

# **Utilization of Short-Stay Hospitals**

## **Summary of Nonmedical Statistics**

### **United States-1966**

Statistics are presented on the utilization of short-stay hospitals based on data collected in the Hospital Discharge Survey from a national sample of hospital records of discharged patients. Discharges, days of care, and average length of stay are distributed by each of the variables age, sex, and color of patient and by geographic region, bed size, and type of ownership (control) of hospital.

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see 13-7.

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# CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction -----	1
Discharges and Discharge Rates-----	1
Sex and Age-----	1
Color -----	2
Geographic Region-----	2
Size of Hospital-----	3
Type of Ownership (Control) of Hospital-----	4
Days of Care and Length of Stay-----	5
Sex and Age-----	5
Color -----	6
Geographic Region-----	6
Size of Hospital-----	6
Type of Ownership (Control) of Hospital-----	7
References -----	8
List of Detailed Tables-----	9
Appendix I. Technical Notes on Methods-----	28
Statistical Design of the Hospital Discharge Survey-----	28
Data Collection and Processing-----	28
Population Estimates-----	31
General Qualifications-----	31
Reliability of Estimates-----	32
Appendix II. Definition of Certain Terms Used in This Report-----	36
Terms Relating to Hospitalization-----	36
Hospitals and Hospital Characteristics-----	36
Demographic Terms-----	37

**SYMBOLS**

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# UTILIZATION OF SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS

## SUMMARY OF NONMEDICAL STATISTICS

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### INTRODUCTION

An estimated 28.8 million patients other than well newborn infants were discharged from short-stay hospitals in 1966. These patients received over 234 million days of inpatient care, or an average of 8.1 days per period of hospitalization. The rates of hospital utilization were 150 discharges and 1,221 inpatient days per 1,000 persons in the civilian, noninstitutional population. The utilization of short-stay hospitals varied by age, sex, and color of the patient and by size and type of ownership of the hospitals. There was also variation in the rates of utilization by geographic region.

Data for 1966, the year in which the Federal program of hospital insurance for the aged (Medicare) became effective, are compared with data for 1965. These comparisons are shown for persons of all ages, for persons under 65, and for persons 65 years and over in the United States as a whole and in each of the four geographic regions. More detailed information for 1965 may be found in four previous reports in this series.<sup>1-6</sup>

This report is the eighth in the series which presents estimates derived from data collected in the Hospital Discharge Survey, a continuous nationwide survey conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics. The estimates are based on information transcribed from the hospital medical records of a sample of short-stay general and special hospitals in the United States, exclusive of military and Veterans Administration hospitals and hospital units in institutions.

Out of the universe of 6,965 hospitals, a sample of 315 hospitals was drawn for the Hospital Discharge Survey in 1966; 300 hospitals participated during all or part of the year. Approximately 137,000 sample discharges were received and processed. (For a detailed description of the sample design, data collection procedures, and the estimation process, see appendix I.)

Since the estimates in this report are based on a sample of discharges from the hospitals participating in the survey rather than on all discharges (about 29 million) from all short-stay hospitals, they are subject to sampling error. Tables and graphs of approximate sampling errors and instructions for their use are given in the section "Reliability of Estimates" in appendix I.

Appendix II contains definitions of terms relating to hospitalization and to the characteristics of hospitals and patients used in this report. Since several of these terms have specialized meanings in the Hospital Discharge Survey, familiarity with the definitions will aid in interpreting the data.

### DISCHARGES AND DISCHARGE RATES

#### Sex and Age

An estimated 28.8 million inpatients were discharged from short-stay hospitals during 1966. The corresponding discharge rate was 150.3 per 1,000 persons in the civilian, noninstitutional population. Although the discharge rate for patients under age 15 was relatively low, the rate

for all patients under 1 year of age (232.5 per 1,000 population) was higher than the rate for any other age group under 65 years (table 1). Approximately 39 percent of the discharged patients under 1 year of age were classified as nonwell newborn infants.

The discharge rate for females (175.3 per 1,000 population) was approximately 43 percent higher than that for males (123.0 per 1,000 population). When deliveries were excluded, the rate for females of all ages was only 13 percent higher than the overall rate for males. As shown in figure 1, the effect of deliveries was also evident in the trend in the discharge rates by age. The rates for males and for females excluding deliveries increased consistently with advancing age.

The number of hospital discharges of persons aged 65 and over was 6.7 percent higher in 1966 than in 1965 (table A). There were 6 percent more discharges of the aged during the 6 months after the Medicare program began in July 1966 than in the first 6 months of 1966. The number of discharges of the aged in the first and second 6-month period of 1965 did not differ (unpublished estimates).

The discharge rate for persons aged 65 and over was 5 percent higher in 1966 than in 1965. The percent increase was about the same for both males and females. Accompanying the increase in the discharge rate for the aged was a 3 percent decrease in the rate for patients under 65 years of age. Since 83 percent of all discharged patients in 1966 were under 65 years of age, the overall discharge rate showed little change from that of 1965.

### Color

Based on estimates of the numbers of discharged patients for whom color was stated, white patients outnumbered all other patients by approximately 8 to 1 (23.0 million to 2.7 million). The two groups of patients differed with respect to age and sex (table 2). For example, about 18 percent of the white patients were 65 years and over compared with only about 10 percent of all other patients for whom color was stated. Of the white patients discharged, 58 percent were under 45 years of age; and of all other patients,

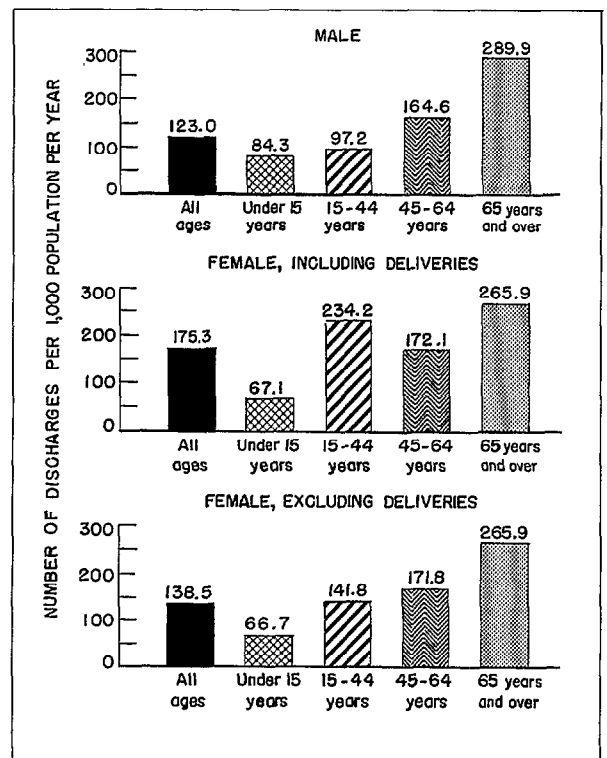


Figure 1. Number of discharges from short-stay hospitals per 1,000 population per year, by sex and age: United States, 1966.

74 percent were under 45. More deliveries for the latter group contributed to these differences. However, the relatively large number of discharges for which color of patient was not stated (3.1 million) limits the conclusions that can be drawn from these data and also explains why rates have not been computed by color of patient.

### Geographic Region

The number of discharges in 1966 by geographic region ranged from 4.6 million in the West Region to 9.1 million in the South Region (table 3). The discharge rates for all ages combined were higher in the North Central and South Regions. The disparity in the rates between regions was greatest for patients aged 65 and over as shown in table 4. The rate for the aged ranged from 246.1 per 1,000 population in the Northeast to 293.6 per 1,000 population in the North Central Region.

Table A. Comparison of selected measures of utilization of short-stay hospitals by patients in 1965 and 1966, by age and sex: United States

Year	All ages <sup>1</sup>			Under 65 years			65 years and over		
	Both sexes <sup>2</sup>	Male	Female	Both sexes <sup>2</sup>	Male	Female	Both sexes <sup>2</sup>	Male	Female
Number of discharges in thousands									
1965-----	29,120	11,361	17,709	24,377	9,188	15,152	4,601	2,114	2,474
1966-----	28,804	11,389	17,362	23,832	9,118	14,676	4,911	2,240	2,658
Number of discharges per 1,000 population per year									
1965-----	153.4	123.5	181.1	141.4	108.9	172.2	263.9	276.3	252.9
1966-----	150.3	123.0	175.3	137.0	107.4	164.8	277.1	289.9	265.9
Days of care in thousands									
1965-----	228,398	95,514	132,405	167,343	68,999	98,088	60,035	26,070	33,752
1966-----	234,055	99,081	134,405	167,863	70,149	97,387	65,791	28,748	36,812
Number of days of care per 1,000 population per year									
1965-----	1,203.4	1,038.3	1,353.9	970.9	818.1	1,114.5	3,443.6	3,407.0	3,450.1
1966-----	1,221.4	1,070.0	1,357.1	965.2	826.5	1,093.7	3,712.0	3,720.0	3,682.7
Average length of stay in days									
1965-----	7.8	8.4	7.5	6.9	7.5	6.5	13.0	12.3	13.6
1966-----	8.1	8.7	7.7	7.0	7.7	6.6	13.4	12.8	13.8

<sup>1</sup>Includes data for age not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes data for sex not stated.

With the exception of the West Region, the discharge rates for the aged were higher in 1966 than in 1965 (table B). The increase in the rates for the aged was greatest in the Northeast Region (12 percent). In comparison the discharge rates for patients under age 65 were slightly lower in 1966 than in 1965 in each of the four geographic regions.

#### Size of Hospital

In 1966 discharges from short-stay hospitals were distributed by size of hospital (number of beds) as follows:

Size of hospital	Discharges	
	Number in thousands	Percent distribution
All sizes-----	28,804	100.0
6-99 beds-----	6,965	24.2
100-199 beds-----	6,321	21.9
200-299 beds-----	5,260	18.3
300-499 beds-----	6,069	21.1
500 beds or more-----	4,187	14.5



Table B. Comparison of selected measures of utilization of short-stay hospitals by patients in 1965 and 1966, by age of patient and geographic region of hospital: United States

Region	1965			1966		
	All ages <sup>1</sup>	Under 65 years	65 years and over	All ages <sup>1</sup>	Under 65 years	65 years and over
Number of discharges per 1,000 population per year						
All regions-----	153.4	141.4	263.9	150.3	137.0	277.1
Northeast-----	140.3	130.7	220.3	137.3	125.0	246.1
North Central-----	160.4	146.6	285.2	160.4	145.8	293.6
South-----	160.8	148.4	278.4	154.1	140.5	291.6
West-----	147.3	135.4	272.8	145.2	133.4	271.0
Number of days of care per 1,000 population per year						
All regions-----	1,203.4	970.9	3,443.6	1,221.4	965.2	3,712.0
Northeast-----	1,270.0	1,023.6	3,430.1	1,308.9	1,020.2	3,885.0
North Central-----	1,317.7	1,037.8	3,930.4	1,355.5	1,061.9	4,078.2
South-----	1,157.1	954.7	3,214.2	1,134.3	918.0	3,369.5
West-----	994.5	812.2	2,970.3	1,024.9	809.8	3,350.2
Average length of stay in days						
All regions-----	7.8	6.9	13.0	8.1	7.0	13.4
Northeast-----	9.1	7.8	15.6	9.5	8.2	15.8
North Central-----	8.2	7.1	13.8	8.4	7.3	13.9
South-----	7.2	6.4	11.5	7.4	6.5	11.6
West-----	6.8	6.0	10.9	7.1	6.1	12.4

<sup>1</sup>Includes data for age not stated.

A detailed distribution of discharged patients by age and sex according to size of hospital is given in table 5. The age-sex composition of inpatients varied only slightly by size of hospital. The largest differences were for patients aged 65 and over. The proportion of aged patients discharged ranged from 15.2 percent in hospitals with 500 beds or more to 19.8 percent in hospitals maintaining fewer than 100 beds.

#### Type of Ownership (Control) of Hospital

Voluntary nonprofit hospitals, which include those operated by a church or another nonprofit organization, accounted for 72 percent of all discharges from nonmilitary short-stay hospitals in 1966; Government hospitals accounted for 20 percent and proprietary hospitals for 9 percent. The distribution of discharges by age and sex

of patient is shown for each of these three groups of hospitals in table 6.

## DAYS OF CARE AND LENGTH OF STAY

### Sex and Age

The 28.8 million patients who were discharged in 1966 had accumulated an estimated 234 million inpatient days at time of discharge. The rate for days of care was 1,221 days per 1,000 civilian, noninstitutional population (table 7).

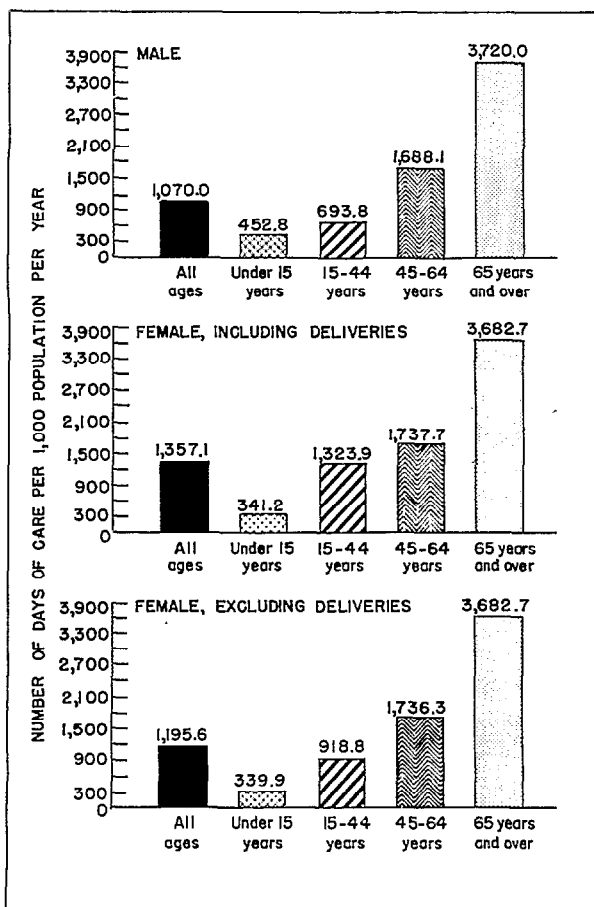


Figure 2. Number of days of care for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals per 1,000 population per year, by sex and age: United States, 1966.

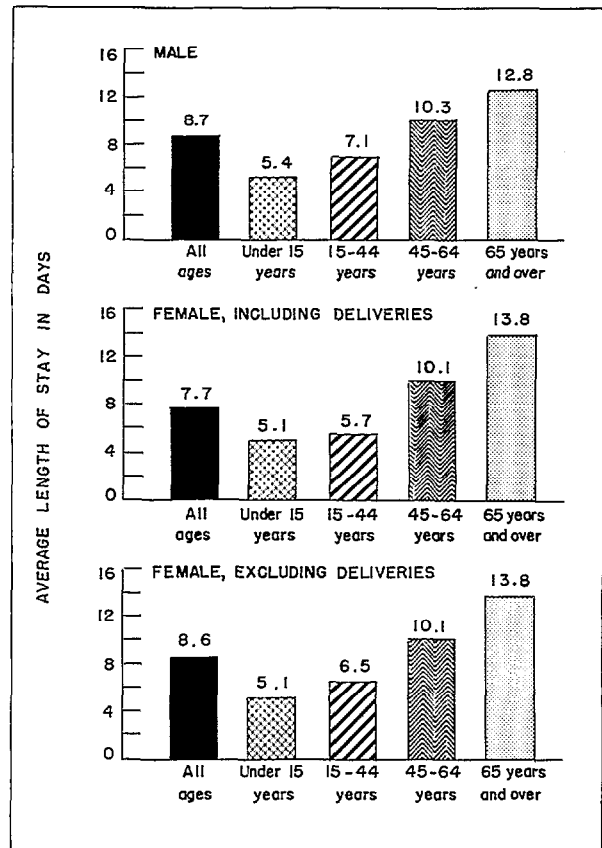


Figure 3. Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by sex and age: United States, 1966.

Rates of days of care for males and for females, both including and excluding deliveries, increased consistently with advancing age (figure 2). Deliveries had less impact on the rates of age-sex specific days of care than on discharge rates because of the relatively short period of hospitalization required. The inclusion of admissions for deliveries lowered the average length of stay of females 15-44 years of age by approximately 1 day (figure 3).

Table 8 shows that about 17 percent of females aged 15-44 (including those with deliveries) were discharged after 8 days or more of hospitalization. Over 25 percent of the women in this age group who were admitted for conditions other than obstetrical deliveries stayed longer than 7 days.

The number of hospital days for patients 65 and over was 10 percent higher in 1966 than in 1965. The rate for days of care increased almost 8 percent (table A). On the other hand, the total number of inpatient days in 1966 and the rates for discharged patients under 65 years of age were virtually unchanged.

The average length of stay of patients of all ages was slightly higher in 1966 than in 1965. This was due in part to an increase in the proportion of aged patients hospitalized; their average stay was nearly twice as long as that of patients under 65. The average stay in 1966 for the aged was 13.4 days compared with 7.0 days for the younger patients.

### Color

Based on data for which color of patient was stated, there were differences between the distribution of days of care and in the average length of stay for white patients and all others (tables 9 and 10). For example, among white patients discharged, approximately 2 out of every 5 days of care were provided patients under 45 years of age; among all other 3 out of every 5 days were provided patients in this age group. In addition, the average duration of hospitalization for white patients in each age group was shorter than that for other patients.

These differences should be examined with caution, however, since 23.0 million days of care, or 10 percent of the total, were provided patients for whom color was not stated. It should be recognized also that the sampling errors associated with estimates of hospital utilization by all other patients were much larger than those associated with estimates for white patients.

### Geographic Region

The estimated number of days of care per 1,000 persons of all ages ranged from 1,025 in the West Region to 1,356 in the North Central Region. The greatest variation in the rates by age within the regions occurred among persons 65 years and over. Rates of days of care for this age group ranged from 3,350 in the West to 4,078 in the North Central Region. The average

length of stay was generally higher in the Northeast and North Central Regions (tables 11-13).

The increased utilization of short-stay hospitals in 1966 by persons 65 years and over was evident in each of the four geographic regions. Rates of days of care for the aged in the North Central and South Regions were 4 and 5 percent higher, respectively, than the comparable 1965 rates, and rates for the aged in the Northeast and in the West Region were 13 percent higher (table B).

Average length of stay for the aged increased in the West Region by 1.5 days. In 1966 the average length of stay of patients 65 years and over in the West Region was 12.4 days compared with 10.9 days in 1965. In each of the other regions the average length of stay of the aged was virtually the same in both years.

For patients under 65 years of age, rates of days of care and the average length of stay in each of the four geographic regions showed little change from 1965 to 1966 (table B).

### Size of Hospital

In 1966 days of care were distributed by size of hospital as follows:

Size of hospital	Days of care	
	Number in thousands	Percent distribution
All sizes-----	234,055	100.0
6-99 beds-----	47,419	20.3
100-199 beds-----	46,032	19.7
200-299 beds-----	43,632	18.6
300-499 beds-----	51,425	22.0
500 beds or more-----	45,547	19.5

The greatest variation in the percent distribution of days of care by age of patient and size of hospital was for patients aged 65 years and over (table 14). The proportion of total days

provided aged patients ranged from 23.9 percent in hospitals with 500 beds or more to 34.7 percent in hospitals with fewer than 100 beds.

The overall average length of stay varied directly with size of hospital and ranged from a low of 6.8 days in hospitals of 6-99 beds to a high of 10.9 days in hospitals of 500 beds or more. In addition, average length of stay by age increased generally with size of hospital (table 15). Average length of stay for patients 65 years and over by size of hospital showed little change from 1965 to 1966 except in hospitals with 500 beds or more (figure 4).

### Type of Ownership (Control) of Hospital

Voluntary nonprofit hospitals provided over 72 percent of all inpatient days accumulated by patients discharged from nonmilitary short-stay hospitals in 1966; government hospitals accounted for 21 percent and proprietary hospitals for about 7 percent. The estimated number of hospital days provided by these three groups of hospitals are distributed by age and sex of patient in table 16. The average duration of inpatient stay by age and sex was consistently shorter in proprietary hospitals (table 17).

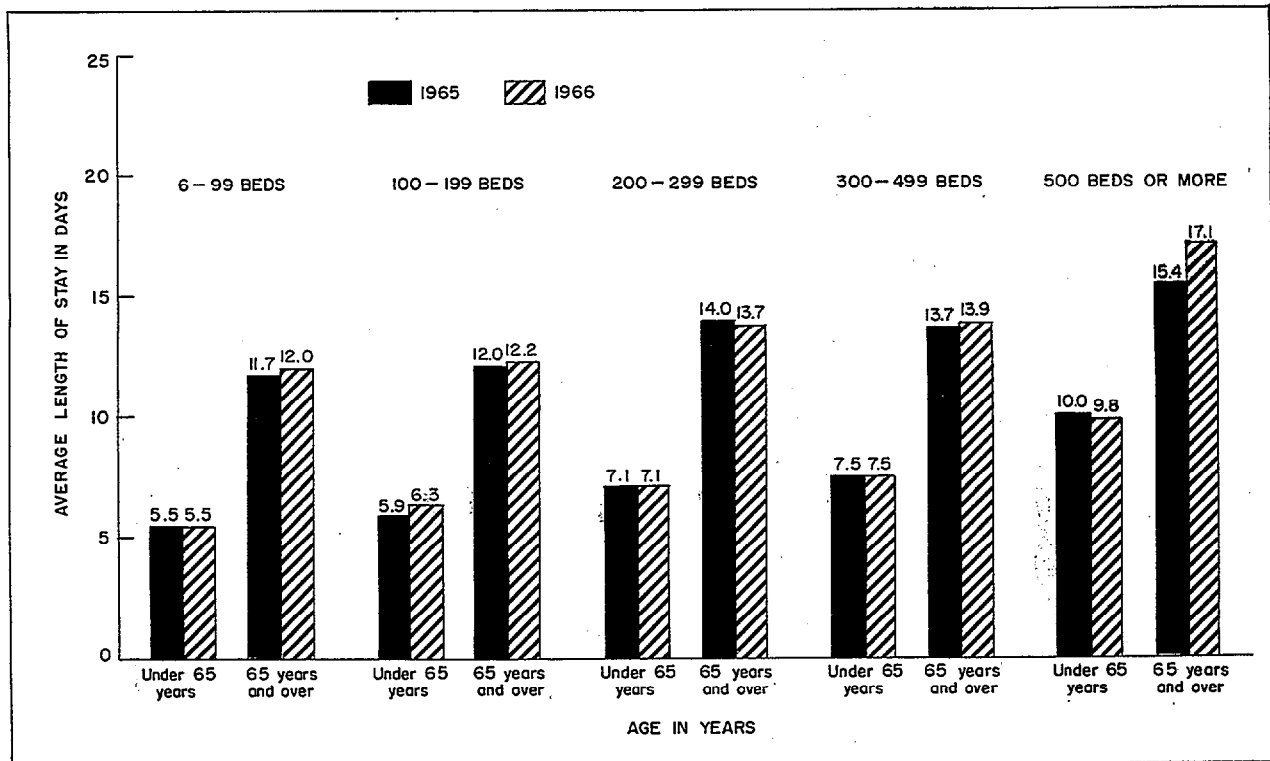


Figure 4. Average length of stay for patients under 65 years of age and 65 years and over discharged from short-stay hospitals, by size of hospital: United States, 1965 and 1966.

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<sup>2</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals by characteristics of discharged patients, United States, 1965. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 13-No. 3. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Dec. 1967.

<sup>3</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by size and type of ownership, United States, 1965. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 13-No. 4. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Dec. 1968.

<sup>4</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Regional utilization of short-stay hospitals, United States, 1965. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 13-No. 5. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, June 1969.

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<sup>7</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Development and maintenance of a national inventory of hospitals and institutions. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 1-No. 3. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Feb. 1965.



## LIST OF DETAILED TABLES

		Page
Table 1.	Number, percent distribution, and annual rate of discharges from short-stay hospitals, by sex and age: United States, 1966-----	10
2.	Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by color and age, according to sex: United States, 1966-----	11
3.	Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by geographic region and age, according to sex: United States, 1966-----	12
4.	Annual rate of discharges from short-stay hospitals by geographic region, age, and sex: United States, 1966-----	13
5.	Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by size of hospital and age, according to sex: United States, 1966-----	14
6.	Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by type of ownership (control) of hospital and age, according to sex: United States, 1966-----	15
7.	Number, percent distribution, annual rate of days of care, and average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by sex and age: United States, 1966-----	16
8.	Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by length of stay, according to age and sex: United States, 1966-----	17
9.	Number and percent distribution of days of care for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by color and age, according to sex: United States, 1966----	19
10.	Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by color, age, and sex: United States, 1966-----	20
11.	Number and percent distribution of days of care for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by geographic region and age, according to sex: United States, 1966-----	21
12.	Annual rate of days of care for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by geographic region, age, and sex: United States, 1966-----	22
13.	Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by geographic region, age, and sex: United States, 1966-----	23
14.	Number and percent distribution of days of care for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by size of hospital and age, according to sex: United States, 1966-----	24
15.	Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by size of hospital, age, and sex: United States, 1966-----	25
16.	Number and percent distribution of days of care for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by type of ownership (control) of hospital and age, according to sex: United States, 1966-----	26
17.	Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by type of ownership (control) of hospital, age, and sex: United States, 1966-----	27

Table 1. Number, percent distribution, and annual rate of discharges from short-stay hospitals, by sex and age: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Sex and age	Discharges		
	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Rate per 1,000 population
<u>Both sexes</u> <sup>1</sup>			
All ages-----	28,804	100.0	150.3
Under 1 year-----	849	2.9	232.5
Newborn-----	327	1.1	...
Other infants-----	522	1.8	...
1-4 years-----	1,337	4.6	82.8
5-14 years-----	2,365	8.2	59.0
15-24 years-----	4,937	17.1	165.8
25-34 years-----	4,114	14.3	190.2
35-44 years-----	3,641	12.6	154.2
45-54 years-----	3,498	12.1	159.0
55-64 years-----	3,091	10.7	181.6
65-74 years-----	2,678	9.3	236.5
75 years and over-----	2,233	7.8	348.8
Not stated-----	61	0.2	...
<u>Male</u>			
All ages-----	11,389	100.0	123.0
Under 1 year-----	497	4.4	267.1
Newborn-----	186	1.6	...
Other infants-----	312	2.7	...
1-4 years-----	766	6.7	93.0
5-14 years-----	1,305	11.5	64.1
15-24 years-----	1,200	10.5	85.2
25-34 years-----	992	8.7	96.4
35-44 years-----	1,277	11.2	113.0
45-54 years-----	1,504	13.2	141.8
55-64 years-----	1,576	13.8	194.4
65-74 years-----	1,267	11.1	250.8
75 years and over-----	973	8.5	363.6
Not stated-----	31	0.3	...
<u>Female</u>			
All ages-----	17,362	100.0	175.3
Under 1 year-----	350	2.0	195.6
Newborn infants-----	140	0.8	...
Other infants-----	209	1.2	...
1-4 years-----	568	3.3	71.9
5-14 years-----	1,054	6.1	53.5
15-24 years-----	3,732	21.5	238.0
25-34 years-----	3,119	18.0	275.1
35-44 years-----	2,358	13.6	191.6
45-54 years-----	1,987	11.4	174.4
55-64 years-----	1,509	8.7	169.2
65-74 years-----	1,405	8.1	224.1
75 years and over-----	1,253	7.2	336.4
Not stated-----	28	0.2	...

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

Table 2. Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by color and age, according to sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Color and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>Total</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup>	28,804	11,389	17,362	13,714	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	4,551	2,569	1,972	1,962	15.8	22.6	11.4	14.3
15-44 years-----	12,693	3,470	9,208	5,577	44.1	30.5	53.0	40.7
45-64 years-----	6,589	3,079	3,496	3,489	22.9	27.0	20.1	25.4
65+ years-----	4,911	2,240	2,658	2,658	17.0	19.7	15.3	19.4
<u>White</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup>	22,969	9,230	13,710	11,037	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	3,569	2,019	1,546	1,543	15.5	21.9	11.3	14.0
15-44 years-----	9,784	2,758	7,015	4,351	42.6	29.9	51.2	39.4
45-64 years-----	5,456	2,549	2,898	2,893	23.8	27.6	21.1	26.2
65+ years-----	4,114	1,879	2,228	2,228	17.9	20.4	16.2	20.2
<u>All other</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup>	2,739	966	1,769	1,217	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	485	273	212	206	17.7	28.2	12.0	16.9
15-44 years-----	1,536	343	1,192	647	56.1	35.5	67.4	53.2
45-64 years-----	446	215	231	229	16.3	22.2	13.0	18.8
65+ years-----	266	132	132	132	9.7	13.7	7.5	10.8
<u>Color not stated</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup>	3,095	1,193	1,883	1,460	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	496	277	214	213	16.0	23.2	11.4	14.6
15-44 years-----	1,373	369	1,000	579	44.4	30.9	53.1	39.7
45-64 years-----	687	315	367	367	22.2	26.4	19.5	25.1
65+ years-----	531	229	298	298	17.2	19.2	15.8	20.4

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.



Table 3. Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by geographic region and age, according to sex: United States, 1966.

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Region and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>All regions</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	28,804	11,389	17,362	13,714	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	4,551	2,569	1,972	1,962	15.8	22.6	11.4	14.3
15-44 years-----	12,693	3,470	9,208	5,577	44.1	30.5	53.0	40.7
45-64 years-----	6,589	3,079	3,496	3,489	22.9	27.0	20.1	25.4
65+ years-----	4,911	2,240	2,658	2,658	17.0	19.7	15.3	19.4
<u>Northeast</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	6,449	2,544	3,892	3,039	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	1,082	619	461	459	16.8	24.3	11.8	15.1
15-44 years-----	2,688	687	1,997	1,147	41.7	27.0	51.3	37.7
45-64 years-----	1,512	712	796	794	23.4	28.0	20.5	26.1
65+ years-----	1,155	519	633	633	17.9	20.4	16.3	20.8
<u>North Central</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	8,654	3,420	5,215	4,114	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	1,457	827	626	622	16.8	24.2	12.0	15.1
15-44 years-----	3,719	1,002	2,711	1,616	43.0	29.3	52.0	39.3
45-64 years-----	1,930	883	1,043	1,042	22.3	25.8	20.0	25.3
65+ years-----	1,532	699	829	829	17.7	20.4	15.9	20.2
<u>South</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	9,129	3,619	5,493	4,418	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	1,354	744	608	604	14.8	20.6	11.1	13.7
15-44 years-----	4,178	1,191	2,982	1,913	45.8	32.9	54.3	43.3
45-64 years-----	2,065	976	1,085	1,083	22.6	27.0	19.8	24.5
65+ years-----	1,506	696	806	806	16.5	19.2	14.7	18.2
<u>West</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	4,572	1,805	2,762	2,142	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	658	379	278	277	14.4	21.0	10.1	12.9
15-44 years-----	2,108	589	1,518	901	46.1	32.6	55.0	42.1
45-64 years-----	1,081	508	572	570	23.6	28.1	20.7	26.6
65+ years-----	718	326	390	390	15.7	18.0	14.1	18.2

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 4. Annual rate of discharges from short-stay hospitals by geographic region, age, and sex:  
United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Region and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
Number of discharges per 1,000 population per year				
<u>All Regions</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	150.3	123.0	175.3	138.5
Under 15 years -----	76.0	84.3	67.1	66.7
15-44 years -----	169.2	97.2	234.2	141.8
45-64 years -----	168.8	164.6	172.1	171.8
65 years and over -----	277.1	289.9	265.9	265.9
<u>Northeast</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	137.3	112.8	159.4	124.5
Under 15 years -----	79.2	89.0	68.7	68.5
15-44 years -----	148.4	79.8	210.2	120.7
45-64 years -----	144.0	143.2	143.9	143.6
65 years and over -----	246.1	257.7	236.4	236.4
<u>North Central</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	160.4	130.1	188.6	148.8
Under 15 years -----	85.7	95.5	75.1	74.6
15-44 years -----	179.7	100.3	253.3	151.0
45-64 years -----	174.9	165.1	183.5	183.3
65 years and over -----	293.6	304.2	283.9	283.9
<u>South</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	154.1	127.4	178.2	143.3
Under 15 years -----	70.8	76.7	64.6	64.1
15-44 years -----	176.7	107.3	237.8	152.6
45-64 years -----	182.6	182.3	182.1	181.7
65 years and over -----	291.6	309.9	276.2	276.2
<u>West</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	145.2	117.7	171.0	132.6
Under 15 years -----	65.1	73.8	56.0	55.9
15-44 years -----	167.6	98.3	230.7	137.0
45-64 years -----	175.3	167.2	182.5	181.9
65 years and over -----	271.0	278.7	263.5	263.5

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharged data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharged data for which age was not stated.

Table 5. Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by size of hospital and age, according to sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Size of hospital and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>All sizes</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	28,804	11,389	17,362	13,714	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	4,551	2,569	1,972	1,962	15.8	22.6	11.4	14.3
15-44 years-----	12,693	3,470	9,208	5,577	44.1	30.5	53.0	40.7
45-64 years-----	6,589	3,079	3,496	3,489	22.9	27.0	20.1	25.4
65+ years-----	4,911	2,240	2,658	2,658	17.0	19.7	15.3	19.4
<u>6-99 beds</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	6,965	2,706	4,242	3,415	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	1,017	567	448	445	14.6	20.9	10.5	13.0
15-44 years-----	3,005	842	2,158	1,335	43.1	31.1	50.9	39.1
45-64 years-----	1,551	694	853	851	22.3	25.6	20.1	24.9
65+ years-----	1,376	595	776	776	19.8	22.0	18.3	22.7
<u>100-199 beds</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	6,321	2,511	3,800	2,979	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	1,114	624	488	486	17.6	24.8	12.9	16.3
15-44 years-----	2,777	756	2,018	1,202	43.9	30.1	53.1	40.4
45-64 years-----	1,383	650	730	728	21.9	25.9	19.2	24.4
65+ years-----	1,034	473	558	558	16.4	18.8	14.7	18.7
<u>200-299 beds</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	5,260	2,108	3,145	2,498	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	806	459	346	345	15.3	21.8	11.0	13.8
15-44 years-----	2,272	631	1,638	995	43.2	29.9	52.1	39.8
45-64 years-----	1,253	590	662	659	23.8	28.0	21.0	26.4
65+ years-----	920	423	494	494	17.5	20.1	15.7	19.8
<u>300-499 beds</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	6,069	2,365	3,692	2,911	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	988	559	426	425	16.3	23.7	11.5	14.6
15-44 years-----	2,678	704	1,971	1,190	44.1	29.8	53.4	40.9
45-64 years-----	1,444	657	784	783	23.8	27.8	21.2	26.9
65+ years-----	944	437	504	504	15.6	18.5	13.7	17.3
<u>500+ beds</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	4,187	1,699	2,483	1,911	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	626	360	265	260	14.9	21.2	10.7	13.6
15-44 years-----	1,960	536	1,423	855	46.8	31.6	57.3	44.8
45-64 years-----	958	488	467	467	22.9	28.7	18.8	24.4
65+ years-----	637	311	325	325	15.2	18.3	13.1	17.0

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 6. Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by type of ownership (control) of hospital and age, according to sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Type of ownership and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>All types</u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	28,804	11,389	17,362	13,714	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	4,551	2,569	1,972	1,962	15.8	22.6	11.4	14.3
15-44 years-----	12,693	3,470	9,208	5,577	44.1	30.5	53.0	40.7
45-64 years-----	6,589	3,079	3,496	3,489	22.9	27.0	20.1	25.4
65+ years-----	4,911	2,240	2,658	2,658	17.0	19.7	15.3	19.4
<u>Voluntary nonprofit</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	20,609	8,128	12,447	9,812	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	3,312	1,873	1,433	1,427	16.1	23.0	11.5	14.5
15-44 years-----	8,909	2,367	6,532	3,908	43.2	29.1	52.5	39.8
45-64 years-----	4,810	2,247	2,554	2,550	23.3	27.6	20.5	26.0
65+ years-----	3,537	1,621	1,908	1,908	17.2	19.9	15.3	19.4
<u>Government</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	5,629	2,259	3,356	2,586	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	829	467	359	354	14.7	20.7	10.7	13.7
15-44 years-----	2,632	747	1,881	1,117	46.8	33.1	56.0	43.2
45-64 years-----	1,170	577	590	588	20.8	25.5	17.6	22.7
65+ years-----	985	461	521	521	17.5	20.4	15.5	20.2
<u>Proprietary</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> -	2,566	1,002	1,559	1,316	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	410	229	180	180	16.0	22.8	11.6	13.7
15-44 years-----	1,151	356	795	552	44.9	35.5	51.0	42.0
45-64 years-----	608	255	352	352	23.7	25.5	22.6	26.7
65+ years-----	388	158	228	228	15.1	15.8	14.6	17.4

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 7. Number, percent distribution, annual rate of days of care and average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by sex and age: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Sex and age	Days of care			Average length of stay in days
	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Rate per 1,000 population	
<u>Both sexes</u> <sup>1</sup>				
All ages-----	234,055	100.0	1,221.4	8.1
Under 1 year-----	7,296	3.1	1,999.3	8.6
Newborn-----	3,602	1.5	...	11.0
Other infants-----	3,693	1.6	...	7.1
1-4 years-----	6,041	2.6	374.1	4.5
5-14 years-----	10,536	4.5	262.9	4.5
15-24 years-----	25,006	10.7	839.8	5.1
25-34 years-----	24,254	10.4	1,121.4	5.9
35-44 years-----	27,661	11.8	1,171.2	7.6
45-54 years-----	32,908	14.1	1,495.9	9.4
55-64 years-----	34,161	14.6	2,006.8	11.1
65-74 years-----	33,618	14.4	2,969.0	12.6
75 years and over-----	32,172	13.7	5,026.1	14.4
Not stated-----	402	0.2	...	6.6
<u>Male</u>				
All ages-----	99,081	100.0	1,070.0	8.7
Under 1 year-----	4,169	4.2	2,239.0	8.4
Newborn-----	2,026	2.0	...	10.9
Other infants-----	2,143	2.2	...	6.9
1-4 years-----	3,468	3.5	420.8	4.5
5-14 years-----	6,153	6.2	302.3	4.7
15-24 years-----	7,402	7.5	525.1	6.2
25-34 years-----	6,933	7.0	673.6	7.0
35-44 years-----	10,435	10.5	922.7	8.2
45-54 years-----	14,134	14.3	1,332.6	9.4
55-64 years-----	17,455	17.6	2,153.3	11.1
65-74 years-----	15,760	15.9	3,120.2	12.4
75 years and over-----	12,988	13.1	4,851.6	13.3
Not stated-----	184	0.2	...	6.0
<u>Female</u>				
All ages-----	134,405	100.0	1,357.1	7.7
Under 1 year-----	3,120	2.3	1,746.1	8.9
Newborn-----	1,573	1.2	...	11.2
Other infants-----	1,548	1.2	...	7.4
1-4 years-----	2,552	1.9	322.9	4.5
5-14 years-----	4,361	3.2	221.2	4.1
15-24 years-----	17,572	13.1	1,120.6	4.7
25-34 years-----	17,301	12.9	1,526.5	5.5
35-44 years-----	17,187	12.8	1,396.4	7.3
45-54 years-----	18,676	13.9	1,639.2	9.4
55-64 years-----	16,618	12.4	1,863.6	11.0
65-74 years-----	17,782	13.2	2,835.2	12.7
75 years and over-----	19,030	14.2	5,110.0	15.2
Not stated-----	206	0.2	...	7.3

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

Table 8. Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by length of stay, according to age and sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Age and length of stay	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>All ages<sup>2</sup></u>	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
All stays-----	28,804	11,389	17,362	13,714	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 day or less---	2,959	1,363	1,590	1,467	10.3	12.0	9.2	10.7
2 days-----	3,966	1,618	2,341	1,957	13.8	14.2	13.5	14.3
3 days-----	3,689	1,171	2,513	1,561	12.8	10.3	14.5	11.4
4 days-----	3,234	1,012	2,216	1,244	11.2	8.9	12.8	9.1
5 days-----	2,636	904	1,727	1,016	9.2	7.9	9.9	7.4
6 days-----	1,839	736	1,100	868	6.4	6.5	6.3	6.3
7 days-----	1,517	650	865	760	5.3	5.7	5.0	5.5
8-14 days-----	5,397	2,284	3,103	2,953	18.7	20.1	17.9	21.5
15-21 days-----	1,736	783	950	941	6.0	6.9	5.5	6.9
22-28 days-----	722	368	403	400	2.7	3.2	2.3	2.9
29+ days-----	1,058	500	556	547	3.7	4.4	3.2	4.0
<u>Under 15 years</u>								
All stays-----	4,551	2,569	1,972	1,962	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 day or less---	1,023	569	451	451	22.5	22.2	22.9	23.0
2 days-----	1,114	622	490	489	24.5	24.2	24.9	24.9
3 days-----	527	291	235	231	11.6	11.3	11.9	11.8
4 days-----	411	236	174	172	9.0	9.2	8.8	8.8
5 days-----	317	182	134	132	7.0	7.1	6.8	6.7
6 days-----	236	137	99	98	5.2	5.3	5.0	5.0
7 days-----	177	101	75	75	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.8
8-14 days-----	481	275	206	206	10.6	10.7	10.4	10.5
15-21 days-----	122	72	51	51	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.6
22-28 days-----	57	34	23	23	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.2
29+ days-----	86	50	35	35	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.8
<u>15-44 years</u>								
All stays-----	12,693	3,470	9,208	5,577	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 day or less---	1,253	441	810	689	9.9	12.7	8.8	12.3
2 days-----	1,900	543	1,355	973	15.0	15.6	14.7	17.4
3 days-----	2,184	438	1,744	798	17.2	12.6	18.9	14.3
4 days-----	1,917	367	1,547	579	15.1	10.6	16.8	10.4
5 days-----	1,471	312	1,158	449	11.6	9.0	12.6	8.0
6 days-----	863	256	607	377	6.8	7.4	6.6	6.8
7 days-----	601	194	407	303	4.7	5.6	4.4	5.4
8-14 days-----	1,772	604	1,165	1,015	14.0	17.4	12.7	18.2
15-21 days-----	390	160	229	220	3.1	4.6	2.5	3.9
22-28 days-----	141	63	78	75	1.1	1.8	0.9	1.4
29+ days-----	200	91	109	99	1.6	2.6	1.2	1.8

Table 8. Number and percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by length of stay, according to age and sex: United States, 1966—Con.

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Age and length of stay	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
	Number of patients discharged in thousands				Percent distribution			
<u>45-64 years</u>								
All stays-----	6,589	3,079	3,496	3,489	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 day or less---	409	216	193	192	6.2	7.0	5.5	5.5
2 days-----	649	304	343	342	9.8	9.9	9.8	9.8
3 days-----	645	284	359	357	9.8	9.2	10.3	10.2
4 days-----	558	259	297	295	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.5
5 days-----	521	251	269	268	7.9	8.1	7.7	7.7
6 days-----	449	213	235	234	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.7
7 days-----	422	206	215	215	6.4	6.7	6.2	6.2
8-14 days-----	1,750	775	972	972	26.6	25.2	27.8	27.9
15-21 days-----	595	277	317	317	9.0	9.0	9.1	9.1
22-28 days-----	261	129	131	131	4.0	4.2	3.8	3.8
29+ days-----	331	165	164	164	5.0	5.4	4.7	4.7
<u>65+ years</u>								
All stays-----	4,911	2,240	2,658	2,658	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 day or less---	262	131	131	131	5.3	5.8	4.9	4.9
2 days-----	294	144	148	148	6.0	6.4	5.6	5.6
3 days-----	327	154	172	172	6.7	6.9	6.5	6.5
4 days-----	343	148	195	195	7.0	6.6	7.3	7.3
5 days-----	320	155	164	164	6.5	6.9	6.2	6.2
6 days-----	289	129	158	158	5.9	5.8	6.0	6.0
7 days-----	314	147	166	166	6.4	6.6	6.3	6.3
8-14 days-----	1,383	625	754	754	28.2	27.9	28.4	28.4
15-21 days-----	628	273	353	353	12.8	12.2	13.3	13.3
22-28 days-----	312	141	170	170	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.4
29+ days-----	439	192	246	246	8.9	8.6	9.3	9.3

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 9. Number and percent distribution of days of care for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by color and age, according to sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Color and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>Total</u>	Number of days of care in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup> --	234,055	99,081	134,405	118,405	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years-	23,872	13,790	10,034	9,995	10.2	13.9	7.5	8.4
15-44 years----	76,921	24,770	52,059	36,128	32.9	25.0	38.7	30.5
45-64 years----	67,069	31,588	35,294	35,264	28.7	31.9	26.3	29.8
65+ years-----	65,791	28,748	36,812	36,812	28.1	29.0	27.4	31.1
<u>White</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> --	186,599	79,514	106,777	94,659	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years-	17,555	10,370	7,174	7,163	9.4	13.0	6.7	7.6
15-44 years----	59,101	19,212	39,837	27,751	31.7	24.2	37.3	29.3
45-64 years----	54,286	25,544	28,655	28,632	29.1	32.1	26.8	30.2
65+ years-----	55,344	24,241	30,947	30,947	29.7	30.5	29.0	32.7
<u>All other</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> --	24,495	10,307	14,123	11,929	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years-	4,126	2,182	1,938	1,913	16.8	21.2	13.7	16.0
15-44 years----	10,055	3,171	6,878	4,715	41.1	30.8	48.7	39.5
45-64 years----	6,123	2,995	3,104	3,098	25.0	29.1	22.0	26.0
65+ years-----	4,151	1,935	2,188	2,188	16.9	18.8	15.5	18.3
<u>Color not stated</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> --	22,962	9,261	13,506	11,818	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years-	2,191	1,238	922	919	9.5	13.4	6.8	7.8
15-44 years----	7,765	2,387	5,345	3,662	33.8	25.8	39.6	31.0
45-64 years----	6,660	3,050	3,535	3,534	29.0	32.9	26.2	29.9
65+ years-----	6,296	2,572	3,677	3,677	27.4	27.8	27.2	31.1

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.



Table 10. Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by color, age, and sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Color and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>Total</u>	Average length of stay in days			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.1	8.7	7.7	8.6
Under 15 years-----	5.2	5.4	5.1	5.1
15-44 years-----	6.1	7.1	5.7	6.5
45-64 years-----	10.2	10.3	10.1	10.1
65 years and over-----	13.4	12.8	13.8	13.8
<u>White</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.1	8.6	7.8	8.6
Under 15 years-----	4.9	5.1	4.6	4.6
15-44 years-----	6.0	7.0	5.7	6.4
45-64 years-----	10.0	10.0	9.9	9.9
65 years and over-----	13.5	12.9	13.9	13.9
<u>All other</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.9	10.7	8.0	9.8
Under 15 years-----	8.5	8.0	9.1	9.3
15-44 years-----	6.5	9.2	5.8	7.3
45-64 years-----	13.7	14.0	13.5	13.5
65 years and over-----	15.6	14.6	16.6	16.6
<u>Color not stated</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	7.4	7.8	7.2	8.1
Under 15 years-----	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.3
15-44 years-----	5.7	6.5	5.3	6.3
45-64 years-----	9.7	9.7	9.6	9.6
65 years and over-----	11.9	11.3	12.3	12.3

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 11. Number and percent distribution of days of care for inpatients discharged from short-stay hospitals by geographic region and age, according to sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Region and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>All regions</u>	Number of days of care in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2</sup> --	234,055	99,081	134,405	118,405	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	23,872	13,790	10,034	9,995	10.2	13.9	7.5	8.4
15-44 years----	76,921	24,770	52,059	36,128	32.9	25.0	38.7	30.5
45-64 years----	67,069	31,588	35,294	35,264	28.7	31.9	26.3	29.8
65+ years-----	65,791	28,748	36,812	36,812	28.1	29.0	27.4	31.1
<u>Northeast</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> --	61,470	26,430	34,826	30,392	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	6,089	3,458	2,620	2,614	9.9	13.1	7.5	8.6
15-44 years----	18,527	6,078	12,430	8,012	30.1	23.0	35.7	26.4
45-54 years----	18,509	8,943	9,494	9,483	30.1	33.8	27.3	31.2
65+ years-----	18,229	7,891	10,226	10,226	29.7	29.9	29.4	33.6
<u>North Central</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> --	73,120	30,619	42,323	37,248	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	8,032	4,759	3,243	3,225	11.0	15.5	7.7	8.7
15-44 years----	23,035	7,212	15,787	10,735	31.5	23.6	37.3	28.8
45-64 years----	20,672	9,434	11,181	11,176	28.3	30.8	26.4	30.0
65+ years-----	21,284	9,168	12,064	12,064	29.1	29.9	28.5	32.4
<u>South</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> --	67,193	28,271	38,793	34,672	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	6,946	3,888	3,054	3,040	10.3	13.8	7.9	8.8
15-44 years----	24,256	7,769	16,453	12,353	36.1	27.5	42.4	35.6
45-64 years----	18,441	8,766	9,626	9,618	27.4	31.0	24.8	27.7
65+ years-----	17,403	7,780	9,590	9,590	25.9	27.5	24.7	27.7
<u>West</u>								
All ages <sup>2</sup> --	32,273	13,761	18,463	16,093	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years--	2,806	1,685	1,118	1,116	8.7	12.2	6.1	6.9
15-44 years----	11,102	3,712	7,389	5,027	34.4	27.0	40.0	31.2
45-64 years----	9,448	4,445	4,993	4,986	29.3	32.3	27.0	31.0
65+ years-----	8,875	3,909	4,932	4,932	27.5	28.4	26.7	30.6

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 12. Annual rate of days of care for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by geographic region, age, and sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Region and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>All regions</u>				
Number of days of care per 1,000 population per year				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	1,221.4	1,070.0	1,357.1	1,195.6
Under 15 years-----	398.8	452.8	341.2	339.9
15-44 years-----	1,025.3	693.8	1,323.9	918.8
45-64 years-----	1,718.8	1,688.1	1,737.7	1,736.3
65 years and over-----	3,712.0	3,720.0	3,682.7	3,682.7
<u>Northeast</u>				
All ages-----	1,308.9	1,172.0	1,426.5	1,244.8
Under 15 years-----	446.0	497.4	390.9	390.0
15-44 years-----	1,022.8	705.7	1,308.1	843.2
45-64 years-----	1,761.9	1,798.6	1,715.8	1,714.0
65 years and over-----	3,885.0	3,916.4	3,820.1	3,820.1
<u>North Central</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	1,355.5	1,164.4	1,530.9	1,347.3
Under 15 years-----	472.5	549.5	388.9	386.8
15-44 years-----	1,113.2	722.0	1,475.0	1,003.0
45-64 years-----	1,873.7	1,764.0	1,966.7	1,965.8
65 years and over-----	4,078.2	3,989.4	4,130.0	4,130.0
<u>South</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	1,134.3	995.0	1,258.5	1,124.8
Under 15 years-----	363.3	400.6	324.4	323.0
15-44 years-----	1,025.9	699.5	1,312.4	985.3
45-64 years-----	1,630.2	1,637.0	1,615.9	1,614.6
65 years and over-----	3,369.5	3,464.1	3,286.4	3,286.4
<u>West</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	1,024.9	897.2	1,143.1	996.4
Under 15 years-----	277.8	327.7	225.5	225.1
15-44 years-----	883.1	619.6	1,122.9	764.0
45-64 years-----	1,531.2	1,463.7	1,593.2	1,591.1
65 years and over-----	3,350.2	3,343.5	3,332.6	3,332.6

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 13. Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by geographic region, age, and sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Region and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>All regions</u>				
Average length of stay in days				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.1	8.7	7.7	8.6
Under 15 years-----	5.2	5.4	5.1	5.1
15-44 years-----	6.1	7.1	5.7	6.5
45-64 years-----	10.2	10.3	10.1	10.1
65 years and over-----	13.4	12.8	13.8	13.8
<u>Northeast</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	9.5	10.4	8.9	10.0
Under 15 years-----	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.7
15-44 years-----	6.9	8.8	6.2	7.0
45-64 years-----	12.2	12.6	11.9	11.9
65 years and over-----	15.8	15.2	16.2	16.2
<u>North Central</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.4	9.0	8.1	9.1
Under 15 years-----	5.5	5.8	5.2	5.2
15-44 years-----	6.2	7.2	5.8	6.6
45-64 years-----	10.7	10.7	10.7	10.7
65 years and over-----	13.9	13.1	14.5	14.5
<u>South</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	7.4	7.8	7.1	7.8
Under 15 years-----	5.1	5.2	5.0	5.0
15-44 years-----	5.8	6.5	5.5	6.5
45-64 years-----	8.9	9.0	8.9	8.9
65 years and over-----	11.6	11.2	11.9	11.9
<u>West</u>				
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	7.1	7.6	6.7	7.5
Under 15 years-----	4.3	4.4	4.0	4.0
15-44 years-----	5.3	6.3	4.9	5.6
45-64 years-----	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.7
65 years and over-----	12.4	12.0	12.6	12.6

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 14. Number and percent distribution of days of care for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by size of hospital and age, according to sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Size of hospital and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>All sizes</u>	Number of days of care in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2-</sup>	234,055	99,081	134,405	118,405	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years-	23,872	13,790	10,034	9,995	10.2	13.9	7.5	8.4
15-44 years---	76,921	24,770	52,059	36,128	32.9	25.0	38.7	30.5
45-64 years---	67,069	31,588	35,294	35,264	28.7	31.9	26.3	29.8
65+ years-----	65,791	28,748	36,812	36,812	28.1	29.0	27.4	31.1
<u>6-99 beds</u>	Number of days of care in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2-</sup>	47,419	18,140	29,083	26,050	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years	3,998	2,269	1,719	1,713	8.4	12.5	5.9	6.6
15-44 years---	14,616	4,252	10,342	7,322	30.8	23.4	35.6	28.1
45-64 years---	12,243	5,034	7,184	7,178	25.8	27.7	24.7	27.6
65+ years-----	16,477	6,544	9,794	9,794	34.7	36.1	33.7	37.6
<u>100-199 beds</u>	Number of days of care in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2-</sup>	46,032	19,856	26,052	22,524	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years	5,219	2,989	2,221	2,212	11.3	15.1	8.5	9.8
15-44 years---	15,486	5,209	10,250	6,740	33.6	26.2	39.3	29.9
45-64 years---	12,604	5,958	6,600	6,592	27.4	30.0	25.3	29.3
65+ years-----	12,653	5,664	6,948	6,948	27.5	28.5	26.7	30.8
<u>200-299 beds</u>	Number of days of care in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2-</sup>	43,632	18,589	24,980	21,992	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years	3,727	2,202	1,520	1,518	8.5	11.8	6.1	6.9
15-44 years---	14,100	4,526	9,555	6,579	32.3	24.3	38.2	29.9
45-64 years---	13,134	6,174	6,955	6,945	30.1	33.2	27.8	31.6
65+ years-----	12,607	5,660	6,914	6,914	28.9	30.5	27.7	31.4
<u>300-499 beds</u>	Number of days of care in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2-</sup>	51,425	21,773	29,563	25,869	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years	5,329	3,213	2,099	2,095	10.4	14.8	7.1	8.1
15-44 years---	16,736	5,063	11,653	7,964	32.5	23.3	39.4	30.8
45-64 years---	16,091	7,599	8,458	8,456	31.3	34.9	28.6	32.7
65+ years-----	13,147	5,843	7,288	7,288	25.6	26.8	24.7	28.2
<u>500+ beds</u>	Number of days of care in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2-</sup>	45,547	20,723	24,727	21,969	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years	5,600	3,117	2,475	2,457	12.3	15.0	10.0	11.2
15-44 years---	15,983	5,720	10,258	7,522	35.1	27.6	41.5	34.2
45-64 years---	12,996	6,823	6,096	6,093	28.5	32.9	24.7	27.7
65+ years-----	10,906	5,037	5,868	5,868	23.9	24.3	23.7	26.7

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 15. Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by size of hospital, age, and sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Size of hospital and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries	
<u>All sizes</u>		Average length of stay in days			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.1	8.7	7.7	8.6	
Under 15 years -----	5.2	5.4	5.1	5.1	
15-44 years -----	6.1	7.1	5.7	6.5	
45-64 years -----	10.2	10.3	10.1	10.1	
65 years and over -----	13.4	12.8	13.8	13.8	
<u>6-99 beds</u>					
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	6.8	6.7	6.9	7.6	
Under 15 years -----	3.9	4.0	3.8	3.8	
15-44 years -----	4.9	5.1	4.8	5.5	
45-64 years -----	7.9	7.3	8.4	8.4	
65 years and over -----	12.0	11.0	12.6	12.6	
<u>100-199 beds</u>					
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	7.3	7.9	6.9	7.6	
Under 15 years -----	4.7	4.8	4.5	4.6	
15-44 years -----	5.6	6.9	5.1	5.6	
45-64 years -----	9.1	9.2	9.0	9.1	
65 years and over -----	12.2	12.0	12.5	12.5	
<u>200-229 beds</u>					
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.3	8.8	7.9	8.8	
Under 15 years -----	4.6	4.8	4.4	4.4	
15-44 years -----	6.2	7.2	5.8	6.6	
45-64 years -----	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	
65 years and over -----	13.7	13.4	14.0	14.0	
<u>300-499 beds</u>					
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.5	9.2	8.0	8.9	
Under 15 years -----	5.4	5.7	4.9	4.9	
15-44 years -----	6.2	7.2	5.9	6.7	
45-64 years -----	11.1	11.6	10.8	10.8	
65 years and over -----	13.9	13.4	14.4	14.4	
<u>500 beds or more</u>					
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	10.9	12.2	10.0	11.5	
Under 15 years -----	9.0	8.7	9.4	9.4	
15-44 years -----	8.2	10.7	7.2	8.8	
45-64 years -----	13.6	14.0	13.0	13.1	
65 years and over -----	17.1	16.2	18.0	18.0	

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 16. Number and percent distribution of days of care for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by type of ownership (control) of hospital and age, according to sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Type of ownership and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
<u>All types</u>	Number of days of care in thousands				Percent distribution			
All ages <sup>2--</sup>	234,055	99,081	134,405	118,405	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years-	23,872	13,790	10,034	9,995	10.2	13.9	7.5	8.4
15-44 years----	76,921	24,770	52,059	36,128	32.9	25.0	38.7	30.5
45-64 years----	67,069	31,588	35,294	35,264	28.7	31.9	26.3	29.8
65+ years-----	65,791	28,748	36,812	36,812	28.1	29.0	27.4	31.1
<u>Voluntary nonprofit</u>								
All ages <sup>2--</sup>	169,059	70,924	97,850	85,905	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years-	16,666	9,723	6,915	6,894	9.9	13.7	7.1	8.0
15-44 years----	53,726	16,458	37,211	25,307	31.8	23.2	38.0	29.5
45-64 years----	50,273	23,610	26,556	26,537	29.7	33.3	27.1	30.9
65+ years-----	48,131	21,021	27,027	27,027	28.5	29.6	27.6	31.5
<u>Government</u>								
All ages <sup>2--</sup>	48,397	21,310	26,844	23,669	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years-	5,595	3,127	2,451	2,434	11.6	14.7	9.1	10.3
15-44 years----	16,832	5,877	10,931	7,782	34.8	27.6	40.7	32.9
45-64 years----	12,306	6,145	6,086	6,077	25.4	28.8	22.7	25.7
65+ years-----	13,584	6,112	7,346	7,346	28.1	28.7	27.4	31.0
<u>Proprietary</u>								
All ages <sup>2--</sup>	16,599	6,847	9,712	8,831	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years-	1,612	941	667	667	9.7	13.7	6.9	7.6
15-44 years----	6,362	2,435	3,917	3,039	38.3	35.6	40.3	34.4
45-64 years----	4,491	1,834	2,652	2,649	27.1	26.8	27.3	30.0
65+ years-----	4,076	1,615	2,439	2,439	24.6	23.6	25.1	27.6

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.

Table 17. Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by type of ownership (control) of hospital, age, and sex: United States, 1966

(Excludes well newborn infants and Veterans Administration and military hospitals)

Type of ownership and age	Both sexes <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female		
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries	
<u>All types</u>		Average length of stay in days			
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.1	8.7	7.7	8.6	
Under 15 years-----	5.2	5.4	5.1	5.1	
15-44 years-----	6.1	7.1	5.7	6.5	
45-64 years-----	10.2	10.3	10.1	10.1	
65 years and over-----	13.4	12.8	13.8	13.8	
<u>Voluntary nonprofit</u>					
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.2	8.7	7.9	8.8	
Under 15 years-----	5.0	5.2	4.8	4.8	
15-44 years-----	6.0	7.0	5.7	6.5	
45-64 years-----	10.5	10.5	10.4	10.4	
65 years and over-----	13.6	13.0	14.2	14.2	
<u>Government</u>					
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	8.6	9.4	8.0	9.2	
Under 15 years-----	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.9	
15-44 years-----	6.4	7.9	5.8	7.0	
45-65 years-----	10.5	10.6	10.3	10.3	
65 years and over-----	13.8	13.3	14.1	14.1	
<u>Proprietary</u>					
All ages <sup>2</sup> -----	6.5	6.8	6.2	6.7	
Under 15 years-----	3.9	4.1	3.7	3.7	
15-44 years-----	5.5	6.9	4.9	5.5	
45-64 years-----	7.4	7.2	7.5	7.5	
65 years and over-----	10.5	10.2	10.7	10.7	

<sup>1</sup>Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Includes discharge data for which age was not stated.



## APPENDIX I

### TECHNICAL NOTES ON METHODS

#### Statistical Design of the Hospital Discharge Survey

*Scope of the survey.*—The scope of the Hospital Discharge Survey (HDS) encompasses noninstitutional general and special (e.g. children's, maternity) hospitals exclusive of military and Veterans Administration hospitals which have six beds or more for inpatient use, are located in the 50 States and the District of Columbia, and which have an average length of stay of less than 30 days. All discharges of inpatients from these hospitals are in the scope of the survey except those of well newborn infants.

*Sampling frame and size of sample.*—The universe (sampling frame) for the Hospital Discharge Survey consists of the short-stay hospitals exclusive of military and Veterans Administration hospitals which are included in the Master Facility Inventory of Hospitals and Institutions (MFI). A detailed description of how the MFI was developed, its content, plans for maintaining it, and procedures for assessing the completeness of its coverage is published in an earlier report.<sup>7</sup>

There were 6,965 hospitals in the universe. The distribution of short-stay hospitals by bed size and region in the universe and in the HDS sample is shown in table I. Of the 315 hospitals in the sample for 1966, 300 hospitals submitted abstracts of records for 1 month or more; six hospitals were ruled out of scope of the survey because they failed to meet the definition of a short-stay hospital, and nine hospitals refused to participate. Approximately 137,000 abstracts were received from the 300 hospitals that participated during 1966.

*Sample design.*—All hospitals with 1,000 beds or more in the universe of short-stay hospitals were selected with certainty in the sample. All hospitals with less than 1,000 beds were stratified, the primary strata being the 24 size-by-region classes of less than 1,000 beds, as shown in table I. Within each of these 24 primary strata, the allocation of the hospitals was made through a controlled selection technique so that hospitals in the sample would be properly distributed with regard to ownership and geographic division. Sample hospitals were drawn with probabilities

ranging from certainty for the largest hospitals to 1 in 40 for the smallest hospitals.

The within-hospital sampling ratio for selecting discharges varied inversely with the probability of selection of the hospital. The smallest sampling fraction of discharged patients was taken in the largest hospitals, and the largest fraction was taken in the smallest hospitals. This was done to compensate for the fact that hospitals were selected with probabilities proportionate to their bed size class and to assure that the overall probability of selecting a discharge would be approximately the same in all hospitals.

In nearly all hospitals the daily listing sheet of discharges was the frame from which the subsamples of discharges were selected within the sample hospitals. The sample discharges were selected by random technique, usually on the basis of the terminal digit(s) of the patient's medical record number—a number assigned when the patient was admitted to the hospital. If the hospital's daily discharge listing did not show the medical record numbers, the sample was selected by starting with a randomly selected discharge and taking every  $k^{\text{th}}$  discharge thereafter.

*Estimation.*—Statistics produced by the Hospital Discharge Survey are derived by an involved estimating procedure. The basic unit of estimation is the sample patient abstract. The estimating procedure used to produce essentially unbiased national estimates in the Hospital Discharge Survey has three principal components: (1) inflation by reciprocals of the probabilities of sample selection, (2) adjustment for nonresponse, and (3) ratio adjustments to fixed totals. These components are described in the appendixes of two earlier publications.<sup>1,2</sup>

#### Data Collection and Processing

*Data Collection.*—Depending on the study procedure agreed on with the hospital administrator, the sample selection and the transcription of information from the hospital records to the abstract form were performed either by the hospital staff or by representatives of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), or by both. In more than three-quarters of the hospitals that participated in the HDS during 1966, this work

Table I. Distribution of short-stay hospitals in the universe (MFI) and in the Hospital Discharge Survey sample, and number of hospitals participating in the survey, by size of hospital and geographic region: United States, 1966

Size of hospital	All regions	North-east	North Central	South	West
<u>All sizes</u>					
Number of hospitals					
Universe-----	6,965	1,107	1,979	2,620	1,259
Total sample-----	315	85	93	91	46
Number participating-----	300	83	90	86	41
<u>6-49 beds</u>					
Universe-----	3,113	199	830	1,438	646
Total sample-----	39	5	11	15	8
Number participating-----	34	4	10	13	7
<u>50-99 beds</u>					
Universe-----	1,623	288	442	587	306
Total sample-----	44	8	12	16	8
Number participating-----	41	8	12	15	6
<u>100-199 beds</u>					
Universe-----	1,144	277	378	332	157
Total sample-----	63	16	20	19	8
Number participating-----	62	16	19	19	8
<u>200-299 beds</u>					
Universe-----	552	182	151	134	85
Total sample-----	55	19	16	12	8
Number participating-----	53	19	16	12	6
<u>300-499 beds</u>					
Universe-----	386	110	129	96	51
Total sample-----	59	16	19	16	8
Number participating-----	55	15	18	14	8
<u>500-999 beds</u>					
Universe-----	129	42	46	28	13
Total sample-----	37	12	12	8	5
Number participating-----	37	12	12	8	5
<u>1,000 beds or more</u>					
Universe-----	18	9	3	5	1
Total sample-----	18	9	3	5	1
Number participating-----	18	9	3	5	1

CONFIDENTIAL- This information is collected under authority of Public Law 652 of the 84th Congress (70 Stat. 489; 42 U.S.C. 242.c.). All information which would permit identification of an individual or an establishment will be held strictly confidential, will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey and will not be disclosed or released to other persons or used for any other purpose (22 FR 1687).

PHS-4734-2  
8-64

DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Form Approved:  
Budget Bureau No. 68-R620 R2

1. HOSPITAL NUMBER

ABSTRACT OF PATIENT RECORD-Hospital Discharge Survey

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IBM H91234

Figure 1. Nonmedical section of optical mark page reader form.

was performed by the medical records department of the hospital. In nearly all the remaining hospitals, the work was performed by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census acting for NCHS.

During 1966, survey hospitals used an optical mark page reader form (abstract form) to transcribe data from the hospital records. A copy of the front of this form, which covers the nonmedical data presented in this report, is shown as figure I. The reverse of the form is used to record discharge diagnoses and surgical operations and procedures. The use of this form enabled the coded information to be converted directly to computer tape by an optical mark page reader machine.

*Data processing and editing of data.*—Shipments of completed abstract forms for each sample hospital were transmitted along with sample selection control sheets to NCHS for processing. Every shipment of abstracts was reviewed; each abstract form was checked for completeness; and problems were referred to the hospitals for clarification and correction when necessary.

The nonmedical data on the front of the abstract form was converted directly to computer tape by the optical mark page reader machine. The abstract forms were then transmitted to the medical coding section where the diagnoses and operations were coded.

After the diagnoses and operations were coded, the medical portion of each abstract was converted to tape and was matched with its corresponding non-medical portion. Final editing of the data consisted of a computer inspection to test the validity of the operation and diagnoses codes and also of a comparison of the codes with the age and sex information on the abstract form. The rejected information was reviewed and corrected. In making editing decisions, priority was given to the medical information.

The majority of rejects were corrected by reviewing and editing the information on the abstract forms. However, where it was impossible to correct the code of a rejected item, that item was coded and tabulated as "not stated." This procedure was applied to all items except "date of admission" and "date of discharge," which were not permitted to be coded as "not stated." In instances where these data could not be obtained from the abstract form, the monthly sample listing sheet, transmitted by the sample hospital, was used as an additional source of information. If the dates could not be established from the sample listing sheet, the information was requested from the hospital.

#### Population Estimates

Population estimates used to compute rates for 1966 HDS data are unpublished estimates for the U.S. civilian, noninstitutional population as of July 1, 1966, provided by the Bureau of the Census.

Table II. Civilian, noninstitutional population used to compute rates shown in this publication, by sex and age: United States, July 1, 1966

Age	Both sexes	Male	Female
Population in thousands <sup>1</sup>			
All ages-----	191,634	92,597	99,037
Under 1 year-----	3,649	1,862	1,787
1-4 years-----	16,147	8,242	7,905
5-14 years-----	40,072	20,354	19,718
15-24 years-----	29,778	14,098	15,680
25-34 years-----	21,627	10,293	11,334
35-44 years-----	23,617	11,309	12,308
45-54 years-----	21,999	10,606	11,393
55-64 years-----	17,023	8,106	8,917
65-74 years-----	11,323	5,051	6,272
75 years and over-----	6,401	2,677	3,724
Under 65 years-----	173,910	84,869	89,041
Under 15 years-----	59,868	30,458	29,410
15-44 years-----	75,021	35,700	39,322
45-64 years-----	39,021	18,711	20,309
65 years and over-----	17,724	7,728	9,996

<sup>1</sup>Consistent with the population estimates published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 385.

Population estimates by age and sex for the United States (table II) are consistent with estimates of the civilian, resident population published by the Bureau of the Census in *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 385, but they are not official population estimates. Estimates by age for geographic regions (table III) are consistent with State estimates published by the Bureau of the Census in *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 420, and with current estimates by age and sex for the United States. Estimates of the regional population by age according to sex were provided by the Bureau of the Census specifically for use in the HDS.

#### General Qualifications

*Rounding of numbers.*—Estimates of the number of discharges and days of care have been rounded to the nearest thousand for tabular presentation. For this reason, detailed figures within the tables do not always add to totals. Percents and rates were calculated on the basis of original unrounded figures and will not necessarily agree with rates and percents which may be calculated from rounded data.

*Patient characteristics "not stated."*—Age and sex or one of these characteristics was not stated for less than 1 percent of all discharges. Color, on the other hand, was not stated on the hospital records of

Table III. Civilian, noninstitutional population used to compute rates in this publication, by geographic region and age: United States, July 1, 1966

Age	All regions	Northeast	North Central	South	West
	Population in thousands <sup>1</sup>				
All ages-----	191,634	46,965	53,942	59,238	31,489
Under 65 years-----	173,910	42,272	48,723	54,074	28,841
Under 15 years-----	59,868	13,653	16,998	19,118	10,099
15-44 years-----	75,021	18,114	20,692	23,644	12,572
45-64 years-----	39,021	10,505	11,033	11,312	6,170
65 years and over-----	17,724	4,692	5,219	5,165	2,649

<sup>1</sup>Consistent with the population estimates by State published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 420.

sample hospitals (face sheet of patient's medical record) for approximately 11 percent of all discharged patients. The proportion varied considerably among hospitals, ranging from less than 1 to 90 percent. For this reason, rates by color were not computed, and no comparisons have been made with 1965 data.

#### Reliability of Estimates

Estimates from sample surveys such as the Hospital Discharge Survey are subject to two types of errors—measurement or nonsampling errors and sampling errors. Measurement errors, which can occur in a complete count or census as well as in a sample survey, are due to nonresponse, reporting errors, processing errors, and other sources of errors that occur in a survey. Sampling errors occur because a sample instead of a complete count or census is taken.

*Measurement errors.*—In this survey measurement or nonsampling errors include errors which are due to hospital nonresponse, missing abstracts, information incompletely or inaccurately recorded on abstract forms, and processing errors. Some of these have been discussed in earlier sections. However, further study is needed to determine the effects of measurement errors on the reliability of the estimates derived from the survey.

*Sampling errors.*—In this survey the standard error is primarily a measure of the sampling variability that occurs by chance because the estimates are based on a sample of discharges from a sample of short-stay hospitals rather than on all discharges from all short-stay hospitals. 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.

The chances are about 68 out of 100 that the value obtained in a complete enumeration is contained in the interval represented by the estimate plus and minus one standard error of the estimate; 95 out of 100 for two standard errors; and 99 out of 100 for 2½ standard errors. Applying the illustration at the bottom of figure II, the chances are about 68 out of 100 that the value that would be obtained in a complete enumeration is contained in the interval 2,688,000 ± 4.2 percent of 2,688,000 (between 2,575,000 and 2,801,000); 95 out of 100 for the interval 2,688,000 ± 4.2 percent of 2,688,000 multiplied by 2; 99 out of 100 for the interval 2,688,000 ± 4.2 percent of 2,688,000 multiplied by 2.5.

The standard error of one statistic is generally different from that of another even when the two come from the same survey. In order to derive standard errors that would be applicable to a wide variety of statistics and that could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, figures II and III and tables IV and V provide general standard errors for a wide variety of estimates rather than the specific error for any statistic.

The relative standard errors and approximate standard errors of percentages that have been prepared for this report are applicable to estimates of discharges and days of care for patient characteristics (age, sex, and color and cross-classifications, e.g., age by sex) cross-classified by one of four hospital groupings as follows: (1) by region (e.g., Northeast), (2) by size (e.g., 6-99 beds), (3) by type of ownership (e.g., government), or (4) by hospitals summed over all region, size, and ownership groups (all hospitals). The particular figure or table to which one refers to obtain a sampling error is contingent upon both the type of estimate (e.g., discharges) and the hospital grouping

Figure II. Approximate relative standard errors of estimated numbers of patients discharged for patient characteristics, by geographic region, size of hospital, and type of ownership, and for all hospitals.

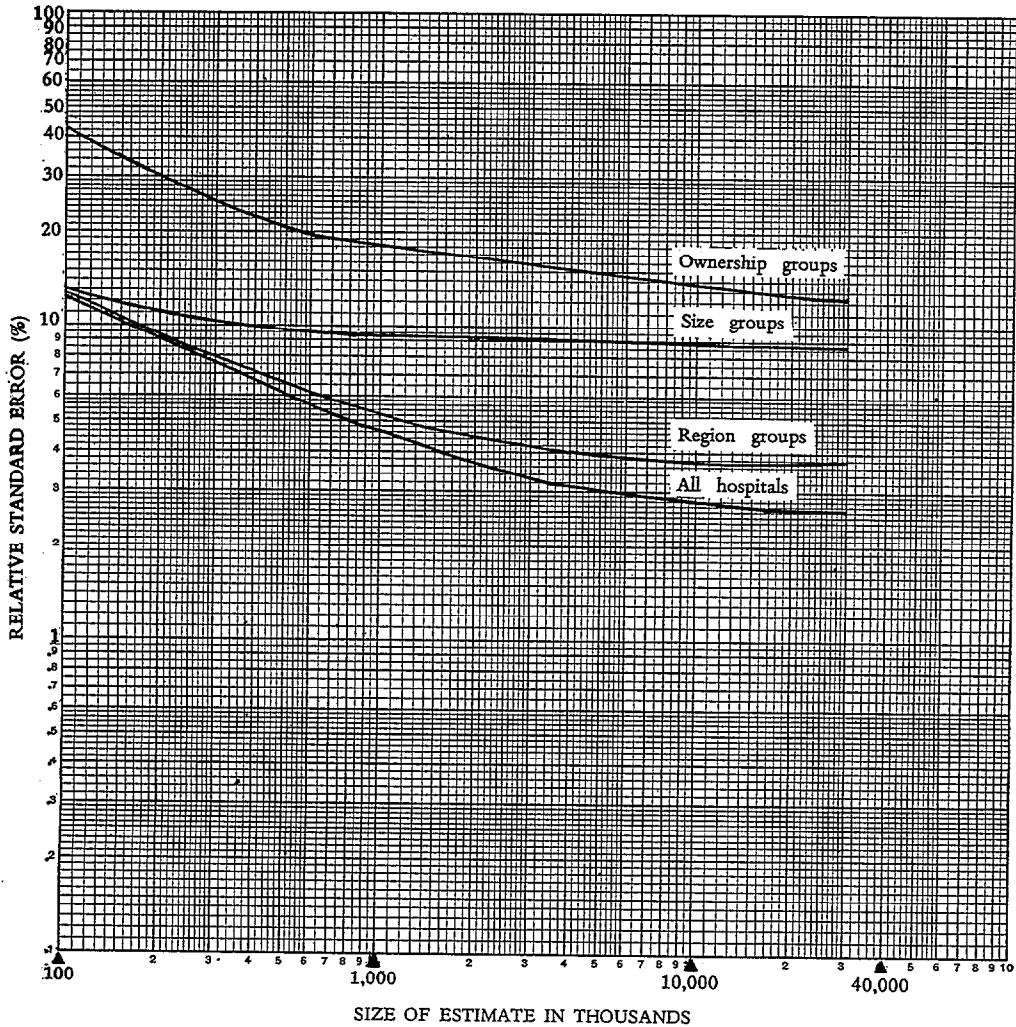


Illustration of use of figure II: As shown in table 3, an estimated 2,688,000 patients aged 15-44 years were discharged within the Northeast Region. The relative standard error of this estimate as read from the line "Region groups" is approximately 4.2 percent: the standard error of 2,688,000 is 112,896 (4.2 percent of 2,688,000).

with which the patient characteristic(s) is cross-classified. The rules that apply are as follows:

- Rule 1. *Estimated number of discharges:* Relative standard errors of estimated numbers of discharges are obtained from the curves shown in figure II.
- Rule 2. *Estimated numbers of days of care:* Relative standard errors of estimated numbers of days of care are obtained from the curves in figure III.
- Rule 3. *Estimated percentages of discharges in a percent distribution:* Approximate standard errors of estimated percentages of discharges when the characteristic(s) used

to form the numerator of the percentage is a subclass of the denominator are shown in table IV.

- Rule 4. *Estimated percentages of days of care in a percent distribution:* Approximate standard errors of estimated percentages of days of care when the characteristic(s) used to form the numerator is a subclass of the denominator are shown in table V.

Approximate standard errors of average length of stay can be calculated as in the following example.

Suppose the standard error ( $\sigma_R'$ ) of the average length of stay for males aged 35-44 years for all hospitals is desired. The estimated number of dis-

Figure III. Approximate relative standard errors of estimated number of days of care for patient characteristics, by geographic region, size of hospital, and type of ownership, and for all hospitals.

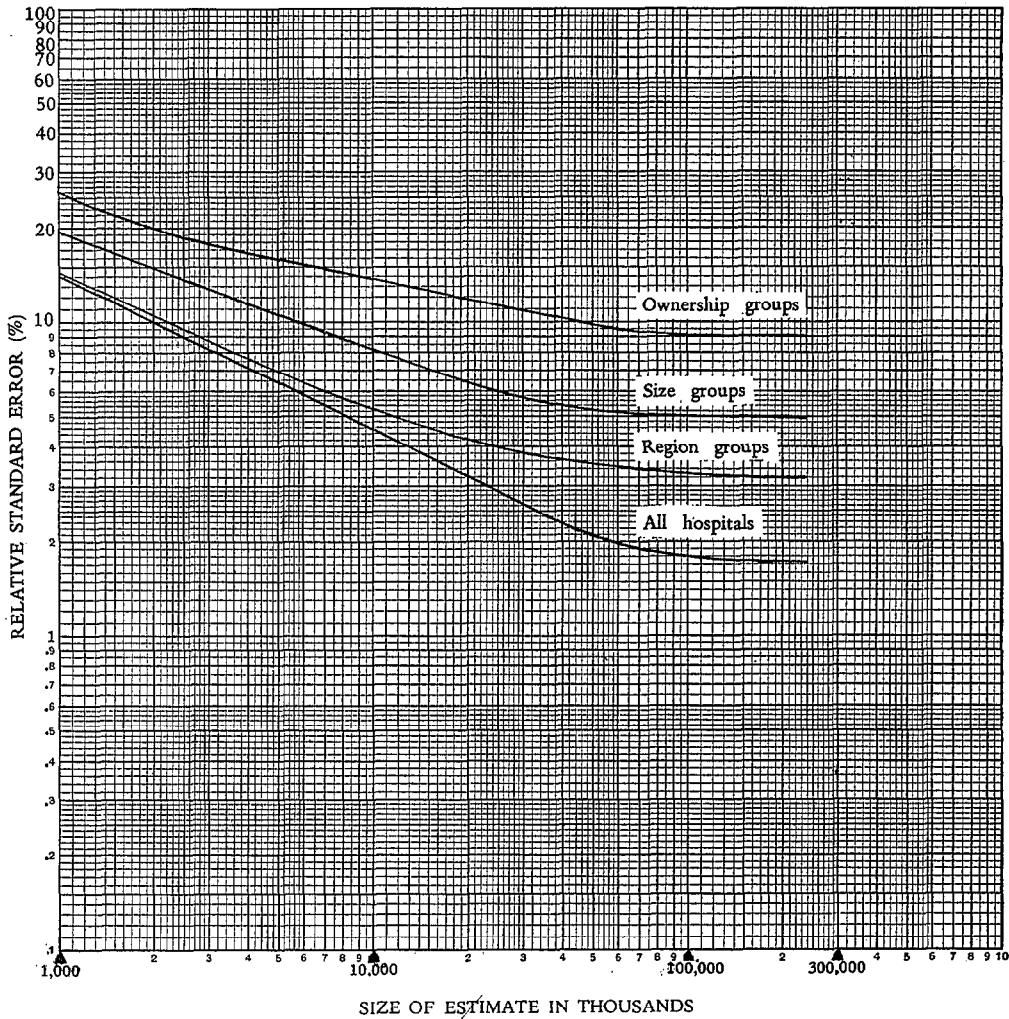


Illustration of use of figure III: As shown in table 16, an estimated 6,362,000 days of care were provided to patients aged 15-44 years in proprietary hospitals. The relative standard error of this estimate as read from the line "Ownership groups" is approximately 15.0 percent: the standard error is 954,300 (15.0 percent of 6,362,000).

charges for this statistic is 1,277,000 (table 1), and the estimated number of days of care is 10,435,000 (table 7).

$$\text{Let } R' = \frac{\text{Number of days of care}}{\text{Number of discharges}}$$

$$= \frac{X'}{Y'} = \frac{10,435,000}{1,277,000} = 8.2 \text{ days.}$$

The relative standard error ( $V_{X'}$ ) of 10,435,000 (from all hospitals curve in figure III) is 4.4 percent, or .044;

$V_{Y'}^2 = (.044)^2$ . The relative standard error ( $V_{Y'}$ ) of 1,277,000 (from all hospitals curve in figure II) is 4.2 percent, or .042;  $V_{Y'}^2 = (.042)^2$ .

$$V_{R'}^2 = V_{X'}^2 + V_{Y'}^2 - 2r V_{X'} V_{Y'}$$

$$= (.044)^2 + (.042)^2 - 1.5 (.044 \times .042)$$

$$= .001936 + .001764 - .002772 = .000928$$

$$V_{R'} = \sqrt{.000928} = .030$$

$$\sigma_{R'} = R' \times V_{R'} = 8.2 \times .030 = 0.2 \text{ days.}$$

Table IV. Approximate standard errors of percentages shown in this report for discharges: patient characteristics classified by geographic region and size of hospital, and for all hospitals

(Standard errors for patient characteristics classified by type of ownership are  $3\frac{1}{2}$  times the standard errors shown in this table)

Number of discharges (base of percent)	Estimated percent					
	2 or 98	4 or 96	10 or 90	20 or 80	30 or 70	50
	Standard error expressed in percentage points					
200,000-----	1.2	1.7	2.6	3.5	4.0	4.4
500,000-----	0.8	1.1	1.7	2.2	2.5	2.8
1,000,000-----	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.6	1.8	2.0
2,000,000-----	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.4
6,000,000-----	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8
10,000,000-----	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6
20,000,000-----	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
30,000,000-----	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4

Illustration of the use of table IV: Table 2 shows that 27.6 percent of the 9,230,000 white male patients discharged from all hospitals were aged 45-64 years. Linear interpolation between the values shown in table IV will yield an approximate standard error of 0.6 percent for an estimate of 27.6 percent with a base of 9,230,000.

Table V. Approximate standard errors of percentages shown in this report for days of care: patient characteristics classified by geographic region and size of hospital, and for all hospitals

(Standard errors for patient characteristics classified by type of ownership are 2 times the standard errors shown in this table)

Number of days of care (base of percent)	Estimated percent					
	2 or 98	4 or 96	10 or 90	20 or 80	30 or 70	50
	Standard error expressed in percentage points					
2,000,000-----	1.4	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.6	5.1
6,000,000-----	0.8	1.1	1.8	2.3	2.7	2.9
10,000,000-----	0.6	0.9	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.3
20,000,000-----	0.4	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.6
60,000,000-----	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9
100,000,000-----	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7
200,000,000-----	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5
240,000,000-----	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5

Illustration of the use of table V: Table 14 shows that of the 26,052,000 days of care provided to females (including those with deliveries) discharged from hospitals with 100-199 beds, 39.3 percent of the days were utilized by patients aged 15-44 years. Linear interpolation between the values shown in table V will yield an approximate standard error of 1.4 percent for an estimate of 39.3 percent with a base of 26,052,000.

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## APPENDIX II

### DEFINITIONS OF CERTAIN TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

#### Terms Relating to Hospitalization

*Inpatient.*—A person who is formally admitted to the inpatient service of a short-stay hospital (see definition) for observation, care, diagnosis, or treatment. In this report the number of inpatients refers to the number of discharges during 1966, including multiple discharges of the same individual (if any), from one short-stay hospital or more. Newborn infants admitted by birth to the hospital from which discharged without mention of a disease, disorder, or immaturity (well newborn) are not in the scope of the Hospital Discharge Survey. "Inpatient" and "patient" are used synonymously.

*Nonwell newborn infants.*—Infants admitted by birth to the hospital from which discharged (alive or dead) with mention of a disease, disorder, or immaturity. "Nonwell newborn" and "newborn" are used synonymously.

*Other infants.*—Infants under 1 year of age at time of admission to the hospital inpatient service. In this report the number of discharges of "other infants" includes infants admitted on the day of birth, directly or by transfer from another medical facility, with or without mention of a disease, disorder, or immaturity.

*Discharge.*—The formal release of an inpatient by a hospital, that is, the termination of a period of hospitalization by death or by disposition to place of residence, nursing home, or another hospital. In this report the number of discharges from short-stay hospitals (alive or dead) is exclusive of well newborn infants. "Discharges" and "patients (or inpatients) discharged" are used synonymously.

*Discharge rate.*—The ratio of the number of hospital discharges (inpatients) during 1966 to the number of persons in the civilian, noninstitutional population as of July 1, 1966.

*Days of care.*—The total number of inpatient days accumulated at time of discharge by patients discharged from short-stay hospitals during 1966. A stay of less than 1 day (inpatient admission and discharge on the same day) is counted as 1 day in the summation of total days of care. For patients admitted and discharged

on different days, the number of days of care is computed by counting all days from (and including) the date of admission to (but not including) the date of discharge.

*Rate of days of care.*—The ratio of the number of inpatient days accumulated at time of discharge by patients discharged from short-stay hospitals during 1966 to the number of persons in the civilian, noninstitutional population as of July 1, 1966.

*Average length of stay.*—The total number of inpatient days accumulated at time of discharge by patients discharged during 1966 divided by the number of patients discharged. "Average duration," "duration of stay," and "length of stay" are used interchangeably.

#### Hospitals and Hospital Characteristics

*Short-stay hospitals.*—General and short-term special hospitals having six beds or more for inpatient use and an average (mean) length of stay of less than 30 days. Military and Veterans Administration hospitals and hospital units of institutions are not included. "Hospitals" and "short-stay hospitals" are used synonymously.

*Size of hospital.*—Measured by the number of beds, cribs, and pediatric bassinets regularly maintained (set up and staffed for use) for inpatients; bassinets for newborn infants are not included. In this report the classification of hospitals by bed size is based on the number of beds at or near midyear reported by the hospitals.

*Location of hospitals.*—See "Geographic region."

*Type of ownership (control) of hospital.*—Refers to the type of organization that controls and operates the hospital. In this report the classification of hospitals by type of ownership is based on responses provided by sample hospitals. The hospitals are grouped as follows:

*Voluntary nonprofit hospitals.*—Hospitals operated by a church or another nonprofit organization.

*Government hospitals.*—Hospitals operated by Federal, State, and local governments. (Military and Veterans Administration hospitals are excluded).

*Proprietary hospitals.*—Hospitals controlled by individuals, partnerships, or corporations for profit.

**Demographic Terms**

*Age.*—Refers to age at last birthday prior to admission to the hospital inpatient service (newborn infants excepted).

*The aged.*—Persons 65 years of age or older.

*Color.*—In this report patients are classified into two groups, "white" and "all other," based on information available on the hospital records of sample hospitals (face sheet of the inpatient's medical record). "White" includes Mexican and Puerto Rican unless patient is specifically identified with "all other."

*Geographic region.*—In this report hospitals are classified by location according to the four geographic regions of the United States which corresponds to those used by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

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



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