

# **Prevalence and Number of Adults and Children with Asthma in Texas, 2011**

**Data Requested by**  
The Lyons Foundation

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**Table 1. Prevalence of Current Asthma Among Adults (18 years and older) and Estimated Number of Adults with Current Asthma, Texas, 2011**

Characteristics	Sample Size	Prevalence (95%CI)	Population Size	Estimated Number of Adults with Current Asthma
Total	14,863	7.4 (6.7, 8.1)	19,220,057	1,422,284
Gender				
Male	5,646	5.1 (4.2, 6.0)	9,613,350	490,281
Female	9,217	9.7 (8.6, 10.7)	9,606,707	931,851
Race				
White Non-Hispanic	9,636	9.2 (8.2, 10.2)	9,049,665	832,569
Black Non-Hispanic	1,081	10.2 (7.5, 13.0)	2,173,561	221,703
Hispanic	3,456	4.2 (3.2, 5.2)	7,031,523	295,324
Other Non-Hispanic	497	5.2 (2.8, 7.5)	965,308	50,196
Age Group (years)				
18-29	1,221	4.9 (3.4, 6.3)	4,684,283	229,530
30-44	2,815	7.7 (6.3, 9.0)	5,769,340	444,239
45-64	5,699	8.5 (7.3, 9.7)	6,185,264	525,747
65+	4,994	8.1 (6.8, 9.3)	2,581,170	209,075

**Data Source:** Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2011, Center for Health Statistics, Texas Department of State Health Services.

**Population Data Source:** Center for Health Statistics, Texas Department of State Health Services.

**Current Asthma**

**Survey questions:** “Has a doctor, nurse or other health professional ever told you that that you have asthma?” and “Do you still have asthma?”

**Numerator:** Respondents who answered “Yes” to the previous survey questions.

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

**Interpretation for Table 1:**

- According to the 2011 Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), the prevalence of asthma among adults in Texas was estimated at 7.4 percent (95% Confidence Interval (CI): 6.7-8.1), or 1,422,284 adults.
- The prevalence of current asthma among adults in Texas was significantly higher among females (9.7 percent; 95% CI: 8.6-10.7) compared to males (5.1 percent; 95% CI: 4.2-6.0).
- An estimated 931,851 adult females and 490,281 adult males had current asthma in Texas in 2011.
- The prevalence of current asthma among adults was significantly higher among black non-Hispanics (10.2 percent; 95% CI: 7.5-13.0) compared to Hispanics (4.2 percent; 95% CI: 3.2-7.5).
- The estimated number of adults with current asthma was highest among white non-Hispanics, in which 832,569 had asthma current asthma in 2011.
- The prevalence of current asthma was significantly higher among adults age 45-64 years (8.5 percent; 95% CI: 7.3-13.7) compared to adults age 18-29 (4.9 percent; 95% CI: 3.4-6.3), who had the lowest prevalence.
- An estimated 525,747 adults age 45-64 years and 229,530 adults age 18-29 years had current asthma in Texas in 2011.

**Table 2. Prevalence of Current Asthma Among Children (0-17 years) and Estimated Number of Children with Current Asthma, Texas, 2011**

Characteristics	Sample Size	Prevalence (95%CI)	Population Size	Estimated Number of Children with Current Asthma
Total	3,695	8.0 (6.7, 9.3)	6,663,942	533,115
Gender				
Male	1,915	8.6 (6.8, 10.4)	3,400,887	292,476
Female	1,744	7.4 (5.6, 9.3)	3,263,055	241,466
Race				
White Non-Hispanic	1,619	8.2 (6.3, 10.1)	2418551	198,321
Black Non-Hispanic	321	11.5 (7.1, 15.8)	805,252	92,604
Hispanic	1,530	6.6 (4.8, 8.5)	3,188,151	210,418
Other Non-Hispanic	179	7.1 (2.0, 12.1)	251,988	17,891
Age Group (years)				
0-4	787	5.3 (3.1, 7.6)	2,008,007	106,424
5-9	878	10.3 (7.3, 13.3)	1,894,786	195,163
10-14	958	8.6 (6.2, 11.1)	1,705,351	146,660
15-17	697	9.4 (6.3, 12.6)	1,055,798	99,245

**Data Source:** Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2011, Center for Health Statistics, Texas Department of State Health Services.

**Population Data Source:** Center for Health Statistics, Texas Department of State Health Services.

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

**Current Asthma**

**Survey questions:** “Has a doctor, nurse or other health professional ever said that the child has asthma?” and “Does the child still have asthma?”

**Numerator:** Respondents who answered “Yes” to the previous survey questions.

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

**Interpretation for Table 2:**

- According to the 2011 Texas BRFSS, the prevalence of asthma among children in Texas was estimated at 8.0 percent (95% Confidence Interval (CI): 6.7-9.3), or 533,155 children.
- The prevalence of current asthma among children in Texas was higher among males (8.6 percent; 95% CI: 6.8-10.4) compared to females (7.4 percent; 95% CI: 5.6-9.3) although this difference was not statistically significant.
- The prevalence of current asthma was highest among black non-Hispanics (11.5 percent; 95% CI: 7.1-15.8) and lowest among Hispanics (6.6 percent; 95% CI: 4.8-8.5), although the difference was not statistically significant.
- The estimated number of children with current asthma was highest among Hispanics, in which 210,418 had current asthma in 2011.
- The prevalence of current asthma was highest among children age 5-9 years (10.3 percent; 95% CI: 7.3-13.3) and lowest among children age 0-4 years (5.3 percent; 95% CI: 3.1-7.6) although the difference was not statistically significant.
- An estimated 195,163 children age 5-9 years and 106,424 children age 0-4 years had current asthma in Texas.

**Limitations of the data used in this report:**

- Prevalence estimates from BRFSS may underestimate the true prevalence of asthma among Texas children and adults because the survey does not identify undiagnosed cases of asthma.
- The number of children and adults with current asthma was calculated by multiplying the prevalence estimate by the population size. If the prevalence estimate is underestimated then the estimated number of children and adults with current asthma may also be underestimated.
- 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.