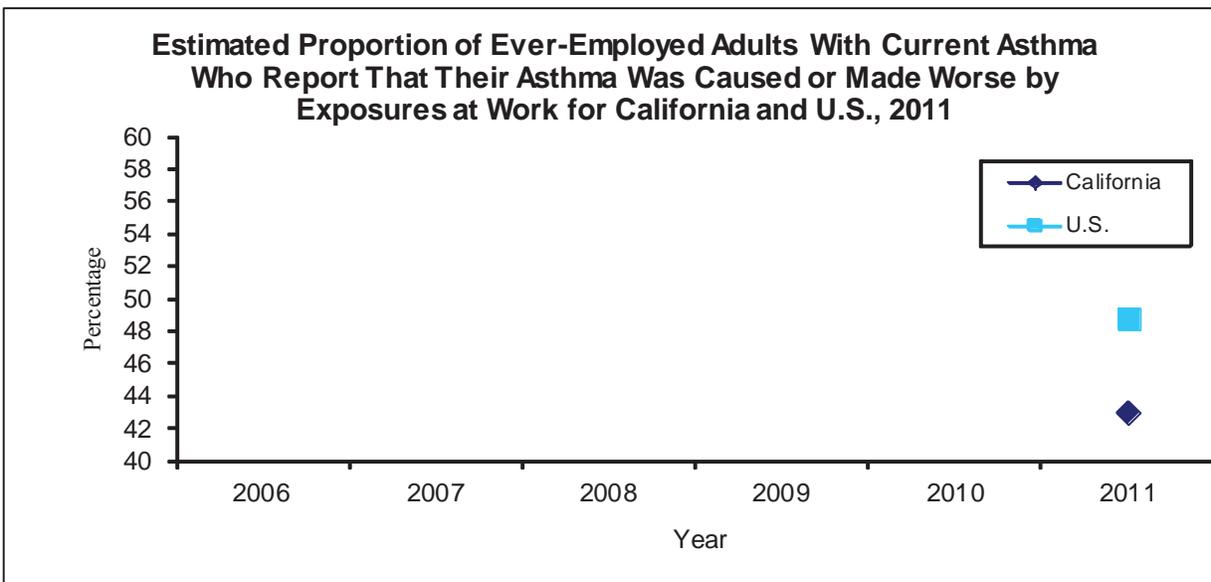


## Work-related Asthma

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory condition of the airways that affects over 21 million adults nationwide. Symptoms can include wheezing, shortness of breath, coughing, and chest tightness and can lead to significant disability. Work-related asthma (WRA) refers to asthma that is associated with conditions in the workplace, and can include new disease in workers, as well as exacerbations of current disease. While WRA is preventable, there is substantial evidence that WRA is under-recognized and underdiagnosed. The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is a nationwide telephone health survey of adults that collects data about asthma and many other health outcomes and behaviors. Some states conduct the Asthma Call-back Survey, an in-depth follow-up component of the BRFSS to collect additional information from respondents who report an asthma diagnosis. The survey includes questions that allow us to estimate the number and percentage of people with asthma in a state who have work-related asthma. Because it is a telephone survey in limited languages, it may exclude some individuals from participating, and data are subject to the bias of a self-reported asthma diagnosis. This new Indicator was developed by the states and added starting in 2011.



Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Asthma Call Back Survey (ACBS) respondents.

Asthma Among Adults Caused or Made Worse by Work for California and U.S., 2011							
Year	California						U.S.
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011
Weighted Estimate of the Number of Ever-Employed Adults With Current Asthma Who Report That Their Asthma Was Caused or Made Worse By Exposures at Work	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,033,035	7,201,961
Estimated Proportion of Ever-Employed Adults With Current Asthma Who Report That Their Asthma Was Caused or Made Worse By Exposures at Work	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	42.5	48.8

Data Sources: Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development Non-Public Hospital Discharge Data, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Population Survey