

COVID-19 and Medi-Cal Utilization: Children 0-17 years old

Reported through August 2022

Understanding COVID-19 Impact on Children in Medi-Cal

- DHCS performs analysis and monitors the impact of COVID-19
 - » Focus areas for monitoring service utilization:
 - » COVID-19 testing, and hospitalizations
 - » Utilization of services prior to and during the pandemic

All Hospitalizations

Beneficiaries with Dental Visits

Emergency Department Visits

Mental Health Visits

Telehealth Visits

Prescription Claims

Outpatient Visits

Data Analysis Caveats

- » Data presented is for children 0-17 years old unless specified otherwise
- » Age is based on the Medi-Cal eligibility data at the time of the service
- » Stratifications by sex, race/ethnicity, delivery system, and location are based on the most recent 12 months of reported data
- » Reporting is based on fee-for-service claims and managed care encounter data

Data Completeness Considerations

- » Data is preliminary and will continue to change and be updated
- » While most data is received within 3 to 6 months of date of service, data may be received up to 6 to 18 months after services are delivered (claim lag)
- » The time between a date of service and when DHCS receives fee-for-service claims, managed care encounters, and specialty mental health claims from providers varies
- » DHCS does not report the most recent months of utilization because of claim lag: the most recent 4 months for hospitalizations are not reported, 5 months for specialty mental health services, and 3 months for other services

COVID-19 Testing, and Hospitalizations

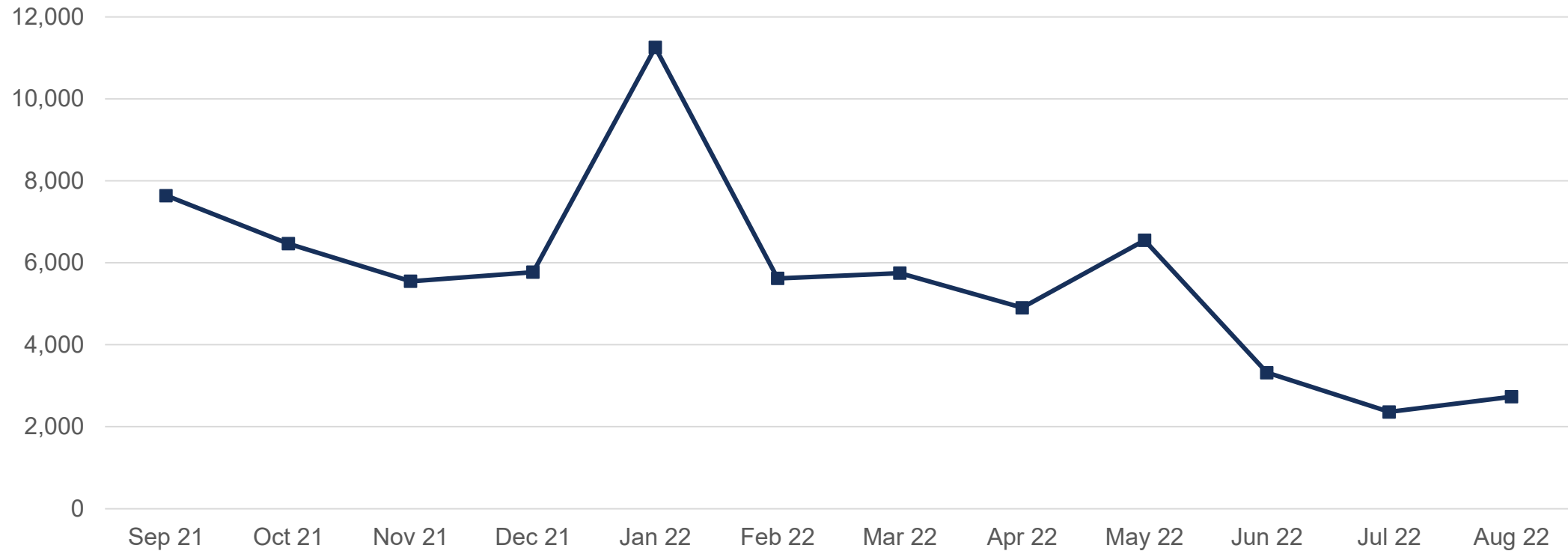
A decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping, wavy, horizontal bands in various shades of purple, ranging from a deep magenta to a light lavender. The bands flow across the width of the slide, creating a sense of movement and depth.

Please refer to Slide 4 for consideration of claim lag time variations

COVID-19 Testing

- » Total number of COVID-19 tests by month tested for beneficiaries 0-17 years old
- » Data represent totals of tests (claims), not individual people
- » Tests can be antigen- or antibody-based. Specific codes used for identification of COVID-19 tests in Medi-Cal claims include, but are not limited to: U0001-4, 87635, 87426, 0202U, 0224U, 86328 and 86769
- » Data does not represent test results or positivity status
- » Source of Data:
 - » Medi-Cal: DHCS MIS/DSS Claims and Eligibility Data

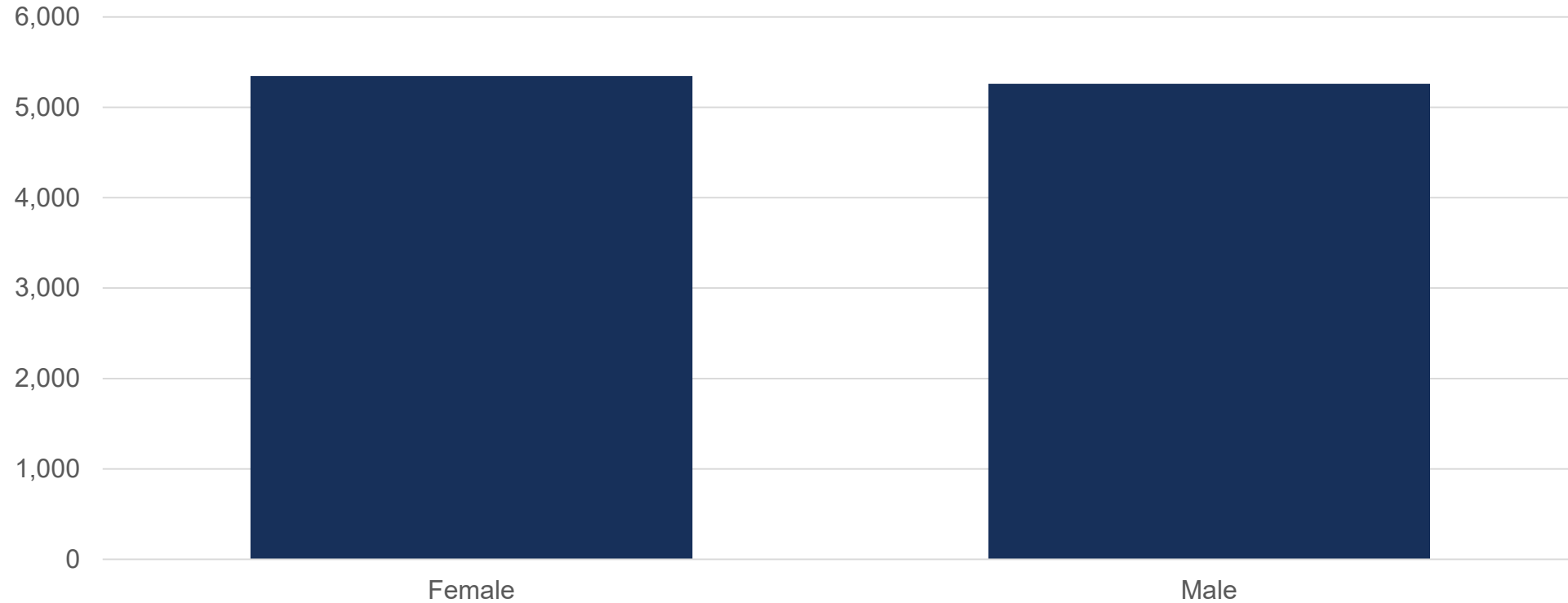
COVID-19 Testing per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	Jun 22	Jul 22	Aug 22
7,640	6,466	5,550	5,771	11,255	5,619	5,748	4,904	6,550	3,319	2,361	2,732

COVID-19 Testing

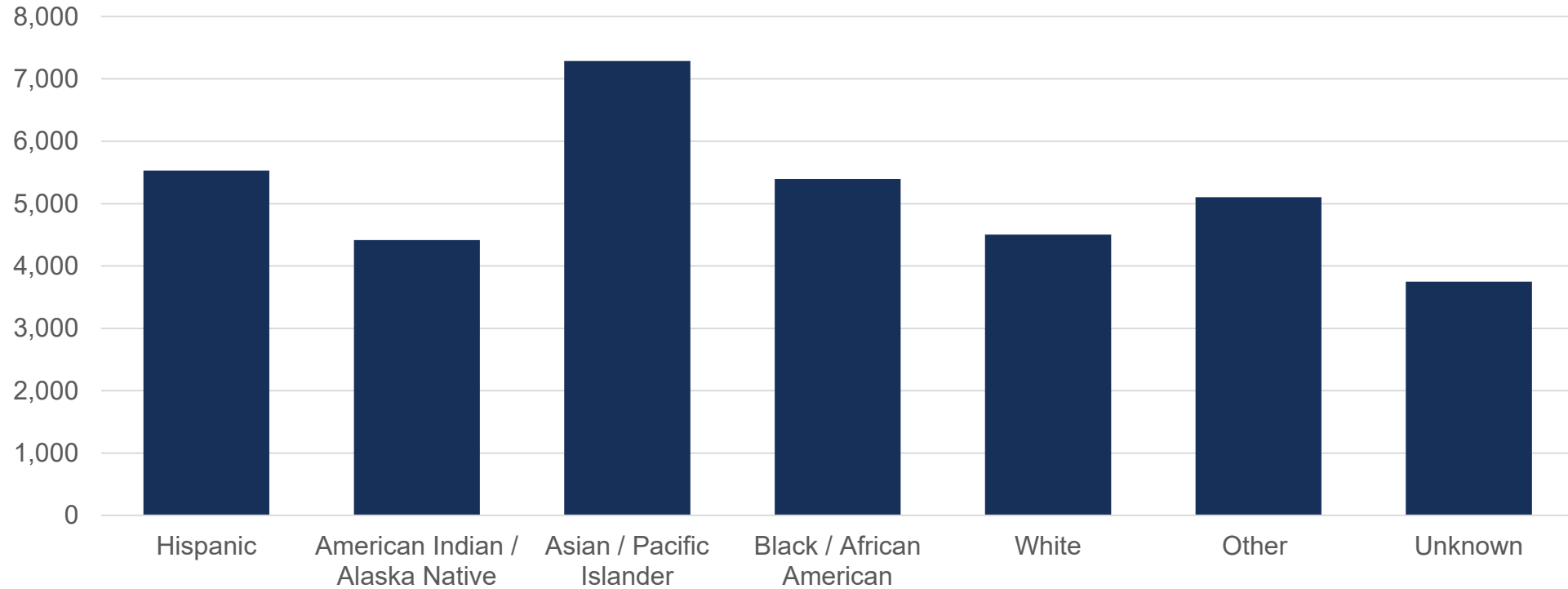
By Sex per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Period	Female	Male
	5,347	5,260

COVID-19 Testing

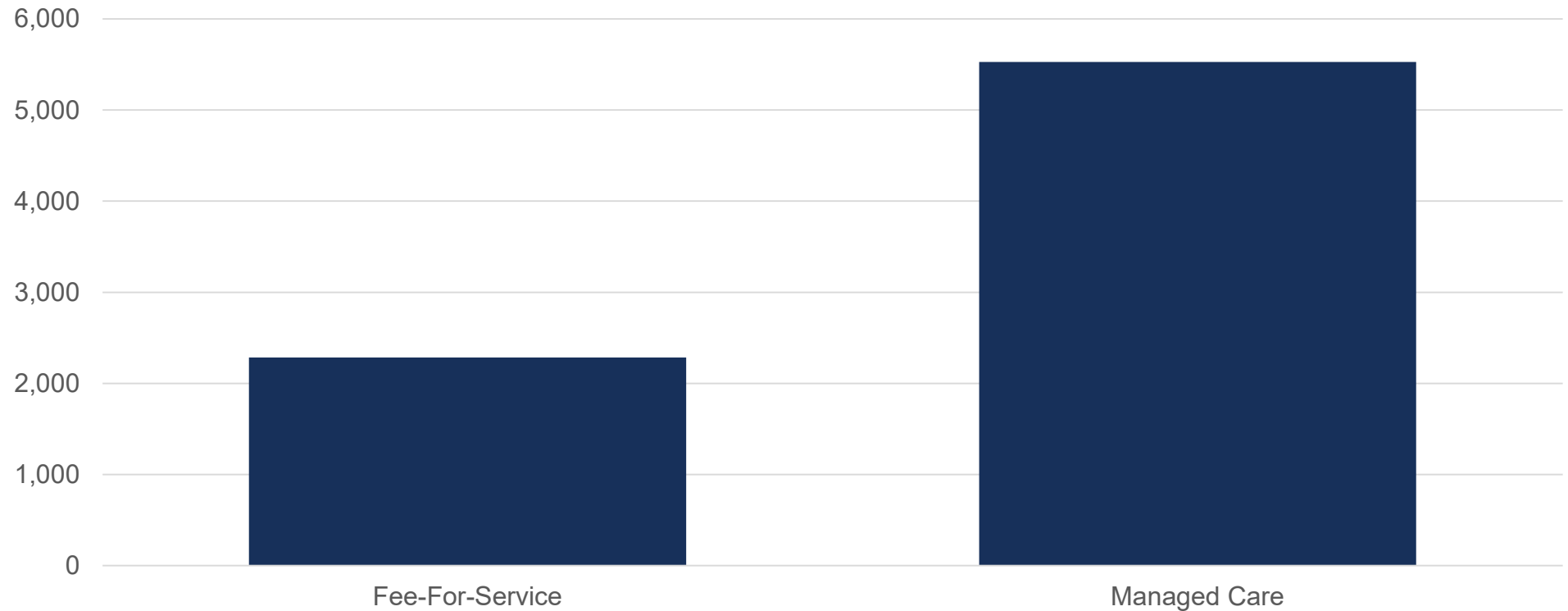
By Race/Ethnicity per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Hispanic	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Black / African American	White	Other	Unknown
	5,529	4,417	7,289	5,396	4,501	5,104	3,749

COVID-19 Testing

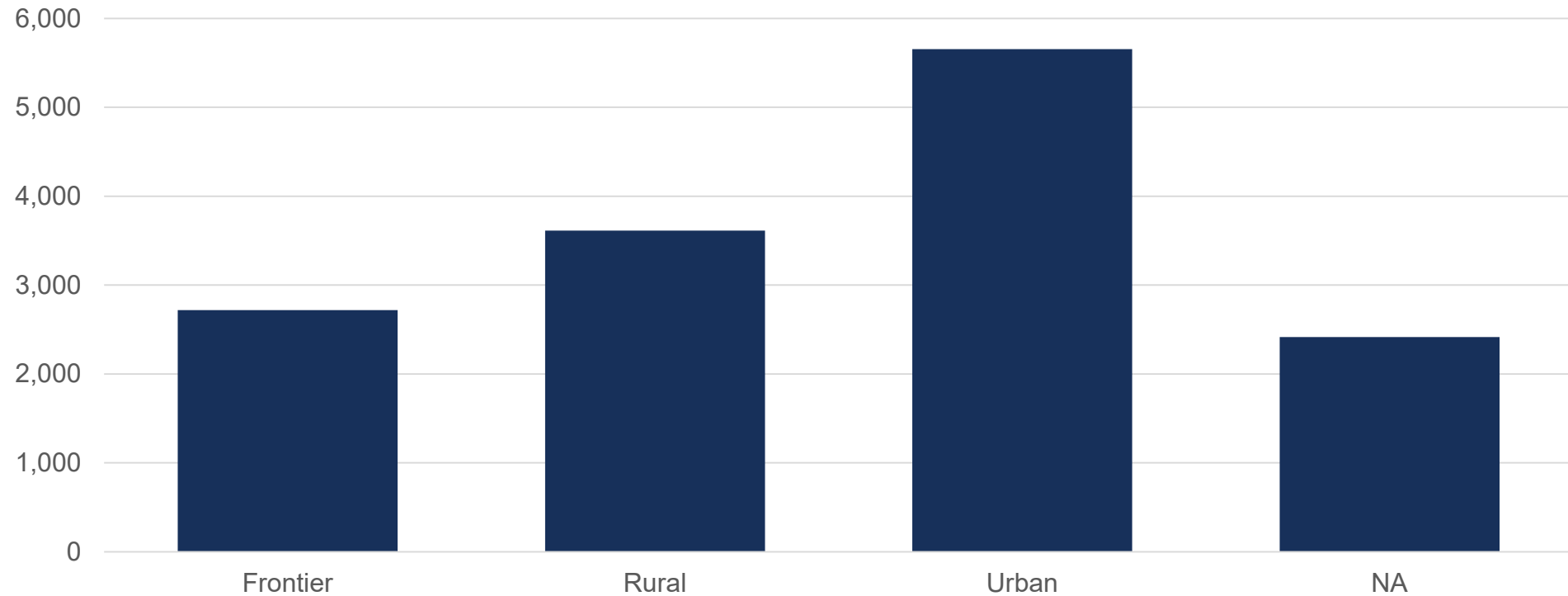
By Delivery System per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



	Fee-For-Service	Managed Care
Sep-21 – Aug-22	2,285	5,529

COVID-19 Testing

By Location per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



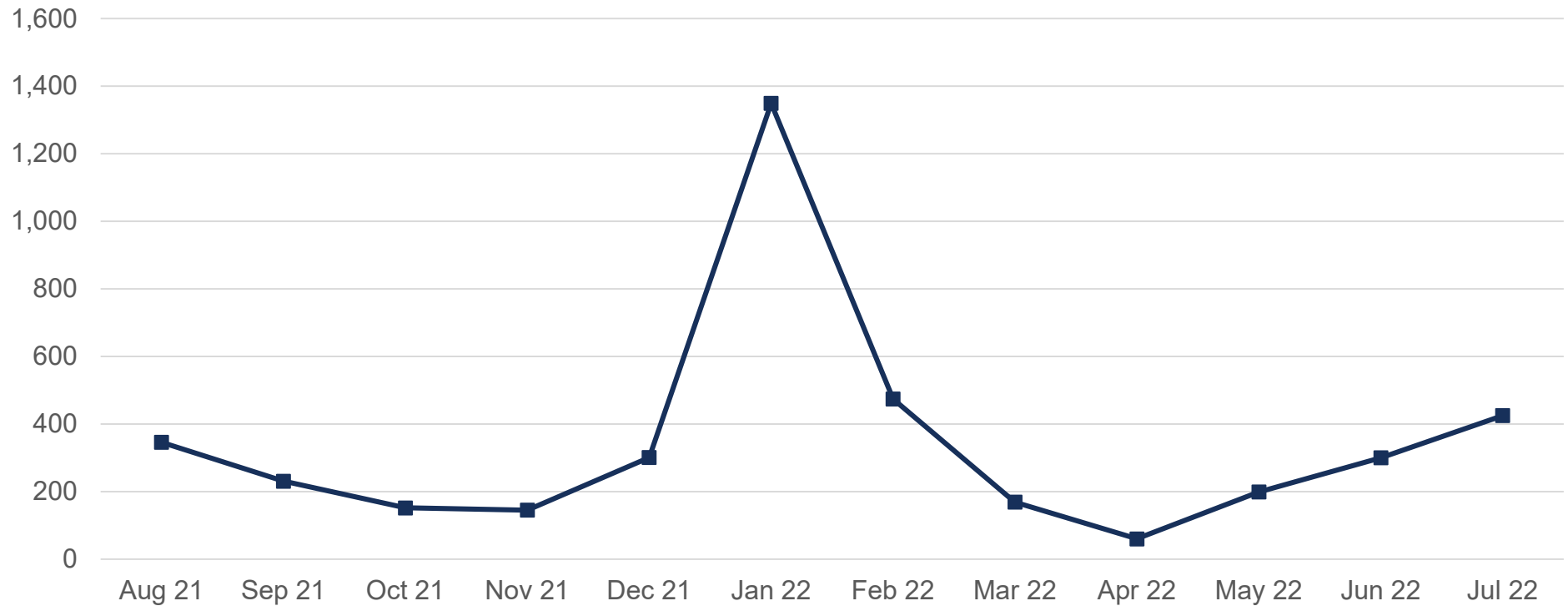
	Frontier	Rural	Urban	NA
Sep-21 – Aug-22	2,719	3,612	5,657	2,416

COVID-19 Hospitalizations

- » Hospitalizations are presented in the following ways
 - » COVID-19 diagnosis (present on admission)
 - » All hospitalizations (COVID-19 and non-COVID-19)
 - » Comparison by Calendar Year, starting in 2020 through the date for which data is reported
- » Inpatient stays were defined as a unique combination of beneficiary and service date
- » Source of Data:
 - » DHCS MIS/DSS Claims and Eligibility Data

COVID-19 Hospitalizations

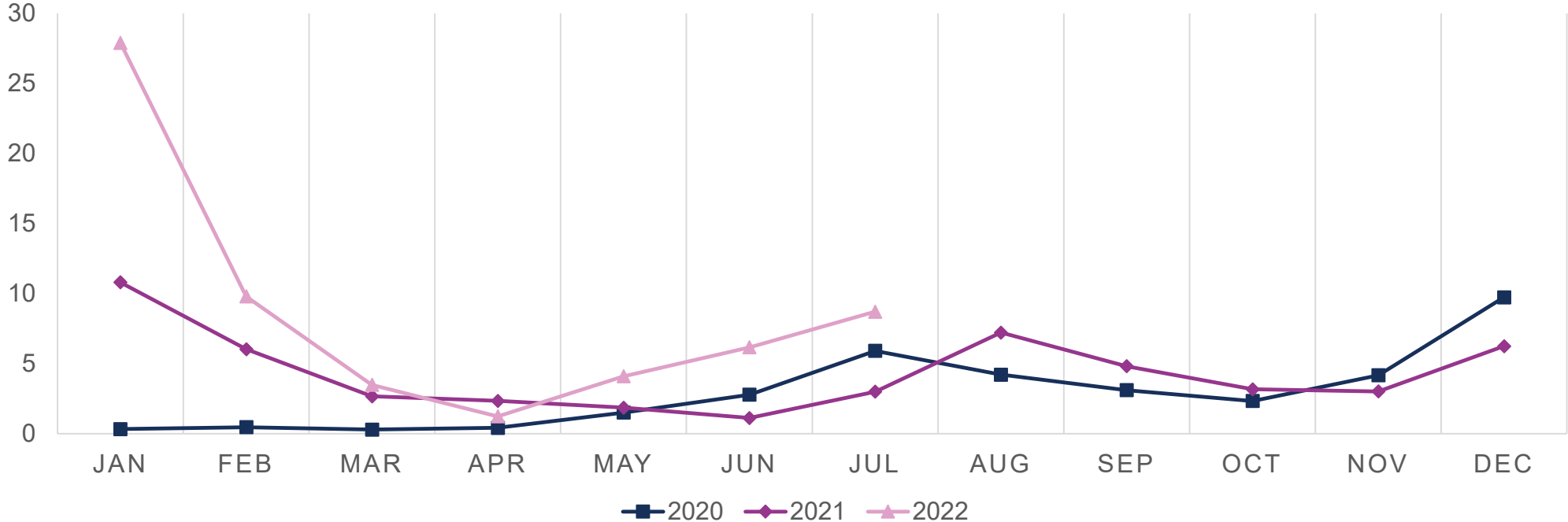
Count of beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	Jun 22	Jul 22
346	231	152	145	301	1,349	474	169	60	199	300	425

COVID-19 Hospitalizations

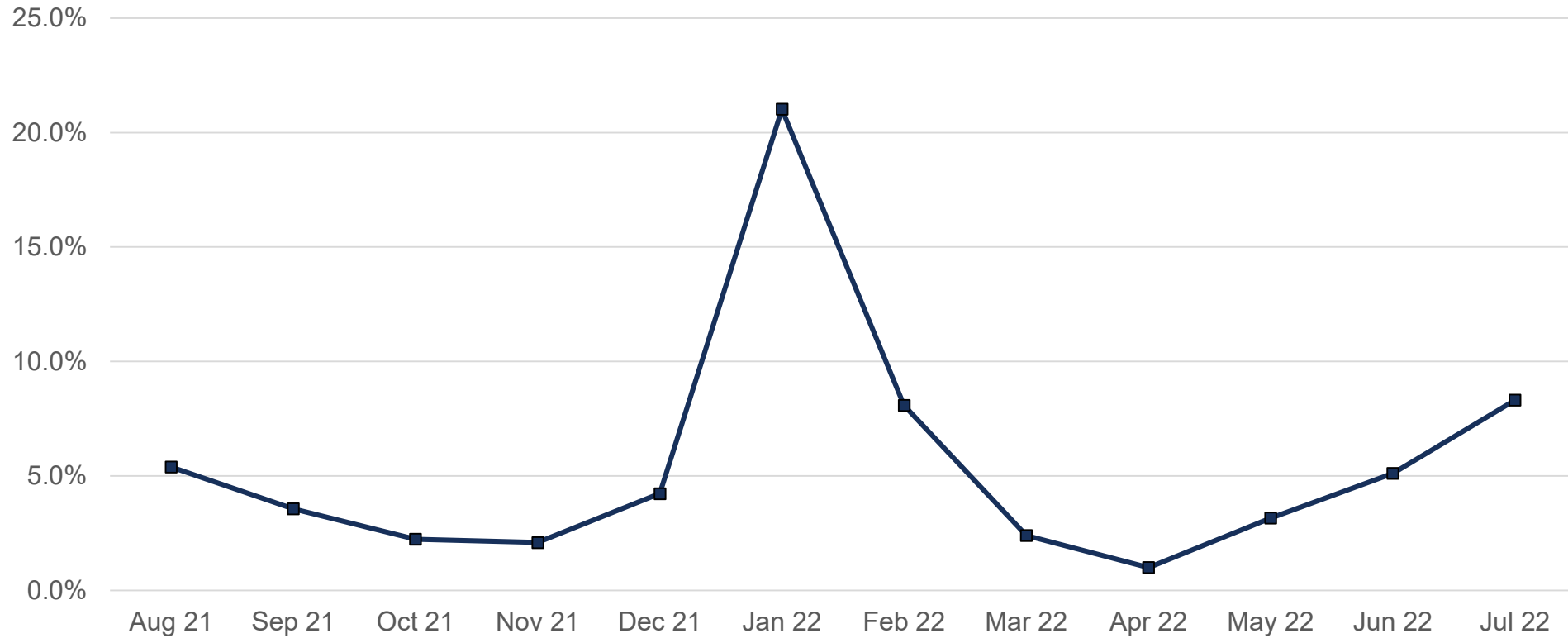
Per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	0	0	0	0	2	3	6	4	3	2	4	10
2021	11	6	3	2	2	1	3	7	5	3	3	6
2022	28	10	3	1	4	6	9					

COVID-19 Hospitalizations

Percent of all Hospitalizations for beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	Jun 22	Jul 22
5.4%	3.6%	2.2%	2.1%	4.2%	21.0%	8.1%	2.4%	1.0%	3.2%	5.1%	8.3%

Utilization of Services Prior to and During the Pandemic

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Please refer to Slide 4 for consideration of claim lag time variations

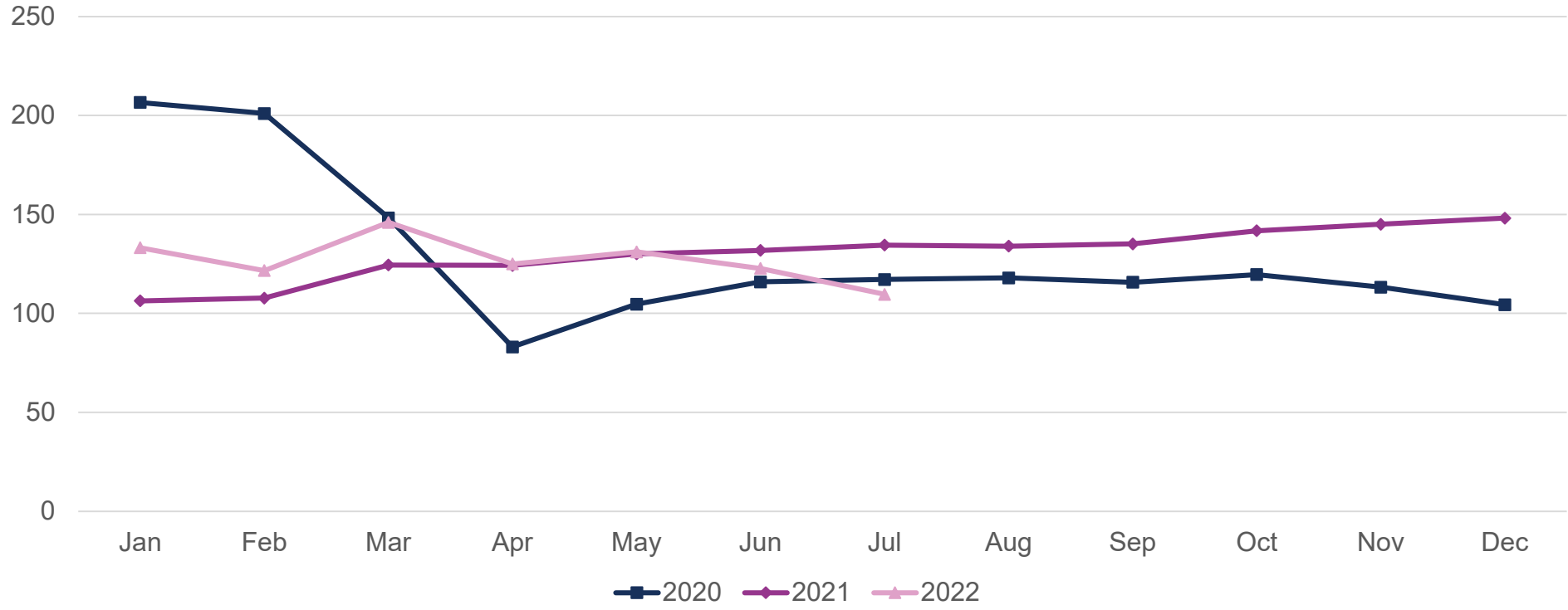
Medi-Cal Utilization of Services During the Pandemic Response

The following measures have been compiled to compare utilization during Calendar Year 2020 through the date for which data is reported:

- » All Hospitalizations
- » Emergency Department Visits
- » Telehealth Visits
- » Outpatient Visits
- » Beneficiaries with Dental Visits
- » Mental Health Visits
- » Prescription Claims

All Hospitalizations

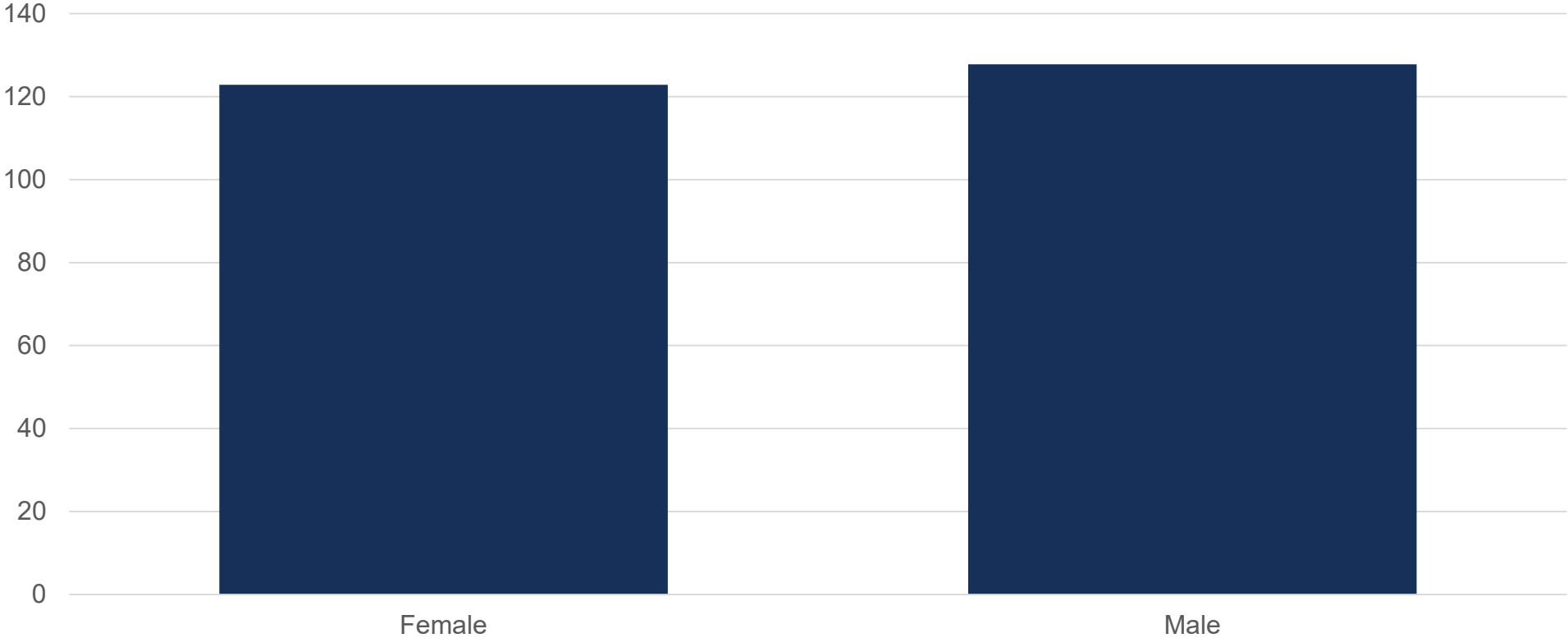
per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	207	201	148	83	105	116	117	118	116	120	113	104
2021	106	108	124	124	130	132	135	134	135	142	145	148
2022	133	122	146	125	131	123	110					

All Hospitalizations

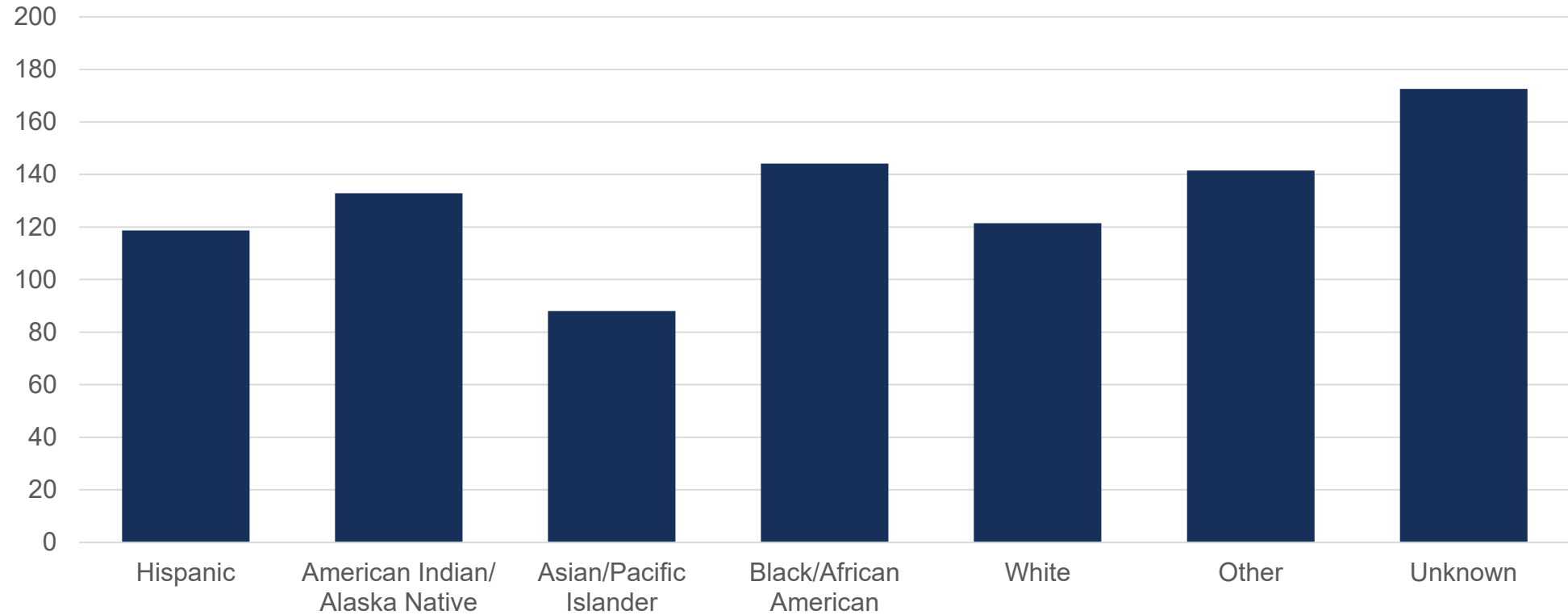
By Sex Per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Aug-21 – Jul-22	Female	Male
	123	128

All Hospitalizations

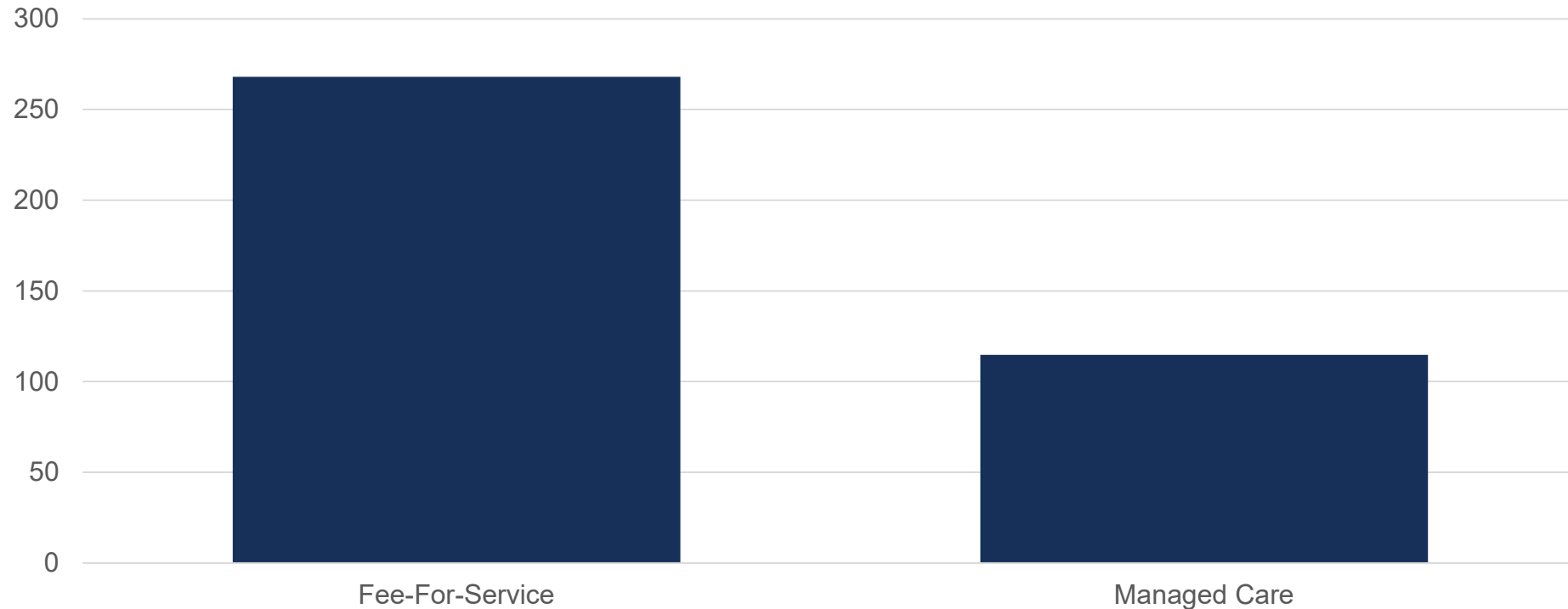
By Race/Ethnicity per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Aug-21 – Jul-22	Hispanic	American Indian/Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black/African American	White	Other	Unknown
	119	133	88	144	121	142	173

All Hospitalizations

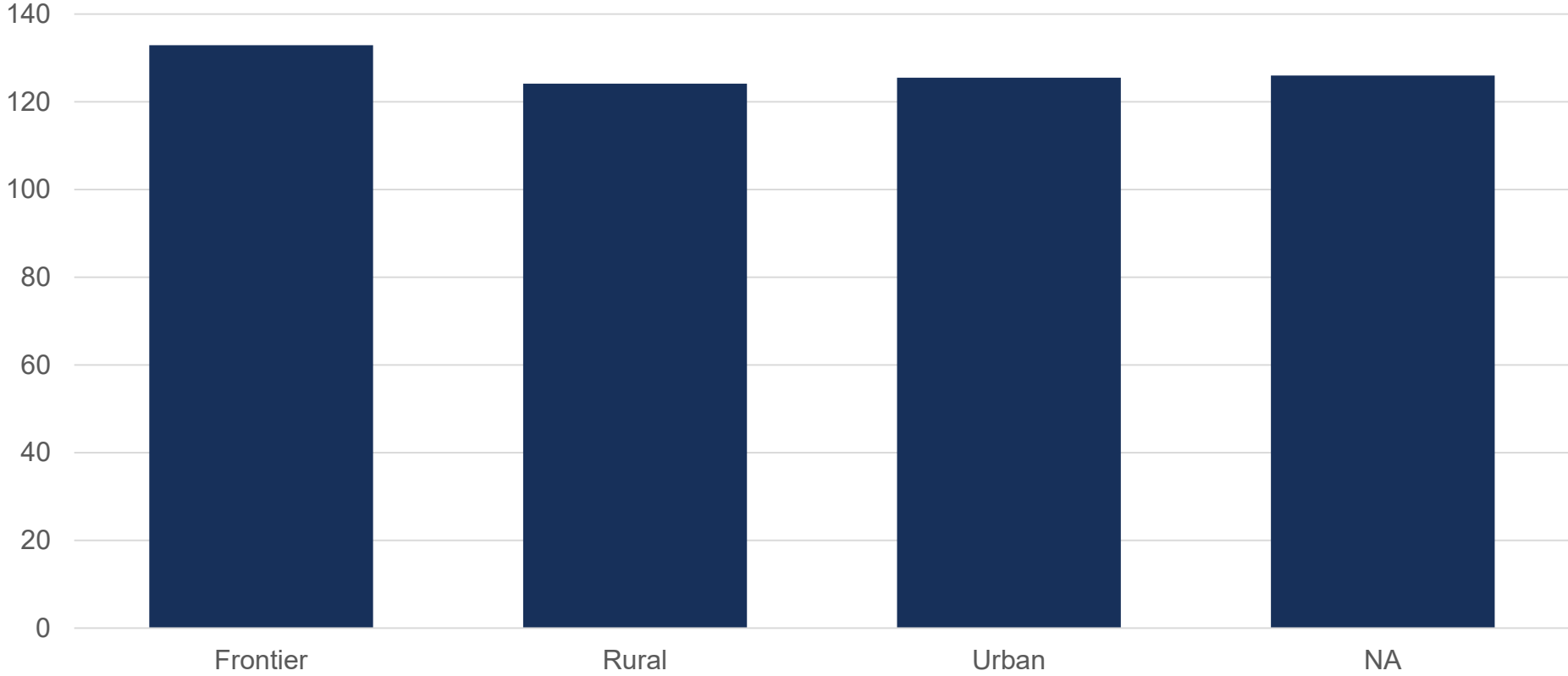
By Delivery System per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Aug-21 – Jul-22	Fee-For-Service	Managed Care
	268	115

All Hospitalizations

By Location per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



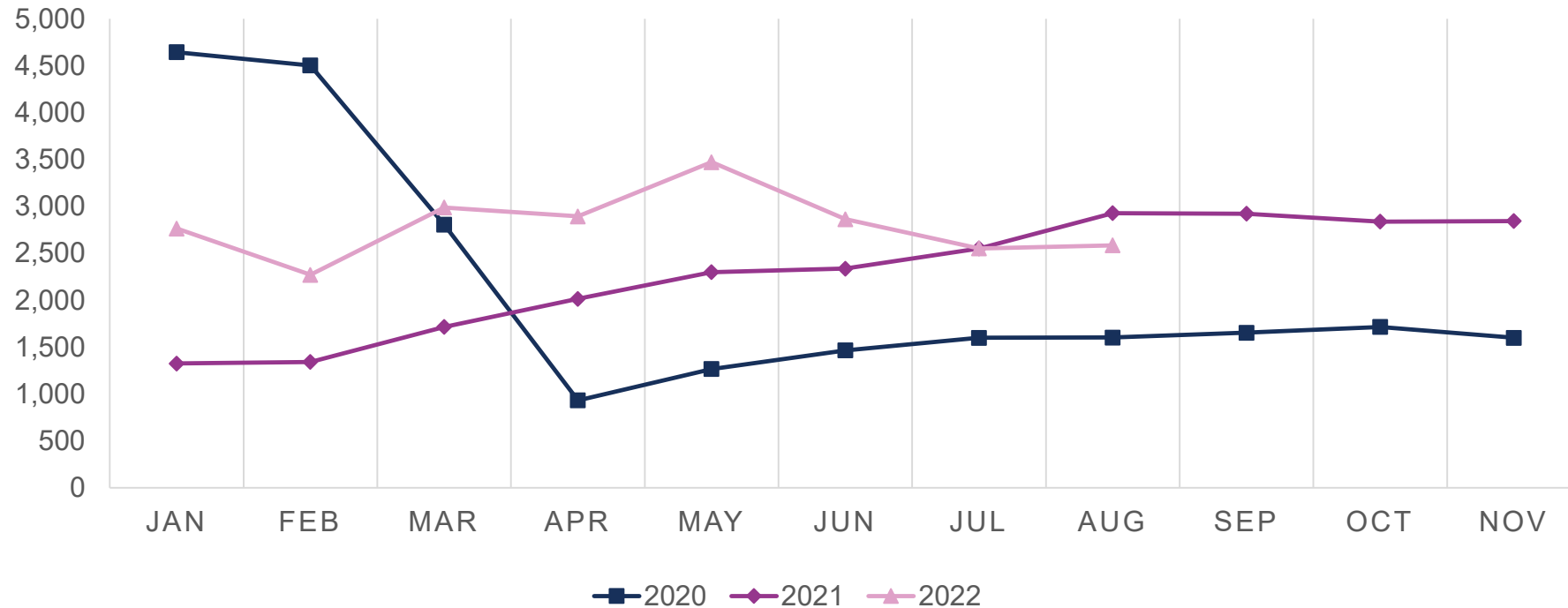
Aug-21 – Jul-22	Frontier	Rural	Urban	NA
	133	124	126	126

Emergency Department Visits

- » Total number Emergency Department visits including those related to COVID-19 among beneficiaries 0-17 years old
- » Procedure Codes Utilized:
99281, 99282, 99283, 99284, 99285
- » Overall, California hospitals experienced declines of 40% to 60% in ED visits during the pandemic (The Financial Impact of COVID-19 on California Hospitals, CHCF)
- » Source of Data:
 - » MIS/DSS Claims and Eligibility Data

Emergency Department Visits

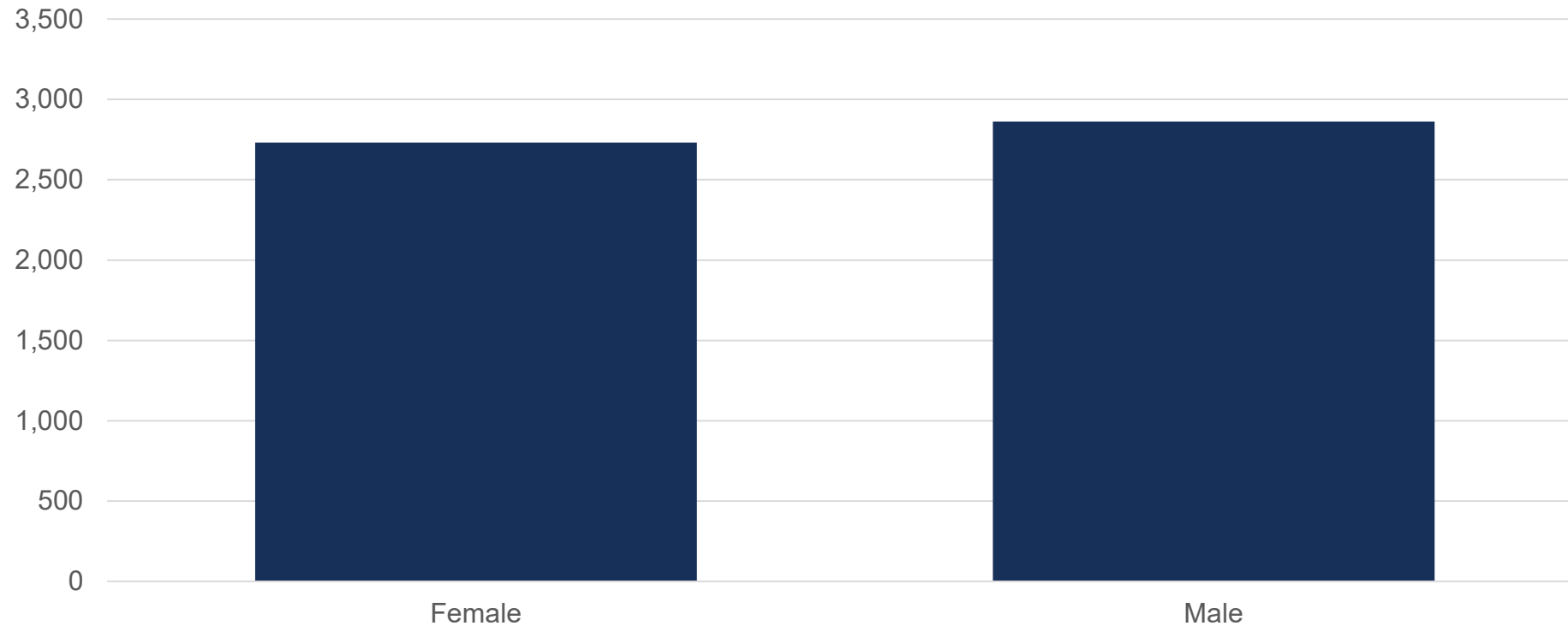
per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	4,645	4,503	2,807	933	1,267	1,466	1,600	1,603	1,654	1,716	1,600	1,444
2021	1,325	1,343	1,715	2,015	2,300	2,338	2,553	2,929	2,922	2,838	2,844	2,814
2022	2,764	2,271	2,989	2,893	3,471	2,864	2,552	2,585				

Emergency Department Visits

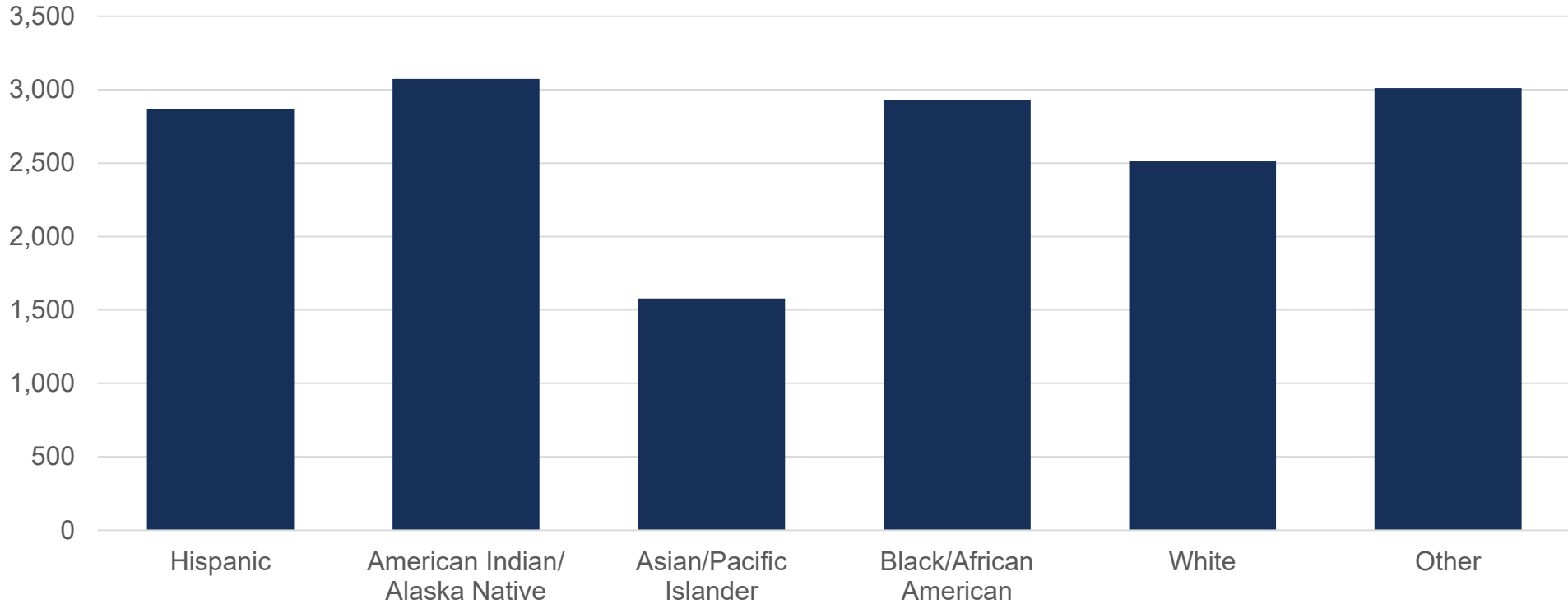
By Sex per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



	Female	Male
Sep-21 – Aug-22	2,731	2,863

Emergency Department Visits

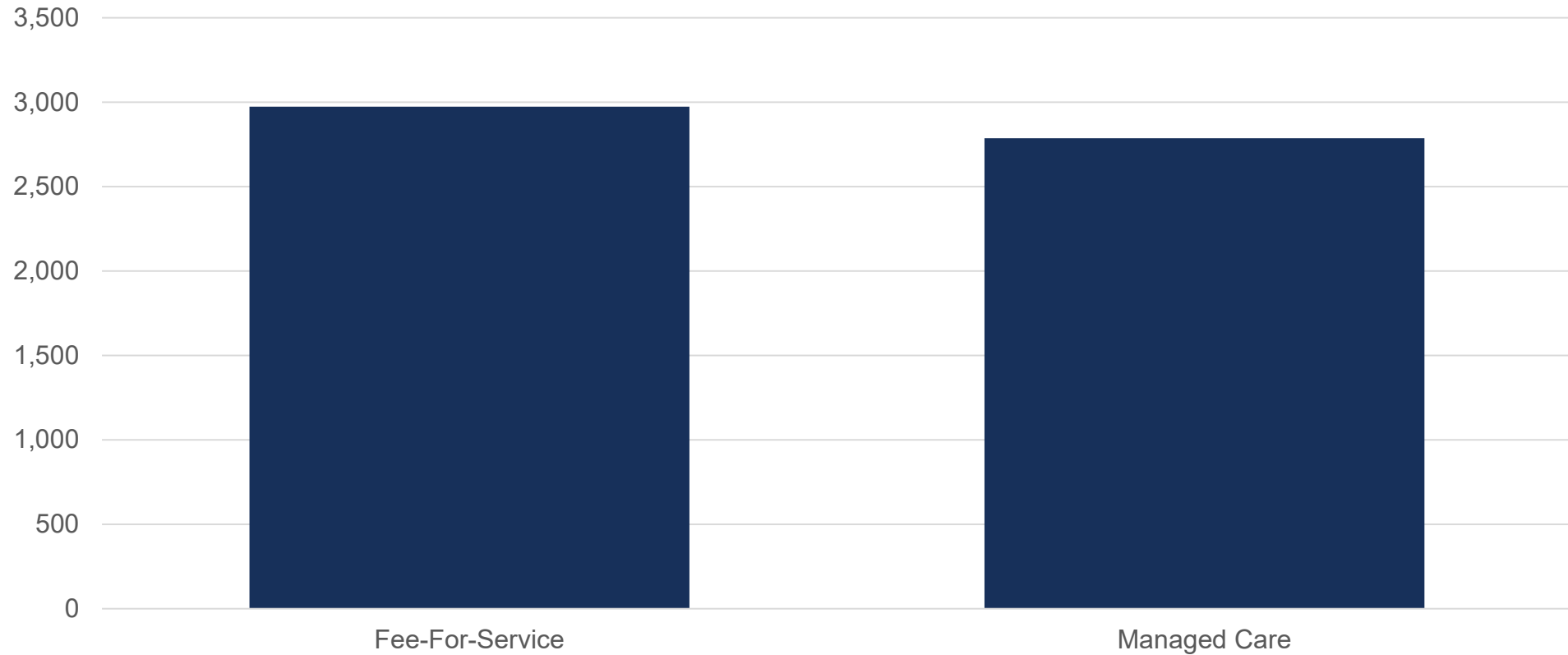
By Race/Ethnicity per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Hispanic	American Indian/Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black/African American	White	Other	Unknown
	2,869	3,074	1,577	2,931	2,512	3,010	3,311

Emergency Department Visits

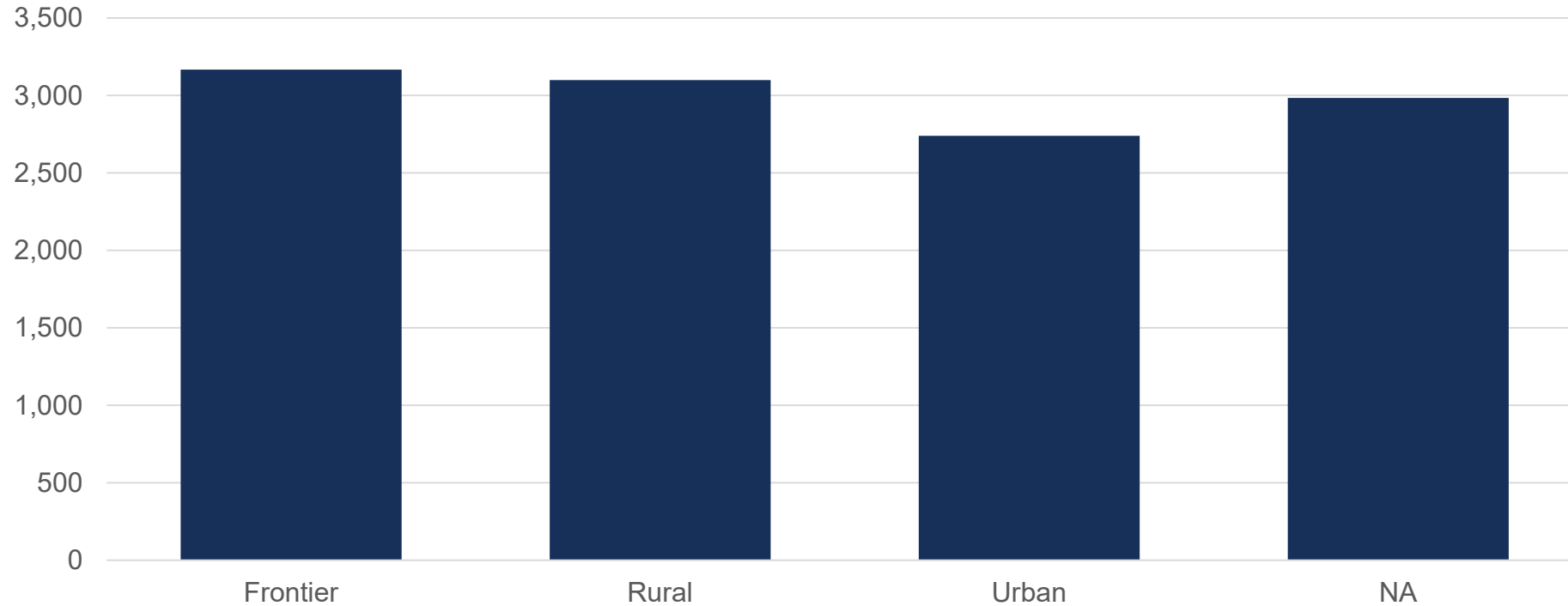
By Delivery System per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Fee-For-Service	Managed Care
	2,972	2,786

Emergency Department Visits

By Location per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



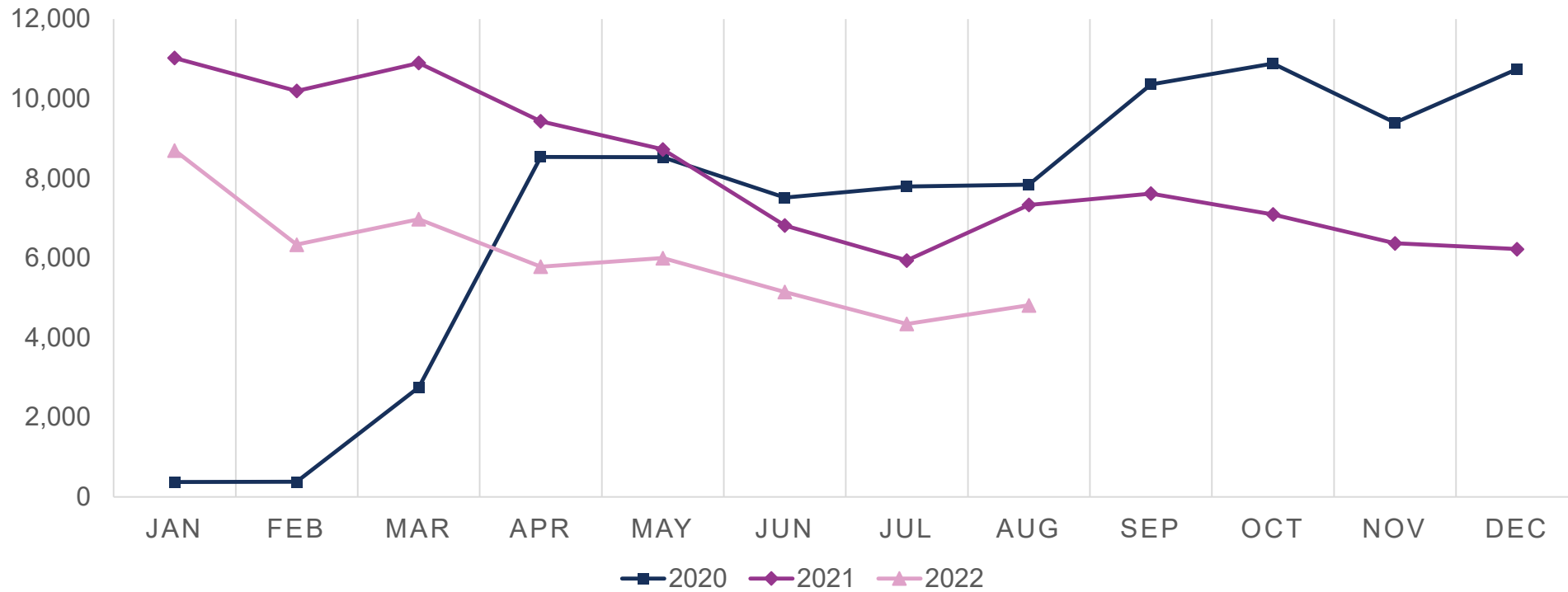
Sep-21 – Aug-22	Frontier	Rural	Urban	NA
	3,167	3,100	2,739	2,984

Telehealth Visits

- » Telehealth visits were identified based on the presence of a modifier on the claim or encounter (modifiers 95, GQ and GT)
- » Telehealth visits include phone and video healthcare visits
- » Telehealth visits are outpatient visits in fee-for-service or managed care – mental health visits are not included in this chart
- » Source of data:
 - » MIS/DSS Claims and Eligibility

Telehealth Visits

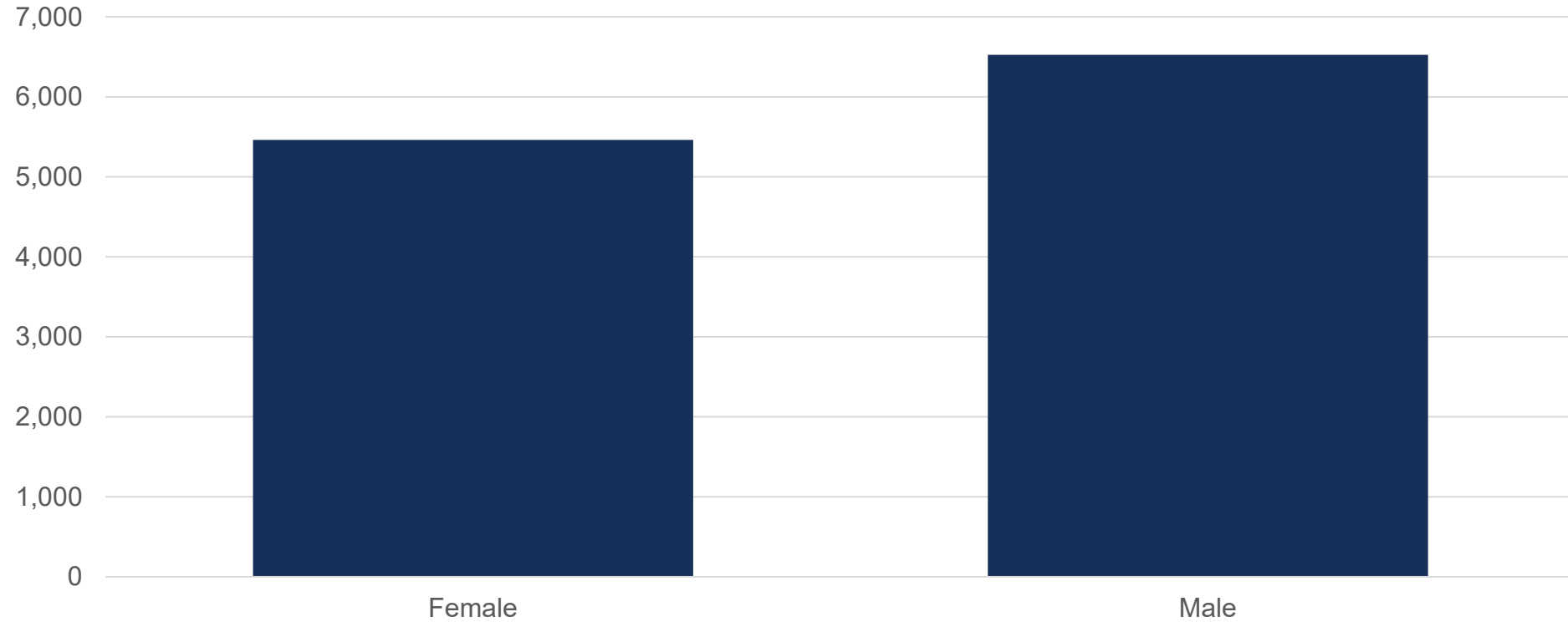
Per 100,000 Beneficiaries 0-17 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	376	380	2,754	8,538	8,530	7,520	7,798	7,839	10,362	10,880	9,397	10,741
2021	11,023	10,196	10,898	9,434	8,729	6,817	5,939	7,334	7,620	7,094	6,369	6,222
2022	8,703	6,338	6,977	5,782	5,999	5,146	4,345	4,813				

Telehealth Visits

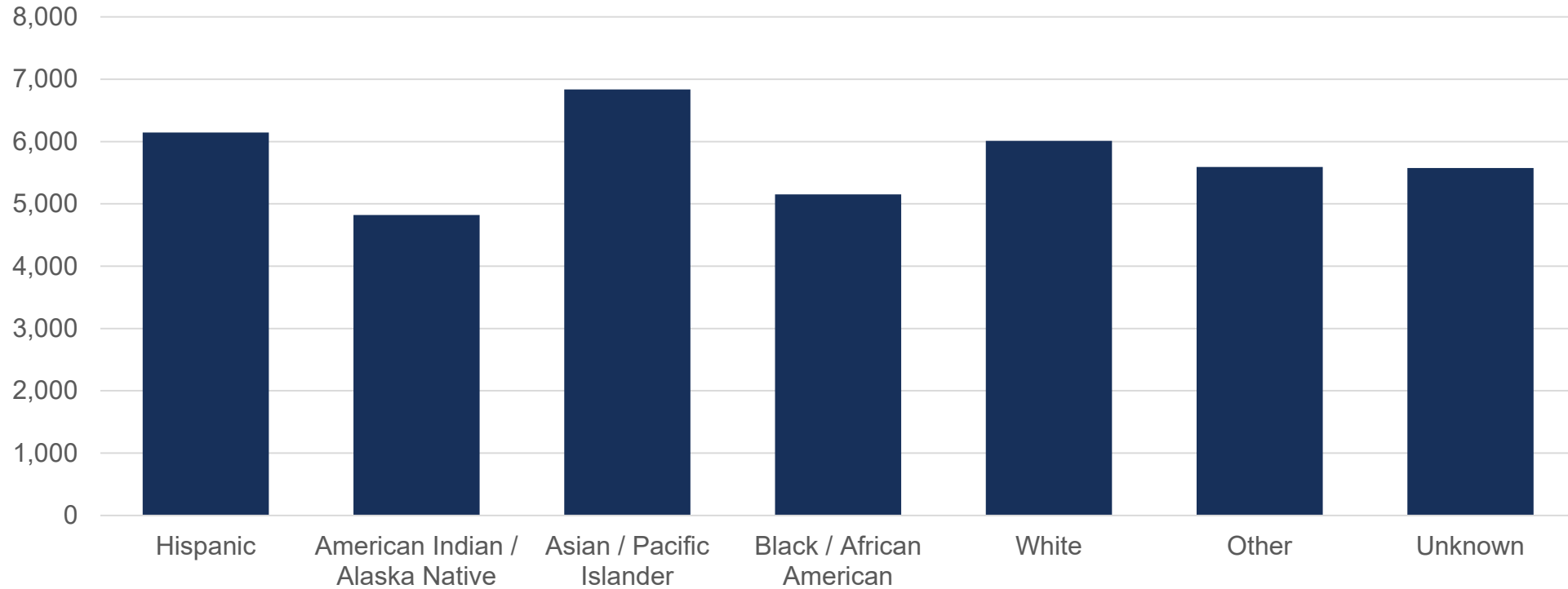
By Sex per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



	Female	Male
Sep-21 – Aug-22	5,464	6,527

Telehealth Visits

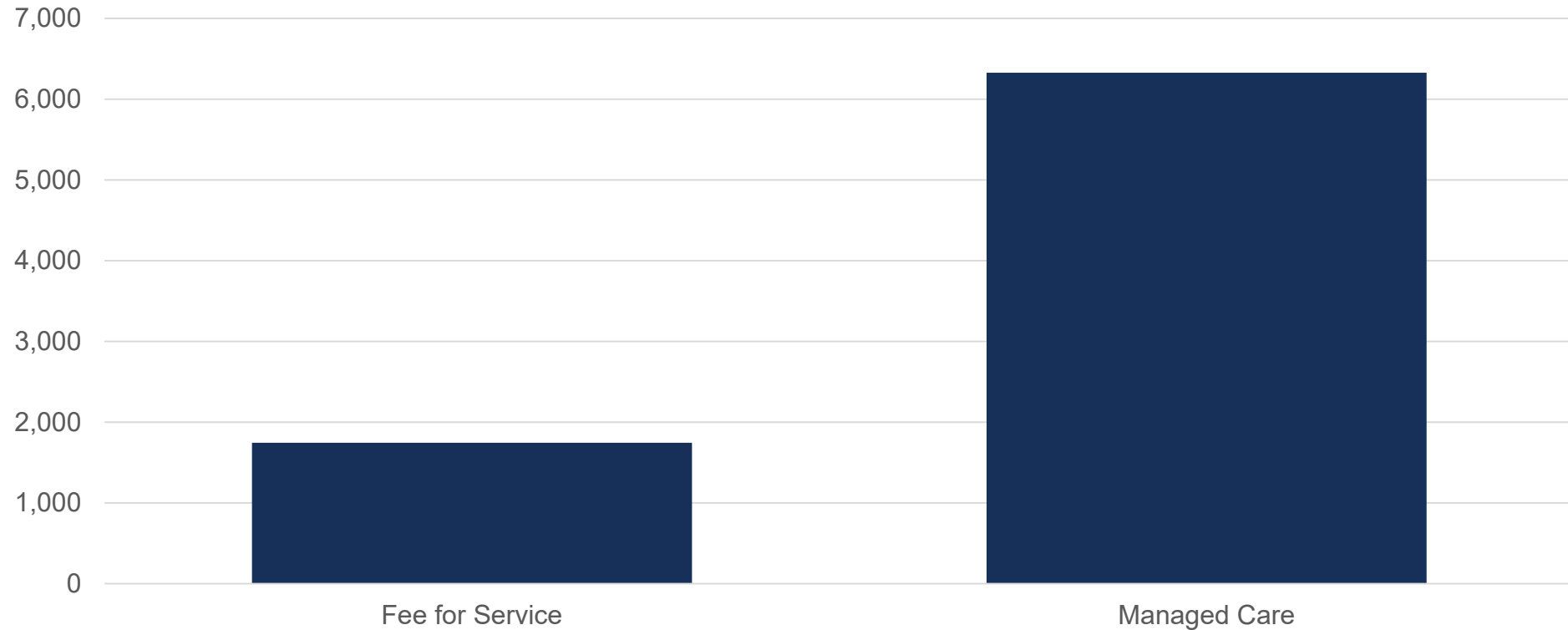
By Race/Ethnicity per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Hispanic	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Black / African American	White	Other	Unknown
	6,147	4,820	6,838	5,151	6,012	5,590	5,573

Telehealth Visits

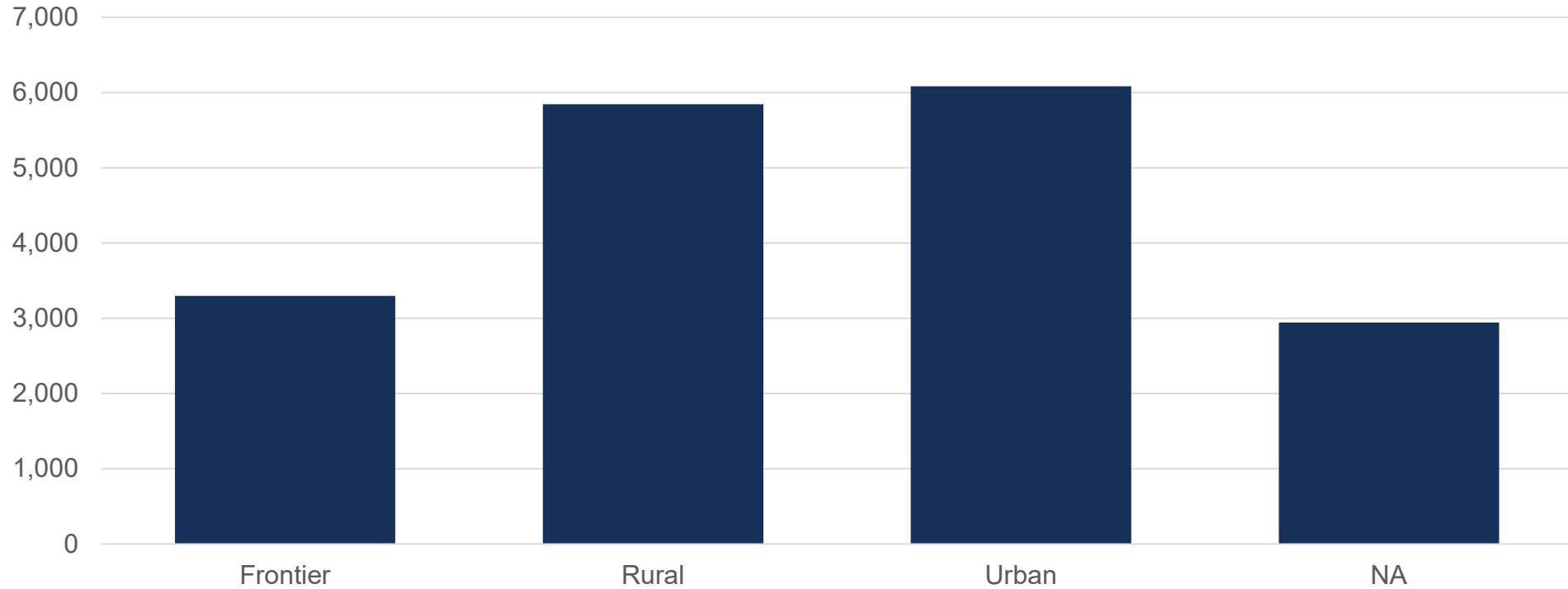
By Delivery System per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Fee for Service	Managed Care
	1,746	6,328

Telehealth Visits

By Location per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



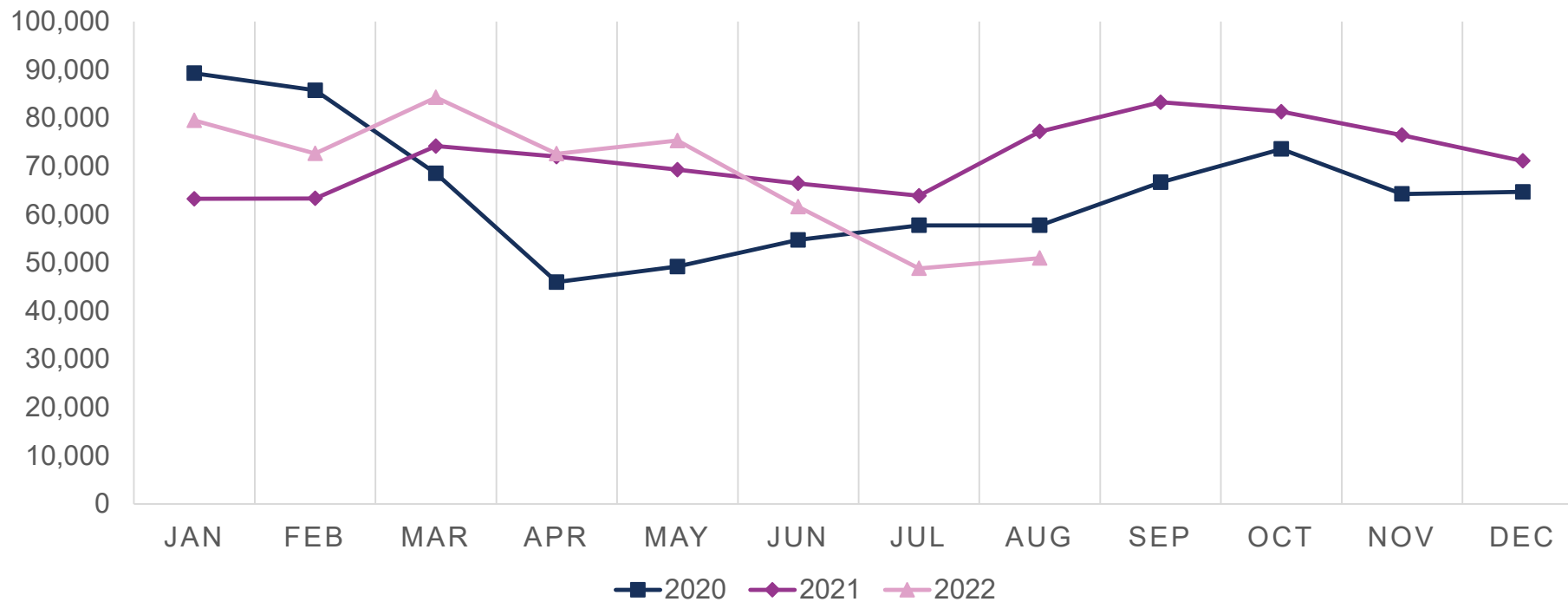
Sep-21 – Aug-22	Frontier	Rural	Urban	NA
	3,298	5,845	6,085	2,943

Outpatient Visits

- » Total number of outpatient visits
- » Total number of outpatient visit includes telehealth visits
- » Telehealth visits constitute about 20% of the overall outpatient visits
- » Source of data:
 - » MIS/DSS Claims and Eligibility

Outpatient Visits

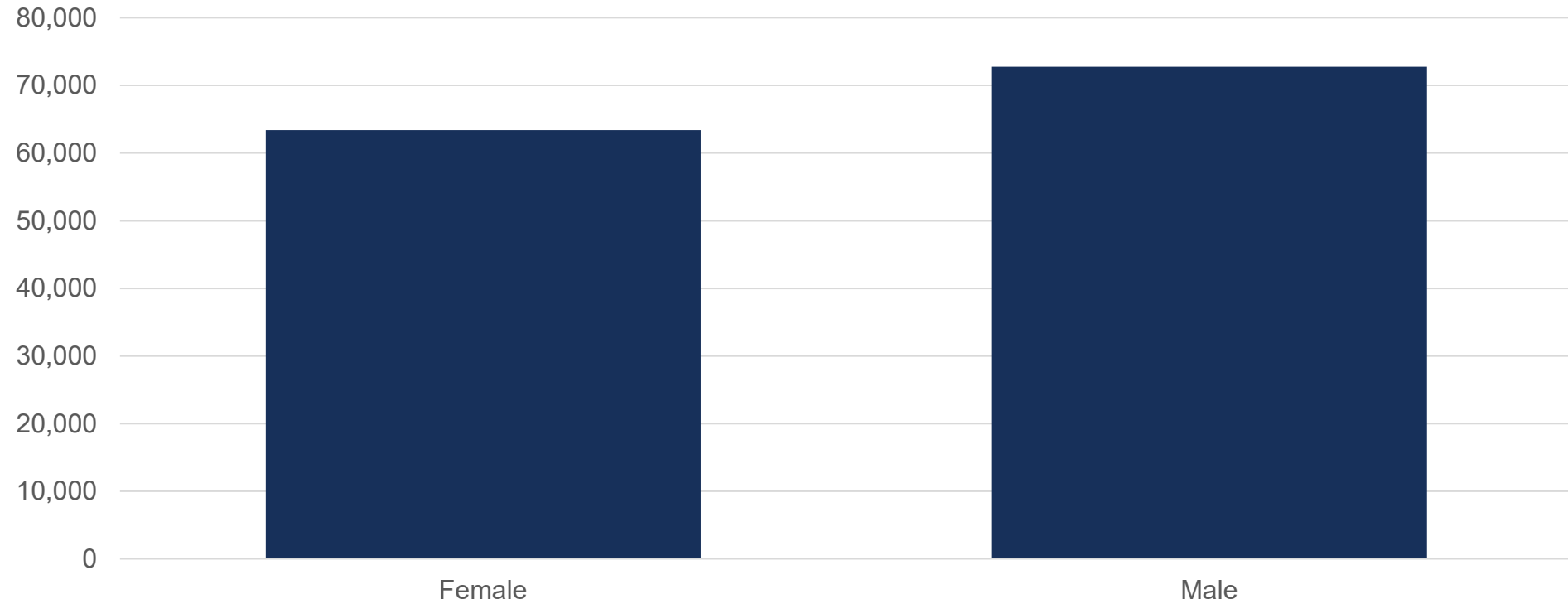
per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	89,288	85,741	68,498	45,973	49,204	54,716	57,752	57,738	66,672	73,562	64,241	64,689
2021	63,233	63,332	74,168	71,981	69,291	66,435	63,881	77,188	83,260	81,314	76,452	71,095
2022	79,511	72,655	84,281	72,584	75,341	61,597	48,824	50,956				

Outpatient Visits

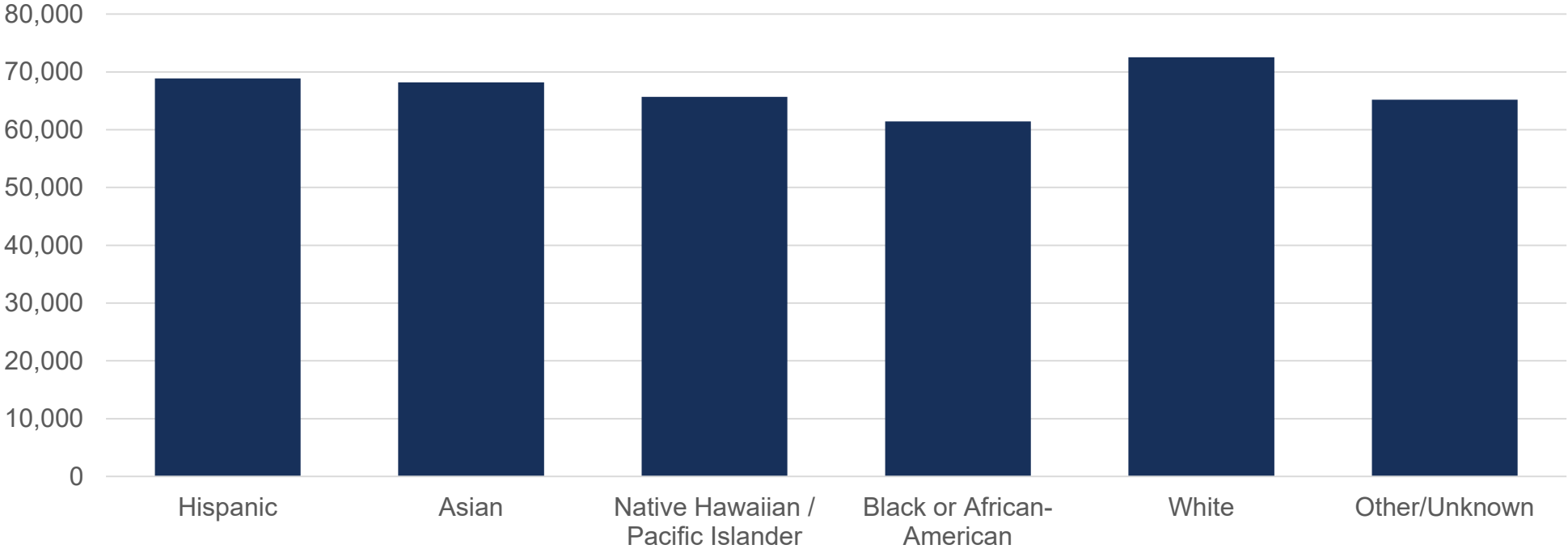
By Sex per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Female	Male
	63,392	72,737

Outpatient Visits

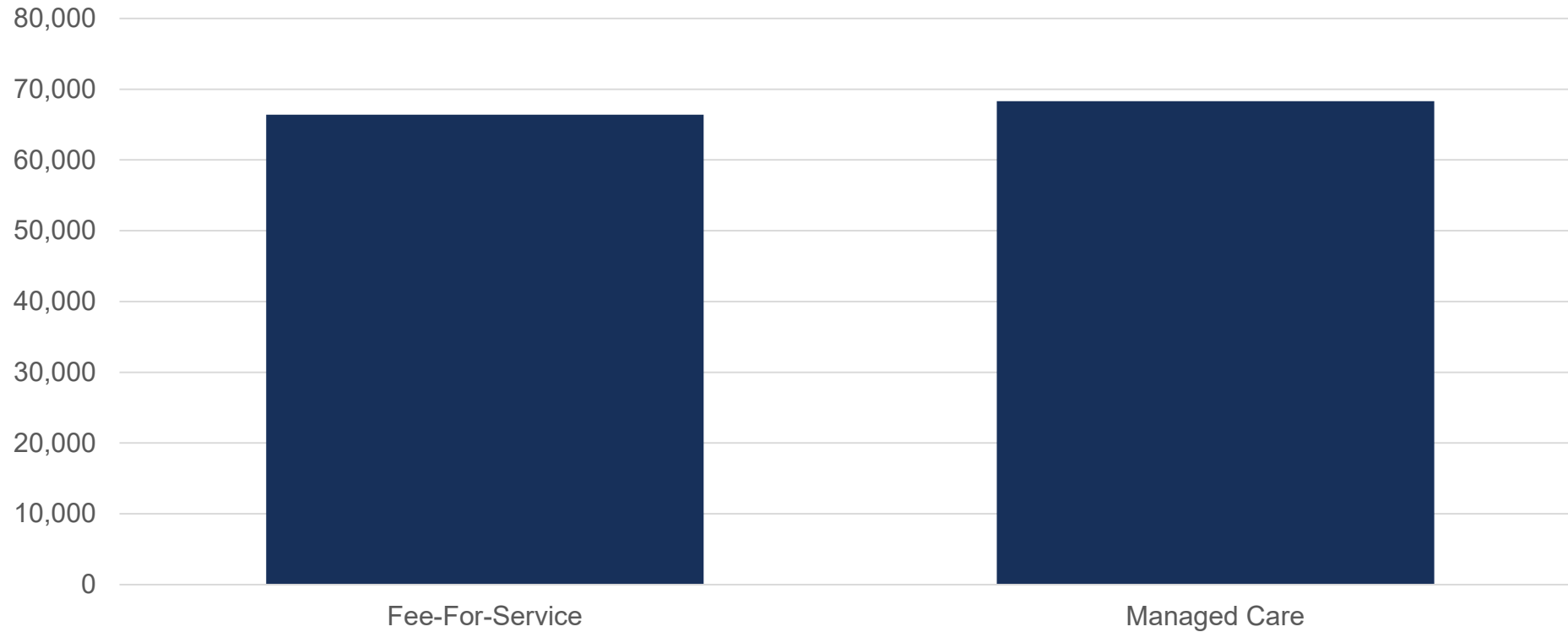
By Race/Ethnicity per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Hispanic	Asian	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	Black or African-American	White	Other/Unknown
	68,861	68,171	65,695	61,435	72,543	65,184

Outpatient Visits

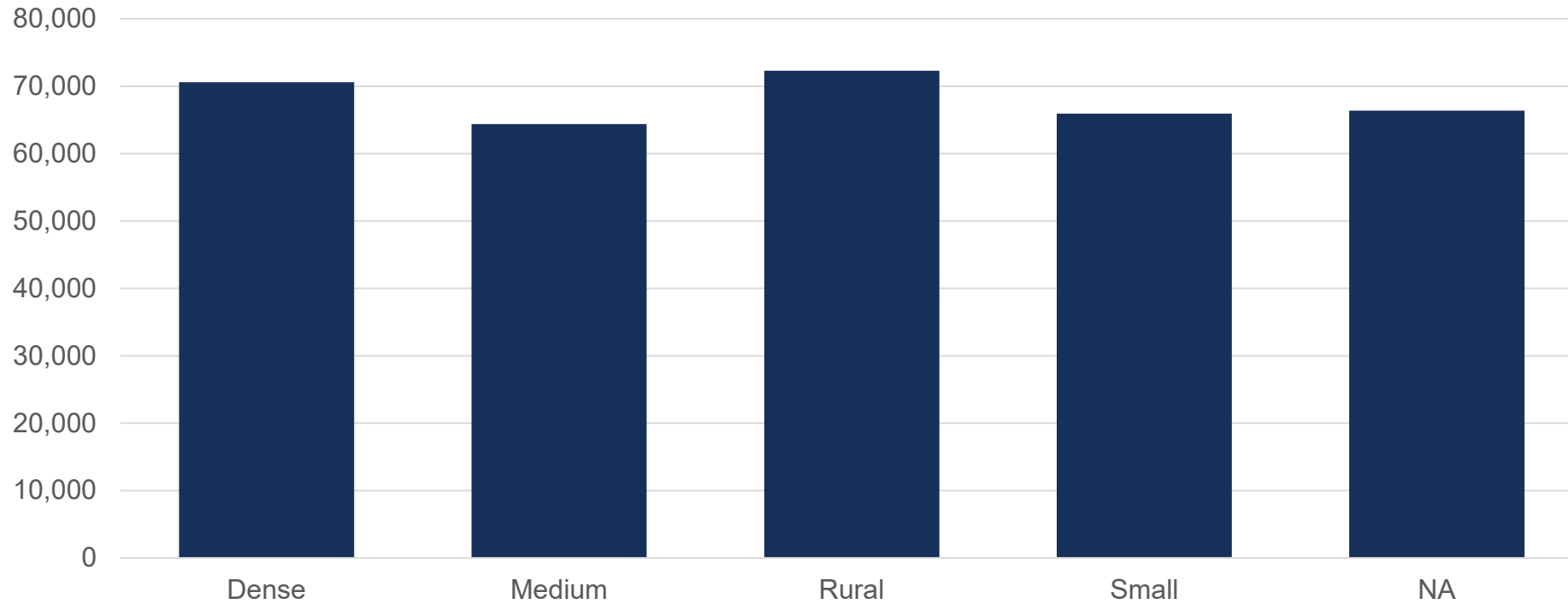
By Delivery System per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



	Fee-For-Service	Managed Care
Sep-21 – Aug-22	66,374	68,309

Outpatient Visits

By Location per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



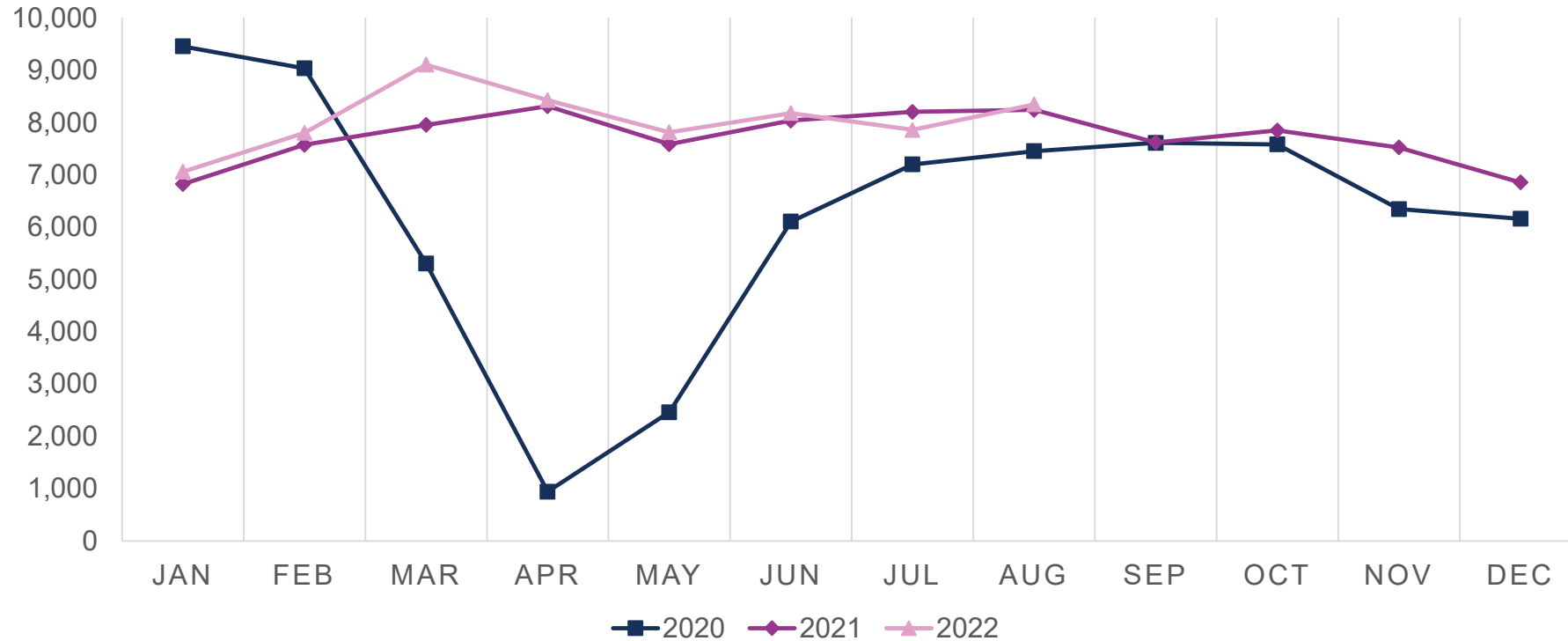
Sep-21 – Aug-22	Dense	Medium	Rural	Small	NA
	70,594	64,402	72,301	65,928	66,374

Beneficiaries with Dental Visits

- » Beneficiaries receiving any Dental Care Visit Services
- » Data is presented for beneficiaries 0-20 years old
- » Methodology is based on the measure for Annual Dental Visits
- » Source of data:
 - » MIS/DSS Claims and Eligibility

Beneficiaries with Dental Visits

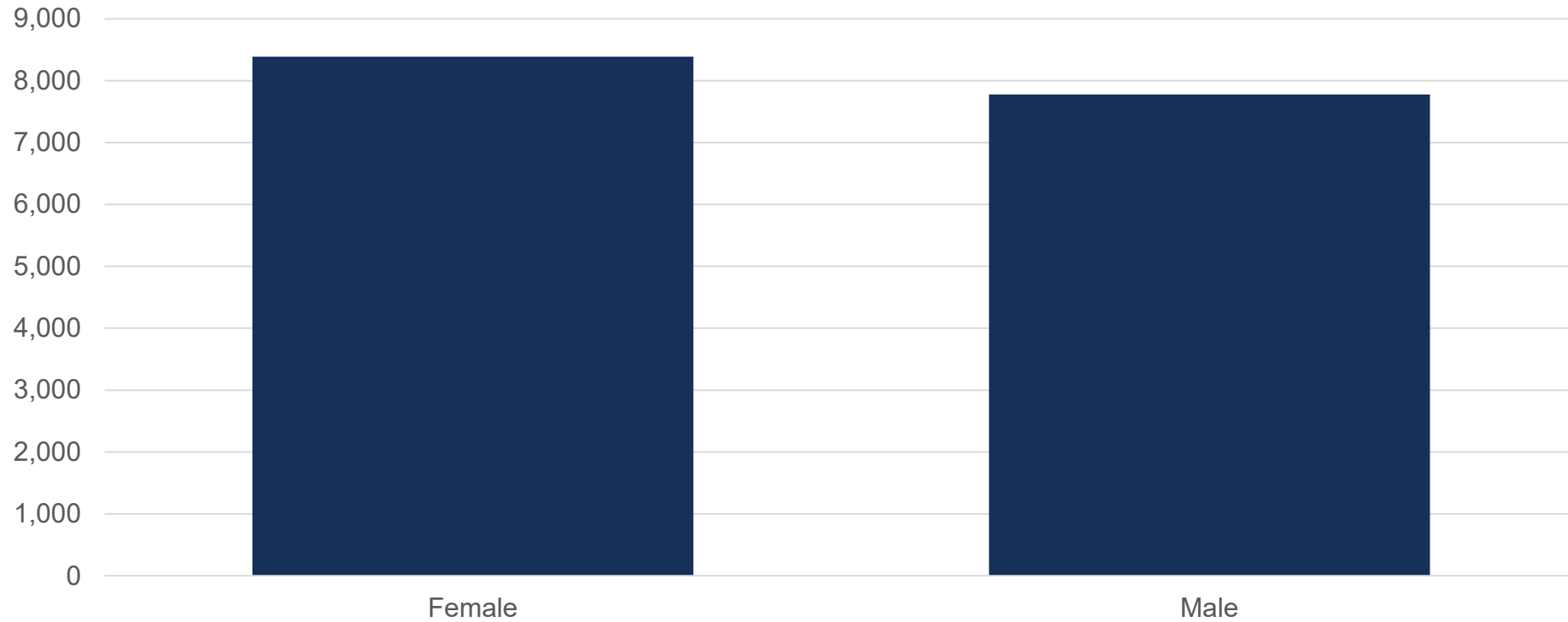
Per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	9,457	9,038	5,307	942	2,462	6,105	7,199	7,451	7,611	7,582	6,346	6,159
2021	6,822	7,573	7,953	8,312	7,585	8,038	8,203	8,243	7,619	7,848	7,523	6,854
2022	7,060	7,803	9,106	8,429	7,814	8,180	7,859	8,348				

Beneficiaries with Dental Visits

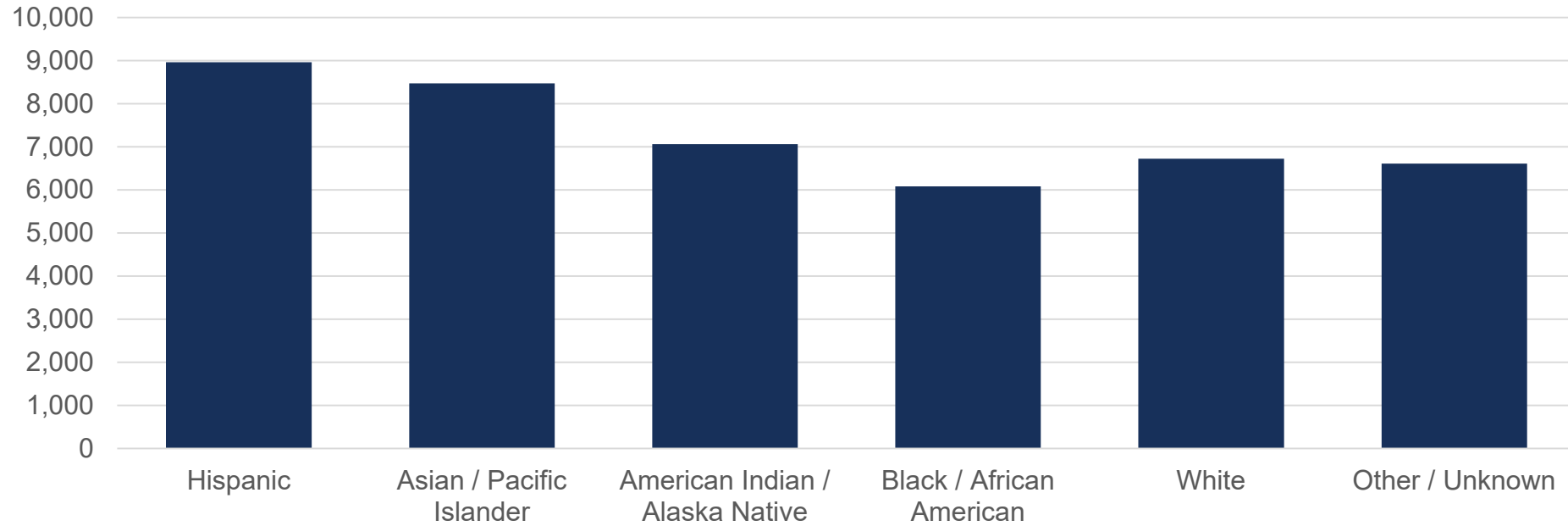
By Sex per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



	Female	Male
Sep-21 – Aug-22	8,386	7,777

Beneficiaries with Dental Visits

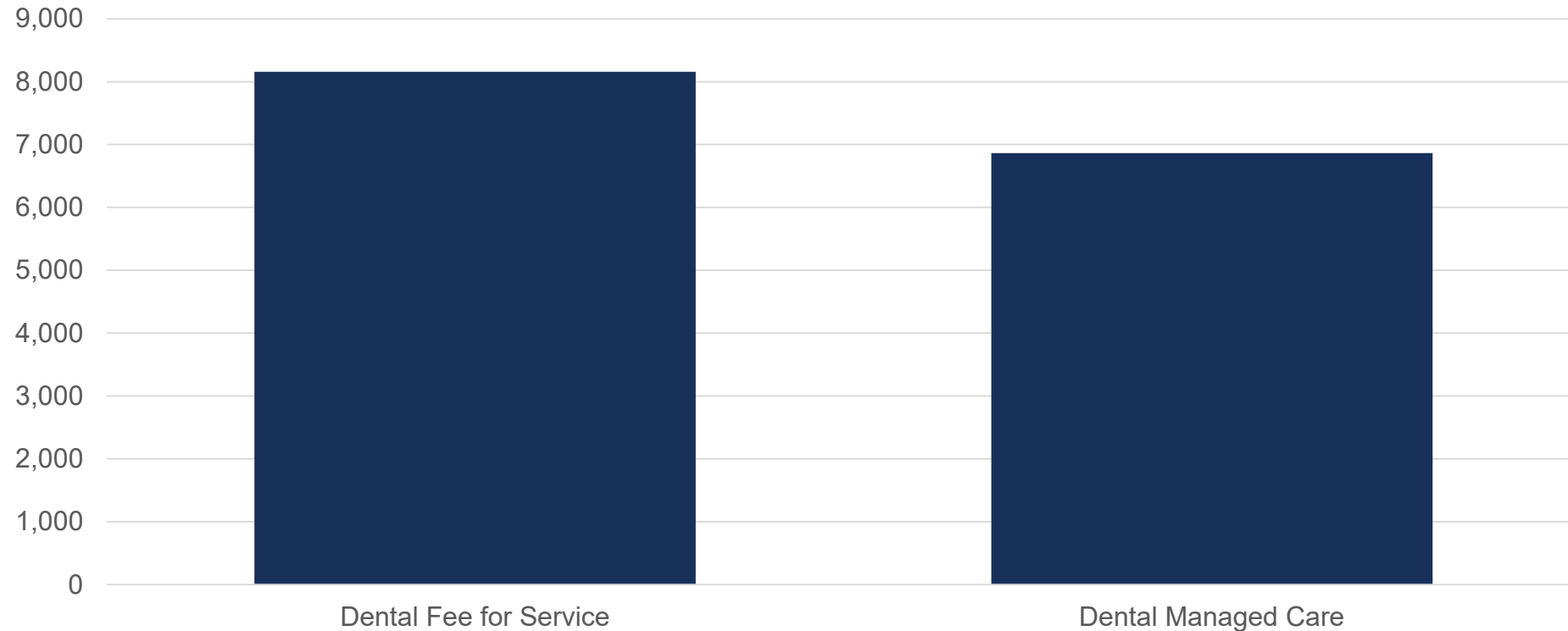
By Race/Ethnicity per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Hispanic	Asian / Pacific Islander	American Indian / Alaska Native	Black / African American	White	Other / Unknown
	8,966	8,473	7,064	6,083	6,727	6,612

Beneficiaries with Dental Visits

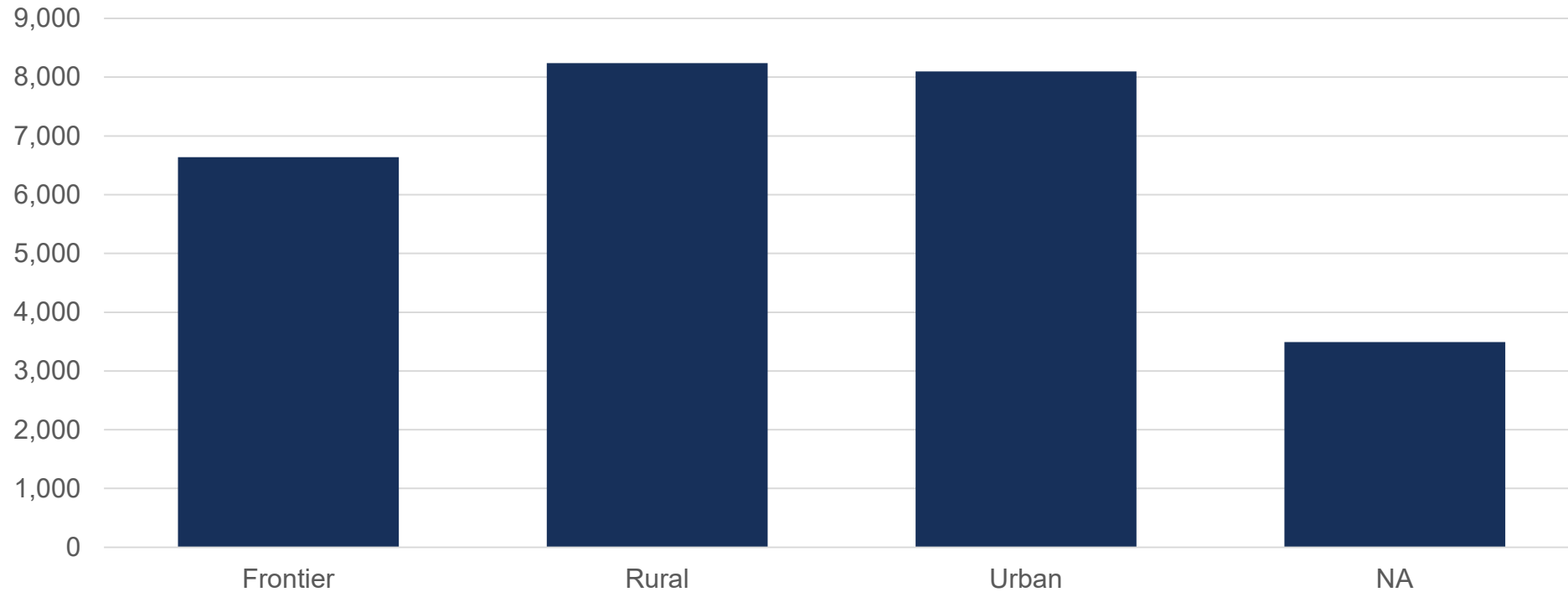
By Delivery System per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



	Dental Fee for Service	Dental Managed Care
Sep-21 – Aug-22	8,157	6,863

Beneficiaries with Dental Visits

By Location per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



	Frontier	Rural	Urban	NA
Sep-21 – Aug-22	6,639	8,236	8,097	3,493

Mental Health Visits

- » Non-specialty Mental Health Visits - Total number of mental health visits in managed care and fee-for-service
- » Specialty Mental Health Visits – Total number of mental health visits in the Specialty Mental Health System
- » Each unique visit is defined by a unique combination of beneficiary and visit date
- » Penetration rate is the percentage of beneficiaries with an identified mental health service need who received at least one qualifying service during the measurement year
- » Total number of visits includes telehealth visits
- » Visits have broad inclusion of procedures for screening, evaluation, care, and treatment provided in a non-specialty and specialty claiming systems
- » Source of data: MIS/DSS Claims and Eligibility

Medi-Cal: Two Mental Health Delivery Systems for beneficiaries 0-20 years old

- » Managed Care Organizations Cover
 - » Non-specialty mental health services for those under 21 years
- » Mental Health Outpatient Services Include
 - » Individual and group mental health evaluation and treatment (psychotherapy)
 - » Psychological testing, when clinically indicated to evaluate a mental health condition
 - » Outpatient services for the purpose of monitoring drug therapy
 - » Outpatient laboratory, drugs, supplies and supplements (excluding antipsychotics)
 - » Psychiatric consultation

Carved Out Mental Health Services for beneficiaries 0-20 years old

» Specialty Mental Health Services

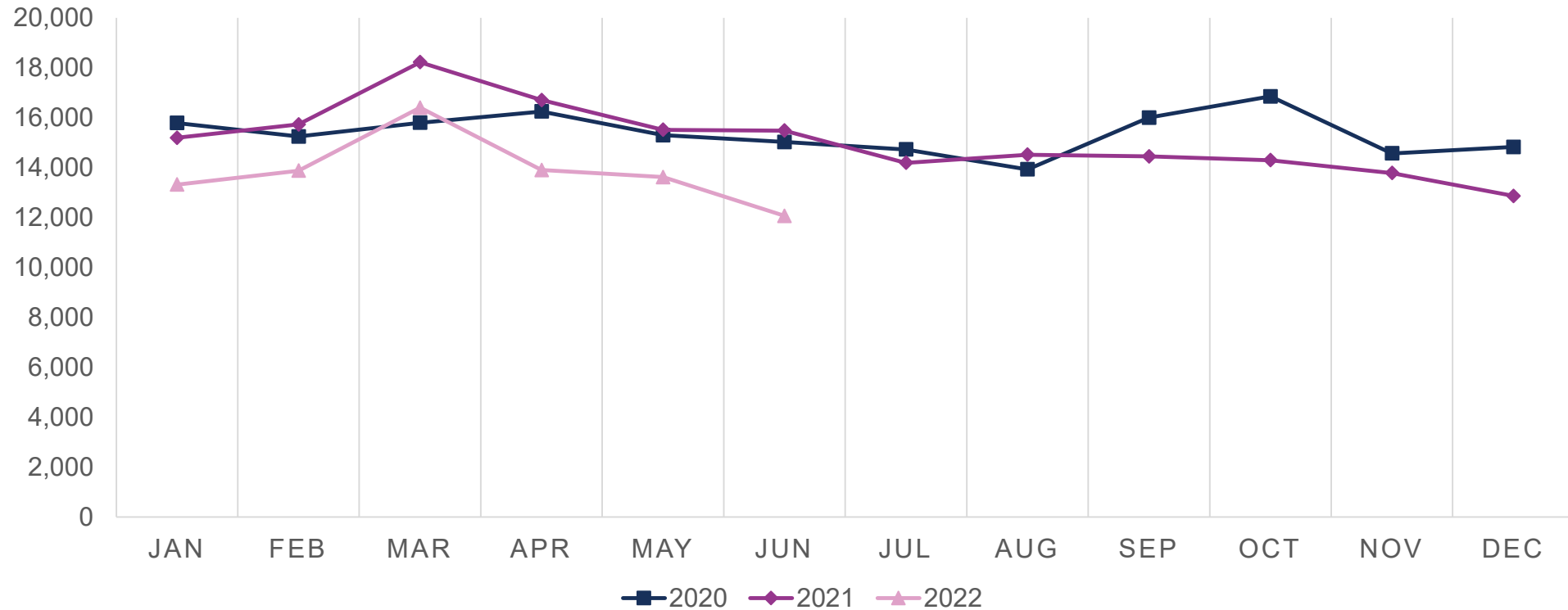
- » Administered through county mental health plans (MHPs)
- » Services for children/youth whose mental health needs require care services not included in managed care plan (MCP) mental health benefits

» Substance Use Disorder Benefits

- » Administered through Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) counties, and waiver services
- » Community-based system for SUD services through counties or through direct contracts with service providers

Total Mental Health Visits

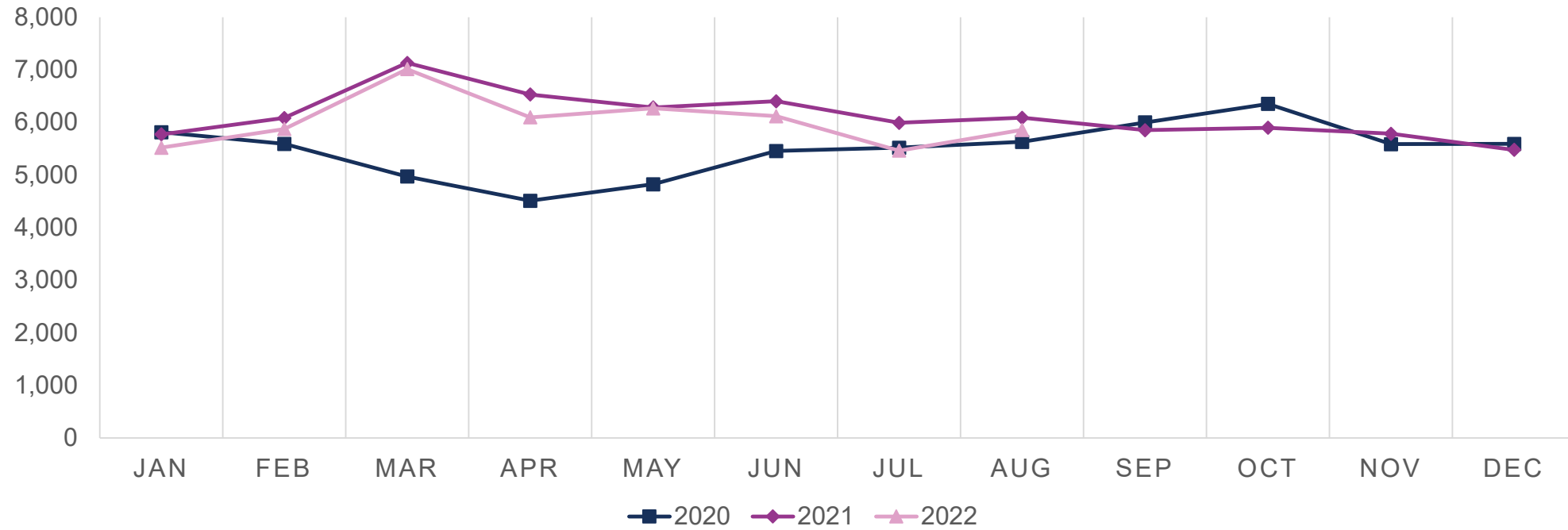
per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	15,786	15,246	15,799	16,250	15,300	15,026	14,728	13,930	16,003	16,856	14,570	14,825
2021	15,192	15,729	18,226	16,706	15,514	15,485	14,191	14,517	14,450	14,294	13,782	12,863
2022	13,322	13,877	16,402	13,904	13,617	12,066						

Non-Specialty Mental Health Visits

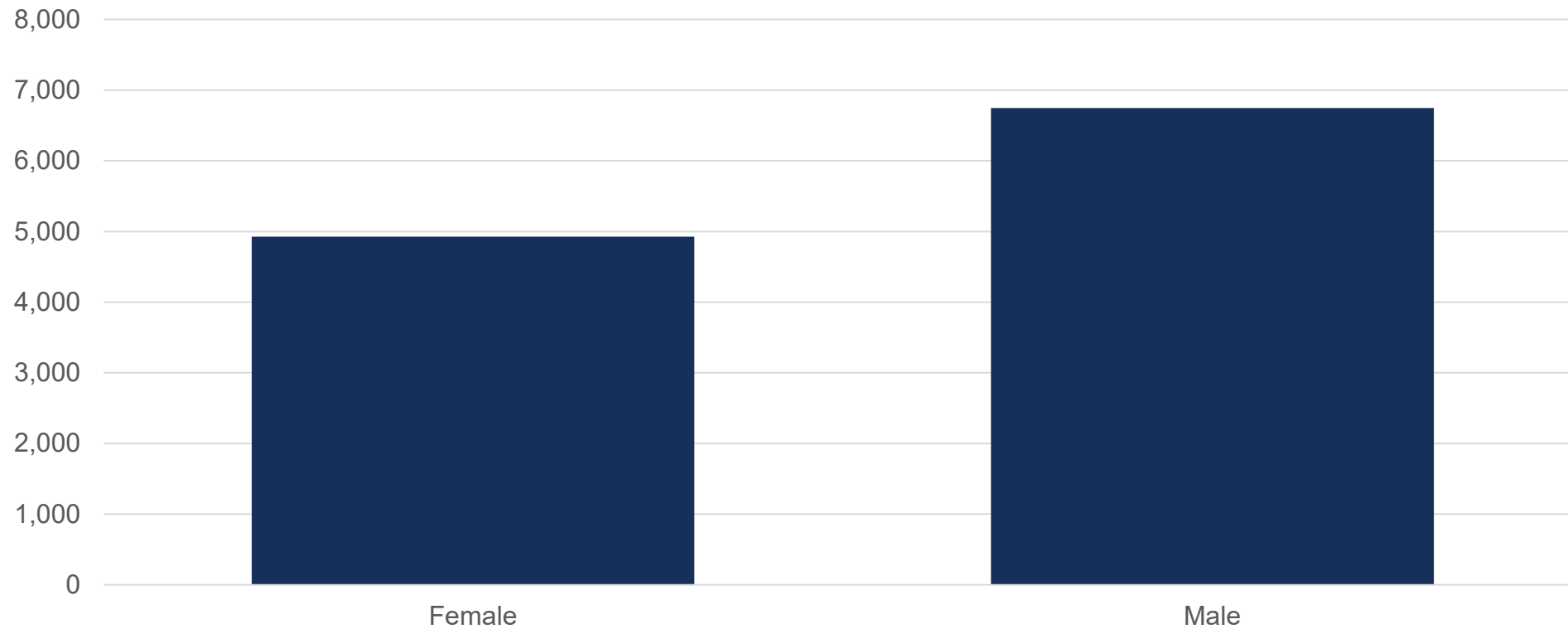
per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	5,813	5,592	4,971	4,508	4,822	5,455	5,518	5,630	5,998	6,351	5,586	5,591
2021	5,772	6,083	7,131	6,530	6,283	6,403	5,992	6,087	5,852	5,896	5,783	5,477
2022	5,517	5,874	7,011	6,095	6,267	6,118	5,462	5,856				

Non-Specialty Mental Health Visits

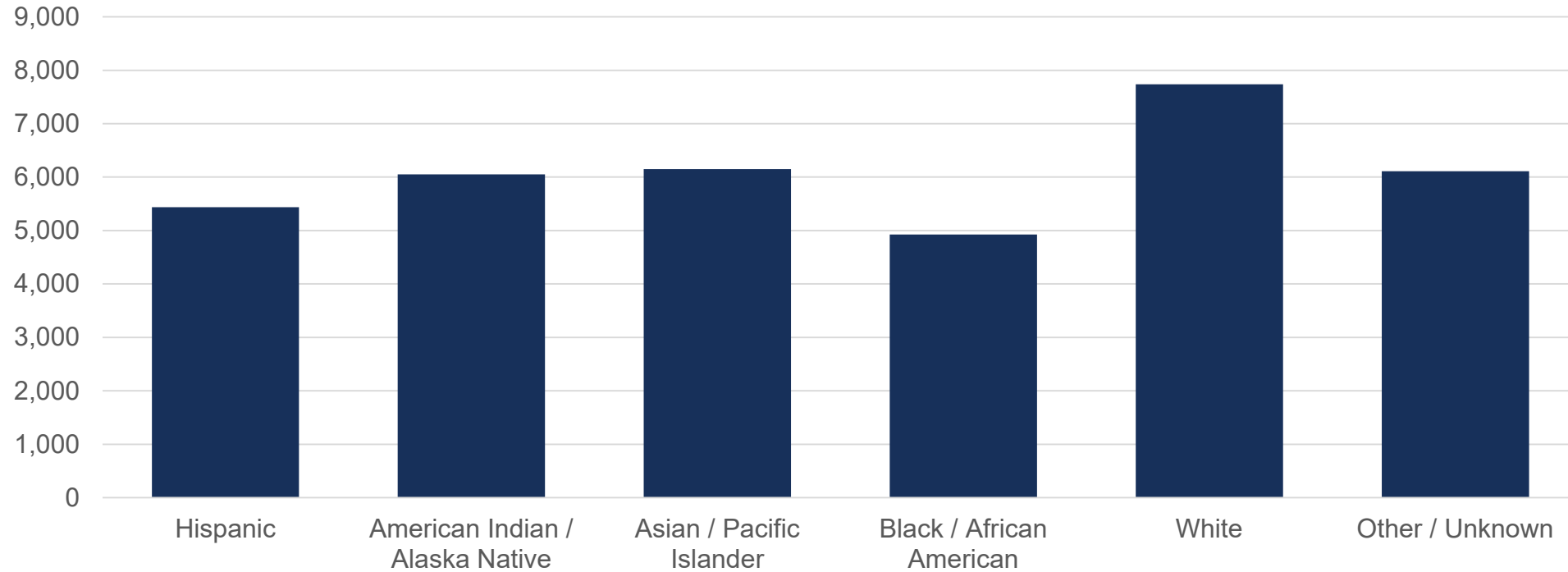
By Sex per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Female	Male
	4,926	6,747

Non-Specialty Mental Health Visits

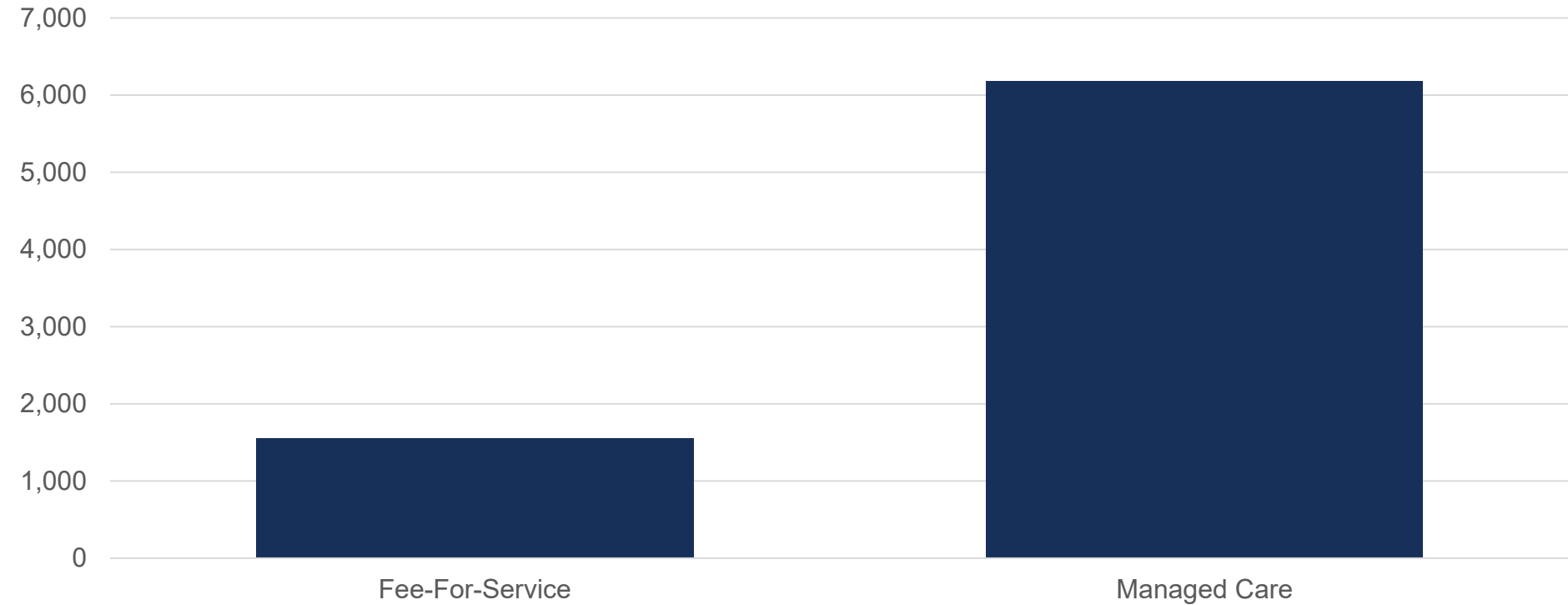
By Race/Ethnicity per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Hispanic	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Black / African American	White	Other / Unknown
	5,438	6,052	6,150	4,925	7,735	6,110

Non-Specialty Mental Health Visits

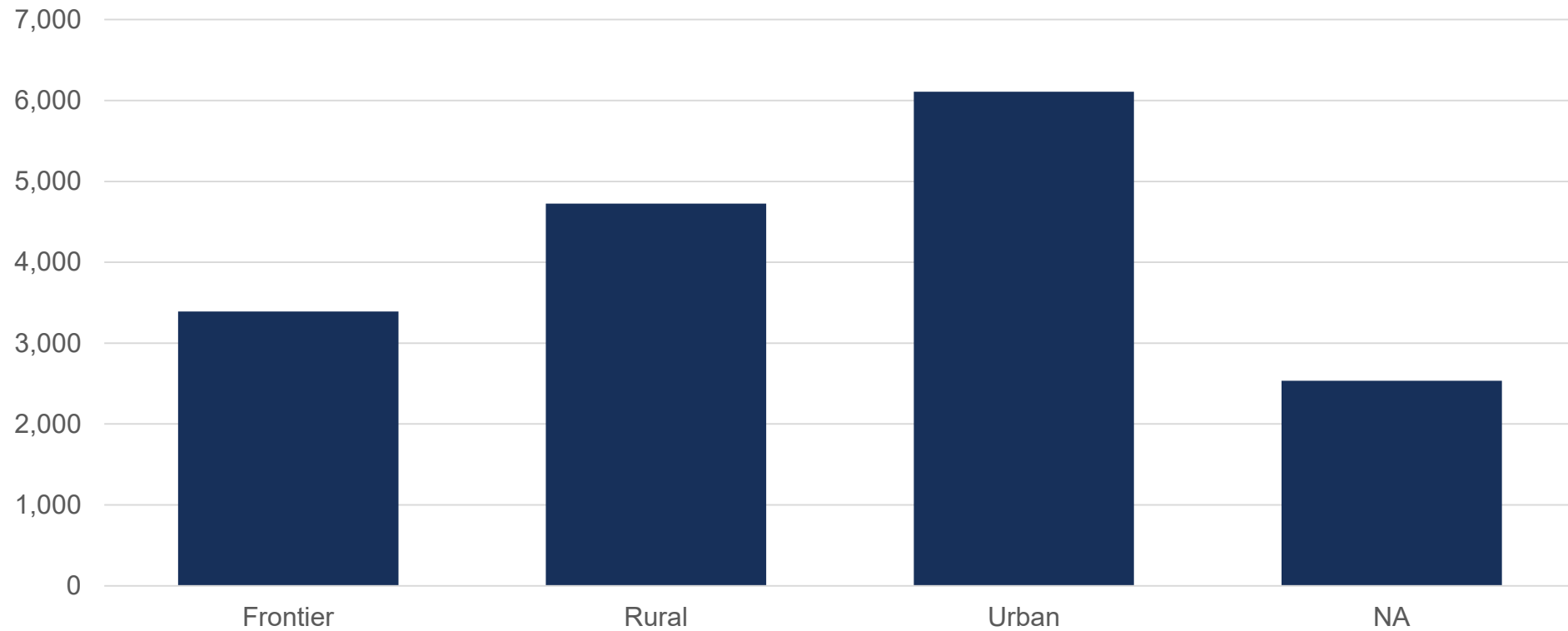
By Delivery System per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



	Fee-For-Service	Managed Care
Sep-21 – Aug-22	1,556	6,182

Non-Specialty Mental Health Visits

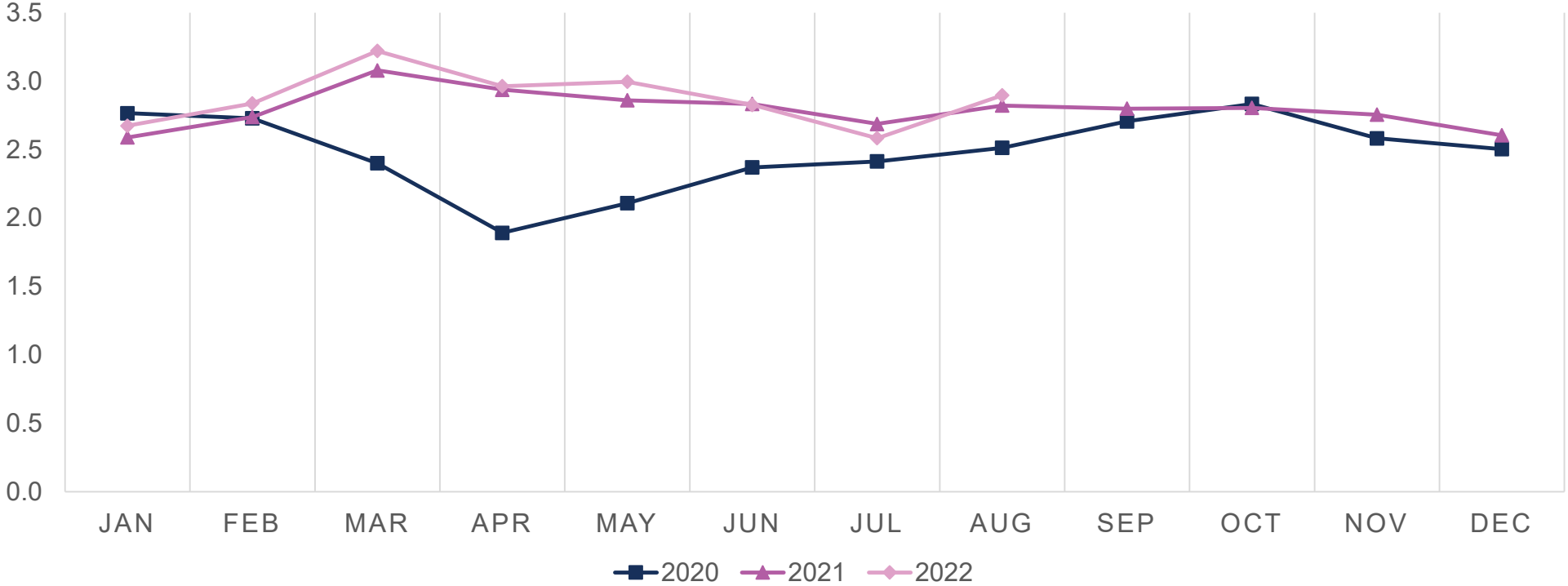
By Location per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Frontier	Rural	Urban	NA
	3,391	4,726	6,109	2,534

Non-Specialty Mental Health Penetration Rates

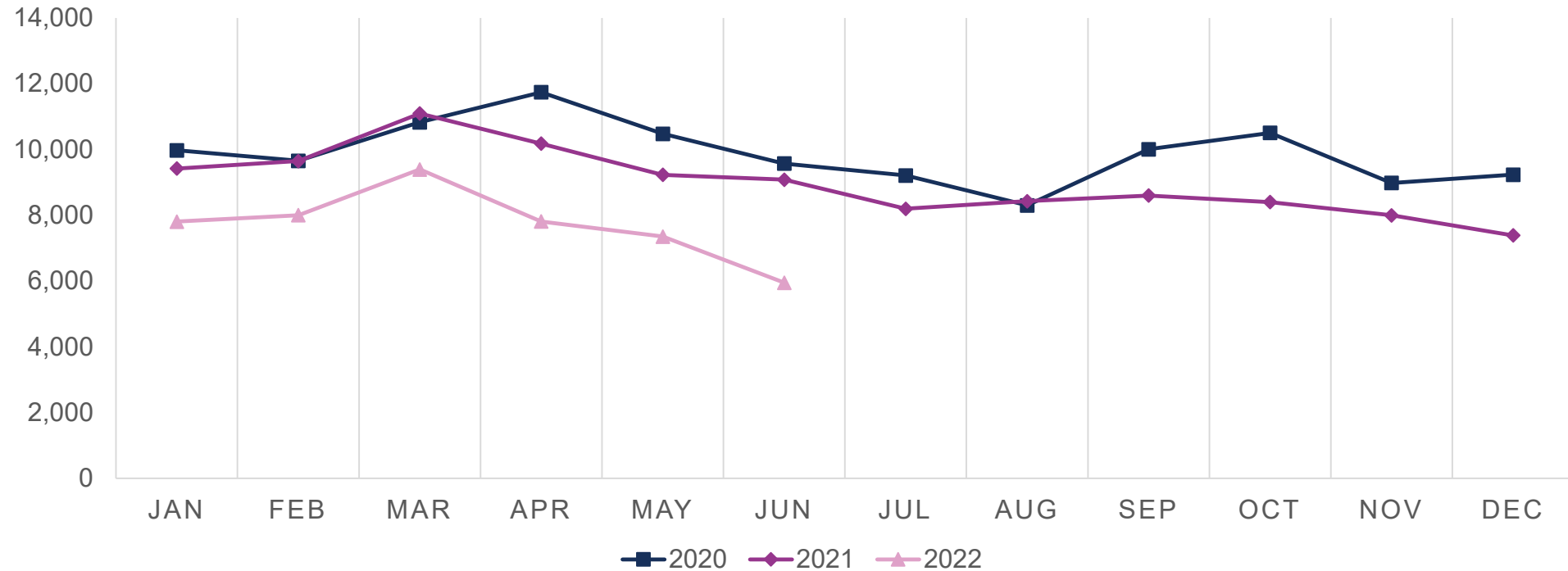
for beneficiaries 0-20 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	2.8	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.5
2021	2.6	2.7	3.1	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.6
2022	2.7	2.8	3.2	3.0	3.0	2.8	2.6	2.9				

Specialty Mental Health Visits

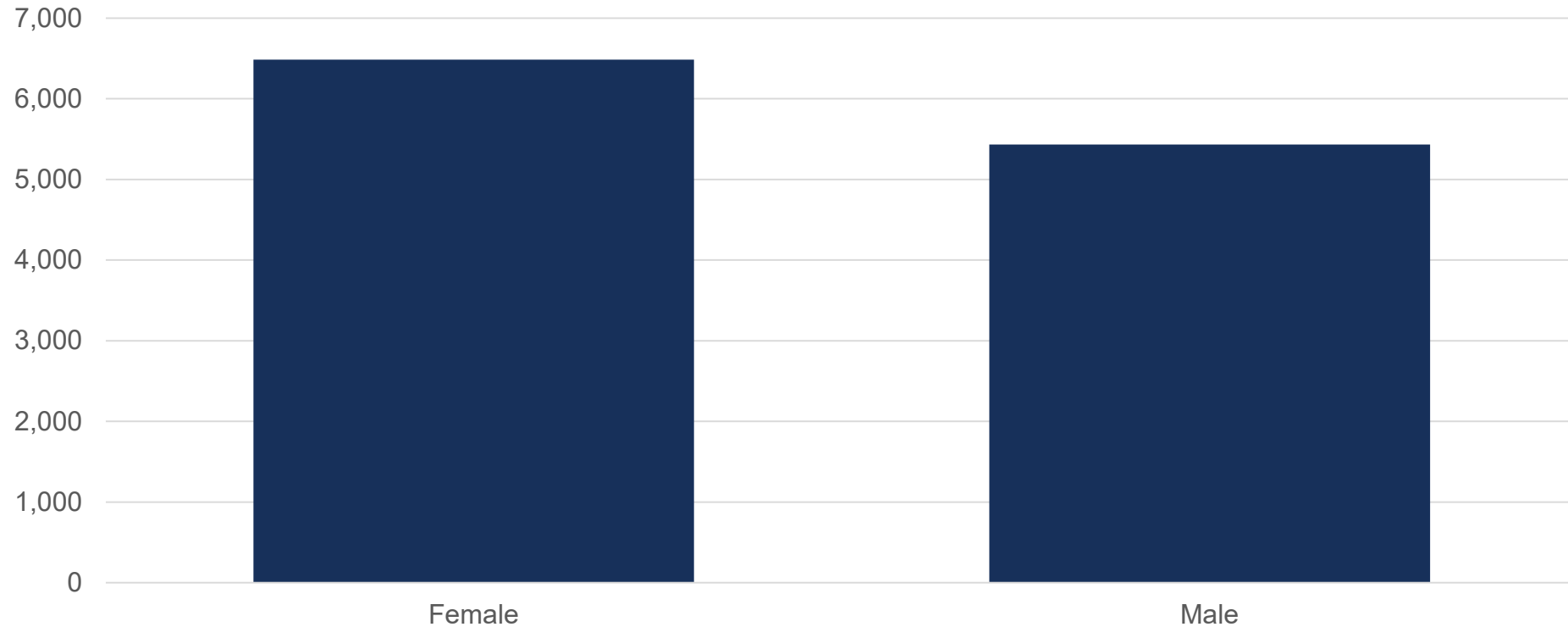
per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	9,973	9,654	10,828	11,742	10,477	9,570	9,210	8,300	10,005	10,505	8,984	9,233
2021	9,420	9,646	11,096	10,176	9,231	9,082	8,199	8,430	8,598	8,398	7,999	7,386
2022	7,805	8,003	9,391	7,809	7,350	5,948						

Specialty Mental Health Visits

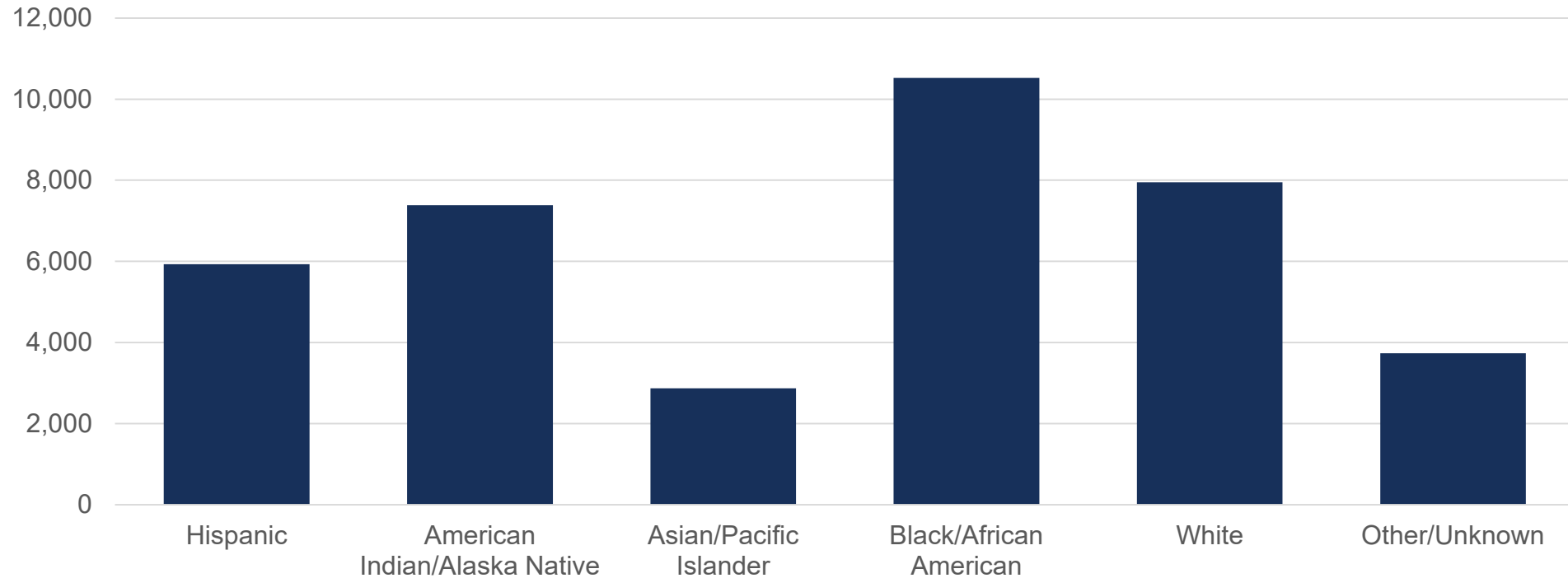
By Sex per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



	Female	Male
Jul-21 – Jun-22	6,486	5,433

Specialty Mental Health Visits

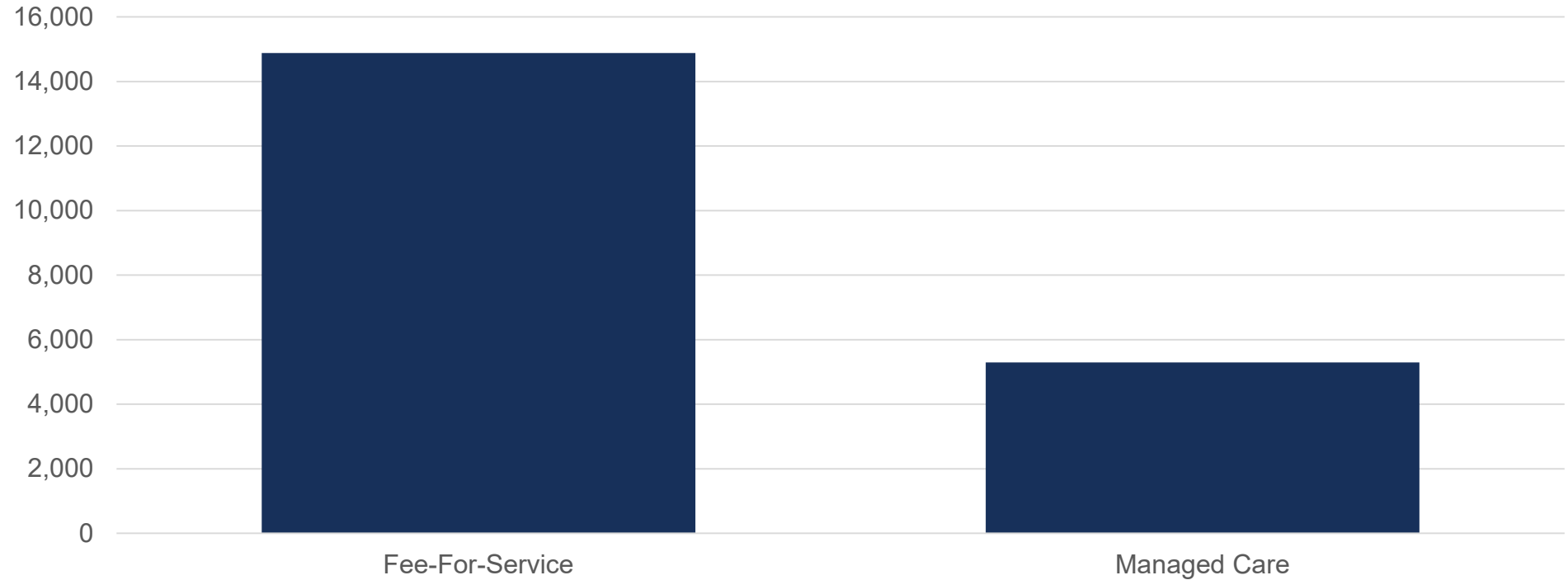
By Race/Ethnicity per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



Jul-21 – Jun-22	Hispanic	American Indian/Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black/African American	White	Other/Unknown
	5,931	7,383	2,870	10,522	7,953	3,731

Specialty Mental Health Visits

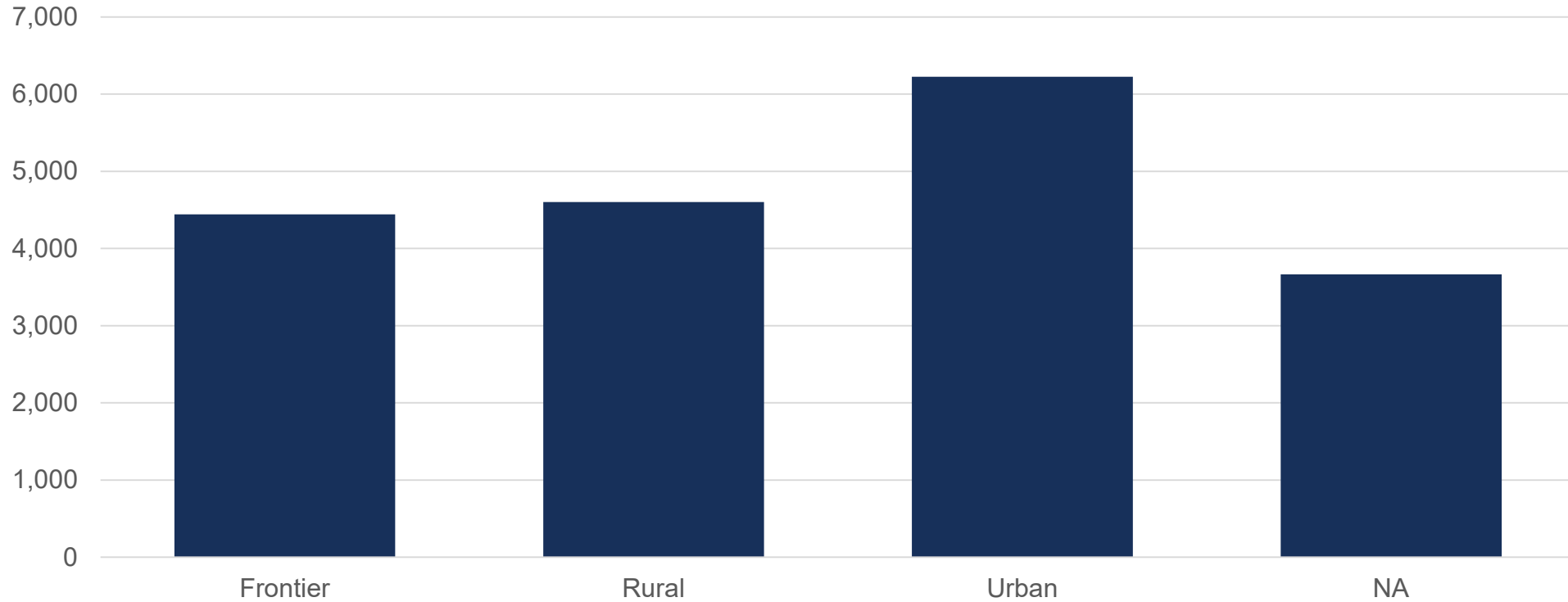
By Delivery System per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



Jul-21 – Jun-22	Fee-For-Service	Managed Care
	14,882	5,295

Specialty Mental Health Visits

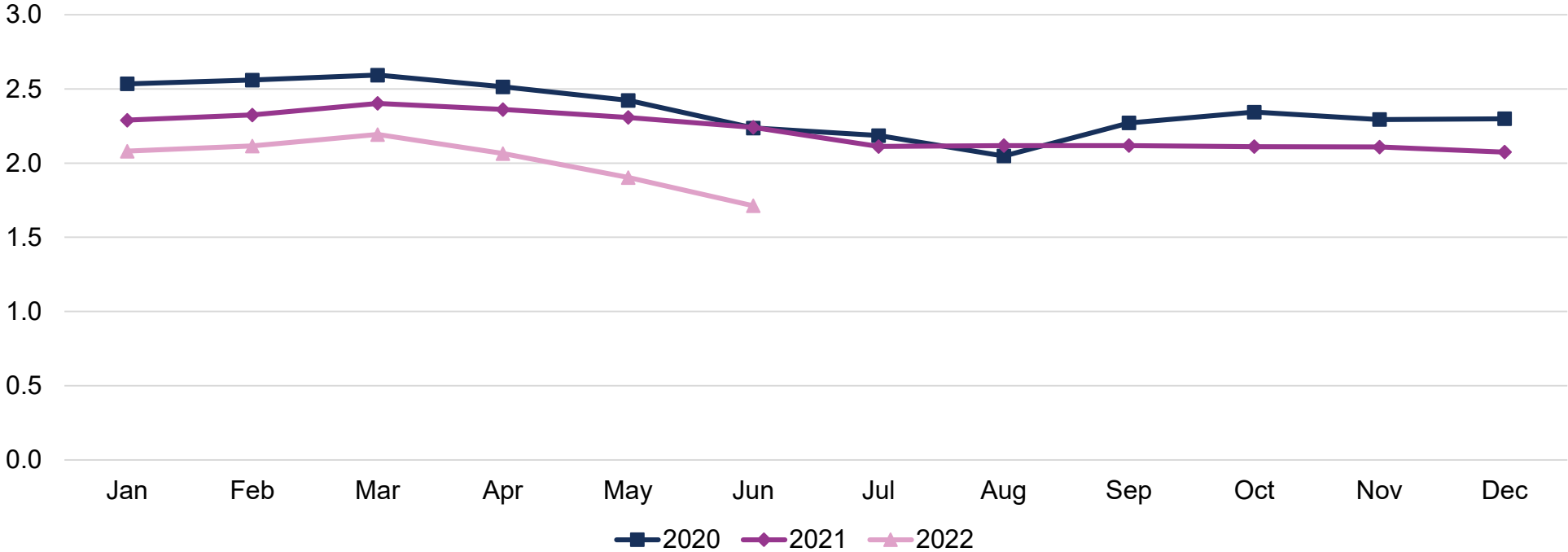
By Location per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-20 years old



Jul-21 – Jun-22	Frontier	Rural	Urban	NA
	4,440	4,601	6,224	3,665

Specialty Mental Health Penetration Rates

for beneficiaries 0-20 years old



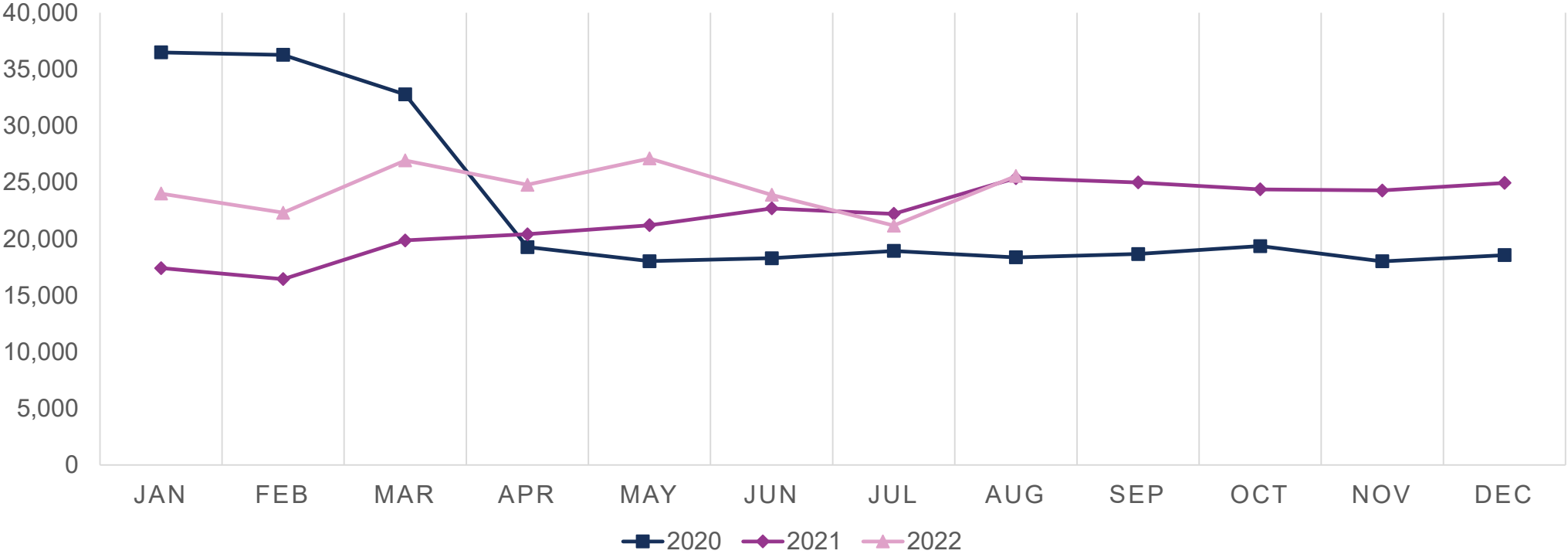
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
2021	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
2022	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.7						

Prescription Claims

- » Data represent totals of prescriptions (claims), not individual people
- » Data only includes outpatient prescriptions
- » Source of data:
 - » MIS/DSS Claims and Eligibility
 - » Pharmacy Claims

Prescription Claims

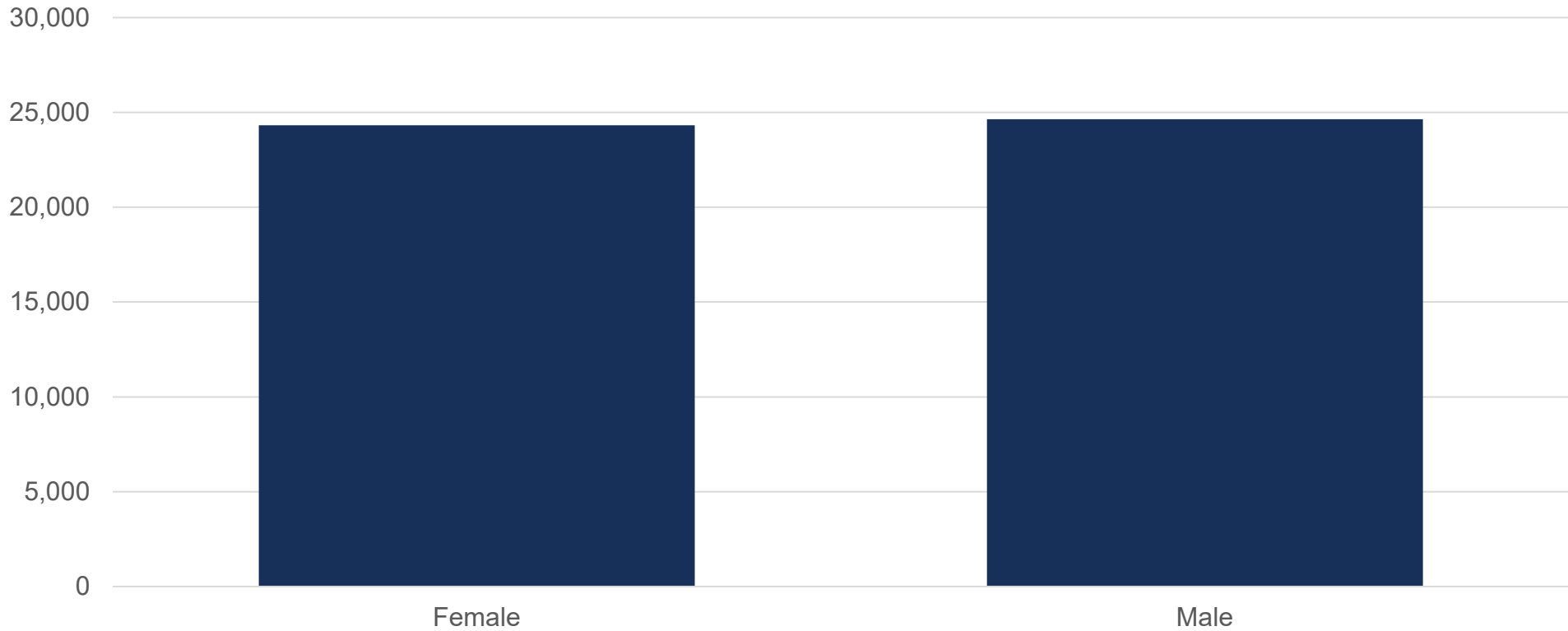
Per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	36,503	36,289	32,781	19,279	18,037	18,291	18,940	18,375	18,665	19,362	18,021	18,564
2021	17,416	16,451	19,867	20,412	21,220	22,708	22,220	25,378	24,996	24,386	24,289	24,960
2022	24,013	22,325	26,944	24,795	27,123	23,910	21,181	25,566				

Prescription Claims

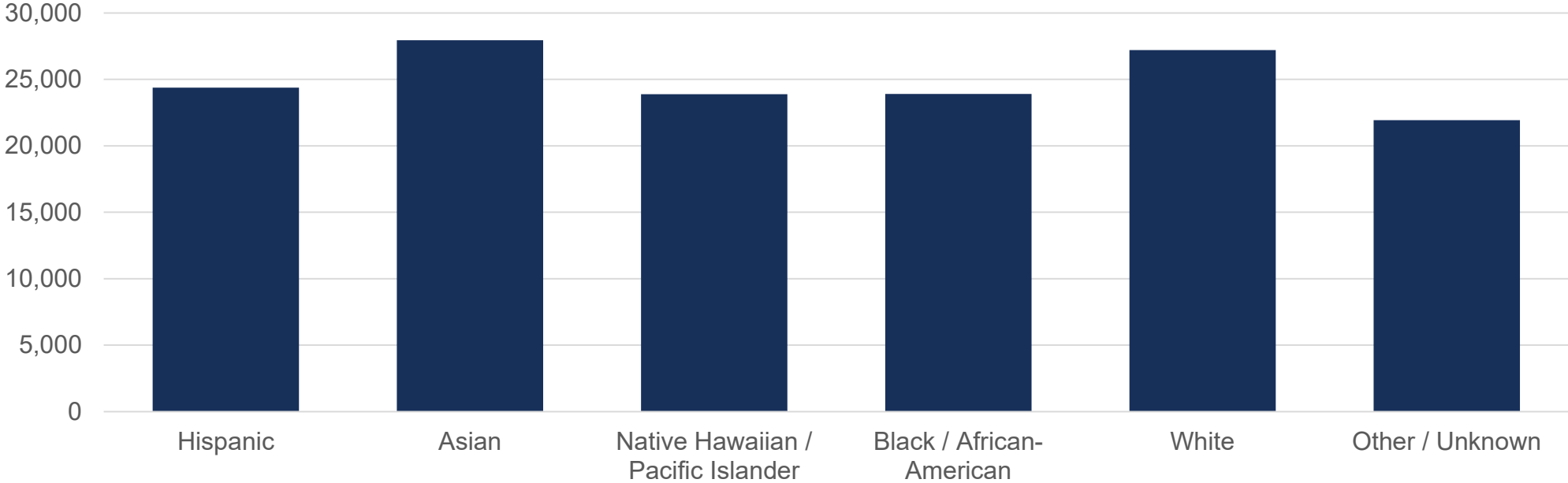
By Sex per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Female	Male
	24,322	24,635

Prescription Claims

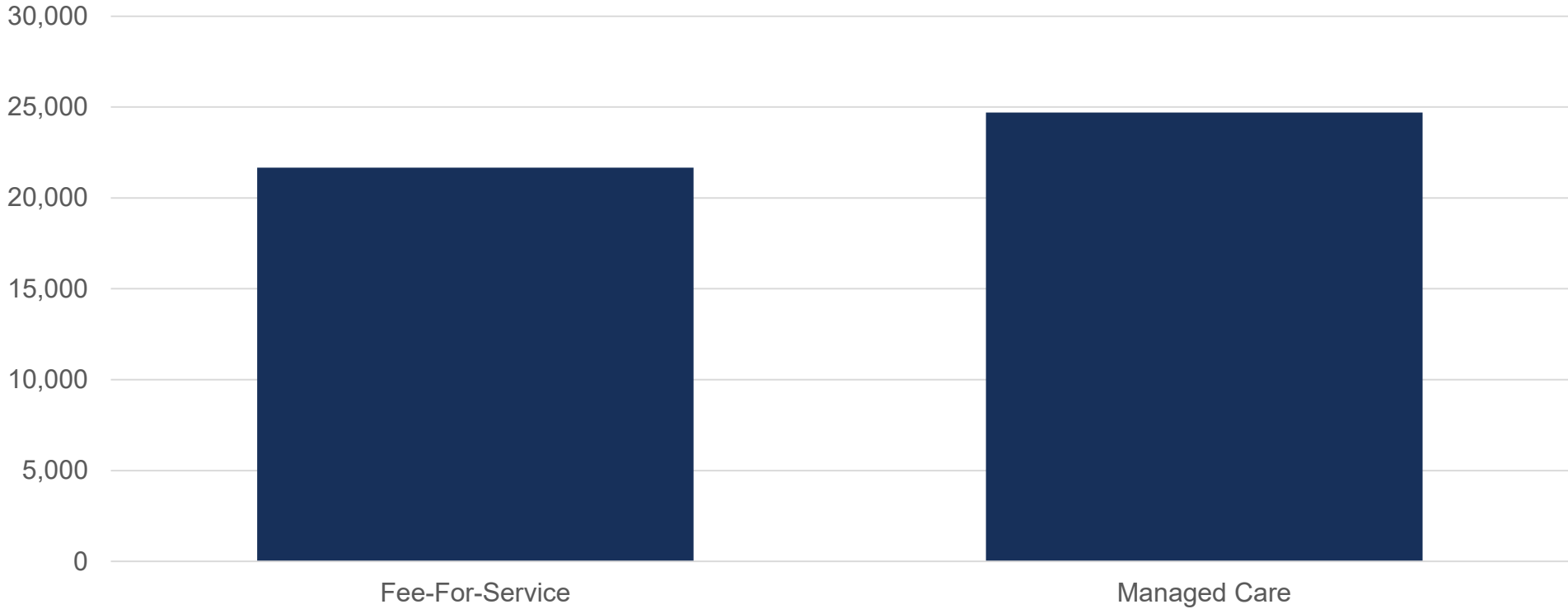
By Race/Ethnicity per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Hispanic	Asian	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	Black / African-American	White	Other / Unknown
	24,368	27,936	23,880	23,893	27,210	21,924

Prescription Claims

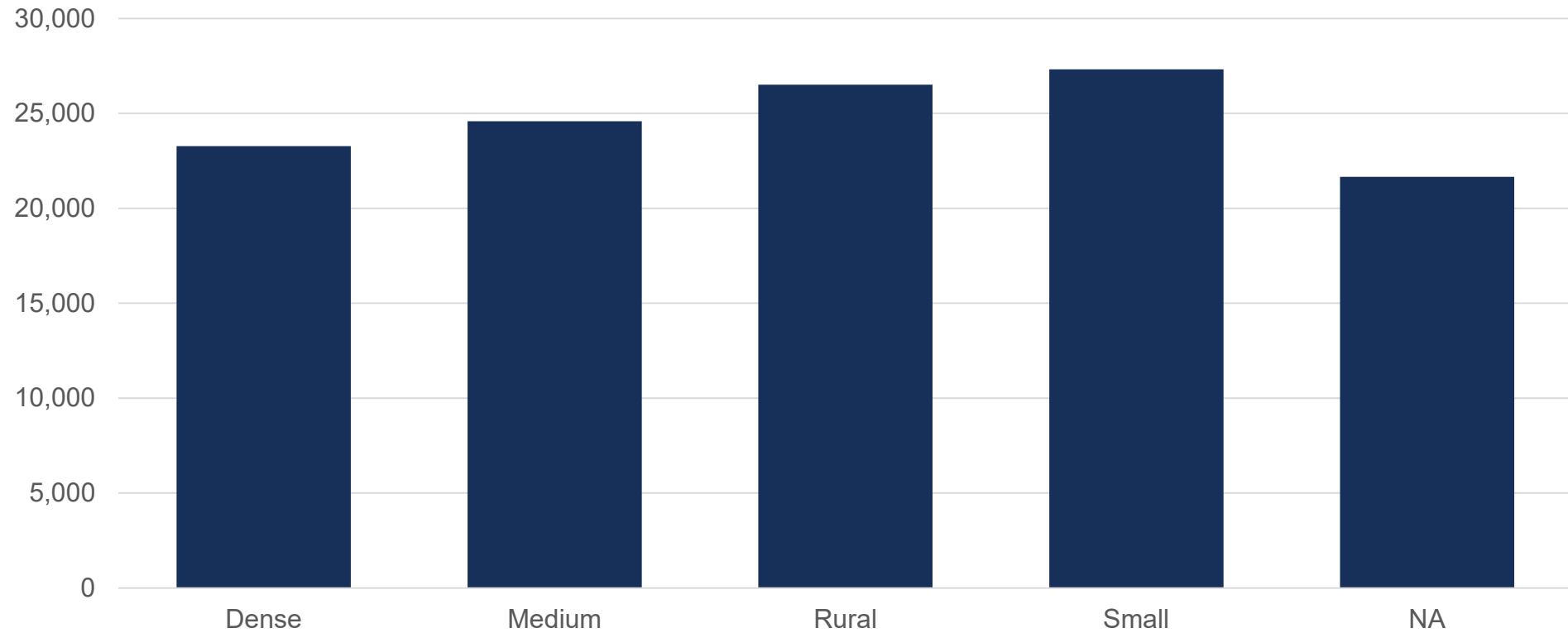
By Delivery System per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Fee-For-Service	Managed Care
	21,659	24,693

Prescription Claims

By Location per 100,000 beneficiaries 0-17 years old



Sep-21 – Aug-22	Dense	Medium	Rural	Small	NA
	23,274	24,592	26,513	27,317	21,659

Thank you!

For more information, see
[DHCS Data & Statistics Reports](#)

