

### Estimates of Work-Related Asthma among NJ Adults with Lifetime, Current, and Former Asthma

The table below shows estimates of the frequency of work-related asthma among all adults with a lifetime asthma history and then separates it by those who report current asthma versus those who have a lifetime asthma history, but do not currently have asthma (former asthma). These estimates are within the range found in existing research, which is five to 35 percent, depending on how work-related asthma is defined.<sup>1</sup>

**Estimates of Work-Related Asthma among NJ Adults with Lifetime, Current, and Former Asthma  
NJ Asthma Call-back Survey (ACBS), 2008-2010**

	Lifetime Asthma		Current Asthma		Former Asthma	
	Survey n=1,445		Survey n=1,038		Survey n=399	
	Est. N=857,910		Est. N=571,983		Est. N=282,377	
	Percent	95% CI	Percent	95% CI	Percent	95% CI
Asthma Caused by Any Job*	11.5	7.9-15.2	14.7	9.5-19.8	†	
Asthma Made Worse by Current Job**	n/a		17.8	13.6-22.1	n/a	
Asthma Made Worse by Previous Job	21.7	18.1-25.4	25.2	20.4-29.9	14.9	9.4-20.5
Told by a Health Professional that Asthma was Work-Related	6.4	4.6-8.1	7.3	5.1-9.5	†	
Told a Health Professional that Asthma was Work-Related	7.0	5.3-8.8	8.4	6.1-10.8	4.2	1.9-6.4
Any Indicator of Work-related Asthma***	36.5	32.3-40.8	45.2	39.8-50.6	19.5	13.5-25.5
Changed or Quit Job because of Work-Related Asthma****	4.1	2.6-5.7	4.1	2.7-5.4	†	

Note—8 respondents (weighted frequency of 3,550) did not know if they still had asthma and were excluded from the current/former analysis.

\*Estimates are for 2010 only because the percentage changed over time—for this, the numbers were: Lifetime, n=472, N=885,915; Current, n=351, N=608,341; Former, n=120, N=276,361

\*\*Only asked of those with current asthma.

\*\*\*This indicator does not include asthma made worse by current job for those without current asthma because this question is not asked of them (see \*\*).

\*\*\*\*Only asked of those who reported that their asthma had been caused or made worse by a previous job.

†Standard errors were too large to report estimates.

<sup>1</sup> Lutzker LA et al. (2010) Prevalence of work-related asthma in Michigan, Minnesota, and Oregon. *Journal of Asthma*, 47(2):156–161.