

National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey

ABOUT NAMCS

The National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) produces statistics that are representative of people in the United States who visit office-based physicians. The survey provides information on office visits by physician practice characteristics, patient characteristics, and visit characteristics.

INTERNAL MEDICINE

In 2015–2016, there were an estimated **110 million visits per year** to nonfederally employed, office-based providers specializing in internal medicine in the United States.

CONTACT US

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MAJOR REASON FOR VISIT

NEW PROBLEM ¹	31.5%
CHRONIC PROBLEM, ROUTINE	31.5%
PREVENTIVE CARE	25.2%
CHRONIC PROBLEM, FLARE-UP	7.0%
PRESURGERY	1.4%

¹Onset less than 3 months.

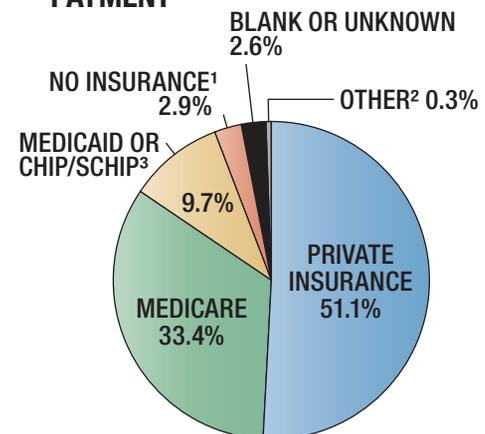
PATIENTS' TOP 5 PRINCIPAL REASONS FOR VISIT

- PROGRESS VISIT
- GENERAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION
- MEDICATION
- DIABETES MELLITUS
- STOMACH AND ABDOMINAL PAIN, CRAMPS

TOP 5 SERVICES, ORDERED OR PROVIDED

- COMPLETE BLOOD COUNT (CBC)
- LIPID PROFILE
- NEUROLOGIC EXAMINATION
- DIET/NUTRITION COUNSELING
- COMPREHENSIVE METABOLIC PANEL (CMP)

PRIMARY EXPECTED SOURCE OF PAYMENT



¹Having only self-pay, no charge, or charity as source of payment.
²Includes workers' compensation and other sources of payment.
³CHIP is Children's Health Insurance Program; SCHIP is State CHIP.

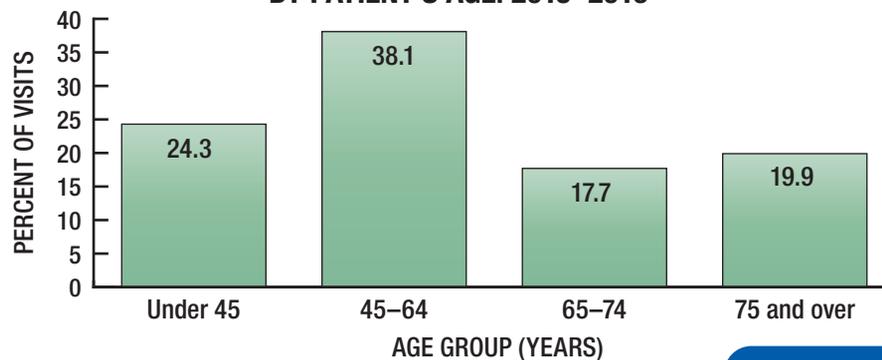
MEDICATIONS WERE PRESCRIBED OR CONTINUED AT 84.1% OF OFFICE VISITS.

TOP 5 ACTIVE INGREDIENTS



- ASPIRIN
- OMEPRAZOLE
- LISINAPRIL
- ATORVASTATIN
- ALBUTEROL

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF INTERNAL MEDICINE OFFICE VISITS, BY PATIENT'S AGE: 2015–2016



NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Internal Medicine Fact Sheet *from the*

National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey

NAMCS data are widely used in research studies appearing in nationally recognized medical journals. Here are a few recent publications using NAMCS data:

Wu J, Ward E, Lu ZK. **Addressing lifestyle management during visits involving patients with prediabetes: NAMCS 2013–2015.** J Gen Intern Med [Epub ahead of print]. 2018.

Pilla SJ, Segal JB, Maruthur NM. **Primary care provides the majority of outpatient care for patients with diabetes in the US: NAMCS 2009–2015.** J Gen Intern Med 34(7):1089–91. 2019.

Barnett ML, Linder JA, Clark CR, Sommers BD. **Low-value medical services in the safety-net population.** JAMA Intern Med 177(6):829–37. 2017.

Fitzpatrick SL, Stevens VJ. **Adult obesity management in primary care, 2008–2013.** Prev Med 99:128–33. 2017.

Gray B, Vandergrift J, Lipner RS, Green MM. **Comparison of content on the American Board of Internal Medicine Maintenance of Certification examination with conditions seen in practice by general internists.** JAMA 317(22):2317–24. 2017.

Asao K, McEwen LN, Lee JM, Herman WH. **Ascertainment of outpatient visits by patients with diabetes: The National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) and the National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS).** J Diabetes Complications 29(5):650–8. 2015.

Mafi JN, Edwards ST, Pedersen NP, Davis RB, McCarthy EP, Landon BE. **Trends in the ambulatory management of headache: Analysis of NAMCS and NHAMCS data 1999–2010.** J Gen Intern Med 30(5):548–55. 2015.

A complete list of publications using NAMCS data, which includes articles and reports, can be found at: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd_products.htm.

