

VITAL and HEALTH STATISTICS
DATA FROM THE NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY

volume of
Physician Visits

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by place of visit and type of service

United States - July 1963 - June 1964

Statistics on volume of physician visits by place of visit, type of service, and selected demographic characteristics of the population. Based on data collected in household interviews during the period July 1963-June 1964.

Washington, D.C.

June 1965

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Anthony J. Celebrezze
Secretary

Public Health Service

Luther L. Terry
Surgeon General



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Under the legislation establishing the National Health Survey, the Public Health Service is authorized to use, insofar as possible, the services or facilities of other Federal, State, or private agencies.

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IN THIS REPORT data are presented on the volume of physician visits during the period July 1963-June 1964 for persons in the civilian, non-institutional population of the United States. The distribution of visits is shown by type of service received and place of visit as well as by a number of demographic characteristics of the population.

Another report on physician visits (Series 10, No. 19), also based on data collected during the interval July 1963-June 1964, presents information on medical care by showing the distribution of the population according to the interval since last physician visit. It also presents data by a number of demographic characteristics of the population.

"Physician visits" is a recurrent item rather than a continuous one on the questionnaire used in the Health Interview Survey. Data on this subject were previously collected during the period July 1957-June 1959, and information based on this material was published in Health Statistics, Series B, No. 19. In the current report an attempt has been made to present, where possible, estimates comparable to those published earlier.

During the data collection period, the estimated number of physician visits per year was 844.3 million, representing a rate of 4.5 visits per person. The rate of visits was highest for the very young (under 5 years) and the very old (65 years and over). The frequency of visits increased consistently as the family income increased, from 4.3 visits per person per year among those with family income less than \$2,000 to 5.1 visits for those in families with income of \$10,000 or more. The physician visit rate also varied directly with population density and with the amount of educational attainment of the head of the family.

SYMBOLS

Data not available-----	---
Category not applicable-----	...
Quantity zero-----	-
Quantity more than 0 but less than 0.05----	0.0
Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision-----	*

VOLUME OF PHYSICIAN VISITS

BY PLACE OF VISIT AND TYPE OF SERVICE

Carolanne H. Hoffmann, *Division of Health Interview Statistics*

SELECTED FINDINGS

Persons in the civilian, noninstitutional population of the United States made an average of 4.5 physician visits per person per year during the period July 1963-June 1964. This represents an estimated total of 844.3 million visits to physicians, exclusive of visits to hospital inpatients. Of the total number of physician visits made that year, approximately 70 percent took place in a physician's office, 5 percent in the patient's home, and 12 percent in the outpatient clinic of a hospital. Eleven percent were consultations by telephone.

Of the visits reported during July 1963-June 1964, 81 percent were for diagnosis and/or treatment of an illness or injury, and 8 percent were for general checkups. Vaccinations accounted for 5 percent of the visits, while the remainder were for prenatal and postnatal care or for other reasons.

Among children under 15 years of age, males averaged more physician visits per year than females. However, in every group aged 15 years and over, females had a higher rate of physician visits than males, even when visits for prenatal and postnatal care were excluded.

Families whose head of family had less than 5 years of education averaged 4.0 physician visits per person per year, while those whose head of family had attended college averaged 5.4 visits per person per year.

Persons living in standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) averaged 4.8 visits per person per year; those not residing in SMSA's averaged 4.2 visits. Of the four geographic regions, the West had the highest rate of visits.

The average number of visits per person for white persons was 4.7; for nonwhite persons, the average was 3.3 visits. Members of families having incomes less than \$2,000 had a rate of 4.3 physician visits per person per year, as compared with 5.1 visits for those with family incomes of \$10,000 or more.

Single persons had a lower rate of physician visits per person per year than did married, separated, divorced, or widowed persons, regardless of age. Persons with the greatest degree of activity limitation due to chronic conditions made the largest number of physician visits per person.

SOURCE AND LIMITATIONS OF DATA

The information contained in this publication is derived from household interviews conducted by the Health Interview Survey in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of the Census in a probability sample of the civilian, noninstitutional population of the United States. The sample is designed so that interviews are conducted during every week of the year. For the 52-week period from July 1963-June 1964, the sample was composed of approximately 42,000 households con-

taining about 134,000 persons living at the time of the interview.

A description of the design of the Survey, the methods used in estimation, and the general qualifications of data obtained from surveys is presented in Appendix I. Since the estimates shown in this report are based on a sample of the population rather than on the entire population, they are subject to sampling error. Therefore, particular attention should be paid to the section entitled "Reliability of Estimates." Sampling errors for most of the estimates are of relatively low magnitude. However, where an estimated number or the numerator or denominator of a rate or percentage is small, the sampling error may be high. Charts of relative sampling errors and instructions for their use are shown in Appendix I.

In addition to being affected by sampling error, material pertaining to health items collected in the Health Interview Survey is subject to reporting error. Lack of information on the part of the household respondent, failure to recall accurately events occurring during the reference period, and intentional withholding of information are some of the factors that contribute to the reporting error. Since there is no simple statistical procedure by which to measure this type of error, and because it is known to vary in degree according to the kind of data being collected, methodological studies involving a comparison of health information collected by interview with that available from medical records have been conducted in the Health Interview program.

In carrying out record-check studies, particularly those pertaining to physician visits, it has been necessary for administrative and financial reasons to use selected populations, such as clinic patients, as study groups in order to obtain a group for which medical records were readily available. This qualification, as well as other problems inherent in the record-check method, must be taken into account before the findings of these studies can be applied to the probability sample of the population included in the Health Interview Survey. Some comments on

two of the record-check studies which dealt with physician visits are presented in Appendix IV.

Some of the terms used in this report have specialized meanings, so familiarity with the definitions will assist the reader in interpreting the data presented. Certain terms are defined in Appendix II.

The questions used during the period July 1963-June 1964 to obtain data on the number of physician visits by place and type of service are illustrated in Appendix III. These questions were asked during an interview which included other questions about the health, medical care, and basic demographic characteristics of all persons in the household. Estimates of the annual number of physician visits shown in this report are derived from visits reported to have occurred during the 2-week period prior to the week of interview. Readers who are interested in the entire questionnaire will find it reproduced in the report "Current Estimates From the Health Interview Survey," *Vital and Health Statistics*, Series 10, No. 13.

Comparison of the questions used to obtain data on physician visits in 1958-1959 (see Appendix III) with those used in 1963-1964 shows that in the latter fiscal year a few more "recall" questions were employed than in the earlier year. Since the effect, if any, of the additional probing should have been to increase the rate of physician visits, and since the reported rate decreased between 1958-1959 and 1963-1964, it would seem that the slight changes in wording did not materially affect the estimates for the two collection periods.

INTRODUCTION

The material in this report is based on the 1-year period July 1963-June 1964. This same information was collected during the 2-year period July 1957-June 1959; however, the first of these 2 years yielded atypical rates because of the Asian influenza epidemic which spread throughout the United States during the fall of 1957. Therefore, the only parts of those data which can meaningfully

Table A. Number of acute and chronic conditions seen by a physician per 100 population, by time interval: United States, July 1958-June 1964

Time interval	Acute conditions		Chronic conditions	
	Total	Seen by a physician	Total	Seen by a physician
Number of conditions per 100 population				
July 1958-June 1959-----	214.8	133.6	74.4	64.2
July 1959-June 1960-----	203.4	130.7	77.1	67.0
July 1960-June 1961-----	201.9	126.8	82.5	71.5
July 1961-June 1962-----	222.3	140.0	86.7	75.0
July 1962-June 1963-----	218.8	146.9	89.9	78.1
July 1963-June 1964-----	208.5	134.7	93.0	81.1

be used for comparison with current data are those collected during July 1958-June 1959. The data in figure 1 and table 1 indicate that the utilization of physician's services may have decreased between 1958-1959 and 1963-1964. However, other indexes of medical care do not show this trend. Table A shows that the rate of physician visits concerning acute and chronic conditions has not decreased over the years.

A companion report presents information on the distribution of persons by interval of time since last physician visit and on the number of routine physical examinations among children. This report, entitled "Physician Visits, Interval of Visits and Children's Routine Checkup," *Vital and Health Statistics*, Series 10, No. 19, presents analyses of these data by a variety of demographic characteristics of the population.

VOLUME OF PHYSICIAN VISITS

It is estimated that during the period between July 1963 and June 1964 there were 844.3 million visits to physicians in the United States. This amounted to an average of 4.5 physician visits per person per year.

For the purpose of this Survey, a physician visit was defined as a consultation with a physician, either in person or by telephone, for examination, diagnosis, treatment, or advice. The service could have been provided either by the physician himself or by a nurse or another person acting under a physician's supervision. "Physicians" were defined as doctors of medicine and osteopathic physicians. Visits to inpatients of hospitals were not included as physician visits.

It can be seen from table 1 that the rates of physician visits varied greatly by age and sex. The rates per person per year were highest for the youngest and for the oldest age groups, and the rate of visits for females exceeded that for males even when prenatal and postnatal care

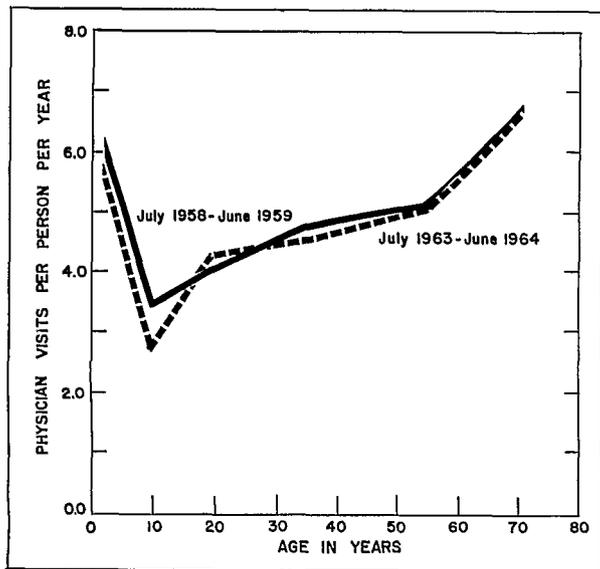


Figure 1. Number of physician visits per person per year, by age and year of data collection.

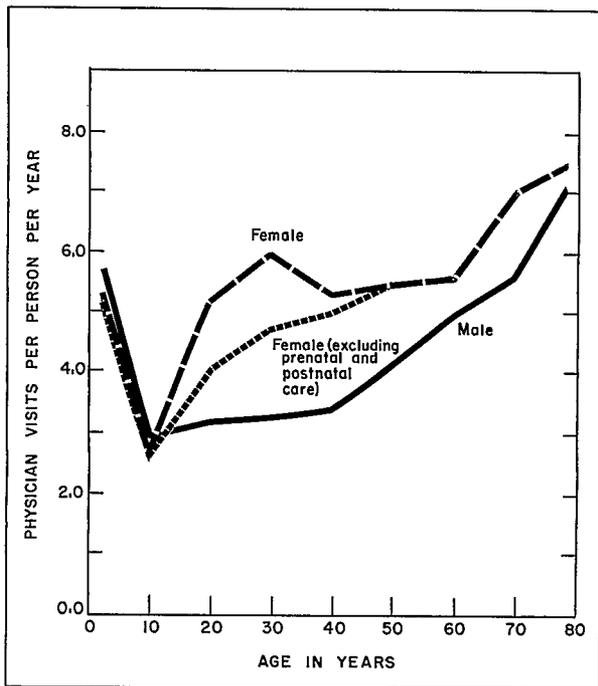


Figure 2. Number of physician visits per person per year, by age and sex.

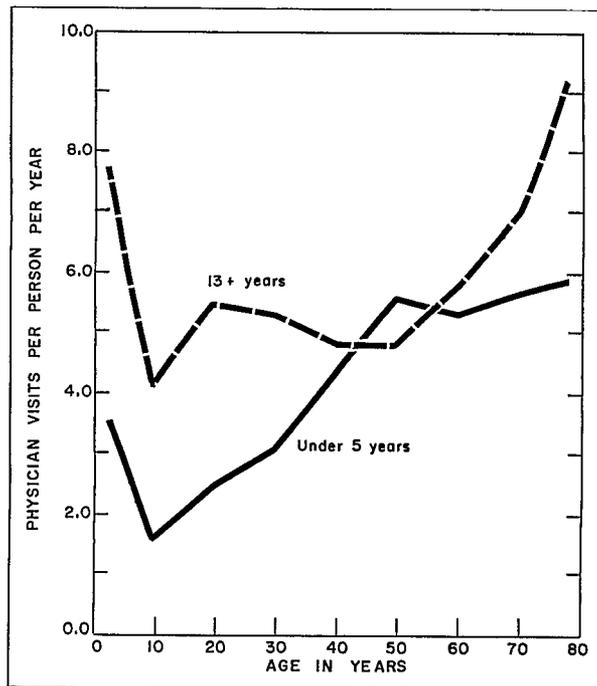


Figure 3. Number of physician visits per person per year, by education of head of family and age.

were excluded (fig. 2). Only among persons under 15 years of age was there little or no difference between the rates of visits for the sexes.

The physician-visit rates were further modified by education of the head of family and by residence, geographic region, color, family income, marital status, and degree of activity limitation. However, the basic relationships by age and sex remained present for each demographic group.

In every age group except 45-54 years, persons whose head of family had at least some college education made more physician visits per person per year than those whose head of family had less than 5 years of education (table 2 and fig. 3).

In general, persons living in standard metropolitan statistical areas averaged more physician visits per person per year than did those living in nonmetropolitan areas. Nonfarm residents outside of SMSA's had higher physician-visit rates, for the most part, than those in the farm population (table 3 and fig. 4).

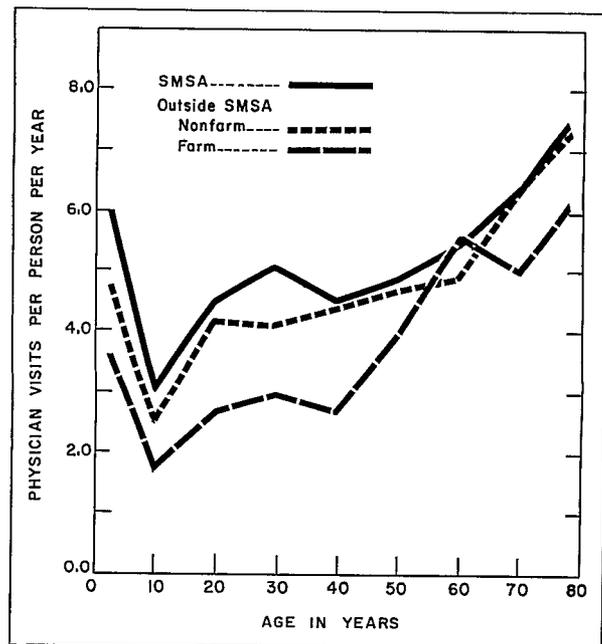


Figure 4. Number of physician visits per person per year, by age and residence.

Approximately the same pattern of physician visits by age was found among persons living in the Northeast, North Central, and South Regions of the United States (table 4 and fig. 5). However, the West had strikingly different rates in each age group over 15 years. This phenomenon may be related to the high rate of comprehensive health insurance coverage in the West, where the percent of persons with insurance coverage that pays for all or part of a doctor's visit is twice as high as in the other major regions of the country.

Table 5 and figure 6 show that the rate of physician visits among nonwhite persons was, in general, lower than for white persons. This differential in amount of medical care was not entirely due to differences in economic level. From figure 7 it is apparent that even when white and nonwhite families of equal income are compared, the rate of physician visits per person per year is lower for the nonwhite persons.

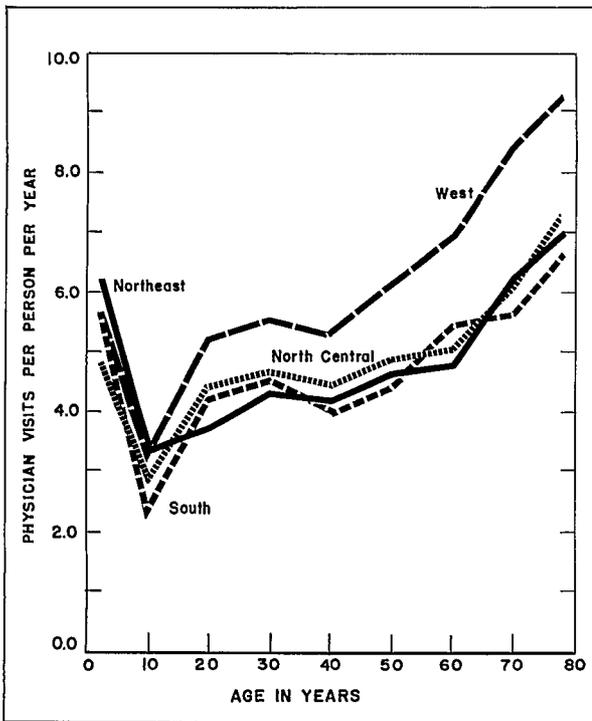


Figure 5. Number of physician visits per person per year, by age and geographic region.

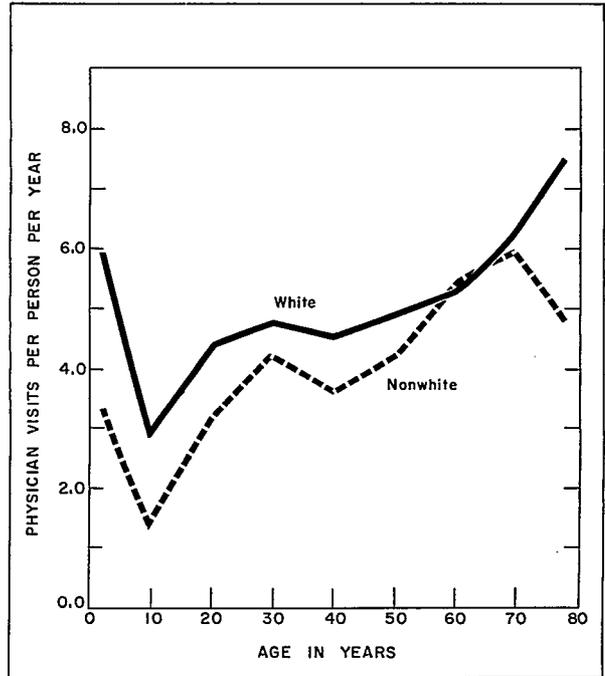


Figure 6. Number of physician visits per person per year, by age and color.

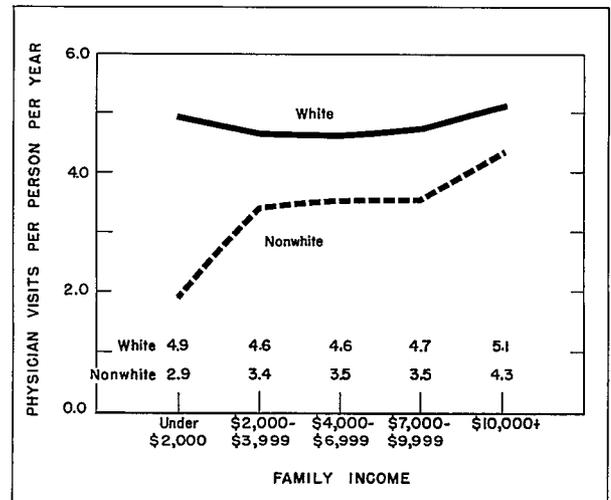


Figure 7. Number of physician visits per person per year, by family income and color.

Figure 8 illustrates, in terms of amount of family income, the patterns for physician-service utilization which occur at the extremes of this variable. In every age group except 55-64 years, persons with family income of \$10,000 or more show higher physician-visit rates than those with family income less than \$2,000. (For more detail, see tables 6 and 7). This phenomenon at the age level 55-64 years is present in data shown according to other variables compared by age (figs. 4 and 6). Since all of these variables are either directly or indirectly related to economic status, it is possible that the rate of physician visits among younger persons is influenced by the ability to pay for medical services. However, in the older age groups, when chronic illness and activity limitation become prevalent and medical

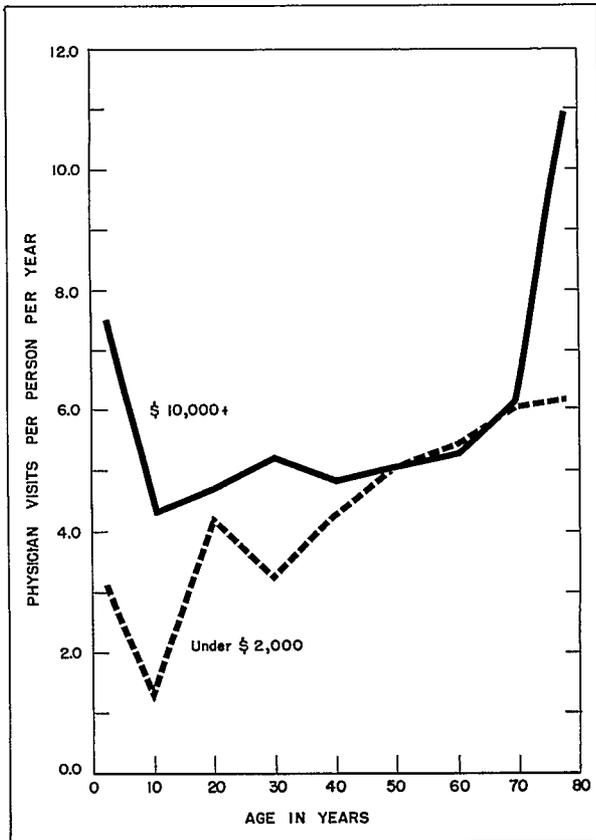


Figure 8. Number of physician visits per person per year, by age and family income.

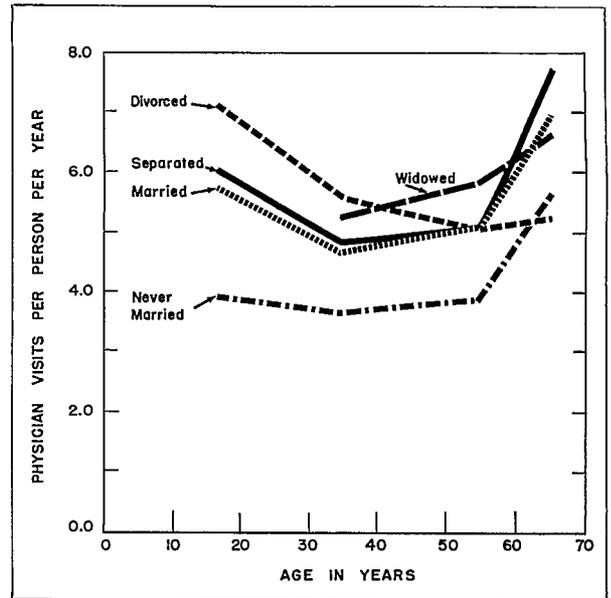


Figure 9. Number of physician visits per person per year, by age and marital status.

care is imperative, income is not as great a determining factor in the amount of medical care received.

Data in table 8 and figure 9 show that married, never-married, separated, and widowed persons experienced the same pattern of physician care by age, although the never married experienced the trend at a much lower level of incidence. The pattern of physician visits among the divorced was quite different from that for other marital-status groups.

When physician-visit rates are compared by age and activity limitation (table 9 and fig. 10), it appears that each level of activity limitation separates people into groups which experience quite different patterns of medical care.

Aggregates and rates of physician visits are presented by usual activity status in table 10. The major activity of an individual was determined on the basis of what he was doing during most of the 12-month period prior to the interview. All children under 6 years of age were classified as preschool, and all those in the age group 6-16 years were classified as school age. Only persons 45 years of age and over were

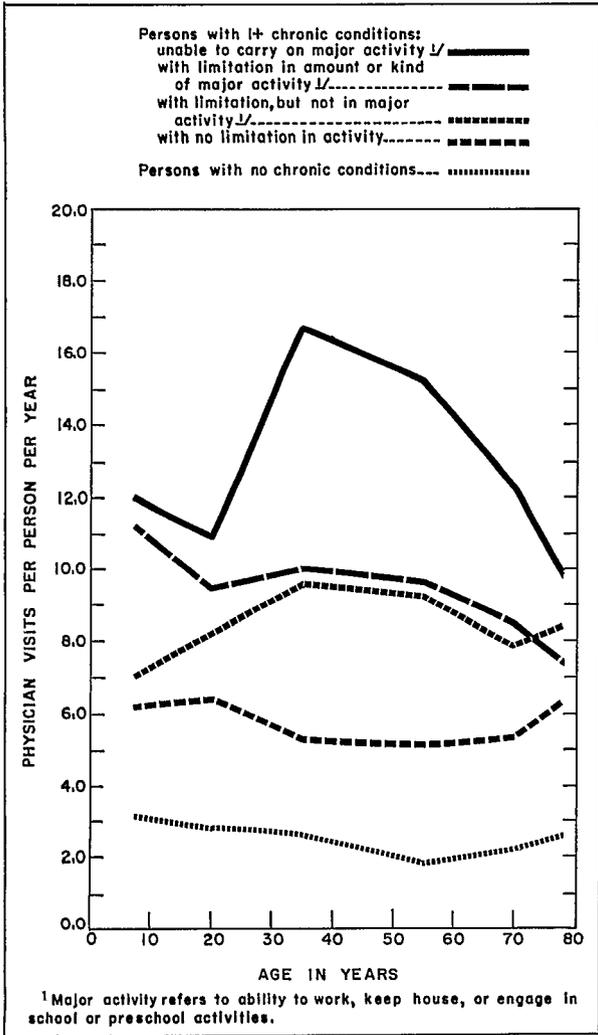


Figure 10. Number of physician visits per person per year, by age and degree of chronic activity limitation.

classified as retired. Thus, many of these usual activity groups are, in effect, age categories; for this reason, the rates of physician visits vary as the ages they represent would be expected to vary.

By Place of Visit

Each physician visit reported in the survey was categorized according to the place where the visit occurred (tables 11 and 12). Approximately 70 percent of all the visits took place in a physician's office, while 12 percent occurred in a hospital clinic, and 11 percent were consultations by telephone (table 12). The remaining 7 percent included visits that took place at home, at company health units, or at other places. Figure 11 compares the distribution for fiscal year 1964 with that for fiscal year 1959. One of the most interesting differences in distribution for the 2 years is the shift of approximately 3 to 4 percent of the visits from the home in 1959 to the office or clinic in 1964.

Tables 11 and 12 show the distribution of visits by place of visit for eight demographic variables. The first variable, sex, does not seem to alter the basic pattern established by the total population. With two exceptions, the rate of phy-

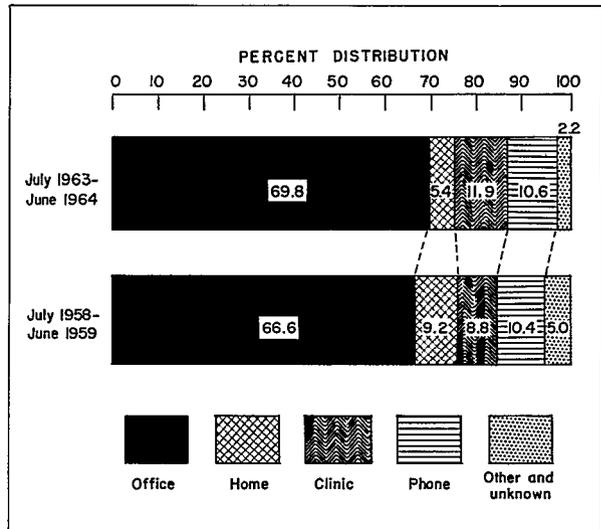


Figure 11. Percent distribution of physician visits, by place of visit, July 1963-June 1964 and July 1958-June 1959.

sician visits by place of visit varies only slightly with age. The first exception is that telephone consultations were made twice as frequently for children under 15 years of age as for persons in any other age group. The second exception is that persons over 65 years of age had a much higher percentage of home visits than any other age group.

Table 12 shows that a high level of educational attainment is associated with a large proportion of telephone consultations and a decreased proportion of visits at hospital clinics. In view of the close correlation between educational attainment and family income, this relationship is not surprising.

Place of visit does not appear to vary greatly among the regions, although the West had a lower percentage of home visits than any of the other regions, and both the South and the West had higher proportions of visits to hospital clinics than either the Northeast or North Central Regions.

The most outstanding differences noted by place of physician visit were those between white and nonwhite persons. The proportion of telephone consultations among white persons was more than twice that for nonwhite persons, whereas the percentage of visits to hospital clinics among the nonwhite was about three times the percentage for white persons (fig. 12). In addition, table B shows that these differences between the two groups were not entirely due to differences in economic status. In each of the income groups, a large proportion of physician visits among nonwhite persons occurred in hospital clinics, while the frequency of consultations by telephone was higher among white persons.

The distribution of physician visits by place of visit according to the family income of each person shows that members of low-income families had more clinic visits, more home visits, and fewer telephone consultations than persons in families with higher incomes. This difference in place of visit was usually found between white and nonwhite persons, as well as between persons whose head of family had little education and those whose head of family had some college education. Even though these data seem to indicate that persons in the lower socioeconomic levels tend to seek medical care on an emergency basis, age

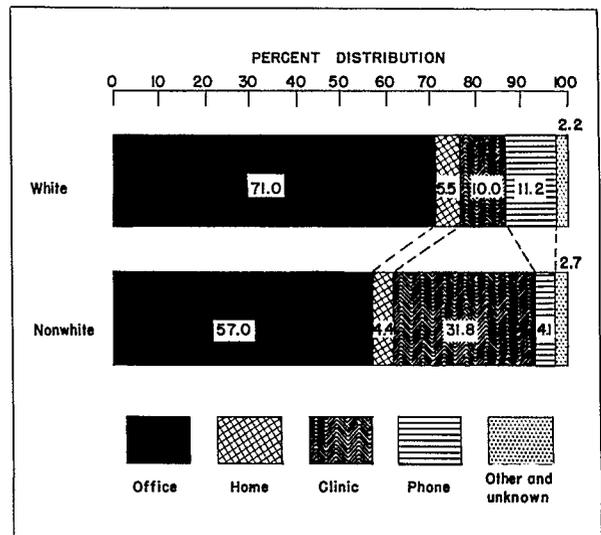


Figure 12. Percent distribution of physician visits, by place of visit according to color.

and other demographic factors may also influence medical care patterns.

Widowed persons had a high rate of physician visits at home, while visits to hospital clinics were most numerous among separated persons. The large rate of home visits among widowed persons is consistent with what would be expected of an older population group; the high rate of hospital-clinic visits by separated persons may be due to the less secure economic status of this group.

By Type of Service

The distribution of physician visits by the type of service received is shown in tables 13 and 14. During any one physician visit more than one kind of service may have been administered; in such cases, the visit was tallied under each type of service involved. Because of this, the sum of visits by type of service exceeds the total number of visits.

For the population as a whole, 81 percent of all physician visits made during July 1963-June 1964 involved the diagnosis and/or treatment of an illness or injury. This category includes examinations and tests made to diagnose an illness—regardless of whether the examinations

Table B. Percent distribution of physician visits, by place of visit according to family income and color: United States, July 1963-June 1964

Family income and color	Place of visit						
	All places	Office	Home	Hospital clinic	Company or industry health unit	Telephone	Other and unknown
<u>Under \$2,000</u>							
Percent distribution							
Total-----	100.0	65.2	8.3	19.3	0.2	5.4	1.5
White-----	100.0	67.9	9.2	15.1	0.1	5.9	1.7
Nonwhite-----	100.0	54.3	4.8	36.2	0.2	3.5	1.0
<u>\$2,000-\$3,999</u>							
Total-----	100.0	66.4	6.0	19.7	0.3	6.5	1.1
White-----	100.0	68.3	6.2	16.8	0.3	7.3	1.1
Nonwhite-----	100.0	56.3	5.0	34.7	0.4	2.5	1.2
<u>\$4,000-\$6,999</u>							
Total-----	100.0	69.8	4.6	11.2	0.6	11.8	2.1
White-----	100.0	70.8	4.7	9.7	0.5	12.3	2.0
Nonwhite-----	100.0	57.0	2.8	29.9	1.0	5.3	4.0
<u>\$7,000-\$9,999</u>							
Total-----	100.0	72.3	4.1	7.5	1.1	13.6	1.4
White-----	100.0	72.5	4.0	7.3	1.1	13.8	1.4
Nonwhite-----	100.0	66.0	4.9	15.9	2.9	7.8	2.4
<u>\$10,000+</u>							
Total-----	100.0	73.5	5.1	6.7	0.7	12.6	1.4
White-----	100.0	73.6	5.2	6.2	0.7	12.8	1.5
Nonwhite-----	100.0	68.9	1.1	22.4	2.2	5.4	-
<u>Unknown</u>							
Total-----	100.0	68.5	9.0	11.6	0.5	8.5	1.9
White-----	100.0	71.0	8.9	8.6	0.4	9.1	2.0
Nonwhite-----	100.0	47.0	9.3	37.8	1.0	3.6	1.3

and tests resulted in a diagnosis—and treatment or advice given by a physician or under a physician's supervision.

About 4 percent of all physician visits involved prenatal or postnatal care, and 8 percent

were for "general checkups." Immunizations and vaccinations accounted for another 5 percent of the services.

The percent distribution of physician visits by type of service shows little variation for any

of the demographic characteristics considered in tables 13 and 14. The rates of physician visits among males and females are practically identical when prenatal and postnatal care for females is disregarded.

There was a slight variation in type of service by age. Children under 15 years of age had a much higher percent of immunizations and vaccinations than persons of any other age. Children under 5 years of age also had a greater percent of general checkups than any other age group.

Relatively little variation was found in the distribution of physician visits by type of service according to residence, region, color, and marital status. (As would be expected, however, mar-

ried women had more prenatal and postnatal care than any other marital status group.) On the other hand, persons in the higher income groups and members of families whose head of the family was well educated had larger rates of visits for general checkup and immunization than persons in families with lower incomes and less educated heads of family. Since general checkups and immunizations are preventive measures, it appears that high educational attainment and income status promote the use of preventive care, while lack of these characteristics results in the more frequent use of emergency or nonelective medical care.

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Table 1. Number of physician visits, number of visits per person per year, and population, by selected demographic characteristics: United States, July 1963-June 1964 and July 1958-June 1959.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Characteristic	July 1963- June 1964	July 1958- June 1959	July 1963- June 1964	July 1958- June 1959	July 1963- June 1964	July 1958- June 1959
	Number of visits in thousands		Number of visits per person per year		Population in thousands	
All persons-----	844,347	813,412	4.5	4.7	185,797	171,300
<u>Sex</u>						
Male-----	356,092	349,381	4.0	4.2	90,078	83,360
Female-----	488,255	464,031	5.1	5.3	95,720	87,941
<u>Age</u>						
Under 5 years-----	113,899	117,385	5.5	6.0	20,721	19,646
5-14 years-----	107,191	116,926	2.8	3.4	38,160	34,323
15-24 years-----	115,552	88,228	4.3	4.0	26,960	21,953
25-44 years-----	204,936	211,976	4.5	4.7	45,333	45,502
45-64 years-----	189,442	179,540	5.0	5.1	37,602	35,055
65+ years-----	113,327	99,356	6.7	6.7	17,023	14,821
<u>Education of head of family</u>						
Under 5 years-----	45,725	48,978	4.0	3.9	11,404	12,403
5-8 years-----	195,182	210,952	4.2	4.3	46,640	48,832
9-12 years-----	387,071	354,707	4.4	4.6	87,236	76,507
13+ years-----	202,052	176,815	5.4	6.1	37,147	29,216
Unknown years-----	14,317	21,959	4.2	5.1	3,371	4,342
<u>Residence¹</u>						
SMSA-----	568,332	517,780	4.8	5.0	118,731	102,815
Outside of SMSA:						
Nonfarm-----	237,031	226,398	4.3	4.6	55,346	49,232
Farm-----	38,984	69,235	3.3	3.6	11,720	19,253
<u>Geographic region</u>						
Northeast-----	209,987	217,218	4.5	5.1	46,476	42,632
North Central-----	234,742	227,718	4.4	4.3	52,898	52,678
South-----	239,615	228,760	4.2	4.5	56,804	51,340
West-----	160,002	139,716	5.4	5.7	29,619	24,650
<u>Color</u>						
White-----	771,654	752,256	4.7	4.9	163,966	152,258
Nonwhite-----	72,693	61,156	3.3	3.2	21,831	19,042
<u>Family income</u>						
Under \$2,000-----	92,788	109,320	4.3	4.4	21,430	24,895
\$2,000-\$3,999-----	130,561	158,242	4.3	4.3	30,170	36,931
\$4,000-\$6,999-----	263,064	289,655	4.5	4.8	58,956	60,884
\$7,000-\$9,999-----	169,919	202,170	4.7	5.5	36,476	36,890
\$10,000+-----	146,985		5.1		28,825	
Unknown-----	41,030	54,025	4.1	4.6	9,941	11,700

¹Estimates shown for the period July 1958-June 1959 are for urban, rural-nonfarm, and rural-farm residents. See Appendix II for definitions of terms referring to residence.

Table 2. Number of physician visits and number of physician visits per person per year, by education of head of family, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Education of head of family					Education of head of family				
	Total ¹	Under 5 years	5-8 years	9-12 years	13+ years	Total ¹	Under 5 years	5-8 years	9-12 years	13+ years
<u>Both sexes</u>	Number of physician visits in thousands					Number of physician visits per person per year				
All ages---	844,347	45,725	195,182	387,071	202,052	4.5	4.0	4.2	4.4	5.4
Under 5 years----	113,899	3,027	12,581	60,442	36,293	5.5	3.5	3.4	5.4	7.7
5-14 years-----	107,191	3,161	17,402	53,006	32,476	2.8	1.5	2.0	2.8	4.1
15-24 years-----	115,552	3,657	19,425	61,109	29,397	4.3	2.5	3.2	4.5	5.5
25-34 years-----	100,127	2,216	16,022	50,979	29,881	4.7	3.1	4.3	4.6	5.3
35-44 years-----	104,809	4,704	20,763	53,173	24,668	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.8
45-54 years-----	102,602	6,638	29,360	46,582	18,095	4.8	5.6	4.7	4.8	4.8
55-64 years-----	86,841	7,821	31,521	30,065	14,955	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.8
65-74 years-----	70,255	8,945	29,334	20,751	9,787	6.3	5.7	6.3	6.5	7.0
75+ years-----	43,072	5,556	18,773	10,964	6,499	7.3	5.9	7.6	6.8	9.2
<u>Male</u>										
All ages---	356,092	19,920	81,950	158,783	88,743	4.0	3.6	3.6	3.8	4.9
Under 5 years----	60,267	1,665	6,618	31,846	19,113	5.7	3.9	3.6	5.6	7.9
5-14 years-----	55,560	2,075	8,084	26,801	17,850	2.9	1.9	1.8	2.8	4.5
15-24 years-----	41,431	1,344	8,342	20,394	10,293	3.2	1.7	2.7	3.3	4.3
25-34 years-----	33,141	618	5,143	17,120	9,820	3.3	1.9	3.0	3.2	3.6
35-44 years-----	39,068	1,479	8,477	18,851	9,957	3.4	3.2	3.5	3.2	3.9
45-54 years-----	42,080	2,473	11,919	18,194	8,558	4.1	4.5	4.1	3.8	4.6
55-64 years-----	38,991	3,742	13,178	13,600	7,464	5.4	5.4	4.4	5.0	6.3
65-74 years-----	27,926	3,900	12,564	7,455	3,376	5.6	5.0	5.6	5.7	6.1
75+ years-----	17,629	2,624	7,625	4,522	2,313	7.0	5.2	7.1	7.8	8.5
<u>Female</u>										
All ages---	488,255	25,805	113,232	228,288	113,309	5.1	4.4	4.7	5.1	5.9
Under 5 years----	53,632	1,362	5,963	28,596	17,180	5.3	3.0	3.2	5.2	7.5
5-14 years-----	51,631	1,087	9,318	26,205	14,626	2.7	1.0	2.2	2.8	3.8
15-24 years-----	74,121	2,313	11,083	40,715	19,105	5.2	3.4	3.9	5.5	6.5
25-34 years-----	66,986	1,598	10,879	33,859	20,062	6.0	4.1	5.3	5.9	6.9
35-44 years-----	65,741	3,226	12,286	34,322	14,711	5.3	5.3	4.6	5.4	5.7
45-54 years-----	60,522	4,165	17,441	28,388	9,537	5.5	6.5	5.3	5.8	4.9
55-64 years-----	47,849	4,179	18,343	16,465	7,492	5.6	5.1	5.8	5.6	5.5
65-74 years-----	42,329	5,044	16,771	13,296	6,411	7.0	6.4	7.0	6.9	7.7
75+ years-----	25,443	2,932	11,148	6,442	4,186	7.5	6.7	8.0	6.3	9.5

¹Includes experience of persons for whom education of head of family is unknown.

Table 3. Number of physician visits and number of physician visits per person per year, by residence, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Residence					
	All SMSA's	Outside of SMSA		All SMSA's	Outside of SMSA	
		Nonfarm	Farm		Nonfarm	Farm
<u>Both sexes</u>	Number of physician visits in thousands			Number of physician visits per person per year		
All ages-----	568,332	237,031	38,984	4.8	4.3	3.3
Under 5 years-----	79,807	29,857	4,236	6.0	4.7	3.6
5-14 years-----	73,656	28,660	4,874	3.1	2.5	1.8
15-24 years-----	76,032	34,978	4,542	4.5	4.2	2.7
25-34 years-----	72,474	24,662	2,991	5.1	4.1	3.0
35-44 years-----	72,461	28,683	3,665	4.5	4.4	2.7
45-54 years-----	69,297	27,476	5,829	4.9	4.7	4.0
55-64 years-----	57,180	23,050	6,610	5.5	4.9	5.6
65-74 years-----	42,760	23,636	3,859	6.4	6.4	5.0
75+ years-----	24,666	16,029	2,377	7.4	7.3	6.1
<u>Male</u>						
All ages-----	237,654	100,162	18,276	4.2	3.7	3.0
Under 5 years-----	41,699	16,105	2,463	6.2	5.0	4.0
5-14 years-----	38,788	14,323	2,449	3.2	2.4	1.7
15-24 years-----	27,706	11,803	1,921	3.4	3.0	2.1
25-34 years-----	23,736	8,507	897	3.5	2.9	1.9
35-44 years-----	26,052	11,245	1,771	3.4	3.6	2.5
45-54 years-----	27,506	12,478	2,097	4.1	4.3	2.9
55-64 years-----	26,818	8,436	3,737	5.4	3.8	5.9
65-74 years-----	15,829	10,213	1,884	5.4	6.0	4.5
75+ years-----	9,520	7,052	1,057	7.0	7.4	5.4
<u>Female</u>						
All ages-----	330,678	136,869	20,708	5.4	4.8	3.7
Under 5 years-----	38,108	13,752	1,772	5.9	4.4	3.1
5-14 years-----	34,868	14,338	2,425	3.0	2.5	1.9
15-24 years-----	48,326	23,174	2,621	5.4	5.2	3.4
25-34 years-----	48,738	16,155	2,094	6.5	5.1	3.9
35-44 years-----	46,408	17,438	1,894	5.5	5.1	2.9
45-54 years-----	41,792	14,998	3,732	5.7	5.1	5.1
55-64 years-----	30,362	14,614	2,873	5.6	5.9	5.2
65-74 years-----	26,931	13,423	1,975	7.2	6.7	5.6
75+ years-----	15,146	8,978	1,320	7.7	7.3	7.0

Table 4. Number of physician visits and number of physician visits per person per year, by geographic region, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Geographic region							
	North-east	North Central	South	West	North-east	North Central	South	West
<u>Both sexes</u>	Number of physician visits in thousands				Number of physician visits per person per year			
All ages-----	209,987	234,742	239,615	160,002	4.5	4.4	4.2	5.4
Under 5 years-----	30,395	28,529	35,966	19,011	6.2	4.8	5.6	5.6
5-14 years-----	29,546	31,177	26,496	19,972	3.3	2.8	2.2	3.2
15-24 years-----	23,855	32,102	37,910	21,685	3.7	4.4	4.2	5.2
25-34 years-----	22,331	28,077	29,708	20,010	4.3	4.6	4.5	5.5
35-44 years-----	27,499	29,201	27,855	20,253	4.2	4.4	4.0	5.2
45-54 years-----	26,576	28,321	27,402	20,303	4.6	4.8	4.4	6.1
55-64 years-----	20,381	23,920	25,845	16,695	4.7	5.0	5.4	6.9
65-74 years-----	18,777	20,096	17,590	13,791	6.3	6.1	5.6	8.4
75+ years-----	10,627	13,320	10,843	8,282	7.0	7.2	6.6	9.2
<u>Male</u>								
All ages-----	89,195	99,467	100,248	67,182	4.0	3.8	3.7	4.6
Under 5 years-----	15,570	14,781	19,187	10,729	6.4	4.7	5.8	6.2
5-14 years-----	15,546	16,837	13,517	9,660	3.5	3.0	2.2	3.0
15-24 years-----	9,449	12,164	12,525	7,293	3.1	3.4	3.0	3.8
25-34 years-----	6,531	9,636	9,803	7,171	2.6	3.3	3.2	4.2
35-44 years-----	10,346	11,784	10,613	6,326	3.3	3.6	3.2	3.5
45-54 years-----	10,906	11,084	10,683	9,408	3.9	3.9	3.6	5.7
55-64 years-----	9,553	10,651	11,368	7,419	4.6	4.6	5.1	6.2
65-74 years-----	7,475	8,225	7,275	4,950	5.7	5.4	5.0	6.5
75+ years-----	3,819	4,305	5,278	4,227	6.3	5.5	7.3	10.7
<u>Female</u>								
All ages-----	120,793	135,275	139,367	92,820	5.0	5.0	4.7	6.1
Under 5 years-----	14,825	13,748	16,779	8,281	6.0	4.8	5.3	4.9
5-14 years-----	13,999	14,339	12,980	10,312	3.1	2.6	2.2	3.4
15-24 years-----	14,406	19,938	25,384	14,393	4.2	5.3	5.3	6.5
25-34 years-----	15,800	18,442	19,905	12,839	6.0	5.9	5.7	6.7
35-44 years-----	17,154	17,417	17,242	13,928	5.0	5.2	4.7	6.8
45-54 years-----	15,670	17,238	16,719	10,895	5.2	5.6	5.1	6.6
55-64 years-----	10,828	13,269	14,477	9,276	4.8	5.5	5.6	7.5
65-74 years-----	11,302	11,871	10,315	8,841	6.7	6.6	6.0	9.9
75+ years-----	6,808	9,014	5,566	4,055	7.5	8.5	6.0	8.1

Table 5. Number of physician visits and number of physician visits per person per year, by color, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	White	Nonwhite	White	Nonwhite
	Number of physician visits in thousands		Number of physician visits per person per year	
<u>Both sexes</u>				
All ages-----	771,654	72,693	4.7	3.3
Under 5 years-----	103,256	10,644	5.9	3.3
5-14 years-----	99,674	7,517	3.0	1.4
15-24 years-----	104,818	10,734	4.4	3.2
25-34 years-----	89,620	10,507	4.8	4.2
35-44 years-----	95,605	9,204	4.5	3.6
45-54 years-----	93,798	8,804	4.9	4.2
55-64 years-----	78,910	7,931	5.3	5.4
65-74 years-----	65,083	5,171	6.3	6.0
75+ years-----	40,891	2,181	7.5	4.8
<u>Male</u>				
All ages-----	324,893	31,199	4.1	3.0
Under 5 years-----	54,288	5,978	6.1	3.7
5-14 years-----	51,799	3,761	3.1	1.4
15-24 years-----	37,889	3,541	3.4	2.3
25-34 years-----	29,189	3,952	3.2	3.5
35-44 years-----	35,890	3,178	3.5	2.7
45-54 years-----	38,921	3,159	4.2	3.2
55-64 years-----	35,236	3,756	5.0	5.3
65-74 years-----	25,360	2,565	5.5	6.4
75+ years-----	16,320	1,309	7.1	6.3
<u>Female</u>				
All ages-----	446,761	41,494	5.3	3.6
Under 5 years-----	48,967	4,665	5.7	2.9
5-14 years-----	47,875	3,756	3.0	1.4
15-24 years-----	66,928	7,193	5.4	4.1
25-34 years-----	60,431	6,555	6.2	4.7
35-44 years-----	59,715	6,026	5.4	4.3
45-54 years-----	54,877	5,645	5.6	5.1
55-64 years-----	43,674	4,175	5.7	5.5
65-74 years-----	39,723	2,606	7.1	5.6
75+ years-----	24,571	873	7.8	3.5

Table 6. Number of physician visits, by family income, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-
June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Family income						
	All incomes	Under \$2,000	\$2,000-\$3,999	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+	Unknown
Number of physician visits in thousands							
<u>Both sexes</u>							
All ages-----	844,347	92,788	130,561	263,064	169,919	146,985	41,030
Under 5 years-----	113,899	5,916	17,128	44,849	25,826	16,374	3,806
5-14 years-----	107,191	3,765	11,173	35,407	25,642	26,535	4,670
15-24 years-----	115,552	14,479	21,612	34,696	20,931	18,799	5,035
25-34 years-----	100,127	4,397	11,108	40,165	26,173	15,574	2,711
35-44 years-----	104,809	6,140	10,981	33,981	26,196	23,598	3,912
45-54 years-----	102,602	8,887	12,550	29,714	22,654	23,014	5,783
55-64 years-----	86,841	13,641	15,993	23,663	13,732	13,879	5,932
65-74 years-----	70,255	20,735	20,019	14,259	4,755	4,976	5,511
75+ years-----	43,072	14,830	9,997	6,329	4,011	4,235	3,669
<u>Male</u>							
All ages-----	356,092	31,206	53,917	112,892	74,114	67,849	16,115
Under 5 years-----	60,267	3,206	9,362	22,406	13,911	8,970	2,412
5-14 years-----	55,560	1,588	5,418	18,707	13,355	14,368	2,125
15-24 years-----	41,431	5,026	7,134	11,014	7,680	8,692	1,886
25-34 years-----	33,141	1,105	4,063	13,898	7,974	5,409	692
35-44 years-----	39,068	1,308	3,812	13,397	10,513	8,375	1,662
45-54 years-----	42,080	2,947	4,782	11,718	10,225	10,293	2,116
55-64 years-----	38,991	4,710	5,803	11,227	6,799	8,103	2,350
65-74 years-----	27,926	6,096	8,832	7,469	2,025	1,959	1,544
75+ years-----	17,629	5,221	4,711	3,057	1,632	1,681	1,327
<u>Female</u>							
All ages-----	488,255	61,582	76,644	150,171	95,805	79,136	24,915
Under 5 years-----	53,632	2,710	7,766	22,443	11,914	7,405	1,394
5-14 years-----	51,631	2,177	5,755	16,700	12,287	12,167	2,545
15-24 years-----	74,121	9,453	14,478	23,683	13,251	10,107	3,149
25-34 years-----	66,986	3,291	7,045	26,267	18,199	10,164	2,019
35-44 years-----	65,741	4,832	7,169	20,584	15,683	15,223	2,250
45-54 years-----	60,522	5,940	7,768	17,996	12,430	12,722	3,667
55-64 years-----	47,849	8,931	10,190	12,436	6,933	5,776	3,582
65-74 years-----	42,329	14,639	11,187	6,790	2,729	3,017	3,966
75+ years-----	25,443	9,609	5,286	3,273	2,379	2,555	2,342

Table 7. Number of physician visits per person per year, by family income, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Family income						
	All incomes	Under \$2,000	\$2,000-\$3,999	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+	Unknown
<u>Both sexes</u>							
Number of physician visits per person per year							
All ages-----	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.7	5.1	4.1
Under 5 years-----	5.5	3.1	4.6	5.6	6.4	7.5	4.7
5-14 years-----	2.8	1.2	2.0	2.7	3.0	4.3	2.9
15-24 years-----	4.3	4.2	4.6	4.2	4.3	4.7	3.3
25-34 years-----	4.7	3.2	3.7	4.9	5.2	5.2	3.4
35-44 years-----	4.4	4.2	3.9	4.4	4.5	4.8	3.3
45-54 years-----	4.8	5.0	4.5	4.8	5.0	5.0	4.0
55-64 years-----	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.8	5.2	4.6
65-74 years-----	6.3	6.0	6.5	6.7	5.4	6.1	6.9
75+ years-----	7.3	6.1	7.1	7.8	10.6	10.9	7.5
<u>Male</u>							
All ages-----	4.0	3.4	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.7	3.4
Under 5 years-----	5.7	3.5	5.0	5.4	6.7	7.9	5.5
5-14 years-----	2.9	1.0	1.9	2.8	3.1	4.5	2.5
15-24 years-----	3.2	3.1	3.3	2.8	3.2	4.3	2.6
25-34 years-----	3.3	1.8	3.0	3.5	3.3	3.8	1.1
35-44 years-----	3.4	2.3	3.0	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.1
45-54 years-----	4.1	4.1	4.0	3.8	4.3	4.4	3.2
55-64 years-----	5.0	5.0	4.7	5.1	5.2	5.4	3.7
65-74 years-----	5.6	4.5	5.8	7.0	5.1	4.9	5.1
75+ years-----	7.0	5.4	6.6	8.4	11.7	10.1	8.1
<u>Female</u>							
All ages-----	5.1	5.0	4.8	5.1	5.3	5.5	4.7
Under 5 years-----	5.3	2.8	4.2	5.7	6.1	6.9	3.8
5-14 years-----	2.7	1.4	2.1	2.6	2.9	4.0	3.3
15-24 years-----	5.2	5.1	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.0	4.0
25-34 years-----	6.0	4.4	4.2	6.2	7.0	6.5	4.9
35-44 years-----	5.3	5.6	4.5	5.3	5.4	6.0	3.5
45-54 years-----	5.5	5.5	4.9	5.8	5.8	5.6	4.7
55-64 years-----	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.7	6.5	4.8	5.4
65-74 years-----	7.0	7.0	7.3	6.5	5.7	7.3	8.0
75+ years-----	7.5	6.6	7.6	7.3	9.9	11.5	7.2

Table 8. Number of physician visits and number of physician visits per person per year, by marital status, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Marital status					
	Total	Never married	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed
<u>Both sexes</u>						
Number of physician visits in thousands						
All ages-17+ years-----	601,294	73,791	434,126	12,473	17,514	63,390
17-24 years-----	93,589	45,746	44,376	1,732	1,520	*
25-44 years-----	204,936	13,631	175,310	5,514	7,581	2,899
45-64 years-----	189,442	8,539	151,935	3,664	6,689	18,615
65+ years-----	113,327	5,875	62,505	1,563	1,724	41,659
<u>Male</u>						
All ages-17+ years-----	228,616	34,406	175,617	3,560	5,162	9,872
17-24 years-----	29,782	21,687	7,264	*	*	*
25-44 years-----	72,209	7,333	61,638	1,462	1,665	*
45-64 years-----	81,071	3,231	71,806	*	2,331	2,547
65+ years-----	45,555	2,155	34,909	*	*	7,100
<u>Female</u>						
All ages-17+ years-----	372,678	39,385	258,509	8,913	12,352	53,518
17-24 years-----	63,808	24,059	37,112	1,656	*	*
25-44 years-----	132,727	6,299	113,672	4,052	5,916	2,789
45-64 years-----	108,371	5,308	80,129	2,508	4,358	16,068
65+ years-----	67,772	3,720	27,596	*	1,200	34,559
<u>Both sexes</u>						
Number of physician visits per person per year						
All ages-17+ years-----	5.0	3.9	5.1	5.3	5.3	6.3
17-24 years-----	4.7	3.9	5.7	6.0	7.1	*
25-44 years-----	4.5	3.6	4.6	4.8	5.5	5.2
45-64 years-----	5.0	3.8	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.8
65+ years-----	6.7	5.6	6.9	7.7	5.2	6.6
<u>Male</u>						
All ages-17+ years-----	4.0	3.4	4.1	4.0	4.2	5.4
17-24 years-----	3.2	3.4	2.7	*	*	*
25-44 years-----	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.8	3.5	*
45-64 years-----	4.5	3.1	4.5	*	4.4	5.4
65+ years-----	6.0	5.4	6.2	*	*	5.6
<u>Female</u>						
All ages-17+ years-----	5.9	4.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.4
17-24 years-----	6.0	4.6	7.4	7.7	*	*
25-44 years-----	5.6	4.0	5.7	5.3	6.5	5.8
45-64 years-----	5.6	4.5	5.6	6.0	5.3	5.8
65+ years-----	7.1	5.7	7.8	*	6.9	6.9

Table 9. Number of physician visits and number of physician visits per person per year, by chronic limitation status, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Total	Persons with no chronic conditions	Persons with 1+ chronic conditions				
			Total	Unable to carry on major activity ¹	With limitation in amount or kind of major activity ¹	With limitation, but not in major activity ¹	With no limitation of activity
<u>Both sexes</u>			Number of physician visits in thousands				
All ages-----	844,347	282,089	562,258	52,698	112,012	55,679	341,870
Under 15 years-----	221,090	144,844	76,246	1,292	5,740	3,878	65,337
15-24 years-----	115,552	50,553	64,999	1,154	5,327	5,300	53,218
25-44 years-----	204,936	55,378	149,558	5,895	22,615	16,209	104,839
45-64 years-----	189,442	24,464	164,978	17,339	41,201	19,913	86,526
65-74 years-----	70,255	4,945	65,310	12,879	23,614	7,005	21,812
75+ years-----	43,072	1,904	41,168	14,139	13,515	3,375	10,138
<u>Male</u>			Number of physician visits in thousands				
All ages-----	356,092	128,284	227,808	32,471	41,890	17,548	135,900
Under 15 years-----	115,827	74,611	41,216	*	3,514	2,001	35,154
15-24 years-----	41,431	18,785	22,645	*	1,890	1,775	18,339
25-44 years-----	72,209	20,022	52,187	3,694	6,905	4,279	37,309
45-64 years-----	81,071	11,841	69,230	12,109	15,899	6,764	34,458
65-74 years-----	27,926	2,556	25,370	7,817	9,356	1,926	6,271
75+ years-----	17,629	*	17,160	7,664	4,325	*	4,368
<u>Female</u>			Number of physician visits in thousands				
All ages-----	488,255	153,805	334,450	20,227	70,122	38,131	205,970
Under 15 years-----	105,263	70,233	35,030	*	2,225	1,877	30,183
15-24 years-----	74,121	31,768	42,354	*	3,437	3,525	34,878
25-44 years-----	132,727	35,356	97,371	2,201	15,710	11,930	67,530
45-64 years-----	108,371	12,623	95,748	5,230	25,302	13,149	52,068
65-74 years-----	42,329	2,389	39,940	5,062	14,258	5,078	15,541
75+ years-----	25,443	1,436	24,007	6,476	9,190	2,572	5,770
<u>Both sexes</u>			Number of physician visits per person per year				
All ages-----	4.5	2.8	6.7	12.7	9.3	8.8	5.6
Under 15 years-----	3.8	3.1	6.5	12.0	11.3	7.1	6.2
15-24 years-----	4.3	2.9	6.7	10.9	9.5	8.3	6.4
25-44 years-----	4.5	2.6	6.2	16.8	10.1	9.6	5.3
45-64 years-----	5.0	1.9	6.7	15.7	9.7	9.3	5.1
65-74 years-----	6.3	2.2	7.4	12.2	8.5	7.9	5.3
75+ years-----	7.3	2.5	8.0	9.9	7.8	8.4	6.4
<u>Male</u>			Number of physician visits per person per year				
All ages-----	4.0	2.5	5.8	11.8	7.5	7.1	4.8
Under 15 years-----	3.9	3.2	6.4	*	11.1	6.5	6.1
15-24 years-----	3.2	2.2	5.2	*	6.7	6.2	4.9
25-44 years-----	3.3	1.9	4.8	17.3	6.7	6.4	4.2
45-64 years-----	4.5	1.8	6.0	14.4	8.1	8.2	4.4
65-74 years-----	5.6	2.3	6.5	10.1	6.9	7.0	4.2
75+ years-----	7.0	*	8.0	9.3	6.5	*	7.9
<u>Female</u>			Number of physician visits per person per year				
All ages-----	5.1	3.0	7.5	14.6	10.8	9.9	6.2
Under 15 years-----	3.6	3.0	6.7	*	11.8	7.8	6.3
15-24 years-----	5.2	3.6	8.0	*	12.2	9.9	7.6
25-44 years-----	5.6	3.4	7.3	16.1	13.0	11.6	6.2
45-64 years-----	5.6	2.0	7.3	19.6	11.0	10.0	5.6
65-74 years-----	7.0	2.1	8.1	18.3	9.9	8.4	5.9
75+ years-----	7.5	3.8	8.0	10.7	8.6	8.6	5.6

¹Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or engage in school or preschool activities.

Table 10. Number of physician visits and number of physician visits per person per year, by sex and usual activity status: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Usual activity status	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
	Number of physician visits in thousands			Number of physician visits per person per year		
All activities-----	844,347	356,092	488,255	4.5	4.0	5.1
Preschool-----	132,151	69,543	62,608	5.3	5.5	5.1
School-----	110,901	57,933	52,968	2.7	2.8	2.6
Usually working-----	261,501	156,196	105,305	4.1	3.6	5.3
Keeping house-----	229,591	...	229,591	6.0	...	6.0
Retired-----	51,750	41,701	10,050	6.9	6.5	8.8
Other-17+ years-----	58,452	30,719	27,733	5.3	4.6	6.3

Table 11. Number of physician visits, by place of visit and selected characteristics: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Characteristic	Place of visit						
	Total	Office	Home	Hospital clinic	Company or industry health unit	Telephone	Other and unknown
	Number of visits in thousands						
All persons-----	844,347	589,654	45,671	100,440	5,233	89,633	13,716
<u>Sex</u>							
Male-----	356,092	246,929	16,540	46,431	3,927	34,574	7,692
Female-----	488,255	342,725	29,131	54,010	1,307	55,059	6,023
<u>Age</u>							
Under 5 years-----	113,899	66,445	4,797	16,625	*	24,633	1,326
5-14 years-----	107,191	69,264	5,287	13,337	*	17,601	1,636
15-24 years-----	115,552	82,835	2,370	17,611	*	9,319	2,560
25-34 years-----	100,127	73,915	2,388	12,540	1,015	9,095	1,174
35-44 years-----	104,809	79,035	2,820	11,874	1,112	8,086	1,881
45-54 years-----	102,602	78,005	3,209	10,387	1,077	7,530	2,394
55-64 years-----	86,841	67,425	5,229	8,468	*	4,089	*
65+ years-----	113,327	72,729	19,571	9,598	*	9,280	2,013
<u>Residence</u>							
SMSA-----	568,332	388,743	30,345	68,772	4,344	66,929	9,199
Outside of SMSA:							
Nonfarm-----	237,031	169,512	14,221	27,862	*	20,556	4,230
Farm-----	38,984	31,399	1,105	3,806	*	2,147	*
<u>Color</u>							
White-----	771,654	548,247	42,470	77,316	4,626	86,648	12,347
Nonwhite-----	72,693	41,407	3,201	23,124	*	2,984	1,369
<u>Family income</u>							
Under \$2,000-----	92,788	60,509	7,711	17,938	*	5,054	1,432
\$2,000-\$3,999-----	130,561	86,646	7,834	25,677	*	8,550	1,420
\$4,000-\$6,999-----	263,064	183,585	12,090	29,361	1,521	30,935	5,572
\$7,000-\$9,999-----	169,919	122,819	6,897	12,820	1,901	23,046	2,436
\$10,000+-----	146,985	107,980	7,463	9,869	1,045	18,548	2,080
Unknown-----	41,030	28,115	3,677	4,775	*	3,500	*
<u>Marital status</u>							
Under 17 years-----	243,052	151,291	10,692	33,226	*	44,458	3,248
Married-----	434,126	322,795	20,285	45,515	3,976	35,095	6,461
Never married-----	73,791	52,468	3,663	9,870	*	4,386	2,728
Widowed-----	63,390	41,903	10,042	6,501	*	4,056	*
Separated-----	12,473	8,093	*	3,036	*	*	*
Divorced-----	17,514	13,104	*	2,294	*	1,240	*
<u>Geographic region</u>							
Northeast-----	209,987	140,642	19,576	20,540	1,809	23,363	4,057
North Central-----	234,742	169,350	9,811	24,632	1,693	26,430	2,826
South-----	239,615	165,772	10,551	33,263	1,220	25,312	3,497
West-----	160,002	113,889	5,733	22,006	*	14,528	3,336
<u>Education of head of family</u>							
Under 5 years-----	45,725	30,720	3,557	8,891	*	2,015	*
5-8 years-----	195,182	141,023	11,454	25,731	*	12,824	3,474
9-12 years-----	387,071	267,959	18,497	46,569	3,310	45,198	5,537
13+ years-----	202,052	140,580	11,207	16,889	1,205	28,315	3,855
Unknown years-----	14,317	9,372	*	2,361	*	1,281	*

Table 12. Percent distribution of physician visits, by place of visit according to selected characteristics: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Characteristic	Place of visit						
	Total	Office	Home	Hospital clinic	Company or industry health unit	Telephone	Other and unknown
	Percent distribution						
All persons-----	100.0	69.8	5.4	11.9	0.6	10.6	1.6
<u>Sex</u>							
Male-----	100.0	69.3	4.6	13.0	1.1	9.7	2.2
Female-----	100.0	70.2	6.0	11.1	0.3	11.3	1.2
<u>Age</u>							
Under 5 years-----	100.0	58.3	4.2	14.6	*	21.6	1.2
5-14 years-----	100.0	64.6	4.9	12.4	*	16.4	1.5
15-24 years-----	100.0	71.7	2.1	15.2	*	8.1	2.2
25-34 years-----	100.0	73.8	2.4	12.5	1.0	9.1	1.2
35-44 years-----	100.0	75.4	2.7	11.3	1.1	7.7	1.8
45-54 years-----	100.0	76.0	3.1	10.1	1.0	7.3	2.3
55-64 years-----	100.0	77.6	6.0	9.8	*	4.7	*
65+ years-----	100.0	64.2	17.3	8.5	*	8.2	1.8
<u>Residence</u>							
SMSA-----	100.0	68.4	5.3	12.1	0.8	11.8	1.6
Outside of SMSA:							
Nonfarm-----	100.0	71.5	6.0	11.8	*	8.7	1.8
Farm-----	100.0	80.5	2.8	9.8	*	5.5	*
<u>Color</u>							
White-----	100.0	71.0	5.5	10.0	0.6	11.2	1.6
Nonwhite-----	100.0	57.0	4.4	31.8	*	4.1	1.9
<u>Family Income</u>							
Under \$2,000-----	100.0	65.2	8.3	19.3	*	5.4	1.5
\$2,000-\$3,999-----	100.0	66.4	6.0	19.7	*	6.5	1.1
\$4,000-\$6,999-----	100.0	69.8	4.6	11.2	0.6	11.8	2.1
\$7,000-\$9,999-----	100.0	72.3	4.1	7.5	1.1	13.6	1.4
\$10,000+-----	100.0	73.5	5.1	6.7	0.7	12.6	1.4
Unknown-----	100.0	68.5	9.0	11.6	*	8.5	*
<u>Marital status</u>							
Under 17 years-----	100.0	62.2	4.4	13.7	*	18.3	1.3
Married-----	100.0	74.4	4.7	10.5	0.9	8.1	1.5
Never married-----	100.0	71.1	5.0	13.4	*	5.9	3.7
Widowed-----	100.0	66.1	15.8	10.3	*	6.4	*
Separated-----	100.0	64.9	*	24.3	*	*	*
Divorced-----	100.0	74.8	*	13.1	*	7.1	*
<u>Geographic region</u>							
Northeast-----	100.0	67.0	9.3	9.8	0.9	11.1	1.9
North Central-----	100.0	72.1	4.2	10.5	0.7	11.3	1.2
South-----	100.0	69.2	4.4	13.9	0.5	10.6	1.5
West-----	100.0	71.2	3.6	13.8	*	9.1	2.1
<u>Education of head of family</u>							
Under 5 years-----	100.0	67.2	7.8	19.4	*	4.4	*
5-8 years-----	100.0	72.3	5.9	13.2	*	6.6	1.8
9-12 years-----	100.0	69.2	4.8	12.0	0.9	11.7	1.4
13+ years-----	100.0	69.6	5.5	8.4	0.6	14.0	1.9
Unknown years-----	100.0	65.5	*	16.5	*	8.9	*

Table 13. Number of physician visits, by type of service and selected characteristics: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Characteristic	Type of service					
	All visits ¹	Diagnosis and treatment	Prenatal and postnatal care	General checkup	Immunization and vaccination	All other
Number of physician visits in thousands						
All persons-----	844,347	685,928	35,403	71,283	41,136	20,458
<u>Sex</u>						
Male-----	356,092	297,224	...	34,103	18,283	10,368
Female-----	488,255	388,704	35,403	37,180	22,853	10,090
Female (excluding prenatal and postnatal care)-----	452,852	388,704	...	37,180	22,853	10,090
<u>Age</u>						
Under 5 years-----	113,899	87,951	...	13,779	13,163	1,407
5-14 years-----	107,191	87,868	...	9,099	8,534	2,912
15-24 years-----	115,552	81,476	18,015	9,072	4,541	4,040
25-34 years-----	100,127	75,483	14,090	6,934	3,014	1,742
35-44 years-----	104,809	88,486	3,298	7,694	3,547	2,837
45-54 years-----	102,602	88,929	...	8,596	2,848	2,822
55-64 years-----	86,841	77,741	...	6,293	2,180	1,495
65+ years-----	113,327	97,993	...	9,817	3,309	3,204
<u>Residence</u>						
SMSA-----	568,332	458,588	24,110	50,646	27,565	14,225
Outside of SMSA:						
Nonfarm-----	237,031	194,773	9,748	17,517	11,831	5,778
Farm-----	38,984	32,567	1,545	3,120	1,740	*
<u>Color</u>						
White-----	771,654	626,288	31,861	65,534	38,330	18,779
Nonwhite-----	72,693	59,640	3,542	5,749	2,806	1,678
<u>Family income</u>						
Under \$2,000-----	92,788	80,160	2,240	6,087	3,872	1,451
\$2,000-\$3,999-----	130,561	108,380	6,034	9,603	5,453	2,327
\$4,000-\$6,999-----	263,064	212,948	15,188	20,801	11,531	6,598
\$7,000-\$9,999-----	169,919	134,421	7,850	15,960	8,449	4,793
\$10,000+-----	146,985	115,426	3,247	15,871	9,886	4,188
Unknown-----	41,030	34,594	*	2,962	1,945	1,101
<u>Marital status</u>						
Under 17 years-----	243,052	193,398	*	25,000	22,830	5,107
Married-----	434,126	349,871	33,553	33,289	12,008	10,067
Never married-----	73,791	60,111	*	6,356	4,265	3,281
Widowed-----	63,390	56,242	*	4,702	1,713	1,136
Separated-----	12,473	10,747	*	918	*	*
Divorced-----	17,514	15,559	*	1,019	*	*
<u>Geographic region</u>						
Northeast-----	209,987	170,900	7,343	20,379	8,826	5,228
North Central-----	234,742	189,794	9,203	21,353	13,125	4,827
South-----	239,615	197,316	11,715	17,936	9,974	5,060
West-----	160,002	127,918	7,141	11,616	9,211	5,343
<u>Education of head of family</u>						
Under 5 years-----	45,725	40,929	894	2,548	986	*
5-8 years-----	195,182	165,862	4,888	15,067	6,630	4,807
9-12 years-----	387,071	313,684	20,295	31,406	19,034	8,365
13+ years-----	202,052	153,331	8,590	21,679	13,953	6,399
Unknown years-----	14,317	12,122	*	*	*	*

¹The sum of visits by type of service may be greater than the total visits, since one visit may involve more than one type of service.

Table 14. Percent distribution of physician visits, by type of service according to selected characteristics: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Characteristic	Type of service					
	All visits ¹	Diagnosis and treatment	Prenatal and postnatal care	General checkup	Immunization and vaccination	All other
	Percent distribution					
All persons-----	100.0	81.2	4.2	8.4	4.9	2.4
<u>Sex</u>						
Male-----	100.0	83.5	...	9.6	5.1	2.9
Female-----	100.0	79.6	7.3	7.6	4.7	2.1
Female (excluding prenatal and postnatal care)-----	100.0	85.8	...	8.2	5.0	2.2
<u>Age</u>						
Under 5 years-----	100.0	77.2	...	12.1	11.6	1.2
5-14 years-----	100.0	82.0	...	8.5	8.0	2.7
15-24 years-----	100.0	70.5	15.6	7.9	3.9	3.5
25-34 years-----	100.0	75.4	14.1	6.9	3.0	1.7
35-44 years-----	100.0	84.4	3.1	7.3	3.4	2.7
45-54 years-----	100.0	86.7	...	8.4	2.8	2.8
55-64 years-----	100.0	89.5	...	7.2	2.5	1.7
65+ years-----	100.0	86.5	...	8.7	2.9	1.2
<u>Residence</u>						
SMSA-----	100.0	80.7	4.2	8.9	4.9	2.5
Outside of SMSA:						
Nonfarm-----	100.0	82.2	4.1	7.4	5.0	2.4
Farm-----	100.0	83.5	4.0	8.0	4.5	*
<u>Color</u>						
White-----	100.0	81.2	4.1	8.5	5.0	2.4
Nonwhite-----	100.0	82.0	4.9	7.9	3.9	2.3
<u>Family income</u>						
Under \$2,000-----	100.0	86.4	2.4	6.6	4.2	1.6
\$2,000-\$3,999-----	100.0	83.0	4.7	7.4	4.2	1.8
\$4,000-\$6,999-----	100.0	80.9	5.8	7.9	4.4	2.5
\$7,000-\$9,999-----	100.0	79.1	4.6	9.4	5.0	2.8
\$10,000+-----	100.0	78.5	2.2	10.8	6.7	2.8
Unknown-----	100.0	84.3	*	7.2	4.7	2.7
<u>Marital status</u>						
Under 17 years-----	100.0	79.6	*	10.3	9.4	2.1
Married-----	100.0	80.6	7.7	7.7	2.8	2.3
Never married-----	100.0	81.5	*	8.6	5.8	4.4
Widowed-----	100.0	88.7	*	7.4	2.7	1.8
Separated-----	100.0	86.2	*	7.4	*	*
Divorced-----	100.0	88.8	*	5.8	*	*
<u>Geographic region</u>						
Northeast-----	100.0	81.4	3.5	9.7	4.2	2.5
North Central-----	100.0	80.9	3.9	9.1	5.6	2.1
South-----	100.0	82.3	4.9	7.5	4.2	2.1
West-----	100.0	79.9	4.5	7.3	5.8	3.3
<u>Education of head of family</u>						
Under 5 years-----	100.0	89.5	2.0	5.6	2.2	*
5-8 years-----	100.0	85.0	2.5	7.7	3.4	2.5
9-12 years-----	100.0	81.0	5.2	8.1	4.9	2.2
13+ years-----	100.0	75.9	4.3	10.7	6.9	3.2
Unknown years-----	100.0	84.7	*	*	*	*

¹The sum of visits by type of service may be greater than the total visits, since one visit may involve more than one type of service.

Table 15. Population used in obtaining rates shown in this publication, by education of head of family, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Education of head of family						
	All persons	Under 5 years	5-8 years	9-12 years	13+ years	Unknown years	
<u>Both sexes</u>		Population in thousands					
All ages-----	185,797	11,404	46,640	87,236	37,147	3,371	
Under 5 years-----	20,721	872	3,673	11,146	4,728	302	
5-14 years-----	38,160	2,102	8,690	18,946	7,831	590	
15-24 years-----	26,960	1,460	5,985	13,717	5,323	475	
25-34 years-----	21,370	715	3,731	11,026	5,640	257	
35-44 years-----	23,964	1,073	5,103	12,223	5,177	387	
45-54 years-----	21,306	1,190	6,224	9,668	3,788	436	
55-64 years-----	16,295	1,489	6,125	5,698	2,560	424	
65-74 years-----	11,120	1,563	4,650	3,211	1,389	306	
75+ years-----	5,903	939	2,458	1,602	710	194	
<u>Male</u>							
All ages-----	90,078	5,588	22,714	42,074	17,973	1,729	
Under 5 years-----	10,558	424	1,837	5,696	2,428	174	
5-14 years-----	19,382	1,065	4,422	9,580	3,984	331	
15-24 years-----	12,815	783	3,113	6,257	2,393	269	
25-34 years-----	10,147	324	1,694	5,282	2,725	122	
35-44 years-----	11,480	464	2,425	5,839	2,575	177	
45-54 years-----	10,343	555	2,927	4,805	1,856	200	
55-64 years-----	7,810	691	2,979	2,738	1,187	216	
65-74 years-----	5,031	778	2,248	1,297	554	155	
75+ years-----	2,512	503	1,070	581	271	86	
<u>Female</u>							
All ages-----	95,720	5,816	23,925	45,162	19,174	1,642	
Under 5 years-----	10,163	449	1,836	5,450	2,300	128	
5-14 years-----	18,778	1,036	4,269	9,366	3,847	260	
15-24 years-----	14,145	677	2,873	7,459	2,930	205	
25-34 years-----	11,223	391	2,038	5,744	2,914	136	
35-44 years-----	12,483	609	2,677	6,384	2,602	210	
45-54 years-----	10,964	636	3,297	4,863	1,932	235	
55-64 years-----	8,485	798	3,146	2,960	1,373	209	
65-74 years-----	6,088	785	2,402	1,914	836	151	
75+ years-----	3,390	436	1,387	1,021	439	108	

NOTE: For official population estimates for more general use, see Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States, in Current Population Reports: Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

Table 16. Population used in obtaining rates shown in this publication, by residence, geographic region, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Residence			Region			
	All SMSA's	Outside of SMSA		North-east	North Central	South	West
		Nonfarm	Farm				
Population in thousands							
<u>Both sexes</u>							
All ages-----	118,731	55,346	11,720	46,476	52,898	56,804	29,619
Under 5 years-----	13,193	6,354	1,174	4,869	5,964	6,467	3,421
5-14 years-----	23,877	11,562	2,720	8,885	11,085	11,909	6,281
15-24 years-----	16,920	8,379	1,660	6,465	7,337	9,016	4,141
25-34 years-----	14,301	6,074	995	5,137	6,050	6,558	3,625
35-44 years-----	16,071	6,522	1,370	6,489	6,639	6,960	3,875
45-54 years-----	14,009	5,845	1,453	5,827	5,917	6,261	3,302
55-64 years-----	10,390	4,717	1,188	4,291	4,753	4,822	2,429
65-74 years-----	6,636	3,711	773	2,994	3,314	3,163	1,649
75+ years-----	3,333	2,183	387	1,520	1,839	1,647	897
<u>Male</u>							
All ages-----	57,266	26,737	6,075	22,303	26,029	27,284	14,461
Under 5 years-----	6,751	3,198	609	2,417	3,117	3,284	1,739
5-14 years-----	12,071	5,889	1,422	4,438	5,637	6,061	3,245
15-24 years-----	8,039	3,881	896	3,068	3,572	4,241	1,934
25-34 years-----	6,794	2,889	464	2,489	2,914	3,036	1,708
35-44 years-----	7,661	3,113	707	3,091	3,292	3,266	1,831
45-54 years-----	6,733	2,884	726	2,824	2,862	2,999	1,658
55-64 years-----	4,944	2,230	636	2,058	2,329	2,229	1,193
65-74 years-----	2,906	1,707	418	1,310	1,522	1,445	756
75+ years-----	1,368	947	197	607	784	724	396
<u>Female</u>							
All ages-----	61,466	28,610	5,644	24,173	26,869	29,520	15,158
Under 5 years-----	6,442	3,156	566	2,451	2,847	3,183	1,682
5-14 years-----	11,806	5,673	1,299	4,446	5,448	5,848	3,036
15-24 years-----	8,882	4,499	764	3,397	3,766	4,775	2,207
25-34 years-----	7,507	3,185	531	2,648	3,137	3,522	1,917
35-44 years-----	8,411	3,410	663	3,397	3,347	3,695	2,044
45-54 years-----	7,276	2,961	727	3,003	3,054	3,262	1,644
55-64 years-----	5,446	2,487	552	2,233	2,424	2,593	1,235
65-74 years-----	3,731	2,003	354	1,685	1,792	1,719	893
75+ years-----	1,966	1,236	189	913	1,055	923	500

NOTE: For official population estimates for more general use, see Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States, in Current Population Reports: Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

Table 17. Population used in obtaining rates shown in this publication, by color, family income, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Color		Family income					
	White	Nonwhite	Under \$2,000	\$2,000-\$3,999	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+	Unknown
Both sexes								
Population in thousands								
All ages-----	163,966	21,831	21,430	30,170	58,956	36,476	28,825	9,941
Under 5 years-----	17,514	3,207	1,887	3,732	8,061	4,040	2,196	804
5-14 years-----	32,801	5,358	3,049	5,550	13,214	8,504	6,222	1,621
15-24 years-----	23,652	3,308	3,488	4,748	8,256	4,907	4,039	1,522
25-34 years-----	18,841	2,529	1,360	3,018	8,177	5,043	2,984	788
35-44 years-----	21,406	2,558	1,449	2,833	7,791	5,820	4,881	1,189
45-54 years-----	19,228	2,078	1,791	2,784	6,157	4,519	4,616	1,439
55-64 years-----	14,824	1,472	2,534	3,036	4,369	2,379	2,685	1,292
65-74 years-----	10,252	867	3,447	3,065	2,115	882	813	798
75+ years-----	5,448	455	2,426	1,404	815	380	389	489
Male								
All ages-----	79,647	10,430	9,225	14,141	29,259	18,269	14,504	4,680
Under 5 years-----	8,950	1,607	908	1,868	4,126	2,086	1,129	441
5-14 years-----	16,705	2,676	1,534	2,857	6,679	4,260	3,213	838
15-24 years-----	11,259	1,556	1,631	2,156	3,918	2,377	2,004	729
25-34 years-----	9,025	1,122	608	1,341	3,953	2,439	1,430	376
35-44 years-----	10,315	1,165	581	1,253	3,880	2,902	2,327	537
45-54 years-----	9,361	981	719	1,191	3,067	2,361	2,344	660
55-64 years-----	7,095	715	935	1,244	2,205	1,305	1,490	632
65-74 years-----	4,631	400	1,341	1,523	1,064	400	400	304
75+ years-----	2,305	207	968	711	364	140	166	164
Female								
All ages-----	84,319	11,401	12,204	16,029	29,698	18,206	14,321	5,262
Under 5 years-----	8,564	1,599	979	1,864	3,935	1,954	1,067	363
5-14 years-----	16,096	2,682	1,514	2,693	6,535	4,244	3,008	783
15-24 years-----	12,393	1,752	1,856	2,593	4,338	2,530	2,034	793
25-34 years-----	9,816	1,407	752	1,677	4,224	2,604	1,554	412
35-44 years-----	11,091	1,392	868	1,580	3,911	2,918	2,554	652
45-54 years-----	9,867	1,097	1,072	1,593	3,090	2,158	2,272	779
55-64 years-----	7,729	757	1,599	1,793	2,163	1,074	1,196	660
65-74 years-----	5,621	467	2,106	1,542	1,050	483	413	494
75+ years-----	3,143	248	1,458	693	451	240	223	325

NOTE: For official population estimates for more general use, see Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States, in Current Population Reports: Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

Table 18. Population used in obtaining rates shown in this publication, by marital status and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Age	Marital status						
	Total population	Under 17 years	Married	Never married	Widowed	Separated	Divorced
	Population in thousands						
All ages-----	185,797	65,929	85,343	18,759	10,119	2,370	3,277
Under 17 years-----	65,929	65,929
17-24 years-----	19,911	...	7,726	11,666	*	287	213
25-44 years-----	45,333	...	38,428	3,813	553	1,150	1,389
45-64 years-----	37,602	...	30,067	2,224	3,237	731	1,343
65+ years-----	17,022	...	9,122	1,055	6,310	202	333

NOTE: For official population estimates for more general use, see Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States, in Current Population Reports: Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

Table 19. Population used in obtaining rates shown in this publication, by sex and usual activity status: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Usual activity status	Both sexes	Male	Female
	Population in thousands		
All activities-----	185,797	90,078	95,720
Preschool (under 6 years)-----	24,973	12,679	12,294
School (6-16 years)-----	40,956	20,830	20,126
Usually working-----	63,259	43,491	19,768
Keeping house-----	37,996	...	37,996
Retired (45+ years)-----	7,504	6,368	1,136
Other (17+ years)-----	11,109	6,709	4,400

NOTE: For official population estimates for more general use, see Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States, in Current Population Reports: Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

Table 20. Population used in obtaining rates shown in this publication, by chronic activity limitation, sex, and age: United States, July 1963-June 1964

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

Sex and age	Total	Persons with no chronic conditions	Persons with 1+ chronic conditions				
			Total	Unable to carry on major activity ¹	With limitation in amount or kind of major activity ¹	With limitation, but not in major activity ¹	With no limitation of activity
Population in thousands							
<u>Both sexes</u>							
All ages-----	185,797	101,783	84,015	4,152	12,101	6,307	61,455
Under 15 years-----	58,881	47,227	11,654	108	507	549	10,490
15-24 years-----	26,960	17,291	9,669	106	563	642	8,357
25-44 years-----	45,333	21,241	24,092	350	2,244	1,695	19,804
45-64 years-----	37,602	13,005	24,596	1,105	4,258	2,135	17,097
65-74 years-----	11,120	2,266	8,854	1,052	2,792	882	4,128
75+ years-----	5,903	752	5,150	1,431	1,737	404	1,579
<u>Male</u>							
All ages-----	90,078	50,939	39,139	2,762	5,609	2,463	28,305
Under 15 years-----	29,939	23,531	6,408	*	317	309	5,725
15-24 years-----	12,815	8,429	4,386	*	282	287	3,762
25-44 years-----	21,627	10,806	10,821	213	1,034	666	8,909
45-64 years-----	18,153	6,678	11,474	838	1,962	823	7,851
65-74 years-----	5,031	1,123	3,908	775	1,349	276	1,508
75+ years-----	2,512	371	2,141	823	665	104	550
<u>Female</u>							
All ages-----	95,720	50,844	44,876	1,390	6,492	3,843	33,151
Under 15 years-----	28,941	23,696	5,245	*	189	240	4,766
15-24 years-----	14,145	8,862	5,282	*	281	356	4,595
25-44 years-----	23,706	10,435	13,271	137	1,210	1,029	10,895
45-64 years-----	19,449	6,327	13,122	267	2,296	1,313	9,246
65-74 years-----	6,088	1,142	4,946	277	1,442	606	2,620
75+ years-----	3,390	381	3,009	608	1,072	300	1,029

¹Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or engage in school or preschool activities.

NOTE: For official population estimates for more general use, see Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States, in Current Population Reports: Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

APPENDIX I

TECHNICAL NOTES ON METHODS

Background of This Report

This report is one of a series of statistical reports prepared by the National Health Survey. It is based on information collected in a continuing nationwide sample of households in the Health Interview Survey, a major part of the program.

The Health Interview Survey utilizes a questionnaire which, in addition to personal and demographic characteristics, obtains information on illnesses, injuries, chronic conditions and impairments, and other health topics. As data relating to each of these various broad topics are tabulated and analyzed, separate reports are issued which cover one or more of the specific topics. The present report is based on the consolidated sample for 52 weeks of interviewing ending June 1964.

The population covered by the sample for the Health Interview Survey is the civilian, noninstitutional population of the United States living at the time of the interview. The sample does not include members of the Armed Forces, U.S. nationals living in foreign countries, or crews of vessels. It should also be noted that the estimates shown do not represent a complete inventory of physician visits for the specified calendar period since no adjustment has been made for persons who had physician visits during the 2-week-recall period but who died prior to the interview.

Statistical Design of the Health Interview Survey

General plan.—The sampling plan of the survey follows a multistage probability design which permits a continuous sampling of the civilian population of the United States. The first stage of this design consists of drawing a sample of 357 from about 1,900 geographically defined primary sampling units (PSU's) into which the United States has been divided. A PSU is a county, a group of contiguous counties, or a standard metropolitan statistical area.

With no loss in general understanding, the remaining stages can be combined and treated in this discussion as an ultimate stage. Within PSU's, then, ultimate stage units called segments are defined in such a manner that each segment contains an expected nine households. A segment consists of a cluster of neighboring households or addresses. Two general types of segments are used:

(1) area segments which are defined geographically, and
(2) B segments which are defined from a list of addresses from the Decennial Census and Survey of Construction. Each week a random sample of about 90 segments is drawn. In the approximately 800 households in these segments, household members are interviewed concerning factors related to health.

Since the household members interviewed each week are a representative sample of the population, samples for successive weeks can be combined into larger samples. Thus the design permits both continuous measurement of characteristics of high incidence or prevalence in the population, and through the larger consolidated samples, more detailed analysis of less common characteristics and smaller categories. The continuous collection has administrative and operational advantages as well as technical assets, since it permits field work to be handled with an experienced, stable staff.

Sample size and geographic detail.—The national sample plan for the 12-month period ending June 1964 included about 134,000 persons from 42,000 households in about 4,700 segments.

The overall sample was designed in such a fashion that tabulations can be provided for each of the major geographic regions and for urban and rural sectors of the United States.

Collection of data.—Field operations for the household survey are performed by the Bureau of the Census under specifications established by the National Center for Health Statistics. In accordance with these specifications the Bureau of the Census selects the sample, conducts the field interviewing as an agent of the Center, and performs a manual editing and coding of the questionnaires. The Health Survey, using Center electronic computers, carries out further editing and tabulates the edited data.

Estimating methods.—Each statistic produced by the survey—for example, the number of office visits to a physician in a specified period—is the result of two stages of ratio estimation. In the first of these, the control factor is the ratio of the 1960 decennial population count to the 1960 estimated population in the National Health Survey's first-stage sample of PSU's. These factors are applied for some 25 color-residence classes.

Later, ratios of sample-produced estimates of the population to official Bureau of the Census figures for

current population in about 60 age-sex-color classes are computed, and serve as second-stage factors for ratio estimating.

The effect of the ratio-estimating process is to make the sample more closely representative of the population by age, sex, color, and residence, thus reducing sampling variance.

As noted, each week's sample represents the population living during that week and characteristics of this population. Consolidation of samples over a time period, say a calendar quarter, produces estimates of average characteristics of the U.S. population for that calendar quarter. Similarly, population data for a year are averages of the four quarterly figures.

For statistics measuring the number of occurrences during a specified time period, such as the number of physician visits during a year, a similar computational procedure is used, but the statistics are interpreted differently. For these items, the questionnaire asks for the respondent's experience over the 2 calendar weeks prior to the week of interview. In such instances the estimated quarterly total for the statistic is simply 6.5 times the average 2-week estimate produced by the 13 successive samples taken during the period. The annual total is the sum of the four quarters. Thus, the experience of persons *interviewed during a year*—experience which actually occurred for each person in a 2-calendar-week interval prior to week of interview—is treated as though it measured the total of such experience *during the year*. Such interpretation leads to no significant bias.

General Qualifications

Nonresponse.—Data were adjusted for nonresponse by a procedure which imputes to persons in a household which was not interviewed the characteristics of persons in households in the same segment which were interviewed. The total noninterview rate was 5 percent; 1 percent was refusal, and the remainder was primarily due to the failure to find any eligible household respondent after repeated trials.

The interview process.—The statistics presented in this report are based on replies secured in interviews of persons in the sampled households. Each person 19 years of age and over, available at the time of interview, was interviewed individually. Proxy respondents within the household were employed for children and for adults not available at the time of the interview, provided the respondent was closely related to the person about whom information was being obtained.

There are limitations to the accuracy of diagnostic and other information collected in household interviews. For diagnostic information, the household respondent can, at best, pass on to the interviewer only the information the physician has given the family. For conditions

not medically attended, diagnostic information is often no more than a description of symptoms. However, other facts, such as the number of disability days caused by the condition, can be obtained more accurately from household members than from any other source since only the persons concerned are in a position to report this information.

Rounding of numbers.—The original tabulations on which the data in this report are based show all estimates to the nearest whole unit. All consolidations were made from the original tabulations using the estimates to the nearest unit. In the final published tables the figures are rounded to the nearest thousand, although these are not necessarily accurate to that detail. Devised statistics, such as rates and percent distributions, are computed after the estimates on which these are based have been rounded to the nearest thousand.

Population figures.—Some of the published tables include population figures for specified categories. Except for certain overall totals by age and sex, which are adjusted to independent estimates, these figures are based on the sample of households in the National Health Survey. These are given primarily to provide denominators for rate computation and for this purpose are more appropriate for use with the accompanying measures of health characteristics than other population data that may be available. In some instances these will permit users to recombine published data into classes more suitable to their specific needs. With the exception of the overall totals by age and sex, mentioned above, the population figures differ from corresponding figures (which are derived from different sources) published in reports of the Bureau of the Census. For population data for general use, see the official estimates presented in Bureau of the Census reports in the P-20, P-25, and P-60 series.

Reliability of Estimates

Since the estimates are based on a sample, they will differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and interviewing personnel and procedures. As in any survey, the results are also subject to measurement error.

The standard error is primarily a measure of sampling variability, that is, the variations that might occur by chance because only a sample of the population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also reflects part of the variation which arises in the measurement process. It does not include estimates of any biases which might lie in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census by less than the standard error. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the

standard error and about 99 out of 100 that it would be less than 2½ times as large.

The relative standard error of an estimate is obtained by dividing the standard error of the estimate by the estimate itself and is expressed as a percentage of the estimate. Charts from which approximations of relative standard errors can be determined directly have been prepared, and can be found on pages 35 and 36.

A description of the classes of statistics used in the health survey and some general rules for determining relative sampling errors are presented in Appendix I of "Current Estimates," *Vital and Health Statistics*, Series 10, Number 13.

The following guide indicates the appropriate rules and charts to be used in deriving relative standard errors for estimates shown in this report.

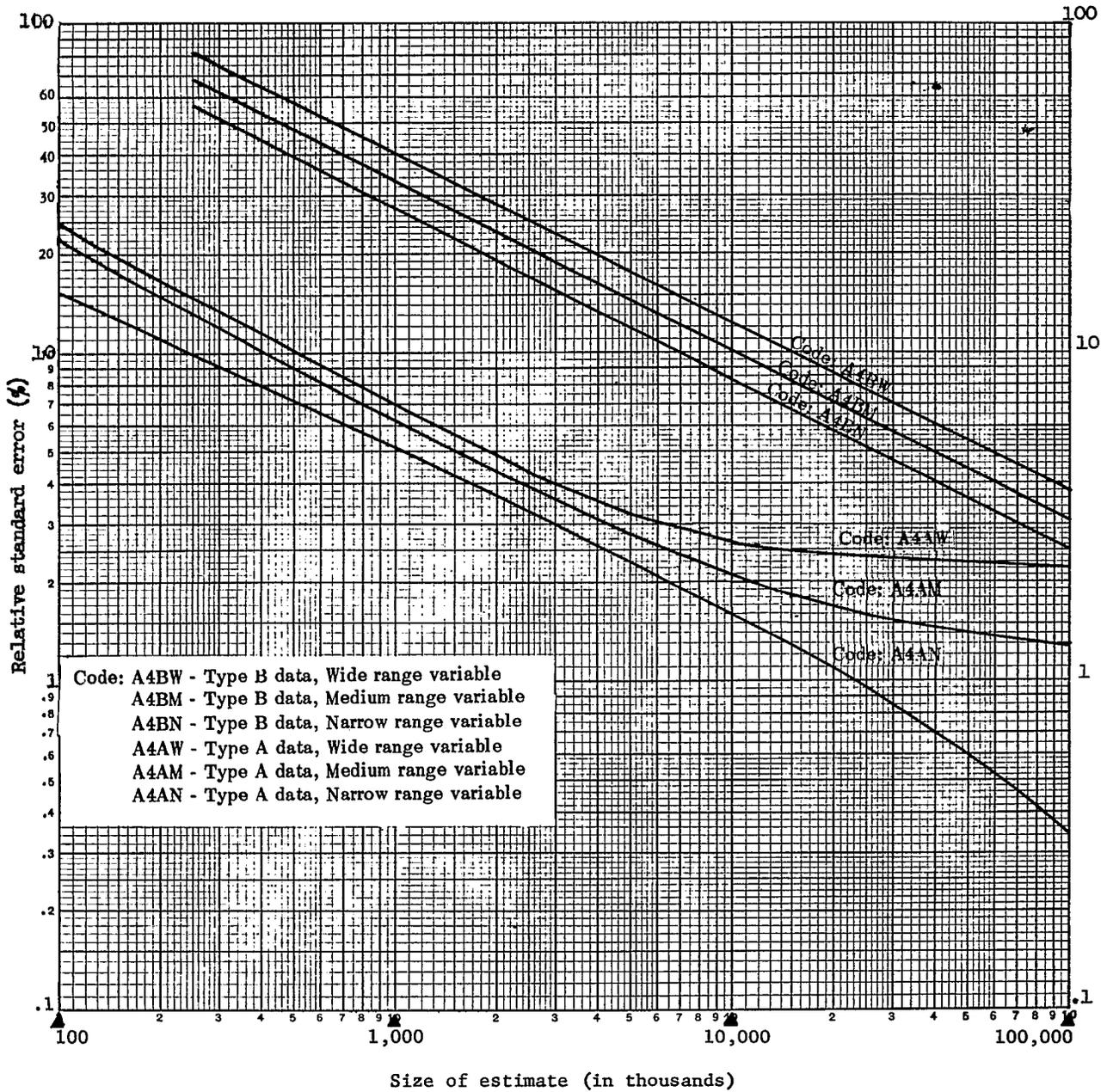
Guide to Use of Relative Standard Error Charts

The code shown below identifies the appropriate curve to be used in estimating the relative standard error of the statistic described. The four components of each code describe the statistic as follows:

(1) A = aggregate, P = percentage; (2) the number of calendar quarters of data collection; (3) the type of the statistic; and (4) the range of the statistic as described in Series 10, Number 13.

Statistic	Use:		
	Rule	Code	on page
Number of:			
Persons in the U.S. population or total number of persons in any age-sex category-----	Not subject to sampling error		
Persons by any other characteristic-----	1	A4AN	35
Physician visits in a year-----	1	A4BM	35
Percent distribution of:			
Physician visits-----	2	P4BN-M	36
Rates of physician visits:			
Per person in total U.S. population or in any age-sex group of the total U.S. population; (1) per year-----	4(a)	A4BM	35
Per person in any other population group per year-----	4(b)	Numer.: A4BM Denom.: A4AN	35 35

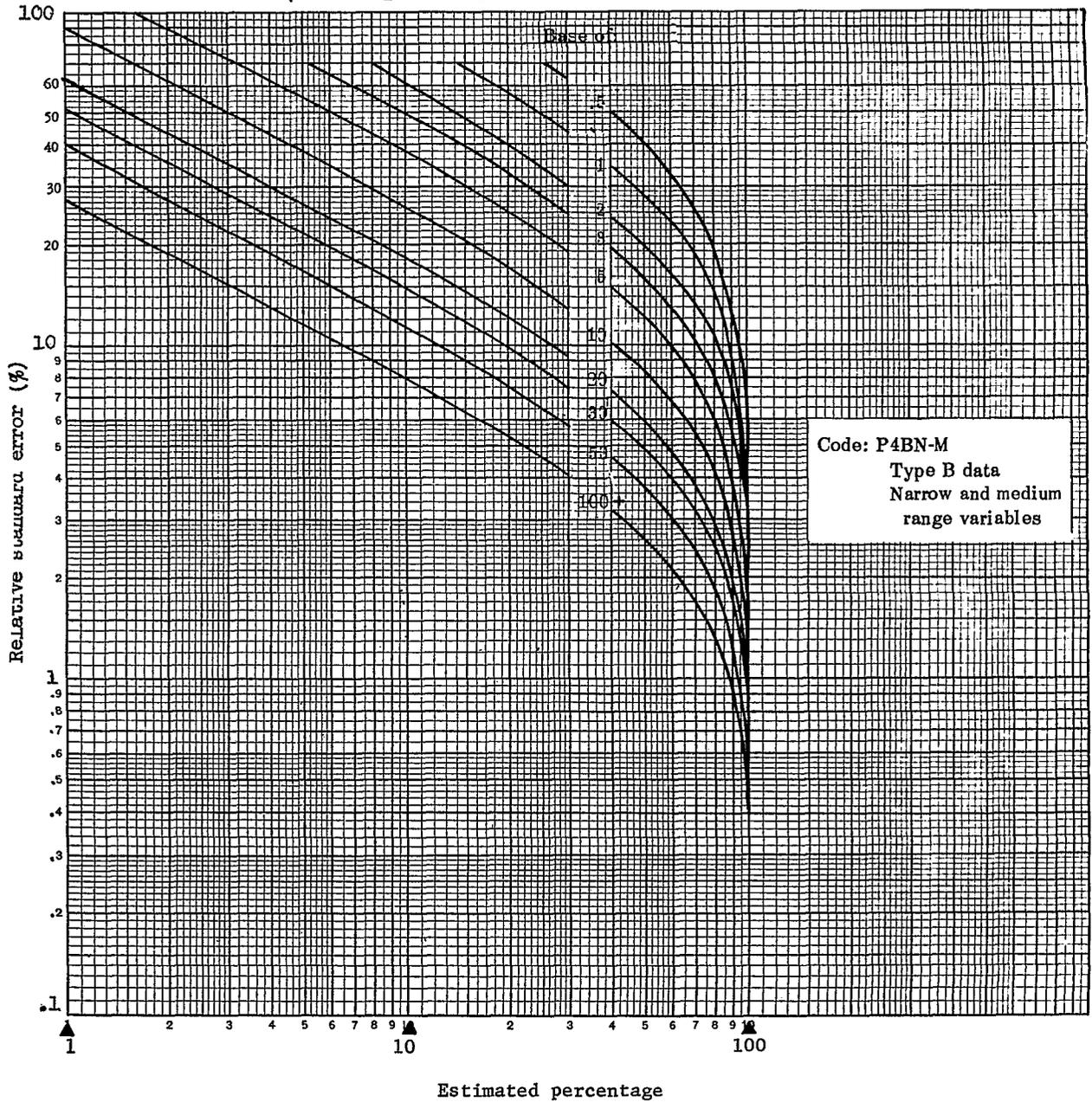
Relative standard errors for aggregates based on four quarters of data collection
for data of all types and ranges



Example of use of chart: An aggregate of 2,000,000 (on scale at bottom of chart) for a Narrow range Type A statistic (code: A4AN) has a relative standard error of 3.6 percent, (read from scale at left side of chart), or a standard error of 72,000 (3.6 percent of 2,000,000). For a Wide range Type B statistic (code: A4BW), an aggregate of 6,000,000 has a relative error of 16.0 percent or a standard error of 960,000 (16 percent of 6,000,000).

Relative standard errors for percentages based on four quarters of data collection
for type B data, Narrow and Medium range

(Base of percentage shown on curves in millions)



Example of use of chart: An estimate of 20 percent (on scale at bottom of chart) based on an estimate of 10,000,000 has a relative standard error of 17.0 percent (read from scale at the left side of the chart), the point at which the curve for a base of 10,000,000 intersects the vertical line for 20 percent. The standard error in percentage points is equal to 20 percent X 17.0 percent or 3.4 percentage points.

APPENDIX II

DEFINITIONS OF CERTAIN TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Terms Relating to Physician Visits

Physician visit.—A physician visit is defined as consultation with a physician, in person or by telephone, for examination, diagnosis, treatment, or advice. The visit is considered to be a physician visit if the service is provided directly by the physician or by a nurse or other person acting under a physician's supervision. For the purpose of this definition "physician" includes doctors of medicine and osteopathic physicians. The term "doctor" is used in the interview, rather than "physician," because of the need to keep to popular usage. However, the concept toward which all instructions are directed is that which is described here.

Physician visits for services provided on a mass basis are not included in the tabulations. A service received on a mass basis is defined as any service involving only a single test (e.g., test for diabetes) or a single procedure (e.g., smallpox vaccination) when this single service was administered identically to all persons who were at the place for this purpose. Hence, persons passing through a tuberculosis chest X-ray trailer, by this definition, are not included as physician visits. However, a special chest X-ray given in a physician's office or an outpatient clinic is considered to be a physician visit. Furthermore, regardless of the number of doctors seen at the clinic it is considered as only one visit.

Physician visits to hospital inpatients are not included.

If a physician is called to the house to see more than one person, the call is considered to be a separate physician visit for each person about whom the physician was consulted.

A physician visit is associated with the person about whom the advice was sought, even if that person did not actually see or consult the physician. For example, if a mother consults a physician about one of her children, the physician visit is ascribed to the child.

Place of visit.—The place of visit is a classification of the types of places at which a physician visit took place. The definitions of the various categories are as follows:

1. *Home* is defined as any place in which the person was staying at the time of the physician's visit. It may be his own home, the home of a

friend, a hotel, or any other place the person may be staying (except as an overnight patient in a hospital).

2. *Office* is defined as the office of a physician in private practice only. This may be an office in the physician's home, an individual office in an office building, or a suite of offices occupied by several physicians. For purposes of this survey, physicians connected with prepayment group practice plans are considered to be in private practice.
3. *Hospital clinic* is defined as an outpatient clinic or emergency room in any hospital.
4. *Company or industry health unit* refers to treatment received from a physician or under a physician's supervision at a place of business (e.g., factory, store, office building). This includes emergency or first-aid rooms located in such places if treatment was received there from a physician or trained nurse.
5. *Telephone contact* refers to advice given in a telephone call directly by the physician or transmitted through the nurse. (Calls for appointments are excluded.)
6. *Other* refers to advice or treatment received from a physician or under a physician's general supervision at a school, at an insurance office, at a health department clinic, or any other place at which a physician consultation might take place.

Type of medical service.—A medical service is a service received when a physician is consulted. For the purposes of this survey, medical services have been categorized into several broad types. A single physician visit may result in the recording of more than one type of medical service (though a particular type is not recorded more than once for any one physician visit). Tables showing physician visits classified by type of medical service therefore add to more than the total number of visits. The definitions of the types of medical service are as follows:

1. *Diagnosis and treatment* include (a) examinations and tests in order to diagnose an illness regardless of whether the examinations and tests resulted in a diagnosis, and (b) treatment or advice given by the physician or under the physician's supervision. The category includes

diagnosis alone, treatment alone, and both combined. X-rays either for diagnostic purposes or for treatment are included in this class.

2. *Prenatal and postnatal* care include consultations concerning the care of the mother during pregnancy and in the postpartum period. It excludes consultations for illnesses not related to pregnancy or delivery.
3. *General checkup* includes checkups for general purposes and also those for specific purpose, such as employment or insurance. If a diagnosis or diagnoses are made in the course of a general checkup, the physician visit is classified to "Diagnosis and treatment" as well as to "General checkup." If the consultation is for checking up on a specific condition, as, for example, when a person goes at regular intervals for a check on a tuberculous or heart condition, this is classified as "Diagnosis and treatment" and not as "General checkup."
4. *Immunization* includes this preventive service when provided by a physician or under a physician's supervision. A physician service which is for the sole purpose of receiving immunization against a particular disease given at the same time and place that many other persons are receiving the identical immunization is excluded because of the rule for exclusion of such services in the definition of a physician visit.
5. *Other* includes eye refractions and specific preventive-care services (such as vitamin injections) not embraced by the above type-of-service categories. Also included are all visits where an unknown type of service was reported.

Demographic, Social, and Economic Terms

Age.—The age recorded for each person is the age at last birthday. Age is recorded in single years and grouped in a variety of distributions depending upon the purpose of the table.

Color.—In this report, the population has been subdivided into two groups according to "White" and "Nonwhite." "Nonwhite" includes Negro, American Indian, Chinese, Japanese, and so forth. Mexican persons are included with "White" unless definitely known to be Indian or other nonwhite race.

Family income.—Each member of a family is classified according to the total income of the family of which he is a member. Within the household all persons related to each other by blood, marriage, or adoption constitute a family. Unrelated individuals are classified according to their own income.

The income recorded is the total of all income received by members of the family (or by an unrelated individual) in the 12-month period ending with the week of interview. Income from all sources is included, e.g.,

wages, salaries, rents from property, pensions, help from relatives, and so forth.

Education of family head.—Each member of a family is classified according to the education of the head of the family of which he is a member. Within the household all persons related to each other by blood, marriage, or adoption constitute a family. Unrelated individuals are classified according to their own education.

The categories of educational status show the highest grade of school completed. Only grades completed in regular schools, where persons are given a formal education, are included. A "regular" school is one which advances a person toward an elementary or high school diploma, or a college, university, or professional school degree. Thus, education in vocational, trade, or business schools outside the regular school system is not counted in determining the highest grade of school completed.

Marital status.—Marital status is recorded only for persons 17 years of age or older. The marital status categories are as follows:

Under 17 includes all persons aged 0-16 regardless of their marital status.

Married includes all married persons not separated from their spouse because of marital discord. Persons with common-law marriages are considered to be married.

Never married includes persons who were never married and persons whose only marriage was annulled.

Other includes persons who are widowed, divorced, legally separated, and persons separated because of marital discord.

Usual activity status.—All persons in the population are classified according to their usual activity status during the 12-month period prior to the week of interview. The "usual" activity status, in case more than one is reported, is the one at which the person spent the most time during the 12-month period. Children under 6 years of age are classified as "preschool." All persons aged 6-16 years are classified as "school age."

The categories of usual activity status used for persons aged 17 years and over are: usually working, usually keeping house, retired, and other. For several reasons these categories are not comparable with somewhat similarly named categories in official Federal labor force statistics. First, the responses concerning usual activity status are accepted without detailed questioning, since the objective of the question is not to estimate the numbers of persons in labor force categories but to identify crudely certain population groups which may have differing health problems. Second, the figures represent the usual activity status over the period of an entire year, whereas official labor force statistics relate to a much shorter period, usually 1 week. Third, the minimum age for usually working persons is age 17 in the National Health Survey and the official labor force categories include all persons age

14 or older. Finally in the definitions of specific categories which follow, certain marginal groups are classified differently to simplify procedures.

Usually working includes persons 17 years of age or older who are paid employees; self-employed in their own business, profession, or in farming; or unpaid employees in a family business or farm. Work around the house, or volunteer or unpaid work, such as for a church, etc., is not counted as working.

Usually keeping house includes female persons 17 years of age or older whose major activity is described as "keeping house" and who cannot be classified as "working."

Retired includes persons 45 years old or over who consider themselves to be retired. In case of doubt, a person 45 years of age or older is counted as retired if he, or she, has either voluntarily or involuntarily stopped working, is not looking for work, and is not described as "keeping house." A retired person may or may not be unable to work.

Other in this report includes males 17 years of age or older not classified as "working" or "retired," and females 17 years of age or older not classified as "working," "keeping house," or "retired." Persons aged 17 years and over who are going to school are included in this group.

Residence.—The place of residence of a member of the civilian, noninstitutional population is classified as either inside a standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA) or outside an SMSA, according to farm or non-farm residence.

Standard metropolitan statistical areas.—The definitions and titles of standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) are established by the U.S. Bureau of the Budget with the advice of the Federal Committee on Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas. There were 212 SMSA's defined for the 1960 Decennial Census, for which data may be provided for places of residence in the Health Interview Survey.

The definition of an individual SMSA involves two considerations: first, a city or cities of specified population which constitute the central city and identify the county in which it is located as the central county; and second, economic and social relationships with contiguous counties (except in New England) which are metropolitan in character, so that the periphery of the specific metropolitan area may be determined. SMSA's are not limited by State boundaries.

Farm and nonfarm residence.—The population residing outside SMSA's is subdivided into the farm population, which comprises all non-SMSA residents living on farms, and the nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining non-SMSA population. The farm population includes persons living on places of 10 or more acres from which sales of farm products amounted to \$50 or more during the previous 12 months and persons residing on places of less than 10 acres from which

sales of farm products amounted to \$250 or more during the preceding 12 months. Other persons living in non-SMSA territory were classified as nonfarm. Persons were also classified as nonfarm if their household paid rent for the house but their rent did not include any land used for farming.

"Sales of farm products" refers to the gross receipts from the sale of field crops, vegetables, fruits, nuts, livestock and livestock products (milk, wool, etc.), poultry and poultry products, and nursery and forest products produced on the place and sold at any time during the preceding 12 months.

Region.—For the purpose of classifying the population by geographic area, the States are grouped into four regions. These regions, which correspond to those used by the Bureau of the Census, are as follows:

<i>Region</i>	<i>States Included</i>
Northeast-----	Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania
North Central--	Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas
South-----	Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas
West-----	Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii

Chronic condition.—A condition is considered to be chronic if (1) it is described by the respondent in terms of one of the chronic diseases on the "Check List of Chronic Conditions" or in terms of one of the types of impairments on the "Check List of Impairments" (page 26) or (2) the condition is described by the respondent as having been first noticed more than 3 months before the week of the interview.

Persons with chronic conditions.—The estimated number of persons with chronic conditions is based on the number of persons who at the time of the interview were reported to have one or more chronic conditions. (See definition of "Chronic condition.")

Chronic activity limitation.—Persons with chronic conditions are classified into four categories according to the extent to which their activities are limited at present as a result of these conditions. Since the usual activities of preschool children, school-age children, housewives, and workers and other persons differ, a

different set of criteria is used for each group. There is a general similarity between them, however, as will be seen in the descriptions of the four categories below. In some of the reports of the Health Interview Survey, various combinations of the categories have been made to serve different purposes.

1. *Persons unable to carry on major activity for their group* (major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school).

Preschool children: inability to take part in ordinary play with other children.

School-age children: inability to go to school.

Housewives: inability to do any housework.

Workers and all other persons: inability to work at a job or business.

2. *Persons limited in the amount or kind of major activity performed* (major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school).

Preschool children: limited in the amount or kind of play with other children, e.g., need special rest periods, cannot play strenuous games, cannot play for long periods at a time.

School-age children: limited to certain types of schools or in school attendance, e.g., need special schools or special teaching, cannot go to school full time or for long periods at a time.

Housewives: limited in amount or kind of housework, e.g., cannot

lift children, wash or iron, or do housework for long periods at a time.

limited in amount or kind of work, e.g., need special working aids or special rest periods at work, cannot work full time or for long periods at a time, cannot do strenuous work.

3. *Persons not limited in major activity but otherwise limited* (major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school).

Preschool children: not classified in this category.

School-age children: not limited in going to school but limited in participation in athletics or other extracurricular activities.

Housewives: not limited in housework but limited in other activities, such as church, clubs, hobbies, civic projects, or shopping.

Workers and all other persons: not limited in regular work activities but limited in other activities, such as church, clubs, hobbies, civic projects, sports, or games.

4. *Persons not limited in activities*
Includes persons with chronic conditions whose activities are not limited in any of the ways described above.



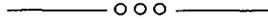
APPENDIX III

Question 18 from the fiscal year 1959 questionnaire

18. (a) LAST WEEK OR THE WEEK BEFORE did anyone in the family - you, your-, etc.-talk to a doctor or go to a doctor's office or clinic? Anyone else? If "Yes" (b) How many times during the past 2 weeks?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No _____ _____ No. of times														
(c) Where did you talk to the doctor? (d) How many times at -- (home, office, clinic, etc.)? (Record total number of times for each type of place) ("Hospital clinic" excludes overnight stays)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 70%;">Place</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Times</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>At home</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>At office</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hospital clinic</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Company or industry</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over telephone</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other (Specify)</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Place	Times	At home	_____	At office	_____	Hospital clinic	_____	Company or industry	_____	Over telephone	_____	Other (Specify)	_____
Place	Times														
At home	_____														
At office	_____														
Hospital clinic	_____														
Company or industry	_____														
Over telephone	_____														
Other (Specify)	_____														

Questions 20-22 from the fiscal year 1964 questionnaire

20. LAST WEEK OR THE WEEK BEFORE did anyone in the family talk to a doctor or go to a doctor's office or clinic? If "Yes," ask: (a) Who was this? (b) Anyone else? For EACH person with "Yes" box checked, ask Questions 20(c) through (f): (c) How many times did you see or talk to a doctor LAST WEEK? (d) How many times did you see or talk to a doctor the WEEK BEFORE LAST? Ask for EACH visit to a doctor in last 2 weeks: (e) Where did you talk to the doctor (the last time, the time before, etc.)? (f) Why did you go to (call) the doctor (that time)?	INTERVIEWER: DO NOT COUNT doctors seen while an inpatient in a hospital	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No _____ _____ No. of times Last Week _____ No. of times Week Before																												
If "No" to Question 20, ask: 21. ABOUT how long has it been since you have seen or talked to a doctor?	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;">Place</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Purpose</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Home = At home</td> <td>D/T = Diag. or treatment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Off. = At office</td> <td>Not. = Pre/post natal care</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clin. = Outpatient Hospital Clinic</td> <td>Gen. = Gen'l check-up</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ca. = Company or industry</td> <td>I/V = Immun./Vacc.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tel. = Over telephone</td> <td>Eye = Eye Exam. (glasses)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ot. = Other (Specify)</td> <td>Ot. = Other (Specify)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Place	Purpose	Home = At home	D/T = Diag. or treatment	Off. = At office	Not. = Pre/post natal care	Clin. = Outpatient Hospital Clinic	Gen. = Gen'l check-up	Ca. = Company or industry	I/V = Immun./Vacc.	Tel. = Over telephone	Eye = Eye Exam. (glasses)	Ot. = Other (Specify)	Ot. = Other (Specify)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;">Place</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Purpose</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Place	Purpose	1		2		3		4		5		6	
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Place	Purpose																													
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If any children under 17 years in household, ask: 22. DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS was- (were-., -, etc.) taken to a doctor for a ROUTINE physical examination, that is, not for a particular illness but for a general check-up? If "Yes," and more than one child under 17 years, ask: (a) Who was this? (b) Any of the other children?	<input type="checkbox"/> Under 6 mos. <input type="checkbox"/> 6-12 mos. No. of years _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Never	<input type="checkbox"/> 17 years or over <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No																												



APPENDIX IV

EVIDENCE ON NET ERRORS IN THE STATISTICS OF PHYSICIAN VISITS

As noted in the text, estimates of numbers of physician visits are subject to measurement error as well as sampling error. Determination of sampling error is a straightforward process. Evaluation of measurement error has proved to be much more difficult, and it remains uncertain at the present time.

In addition to the continuous internal studies being conducted to improve the quality of data collected in the Health Interview Survey (HIS), research contracts are from time to time awarded to outside organizations for the purpose of investigating sources of response errors and obtaining recommendations for improved methods of data collection. One method of assessing the accuracy of reported data and of identifying the factors related to errors in reporting is the record-check study. In relation to the reporting of physician visits, the basic design of such a study consists of selecting persons for whom there is a record of a physician service during a specified period, interviewing the families of these persons to learn about physician contacts during the same period, comparing the reported information with the medical records, and identifying instances where there is an apparent failure to report the medical event in the interview.

It should be emphasized that record-check studies of this type serve primarily to provide information on the factors associated with failure to report an event in an interview survey. Because of the difficulties in replicating the procedures and population composition of HIS, data from such studies cannot be used to adjust estimates from the Survey. The record-check study almost always is a one-directional check. At best it provides an estimate of gross underreporting, but it does not supply an estimate of the amount of overreporting. Therefore, the record-check study cannot be used as a measure of the level of net error in statistics from the Survey.

The HIS program has conducted two contract studies of this type devoted to collecting evidence on the failure of interview respondents to report physician visits. One of these was part of a larger study concerned with the relationship of information on chronic illness available from medical rec-

ords to information obtained by household interview. It was conducted among members of the Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York (HIP). This study was reported in *Health Statistics*, Series D, No. 5. The results indicated that a doctor contact within the 2 calendar weeks preceding the interview was reported for 64 percent of the 840 persons for whom an HIP physician service had been recorded in this time period. (See table 28 of Series D, No. 5.)

The second study, completed more recently, was conducted in Detroit among members of a subscription medical care plan, the Community Health Association. In this study, for which the period of recall was also the 2 weeks prior to the interview approximately 70 percent of the 403 known visits to doctors during the reference period were reported for the 275 persons in the sample.

Thus, there is indication in both of these studies of a substantial failure to report physician visits which have been identified from medical records in a 2-calendar-week period just prior to the interview. These findings, however, do not tell the whole story. As reported in the HIS, the level of physician services (exclusive of telephone calls) in the general population is in the neighborhood of 4.1 physician visits per person per year. This level is distinctly higher than the levels of physician services reported by a number of the large, comprehensive prepayment health insurance plans throughout the country. The figures for these plans range from 3.4 to 3.8 physician services per person per year.

It is easily shown that the differences in age distribution by no means account for the differences between these levels and those for the general population. However, there is definitely some lack of comparability on the basis of inclusions. The statistics from the health insurance plans include only face-to-face physician visits in the office and at home, and they exclude radiologists' and pathologists' services as well as all services by auxiliary staff. How much closer the figures would be if collected on a comparable basis is not known, but it seems clear that the survey figures are not much lower than the utilization rates within the plans.

Thus, there is some discrepancy between evidence from the record-check studies and evidence from a comparison with data from the plans. The former suggests that the survey figures are too low, while the latter makes it seem unlikely that the survey figures could exceed the plan rates by any more than they do.

Faced with an uncertainty about the true levels of use of physician services in the general population, one is led to speculate about possible reasons for this discrepancy. The important possible reasons include the following:

1. lack of demographic and social representativeness of the insurance-plan populations which have been studied,
2. different characteristics in the interview reporting of medical events among persons who are members of prepaid plans and persons in the general population,
3. lack of comparability between a physician's service as indicated in the medical records and a physician visit as defined in the interview (see Appendix II),
4. a substantial counteracting tendency to over-report physician visits in the reference period which balances or even overbalances

5. the apparent underreporting in the interview, some failure—as yet incompletely understood—in the method of analysis of the record-check studies (intensive analysis of the record-check process raises some difficult questions regarding the appropriate model for analysis and suggests that some of the evidence may be misleading or ambiguous),
6. the possibility that members of the health insurance plans actually use fewer services from the plan than do persons in the general population and that, taking the underreporting in the record-check studies at its face value, the true figures for the general population are higher than levels for members of health insurance plans and also higher than the levels published in this report.

At the present time the actual reason for the divergent findings is not known. Research to determine the true levels of the use of physician services will continue. In the meantime the data contained in this report are believed to reflect with reasonable accuracy the relationship of the use of physician services to demographic characteristics and to other characteristics of the population.

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Public Health Service Publication No. 1000

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