



Physician Acceptance of New Medicaid Patients: National and State-level Findings from the National Electronic Health Records Survey

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Access to care for Medicaid enrollees

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Analytic approach and data

Analysis plan

- Rates of physician acceptance of new Medicaid patients
 - by state
 - by physician and practice characteristics
- Comparison to acceptance of Medicare and private coverage
- Comparison across physician and practice characteristics:
 - Specialty
 - Setting
 - Existing Medicaid caseload
 - Mid-level providers

National Electronic Health Records Survey (NEHRS)

- Annual survey of non-federally employed, office-based physicians practicing in the United States (excluding those in the specialties of anesthesiology, radiology, and pathology)
- Data from 2011–2017 NEHRS (data year 2016 not available)
- Accessed through the National Center for Health Statistics Research Data Center at the Minnesota RDC

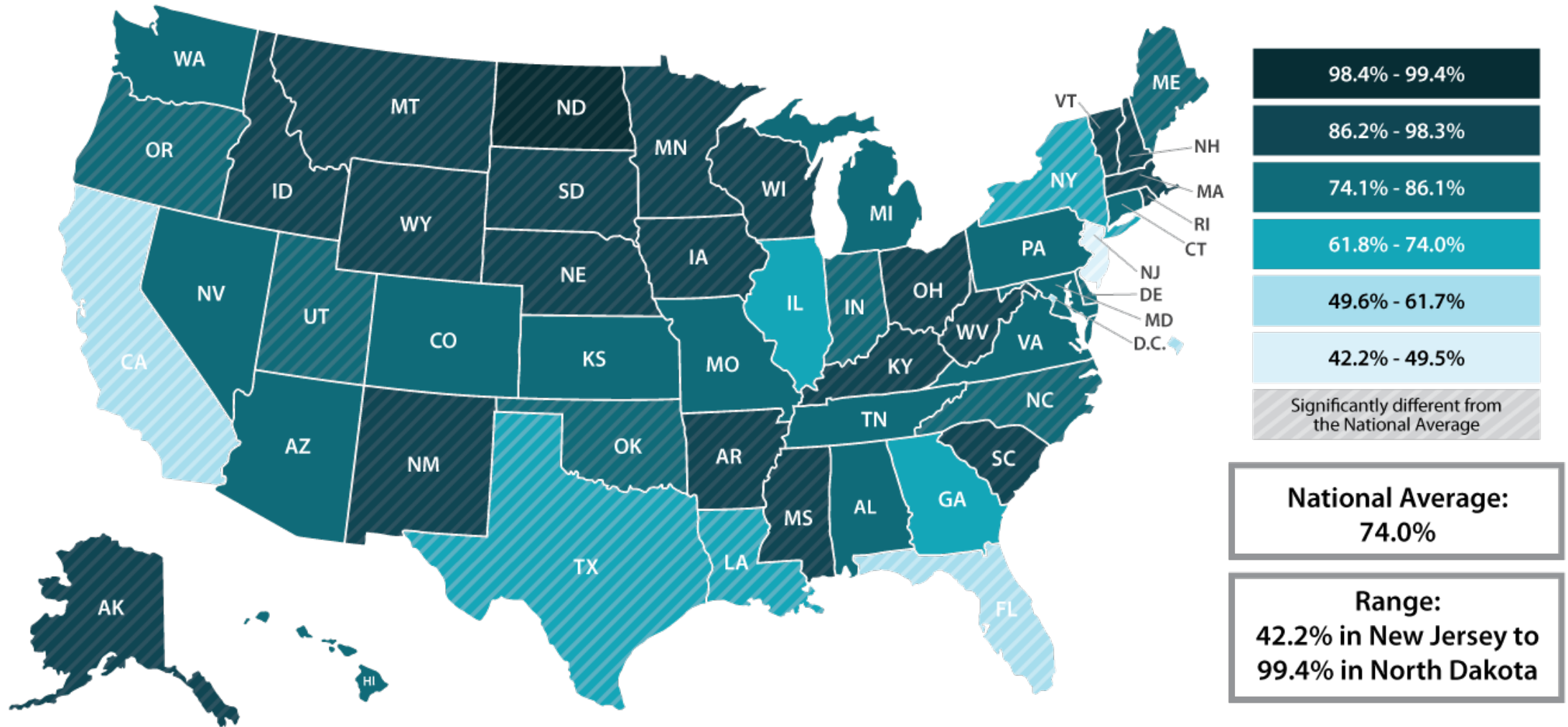


Measures

- Physicians asked if they accept new patients and then asked if they accept Medicaid as a payment source for new patients
- Data years 2011–2013 and 2014–2017 were pooled where single-year estimates were not feasible

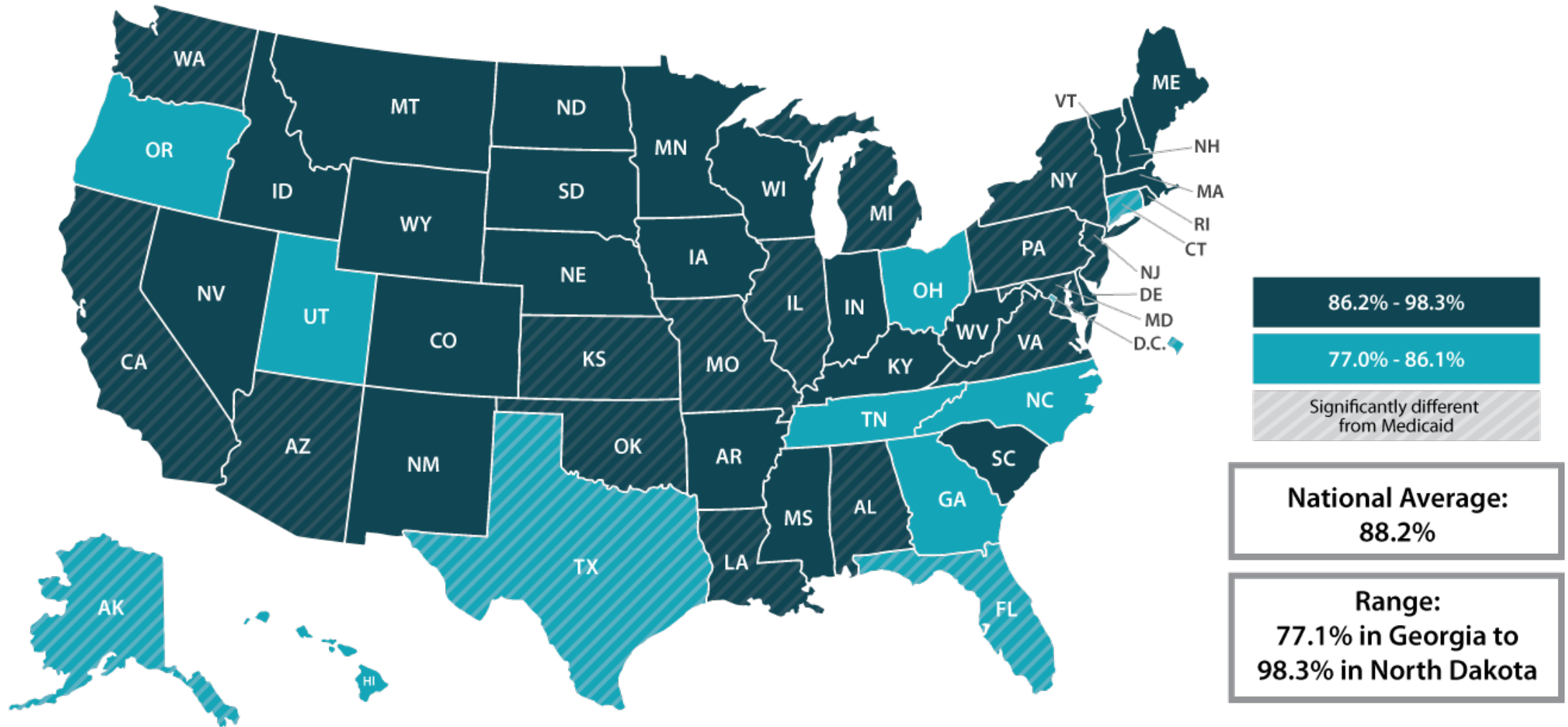
State-level Findings

Percent of Physicians Who Accept New Medicaid Patients, 2014–2017



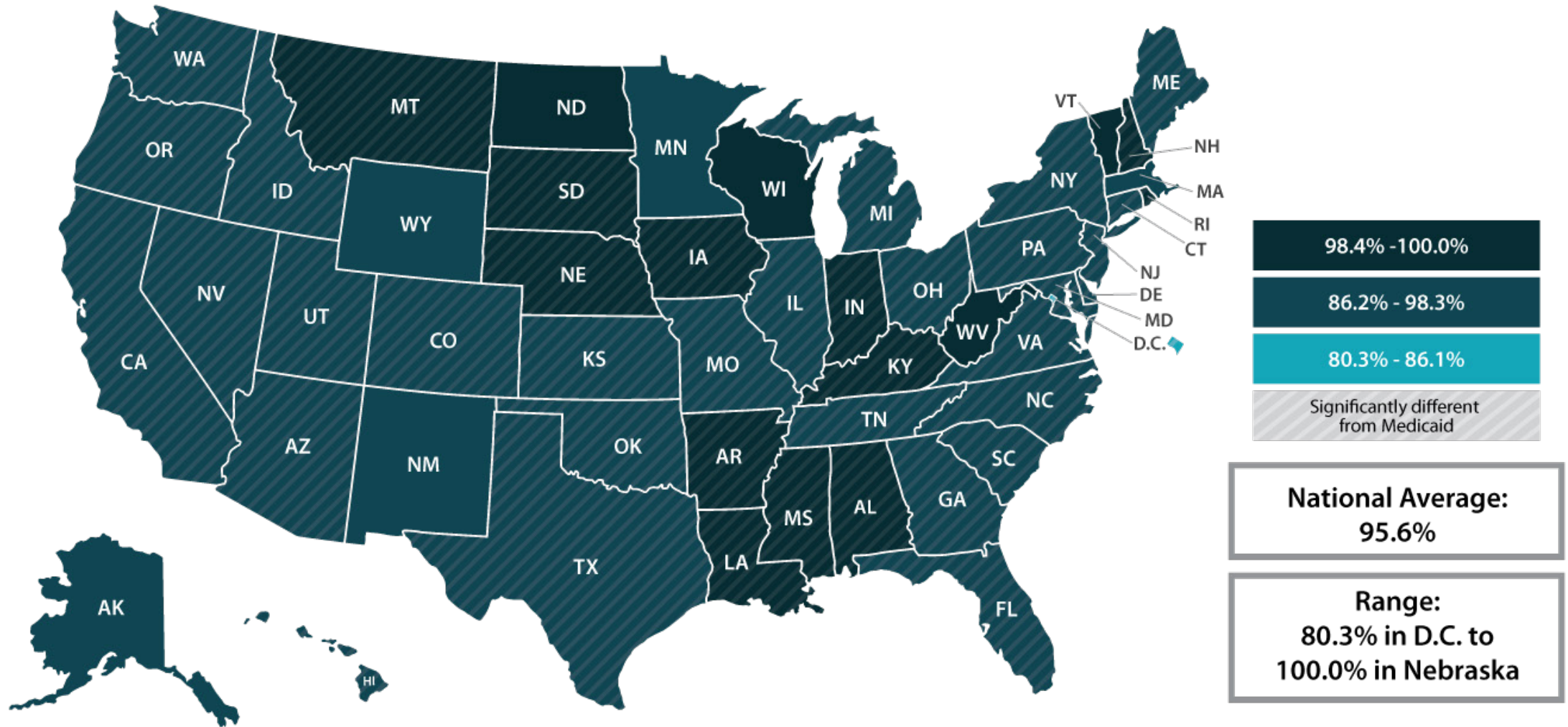
Stripes = significantly different from national average at 95% confidence level
 Source: MACPAC/SHADAC analysis of 2014–2017 National Electronic Health Records Survey
 Universe is physicians who accept new patients.

Percent of Physicians Who Accept New Medicare Patients, 2014–2017



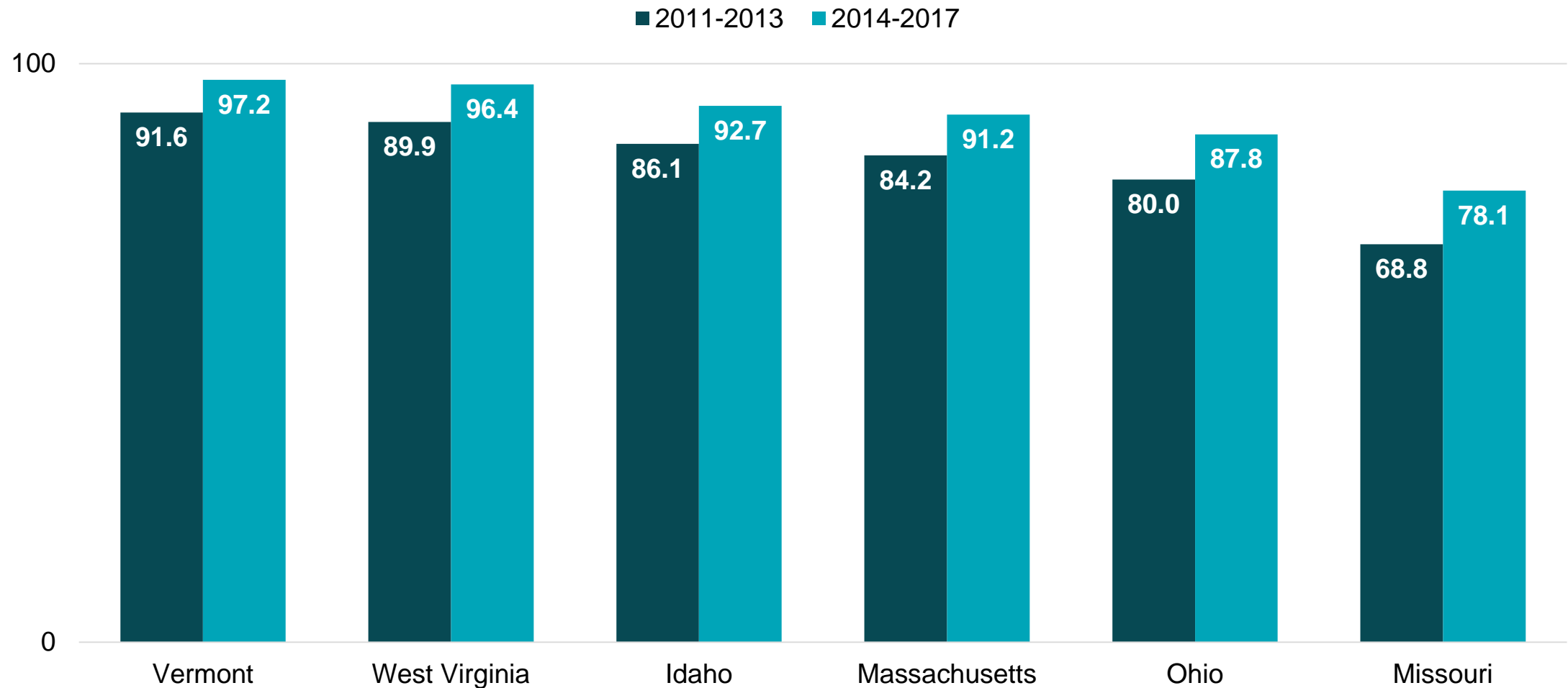
Stripes = significantly different from Medicaid at the 95% confidence level
 Source: MACPAC/SHADAC analysis of 2014–2017 National Electronic Health Records Survey
 Universe is physicians who accept new patients.

Percent of Physicians Who Accept New Private Patients, 2014–2017



Stripes = significantly different from Medicaid at the 95% confidence level
Source: MACPAC/SHADAC analysis of 2014–2017 National Electronic Health Records Survey
Universe is physicians who accept new patients.

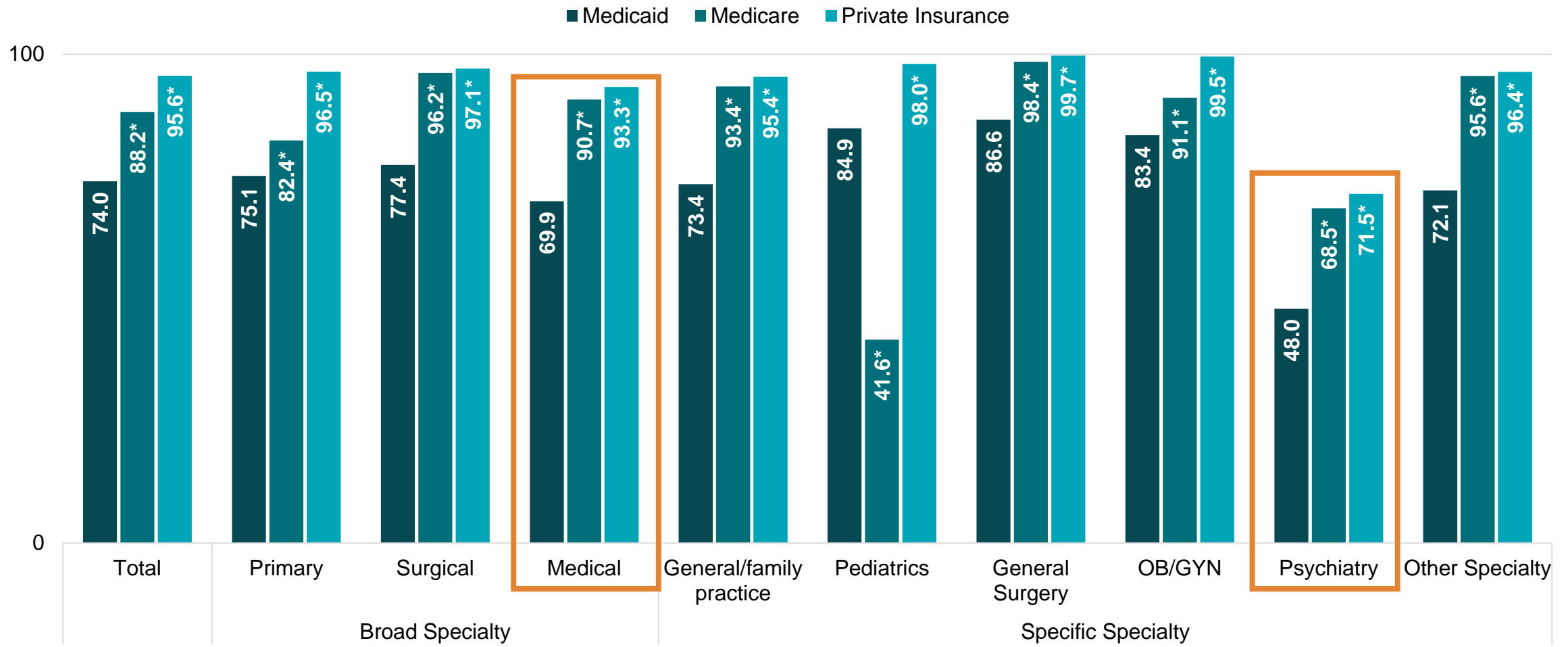
States with Significant Changes in the Percent of Physicians Who Accept New Medicaid Patients, 2011–2013 vs. 2014–2017



Source: MACPAC/SHADAC analysis of 2014–2017 National Electronic Health Records Survey
Universe is physicians who accept new patients.

Findings by Physician and Practice Characteristics

Percent of Physicians Who Accept New Medicaid Patients by Specialty, 2014–2017



*significantly different from Medicaid at 95% confidence level

Source: MACPAC/SHADAC analysis of 2014–2017 National Electronic Health Records Survey
 Universe is physicians who accept new patients.

Percent of Physicians Who Accept New Medicaid Patients by Setting

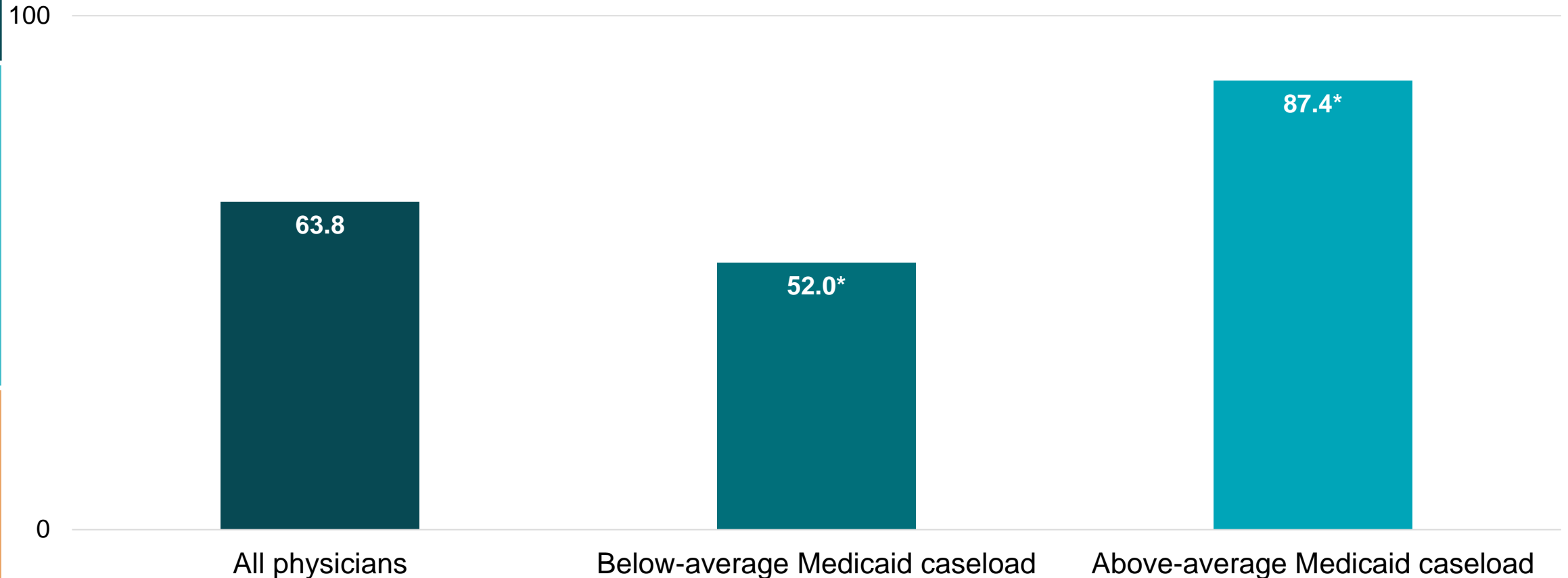
| Setting | 2011–2012 | 2014–2017 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| All Settings | 73.0% | 74.0% |
| Community health center | 97.3* | 94.5* |
| Faculty practice plan | 92.4* | 90.2* |
| Family planning clinic | 100.0* | |
| Freestanding clinic or urgent care center | 74.9 | 79.1 |
| Health maintenance organization or other prepaid practice | 75.0 | 93.9* |
| Mental health center | 94.6* | 89.6* |
| Non-federal government clinic | 92.8* | 80.7 |
| Private solo or group practice | 69.9* | 70.4* |

*significantly different from All Settings at 95% confidence level

Source: MACPAC/SHADAC analysis of 2011–2017 National Electronic Health Records Survey
Universe is physicians who accept new patients.

Percent of Physicians Who Accept New Medicaid Patients by Existing Medicaid Caseload, 2014–2017

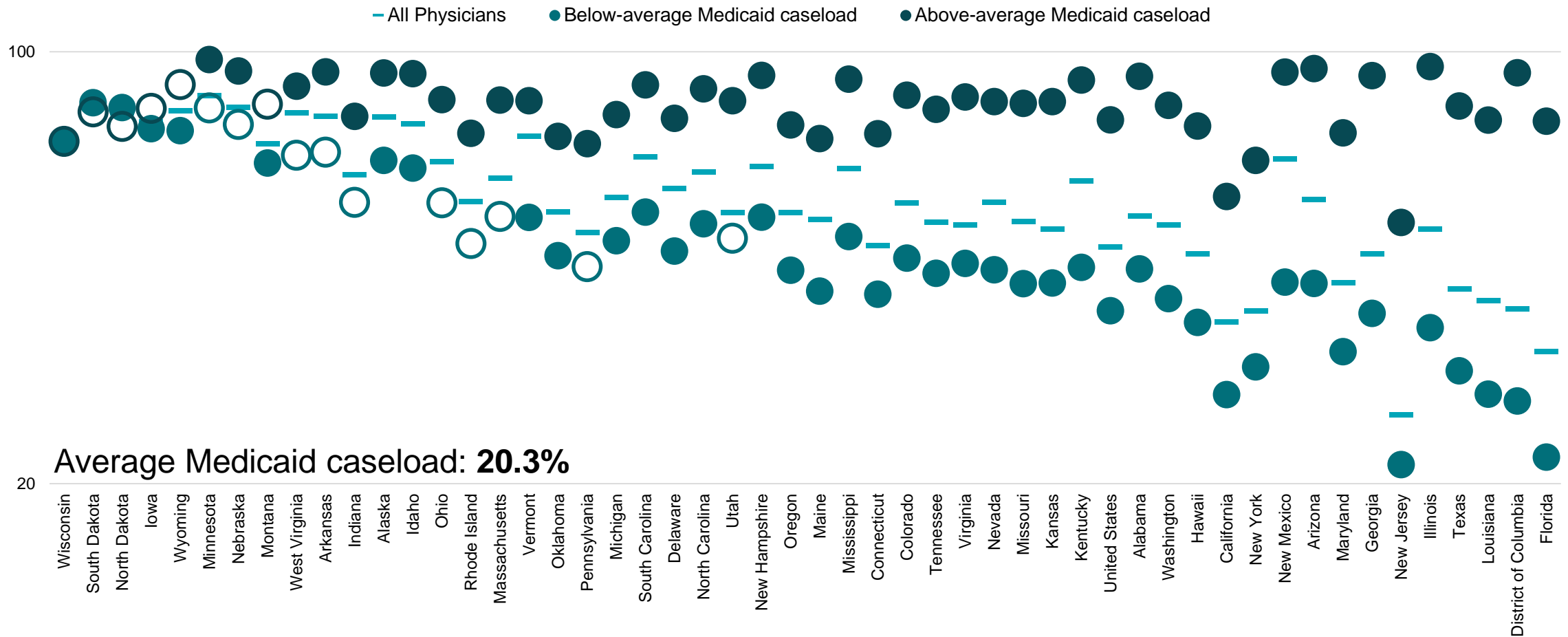
Average Medicaid caseload: **20.3%**



*significantly different from All Physicians at 95% confidence level

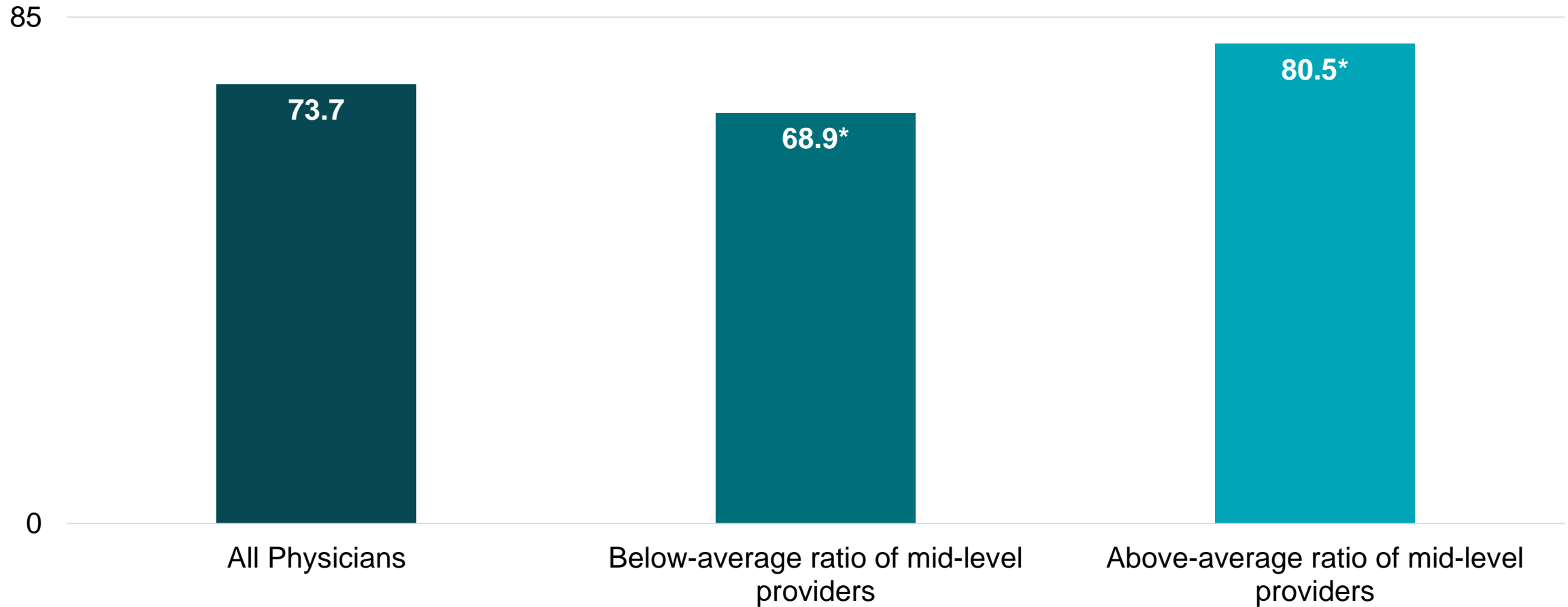
Source: MACPAC/SHADAC analysis of 2014–2017 National Electronic Health Records Survey
Universe is physicians who accept new patients.

Percent of Physicians Who Accept New Medicaid Patients by Existing Medicaid Caseload, 2014–2017



Shaded points are significantly different from All Physicians at 95% confidence level
 Source: MACPAC/SHADAC analysis of 2014–2017 National Electronic Health Records Survey
 Universe is all physicians.

Percent of Physicians Who Accept New Medicaid Patients by Ratio of Mid-level Providers, 2014–2017



* Significantly different from All Physicians at 95% confidence level
Source: MACPAC/SHADAC analysis of 2014–2017 National Electronic Health Records Survey
Universe is physicians who accept new patients.

Conclusions

Conclusions

- Physicians were less likely to accept Medicaid than other types of coverage
- Rates of Medicaid acceptance varied substantially across states
- Positive association with Medicaid acceptance:
 - Certain clinic settings
 - High existing Medicaid caseload
 - Having mid-level providers
- Practice characteristics like higher numbers of mid-level providers and certain clinic settings may make treating new Medicaid patients more financially sustainable
- Physicians already set up to serve Medicaid patients are more likely to accept new Medicaid patients



Working with the NEHRS data

- The NEHRS is an imperfect data source for measuring rates of physician acceptance of new Medicaid patients
- The NEHRS is one of the only sources to monitor physician acceptance of Medicaid at the state level

Resources

1. MACPAC Fact Sheet “Physician Acceptance of New Medicaid Patients: Findings from the National Electronic Health Records Survey,” June 2021. Available at www.macpac.gov
2. State-level estimates of Physician Acceptance of New Medicaid Patients forthcoming on SHADAC’s State Health Compare statehealthcompare.shadac.org

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Thank you!

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