

Table 93. Emergency department visits within the past 12 months among children under age 18 years, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1997-2011

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

Characteristic	Under 18 years			Under 6 years			6-17 years		
	1997	2010	2011	1997	2010	2011	1997	2010	2011
	Percent of children with one or more emergency department visits ¹								
All children ²	19.9	22.1	18.5	24.3	27.8	24.2	17.7	19.1	15.6
Sex									
Male.....	21.5	23.3	18.9	25.2	29.3	25.1	19.6	20.1	15.7
Female.....	18.3	20.9	18.1	23.3	26.3	23.3	15.7	18.2	15.4
Race ³									
White only.....	19.4	21.2	17.9	22.6	26.6	22.7	17.8	18.4	15.5
Black or African American only.....	24.0	27.6	22.6	33.1	34.0	30.7	19.4	24.2	18.2
American Indian or Alaska Native only.....	*24.1	20.9	21.9	*24.3	*35.4	*33.7	*24.0	*	*16.8
Asian only.....	12.6	15.0	9.3	20.8	18.4	17.7	8.6	13.3	4.7
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only.....	---	*	*	---	*	*	---	*	*
2 or more races.....	---	27.2	24.1	---	34.9	31.7	---	21.6	19.0
Hispanic origin and race ³									
Hispanic or Latino.....	21.1	23.6	19.2	25.7	30.2	25.3	18.1	19.4	15.5
Not Hispanic or Latino.....	19.7	21.7	18.3	24.0	27.0	23.8	17.6	19.0	15.6
White only.....	19.2	20.4	17.6	22.2	25.1	21.7	17.7	18.2	15.7
Black or African American only.....	23.6	27.2	22.8	32.7	34.4	31.2	19.2	23.3	18.3
Percent of poverty level ⁴									
Below 100%.....	25.1	30.6	24.9	29.5	35.4	30.0	22.2	27.6	21.4
100%-199%.....	22.0	25.7	19.8	28.0	31.6	27.4	19.0	22.3	15.9
200%-399%.....	18.0	18.4	15.9	21.4	22.7	20.5	16.4	16.4	13.6
400% or more.....	16.3	15.9	14.6	19.1	21.7	18.5	15.1	13.3	12.9
Hispanic origin and race and percent of poverty level ^{3,4}									
Hispanic or Latino:									
Percent of poverty level:									
Below 100%.....	21.9	27.0	21.5	25.0	32.0	26.5	19.6	23.4	18.0
100%-199%.....	20.8	23.3	18.8	28.8	31.6	27.3	15.6	18.0	13.9
200%-399%.....	21.4	19.5	17.7	24.6	25.2	22.5	19.6	16.1	14.9
400% or more.....	17.7	21.4	15.4	*20.2	28.6	*18.9	16.4	18.0	14.0
Not Hispanic or Latino:									
White only:									
Percent of poverty level:									
Below 100%.....	25.5	33.7	27.8	27.2	37.4	30.9	24.4	31.6	25.8
100%-199%.....	22.3	26.3	20.4	25.8	29.2	25.3	20.7	24.7	18.0
200%-399%.....	17.8	17.6	15.1	20.9	21.2	18.0	16.3	15.9	13.7
400% or more.....	16.5	15.5	14.6	19.0	21.0	18.6	15.4	13.2	13.0
Black or African American only:									
Percent of poverty level:									
Below 100%.....	29.3	32.4	27.1	39.5	41.6	31.3	23.0	26.6	23.9
100%-199%.....	22.5	27.5	22.2	31.7	34.5	34.2	18.5	23.7	17.4
200%-399%.....	18.5	22.3	19.9	23.9	24.6	32.9	16.3	21.4	14.4
400% or more.....	16.1	18.9	15.2	*18.8	*24.1	*19.6	15.2	16.1	13.5
Health insurance status at the time of interview ⁵									
Insured.....	19.8	22.3	18.8	24.4	28.1	24.4	17.5	19.2	15.9
Private.....	17.5	17.1	14.9	20.9	21.8	18.8	15.9	14.9	13.2
Medicaid.....	28.2	30.0	24.4	33.0	35.5	30.2	24.1	26.4	20.2
Uninsured.....	20.2	19.4	13.8	23.0	24.0	20.1	18.9	17.6	12.0
Health insurance status prior to interview ⁵									
Insured continuously all 12 months.....	19.6	22.2	18.6	24.1	28.1	23.9	17.3	19.1	15.7
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months..	24.0	23.7	22.9	27.1	28.0	32.1	21.9	21.3	18.3
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	18.4	17.6	9.2	19.3	*21.3	*	18.1	16.7	9.0
Percent of poverty level and health insurance status prior to interview ^{4,5}									
Below 100%:									

Insured continuously all 12 months.....	26.3	31.7	25.3	30.9	36.3	30.1	22.8	28.7	21.7
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months	26.5	30.3	28.7	29.7	34.7	33.9	24.4	27.5	25.7
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	17.5	*19.6	*	*16.0	*	*	18.0	*16.0	*
100%-199%:									
Insured continuously all 12 months.....	21.8	26.2	20.3	28.0	32.4	26.9	18.6	22.4	16.8
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months	24.5	28.4	23.3	29.7	30.9	35.3	21.0	27.0	17.1
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	19.5	17.6	*8.4	*22.5	*	*	18.6	*17.2	*
200%-399%:									
Insured continuously all 12 months.....	17.7	18.4	15.9	21.2	22.8	20.1	16.1	16.3	13.7
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months	21.1	16.2	18.6	*19.5	*22.7	*27.6	22.1	*12.6	*14.7
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	19.2	*17.4	*11.0	*22.7	*	*	17.6	*18.7	*11.1
400% or more:									
Insured continuously all 12 months.....	16.2	16.1	14.6	18.9	22.0	18.5	15.1	13.5	12.9
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months	*19.2	*	*17.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Geographic region

Northeast.....	18.5	22.3	19.1	20.7	27.8	23.8	17.4	19.6	16.8
Midwest.....	19.5	23.3	19.0	26.0	28.8	24.5	16.4	20.7	16.1
South.....	21.8	23.4	19.8	25.6	30.4	25.5	19.9	19.5	16.8
West.....	18.5	19.1	15.7	23.5	23.3	22.2	15.9	16.8	12.3

Location of residence

Within MSA ⁶	19.7	21.8	17.9	23.9	27.7	23.9	17.4	18.6	14.8
Outside MSA ⁶	20.8	24.2	21.9	26.2	28.6	25.8	18.6	22.1	19.8

Percent of children with two or more emergency department visits¹

All children ²	7.1	8.4	5.9	9.6	10.8	8.6	5.8	7.2	4.5
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Sex

Male.....	7.3	8.5	5.4	9.9	11.3	8.8	6.0	7.0	3.6
Female.....	6.9	8.3	6.4	9.4	10.3	8.3	5.7	7.3	5.4

Race³

White only.....	6.6	7.6	5.3	8.4	10.1	7.6	5.7	6.3	4.2
Black or African American only.....	9.6	12.6	8.4	14.9	15.7	12.9	6.9	11.0	6.0
American Indian and Alaska Native only....	*	*	*8.6	*	*	*	*	*	*8.3
Asian only.....	*5.7	7.3	*2.9	*12.9	*	*5.8	*	*7.1	*
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander only.....	---	*	*	---	*	*	---	*	*
2 or more races.....	---	10.3	9.1	---	*11.7	12.2	---	*9.2	*7.0

Hispanic origin and race³

Hispanic or Latino.....	8.9	8.6	6.5	11.8	11.7	9.5	7.0	6.6	4.7
Not Hispanic or Latino.....	6.8	8.4	5.7	9.2	10.5	8.2	5.7	7.3	4.4
White only.....	6.2	7.4	5.1	7.8	9.3	6.9	5.5	6.4	4.2
Black or African American only.....	9.3	12.3	8.4	14.6	15.8	13.2	6.8	10.4	5.9

Percent of poverty level⁴

Below 100%.....	11.1	13.4	10.3	14.5	15.3	13.7	8.9	12.1	7.9
100%-199%.....	8.3	10.3	6.3	12.2	13.4	9.5	6.3	8.4	4.7
200%-399%.....	6.2	6.3	4.5	7.4	7.3	6.9	5.6	5.9	3.3
400% or more.....	4.0	5.0	3.1	5.0	7.3	3.4	3.6	3.9	2.9

Hispanic origin and race and percent of poverty level^{3,4}

Hispanic or Latino:									
Percent of poverty level:									
Below 100%.....	10.4	9.9	7.8	13.9	10.9	9.8	8.0	9.2	6.4
100%-199%.....	8.2	9.4	6.0	12.0	15.4	10.2	5.7	5.5	*3.6
200%-399%.....	8.5	5.9	5.9	10.0	*8.0	*9.1	*7.6	*4.6	*3.9
400% or more.....	*5.0	*6.5	*4.6	*	*	*	*	*5.2	*
Not Hispanic or Latino:									
White only:									
Percent of poverty level:									
Below 100%.....	10.7	14.0	11.8	12.2	15.5	15.5	9.8	13.1	9.5
100%-199%.....	8.0	10.4	6.2	11.2	12.3	*8.1	6.4	9.4	5.3
200%-399%.....	6.0	5.7	4.1	6.7	*6.5	5.4	5.6	5.4	3.4
400% or more.....	3.7	5.0	2.9	4.6	7.6	*3.4	3.3	3.9	2.7
Black or African American only:									
Percent of poverty level:									
Below 100%.....	12.7	16.1	13.1	19.1	22.1	17.1	8.8	12.4	9.9
100%-199%.....	9.2	12.4	7.7	*13.5	*14.6	*12.6	*7.2	11.1	*5.7
200%-399%.....	5.8	9.9	*4.6	*8.9	*10.2	*	*4.5	*9.8	*3.0
400% or more.....	*	*3.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Health insurance status
at the time of interview⁵

Insured.....	7.0	8.5	6.0	9.6	11.0	8.7	5.7	7.1	4.5
Private.....	5.2	5.5	3.5	6.8	7.4	5.0	4.5	4.6	2.9
Medicaid.....	13.1	12.8	9.6	16.2	15.3	12.7	10.4	11.2	7.4
Uninsured.....	7.7	8.0	4.2	9.8	*8.5	*	6.8	7.8	*3.7

Health insurance status
prior to interview⁵

Insured continuously all 12 months.....	6.9	8.4	5.8	9.4	10.8	8.3	5.7	7.1	4.4
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months..	8.5	10.1	9.0	11.5	13.3	13.1	6.6	8.4	7.0
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	6.8	7.8	*	*8.6	*	*	6.2	*7.9	*

Geographic region

Northeast.....	6.2	7.8	6.7	7.6	10.3	8.1	5.4	6.6	6.0
Midwest.....	6.6	9.1	5.9	10.4	11.4	8.9	4.8	8.0	4.4
South.....	8.0	9.1	6.1	10.1	12.9	9.1	6.9	7.1	4.5
West.....	7.1	7.2	4.9	10.0	7.6	7.7	5.6	7.0	3.4

Location of residence

Within MSA ⁶	7.2	8.3	5.6	9.6	10.6	8.4	5.9	7.0	4.1
Outside MSA ⁶	6.8	9.3	7.3	9.7	12.2	9.2	5.6	7.9	6.3

*Estimates are considered unreliable. Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error (RSE) of 20%-30%. Data not shown have an RSE of greater than 30%.

---Data not available.

¹See Appendix II, Emergency department or emergency room visit.

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

³The 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.

⁴Percent 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.

⁵Health 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, other government, and Medicare coverage. 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.

⁶MSA 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: Standard errors are available in the spreadsheet version of this table. Available from: <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 child questionnaires. See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).

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