



Association for the Accreditation
of Human Research Protection Programs, Inc.®

2025 Metrics

— *for* —

AAHRPP-Accredited Human Research Protection Programs

Hospitals

September 2026



About the 2025 Metrics

AAHRPP is pleased to present the 2025 metrics for Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) performance.

These data are intended to help research organizations, researchers, sponsors, government agencies, and participants identify and support high-performing HRPP practices.



Where the data come from

Data is submitted by accredited organizations and include:

- Annual Reports
- Step 1 Applications
- Step 2 Applications



How the data was derived

All the quantitative data were derived from the most recent reports submitted by AAHRPP organizations.

Abbreviations Used and Definitions

DHHS	US Department of Health & Human Services
DoD	US Department of Defense
ED	US Department of Education
DoE	US Department of Energy
DoJ	US Department of Justice
EPA	US Environmental Protection Agency
FDA	US Food and Drug Administration
ICH-GCP	International Council for Harmonisation Good Clinical Practice
VA	US Department of Veterans Affairs

Definitions of metrics, including how times are calculated, are available [here.](#)

Annual Metrics Report for Hospitals

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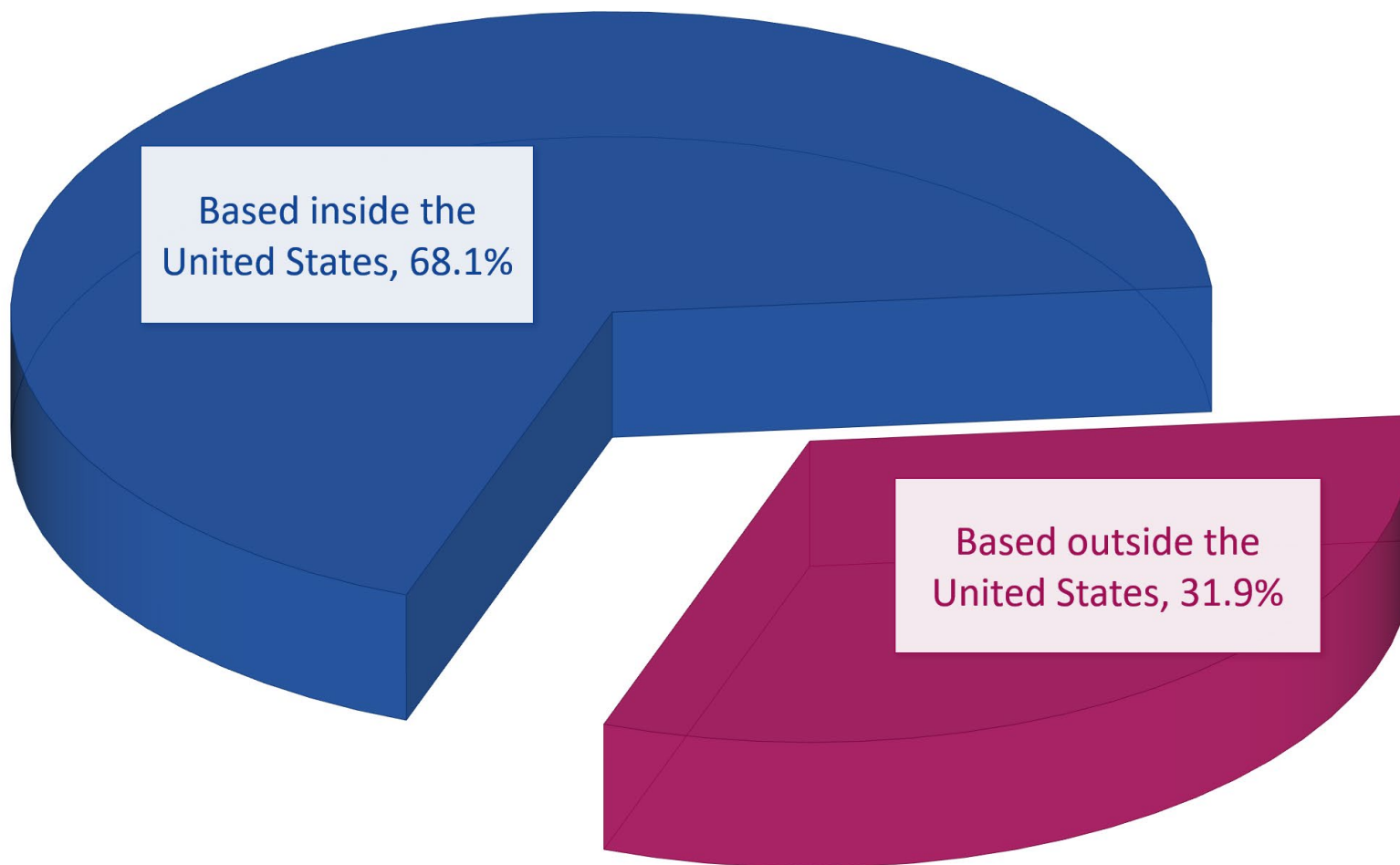
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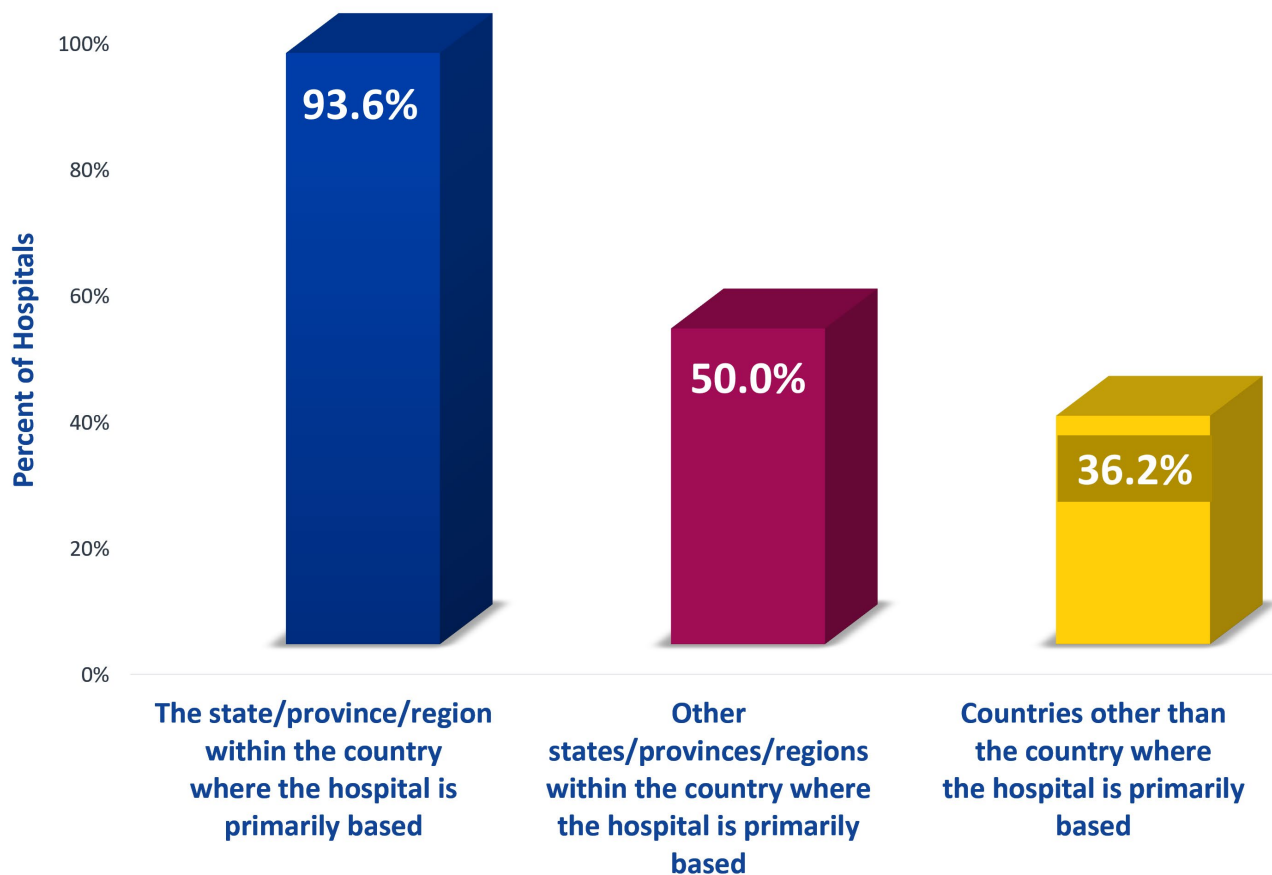
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Where Accredited Hospitals are Based

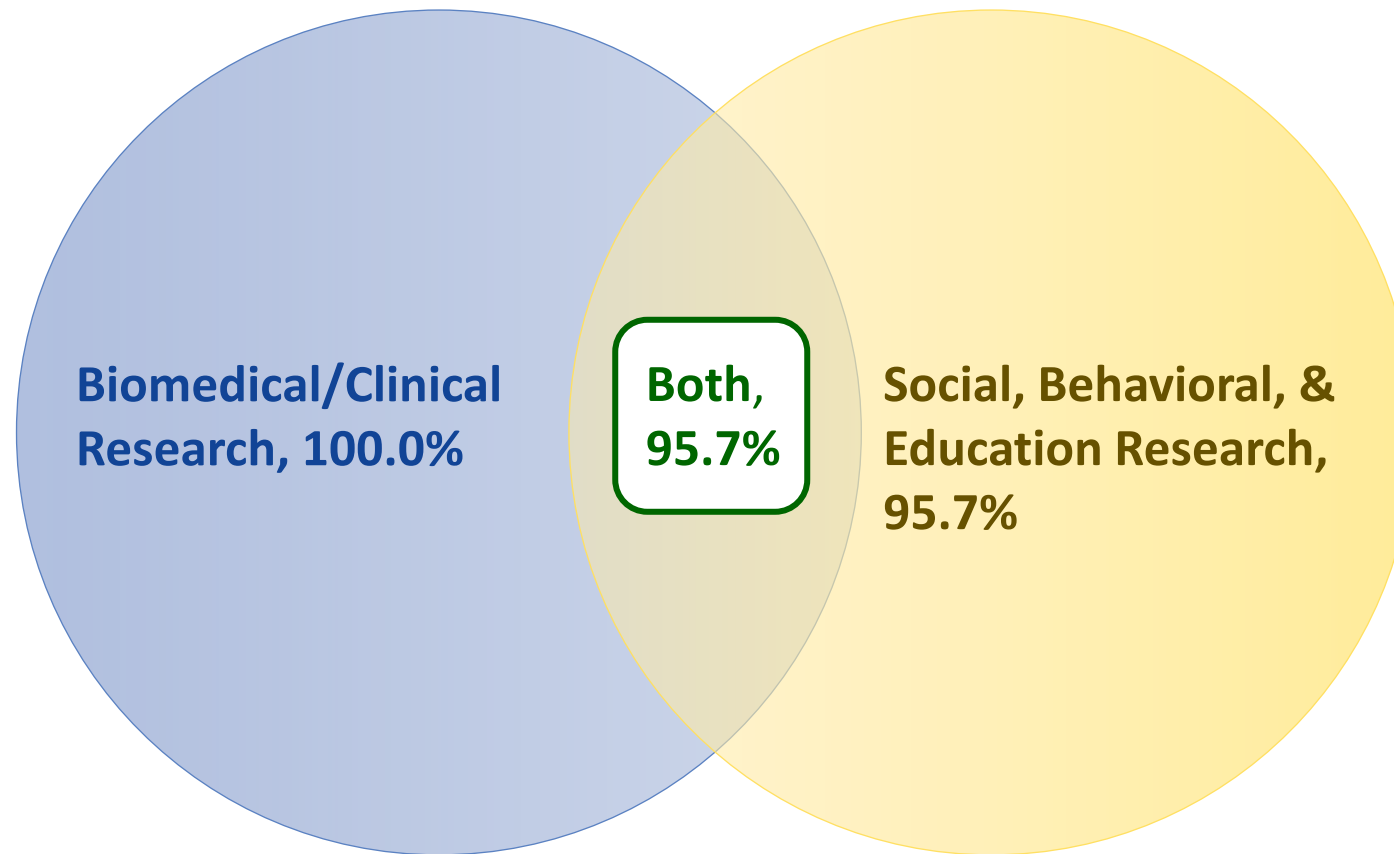


Where Research Occurs

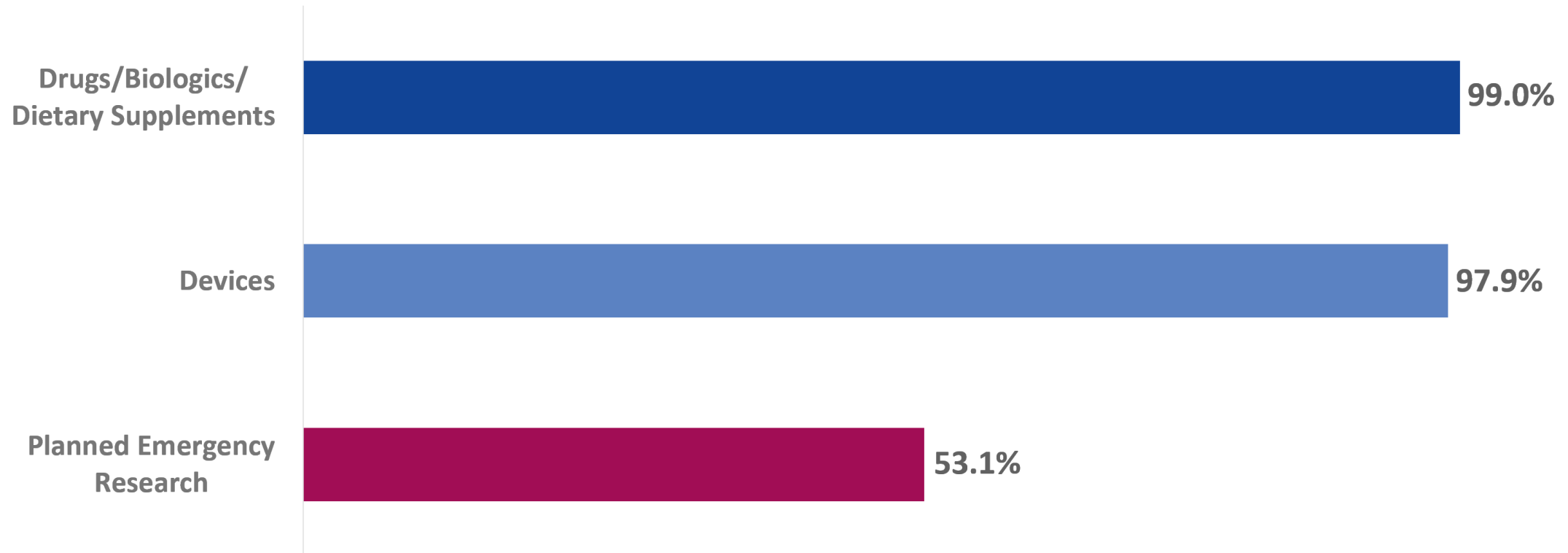
This chart shows where hospitals sponsor, conduct, review, or manage research



Types of Research Hospitals Sponsor, Conduct, Manage, or Review

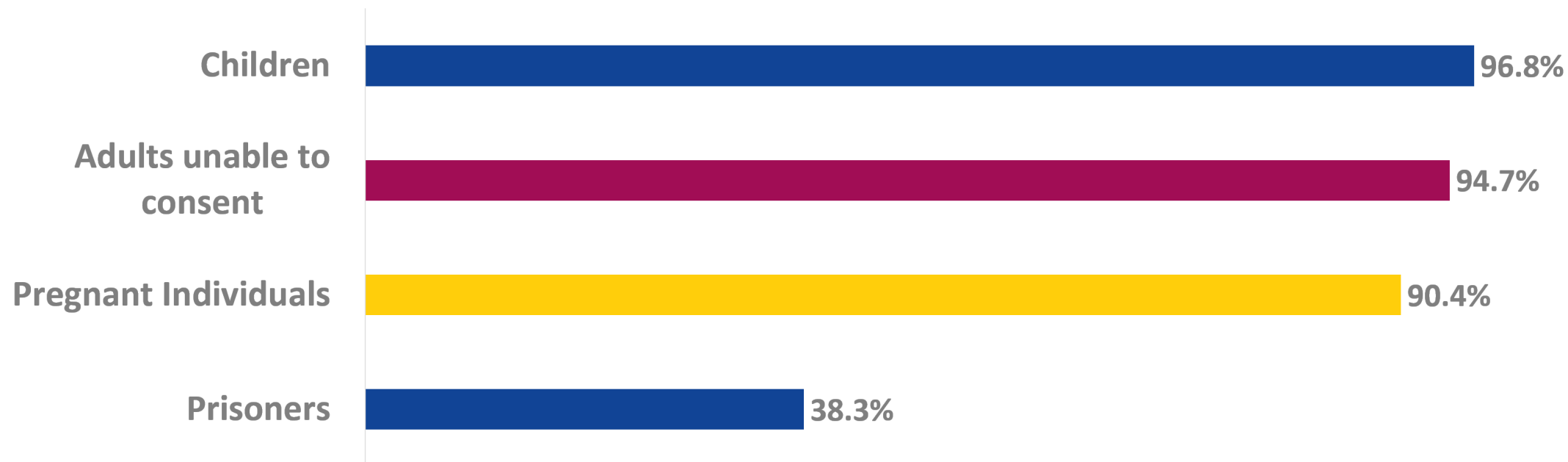


Percentage of Hospitals Sponsoring, Conducting, Managing, or Reviewing Each Type of Research



Research Involving Vulnerable Populations

Percentages of hospitals sponsoring, conducting, managing, or reviewing research by vulnerable population



Note

98.9% of hospitals reported they sponsored, conducted, reviewed, or managed research involving a vulnerable population

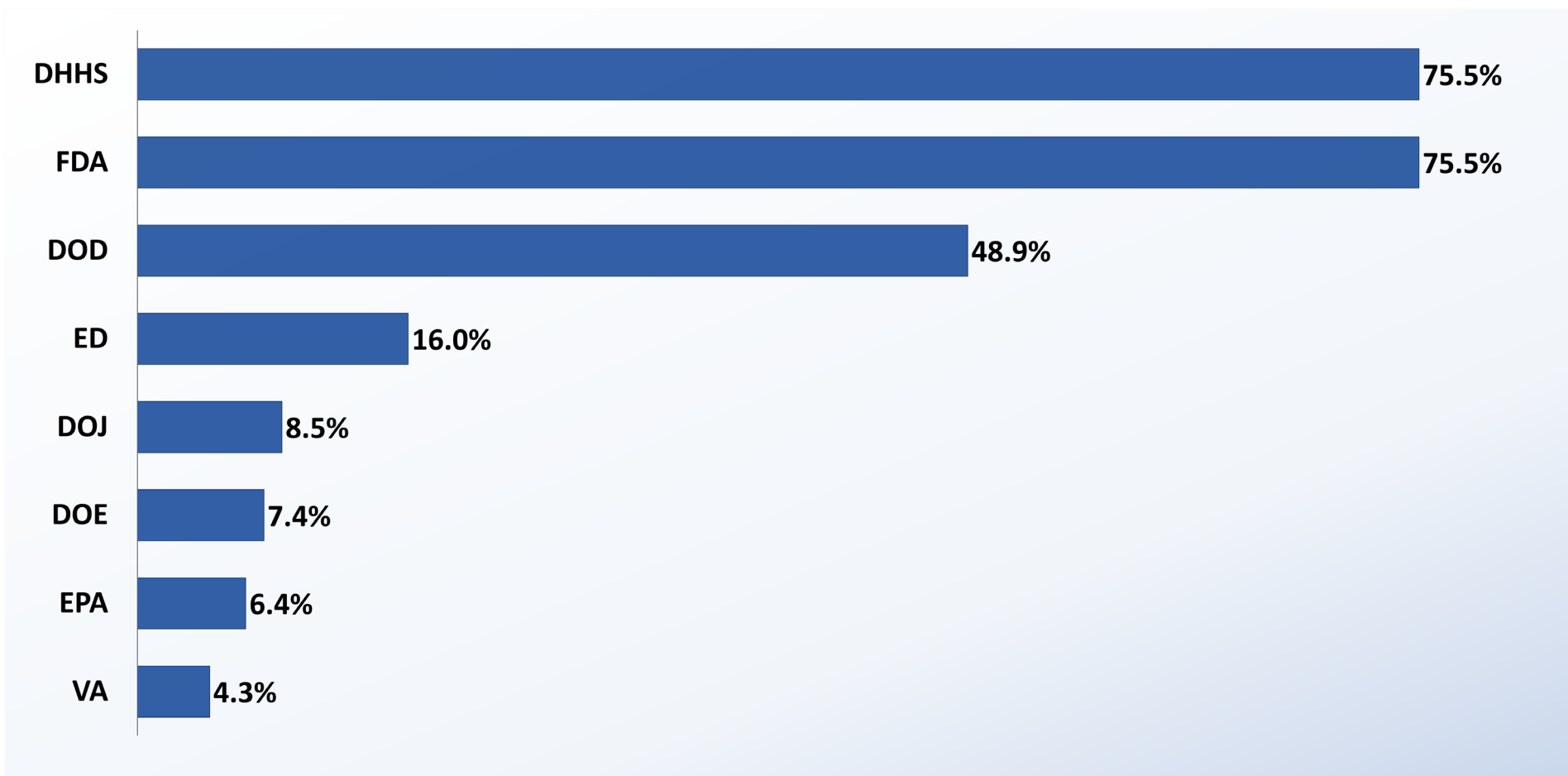
Research Funding

Percentage of hospitals that sponsor, manage, conduct, or review research by funding type that supports the research



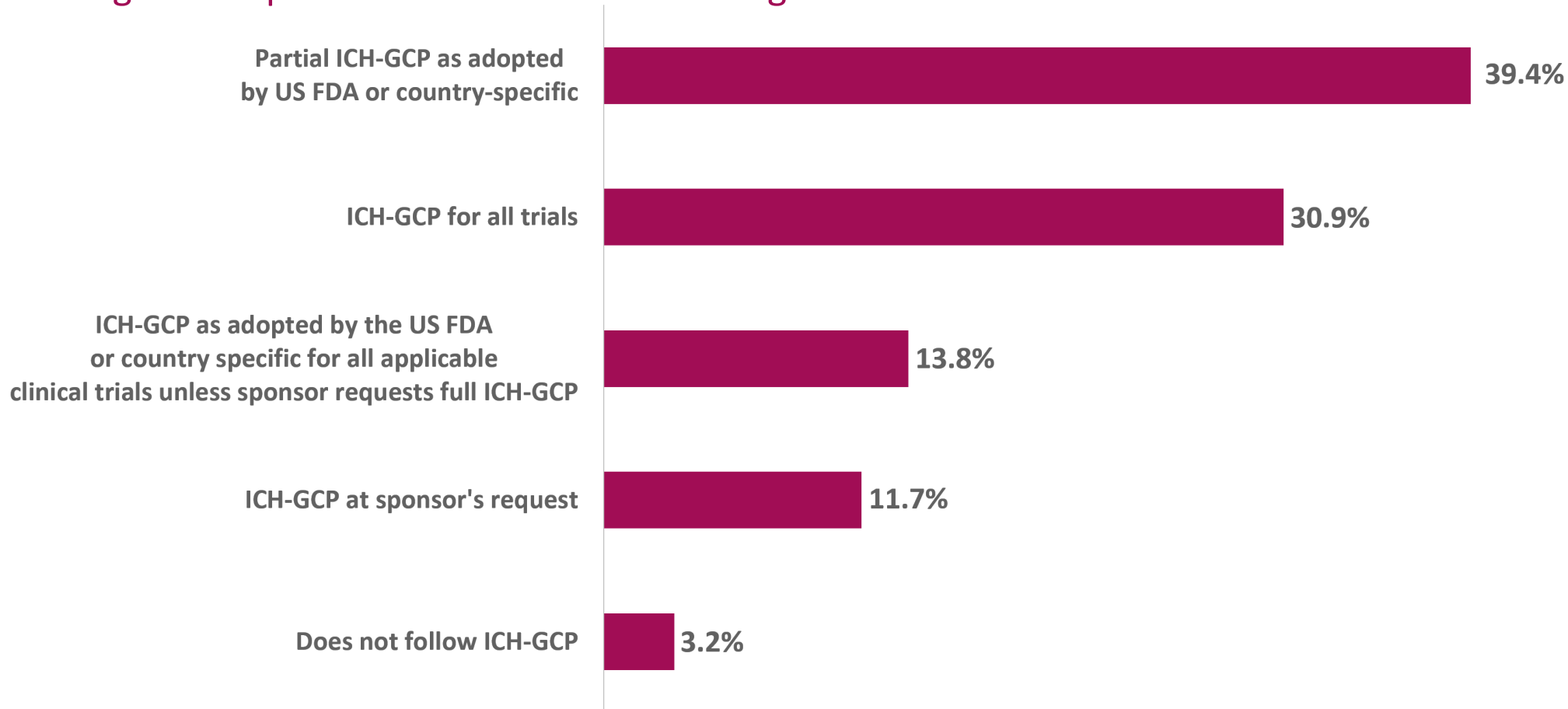
US Regulations & Guidelines

Percentage of hospitals that apply specific US regulations and guidelines to the research they sponsor, review, manage or conduct



Adherence to ICH-GCP Guidelines

Percentage of hospitals that adhere to ICH-GCP guidelines



Internal IRBs/ECs

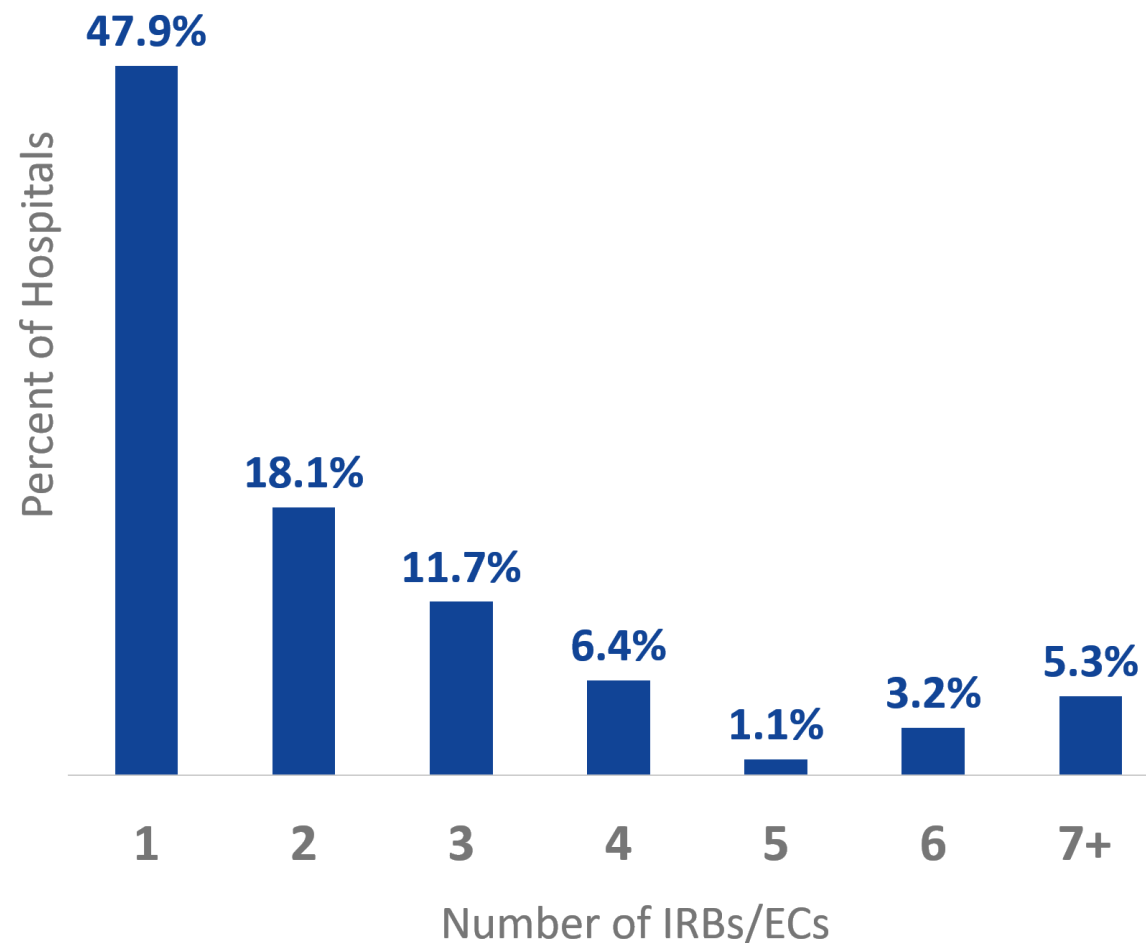
Number of internal IRBs/ECs
hospitals support

% of hospitals
with internal
IRBs/ECs

93.6%

Median number
of IRBs/ECs
per hospital

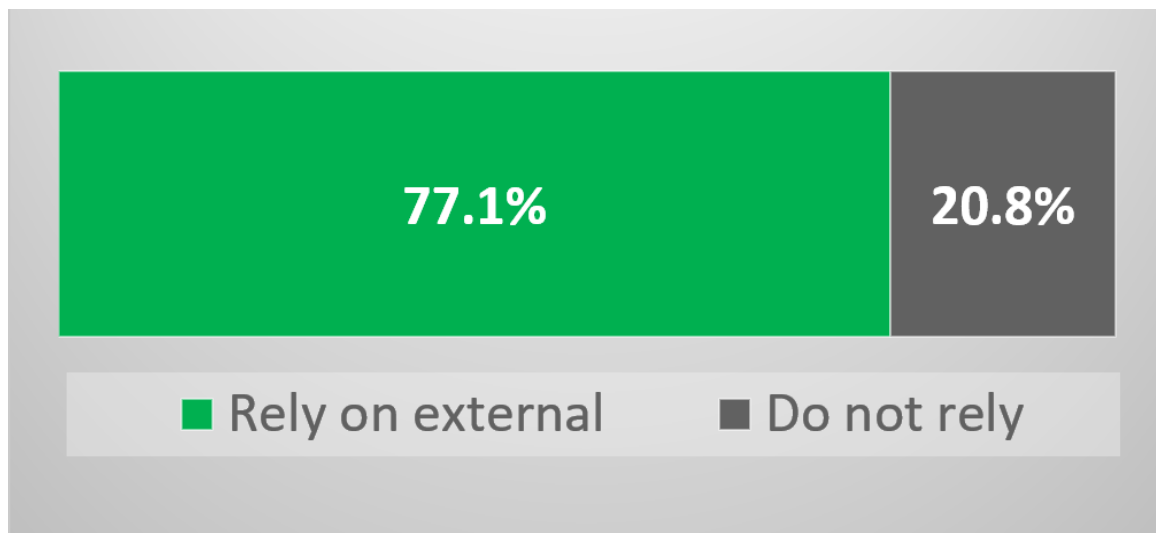
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Reliance on External IRBs/ECs



Hospitals with internal
IRBs/ECs that also rely on
external IRBs/ECs



Median number of
studies externally
reviewed

241

IRB/EC Member Compensation

Prevalence of financial compensation overall and by member type at hospitals

95.5%

of hospitals provide
some form of financial
compensation

Chairs & Vice Chairs

88.6%

Unaffiliated

71.6%

Affiliated

64.8%

IRB/EC Member Compensation by Type

Types of financial support by member type at hospitals

Member role	Salary support	Specific activity pay	Stipend / Honorarium	Conference/ Education support	Department/ Clinic reimbursement
Chairs/Vice Chairs	40.9%	28.4%	17.0%	50.0%	11.4%
Unaffiliated	0.0%	31.8%	26.1%	31.8%	Not applicable
Affiliated	10.2%	22.7%	8.0%	35.2%	5.7%

Open Studies

630

Median number
of open studies
overall

Median number of open studies by review type



Exempt
determination



46



Expedited
Review



247



Convened
Board Review



137

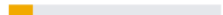
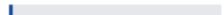
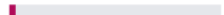
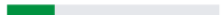
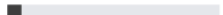
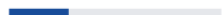
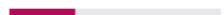
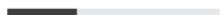


Notes

- Open studies include studies reviewed by internal and external IRBs/ECs
- Expedited and Convened Board Review figures only include studies reviewed by an internal IRB/EC
- Exempt determinations reflect those made during a 12-month period (i.e., the calendar year prior to the AAHRPP report)

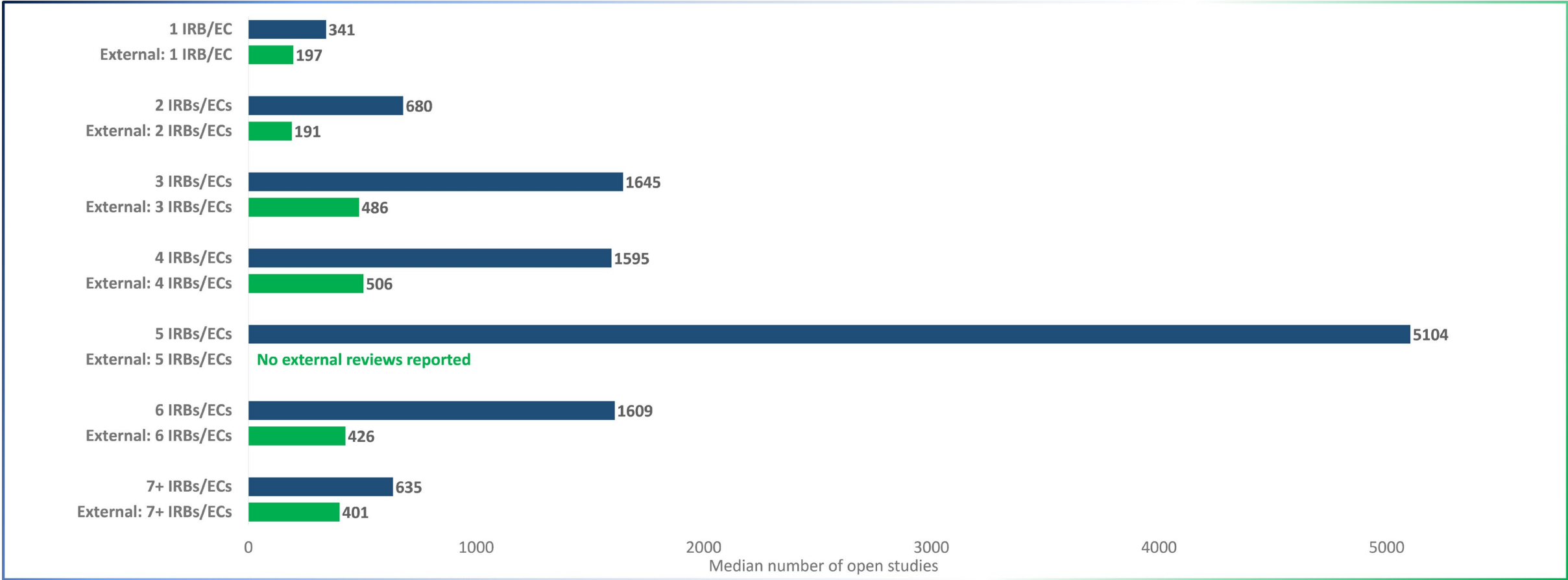
Median Number of Open Studies by Quartile

Median number of studies by review category and hospital volume

Quartile Organization volume	 Exemption Determination	 Expedited Review	 Convened Board Review	 Reviewed by External IRB/EC	 Total Reviews
Q1 1–264 studies	14 	25 	17 	90 	173 
Q2 265 – 630 studies	46 	113 	45 	191 	418 
Q3 631 – 1,602 studies	98 	405 	176 	358 	875 
Q4 1,603 – 17,109 studies	125 	1,438 	566 	401 	2,664 

Open Studies per IRB/EC by Hospitals

Median number of open studies reviewed internally vs. externally by number of Internal IRBs/ECs



Note: Median study count reflect exemption determinations that may be made by either internal or external IRB/ECs

Review Times for Hospitals

Median days from submission to review or determination/approval



Exemption

Submission to Determination

10 days



Expedited Review

Submission to Approval

17 days



Convened Board

Submission to Review

23 days



Convened Board

Submission to Approval

43 days



Notes

- Review time metrics reflect hospitals with internal IRB/ECs
- Exemption review times are for hospitals regardless of whether they have an internal IRB/EC

IRB/EC Technology

How hospitals use electronic systems to support IRB/EC review



96.8%

of hospitals
use electronic systems
for IRB/EC review

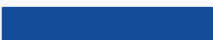
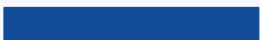
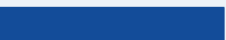
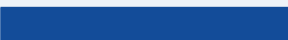


3 hospitals reported
no electronic system



IRB/EC Staffing

Staffing and study volume among hospitals with internal IRBs/ECs

Number of Active Studies	Median Number of Studies	Median Full-Time Equivalent Staff	Median Number of Studies Per Staff
All	460	 8.0	 87.6
0–100	38	 2.2	 18.8
101–500	212	 4.8	 55.5
501–1000	652	 8.0	 94.6
1001–2000	1,576	 10.6	 131.3
2001–4000	2,708	 16.5	 191.7
4000+	4981	 20.4	 250.2



Notes

Open studies include exempt, expedited, and convened reviews by internal IRBs/ECs

Audits of Researchers

Researcher audit activity at hospitals

92.6%

of hospitals
reported conducting
researcher audits

Audit Type	Median per Hospital	Total Reported
 Internal: For Cause	1	1443
 Internal: Random/ Not for Cause	13	3421
 Regulatory Agency Inspections	0	69

Audits of IRBs/ECs

IRB/EC audit activity at hospitals

66.4%

of hospitals
reported IRB/EC audits

Audit Type		Median per hospital	Total Reported
	Internal: For Cause	2	4907
	Internal: Random/ Not for Cause	0	197
	Regulatory Agency Inspections	0	86

Noncompliance and Unanticipated Problems

Open Studies	Serious Noncompliance		Continuing Noncompliance		Unanticipated Problems	
	Median	Total	Median	Total	Median	Total
All	1	457	0	390	1	1277
0 – 100	0	7	0	2	0	73
101 – 500	1	96	0	27	0	128
501 – 1,000	1	40	0	49	0	60
1,001 – 2000	2	161	0	29	1	77
2,001 – 4,000	5	81	1	200	8	521
4,001+	7	72	1	83	32	418



Notes

- Data represent reports in the most recent calendar year prior to the organization's AAHRPP report
- Total represents all reported events for hospitals within each open studies category

Conflicts of Interest: Studies with Management Plans



4

Median number of studies reviewed by hospitals during a 12-month period (i.e., the calendar year prior to the AAHRPP report) by an internal or external IRB/EC that included a management plan, either at initial review or through a study change adding a new plan