



ASTHMA BURDEN UPDATE

ASTHMA BURDEN BRIEF

This edition focuses on raising awareness of who has asthma in Illinois. Learn more about asthma in celebration of World Asthma Day, May 7, 2013.

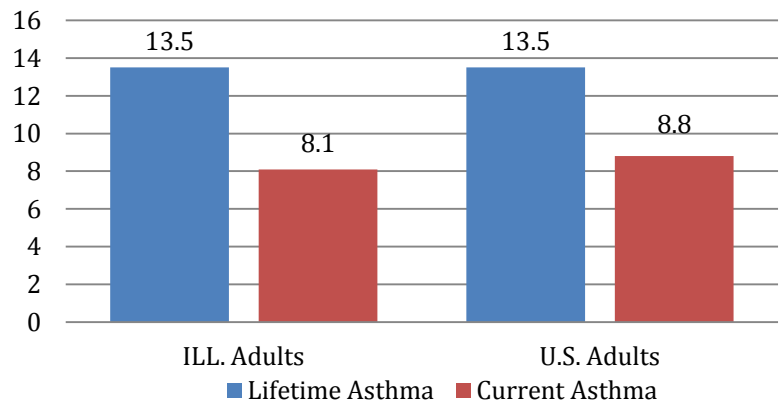
Estimating lifetime and current asthma prevalence is the first step in describing the burden of asthma. Lifetime asthma prevalence is estimated based on self-report that a health care provider has, at any time, told the individual s/he has asthma. Current asthma prevalence, the proportion of the population who currently has asthma, is based on self-report by the individual that they currently or still have asthma.

ADULT ASTHMA PREVALENCE

Illinois adults are similar to the U.S. population in that 14 percent of adults have ever been told by a health care professional that they have asthma. Additionally, there is a similar percent of adults in Illinois who have ever been told they have asthma and still have asthma (8.1%) consistent with the national estimate (8.8%).

Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2011

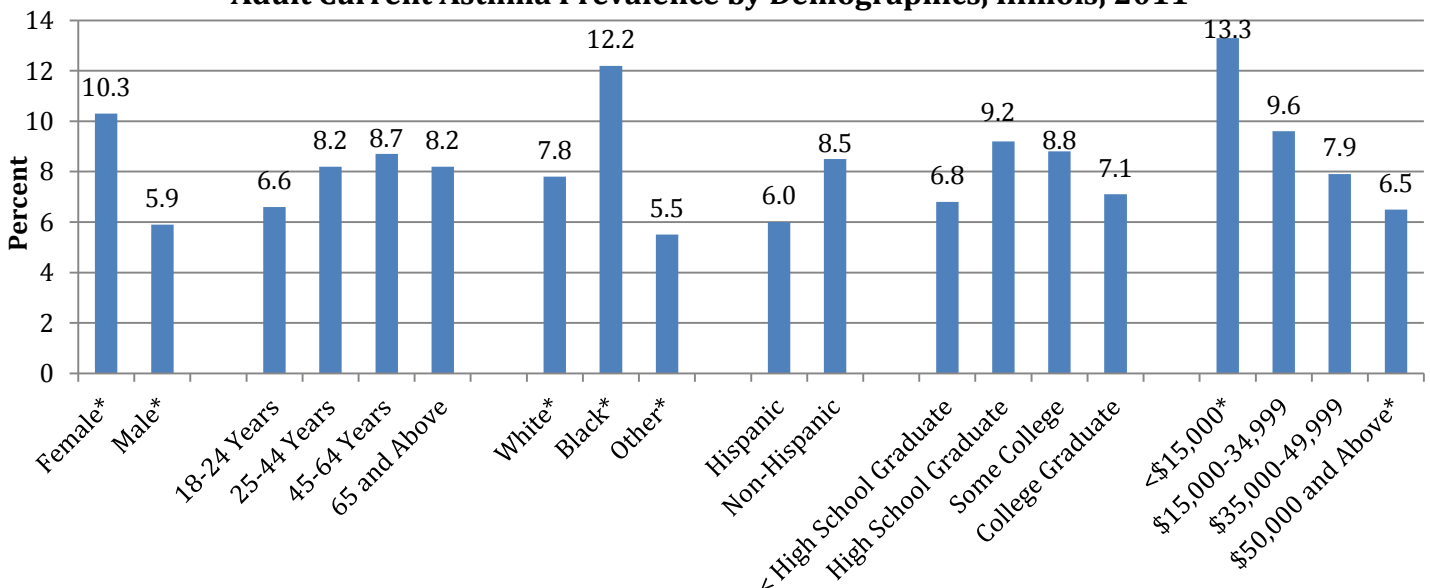
Lifetime and Current Asthma Prevalence in Adults, Illinois vs. U.S., 2011



ADULT DEMOGRAPHICS FOR CURRENT ASTHMA

Many demographic variables may be used to describe the Illinois population with current asthma, those whom have ever been told they have asthma and still have asthma.

Adult Current Asthma Prevalence by Demographics, Illinois, 2011



* Significant difference between female and males; white and black; black and other; and <\$15,000 and \$50,000 and above. Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2011

Adult Demographics for Current Asthma Continued...

There is a significant difference in current asthma prevalence by gender with 10 percent of females and 6 percent of males who have current asthma. Across all adults age groups current asthma prevalence is similar and ranges from 7 percent to 9 percent. By race, 12 percent of blacks have asthma, which is significantly different from whites (7.8%) and “other” racial groups (5.5%). By ethnicity, 9 percent of non-Hispanics and 6 percent of Hispanics have current asthma. Across all education levels, current asthma prevalence is similar and ranges from 7 percent to 9 percent. Current asthma prevalence is about twice as high for adults who make less than \$15,000 a year (13.3%) compared to wealthier adults who make more than \$50,000 a year (6.5%).

YOUTH ASTHMA PREVALENCE

The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) is a national survey for regular public and private high school, with students in at least one of grades 9-12 in the 50 states and District of Columbia.

The lifetime asthma prevalence for Illinois and the U.S. are not statistically different for total prevalence, prevalence by sex, race/ethnicity, or grade. In Illinois, 21 percent of students had ever been told by a doctor or nurse that they had asthma (i.e., ever had asthma).

The current asthma prevalence for Illinois and the U.S. are not statistically different for total prevalence, prevalence by race/ethnicity or grade. In Illinois, 9.8 percent of students had ever been told by a doctor or nurse that they had asthma (i.e., ever had asthma). However, there are gender differences at the national level as there is a higher prevalence among female (13.5%) than male (10.4%) students. Additionally, there are less female students (10.2%) in Illinois with asthma than nationally (13.5%).

Percentage of High School Students Reporting Lifetime Asthma and Current Asthma, By Selected Characteristics, Illinois vs. U.S., 2011

	Lifetime asthma prevalence rate		Current asthma [‡] prevalence	
	U.S. 2011 %	ILL 2011 %	U.S. 2011 %	ILL 2011 %
Sex				
Female	22.8	20.4	13.5* [^]	10.2 [^]
Male	23.2	20.9	10.4*	9.4
Race/Ethnicity[¶]				
White	22.8	19.5	12.4	12.2
Black	26.8	26.1	13.5	8.3
Hispanic	20.3	18.8	9.1	9.5
Grade				
9th	23.5	21.8	12.2	10.4
10th	23.3	20.6	12.4	10.7
11th	22.3	19.3	11.5	8.6
12th	22.6	20.8	11.5	9.2
Total	23.0	20.7	11.9	9.8

[‡]Among students with current asthma, had an asthma episode or attack during the 12 months preceding the survey.

[¶]Black and white students are all non-Hispanic. Students identified as Hispanic might be of any race.

*[^] Significant difference between U.S. female and male; and U.S. and Illinois female.

Source: MMWR Weekly, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Surveillance Summaries, Vol 61. No. 4, June 8, 2012