

**Did you know?** According to the Centers for Disease Control, the percentage of U.S. children and adolescents with a chronic health condition has increased from 1.8% in the 1960s to more than 7% in 2004. That percentage continues to rise as more than 75% of health care costs are due to chronic conditions.

## Asthma

**300,000** Children in Michigan under 18 years of age have asthma

School nurses ensure that students with and without asthma receive education on asthma basics, management, and emergency response. In addition, they encourage parents to participate in these programs.

## Allergies

**1 in 13** Children in the U.S. under 18 years of age have a food allergy

That means that there are about two children in every classroom that will have a food allergy. School nurses are licensed and trained to administer epinephrine during a life-threatening allergic reaction, or also known as, anaphylaxis.

## Diabetes

**5800** Students in Michigan under 20 years of age have diabetes

School nurses create care plans with families. They also administer medication and check blood glucose levels throughout the day. School nurses promote physical education and healthy eating habits which improves overall health.

## Epilepsy

**325,000** Children under 15 years of age have epilepsy in the U.S.

In the U.S. more than 90,000 have seizures that can't be adequately treated. School nurses are trained to administer first aid for seizures as there are various types with different symptoms. They also administer medication throughout the school day and create care plans.

## Other Facts

Well-rested students are better learners. About **20%** of children with current asthma had difficulty sleeping due to asthma symptoms on 2 or more days during the past month.

## Other Facts

- Most people do not know they are allergic to an insect until they are bit or stung. About **50%** of people who experience a fatal reaction because of an insect sting did not have any documented history.

## Other Facts

*Healthy eating and exercise are critical!*

- Only **27%** of students were physically active for least 60 minutes per day, every day.
- In a seven day period, **13%** of students went to school without eating breakfast.

## Other Facts

- Absence Seizures**, most common in children, look like a blank stare, and are often mistaken for ADHD, behavior problems, or learning disabilities. Also, **200,000** new cases of epilepsy are diagnosed each year in the U.S.