

Table 12. Health conditions among children under age 18, by selected characteristics: United States, average annual, selected years 1997–1999 through 2016–2018

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2019.htm#Table-012>

[Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Characteristic	Current asthma ¹				Asthma attack in past 12 months ²			
	1997–1999	2000–2002	2013–2015	2016–2018	1997–1999	2000–2002	2013–2015	2016–2018
Under 18 years ³	---	---	8.5	8.1	5.4	5.7	4.5	4.5
Percent of children								
Age group								
0–4 years	---	---	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.7	2.9	2.7
5–17 years	---	---	10.0	9.6	5.7	6.1	5.1	5.2
5–9 years	---	---	9.4	8.3	5.6	6.3	5.5	5.0
10–17 years	---	---	10.3	10.4	5.8	5.9	4.8	5.3
Sex								
Male	---	---	9.8	9.0	6.2	6.6	5.2	5.1
Female	---	---	7.1	7.1	4.5	4.7	3.8	3.9
Race ⁴								
White only	---	---	7.5	6.8	5.0	5.2	4.1	3.9
Black or African American only	---	---	13.4	14.0	7.0	8.0	6.8	7.4
American Indian or Alaska Native only	---	---	8.9	11.2	6.4	*8.7	*4.6	6.4
Asian only	---	---	5.2	3.9	4.3	4.7	2.9	2.3
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only	---	---	*	*	---	*	*	*
2 or more races	---	---	10.9	13.3	---	7.3	6.1	7.4
Hispanic origin and race ⁴								
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	7.9	7.5	4.8	4.2	4.2	3.8
Not Hispanic or Latino	---	---	8.6	8.3	5.5	6.0	4.6	4.8
White only	---	---	7.5	6.8	5.1	5.5	4.0	4.0
Black or African American only	---	---	13.4	14.2	7.0	7.9	6.8	7.6
Percent of poverty level ⁵								
Below 100%	---	---	10.9	10.6	6.1	7.1	6.2	6.1
100%–199%	---	---	8.5	9.3	5.3	5.4	4.4	5.0
200%–399%	---	---	7.9	7.5	5.0	5.3	4.0	3.9
400% or more	---	---	6.9	6.3	5.2	5.5	3.7	3.8
Health insurance status at time of interview ⁶								
Insured	---	---	8.5	8.2	5.6	5.9	4.5	4.6
Private	---	---	7.4	7.2	5.0	5.3	3.9	4.0
Medicaid	---	---	10.2	10.1	7.7	7.7	5.5	5.6
Uninsured	---	---	6.9	6.4	3.9	4.3	3.7	3.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 12. Health conditions among children under age 18, by selected characteristics: United States, average annual, selected years 1997–1999 through 2016–2018—Con.

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[Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Characteristic	Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder ⁷				Serious emotional or behavioral difficulties ⁸			
	1997–1999	2000–2002	2013–2015	2016–2018	1997–1999	2000–2002	2013–2015	2016–2018
Age group		Percent of children						
5–17 years ³	6.5	7.5	10.4	10.8	---	---	5.7	5.6
5–9 years	4.8	5.2	7.6	7.4	---	---	5.4	5.1
10–17 years	7.6	9.0	12.1	12.9	---	---	5.9	6.0
Sex								
Male	9.6	10.8	14.2	14.6	---	---	7.1	7.0
Female	3.2	4.2	6.4	6.9	---	---	4.2	4.2
Race⁴								
White only	7.1	8.1	10.8	10.8	---	---	5.7	5.7
Black or African American only	5.0	7.0	10.2	13.2	---	---	5.5	6.1
American Indian or Alaska Native only	*8.5	*	*6.5	6.4	---	---	*5.9	*
Asian only	*1.7	*	2.0	3.1	---	---	*2.2	1.1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only	---	*	*	*	---	---	*	*
2 or more races	---	7.4	15.4	14.5	---	---	8.9	9.5
Hispanic origin and race⁴								
Hispanic or Latino	3.6	4.2	6.6	7.3	---	---	4.4	4.3
Not Hispanic or Latino	7.0	8.2	11.6	11.9	---	---	6.1	6.1
White only	7.7	9.0	12.6	12.3	---	---	6.4	6.3
Black or African American only	5.0	6.8	10.3	13.4	---	---	5.5	6.0
Percent of poverty level⁵								
Below 100%	7.2	8.2	12.7	13.5	---	---	8.1	8.1
100%–199%	6.7	7.5	10.9	11.7	---	---	6.1	7.1
200%–399%	6.2	7.7	9.4	9.7	---	---	4.9	4.7
400% or more	6.1	7.1	9.2	9.6	---	---	4.3	4.0
Health insurance status at time of interview⁶								
Insured	6.7	7.8	10.7	11.0	---	---	5.8	5.8
Private	5.9	7.0	9.1	9.2	---	---	4.3	4.0
Medicaid	10.5	10.7	13.2	13.8	---	---	8.2	8.6
Uninsured	4.8	5.4	4.9	6.9	---	---	3.8	3.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 12. Health conditions among children under age 18, by selected characteristics: United States, average annual, selected years 1997–1999 through 2016–2018—Con.

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2019.htm#Table-012>

[Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Characteristic	Food allergy ⁹				Skin allergy ¹⁰			
	1997–1999	2000–2002	2013–2015	2016–2018	1997–1999	2000–2002	2013–2015	2016–2018
Under 18 years ³	3.4	3.6	5.6	6.4	7.4	8.1	11.8	12.7
Percent of children								
Age group								
0–4 years.....	3.8	4.0	5.7	6.3	8.1	8.7	13.2	14.3
5–17 years.....	3.3	3.4	5.6	6.4	7.2	7.9	11.3	12.1
5–9 years.....	3.1	3.6	6.0	6.1	7.5	8.6	12.7	13.3
10–17 years.....	3.4	3.3	5.3	6.6	7.1	7.5	10.4	11.4
Sex								
Male.....	3.4	3.7	5.6	6.5	7.3	7.9	11.8	12.3
Female.....	3.5	3.4	5.6	6.3	7.6	8.4	11.8	13.1
Race ⁴								
White only.....	3.5	3.6	5.4	6.2	7.1	7.6	10.7	11.5
Black or African American only.....	3.1	3.0	5.8	6.3	9.0	10.4	16.4	18.1
American Indian or Alaska Native only.....	*	*4.8	*4.0	6.4	*4.1	*9.1	9.0	9.3
Asian only.....	3.9	4.4	6.0	5.8	8.0	8.4	11.4	11.8
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only.....	---	*	*	*	---	*	*	*
2 or more races.....	---	5.2	7.8	10.2	---	10.9	15.6	17.7
Hispanic origin and race ⁴								
Hispanic or Latino.....	2.1	2.5	4.6	5.3	5.5	5.6	9.8	10.8
Not Hispanic or Latino.....	3.7	3.8	5.9	6.7	7.8	8.7	12.5	13.4
White only.....	3.8	3.9	5.8	6.7	7.5	8.2	11.3	12.1
Black or African American only.....	3.1	3.1	5.6	6.3	9.0	10.4	16.5	18.0
Percent of poverty level ⁵								
Below 100%.....	3.3	3.2	5.1	5.8	7.3	7.1	11.8	13.5
100%–199%.....	3.0	3.4	5.4	6.0	7.2	7.6	11.2	12.5
200%–399%.....	3.2	3.4	5.5	5.8	7.3	8.5	12.0	12.2
400% or more.....	4.2	4.0	6.3	7.6	7.9	8.8	12.2	12.8
Health insurance status at time of interview ⁶								
Insured.....	3.5	3.7	5.7	6.4	7.7	8.5	12.0	12.9
Private.....	3.5	3.7	5.9	7.0	7.4	8.5	12.0	12.5
Medicaid.....	3.6	3.7	5.2	5.6	8.4	8.4	11.9	13.4
Uninsured.....	2.6	2.4	4.4	5.4	5.9	5.3	9.1	10.5

See footnotes at end of table.

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[Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Characteristic	Hay fever or respiratory allergy ¹¹				Three or more ear infections ¹²			
	1997–1999	2000–2002	2013–2015	2016–2018	1997–1999	2000–2002	2013–2015	2016–2018
Under 18 years ³	17.5	17.7	15.6	14.7	7.1	6.7	5.0	4.4
Percent of children								
Age group								
0–4 years.....	10.7	10.4	9.1	8.0	13.7	12.8	9.2	8.6
5–17 years.....	19.9	20.3	18.0	17.2	4.8	4.5	3.4	2.9
5–9 years.....	17.3	18.1	16.7	14.8	7.1	6.9	5.2	4.3
10–17 years.....	21.6	21.7	18.9	18.7	3.2	2.9	2.3	2.1
Sex								
Male.....	18.6	18.8	17.3	16.3	7.3	6.9	5.1	4.6
Female.....	16.3	16.5	13.9	13.0	6.9	6.5	4.8	4.3
Race ⁴								
White only.....	17.9	18.5	15.7	14.8	7.4	7.2	5.4	4.7
Black or African American only.....	16.2	15.6	15.1	14.0	5.9	5.0	3.5	4.0
American Indian or Alaska Native only.....	15.2	16.4	12.9	9.9	*10.8	*6.3	7.2	5.5
Asian only.....	15.3	12.6	12.2	11.0	3.7	2.6	2.1	2.1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only.....	---	*	*	*	---	*	*	*
2 or more races.....	---	20.9	20.3	20.6	---	7.4	5.0	4.1
Hispanic origin and race ⁴								
Hispanic or Latino.....	12.4	12.4	12.8	11.6	6.1	6.7	5.5	4.4
Not Hispanic or Latino.....	18.4	18.8	16.5	15.7	7.3	6.7	4.8	4.5
White only.....	19.1	19.9	17.0	16.4	7.7	7.3	5.4	4.9
Black or African American only.....	16.3	15.5	15.2	14.0	5.9	4.9	3.4	4.0
Percent of poverty level ⁵								
Below 100%.....	14.3	14.0	13.3	13.6	8.3	7.9	6.2	5.9
100%–199%.....	15.4	15.6	14.2	12.6	7.1	6.8	4.9	4.0
200%–399%.....	18.5	18.1	16.2	14.8	6.8	6.5	4.7	4.0
400% or more.....	20.3	21.1	18.1	16.8	6.6	6.1	4.3	4.3
Health insurance status at time of interview ⁶								
Insured.....	18.0	18.3	15.7	14.8	7.3	6.9	5.0	4.5
Private.....	18.8	19.2	16.9	15.8	6.6	6.4	4.5	3.9
Medicaid.....	15.0	16.0	14.1	13.5	10.2	8.7	5.7	5.4
Uninsured.....	14.3	12.6	14.1	12.8	5.9	4.9	4.4	2.9

See footnotes at end of table.

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[Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

--- Data not available.

* Estimates are considered unreliable. Starting with 2014–2016 data (shown in spreadsheet version), the reliability of survey percentage estimates is assessed using new, multistep National Center for Health Statistics data presentation standards for proportions. Before 2014–2016 data (shown in spreadsheet version), the reliability of estimates was evaluated based on relative standard errors (RSEs). Data preceded by an asterisk have an RSE of 20%–30%. Data not shown have an RSE greater than 30%. For more information, see Appendix II, Data presentation standards for proportions; Relative standard error (RSE).

¹Starting in 2003, based on a parent or knowledgeable adult responding to both questions, “Has a doctor or other health professional ever told you that [child] had asthma?” and “Does [child] still have asthma?”

²Based on a parent or knowledgeable adult responding to both questions, “Has a doctor or other health professional ever told you that [child] had asthma?” and “During the past 12 months, has [child] had an episode of asthma or an asthma attack?”

³Includes all other races not shown separately and unknown health insurance status.

⁴The race groups white, black, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and 2 or more races include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are tabulated according to the 1997 “Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity” and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The five single- and multiple-race categories shown follow the 1997 standards. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are for persons who reported only one racial group; the category 2 or more races includes persons who reported more than one racial group. Before 1999, data were tabulated with four racial groups according to the 1977 standards, and the Asian only category included Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander persons. Estimates for single-race categories before 1999 included persons who reported one race or, if they reported more than one race, identified one race as best representing their race. Starting with 2003 data, race responses of other race and unspecified multiple race are treated as missing, and then race is imputed if these were the only race responses. Almost all persons with a race response of other race are of Hispanic origin. See Appendix II, Hispanic origin; Race.

⁵Based on family income and family size and composition using U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds. Missing family income data are imputed for 1997 and beyond. See Appendix II, Family income; Poverty; Table VII.

⁶Categories are mutually exclusive. Persons who reported both Medicaid and private coverage are classified as having private coverage. Starting with 1997 data, state-sponsored health plan coverage is included as Medicaid coverage. Starting with 1999 data, coverage by the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is included as Medicaid coverage. In addition to private and Medicaid, the insured category includes military plans, other government-sponsored health plans, and Medicare. Persons not covered by private insurance, Medicaid, CHIP, state-sponsored or other government-sponsored health plans (starting in 1997), Medicare, or military plans are considered to have no health insurance coverage. Persons with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered to have no health insurance coverage. See Appendix II, Health insurance coverage.

⁷Based on a parent or knowledgeable adult responding to the question, “Has a doctor or health professional ever told you that [child] had attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) or attention deficit disorder (ADD)?”

⁸Starting in 2003, based on a parent or knowledgeable adult responding to the question, “Overall, do you think that [child] has difficulties in any of the following areas: emotions, concentration, behavior, or being able to get along with other people?”

⁹Based on a parent or knowledgeable adult responding to the question, “During the past 12 months, has [child] had any kind of food or digestive allergy?”

¹⁰Based on a parent or knowledgeable adult responding to the question, “During the past 12 months, has [child] had eczema or any kind of skin allergy?”

¹¹Based on a parent or knowledgeable adult responding to either the question, “During the past 12 months, has [child] had hay fever?” or the question, “During the past 12 months, has [child] had any kind of respiratory allergy?”

¹²Based on a parent or knowledgeable adult responding to the question, “During the past 12 months, has [child] had three or more ear infections?”

NOTES: Standard errors and data for additional years are available in the Excel spreadsheet version of this table on the *Health, United States* website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/index.htm>. Data have been revised and differ from previous editions of *Health, United States*.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, Family Core and Sample Child questionnaires. See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).