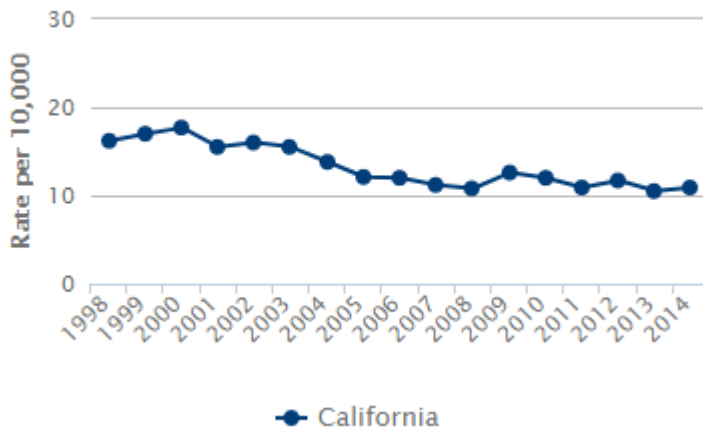


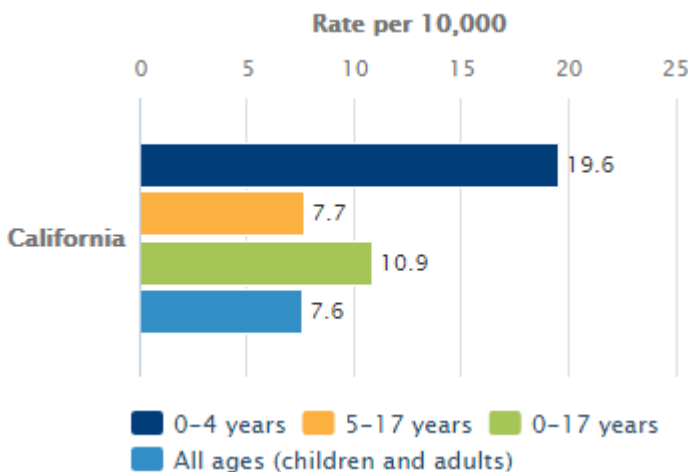
Childhood Asthma in California

Asthma Hospitalization Rate for Children Ages 0-17



Definition: Number of asthma hospitalizations per 10,000 population, by age group.
Data Source: Prepared by [California Breathing](#), Environmental Health Investigations Branch, California Dept. of Public Health using data from the California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) Patient Discharge Database, the California Dept. of Finance, and the U.S. Census Bureau (Apr. 2016).

Asthma Hospitalization Rate, by Age Group: 2014



Definition: Number of asthma hospitalizations per 10,000 population, by age group.
Data Source: Prepared by [California Breathing](#), Environmental Health Investigations Branch, California Dept. of Public Health using data from the California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) Patient Discharge Database, the California Dept. of Finance, and the U.S. Census Bureau (Apr. 2016).

What It Is

Asthma is a chronic respiratory condition. On kidsdata.org, asthma is measured by the percentage of children ages 1-17 whose parents report that their child has been diagnosed with asthma and by the number and rate of asthma hospitalizations per 10,000 children ages 0-4, 5-17, 0-17, and for all ages (children and adults). Asthma hospitalization rates reflect the most severe episodes; most asthmatic children never need to be hospitalized.

Why This Topic Is Important

Asthma is one of the most common chronic diseases among children in the U.S. and a leading cause of hospitalizations and absences from school (1, 2). Asthma rates vary by region, demographics, the environment, physician diagnostic practices, and access to care. Although identifying the impact of independent risk factors for asthma is difficult, low-income and minority children are at a disproportionately high risk for severe symptoms, missed school days, and emergency room visits due to asthma (1, 2, 3).

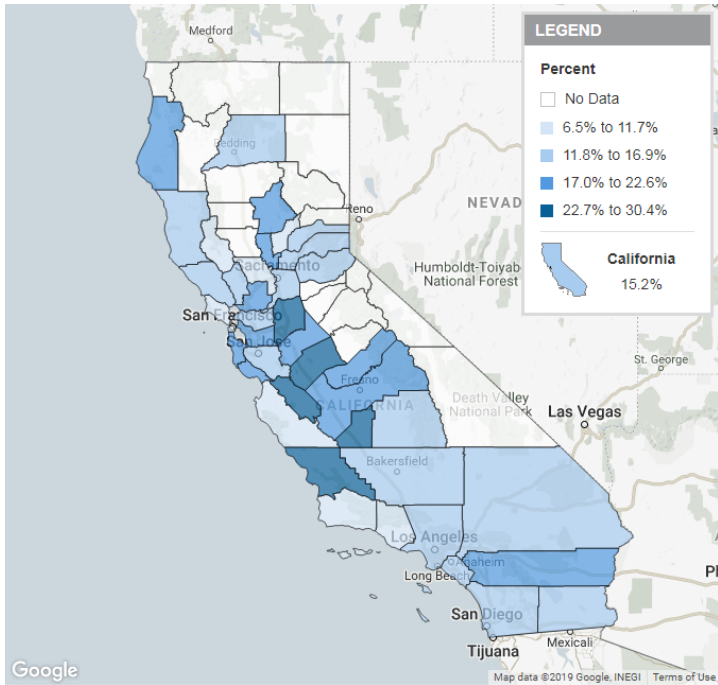
Asthma sufferers often manage symptoms with medication, trigger avoidance, and regular medical monitoring (1, 2). However, children who face cost barriers to care and/or medication are less likely to have well controlled asthma than children with access to regular medical care and may repeatedly be absent from school when their asthma flares up (1, 2, 3).

How Children Are Faring

In California, about 15% of children ages 1-17 have been diagnosed with asthma at some point in their lives, according to 2013-14 data. Among counties with data, estimates ranged from about 7% to 30% of children diagnosed with asthma. While asthma does not result in hospitalization for most children, 10.9 of every 10,000 children/youth ages 0-17 in California were hospitalized due to asthma in 2014, down from a 17-year high of 17.7 per 10,000 in 2000. Asthma hospitalization rates are highest for the youngest children, ages 0-4.

View references for this text and additional research on this topic:

<https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/45/asthma/summary>



Definition: Percentage of children ages 1-17 whose parents report that their child has ever been diagnosed with asthma.

Data Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey (Dec. 2015).



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