

Learn From EPA's 2023 Asthma Award Winner, the Wisconsin Asthma Program!



Question & Answer Session on AsthmaCommunityNetwork.org Discussion Forum

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. EDT

To post a question in the **Discussion Forum**, follow these directions:

1. If you are a Network member, log in to your **AsthmaCommunityNetwork.org** account.

Not a member? Create an account at **AsthmaCommunityNetwork.org** by clicking the “**Join Now**” link at the top of the page. Your account will be approved momentarily, and you can begin posting questions.

2. Click on the “**Discussion Forum**” button on the home page.
3. Click on the “**Live Online Q&A for 5/23/23 Webinar**” link.
4. Click on the “**Add new Forum topic**” link to post your question.
5. Enter your question and click the “**Save**” button at the bottom of the page.

Learning Objectives

Wisconsin Asthma Program will share how they—

- Expanded the reach, effectiveness and sustainability of comprehensive asthma control services in the state of Wisconsin.
- Demonstrated improved asthma outcomes, including a 36 percent reduction in asthma-related emergency department visits and a 35 percent reduction in asthma hospitalizations.
- Established the Asthma-Safe Homes Program as the result of a successful collaboration with Medicaid to provide sustainable asthma funding.

Featured Speakers



Tracey Mitchell, RRT,
AE-C, Environmental
Protection Specialist,
U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency (EPA)



Cristine Rameker, M.P.H.,
Wisconsin Asthma
Program Manager,
Wisconsin Department of
Health Services



Carrie Tomasallo, M.P.H.,
Ph.D., Environmental
Epidemiology and
Surveillance Section
Manager, Wisconsin
Department of Health
Services



Megan Elderbrook, M.P.H.,
CHES, Wisconsin Asthma
Program Epidemiologist,
Wisconsin Department of
Health Services



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of **HEALTH SERVICES**

Polling Question 1

What best describes the type of organization that you represent?

1. Government agency
2. Health care provider
3. Community-based asthma program
4. Healthy homes program
5. Other

Environment Plays a Critical Role in Asthma Control

- Federal asthma guidelines recognize environmental trigger reduction as a critical component of comprehensive asthma care.*
- The evidence base demonstrates that in-home environmental interventions are effective at improving asthma control in children and adolescents.†

EPA is a federal lead for the integration of environmental risk reduction into standards of care.

EFFECTIVE IN-HOME ENVIRONMENTAL INTERVENTIONS

Home-Based

- Includes at least one home visit by trained personnel to improve the home environment
- Examples: community health workers, clinicians, health care providers

Multi-Component

- Includes at least two components, including at least one environmental component
- Activities may include asthma-related education, self-management training, environmental assessment and remediation, social services, coordinated care

Multi-Trigger

- Targets two or more potential asthma triggers, including mice, cockroaches, dust mites, excess moisture and mold, household pets, tobacco smoke

* NHLBI. *Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma* (EPR-3). 2007. <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health-topics/guidelines-for-diagnosis-management-of-asthma>

† CDC. *The Guide to Community Preventive Services*. 2005. <https://www.thecommunityguide.org>

The System for Delivering High-Quality Asthma Care

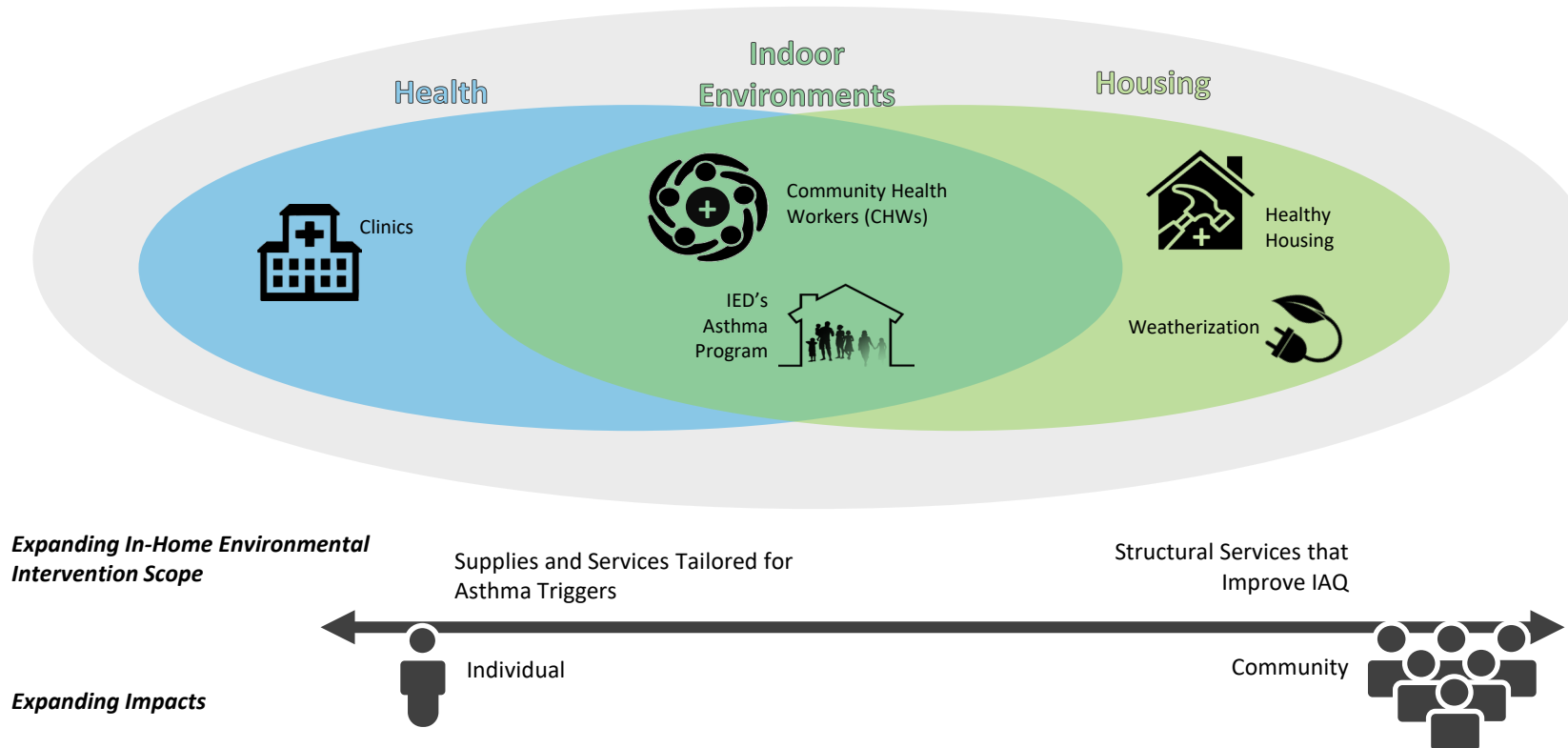


Solutions for the Indoor Environmental Determinants of Health

- High-quality asthma **systems break down siloes** to address the IEDOH in asthma.
- Systems require **time, partnership, data and investment** to scale and sustain.
- Assembling community systems to address the IEDOH in asthma is a model **for the social determinants of health, or SDOH**.



Indoor Environmental Determinants of Health



About the Award

National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management

The application focuses on three areas:

1. Comprehensive Asthma Management
 - a. Management and Operations
 - b. Integrated Health Care Services
 - c. **Tailored Environmental Services**
2. Getting Results: Evaluation
3. Sustainability



About the Award

National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management



Nation's highest honor for exceptional asthma management programs

- **Goal:** The award program showcases and spreads best practices in comprehensive asthma care and management.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must follow national guidelines (National Institutes of Health) and address published criteria for achieving improved health outcomes and program sustainability, especially for environmental justice communities.
- **Review:** Applications undergo a two-tiered review process, which includes reviewers from other federal agencies and national nongovernmental organizations.

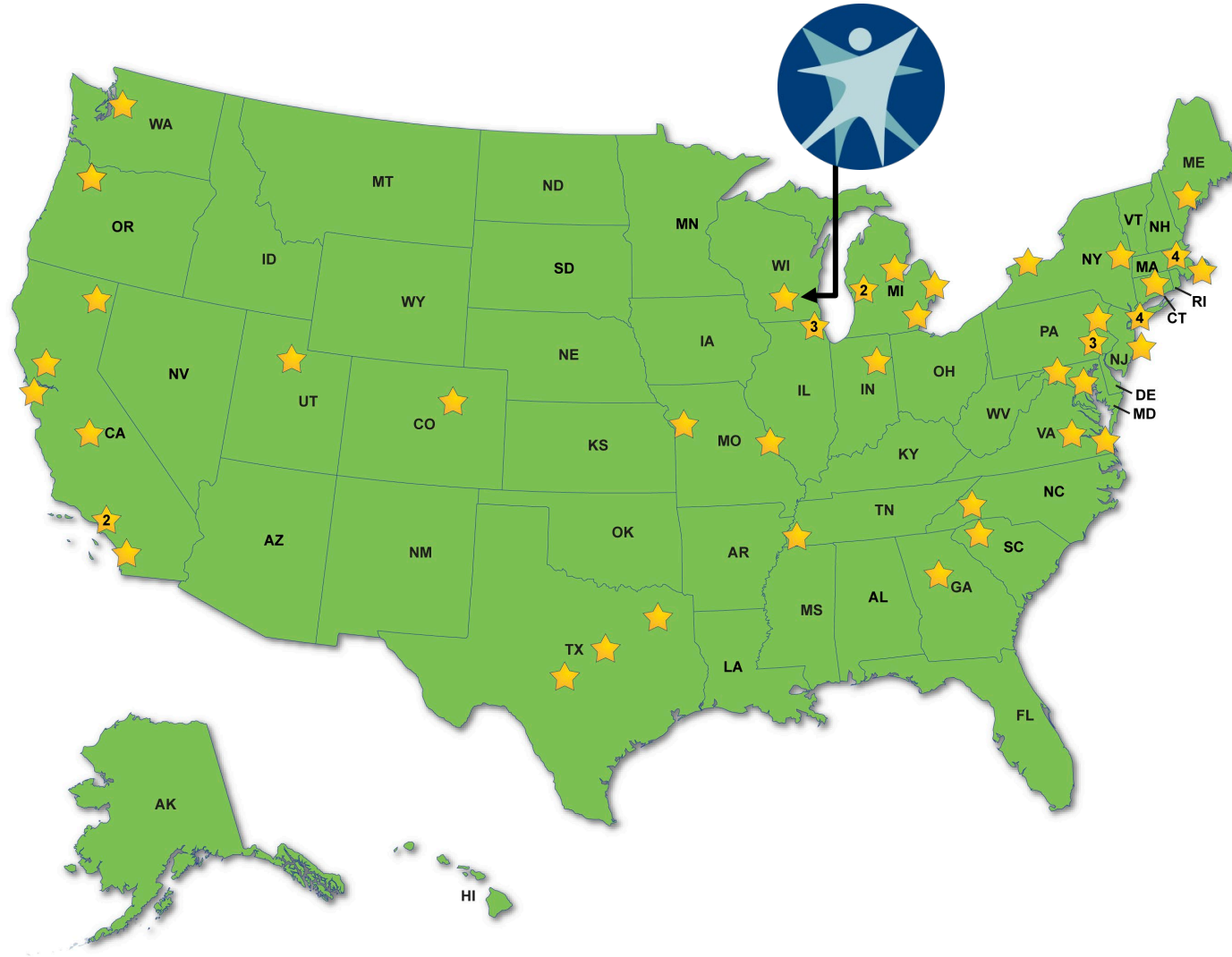
Award Winners Hall of Fame

www.asthmacommunitynetwork.org/awards/winners



Awards Hall of Fame

Since 2005, 52 asthma programs been inducted into the Awards Hall of Fame.



Wisconsin Asthma Program: Using Asthma Surveillance to Drive Improvement and Sustainability

Cristine Rameker, M.P.H.

Megan Elderbrook, M.P.H., CHES

Carrie Tomasallo, M.P.H., Ph.D.

May 23, 2023



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES



Outline

Overview of Wisconsin's Asthma Program

How we use surveillance data to inform decisions

Sustainable reimbursement for asthma services





Our History

Located within the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health in the Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- 1992 ● Surveillance focused
- 2001 ● CDC grant began
- 2003 ● First Wisconsin Asthma Plan

Partnerships



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of **HEALTH SERVICES**



WISCONSIN
ASTHMA
COALITION

★ Children's Health
Alliance of Wisconsin

Targeted Education and Tailored Services

Medication Therapy Management

Patient Voice

Asthma-Safe Homes Program



Medication Therapy Management

Five Core Elements

- Medication therapy review
- Personal medication record
- Medication action plan
- Intervention or referral
- Documentation and follow-up



Patient Voice

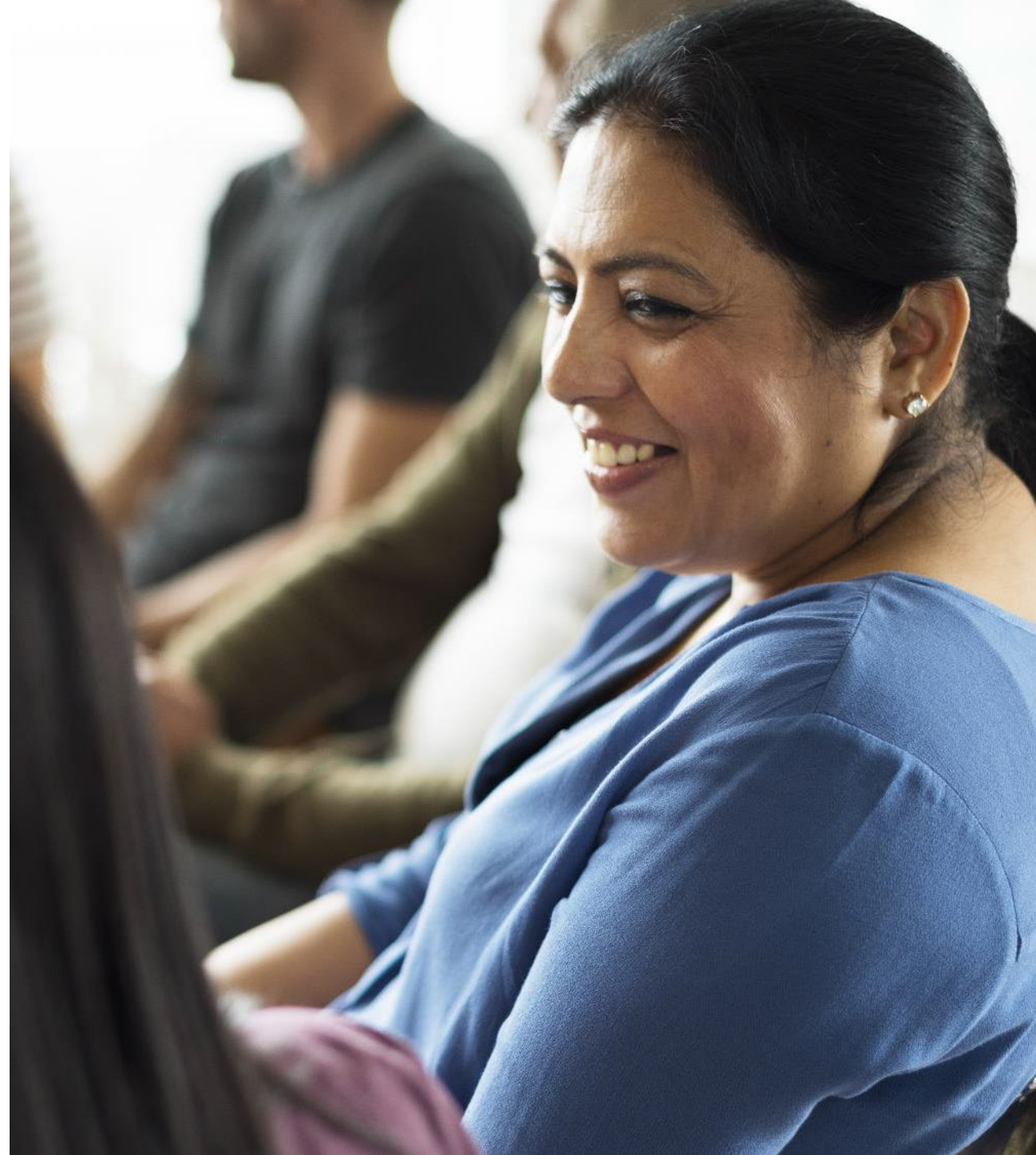
Provider communication

Trusted information sources

Patient advocacy

Communication tools

Support groups





Improving Health Systems

Asthma Control

Developing performance measures for health systems



— WISCONSIN —
COLLABORATIVE *for*
HEALTHCARE QUALITY

Quality Improvement

Developing performance measures for health systems



Provider Training

Pediatric Asthma Guidelines trainings





Tailored Environmental Services

Asthma-Safe Homes Program

Asthma self-management education

Durables

Home assessment

Repair services

Introducing Wisconsin's Asthma-Safe Homes Program



Create Your Asthma-Safe Home

Delivering free in-home asthma services
to help families breathe easier

Learn how to control your asthma and live your best life with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services' Asthma-Safe Homes Program. This program provides free, in-home asthma education and home repair services to eligible families.

To be eligible, participants must:

- Live in Milwaukee or Kenosha counties.
- Be eligible for Medicaid state health insurance.
- Be 2-18 years old or pregnant.
- Have poorly controlled asthma.


This program provides:


- Education on how to manage asthma.
- A home assessment to look for asthma triggers.
- Up to \$1,000 of asthma supplies for your home.
- Up to \$5,000 in eligible home repairs.


These services can help you or your child use less medication, make fewer trips to the emergency department, avoid overnight stays at the hospital, and miss less school and work.

Ask your health care provider, school nurse, pharmacist or asthma educator for a referral.

Questions?

 dhs.wi.gov/asthma/ashp.htm

 DHSasthmaSafeHomes@wi.gov

 608-266-1112

How to access the services



1. Ask your health care provider, school nurse, pharmacist or asthma educator for a referral to the Asthma-Safe Homes Program.



2. Meet an asthma educator for two to six sessions and get home supplies. If eligible, you will be referred for a detailed home assessment.



3. Receive home repairs if the assessment uncovers major asthma triggers. Repairs are available to renters or owners.



Asthma-Safe Homes Program
Division of Public Health
Wisconsin Department of Health Services
P-03351 (03/2023)



Community Air Monitoring and Anti-Idling





School-Based Initiatives



School-Based Asthma Management Program

CIRCLE of SUPPORT

Four key components

- Circle of support
- Asthma management plans
- Asthma education plans
- Comprehensive environmental asthma plan



Asthma-Friendly School Mini Grants

Staff education

School walkthrough program

Asthma Action Plan on file

Asthma Action Plan

Name	Date
Doctor	Medical Record #
Doctor's Office Phone #: Day	Night/Weekend
Emergency Contact	
Doctor's Signature	



The Colors of a traffic light will help you use your asthma medicines.

Green means Go Zone!
Use preventive medicine.

Yellow Means Caution Zone!
Add quick-relief medicine.

Red means Danger Zone!
Get help from a doctor.

Personal Best Peak Flow _____

GO

You have **all** of these:

- Breathing is good
- No cough or wheeze
- Sleep through the night
- Can work and play

Peak flow from _____ to _____

CAUTION

You have **any** of these:

- First signs of a cold
- Exposure to known trigger
- Cough
- Tight chest
- Mild wheeze
- Coughing at night

Peak flow from _____ to _____

DANGER

Your asthma is getting worse fast:

- Medicine is not helping
- Breathing is hard and fast
- Nose opens wide
- Ribs show
- Can't talk well

Peak flow reading below _____

Use these daily preventive anti-inflammatory medicines:

MEDICINE	HOW MUCH	HOW OFTEN/WHEN

For asthma with exercise, take:

--	--	--

Continue with green zone medicine and add:

MEDICINE	HOW MUCH	HOW OFTEN/WHEN

CALL YOUR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER.

Take these medicines and call your doctor now.

MEDICINE	HOW MUCH	HOW OFTEN/WHEN

GET HELP FROM A DOCTOR NOW! Do not be afraid of causing a fuss. Your doctor will want to see you right away. It's important! If you cannot contact your doctor, go directly to the emergency room. **DO NOT WAIT.**

Make an appointment with your primary care provider within two days of an ER visit or hospitalization.

School and Child Care Walkthroughs



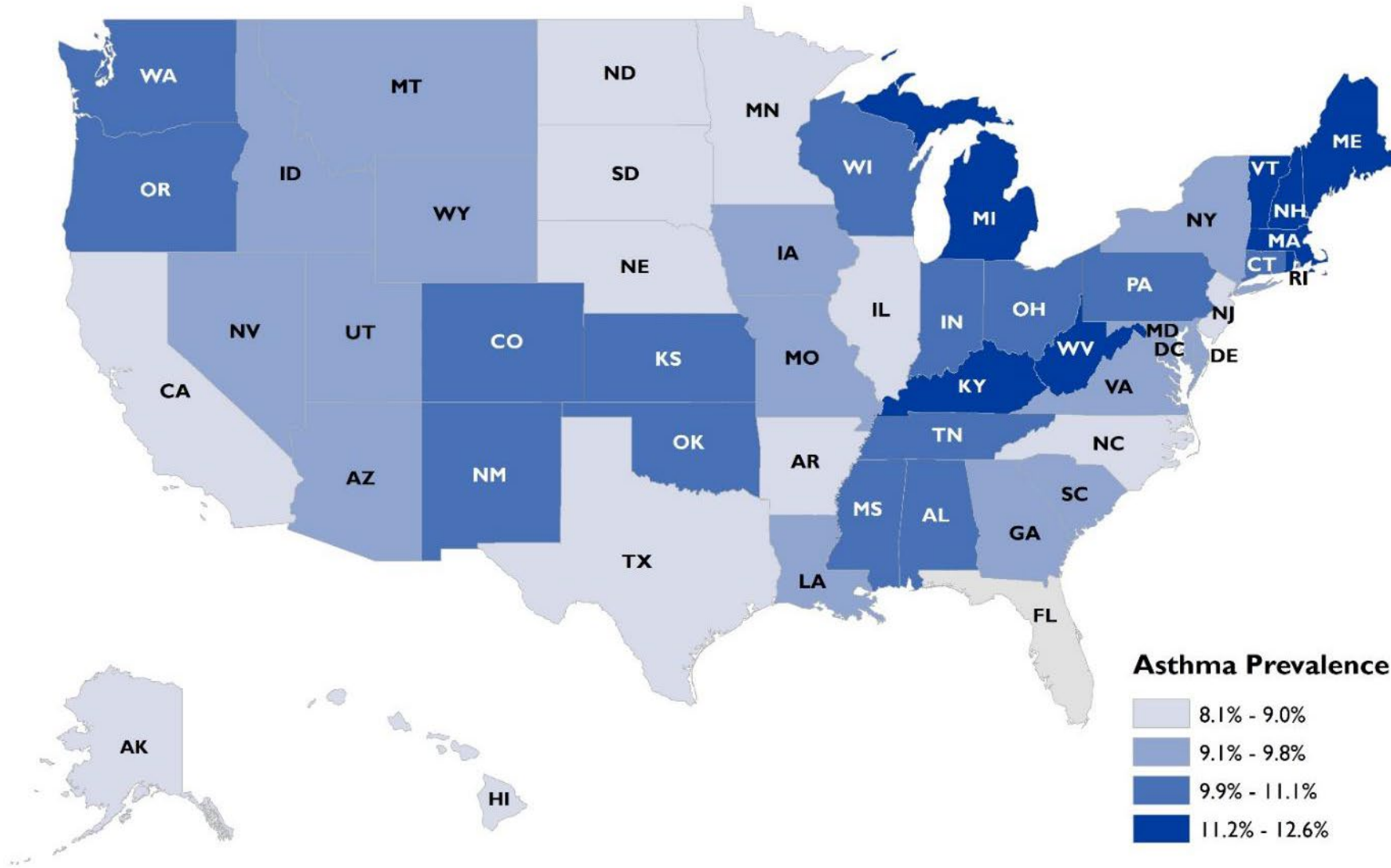
“With the help of the WAC school walkthrough program, I was able to impact the lives of more than 1,400 students in our district living with asthma by learning how to identify common triggers and positively modify their learning environment. This program not only helped our students, but it also benefited our entire community by improving the air quality within our schools.”

School nurse and asthma educator



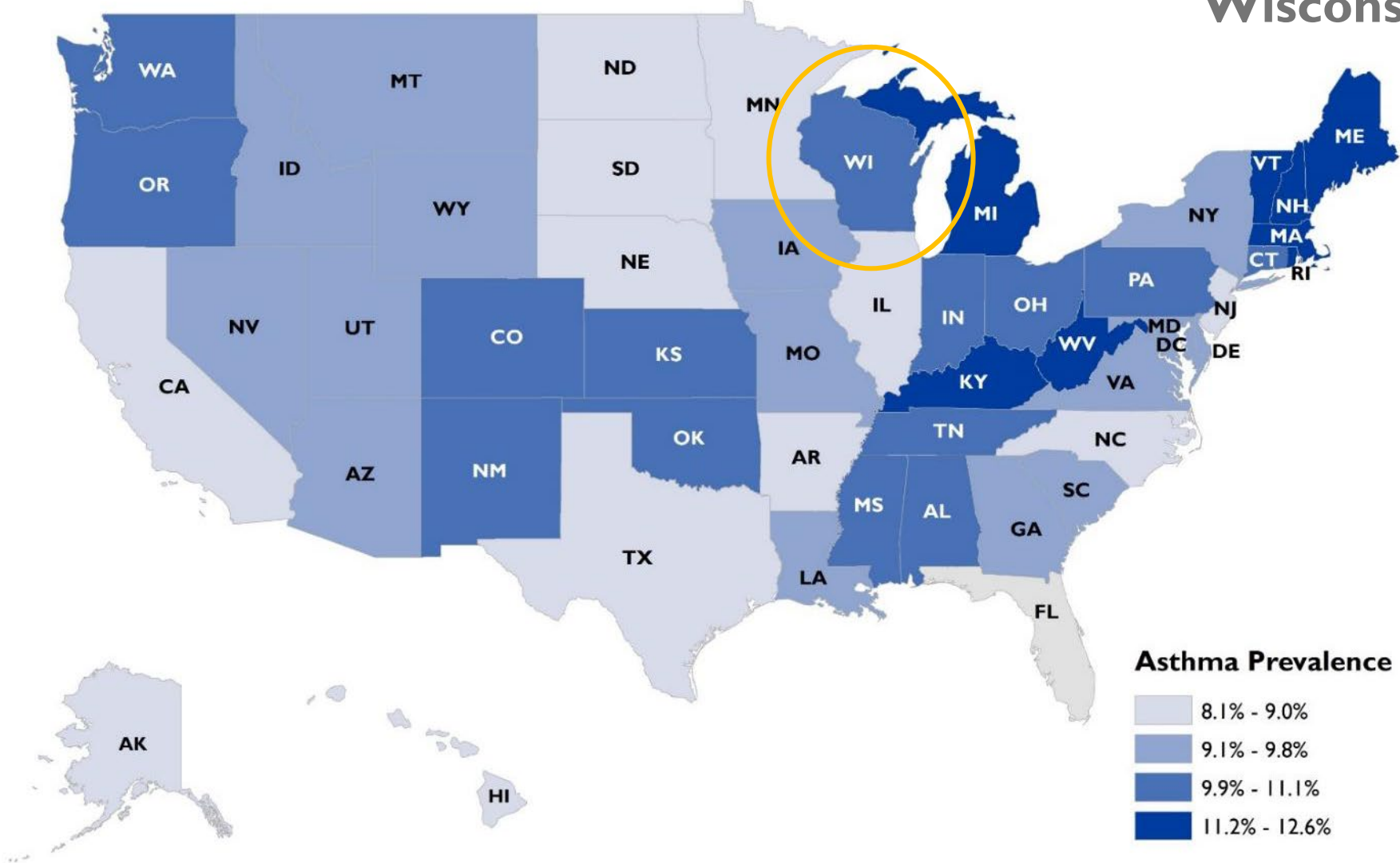
Making Data-Based Decisions

Asthma Prevalence by State, 2021

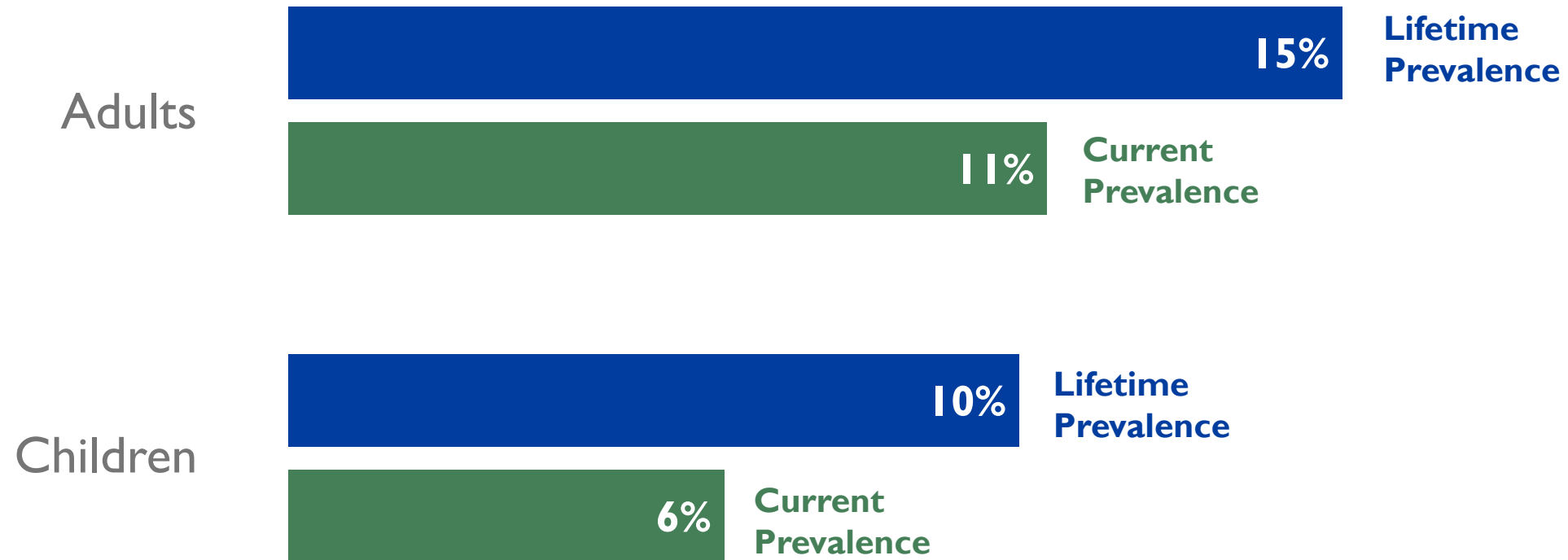


Asthma Prevalence by State, 2021

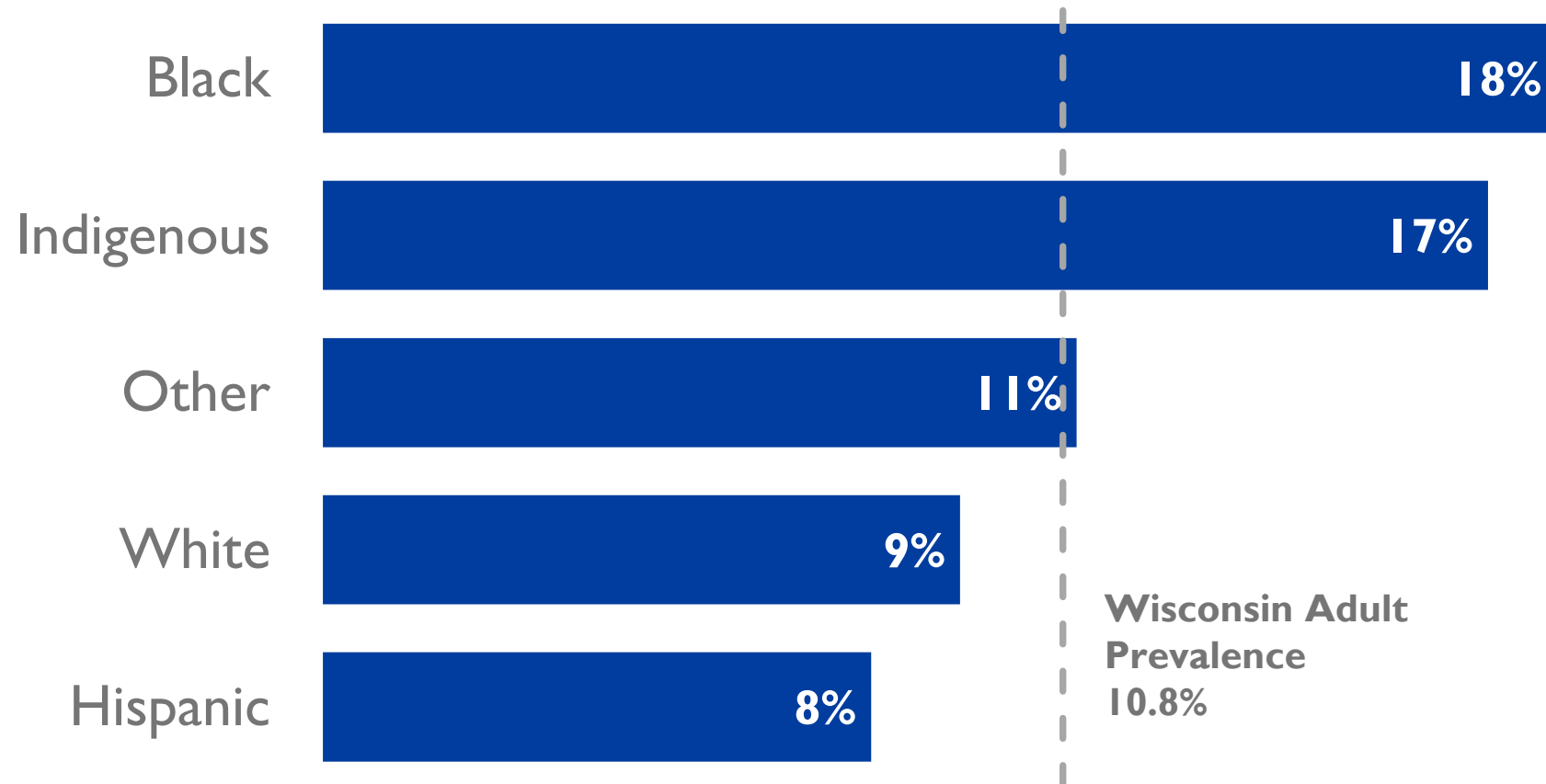
U.S. Overall: 9.7%
Wisconsin: 10.8%



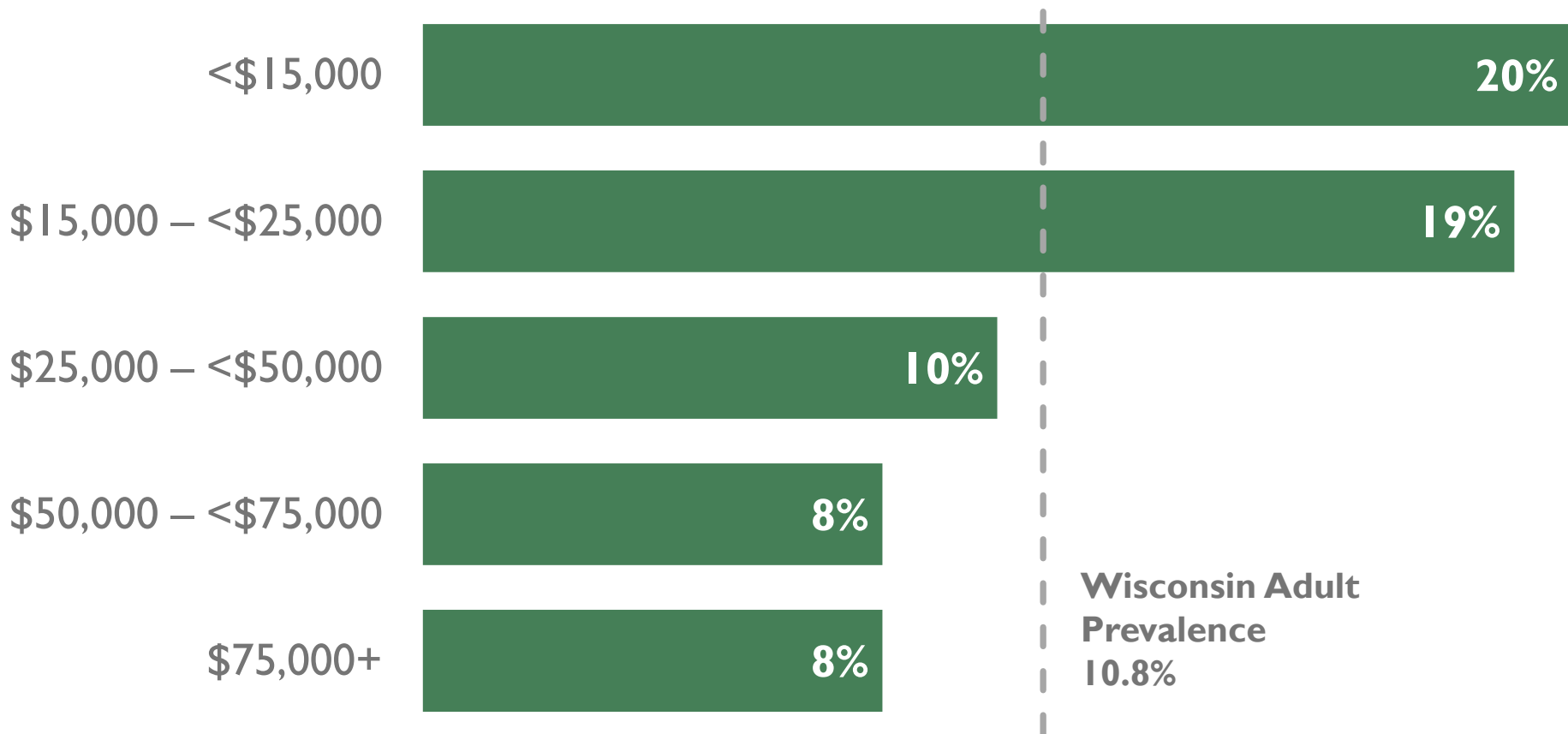
15% of Adults and 10% of Kids Reported **Ever Being Diagnosed** With Asthma



There Are Large Asthma Disparities by Race and Ethnicity

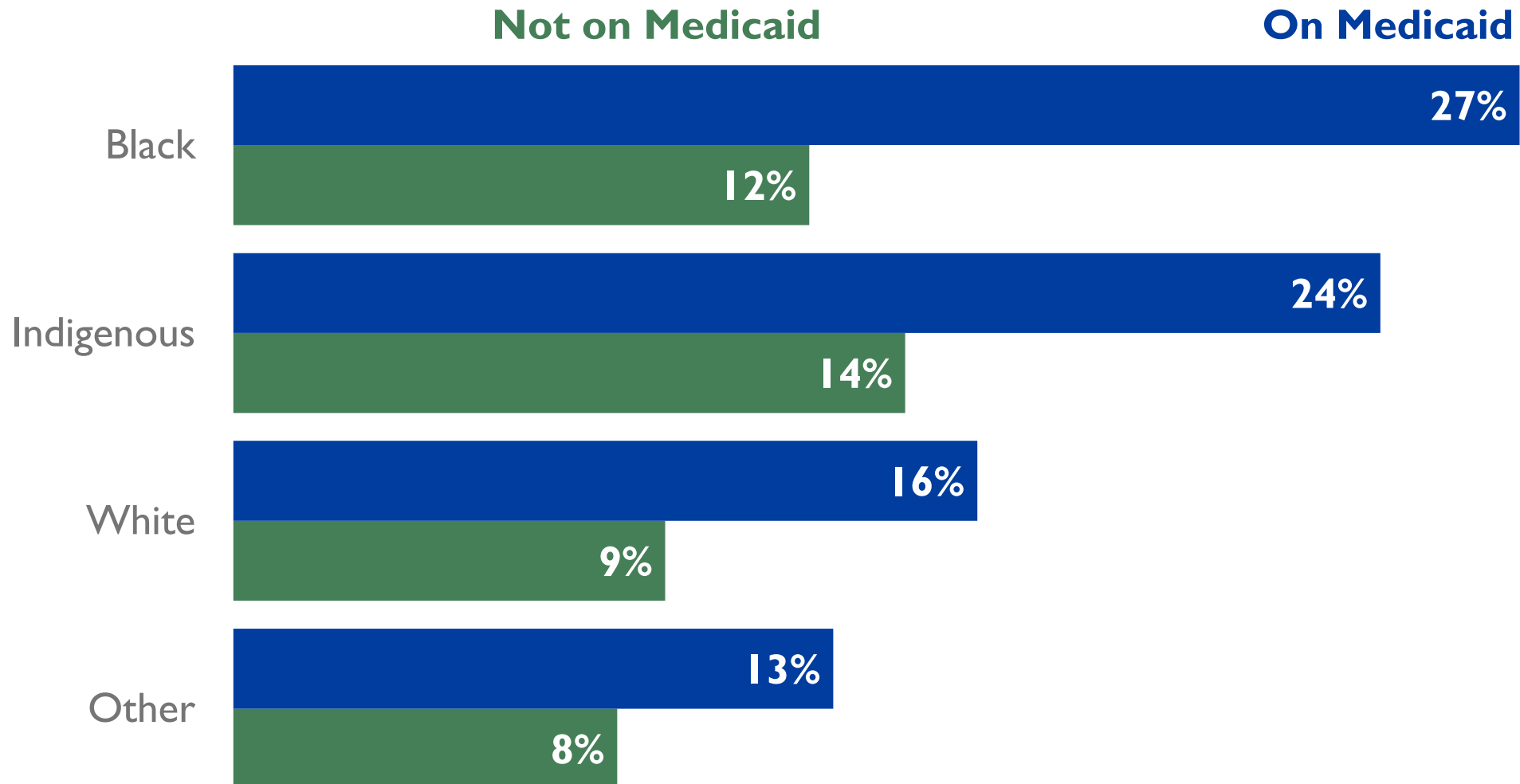


There Are Large Asthma Disparities by Income

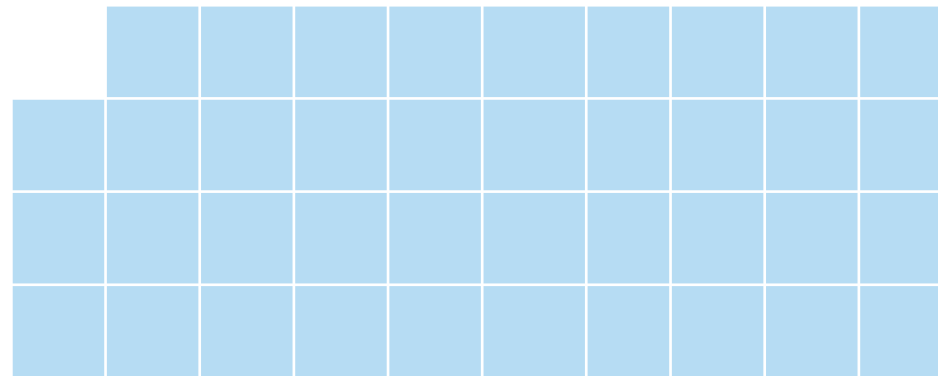


Wisconsin Adult
Prevalence
10.8%

Asthma Rates Among People on Medicaid Are Doubled When Looking by Race

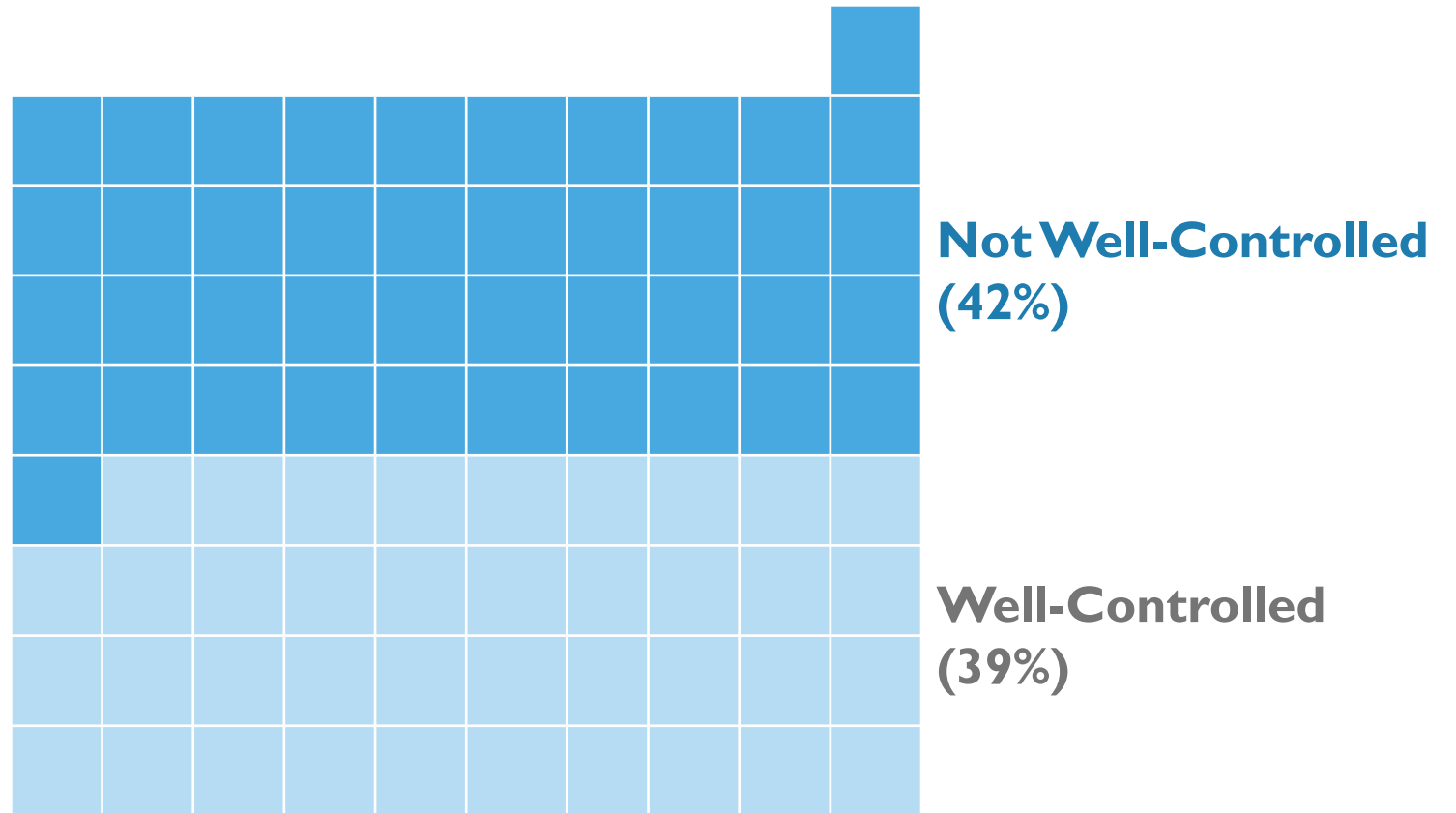


39% of Adults With Asthma Reported Well-Controlled Asthma

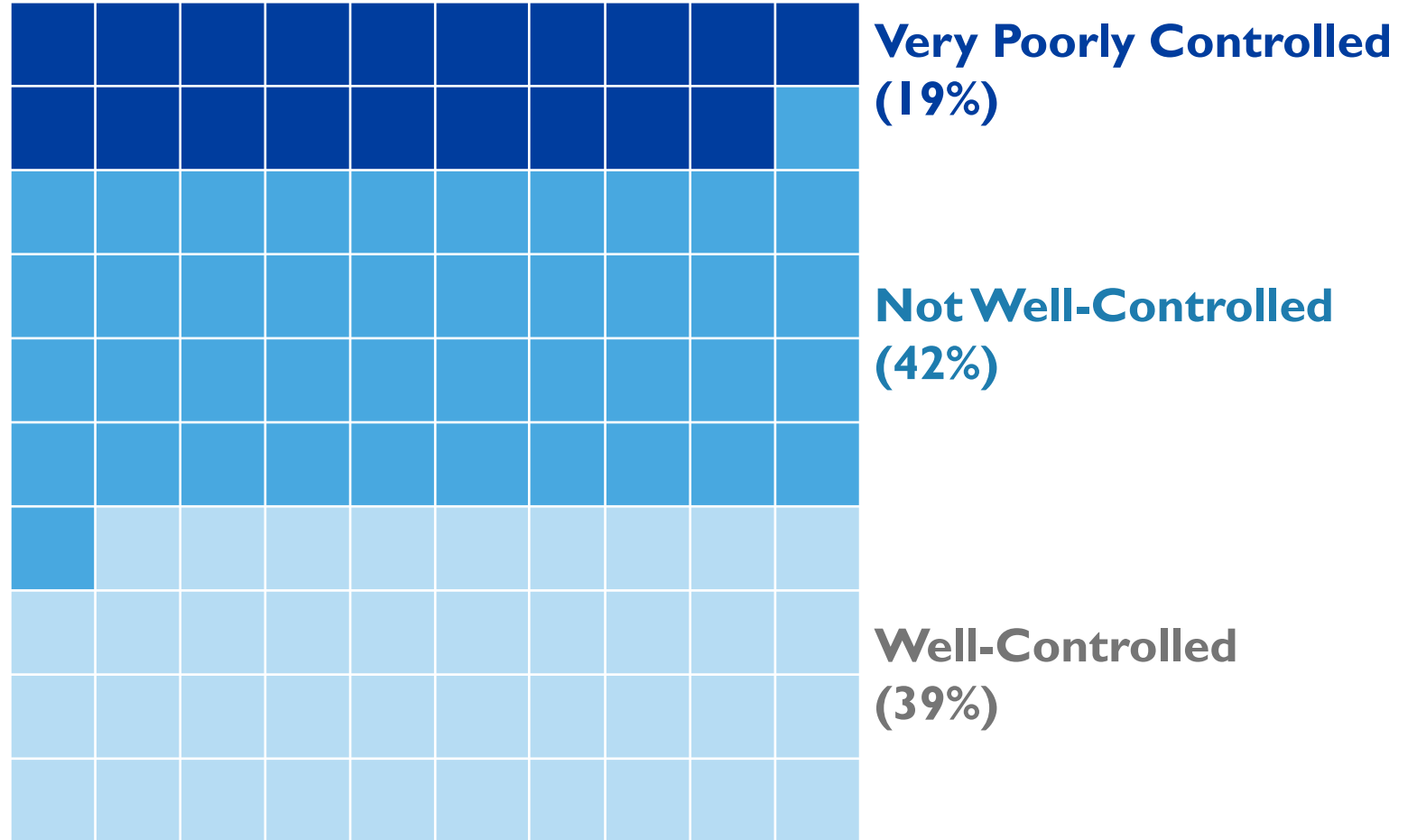


**Well-Controlled
(39%)**

42% of Adults
With Asthma
Reported **Not
Well-Controlled**
Asthma

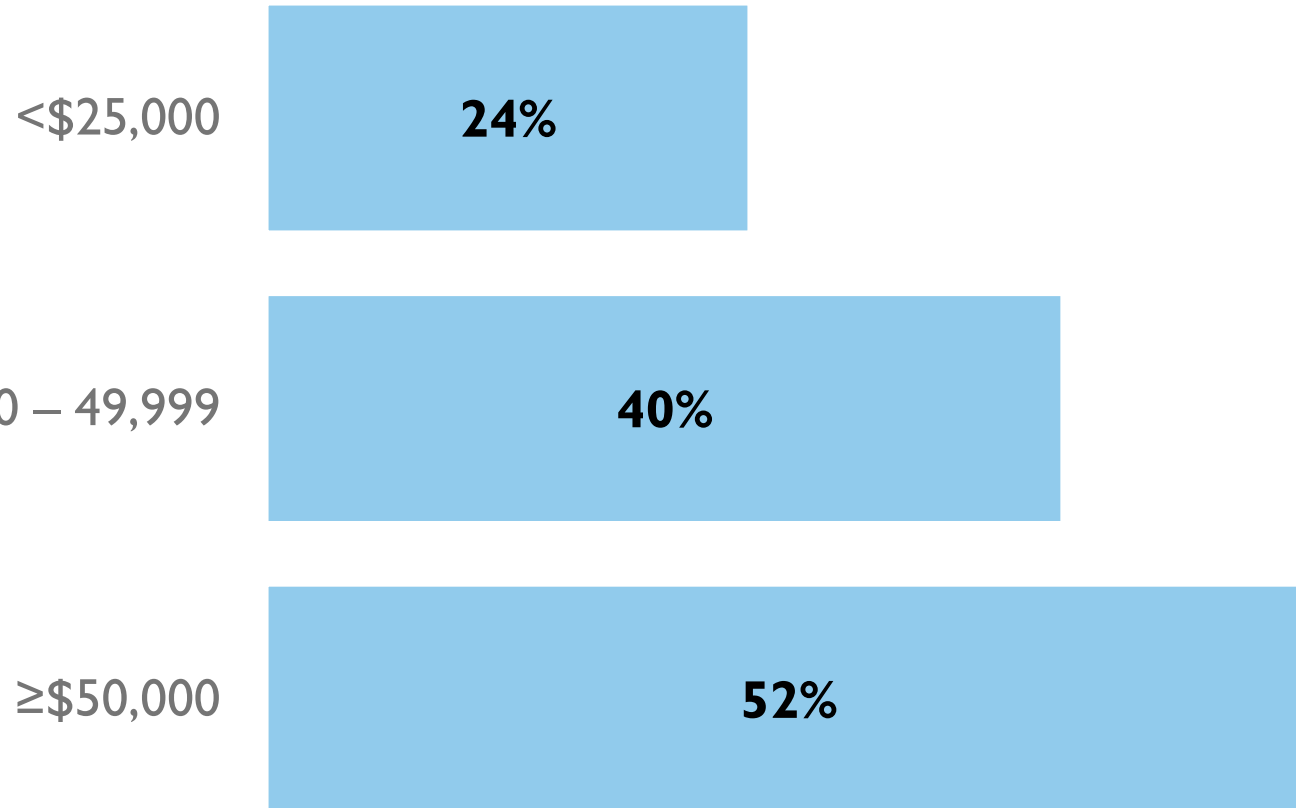


61% of Adults
With Asthma
Are **Not Well**
or **Poorly**
Controlled

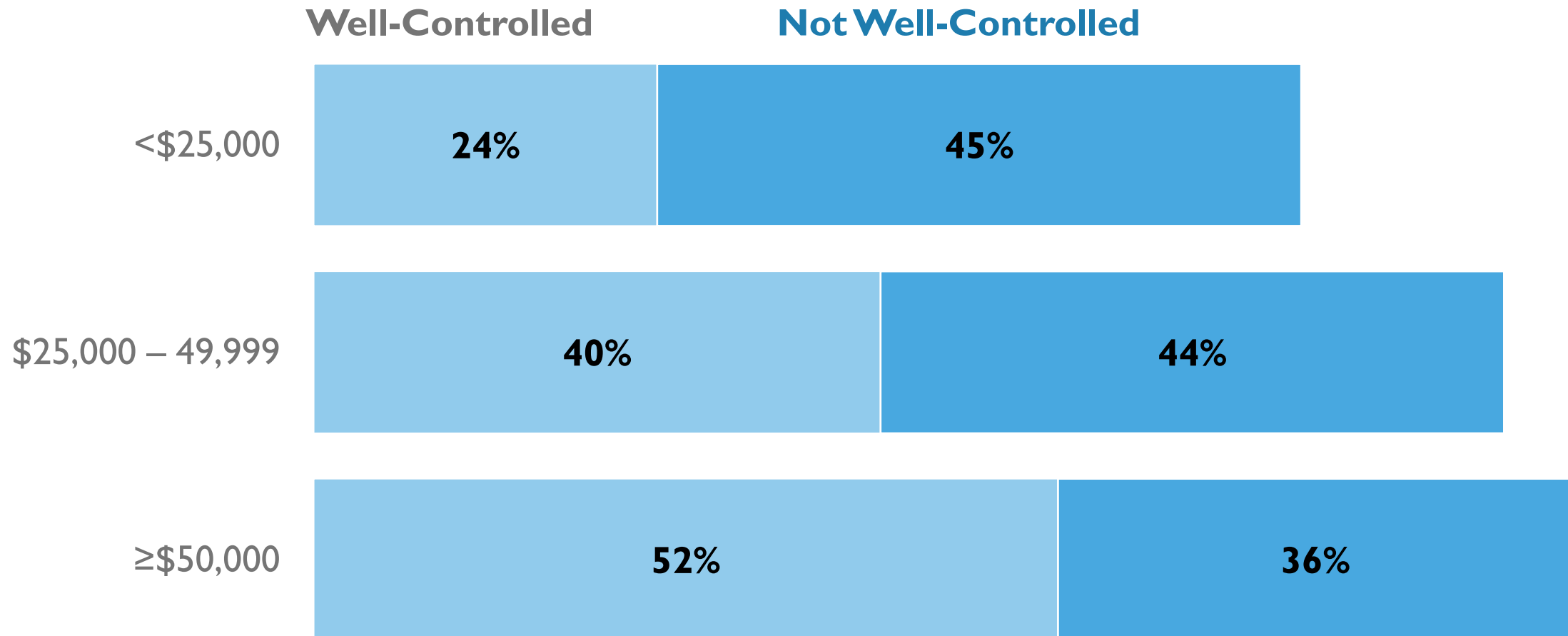


Adults in the Highest Income Group Were Twice as Likely to Report Well-Controlled Asthma

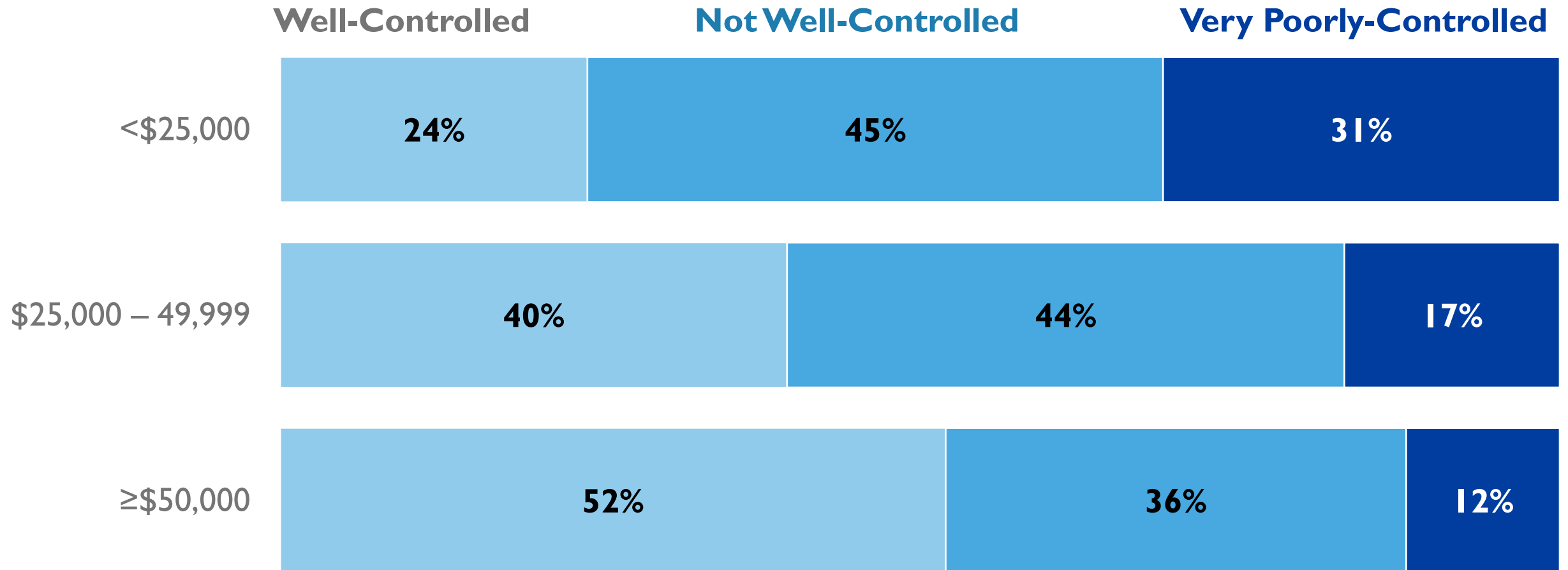
Well-Controlled



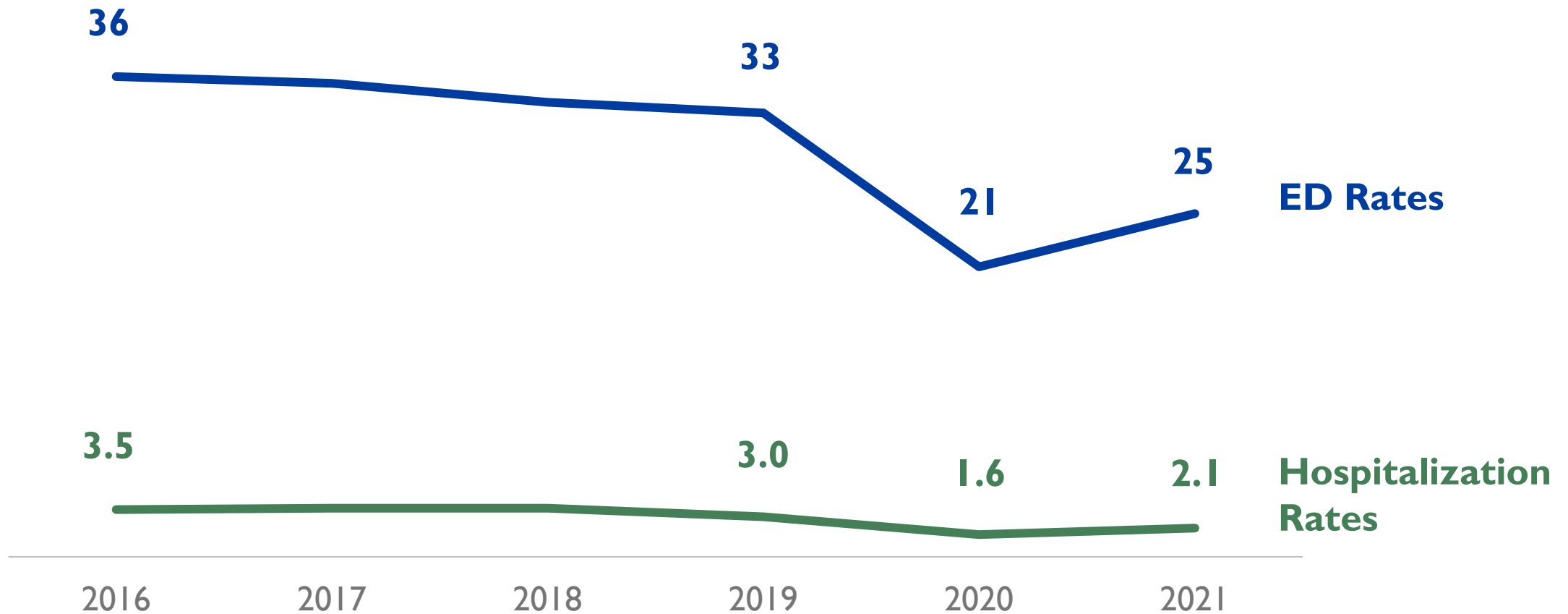
About 45% of People Making Under \$50,000 Reported Not Well-Controlled Asthma



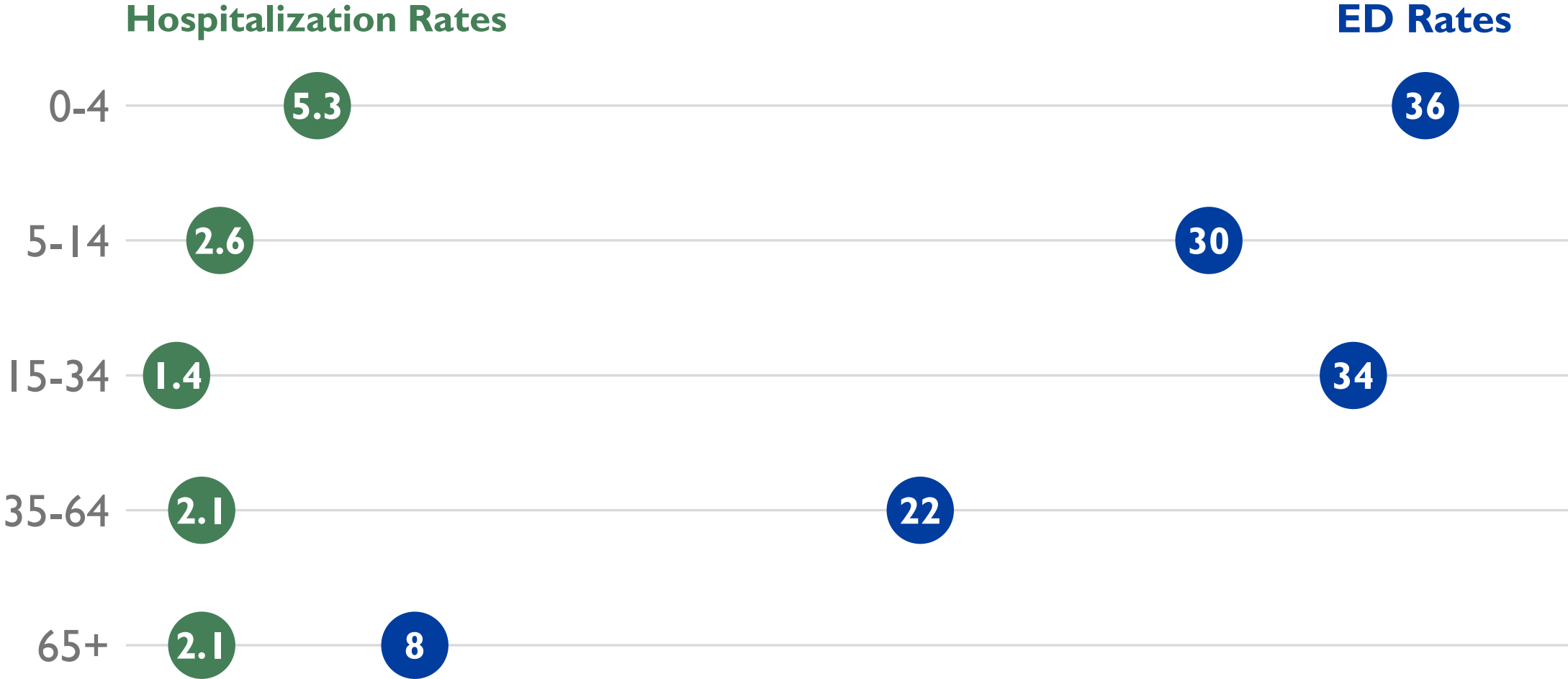
Poorly Controlled Asthma is Greatest Among the Lowest Income Group



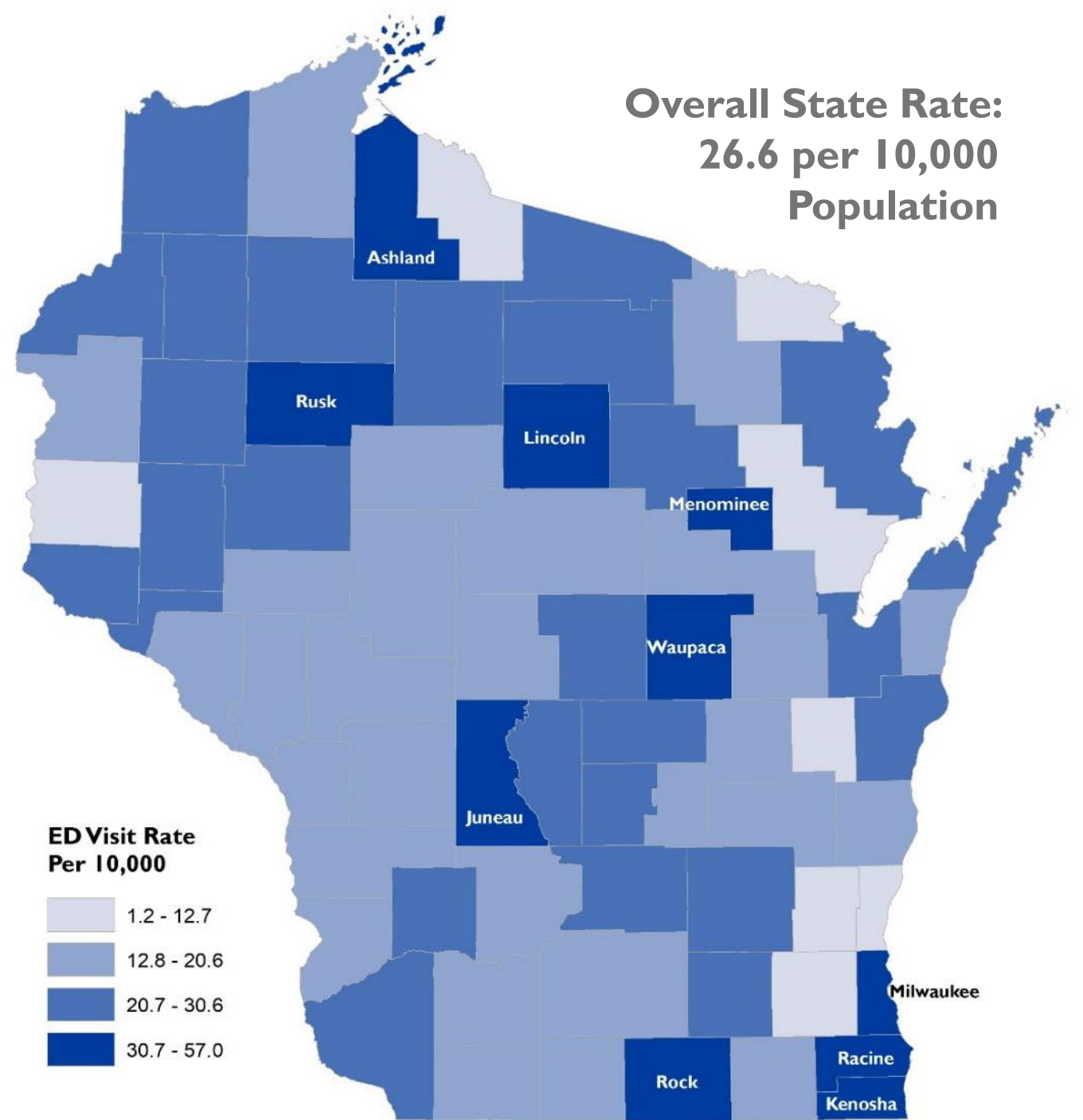
Asthma Emergency Department (ED) and Hospitalization Rates per 10,000 People Were Stable Until the COVID-19 Pandemic



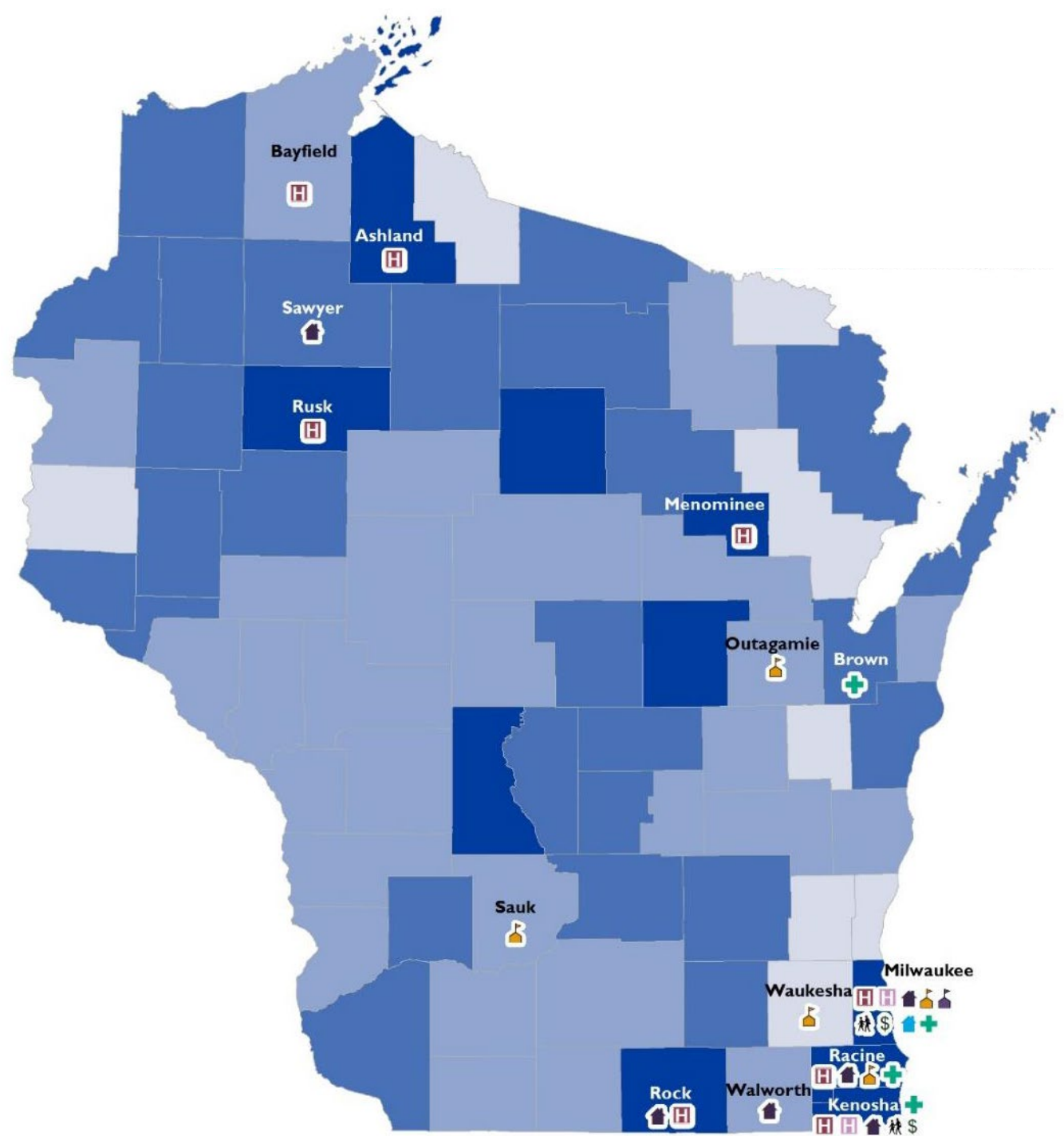
The Highest ED and Hospitalization Rates per 10,000 People Are in Younger Age Groups



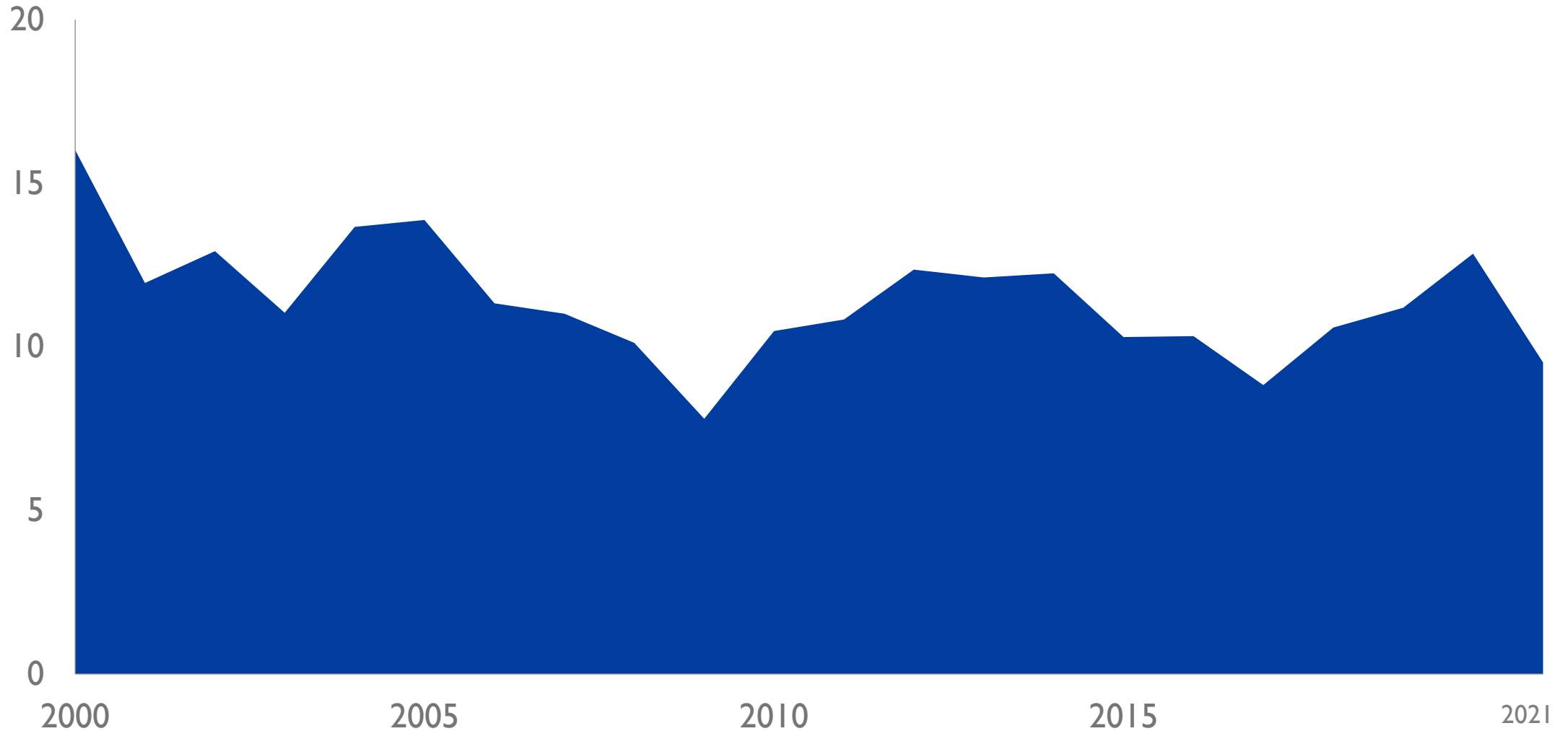
Southeast Wisconsin and Menominee County Continue to Have the Highest ED Rates



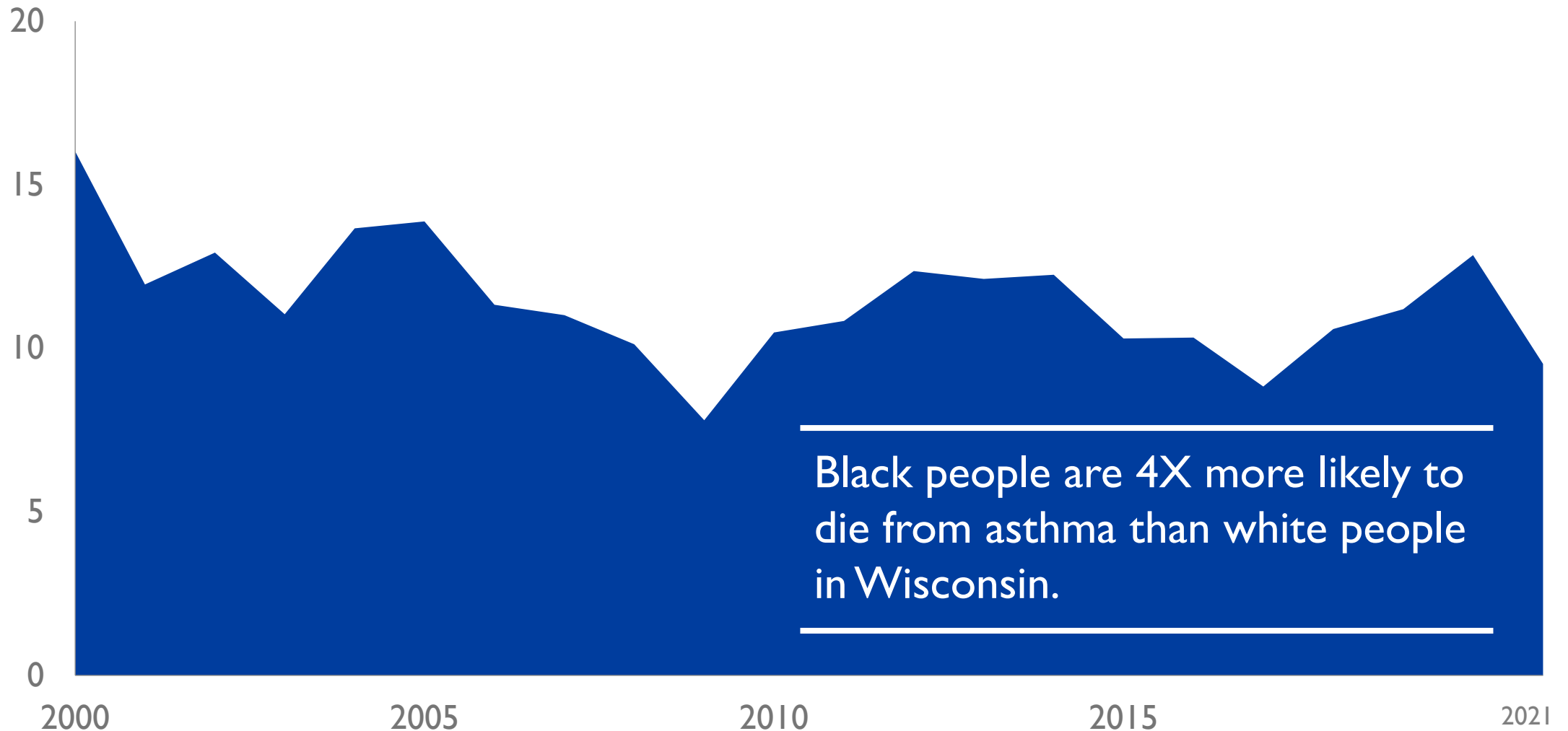
Our Program Activities Primarily Focus in Those High-Burdened Counties



Asthma-Related Mortality Rates per 1 Million People



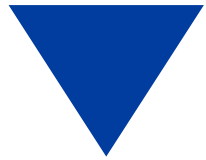
Asthma-Related Mortality Rates per 1 Million People



Asthma Care Program Results

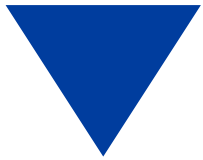


Results From a Case-Control Study of Our Asthma Care Program Showed:

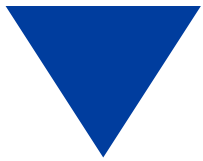


36% reduction in asthma-related
ED visits

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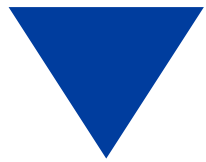


36% reduction in asthma-related
ED visits

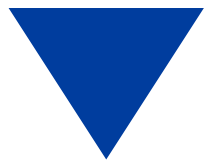


35% reduction in asthma-related
hospitalizations

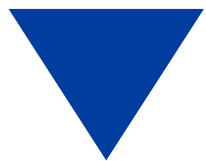
Results From a Case-Control Study of Our Asthma Care Program Showed:



36% reduction in asthma-related **ED visits**



35% reduction in asthma-related **hospitalizations**



37% reduction in **total days of inpatient stays**

Results From Pre/Post Survey Data of Our Asthma Care Program Showed:

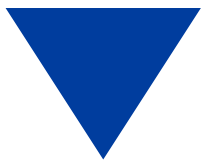


79% of participants had improved in
Asthma Control Test scores

Results from Pre/Post Survey Data of Our Asthma Care Program Showed:



79% of participants had improved in **Asthma Control Test scores**



54% had fewer **missed days of school or work**

The Return on Investment (ROI) of Our Asthma Care Program



The Return on Investment (ROI) of Our Asthma Care Program

\$2.34





Asthma-Safe Homes Program

Timeline



Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Health Services Initiative (HSI)

State option since 1990s, with flexibility to determine focus, scope and design

Combination of CHIP and state funding required; up to 10 percent of total CHIP spending allowed

State plan amendment (SPA) submitted, describing populations served, improvements to children's health, and updated budget

www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/faq11217.pdf

www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/CHIP-Health-Services-Initiatives.pdf

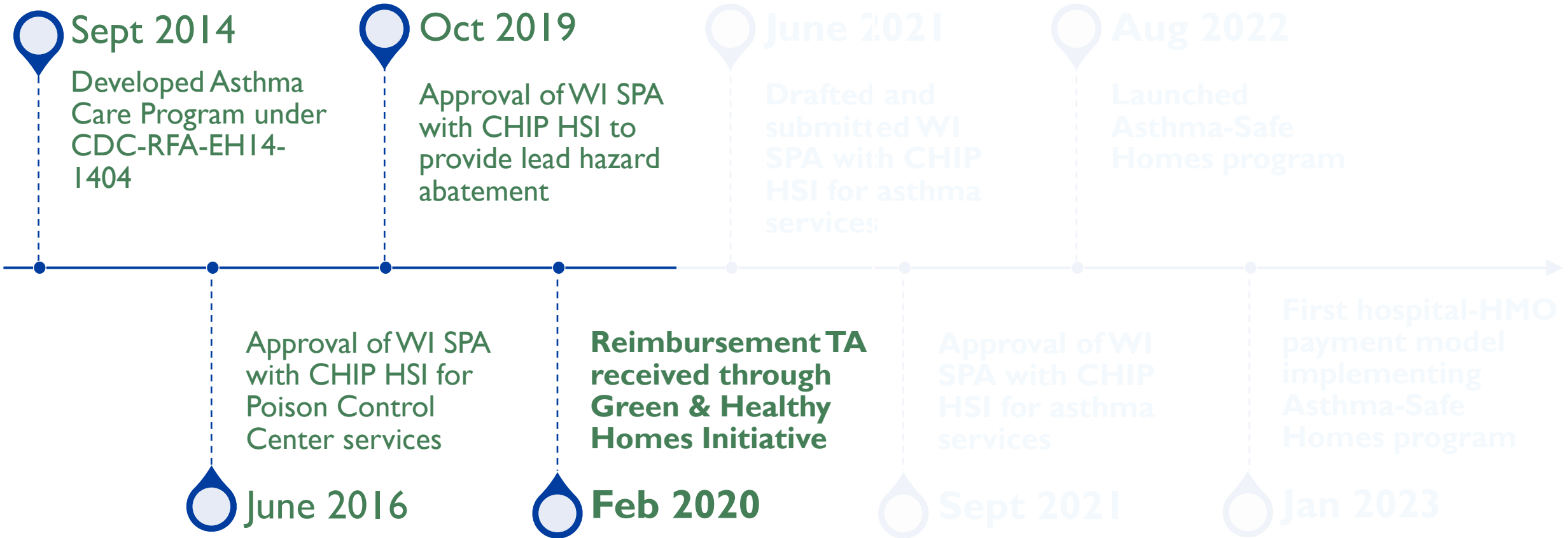
Timeline



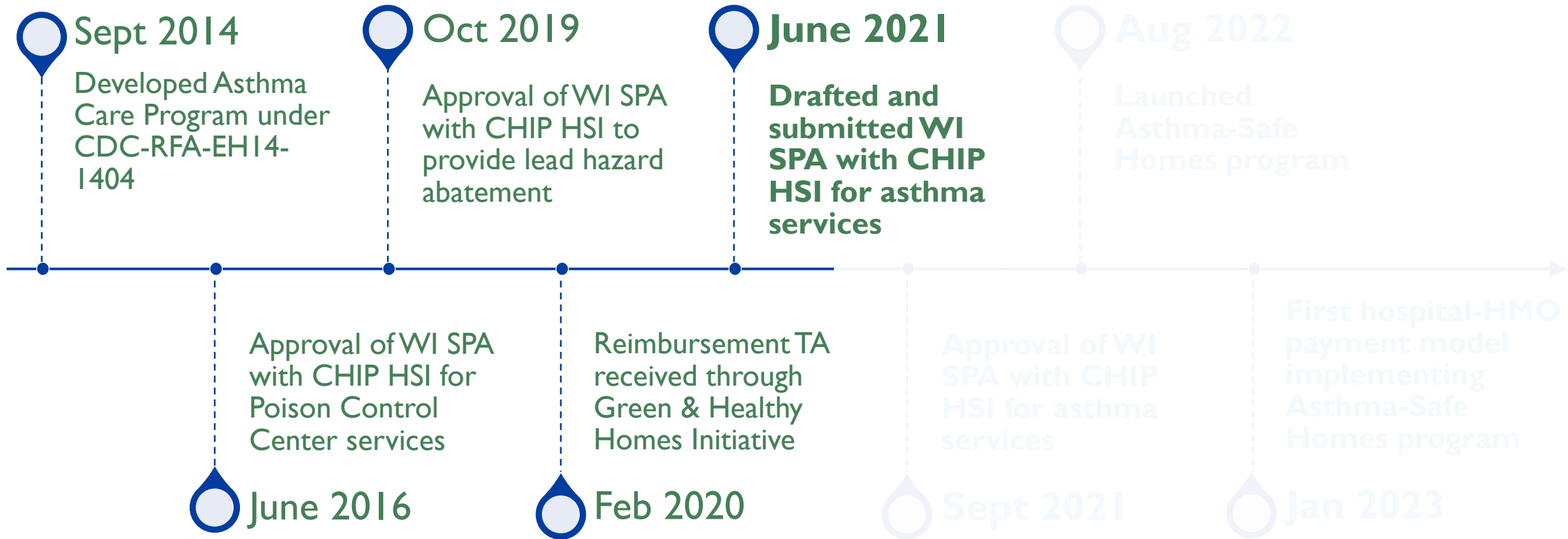
Timeline



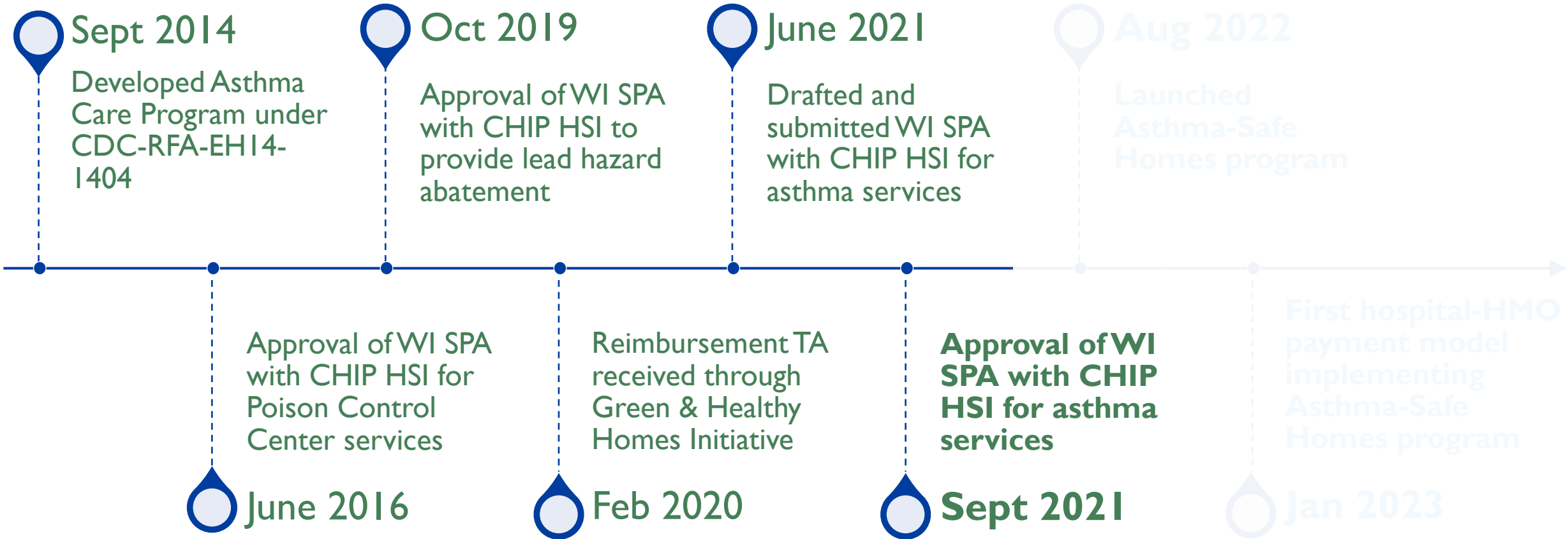
Timeline



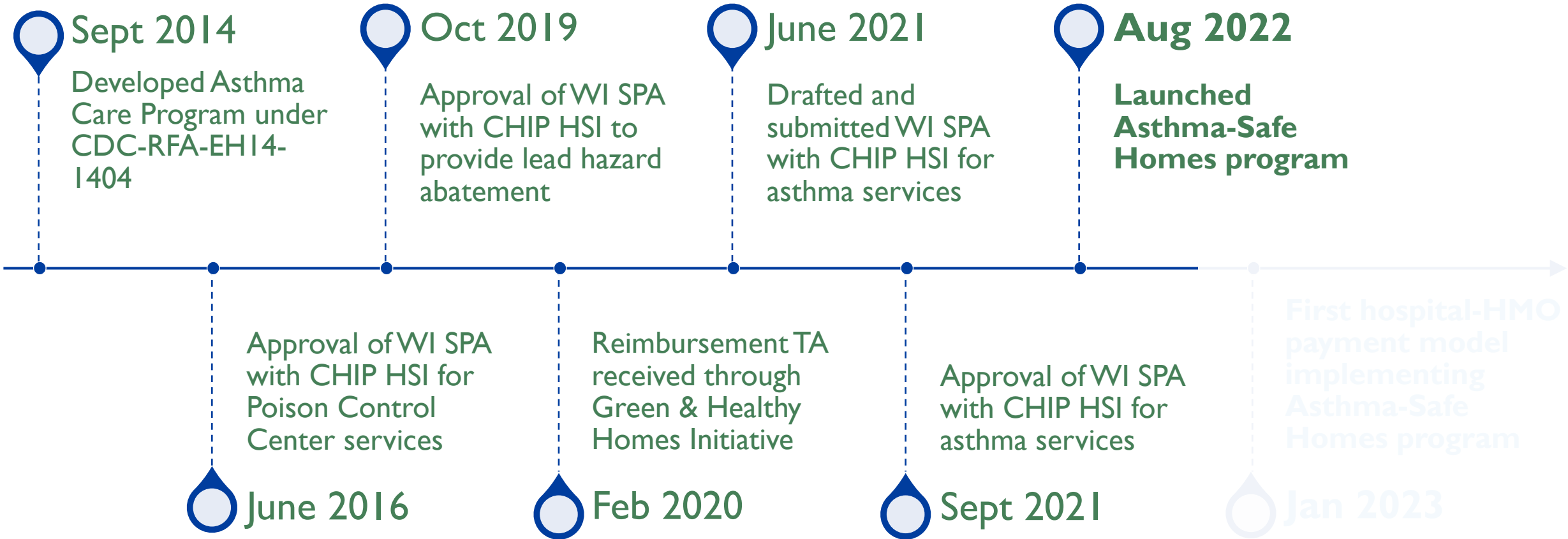
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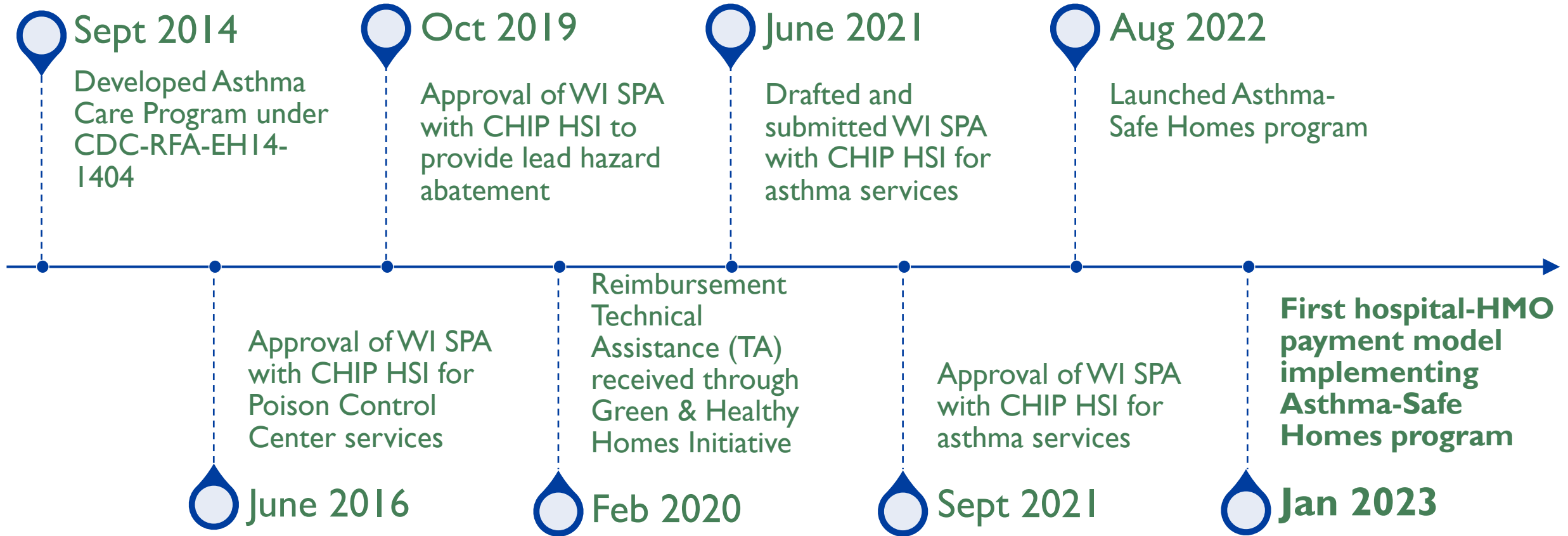
Timeline



Timeline



Timeline



Asthma-Safe Homes Program Goal

To address asthma and its housing-related environmental contributors among Medicaid-eligible children and pregnant adults



HSI Provides \$2.5 Million Annually

Asthma education home visits

Durables to address home asthma triggers

Home assessment and remediation services

Training to expand workforce

Program administration


Program Components

Referral

Part A. Asthma Educational Services

Part B. Environmental and Remediation Services

Program Components



Referral. Client referred to asthma educator.

DHS checks Medicaid status.

Educator verifies client qualifies based on asthma screening.

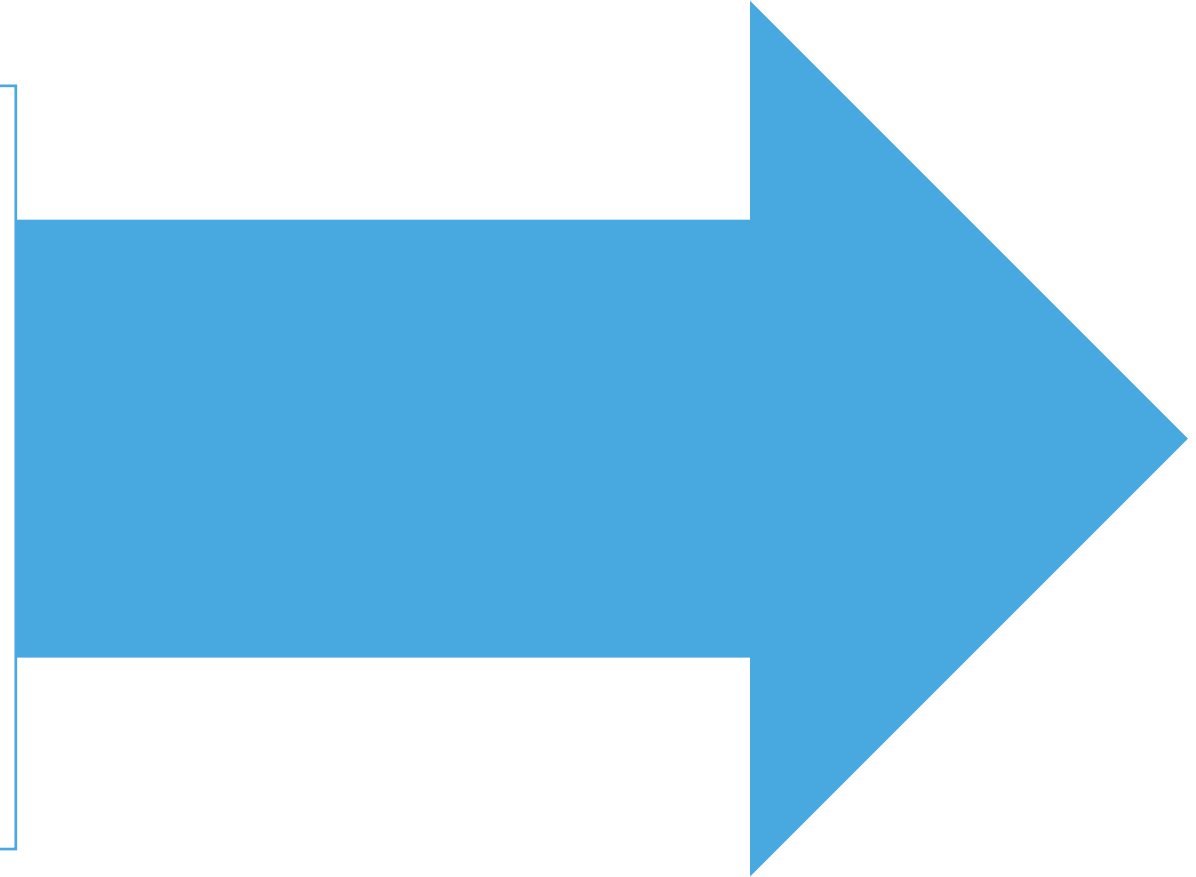
Program Components

Referral. Client referred to asthma educator.

DHS checks Medicaid status.

Educator verifies client qualifies based on asthma screening.

Part A. Asthma educator conducts home visits to provide self-management education, durables, and basic home assessment with recommendations.



Program Components

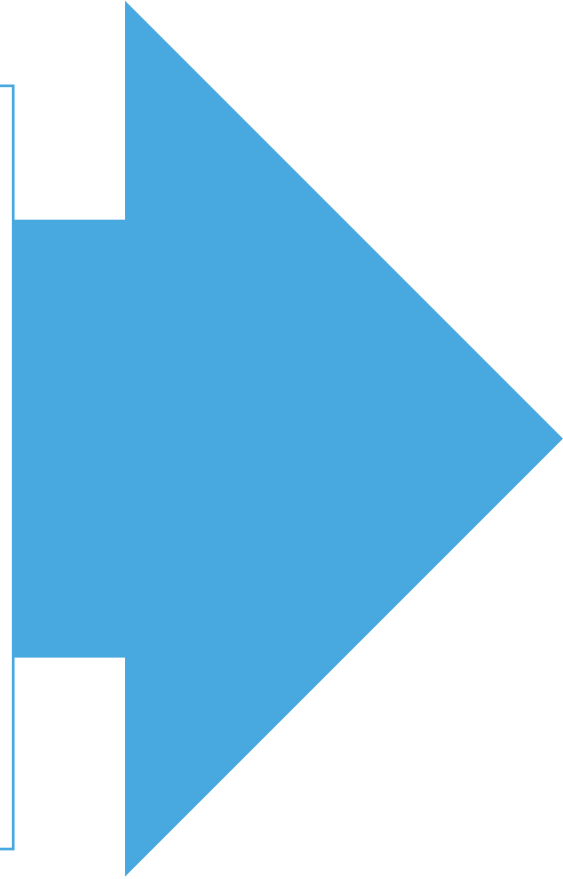
Referral. Client referred to asthma educator.

DHS checks Medicaid status.

Educator verifies client qualifies based on asthma screening.

Part A. Asthma educator conducts home visits to provide self-management education, durables, and basic home assessment with recommendations.

Part B. In subset of referred homes, assessor completes comprehensive environmental assessment to identify and address asthma triggers (up to \$5,000).



Client Eligibility Criteria

Children aged 2–18 years or pregnant adults

Medicaid-eligible

Referred due to uncontrolled asthma

Living in Wisconsin and in a program service area



Part A: In-home Asthma Education

Asthma education providers conduct 2–6 home visits and 2-week and 3-month follow-ups to provide:

- Asthma self-management education
- Home walkthrough and recommendations
- Durables up to \$1000 per client
- Referrals to Part B: Environmental Services



Part B: Environmental Services

Environmental services include:

- Comprehensive environmental assessment of home
- Scope of work to identify and prioritize asthma-related hazards
- Remediation and repairs to home



Program Grantees 2022–2023

Part A

Milwaukee

- Children's Wisconsin
- One Choice Concepts, Inc.
- Revitalize Milwaukee
- Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers
- UniteWI

Kenosha

- Kenosha County Public Health

Part B

Milwaukee

- Revitalize Milwaukee
- Social Development Commission

Training provided by Green & Healthy Homes Initiative

Lessons Learned

Participate in all relevant reimbursement TA opportunities.

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Conduct state pilot program, even on small scale. Build those partnerships!

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Collect program performance metrics and keep up-to-date.

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What's your pitch (selling points)?

Lessons Learned

Participate in all relevant reimbursement TA opportunities.

Conduct state pilot program, even on small scale. Build those partnerships!

Collect program performance metrics and keep up-to-date.

What's your pitch (selling points)?

Be ready when the opportunity presents itself.

Lessons Learned

Participate in all relevant reimbursement TA opportunities.

Conduct state pilot program, even on small scale. Build those partnerships!

Collect program performance metrics and keep up-to-date.

What's your pitch (selling points)?

Be ready when the opportunity presents itself.

Time and investment needed to establish program.

Future

Expand Asthma-Safe Homes
Program service areas

Promote Asthma-Safe Homes
Program and other asthma quality
improvement activities to
Medicaid HMOs



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Epidemiologist

Carrie Tomasallo, M.P.H., Ph.D.

carrie.tomasallo@wi.gov

Principal Investigator



Wisconsin Asthma Program

Bureau of Environmental & Occupational Health

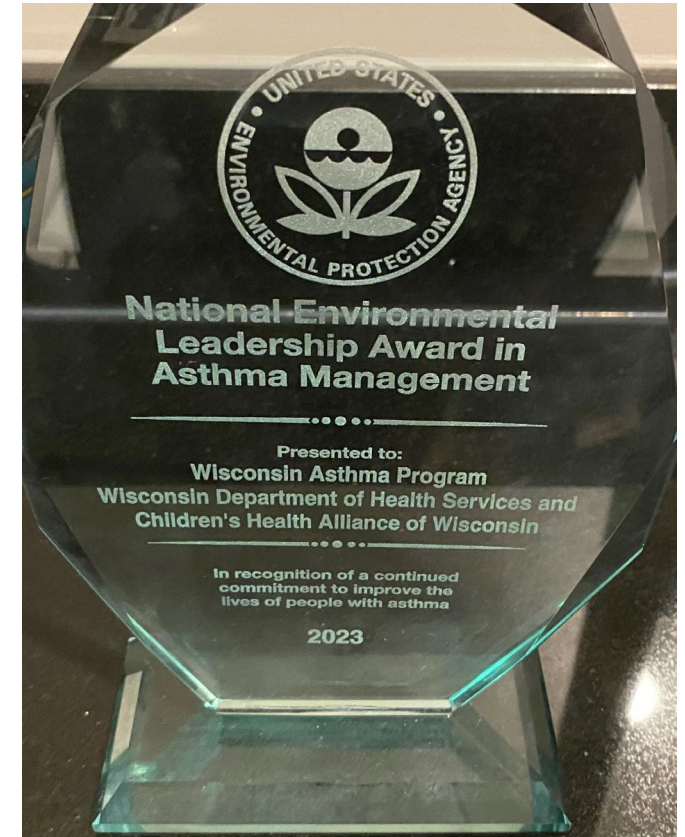
Division of Public Health

Department of Health Services

dhs.wisconsin.gov/asthma



Congratulations to the 2023 Award Winner



Polling Question 2

Based on today's presentation, what action do you feel more equipped to take in your asthma program?

1. Approach and enlist new community partners
2. Expand and enhance your programs' in-home asthma visits
3. Refine my program's tracking to demonstrate more effective health outcomes and ROI data
4. Request a mentor on AsthmaCommunityNetwork.org
5. Apply for the 2024 National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management

Question & Answer Session on AsthmaCommunityNetwork.org Discussion Forum

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. EDT

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2. Click on the “**Discussion Forum**” button on the home page.
3. Click on the “**Live Online Q&A for 5/23/23 Webinar**” link.
4. Click on the “**Add new Forum topic**” link to post your question.
5. Enter your question and click the “**Save**” button at the bottom of the page.