

CHARS Demographic Report

09/09/2025 11:38

Inpatient discharge and observational stay data are stored in the Comprehensive Hospital Abstract Reporting System (CHARS). The data are sent to the Washington State Department of Health (WA DOH) on a monthly schedule. All edits for a discharge year are required to be submitted by May 31st of the following year. The 2024 discharge data in this report are reflective of all discharges among Washington residents submitted by hospitals as of 05/31/2025.

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Summary of 2024 Inpatient and Observational Stay Discharges Among Washington Residents

**Total Washington Resident Discharges (percent of total CHARS discharges):
728,979 (96.8%)**

Daily Living Disability

The response options for the daily living disability field are provided below. Patients were allowed to select all that apply.

Daily Living Response Options

Difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition

Difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping

Difficulty dressing or bathing

Difficulty hearing

Difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses

Difficulty walking or climbing stairs

Limitations in any activities because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition

Uses a cane, a wheelchair, a trained service animal, adaptive bed, adaptive telephone, or some other device

Not listed above

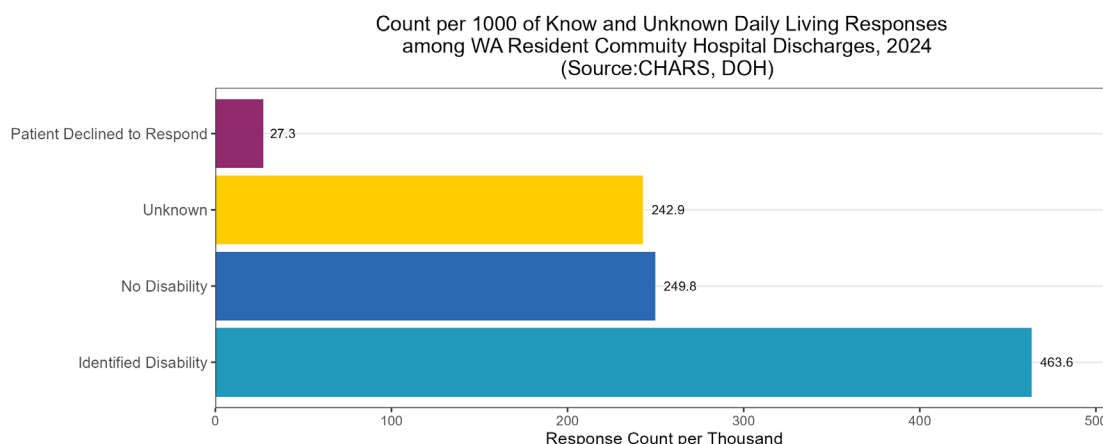
Not applicable (no limitations)

Patient declined to respond

Unknown

In 2024, 8,373 WA resident discharges did *not* report on daily living disability. This is compared to 33,661 in 2023.

Figure 1. This graph breaks down responses in terms of ‘known’ (when a patient reports any disability or reports they have no disability), ‘unknown’, and ‘patient refused to answer’ responses. Patients were allowed to select all that apply, so counts are based on total responses and do not reflect individual discharges. There were 108,783 WA residents in the 2024 CHARS data who selected more than one daily living disability.

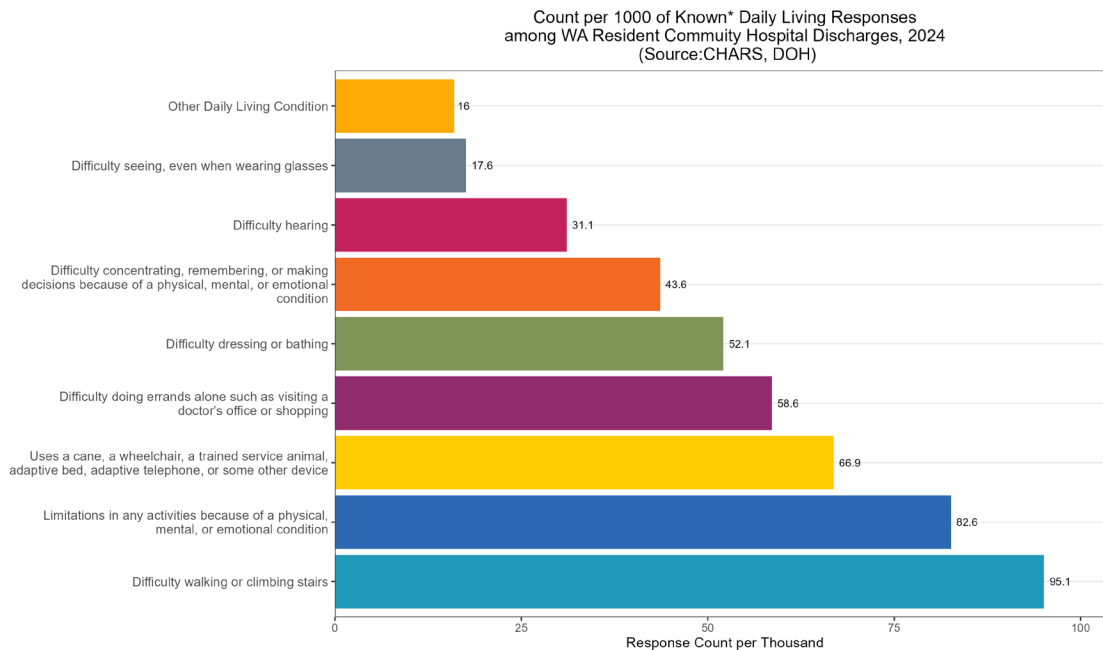


Known and Unknown Daily Living Disability

Note: The above graph demonstrates that a large portion of the responses for 2024 indicated ‘Unknown’. This limits the usability of the daily living data for this time period. Any results generated using these data may not reflect accurate distributions and could bias and invalidate results.

Overall, among discharges with usable data (omitting ‘unknown’), the majority of responses indicated a daily living disability. Very few responses indicated that the patient declined to respond to the question.

Figure 2. This graph disaggregates the daily living disabilities.



Daily Living Disabilities

** A large proportion of 2024 data in this field was unknown; these rates are likely not representative of the population defined by CHARS data; Notes: To align with DOH suppression guidelines any daily living count that was fewer than 10, is aggregated into 'Other Daily Living Condition' along with the response 'Not listed above'.*

There was a large range of daily living disabilities reported, with the largest rate among those reporting difficulty walking or climbing stairs. This response could be reported independently or in combination with other response options. Responses were similar to those reported in 2023.

Disability Condition

The response options for the disability condition field are provided below. Patients were allowed to select all that apply.

Disability Condition Response Options

Blind, low vision, or visually impaired

Brain injury

Chronic medical condition

Deaf, d/Deaf, or hard of hearing

Developmental disability

Intellectual disability

Mental health disability

Neurocognitive disability

Physical disability

Not listed above

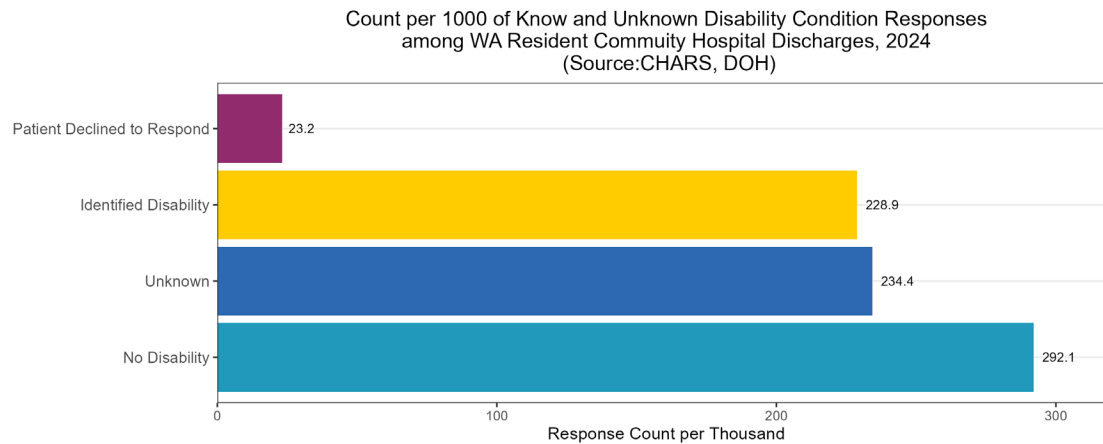
Not applicable (no disability or condition)

Patient declined to respond

Unknown

In 2024, 8,382 WA resident discharges did *not* report on disability condition. This is compared to 33,408 in 2023.

Figure 3. This graph breaks down responses in terms of ‘known’ (when a patient reports any disability or reports they have no disability), ‘unknown’, and ‘patient refused to answer’ responses. Patients were allowed to select all that apply, so counts are based on total responses and do not reflect individual discharges. There were 40,782 WA residents in the 2024 CHARS data who selected more than one disability condition.

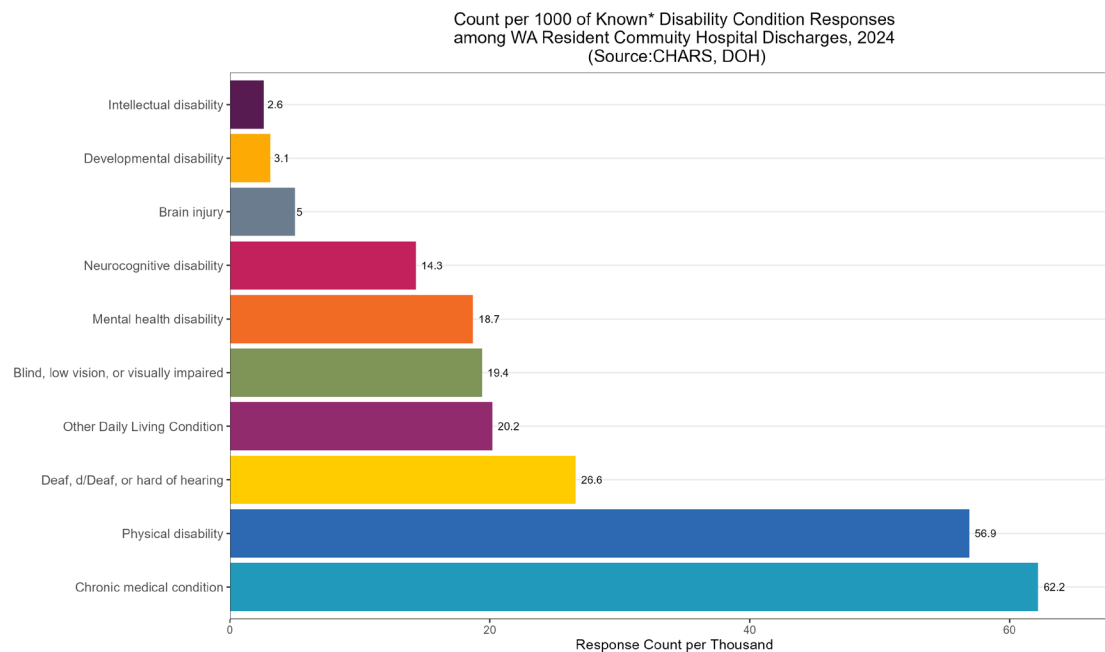


Known and Unknown Disability Condition

Note: The above graph demonstrates that a large portion of the responses for 2024 indicated ‘Unknown’. This limits the usability of the disability condition data for this time period. Any results generated using these data may not reflect accurate distributions and could bias and invalidate results.

Overall, among discharges with usable data (omitting ‘unknown’), the majority of responses indicated no disability condition. Few responses indicated that the patient declined to respond to the question.

Figure 4. This graph disaggregates the disability conditions.



Type of Disability Condition

** A large proportion of 2024 data in this field was unknown; these rates are likely not representative of the population defined by CHARS data; Notes: To align with DOH suppression guidelines any daily living count that was fewer than 10 is aggregated into 'Other Daily Living Condition' along with the response 'Not Listed'.*

The above responses could be reported independently or in combination with other response options. There was a large range of disability conditions reported, with the largest rates among those reporting a chronic medical condition followed by a physical disability. These contrasts will 2023 data, which reported “Deaf / deaf / or hard of hearing” are the most predominantly reported condition. Due to the high rate of unknown responses, no conclusions can be drawn regarding this shift.

Sexual Orientation

All data presented on sexual orientation are for those 13 years old or older.

The response options for the sexual orientation field are provided below. Patients were allowed to select all that apply.

Sexual Orientation Response Options

Asexual

Bisexual

Gay

Lesbian

Pansexual/Bi+

Queer

Straight

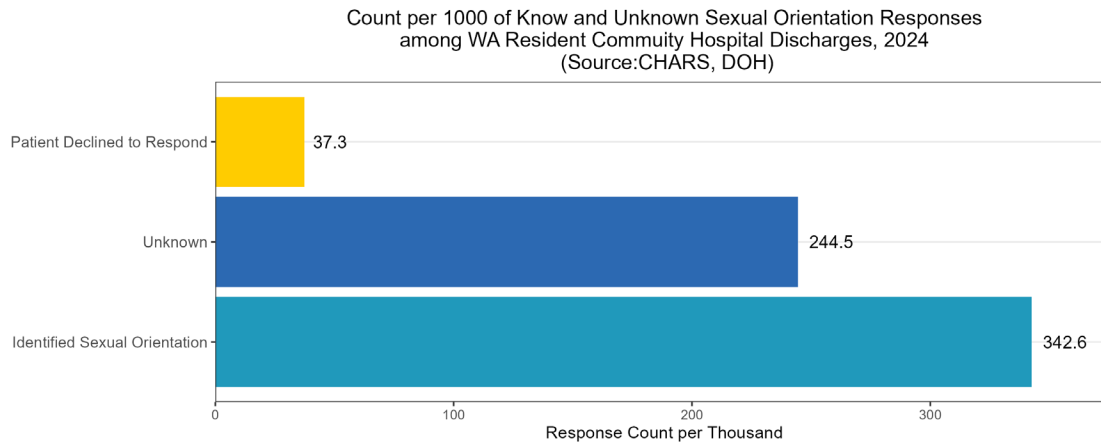
Sexual orientation not listed above

Patient declined to respond

Unknown

In 2024, 105,830 WA resident discharges did *not* report on sexual orientation. This is compared to 124,911 in 2023.

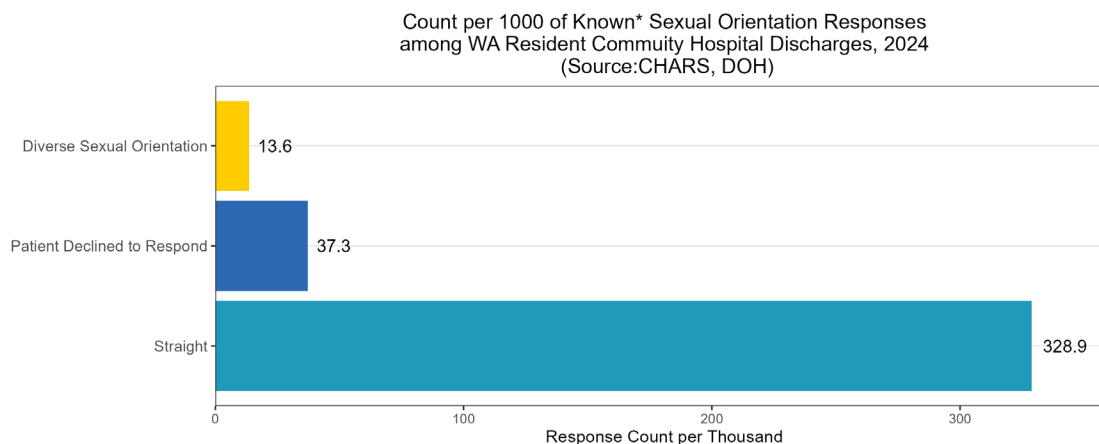
Figure 5. This graph breaks down responses in terms of ‘known’, ‘unknown’, and ‘patient refused to answer’ responses. Patients were allowed to select all that apply, so counts are based on total responses and do not reflect individual discharges. There were 1,037 WA residents in the 2024 CHARS data who selected more than one sexual orientation.



Known and Unknown SexualOrientation

Note: The above graph demonstrates that a large portion of the responses for 2024 indicated ‘Unknown’. This limits the usability of the disability condition data for this time period. Any results generated using these data may not reflect accurate distributions and could bias and invalidate results.

Figure 6. This graph disaggregates the identified sexual orientation responses.

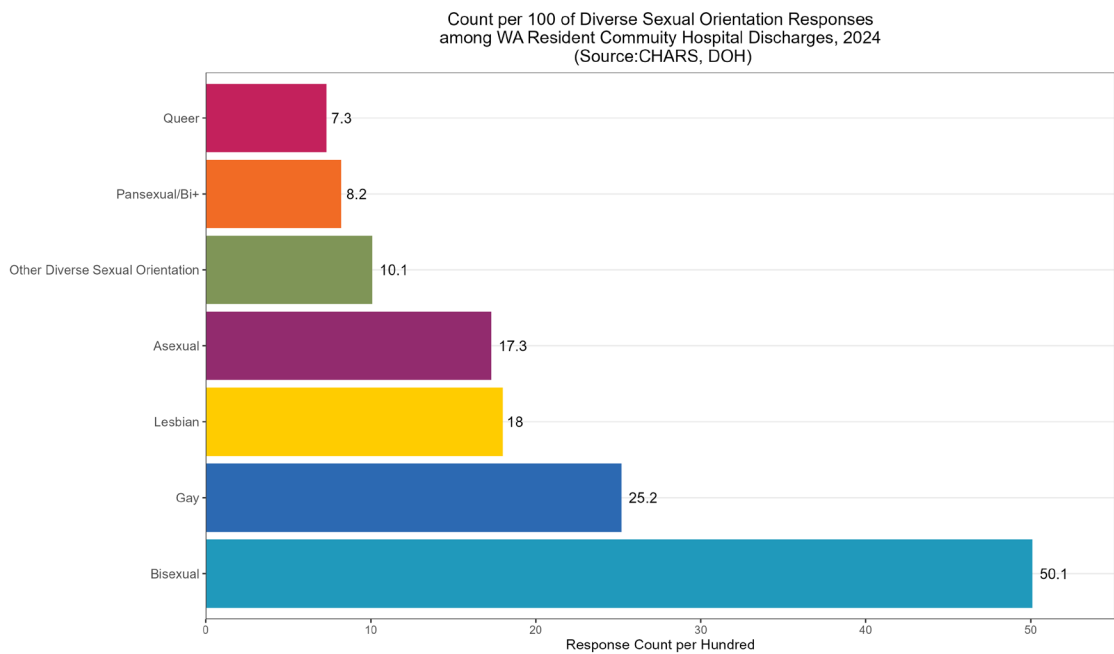


Sexual Orientation

** A large proportion of 2024 data in this field was unknown; these rates are likely not representative of the population defined by CHARS data.*

The majority of known responses indicate that most CHARS responses indicated a straight sexual orientation. Results are similar to those seen in 2023.

Figure 7. This graph disaggregates the identified diverse sexual orientation responses.



Diverse Sexual Orientation

** A large proportion of 2024 data in this field was unknown; these rates are likely not representative of the population defined by CHARS data; Notes: To align with DOH suppression guidelines any sexual orientation count that was fewer than 10 is aggregated into 'Other Diverse Sexual Orientation' along with the response 'Sexual orientation not listed above'.*

There was a large range of diverse sexual orientations reported, with the largest rate among those identifying as Bisexual. This could be alone or in combination with other response options. Results were similar to those seen in 2023.

Gender Identity

All data presented on sexual orientation are for those 13 years old or older.

The response options for the gender identity field are provided below. Patients were allowed to select all that apply.

Gender Identity Response Options

Agender

Bigender

Cis or cisgender

Demiboy

Demigirl

Female

Gender fluid

Genderqueer

Male

Man or Masculine/Masc

Non-binary

Trans* or transgender

Two spirit

Woman or Feminine/Femme

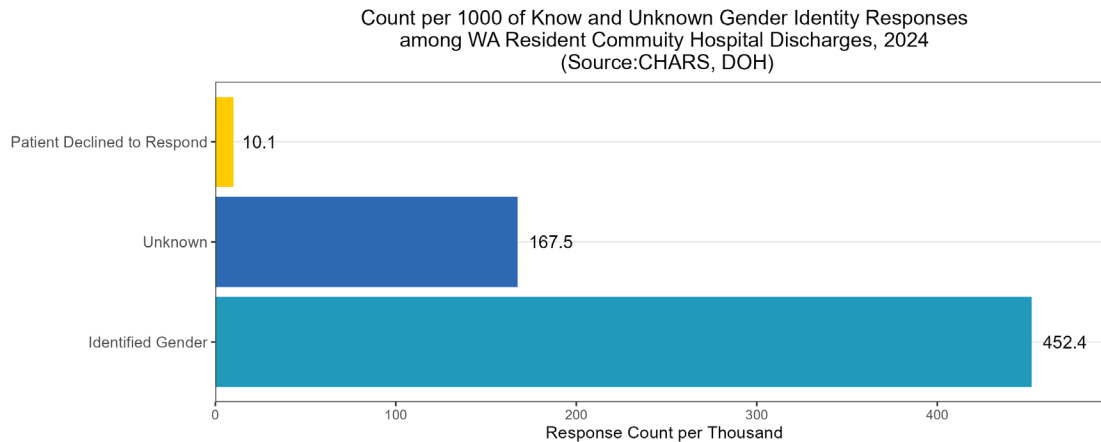
Gender not listed above

Patient declined to respond

Unknown

**In 2024, 99,583 WA resident discharges did not report on gender identity.
This is compared to 111,468 in 2023.**

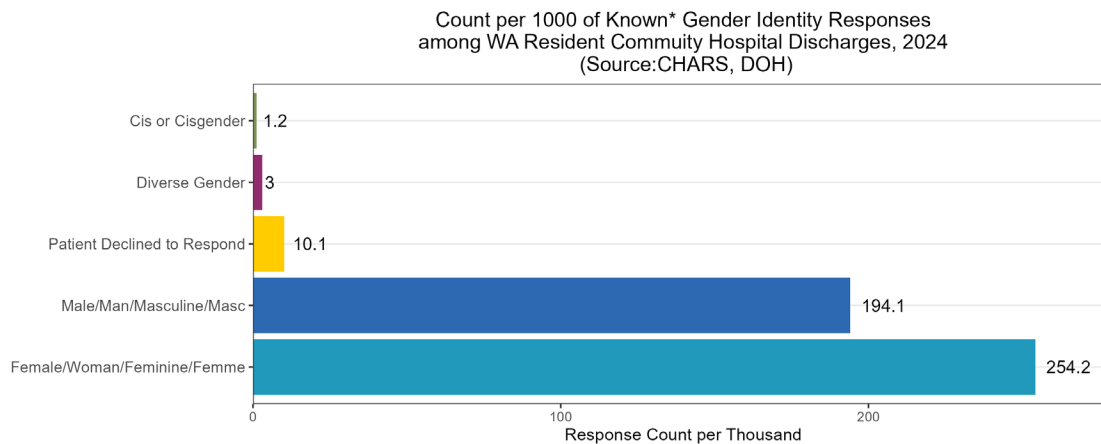
Figure 8. This graph breaks down responses in terms of ‘known’, ‘unknown’, and ‘patient refused to answer’ responses. Patients were allowed to select all that apply, so counts are based on total responses and do not reflect individual discharges. There were 599 WA residents in the 2024 CHARS data who selected more than one gender.



Known and Unknown Gender Identity

Note: The above graph demonstrates that a large portion of the responses for 2024 indicated ‘Unknown’. This limits the usability of the disability condition data for this time period. Any results generated using these data may not reflect accurate distributions and could bias and invalidate results.

Figure 9. This graph disaggregates the identified gender identity responses.

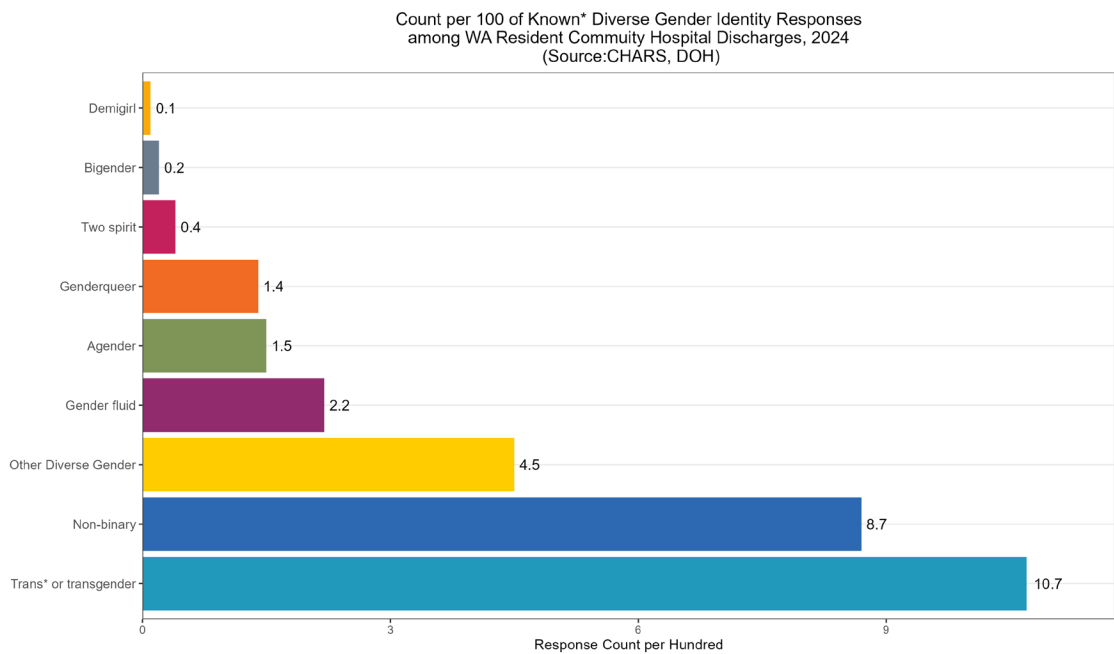


Gender Identity

A large proportion of 2024 data in this field was unknown; these rates are likely not representative of the population defined by CHARS data.

The large majority of known responses indicated most identify with Female/Woman/Feminine/Femme or Male/Man/Masculine/Masc. This could be alone or in combination with other response options. Results were similar to those seen in 2023.

Figure 10. This graph disaggregates the identified diverse gender identity responses.



Diverse Gender Identity

** A large proportion of 2024 data in this field was unknown; these rates are likely not representative of the population defined by CHARS data; Notes: To align with DOH suppression guidelines any sexual orientation count that was fewer than 10 is aggregated into 'Other Diverse Sexual Orientation' along with the response 'Gender not listed above'.*

There was a large range of diverse gender identities reported, with the largest rate among those identifying as Trans* or transgender. This could be alone or in combination with other response options. Results were similar to those seen in 2023.

Preferred Language

The response options for the preferred language field are provided below.

Language Response Options

Amharic

Arabic

Balochi/Baluchi

Burmese

Cantonese

Chinese (unspecified)

Chamorro

Chuukese

Dari

English

Farsi/Persian

Fijian

Filipino/Pilipino

French

German

Hindi

Hmong

Japanese

Karen

Khmer/Cambodian

Kinyarwanda

Korean

Kosraean

Lao

Mandarin

Language Response Options

Marshallese

Mixteco

Nepali

Oromo

Panjabi/Punjabi

Pashto

Portuguese

Romanian/Rumanian

Russian

Samoan

Sign languages

Somali

Spanish/Castilian

Swahili/Kiswahili

Tagalog

Tamil

Telugu

Thai

Tigrinya

Ukrainian

Urdu

Vietnamese

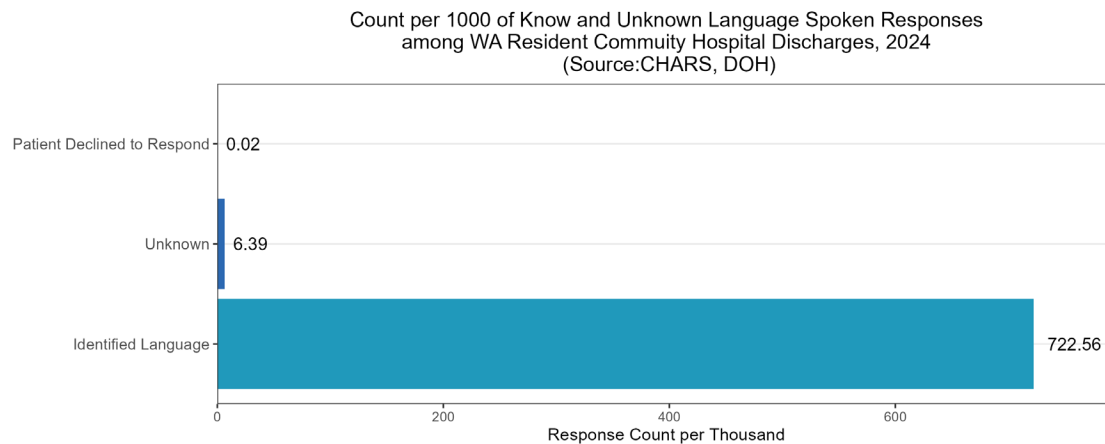
Other language

Patient declined to respond

Unknown

**In 2024, 6 WA resident discharges did not report on preferred language.
This is compared to 2 in 2023.**

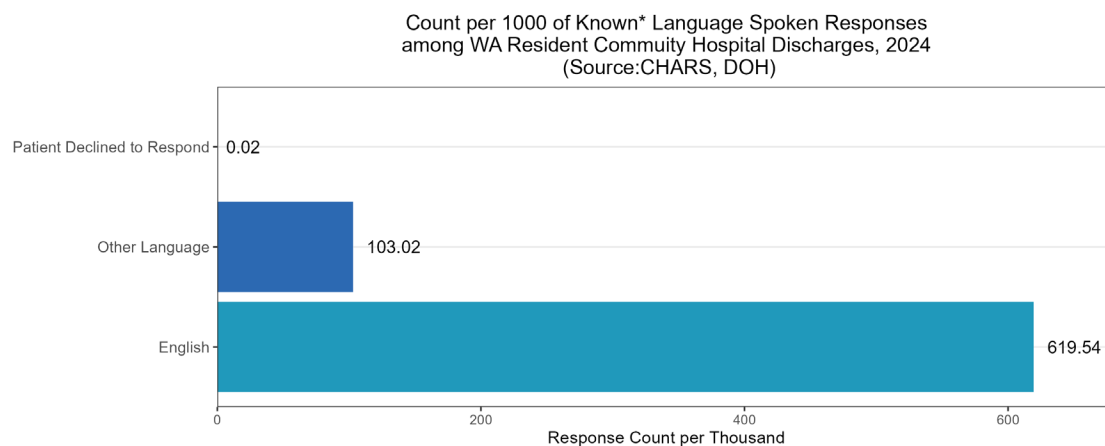
Figure 11. This graph breaks down responses in terms of ‘known’, ‘unknown’, and ‘patient refused to answer’ responses.



Known and Unknown Preferred Language

The majority of WA resident responses reported a preferred language, with very few reports of ‘unknown’ (<6,390 responses) or ‘patient declined to respond’(<20 responses).

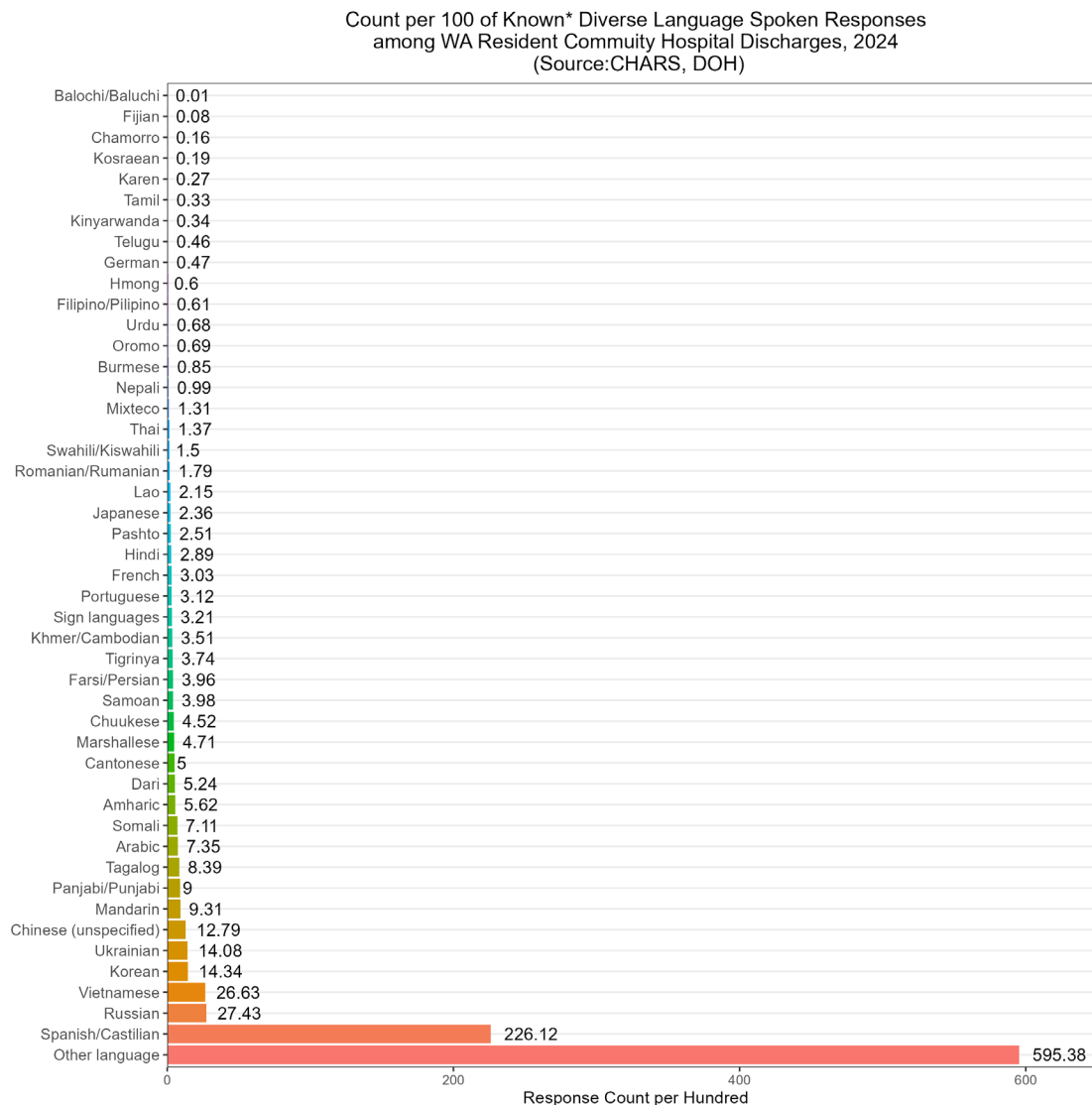
Figure 12. This graph disaggregates the identified preferred language responses.



Preferred Language

The large majority of known responses indicated most patients speak English. Results were similar to those seen in 2023.

Figure 13. This graph disaggregates the identified other languages (non-English responses).



Non-English Languages

Notes: To align with DOH suppression guidelines any language count that was fewer than 10 is aggregated into 'Other language'.

There was a large range of languages reported, with the largest rate being Spanish / Castilian.

Race

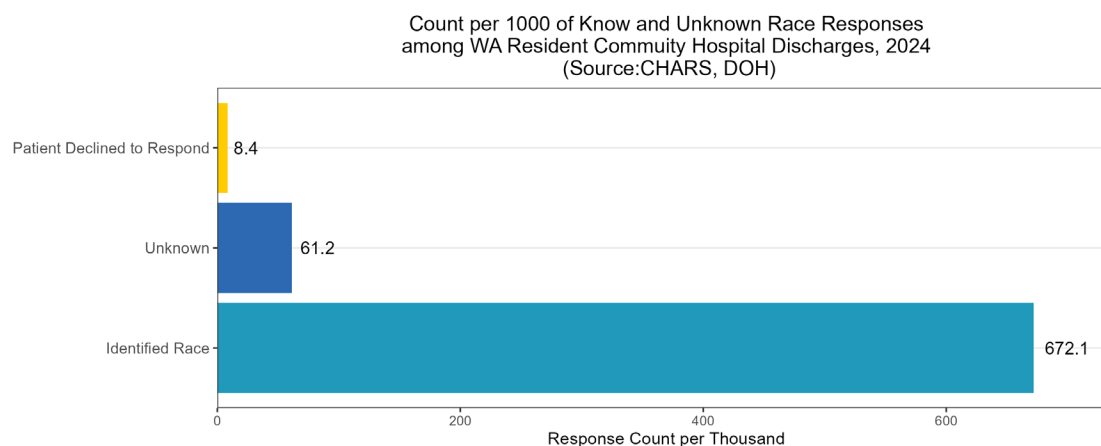
The response options for race are provided below. Patients were allowed to select all that apply. These responses have been aggregated for the following graphs, as outlined below.

Race Category	Dis-Aggregated Race List (Self-Reported Races submitted to CHARS)
American Indian or Alaska Native	Alaska Native American Indian First Nations
Asian	Asian
East Asian	Chinese Japanese Korean Taiwanese
South Asian	Asian Indian Bangladeshi Bhutanese Nepalese Pakistani
Southeast Asian	Bamar/Burman/Burmese Filipino Hmong/Mong Indonesian Karen Khmer/Cambodian Lao Malaysian Mien Thai Vietnamese
Black or African-American	Afro-Caribbean Black or African American Congoles Eritrean Ethiopian Kenyan Oromo Somali Ugandan

Race Category (cont.)	Dis-Aggregated Race List (cont.)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Native Hawaiian Cham Fijian Guamanian or Chamorro Marshallese Pacific Islander Samoan Tongan
White	Romanian/Rumanian Russian Ukrainian White
Middle Eastern or North African	Afghan Arab Egyptian Iranian Iraqi Jordanian Kuwaiti Lebanese Middle Eastern Moroccan North African Saudi Arabian Syrian Yemeni
Mexican or Mexican American or Chicano/a or Chicanx	Chicano/a or Chicanx Mexican/Mexican American
Other Race Listed	Central American Cuban Dominican Indigenous-Latino/a or Indigenous-Latinx Mestizo Puerto Rican South African South American "Other Race"
Patient Declined to Respond	Patient Declined to Respond
Unknown	Unknown

**In 2024, 0 WA resident discharges did not report on race.
This is compared to 1 in 2023.**

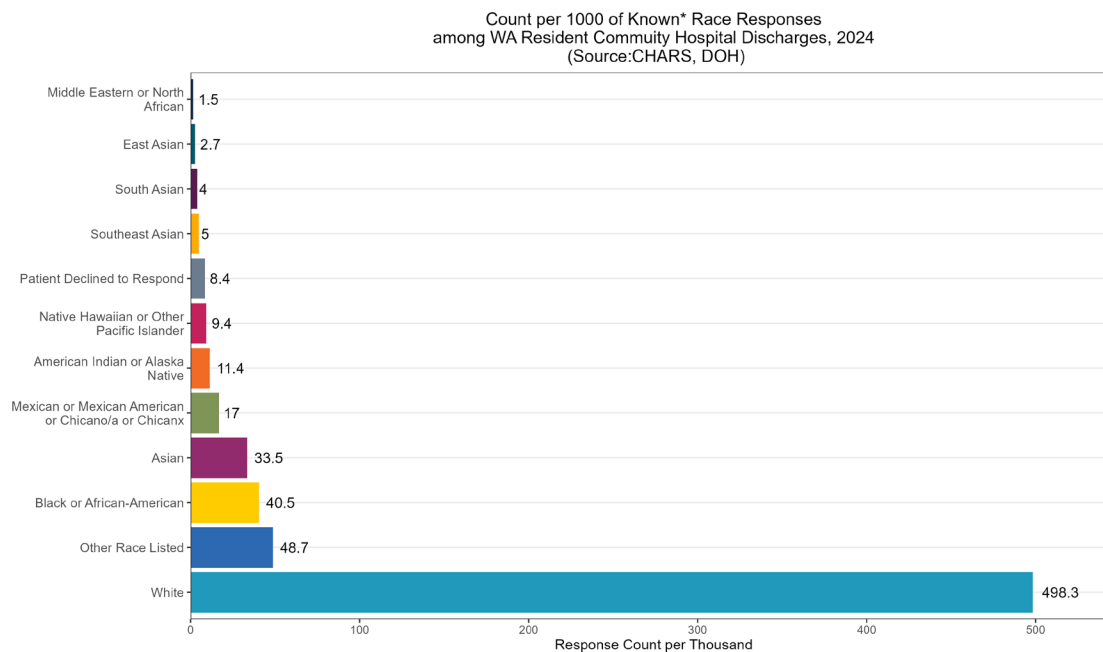
Figure 14. This graph breaks down responses in terms of ‘known’, ‘unknown’, and ‘patient refused to answer’ responses. Patients were allowed to select all that apply, so counts are based on total responses and do not reflect individual discharges. There were 11,775 WA residents in the 2024 CHARS data who selected more than one race.



Known and Unknown Race

The majority of responses reported an identified race, with relatively few reports of ‘unknown’ (<61,180 responses) or ‘patient declined to respond’(<8,420 responses).

Figure 15. This graph disaggregates the identified race responses.



Race

The majority of known responses indicated most patients identify as white. This could be alone or in combination with other response options. Responses were similar to those seen in 2023.

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