National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2020 Emergency Department Summary Tables

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 2020 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS). NHAMCS is an annual, nationally representative sample survey of visits to hospitals.

The sampling frame for the 2020 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 484 hospitals were selected for the 2020 NHAMCS, of which, 386 were in scope and had eligible EDs. Of these, 294 responded, yielding an unweighted ED response rate of 76.2% (76.1% weighted). A total of 422 ESAs were identified from the EDs. Of these, 204 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, 14,860 Patient Record Forms (PRFs) were submitted electronically. The resulting unweighted ESA sample response rate was 48.3% (46.2% weighted), and the overall unweighted, two-stage sampling response rate was 36.8% (35.1% weighted).

The U.S. Census Bureau collected data for the 2020 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. The content of the PRF is available from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhamcs/2020-NHAMCS-ED-PRF-sample-card-508.pdf.

RTI International (Research Triangle Park, North Carolina) processed the data and performed medical coding. As part of the quality assurance procedure, a 10.4% quality control sample of ED survey records was independently keyed and coded. Coding error rates ranged from 0.1% to 3.3% for the ED sample. For more details, see the 2020 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-ed-508.pdf.

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 2020 NHAMCS are discussed in the public-use data file documentation: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-ed-508.pdf.

As in any survey, results are subject to sampling and nonsampling errors. Nonsampling errors include reporting and processing errors as well as biases due to nonresponse and incomplete response. In 2020, race data were missing for 15.3% (unweighted) of ED records, and ethnicity data were missing for 11.8% (unweighted) of ED records. NCHS uses model-based single imputation for NHAMCS race and

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ethnicity data. The race imputation, based on research by an internal work group, is restricted to three categories (White, Black, and Other) because of quality concerns with imputed estimates for race categories other than White and Black. The imputation technique is described in more detail in the public-use data file documentation: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-ed-508.pdf.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, data collection procedures for the National Health Care Surveys, including NHAMCS, were adapted to ensure that data collection continued. Although changes to data collection occurred, no substantive changes were made to the survey instrument. However, NCHS staff reviewed verbatim notes and medication code entries for any mentions of COVID-19 and created a new variable to reflect this information. NHAMCS ED diagnosis data are coded according to the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–10–CM). Five tables (10, 11, 15, 16, and 25) that present estimates of primary diagnoses, injury diagnoses, and primary hospital discharge diagnoses use ICD–10–CM codes. Starting April 1, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released guidelines for reporting COVID-19 with ICD–10–CM codes (see: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/COVID-19-guidelines-final.pdf). The code U07.1 in the chapter "Codes for special purposes" was created and assigned for a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis. Three tables (10, 11, and 25) include this chapter and the code U07.1 is the only code in the 2020 data from this chapter.

Proportion estimates are not presented or are flagged based on the procedure specified in "National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions," available from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf. For all estimates other than estimates of proportions, 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%.

Suggested citation: Cairns C, Kang K. National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2020 emergency department summary tables. DOI: https://dx.doi.org/10.15620/cdc:121911.

Table 1. Emergency department visits, by patient age, sex, and residence, and hospital region: United States, 2020

Patient characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Number of visits per 100 people[1] (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	100.0 …	40.5 (3.5)
Age group (years)[1]			
Under 15	18,487 (2,429)	14.1 (1.4)	30.7 (4.0)
Under 1	2,545 (319)	1.9 (0.2)	68.2 (8.6)
1–4	5,856 (833)	4.5 (0.5)	37.6 (5.4)
5–14	10,086 (1,478)	7.7 (0.9)	24.6 (3.6)
15–24	17,372 (1,562)	13.2 (0.4)	41.8 (3.8)
25–44	36,978 (3,460)	28.2 (0.8)	42.9 (4.0)
45–64	31,639 (2,867)	24.1 (0.7)	38.6 (3.5)
65 and over	26,822 (2,548)	20.4 (0.8)	49.3 (4.7)
65–74	12,875 (1,279)	9.8 (0.5)	39.8 (4.0)
75 and over	13,947 (1,433)	10.6 (0.6)	63.2 (6.5)
Sex and age group (years)			
Female[1]	70,077 (6,338)	53.4 (0.8)	42.3 (3.8)
Under 15	8,505 (1,083)	6.5 (0.6)	28.9 (3.7)
15–24	10,124 (988)	7.7 (0.3)	49.0 (4.8)
25–44	20,946 (2,174)	16.0 (0.7)	48.2 (5.0)
45–64	16,133 (1,610)	12.3 (0.5)	38.2 (3.8)
65–74	6,571 (672)	5.0 (0.3)	38.1 (3.9)
75 and over	7,799 (798)	5.9 (0.4)	61.4 (6.3)
Male[1]	61,220 (5,143)	46.6 (0.8)	38.6 (3.2)
Under 15	9,982 (1,453)	7.6 (0.9)	32.4 (4.7)
15–24	7,248 (718)	5.5 (0.3)	34.7 (3.4)
25–44	16,033 (1,384)	12.2 (0.4)	37.5 (3.2)
45–64	15,506 (1,357)	11.8 (0.5)	39.0 (3.4)
65–74	6,304 (674)	4.8 (0.3)	41.8 (4.5)
75 and over	6,148 (740)	4.7 (0.4)	65.7 (7.9)
Residence			
Private residence[1]	120,446 (10,776)	91.7 (1.5)	37.1 (3.3)
Nursing home[2]	2,612 (332)	2.0 (0.2)	215.4 (27.4)
Homeless[3]	1,970 (284)	1.5 (0.2)	339.4 (48.9)
Other	1,321 (203)	1.0 (0.2)	0.4 (0.1)
Unknown or blank	*4,948 (2,031)	* …	* …
Urban–rural classification[4]			
Large central metropolitan	31,508 (4,536)	24.0 (3.3)	* …
Large fringe metropolitan	25,152 (5,238)	19.2 (3.5)	* …
Medium metropolitan	27,090 (7,889)	20.6 (5.5)	* …
Small metropolitan	*17,424 (5,691)	* …	* …
Micropolitan	8,345 (2,360)	6.4 (1.9)	* …
Noncore (nonmetropolitan)	*12,666 (3,907)	* …	* …
Unknown or blank	*9,111 (3,504)	* …	* …
Geographic region[5]			
Northeast	22,917 (3,952)	17.5 (2.9)	41.6 (7.2)
Midwest	27,052 (3,625)	20.6 (2.8)	40.2 (5.4)
South	49,819 (7,580)	37.9 (4.3)	40.0 (6.1)
West	31,509 (6,451)	24.0 (4.1)	40.5 (8.3)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Emergency department visits, by patient age, sex, and residence, and hospital region: United States, 2020—Con.

... 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

[1]Visit rates for age group, sex, and private residence are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as of July 1, 2020, from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

[2]Visit rates for nursing home residents are based on the 2020 population denominators from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2020 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.

[3]Visit rates for people who are homeless are based on the January 2020 estimate of people who were without a home on a given night, as reported in "The 2020 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress," available from: https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2020-AHAR-Part-1.pdf.

[4]For each record, county of residence was determined using patient ZIP code and then matched to the NCHS Urban–Rural Classification Scheme for Counties, available from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data_access/urban_rural.htm.

[5]Refers to the geographic region of the emergency department. For 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

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 2. Emergency department visits, by patient race, age, and ethnicity: United States, 2020

Patient characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Number of visits per 100 people[1] (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	100.0 …	40.5 (3.5)
Race[2] and age group (years)			
White	95,434 (8,552)	72.7 (1.8)	38.7 (3.5)
Under 15.	12,958 (1,736)	9.9 (1.0)	30.4 (4.1)
15–24	11,809 (1,161)	9.0 (0.4)	38.7 (3.8)
25–44	24,977 (2,448)	19.0 (0.8)	39.2 (3.8)
45–64	23,437 (2,191)	17.9 (0.8)	36.4 (3.4)
65–74	10,247 (1,114)	7.8 (0.5)	38.3 (4.2)
75 and over	12,011 (1,243)	9.1 (0.6)	64.2 (6.6)
Black or African American	29,267 (3,456)	22.3 (1.9)	67.7 (8.0)
Under 15.	4,682 (761)	3.6 (0.5)	50.6 (8.2)
15–24	4,952 (645)	3.8 (0.4)	81.1 (10.6)
25–44	9,936 (1,342)	7.6 (0.8)	80.9 (10.9)
45–64	6,596 (921)	5.0 (0.6)	63.9 (8.9)
65–74	1,930 (248)	1.5 (0.2)	58.0 (7.5)
75 and over	1,171 (230)	0.9 (0.2)	61.2 (12.0)
Other race groups[3]	6,596 (1,160)	5.0 (0.7)	19.2 (3.4)
Race and ethnicity[2]			
Hispanic or Latino	20,716 (3,366)	15.8 (2.0)	34.1 (5.5)
Not Hispanic or Latino	110,581 (9,451)	84.2 (2.0)	41.9 (3.6)
White	76,487 (6,825)	58.3 (2.2)	39.4 (3.5)
Black or African American	28,160 (3,407)	21.4 (1.9)	70.1 (8.5)
Other race groups[3]	5,934 (1,056)	4.5 (0.7)	19.9 (3.6)

… Category not applicable.

[1]Visit rates are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as of July 1, 2020, from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

[2]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 2020, race data were missing for 14.5% (weighted) of visits, and ethnicity data were missing for 10.5% (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 2020 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-ed-508.pdf.

[3]Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and people of 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, 2020.

Table 3. Wait time at emergency department visits: United States, 2020

Visit characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	100.0 …
Time spent waiting to see a physician, APRN, or PA[1]		
Less than 15 minutes	66,243 (6,924)	50.5 (3.2)
15–59 minutes.	34,929 (4,097)	26.6 (1.9)
1 hour, but less than 2 hours	7,400 (1,165)	5.6 (0.7)
2 hours, but less than 3 hours	2,492 (479)	1.9 (0.3)
3 hours, but less than 4 hours	1,118 (314)	0.9 (0.2)
4 hours, but less than 6 hours	805 (212)	0.6 (0.1)
6 hours or more	*613 (222)	0.5 (0.2)
Not applicable	3,325 (565)	2.5 (0.4)
Blank	14,371 (3,467)	10.9 (2.6)
Time spent in the emergency department		
Less than 1 hour	11,791 (1,140)	9.0 (0.7)
1 hour, but less than 2 hours	25,935 (2,625)	19.8 (1.2)
2 hours, but less than 4 hours	44,853 (4,372)	34.2 (1.3)
4 hours, but less than 6 hours	20,921 (2,058)	15.9 (0.7)
6 hours, but less than 10 hours	12,298 (1,474)	9.4 (0.7)
10 hours, but less than 14 hours	2,659 (348)	2.0 (0.2)
14 hours, but less than24 hours	2,654 (397)	2.0 (0.3)
24 hours or more	1,716 (324)	1.3 (0.2)
Blank	*8,468 (2,776)	* …
Patient arrived in emergency department after business hours[2]		
Yes.	71,043 (6,341)	54.1 (1.4)
No	54,620 (4,669)	41.6 (0.9)
Blank	*5,633 (2,771)	* …

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

[1]APRN is advanced practice registered nurse. PA is physician assistant. The median wait time to see a physician, APRN, or PA was 11.0 minutes; the mean wait time to see a physician, APRN, or PA was 28.4 minutes.

[2]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, 2020.

Table 4. Mode of arrival at emergency department, by patient age: United States, 2020

Age group (years)	Number of visits in thousands	Patient's mode of arrival			
		Total[1]	Ambulance	Other	Unknown or blank
		Percent distribution (standard error)			
All visits	131,297	100.0	19.7 (1.0)	75.7 (1.7)	* ...
Under 15.	18,487	100.0	8.6 (2.4)	87.0 (3.0)	* ...
Under 1	2,545	100.0	8.7 (2.6)	86.4 (3.2)	* ...
1–4	5,856	100.0	* ...	89.3 (2.8)	* ...
5–14	10,085	100.0	* ...	85.9 (3.8)	* ...
15–24	17,372	100.0	11.0 (1.3)	84.6 (2.0)	* ...
25–44	36,978	100.0	14.6 (0.9)	81.4 (1.4)	4.0 (1.2)
45–64	31,639	100.0	21.4 (1.4)	73.6 (1.9)	* ...
65 and over	26,822	100.0	38.1 (2.0)	56.9 (2.3)	* ...
65–74	12,875	100.0	31.0 (2.3)	63.7 (2.6)	5.3 (1.6)
75 and over	13,947	100.0	44.6 (2.4)	50.5 (2.7)	* ...

* 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

... Category not applicable.

[1] Arrival by ambulance was the mode of arrival for 25,903,000 visits; arrival by other mode was the mode of arrival for 105,394,000 visits.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 5. Expected source of payment at emergency department visits: United States, 2020

Expected source of payment	Number of visits[1] (standard error) in thousands	Percent of visits (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	... ...
Private insurance	39,824 (3,613)	30.3 (1.8)
Medicaid or CHIP[2] or other state-based program	48,043 (5,391)	36.6 (2.5)
Medicare.	28,433 (2,676)	21.7 (1.0)
Medicare and Medicaid[3].	4,988 (666)	3.8 (0.4)
No insurance[4].	10,442 (1,440)	8.0 (1.0)
Self-pay.	10,101 (1,398)	7.7 (0.9)
No charge or charity	361 (100)	0.3 (0.1)
Worker's compensation	764 (140)	0.6 (0.1)
Other	5,076 (774)	3.9 (0.5)
Unknown or blank.	15,527 (4,080)	11.8 (2.8)

... Category not applicable.

[1]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.

[2]Children's Health Insurance Program.

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

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

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 6. Triage status of emergency department visits, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2020

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[1]	Unknown or blank
					Percent distribution (standard error)				
All visits	131,297	100.0	0.7 (0.2)	11.3 (1.2)	33.2 (2.5)	18.1 (1.7)	2.5 (0.4)	* ...	30.1 (4.1)
Age group (years)									
Under 15	18,487	100.0	0.3 (0.2)	7.8 (1.4)	25.1 (3.4)	29.5 (3.3)	4.9 (0.9)	2.8 (1.1)	29.6 (5.4)
Under 1	2,545	100.0	* ...	* ...	23.3 (4.5)	24.7 (4.0)	* ...	* ...	35.1 (6.1)
1–4	5,856	100.0	0.4 (0.2)	7.9 (2.0)	20.6 (3.0)	31.6 (3.8)	5.1 (1.2)	2.3 (1.0)	32.2 (5.9)
5–14	10,085	100.0	* ...	7.9 (1.6)	28.2 (4.4)	29.5 (3.9)	5.2 (1.0)	2.2 (0.9)	26.6 (5.6)
15–24	17,372	100.0	0.5 (0.4)	8.3 (1.3)	32.3 (2.7)	22.7 (2.4)	3.1 (0.8)	* ...	29.0 (4.3)
25–44	36,978	100.0	0.7 (0.2)	8.5 (1.1)	31.7 (2.6)	20.3 (2.3)	2.9 (0.7)	* ...	31.3 (4.2)
45–64	31,639	100.0	1.0 (0.4)	13.9 (1.7)	35.7 (2.9)	13.3 (1.5)	1.6 (0.5)	* ...	30.5 (4.3)
65 and over	26,822	100.0	1.0 (0.4)	16.3 (1.9)	38.3 (3.6)	9.8 (1.1)	0.8 (0.4)	* ...	29.0 (4.6)
65–74	12,875	100.0	1.5 (0.6)	16.9 (2.4)	37.0 (3.3)	11.1 (1.2)	1.1 (0.5)	* ...	28.0 (4.4)
75 and over	13,947	100.0	0.6 (0.2)	15.8 (2.1)	39.6 (4.4)	8.5 (1.3)	0.5 (0.3)	* ...	30.0 (5.0)
Sex									
Female.	70,076	100.0	0.6 (0.3)	10.6 (1.2)	35.0 (2.5)	18.2 (1.9)	2.1 (0.5)	* ...	29.3 (4.2)
Male.	61,220	100.0	0.9 (0.2)	12.0 (1.3)	31.1 (2.6)	18.0 (1.7)	2.9 (0.4)	4.2 (1.2)	30.9 (4.3)
Race[2]									
White	95,434	100.0	0.7 (0.2)	12.0 (1.3)	35.3 (2.5)	17.8 (1.7)	2.3 (0.4)	* ...	27.6 (4.2)
Black or African American	29,267	100.0	0.9 (0.4)	8.2 (1.3)	26.3 (3.4)	19.8 (3.0)	3.1 (0.8)	* ...	38.4 (5.4)
Other race groups[3]	6,596	100.0	0.8 (0.5)	14.3 (2.6)	33.6 (4.8)	13.8 (1.9)	2.2 (0.7)	* ...	28.4 (6.1)
Ethnicity and race[2]									
Hispanic or Latino	20,716	100.0	0.4 (0.2)	9.1 (1.4)	36.2 (3.6)	20.3 (2.3)	3.6 (0.9)	* ...	27.3 (5.8)
Not Hispanic or Latino.	110,581	100.0	0.8 (0.3)	11.7 (1.2)	32.6 (2.5)	17.6 (1.8)	2.3 (0.5)	* ...	30.6 (4.3)
White	76,487	100.0	0.8 (0.3)	12.8 (1.4)	34.9 (2.6)	17.2 (1.7)	2.0 (0.4)	* ...	27.9 (4.4)
Black or African American	28,160	100.0	0.9 (0.4)	8.1 (1.3)	26.3 (3.5)	19.7 (3.1)	3.2 (0.9)	* ...	38.3 (5.5)
Other race groups[3]	5,934	100.0	0.9 (0.6)	13.9 (2.7)	33.3 (5.1)	13.9 (2.0)	1.7 (0.6)	* ...	29.1 (6.4)
Expected source of payment[4]									
Private insurance.	39,824	100.0	0.5 (0.1)	11.6 (1.5)	37.5 (2.7)	16.5 (1.6)	1.2 (0.3)	* ...	28.4 (4.4)
Medicaid or CHIP[5] or other state-based program	48,043	100.0	0.7 (0.2)	10.1 (1.1)	32.4 (2.8)	22.3 (2.5)	3.4 (0.5)	* ...	26.8 (4.1)
Medicare	28,433	100.0	0.7 (0.2)	15.8 (1.8)	40.4 (3.7)	10.2 (1.1)	0.8 (0.3)	* ...	27.5 (4.4)
Medicare and Medicaid[6]	4,988	100.0	* ...	16.9 (2.4)	41.4 (4.8)	11.6 (2.3)	1.2 (0.5)	* ...	23.9 (5.4)
No insurance[7]	10,442	100.0	* ...	8.7 (2.0)	31.0 (3.4)	23.5 (3.7)	3.4 (0.9)	* ...	30.1 (6.6)
Worker's compensation.	764	100.0	* ...	* ...	14.7 (3.2)	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Other	5,076	100.0	* ...	12.8 (2.6)	39.3 (4.6)	17.0 (2.8)	1.9 (0.8)	* ...	24.3 (5.5)
Unknown or blank	15,527	100.0	* ...	* ...	22.5 (5.6)	13.2 (2.3)	* ...	* ...	* ...

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Triage status of emergency department visits, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2020—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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

… Category not applicable.

[1]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.

[2]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 2020 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-ed-508.pdf. For 2020, race data were missing for 14.5% (weighted) of visits, and ethnicity data were missing for 10.5% (weighted) of visits.

[3]Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and people of more than one race.

[4]Total number of visits exceeds "All visits" because more than one source of payment may be reported per visit.

[5]Children's Health Insurance Program.

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

[7]No insurance is defined as having only self-pay, no charge or charity as payment sources.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 7. Initial blood pressure measurements recorded at emergency department visits for adults, by selected patient characteristics: United States, 2020

Patient characteristic	Number of visits in thousands	Total	Initial blood pressure[1]			
			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[2]	99,874	100.0	17.6 (0.5)	32.9 (0.7)	28.0 (0.6)	21.5 (0.7)
Age group (years)						
18–24.	11,879	100.0	25.7 (2.1)	48.1 (2.4)	20.9 (1.8)	5.2 (0.8)
25–44.	34,048	100.0	18.6 (1.0)	40.0 (1.0)	27.5 (1.2)	13.9 (0.9)
45–64.	29,291	100.0	15.7 (0.7)	27.3 (1.3)	29.6 (1.0)	27.4 (1.2)
65–74.	11,886	100.0	14.0 (1.4)	24.6 (1.6)	30.6 (1.6)	30.7 (1.6)
75 and over	12,769	100.0	15.3 (1.1)	20.4 (1.6)	29.6 (1.7)	34.8 (1.6)
Sex						
Female.	54,879	100.0	20.2 (0.7)	33.9 (0.9)	25.0 (0.7)	20.8 (0.9)
Male.	44,995	100.0	14.5 (0.8)	31.7 (1.1)	31.6 (1.0)	22.3 (1.0)
Race[3]						
White	72,992	100.0	18.0 (0.6)	32.6 (0.9)	28.2 (0.7)	21.2 (0.8)
Black or African American	21,530	100.0	16.5 (1.0)	33.9 (1.2)	27.5 (1.3)	22.1 (1.7)
Other race groups[4]	5,353	100.0	16.5 (2.6)	33.3 (3.1)	26.2 (3.0)	24.1 (2.8)
Ethnicity and race[3]						
Hispanic or Latino	13,436	100.0	18.3 (1.6)	35.6 (1.6)	29.0 (2.1)	17.1 (1.1)
Not Hispanic or Latino	86,438	100.0	17.5 (0.6)	32.5 (0.8)	27.8 (0.6)	22.2 (0.8)
White	60,777	100.0	17.8 (0.7)	32.1 (0.9)	28.1 (0.7)	22.0 (0.9)
Black or African American	20,819	100.0	16.7 (1.0)	34.0 (1.3)	27.1 (1.3)	22.1 (1.8)
Other race groups[4].	4,842	100.0	17.9 (2.9)	30.3 (3.1)	26.7 (3.4)	25.1 (3.0)

[1]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 fall into two categories, the visit is included in the higher blood pressure category.

[2]Visits by adults (aged 18 and over). Visits where blood pressure was taken represent 92.1% (standard error = 2.2) of all emergency department visits made by adults.

[3]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 2020, race data were missing for 12.2% (weighted) of visits made by adults, and ethnicity data were missing for 9.7% (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 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 and Black. The imputation technique is described in more detail in the 2020 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-ed-508.pdf.

[4]Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and people of 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, 2020.

Table 8. Initial temperature, pulse oximetry, and visit history at emergency department visits: United States, 2020

Visit characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	100.0 ...
Temperature		
Febrile: Higher than 38.0° C or higher than 100.4°F	4,137 (544)	3.2 (0.3)
Normal: 35.1–38.0° C or 95.1–100.4°F	113,966 (10,171)	86.8 (2.2)
Hypothermic: 35.0° C and below or 95.0°F and below	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Blank	13,050 (3,252)	9.9 (2.3)
Pulse oximetry[1]		
95%–100%	107,702 (9,788)	82.0 (2.1)
Less than 95%.	10,440 (1,293)	8.0 (0.8)
Blank	13,154 (3,263)	10.0 (2.3)
Episode of care		
Initial visit.	111,637 (9,876)	85.0 (2.4)
Follow-up visit	8,434 (929)	6.4 (0.4)
Unknown or blank	*11,226 (3,432)	8.6 (2.5)
Patient seen in this emergency department within the last 72 hours		
Yes.	4,880 (624)	3.7 (0.4)
No	113,686 (10,489)	86.6 (2.7)
Unknown or blank	12,731 (3,670)	9.7 (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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

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

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 9. Ten principal reasons for emergency department visits, by patient age and sex: United States, 2020

Principal reason for visit and RVC code[1]		Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits	...	131,297 (11,295)	100.0 ...
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms.	S545	10,995 (1,101)	8.4 (0.4)
Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems)	S050	7,194 (838)	5.5 (0.3)
Fever	S010	4,968 (664)	3.8 (0.4)
Shortness of breath	S415	4,858 (546)	3.7 (0.3)
Cough.	S440	4,669 (755)	3.6 (0.4)
Headache, pain in head	S210	3,309 (378)	2.5 (0.2)
Pain, site not referable to a specific body system	S055	2,536 (308)	1.9 (0.2)
Other symptoms or problems relating to psychological and mental disorders	S165	2,441 (290)	1.9 (0.2)
Back symptoms	S905	2,350 (347)	1.8 (0.2)
Accident, not otherwise specified.	J810	2,274 (285)	1.7 (0.2)
All other reasons[2]	...	85,703 (7,161)	65.3 (0.9)
All visits under age 15	...	18,487 (2,429)	100.0 ...
Female	...	8,505 (1,083)	46.0 (2.0)
Fever.	S010	1,405 (289)	7.6 (1.2)
Cough	S440	543 (118)	2.9 (0.6)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms	S545	476 (104)	2.6 (0.4)
Earache or ear infection	S355	* ...	1.7 (0.5)
Vomiting	S530	319 (71)	1.7 (0.4)
Skin rash	S860	279 (70)	1.5 (0.3)
Laceration or cut of facial area	J210	* ...	1.3 (0.3)
Injury, other and unspecified type—head, neck, and face	J505	* ...	1.1 (0.3)
Accident, not otherwise specified	J810	* ...	1.1 (0.3)
Symptoms referable to throat	S455	* ...	0.8 (0.3)
All other reasons[2]	...	4,371 (604)	23.6 (1.5)
Male	...	9,982 (1,453)	54.0 (2.0)
Fever.	S010	1,259 (205)	6.8 (0.7)
Cough	S440	509 (121)	2.8 (0.6)
Laceration or cut of facial area	J210	466 (106)	2.5 (0.5)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms	S545	446 (126)	2.4 (0.5)
Injury, other and unspecified type—head, neck, and face	J505	433 (94)	2.3 (0.4)
Vomiting	S530	319 (78)	1.7 (0.3)
Skin rash	S860	278 (83)	1.5 (0.3)
Accident, not otherwise specified	J810	* ...	1.3 (0.3)
Motor vehicle accident, type of injury unspecified.	J805	* ...	1.1 (0.4)
Headache, pain in head	S210	* ...	1.0 (0.2)
All other reasons[2]	...	5,656 (823)	30.6 (1.5)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 9. Ten principal reasons for emergency department visits, by patient age and sex: United States, 2020—Con.

Principal reason for visit and RVC code[1]		Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits, ages 15–64 years	...	85,988 (7,613)	100.0 ...
Female	...	47,202 (4,563)	54.9 (1.0)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms	S545	5,383 (647)	6.3 (0.4)
Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems)	S050	3,012 (421)	3.5 (0.3)
Cough	S440	1,737 (316)	2.0 (0.3)
Headache, pain in head	S210	1,458 (190)	1.7 (0.2)
Shortness of breath	S415	1,456 (199)	1.7 (0.2)
Problems of pregnancy	S790	1,245 (249)	1.4 (0.2)
Pain, site not referable to a specific body system	S055	1,137 (152)	1.3 (0.1)
Fever	S010	1,032 (148)	1.2 (0.1)
Back symptoms	S905	1,022 (194)	1.2 (0.2)
Symptoms referable to throat	S455	1,012 (193)	1.2 (0.2)
All other reasons[2]	...	28,709 (2,677)	33.4 (0.7)
Male	...	38,786 (3,213)	45.1 (1.0)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms	S545	2,869 (295)	3.3 (0.2)
Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems)	S050	2,434 (332)	2.8 (0.3)
Shortness of breath	S415	1,271 (176)	1.5 (0.2)
Cough	S440	1,172 (220)	1.4 (0.2)
Other symptoms or problems relating to psychological and mental disorders	S165	1,025 (202)	1.2 (0.2)
Headache, pain in head	S210	1,000 (154)	1.2 (0.2)
Pain, site not referable to a specific body system	S055	995 (157)	1.2 (0.1)
Back symptoms	S905	788 (122)	0.9 (0.1)
Fever	S010	718 (157)	0.8 (0.2)
Leg symptoms	S920	638 (105)	0.7 (0.1)
All other reasons[2]	...	25,877 (2,138)	30.1 (1.0)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 9. Ten principal reasons for emergency department visits, by patient age and sex: United States, 2020—Con.

Principal reason for visit and RVC code[1]		Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits, ages 65 and over	...	26,822 (2,548)	100.0 ...
Female	...	14,369 (1,334)	53.6 (1.3)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms	S545	1,182 (212)	4.4 (0.6)
Shortness of breath	S415	992 (166)	3.7 (0.5)
Accident, not otherwise specified	J810	660 (129)	2.5 (0.5)
Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems)	S050	624 (102)	2.3 (0.3)
General weakness	S020	529 (91)	2.0 (0.3)
Vertigo—dizziness	S225	496 (89)	1.8 (0.3)
Other symptoms or problems relating to psychological and mental disorders	S165	428 (102)	1.6 (0.3)
Leg symptoms	S920	379 (93)	1.4 (0.3)
Hypertension	D510	* ...	1.4 (0.3)
Cough	S440	* ...	1.4 (0.5)
All other reasons[2]	...	8,329 (785)	31.1 (1.3)
Male	...	12,452 (1,307)	46.4 (1.3)
Shortness of breath	S415	958 (174)	3.6 (0.5)
Chest pain and related symptoms (not referable to body systems)	S050	882 (148)	3.3 (0.5)
Stomach and abdominal pain, cramps and spasms	S545	639 (105)	2.4 (0.4)
General weakness	S020	418 (79)	1.6 (0.3)
Accident, not otherwise specified	J810	335 (79)	1.3 (0.3)
Cough	S440	* ...	1.2 (0.3)
Fainting (syncope)	S030	* ...	1.2 (0.3)
Complications of surgical or medical procedures and treatments	J930	306 (84)	1.1 (0.3)
Labored or difficult breathing (dyspnea)	S420	* ...	1.0 (0.4)
Other symptoms or problems relating to psychological and mental disorders	S165	* ...	1.0 (0.2)
All other reasons[2]	...	7,722 (848)	28.8 (1.3)

... 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

[1]Reason for visit is based on the patient's own words and coded according to "A Reason for Visit Classification (RVC) for Ambulatory Care," National Center for Health Statistics, Series Report 2, Number 78. See the 2020 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-ed-508.pdf.

[2]Category includes all other reasons not listed above, as well as unknown and blanks.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 10. Primary diagnosis at emergency department visits, by major disease category: United States, 2020

Major disease category and ICD–10–CM code range[1]		Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits	...	131,297 (11,295)	100.0 ...
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases.	A00–B99	3,237 (388)	2.5 (0.2)
Neoplasms	C00–D49	490 (144)	0.4 (0.1)
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	D50–D89	858 (170)	0.7 (0.1)
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	E00–E89	1,958 (221)	1.5 (0.1)
Mental, behavioral and neurodevelopmental disorders	F01–F99	6,216 (671)	4.7 (0.4)
Diseases of the nervous system	G00–G99	2,066 (264)	1.6 (0.1)
Diseases of the eye and adnexa	H00–H59	1,138 (236)	0.9 (0.2)
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	H60–H95	1,653 (269)	1.3 (0.2)
Diseases of the circulatory system.	I00–I99	5,350 (651)	4.1 (0.3)
Diseases of the respiratory system	J00–J99	11,597 (1,445)	8.8 (0.7)
Diseases of the digestive system.	K00–K95	7,950 (761)	6.1 (0.3)
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	L00–L99	3,969 (443)	3.0 (0.2)
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	M00–M99	9,145 (1,040)	7.0 (0.5)
Diseases of the genitourinary system	N00–N99	6,739 (701)	5.1 (0.4)
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	O00–O9A	2,441 (382)	1.9 (0.2)
Symptoms, signs, and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	R00–R99	32,482 (2,968)	24.7 (0.9)
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes. . . .	S00–T88	22,822 (2,013)	17.4 (0.7)
Injuries to the head.	S00–S09	5,749 (550)	25.2 (1.4)
Injuries to the neck.	S10–S19	867 (121)	3.8 (0.4)
Injuries to the thorax.	S20–S29	923 (144)	4.0 (0.5)
Injuries to the abdomen, lower back, lumbar spine, pelvis and external genitals	S30–S39	794 (158)	3.5 (0.5)
Injuries to the shoulder and upper arm.	S40–S49	1,428 (226)	6.3 (0.7)
Injuries to the elbow and forearm.	S50–S59	1,150 (163)	5.0 (0.6)
Injuries to the wrist, hand and fingers.	S60–S69	2,854 (335)	12.5 (0.9)
Injuries to the hip and thigh	S70–S79	693 (123)	3.0 (0.4)
Injuries to the knee and lower leg.	S80–S89	2,151 (235)	9.4 (0.7)
Injuries to the ankle and foot	S90–S99	1,911 (234)	8.4 (0.7)
Injuries involving multiple body regions or unspecified body region.	T07, T14	761 (134)	3.3 (0.5)
Effects of foreign body entering through natural orifice	T15–T19	564 (103)	2.5 (0.4)
Burns and corrosions	T20–T32	359 (85)	1.6 (0.4)
Frostbite	T33–T34	* ...	* ...
Poisoning by, adverse effect of and underdosing of drugs, medicaments and biological substances	T36–T50	913 (130)	4.0 (0.5)
Toxic effects of substances chiefly nonmedicinal as to source	T51–T65	* ...	0.9 (0.2)
Other and unspecified effects of external causes	T66–T78	780 (129)	3.4 (0.5)
Certain early complications of trauma	T79	* ...	* ...
Complications of surgical and medical care.	T80–T88	711 (158)	3.1 (0.6)
Codes for special purposes[2]	U00–U85	1,455 (299)	1.1 (0.2)
All other diagnoses[3]	...	6,758 (681)	5.1 (0.4)
Unknown or blank.	...	*4,426 (2,100)	* ...

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

[1]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.

[2]The only code in this category is U07.1 for COVID-19.

[3]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 due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 11. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2020

Primary diagnosis group[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	100.0 ...
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases		
Septicemia (sepsis)	809 (152)	0.6 (0.1)
Human immunodeficiency virus syndrome (HIV, HIV+, HIV positive)	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Viral warts, not sexually transmitted	* ...	* ...
Acute and chronic viral hepatitis, excluding types B and C	* ...	* ...
Acute and chronic viral hepatitis B	* ...	* ...
Sexually transmitted infections, excluding viral hepatitis and HIV	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Unspecified viral infection	1,173 (183)	0.9 (0.1)
Dermatophytosis	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Candidiasis	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Other systemic infectious and parasitic diseases	951 (176)	0.7 (0.1)
Neoplasms[2]		
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism		
Anemias	623 (139)	0.5 (0.1)
Other diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases		
Disorders of thyroid gland, excluding acquired hypothyroidism	* ...	* ...
Type 1 diabetes mellitus	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Type 2 diabetes mellitus or unspecified	507 (78)	0.4 (0.1)
Other types of diabetes mellitus	* ...	* ...
Other disorders of endocrine glands	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Obesity	* ...	* ...
Hyperlipidemias	* ...	* ...
Volume depletion	320 (71)	0.2 (0.1)
Other nutritional deficiencies and metabolic disorders	825 (180)	0.6 (0.1)
Mental, behavioral and neurodevelopmental disorders		
Dementia, excluding Alzheimer disease	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Alcohol-related disorders, excluding alcohol-related dementia and chronic alcoholic liver disease	1,676 (244)	1.3 (0.2)
Opioid-related disorders	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Cocaine-related disorders	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Cannabis-related disorders	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Nicotine dependence	* ...	* ...
Other drug-related disorders, excluding other drug-related dementia	610 (131)	0.5 (0.1)
Schizophrenia	275 (69)	0.2 (0.1)
Non-mood psychoses, excluding schizophrenia	416 (84)	0.3 (0.1)
Bipolar disorders, excluding those with depression	*242 (74)	0.2 (0.1)
Bipolar disorders, with depression	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Depressive disorders, excluding bipolar depression and adjustment reaction with depressed mood	845 (172)	0.6 (0.1)
Dysthymic disorder	* ...	* ...
Acute reaction to stress and adjustment reaction, excluding those with depressed mood	*161 (50)	0.1 (0.0)
Acute reaction to stress and adjustment reaction with depressed mood . .	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Eating disorders	* ...	* ...
Impulse disorders	* ...	* ...
Other mood disorders, nonpsychotic mental disorders, behavioral syndromes, and disorders of adult personality and behavior	1,226 (175)	0.9 (0.1)
Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorders	* ...	* ...
Oppositional defiant disorder	* ...	* ...
Conduct disorders, excluding oppositional defiant disorder	* ...	* ...
Autism spectrum disorder	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Other mental disorders	* ...	0.2 (0.1)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 11. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2020—Con.

Primary diagnosis group[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
Diseases of the nervous system		
Alzheimer disease	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Other degenerative diseases of the nervous system, excluding Alzheimer disease	* ...	* ...
Migraine.	573 (99)	0.4 (0.1)
Transient cerebral ischemic attacks and related syndromes.	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Sleep disorders, excluding sleep apnea (adult, pediatric, obstructive) and non-organic sleep disorders	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Obstructive sleep apnea (adult, pediatric) and sleep apnea, not otherwise specified.	* ...	* ...
Carpal tunnel syndrome	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Generalized pain and acute and chronic pain syndromes.	*420 (130)	0.3 (0.1)
Other disorders of the nervous system	857 (121)	0.7 (0.1)
Diseases of the eye and adnexa		
Inflammation and disorders of eyelids.	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Conjunctivitis	420 (105)	0.3 (0.1)
Cataracts, excluding diabetic cataracts.	* ...	* ...
Retinal detachment and other retinal disorders, excluding diabetic retinopathy.	* ...	* ...
Disorders of refraction and accommodation	* ...	* ...
Other disorders of the eye and adnexa	*581 (197)	0.4 (0.2)
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process		
Disorders of external ear.	*311 (104)	0.2 (0.1)
Otitis media and eustachian tube disorders	807 (156)	0.6 (0.1)
Other disorders of the ear and mastoid process	535 (116)	0.4 (0.1)
Diseases of the circulatory system		
Heart valve disorders.	* ...	* ...
Essential hypertension	1,047 (214)	0.8 (0.1)
Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure	* ...	0.1 (0.1)
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 with heart failure and stage 1 through 4 chronic kidney disease or unspecified chronic kidney disease	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease with heart failure with stage 5 chronic kidney disease or ESRD	* ...	* ...
Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease without heart failure with stage 5 chronic kidney disease or ESRD	* ...	* ...
Secondary hypertension	* ...	* ...
Hypertensive crisis	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Angina pectoris not stated as with chronic ischemic heart disease.	* ...	* ...
Acute myocardial infarction	430 (106)	0.3 (0.1)
Other acute and subacute ischemic heart disease	* ...	* ...
Coronary atherosclerosis and other chronic ischemic heart disease (with angina pectoris).	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Pulmonary heart disease and diseases of pulmonary circulation	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Conduction disorders.	* ...	* ..
Cardiac dysrhythmias, excluding ventricular fibrillation.	630 (102)	0.5 (0.1)
Cardiac arrest and ventricular fibrillation	* ...	0.2 (0.0)
Heart failure, non-hypertensive	636 (106)	0.5 (0.1)
Pericarditis, endocarditis, myocarditis and cardiomyopathy	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Other and ill-defined heart disease	* ...	0.1 (0.1)
Cerebrovascular disease.	765 (187)	0.6 (0.1)
Diseases of the arteries, arterioles and capillaries	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Varicose veins of lower extremity	* ...	* ...
Other disorder of circulatory system	532 (111)	0.4 (0.1)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 11. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2020—Con.

Primary diagnosis group[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
Diseases of the respiratory system		
Streptococcal pharyngitis and tonsillitis.	623 (170)	0.5 (0.1)
Acute sinusitis	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Acute pharyngitis, except streptococcal pharyngitis	1,168 (228)	0.9 (0.1)
Acute tonsillitis, except streptococcal tonsillitis	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Influenza	1,322 (313)	1.0 (0.2)
Pneumonia due to infectious organism	1,542 (229)	1.2 (0.1)
Acute bronchitis and bronchiolitis	661 (196)	0.5 (0.1)
Other acute respiratory infections	2,263 (369)	1.7 (0.2)
Allergic rhinitis	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Chronic sinusitis	* ...	0.1 (0.1)
Chronic and unspecified bronchitis	418 (110)	0.3 (0.1)
Bronchiectasis, emphysema and other chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, including chronic obstructive asthma	781 (152)	0.6 (0.1)
Asthma, excluding chronic obstructive asthma	1,225 (182)	0.9 (0.1)
Respiratory failure	283 (55)	0.2 (0.0)
Croup.	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Aspiration pneumonia	* ...	* ...
Other diseases of the respiratory system	504 (94)	0.4 (0.1)
Diseases of the digestive system		
Diseases of the teeth and supporting structures, excluding dentofacial anomalies and disorders of the jaw	1,654 (217)	1.3 (0.1)
Esophagitis without gastroesophageal reflux disease.	* ...	* ...
Gastroesophageal reflux disease (with esophagitis).	273 (64)	0.2 (0.0)
Other diseases of the esophagus	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Ulcers of stomach and small intestine.	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Gastritis and duodenitis.	388 (89)	0.3 (0.1)
Appendicitis	*282 (114)	0.2 (0.1)
Diaphragmatic hernia	* ...	* ...
Hernias of abdominal cavity, except diaphragmatic hernia	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Other and unspecified noninfectious enteritis and colitis.	670 (129)	0.5 (0.1)
Intestinal obstructions	257 (68)	0.2 (0.1)
Diverticula of intestine	354 (59)	0.3 (0.0)
Irritable bowel syndrome	* ...	* ...
Constipation.	853 (171)	0.6 (0.1)
Anal and rectal diseases	267 (63)	0.2 (0.1)
Hemorrhoids and perianal venous thrombosis	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Alcoholic liver disease	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Other diseases of the liver.	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Disorders of gallbladder and biliary tract	785 (177)	0.6 (0.1)
Diseases of the pancreas	288 (70)	0.2 (0.1)
Unspecified gastrointestinal bleeding	621 (136)	0.5 (0.1)
Other diseases of the digestive system.	467 (92)	0.4 (0.1)
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue		
Cellulitis	1,730 (215)	1.3 (0.1)
Cutaneous abscess.	747 (117)	0.6 (0.1)
Other local infections of the skin and subcutaneous tissue.	330 (78)	0.3 (0.1)
Contact dermatitis and other eczema	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Psoriasis and other similar disorders.	* ...	* ...
Urticaria.	271 (63)	0.2 (0.1)
Other inflammatory conditions of skin and subcutaneous tissue.	363 (78)	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	* ...	0.2 (0.0)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 11. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2020—Con.

Primary diagnosis group[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue		
Rheumatoid arthritis	* ...	* ...
Infectious and inflammatory arthropathies, excluding rheumatoid and juvenile arthritis	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Osteoarthritis	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Internal derangement of knee	* ...	* ...
Other joint disorders	2,368 (295)	1.8 (0.2)
Spinal stenosis	* ...	* ...
Spondylopathies, excluding spinal stenosis	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Intervertebral disc disorders	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Low back pain, unspecified	1,063 (190)	0.8 (0.1)
Other conditions of the spine and back, excluding low back pain	2,261 (308)	1.7 (0.2)
Synovitis and tenosynovitis	* ...	* ...
Soft tissue disorders related to use, overuse and pressure	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Ganglion and cyst of synovium, tendon and bursa	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Myalgia and myositis, unspecified	* ...	0.2 (0.0)
Osteoporosis	* ...	* ...
Disorders of bone and cartilage, excluding osteoporosis	339 (96)	0.3 (0.1)
Other diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	1,878 (231)	1.4 (0.1)
Diseases of the genitourinary system		
Infections of kidney	245 (57)	0.2 (0.0)
Acute kidney failure	434 (113)	0.3 (0.1)
Chronic kidney disease, excluding ESRD	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
ESRD	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Unspecified kidney failure, including uremia, not otherwise specified	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Calculus of kidney and ureter	892 (149)	0.7 (0.1)
Cystitis	598 (132)	0.5 (0.1)
Urethral stricture	* ...	* ...
Urinary tract infection, site not specified	1,721 (210)	1.3 (0.1)
Other diseases of the urinary system	486 (103)	0.4 (0.1)
Benign prostatic hyperplasia	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Disorders of prepuce	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Other disorders of male genital organs	588 (128)	0.4 (0.1)
Unspecified lump or mass in breast	* ...	* ...
Disorders of the breast, excluding unspecified lump or mass	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Inflammatory disease of female pelvic organs	265 (65)	0.2 (0.1)
Endometriosis	* ...	* ...
Genital prolapse (female)	* ...	* ...
Other noninflammatory disorders of female genital organs	410 (85)	0.3 (0.1)
Disorders of menstruation and abnormal bleeding	559 (136)	0.4 (0.1)
Other disorders of female genital tract	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium		
Nonuterine pregnancy	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Encounter for supervision of high-risk pregnancy	* ...	* ...
Early or threatened labor	* ...	* ...
Encounter for full-term uncomplicated delivery	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Encounter for supervision of normal pregnancy	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Other encounter related to pregnancy, excluding incidental pregnancy	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Postpartum care and examination	* ...	* ...
Live-born infant	* ...	* ...
Other complications of pregnancy	2,189 (340)	1.7 (0.2)
Complications of childbirth (includes labor and delivery)	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Complications of the puerperium	* ...	* ...
Certain other conditions originating in the perinatal period	* ...	0.1 (0.0)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 11. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2020—Con.

Primary diagnosis group[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
Congenital anomalies		
Congenital anomalies	* ...	* ...
Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions		
Abnormal heart beat and heart sounds	835 (154)	0.6 (0.1)
Epistaxis	419 (92)	0.3 (0.1)
Cough, unspecified	925 (156)	0.7 (0.1)
Dyspnea and respiratory abnormalities	1,762 (232)	1.3 (0.1)
Chest pain	5,309 (593)	4.0 (0.2)
Abdominal pain	5,678 (600)	4.3 (0.3)
Unspecified jaundice, edema and other non-specific skin symptoms	1,429 (217)	1.1 (0.1)
Hematuria	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Urinary incontinence, unspecified and functional	* ...	* ...
Symptoms involving the genitourinary system, excluding hematuria and urinary incontinence.	682 (106)	0.5 (0.1)
Vertigo and lightheadedness	1,097 (198)	0.8 (0.1)
Fever of other and unknown origin	1,222 (170)	0.9 (0.1)
Headache, unspecified	1,882 (344)	1.4 (0.2)
Malaise and fatigue	901 (176)	0.7 (0.1)
Syncope and collapse	1,335 (173)	1.0 (0.1)
Convulsions and seizures, not elsewhere classified	741 (128)	0.6 (0.1)
Unspecified nausea, vomiting, diarrhea	2,671 (310)	2.0 (0.2)
Other symptoms, signs, abnormal findings and ill-defined conditions.	5,197 (593)	4.0 (0.3)
Injury and poisoning		
Injury of eye and orbit	276 (64)	0.2 (0.1)
Contusions (bruise, hematoma), excluding face and head	1,606 (268)	1.2 (0.2)
Contusions (bruise, hematoma) of face and head.	706 (126)	0.5 (0.1)
Superficial injuries, excluding contusions (abrasion, blister, external constriction, splinter, superficial bite).	953 (139)	0.7 (0.1)
Head injury, not otherwise specified	1,374 (167)	1.0 (0.1)
Open wound of head	1,858 (236)	1.4 (0.2)
Open wound of wrist, hand and fingers	1,354 (203)	1.0 (0.1)
Open wound of hip and lower limb	959 (133)	0.7 (0.1)
Open wound, excluding head, hand, fingers, lower limb and internal organs	416 (94)	0.3 (0.1)
Traumatic fracture of shoulder and upper arm (clavicle, scapula, humerus)	555 (126)	0.4 (0.1)
Traumatic fracture of forearm (radius and ulna)	599 (112)	0.5 (0.1)
Traumatic fracture of wrist, hand and fingers (carpal, metacarpals, phalanges).	499 (94)	0.4 (0.1)
Traumatic fracture of hip (head and neck of femur)	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Traumatic fracture of ankle (medial malleolus, lateral malleolus, bimalleolar, trimalleolar).	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Traumatic fracture of leg, foot and toes, excluding hip and ankle (femur, patella, tibia, fibula, tarsals, metatarsals, phalanges)	1,050 (147)	0.8 (0.1)
Other traumatic fractures (skull, facial bones, vertebrae, ribs, sternum, pelvis).	944 (134)	0.7 (0.1)
Tear of medial meniscus, current injury	* ...	* ...
Dislocations, excluding tear of medial meniscus	415 (88)	0.3 (0.1)
Sprains and strains of neck	660 (99)	0.5 (0.1)
Sprains and strains of back	363 (89)	0.3 (0.1)
Sprains and strains of wrist and hand	382 (100)	0.3 (0.1)
Sprains and strains of knee	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Strains and sprains of ankle	619 (101)	0.5 (0.1)
Sprain and strains, excluding neck, back, wrist, hand, knee, ankle	410 (82)	0.3 (0.1)
Concussion	524 (99)	0.4 (0.1)
Intracranial injury, excluding concussion	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Internal injury of chest, abdomen and pelvis	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Other injuries, excluding burns and poisonings.	2,434 (272)	1.9 (0.2)
Burns and corrosions, external and internal, excluding sunburn.	359 (85)	0.3 (0.1)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 11. Annual number and percent distribution of emergency department visits, by diagnosis group: United States, 2020—Con.

Primary diagnosis group[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
Injury and poisoning—Con.		
Poisoning (overdose or wrong substance given or taken in error) due to drugs and biological substances, accidental (unintentional)	548 (100)	0.4 (0.1)
Poisoning (overdose or wrong substance given or taken in error) due to drugs and biological substances, intentional self-harm	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Poisoning (overdose or wrong substance given or taken in error) due to drugs and biological substances, assault	* ...	* ...
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.	* ...	0.2 (0.1)
Toxic effects of substances chiefly non-medical, accidental (unintentional).	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Toxic effects of substances chiefly non-medical, intentional self-harm	* ...	* ...
Toxic effects of substances chiefly non-medical, undetermined	* ...	* ...
Other and unspecified effects of external causes	793 (129)	0.6 (0.1)
Complications of surgical and medical care	959 (176)	0.7 (0.1)
Codes for special purposes		
COVID-19 (Coronavirus disease 2019, SARS-CoV-2, severe acute respiratory syndrome)	1,455 (299)	1.1 (0.2)
Supplementary classifications		
Encounter for general adult medical examinations, including routine gynecological examination.	422 (109)	0.3 (0.1)
Encounter for routine newborn health examination.	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Encounter for routine child examination, excluding newborns	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Encounter for observation and evaluation for suspected conditions ruled out.	1,078 (189)	0.8 (0.1)
Encounter for specific procedures and aftercare and follow-up examination after completed treatment, excluding for injuries.	787 (128)	0.6 (0.1)
Potential health hazards related to communicable diseases.	917 (168)	0.7 (0.1)
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	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Other factors influencing health status and contact with health services.	2,092 (269)	1.6 (0.2)
Uncodable entries[3]	982 (214)	0.7 (0.2)
Unknown or blank	*2,970 (2,090)	* ...

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

[1]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. 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.

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

[3]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, 2020.

Table 12. Presence of chronic conditions at emergency department visits: United States, 2020

Chronic condition[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent of visits (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	… …
Alcohol misuse, abuse, or dependence	6,321 (844)	4.8 (0.5)
Alzheimer disease or dementia	2,006 (341)	1.5 (0.2)
Asthma.	12,712 (1,135)	9.7 (0.4)
Cancer	5,608 (607)	4.3 (0.4)
Cerebrovascular disease or history of stroke or transient ischemic attack	5,403 (658)	4.1 (0.3)
Chronic kidney disease	5,924 (756)	4.5 (0.4)
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	8,209 (816)	6.3 (0.4)
Congestive heart failure	5,522 (616)	4.2 (0.3)
Coronary artery disease, ischemic heart disease or history of myocardial infarction.	9,006 (1,013)	6.9 (0.5)
Depression.	16,719 (1,530)	12.7 (0.9)
Diabetes mellitus—Type 1	816 (185)	0.6 (0.1)
Diabetes mellitus—Type 2	9,704 (1,379)	7.4 (0.7)
Diabetes mellitus—Type unspecified	7,151 (721)	5.4 (0.4)
End-stage renal disease.	1,470 (219)	1.1 (0.1)
History of pulmonary embolism, deep vein thrombosis, or venous thromboembolism	2,273 (298)	1.7 (0.2)
HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) or AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome)	805 (140)	0.6 (0.1)
Hyperlipidemia	14,678 (1,546)	11.2 (0.8)
Hypertension	36,105 (3,477)	27.5 (1.3)
Obesity.	9,008 (1,385)	6.9 (0.8)
Obstructive sleep apnea.	3,838 (525)	2.9 (0.3)
Osteoporosis	1,486 (242)	1.1 (0.2)
Substance abuse or dependence.	10,488 (1,324)	8.0 (0.8)
None of the above	53,741 (5,295)	40.9 (1.8)
Blank	*6,502 (3,116)	* …

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

[1]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 percent of visits 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, 2020.

Table 13. Injury visits to emergency departments, by selected patient and hospital characteristics: United States, 2020

Patient and hospital characteristics	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Number of visits per 100 people[1] (standard error)
All injury visits[2].	34,746 (2,989)	100.0 …	10.7 (0.9)
Age group (years)			
Under 15	6,294 (980)	18.1 (2.2)	10.4 (1.6)
Under 1.	371 (78)	1.1 (0.2)	10.0 (2.1)
1–4	2,269 (392)	6.5 (0.9)	14.6 (2.5)
5–14	3,654 (653)	10.5 (1.6)	8.9 (1.6)
15–24.	5,175 (532)	14.9 (0.9)	12.4 (1.3)
25–44.	9,054 (865)	26.1 (1.3)	10.5 (1.0)
45–64.	7,334 (713)	21.1 (1.2)	8.9 (0.9)
65 and over	6,888 (725)	19.8 (1.2)	12.7 (1.3)
65–74	2,964 (328)	8.5 (0.6)	9.2 (1.0)
75 and over	3,924 (469)	11.3 (0.9)	17.8 (2.1)
Sex and age group (years)			
Female.	16,135 (1,451)	46.4 (1.2)	9.7 (0.9)
Under 15	2,384 (346)	6.9 (0.8)	8.1 (1.2)
15–24	2,446 (309)	7.0 (0.7)	11.8 (1.5)
25–44	4,155 (491)	12.0 (0.9)	9.6 (1.1)
45–64	3,175 (347)	9.1 (0.6)	7.5 (0.8)
65–74	1,597 (194)	4.6 (0.4)	9.3 (1.1)
75 and over	2,378 (298)	6.8 (0.6)	18.7 (2.3)
Male.	18,611 (1,660)	53.6 (1.2)	11.7 (1.0)
Under 15.	3,910 (688)	11.3 (1.6)	12.7 (2.2)
15–24	2,729 (295)	7.9 (0.5)	13.0 (1.4)
25–44	4,899 (447)	14.1 (0.8)	11.5 (1.0)
45–64	4,159 (430)	12.0 (0.9)	10.4 (1.1)
65–74	1,368 (183)	3.9 (0.4)	9.1 (1.2)
75 and over	1,546 (223)	4.4 (0.5)	16.5 (2.4)
Geographic region			
Northeast.	6,091 (1,019)	17.5 (2.8)	11.0 (1.8)
Midwest	6,945 (983)	20.0 (2.8)	10.3 (1.5)
South	13,588 (2,089)	39.1 (4.4)	10.9 (1.7)
West	8,122 (1,608)	23.4 (3.9)	10.5 (2.1)

... Category not applicable.

[1]Visit rates for age, sex, and region are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as of July 1, 2020, from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

[2]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 2020, injury visits were based on ICD–10–CM and information indicating that the visit is 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 represent 26.5% of all emergency department visits. For more details, see the 2020 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/ Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-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, 2020.

Table 14. Injury visits to emergency departments, by race, age, and ethnicity: United States, 2020

Patient characteristic	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Number of visits per 100 people[1] (standard error)
All injury visits[2].	34,746 (2,989)	100.0 …	10.7 (0.9)
Race[3] and age group (years)			
White	26,115 (2,363)	75.2 (1.8)	10.6 (1.0)
Under 15.	4,593 (655)	13.2 (1.4)	10.8 (1.5)
15–24	3,489 (391)	10.0 (0.7)	11.4 (1.3)
25–44	6,516 (683)	18.8 (1.2)	10.2 (1.1)
45–64	5,531 (579)	15.9 (1.1)	8.6 (0.9)
65–74	2,442 (288)	7.0 (0.5)	9.1 (1.1)
75 and over	3,545 (421)	10.2 (0.8)	18.9 (2.2)
Black or African American	7,123 (851)	20.5 (1.8)	16.5 (2.0)
Under 15	1,414 (343)	4.1 (0.9)	15.3 (3.7)
15–24	1,519 (233)	4.4 (0.6)	24.9 (3.8)
25–44	2,104 (314)	6.1 (0.8)	17.1 (2.6)
45–64	1,480 (229)	4.3 (0.6)	14.3 (2.2)
65–74	405 (72)	1.2 (0.2)	12.2 (2.2)
75 and over	* …	0.6 (0.1)	10.5 (2.5)
Other race groups[4]	1,507 (267)	4.3 (0.7)	4.4 (0.8)
Ethnicity[3]			
Hispanic or Latino	4,955 (848)	14.3 (2.0)	8.2 (1.4)
Not Hispanic or Latino	29,791 (2,592)	85.7 (2.0)	11.3 (1.0)
White	21,522 (2,035)	61.9 (2.7)	11.1 (1.0)
Black or African American	6,923 (835)	19.9 (1.8)	17.2 (2.1)
Other race groups[4]	1,346 (229)	3.9 (0.6)	4.5 (0.8)

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

[1]Visit rates are based on estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutional population as of July 1, 2020, from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

[2]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 2020, injury visits were based on ICD–10–CM and information indicating that the visit is 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 represent 26.5% of all emergency department visits. For more details, see the 2020 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/doc20-ed-508.pdf.

[3]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 2020, race data were missing for 13.1% of injury visits, and ethnicity data were missing for 11.1% of injury visits. The National Center for Health Statistics uses model-based single imputation for NHAMCS 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 race categories other than White or Black. The imputation technique is detailed in the 2020 NHAMCS public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-ed-508.pdf.

[4]Includes Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and people of 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, 2020.

Table 15. Emergency department visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect, by intent: United States, 2020

Intent[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All injury visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect[2]	37,969 (3,314)	100.0 …
Unintentional	24,221 (2,256)	63.8 (1.4)
Self-harm	187 (46)	0.5 (0.1)
Assault	1,375 (180)	3.6 (0.4)
Legal intervention or war	* …	0.1 (0.1)
Undetermined or other[3]	870 (137)	2.3 (0.3)
Blank cause	11,273 (1,089)	29.7 (1.4)

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

[1]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.

[2]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 is 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 accounted for 28.9% (standard error = 0.9) of all emergency department visits in 2020.

[3]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 2020 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-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, 2020.

Table 16. Emergency department visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect, by mechanism: United States, 2020

Mechanism[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All injury visits related to injury, poisoning, and adverse effect[2]	37,969 (3,314)	100.0 …
Cut or pierce	1,877 (236)	4.9 (0.6)
Drowning or submersion	* …	* …
Fall	9,915 (889)	26.1 (1.0)
Fire or burn	371 (71)	1.0 (0.2)
Fire or flame	* …	0.3 (0.1)
Hot object or substance	259 (60)	0.7 (0.2)
Firearm	* …	0.4 (0.1)
Machinery	* …	0.4 (0.2)
All transportation	5,137 (670)	13.5 (0.9)
Motor vehicle—traffic	3,870 (512)	10.2 (0.8)
Motor vehicle—nontraffic	*687 (219)	1.8 (0.5)
Pedal cyclist, other	265 (59)	0.7 (0.1)
Pedestrian, other	* …	0.2 (0.1)
Other land transport	* …	0.6 (0.2)
Other transport	* …	0.0 (0.0)
Natural or environmental[3]	1,266 (198)	3.3 (0.4)
Overexertion	1,296 (207)	3.4 (0.4)
Struck by or against	4,024 (418)	10.6 (0.7)
Other specified[4]	615 (90)	1.6 (0.2)
Unspecified or other[5]	1,824 (261)	4.8 (0.5)
Blank cause	11,273 (1,089)	29.7 (1.4)

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

[1]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.

[2]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 is 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 accounted for 28.9% (standard error = 0.9) of all emergency department visits in 2020.

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

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

[5]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 2020 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey public-use data file documentation, available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NHAMCS/doc20-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, 2020.

Table 17. Selected diagnostic and screening services ordered or provided at emergency department visits: United States, 2020

Diagnostic and screening services ordered or provided	Number of visits[1] (standard error) in thousands	Percent of visits (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	... ...
One or more diagnostic or screening service listed	102,200 (9,661)	77.8 (2.2)
None.	22,972 (2,064)	17.5 (1.4)
Blank	6,125 (3,020)	* ...
Blood tests		
Complete blood count	57,498 (5,821)	43.8 (2.2)
Creatinine or renal function panel	*5,946 (1,809)	4.5 (1.3)
Glucose, serum	8,208 (1,876)	6.3 (1.3)
Electrolytes	*3,468 (1,740)	* ...
Prothrombin time (PT/PTT/INR)[2].	12,330 (1,566)	9.4 (0.9)
Liver enzymes or hepatic function panel	5,835 (1,024)	4.4 (0.7)
Cardiac enzymes.	11,432 (2,112)	8.7 (1.4)
Comprehensive metabolic panel	46,425 (5,252)	35.4 (2.2)
Blood culture	7,579 (1,090)	5.8 (0.6)
Brain natriuretic peptide.	6,092 (917)	4.6 (0.5)
D-dimer	3,298 (495)	2.5 (0.3)
Arterial blood gases.	3,315 (595)	2.5 (0.4)
Blood alcohol concentration	4,270 (903)	3.3 (0.6)
Basic metabolic panel	13,250 (2,055)	10.1 (1.5)
Lactate.	5,552 (1,041)	4.2 (0.7)
Other blood test.	34,436 (4,747)	26.2 (2.3)
Any blood test listed	65,496 (6,278)	49.9 (1.9)
Imaging		
X-ray	49,327 (4,857)	37.6 (1.3)
Computed tomography (CT) scan	28,372 (2,740)	21.6 (1.1)
Abdomen or pelvis	11,904 (1,277)	9.1 (0.6)
Chest	4,792 (646)	3.6 (0.3)
Head.	12,593 (1,338)	9.6 (0.6)
Other	5,588 (737)	4.3 (0.4)
Intravenous (IV) contrast with CT	9,344 (1,110)	7.1 (0.6)
Ultrasound.	7,457 (865)	5.7 (0.4)
Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan	1,362 (227)	1.0 (0.1)
IV contrast with MRI	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Other Imaging	1,651 (462)	1.3 (0.3)
Any imaging.	70,098 (6,655)	53.4 (1.7)
Examinations and tests		
Cardiac monitor.	10,931 (1,682)	8.3 (1.1)
Urinalysis or urine dipstick.	35,149 (3,658)	26.8 (1.3)
Electrocardiogram	32,432 (3,314)	24.7 (1.2)
Urine culture	13,412 (1,624)	10.2 (0.9)
Pregnancy or HCG test[3]	11,398 (1,340)	8.7 (0.6)
Toxicology screen	7,757 (1,020)	5.9 (0.5)
Influenza test.	7,999 (1,363)	6.1 (0.8)
Throat culture	*2,188 (704)	1.7 (0.5)
Wound culture	505 (118)	0.4 (0.1)
Other culture	1,602 (327)	1.2 (0.2)
HIV test	946 (158)	0.7 (0.1)
Other test or service	32,377 (4,907)	24.7 (2.8)

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

[1]Total number of visits exceeds "All visits" and percent of visits exceeds 100% because more than one service may be reported per visit.

[2]PTT is partial thromboplastin time. INR is international normalized ratio.

[3]HCG is human chorionic gonadotropin.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 18. Selected procedures at emergency department visits: United States, 2020

Procedure performed	Number of visits[1] (standard error) in thousands	Percent of visits (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	... ...
One or more procedures listed	56,321 (6,006)	42.9 (2.5)
Intravenous fluids	34,664 (4,078)	26.4 (1.9)
Cast, splint, wrap	6,038 (705)	4.6 (0.3)
Suturing or staples	3,283 (361)	2.5 (0.2)
Incision and drainage	1,449 (312)	1.1 (0.2)
Nebulizer therapy	3,128 (511)	2.4 (0.3)
Bladder catheter	2,130 (408)	1.6 (0.3)
Pelvic examination	1,215 (228)	0.9 (0.2)
Central line	*2,082 (871)	1.6 (0.6)
Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)	* ...	0.1 (0.0)
Endotracheal intubation	393 (105)	0.3 (0.1)
Skin adhesives	2,511 (431)	1.9 (0.3)
BiPAP or CPAP[2]	872 (207)	0.7 (0.2)
Lumbar puncture	* ...	0.0 (0.0)
Other[3]	14,326 (2,948)	10.9 (2.0)
None[4]	65,250 (6,496)	49.7 (3.0)
Blank[5]	*9,726 (3,511)	* ...

... 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

[1]Total number of visits exceeds "All visits" and percent of visits exceeds 100% because more than one service may be reported per visit.

[2]BiPAP is variable or bilevel positive airway pressure, and CPAP is continuous positive airway pressure.

[3]Includes all other procedures not listed above.

[4]The ''None'' checkbox was marked on the Patient Record Form (PRF).

[5]No checkboxes were marked on PRF.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 19. Medication therapy and number of medications mentioned at emergency department visits: United States, 2020

Medication therapy[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	100.0 …
Visits with mention of medication[2]	100,137 (9,417)	76.3 (2.2)
Visits without mention of medication	31,159 (3,641)	23.7 (2.2)
Number of medications provided or prescribed[3]		
0	31,159 (3,641)	23.7 (2.2)
1	24,415 (2,219)	18.6 (0.9)
2	24,063 (2,364)	18.3 (0.7)
3	15,636 (1,559)	11.9 (0.5)
4	12,297 (1,317)	9.4 (0.5)
5	7,758 (868)	5.9 (0.3)
6	4,805 (546)	3.7 (0.3)
7	3,319 (486)	2.5 (0.3)
8	2,108 (355)	1.6 (0.2)
9	1,227 (235)	0.9 (0.2)
10	852 (151)	0.6 (0.1)
11	658 (196)	0.5 (0.1)
12	*544 (215)	0.4 (0.2)
13 or more	*2,456 (1,081)	1.9 (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).

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

[2] 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.

[3] There were 341,607,000 drug mentions at emergency department visits in 2020. 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 3.4 drugs per visit.

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

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 20. Twenty most frequently mentioned drugs at emergency department visits, by therapeutic drug category: United States, 2020

Drug category[1]	Number of occurrences (standard error) in thousands	Percent of drug mentions[2] (standard error)
Analgesics[3]	84,006 (9,649)	23.7 (1.0)
Minerals and electrolytes	39,123 (4,663)	11.1 (0.8)
Antiemetic or antivertigo agents	34,418 (3,566)	9.7 (0.6)
Miscellaneous respiratory agents	29,916 (3,793)	8.5 (0.7)
Anxiolytics, sedatives, and hypnotics	13,972 (1,860)	3.9 (0.2)
Cephalosporins	12,128 (1,359)	3.4 (0.4)
Bronchodilators	11,780 (1,819)	3.3 (0.3)
Anticonvulsants	9,821 (1,571)	2.8 (0.2)
Antihistamines	9,714 (1,354)	2.7 (0.1)
Adrenal cortical steroids	9,475 (1,248)	2.7 (0.2)
Dermatological agents	8,324 (1,377)	2.4 (0.2)
Radiocontrast agents	8,105 (1,256)	2.3 (0.3)
Local injectable anesthetics	7,902 (984)	2.2 (0.2)
Antiarrhythmic agents	7,337 (918)	2.1 (0.2)
Penicillins	6,732 (721)	1.9 (0.2)
Antiplatelet agents	6,255 (1,358)	1.8 (0.2)
Muscle relaxants	5,788 (860)	1.6 (0.1)
Laxatives	5,788 (858)	1.6 (0.1)
Antiparkinson agents	5,193 (632)	1.5 (0.1)
Proton pump inhibitors	5,070 (1,340)	1.4 (0.2)

[1]Based on Cerner Multum second-level therapeutic drug category (available from: https://www.cerner.com/solutions/drug-database).
[2]Based on an estimated 353,845,000 drug mentions at emergency department visits in 2020. Drug mentions are medications given in emergency departments or prescribed at discharge.
[3]Includes narcotics (7.5%), nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (8.7%), and other analgesics (including salicylates, analgesic combinations, antimigraine agents, Cox-2 inhibitors, and miscellaneous analgesics) (7.6%).

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2020 Emergency Department Summary Tables

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Table 21. Twenty most frequently mentioned drugs at emergency department visits: United States, 2020

Drug name[1]	Number of drug mentions (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Percent of drug mentions (standard error)					Therapeutic drug category[3]
			Total	Given in emergency department	Prescribed at discharge	Both given in emergency department and prescribed at discharge	Unknown[2]	
All drug mentions.	353,845 (44,004)	100.0 …	100.0	58.7 (4.4)	33.5 (4.8)	7.4 (0.6)	0.4 (0.2)	…
Sodium chloride	29,870 (3,784)	8.4 (0.7)	100.0	98.5 (0.4)	1.0 (0.3)	* …	0.4 (0.2)	Minerals and electrolytes, Miscellaneous respiratory agents
Acetaminophen	20,395 (2,320)	5.8 (0.4)	100.0	53.8 (4.7)	34.6 (4.7)	11.3 (1.4)	* …	Analgesics
Ondansetron.	19,212 (2,028)	5.4 (0.4)	100.0	65.2 (1.9)	16.7 (1.6)	17.6 (1.4)	0.5 (0.3)	Antiemetic or antivertigo agents
Ibuprofen	16,016 (2,038)	4.5 (0.4)	100.0	31.9 (3.2)	50.9 (4.2)	17.1 (2.0)	* …	Analgesics
Ketorolac	10,753 (1,502)	3.0 (0.3)	100.0	88.9 (2.5)	7.4 (1.6)	* …	* …	Analgesics
Albuterol	7,067 (1,051)	2.0 (0.2)	100.0	40.2 (4.9)	45.8 (4.8)	13.7 (2.0)	* …	Bronchodilators
Morphine	6,440 (801)	1.8 (0.2)	100.0	99.5 (0.2)	0.3 (0.2)	* …	* …	Analgesics
Acetaminophen-hydrocodone.	6,304 (900)	1.8 (0.2)	100.0	37.1 (3.5)	47.5 (3.6)	15.1 (2.0)	* …	Analgesics
Lidocaine	5,924 (734)	1.7 (0.2)	100.0	78.5 (3.4)	13.5 (2.7)	7.9 (2.0)	* …	Antiarrhythmic agents, Local injectable anesthetics
Aspirin	5,602 (1,166)	1.6 (0.2)	100.0	* …	* …	3.3 (1.1)	0.4 (0.3)	Analgesics, Antiplatelet agents
Ceftriaxone	5,429 (735)	1.5 (0.2)	100.0	97.9 (0.6)	0.9 (0.4)	1.0 (0.5)	* …	Cephalosporins
Diphenhydramine	4,606 (506)	1.3 (0.1)	100.0	74.9 (3.2)	12.6 (2.3)	12.5 (2.5)	* …	Antiemetic or antivertigo agents, Antihistamines, Antiparkinson agents, Anxiolytics, sedatives, and hypnotics
Azithromycin.	4,395 (593)	1.2 (0.2)	100.0	51.5 (5.0)	41.0 (5.4)	6.4 (1.5)	* …	Macrolide derivatives
Prednisone	4,318 (633)	1.2 (0.1)	100.0	17.5 (2.4)	64.9 (3.7)	17.3 (2.6)	* …	Adrenal cortical steroids
Cephalexin	4,231 (512)	1.2 (0.2)	100.0	14.4 (2.4)	68.8 (3.9)	16.7 (3.0)	* …	Cephalosporins
Lorazepam	3,801 (544)	1.1 (0.1)	100.0	82.6 (5.9)	* …	6.2 (1.6)	* …	Anticonvulsants, Antiemetic or antivertigo agents, Anxiolytics, sedatives, and hypnotics
Famotidine	3,615 (471)	1.0 (0.1)	100.0	56.6 (3.8)	29.8 (4.4)	13.2 (2.6)	* …	H2 antagonists
Hydromorphone	3,501 (655)	1.0 (0.1)	100.0	96.9 (1.3)	* …	* …	* …	Analgesics
Iopamidol	3,396 (821)	1.0 (0.2)	100.0	99.7 (0.2)	* …	* …	* …	Radiocontrast agents
Pantoprazole	2,988 (475)	0.8 (0.1)	100.0	57.5 (4.8)	32.4 (5.3)	8.3 (1.8)	* …	Proton pump inhibitors
All other	185,991 (28,448)	52.6 (2.4)	100.0	51.1 (6.0)	42.4 (6.5)	6.0 (0.7)	*0.5 (0.3)	…

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

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

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

[3] 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, 2020.

Table 22. Providers seen at emergency department visits: United States, 2020

Type of provider	Number of visits[1] (standard error) in thousands	Percent of visits (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	... ...
Any physician	112,907 (9,141)	86.0 (1.8)
Emergency department attending physician	108,953 (8,782)	83.0 (2.0)
Emergency department resident or intern	20,112 (3,561)	15.3 (2.5)
Consulting physician	20,592 (2,614)	15.7 (1.3)
Registered nurse or licensed practical nurse	119,747 (11,517)	91.2 (2.2)
Any physician seen	103,217 (9,352)	78.6 (2.4)
Physician not seen	16,530 (3,278)	12.6 (1.9)
Nurse practitioner	13,319 (2,091)	10.1 (1.3)
Any physician seen	7,483 (1,586)	5.7 (1.1)
Physician not seen	5,836 (1,079)	4.4 (0.7)
Physician assistant	17,546 (3,039)	13.4 (1.8)
Any physician seen	8,385 (1,292)	6.4 (0.9)
Physician not seen	9,161 (2,454)	7.0 (1.6)
Emergency medical technician	9,973 (1,986)	7.6 (1.2)
Mental health provider	3,776 (892)	2.9 (0.7)
Other	46,029 (6,753)	35.1 (3.9)
Blank	* ...	0.3 (0.1)

... 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

[1]Total number of visits exceeds "All visits" and percent of visits exceeds 100% because more than one provider may be reported per visit.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 23. Disposition of emergency department visits: United States, 2020

Disposition	Number of visits[1] (standard error) in thousands	Percent of visits (standard error)
All visits	131,297 (11,295)	... ...
Admitted, transferred, or died		
Admit to this hospital	18,593 (2,082)	14.2 (0.9)
Critical care unit	3,062 (541)	2.3 (0.4)
Stepdown or telemetry unit.	*436 (150)	0.3 (0.1)
Operation room	1,544 (298)	1.2 (0.2)
Mental health or detoxification unit.	991 (297)	0.8 (0.2)
Cardiac catheterization lab.	501 (141)	0.4 (0.1)
Other bed or unit	9,352 (1,342)	7.1 (0.8)
Unknown or blank.	2,707 (706)	2.1 (0.5)
Admit to observation unit.	2,703 (439)	2.1 (0.3)
Then hospitalized	933 (194)	0.7 (0.1)
Then discharged.	1,769 (309)	1.3 (0.2)
Return or transfer to nursing home	907 (264)	0.7 (0.2)
Transfer to psychiatric hospital	1,607 (318)	1.2 (0.2)
Transfer to other hospital.	2,397 (352)	1.8 (0.2)
Dead in emergency department[2].	*452 (248)	0.3 (0.2)
Outpatient follow-up		
Return or refer to physician or clinic for follow-up	82,930 (7,654)	63.2 (1.9)
No follow-up planned.	14,286 (2,450)	10.9 (1.7)
Left before completing visit		
Left without being seen	1,308 (243)	1.0 (0.2)
Left before treatment complete	1,023 (192)	0.8 (0.1)
Left against medical advice.	1,670 (316)	1.3 (0.2)
Other	2,379 (585)	1.8 (0.4)
Blank	954 (243)	0.7 (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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

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

[2]Includes "Dead on arrival."

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 24. Emergency department visits resulting in hospital admission, by selected patient and visit characteristics: United States, 2020

Patient and visit characteristics	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)	Mean length of stay[1] in days (standard error)	Admissions as percent of visits (standard error)
All admissions	18,593 (2,082)	100.0 ...	5.9 (0.3)	14.2 (0.9)
Age group (years)				
Under 15	*640 (194)	3.4 (1.0)	4.7 (1.3)	3.5 (0.9)
15–24.	971 (160)	5.2 (0.7)	4.4 (0.3)	5.6 (0.8)
25–44.	2,719 (374)	14.6 (1.3)	5.1 (0.6)	7.4 (0.8)
45–64.	5,479 (619)	29.5 (1.3)	6.0 (0.5)	17.3 (1.2)
65–74.	3,988 (548)	21.4 (1.5)	6.2 (0.5)	31.0 (2.4)
75 and over	4,797 (696)	25.8 (2.0)	6.5 (0.3)	34.4 (2.8)
Residence				
Private.	15,868 (1,899)	85.3 (2.8)	5.7 (0.3)	13.2 (1.0)
Nursing home	1,067 (192)	5.7 (0.9)	8.4 (1.2)	40.9 (4.6)
Homeless.	253 (66)	1.4 (0.3)	10.7 (3.7)	12.8 (3.1)
Other	* ...	1.1 (0.3)	5.9 (1.1)	15.5 (3.7)
Unknown or blank	*1,200 (547)	* ...	5.6 (0.9)	24.3 (2.8)
Expected sources of payment[2]				
Private insurance.	6,282 (836)	33.8 (2.8)	5.4 (0.3)	15.8 (1.3)
Medicare	8,415 (1,063)	45.3 (2.6)	6.4 (0.3)	29.6 (2.1)
Medicaid or CHIP[3] or other state-based program	4,578 (669)	24.6 (2.8)	5.9 (0.9)	9.5 (1.1)
No insurance[4]	651 (191)	3.5 (0.9)	4.2 (0.2)	6.2 (1.5)
Mode of arrival				
Ambulance.	8,081 (999)	43.5 (1.9)	7.1 (0.5)	31.2 (2.0)
Other	10,513 (1,204)	56.5 (1.9)	5.0 (0.3)	10.0 (0.7)
Triage category				
Immediate or emergent[5]	5,345 (907)	28.7 (3.2)	6.8 (0.5)	33.9 (2.5)
Other	13,248 (1,511)	71.3 (3.2)	5.5 (0.3)	11.5 (0.9)
Patient seen in this emergency department during the last 72 hours				
Yes.	704 (139)	3.8 (0.7)	5.7 (0.7)	14.4 (1.7)
No, unknown, or blank.	17,889 (2,020)	96.2 (0.7)	5.9 (0.3)	14.2 (1.0)
Length of stay (days)				
1–2.	3,929 (529)	21.1 (1.8)	... ...	... ...
3–4.	5,429 (694)	29.2 (1.7)	... ...	... ...
5–6.	2,720 (376)	14.6 (1.3)	... ...	... ...
7–8.	1,538 (294)	8.3 (1.1)	... ...	... ...
9–10.	998 (175)	5.4 (0.6)	... ...	... ...
More than 10	2,005 (324)	10.8 (1.1)	... ...	... ...
Unknown or blank	*1,974 (663)	* ...	... ...	... ...
Hospital discharge status				
Alive.	16,842 (1,989)	90.6 (2.6)	5.8 (0.3)	... ...
Home or residence.	12,879 (1,623)	76.5 (2.8)	5.0 (0.3)	... ...
Return or transfer to nursing home	1,503 (279)	8.9 (1.2)	10.0 (1.6)	... ...
Transfer to another facility	1,308 (243)	7.8 (1.0)	8.8 (0.8)	... ...
Other	* ...	1.2 (0.4)	5.6 (1.7)	... ...
Unknown or blank.	*948 (353)	* ...	6.2 (0.8)	... ...
Died	543 (123)	2.9 (0.5)	8.7 (2.1)	... ...
Unknown or blank	*1,208 (500)	* ...	4.8 (1.1)	... ...

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 24. Emergency department visits resulting in hospital admission, by selected patient and visit characteristics: United States, 2020—Con.

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

[1]Denominator for length of stay for 16,619,000 visits where this variable was known. Length of stay was unknown for 10.6% (weighted) of visits resulting in admission.

[2]Total number of visits exceeds "All admissions" and percent distribution 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 9.3% (weighted) of expected sources of payment.

[3]Children's Health Insurance Program.

[4]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.

[5]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, 2020.

Table 25. Principal hospital discharge diagnoses for patients admitted through the emergency department, by major disease category: United States, 2020

Major disease category and ICD–10–CM code range[1]	Number of visits (standard error) in thousands	Percent distribution (standard error)
All visits	18,593 (2,082)	100.0 …
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases A00–B99	765 (134)	4.1 (0.5)
Neoplasms C00–D49	* …	1.0 (0.3)
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism. D50–D89	365 (94)	2.0 (0.4)
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases E00–E89	535 (98)	2.9 (0.5)
Mental, behavioral and neurodevelopmental disorders F01–F99	954 (241)	5.1 (1.3)
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs[2] G00–G99, H00–H95	467 (137)	2.5 (0.6)
Diseases of the circulatory system. I00–I99	2,437 (425)	13.1 (1.5)
Diseases of the respiratory system J00–J99	1,883 (307)	10.1 (1.2)
Diseases of the digestive system K00–K95	1,950 (333)	10.5 (1.3)
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue L00–L99	442 (79)	2.4 (0.4)
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue M00–M99	* …	0.8 (0.2)
Diseases of the genitourinary system N00–N99	1,064 (232)	5.7 (1.0)
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium O00–O9A	* …	0.8 (0.3)
Symptoms, signs, and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified R00–R99	2,883 (451)	15.5 (1.5)
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes S00–T88	1,300 (195)	7.0 (0.7)
Codes for special purposes[3] U00–U85	587 (126)	3.2 (0.5)
All other diagnoses[4]	*717 (245)	3.9 (1.3)
Unknown or blank.	*1,754 (589)	9.4 (3.1)

… 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

[1]Based on the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification*. However, certain codes have been combined in this table to better describe the use of ambulatory care services.

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

[3]The only code in this category is U07.1 for COVID-19.

[4]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 due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2020.

Table 26. Hospital and emergency department characteristics, by emergency department visit volume: United States, 2020

Hospital and emergency department characteristics	Total[1]	Fewer than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	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...	58.1 (5.7)	* ...	* ...	* ...
No..	28.8 (5.3)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank.............................	13.1 (3.7)	* ...	* ...	* ...
How often hospital bed census data are available:				
Instantaneously	68.6 (4.4)	59.0 (6.9)	77.6 (5.6)	* ...
Every 4 hours.................................	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Every 8 hours.................................	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Every 12 hours................................	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Every 24 hours...............................	14.0 (3.0)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank.............................	9.9 (2.8)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Has hospitalists on staff:				
Yes...	77.6 (6.2)	* ...	**87.6 (5.5)	* ...
No..	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank.............................	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Has emergency medicine residency program:				
Yes...	24.2 (3.8)	* ...	17.0 (4.4)	* ...
No..	64.6 (3.8)	66.6 (6.3)	70.9 (5.5)	* ...
Unknown or blank.............................	11.2 (2.7)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Emergency department (ED) characteristic				
ED uses electronic medical records or health records:				
Yes, all electronic	**89.3 (3.6)	**85.8 (5.9)	**90.8 (3.8)	**95.7 (3.2)
Yes, part paper and part electronic................	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
No..	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank, or refused to answer	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
ED has physically separate observation or clinical decision unit:				
Yes...	37.2 (5.1)	* ...	* ...	* ...
No..	56.7 (5.1)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Admitted patients were ever boarded 2 hours or more in ED or observation while waiting for inpatient bed:				
Yes...	56.0 (4.8)	* ...	* ...	**91.0 (4.9)
No..	38.8 (4.6)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank.............................	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
ED went on ambulance diversion in 2019:				
Yes...	32.3 (4.2)	23.8 (6.9)	* ...	* ...
No..	62.1 (4.5)	76.2 (6.9)	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank.............................	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 26. Hospital and emergency department characteristics, by emergency department visit volume: United States, 2020—Con.

Hospital and emergency department characteristics	Total[1]	Fewer than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 or more
Emergency department (ED) characteristic—Con.	Percent distribution (standard error)			
Ambulance diversion actively managed on regional level compared with each hospital adopting diversion if and when it chooses[2]:				
Yes	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
No.	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank.	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Hospital continues to admit elective or scheduled surgery cases when ED is on ambulance diversion[2]:				
Yes	**80.2 (6.7)	* ...	**88.2 (5.8)	* ...
No.	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
Unknown or blank.	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
ED increased the number of standard treatment spaces in last 2 years:				
Yes	15.3 (3.4)	* ...	* ...	* ...
No.	81.2 (3.5)	**81.5 (5.9)	**87.1 (4.9)	* ...
Unknown or blank.	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
ED physical space was expanded in last 2 years:				
Yes	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
No.	87.7 (3.0)	**93.6 (3.6)	**85.2 (5.5)	* ...
Unknown or blank.	* ...	* ...	* ...	* ...
ED plans to expand physical space in next 2 years[3]:				
Yes	7.0 (1.6)	* ...	* ...	* ...
No.	78.3 (3.5)	**85.8 (5.4)	72.3 (6.8)	69.0 (6.9)
Unknown or blank.	14.7 (3.1)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Services ED uses:				
Bedside registration	**84.0 (5.1)	* ...	**91.1 (4.1)	**96.3 (3.0)
Kiosk self check-in	10.2 (2.7)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Computer-assisted triage	47.3 (4.4)	46.6 (6.4)	* ...	* ...
Immediate bedding.	71.1 (4.4)	* ...	77.9 (6.6)	* ...
Advanced triage (triage-based care) protocols	70.9 (6.0)	* ...	71.3 (6.0)	86.1 (5.4)
Physician or practitioner at triage.	40.8 (5.0)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Separate fast-track unit for nonurgent care	43.4 (5.1)	* ...	* ...	* ...
Separate operating room dedicated to ED patients	13.1 (3.2)	* ...	* ...	19.0 (5.6)
Electronic dashboard[4]	85.6 (3.4)	**84.0 (5.4)	**86.0 (4.7)	**88.8 (5.6)
Radio frequency identification tracking[5]	35.6 (4.7)	37.3 (6.8)	* ...	* ...
Wireless devices by providers	76.3 (4.4)	78.1 (6.2)	* ...	**97.2 (2.8)
Zone nursing[6].	53.0 (5.8)	* ...	* ...	76.0 (7.1)
Pool nurses[7].	53.0 (6.8)	* ...	* ...	58.8 (7.2)

... 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), in which case only an asterisk is shown.

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

[1]Number of sampled hospitals for all EDs (sample = 176); fewer than 20,000 (sample = 50); 20,000 to 49,999 (sample = 74); and 50,000 or more (sample = 52).

[2]Denominator is number of EDs on ambulance diversion or for which ambulance diversion status is unknown.

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

[4]Displays updated patient information and integrates multiple data sources.

[5]Shows the exact location of patients, caregivers, and equipment.

[6]Refers to all of a nurse's patients being located in one area.

[7]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, 2020.

CS335182