

Table 83. Health care visits to doctor offices, emergency departments, and home visits within the past 12 months, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1997-2011

(Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population)

Characteristic	Number of health care visits ¹											
	None			1-3 visits			4-9 visits			10 or more visits		
	1997	2010	2011	1997	2010	2011	1997	2010	2011	1997	2010	2011
	Percent distribution											
Total, age-adjusted ^{2,3}	16.5	15.6	15.5	46.2	45.4	46.8	23.6	25.8	24.7	13.7	13.2	13.0
Total, crude ²	16.5	15.4	15.2	46.5	45.2	46.5	23.5	26.0	25.0	13.5	13.5	13.2
Age												
Under 18 years	11.8	8.1	8.3	54.1	55.6	57.3	25.2	28.2	27.0	8.9	8.2	7.4
Under 6 years	5.0	3.7	4.5	44.9	48.9	50.1	37.0	36.8	36.3	13.0	10.6	9.1
6-17 years	15.3	10.4	10.3	58.7	59.1	61.0	19.3	23.6	22.1	6.8	6.9	6.5
18-44 years	21.7	24.2	23.7	46.7	43.9	45.5	19.0	20.6	19.2	12.6	11.3	11.6
18-24 years	22.0	25.9	25.3	46.8	43.4	46.1	20.0	21.1	18.6	11.2	9.6	10.1
25-44 years	21.6	23.6	23.2	46.7	44.1	45.4	18.7	20.5	19.4	13.0	11.9	12.1
45-64 years	16.9	14.8	14.6	42.9	42.8	44.0	24.7	26.1	26.0	15.5	16.4	15.3
45-54 years	17.9	17.6	16.8	43.9	43.5	45.2	23.4	23.9	24.1	14.8	15.0	13.9
55-64 years	15.3	11.1	12.0	41.3	41.9	42.7	26.7	28.8	28.3	16.7	18.2	17.0
65 years and over	8.9	5.3	5.5	34.7	33.8	34.0	32.5	36.7	35.8	23.8	24.2	24.7
65-74 years	9.8	6.3	6.2	36.9	36.1	36.0	31.6	35.7	34.9	21.6	21.9	22.9
75 years and over	7.7	4.1	4.7	31.8	31.0	31.5	33.8	38.0	37.0	26.6	27.0	26.8
Sex³												
Male	21.3	20.4	20.0	47.1	46.4	47.8	20.6	22.7	21.9	11.0	10.5	10.3
Female	11.8	10.9	11.0	45.4	44.4	45.9	26.5	28.8	27.6	16.3	15.9	15.5
Race^{3,4}												
White only	16.0	15.3	15.2	46.1	44.9	46.4	23.9	26.1	25.1	14.0	13.7	13.2
Black or African American only	16.8	15.7	15.0	46.1	47.2	47.6	23.2	24.7	24.3	13.9	12.4	13.1
American Indian or Alaska Native only	17.1	19.4	18.6	38.0	40.3	47.5	24.2	28.1	22.2	20.7	12.2	11.7
Asian only	22.8	20.4	20.4	49.1	49.9	49.8	19.7	22.1	22.1	8.3	7.6	7.8
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only	---	*	*	---	*	*	---	*	*	---	*	*
2 or more races	---	13.9	14.0	---	42.3	45.7	---	25.2	24.3	---	18.6	15.9
Hispanic origin and race^{3,4}												
Hispanic or Latino	24.9	23.5	23.3	42.3	43.2	43.7	20.3	22.6	22.6	12.5	10.7	10.4
Mexican	28.9	25.2	25.6	40.8	43.3	42.8	18.5	21.4	21.8	11.8	10.1	9.9
Not Hispanic or Latino	15.4	14.0	13.9	46.7	45.8	47.4	24.0	26.5	25.2	13.9	13.7	13.4
White only	14.7	13.2	13.1	46.6	45.3	47.1	24.4	27.1	25.9	14.3	14.4	13.9
Black or African American only	16.9	15.6	14.8	46.1	47.3	47.9	23.1	24.9	24.3	13.8	12.2	13.0
Percent of poverty level^{3,5}												
Below 100%	20.6	20.4	18.9	37.8	37.5	39.5	22.7	25.1	24.7	18.9	17.0	16.9
100%-199%	20.1	20.8	21.1	43.3	42.1	42.7	21.7	23.1	22.7	14.9	13.9	13.5
200%-399%	16.4	16.2	15.7	47.2	46.3	48.1	23.6	25.4	23.8	12.8	12.1	12.4
400% or more	12.8	10.2	10.5	49.8	49.4	51.0	24.9	27.6	26.8	12.5	12.7	11.7
Hispanic origin and race and percent of poverty level^{3,4,5}												
Hispanic or Latino:												
Below 100%	30.2	28.7	26.4	34.8	36.5	38.6	19.9	22.5	21.8	15.0	12.3	13.2
100%-199%	28.7	27.7	29.2	39.7	42.7	41.4	20.4	19.9	20.1	11.2	9.8	9.3
200%-399%	20.7	21.6	19.6	47.4	45.0	45.9	19.8	23.1	24.1	12.1	10.3	10.3
400% or more	15.2	11.3	14.1	50.4	51.1	52.1	22.6	26.1	24.3	11.8	11.5	9.5
Not Hispanic or Latino:												
White only:												
Below 100%	17.0	15.0	15.6	38.3	37.0	38.8	23.9	27.4	26.5	20.9	20.6	19.2
100%-199%	17.3	18.4	17.9	44.1	40.4	42.8	22.2	24.7	23.5	16.3	16.5	15.7
200%-399%	15.4	14.7	14.4	46.9	46.0	47.7	24.3	26.3	24.2	13.4	13.0	13.7
400% or more	12.5	9.9	9.8	49.1	48.2	50.2	25.5	28.4	27.8	13.0	13.5	12.2
Black or African American only:												
Below 100%	17.4	18.4	15.2	38.5	39.8	40.2	23.4	25.0	26.5	20.7	16.8	18.2
100%-199%	18.8	17.6	17.2	43.7	45.7	45.5	22.9	24.3	24.2	14.5	12.5	13.0
200%-399%	16.6	15.1	15.7	49.7	49.0	51.4	22.9	25.7	23.0	10.8	10.2	9.8
400% or more	14.0	10.0	10.4	54.3	58.2	54.7	22.7	22.5	23.2	9.0	9.3	11.6
Health insurance status at the time of interview^{6,7}												
Under 65 years:												
Insured	14.3	12.3	12.4	49.0	48.5	50.3	23.6	26.1	24.9	13.1	13.1	12.4
Private	14.7	12.4	12.7	50.6	51.0	53.1	23.1	25.5	24.2	11.6	11.1	9.9
Medicaid	9.8	10.9	10.6	35.5	38.2	40.0	26.5	28.0	26.4	28.2	23.0	23.0
Uninsured	33.7	37.2	37.1	42.8	42.2	43.5	15.3	15.2	13.9	8.2	5.4	5.5
Health insurance status prior to interview^{6,7}												
Under 65 years:												

Insured continuously all 12 months.....	14.1	12.1	12.2	49.2	48.6	50.5	23.6	26.2	25.0	13.0	13.0	12.3
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months..	18.9	18.5	19.0	46.0	47.8	47.3	20.8	22.0	21.5	14.4	11.6	12.2
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	39.0	43.8	43.0	41.4	39.7	41.7	13.2	12.6	11.2	6.4	3.9	4.1

Percent of poverty level and health insurance status prior to interview^{5,6,7}

Under 65 years:

Below 100%:

Insured continuously all 12 months.....	13.8	12.7	13.0	39.7	39.5	40.6	25.2	27.5	27.2	21.4	20.3	19.2
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months	19.7	16.9	18.0	37.6	43.0	45.0	21.9	25.0	19.8	20.9	15.1	17.2
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	41.2	45.0	41.6	39.9	38.1	40.9	12.2	13.6	12.1	6.6	3.3	5.3

100%-199%:

Insured continuously all 12 months.....	16.0	14.8	13.6	46.4	44.4	47.1	21.9	24.8	24.4	15.8	16.0	14.9
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months	18.8	21.0	22.1	45.1	46.0	42.8	21.0	20.6	22.3	15.0	12.4	12.9
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	38.7	43.2	46.4	41.0	39.4	40.3	14.0	12.4	10.0	6.3	5.0	3.3

200%-399%:

Insured continuously all 12 months.....	15.1	13.6	13.2	49.4	49.4	51.1	23.4	25.3	23.8	12.1	11.7	12.0
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months	17.9	18.8	18.5	49.3	49.7	51.6	20.0	19.7	20.7	12.8	11.8	9.2
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	37.0	43.8	40.6	43.8	40.7	43.5	12.6	13.3	11.6	6.6	*2.2	4.3

400% or more:

Insured continuously all 12 months.....	12.4	9.7	10.3	52.2	51.8	53.8	23.9	26.8	25.6	11.5	11.6	10.3
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months	17.2	16.6	17.1	50.0	53.5	50.5	24.2	23.9	22.6	*8.5	*6.0	9.8
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	35.1	39.2	37.5	44.1	46.0	47.0	15.1	*8.8	13.4	*5.7	*	*

Respondent-assessed health status³

Fair or poor.....	7.8	8.4	10.3	23.3	24.0	23.0	29.0	30.2	28.0	39.9	37.3	38.7
Good to excellent.....	17.2	16.3	16.2	48.4	47.5	49.2	23.3	25.5	24.4	11.1	10.7	10.3

Disability measure among adults 18 years of age and over^{3,8}

Any basic actions difficulty or complex activity limitation.....	11.1	11.5	10.3	32.0	30.9	30.1	27.9	29.3	29.6	29.1	28.3	30.0
Any basic actions difficulty.....	11.1	11.5	10.1	31.9	30.3	30.1	27.5	29.2	29.8	29.4	29.0	30.0
Any complex activity limitation.....	7.1	6.9	6.9	23.7	23.0	21.5	27.5	29.1	27.2	41.7	41.0	44.3
No disability.....	20.9	20.5	20.6	49.6	47.5	49.7	20.8	23.4	21.8	8.7	8.5	7.8

Geographic region³

Northeast.....	13.2	12.6	13.0	45.9	46.3	47.0	26.0	26.4	26.2	14.9	14.7	13.8
Midwest.....	15.9	13.4	13.6	47.7	46.8	49.2	22.8	26.4	24.2	13.6	13.3	13.0
South.....	17.2	16.1	15.4	46.1	44.2	45.5	23.3	26.6	25.7	13.5	13.2	13.4
West.....	19.1	19.1	19.3	44.8	45.2	46.5	22.8	23.5	22.7	13.3	12.2	11.5

Location of residence³

Within MSA ⁹	16.2	15.6	15.4	46.4	45.8	47.4	23.7	25.6	24.5	13.7	13.0	12.7
Outside MSA ⁹	17.3	15.9	15.7	45.4	42.7	43.6	23.3	27.0	26.2	13.9	14.4	14.5

---Data not available.

*Estimates are considered unreliable.

Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error (RSE) of 20%-30%.

Data not shown have an RSE greater than 30%.

¹This table presents a summary measure of health care visits to doctor offices, emergency departments, and home visits during a 12-month period. See Appendix II, Emergency department or emergency room visit; Health care contact; Home visit.

²Includes all other races not shown separately, unknown health insurance status, and unknown disability status.

³Estimates are age-adjusted to the year 2000 standard population using six age groups: Under 18 years, 18-44 years, 45-54 years, 55-64 years, 65-74 years, and 75 years and over.

The disability measure is age-adjusted using the five adult age groups.

See Appendix II, Age adjustment.

⁴The race groups, white, black, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and 2 or more races, include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are tabulated according to the 1997 Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The five single-race categories

plus multiple-race categories shown in the table conform to the 1997 Standards. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are for persons who reported only one racial group; the category 2 or more races includes persons who reported more than one racial group. Prior to 1999, data were tabulated according to the 1977 Standards with four racial groups, and the Asian only category included Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Estimates for single-race categories prior to 1999 included persons who reported one race or, if they reported more than one race, identified one race as best representing their race.

Starting with 2003 data, race responses of other race and unspecified multiple race were treated as missing, and then race was imputed if these were the only race responses.

Almost all persons with a race response of other race were of Hispanic origin.

See Appendix II, Hispanic origin; Race.

⁵Percent of poverty level is based on family income and family size and composition using U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds.

Missing family income data were imputed for 1997 and beyond.

See Appendix II, Family income; Poverty; Table VI.

⁶Estimates for persons under 65 years of age are age-adjusted to the year 2000 standard population using four age groups: Under 18 years, 18-44 years, 45-54 years, and 55-64 years. See Appendix II, Age adjustment.

⁷Health insurance categories are mutually exclusive. Persons who reported both Medicaid and private coverage are classified as having private coverage.

Starting with 1997 data, state-sponsored health plan coverage is included as Medicaid coverage. Starting with 1999 data, coverage by the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is included with Medicaid coverage.

In addition to private and Medicaid, the insured category also includes military plans, other government-sponsored health plans, and Medicare, not shown separately.

Persons not covered by private insurance, Medicaid, CHIP, state-sponsored or other

government-sponsored health plans (starting in 1997), Medicare, or military plans are considered to have no health insurance coverage. Persons with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered to have no health insurance coverage. See Appendix II, Health insurance coverage.

⁸Any basic actions difficulty or complex activity limitation is defined as having one or more of the following limitations or difficulties: movement difficulty, emotional difficulty, sensory (seeing or hearing) difficulty, cognitive difficulty, self-care (activities of daily living or instrumental activities of daily living) limitation, social limitation, or work limitation. For more information, see Appendix II, Basic actions difficulty; Complex activity limitation. Starting with 2007 data, the hearing question, a component of the basic actions difficulty measure, was revised. Consequently, data prior to 2007 are not comparable with data for 2007 and beyond. For more information on the impact of the revised hearing question, see Appendix II, Hearing trouble.

⁹MSA is metropolitan statistical area. Starting with 2006 data, MSA status is determined using 2000 census data and the 2000 standards for defining MSAs. For data prior to 2006, see Appendix II, Metropolitan statistical area (MSA) for the applicable standards.

NOTES: In 1997, the National Health Interview Survey questionnaire was redesigned.

See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).

Standard errors are available in the spreadsheet version of this table. See <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>.

Data for additional years are available. See Appendix III.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS,

National Health Interview Survey, family core and sample adult questionnaires.

See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).

Health, United States 2011 web updates