

Facts & Figures

- Asthma is the second most prevalent chronic condition among children.
- Risk factors for asthma include genetic predisposition and outdoor and indoor environmental exposures.
- In 2000, the Institute of Medicine published the report "Clearing the Air." The report identified indoor environmental agents such as dust mites, roaches, cats, dogs, mold, and environmental tobacco smoke closely associated with the development and exacerbation of asthma.
- Young children spend 80%-90% of their time indoors and therefore are particularly vulnerable to these indoor triggers.
- According to the latest National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) data, 2003-2005, an estimated 8.9% of children (6.5 million) and 7.2% of adults (15.7 million) currently had asthma.
- During 2001-2004, asthma average annual prevalence was higher in children under age 18 (8.5%) than in adults 18 years and older (6.7%).
- According to the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) results, asthma prevalence in Oklahoma was higher in children under age 18 (9.2%) than in adults 18 years and older (8.5%).
- During 2000-2004, an average annual 4,185 deaths from asthma occurred in the U.S. In 2005, 56 Oklahomans died from asthma.



Economic & Social Burden of Asthma

- According to the National Hospital Discharge Survey, 2005, the hospitalization rate for asthma was the highest for children under 15 years of age and those 65 years of age and over.
- Among children ages 5- 17 years, asthma is the leading cause of school absences from a chronic illness. In 2003, it accounted for an annual loss of 12.8 million school days.
- In 2003, asthma accounted for 10.1 million missed work days among working adults ages 18 and over.
- In 2007, annual expenditure for asthma medical care (\$14.7 billion) and lost productivity (\$5 billion) due to asthma was estimated to be \$19.7 billion. Overall Asthma contributes to approximately 3% of total health care costs.

How is Asthma Associated with Healthy Homes Principles?

- **Keep it Dry:** Keeping the home dry by controlling moisture helps minimize asthma triggers associated with mold and excess moisture.
- **Keep it Clean:** Minimizes asthma triggers associated with pest infestations.
- **Keep it Pest Free:** Minimizes asthma triggers associated with pest infestations.
- **Keep it Contaminant Free:** Minimizes asthma triggers associated with contaminants (environmental tobacco smoke, mold etc).

