Data Brief 408. Characteristics of Office-based Physician Visits, 2018

Data table for Figure 1. Visit rates, by selected demographics: United States, 2018

Patient characteristic	Visit rate per 100 persons	Standard error
Total visits	267	12
Age group (years)		
Under 1	596	87
1–17	153	19
18–44	173	13
45–64	302	18
65 and over	550	36
Sex		
Male	224	12
Female	308	15

NOTES: Visit rates are based on the July 1, 2018, set of estimates of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States, as developed by the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Total visits includes all visits by patients of all ages.

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

Data table for Figure 2. Primary expected source of payment, by age: United States, 2018

Expected source of payment and age group (years)	Percent	Standard error
Total visits	100	…
Private	50	2
Medicaid	12	1
Medicare	29	2
No insurance	7	2
Under 18	100	…
Private	64	5
Medicaid	30	5
Medicare	1	Less than 1
No insurance	3	1
18–64	100	…
Private	67	3
Medicaid	14	2
Medicare	6	1
No insurance	11	4
65 and over	100	…
Private	16	2
Medicaid	2	Less than 1
Medicare	80	2
No insurance	2	1

… Category not applicable.

NOTES: All sources of payment were combined into one mutually exclusive primary source of payment, using the following hierarchy: Medicare, Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program, or other state-based program; private insurance; and no insurance. Total visits includes all visits by patients of all ages. No insurance was defined as having only self-pay, no charge, or charity as payment sources. Numbers may not add to 100% because other sources of payment were not included in this table. Other sources of payment and missing or blank data represent 7.7% (weighted) of visits. Excludes 6.2% (weighted) of visits for which data were missing or blank.

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

Data table for Figure 3. Major reason for office-based physician visits, by age: United States, 2018

Reason for visit and age group (years)	Percent	Standard error
Total visits	100	…
Injury	6	1
Preventive care	23	2
Chronic condition	39	2
New problem	24	1
Pre- or postsurgery	8	2
Under 18	100	…
Injury	5	1
Preventive care	38	3
Chronic condition	13	2
New problem	43	4
Pre- or postsurgery	1	Less than 1
18–64	100	…
Injury	6	1
Preventive care	23	2
Chronic condition	38	3
New problem	22	2
Pre- or postsurgery	11	3
65 and over	100	…
Injury	5	1
Preventive care	16	3
Chronic condition	52	3
New problem	18	2
Pre- or postsurgery	8	1

… Category not applicable.

NOTES: Provider-assessed major reason for visit was combined with injury to create a combined mutually exclusive reason for visit, with an injury visit having precedence over all other reasons. Total visits includes all visits by patients of all ages. Numbers may not add to 100% due to rounding. Excludes 2.4% (weighted) of visits for which data were missing either injury or reason for visit.

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

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Data table for Figure 4. Selected services ordered or provided at office-based physician visits, by age: United States, 2018

Selected services ordered or provided and age group (years)	Percent	Standard error
Total visits	100	…
Examinations or screenings	45	2
Laboratory tests	24	1
Health education or counseling	19	2
Imaging services	13	1
Procedures	11	1
Under 18	100	…
Examinations or screenings	57	5
Laboratory tests	18	3
Health education or counseling	28	5
Imaging services	3	1
Procedures	9	3
18–64	100	…
Examinations or screenings	44	3
Laboratory tests	26	2
Health education or counseling	20	2
Imaging services	15	1
Procedures	10	1
65 and over	100	…
Examinations or screenings	42	3
Laboratory tests	24	2
Health education or counseling	13	2
Imaging services	14	2
Procedures	12	1

… Category not applicable.

NOTES: Numbers may not add to 100% because more than one service may be reported per visit. Total visits includes all visits by patients of all ages. See the definitions section in this report for the specific services included in each category.

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