

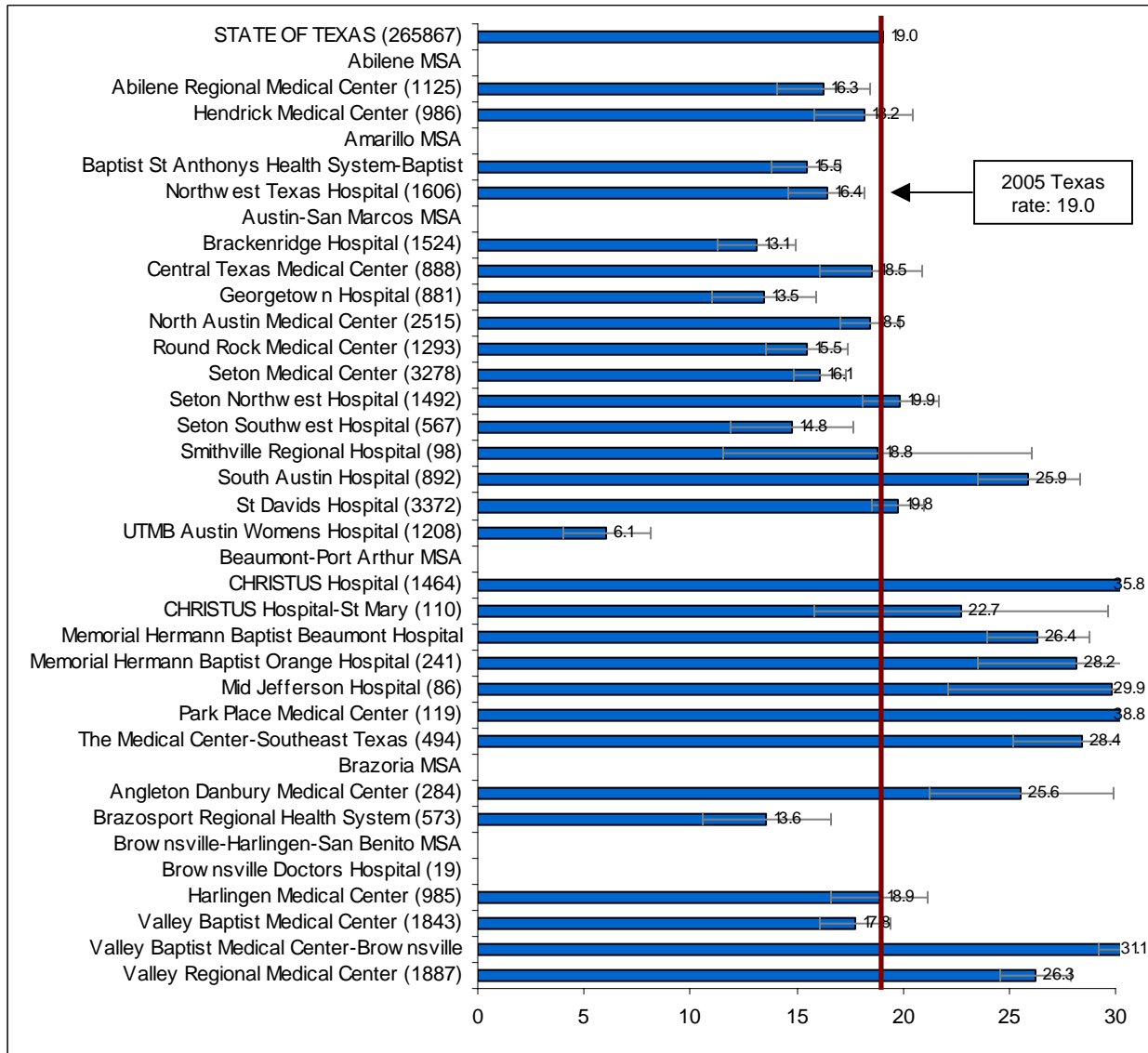
## Primary Cesarean Section: Risk-Adjusted Utilization Rate

Cesarean section (C-section) is the surgical removal of the baby through the mother's abdomen. Whether or not this procedure is necessary and appropriate depends largely on each individual's clinical characteristics. The decision is usually a joint one between the patient and her doctor. Babies in the breech (buttocks first) position, prior C-section(s), the number of previous births, placental or umbilical cord complications, infections and high or low birth weight are factors that may cause a woman to have a C-section, according to the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, but women with abnormal presentation, preterm delivery, fetal death, more than one baby, or previous C-section are not included in this calculation. Hospitals that serve as referral centers for high risk pregnancies, those with intensive care units for very sick babies, and those serving mothers who have not had the benefit of prenatal care can be expected to have higher C-section rates.

Number of cases in parentheses. Rates not calculated for hospitals with fewer than 30 cases. Hospital comments indicated by (C) following number of cases. Confidence interval indicated by |—|.

- \* Risk-adjusted utilization rate is significantly lower than state average rate based on 95 percent confidence interval.
- \*\* Risk-adjusted utilization rate is significantly higher than state average rate based on 95 percent confidence interval.

### Better quality may be associated with lower rates.

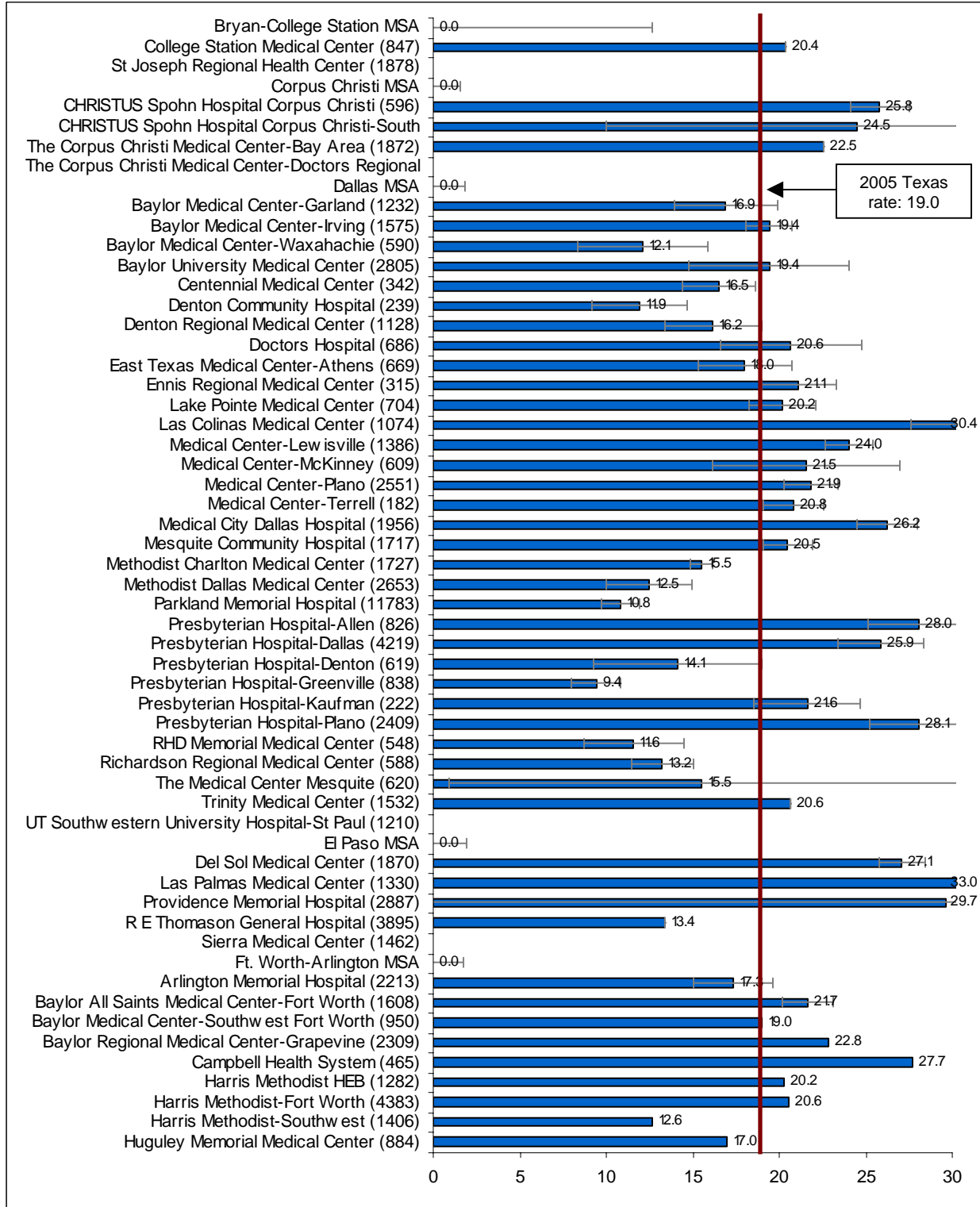


## Texas Health Care Information Collection

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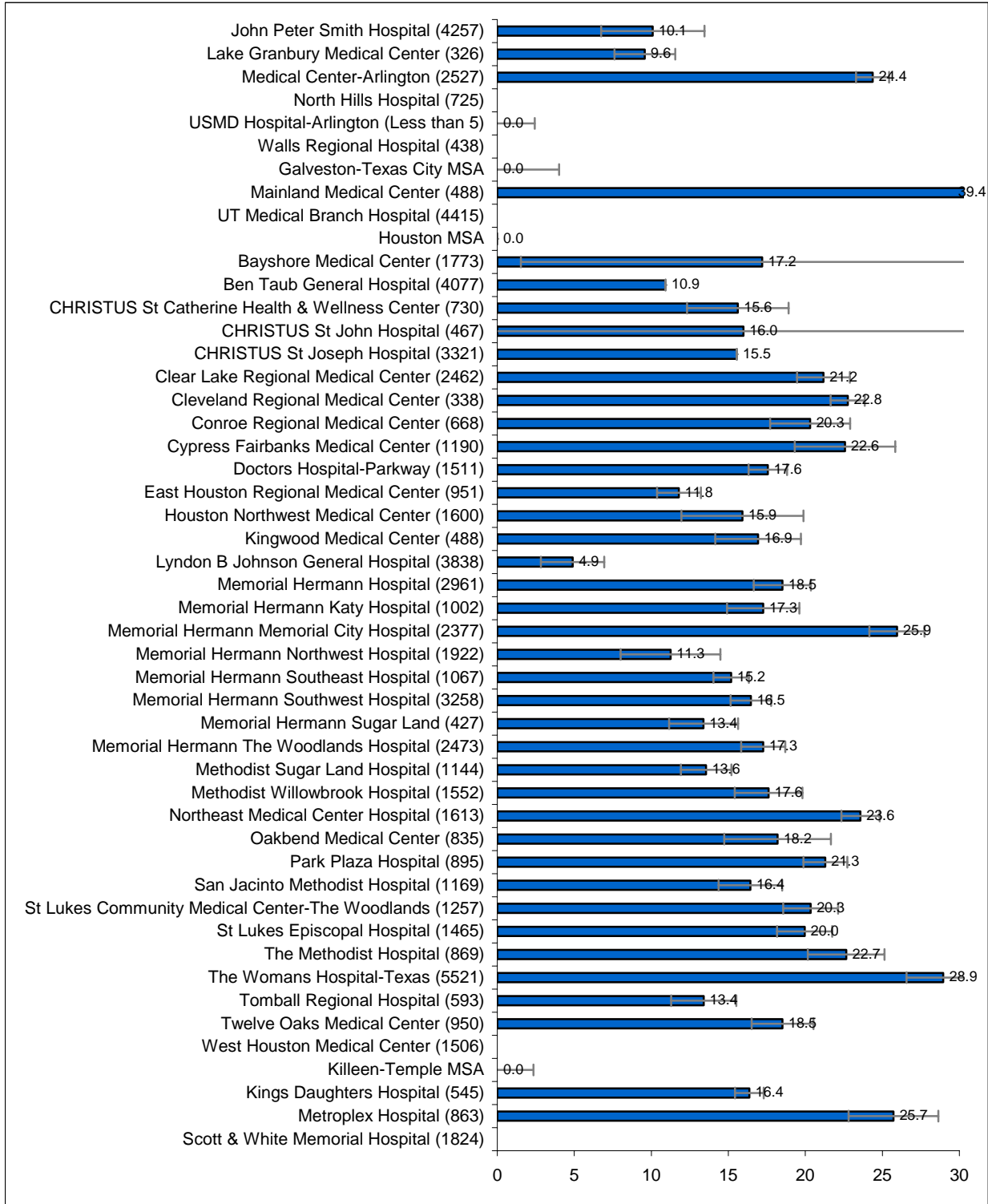
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2005 Texas  
 rate: 19.0

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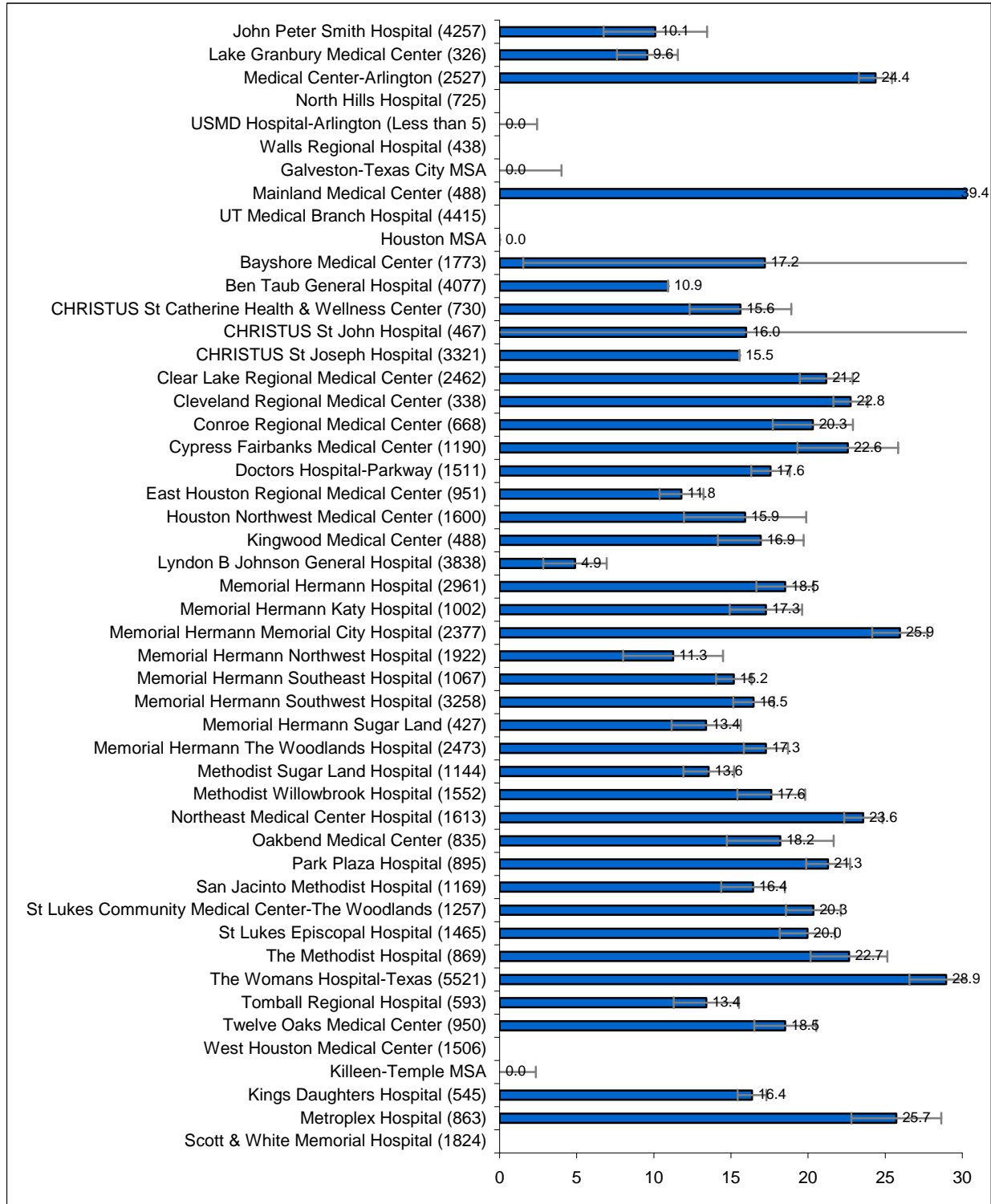
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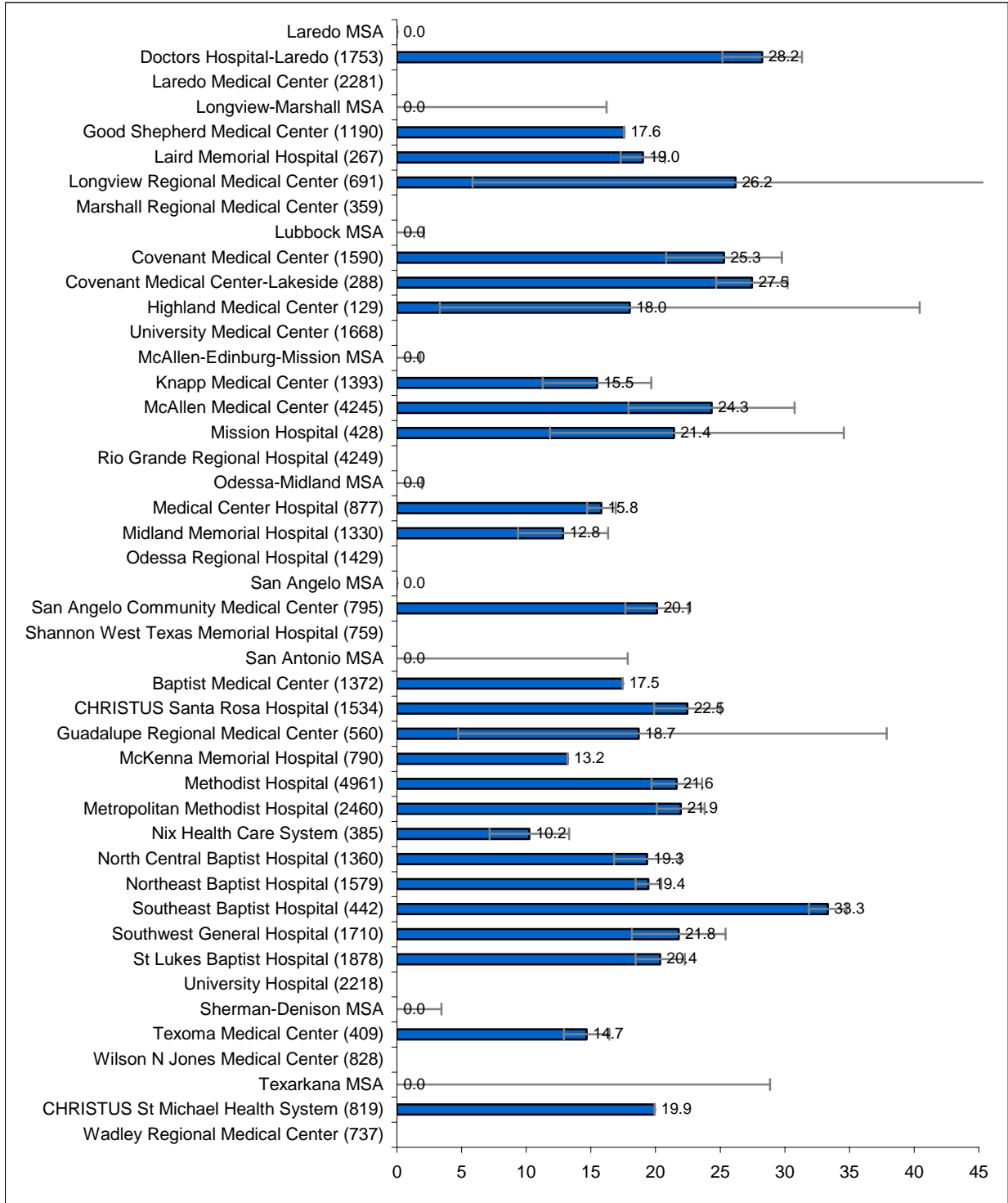
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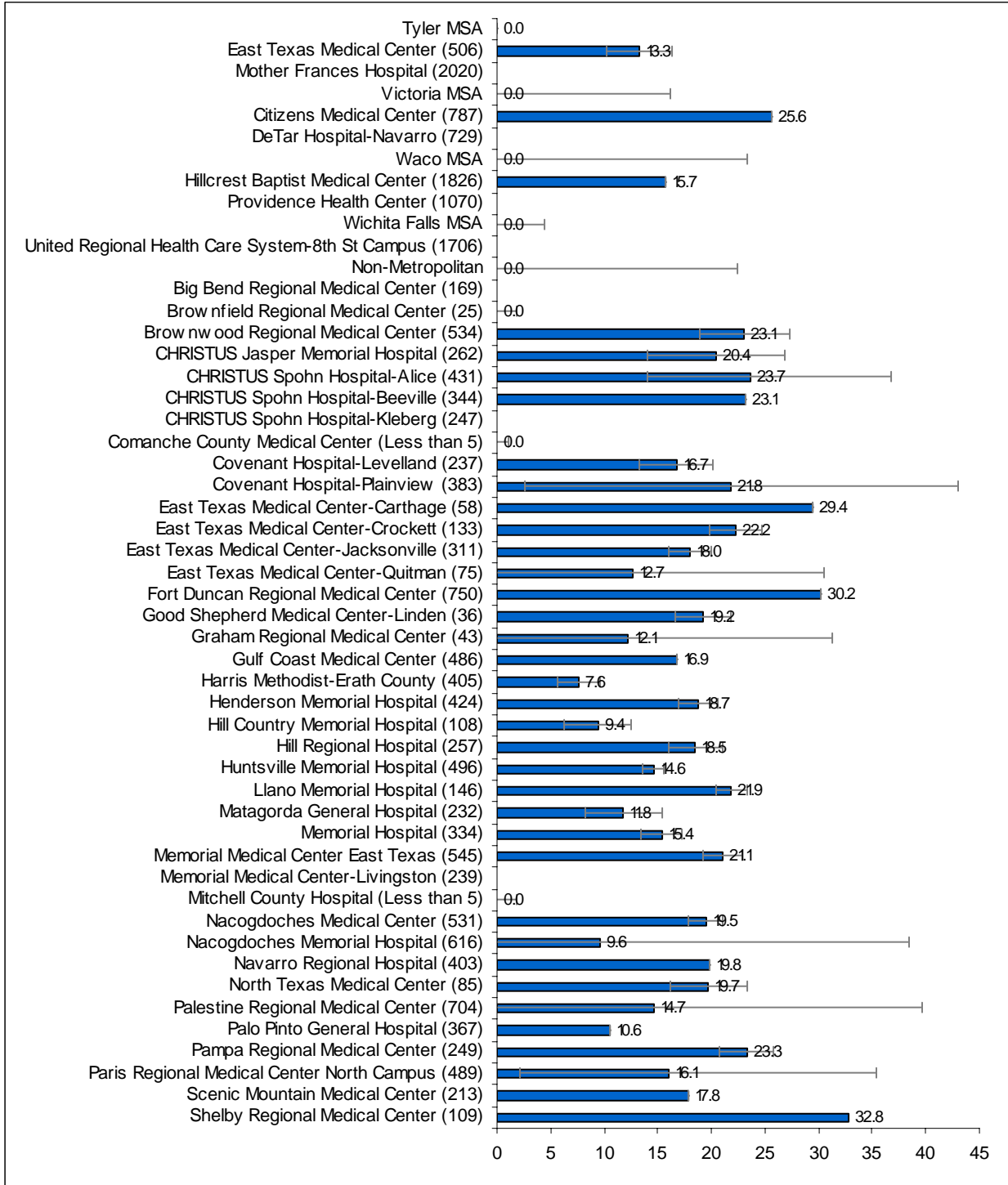
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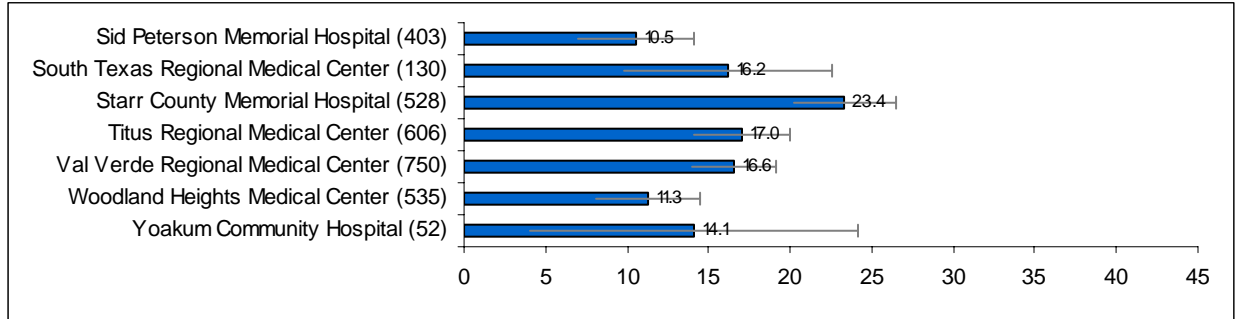
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Source: Texas Health Care Information Collection. *Texas Hospital Inpatient Discharge Public Use Data File, 2005.*