

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES): Asthma Content

The NHANES is a program of studies designed to assess the health and nutritional status of adults and children in the United States. The survey is unique in that it combines interviews and physical examinations and collects data on various diseases, medical conditions and health indicators including asthma. The survey represents a core set of asthma questions on the medical history section of the personal questionnaire. Additionally, from 1999 to 2012 the survey captured data on respiratory health and disease and from 1999 to 2014 NHANES has captured data on tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure. From 2005 to 2006 the survey collected information on allergies.

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

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

Sampling Frame and Methodology:

- Continuous beginning in 1999 with data release every 2 years
 - Survey phases: NHANES I (1971-1974), NHANES II (1976-1980), HHANES (1982-1984), NHANES III (1988-1994), and NHANES IV (1999-present) with differing sample sizes, sample designs, and content components
 - Prior to 1971 called National Health Examination Survey (NHES): NHES I (1959-1962), NHES II (1963-1965), NHES III (1966-1970)
 - In home health interview; examination component in mobile examination center (MEC) among adult and children noninstitutionalized civilian resident population.
 - Nationally representative sample (about 5,000 annually)
- Geography: National estimates only (15 counties visited annually)

Additional information on survey methods and sample design: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/survey_methods.htm

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Respiratory Health Content and Age Group Covered by Year (1999-2016):

• Questionnaire components:

- Household: secondhand smoke exposure (1999-2014)
- Personal: allergy 1+years (2005-2006)
- Personal: respiratory health and disease 1+years (1999-2012)
- Personal: smoking and tobacco use 20+years (1999-2012), 18+years for 2013-2016

Mobile Examination Center (MEC) questionnaire on smoking & tobacco use:

- Youth 12-19 years (1999-2013); 12-17 years (2013-2016)
- Adults 20+ years (1999-2013); 12+ years (2013-2016)

• Examination/laboratory component:

- Exhaled nitric oxide 6-79 years (2007-2012)
- Spirometry 6-79 years (2007-2012)
- Immunoglobulin E 1+years (2005-2006)
- Cotinine 3+years (1999-2016)

Most Recent Survey and Available Data:

NHANES 2015-2016 Questionnaire, Data, & Documentation in progress: http://www.cdc.gov/Nchs/Nhanes/Search/nhanes15_16.aspx

NHANES 2013-2014 Questionnaire, Data, & Documentation: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/search/nhanes13_14.aspx

Questionnaire, Data Access, & Technical Documentation:

All NHANES Questionnaires: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/nhanes_questionnaires.htm

Other NHANES Data: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/other_nhanes_data.htm

Stored biologic specimens, including serum and DNA samples: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/genetics/stored_specimens.htm

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES): Asthma Content

Reports & Publications:

National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals: <http://www.cdc.gov/exposurereport/>

Publications: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/new_nhanes.htm

Products: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/nhanes_products.htm

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

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Relevant NHANES Survey Questions:

1999-2000 2001-2002 2003-2004 2005-2006 2007-2012 2013-2014

Respiratory condition questionnaire

In the past 12 months, has {SP} had problems with coughing?						
[In the past 12 months], how many episodes of th coughing has {SP} had?						
[In the past 12 months], has the wheezing ever been sever enough to limit {your/ SP's} speech to only one or two words at a time between breaths?						
In the past 12 months], {have you/has SP} taken any medication for wheezing or whistling?						
{Do you/Does SP} usually cough on most days for 3 consecutive months or more during the year?						
For how many years {have you/has SP} had this cough?						
{Do you/Does SP} bring up phlegm on most days for 3 consecutive months or more during the year?						
In the past 12 months, {have you/ has SP} had wheezing or whistling in {your/his/her} chest?						
In the past 12 months, how many attacks of wheezing or whistling {have you/has SP} had?						
[In the past 12 months], how often, on average has {your/SP's} sleep been disturbed because of wheezing?						
In the past 12 months, has {your/SP's} chest sounded wheezy during or after exercise or physical activity?						
In the past 12 months, how many times {have you/has SP} 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/SP limit {your/his/her} usual activities due to wheezing or whistling?						
During the past 12 months, how many days of work or school did {you/SP} miss due to wheezing or whistling?						
[In the past 12 months], {have you/has SP} had a dry cough at night not counting a cough associated with a cold or chest infection lasting 14 days or more?						
In the past 12 months, {have you/has SP} taken any medication, prescribed by a doctor, for wheezing or whistling?						
During the past 12 months, {have you/has SP} had an episode of hay fever?						

Medical conditions questionnaire

Has a doctor or other health professional ever told {you/SP} that {you have/s/he/SP has} asthma (az-ma)?						
How old {were you/was SP} when {you were/s/he was} first told {you/he/she} had asthma (az-ma)?						
{Do you/Does SP} still have asthma (az-ma)?						
During the past 12 months, {have you/has SP} had an episode of asthma (az-ma) or an asthma attack?						
[During the past 12 months], {have you/has SP} had to visit an emergency room or urgent care center because of asthma (az-ma)?						
During the past 3 months, {have you/has SP} taken medication prescribed by a doctor or other health professionals for asthma?						

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Relevant NHANES Survey Questions:

	1999-2000	2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006	2007-2012	2013-2014
Allergy questionnaire (2005-2006)						
Has a doctor or other health professional ever told {you/SP} that {you have/SP s/he has} hay fever?						
How old {were you/was SP} when {you were/s/he was} first told {you/he/she} had hay fever?						
During the past 12 months, {have you/has SP} had an episode of hay fever?						
Has a doctor or other health professional ever told {you/SP} that {you have/SP s/he has} allergies?						
How old {were you/was SP} when {you were/s/he was} first told {you/he/she} had allergies?						
During the past 12 months, {have you/has SP} had any allergy symptoms or an allergy attack?						
In the last 12 months, {have you/has SP} removed a dog, cat or other small furry animal from {your/his/her} home because {you/SP} had allergies or asthma?						
Which kind of pet was removed from {your/SP's} home?						
{Have you/Has SP} avoided bringing new pets into {your/his/her} home because {you/SP} had allergies or asthma?						
During the past 12 months, {have you/has SP} had a problem with sneezing, or a runny, or blocked nose when {you/s/he} did not have a cold or the flu?						
In which season did this nose problem occur?						
During the past 12 months, did a doctor or other health professional tell {you/SP} that {you have/SP s/he has} a sinus infection?						
{Have you/Has SP} ever had an itchy rash which was coming and going for at least 6 months?						
{Have you/Has SP} had this itchy rash at any time in the last 12 months?						
Has this rash cleared up completely at any time during the last 12 months?						
Has this itchy rash at any time affected any of the following places: the folds of the elbows, behind the knees, in front of the ankles, under the buttocks, or around the neck, ears, or eyes?						
At what age did this itchy rash first occur?						
Has a doctor or other health professional ever told {you/SP} that {you have/SP s/he has} eczema?						

Updated April 2015