

Table 1 Prevalence of asthma and asthma symptoms in schoolchildren in Ahvaz by age group and sex

Variable	Age 6-7 years					Age 13-14 years						
	Boys (n = 591)		Girls (n = 891)		Total (n = 1410)	95% CI	Boys (n = 658)		Girls (n = 792)		Total (n = 1450)	95% CI
	%	%	No.	%			%	%	No.	%		
Ever wheeze	11.8	10.5	156	11.1	9.5-12.8	16.2	18.8	256	17.7	15.7-19.7		
Current wheeze ^a	7.5	7.3	103	7.4	6.1-8.8	10.3	10.0	145	10.3	8.7-11.9		
Wheeze attacks in past year:												
< 4 episodes	13.7	14.9	45	14.5	10.8-18.9	23.7	16.4	69	19.2	13.2-25.1		
> 12 episodes	4.3	3.1	11	3.5	1.8-6.2	4.4	3.6	14	3.9	2.1-6.4		
Episodes of sleep disturbance by wheeze in past year:												
< 1 per week	7.1	11.6	28	9.8	6.6-13.9	18.8	12.6	49	14.8	11.1-19.0		
≥ 1 per week	14.3	7.5	29	10.2	6.9-14.3	8.5	10.2	32	9.6	7.8-11.0		
Severe speech-limiting wheeze in past year	7.2	8.5	25	8.0	5.2-11.5	11.0	10.6	38	10.7	7.7-14.4		
Ever asthma ^b	6.6	7.0	92	6.8	5.5-8.3	11.6	8.7	123	9.8	8.3-11.6		
Exercise-related wheeze in past year	3.4	3.8	51	3.8	2.7-4.8	16.4	16.4	202	16.4	14.4-18.6		
Nocturnal cough in past year	7.9	9.9	126	9.1	7.6-10.7	17.0	18.7	222	18.1	15.1-20.3		

^aWheezing or whistling in the chest at any time in the past 12 months; ^bever been diagnosed with asthma.
CI = confidence interval.