

National Health Interview Survey (NHIS): Asthma Content

The NHIS is the principal source of information on the health of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States including children and adults and is one of the major data collection programs of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). NHIS data are used widely throughout the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to monitor trends in illness and disability and to track progress toward achieving national health objectives. The data are also used by the public health research community for epidemiologic and policy analysis of such timely issues as characterizing those with various health problems, determining barriers to accessing and using appropriate health care, and evaluating Federal health programs.

Administered by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), CDC

Survey Website: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm>

Sampling Frame and Methodology:

- Continuous since 1957 including children and adults; redesigned in 1997 with supplements
- Nationally representative annual sample
- Multistage area probability design
- Cross-sectional household face-to-face interviews
- Geography: National, regional estimates; state estimates possible combining years (using in-house data only)

Respiratory Health Content:

- Lifetime asthma prevalence
- Current asthma prevalence
- Asthma attack prevalence
- Asthma Emergency Department (ED) visit
- Period supplements on asthma symptoms, medication use, health care use, disease control measure, missed work and school days (1999, 2002, 2003, 2008, 2010, 2013)

Most Recent Survey and Available Data:

NHIS 2015 Questionnaire Draft: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/quest_data_related_1997_forward.htm

NHIS 2013 Data: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/nhis_2013_data_release.htm

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All Year Questionnaires, Data Access, & Technical Information: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/quest_data_related_1997_forward.htm

Results, Reports, and Publications:

2013 NHIS Data Tables: <http://www.cdc.gov/asthma/nhis/2013/data.htm>

Early Release Asthma Estimates, Jan - March 2014: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhis/earlyrelease/earlyrelease201409_15.pdf

NHIS Early Release Program: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/releases.htm>

Survey Reports and Data Linked to NHIS: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/nhis_products.htm

CDC Prevalence Tables (Scroll to Bottom of Page): <http://www.cdc.gov/asthma/nhis/default.htm>

NHIS Statistical Reports: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/nhis_nhsr.htm

Health Data Interactive Tables: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hdi.htm>

FastStats Statistics: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/asthma.htm>

Developed by CDC National Asthma Control Program: <http://www.cdc.gov/asthma/NACP.htm>

Updated April 2015

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NHIS Relevant Survey Questions:	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004-2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Asthma period prevalence: DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did anyone in the family have asthma?																
Lifetime asthma prevalence (Adult/Child):																
Have you ever been told by a doctor or other health professional that you had asthma? (Adult)																
Has a doctor or other professional ever told you that (child) had asthma? (Child)																
Current asthma prevalence: (Do you/does child) still have asthma?																
Asthma attack prevalence (Adult/Child) :																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, (have you/has child) had an episode of asthma or an asthma attack?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, (have you had/Did child have) to visit an emergency room or urgent care center because of asthma?																
Asthma Supplement (Adult/Child)																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, have (you/child) had to stay overnight in the hospital because of asthma?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many times did (you/child) stay overnight in the hospital because of asthma?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, (have you/has child) used over-the-counter medications for your asthma?																
During the PAST 3 MONTHS, have (you/child) used prescription inhalers (Do not include over-the-counter inhalers like Primatene Mist?																
During the PAST 3 MONTHS, how many canisters of prescription inhalers did (you/child) use? Do not include over-the-counter inhalers like Primatene Mist.																
Have you ever taken a course or class on how to manage asthma yourself? (Adult)																
Has anyone in the family ever taken a course or class on how to manage child's asthma? (Child)																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, (have you/has child) had a wheezing or whistling sound in (the/his/her) chest?																
How many attacks of wheezing or whistling have you/has child) had in your/his/her chest DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, has (you/child's) sleep been disturbed due to wheezing or whistling?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how often on average, has your sleep been disturbed due to wheezing or whistling? (Adult)																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, on average, how many times per week has (child's) sleep been disturbed due to wheezing or whistling? (Child)																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, has (yourchild's) chest sounded wheezy during or after exercise or physical activity?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, has your child's wheezing ever been severe enough to limit (his/her) speech to only 1 or 2 words or utterances at a time between breaths? (Child)																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many times (have you/has child) gone to the doctor's office or the hospital emergency room for one or more of these attacks of wheezing or whistling?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how much did you limit (your/child's) usual activities due to wheezing or whistling? Would you say: not at all, a little, a fair amount, a moderate amount, or a lot?																
During the past 12 months, how many days of work/school did (you/child) miss due to wheezing or whistling?																

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During the past 12 months, HOW MANY DAYS were you UNABLE to work because of your asthma? (Adult)																
During the past 12 months, how many days of (daycare or preschool/school/school or work) did (child) miss because of (his/her) asthma? (Child)																
Have you/Has child EVER taken the preventive kind of ASTHMA medicine used every day to protect your/his/her lungs and keep you from having attacks? Include both oral medicine and inhalers. This is different from inhalers used for quick relief.																
Has a doctor or other health professional EVER given (you/child) an asthma management plan?																
Has a doctor or other health professional EVER advised you to change things in (your/child's) home, school, or work to improve (your/his/her) asthma?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, (have you/has child) stayed overnight in a hospital because of asthma?																
After (the last time) (you/child) left the hospital, did a health professional talk with you about long term management of (your/his/her) asthma?																
Have (you/child) ever used a PRESCRIPTION inhaler?																
Has a health professional shown (you/child) how to use (your/his/her) inhaler?																
DURING THE PAST 3 MONTHS, (have you/has child) used the kind of PRESCRIPTION inhaler THAT YOU BREATHE IN THROUGH YOUR MOUTH that gives QUICK relief from asthma symptoms?																
DURING THE PAST 3 MONTHS, (have you/has child) used the kind of PRESCRIPTION asthma inhaler that gives QUICK relief from asthma symptoms during an attack? Include only medications prescribed by a health care professional.																
DURING THE PAST 3 MONTHS did (you/child) use more than three canisters of this type of inhaler? (Adult)																
(Have you/has child) EVER taken the preventive kind of ASTHMA medicine used every day to protect your lungs and keep you from having attacks? Include both oral medicine and inhalers. This is different from inhalers used for quick relief.																
(Are you/Is child) NOW taking this medication (that protects your lungs) daily or almost daily?																
DURING THE PAST 3 MONTHS, have you used the kind of PRESCRIPTION asthma inhaler that gives QUICK relief from asthma symptoms during an attack? Include only medications prescribed by a health care professional. (Adult)																
When (you/your child) take(s) (your/his/her) rescue prescription asthma medication, would you say that (you/he/she) most often use an inhaler and/or disk, or do(es) (you/he/she) most often use a nebulizer?																
DURING THE PAST 3 MONTHS, did (you/your child) use more than three canisters or disks of this type of quick relief inhaler?																
The second kind of asthma medication is different from inhalers used for quick relief. It is the preventive kind that is used to protect your lungs and keep you from having attacks. It can be either a pill or an inhaler. Are/is (you/your child) NOW taking a preventive asthma medication every day or almost every day, less often, or never?																
An asthma action plan is a printed form with specific instructions based on (your/your child's) asthma that tells when to change the amount or type of medicine, when to call the doctor for advice, and when to go to the emergency room. Has a doctor or other health professional EVER given (you/your child) an asthma action plan?																
Has a doctor or other health professional EVER given (you/child) an asthma management plan? (Adult)																
Have you ever taken a course or class on how to manage asthma yourself? (Adult)																
Has child/adult ever taken a course or class on how to manage his/her asthma? (Child)																
Have you ever taken a course or class on how to manage asthma yourself? (Adult)																
Has a doctor or other health professional EVER taught (you/child or his/her parent or guardian) how to recognize early signs or symptoms of an asthma episode?																

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Has a doctor or other health professional EVER taught (you/child or his/her parent or guardian) how to respond to episodes of asthma?																
Has a doctor or other health professional ever taught (you/child or his/her parent or guardian) how to monitor peak flow for daily therapy?																
Has a doctor or other health professional ever advised you to change things in (your/child's) home, school, or work to improve (your/his/her) asthma?																
How much of this advice did you follow?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many times did (you/your child) see a doctor or other health professional for a routine checkup for (your/his/her) asthma? Please do not include emergency room visits, visits to urgent care centers, or other visits for acute care for an asthma episode or attack.																
At his/her last visit, did (you/your child's) doctor or other health professional ask HOW OFTEN (you/he/she) had asthma symptoms?																
At his/her last visit, did (you/your child's) doctor or other health professional ask HOW OFTEN (you/he/she) used a quick relief inhaler																
At his/her last visit, did (you/your child's) doctor or other health professional ask HOW OFTEN asthma symptoms limited (your/his/her) daily activities?																
How old were you when you were first told you had asthma?																
Were you less than 16 or 16 or older when you were first told you had asthma?																
Compared to when you were first told you had asthma, would you say your asthma has been better, worse, or about the same as an adult?																
Were you employed when you first developed symptoms of asthma? When your asthma got worse?																
For whom did you work when you first developed symptoms of asthma? When your asthma got worse?																
What kind of business or industry was this?																
What kind of work were you doing?																
What were your most important activities on this job or business?																
Have you been told by a doctor or other health professional that your asthma [fill: was probably caused by your work/was probably made worse by your work/was ever made worse by any job you have ever had]?																
Did YOU ever discuss with a doctor or other health professional whether your asthma [fill: was probably caused by your work/was probably made worse by your work/was ever made worse by any job you have ever had]?																
Have you ever filed a workers' compensation claim for your asthma?																
Have you ever received workers' compensation benefits for your asthma?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many full days did you miss from work because of your asthma?																
DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did you stop working, change jobs, or make a major change in your work activities, such as taking on lighter duties, because of your asthma?																