

**Table 94. Emergency department visits within the past 12 months among adults aged 18 and over, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1997-2011**

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

Characteristic	One or more emergency department visits				Two or more emergency department visits			
	1997	2000	2010	2011	1997	2000	2010	2011
Percent of adults with emergency department visits <sup>1</sup>								
18 years and over, age-adjusted <sup>2,3</sup> .....	19.6	20.2	21.4	20.4	6.7	6.9	7.8	7.4
18 years and over, crude <sup>2</sup> .....	19.6	20.1	21.3	20.3	6.7	6.8	7.7	7.3
Age								
18-44 years.....	20.7	20.5	22.0	20.6	6.8	7.0	8.4	7.7
18-24 years.....	26.3	25.7	25.4	23.8	9.1	8.8	9.6	9.0
25-44 years.....	19.0	18.8	20.7	19.5	6.2	6.4	8.0	7.2
45-64 years.....	16.2	17.6	19.2	18.2	5.6	5.6	6.7	6.6
45-54 years.....	15.7	17.9	18.6	18.0	5.5	5.8	6.6	6.6
55-64 years.....	16.9	17.0	19.8	18.5	5.7	5.3	6.8	6.6
65 years and over.....	22.0	23.7	23.7	23.3	8.1	8.6	7.7	7.8
65-74 years.....	20.3	21.6	20.7	20.4	7.1	7.4	6.4	6.7
75 years and over.....	24.3	26.2	27.4	27.0	9.3	10.0	9.4	9.3
Sex <sup>3</sup>								
Male.....	19.1	18.7	18.5	18.0	5.9	5.7	6.0	5.9
Female.....	20.2	21.6	24.3	22.7	7.5	7.9	9.6	8.8
Race <sup>3,4</sup>								
White only.....	19.0	19.4	20.7	19.8	6.2	6.4	7.2	6.8
Black or African American only.....	25.9	26.5	28.6	28.0	11.1	10.8	12.6	12.3
American Indian or Alaska Native only.....	24.8	30.3	22.6	27.3	13.1	*12.6	*11.8	12.7
Asian only.....	11.6	13.6	13.3	9.9	*2.9	*3.8	3.3	2.3
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only.....	---	*	*	*	---	*	*	*
2 or more races.....	---	32.5	29.7	24.3	---	11.3	11.1	12.7
American Indian or Alaska Native; White.....	---	33.9	31.1	26.1	---	*9.4	*15.2	*17.2
Hispanic origin and race <sup>3,4</sup>								
Hispanic or Latino.....	19.2	18.3	19.8	18.9	7.4	7.0	6.9	7.0
Mexican.....	17.8	17.4	18.1	17.4	6.4	7.1	6.1	6.4
Not Hispanic or Latino.....	19.7	20.6	21.9	20.7	6.7	6.9	8.1	7.5
White only.....	19.1	19.8	21.1	20.1	6.2	6.4	7.4	6.9
Black or African American only.....	25.9	26.5	29.0	27.9	11.0	10.8	12.7	12.5
Percent of poverty level <sup>3,5</sup>								
Below 100%.....	28.1	29.0	30.6	30.5	12.8	13.3	14.9	14.5
100%-199%.....	23.8	23.9	25.6	24.1	9.3	9.6	10.5	10.0
200%-399%.....	18.3	19.8	20.4	18.8	5.9	6.3	6.8	6.5
400% or more.....	15.9	16.8	17.0	16.1	3.9	4.5	4.7	4.0
Hispanic origin and race and percent of poverty level <sup>3,4,5</sup>								
Hispanic or Latino:								
Below 100%.....	22.1	22.4	23.6	22.6	9.8	9.7	11.5	10.0
100%-199%.....	19.2	18.1	19.9	19.1	8.1	6.7	6.3	7.3
200%-399%.....	18.5	17.3	18.1	17.2	6.0	7.4	5.2	6.3
400% or more.....	14.6	16.4	18.8	15.6	*3.8	*4.3	*5.5	*2.9
Not Hispanic or Latino:								
White only:								
Below 100%.....	29.5	30.1	33.3	31.6	13.0	13.9	15.5	14.8
100%-199%.....	24.3	25.5	26.8	25.4	9.1	10.4	11.2	10.8
200%-399%.....	18.1	20.1	20.3	19.1	5.8	6.3	6.5	6.4
400% or more.....	15.8	16.3	16.9	16.4	3.8	4.1	4.9	3.9
Black or African American only:								
Below 100%.....	34.6	35.4	36.9	41.1	17.5	17.4	20.2	22.1
100%-199%.....	29.2	28.5	33.5	31.6	12.8	12.2	15.9	13.0
200%-399%.....	20.8	23.2	25.7	21.3	8.1	8.0	10.2	8.4
400% or more.....	18.2	22.6	18.8	18.6	5.9	8.8	*4.0	6.9
Health insurance status at the time of interview <sup>6,7</sup>								
18-64 years:								
Insured.....	18.8	19.5	20.8	19.4	6.1	6.4	7.5	6.9
Private.....	16.9	17.6	17.4	15.7	4.7	5.1	5.2	4.3
Medicaid.....	37.6	42.2	40.2	37.6	19.7	21.0	21.1	19.7
Uninsured.....	20.0	19.3	21.3	21.0	7.5	6.9	8.9	8.7
Health insurance status prior to interview <sup>6,7</sup>								
18-64 years:								
Insured continuously all 12 months.....	18.3	19.0	20.2	18.7	5.8	6.1	7.1	6.5
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months.....	25.5	28.2	26.0	28.3	9.4	10.3	12.5	11.0
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	18.9	17.3	20.6	19.4	7.1	6.4	8.1	8.1
Percent of poverty level and health insurance status prior to interview <sup>5,6,7</sup>								
18-64 years:								
Below 100%:								
Insured continuously all 12 months.....	30.2	31.6	35.2	32.4	14.7	15.4	18.3	16.6
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months.....	34.1	43.7	34.2	39.3	16.1	18.1	16.5	17.4
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	20.8	20.5	23.4	25.7	8.1	9.1	11.7	12.2
100%-199%:								
Insured continuously all 12 months.....	24.5	25.5	26.1	25.5	8.9	10.2	10.8	10.8
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months.....	28.7	27.7	29.7	30.5	12.3	11.7	15.6	12.5
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	19.0	17.4	21.2	17.5	8.3	6.4	7.8	7.6
200%-399%:								
Insured continuously all 12 months.....	17.5	19.5	19.6	17.3	5.3	6.3	6.0	6.0
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months.....	21.6	24.6	25.4	22.8	6.6	7.3	12.2	7.8
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	16.8	15.6	17.6	17.0	5.9	4.5	5.7	5.3

400% or more:								
Insured continuously all 12 months.....	14.9	15.5	15.9	14.5	3.7	3.7	4.5	3.3
Uninsured for any period up to 12 months	18.0	20.1	12.5	22.0	*3.1	6.4	*	*5.6
Uninsured more than 12 months.....	19.1	15.8	19.4	13.0	*	*5.2	*	*
Disability measure <sup>3,8</sup>								
Any basic actions difficulty or complex								
activity limitation.....	30.8	32.0	34.9	34.7	13.5	14.6	16.8	17.3
Any basic actions difficulty.....	30.5	32.4	35.0	35.3	13.5	14.9	17.2	17.7
Any complex activity limitation.....	39.7	41.5	43.8	42.9	19.9	21.2	24.5	23.9
No disability.....	14.5	15.3	16.1	14.2	3.7	3.9	4.4	3.6
Geographic region <sup>3</sup>								
Northeast.....	19.5	20.0	22.6	20.8	6.9	6.2	8.4	6.9
Midwest.....	19.3	20.1	22.3	20.9	6.2	6.9	8.2	7.9
South.....	20.9	21.2	22.1	21.6	7.3	7.6	8.0	8.2
West.....	17.7	18.6	18.9	17.8	6.0	6.3	6.7	6.0
Location of residence <sup>3</sup>								
Within MSA <sup>9</sup> .....	19.1	19.6	20.8	20.0	6.4	6.6	7.5	7.1
Outside MSA <sup>9</sup> .....	21.5	22.5	25.5	23.0	7.8	7.8	9.8	9.2

\*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.

<sup>1</sup>See Appendix II, Emergency department or emergency room visit.

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

<sup>3</sup>Estimates are for persons 18 years of age and over and are age-adjusted

to the year 2000 standard population using five age groups: 18-44 years,

45-54 years, 55-64 years, 65-74 years, and 75 years and over. See

Appendix II, Age adjustment.

<sup>4</sup>The 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.

<sup>5</sup>Percent 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.

<sup>6</sup>Estimates for persons 18-64 years of age are age-adjusted

to the year 2000 standard population using three age groups: 18-44 years, 45-54 years,

and 55-64 years. See Appendix II, Age adjustment.

<sup>7</sup>Health 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.

<sup>8</sup>Any 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.

<sup>9</sup>MSA 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 adult questionnaires.

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

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