

# ASTHMA FACT SHEET

## SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES



### SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC

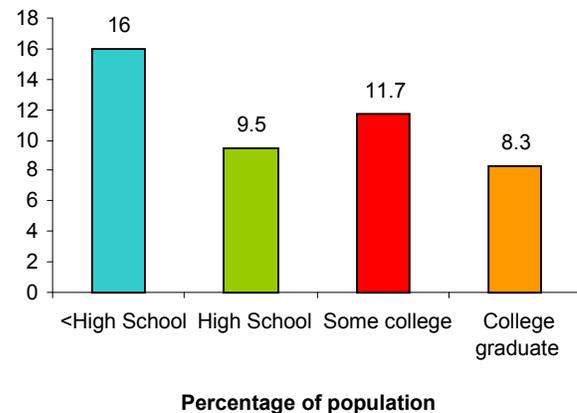
- ◆ Maine adults with a household income of less than \$25,000 are more likely to have asthma, than are those with a higher household income.
- ◆ Maine adults who report being unable to work are more likely to have asthma.
- ◆ Note on race/ethnicity in Maine: Racial and ethnic disparities in asthma prevalence and related outcomes have been documented at the national level. In Maine, it is challenging to look at racial/ethnic disparities due to historically small numbers within minority populations in the state. Comparing *whites* to *other* races as a combined group is not always meaningful, because of variability across racial/ethnic groups.

### EDUCATION LEVEL

MAINE 2005

- ◆ Maine adults who did not complete high school are more likely to have asthma compared to those with a college education.

Prevalence of current adult asthma by education level

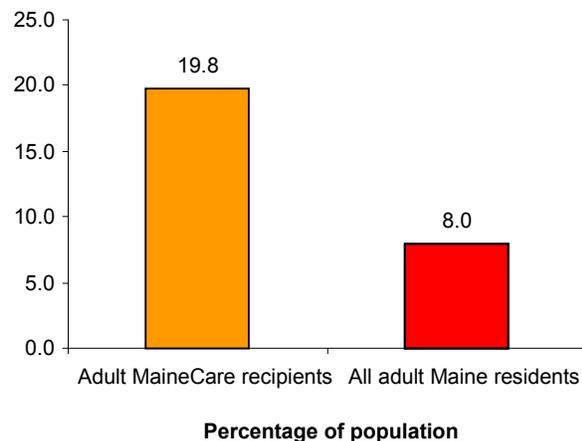


### INSURANCE STATUS

MAINE 2005

- ◆ Compared to all Maine residents, MaineCare (Medicaid) recipients are more likely to have asthma.

Current adult asthma prevalence by insurance status

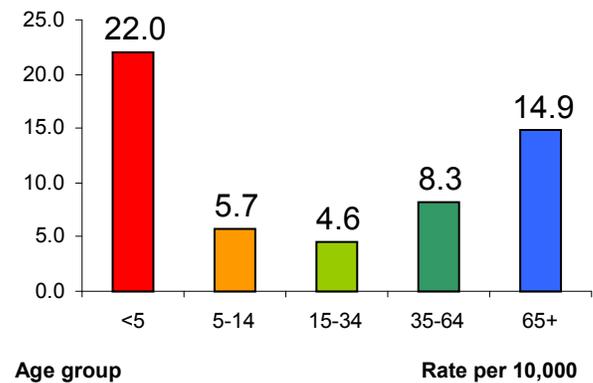


## AGE

MAINE 2005

- ◆ On average, children have a higher current prevalence of asthma than adults in Maine.
- ◆ Maine children under the age of five are at the greatest risk for hospitalization and emergency department visits due to asthma.
- ◆ Maine residents 65 years and older have the second highest rate of hospitalization for asthma.

Age-specific asthma hospitalization rate

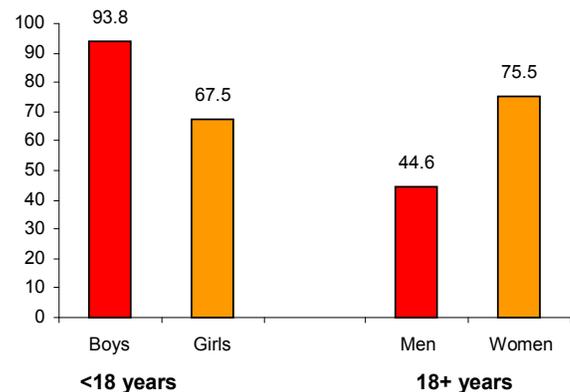


## GENDER

MAINE 2004

- ◆ Among Maine adults (18 and older), women are more likely to have asthma, to visit the emergency department, or to be hospitalized for asthma.
- ◆ Among Maine children (17 and under), boys are more likely to have asthma, to visit the emergency department, or to be hospitalized for asthma.

Asthma emergency department visit rates by sex



## DISTRICTS

MAINE 2005

- ◆ Generally, residents of Northern Maine have higher rates of asthma-related hospitalizations and emergency department visits compared to those who live in Southern Maine.

Age-adjusted asthma emergency department visit rates by public health district

