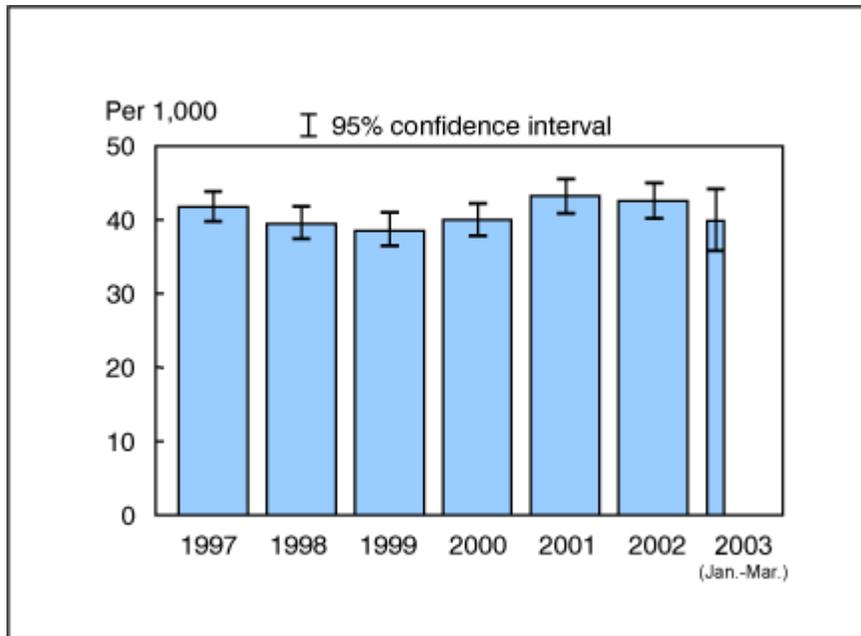


Figure 15.1. Prevalence of asthma episodes in the past 12 months among persons of all ages: United States, 1997-2003

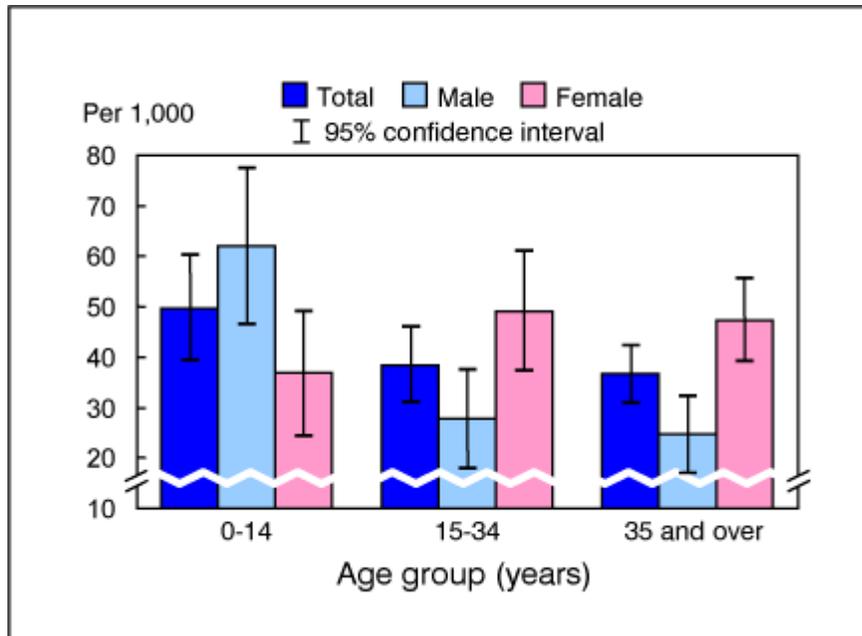


NOTES: Information on an episode of asthma or asthma attack during the past 12 months is self-reported by adults aged 18 years and over. For children under age 18 years, the information is collected from an adult family member, usually a parent, who is knowledgeable about the child's health. The analysis excluded people with unknown asthma status (about 0.3% of respondents each year). CI is confidence interval. Beginning with the 2003 data, the National Health Interview Survey transitioned to weights derived from the 2000 census. This Early Release also re-calculated the estimates using weights derived from the 2000 census for the 2000-2002 National Health Interview Surveys. See appendix tables in this release for more details.

DATA SOURCE: Sample Adult and Sample Child Core components of the 1997-2003 National Health Interview Surveys. The estimate for 2003 was based on data collected from January through March.

- In early 2003, the prevalence of asthma episodes in the past 12 months for persons of all ages was 39.9/1,000 population (95% CI = 35.7/1,000-44.1/1,000 population), which was lower than but not significantly different from the 2002 estimate of 42.6%.
- The annual prevalence (per 1,000 population) of asthma episodes in the past 12 months for persons of all ages decreased from 41.8 in 1997 to 38.6 in 1999, but since then increased significantly to 43.2 in 2001.

Figure 15.2. Prevalence of asthma episodes in the past 12 months, by age group and sex: United States, January-March 2003

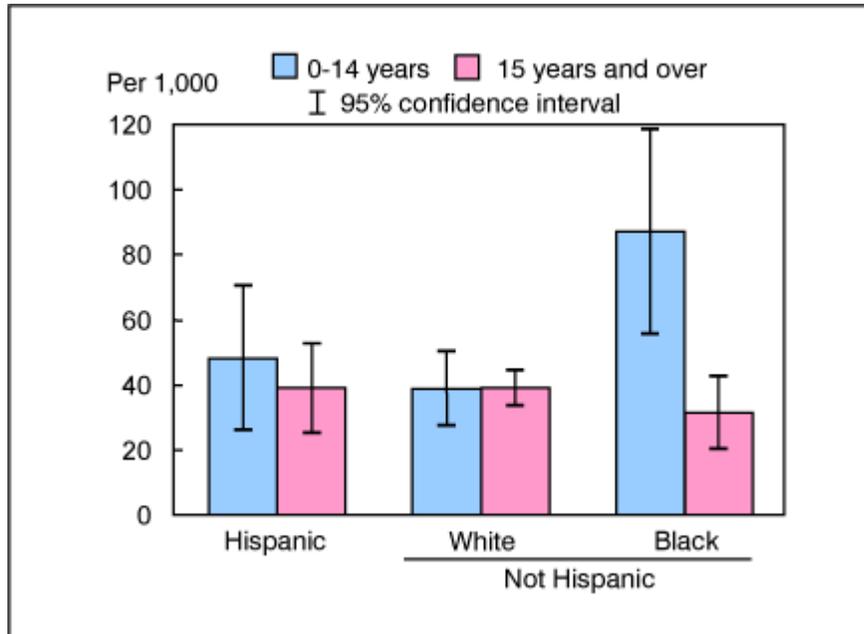


NOTES: Information on an episode of asthma or asthma attack during the past 12 months is self-reported by adults aged 18 years and over. For children under age 18 years, the information is collected from an adult family member, usually a parent, who is knowledgeable about the child's health. The analysis excluded 130 persons with unknown asthma status (0.3%).

DATA SOURCE: Based on data collected from January-March in the Sample Adult and Sample Child Core components of the 2003 National Health Interview Survey.

- For both sexes combined, the prevalence of asthma episodes was higher among children under age 15 years than among adults aged 35 years and over. For males, asthma was higher among children 0-14 years than among those aged 15 years and over.
- For children under age 15 years, the prevalence of asthma episodes was higher among boys than among girls. However, for persons in age groups 15-34 years and 35 years and over, the prevalence was higher among females than among males.

Figure 15.3. Sex-adjusted prevalence of asthma episodes in the past 12 months, by age and race/ethnicity: United States, January-March 2003



NOTES: Information on an episode of asthma or asthma attack during the past 12 months is self-reported by adults aged 18 years and over. For children under age 18 years, the information is collected from an adult family member, usually a parent, who is knowledgeable about the child's health. The analysis excluded 130 persons with unknown asthma status (0.3%). CI is confidence interval.

DATA SOURCE: Based on data collected from January-March in the Sample Adult and Sample Child Core components of the 2003 National Health Interview Survey.

- For children under age 15 years, the sex-adjusted prevalence of asthma episodes was higher among non-Hispanic black children than among Hispanic or non-Hispanic white children. This race/ethnic disparity was not seen among persons aged 15 years and over.

- Among the six age-specific race/ethnic groups, the sex-adjusted prevalence of asthma episodes was highest among non-Hispanic black children under age 15 years (87.1/1,000 population).

Data tables for figures 15.1-15.3:

Data for figure 15.1. Prevalence of asthma episodes in the past 12 months among persons of all ages: United States, 1997-2003

| Year | Prevalence ¹ (95% confidence interval) | |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| | Crude ² | Age-adjusted ³ |
| 1997 | 41.8 (39.7-43.8) | 41.5 (39.4-43.5) |
| 1998 | 39.5 (37.4-41.7) | 39.3 (37.2-41.5) |
| 1999 | 38.6 (36.4-40.9) | 38.5 (36.2-40.7) |
| 2000 | 40.0 (37.7-42.2) | 39.9 (37.6-42.1) |
| 2001 | 43.2 (40.8-45.5) | 43.1 (40.8-45.4) |
| 2002 | 42.6 (40.2-44.9) | 42.5 (40.2-44.9) |
| 2003 (January-March) | 39.9 (35.7-44.1) | 39.9 (35.7-44.1) |

¹Per 1,000 population.

²Crude estimates are presented in the graph.

³Estimates are age-adjusted to the year 2000 projected standard population using three age groups: 0-14 years, 15-34 years, and 35 years and over.

Data table for figure 15.2. Prevalence of asthma episodes in the past 12 months, by age group and sex: United States, January-March 2003

| Age and sex | Prevalence (per 1,000 population) | 95% confidence interval |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0-14 years | | |
| Total | 49.7 | 39.3-60.2 |
| Male | 62.1 | 46.6-77.5 |
| Female | 36.8 | 24.4-49.1 |
| 15-34 years | | |
| Total | 38.4 | 31.0-45.9 |
| Male | 27.7 | 17.9-37.5 |
| Female | 49.1 | 37.2-61.1 |
| 35 years and over | | |
| Total | 36.6 | 30.9-42.3 |
| Male | 24.6 | 16.9-32.2 |
| Female | 47.4 | 39.2-55.6 |

Data table for figure 15.3. Sex-adjusted prevalence of asthma episodes in the past 12 months, by age group and race/ethnicity: United States, January-March 2003

| Age group and race/ethnicity | Prevalence¹ (per 1,000 population) | 95% confidence interval |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 0-14 years | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 48.2 | 26.0-70.4 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | | |
| White, single race | 38.8 | 27.6-50.1 |
| Black, single race | 87.1 | 55.7-118.5 |
| 15 years and over | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 38.9 | 25.2-52.6 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | | |
| White, single race | 39.0 | 33.6-44.4 |
| Black, single race | 31.4 | 20.2-42.7 |

¹Estimates are sex-adjusted to the year 2000 projected U.S. standard population.