

ASTHMA IN CHILDREN



ABOUT
386,000

Australians under the age of 15 (8.2%) have asthma^{1,6}
10.1% of boys (1 in 10 boys)
6.2% of girls (1 in 16 girls)

ASTHMA WAS THE LEADING CAUSE

of disease burden in 2024 for children (aged 1-9 years)²

2nd leading cause for older children and adolescents (aged 10-14 years)²



42%

of Australians aged 0-14 with asthma had to take time off school in 2014/15 due to their asthma⁴

HOSPITALS



13,604

children under 15 years of age were hospitalised for asthma in 2023/24³

43%

of all asthma hospitalisations were in children under 15 in 2023/24³



ONLY **2 IN 3** children (67%) had an Asthma Action Plan in 2022¹



ONLY **1 IN 2** children (49%) used asthma medication in the last two weeks in 2022¹



EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED)

ABOUT **26,500**

children under 15 visited an ED for asthma in 2021/22⁵



1.6X

Boys under 15 were 1.6 times more likely than girls the same age to go to ED for asthma in 2021/22⁵



For medical advice on how to best treat and manage your asthma, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.
To speak with an Asthma Educator, call 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 462) or visit asthma.org.au

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), National Health Survey 2022: Asthma [Internet, cited 2025 Aug 26]. www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/health-conditions-and-risks/asthma/latest-release 2. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), Australian Burden of Disease Study 2024 [Internet, cited 2025 Aug 26]. www.aihw.gov.au/reports/burden-of-disease/australian-burden-of-disease-study-2024 3. AIHW, Principal diagnosis data cubes. Separation statistics by principle diagnosis, 2023-24 [Internet, cited 2025 Aug 26]. www.aihw.gov.au/reports/hospitals/principal-diagnosis-data-cubes/contents/summary 4. ABS, Health Service Usage and Health Related Actions Australia 2014-15. www.abs.gov.au 5. AIHW, Asthma [Internet, cited 2025 Aug 26]. www.aihw.gov.au/reports/chronic-respiratory-conditions/asthma 6. AIHW, Health of children [Internet, cited 2025 Aug 26]. www.aihw.gov.au/reports/children-youth/health-of-children