

# **Lifetime Childhood Asthma Prevalence, Age 0-14 Years, Texas, 2011**

## **Data Requested by**

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**January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Table 1. Lifetime Asthma Prevalence among Children (0-14 years) by Demographic Factors, Texas, BRFSS 2011**

Demographic Variable	Sample Size	Prevalence (%)	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval (CI) for prevalence	
				Lower Limit	Upper Limit
<b>Total</b>	2,634	13.9	1.0	11.9	15.8
<b>Sex</b>					
Boy	1,370	16.9	1.5	14.0	19.9
Girl	1,260	10.6	1.2	8.2	13.0
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>					
White	1,180	13.8	1.4	11.0	16.6
Black	219	14.8	3.2	8.6	21.1
Hispanic	1,090	13.4	1.5	10.5	16.3
Other	120	10.5	3.6	3.5	17.4
<b>Age-group (years)</b>					
0-4	792	8.0	1.4	5.3	10.6
5-9	879	17.3	1.9	13.5	21.1
10-14	963	16.7	1.7	13.5	20.0

**Data Source:** Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2011.

'--' Cell suppressed if unweighted sample size for denominator is < 50 or CI half width is > 10.

**Note:** Data for children are based on information provided by an adult respondent about a child living in the home.

**Survey question:** "Has a doctor, nurse or other health professional ever said that the child has asthma?"

**Numerator:** Respondents who answered "Yes" to the previous survey question.

**Denominator:** All respondents excluding refusals and unknowns.

**Interpretation:**

- According to the 2011 Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), an estimated 13.9 percent (95% CI: 11.9-15.8) of children age 0-14 years had ever been diagnosed with asthma.
- The prevalence of lifetime asthma was statistically significantly higher among boys (16.9 percent; 95% CI: 14.0-19.9) compared to girls (10.6 percent; 95% CI: 8.2-13.0).
- There were no statistically significant differences in the prevalence of lifetime asthma among children ages 0-14 years by race/ethnicity.
- The prevalence of lifetime asthma was statistically significantly lower among children ages 0-4 years (8.0 percent; 95% CI: 5.3-10.6) compared to children ages 5-9 years (17.3 percent; 95% CI: 13.5-21.1) and 10-14 years (16.7 percent; 95% CI: 13.5-20.0).

**Limitations of the data:**

- Prevalence estimates from BRFSS may underestimate the true prevalence of asthma among Texas children because the survey does not identify undiagnosed cases of asthma.
- Due to the improvements in BRFSS sampling methodology and a change in weighting procedures used for the survey data, 2011 BRFSS data cannot be directly compared to survey data from previous years to assess trends. Shifts in prevalence estimates for 2011 might not represent trends in risk factor prevalence in the population but instead merely reflect improved methods of measuring risk factors.