

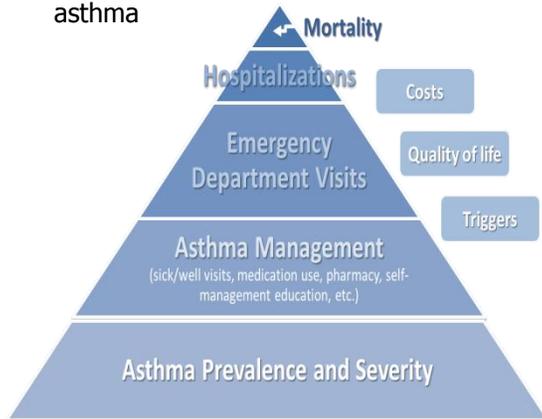
Ohio Surveillance System for Asthma (OSSA)

What is asthma surveillance?

Asthma surveillance is the ongoing collection, analysis, and interpretation of asthma-related data. The Ohio Surveillance System for Asthma (OSSA) is a repository of Ohio asthma data resources established by Ohio Department of Health to inform its programs and serve as a resource for others.

OSSA provides access to high quality population-based data on asthma morbidity, mortality, risk factors and disease management for:

- Monitoring asthma occurrence and trends, and describing the physical and economic burden of asthma in Ohio
- Identifying high-risk populations for asthma in Ohio
- Planning and evaluating interventions and programs to control the burden of asthma



Asthma Surveillance Pyramid: Types of data used to describe the burden of asthma in Ohio.

What types of data are available through OSSA?

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) & Asthma Call-Back Survey (ACBS)

- Phone-based survey; annual state- and regional-level estimates
- Adult/child current and lifetime asthma prevalence
- Asthma symptoms, self-management education, clinical care/medication use, and access to care

Ohio Hospital Association's (OHA) Clinical-Financial Database

- Hospital-reported discharges; annual state-regional and county-level data
- Asthma-related inpatient & emergency department visits, length of stay, insurance status/type

ODH Vital Statistics

- Death certificate information; ongoing state-regional and county-level data
- Asthma-related deaths

Ohio Youth Tobacco Survey (OYTS)

- School-based survey of middle/high school students; biennial state-level estimates
- Middle/high school student smoking prevalence, secondhand smoke exposure

Ohio Medicaid Assessment Survey

- Periodic phone-based survey; state- and regional estimates; formerly Ohio Family Health Survey
- Child asthma status, access to care and health determinant characteristics

School Health Profiles

- School-based survey of middle/high school principals and health educators; biannual state-level estimates
- School asthma policies, asthma management activities, staff training and health referrals

How are asthma surveillance data used?

Asthma surveillance data are used to:

- Direct and inform ODH Asthma Program activities
- Demonstrate program effectiveness and ensure accountability
- Engage stakeholders, legislators and decision makers
- Inform policy development
- Provide the public with information about asthma
- Monitor progress toward reducing health disparities in Ohio

OSSA data also allow the Ohio Asthma Program to compare its core asthma indicators with other states, as well as with benchmarks from national surveillance systems.

ODH Asthma Program reports and factsheets produced using OSSA data are available at the link below. Key publications include:

- Burden of Asthma in Ohio
- Asthma Hospital Discharge Report
- Asthma Deaths in Ohio
- Asthma Disparities in Ohio
- Childhood Asthma in Ohio
- Asthma Local Profiles