

Surveillance Data-National

A. **Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Summary (BRFSS)** data collected from 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Territories. (2001 two question survey with 18 + age)

Results- 7.2% of US adults have current asthma. Current asthma was higher among persons who were multiple race and non-Hispanic (12.2%), followed by - Hispanic blacks (8.5%), non-Hispanic whites (7.2%), other race and non-Hispanic(5.9%), and Hispanics (5.7%).

B. Center for Disease Control (CDC's) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and integrated from other data Sources (Asthma Prevalence, Health Care Use and Mortality, 2000-2001-Trends included an increase in the prevalence of Episodes/Attacks, Absence Days from work/school, Physician Office and Hospital Outpatient Department visits, and Emergency Department visits.

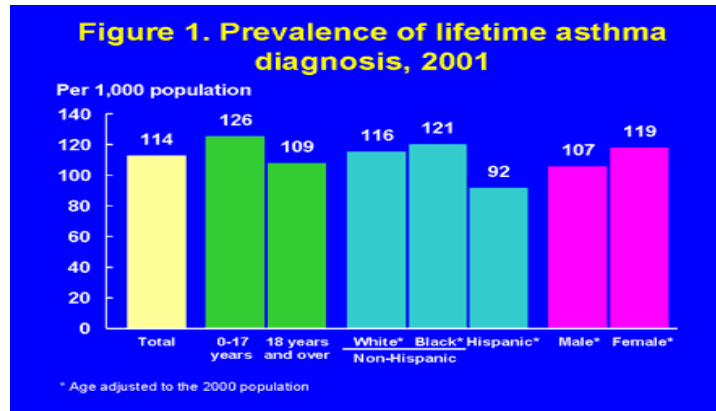
Table 1. Crude rates for current asthma and asthma attack prevalence, 2001, and health care utilization, and mortality, 2000

	<i>Lifetime asthma prevalence (per 1,000)</i>	<i>Current asthma prevalence (per 1,000)</i>	<i>Asthma attack prevalence (per 1,000)</i>	<i>Outpatient visits (per 10,000)</i>	<i>Emergency room visits (per 10,000)</i>	<i>Hospitalizations (per 10,000)</i>	<i>Deaths (per 100,000)</i>
Race:							
Non-Hispanic White	115	75	44	--	--	--	1.4
Non-Hispanic Black	125	86	54	--	--	--	3.4
Hispanic	95	59	34	--	--	--	0.9
White (incl Hispanic)*	--	--	--	362	58	10	--
Black (incl Hispanic)*	--	--	--	562	142	33	--
Sex:							
Male	108	64	36	361	60	15	1.2
Female	119	83	50	395	74	19	2.0

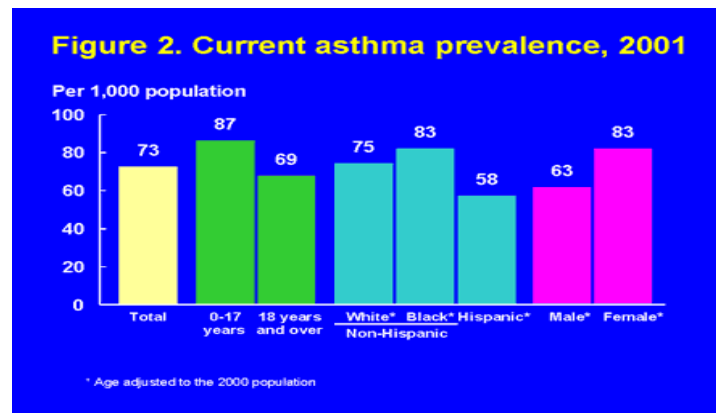
Data for health care use outcomes is not available for Hispanic ethnicity. Data for White and Black race for these outcomes include persons of Hispanic ethnicity.

Prevalence, 2001: Lifetime asthma diagnosis, current asthma, and asthma attack prevalence

Respondents in the National Health Interview Survey are asked if they were ever told by a health professional that they had asthma. In 2001, 31.3 million people (114 people per 1,000) had ever diagnosed with asthma during their lifetime (**Figure 1**). Among adults, 109 per 1,000 had a lifetime asthma diagnosis (22.2 million) compared to 126 per 1,000 children 0-17 years (9.2 million). Non-Hispanic blacks were 4% more likely to have ever been diagnosed with asthma than non-Hispanic whites and about 30% more likely than Hispanics. Females were about 10% more likely than males to ever have been diagnosed with asthma.



Beginning with the 2001 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), it is possible to make estimates of the population that reported having asthma at the time of the interview. This is referred to as current asthma prevalence and includes people who have been diagnosed with asthma by a health professional and who still have asthma. In 2001, 73 people per 1,000 or (20.3 million people), had asthma at the time of the interview (**Figure 2**). Rates decreased with age; 87 per 1,000 children 0-17 years (6.3 million children) had asthma compared to 69 per 1,000 adults 18 years and over (14 million adults). When race/ethnicity is considered, current asthma prevalence was about 10% higher among non-Hispanic blacks compared to non-Hispanic whites and about 40% higher compared to Hispanics. Females had a 30% higher prevalence compared to males. However, this pattern was reversed among children. The current asthma prevalence rate for boys aged 0-17 years (99 per 1,000) was over 30% higher than the rate among girls (74 per 1,000).



Asthma attack prevalence, or the number of people who had at least one asthma attack in the previous year, is also available from the NHIS. The asthma attack prevalence is a crude indicator of how many people have uncontrolled asthma and are at risk for a poor outcome from asthma such as hospitalization. In 2001, 43 people per 1,000 (12 million people) had experienced an asthma attack in the previous year (**Figure 3**). That is, about 60% of the people who had asthma at the time of the survey had an asthma attack in the previous year. Asthma attack prevalence also decreased with age; 57 per 1,000 children 0-17 years (4.2 million children) had an asthma attack in the previous year compared to 38 per 1,000 adults aged 18 years and over (7.8 million adults). Non-Hispanic blacks had an asthma attack prevalence about 20% higher than non-Hispanic whites and almost 60% higher than Hispanics. Females had an asthma attack prevalence almost 40% higher than males.

