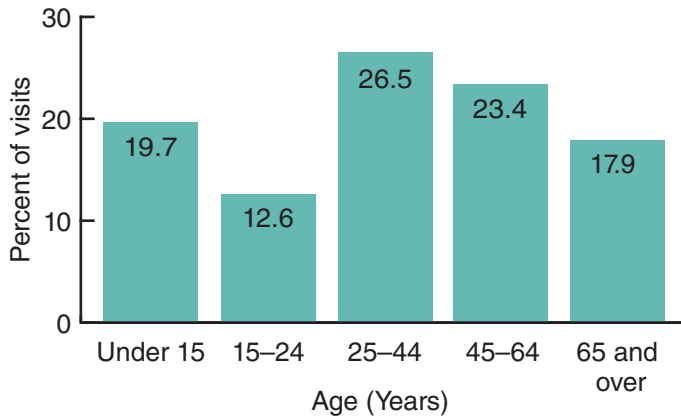


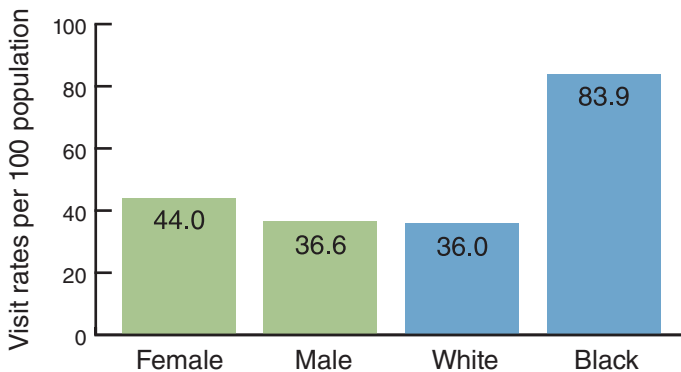


PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF VISITS BY AGE



In 2018, there were an estimated 130 million visits to emergency departments (EDs) of nonfederal, short-stay, and general hospitals in the United States. The annual visit rate was 40.4 visits per 100 persons. Over a quarter (26.5%) of all ED visits were made by patients aged 25 to 44 years.

ANNUAL VISIT RATE BY SEX AND RACE



Females had a higher visit rate than males. The visit rate was higher for Black or African American people compared with White people.

Medications were provided or prescribed at 80% of ED visits for a total of 336 million drugs.

MEDICATIONS PROVIDED OR PRESCRIBED AT VISITS

Analgesics	87.8 million
Minerals and electrolytes	35.8 million
Antiemetic or antivertigo agents	33.1 million
Miscellaneous respiratory agents	28.0 million
Anxiolytics, sedatives, and hypnotics	13.9 million
Bronchodilators	13.2 million
Adrenal cortical steroids	11.5 million
Cephalosporins	10.3 million
Antihistamines	9.9 million
Anticonvulsants	9.5 million
Penicillins	7.5 million
Dermatological agents	7.3 million

TOP 10 PRINCIPAL REASONS FOR VISITS

Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps, and spasms	11.1 million
Chest pain and related symptoms	7.1 million
Fever	5.8 million
Cough	5.0 million
Shortness of breath	3.9 million
Headache, pain in head	3.5 million
Pain, specified site not referable to a specific body system	3.1 million
Back symptoms	3.0 million
Leg symptoms	2.5 million
Vomiting	2.4 million

EXPECTED SOURCE(S) OF PAYMENT

Medicaid or CHIP/SCHIP	37.2%
Private insurance	30.8%
Medicare	19.3%
No insurance	8.5%
Other	3.4%
Workers compensation	0.7%
Unknown or blank	13.0%

NOTE: Combined total exceeds 100% because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit.



PRIMARY DIAGNOSIS AT VISIT*

Symptoms, signs, and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	32.9 million
Injury, poisoning, and certain other consequences of external causes	23.4 million
Diseases of the respiratory system	13.8 million
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	9.9 million
Diseases of the digestive system	7.9 million
Diseases of the genitourinary system	6.8 million
Mental, behavioral, and neurodevelopmental disorders	4.9 million
Diseases of the circulatory system	4.5 million
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	4.4 million

LEADING HOSPITAL DISCHARGE*

Symptoms, signs, and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	2.6 million
Diseases of the circulatory system	2.1 million
Diseases of the respiratory system	1.9 million
Diseases of the digestive system	1.7 million
Injury, poisoning, and certain other consequences of external causes	1.3 million

*By major disease category and *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-10-CM) code range.

IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL HOSPITAL AMBULATORY MEDICAL CARE SURVEY (NHAMCS) DATA

NHAMCS data are widely used in research studies and are published in nationally recognized health and medical journals, including the *American Journal of Emergency Medicine*, *Journal of Child Neurology*, and *Journal of Asthma*. Here are a few recent publications:

Lu FQ, Hanchate AD, Paasche-Orlow MK. Racial/ethnic disparities in emergency department wait times in the United States, 2013-2017. *Am J Emerg Med.* 2021 Mar 26;47:138-144. doi: 10.1016/j.ajem.2021.03.051. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33812329

Neyman G, Dalsey W. A Quantification of the Impact of Awaiting Results of a Urinalysis upon Emergency Department Length of Stay. *J Emerg Med.* 2021 Feb;60(2):158-164. doi: 10.1016/j.jemermed.2020.10.004. Epub 2020 Nov 27. PMID: 33257100.

Qin X, Zahran HS, Malilay J. Asthma-related emergency department (ED) visits and post-ED visit hospital and critical care admissions, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2010-2015. *J Asthma.* 2021 May;58(5):565-572. doi: 10.1080/02770903.2020.1713149. Epub 2020 Jan 23. PMID: 31922923.

Ramgopal S, Zhou AZ, Hickey RW, Marin JR. Rates of Presentation, Treatments and Serious Neurologic Disorders Among Children and Young Adults Presenting to US Emergency Departments With Headache. *J Child Neurol.* 2021 May;36(6):475-481. doi: 10.1177/0883073820979137. Epub 2020 Dec 24. PMID: 33356803.

Tebo C, Mazer-Amirshahi M, Zocchi MS, Gibson C, Rosenwohl-Mack S, Hsia RY, Fox ER, Nelson LS, Pines JM. "The rising cost of commonly used emergency department medications" (2006-15). *Am J Emerg Med.* 2021 Apr;42:137-142. doi: 10.1016/j.ajem.2020.02.010. Epub 2020 Feb 13. PMID: 32081556.

Wang PR, Lopez R, Seballos SS, Campbell MJ, Udeh BL, Phelan MP. Management of migraine in the emergency department: Findings from the 2010-2017 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Surveys. *Am J Emerg Med.* 2021 Mar;41:40-45. doi: 10.1016/j.ajem.2020.12.056. Epub 2020 Dec 29. PMID: 33385884.

Wu F, Darracq MA. Physician assistant utilization in U.S. emergency departments; 2010 to 2017. *Am J Emerg Med.* 2021 Apr;42:132-136. doi: 10.1016/j.ajem.2020.02.009. Epub 2020 Feb 10. PMID: 32067840.

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