

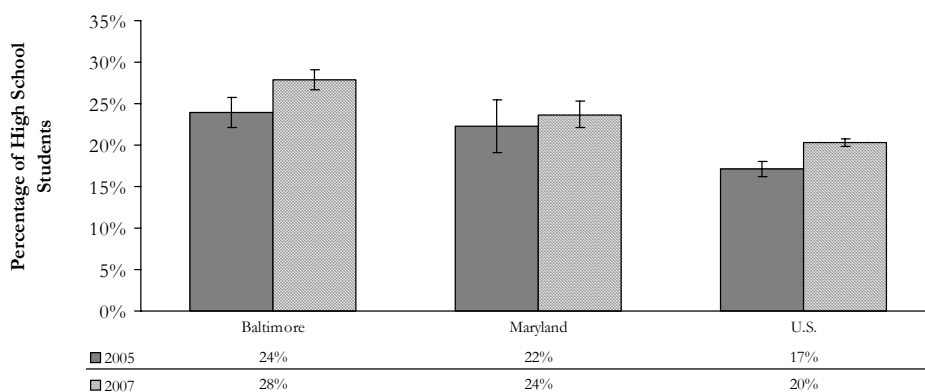
Asthma

Importance: According to the CDC, asthma accounts for about 14 million days of school absenteeism annually; the estimated cost of treating children under 18 years is \$3.2 billion annually. In 2004, asthma accounted for 7 million doctor visits (958 per 10,000) among children 0-17 years. Among children 0-4 years during this same year, there were 168 per 10,000 emergency department (ED) visits and 60 per 10,000 hospitalizations.

National statistic: 8.9% prevalence in children (2005)

Healthy People 2010 goal: Visits to an ED: 80 per 10,000 for children under 5 years; 50 per 10,000 for children over 5 years

Percentage (and 95% CI) of High School Students Who Had Ever Been Told By a Doctor or Nurse That They Had Asthma, Baltimore City, Maryland, and U.S., 2005 and 2007



Source: Centers for Disease Control, 2005 and 2007 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>. Accessed September 15th, 2008. See technical notes for a description of the YRBSS data and methodology (error bars represent a 95% confidence interval for the estimate). Survey asked high school students if they "have ever been told by a doctor or nurse that they had asthma."

- In 2007, 28% of high school students surveyed in Baltimore City reported having been diagnosed with asthma—40% higher than the percentage among high school students surveyed in the U.S. as a whole.
- From 2005 to 2007, the percentage of high school students surveyed who reported having been diagnosed with asthma increased by 17% and 19% in Baltimore City and the U.S., respectively.