

# Health Disparities in Connecticut: ASTHMA

*Asthma is a chronic condition that disproportionately affects people of color in Connecticut.*

## WHO HAS ASTHMA?

Black and Hispanic Connecticut residents are more likely to have asthma than white residents. Among youth, Hispanic children and teens are nearly twice as likely to have asthma as white children and teens.

Current asthma prevalence, Connecticut<sup>1</sup>

Race/ethnicity	Children 0-17, 2016-18	Adults 18+, 2018
White non-Hispanic	8.5%	9.1%
Black non-Hispanic	14.1%	15.3%
Hispanic	16.2%	13%



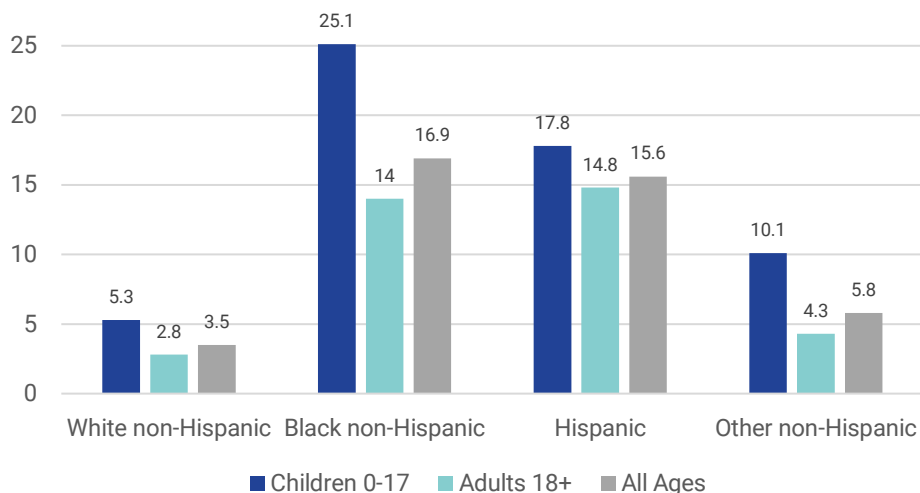
## WHO IS HOSPITALIZED FOR ASTHMA?

Asthma is the top cause of preventable hospitalization among children in Connecticut.<sup>2</sup>

Black children are nearly 5 times more likely to be hospitalized for asthma than white children, while Hispanic children are more than 3 times more likely to be hospitalized.

Among adults, the disparity is even larger: Black and Hispanic residents are 5 times more likely to be hospitalized for asthma than white residents.

Hospitalization rate for asthma, Connecticut, 2018<sup>3</sup>  
 Rates are age-adjusted and per 10,000 people

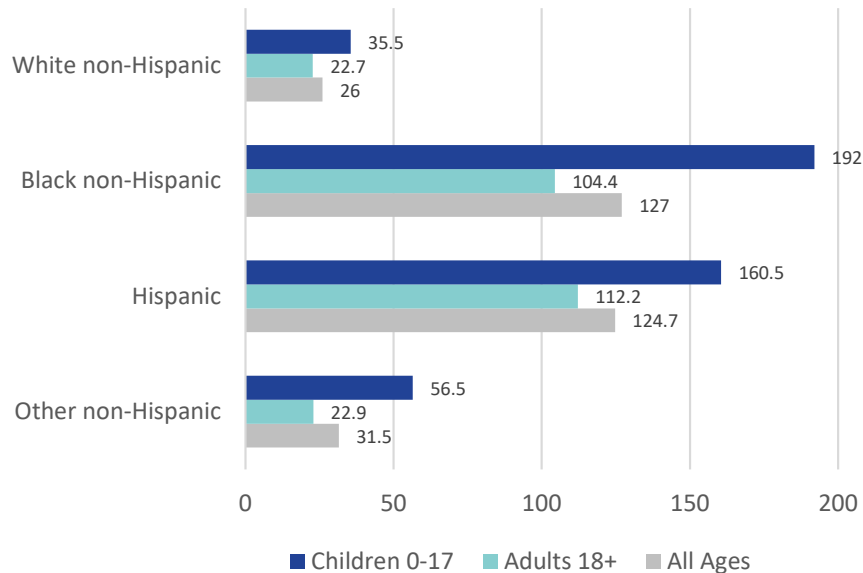


## WHO GOES TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM BECAUSE OF ASTHMA?

Black children and teens are more than 5 times as likely to go to the emergency room because of asthma than white children and teens, while the rate among Hispanic children and teens is 4.5 times as high.

Hispanic adults are nearly 5 times as likely to go to the emergency room because of asthma as white adults, while the rate among Black adults is 4.5 times as high.

Asthma emergency department visits, Connecticut, 2018<sup>4</sup>  
Rates are age-adjusted and per 10,000 people



## WHO DIES FROM ASTHMA?

People of color are significantly more likely to die from asthma. Black Connecticut residents are nearly 3 times as likely to die from asthma as white residents, while Hispanic residents are more than twice as likely to die from it.

Asthma mortality rate, Connecticut, 2014-2018<sup>5</sup>  
Cases in which asthma was an underlying cause of death, per 1 million people; rates are age-adjusted

White non-Hispanic	7.6
Black non-Hispanic	22.1
Hispanic	16.4
Other non-Hispanic	6.6

## REFERENCES

1. Connecticut Department of Public Health, "Current Asthma Prevalence Among Connecticut Adults (18+ years old), 2011-2018," and "Current Asthma Prevalence Among Connecticut Children (0-17 years old), 3-years Rolling Averages, 2011-2018." Available as "[Adult Current Prevalence](#)" and "[Child Current Prevalence](#)".
2. Connecticut Office of Health Strategy, "[Facilities and Services Plan: 2018 Supplement](#)," April 1, 2019, p. 13.
3. Connecticut Department of Public Health, "Asthma Hospitalization Crude and Age-Adjusted Rates for Total Population, Adults, and Children by Sex, Race/Ethnicity, Age Group, and Year; Primary Diagnosis, Connecticut, 2000-2018." Available as "[Hospital Discharge Rates – primary diagnosis](#)".
4. Connecticut Department of Public Health, "Asthma Emergency Department Visit Crude and Age-Adjusted Rates for Total Population, Adults, and Children by Sex, Race/Ethnicity, Age Group, and Year; Primary Diagnosis, Connecticut, 2000-2018." Available as "[ED Visit Rates – primary diagnosis](#)".
5. Connecticut Department of Public Health, "Asthma Mortality Crude and Age-Adjusted 5-year Estimate Rates by Sex, Age and Race/Ethnicity, Underlying Cause, Connecticut, 2005-2016." Available as "[Mortality Rates – underlying cause](#)".