

# **Out-of-Pocket Cost and Acquisition of Prescribed Medicines**

**United States, 1973**

Estimates on the out-of-pocket cost and number of acquisitions of prescribed medicines per person per year by source of payments and selected demographic characteristics. Estimates are also presented on the conditions for which the medicines were used. Based on data collected in the Health Interview Survey during 1973.

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### COOPERATION OF THE U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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.

In accordance with specifications established by the Division of Health Interview Statistics, the Bureau of the Census, under a contract arrangement, participated in planning the survey and collecting the data.

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### 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 (more than 30 percent relative standard error)-----	*

# OUT-OF-POCKET COST AND ACQUISITION OF PRESCRIBED MEDICINES

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## INTRODUCTION

Data collected during 1973 in the Health Interview Survey on prescribed medicines among the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States are discussed in this report. Various statistics are derived from these data, including those on the average out-of-pocket cost, average cost per purchase per person, and average cost per purchase. The percent distributions of the number of acquisitions are shown in the detailed tables.

During 1973 the annual average out-of-pocket prescribed medicine expense of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States was \$23.80 per person. Prescribed medicines were defined in the survey as any medications obtained on a doctor's written prescription, including refills; any medicines prepared on the basis of a doctor's telephone call to a pharmacist; and any medicines given by the doctor or his assistant to a person to take home. Medicines or injections administered to a person in a medical facility were not considered prescribed medicines. Out-of-pocket expense was defined as the amount of expense paid directly by an individual or a family member exclusive of any part paid by insurance, other person, or agency.

The average out-of-pocket expense per person for prescribed medicines increased steadily with age from \$9.10 per year for persons under 17 years to \$61.40 for persons aged 65 and over.

Females spent considerably more for prescribed medicines than did males; their average expenditure was \$28.60 compared with \$18.60 for males.

Out-of-pocket expense per person for prescribed medicines for white persons (\$25.00) exceeded that for all other persons (\$15.00). After differences in age distributions were adjusted, the average out-of-pocket expense for prescribed medicines was similar for different family income groups and for the different education groups of the head of the family (table A).

Persons who were unable to carry on the major activity for their age group spent substantially greater amounts for medicines (\$100.20) than did persons with no limitation of activity (\$15.90).

Persons living in metropolitan areas had about the same expense for medicines (\$22.80) as those living in nonmetropolitan areas (\$25.80). Individual out-of-pocket expenses for prescribed medicines were highest (\$26.70) in the South Region and lowest (\$20.40) in the Northeast Region.

The highest average cost per acquisition of prescribed medicine was \$6.50 for certain disorders of the circulatory system, other than heart conditions and high blood pressure, and the lowest was \$3.30 for thyroid conditions.

There were an estimated 1,198.4 million acquisitions of prescribed medicine in 1973, or an average of 5.8 acquisitions per person per year. The average cost per purchase was \$4.80. The number of acquisitions rose sharply with age, but the average cost per purchased acquisition did not change substantially with age.

The largest source of payment for acquisitions was a person or a member of his family (74.1 percent). After that, the largest sources were a public organization (10.4 percent) and private insurance (7.9 percent). The source of

acquisition is defined as the source of partial or total payment.

The largest number of acquisitions was made for conditions of the respiratory system—common cold, sore throat, tonsillitis, influenza, grippe, cough, strep throat—(12.9 percent), while the smallest number was acquired for weight problems (0.7 percent).

## SOURCE AND LIMITATIONS OF THE DATA

The information in this report pertaining to prescribed medicines was obtained in household interviews. During the 52-week period in 1973 the Health Interview Survey weekly samples totaled about 41,000 households containing approximately 120,000 persons living at the time of the interview.

A description of the survey design, the methods used in estimation, and the general qualifications of data obtained from this survey are 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 the 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 also shown in appendix I.

Certain terms used in this report are defined in appendix II. Some of the terms have specialized meanings for the purpose of the survey. For example, prescribed medicine is defined as any medicine obtained on a doctor's written prescription or telephoned order to a pharmacist, any refill of previous prescriptions, and any medicine given by a doctor (or nurse) to a person to take home. Medicines and injections administered to a person in a doctor's office or in a medical facility are not included.

Each time a prescription was filled or refilled, the item was considered an acquisition. Since most prescriptions were written for the

use of an individual, the number of acquisitions for a person equaled the number of prescriptions filled plus the number of times each prescription was refilled. Information on nonprescription medicines during the same year is not available since no question on such medicines was asked during the 1973 survey.

The questions about medicines and the columns for entering the responses about each medicine are shown in the questionnaire in appendix III. The entire questionnaire used during the year's data collection is illustrated in the publication "Current Estimates From the Health Interview Survey, United States, 1973" (*Vital and Health Statistics*, Series 10, No. 95).

The amount paid for prescribed medicine by the person or his family was unknown for 15.7 percent of the acquisitions. Amounts that were actually recorded in column h of the questionnaire in appendix III were used to estimate the cost of prescribed medicine.

## OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSE OF PRESCRIBED MEDICINES PER PERSON PER YEAR

During 1973 the average annual amount of out-of-pocket expense of prescribed medicines was \$23.80 per person in the civilian noninstitutionalized population (table 1). As age increased, the annual out-of-pocket expense of prescribed medicines per person rose steeply from \$9.10 for persons under 17 years of age to \$61.40 per person aged 65 years and older. Undoubtedly, this rise was related to the increased prevalence rate of chronic conditions among older persons.

There was a substantial sex difference in spending for prescribed medicines. The out-of-pocket expense per female for prescribed medicine exceeded that for males by about 54 percent. The sex difference was greatest for ages 17-44 years and least for children under 17 years of age (figure 1).

White persons purchased greater amounts of prescribed medicines than did all other persons (table 1). The average annual cost for white persons was \$25.00 and that of all other persons was just \$15.00. However, after age adjustment,

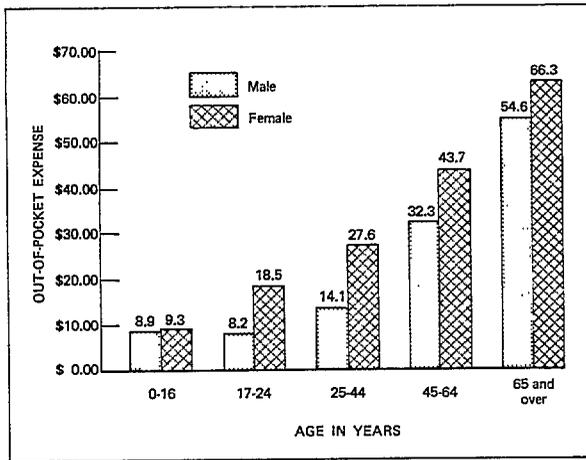


Figure 1. Out-of-pocket prescription medicine expense per person per year, by age and sex.

the difference between white and all other persons was somewhat reduced (table A).

When the data were adjusted for differences in age distribution, no appreciable difference was found among the categories of different educational attainment of the head of the family (table A).

As family income rose, out-of-pocket prescription medicine expenses decreased. However, this pattern is not apparent when the data are age-adjusted (table A). In general, the sex differences shown for all incomes were noted within each income group (table 1).

The pattern of expenses for persons with no limitation of activity differed greatly from that for persons who were unable to carry on their major activity (table 2). These data have not been age adjusted because age is an important factor in the development of chronic disease and associated activity limitation. Persons who were unable to carry on their major activity had rates for prescribed medicine about 6 times as large as those for persons with no limitation of activity. As the degree of limitation of activity increased in severity, the annual expenditure for medicine rose sharply.

Persons residing in nonmetropolitan areas spent slightly more for prescription medicines than did residents in metropolitan areas (table 3). Persons living in the Northeast Region had the lowest annual rate of expenditure for pre-

Table A. Crude and age-adjusted out-of-pocket prescription medicine expense per person per year, by selected characteristics: United States, 1973

Selected characteristics	Expense per person per year	
	Crude	Age-adjusted <sup>1</sup>
All persons.....	\$23.80	\$23.80
<u>Sex</u>		
Male.....	18.60	19.40
Female.....	28.60	27.80
<u>Color</u>		
White.....	25.00	24.60
All other.....	15.00	17.40
<u>Family income</u>		
Less than \$3,000.....	33.40	23.00
\$3,000-\$4,999.....	32.10	25.90
\$5,000-\$6,999.....	26.70	24.90
\$7,000-\$9,999.....	22.60	24.30
\$10,000-\$14,999.....	19.70	22.70
\$15,000 or more.....	22.00	24.00
<u>Education of head of family</u>		
Less than 9 years.....	31.00	23.40
9-12 years.....	21.30	23.00
13 years or more.....	22.80	25.30
<u>Residence</u>		
SMSA.....	22.80	23.10
Outside SMSA.....	25.80	25.10
<u>Geographic region</u>		
Northeast.....	20.40	19.80
North Central.....	23.90	23.80
South.....	26.70	27.10
West.....	22.70	23.20

<sup>1</sup>Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States, 1973.

scribed medicine, while those in the South Region had the highest rate.

In most cases medicines are prescribed in the treatment of a specific illness. For this reason the primary classification of prescribed medicine is basically the conditions for which medicine is taken. The average cost per acquisition of pre-

## NUMBER OF ACQUISITIONS OF PRESCRIBED MEDICINES

scription medicine was reported according to the conditions for which they were prescribed (table 4). The price per acquisition was highest for the treatment of certain disorders of circulatory system and lowest for thyroid conditions. The high cost may be related to the quantity of medicine per purchase; for example, the amount of medicine per acquisition may be greater for long-term chronic disease than for the short-term minor condition.

The average cost per acquisition for the 10 conditions most frequently associated with acquisition is illustrated in figure 2. The costs range from a high of \$6.00 for high blood pressure and arthritis and other disorders of bones and joints to a low of \$3.80 for conditions of the respiratory system.

During the 12 months in 1973 there were an estimated 1,198,370 acquisitions of prescribed medicine (table 5). The initial filling of a prescription and each subsequent refilling (if any) were considered separate acquisitions. About 86.9 percent of the total number of acquisitions were paid for; 74.1 percent by the family only and 12.8 percent by the family and some other source. About 13.1 percent were acquired free; 3.4 percent of these were obtained free from a physician, and the remaining 9.7 percent were obtained free from other sources (table B). Prescribed medicines obtained free from the doctor were classified in this category only in cases where there was no fee in addition to the regular one for service. Medicines obtained without charge from other sources included those provided by private insurance, public organizations, friends and relatives outside the household, and others.

Persons in the civilian noninstitutionalized population obtained prescribed medicines on the average of 5.8 times during 1973. The average cost per purchase was \$4.80 for these known acquisitions. This average cost was the amount paid by the person or his family when no other source paid any portion of the total cost.

Figure 3 shows that as age increased the rate of acquisitions rose steadily. The average number of acquisitions was about the same for boys and girls under 17 years of age. However, from age 17 onward, the rate of acquiring prescribed medicines was greater for females than for males. During the ages 17-44 years the rate for women was more than double that for men.

Figure 4 shows that the average cost per purchase of prescribed medicines remained fairly stable throughout most age groups. The average cost was lowest for children under 17 years. The data shown in table 5 indicate that the rise in annual cost of prescribed medicines per person with increasing age (table 1) was related more to an increase in the number of purchases of medicines than to an increase in the expense of medicines.

In general, as family income rose the percent of acquisitions of prescribed medicines that were

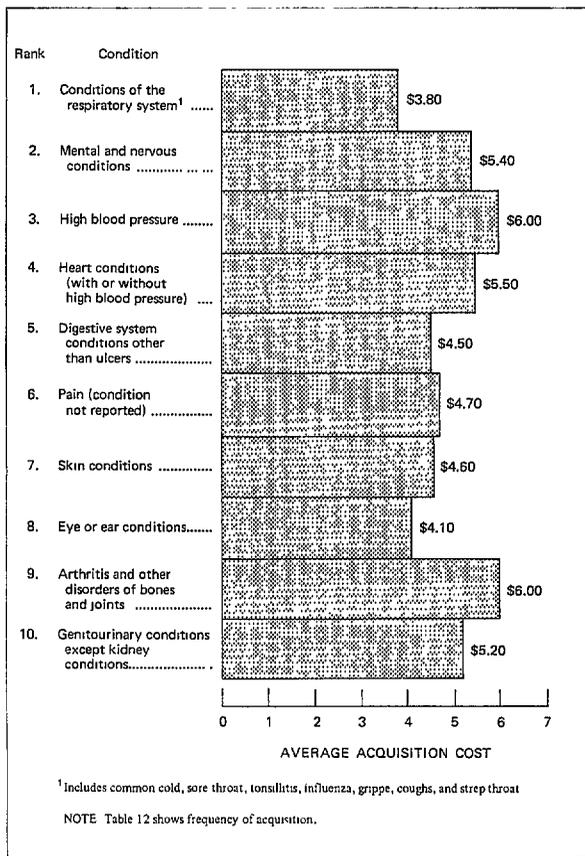


Figure 2. Average acquisition cost of prescription medicine purchased by a person or his family for the 10 conditions most frequently associated with acquisition listed in the order of magnitude of frequency.

Table B. Total number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution, according to source of payment: United States, 1973

Source of payment	Total number of acquisitions in thousands	Total	Percent distribution		
			Free	Paid for by family alone	Paid for by family and other source
Total .....	1,198,370	100.0	13.1	74.1	12.8
Family alone <sup>1</sup> .....	888,203	100.0	...	100.0	...
Free from physician .....	40,947	100.0	100.0	...	...
Private insurance .....	94,132	100.0	8.3	...	91.7
Public organization .....	124,771	100.0	64.3	...	35.7
Friends and relatives outside the household .....	2,338	100.0	36.2	...	63.8
Others .....	47,980	100.0	57.2	...	42.8

<sup>1</sup>Paid for person or a member of his family.

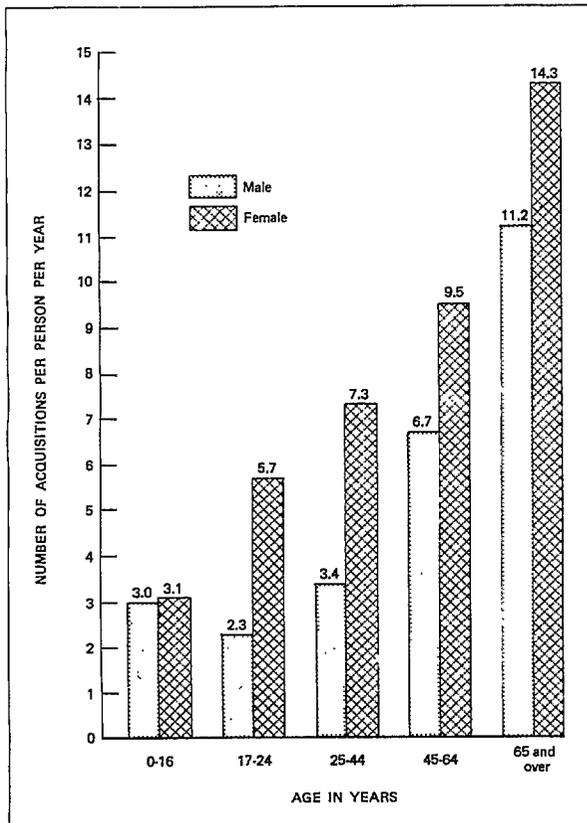


Figure 3. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine per person per year, by sex and age.

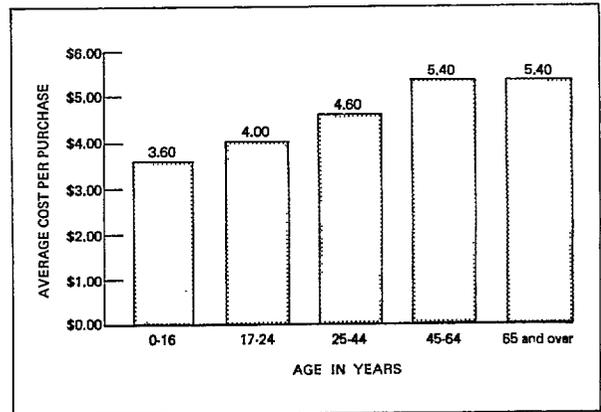


Figure 4. Average cost per purchase of prescribed medicine, by age.

purchased also rose; correspondingly, those obtained free of charge, especially from public organizations, declined (table C). Throughout the family income groups the average cost per purchase remained fairly consistent within age groups. This could indicate that the type of medicine, the amount obtained per prescription, and the unit cost do not change with socioeconomic status of the purchaser. However, there is some indication that the number of acquisitions per person varies with income change (table 6). For example, without age adjustment, the num-

Table C. Total number of free acquisitions and percent distribution by source, according to family income: United States, 1973

Family income	Total number of acquisitions in thousands	Source of free acquisitions					
		Total	Friends and relatives outside the household	Physician	Insurance	Public organization	Other
		Percent distribution					
All incomes.....	157,235	100.0	*0.5	26.0	5.0	51.0	17.4
Less than \$3,000 .....	39,620	100.0	*0.6	15.4	*1.0	70.9	12.1
\$3,000-\$4,999 .....	28,363	100.0	*0.4	15.9	*1.1	65.1	17.5
\$5,000-\$6,999 .....	16,336	100.0	*0.7	25.8	*4.3	53.4	15.7
\$7,000-\$9,999 .....	14,606	100.0	*0.9	32.9	*8.2	35.5	22.5
\$10,000-\$14,999 .....	27,823	100.0	*0.5	37.2	8.6	33.5	20.2
\$15,000 or more.....	22,280	100.0	*0.4	44.1	10.1	24.5	21.0
Unknown.....	8,209	100.0	*0.0	*14.2	*6.8	60.4	18.6

ber of acquisitions per person for those living in families with income under \$3,000 (9.5 acquisitions) was greater than that for persons with family income of \$10,000 (5.0 acquisitions), but the average cost per purchase remained about the same. This finding suggests more frequent acquisitions of medicines among lower income groups.

Persons other than white obtained substantially higher percentages of prescribed medications free of charge than did white persons (table 7). However, the number of acquisitions per person per year was greater for white persons in all age groups except 45-64 years than for all other persons. The color differential in rate of acquisition declined with increasing age. The average cost per purchase was lower for white persons in the younger age groups but slightly higher in the older age groups.

As educational level of the head of the family rose, the rate of acquiring prescribed medicines increased for persons under 25 years of age, but it decreased for persons 45 years of age and older (table 8). The percent of the prescription medicines that was purchased by the person or his family and acquired through private health insurance increased for higher educational levels, while prescription medicines obtained through public organizations decreased.

Persons with no limitation of activity obtained an average of 4.1 prescribed medications per year compared with a rate of 23.5 acquisitions for persons unable to carry on their major activity. The average cost per purchase for those with no limitation of activity was less than that for persons affected by limitation of activity. Among persons with limitation of activity, the rate at which prescribed medicines were acquired increased rapidly as the severity of activity limitation rose (table 9).

About 9.3 percent of prescribed medicines used by persons living in metropolitan areas were acquired through private health insurance, while the comparable percent for nonmetropolitan areas was about 4.8 (table 10). The metropolitan residents obtained 14.7 percent of the prescribed medicine with no out-of-pocket expense, while the comparable rate of nonmetropolitan residents was 9.9 percent. For most age groups the rate of acquisitions per farm resident, especially of free acquisitions, was lower than the rate for persons living in other resident areas. The average cost per purchase was quite similar in each of the areas.

Residents of the South Region had the highest rate of acquisition of prescribed medicines per person, but the average cost per purchase was somewhat higher in the West Region than

elsewhere (table 11). Also, for most age groups residents of the West Region had the lowest percentage of acquisitions purchased by the family alone. The distribution of recipients of third-party payments for medication is not equal in each region; for instance, 10.7 percent was all or partially paid by private health insurance in the West Region, while only 5 percent was paid in the South Region. Approximately 12.2 percent of prescription medicines was acquired through

public organizations in the Northeast Region, but the comparable rate was 8.1 percent in the North Central Region.

The number of acquisitions for certain conditions was highly related to age (table 12); for instance, about 29 percent of medications acquired for the common cold was for persons under 25 years of age, and less than 1 percent obtained for heart conditions was for the same age group.



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Table 1. Out-of-pocket prescribed medicine expense per person per year, by family income, age, color, sex, and education of head of family: United States, 1973  
 [Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Family income and age	Total	Color		Sex		Education of head of family		
		White	All other	Male	Female	Less than 9 years	9-12 years	13 years or more
<u>All incomes<sup>1</sup></u>		Cost per person per year						
All ages-----	\$23.80	\$25.00	\$15.00	\$18.60	\$28.60	\$31.00	\$21.30	\$22.80
Under 17 years-----	9.10	9.90	4.90	8.90	9.30	6.40	8.70	11.70
17-24 years-----	13.50	14.30	8.50	8.20	18.50	9.20	13.00	16.60
25-44 years-----	21.10	21.70	16.80	14.10	27.60	23.30	20.10	21.90
45-64 years-----	38.20	39.10	29.40	32.30	43.70	40.80	37.60	36.30
65 years and over-----	61.40	62.90	46.00	54.60	66.30	61.60	59.30	66.40
Under 15 years-----	9.20	10.00	5.20	9.40	9.10	6.00	8.90	11.90
15-24 years-----	12.30	13.20	7.20	7.70	16.80	9.00	11.80	15.40
<u>Less than \$3,000</u>								
All ages-----	33.40	39.80	16.20	23.30	39.60	41.20	29.40	18.80
Under 17 years-----	7.10	11.00	*3.20	7.50	6.80	7.00	6.20	*9.90
17-24 years-----	2.70	13.80	*7.50	8.20	16.00	*7.60	14.80	11.70
25-44 years-----	18.40	20.70	14.40	10.10	23.60	19.10	20.90	*13.30
45-64 years-----	47.70	54.10	28.50	46.50	48.10	44.80	54.10	*30.60
65 years and over-----	61.90	65.30	41.70	47.70	67.90	61.30	64.50	51.20
Under 15 years-----	6.70	10.30	*3.20	7.60	5.70	7.40	6.40	*4.80
15-24 years-----	12.30	13.90	*6.60	7.70	15.90	*7.00	14.20	12.40
<u>\$3,000-\$4,999</u>								
All ages-----	32.10	37.00	15.40	26.50	36.60	40.00	26.40	27.50
Under 17 years-----	5.70	6.20	4.80	5.10	6.20	5.10	5.70	*9.10
17-24 years-----	14.20	14.60	14.10	7.60	20.10	*7.70	15.40	16.40
25-44 years-----	22.50	25.90	13.80	16.40	26.60	28.90	21.00	*15.40
45-64 years-----	51.60	54.70	37.00	43.00	56.50	53.20	52.00	42.00
65 years and over-----	60.50	62.40	39.30	57.10	63.40	62.00	56.70	64.30
Under 15 years-----	6.20	6.70	5.50	5.40	6.90	5.90	6.10	*9.10
15-24 years-----	12.00	13.10	10.00	6.70	16.70	*5.50	13.40	16.20
<u>\$5,000-\$6,999</u>								
All ages-----	26.70	29.20	15.10	21.30	31.40	32.10	21.60	32.90
Under 17 years-----	7.40	8.50	*4.20	7.50	7.30	7.00	6.60	15.10
17-24 years-----	11.80	12.90	*7.10	6.80	16.30	*9.30	10.90	16.70
25-44 years-----	21.20	21.90	18.30	14.60	26.90	23.90	18.60	25.20
45-64 years-----	43.50	45.80	30.00	37.40	47.80	42.20	42.90	56.00
65 years and over-----	69.40	68.90	76.50	58.50	79.30	69.90	62.10	86.30
Under 15 years-----	7.60	8.60	*4.50	8.30	7.00	6.20	7.00	16.30
15-24 years-----	10.80	12.10	*5.80	5.90	15.20	10.00	9.60	15.90
<u>\$7,000-\$9,999</u>								
All ages-----	22.60	23.70	15.00	18.00	27.00	25.10	21.00	24.60
Under 17 years-----	9.50	10.20	5.50	9.30	9.80	7.00	9.80	12.30
17-24 years-----	13.20	14.20	*6.70	8.10	17.30	*9.60	12.70	16.90
25-44 years-----	19.90	20.00	19.70	11.70	28.00	17.40	18.90	24.40
45-64 years-----	42.40	43.70	30.20	36.40	48.10	42.70	40.60	46.40
65 years and over-----	60.00	60.40	*54.50	57.40	62.50	55.80	64.00	60.90
Under 15 years-----	9.60	10.20	*5.60	9.90	9.20	5.70	9.90	12.90
15-24 years-----	12.50	13.50	*6.40	7.30	17.00	11.10	11.80	15.70

<sup>1</sup>Includes unknown income.

Table 1. Out-of-pocket prescribed medicine expense per person per year, by family income, age, color, sex, and education of head of family: United States, 1973—C.I.I.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Family income and age	Total	Color		Sex		Education of head of family		
		White	All other	Male	Female	Less than 9 years	9-12 years	13 years or more
<u>\$10,000-\$14,999</u>		Cost per person per year						
All ages-----	19.70	20.20	13.90	15.10	24.50	22.60	18.50	20.90
Under 17 years-----	9.00	9.40	*4.40	8.50	9.40	4.80	8.60	11.50
17-24 years-----	14.90	15.50	*9.20	8.60	20.80	9.00	14.30	19.50
25-44 years-----	20.60	20.80	18.00	12.50	28.80	26.10	20.20	19.70
45-64 years-----	34.00	34.50	26.70	29.90	38.40	32.00	33.20	39.30
65 years and over-----	58.70	59.40	*44.30	45.50	70.10	63.30	57.40	57.90
Under 15 years-----	9.30	9.70	*4.60	9.00	9.50	5.00	8.80	11.90
15-24 years-----	12.90	13.40	*7.80	7.50	18.00	7.40	12.50	17.20
<u>\$15,000 or more</u>								
All ages-----	22.00	22.30	17.20	18.90	25.10	24.90	20.90	22.40
Under 17 years-----	10.90	11.20	7.30	11.20	10.70	8.10	10.20	11.80
17-24 years-----	14.40	14.60	*11.90	8.90	20.70	12.40	12.30	17.50
25-44 years-----	23.50	23.80	18.20	18.00	28.80	30.30	22.90	23.30
45-64 years-----	33.30	33.40	31.30	30.20	37.00	33.70	32.50	34.30
65 years and over-----	61.40	62.10	*45.40	61.90	61.00	54.70	55.70	69.10
Under 15 years-----	11.10	11.30	8.20	11.60	10.60	*6.40	10.80	11.80
15-24 years-----	13.20	13.50	*10.10	8.80	17.90	12.40	11.20	15.70

Table 2. Out-of-pocket prescribed medicine expense per person per year, by sex, age, and chronic activity limitation status: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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	With no limitation of activity	With limitation but not in major activity <sup>1</sup>	With limitation in amount or kind of major activity <sup>1</sup>	Unable to carry on major activity <sup>1</sup>
<u>Both sexes</u>					
Cost per person per year					
All ages-----	\$23.80	\$15.90	\$45.40	\$76.90	\$100.20
Under 17 years-----	9.10	8.50	18.90	33.20	23.00
17-24 years-----	13.50	12.20	23.10	35.90	54.70
25-44 years-----	21.10	17.40	42.10	61.10	61.50
45-64 years-----	38.20	23.80	62.30	87.70	103.00
65 years abd over-----	61.40	36.10	57.00	91.10	111.50
Under 15 years-----	9.20	8.70	20.20	33.70	*21.70
15-24 years-----	12.30	11.20	21.40	34.80	53.50
<u>Male</u>					
All ages-----	18.60	12.10	32.30	53.00	89.60
Under 17 years-----	8.90	8.40	20.00	29.30	7.90
17-24 years-----	8.20	6.90	14.60	25.50	*44.50
25-44 years-----	14.10	11.70	35.20	37.00	35.00
45-64 years-----	32.30	19.70	41.00	70.70	90.70
65 years and over-----	54.60	29.00	44.10	59.30	104.00
Under 15 years-----	9.40	8.80	20.50	31.00	*8.90
15-24 years-----	7.70	6.60	15.30	24.10	*41.40
<u>Female</u>					
All ages-----	28.60	19.50	57.70	91.20	128.50
Under 17 years-----	9.30	8.70	17.40	38.50	*40.00
17-24 years-----	18.50	17.10	35.30	48.80	*75.70
25-44 years-----	27.60	22.80	49.00	78.40	128.80
45-64 years-----	43.70	27.40	83.50	98.10	146.50
65 years and over-----	66.30	40.80	62.40	103.20	128.80
Under 15 years-----	9.10	8.50	*20.20	37.30	*35.80
15-24 years-----	16.80	15.50	29.80	47.80	*77.30

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

Table 3. Out-of-pocket prescribed medicine expense per person per year, by residence, geographic region, and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Geographic region and age	All areas	Residence					
		SMSA			Outside SMSA		
		Total	Central city	Not central city	Total	Nonfarm	Farm
<u>United States</u>		Cost per person per year					
All ages-----	\$23.80	\$22.80	\$23.10	\$22.70	\$25.80	\$25.90	\$24.60
Under 17 years-----	9.10	9.10	8.90	9.20	9.20	9.60	6.30
17-24 years-----	13.50	14.00	13.60	14.20	12.40	12.30	13.50
25-44 years-----	21.10	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.30	21.10	23.40
45-64 years-----	38.20	36.40	35.90	36.90	42.10	43.60	34.20
65 years and over-----	61.40	57.80	56.60	59.10	67.70	68.70	60.30
Under 15 years-----	9.20	9.10	9.00	9.20	9.60	9.90	6.70
15-24 years-----	12.30	12.80	12.60	13.00	11.20	11.30	10.50
<u>Northeast</u>							
All ages-----	20.40	20.80	19.70	21.60	18.80	19.10	*13.70
Under 17 years-----	8.20	8.60	6.50	9.90	7.30	7.40	*2.80
17-24 years-----	12.10	12.90	10.40	15.00	8.50	8.10	*15.50
25-44 years-----	17.70	17.80	15.90	19.10	17.50	17.60	*15.00
45-64 years-----	30.10	30.30	30.30	30.40	29.00	29.20	*23.60
65 years and over-----	51.20	51.30	48.00	54.40	50.40	51.20	*34.00
Under 15 years-----	8.30	8.50	6.60	9.70	7.50	7.90	*1.70
15-24 years-----	11.20	12.10	9.70	13.90	7.40	7.00	*12.00
<u>North Central</u>							
All ages-----	23.90	23.50	24.30	22.90	24.80	25.70	20.80
Under 17 years-----	8.70	8.80	8.50	9.00	8.70	9.30	*5.90
17-24 years-----	12.90	13.80	14.20	13.40	11.00	11.00	*11.20
25-44 years-----	21.10	21.40	19.60	22.60	20.40	20.20	21.50
45-64 years-----	37.50	37.40	39.40	35.70	37.90	41.20	27.40
65 years and over-----	65.50	65.00	63.90	66.10	66.00	67.60	56.60
Under 15 years-----	9.00	8.90	8.30	9.30	9.20	9.80	*6.50
15-24 years-----	11.60	12.50	13.50	11.80	9.60	9.80	*8.80
<u>South</u>							
All ages-----	26.70	24.90	25.00	24.80	29.10	29.00	30.20
Under 17 years-----	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.70	11.00	*7.10
17-24 years-----	15.40	15.30	16.30	14.40	15.50	15.50	*16.00
25-44 years-----	23.90	23.90	24.60	23.20	24.00	23.90	24.50
45-64 years-----	43.90	40.70	36.70	44.60	48.20	49.60	39.90
65 years and over-----	68.90	62.20	63.60	60.50	75.30	75.80	71.80
Under 15 years-----	10.70	10.70	11.00	10.40	10.70	11.00	*7.60
15-24 years-----	14.30	14.20	14.50	13.90	14.50	14.60	13.10
<u>West</u>							
All ages-----	22.70	22.30	23.40	21.40	24.40	24.20	27.00
Under 17 years-----	8.00	8.00	9.60	6.90	8.00	8.00	*8.10
17-24 years-----	12.80	13.70	13.10	14.20	9.10	9.00	*11.50
25-44 years-----	20.30	20.60	23.10	18.80	19.00	17.80	*37.30
45-64 years-----	41.10	39.30	37.70	40.50	47.20	47.50	44.40
65 years and over-----	55.60	53.20	49.70	56.20	63.40	66.60	*26.10
Under 15 years-----	8.30	8.20	9.80	7.10	8.70	8.60	*9.70
15-24 years-----	11.30	12.20	12.00	12.30	7.70	7.70	*7.30

Table 4. Average cost per acquisition of prescribed medicine, by condition for which prescribed and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Condition for which medicine prescribed	All ages	Under 25 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
	Average cost per acquisition				
All conditions-----	\$4.80	\$3.80	\$4.60	\$5.40	\$5.40
Asthma-hay fever-----	4.40	4.30	4.50	4.30	4.60
Other respiratory allergies-----	4.10	3.50	4.70	4.70	*4.20
Thyroid conditions-----	3.30	*3.50	3.20	3.50	*2.60
Diabetes-----	6.00	*3.40	5.80	6.30	6.30
Eye or ear conditions-----	4.10	4.00	3.90	4.20	4.60
Heart conditions-----	5.50	*5.80	4.90	6.10	5.20
High blood pressure-----	6.00	*4.20	5.70	6.30	5.80
Other disorders of circulatory system-----	6.50	*2.90	5.40	6.60	6.90
Anemia and other blood conditions-----	5.70	*3.90	5.70	5.90	6.20
Peptic ulcers-----	4.30	*2.60	4.50	4.80	*3.70
Other digestive system conditions-----	4.50	3.40	4.60	5.20	4.40
Sinusitis and bronchitis-----	4.10	3.70	4.10	4.20	5.00
Conditions of the respiratory system <sup>1</sup> -----	3.80	3.50	4.00	4.40	4.00
Other respiratory conditions-----	4.60	3.90	4.50	5.40	5.20
Kidney conditions-----	6.20	7.00	6.20	6.60	4.80
Other genitourinary conditions-----	5.20	4.50	5.30	5.50	5.50
Skin conditions-----	4.60	4.50	4.80	4.90	4.20
Arthritis and other disorders of bones and joints-----	6.00	*3.20	6.00	5.80	6.40
Injuries-----	4.50	3.80	4.70	5.20	4.90
Conditions of pregnancy-----	4.70	4.70	4.70	...	...
Mental and nervous conditions-----	5.40	4.80	5.50	5.60	5.20
Weight problems-----	5.60	*4.30	5.90	*5.60	*8.70
Condition not reported:					
Pain-----	4.70	3.70	4.20	5.30	5.40
Vitamins-----	4.10	3.30	*5.20	*4.80	5.00
Sedatives, tranquilizers, or stimulants-----	4.30	*2.30	4.80	4.50	4.50
All other conditions-----	4.40	3.30	4.20	5.40	5.50

<sup>1</sup>Includes common cold, sore throat, tonsillitis, influenza, grippe, coughs, and strep throat.

Table 5. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution by source of payment; percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure, number per person per year, and average cost per purchase, according to sex and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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	Number of acquisitions in thousands	Source of payment					Percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure	Number of acquisitions per person per year	Average cost per purchase
		Purchased by family alone	All or partly paid for by other source						
			Private health insurance	Public organization	Free from physician	Other source			
Percent distribution									
<u>Both sexes</u>									
All ages-----	1,198,370	74.1	7.9	10.4	3.4	4.2	13.1	5.8	\$4.80
Under 17 years-----	196,005	72.8	6.6	12.2	4.4	4.0	16.5	3.1	3.60
17-24 years-----	119,239	75.4	5.4	7.2	6.1	6.0	16.9	4.1	4.00
25-44 years-----	270,998	73.6	8.9	8.4	4.5	4.6	14.3	5.4	4.60
45-64 years-----	348,395	73.6	10.6	9.1	2.2	4.4	11.0	8.2	5.40
65 years and over----	263,733	75.7	5.1	14.3	2.0	2.9	10.5	13.0	5.40
Under 15 years-----	176,294	72.4	6.9	12.6	4.2	3.9	16.5	3.2	3.60
15-24 years-----	138,951	75.4	5.1	7.4	6.2	5.8	16.7	3.7	4.00
<u>Male</u>									
All ages-----	444,343	73.0	8.9	9.6	3.9	4.6	13.7	4.5	4.90
Under 17 years-----	98,773	72.5	6.7	11.8	5.1	4.0	16.9	3.0	3.60
17-24 years-----	32,880	72.6	8.2	4.1	7.0	8.0	17.1	2.3	4.30
25-44 years-----	82,926	73.1	10.3	5.5	5.6	5.5	14.9	3.4	4.90
45-64 years-----	135,672	71.2	10.6	10.4	2.5	5.3	12.7	6.7	5.70
65 years and over----	94,091	76.1	7.8	11.7	2.0	2.5	9.6	11.2	5.50
Under 15 years-----	90,761	72.3	6.9	12.3	4.7	3.8	16.8	3.2	3.60
15-24 years-----	40,893	73.1	7.6	4.4	7.3	7.6	17.2	2.2	4.20
<u>Female</u>									
All ages-----	754,028	74.8	7.2	10.9	3.2	3.9	12.8	7.1	4.70
Under 17 years-----	97,232	73.0	6.5	12.7	3.7	4.0	16.1	3.1	3.70
17-24 years-----	86,359	76.4	4.3	8.3	5.8	5.2	16.8	5.7	3.80
25-44 years-----	188,072	73.9	8.3	9.7	4.0	4.2	14.1	7.3	4.50
45-64 years-----	212,723	75.2	10.6	8.3	2.0	3.8	9.9	9.5	5.30
65 years and over----	169,642	75.5	3.7	15.8	2.0	3.1	11.0	14.3	5.30
Under 15 years-----	85,533	72.6	7.0	12.8	3.5	4.0	16.2	3.1	3.60
15-24 years-----	98,058	76.3	4.1	8.7	5.7	5.1	16.5	5.1	3.90

Table 6. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution by source of payment; percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure, number per person per year, and average cost per purchase, according to family income and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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.]

Family income and age	Number of acquisitions in thousands	Source of payment					Percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure	Number of acquisitions per person per year	Average cost per purchase
		Purchased by family alone	All or partly paid for by other source						
			Private health insurance	Public organization	Free from physician	Other source			
Percent distribution									
<u>All incomes<sup>1</sup></u>									
All ages-----	1,198,370	74.1	7.9	10.4	3.4	4.2	13.1	5.8	\$4.80
Under 17 years-----	196,005	72.8	6.6	12.2	4.4	4.0	16.5	3.1	3.60
17-24 years-----	119,239	75.4	5.4	7.2	6.1	6.0	16.9	4.1	4.00
25-44 years-----	270,998	73.6	8.9	8.4	4.5	4.6	14.3	5.4	4.60
45-64 years-----	348,395	73.6	10.6	9.1	2.2	4.4	11.0	8.2	5.40
65 years and over----	263,733	75.7	5.1	14.3	2.0	2.9	10.5	13.0	5.40
Under 15 years-----	176,294	72.4	6.9	12.6	4.2	3.9	16.5	3.2	3.60
15-24 years-----	138,951	75.4	5.1	7.4	6.2	5.8	16.7	3.7	4.00
<u>Less than \$3,000</u>									
All ages-----	155,649	59.5	1.5	30.0	3.9	5.0	25.5	9.5	4.80
Under 17 years-----	11,193	49.0	*0.3	40.4	*8.0	*2.2	34.2	3.3	3.20
17-24 years-----	15,463	57.0	*3.8	16.3	9.9	13.0	31.8	4.8	3.80
25-44 years-----	13,820	43.5	*0.6	41.9	*7.0	*7.0	41.0	7.4	4.40
45-64 years-----	38,319	55.2	3.7	32.8	*2.5	5.9	28.3	13.3	5.20
65 years and over----	76,855	66.6	*0.3	27.7	2.3	3.1	18.7	15.4	5.00
Under 15 years-----	9,649	50.0	*0.4	42.0	*5.5	*2.1	32.3	3.3	2.90
15-24 years-----	17,007	55.8	*3.5	17.5	11.1	12.1	33.1	4.6	3.80
<u>\$3,000-\$4,999</u>									
All ages-----	145,163	69.9	2.7	19.6	3.1	4.8	19.5	7.8	5.20
Under 17 years-----	13,922	36.6	*0.3	52.8	*4.4	*5.9	45.9	2.8	3.80
17-24 years-----	12,436	66.1	*5.4	15.7	*6.6	*6.1	24.7	4.7	4.10
25-44 years-----	19,286	55.0	*1.8	31.4	*4.1	7.8	33.3	7.0	5.00
45-64 years-----	39,849	73.8	3.3	16.7	*1.9	4.3	16.1	11.5	5.50
65 years and over----	59,671	80.5	2.5	10.8	2.6	3.6	10.2	12.7	5.40
Under 15 years-----	12,723	37.6	*0.3	52.1	*4.1	*5.9	45.1	2.9	3.80
15-24 years-----	13,634	62.6	*5.0	19.6	*6.7	*6.2	27.4	4.2	4.10
<u>\$5,000-\$6,999</u>									
All ages-----	135,755	76.6	6.8	9.9	3.1	3.6	12.0	6.3	4.90
Under 17 years-----	17,037	66.9	*4.5	22.2	*4.1	*2.3	24.5	2.6	3.70
17-24 years-----	15,272	76.3	*4.0	8.9	*7.0	*3.9	19.9	4.3	3.40
25-44 years-----	24,020	69.8	6.3	12.5	*5.1	6.3	18.2	5.6	4.70
45-64 years-----	38,135	81.6	7.1	6.0	*2.2	*3.2	7.4	9.2	5.10
65 years and over----	41,291	79.9	8.8	7.5	*1.0	*2.8	4.7	13.6	5.60
Under 15 years-----	15,744	66.6	*4.6	21.9	*4.4	*2.5	25.7	2.7	3.70
15-24 years-----	16,564	75.8	*3.9	10.2	*6.4	*3.6	19.1	3.9	3.50
<u>\$7,000-\$9,999</u>									
All ages-----	165,159	79.6	8.3	5.1	2.9	4.2	8.8	5.5	4.60
Under 17 years-----	29,552	84.1	*3.1	5.2	*3.6	*3.9	10.7	3.0	3.60
17-24 years-----	18,094	81.3	*4.6	*3.5	*5.9	*4.7	14.6	4.0	3.80
25-44 years-----	40,458	80.7	7.1	4.4	4.3	3.5	9.0	5.2	4.40
45-64 years-----	51,596	76.3	11.5	5.8	*1.3	5.1	7.5	8.8	5.50
65 years and over----	25,458	77.9	12.0	5.5	*1.1	*3.4	5.0	12.3	5.10
Under 15 years-----	27,339	83.8	*3.4	5.5	*3.3	*4.0	10.6	3.1	3.50
15-24 years-----	20,307	82.0	*4.1	*3.3	*6.1	*4.4	14.3	3.7	4.00
<u>\$10,000-\$14,999</u>									
All ages-----	254,513	76.8	9.8	5.0	4.1	4.3	10.9	5.0	4.50
Under 17 years-----	53,053	77.7	8.3	4.9	4.9	4.2	12.7	3.0	3.50
17-24 years-----	27,500	80.5	6.1	*3.8	4.6	5.1	11.0	4.3	3.90
25-44 years-----	79,993	76.3	10.8	4.3	4.5	4.1	11.7	5.3	4.50
45-64 years-----	71,747	75.0	12.3	4.6	3.1	5.0	9.4	7.3	5.30
65 years and over----	22,219	77.6	7.1	10.3	*2.9	*2.1	8.7	11.9	5.40
Under 15 years-----	49,338	77.5	8.5	5.3	4.9	3.8	12.7	3.1	3.50
15-24 years-----	31,215	80.6	5.9	*3.3	4.7	5.5	11.3	3.7	4.00

Table 6. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution by source of payment; percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure, number per person per year, and average cost per purchase, according to family income and age: United States, 1973—Con.

(Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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)

Family income and age	Number of acquisitions in thousands	Source of payment				Percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure	Number of acquisitions per person per year	Average cost per purchase	
		Purchased by family alone	All or partly paid for by other source						
			Private health insurance	Public organization	Free from physician				Other source
<u>\$15,000 or more</u>		Percent distribution							
All ages-----	271,853	76.7	13.1	2.8	3.6	3.9	8.2	5.1	\$4.80
Under 17 years-----	57,717	77.0	11.1	2.9	4.3	4.7	9.7	3.4	3.70
17-24 years-----	24,717	81.3	7.3	*1.6	5.8	*4.1	9.3	3.6	4.40
25-44 years-----	83,809	77.2	12.1	2.6	4.3	3.8	9.5	5.5	4.80
45-64 years-----	85,515	73.8	17.3	2.7	2.3	3.8	6.1	6.7	5.50
65 years and over----	20,094	79.6	11.6	*5.2	*1.5	*2.0	*5.6	11.5	5.80
Under 15 years-----	49,566	76.3	11.8	3.3	4.1	4.5	9.5	3.5	3.70
15-24 years-----	32,868	81.3	7.1	*1.3	5.8	4.5	9.6	3.4	4.30

<sup>1</sup> Includes unknown income.

Table 7. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution by source of payment; percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure, number per person per year, and average cost per purchase, according to color and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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.]

Color and age	Number of acquisitions in thousands	Source of payment					Percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure	Number of acquisitions per person per year	Average cost per purchase
		Purchased by family alone	All or partly paid for by other source						
			Private health insurance	Public organization	Free from physician	Other source			
<u>Total</u>		Percent distribution							
All ages-----	1,198,370	74.1	7.9	10.4	3.4	4.2	13.1	5.8	\$4.80
Under 17 years-----	196,005	72.8	6.6	12.2	4.4	4.0	16.5	3.1	3.60
17-24 years-----	119,239	75.4	5.4	7.2	6.1	6.0	16.9	4.1	4.00
25-44 years-----	270,998	73.6	8.9	8.4	4.5	4.6	14.3	5.4	4.60
45-64 years-----	348,395	73.6	10.6	9.1	2.2	4.4	11.0	8.2	5.40
65 years and over-----	263,733	75.7	5.1	14.3	2.0	2.9	10.5	13.0	5.40
Under 15 years-----	176,294	72.4	6.9	12.6	4.2	3.9	16.5	3.2	3.60
15-24 years-----	138,951	75.4	5.1	7.4	6.2	5.8	16.7	3.7	4.00
<u>White</u>									
All ages-----	1,078,310	76.1	8.2	8.3	3.2	4.1	11.4	6.0	4.80
Under 17 years-----	175,799	75.7	6.7	9.4	4.4	3.8	14.3	3.3	3.60
17-24 years-----	108,048	77.5	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.6	14.9	4.3	3.90
25-44 years-----	240,436	75.8	9.4	6.1	4.1	4.5	12.4	5.5	4.60
45-64 years-----	313,217	75.1	11.2	7.1	2.2	4.4	9.6	8.2	5.50
65 years and over-----	240,809	77.5	5.6	12.4	1.8	2.8	9.1	13.0	5.40
Under 15 years-----	157,716	75.4	7.0	9.7	4.2	3.6	14.3	3.4	3.60
15-24 years-----	126,131	77.6	5.3	5.8	5.8	5.5	14.7	3.9	3.90
<u>All other</u>									
All ages-----	120,060	56.0	4.4	29.4	5.0	5.1	28.4	4.6	4.70
Under 17 years-----	20,206	47.1	*6.0	36.8	*4.1	*6.0	35.4	2.0	4.00
17-24 years-----	11,191	54.9	*3.5	21.7	*10.5	*9.4	36.2	2.8	4.90
25-44 years-----	30,562	56.4	4.9	26.0	7.8	4.9	29.8	5.1	4.80
45-64 years-----	35,178	60.4	5.8	26.9	*2.6	4.3	23.2	8.4	4.80
65 years and over-----	22,923	56.9	*0.6	35.1	*3.3	*4.0	24.7	12.8	4.90
Under 15 years-----	18,578	46.9	*6.1	36.8	*4.2	*6.0	35.0	2.1	4.00
15-24 years-----	12,819	54.2	*3.8	23.6	*9.5	*8.9	36.7	2.5	4.80

Table 8. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution by source of payment; percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure, number per person per year, and average cost per purchase, according to education of head of family and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Education of head of family and age	Number of acquisitions in thousands	Source of payment				Percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure	Number of acquisitions per person per year	Average cost per purchase	
		Purchased by family alone	All or partly paid for by other source						
			Private health insurance	Public organization	Free from physician				Other source
<u>All educational groups</u> <sup>1</sup>		Percent distribution							
All ages-----	1,198,370	74.1	7.9	10.4	3.4	4.2	13.1	5.8	\$4.80
Under 17 years-----	196,005	72.8	6.6	12.2	4.4	4.0	16.5	3.1	3.60
17-24 years-----	119,239	75.4	5.4	7.2	6.1	6.0	16.9	4.1	4.00
25-44 years-----	270,998	73.6	8.9	8.4	4.5	4.6	14.3	5.4	4.60
45-64 years-----	348,395	73.6	10.6	9.1	2.2	4.4	11.0	8.2	5.40
65 years and over----	263,733	75.7	5.1	14.3	2.0	2.9	10.5	13.0	5.40
Under 15 years-----	176,294	72.4	6.9	12.6	4.2	3.9	16.5	3.2	3.60
15-24 years-----	138,951	75.4	5.1	7.4	6.2	5.8	16.7	3.7	4.00
<u>Less than 9 years</u>									
All ages-----	325,675	71.7	4.1	17.2	2.5	4.5	15.1	7.4	5.10
Under 17 years-----	24,886	58.1	*2.4	30.6	*3.9	*5.0	25.5	2.2	4.00
17-24 years-----	11,003	74.5	*2.6	*11.1	*6.8	*5.0	18.8	2.6	4.40
25-44 years-----	39,399	71.4	4.5	15.8	3.4	5.0	17.0	5.9	4.80
45-64 years-----	111,612	71.4	6.1	14.9	1.9	5.6	14.5	9.5	5.30
65 years and over----	138,775	74.4	2.7	17.4	2.2	3.3	12.9	14.0	5.20
Under 15 years-----	21,052	56.5	*2.4	32.4	*4.3	*4.4	27.7	2.2	3.80
15-24 years-----	14,836	72.5	*2.5	13.6	*5.6	*5.8	17.3	2.5	4.50
<u>9-12 years</u>									
All ages-----	553,073	73.5	9.0	10.0	3.7	3.9	13.5	5.4	4.70
Under 17 years-----	102,457	71.9	6.6	12.9	4.4	4.3	17.9	3.0	3.70
17-24 years-----	65,279	73.6	6.3	8.7	5.8	5.6	17.3	4.1	3.80
25-44 years-----	135,288	72.5	8.8	9.7	4.8	4.2	15.2	5.3	4.50
45-64 years-----	165,974	73.6	12.6	7.7	2.5	3.7	10.4	8.0	5.40
65 years and over----	84,075	76.7	7.0	12.4	1.9	2.0	8.5	12.4	5.30
Under 15 years-----	93,267	71.2	7.1	13.2	4.1	4.4	17.9	3.1	3.70
15-24 years-----	74,469	74.2	5.7	8.8	5.9	5.4	17.4	3.7	3.90
<u>13 years or more</u>									
All ages-----	306,573	77.7	10.1	3.9	3.8	4.5	10.3	5.4	4.70
Under 17 years-----	65,646	79.8	8.6	4.1	4.1	3.4	10.4	3.8	3.50
17-24 years-----	42,036	78.9	4.8	3.1	6.6	6.6	15.4	4.8	4.00
25-44 years-----	95,666	76.0	10.9	3.6	4.6	5.0	12.1	5.4	4.70
45-64 years-----	66,667	76.5	13.9	3.3	2.1	4.2	6.9	7.0	5.80
65 years and over----	36,558	79.7	10.0	6.3	*0.9	*3.1	5.4	11.4	6.20
Under 15 years-----	59,793	79.6	8.6	4.5	4.1	3.1	10.5	3.9	3.50
15-24 years-----	47,889	79.2	5.2	2.7	6.3	6.5	14.6	4.4	4.00

<sup>1</sup>Includes unknown education.

Table 9. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution by source of payment; percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure, number per person per year, and average cost per purchase, according to chronic activity limitation status and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Chronic activity limitation status and age	Number of acquisitions in thousands	Source of payment		Percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure	Number of acquisitions per person per year	Average cost per purchase
		Purchased by family alone	All or partly paid for by other source			
<u>All limitation statuses</u>		Percent distribution				
All ages-----	1,198,370	74.1	25.9	13.1	5.8	\$4.80
Under 17 years-----	196,005	72.8	27.2	16.5	3.1	3.60
17-24 years-----	119,239	75.4	24.6	16.9	4.1	4.00
25-44 years-----	270,998	73.6	26.4	14.3	5.4	4.60
45-64 years-----	348,395	73.6	26.4	11.0	8.2	5.40
65 years and over-----	263,733	75.7	24.3	10.5	13.0	5.40
Under 15 years-----	176,294	72.4	27.6	16.5	3.2	3.60
15-24 years-----	138,951	75.4	24.6	16.7	3.7	4.00
<u>With no limitation of activity</u>						
All ages-----	734,370	77.6	22.4	12.0	4.1	4.50
Under 17 years-----	179,060	73.4	26.6	16.0	2.9	3.60
17-24 years-----	103,720	76.5	23.5	16.0	3.8	3.80
25-44 years-----	204,993	77.0	23.0	12.5	4.5	4.50
45-64 years-----	164,224	81.3	18.7	6.7	5.0	5.20
65 years and over-----	82,373	82.2	17.8	7.5	7.3	5.50
Under 15 years-----	161,611	73.1	26.9	15.9	3.0	3.50
15-24 years-----	121,170	76.4	23.6	16.0	3.5	3.90
<u>With limitation but not in major activity<sup>1</sup></u>						
All ages-----	70,355	71.9	28.1	12.0	10.3	5.10
Under 17 years-----	5,328	69.8	30.2	*18.4	5.6	4.20
17-24 years-----	6,299	69.3	30.7	19.8	7.2	4.10
25-44 years-----	15,148	72.8	27.2	16.0	9.6	5.40
45-64 years-----	26,333	71.3	28.7	8.1	12.6	5.50
65 years and over-----	17,247	73.7	26.3	9.5	13.3	5.00
Under 15 years-----	4,413	67.3	32.7	*20.3	5.9	4.30
15-24 years-----	7,214	70.9	29.1	18.5	6.6	4.10
<u>With limitation in amount or kind of major activity<sup>1</sup></u>						
All ages-----	243,374	71.1	28.9	13.7	16.7	5.50
Under 17 years-----	10,065	64.3	35.7	22.7	9.7	4.30
17-24 years-----	7,001	66.0	34.0	26.7	8.1	5.50
25-44 years-----	37,765	64.8	35.2	17.3	14.3	5.40
45-64 years-----	102,826	70.2	29.8	12.5	18.4	5.70
65 years and over-----	85,717	76.1	23.9	11.4	19.5	5.30
Under 15 years-----	8,971	63.5	36.5	23.7	10.1	4.30
15-24 years-----	8,095	66.6	33.4	25.1	8.0	5.30
<u>Unable to carry on major activity<sup>1</sup></u>						
All ages-----	150,271	63.1	36.9	18.4	23.5	5.30
Under 17 years-----	1,552	*66.9	*33.1	*27.5	10.3	3.10
17-24 years-----	2,218	71.1	*28.9	*18.7	12.6	5.50
25-44 years-----	13,092	47.4	52.6	33.0	22.1	4.10
45-64 years-----	55,012	58.3	41.7	22.4	24.7	5.60
65 years and over-----	78,396	68.8	31.1	12.9	24.1	5.40
Under 15 years-----	1,300	*66.9	*33.1	*26.5	9.6	3.10
15-24 years-----	2,471	70.7	*29.3	*20.2	12.9	5.40

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

Table 10. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution by source of payment; percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure, number per person per year, and average cost per purchase, according to residence and age: United States, 1973

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

Residence and age	Number of acquisitions in thousands	Source of payment				Percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure	Number of acquisitions per person per year	Average cost per purchase	
		Purchased by family alone	All or partly paid for by other source						
			Private health insurance	Public organization	Free from physician				Other source
<b>ALL RESIDENCES</b>		Percent distribution							
All ages-----	1,198,370	74.1	7.9	10.4	3.4	4.2	13.1	5.8	\$4.80
Under 17 years-----	196,005	72.8	6.6	12.2	4.4	4.0	16.5	3.1	3.60
17-24 years-----	119,239	75.4	5.4	7.2	6.1	6.0	16.9	4.1	4.00
25-44 years-----	270,998	73.6	8.9	8.4	4.5	4.6	14.3	5.4	4.60
45-64 years-----	348,395	73.6	10.6	9.1	2.2	4.4	11.0	8.2	5.40
65 years and over----	263,733	75.7	5.1	14.3	2.0	2.9	10.5	13.0	5.40
Under 15 years-----	176,294	72.4	6.9	12.6	4.2	3.9	16.5	3.2	3.60
15-24 years-----	138,951	75.4	5.1	7.4	6.2	5.8	16.7	3.7	4.00
<b>SMSA</b>									
All ages-----	808,929	72.1	9.3	10.0	3.9	4.6	14.7	5.7	4.80
Under 17 years-----	135,819	70.9	7.7	12.9	4.4	4.1	17.8	3.1	3.60
17-24 years-----	88,301	73.8	5.9	6.9	6.9	6.5	18.0	4.3	4.00
25-44 years-----	193,708	71.4	9.9	8.7	5.1	4.9	16.2	5.5	4.70
45-64 years-----	232,580	70.7	13.1	8.9	2.4	4.9	12.4	7.9	5.50
65 years and over----	158,520	75.0	6.5	12.6	2.5	3.4	11.6	12.2	5.50
Under 15 years-----	121,201	70.5	8.1	13.3	4.1	4.0	18.0	3.2	3.60
15-24 years-----	102,919	73.8	5.8	7.3	6.8	6.3	17.8	3.9	4.00
<b>Central city</b>									
All ages-----	368,043	69.2	8.0	13.9	3.7	5.2	17.6	5.9	4.90
Under 17 years-----	58,166	63.6	8.9	18.2	4.3	4.9	22.0	3.2	3.70
17-24 years-----	41,131	74.1	4.1	6.8	7.5	7.5	18.5	4.4	3.80
25-44 years-----	83,033	66.9	8.5	13.2	5.3	6.1	20.5	5.5	4.90
45-64 years-----	106,359	68.8	10.7	13.6	1.9	5.0	15.3	8.2	5.40
65 years and over----	79,354	73.7	5.1	15.3	2.2	3.6	14.1	12.2	5.50
Under 15 years-----	52,147	62.3	9.8	18.2	4.7	4.9	22.5	3.2	3.70
15-24 years-----	47,150	74.2	3.8	8.2	6.7	7.1	18.4	4.1	3.80
<b>Not Central city</b>									
All ages-----	440,886	74.5	10.5	6.9	4.0	4.2	12.2	5.5	4.80
Under 17 years-----	77,653	76.3	6.8	9.0	4.5	3.5	14.7	3.1	3.60
17-24 years-----	47,171	73.6	7.5	7.0	6.4	5.6	17.5	4.2	4.10
25-44 years-----	110,675	74.8	10.9	5.3	4.9	4.0	12.9	5.4	4.50
45-64 years-----	126,220	72.3	15.0	5.0	2.9	4.9	9.9	7.7	5.60
65 years and over----	79,166	76.2	8.0	9.9	2.7	3.1	9.1	12.2	5.50
Under 15 years-----	69,054	76.7	6.8	9.6	3.7	3.2	14.5	3.2	3.50
15-24 years-----	55,769	73.5	7.4	6.5	7.0	5.6	17.4	3.8	4.10
<b>OUTSIDE SMSA</b>									
All ages-----	389,441	78.4	4.8	11.2	2.4	3.3	9.9	6.1	4.70
Under 17 years-----	60,186	77.0	4.2	10.6	4.4	3.8	13.4	2.9	3.60
17-24 years-----	30,938	79.7	3.8	8.1	*3.9	4.6	13.7	3.6	3.90
25-44 years-----	77,289	79.2	6.5	7.6	2.9	3.8	9.8	5.3	4.60
45-64 years-----	115,815	79.6	5.8	9.5	1.8	3.3	8.2	8.8	5.30
65 years and over----	105,212	76.7	3.0	16.9	*1.2	2.1	8.8	14.5	5.20
Under 15 years-----	55,093	76.7	4.5	10.9	4.2	3.7	13.4	3.1	3.60
15-24 years-----	36,032	79.9	*3.4	7.9	4.3	4.6	13.6	3.2	4.00
<b>Nonfarm</b>									
All ages-----	351,548	77.3	4.9	11.9	2.5	3.4	10.6	6.2	4.70
Under 17 years-----	55,735	76.0	4.4	11.3	4.4	3.9	13.8	3.1	3.70
17-24 years-----	28,133	78.0	*4.2	8.9	*4.1	4.8	14.9	3.6	3.90
25-44 years-----	70,479	78.7	6.2	8.1	3.0	3.9	10.3	5.3	4.50
45-64 years-----	102,157	78.1	6.3	10.4	1.8	3.4	9.1	9.2	5.30
65 years and over----	95,044	76.0	3.1	17.4	*1.3	2.2	9.3	14.9	5.20
Under 15 years-----	51,103	75.6	4.7	11.7	4.1	3.8	13.8	3.2	3.60
15-24 years-----	32,765	78.3	*3.6	8.6	4.6	4.9	14.8	3.3	4.00

Table 10. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution by source of payment; percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure, number per person per year, and average cost per purchase, according to residence and age: United States, 1973—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Residence and age	Number of acquisitions in thousands	Source of payment				Percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure	Number of acquisitions per person per year	Average cost per purchase	
		Purchased by family alone	All or partly paid for by other source						
			Private health insurance	Public organization	Free from physician				Other source
OUTSIDE SMSA—Con.		Percent distribution							
<u>Farm</u>									
All ages-----	37,894	88.3	*3.2	4.8	*1.6	*2.2	3.8	2	\$4.90
Under 17 years-----	4,451	90.3	*2.0	*0.9	*4.3	*2.4	*7.7	2.6	3.30
17-24 years-----	2,806	96.9	*-	*-	*1.4	*1.7	*1.4	3.5	4.00
25-44 years-----	6,810	83.8	*8.8	*2.6	*2.8	*2.0	*4.7	4.8	5.10
45-64 years-----	13,658	91.4	*2.1	*2.7	*1.3	*2.5	*2.2	6.6	5.40
65 years and over----	10,168	83.9	*2.2	*12.2	*-	*1.8	*4.4	11.7	5.30
Under 15 years-----	3,990	90.3	*1.1	*1.0	*4.8	*2.7	*8.6	2.2	3.30
15-24 years-----	3,267	95.9	*1.4	*-	*1.2	*1.4	*1.2	2.7	3.80

Table 11. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution by source of payment; percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure, number per person per year, and average cost per purchase, according to geographic region and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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.]

Geographic region and age	Number of acquisitions in thousands	Source of payment				Percent of acquisitions with no out-of-pocket expenditure	Number of acquisitions per person per year	Average cost per purchase	
		Purchased by family alone	All or partly paid for by other source						
			Private health insurance	Public organization	Free from physician				Other source
<u>United States</u>		Percent distribution							
All ages-----	1,198,370	74.1	7.9	10.4	3.4	4.2	13.1	5.8	\$4.80
Under 17 years-----	196,005	72.8	6.6	12.2	4.4	4.0	16.5	3.1	3.60
17-24 years-----	119,239	75.4	5.4	7.2	6.1	6.0	16.9	4.1	4.00
25-44 years-----	270,998	73.6	8.9	8.4	4.5	4.6	14.3	5.4	4.60
45-64 years-----	348,395	73.6	10.6	9.1	2.2	4.4	11.0	8.2	5.40
65 years and over----	263,733	75.7	5.1	14.3	2.0	2.9	10.5	13.0	5.40
Under 15 years-----	176,294	72.4	6.9	12.6	4.2	3.9	16.5	3.2	3.60
15-24 years-----	138,951	75.4	5.1	7.4	6.2	5.8	16.7	3.7	4.00
<u>Northeast</u>									
All ages-----	257,516	71.5	7.3	12.2	4.4	4.7	16.1	5.3	4.70
Under 17 years-----	42,483	71.1	5.1	14.7	4.2	5.1	18.3	2.9	3.50
17-24 years-----	24,292	72.2	*2.9	8.2	8.0	8.7	21.9	3.7	4.00
25-44 years-----	56,285	72.1	6.0	12.6	5.6	3.7	17.6	4.8	4.60
45-64 years-----	73,668	69.0	11.7	10.8	3.1	5.4	14.0	6.9	5.30
65 years and over----	60,787	73.9	6.3	13.3	3.6	2.9	13.1	11.8	5.00
Under 15 years-----	37,115	71.0	5.4	15.1	3.9	4.6	18.3	2.9	3.50
15-24 years-----	29,661	72.0	*3.0	8.8	7.6	8.6	21.3	3.5	3.90
<u>North Central</u>									
All ages-----	335,211	74.8	10.4	8.1	2.7	4.0	10.4	6.0	4.70
Under 17 years-----	54,023	70.8	9.3	11.6	3.8	4.5	15.2	3.1	3.50
17-24 years-----	33,646	74.1	8.4	5.8	5.4	6.3	16.6	4.2	3.80
25-44 years-----	73,764	75.1	11.3	5.4	3.7	4.5	10.8	5.6	4.50
45-64 years-----	95,951	73.2	14.6	6.6	1.5	4.1	8.3	8.3	5.30
65 years and over----	77,827	79.8	5.8	11.1	*1.2	2.1	6.7	13.6	5.30
Under 15 years-----	49,230	70.7	9.5	11.7	3.9	4.3	15.3	3.2	3.50
15-24 years-----	38,440	73.8	8.3	6.4	5.2	6.3	16.4	3.7	3.80
<u>South</u>									
All ages-----	424,878	77.1	5.0	10.9	3.3	3.7	11.8	6.5	4.60
Under 17 years-----	69,946	78.0	3.7	10.2	4.8	3.3	15.1	3.4	3.70
17-24 years-----	41,603	79.1	4.2	7.2	4.7	4.8	13.5	4.5	4.00
25-44 years-----	96,132	76.1	6.9	8.2	4.4	4.3	13.2	6.1	4.50
45-64 years-----	125,183	78.4	6.0	9.8	2.4	3.4	9.6	9.6	5.10
65 years and over----	92,015	75.0	2.9	17.5	1.4	3.2	10.2	14.8	5.20
Under 15 years-----	63,564	77.3	3.9	11.1	4.3	3.4	15.4	3.5	3.60
15-24 years-----	47,985	79.8	3.9	6.5	5.4	4.4	13.4	4.0	4.10
<u>West</u>									
All ages-----	180,765	69.5	10.7	10.9	3.7	5.1	16.9	5.1	5.50
Under 17 years-----	29,553	66.5	10.8	14.5	4.8	*3.5	19.3	2.7	3.90
17-24 years-----	19,698	73.6	*5.7	8.3	8.0	*4.5	18.0	3.9	4.00
25-44 years-----	44,817	67.9	13.0	8.2	4.5	6.4	18.4	4.9	5.20
45-64 years-----	53,593	69.8	12.8	9.7	*1.9	5.9	14.8	7.5	6.50
65 years and over----	33,103	71.3	7.5	15.1	*2.2	4.0	15.4	10.4	6.70
Under 15 years-----	26,386	65.9	11.7	14.4	*4.7	*3.3	19.1	2.7	3.90
15-24 years-----	22,865	73.2	*5.3	9.3	7.6	*4.6	18.4	3.5	4.00

Table 12. Number of acquisitions of prescribed medicine and percent distribution by condition for which prescribed, according to age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Condition for which medicine prescribed	All ages	Under 25 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over	All ages	Under 25 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
	Number in thousands					Percent distribution				
All conditions-----	1,198,370	315,245	270,998	348,395	263,733	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Asthma-hay fever-----	21,542	8,503	4,101	5,667	3,271	1.8	2.7	1.5	1.6	1.2
Other respiratory allergies-----	26,327	12,270	6,724	5,809	1,523	2.2	3.9	2.5	1.7	0.6
Thyroid conditions-----	18,551	1,307	5,853	8,756	2,635	1.5	0.4	2.2	2.5	1.0
Diabetes-----	33,327	2,258	3,756	15,296	12,017	2.8	0.7	1.4	4.4	4.6
Eye or ear conditions-----	47,154	22,397	7,660	8,201	8,895	3.9	7.1	2.8	2.4	3.4
Heart conditions-----	64,663	*451	4,155	27,331	32,726	5.4	*0.1	1.5	7.8	12.4
High blood pressure-----	81,783	*577	8,496	38,020	34,690	6.8	*0.2	3.1	10.9	13.2
Other disorders of circulatory system---	23,025	*989	2,841	6,742	12,454	1.9	*0.3	1.0	1.9	4.7
Anemia and other blood conditions-----	20,425	3,783	3,785	6,769	6,089	1.7	1.2	1.4	1.9	2.3
Peptic ulcer-----	10,537	*761	3,654	3,986	2,136	0.9	*0.2	1.3	1.1	0.8
Other digestive system conditions-----	54,365	10,474	13,318	16,588	13,986	4.5	3.3	4.9	4.8	5.3
Sinusitis and bronchitis-----	38,457	13,422	11,099	10,032	3,904	3.2	4.3	4.1	2.9	1.5
Conditions of the respiratory system <sup>1</sup> ---	154,818	90,928	33,432	20,744	9,713	12.9	28.8	12.3	6.0	3.7
Other respiratory conditions-----	31,967	11,853	5,574	7,521	7,020	2.7	3.8	2.1	2.2	2.7
Kidney conditions-----	16,418	3,708	4,735	4,323	3,653	1.4	1.2	1.7	1.2	1.4
Other genitourinary conditions-----	43,943	9,595	13,336	15,566	5,447	3.7	3.0	4.9	4.5	2.1
Skin conditions-----	48,891	25,918	10,928	7,356	4,689	4.1	8.2	4.0	2.1	1.8
Arthritis and disorders of bones and joints-----	45,097	*1,176	5,373	18,712	19,836	3.8	*0.4	2.0	5.4	7.5
Injuries-----	25,945	8,255	8,447	6,618	2,625	2.2	2.6	3.1	1.9	1.0
Conditions of pregnancy-----	11,476	6,379	5,097	...	...	1.0	2.0	1.9	...	...
Mental and nervous conditions-----	89,516	8,694	26,470	35,741	18,611	7.5	2.8	9.8	10.3	7.1
Weight problems-----	7,945	1,550	3,816	2,242	*337	0.7	0.5	1.4	0.6	*0.1
Conditions not reported:										
Pain-----	53,019	7,909	18,639	17,558	8,913	4.4	2.5	6.9	5.0	3.4
Vitamins-----	17,015	8,732	1,602	2,015	4,666	1.4	2.8	0.6	0.6	1.8
Sedatives, tranquilizers, or stimulants-----	20,207	1,845	4,117	6,869	7,375	1.7	0.6	1.5	2.0	2.8
All other-----	191,957	51,512	53,991	49,932	36,522	16.0	16.3	19.9	14.3	13.8

<sup>1</sup>Includes common cold, sore throat, tonsillitis, influenza, grippe, coughs, and strep throat.

Table 13. Population used in obtaining rates shown in this publication, by sex, color, education of head of family, family income, and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Family income and age	Total	Sex		Color		Education of head of family		
		Male	Female	White	All other	Less than 9 years	9-12 years	13 years or more
<u>All incomes<sup>1</sup></u>		Population in thousands						
All ages-----	205,799	99,241	106,558	179,808	25,991	43,775	103,338	56,556
Under 17 years-----	63,997	32,599	31,397	54,010	9,987	11,243	34,630	17,479
17-24 years-----	29,063	14,000	15,062	25,063	4,000	4,207	15,872	8,743
25-44 years-----	49,953	24,091	25,862	43,938	6,015	6,666	25,364	17,577
45-64 years-----	42,534	20,164	22,370	38,333	4,201	11,781	20,675	9,548
65 years and over-----	20,253	8,386	11,867	18,464	1,789	9,878	6,797	3,208
Under 15 years-----	55,712	28,392	27,321	46,929	8,783	9,424	30,389	15,442
15-24 years-----	37,347	18,208	19,138	32,144	5,203	6,027	20,113	10,780
<u>Less than \$3,000</u>								
All ages-----	16,369	6,248	10,121	11,817	4,552	7,386	6,315	2,375
Under 17 years-----	3,396	1,756	1,640	1,693	1,703	1,382	1,693	169
17-24 years-----	3,240	1,388	1,852	2,611	629	381	1,584	1,264
25-44 years-----	1,860	718	1,142	1,154	706	625	813	415
45-64 years-----	2,873	907	1,965	2,104	769	1,686	951	205
65 years and over-----	5,000	1,478	3,521	4,254	746	3,312	1,274	321
Under 15 years-----	2,962	1,526	1,437	1,461	1,502	1,177	1,573	155
15-24 years-----	3,673	1,618	2,055	2,843	830	586	1,705	1,278
<u>\$3,000-\$4,999</u>								
All ages-----	18,540	8,253	10,288	14,304	4,236	7,513	8,743	2,096
Under 17 years-----	4,958	2,487	2,471	3,072	1,887	1,685	2,905	324
17-24 years-----	2,665	1,257	1,408	2,091	574	504	1,426	717
25-44 years-----	2,765	1,114	1,651	1,991	774	829	1,492	425
45-64 years-----	3,470	1,263	2,207	2,863	606	1,739	1,459	212
65 years and over-----	4,682	2,132	2,550	4,287	395	2,756	1,461	417
Under 15 years-----	4,341	2,219	2,122	2,692	1,648	1,403	2,600	307
15-24 years-----	3,282	1,525	1,758	2,470	812	786	1,732	735
<u>\$5,000-\$6,999</u>								
All ages-----	21,541	10,102	11,439	17,642	3,899	7,164	11,138	3,046
Under 17 years-----	6,461	3,242	3,219	4,870	1,590	2,014	3,712	676
17-24 years-----	3,559	1,672	1,887	2,863	696	682	2,047	807
25-44 years-----	4,320	2,010	2,310	3,499	821	1,108	2,396	777
45-64 years-----	4,165	1,734	2,431	3,559	606	1,910	1,855	364
65 years and over-----	3,036	1,444	1,592	2,850	185	1,451	1,128	421
Under 15 years-----	5,733	2,879	2,854	4,350	1,383	1,722	3,366	599
15-24 years-----	4,287	2,035	2,252	3,384	903	973	2,393	885
<u>\$7,000-\$9,999</u>								
All ages-----	30,081	14,760	15,321	26,498	3,583	6,857	17,273	5,794
Under 17 years-----	9,850	5,047	4,803	8,489	1,361	2,057	6,127	1,614
17-24 years-----	4,468	1,991	2,478	3,874	594	725	2,604	1,117
25-44 years-----	7,810	3,898	3,913	6,902	908	1,328	4,496	1,958
45-64 years-----	5,889	2,848	3,041	5,292	596	1,959	3,167	721
65 years and over-----	2,064	976	1,087	1,940	123	788	878	384
Under 15 years-----	8,785	4,476	4,309	7,588	1,197	1,758	5,477	1,510
15-24 years-----	5,533	2,562	2,971	4,775	758	1,024	3,254	1,221

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 13. Population used in obtaining rates shown in this publication, by sex, color, education of head of family, family income, and age: United States, 1973—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Family income and age	Total	Sex		Color		Education of head of family		
		Male	Female	White	All other	Less than 9 years	9-12 years	13 years or more
<u>\$10,000-\$14,999</u>		Population in thousands						
All ages-----	50,927	25,609	25,318	46,949	3,977	6,933	30,282	13,441
Under 17 years-----	17,795	9,085	8,710	16,387	1,408	2,018	11,135	4,566
17-24 years-----	6,356	3,063	3,293	5,719	637	788	3,865	1,664
25-44 years-----	15,074	7,559	7,516	13,862	1,212	1,395	8,731	4,892
45-64 years-----	9,839	5,039	4,800	9,227	612	2,226	5,753	1,790
65 years and over-----	1,862	863	999	1,754	108	507	798	531
Under 15 years-----	15,749	8,012	7,737	14,484	1,265	1,655	9,836	4,189
15-24 years-----	8,402	4,136	4,267	7,622	780	1,151	5,165	2,040
<u>\$15,000 or more</u>								
All ages-----	53,541	27,258	26,283	50,316	3,225	4,184	22,580	26,660
Under 17 years-----	16,861	8,560	8,300	15,820	1,041	1,060	6,695	9,071
17-24 years-----	6,935	3,664	3,272	6,446	489	664	3,422	2,824
25-44 years-----	15,285	7,470	7,815	14,232	1,053	816	6,038	8,409
45-64 years-----	12,707	6,736	5,971	12,134	573	1,318	5,797	5,557
65 years and over-----	1,753	828	925	1,685	68	325	627	798
Under 15 years-----	14,137	7,204	6,933	13,235	902	826	5,489	7,799
15-24 years-----	9,659	5,020	4,639	9,031	628	898	4,628	4,096

<sup>1</sup>Includes unknown income.

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 14. Population used in obtaining rates shown in this publication, by sex, chronic activity limitation status, and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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	With no limitation of activity	With limitation but not in major activity <sup>1</sup>	With limitation in amount or kind of major activity <sup>1</sup>	Unable to carry on major activity <sup>1</sup>
<u>Both sexes</u>					
Population in thousands					
All ages-----	205,799	178,060	6,801	14,535	6,402
Under 17 years-----	63,997	61,848	958	1,040	151
17-24 years-----	29,063	27,143	877	866	176
25-44 years-----	49,953	45,134	1,583	2,644	592
45-64 years-----	42,534	32,614	2,090	5,599	2,230
65 years and over-----	20,253	11,321	1,292	4,387	3,253
Under 15 years-----	55,712	53,943	742	892	135
15-24 years-----	37,347	35,048	1,093	1,014	192
<u>Male</u>					
All ages-----	99,241	85,812	3,302	5,462	4,664
Under 17 years-----	32,599	31,368	569	582	80
17-24 years-----	14,000	12,896	514	471	119
25-44 years-----	24,091	21,768	796	1,104	423
45-64 years-----	20,164	15,272	1,050	2,107	1,735
65 years and over-----	8,386	4,506	373	1,199	2,307
Under 15 years-----	28,392	27,370	450	501	71
15-24 years-----	18,208	16,895	633	552	128
<u>Female</u>					
All ages-----	106,558	92,248	3,499	9,073	1,738
Under 17 years-----	31,397	30,480	389	458	71
17-24 years-----	15,062	14,247	363	394	57
25-44 years-----	25,862	23,366	787	1,540	169
45-64 years-----	22,370	17,341	1,041	3,493	495
65 years and over-----	11,867	6,815	919	3,187	946
Under 15 years-----	27,321	26,574	293	391	64
15-24 years-----	19,138	18,153	459	462	64

<sup>1</sup>Major 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.

Table 15. Population used in obtaining rates shown in this publication, by place of residence, geographic region, and age: United States, 1973

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized 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]

Geographic region and age	Place of residence						
	All residences	SMSA			Outside of SMSA		
		Total	Central city	Not Central city	Total	Nonfarm	Farm
<u>United States</u>							
Population in thousands							
All ages-----	205,799	141,736	62,134	79,602	64,063	56,715	7,348
Under 17 years-----	63,997	43,576	18,373	25,203	20,420	18,234	2,187
17-24 years-----	29,063	20,509	9,327	11,182	8,554	7,742	812
25-44 years-----	49,953	35,348	15,032	20,316	14,605	13,191	1,414
45-64 years-----	42,534	29,316	12,916	16,400	13,218	11,151	2,067
65 years and over-----	20,253	12,987	6,486	6,501	7,266	6,397	869
Under 15 years-----	55,712	37,978	16,100	21,878	17,735	15,931	1,804
15-24 years-----	37,347	26,108	11,600	14,507	11,239	10,044	1,195
<u>Northeast</u>							
All ages-----	48,745	39,012	15,920	23,092	9,733	9,260	473
Under 17 years-----	14,565	11,460	4,455	7,005	3,106	2,923	182
17-24 years-----	6,565	5,348	2,320	3,028	1,217	1,157	60
25-44 years-----	11,746	9,390	3,696	5,694	2,356	2,253	103
45-64 years-----	10,739	8,713	3,445	5,268	2,025	1,951	75
65 years and over-----	5,130	4,101	2,005	2,097	1,029	976	53
Under 15 years-----	12,670	9,957	3,910	6,047	2,713	2,570	143
15-24 years-----	8,460	6,850	2,864	3,986	1,610	1,511	99
<u>North Central</u>							
All ages-----	56,335	37,627	16,112	21,515	18,708	15,321	3,387
Under 17 years-----	17,674	11,873	4,874	7,000	5,801	4,716	1,085
17-24 years-----	8,079	5,518	2,510	3,008	2,561	2,199	362
25-44 years-----	13,272	9,176	3,646	5,531	4,096	3,439	657
45-64 years-----	11,600	7,684	3,402	4,281	3,916	2,982	934
65 years and over-----	5,710	3,375	1,680	1,695	2,334	1,986	348
Under 15 years-----	15,458	10,413	4,315	6,098	5,045	4,154	891
15-24 years-----	10,296	6,978	3,068	3,910	3,317	2,761	557
<u>South</u>							
All ages-----	65,099	36,993	18,197	18,796	28,106	25,216	2,890
Under 17 years-----	20,649	11,648	5,610	6,038	9,001	8,263	738
17-24 years-----	9,348	5,553	2,717	2,836	3,795	3,459	336
25-44 years-----	15,785	9,322	4,524	4,798	6,463	5,921	541
45-64 years-----	13,080	7,376	3,673	3,703	5,704	4,836	868
65 years and over-----	6,236	3,093	1,672	1,421	3,143	2,736	407
Under 15 years-----	17,971	10,157	4,903	5,255	7,814	7,195	619
15-24 years-----	12,026	7,044	3,425	3,619	4,982	4,527	455
<u>West</u>							
All ages-----	35,620	28,105	11,905	16,200	7,516	6,918	598
Under 17 years-----	11,108	8,595	3,434	5,161	2,513	2,332	181
17-24 years-----	5,070	4,090	1,780	2,310	981	926	54
25-44 years-----	9,150	7,460	3,166	4,294	1,690	1,578	113
45-64 years-----	7,115	5,543	2,395	3,147	1,573	1,383	190
65 years and over-----	3,177	2,417	1,129	1,288	760	699	60
Under 15 years-----	9,613	7,450	2,972	4,478	2,163	2,013	151
15-24 years-----	6,565	5,235	2,243	2,992	1,330	1,245	85

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.

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## APPENDIX I

### TECHNICAL NOTES ON METHODS

#### Background of This Report

This report is one of a series of statistical reports prepared by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). It is based on information collected in a continuing nationwide sample of households in the Health Interview Survey (HIS).

The Health Interview Survey utilizes a questionnaire which obtains information on personal and demographic characteristics, illnesses, injuries, impairments, chronic conditions, 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 data collected in household interviews during 1973.

The population covered by the sample for the Health Interview Survey is the civilian non-institutionalized population of the United States living at the time of the interview. The sample does not include members of the Armed Forces or U.S. nationals living in foreign countries. It should also be noted that the estimates shown do not represent a complete measure of any given topic during the specified calendar period since data are not collected in the interview for persons who died during the reference period. For many types of statistics collected in the survey, the reference period covers the 2 weeks prior to the interview week. For such a short period, the contribution by decedents to a total inventory of conditions or services should be very small. However, the contribution by decedents during a long reference period (e.g., 1 year) might be sizable, especially for older persons.

#### 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 noninstitutionalized population of the United States. The sample is designed in such a way that the sample of households interviewed each week is representative of the target population and that weekly samples are additive over time. This feature of the design permits both continuous measurement of characteristics of samples and more detailed analysis of less common characteristics and smaller categories of health-related items. The continuous collection has administrative and operational advantages as well as technical assets since it permits fieldwork to be handled with an experienced, stable staff.

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

The first stage of the sample design consists of drawing a sample of 376 primary sampling units (PSU's) from approximately 1,900 geographically defined PSU's. A PSU consists of a county, a small group of contiguous counties, or a standard metropolitan statistical area. The PSU's collectively cover the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

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 four households. Three general types of segments are used.

Area segments which are defined geographically.

List segments, using 1970 census registers as the frame.

Permit segments, using updated lists of building permits issued in sample PSU's since 1970.

Census address listings were used to, all areas of the country where addresses were well defined and could be used to locate housing units. In general the list frame included the larger urban areas of the United States from which about two-thirds of the HIS sample was selected.

The usual HIS sample consists of approximately 12,000 segments containing 51,000 assigned households, of which 9,000 were vacant, demolished, or occupied by persons not in the scope of the survey. The 42,000 eligible occupied households yield a probability sample of about 120,000 persons in 41,000 interviewed households in a year.

Descriptive material on data collection, field procedures, and questionnaire development in the HIS has been published<sup>1,2</sup> as well as a detailed description of the sample design<sup>3</sup> and a report on the estimation procedure and the method used to calculate sampling errors of estimates derived from the survey.<sup>4</sup>

*Collection of data.*—Field operations for the survey are performed by the U.S. Bureau of

the Census under specifications established by the National Center for Health Statistics. In accordance with these specifications the Bureau of the Census participates in survey planning, selects the sample, and conducts the field interviewing as an agent of NCHS. The data are coded, edited, and tabulated by NCHS.

*Estimating procedures.*—Since the design of the HIS is a complex multistage probability sample, it is necessary to use complex procedures in the derivation of estimates. Four basic operations are involved:

1. *Inflation by the reciprocal of the probability of selection.*—The probability of selection is the product of the probabilities of selection from each step of selection in the design (PSU, segment, and household).
2. *Nonresponse adjustment.*—The estimates are inflated by a multiplication factor which has as its numerator the number of sample households in a given segment and as its denominator the number of households interviewed in that segment.
3. *First-stage ratio adjustment.*—Sampling theory indicates that the use of auxiliary information which is highly correlated with the variables being estimated improves the reliability of the estimates. To reduce the variability between PSU's within a region, the estimates are ratio adjusted to the 1970 populations within 12 color-residence classes.
4. *Poststratification by age-sex-color.*—The estimates are ratio adjusted within each of 60 age-sex-color cells to an independent estimate of the population of each cell for the survey period. These independent estimates are prepared by the Bureau of the Census. Both the first-stage and poststratified ratio adjustments take the form of multiplication factors applied to the weight of each elementary unit (person, household, condition, and hospitalization).

The effect of the ratio-estimating process is to make the sample more closely representative of the civilian noninstitutionalized population by age, sex, color, and residence, which thereby reduces sampling variance.

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<sup>1</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Health survey procedure: concepts, questionnaire development, and definitions in the Health Interview Survey. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 1-No. 2. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, May 1964.

<sup>2</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Health interview survey procedures. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. (HRA) 75-1311-Series 1-No. 11. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, April 1975.

<sup>3</sup>U.S. National Health Survey: The statistical design of the health household interview survey. *Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 584-A2. Public Health Service. Washington, D.C., July 1958.

<sup>4</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Estimation and sampling variance in the Health Interview Survey. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 2-No. 38. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, June 1970.

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

For prevalence statistics, such as number of persons with speech impairments or number of persons classified by time interval since last physician visit, figures are first calculated for each calendar quarter by averaging estimates for all weeks of interviewing in the quarter. Prevalence data for a year are then obtained by averaging the four quarterly figures.

For other types of statistics—namely those measuring the number of occurrences during a specified time period—such as incidence of acute conditions, number of disability days, or number of visits to a doctor or dentist, 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 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 non-response 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 about 3.5 percent—1.4 percent was refusal, and the remainder was primarily due to the failure to find an eligible respondent at home after repeated calls.

*The interview process.*—The statistics presented in this report are based on replies ob-

tained in interviews with persons in the sample households. Each person 19 years of age and over present at the time of interview was interviewed individually. For children and for adults not present in the home at the time of the interview, the information was obtained from a related household member such as a spouse or the mother of a child.

There are limitations to the accuracy of diagnostic and other information collected in household interviews. For diagnostic information, the household respondent can usually pass on to the interviewer only the information the physician has given to 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, sex, and color, which are adjusted to independent estimates, these figures are based on the sample of households in the HIS. 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. With the exception of the overall totals by age, sex, and color mentioned above, the population figures differ from figures (which are derived from different sources) published in reports of the Bureau of the Census. Official population estimates are

presented in Bureau of the Census reports in Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

### Reliability of Estimates

Since the statistics presented in this report 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 reporting and processing errors and errors due to nonresponse. To the extent possible, these types of errors were kept to a minimum by methods built into survey procedures.<sup>5</sup> Although it is very difficult to measure the extent of bias in the Health Interview Survey, a number of studies have been conducted to study this problem. The results have been published in several reports.<sup>6-9</sup>

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 re-

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<sup>5</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Quality control and measurement of nonsampling error in the Health Interview Survey. *Vital and Health Statistics*. Series 2-No. 54. DHEW Pub. No. (HSM) 73-1328. Health Services and Mental Health Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Mar. 1973.

<sup>6</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Health interview responses compared with medical records. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 2-No. 7. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, July 1965.

<sup>7</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Comparison of hospitalization reporting in three survey procedures. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 2-No. 8. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, July 1965.

<sup>8</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Interview data on chronic conditions compared with information derived from medical records. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 2-No. 23. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, May 1967.

<sup>9</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: The influence of interviewer and respondent psychological and behavioral variables on the reporting in household interviews. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 2-No. 26. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Mar. 1968.

flects part of the variation which arises in the measurement process. It does not include estimates of any biases which might be 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. For this report, asterisks are shown for any cell with more than a 30-percent relative standard error. Included in this appendix are charts from which the relative standard errors can be determined for estimates shown in the report. In order to derive relative errors which would be applicable to a wide variety of health statistics and which could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, the charts provide an estimate of the approximate relative standard error rather than the precise error for any specific aggregate or percentage.

Three classes of statistics for the health survey are identified for purposes of estimating variances.

*Narrow range.*—This class consists of (1) statistics which estimate a population attribute, e.g., the number of persons in a particular income group, and (2) statistics for which the measure for a single individual during the reference period used in data collection is usually either 0 or 1 or on occasion may take on the value 2 or very rarely 3.

*Medium range.*—This class consists of other statistics for which the measure for a single individual during the reference period used in data collection will rarely lie outside the range 0 to 5.

*Wide range.*—This class consists of statistics for which the measure for a single individual during the reference period used in data collection can range from 0 to a number in excess of 5, e.g., the number of days of bed disability.

In addition to classifying variables according to whether they are narrow-, median-, or

wide-range, statistics in the survey are further classified as to whether they are based on a reference period of 2 weeks, 6 months, or 12 months.

*General rules for determining relative standard errors.*—The following rules will enable the reader to determine approximate relative standard errors from the charts (figures I-IV) for estimates presented in this report. These charts represent new and better approximations of the relative standard errors of HIS data. They should be used in preference to the charts which have appeared in all previous Series 10 publications.

Rule 1. *Estimates of aggregates:* Approximate relative standard errors for estimates of aggregates such as the number of persons with a given characteristic are obtained from appropriate curves shown in figure I. The number of persons in the total U.S. population or in an age-sex-color class of the total population is adjusted to official Bureau of the Census figures and is not subject to sampling error.

Rule 2. *Estimates of percentages in a percent distribution:* Relative standard errors for percentages in a percent distribution of a total are obtained from appropriate curves shown in figures II-IV. For values which do not fall on one of the curves presented in the chart, visual interpolation will provide a satisfactory approximation.

Rule 3. *Estimates of rates where the numerator is a subclass of the denominator:* This rule applies for prevalence rates or where a unit of the numerator occurs, with few exceptions, only once in the year for any one unit in the denominator. For example, in computing the rate of visual impairments per 1,000 population, the numerator consisting of persons with the impairment is a subclass of the denominator, which includes all persons in the population. Such rates if converted to rates per 100 may be treated as though they were percentages and the relative standard errors obtained from the percentage chart for

population estimates. Rates per 1,000, or on any other base, must first be converted to rates per 100; then the percentage chart will provide the relative standard error per 100.

Rule 4. *Estimates of rates where the numerator is not a subclass of the denominator:* This rule applies where a unit of the numerator often occurs more than once for any one unit in the denominator. For example, in the computation of the number of persons injured per 100 currently employed persons per year, it is possible that a person in the denominator could have sustained more than one of the injuries included in the numerator. Approximate relative standard errors for rates of this kind may be computed as follows:

(a) Where the denominator is the total U.S. population or includes all persons in one or more of the age-sex-color groups of the total population, the relative error of the rate is equivalent to the relative error of the numerator, which can be obtained directly from the appropriate chart.

(b) In other cases the relative standard error of the numerator and of the denominator can be obtained from the appropriate curve. Square each of these relative errors, add the resulting values, and extract the square root of the sum. This procedure will result in an upper bound on the standard error and often will overstate the error.

Rule 5. *Estimates of difference between two statistics (mean, rate, total, etc.):* The standard error of a difference is approximately the square root of the sum of the squares of each standard error considered separately. A formula for the standard error of a difference,

$$d = X_1 - X_2$$

is

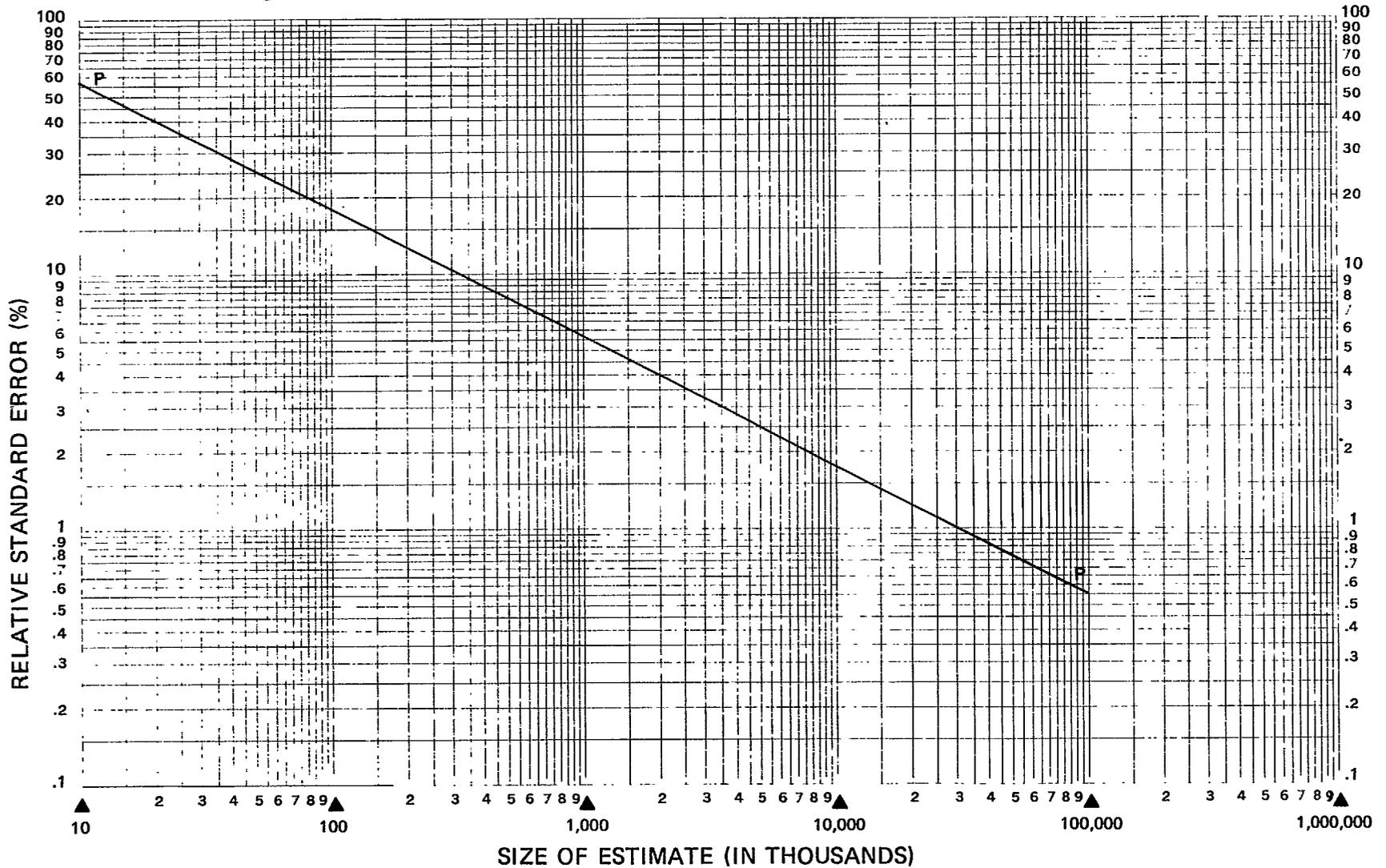
$$\sigma_d = \sqrt{(X_1 V_{x1})^2 + (X_2 V_{x2})^2}$$

where  $X_1$  is the estimate for class 1,  $X_2$  is the estimate for class 2, and  $V_{x1}$  and  $V_{x2}$  are the relative errors of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , respectively. This formula will represent the actual standard error quite

accurately for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics although it is only a rough approximation in most other cases. The relative standard error of each estimate involved in such a difference can be determined by one of the four rules above, whichever is appropriate.



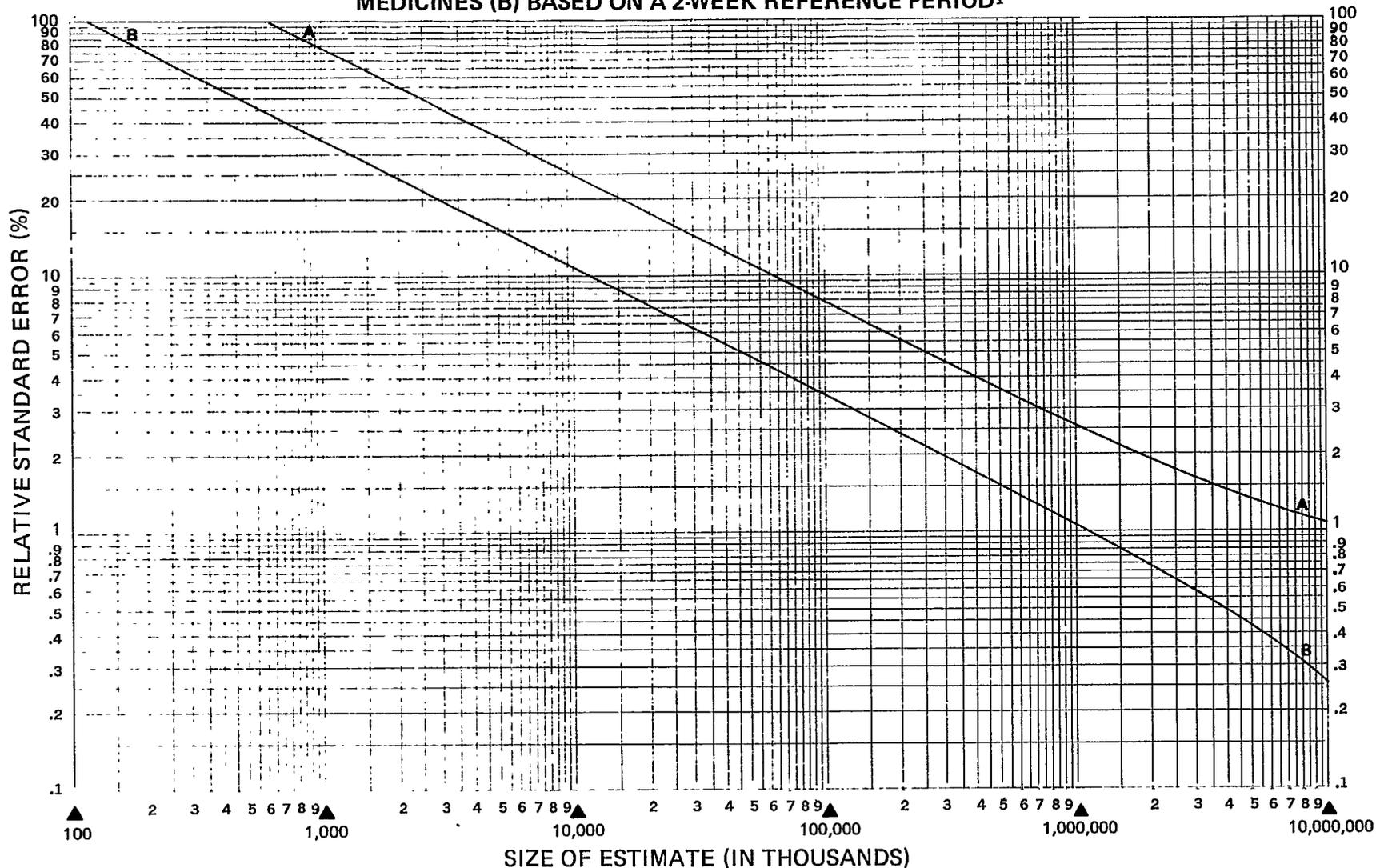
Figure I. RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS FOR POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup>This curve represents estimates of relative standard errors based on 4 quarters of data collection for narrow range estimates of population characteristics or narrow range estimates of aggregates using a 12-month reference period

*Example of use of chart:* An estimate of 10,000,000 persons with annual family income of \$15,000 or more, or 10,000,000 persons who were hospitalized one or more times in the past year (on scale at bottom of chart) has a relative standard error of 1. percent (read from scale at left side of chart), or a standard error of 170,000 (1.7 percent of 10,000,000)

Figure II. RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS FOR THE COST OF (A) AND ACQUISITIONS OF PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES (B) BASED ON A 2-WEEK REFERENCE PERIOD<sup>1</sup>

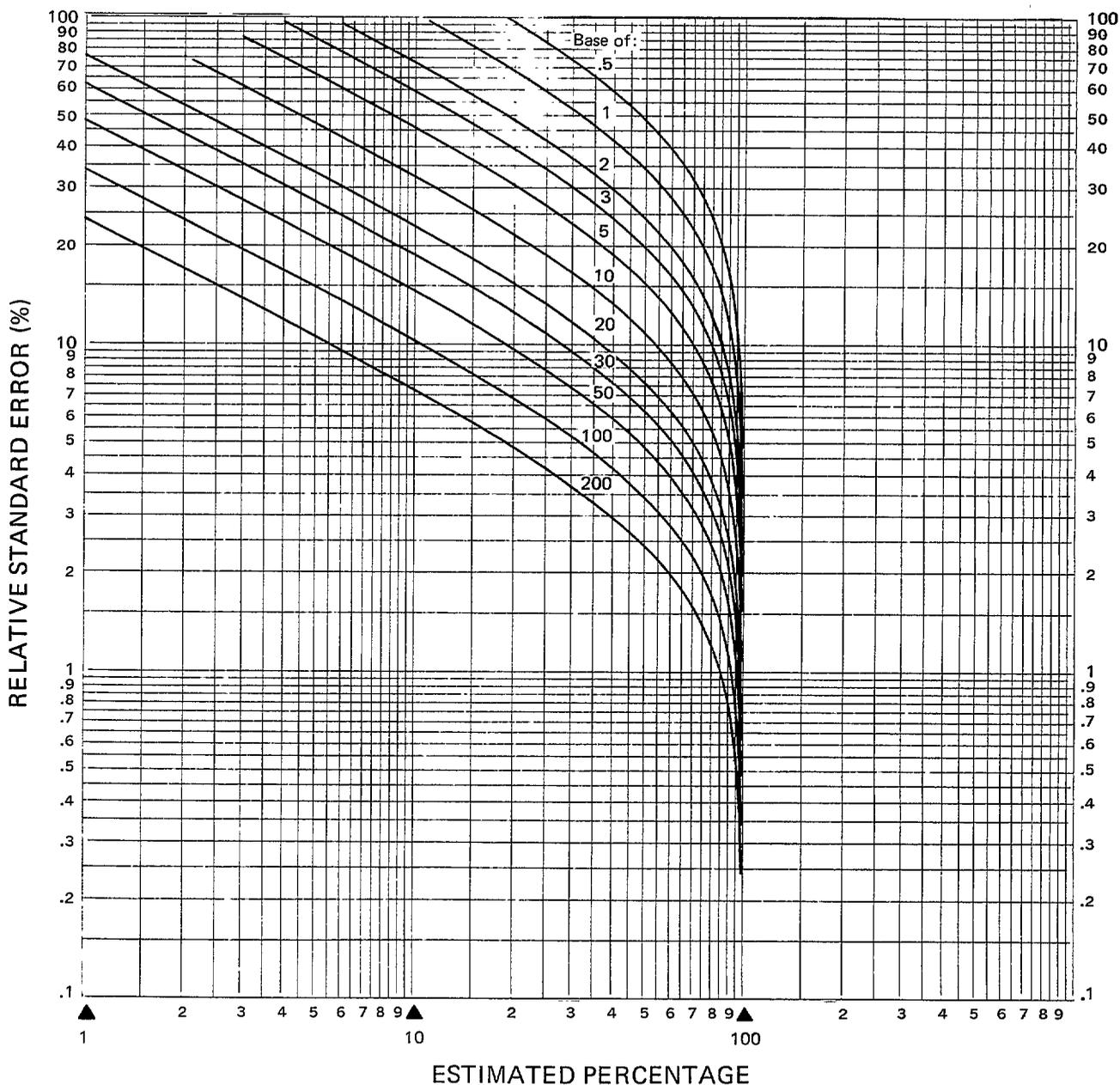


<sup>1</sup>The curves related to cost and acquisition based on 1 to 4 quarters of data collection for wide and medium range estimates, respectively, of aggregates using a 2-week reference period.

*Example of use of chart:* An estimate of \$10,000,000 spent for prescribed medicine in the past year (on scale at bottom of chart) has a relative standard error of 24.9 percent (read from curve A on scale at left side of chart), or a standard error of 2,490,000 (24.9 percent of 10,000,000). An estimate of 1,000,000 acquisitions of a medicine (curve B) has a relative standard error of 34.0 percent.

**Figure III. RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF PERCENTAGES OF ACQUISITIONS OF PRESCRIBED MEDICINES<sup>1</sup>**

(Base of percentage shown on curves in millions)

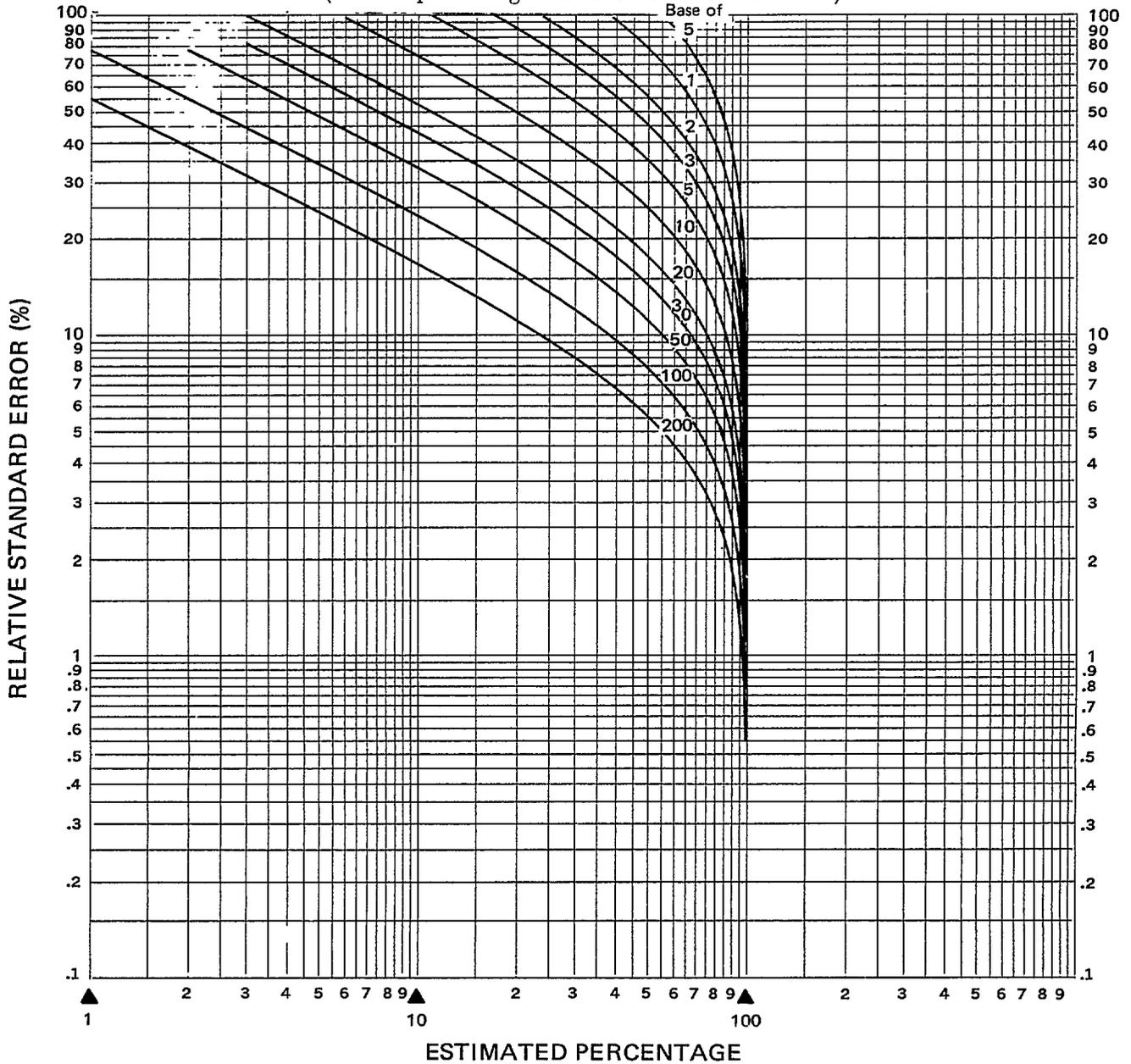


<sup>1</sup> These curves represent estimates of relative standard errors of percentages of acquisitions of prescribed medicines based on 1 to 4 quarters of data collection for medium range data using a 2-week reference period.

*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 21.6 percent (read from the scale at the left side of chart), the point at which the curve for a base of 10,000,000 intersects the vertical line for 10 percent. The standard error in percentage points is equal to 20 percent  $\times$  21.6 percent; or 4.3 percentage points.

Figure IV. RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF PERCENTAGES OF THE COST OF PRESCRIBED MEDICINE<sup>1</sup>

(Base of percentage shown on curves in millions)



<sup>1</sup> These curves represent estimates of relative standard errors of percentages of the cost (in dollars) of prescribed medicine based on 1 to 4 quarters of data collection for wide range estimates using a 2-week reference period.

*Example of use of chart:* An estimate of 20 percent (on scale at bottom of chart) based on an estimate of 50,000,000 has a relative standard error of 22.2 percent (read from the scale at the left side of chart), the point at which the curve for a base of 50,000,000 intersects the vertical line for 20 percent. The standard error in percentage points is equal to 20 percent X 22.2 percent or 3.4 percentage points.

## APPENDIX II

### DEFINITIONS OF CERTAIN TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

#### Terms Relating to Acquisition and Cost of Medicines

In order to obtain accurate and complete information relating to the acquisition and cost of medicines, the reference period is limited to the 2-week period prior to interview. The collected data are then appropriately weighted to provide annual estimates for medicine items.

*Prescribed medicine.*—Prescribed medicine is defined as (1) any medicine obtained on a doctor's written prescription, (2) any medicine which has been prepared on the basis of a doctor's telephone call to a pharmacist, or (3) any medicine given by the doctor (or nurse) to a person to take home. Medicine obtained as a refill of a previous prescription is considered prescribed medicine. Medicines and injections administered in a medical facility are excluded.

*Acquisition of prescribed medicine.*—Each time the medicine is actually obtained on the basis of a prescription, it is considered an acquisition. If the medicine is specifically prescribed for two persons, it is counted as two acquisitions. Each time the prescription is refilled, it is considered a separate acquisition.

*Cost per acquisition of prescribed medicine* or his family and any part paid by third parties is recorded for each acquisition of medicine for each person. If the medicine was

obtained without cost, the source from which the medicine was obtained free of charge is recorded. If the medicine was obtained for two persons, half of the cost is allocated to each person. Similarly if the medicine was obtained

twice for one person, half the total cost is allocated per acquisition.

*Source of free acquisitions.*—If a medicine was obtained without any cost through health insurance, public organizations, or any other agency or person, the source from which the medicine was received free of charge is recorded.

*Out-of-pocket expense.*—The amount paid directly by an individual or a family member exclusive of any part paid by insurance, public source, other person, or agency is the out-of-pocket cost.

*The classification of conditions.*—Both the name of the medicine and the condition for which it was prescribed were asked in the interview. The acquisitions were classified by the condition or symptoms for which they were prescribed into 26 mutually exclusive categories.

#### Terms Relating to Disability

*Chronic activity limitation.*—Persons are classified into four categories according to the extent to which their activities are limited at present as a result of chronic 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 following descriptions of the four categories:

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

**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 amount or kind of major activity performed* (major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or engage in school or preschool activities)

**Preschool children:**

Limited in amount or kind of play with other children, e.g., need special rest periods, cannot play strenuous games, or 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 or 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.

**Workers and all other persons:**

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, or cannot do strenuous work.

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

**Preschool children:**

Not classified in this category.

**School-age children:**

Not limited in going to school but limited in participation in athletics or other extra-curricular 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 whose activities are not limited in any of the ways described above)

**Demographic 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 on the purpose of the table.

*Color.*—The population is divided into two color groups, "white" and "all other." "All other" includes Negro, American Indian, Chinese, Japanese, and any other race. Mexican persons are included with "white" unless definitely known to be Indian or of another race.

*Income of family or of unrelated individuals.*—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 preceding the week of interview. Income from all sources is included, e.g., wages, salaries, rents from property, pensions, and help from relatives.

*Education.*—The categories of education status show the years of school completed. Only years 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.

*Education of head of family or of unrelated individuals.*—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.

*Geographic 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 U.S. Bureau of the Census, are shown in figure V.

<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, Kansas, Nebraska
South . . . . .	Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Texas, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma
West . . . . .	Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Alaska, Oregon, California, Hawaii

Figure V. States included in the four geographic regions.

*Place of residence.*—The place of residence of a member of the civilian noninstitutionalized population is classified as inside a standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA) or outside an SMSA and either farm or nonfarm.

*Standard metropolitan statistical areas.*—The definitions and titles of SMSA's are established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget with the advice of the Federal Committee on Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas. There were 212 SMSA's defined for the 1960 decennial census.

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; 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. In New England SMSA's consist of towns and cities, rather than counties. The metropolitan population in this report is based on SMSA's as defined in the 1960 census and does not include any subsequent additions or changes.

*Central cities.*—Each SMSA must include at least one central city. The complete title of an SMSA identifies the central city or cities. If only one central city is designated, then it must have 50,000 inhabitants or more. The area title may include, in addition to the largest city, up to two city names on the basis and in the order of the following criteria: (1) the additional city has at least 250,000 inhabitants or (2) the additional city has a population of one-third or more of that of the largest city and a minimum population of 25,000. An exception occurs where two cities have contiguous boundaries and constitute, for economic and social purposes, a single community of at least 50,000, the smaller of which must have a population of at least 15,000.

*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 popu-

lation, which comprises the remaining outside SMSA population. The farm population includes persons living on places of 10 acres or more from which sales of farm products amounted to \$50 or more during the previous 12 months or 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 outside an SMSA were classified as non-farm if their household paid rent for the house

but their rent did not include any land used for farming.

Sales of farm products refer 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.

—○○—

APPENDIX III

PROBE QUESTIONS ON PRESCRIBED MEDICINES DURING 2-WEEK REFERENCE PERIOD

PRESCRIBED MEDICINES		
1a.	During the past 2 weeks, (the 2 weeks outlined in red on that calendar) did anyone in the family, (that is you, your --, etc.) buy or obtain any (other) kind of medicine prescribed by a doctor?	Y N (2)
b.	What is the name of the medicine? Enter name of medicine in col. (b) of Table M and ask: What condition is it for? Enter name of condition in col. (c) and reask 1a.	
(Besides the prescriptions you have already told me about)		
2a.	During the past 2 weeks did anyone in the family get any (other) medicine from a pharmacist or drugstore that was prescribed by a telephone call from a doctor?	Y N (3)
b.	What is the name of the medicine? Enter name of medicine in col. (b) of Table M and ask: What condition is it for? Enter name of condition in col. (c) and reask 2a.	
(Besides the prescriptions you have already told me about)		
3a.	During the past 2 weeks did anyone in the family have any (other) prescriptions refilled?	Y N (4)
b.	What is the name of the medicine? Enter name of medicine in col. (b) of Table M and ask: What condition is it for? Enter name of condition in col. (c) and reask 3a.	
(Besides the prescriptions you have already told me about)		
4a.	During the past 2 weeks did anyone in the family obtain any (other) medicine directly from a doctor to take at home?	Y N (Table M)
b.	What is the name of the medicine? Enter name of medicine in col. (b) of Table M and ask: What condition is it for? Enter name of condition in col. (c) and reask 4a.	

TABLE M: Complete columns d-k as appropriate for each prescription listed. If none listed, go to next page.

Line	Ques. No.	Enter name of medicine.	Enter name of condition and reask part a of appropriate question.	Was the -- obtained last week or the week before?	How was this medicine obtained -- through a written prescription, a refill, a call to the pharmacist from the doctor, given by the doctor to take at home, or was it obtained in some other way?
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
A	1	<input type="checkbox"/> DK _____		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Last week	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Written prescription
	2			2 <input type="checkbox"/> Week before	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Refill
	3			3 <input type="checkbox"/> In past 2 weeks, DK which	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Call to the pharmacist
	4			4 <input type="checkbox"/> In interview week (NM)	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Given by Dr. to take at home
				5 <input type="checkbox"/> Before 2 weeks (NM)	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. recommended (not prescribed)
					5 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____
B	1	<input type="checkbox"/> DK _____		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Last week	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Written prescription
	2			2 <input type="checkbox"/> Week before	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Refill
	3			3 <input type="checkbox"/> In past 2 weeks, DK which	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Call to the pharmacist
	4			4 <input type="checkbox"/> In interview week (NM)	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Given by Dr. to take at home
				5 <input type="checkbox"/> Before 2 weeks (NM)	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. recommended (not prescribed)
					5 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____
C	1	<input type="checkbox"/> DK _____		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Last week	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Written prescription
	2			2 <input type="checkbox"/> Week before	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Refill
	3			3 <input type="checkbox"/> In past 2 weeks, DK which	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Call to the pharmacist
	4			4 <input type="checkbox"/> In interview week (NM)	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Given by Dr. to take at home
				5 <input type="checkbox"/> Before 2 weeks (NM)	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. recommended (not prescribed)
					5 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____
D	1	<input type="checkbox"/> DK _____		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Last week	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Written prescription
	2			2 <input type="checkbox"/> Week before	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Refill
	3			3 <input type="checkbox"/> In past 2 weeks, DK which	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Call to the pharmacist
	4			4 <input type="checkbox"/> In interview week (NM)	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Given by Dr. to take at home
				5 <input type="checkbox"/> Before 2 weeks (NM)	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. recommended (not prescribed)
					5 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____
E	1	<input type="checkbox"/> DK _____		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Last week	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Written prescription
	2			2 <input type="checkbox"/> Week before	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Refill
	3			3 <input type="checkbox"/> In past 2 weeks, DK which	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Call to the pharmacist
	4			4 <input type="checkbox"/> In interview week (NM)	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Given by Dr. to take at home
				5 <input type="checkbox"/> Before 2 weeks (NM)	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. recommended (not prescribed)
					5 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____

TABLE M - Continued

Who was this prescribed for? Enter appropriate person number. (f)	During the past 2 weeks, how many different times was this medicine obtained? (g)	How much did or will you or your family pay for this medicine? If two or more times in col. (g), add: Include the total amount for the -- times this medicine was obtained. (h)	Did or will any other source pay any of the bill for this medicine? (i)	What (other) source paid or will pay any part of this medicine? (j)	What was the total cost of this medicine, including the amount to be paid by all sources? (k)
Person No. _____	_____ Times	0000 <input type="checkbox"/> None (j) 9999 <input type="checkbox"/> DK Dollars Cents \$ _____	1 Y 2 N (NM) 9 DK (k)	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Free from doctor (NM) 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Private health insurance 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Medicare 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare (incl. Medicaid) <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify <del>✓</del>	9999 <input type="checkbox"/> DK Dollars Cents \$ _____
Person No. _____	_____ Times	0000 <input type="checkbox"/> None (j) 9999 <input type="checkbox"/> DK Dollars Cents \$ _____	1 Y 2 N (NM) 9 DK (k)	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Free from doctor (NM) 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Private health insurance 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Medicare 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare (incl. Medicaid) <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify <del>✓</del>	9999 <input type="checkbox"/> DK Dollars Cents \$ _____
Person No. _____	_____ Times	0000 <input type="checkbox"/> None (j) 9999 <input type="checkbox"/> DK Dollars Cents \$ _____	1 Y 2 N (NM) 9 DK (k)	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Free from doctor (NM) 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Private health insurance 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Medicare 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare (incl. Medicaid) <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify <del>✓</del>	9999 <input type="checkbox"/> DK Dollars Cents \$ _____
Person No. _____	_____ Times	0000 <input type="checkbox"/> None (j) 9999 <input type="checkbox"/> DK Dollars Cents \$ _____	1 Y 2 N (NM) 9 DK (k)	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Free from doctor (NM) 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Private health insurance 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Medicare 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare (incl. Medicaid) <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify <del>✓</del>	9999 <input type="checkbox"/> DK Dollars Cents \$ _____
Person No. _____	_____ Times	0000 <input type="checkbox"/> None (j) 9999 <input type="checkbox"/> DK Dollars Cents \$ _____	1 Y 2 N (NM) 9 DK (k)	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Free from doctor (NM) 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Private health insurance 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Medicare 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare (incl. Medicaid) <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify <del>✓</del>	9999 <input type="checkbox"/> DK Dollars Cents \$ _____

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