



A project of the American Lung Association in New York  
[www.rcanasthma.org](http://www.rcanasthma.org)



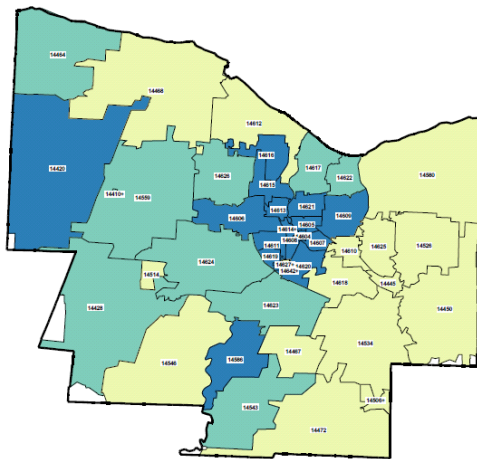
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 Fighting for Air

## Monroe County Asthma Emergency Department Visits & Hospitalizations (0-17yrs) 2005-2007

NEW YORK STATE ASTHMA EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS  
 RATES PER 10,000 POPULATION, AGE 0-17  
 MONROE COUNTY RESIDENTS PER ZIP CODE, 2005-2007

**ASTHMA ED VISIT RATE**  
 MONROE COUNTY - 101.6  
 NEW YORK STATE - 141.7  
 NEW YORK STATE (Excl NYC) - 75.6  
 Quartile (Q) Distribution (Excl NYC)  
 (Rates per 10,000 population)

0 - <52.9: Q1 & Q2  
 52.9 - <85.8: Q3  
 85.8 + : Q4



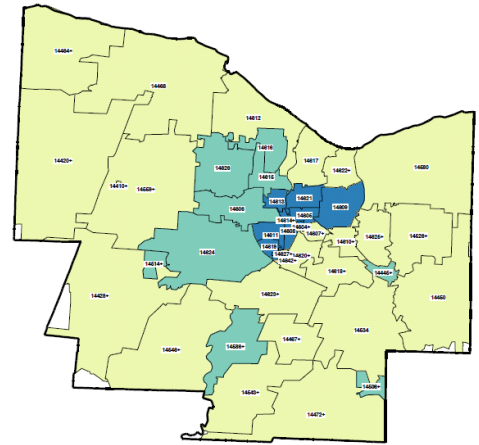
\* LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 10 VISITS, THEREFORE RATE MAY NOT BE STABLE (RSE=30%)

SOURCE: NYS EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT DATA (SPARCS)  
 Note: Blank areas are in adjacent counties

NEW YORK STATE ASTHMA HOSPITAL DISCHARGES  
 RATES PER 10,000 POPULATION, AGE 0-17  
 MONROE COUNTY RESIDENTS PER ZIP CODE, THREE YEAR AVERAGE 2005-2007

**ASTHMA HOSPITAL DISCHARGE RATE**  
 MONROE COUNTY - 12.4  
 NEW YORK STATE - 29.6  
 NEW YORK STATE (Excl NYC) - 15.8  
 Quartile (Q) Distribution (Excl NYC)  
 (Rates per 10,000 population)

0 - <8.96: Q1 & Q2  
 8.96 - <18.0: Q3  
 18.0 + : Q4



\* LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 10 HOSPITAL DISCHARGES, THEREFORE RATE MAY NOT BE STABLE (RSE=30%)

SOURCE: NYS HOSPITAL DISCHARGE DATA (SPAR)  
 Note: Blank areas are in adjacent counties

### Asthma Program Key Messages

1. **The NYS Asthma program is a national leader and has reduced the Burden of Asthma on families and the community since 2001.**
  - a. Children with good Asthma control due to our efforts are **happier, healthier and ready to learn. Good Asthma control** is less costly, stressful and disruptive than poor control. **Quality of Life** improves with good asthma control, including families perceptions of control, motivation and compliance
  - b. **Cost:** With an average Cost of Asthma **Emergency Department visits in Monroe County at \$900 and inpatient hospitalizations at \$11,000**; every ED visit or Hospitalization we can prevent through good asthma Care and Control is worth it!
  - c. **System level changes** through **Quality Improvement** efforts have broadly impacted target populations to improve Asthma Care for all children (*see examples in Rochester on page 2*).
2. **Rochester has gained National recognition for our Asthma programs: national professional publications** on evidence based work, Professional Medical Journals and conferences, and the CDC's Asthma Friendly School Initiative.
3. **The Asthma Program has reached a tipping point due to budget cuts. We need to maintain our funding!**
  - a. The **tipping point** has been reached: we cannot continue to make the changes needed on smaller budgets, we are stretched to our limits and there is much more work to be done! Therefore, we need to hold or **maintain our funding** levels (\$167,000) or return to original levels in 2001 (\$225,000) in order to continue reaching new target populations.
  - b. **More cuts will only hurt our community!** An 11% mid-year reduction last year **cost** the Asthma program momentum, and partnerships. The children and families receiving Asthma Care are those who truly suffer from these budget reductions.
4. **The Burden of Asthma is still prevalent and there is much work to be done!**  
 Prevalence rates in the Finger Lakes region range from 8-15% annually. (\**School Nurse Prevalence Survey & NYS DOH Asthma stats.*). **Asthma is the largest Chronic Disease issue in the Rochester City School District** (one of the Big 5 NYS Urban districts) at 13% prevalence (over 4,500 students). We are currently only able to reach approximately 5% of these children.

**Over 1.7 Million in estimated Health Care Cost Savings**  
**from Asthma related Emergency Department Visits and Hospitalizations**  
**in Monroe County,**  
**by the RCAN Asthma Coalition projects listed below!**

- Finger Lakes Asthma Action Plans: (an evidence based disease management tool for families) developed and **10,000 copies distributed annually** for local schools, hospitals and provider offices across Monroe County.
- Partnership with URMC Children's Hospital, Pediatric Asthma QI projects in the Pediatric Emergency Department, Inpatient and Outpatient settings; resulting in a **Potential Cost Savings of \$317,000: \$187,000 in asthma hospitalizations and \$130,000 in Pediatric Emergency Department asthma visits**. The project resulted in a reduction of 10% for Admissions, 13.4% for ED visits, 35% for PICU admissions, 30% of intubations and a 50% reduced time of follow-up from the ED to the primary care provider. Continuation of this effort is critical.
- Nurse Led Asthma Education & Care Coordination, Home Visit Program in the city of Rochester; Resulting in doubled enrollment since 2005, serving 5% of students with asthma. In 2008 the program outcomes included, increase Asthma Action Plan use from 21% to 61%, 53% increase in referrals to the NYS Smokers Quitline for the 40% of children with asthma that also have smoke exposure in the home; **reduced ED visits by 42% (\$54,000), reduces hospitalizations by 25% (\$385,000), and reduced school absenteeism by 32%**.
- Collaborative projects with Insurers such as the Improving Asthma Care for Children project of the Monroe Plan for Medical Care: This project was a pilot project in 2005 for Asthma Care by the clinical guidelines that showed a 40% reduction in Hospitalizations (\$363,000) and 77% reduction in ED visits (\$607,000) for Monroe Plan members. This was followed by a **formal Return on Investment Calculation in 2006 determining for every \$1 spent, \$1.48 was saved in Asthma health care costs**. This project was featured as a best practice by the EPA- National Asthma Forum in Washington, DC.
- RCAN's Perceptions of Control Survey with the Rochester City School District: (2005) **Showed that 34.8% of Families perceived their child's asthma control incorrectly**, and control, as defined by the clinical guidelines, is different from control defined by parents.
- Asthma Friendly Schools Initiative: Rush Henrietta School District: Instituting a systems change effort for asthma that resulted in an updated Student Management System for electronically tracking asthma, Increased Asthma Action Plan use from 13% to 25%, Asthma Education for all staff and students, establishing asthma policies and procedures, **comparison data for Asthma sick days, absenteeism and in the future comparing academic performance**.
- Striving for excellence in Asthma Education Professionals in Monroe County: Promoting and supporting a growing network of **Certified Asthma Educators (AE-Cs)** in our community.

### Summary

Over the past decade the Regional Asthma Coalitions have made remarkable progress towards reducing the burden of asthma and improving the quality of care for children and families. With these accomplishments and partnerships **ready and able to be leveraged**, there is **much more work to be done** in order to address target populations of need in Monroe County. In order to do this we must **maintain our funding** for the 11 NYS Asthma Coalitions and the children, families, and organizational systems, to increase the benefits from these efforts.

### Resources

- Regional Community Asthma Network of the Finger Lakes: School Nurse Asthma Prevalence Survey ([www.rcanasthma.org](http://www.rcanasthma.org))
- NYS DOH Asthma Prevalence and statistics by zip codes ([www.nysdoh.org/asthma](http://www.nysdoh.org/asthma))
- American Lung Association in New York ([www.alany.org](http://www.alany.org) or [www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org))
- University of Rochester Medical Center, Golisano Children's Hospital, Pediatric Quality Improvement Department.
- Monroe Plan for Medical Care ([www.monroepplan.com](http://www.monroepplan.com))