

Data Brief 426. Emergency Department Visits Among Adults With Mental Health Disorders: United States, 2017–2019

Data table for Figure 1. Emergency department visit rates for adults with mental health disorders, by age group: United States, 2017–2019

| Age group | Visit rate per 1,000 people | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| All adults | 52.9 | 3.0 | 47.0–58.9 |
| 18–44 | 64.9 | 3.9 | 57.2–72.5 |
| 45–64 | 47.5 | 3.0 | 41.6–53.4 |
| 65 and over | 34.9 | 2.5 | 30.0–39.9 |

NOTES: Based on a sample of 5,978 emergency department (ED) visits made by adults with any listed diagnosis of mental health disorders (*International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification*, codes F01–F99), representing an annual average of approximately 13.2 million ED visits (12.3% of all adult ED visits). Visit rates are based on the July 1, 2017; July 1, 2018; and July 1, 2019, sets of estimates of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States, as developed by the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017–2019.

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Data table for Figure 2. Percentage of adult emergency department visits lasting 4 hours or more made by patients with and without mental health disorders, by age group: United States, 2017–2019

| Age group | With mental health disorders | | | Without mental health disorders | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| | Percent | Standard error | 95% confidence interval | Percent | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |
| 18–44. | 40.7 | 1.5 | 37.8–43.7 | 25.6 | 0.9 | 23.9–27.4 |
| 45–64. | 43.9 | 1.8 | 40.3–47.5 | 34.6 | 1.0 | 32.6–36.6 |
| 65 and over | 51.6 | 3.0 | 45.8–57.4 | 42.5 | 1.1 | 40.4–44.6 |

NOTES: Based on a sample of 5,978 emergency department (ED) visits made by patients with any listed diagnosis of mental health disorders (*International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification*, codes F01–F99), representing an annual average of approximately 13.2 million ED visits (12.3% of all adult ED visits) and a sample of 37,541 ED visits made by adults without mental health disorders (87.7% of all adult ED visits). Visit length was missing for 5.9% of visits made by adults with mental health disorders and for 6.2% of visits by adults without mental health disorders.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017–2019.

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Data table for Figure 3. Percentage of adult emergency department visits with and without mental health disorders that resulted in a hospital admission, by age group: United States, 2017–2019

| Age group | With mental health disorders | | | Without mental health disorders | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| | Percent | Standard error | 95% confidence interval | Percent | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |
| 18–44. | 8.7 | 0.9 | 7.0–10.6 | 5.7 | 0.3 | 5.1–6.4 |
| 45–64. | 13.6 | 1.2 | 11.5–16.1 | 14.2 | 0.8 | 12.8–15.8 |
| 65 and over | 23.7 | 2.3 | 19.5–28.5 | 27.5 | 1.1 | 25.5–29.6 |

NOTES: Based on a sample of 5,978 emergency department (ED) visits made by patients with any listed diagnosis of mental health disorders (*International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification*, codes F01–F99), representing an annual average of approximately 13.2 million ED visits (12.3% of all adult ED visits) and a sample of 37,541 ED visits made by adults without mental health disorders (87.7% of all adult ED visits).

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017–2019.

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Data table for Figure 4. Percentage of adult emergency department visits made by patients with and without mental health disorders, by primary expected source of payment: United States, 2017–2019

| Primary expected source of payment | With mental health disorders | | | Without mental health disorders | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| | Percent | Standard error | 95% confidence interval | Percent | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |
| Private insurance | 22.9 | 1.0 | 21.0–24.9 | 28.8 | 0.7 | 27.4–30.2 |
| Medicare | 23.8 | 0.9 | 22.0–25.7 | 30.3 | 0.7 | 29.0–31.6 |
| Medicaid | 41.9 | 1.5 | 39.0–44.9 | 29.5 | 1.0 | 27.5–31.6 |
| Uninsured | 11.4 | 1.1 | 9.3–13.8 | 11.4 | 0.7 | 10.2–12.8 |

NOTES: Based on a sample of 5,978 emergency department (ED) visits made by patients with any listed diagnosis of mental health disorders (*International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification*, codes F01–F99), representing an annual average of approximately 13.2 million ED visits (12.3% of all adult ED visits) and a sample of 37,541 ED visits made by adults without mental health disorders (87.7% of all adult ED visits). Uninsured includes self-pay and no charge or charity. Other or unknown includes worker’s compensation, other payment source, unknown, and blank and represents 17.8% of visits made by adults with mental health disorders and 15.5% of visits by adults without mental health disorders and was excluded from analysis.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 2017–2019.