

ARIZONA  
TELEMEDICINE  
PROGRAM



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
JAMES E. ROGERS COLLEGE OF LAW

Health Law



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
HEALTH SCIENCES

Innovations in  
Healthy Aging



Washington, D.C.

# Policy: State & Federal Updates *ATA & CTeL*

## Arizona Telemedicine Council Meeting July 20, 2022

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# Disclosures

- No relevant conflicts of interests.
- This is not legal advice.

# Overview

## Telehealth Policy Updates

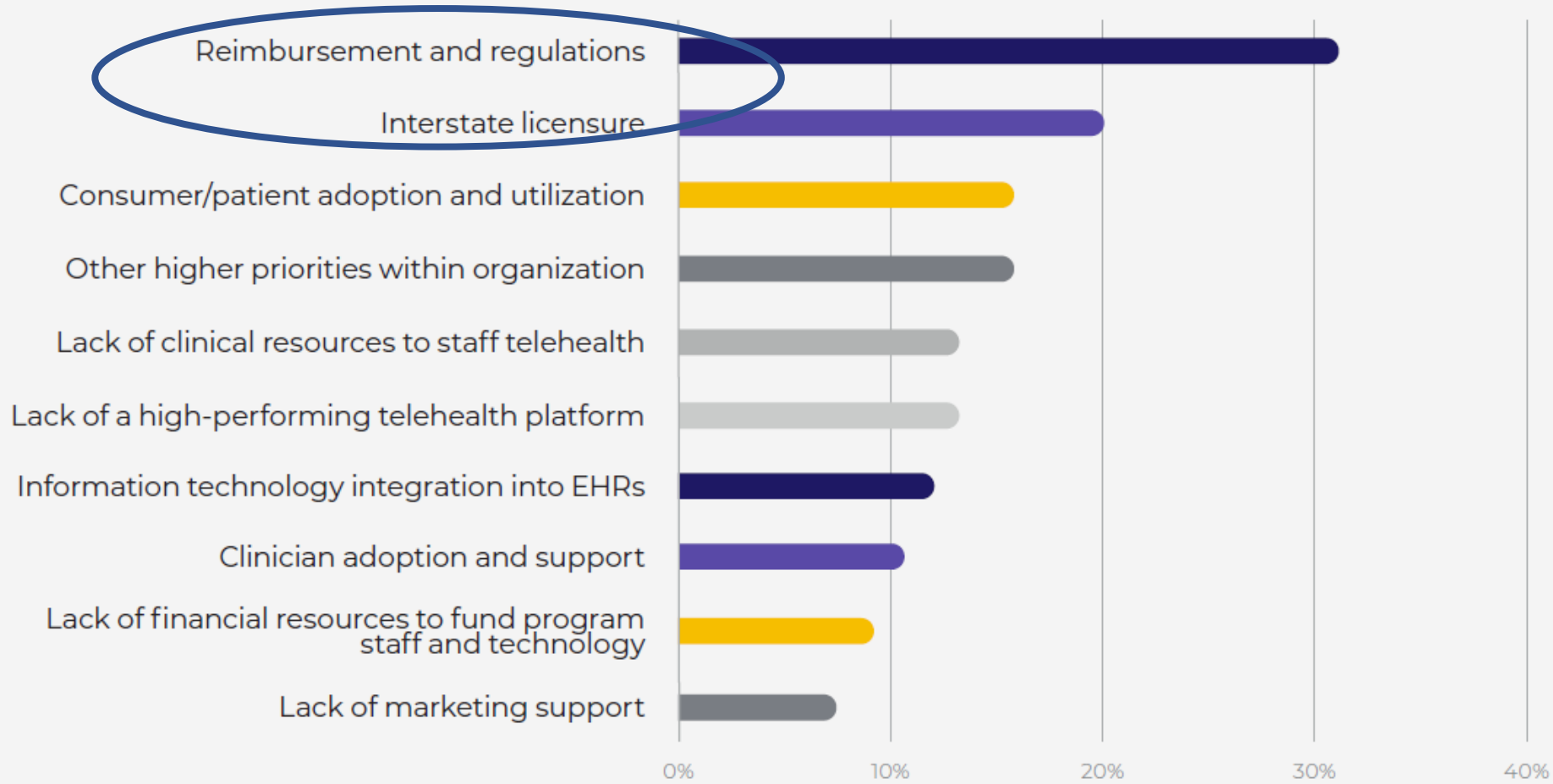
**American Telemedicine Association (ATA)  
2022 Annual Meeting**

**Center for Telehealth and eHealth Law (CTeL)  
2022 Digital Health Summit**

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**ATP's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Policy Summit**  
**November 15<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm (virtual)**

# Why Telehealth Law & Policy?

**FIGURE 15** **Leading Barriers to Telehealth Implementation or Growth**



# Legal and Regulation Challenges

## Access

Audio Only  
In Person Requirements  
Geographic Restrictions  
Digital Divide

## Costs

Reimbursement  
Fraud & Abuse  
Unnecessary Utilization

## Quality of Care

Practice of Medicine  
(State);  
Interstate Licensure

## Privacy

## Liability



PANEL:

# An Update on Telehealth in Federal Agencies



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OAT Director, Office for the Advancement of Telehealth, Health Resources and Services Administration  
@HRSAgov



**Matthew Quinn**

Science Director Army Telemedicine & Advanced Technology Research Center (TATRC), US Army  
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**William England**

Senior Advisor, OAT Office for the Advancement of Telehealth, Health Resources and Services Administration  
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**Benjamin Sommers**

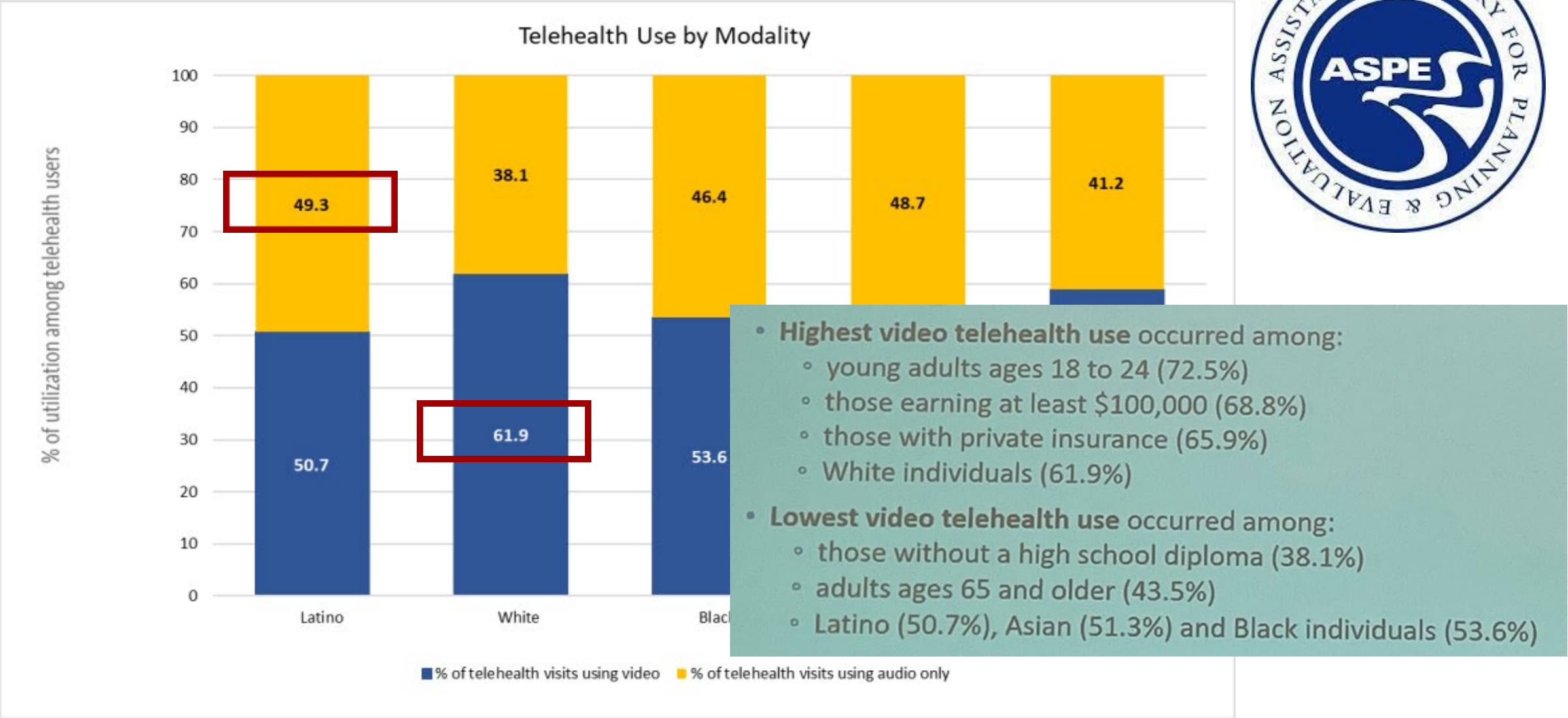
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Policy (ASPE), HHS  
@HHSgov



ata2022

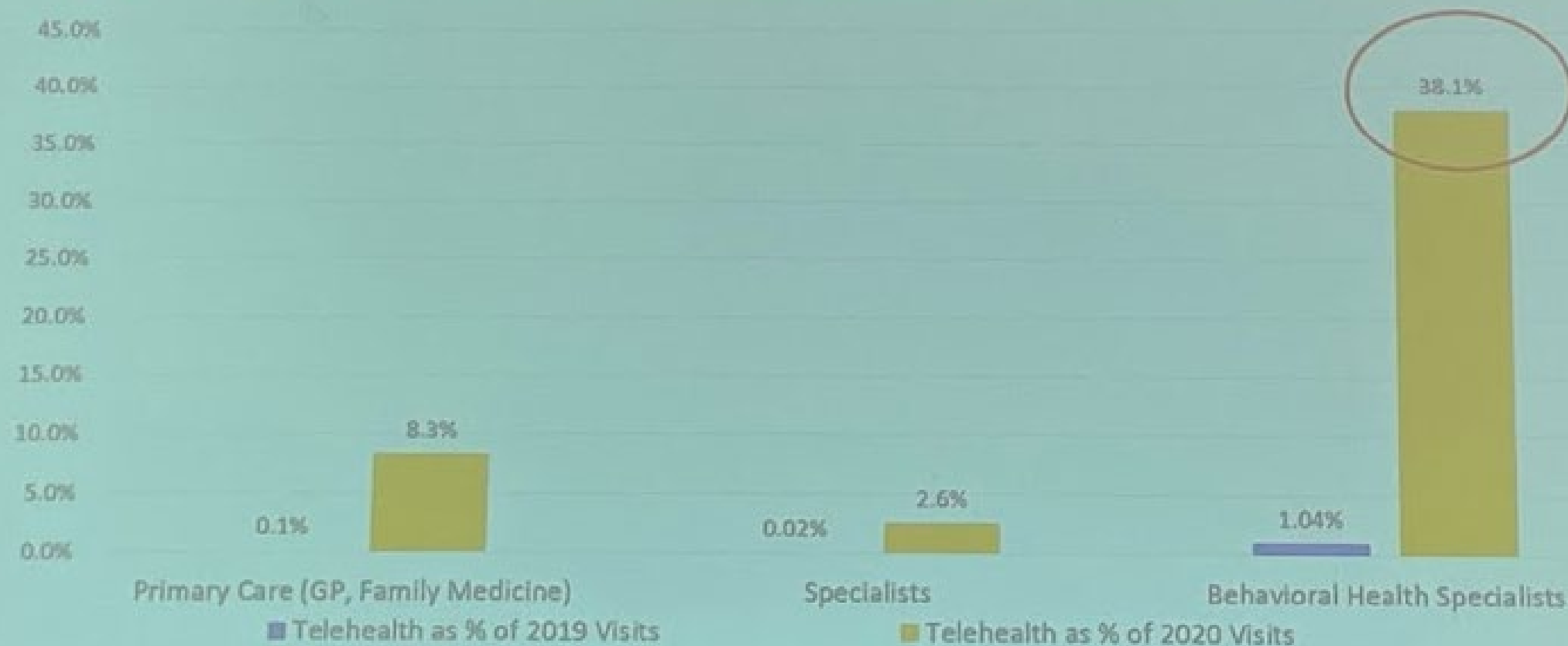
#gotelehealth

Figure 2. Telehealth Modality (Video vs. Audio) Among Telehealth Users, By Race/Ethnicity



# Telehealth Increased for All Specialties, But Most for Specialist Behavioral Health Visits

Change in Medicare FFS Part B Visits (In-Person and Telehealth) from 2019 to 2020, by Visit Specialty



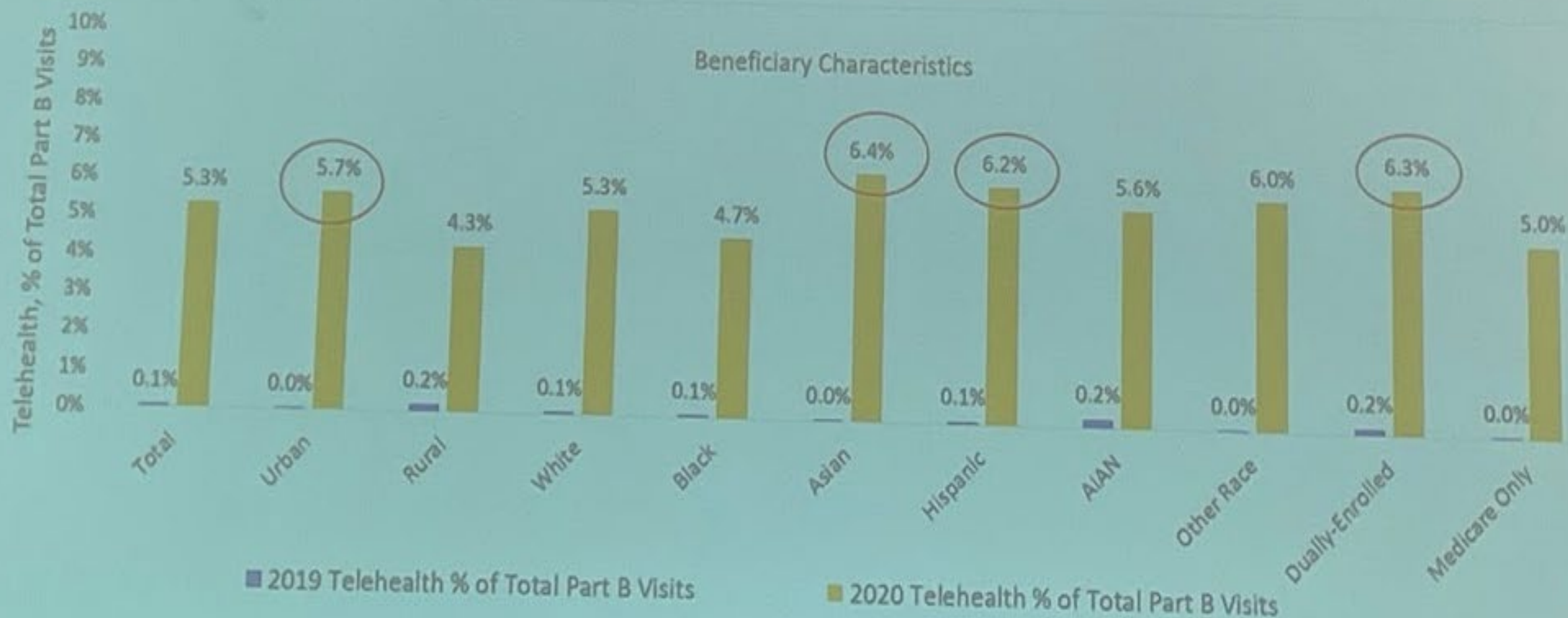
Source: ASPE analysis of Medicare FFS 2019- 2020 claims  
<https://aspe.hhs.gov/reports/medicare-beneficiaries-use-telehealth-2020>



# Medicaid Policies Before & During Public Health Emergency

	Number of States Allowing Coverage In 2019	Total Number of States Allowing Coverage As of May 2020	Total Number of States Allowing Coverage As of January 2022
<b>Services Eligible for Delivery Via Telehealth</b>			
Behavioral Health	47	51	51
Primary Care	36	51	51
Dental	19	39	39
Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy	16	49	45
Maternity	15	31	17
Long Term Services and Supports	14	41	36

# Medicare Telehealth Visits by Beneficiary Characteristics: More Telehealth by Urban, Asian, Hispanic, & Dually-Enrolled Beneficiaries



# Office for the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT)

- Serves across HHS, coordinates federal agencies, and promotes the use of **telehealth technologies** for healthcare delivery, education, and health information services
- Provides **telehealth funding** for direct services, research, and technical assistance
- In Fiscal Year 2020, OAT awarded approximately \$8.9 million to 30 organizations across 23 states to support tele-emergency services. Potentially exploring grand funding for **telehealth and long-term care** for next funding cycle in **FY 2025**.
- **National Telehealth Conference** on May 16-17, recordings available: <https://nationaltelehealthconference.vfairs.com/>





## Is This the Healthcare Workplace of the Future?

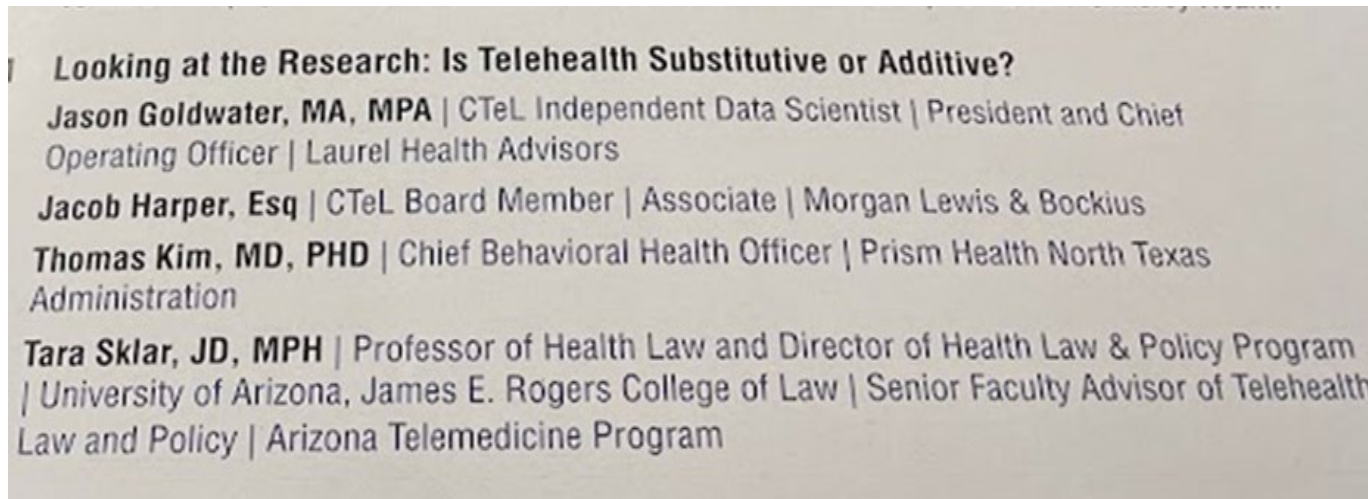
- The pandemic disrupted whole industries, contributing to people's anxiety about the future. Workers want more digital skills, more inclusivity, and more flexibility
- The workforce successfully transitioned quickly to remote work while keeping productivity high
- Workers want to Upskill & Reskill
- Younger workers are twice as likely as older workers to get opportunities to improve skills. Residents in cities are 1.5 times as likely as people in towns.

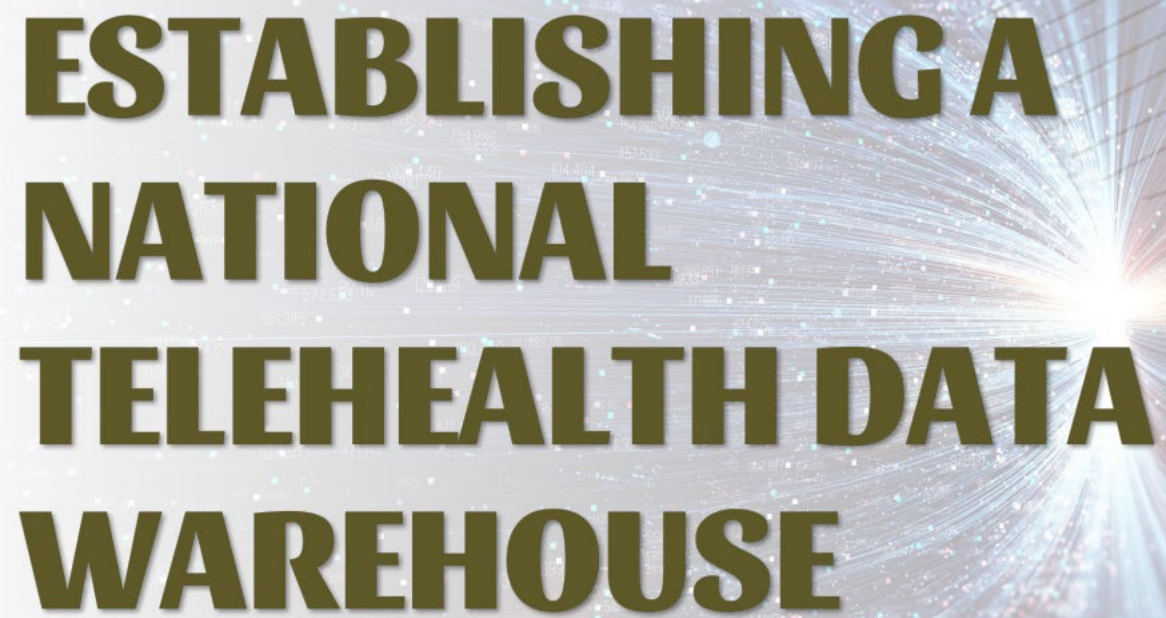












# ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL TELEHEALTH DATA WAREHOUSE

*Telehealth Data Warehouse: Opportunities for Arizona → **Nov 15<sup>th</sup>!***

Builds on **CTeL's** Telehealth Cost Impact Study and provide analysis of **access, utilization, services provided, and cost.**



# Pending Federal Legislation

[HR 7585](#)

**Bill Title:** Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2022

**Introduced Date:** 04/26/2022

**Last Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health



Expand the ability of Medicare providers to practice across state lines;  
expand reimbursement for telehealth in the Medicare program.

VA Expands Telehealth by Allowing Health Care Providers to Treat Patients Across  
State Lines

May 11, 2018, 08:59:00 AM





# Accomplishment, Optimism And Strength: Arizona's 2021 Year In Review

News Release

December 22, 2021



**NATIONAL FOREFRONT OF TELEHEALTH:** Arizona dramatically expanded telehealth, providing greater opportunities for accessible medical services. The **broadest telemedicine law in the nation**, House Bill 2454 expanded access to telemedicine for patients, ensured doctors receive equal compensation from insurance companies for telemedicine services, and allowed out-of-state health care professionals to provide telemedicine in Arizona.

# HB 2454 – Requirements for AZ Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions

Track and report **number and type of telehealth encounters** based on claims data, including:

1. Number of **audio-only** telehealth encounters
2. Number of telehealth encounters with **out-of-state providers**

## **Telehealth Advisory Committee:**

Required to submit a report with recommendations regarding **audio-only telehealth** as a substitute for an in-person or audio-visual due Dec 2021.

Monitors **out-of-state providers** until 2026.

Sunset provision of 2029 removed as of 3/23/22 ([SB 1390](#))



# HB 2454 established a **pilot program** administered by the **Arizona Department of Health Services**

3. Allows health systems to provide **acute care services in the home**.

Mayo Clinic's advanced care at home model announced in Sept 2021:

- 18 rapid-response support services
- Clinical command center
- Care response team



Expanded with [HB 2374](#)

Three Year Pilot Program for **acute care services delivered at home**.

Any **nurse visits** under the program may be virtual or in person.

**Paramedic visits** may provide one or both of the twice required on-site visits for patient assessment.

## 19-driven capacity issues

Dec 14, 2020

Jun 14, 2021, 08:30am EDT | 1,405 views

### Where Hospital-At-Home Programs Are Heading After Last Year's Boom



Ashish V. Shah Forbes Councils Member  
Forbes Technology Council COUNCIL POST | Membership (Fee-Based)  
Innovation

[Global Edition](#) [Telehealth](#)

### Kaiser, Mayo, Medically Home found coalition to promote advanced hospital-at-home services

Federal regulators should "put guardrails on, but let us continue the good work," says Mayo Clinic's Dr. Michael Maniaci.

### Leading Health Innovators Launch Alliance To Advance Care In The Home

Coalition to focus on site of service flexibility for clinical care in the wake of pandemic

### Amazon Care, Intermountain, Ascension launch hospital-at-home healthcare alliance

Jackie Drees - Wednesday, March 3rd, 2021 Print | Email

### Hospital at Home: Users Group

**182 hospitals/systems  
now have a program- up  
from 5-10 pre-pandemic**

SAVE THE DATE

# **3<sup>rd</sup> Arizona Telemedicine Policy Summit**

November 15, 2022

1-3 pm

Virtual

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# Thank you for your time

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## Thoughts? Questions?

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