In 2009, there were an estimated 71 million visits to nonfederally employed, office-based osteopathic physicians in the United States. More than half of the visits were made by persons 25–64 years of age.

Percent distribution of office visits by patient’s age: 2009

The major reason for visit was:
- New problem — 37%
- Chronic problem, routine — 32%
- Preventative care — 17%
- Chronic problem, flare-up — 9%

The top 5 reasons given by patients for visiting osteopaths were:
- General medical examinations
- Progress visit
- Medication
- Neck symptoms
- Nasal congestion

The top 4 diagnoses were:
- Spinal disorders
- Essential hypertension
- Rheumatism, excluding back
- Acute URI, excluding pharyngitis

Medications were provided or prescribed at 76 percent of office visits. The top 5 generic substances utilized were:
- Lisinopril
- Levothyroxine
- Simvastatin
- Metoprolol
- Metformin

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

NAMCS data are widely used in research studies appearing in nationally recognized medical journals, including *JAMA, Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine*, and *Journal of Family Practice*. Here are just a few recent publications using NAMCS data:


The complete list of publications using NAMCS data, which includes hundreds of articles and reports, is available on our Web site.

NAMCS(FS)-10 (7-11)