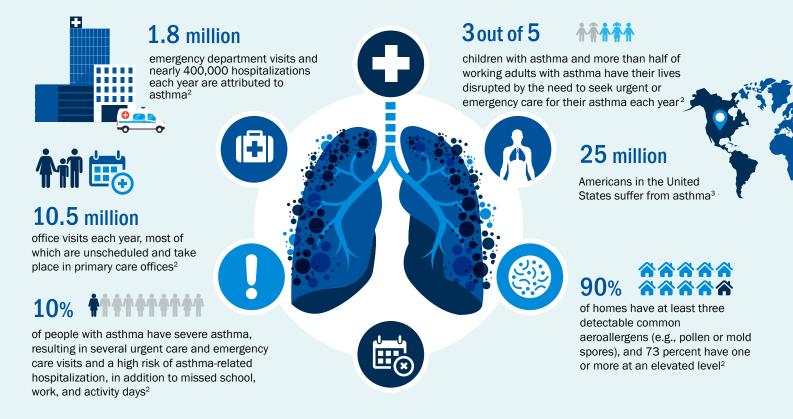
Asthma by the numbers

Chances are, you know someone who suffers from asthma. But how prevalent is it?

What is asthma?^{1,2}

Clinically speaking asthma is a chronic lung disease affecting people of all ages. It is caused by inflammation and muscle tightening around the airways, which makes it harder to breathe. Patients with asthma may have increased sensitivity to normally harmless substances, such as pet dander, or air pollution. Someone with asthma that is exposed to these or other allergic or non-allergic triggers may experience an increase in symptoms.

While symptoms come and go, airway inflammation is chronic, meaning it never goes away, and may be associated with persistent narrowing of the airways, even when the person "feels well." For most people with asthma, that inflammation is triggered or maintained by exposure to allergens to which they are sensitized. This means asthma and allergies often go hand in hand.



Take charge of your asthma! Specific IgE blood tests, along with your doctor's insights, can unlock the secrets behind your asthma triggers. This knowledge can be a powerful tool to help you breathe easier and live a fuller life.

References

2. Yawn, BP et al. Recommendations to Improve Asthma Outcomes: Work Group Call to Action. Sept. 2018.

3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [Internet]. Most Recent National Asthma Data [updated 2023 May 10; cited 2023 Aug 21]. Available from: https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/most_recent_national_asthma_data.htm.



^{1.} Asthma [Internet]. World Health Organization [cited 2023 Aug 30]. Available from: https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/asthma#.