

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.

OPHTHALMOLOGY

In 2015–2016, there were an estimated **52 million visits per year** to nonfederally employed, office-based providers specializing in ophthalmology in the United States.

CONTACT US

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https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/namcs_participant.htm
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MAJOR REASON FOR VISIT

CHRONIC PROBLEM, ROUTINE	34.8%
NEW PROBLEM ¹	22.7%
PREVENTIVE CARE	14.4%
POSTSURGERY	12.5%
CHRONIC PROBLEM, FLARE-UP	5.8%
PRESURGERY	4.1%

¹Onset less than 3 months.

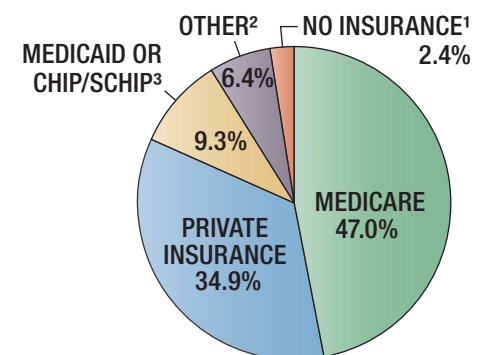
TOP 2 SERVICES, ORDERED OR PROVIDED

- TONOMETRY
- INJURY PREVENTION

PATIENTS' TOP 5 PRINCIPAL REASONS FOR VISIT

- PROGRESS VISIT
- VISION DYSFUNCTIONS
- EYE EXAMINATION
- POSTOPERATIVE VISIT
- CATARACT

PRIMARY EXPECTED SOURCE OF PAYMENT



¹Having only self-pay, no charge, or charity as source of payment.

²Includes workers' compensation, other sources of payment, unknown, and blank data.

³CHIP is Children's Health Insurance Program; SCHIP is State CHIP.

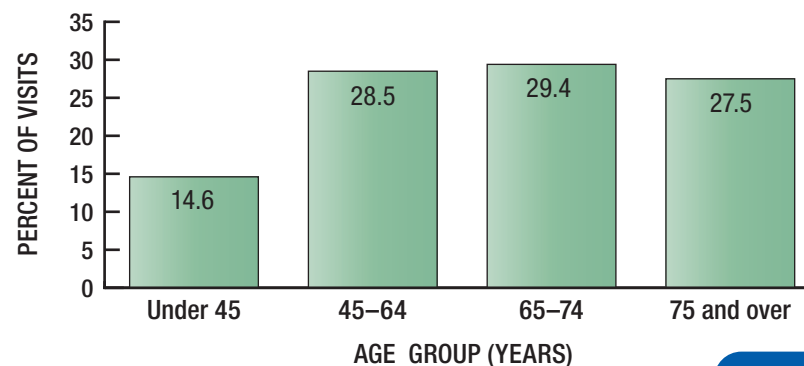
MEDICATIONS WERE PRESCRIBED OR CONTINUED AT 71.4% OF OFFICE VISITS.

TOP 5 ACTIVE INGREDIENTS



- ASPIRIN
- TROPICAMIDE OPHTHALMIC
- MISCELLANEOUS OPHTHALMIC AGENTS
- MULTIVITAMIN
- LEVOTHYROXINE

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



NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Ophthalmology 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:

De Lott LB, Kerber KA, Lee PP, Brown DL, Burke JF. **Diplopia-related ambulatory and emergency department visits in the United States, 2003–2012.** JAMA Ophthalmol 135(12):1339–44. 2017.

Wilson FA, Stimpson JP, Wang Y. **Inconsistencies exist in national estimates of eye care services utilization in the United States.** J Ophthalmol 2015;435606. 2015.

Shokeen D, O'Neill JL, Davis SA, Moustafa F, Huang WW. **Characterizing the treatment of autoimmune bullous disorders from 1993 through 2010: A NAMCS study.** J Clin Investigat Dermatol 1(1):1–4. 2013.

Zambelli-Weiner A, Friedman DS. **Building a basis for action: Enhancing public health surveillance of vision impairment and eye health in the United States.** Am J Ophthalmol 154(6 Suppl):S8–22. 2012.



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.