

User Guide

# RWHAP Compass Dashboard



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## About the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) provides a comprehensive system of HIV primary medical care, essential support services, and medications for low-income people with HIV. The program funds grants to states, cities, counties, and local community-based organizations to provide care, treatment, and support services for people with HIV to improve health outcomes and reduce HIV transmission. HRSA's HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) administers RWHAP and is committed to achieving optimal HIV health outcomes for all RWHAP clients. To achieve this goal, a central strategy of HRSA HAB is to advance RWHAP data dissemination and utilization of data for program monitoring and quality improvement.

## About the RWHAP Compass Dashboard

The RWHAP Compass Dashboard provides users an opportunity to interact with and visualize the reach, impact, and outcomes of the RWHAP. HRSA HAB developed the dashboard to support data utilization to improve outcomes along the HIV care continuum. By increasing program transparency and users' ability to interact with RWHAP data for decision-making, the dashboard supports HRSA HAB's vision to provide optimal HIV care and treatment for all to end the HIV epidemic in the United States.

This user guide demonstrates how to navigate the RWHAP Compass Dashboard, interact with the multiple screens and sections within the dashboard, and interpret the data presented.

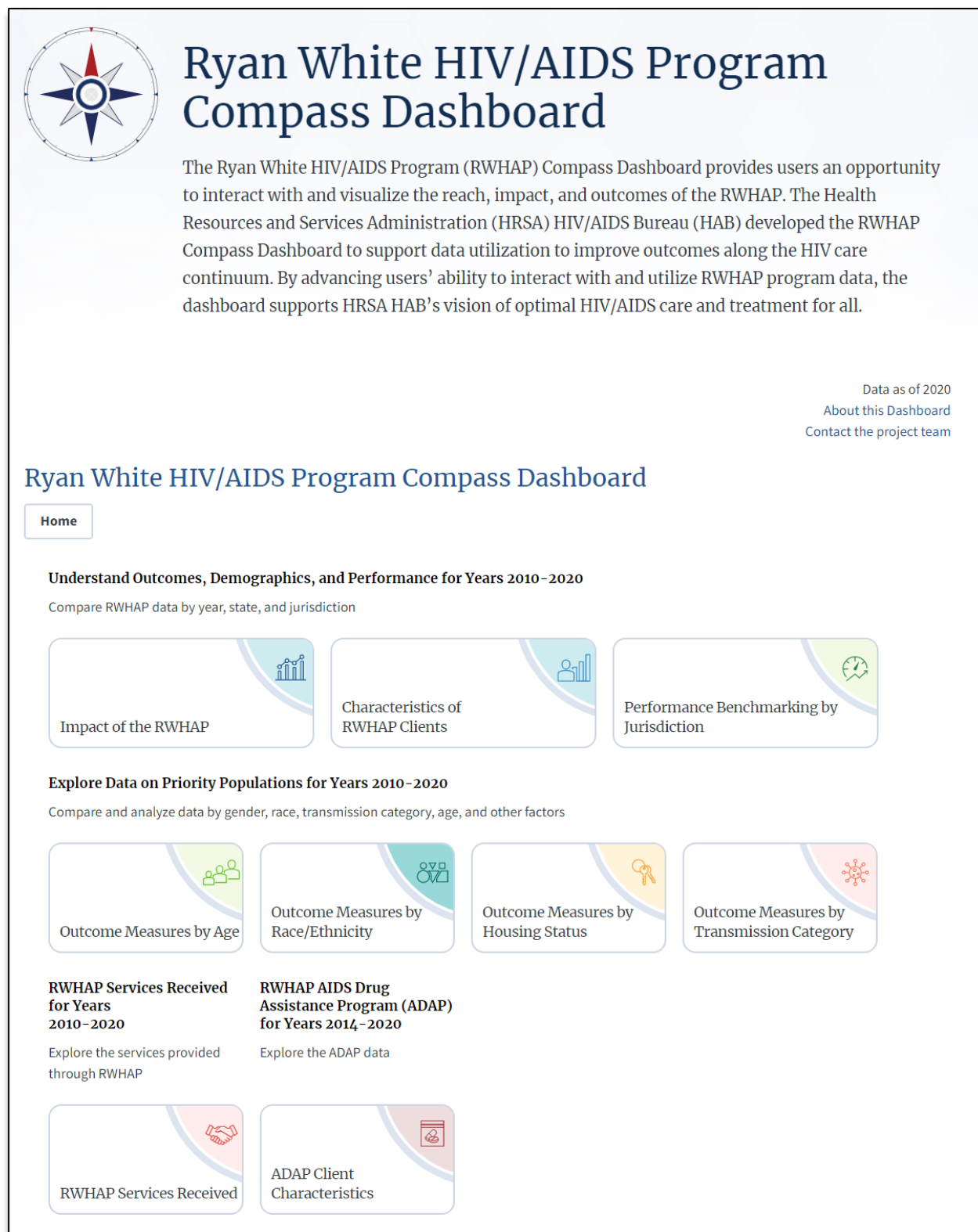
## Using the RWHAP Compass Dashboard

The RWHAP Compass Dashboard comprises nine screens that are accessible from the homepage (see Figure 1):

- Impact of the RWHAP
- Characteristics of RWHAP Clients
- Performance Benchmarking by Jurisdiction
- Outcome Measures by Age
- Outcome Measures by Race/Ethnicity
- Outcome Measures by Housing Status
- Outcome Measures by Transmission Category
- RWHAP Services Received
- ADAP Client Characteristics

**TIP:** Use the home button to return to the landing screen, or use the navigation buttons at the top of each page to move directly to a different screen.

Figure 1



## Understanding the Data

RWHAP Services Report (RSR) data are HRSA HAB's primary source of annual, client-level data reported by more than 2,000 funded grant recipients and subrecipients. These de-identified, client-level data have been used since 2010 to assess RWHAP client characteristics and HIV-related outcomes. RSR data do not include information about the RWHAP AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP); all ADAP-related information is reported through the ADAP Data Report (ADR). The current version of the RWHAP Compass Dashboard includes RSR data through 2020; additional years of RSR data will be added in future releases as they become available.

The ADR includes client-level data about clients enrolled in ADAP. The ADR data have been used since 2014 and are reported by the 54 states and territories that receive ADAP funding. The ADR data do not include information about clients receiving non-ADAP RWHAP services, such as core medical and support services. However, many ADAP clients also receive these services. The current version of the RWHAP Compass Dashboard includes ADR data through 2019; additional years of ADR data will be added in future releases as they become available.

It is important to note that neither the RSR nor ADR can track clients over time. Because these data are reported annually and de-identified, an individual client cannot be tracked across years.

## Outcome Measures

The RWHAP relies on two primary outcome measures – viral suppression and retention in care.

- **Viral suppression** was based on data for people with HIV who had at least one outpatient ambulatory health services (OAHS) visit (i.e., a medical visit) during the measurement year. Among these clients, a client was considered “virally suppressed” if their last viral load test result in the calendar year was <200 copies/mL.
- **Retention in care** was based on data for people with HIV who had at least one OAHS visit (i.e., a medical visit) by September 1 of the measurement year. Among these clients, a client was considered “retained in care” if they had a second visit at least 90 days after.

## How Percentages are Calculated

Screens that display the number of clients served (e.g., Characteristics of RWHAP Clients), include all RWHAP clients, regardless of HIV serostatus. This includes:

- Clients with HIV
- Clients for whom HIV serostatus was not reported
- Clients who do not have HIV (i.e., families of people with HIV are able to receive certain RWHAP services)

In 2020, people with HIV represented an estimated 98.7% of all RWHAP clients.

Screens in the dashboard displaying outcome measure data (i.e., retention in care and viral suppression) include only people with HIV who also meet the denominator criteria for that specific outcome measure.

Therefore, these outcomes represent a subset of all RWHAP clients. As a result, the number of people with HIV included in these outcome analyses is **less than** the total number of people served by the RWHAP. (See Technical Notes and Definitions for more information on outcome measure calculations.)

In certain jurisdictions, and/or when multiple filters are selected, client populations may be very small. To ensure confidentiality, data are suppressed for small client counts and are not displayed on the dashboard.

Note that some percentage calculations with non-zero numerators may be rounded to 0.0% for display purposes.

## Geographic Regions

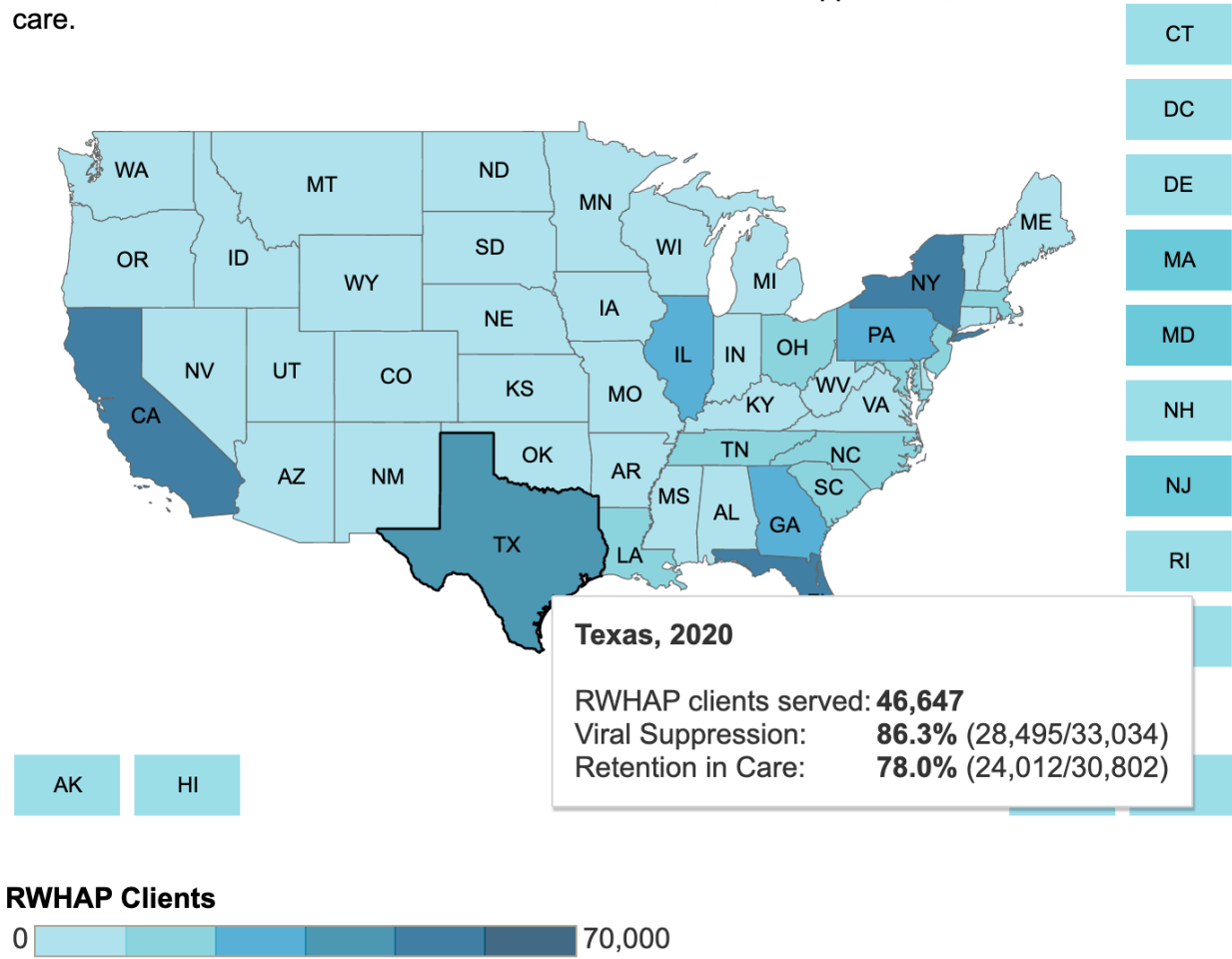
The dashboard displays information at national, state, and metropolitan area levels. The RWHAP funds grants to cities (Part A); states (Part B); and cities, counties, and local community-based organizations (Parts C and D), to provide care and treatment services to people with HIV. In particular, RWHAP Part A provides funding to specific metropolitan areas that are most severely impacted by the HIV epidemic. The boundaries of these Eligible Metropolitan Areas (EMAs) and Transitional Grant Areas (TGAs) are based on the U.S. Census designations of Metropolitan Statistical Areas at the time when that jurisdiction first became an EMA or TGA and may span more than one state.

Selecting a state or metropolitan area will show data for that geographic region, regardless of the funding source (see Figure 2). That is, the data represented are not specific to any one RWHAP Part, regardless of the geographic area selected (i.e., state or metropolitan area). For example, selecting the state of Maryland would show information for all clients served by providers located in the state of Maryland across Part A, Part B, Part C, and Part D funding sources.

**Figure 2**

**Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Clients Served, 2020**

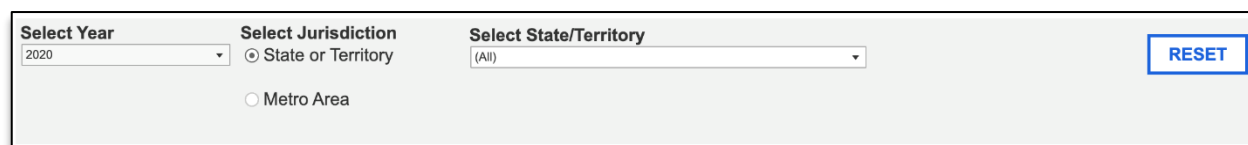
Hover over a state to view the number of clients served, viral suppression, and retention in care.



## Filtering Data

Each screen has a set of filters at the top of the page (see example below). Using these filters can customize the displayed data, including data year and jurisdiction. On certain screens, you can also select an outcome measure (e.g., viral suppression or retention in care) and filter based on demographic characteristics.

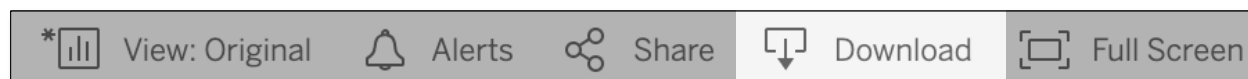
On screens with U.S. maps, users can click on a state or territory to access data for that jurisdiction. Use the reset button to clear your selections to return to the default view and start again.



The filtering form contains three main sections: 'Select Year' with a dropdown menu showing '2020'; 'Select Jurisdiction' with radio buttons for 'State or Territory' (selected) and 'Metro Area'; and 'Select State/Territory' with a dropdown menu showing '(All)'. A blue 'RESET' button is located on the right side of the form.

## Downloading Filtered Views

Download an image or PDF of your filtered view using the download feature at the top of each screen (see example below).



The download bar includes icons for a print function, a bar chart, and a document. It contains the text 'View: Original', a bell icon for 'Alerts', a share icon for 'Share', a download icon for 'Download', and a full screen icon for 'Full Screen'.

## Individual Screens

Each of the nine individual screens provides an in-depth view into the RWHAP. Together, they highlight the state of the RWHAP and measure progress toward ending the HIV epidemic. Each screen is described in greater detail below.

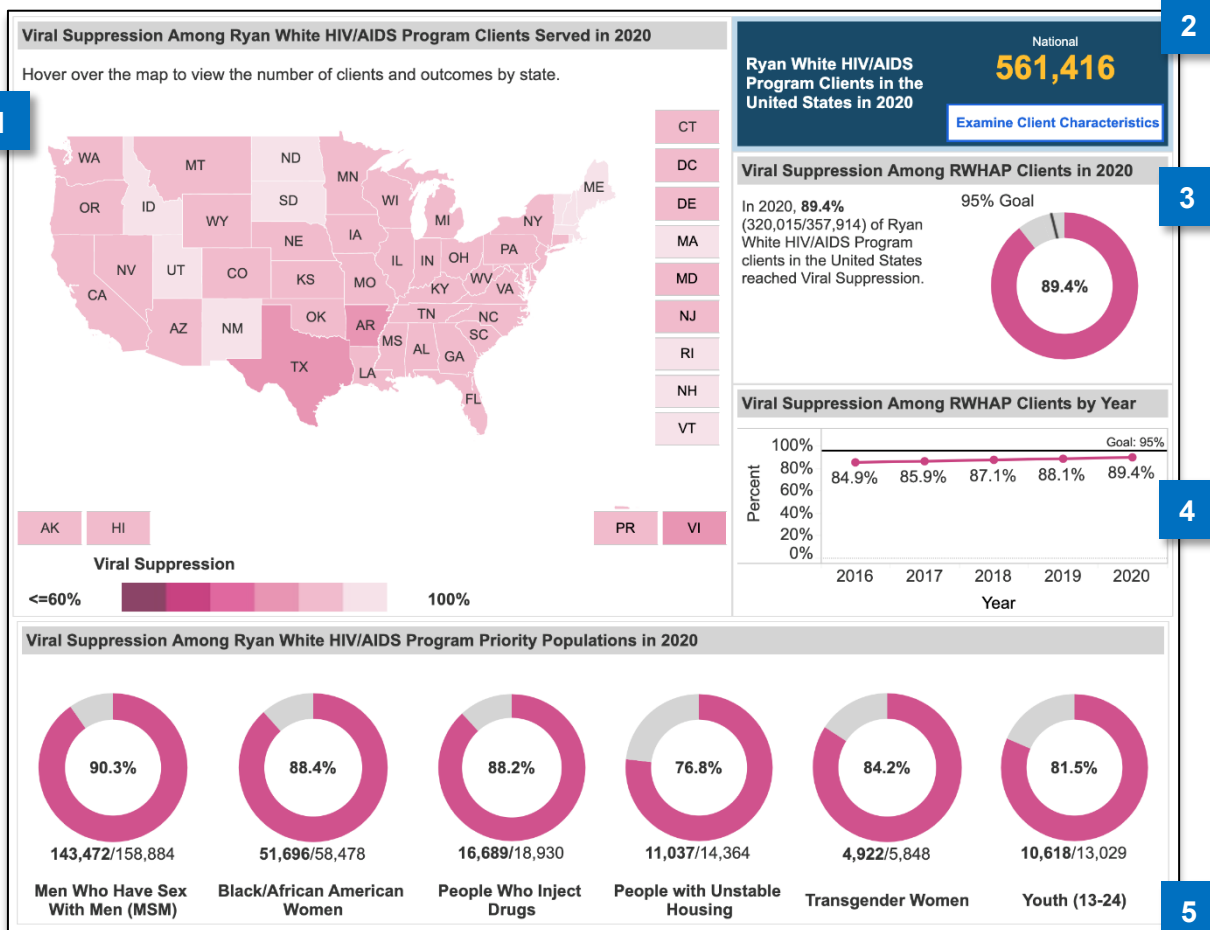
### Impact of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

This screen (see Figure 3) displays client outcome data for viral suppression and retention in care. You can view national, state, or metropolitan area data.

The initial view shows the most recent national data for viral suppression. Users can select Retention in Care to see data on that outcome measure.



**Figure 3**



### 1. Outcome Measure Map

This map provides state-level information about the selected outcome measure. Darker colors represent lower viral suppression rates, and lighter colors represent higher viral suppression rates.

### 2. RWHAP Program Clients Summary

This presents the number of RWHAP clients served in the selected location.

### 3. Outcome Measure Summary

The outcome measures indicate the number of clients who meet the selected outcome criteria compared to the total number of clients who meet the denominator inclusion criteria. When looking at state or metropolitan area data, national data is provided for comparison. Percentages for these data are also displayed.

The donut chart shows the percentage of clients meeting the outcome measure compared to the national goals for the selected outcome measure.

#### 4. Outcome Measure Among RWHAP Clients by Year

This graph shows the percentage of clients who meet the outcome measure over a five-year period. The goal for this outcome measure is also provided on the graph.

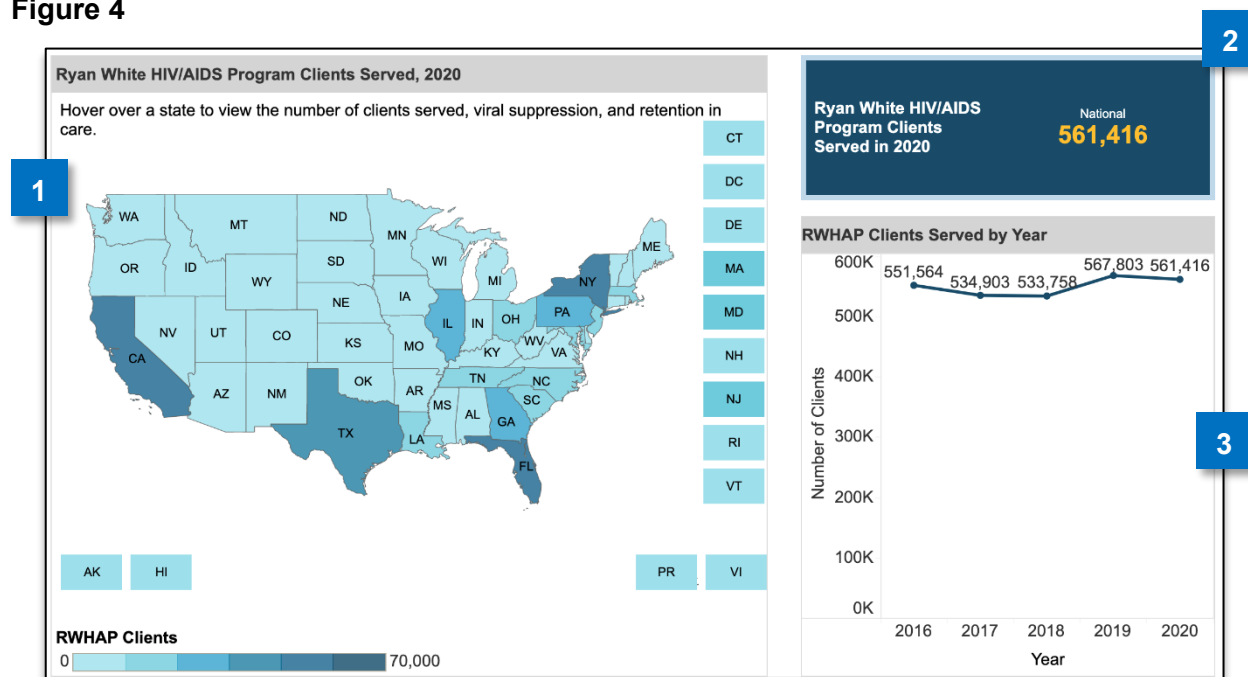
#### 5. Outcome Measure Among Priority Populations

The donut charts show the selected outcome measure for several priority populations. This percentage is derived from the total number of clients who achieved the specified outcome and the total number of clients within the priority population who meet the denominator inclusion criteria.

### Characteristics of RWHAP Clients

This screen (see Figures 4 and 5) displays characteristics and demographics of the clients served by RWHAP. The initial view for this screen shows the most recent national data for all RWHAP clients. You can also view data at the national, state, or metropolitan area level.

**Figure 4**



#### 1. RWHAP Clients Served Map

This map shows national or state-level information about RWHAP clients for the selected year.

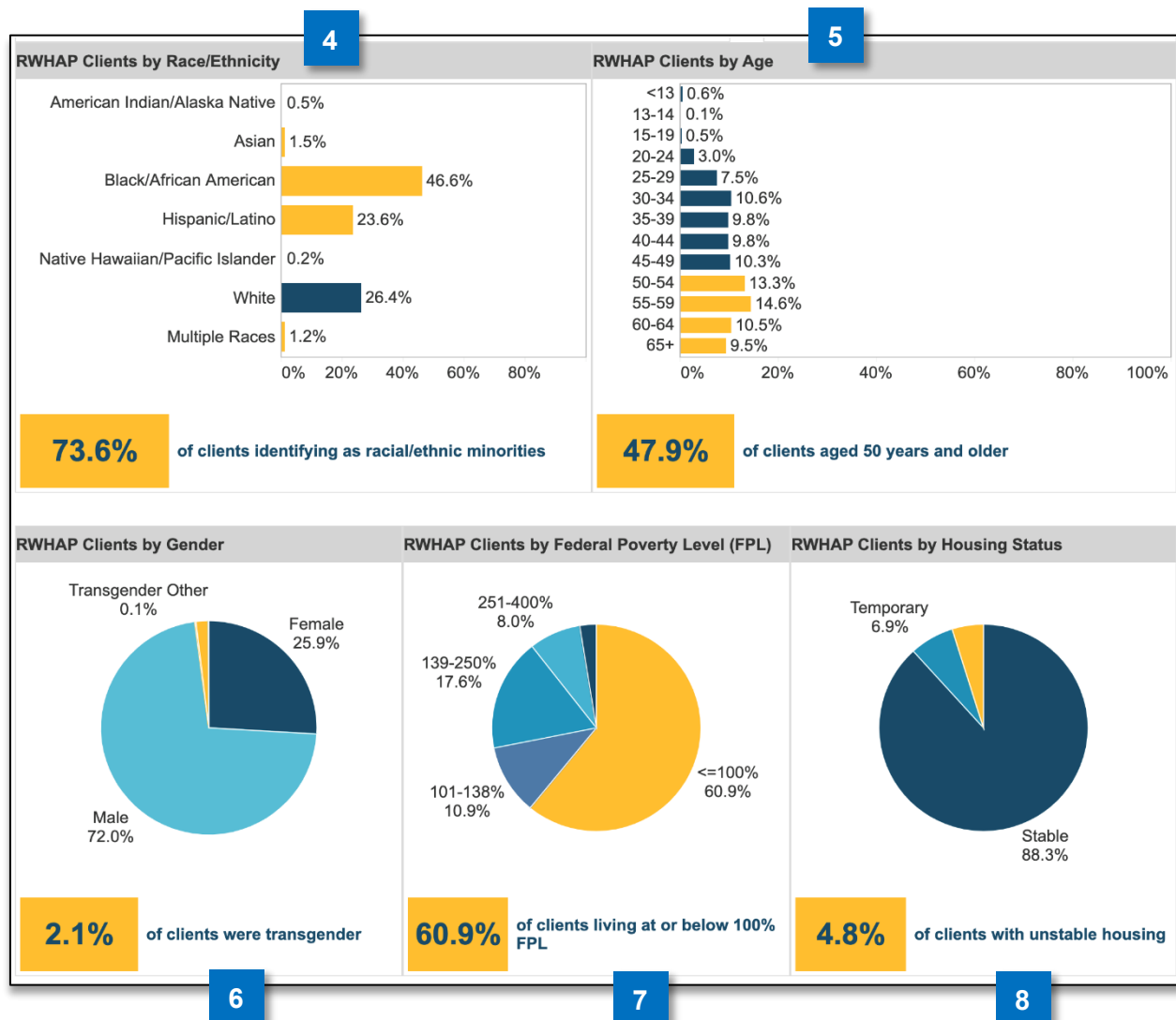
#### 2. RWHAP Program Clients Summary

This displays the number of RWHAP clients served in the selected location.

#### 3. RWHAP Clients Served by Year

This graph shows the number of clients served in the selected location over a five-year period.

**Figure 5**



#### 4. RWHAP Clients by Race/Ethnicity

This bar chart shows the percentage of clients in each race/ethnicity category. Racial/ethnic minorities are indicated by yellow bars, and the total percentage of clients who are racial/ethnic minorities is displayed below the bar chart.

#### 5. RWHAP Clients by Age

This bar chart shows the percentage of clients in each age group. Clients aged 50 years and older are indicated by yellow bars, and the total percentage of those clients is displayed below the bar chart.

## 6. RWHAP Clients by Gender

This pie chart shows the distribution of client gender. Transgender clients are represented by the yellow slice. The total percentage of transgender clients is displayed below the pie chart.

## 7. RWHAP Clients by Federal Poverty Level

This pie chart shows the distribution of income level as a percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Clients living at or below 100% FPL are represented in yellow. The total percentage of clients at or below 100% FPL is displayed below the pie chart.

## 8. RWHAP Clients by Housing Status

This pie chart shows the percent distribution of housing status for RWHAP clients. Clients with unstable housing are represented in yellow. The total percentage of clients with unstable housing is displayed below the pie chart.

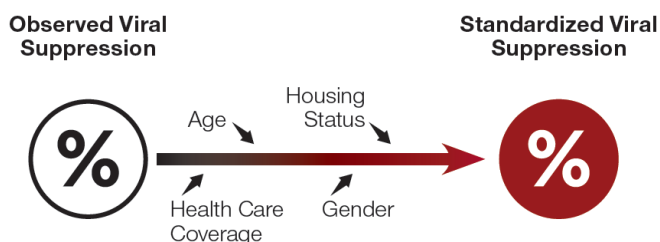
### ABOUT STANDARDIZED PERFORMANCE

Recipients funded by the RWHAP differ in many important aspects, including the characteristics of the clients they serve. The RWHAP Compass Dashboard provides standardized performance tools to support jurisdictional comparison and evaluation.

Standardized performance allows “like-to-like” comparison of jurisdictions that may serve different populations.

#### Step 1: Standardized Outcome Measure

A statistical model is applied to the observed outcome measure (viral suppression or retention in care) that adjusts for key client characteristics.



The Observed Outcome Measure is calculated based on data reported through the RWHAP Services Report.

The Standardized Outcome Measure is the expected rate given the age, gender, housing status, and health care coverage of the clients in this jurisdiction.

These four variables were chosen based on consultation with a panel of technical experts and previous work by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).\*

## Step 2: Standardized Performance Score

The observed outcome measure is compared to the standardized outcome measure to calculate the standardized performance score.

$$\frac{\text{Observed Outcome Measure}}{\text{Standardized (Expected) Outcome Measure}} = \text{Standardized Performance Score}$$

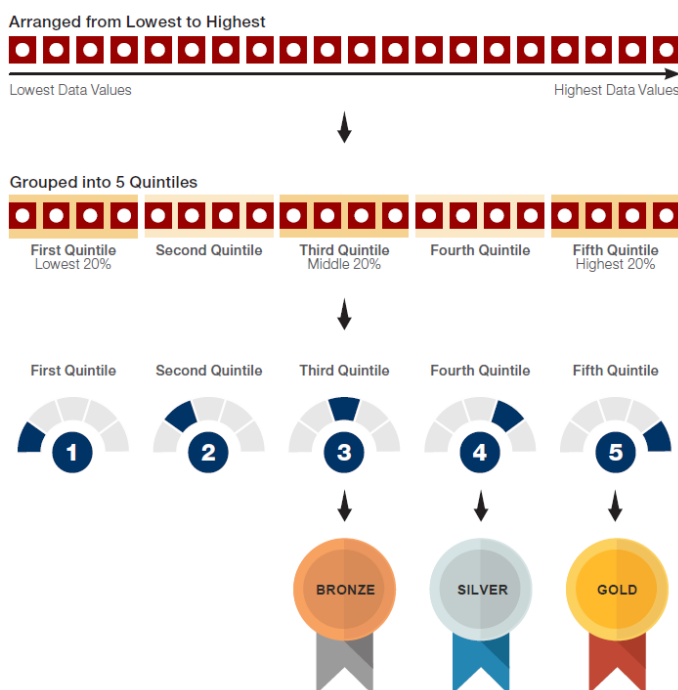
A jurisdiction with a score greater than one is performing better than expected, given the client populations they serve.

A jurisdiction with a score less than one is not meeting their expected performance, given the client populations they serve.

## Step 3: Assign Range

Standardized Performance is reported as a quintile to demonstrate where a score falls within the range of all jurisdictions.

### Standardized Performance Scores for All Providers



The standardized performance score is a tool to understand relative performance between jurisdictions.

A score in the first quintile is in the lowest 20%; a score in the third quintile is in the middle 20%; and a score in the fifth quintile is in the top or highest 20% of jurisdictions in the U.S.

Standardized performance is displayed as a gauge on the RWHAP Compass Dashboard.

Jurisdictions in the top three quintiles display a badge. Standardized performance in the fifth quintile receives a gold badge, standardized performance in the fourth quintile receives a silver badge, and standardized performance in the third quintile receives a bronze badge.

### Technical Notes

The standardized performance score is generated from Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Services Report (RSR) data for states or metropolitan areas by using the unique list of clients per state or metropolitan area. The same model and variables are used for both the state and metropolitan area calculations.

### Data Used

The data source for these calculations is the RWHAP Services Report and does not include ADAP data. The standardized outcomes methodology uses demographic and outcome data from RWHAP-eligible clients with HIV with at least one OAHS visit in a calendar year. Only OAHS providers are included in the dataset; providers who do not provide OAHS services will not appear in the standardized outcomes dashboards.

### Model

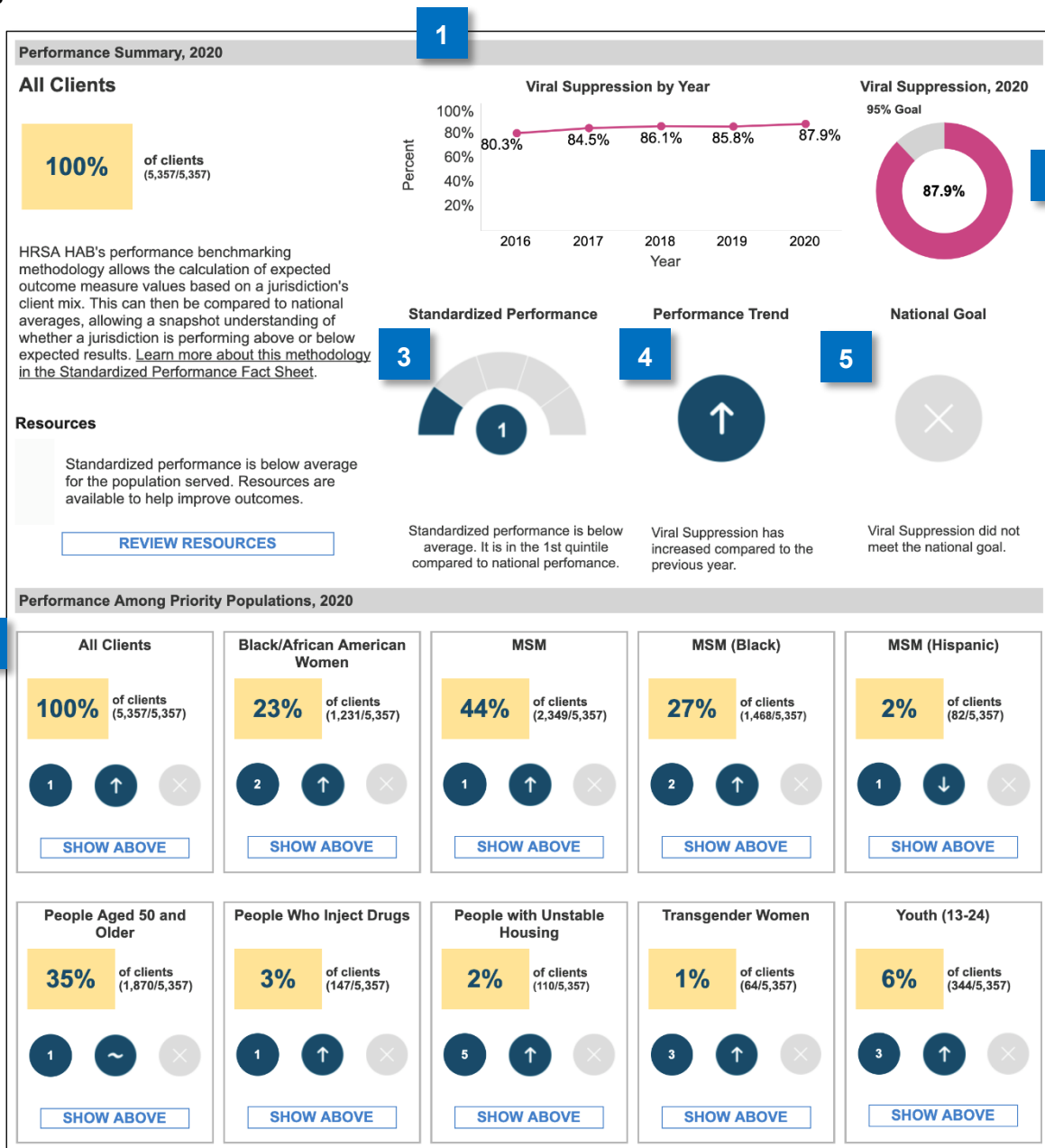
The statistical model used to generate standardized performance was based on the previous CMS model but adapted to fit the RWHAP setting.\* Client and provider effects were selected by HRSA HAB and the technical expert panel. is a hierarchical, two-level model with client fixed effects and provider random effects.

\*Krumholz, H.M., Normand, S.L.T., Galusha, D.H., Mattera, J.A., Rich, A.S., Wang Yongfei, Wang Yun. (2010). Risk-Adjustment Models for AMI and HF 30-Day Mortality Methodology, prepared for Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Under subcontract #8908-03-02, February 2, 2010.

## Performance Benchmarking by Jurisdiction

The Benchmarking Performance screen shows performance data, including observed outcome measures and standardized performance. When the Performance Benchmarking by Jurisdiction screen (Figure 6) first loads, it displays the most recent data for the first alphabetical state (Alabama). Select a different jurisdiction from the dropdown menus.

**Figure 6**





### 1. Observed Outcome Measure by Year

This line chart plots the observed viral suppression or retention in care over a five-year period.

### 2. Observed Outcome Measure Summary

This donut chart shows the observed viral suppression or retention in care for the selected data year. It also shows the national goal for the selected outcome measure.

### 3. Standardized Performance

This gauge shows the standardized performance for the selected outcome measure. A score in the first quintile is in the bottom 20%. A score in the third quintile is in the middle 20%, and a score in the fifth quintile is in the top 20%.

### 4. Performance Trend

This icon shows whether the observed rate of the selected outcome measure for the jurisdiction has increased, decreased, or stayed the same as compared to the previous data year.

### 5. National Goal

This icon will be a green checkmark if the jurisdiction has met the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) indicator for the selected outcome measure based on the observed rate of the selected outcome measure. The icon will be a gray “x” if the national goal has not yet been met.

### 6. Performance Among Priority Populations

These figures show performance among specific priority populations and include the percentage of clients within that population as well as the standardized performance, trend, and national goal icons.

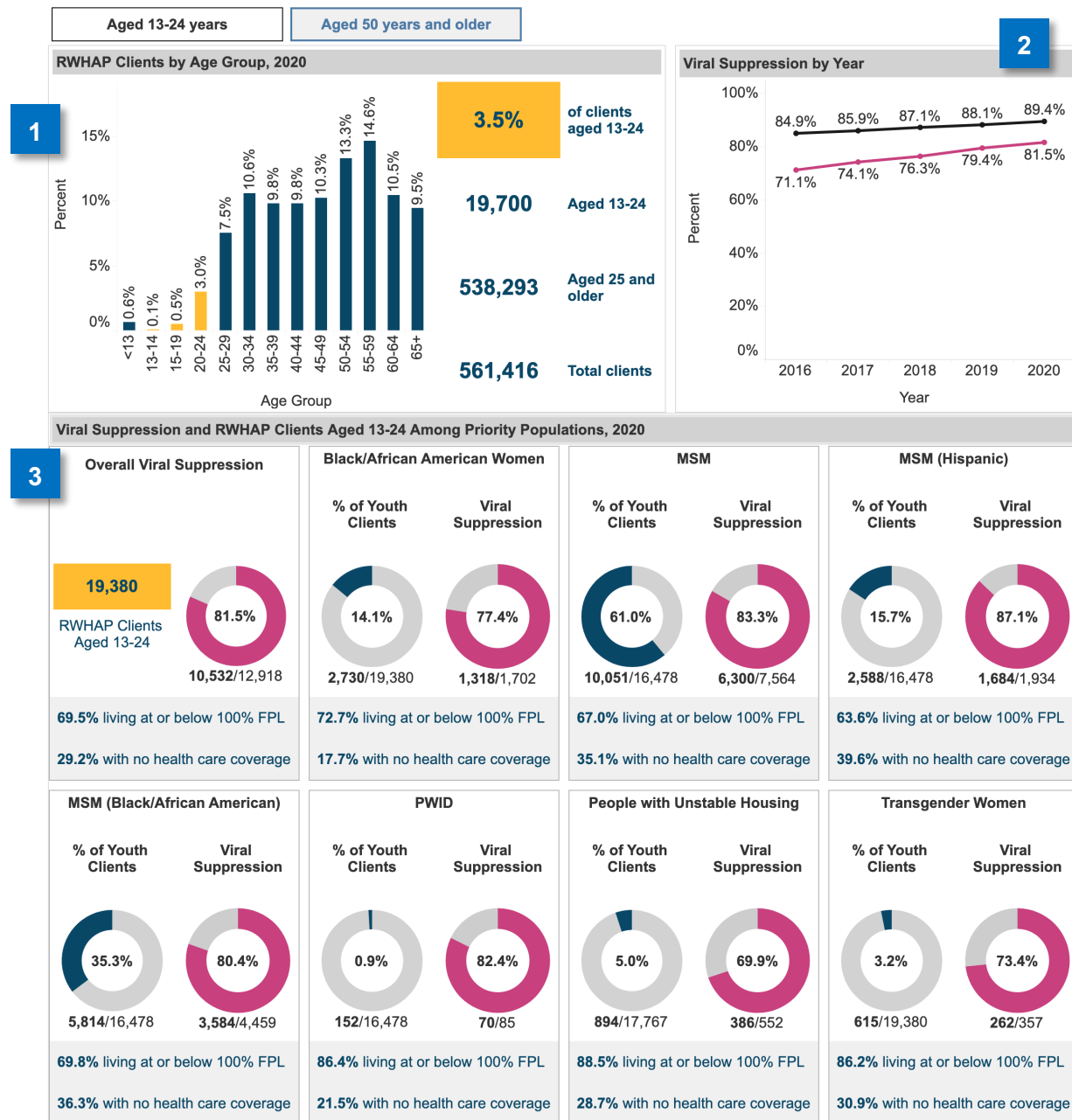
## Outcome Measures by Age

This screen (see Figure 7) shows the outcomes and client characteristics by age group, with a focus on youth (aged 13–24 years) and clients aged 50 years and older.

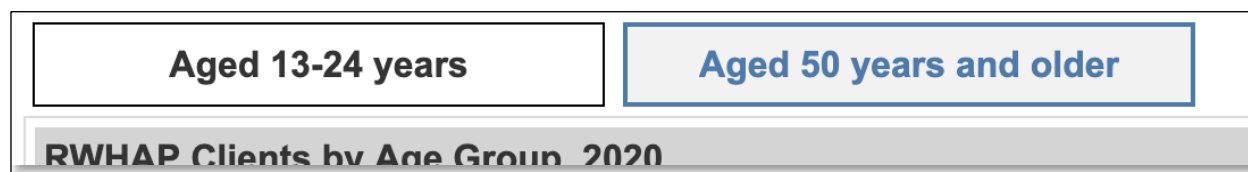
When the screen first loads, it displays the most recent national data for clients of all race/ethnicity categories and genders who are aged 13–24 years. Use the dropdowns in the filters panel to customize the data that is presented.



**Figure 7**



This screen has two tabs that allow the viewer to toggle between two age ranges: clients aged 13–24 years and clients aged 50 years and older (see example below).



### 1. RWHAP Clients by Age Group

This bar chart provides a visualization of the defined population by age group. The age groups that fall within the selected age range (aged 13–24 years or aged 50 years and older) will be highlighted in yellow on the bar chart. To the right of the chart is a summary of data related to the selected age range.

### 2. Outcome Measure by Year

This trend chart shows the outcome measure for the selected age range (aged 13–24 years or aged 50 and older) versus the national data for all age groups.

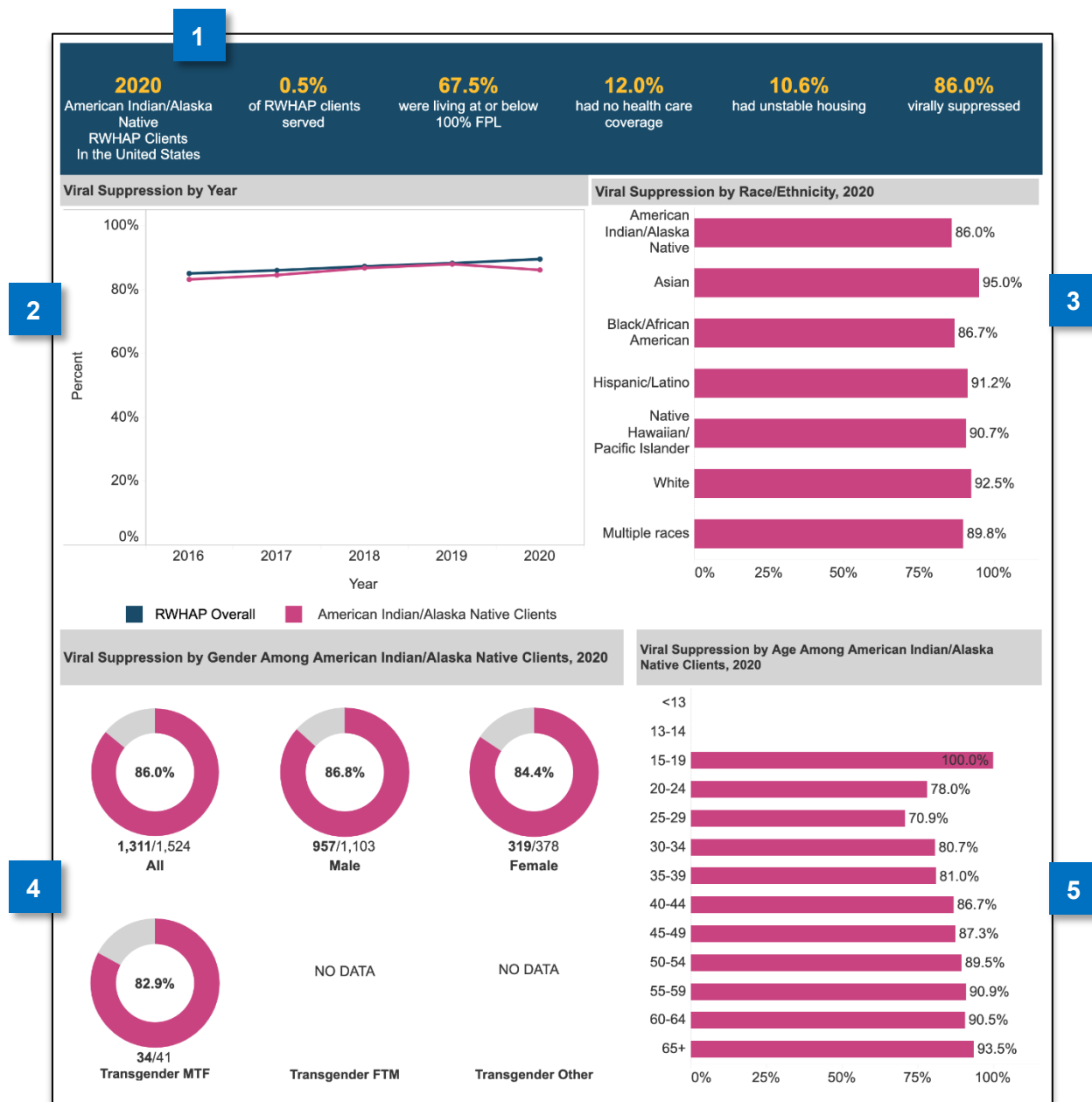
### 3. Outcomes and RWHAP Clients by Age Among Priority Populations

These small boxes compare viral suppression or retention in care of the selected age range (aged 13–24 years or aged 50 years and older) among various priority populations. They also show what percentage of clients makes up the selected age range and population to provide data regarding the size of each priority population.

### Outcome Measures by Client's Race/Ethnicity

This screen (see Figure 8) displays viral suppression or retention in care by clients' race/ethnicity. When the screen first loads, it displays the most recent national data for viral suppression among White clients. Select a different race/ethnicity from the dropdown menu to change the display.

**Figure 8**



## 1. Summary Information

This block contains key contextual information for the selected race or ethnicity.

- **Percent of Client Population:** The percentage of clients who identify as the selected race/ethnicity.
- **At or Below Federal Poverty Level (FPL):** The percentage of clients living at or below 100% FPL for the selected race/ethnicity.

- **No Health Care Coverage:** The percentage of clients with no health care coverage for the selected race/ethnicity.
- **Unstable Housing:** The percentage of clients who reported having unstable housing for the selected race/ethnicity.
- **Outcome Measure:** The percentage of clients who meet the selected outcome measure for the selected race/ethnicity.

## 2. Outcome Measure by Year

The magenta trend line shows the selected outcome measure over a five-year period for the selected race/ethnicity category. A trend line for the national data for all race/ethnicity categories is plotted in dark blue for comparison.

## 3. Outcome Measure by Race/Ethnicity

This bar chart shows the outcome measure by race/ethnicity categories.

## 4. Outcome Measure by Gender

These donut charts show the outcome measure by gender for the selected race/ethnicity category.

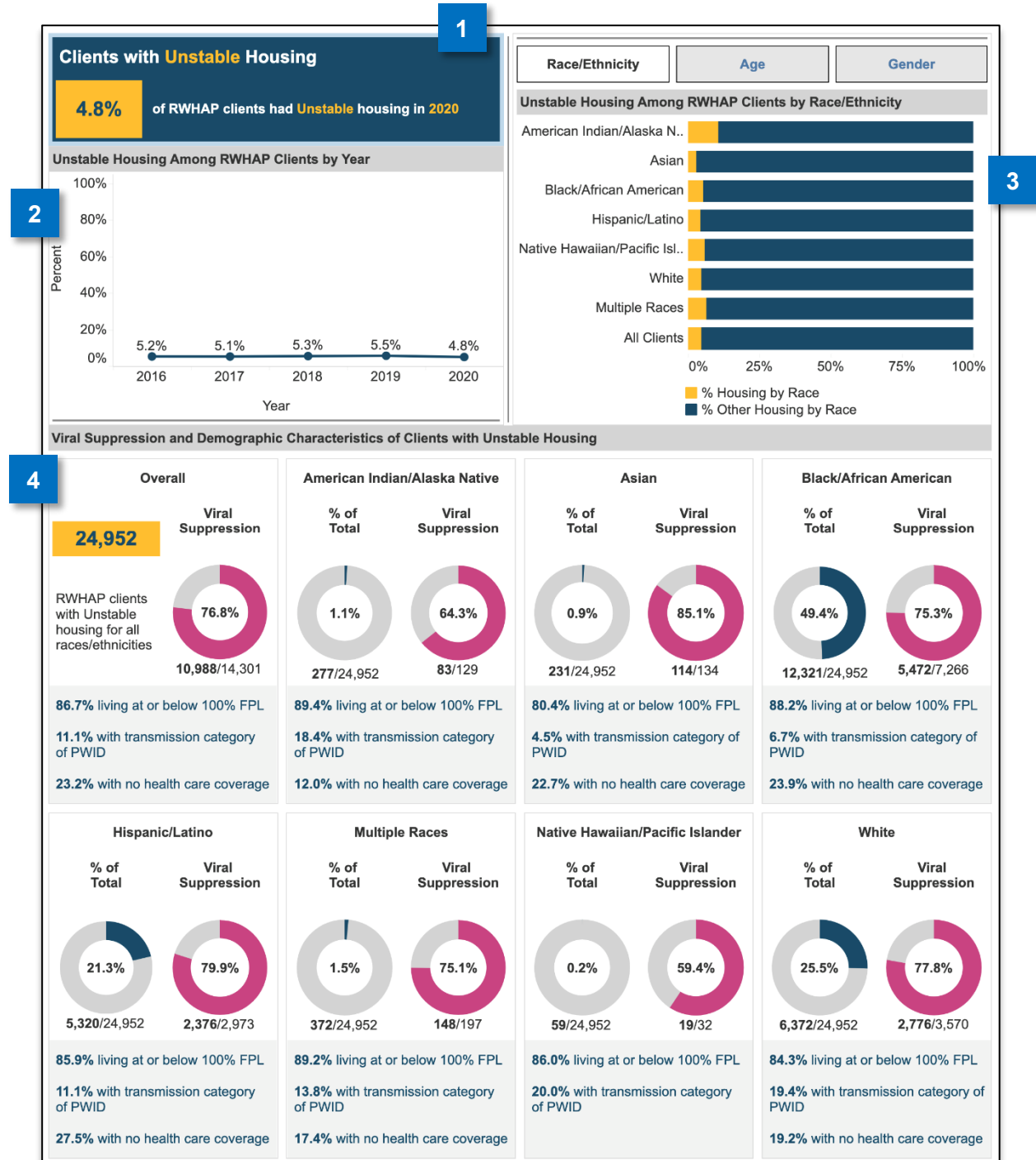
## 5. Outcome Measure by Age

This bar chart shows the outcome measure by age for the selected race/ethnicity category.

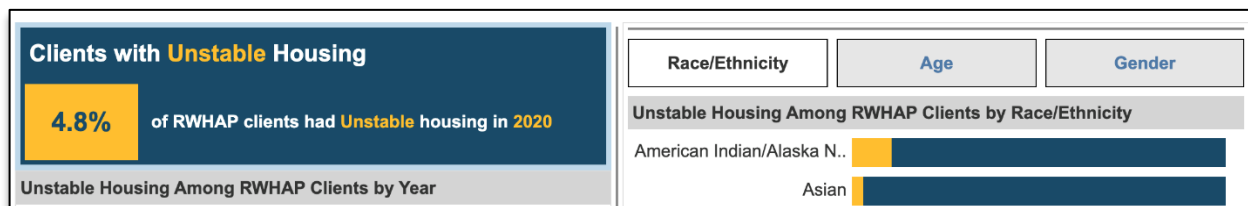
## Outcome Measures by Housing Status

This screen (see Figure 9) shows viral suppression and retention in care by housing status. It also explores how these outcome measures differ among priority populations. When the screen first loads, it displays the most recent national data for viral suppression among those experiencing unstable housing. Select a different housing status from the dropdown menu to change the display.

**Figure 9**



This screen has three tabs that allow the viewer to toggle between charts that show housing status data relative to race/ethnicity, age, or gender (see example below). Selecting a tab will update certain figures on the page.



### 1. Housing Status Summary

This box highlights the percentage of RWHAP clients within the selected population who reported having unstable housing.

### 2. Housing Status Among RWHAP Clients by Year

This chart shows the percentage of clients within the defined population who reported having the selected housing status over a five-year period.

### 3. Housing Status Among RWHAP Clients by Race/Ethnicity, Age, or Gender

These yellow bar graphs show the prevalence of the selected housing status within the selected population. Use the tabs above the bar chart to toggle the view between race/ethnicity, age, and gender.

### 4. Outcome Measure and Demographic Characteristics

These small boxes display outcomes and demographic characteristics for clients with the selected housing status. The data in these boxes can be viewed by race/ethnicity, age, or gender by selecting the relevant tab at the top of the screen.

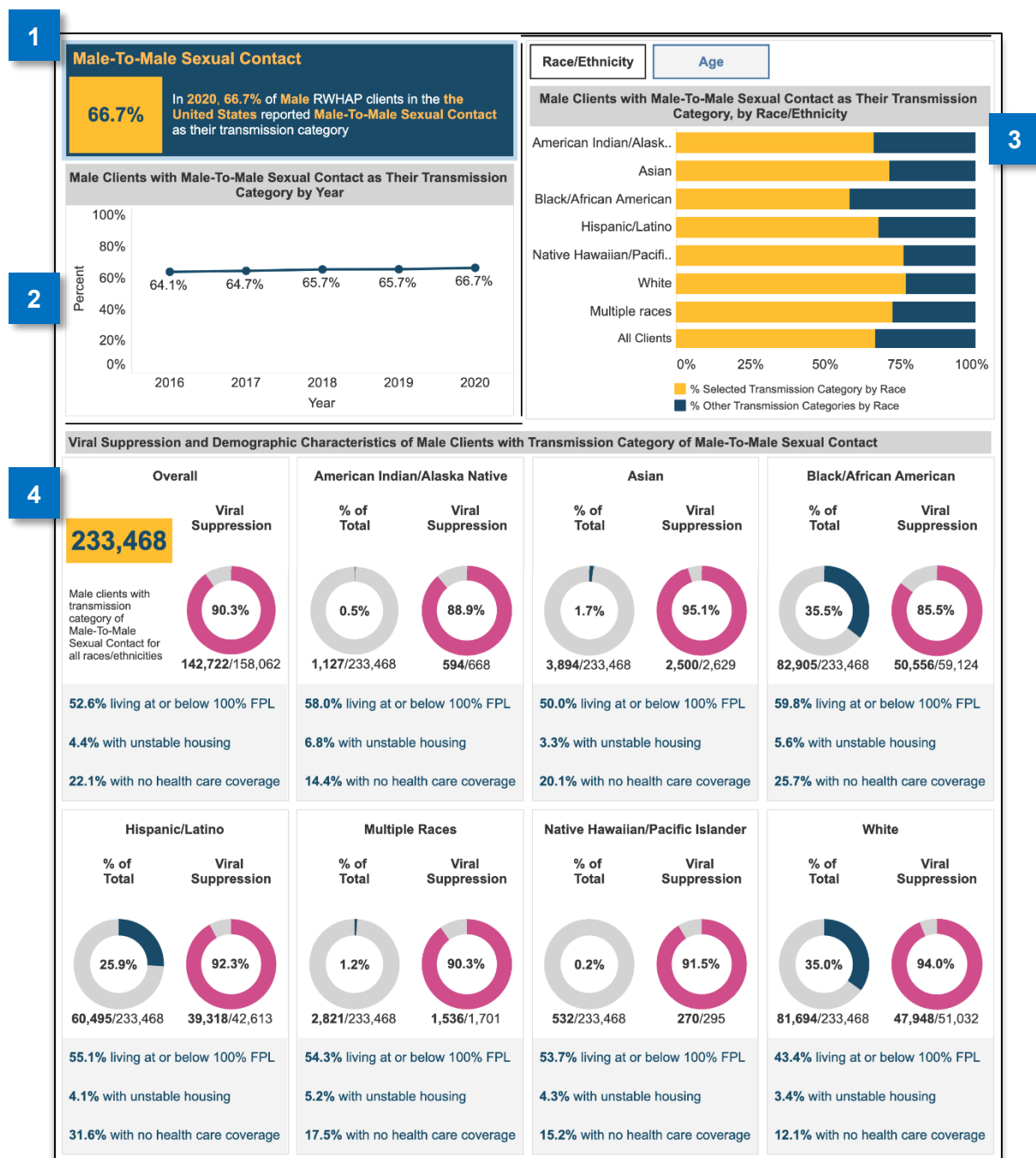
The first box presents the overall number of clients and outcome measure. The following boxes present the percentage of clients and the outcome measure in race/ethnicity, age, or gender categories. The boxes also present additional contextual information about the FPL, housing, and health care coverage of these specific populations.

## Outcome Measures by Transmission Category

This screen (see Figure 10) shows viral suppression or retention in care by transmission category, as well as variations among priority populations.

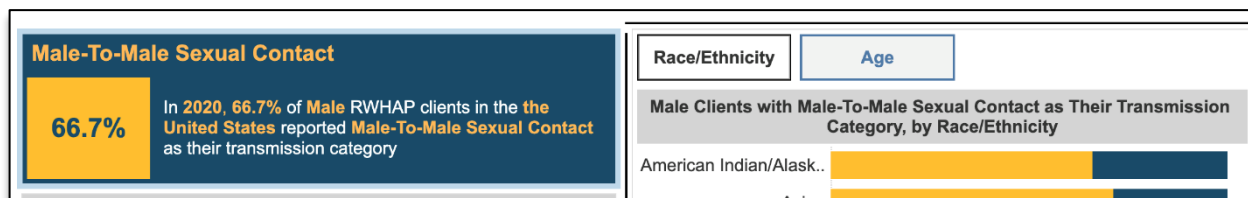
When the screen first loads, it displays the most recent national data for viral suppression and male-to-male sexual contact. Select a gender and transmission category from the dropdown menus to change the data displayed. The screen will automatically update based on the selections.

**Figure 10**





This screen also has two tabs that allow the viewer to filtered the data by race/ethnicity or by age (see example below). Selecting either tab will update some of the figures on the page.



## 1. Transmission Category Summary

This box highlights the percentage of clients within the selected population who reported the selected transmission category.

## 2. RWHAP Clients by Transmission Category by Year

This chart shows the percentage of clients within the selected population who reported the selected transmission category over a period of five years.

## 3. RWHAP Clients by Race/Ethnicity or Age

These yellow bar graphs show the prevalence of the selected transmission category within the selected population. The tabs at the top change the view between race/ethnicity and age.

## 4. Outcome Measure and Demographic Characteristics by Transmission Category

These small boxes display outcomes and demographic characteristics for clients with the selected transmission category. The data in these boxes can be viewed by race/ethnicity, age, or gender by selecting the relevant tab at the top of the screen.

The first box presents the overall number of clients and outcome measure. The following boxes present the percentage of clients and the outcome measure in race/ethnicity, age, or gender categories. The boxes also present additional contextual information about the FPL, housing, and health care coverage of these specific populations.

## RWHAP Services Received

This screen (see Figure 11) shows the percentage of RWHAP clients receiving core medical and support services. Please refer to [Policy Clarification Notice 16-02](#) for a complete description of the RWHAP service categories.

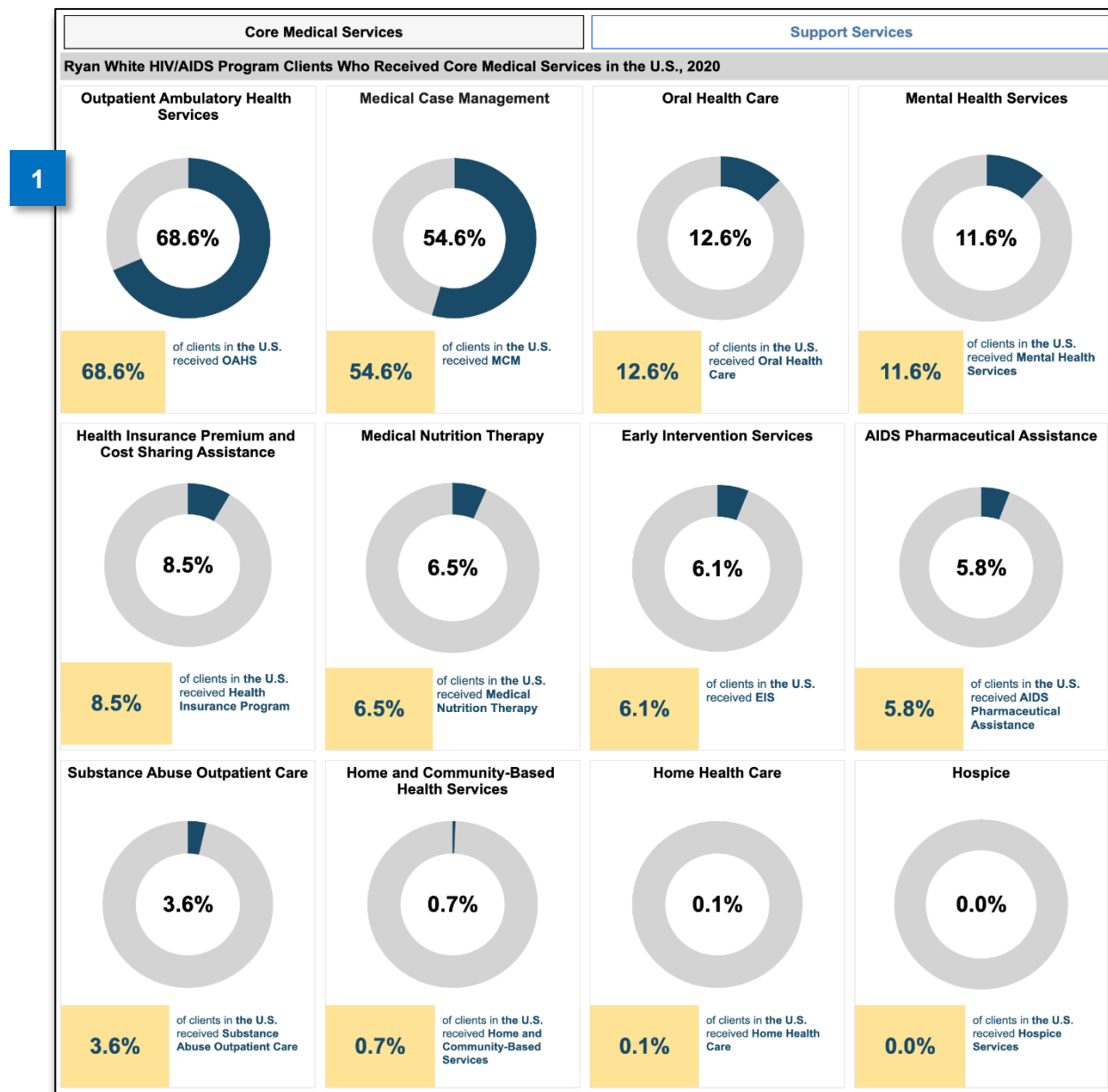
The initial view shows the most recent national data. Select a jurisdiction from the dropdown menus to change the data displayed.

This page also includes two tabs that allow the viewer to toggle between core medical services and support services (see below).





**Figure 11**



## 1. Services Data

These small boxes show the percentage of clients in the selected jurisdiction who received a specific service. Note that RWHAP clients may receive multiple services and that not all services are available in all jurisdictions.

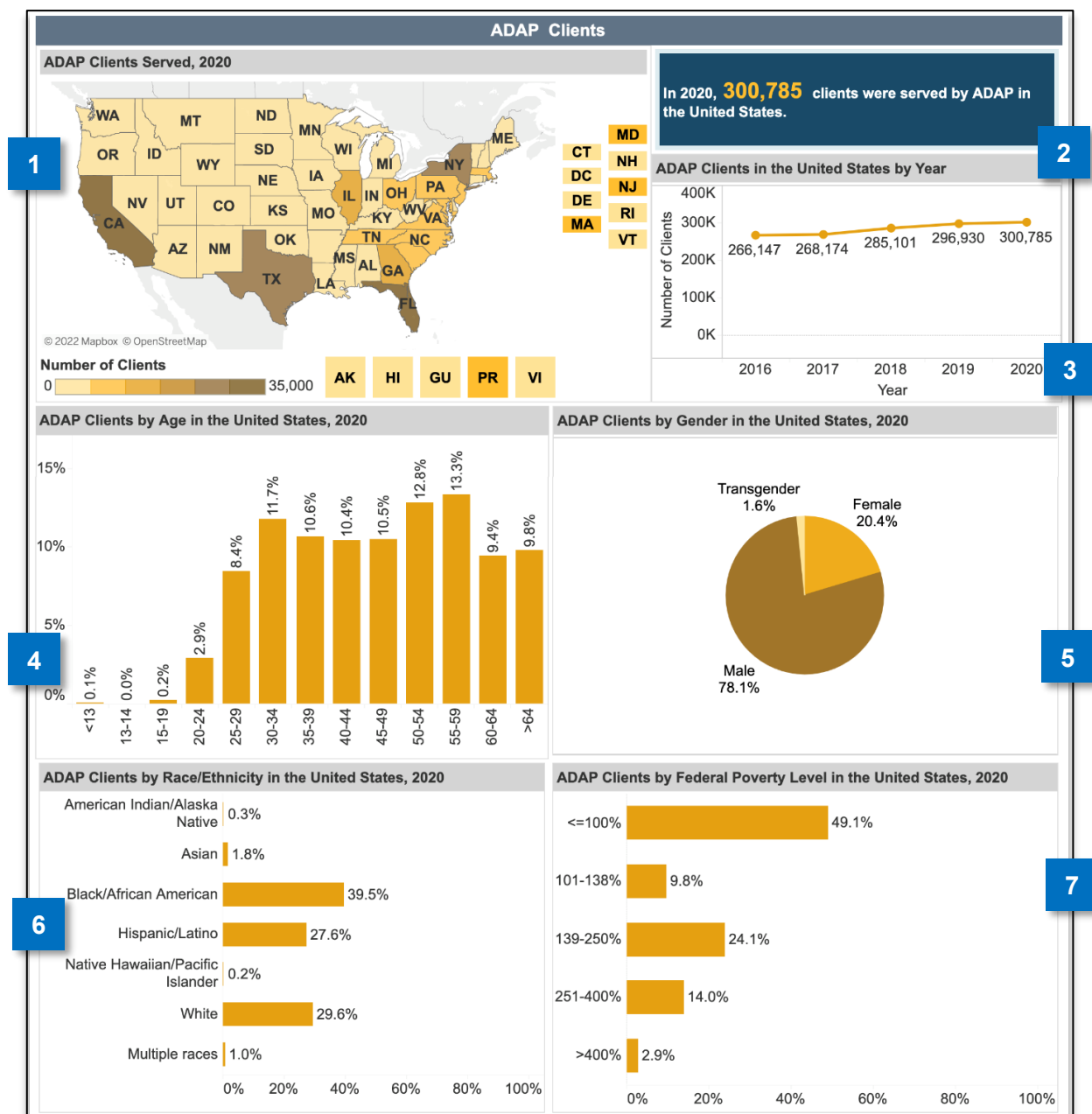
## ADAP Client Characteristics

This screen (see Figure 12) shows demographic characteristics of ADAP clients.

ADAP is a state- and territory-administered program that provides medications and access to health care coverage to low-income people with HIV who are uninsured or underinsured.

The initial view shows the most recent national ADAP data. To change the data displayed, select a jurisdiction and a service category from the dropdown menus.

**Figure 12**



## 1. ADAP Clients Served Map

This map shows the national or state-level information about ADAP clients for the selected year.

## 2. ADAP Program Clients

This chart shows the number of ADAP clients for the selected location.

## 3. ADAP Clients Served by Year

This graph shows the number of clients for the selected location over a five-year period.

## 4. ADAP Clients by Age

This bar chart shows the percentage of clients in each age group.

## 5. ADAP Clients by Gender

This pie chart shows the distribution of client gender.

## 6. ADAP Clients by Race/Ethnicity

This bar chart shows the percentage of clients in each race/ethnicity category.

## 7. ADAP Clients by Federal Poverty Level

This bar chart shows the percent distribution of income level as a percent of FPL.

## Technical Notes and Definitions

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Age Group</li> <li>▪ EMA and TGA</li> <li>▪ Federal Poverty Level (FPL)</li> <li>▪ Healthcare Coverage</li> <li>▪ Housing Status</li> <li>▪ National HIV/AIDS Strategy</li> <li>▪ Number of Clients Served</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Outcome Measures               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Retention in Care</li> <li>– Viral Suppression</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Race/Ethnicity</li> <li>▪ States and Territories</li> <li>▪ Transmission Category</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

### Age Group

RWHAP grant recipients and subrecipients report client birth year, which is used to calculate the client's age during the designated year as a discrete variable. On the RWHAP Compass Dashboard, younger and older clients are sometimes highlighted as priority populations: youth (aged 13–24) and clients aged 50 years and older.

### Eligible Metropolitan Areas (EMAs) and Transitional Grant Areas (TGAs)

RWHAP Part A provides emergency assistance to EMAs and TGAs that are most severely affected by the HIV epidemic. To qualify for EMA status, an area must have reported at least 2,000 AIDS cases in the most recent five years and have a population of at least 50,000. To be eligible for TGA status, an area must have reported 1,000–1,999 AIDS cases in the most recent five years and have a population of at least 50,000. EMAs and TGAs range in size from one city

or county to more than 26 different geographic entities; 11 include parts of more than one state. The boundaries of EMAs and TGAs are based on the U.S. Census Bureau delineation of the Metropolitan Statistical Area at the time of first eligibility. Client-level data are reported based on provider location rather than client location. It is important to note that data shown for EMAs and TGAs are not mutually exclusive; clients may have received services from providers in multiple EMAs and TGAs. In addition, data presented for EMAs and TGAs are not limited to entities receiving RWHAP Part A funding; all visualizations include data for all clients served by RWHAP providers in the EMA or TGA, regardless of the source of RWHAP funding (i.e., Parts A, B, C, and D data are included).

### Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

FPL is a measure of income issued every year by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and characterizes the client's income as a percentage of the FPL at the end of the reporting period. See <https://www.healthcare.gov/glossary/federal-poverty-level-fpl/>.

### Health Care Coverage

RWHAP grant recipients and subrecipients report all sources of health care coverage that each client had for any part of the reporting period. These data are further categorized for analysis.

From 2010 through 2013, health care coverage was categorized as private only, Medicare only, Medicaid only, other public, other private, multiple coverages, and no coverage (uninsured). The categorization schema was changed in the 2014 RSR to include a more granular classification of health care coverage. From 2014 through 2019, health care coverage was categorized as private employer, private individual, Medicare, Medicaid, Medicare and Medicaid (dual eligibility), Veterans Administration, Indian Health Service, other plan, multiple coverages, and no coverage. The Medicaid classification also includes the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and other public state health care coverage programs.

### Housing Status

The housing status variable captures the client's housing status at the end of the reporting period and is categorized as stable, permanent housing, temporary housing, or unstable housing. The definitions for each of these categories are based on the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program Annual Progress Report Measuring Performance Outcomes (<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hopwa/>).

### National HIV/AIDS Strategy

The National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) is a roadmap for ending the HIV epidemic in the United States by 2030. NHAS is the nation's third consecutive five-year national HIV strategy and covers 2022–2025, with a 10-year goal of reducing new HIV infections by 90% by 2030. The goals of the NHAS are to prevent new HIV infections; improve HIV-related health outcomes of people with HIV; reduce HIV-related disparities and health inequities; and achieve integrated, coordinated efforts that address the HIV epidemic among all partners and stakeholders. The NHAS includes several goals and indicators, one of which is to increase viral suppression

among people with diagnosed HIV to 95% by 2025. The RWHAP Compass Dashboard adopts this viral suppression goal from the NHAS and identifies an aligned goal to increase retention in care among people with diagnosed HIV to 95% by 2025 (<https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/national-hiv-aids-strategy/national-hiv-aids-strategy-2022-2025>).

### Number of Clients Served

Screens that display the number of clients served (e.g., Characteristics of RWHAP Clients), include all RWHAP clients, regardless of HIV serostatus. This means the data include people with HIV as well as clients who are missing HIV serostatus information (e.g., clients who receive services that do not require serostatus to be reported, such as medical transportation services) and clients who do not have HIV (i.e., the families of people with HIV who are able to receive certain RWHAP services). In 2020, people with HIV represented an estimated 98.7% of all RWHAP clients.

### Outcome Measures

Screens displaying outcome measure data (i.e., retention in care and viral suppression) include only people with HIV who also meet the criteria for that specific outcome measure. It is important to be aware that the denominator is not the same for all calculations visualized on the site.

Retention in care and viral suppression data for the RWHAP should be interpreted carefully. Because these data are reported annually and de-identified, an individual client cannot be tracked across years. This affects how HIV-related outcomes are calculated (see below).

RWHAP clients who are not included in retention in care or viral suppression calculations did not meet inclusion criteria for those calculations but would have received at least one other RWHAP service (e.g., non-medical case management, housing, transportation, food bank/home-delivered meals). It is also important to note that these clients excluded from retention in care or viral suppression calculations may receive medical care at RWHAP clinics, where primary medical care services are paid for using non-RWHAP-related funding sources (e.g., private, public, or other health care coverage types), or may receive care from providers outside the RWHAP system; these clients should not be presumed to be “out of care.”

#### Retention in Care

Retention in HIV medical care was defined as people with HIV who had at least two medical visit dates that were at least 90 days apart in the measurement year. Because the data sets are each restricted to one calendar year of data, the first of these HIV medical care visits in the year must have occurred before September 1 of the measurement year, thus giving the client an opportunity to meet the retention criteria by December 31.

## **Viral Suppression**

Viral suppression was calculated among people with HIV who had at least one OAHS visit and at least one viral load test during the measurement year. Viral suppression was defined as a most recent viral load test result of <200 copies/mL.

## **Race/Ethnicity**

Recipients and subrecipients report race/ethnicity information for RWHAP clients according to Office of Management and Budget standards. Race and ethnicity are submitted as separate variables and combined for analysis. The race/ethnicity variable is categorized as American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, White, and multiple races (i.e., two or more categories of race reported).

In this dashboard, clients categorized by race were not Hispanic or Latino; the number of clients reported in each race category may, however, include clients whose ethnicity was not reported.

The RWHAP grant recipients and subrecipients are expected to make every effort to obtain and report race and ethnicity, based on each client's self-report. Self-identification is the preferred means of obtaining this information.

## **States and Territories**

Data are reported by RWHAP grant recipients and subrecipients in 50 states, the District of Columbia, and three territories—Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Five of the six U.S. Pacific territories (excludes Guam) do not submit client-level data and are therefore not included in this report. Due to reporting challenges during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, Guam's 2019 and 2020 RSR data are unavailable.

State-level analyses include data submitted for all parts of the RWHAP. In addition, state delineation of data is based on provider location rather than client location.

## **Transmission Category**

Transmission category is the term for the classification that summarizes a client's possible HIV risk factor(s) at the time of HIV acquisition. The summary classification results from selecting—from a presumed hierarchical order of probability—the single risk factor most likely to have been responsible for transmission.

Transmission categories are presented separately by gender.

For male clients, transmission categories include male-to-male sexual contact, injection drug use, male-to-male sexual contact and injection drug use, heterosexual contact, perinatally acquired HIV, and other.

For female clients, transmission categories include heterosexual contact, injection drug use, perinatally acquired HIV, and other.

For transgender clients, transmission categories have been modified to be more reflective of transgender people's experience of transmission while continuing to follow a relative hierarchy of likelihood for transmission. That is, transmission category data for transgender clients are presented as sexual contact, injection drug use, sexual contact and injection drug use, perinatally acquired HIV, and other.

The definitions of transmission categories are adapted from CDC's National HIV Surveillance System (NHSS) definitions for transmission categories. Clients with more than one reported risk factor are classified in the transmission category listed first in the hierarchy. The only exceptions are (1) men who had sexual contact with other men *and* who injected drugs, and (2) perinatally acquired HIV. It is important to note that data by transmission category are based on the reported risk factor most likely to have been responsible for the original transmission of HIV; data may not be reflective of current behavior (e.g., injection drug use).

These groups make up separate transmission categories, which are defined in order of the hierarchy as follows:

- Male-to-male sexual contact: Male clients who report sexual contact with other men (i.e., homosexual contact) and males who report sexual contact with both men and women (i.e., bisexual contact).
- Injection drug use: Clients who report use of drugs intravenously or through skin-popping.
- Male-to-male sexual contact and injection drug use: Male clients who report sexual contact with other men or with both men and women and report the use of drugs intravenously or through skin-popping.
- Heterosexual contact: Clients who report specific heterosexual contact with an individual with, or at increased risk for, HIV infection (e.g., a person who injects drugs).
- Perinatally acquired HIV: This category is exclusively for infants and children with HIV attributed to perinatal transmission. This category includes clients born after 1980 who are known to be people with HIV and whose HIV is attributed to perinatal transmission, as well as infants with indeterminate serostatus.
- Other: Clients who report transmission from the receipt of transfusion of blood, blood components, or tissue; clients who report hemophilia/coagulation disorder. Beginning with 2014 data collection, unknown risk factor was no longer included in the classification of other transmission, nor was it collected as a separate category for the RSR. All analyses in this report have been adjusted for consistency during 2012 through 2016 to only include blood transfusion or hemophilia/coagulation disorder.

For transgender clients, the following transmission category hierarchy is used:

- Sexual contact: Transgender clients who report any sexual transmission.
- Injection drug use: Transgender clients who report use of drugs intravenously or through skin-popping.



- Sexual contact and injection drug use: Transgender clients who report sexual contact and report the use of drugs intravenously or through skin-popping.
- Perinatally acquired HIV: This category is exclusively for infants and children with HIV attributed to perinatal transmission. This category includes clients born after 1980 who are known to be people with HIV and whose HIV is attributed to perinatal transmission, as well as infants with indeterminate serostatus.
- Other: Clients who report transmission from the receipt of transfusion of blood, blood components, or tissue; clients who report hemophilia/coagulation disorder. Beginning with 2014 data collection, unknown risk factor was no longer included in the classification of other transmission, nor was it collected as a separate category for the RSR. All analyses in this report have been adjusted for consistency during 2012 through 2016 to only include blood transfusion or hemophilia/coagulation disorder.