WASHINGTON, D.C., January 14, 2015 – AARP released a new report today revealing that Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) age 50 and older lack health insurance and access to quality, affordable health care compared to other Americans the same age.

“Given the cultural and socioeconomic diversity among AAPI groups, understanding the unique needs of each community is the first step in ensuring their health needs are met,” said Daphne Kwok, AARP Vice President of Multicultural Markets and Engagement for the Asian American and Pacific Islander Audience. “Our goal is to help reduce ethnic health disparities by closing the gaps in knowledge about this underserved community.”

“The Health and Healthcare of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders: An AARP Report” is the last of a three-part series of reports by AARP about key advocacy areas that impact AAPIs age 50 and older. The report, available for free download at [www.AARP.org/AAPI](http://www.AARP.org/AAPI), reveals that:

- 14% of AAPIs age 50 and older do not have health insurance (compared with 9% of the total U.S. population of the same age)
- 20% of AAPIs age 50-64 are uninsured (compared with 15% of the total U.S. population of the same age)
- 6% of AAPIs age 65 and older are uninsured (compared with 1% of total U.S. population of the same age)
- 33% of AAPIs age 65 and older have private health insurance (compared with 52% of U.S. population of the same age)
The main reason for non-coverage among AAPIs is cost. Employers and employee unions are the primary vehicles for health insurance coverage in the U.S. Because many AAPIs are self-employed or run small businesses, access and cost makes health insurance out of reach. Among those age 65 and older, a greater proportion of AAPIs do not have Medicare coverage, to some extent because of ineligibility for Medicare among some immigrants.

For more information about how AARP helps Asian American and Pacific Islander families get more out of life, visit www.facebook.com/AARPAAPICommunity and www.twitter.com/AARPAAPI.

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About AARP
AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, with a membership of nearly 38 million, that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to families such as healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities and protection from financial abuse. We advocate for individuals in the marketplace by selecting products and services of high quality and value to carry the AARP name as well as help our members obtain discounts on a wide range of products, travel, and services. A trusted source for lifestyle tips, news and educational information, AARP produces AARP The Magazine, the world's largest circulation magazine; AARP Bulletin; www.aarp.org; AARP TV & Radio; AARP Books; and AARP en Español, a Spanish-language website addressing the interests and needs of Hispanics. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to political campaigns or candidates. The AARP Foundation is an affiliated charity that provides security, protection, and empowerment to older persons in need with support from thousands of volunteers, donors, and sponsors. AARP has staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Learn more at www.aarp.org.

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