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Title: Prevalence of medication treatment for attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder among elementary school children in Johnston County, North Carolina.

Author(s): [Rowland AS](#); [Umbach DM](#); [Stallone L](#); [Naftel AJ](#); [Bohlig EM](#); [Sandler DP](#)

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Abstract: OBJECTIVES: This study estimated the prevalence of medication treatment for attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder (**ADHD**) among elementary school children in a North Carolina county. METHODS: Parents of 7333 children in grades 1 through 5 in 17 public elementary schools were asked whether their child had ever been given a diagnosis of **ADHD** by a psychologist or physician and whether their child was currently taking medication to treat **ADHD**. Parents of 6099 children (83%) responded. RESULTS: By parental report, 607 children (10%) had been given an **ADHD** diagnosis and 434 (7%) were receiving **ADHD** medication treatment. Seventy-one % of the diagnosed children were receiving medication. Treatment rates varied by sex, race/ethnicity, and grade. CONCLUSIONS: If treatment patterns observed in this study are representative, the public health impact of **ADHD** may be underestimated.

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