

National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2017 Emergency Department Summary Tables

The Ambulatory and Hospital Care Statistics Branch is pleased to release the most current nationally representative data on ambulatory care visits to hospital emergency departments (EDs) in the United States. Estimates are presented on selected hospital, patient, and visit characteristics using data collected in the 2017 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS). NHAMCS is an annual nationally representative sample survey of visits to hospitals.

The sampling frame for the 2017 NHAMCS was constructed from IMS Health's Healthcare Organization Services database, also known as HCOS. NHAMCS uses a multistage probability design with samples of primary sampling units (PSUs), hospitals within PSUs, and patient visits within emergency service areas (ESAs) of each selected hospital. A total of 479 hospitals were selected for the 2017 NHAMCS, of which 374 were in scope and had eligible EDs. Of these, 234 responded, yielding an unweighted ED response rate of 62.6%. A total of 331 ESAs were identified from the EDs. Of these, 240 responded fully or adequately by providing forms for at least one-half of their expected visits based on the total number of visits during the reporting period. In all, 16,709 Patient Record forms (PRFs) were submitted electronically. The resulting unweighted ESA sample response rate was 72.5%, and the overall unweighted two-stage sampling response rate was 45.4% (48.4% weighted).

The 2017 NHAMCS was conducted from December 26, 2016, through December 24, 2017. The U.S. Census Bureau was the data collection agent. NHAMCS data were collected electronically using a computerized instrument developed by the Census Bureau. Census field representatives completed PRFs for a sample of about 100 ED visits during a randomly assigned 4-week reporting period. The PRF content is available from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd_survey_instruments.htm#nhamcs.

Data processing and medical coding were performed by RTI International, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. As part of the quality assurance procedure, a 13% quality control sample of ED survey records was independently keyed and coded. Coding error rates ranged from 0.1% to 0.9% for the ED sample. For further details, see the 2017 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc17_ed-508.pdf.

Web table estimates are based on sample data weighted to produce annual national estimates and include standard errors. The sample weight that is computed for each sample visit takes all stages of survey design into account. The survey data are inflated or weighted to produce unbiased national annual estimates. The visit weight includes three basic components: inflation by reciprocals of selection probabilities, adjustment for nonresponse, and population ratio adjustments. Estimates of the sampling variability were calculated using the Taylor series method in SUDAAN, which takes into account the complex sample design of NHAMCS. Detailed information on the design, conduct, and estimation procedures of 2017 NHAMCS are discussed in the public-use data file documentation.

As in any survey, results are subject to sampling and nonsampling errors. Nonsampling errors include reporting and processing errors as well as biases due to nonresponse and incomplete response. In 2017, race data were missing for 18.5% (unweighted) of ED records, and ethnicity data were missing for 20.9% (unweighted) of ED records. The National Center for Health Statistics uses model-based single imputation for NHAMCS race and ethnicity data. The race imputation, based on research by an internal work group, is restricted to three categories (white, black, and other) because of quality concerns with imputed estimates for race categories other than white and black. The imputation technique is described in more detail in the public-use data file documentation.

NHAMCS–ED diagnosis data are coded according to the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–10–CM). Five tables (Tables 1 1, 12, 16, 17, and 26) presenting estimates of primary diagnoses, injury diagnoses, and primary hospital discharge diagnoses utilize ICD–10–CM codes and differ from pre-2016 Web tables presenting diagnosis estimates using the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–9–CM) coding system. Due to substantial differences between the ICD–9–CM and ICD–10–CM coding systems, users should take caution when comparing diagnosis estimates.

Proportion estimates are not presented or are flagged based on the procedure specified in “National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions,” available from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf. For all estimates other than estimates of proportions in the tables: Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk (*) appears. Visit estimates based on 30 or more cases include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%.

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Table 1. Emergency department visits, by selected characteristics: United States, 2017

| Characteristic | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) | Number of visits per 100 persons ¹ (standard error) |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | 100.0 ... | 43.3 (3.2) |
| Ownership | | | |
| Voluntary | 101,989 (9,663) | 73.4 (4.1) | 31.8 (3.0) |
| Government | 23,084 (5,320) | 16.6 (3.7) | 7.2 (1.7) |
| Proprietary | 13,904 (3,480) | 10.0 (2.4) | 4.3 (1.1) |
| Metropolitan status ²⁻⁴ | | | |
| MSA | 120,450 (10,174) | 86.7 (2.2) | 43.1 (3.6) |
| Non-MSA | 18,527 (3,067) | 13.3 (2.2) | 45.3 (7.5) |
| Geographic region ⁴ | | | |
| Northeast | 18,450 (3,495) | 13.3 (2.4) | 33.1 (6.3) |
| Midwest | 36,860 (5,146) | 26.5 (3.2) | 54.9 (7.7) |
| South | 59,389 (7,000) | 42.7 (3.7) | 48.9 (5.8) |
| West | 24,277 (4,135) | 17.5 (2.7) | 31.8 (5.4) |
| Teaching hospital | | | |
| Yes | 28,188 (5,259) | 20.3 (3.6) | 8.8 (1.6) |
| No ⁵ | 110,789 (9,961) | 79.7 (3.6) | 34.6 (3.1) |
| Trauma center | | | |
| Yes | 57,843 (6,770) | 41.6 (4.4) | 18.0 (2.1) |
| No or blank | 81,135 (9,407) | 58.4 (4.4) | 25.3 (2.9) |
| Season ⁶ | | | |
| Winter | 43,450 (7,315) | 31.3 (4.7) | 13.6 (2.3) |
| Spring | 25,548 (4,995) | 18.4 (3.5) | 8.0 (1.6) |
| Summer | 42,219 (7,452) | 30.4 (4.3) | 13.2 (2.3) |
| Fall | 27,760 (4,457) | 20.0 (3.3) | 8.7 (1.4) |

... Category not applicable.

¹Visit rates for region are based on the July 1, 2017, set of estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutional population as developed by the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

²MSA is metropolitan statistical area.

³Population estimates by MSA are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as of July 1, 2017, from the 2017 National Health Interview Survey, compiled according to the 2013 Office of Management and Budget definitions of core-based statistical areas. More information about MSA definitions is available from: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro.html>.

⁴For geographic region and MSA, population denominators differ for each category and do not add to the total population rate. For other variables, the denominator is the total population.

⁵Teaching status was unknown for 3.8% (weighted) of visits.

⁶Winter is December 22 to March 19, spring is March 20 to June 20, summer is June 21 to September 22, and fall is September 23 to December 21.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 2. Emergency department visits, by patient age, sex, and residence: United States, 2017

| Patient characteristic | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) | Number of visits per 100 persons per year ¹ (standard error) |
|---|--|--|---|
| Age group (years) | | | |
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | 100.0 ... | 43.3 (3.2) |
| Under 15 | 28,369 (3,315) | 20.4 (1.8) | 46.5 (5.4) |
| Under 1 | 3,772 (487) | 2.7 (0.3) | 95.8 (12.4) |
| 1–4 | 10,042 (1,078) | 7.2 (0.6) | 62.8 (6.7) |
| 5–14 | 14,555 (2,016) | 10.5 (1.2) | 35.5 (4.9) |
| 15–24 | 20,194 (1,838) | 14.5 (0.6) | 47.8 (4.3) |
| 25–44 | 38,207 (3,034) | 27.5 (1.0) | 45.4 (3.6) |
| 45–64 | 29,828 (2,462) | 21.5 (0.8) | 35.7 (2.9) |
| 65 and over | 22,379 (2,068) | 16.1 (0.9) | 45.2 (4.2) |
| 65–74 | 10,316 (951) | 7.4 (0.5) | 35.0 (3.2) |
| 75 and over | 12,063 (1,199) | 8.7 (0.6) | 60.0 (6.0) |
| Female | 77,215 (5,846) | 55.6 (0.6) | 47.1 (3.6) |
| Under 15 | 13,172 (1,535) | 9.5 (0.8) | 44.1 (5.1) |
| 15–24 | 12,356 (1,169) | 8.9 (0.4) | 59.0 (5.6) |
| 25–44 | 22,495 (1,835) | 16.2 (0.6) | 52.8 (4.3) |
| 45–64 | 15,995 (1,391) | 11.5 (0.5) | 37.1 (3.2) |
| 65–74 | 5,767 (522) | 4.1 (0.3) | 36.7 (3.3) |
| 75 and over | 7,431 (780) | 5.3 (0.4) | 63.5 (6.7) |
| Male | 61,762 (4,589) | 44.4 (0.6) | 39.4 (2.9) |
| Under 15 | 15,197 (1,841) | 10.9 (1.0) | 48.8 (5.9) |
| 15–24 | 7,839 (788) | 5.6 (0.4) | 36.8 (3.7) |
| 25–44 | 15,712 (1,318) | 11.3 (0.6) | 37.8 (3.2) |
| 45–64 | 13,833 (1,153) | 10.0 (0.4) | 34.1 (2.8) |
| 65–74 | 4,549 (531) | 3.3 (0.3) | 33.1 (3.9) |
| 75 and over | 4,632 (515) | 3.3 (0.3) | 55.1 (6.1) |
| Residence | | | |
| Private residence ¹ | 131,552 (9,828) | 94.7 (0.5) | 41.0 (3.1) |
| Nursing home ² | 2,159 (319) | 1.6 (0.2) | 155.5 (23.0) |
| Homeless ³ | 990 (176) | 0.7 (0.1) | 178.8 (31.8) |
| Other | 1,787 (323) | 1.3 (0.2) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| Unknown or blank | 2,490 (406) | 1.8 (0.3) | 0.8 (0.1) |
| Urban–rural classification⁴ | | | |
| Large central metro | 35,593 (6,481) | 25.6 (3.8) | ... .. |
| Large fringe metro | 21,585 (3,500) | 15.5 (2.4) | ... .. |
| Medium metro | 34,797 (6,676) | 25.0 (4.6) | ... .. |
| Small metro | *14,763 (4,697) | * ... | ... .. |
| Nonmetropolitan: | | | |
| Micropolitan | *12,732 (3,821) | 9.2 (2.6) | ... .. |
| Noncore (nonmetro) | 11,836 (3,076) | 8.5 (2.3) | ... .. |
| Unknown or blank | *7,672 (2,489) | * ... | ... .. |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Visit rates for age, sex, and private residence are based on the July 1, 2017, set of estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutional population as developed by the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.²Visit rates for nursing home residents are based on the 2017 population denominators from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2017 Minimum Data Set frequency reports, available from: <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Computer-Data-and-Systems/Minimum-Data-Set-3-0-Public-Reports/Minimum-Data-Set-3-0-Frequency-Report.html>.³Visit rates for homeless people are based on the January 2017 estimate of people who were homeless on a given night, as reported in "The 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress," available from: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2017-AHAR-Part-1.pdf>.⁴For each record, county of residence was determined using patient zip code and then matched to the National Center for Health Statistics Urban–Rural Classification Scheme for Counties, available from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data_access/urban_rural.htm.NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Visit estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 3. Emergency department visits, by patient race, age, and ethnicity: United States, 2017

| Patient characteristic | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) | Number of visits per 100 persons per year (standard error) ¹ |
|---|--|--|---|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | 100.0 ... | 43.3 (3.2) |
| Race ² and age group (years) | | | |
| White | 97,488 (7,583) | 70.1 (1.7) | 39.6 (3.1) |
| Under 15 | 18,614 (2,431) | 13.4 (1.4) | 42.3 (5.5) |
| 15–24 | 13,604 (1,370) | 9.8 (0.5) | 43.8 (4.4) |
| 25–44 | 25,731 (2,181) | 18.5 (0.9) | 40.9 (3.5) |
| 45–64 | 21,023 (1,725) | 15.1 (0.7) | 31.7 (2.6) |
| 65–74 | 8,070 (820) | 5.8 (0.4) | 32.8 (3.3) |
| 75 and over | 10,445 (1,084) | 7.5 (0.5) | 60.7 (6.3) |
| Black or African American | 36,276 (3,575) | 26.1 (1.6) | 86.1 (8.5) |
| Under 15 | 8,178 (1,117) | 5.9 (0.7) | 89.0 (12.2) |
| 15–24 | 6,057 (748) | 4.4 (0.4) | 95.1 (11.7) |
| 25–44 | 11,031 (1,123) | 7.9 (0.5) | 94.5 (9.6) |
| 45–64 | 8,030 (1,000) | 5.8 (0.5) | 77.9 (9.7) |
| 65–74 | 1,867 (265) | 1.3 (0.2) | 64.3 (9.1) |
| 75 and over | 1,113 (161) | 0.8 (0.1) | 65.2 (9.4) |
| Other ³ | 5,214 (860) | 3.8 (0.6) | 16.1 (2.7) |
| Ethnicity ² | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 22,077 (3,241) | 15.9 (1.9) | 37.9 (5.6) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 116,900 (8,797) | 84.1 (1.9) | 44.6 (3.4) |
| White | 77,187 (6,145) | 55.5 (2.1) | 39.6 (3.2) |
| Black or African American | 34,846 (3,486) | 25.1 (1.6) | 88.6 (8.9) |
| Other ³ | 4,866 (889) | 3.5 (0.6) | 17.3 (3.2) |

... Category not applicable.

¹Visit rates are based on the July 1, 2017, set of estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as developed by the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

²The race groups white, black or African American, and other include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. For 2017, race data were missing for 15.0% (weighted) of visits, and ethnicity data were missing for 17.9% (weighted) of visits. Starting with 2009 data, the National Center for Health Statistics has adopted model-based single imputation for National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) race and ethnicity data. The race imputation is restricted to three categories (white, black, and other) based on research by an internal work group and on quality concerns with imputed estimates for race categories other than white and black. The imputation technique is detailed in the 2009 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc09.pdf.

³Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and persons with more than one race.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 4. Wait time at emergency department visits: United States, 2017

| Visit characteristic | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|--|--|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | 100.0 ... |
| Time spent waiting to see a physician, APRN, or PA ¹ | | |
| Fewer than 15 minutes | 56,081 (5,879) | 40.4 (2.9) |
| 15–59 minutes | 45,673 (4,331) | 32.9 (1.8) |
| 1 hour, but less than 2 hours | 12,485 (1,520) | 9.0 (0.8) |
| 2 hours, but less than 3 hours | 3,845 (492) | 2.8 (0.3) |
| 3 hours, but less than 4 hours | 1,319 (192) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| 4 hours, but less than 6 hours | 1,222 (220) | 0.9 (0.2) |
| 6 hours or more | 731 (190) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Not applicable | 3,592 (508) | 2.6 (0.3) |
| Blank | 14,029 (2,532) | 10.1 (1.8) |
| Patient arrived in emergency department after business hours ² | | |
| Yes | 79,548 (5,956) | 57.2 (0.6) |
| No | 57,507 (4,302) | 41.4 (0.6) |
| Blank | *1,923 (661) | 1.4 (0.5) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹APRN is advanced practice registered nurse. PA is physician assistant. The median wait time to see a physician, APRN, or PA was 16 minutes; the mean wait time to see a physician, APRN, or PA was 37.5 minutes.

²Business hours are defined as Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 5. Mode of arrival at emergency department, by patient age: United States, 2017

| Age group (years) | Number of visits in thousands | Patient's mode of arrival | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|--------------|------------------|
| | | Total ¹ | Ambulance | Other | Unknown or blank |
| Percent distribution (standard error) | | | | | |
| All visits | 138,977 | 100.0 | 14.5 (0.8) | 82.7 (1.2) | 2.8 (0.7) |
| Under 15 | 28,369 | 100.0 | 4.4 (0.6) | **90.7 (2.9) | * ... |
| Under 1 | 3,772 | 100.0 | 3.6 (0.9) | **88.0 (5.3) | * ... |
| 1-4 | 10,042 | 100.0 | 4.1 (0.8) | **92.0 (2.4) | * ... |
| 5-14 | 14,555 | 100.0 | 4.9 (1.0) | 90.5 (2.7) | * ... |
| 15-24 | 20,194 | 100.0 | 8.9 (0.9) | 88.8 (1.0) | 2.3 (0.7) |
| 25-44 | 38,207 | 100.0 | 11.3 (1.1) | 86.4 (1.4) | 2.3 (0.5) |
| 45-64 | 29,828 | 100.0 | 18.4 (1.3) | 79.9 (1.4) | 1.8 (0.3) |
| 65 and over | 22,379 | 100.0 | 32.6 (1.7) | 64.6 (1.7) | 2.8 (0.6) |
| 65-74 | 10,316 | 100.0 | 24.4 (2.0) | 72.4 (2.2) | 3.2 (0.8) |
| 75 and over | 12,063 | 100.0 | 39.6 (2.2) | 58.0 (2.3) | 2.4 (0.9) |

** Estimate meets NCHS standards of reliability, but its complement does not.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

... Category not applicable.

¹Ambulance was the mode of arrival for 20,123,000 visits; other was the mode of arrival for 115,967,000 visits.

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Visit estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 6. Expected source of payment at emergency department visits: United States, 2017

| Payment source | Number of visits ¹ (standard error) in thousands | Percent of visits (standard error) |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | ... .. |
| Private insurance | 43,352 (3,660) | 31.2 (1.5) |
| Medicaid or CHIP ² or other state-based program | 55,957 (5,693) | 40.3 (2.4) |
| Medicare | 25,663 (2,361) | 18.5 (1.1) |
| Medicare and Medicaid ³ | 5,040 (737) | 3.6 (0.5) |
| No insurance ⁴ | 11,119 (1,632) | 8.0 (1.0) |
| Self-pay | 10,782 (1,611) | 7.8 (1.0) |
| No charge or charity | *671 (245) | 0.5 (0.2) |
| Worker's compensation | 1,208 (190) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| Other | 6,081 (1,261) | 4.4 (0.9) |
| Unknown or blank | 13,655 (3,210) | 9.8 (2.3) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" and percentage exceeds 100% because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit.

²Children's Health Insurance Program.

³Visits are also included in the "Medicaid or CHIP or other state-based program" and "Medicare" categories.

⁴Defined as having only self-pay, no charge, or charity as payment sources.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 7. Triage status of emergency department visits, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2017

| Patient and visit characteristic | Number of visits in thousands | Total | Level 1 (immediate) | Level 2 (emergent) | Level 3 (urgent) | Level 4 (semiurgent) | Level 5 (nonurgent) | No triage ¹ | Unknown or blank | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | Percent distribution (standard error) |
| All visits | 138,977 | 100.0 | 0.9 (0.3) | 9.9 (1.1) | 33.9 (2.4) | 24.0 (2.2) | 3.9 (0.7) | * ... | 22.3 (3.9) | |
| Age group (years) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 15 | 28,369 | 100.0 | 0.7 (0.6) | 6.2 (1.4) | 26.1 (2.5) | 34.9 (3.0) | 7.8 (2.0) | * ... | 19.1 (3.8) | |
| Under 1 | 3,772 | 100.0 | * ... | 10.2 (2.6) | 21.5 (2.4) | 36.8 (3.6) | 8.8 (1.6) | * ... | 17.1 (3.3) | |
| 1–4 | 10,042 | 100.0 | 0.8 (0.6) | 4.6 (0.9) | 22.1 (2.5) | 34.0 (3.0) | 9.7 (2.7) | * ... | 23.3 (4.5) | |
| 5–14 | 14,555 | 100.0 | 0.7 (0.6) | 6.3 (1.8) | 30.0 (3.3) | 35.1 (3.4) | * ... | * ... | 16.8 (3.7) | |
| 15–24 | 20,194 | 100.0 | 1.2 (0.5) | 9.0 (1.7) | 32.4 (2.5) | 24.9 (2.9) | 4.1 (0.7) | * ... | 23.7 (4.4) | |
| 25–44 | 38,207 | 100.0 | 0.7 (0.3) | 7.0 (0.9) | 34.1 (2.8) | 25.3 (2.4) | 3.1 (0.6) | * ... | 24.2 (4.5) | |
| 45–64 | 29,828 | 100.0 | 0.9 (0.3) | 12.1 (1.5) | 37.2 (3.0) | 18.4 (1.8) | 2.7 (0.6) | * ... | 23.5 (4.7) | |
| 65 and over | 22,379 | 100.0 | 1.0 (0.2) | 17.4 (2.3) | 40.4 (3.4) | 14.6 (2.4) | 1.6 (0.4) | * ... | 20.0 (3.7) | |
| 65–74 | 10,316 | 100.0 | 1.1 (0.3) | 17.1 (2.8) | 38.2 (3.3) | 15.8 (2.2) | 2.0 (0.6) | * ... | 22.0 (4.0) | |
| 75 and over | 12,063 | 100.0 | 0.8 (0.3) | 17.6 (2.3) | 42.3 (3.9) | 13.5 (3.0) | 1.3 (0.4) | * ... | 18.3 (3.7) | |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | |
| Female | 77,215 | 100.0 | 0.7 (0.3) | 9.4 (1.1) | 36.3 (2.7) | 22.5 (2.1) | 3.6 (0.7) | * ... | 22.4 (4.1) | |
| Male | 61,762 | 100.0 | 1.1 (0.4) | 10.6 (1.2) | 30.9 (2.0) | 25.8 (2.4) | 4.3 (0.7) | * ... | 22.1 (3.7) | |
| Race ² | | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 97,488 | 100.0 | 0.6 (0.1) | 10.2 (1.0) | 35.1 (2.4) | 23.9 (2.3) | 4.1 (0.9) | * ... | 20.3 (3.5) | |
| Black or African American | 36,276 | 100.0 | * ... | 9.1 (2.0) | 31.8 (3.2) | 23.7 (2.8) | 3.5 (0.5) | * ... | 27.3 (6.4) | |
| Other ³ | 5,214 | 100.0 | * ... | 9.2 (2.4) | 26.8 (4.9) | * ... | 2.0 (1.0) | * ... | 24.5 (7.0) | |
| Ethnicity and race ² | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 22,077 | 100.0 | 0.9 (0.4) | 8.8 (1.4) | 32.0 (3.6) | 26.3 (3.0) | * ... | * ... | 16.2 (3.7) | |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 116,900 | 100.0 | 0.9 (0.4) | 10.1 (1.2) | 34.3 (2.5) | 23.6 (2.4) | 3.5 (0.5) | 4.3 (1.3) | 23.4 (4.3) | |
| White | 77,187 | 100.0 | 0.6 (0.1) | 10.7 (1.1) | 36.0 (2.6) | 23.3 (2.6) | 3.6 (0.7) | * ... | 21.3 (4.0) | |
| Black or African American | 34,846 | 100.0 | * ... | 9.0 (1.9) | 31.4 (3.2) | 23.6 (2.9) | 3.4 (0.5) | * ... | 27.9 (6.5) | |
| Other ³ | 4,866 | 100.0 | * ... | 9.1 (2.6) | 27.0 (5.4) | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... | |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 7. Triage status of emergency department visits, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2017—Con.

| Patient and visit characteristic | Number of visits in thousands | Total | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 | No triage ¹ | Unknown or blank |
|--|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------|
| | | | (immediate) | (emergent) | (urgent) | (semiurgent) | (nonurgent) | | |
| Expected source of payment ⁴ | | | Percent distribution (standard error) | | | | | | |
| Private insurance | 43,352 | 100.0 | 1.2 (0.7) | 12.1 (1.6) | 37.7 (2.9) | 23.0 (3.0) | 3.6 (0.8) | * ... | 16.4 (2.9) |
| Medicaid or CHIP ⁵ or other state-based program | 55,957 | 100.0 | 0.6 (0.2) | 7.6 (1.0) | 32.4 (2.8) | 27.8 (2.9) | 5.5 (1.2) | * ... | 21.3 (5.4) |
| Medicare | 25,663 | 100.0 | 0.8 (0.2) | 16.4 (2.0) | 40.8 (3.4) | 16.3 (2.6) | 2.0 (0.4) | * ... | 18.9 (3.9) |
| Medicare and Medicaid ⁶ | 5,040 | 100.0 | 1.1 (0.4) | 12.2 (2.3) | 39.1 (5.2) | 19.9 (3.7) | 2.5 (0.7) | * ... | * ... |
| No insurance ⁷ | 11,119 | 100.0 | * ... | 7.2 (1.3) | 34.3 (3.8) | 27.3 (2.5) | 2.8 (0.7) | 1.9 (0.7) | 25.2 (5.9) |
| Worker's compensation | 1,208 | 100.0 | * ... | * ... | 21.2 (6.2) | * ... | * ... | * ... | 27.1 (6.5) |
| Other | 6,081 | 100.0 | * ... | 9.9 (1.9) | 39.0 (4.8) | 31.7 (4.7) | 2.1 (0.9) | * ... | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | 13,655 | 100.0 | 0.9 (0.4) | 8.9 (2.4) | 23.6 (5.1) | 15.8 (4.0) | 2.0 (0.6) | * ... | * ... |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹A visit in which the emergency service area (ESA) coded the nursing triage as zero (admitted to hospital or treated immediately), or the visit occurred in an ESA that does not conduct triage.

²The race groups white, black or African American, and other include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. For 2017, race data were missing for 15.0% (weighted) of visits, and ethnicity data were missing for 17.9% (weighted) of visits. Starting with 2009 data, the National Center for Health Statistics has adopted model-based single imputation for National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) race and ethnicity data. The race imputation is restricted to three categories (white, black, and other) based on research by an internal work group and on quality concerns with imputed estimates for race categories other than white and black. The imputation technique is detailed in the 2009 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc09.pdf.

³Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and persons with more than one race.

⁴Total exceeds "All visits" and percentage exceeds 100% because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit.

⁵Children's Health Insurance Program.

⁶Visits are also included in both the "Medicaid or CHIP or other state-based program" and "Medicare" categories.

⁷Defined as having only self-pay, no charge, or charity as payment sources.

NOTES: The 2017 Patient Record Form (PRF) requested responses using a 1–5 scale. PRF responses were evaluated with reference to responses on the Ambulatory Unit Record (completed during induction) to the question, "How many levels are in this emergency service area's (ESA) triage system?" ESAs using 3- or 4-level triage systems had their responses rescaled to fit the 5-level system, such that for 3-level ESAs, responses of 1, 2, and 3 were recoded to 2, 3, and 4. For ESAs using a 4-level system, responses were recoded from 1–4 to 2–5. The rescaling method was determined in consultation with subject-matter experts and based on record analysis. Rescaling was required for about 1.8% of records, or 2.3% of records with nonmissing data. Triage level was imputed in years prior to 2012; starting in 2012, triage level has not been imputed. Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 8. Initial blood pressure measurements recorded at emergency department visits for adults, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2017

| Patient characteristic | Number of visits in thousands | Total | Initial blood pressure ¹ | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|---|--|---|---|
| | | | Not high (SBP less than 120 mm Hg and DBP less than 80 mm Hg) | Prehypertension (SBP 120–139 mm Hg or DBP 80–89 mm Hg) | Stage 1 hypertension (SBP 140–159 mm Hg or DBP 90–99 mm Hg) | Stage 2 hypertension (SBP greater than or equal to 160 mm Hg or DBP greater than 100 mm Hg) |
| | | | Percent distribution (standard error) | | | |
| All visits ² | 102,034 | 100.0 | 18.3 (0.6) | 34.4 (0.6) | 27.1 (0.6) | 20.1 (0.8) |
| Age (years) | | | | | | |
| 18–24 | 14,366 | 100.0 | 26.6 (1.7) | 45.9 (1.9) | 22.8 (1.4) | 4.7 (0.7) |
| 25–44 | 37,111 | 100.0 | 20.9 (0.9) | 40.1 (1.1) | 25.6 (1.0) | 13.4 (0.8) |
| 45–64 | 28,848 | 100.0 | 13.3 (0.8) | 30.1 (0.9) | 30.7 (1.0) | 25.9 (1.2) |
| 65–74 | 10,012 | 100.0 | 17.0 (1.8) | 23.4 (1.4) | 29.3 (1.6) | 30.4 (1.5) |
| 75 and over | 11,697 | 100.0 | 13.7 (1.3) | 22.4 (1.4) | 26.7 (1.9) | 37.2 (2.2) |
| Sex | | | | | | |
| Female | 59,386 | 100.0 | 21.4 (0.8) | 35.1 (0.8) | 24.6 (0.7) | 18.9 (0.8) |
| Male | 42,648 | 100.0 | 14.1 (0.7) | 33.5 (0.9) | 30.6 (0.9) | 21.8 (1.0) |
| Race ³ | | | | | | |
| White | 72,563 | 100.0 | 18.1 (0.7) | 33.9 (0.5) | 28.0 (0.7) | 19.9 (0.9) |
| Black or African American | 26,028 | 100.0 | 18.9 (0.9) | 35.5 (1.6) | 25.2 (1.4) | 20.4 (1.3) |
| Other ⁴ | 3,443 | 100.0 | 19.1 (2.6) | 36.7 (4.1) | 23.2 (3.4) | 20.9 (3.3) |
| Ethnicity and race ³ | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 12,340 | 100.0 | 20.0 (1.6) | 38.9 (1.9) | 28.0 (1.5) | 13.1 (1.0) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 89,694 | 100.0 | 18.1 (0.7) | 33.8 (0.6) | 27.0 (0.7) | 21.0 (0.8) |
| White | 61,081 | 100.0 | 17.7 (0.8) | 33.3 (0.5) | 27.8 (0.8) | 21.2 (1.0) |
| Black or African American | 25,274 | 100.0 | 19.1 (0.9) | 34.8 (1.7) | 25.5 (1.5) | 20.6 (1.4) |
| Other ⁴ | 3,339 | 100.0 | 19.4 (2.6) | 36.6 (4.2) | 22.9 (3.4) | 21.1 (3.2) |

¹SBP is systolic blood pressure; DBP is diastolic blood pressure. Three high blood pressure categories (with SBP more than 120 mm Hg or DBP more than 80 mm Hg) are based on "The Seventh Report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure" and correspond to prehypertensive, stage 1 hypertensive, and stage 2 hypertensive ranges. If SBP and DBP fall into two categories, the visit is included in the higher blood pressure category.
²By adults (aged 18 and over). Visits where blood pressure was taken represent 96.9% (standard error = 0.5) of all emergency department visits made by adults.
³The race groups white, black or African American, and other include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. For 2017, race data were missing for 14.3% (weighted) of adult visits, and ethnicity data were missing for 19.3% (weighted) of adult visits. Starting with 2009 data, the National Center for Health Statistics has adopted model-based single imputation for National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) race and ethnicity data. The race imputation is restricted to three categories (white, black, and other) based on research by an internal work group and on quality concerns with imputed estimates for race categories other than white and black. The imputation technique is detailed in the 2009 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc09.pdf.
⁴Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and persons with more than one race.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 9. Initial temperature, pulse oximetry, and visit history at emergency department visits: United States, 2017

| Visit characteristic | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|---|--|--|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | 100.0 ... |
| Temperature | | |
| Febrile: higher than 38.0°C or higher than 100.4°F | 5,159 (549) | 3.7 (0.3) |
| Normal: 35.1°C–38.0°C or 95.1°F–100.4°F | 126,418 (9,632) | 91.0 (0.7) |
| Hypothermic: 35.0°C and below or 95.0°F and below | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Blank | 7,302 (855) | 5.3 (0.6) |
| Pulse oximetry ¹ | | |
| 95%–100% | 119,505 (8,908) | 86.0 (1.4) |
| Less than 95% | 9,798 (1,053) | 7.1 (0.6) |
| Blank | 9,674 (1,969) | 7.0 (1.2) |
| Episode of care | | |
| Initial visit | 125,242 (9,679) | 90.1 (1.1) |
| Follow-up visit | 7,336 (900) | 5.3 (0.5) |
| Unknown or blank | 6,400 (1,468) | 4.6 (1.1) |
| Patient seen in this emergency department within the last 72 hours | | |
| Yes | 4,339 (841) | 3.1 (0.6) |
| No | 125,496 (10,487) | 90.3 (1.7) |
| Unknown or blank | 9,142 (2,222) | 6.6 (1.7) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

¹Normal oxygen saturation as measured by pulse oximetry is 95% or more.

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 10. Ten principal reasons for emergency department visits, by patient age and sex: United States, 2017

| Principal reason for visit and RVC code ¹ | | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|------|--|--|
| All visits | ... | 138,977 (10,277) | 100.0 ... |
| Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms | S545 | 12,248 (1,132) | 8.8 (0.4) |
| Chest pain and related symptoms | S050 | 6,523 (540) | 4.7 (0.2) |
| Fever | S010 | 5,491 (631) | 4.0 (0.4) |
| Cough | S440 | 5,033 (524) | 3.6 (0.3) |
| Shortness of breath | S415 | 3,988 (457) | 2.9 (0.2) |
| Pain, specified site not referable to a specific body system | S055 | 3,642 (402) | 2.6 (0.2) |
| Headache, pain in head | S210 | 3,508 (302) | 2.5 (0.1) |
| Back symptoms | S905 | 3,290 (376) | 2.4 (0.2) |
| Vomiting | S530 | 2,964 (357) | 2.1 (0.2) |
| Symptoms referable to throat | S455 | 2,787 (305) | 2.0 (0.2) |
| All other reasons ² | ... | 89,504 (6,626) | 64.4 (0.6) |
| All visits under age 15 years | ... | 28,369 (3,315) | 100.0 ... |
| Female | ... | 13,172 (1,535) | 46.4 (1.1) |
| Fever | S010 | 2,031 (276) | 7.2 (0.6) |
| Cough | S440 | 987 (174) | 3.5 (0.6) |
| Skin rash | S860 | 602 (114) | 2.1 (0.4) |
| Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms | S545 | 593 (153) | 2.1 (0.4) |
| Vomiting | S530 | 566 (121) | 2.0 (0.3) |
| Symptoms referable to throat | S455 | 404 (92) | 1.4 (0.3) |
| Headache, pain in head | S210 | 374 (109) | 1.3 (0.3) |
| Earache or ear infection | S355 | 357 (71) | 1.3 (0.3) |
| Injury, other and unspecified of head, neck, and face | J505 | 293 (85) | 1.0 (0.3) |
| Diarrhea | S595 | * ... | 0.9 (0.2) |
| All other reasons ² | ... | 6,704 (852) | 23.6 (0.8) |
| Male | ... | 15,197 (1,841) | 53.6 (1.1) |
| Fever | S010 | 2,198 (322) | 7.7 (0.9) |
| Cough | S440 | 1,219 (165) | 4.3 (0.4) |
| Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms | S545 | 752 (191) | 2.7 (0.5) |
| Vomiting | S530 | 721 (119) | 2.5 (0.3) |
| Injury, other and unspecified of head, neck, and face | J505 | 688 (184) | 2.4 (0.6) |
| Skin rash | S860 | 663 (141) | 2.3 (0.4) |
| Earache or ear infection | S355 | 477 (106) | 1.7 (0.3) |
| Symptoms referable to throat | S455 | 398 (103) | 1.4 (0.4) |
| Nasal congestion | S400 | 283 (54) | 1.0 (0.2) |
| Laceration or cut of facial area | J210 | * ... | 0.9 (0.2) |
| All other reasons ² | ... | 7,538 (1,025) | 26.6 (1.3) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Ten principal reasons for emergency department visits, by patient age and sex: United States, 2017—Con.

| Principal reason for visit and RVC code ¹ | | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|---|------|--|--|
| All visits, ages 15–64 | ... | 88,229 (6,797) | 100.0 ... |
| Female | ... | 50,846 (4,025) | 57.6 (0.7) |
| Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms | S545 | 6,548 (593) | 7.4 (0.4) |
| Chest pain and related symptoms | S050 | 2,990 (343) | 3.4 (0.3) |
| Headache, pain in head | S210 | 1,988 (205) | 2.3 (0.2) |
| Pain, specified site not referable to a specific body system | S055 | 1,493 (214) | 1.7 (0.2) |
| Cough | S440 | 1,461 (278) | 1.7 (0.3) |
| Back symptoms | S905 | 1,400 (184) | 1.6 (0.2) |
| Shortness of breath | S415 | 1,314 (179) | 1.5 (0.2) |
| Symptoms referable to throat | S455 | 1,216 (159) | 1.4 (0.1) |
| Nausea | S525 | 1,131 (257) | 1.3 (0.2) |
| Problems of pregnancy | S790 | 1,111 (205) | 1.3 (0.2) |
| All other reasons ² | ... | 30,194 (2,323) | 34.2 (0.5) |
| Male | ... | 37,384 (2,890) | 42.4 (0.7) |
| Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms | S545 | 2,933 (354) | 3.3 (0.3) |
| Chest pain and related symptoms | S050 | 1,957 (214) | 2.2 (0.2) |
| Pain, specified site not referable to a specific body system | S055 | 1,399 (188) | 1.6 (0.2) |
| Back symptoms | S905 | 1,359 (203) | 1.5 (0.2) |
| Shortness of breath | S415 | 1,062 (204) | 1.2 (0.2) |
| Leg symptoms | S920 | 1,028 (184) | 1.2 (0.2) |
| Cough | S440 | 861 (136) | 1.0 (0.2) |
| Symptoms of teeth and gums | S500 | 732 (146) | 0.8 (0.1) |
| Laceration or cut of upper extremity | J225 | 728 (108) | 0.8 (0.1) |
| Injury, other and unspecified of head, neck, and face | J505 | 692 (143) | 0.8 (0.1) |
| All other reasons ² | ... | 24,633 (1,873) | 27.9 (0.7) |
| All visits, ages 65 and over | ... | 22,379 (2,068) | 100.0 ... |
| Female | ... | 13,198 (1,225) | 59.0 (1.6) |
| Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps, and spasms | S545 | 913 (166) | 4.1 (0.6) |
| Accident, not otherwise specified | S050 | 756 (115) | 3.4 (0.5) |
| Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems) | S415 | 751 (118) | 3.4 (0.4) |
| Shortness of breath | J810 | 503 (126) | 2.2 (0.5) |
| Vertigo–dizziness | S020 | 428 (115) | 1.9 (0.5) |
| General weakness | S920 | 367 (82) | 1.6 (0.3) |
| Leg symptoms | S225 | 352 (76) | 1.6 (0.3) |
| Cough | S595 | * ... | 1.5 (0.6) |
| Nausea | S095 | 340 (77) | 1.5 (0.3) |
| Other symptoms or problems relating to psychological and mental disorders | S165 | 330 (83) | 1.5 (0.3) |
| All other reasons ² | ... | 8,115 (790) | 36.3 (1.2) |
| Male | ... | 9,181 (962) | 41.0 (1.6) |
| Shortness of breath | S415 | 661 (115) | 3.0 (0.4) |
| Chest pain and related symptoms | S050 | 540 (82) | 2.4 (0.3) |
| Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms | S545 | 510 (100) | 2.3 (0.4) |
| General weakness | S020 | *492 (161) | 2.2 (0.6) |
| Leg symptoms | S920 | *313 (94) | 1.4 (0.4) |
| Disorders of motor functions | S095 | * ... | 1.2 (0.3) |
| Pain, specified site not referable to a specific body system | S055 | * ... | 1.2 (0.4) |
| Vertigo–dizziness | S225 | * ... | 0.9 (0.2) |
| “Other symptoms or problems relating to psychological and mental disorders, not elsewhere classified” | S165 | * ... | 0.9 (0.2) |
| Cough | S440 | * ... | 0.9 (0.2) |
| All other reasons ² | ... | 5,522 (564) | 24.7 (1.1) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Reason for visit is based on the patient's own words and coded according to "A Reason for Visit Classification for Ambulatory Care" (RVC), National Center for Health Statistics. Vital Health Stat 2(78), 1979. See also the 2017 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc17_ed-508.pdf.

²Includes all other reasons not listed above, as well as unknown and blanks.

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Visit estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 11. Primary diagnosis at emergency department visits, by major disease category: United States, 2017

| Major disease category and ICD-10-CM code range ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|---|--|--|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | 100.0 ... |
| Certain infectious and parasitic diseases | A00-B99 | 4,114 (520) |
| Neoplasms | C00-D49 | 329 (77) |
| Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism | D50-D89 | 920 (184) |
| Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases | E00-E89 | 2,513 (318) |
| Mental, behavioral and neurodevelopmental disorders | F01-F99 | 4,842 (447) |
| Diseases of the nervous system | G00-G99 | 3,083 (301) |
| Diseases of the eye and adnexa | H00-H59 | 1,067 (118) |
| Diseases of the ear and mastoid process | H60-H95 | 2,504 (307) |
| Diseases of the circulatory system | I00-I99 | 4,739 (525) |
| Diseases of the respiratory system | J00-J99 | 14,675 (1,322) |
| Diseases of the digestive system | K00-K95 | 8,254 (780) |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue | L00-L99 | 5,214 (527) |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue | M00-M99 | 11,219 (996) |
| Diseases of the genitourinary system | N00-N99 | 6,883 (684) |
| Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium | O00-O9A | 2,193 (336) |
| Symptoms, signs, and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified | R00-R99 | 32,600 (2,593) |
| Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes | S00-T88 | 26,241 (2,011) |
| Injuries to the head | S00-S09 | 6,437 (702) |
| Injuries to the neck | S10-S19 | 881 (153) |
| Injuries to the thorax | S20-S29 | 954 (125) |
| Injuries to the abdomen, lower back, lumbar spine, pelvis and external genitals | S30-S39 | 1,164 (155) |
| Injuries to the shoulder and upper arm | S40-S49 | 1,390 (201) |
| Injuries to the elbow and forearm | S50-S59 | 1,301 (141) |
| Injuries to the wrist, hand and fingers | S60-S69 | 3,867 (373) |
| Injuries to the hip and thigh | S70-S79 | 767 (124) |
| Injuries to the knee and lower leg | S80-S89 | 2,053 (221) |
| Injuries to the ankle and foot | S90-S99 | 2,326 (261) |
| Injuries involving multiple body regions or unspecified body region | T07, T14 | 1,095 (140) |
| Effects of foreign body entering through natural orifice | T15-T19 | 817 (187) |
| Burns and corrosions | T20-T32 | 489 (88) |
| Frostbite | T33-T34 | * ... |
| Poisoning by, adverse effect of and underdosing of drugs, medicaments and biological substances | T36-T50 | 787 (111) |
| Toxic effects of substances chiefly nonmedicinal as to source | T51-T65 | 306 (70) |
| Other and unspecified effects of external causes | T66-T78 | 962 (158) |
| Certain early complications of trauma | T79 | - ... |
| Complications of surgical and medical care | T80-T88 | 639 (90) |
| All other diagnoses ² | ... | 7,172 (776) |
| Unknown or blank | ... | 416 (92) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

- Quantity zero.

¹Based on the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-10-CM). However, certain codes have been combined in this table to better describe the utilization of ambulatory care services. Web tables presenting diagnosis estimates before 2016 used the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-9-CM) coding system. Due to substantial differences between ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM, caution is advised when comparing diagnosis estimates in this table with those from before 2016.

²Includes certain conditions originating in the perinatal period (P00-P96), congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities (Q00-Q99), external causes of morbidity (V00-Y99), and factors influencing health status and contact with health services (Z00-Z99).

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 12. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2017

| Primary diagnosis group ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|--|--|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | 100.0 ... |
| Certain infectious and parasitic diseases | | |
| Septicemia (sepsis) | 405 (102) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Human immunodeficiency virus syndrome (HIV, HIV+, HIV positive) | * ... | * ... |
| Viral warts, not sexually transmitted | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Acute and chronic viral hepatitis C | * ... | * ... |
| Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) excluding viral hepatitis and HIV | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Unspecified viral infection | 1,309 (225) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| Dermatophytosis | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Candidiasis | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Other systemic infectious and parasitic diseases | 1,860 (258) | 1.3 (0.1) |
| Neoplasms ² | | |
| [Diagnosis groups not shown due to low sample sizes] | ... .. | ... .. |
| Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism | | |
| Anemias | 778 (151) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| Other diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases | | |
| Acquired hypothyroidism | * ... | * ... |
| Disorders of thyroid gland, excluding acquired hypothyroidism | * ... | * ... |
| Type 1 diabetes mellitus | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Type 2 diabetes mellitus or unspecified | 653 (99) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Other types of diabetes mellitus | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Other disorders of endocrine glands | * ... | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Obesity | * ... | 0.1 (0.1) |
| Hyperlipidemias | * ... | 0.1 (0.1) |
| Volume depletion | 449 (84) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Other nutritional deficiencies and metabolic disorders | 606 (112) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Mental, behavioral and neurodevelopmental disorders | | |
| Dementia, excluding Alzheimer's disease | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Alcohol-related disorders, excluding alcohol-related dementia and chronic alcoholic liver disease | 1,126 (136) | 0.8 (0.1) |
| Opioid-related disorders | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Cocaine-related disorders | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Nicotine dependence | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Other drug-related disorders excluding other drug-related dementia | 418 (89) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Schizophrenia | 109 (29) | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Non-mood psychoses, excluding schizophrenia | 278 (61) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Bipolar disorders, excluding those with depression | 236 (59) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Bipolar disorders, with depression | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Depressive disorders, excluding bipolar depression and adjustment reaction with depressed mood | 632 (108) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Dysthymic disorder | * ... | * ... |
| Acute reaction to stress and adjustment reaction, excluding those with depressed mood | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Acute reaction to stress and adjustment reaction with depressed mood | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Eating disorders | * ... | * ... |
| Impulse disorders | * ... | * ... |
| Other mood disorders, nonpsychotic mental disorders, behavioral syndromes, and disorders of adult personality and behavior | 1,098 (149) | 0.8 (0.1) |
| Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorders | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Oppositional defiant disorder | * ... | * ... |
| Conduct disorders, excluding oppositional defiant disorder | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Autism spectrum disorder | * ... | * ... |
| Other mental disorders | * ... | 0.2 (0.0) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 12. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2017—Con.

| Primary diagnosis group ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|---|--|--|
| Diseases of the nervous system | | |
| Alzheimer's disease | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Migraine | 928 (149) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Transient cerebral ischemic attacks and related syndromes | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Sleep disorders, excluding sleep apnea (adult, pediatric, obstructive) and non-organic sleep disorders | * ... | * ... |
| Obstructive sleep apnea (adult, pediatric) and sleep apnea, not otherwise specified | * ... | * ... |
| Carpal tunnel syndrome | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Other disorders of the nervous system | 1,888 (221) | 1.4 (0.1) |
| Diseases of the eye and adnexa | | |
| Inflammation and disorders of eyelid | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Conjunctivitis | 529 (84) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Glaucoma | * ... | * ... |
| Disorders of refraction and accommodation | * ... | * ... |
| Other disorders of the eye and adnexa | 441 (91) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Diseases of the ear and mastoid process | | |
| Disorders of external ear | 447 (104) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Otitis media and eustachian tube disorders | 1,460 (208) | 1.1 (0.1) |
| Other disorders of the ear and mastoid process | 597 (104) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Diseases of the circulatory system | | |
| Heart valve disorders | * ... | * ... |
| Essential hypertension | 1,272 (226) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Hypertensive chronic kidney disease with stage 1 through stage 4 chronic kidney disease or unspecified chronic kidney disease | * ... | * ... |
| Hypertensive chronic kidney disease with stage 5 chronic kidney disease or end-stage renal disease (ESRD) | * ... | * ... |
| Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease without heart failure with stage 1 through 4 chronic kidney disease or unspecified chronic kidney disease | * ... | * ... |
| Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease with heart failure with stage 5 chronic kidney disease or end stage renal disease | * ... | * ... |
| Secondary hypertension | * ... | * ... |
| Hypertensive crisis | * ... | 0.1 (0.1) |
| Angina pectoris not stated as with chronic ischemic heart disease | * ... | 0.1 (0.1) |
| Acute myocardial infarction (AMI) | 260 (59) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Other acute and subacute ischemic heart disease | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Coronary atherosclerosis and other chronic ischemic heart disease (with angina pectoris) | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Pulmonary heart disease and diseases of pulmonary circulation | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Conduction disorders | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Cardiac dysrhythmias, excluding ventricular fibrillation | 622 (104) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Cardiac arrest and ventricular fibrillation | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Heart failure, non-hypertensive | 524 (124) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Pericarditis, endocarditis, myocarditis and cardiomyopathy | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Other and ill-defined heart disease | * ... | * ... |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 492 (108) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Diseases of the arteries, arterioles and capillaries | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Varicose veins of lower extremity | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Other disorder of circulatory system | 547 (103) | 0.4 (0.1) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 12. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2017—Con.

| Other disorder of circulatory system | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|---|--|--|
| Diseases of the respiratory system | | |
| Streptococcal pharyngitis and tonsillitis | 1,048 (162) | 0.8 (0.1) |
| Acute sinusitis | 415 (96) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Acute pharyngitis, except streptococcal pharyngitis | 1,186 (165) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| Acute tonsillitis, except streptococcal tonsillitis | * ... | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Influenza | 1,283 (317) | 0.9 (0.2) |
| Pneumonia | 1,286 (145) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| Acute bronchitis and bronchiolitis | 1,377 (210) | 1.0 (0.1) |
| Other acute respiratory infections | 3,415 (386) | 2.5 (0.2) |
| Allergic rhinitis | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Chronic sinusitis | *242 (77) | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Chronic and unspecified bronchitis | 697 (108) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Bronchiectasis, emphysema and other chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, including chronic obstructive asthma | 923 (122) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Asthma, excluding chronic obstructive asthma | 1,564 (203) | 1.1 (0.1) |
| Respiratory failure | * ... | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Other diseases of the respiratory system | 597 (94) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Diseases of the digestive system | | |
| Diseases of the teeth and supporting structures, excluding dentofacial anomalies and disorders of the jaw | | |
| Esophagitis without gastroesophageal reflux disease | 1,737 (266) | 1.2 (0.2) |
| Gastroesophageal reflux disease (with esophagitis) | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Other diseases of the esophagus | 258 (69) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Ulcers of stomach and small intestine | * ... | * ... |
| Gastritis and duodenitis | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Appendicitis | 437 (97) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Diaphragmatic hernia | * ... | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Hernias of abdominal cavity, except diaphragmatic hernia | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis | 290 (69) | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Other and unspecified noninfectious enteritis and colitis | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Intestinal obstructions | 1,000 (152) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Diverticula of intestine | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Constipation | 270 (63) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Anal and rectal diseases | 934 (136) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Hemorrhoids and perianal venous thrombosis | 418 (95) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Alcoholic liver disease | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Other diseases of the liver | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Disorders of gallbladder and biliary tract | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Diseases of the pancreas | 528 (119) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Unspecified gastrointestinal bleeding | 326 (75) | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Other diseases of the digestive system | 483 (118) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| * ... | | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue | | |
| Cellulitis | 1,606 (202) | 1.2 (0.1) |
| Cutaneous abscess | 1,228 (190) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| Other local infections of the skin and subcutaneous tissue | 557 (103) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Contact dermatitis and other eczema | *277 (92) | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Psoriasis and other similar disorders | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Urticaria | 349 (94) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Other inflammatory conditions of skin and subcutaneous tissue | 533 (95) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Actinic keratosis and other sun exposure-related disorders | * ... | * ... |
| Acne | * ... | * ... |
| Sebaceous cyst | * ... | * ... |
| Corns, callosities and other hypertrophic and atrophic skin condition | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Pressure ulcers | * ... | * ... |
| Other disorders of the skin and subcutaneous tissue | * ... | * ... |
| | 414 (73) | 0.3 (0.0) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 12. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2017—Con.

| Primary diagnosis group ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|--|--|
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue | | |
| Rheumatoid arthritis | * ... | * ... |
| Infectious and inflammatory arthropathies, excluding rheumatoid and juvenile arthritis | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Osteoarthritis | 282 (66) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Acquired deformities of fingers and toes | * ... | * ... |
| Internal derangement of knee | * ... | * ... |
| Other joint disorders | 2,734 (322) | 2.0 (0.2) |
| Spinal stenosis | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Spondylopathies, excluding spinal stenosis | * ... | * ... |
| Intervertebral disc disorders | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Low back pain, unspecified | 1,493 (205) | 1.1 (0.1) |
| Other conditions of the spine and back, excluding low back pain | 2,952 (321) | 2.1 (0.2) |
| Synovitis and tenosynovitis | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Soft tissue disorders related to use, overuse and pressure | 367 (96) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Ganglion and cyst of synovium, tendon and bursa | * ... | * ... |
| Myalgia and myositis, unspecified | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Disorders of bone and cartilage, excluding osteoporosis | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Other diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue | 2,419 (253) | 1.7 (0.1) |
| Diseases of the genitourinary system | | |
| Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, and nephrosis | * ... | * ... |
| Infections of kidney | 388 (98) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Acute kidney failure | * ... | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Chronic kidney disease, excluding end stage renal disease (ESRD) | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| End stage renal disease (ESRD) | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Unspecified kidney failure, including uremia, not otherwise specified | * ... | * ... |
| Calculus of kidney and ureter | 764 (120) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| Cystitis | 646 (146) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Urinary tract infection, site not specified | 2,070 (239) | 1.5 (0.1) |
| Other diseases of the urinary system | 511 (99) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Disorders of prepuce | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Other disorders of male genital organs | 357 (66) | 0.3 (0.0) |
| Unspecified lump or mass in breast | * ... | * ... |
| Disorders of the breast, excluding unspecified lump or mass | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Inflammatory disease of female pelvic organs | 335 (62) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Endometriosis | * ... | * ... |
| Genital prolapse (female) | * ... | * ... |
| Other noninflammatory disorders of female genital organs | 452 (93) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Disorders of menstruation and abnormal bleeding | 506 (70) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Menopausal and postmenopausal disorders | * ... | * ... |
| Other disorders of female genital tract | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium | | |
| Non-uterine pregnancy | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Missed abortion | * ... | * ... |
| Supervision of high-risk pregnancy | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Pre-existing diabetes mellitus, types 1 and 2, complicating pregnancy | * ... | * ... |
| Early or threatened labor | *70 (27) | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Other complications of pregnancy | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium | 1,917 (320) | 1.4 (0.2) |
| Sleep apnea of newborn | * ... | * ... |
| Certain other conditions originating in the perinatal period | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Congenital anomalies | | |
| Congenital anomalies | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 12. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2017—Con.

| Primary diagnosis group ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|--|--|
| Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions | | |
| Abnormal heart beat and heart sounds | 641 (106) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Epistaxis | 345 (78) | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Cough, unspecified | 951 (149) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Dyspnea and respiratory abnormalities | 1,246 (153) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| Chest pain | 5,159 (548) | 3.7 (0.3) |
| Abdominal pain | 6,954 (656) | 5.0 (0.3) |
| Unspecified jaundice, edema and other non-specific skin symptoms | 1,290 (167) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| Hematuria | 400 (90) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Symptoms involving the urinary system, excluding hematuria and urinary incontinence | 696 (109) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Vertigo and lightheadedness | 932 (127) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Fever of other and unknown origin | 1,720 (301) | 1.2 (0.2) |
| Headache | 1,918 (227) | 1.4 (0.1) |
| Malaise and fatigue | 716 (132) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Syncope and collapse | 1,066 (149) | 0.8 (0.1) |
| Convulsions and seizures, not elsewhere classified | 632 (100) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Other symptoms, signs, abnormal findings and ill-defined conditions | 7,932 (755) | 5.7 (0.2) |
| Injury and poisoning | | |
| Injury of eye and orbit | 413 (93) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Contusions (bruise, hematoma) | 3,150 (329) | 2.3 (0.2) |
| Superficial injuries, excluding contusions (abrasion, blister, external constriction, splinter, superficial bite) | 1,209 (220) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| Open wound of head | 1,752 (248) | 1.3 (0.2) |
| Open wound of wrist, hand and fingers | 1,610 (217) | 1.2 (0.1) |
| Open wound of hip and lower limb | 824 (135) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| Open wound, excluding head, hand, fingers, lower limb and internal organs | 385 (85) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Traumatic fracture of shoulder and upper arm (clavicle, scapula, humerus) | 464 (86) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Traumatic fracture of forearm (radius and ulna) | 578 (86) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Traumatic fracture of wrist, hand and fingers (carpal, metacarpals, phalanges) | 750 (132) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Traumatic fracture of hip (head and neck of femur) | * ... | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Traumatic fracture of ankle (medial malleolus, lateral malleolus, bimalleolar, trimalleolar) | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Traumatic fracture of leg, foot and toes, excluding hip and ankle (femur, patella, tibia, fibula, tarsals, metatarsals, phalanges) | 674 (107) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Other traumatic fractures (skull, facial bones, vertebrae, ribs, sternum, pelvis) | 998 (173) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Tear of medial meniscus, current injury | * ... | * ... |
| Dislocations, excluding tear of medial meniscus | 391 (93) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Sprains and strains of neck | 720 (133) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Sprains and strains of back | 768 (139) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| Sprains and strains of wrist and hand | 551 (103) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Sprains and strains of knee | 333 (72) | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Strains and sprains of ankle | 872 (138) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| Sprain and strains, excluding neck, back, wrist, hand, knee, ankle | 691 (101) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Concussion | 689 (170) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Intracranial injury, excluding concussion | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Internal injury of chest, abdomen and pelvis | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Other injuries, excluding burns and poisonings | 4,635 (530) | 3.3 (0.3) |
| Burns and corrosions, external and internal, excluding sunburn | 489 (88) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Poisoning (overdose or wrong substance given or taken in error) due to drugs and biological substances, accidental (unintentional) | 323 (61) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Poisoning (overdose or wrong substance given or taken in error) due to drugs and biological substances, intentional self-harm | 281 (75) | 0.2 (0.1) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 12. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2017—Con.

| Primary diagnosis group ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|--|--|
| Injury and poisoning—Con. | | |
| Poisoning (overdose or wrong substance given or taken in error) due to drugs and biological substances, undetermined intent | * ... | 0.0 (0.0) |
| Adverse effects (of correct substance properly administered) of drugs and biological substances | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Toxic effects of substances chiefly non-medical, accidental (unintentional) | 292 (69) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Toxic effects of substances chiefly non-medical, intentional self-harm | * ... | * ... |
| Toxic effects of substances chiefly non-medical, undetermined | * ... | * ... |
| Other and unspecified effects of external causes | 962 (158) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Complications of surgical and medical care | 937 (116) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| External-cause codes | | |
| Land transport accidents | * ... | * ... |
| Accidental (unintentional) injury due to slipping, tripping, stumbling or fall | * ... | * ... |
| Accidental (unintentional) injury due to contact with glass or other sharp cutting or piercing instrument or object, excluding tools or machinery | * ... | * ... |
| Accidental (unintentional) injury due to foreign body or object entering through skin | * ... | * ... |
| Accidental (unintentional) injury due to exposure to radiation | * ... | * ... |
| Accidental (unintentional) injury due to smoke, fire or flames, heat and hot substances | * ... | * ... |
| Accidental (unintentional) injury due to other and unspecified means | * ... | * ... |
| Intentional self harm by cutting with sharp or piercing instrument | * ... | * ... |
| Assault by bodily force | * ... | * ... |
| Assault by unspecified means | * ... | * ... |
| Activity | * ... | * ... |
| Supplementary classifications | | |
| Encounter for general adult medical examinations, including routine gynecological examination | *311 (116) | 0.2 (0.1) |
| Encounter for routine newborn health examination | * ... | * ... |
| Encounter for routine child examination, excluding newborns | * ... | 0.1 (0.1) |
| Encounter and observation for suspected conditions ruled out | 590 (101) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Encounter for specific procedures and aftercare and follow-up examination after completed treatment, excluding for injuries | 852 (112) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| Potential health hazards related to communicable diseases | * ... | 0.1 (0.1) |
| Encounter for contraceptive management | * ... | * ... |
| Encounter for supervision of normal pregnancy | * ... | 0.1 (0.1) |
| Other encounter related to pregnancy, excluding incidental pregnancy | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Potential health hazards related to personal and family history, excluding personal history of pulmonary embolism and personal history of cerebral infarction or transient ischemic attack (TIA) without residual deficits | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Other factors influencing health status and contact with health services | 1,434 (188) | 1.0 (0.1) |
| Uncodable entries ³ | 2,764 (535) | 2.0 (0.4) |
| Unknown or blank | 416 (92) | 0.3 (0.1) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

¹Based on the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-10-CM). Codes have been combined according to the NCHS Diagnosis Master Category List (DMCL). For a list of ICD-10-CM codes corresponding to a specific diagnosis group, refer to the DMCL document, available from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/ahcd/Reclass_ICD_10_CM_tables.pdf. Web tables presenting diagnosis estimates before 2016 used the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-9-CM) coding system. Due to substantial differences between ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM, caution is advised when comparing diagnosis estimates in this table with those from before 2016.

²Diagnosis groups for this chapter are not shown due to low sample sizes.

³Includes illegible diagnosis, left before being seen, walked out, eloped, left against medical advice, and entries of "none," "no diagnosis," "no disease," and "healthy" as the only entry in the diagnosis item.

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Visit estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 13. Presence of chronic conditions at emergency department visits: United States, 2017

| Chronic condition ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|--|--|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | 100.0 ... |
| Alcohol misuse, abuse, or dependence | 4,289 (498) | 3.1 (0.3) |
| Alzheimer's disease or dementia | 1,833 (231) | 1.3 (0.1) |
| Asthma | 13,403 (1,150) | 9.6 (0.5) |
| Cancer | 4,612 (500) | 3.3 (0.3) |
| Cerebrovascular disease or history of stroke or transient ischemic attack | 4,384 (483) | 3.2 (0.3) |
| Chronic kidney disease | 3,982 (428) | 2.9 (0.2) |
| Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease | 7,863 (646) | 5.7 (0.4) |
| Congestive heart failure | 5,249 (577) | 3.8 (0.3) |
| Coronary artery disease, ischemic heart disease or history of myocardial infarction (MI) | 8,491 (779) | 6.1 (0.4) |
| Depression | 13,043 (1,285) | 9.4 (0.6) |
| Diabetes mellitus—Type 1 | 962 (150) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Diabetes mellitus—Type 2 | 7,437 (739) | 5.4 (0.4) |
| Diabetes mellitus—Type unspecified | 8,330 (1,016) | 6.0 (0.5) |
| End-stage renal disease | 985 (162) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| History of pulmonary embolism, deep vein thrombosis, or venous thromboembolism | 1,779 (225) | 1.3 (0.1) |
| HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) or AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) | *880 (354) | 0.6 (0.2) |
| Hyperlipidemia | 13,598 (1,349) | 9.8 (0.7) |
| Hypertension | 34,985 (3,001) | 25.2 (1.0) |
| Obesity | 6,608 (839) | 4.8 (0.5) |
| Obstructive sleep apnea | 3,473 (482) | 2.5 (0.3) |
| Osteoporosis | 1,263 (224) | 0.9 (0.1) |
| Substance abuse or dependence | 8,050 (1,093) | 5.8 (0.7) |
| None of the above | 69,826 (5,587) | 50.2 (1.3) |
| Blank | 1,980 (408) | 1.4 (0.3) |

... Category not applicable.

¹Presence of chronic conditions was based on the checklist of chronic conditions and reported diagnoses.

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Total exceeds "All visits" and percentage exceeds 100% because more than one chronic condition may be reported per visit.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 14. Injury visits to emergency departments, by selected patient and hospital characteristics: United States, 2017

| Patient and hospital characteristic | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) | Number of visits per 100 persons per year ¹ (standard error) |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| All injury visits ² | 39,972 (3,052) | 100.0 ... | 12.5 (1.0) |
| Age group (years) | | | |
| Under 15 | 8,694 (1,001) | 21.7 (1.9) | 14.3 (1.6) |
| Under 1 | 424 (87) | 1.1 (0.2) | 10.8 (2.2) |
| 1–4 | 2,847 (372) | 7.1 (0.7) | 17.8 (2.3) |
| 5–14 | 5,423 (659) | 13.6 (1.4) | 13.2 (1.6) |
| 15–24 | 6,388 (586) | 16.0 (0.8) | 15.1 (1.4) |
| 25–44 | 10,946 (1,024) | 27.4 (1.4) | 13.0 (1.2) |
| 45–64 | 7,823 (638) | 19.6 (0.8) | 9.4 (0.8) |
| 65 and over | 6,121 (710) | 15.3 (1.2) | 12.3 (1.4) |
| 65–74 | 2,672 (349) | 6.7 (0.7) | 9.1 (1.2) |
| 75 and over | 3,449 (406) | 8.6 (0.7) | 17.2 (2.0) |
| Female | 19,086 (1,501) | 47.7 (1.0) | 11.6 (0.9) |
| Under 15 | 3,644 (448) | 9.1 (0.9) | 12.2 (1.5) |
| 15–24 | 2,798 (286) | 7.0 (0.5) | 13.4 (1.4) |
| 25–44 | 5,219 (525) | 13.1 (0.9) | 12.2 (1.2) |
| 45–64 | 3,874 (369) | 9.7 (0.6) | 9.0 (0.9) |
| 65–74 | 1,456 (220) | 3.6 (0.5) | 9.3 (1.4) |
| 75 and over | 2,095 (282) | 5.2 (0.6) | 17.9 (2.4) |
| Male | 20,886 (1,661) | 52.3 (1.0) | 13.3 (1.1) |
| Under 15 | 5,050 (605) | 12.6 (1.2) | 16.2 (1.9) |
| 15–24 | 3,590 (413) | 9.0 (0.8) | 16.8 (1.9) |
| 25–44 | 5,727 (578) | 14.3 (0.8) | 13.8 (1.4) |
| 45–64 | 3,949 (354) | 9.9 (0.6) | 9.7 (0.9) |
| 65–74 | 1,217 (191) | 3.0 (0.4) | 8.8 (1.4) |
| 75 and over | 1,353 (201) | 3.4 (0.4) | 16.1 (2.4) |
| Ownership | | | |
| Voluntary | 28,413 (2,694) | 71.1 (4.4) | 8.9 (0.8) |
| Proprietary | 7,474 (1,708) | 18.7 (4.0) | 2.3 (0.5) |
| Government | 4,085 (1,067) | 10.2 (2.5) | 1.3 (0.3) |
| Geographic region | | | |
| Northeast | 5,163 (991) | 12.9 (2.4) | 9.3 (1.8) |
| Midwest | 10,296 (1,511) | 25.8 (3.3) | 15.3 (2.2) |
| South | 17,169 (2,068) | 43.0 (3.8) | 14.1 (1.7) |
| West | 7,343 (1,288) | 18.4 (2.9) | 9.6 (1.7) |
| Metropolitan status ³ | | | |
| MSA | 34,530 (3,064) | 86.4 (2.4) | 12.3 (1.1) |
| Non-MSA | 5,442 (914) | 13.6 (2.4) | 13.3 (2.2) |

... Category not applicable.

¹Visit rates for age, sex, and region are based on the July 1, 2017, set of estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as developed by the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.²The definition of injury changed in 2016 due to the switch from the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–9–CM) coding system for diagnosis data to the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–10–CM) coding system. In 2017, injury visits included those with a reason for visit code related to injury and poisoning based on NCHS' Reason for Visit Classification or a diagnosis code related to injury and poisoning based on ICD–10–CM. "All injury visits" includes any listed reason for visit and diagnosis codes related to injury and poisoning. Injury visits do not include adverse effects and complication codes. Using this definition, injury visits represent 28.8% of all emergency department visits. For more details, see the 2017 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc17_ed-508.pdf.³Population estimates by metropolitan statistical area (MSA) status are based on data from the 2017 National Health Interview Survey, compiled according to the Office of Management and Budget definitions of core-based statistical areas as of February 2013. More information about MSA definitions is available from: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro.html>.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 15. Injury visits to emergency departments, by race, age, and ethnicity: United States, 2017

| Patient characteristic | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) | Number of visits per 100 persons per year ¹ (standard error) |
|---|--|--|---|
| All injury visits ² | 39,972 (3,052) | 100.0 ... | 12.5 (1.0) |
| Race ³ and age group (years) | | | |
| White | 28,938 (2,419) | 72.4 (1.9) | 11.8 (1.0) |
| Under 15 | 5,974 (780) | 14.9 (1.5) | 13.6 (1.8) |
| 15–24 | 4,291 (434) | 10.7 (0.6) | 13.8 (1.4) |
| 25–44 | 7,669 (814) | 19.2 (1.2) | 12.2 (1.3) |
| 45–64 | 5,739 (477) | 14.4 (0.8) | 8.6 (0.7) |
| 65–74 | 2,165 (285) | 5.4 (0.6) | 8.8 (1.2) |
| 75 and over | 3,099 (375) | 7.8 (0.7) | 18.0 (2.2) |
| Black or African American | 9,508 (993) | 23.8 (1.8) | 22.6 (2.4) |
| Under 15 | 2,273 (340) | 5.7 (0.8) | 24.7 (3.7) |
| 15–24 | 1,899 (284) | 4.8 (0.6) | 29.8 (4.5) |
| 25–44 | 2,863 (318) | 7.2 (0.6) | 24.5 (2.7) |
| 45–64 | 1,846 (263) | 4.6 (0.5) | 17.9 (2.5) |
| 65–74 | *403 (137) | 1.0 (0.3) | 13.9 (4.7) |
| 75 and over | * ... | 0.6 (0.2) | 13.1 (4.5) |
| Other ⁴ | 1,527 (282) | 3.8 (0.7) | 4.7 (0.9) |
| Ethnicity ³ | | | |
| Hispanic | 5,645 (861) | 14.1 (1.8) | 9.7 (1.5) |
| Not Hispanic | 34,327 (2,661) | 85.9 (1.8) | 13.1 (1.0) |
| White | 23,813 (2,043) | 59.6 (2.1) | 12.2 (1.0) |
| Black or African American | 9,085 (951) | 22.7 (1.7) | 23.1 (2.4) |
| Other ⁴ | 1,429 (278) | 3.6 (0.7) | 5.1 (1.0) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Visit rates are based on the July 1, 2017, estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutional population as developed by the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

²The definition of injury changed in 2016 due to the switch from the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–9–CM) coding system for diagnosis data to the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–10–CM) coding system. In 2017, injury visits included those with a reason-for-visit code related to injury and poisoning based on the National Center for Health Statistics' (NCHS) Reason for Visit Classification or a diagnosis code related to injury and poisoning based on ICD–10–CM. "All injury visits" includes any listed reason for visit and diagnosis codes related to injury and poisoning. Injury visits do not include adverse effects and complication codes. Using this definition, injury visits represent 28.8% of all emergency department visits. For more details, see the 2017 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc17_ed-508.pdf.

³The race groups white, black or African American, and other include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. For 2017, race data were missing for 15.0% of injury visits, and ethnicity data were missing for 19.2% of injury visits. NCHS uses model-based single imputation for NHAMCS race and ethnicity data. The race imputation is restricted to three categories (white, black, and other) based on research by an internal work group and on quality concerns with imputed estimates for race categories other than white and black. The imputation technique is detailed in the 2009 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc09.pdf.

⁴Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and persons with more than one race.

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Visit estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 16. Emergency department visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect, by intent: United States, 2017

| Intent ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|--|--|
| All injury visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect ² | 43,193 (3,238) | 100.0 ... |
| Unintentional | 29,442 (2,244) | 68.2 (1.2) |
| Self-harm | 479 (118) | 1.1 (0.2) |
| Assault | 1,684 (212) | 3.9 (0.4) |
| Legal intervention/war | * ... | * ... |
| Undetermined or other ³ | 1,261 (199) | 2.9 (0.4) |
| Blank cause | 10,279 (917) | 23.8 (1.1) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Based on the proposed *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-10-CM) external cause-of-injury matrix, available from: https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/pdf/ICD-10-CM_External_Cause_Injury_Codes-a.pdf.

²The definition of injury changed in 2016 due to the switch from the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-9-CM) coding system for diagnosis data to the ICD-10-CM coding system. In 2017, injury visits included those with a reason-for-visit code related to injury and poisoning based on the National Center for Health Statistics' Reason for Visit Classification or a diagnosis code related to injury and poisoning based on ICD-10-CM. Using this definition, injury visits accounted for 31.1% (standard error = 0.8) of all emergency department visits in 2017.

³Other includes certain diagnosis codes for injury visits not captured using the ICD-10-CM external-cause matrix. Common diagnoses in this group include medical and surgical complications, activity of person seeking health care (such as a heart attack while shoveling snow, which resulted from, or was contributed to, by the activity), and place of occurrence of external cause. For more details, see the 2017 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc17_ed-508.pdf.

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 17. Emergency department visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect, by mechanism: United States, 2017

| Mechanism ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|--|--|
| All injury visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect ² | 43,193 (3,238) | 100.0 ... |
| Cut or pierce | 2,263 (269) | 5.2 (0.5) |
| Drowning or submersion | * ... | * ... |
| Fall | 10,511 (919) | 24.3 (1.0) |
| Fire or burn | 460 (91) | 1.1 (0.2) |
| Fire or flame | * ... | 0.4 (0.2) |
| Hot object or substance | 266 (62) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| Firearm | * ... | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Machinery | 260 (60) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| All transportation | 5,176 (513) | 12.0 (0.7) |
| Motor vehicle—traffic | 3,448 (356) | 8.0 (0.5) |
| Motor vehicle—nontraffic | 312 (61) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Pedal cyclist, other | * ... | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Pedestrian, other | * ... | 0.1 (0.1) |
| Other land transport | 1,117 (222) | 2.6 (0.5) |
| Other transport | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Natural or environmental ³ | 1,590 (217) | 3.7 (0.4) |
| Overexertion | 1,635 (182) | 3.8 (0.3) |
| Struck by or against | 5,317 (473) | 12.3 (0.5) |
| Other specified ⁴ | 952 (129) | 2.2 (0.3) |
| Unspecified or other ⁵ | 4,632 (422) | 10.7 (0.7) |
| Blank cause | 10,279 (917) | 23.8 (1.1) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Based on the proposed *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-10-CM) external cause-of-injury matrix, available from: https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/pdf/ICD-10-CM_External_Cause_Injury_Codes-a.pdf.

²The definition of injury changed in 2016 due to the switch from the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-9-CM) coding system for diagnosis data to the ICD-10-CM coding system. In 2017, injury visits included those with a reason-for-visit code related to injury and poisoning based on the National Center for Health Statistics' Reason for Visit Classification or a diagnosis code related to injury and poisoning based on ICD-10-CM. Using this definition, injury visits accounted for 31.1% (standard error = 0.8) of all emergency department visits in 2017.

³Includes bites and stings (venomous and nonvenomous), natural or environmental, and other.

⁴Includes child or adult abuse, foreign body, classifiable and not elsewhere classifiable.

⁵Other includes certain diagnosis codes for injury visits not captured using the ICD-10-CM external-cause matrix. Common diagnoses in this group include medical and surgical complications, activity of person seeking health care (such as a heart attack while shoveling snow, which resulted from, or was contributed to, by the activity), and place of occurrence of external cause. For more details, see the 2017 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc17_ed-508.pdf.

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 18. Selected diagnostic and screening services ordered or provided at emergency department visits: United States, 2017

| Diagnostic and screening services ordered or provided | Number of visits ¹ (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|---|---|--|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | ... .. |
| One or more diagnostic or screening service listed | 102,231 (7,941) | 73.6 (1.1) |
| None | 35,159 (2,876) | 25.3 (1.2) |
| Blank | 1,587 (368) | 1.1 (0.3) |
| Blood tests | | |
| Complete blood count | 53,751 (4,572) | 38.7 (1.7) |
| Creatinine or renal function panel | 5,292 (1,529) | 3.8 (1.1) |
| Glucose, serum | 8,494 (1,770) | 6.1 (1.2) |
| Electrolytes | 2,598 (743) | 1.9 (0.5) |
| Prothrombin time (PT/PTT/INR) ² | 10,971 (1,337) | 7.9 (0.8) |
| Liver enzymes or hepatic function panel | 4,841 (792) | 3.5 (0.5) |
| Cardiac enzymes | 6,790 (1,151) | 4.9 (0.8) |
| Comprehensive metabolic panel | 40,122 (3,746) | 28.9 (1.6) |
| Blood culture | 6,523 (811) | 4.7 (0.5) |
| Brain natriuretic peptide | 4,102 (716) | 3.0 (0.4) |
| D-dimer | 2,851 (394) | 2.1 (0.2) |
| Arterial blood gases | *2,883 (960) | 2.1 (0.7) |
| Blood alcohol concentration | 2,783 (454) | 2.0 (0.3) |
| Basic metabolic panel | 12,366 (1,751) | 8.9 (1.0) |
| Lactate | 3,087 (428) | 2.2 (0.3) |
| Other blood test | 31,196 (3,117) | 22.4 (1.4) |
| Any blood test listed | 61,934 (4,887) | 44.6 (1.3) |
| Imaging | | |
| X-ray | 48,909 (3,750) | 35.2 (1.0) |
| Computed tomography (CT) scan | 24,687 (2,268) | 17.8 (0.9) |
| Abdomen or pelvis | 10,436 (1,072) | 7.5 (0.5) |
| Chest | 3,324 (454) | 2.4 (0.3) |
| Head | 10,738 (1,073) | 7.7 (0.5) |
| Other | 4,310 (477) | 3.1 (0.3) |
| Intravenous (IV) contrast with CT | 7,240 (832) | 5.2 (0.4) |
| Ultrasound | 7,773 (1,001) | 5.6 (0.5) |
| Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan | 1,442 (233) | 1.0 (0.1) |
| IV contrast with MRI | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Other imaging | 1,372 (238) | 1.0 (0.2) |
| Any imaging | 69,036 (5,435) | 49.7 (1.2) |
| Examinations and tests | | |
| Cardiac monitor | 11,884 (1,344) | 8.6 (0.8) |
| Urinalysis or urine dipstick | 36,289 (3,259) | 26.1 (1.1) |
| Electrocardiogram | 27,928 (2,476) | 20.1 (1.1) |
| Urine culture | 14,311 (1,402) | 10.3 (0.7) |
| Pregnancy/HCG test ³ | 13,071 (1,371) | 9.4 (0.6) |
| Toxicology screen | 6,781 (889) | 4.9 (0.5) |
| Influenza test | 5,722 (1,103) | 4.1 (0.7) |
| Throat culture | 3,040 (725) | 2.2 (0.5) |
| Wound culture | 821 (184) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| Other culture | 1,897 (417) | 1.4 (0.3) |
| HIV test | 692 (129) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Other test or service | 22,175 (3,141) | 16.0 (1.8) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" and percentage exceeds 100% because more than one service may be reported per visit.²PT is prothrombin time, PTT is partial thromboplastin time, and INR is international normalized ratio.³HCG is human chorionic gonadotropin.NOTES: Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Visit estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 19. Selected procedures at emergency department visits: United States, 2017

| Procedure performed | Number of visits ¹ (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | ... .. |
| One or more procedure listed | 60,102 (5,090) | 43.2 (1.6) |
| None ¹ | 75,227 (6,082) | 54.1 (1.8) |
| Blank ² | 3,648 (1,043) | 2.6 (0.7) |
| Intravenous fluids | 35,929 (3,498) | 25.9 (1.4) |
| Cast, splint, wrap | 6,832 (563) | 4.9 (0.3) |
| Suturing or staples | 3,267 (373) | 2.4 (0.2) |
| Incision and drainage | 1,369 (169) | 1.0 (0.1) |
| Nebulizer therapy | 4,125 (565) | 3.0 (0.4) |
| Bladder catheter | 2,415 (474) | 1.7 (0.3) |
| Pelvic examination | 1,876 (346) | 1.3 (0.2) |
| Central line | *1,356 (762) | 1.0 (0.5) |
| Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) | * ... | 0.1 (0.0) |
| Endotracheal intubation | 229 (64) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Skin adhesives | 1,398 (240) | 1.0 (0.2) |
| BiPAP or CPAP ³ | *758 (327) | 0.5 (0.2) |
| Lumbar puncture | *422 (127) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Other ⁴ | 11,854 (1,550) | 8.5 (1.0) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

¹The "None" checkbox was marked on the Patient Record Form (PRF).

²No checkboxes were marked on PRF.

³BiPAP is variable or bi-level positive airway pressure, and CPAP is continuous positive airway pressure.

⁴Includes all other procedures not listed above.

NOTES: Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Visit estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 20. Medication therapy and number of medications mentioned at emergency department visits: United States, 2017

| Medication therapy ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|--|--|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | 100.0 ... |
| Visits with mention of medication ² | 112,767 (8,723) | 81.1 (1.3) |
| Visits without mention of medication | 26,210 (2,530) | 18.9 (1.3) |
| Number of medications provided or prescribed ³ | | |
| 0 medications | 26,210 (2,530) | 18.9 (1.3) |
| 1 medication | 29,535 (2,550) | 21.3 (0.7) |
| 2 medications | 26,681 (2,109) | 19.2 (0.7) |
| 3 medications | 19,296 (1,561) | 13.9 (0.4) |
| 4 medications | 13,068 (1,242) | 9.4 (0.5) |
| 5 medications | 8,682 (866) | 6.2 (0.3) |
| 6 medications | 5,671 (622) | 4.1 (0.3) |
| 7 medications | 3,121 (378) | 2.2 (0.2) |
| 8 medications | 1,959 (234) | 1.4 (0.1) |
| 9 medications | 1,155 (200) | 0.8 (0.1) |
| 10 medications | 815 (150) | 0.6 (0.1) |
| 11 medications | 457 (91) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| 12 medications | 622 (117) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| 13 medications or more | 1,706 (355) | 1.2 (0.3) |

... Category not applicable.

¹Includes prescription drugs, over-the-counter preparations, immunizations, and desensitizing agents.

²Visits at which one or more drugs were given in the emergency department (ED) or prescribed at discharge (up to 30 per visit); also defined as drug visit.

³Drug mentions totaled 368,454,000 at ED visits in 2017. The average drug mention rate was 2.7 drug mentions per ED visit. For visits with at least one drug mention, the average drug visit rate was 3.3 drugs per visit.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 21. Twenty most frequently mentioned drugs at emergency department visits, by therapeutic drug category: United States, 2017

| Drug category ¹ | Number of occurrences (standard error) in thousands | Percent of drug mentions ² (standard error) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Analgesics ³ | 98,405 (8,190) | 26.7 (0.6) |
| Antiemetic or antivertigo agents | 39,690 (3,386) | 10.8 (0.3) |
| Minerals and electrolytes | 36,666 (4,121) | 10.0 (0.7) |
| Miscellaneous respiratory agents | 29,290 (3,304) | 7.9 (0.6) |
| Anxiolytics, sedatives, and hypnotics | 15,391 (1,311) | 4.2 (0.2) |
| Bronchodilators | 14,341 (1,183) | 3.9 (0.2) |
| Adrenal cortical steroids | 12,716 (1,322) | 3.5 (0.2) |
| Antihistamines | 11,565 (1,056) | 3.1 (0.1) |
| Anticonvulsants | 10,530 (1,040) | 2.9 (0.2) |
| Cephalosporins | 10,329 (938) | 2.8 (0.2) |
| Penicillins | 9,150 (989) | 2.5 (0.2) |
| Dermatological agents | 8,400 (832) | 2.3 (0.1) |
| Muscle relaxants | 6,683 (819) | 1.8 (0.2) |
| Local injectable anesthetics | 6,672 (661) | 1.8 (0.1) |
| Antiarrhythmic agents | 6,627 (629) | 1.8 (0.1) |
| Antiparkinson agents | 6,129 (566) | 1.7 (0.1) |
| Laxatives | 5,363 (821) | 1.5 (0.2) |
| Antiplatelet agents | 5,122 (574) | 1.4 (0.1) |
| Radiocontrast agents | 5,057 (676) | 1.4 (0.1) |
| Macrolide derivatives | 4,921 (511) | 1.3 (0.1) |

¹Based on Cerner Multum second-level therapeutic drug category, available from: <https://www.cerner.com/solutions/drug-database>.

²Based on an estimated 368,454,000 drug mentions at emergency department (ED) visits in 2017. Drug mentions are medications given in EDs or prescribed at discharge.

³Includes narcotics (10.6%), nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (10.1%), and other analgesics, including salicylates, analgesic combinations, antimigraine agents, Cox-2 inhibitors, and miscellaneous analgesics (6.0%).

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 22. Twenty most frequently mentioned drugs at emergency department visits: United States, 2017

| Drug name ¹ | Number of drug mentions (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) | Percent of drug mentions (standard error) | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------|---|
| | | | Total | Given in emergency department | Prescribed at discharge | Both given in emergency department and prescribed at discharge | Unknown ² | Therapeutic drug category ³ |
| | | | Percent of mention (standard error) | | | | | |
| All drug mentions | 368,454 (30,024) | 100.0 (0.0) | 100.0 | 58.1 (2.0) | 32.3 (2.1) | 8.9 (0.9) | 0.7 (0.3) | ... |
| Sodium chloride | 29,262 (3,306) | 7.9 (0.6) | 100.0 | 98.2 (0.4) | 1.2 (0.3) | 0.4 (0.2) | 0.2 (0.1) | Minerals and electrolytes, miscellaneous respiratory agents |
| Ondansetron | 22,445 (2,035) | 6.1 (0.2) | 100.0 | 69.5 (2.0) | 12.4 (1.1) | 17.6 (1.9) | 0.5 (0.3) | Antiemetic or antivertigo agents |
| Ibuprofen | 19,637 (1,698) | 5.3 (0.3) | 100.0 | 34.3 (2.7) | 49.4 (2.8) | 16.2 (1.8) | 0.2 (0.1) | Analgesics |
| Acetaminophen | 16,519 (1,485) | 4.5 (0.3) | 100.0 | 53.5 (3.6) | 33.5 (3.6) | 12.4 (1.9) | 0.7 (0.3) | Analgesics |
| Ketorolac | 11,863 (1,370) | 3.2 (0.2) | 100.0 | **89.2 (3.3) | 4.6 (1.3) | * ... | * ... | Analgesics |
| Acetaminophen-hydrocodone | 9,748 (1,159) | 2.6 (0.2) | 100.0 | 35.9 (3.3) | 48.8 (2.8) | 15.0 (1.8) | * ... | Analgesics |
| Morphine | 8,143 (924) | 2.2 (0.1) | 100.0 | 97.8 (0.8) | 1.0 (0.3) | 0.8 (0.5) | * ... | Analgesics |
| Albuterol | 7,867 (699) | 2.1 (0.1) | 100.0 | 37.4 (2.9) | 47.5 (3.6) | 14.5 (2.3) | 0.6 (0.4) | Bronchodilators |
| Diphenhydramine | 5,851 (533) | 1.6 (0.1) | 100.0 | 67.8 (3.6) | 20.0 (2.8) | 12.0 (2.0) | * ... | Antiemetic or antivertigo agents, antihistamines, antiparkinson agents, anxiolytics, sedatives, hypnotics |
| Prednisone | 5,120 (621) | 1.4 (0.1) | 100.0 | 17.9 (2.6) | 66.3 (4.0) | 15.5 (2.8) | * ... | Adrenal cortical steroids |
| Hydromorphone | 4,926 (618) | 1.3 (0.1) | 100.0 | 97.3 (0.8) | 1.9 (0.7) | * ... | * ... | Analgesics |
| Lidocaine | 4,844 (466) | 1.3 (0.1) | 100.0 | 90.1 (1.9) | 7.8 (1.7) | 2.0 (0.6) | * ... | Antiarrhythmic agents, local injectable anesthetics |
| Aspirin | 4,541 (480) | 1.2 (0.1) | 100.0 | 74.2 (4.8) | 21.9 (4.6) | 3.0 (0.8) | 1.0 (0.8) | Analgesics, antiplatelet agents |
| Azithromycin | 4,527 (473) | 1.2 (0.1) | 100.0 | 34.2 (2.9) | 54.0 (3.8) | 11.3 (2.5) | * ... | Macrolide derivatives |
| Ceftriaxone | 4,446 (450) | 1.2 (0.1) | 100.0 | 97.7 (0.6) | 1.2 (0.5) | 1.0 (0.4) | * ... | Cephalosporins |
| Cephalexin | 4,211 (456) | 1.1 (0.1) | 100.0 | 12.1 (2.3) | 76.2 (3.4) | 11.7 (2.0) | * ... | Cephalosporins |
| Amoxicillin | 4,193 (493) | 1.1 (0.1) | 100.0 | * ... | 67.8 (4.3) | 20.7 (3.8) | * ... | Penicillins |
| Lorazepam | 4,045 (422) | 1.1 (0.1) | 100.0 | 79.4 (2.9) | 14.2 (3.2) | 5.9 (1.6) | * ... | Anticonvulsants, antiemetic or antivertigo agents, anxiolytics, sedatives, hypnotics |
| Acetaminophen-oxycodone | 4,002 (659) | 1.1 (0.2) | 100.0 | 41.0 (4.8) | 38.7 (5.5) | 20.0 (3.1) | * ... | Analgesics |
| Tramadol | 3,908 (604) | 1.1 (0.1) | 100.0 | 19.6 (3.5) | 68.3 (3.6) | 11.8 (2.5) | * ... | Analgesics |
| All other | 188,358 (16,365) | 51.1 (1.1) | 100.0 | 52.6 (2.6) | 38.3 (2.9) | 7.9 (1.1) | 1.1 (0.5) | ... |

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

... Category not applicable.

** Estimate meets NCHS standards of reliability, but its complement does not.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Based on Cerner Multum terminology, the drug name reflects the active ingredients of a drug mention.

²Includes drugs given or prescribed that did not have either the "given in emergency department" or "prescribed at discharge" checkboxes marked.

³Based on Cerner Multum second-level therapeutic drug category, available from: <https://www.cerner.com/solutions/drug-database>.

NOTES: Estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 23. Providers seen at emergency department visits: United States, 2017

| Type of provider | Number of visits ¹ (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|--|---|--|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | ... .. |
| Any physician | 119,581 (8,754) | 86.0 (1.7) |
| Emergency department attending physician | 116,305 (8,603) | 83.7 (2.0) |
| Emergency department resident or intern | 15,679 (2,603) | 11.3 (1.7) |
| Consulting physician | 13,007 (1,693) | 9.4 (1.1) |
| Registered nurse or licensed practical nurse | 128,277 (9,994) | 92.3 (1.6) |
| Any physician seen | 110,457 (8,512) | 79.5 (2.0) |
| Physician not seen | 17,820 (2,862) | 12.8 (1.7) |
| Nurse practitioner | 16,235 (2,637) | 11.7 (1.6) |
| Any physician seen | 7,301 (1,601) | 5.3 (1.1) |
| Physician not seen | 8,934 (1,901) | 6.4 (1.2) |
| Physician assistant | 17,775 (2,582) | 12.8 (1.6) |
| Any physician seen | 10,680 (1,865) | 7.7 (1.3) |
| Physician not seen | 7,095 (1,462) | 5.1 (0.9) |
| Emergency medical technician | 7,207 (1,091) | 5.2 (0.7) |
| Mental health provider | 2,324 (335) | 1.7 (0.2) |
| Other | 42,913 (5,215) | 30.9 (2.9) |
| Blank | 211 (55) | 0.2 (0.0) |

... Category not applicable.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" and percentage exceeds 100% because more than one provider may be reported per visit.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 24. Disposition of emergency department visits: United States, 2017

| Disposition | Number of visits ¹ (standard error) in thousands | Percent of visits (standard error) |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| All visits | 138,977 (10,277) | ... .. |
| Admitted, transferred, or died | | |
| Admit to this hospital | 14,503 (1,905) | 10.4 (1.0) |
| Critical care unit | 1,995 (441) | 1.4 (0.3) |
| Stepdown or telemetry unit | 650 (185) | 0.5 (0.1) |
| Operation room | 1,307 (379) | 0.9 (0.2) |
| Mental health or detoxification unit | 594 (129) | 0.4 (0.1) |
| Cardiac catheterization laboratory | 249 (66) | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Other bed or unit | 6,966 (907) | 5.0 (0.5) |
| Unknown or blank | 2,742 (656) | 2.0 (0.4) |
| Admit to observation unit | 3,929 (931) | 2.8 (0.6) |
| Then hospitalized | 1,318 (375) | 0.9 (0.3) |
| Then discharged | 2,611 (611) | 1.9 (0.4) |
| Return or transfer to nursing home | 396 (82) | 0.3 (0.1) |
| Transfer to psychiatric hospital | 1,135 (174) | 0.8 (0.1) |
| Transfer to other hospital | 1,883 (253) | 1.4 (0.2) |
| Died in emergency department ² | * ... | 0.2 (0.0) |
| Outpatient follow-up | | |
| Return or refer to physician or clinic for follow-up | 95,775 (7,336) | 68.9 (1.9) |
| No follow-up planned | 13,000 (1,870) | 9.4 (1.2) |
| Left prior to completing visit | | |
| Left without being seen | 1,578 (245) | 1.1 (0.2) |
| Left before treatment complete | 968 (221) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Left against medical advice | 1,034 (174) | 0.7 (0.1) |
| Other | 4,753 (1,413) | 3.4 (1.0) |
| Blank | 885 (219) | 0.6 (0.2) |

... Category not applicable.

0.0 Quantity more than zero, but less than 0.05.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" and percentage of visits exceeds 100% because more than one disposition may be reported per visit.

²Includes "Dead on arrival."

NOTES: Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 25. Emergency department visits resulting in hospital admission, by selected patient and visit characteristics: United States, 2017

| Selected characteristic | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) | Admissions as percent of visits (standard error) |
|--|--|--|--|
| All admissions | 14,503 (1,905) | 100.0 ... | 10.4 (1.0) |
| Age (years) | | | |
| Under 15 | *1,283 (532) | * ... | * ... |
| 15–24 | 1,126 (252) | 7.8 (1.5) | 5.6 (1.0) |
| 25–44 | 2,154 (356) | 14.9 (1.7) | 5.6 (0.8) |
| 45–64 | 3,941 (539) | 27.2 (1.9) | 13.2 (1.5) |
| 65–74 | 2,382 (371) | 16.4 (1.6) | 23.1 (2.2) |
| 75 and over | 3,617 (580) | 24.9 (2.2) | 30.0 (2.9) |
| Residence | | | |
| Private | 12,800 (1,704) | 88.3 (1.4) | 9.7 (0.9) |
| Nursing home | 815 (178) | 5.6 (0.9) | 37.8 (4.6) |
| Homeless | 184 (51) | 1.3 (0.4) | 18.6 (4.0) |
| Other | 316 (76) | 2.2 (0.5) | 17.7 (3.9) |
| Unknown or blank | 387 (106) | 2.7 (0.7) | 15.5 (3.2) |
| Expected source of payment ¹ | | | |
| Private insurance | 5,359 (815) | 36.9 (2.6) | 12.4 (1.4) |
| Medicare | 6,304 (958) | 43.5 (3.5) | 24.6 (2.2) |
| Medicaid or CHIP ² , or other state-based program | 4,101 (630) | 28.3 (3.0) | 7.3 (0.8) |
| No insurance ³ | 476 (99) | 3.3 (0.6) | 4.3 (0.7) |
| Mode of arrival | | | |
| Ambulance | 5,659 (777) | 39.0 (2.2) | 28.1 (2.3) |
| Other | 8,844 (1,240) | 61.0 (2.2) | 7.4 (0.8) |
| Triage category | | | |
| Immediate or emergent ⁴ | 4,464 (944) | 30.8 (3.6) | 29.8 (4.0) |
| Other | 10,039 (1,172) | 69.2 (3.6) | 8.1 (0.7) |
| Patient seen in this emergency department during the last 72 hours | | | |
| Yes | 544 (117) | 3.8 (0.7) | 12.5 (2.7) |
| No, unknown, or blank | 13,959 (1,847) | 96.2 (0.7) | 10.4 (1.0) |
| Hospital discharge status | | | |
| Alive | 13,502 (1,827) | 93.1 (1.8) | ... .. |
| Home or residence | 10,912 (1,501) | 80.8 (1.4) | ... .. |
| Return or transfer to nursing home | 1,089 (214) | 8.1 (1.1) | ... .. |
| Transfer to another facility | 1,112 (200) | 8.2 (1.0) | ... .. |
| Other | * ... | 1.0 (0.2) | ... .. |
| Unknown or blank | 257 (70) | 1.9 (0.5) | ... .. |
| Died | 267 (79) | 1.8 (0.5) | ... .. |
| Unknown or blank | *734 (253) | * ... | ... .. |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Total exceeds "All visits" and percentage exceeds 100% because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit. Workers' compensation, other, and unknown sources of payment are not included in this table but account for 8.3% (weighted) of expected sources of payment.²Children's Health Insurance Program.³Defined as having only self-pay, no charge, or charity as payment sources. The individual self-pay and no charge or charity categories are not mutually exclusive.⁴Defined as needing to be seen within 1–14 minutes.NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Visit estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 26. Principal hospital discharge diagnoses for patients admitted through the emergency department, by major disease category: United States, 2017

| Major disease category and ICD–10–CM code range ¹ | Number of visits (standard error) in thousands | Percent distribution (standard error) |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| All visits | 14,503 (1,905) | 100.0 ... |
| Certain infectious and parasitic diseases | A00–B99 | 448 (98) |
| Neoplasms | C00–D49 | 178 (38) |
| Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism | D50–D89 | * ... |
| Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases | E00–E89 | 575 (100) |
| Mental, behavioral and neurodevelopmental disorders | F01–F99 | 527 (108) |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs ² | G00–G99, H00–H95 | 440 (97) |
| Diseases of the circulatory system | I00–I99 | 1,937 (353) |
| Diseases of the respiratory system | J00–J99 | 1,561 (284) |
| Diseases of the digestive system | K00–K95 | 1,694 (340) |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue | L00–L99 | 314 (60) |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue | M00–M99 | * ... |
| Diseases of the genitourinary system | N00–N99 | 1,004 (194) |
| Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium | O00–O9A | *145 (48) |
| Symptoms, signs, and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified | R00–R99 | 2,174 (449) |
| Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes | S00–T88 | 1,383 (206) |
| All other diagnoses ³ | ... | 576 (116) |
| Unknown or blank | ... | 1,103 (292) |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

¹Based on *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–10–CM). However, certain codes have been combined in this table to better describe the utilization of ambulatory care services.

²Sense organs include eye, adnexa, ear, and mastoid process.

³Includes certain conditions originating in the perinatal period (P00–P96); congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities (Q00–Q99); external causes of morbidity (V00–Y99), and factors influencing health status and contact with health services (Z00–Z99).

NOTES: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Visit estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.

Table 27. Hospital and emergency department characteristics, by emergency department visit volume: United States, 2017

| Hospital and emergency department characteristic | Emergency department annual visit volume ¹ | | | |
|--|---|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Total | Fewer than 20,000 | 20,000 to 50,000 | 50,000 or more |
| | Percent distribution (standard error) | | | |
| All emergency departments | 100.0 ... | 100.0 ... | 100.0 ... | 100.0 ... |
| Hospital characteristic | | | | |
| Number of days per week that elective surgeries are scheduled: | | | | |
| 0–4 | 13.5 (3.6) | 24.7 (7.0) | * ... | * ... |
| 5 | 72.6 (4.0) | 70.2 (7.0) | **83.1 (5.4) | 64.2 (6.9) |
| 6–7 | 11.1 (2.1) | * ... | * ... | 32.8 (6.8) |
| Unknown or blank | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Has bed coordinator: | | | | |
| Yes | 57.3 (5.0) | * ... | 68.0 (6.9) | **89.9 (3.2) |
| No | 35.8 (5.1) | * ... | 23.0 (6.1) | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| How often hospital bed census data are available: | | | | |
| Instantaneously | 76.8 (4.6) | * ... | **84.3 (5.4) | **94.1 (2.3) |
| Every 4 hours | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Every 8 hours | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Every 12 hours | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Every 24 hours | 10.2 (2.8) | 18.5 (5.6) | * ... | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Has hospitalists on staff: | | | | |
| Yes | **84.8 (5.0) | * ... | **91.0 (4.5) | **98.0 (1.2) |
| No | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Has emergency medicine residency program: | | | | |
| Yes | 19.9 (3.1) | * ... | * ... | 41.0 (7.1) |
| No | 73.1 (3.6) | **92.0 (3.6) | * ... | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Emergency department (ED) characteristic | | | | |
| ED submits claims electronically: | | | | |
| Yes | **94.2 (2.0) | **94.1 (3.3) | **92.2 (3.6) | **97.2 (1.9) |
| No | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Unknown or blank, or refused to answer | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| ED uses electronic medical records or health records: | | | | |
| Yes, all electronic | 90.1 (2.8) | **94.4 (3.6) | **85.0 (6.1) | **86.6 (4.2) |
| Yes, part paper and part electronic | 8.0 (2.4) | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| No | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Unknown or blank, or refused to answer | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| ED has physically separate observation or clinical decision unit: | | | | |
| Yes | 39.0 (4.1) | 29.8 (6.6) | * ... | 46.8 (6.9) |
| No | 51.7 (4.7) | * ... | 37.1 (6.4) | * ... |
| Unknown | 9.4 (2.8) | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Admitted patients were ever boarded 2 hours or more in ED or observation unit while waiting for inpatient bed: | | | | |
| Yes | 56.9 (4.4) | * ... | 64.3 (7.0) | 82.9 (5.1) |
| No | 36.5 (4.8) | * ... | 26.2 (6.9) | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | 6.6 (1.9) | * ... | * ... | * ... |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 27. Hospital and emergency department characteristics, by emergency department visit volume: United States, 2017—Con.

| Hospital and emergency department characteristic | Emergency department annual visit volume ¹ | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Total | Fewer than 20,000 | 20,000 to 50,000 | 50,000 or more |
| Emergency department (ED) characteristic—Con. | | Percent distribution (standard error) | | |
| ED went on ambulance diversion in 2016: | | | | |
| Yes | 31.1 (5.2) | * ... | * ... | 44.3 (7.1) |
| No | 57.2 (5.4) | * ... | 37.7 (6.9) | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | 11.7 (3.2) | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Ambulance diversion actively managed on regional level compared with each hospital adopting diversion if and when it chooses ² : | | | | |
| Yes | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| No | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Hospital continues to admit elective or scheduled surgery cases when ED is on ambulance diversion ² : | | | | |
| Yes | **81.1 (6.2) | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| No | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| ED increased number of standard treatment spaces in last 2 years: | | | | |
| Yes | 18.2 (3.4) | * ... | * ... | 32.2 (6.9) |
| No | 71.7 (4.1) | **82.1 (5.6) | * ... | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | 10.1 (2.7) | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| ED physical space was expanded in last 2 years: | | | | |
| Yes | 12.0 (2.7) | * ... | * ... | 22.5 (5.6) |
| No | 81.5 (3.1) | **93.2 (2.8) | * ... | 70.0 (6.5) |
| Unknown or blank | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| ED plans to expand physical space in next 2 years ³ : | | | | |
| Yes | 16.9 (3.2) | * ... | 21.4 (6.1) | * ... |
| No | 67.5 (4.8) | **81.4 (6.7) | * ... | * ... |
| Unknown or blank | 15.6 (3.5) | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Services ED uses: | | | | |
| Bedside registration | 79.4 (3.9) | 73.1 (6.4) | 79.9 (7.1) | **94.1 (3.1) |
| Kiosk self check-in | * ... | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Computer-assisted triage | 47.6 (6.0) | * ... | * ... | 66.2 (6.4) |
| Immediate bedding | 71.7 (4.5) | 73.5 (6.5) | * ... | 71.5 (5.7) |
| Advanced triage (triage-based care) protocols | 70.7 (5.0) | * ... | 74.3 (6.9) | 81.1 (5.2) |
| Physician or practitioner at triage | 38.6 (4.4) | 27.5 (5.9) | * ... | * ... |
| Separate fast-track unit for nonurgent care | 47.7 (5.9) | * ... | * ... | 78.5 (5.9) |
| Separate operating room dedicated to ED patients | 9.0 (2.5) | * ... | * ... | * ... |
| Electronic dashboard ⁴ | 77.7 (4.8) | * ... | **86.7 (5.0) | **85.5 (5.0) |
| Radio frequency identification tracking ⁵ | 21.0 (5.3) | * ... | * ... | 15.0 (4.4) |
| Wireless devices by providers | 57.0 (4.8) | * ... | * ... | 76.8 (4.6) |
| Zone nursing ⁶ | 57.5 (4.7) | 39.7 (6.5) | 76.2 (6.1) | 74.8 (6.3) |
| Pool nurses ⁷ | 56.1 (4.7) | 51.6 (6.8) | * ... | * ... |

... Category not applicable.

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

** Estimate meets NCHS standards of reliability, but its complement does not.

¹Number of hospitals for all emergency departments (EDs) (*N* = 199); Fewer than 20,000 (*N* = 62); 20,000–49,999 (*N* = 59); and 50,000 or more (*N* = 78).²Denominator is number of EDs on ambulance diversion or for which ambulance diversion status is unknown.³Denominator is number of EDs that did not expand physical space in the last 2 years, including unknown or blank responses.⁴Displays updated patient information and integrates multiple data sources.⁵Shows exact location of patients, caregivers, and equipment.⁶Refers to all of a nurse's patients being located in one area.⁷Nurses who can be pulled into the ED on demand to respond to surges.NOTES: Estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data, in which case only an asterisk is shown. Estimates based on 30 cases or more include an asterisk if the relative standard error of the estimate exceeds 30%. Proportion estimates are not presented if they are unreliable based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017.