In 2010, there were an estimated 25 million visits to nonfederally employed, office-based oncologists in the United States.

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

The annual visit rate increased with age.

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

The major reason for visit was:
- Chronic problem, routine — 72%
- New problem — 12%
- Chronic problem, flare-up — 5%
- Preventative care — 4%

The top 3 reasons given by patients for visiting oncologists were:
- Progress visit
- Cancer, breast
- Anemia

The top 3 diagnoses were:
- Malignant neoplasms, breast
- Malignant neoplasms, bronchus & lung
- Anemia

Medications were provided or prescribed at 84 percent of office visits. The top 5 generic substances utilized were:
- Aspirin
- Lisinopril
- Levothyroxine
- Omeprazole
- Acetaminophen Hydrocodone

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>.

Expected source(s) of payment included:
- Medicare — 52%
- Private insurance — 40%
- Medicaid/CHIP — 5%
THE IMPORTANCE OF NAMCS DATA

NAMCS data are widely used in research studies appearing in nationally recognized medical journals, including *JAMA*, *Annals of Family Medicine*, and the *Journal of Family Practice*. 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