

Chronic Illness in US Children

The number of children in the United States with chronic health conditions has dramatically increased in the past 2 decades, doubling from 12.8 percent in 1994 to 26.6 percent in 2006.¹



1 in 10

children has asthma¹

#1 Cancer

is the leading cause of death by disease in children. More than 15,000 children were diagnosed in 2014.²

1 in 13
Food Allergies

affects 1 in every 13 children³



Heart Disease

5th leading cause of death in 1 to 5 year olds⁴



ADHD

is the most common neurodevelopmental disorder and affects 1 in 10 children⁵

↑ 23%

Juvenile Diabetes

increased 23% between 2001 and 2009⁶

1 in 6

children has a developmental disability.⁷

1 in 68

children are affected by autism⁸

Epilepsy/Seizures

affects 1 in 20 children⁹



Autism is 5 times more common in boys⁸

33%

of childhood diseases are caused by environmental exposures.¹⁰

For more information visit focusforhealth.org

SOURCES

1. Journal of the American Medical Association, Dynamics of Obesity and Chronic Health Conditions Among Children and Youth, 2010 <http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=185391> 2. <http://www.cancer.gov/types/childhood-cancers/child-adolescent-cancers-fact-sheet> 3. <http://www.foodallergy.org/facts-and-stats> 4. http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/pdf/leading_causes_of_death_by_age_group_2012-a.pdf 5. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/adhd/facts.html> 6. <http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1866098> 7. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/developmentaldisabilities/features/birthdefects-dd-keyfindings.html> 8. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/facts.html> 9. <http://iom.nationalacademies.org/Activities/Disease/Epilepsy.aspx> 10. World Health Organization, Preventing disease through healthy environments – towards an estimate of the environmental burden of disease, 2006 <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2006/pr32/en/>