

Data Brief 478. Emergency Department Visits by Selected Characteristics: United States, 2021

Data table for Figure 1. Emergency department visit rates, by age group: United States, 2021

Age group (years)	Visit rate per 100 people	Standard error	95% confidence interval
Total	43	2.6	37.7–47.8
Under 1	103	17.7	68.5–137.8
1–17	36	4.5	27.2–44.9
18–44	45	2.9	38.9–50.4
45–64	39	2.6	33.4–43.6
65–74	39	2.8	34.0–44.9
75 and over	66	5.1	55.5–75.6

NOTES: Data are based on a sample of 16,207 emergency department visits made by patients in 2021, representing about 140 million emergency department visits. Visit rates are based on the July 1, 2021, set of estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population developed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2021.



**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**  
National Center for Health Statistics

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Data table for Figure 2. Emergency department visit rates, by patient sex and race and ethnicity: United States, 2021

Characteristic	Visit rate per 100 people	Standard error	95% confidence interval
Total . . . . .	43	2.6	37.7–47.8
Sex			
Female . . . . .	46	2.9	39.9–51.1
Male . . . . .	40	2.4	35.1–44.6
Race and ethnicity			
Hispanic . . . . .	36	4.0	27.8–43.5
Black or African American, non-Hispanic . . . . .	81	7.9	65.4–96.4
White, non-Hispanic . . . . .	41	3.0	35.2–47.0
Other races, non-Hispanic . . . . .	17	1.8	13.0–20.1

NOTES: Data are based on a sample of 16,207 emergency department visits made by patients in 2021, representing about 140 million emergency department visits. Visit rates are based on the July 1, 2021, sets of estimates of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population developed by the U.S. Census Bureau. For 2021, 20.3% of weighted race data and 15.3% of weighted ethnicity data were missing for emergency department visits, and race and ethnicity were imputed for these missing records. Race and Hispanic ethnicity were collected separately, imputed, and converted into a single combined variable that includes Hispanic, Black or African American non-Hispanic, and White non-Hispanic patients, and patients of other non-Hispanic races. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Race and ethnicity data were imputed on the data file using a model-based, single, sequential regression imputation method, with missing race values imputed as Black, White, or other races, and Hispanic ethnicity imputed as Hispanic or non-Hispanic. Other non-Hispanic races includes Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander patients, and patients of two or more races.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2021.

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**Data table for Figure 3. Emergency department visit rates, by primary expected source of payment: United States, 2021**

Primary expected source of payment	Visit rate per 100 people	Standard error	95% confidence interval
Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program, and other state-based programs . . . . .	89	7.1	74.8–102.5
Medicare . . . . .	46	3.6	38.5–52.8
Other payment sources . . . . .	43	5.0	32.7–52.2
No insurance . . . . .	33	5.6	22.3–44.3
Private insurance . . . . .	22	1.8	18.2–25.2

NOTES: Data are based on a sample of 16,207 emergency department visits made by patients in 2021, representing about 140 million emergency department visits. Visit rates are based on the patient's primary expected source of payment and proportional insurance data from the 2021 National Health Interview Survey, calculated from: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/2020nhis.htm>.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2021.

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Data table for Figure 4. Percentage of emergency department visits with mention of COVID-19: United States, 2021

Measure	Percent	Standard error	95% confidence interval
Any mention of COVID-19 <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	14.2	1.4	11.6–17.3
Confirmed case <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	3.8	0.4	3.1–4.7
Tested or screened <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	8.8	1.4	6.4–11.8
Other mentions of COVID-19 <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	3.2	0.4	2.4–4.2

<sup>1</sup>Includes all measures shown.

<sup>2</sup>Consists of *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD–10–CM) code U07.1.

<sup>3</sup>Consists of ICD–10–CM code Z11.52 and any mention of COVID-19 testing or screening in validated, word-for-word item notes or medication fields.

<sup>4</sup>Consists of ICD–10–CM code Z20.822 and any other mention of COVID-19 in validated, word-for-word item notes or medication fields that did not mention testing or screening.

NOTES: Categories are not mutually exclusive. Data are based on a sample of 16,207 emergency department visits made by patients in 2021, representing about 140 million emergency department visits.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2021.