

National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2005 Summary

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Abstract

Objectives—This report describes ambulatory care visits made to physician offices in the United States. Statistics are presented on selected characteristics of the physician's practice, the patient, and the visit.

Methods—The data presented in this report were collected in the 2005 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS), a national probability sample survey of visits to nonfederal office-based physicians in the United States. Sample data are weighted to produce annual national estimates of doctor visits.

Results—During 2005, an estimated 963.6 million visits were made to physician offices in the United States, an overall rate of 331.0 visits per 100 persons. In one-quarter of office visits, electronic medical records were utilized by physicians, while at 83.9 percent of visits, claims were submitted electronically. As the baby boomer generation aged, there was a shift in utilization, as the majority of visits in 1995 were by patients 25–44 years of age compared with 2005, when most visits were by patients 45–64 years of age. In 2005, 52.7 percent of office visits were made by patients with at least one chronic condition. Hypertension was the most frequent condition (22.8 percent), followed by arthritis (14.3 percent), hyperlipidemia (13.5 percent), and diabetes (9.8 percent). Medication therapy was reported at 679.2 million office visits, accounting for 70.5 percent of all office visits. In 2005, there were about 2.0 billion drugs prescribed, resulting in an overall rate of 210.7 drugs per 100 visits. Drugs with amoxicillin were more likely to be new prescriptions (85.4 percent), while ibuprofen and acetaminophen were just as likely to be a new or continued drug. The overall mean time spent with a physician, excluding psychiatrists, has not changed since 1995; however, visits with a duration of 6–10 minutes decreased by 28% from 1995, while visits lasting 16–30 minutes increased by 20%.

Keywords: ambulatory care • physician office care • diagnoses • injury • medications • ICD–9–CM • primary care • chronic disease

Introduction

The National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS), which began in 1973, was inaugurated to gather, analyze, and disseminate information about the health care provided by office-based physicians. Ambulatory medical care is the predominant method of providing health care services in the United States, and occurs in a wide range of settings.

Ambulatory medical care in physician offices is the largest and most widely used segment of the American health care system, consuming approximately 27 percent of health care spending in 2003 (1,2). Physician offices comprise about four-fifths of all ambulatory medical care delivered. Physician consultation services include everything from primary care to highly specialized surgical and medical care. This report describes care delivered in the offices of nonfederally employed physicians. It includes visits not only to private practices but other settings such as freestanding clinics—including urgent centers, public health clinics, family

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planning clinics, mental health centers, and faculty practice plans. It does not include visits to hospital emergency or outpatient departments; freestanding ambulatory surgery centers; Department of Veterans Affairs medical offices; or industrial, occupational, or institutional clinics. Many of the estimates in this report are provided separately by physician specialty, as recent research has demonstrated that certain physician practice characteristics such as volume, ownership, revenue, and practice patterns can be significantly influenced by physician specialty (3,4).

NAMCS is part of the ambulatory component of the National Health Care Survey, a family of surveys that measures health care utilization across various types of providers. More information about the National Health Care Survey can be found at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) website: www.cdc.gov/nchs/namcs.htm.

The emphasis for the 2005 survey year was chronic conditions. Additions to the routine encounter data that related to chronic conditions included:

- A chronic disease checklist, including conditions affecting the respiratory, cardiovascular, renal, and endocrine systems; arthritis; cancer; depression; obesity; and osteoporosis.
- Ascertainment of patient enrollment in a disease management program for specified chronic conditions.
- Measurements for height and weight.
- Additional diagnostic and screening service items.

Other additions included:

- Gestation week of pregnancy.
- Health education and nonmedication treatment items, such as injury prevention, complementary and alternative medicine (CAM), durable medical equipment (DME), home health care, and hospice care.
- New or continued status for each medication.
- Ability to check more than one type of expected source of payment.

Other *Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* reports have highlighted visits to hospital outpatient departments (OPDs) (5) and emergency departments (EDs) (6). Detailed reports on physician-level estimates in the United States (3); medication use at ambulatory care visits (7); training for terrorism-related conditions in hospitals (8); and staffing, capacity, and ambulance diversion in emergency departments have also been published (9). NAMCS data have also been used in articles examining important topics of interest in public health and health services research (10–19).

Additional information about physician office utilization is available from the NCHS Ambulatory Health Care website: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/namcs.htm>. Individual-year reports and public-use data files are available for download from the website. Data from the 2005 NAMCS will also be available on CD-ROM. These and other products can be obtained from the NCHS Office of Information Services, Information Dissemination Staff at 1-800-232-4363 or the Ambulatory Care Statistics Branch at 301-458-4600 or by e-mail at NCHSquery@cdc.gov.

Highlights

Physician office utilization

- In 2005, an estimated 963.6 million visits were made to office-based physicians, an average of about 331.0 visits for every 100 persons ([Table 1](#)).
- About one-quarter of all visits were to general and family practice physicians, with an additional 37.5 percent of visits to physicians specializing in internal medicine, pediatrics, or obstetrics and gynecology ([Figure 1](#)).
- Visits are also presented by specialty type, a grouping of specialties and subspecialties split into three major groups: primary care, surgical specialties, and medical specialties (see “Physician specialty groups” in “Methods”). In 2005, 59.5 percent of office visits were made to primary care specialists, 20.8 percent to surgical specialists, and the remaining 19.7 percent to medical specialists ([Table 1](#)).
- About 81 percent of office-based physicians were located in metropolitan statistical areas (20), and they provided 87.1 percent of annual physician office encounters ([Table 1](#)).

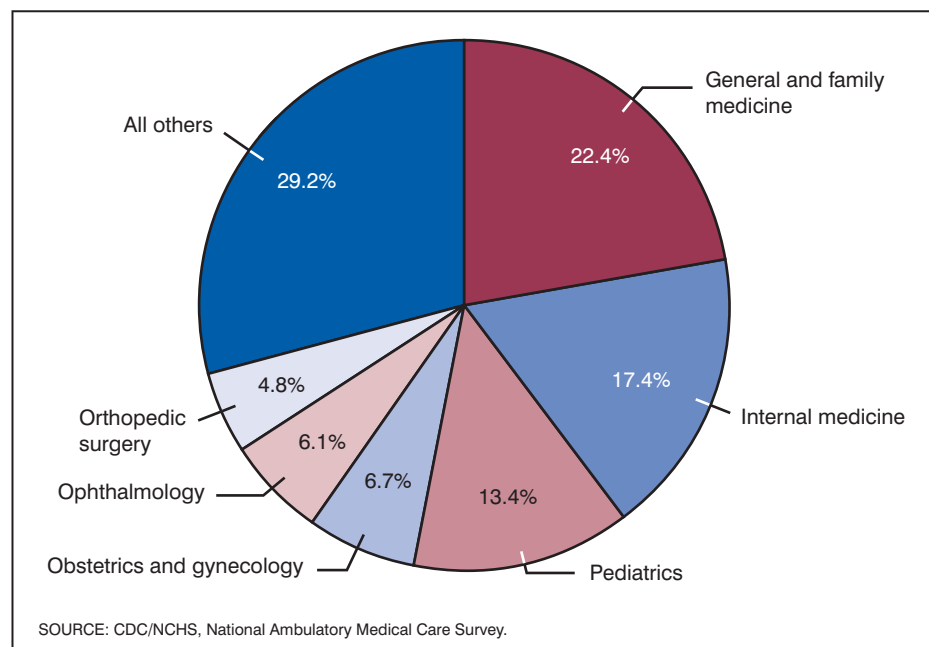


Figure 1. Percent distribution of office visits by physician specialty: United States, 2005

Physician practice characteristics

- Overall, 87.4 percent of the visits were to practices that were either owned by a physician or a group of physicians. In contrast, a smaller proportion of visits, 75.7 percent, were made to sampled physicians who owned the practice. About one-half of the office visits (48.8 percent) were made to physicians who were part of a group practice having three or more physicians (Table 2).
- One-fifth, or 22.4 percent, of visits occurred in multispecialty practices, and 38.4 percent were to single-specialty practices. Solo practitioners accounted for the remaining 39.3 percent of the office visits (Table 2).
- In one-quarter of office visits, patient information was documented using electronic medical records, while for 83.9 percent of the visits, claims were submitted electronically.

Patient characteristics

- The visit rate to physician offices was highest for infants under 1 year of age and the elderly 75 years and over (781.6 and 767.7 visits per 100 persons, respectively). The visit rate declined from infancy to young

adulthood (15–24 years of age), then rose again as age increased (Table 3).

- In 1995, the majority of visits were made by patients 25–44 years of age compared with 2005, when visits by patients 45–64 years of age were most prominent. This pattern represents a utilization shift as the baby boom generation reached the 45–64 age group in 2005 (Figure 2).
- Private insurance was the most frequently recorded expected source of payment, accounting for 63.1 percent of visits. Individually, Medicare and Medicaid/State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) accounted for 24.0 percent and 11.3 percent of visits, respectively; however, visits made by patients with Medicare and Medicaid represented 2.0 percent of all visits (Table 4). Visits by patients categorized as self-pay, no charge, or charity, an approximation of uninsured, constituted 4.5 percent of all office visits.

Continuity of care

- In 50.4 percent of physician office visits, the providers indicated that they were the patient's primary care physician or provider (PCP); 45.5 percent were to a provider other than the patient's PCP, and at

4.2 percent of visits it was unknown if the provider was the PCP (Table 5).

- Of the visits to a provider other than the patient's PCP, about one-third (31.0 percent) were referrals (calculated from Table 5). Visits by new patients were more likely to be referrals than visits made by established patients (43.4 percent versus 9.8 percent).
- Among visits to non-PCPs, the specialties with visits most frequently referred by other physicians were general surgery (53.8 percent), neurology (49.3 percent), and otolaryngology (38.8 percent). Approximately one-half of visits to obstetricians and gynecologists, ophthalmologists, dermatologists, psychiatrists, and urologists were self-referrals (Table 6).
- Established patients accounted for 87.3 percent of office visits. Four-fifths of office visits (81.6 percent) were made by established patients who had at least one previous visit in the last 12 months (calculated from table) and 23.6 percent had six or more visits in the previous 12 months (Table 7). New patients accounted for 12.7 percent of visits, representing a 9% decrease since 1995 (14.0 percent).
- Primary care specialists (90.7 percent) were more likely to see established

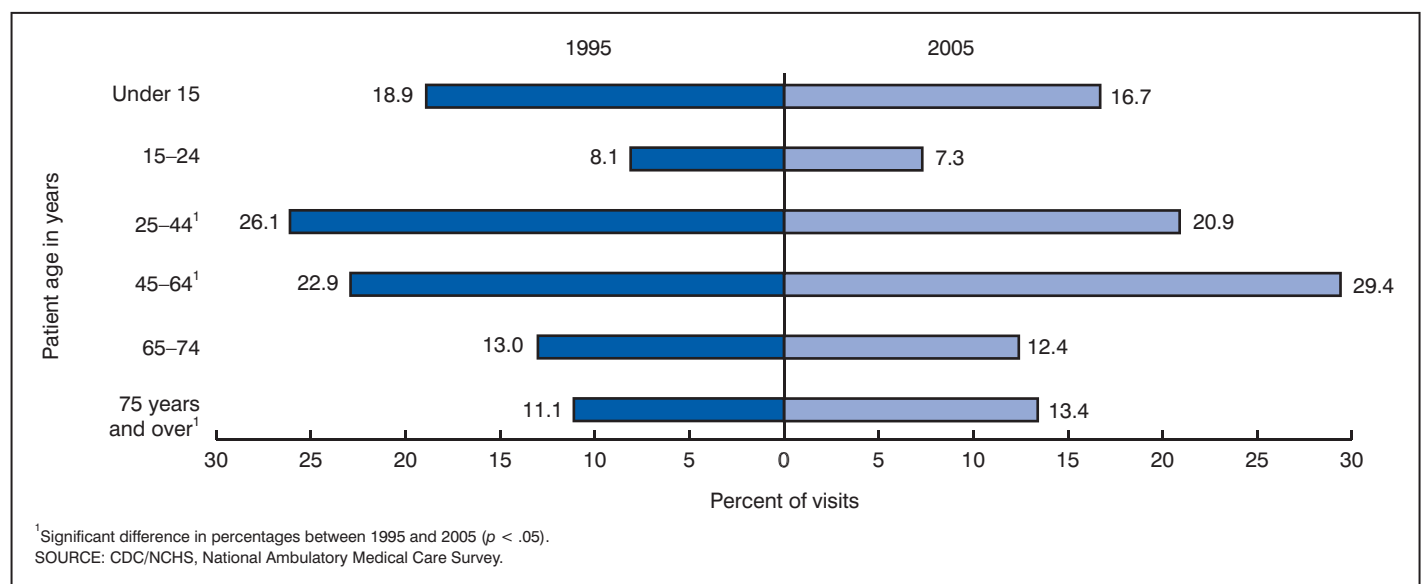


Figure 2. Percent distribution of office visits by patient age, according to year: United States, 1995 and 2005

patients compared with medical (85.1 percent) and surgical (79.9 percent) specialties (Table 7).

Conditions seen

- In 2005, symptom complaints accounted for approximately one-half of all office visits. Some of the more prominent symptoms included respiratory (9.9 percent), musculoskeletal (9.9 percent), and eyes and ears (5.0 percent) (Table 8).
- General medical examination (7.4 percent) was the most frequently mentioned specific reason for visit and was more likely to be made by males (8.8 versus 6.4 percent). Cough (3.4 percent) was the most frequently mentioned reason regarding an illness or injury (Table 9).
- Chronic conditions, including routine follow-up and flare-up problems, accounted for 39.5 percent of visits (Table 10). New problems, including infectious diseases and newly diagnosed chronic conditions, accounted for 33.1 percent of visits. The percentage of visits for new problems declined with patient age, whereas the percentage of visits for both types of chronic conditions (for example, routine and flare-up) increased with patient age.
- Approximately 18.1 percent of all visits were for preventive care (Table 10). The female visit rate for preventive care (74.4 visits per 100 persons) was significantly higher than the rate for males (44.8 visits per 100 persons) (Table 11). The preventive care visit rate among infants under 1 year of age (421.4 visits per 100 persons) exceeded that of all other age groups. Persons with visits categorized as self-pay, no charge, or charity, an approximation of uninsured, had a significantly lower preventive care visit rate (14.6 visits per 100 persons) compared with persons with private or public health insurance, possibly placing them at a disadvantage for disease prevention and early diagnosis.
- The physician's primary diagnosis for 18.6 percent of visits involved the supplementary classification used for

preventive and follow up care (for example, general medical examination, routine prenatal examination, and health supervision of an infant or child) (Table 12).

- The most frequent illness diagnoses for office visits included essential hypertension, acute upper respiratory infections (excluding pharyngitis), arthropathies and related disorders, malignant neoplasms, diabetes mellitus, and spinal disorders (Table 13). Since 1995, hypertension has been ranked either first or second as the primary illness diagnosis by physicians at office visits.
- The leading diagnoses by age were routine infant or child health check for infants (under 1 year), children (1–12 years of age), and adolescents through young adults (13–21 years of age); and essential hypertension for middle-aged persons (50–64 years) and seniors (65 years of age and over) (Table 14).
- Although normal pregnancy leads the primary diagnosis list among adults 22–49 years of age, the leading diagnosis for males in this age group was essential hypertension (Table 14).
- There were an estimated 89.4 million injury- or poisoning-related office visits including adverse effects of medical treatment in 2005, representing 9.3 percent of all visits and yielding a rate of 30.7 visits per 100 persons (Table 15). The injury- or poisoning-related visit rate significantly increased with patient age. The rate for patients 75 years and over (50.7 per 100 persons) was more than double that for age groups under 25 years of age.
- Adverse effects of medical care, including surgical complications and adverse drug reactions, were responsible for 8.3 million visits (9.2 percent of injury visits) (Table 16).

Chronic conditions

- In 2005, 52.7 percent of office visits were made by patients with one or more chronic conditions (Table 17). Hypertension was the most frequent condition (22.8 percent), followed by

arthritis (14.3 percent), hyperlipidemia (13.5 percent), and diabetes (9.8 percent).

- Since 1995, the percentage of visits made by adults 18 years and over with hypertension indicated on the medical record increased by 41% (Figure 3). During the same time period, visits by adults with chronic renal failure, depression, or diabetes increased by 114%, 42%, and 53%, respectively. Since 1995, the percentage of visits by patients with arthritis or obesity has not changed significantly. An 18% decrease in visits was observed for patients suffering from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Services ordered or provided

- Diagnostic or screening services were ordered or provided at 87.1 percent of visits. The most frequently occurring examination was related to skin conditions (12.6 percent) (Table 18). Visits by females were more likely to have a depression screening ordered or provided. Imaging was ordered or provided at 13.5 percent of visits. Females were more likely to have imaging ordered or provided compared with visits by males, a difference due mostly to mammography and ultrasound.
- The patient's blood pressure (BP) was measured at 59.3 percent of visits. Among visits with a BP taken, measures were in the moderately high range (140–159 mmHg systolic, or 90–99 mm Hg diastolic) and the severely high range (160 mmHg or greater systolic, or 100 mmHg or greater diastolic) in 20.3 and 7.4 percent of visits. Moderate to severe BP elevations were seen more frequently in visits by patients aged 45 years or older compared with younger patients (Table 19). Blood pressure classification was based on the Seventh Report of the Joint National Committee on prevention, detection, evaluation, and treatment of high blood pressure (21).
- Health education was ordered or provided at 38.4 percent of visits (Table 20). As in 1995, the most

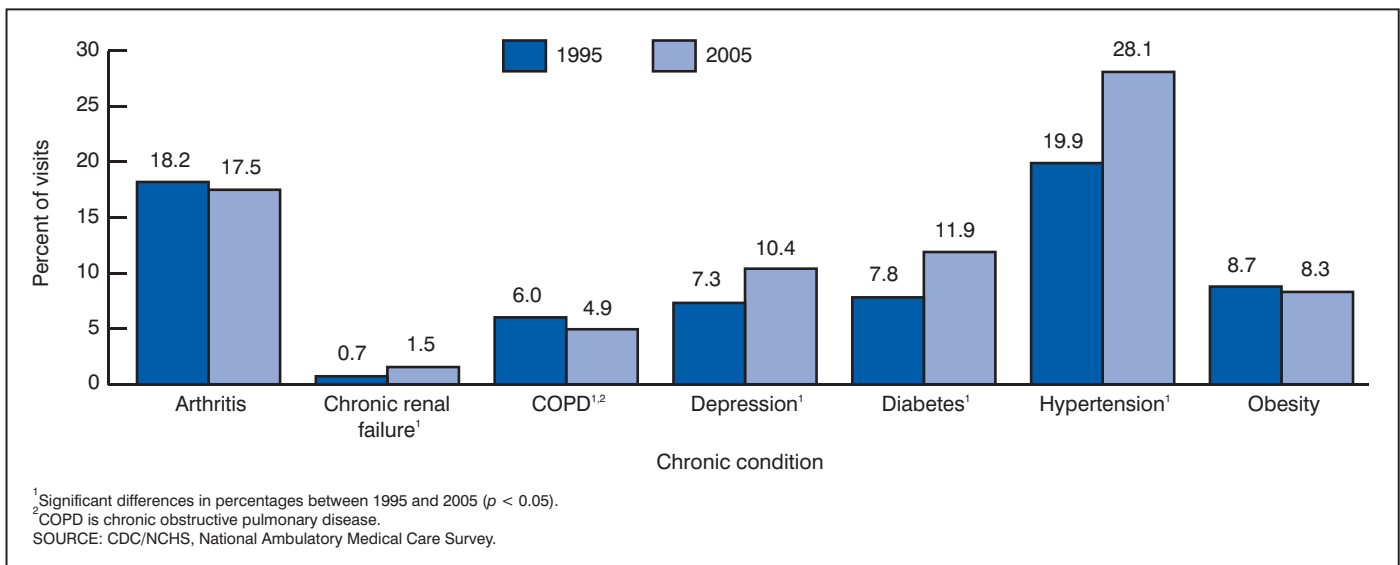


Figure 3. Percentage of office visits by adults 18 years and over with selected chronic conditions: United States, 1995 and 2005

frequent counseling or education provided at office visits related to diet or nutrition (14.8 percent) and exercise (10.9 percent). Injury prevention counseling was more likely to be given at visits made by males (5.3 percent) compared with females (3.6 percent), while all other gender comparisons for health education visits were equivalent.

- Nonmedication treatment was ordered or provided at 17.7 percent of visits (Table 21). Physical therapy and excision of tissue were both mentioned at 2.4 percent of visits, followed by psychotherapy (2.3 percent) and wound care (2.1 percent).
- Durable medical equipment, home health care, and speech or occupational therapy were ordered or provided at 7.3, 2.5, and 1.9 million visits, respectively (Table 21).
- An estimated 65.9 million surgical procedures were ordered or provided during office visits (Table 22). At least one surgical procedure was ordered or performed at 6.2 percent of office visits. The two most common procedures were related to integumentary (35.5 percent of procedures) and digestive systems (21.7 percent of procedures).

Medications

- Medications were provided, prescribed, or continued (referred to

as drug mentions) at 679.2 million office visits, accounting for 70.5 percent of all office visits (Table 23). At 40.2 percent of all visits, 2–7 drugs were recorded, while at 5.6 percent of visits, eight or more drug mentions were recorded.

- During 2005, there were about 2.0 billion drugs mentioned, resulting in an overall drug mention rate of 210.7 mentions per 100 visits (Table 24). The percent of visits with at least one drug mention ranged from 90.1 percent for psychiatrists to 40.8 percent for general surgeons.
- Drug mentions are displayed by therapeutic class in Table 25. Antidepressants were the leading drug subclass indicated in 5.3 percent of all drug mentions, followed closely by antihypertensive agents (5.2 percent), hyperlipidemia drugs (5.0 percent), antiarthritics (4.2 percent), and antiasthmatics or bronchodilators (4.1 percent).
- Aspirin was the most frequently mentioned generic equivalent used in drugs ordered or supplied at office visits, occurring in 2.6 percent of drug mentions (Table 26). This was followed by atorvastatin calcium, levothyroxine, metoprolol, and albuterol.
- For a majority of the 20 most frequently occurring generic equivalents, the patient was instructed to continue taking the drug; however, amoxicillin was more likely to be

new (85.4 percent), while ibuprofen and acetaminophen were just as likely to be associated with a new or continued drug (Table 26).

- Overall, drugs were more likely to be continued rather than new (69.8 versus 25.6 percent) (Table 26). Figure 4 shows that as patient age increased, drugs were more likely to be continued.

Providers seen, disposition, and duration

- Overall, 96.2 percent of visits were attended by a physician (Table 27). Nurses (registered and licensed practical nurses) were seen at 28.0 percent of office visits. Mid-level providers, such as physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and midwives, were seen at 6.1 percent of office visits.
- At about two-thirds of visits (64.7 percent), patients were told to return to the office by appointment (Table 28). “Return if needed” and “no follow up planned” were indicated at 27.5 and 6.4 percent of visits, respectively. Patients were referred to other physicians at 6.7 percent of visits.
- In 2005, 89.6 percent of office visits with face-to-face contact between the physician and patient had a duration of 6–30 minutes (Table 29). At 36.7 million visits, or 3.8 percent, there was no face-to-face contact between the physician and patient.

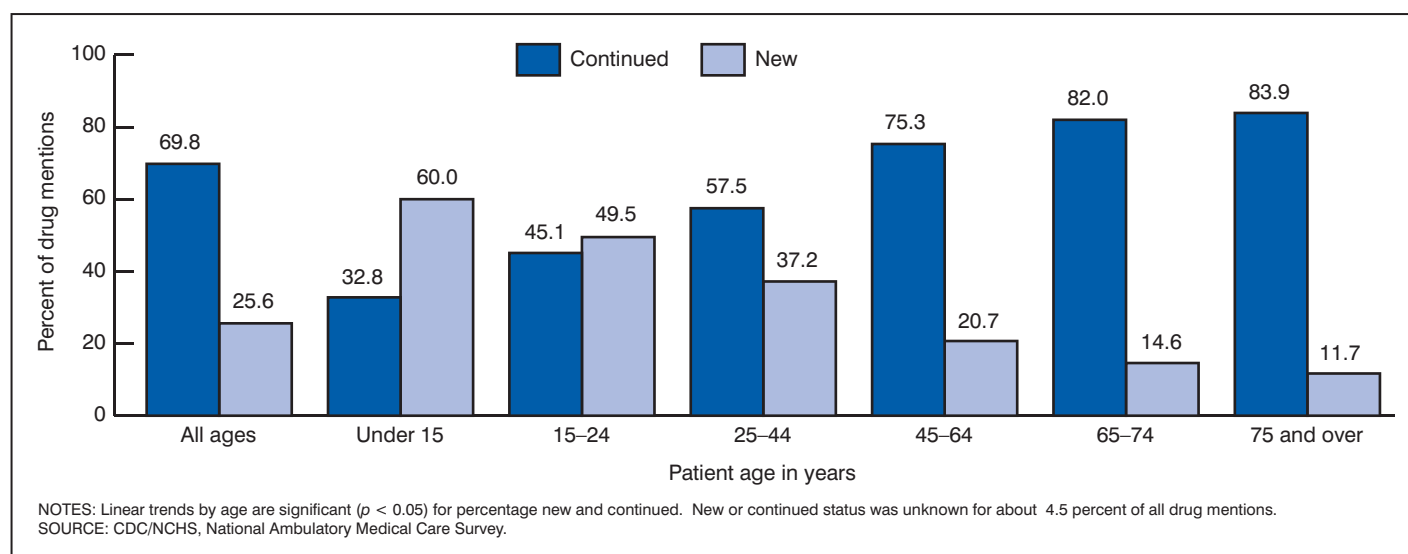


Figure 4. Percentage of drugs mentioned at office visits that were new or continued, by patient age: United States, 2005

- Overall, the mean time spent with a physician was 19.7 minutes (Table 30). The visit duration for psychiatrists had the largest variability, a difference of 29.9 minutes between the third and first quartiles.
- Although the overall mean time spent with a physician, excluding psychiatrists, has not changed significantly since 1995, there have been variations in certain blocks of time. Specifically, visits lasting 6–10 minutes decreased by 28%, while

visits lasting 16–30 minutes increased by 20% (Figure 5).

Methods

Data source

The data presented in this report are from the 2005 NAMCS, a national probability sample survey of nonfederal office-based physicians conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Health Care Statistics. The survey was conducted

from December 27, 2004, through December 25, 2005. The NAMCS data collection is authorized under Section 306 of the Public Health Service Act (Title 42 U.S. Code), 242k. Participation is voluntary. In April 2003, the Privacy Rule of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) was implemented to establish minimum Federal standards for safeguarding the privacy of individually identifiable health information.

Data collected in the NAMCS are consistent with the Privacy Rule of the

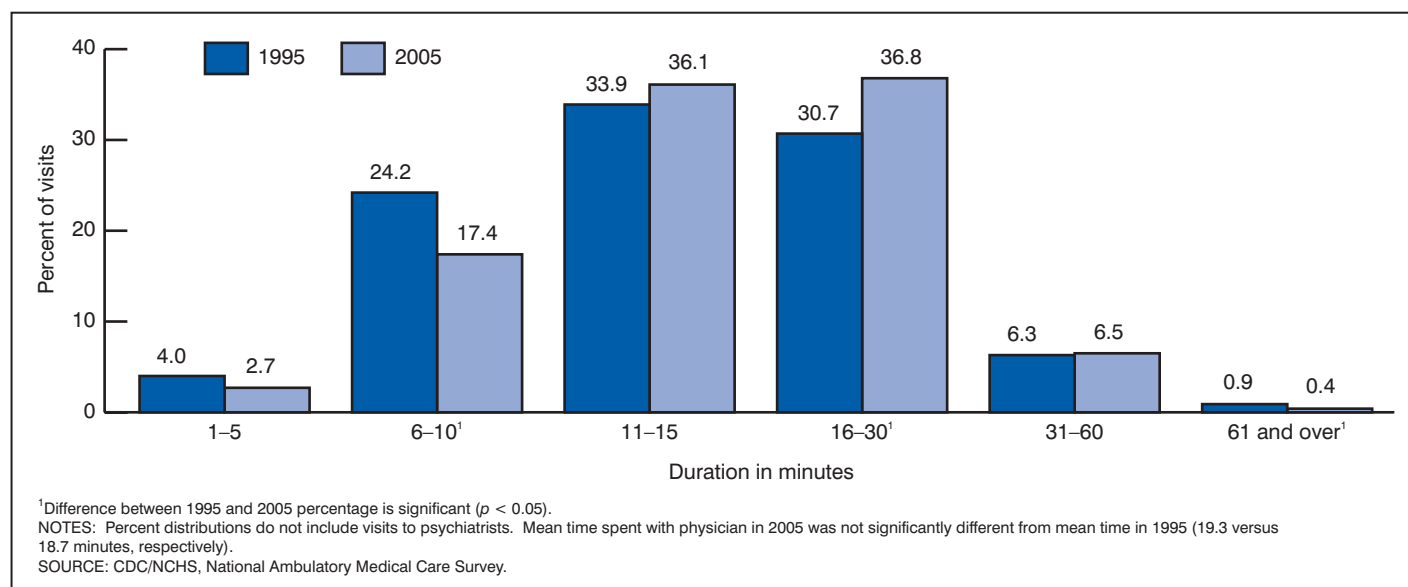


Figure 5. Percent distribution of office visits where a physician was seen by duration of visit, according to year: United States, 1995 and 2005

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). No personally identifying information, such as patient's name, address, or Social Security number, is collected in the NAMCS. All information collected is held in the strictest confidence according to law [Section 308(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42, U.S. Code, 242m (d))] and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (Title 5 of PL 107–347). Approval for the NAMCS protocol was renewed by the NCHS Research Ethics Review Board in February 2005. Waivers of the requirements to obtain informed consent of patients and patient authorization for release of patient medical record data by health care providers were granted.

The target universe of NAMCS includes visits made in the United States to the offices of nonfederally employed physicians, excluding those in the specialties of anesthesiology, radiology, and pathology, who were classified by the American Medical Association (AMA) and the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) as “office-based patient care.” Visits to private, nonhospital-based clinics and health maintenance organizations (HMOs) were within the scope of the survey, but those that occurred in federally operated facilities and hospital-based outpatient departments were not. Telephone contacts and visits made outside the physician's office were also excluded.

The NAMCS utilizes a multistage probability sample design involving samples of 112 geographic primary sampling units (PSUs), physician practices within PSUs, and patient visits within physician practices. The PSUs are counties, groups of counties, county equivalents (such as parishes or independent cities), or towns and townships for some PSUs in New England. A sample of physicians was selected from the master files of AMA and AOA; 1,936 were in scope (eligible to participate in the survey). Of these, 1,281 physicians participated in NAMCS for an unweighted response rate of 66 percent. Sample physicians were asked to complete Patient Record forms (see “Technical Notes”) for a systematic random sample of

approximately 30 office visits occurring during a randomly assigned 1-week reporting period. The number of Patient Record forms completed was 25,665. Some physicians did not provide the expected number of visit records, thereby reducing the unweighted total visit response rate to 61.5 percent.

The U.S. Census Bureau, acting as the data collection agent for the survey, provided training to field representatives (FRs) throughout the Nation. FRs oversaw data collection at the physician's office. They contacted physicians for induction into the survey after an advance letter was mailed by NCHS notifying the physicians of their selection in the survey. In many cases, physicians or their staff completed the information requested on the Patient Record forms. However, in 51.9 percent of the weighted visits, FRs abstracted the data from medical records or computer printouts, either alone or with the doctor or office staff.

Data processing and medical coding were performed by Constella Group Inc., Durham, North Carolina. As part of the quality assurance procedure, a 10-percent quality control sample of survey records was independently keyed and coded. Coding error rates ranged between 0.3 and 4.5 percent for various survey items.

Medical data collected in the survey were coded as follows:

- Patient's reason for visit—The patient's main complaint, symptom, or reason for visiting the physician's office was coded according to A *Reason for Visit Classification for Ambulatory Care* (RVC) (22). Up to three reasons could be coded per visit.
- Physician's diagnosis—Physicians or their staff were asked to record the primary diagnosis or problem associated with the patient's most important reason for the current visit and any other significant current diagnoses. Up to three diagnoses were coded according to the *International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision Clinical Modification* (ICD–9–CM) (23).
- Injury, poisoning, adverse effect of medical treatment—Although there is

a separate item on the Patient Record form to indicate whether the visit was for an injury, poisoning, or adverse effect of medical treatment, sometimes an injury reason for visit or an injury diagnosis is recorded without the injury item being checked. Therefore, the visit is counted as an injury visit if the injury item is marked or if any of the three reasons for visit were in the injury module or any of the three diagnoses were in the injury or poisoning chapter of the ICD–9–CM (24).

- Medications—Physicians or their staff were instructed to record all new or continued medications ordered, supplied, or administered at the visit. This included prescription and nonprescription preparations, immunizations, desensitizing agents, and anesthetics. In this survey, recorded medications are referred to as drug mentions and are coded according to a classification system developed at NCHS (25). As used in the NAMCS, the term “drug” is interchangeable with the term “medication.” The term “prescribing” is used broadly to mean ordering or providing any medication, whether prescription or over-the-counter. Visits with one or more drug mentions are termed “drug visits” in NAMCS. Therapeutic classification of drugs is based on the 4-digit therapeutic categories used in the *National Drug Code Directory*, 1995 edition (26). Drugs may have more than one therapeutic application and, in NAMCS, up to three therapeutic drug classes are included for each drug. For the first time since 1993–94, providers in 2005 were asked to indicate whether medications were new or continued.

Physician specialty groups

This report classifies specific physician specialties into two general categorical schemes: physician specialty and type of specialty. The NAMCS survey design groups physicians into 15 strata, or specialty groups, for sampling purposes. One stratum, doctors of osteopathy, was based on information from the AOA. The “physician

specialty” classification includes the same strata as used for sampling purposes with the exception of the doctors of osteopathy stratum, which is combined with doctors of medicine in the following 14 categories: general and family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, general surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, orthopedic surgery, cardiovascular diseases, dermatology, urology, psychiatry, neurology, ophthalmology, otolaryngology, and a residual category of other specialties. The “physician specialty” classification is created using updated information from the AMA, as well as information provided by sampled physicians. Specific physician specialties in each of

the 14 categories are defined in [text box A](#).

In this classification, a pediatric cardiothoracic physician, for example, is grouped with other pediatricians. On the other hand, the “specialty type” classification divides AMA specialties into three major categories: primary care, surgical specialties, and medical specialties and puts more emphasis on specialization type. For example, pediatric cardiothoracic physician are classified as a surgical specialty in this classification. The specific physician specialties included in each of the three specialty types are provided in [text box B](#).

It should be noted that “primary care specialist” as defined in the textbox

differs from “primary care physician or provider (PCP),” which is reported by the survey respondent based on the question “Are you the patient’s primary care physician?” (see “Technical Notes”). A PCP coordinates the comprehensive health care of the patient and serves as the entry point for all of the patient’s health care needs. PCPs are advocates for the patient in coordinating the use of the entire health care system to benefit the patient (27). Typically, PCP visits include physicians in general and family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, or obstetrics and gynecology. In the NAMCS, a checkbox defines a PCP visit; therefore, these visits may also include specialist physicians or nonphysicians, such as physician assistants and nurse practitioners.

Text box A.

| Physician specialty | Specific physician specialty |
|---------------------------|--|
| General practice | Family medicine, family practice (geriatric medicine), sports medicine (family practice), general practice. |
| Internal medicine | Internal medicine. |
| Pediatrics | Adolescent medicine, critical care pediatrics, developmental-behavioral pediatrics, internal medicine/pediatrics, neurodevelopmental disabilities (pediatrics), neurodevelopmental disabilities (psychiatry & neurology), neonatal-perinatal medicine, pediatrics, pediatric allergy, pediatric cardiology, pediatric endocrinology, pediatric infectious diseases, pediatric pulmonology, medical toxicology, pediatric emergency medicine, pediatric gastroenterology, pediatric hematology/oncology, pediatric nephrology, pediatric rheumatology, sports medicine (pediatrics). |
| General surgery | General surgery. |
| Obstetrics and gynecology | Gynecological oncology, gynecology, maternal & fetal medicine, obstetrics & gynecology, obstetrics, critical care medicine (obstetrics and gynecology), reproductive endocrinology. |
| Orthopedic surgery | Adult reconstructive orthopedics, foot and ankle orthopedics, musculoskeletal oncology, pediatric orthopedics, orthopedic surgery, sports medicine (orthopedic surgery), orthopedic surgery of the spine, orthopedic trauma. |
| Cardiovascular diseases | Cardiovascular diseases. |
| Dermatology | Dermatology. |
| Urology | Urology, pediatric urology. |
| Psychiatry | Addiction psychiatry, child psychiatry, neuropsychiatry, psychiatry, forensic psychiatry, psychoanalysis, geriatric psychiatry. |
| Neurology | Child neurology, clinical neurophysiology, endovascular surgical neuroradiology, neurology (diagnostic radiology), vascular neurology. |
| Ophthalmology | Ophthalmology, pediatric ophthalmology. |
| Otolaryngology | Otology-neurotology, otolaryngology, pediatric otolaryngology. |
| Other | Allergy, addiction medicine, allergy and immunology, allergy & immunology/diagnostic lab. immunology, aerospace medicine, adolescent medicine (internal medicine), abdominal surgery, clinical biochemical genetics, clinical cytogenetics, critical care medicine, critical care surgery, craniofacial surgery, clinical genetics, clinical molecular genetics, colon and rectal surgery, cosmetic surgery, dermatological immunology/diagnostic lab. immunology, diabetes, dermatologic surgery, emergency medicine, endocrinology, epidemiology, sports medicine (emergency medicine), medical toxicology (emergency medicine), facial plastic surgery, gastroenterology, general preventive medicine, hematology, hepatology, head and neck surgery, hematology/oncology, hand surgery, interventional cardiology cardiac electrophysiology, infectious diseases, immunology, internal medicine/diagnostic lab. immunology, geriatric medicine (internal medicine), sports medicine (internal medicine), legal medicine, medical management, medical genetics, nephrology, neurological surgery, nuclear cardiology, pediatric surgery (neurology), nutrition, occupational medicine, oral & maxillofacial surgery, osteopathic manipulative medicine, medical oncology, clinical pharmacology, pulmonary critical care medicine, pediatric cardiothoracic surgery, pediatric surgery, pediatric emergency medicine (emergency medicine), pharmaceutical medicine, phlebology, public health/general preventive medicine, pediatric/diagnostic lab. immunology, palliative medicine, physical medicine and rehabilitation, pain medicine, sports medicine (physical medicine and rehabilitation), pediatric rehabilitation medicine, proctology, plastic surgery, plastic surgery within the head & neck, medical toxicology (preventive medicine), pulmonary diseases, rheumatology, pediatric rehabilitation medicine, spinal cord injury, sleep medicine, surgical oncology, traumatic surgery, thoracic surgery, transplant surgery, urgent care medicine, undersea medicine, vascular medicine, vascular surgery, other specialty, unspecified. |

Text box B.

| Physician specialty type | Specific physician specialty |
|--------------------------|---|
| Primary care specialties | Family practice, geriatric medicine (family practice), sports medicine (family practice), general practice, internal medicine, internal medicine (pediatrics), adolescent medicine (internal medicine), geriatric medicine (internal medicine), adolescent medicine, pediatrics, pediatric sports medicine, gynecology, maternal and fetal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, obstetrics. |
| Surgical specialties | General surgery, gynecological oncology, critical care medicine (obstetrics and gynecology), hand surgery (orthopedic surgery), adult reconstructive orthopedics, foot and ankle orthopedics, musculoskeletal oncology, pediatric orthopedics, orthopedic surgery, sports medicine (orthopedic surgery), orthopedic surgery of the spine, orthopedic trauma, urology, pediatric urology, ophthalmology, pediatric ophthalmology, otology and neurotology, otology, otolaryngology, pediatric otolaryngology, abdominal surgery, cardiovascular surgery, colon and rectal surgery, cardiothoracic surgery, craniofacial surgery, critical care surgery, dermatologic surgery, facial plastic surgery, head and neck surgery, hand surgery (plastic surgery), hand surgery (surgery), critical care (neurological surgery), neurological surgery, pediatric surgery (neurology), pediatric cardiothoracic surgery, pediatric surgery, plastic surgery, surgical oncology, thoracic surgery, transplant surgery, traumatic surgery, vascular surgery. |
| Medical specialties | Critical care pediatrics, developmental-behavioral pediatrics, neurodevelopmental disabilities (pediatrics), neurodevelopmental disabilities (psychiatry & neurology), neonatal-perinatal medicine, pediatric allergy, pediatric cardiology, pediatric endocrinology, pediatric infectious diseases, pediatric pulmonology medical toxicology (pediatrics), pediatric emergency medicine, pediatric gastroenterology, pediatric hematology and oncology, pediatric nephrology, pediatric rehabilitation medicine, pediatric rheumatology, reproductive endocrinology, cardiovascular diseases, dermatology, psychiatry, addiction psychiatry, child psychiatry, forensic psychiatry, psychoanalysis, geriatric psychiatry, neurology, child neurology, clinical neurophysiology, neurology (diagnostic radiology), addiction medicine, aerospace medicine, allergy, allergy and immunology and diagnostic laboratory immunology, cardiac electrophysiology, clinical genetics, clinical biochemical genetics, clinical molecular genetics, critical care medicine, dermatological immunology/ diagnostic laboratory immunology, diabetes, emergency medicine, epidemiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, general preventive medicine, hematology, hematology and oncology, infectious diseases, internal medicine and diagnostic laboratory immunology, interventional cardiology, legal medicine, medical management, medical genetics, medical toxicology (emergency medicine), medical oncology, nephrology, neurodevelopmental disabilities (pediatrics), nuclear cardiology, nutrition, occupational medicine, osteopathic manipulative medicine, pain medicine, palliative medicine, pediatric emergency medicine (emergency medicine), pediatric and diagnostic laboratory immunology, pharmaceutical medicine, phlebology, public health, public health and general preventive medicine, clinical pharmacology, physical medicine and rehabilitation, pulmonary critical care medicine, pulmonary diseases, sports medicine (emergency medicine), sports medicine (physical medicine and rehabilitation), rheumatology, spinal cord injury, sleep medicine, undersea medicine, vascular medicine, vascular neurology. |

Estimation

Because of the complex multistage design of NAMCS, a sample weight is computed for each sample visit that takes all stages of design into account. The survey data are inflated or weighted to produce unbiased national annual estimates. The visit weight includes four basic components: inflation by reciprocals of selection probabilities; adjustment for nonresponse; population ratio adjustments; and weight smoothing. For the first time in 2004, changes were made to the nonresponse adjustment factor to account for the seasonality of the reporting period.

Starting with 2003 data, the nonresponse adjustment additionally accounts for nonresponse from physicians by weekly visit volume, and for the variability in number of weeks participating physicians saw patients during the year (28). In previous years the nonresponse adjustment accounted only for nonresponse by physician specialty, geographic region, and metropolitan statistical area status.

The standard error is primarily a measure of the sampling variability that occurs by chance because only a sample rather than an entire universe is surveyed. Estimates of the sampling

variability for this report were calculated using Taylor approximations in SUDAAN, which take into account the complex sample design of NAMCS. A description of the software and its approach has been published (29). The standard errors of statistics presented in this report are included in each of the tables.

Tests of significance

In this report, the determination of statistical inference is based on the two-tailed *t*-test. The Bonferroni inequality was used to establish the critical value for statistically significant differences (0.05 level of significance) based on the number of possible comparisons within a particular variable (or combination of variables) of interest. A weighted least-squares regression analysis was used to determine the significance of trends at the 0.05 level.

Nonsampling errors

As in any survey, results are subject to both sampling and nonsampling errors. Nonsampling errors include reporting and processing errors as well as biases due to nonresponse and incomplete response. The magnitude of the nonsampling errors cannot be

computed. However, these errors were kept to a minimum by procedures built into the operation of the survey. To eliminate ambiguities and to encourage uniform reporting, attention was given to the phrasing of items, terms, and definitions. Also, pretesting of most data items and survey procedures was performed. Quality control procedures and consistency and edit checks reduced errors in data coding and processing.

The weighted response rate for the 2005 NAMCS was 62.5 percent. [Table 31](#) presents weighted characteristics of NAMCS respondents and nonrespondents, along with weighted response rates. Responding versus nonresponding distributions were similar, with the exception of higher cooperation among female physicians and pediatricians; while cooperation was less likely from male physicians and neurologists. The effect of this differential response is minimized in the visit estimates in most cases as NAMCS uses a nonresponse adjustment factor that takes annual visit volume, specialty, geographic region, and MSA into account.

Item nonresponse rates in the NAMCS are generally low (5 percent or less). However, levels of nonresponse can vary considerably in the survey.

Most nonresponse occurs when the needed information is not available in the medical record or is unknown to the person filling out the survey instrument. Nonresponse can also result when the information is available, but survey procedures are not followed and the item is left blank. In this report, the tables include a combined entry of unknown or blank to display missing data. For items where combined item nonresponse is between 30 and 50 percent, percent distributions are not discussed in the text. However, the information is shown in the tables. These data should be interpreted with caution. If nonresponse is random, the observed distribution for the reported item (i.e., excluding cases for which the information is unknown) would be close to the true distribution. However, if nonresponse is not random, the observed distribution could vary significantly from the actual distribution. Researchers need to decide how best to treat items with high levels of missing responses. For items with nonresponse greater than 50 percent, data are not presented.

Weighted item nonresponse rates (i.e., if the item was left blank or the “unknown” box was marked) were 5.0 percent or less for data items with the following exceptions: was visit for injury/poisoning/adverse effect of medical treatment (7.7 percent), and status of patient enrollment in a disease management program (24.0 percent).

For some items, missing values were imputed by randomly assigning a value from a Patient Record form with similar characteristics and were based on physician specialty, geographic region, and 3-digit ICD-9-CM codes for primary diagnosis. Imputations were performed for the following variables: birth year (1.9 percent), sex (1.0 percent), ethnicity (24.9 percent), race (20.8 percent), patient seen before in practice (3.1 percent), how many past visits in last 12 months (5.5 percent), and time spent with physician (13.6 percent). Blank or otherwise missing responses are noted in the data. Ethnicity was imputed by randomly assigning a value from a Patient Record form with similar characteristics based on physician specialty, state, and 3-digit ICD-9-CM codes for primary diagnosis.

Use of tables

First-listed reason for visit and diagnosis are presented in the tables. It should be noted that estimates differing in ranked order may not be significantly different from each other. For items related to diagnostic and screening services, procedures, providers seen, and disposition, physician office staff was asked to check all of the applicable categories for each item. Therefore, multiple responses could be coded for each visit.

In this report, estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; only an asterisk (*) appears in the tables. The relative standard error (RSE) of an estimate is obtained by dividing the standard error by the estimate itself. The result is then expressed as a percentage of the estimate. Estimates based on 30 or more cases include an asterisk (*) if the RSE of the estimate exceeds 30 percent.

In the tables, estimates of office visits have been rounded to the nearest thousand. Consequently, estimates will not always add to totals. Rates and percentages were calculated from original unrounded figures and do not necessarily agree with figures calculated from rounded data.

Estimates presented in the tables for specific race categories reflect visits where only a single race was reported. Denominators used in computing estimates of visit rates by expected source of payment were obtained from the 2005 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). Individuals reporting multiple insurance categories in the NHIS were counted in each category they reported, with the exception of Medicaid and SCHIP, which were combined into a single category.

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Table 1. Number, percent distribution, and annual rate of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by selected physician characteristics: United States, 2005

| Physician characteristics | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Number of visits per 100 persons per year ^{1,2} | Standard error of rate |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | ... | 331.0 | 13.9 |
| Physician specialty ³ | | | | | | |
| General and family practice | 215,866 | 16,229 | 22.4 | 1.5 | 74.1 | 5.6 |
| Internal medicine | 167,628 | 19,431 | 17.4 | 1.6 | 57.6 | 6.7 |
| Pediatrics | 128,986 | 11,227 | 13.4 | 1.1 | ⁴ 212.74 | 18.5 |
| Obstetrics and gynecology | 64,110 | 7,003 | 6.7 | 0.8 | ⁵ 53.85 | 5.9 |
| Ophthalmology | 59,025 | 7,466 | 6.1 | 0.7 | 20.3 | 2.6 |
| Orthopedic surgery | 45,815 | 5,680 | 4.8 | 0.6 | 15.7 | 2.0 |
| Dermatology | 32,442 | 4,910 | 3.4 | 0.5 | 11.1 | 1.7 |
| Psychiatry | 28,125 | 3,547 | 2.9 | 0.4 | 9.7 | 1.2 |
| Cardiovascular diseases | 26,939 | 3,913 | 2.8 | 0.4 | 9.3 | 1.3 |
| General surgery | 24,057 | 3,590 | 2.5 | 0.4 | 8.3 | 1.2 |
| Otolaryngology | 22,452 | 2,888 | 2.3 | 0.3 | 7.7 | 1.0 |
| Urology | 18,922 | 2,181 | 2.0 | 0.2 | 6.5 | 0.7 |
| Neurology | 13,030 | 1,677 | 1.4 | 0.2 | 4.5 | 0.6 |
| All other specialties | 116,220 | 14,857 | 12.1 | 1.4 | 39.9 | 5.1 |
| Professional identity | | | | | | |
| Doctor of medicine | 885,844 | 40,050 | 91.9 | 0.9 | 304.3 | 13.8 |
| Doctor of osteopathy | 77,774 | 8,694 | 8.1 | 0.9 | 26.7 | 3.0 |
| Specialty type ³ | | | | | | |
| Primary care | 573,169 | 30,799 | 59.5 | 1.7 | 196.9 | 10.6 |
| Surgical specialty | 200,217 | 14,169 | 20.8 | 1.3 | 68.8 | 4.9 |
| Medical specialty | 190,232 | 14,476 | 19.7 | 1.3 | 65.3 | 5.0 |
| Geographic region | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 187,205 | 14,866 | 19.4 | 1.5 | 347.8 | 27.6 |
| Midwest | 229,301 | 20,523 | 23.8 | 2.0 | 353.0 | 31.6 |
| South | 356,685 | 30,303 | 37.0 | 2.4 | 339.0 | 28.8 |
| West | 190,426 | 16,481 | 19.8 | 1.6 | 283.5 | 24.5 |
| Metropolitan status ⁶ | | | | | | |
| MSA | 839,184 | 39,906 | 87.1 | 1.9 | 341.9 | 16.3 |
| Non-MSA | 124,434 | 19,170 | 12.9 | 1.9 | 272.2 | 41.9 |

... Category not applicable.

¹Visit rates for age, sex, race, and region are based on the July 1, 2005, set of estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States as developed by the Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau.

²Population estimates of metropolitan statistical area status are based on data from the 2005 National Health Interview Survey, National Center for Health Statistics, adjusted to the U.S. Census Bureau definition of core-based statistical areas as of November 2004. See <http://www.census.gov/population/www/estimates.metrodef.html> for more about metropolitan statistical definitions.

³Physician specialty and specialty type defined in the "Physician specialty groups" section of "Methods."

⁴Number of visits (numerator) and population estimate (denominator) include children under 15 years of age.

⁵Number of visits (numerator) and population estimate (denominator) include females 15 years old and over.

⁶MSA is metropolitan statistical area.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 2. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by selected physician practice characteristics: United States, 2005

| Physician practice characteristics | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | . . . |
| Employment status | | | | |
| Owner | 728,977 | 40,700 | 75.7 | 2.2 |
| Employee | 213,904 | 20,109 | 22.2 | 2.1 |
| Contractor | 20,736 | 5,954 | 2.2 | 0.6 |
| Ownership | | | | |
| Physician or group | 841,853 | 41,220 | 87.4 | 1.5 |
| Other health care corporation | 39,146 | 8,959 | 4.1 | 0.9 |
| Other hospital | 24,909 | 6,476 | 2.6 | 0.7 |
| HMO ¹ | 24,584 | 6,833 | 2.6 | 0.7 |
| Medical or academic health center | 17,949 | 5,146 | 1.9 | 0.5 |
| Other ² | *15,175 | 5,289 | *1.6 | 0.6 |
| Practice size | | | | |
| Solo | 378,469 | 27,960 | 39.3 | 2.1 |
| Partner | 112,440 | 14,370 | 11.7 | 1.3 |
| 3–5 | 242,716 | 18,473 | 25.2 | 1.8 |
| 6–10 | 135,608 | 15,527 | 14.1 | 1.5 |
| 11 or more | 91,764 | 12,402 | 9.5 | 1.3 |
| Blank | *2,621 | 1,699 | *0.3 | 0.2 |
| Type of practice | | | | |
| Single-specialty group | 369,614 | 26,058 | 38.4 | 2.2 |
| Multispecialty group | 215,535 | 19,148 | 22.4 | 1.9 |
| Solo | 378,469 | 27,960 | 39.3 | 2.1 |
| Office type | | | | |
| Private practice | 870,399 | 41,427 | 90.3 | 1.3 |
| Clinic or urgicenter | 52,783 | 9,431 | 5.5 | 1.0 |
| Other ³ | 40,435 | 8,009 | 4.2 | 0.8 |
| Electronic medical records | | | | |
| Yes—all electronic | 113,229 | 16,943 | 11.8 | 1.7 |
| Yes—part paper and part electronic | 131,053 | 16,640 | 13.6 | 1.6 |
| No | 707,221 | 36,888 | 73.4 | 2.0 |
| Unknown or blank | *12,115 | 4,677 | *1.3 | 0.5 |
| Practice submits claims electronically | | | | |
| Yes | 808,282 | 37,292 | 83.9 | 1.8 |
| No | 118,790 | 16,701 | 12.3 | 1.6 |
| Unknown or blank | 36,545 | 8,057 | 3.8 | 0.8 |

. . . Category not applicable.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹HMO is health maintenance organization.²“Other” includes owners such as local government (state, county, or city) and charitable organizations.³“Other” includes the following office types: HMO, nonfederal government clinic, mental health center, federally qualified health center, and faculty practice plan.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 3. Number, percent distribution, and annual rate of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by patient characteristics: United States, 2005

| Patient characteristics | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Number of visits per 100 persons per year ¹ | Standard error of rate |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | ... | 331.0 | 13.9 |
| Age | | | | | | |
| Under 15 years | 160,552 | 11,524 | 16.7 | 1.1 | 264.7 | 19.0 |
| Under 1 year | 32,070 | 3,406 | 3.3 | 0.3 | 781.6 | 83.0 |
| 1–4 years | 50,400 | 4,582 | 5.2 | 0.4 | 311.2 | 28.3 |
| 5–14 years | 78,082 | 4,849 | 8.1 | 0.5 | 193.5 | 12.0 |
| 15–24 years | 70,583 | 4,028 | 7.3 | 0.4 | 172.0 | 9.8 |
| 25–44 years | 201,619 | 10,521 | 20.9 | 0.8 | 245.9 | 12.8 |
| 45–64 years | 283,180 | 13,998 | 29.4 | 0.6 | 391.4 | 19.3 |
| 65 years and over | 247,683 | 15,541 | 25.7 | 1.0 | 704.7 | 44.2 |
| 65–74 years | 119,061 | 7,460 | 12.4 | 0.5 | 647.2 | 40.6 |
| 75 years and over | 128,623 | 8,954 | 13.3 | 0.6 | 767.7 | 53.4 |
| Sex and age | | | | | | |
| Female | 560,355 | 24,487 | 58.2 | 0.6 | 376.8 | 16.5 |
| Under 15 years | 72,804 | 5,166 | 7.6 | 0.5 | 245.7 | 17.4 |
| 15–24 years | 44,654 | 2,787 | 4.6 | 0.3 | 220.0 | 13.7 |
| 25–44 years | 129,588 | 7,056 | 13.4 | 0.6 | 313.0 | 17.0 |
| 45–64 years | 166,275 | 8,738 | 17.3 | 0.4 | 446.9 | 23.5 |
| 65–74 years | 66,993 | 4,419 | 7.0 | 0.3 | 671.3 | 44.3 |
| 75 years and over | 80,042 | 5,958 | 8.3 | 0.4 | 784.6 | 58.4 |
| Male | 403,262 | 18,050 | 41.8 | 0.6 | 283.1 | 12.7 |
| Under 15 years | 87,748 | 6,819 | 9.1 | 0.6 | 282.9 | 22.0 |
| 15–24 years | 25,930 | 2,065 | 2.7 | 0.2 | 125.1 | 10.0 |
| 25–44 years | 72,031 | 4,732 | 7.5 | 0.4 | 177.5 | 11.7 |
| 45–64 years | 116,905 | 6,384 | 12.1 | 0.4 | 332.7 | 18.2 |
| 65–74 years | 52,068 | 3,600 | 5.4 | 0.3 | 618.6 | 42.8 |
| 75 years and over | 48,581 | 3,377 | 5.0 | 0.3 | 741.4 | 51.5 |
| Race and age ² | | | | | | |
| White | 832,038 | 36,280 | 86.3 | 0.9 | 355.3 | 15.5 |
| Under 15 years | 135,236 | 10,166 | 14.0 | 0.9 | 292.1 | 22.0 |
| 15–24 years | 61,148 | 3,670 | 6.3 | 0.3 | 191.7 | 11.5 |
| 25–44 years | 171,737 | 9,367 | 17.8 | 0.7 | 263.8 | 14.4 |
| 45–64 years | 247,043 | 12,658 | 25.6 | 0.6 | 410.2 | 21.0 |
| 65–74 years | 103,554 | 6,580 | 10.7 | 0.5 | 656.0 | 41.7 |
| 75 years and over | 113,320 | 8,057 | 11.8 | 0.6 | 762.5 | 54.2 |
| Black or African American | 88,930 | 7,582 | 9.2 | 0.7 | 243.4 | 20.8 |
| Under 15 years | 16,288 | 2,519 | 1.7 | 0.3 | 175.1 | 27.1 |
| 15–24 years | 6,960 | 1,007 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 115.6 | 16.7 |
| 25–44 years | 19,847 | 2,235 | 2.1 | 0.2 | 191.1 | 21.5 |
| 45–64 years | 25,669 | 2,956 | 2.7 | 0.3 | 326.1 | 37.6 |
| 65–74 years | 10,034 | 1,357 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 588.5 | 79.6 |
| 75 years and over | 10,132 | 1,283 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 806.3 | 102.1 |
| All other races ² | | | | | | |
| Asian | 33,259 | 5,374 | 3.5 | 0.5 | 263.6 | 42.6 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | *3,520 | 1,359 | *0.4 | 0.1 | *693.4 | 267.8 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 3,046 | 704 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 108.4 | 25.0 |
| Multiple races | 2,824 | 392 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 62.4 | 8.7 |
| Ethnicity ² | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 98,904 | 9,332 | 10.3 | 0.9 | 234.5 | 22.1 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 864,714 | 37,628 | 89.7 | 0.9 | 347.3 | 15.1 |

... Category not applicable.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹Visit rates for age, sex, race, and ethnicity are based on the July 1, 2005, set of estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States as developed by the Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau.²The race groups, White, Black or African American, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and multiple races, include persons of Hispanic and not Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with data year 1999, race-specific estimates have been tabulated according to 1997 Standards for Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The percentage of visit records with multiple races indicated is small and lower than what is typically found for self-reported race in household surveys.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 4. Number and percentage of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by expected sources of payment: United States, 2005

| Expected sources of payment | Number of visits in thousands ¹ | Standard error in thousands | Percent of visits | Standard error of percent |
|--|--|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | ... | ... |
| Private insurance | 608,219 | 27,808 | 63.1 | 1.2 |
| Medicare | 231,655 | 15,483 | 24.0 | 1.0 |
| Medicare and Medicaid | 19,002 | 2,854 | 2.0 | 0.3 |
| Medicaid or SCHIP ² | 108,601 | 8,545 | 11.3 | 0.7 |
| No insurance ³ | 43,435 | 4,232 | 4.5 | 0.4 |
| Self-pay | 39,172 | 3,935 | 4.1 | 0.4 |
| No charge or charity | *4,518 | 1,361 | *0.5 | 0.1 |
| Worker's compensation | 10,014 | 1,643 | 1.0 | 0.2 |
| Other | 24,122 | 3,454 | 2.5 | 0.4 |
| Unknown or blank | 16,948 | 2,259 | 1.8 | 0.2 |

... Category not applicable.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit.

²SCHIP is State Children's Health Insurance Program.

³No insurance is defined as having only self-pay, no charge, or charity as payment sources.

NOTE: More than one category could be indicated.

Table 5. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by selected visit characteristics, according to prior-visit status: United States, 2005

| Prior-visit status, primary care provider, and referral status | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | ... |
| Visit to PCP ¹ | 485,400 | 29,737 | 50.4 | 1.8 |
| Visit to non-PCP ¹ | 438,002 | 21,738 | 45.5 | 1.7 |
| Referred for this visit | 135,616 | 10,767 | 14.1 | 1.0 |
| Not referred for this visit | 235,086 | 15,238 | 24.4 | 1.3 |
| Unknown if referred | 34,830 | 4,324 | 3.7 | 0.5 |
| Unknown if PCP ¹ visit | 40,215 | 6,156 | 4.2 | 0.6 |
| Established patient | | | | |
| All visits | 841,424 | 36,855 | 87.3 | 0.6 |
| Visit to PCP ¹ | 463,044 | 28,985 | 55.0 | 1.9 |
| Visit to non-PCP ¹ | 346,613 | 17,760 | 41.2 | 1.7 |
| Referred for this visit | 82,619 | 7,925 | 9.8 | 0.9 |
| Not referred for this visit | 212,104 | 13,959 | 25.2 | 1.4 |
| Unknown if referred | 24,848 | 3,045 | 3.0 | 0.4 |
| Unknown if PCP ¹ visit | 31,766 | 5,139 | 3.8 | 0.6 |
| New patient | | | | |
| All visits | 122,193 | 7,282 | 12.7 | 0.6 |
| Visit to PCP ¹ | 22,356 | 2,286 | 18.3 | 1.8 |
| Visit to non-PCP ¹ | 91,389 | 6,478 | 74.8 | 2.0 |
| Referred for this visit | 52,997 | 4,089 | 43.4 | 2.4 |
| Not referred for this visit | 22,981 | 3,070 | 18.8 | 1.9 |
| Unknown if referred | 9,982 | 1,845 | 8.2 | 1.5 |
| Unknown if PCP ¹ visit | 8,449 | 1,397 | 6.9 | 1.1 |

... Category not applicable.

¹PCP is patient's primary care provider as indicated by a positive response to the question "Are you the patient's primary care physician/provider?"

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 6. Percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors by primary care provider and referral status, according to physician specialty: United States, 2005

| Physician specialty | Total | Visit to PCP ¹ | Visit to non-PCP ^{1,2} | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Referred by other physician | Not referred by other physician | Unknown if referred | Unknown if PCP ¹ visit |
| | | | | | | |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| All visits | 100.0 | 50.4 | 14.1 | 24.4 | 7.0 | 4.2 |
| General and family practice | 100.0 | 87.1 | 1.2 | 4.2 | 1.9 | 5.6 |
| Internal medicine | 100.0 | 83.1 | *4.1 | *3.7 | *3.2 | *5.9 |
| Pediatrics | 100.0 | 89.0 | *1.3 | 4.3 | *2.0 | *3.2 |
| Obstetrics and gynecology | 100.0 | 16.3 | 16.3 | 46.4 | 14.5 | *6.5 |
| Ophthalmology | 100.0 | *4.2 | 14.8 | 61.9 | 16.6 | 2.5 |
| Orthopedic surgery. | 100.0 | *1.1 | 30.1 | 48.5 | 17.1 | *3.2 |
| Dermatology. | 100.0 | *3.8 | 25.3 | 53.0 | 15.2 | *2.8 |
| Psychiatry | 100.0 | *9.3 | 18.3 | 53.5 | 15.5 | *3.3 |
| Cardiovascular diseases | 100.0 | 25.1 | 27.4 | 34.3 | 9.7 | *3.4 |
| General surgery | 100.0 | *10.8 | 53.8 | 27.3 | 5.4 | *2.7 |
| Otolaryngology | 100.0 | *2.5 | 38.8 | 45.8 | 10.6 | *2.3 |
| Urology | 100.0 | *2.3 | 30.2 | 53.3 | 12.6 | 1.6 |
| Neurology | 100.0 | *1.4 | 49.3 | 33.1 | *11.8 | *4.3 |
| All other specialties | 100.0 | 13.2 | 31.8 | 45.7 | 7.4 | *1.9 |
| Standard error of percent | | | | | | |
| All visits | ... | 1.8 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| General and family practice | ... | 2.1 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.5 | 1.5 |
| Internal medicine | ... | 3.8 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 2.0 |
| Pediatrics | ... | 2.2 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 0.6 | 1.4 |
| Obstetrics and gynecology | ... | 4.4 | 3.9 | 4.5 | 3.7 | 2.1 |
| Ophthalmology | ... | 3.5 | 2.7 | 4.8 | 4.0 | 0.6 |
| Orthopedic surgery. | ... | 0.8 | 3.4 | 5.5 | 4.2 | 1.1 |
| Dermatology. | ... | 2.0 | 4.3 | 5.4 | 3.6 | 1.3 |
| Psychiatry | ... | 5.3 | 5.4 | 5.9 | 3.9 | 1.2 |
| Cardiovascular diseases | ... | 5.8 | 5.6 | 6.8 | 2.8 | 1.4 |
| General surgery | ... | 4.8 | 5.7 | 4.4 | 1.3 | 1.1 |
| Otolaryngology | ... | 1.5 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 2.4 | 0.7 |
| Urology | ... | 1.5 | 3.0 | 3.9 | 2.3 | 0.4 |
| Neurology | ... | 0.5 | 6.1 | 5.3 | 3.9 | 1.5 |
| All other specialties | ... | 3.9 | 4.6 | 5.1 | 1.5 | 0.6 |

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

... Category not applicable.

¹PCP is patient's primary care provider as indicated by a positive response to question "Are you the patient's primary care physician/provider?"²Referral status only asked for visits to nonprimary care physicians or providers.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 7. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by continuity-of-care visit characteristics according to specialty type: United States, 2005

| Continuity-of-care visit characteristics | Specialty type ¹ | | | | Specialty type ¹ | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | All specialties | Primary care | Surgical specialties | Medical specialties | All specialties | Primary care | Surgical specialties | Medical specialties |
| | Number of visits in thousands | | | | Standard error in thousands | | | |
| All visits | 963,617 | 573,169 | 200,217 | 190,232 | 40,611 | 30,799 | 14,169 | 14,476 |
| Prior-visit status and number of visits in last 12 months | | | | | | | | |
| Established patient. | 841,424 | 519,718 | 159,887 | 161,819 | 36,855 | 28,457 | 11,684 | 12,617 |
| None | 55,122 | 29,404 | 15,949 | 9,768 | 3,566 | 2,560 | 1,676 | 1,791 |
| 1–2 visits | 283,537 | 161,363 | 65,878 | 56,296 | 15,225 | 10,389 | 5,578 | 4,577 |
| 3–5 visits | 275,063 | 176,109 | 49,094 | 49,860 | 13,875 | 11,038 | 4,108 | 4,297 |
| 6 or more visits | 227,702 | 152,842 | 28,966 | 45,894 | 12,916 | 11,188 | 3,277 | 5,610 |
| New patient | 122,193 | 53,451 | 40,330 | 28,413 | 7,282 | 5,179 | 3,178 | 3,251 |
| Continuity-of-care visit characteristics | Percent distribution | | | | Standard error of percent | | | |
| | All specialties | Primary care | Surgical specialties | Medical specialties | All specialties | Primary care | Surgical specialties | Medical specialties |
| | Percent distribution | | | | Standard error of percent | | | |
| All visits | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Prior-visit status and number of visits in last 12 months | | | | | | | | |
| Established patient. | 87.3 | 90.7 | 79.9 | 85.1 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.3 |
| None | 5.7 | 5.1 | 8.0 | 5.1 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| 1–2 visits | 29.4 | 28.2 | 32.9 | 29.6 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.4 |
| 3–5 visits | 28.5 | 30.7 | 24.5 | 26.2 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 |
| 6 or more visits | 23.6 | 26.7 | 14.5 | 24.1 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 2.1 |
| New patient | 12.7 | 9.3 | 20.1 | 14.9 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.3 |

... Category not applicable.

¹Specialty type defined in "Physician specialty groups" section in "Methods."

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 8. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by patient's principal reason for visit module: United States, 2005

| Principal reason for visit module and RVC code ¹ | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | ... |
| Symptom module. S001–S999 | 457,871 | 21,644 | 47.5 | 1.0 |
| General symptoms S001–S099 | 52,745 | 3,722 | 5.5 | 0.3 |
| Symptoms referable to psychological and mental disorders S100–S199 | 29,642 | 2,934 | 3.1 | 0.3 |
| Symptoms referable to the nervous system (excluding sense organs) S200–S259 | 24,074 | 1,987 | 2.5 | 0.2 |
| Symptoms referable to the cardiovascular and lymphatic system S260–S299 | 4,465 | 708 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| Symptoms referable to the eyes and ears S300–S399 | 48,487 | 3,638 | 5.0 | 0.3 |
| Symptoms referable to the respiratory system S400–S499 | 95,792 | 6,343 | 9.9 | 0.5 |
| Symptoms referable to the digestive system. S500–S639 | 33,341 | 2,513 | 3.5 | 0.2 |
| Symptoms referable to the genitourinary system S640–S829 | 30,560 | 1,915 | 3.2 | 0.2 |
| Symptoms referable to the skin, hair, and nails S830–S899 | 43,807 | 3,147 | 4.5 | 0.3 |
| Symptoms referable to the musculoskeletal system S900–S999 | 94,956 | 6,794 | 9.9 | 0.5 |
| Disease module D001–D999 | 125,461 | 9,100 | 13.0 | 0.8 |
| Diagnostic, screening, and preventive module X100–X599 | 179,769 | 10,984 | 18.7 | 0.8 |
| Treatment module T100–T899 | 136,372 | 8,939 | 14.2 | 0.7 |
| Injuries and adverse effects module J001–J999 | 24,173 | 2,060 | 2.5 | 0.2 |
| Test results module R100–R700 | 23,508 | 1,778 | 2.4 | 0.2 |
| Administrative module. A100–A140 | 7,457 | 1,187 | 0.8 | 0.1 |
| Other ² U990–U999 | 9,007 | 1,595 | 0.9 | 0.2 |

... Category not applicable.

¹Based on *A Reason for Visit Classification for Ambulatory Care (RVC)* (22).

²Includes problems and complaints not elsewhere classified, entries of "none," blanks, and illegible entries.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 9. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors by the 20 principal reasons for visit most frequently mentioned by patients, according to patient's sex: United States, 2005

| Principal reason for visit and RVC code ¹ | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Female ² | | Male ³ | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent |
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | ... | 100.0 | ... | 100.0 | ... |
| General medical examination X100 | 71,392 | 5,674 | 7.4 | 0.4 | 6.4 | 0.5 | 8.8 | 0.6 |
| Progress visit, not otherwise specified T800 | 42,201 | 4,035 | 4.4 | 0.4 | 4.2 | 0.4 | 4.7 | 0.4 |
| Cough S440 | 32,482 | 2,842 | 3.4 | 0.2 | 3.0 | 0.2 | 3.9 | 0.4 |
| Postoperative visit T205 | 31,985 | 3,811 | 3.3 | 0.4 | 3.3 | 0.4 | 3.4 | 0.5 |
| Medication, other and unspecified kinds. T115 | 19,896 | 2,306 | 2.1 | 0.2 | 1.9 | 0.2 | 2.3 | 0.3 |
| Gynecological examination. X225 | 18,254 | 2,709 | 1.9 | 0.3 | 3.3 | 0.5 | ... | ... |
| Hypertension D510 | 16,988 | 2,478 | 1.8 | 0.2 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 2.0 | 0.4 |
| Prenatal examination, routine X205 | 16,759 | 2,771 | 1.7 | 0.3 | 3.0 | 0.5 | ... | ... |
| Symptoms referable to throat S455 | 16,440 | 1,892 | 1.7 | 0.2 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 1.8 | 0.2 |
| Knee symptoms S925 | 16,076 | 1,801 | 1.7 | 0.2 | 1.8 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 0.2 |
| Well-baby examination X105 | 15,268 | 2,037 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 2.0 | 0.3 |
| Back symptoms. S905 | 14,643 | 1,599 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 1.4 | 0.2 |
| Vision dysfunctions S305 | 13,556 | 1,872 | 1.4 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 0.2 | 1.3 | 0.2 |
| For other and unspecified test results R700 | 13,211 | 1,377 | 1.4 | 0.1 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 0.2 |
| Nasal congestion. S400 | 13,164 | 2,137 | 1.4 | 0.2 | 1.0 | 0.2 | 1.9 | 0.3 |
| Eye examination X230 | 12,528 | 2,709 | 1.3 | 0.3 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 1.2 | 0.3 |
| Skin rash. S860 | 12,527 | 1,188 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 1.4 | 0.1 |
| Diabetes mellitus. D205 | 12,192 | 1,981 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 1.3 | 0.2 |
| Depression S110 | 12,062 | 1,511 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.2 |
| Earache or ear infection S355 | 11,805 | 1,107 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 0.2 |
| All other reasons. | 550,190 | 24,483 | 57.1 | 0.9 | 57.1 | 1.0 | 57.1 | 1.0 |

... Category not applicable.

¹Based on *A Reason for Visit Classification for Ambulatory Care (RVC)* (22).

²Based on 560,355,000 visits made by females.

³Based on 403,262,000 visits made by males.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 10. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors by major reason for visit, according to selected patient and visit characteristics: United States, 2005

| Patient and visit characteristics | Total | New problem | Chronic problem, routine | Chronic problem, flare-up | Pre- or post-surgery | Preventive care ¹ | Unknown or blank |
|---|---------|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Number of visits in thousands | | | | | | | |
| All visits | 963,617 | 319,330 | 290,545 | 89,843 | 70,669 | 174,387 | 18,845 |
| Age | | | | | | | |
| Under 15 years | 160,552 | 76,704 | 18,243 | 8,527 | 3,397 | 51,622 | 2,058 |
| Under 1 year | 32,070 | 11,996 | 1,282 | * | * | 17,289 | * |
| 1–4 years | 50,400 | 25,199 | 4,182 | 2,462 | 1,081 | 16,723 | * |
| 5–14 years | 78,082 | 39,509 | 12,779 | 5,103 | 2,125 | 17,610 | * |
| 15–24 years | 70,583 | 27,679 | 12,350 | 5,140 | 4,873 | 19,403 | *1,138 |
| 25–44 years | 201,619 | 69,933 | 51,314 | 18,727 | 16,156 | 41,942 | 3,547 |
| 45–64 years | 283,180 | 84,793 | 103,754 | 29,448 | 22,047 | 37,770 | 5,368 |
| 65 years and over | 247,683 | 60,221 | 104,885 | 28,000 | 24,195 | 23,650 | 6,733 |
| 65–74 years | 119,061 | 28,774 | 48,255 | 14,213 | 11,487 | 12,652 | *3,680 |
| 75 years and over | 128,623 | 31,447 | 56,630 | 13,787 | 12,708 | 10,998 | 3,053 |
| Sex | | | | | | | |
| Female | 560,355 | 178,477 | 168,169 | 52,297 | 39,506 | 110,589 | 11,316 |
| Male | 403,262 | 140,853 | 122,376 | 37,545 | 31,162 | 63,798 | 7,528 |
| Race ² | | | | | | | |
| White | 832,038 | 277,587 | 251,698 | 78,452 | 62,031 | 146,794 | 15,476 |
| Black or African American | 88,930 | 27,098 | 27,399 | 8,154 | 6,909 | 18,139 | 1,231 |
| Other | 42,649 | 14,645 | 11,449 | 3,236 | 1,728 | 9,454 | *2,137 |
| Ethnicity ² | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 98,904 | 35,026 | 26,216 | 7,016 | 6,382 | 21,039 | 3,225 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 864,714 | 284,304 | 264,330 | 82,827 | 64,286 | 153,348 | 15,620 |
| Expected source of payment ³ | | | | | | | |
| Private insurance | 608,219 | 208,219 | 174,252 | 55,707 | 40,982 | 119,864 | 9,194 |
| Medicare | 231,655 | 56,954 | 98,344 | 27,824 | 20,905 | 22,276 | 5,352 |
| Medicare and Medicaid | 19,002 | 4,404 | 8,958 | 2,163 | *1,140 | *1,688 | * |
| Medicaid or SCHIP ⁴ | 108,601 | 36,794 | 28,674 | 10,323 | 5,343 | 25,488 | *1,979 |
| Self-pay, no charge, or charity | 49,026 | 17,446 | 14,718 | 3,220 | 6,622 | 6,110 | * |
| Other ⁵ | 51,083 | 15,679 | 15,540 | 4,763 | 6,528 | 7,160 | *1,415 |
| Standard error in thousands | | | | | | | |
| All visits | 40,611 | 15,701 | 14,938 | 7,475 | 6,580 | 11,005 | 3,568 |
| Age | | | | | | | |
| Under 15 years | 11,524 | 6,511 | 2,408 | 1,135 | 582 | 4,532 | 514 |
| Under 1 year | 3,406 | 1,587 | 367 | ... | ... | 2,064 | ... |
| 1–4 years | 4,582 | 2,644 | 907 | 431 | 247 | 1,972 | ... |
| 5–14 years | 4,849 | 3,142 | 1,599 | 725 | 374 | 1,605 | ... |
| 15–24 years | 4,028 | 1,901 | 1,015 | 893 | 862 | 2,191 | 377 |
| 25–44 years | 10,521 | 4,664 | 3,704 | 1,797 | 1,918 | 3,739 | 847 |
| 45–64 years | 13,998 | 4,755 | 5,941 | 2,571 | 2,298 | 4,309 | 1,150 |
| 65 years and over | 15,541 | 4,688 | 7,577 | 3,112 | 2,856 | 2,762 | 1,750 |
| 65–74 years | 7,460 | 2,206 | 3,752 | 1,771 | 1,566 | 1,469 | 1,326 |
| 75 years and over | 8,954 | 2,980 | 4,464 | 1,660 | 1,618 | 1,567 | 636 |
| Sex | | | | | | | |
| Female | 24,487 | 8,994 | 9,764 | 5,246 | 3,977 | 7,175 | 2,026 |
| Male | 18,050 | 7,589 | 6,501 | 2,822 | 3,371 | 5,494 | 1,651 |
| Race ² | | | | | | | |
| White | 36,280 | 14,035 | 13,292 | 6,241 | 5,742 | 9,867 | 3,097 |
| Black or African American | 7,582 | 3,077 | 3,048 | 1,522 | 1,296 | 2,275 | 341 |
| Other | 5,779 | 2,563 | 2,343 | 811 | 427 | 1,345 | 1,545 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors by major reason for visit, according to selected patient and visit characteristics: United States, 2005—Con.

| Patient and visit characteristics | Total | New problem | Chronic problem, routine | Chronic problem, flare-up | Pre- or post-surgery | Preventive care ¹ | Unknown or blank |
|--|--------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Ethnicity ² | | Standard error in thousands | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 9,332 | 3,572 | 3,770 | 1,275 | 1,052 | 2,615 | 801 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino. | 37,628 | 14,683 | 13,732 | 6,857 | 6,029 | 10,180 | 3,091 |
| Expected source of payment ³ | | | | | | | |
| Private insurance. | 27,808 | 10,683 | 9,568 | 5,365 | 4,542 | 8,544 | 1,727 |
| Medicare. | 15,483 | 4,596 | 7,563 | 2,961 | 2,760 | 2,869 | 1,225 |
| Medicare and Medicaid | 2,854 | 874 | 1,554 | 556 | 394 | 581 | ... |
| Medicaid or SCHIP ⁴ | 8,545 | 3,808 | 3,239 | 1,294 | 670 | 3,275 | 638 |
| Self-pay, no charge, or charity. | 4,662 | 2,448 | 1,495 | 488 | 1,921 | 881 | ... |
| Other ⁵ | 4,411 | 1,581 | 1,950 | 606 | 1,079 | 1,238 | 426 |
| | | Percent distribution | | | | | |
| All visits | 100.0 | 33.1 | 30.2 | 9.3 | 7.3 | 18.1 | 2.0 |
| Age | | | | | | | |
| Under 15 years | 100.0 | 47.8 | 11.4 | 5.3 | 2.1 | 32.2 | 1.3 |
| Under 1 year | 100.0 | 37.4 | 4.0 | 3.0 | *0.6 | 53.9 | *1.1 |
| 1–4 years | 100.0 | 50.0 | 8.3 | 4.9 | 2.1 | 33.2 | *1.5 |
| 5–14 years | 100.0 | 50.6 | 16.4 | 6.5 | 2.7 | 22.6 | *1.2 |
| 15–24 years | 100.0 | 39.2 | 17.5 | 7.3 | 6.9 | 27.5 | *1.6 |
| 25–44 years | 100.0 | 34.7 | 25.5 | 9.3 | 8.0 | 20.8 | 1.8 |
| 45–64 years | 100.0 | 29.9 | 36.6 | 10.4 | 7.8 | 13.3 | 1.9 |
| 65 years and over | 100.0 | 24.3 | 42.3 | 11.3 | 9.8 | 9.5 | 2.7 |
| 65–74 years | 100.0 | 24.2 | 40.5 | 11.9 | 9.6 | 10.6 | *3.1 |
| 75 years and over. | 100.0 | 24.4 | 44.0 | 10.7 | 9.9 | 8.6 | 2.4 |
| Sex | | | | | | | |
| Female | 100.0 | 31.9 | 30.0 | 9.3 | 7.1 | 19.7 | 2.0 |
| Male | 100.0 | 34.9 | 30.3 | 9.3 | 7.7 | 15.8 | 1.9 |
| Race ² | | | | | | | |
| White | 100.0 | 33.4 | 30.3 | 9.4 | 7.5 | 17.6 | 1.9 |
| Black or African American | 100.0 | 30.5 | 30.8 | 9.2 | 7.8 | 20.4 | 1.4 |
| Other | 100.0 | 34.3 | 26.8 | 7.6 | 4.1 | 22.2 | *5.0 |
| Ethnicity ² | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 35.4 | 26.5 | 7.1 | 6.5 | 21.3 | 3.3 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino. | 100.0 | 32.9 | 30.6 | 9.6 | 7.4 | 17.7 | 1.8 |
| Expected source of payment ³ | | | | | | | |
| Private insurance. | 100.0 | 34.2 | 28.6 | 9.2 | 6.7 | 19.7 | 1.5 |
| Medicare. | 100.0 | 24.6 | 42.5 | 12.0 | 9.0 | 9.6 | 2.3 |
| Medicare and Medicaid | 100.0 | 23.2 | 47.1 | 11.4 | *6.0 | *8.9 | *3.4 |
| Medicaid or SCHIP ⁴ | 100.0 | 33.9 | 26.4 | 9.5 | 4.9 | 23.5 | *1.8 |
| Self-pay, no charge, or charity. | 100.0 | 35.6 | 30.0 | 6.6 | 13.5 | 12.5 | 1.9 |
| Other ⁵ | 100.0 | 30.7 | 30.4 | 9.3 | 12.8 | 14.0 | *2.8 |
| | | Standard error of percent | | | | | |
| All visits | ... | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.4 |
| Age | | | | | | | |
| Under 15 years | ... | 1.7 | 1.4 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 1.5 | 0.3 |
| Under 1 year | ... | 2.6 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 2.6 | 0.4 |
| 1–4 years | ... | 2.7 | 1.6 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 2.4 | 0.5 |
| 5–14 years | ... | 2.1 | 1.8 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 1.7 | 0.4 |
| 15–24 years | ... | 2.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 2.3 | 0.5 |
| 25–44 years | ... | 1.4 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 0.4 |
| 45–64 years | ... | 1.0 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 0.4 |
| 65 years and over | ... | 1.1 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.7 |
| 65–74 years | ... | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| 75 years and over. | ... | 1.4 | 1.8 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.5 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors by major reason for visit, according to selected patient and visit characteristics: United States, 2005—Con.

| Patient and visit characteristics | Total | New problem | Chronic problem, routine | Chronic problem, flare-up | Pre- or post-surgery | Preventive care ¹ | Unknown or blank |
|--|-------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Sex | | Standard error of percent | | | | | |
| Female | ... | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 0.3 |
| Male | ... | 1.1 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.4 |
| Race ² | | | | | | | |
| White | ... | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.4 |
| Black or African American | ... | 2.0 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 2.2 | 0.4 |
| Other | ... | 3.0 | 3.5 | 1.8 | 1.0 | 2.8 | 3.4 |
| Ethnicity ² | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | ... | 2.2 | 2.3 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 2.1 | 0.7 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino. | ... | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.3 |
| Expected source of payment ³ | | | | | | | |
| Private insurance. | ... | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.3 |
| Medicare | ... | 1.1 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.5 |
| Medicare and Medicaid | ... | 2.6 | 4.2 | 2.5 | 1.9 | 2.8 | 1.2 |
| Medicaid or SCHIP ⁴ | ... | 2.1 | 2.3 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 2.3 | 0.6 |
| Self-pay, no charge, or charity. | ... | 3.0 | 2.6 | 0.8 | 3.4 | 1.7 | 0.6 |
| Other ⁵ | ... | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 0.8 |

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

... Category not applicable.

¹Preventive care includes routine prenatal, well-baby, screening, insurance, and general exams (see question 4c in "Technical Notes").²Other race includes visits by Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and multiple races. All race categories include visits by persons of Hispanic and not Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with data year 1999, race-specific estimates have been tabulated according to 1997 Standards for Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The percentage of visit records with multiple race indicated is small and lower than what is typically found for self-reported race in household surveys.³Total exceeds "All visits" because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit.⁴SCHIP is State Children's Health Insurance Program.⁵Other includes worker's compensation, unknown or blank, and payments not classified elsewhere.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 11. Number, percent distribution, and annual rate of preventive care office visits and percent of visits to primary care specialists with corresponding standard errors, by selected patient and visit characteristics: United States, 2005

| Patient and visit characteristics | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Number of visits per 100 persons per year ¹ | Standard error of rate | Percent of preventive care visits made to primary care specialists ² | Standard error of percent |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| All preventive care visits ³ | 174,387 | 11,005 | 100.0 | ... | 59.9 | 3.8 | 85.3 | 1.6 |
| Age | | | | | | | | |
| Under 15 years | 51,622 | 4,532 | 29.6 | 2.2 | 85.1 | 7.5 | 97.3 | 1.1 |
| Under 1 year | 17,289 | 2,064 | 9.9 | 1.1 | 421.4 | 50.3 | 99.8 | 0.1 |
| 1–4 years | 16,723 | 1,972 | 9.6 | 1.0 | 103.3 | 12.2 | 98.0 | 1.2 |
| 5–14 years | 17,610 | 1,605 | 10.1 | 0.8 | 43.6 | 4.0 | 94.3 | 2.2 |
| 15–24 years | 19,403 | 2,191 | 11.1 | 1.1 | 47.3 | 5.3 | 95.2 | 1.7 |
| 25–44 years | 41,942 | 3,739 | 24.1 | 1.6 | 51.2 | 4.6 | 90.3 | 1.9 |
| 45–64 years | 37,770 | 4,309 | 21.7 | 1.7 | 52.2 | 6.0 | 76.5 | 3.0 |
| 65 years and over | 23,650 | 2,762 | 13.6 | 1.3 | 67.3 | 7.9 | 56.1 | 4.5 |
| 65–74 years | 12,652 | 1,469 | 7.3 | 0.7 | 68.8 | 8.0 | 60.9 | 4.4 |
| 75 years and over | 10,998 | 1,567 | 6.3 | 0.8 | 65.6 | 9.4 | 50.6 | 5.9 |
| Sex and age | | | | | | | | |
| Female | 110,589 | 7,175 | 63.4 | 1.8 | 74.4 | 4.8 | 87.0 | 1.6 |
| Under 15 years | 23,224 | 2,063 | 13.3 | 1.0 | 78.4 | 7.0 | 97.9 | 0.8 |
| 15–24 years | 15,134 | 1,874 | 8.7 | 1.0 | 74.6 | 9.2 | 97.1 | 0.8 |
| 25–44 years | 33,658 | 3,258 | 19.3 | 1.6 | 81.3 | 7.9 | 92.9 | 1.7 |
| 45–64 years | 23,897 | 2,473 | 13.7 | 1.0 | 64.2 | 6.6 | 77.7 | 3.0 |
| 65–74 years | 7,748 | 980 | 4.4 | 0.5 | 77.6 | 9.8 | 65.7 | 5.2 |
| 75 years and over | 6,929 | 1,030 | 4.0 | 0.5 | 67.9 | 10.1 | 55.2 | 5.7 |
| Male | 63,798 | 5,494 | 36.6 | 1.8 | 44.8 | 3.9 | 82.4 | 2.0 |
| Under 15 years | 28,399 | 2,848 | 16.3 | 1.4 | 91.5 | 9.2 | 96.9 | 1.5 |
| 15–24 years | 4,269 | 731 | 2.4 | 0.4 | 20.6 | 3.5 | 88.3 | 5.8 |
| 25–44 years | 8,284 | 1,244 | 4.8 | 0.6 | 20.4 | 3.1 | 79.6 | 4.3 |
| 45–64 years | 13,873 | 2,561 | 8.0 | 1.3 | 39.5 | 7.3 | 74.5 | 5.0 |
| 65–74 years | 4,904 | 724 | 2.8 | 0.4 | 58.3 | 8.6 | 53.2 | 5.8 |
| 75 years and over | 4,069 | 708 | 2.3 | 0.4 | 62.1 | 10.8 | 42.7 | 8.2 |
| Race ⁴ | | | | | | | | |
| White | 146,794 | 9,867 | 84.2 | 1.5 | 62.7 | 4.2 | 84.3 | 1.8 |
| Black or African American | 18,139 | 2,275 | 10.4 | 1.2 | 49.6 | 6.2 | 90.6 | 2.1 |
| Other | 9,454 | 1,345 | 5.4 | 0.7 | 46.2 | 6.6 | 91.5 | 2.9 |
| Ethnicity ⁴ | | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 21,039 | 2,615 | 12.1 | 1.4 | 49.9 | 6.2 | 91.4 | 2.0 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 153,348 | 10,180 | 87.9 | 1.4 | 61.6 | 4.1 | 84.5 | 1.7 |
| Expected source(s) of payment ⁵ | | | | | | | | |
| Private insurance | 119,864 | 8,544 | 68.7 | 2.0 | 61.9 | 4.4 | 86.6 | 1.6 |
| Medicare | 22,276 | 2,869 | 12.8 | 1.3 | 59.2 | 7.6 | 59.1 | 4.8 |
| Medicare and Medicaid | *1,688 | 581 | *1.0 | 0.3 | ... | ... | 59.9 | 15.6 |
| Medicaid/SCHIP ⁶ | 25,488 | 3,275 | 14.6 | 1.7 | 79.5 | 10.2 | 92.8 | 1.9 |
| Self-pay, no charge, or charity ⁷ | 6,110 | 881 | 3.5 | 0.5 | 14.6 | 2.1 | 81.0 | 4.7 |
| Other ⁸ | 7,160 | 1,238 | 4.1 | 0.7 | ... | ... | 76.7 | 5.6 |

... Category not applicable.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹Visit rates for age, sex, race, and ethnicity are based on the July 1, 2005, set of estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States as developed by the Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Visit rates for expected source(s) of payment are based on the 2005 National Health Interview Survey estimates of health insurance.²Primary care specialty defined in specialty type classification found in "Physician specialty groups" section of "Methods."³Preventive care includes routine prenatal, well-baby, screening, insurance, and general exams (see question 4c in "Technical Notes").⁴Other race includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and multiple races. All race categories include visits by persons of Hispanic and not Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with data year 1999, race-specific estimates have been tabulated according to 1997 Standards for Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The percentage of visit records with multiple races indicated is small and lower than what is typically found for self-reported race in household surveys.⁵Total exceeds "All visits" because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit.⁶SCHIP is State Children's Health Insurance Program.⁷The visit rate was calculated using "uninsured" as the denominator from the 2005 estimates of health insurance coverage from the National Health Interview Survey.⁸Other includes worker's compensation, unknown or blank, and sources not elsewhere classified.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 12. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by physician's primary diagnosis: United States, 2005

| Major disease category and ICD-9-CM code range ¹ | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | . . . |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases 001-139 | 26,720 | 2,062 | 2.8 | 0.2 |
| Neoplasms. 140-239 | 39,200 | 5,285 | 4.1 | 0.5 |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases, and immunity disorders. 240-279 | 56,408 | 4,655 | 5.9 | 0.4 |
| Mental disorders 290-319 | 47,094 | 3,777 | 4.9 | 0.4 |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs. 320-389 | 86,128 | 6,644 | 8.9 | 0.5 |
| Diseases of the circulatory system 390-459 | 81,836 | 6,683 | 8.5 | 0.6 |
| Diseases of the respiratory system 460-519 | 110,999 | 7,670 | 11.5 | 0.7 |
| Diseases of the digestive system 520-579 | 28,678 | 2,225 | 3.0 | 0.2 |
| Diseases of the genitourinary system 580-629 | 42,256 | 3,131 | 4.4 | 0.3 |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue. 680-709 | 44,443 | 3,189 | 4.6 | 0.3 |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue 710-739 | 80,601 | 6,320 | 8.4 | 0.5 |
| Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions 780-799 | 60,536 | 3,916 | 6.3 | 0.3 |
| Injury and poisoning 800-999 | 45,137 | 3,087 | 4.7 | 0.3 |
| Supplementary classification. V01-V82 | 179,276 | 11,124 | 18.6 | 0.9 |
| All other diagnoses ² | 25,609 | 3,533 | 2.7 | 0.3 |
| Unknown ³ | 8,697 | 1,645 | 0.9 | 0.2 |

. . . Category not applicable.

¹Based on the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-9-CM) (23).²Includes diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs (280-289); complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium (630-677); congenital anomalies (740-759); certain conditions originating in the perinatal period (760-779); and entries not codable to the ICD-9-CM (e.g., illegible entries, left against medical advice, transferred, entries of "none," or "no diagnoses").³Includes blank diagnoses.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 13. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by the 20 leading primary diagnosis groups according to patient's sex: United States, 2005

| Primary diagnosis group and ICD–9–CM code(s) ¹ | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Female ² | | Male ³ | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent |
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | ... | 100.0 | ... | 100.0 | ... |
| Essential hypertension 401 | 44,670 | 4,318 | 4.6 | 0.4 | 4.4 | 0.4 | 5.0 | 0.5 |
| Routine infant or child health check V20.2 | 41,816 | 4,044 | 4.3 | 0.4 | 3.3 | 0.3 | 5.7 | 0.6 |
| Acute upper respiratory infections, excluding pharyngitis 460–461,463–466 | 36,372 | 2,875 | 3.8 | 0.3 | 3.3 | 0.3 | 4.5 | 0.4 |
| Arthropathies and related disorders 710–719 | 34,299 | 4,200 | 3.6 | 0.4 | 4.2 | 0.6 | 2.7 | 0.3 |
| Malignant neoplasms 140–208,230–234 | 28,709 | 5,644 | 3.0 | 0.6 | 3.0 | 0.7 | 3.0 | 0.4 |
| Diabetes mellitus 250 | 25,451 | 2,730 | 2.6 | 0.3 | 2.5 | 0.3 | 2.9 | 0.3 |
| Spinal disorders 720–724 | 22,732 | 2,523 | 2.4 | 0.2 | 2.4 | 0.2 | 2.3 | 0.3 |
| Rheumatism, excluding back 725–729 | 18,580 | 1,580 | 1.9 | 0.1 | 1.9 | 0.2 | 1.9 | 0.2 |
| General medical examination V70 | 17,007 | 2,377 | 1.8 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 0.2 | 2.2 | 0.3 |
| Follow up examination V67 | 16,249 | 2,573 | 1.7 | 0.2 | 1.7 | 0.3 | 1.6 | 0.3 |
| Specific procedures and aftercare V50–V59.9 | 15,662 | 2,000 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 1.7 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 0.3 |
| Normal pregnancy V22 | 15,509 | 2,534 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 2.8 | 0.5 | ... | ... |
| Gynecological examination V72.3 | 15,067 | 2,378 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 2.7 | 0.4 | ... | ... |
| Otitis media and eustachian tube disorders 381–382 | 14,399 | 1,517 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 1.9 | 0.2 |
| Asthma 493 | 12,823 | 2,102 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 1.6 | 0.4 |
| Disorders of lipid metabolism 272 | 12,650 | 1,416 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 1.6 | 0.2 |
| Chronic sinusitis 473 | 12,621 | 1,302 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 1.4 | 0.2 |
| Heart disease, excluding ischemic 391–392.0,393–398,402,404,415–416,420–429 | 11,473 | 1,490 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 0.2 |
| Acute pharyngitis 462 | 11,064 | 1,941 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 1.3 | 0.3 |
| Allergic rhinitis 477 | 11,028 | 2,099 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 1.2 | 0.3 |
| All other diagnoses | 545,437 | 23,756 | 56.6 | 0.8 | 56.8 | 1.0 | 56.4 | 1.0 |

... Category not applicable.

¹Based on the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–9–CM) (23). However, certain codes have been combined in this table to form larger categories that better describe the utilization of ambulatory care services.²Based on 560,355,000 visits made by females.³Based on 403,262,000 visits made by males.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 14. Number, percent distribution, and annual rate of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by patient's age, according to the five leading primary diagnosis groups: United States, 2005

| Primary diagnosis group and ICD-9-CM code(s) ¹ | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Number of visits per 100 persons per year ² | Standard error of rate |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | ... | 331.0 | 13.9 |
| Under 1 year | | | | | | |
| All visits | 32,070 | 3,406 | 100.0 | ... | 781.6 | 83.0 |
| Routine infant or child health check V20.2 | 14,528 | 1,965 | 45.3 | 3.1 | 354.1 | 47.9 |
| Acute upper respiratory infections, excluding pharyngitis 460-461,463-466 | 3,442 | 593 | 10.7 | 1.6 | 83.9 | 14.5 |
| Otitis media and eustachian tube disorders 381-382 | 2,541 | 559 | 7.9 | 1.5 | 61.9 | 13.6 |
| Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period 760-779 | * | ... | 3.4 | 0.8 | 26.9 | 6.5 |
| Unspecified viral and chlamydial infection 79.9 | * | ... | *1.9 | 0.7 | *14.8 | 6.4 |
| All other diagnoses | 9,847 | 1,134 | 30.7 | 2.2 | 240.0 | 27.6 |
| 1-12 years | | | | | | |
| All visits | 112,241 | 8,094 | 100.0 | ... | 233.7 | 16.9 |
| Routine infant or child health check V20.2 | 21,953 | 2,294 | 19.6 | 1.4 | 45.7 | 4.8 |
| Acute upper respiratory infections, excluding pharyngitis 460-461,463-466 | 12,310 | 1,705 | 11.0 | 1.1 | 25.6 | 3.6 |
| Otitis media and eustachian tube disorders 381-382 | 7,901 | 843 | 7.0 | 0.7 | 16.5 | 1.8 |
| Asthma 493 | 4,252 | 1,126 | 3.8 | 1.0 | 8.9 | 2.3 |
| Acute pharyngitis 462 | 4,203 | 868 | 3.7 | 0.7 | 8.8 | 1.8 |
| All other diagnoses | 61,622 | 4,491 | 54.9 | 1.5 | 128.3 | 9.4 |
| 13-21 years | | | | | | |
| All visits | 66,533 | 3,594 | 100.0 | ... | 178.5 | 9.6 |
| Routine infant or child health check V20.2 | 5,334 | 803 | 8.0 | 1.1 | 14.3 | 2.2 |
| Normal pregnancy V22 | 3,331 | 830 | 5.0 | 1.2 | ³ 18.2 | 4.5 |
| Acne 706.0-706.1 | 2,931 | 560 | 4.4 | 0.8 | 7.9 | 1.5 |
| Acute upper respiratory infections, excluding pharyngitis 460-461,463-466 | 2,915 | 501 | 4.4 | 0.7 | 7.8 | 1.3 |
| Acute pharyngitis 462 | 2,248 | 597 | 3.4 | 0.9 | 6.0 | 1.6 |
| All other diagnoses | 49,774 | 2,793 | 74.8 | 1.8 | 133.5 | 7.5 |
| 22-49 years | | | | | | |
| All visits | 290,199 | 14,182 | 100.0 | ... | 249.0 | 12.2 |
| Normal pregnancy V22 | 12,178 | 1,924 | 4.2 | 0.7 | ⁴ 20.7 | 3.3 |
| Spinal disorders 720-724 | 10,148 | 1,340 | 3.5 | 0.4 | 8.7 | 1.2 |
| Arthropathies and related disorders 710-719 | 9,874 | 1,767 | 3.4 | 0.6 | 8.5 | 1.5 |
| Gynecological examination V72.3 | 9,496 | 1,431 | 3.3 | 0.5 | ⁴ 16.1 | 2.4 |
| Essential hypertension 401 | 9,361 | 1,362 | 3.2 | 0.4 | 8.0 | 1.2 |
| All other diagnoses | 239,141 | 12,253 | 82.4 | 1.1 | 205.2 | 10.5 |
| 50-64 years | | | | | | |
| All visits | 214,891 | 10,973 | 100.0 | ... | 429.2 | 21.9 |
| Essential hypertension 401 | 15,519 | 1,884 | 7.2 | 0.8 | 31.0 | 3.8 |
| Arthropathies and related disorders 710-719 | 11,162 | 1,512 | 5.2 | 0.6 | 22.3 | 3.0 |
| Diabetes mellitus 250 | 9,272 | 1,048 | 4.3 | 0.4 | 18.5 | 2.1 |
| Malignant neoplasms 140-208,230-234 | 8,870 | 1,861 | 4.1 | 0.8 | 17.7 | 3.7 |
| Spinal disorders 720-724 | 6,530 | 935 | 3.0 | 0.4 | 13.0 | 1.9 |
| All other diagnoses | 163,538 | 8,317 | 76.1 | 1.1 | 326.6 | 16.6 |
| 65 years and over | | | | | | |
| All visits | 247,683 | 15,541 | 100.0 | ... | 704.7 | 44.2 |
| Essential hypertension 401 | 19,129 | 2,184 | 7.7 | 0.8 | 54.4 | 6.2 |
| Malignant neoplasms 140-208,230-234 | 15,679 | 3,215 | 6.3 | 1.2 | 44.6 | 9.1 |
| Arthropathies and related disorders 710-719 | 11,814 | 1,815 | 4.8 | 0.6 | 33.6 | 5.2 |
| Diabetes mellitus 250 | 11,253 | 1,594 | 4.5 | 0.6 | 32.0 | 4.5 |
| Heart disease, excluding ischemic 391-392.0,393-398,402,404,415-416,420-429 | 7,824 | 1,167 | 3.2 | 0.4 | 22.3 | 3.3 |
| All other diagnoses | 181,986 | 11,408 | 73.5 | 1.2 | 517.7 | 32.5 |

... Category not applicable.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹Based on the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-9-CM) (23). However, certain codes have been combined in this table to better describe the use of ambulatory care services.²Visit rates for age are based on the July 1, 2005, set of estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States as developed by the Populations Division, U.S. Census Bureau.³The population used for this rate is based on visits by females 13-21 years of age. For males in this age group, the leading diagnosis was routine infant or child health check (15.5 visits per 100 males 13-21 years, SE=3.1).⁴The population used for this rate is based on visits by females 22-49 years of age. For males in this age group, the leading diagnosis was essential hypertension (8.4 visits per 100 males 22-49 years, SE=1.5).

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 15. Number, percent distribution, and annual rate of injury-related office visits with corresponding standard errors, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2005

| Patient characteristic | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Number of visits per 100 persons per year ¹ | Standard error of rate |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------|
| All injury-related visits ² | 89,412 | 5,466 | 100.0 | ... | 30.7 | 1.9 |
| Age | | | | | | |
| Under 15 years | 11,556 | 1,126 | 12.9 | 1.1 | 19.1 | 1.9 |
| Under 1 year | * | ... | *0.7 | 0.3 | *15.7 | 6.1 |
| 1–4 years | 3,191 | 495 | 3.6 | 0.6 | 19.7 | 3.1 |
| 5–14 years | 7,721 | 853 | 8.6 | 0.8 | 19.1 | 2.1 |
| 15–24 years | 10,006 | 973 | 11.2 | 0.9 | 24.4 | 2.4 |
| 25–44 years | 23,053 | 1,919 | 25.8 | 1.3 | 28.1 | 2.3 |
| 45–64 years | 28,197 | 2,050 | 31.5 | 1.3 | 39.0 | 2.8 |
| 65 years and over | 16,600 | 1,684 | 18.6 | 1.4 | 47.2 | 4.8 |
| 65–74 years | 8,111 | 976 | 9.1 | 0.9 | 44.1 | 5.3 |
| 75 years and over | 8,489 | 937 | 9.5 | 0.8 | 50.7 | 5.6 |
| Sex and age | | | | | | |
| Female | 44,177 | 2,711 | 49.4 | 1.3 | 29.7 | 1.8 |
| Under 15 years | 5,017 | 622 | 5.6 | 0.7 | 16.9 | 2.1 |
| 15–24 years | 4,610 | 575 | 5.2 | 0.6 | 22.7 | 2.8 |
| 25–44 years | 10,286 | 921 | 11.5 | 0.8 | 24.8 | 2.2 |
| 45–64 years | 14,917 | 1,251 | 16.7 | 1.1 | 40.1 | 3.4 |
| 65–74 years | 4,364 | 692 | 4.9 | 0.7 | 43.7 | 6.9 |
| 75 years and over | 4,983 | 598 | 5.6 | 0.6 | 48.9 | 5.9 |
| Male | 45,235 | 3,233 | 50.6 | 1.3 | 31.8 | 2.3 |
| Under 15 years | 6,539 | 754 | 7.3 | 0.8 | 21.1 | 2.4 |
| 15–24 years | 5,396 | 670 | 6.0 | 0.6 | 26.0 | 3.2 |
| 25–44 years | 12,767 | 1,329 | 14.3 | 1.1 | 31.5 | 3.3 |
| 45–64 years | 13,280 | 1,232 | 14.9 | 1.0 | 37.8 | 3.5 |
| 65–74 years | 3,747 | 590 | 4.2 | 0.6 | 44.5 | 7.0 |
| 75 years and over | 3,505 | 600 | 3.9 | 0.6 | 53.5 | 9.2 |
| Race ³ | | | | | | |
| White | 79,208 | 4,958 | 88.6 | 1.1 | 33.8 | 2.1 |
| Black or African American | 6,838 | 979 | 7.6 | 1.0 | 18.7 | 2.7 |
| Other | 3,365 | 602 | 3.8 | 0.6 | 16.4 | 2.9 |
| Ethnicity | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 10,578 | 1,562 | 11.8 | 1.5 | 25.1 | 3.7 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 78,834 | 4,812 | 88.2 | 1.5 | 31.7 | 1.9 |

... Category not applicable.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹Visit rates for age, sex, race, and ethnicity are based on the July 1, 2005, set of estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States as developed by the Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau.²Injury visits represent 9.3 percent (SE=0.4) of all office visits.³Other race includes visits by Asians, Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, American Indians or Alaska Natives, and multiple races. All race categories include visits by persons of Hispanic origin and not Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with data year 1999, race-specific estimates have been tabulated according to 1997 Standards for Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The percentage of visit records with multiple races indicated is small and lower than what is typically found for self-reported race in household surveys.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 16. Number and percent distribution of injury-related office visits with corresponding standard errors, by intent: United States, 2005

| Intent | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| All injury-related visits | 89,412 | 5,466 | 100.0 | ... |
| Unintentional injuries | 40,934 | 4,147 | 45.8 | 2.6 |
| Intentional injuries | 1,805 | 338 | 2.0 | 0.4 |
| Adverse effect of medical or surgical care or adverse effect of medicinal drug | 8,264 | 922 | 9.2 | 1.0 |
| Injuries of undetermined intent | 32,853 | 2,362 | 36.7 | 2.4 |
| Unknown or blank | 5,556 | 993 | 6.2 | 1.1 |

... Category not applicable.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 17. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors by selected chronic conditions, according to patient age and sex: United States, 2005

| Chronic conditions ¹ | Total | Patient age | | | | Patient sex | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------|
| | | Under 45 years | 45–64 years | 65–74 years | 75 years and over | Female | Male |
| Number of visits in thousands | | | | | | | |
| All visits | 963,617 | 432,754 | 283,180 | 119,061 | 128,623 | 560,355 | 403,262 |
| At least one condition | 507,390 | 121,891 | 187,209 | 94,472 | 103,818 | 298,366 | 209,024 |
| None | 422,515 | 295,386 | 85,466 | 21,112 | 20,551 | 242,189 | 180,327 |
| Blank | 33,712 | 15,476 | 10,505 | 3,477 | 4,254 | 19,800 | 13,911 |
| Hypertension | 219,476 | 23,060 | 84,640 | 52,131 | 59,646 | 127,072 | 92,404 |
| Arthritis | 137,942 | 20,861 | 51,744 | 27,168 | 38,169 | 91,610 | 46,332 |
| Hyperlipidemia | 130,053 | 12,806 | 55,561 | 31,658 | 30,028 | 68,208 | 61,845 |
| Diabetes | 94,359 | 10,387 | 38,628 | 23,810 | 21,534 | 50,625 | 43,733 |
| Depression | 84,610 | 30,935 | 35,059 | 8,538 | 10,078 | 59,418 | 25,192 |
| Obesity | 68,201 | 24,275 | 29,574 | 9,298 | 5,054 | 45,028 | 23,173 |
| Cancer | 57,025 | 4,817 | 18,809 | 15,014 | 18,384 | 32,384 | 24,640 |
| Asthma | 54,545 | 28,913 | 14,491 | 5,764 | 5,376 | 33,276 | 21,269 |
| COPD ² | 40,754 | 7,746 | 11,425 | 10,818 | 10,764 | 22,458 | 18,295 |
| Ischemic heart disease | 39,559 | 1,472 | 10,179 | 12,092 | 15,815 | 16,245 | 23,314 |
| Osteoporosis | 27,977 | * | 6,466 | 8,050 | 12,096 | 24,842 | 3,136 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 18,319 | 731 | 4,322 | 5,489 | 7,777 | 9,000 | 9,319 |
| CHF ³ | 15,692 | * | 3,589 | 3,409 | 8,392 | 8,950 | 6,742 |
| Chronic renal failure | 11,486 | * | 2,741 | 3,039 | 4,969 | 5,633 | 5,852 |
| Standard error in thousands | | | | | | | |
| All visits | 40,611 | 19,288 | 13,998 | 7,460 | 8,954 | 24,487 | 18,050 |
| At least one condition | 26,734 | 6,497 | 10,543 | 6,419 | 7,920 | 16,807 | 10,964 |
| None | 20,054 | 14,902 | 5,424 | 1,860 | 2,135 | 11,620 | 9,940 |
| Blank | 3,749 | 1,854 | 1,445 | 668 | 650 | 2,377 | 1,724 |
| Hypertension | 14,790 | 1,976 | 5,958 | 4,176 | 5,097 | 8,906 | 6,596 |
| Arthritis | 9,990 | 1,930 | 4,317 | 2,357 | 3,632 | 7,470 | 3,168 |
| Hyperlipidemia | 9,484 | 1,139 | 4,425 | 2,773 | 3,051 | 5,051 | 4,972 |
| Diabetes | 6,585 | 1,133 | 3,024 | 1,939 | 2,203 | 3,811 | 3,366 |
| Depression | 6,884 | 2,367 | 3,465 | 1,084 | 1,288 | 5,082 | 2,137 |
| Obesity | 5,885 | 2,496 | 2,961 | 1,225 | 842 | 4,156 | 2,401 |
| Cancer | 6,483 | 782 | 2,373 | 2,149 | 2,161 | 4,421 | 2,379 |
| Asthma | 3,877 | 2,528 | 1,350 | 712 | 814 | 2,466 | 2,012 |
| COPD ² | 3,794 | 1,054 | 1,259 | 1,356 | 1,583 | 2,332 | 1,790 |
| Ischemic heart disease | 3,659 | 321 | 1,097 | 1,274 | 1,920 | 1,831 | 2,301 |
| Osteoporosis | 2,821 | ... | 892 | 1,015 | 1,413 | 2,419 | 608 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 2,290 | 188 | 717 | 844 | 1,165 | 1,187 | 1,330 |
| CHF ³ | 2,054 | ... | 768 | 561 | 1,365 | 1,351 | 1,076 |
| Chronic renal failure | 1,713 | ... | 799 | 609 | 890 | 829 | 1,151 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | | |
| All visits | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100 |
| At least one condition | 52.7 | 28.2 | 66.1 | 79.3 | 80.7 | 53.2 | 51.8 |
| None | 43.8 | 68.3 | 30.2 | 17.7 | 16.0 | 43.2 | 44.7 |
| Blank | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 2.9 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.4 |
| Hypertension | 22.8 | 5.3 | 29.9 | 43.8 | 46.4 | 22.7 | 22.9 |
| Arthritis | 14.3 | 4.8 | 18.3 | 22.8 | 29.7 | 16.3 | 11.5 |
| Hyperlipidemia | 13.5 | 3.0 | 19.6 | 26.6 | 23.3 | 12.2 | 15.3 |
| Diabetes | 9.8 | 2.4 | 13.6 | 20.0 | 16.7 | 9.0 | 10.8 |
| Depression | 8.8 | 7.1 | 12.4 | 7.2 | 7.8 | 10.6 | 6.2 |
| Obesity | 7.1 | 5.6 | 10.4 | 7.8 | 3.9 | 8.0 | 5.7 |
| Cancer | 5.9 | 1.1 | 6.6 | 12.6 | 14.3 | 5.8 | 6.1 |
| Asthma | 5.7 | 6.7 | 5.1 | 4.8 | 4.2 | 5.9 | 5.3 |
| COPD ² | 4.2 | 1.8 | 4.0 | 9.1 | 8.4 | 4.0 | 4.5 |
| Ischemic heart disease | 4.1 | 0.3 | 3.6 | 10.2 | 12.3 | 2.9 | 5.8 |
| Osteoporosis | 2.9 | 0.3 | 2.3 | 6.8 | 9.4 | 4.4 | 0.8 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 1.9 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 4.6 | 6.0 | 1.6 | 2.3 |
| CHF ³ | 1.6 | *0.1 | 1.3 | 2.9 | 6.5 | 1.6 | 1.7 |
| Chronic renal failure | 1.2 | *0.2 | 1.0 | 2.6 | 3.9 | 1.0 | 1.5 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 17. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors by selected chronic conditions, according to patient age and sex: United States, 2005—Con.

| Chronic conditions ¹ | Total | Patient age | | | | Patient sex | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|------|
| | | Under 45 years | 45–64 years | 65–74 years | 75 years and over | Female | Male |
| | | Standard error of percent | | | | | |
| All visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| At least one condition | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.4 |
| None | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.4 |
| Blank | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Hypertension | 1.0 | 0.4 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Arthritis | 0.7 | 0.4 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 0.6 |
| Hyperlipidemia | 0.8 | 0.3 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| Diabetes | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| Depression | 0.6 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.5 |
| Obesity | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| Cancer | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| Asthma | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| COPD ² | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| Ischemic heart disease | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| Osteoporosis | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| CHF ³ | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Chronic renal failure | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 0.3 |

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

... Category not applicable.

¹Presence of chronic conditions, regardless of visit diagnosis, were based on checkbox responses.²COPD is chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.³CHF is congestive heart failure.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because more than one condition may be reported per visit.

Table 18. Number and percentage of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by diagnostic and screening services ordered or provided according to patients sex: United States, 2005

| Diagnostic and screening services ordered or provided | Number of visits in thousands ¹ | Standard error in thousands | Percent of visits | Standard error of percent | Female ² | | Male ³ | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | Percent of visits | Standard error of percent | Percent of visits | Standard error of percent |
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | ... | 0.0 | 58.2 | 0.6 | 41.8 | 0.6 |
| One or more diagnostic and screening service ordered or provided | 839,283 | 37,329 | 87.1 | 1.0 | 87.7 | 1.0 | 86.2 | 1.3 |
| None | 112,370 | 10,292 | 11.7 | 0.9 | 11.0 | 0.9 | 12.5 | 1.2 |
| Blank | 11,964 | 3,066 | 1.2 | 0.3 | 1.2 | 0.3 | *1.2 | 0.4 |
| Examinations | | | | | | | | |
| Skin | 121,633 | 10,325 | 12.6 | 0.9 | 13.3 | 1.1 | 11.7 | 0.8 |
| Breast | 56,775 | 4,512 | 5.9 | 0.4 | 9.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| Pelvic | 56,287 | 4,925 | 5.8 | 0.5 | 9.6 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| Rectal | 32,869 | 3,286 | 3.4 | 0.3 | 3.5 | 0.4 | 3.2 | 0.4 |
| Depression screening | 19,855 | 3,632 | 2.1 | 0.4 | 2.5 | 0.4 | 1.4 | 0.3 |
| Vital signs | | | | | | | | |
| Weight | 653,666 | 31,671 | 67.8 | 1.6 | 68.4 | 1.6 | 67.0 | 1.8 |
| Blood pressure | 571,844 | 30,556 | 59.3 | 1.5 | 61.6 | 1.5 | 56.1 | 1.7 |
| Height | 419,328 | 25,434 | 43.5 | 1.8 | 43.6 | 1.9 | 43.4 | 1.9 |
| Temperature | 353,206 | 24,793 | 36.7 | 1.9 | 34.6 | 2.0 | 39.5 | 2.1 |
| Blood tests | | | | | | | | |
| CBC ⁴ | 118,978 | 9,838 | 12.3 | 0.9 | 13.0 | 0.9 | 11.5 | 0.9 |
| Lipids/Cholesterol | 74,930 | 6,465 | 7.8 | 0.6 | 7.3 | 0.6 | 8.4 | 0.6 |
| Glucose | 57,151 | 5,615 | 5.9 | 0.5 | 5.8 | 0.6 | 6.1 | 0.6 |
| Electrolytes | 55,319 | 7,028 | 5.7 | 0.7 | 5.9 | 0.7 | 5.5 | 0.7 |
| HgbA1C ⁵ | 25,020 | 2,378 | 2.6 | 0.2 | 2.2 | 0.2 | 3.1 | 0.3 |
| PSA ⁶ | 16,853 | 1,727 | 1.7 | 0.2 | ... | ... | 4.2 | 0.4 |
| Other blood test | 113,054 | 8,464 | 11.7 | 0.7 | 12.4 | 0.8 | 10.8 | 0.8 |
| Other tests | | | | | | | | |
| Urinalysis | 61,529 | 4,691 | 6.4 | 0.4 | 7.0 | 0.6 | 5.5 | 0.4 |
| EKG/ECG ⁷ | 30,707 | 3,579 | 3.2 | 0.3 | 2.9 | 0.3 | 3.5 | 0.4 |
| PAP test/Cervical cytology | 29,074 | 3,215 | 3.0 | 0.3 | 5.2 | 0.5 | ... | ... |
| Any scope procedure | 18,643 | 1,717 | 1.9 | 0.2 | 1.9 | 0.2 | 1.9 | 0.2 |
| Sigmoidoscopy/Colonoscopy | 9,358 | 1,240 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 0.1 |
| Cystoscopy | 2,119 | 349 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Biopsy | 11,071 | 1,632 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.2 |
| Chlamydia test | 5,424 | 1,018 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Spirometry/Pulmonary function test | *6,391 | 2,026 | *0.7 | 0.2 | *0.5 | 0.2 | *0.8 | 0.3 |
| Other test or service | 139,637 | 13,335 | 14.5 | 1.2 | 14.3 | 1.2 | 14.7 | 1.3 |
| Imaging | | | | | | | | |
| Any imaging | 129,786 | 8,106 | 13.5 | 0.6 | 14.9 | 0.7 | 11.5 | 0.7 |
| X-ray | 56,131 | 4,077 | 5.8 | 0.4 | 5.2 | 0.4 | 6.6 | 0.5 |
| Ultrasound | 29,646 | 3,421 | 3.1 | 0.3 | 3.9 | 0.5 | 1.9 | 0.3 |
| MRI/CT/PET ⁸ | 23,937 | 2,216 | 2.5 | 0.2 | 2.5 | 0.2 | 2.5 | 0.2 |
| Mammography | 18,346 | 1,903 | 1.9 | 0.2 | 3.3 | 0.3 | ... | ... |
| Bone mineral density | 5,428 | 870 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 0.1 | *0.2 | 0.1 |
| Other imaging | 14,690 | 1,740 | 1.5 | 0.2 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 1.4 | 0.2 |

... Category not applicable.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" because more than one service may be reported per visit.²Based on 560,355,000 visits made by females.³Based on 403,262,000 visits made by males.⁴CBC is complete blood count.⁵HgbA1C is glycohemoglobin.⁶PSA is prostate-specific antigen.⁷EKG/ECG is electrocardiogram.⁸MRI is magnetic resonance imaging. CT is computed tomography. PET is positron emission tomography.

Table 19. Percent distribution of initial blood pressure measurements for adults 18 years and over at physician office visits where blood pressure was taken with corresponding standard errors, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2005

| Patient characteristics | Number of visits in thousands | Total | Initial blood pressure ¹ | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|--------|-------------|-----------------|------|---------------------------|-----|--------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | | | Low | Normal | Mildly high | Moderately high | | Severely high | Low | Normal | Mildly high | Moderately high | Severely high |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | | | Standard error of percent | | | | | |
| All visits ² | 523,206 | 100.0 | 4.0 | 21.3 | 47.1 | 20.3 | 7.4 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.5 | |
| Age | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18–24 years | 29,850 | 100.0 | 12.3 | 37.6 | 39.3 | 7.5 | *3.2 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 1.2 | 1.0 | |
| 25–44 years | 138,046 | 100.0 | 4.8 | 30.6 | 46.4 | 14.0 | 4.2 | 0.6 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 0.5 | |
| 45–64 years | 191,650 | 100.0 | 2.9 | 18.7 | 49.2 | 21.8 | 7.4 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.5 | |
| 65–74 years | 78,817 | 100.0 | 2.0 | 12.8 | 48.3 | 26.6 | 10.4 | 0.4 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.1 | |
| 75 years and over | 84,844 | 100.0 | 4.1 | 14.0 | 45.3 | 25.5 | 11.1 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 1.1 | |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Female | 321,489 | 100.0 | 4.9 | 23.8 | 45.4 | 18.9 | 7.0 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.6 | |
| Male | 201,718 | 100.0 | 2.6 | 17.3 | 49.9 | 22.3 | 7.9 | 0.3 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.8 | 0.6 | |
| Race ³ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 447,420 | 100.0 | 4.0 | 21.3 | 47.3 | 20.1 | 7.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.5 | |
| Black | 49,463 | 100.0 | 3.5 | 19.9 | 44.2 | 23.1 | 9.4 | 0.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.1 | |
| Asian | 21,222 | 100.0 | *3.8 | 24.0 | 49.7 | 17.2 | 5.3 | 1.3 | 3.5 | 4.3 | 3.2 | 1.2 | |
| Other | *5,101 | 100.0 | *5.9 | *24.5 | 48.6 | 17.6 | *3.3 | 2.2 | 8.5 | 6.1 | 4.5 | 1.8 | |
| Ethnicity | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 48,580 | 100.0 | 4.7 | 23.6 | 45.5 | 19.0 | 7.2 | 1.0 | 2.1 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 1.0 | |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 474,626 | 100.0 | 3.9 | 21.0 | 47.3 | 20.4 | 7.4 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.5 | |

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹Blood pressure levels were categorized using the following hierarchical definitions: Severely high blood pressure is defined as 160 mm Hg systolic or above, or 100 mm Hg diastolic or above. Moderately high blood pressure is defined as 140–159 mm Hg systolic or 90–99 mm Hg diastolic. Mildly high blood pressure is defined as 120–139 mm Hg systolic or 80–89 mm Hg diastolic. Low blood pressure is defined as less than 100 mm Hg systolic or less than 60 mm Hg diastolic. Normal blood pressure is defined as 100–119 mm Hg systolic and 60–79 mm Hg diastolic.

²Visits where blood pressure was taken represent 67.2 percent (SE=1.6) of all office visits made by adults (18+ years of age). In 26.2 percent (SE=1.8) of visits by children (0–17 years of age) a blood pressure was recorded. Blood pressure classification was based on the Seventh Report of the Joint National Committee on prevention, detection, evaluation and treatment of high blood pressure (21).

³Other race includes visits by Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and multiple races. All race categories include visits by persons of Hispanic or not Hispanic origin. Starting with data year 1999, race- and ethnicity-specific estimates have been tabulated according to 1997 Standards for Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The percentage of visit records with multiple races indicated is small and lower than in household surveys.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 20. Number and percentage of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by health education services ordered or provided, according to patient's sex: United States, 2005

| Health education services ordered or provided | Number of visits in thousands ¹ | Standard error in thousands | Percent of visits | Standard error of percent | Female ² | | Male ³ | |
|---|--|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | Percent of visits | Standard error of percent | Percent of visits | Standard error of percent |
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| One or more health education services ordered or provided | 370,313 | 23,688 | 38.4 | 1.6 | 38.5 | 1.7 | 38.3 | 1.7 |
| None | 569,663 | 26,336 | 59.1 | 1.6 | 59.0 | 1.6 | 59.3 | 1.7 |
| Blank | 23,641 | 4,326 | 2.5 | 0.4 | 2.5 | 0.4 | 2.4 | 0.5 |
| Diet/nutrition | 142,622 | 10,513 | 14.8 | 0.9 | 15.1 | 0.9 | 14.4 | 0.9 |
| Exercise | 104,805 | 9,166 | 10.9 | 0.8 | 11.1 | 0.8 | 10.6 | 0.9 |
| Weight reduction | 43,820 | 4,632 | 4.5 | 0.4 | 5.0 | 0.5 | 4.0 | 0.4 |
| Injury prevention | 41,365 | 5,307 | 4.3 | 0.5 | 3.6 | 0.5 | 5.3 | 0.6 |
| Stress management | 39,794 | 5,616 | 4.1 | 0.5 | 4.6 | 0.6 | 3.4 | 0.5 |
| Growth/development | 38,410 | 4,801 | 4.0 | 0.5 | 3.5 | 0.5 | 4.6 | 0.6 |
| Tobacco use/exposure | 32,302 | 3,099 | 3.4 | 0.3 | 3.1 | 0.3 | 3.7 | 0.3 |
| Asthma education | 13,609 | 1,778 | 1.4 | 0.2 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 1.7 | 0.3 |
| Other | 165,120 | 15,773 | 17.1 | 1.3 | 17.7 | 1.4 | 16.4 | 1.4 |

... Category not applicable.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" because more than one type of health education may be reported per visit.

²Based on 560,355,000 visits made by females.

³Based on 403,262,000 visits made by males.

Table 21. Number and percentage of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by nonmedication treatment ordered or provided: United States, 2005

| Nonmedication treatment ordered or provided | Number of visits in thousands ¹ | Standard error in thousands | Percent of visits | Standard error of percent |
|--|--|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | ... | ... |
| One or more nonmedication treatments ordered or provided | 170,481 | 9,938 | 17.7 | 0.8 |
| None | 792,675 | 35,714 | 82.3 | 0.8 |
| Blank | * | ... | * | ... |
| Physical therapy | 22,850 | 2,764 | 2.4 | 0.3 |
| Excision of tissue | 22,698 | 3,112 | 2.4 | 0.3 |
| Psychotherapy | 21,985 | 2,920 | 2.3 | 0.3 |
| Wound care | 19,853 | 2,579 | 2.1 | 0.3 |
| Orthopedic care | 18,621 | 3,076 | 1.9 | 0.3 |
| Other mental health counseling | 13,959 | 2,034 | 1.4 | 0.2 |
| Durable medical equipment | 7,286 | 1,335 | 0.8 | 0.1 |
| Complementary alternative medicine (CAM) | 5,333 | 1,416 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| Home health care | 2,476 | 584 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Speech or occupational therapy | 1,894 | 448 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Hospice care | * | ... | * | ... |

... Category not applicable.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

0.0 Quantity more than zero, but less than 0.05.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" because more than one treatment may be reported per visit.**Table 22. Number and percent distribution of write-in surgical procedures ordered or performed with corresponding standard errors by procedure category: United States; 2005**

| Procedure or operation category and ICD-9-CM code range ¹ | Number of procedures in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| All write-in procedures. | 65,919 | 4,636 | 100.0 | ... |
| Nervous system 01-05 | 1,893 | 547 | 2.9 | 0.8 |
| Eye 08-16 | 5,228 | 1,126 | 7.9 | 1.7 |
| Ear 18-20 | 1,192 | 340 | 1.8 | 0.5 |
| Nose, mouth, and pharynx 21-29 | 1,836 | 383 | 2.8 | 0.6 |
| Cardiovascular system 35-39 | 2,365 | 500 | 3.6 | 0.8 |
| Digestive system 42-54 | 14,276 | 1,816 | 21.7 | 2.5 |
| Urinary system 55-59 | 3,174 | 521 | 4.8 | 0.8 |
| Male genital organs 60-64 | 717 | 125 | 1.1 | 0.2 |
| Female genital organs. 65-71 | 2,303 | 625 | 3.5 | 0.9 |
| Obstetrical procedures 72-75 | *2,254 | 984 | *3.4 | 1.4 |
| Musculoskeletal system. 76-84 | 5,717 | 736 | 8.7 | 1.2 |
| Integumentary system. 85-86 | 23,392 | 3,422 | 35.5 | 3.6 |
| Other procedures ² | 1,573 | 378 | 2.4 | 0.6 |

... Category not applicable.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹Based on the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-9-CM) (23). At least one surgical procedure was ordered or performed at 6.2 percent of office visits.²Includes operations on the endocrine system (ICD-9-CM codes 06-07), operations on the respiratory system (ICD-9-CM codes 30-34), and operations on the hemic and lymphatic system (ICD-9-CM codes 40-41).

NOTE: Included are responses to the write-in fields on the Patient Record form under Diagnostic/Screening Services (item 7.24, Scope procedures, and item 7.27, Other test/service) and Non-Medication Treatment (item 9.13 and 9.14, Procedures). Up to two procedures could be coded for each category, for a total of eight procedures per visit. In addition to the surgical procedures shown in this table, there were an additional 202,779,000 nonsurgical procedures reported (ICD-9-CM, Volume 3, codes 00, 87-99).

Table 23. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by medication therapy and number of medications provided or prescribed, according to patient's sex: United States, 2005

| Visit characteristic | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Female ¹ | | Male ² | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent |
| Medication therapy ³ | | | | | | | | |
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | ... | 100.0 | ... | 100.0 | ... |
| Visits with mention of medication ⁴ | 679,249 | 31,173 | 70.5 | 1.2 | 70.9 | 1.3 | 69.9 | 1.2 |
| Visits without mention of medication | 284,368 | 16,115 | 29.5 | 1.2 | 29.1 | 1.3 | 30.1 | 1.2 |
| Number of medications provided or prescribed by a physician | | | | | | | | |
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | ... | 100.0 | ... | 100.0 | ... |
| 0 | 284,368 | 16,115 | 29.5 | 1.2 | 29.1 | 1.3 | 30.1 | 1.2 |
| 1 | 237,110 | 11,222 | 24.6 | 0.9 | 24.9 | 0.9 | 24.2 | 1.0 |
| 2 | 142,934 | 6,964 | 14.8 | 0.4 | 14.0 | 0.5 | 15.9 | 0.5 |
| 3 | 90,068 | 5,103 | 9.3 | 0.4 | 9.2 | 0.4 | 9.6 | 0.4 |
| 4 | 55,508 | 3,546 | 5.8 | 0.3 | 6.2 | 0.3 | 5.2 | 0.3 |
| 5 | 41,549 | 3,437 | 4.3 | 0.3 | 4.4 | 0.3 | 4.2 | 0.4 |
| 6 | 31,060 | 2,833 | 3.2 | 0.2 | 3.4 | 0.3 | 3.0 | 0.3 |
| 7 | 26,673 | 2,736 | 2.8 | 0.2 | 2.9 | 0.3 | 2.6 | 0.3 |
| 8 | 54,347 | 6,467 | 5.6 | 0.6 | 6.0 | 0.6 | 5.2 | 0.6 |

... Category not applicable.

¹Based on 560,355,000 visits made by females.²Based on 403,262,000 visits made by males.³Includes prescription drugs, over-the-counter preparations, immunizations, and desensitizing agents.⁴Also defined as drug visits.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 24. Number and percent distribution of drug visits and drug mentions, percentage of drug visits, and drug mention rates per 100 visits with corresponding standard errors, by physician specialty: United States, 2005

| Physician specialty | Drug visits ¹ | | | | Drug mentions ² | | | | Percent of drug visits ³ | | Drug mention rates ⁴ | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------|
| | Number in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Number in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Percent | Standard error of percent | Number of drug mentions per 100 visits | Standard error of rate |
| All specialties | 679,249 | 31,173 | 100.0 | ... | 2,030,804 | 128,474 | 100.0 | ... | 70.5 | 1.2 | 210.7 | 8.1 |
| General and family practice | 176,536 | 13,695 | 26.0 | 1.7 | 557,673 | 51,341 | 27.5 | 2.2 | 81.8 | 1.5 | 258.3 | 12.5 |
| Internal medicine | 138,027 | 16,858 | 20.3 | 1.9 | 504,591 | 76,345 | 24.8 | 2.7 | 82.3 | 3.0 | 301.0 | 23.4 |
| Pediatrics | 87,944 | 7,606 | 12.9 | 1.1 | 162,989 | 15,300 | 8.0 | 0.8 | 68.2 | 1.6 | 126.4 | 5.9 |
| Obstetrics and gynecology | 35,111 | 4,196 | 5.2 | 0.7 | 58,653 | 9,861 | 2.9 | 0.5 | 54.8 | 3.0 | 91.5 | 10.7 |
| Ophthalmology | 30,324 | 5,266 | 4.5 | 0.7 | 71,404 | 14,230 | 3.5 | 0.6 | 51.4 | 4.6 | 121.0 | 16.5 |
| Psychiatry | 25,346 | 3,556 | 3.7 | 0.5 | 64,563 | 10,842 | 3.2 | 0.5 | 90.1 | 2.1 | 229.6 | 17.5 |
| Cardiovascular diseases | 23,014 | 3,431 | 3.4 | 0.5 | 115,620 | 17,028 | 5.7 | 0.8 | 85.4 | 4.0 | 429.2 | 30.9 |
| Dermatology | 22,517 | 3,789 | 3.3 | 0.6 | 50,428 | 11,595 | 2.5 | 0.6 | 69.4 | 4.4 | 155.4 | 20.5 |
| Orthopedic surgery | 19,171 | 3,021 | 2.8 | 0.4 | 40,792 | 9,070 | 2.0 | 0.4 | 41.8 | 3.5 | 89.0 | 14.0 |
| Otolaryngology | 11,397 | 1,887 | 1.7 | 0.3 | 23,052 | 5,178 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 50.8 | 4.8 | 102.7 | 18.4 |
| Urology | 10,487 | 1,340 | 1.5 | 0.2 | 25,562 | 4,421 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 55.4 | 3.6 | 135.1 | 18.7 |
| Neurology | 10,217 | 1,437 | 1.5 | 0.2 | 31,781 | 6,235 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 78.4 | 3.1 | 243.9 | 29.3 |
| General surgery | 9,804 | 1,890 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 28,114 | 5,423 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 40.8 | 4.4 | 116.9 | 15.8 |
| All other specialties | 79,355 | 11,512 | 11.7 | 1.6 | 295,581 | 52,537 | 14.6 | 2.3 | 68.3 | 3.8 | 254.3 | 25.5 |

... Category not applicable.

¹Visits at which one or more drugs were provided or prescribed by the physician.

²Number of drugs mentioned at visits (up to eight per visit).

³Percentage of visits that included one or more drug mentions (number of drug visits divided by number of office visits multiplied by 100).

⁴Average number of drugs that were mentioned per 100 visits (number of drug mentions divided by total number of visits multiplied by 100).

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 25. Number and percentage of drug mentions for the 20 most frequently occurring therapeutic classes at office visits with corresponding standard errors: United States, 2005

| Therapeutic class ¹ | Number of occurrences in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent of drug mentions ² | Standard error of percent |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Antidepressants | 107,070 | 8,999 | 5.3 | 0.3 |
| Antihypertensive agents | 105,295 | 9,577 | 5.2 | 0.2 |
| Hyperlipidemia | 101,004 | 8,633 | 5.0 | 0.2 |
| Antiarthritics | 85,511 | 7,856 | 4.2 | 0.2 |
| Antiasthmatics or bronchodilators | 83,741 | 6,971 | 4.1 | 0.2 |
| Nonnarcotic analgesics | 83,560 | 6,782 | 4.1 | 0.2 |
| Antipyretics | 75,381 | 6,582 | 3.7 | 0.2 |
| Acid or peptic disorders | 75,346 | 6,633 | 3.7 | 0.2 |
| NSAIDs ³ | 75,277 | 6,063 | 3.7 | 0.2 |
| Blood glucose regulators | 72,535 | 6,488 | 3.6 | 0.2 |
| Vitamins or minerals | 65,973 | 5,260 | 3.2 | 0.2 |
| Antihistamines | 65,516 | 4,613 | 3.2 | 0.1 |
| Beta blockers | 62,726 | 5,300 | 3.1 | 0.2 |
| Vaccines or antisera | 61,155 | 7,649 | 3.0 | 0.4 |
| ACE inhibitors ⁴ | 59,474 | 5,100 | 2.9 | 0.1 |
| Diuretics | 58,671 | 5,488 | 2.9 | 0.2 |
| Narcotic analgesics | 55,001 | 5,818 | 2.7 | 0.2 |
| Calcium channel blockers | 49,135 | 4,340 | 2.4 | 0.1 |
| Adrenal corticosteroids | 42,751 | 3,735 | 2.1 | 0.1 |
| Thyroid or antithyroid | 41,745 | 4,261 | 2.1 | 0.1 |

¹Based on the standard four-digit drug classification used in the *National Drug Code Directory*, 1995 edition (26).

²Based on an estimated 2,030,804,000 drug mentions at office visits in 2005.

³NSAIDs are nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

⁴ACE is angiotensin-converting enzyme.

Table 26. Number, percent distribution, and therapeutic classes of the 20 most frequently mentioned generic equivalents at office visits, by new or continued drug status, with corresponding standard errors: United States, 2005

| Generic equivalent ¹ | Number of mentions in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent | Percent distribution | | | | Standard error of percent | | | Thearapeutic class ² |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|------|-----------|---------|---------------------------|-----------|---------|--|
| | | | | | Total | New | Continued | Unknown | New | Continued | Unknown | |
| All drug mentions. | 2,030,804 | 128,474 | 100.0 | . . . | 100.0 | 25.6 | 69.8 | 4.5 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.4 | . . . |
| Aspirin | 53,668 | 5,278 | 2.6 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 5.7 | 90.7 | 3.7 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 0.8 | Nonnarcotic analgesics, antiarthritics, antipyretics |
| Atorvastatin calcium | 44,207 | 3,793 | 2.2 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 5.1 | 92.7 | 2.3 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.7 | Hyperlipidemia |
| Levothyroxine | 38,749 | 3,976 | 1.9 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 4.7 | 92.5 | 2.8 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.7 | Thyroid or antithyroid |
| Metoprolol | 34,179 | 3,521 | 1.7 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 8.0 | 88.8 | *3.2 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.0 | Beta blockers |
| Albuterol | 28,111 | 2,283 | 1.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 23.9 | 71.2 | 4.9 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 1.4 | Antiasthmatics or bronchodilators |
| Lisinopril | 27,854 | 3,023 | 1.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 8.1 | 87.6 | *4.2 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.3 | ACE inhibitors ³ |
| Ibuprofen | 24,474 | 2,192 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 47.0 | 46.4 | 6.6 | 3.2 | 3.7 | 1.5 | NSAIDs ⁴ |
| Furosemide | 23,633 | 2,500 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 8.2 | 87.9 | 3.9 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 0.9 | Diuretics |
| Acetaminophen | 23,339 | 2,636 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 51.2 | 42.0 | 6.9 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 1.8 | Nonnarcotic analgesics, antipyretics |
| Hydrochlorothiazide | 23,114 | 2,227 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 7.8 | 90.3 | *1.9 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 0.8 | Diuretics |
| Acetaminophen with hydrocodone . . | 22,897 | 2,843 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 34.8 | 60.4 | *4.8 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 3.0 | Narcotic analgesics |
| Simvastatin | 19,855 | 2,397 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 5.4 | 91.5 | *3.1 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 1.3 | Hyperlipidemia |
| Metformin | 19,813 | 2,105 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 7.7 | 87.5 | 4.8 | 1.8 | 2.3 | 1.3 | Blood glucose regulators |
| Amlodipine | 19,715 | 2,130 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 6.5 | 91.2 | *2.2 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 0.8 | Calcium channel blockers |
| Atenolol | 19,348 | 1,659 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 6.3 | 91.6 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 0.5 | Beta blockers |
| Amoxicillin | 19,252 | 1,705 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 85.4 | 10.3 | *4.3 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 1.4 | Penicillins |
| Prednisone | 18,479 | 2,471 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 28.5 | 69.6 | *1.9 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 0.7 | Adrenal corticosteroids |
| Esomeprazole magnesium | 17,621 | 2,200 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 17.0 | 81.0 | *2.0 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.8 | Acid and peptic disorders |
| Warfarin sodium | 16,846 | 2,117 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 100.0 | *4.5 | 92.6 | *2.9 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 0.9 | Anticoagulants and thrombolytics |
| Alprazolam | 16,331 | 2,511 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 12.6 | 84.7 | *2.7 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 0.9 | Antianxiety agents |
| Other | 1,519,319 | 92,101 | 74.8 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 28.6 | 66.6 | 4.9 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 0.4 | . . . |

. . . Category not applicable.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹A generic equivalent of a drug is the combination of ingredients that make up the drug. For example, Anexsia, Bancap HC, and Dolacet all have the generic equivalent "Acetaminophen with hydrocodone." Thus, the number of drug mentions for "Acetaminophen with hydrocodone" is the sum of all drug mentions that have this generic equivalent.²Based on the standard drug classification used in the *National Drug Code Directory* (NDC), 1995 edition (26). In the NDC, therapeutic classes are assigned to drugs using 21 broad categories (two-digit level), and into specific categories (four-digit level) within each broad group. In the NAMCS, up to three therapeutic classes can be coded for each drug. Drugs are counted in each class where they may occur.³ACE is angiotensin-converting enzyme.⁴NSAIDs are nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

Table 27. Number and percentage of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by providers seen: United States, 2005

| Type of provider | Number of visits in thousands ¹ | Standard error in thousands | Percent of visits | Standard error of percent |
|--|--|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | ... | ... |
| Physician. | 926,951 | 38,537 | 96.2 | 0.6 |
| R.N. ² or L.P.N. ³ | 269,455 | 27,784 | 28.0 | 2.3 |
| Physician assistant. | 41,102 | 7,109 | 4.3 | 0.7 |
| Nurse practitioner or midwife | 17,568 | 4,895 | 1.8 | 0.5 |
| Other provider | 153,419 | 14,738 | 15.9 | 1.4 |

... Category not applicable.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" because more than one provider may be reported per visit.

²R.N. is registered nurse.

³L.P.N. is licensed practical nurse.

Table 28. Number and percentage of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by visit disposition: United States, 2005

| Disposition | Number of visits in thousands ¹ | Standard error in thousands | Percent of visits | Standard error of percent |
|---|--|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | ... | ... |
| Return at specified time. | 623,680 | 29,296 | 64.7 | 1.3 |
| Return if needed, P.R.N. ² | 264,778 | 19,345 | 27.5 | 1.4 |
| Refer to other physician | 64,150 | 5,295 | 6.7 | 0.4 |
| No followup planned. | 61,658 | 5,299 | 6.4 | 0.5 |
| Telephone follow-up planned. | 18,637 | 3,289 | 1.9 | 0.3 |
| Admit to hospital | 4,253 | 1,207 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| Refer to emergency department. | 2,014 | 502 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Other disposition | 10,746 | 1,442 | 1.1 | 0.2 |
| Blank | 20,499 | 4,448 | 2.1 | 0.5 |

... Category not applicable.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" because more than one disposition may be reported per visit.

²P.R.N. is "as needed."

Table 29. Number and percent distribution of office visits with corresponding standard errors, by time spent with physician: United States, 2005

| Time spent with physician | Number of visits in thousands | Standard error in thousands | Percent distribution | Standard error of percent |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| All visits | 963,617 | 40,611 | 100.0 | ... |
| Visits at which no physician was seen. | 36,667 | 6,352 | 3.8 | 0.6 |
| Visits at which a physician was seen. | 926,951 | 38,537 | 96.2 | 0.6 |
| Total. | 926,951 | 38,537 | 100.0 | ... |
| 1–5 minutes | 23,935 | 3,754 | 2.6 | 0.4 |
| 6–10 minutes. | 157,951 | 11,577 | 17.0 | 1.1 |
| 11–15 minutes | 331,723 | 19,543 | 35.8 | 1.3 |
| 16–30 minutes. | 341,258 | 19,375 | 36.8 | 1.3 |
| 31–60 minutes. | 67,880 | 6,396 | 7.3 | 0.7 |
| 61 minutes and over | 4,205 | 853 | 0.5 | 0.1 |

... Category not applicable.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 30. Mean time spent with physician with corresponding standard errors and percentiles, by physician specialty: United States, 2005

| Physician specialty | Mean time in minutes spent with physician ¹ | Standard error in of mean | 25th percentile | Median | 75th percentile |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------|--------------------|
| All visits | 19.7 | 0.3 | 14.1 | 14.8 | 24.1 |
| Psychiatry | 31.4 | 1.6 | 14.6 | 29.3 | 44.5 |
| Neurology | 26.8 | 1.3 | 14.6 | 19.8 | 29.8 |
| Internal medicine | 21.5 | 1.1 | 13.7 | 14.9 | 25.1 |
| General and family practice | 19.9 | 0.6 | 14.2 | 14.9 | 24.3 |
| Cardiovascular diseases | 19.3 | 0.9 | 14.3 | 14.9 | 20.0 |
| Obstetrics and gynecology | 19.0 | 0.8 | 14.1 | 14.9 | 21.5 |
| General surgery | 19.0 | 1.1 | 9.7 | 14.7 | 20.0 |
| Otolaryngology | 18.1 | 0.8 | 9.9 | 14.5 | 19.8 |
| Urology | 18.1 | 0.6 | 14.1 | 14.7 | 19.8 |
| Ophthalmology | 17.9 | 1.0 | 9.6 | 14.6 | 24.0 |
| Orthopedic surgery | 17.8 | 0.9 | 9.9 | 14.6 | 19.7 |
| Pediatrics | 16.3 | 0.5 | 9.8 | 14.5 | 19.4 |
| Dermatology | 16.2 | 0.9 | 9.6 | 14.3 | 17.0 |
| All other specialties | 20.5 | 1.2 | 14.1 | 15.0 | 23.8 |

¹Only visits where a physician was seen are included.

Table 31. Characteristics of the 2005 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, physician respondents and nonrespondents

| Physician characteristic ¹ | Number of sampled in-scope physicians ² | Total sample percent distribution ³ (weighted) | Responding physician percent distribution ⁴ (weighted) | Nonresponding physician percent distribution ⁵ (weighted) | Weighted response rate ⁶ |
|--|--|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| All office-based physicians | 1,936 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 0.625 |
| Age | | | | | |
| Under 50 years | 892 | 47.7 | 47.7 | 47.7 | 0.626 |
| 50 years and over | 1,044 | 52.3 | 52.3 | 52.3 | 0.625 |
| Sex ⁷ | | | | | |
| Male | 1,555 | 77.0 | 74.7 | 80.9 | 0.606 |
| Female | 381 | 23.0 | 25.3 | 19.1 | 0.689 |
| Region | | | | | |
| Northeast | 433 | 20.9 | 22.0 | 19.1 | 0.657 |
| Midwest | 426 | 21.4 | 20.3 | 23.3 | 0.592 |
| South | 642 | 34.9 | 34.5 | 35.6 | 0.618 |
| West | 435 | 22.7 | 23.2 | 21.9 | 0.638 |
| Metropolitan status ⁸ | | | | | |
| MSA | 1,736 | 88.9 | 88.5 | 89.4 | 0.623 |
| Not MSA | 200 | 11.1 | 11.5 | 10.6 | 0.644 |
| Type of doctor | | | | | |
| Doctor of medicine | 1781 | 93.9 | 94.4 | 92.9 | 0.629 |
| Doctor of osteopathy | 155 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 7.1 | 0.567 |
| Physician specialty ^{7,9} | | | | | |
| General and family practice | 295 | 18.4 | 17.9 | 19.3 | 0.607 |
| Internal medicine | 121 | 15.4 | 13.9 | 18.1 | 0.562 |
| Pediatrics | 128 | 10.4 | 12.1 | 7.4 | 0.731 |
| General surgery | 114 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 3.1 | 0.689 |
| Obstetrics and gynecology | 106 | 7.1 | 7.4 | 6.7 | 0.649 |
| Orthopedic surgery | 109 | 4.7 | 4.5 | 5.1 | 0.598 |
| Cardiovascular diseases | 154 | 4.1 | 3.5 | 5.2 | 0.532 |
| Dermatology | 90 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 1.8 | 0.685 |
| Urology | 110 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 0.672 |
| Psychiatry | 157 | 5.7 | 5.4 | 6.3 | 0.587 |
| Neurology | 155 | 2.1 | 1.6 | 2.8 | 0.494 |
| Ophthalmology | 103 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 0.641 |
| Otolaryngology | 108 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 0.620 |
| All other specialties | 186 | 18.0 | 18.9 | 16.5 | 0.655 |
| Specialty type ⁹ | | | | | |
| Primary care | 644 | 50.9 | 50.7 | 51.3 | 0.622 |
| Surgical | 595 | 21.6 | 22.0 | 20.7 | 0.640 |
| Medical | 697 | 27.5 | 27.3 | 27.9 | 0.620 |
| Practice type | | | | | |
| Solo | 548 | 27.6 | 26.3 | 29.8 | 0.595 |
| Two physicians | 119 | 6.4 | 6.3 | 6.5 | 0.619 |
| Group or HMO ¹⁰ | 814 | 40.6 | 41.5 | 39.1 | 0.639 |
| Medical school or government | 31 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 0.7 | 0.821 |
| Other | 33 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 0.662 |
| Unclassified | 391 | 22.6 | 22.6 | 22.7 | 0.624 |
| Annual visit volume ¹¹ | | | | | |
| Low | 645 | 32.3 | 34.2 | 29.2 | 0.662 |
| Medium | 644 | 31.5 | 29.8 | 34.3 | 0.592 |
| High | 647 | 36.2 | 36.1 | 36.6 | 0.622 |

¹Characteristic information is from the master files of the American Medical Association and the American Osteopathic Association.²In-scope physicians are those who verified that they were nonfederal and involved in direct patient care in an office-based setting, excluding the specialties of radiology, pathology, and anesthesiology.³Total physicians are those who were selected from the master files of the American Medical Association and the American Osteopathic Association, and determined to be in-scope.⁴Responding physicians are those who were in-scope and agreed to participate in the NAMCS.⁵Nonresponding physicians are those who were in-scope and refused to participate in the NAMCS.⁶Numerator is the number of in-scope physicians who participated in the NAMCS or who did not see any patients during their sampled reporting week. Denominator is all in-scope sampled physicians.⁷Chi-square test of association is significant at $p < 0.05$.⁸MSA is metropolitan statistical area.⁹Physician specialty and specialty type are defined in "Physician specialty groups" section of "Methods."¹⁰HMO is health maintenance organization.¹¹Low is the lowest third of annual visit volume, medium is the middle third, and high is the highest third.

Technical Notes

| NAMCS-30 <small>(9-05-0204)</small> | | <small>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Economic and Statistics Administration U.S. CENSUS BUREAU ACHS 40-3474 (02-03-04) 4000-1000-1000-1000 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Health Statistics</small> | |
|--|---|---|--|
| NATIONAL AMBULATORY MEDICAL CARE SURVEY 2005 PATIENT RECORD | | | |
| Assurance of confidentiality – All information which would permit identification of an individual, a practice, or an establishment will be held confidential, will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purpose of the survey and will not be disclosed or released to other persons or used for any other purpose without consent of the individual or the establishment in accordance with section 308(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 242m). | | | |
| <small>NAMCS-30 (9-05-0204)</small> | | | |
| 1. PATIENT INFORMATION | | | |
| a. Date of visit Month: <input type="text"/> Day: <input type="text"/> Year: <input type="text"/> | d. Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Female – Is patient pregnant? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Specify gestation week: <input type="text"/> OR <input type="checkbox"/> Male | e. Ethnicity <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino | g. Tobacco use <input type="checkbox"/> Not current <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Former |
| b. ZIP code <input type="text"/> | c. Date of birth Month: <input type="text"/> Day: <input type="text"/> Year: <input type="text"/> | f. Race – Mark (X) one or more <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaska Native | h. Expected source(s) of payment for this visit – Mark (X) all that apply <input type="checkbox"/> Private insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Medicare <input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid/Medicaid <input type="checkbox"/> Worker's compensation <input type="checkbox"/> Self-pay <input type="checkbox"/> No charge/Charity |
| 2. INJURY/POISONING/ADVERSE EFFECT Is this visit related to any of the following? <input type="checkbox"/> Unintentional injury/poisoning <input type="checkbox"/> Intentional injury/poisoning <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse effect of medical/surgical care or adverse effect of medicinal drug <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown | | | |
| 3. REASON FOR VISIT Patient's complaint(s), symptom(s), or other reason(s) for this visit – Use patient's own words. (1) Most important: <input type="text"/> (2) Other: <input type="text"/> (3) Other: <input type="text"/> | | | |
| 4. CONTINUITY OF CARE a. Are you the patient's primary care physician/provider? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – SKOP to item 4b <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown Was patient referred for this visit? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown b. Has the patient been seen in your practice before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, established patient – How many past visits in the last 12 months? Exclude this visit. <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6+ <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No, new patient c. Major reason for this visit <input type="checkbox"/> New problem (<3 mos. onset) <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic problem, routine <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic problem, flare-up <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Post-surgery <input type="checkbox"/> Preventive care (e.g., routine prenatal, well-baby, screening, insurance, general exams) | | | |
| 5. PHYSICIAN'S DIAGNOSIS FOR THIS VISIT a. As specifically as possible, list diagnoses related to this visit including chronic conditions. (1) Primary diagnosis: <input type="text"/> (2) Other: <input type="text"/> (3) Other: <input type="text"/> b. Regardless of the diagnoses written in 5a, does the patient now have – Mark (X) all that apply. <input type="checkbox"/> Arthritis <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer <input type="checkbox"/> Cardiovascular disease <input type="checkbox"/> CHF <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic renal failure <input type="checkbox"/> COPD <input type="checkbox"/> Depression <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes <input type="checkbox"/> Hyperlipidemia <input type="checkbox"/> Hypertension <input type="checkbox"/> Ischemic heart disease <input type="checkbox"/> Obesity <input type="checkbox"/> Osteoporosis <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above c. Status of patient enrollment in a disease management program for any of the conditions marked in 5b. <input type="checkbox"/> Currently enrolled <input type="checkbox"/> Ordered/advised to enroll at this visit <input type="checkbox"/> Not enrolled <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown | | | |
| 6. VITAL SIGNS (1) Height: <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> in <input type="checkbox"/> cm (2) Weight: <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> lb <input type="checkbox"/> kg (3) Temperature: <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> F (4) Blood pressure: <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> | | | |
| 7. DIAGNOSTIC/SCREENING SERVICES Mark (X) all ordered or provided at this visit. <input type="checkbox"/> NONE Examinations: <input type="checkbox"/> Breast <input type="checkbox"/> Pelvic <input type="checkbox"/> Rectal <input type="checkbox"/> Skin <input type="checkbox"/> Depression screening Imaging: <input type="checkbox"/> Bone mineral density <input type="checkbox"/> Mammography <input type="checkbox"/> MR/CT/PET <input type="checkbox"/> Ultrasound <input type="checkbox"/> X-ray <input type="checkbox"/> Other imaging Blood tests: <input type="checkbox"/> CBC (complete blood count) <input type="checkbox"/> Electrolytes <input type="checkbox"/> Glucose <input type="checkbox"/> HbA1C (glycohemoglobin) <input type="checkbox"/> Lipids/Cholesterol <input type="checkbox"/> PSA (prostate specific antigen) <input type="checkbox"/> Other blood test Other tests: <input type="checkbox"/> Biopsy <input type="checkbox"/> Chlamydia test <input type="checkbox"/> EKG/ECG <input type="checkbox"/> PAP test/Cervical cytology <input type="checkbox"/> Scope procedure (e.g., colonoscopy) – Specify: <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Spirometry/Pulmonary function test <input type="checkbox"/> Urinalysis (UA) <input type="checkbox"/> Other test/service – Specify: <input type="text"/> | | | |
| 8. HEALTH EDUCATION Mark (X) all ordered or provided at this visit. <input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma education <input type="checkbox"/> Diet/Nutrition <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise <input type="checkbox"/> Growth/Development <input type="checkbox"/> Injury prevention <input type="checkbox"/> Stress management <input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco use/Exposure <input type="checkbox"/> Weight reduction <input type="checkbox"/> Other | | | |
| 9. NON-MEDICATION TREATMENT Mark (X) all ordered or provided at this visit. <input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input type="checkbox"/> Complementary alternative medicine (CAM) <input type="checkbox"/> Durable medical equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Home health care <input type="checkbox"/> Hospice care <input type="checkbox"/> Physical therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Speech/Occupational therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Psychotherapy <input type="checkbox"/> Other mental health counseling <input type="checkbox"/> Excision of tissue <input type="checkbox"/> Orthopedic care <input type="checkbox"/> Wound care Procedures: <input type="checkbox"/> Other non-surgical procedures – Specify: <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Other surgical procedures – Specify: <input type="text"/> | | | |
| 10. MEDICATIONS & IMMUNIZATIONS <input type="checkbox"/> NONE Include Rx and OTC drugs, immunizations, allergy shots, anesthetics, and dietary supplements that were ordered, supplied, administered or continued during the visit. (1) <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (2) <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (3) <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (4) <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (5) <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (6) <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (7) <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (8) <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| 11. PROVIDERS Mark (X) all providers seen at this visit. <input type="checkbox"/> Physician <input type="checkbox"/> Physician assistant <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse practitioner/Michelle <input type="checkbox"/> RN/LPN <input type="checkbox"/> Other 12. VISIT DISPOSITION Mark (X) all that apply. <input type="checkbox"/> No follow-up planned <input type="checkbox"/> Return if needed, PRN <input type="checkbox"/> Refer to other physician <input type="checkbox"/> Return at specified time <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone follow-up planned <input type="checkbox"/> Refer to emergency department <input type="checkbox"/> Admit to hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Other 13. TIME SPENT WITH PHYSICIAN Minutes: <input type="text"/> Enter zero if no physician seen | | | |

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