

The Cost of Asthma in Mississippi Fact Sheet



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

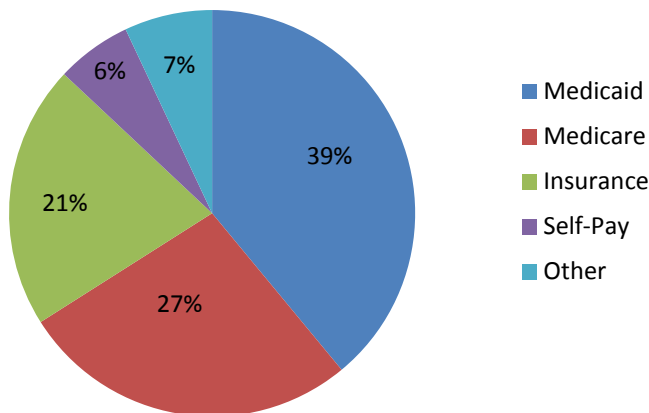
What is Asthma?

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory lung disease. Symptoms include wheezing, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath. Acute exacerbations are often initiated by triggers such as mold, dust mites, and animal dander. Appropriate self management, education, and treatment can reduce exacerbations that often lead to emergency department (ED) visits and hospitalizations.

Asthma Facts

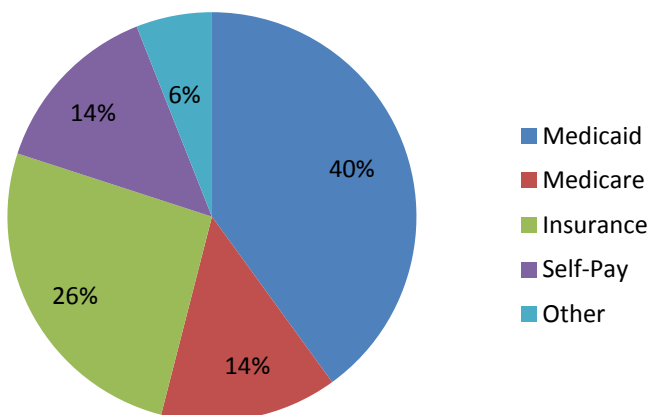
- In 2011, an estimated **169,009** (7.6%) adults and **66,253** (8.7%) children had asthma in Mississippi.¹
- In the United States, the 2007 annual direct health care cost of asthma was approximately \$50.1 billion; indirect costs (e.g. lost productivity) added another \$5.9 billion, for a total of \$56.0 billion.² In 2007, the total health care cost of asthma in Mississippi was nearly \$770.0 million.
- In 2011 there were **1,829** hospital stays and **14,141** ED visits for asthma in Mississippi.³

Figure 1. Percent of asthma hospitalizations by source of payment – Mississippi residents, 2011



In 2011, there were 1,829 asthma hospitalizations in Mississippi. Public insurance programs such as Medicare and Medicaid covered 66.0% (n=1,212) of those hospital stays. The total estimated cost for Medicaid: **\$6.7 million**; Medicare: **\$8.1 million**; Insurance: **\$5.0 million**; Self-Pay: **\$1.3 million** and Other: **\$1.6 million** (Figure 1).

Figure 2. Percent of asthma emergency department visits by source of payment – Mississippi residents, 2011



In 2011, there were 14,141 asthma ED visits in Mississippi. Public insurance programs such as Medicare and Medicaid covered 54.0% (n=7,610) of the ED visits. The total estimated cost for Medicaid: **\$20.4 million**; Medicare: **\$17.8 million**; Insurance: **\$13.0 million**; Self-Pay: **\$7.0 million** and Other: **\$4.7 million** (Figure 2).

*Note: Insurance includes Blue Cross Blue Shield, Private Insurance, HMO, PPO and CHAMPUS.
Other includes Workers Comp, Charity and Unknown.*

Sources:

1. MS Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2011.
2. Barnett, SB & Nurmagambetov, TA. (2011) Costs of asthma in the United States: 2002-2007. *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*, 127(1), 145-52.
3. Mississippi Asthma Hospital Discharge Database, 2011.

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