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The Intersection of Homelessness and Medicaid
Preliminary Analysis and Research Plans for New Jersey

Center for State Health Policy
Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research

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Project Team

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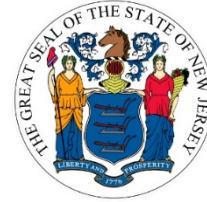- Jose Nova, MS

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monarch
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Acknowledgement

Support from The Nicholson Foundation and the New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) is gratefully acknowledged.

The views expressed in this presentation are exclusively those of project team, and may not reflect those of the project sponsors or the state agencies contributing data.

Outline

- New Jersey Homeless Support Services Project Overview
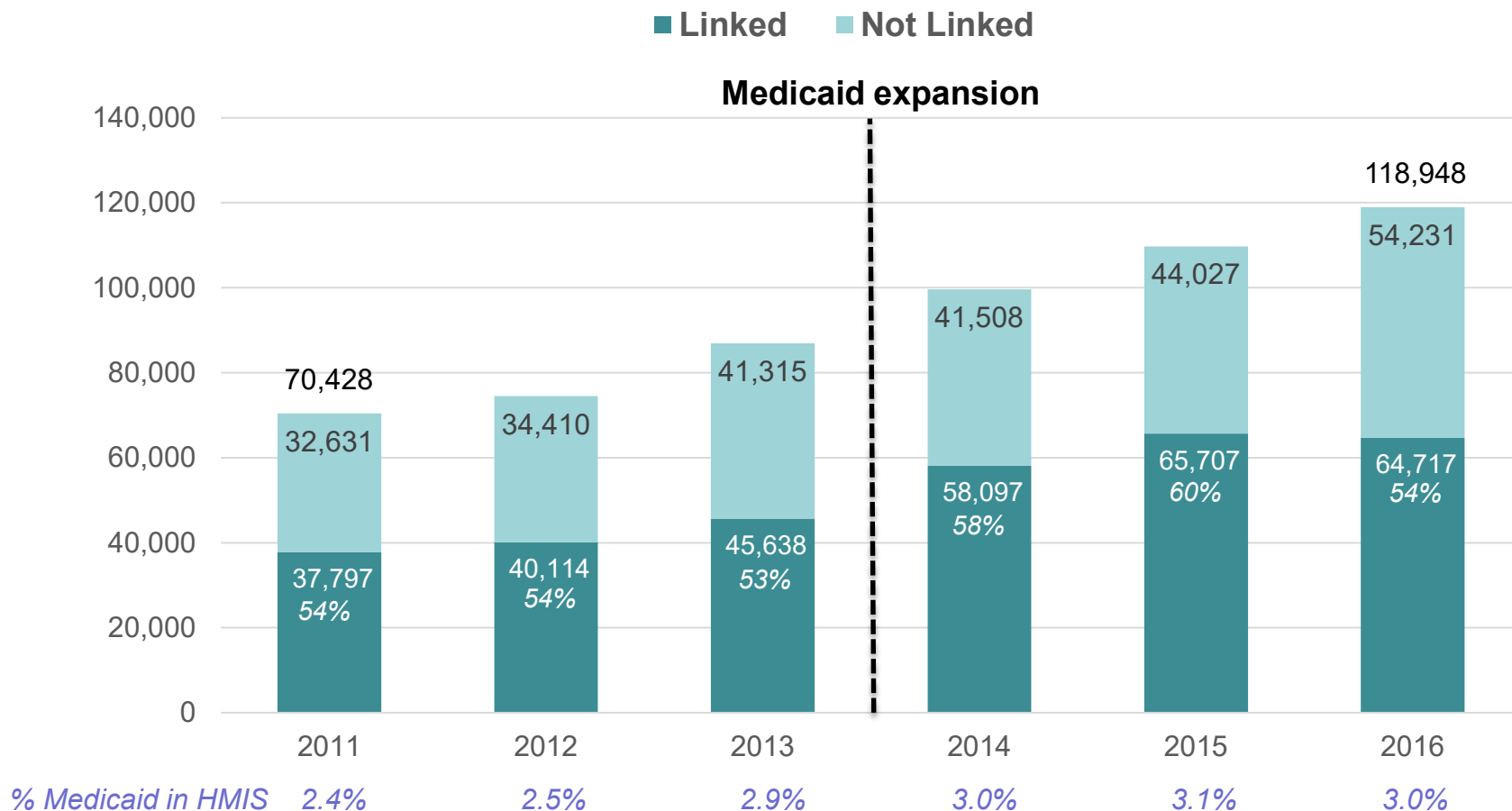- Preliminary findings
- Discussion

Research Questions

1. What are the size, characteristics, and *potentially* reducible Medicaid spending of the Medicaid-enrolled homeless population that may be eligible for permanent supportive housing (PSH) services?

2. How much has PSH saved Medicaid in recent years?

Project Data

- **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**
  - NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency
  - Encounter-level data for homeless services and client characteristics
  - All NJ counties for some services (e.g., emergency shelter) and 19 of 21 counties for other services (e.g., supportive housing)

- **Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS)**
  - NJ Div. of Medical Assistance and Health Services
  - Enrollment and encounter data for covered services, spending, and characteristics of all NJ Medicaid beneficiaries

- **Data for 2011-16 linked by trusted third party using client/beneficiary identifiers**
  - Trillium™ matching software (using SSN, DOB, gender, names, etc.)
  - Research team received linked, de-identified data only

Number of Persons in HMIS Linked and Not Linked to MMIS
Note: Individuals may appear in more than one year

■ Linked ■ Not Linked

Medicaid expansion

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	70,428					118,948
Not Linked	32,631	34,410	41,315	41,508	44,027	54,231
Linked	37,797 / 54%	40,114 / 54%	45,638 / 53%	58,097 / 58%	65,707 / 60%	64,717 / 54%

% Medicaid in HMIS   2.4%   2.5%   2.9%   3.0%   3.1%   3.0%

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The Study Population, 2016

Medicaid
**2.2 million beneficiaries
at some time during the year**
(about 1.7 million in a given month)

Medicaid & HMIS
64,717 in 2016 linked file

**HMIS
118,948 people
during year**
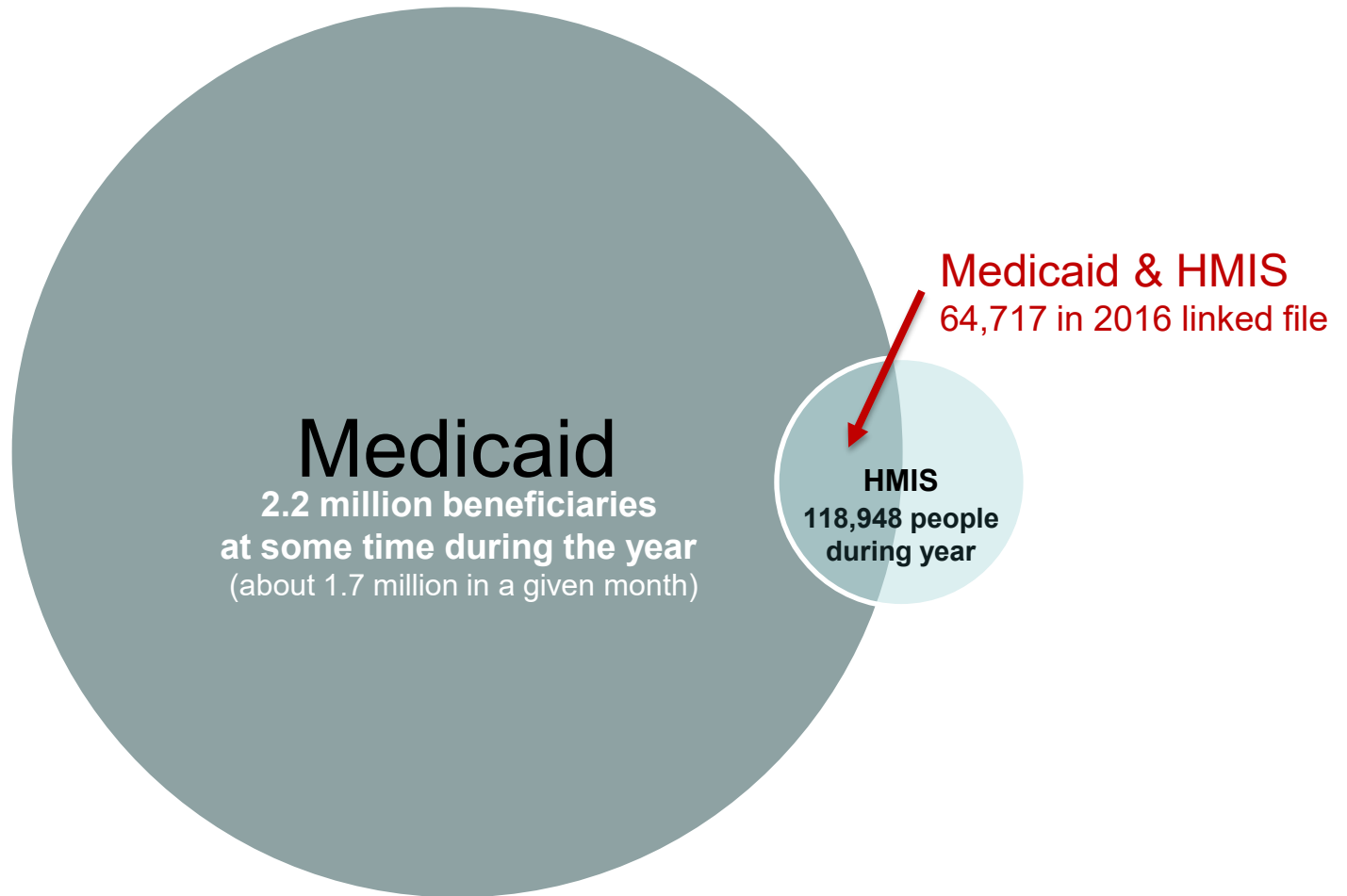
Note: Graphic not to scale

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For Today: Describe "Homeless" & "PSH" Populations

- Last HMIS encounter recorded in 2016, for preliminary analysis only
  - Will incorporate 3 year HMIS history & other information
- HMIS "Type of Residence" prior to encounter and "Project Type" at the encounter
- Exclude persons receiving Medicaid Long-Term Services & Supports
  - Nursing facility
  - Facility for persons with developmental disabilities
  - Home and Community Based Services

Preliminary Classification of "Homeless"
At last HMIS Encounter in 2016

HMIS "Project Type" (this encounter)	HMIS "Type of Residence" (prior to encounter)						Total
	Homeless	Permanent Housing	Temporary or Other Housing	Institutional Situation	Don't Know or Refused	Missing	
Coordinated Assessment	705	-	132	-	-	-	861
Day Shelter	59	-	89	23	-	18	190
Emergency Shelter	3,109	67	6,790	1,205	23	161	11,355
Homelessness Prevention	177	24	2,958	37	-	69	3,271
Other	-	-	20	-	-	-	22
PH - Housing Only	-	-	14	20	-	-	50
PH - Housing with Services	-	-	15	21	-	-	47
PH - Permanent Supportive Housing	2,005	85	1,072	172	17	55	3,406
PH - Rapid Re-Housing	1,509	-	920	25	-	67	2,532
Safe Haven	19	-	-	-	-	-	27
Services Only Program	3,588	477	33,145	513	600	941	39,264
Street Outreach	383	-	206	21	14	201	828
Transitional Housing	599	-	998	470	-	36	2,109
Total	12,171	684	46,366	2,517	661	1,563	63,962

Frequency Missing = 5

NOTE: dash (-) indicates suppressed for confidentiality.

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Preliminary Classification of "PSH"
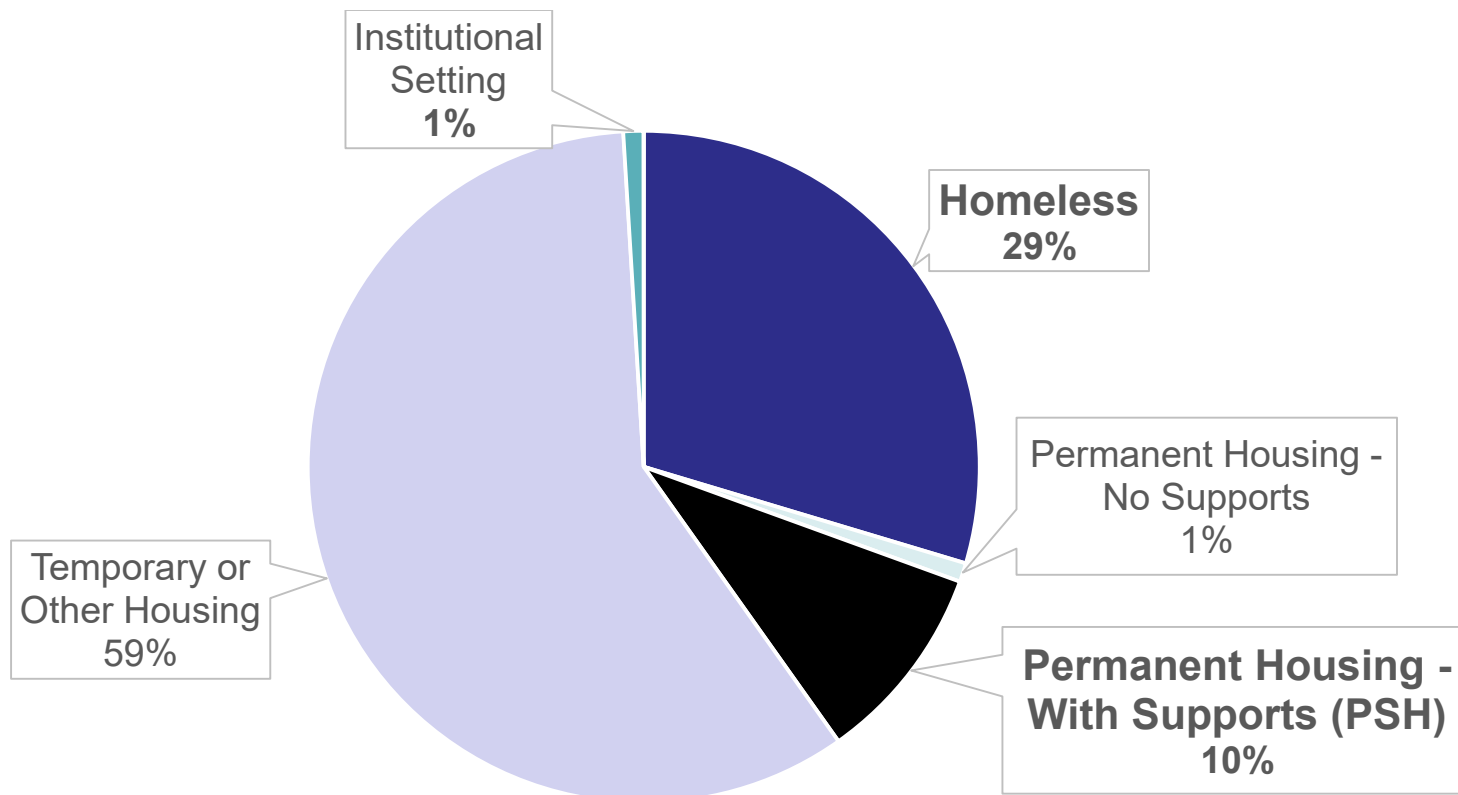## *At last HMIS Encounter in 2016*

HMIS "Project Type" (this encounter)	HMIS "Type of Residence" (prior to encounter)						Total
	Homeless	**Permanent Housing**	**Temporary or Other Housing**	**Institutional Situation**	**Don't Know or Refused**	**Missing**	
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Preliminary Classification
At last HMIS Encounter in 2016

Institutional
Setting
1%

**Homeless
29%**

Permanent Housing -
No Supports
1%

**Permanent Housing -
With Supports (PSH)
10%**

Temporary or
Other Housing
59%

62,097 Linked Records*

*Excludes persons living in Medicaid-funded facilities or receiving home/community-based long-term care services, also excludes a small number of individuals with missing homeless services data.

Demographics of Homeless & PSH Populations
2016 HMIS-MMIS Linked Data, Column Percent Distributions

	All	Homeless	PSH
Age			
<18	29.7	21.0	28.7
18-29	18.5	22.9	16.9
30-49	30.3	34.0	25.7
50-64	19.0	20.7	25.7
65+	2.5	2.2	3.0
Male	45.4	56.1	47.1
Race/Ethnicity			
Black/AA	51.2	49.3	59.6
White	30.8	35.6	27.3
Hispanic	12.9	10.4	8.5
Asian	0.4	0.4	*
Other	4.5	4.1	*

*Data not shown due to small numbers

Program Characteristics of Homeless & PSH Populations 2016 HMIS-MMIS Linked Data, Column Percent Distributions
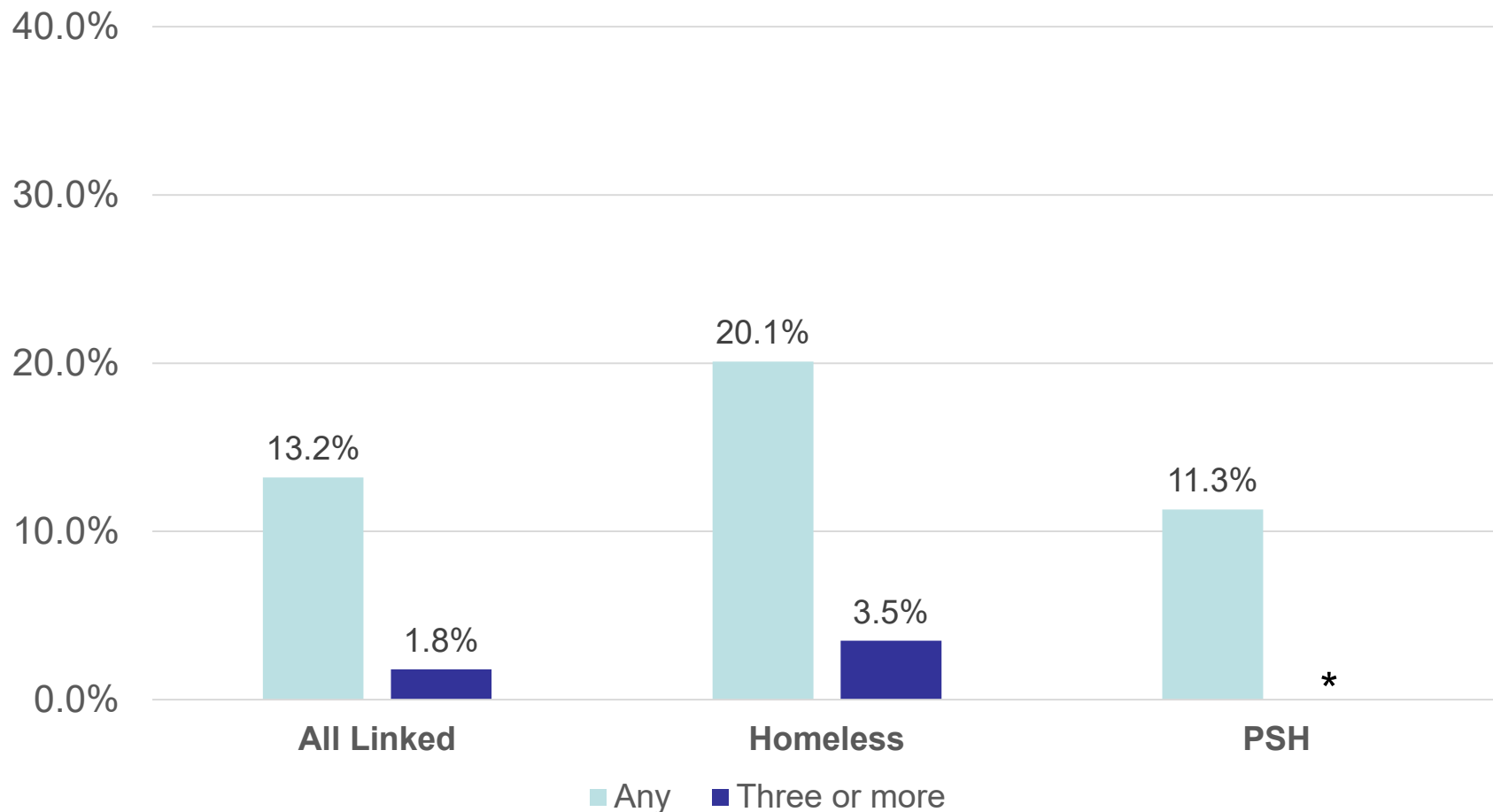
	All	Homeless	PSH
Medicaid Eligibility Category			
Aged-Blind-Disabled (ABD)	18.3	15.5	29.1
NJ FamilyCare (children & adults)	52.7	38.9	46.9
Children's Serv./Other	1.3	1.4	2.0
Expansion*	27.7	44.2	22.0
HMIS - Family	57.4	38.1	53.8
HMIS – Chronic Homeless	2.8	4.4	14.6

*Includes pre-expansion "general assistance" population.

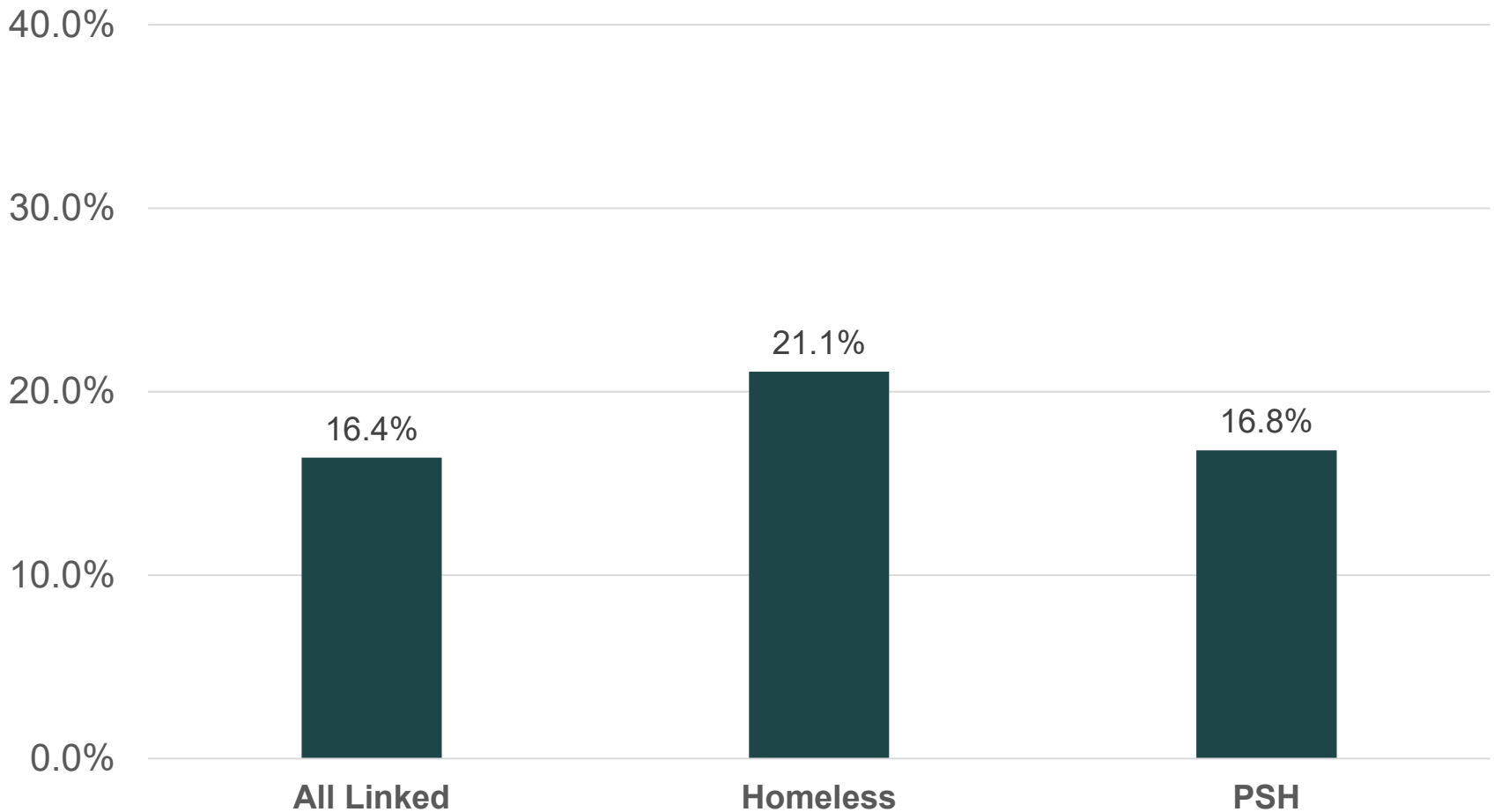# Medicaid Behavioral Health Diagnoses by HMIS Status, 2016

% With Serious Mental Illness
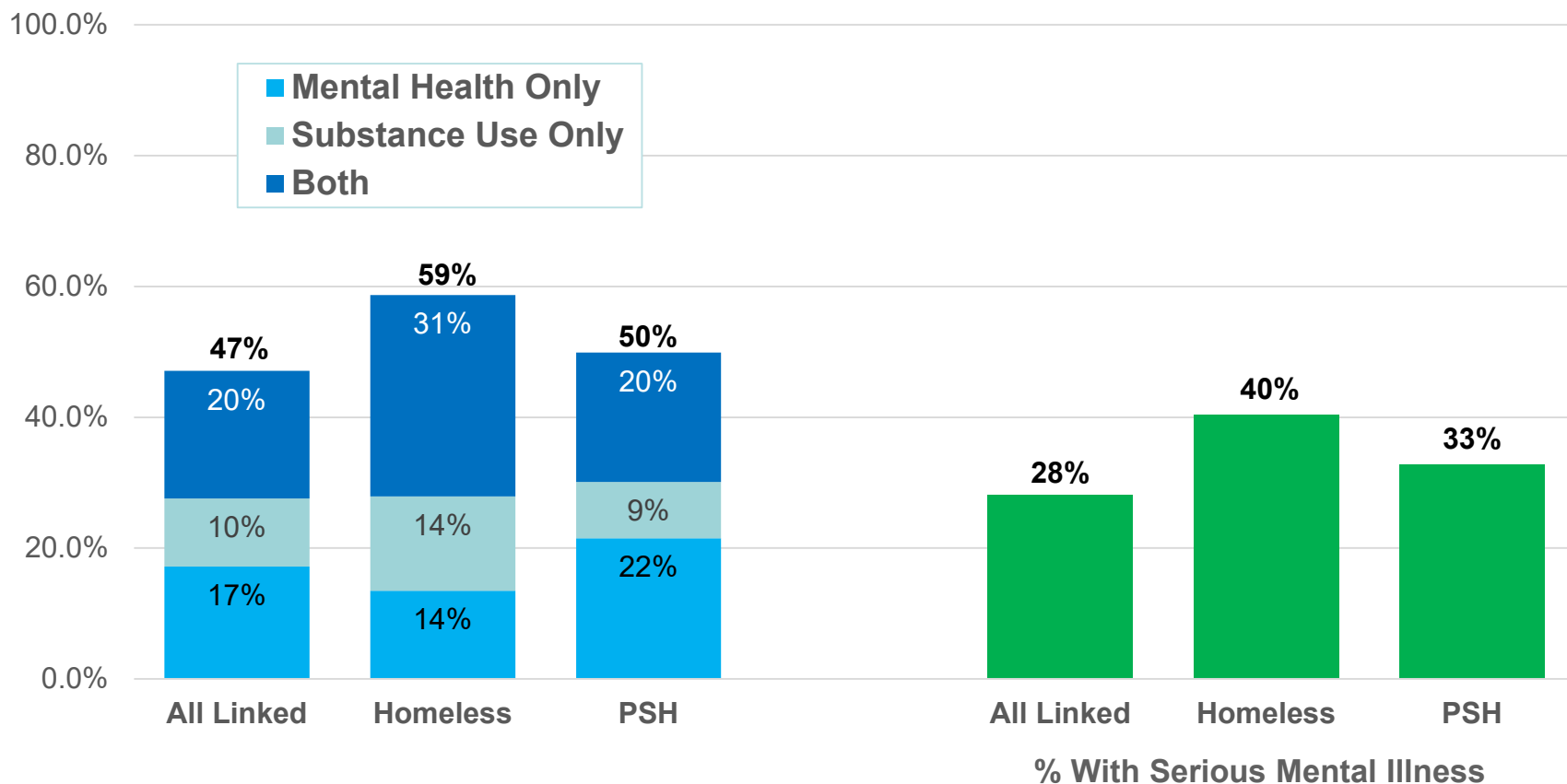
Inpatient (IP) Stays by HMIS Status, 2016

Chart showing percentages for three groups (All Linked, Homeless, PSH) with "Any" and "Three or more" categories:

- All Linked: Any = 13.2%, Three or more = 1.8%
- Homeless: Any = 20.1%, Three or more = 3.5%
- PSH: Any = 11.3%, Three or more = *

Legend: Any, Three or more

Ambulatory Care Sensitive IP Admission Rate* per 1,000 Adults by HMIS Status, 2016

Prevention Quality Indicators from the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research. Available at:
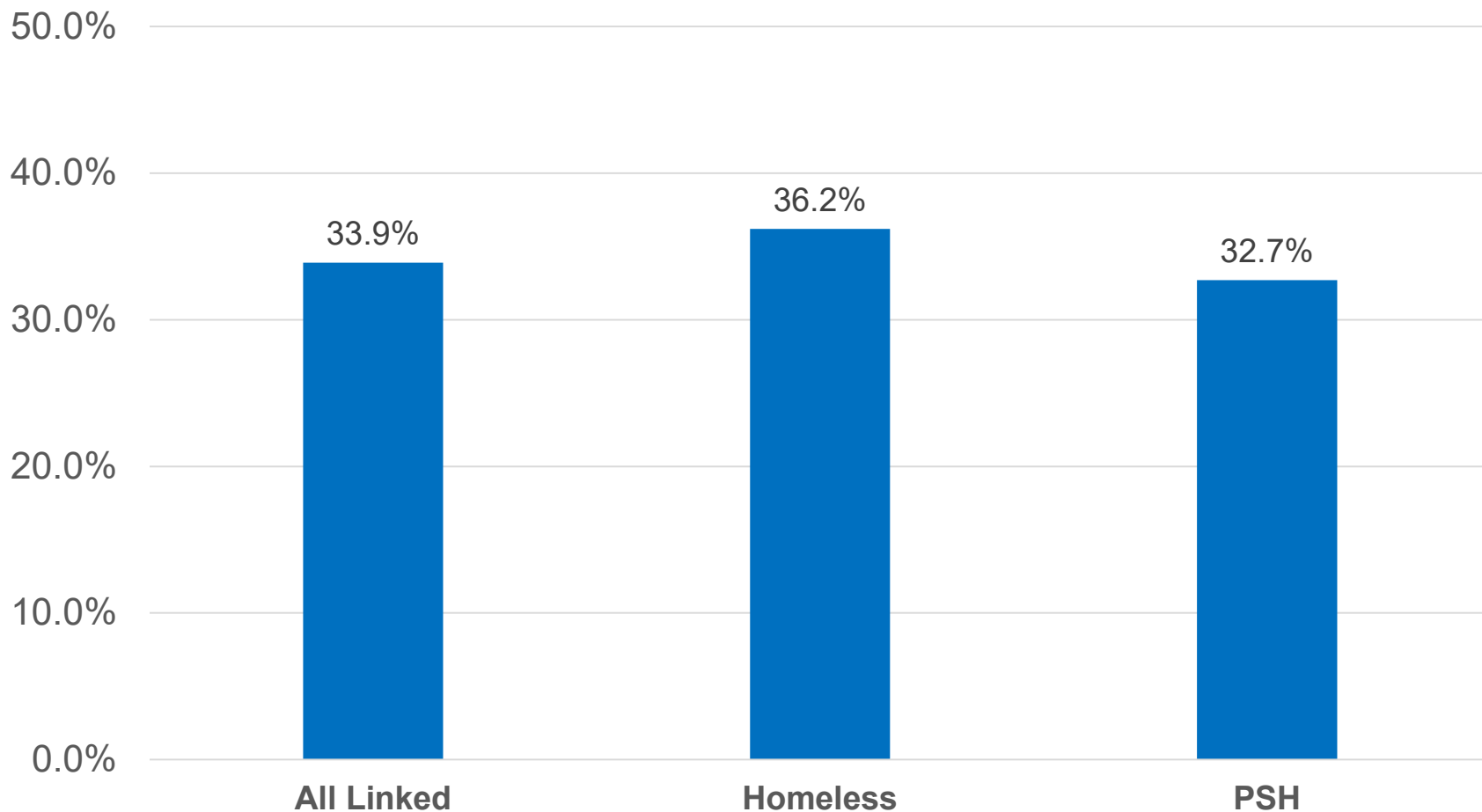http://www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov/modules/pqi_overview.aspx
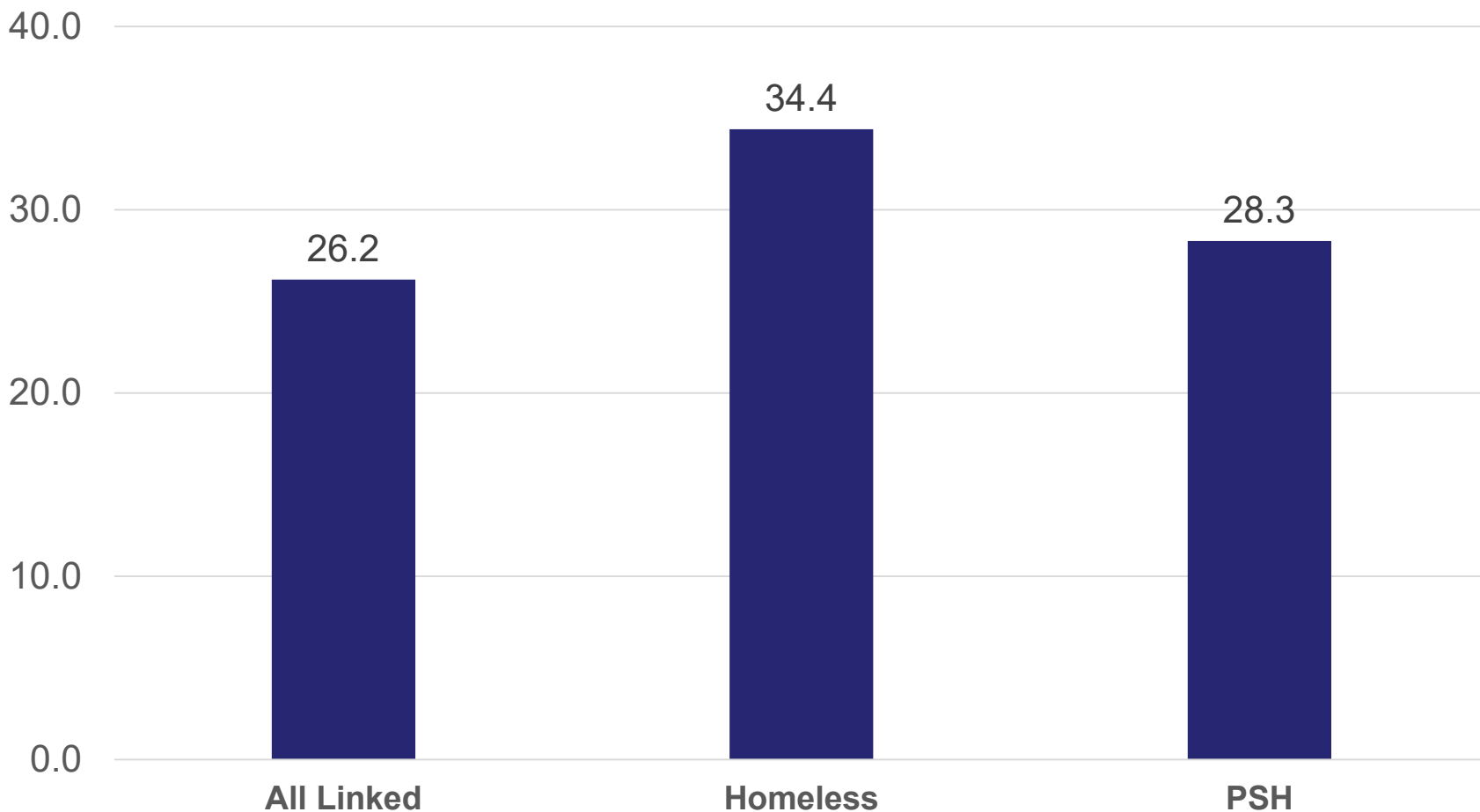
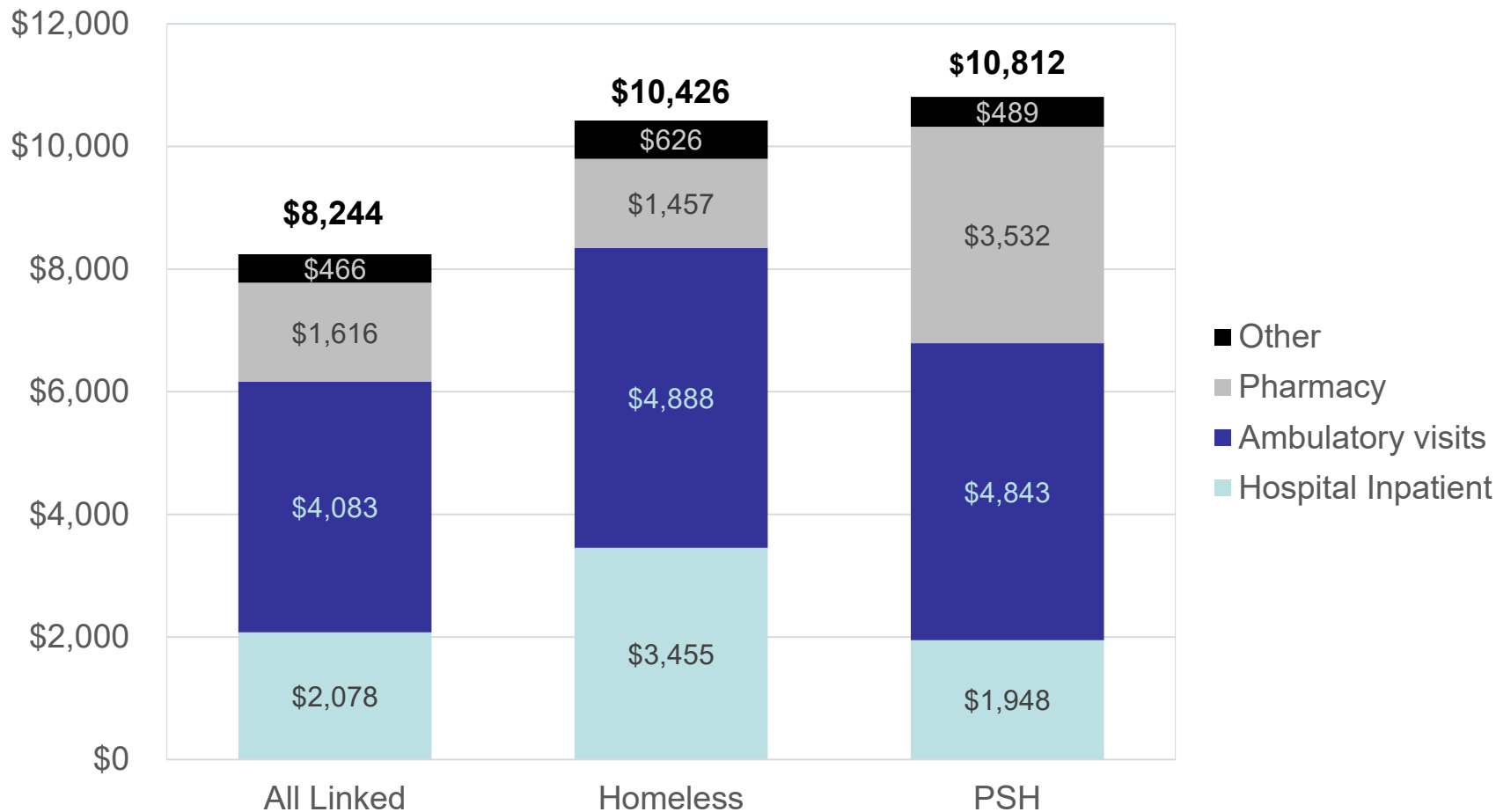# 30-Day Hospital Readmission Rate by HMIS Status, 2016

Treat-and-Release Emergency Department (ED) Visits by HMIS Status, 2016
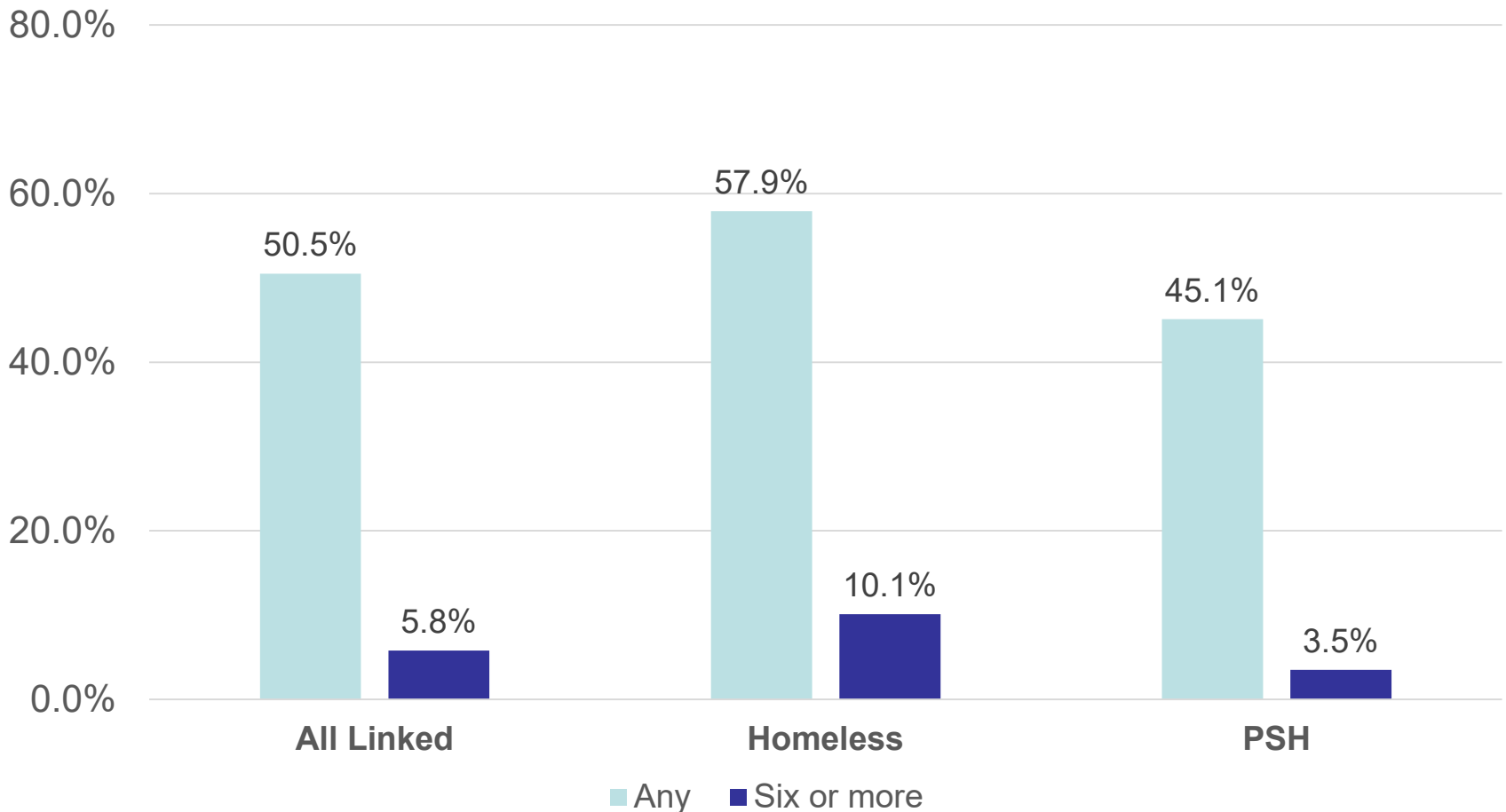
No Primary Care Visit by HMIS Status, 2016

Distribution of Annual Medicaid Spending* by Service and HMIS Status, 2016

Preliminary Observations

- HMIS-Medicaid linked population has very high rates of mental health and substance use disorders, especially high among the homeless

- High rates of ED and potentially avoidable IP use, especially among the homeless

- Homeless and PSH populations both have high average spending, but homeless have more hospital costs and PSH spend more on Rx

Additional Analysis Plans: Research Question #1

What are the size, characteristics, and *potentially* reducible Medicaid spending of the Medicaid-enrolled homeless population that is potentially eligible for permanent supportive housing (PSH) services?

- Simulate eligibility for Medicaid-funded homeless support services
  - Based on HUD chronic homelessness definition using three year HMIS history and Medicaid diagnostic data
  - Plus "at risk of homelessness" groups not meeting HUD definition
- Estimate potential Medicaid savings from PSH placement
  - Apply assumptions based on published PSH literature
  - Compare spending for homeless to matched non-homeless Medicaid beneficiaries

Additional Analysis Plans: Research Question #2

How much has PSH saved Medicaid in recent years?

- Econometric "difference-in-differences" analysis
- Selected case studies

Thank You

Further questions or comments?
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