

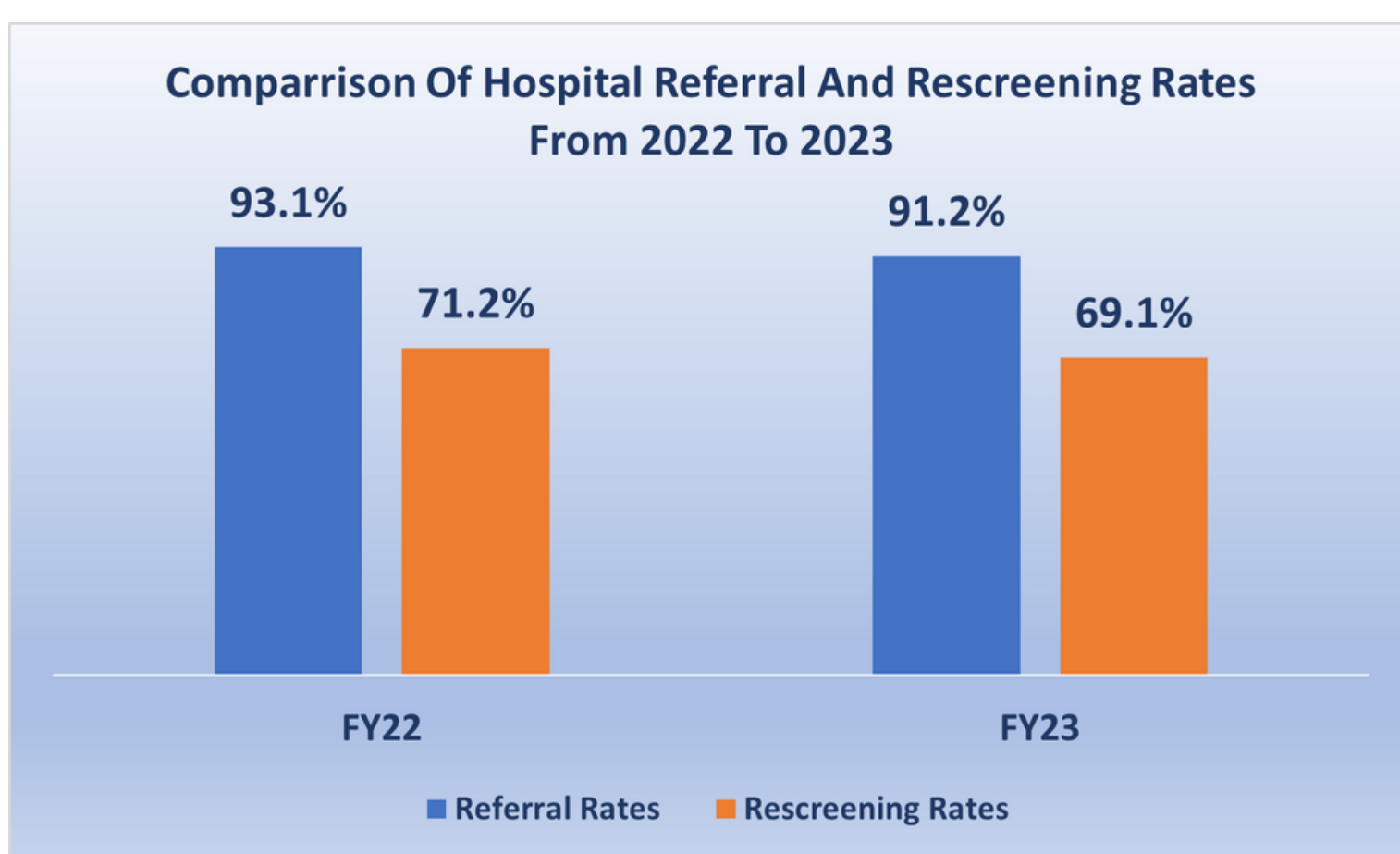
2022-2023 Arkansas Birthing Hospital Newborn Hearing Screening Performance

The Arkansas Department of Health's Infant Hearing Program (IHP) conducts surveillance for newborn hearing screening performance to maintain a comprehensive system of appropriate services for infants at risk for a hearing condition. Every birthing hospital with more than 50 annual births is required to report the results of the hearing screening completed during admission. The Joint Commission adopted the electronic Clinical Quality Measure for data reporting of newborn hearing screening prior to hospital discharge (EHDI-1a, NQF#1354); thus any accredited hospital may chose this measure to satisfy their accreditation and certification process. This report outlines the aggregated performance of all 37 birthing hospitals during the 2022 and 2023 state fiscal years (July 1st - June 30th).



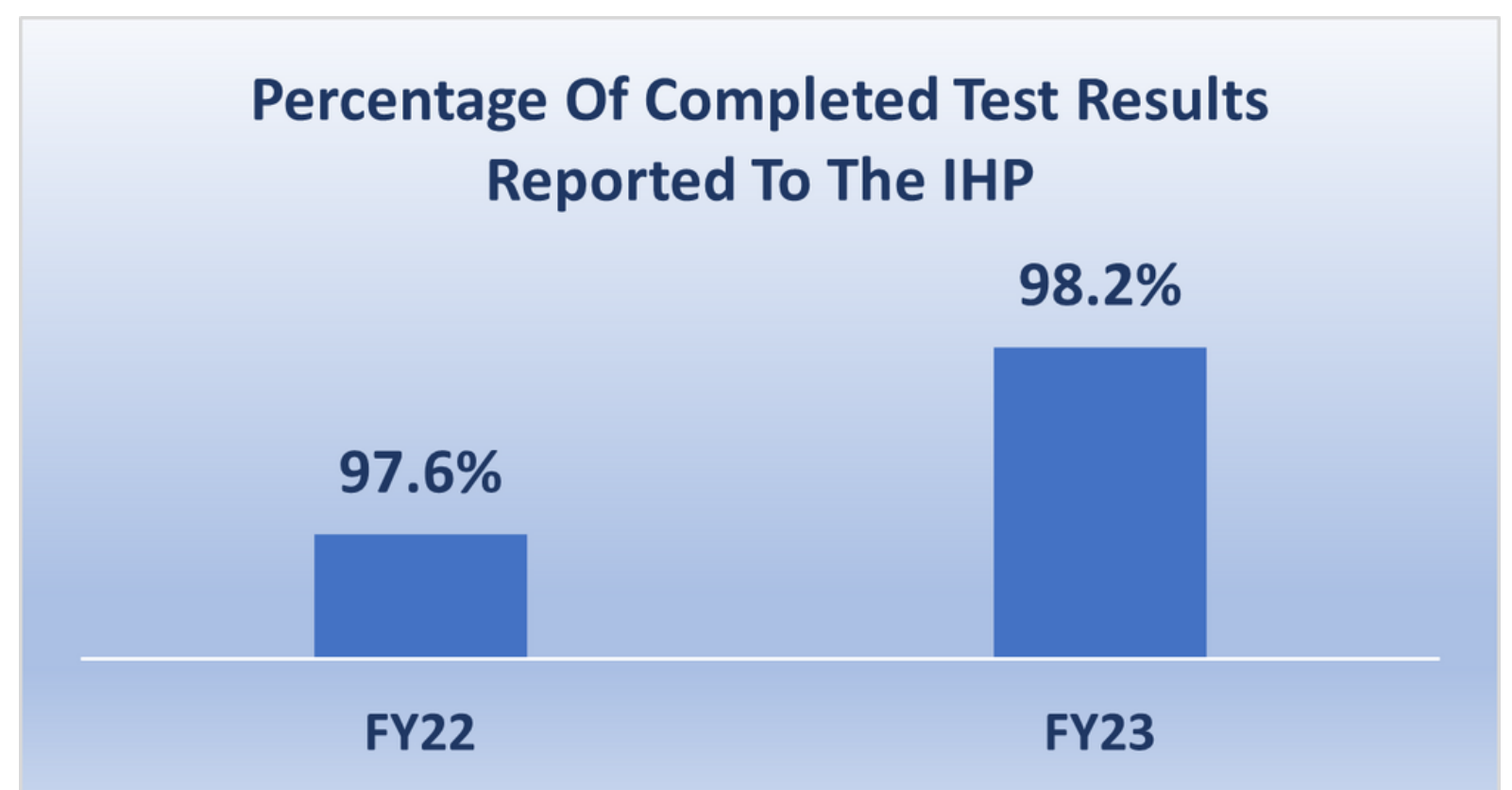
Referral and Rescreening Rates

Infants who refer on their hearing screening are characterized as not passing the hearing screening in either one or both ears. As stated by the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing, infants who refer in one or both ears are recommended to have a repeat hearing screening by one month of age. Between the fiscal years 2022 and 2023, Arkansas birthing hospitals showed a 2% decrease in infants who referred on the hearing screening and a 3% decrease in infants who received a repeat hearing screening.



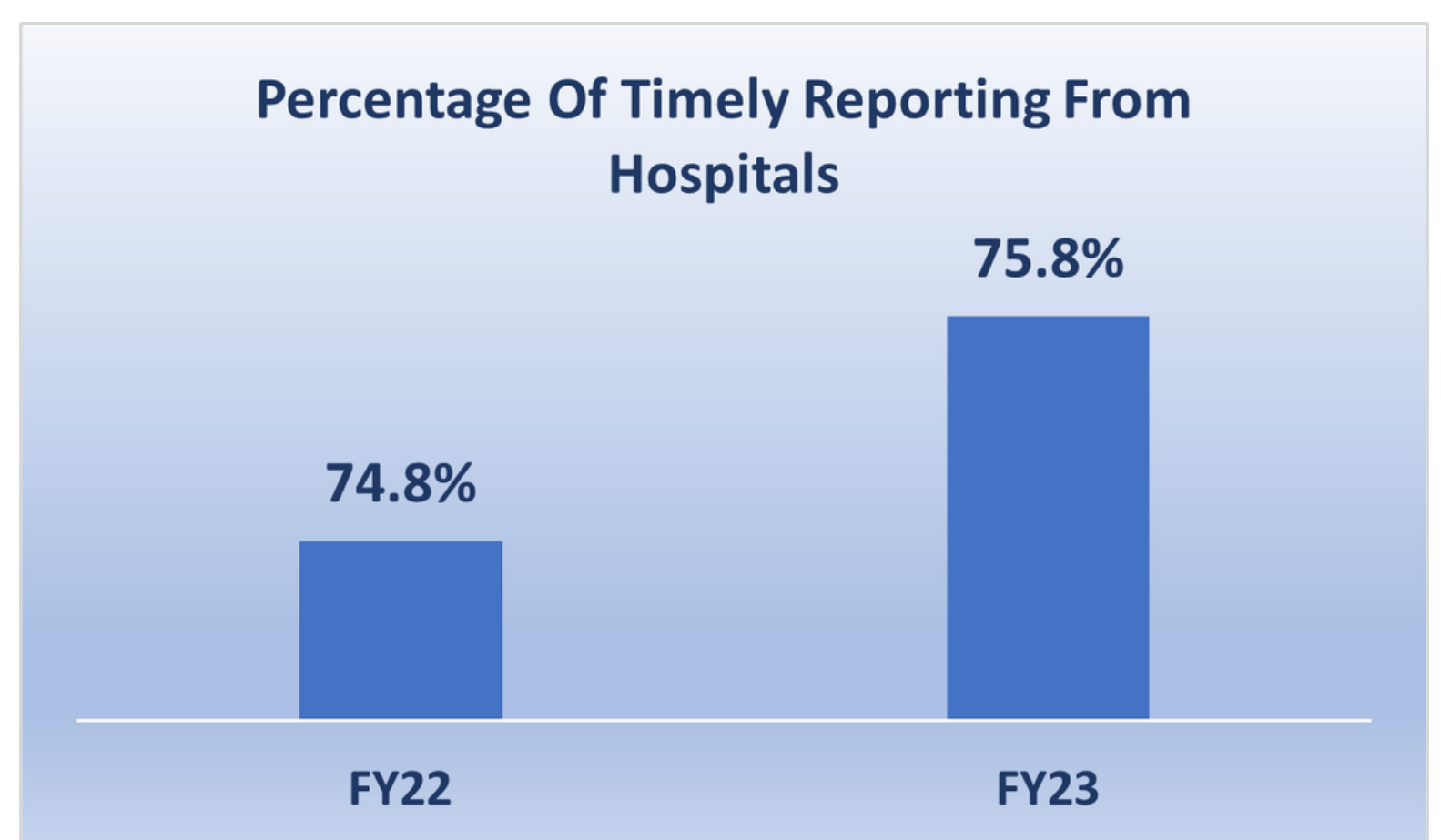
Data Quality

Birth hospitals increased in the percentage of complete test results reported. Complete test results include all demographic and primary care provider information to support access to follow-up services near their home when an infant does not pass the screening.



Reporting Timeliness

The Infant Hearing Program requests that all hearing screening results are reported to the state within two days of testing to promote access to timely follow-up services and reduce risk for delays in language development when an infant does not pass the initial screening.



Data Source: ADH Infant Hearing Program



During this reporting period, 98% (68,710/69,873) of the infants born had documentation of a hearing screening. Arkansas birthing hospitals displayed performance improvement in data quality, reporting timeliness, referral rates and rescreening from fiscal year 2022 to 2023 resulting from the implementation of new practices to increase quality assurance.

For more information, please contact the Infant Hearing Program at 501-280-4740 or visit www.arhealthyhearing.com