

# National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2019 Emergency Department Summary Tables

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The Ambulatory and Hospital Care Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) 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 2019 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS). NHAMCS is an annual, nationally representative sample survey of visits to hospitals.

The sampling frame for the 2019 NHAMCS was constructed from IQVIA's database. NHAMCS used 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 473 hospitals were selected for the 2019 NHAMCS, of which, 367 were in scope and had eligible EDs. Of these, 309 responded, resulting in an unweighted ED response rate of 84.2%. A total of 422 ESAs were identified from the EDs. Of these, 269 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, 19,481 Patient Record Forms (PRFs) were submitted electronically. The resulting unweighted ESA sample response rate was 63.7%, and the overall unweighted, two-stage sampling response rate was 53.7% (59.4% weighted).

The U.S. Census Bureau collected data for the 2019 NHAMCS. The U.S. Census Bureau collected data electronically using a computerized instrument that it developed. Census field representatives completed a PRF for a sample of about 100 ED visits during a randomly assigned 4-week reporting period.

RTI International processed the data and performed medical coding. As part of the quality assurance procedure, a 17% quality control sample of ED survey records was independently keyed and coded. Coding error rates ranged from 0.1% to 3.7% for the ED sample. For more details, see the 2019 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation.

Web table estimates are based on sample data weighted to produce annual national estimates and include standard errors. The sample weight computed for each sample visit considers all stages of survey design. 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 accounts for the complex sample design of NHAMCS. Detailed information on the design, conduct, and estimation procedures of the 2019 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 and biases due to nonresponse and incomplete response. In 2019, race data were missing for 20.5% (unweighted) of ED records, and ethnicity data were missing for 17.0% (unweighted) of ED records. NCHS 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 race groups) 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 were coded according to the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–10–CM). Five tables ([Tables 11, 12, 16, 17, and 26](#)) that present estimates of primary diagnoses, injury diagnoses, and primary hospital discharge diagnoses use ICD–10–CM codes and differ from web tables before 2016 that presented diagnosis estimates using the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–9–CM) coding system. Because differences between the ICD–9–CM and ICD–10–CM coding systems are substantial, caution is advised 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.” For all estimates other than estimates of proportions, the following approach is used: 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 hospital characteristics: United States, 2019**

Characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Number of visits per 100 people <sup>1</sup> (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...	46.6 (2.8)
<b>Ownership</b>			
Voluntary . . . . .	101,211 (8,268)	67.2 (4.9)	31.3 (2.6)
Government . . . . .	27,615 (5,896)	18.3 (3.8)	8.5 (1.8)
Proprietary . . . . .	21,824 (6,319)	14.5 (3.8)	6.8 (2.0)
<b>Metropolitan status<sup>2-4</sup></b>			
MSA . . . . .	125,743 (9,656)	83.5 (2.3)	45.4 (3.5)
Non-MSA . . . . .	24,907 (4,001)	16.5 (2.3)	54.2 (8.7)
<b>Geographic region<sup>4</sup></b>			
Northeast . . . . .	24,193 (2,123)	16.1 (1.5)	43.8 (3.8)
Midwest . . . . .	28,617 (2,839)	19.0 (1.9)	42.5 (4.2)
South . . . . .	65,720 (7,043)	43.6 (3.2)	53.3 (5.7)
West . . . . .	32,120 (4,799)	21.3 (2.7)	41.6 (6.2)
<b>Teaching hospital</b>			
Yes . . . . .	19,167 (2,400)	12.7 (1.8)	5.9 (0.7)
No or blank <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	131,482 (9,558)	87.3 (1.8)	40.7 (3.0)
<b>Trauma center</b>			
Yes . . . . .	52,223 (5,533)	34.7 (3.7)	16.2 (1.7)
No or blank . . . . .	98,427 (9,261)	65.3 (3.7)	30.5 (2.9)

... Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Visit rates for region are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as of July 1, 2019, from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

<sup>2</sup>MSA is metropolitan statistical area.

<sup>3</sup>Population estimates by MSA are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as of July 1, 2019, from the 2019 National Health Interview Survey, compiled according to the February 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>.

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

<sup>5</sup>Teaching status was unknown for 5.4% (weighted) of visits.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 2. Emergency department visits, by patient age, sex, and residence: United States, 2019**

Patient characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Number of visits per 100 people <sup>1</sup> (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...	46.6 (2.8)
Age group (years) <sup>1</sup>			
Under 15 . . . . .	30,003 (3,606)	19.9 (1.8)	49.6 (6.0)
Under 1 . . . . .	4,670 (727)	3.1 (0.4)	123.5 (19.2)
1–4 . . . . .	10,859 (1,280)	7.2 (0.7)	68.8 (8.1)
5–14 . . . . .	14,474 (1,698)	9.6 (0.9)	35.3 (4.1)
15–24 . . . . .	19,840 (1,325)	13.2 (0.4)	47.6 (3.2)
25–44 . . . . .	39,477 (2,488)	26.2 (0.8)	46.1 (2.9)
45–64 . . . . .	33,582 (2,378)	22.3 (0.8)	40.7 (2.9)
65 and over . . . . .	27,748 (1,801)	18.4 (0.8)	52.6 (3.4)
65–74 . . . . .	13,462 (1,016)	8.9 (0.4)	43.1 (3.2)
75 and over . . . . .	14,286 (926)	9.5 (0.6)	66.4 (4.3)
Sex and age group (years)			
Female <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	82,235 (5,223)	54.6 (0.5)	49.8 (3.2)
Under 15 . . . . .	13,689 (1,765)	9.1 (0.9)	46.2 (6.0)
15–24 . . . . .	11,979 (895)	8.0 (0.3)	57.8 (4.3)
25–44 . . . . .	23,209 (1,652)	15.4 (0.6)	53.7 (3.8)
45–64 . . . . .	17,386 (1,296)	11.5 (0.4)	40.9 (3.0)
65–74 . . . . .	7,549 (615)	5.0 (0.3)	45.3 (3.7)
75 and over . . . . .	8,424 (594)	5.6 (0.4)	67.8 (4.8)
Male <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	68,415 (4,107)	45.4 (0.5)	43.3 (2.6)
Under 15 . . . . .	16,313 (1,905)	10.8 (0.9)	52.8 (6.2)
15–24 . . . . .	7,861 (516)	5.2 (0.2)	37.5 (2.5)
25–44 . . . . .	16,269 (976)	10.8 (0.4)	38.4 (2.3)
45–64 . . . . .	16,196 (1,182)	10.8 (0.5)	40.4 (3.0)
65–74 . . . . .	5,914 (514)	3.9 (0.3)	40.5 (3.5)
75 and over . . . . .	5,862 (372)	3.9 (0.2)	64.4 (4.1)
Residence			
Private <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	141,187 (8,953)	93.7 (1.0)	43.7 (2.8)
Nursing home <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	2,227 (240)	1.5 (0.2)	162.2 (17.5)
Homeless <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	1,443 (173)	1.0 (0.1)	254.1 (30.4)
Other . . . . .	2,037 (283)	1.4 (0.2)	0.6 (0.1)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	3,755 (1,548)	2.5 (1.0)	* ...
Urban–rural classification <sup>4</sup>			
Large central metro . . . . .	42,085 (6,145)	27.9 (3.4)	... ..
Large fringe metro . . . . .	26,733 (4,510)	17.7 (2.7)	... ..
Medium metro . . . . .	34,782 (4,977)	23.1 (3.4)	... ..
Small metro . . . . .	*8,909 (3,078)	* ...	... ..
Micropolitan . . . . .	12,816 (2,796)	8.5 (1.8)	... ..
Noncore (nonmetro) . . . . .	17,683 (2,699)	11.7 (1.8)	... ..

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

<sup>1</sup>Visit rates for age group, sex, and private residence are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutional population as of July 1, 2019, from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

<sup>2</sup>Visit rates for nursing home residents are based on the 2019 population denominators from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2019 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>.

<sup>3</sup>Visit rates for people who are homeless are based on the January 2019 estimate of people who were without a home on a given night, as reported in "The 2019 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress," available from: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2019-AHAR-Part-1.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup>For 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](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data_access/urban_rural.htm).

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 3. Emergency department visits, by patient race, age, and ethnicity: United States, 2019**

Patient characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Number of visits per 100 people <sup>1</sup> (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...	46.6 (2.8)
Race <sup>2</sup> and age group (years)			
White . . . . .	107,781 (7,585)	71.5 (1.8)	43.6 (3.1)
Under 15 . . . . .	20,607 (2,758)	13.7 (1.4)	47.3 (6.3)
15–24 . . . . .	13,189 (997)	8.8 (0.3)	43.1 (3.3)
25–44 . . . . .	26,834 (2,037)	17.8 (0.8)	42.3 (3.2)
45–64 . . . . .	24,740 (1,999)	16.4 (0.8)	38.0 (3.1)
65–74 . . . . .	10,490 (870)	7.0 (0.4)	40.4 (3.4)
75 and over . . . . .	11,920 (828)	7.9 (0.5)	65.1 (4.5)
Black or African American . . . . .	36,598 (3,218)	24.3 (1.7)	85.6 (7.5)
Under 15 . . . . .	7,921 (1,168)	5.3 (0.7)	86.7 (12.8)
15–24 . . . . .	5,724 (524)	3.8 (0.3)	93.0 (8.5)
25–44 . . . . .	11,051 (955)	7.3 (0.5)	91.4 (7.9)
45–64 . . . . .	7,575 (786)	5.0 (0.4)	73.4 (7.6)
65–74 . . . . .	2,519 (345)	1.7 (0.2)	79.4 (10.9)
75 and over . . . . .	1,808 (245)	1.2 (0.2)	97.8 (13.3)
Other race groups <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	6,271 (797)	4.2 (0.6)	18.8 (2.4)
Ethnicity <sup>2</sup>			
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	26,162 (3,241)	17.4 (1.7)	43.7 (5.4)
Not Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	124,487 (7,585)	82.6 (1.7)	47.3 (2.9)
White . . . . .	84,042 (6,072)	55.8 (2.1)	43.2 (3.1)
Black or African American . . . . .	34,835 (3,116)	23.1 (1.6)	87.4 (7.8)
Other race groups <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	5,610 (753)	3.7 (0.5)	19.3 (2.6)

... Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Visit rates are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as of July 1, 2019, from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

<sup>2</sup>The race groups White, Black or African American, and Other race groups include people of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race. For 2019, race data were missing for 19.7% (weighted) of visits, and ethnicity data were missing for 17.4% (weighted) of visits. Starting with 2009 data, the National Center for Health Statistics has adopted the technique of model-based single imputation for National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) race and ethnicity data. The race imputation was restricted to three categories (White, Black, and Other race groups) 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 described in more detail in the 2019 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: [https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health\\_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset\\_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf](https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf).

<sup>3</sup>Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and people with more than one race.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 4. Wait time at emergency department visits: United States, 2019**

Visit characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...
Time spent waiting to see a physician, APRN, or PA <sup>1</sup>		
Less than 15 minutes . . . . .	64,345 (6,854)	42.7 (3.0)
15–59 minutes . . . . .	41,217 (2,998)	27.4 (1.7)
1 hour, but less than 2 hours . . . . .	11,983 (1,187)	8.0 (0.7)
2 hours, but less than 3 hours . . . . .	4,721 (704)	3.1 (0.4)
3 hours, but less than 4 hours . . . . .	2,069 (307)	1.4 (0.2)
4 hours, but less than 6 hours . . . . .	1,468 (308)	1.0 (0.2)
6 hours or more . . . . .	999 (199)	0.7 (0.1)
Not applicable . . . . .	3,306 (391)	2.2 (0.2)
Blank . . . . .	20,542 (3,579)	13.6 (2.3)
Time spent in emergency department		
Less than 1 hour . . . . .	14,868 (1,309)	9.9 (0.6)
1 hour, but less than 2 hours . . . . .	30,942 (2,313)	20.5 (0.9)
2 hours, but less than 4 hours . . . . .	52,104 (3,726)	34.6 (0.9)
4 hours, but less than 6 hours . . . . .	21,833 (1,618)	14.5 (0.7)
6 hours, but less than 10 hours . . . . .	12,532 (1,052)	8.3 (0.6)
10 hours, but less than 14 hours . . . . .	2,484 (252)	1.6 (0.2)
14 hours, but less than 24 hours . . . . .	2,567 (307)	1.7 (0.2)
24 hours or more . . . . .	2,274 (414)	1.5 (0.3)
Blank . . . . .	11,047 (2,642)	7.3 (1.7)
Patient arrived in emergency department after business hours <sup>2</sup>		
Yes . . . . .	84,532 (5,586)	56.1 (1.1)
No . . . . .	59,969 (3,942)	39.8 (0.9)
Blank . . . . .	*6,149 (2,117)	* ...

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

<sup>1</sup>APRN is advanced practice registered nurse. PA is physician assistant. The median wait time to see a physician, APRN, or PA was 14.0 minutes; the mean wait time to see a physician, APRN, or PA was 37.4 minutes.

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

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 5. Mode of arrival at emergency department, by patient age: United States, 2019**

Age group (years)	Number of visits in thousands	Patient's mode of arrival			
		Total <sup>1</sup>	Ambulance	Other	Unknown or blank
Percent distribution (standard error)					
All visits . . . . .	150,650	100.0	15.5 (0.7)	82.1 (0.8)	2.4 (0.5)
Under 15 . . . . .	30,003	100.0	4.5 (0.6)	93.9 (0.6)	1.6 (0.4)
Under 1 . . . . .	19,840	100.0	11.2 (0.7)	86.7 (0.9)	2.1 (0.5)
1–4 . . . . .	39,477	100.0	11.9 (0.8)	86.1 (1.0)	2.0 (0.5)
5–14 . . . . .	33,582	100.0	19.2 (1.1)	78.1 (1.2)	2.7 (0.7)
15–24 . . . . .	27,748	100.0	31.1 (1.2)	65.4 (1.2)	3.5 (0.9)
25–44 . . . . .	4,670	100.0	4.8 (1.2)	93.2 (1.2)	* ...
45–64 . . . . .	10,859	100.0	2.4 (1.0)	96.1 (0.7)	* ...
65 and over . . . . .	14,474	100.0	5.9 (1.0)	92.5 (0.9)	*1.6 (0.5)
65–74 . . . . .	13,462	100.0	23.5 (1.5)	73.1 (1.6)	3.5 (0.9)
75 and over . . . . .	14,286	100.0	38.3 (1.8)	58.1 (1.6)	*3.6 (1.1)

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

... Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Arrival by ambulance was the mode of arrival for 20,123,000 visits; arrival by other mode was the mode of arrival for 115,967,000 visits.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 6. Expected source of payment at emergency department visits: United States, 2019**

Expected source of payment	Number of visits <sup>1</sup> (standard error) in thousands	Percent of visits (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	... ..
Private insurance . . . . .	44,232 (2,991)	29.4 (1.5)
Medicaid or CHIP <sup>2</sup> or other state-based program . . . . .	55,991 (4,549)	37.2 (2.0)
Medicare . . . . .	29,815 (1,944)	19.8 (1.0)
Medicare and Medicaid <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	5,590 (550)	3.7 (0.3)
No insurance <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	12,578 (1,553)	8.3 (0.9)
Self-pay . . . . .	12,178 (1,528)	8.1 (0.9)
No charge or charity . . . . .	416 (114)	0.3 (0.1)
Worker's compensation . . . . .	1,116 (152)	0.7 (0.1)
Other . . . . .	5,711 (679)	3.8 (0.4)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	20,376 (4,758)	13.5 (2.9)

... Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Total number of visits exceeds "All visits" and percent of visits exceeds 100% because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit.

<sup>2</sup>Children's Health Insurance Program.

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

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

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.



**Table 7. Triage status of emergency department visits, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2019**

Patient and visit characteristics	Number of visits in thousands	Total	Level 1 (immediate)	Level 2 (emergent)	Level 3 (urgent)	Level 4 (semiurgent)	Level 5 (nonurgent)	No triage <sup>1</sup>	Unknown or blank
All visits	150,650	100.0	0.8 (0.3)	8.6 (0.9)	32.3 (1.9)	24.4 (2.4)	3.9 (0.6)	7.5 (2.3)	22.5 (3.3)
Age group (years)									
Under 15	30,003	100.0	0.4 (0.1)	4.7 (0.8)	25.0 (2.1)	38.5 (2.9)	7.9 (1.4)	* ...	17.5 (3.1)
Under 1	4,670	100.0	0.6 (0.3)	7.1 (2.0)	31.8 (3.0)	35.1 (3.5)	7.6 (1.3)	* ...	14.8 (3.0)
1–4	10,859	100.0	* ...	3.9 (0.9)	24.0 (2.2)	39.0 (2.9)	8.4 (2.0)	* ...	17.6 (3.2)
5–14	14,474	100.0	0.3 (0.2)	4.7 (0.8)	23.5 (2.3)	39.3 (3.5)	7.5 (1.3)	* ...	18.2 (3.3)
15–24	19,840	100.0	0.9 (0.4)	7.1 (1.1)	33.9 (2.2)	26.8 (2.9)	3.8 (0.9)	* ...	21.3 (3.3)
25–44	39,477	100.0	0.7 (0.4)	7.1 (0.9)	33.5 (2.3)	24.0 (2.8)	3.2 (0.5)	7.1 (2.1)	24.4 (3.7)
45–64	33,582	100.0	1.0 (0.3)	10.1 (1.3)	34.2 (2.4)	18.6 (2.6)	2.6 (0.6)	8.5 (2.3)	25.0 (3.8)
65 and over	27,748	100.0	1.3 (0.4)	13.9 (1.6)	35.2 (2.6)	15.0 (2.2)	2.1 (0.6)	9.3 (2.8)	23.2 (3.6)
65–74	13,462	100.0	1.3 (0.4)	13.4 (1.8)	35.1 (2.6)	17.2 (2.6)	1.8 (0.5)	9.1 (2.7)	22.1 (3.6)
75 and over	14,286	100.0	1.4 (0.5)	14.4 (1.6)	35.2 (2.9)	13.0 (2.2)	2.4 (0.7)	* ...	24.2 (3.9)
Sex									
Female	82,235	100.0	0.6 (0.2)	8.1 (0.9)	33.9 (2.2)	24.3 (2.6)	3.5 (0.6)	* ...	21.8 (3.2)
Male	68,415	100.0	1.1 (0.3)	9.1 (1.0)	30.4 (1.8)	24.5 (2.3)	4.3 (0.7)	7.3 (2.0)	23.3 (3.4)
Race <sup>2</sup>									
White	107,781	100.0	0.8 (0.2)	8.9 (1.1)	32.8 (2.0)	25.4 (2.8)	3.6 (0.6)	7.2 (2.0)	21.3 (3.5)
Black or African American	36,598	100.0	0.9 (0.5)	7.5 (0.9)	30.9 (2.6)	21.6 (1.9)	4.6 (0.9)	* ...	25.7 (3.8)
Other race groups <sup>3</sup>	6,271	100.0	0.6 (0.3)	9.6 (1.8)	33.2 (4.5)	23.0 (4.0)	3.4 (0.9)	* ...	* ...
Ethnicity and race <sup>2</sup>									
Hispanic or Latino	26,162	100.0	0.4 (0.2)	6.5 (0.9)	34.3 (3.3)	28.5 (3.0)	4.1 (0.7)	* ...	21.3 (4.8)
Not Hispanic or Latino	124,487	100.0	0.9 (0.3)	9.0 (1.0)	31.9 (1.9)	23.5 (2.5)	3.8 (0.6)	* ...	22.8 (3.3)
White	84,042	100.0	1.0 (0.2)	9.6 (1.2)	32.2 (2.0)	24.6 (3.1)	3.5 (0.7)	7.8 (2.2)	21.4 (3.6)
Black or African American	34,835	100.0	0.9 (0.5)	7.4 (0.9)	30.9 (2.7)	21.2 (1.9)	4.6 (1.0)	* ...	25.8 (3.9)
Other race groups <sup>3</sup>	5,610	100.0	0.6 (0.3)	10.4 (1.9)	33.9 (4.7)	22.5 (3.9)	2.9 (0.8)	* ...	* ...
Expected source of payment <sup>4</sup>									
Private insurance	44,232	100.0	0.8 (0.3)	10.0 (1.3)	35.6 (2.3)	24.9 (3.8)	2.5 (0.5)	7.0 (1.9)	19.2 (3.6)
Medicaid or CHIP <sup>5</sup> or other state-based program	55,991	100.0	0.8 (0.4)	7.7 (0.9)	33.2 (2.1)	28.3 (2.1)	5.0 (0.8)	* ...	18.8 (3.2)
Medicare	29,815	100.0	1.2 (0.3)	14.4 (1.6)	36.6 (2.5)	16.5 (2.4)	2.8 (0.6)	* ...	18.8 (3.2)
Medicare and Medicaid <sup>6</sup>	5,590	100.0	1.2 (0.6)	15.7 (2.1)	37.9 (3.4)	16.3 (3.2)	3.0 (0.9)	* ...	20.0 (4.3)
No insurance <sup>7</sup>	12,578	100.0	0.6 (0.3)	6.5 (1.2)	31.3 (3.5)	29.9 (4.1)	5.4 (1.1)	* ...	20.0 (4.3)
Worker's compensation	1,116	100.0	* ...	* ...	19.9 (4.6)	46.1 (7.1)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Other	5,711	100.0	2.3 (0.8)	9.0 (1.4)	37.3 (4.0)	23.5 (3.6)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank	20,376	100.0	0.7 (0.2)	* ...	22.3 (6.5)	14.1 (3.4)	2.7 (1.0)	* ...	* ...

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 7. Triage status of emergency department visits, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2019—Con.**

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

... Category not applicable.

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

<sup>2</sup>The race groups White, Black or African American, and Other race groups include people of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with 2009 data, the National Center for Health Statistics has adopted the technique of model-based single imputation for National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) race and ethnicity data. The race imputation was restricted to three categories (White, Black, and Other race groups) based on research by an internal work group and on quality concerns with imputed estimates for race categories other than White or Black. The imputation technique is described in more detail in the 2019 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: [https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health\\_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset\\_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf](https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf). For 2019, race data were missing for 19.7% (weighted) of visits, and ethnicity data were missing for 17.4% (weighted) of visits.

<sup>3</sup>Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and people with more than one race.

<sup>4</sup>Total number of visits exceeds "All visits" because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit.

<sup>5</sup>Children's Health Insurance Program.

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

<sup>7</sup>No insurance is defined as having only self-pay, no charge, or charity as payment sources.

NOTES: The 2019 Patient Record Form (PRF) requested responses using a 1–5 scale. PRF responses were evaluated with reference to responses on the Ambulatory Unit Form, completed during induction, to the question, "How many levels are in this emergency service area's (ESA) triage system?" ESAs reporting 3- or 4-level triage systems had their responses rescaled to fit the 5-level system, such that, for 3-level hospitals, 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 5.1% of records, or 6.6% records with nonmissing data. Triage level was imputed in years before 2012. Starting in 2012, triage level has not been imputed. Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 8. Initial blood pressure measurements recorded at emergency department visits for adults, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2019**

Patient characteristic	Number of visits in thousands	Initial blood pressure <sup>1</sup>				
		Total	Not high (SBP less than 120 mmHg and DBP less than 80 mmHg)	Prehypertension (SBP 120–139 mmHg or DBP 80–89 mmHg)	Stage 1 hypertension (SBP 140–159 mmHg or DBP 90–99 mmHg)	Stage 2 hypertension (SBP greater than or equal to 160 mmHg or DBP greater than 100 mmHg)
Percent distribution (standard error)						
All visits <sup>2</sup>	110,191	100.0	18.5 (0.6)	32.9 (0.5)	28.6 (0.5)	20.0 (0.5)
Age group (years)						
18–24	14,456	100.0	29.1 (1.7)	45.8 (1.7)	21.0 (1.2)	4.1 (0.6)
25–44	37,329	100.0	20.1 (0.9)	38.2 (0.8)	28.0 (0.8)	13.8 (0.7)
45–64	31,675	100.0	14.2 (0.8)	27.7 (0.8)	32.3 (0.8)	25.9 (1.1)
65–74	12,909	100.0	16.1 (1.4)	26.2 (1.6)	31.9 (1.4)	25.9 (1.5)
75 and over	13,822	100.0	15.6 (0.9)	23.7 (1.3)	26.5 (1.2)	34.2 (1.6)
Sex						
Female	62,915	100.0	20.5 (0.7)	33.6 (0.7)	26.5 (0.6)	19.4 (0.7)
Male	47,277	100.0	15.9 (0.8)	32.1 (0.8)	31.3 (0.7)	20.7 (0.7)
Race <sup>3</sup>						
White	79,555	100.0	18.6 (0.6)	32.5 (0.6)	28.8 (0.6)	20.0 (0.6)
Black or African American	26,129	100.0	18.0 (1.1)	34.3 (0.8)	27.7 (1.1)	20.0 (0.8)
Other race groups <sup>4</sup>	4,507	100.0	20.1 (2.7)	32.2 (2.3)	28.3 (2.0)	19.4 (2.2)
Ethnicity and race <sup>3</sup>						
Hispanic or Latino	15,361	100.0	22.4 (1.3)	34.9 (1.4)	26.6 (1.4)	16.1 (1.2)
Not Hispanic or Latino	94,830	100.0	17.9 (0.6)	32.6 (0.5)	28.9 (0.6)	20.6 (0.6)
White	65,716	100.0	17.8 (0.7)	32.3 (0.6)	29.2 (0.8)	20.7 (0.7)
Black or African American	25,030	100.0	17.7 (1.1)	34.0 (0.9)	28.1 (1.1)	20.2 (0.8)
Other race groups <sup>4</sup>	4,084	100.0	20.1 (2.8)	30.2 (2.3)	29.2 (2.2)	20.5 (2.4)

<sup>1</sup>SBP is systolic blood pressure. DBP is diastolic blood pressure. Three high blood pressure categories (SBP greater than 120 or DBP greater than 80) 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 fell into two categories, the visit was included in the higher blood pressure category.

<sup>2</sup>Visits by adults (aged 18 and over). Visits where blood pressure was taken represent 95.1% (standard error = 0.9) of all emergency department visits made by adults.

<sup>3</sup>The race groups White, Black or African American, and Other race groups include people of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race. For 2019, race data were missing for 18.0% (weighted) of visits made by adults, and ethnicity data were missing for 14.9% (weighted) of visits made by adults. Beginning with 2009, 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 was restricted to three categories (White, Black, and Other race groups) 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 described in more detail in the 2019 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: [https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health\\_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset\\_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf](https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf).

<sup>4</sup>Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and people with more than one race.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 9. Initial temperature, pulse oximetry, and visit history at emergency department visits: United States, 2019**

Visit characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...
Temperature		
Febrile: Higher than 38.0°C or higher than 100.4°F . . . . .	5,777 (550)	3.8 (0.3)
Normal: 35.1°C–38.0°C or 95.1°F–100.4°F . . . . .	133,805 (8,308)	88.8 (1.2)
Hypothermic: 35.0°C and below or 95.0°F and below . . . . .	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Blank . . . . .	10,911 (2,030)	7.2 (1.3)
Pulse oximetry <sup>1</sup>		
95%–100% . . . . .	128,488 (8,430)	85.3 (1.6)
Less than 95% . . . . .	11,392 (1,200)	7.6 (0.6)
Blank . . . . .	10,770 (2,324)	7.1 (1.5)
Episode of care		
Initial visit . . . . .	131,110 (8,533)	87.0 (1.7)
Follow-up visit . . . . .	9,268 (1,131)	6.2 (0.6)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	10,272 (2,548)	6.8 (1.7)
Patient seen in this emergency department within the last 72 hours		
Yes . . . . .	5,413 (626)	3.6 (0.4)
No . . . . .	131,735 (9,132)	87.4 (1.7)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	13,502 (2,473)	9.0 (1.7)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

<sup>1</sup>Normal oxygen saturation as measured by pulse oximetry is 95% or more.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 10. Ten principal reasons for emergency department visits, by patient age and sex: United States, 2019**

Principal reason for visit and RVC code <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms . . . . . S545	13,142 (1,049)	8.7 (0.4)
Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems) . . . . . S050	8,043 (660)	5.3 (0.3)
Fever . . . . . S010	6,516 (788)	4.3 (0.4)
Cough . . . . . S440	5,404 (501)	3.6 (0.3)
Shortness of breath . . . . . S415	4,429 (384)	2.9 (0.2)
Headache, pain in head . . . . . S210	3,856 (339)	2.6 (0.2)
Back symptoms . . . . . S905	3,435 (308)	2.3 (0.2)
Pain, site not referable to a specific body system . . . . . S055	3,212 (274)	2.1 (0.2)
Vomiting . . . . . S530	2,987 (298)	2.0 (0.2)
Injury, other and unspecified type—head, neck, and face . . . . . J505	2,590 (302)	1.7 (0.2)
All other reasons <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	97,035 (5,895)	64.4 (0.7)
All visits under age 15 . . . . .	30,003 (3,606)	100.0 ...
Female . . . . .	13,689 (1,765)	45.6 (1.2)
Fever . . . . . S010	2,307 (378)	7.7 (0.6)
Cough . . . . . S440	1,100 (177)	3.7 (0.5)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms . . . . . S545	921 (149)	3.1 (0.3)
Skin rash . . . . . S860	508 (102)	1.7 (0.2)
Vomiting . . . . . S530	473 (82)	1.6 (0.2)
Injury, other and unspecified type—head, neck, and face . . . . . J505	425 (88)	1.4 (0.3)
Earache or ear infection . . . . . S355	368 (96)	1.2 (0.3)
Headache, pain in head . . . . . S210	348 (93)	1.2 (0.3)
Nasal congestion . . . . . S400	* ...	0.8 (0.2)
Symptoms referable to throat . . . . . S455	239 (46)	0.8 (0.1)
All other reasons <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	6,760 (906)	22.5 (0.9)
Male . . . . .	16,313 (1,905)	54.4 (1.2)
Fever . . . . . S010	2,643 (396)	8.8 (0.8)
Cough . . . . . S440	1,529 (212)	5.1 (0.5)
Skin rash . . . . . S860	801 (175)	2.7 (0.4)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms . . . . . S545	711 (130)	2.4 (0.3)
Injury, other and unspecified type—head, neck, and face . . . . . J505	654 (127)	2.2 (0.3)
Vomiting . . . . . S530	652 (118)	2.2 (0.3)
Earache or ear infection . . . . . S355	561 (108)	1.9 (0.3)
Symptoms referable to throat . . . . . S455	375 (72)	1.2 (0.2)
Headache, pain in head . . . . . S210	311 (65)	1.0 (0.2)
Labored or difficult breathing (dyspnea) . . . . . S420	283 (67)	0.9 (0.2)
All other reasons <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	7,795 (897)	26.0 (1.2)

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 10. Ten principal reasons for emergency department visits, by patient age and sex: United States, 2019–Con.**

Principal reason for visit and RVC code <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits, ages 15–64 years. . . . .	92,899 (5,851)	100.0 ...
Female. . . . .	52,574 (3,598)	56.6 (0.8)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms. . . . . S545	6,615 (603)	7.1 (0.4)
Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems) . . . . . S050	3,149 (279)	3.4 (0.2)
Headache, pain in head . . . . . S210	1,641 (186)	1.8 (0.2)
Pain, site not referable to a specific body system . . . . . S055	1,451 (168)	1.6 (0.2)
Back symptoms . . . . . S905	1,408 (170)	1.5 (0.2)
Shortness of breath . . . . . S415	1,404 (155)	1.5 (0.1)
Cough. . . . . S440	1,345 (165)	1.4 (0.1)
Problems of pregnancy . . . . . S790	1,173 (228)	1.3 (0.2)
Symptoms referable to throat. . . . . S455	1,105 (131)	1.2 (0.1)
Nausea. . . . . S525	980 (141)	1.1 (0.1)
All other reasons <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	32,303 (2,311)	34.8 (0.7)
Male. . . . .	40,326 (2,420)	43.4 (0.8)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms. . . . . S545	3,106 (290)	3.3 (0.2)
Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems) . . . . . S050	2,750 (336)	3.0 (0.3)
Back symptoms . . . . . S905	1,086 (153)	1.2 (0.1)
Pain, site not referable to a specific body system . . . . . S055	1,045 (120)	1.1 (0.1)
Headache, pain in head . . . . . S210	1,031 (128)	1.1 (0.1)
Shortness of breath . . . . . S415	1,021 (143)	1.1 (0.1)
Cough. . . . . S440	921 (132)	1.0 (0.1)
Other symptoms or problems relating to psychological and mental disorders . . . . . S165	867 (124)	0.9 (0.1)
Foot and toe symptoms . . . . . S935	747 (113)	0.8 (0.1)
Leg symptoms . . . . . S920	731 (91)	0.8 (0.1)
All other reasons <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	27,021 (1,530)	29.1 (0.7)

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 10. Ten principal reasons for emergency department visits, by patient age and sex: United States, 2019—Con.**

Principal reason for visit and RVC code <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits, ages 65 and over . . . . .	27,748 (1,801)	100.0 ...
Female . . . . .	15,973 (1,080)	57.6 (1.0)
Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems) . . . . . S050	1,100 (158)	4.0 (0.5)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms. . . . . S545	1,065 (131)	3.8 (0.4)
Shortness of breath . . . . . S415	909 (128)	3.3 (0.4)
General weakness . . . . . S020	633 (100)	2.3 (0.3)
Accident, not otherwise specified . . . . . J810	612 (108)	2.2 (0.4)
Vertigo—dizziness . . . . . S225	579 (112)	2.1 (0.4)
Leg symptoms . . . . . S920	476 (80)	1.7 (0.3)
Back symptoms . . . . . S905	472 (87)	1.7 (0.3)
Other symptoms or problems relating to psychological and mental disorders . . . . . S165	430 (77)	1.6 (0.3)
Hypertension . . . . . D510	378 (75)	1.4 (0.3)
All other reasons <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	9,318 (677)	33.6 (1.0)
Male . . . . .	11,775 (809)	42.4 (1.0)
Shortness of breath . . . . . S415	803 (127)	2.9 (0.4)
Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems) . . . . . S050	775 (119)	2.8 (0.4)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms. . . . . S545	723 (111)	2.6 (0.3)
Other symptoms or problems relating to psychological and mental disorders . . . . . S165	365 (62)	1.3 (0.2)
Back symptoms . . . . . S905	343 (76)	1.2 (0.2)
Vertigo—dizziness . . . . . S225	332 (75)	1.2 (0.2)
General weakness . . . . . S020	319 (57)	1.2 (0.2)
Accident, not otherwise specified . . . . . J810	281 (62)	1.0 (0.2)
Leg symptoms . . . . . S920	277 (52)	1.0 (0.2)
Pain, site not referable to a specific body system . . . . . S055	276 (57)	1.0 (0.2)
All other reasons <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	7,281 (504)	26.2 (1.0)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

<sup>1</sup>Reason for visit is based on the patient's own words and coded according to the classification described in "A Reason for Visit Classification (RVC) for Ambulatory Care," National Center for Health Statistics, Series Report 2, Number 78. See the 2019 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use documentation, available from: [https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health\\_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset\\_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf](https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf).

<sup>2</sup>Category includes all other reasons not listed above and unknown and blanks.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 11. Primary diagnosis at emergency department visits, by major disease category: United States, 2019**

Major disease category and ICD-10-CM code range <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases . . . . .	A00-B99 4,185 (347)	2.8 (0.2)
Neoplasms. . . . .	C00-D49 418 (80)	0.3 (0.1)
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism . . . . .	D50-D89 939 (132)	0.6 (0.1)
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases . . . . .	E00-E89 2,738 (364)	1.8 (0.2)
Mental, behavioral and neurodevelopmental disorders . . . . .	F01-F99 5,693 (426)	3.8 (0.2)
Diseases of the nervous system . . . . .	G00-G99 3,134 (278)	2.1 (0.1)
Diseases of the eye and adnexa . . . . .	H00-H59 1,373 (161)	0.9 (0.1)
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process . . . . .	H60-H95 2,586 (394)	1.7 (0.2)
Diseases of the circulatory system . . . . .	I00-I99 5,408 (414)	3.6 (0.2)
Diseases of the respiratory system . . . . .	J00-J99 15,792 (1,331)	10.5 (0.6)
Diseases of the digestive system . . . . .	K00-K95 8,994 (661)	6.0 (0.3)
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue . . . . .	L00-L99 4,956 (384)	3.3 (0.2)
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue . . . . .	M00-M99 11,157 (840)	7.4 (0.4)
Diseases of the genitourinary system . . . . .	N00-N99 7,927 (632)	5.3 (0.3)
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium . . . . .	O00-O9A 2,748 (391)	1.8 (0.2)
Symptoms, signs, and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified. . . . .	R00-R99 39,031 (2,840)	25.9 (0.8)
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes . . . . .	S00-T88 26,215 (1,709)	17.4 (0.5)
Injuries to the head . . . . .	S00-S09 5,940 (482)	22.7 (1.1)
Injuries to the neck . . . . .	S10-S19 835 (120)	3.2 (0.4)
Injuries to the thorax . . . . .	S20-S29 1,262 (181)	4.8 (0.6)
Injuries to the abdomen, lower back, lumbar spine, pelvis and external genitals . . . . .	S30-S39 1,238 (153)	4.7 (0.5)
Injuries to the shoulder and upper arm . . . . .	S40-S49 1,368 (162)	5.2 (0.5)
Injuries to the elbow and forearm . . . . .	S50-S59 1,340 (187)	5.1 (0.5)
Injuries to the wrist, hand and fingers . . . . .	S60-S69 3,438 (243)	13.1 (0.8)
Injuries to the hip and thigh . . . . .	S70-S79 698 (115)	2.7 (0.4)
Injuries to the knee and lower leg . . . . .	S80-S89 2,280 (263)	8.7 (0.8)
Injuries to the ankle and foot . . . . .	S90-S99 2,304 (175)	8.8 (0.6)
Injuries involving multiple body regions or unspecified body region . . . . .	T07, T14 1,181 (145)	4.5 (0.6)
Effects of foreign body entering through natural orifice . . . . .	T15-T19 610 (93)	2.3 (0.3)
Burns and corrosions. . . . .	T20-T32 414 (77)	1.6 (0.3)
Frostbite. . . . .	T33-T34 * ...	* ...
Poisoning by, adverse effect of and underdosing of drugs, medicaments and biological substances . . . . .	T36-T50 1,204 (181)	4.6 (0.5)
Toxic effects of substances chiefly nonmedicinal as to source . . . . .	T51-T65 270 (74)	1.0 (0.3)
Other and unspecified effects of external causes . . . . .	T66-T78 1,213 (151)	4.6 (0.5)
Certain early complications of trauma . . . . .	T79 * ...	* ...
Complications of surgical and medical care . . . . .	T80-T88 593 (101)	2.3 (0.4)
All other diagnoses <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	... 6,552 (568)	4.3 (0.3)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	... 804 (159)	0.5 (0.1)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

<sup>1</sup>Based 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 use 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. Substantial differences between ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM exist, so users should take caution when comparing diagnosis estimates in this table with those before 2016.

<sup>2</sup>Includes 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).

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.



**Table 12. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2019**

Primary diagnosis group <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,165 (9,171)	100.0 ...
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases . . . . .	561 (88)	0.4 (0.1)
Septicemia (sepsis) . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Human immunodeficiency virus syndrome (HIV, HIV+, HIV positive) . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Viral warts, not sexually transmitted . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Sexually transmitted infections, excluding viral hepatitis and HIV . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Unspecified viral infection . . . . .	1,555 (197)	1.0 (0.1)
Dermatophytosis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Candidiasis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other systemic infectious and parasitic diseases . . . . .	1,449 (168)	1.0 (0.1)
Neoplasms <sup>2</sup> :		
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism:		
Anemias . . . . .	767 (123)	0.5 (0.1)
Other diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases:		
Acquired hypothyroidism . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Disorders of thyroid gland, excluding acquired hypothyroidism . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Type 1 diabetes mellitus . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Type 2 diabetes mellitus or unspecified . . . . .	689 (163)	0.5 (0.1)
Other disorders of endocrine glands . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Obesity . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Hyperlipidemias . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Volume depletion . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other nutritional deficiencies and metabolic disorders . . . . .	736 (125)	0.5 (0.1)
Mental, behavioral and neurodevelopmental disorders . . . . .	829 (110)	0.6 (0.1)
Dementia, excluding Alzheimer disease . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Alcohol-related disorders, excluding alcohol-related dementia and chronic alcoholic liver disease . . . . .	1,388 (135)	0.9 (0.1)
Opioid-related disorders . . . . .	152 (42)	0.1 (0.0)
Cocaine-related disorders . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Nicotine dependence . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other drug-related disorders, excluding other drug-related dementia . . . . .	418 (71)	0.3 (0.0)
Schizophrenia . . . . .	135 (37)	0.1 (0.0)
Non-mood psychoses, excluding schizophrenia . . . . .	372 (73)	0.2 (0.0)
Bipolar disorders, excluding those with depression . . . . .	172 (40)	0.1 (0.0)
Bipolar disorders, with depression . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Depressive disorders, excluding bipolar depression and adjustment reaction with depressed mood . . . . .	893 (126)	0.6 (0.1)
Dysthymic disorder . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Acute reaction to stress and adjustment reaction, excluding those with depressed mood . . . . .	134 (34)	0.1 (0.0)
Acute reaction to stress and adjustment reaction with depressed mood . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Eating disorders . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Impulse disorders . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other mood disorders, nonpsychotic mental disorders, behavioral syndromes, and disorders of adult personality and behavior . . . . .	1,300 (146)	0.9 (0.1)
Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorders . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Oppositional defiant disorder . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Conduct disorders, excluding oppositional defiant disorder . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Autism spectrum disorder . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other mental disorders . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Diseases of the nervous system:		
Alzheimer disease . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Migraine . . . . .	834 (147)	0.6 (0.1)
Transient cerebral ischemic attacks and related syndromes . . . . .	271 (64)	0.2 (0.0)
Sleep disorders, excluding sleep apnea (adult, pediatric, obstructive) and non-organic sleep disorders . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Carpal tunnel syndrome . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other disorders of the nervous system . . . . .	1,395 (140)	0.9 (0.1)

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 12. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2019—Con.**

Primary diagnosis group <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
<b>Diseases of the eye and adnexa:</b>		
Inflammation and disorders of eyelid	* ...	* ...
Conjunctivitis	672 (110)	0.4 (0.1)
Glaucoma	* ...	* ...
Other disorders of the eye and adnexa	531 (79)	0.4 (0.0)
<b>Diseases of the ear and mastoid process:</b>		
Disorders of external ear	362 (68)	0.2 (0.0)
Otitis media and eustachian tube disorders	1,701 (331)	1.1 (0.2)
Other disorders of the ear and mastoid process	524 (79)	0.3 (0.0)
<b>Diseases of the circulatory system:</b>		
Heart valve disorders		
Essential hypertension	1,131 (196)	0.8 (0.1)
Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure	* ...	* ...
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 stage 4 chronic kidney disease or unspecified chronic kidney disease	* ...	* ...
Secondary hypertension	* ...	* ...
Hypertensive crisis	* ...	* ...
Angina pectoris not stated as with chronic ischemic heart disease	* ...	* ...
Acute myocardial infarction	378 (96)	0.3 (0.1)
Other acute and subacute ischemic heart disease	* ...	* ...
Coronary atherosclerosis and other chronic ischemic heart disease (with angina pectoris)	* ...	* ...
Pulmonary heart disease and diseases of pulmonary circulation	* ...	* ...
Conduction disorders	* ...	* ...
Cardiac dysrhythmias, excluding ventricular fibrillation	816 (122)	0.5 (0.1)
Cardiac arrest and ventricular fibrillation	* ...	* ...
Heart failure, non-hypertensive	565 (91)	0.4 (0.1)
Pericarditis, endocarditis, myocarditis and cardiomyopathy	* ...	* ...
Other and ill-defined heart disease	* ...	* ...
Cerebrovascular disease	415 (78)	0.3 (0.1)
Diseases of the arteries, arterioles and capillaries	* ...	* ...
Varicose veins of lower extremity	* ...	* ...
Other disorder of circulatory system	935 (115)	0.6 (0.1)
<b>Diseases of the respiratory system:</b>		
Streptococcal pharyngitis and tonsillitis	793 (130)	0.5 (0.1)
Acute sinusitis	322 (71)	0.2 (0.0)
Acute pharyngitis, except streptococcal pharyngitis	1,703 (219)	1.1 (0.1)
Acute tonsillitis, except streptococcal tonsillitis	* ...	* ...
Influenza	1,228 (163)	0.8 (0.1)
Pneumonia	1,798 (256)	1.2 (0.1)
Acute bronchitis and bronchiolitis	1,299 (173)	0.9 (0.1)
Other acute respiratory infections	2,976 (319)	2.0 (0.2)
Allergic rhinitis	* ...	* ...
Chronic sinusitis	* ...	* ...
Chronic and unspecified bronchitis	684 (138)	0.5 (0.1)
Bronchiectasis, emphysema and other chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, including chronic obstructive asthma	988 (144)	0.7 (0.1)
Asthma, excluding chronic obstructive asthma	1,836 (235)	1.2 (0.1)
Respiratory failure	* ...	* ...
Croup	626 (95)	0.4 (0.1)
Other diseases of the respiratory system	679 (117)	0.5 (0.1)
<b>Diseases of the digestive system:</b>		
Diseases of the teeth and supporting structures, excluding dentofacial anomalies and disorders of the jaw	1,720 (212)	1.1 (0.1)
Esophagitis without gastroesophageal reflux disease	* ...	* ...
Gastroesophageal reflux disease (with esophagitis)	461 (71)	0.3 (0.0)
Other diseases of the esophagus	* ...	* ...
Ulcers of stomach and small intestine	* ...	* ...
Gastritis and duodenitis	396 (98)	0.3 (0.1)
Appendicitis	254 (57)	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, 2019—Con.**

Primary diagnosis group <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
<b>Diseases of the digestive system—Con.:</b>		
Diaphragmatic hernia . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Hernias of abdominal cavity, except diaphragmatic hernia . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other and unspecified noninfectious enteritis and colitis . . . . .	1,013 (157)	0.7 (0.1)
Intestinal obstructions . . . . .	436 (85)	0.3 (0.1)
Diverticula of intestine . . . . .	481 (72)	0.3 (0.0)
Constipation . . . . .	1,055 (113)	0.7 (0.1)
Anal and rectal diseases . . . . .	428 (80)	0.3 (0.1)
Hemorrhoids and perianal venous thrombosis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Alcoholic liver disease . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other diseases of the liver . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Disorders of gallbladder and biliary tract . . . . .	622 (93)	0.4 (0.1)
Diseases of the pancreas . . . . .	297 (62)	0.2 (0.0)
Unspecified gastrointestinal bleeding . . . . .	584 (84)	0.4 (0.1)
Other diseases of the digestive system . . . . .	360 (71)	0.2 (0.0)
<b>Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue:</b>		
Cellulitis . . . . .	1,750 (164)	1.2 (0.1)
Cutaneous abscess . . . . .	908 (117)	0.6 (0.1)
Other local infections of the skin and subcutaneous tissue . . . . .	570 (116)	0.4 (0.1)
Contact dermatitis and other eczema . . . . .	229 (53)	0.2 (0.0)
Psoriasis and other similar disorders . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Urticaria . . . . .	275 (58)	0.2 (0.0)
Other inflammatory conditions of skin and subcutaneous tissue . . . . .	509 (84)	0.3 (0.1)
Actinic keratosis and other sun exposure-related disorders . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Acne . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Sebaceous cyst . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Corns, callosities and other hypertrophic and atrophic skin condition . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Pressure ulcers . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other disorders of the skin and subcutaneous tissue . . . . .	432 (84)	0.3 (0.1)
<b>Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue:</b>		
Rheumatoid arthritis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Infectious and inflammatory arthropathies, excluding rheumatoid and juvenile arthritis . . . . .	331 (74)	0.2 (0.1)
Osteoarthritis . . . . .	252 (54)	0.2 (0.0)
Acquired deformities of fingers and toes . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Internal derangement of knee . . . . .	3,039 (288)	2.0 (0.1)
Other joint disorders . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Spinal stenosis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Spondylopathies, excluding spinal stenosis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Intervertebral disc disorders . . . . .	1,410 (166)	0.9 (0.1)
Low back pain, unspecified . . . . .	2,501 (286)	1.7 (0.2)
Other conditions of the spine and back, excluding low back pain . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Synovitis and tenosynovitis . . . . .	285 (65)	0.2 (0.0)
Soft tissue disorders related to use, overuse and pressure . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Ganglion and cyst of synovium, tendon and bursa . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Myalgia and myositis, unspecified . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Disorders of bone and cartilage, excluding osteoporosis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Generalized pain and acute and chronic pain syndromes . . . . .	554 (98)	0.4 (0.1)
Other diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue . . . . .	2,649 (244)	1.8 (0.1)
<b>Diseases of the genitourinary system:</b>		
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, and nephrosis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Infections of kidney . . . . .	513 (107)	0.3 (0.1)
Acute kidney failure . . . . .	527 (134)	0.4 (0.1)
Chronic kidney disease, excluding ESRD . . . . .	* ...	* ...
ESRD . . . . .	780 (108)	0.5 (0.1)
Unspecified kidney failure, including uremia, not otherwise specified . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Calculus of kidney and ureter . . . . .	769 (112)	0.5 (0.1)
Cystitis . . . . .	769 (125)	0.5 (0.1)
Urinary tract infection, site not specified . . . . .	2,257 (225)	1.5 (0.1)
Other diseases of the urinary system . . . . .	478 (94)	0.3 (0.1)
Benign prostatic hyperplasia . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Disorders of prepuce . . . . .	* ...	* ...

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 12. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2019—Con.**

Primary diagnosis group <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
<b>Diseases of the genitourinary system—Con.:</b>		
Other disorders of male genital organs . . . . .	589 (93)	0.4(0.1)
Unspecified lump or mass in breast . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Disorders of the breast, excluding unspecified lump or mass . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Inflammatory disease of female pelvic organs . . . . .	257 (53)	0.2 (0.0)
Endometriosis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other noninflammatory disorders of female genital organs . . . . .	334 (57)	0.2 (0.0)
Disorders of menstruation and abnormal bleeding . . . . .	721 (105)	0.5 (0.1)
Menopausal and postmenopausal disorders . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other disorders of female genital tract . . . . .	* ...	* ...
<b>Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium:</b>		
Nonuterine pregnancy . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Missed abortion . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Supervision of high-risk pregnancy . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Pre-existing diabetes mellitus, types 1 and 2, complicating pregnancy . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Early or threatened labor . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other complications of pregnancy . . . . .	2,428 (370)	1.6 (0.2)
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Certain other conditions originating in the perinatal period . . . . .	* ...	* ...
<b>Congenital anomalies:</b>		
Congenital anomalies . . . . .	* ...	* ...
<b>Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions:</b>		
Abnormal heart beat and heart sounds . . . . .	911 (126)	0.6 (0.1)
Epistaxis . . . . .	498 (78)	0.3 (0.1)
Cough, unspecified . . . . .	1,427 (215)	1.0 (0.1)
Dyspnea and respiratory abnormalities . . . . .	1,554 (154)	1.0 (0.1)
Chest pain . . . . .	5,874 (488)	3.9 (0.2)
Abdominal pain . . . . .	7,279 (637)	4.8 (0.3)
Unspecified jaundice, edema and other non-specific skin symptoms . . . . .	2,037 (275)	1.4 (0.1)
Hematuria . . . . .	341 (67)	0.2 (0.0)
Symptoms involving the urinary system, excluding hematuria and urinary incontinence . . . . .	639 (92)	0.4 (0.1)
Vertigo and lightheadedness . . . . .	1,318 (147)	0.9 (0.1)
Fever of other and unknown origin . . . . .	2,431 (297)	1.6 (0.2)
Headache . . . . .	2,122 (243)	1.4 (0.1)
Malaise and fatigue . . . . .	961 (130)	0.6 (0.1)
Syncope and collapse . . . . .	1,686 (210)	1.1 (0.1)
Convulsions and seizures, not elsewhere classified . . . . .	764 (107)	0.5 (0.1)
Unspecified nausea, vomiting, diarrhea . . . . .	3,511 (318)	2.3 (0.2)
Other symptoms, signs, abnormal findings and ill-defined conditions . . . . .	5,474 (546)	3.6 (0.3)
<b>Injury and poisoning:</b>		
Injury of eye and orbit . . . . .	288 (58)	0.2 (0.0)
Head injury, not otherwise specified . . . . .	1,678 (222)	1.1 (0.1)
Contusions (bruise, hematoma) . . . . .	2,423 (232)	1.6 (0.1)
Contusions (bruise, hematoma) of face and head . . . . .	662 (85)	0.4 (0.1)
Superficial injuries, excluding contusions (abrasion, blister, external constriction, splinter, superficial bite) . . . . .	1,223 (146)	0.8 (0.1)
Open wound of head . . . . .	1,883 (225)	1.3 (0.1)
Open wound of wrist, hand and fingers . . . . .	1,574 (148)	1.0 (0.1)
Open wound of hip and lower limb . . . . .	804 (119)	0.5 (0.1)
Open wound, excluding head, hand, fingers, lower limb and internal organs . . . . .	467 (82)	0.3 (0.1)
Traumatic fracture of shoulder and upper arm (clavicle, scapula, humerus) . . . . .	406 (97)	0.3 (0.1)
Traumatic fracture of forearm (radius and ulna) . . . . .	613 (99)	0.4 (0.1)
Traumatic fracture of wrist, hand and fingers (carpal, metacarpals, phalanges) . . . . .	615 (78)	0.4 (0.1)
Traumatic fracture of hip (head and neck of femur) . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Traumatic fracture of ankle (medial malleolus, lateral malleolus, bimalleolar, trimalleolar) . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Traumatic fracture of leg, foot and toes, excluding hip and ankle (femur, patella, tibia, fibula, tarsals, metatarsals, phalanges) . . . . .	662 (88)	0.4 (0.1)
Other traumatic fractures (skull, facial bones, vertebrae, ribs, sternum, pelvis) . . . . .	873 (111)	0.6 (0.1)
Tear of medial meniscus, current injury . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Dislocations, excluding tear of medial meniscus . . . . .	542 (106)	0.4 (0.1)
Sprains and strains of neck . . . . .	694 (107)	0.5 (0.1)
Sprains and strains of back . . . . .	751 (118)	0.5 (0.1)

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 12. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2019—Con.**

Primary diagnosis group <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
<b>Injury and poisoning—Con.:</b>		
Sprains and strains of wrist and hand . . . . .	271 (49)	0.2 (0.0)
Sprains and strains of knee . . . . .	278 (66)	0.2 (0.0)
Strains and sprains of ankle . . . . .	983 (113)	0.7 (0.1)
Sprain and strains, excluding neck, back, wrist, hand, knee, ankle . . . . .	683 (89)	0.5 (0.1)
Concussion . . . . .	430 (74)	0.3 (0.0)
Intracranial injury, excluding concussion . . . . .	199 (49)	0.1 (0.0)
Internal injury of chest, abdomen and pelvis . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other injuries, excluding burns and poisonings . . . . .	3,121 (262)	2.1 (0.2)
Burns and corruptions, external and internal, excluding sunburn . . . . .	414 (77)	0.3 (0.0)
Poisoning (overdose or wrong substance given or taken in error) due to drugs and biological substances, accidental (unintentional) . . . . .	529 (94)	0.4 (0.1)
Poisoning (overdose or wrong substance given or taken in error) due to drugs and biological substances, intentional self-harm . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Poisoning (overdose or wrong substance given or taken in error) due to drugs and biological substances, undetermined intent . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Adverse effects (of correct substance properly administered) of drugs and biological substances . . . . .	342 (110)	0.2 (0.1)
Toxic effects of substances chiefly non-medical, accidental (unintentional) . . . . .	* ...	* ...
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 . . . . .	1,224 (151)	0.8 (0.1)
Complications of surgical and medical care . . . . .	766 (98)	0.5 (0.1)
<b>External-cause codes:</b>		
Accidental (unintentional) injury due to slipping, tripping, stumbling or fall . . . . .	* ...	* ...
<b>Supplementary classifications:</b>		
Encounter for general adult medical examinations, including routine gynecological examination . . . . .	297 (79)	0.2 (0.1)
Encounter for routine child examination, excluding newborns . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Encounter and observation for suspected conditions ruled out . . . . .	515 (97)	0.3 (0.1)
Encounter for specific procedures and aftercare and follow-up examination after completed treatment, excluding for injuries . . . . .	1,097 (154)	0.7 (0.1)
Potential health hazards related to communicable diseases . . . . .	187 (40)	0.1 (0.0)
Encounter for contraceptive management . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other encounter related to pregnancy, excluding incidental pregnancy . . . . .	* ...	* ...
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 without residual deficits . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Other factors influencing health status and contact with health services . . . . .	2,354 (234)	1.6 (0.1)
Uncodable entries <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	1,044 (301)	0.7 (0.2)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	804 (159)	0.5 (0.1)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

<sup>1</sup>Based on *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-10-CM). Codes have been combined in this table according to the National Center for Health Statistics 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](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 before 2016.

<sup>2</sup>Diagnosis groups for this chapter are not shown due to low sample sizes

<sup>3</sup>Includes 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.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2018.

**Table 13. Presence of chronic conditions at emergency department visits: United States, 2019**

Chronic condition <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...
Alcohol misuse, abuse, or dependence . . . . .	5,126 (433)	3.4 (0.3)
Alzheimer disease or dementia . . . . .	1,924 (206)	1.3 (0.1)
Asthma . . . . .	14,972 (1,067)	9.9 (0.4)
Cancer . . . . .	6,278 (483)	4.2 (0.3)
Cerebrovascular disease or history of stroke or transient ischemic attack . . . . .	5,034 (446)	3.3 (0.3)
Chronic kidney disease . . . . .	5,018 (476)	3.3 (0.3)
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease . . . . .	8,786 (646)	5.8 (0.3)
Congestive heart failure . . . . .	6,141 (520)	4.1 (0.3)
Coronary artery disease, ischemic heart disease or history of myocardial infarction . . . . .	9,708 (730)	6.4 (0.4)
Depression . . . . .	15,433 (1,114)	10.2 (0.5)
Diabetes mellitus—Type 1 . . . . .	805 (120)	0.5 (0.1)
Diabetes mellitus—Type 2 . . . . .	9,566 (841)	6.3 (0.4)
Diabetes mellitus—Type unspecified . . . . .	8,504 (817)	5.6 (0.5)
End-stage renal disease . . . . .	1,580 (243)	1.0 (0.2)
History of pulmonary embolism, deep vein thrombosis, or venous thromboembolism . . . . .	2,472 (271)	1.6 (0.2)
HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) or AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) . . . . .	850 (138)	0.6 (0.1)
Hyperlipidemia . . . . .	15,003 (1,134)	10.0 (0.6)
Hypertension . . . . .	38,892 (2,556)	25.8 (1.1)
Obesity . . . . .	8,677 (1,127)	5.8 (0.6)
Obstructive sleep apnea . . . . .	3,803 (414)	2.5 (0.2)
Osteoporosis . . . . .	1,184 (124)	0.8 (0.1)
Substance abuse or dependence . . . . .	8,771 (910)	5.8 (0.5)
None of the above . . . . .	71,984 (5,327)	47.8 (1.5)
Blank . . . . .	*2,983 (1,345)	* ...

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

<sup>1</sup>Presence of chronic conditions is based on the checklist of chronic conditions and reported diagnoses.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 14. Injury visits to emergency departments, by selected patient and hospital characteristics: United States, 2019**

Patient and hospital characteristics	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Number of visits per 100 people <sup>1</sup> (standard error)
All injury visits <sup>2</sup>	40,988 (2,505)	100.0 ...	12.7 (0.8)
Age group (years)			
Under 15	8,261 (976)	20.2 (1.7)	13.6 (1.6)
Under 1	563 (147)	1.4 (0.3)	14.9 (3.9)
1–4	2,555 (308)	6.2 (0.6)	16.2 (2.0)
5–14	5,144 (611)	12.5 (1.1)	12.6 (1.5)
15–24	6,177 (484)	15.1 (0.7)	14.8 (1.2)
25–44	10,755 (675)	26.2 (1.0)	12.6 (0.8)
45–64	8,561 (594)	20.9 (0.9)	10.4 (0.7)
65 and over	7,234 (527)	17.7 (0.9)	13.7 (1.0)
65–74	3,338 (306)	8.1 (0.5)	10.7 (1.0)
75 and over	3,896 (325)	9.5 (0.7)	18.1 (1.5)
Sex and age group (years)			
Female	20,282 (1,321)	49.5 (0.8)	12.3 (0.8)
Under 15	3,793 (505)	9.3 (1.0)	12.8 (1.7)
15–24	2,973 (272)	7.3 (0.4)	14.3 (1.3)
25–44	5,028 (385)	12.3 (0.7)	11.6 (0.9)
45–64	4,199 (345)	10.2 (0.6)	9.9 (0.8)
65–74	1,764 (189)	4.3 (0.4)	10.6 (1.1)
75 and over	2,525 (249)	6.2 (0.6)	20.3 (2.0)
Male	20,706 (1,266)	50.5 (0.8)	13.1 (0.8)
Under 15	4,468 (513)	10.9 (0.9)	14.4 (1.7)
15–24	3,204 (261)	7.8 (0.4)	15.3 (1.2)
25–44	5,727 (377)	14.0 (0.7)	13.5 (0.9)
45–64	4,362 (333)	10.6 (0.6)	10.9 (0.8)
65–74	1,574 (189)	3.8 (0.4)	10.8 (1.3)
75 and over	1,371 (134)	3.3 (0.3)	15.1 (1.5)
Ownership			
Voluntary	28,086 (2,263)	68.5 (4.8)	8.7 (0.7)
Proprietary	7,565 (1,643)	18.5 (3.9)	2.3 (0.5)
Government	*5,337 (1,676)	* ...	1.7 (0.5)
Geographic region			
Northeast	6,877 (529)	16.8 (1.5)	12.4 (1.0)
Midwest	8,088 (865)	19.7 (2.1)	12.0 (1.3)
South	17,636 (1,880)	43.0 (3.2)	14.3 (1.5)
West	8,387 (1,320)	20.5 (2.8)	10.9 (1.7)
Metropolitan status <sup>3</sup>			
Metropolitan statistical area	33,638 (2,579)	82.1 (3.0)	12.1 (0.9)
Nonmetropolitan statistical area	7,350 (1,231)	17.9 (3.0)	16.0 (2.7)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

<sup>1</sup>Visit rates for age, sex, and region are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as of July 1, 2019, from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

<sup>2</sup>The 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. Before 2016, injury visits were based on ICD–9–CM. In 2019, injury visits were based on ICD–10–CM and information indicating that the visit was related to an injury, trauma, overdose, or poisoning according to the Patient Record Form item, "Is this visit related to an injury/trauma, overdose/poisoning, or adverse effect of medical/surgical treatment?" and additional consideration of values for visits with no concrete evidence of injury. "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 represented 27.2% of all emergency department visits. For more details, see the 2019 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: [https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health\\_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset\\_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf](https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf).

<sup>3</sup>Population estimates by metropolitan statistical area (MSA) status are based on data from the 2019 National Health Interview Survey, and compiled according to the Office of Management and Budget's definition of core-based statistical areas as of February 2013. For more details about MSA definitions, see <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro.html>.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 15. Injury visits to emergency departments, by race, age, and ethnicity: United States, 2019**

Patient characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Number of visits per 100 people <sup>1</sup> (standard error)
All injury visits <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	40,988 (2,505)	100.0 ...	12.7 (0.8)
Race <sup>3</sup> and age group (years):			
White . . . . .	30,635 (2,169)	74.7 (1.8)	12.4 (0.9)
Under 15 . . . . .	5,980 (827)	14.6 (1.6)	13.7 (1.9)
15–24 . . . . .	4,369 (371)	10.7 (0.6)	14.3 (1.2)
25–44 . . . . .	7,562 (585)	18.4 (1.0)	11.9 (0.9)
45–64 . . . . .	6,549 (528)	16.0 (0.8)	10.1 (0.8)
65–74 . . . . .	2,712 (273)	6.6 (0.5)	10.4 (1.1)
75 and over . . . . .	3,464 (307)	8.5 (0.7)	18.9 (1.7)
Black or African American . . . . .	8,803 (818)	21.5 (1.7)	20.6 (1.9)
Under 15 . . . . .	1,875 (292)	4.6 (0.6)	20.5 (3.2)
15–24 . . . . .	1,573 (201)	3.8 (0.4)	25.6 (3.3)
25–44 . . . . .	2,785 (273)	6.8 (0.6)	23.0 (2.3)
45–64 . . . . .	1,762 (213)	4.3 (0.5)	17.1 (2.1)
65–74 . . . . .	535 (96)	1.3 (0.2)	16.9 (3.0)
75 and over . . . . .	272 (65)	0.7 (0.2)	14.7 (3.5)
Other race groups <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	1,550 (224)	3.8 (0.6)	4.6 (0.7)
Ethnicity <sup>3</sup> :			
Hispanic . . . . .	6,446 (923)	15.7 (1.8)	10.8 (1.5)
Not Hispanic . . . . .	34,542 (2,080)	84.3 (1.8)	13.1 (0.8)
White . . . . .	24,617 (1,736)	60.1 (2.2)	12.7 (0.9)
Black or African American . . . . .	8,475 (796)	20.7 (1.6)	21.3 (2.0)
Other race groups <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	1,450 (206)	3.5 (0.5)	5.0 (0.7)

... Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Visit rates are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutional population as of July 1, 2019, from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

<sup>2</sup>The 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. Before 2016, injury visits were based on ICD–9–CM. In 2019, injury visits were based on ICD–10–CM and information indicating that the visit was related to an injury, trauma, overdose, or poisoning according to the Patient Record Form item, "Is this visit related to an injury/trauma, overdose/poisoning, or adverse effect of medical/surgical treatment?" and additional consideration of values for visits with no concrete evidence of injury. "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 represented 26.9% of all emergency department visits. For more details, see the 2019 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/doc19-ed-508.pdf](https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf).

<sup>3</sup>The race groups White, Black or African American, and Other race groups include people of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race. For 2019, race data were missing for 19.3% of injury visits, and ethnicity data were missing for 16.4% of injury visits. The National Center for Health Statistics uses model-based single imputation for National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey race and ethnicity data. The race imputation is restricted to three categories (White, Black, and Other race groups) based on research by an internal work group and on quality concerns with imputed estimates for race categories other than White or Black. The imputation technique is detailed in the 2019 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: [https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health\\_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset\\_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf](https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf).

<sup>4</sup>Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and people with more than one race.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.



**Table 16. Emergency department visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect, by intent: United States, 2019**

Intent <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All injury visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	44,134 (2,728)	100.0 ...
Unintentional . . . . .	30,298(1,904)	68.7(0.9)
Self-harm . . . . .	363 (65)	0.8 (0.1)
Assault . . . . .	1,351 (139)	3.1 (0.3)
Legal intervention or war . . . . .	* ...	* ...
Undetermined or other <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	745 (123)	1.7 (0.3)
Blank cause . . . . .	11,337 (864)	25.7 (1.0)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

<sup>1</sup>Based 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](https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/pdf/ICD-10-CM_External_Cause_Injury_Codes-a.pdf).

<sup>2</sup>The definition of visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effects 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. Before 2016, injury visits were based on ICD-9-CM. Starting in 2016, injury visits were based on ICD-10-CM and information indicating that the visit was related to an injury, trauma, overdose, poisoning, or adverse effect of medical or surgical treatment based on the Patient Record Form item, "Is this visit related to an injury/trauma, overdose/poisoning, or adverse effect of medical/surgical treatment?", with additional consideration of values for visits with no concrete evidence of injury. Using this definition, injury visits represented 29.3% (standard error = 0.6) of all emergency department visits in 2019.

<sup>3</sup>Other 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 2019 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use data file documentation, available from: [https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health\\_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset\\_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf](https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf).

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 17. Emergency department visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect, by mechanism: United States, 2019**

Mechanism <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All injury visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	44,134 (2,728)	100.0 ...
Cut or pierce . . . . .	2,159 (228)	4.9 (0.4)
Drowning or submersion . . . . .	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Fall . . . . .	11,439 (796)	25.9 (0.8)
Fire or burn . . . . .	433 (81)	1.0 (0.2)
Fire or flame . . . . .	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Hot object or substance . . . . .	326 (72)	0.7 (0.2)
Firearm . . . . .	* ...	0.3 (0.1)
Machinery . . . . .	* ...	0.3 (0.1)
All transportation . . . . .	4,889 (389)	11.1 (0.6)
Motor vehicle—traffic . . . . .	3,666 (283)	8.3 (0.5)
Motor vehicle—nontraffic . . . . .	517 (97)	1.2 (0.2)
Pedal cyclist, other . . . . .	381 (103)	0.9 (0.2)
Pedestrian, other . . . . .	* ...	0.1 (0.1)
Other land transport . . . . .	* ...	0.4 (0.1)
Other transport . . . . .	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Natural or environmental <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	1,730 (260)	3.9 (0.5)
Overexertion . . . . .	2,196 (229)	5.0 (0.4)
Struck by or against . . . . .	4,571 (292)	10.4 (0.6)
Other specified <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	899 (121)	2.0 (0.3)
Unspecified or other <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	4,171 (393)	9.5 (0.6)
Blank cause . . . . .	11,337 (864)	25.7 (1.0)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

<sup>1</sup>Based on the proposed *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-10-CM) External Cause of Injury Matrix. For more information, see: [https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/pdf/ICD-10-CM\\_External\\_Cause\\_Injury\\_Codes-a.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/pdf/ICD-10-CM_External_Cause_Injury_Codes-a.pdf).

<sup>2</sup>The definition of visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effects 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. Before 2016, injury visits were based on ICD-9-CM. Starting in 2016, injury visits were based on ICD-10-CM and information indicating that the visit was related to an injury, trauma, overdose, poisoning, or adverse effect of medical or surgical treatment according to the Patient Record Form item, "Is this visit related to an injury/trauma, overdose/poisoning, or adverse effect of medical/surgical treatment?" and additional consideration of values for visits with no concrete evidence of injury. Using this definition, injury visits represented 29.3% (standard error = 0.6) of all emergency department visits in 2019.

<sup>3</sup>Includes bites and stings (venomous and nonvenomous), natural or environmental, and other.

<sup>4</sup>Includes child or adult abuse, foreign body, classifiable, and not elsewhere classifiable.

<sup>5</sup>Other 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 2019 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use data file documentation, available from: [https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health\\_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset\\_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf](https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc19-ed-508.pdf).

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 18. Selected diagnostic and screening services ordered or provided at emergency department visits: United States, 2019**

Diagnostic and screening services ordered or provided	Number of visits <sup>1</sup> (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	... ..
One or more diagnostic or screening service listed. . . . .	112,351 (6,983)	74.6 (1.1)
None . . . . .	35,172 (2,670)	23.3 (1.0)
Blank . . . . .	*3,127 (1,482)	2.1 (1.0)
Blood tests:		
Complete blood count. . . . .	64,847 (4,565)	43.0 (1.4)
Creatinine or renal function panel. . . . .	5,890 (1,202)	3.9 (0.8)
Glucose, serum. . . . .	9,022 (1,023)	6.0 (0.7)
Electrolytes . . . . .	1,868 (499)	1.2 (0.3)
Prothrombin time (PT/PTT/INR) <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	14,281 (1,335)	9.5 (0.8)
Liver enzymes or hepatic function panel . . . . .	5,929 (753)	3.9 (0.5)
Cardiac enzymes . . . . .	8,000 (1,066)	5.3 (0.7)
Comprehensive metabolic panel . . . . .	46,963 (4,155)	31.2 (1.7)
Blood culture . . . . .	7,780 (813)	5.2 (0.4)
Brain natriuretic peptide . . . . .	5,886 (654)	3.9 (0.4)
D-dimer . . . . .	3,314 (399)	2.2 (0.2)
Arterial blood gases . . . . .	2,460 (369)	1.6 (0.2)
Blood alcohol concentration . . . . .	3,411 (486)	2.3 (0.3)
Basic metabolic panel. . . . .	18,323 (1,898)	12.2 (1.1)
Lactate . . . . .	5,807 (636)	3.9 (0.4)
Other blood test . . . . .	35,980 (3,551)	23.9 (1.5)
Any blood test listed . . . . .	72,274 (4,851)	48.0 (1.3)
Imaging:		
X-ray . . . . .	52,917 (3,317)	35.1 (0.9)
Computed tomography (CT) scan . . . . .	31,244 (2,235)	20.7 (0.8)
Abdomen or pelvis. . . . .	13,375 (1,157)	8.9 (0.5)
Chest . . . . .	4,836 (638)	3.2 (0.4)
Head . . . . .	13,491 (913)	9.0 (0.4)
Other . . . . .	5,880 (448)	3.9 (0.3)
Intravenous (IV) contrast with CT . . . . .	9,393 (785)	6.2 (0.4)
Ultrasound . . . . .	9,437 (998)	6.3 (0.4)
Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan . . . . .	1,566 (231)	1.0 (0.1)
IV contrast with MRI . . . . .	260 (56)	0.2 (0.0)
Other Imaging . . . . .	1,874 (281)	1.2 (0.2)
Any imaging . . . . .	77,414 (4,999)	51.4 (1.1)
Examinations and tests:		
Cardiac monitor . . . . .	13,428 (1,607)	8.9 (1.0)
Urinalysis or urine dipstick . . . . .	41,449 (2,948)	27.5 (0.9)
Electrocardiogram. . . . .	33,903 (2,316)	22.5 (1.2)
Urine culture . . . . .	18,553 (2,243)	12.3 (1.1)
Pregnancy or HCG test <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	14,672 (1,403)	9.7 (0.6)
Toxicology screen . . . . .	8,394 (879)	5.6 (0.4)
Influenza test . . . . .	7,400 (964)	4.9 (0.5)
Throat culture . . . . .	2,322 (322)	1.5 (0.2)
Wound culture. . . . .	554 (91)	0.4 (0.1)
Other culture . . . . .	1,483 (189)	1.0 (0.1)
HIV test . . . . .	823 (121)	0.5 (0.1)
Other test or service . . . . .	23,357 (2,382)	15.5 (1.2)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

<sup>1</sup>Total number of visits exceeds "All visits" because more than one service may be reported per visit.

<sup>2</sup>PTT is partial thromboplastin time. INR is international normalized ratio.

<sup>3</sup>HCG is human chorionic gonadotropin.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 19. Selected procedures at emergency department visits: United States, 2019**

Procedure performed	Number of visits <sup>1</sup> (standard error) in thousands	Percent (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...
One or more procedures listed . . . . .	68,784 (5,219)	45.7 (1.7)
Intravenous fluids . . . . .	43,660 (3,834)	29.0 (1.4)
Cast, splint, wrap . . . . .	5,902 (452)	3.9 (0.2)
Suturing or staples . . . . .	3,133 (283)	2.1 (0.2)
Incision and drainage . . . . .	1,158 (143)	0.8 (0.1)
Nebulizer therapy . . . . .	6,267 (673)	4.2 (0.3)
Bladder catheter . . . . .	2,045 (251)	1.4 (0.2)
Pelvic examination . . . . .	1,285 (208)	0.9 (0.1)
Central line . . . . .	*1,492 (775)	1.0 (0.5)
Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) . . . . .	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Endotracheal intubation . . . . .	374 (86)	0.2 (0.1)
Skin adhesives . . . . .	1,792 (469)	1.2 (0.3)
BiPAP or CPAP <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	588 (117)	0.4 (0.1)
Lumbar puncture . . . . .	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Other <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	17,232 (2,772)	11.4 (1.7)
None <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	76,389 (5,010)	50.7 (1.8)
Blank <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	*5,477 (1,674)	3.6 (1.1)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

<sup>1</sup>Total number of visits exceeds "All visits" and percentage exceeds 100% because more than one service may be reported per visit.

<sup>2</sup>BiPAP is variable or bilevel positive airway pressure, and CPAP is continuous positive airway pressure.

<sup>3</sup>Includes all other procedures not listed above.

<sup>4</sup>The "None" checkbox was marked on the Patient Record Form (PRF).

<sup>5</sup>No checkboxes were marked on the PRF.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 20. Medication therapy and number of medications mentioned at emergency department visits: United States, 2019**

Medication therapy <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...
Visits with mention of medication <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	118,793 (7,582)	78.9 (1.0)
Visits without mention of medication . . . . .	31,857 (2,349)	21.1 (1.0)
Number of medications provided or prescribed <sup>3</sup> . . . . .		
0 . . . . .	31,857 (2,349)	21.1 (1.0)
1 . . . . .	31,198 (1,976)	20.7 (0.6)
2 . . . . .	28,714 (1,843)	19.1 (0.4)
3 . . . . .	20,256 (1,438)	13.4 (0.4)
4 . . . . .	13,265 (1,049)	8.8 (0.3)
5 . . . . .	8,586 (737)	5.7 (0.3)
6 . . . . .	5,264 (500)	3.5 (0.2)
7 . . . . .	3,373 (357)	2.2 (0.2)
8 . . . . .	2,235 (305)	1.5 (0.2)
9 . . . . .	1,390 (219)	0.9 (0.1)
10 . . . . .	826 (128)	0.5 (0.1)
11 . . . . .	793 (149)	0.5 (0.1)
12 . . . . .	509 (105)	0.3 (0.1)
13 or more . . . . .	2,384 (509)	1.6 (0.3)

... Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Includes prescription drugs, over-the-counter preparations, immunizations, and desensitizing agents.

<sup>2</sup>Visits at which one or more drugs were given in the emergency department or prescribed at discharge (up to 30 per visit). Also defined as a drug visit.

<sup>3</sup>A total of 385,049,000 drug mentions occurred at emergency department visits in 2019. The average drug mention rate was 2.6 drug mentions per emergency department visit. For visits with at least one drug mention, the average drug visit rate was 3.2 drugs per visit.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 21. Twenty most frequently mentioned drugs at emergency department visits, by therapeutic drug category: United States, 2019**

Drug category <sup>1</sup>	Number of occurrences (standard error) in thousands	Percent of drug mentions <sup>2</sup> (standard error)
Analgesics <sup>3</sup>	97,967 (7,018)	24.9 (0.6)
Minerals and electrolytes	42,255 (3,576)	10.7 (0.5)
Antiemetic or antivertigo agents	40,062 (3,246)	10.2 (0.4)
Miscellaneous respiratory agents	32,891 (3,060)	8.4 (0.5)
Anxiolytics, sedatives, and hypnotics	16,200 (1,414)	4.1 (0.2)
Bronchodilators	14,997 (1,369)	3.8 (0.2)
Adrenal cortical steroids	13,795 (1,156)	3.5 (0.2)
Cephalosporins	13,168 (1,146)	3.3 (0.2)
Antihistamines	10,873 (988)	2.8 (0.1)
Anticonvulsants	10,737 (987)	2.7 (0.1)
Penicillins	9,571 (865)	2.4 (0.1)
Dermatological agents	8,421 (695)	2.1 (0.1)
Antiarrhythmic agents	7,419 (855)	1.9 (0.2)
Local injectable anesthetics	7,120 (490)	1.8 (0.1)
Muscle relaxants	6,657 (451)	1.7 (0.1)
Radiocontrast agents	6,496 (560)	1.7 (0.1)
Antiplatelet agents	6,453 (717)	1.6 (0.1)
Antiparkinson agents	5,972 (677)	1.5 (0.1)
Laxatives	5,807 (552)	1.5 (0.1)
Proton pump inhibitors	4,914 (535)	1.2 (0.1)

<sup>1</sup>Based on Cerner Multum second-level therapeutic drug category (see <https://www.cerner.com/solutions/drug-database>).

<sup>2</sup>Based on an estimated 393,628,000 drug mentions at emergency department visits in 2019. Drug mentions are medications given in emergency departments or prescribed at discharge.

<sup>3</sup>Includes narcotics (7.8%), nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (10.1%), and other analgesics (including salicylates, analgesic combinations, antimigraine agents, Cox-2 inhibitors, and miscellaneous analgesics) (7.0%).

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 22. Twenty most frequently mentioned drugs at emergency department visits: United States, 2019**

Drug name <sup>1</sup>	Number of drug mentions (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Percent of drug mentions (standard error)					Therapeutic drug category <sup>3</sup>
			Total	Given in emergency department	Prescribed at discharge	Both given in emergency department and prescribed at discharge	Unknown <sup>2</sup>	
All drug mentions . . . . .	393,628 (28,802)	100.0 ...	100.0	59.8 (2.1)	29.3 (2.0)	9.2 (0.7)	1.7 (0.8)	...
Sodium chloride . . . . .	32,852 (3,059)	8.3 (0.5)	100.0	98.5 (0.3)	1.1 (0.2)	0.1 (0.1)	0.3 (0.1)	Minerals and electrolytes, Miscellaneous respiratory agents
Ondansetron . . . . .	23,549 (1,954)	6.0 (0.2)	100.0	66.7 (2.1)	13.4 (1.4)	19.5 (1.5)	0.4 (0.2)	Antiemetic or antivertigo agents
Ibuprofen . . . . .	21,156 (1,799)	5.4 (0.3)	100.0	32.6 (2.4)	46.8 (2.1)	20.3 (1.7)	0.4 (0.2)	Analgesics
Acetaminophen . . . . .	20,890 (1,539)	5.3 (0.3)	100.0	54.2 (2.6)	31.4 (2.3)	13.8 (1.4)	0.6 (0.3)	Analgesics
Ketorolac . . . . .	13,572 (1,297)	3.4 (0.2)	100.0	92.3 (1.2)	4.1 (0.8)	3.6 (0.8)	* ...	Analgesics
Albuterol . . . . .	8,291 (837)	2.1 (0.2)	100.0	41.0 (3.8)	39.1 (4.0)	17.5 (2.2)	* ...	Bronchodilators
Morphine . . . . .	7,632 (932)	1.9 (0.2)	100.0	98.2 (0.5)	0.6 (0.3)	1.1 (0.4)	* ...	Analgesics
Acetaminophen-hydrocodone . . . . .	6,748 (679)	1.7 (0.1)	100.0	41.5 (3.6)	42.0 (3.1)	15.8 (2.1)	*0.8 (0.5)	Analgesics
Ceftriaxone . . . . .	6,391 (712)	1.6 (0.1)	100.0	98.0 (0.7)	1.6 (0.7)	0.4 (0.2)	* ...	Cephalosporins
Aspirin . . . . .	5,746 (649)	1.5 (0.1)	100.0	75.1 (4.5)	18.0 (4.4)	3.8 (1.1)	* ...	Analgesics, Antiplatelet agents
Diphenhydramine . . . . .	5,437 (525)	1.4 (0.1)	100.0	66.1 (3.6)	19.9 (3.5)	13.7 (2.0)	* ...	Antiemetic or antivertigo agents, Antihistamines, Antiparkinson agents, Anxiolytics, sedatives, and hypnotics
Prednisone . . . . .	5,302 (506)	1.3 (0.1)	100.0	20.3 (3.1)	55.9 (3.0)	23.4 (2.5)	* ...	Adrenal cortical steroids
Lidocaine . . . . .	5,304 (367)	1.3 (0.1)	100.0	83.9 (1.8)	9.9 (1.2)	5.9 (1.2)	* ...	Antiarrhythmic agents, Local injectable anesthetics
Cephalexin . . . . .	4,927 (416)	1.3 (0.1)	100.0	15.5 (2.1)	65.0 (2.9)	19.5 (2.2)	* ...	Cephalosporins
Azithromycin . . . . .	4,391 (414)	1.1 (0.1)	100.0	48.1 (3.3)	40.2 (3.3)	10.9 (1.7)	* ...	Macrolide derivatives
Albuterol-ipratropium . . . . .	4,449 (421)	1.1 (0.1)	100.0	89.8 (2.0)	* ...	* ...	* ...	Bronchodilators
Methylprednisolone . . . . .	4,298 (486)	1.1 (0.1)	100.0	73.6 (3.3)	21.9 (3.0)	* ...	* ...	Adrenal cortical steroids
Lorazepam . . . . .	4,163 (492)	1.1 (0.1)	100.0	84.7 (2.5)	8.4 (1.8)	6.8 (1.7)	* ...	Anticonvulsants, Antiemetic or antivertigo agents, Anxiolytics, sedatives, and hypnotics
Amoxicillin . . . . .	3,586 (383)	0.9 (0.1)	100.0	9.2 (2.0)	72.9 (3.9)	17.4 (3.2)	* ...	Penicillins
Iohexol . . . . .	3,587 (629)	0.9 (0.2)	100.0	99.2 (0.6)	* ...	* ...	* ...	Radiocontrast agents
All other . . . . .	201,358 (16,319)	51.2 (1.2)	100.0	52.5 (2.7)	36.6 (2.9)	8.0 (0.8)	* ...	...

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.<sup>1</sup>Based on Cerner Multum terminology, the drug name reflects the active ingredients of a drug mention.<sup>2</sup>Includes drugs given or prescribed that did not have either the "given in emergency department" or "prescribed at discharge" checkboxes marked.<sup>3</sup>Based on Cerner Multum second-level therapeutic drug category (available from: <https://www.cerner.com/solutions/drug-database>).

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 23. Providers seen at emergency department visits: United States, 2019**

Type of provider	Number of visits <sup>1</sup> (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	... ..
Any physician . . . . .	127,301 (7,656)	84.5 (1.6)
Emergency department attending physician . . . . .	123,579 (7,581)	82.0 (1.7)
Emergency department resident or intern . . . . .	15,613 (1,860)	10.4 (1.2)
Consulting physician . . . . .	20,345 (2,161)	13.5 (1.0)
Registered nurse or licensed practical nurse . . . . .	139,967 (8,844)	92.9 (1.2)
Any physician seen . . . . .	118,004 (7,233)	78.3 (1.8)
Physician not seen . . . . .	21,962 (3,023)	14.6 (1.6)
Nurse practitioner . . . . .	18,874 (2,670)	12.5 (1.4)
Any physician seen . . . . .	9,906 (1,777)	6.6 (1.0)
Physician not seen . . . . .	8,968 (1,631)	6.0 (1.0)
Physician assistant . . . . .	26,490 (2,866)	17.6 (1.5)
Any physician seen . . . . .	15,203 (1,995)	10.1 (1.2)
Physician not seen . . . . .	11,286 (1,870)	7.5 (1.1)
Emergency medical technician . . . . .	9,568 (1,009)	6.4 (0.6)
Mental health provider . . . . .	2,413 (298)	1.6 (0.2)
Other . . . . .	45,917 (5,172)	30.5 (3.0)
Blank . . . . .	296 (83)	0.2 (0.1)

... Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Total number of visits exceeds "All visits" because more than one provider may be reported per visit.

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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.



**Table 24. Disposition of emergency department visits: United States, 2019**

Disposition	Number of visits <sup>1</sup> (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	150,650 (9,191)	100.0 ...
Admitted, transferred, or died		
Admit to this hospital . . . . .	16,914 (1,411)	11.2 (0.7)
Critical care unit . . . . .	2,383 (394)	1.6 (0.2)
Stepdown or telemetry unit . . . . .	*749 (294)	0.5 (0.2)
Operation room . . . . .	917 (157)	0.6 (0.1)
Mental health or detoxification unit . . . . .	469 (84)	0.3 (0.1)
Cardiac catheterization lab . . . . .	*342 (123)	0.2 (0.1)
Other bed or unit . . . . .	9,319 (1,022)	6.2 (0.6)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	2,735 (492)	1.8 (0.3)
Admit to observation unit . . . . .	3,860 (540)	2.6 (0.3)
Then hospitalized . . . . .	1,171 (215)	0.8 (0.1)
Then discharged . . . . .	2,689 (407)	1.8 (0.3)
Return or transfer to nursing home . . . . .	758 (150)	0.5 (0.1)
Transfer to psychiatric hospital . . . . .	1,354 (193)	0.9 (0.1)
Transfer to other hospital . . . . .	2,603 (283)	1.7 (0.2)
Dead in emergency department <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	215 (44)	0.1 (0.0)
Outpatient follow-up		
Return or refer to physician or clinic for follow-up . . . . .	103,904 (7,080)	69.0 (1.9)
No follow-up planned . . . . .	12,673 (2,049)	8.4 (1.3)
Left prior to completing visit		
Left without being seen . . . . .	1,899 (293)	1.3 (0.2)
Left before treatment complete . . . . .	1,141 (196)	0.8 (0.1)
Left against medical advice . . . . .	1,443 (170)	1.0 (0.1)
Other . . . . .	*3,196 (1,110)	2.1 (0.7)
Blank . . . . .	*2,452 (1,327)	1.6 (0.9)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

<sup>1</sup>Total number of visits exceeds "All visits" and percent of visits exceeds 100% because more than one disposition may be reported per visit.

<sup>2</sup>Includes "Dead on arrival."

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 25. Emergency department visits resulting in hospital admission, by selected patient and visit characteristics: United States, 2019**

Patient and visit characteristics	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Mean length of stay <sup>1</sup> in days (standard error)	Admissions as percent of visits (standard error)
All admissions	16,914 (1,411)	100.0 ...	4.9 (0.2)	11.2 (0.7)
Age group (years)				
Under 15	*1,137 (360)	*6.7 (2.0)	3.9 (0.5)	3.8 (1.0)
15–24	806 (140)	4.8 (0.7)	3.1 (0.3)	4.1 (0.6)
25–44	2,837 (306)	16.8 (1.2)	3.8 (0.3)	7.2 (0.7)
45–64	4,640 (447)	27.4 (1.4)	5.4 (0.3)	13.8 (1.0)
65–74	3,402 (368)	20.1 (1.2)	5.5 (0.4)	25.3 (1.8)
75 and over	4,092 (389)	24.2 (1.7)	5.0 (0.2)	28.6 (1.8)
Residence				
Private	15,086 (1,290)	89.2 (1.8)	4.7 (0.2)	10.7 (0.7)
Nursing home	829 (137)	4.9 (0.7)	7.2 (1.0)	37.3 (3.8)
Homeless	143 (35)	0.8 (0.2)	10.1 (3.2)	9.9 (2.4)
Other	354 (94)	2.1 (0.5)	4.4 (0.8)	17.4 (3.6)
Unknown or blank	*502 (288)	* ...	5.9 (1.1)	13.4 (3.3)
Expected sources of payment <sup>2</sup>				
Private insurance	5,195 (485)	30.7 (2.1)	4.6 (0.2)	11.7 (1.0)
Medicare	7,416 (641)	43.8 (2.3)	5.3 (0.2)	24.9 (1.4)
Medicaid or CHIP <sup>3</sup> or other state-based program	4,449 (492)	26.3 (2.2)	4.8 (0.3)	7.9 (0.8)
No insurance <sup>4</sup>	869 (210)	5.1 (1.1)	3.8 (0.8)	6.9 (1.3)
Mode of arrival				
Ambulance	6,308 (638)	37.3 (1.8)	5.6 (0.3)	27.0 (1.6)
Other	10,606 (896)	62.7 (1.8)	4.4 (0.2)	8.3 (0.6)
Triage category				
Immediate or emergent <sup>5</sup>	4,225 (552)	25.0 (2.6)	5.4 (0.3)	29.8 (2.1)
Other	12,689 (1,171)	75.0 (2.6)	4.7 (0.2)	9.3 (0.6)
Patient seen in this emergency department during the last 72 hours				
Yes	549 (93)	3.2 (0.5)	4.2 (0.6)	10.1 (1.7)
No, unknown, or blank	16,365 (1,377)	96.8 (0.5)	4.9 (0.2)	11.3 (0.7)
Length of stay				
1–2 days	5,221 (674)	30.9 (2.8)	... ..	... ..
3–4 days	4,739 (443)	28.0 (1.7)	... ..	... ..
5–6 days	2,211 (255)	13.1 (1.1)	... ..	... ..
7–8 days	1,203 (138)	7.1 (0.7)	... ..	... ..
9–10 days	589 (104)	3.5 (0.6)	... ..	... ..
More than 10 days	1,280 (178)	7.6 (0.7)	... ..	... ..
Unknown or blank	1,669 (476)	9.9 (2.7)	... ..	... ..
Hospital discharge status				
Alive	15,778 (1,363)	93.3 (1.8)	4.9 (0.2)	... ..
Home or residence	12,860 (1,201)	81.5 (1.2)	4.4 (0.2)	... ..
Return or transfer to nursing home	1,246 (153)	7.9 (0.8)	7.6 (0.8)	... ..
Transfer to another facility	1,100 (142)	7.0 (0.9)	7.3 (0.9)	... ..
Other	* ...	1.1 (0.3)	6.9 (1.9)	... ..
Unknown or blank	396 (104)	2.5 (0.7)	3.9 (0.5)	... ..
Died	323 (87)	1.9 (0.5)	6.2 (1.0)	... ..
Unknown or blank	*813 (305)	* ...	1.7 (0.2)	... ..

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

<sup>1</sup>Denominator for length of stay for 15,245,000 visits where this variable was known. Length of stay was unknown for 9.9% (weighted) of visits resulting in admission.

<sup>2</sup>Total number of visits exceeds "All admissions" and percentage exceeds 100% because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit. Workers' compensation, other, and unknown sources of payment (not shown) account for 11.4% (weighted) of expected sources of payment.

<sup>3</sup>Children's Health Insurance Program.

<sup>4</sup>Defined as having only self-pay, no charge, or charity as payment sources. Individual self-pay and no charge or charity categories are not mutually exclusive.

<sup>5</sup>Defined as needing to be seen within 1–14 minutes.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 26. Principal hospital discharge diagnoses for patients admitted through the emergency department, by major disease category: United States, 2019**

Major disease category and ICD-10-CM code range <sup>1</sup>	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits . . . . .	16,914 (1,411)	100.0 ...
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases . . . . . A00–B99	774 (153)	4.6 (0.9)
Neoplasms . . . . . C00–D49	* ...	0.9 (0.2)
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism . . . . . D50–D89	271 (62)	1.6 (0.3)
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases . . . . . E00–E89	593 (82)	3.5 (0.4)
Mental, behavioral and neurodevelopmental disorders . . . . . F01–F99	661 (86)	3.9 (0.5)
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs <sup>2</sup> . . . . . G00–G99, H00–H95	476 (86)	2.8 (0.5)
Diseases of the circulatory system . . . . . I00–I99	2,307 (258)	13.6 (1.2)
Diseases of the respiratory system . . . . . J00–J99	1929 (242)	11.4 (0.9)
Diseases of the digestive system . . . . . K00–K95	1656 (185)	9.8 (0.9)
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue . . . . . L00–L99	426 (90)	2.5 (0.4)
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue . . . . . M00–M99	318 (70)	1.9 (0.4)
Diseases of the genitourinary system . . . . . N00–N99	1,211 (216)	7.2 (1.1)
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium . . . . . O00–O9A	*167 (52)	1.0 (0.3)
Symptoms, signs, and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified . . . . . R00–R99	2,559 (327)	15.1 (1.4)
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes . . . . . S00–T88	1,204 (178)	7.1 (0.8)
All other diagnoses <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	784 (223)	4.6 (1.3)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	1,433 (411)	8.5 (2.3)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Visit estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

<sup>1</sup>Based 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 use of ambulatory care services.

<sup>2</sup>Sense organs include eye, adnexa, ear, and mastoid process.

<sup>3</sup>Includes 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).

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2019.

**Table 27. Hospital and emergency department characteristics, by emergency department visit volume: United States, 2019**

Hospital and emergency department characteristics	Total <sup>1</sup>	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				
Has bed coordinator:				
Yes . . . . .	64.2 (5.2)	* ...	74.2 (5.6)	**89.8 **(3.4)
No . . . . .	34.0 (5.2)	* ...	21.8 (5.5)	* ...
Unknown or blank . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
How often hospital bed census data are available:				
Instantaneously . . . . .	84.9 (3.3)	* ...	79.7 (5.0)	**93.1 (2.5)
Every 4 hours . . . . .	1.7 (0.8)	* ...	* ...	1.1 (0.8)
Every 8 hours . . . . .	1.6 (0.8)	* ...	* ...	0.8 (0.8)
Every 12 hours . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	0.2 (0.2)
Every 24 hours . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Has hospitalists on staff:				
Yes . . . . .	85.6 (3.2)	* ...	**92.9 (3.5)	**97.2 (1.8)
No . . . . .	13.8 (3.2)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank . . . . .	0.5 (0.4)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Has emergency medicine residency program:				
Yes . . . . .	23.7 (3.6)	* ...	32.7 (6.9)	38.0 (6.5)
No . . . . .	73.2 (3.8)	**91.2 (4.9)	65.1 (6.8)	51.5 (7.1)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Emergency department (ED) characteristic				
ED uses electronic medical records or health records:				
Yes, all electronic . . . . .	81.9 (4.7)	* ...	**89.8 (3.9)	75.6 (6.7)
Yes, part paper and part electronic . . . . .	17.2 (4.7)	* ...	* ...	20.3 (6.1)
No . . . . .	0.4 (0.4)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank, or refused to answer . . . . .	0.5 (0.4)	* ...	* ...	* ...
ED has physically separate observation or clinical decision unit:				
Yes . . . . .	43.7 (4.9)	* ...	45.5 (7.0)	45.5 (5.8)
No . . . . .	49.6 (4.5)	* ...	52.2 (7.0)	45.3 (6.5)
Unknown . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Admitted patients were ever boarded 2 hours or more in ED or observation while waiting for inpatient bed:				
Yes . . . . .	70.7 (4.4)	* ...	79.7 (5.4)	82.3 (4.4)
No . . . . .	26.5 (4.4)	* ...	19.4 (5.3)	* ...
Unknown or blank . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
ED went on ambulance diversion in 2019:				
Yes . . . . .	50.9 (5.0)	* ...	54.0 (6.0)	54.3 (6.1)
No . . . . .	41.0 (4.9)	* ...	37.8 (6.3)	30.3 (5.9)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	8.2 (2.1)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Ambulance diversion actively managed on regional level compared with each hospital adopting diversion if and when it chooses <sup>2</sup> :				
Yes . . . . .	44.8 (6.5)	* ...	* ...	* ...
No . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Hospital continues to admit elective or scheduled surgery cases when ED is on ambulance diversion <sup>2</sup> :				
Yes . . . . .	**85.1 (4.8)	* ...	**98.3 (1.7)	* ...
No . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
ED increased the number of standard treatment spaces in last 2 years:				
Yes . . . . .	11.9 (2.6)	* ...	12.0 (3.1)	21.5 (6.1)
No . . . . .	85.0 (3.0)	* ...	84.3 (3.6)	74.2 (6.1)
Unknown or blank . . . . .	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 27. Hospital and emergency department characteristics, by emergency department visit volume: United States, 2019—Con.**

Hospital and emergency department characteristics	Total <sup>1</sup>	Fewer than 20,000	20,000 to 50,000	50,000 or more
ED physical space was expanded in last 2 years:		Percent distribution (standard error)		
Yes	* ...	* ...	**	13.8 (4.0)
No	90.4 (2.7)	* ...	**90.6 (3.7)	83.9 (4.3)
Unknown or blank	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
ED plans to expand physical space in next 2 years <sup>3</sup> :				
Yes	16.8 (3.4)	* ...	* ...	30.9 (6.3)
No	70.8 (4.2)	* ...	72.6 (5.2)	56.7 (6.7)
Unknown or blank	12.4 (2.7)	* ...	13.3 (3.7)	* ...
Services ED uses:				
Bedside registration	**91.1 (3.4)	* ...	**96.4 (1.6)	**92.9 (3.5)
Kiosk self check-in	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Computer-assisted triage	53.8 (5.4)	* ...	48.9 (6.7)	* ...
Immediate bedding	79.4 (3.0)	* ...	* ...	73.8 (5.2)
Advanced triage (triage-based care) protocols	72.4 (4.6)	* ...	82.5 (4.6)	66.6 (6.7)
Physician or practitioner at triage	46.1 (5.8)	* ...	41.8 (6.6)	* ...
Separate fast-track unit for nonurgent care	41.5 (5.0)	* ...	60.4 (6.1)	73.1 (5.7)
Separate operating room dedicated to ED patients	7.4 (1.9)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Electronic dashboard <sup>4</sup>	84.5 (3.2)	* ...	**89.0 (3.7)	**92.7 (3.1)
Radio frequency identification tracking <sup>5</sup>	15.8 (3.2)	* ...	13.2 (3.9)	30.8 (6.2)
Wireless devices by providers	70.2 (4.3)	* ...	78.4 (5.5)	**83.9 (4.9)
Zone nursing <sup>6</sup>	58.5 (4.8)	* ...	* ...	73.6 (6.4)
Pool nurses <sup>7</sup>	64.4 (3.7)	* ...	65.7 (6.2)	73.5 (4.8)

... Category not applicable.

\* Estimate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability. Estimates are not presented if they are based on fewer than 30 cases in the sample data; 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" (available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_02/sr02\\_175.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf)), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

\*\* Estimate meets National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability, but its complement does not.

<sup>1</sup>Number of hospitals for all EDs ( $N = 19,481$ ); fewer than 20,000 ( $N = 3,570$ ); 20,000–49,999 ( $N = 7,260$ ); and 50,000 or more ( $N = 8,651$ ).

<sup>2</sup>Denominator is number of EDs on ambulance diversion or for which ambulance diversion status is unknown.

<sup>3</sup>Denominator is number of EDs that did not expand their physical space, including unknown or blank responses, in the last 2 years.

<sup>4</sup>Displays updated patient information and integrates multiple data sources.

<sup>5</sup>Shows the exact location of patients, caregivers, and equipment.

<sup>6</sup>Refers to all of a nurse's patients being located in one area.

<sup>7</sup>Those who can be pulled into the ED on demand to respond to surges.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2018.