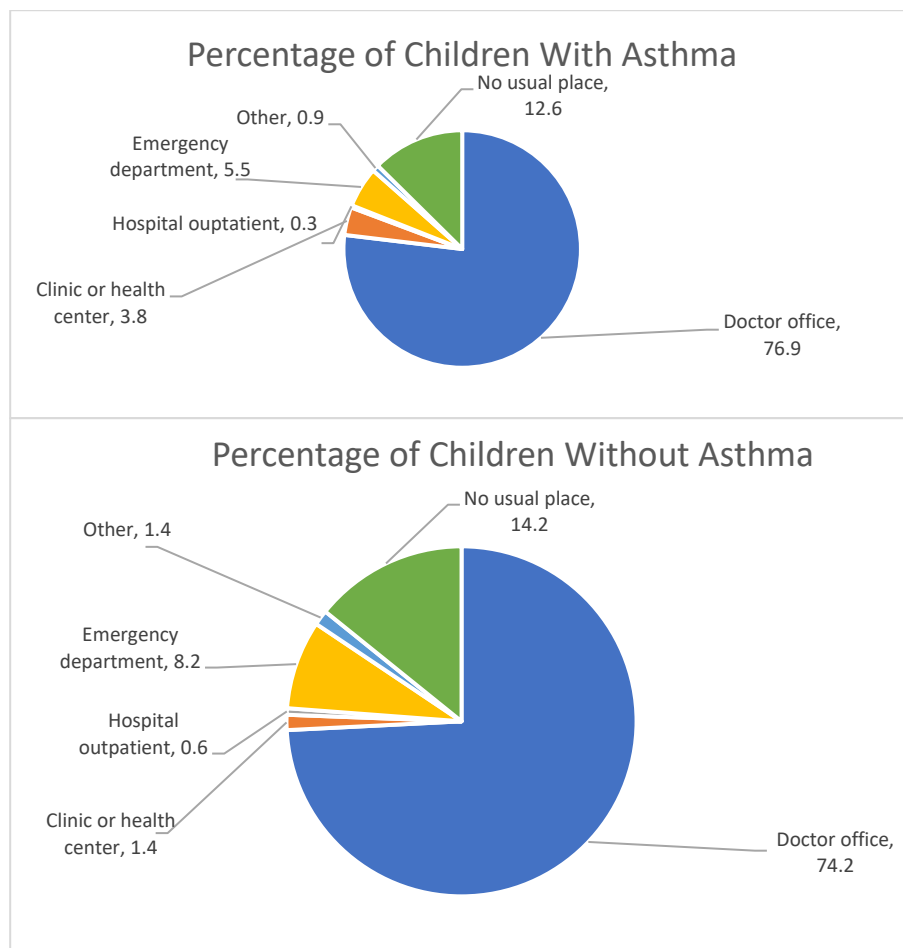


## Usual Place for Medical Care Among Children by Asthma Status

Children without asthma were more likely than children with asthma to report using the hospital emergency department as their usual place for medical care.



As stated in the Healthy People 2020's Access to Health Services objectives, people with a usual place to go for medical care have fewer disparities and better health outcomes.\*

**Usual Place for Medical Care:** The doctor's office was most often reported among children with asthma (76.9%) and without asthma (74.2%) for medical care. The hospital emergency department is not considered appropriate for a usual place to go for routine medical care. Fewer children with asthma (5.5%) report using the hospital emergency department as their usual place to go for medical care than children without asthma (8.2%). In addition, a greater percentage of children with asthma (3.8%) report clinics or health centers as their usual place to go for medical care than children without asthma (1.4%) (see figures and table).

**Age:** Across age groups, a smaller percentage children with asthma reported the emergency department as their usual place for medical care than children without asthma. A greater percentage of children with asthma age 5–11 (96.9%) reported the doctor's office as their usual place for medical care than children without asthma (78.1%).

**Sex:** A higher percentage of male children with asthma reported going to a doctor's office (78.9% vs. 75.2%), clinic, or healthcare center as a usual place to go for medical care than male children without asthma (3.4% vs. 1.1%). Male children with asthma also reported the emergency department their usual place for medical care less frequently than male children without asthma (4.4% vs. 8.2%). However, female children with asthma (4.3%) reported the emergency department as a usual place to go for medical care more frequently than female children without asthma (1.6%).

**Race/Ethnicity:** Non-Hispanic (NH) White children with asthma more frequently reported the doctor's office as their usual place for medical care than NH White children without asthma (85.7% vs. 82.3%). NH White children without asthma more frequently reported that they did not have a usual place to go for medical care than NH White children with asthma (9.1% vs. 6.7%). Among children without asthma, NH Black children (8.9%), Hispanic children (12.5%), and NH other race (8.7%) more frequently than White children (6.1%) reported the emergency department as a usual place to go for medical care. Hispanic children without asthma more frequently than Hispanic children with asthma reported the emergency department (12.5% vs. 5.9%) as their usual place for medical care. NH other race children without asthma (16.9%) more frequently than NH other race children with asthma (7.3%) reported not having a usual place to go for medical care (see table).

CDC's National Asthma Control Program was created in 1999 to help the millions of people with asthma in the United States control their disease. The program conducts national asthma surveillance and provides funds to states to help improve asthma surveillance and focus efforts and resources where they are needed.

Usual Place for Medical Care among U.S. Children, 2019–2020													
Total	Asthma Status	Doctor Office		Clinic Health Center		Hospital Outpatient		Emergency Department		Other†		No Usual Place	
		% (SE)	95% CI	% (SE)	95% CI	% (SE)	95% CI	% (SE)	95% CI	% (SE)	95% CI	% (SE)	95% CI
	With Asthma	76.9 (1.30)	74.2–79.3	3.8 (0.74)	2.5–5.5	0.3 (0.13)	0.1–0.7	5.5 (0.49)	4.6–6.6	0.9 (0.15)	0.7–1.3	12.6 (1.12)	10.6–15.0
	Without Asthma	74.2 (0.46)	73.3–75.1	1.4 (0.09)	1.3–1.6	0.6 (0.09)	0.5–0.8	8.2 (0.29)	7.7–8.8	1.4 (0.09)	1.3–1.6	14.2 (0.36)	13.5–14.9
<b>Age (years)</b>													
0–4	With Asthma	65.6 (15.24)	33.7–87.7	21.2 (14.98)	0.2–4.5	No data	0	0.9 (0.8)	0.2–4.5	No data	No data	12.3 (8.22)	3.1–38.4
	Without Asthma	78.8 (1.70)	75.3–81.9	1.2 § (0.36)	0.6–2.1	0.3 § (0.11)	0.1–0.6	5.5 (0.82)	4.1–7.3	Suppr	Suppr	13.7 (1.57)	10.9–17.1
5–11	With Asthma	96.9 (1.42)	92.5–98.8	Suppr	Suppr	No data		No data	No data	No data	No data	2.9 (1.41)	1.1–7.4
	Without Asthma	78.1 (1.53)	74.9–80.9	1.5 (0.40)	0.9–2.5	0.3 § (0.13)	0.1–0.7	6.8 (0.98)	5.1–9.0	0.9 (0.30)	0.4–1.7	12.5 (1.2)	10.4–15.0
12–17	With Asthma	76.9 (1.30)	62.5–86.2	5.2 (2.74)	1.8–14.0	0.3 (0.31)	<0.0–2.2	4.3 (2.25)	1.5–11.6	No data	No data	13.9 (5.25)	6.4–27.6
	Without Asthma	72.5 (2.06)	68.3–76.4	1.6 § (0.68)	0.7–3.6	Suppr	Suppr	10.1 (1.64)	7.3–13.8	1.1 (0.32)	0.6–1.9	14.2 (1.61)	11.3–17.7
<b>Sex</b>													
Male	With Asthma	78.9 (1.64)	75.5–81.9	3.4 (0.95)	2.0–5.8	Suppr	Suppr	4.4 (0.53)	3.5–5.6	0.9 (0.20)	0.6–1.4	12.2 (1.41)	9.6–15.1
	Without Asthma	75.2 (0.57)	74.0–76.3	1.1 (0.13)	0.9–1.4	0.6 (0.09)	0.5–0.8	8.2 (0.29)	7.7–8.8	1.4 (0.09)	1.3–1.6	14.2 (0.36)	13.0–14.8
Female	With Asthma	74.0 (2.14)	69.6–78.0	4.3 (1.18)	2.5–7.3	Suppr	Suppr	7.1 (0.91)	5.5–9.1	1.0 (0.22)	0.6–1.5	13.4 (1.84)	10.2–17.5
	Without Asthma	73.2 (0.68)	71.9–74.5	1.6 (0.22)	1.2–2.1	0.7 (0.13)	0.5–1.0	8.6 (0.41)	7.9–9.5	1.4 (0.12)	1.2–1.7	14.5 (0.55)	13.5–15.6
<b>Race/Ethn.</b>													
Non-Hispanic White	With Asthma	85.7 (1.11)	83.4–87.8	Suppr	Suppr	Suppr	Suppr	5.0 (0.58)	4.0–6.2	1.2 (0.24)	0.8–1.8	6.7 (0.80)	5.3–8.4
	Without Asthma	82.3 (0.34)	81.6–83.0	0.6 (0.09)	0.4–0.8	0.4 (0.05)	0.3–0.5	6.1 (0.23)	5.6–6.5	1.7 (0.12)	1.5–2.0	9.1 (0.25)	8.6–9.6
Non-Hispanic Black	With Asthma	67.2 (2.88)	61.3–72.6	7.9 (1.92)	4.9–12.6	Suppr	Suppr	7.4 (1.76)	3.7–7.9	Suppr	Suppr	18.7 (2.37)	14.5–23.7
	Without Asthma	64.0 (1.33)	61.3–66.5	4.9 (0.72)	3.7–6.5	1.1 (0.27)	0.7–1.8	8.9 (0.76)	7.5–10.5	1.1 (0.28)	0.4–1.8	20.1 (1.03)	18.2–22.2
Hispanic	With Asthma	68.8 (3.80)	60.9–75.7	4.4 § (1.95)	1.8–10.3	0.1 (0.09)	<0.0–0.5	5.9 (1.27)	3.9–9.0	0.7 § (0.29)	0.3–1.5	20.1 (3.54)	14.0–27.9
	Without Asthma	62.8 (1.49)	59.8–65.7	1.4 (0.32)	0.9–2.2	0.9 (0.31)	0.5–1.7	12.5 (0.95)	10.8–14.5	1.1 (0.20)	0.8–1.6	21.2 (1.23)	18.9–23.7
NH Other	With Asthma	78.9 (3.43)	71.4–84.8	Suppr	Suppr	Suppr	Suppr	7.4 (1.76)	4.6–11.7	1.8 § (0.69)	0.9–3.8	7.3 (1.72)	4.6–11.5
	Without Asthma	71.3 (1.01)	69.2–73.2	0.9 (0.19)	0.6–1.4	1.0 (0.23)	0.6–1.5	8.7 (0.67)	7.5–10.1	1.2 (0.20)	0.8–1.6	16.9 (0.85)	15.3–18.7

**Abbreviations:** Suppr, suppressed; SE, standard error, Ethn, Ethnicity, NH, non-Hispanic; CI, confidence interval.

\*<https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/Access-to-Health-Services>

†"Other" includes retail store clinic/minute clinic, school, and survey responses of "Other."

§RSE, 30–50%.

Suppression defined as relative standard error (RSE) >50%.

**Data Source:** National Survey for Children’s Health, 2019–2020 (n=72,210): questions: “Is there a place you or another caregiver usually take this child when they are sick or you need advice about their health? If yes, where does this child usually go first?”

Disclaimer: he findings and conclusions in this document have not been formally disseminated by the Centers ofr Disease Control and Prevention/ the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy.