

Childhood Asthma in Ohio

Childhood Prevalence

- 13.7 percent of Ohio children were diagnosed with asthma, compared with an adult asthma prevalence of 14.2 percent¹.
- Approximately 419,006 children have been told they have asthma in Ohio¹.

Disparities Among Children with Asthma in Ohio

- Primary school children and secondary school age children are significantly more likely to have asthma than preschool children under age five².
- Male children are significantly more likely to have asthma than female children².
- Over one in five African-American children in Ohio have been diagnosed with asthma, a significantly higher rate than for white, Hispanic or Asian/Pacific Islander children².
- Obese children are significantly more likely to be diagnosed with asthma than children who are normal weight or underweight².
- In Ohio, nearly one in five children at or below the poverty line have asthma. Children in households that earn 300 percent of poverty level or more are significantly less likely to have asthma².

Healthcare Utilization

- While children ages five through 19 have fewer asthma inpatient hospitalizations than adults, they are more likely to experience emergency department visits for asthma than adults³. High emergency department usage is common when children lack access to regular care or a medical home.
- Children with asthma are significantly more likely to be in poor health, most notably in Appalachia. In addition, children with asthma are also more likely to have unmet health needs, special health care needs, need more medical care or educational services, or be in fair or poor mental health².
- Families who have a child with asthma are more likely to report major medical bills and forgoing of medical care².

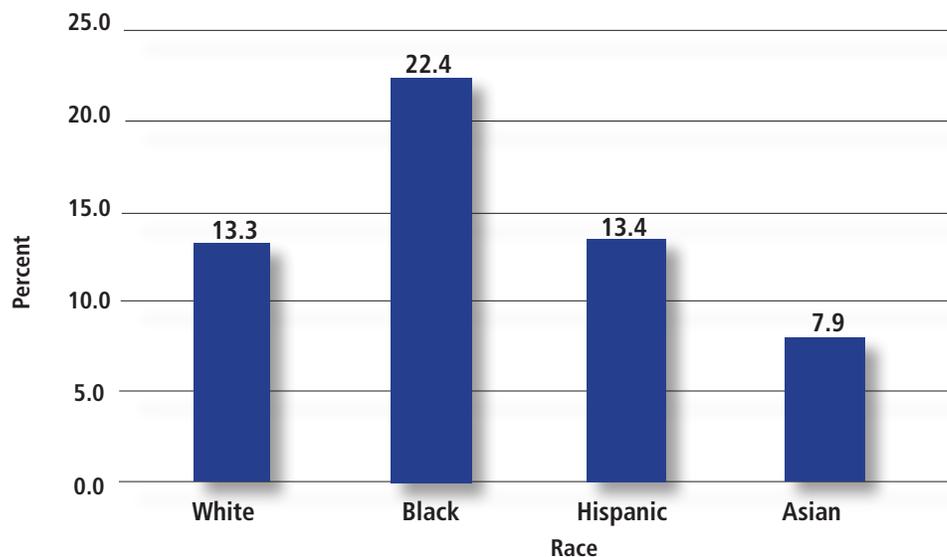
Conclusions

Children who come from families with low income are at particular risk, especially Appalachia, with its pervasive poverty and high smoking prevalence. Appalachia is also a medically underserved area, and would benefit from any intervention which would help to educate children and school personnel alike. Children of African-American heritage are also at exceptional risk, but most reside in areas with previous programming and better health care available.

Sources

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System, Year 2008.
2. Ohio Family Health Survey, 2008.
3. Ohio Hospital Association Discharge and Emergency Room Visit Data, Years 1999-2003.

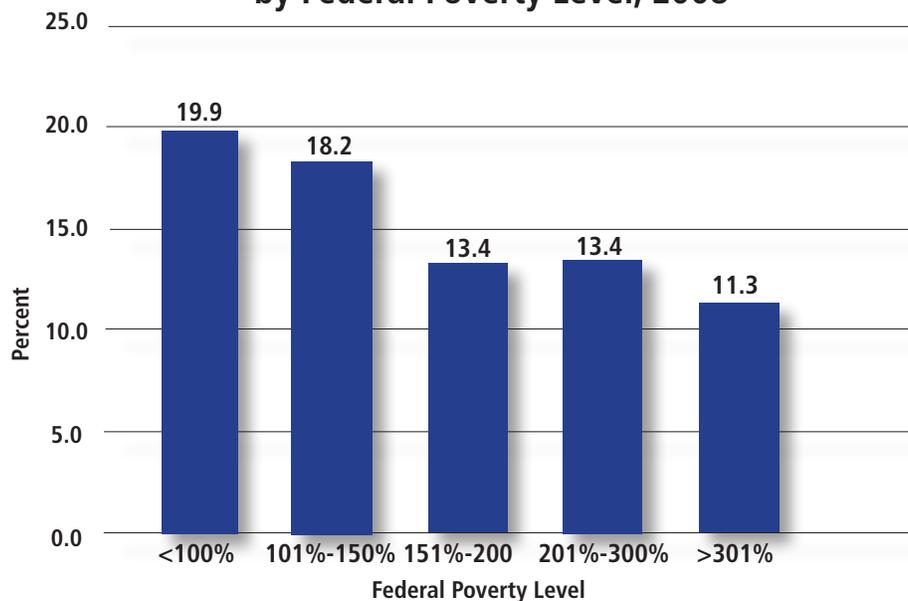
Estimated Child Asthma Prevalence, by Race, 2008



Source: Ohio Family Health Survey, 2008

More than one in five African-American children in Ohio have asthma. African-American children in Ohio are significantly more likely to have asthma than whites, Hispanics or Asians.

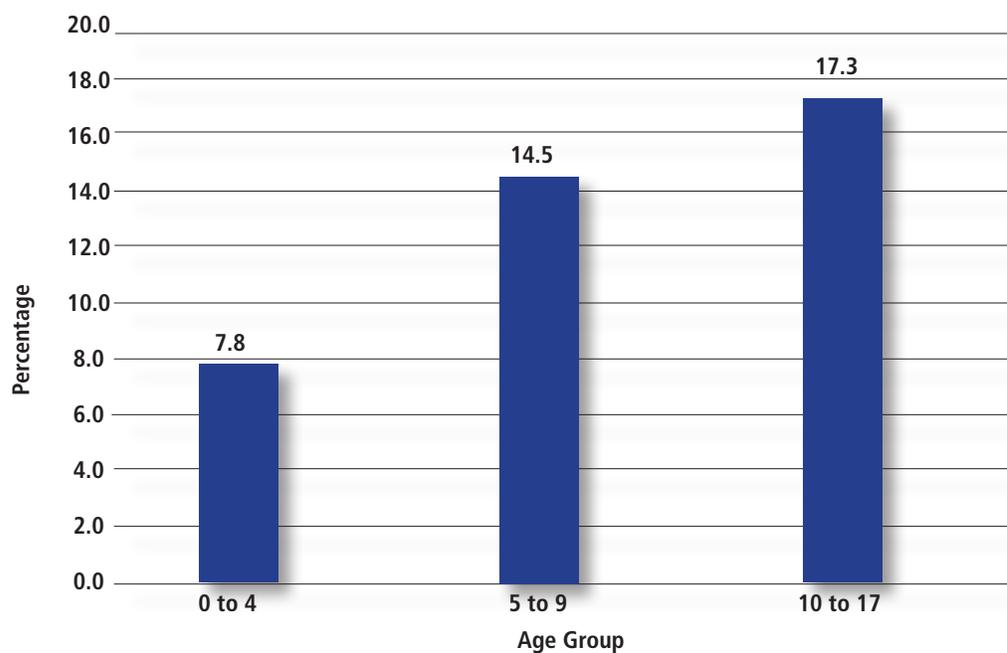
Estimated Child Asthma Prevalence, by Federal Poverty Level, 2008



Source: Ohio Family Health Survey, 2008

In Ohio, nearly one in five children at or below the poverty line (\$21,027 for a family of four) have asthma. Children in households that earn 300 percent of poverty level or more (\$63,081 for a family of four) are significantly less likely to have asthma.

Estimated Child Asthma Prevalence, by Age Group, 2008



Source: Ohio Family Health Survey, 2008

School age children are significantly more likely to have asthma than children under age five.