

2024 Safety Belt Use In Florida

Preusser Research Group, Inc. Presentation #683

May 7, 2025

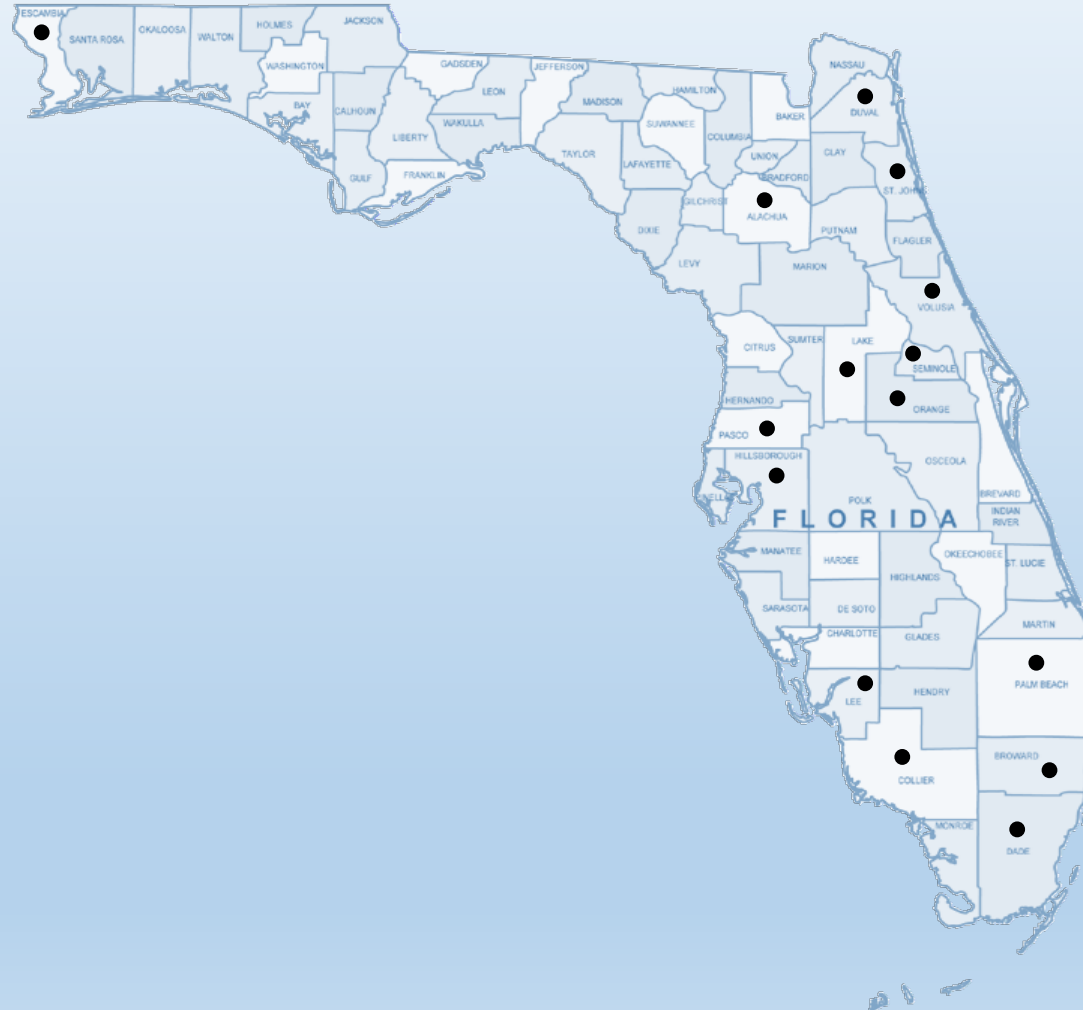


What is the annual survey designed to do?

- Estimate usage during daylight hours
- Provide information on characteristics of belt use
- Provide a “Yardstick” for measuring change over time

What counties are included?

- Escambia
- Alachua
- Duval
- St. Johns
- Volusia
- Seminole
- Lake
- Orange
- Hillsborough
- Pasco
- Lee
- Collier
- Palm Beach
- Broward
- Miami-Dade



Survey Methodology

- 165 sites
- One-hour observations
- Daylight hours (7 a.m.–6 p.m.)
- All days of week

Info collected

- Vehicle type
- Driver: sex; age; race; and belt use
- Passenger: sex; race; age; and belt use (front outboard passengers)



Appendix B. Florida Safety Belt Observation Form

SITE NUMBER: _____ SITE: _____

NOTES: _____

DATE: ____ - ____ - ____ DAY OF WEEK: _____

DIRECTION OF TRAFFIC FLOW (Circle one): N S E W

START TIME: _____ (Observation period will last exactly 60 minutes)

WEATHER CONDITIONS
1 Clear / Sunny 4 Fog
2 Light Rain 5 Wet But Not Raining
3 Cloudy

Veh. #	VEHICLE			DRIVER			PASSENGER		
	Vehicle C = car T = truck S = SUV V = van	Sex M = male F = female U = unsure	Age Y = 16-34 M = 35-59 O = 60 or older U = unknown	Race W = White B = Black H = Hispanic O = Other U = unsure	Use Y = yes N = no U = unsure	Sex M = male F = female U = unsure	Age C = 0-15 Y = 16-34 M = 35-59 O = 60 or older U = unknown	Race W = White B = Black H = Hispanic O = Other U = unsure	Use Y = yes N = no U = unsure
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FLORIDA SAFETY BELT SURVEY
FORM 2017

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Sample Info

32,512 front seat occupants in 2024 sample
[in comparison 31,633 in 2023 sample]

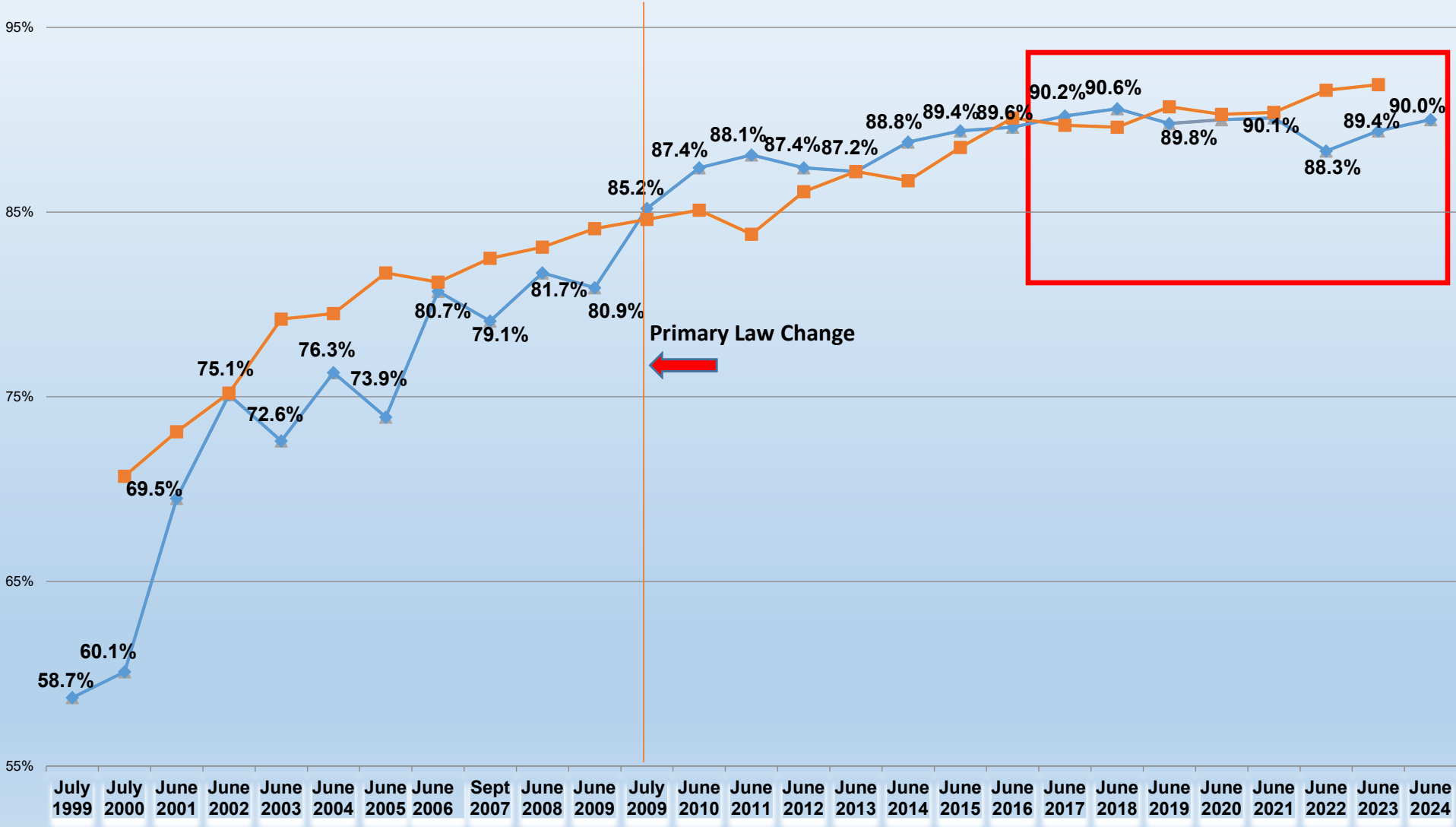
	(n)	%
Occupant Type		
Drivers	26,762	82%
Passengers	5,750	18%
Occupant Sex		
Male	18,148	56%
Female	14,331	44%
Other	33	0%
Occupant Race/Ethnicity		
White	20,610	63%
Black	5,072	16%
Hispanic	5,801	18%
Asian	471	1%
Other/Unsure	558	2%

	(n)	%
Vehicle Type		
Passenger Cars	12,191	37%
SUVs	13,091	40%
Vans	2,045	6%
Pickup Trucks	5,185	16%
Road Type		
Interstates	7,087	22%
Principal Arterials	8,341	26%
Minor Arterials	7,734	24%
Collectors	5,926	18%
Local Roads	3,424	11%

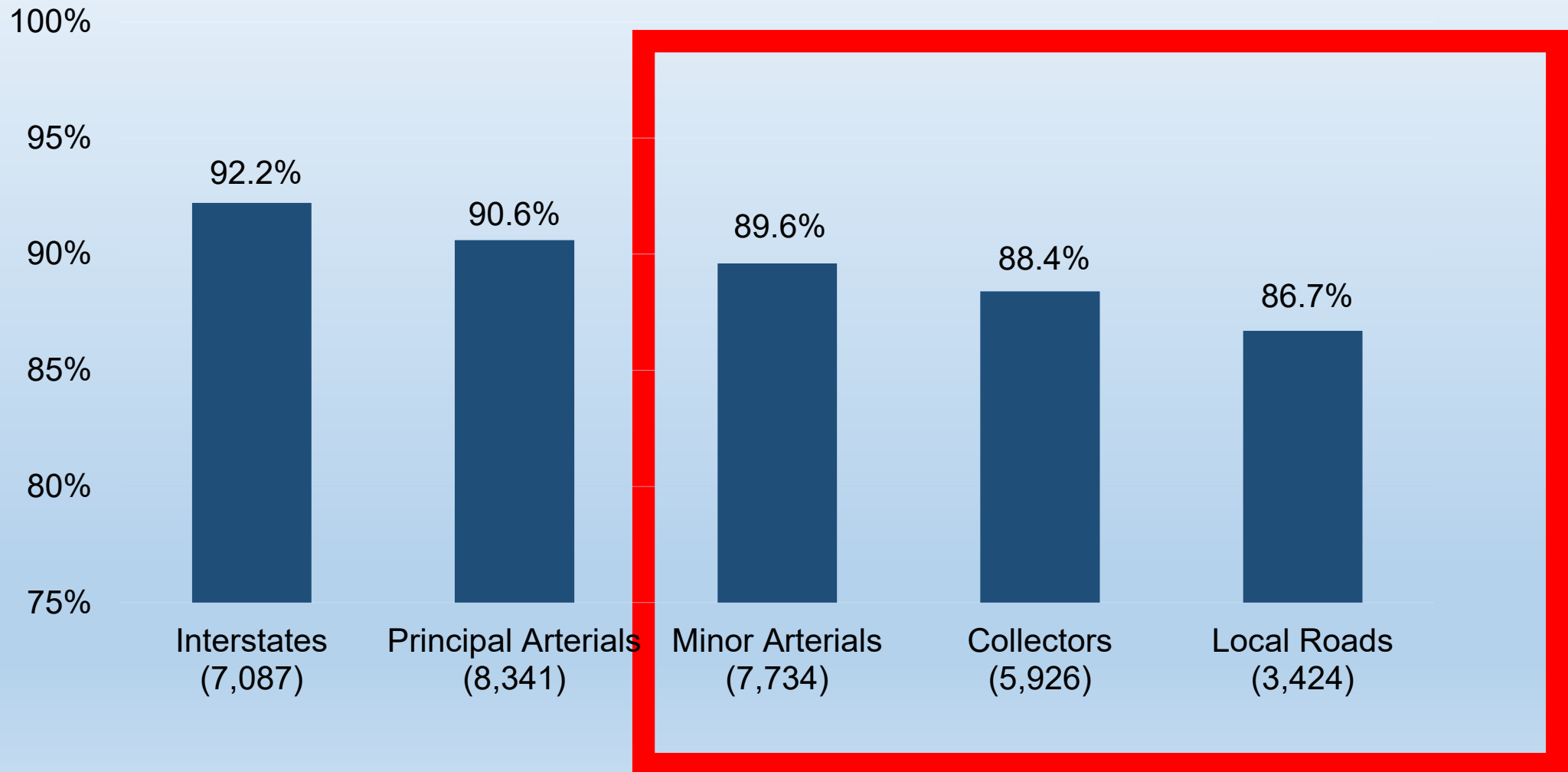
**So what is the
2024 Florida seat belt use rate?**

90.0%

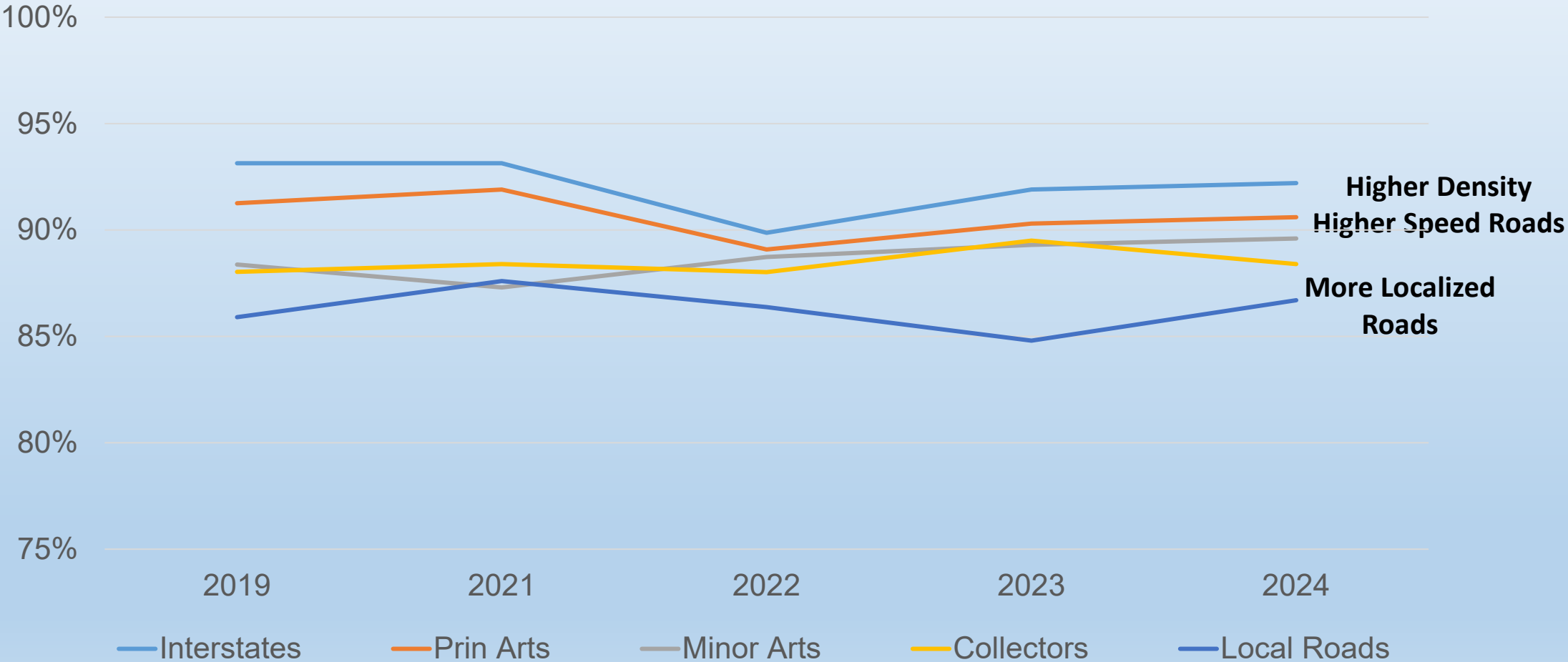
Seat Belt Usage Trend Line



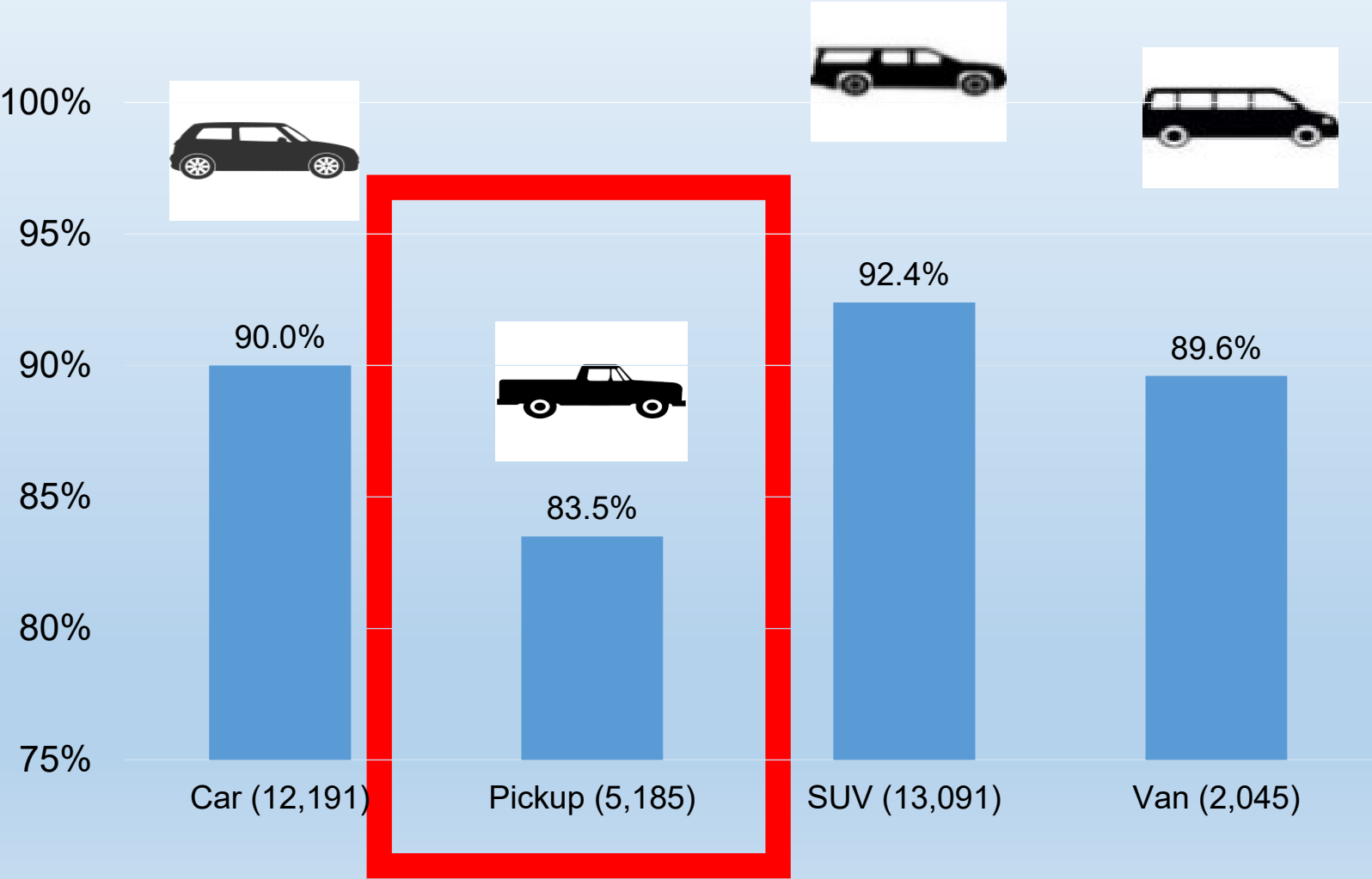
By Road Type



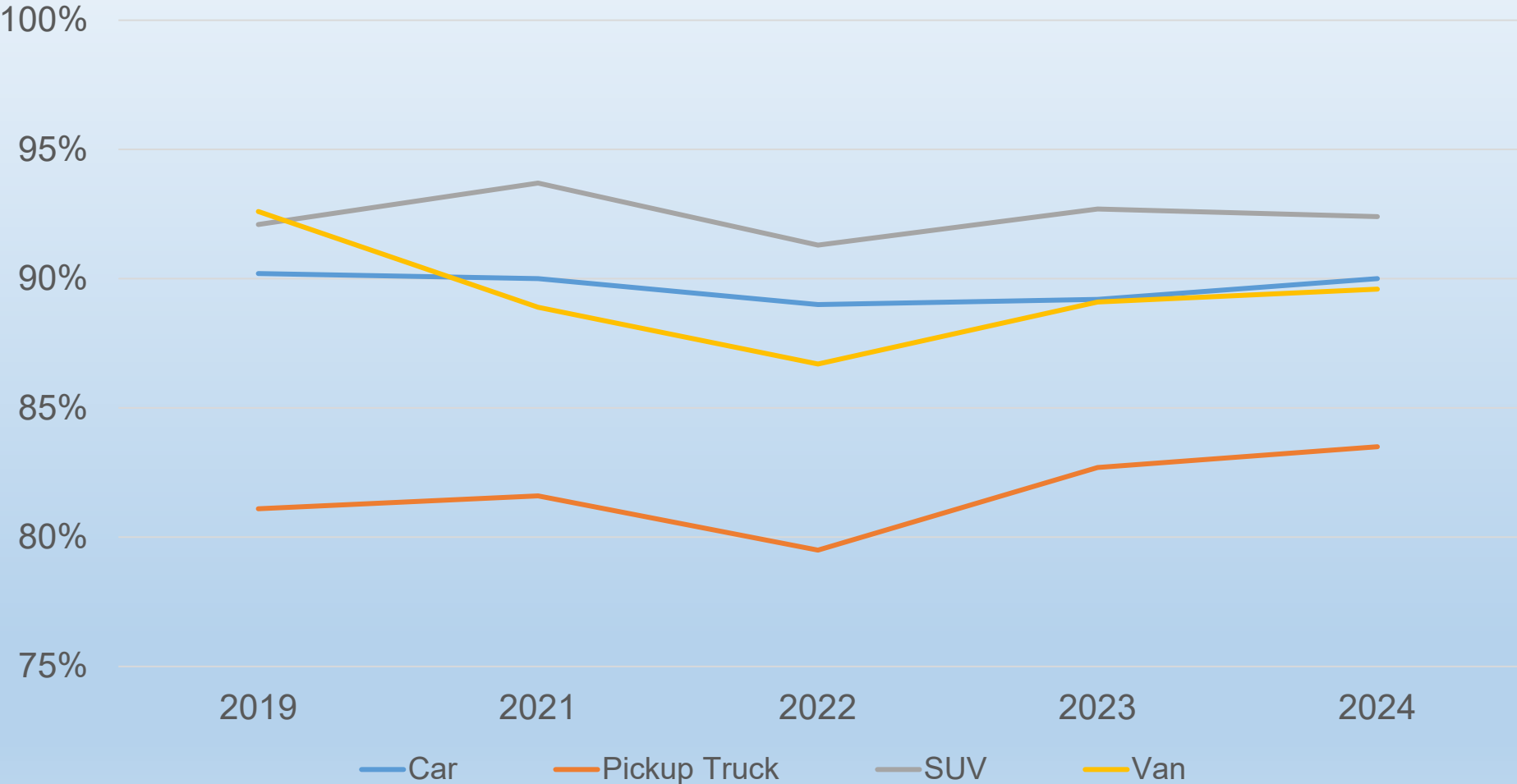
Trend for Road Type



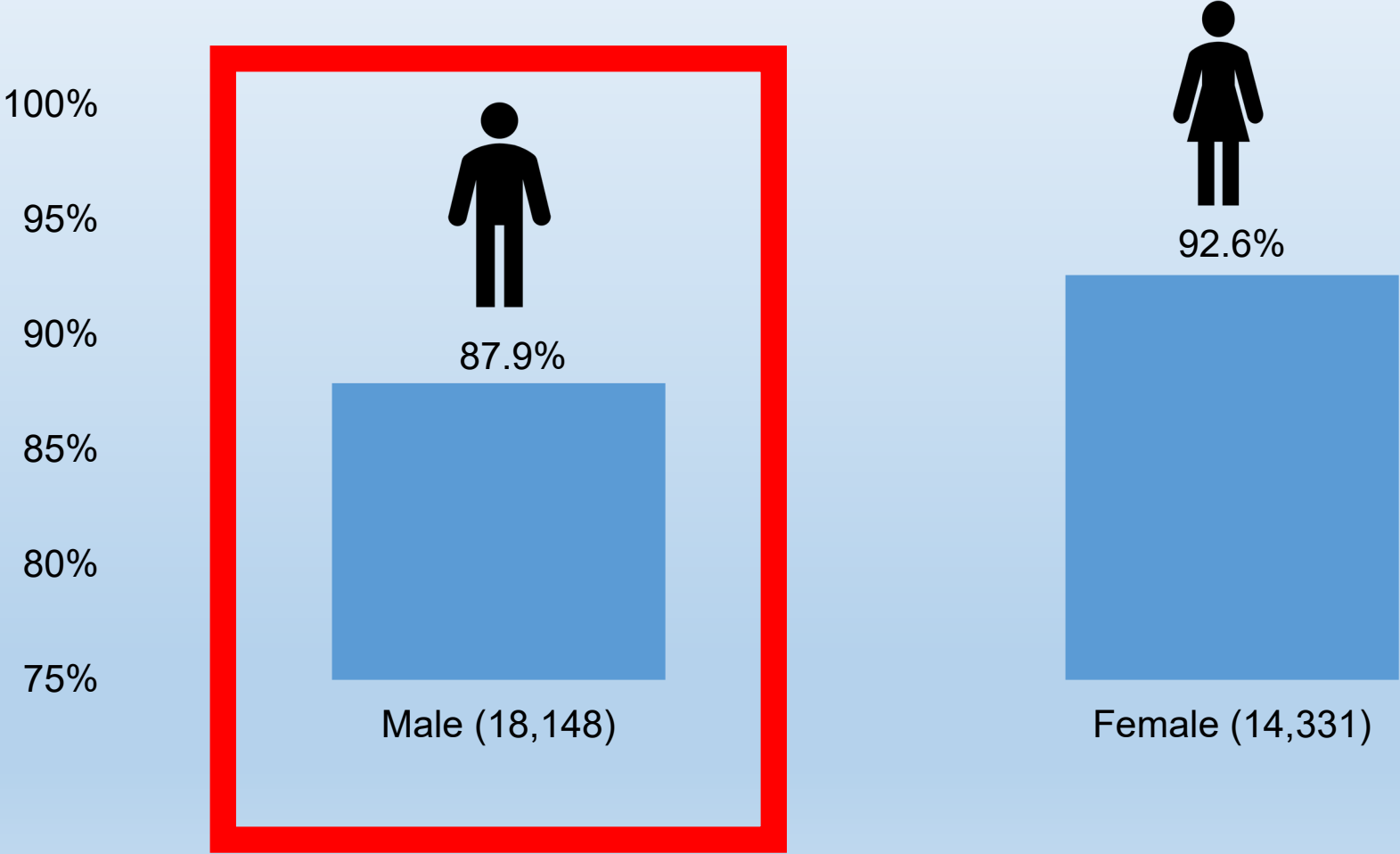
By Vehicle Type



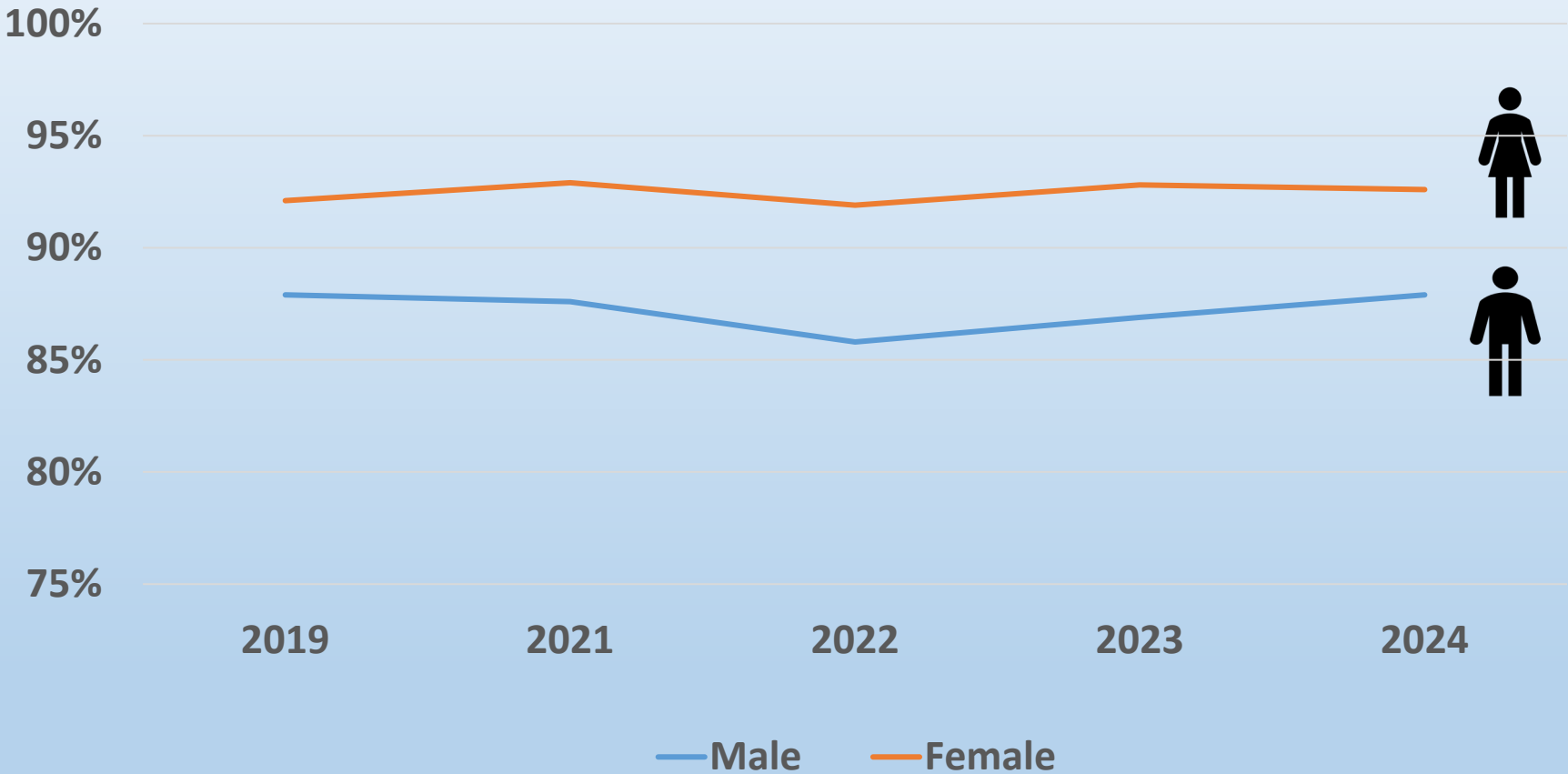
Trend for Vehicle Type



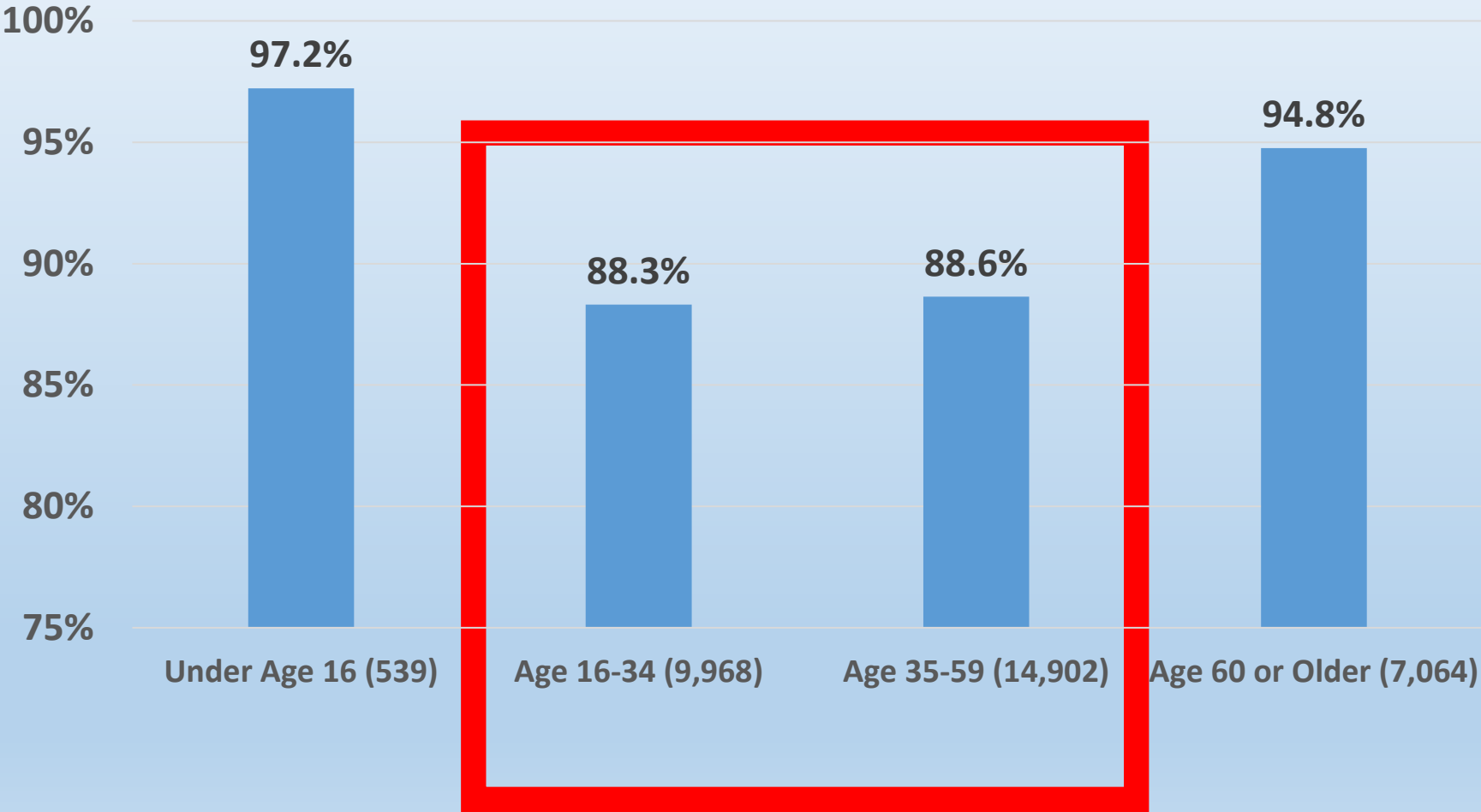
By Occupant Sex



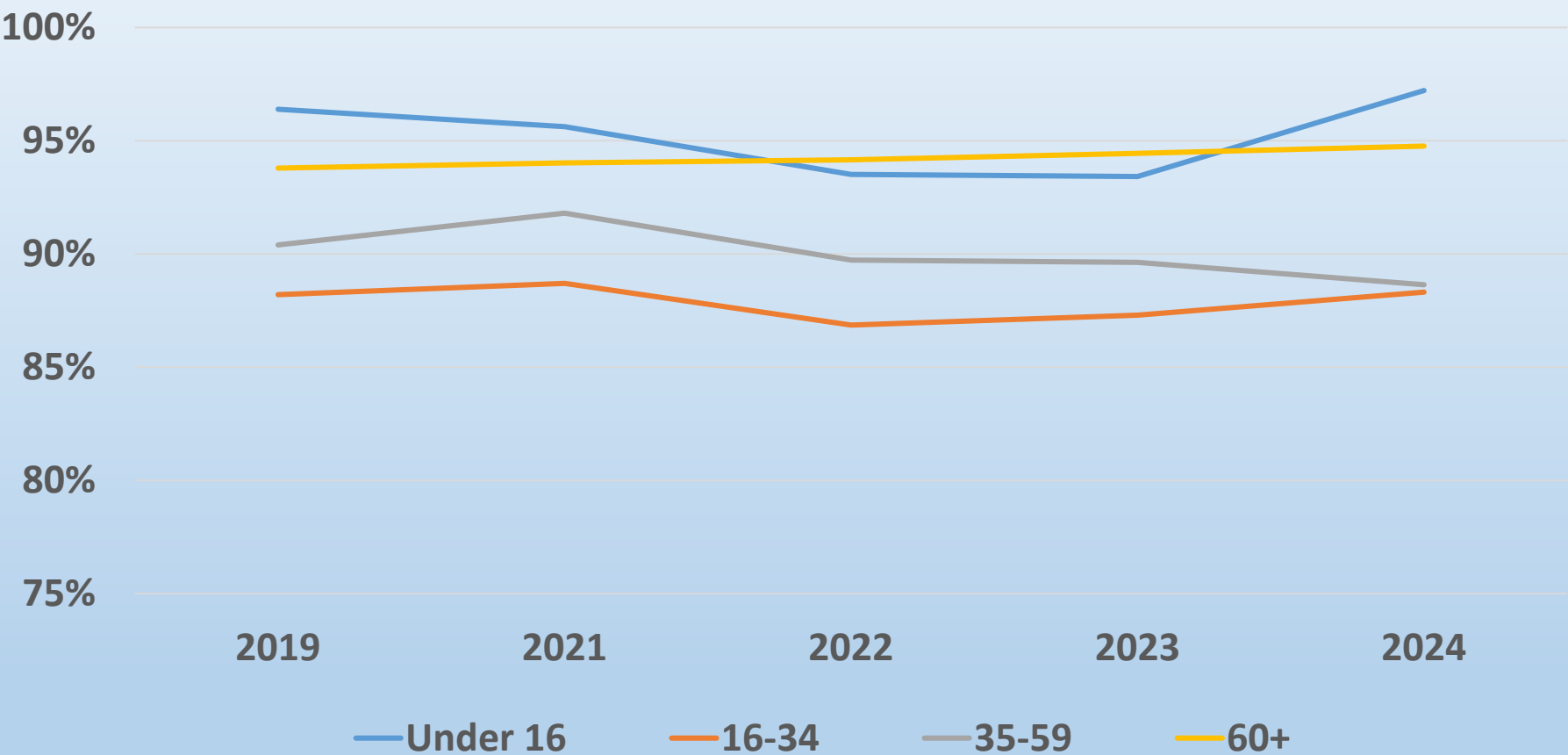
Trend for Sex of Occupant



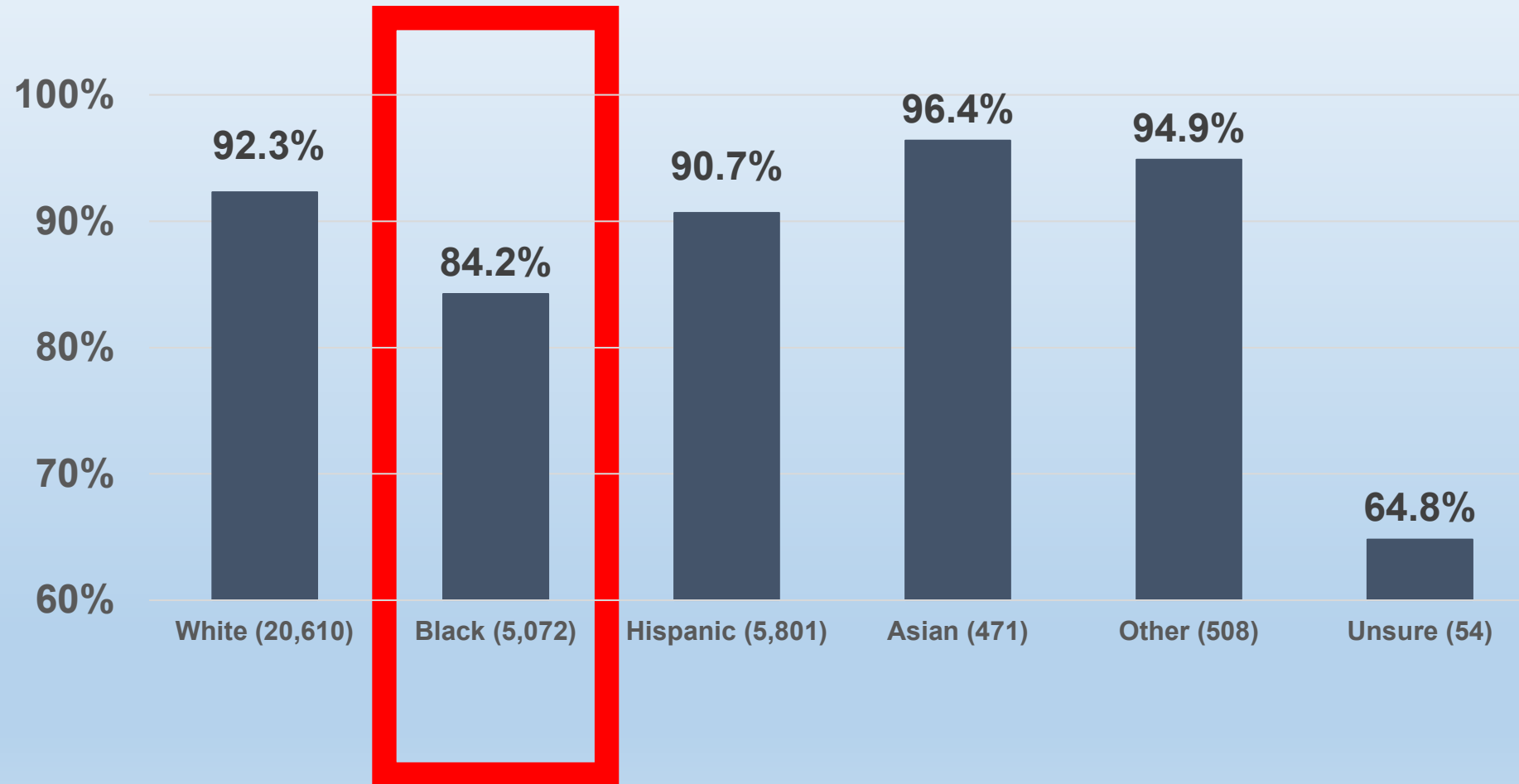
By Occupant Age



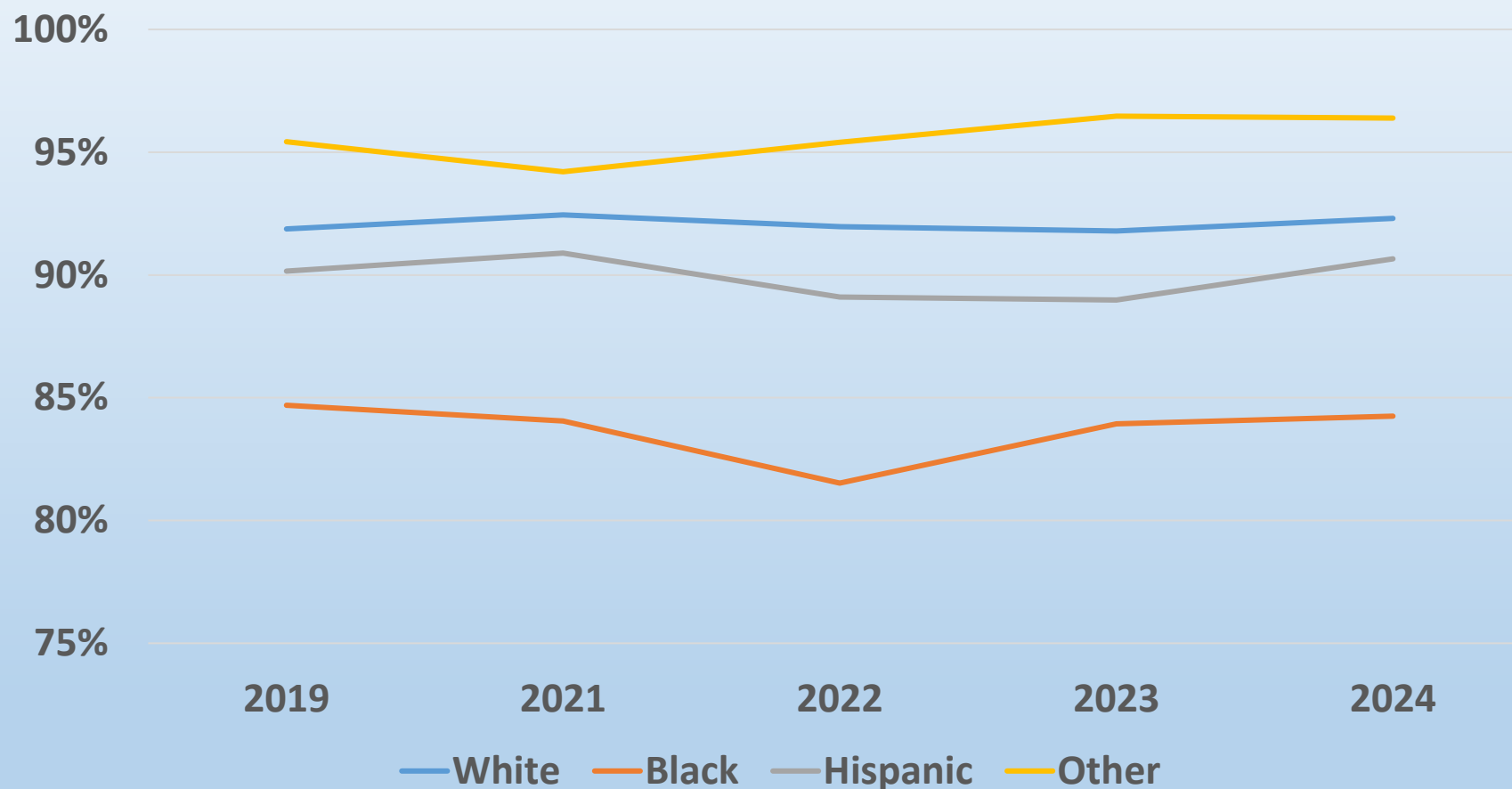
Trend for Occupant Age



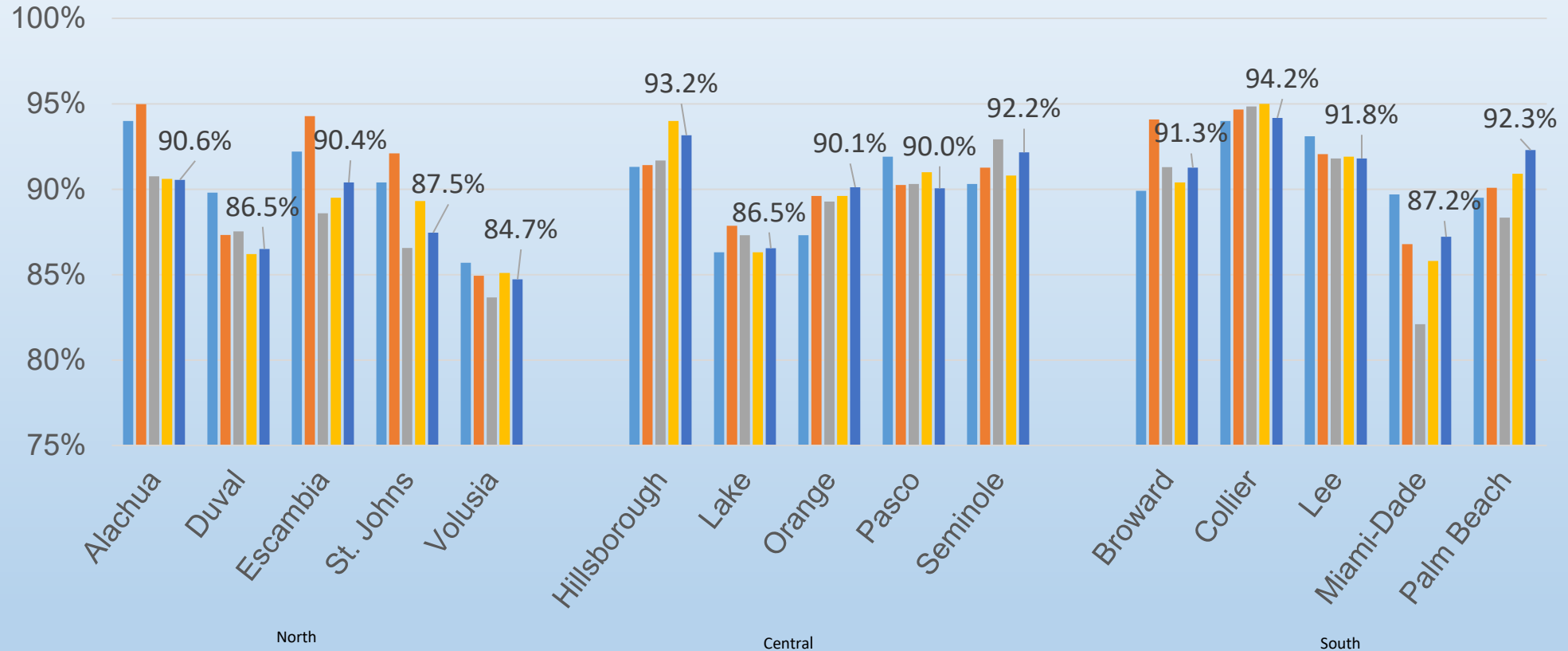
By Occupant Race/Ethnicity



Trend for Race/Ethnicity



County Usage from 2019 to 2024



Conclusions

- Florida's statewide safety belt use rate for 2024 is 90.0 percent, up from 2023's 89.4 percent but that change is not a statistically significant difference.
- The room for improvement is still among the “usual culprits”
 - Local Roadways
 - Occupants in pickup trucks
 - Male occupants
 - Occupants age categories 16-34, 35-59
 - Black occupants
- Look at additional sources (crash data, awareness data, trauma data, etc.)
- Use countermeasures that work to address low use groups

The End