

# New Research About the Continued Health Impacts of 9/11

The World Trade Center Health Registry (WTCHR) recently conducted a study about health conditions among people exposed to the WTC disaster.

The study looked at

# 36,897

WTCHR enrollees, including exposed rescue and recovery workers who participated in the New York City Health Department's 2015-2016 WTCHR survey. The researchers studied patterns of asthma, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression and health-related quality-of-life (HRQOL) issues.

## The study found that:

47.8% of participants had one or more 9/11-related health condition.



Of those who did not have GERD before 9/11, 22.3% reported receiving a diagnosis of GERD after 9/11.



The more 9/11-related health conditions a person had, the lower their HRQOL score was, especially for people with either PTSD or depression.



Of those who did not have asthma before 9/11, 15.4% reported receiving a new asthma diagnosis after 9/11, and 76.5% reported lower respiratory symptoms, including wheezing, shortness of breath or cough.



14.2% of participants reported PTSD symptoms and 15% reported having depression.

### Based on this research, the WTCHR concludes that:

Half of the survey participants developed at least one 9/11-related health condition by 2015.

Having more than one 9/11-related health condition was common and often led to a lower HRQOL score.

Comprehensive physical and mental health care is important for all survivors of complex environmental disasters.

To learn more about the WTCHR's research, visit [nyc.gov/911healthinfo](http://nyc.gov/911healthinfo).