



USAsthma SUMMIT 2023

EPA Award Winners, The Wisconsin Asthma Program - How Collaboration, Data, Equity Goals (And Perseverance) Improve Asthma Outcomes in Wisconsin

Erika Kluetmeier, Environmental Health Communications Strategist Wisconsin Department of Health Services, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Public Health,
Presenting: Sheila Brown, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management



The nation's highest honor for exceptional asthma management programs.



- **Recognizes programs addressing the environmental components of asthma.**
- **Follows national guidelines and published criteria for achieving improved health outcomes.**
- **Employs two-tiered review process with reviewers from federal agencies and national nongovernmental organizations.**

Award Winners Hall of Fame



www.asthmacommunitynetwork.org/awards/winners



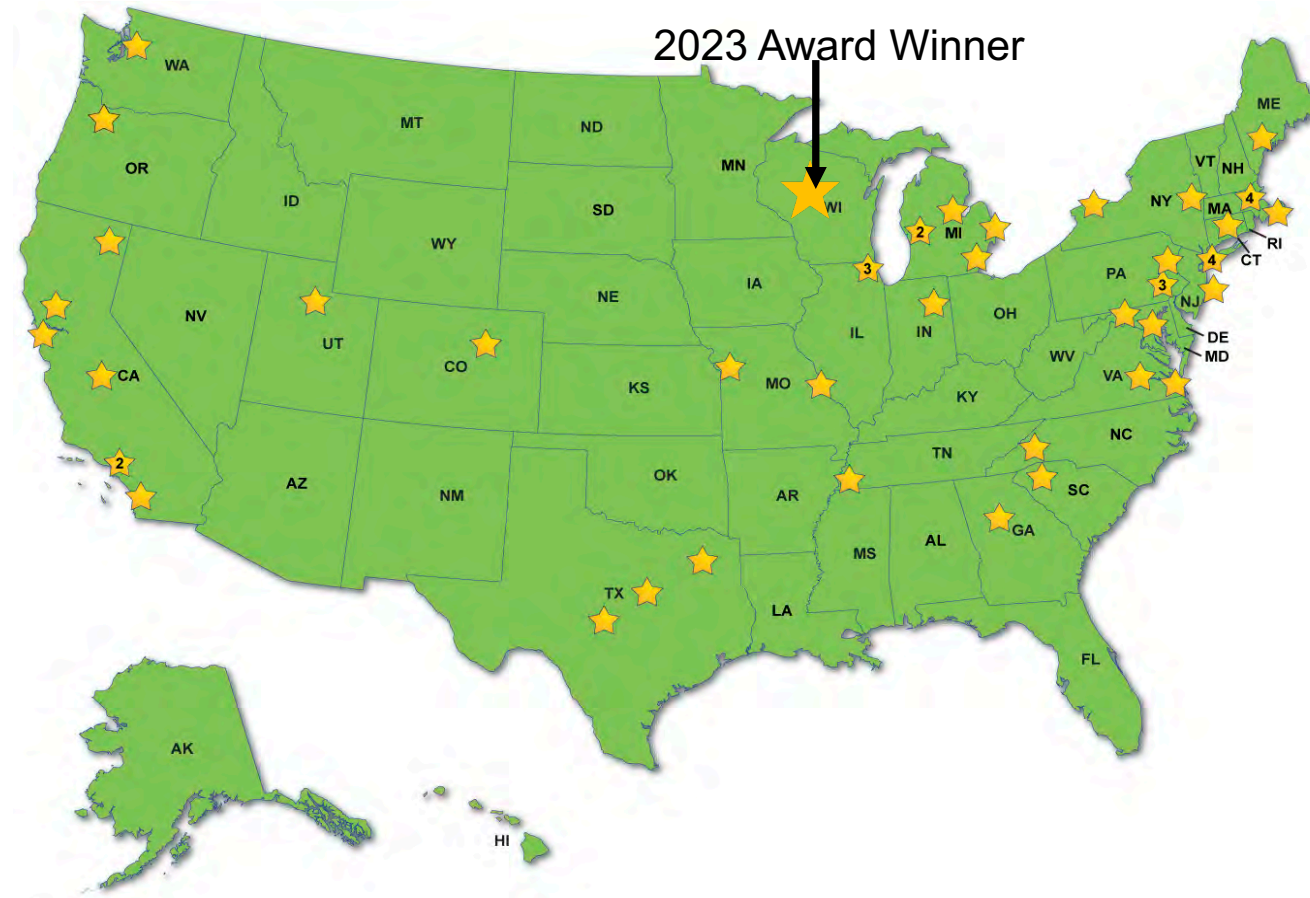
L.A. Cares About Asthma™



Asthma Awards Program

Hall of Fame

STRENGTH
T & PREVENTION



The application process will open soon on www.asthmacommunitynetwork.org

Working together to reduce the burden of asthma

2023 Asthma Award Winner



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES




Where Can I Learn More?

- **Join the Asthma Community Network at www.asthmacommunitynetwork.org.**

Archived Webinar!

2023 Asthma Award Winner
Wisconsin Asthma Program:
Using Asthma Surveillance to Drive
Improvement and Sustainability





Share, Learn, Connect:

CREATE OR UPDATE YOUR PROGRAM PROFILE TODAY!

**Join the Asthma Community Network to
access recorded webinars and more at
AsthmaCommunityNetwork.org**

Wisconsin Asthma Program:

How collaboration, data, equity goals improve
asthma outcomes in Wisconsin

&

perseveranc

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USAsthma Summit

November 10, 2023



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Overview

About the Wisconsin Asthma Program

Wisconsin asthma burden

Current initiatives

Stable funding for asthma services

Looking ahead





Our History

Housed in the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- 1992 ● Surveillance focused
- 2001 ● CDC grant expansion
- 2003 ● First Wisconsin Asthma Plan
- 2022 ● Medicaid reimbursement for asthma services

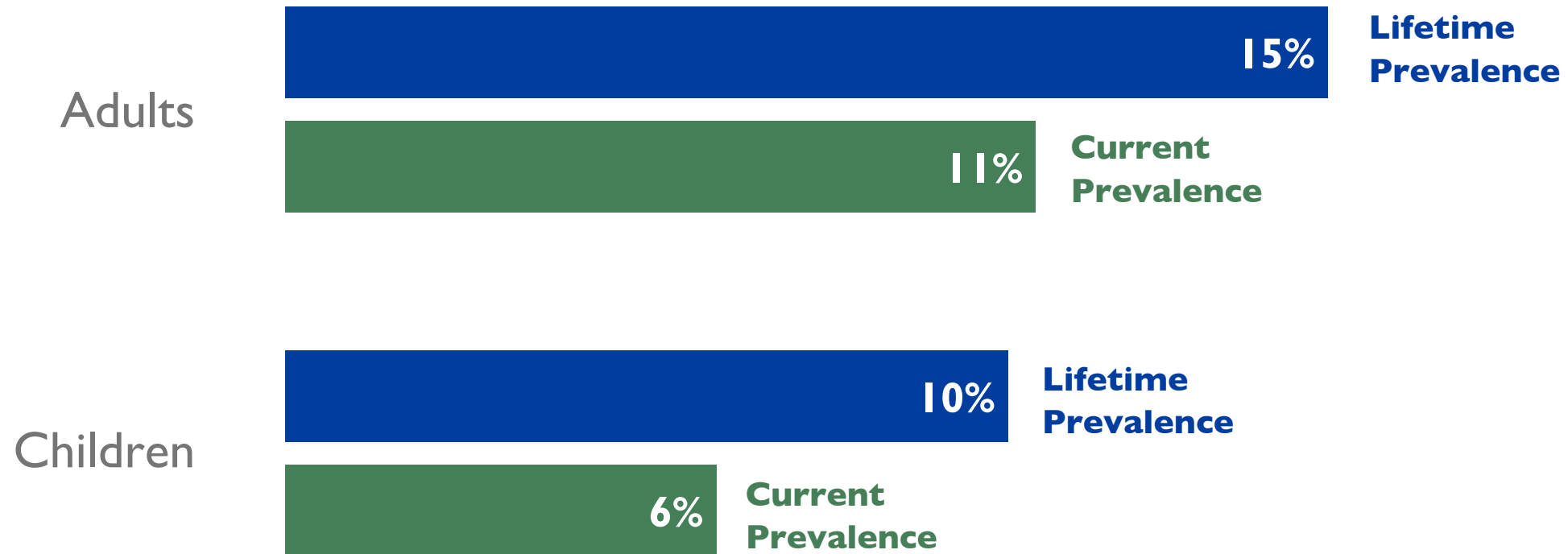
Our Priorities

- E** EDUCATION ON ASTHMA SELF-MANAGEMENT
- X** X-TINGUISHING SMOKING AND SECONDHAND SMOKE
- H** HOME VISITS FOR TRIGGER REDUCTION AND ASTHMA SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION
- A** ACHIEVEMENT OF GUIDELINES-BASED MEDICAL MANAGEMENT
- L** LINKAGES AND COORDINATION OF CARE ACROSS SETTINGS
- E** ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES OR BEST PRACTICES TO REDUCE ASTHMA TRIGGERS

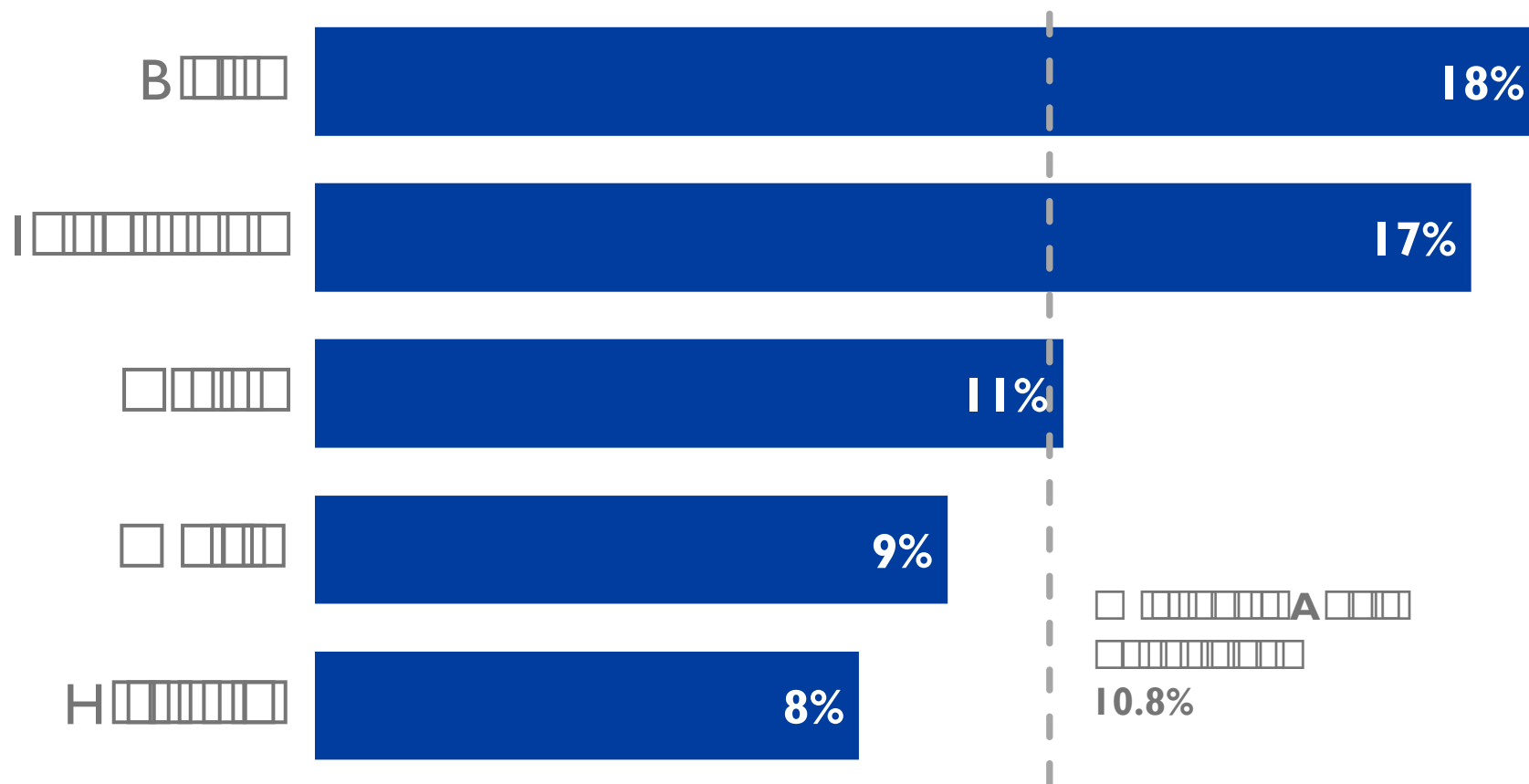


DATA-DRIVEN DECISION MAKING

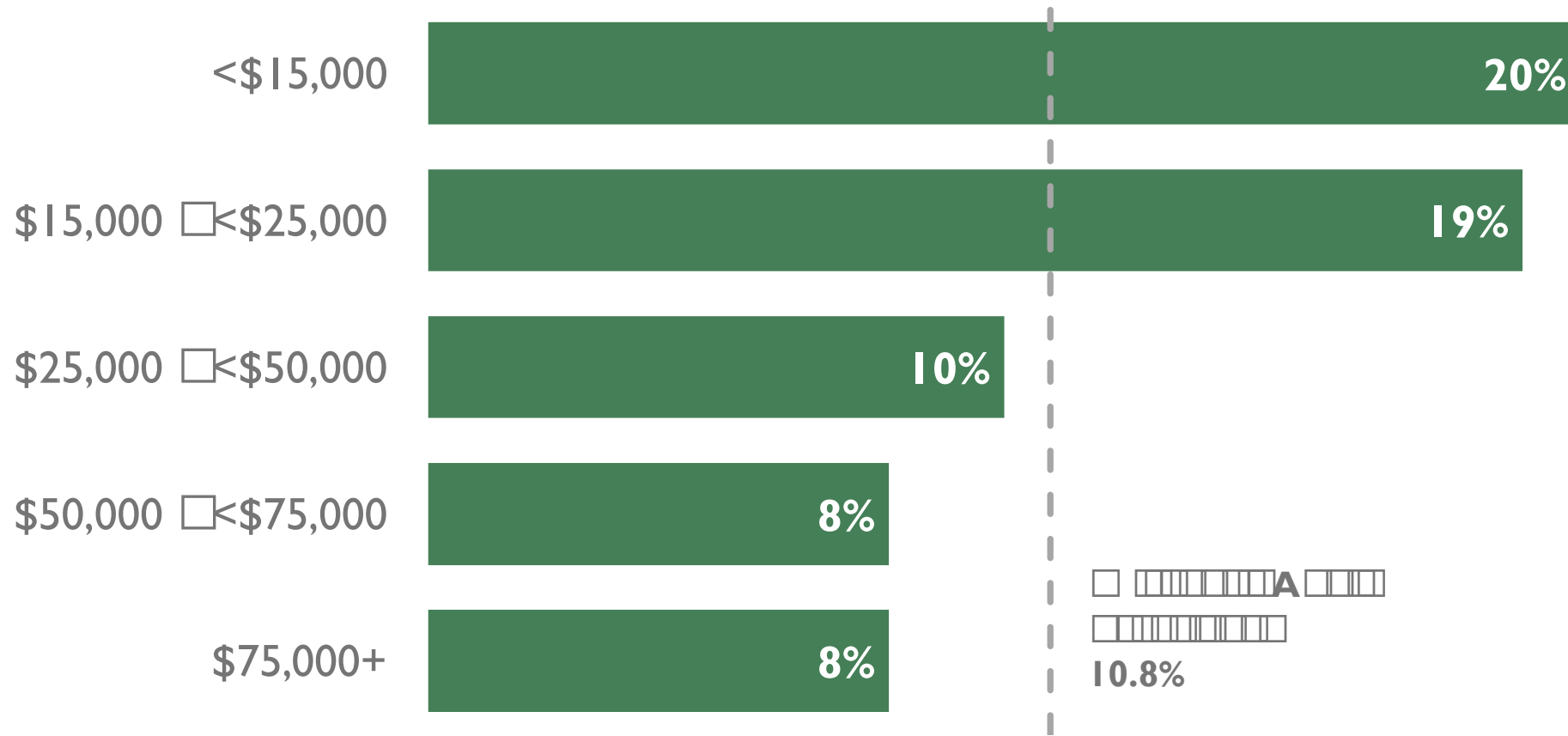
15% of Adults and 10% of Kids Reported Ever Being Diagnosed with Asthma



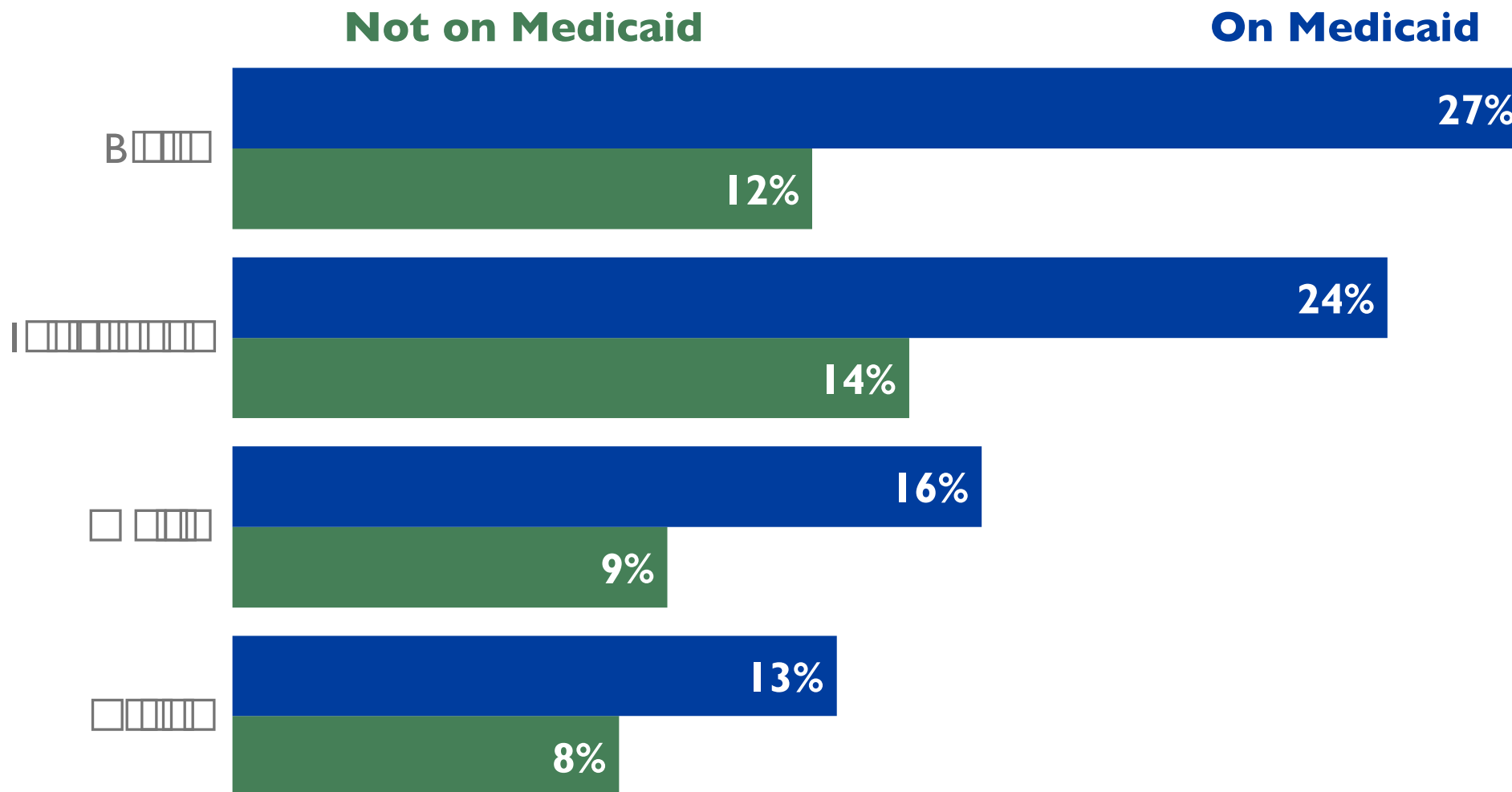
There Are Large Asthma Disparities by Race and Ethnicity



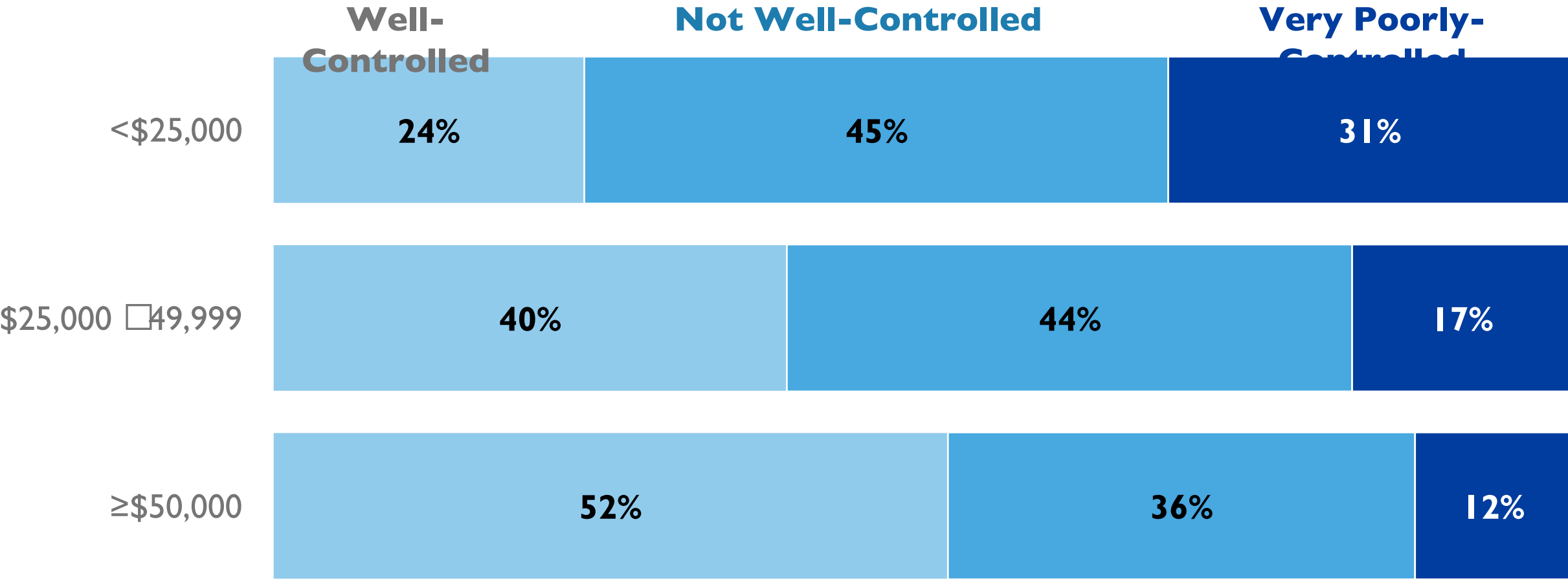
There Are Large Asthma Disparities by Income



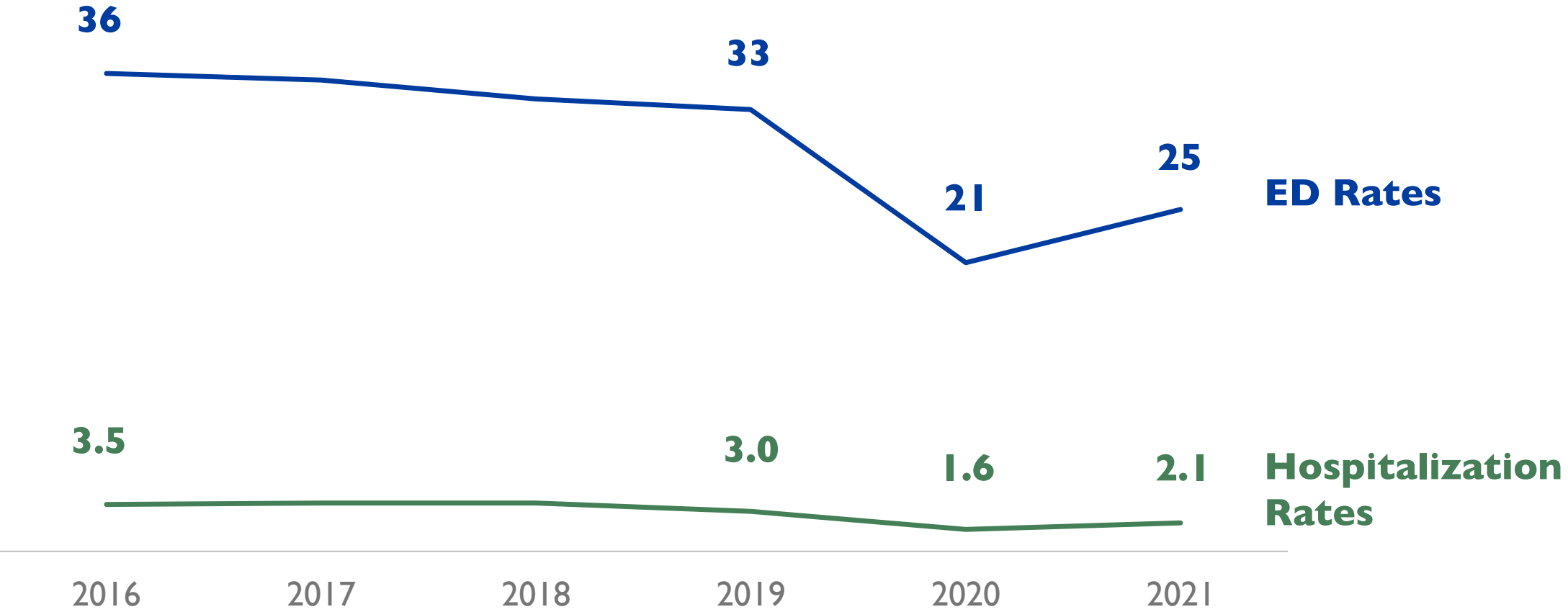
Asthma Rates Among People on Medicaid Are Doubled When Looking by Race



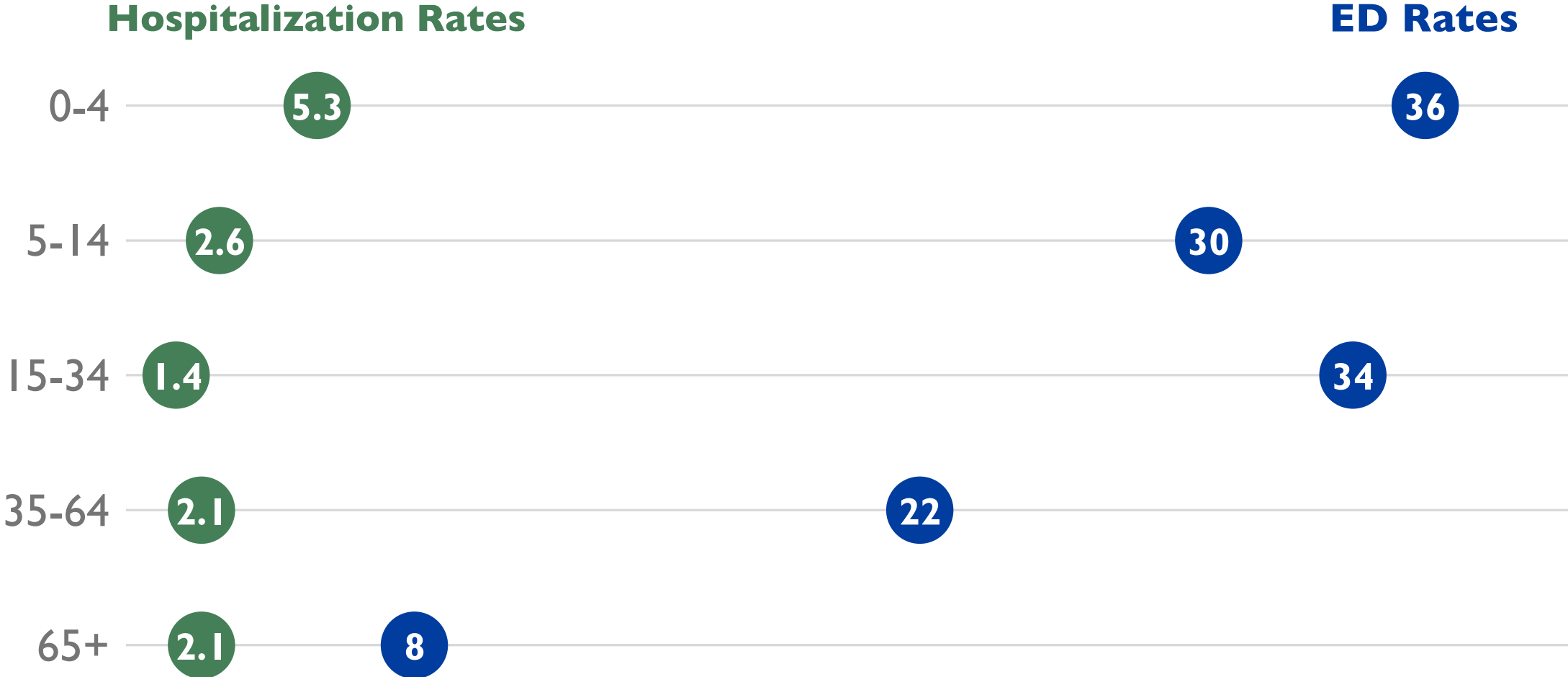
Poorly-Controlled Asthma in Adults is Greatest Among the Lowest-Income Group



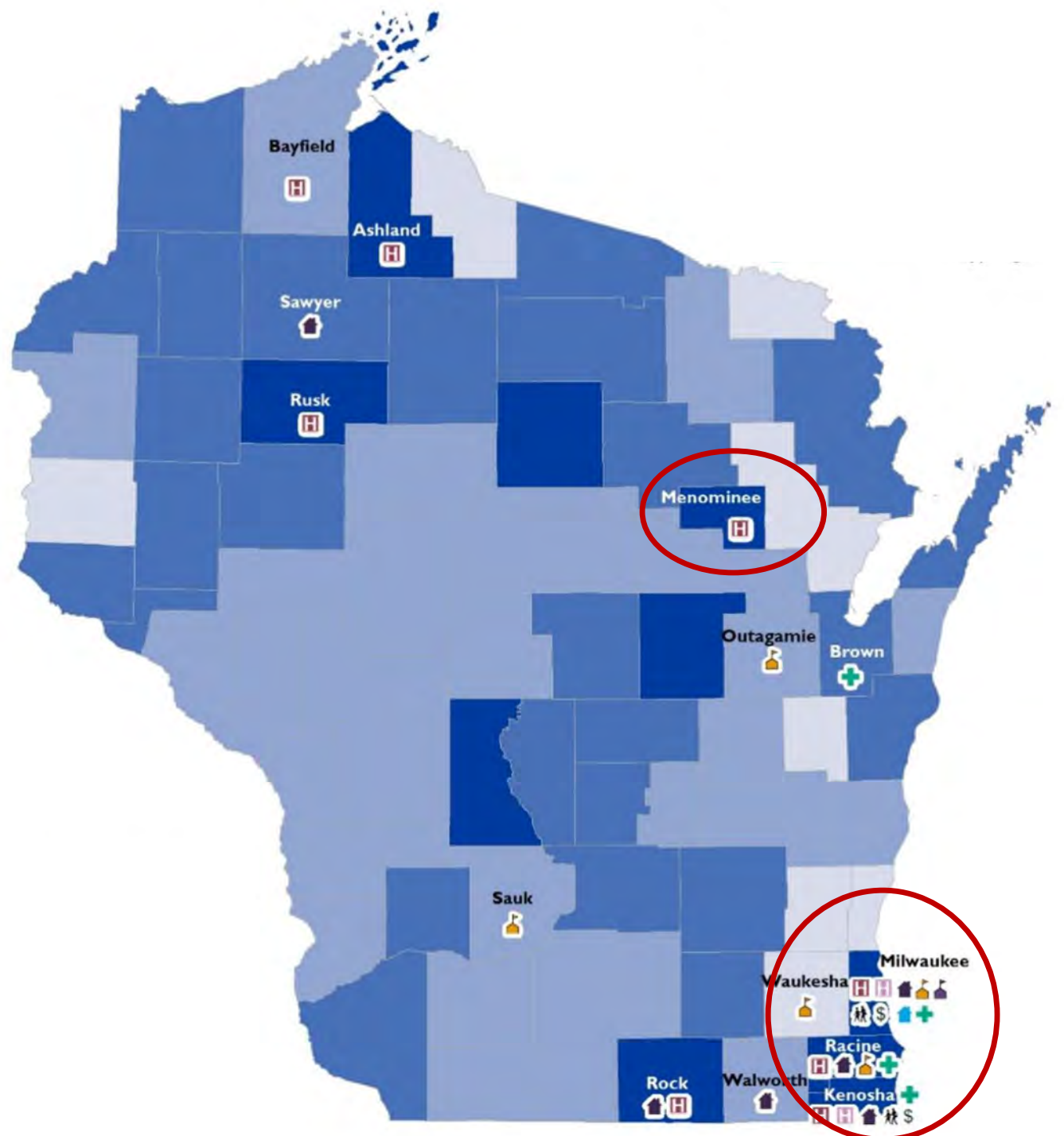
Asthma ED and Hospitalization Rates per 10,000 People Were Stable Until the COVID-19 Pandemic



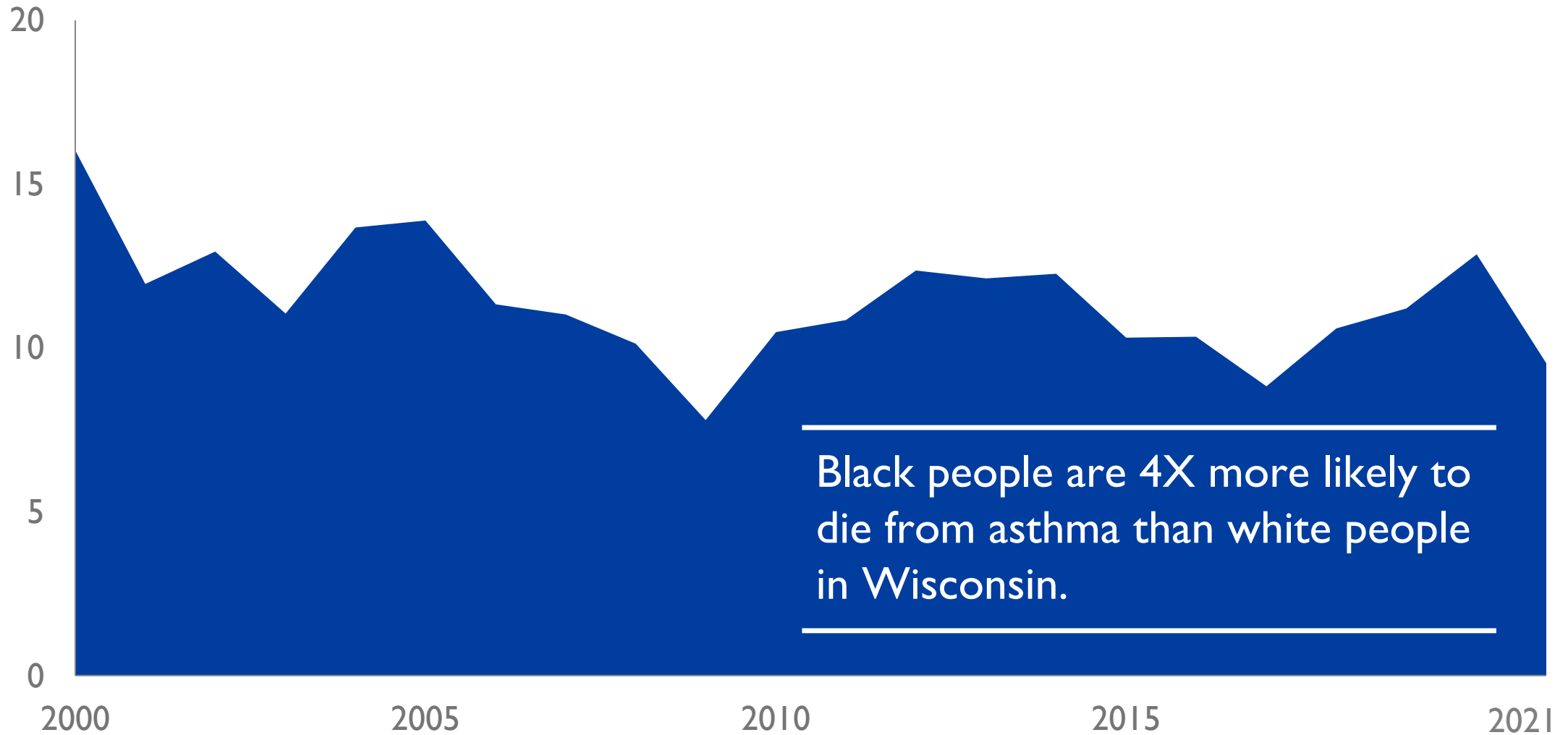
The Highest ED and Hospitalization Rates per 10,000 People Are in Younger Age Groups



Our Program
Activities
Primarily Focus
in Those
High-Burdened
Counties



Asthma-Related Mortality Rates per One Million People





CURRENT INITIATIVES



ur partners



Neighborhood Air Monitoring and Anti-Idling

love my air
network



**WAITING?
10+ SECONDS**



turn off
your engine

NO IDLE ZONE
Help Kids Breathe Easier
and **\$ave Money**

 WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES 



Medication Therapy Management

Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin trains pharmacists on asthma best practices:

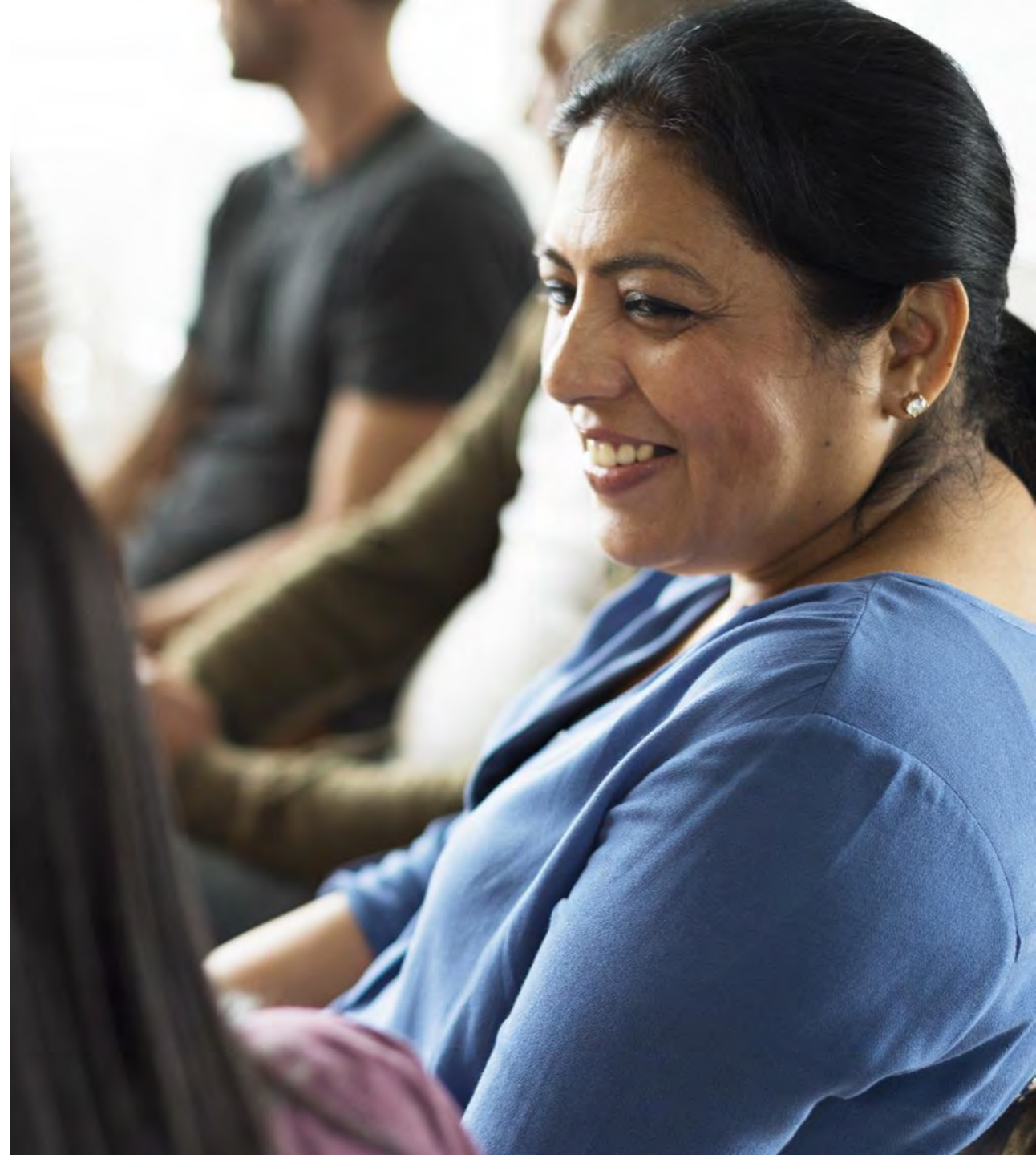
- Monitoring medication therapy plans.
- Reviewing personal medication records.
- Tracking medication action plans.
- Designing interventions or referring clients as needed.
- Documenting process and following up with asthma providers.



Patient Voice

Conversations to understand asthma patient and caregiver experiences with asthma care:

- Patient resources
 - Patient self-advocacy tips
 - Provider communication tips
- Outreach through trusted information sources
- Support groups





IMPROVING ASTHMA HEALTHCARE

Asthma Control

Developing asthma care performance measures for health systems.

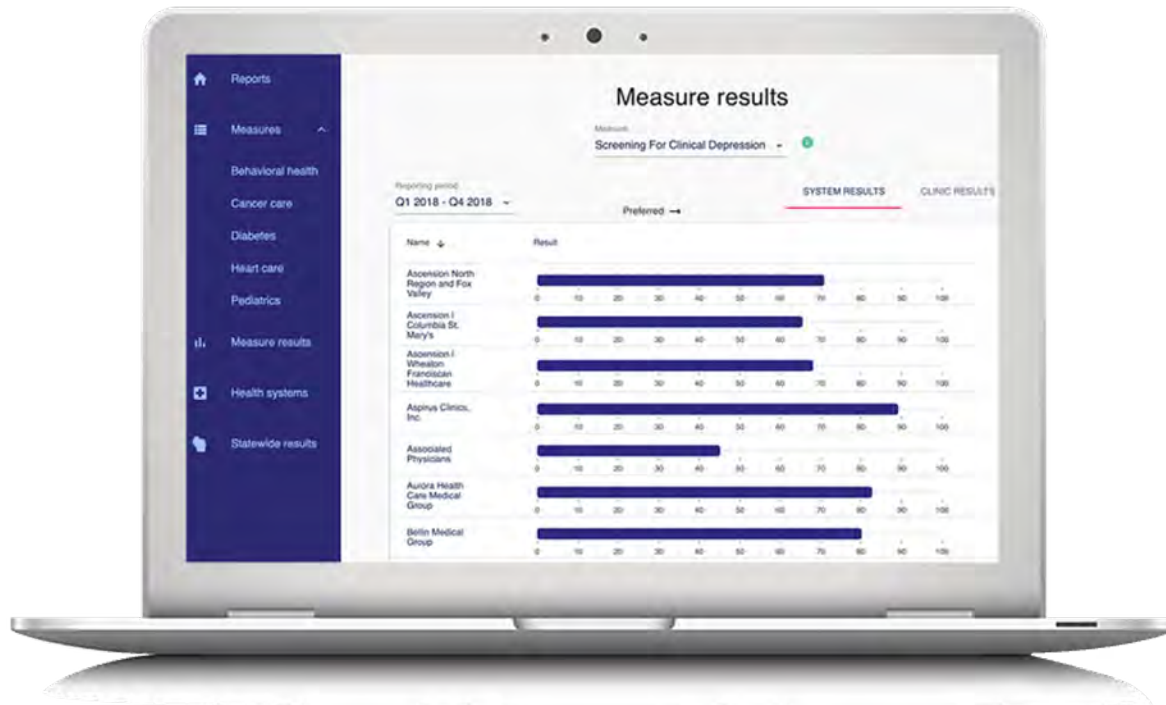


— WISCONSIN —
COLLABORATIVE *for*
HEALTHCARE QUALITY



Quality Improvement

Developing guidelines-based medical care performance measures for health systems.



Provider Training

Delivering training on Pediatric Asthma Guidelines to Wisconsin asthma care providers.





SCHOOL-BASED INITIATIVES



School-Based Asthma Management Program

Four key components

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

CIRCLE of SUPPORT



Asthma-Friendly Schools Mini-Grants

Funding to boost implementation of asthma best practices that help reduce asthma exacerbations:

- Staff education
- Asthma Action Plan on file
- Coordination with caregivers, healthcare provider & school
- School walkthrough program recommendations

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



CAUTION

You have **any** of these:

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



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



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 Childcare Walkthroughs



“ With the help of the school walkthrough program, I was able to impact the lives of more than 1,400 students living with asthma in our district 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”

—Lindsay Denheimer, school nurse and asthma educator



ASTHMA SAFE HOMES PROGRAM

Asthma-Safe Homes Program Mission



Provide asthma management tools and address asthma triggers in homes with kids who have poorly controlled asthma.

Asthma-Safe Homes Program

Provides Medicaid reimbursement funding for:

- Asthma self-management education
- Durables
- Home asthma trigger assessments
- Home 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)



THE PATH TO MEDICAID FUNDING

Successful Wisconsin
Asthma Care pilot + ROI



Sustainable funding for
Asthma Safe Homes Program



Results From a Case-Control Study of Asthma Care Program Participants 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 **ACT scores**



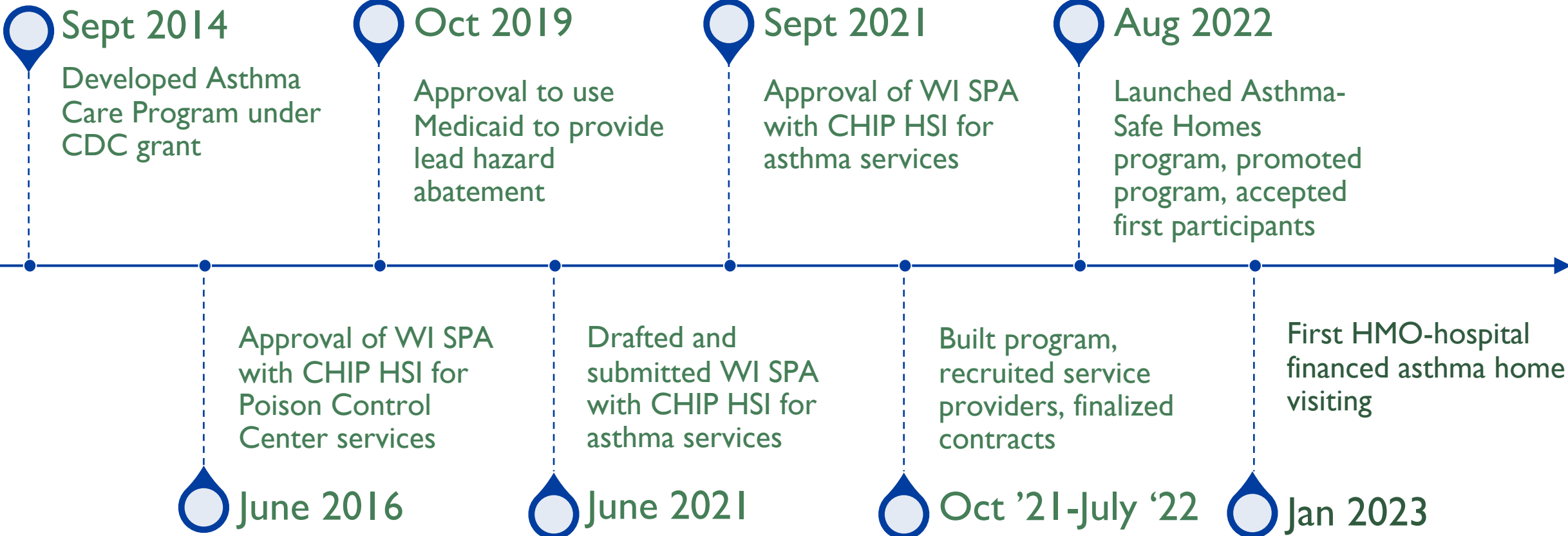
54% had fewer **missed days of school or work**

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

\$2.34



Path to Asthma Safe Homes Program



\$2.5 Million Annual Budget

- Asthma education home visits
- Durables to address home asthma triggers
- Home assessment and remediation services
- Training to expand service-provider workforce
- State program administration



Program Components

Referral

Client referred to asthma educator.

DHS checks Medicaid status.

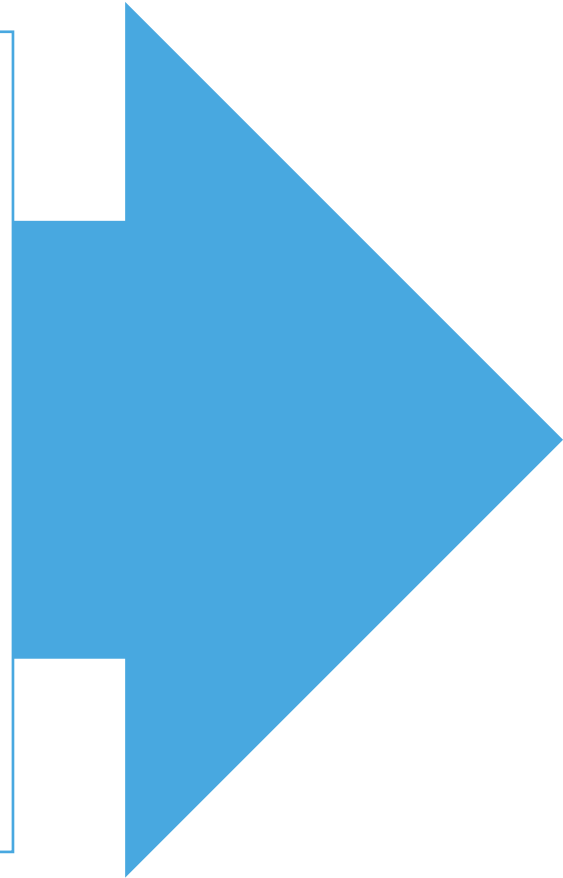
Educator verifies client qualifies based on asthma screening.

Education

Asthma educator conducts home visits to provide self-management education, durables (up to \$1000), and basic home assessment with recommendations.

Home assessment and repairs

In sub-set of referred homes, assessor completes comprehensive home assessment to identify and address asthma triggers (up to \$5000).



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



Looking Ahead

- Expand Asthma-Safe Homes program service areas.
- Boost adoption of Asthma-Safe Homes program model in Medicaid HMOs.
- Promote other asthma quality improvement initiatives with Medicaid HMOs.
- Apply lessons learned from Asthma MTM.
- Expand Love My Air to schools statewide.



Visit wi.gov/asthma

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Principal Investigator



Wisconsin Asthma Program
Bureau of Environmental & Occupational Health
Division of Public Health
Department of Health Services

