

Asthma Cooperative Agreement Partner Profile

WISCONSIN

Accessible link: <https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/contacts/asthma-grantee-profile-wi.html>

The **Wisconsin Asthma Program (WAP)** has been part of CDC's National Asthma Control Program since 2001. They work alongside partners to improve the quality of asthma care, improve asthma management in schools, and foster policies to help reduce exposure to asthma triggers in outdoor, indoor, and workplace environments.

Strategies in Action

- The *Asthma Care Program* provides asthma self-management education (AS-ME) and a home environmental walkthrough to reduce adverse outcomes among people with poorly controlled asthma. Improved outcomes at 3-month follow-up included a 14% decrease in asthma emergency department (ED) visits and a 73% decrease in asthma hospitalizations.
- In September 2021, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMMS) approved the Wisconsin Department of Health Services' Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan Amendment. This allowed Wisconsin to receive \$3 million in funding to implement a new CHIP health services initiative to address asthma and housing-related environmental contributors for children and pregnant women enrolled in Medicaid. The pilot phase of the program began in 2014 with CDC funding. In 2019, 71 people participated in the program, which resulted in 79% fewer emergency department visits, 50% fewer hospitalizations, and 78% fewer missed school and workdays. The program was implemented in several communities by various partner organizations, and it saved families an average of nearly \$800 in emergency department visits and hospitalizations. This also reflected a cost savings of \$117 per patient for taxpayers. These outcomes influenced Medicaid to establish the program as a new CHIP Health Services Initiative (HIS).
- In May 2022, WAP completed an air monitoring and anti-idling pilot project at two Milwaukee public schools near heavy traffic corridors and with high asthma burden. This work informed the new 3-year EPA-funded project "Breathe S.M.A.R.T.," which aims to expand project implementation through the creation of a community-based network of neighborhood-level air quality monitoring stations in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, focusing on neighborhoods with high asthma burden.

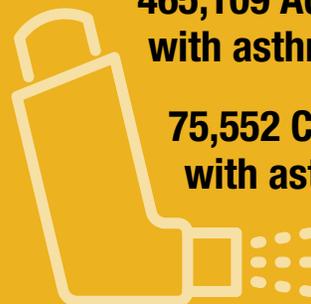
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Asthma by the Numbers:

2020

465,109 Adults
with asthma

75,552 Children
with asthma



In 2020, a total of 465,109 Wisconsin adults (10.2% of the adult population) had asthma and 75,552 Wisconsin children ages 0–17 (6%) had it.

2019

17,569 ER visits

1,711 Hospitalizations



In 2019, there were 17,569 emergency department (ED) visits and 1,711 hospitalizations due to asthma in Wisconsin.



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

[cdc.gov/asthma](https://www.cdc.gov/asthma)

National Asthma Control Program: EXHALE

Education

on asthma self-management

X-tinguishing

smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke

Home

visits for trigger reduction and asthma self-management education

Achievement

of guidelines-based medical management

Linkages

and coordination of care across settings

Environmental

policies or best practices to reduce asthma triggers from indoor, outdoor, or occupational sources

CDC's National Asthma Control Program (NACP) and its partners help people with asthma achieve better health and improved quality of life. NACP developed EXHALE, a set of six public health strategies that each contribute to better asthma control.

Each EXHALE strategy has been proven to reduce asthma-related hospitalizations, emergency department visits, and healthcare costs. Using the EXHALE strategies together in a community can have the greatest impact.