Health and Health Care for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders (NHOPIs) in the United States

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Filling the need for trusted information on national health issues.

Figure 2

Nearly **18.2 million individuals** self-identify as Asian or NHOPI.

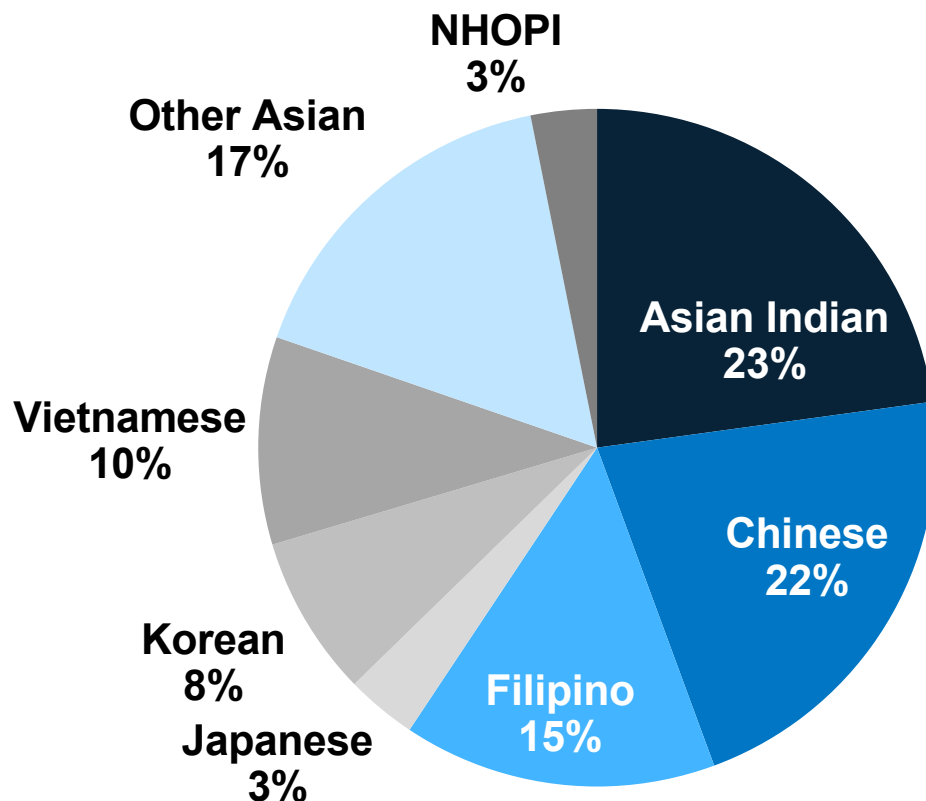Asians and NHOPIs account for **6%** of the total United States population.

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Figure 3

Asian and NHOPI populations are made up of diverse groups.

DISTRIBUTION OF NONELDERLY ASIAN & NHOPI POPULATIONS, 2017

NHOPI
3%

Other Asian
17%

Vietnamese
10%

Korean
8%

Japanese
3%

Filipino
15%

Chinese
22%

Asian Indian
23%

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Figure 4

Asians and NHOPIs live across the U.S., but make up a greater share of the population in a few states.

DISTRIBUTION OF NONELDERLY ASIAN & NHOPI POPULATIONS BY STATE, 2017

Asian

CA
31%

Remaining
48 States
52%

NY
10%

TX
8%

Total Asian: 15.5 Million

NHOPI

CA
24%

Remaining 49
States
51%

HI
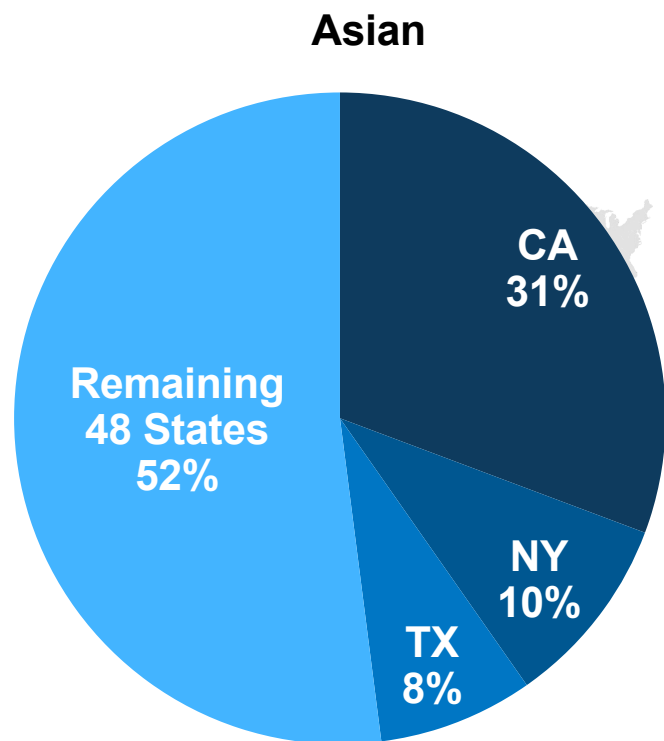25%

Total NHOPI: 0.5 Million

Note: Includes nonelderly individuals 0-64 years of age. Asians and NHOPIs are non-Hispanic and exclude individuals of mixed race.
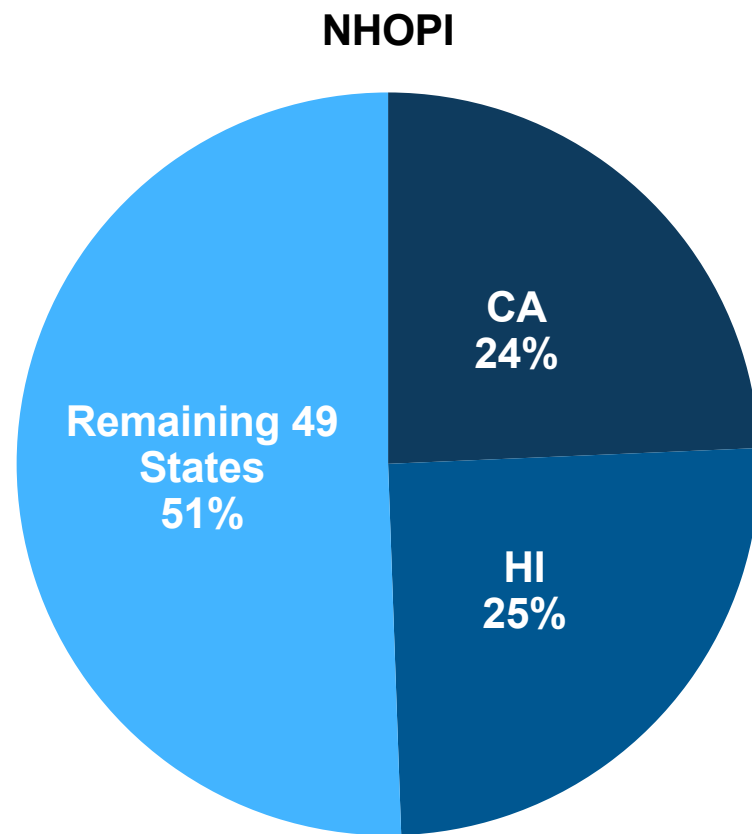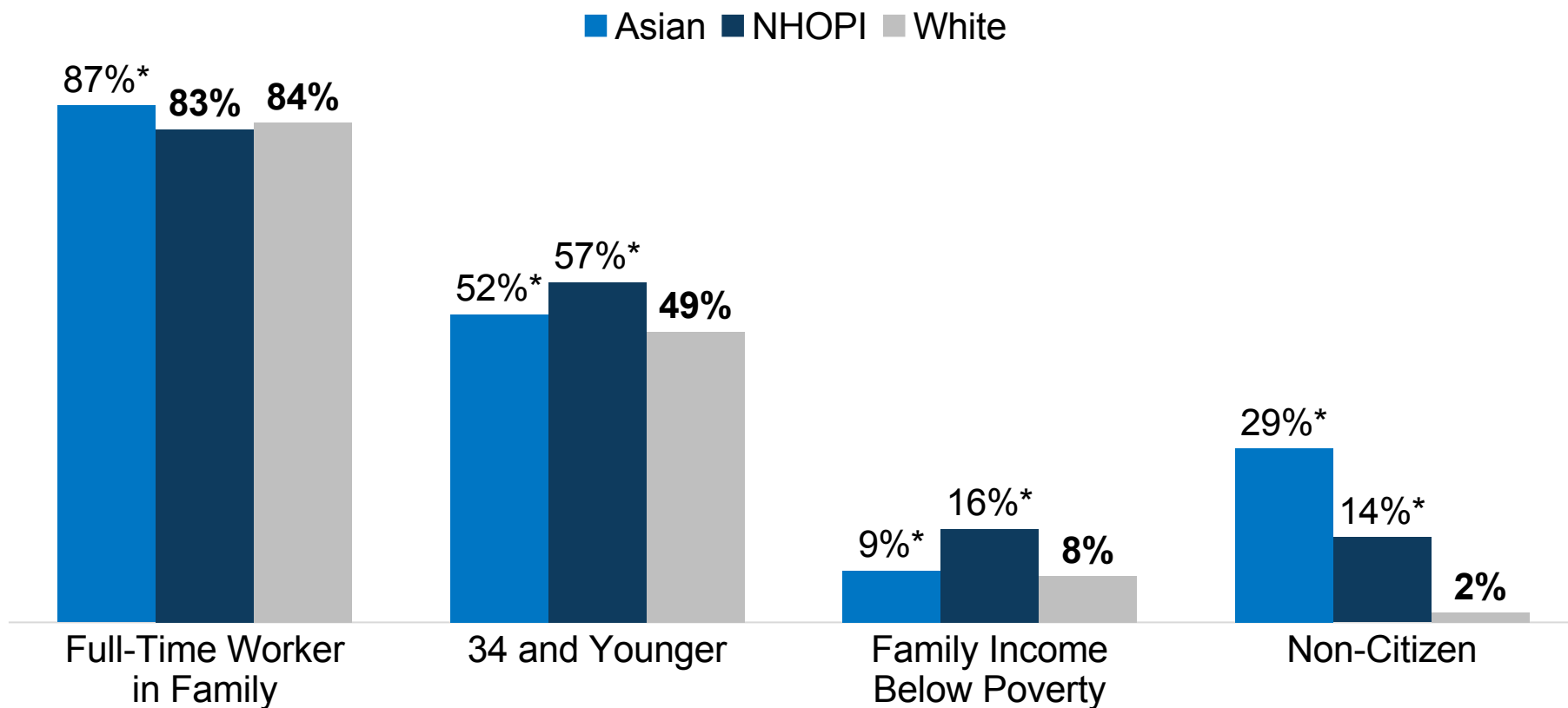Source: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of 2017 American Community Survey (ACS), 1-Year Estimates.

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Figure 5

Most Asians and NHOPIs have a worker in the family and they are more likely to be poor, younger, and non-citizens than Whites.

■ Asian ■ NHOPI ■ White

Full-Time Worker in Family: Asian 87%*, NHOPI 83%, White 84%

34 and Younger: Asian 52%*, NHOPI 57%*, White 49%

Family Income Below Poverty: Asian 9%*, NHOPI 16%*, White 8%
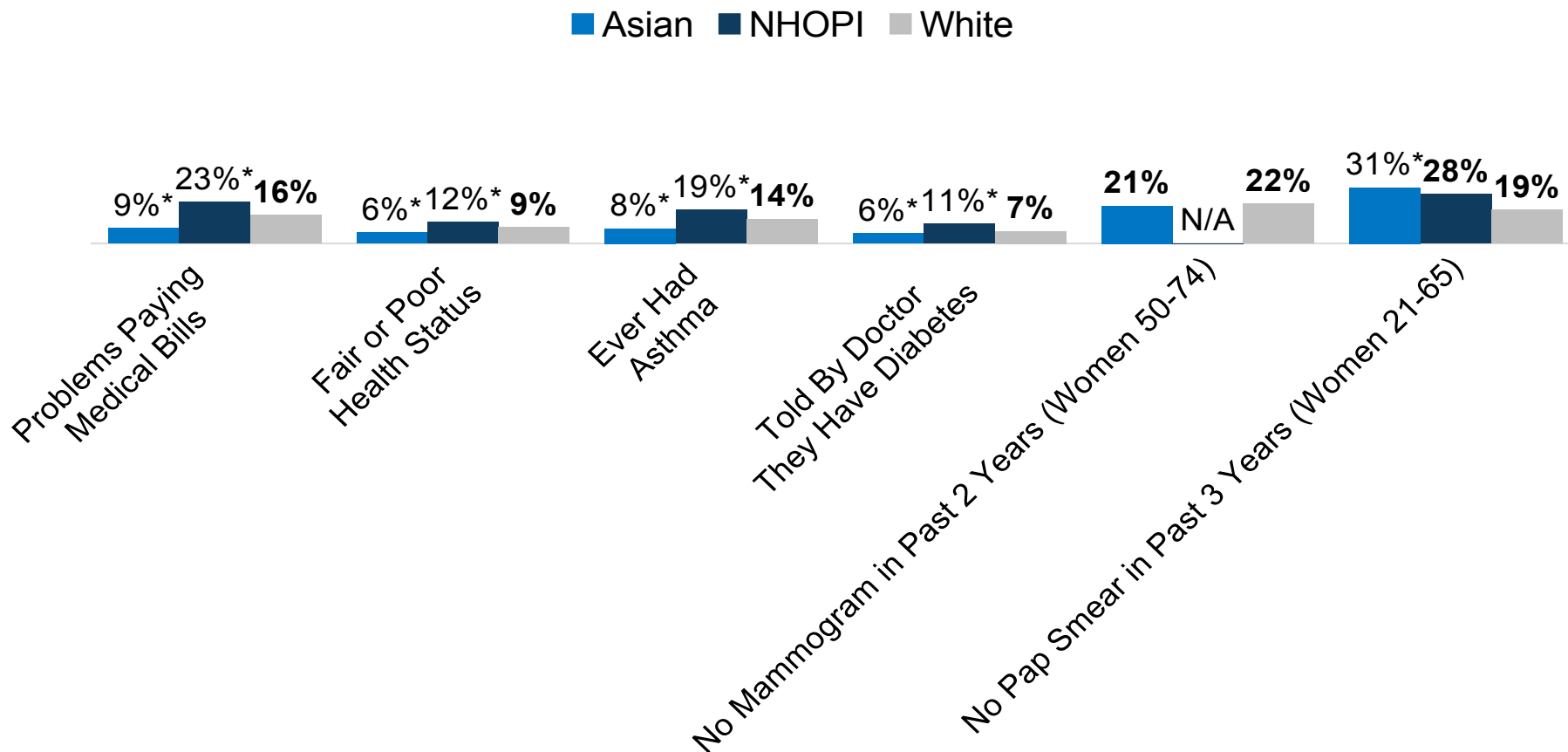
Non-Citizen: Asian 29%*, NHOPI 14%*, White 2%

* Indicates statistically significant difference from the White population at the p<0.05 level.
Note: Includes nonelderly individuals 0-64 years of age. All racial groups are non-Hispanic and exclude individuals of mixed race.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of 2017 American Community Survey (ACS), 1-Year Estimates.

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Figure 6

NHOPIs fare worse than Whites on many health measures. Asians often fare better than Whites, but…

■ Asian ■ NHOPI ■ White

Measure	Asian	NHOPI	White
Problems Paying Medical Bills	9%*	23%*	16%
Fair or Poor Health Status	6%*	12%*	9%
Ever Had Asthma	8%*	19%*	14%
Told By Doctor They Have Diabetes	6%*	11%*	7%
No Mammogram in Past 2 Years (Women 50-74)	21%	N/A	22%
No Pap Smear in Past 3 Years (Women 21-65)	31%*	28%	19%

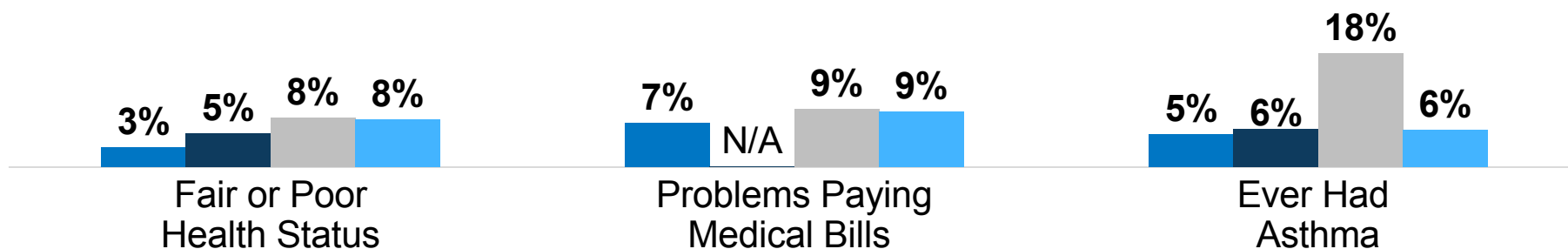* Indicates statistically significant difference from the White population at the p<0.05 level.
Note: Includes nonelderly individuals 18-64 years of age, unless otherwise noted. All racial groups are non-Hispanic and exclude individuals of mixed race. N/A: Estimate does not meet minimum standards for statistical reliability.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of 2014 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and 2016 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). NHOPI values for Fair/Poor Health Status, Ever Had Asthma, and Problems Paying Medical Bills come from the 2014 NHPI NHIS.

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Figure 7

…health experiences vary among subgroups of Asians.

■ Asian Indian ■ Chinese ■ Filipino ■ Other Asian

Fair or Poor Health Status
3% 5% 8% 8%

Problems Paying Medical Bills
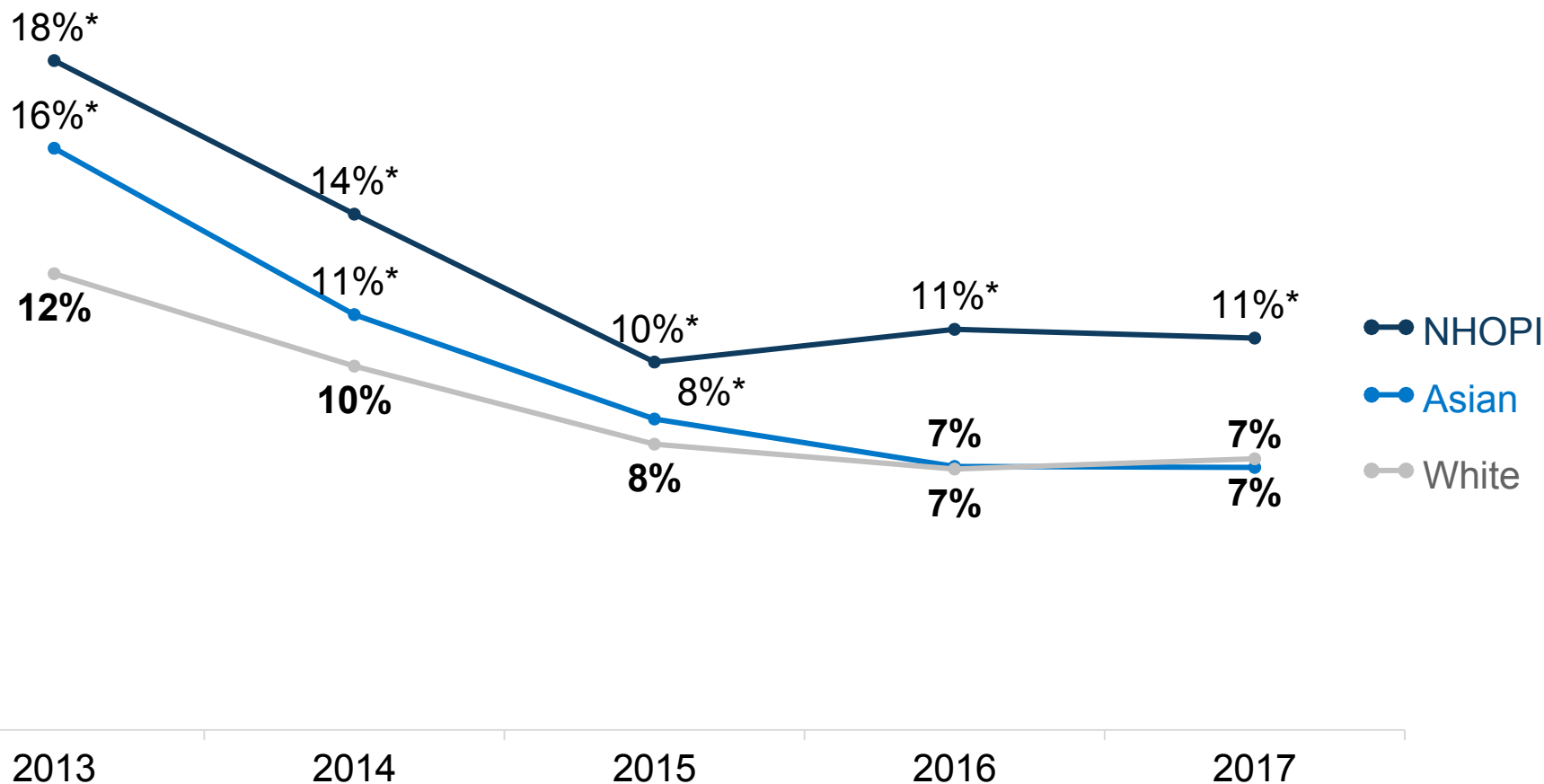7% N/A 9% 9%

Ever Had Asthma
5% 6% 18% 6%

Note: Includes nonelderly individuals 18-64 years of age. All groups are non-Hispanic and exclude individuals of mixed race. N/A: Estimate does not meet minimum standards for statistical reliability.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of 2017 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).

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Figure 8

The uninsured rate for Asians and NHOPIs declined under the ACA.

UNINSURED RATE AMONG NONELDERLY INDIVIDUALS, 2013-2017

* Indicates statistically significant difference from the White population at the p<0.05 level.
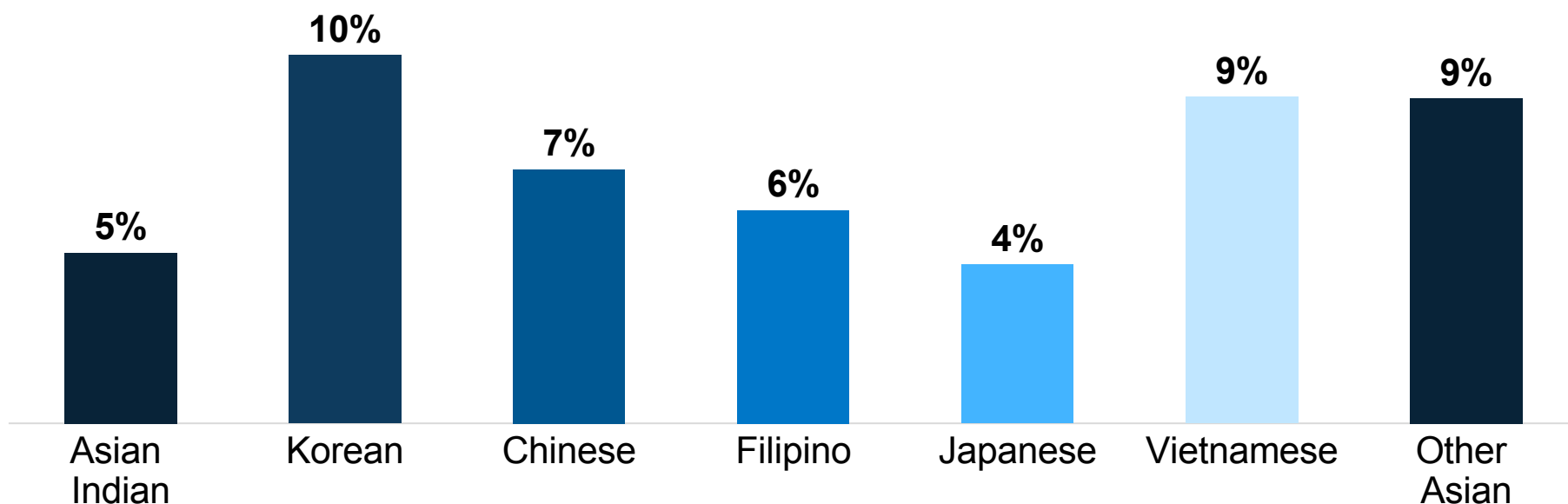Note: Nonelderly includes individuals 0-64 years of age. All racial groups are non-Hispanic and exclude individuals of mixed race.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of 2017 American Community Survey (ACS), 1-Year Estimates.

Figure 9

However, uninsured rates vary among subgroups of Asians.

UNINSURED RATE AMONG NONELDERLY INDIVIDUALS, 2017

Note: Nonelderly includes individuals 0-64 years of age. All racial groups are non-Hispanic and exclude individuals of mixed race.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of 2017 American Community Survey (ACS), 1-Year Estimates.