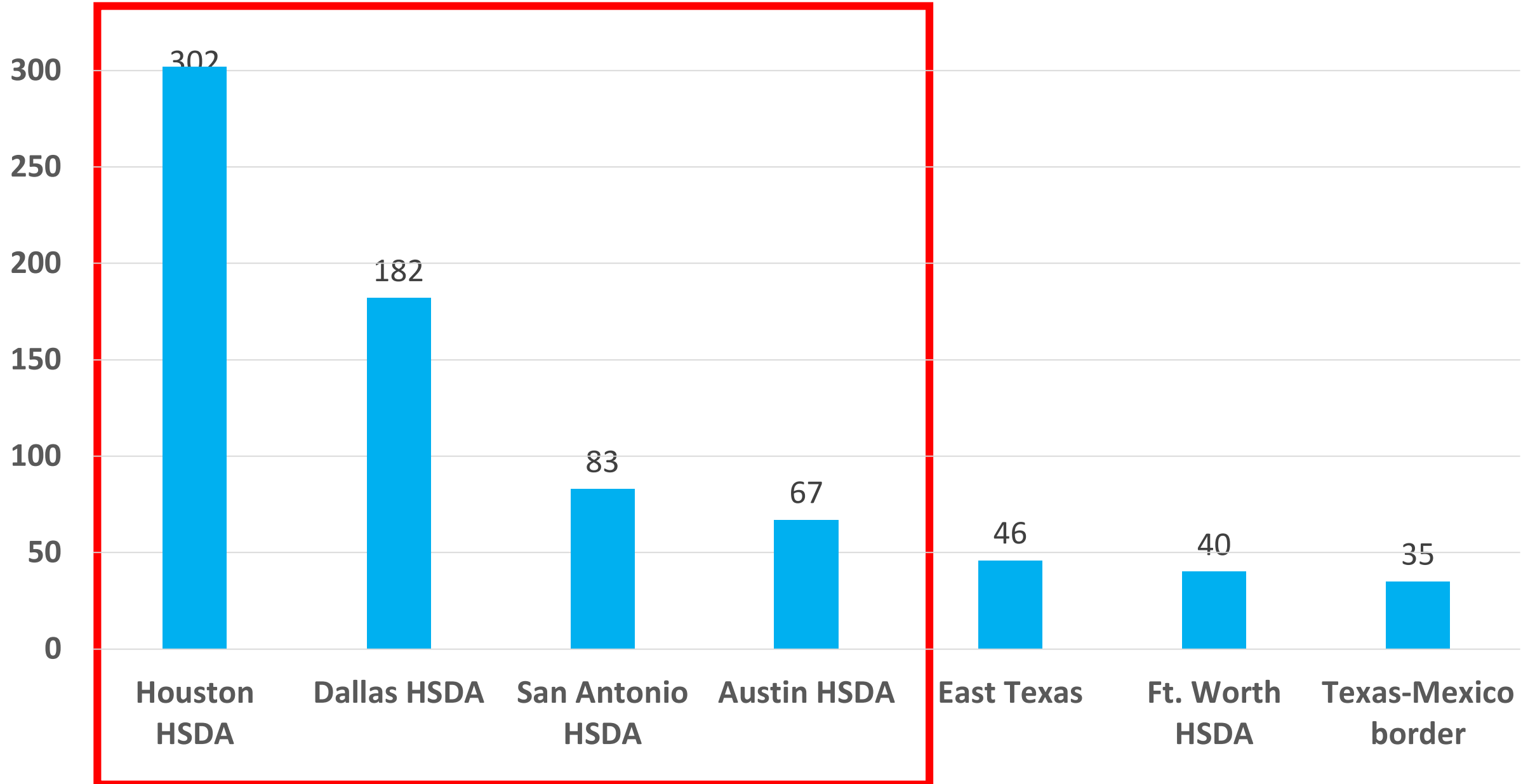
# Transgender PLWH, Texas 2014-2018



# New HIV Diagnoses, Texas 2009-2018

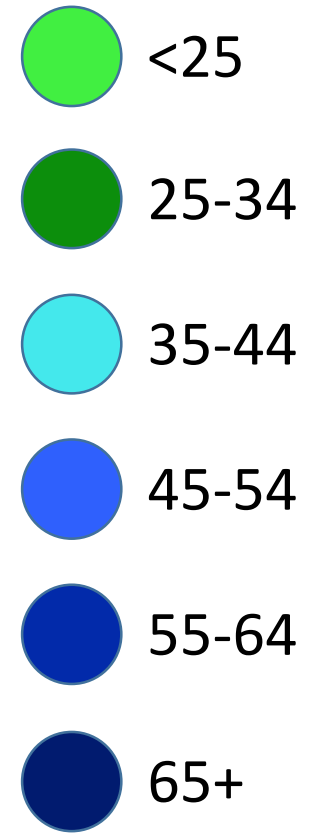
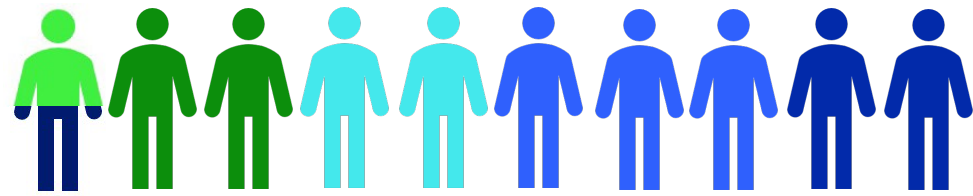


# Transgender PLWH by Region, 2018



# Current Age, 2018

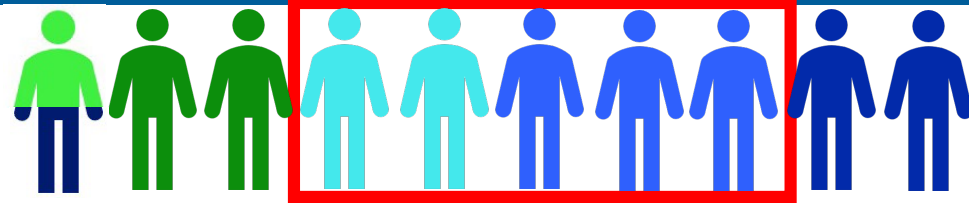
Texas PLWH



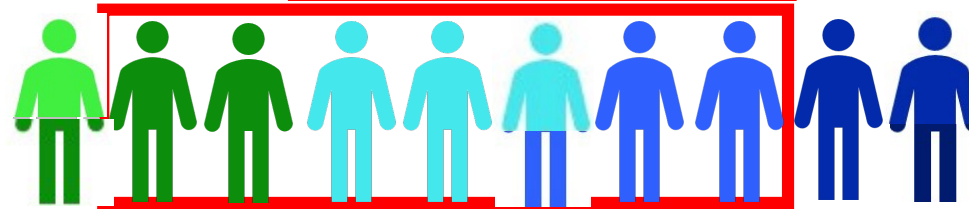


# Texas PLWH, by Age, 2018

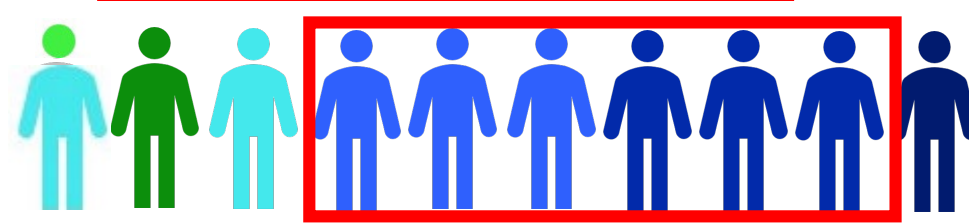
Texas



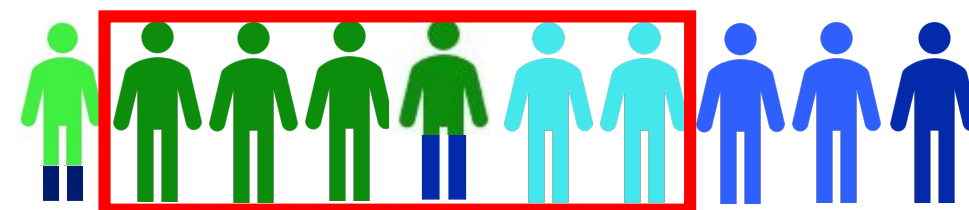
Latinx MSM



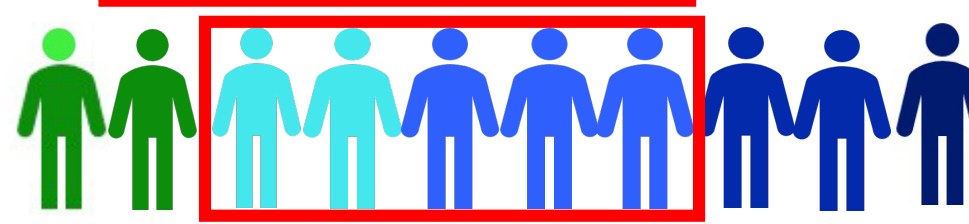
White MSM



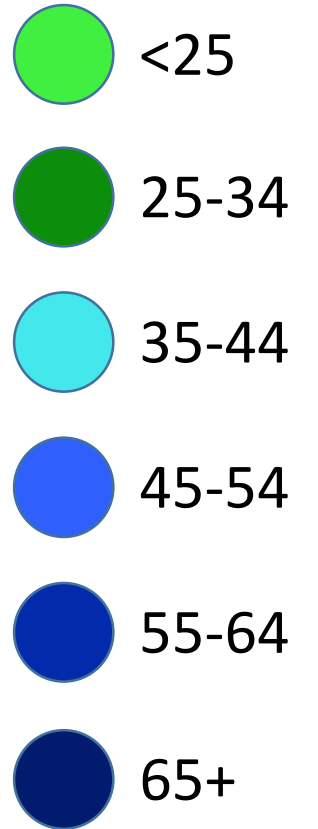
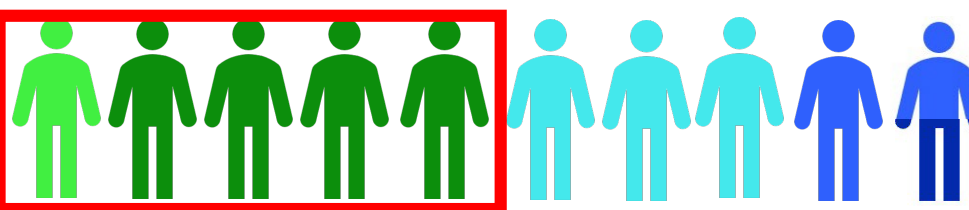
Black MSM



Black Women



Transgender Women





## Diagnosed



Receives an  
HIV diagnosis

## Evidence of Care



At least one  
HIV contact

a medical visit, lab or  
ART prescription

## Retained in Care



Maintenance of  
HIV care

at least 2 contacts, 3  
months apart, or VLS

## Undetectable!

## Viral Suppression



Viral Load  
<200 copies/ml

## In-Care Viral Suppression

### Diagnosed



Receives an HIV diagnosis

### Evidence of Care



At least one HIV contact

a medical visit, lab or ART prescription

### Retained in Care



Maintenance of HIV care

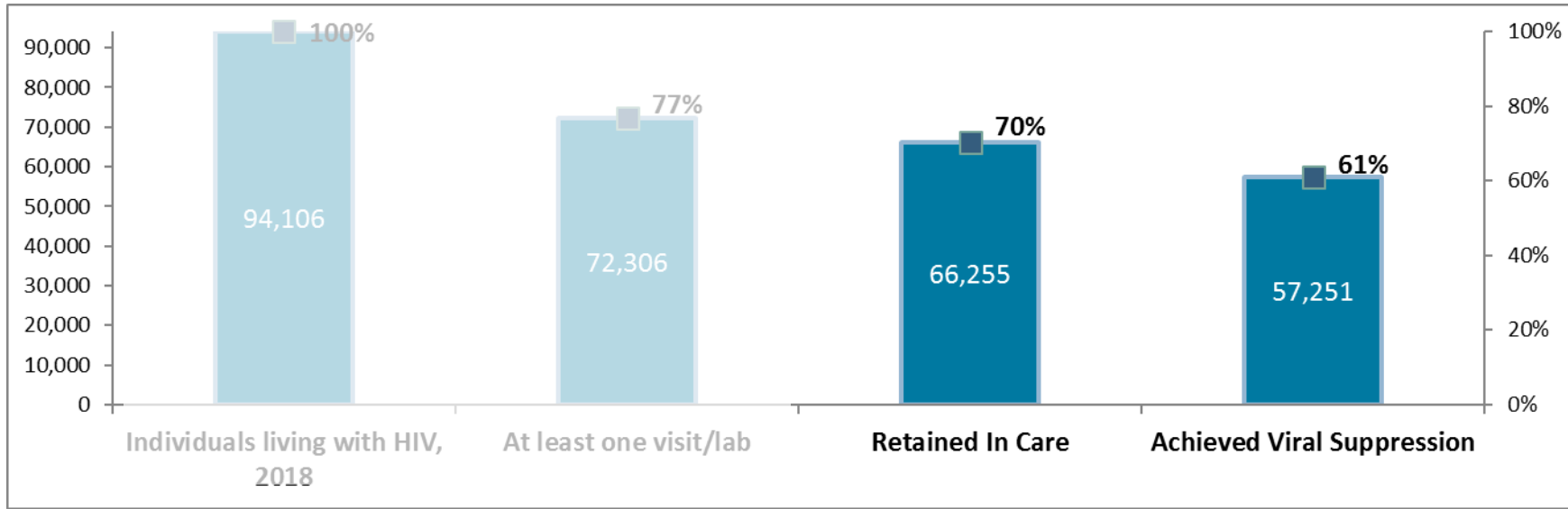
at least 2 contacts, 3 months apart, or VLS

### Viral Suppression

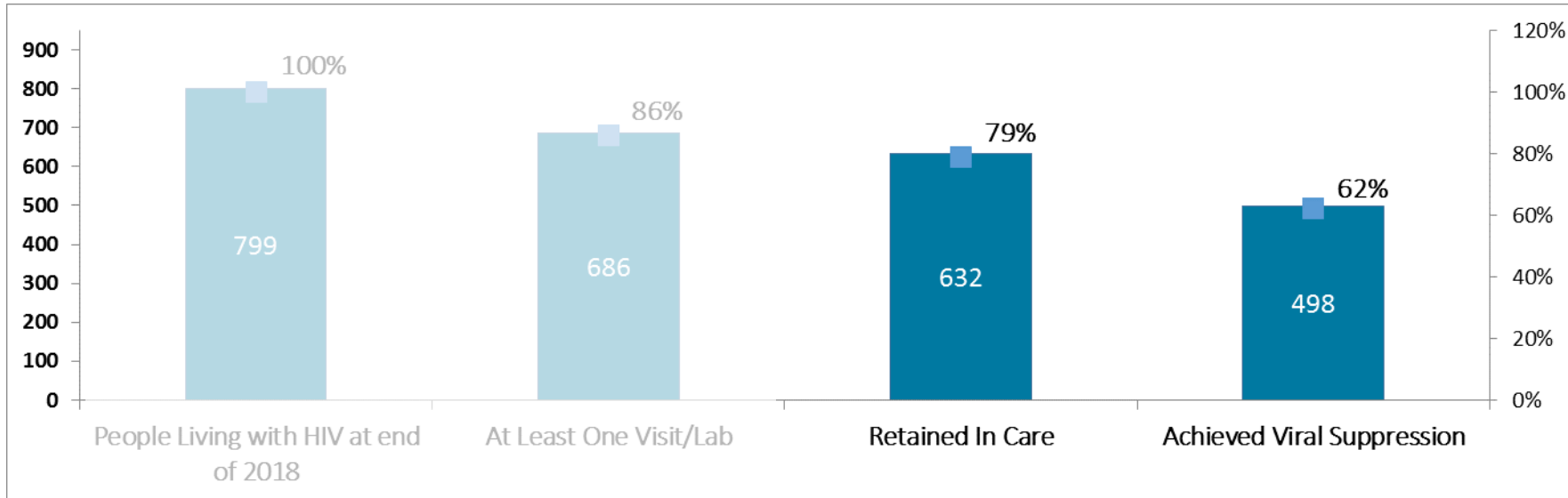


Viral Load <200 copies/ml

## HIV Treatment Cascade for Texas, 2018

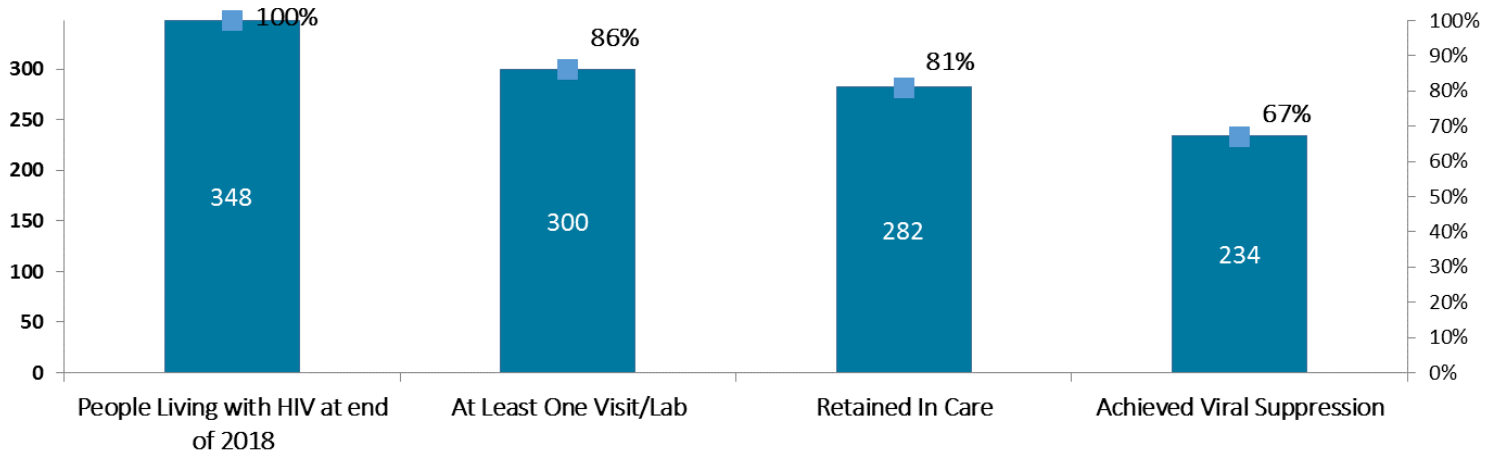


## HIV Treatment Cascade for Transgender Women, 2018

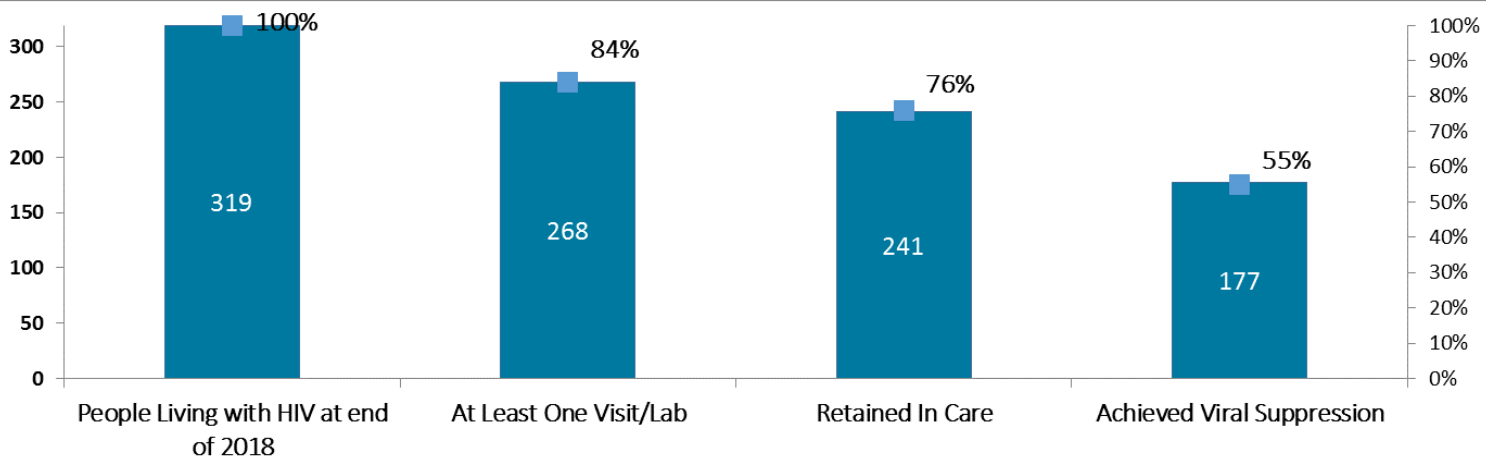


*\*Data sets representing PLWH who are in-care are most often used to confirm gender identity for transgender PLWH. Because of this, the % of transgender PLWH who have achieved at least one visit or retention in care may be over-represented.*

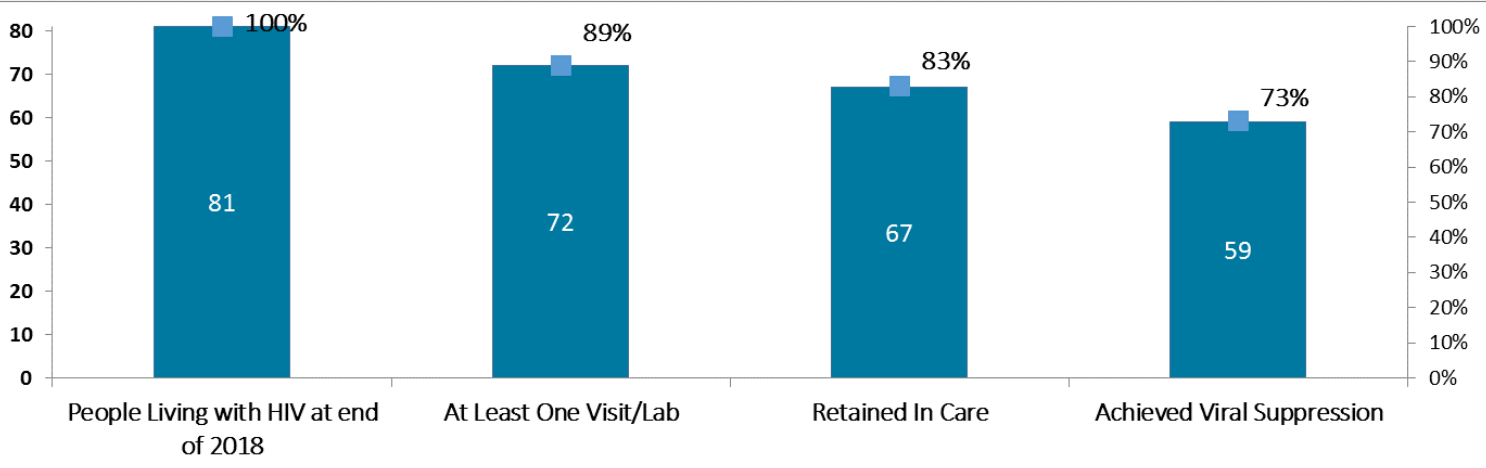
### Latinx Transgender Women HIV Treatment Cascade, 2018



### Black Transgender Women HIV Treatment Cascade, 2018



### White Transgender Women HIV Treatment Cascade, 2018



# Treatment Cascade Stoplight System

## Retention In Care

< 69%

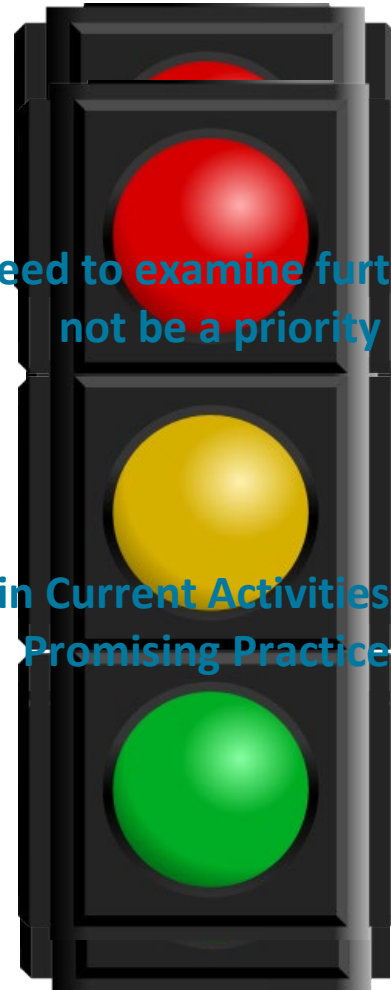
70% - 89%

90% <

Stop and examine further, May be a priority

May need to examine further, May not be a priority

Maintain Current Activities, Look for Promising Practices



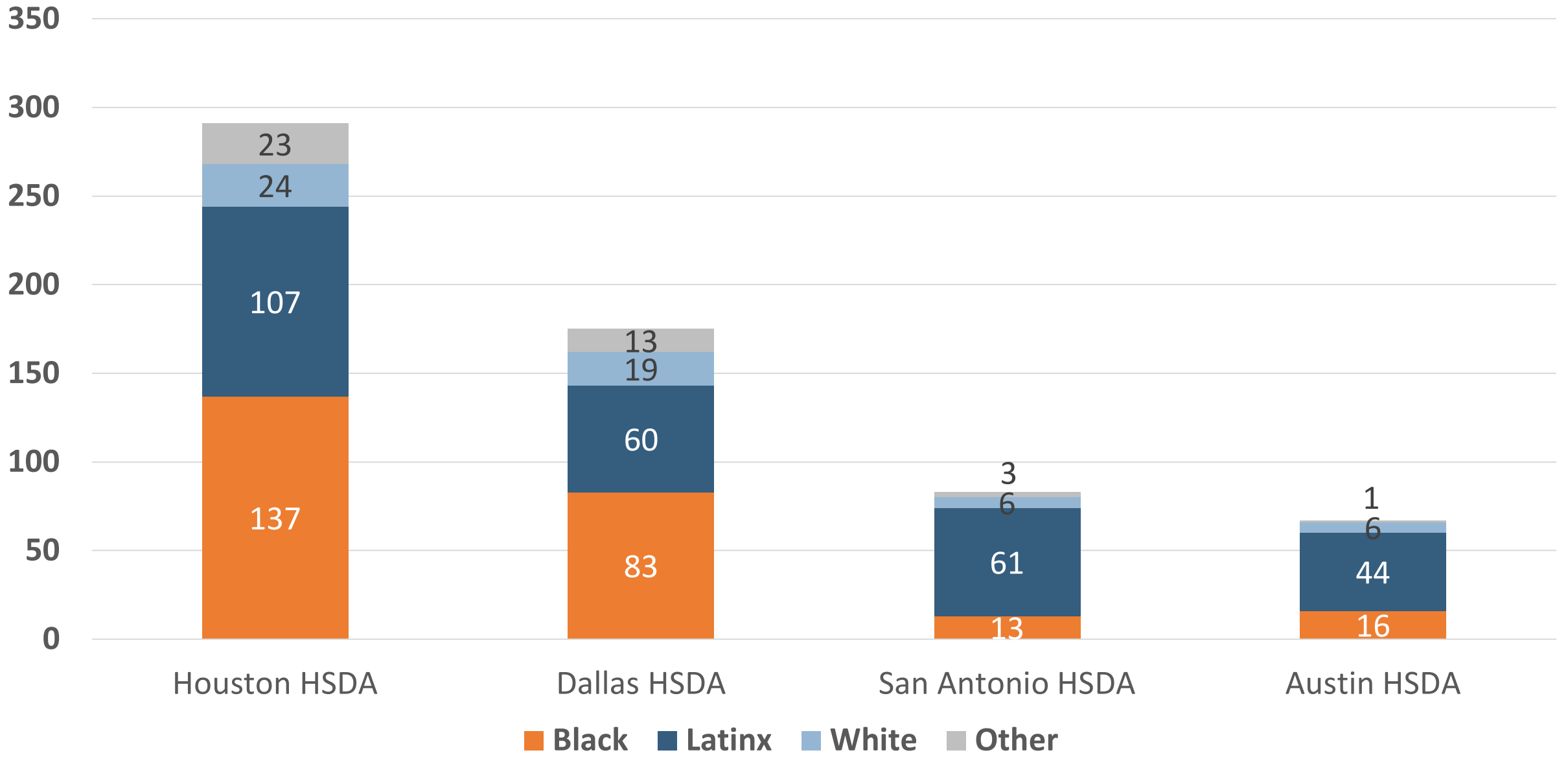
## In-Care Viral Suppression

< 84%

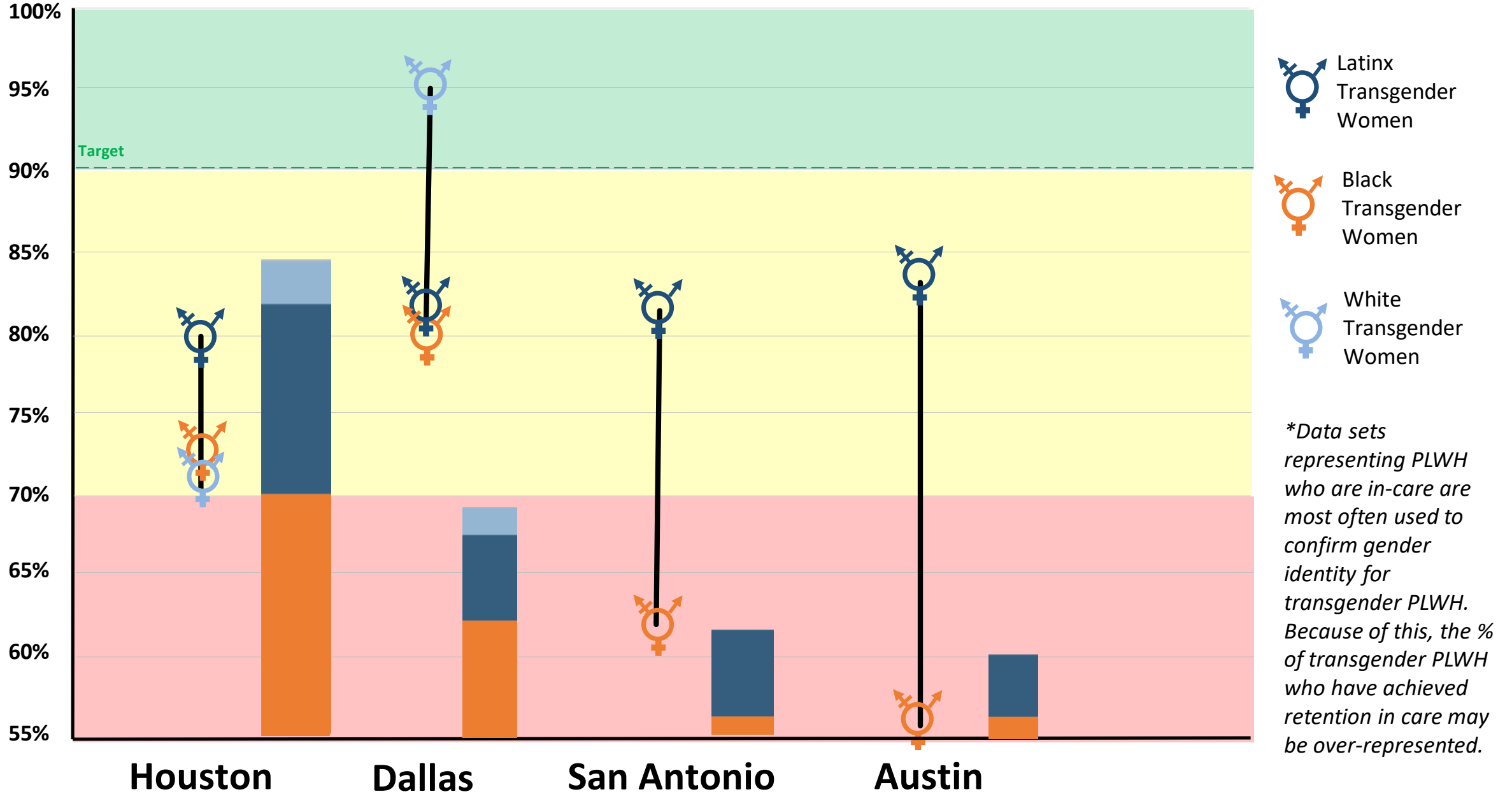
85% - 89%

90% <

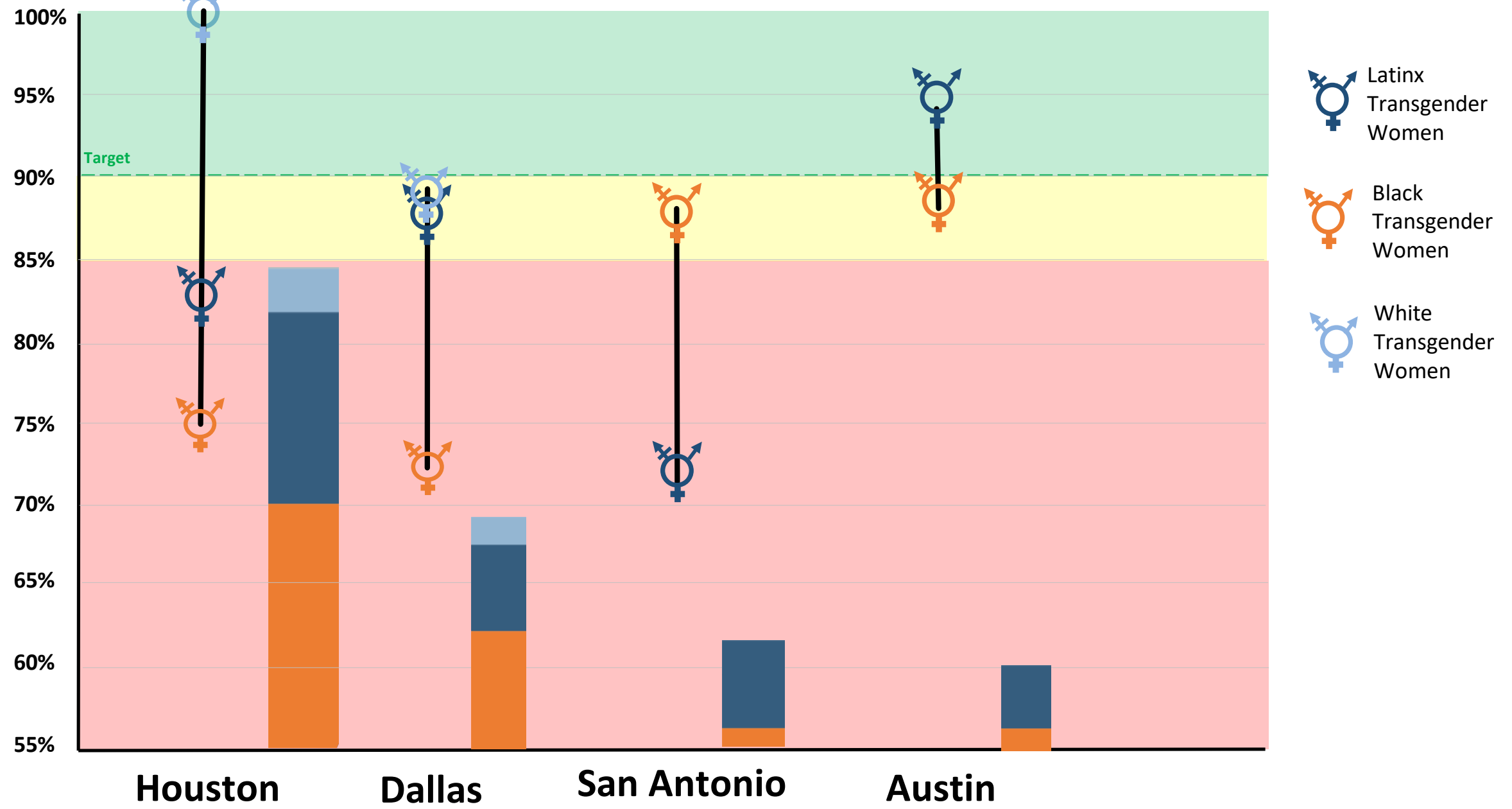
# Transgender PLWH by Race/Ethnicity, 2018



# Retention in Care, 2018



# In-Care Viral Suppression, 2018

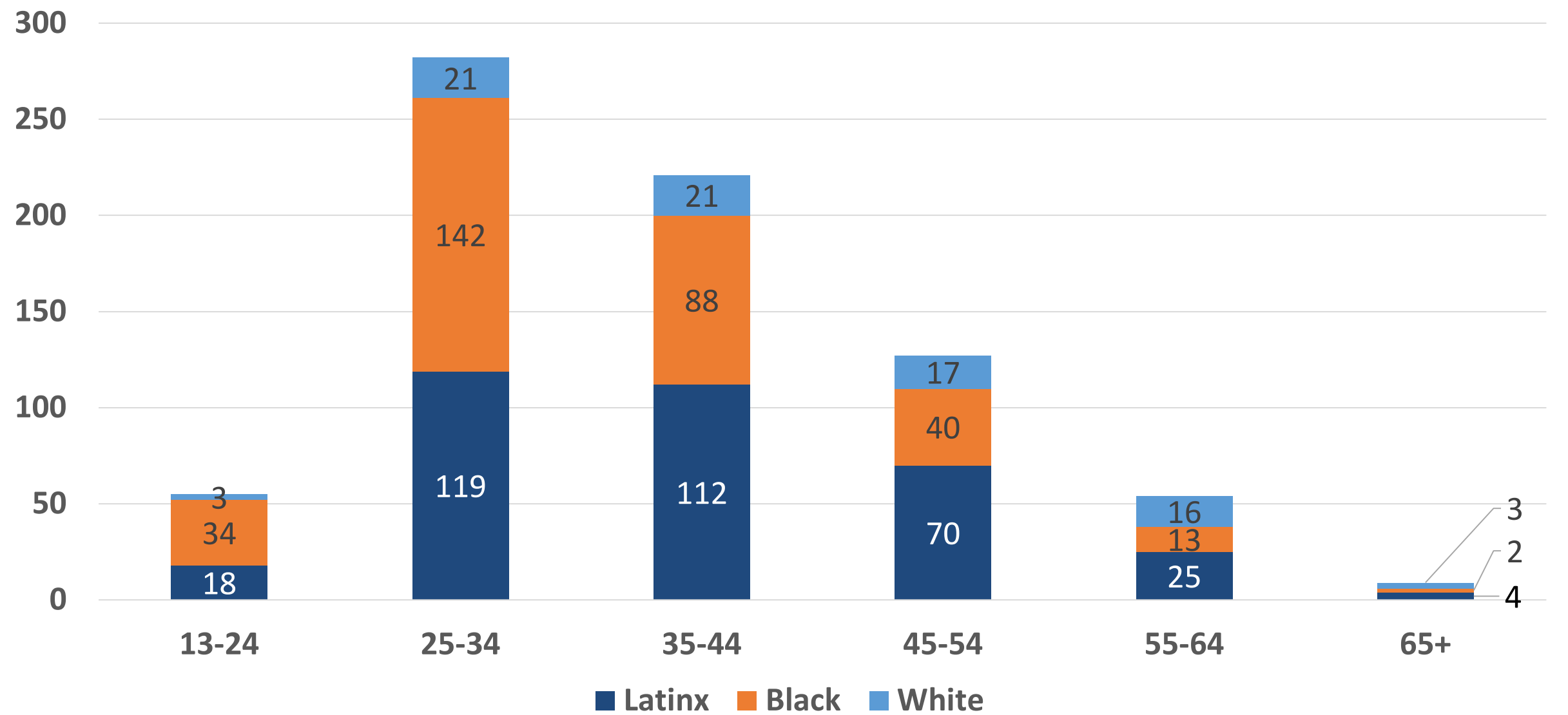




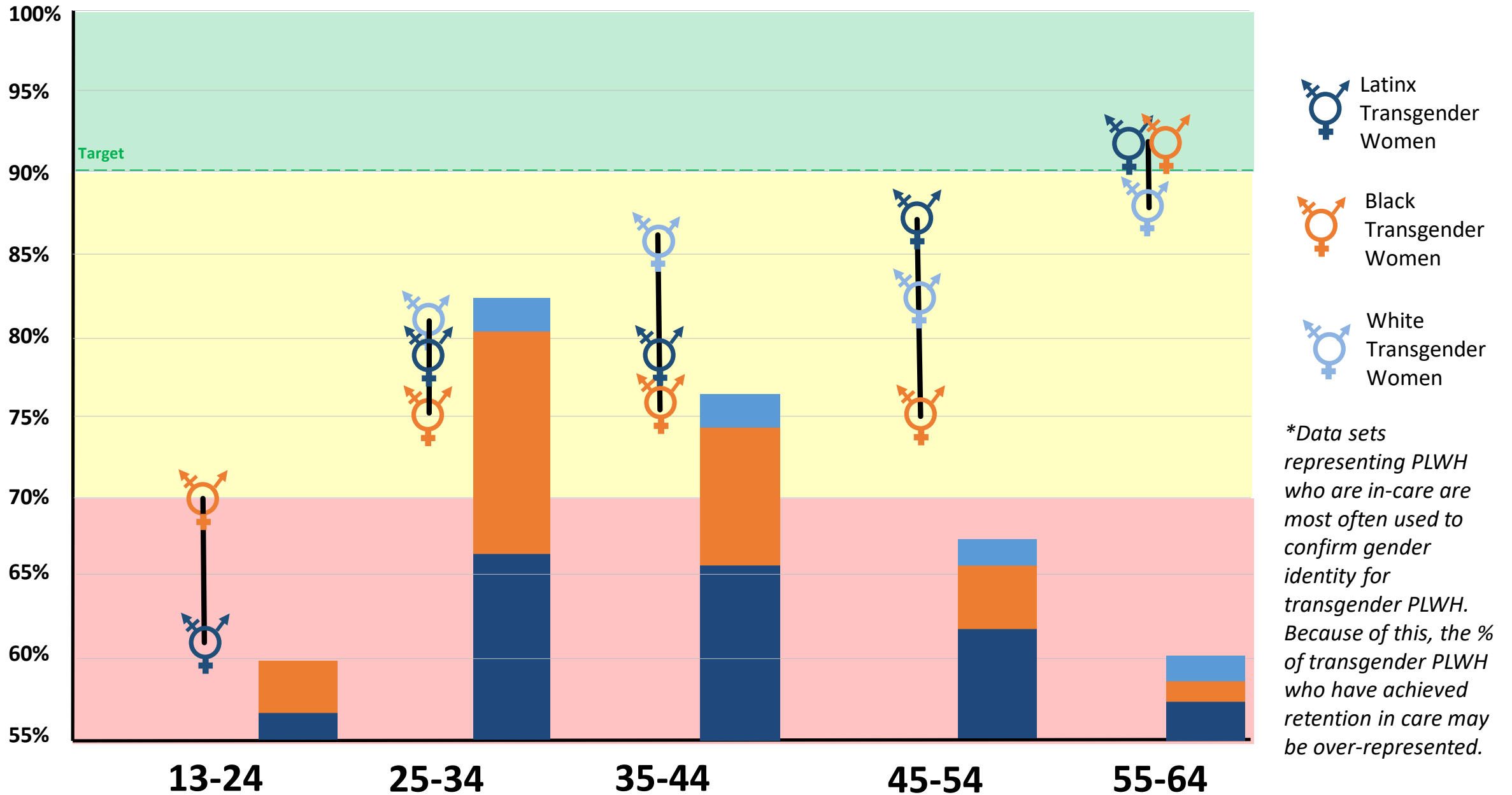
# Transgender Women living with HIV



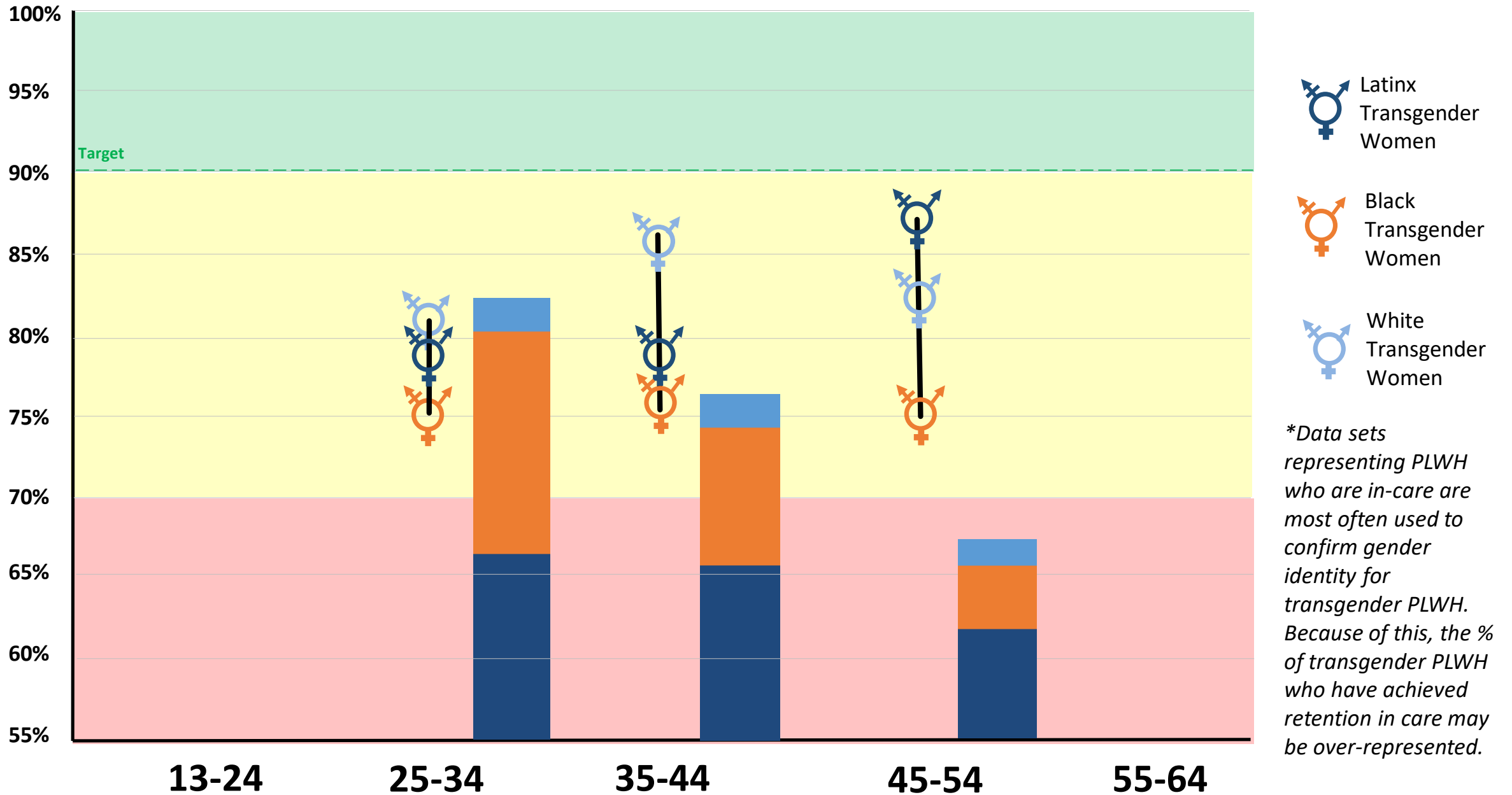
*by Race/Ethnicity & Age, Texas, 2018*



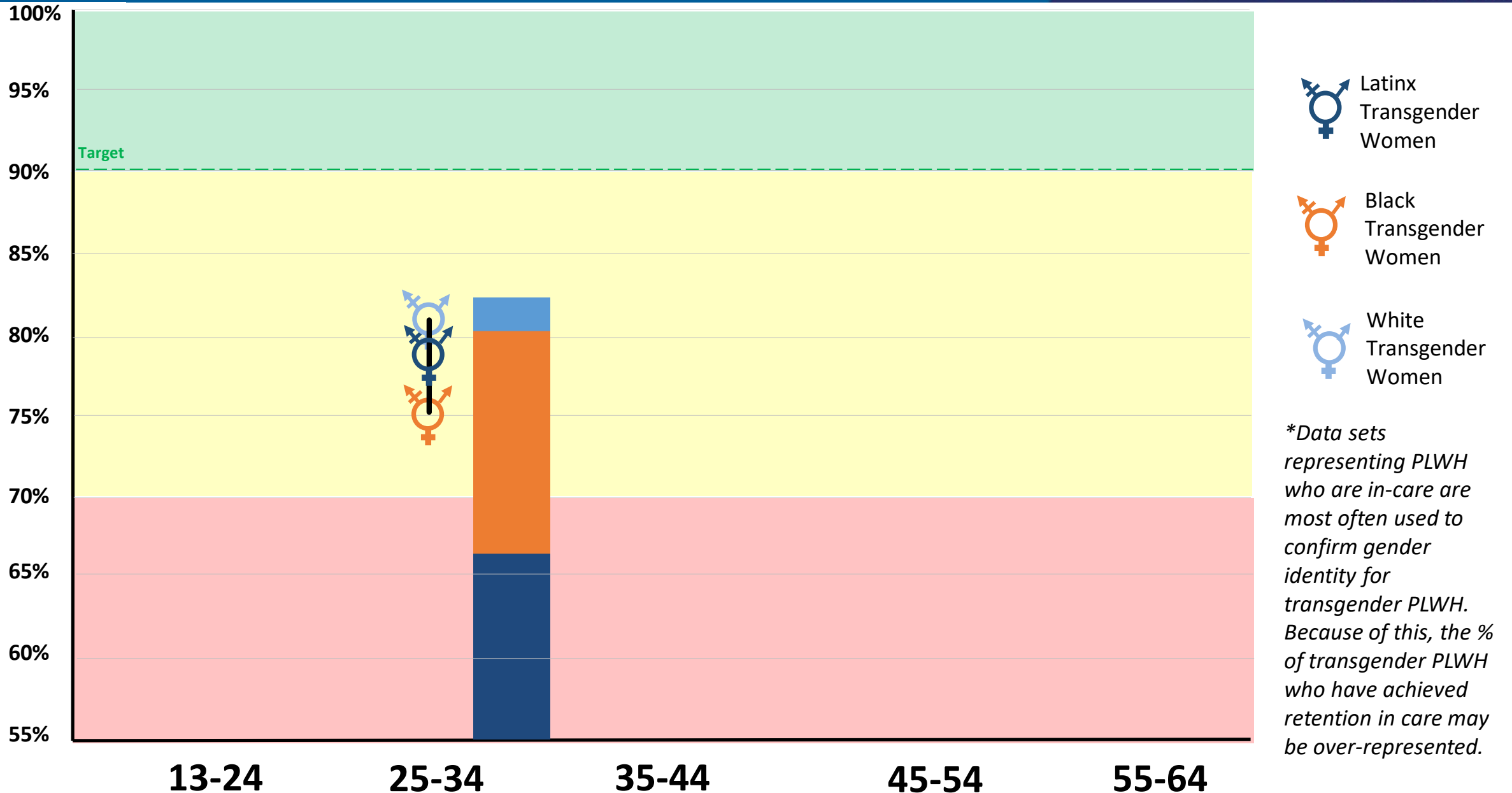
# Retention in Care, Texas, 2018



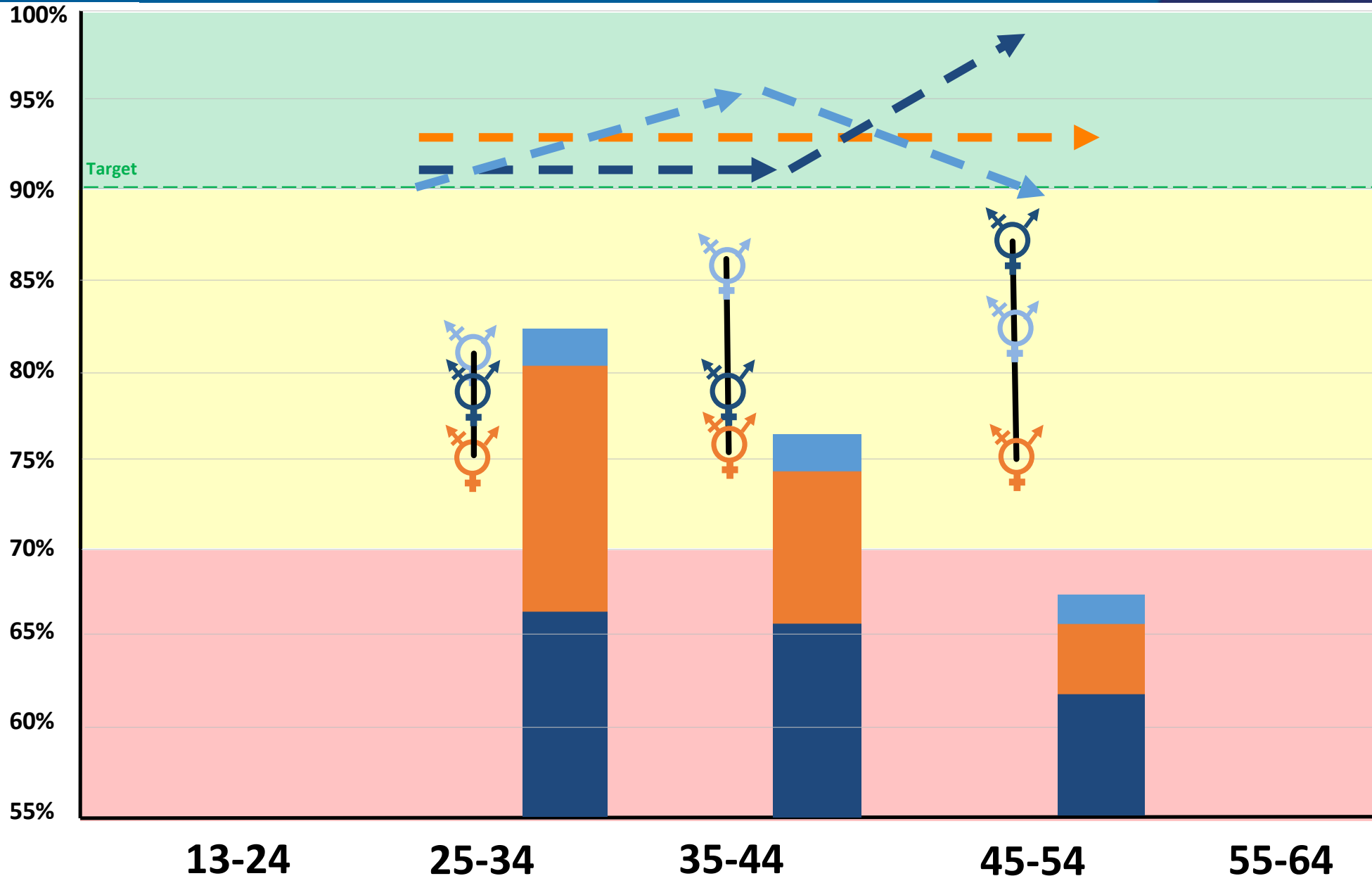
# Retention in Care, Texas, 2018






# Retention in Care, Texas, 2018



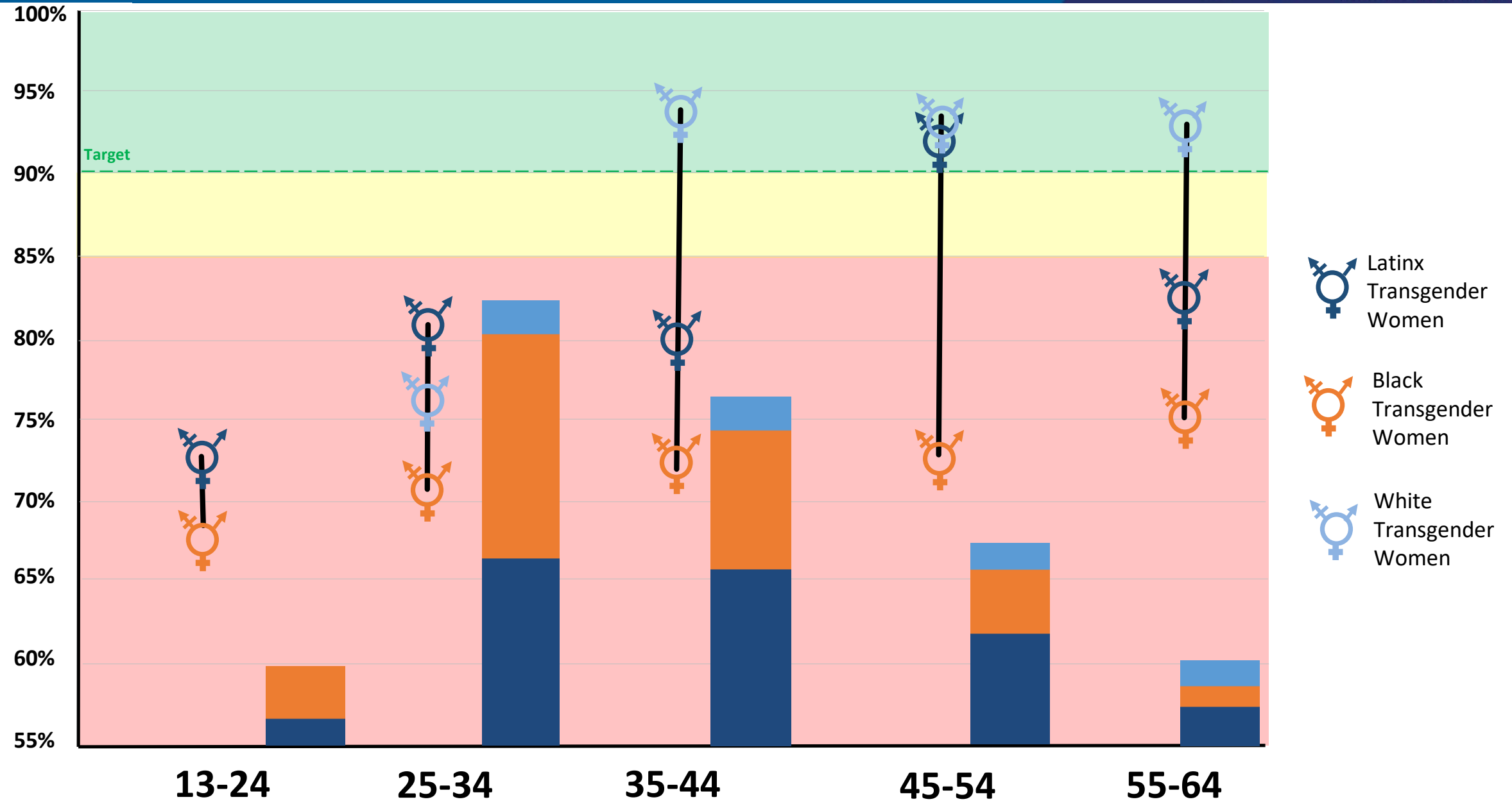
# Retention in Care, Texas, 2018



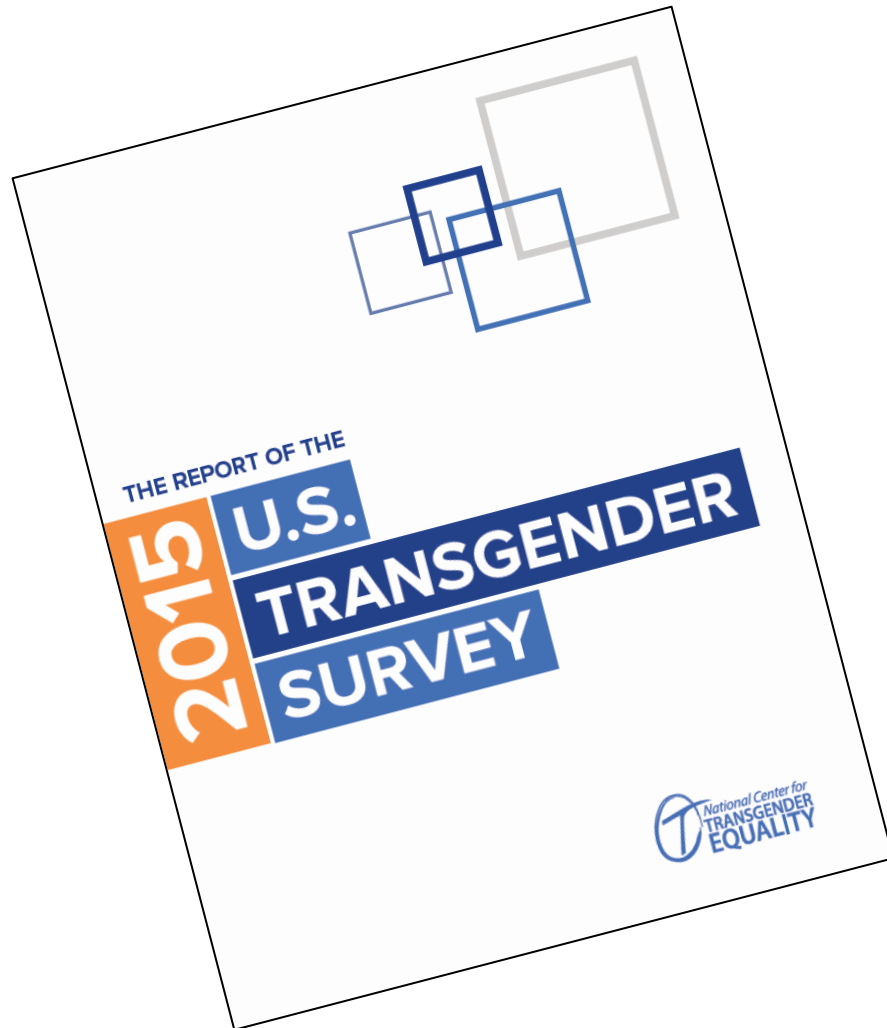
-  Latinx Transgender Women
-  Black Transgender Women
-  White Transgender Women

*\*Data sets representing PLWH who are in-care are most often used to confirm gender identity for transgender PLWH. Because of this, the % of transgender PLWH who have achieved retention in care may be over-represented.*

# In-Care Viral Suppression, 2018



# 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey



27,715 respondents to an anonymous online survey for transgender adults

Assessed and identified disparate outcomes related to:

- Discrimination
- Stigma
- Violence
- Employment
- Education
- Accessing medical services

## What are the top issues impacting and motivating Transgender and Gender Non-binary people in your community?



**44%**

of participants identified primary care and HIV-inclusive health care as the top issue that impacts their community and that they would be interested in motivating to change.



**21%**

of participants identified law enforcement accountability as the top issue that impacts their community. <sup>7</sup>

*I cannot stress more how important and nonexistent basic health care is.*

New Orleans, Louisiana

### THE GRAPEVINE A SOUTHERN TRANS REPORT

Prioritizing Issues Impacting Transgender,  
Gender Nonbinary, and Gender  
Nonconforming Southerners

**SONG**  
SOUTHERNS ON THE GROUND

Transgender  
Law Center



# REPRESENTATION MATTERS!

Staff

Advisory  
Board

Data



Research

Planning

Visuals

## The Gender Spectrum Collection: Stock Photos Beyond the Binary

The Gender Spectrum Collection is a stock photo library featuring images of trans and non-binary models that go beyond the clichés. This collection aims to help media better represent members of these communities as people not necessarily defined by their gender identities—people with careers, relationships, talents, passions, and home lives.

[Read Guidelines](#)



<https://broadlygenderphotos.vice.com/>



# LANGUAGE MATTERS!

## Surveillance activities

2 Step Question: Current Gender Identity, Assigned Sex at Birth

## Program Guidance and Policies

RFA/RFP/Grants

Electronic Health Records

Agency Forms

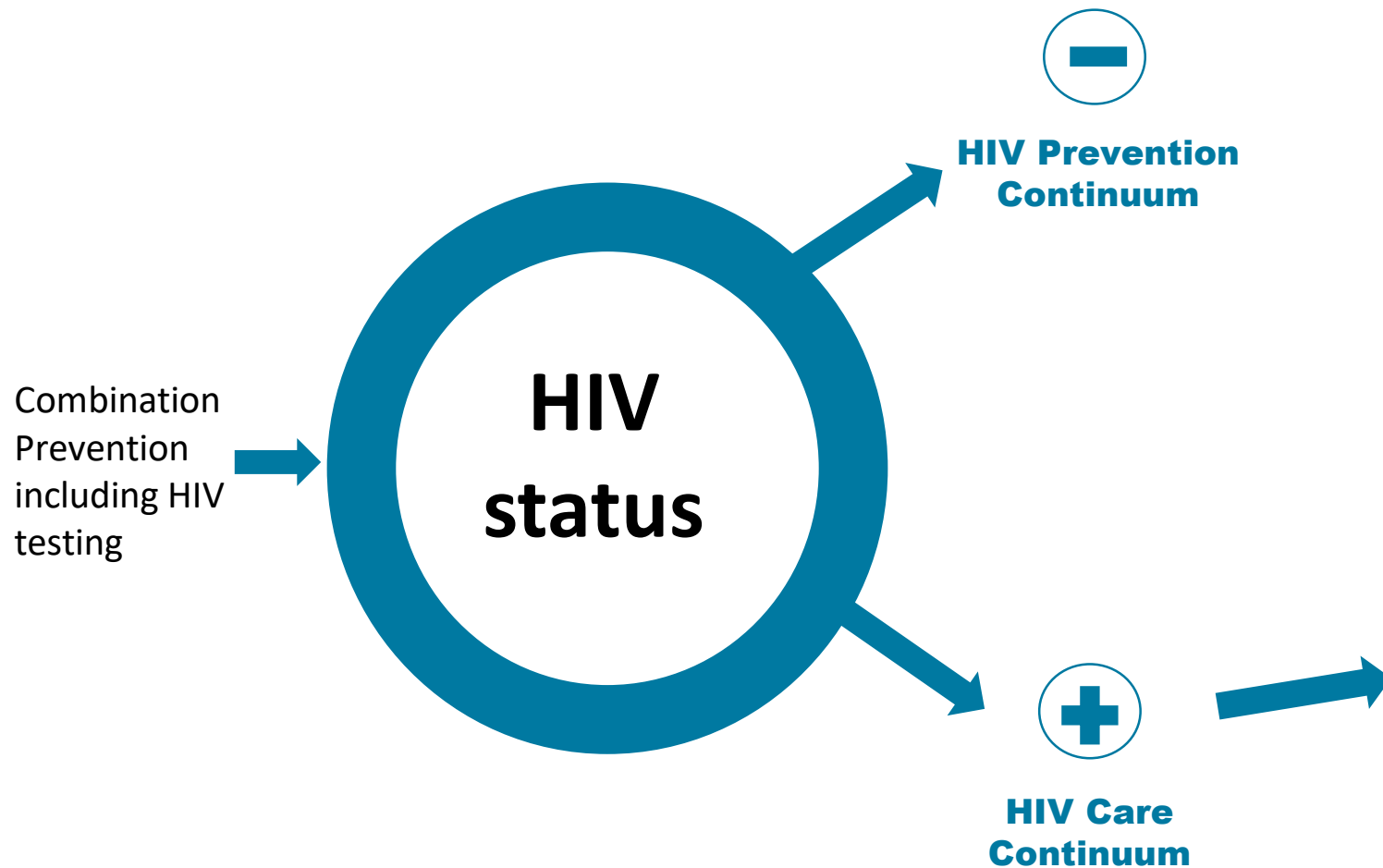
Marketing Materials









~~Preferred Name/Pronouns~~

HIV and AIDS Diagnoses by Transmission Category Among Transgender Women, 2017		
Adult/Adolescent Transmission Category*	HIV	AIDS
Sexual Contact	54	19
Injection Drug Use (IDU)	0	0
Sexual Contact/IDU	5	3
Perinatal Transmission	0	0
Adult Other**	0	0
<b>Perinatal Transmission Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Adult/Perinatal Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>20</b>

# STATUS ± NEUTRAL\*

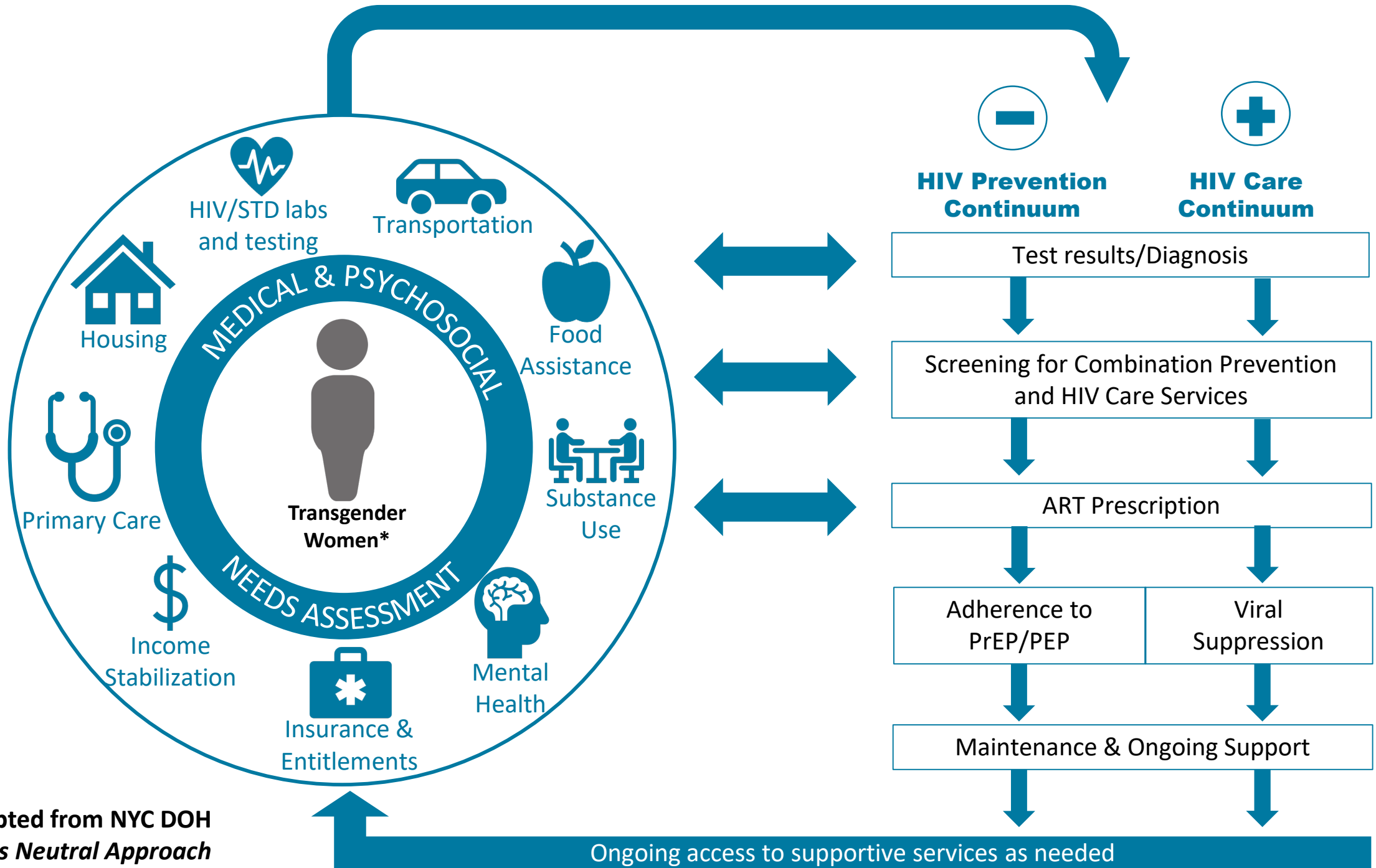
## Current System



 Housing	 Transportation
 Primary Care	 Food Assistance
 Mental Health	 Substance Use
 Insurance & Entitlements	 Income Stabilization

\*adapted from NYC DOH  
*Status Neutral Approach*

# STATUS $\pm$ NEUTRAL



\*adapted from NYC DOH  
*Status Neutral Approach*

# SOMEBODY SHOULD You!!!!!!

# DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS !

*Easy* -----> *Challenging*

E-mail USTS Report  
to colleagues

Schedule staff in-service on  
transgender cultural humility

Create transgender  
wellness clinic

Watch online training on  
how to ask SOGI questions

Update language in policies  
to be affirming of different  
gender identities

Work with surveillance staff to create  
forms/databases/processes that are  
reflecting of all gender identities

# Moving Forward



**Data Collection and Analysis**

**Person First Language Guide**

**Texas Transgender Alliance**

**Achieving Together Conversation Series**

[https://achievingtogethertx.org/calendar/#conversation\\_series](https://achievingtogethertx.org/calendar/#conversation_series)

## Texas Transgender Alliance – Resource Guide

<https://nrg.e-compas.com/TXTA/>

Texas Transgender Alliance Resource Guide

Search  Search

Results 245

Legacy Community Health  
<http://www.lgbthealtheducation.org>  
publichealth@legacycommunityhealth.org (gender care services)  
832-548-5000 (appt), (832) 548-5221 (gender care)  
Legacy is a network of community medical clinics offering primary and specialty care in the Texas Gulf Coast region. Services include adult primary care, pediatric dental care, vision services, behavioral health services, OB/GYN and maternity, vaccinations and immunizations, health promotion/community outreach, wellness and nutrition, gender health and wellness, and HIV/AIDS care.  
Homepage  
11 service centers at this location

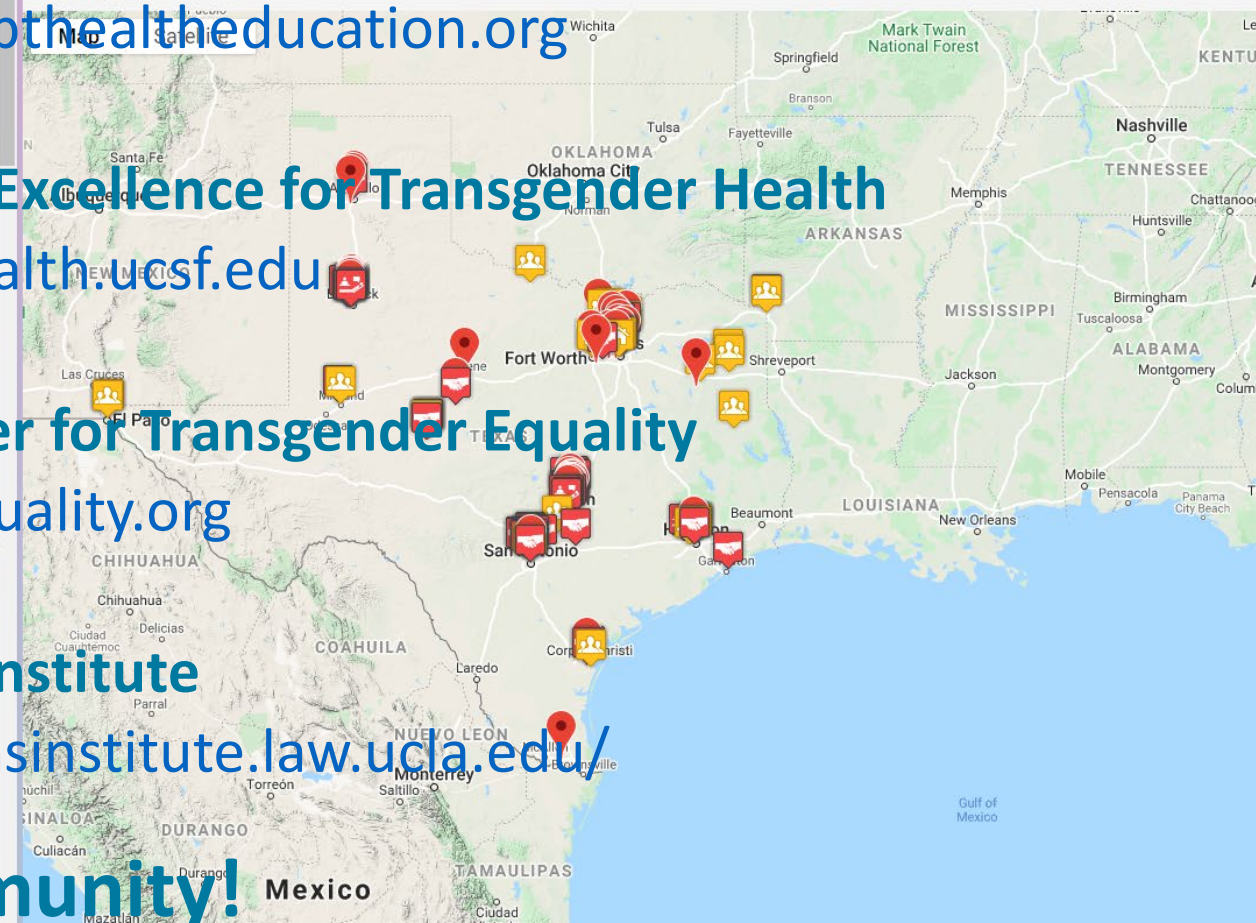
Coastal Bend PRIDE Center  
2882 Holly Rd., Corpus Christi, TX 78415  
The Coastal Bend PRIDE Center, at the Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation, is an LGBTQIA+ community resource center serving the 12 counties of the Coastal Bend. It includes access to a full computer library, computer, health/wellness information, socializing, case management, job search, referrals. Includes transgender therapeutic support group & groups for LGBTQIA+ youth and people ages 18+.  
Homepage

The Center of Excellence for Transgender Health  
<http://transhealth.ucsf.edu>

National Center for Transgender Equality  
<http://transequality.org>

The Williams Institute  
<https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/>

Your Community!





# THANK YOU!



## Texas HIV Syndicate

Staff at Local Regional  
Health Departments

Karen Arrowood

Melissa Kealing

Lisa Landry

Analise Monterosso

Allyson Morris

Jie Deng

Jennifer Chase

Sabeena Sears

Rena Manning

Margaret Vaaler

Shelley Lucas

Ann Dills

Rosa Valdez

Sarah Norkin

Justin Irving

Jonathon Poe

Sharon Riley

Nell Carter

Carmarion Anderson

Lou Weaver

Carter Brown

Candace Moore