

Maryland Department of Health (MDH)

Finding and Using Environmental Health Data:

User Guide to the Maryland Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) Portal 2.0

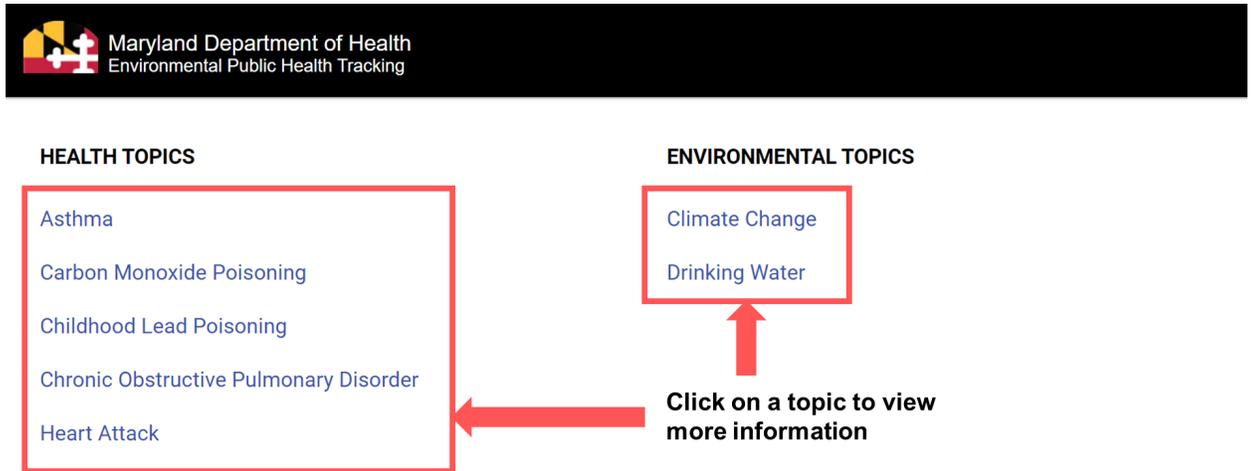
November 21, 2022

Web URL: <https://maps.health.maryland.gov/ephtportal/>

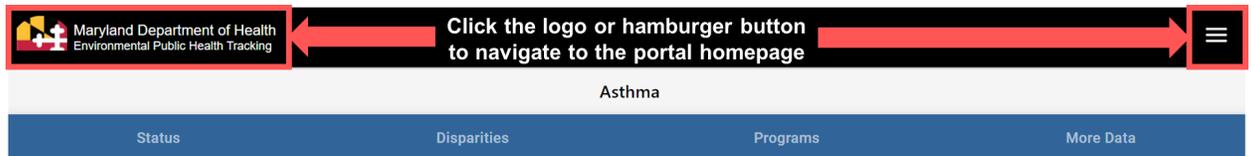
For more help: Contact us at: mdh.envhealth@maryland.gov
1-866-703-3266

Getting Started

1. On the EPHT portal homepage, click on a topic of interest to open the topic homepage, where you can view more information about the topic and the data related to it that is currently available in the portal.



2. If at any time you want to return to the portal home page to view a different topic, click the Maryland Department of Health Environmental Public Health Tracking logo or use the hamburger button (three line icon) and select “Home.”



3. Once you click on a topic, you will be directed to the topic homepage. Topic homepages contain the following elements:
 - a. A brief overview of the topic (box A in the picture below);
 - b. Links to the portal data related to the topic. These links are also located on the navigation bar at the top of the page (box B in the picture below). Data may be grouped into the following categories:
 - i. Status - surveillance and trends data;
 - ii. Disparities - health disparities and drivers;
 - iii. Programs - programs addressing topic problems;
 - iv. More Data - downloadable data on each topic, as defined by the National EPHT program (Nationally Consistent Data and Measures, NCDMs) ;
 - c. A summary about the topic data available (i.e., metadata) (box C in the picture below).

Maryland Department of Health
Environmental Public Health Tracking

Asthma

[Status](#) [Disparities](#) [Programs](#) [More Data](#)

Asthma Overview

Asthma is a chronic lung disease that causes repeated episodes of chest tightness, wheezing, cough, and shortness of breath. It can be life threatening. Asthma affects people of all ages, but has a particular impact on children as one of the major chronic disease and causes of lost school time for children.

For more details on asthma

Status - Provides a detailed view of asthma over time throughout Maryland by area.

Disparities - Examines the relationships between race, ethnicity, and socio-economic factors and asthma.

Programs - Detailed view of the effects of Maryland Department of Health programs and other efforts to address asthma in Maryland.

More Data - Provides a detailed view of Nationally Consistent Data and Measures (NCDMs) for asthma as specified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). All additional data are available for download.

About These Data

Data Facts	Asthma
Why these data are important	Asthma is a chronic disease of the lungs in which the airways become narrow and fill with secretions, causing difficulty breathing. People with asthma have episodes of shortness of breath, chest tightness, wheezing, and/or cough, which can be serious or even fatal if not treated. Asthma attacks can be treated effectively, and asthma attacks can be prevented by a combination of medication and avoidance of triggers.
Data Sources	Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission Maryland Medicaid Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and Environmental Case Management Program
Years available	2010-2017
Data source description	Hospital billing data from inpatient discharges and emergency department encounters
What's reported	Inpatient (IP) hospitalizations; emergency department (ED) visits
How it's reported	Counts; crude and age-adjusted rates

Viewing Portal Data

1. On a topic's homepage, click on a data category to view related topic data.

The screenshot shows the 'Asthma' topic page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with four tabs: 'Status', 'Disparities', 'Programs', and 'More Data'. The 'Status' tab is highlighted with a red box. Below the navigation bar is the 'Asthma Overview' section, which contains a paragraph of text about asthma. Below the overview is a section titled 'For more details on asthma' containing four links: 'Status', 'Disparities', 'Programs', and 'More Data'. The 'Status' link is highlighted with a red box. A red arrow points from the 'Status' link in the 'For more details on asthma' section to the 'Status' tab in the navigation bar. Another red arrow points from the text 'Click either link to view data on the topic's status' to the 'Status' link in the 'For more details on asthma' section.

Asthma

Status Disparities Programs More Data

Asthma Overview

Asthma is a chronic lung disease that causes repeated episodes of chest tightness, wheezing, cough, and shortness of breath. It can be life threatening. Asthma affects people of all ages, but has a particular impact on children as one of the major chronic disease and causes of lost school time for children.

For more details on asthma

Status - Provides a detailed view of asthma over time throughout Maryland by area.

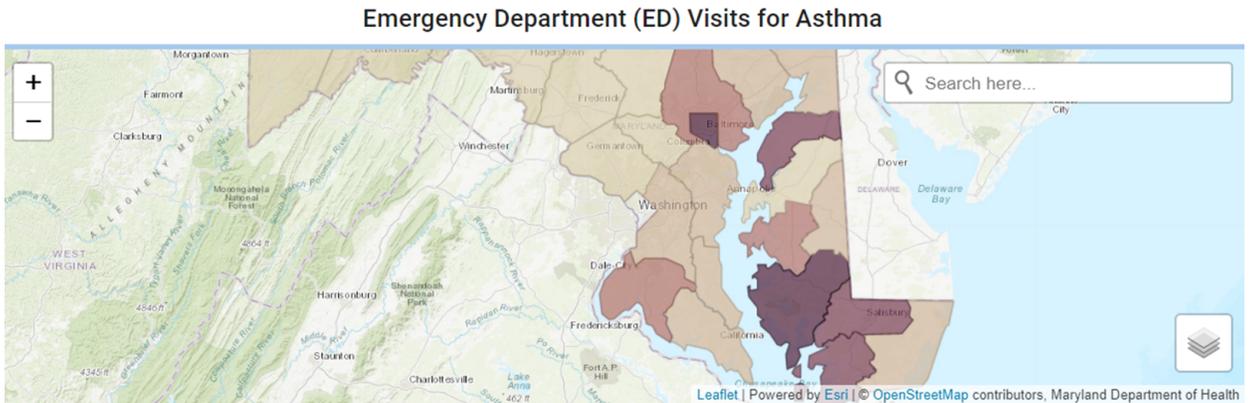
Disparities - Examines the relationships between race, ethnicity, and socio-economic factors and asthma.

Programs - Detailed view of the effects of Maryland Department of Health programs and other efforts to address asthma in Maryland.

More Data - Provides a detailed view of Nationally Consistent Data and Measures (NCDMs) for asthma as specified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). All additional data are available for download.

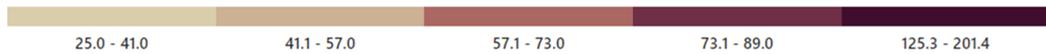
Click either link to view data on the topic's status

2. On “Status,” “Disparities,” and “Programs” pages:
 - a. Use the icons or dropdown menu around the map/chart area to change the data displayed.
 - i. Select the three vertical dots icon for options to print or view the metadata of the currently displayed data.



Hide legend ^

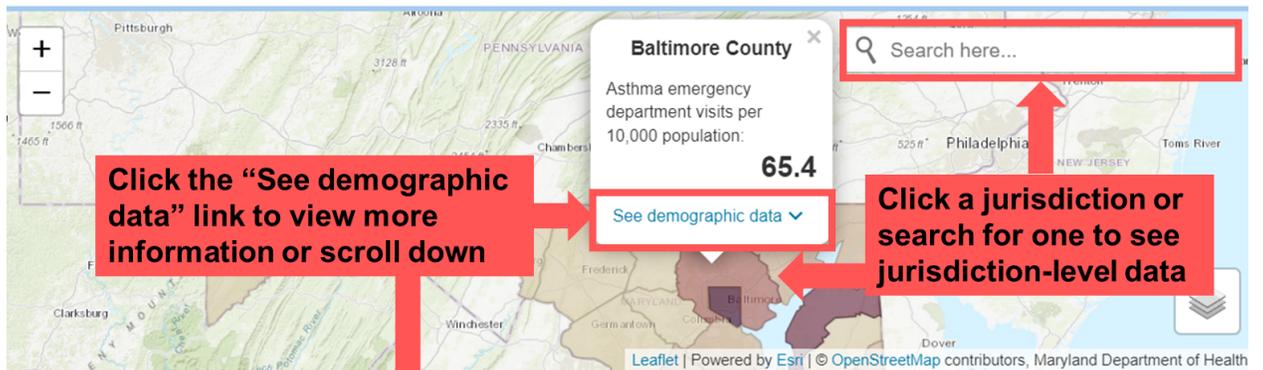
Rate of Asthma ED Visits by County
Age-adjusted rate per 10,000 population (2017)



*Missing or suppressed data? ⓘ

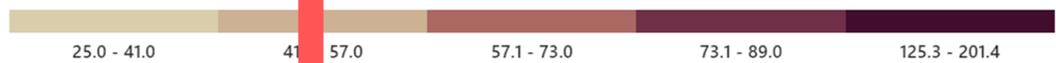
- ii. Click on a jurisdiction on the map or use the search bar to look for jurisdiction and view data specific to that area. Selecting a specific jurisdiction on a map or chart will also change the demographic data displayed below it. To view demographic data about the jurisdiction selected, click the “See demographic data” link after selecting a jurisdiction on a map, or scroll down on the page. Clicking the “more” link at the bottom of the demographics section will open a new tab displaying the jurisdiction’s Narrative Profile on [census.gov](https://www.census.gov).

Emergency Department (ED) Visits for Asthma



Rate of Asthma ED Visits by County

Age-adjusted rate per 10,000 population (2017)



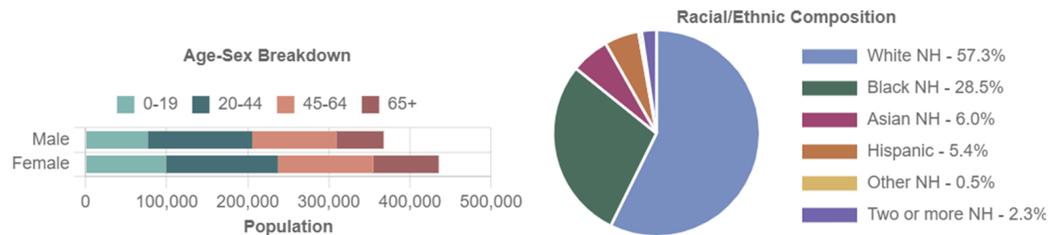
*Missing or suppressed data? ⓘ

Baltimore County Demographic Profile

Baltimore County Demographic Profile

Source: Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) 2015-2019

Total Population	828,018
Female	435,522 (52.6%)
Male	392,496 (47.4%)



Click on chart legends to filter by category

Median Income \$76,866	People in Poverty 73,061 (9%)
Finished High School (or above) 526,291 (91.5%)	Unemployment Rate 4.8%

Discover [more](#) about this location.

Click "more" to view the Narrative Profile on census.gov

- iii. To change the stratified data displayed on charts, use the buttons below the chart or click the category in the legend to add or remove groups.



- b. Scroll down on the page for the tabular form of the map/chart data.
 - i. Use the columns or filter options to adjust data displayed in the table.
 - ii. The table can be exported as a .csv file.

Emergency Department (ED) Visits for Asthma

Columns Filters EXPORT ← **Customize the table and export as a .csv**

County	Rate per 10k
Allegany	40.3
Anne Arundel	42.4
Baltimore City	201.4
Baltimore County	65.4

3. On “More Data” pages:
 - a. First select the indicator of interest, then a measure, and finally the years of data needed. A table will populate based on the options selected.
 - b. Select the kebab menu (three vertical dots icon) for options to print or view the metadata of the currently displayed data.
 - c. Use the columns or filter options to adjust data displayed in the table.
 - d. The table can be exported as a .csv file.

The screenshot shows the 'More Data' tab selected in a navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, the text 'Nationally Consistent Data and Measures' is followed by a vertical ellipsis icon. A prompt reads: 'Select an indicator, measure, and year to view Nationally Consistent Data and Measures (NCDM) for this topic:'. Below this are three dropdown menus: 'Indicator' (Hospitalizations for Asthma), 'Measure' (Age-adjusted rate of hospitalization for asthma per 10,000 population), and 'Year' (All Years). A red box highlights these three dropdowns. To the left, a red arrow points from the text 'Select the items of interest to be displayed in the table below' to the dropdowns. Below the dropdowns, a table is displayed with the title 'Hospitalizations for Asthma : Age-adjusted rate of hospitalization for asthma per 10,000 population for all years'. The table has columns for 'Jurisdiction', 'Year', and 'Rate per 10k'. A red box highlights the table. Above the table, there are icons for 'Columns', 'Filters', and 'EXPORT'.

Select the items of interest to be displayed in the table below

Indicator
Hospitalizations for Asthma

Measure
Age-adjusted rate of hospitalization for asthma per 10,000 population

Year
All Years

Hospitalizations for Asthma : Age-adjusted rate of hospitalization for asthma per 10,000 population for all years

Columns Filters EXPORT

Jurisdiction	Year	Rate per 10k
Statewide	2010	16.2
Statewide	2011	15.0

4. Detailed information about the topic data category can be found on the “About” tab, and links to additional topic resources can be found on the “Resources” tab. Depending on the size of your web browser window or device screen, these tabs are found to the right of or below the main data displays.

The screenshot shows the 'More Data' tab selected in a navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, there are three tabs: 'ED Rate', 'ED Trend', and 'Hospital Trend'. The 'ED Rate' tab is selected. Below the tabs, the text 'Emergency Department (ED) Visits for Asthma' is displayed. Below this text is a map of the United States with a search bar. To the right of the map, there are two tabs: 'About' and 'Resources'. The 'About' tab is selected. A red box highlights the 'About' and 'Resources' tabs. A red arrow points from the text 'Depending on your view, the “About” and “Resources” tabs will be to the right of main data displays, or...' to the tabs. Below the 'About' tab, there is a paragraph of text: 'Asthma is a chronic lung disease that causes repeated episodes of chest tightness, wheezing, cough, and shortness of breath. It can be life-threatening. Asthma affects people of all ages, but has a particular impact on children as a major chronic disease and cause of lost school days.'

Depending on your view, the “About” and “Resources” tabs will be to the right of main data displays, or...

About Resources

Asthma is a chronic lung disease that causes repeated episodes of chest tightness, wheezing, cough, and shortness of breath. It can be life-threatening. Asthma affects people of all ages, but has a particular impact on children as a major chronic disease and cause of lost school days.

Queen Anne's	36.6
Talbot	64.0
Washington	38.7
<i>*Missing or suppressed data?</i> ⓘ	
Total Rows: 17	

...the tabs are located below main displays.



About Resources

[Maryland Home Visiting Program for Asthma and Lead](#)

[Maryland Asthma Action Plan Template for Health Care Providers](#)

[Maryland Asthma Friendly Schools and Child Care](#)