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Hospice Care Chartbook 2024

Prepared by KNG Health Consulting, LLC

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About the Research Institute for Home Care & 2024 Hospice Chartbook

The **Research Institute for Home Care** is a non-profit, national consortium of home care providers and organizations. The Institute invests in research and education about home health and hospice care and these providers' ability to deliver quality, cost-effective, patient-centered care across the care continuum. The Institute is committed to conducting and sponsoring research and initiatives that demonstrate and enhance the value proposition that home and hospice care has to offer patients and the entire U.S. health care system. The Institute has been providing critical research and data on home care for over a decade.

The **Hospice Care Chartbook**, will be published annually by the Institute. It provides a broad national and state-specific overview of hospice patients and services based on Medicare claims data.

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Methodology

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Data and Study Population

- The Hospice Standard Analytical File contains 100% final action medical and support service claims from Medicare-approved hospices.¹
- The Master Beneficiary Summary File contains characteristics and enrollment information on all Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in or entitled to Medicare within a given calendar year.
- To examine the demographics of Medicare Decedents and Hospice users, we conducted analyses using data from the 100% Hospice Standard Analytical File and 100% Master Beneficiary Summary File.
- The patient population included in our analysis consists of Medicare beneficiaries who fulfill the following criteria:
 - Medicare Hospice Users must receive hospice services at least one time during the claim year. Note, we do not require hospice stays to be completed for inclusion in our study sample.
 - Medicare Decedents must have died during the claim year.

Identification of Study Cohorts

- **Hospice Claims** are individual claims submitted by Medicare hospice providers on a monthly basis.
 - To understand how hospice care is delivered, level of care and location of care are assessed on the claim level.
- **Hospice Stays** are defined by the admission and discharge of a Medicare beneficiary from a single hospice provider.
 - To understand characteristics of hospice care, Medicare spending and length of stay are assessed at the stay level. All length of stay analyses are based on completed hospice stays, meaning the beneficiary has been discharged from that hospice provider, and the discharge disposition is **not** “30” or “Still Patient.” Because hospice stays may span more than one claim year, researchers reviewed claims data from 2022 and 2023 to ensure length of stay and Medicare spending associated with the full, continuous hospice stay were captured.
 - Note, a Medicare beneficiary can have multiple hospice stays.
- **Hospice Users** are **all** Medicare beneficiaries who have received hospice services in 2023.
 - To understand the characteristics of hospice users, the demographics are assessed on the beneficiary level.
- **Medicare Decedents** are Medicare beneficiaries who died in 2023.
 - **Medicare Decedents that Use Hospice** are Medicare decedents that used hospice services in 2023.



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Demographics of Hospice Users

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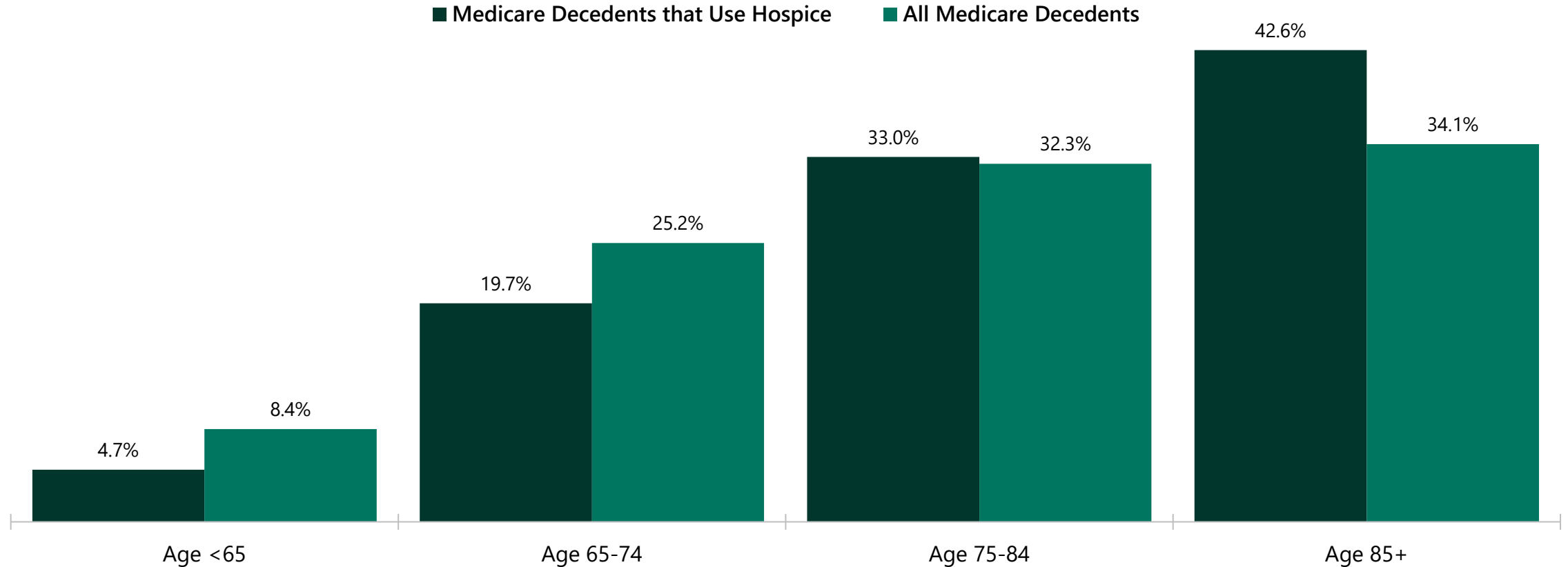
In 2023, roughly 2.5 million Medicare Beneficiaries died.

52%

of those Medicare
decedents used
hospice care.

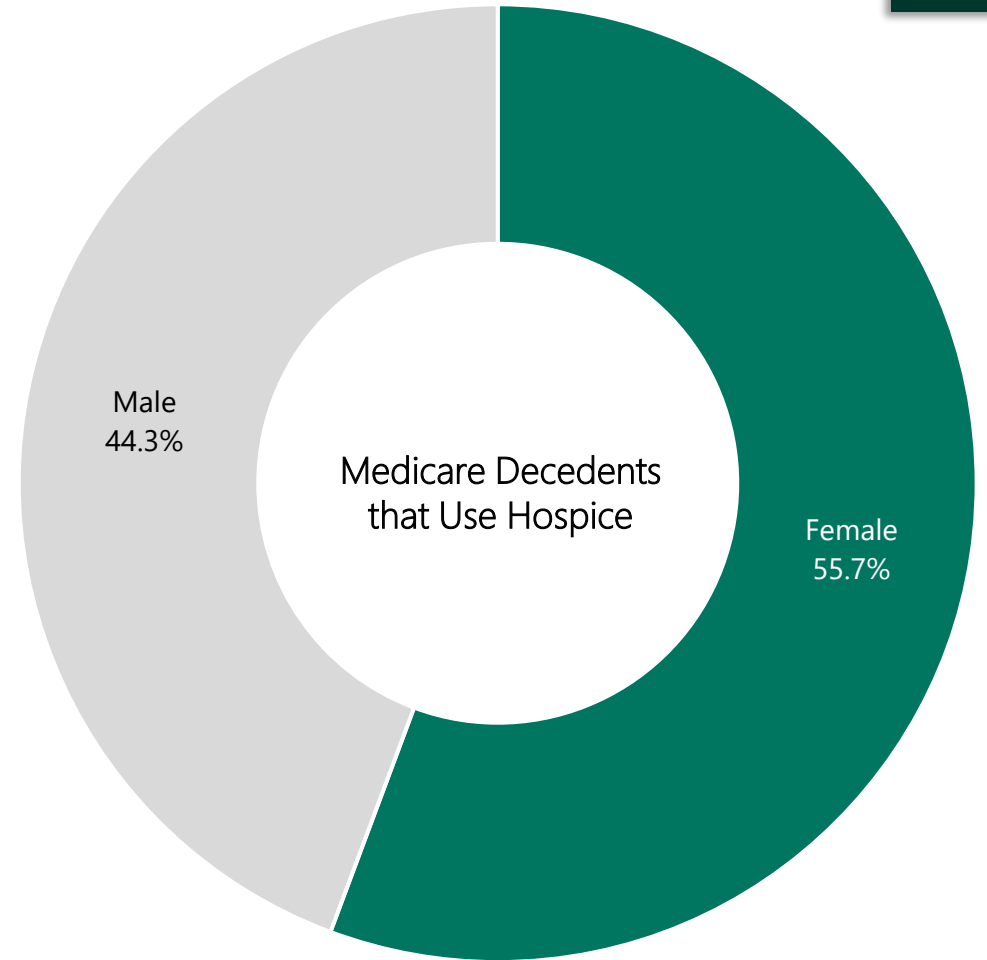
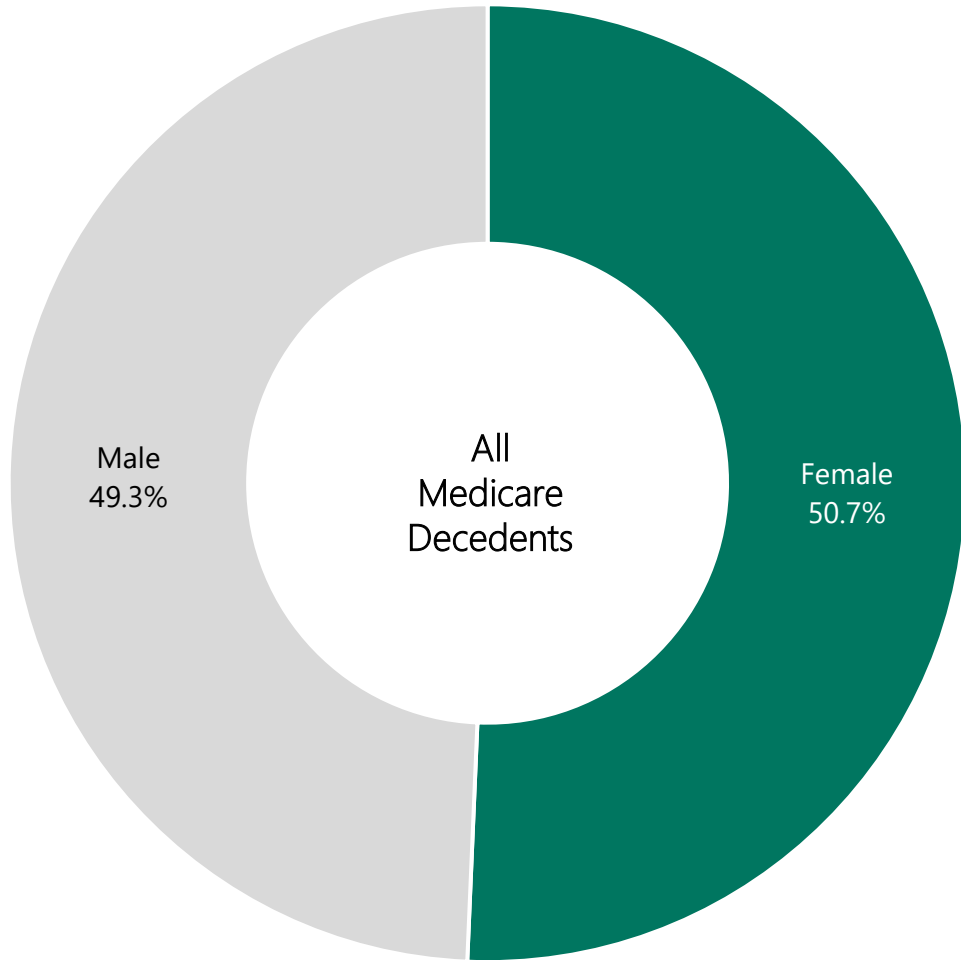
Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.

Exhibit 1.2: Age Distribution of All Medicare Decedents and Medicare Decedents that Use Hospice Services



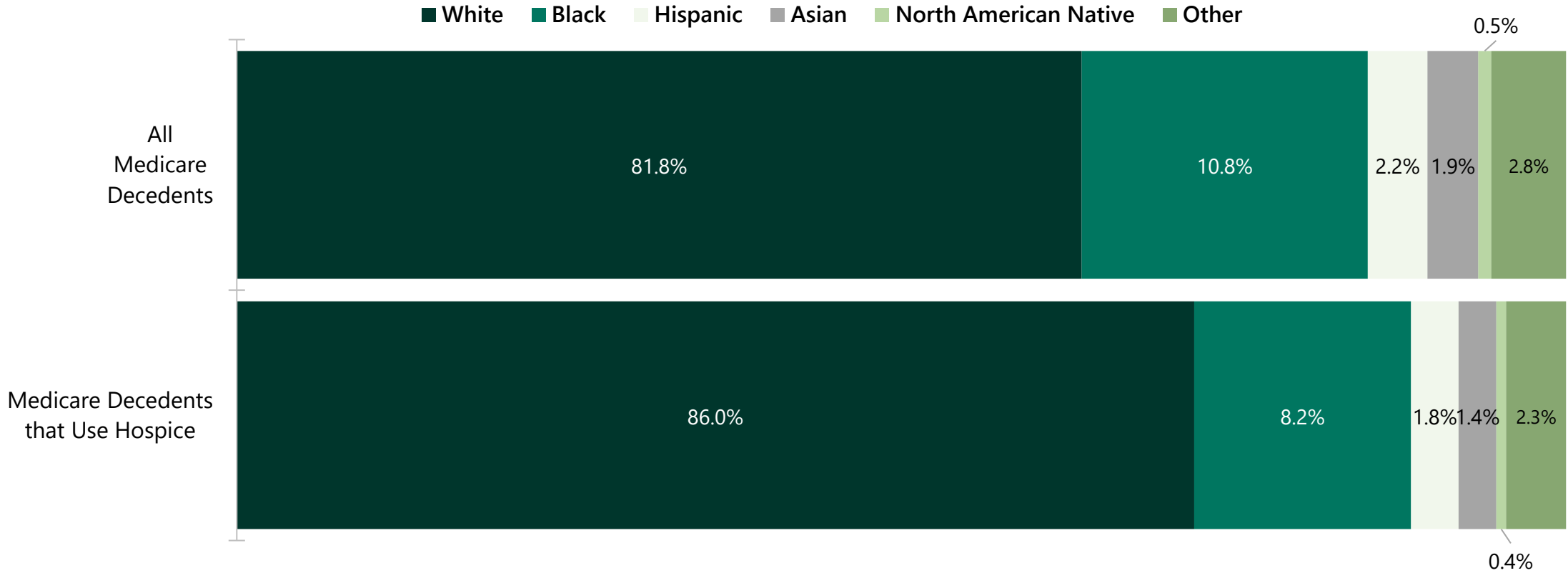
Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.
Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Exhibit 1.3: Gender Distribution of All Medicare Decedents and Medicare Decedents that Use Hospice Services



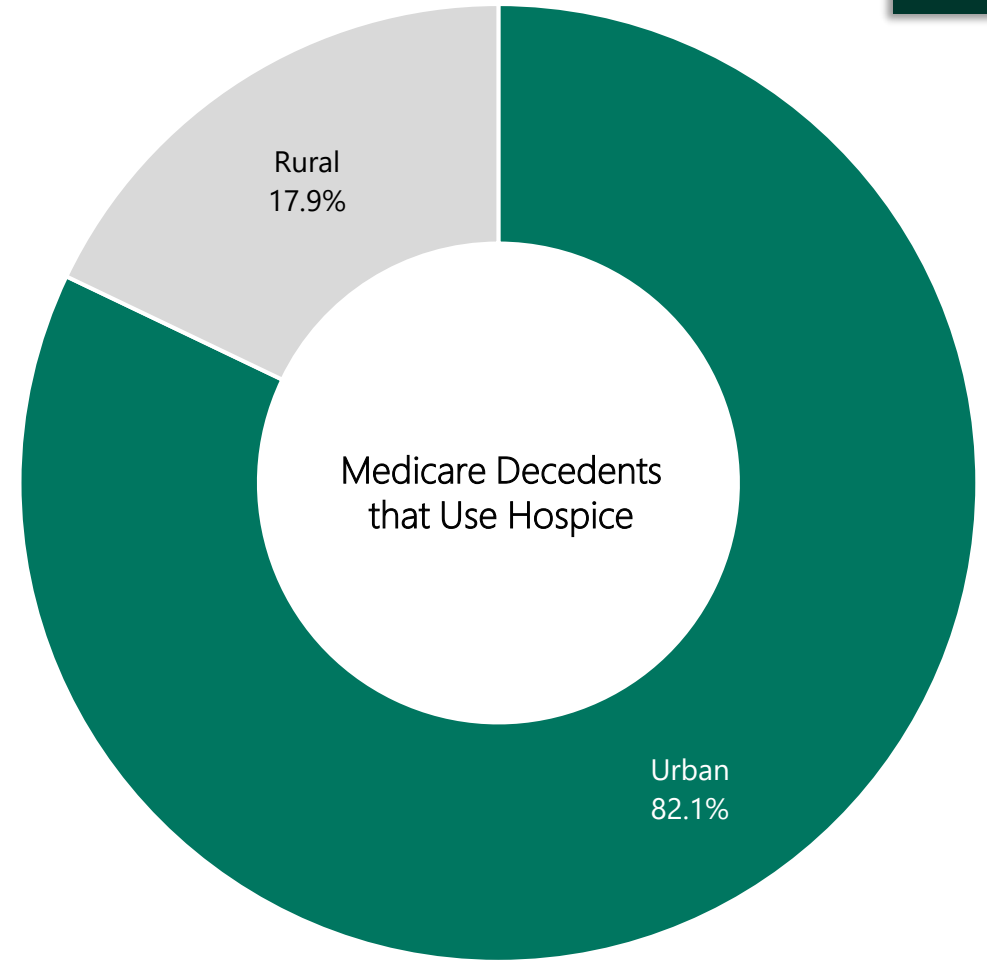
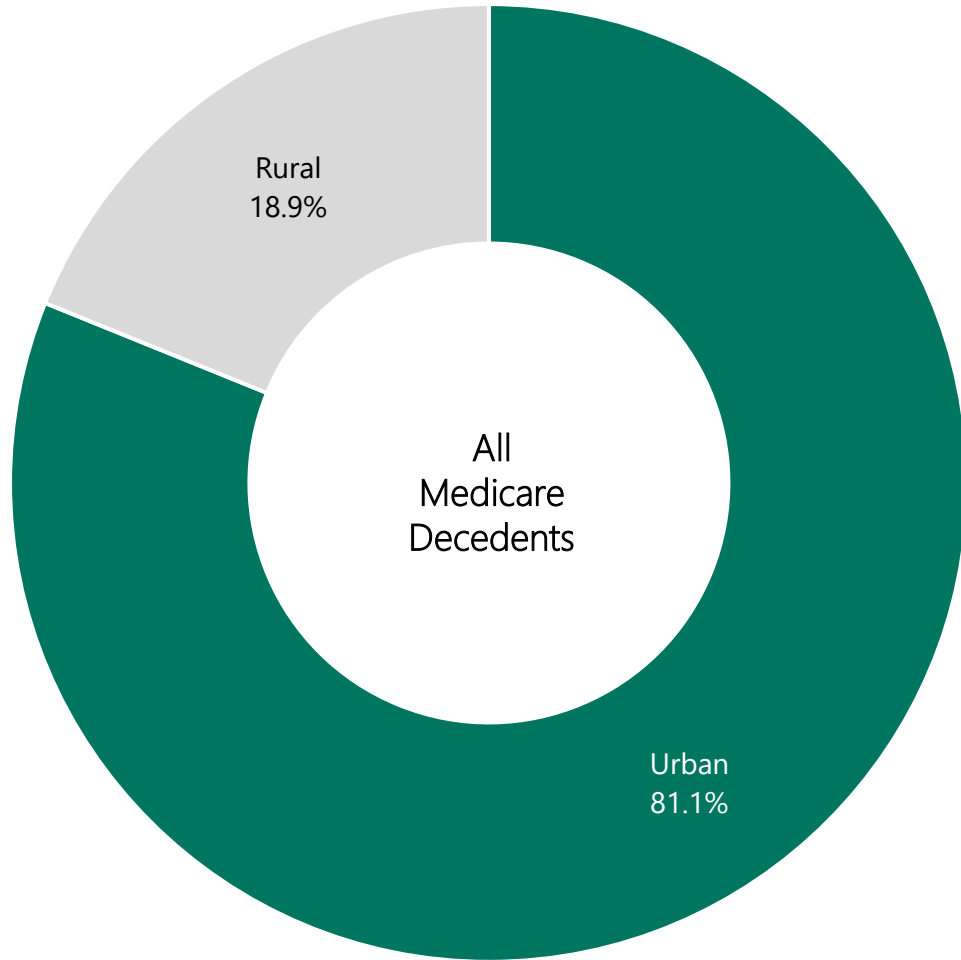
Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.
Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Exhibit 1.4: Race and Ethnicity of All Medicare Decedents and Medicare Decedents that Use Hospice Services



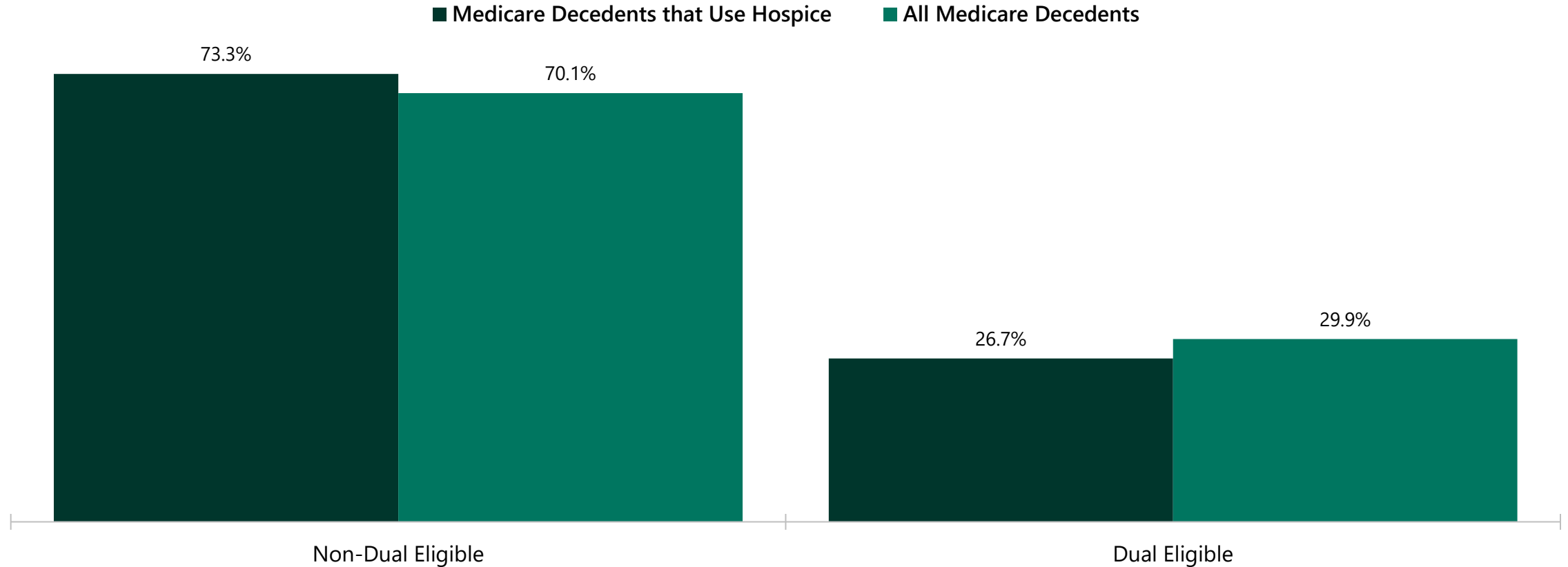
Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Exhibit 1.5: Rural Status of All Medicare Decedents and Medicare Decedents that Use Hospice Services



Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.
Rural includes micropolitan and noncore counties as defined by the NCHS Urban-Rural Classification Scheme for Counties
Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Exhibit 1.6. Dual Eligibility Status of All Medicare Decedents and Medicare Decedents that Use Hospice Services



Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.
Dual Eligible refers to Medicare-Medicaid and are defined as individuals with any state buy-in at any point during the year.
Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.



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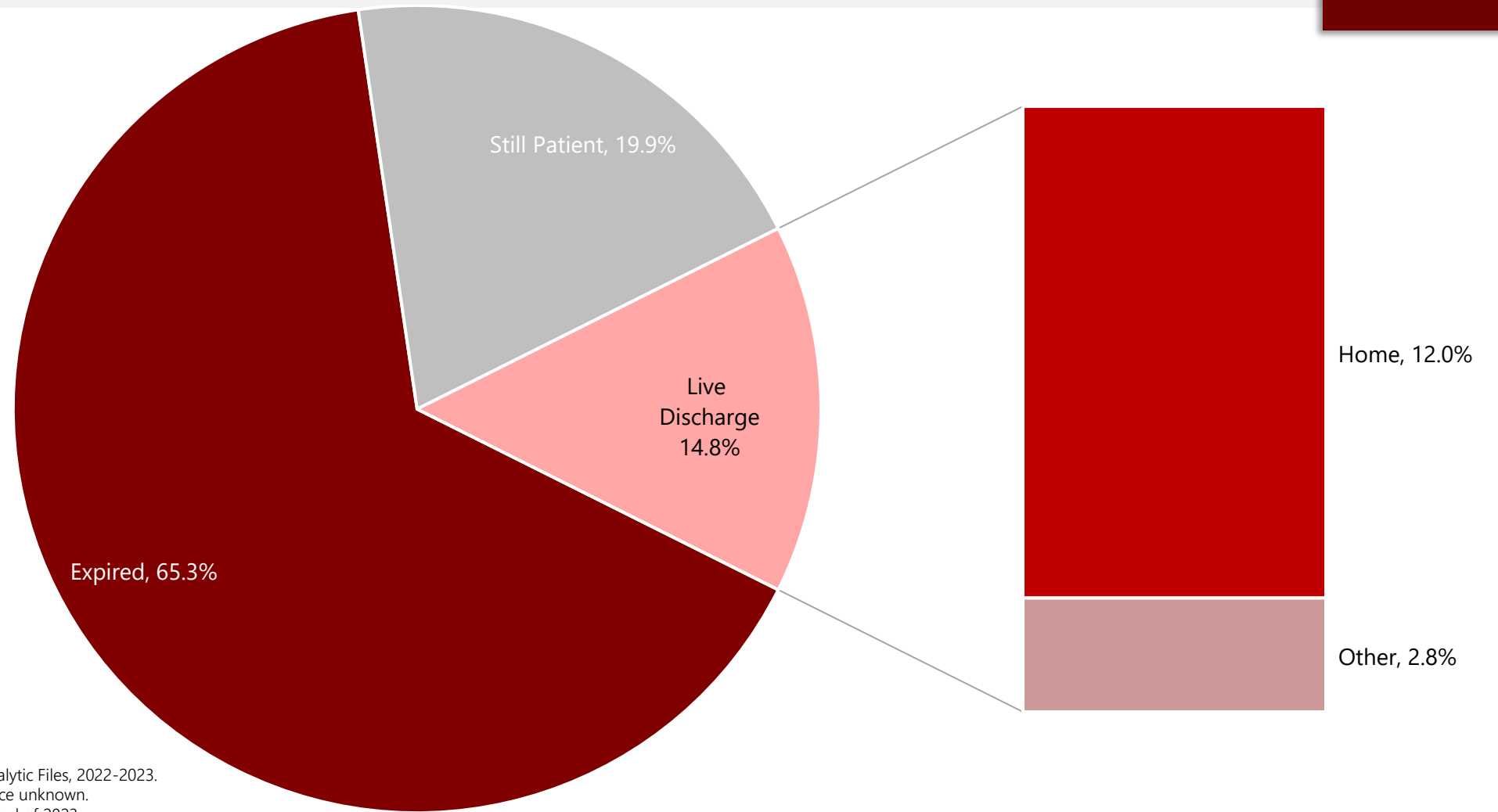
Characteristics of Hospice Live Discharges

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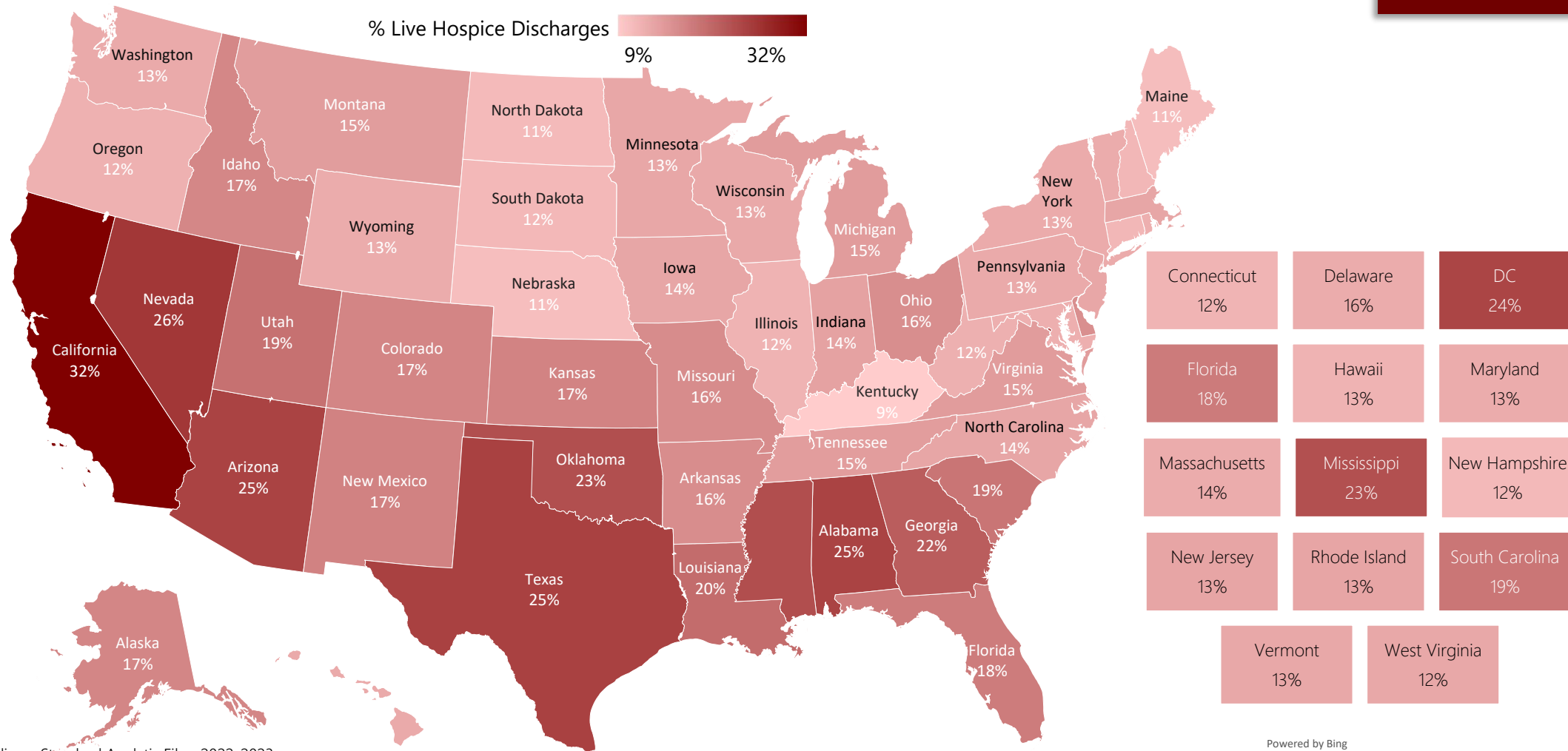
Exhibit 2.1: Discharge Disposition of Hospice Stays



Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2022-2023.
Expired = Patient died in home, medical facility, or place unknown.
Still Patient = Patient is still using hospice care at the end of 2023.
Hospice live discharges include hospice discharges with a discharge disposition of "Home" or "Other." Home = Discharged to home/self-care. Other = All other live discharge dispositions.
Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Exhibit 2.2: Percent of Hospice Live Discharges, by State

Characteristics of Hospice Live Discharges



Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2022-2023.

The Percent of Hospice Live Discharges is calculated as the number of hospice discharges with a discharge disposition of "Home" or "Other" divided by total number of completed hospice stays (i.e., discharge dispositions "Expired," "Home", and "Other.") Home = Discharged to home/self-care. Other = All other live discharge dispositions

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Exhibit 2.3: Beneficiary Characteristics of Hospice Users and Hospice Users Discharged Alive from Hospice

Characteristics of Hospice Live Discharges

	All Hospice Users	Hospice Users Discharged Alive
Gender		
Male	41.8%	39.7%
Female	58.2%	60.3%
Age		
Age <65	4.8%	6.8%
Age 65-74	19.1%	20.6%
Age 75-84	32.7%	32.5%
Age 85+	43.3%	40.1%
Race		
White	84.9%	78.3%
Black	8.5%	11.8%
Asian	1.6%	2.6%
Hispanic	2.2%	3.9%
North American Native	0.4%	0.4%
Other	2.4%	2.9%
Urban/ Rural Status		
Urban	82.6%	84.8%
Rural	17.4%	15.2%
Dual Eligibility		
Dual Eligible	29.2%	39.4%
Non-Dual Eligible	70.8%	60.6%

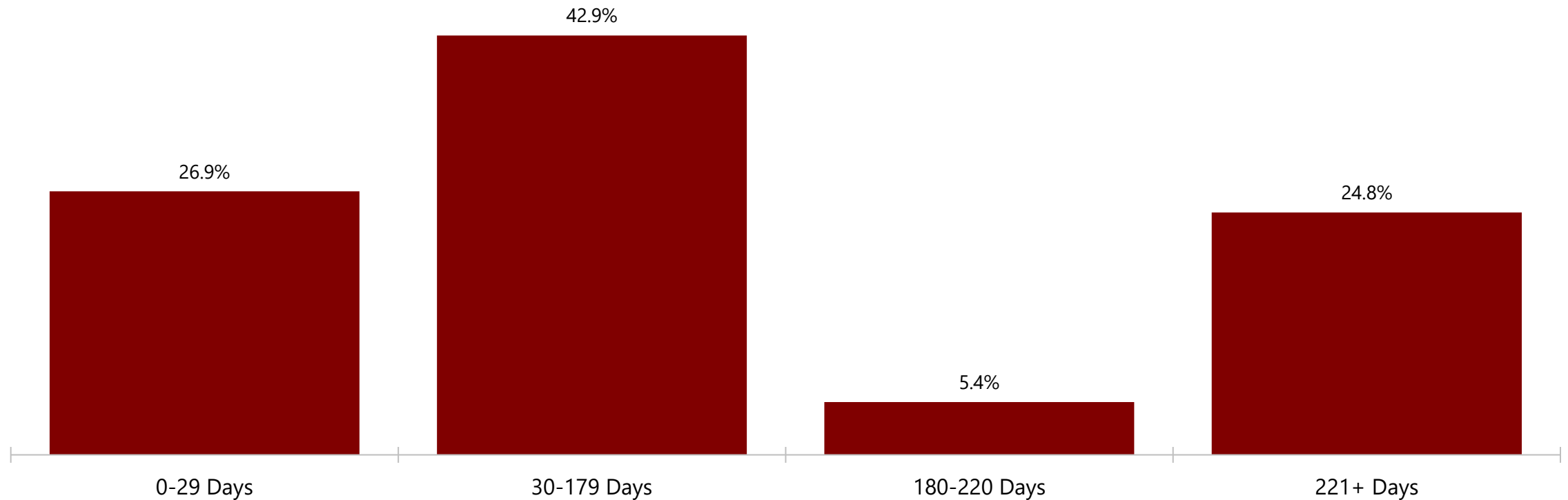
Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.

All hospice users includes any Medicare beneficiary who used hospice services in 2023.

Hospice users discharged alive include hospice users with a discharge disposition of "Home" or "Other." Home = Discharged to home/self-care. Other = All other live discharge dispositions.

Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Exhibit 2.4: Length of Stay Distribution Across Hospice Live Discharges



Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2022-2023.

Length of stay is calculated by subtracting the patient's hospice start date with a hospice provider from the hospice discharge date from that same hospice provider.

Live hospice discharges include hospice discharges with a discharge disposition of "Home" or "Other." Home = Discharged to home/self-care. Other = All other live discharge dispositions.

Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.



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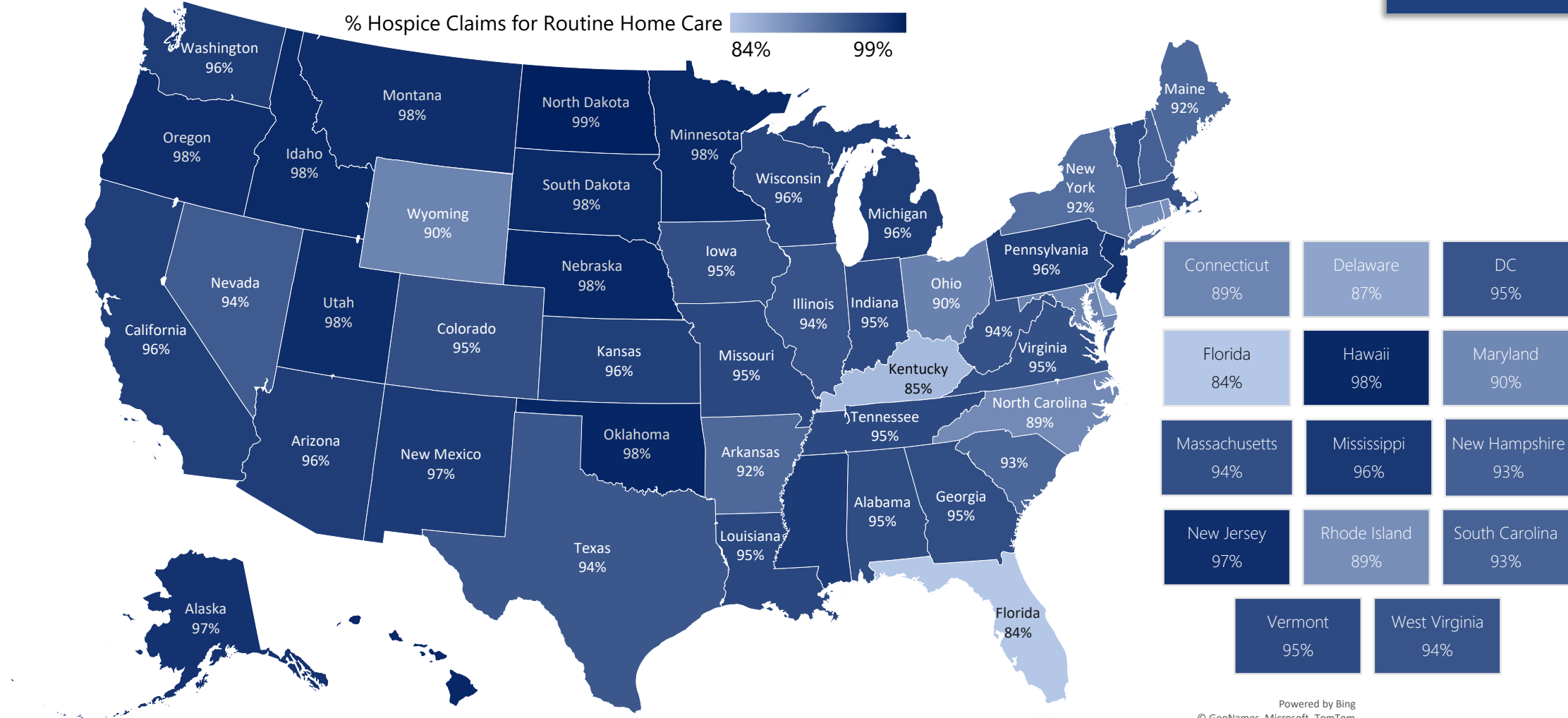
Profile of Hospice Care

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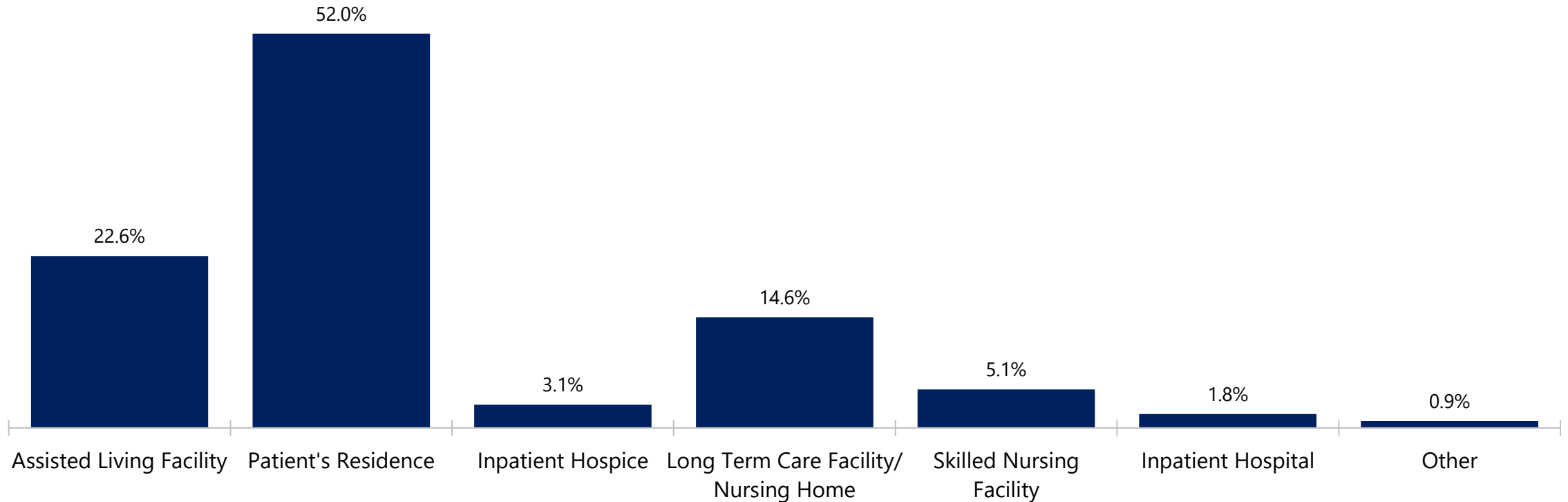
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Exhibit 3.1: Percent of Hospice Claims for Routine Home Care, by State



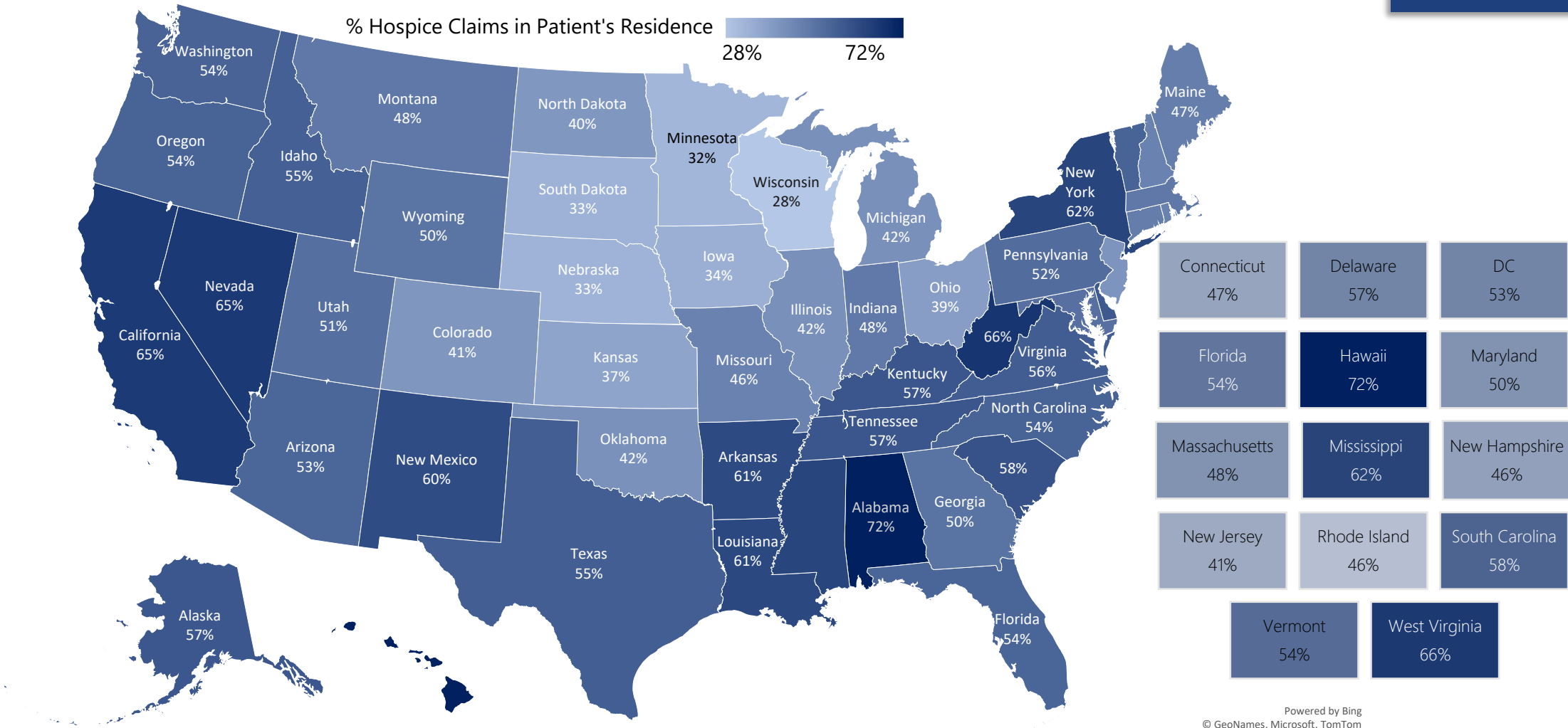
Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.
 The Percent of Hospice Claims for Routine Home Care is calculated as the number of hospice claims for routine home care divided by all hospice claims.

Exhibit 3.2: Service Location of Hospice Care across All Hospice Claims



Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.
 Service Locations are based on HCPC Codes. Q5001= Patient's Home Residence, Q5002 = Assisted Living Facility, Q5003= Nursing Home, Q5004 = Skilled Nursing Facility, Q5005 = Inpatient Hospital, Q5006 = Inpatient Hospice.
 Other includes long-term care hospital (Q5007), inpatient psychiatric facility (Q5008), unspecified (Q5009), and hospice facility (Q5010).
 Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Exhibit 3.3: Percent of Hospice Claims with the Patient's Residence as the Service Location, by State

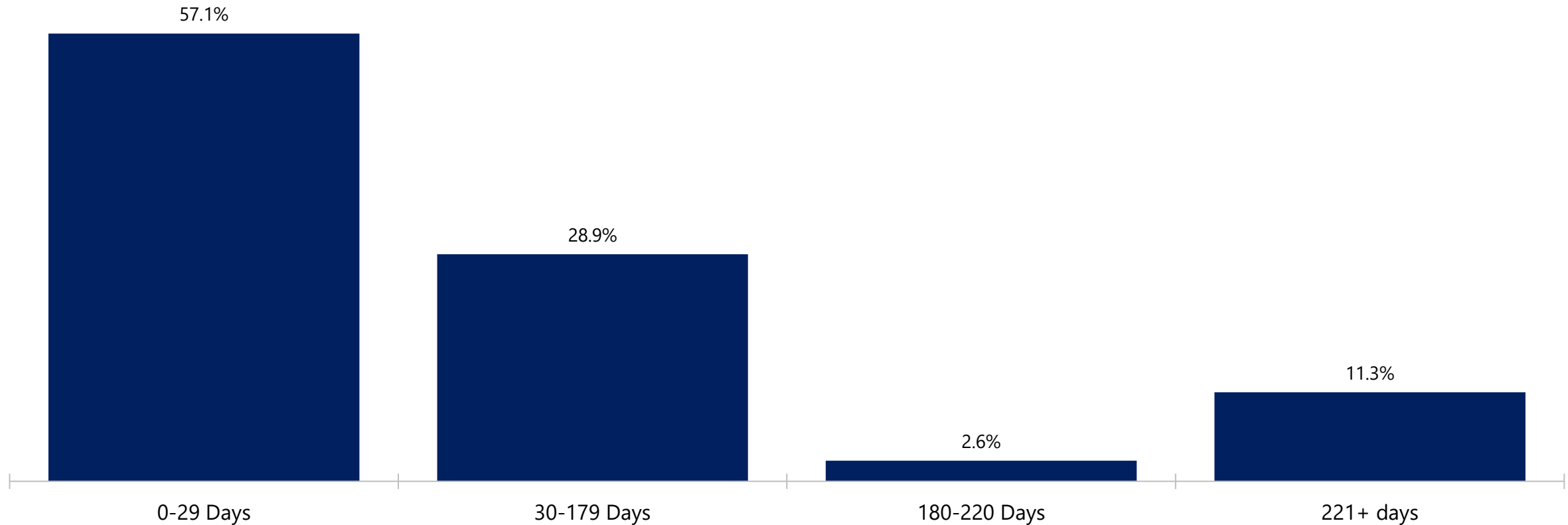


Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.

The Percent of Hospice Claims with the Patient's Residence as the Service Location is calculated as the number of all hospice claims with the Patient's Residence as the Service Location, HCPCS Code "Q5001", divided by all hospice claims.

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Exhibit 3.4: Length of Stay Distribution Across Completed Hospice Stays*



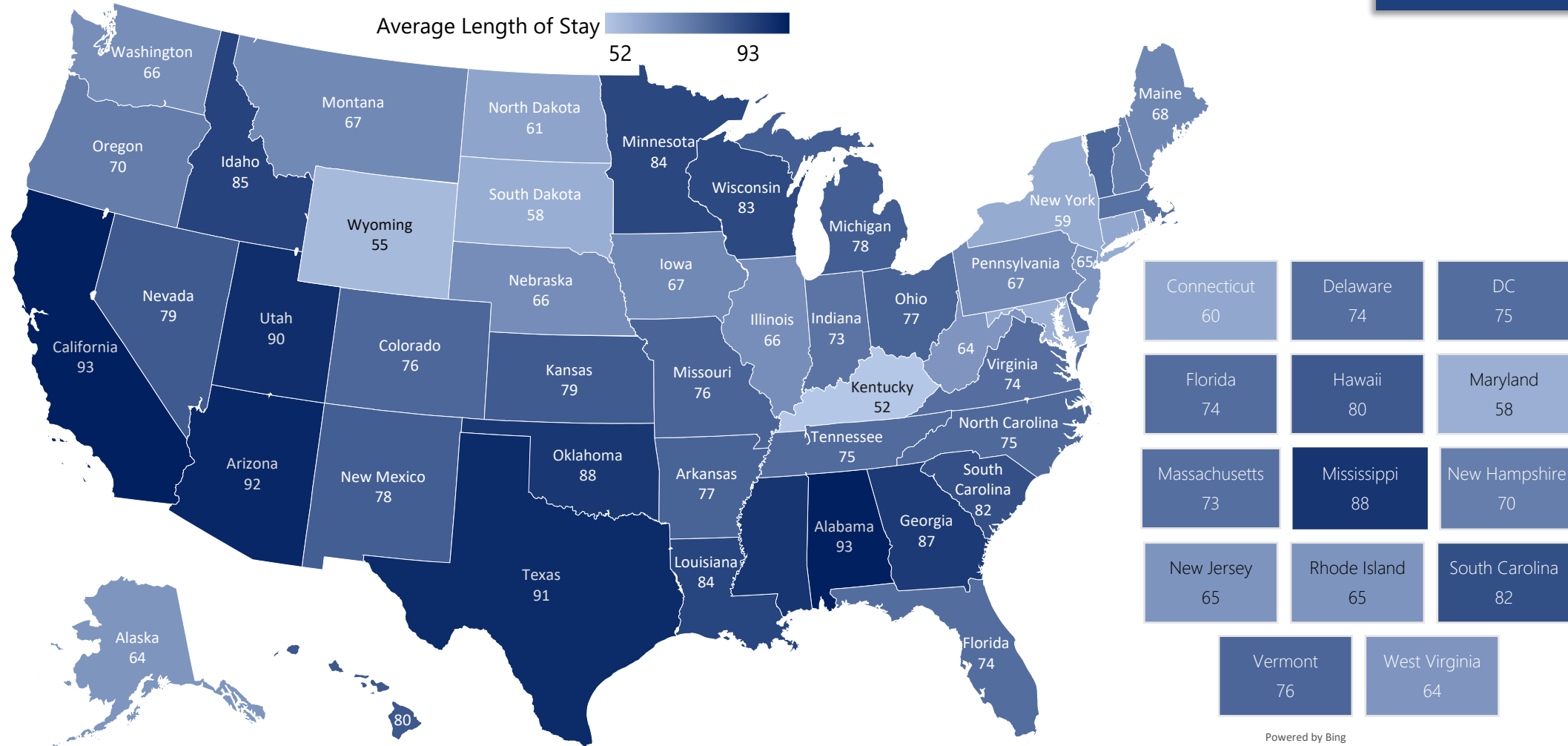
Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2022-2023.

Length of stay is calculated by subtracting the patient's hospice start date from the hospice discharge date with the same hospice provider.

*Completed hospice stays include all hospice discharges except those with a discharge disposition of "Still Patient." Still Patient = Patient is still using hospice care at the end of 2023.

Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Exhibit 3.5: Average Hospice Length of Stay across Completed Hospice Stays*



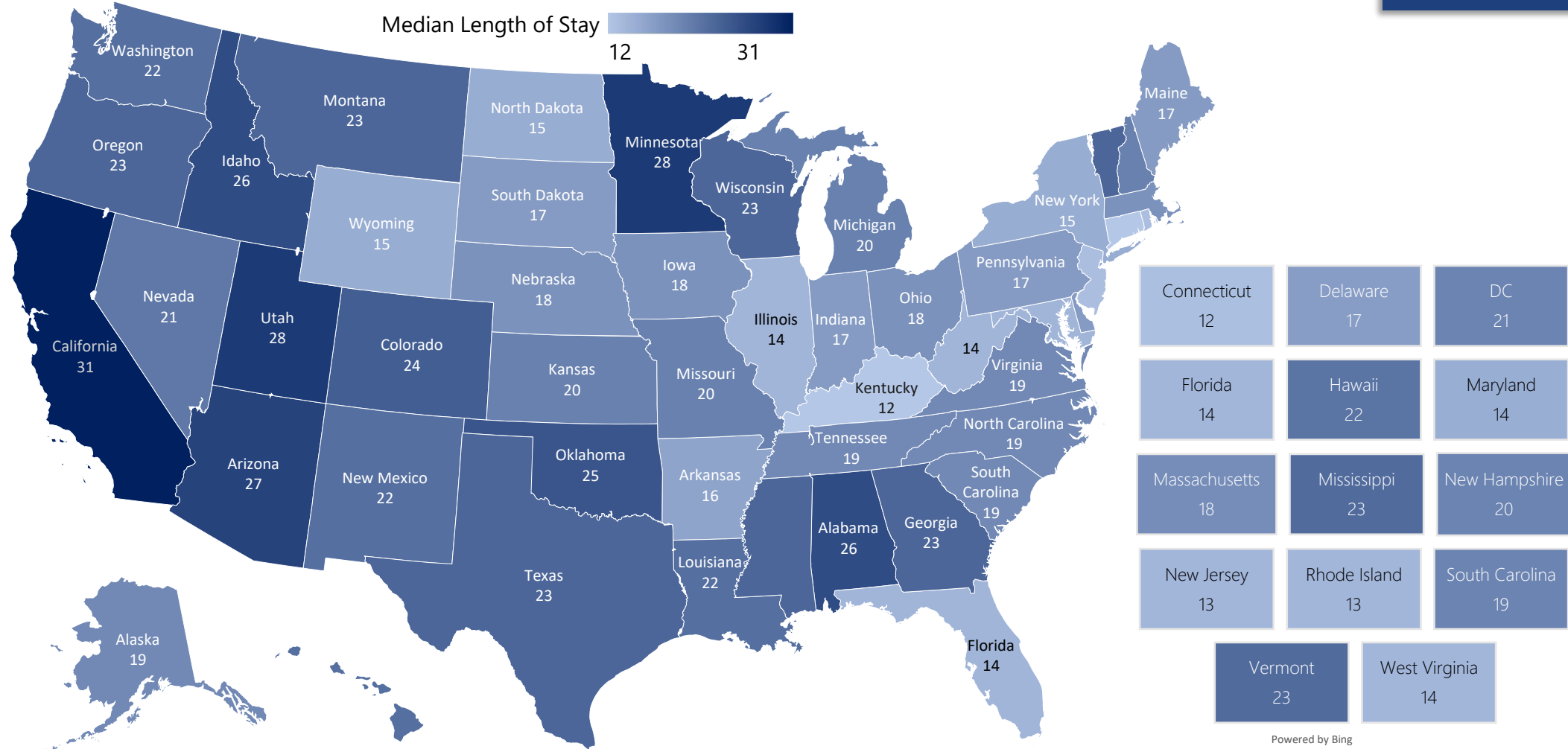
Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2022-2023.

Length of stay is calculated by subtracting the patient's hospice start date from the hospice discharge date with the same hospice provider.

*Completed hospice stays include all hospice discharges except those with a discharge disposition of "Still Patient." Still Patient = Patient is still using hospice care at the end of 2023.

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Exhibit 3.6: Median Hospice Length of Stay across Completed Hospice Stays*



Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2022-2023.

Length of stay is calculated by subtracting the patient's hospice start date from the hospice discharge date with the same hospice provider.

*Completed hospice stays include all hospice discharges except those with a discharge disposition of "Still Patient." Still Patient = Patient is still using hospice care at the end of 2023.

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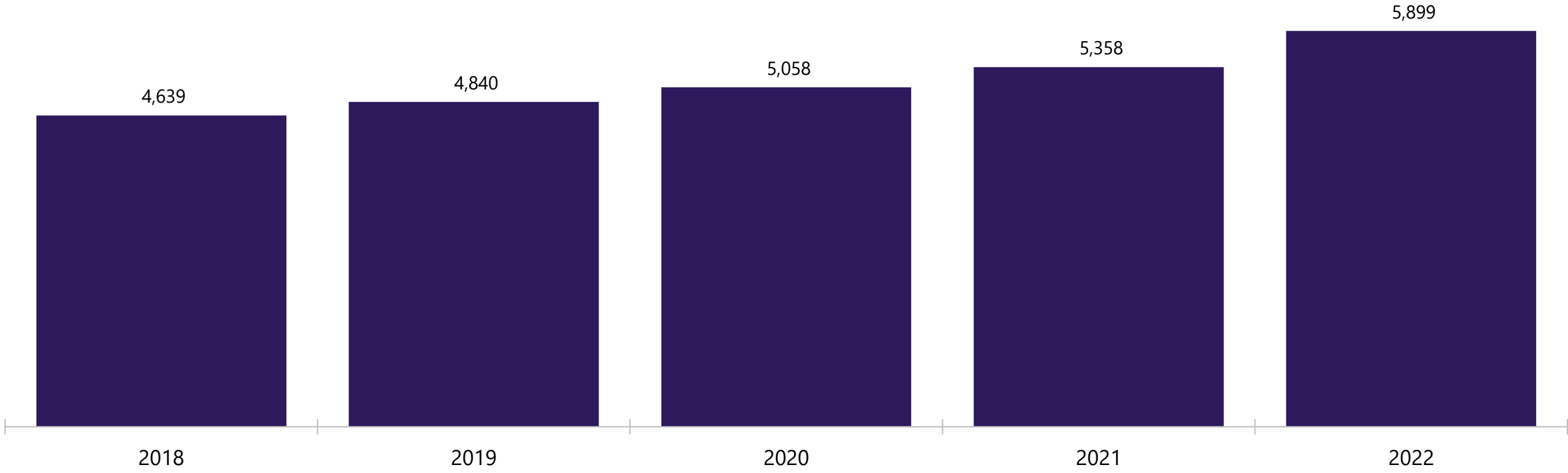
Hospice Characteristics

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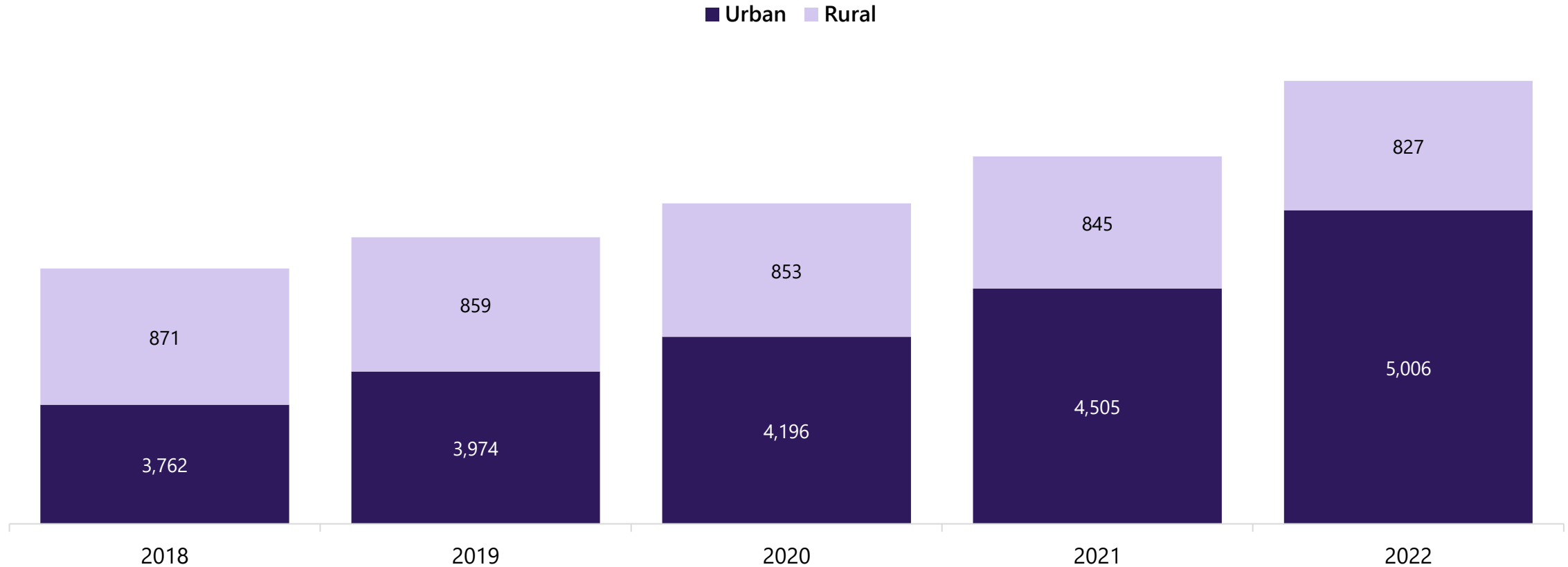
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Exhibit 4.1: Number of Hospice Providers between 2018 and 2022



Source: Medicare Payment Advisory Commission. Report to Congress, March 2024. Table 9-1.

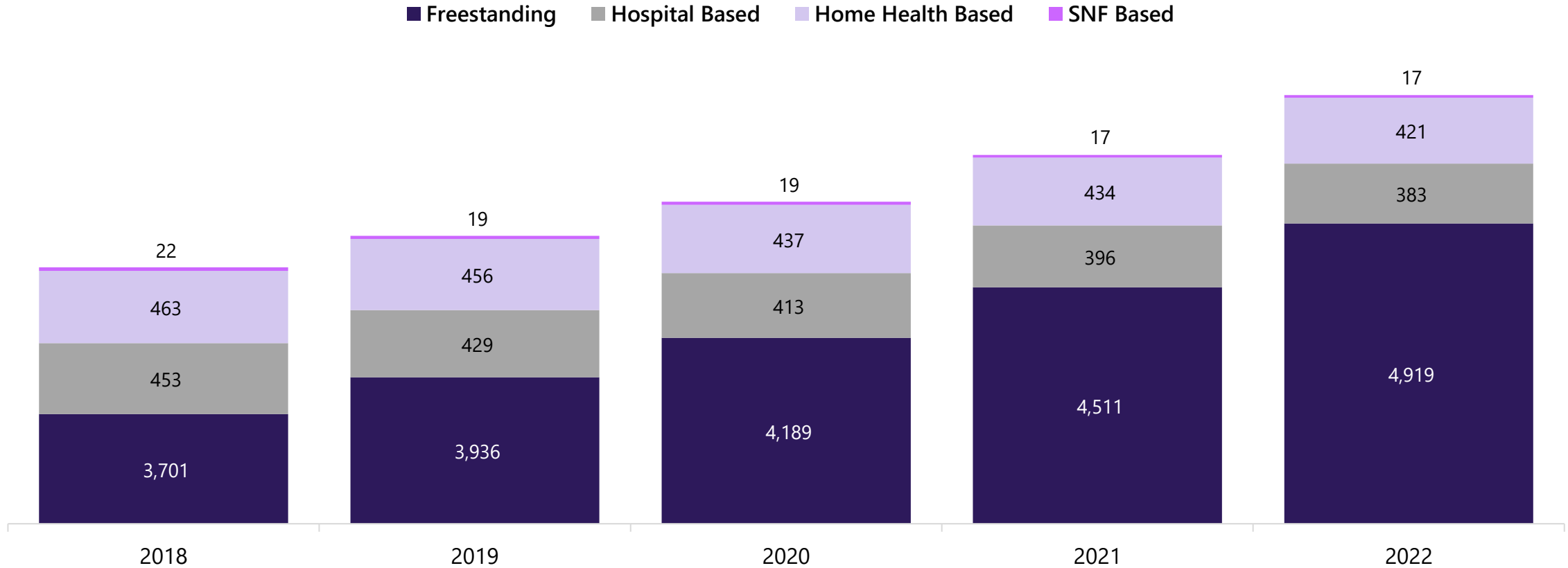
Exhibit 4.2: Number of Hospices between 2018 and 2022, by Urban-Rural Status



Source: Medicare Payment Advisory Commission. Report to Congress, March 2024. Table 9-1.

**In 2022, data on ownership status, type of hospice, and rural and urban location are missing for more providers than usual due to a temporary pause in CMS's updating of the Provider of Services file data for hospices in 2022. While the total number of hospices providing care to Medicare beneficiaries in 2022 (5,899) is not affected by this issue, the table may understate the number of hospices in any ownership, hospice type, or urban/rural subgroup in 2022."

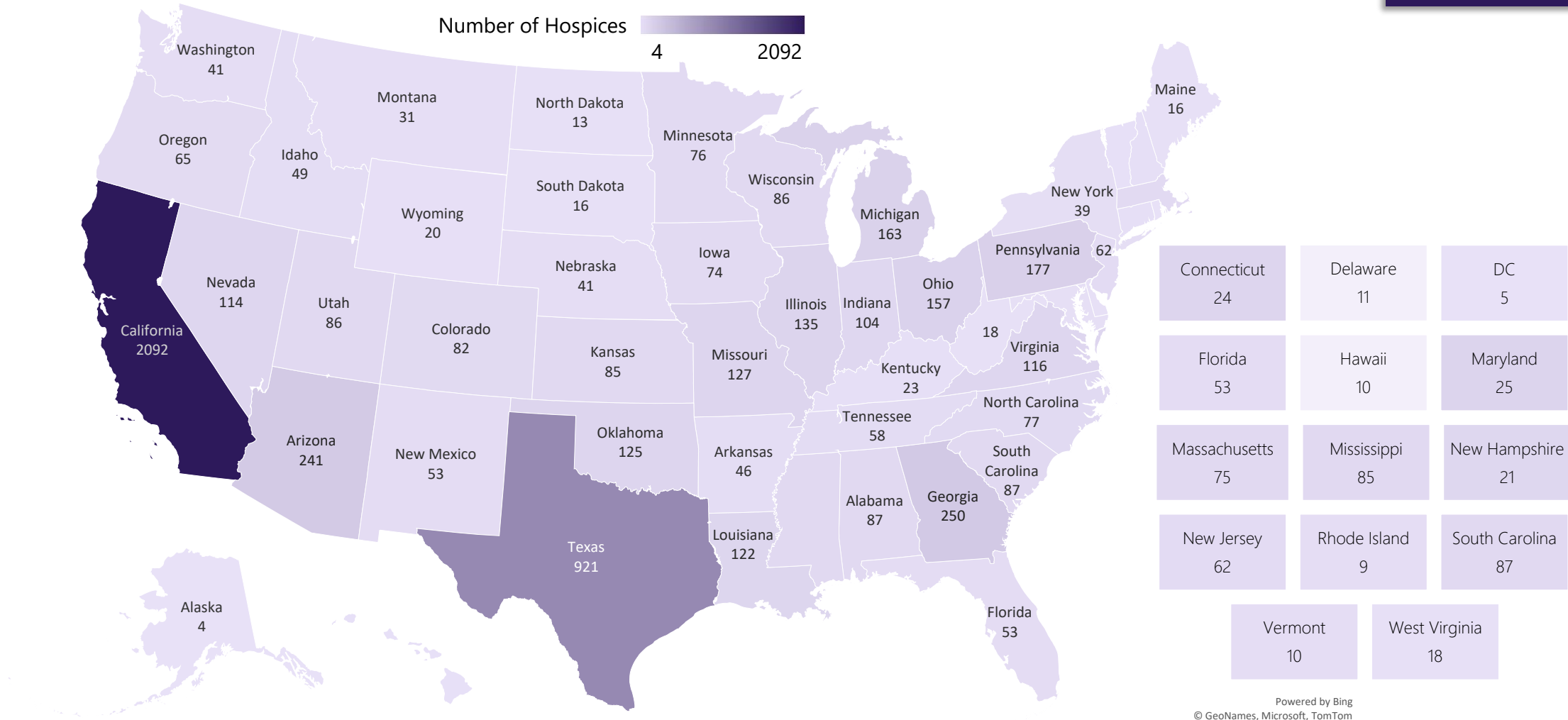
Exhibit 4.3: Number of Hospices between 2018 and 2022*, by Ownership Status



Source: Medicare Payment Advisory Commission. Report to Congress, March 2024. Table 9-1.

**In 2022, data on ownership status, type of hospice, and rural and urban location are missing for more providers than usual due to a temporary pause in CMS's updating of the Provider of Services file data for hospices in 2022. While the total number of hospices providing care to Medicare beneficiaries in 2022 (5,899) is not affected by this issue, the table may understate the number of hospices in any ownership, hospice type, or urban/rural subgroup in 2022."

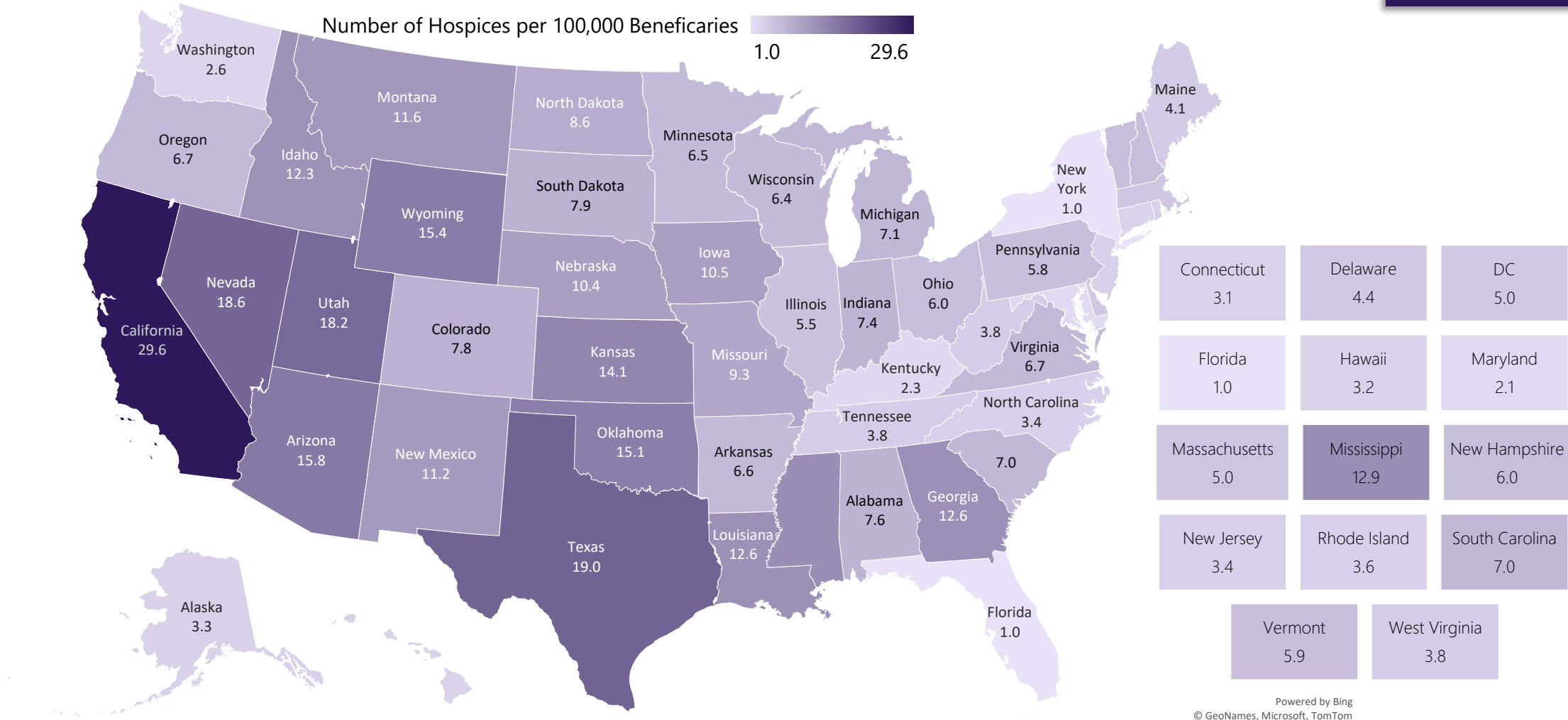
Exhibit 4.4: Number of Hospice Providers in 2023, by State



Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.
 There were 6,507 hospice providers included in the 2023 100% Hospice Standard Analytic File.

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Exhibit 4.5: Number of Hospice Providers per 100,000 Medicare Beneficiaries in 2023, by State



Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.

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Medicare Spending for Hospice Services

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In 2022, \$3.7 Trillion were spent on personal health care in the United States. Medicare spending totaled \$873 Billion.

2.7% of Medicare spending was for hospice services.

Source: Medicare Payment Advisory Commission. Report to Congress.

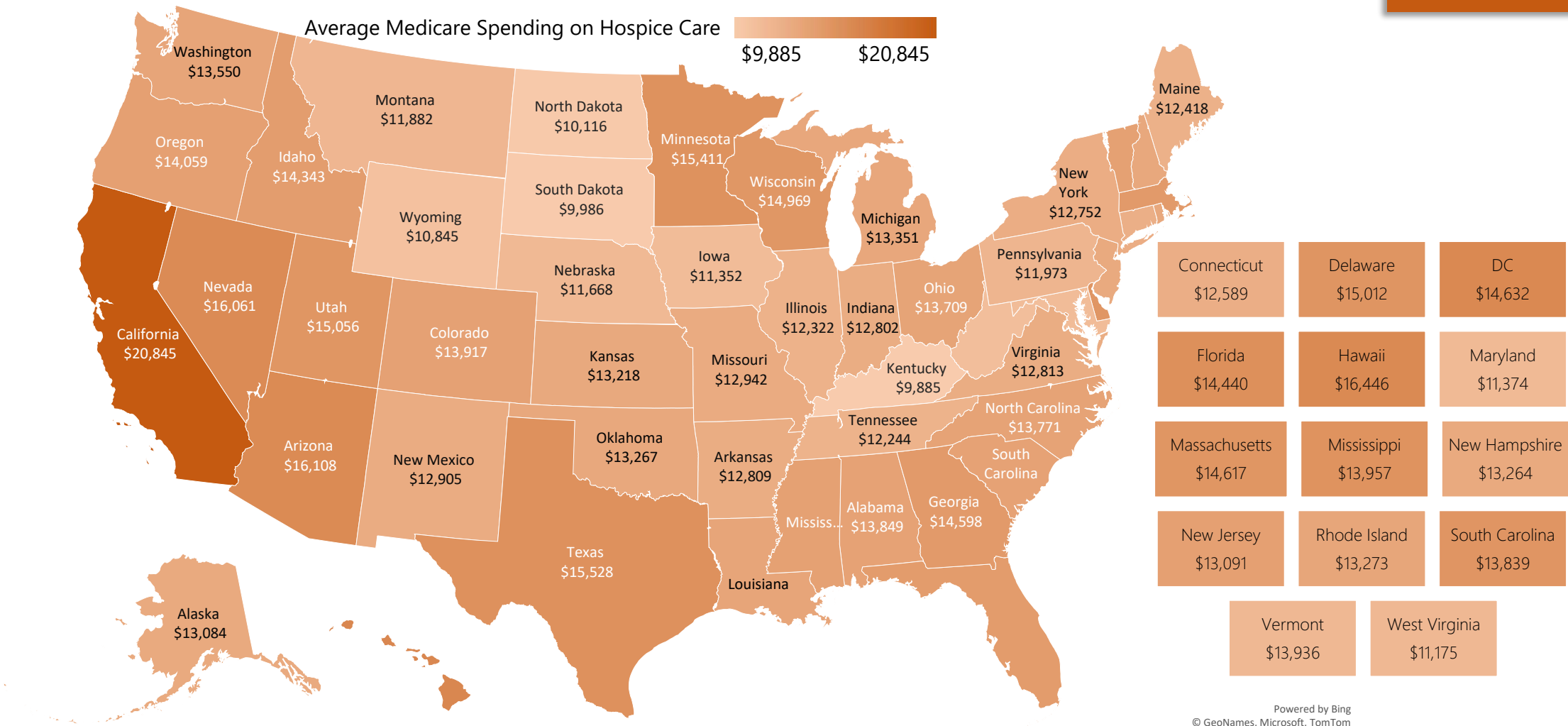
In 2023, Medicare spent roughly \$25.7 Billion on hospice services.

\$186

was the average Medicare payment for a day of hospice care.

Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2023.

Exhibit 5.1: Average Medicare Spending on Hospice Care Across Completed Hospice Stays, by State



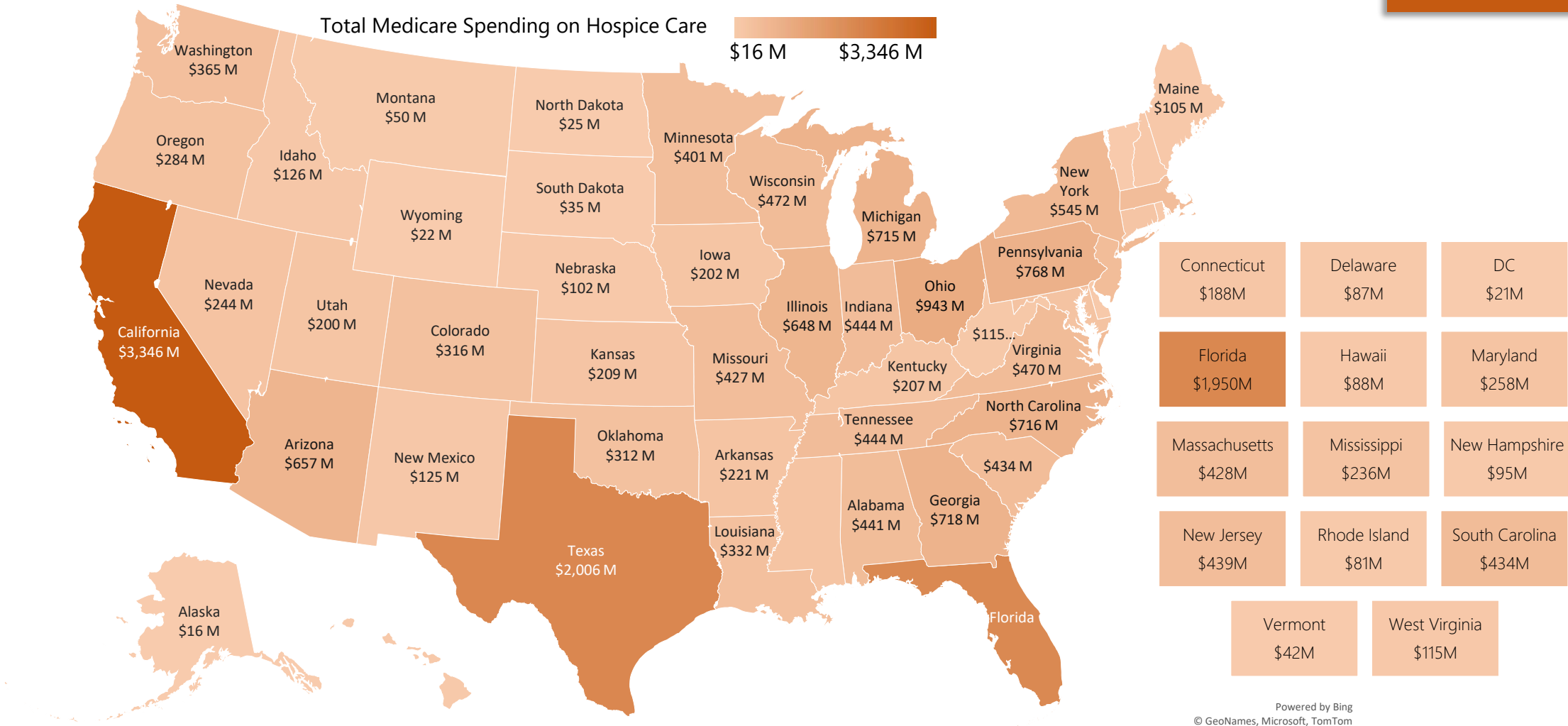
Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2021-2023.

Average Medicare spending on hospice care across completed hospice stays is based on the average Medicare hospice claim payment amount for hospice users in 2023 with any discharge disposition except "Still Patient" at the end of 2023.

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Exhibit 5.2: Total Medicare Spending on Hospice Care Across Completed Hospice Stays, by State

Medicare Spending for Hospice Services



Source: KNG Health analysis of Medicare Standard Analytic Files, 2021-2023.

Total Medicare spending on hospice care across completed hospice stays is based on the total Medicare hospice claim payment amount for hospice users in 2023 with any discharge disposition except "Still Patient" at the end of 2023.

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