In 2010, there were an estimated 1 billion visits to nonfederally employed, office-based physicians in the United States. Almost half of the visits were made by persons 25–64 years of age.

Percent distribution of office visits by patient’s age: 2010

The annual visit rate increased with age from age 15. The visit rate was highest for persons 75 years and over. Females had a higher visit rate than males.

Annual office visit rates by patient’s age and sex: 2010

Medications were provided or prescribed at 74 percent of office visits. The top 5 generic substances utilized were:

- Aspirin
- Simvastatin
- Lisinopril
- Levothyroxine
- Albuterol

For more information, contact the Ambulatory and Hospital Care Statistics Branch at 301-458-4600 or visit our Web site at <www.cdc.gov/namcs>.
THE IMPORTANCE OF NAMCS DATA

Physician Office Visits

NAMCS data are widely used in research studies appearing in nationally recognized medical journals, including *JAMA*, *Archives of Internal Medicine* (renamed *JAMA Internal Medicine*), and the *American Journal of Medicine*. Here are a few recent publications using NAMCS data:


A complete list of publications using NAMCS data, which includes articles and reports, can be found at our Web site: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd_products.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd_products.htm)