

From Vital and Health Statistics of the National Center for Health Statistics Number 159 (Rev.) • September 28, 1988

1987 Summary: National Hospital Discharge Survey

Hospital Care Statistics Branch, Division of Health Care Statistics

Introduction

The hospital discharge rate has continued a decline that began in 1983. The 1987 rate was 138 discharges per 1,000 civilian population—a 17 percent decrease in 4 years. In addition, the average length of stay in 1987 was 6.4 days, the same as in 1986, but compared with 7.6 days a decade ago. Figures 1 and 2 present the trends in both hospital discharge rates and average length of stay by patient age for 1972-87.

During 1987, an estimated 33.4 million inpatients (excluding newborn infants) were discharged from short-stay non-Federal hospitals in the United States. These patients were hospitalized an average of 6.4 days and used 215



Figure 1. Rate of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by age: United States, 1972-87

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million days of inpatient hospital care. Patients hospitalized during 1987 accounted for 138 discharges per 1,000 civilian population.

These and other statistics presented in this report are based on data collected by means of the National Hospital Discharge Survey, a continuous survey that has been conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics since 1965. In 1987, data were abstracted from the medical records of approximately 181,000 patients discharged from 400 short-stay non-Federal hospitals. A brief description of the sample design, data collection procedures, and estimation process, and definition of terms used in this report can be found in the section entitled "Technical notes." Detailed discussions of these items, as well as the survey form used to collect the data, have been published (NCHS, 1970, 1987).

Coding of medical data for patients hospitalized is done according to the *International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-9-CM) (U.S. Public Health Service and Health Care Financing Administration, 1980). Up to seven diagnoses and four procedures are coded for each discharge. Although diagnoses included in the ICD-9-CM section entitled "Supplementary classification of external causes of injury and poisoning" (codes E800-E999) are used by the National Hospital Discharge Survey, these diagnoses are excluded from this report. The conditions diagnosed and procedures performed are presented here by chapter of ICD-9-CM. Within these chapters, a few diagnoses and procedures or groups thereof also are shown. These specific categories were selected primarily because of large numbers of occurrences or because they are of special interest. Residual categories of the diagnostic and procedure classes, however, are not included in the tables. More detailed analyses of these data will be presented in later reports in Series 13 of Vital and Health Statistics.

In 1987, approximately 17 percent of the hospitals submitted machine-readable data tapes through commercial abstracting services. Preliminary analysis indicates that a greater number of nonsurgical procedures per patient are obtained from these hospitals than from hospitals submitting data in the traditional manual mode (see "Technical notes"). This has resulted in increases from 1984 to 1987 in the estimates for miscellaneous diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and, therefore, for total procedures.

Data highlights

Utilization by patient and hospital characteristics

The number, rate, and average length of stay of patients discharged from short-stay non-Federal hospitals are shown by selected patient and hospital characteristics in tables 1–3. The 33.4 million patients discharged from shortstay hospitals during 1987 included an estimated 13.6 million males and 19.8 million females. The rates per 1,000 population were 116 for males and 159 for females, making the rate for females about 37 percent higher than the rate for males. The number and rate of discharges are always higher for females than for males because of the large number of women in their childbearing years (15-44 years of age) who are hospitalized for deliveries and other obstetrical conditions.

The average length of stay was 6.9 days for males and 6.1 days for females during 1987. The length of stay for females was shorter than that for males primarily because the average length of stay of the 3.9 million women who were hospitalized for deliveries was only 3.1 days.

The number of discharges from short-stay hospitals by geographic region during 1987 ranged from 11.3 million in the South Region to 6.7 million in the Northeast and West Regions, and the rates per 1,000 population ranged from 147 in the Midwest Region to 134 in the Northeast Regions. Regional differences in the number of discharges are accounted for mainly by variations in population sizes.

Average lengths of stay by geographic region were 5.5 days in the West, 6.2 days in the South, 6.7 days in the Midwest, and 7.5 days in the Northeast.

Discharges from short-stay hospitals were approximately 40 percent male and 60 percent female in every hospital bed-size group. The average length of stay increased steadily from 4.9 days in the smallest hospitals (6-99 beds) to 7.3 days in the largest hospitals (500 beds or more) for all patients.

During 1987, voluntary nonprofit hospitals provided medical care to an estimated 22.8 million patients, or 68 percent of all patients hospitalized. Hospitals operated by State and local governments cared for 6.9 million patients, or 21 percent of all discharges, and proprietary hospitals operated for profit cared for 3.7 million patients, or 11 percent of all discharges. Average lengths of stay were 6.6 days in voluntary nonprofit hospitals, 6.0 days in State and local government hospitals, and 5.9 days in proprietary hospitals.

Utilization by diagnosis

Diseases of the circulatory system ranked first in 1987 among the ICD-9-CM diagnostic chapters as a principal or first-listed diagnosis among patients discharged from non-Federal short-stay hospitals. These conditions accounted for an estimated 5.6 million discharges. Other leading ICD-9-CM diagnostic chapters were supplementary classifications (including females with deliveries) (4.3 million discharges) and diseases of the digestive system (3.7 million discharges). About 40 percent of the patients discharged from non-Federal short-stay hospitals were included in these three ICD-9-CM diagnostic chapters.

The diagnostic categories presented in this report were selected either because they appear as principal or firstlisted diagnoses with great frequency or because the conditions are of special interest. Although many of these categories (such as malignant neoplasms; psychoses; and fractures, all sites) are groupings of more detailed diagnoses, they are presented as single categories without showing all of the specific diagnostic inclusions. The number and rate of discharges and average length of stay for each ICD-9-CM diagnostic chapter and selected categories are shown by sex and age in tables 4–6. The most common diagnostic category for all patients was females with deliveries. This was followed by the diagnostic categories heart disease and malignant neoplasms. Excluding females with deliveries, these last two non-sex-specific diagnostic categories were also the most common first-listed diagnoses for each sex.

The most frequent first-listed diagnoses for 1987 varied for the different age groups. For patients under 15 years of age, the most frequent diagnoses were pneumonia, all forms; acute respiratory infections, except influenza; chronic disease of tonsils and adenoids; and asthma. Excluding females with deliveries, the most frequent diagnoses for patients 15–44 years of age were psychoses; fractures, all sites; and abortions and ectopic and molar pregnancies. Patients 45–64 years of age were hospitalized most frequently for heart disease. The most common diagnoses for patients 65 years of age and over were heart disease and malignant neoplasms.

The average length of stay for all patients ranged from a low of 1.3 days for the diagnostic category chronic disease of tonsils and adenoids, 1.8 days for the diagnostic category of cataract, and 2.2 days for abortions and ectopic and molar pregnancies to a high of 13.7 days for psychoses and 13.9 days for fracture of neck of femur. Although the overall average length of stay for females was shorter than that for males, females stayed in the hospital longer than males for many of the specific diagnostic categories shown in this report.

The average length of stay increased with increasing age for most categories of diagnoses shown. Overall, the average length of stay ranged from 4.7 days for patients under 15 years of age to 8.6 days for patients 65 years and over.

Utilization by procedures

One or more surgical or nonsurgical procedures were performed for an estimated 20.7 million of the 33.4 million inpatients discharged from short-stay hospitals during 1987. A total of 39.1 million procedures, or an average of 1.9 per patient who underwent at least one procedure, were recorded in 1987.

Procedures are grouped in the tables of this report by the ICD-9-CM procedure chapters. Selected procedures within these chapters also are presented by specific categories. Some of these categories (such as extraction of lens and hysterectomy) are presented as single categories although they may be divided into more precise subgroups.

When grouped by chapters, miscellaneous diagnostic and thereapeutic procedures with 10.3 million procedures ranked first among the surgical and nonsurgical procedures performed during 1987. These were followed by operations on the digestive system with 5.8 million procedures performed. Other leading chapters were obstetrical procedures with 5.4 million procedures, operations on the musculoskeletal system with 3.5 million procedures, and operations on the cardiovascular system with 3.1 million procedures. Approximately 72 percent of all procedures performed in 1987 were included in these five ICD-9-CM procedure chapters.

The number and rate of all-listed procedures in 1987 for each ICD-9-CM procedure chapter and selected procedure categories are shown by sex and age in tables 7 and 8. Of the 39.1 million procedures performed during 1987, 15.7 million were for males and 23.4 million were for females. The corresponding rates per 1,000 population were 162 for both sexes, 134 for males, and 188 for females. Of the procedures shown in table 7, some common ones for males were arteriography and angiocardiography and computerized axial tomography; the most frequently performed procedures for females were episiotomy and cesarean section.

The rate of procedures per 1,000 population increased with advancing age from 36 for patients under 15 years to 415 for patients 65 years of age and over. The most frequently performed procedures for patients under 15 years of age were tonsillectomy with or without adenoidectomy and spinal tap; for patients 15–44 years of age, episiotomy and cesarean section; for patients 45–64 years of age, arteriography and angiocardiography, computerized axial tomography, and cardiac catherization; and for patients 65 years of age and over, computerized axial tomography, diagnostic ultrasound and circulatory monitoring.

*Please replace previous edition with this newly revised copy. The text portion remains the same. However, the tables have been changed.

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF INPATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS: UNITED STATES, 1987

[DISCHARGES FROM NON-FEDERAL HOSPITALS, EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS]

SELECTED CHARACTERISTIC	BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE			
		NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				
TOTAL	33,387	13,568	19,818			
AGE						
UNDER 15 YEARS	2,688 13,142 7,099 10,459	1,537 3,874 3,528 4,629	1,150 9,268 3,571 5,830			
REGION						
NORTHEAST	6,699 8,718 11,292 6,678	2,816 3,602 4,537 2,614	3,883 5,117 6,755 4,064			
BED SIZE						
6-99 BEDS	5,079 5,153 7,997 8,308 6,849	1,988 2,167 3,204 3,407 2,803	3,091 2,986 4,794 4,902 4,046			
OWNERSHIP						
NONPROFIT	22,801	9,287	13,514			
GOVERNMENT	6,860 3,725	2,781 1,500	4,079 2,225			

TABLE 2. RATE OF INPATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS, BY AGE, GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1987

[DISCHARGES FROM NON-FEDERAL HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS]

AGE AND REGION	BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE		
	RATE OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED PER 1,000 POPULATION				
TOTAL	138.2	116.0	158.9		
AGE					
UNDER 15 YEARS	51.3	57.3	45.0		
15-44 YEARS	115.1	68.7	160.3		
45-64 YEARS	156.9	163.1	151.2		
65 YEARS AND OVER	350.5	381.9	329.1		
REGION					
NORTHEAST	133.5	117.5	148.2		
MIDWEST	146.8	124.9	167.5		
SOUTH	136.1	113.5	157.0		
WEST	135.9	108.1	162.9		

TABLE 3. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR INPATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS: UNITED STATES, 1987

[DISCHARGES FROM NON-FEDERAL HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS]

SELECTED CHARACTERISTIC	BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE
	AVERAGE L	ENGTH OF S	TAY IN DAYS
TOTAL	6.4	6.9	6.1
AGE			
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.7	4.7	4.7
15–44 YEARS	4.8	6.4	4.2
45-64 YEARS	6.8	6.7	6.9
65 YEARS AND OVER	8.6	8.3	8.9
REGION			
NORTHEAST	7.5	7.7	7.3
MIDWEST	6.7	7.1	6.3
SOUTH.	6.2	6.7	5.8
WEST	5.5	6.2	5.0
BED SIZE			
6-99 BEDS	4.9	5.1	4.8
100–199 BEDS	6.3	6.6	6.1
200-299 BEDS	6.2	6.7	5.8
300-499 BEDS	7.0	7.4	6.7
500 BEDS OR MORE	7.3	8,1	6.8
OWNERSHIP			
NONPROFIT	6.6	7.1	6.3
GOVERNMENT	6.0	6.8	5.5
PROPRIETARY	5.9	6.3	5.6

TABLE 4. NUMBER OF INPATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS, BY CATEGORY OF FIRST-LISTED DIAGNOSIS, SEX, AND AGE: UNITED STATES, 1987

[DISCHARGES FROM NON-FEDERAL HOSPITALS, EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS, DIAGNOSTIC GROUPINGS AND CODE NUMBER INCLUSIONS ARE BASED ON THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES, 9TH REVISION, CLINICAL MODIFICATION (ICD-9-CM)]

ALL CONDITIONS INFECTIOUS AND PARASITIC DISEASES .001–139 NEOPLASMS .140–203,230–234 MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS .140–203,230–234 MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF LARGE INTESTINE .153–154,197.5 MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF TRACHEA, BRONCHUS, AND .153–154,197.5 MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF TRACHEA, BRONCHUS, AND .162,197.0,197.3 MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF BREAST. .174–175,198.81 BENIGN NEOPLASMS AND NEOPLASMS OF UNCERTAIN BEHAVIOR .210–229,235–239 ENDOCRINE, NUTRITIONAL AND METABOLIC DISEASES, AND IMMUNITY DISORDERS .240–279 DIABETES MELLITUS .250 .260–289 MENTAL DISORDERS .290–319 PSYCHOSES .290–299 ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE SYNDROME .303 .320–336,340–349 DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND SENSE ORGANS .320–389 DISEASES OF THE CAR AND MASTOID PROCESS .380–389 DISEASES OF THE CAR AND MASTOID PROCESS .380–389 .380–3459 .411–413,414.1–414.9 ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION .411–413,414.1–414.9 .427	<i>TOTAL</i> 33,387 684 2,331 1,879 198 305 205 452 1,086 474 323 1,781 814 336 949	MALE NUMB 13,568 338 966 868 99 190 * 98 415 198 145	19,818 346 1,365 1,011 99 115 204 354 671	UNDER 15 YEARS INTS DISCHAR 2,688 191 56 38 * * * * 18	15-44 YEARS RGED IN TH 13,142 228 433 229 *7 12 29	7,099 93 802 658 62 129	65 YEARS AND OVER 10,459 172 1,040 953 128
INFECTIOUS AND PARASITIC DISEASES	684 2,331 1,879 198 305 205 452 1,086 474 323 1,781 814 336 949	13,568 338 966 868 99 190 * 98 415 198	19,818 346 1,365 1,011 99 115 204 354 671	2,688 191 56 38 * *	13,142 228 433 229 *7 12	7,099 93 802 658 62 129	10,459 172 1,040 953
INFECTIOUS AND PARASITIC DISEASES	684 2,331 1,879 198 305 205 452 1,086 474 323 1,781 814 336 949	338 966 868 99 190 * 98 415 198	346 1,365 1,011 99 115 204 354 671	191 56 38 * *	228 433 229 *7 12	93 802 658 62 129	172 1,040 953
NEOPLASMS	2,331 1,879 198 305 205 452 1,086 474 323 1,781 814 336 949	966 868 99 190 * 98 415 198	1,365 1,011 99 115 204 354 671	56 38 * *	433 229 *7 12	802 658 62 129	1,040 953
MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS	1,879 198 305 205 452 1,086 474 323 1,781 814 336 949	868 99 190 * 98 415 198	1,011 99 115 204 354 671	38 * *	229 *7 12	658 62 129	953
AND RECTUM	305 205 452 1,086 474 323 1,781 814 336 949	190 * 98 415 198	115 204 354 671	*	12	129	128
MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF BREAST.	205 452 1,086 474 323 1,781 814 336 949	* 98 415 198	204 354 671	*			
ENDOCRINE, NUTRITIONAL AND METABOLIC DISEASES, AND IMMUNITY DISORDERS	1,086 474 323 1,781 814 336 949	415 198	671	18		90	164 87
DISORDERS	474 323 1,781 814 336 949	198			204	143	87
DISEASES OF THE BLOOD AND BLOOD-FORMING ORGANS	323 1,781 814 336 949	145	276	94 27	263 131	273 150	456 166
PSYCHOSES	814 336 949		179	52	86	60	125
ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE SYNDROME	949	935 377	845 437	65 12	1,093 448	359 179	263 175
DISEASES OF THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM		248	87	*	216	92	26
CATARACT	383	437 174	512 208	190 56	260 134	197 80	303 112
DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	63	24	39	*	*	11	47
HEART DISEASE	196	96	100	94	40	26	36
ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION	5,572 3,736	2,868 2,016	2,704 1,720	32 19	450 242	1,743 1,236	3,347 2,240
OTHER ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE	760	478	282	*	46	279	435
CARDIAC DYSRHYTHMIAS	369 1.040	241 549	128 491	*	16 62	178 415	174 562
	521	257	265	*7	40	128	346
CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE	605 895	269 392	336 502	*5 *	14 34	103 191	483 665
	2,982	1,478	1,504	767	586	537	1,092
ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS, EXCEPT INFLUENZ	416 218	218 100	198 119	190 146	61 70	60 *	105
PNEUMONIA, ALL FORMS	924 454	468 193	456 261	204 149	136 112	139 92	445 101
DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM	3,663	1,714	1,949	298	1,143	953	1,270
ULCERS OF THE STOMACH AND SMALL INTESTINE	292 181	152 81	140 99	*	64 67	84 51	142
APPENDICITIS	275	160	114	14 65	165	30	48 14
INGUINAL HERNIA	301	266	35	38	73	94	96
NONINFECTIOUS ENTERITIS AND COLITIS	388 522	152 151	236 371	107	138 184	56 162	88 175
DISEASES OF THE GENITOURINARY SYSTEM	2,515	941	1,574	90	1,114	578	733
CALCULUS OF KIDNEY AND URETER	314 274	212 274	102 	* -	148 *	113 67	52 206
COMPLICATIONS OF PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, AND THE PUERPERIUM ¹	904		904	*5	898	*	
ABORTIONS AND ECTOPIC AND MOLAR PREGNANCIES	301	•••	301	*	297	*	•••
DISEASES OF THE SKIN AND SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE	478	229	249	49	172	105	152
DISEASES OF THE MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM AND CONNECTIVE							
TISSUE	1,955 484	886 194	1,069 290	53 12	734 129	613 128	554 215
INTERVERTEBRAL DISC DISORDERS	486	280	206	*	252	180	53
CONGENITAL ANOMALIES	240	120	119	136	63	28	13
CERTAIN CONDITIONS ORIGINATING IN THE PERINATAL PERIOD 760-779	121	70	51	121	*	*	
SYMPTOMS, SIGNS, AND ILL-DEFINED CONDITIONS	450	208	242	78	162	145	65
INJURY AND POISONING	3,027	1,660	1,367	360	1,377	515	775
FRACTURES, ALL SITES	1,062 249	519 71	543 177	113 *	381 *9	164 21	404 217
SPRAINS AND STRAINS OF BACK (INCLUDING NECK)	159	76	83	*	100	38	18
FRACTURE)	238	154 194	84				
SUPPLEMENTARY CLASSIFICATIONS	260		66	58 33	127 173	23 34	30 20

¹ FIRST-LISTED DIAGNOSIS FOR FEMALES WITH DELIVERIES IS CODED V27, SHOWN UNDER "SUPPLEMENTARY CLASSIFICATIONS."

TABLE 5. RATE OF INPATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS, BY CATEGORY OF FIRST-LISTED DIAGNOSIS, SEX, AND AGE: UNITED STATES, 1987

[DISCHARGES FROM NON-FEDERAL HOSPITALS, EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS. DIAGNOSTIC GROUPINGS AND CODE NUMBER INCLUSIONS ARE BASED ON THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES, 9TH REVISION, CLINICAL MODIFICATION (ICD-9-CM)]

			SEX	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	GE	
CATEGORY OF FIRST-LISTED DIAGNOSIS AND ICD-9-CM CODE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	UNDER 15 YEARS	15-44 YEARS	45-64 YEARS	65 YEARS AND OVER
		RATE OF I	NPATIENTS	DISCHARGED	PER 10.00	0 POPULA	TION
ALL CONDITIONS	1,381.6	1,160.1	1,589.3	512.9	1,151.0	1,568.6	3,505.5
INFECTIOUS AND PARASITIC DISEASES	28.3	28.9	27.7	36.5	19.9	20.5	57.7
NEOPLASMS	96.5	82.6	109.4	10.8	37.9	177.2	348.5
MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS	77.8	74.2	81.0	7.3	20.1	145.5	319.5
AND RECTUM	8.2 12.6	8.5 16.3	7.9 9.2	*	*0.7 1.1	13.6 28.5	43.0 54.9
MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF BREAST	8.5	* 8.3	16.3 28.4	* 3.5	2.5 17.8	19.8 31.7	29.1 29.0
	10.7	0.0	20.4	0.5	17.0	01.7	29.0
ENDOCRINE, NUTRITIONAL AND METABOLIC DISEASES, AND IMMUNITY DISORDERS	44.9 19.6	35.5 16.9	53.8 22.1	18.0 5.2	23.0 11.4	60.4 33.2	152.7 55.6
DISEASES OF THE BLOOD AND BLOOD-FORMING ORGANS	13.4	12.4	14.3	9.9	7.5	13.3	41.9
MENTAL DISORDERS	73.7	80.0	67.8	12.3	95.7	79.4	88.3
PSYCHOSES	33.7	32.2	35.0	2.3	39.2	39.4	58.8
ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE SYNDROME	13.9	21.2	7.0		18.9	20.3	8.6
DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND SENSE ORGANS	39.3 15.8	37.4 14.9	41.1 16.7	36.3 10.7	22.8 11.7	43.5 17.7	101.5 37.7
CATARACT	2.6	2.0	3.2	*	*	2.4	15.9
DISEASES OF THE EAR AND MASTOID PROCESS	8.1	8.2	8.0	17.8	3.5	5.7	12.1
DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	230.6	245.2	216.8	6.0	39.4	385.1	1,121.9
HEART DISEASE	154.6	172.4	138.0	3.5	21.2	273.1	750.7
ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION	31.4 15.3	40.9 20.6	22.6 10.2	-	4.0 1.4	61.5 39.3	145.8 58.4
OTHER ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE	43.0	46.9	39.4	*	5.4	91.6	188.3
CARDIAC DYSRHYTHMIAS	21.6	21.9	21.2	*1.3	3.5	28.4	116.0
CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE	25.0 37.0	23.0 33.5	26.9 40.3	*0.9 *	1.3 3.0	22.7 42.3	161.8 223.0
DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	123.4	126.4	120.6	146.3	51.3	118.7	366.1
ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS, EXCEPT INFLUENZA	17.2	18.7	15.9	36.3	5.4	13.2 *	35.2
CHRONIC DISEASE OF TONSILS AND ADENOIDS	9.0 38.2	8.5 40.0	9.5 36.6	27.9 38.9	6,1 11.9	30.7	149.2
ASTHMA	18.8	16.5	20.9	28.4	9.8	20.4	33.8
DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM	151.6	146.5	156.3	56.9	100.1	210.5	425.5
ULCERS OF THE STOMACH AND SMALL INTESTINE	12.1	13.0	11.2	*	5.6	18.6	47.6
GASTRITIS AND DUODENITIS	7.5 11.4	7.0 13.7	8.0 9.2	2.7 12.5	5.9 14.4	11.3 6.7	16.1 4.8
INGUINAL HERNIA	12.4	22.7	2.8	7.3	6.4	20.8	32.1
NONINFECTIOUS ENTERITIS AND COLITIS	16.1	13.0	19.0	20.4	12.1	12.3	29.5
CHOLELITHIASIS	21.6	12.9	29.8	*	16.1	35.8	58.6
DISEASES OF THE GENITOURINARY SYSTEM	104.1	80.4	126.2	17.1	97.6	127.7	245.7
	13.0	18.1	8.2	*	12.9	25.0	17.3
	11.3	23.4	•••	-		14.9	69.1
COMPLICATIONS OF PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, AND THE PUERPERIUM ¹	37.4		72.5	*0.9	78.7	*	
ABORTIONS AND ECTOPIC AND MOLAR PREGNANCIES	12.4		24.1	*	26.0	*	•••
DISEASES OF THE SKIN AND SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE	19.8	19.6	20.0	9.4	15.0	23.1	51.0
DISEASES OF THE MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM AND CONNECTIVE							
TISSUE	80.9	75.8	85.7	10.1	64.3	135.5	185.8
ARTHROPATHIES AND RELATED DISORDERS	20.0 20.1	16.6 24.0	23.2 16.5	2.2	11.3 22.1	28.4 39.8	72.1 17.8
CONGENITAL ANOMALIES	9.9	10.3	9.6	26.0	5.5	6.1	4.4
CERTAIN CONDITIONS ORIGINATING IN THE PERINATAL PERIOD	5.0	6.0	4.1	23.0	*	*	
SYMPTOMS, SIGNS, AND ILL-DEFINED CONDITIONS	18.6	17.8	19.4	14.9	14.2	32.1	21.8
NJURY AND POISONING	125.2	141.9	109.6	68.7	120.7	113.7	259.7
FRACTURES, ALL SITES	43.9	44.3	43.6	21.6	33.4	36.2	135.4
FRACTURE OF NECK OF FEMUR	10.3	6.1	14.2	*	*0.8	4.5	72.7
SPRAINS AND STRAINS OF BACK (INCLUDING NECK)	6.6	6.5	6.6	*	8.7	8.4	6.1
FRACTURE)	9.8	13.1	6.8	11.0	11.1	5.1	10.2
LACERATIONS AND OPEN WOUNDS	10.8	16.6	5.3	6.2	15.2	7.5	6.8
SUPPLEMENTARY CLASSIFICATIONS	179.0	13.5	334.4	10.0	357.3	21.4	32.9

¹FIRST-LISTED DIAGNOSIS FOR FEMALES WITH DELIVERIES IS CODED V27, SHOWN UNDER "SUPPLEMENTARY CLASSIFICATIONS."

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TABLE 6. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR INPATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS, BY CATEGORY OF FIRST-LISTED DIAGNOSIS, SEX, AND AGE: UNITED STATES, 1987

[DISCHARGES FROM NON-FEDERAL HOSPITALS, EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS, DIAGNOSTIC GROUPINGS AND CODE NUMBER INCLUSIONS ARE BASED ON THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES, 9TH REVISION, CLINICAL MODIFICATION (ICD-9-CM)]

			SEX		A	GE		
CATEGORY OF FIRST-LISTED DIAGNOSIS AND ICD-9-CM CODE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	UNDER 15 YEARS	15-44 YEARS	45-64 YEARS	65 YEARS AND OVER	
			AVERAGE	LENGTH OF	NGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
ALL CONDITIONS	6.4	6.9	6.1	4.7	4,8	6.8	8.6	
INFECTIOUS AND PARASITIC DISEASES	7.6	8.3	7.0	4.0	6.9	10.0	11.2	
NEOPLASMS	8.0	8.7	7.5	5.1	5.9	7.8	9.3	
MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS	8.7	9.0	8.3	6.0	7.1	8.2	9.4	
RECTUM	11.8 8.9	11.8 8.7	11.8 9.2	*	*9.7 7.6	10.8 8.7	12.4 9.1	
LUNG	6.2	*	6.1	*	5.9	5.9	6.6	
AND UNSPECIFIED NATURE	5.4	5.8	5.3	3.1	4.5	5.5	7.7	
ENDOCRINE, NUTRITIONAL AND METABOLIC DISEASES, AND IMMUNITY DISORDERS	7.3	7.3 7.7	7.3 7.6	5.0 5.4	5.1 5.4	7.3 7. 9	9.0	
	7.6						9.4	
DISEASES OF THE BLOOD AND BLOOD-FORMING ORGANS	6.0	6.1	5.9	3.5	5.0	6.1	7.6	
MENTAL DISORDERS	12.3 13.7	11.9 13.0	12.8 14.2	24.0 24.2	11.7 13.2	11.3 13.5	13.0 14.5	
ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE SYNDROME	10.9	10.6	11.7	*	11.2	10.4	10.9	
DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND SENSE ORGANS	6.0	6.3	5.7	4.4	5.9	6.2	6.9	
DISEASES OF THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM	9.8	10.7	9.1	8.6 *	7.7	10.1	12.7	
CATARACT	1.8 2.8	2.1 2.6	1.6 3.0	2.3	2.7	1.8 3.4	1.6 3.7	
DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	7.6	7.2	7.9	7.0	5.8	6.7	8.2	
HEART DISEASE	6.9	6.7	7.2	8.2	5.5	6.2	7.5	
ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION	8.5	8.0	9.4	*	6.8	8.0	9.0	
ATHEROSCLEROTIC HEART DISEASE	6.3 5.2	6.1 4.9	6.8 5.5	- *	4.3 3.7	5.5 4.7	7.4 5.7	
CARDIAC DYSRHYTHMIAS	5.2	4.5 5.6	5.8	*7.4	3.6	4.9	6.2	
CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE	8.4	8.2	8.6	*6.6	6.4	8.0	8.6	
CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE	10.1	9.6	10.4	*	12.1	9.9	10.1	
DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	6.3	6.4	6.2	3.2	4.5	7.0	9.1	
ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS, EXCEPT INFLUENZA	4.6 1.2	4.4 1.2	4.9 1.3	3.1 1.2	3.7 1.4	6.1 *	7.1	
PNEUMONIA, ALL FORMS	8.0	7.9	8.1	4.4	6.7	8.3	10.0	
ASTHMA	4.8	4.4	5.1	3.3	4.1	5.8	7.0	
DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM	6.2	5.7	6.6	3.3	4.9	6.2	8.0	
ULCERS OF THE STOMACH AND SMALL INTESTINE	6.9	6.8 4.1	7.0 4.3	* 2.4	4.5 4.0	6.1	8.5	
APPENDICITIS	4.2 4.7	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.2 6.5	5.1 8.5	
INGUINAL HERNIA	2.6	2.5	3.2	1.9	2.1	2.3	3.7	
NONINFECTIOUS ENTERITIS AND COLITIS	4.9	4.6	5.0	2.8	4.8	6.4	6.5	
CHOLELITHIASIS	7.0	7.6	6.8		5.6	6.4	9.1	
DISEASES OF THE GENITOURINARY SYSTEM	5.0 3.5	5.2 3.2	5.0 4.2	3.3 *	3.9 3.0	5.0 3.4	7.0 5.4	
HYPERPLASIA OF PROSTATE	5.4	5.4		-	*	4.6	5.7	
PUERPERIUM '	2.7 2.2	 	2.7 2.2	*1.8 *	2.7 2.2	*	•••	
DISEASES OF THE SKIN AND SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE	7.9	7.2	8.6	4.2	5.9	8.4	11.2	
DISEASES OF THE MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM AND CONNECTIVE			• •			• •		
TISSUE	6.4 7.8	5.9 6.8	6.9 8.5	5.2 6.8	4.8 4.3	6.1 7.6	9.1 10.1	
INTERVERTEBRAL DISC DISORDERS	6.4	5.8	7.0	*	5.9	6.3	8.7	
CONGENITAL ANOMALIES	6.0	5.7	6.2	6.1	4.8	7.8	6.8	
CERTAIN CONDITIONS ORIGINATING IN THE PERINATAL PERIOD	9.8	9.6	10.1	9.9	*	*	_	
SYMPTOMS, SIGNS, AND ILL-DEFINED CONDITIONS	3.5 4.1	3.0	4.4	3.4	3.5	4.9	4.6	
INJURY AND POISONING	4.1 6.7	6.3	4.4 7.1	3.4 4.3	5.5	4.9 6.8	4.0 9.9	
FRACTURES, ALL SITES	6.7 8.9	6.3 8.3	9.4	4.3 5.4	5.5 7.2	6.8 7.8	9.9 11.8	
FRACTURE OF NECK OF FEMUR	13.9	14.3	13.8	*	*14.9	11.6	14.1	
SPRAINS AND STRAINS OF BACK (INCLUDING NECK)	5.4	5.1	5.7	*	5.2	5.9	6.0	
FRACTURE)	5.8	6.3	4.9	2.7	6.5	6.2	8.4	
LACERATIONS AND OPEN WOUNDS	4.0	4.0	4.1	3.2	3.8	4.4	6.7	
SUPPLEMENTARY CLASSIFICATIONS	3.2	5.8	3.1	4.7	3.1	3.9	6.7	
FEMALES WITH DELIVERIES	3.1		3.1	2.8	3.1	*		

¹ FIRST-LISTED DIAGNOSIS FOR FEMALES WITH DELIVERIES IS CODED V27, SHOWN UNDER "SUPPLEMENTARY CLASSIFICATIONS."

TABLE 7. NUMBER OF ALL-LISTED PROCEDURES FOR INPATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS, BY PROCEDURE CATEGORY, SEX, AND AGE: UNITED STATES, 1987

[DISCHARGES FROM NON-FEDERAL HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS. PROCEDURE GROUPINGS AND CODE NUMBER INCLUSIONS ARE BASED ON THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES, 9TH REVISION, CLINICAL MODIFICATION (ICD-9-CM)]

		8	SEX		A	GE	
PROCEDURE CATEGORY AND ICD-9-CM CODE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	UNDER 15 YEARS	15–44 YEARS	45–64 YEARS	65 YEARS AND OVER
		NUMBE					
ALL PROCEDURES	39,118	15,716	23,402	1,866	15,632	9,252	12,369
OPERATIONS ON THE NERVOUS SYSTEM	914	474	439	182	306	220	206
SPINAL TAP	351	181	169	143	90	48	70
OPERATIONS ON THE ENDOCRINE SYSTEM	109	30	79	*	44	37	24
OPERATIONS ON THE EYE	497	225	272	39	96	116	246
EXTRACTION OF LENS	83 69	31 25	52 44	*6	*7	14 13	57 54
OPERATIONS ON THE EAR	176	106	71	93	42	22	20
OPERATIONS ON THE NOSE, MOUTH, AND PHARYNX	937	485	452	239	432	161	105
RHINOPLASTY AND REPAIR OF NOSE.	125	60	65	*6	89	23 *	*7
TONSILLECTOMY WITH OR WITHOUT ADENOIDECTOMY 28.2–28.3	244 1,018	115 600	129	159	80 407		
OPERATIONS ON THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	196	121	418 75	47 14	197 29	315 59	458 93
OPERATIONS ON THE CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM	3,116	1,838	1,279	99	331	1,274	1,412
REMOVAL OF CORONARY ARTERY OBSTRUCTION	184	123	62	-	17	104	64
DIRECT HEART REVASCULARIZATION	332 866	244 533	88 333	19	*9 79	170 440	152 328
PACEMAKER INSERTION, REPLACEMENT, REMOVAL, REPAIR	234	132	101	*	*8	440	174
OPERATIONS ON THE HEMIC AND LYMPHATIC SYSTEM	398	202	196	20	80	113	184
OPERATIONS ON THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM	5,842	2,517	3,326	229	1,815	1,511	2,287
ESOPHAGOSCOPY AND GASTROSCOPY (NATURAL ORIFICE)42.23,44.13 PARTIAL GASTRECTOMY AND RESECTION OF	153	74	79	*8	26	43	76
INTESTINE	308	139	168	*6	45	84	172
ENDOSCOPY OF LARGE INTESTINE (NATURAL ORIFICE)	415	185	230	*	67	102	245
APPENDECTOMY, EXCLUDING INCIDENTAL	303 97	164 52	139	66	186	33 32	17
CHOLECYSTECTOMY	536	148	45 388	*	48 199	163	17 172
REPAIR OF INGUINAL HERNIA	329	290	39	42	77	99	111
DIVISION OF PERITONEAL ADHESIONS	339	53	286	*	194	70	74
OPERATIONS ON THE URINARY SYSTEM	1,721 637	1,089 473	631 164	54 13	380 91	476 170	811 363
OPERATIONS ON THE MALE GENITAL ORGANS	747	747		70	75	160	442
PROSTATECTOMY	410	410				90	318
OPERATIONS ON THE FEMALE GENITAL ORGANS	2,884 490	•••	2,884 490	*7 *	2,108 276	538 163	231 50
TUBES	415	•••	415	-	413	*	• • •
HYSTERECTOMY	655	•••	655	*	406	188	60
DILATION AND CURETTAGE OF UTERUS	379 149	•••	379 149	-	314 43	48 59	16 46
OBSTETRICAL PROCEDURES	5,358		5,358	18	5,337	*	•••
EXTRACTION	1,833		1,833	*7	1,826	*	
CESAREAN SECTION	953		953	*	951	*	•••
REPAIR OF CURRENT OBSTETRIC LACERATION	660	•••	660	*5	656	-	•••
OPERATIONS ON THE MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM	3,466	1,718	1,748	209	1,477	839	941
OPEN REDUCTION OF FRACTURE EXCEPT JAW76.79,79.2–79.3,79.5–79.6 OTHER REDUCTION OF FRACTURE	481	257	223	30	200	86	165
EXCEPT JAW	205	110	95	54	72	26	53
FUSION.	352	202	150	*5	176	133	38
ARTHROPLASTY AND REPLACEMENT OF KNEE	210	106	104	*	79	40	88
ARTHROPLASTY AND REPLACEMENT OF HIP	212	66	146	*	11	40	161
BURSA	322	182	140	25	155	91	51
OPERATIONS ON THE INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM	1,600	667 *	933	95 *	642	434	430
MASTECTOMY	141 568	302	140 266	38	18 235	60 126	62 169
SKIN GRAFT (EXCEPT LIP OR MOUTH)	149	88	61	16	57	35	42
MISCELLANEOUS DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES87-99	10,335	5,018	5,317	460	2,271	3,032	4,572
COMPUTERIZED AXIAL TOMOGRAPHY	1,646	814	833	86	366	396	798
PYELOGRAM	334	190	144	*10	125	93	105
MATERIAL	1,448	868	580	17	155	683	593
DIAGNOSTIC ULTRASOUND	1,596	616	981	69	490	360	677
CIRCULATORY MONITORING	821	430	391	53 18	109 136	184	475
RADIOISOTOPE SCAN	759	350	409	18	136	219	386

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TABLE 8. RATE OF ALL-LISTED PROCEDURES FOR INPATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS, BY PROCEDURE CATEGORY, SEX, AND AGE: UNITED STATES, 1987

[DISCHARGES FROM NON-FEDERAL HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS. PROCEDURE GROUPINGS AND CODE NUMBER INCLUSIONS ARE BASED ON THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES, 9TH REVISION, CLINICAL MODIFICATION (ICD-9-CM)]

		<i>S</i>	EX		A	GE	
PROCEDURE CATEGORY AND ICD-9-CM CODE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	UNDER 15 YEARS	15-44 YEARS	45-64 YEARS	65 YEARS AND OVER
			-LISTED PF	OCEDURES	PER 100.00	0 POPULA	
ALL PROCEDURES	16,187.3	13,437.2	18,766.7	3,560.3	13,691.7		41,456.9
OPERATIONS ON THE NERVOUS SYSTEM	378.1	405.6	352.4	348.2	268.0	485.5	689.2
SPINAL TAP	145.1	155.2	135.7	272.1	78.9	106.5	234.1
OPERATIONS ON THE ENDOCRINE SYSTEM	45.0	25.3	63.6	*	38.5	82.8	79.8
OPERATIONS ON THE EYE	205.7	192.7	217.9	75.1	84.0	255.8	825.1
EXTRACTION OF LENS	34.4 28.4	26.7 21.1	41.5 35.3	*10.6 *	*5.8 *	31.1 29.2	190.4 180.3
OPERATIONS ON THE EAR	73.0	90.5	56.7	176.7	36.5	49.2	66.8
DPERATIONS ON THE NOSE, MOUTH, AND PHARYNX	387.5	414.5	362.2	455.6	378.4	356.0	350.7
RHINOPLASTY AND REPAIR OF NOSE	51.5 101.0	51.1 98.5	51.9 103.3	*10.6 303.1	77.8 70.4	50.5 *	*24.5
DPERATIONS ON THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	421.3 81.1	512.6 103.8	335.6 59.8	90.0 27.4	172.7 25.5	696.6 130.9	1,536.5 312.9
DPERATIONS ON THE CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM	1,289.5	1,571.2	1,025.3	189.4	289.6	2,815.7	4,732.8
REMOVAL OF CORONARY ARTERY OBSTRUCTION	76.3	104.9	49.5	-	14.9	228.9	214.1
DIRECT HEART REVASCULARIZATION	137.3	208.6	70.4	*	*7.6	376.7	511.0
CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION	358.2 96.7	455.4 113.2	267.0 81.2	35.6	69.5 *6.7	972.2 107.6	1,098.4 584.0
DERATIONS ON THE HEMIC AND LYMPHATIC SYSTEM	164.8	173.0	157.1	39.0	70.4	250.2	617.5
DPERATIONS ON THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM	2.417.6	2.151.6	2.667.0	437.5	1.589.6	3.338.5	7,666.6
ESOPHAGOSCOPY AND GASTROSCOPY (NATURAL ORIFICE)42.23,44.13 PARTIAL GASTRECTOMY AND RESECTION OF	63.3	63.4	63.2	*14.7	22.6	95.5	255.2
INTESTINE	127.3	118.9	135.1	*10.7	39.6	186.5	577.5
ENDOSCOPY OF LARGE INTESTINE (NATURAL ORIFICE)	171.9	158.5	184.4	*	58.4	224.6	821.1
APPENDECTOMY, EXCLUDING INCIDENTAL	125.3	140.3	111.2	126.5	163.3	73.9	55.8
HEMORRHOIDECTOMY	40.0 221.9	44.6 126.6	35.8 311.4	*	42.0 174.1	71.3 360.7	55.6 577.1
REPAIR OF INGUINAL HERNIA	136.2	247.7	31.6	79.6	67.2	219.5	372.8
DIVISION OF PERITONEAL ADHESIONS	140.3	45.4	229.3	*	169.7	153.7	247.0
DPERATIONS ON THE URINARY SYSTEM	712.0 263.6	931.5 404.3	506.1 131.6	103.5 24.5	332.5 79.6	1,051.6 376.3	2,717.3 1,216.5
OPERATIONS ON THE MALE GENITAL ORGANS	309.2 169.7	638.8 350.7	•••	133.3	65.7 *	353.8 199.1	1,481.9 1,067.0
OPERATIONS ON THE FEMALE GENITAL ORGANS	1,193.2		2,312.4	*13.3	1,846.2	1,188.4	774.1
OOPHORECTOMY AND SALPINGO-OOPHORECTOMY	202.8	•••	393.1	*	242.0	360.8	167.9
TUBES	171.8	•••	333.0	-	361.9	*	
HYSTERECTOMY	270.9	•••	524.9	*	355.9	415.9	200.4
DILATION AND CURETTAGE OF UTERUS	157.0 61.5	•••	304.2 119.3	-	275.0 38.0	106.7 131.2	55.2 153.9
DBSTETRICAL PROCEDURES	2,217.3		4,297.0	34.5	4,674.5	*	
EPISIOTOMY WITH OR WITHOUT FORCEPS OR VACUUM EXTRACTION	758.7		1,470.2	*12.8	1,599.6		
CESAREAN SECTION	394.2		763.9	* 12.0	832.6	*	•••
REPAIR OF CURRENT OBSTETRIC LACERATION	273.1	•••	529.3	*8.7	574.2	_	• • •
OPERATIONS ON THE MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM	1,434.2	1,469.0	1,401.5	398.0	1,293.8	1,854.4	3,153.8
OPEN REDUCTION OF FRACTURE EXCEPT JAW76.79,79.2–79.3,79.5–79.6 OTHER REDUCTION OF FRACTURE	198.9	219.9	179.1	56.6	174.8	190.8	553.0
EXCEPT JAW	84.8	93.9	76.3	102.8	63.3	56.7	177.9
FUSION	145.7	172.6	120.5	*10.2	154.3	292.9	127.5
ARTHROPLASTY AND REPLACEMENT OF KNEE	86.9	90.5	83.6	*	68.9	88.5	296.6
ARTHROPLASTY AND REPLACEMENT OF HIP	87.8	56.3	117.3	*	9.4	88.2	538.7
BURSA	133.2	155.5	112.2	48.0	135.8	200.4	170.5
DPERATIONS ON THE INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM	662.2 58.4	570.3	748.3	181.8	562.1 16.1	958.3	1,439.7
EXCISION OR DESTRUCION OF LESION OR TISSUE OF SKIN OR		059 5	112.0	70.4		133.4	208.4
SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE	235.1 61.8	258.5 75.4	213.2 49.0	72.4 30.2	206.2 50.0	277.4 76.6	567.3 139.8
MISCELLANEOUS DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES 87-99	4,276.7	4,290.6	4,263.7	877.8	1,989.1	6,699.2	15,325.3
COMPUTERIZED AXIAL TOMOGRAPHY	681.3	695.7	667.7	164.7	320.7	875.8	2,673.3
PYELOGRAM	138.1	162.2	115.5	*19.6	109.6	206.5	351.4
MATERIAL,	599.2	742.2	465.0	32.4	136.0	1,508.4	1,987.8
DIAGNOSTIC ULTRASOUND	660.5	526.3	786.3	132.5	428.8	795.3	2,269.9
CIRCULATORY MONITORING	339.8	367.4	313.8	100.6	95.6	406.6	1,592.8
RADIOISOTOPE SCAN	314.0	299.0	328.0	33.7	119.0	483.9	1,294.4

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Symbols

- --- Data not available
- ... Category not applicable
- Quantity zero
- 0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05
- Z Quantity more than zero but less than 500 where numbers are rounded to thousands
- * Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision (see Technical notes)
- # Figure suppressed to comply with confidentiality requirements

Technical notes

Survey methodology

Source of data

The National Hospital Discharge Survey (NHDS) encompasses patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, exclusive of military and Veterans Administration hospitals, located in 50 States and the District of Columbia. Only hospitals with six beds or more and an average length of stay of less than 30 days for all patients are included in the survey. Discharges of newborn infants are excluded from this report.

The original universe for the survey consisted of 6,965 hospitals contained in the 1963 National Master Facility Inventory. New hospitals were sampled for inclusion in the survey in 1972, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, and 1985. In all, 558 hospitals were sampled in 1987. Of these hospitals, 92 refused to participate and 66 were out of scope. The 400 participating hospitals provided approximately 181,000 abstracts of medical records.

Sample design and data collection

All hospitals with 1,000 beds or more in the universe of short-stay hospitals were selected with certainty in the sample. All hospitals with fewer than 1,000 beds were stratified, the primary strata being 24 size-by-region classes. Within each of these 24 primary strata, the allocation of the hospitals was made through a controlled selection technique so that hospitals in the sample would be properly distributed with regard to type of ownership and geographic division. Sample hospitals were drawn with probabilities ranging from certainty for the largest hospitals to 1 in 40 for the smallest hospitals. The within-hospital sampling ratio for selecting sample discharges varied inversely with the probability of selection of the hospital.

In 1985, for the first time, there were two data collection procedures used for the survey. The first was the traditional manual system of sample selection and data abstraction. The second involved the purchase of data tapes from commercial abstracting services. In 1987 this automated method was used in approximately 17 percent of the sample hospitals.

In the manual procedure hospitals, sample discharges were selected using the daily listing sheet of discharges as the sampling frame. These discharges were selected by a random technique, usually on the basis of the terminal digit or digits of the patient's medical record number. The sample selection and abstraction of data from the face sheets and discharge summaries of the medical records were performed by the hospital staff or by representatives of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). The completed forms were forwarded to NCHS for coding, editing, and weighting procedures.

For the automated procedure hospitals, tapes containing machine-readable medical record data are purchased from commercial abstracting services. These tapes are subject to NCHS sampling, editing, and weighting procedures. A detailed description of the automated process is to be published.

The Medical Abstract Form and the abstract service data tapes contain items relating to the personal characteristics of the patient, including birth date, sex, race, and marital status but not name and address; administrative information, including admission and discharge dates, discharge status, and medical record number; and medical information, including diagnoses and surgical and nonsurgical operations or procedures. Since 1977, patient zip code, expected source of payment, and dates of surgery have also been collected. (The medical record number and patient zip code are considered confidential information and are not available to the public.)

Presentation of estimates

Statistics produced by NHDS are derived by a complex estimating procedure. The basic unit of estimation is the sample inpatient discharge abstract. The estimating procedure used to produce essentially unbiased national estimates in NHDS has three principal components: inflation by reciprocals of the probabilities of sample selection, adjustment for nonresponse, and ratio adjustment to fixed totals. These components of estimation are described in appendix I of two earlier publications (NCHS, 1967a, 1967b).

Based on consideration of the complex sample design of NHDS, the following guidelines are used for presenting NHDS estimates in this report:

- If the sample size is less than 30, the value of the estimate is not reported. Only an asterisk (*) is shown in the tables.
- If the sample size is 30-59, the value of the estimate is reported but should be used with caution. The estimate is preceded by an asterisk (*) in the tables.

Sampling errors and rounding of numbers

The standard error is a measure of the sampling variability that occurs by chance because only a sample, rather than an entire universe, is surveyed. The relative standard error of the estimate is obtained by dividing the standard error by the estimate itself and is expressed as a percent of the estimate. Relative standard errors for the first-listed diagnoses and all-listed procedures are shown in table I. The relative standard errors for region and ownership of hospital are approximately 1½ times larger. The standard errors for average lengths of stay are shown in table II.

Estimates have been rounded to the nearest thousand. For this reason, figures within tables do not always add to the totals. Rates and average lengths of stay were calculated from original, unrounded figures and will not necessarily agree precisely with rates or average lengths of stay calculated from rounded data. Table I. Approximate relative standard errors of estimatednumbers of first- listed discharges and all-listed procedures:United States, 1987.

Size of estimate	First-listed diagnosis	All-listed procedures
5,000	12.7	16.4
10,000	10.2	13.8
50,000	6.5	9.8
100,000	5.5	8.6
500.000	3.8	6.6
1,000,000	3.4	6.0
3,000,000	2.8	5.2
5,000,000	2.6	4.9
10,000,000	2.3	4.6
20.000.000	2.1	4.3
30,000,000	2.0	4.1
40,000,000	2.0	

Table II. Approximate standard errors of average length of stay by number of discharges: United States, 1987

	Ave	erage length	n of stay in o	days	
Number of discharges	2	6	10	20	
	Standard error in days				
10,000	0.7	1.2	1.7	2.2	
50,000	0.3	0.7	1.0	1.4	
100.000	0.3	0.6	0.9	1.2	
500,000	0.2	0.5	0.8	0.9	
1,000,000	0.2	0.5	0.8	0.7	
5.000.000	0.2	0.5	0.8		

Tests of significance

In this report, the determination of statistical inference is based on the two-tailed Bonferroni test for multiple comparisons. Terms relating to differences such as "higher" and "less" indicate that the differences are statistically significant. Terms such as "similar" or "no difference" mean that no statistically significant difference exists between the estimates being compared. A lack of comment on the difference between any two estimates does not mean that the difference was tested and found to be not significant.

Definition of terms

Terms relating to hospitals and hospital characteristics

Hospitals—Short-stay special and general hospitals have six beds or more for inpatient use and an average length of stay of less than 30 days. Federal hospitals and hospital units of institutions are not included.

Bed size of hospital—Measured by the number of beds, cribs, and pediatric bassinets regularly maintained (set up and staffed for use) for patients; bassinets for newborn infants are not included. In this report, the classification of hospitals by bed size reported by the hospitals is based on the number of beds at or near midyear.

Type of ownership of hospital—Determined by the organization that controls and operates the hospital. Hospitals are grouped as follows:

• Voluntary nonprofit—Hospitals operated by a church or another nonprofit organization.

- Government—Hospitals operated by a State or local government.
- Proprietary—Hospitals operated for profit by individuals, partnerships, or corporations.

Terms relating to hospitalization

Patient—A person who is formally admitted to the inpatient service of a short-stay hospital for observation, care, diagnosis, or treatment. In this report, the number of patients refers to the number of discharges during the year including any multiple discharges of the same individual from one or more short-stay hospitals. Infants admitted on the day of birth, directly or by transfer from another medical facility, with or without mention of disease, disorder, or immaturity, are included. All newborn infants, defined as those admitted by birth to the hospitals, are excluded from this report. The terms "patient" and "inpatient" are used synonymously.

Discharge—The formal release of a patient by a hospital; that is, the termination of a period of hospitalization by death or by disposition to place of residence, nursing home, or another hospital. The terms "discharges" and "patients discharged" are used synonymously.

Discharge rate—The ratio of the number of hospital discharges during a year to the number of persons in the civilian population on July 1 of that year.

Days of care—The total number of patient days accumulated at time of discharge by patients discharged from short-stay hospitals during a year. A stay of less than 1 day (patient admission and discharge on the same day) is counted as 1 day in the summation of total days of care. For patients admitted and discharged on different days, the number of days of care is computed by counting all days from (and including) the date of admission to (but not including) the date of discharge.

Rate of days of care—The ratio of the number of patient days accumulated at time of discharge by patients discharged from short-stay hospitals during a year to the number of persons in the civilian population on July 1 of that year.

Average length of stay—The total number of patient days accumulated at time of discharge by patients discharged during the year, divided by the number of patients discharged.

Terms relating to diagnoses

Discharge diagnoses—One or more diseases or injuries (or some factor that influences health status and contact with health services that is not itself a current illness or injury) listed by the attending physician on the medical record of a patient. In the NHDS all discharge (or final) diagnoses listed on the face sheet (summary sheet) of the medical record for patients discharged from the inpatient service of short-stay hospitals are transcribed in the order listed. Each sample discharge is assigned a maximum of seven five-digit codes according to ICD-9-CM (U.S. Public Health Service and Health Care Financing Administration, 1980). The number of principal or first-listed diagnoses is equivalent to the number of discharges.

Principal diagnosis—The condition established after study to be chiefly responsible for occasioning the admission of the patient to the hospital for care.

First-listed diagnosis—The coded diagnosis identified as the principal diagnosis or listed first on the face sheet of the medical record if the principal diagnosis cannot be identified. The number of first-listed diagnoses is equivalent to the number of discharges.

Procedures—One or more surgical or nonsurgical operations, procedures, or special treatments assigned by the physician to patients discharged from the inpatient service of short-stay hospitals. In the NHDS, all terms listed on the face sheet (summary sheet) of the medical record under the captions "operation," "operative procedures," "operations and/or special treatment," and the like are transcribed in the order listed. A maximum of four procedures is coded.

Rate of procedures—The ratio of the number of alllisted procedures during a year to the number of persons in the civilian population on July 1 of that year determines the rate of procedures.

Demographic terms

Age-Refers to the age of the patient on the birthday prior to admission to the hospital inpatient service.

Population—Civilian population is the resident population excluding members of the Armed Forces. Geographic regions—Hospitals are classified by location in one of the four geographic regions of the United States corresponding to those used by the U.S. Bureau of the Census:

Region	States included
Northeast	Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania
Midwest	Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas
South	Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Geor- gia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Ala- bama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisi- ana, Oklahoma, and Texas
West	Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii, and Alaska

Attention Health Researchers

The National Center for Health Statistics is providing National Hospital Discharge Survey (NHDS) data.

Trends Since 1965...

A new trend data report from the NHDS contains information on discharges, days of care, and average length of stay by age and sex for the period 1965-86. Regional data as well as trends for selected diagnoses and surgeries are also included in this report to be published in early 1989.

Public Use Data Diskette

Data diskettes from the 1987 NHDS provide an easy one-step access to a wide range of statistics on hospitalization produced by the survey. The data diskettes are a complete package, including software for accessing the database files and for computing rates of selected populations. Diskettes containing 1986 data are also available.

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	Health S	tatistics	•

 Please place me on the mailing list for the new NHDS trend report. Please send me additional information on the NHDS data diskettes. 		
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Suggested citation

National Center for Health Statistics, Hospital Care Statistics Branch. 1988. 1987 Summary: National Hospital Discharge Survey. *Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics*. No. 159 (Rev.). DHHS Pub. No. (PHS) 88-1250. Public Health Service. Hyattsville, Md.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control National Center for Health Statistics 3700 East-West Highway Hyattsville, Maryland 20782

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DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 88-1250

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