

Table 1. Physician office visits, by selected physician characteristics: United States, 2009

Selected physician characteristics	Number of visits in thousands (standard error in thousands)	Percent distribution (standard error of percent)	...	Number of visits per 100 persons per year ^{1,2,3} , (standard error of rate)
All visits	1,037,796 (44,949)	100.0	...	344.1 (14.9)
Physician specialty⁴				
General and family practice	240,492 (16,560)	23.2 (1.3)		79.7 (5.5)
Internal medicine	153,208 (18,409)	14.8 (1.4)		50.8 (6.1)
Pediatrics ⁵	126,801 (12,542)	12.2 (1.1)		176.0 (18.1)
Obstetrics and gynecology ⁶	77,867 (7,921)	7.5 (0.7)		62.6 (6.4)
Ophthalmology	55,819 (7,550)	5.4 (0.7)		18.5 (2.5)
Orthopedic surgery	48,823 (4,968)	4.7 (0.4)		16.2 (1.6)
Cardiovascular diseases	34,390 (3,343)	3.3 (0.3)		11.4 (1.1)
Dermatology	34,024 (4,554)	3.3 (0.5)		11.3 (1.5)
Psychiatry	32,451 (3,689)	3.1 (0.4)		10.8 (1.2)
General surgery	24,490 (4,369)	2.4 (0.4)		8.1 (1.4)
Urology	22,144 (1,597)	2.1 (0.2)		7.3 (0.5)
Otolaryngology	20,426 (2,901)	2.0 (0.3)		6.8 (1.0)
Neurology	14,767 (2,565)	1.4 (0.2)		4.9 (0.9)
All other specialties	152,095 (12,778)	14.7 (1.1)		50.4 (4.2)
Professional identity				
Doctor of medicine	967,033 (43,485)	93.2 (0.8)		320.7 (14.4)
Doctor of osteopathy	70,763 (8,207)	6.8 (0.8)		23.5 (2.7)
Specialty type⁴				
Primary care	586,992 (33,819)	56.6 (1.3)		194.6 (11.2)
Medical specialty	257,326 (16,318)	24.8 (1.4)		85.3 (5.4)
Surgical specialty	193,479 (11,940)	18.6 (1.1)		64.2 (4.0)
Geographic region				
Northeast	169,195 (15,950)	16.3 (1.5)		310.8 (29.3)
Midwest	231,554 (21,769)	22.3 (1.8)		352.1 (33.1)
South	416,071 (30,560)	40.1 (2.2)		375.1 (27.5)
West	220,976 (18,937)	21.3 (1.6)		313.7 (26.9)
Metropolitan status⁷				
MSA	906,270 (40,913)	87.3 (2.3)		356.4 (16.1)
Non-MSA	131,526 (25,655)	12.7 (2.3)		278.0 (54.2)

¹Visit rates are based on the July 1, 2009 set of estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States as developed by the Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau.

²Population estimates by metropolitan statistical area definitions status are based on estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States as of July 1, 2009, from the 2009 National Health Interview Survey, National Center for Health Statistics, compiled according to November 2008 Office of Management and Budget definitions of core-based statistical areas. See <http://www.census.gov/population/www/metroareas/metrodef.html> for more about metropolitan statistical definitions.

³For geographic and metropolitan statistical area, population denominators are different for each category and thus do

⁴Physician specialty and specialty type are defined in the 2009 public use file documentation (ftp://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/NAMCS/doc09.pdf).

⁵Number of visits (numerator) and population estimate (denominator) include children under 15 years of age.

⁶Number of visits (numerator) and population estimate (denominator) include females 15 years old and over.

⁷MSA is metropolitan statistical area.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 2. Office visits, by selected physician practice characteristics: United States, 2009

Physician practice characteristics	Number of visits in thousands		Percent distribution	
	(standard error in thousands)		(standard error of percent)	
All visits	1,037,796	(44,949)	100.0	...
Employment status				
Owner	722,871	(40,468)	69.7	(2.1)
Employee	281,228	(22,539)	27.1	(2.0)
Contractor	30,565	(7,966)	2.9	(0.8)
Blank	*3,132	(1,825)	*0.3	(0.2)
Ownership				
Physician or group	848,957	(40,906)	81.8	(1.7)
Other health care corporation	48,462	(11,683)	4.7	(1.1)
Other hospital	44,531	(9,719)	4.3	(0.9)
Community health center	36,284	(9,325)	3.5	(0.9)
Medical or academic health center	*19,392	(5,880)	*1.9	(0.6)
HMO ¹	17,577	(4,468)	1.7	(0.4)
Other ²	18,295	(5,166)	1.8	(0.5)
Blank	*4,299	(2,296)	*0.4	(0.2)
Practice size				
Solo	336,443	(25,219)	32.4	(2.0)
2	122,365	(15,624)	11.8	(1.4)
3-5	239,624	(20,724)	23.1	(1.9)
6-10	209,141	(21,562)	20.2	(1.8)
11 or more	122,530	(18,862)	11.8	(1.7)
Blank	*7,693	(3,873)	*0.7	(0.4)
Type of practice				
Single-specialty group	478,170	(29,357)	46.1	(2.2)
Multispecialty group	221,059	(21,839)	21.3	(1.8)
Solo	336,443	(25,219)	32.4	(2.0)
Blank	*2,124	(1,476)	*0.2	(0.1)
Office type				
Private practice	941,896	(43,484)	90.8	(1.3)
Clinic or urgicenter	36,252	(8,786)	3.5	(0.9)
Community health center	31,124	(8,592)	3.0	(0.8)

Other ³	28,525	(5,748)	2.7	(0.6)
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Electronic medical records

Yes-all electronic	347,610	(28,791)	33.5	(2.1)
Yes-part paper and part electronic	189,010	(19,133)	18.2	(1.7)
No	493,036	(27,216)	47.5	(2.0)
Unknown or blank	*8,141	(4,593)	*0.8	(0.4)

Practice submits claims electronically

Yes-all electronic	630,639	(35,540)	60.8	(2.1)
Yes-part paper and part electronic	265,841	(20,706)	25.6	(1.8)
No	118,975	(16,696)	11.5	(1.5)
Unknown or blank	22,343	(5,531)	2.2	(0.5)

...Category not applicable.

*Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision.

¹HMO is health maintenance organization.

²"Other" includes owners such as local government (state, county or city) and charitable organizations.

³"Other" includes the following office types: HMO, nonfederal government clinic, mental health center, family planning clinic and faculty practice plan.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 3. Office visits by patient age and sex: United States, 2009

Patient age and sex	Number of visits in thousands (standard error in thousands)	Percent distribution (standard error of percent)	Number of visits per 100 persons per year ¹ (standard error of rate)
All visits	1,037,796 (44,949)	100.0 ...	344.1 (14.9)
Age			
Under 15 years	158,907 (11,739)	15.3 (0.9)	257.0 (19.0)
Under 1 year	32,151 (3,423)	3.1 (0.3)	755.1 (80.4)
1-4 years	51,060 (4,186)	4.9 (0.3)	299.7 (24.6)
5-14 years	75,696 (5,227)	7.3 (0.4)	186.7 (12.9)
15-24 years	74,080 (3,883)	7.1 (0.3)	176.3 (9.2)
25-44 years	208,901 (9,576)	20.1 (0.6)	258.1 (11.8)
45-64 years	316,395 (16,663)	30.5 (0.7)	401.3 (21.1)
65 years and over	279,514 (15,056)	26.9 (0.8)	736.7 (39.7)
65-74 years	137,452 (7,045)	13.2 (0.4)	668.9 (34.3)
75 years and over	142,062 (8,827)	13.7 (0.6)	816.9 (50.8)
Sex and age			
Female	611,064 (26,764)	58.9 (0.6)	397.2 (17.4)
Under 15 years	72,243 (5,889)	7.0 (0.5)	239.0 (19.5)
15-24 years	48,029 (2,744)	4.6 (0.2)	230.8 (13.2)
25-44 years	144,022 (7,073)	13.9 (0.5)	353.4 (17.4)
45-64 years	184,994 (9,978)	17.8 (0.4)	456.7 (24.6)
65-74 years	75,428 (4,039)	7.3 (0.3)	681.5 (36.5)
75 years and over	86,348 (5,848)	8.3 (0.4)	823.2 (55.8)
Male	426,732 (19,928)	41.1 (0.6)	288.9 (13.5)
Under 15 years	86,664 (6,254)	8.4 (0.5)	274.1 (19.8)
15-24 years	26,052 (1,801)	2.5 (0.1)	122.8 (8.5)
25-44 years	64,879 (3,949)	6.3 (0.3)	161.4 (9.8)
45-64 years	131,400 (7,462)	12.7 (0.4)	342.9 (19.5)
65-74 years	62,023 (3,889)	6.0 (0.2)	654.2 (41.0)
75 years and over	55,713 (3,583)	5.4 (0.2)	807.3 (51.9)

...Category not applicable.

¹Visit rates are based on the July 1, 2009 set of estimates of the civilian noninstitutional

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