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National Center for Health Statistics
Rockville, Maryland 20852

VITAL STATISTICS REPORT

Health Interview Survey-Provisional Data

FROM THE

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Personal Out-of-Pocket Medical Expenses, 1970

The cost of medical care is one of the major concerns in the provision of medical services. In 1971 the Health Interview Survey undertook a special study to determine the out-of-pocket medical expenses of the United States population. The only other full scale study conducted by the Center was done in 1962 when data were collected on the total cost of hospital, doctor, dental, medicine, and other medical expenses. (See *Vital and Health Statistics*, Series 10, Nos. 22, 27, and 41.) Since that time data have also been collected on the cost of prescribed and nonprescribed medicines (Series 10, No. 33) and the cost of individual physician visits (Series 10, No. 49). However, during the past 10 years an increasing proportion of medical expenses are being paid through insurance benefits, government programs, and other third party sources. As a result of this trend, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain data on the total cost of medical services through a household interview. Thus, the 1971 study was designed to measure that part of medical expenses best collected in a household survey, that is, the out-of-pocket expenses. In fact, the out-of-pocket cost of medical care is a better measure of direct financial impact on the individual than is the total cost of providing the services. To make the out-of-pocket expenses complete, data were also obtained on the family contribution to insurance premiums. For those who need data on total national health expenditures, not just out-of-pocket costs, estimates can be found in two issues of the *Social Security Bulletin*.¹ These reports show aggregate

expenses and per capita costs by type of expenses and amount paid by the public and private sectors. However, these data are not available by demographic characteristics other than age.

Questionnaires were mailed to approximately 12,000 households (the last quarter of the 1970 Health Interview Survey sample) in early 1971 requesting information on out-of-pocket costs for hospital, doctor, dental, optical, prescribed medicine, and other medical services for each family member as well as the total amount of insurance premium paid directly by the family during 1970. The tables in this provisional report showing total individual out-of-pocket expenses include the insurance premiums equally allocated among all family members. Separate figures are shown for hospital, doctor, dental, optical, prescribed medicine, and other medical expenses (such as special nursing care, medical appliances, etc.). Later reports will contain more detailed analysis of these data as well as estimates of family expenses, including a separate category of family insurance premiums.

This report shows the proportion of the population by intervals of medical expenses as well as the proportion with no expenses. Data are also presented on the per capita expenses and the average expenses for persons with expenses. For example, the per capita out-of-pocket hospital expense during 1970 was \$21 but since 88.2 percent of the population reported no hospital expenses the average out-of-pocket cost for persons with hospital expenses (but not those hospitalized with no out-of-pocket costs) was \$178.

An estimated 87.6 percent of the population had out-of-pocket costs for medical services or health insurance during 1970 and the per capita expense was \$183, while the average medical cost for persons with

¹Rice, Dorothy P. and Barbara S. Cooper, "National Health Expenditures, 1929-71," *Social Security Bulletin*, January 1972. Cooper, Barbara S. and Nancy L. Worthington, "Medical Care Spending for Three Age Groups," *Social Security Bulletin*, May 1972.

expenses was an estimated \$209 (table 1). Out-of-pocket medical costs in excess of \$500 were incurred by 7.5 percent of the population, although among persons 65 years and over 15.3 percent had medical costs over \$500. Average expenses ranged from \$128 for persons under 17 years of age to \$320 for persons 65 years and over.

The average out-of-pocket expenses for all medical services ranged from \$188 in the North Central Region to \$253 in the West Region (table 2). Over 20 percent of the persons in the West Region 65 years and over had expenses in excess of \$500 in 1970. However, persons in the West Region also had the highest proportion of persons with no expenses.

An estimated 12 percent of the population had no out-of-pocket medical costs, while about one-half had either no costs or costs of less than \$100. This latter figure ranged from 67 percent for the children under 17 years of age to 27 percent for persons 65 years and over.

Table 3 shows out-of-pocket total medical expenses by color. The average cost for the white population is \$212 compared to \$185 for all others. However, only 10 percent of the white population report no out-of-pocket expenses while 28 percent of the other group have no out-of-pocket costs.

Table 4 shows information on total out-of-pocket expenses by family income and age. Both average and per capita expenses increase with advancing age in each income category. There is no clear pattern of relationship between family income and total average cost, except that the highest expenses are among persons with family incomes of \$15,000 or more. However, there is a pattern of the proportion with no expenses decreasing from 28 percent among persons in families with less than \$3,000 annual income to only 3 percent with no expenses among persons with family

incomes of \$15,000 or more. The low proportion of persons in higher income families who have no or only low expenses reflects to some extent the high level of health insurance coverage among this group (over 90 percent for persons under 65 years of age).

Table 5 shows total out-of-pocket costs by family income and color. The major color differences are found among persons with family incomes of less than \$5,000, where the average out-of-pocket expense for whites is \$238 compared to \$135 for all others. However, in all income categories the proportion of whites with no expenses or only very low expenses was lower than that for all others.

Table 6 shows out-of-pocket medical costs by type of expense and age. The average out-of-pocket expense for persons with hospital experience during 1970 was \$178, ranging from \$135 for children under 17 years of age to \$243 for persons aged 45-64 years.

An estimated 59 percent of the population had out-of-pocket doctor expenses with an average expense of \$80, and with the range from \$52 for children to \$108 for the elderly. For the 40 percent of the population with dental expenses, the average expense was \$74.

The average out-of-pocket cost of prescribed medicine was \$52, although the average cost for persons 65 years and over was \$100. The average expense among the less than one-quarter of the population with out-of-pocket optical expenses was \$47. This amount does not include examination or treatment by ophthalmologists (included under physician expenses). There were no differences by age in the amount of optical expenses. Only about 5 percent of the population had other types of direct medical expenses, including such items as medical appliances and special nursing care. However, their average expense was an estimated \$100.

MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORT

Table 1. Percent distribution of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expense (including insurance premiums), average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense by sex and age: United States, 1970

| Sex and age | Total population in thousands | No expense | Health expense | | | | | | Average expense for persons with expense | Per capita expense |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--|--------------------|
| | | | Less than \$50 | \$50-\$99 | \$100-\$249 | \$250-\$499 | \$500-\$999 | \$1,000 or more | | |
| Both sexes | | | | | | | | | | |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 12.4 | 18.1 | 19.2 | 28.7 | 14.1 | 5.6 | 2.0 | \$209 | \$183 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 18.0 | 25.9 | 23.3 | 24.2 | 6.2 | 1.7 | 0.8 | \$128 | \$105 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 11.1 | 18.0 | 19.4 | 31.1 | 13.5 | 5.2 | 1.6 | \$199 | \$177 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 8.1 | 10.3 | 14.6 | 30.2 | 23.0 | 10.1 | 3.6 | \$296 | \$272 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 6.7 | 6.6 | 13.8 | 32.1 | 25.4 | 11.1 | 4.2 | \$320 | \$299 |
| Male | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 96,801 | 13.6 | 20.3 | 19.8 | 28.2 | 12.0 | 4.4 | 1.7 | \$190 | \$164 |
| Under 17 years----- | 33,955 | 18.0 | 26.3 | 22.3 | 24.4 | 6.2 | 1.8 | 1.0 | \$138 | \$114 |
| 17-44 years----- | 35,000 | 12.8 | 22.4 | 20.2 | 29.2 | 11.0 | 3.3 | 1.0 | \$162 | \$141 |
| 45-64 years----- | 19,715 | 10.1 | 11.4 | 16.6 | 31.0 | 19.3 | 8.7 | 2.9 | \$268 | \$241 |
| 65 years and over----- | 8,132 | 6.6 | 6.9 | 15.0 | 32.8 | 23.8 | 10.3 | 4.4 | \$311 | \$290 |
| Female | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 104,055 | 11.3 | 16.0 | 18.7 | 29.2 | 16.0 | 6.6 | 2.3 | \$227 | \$201 |
| Under 17 years----- | 32,761 | 18.1 | 25.5 | 24.4 | 24.0 | 6.1 | 1.5 | * | \$117 | \$ 96 |
| 17-44 years----- | 38,526 | 9.5 | 14.1 | 18.6 | 32.7 | 15.8 | 7.0 | 2.2 | \$232 | \$210 |
| 45-64 years----- | 21,762 | 6.2 | 9.4 | 12.8 | 29.5 | 26.4 | 11.4 | 4.2 | \$320 | \$300 |
| 65 years and over----- | 11,005 | 6.8 | 6.4 | 12.9 | 31.6 | 26.6 | 11.7 | 4.0 | \$327 | \$305 |

MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORT

Table 2. Percent distribution of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expense (including insurance premiums), average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense by geographic region and age: United States, 1970

| Geographic region and age | Total population in thousands | No expense | Health expense | | | | | | Average expense for persons with expense | Per capita expense |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--|--------------------|
| | | | Less than \$50 | \$50-\$99 | \$100-\$249 | \$250-\$499 | \$500-\$999 | \$1,000 or more | | |
| <u>All regions</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 12.4 | 18.1 | 19.2 | 28.7 | 14.1 | 5.6 | 2.0 | \$209 | \$183 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 18.0 | 25.9 | 23.3 | 24.2 | 6.2 | 1.7 | 0.8 | \$128 | \$105 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 11.1 | 18.0 | 19.4 | 31.1 | 13.5 | 5.2 | 1.6 | \$199 | \$177 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 8.1 | 10.3 | 14.6 | 30.2 | 23.0 | 10.1 | 3.6 | \$296 | \$272 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 6.7 | 6.6 | 13.8 | 32.1 | 25.4 | 11.1 | 4.2 | \$320 | \$299 |
| <u>Northeast</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 51,524 | 11.3 | 16.8 | 20.0 | 31.0 | 13.8 | 4.9 | 2.2 | \$206 | \$183 |
| Under 17 years----- | 16,240 | 15.9 | 24.8 | 24.8 | 26.5 | 5.5 | 1.7 | * | \$126 | \$106 |
| 17-44 years----- | 19,342 | 9.4 | 16.0 | 19.2 | 35.8 | 13.0 | 4.5 | 2.1 | \$203 | \$184 |
| 45-64 years----- | 10,462 | 10.2 | 10.4 | 16.1 | 21.1 | 9.1 | 3.9 | 3.9 | \$284 | \$255 |
| 65 years and over----- | 5,479 | 6.1 | 7.8 | 16.0 | 30.6 | 27.7 | 8.2 | * | \$293 | \$275 |
| <u>North Central</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 54,928 | 10.3 | 20.1 | 20.3 | 29.2 | 13.4 | 5.3 | 1.3 | \$188 | \$168 |
| Under 17 years----- | 18,339 | 14.3 | 27.7 | 25.9 | 25.2 | 5.5 | * | * | \$107 | \$ 92 |
| 17-44 years----- | 19,326 | 9.1 | 22.1 | 19.7 | 31.2 | 12.3 | 4.5 | * | \$173 | \$157 |
| 45-64 years----- | 12,144 | 7.1 | 11.4 | 15.5 | 29.8 | 23.5 | 10.3 | 2.4 | \$272 | \$253 |
| 65 years and over----- | 5,119 | 7.6 | * | 13.0 | 35.3 | 24.0 | 12.5 | * | \$326 | \$301 |
| <u>South</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 62,481 | 13.4 | 19.1 | 18.9 | 26.5 | 14.7 | 5.6 | 1.9 | \$210 | \$182 |
| Under 17 years----- | 20,918 | 19.4 | 27.2 | 22.0 | 21.6 | 6.9 | 2.0 | * | \$140 | \$113 |
| 17-44 years----- | 23,286 | 12.5 | 18.6 | 19.6 | 27.3 | 15.4 | 5.3 | 1.4 | \$201 | \$176 |
| 45-64 years----- | 12,578 | 7.8 | 11.0 | 15.1 | 30.7 | 21.9 | 10.2 | 3.3 | \$278 | \$257 |
| 65 years and over----- | 5,698 | 6.5 | 8.4 | 12.8 | 32.1 | 24.7 | 11.0 | 4.5 | \$321 | \$300 |
| <u>West</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 31,924 | 16.1 | 14.7 | 16.7 | 28.2 | 14.5 | 6.9 | 2.9 | \$253 | \$212 |
| Under 17 years----- | 11,219 | 24.6 | 22.3 | 19.3 | 23.8 | 7.0 | 2.0 | * | \$146 | \$110 |
| 17-44 years----- | 11,572 | 14.5 | 13.5 | 18.7 | 30.5 | 12.6 | 7.9 | 2.3 | \$238 | \$203 |
| 45-64 years----- | 6,293 | 7.1 | 7.0 | 9.6 | 31.6 | 27.6 | 11.1 | 6.0 | \$393 | \$365 |
| 65 years and over----- | 2,841 | * | * | 12.6 | 29.4 | 24.8 | 14.9 | 6.2 | \$365 | \$340 |

MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORT

Table 3. Percent distribution of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expense (including insurance premiums), average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense by color and age: United States, 1970

| Color and age | Total population in thousands | No expense | Health expense | | | | | | Average expense for persons with expense | Per capita expense |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--|--------------------|
| | | | Less than \$50 | \$50-\$99 | \$100-\$249 | \$250-\$499 | \$500-\$999 | \$1,000 or more | | |
| <u>Total</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 12.4 | 18.1 | 19.2 | 28.7 | 14.1 | 5.6 | 2.0 | \$209 | \$183 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 18.0 | 25.9 | 23.3 | 24.2 | 6.2 | 1.7 | 0.8 | \$128 | \$105 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 11.1 | 18.0 | 19.4 | 31.1 | 13.5 | 5.2 | 1.6 | \$199 | \$177 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 8.1 | 10.3 | 14.6 | 30.2 | 23.0 | 10.1 | 3.6 | \$296 | \$272 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 6.7 | 6.6 | 13.8 | 32.1 | 25.4 | 11.1 | 4.2 | \$320 | \$299 |
| <u>White</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 175,899 | 10.3 | 17.5 | 19.7 | 30.1 | 14.7 | 5.8 | 2.0 | \$212 | \$190 |
| Under 17 years----- | 56,263 | 14.2 | 25.7 | 24.5 | 26.5 | 6.7 | 1.7 | 0.6 | \$126 | \$108 |
| 17-44 years----- | 64,562 | 9.7 | 17.6 | 19.9 | 31.9 | 13.8 | 5.4 | 1.6 | \$201 | \$181 |
| 45-64 years----- | 37,491 | 7.3 | 9.7 | 14.5 | 31.1 | 23.5 | 10.3 | 3.7 | \$300 | \$279 |
| 65 years and over----- | 17,583 | 5.8 | 5.9 | 13.7 | 32.5 | 26.3 | 11.4 | 4.3 | \$327 | \$308 |
| <u>All other</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 24,958 | 28.1 | 22.6 | 15.9 | 18.5 | 9.4 | 3.7 | 1.8 | \$185 | \$133 |
| Under 17 years----- | 10,453 | 39.5 | 26.9 | 16.4 | 11.0 | 3.3 | * | * | \$146 | \$ 89 |
| 17-44 years----- | 8,964 | 21.3 | 21.2 | 15.3 | 24.6 | 11.7 | 4.0 | * | \$189 | \$148 |
| 45-64 years----- | 3,986 | 15.8 | 16.5 | 16.2 | 22.0 | 18.8 | 7.8 | * | \$244 | \$205 |
| 65 years and over----- | 1,555 | 19.5 | * | * | 27.0 | * | * | * | \$219 | \$176 |

MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORT

Table 4. Percent distribution of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expense (including insurance premiums), average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense by family income and age: United States, 1970

| Family income and age | Total population in thousands | No expense | Health expense | | | | | | Average expense for persons with expense | Per capita expense |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--|--------------------|
| | | | Less than \$50 | \$50-\$99 | \$100-\$249 | \$250-\$499 | \$500-\$999 | \$1,000 or more | | |
| <u>All incomes¹</u> | | | Percent distribution | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 12.4 | 18.1 | 19.2 | 28.7 | 14.1 | 5.6 | 2.0 | \$209 | \$183 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 18.0 | 25.9 | 23.3 | 24.2 | 6.2 | 1.7 | 0.8 | \$128 | \$105 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 11.1 | 18.0 | 19.4 | 31.1 | 13.5 | 5.2 | 1.6 | \$199 | \$177 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 8.1 | 10.3 | 14.6 | 30.2 | 23.0 | 10.1 | 3.6 | \$296 | \$272 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 6.7 | 6.6 | 13.8 | 32.1 | 25.4 | 11.1 | 4.2 | \$320 | \$299 |
| <u>Less than \$3,000</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 23,077 | 27.7 | 18.2 | 13.3 | 21.6 | 12.5 | 4.7 | 2.0 | \$216 | \$156 |
| Under 17 years----- | 5,387 | 47.4 | 28.7 | 11.9 | 8.1 | * | * | * | \$ 86 | \$ 45 |
| 17-44 years----- | 6,137 | 33.0 | 24.7 | 11.3 | 20.5 | 6.3 | * | * | \$165 | \$110 |
| 45-64 years----- | 4,377 | 22.5 | 13.5 | 10.0 | 25.1 | 18.2 | 6.9 | * | \$281 | \$218 |
| 65 years and over----- | 7,176 | 11.4 | 7.5 | 18.1 | 30.5 | 21.8 | 7.9 | * | \$274 | \$242 |
| <u>\$3,000-\$4,999</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 21,040 | 20.6 | 19.2 | 13.8 | 25.2 | 13.7 | 5.1 | 2.3 | \$218 | \$173 |
| Under 17 years----- | 6,677 | 34.4 | 30.2 | 16.2 | 15.1 | 3.5 | * | * | \$ 89 | \$ 58 |
| 17-44 years----- | 6,153 | 18.9 | 20.6 | 14.7 | 27.2 | 11.0 | 6.0 | * | \$199 | \$161 |
| 45-64 years----- | 4,450 | 15.8 | 12.8 | 10.6 | 29.3 | 20.6 | 6.5 | * | \$281 | \$236 |
| 65 years and over----- | 3,760 | * | * | 11.6 | 36.0 | 28.7 | 10.6 | * | \$341 | \$329 |
| <u>\$5,000-\$6,999</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 27,787 | 16.8 | 22.1 | 17.6 | 23.6 | 13.0 | 5.3 | 1.7 | \$197 | \$164 |
| Under 17 years----- | 10,501 | 27.2 | 29.6 | 18.7 | 14.7 | 6.1 | 2.3 | * | \$153 | \$111 |
| 17-44 years----- | 10,087 | 13.7 | 20.7 | 19.4 | 26.4 | 13.0 | 5.3 | * | \$187 | \$161 |
| 45-64 years----- | 4,646 | 7.5 | 13.9 | 14.6 | 31.8 | 22.2 | 7.7 | * | \$243 | \$225 |
| 65 years and over----- | 2,553 | * | 11.0 | 10.8 | 34.3 | 24.8 | 13.7 | * | \$295 | \$286 |
| <u>\$7,000-\$9,999</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 42,704 | 10.2 | 20.0 | 22.4 | 28.3 | 13.0 | 4.8 | 1.4 | \$181 | \$163 |
| Under 17 years----- | 15,104 | 14.7 | 26.9 | 27.7 | 24.3 | 4.9 | * | * | \$109 | \$ 93 |
| 17-44 years----- | 16,851 | 9.5 | 20.1 | 22.6 | 30.0 | 12.3 | 4.8 | * | \$174 | \$157 |
| 45-64 years----- | 8,647 | 5.8 | 10.8 | 16.1 | 30.4 | 24.3 | 9.4 | 3.2 | \$276 | \$260 |
| 65 years and over----- | 2,102 | * | * | * | 35.3 | 32.8 | 15.2 | * | \$333 | \$330 |
| <u>\$10,000-14,999</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 49,743 | 5.9 | 18.5 | 21.1 | 33.8 | 13.8 | 5.3 | 1.7 | \$200 | \$188 |
| Under 17 years----- | 18,497 | 6.8 | 25.7 | 26.4 | 31.4 | 6.8 | 1.8 | * | \$134 | \$125 |
| 17-44 years----- | 19,972 | 5.9 | 16.8 | 19.7 | 35.8 | 14.9 | 5.1 | 1.8 | \$207 | \$195 |
| 45-64 years----- | 9,774 | 4.6 | 9.8 | 14.9 | 34.3 | 22.7 | 10.9 | 2.9 | \$290 | \$277 |
| 65 years and over----- | 1,500 | * | * | * | 31.3 | 29.6 | 16.5 | * | \$318 | \$312 |
| <u>\$15,000 or more</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 29,465 | 3.3 | 9.8 | 21.4 | 35.1 | 19.0 | 8.2 | 3.4 | \$263 | \$254 |
| Under 17 years----- | 8,572 | 4.5 | 14.9 | 27.1 | 37.8 | 11.6 | 3.3 | * | \$161 | \$154 |
| 17-44 years----- | 11,884 | 3.1 | 9.4 | 21.0 | 37.6 | 18.6 | 7.1 | 3.1 | \$247 | \$239 |
| 45-64 years----- | 7,839 | * | 5.1 | 16.0 | 29.4 | 26.8 | 14.7 | 5.5 | \$370 | \$361 |
| 65 years and over----- | 1,171 | * | * | * | 26.7 | 25.3 | * | * | \$448 | \$439 |

¹Includes persons with unknown incomes.

MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORT

Table 5. Percent distribution of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expense (including insurance premiums), average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense by family income, color, and age: United States, 1970

| Family income, color, and age | Total population in thousands | No expense | Health expense | | | | | | Average expense for persons with expense | Per capita expense |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--|--------------------|
| | | | Less than \$50 | \$50-\$99 | \$100-\$249 | \$250-\$499 | \$500-\$999 | \$1,000 or more | | |
| <u>ALL INCOMES¹</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Total</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 12.4 | 18.1 | 19.2 | 28.7 | 14.1 | 5.6 | 2.0 | \$209 | \$183 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 18.0 | 25.9 | 23.3 | 24.2 | 6.2 | 1.7 | 0.8 | \$128 | \$105 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 11.1 | 18.0 | 19.4 | 31.1 | 13.5 | 5.2 | 1.6 | \$199 | \$177 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 8.1 | 10.3 | 14.6 | 30.2 | 23.0 | 10.1 | 3.6 | \$296 | \$272 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 6.7 | 6.6 | 13.8 | 32.1 | 25.4 | 11.1 | 4.2 | \$320 | \$299 |
| <u>White</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 175,899 | 10.3 | 17.5 | 19.7 | 30.1 | 14.7 | 5.8 | 2.0 | \$212 | \$190 |
| Under 17 years----- | 56,263 | 14.2 | 25.7 | 24.5 | 26.5 | 6.7 | 1.7 | 0.6 | \$126 | \$108 |
| 17-44 years----- | 64,562 | 9.7 | 17.6 | 19.9 | 31.9 | 13.8 | 5.4 | 1.6 | \$201 | \$181 |
| 45-64 years----- | 37,491 | 7.3 | 9.7 | 14.5 | 31.1 | 23.5 | 10.3 | 3.7 | \$300 | \$279 |
| 65 years and over----- | 17,583 | 5.8 | 5.9 | 13.7 | 32.5 | 26.3 | 11.4 | 4.3 | \$327 | \$308 |
| <u>All other</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 24,958 | 28.1 | 22.6 | 15.9 | 18.5 | 9.4 | 3.7 | 1.8 | \$185 | \$133 |
| Under 17 years----- | 10,453 | 39.5 | 26.9 | 16.4 | 11.0 | 3.3 | * | * | \$146 | \$ 89 |
| 17-44 years----- | 8,964 | 21.3 | 21.2 | 15.3 | 24.6 | 11.7 | 4.0 | * | \$189 | \$148 |
| 45-64 years----- | 3,986 | 15.8 | 16.5 | 16.2 | 22.0 | 18.8 | 7.8 | * | \$244 | \$205 |
| 65 years and over----- | 1,555 | 19.5 | * | * | 27.0 | * | * | * | \$219 | \$176 |
| <u>LESS THAN \$5,000</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Total</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 44,118 | 24.2 | 18.7 | 13.6 | 23.4 | 13.1 | 4.9 | 2.2 | \$217 | \$164 |
| Under 17 years----- | 12,064 | 40.0 | 29.6 | 14.4 | 12.1 | 3.1 | * | * | \$ 88 | \$ 53 |
| 17-44 years----- | 12,290 | 25.7 | 22.6 | 13.1 | 24.0 | 8.7 | 4.4 | * | \$184 | \$137 |
| 45-64 years----- | 8,828 | 19.0 | 13.2 | 10.4 | 27.3 | 19.4 | 6.7 | 4.1 | \$281 | \$228 |
| 65 years and over----- | 10,936 | 8.7 | 6.3 | 15.8 | 32.4 | 24.2 | 8.9 | 3.7 | \$299 | \$273 |
| <u>White</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 33,560 | 20.7 | 15.4 | 14.0 | 26.5 | 15.5 | 5.5 | 2.5 | \$238 | \$188 |
| Under 17 years----- | 7,570 | 35.4 | 27.6 | 16.1 | 15.7 | 4.6 | * | * | \$ 98 | \$ 63 |
| 17-44 years----- | 9,103 | 24.3 | 19.1 | 13.2 | 26.0 | 10.1 | 5.2 | * | \$208 | \$158 |
| 45-64 years----- | 7,076 | 18.0 | 11.4 | 9.7 | 29.7 | 21.0 | 6.3 | 4.0 | \$286 | \$235 |
| 65 years and over----- | 9,810 | 7.6 | 5.1 | 16.0 | 33.3 | 25.1 | 8.9 | 3.9 | \$306 | \$283 |
| <u>All other</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 10,558 | 35.7 | 29.4 | 12.3 | 13.2 | 5.2 | 3.2 | * | \$135 | \$87 |
| Under 17 years----- | 4,493 | 47.7 | 32.8 | 11.5 | 6.2 | * | * | * | \$ 66 | \$ 35 |
| 17-44 years----- | 3,187 | 29.7 | 32.4 | 12.6 | 18.2 | * | * | * | \$110 | \$ 77 |
| 45-64 years----- | 1,752 | 23.3 | 20.7 | * | 17.1 | * | * | * | \$257 | \$197 |
| 65 years and over----- | 1,127 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | \$215 | \$174 |

¹Includes persons with unknown income.

MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORT

Table 6. Percent distribution of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket health expense, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense by type of expense and age: United States, 1970

| Age | Total population in thousands | Health expense | | | | | | Average expense for persons with expense | Per capita expense |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------------|--|--------------------|
| | | No expense | Less than \$50 | \$50-\$99 | \$100-\$249 | \$250-\$499 | \$500 or more | | |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital expense | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 88.2 | 5.3 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | \$178 | \$21 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 90.6 | 5.6 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 0.5 | 0.7 | \$135 | \$13 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 87.2 | 5.7 | 1.9 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 0.9 | \$164 | \$21 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 88.2 | 4.6 | 1.9 | 2.5 | 1.1 | 1.7 | \$243 | \$29 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 83.6 | 4.4 | 5.7 | 3.4 | * | 1.9 | \$204 | \$34 |
| Doctor expense | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 41.1 | 32.1 | 13.3 | 9.7 | 2.7 | 1.1 | \$ 80 | \$47 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 46.9 | 35.9 | 10.8 | 5.1 | 1.0 | 0.4 | \$ 52 | \$27 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 40.0 | 32.7 | 12.9 | 10.1 | 3.2 | 1.1 | \$ 82 | \$49 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 36.3 | 28.8 | 15.8 | 13.5 | 3.9 | 1.7 | \$101 | \$64 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 36.1 | 23.8 | 18.1 | 16.2 | 3.9 | 1.9 | \$108 | \$69 |
| Dental expense | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 60.0 | 25.2 | 6.7 | 5.4 | 2.1 | 0.7 | \$74 | \$29 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 64.5 | 26.3 | 4.7 | 3.1 | 1.1 | * | \$50 | \$18 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 53.5 | 28.1 | 8.4 | 6.9 | 2.2 | 0.9 | \$76 | \$35 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 57.4 | 23.4 | 7.4 | 7.1 | 3.4 | 1.2 | \$97 | \$41 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 74.8 | 13.7 | 5.2 | 4.0 | 1.8 | * | \$85 | \$21 |
| Prescription medicine expense | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 47.0 | 36.2 | 8.7 | 6.6 | 1.2 | 0.3 | \$ 52 | \$27 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 55.6 | 38.5 | 4.0 | 1.8 | * | * | \$ 26 | \$12 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 46.9 | 38.9 | 8.6 | 4.7 | 0.7 | * | \$ 42 | \$22 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 39.8 | 31.8 | 13.3 | 12.2 | 2.5 | * | \$ 73 | \$44 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 33.1 | 27.3 | 15.5 | 18.0 | 4.6 | 1.6 | \$100 | \$67 |
| Optical expense | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 78.2 | 13.9 | 6.5 | 1.3 | * | * | \$47 | \$10 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 88.4 | 8.6 | 2.4 | 0.4 | * | * | \$43 | \$ 5 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 79.1 | 13.7 | 5.6 | 1.6 | * | * | \$47 | \$10 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 64.6 | 20.5 | 12.8 | 1.9 | * | * | \$48 | \$17 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 68.4 | 18.5 | 10.8 | 2.3 | * | * | \$47 | \$15 |
| Other medical expense | | | | | | | | | |
| All ages----- | 200,856 | 94.6 | 3.2 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.2 | \$100 | \$ 5 |
| Under 17 years----- | 66,716 | 97.7 | 1.6 | 0.4 | * | * | * | \$ 77 | \$ 2 |
| 17-44 years----- | 73,526 | 95.8 | 2.4 | 1.0 | 0.6 | * | * | \$ 87 | \$ 4 |
| 45-64 years----- | 41,477 | 91.4 | 5.0 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 0.6 | * | \$ 96 | \$ 8 |
| 65 years and over----- | 19,138 | 85.6 | 8.1 | 2.4 | 1.7 | 1.5 | * | \$134 | \$19 |

SYMBOLS USED IN TABLES

| | |
|--|-----|
| Data not available----- | --- |
| Category not applicable----- | ... |
| Quantity zero----- | - |
| Quantity more than 0 but less than 0.05----- | 0.0 |
| Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision-- | * |

MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS REPORT

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Public Health Service
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