

ASTHMA IN SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN, FLORIDA 2013

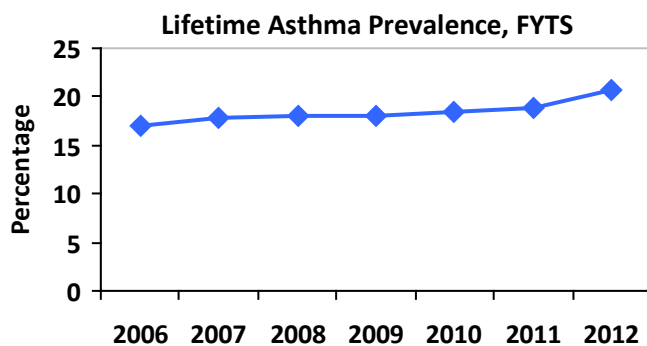
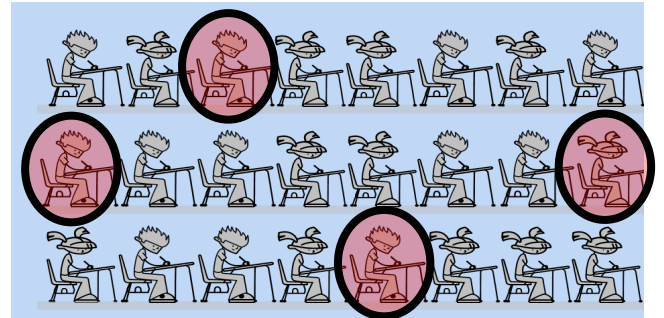
If you think asthma isn't impacting your students – THINK AGAIN!

Approximately 461,200 instructional hours were lost due to asthma in school year 2012-2013

Asthma among Florida Students

In 2012, approximately 1 out of 5 Florida public middle and high school students (20.5%) had been told by a doctor or nurse that they have asthma at sometime in their life (lifetime asthma).ⁱ In addition, approximately 1 out of 6 middle and high school students (17%) reported having had an asthma attack in the past year. This means that in a classroom of 24 students, approximately 4 have had a recent asthma attack.ⁱ

Students with a Recent Asthma Attack

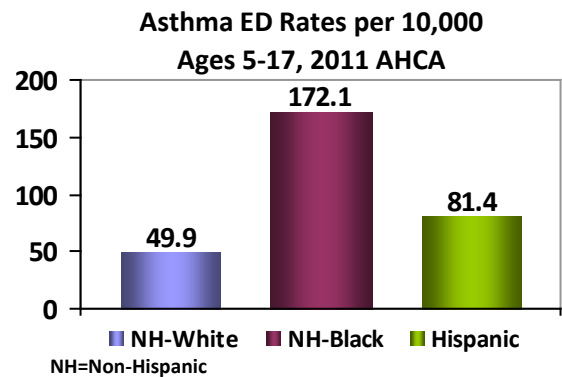


Asthma is On the Rise

Asthma prevalence is increasing among all ages in Florida and nationally. From 2006 to 2012, the prevalence of lifetime asthma among Florida public middle and high school increased by 21% from 17.0% to 20.5%.ⁱ

Disparities and the Achievement Gap

Emergency department (ED) visits are a key indicator of asthma severity and/or poor asthma control. Among Florida residents ages 5-17, the rate of ED visits among non-Hispanic blacks (172.1 per 10,000) was more than 3 times the rate for NH-whites (49.9 per 10,000) and more than twice the rate for Hispanics (81.4 per 10,000).ⁱⁱ The impact of uncontrolled asthma on academic achievement should not be overlooked.



The subgroups disproportionately impacted by asthma mirror the subgroups identified by a recent Florida Department of Education (DOE) report as having lower levels of academic proficiency. The more severe a child's asthma, the more likely they are to miss school and have symptoms that interfere with participation in class and physical activity.ⁱⁱⁱ

Schools can Help Control Asthma!

Implementing robust, school-based asthma management programs, starting in elementary school, could enable significant health and educational achievement gains for those students most in need. Visit www.floridaasthmacoalition.com/schools to learn how your school can take action.

What Can You Do? Become an Asthma-Friendly School!!

ⁱ Data from the Florida Youth Tobacco Survey, www.floridachronicdisease.org/FYTS/intro.htm

ⁱⁱ Rates calculated using data from the Agency for Health Care Administration and population estimates from www.FloridaCharts.com

ⁱⁱⁱ Moonie, S. A., Sterling, D. A., Figgs, L. Castro, M. Asthma Status and Severity Affects Missed School Days. 2006. Journal of School Health, 76.



Florida Asthma-Friendly School Recognition 2013-2014 Recognition Criteria

Bronze

1. **Asthma leadership team established.** Includes a Coalition mentor and may align with health/wellness team. *Mentor sign up:* <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AsthmaFriendlySchoolSignUp>
2. **School nurses, faculty and staff participate in asthma training at least every other school year.** (Includes the American Lung Association's (ALA) FREE on-line Asthma 101 program for faculty and staff (FloridaAsthma101.org) and FREE On-line Asthma Management Training for Nurses from the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America: http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/asthma/_documents/aafa-training.pdf). *Note: Participation requirements increase based on award level – See Application Guide.*
3. **School ensures immediate access to asthma medications per Florida statute.**
4. **School provides student centered asthma management support** (includes identifying children with asthma at the beginning of the school year, having asthma action plans on file for students with known asthma, and coordinating between parents and health care providers as needed). *Note: Requirements increase based on award level – See Application Guide.*
5. **School posts asthma posters in high-traffic areas.** <http://floridaasthmacoalition.com/schools/>
6. **School provides physical education and activity opportunities that meet needs of children with asthma.** Physical education teachers participate in general asthma education (such as ALA's Asthma 101 program) and sign up for www.airnow.gov air quality alerts.

Silver (All Bronze and Criterion 7 and 8)

7. **School works with community partners to provide self management education to students with asthma** (such as the ALA's Open Airways for Schools Program). *Note: Participation requirements increase based on award level – See Application Guide.*
8. **School works with community partners to offer and provide education to parents about asthma management** (such as ALA's Asthma 101 program).

Gold (All Bronze, Silver and criterion 9)

9. **School maintains a healthy school environment through implementation of an indoor air quality program** (such as the Environmental Protection Agency's Tools for Schools Program: <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/>).

Platinum (All Bronze, Silver, and Criterion 10)

10. **School implements comprehensive asthma procedures or a policy which includes the activities listed in criterion 1-9 & the district meets the 12 criteria for a comprehensive tobacco-free schools policy.**

Developed in collaboration with:



Healthy Children are our Priority!