

Basic Data on Health Care Needs of Adults Ages 25-74 Years

United States, 1971-75

Estimates of self-perceived health care needs including data on the last visit to a doctor, routine medical care, dental care, hospitalization, and medical insurance coverage for adults ages 25-74 years by race, sex, age, and family income group.

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PREFACE

The National Center for Health Statistics has as its mission the collection, analysis, and dissemination of data on the health of the population of the United States. One of the major programs is the Health Examination Survey, in which are conducted extensive examinations of a sample of the U.S. population. Data from this survey have been published periodically in Series 11 reports of *Vital and Health Statistics*.

Historically the published documents in Series 11 present only a small fraction of the available data. In order to make additional data available for users, the Center has for many years had a policy of preparing public-use tapes for purchase by persons interested in more detailed analysis or analysis of additional variables not published in Series 11 reports. These data, however, are only easily accessible to persons with computers and support staff who can read, interpret, and analyze the data. In order to make these data more generally accessible to many users and, in particular, to persons not able to directly use data tapes, the Division of Health Examination Statistics, in the autumn of 1977, initiated a program to release, along with the data tapes, basic descriptive summary tables of data contained in those tapes. These tabular summaries have been termed "basic data publications," of which this report is one.

These basic data publications present findings of the Health and Nutrition Examination Survey of 1971-75. For each of the data sets, these publications include information on the methods used to collect the data, a descriptive summary of the tables included, an index to the tables, and the tables themselves. An appendix describes the basic format of the associated data tape. More detailed information on use of the data for additional analysis is available on request from the staff of the Division of Health Examination Statistics.

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SYMBOLS

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

BASIC DATA ON HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF ADULTS AGES 25-74 YEARS

Wilbur C. Hadden, Division of Health Examination Statistics

INTRODUCTION

This report presents national estimates of selected health care needs of adults ages 25-74 years, by age, race, sex, and family income group, derived from the first National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. The survey was conducted between April 1971 and October 1975 to obtain information on the health and nutritional status of the U.S. population. The data presented in detailed tables are based on responses to interviewers' questions, which were designed to obtain information on individuals' perceptions of their health care needs and their actions related to obtaining health care. In highlighting the statistics in these tables, numbers are rounded to the nearest percent to emphasize their descriptive content. The survey participants' responses have been coded, edited, and released as part of a microdata tape, the content of which is summarized in appendix I. This tape and those containing data from other parts of the survey are available for purchase from the National Technical Information Service by persons interested in more detailed analyses or analyses of additional variables not included in this report. Response distributions of the variables on the microdata tapes are contained in the respective tape documentations.

SOURCES AND LIMITATIONS OF THE DATA

The first National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES I) was designed to

obtain information on the health and nutritional status of the U.S. population by direct, standardized examination, and by physical and physiological measurements. For the part of the NHANES I survey considered in this report, a probability sample was selected to represent the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population ages 25-74 years, excluding residents of Alaska, Hawaii, and American Indian reservations. To complete the picture, medical history and personal background information was requested from the survey participants. One supplementary questionnaire administered by nutrition interviewers dealt with participants' perceptions of their health care needs and their utilization of health care resources. Data from this questionnaire are summarized in this report; the questions are listed in appendix I.

National estimates based on responses to selected questions about health care needs were derived as described in appendix II. Nonrespondents to individual questions have been excluded from the computation of the percentages. The assumption underlying this exclusion is that the response distribution of those who did not answer a question, if they had answered it, would have been similar to the response distribution of those who did. Hence, small differences among similar statistics may be observed in the tables that follow. For instance, there are no cases for whom race is undetermined, but there are cases lacking data on family income group, so a statistic for the total of all races may be slightly different from a statistic for the total of all family

income groups. Similarly, estimates based on responses to separately tabulated questions may differ slightly from those based on questions that were grouped together in these tables. In general, related questions have been grouped only if they had similar nonresponse rates.

Since the estimates presented in this report are based on findings from a sample survey, they are subject to sampling error. A method for estimating the magnitude of the sampling error from the complex sample design used for the survey is presented in appendix II. The estimates in this report are national estimates for race, sex, age, and family income group. For definitions of these demographic terms see appendix III. The sample design and sample size make possible the estimation of national and regional statistics, but in general it is not possible to make direct estimates for either States or local areas since neither all States nor complete local areas are represented.

In addition to sampling error, the data may be subject to other nonsampling errors and biases, including nonresponse bias. Of the 9,881 persons selected for examination, 6,913 completed the examination. This is a nonresponse rate of 30 percent, which may introduce an unknown degree of bias into the findings. However, adjustments were made for each of five income groups within each primary sampling unit in order to minimize nonresponse bias, as described in appendix II. Every effort was made to reduce other biases or errors in the responses through careful training of the interviewers and review of the data.

Further details on the plan and operation of the NHANES I survey are given in appendix II and in Series 1, Nos. 10a¹ and 14² of the *Vital and Health Statistics* series published by the National Center for Health Statistics. The forms used to collect the data are published in Series 1, Nos. 10b¹ and 14.²

HIGHLIGHTS

Last Visit to a Doctor

Tables 1-20 contain information on the health care needs of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population ages 25-74 years, based on

data about respondents' last visit to or talk with a doctor. According to these responses, an estimated 4 percent have never talked to a doctor about their health at a private doctor's office; 77 percent have never talked to a doctor at a hospital outpatient clinic; and 63 percent have never talked to a doctor at a hospital emergency room. Sixty-three percent have talked to a doctor about their health at a private doctor's office within the past year (table 1). The most common reasons for the last visit to a doctor were sickness or illness (41 percent), to have a regular checkup (29 percent), for a followup visit (10 percent), or for treatment of an injury (8 percent) (tables 2, 3). Those who saw a doctor for treatment of an injury succeeded in doing so sooner than those who wanted a regular checkup, the median wait being less than 1 day for the injured, 1-6 days for the ill or sick, and 1-2 months for those who wanted a regular checkup (tables 6, 9, 10, 15, 16). Forty-eight percent of the injured, 69 percent of the ill or sick, and 90 percent of those who wanted a regular checkup had made an appointment to see a doctor; 4 percent of the injured, 10 percent of the ill or sick, and 7 percent of those seeking a regular checkup considered the wait until the visit to be too long (table 6). Regardless of the reason for last visiting a doctor, the modal categories of response were that people went to a doctor or a clinic from their own homes, in their own cars, and travel time was less than 15 minutes (tables 7, 11, 12, 17, 18). Ninety-two percent of those who went for a regular checkup, 87 percent of those who went for illness or sickness, and 86 percent of those who went for treatment of an injury were satisfied with the visit (tables 8, 13, 14, 19, 20).

Routine Medical Care

Tables 21-30 contain information about routine medical care of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population ages 25-74 years. An estimated 15 percent had a health problem within the past 12 months about which they would have liked to have seen a doctor but did not (tables 21, 22), and over 15 percent have never had a general checkup or examination. Forty-nine percent had their last general examination within the last 2 years (tables 23 and 24). Of

those who had a general examination, 67 percent had it at a private doctor's office, 20 percent at a hospital clinic, and 12 percent at some other place (tables 23, 24). Eighty-five percent said that there is a particular doctor they see regularly or would go to see if something were bothering them (tables 29, 30); 90 percent said that they liked the doctor to talk to them about their condition rather than just treat it; 84 percent said that the doctor does talk to them about their condition. Nine percent said that they often try home remedies or those they can get without a prescription before going to see a doctor; 34 percent said that they sometimes try these alternate forms of care (tables 29, 30).

Dental Care

Information about dental care needs of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population ages 25-74 years is contained in tables 31-47. An estimated 4 percent have never visited or talked with a dentist about themselves at a private dentist's office; 14 percent last visited or talked with a dentist elsewhere. Forty-three percent have visited a private dentist's office within the past year. Three percent have visited or talked with a dentist elsewhere within the past year (table 31). Of those who went to a private dentist's office or a clinic within the past year, 50 percent went for a checkup or teeth cleaning (tables 34, 35). Depending on the reason for the visit, between 87 and 95 percent were satisfied with their last visit (table 37). Of those who went for a regular checkup or teeth cleaning, 97 percent had made an appointment, 12 percent thought they had to wait too long for the appointment, 94 percent were satisfied with the visit, and 9 percent thought they had to wait too

long to see the dentist once they had arrived for their visit (tables 36-41). Of those who went for a reason other than a regular checkup or a teeth cleaning, approximately 78 percent had made an appointment, 13 percent thought they had to wait too long for the visit, 91 percent were satisfied with the visit, and 9 percent thought they had to wait too long to see the dentist after they had arrived for their visit (tables 36, 37, 42-45). Sixty-eight percent said that they have a dentist they usually go to; 22 percent had a dental problem in the past 12 months about which they would have liked to have seen a dentist but did not (tables 46, 47).

Last Hospital Stay and Medical Insurance Coverage

National estimates on last hospital stay and medical insurance coverage of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population ages 25-74 years are shown in tables 48-51. Eleven percent reported that they were never hospitalized overnight (tables 48, 49). An estimated 61 percent had medical insurance coverage through their place of work; 22 percent had private medical insurance. Eleven percent were covered by medicare, 5 percent by veterans' medical care, and 3 percent by medicaid. Eleven percent did not indicate that they had any medical insurance coverage (tables 50, 51).

Tables 1-51 contain further estimates for comparing responses of various age, sex, race, and income groups in the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized adult population. To discuss these differences is beyond the scope of this basic data publication, which highlights only a few of the more interesting or general findings.



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Table 1. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by length of time since last talk with doctor, according to location: United States, 1971-75

Location	Total	Length of time since last talk with doctor						
		Never	Less than 2 weeks	2 weeks-5 months	6-11 months	1 but less than 2 years	2-4 years	5 years or more
		Percent distribution						
Private doctor's office	100.00	3.56	10.13	38.16	15.04	14.94	10.40	7.76
Hospital outpatient clinic.....	100.00	76.83	1.60	3.82	2.34	3.19	4.60	7.63
City clinic.....	100.00	93.50	0.46	1.19	0.74	0.69	1.03	2.38
Clinic at work.....	100.00	90.88	0.51	1.89	1.16	1.52	1.62	2.42
Another type of clinic.....	100.00	92.23	0.59	1.86	0.86	1.14	1.07	2.26
Hospital emergency room.....	100.00	62.65	0.98	4.70	3.59	5.79	7.50	14.79
At home.....	100.00	76.59	0.20	0.66	0.52	0.85	1.91	19.26
Over the telephone.....	100.00	77.49	2.11	6.95	3.43	3.65	3.28	3.09

Table 2. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by reason for last visit to doctor, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Reason for last visit	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
		Percent distribution								
All reasons	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Sickness or illness.....	40.46	39.99	44.01	43.57	37.67	40.23	40.82	39.73	41.56	40.03
Injury.....	7.83	7.77	8.94	12.41	3.73	8.52	8.46	7.42	9.18	4.03
Followup	9.85	9.80	10.25	8.33	11.23	9.04	8.28	9.89	10.73	12.95
Regular checkup	28.64	29.35	22.38	22.05	34.55	26.22	28.27	29.91	28.28	32.78
Injection	1.54	1.65	0.64	1.89	1.22	0.91	1.65	2.25	1.75	1.13
Prescription.....	1.01	1.04	0.87	0.65	1.33	0.92	0.75	1.54	0.77	1.06
Other	10.66	10.40	12.90	11.11	10.27	14.16	11.77	9.27	7.73	8.03

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 3. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by reason for last visit to doctor, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Reason for last visit	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
		Percent distribution				
All reasons.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Sickness or illness.....	40.37	43.47	45.96	40.38	38.19	37.42
Injury.....	7.93	8.02	6.23	9.16	9.02	6.91
Followup.....	9.91	11.14	10.81	11.60	9.56	7.73
Regular checkup.....	28.65	24.57	26.73	25.03	27.84	35.58
Injection.....	1.52	1.37	1.15	1.42	2.08	1.38
Prescription.....	1.05	1.91	1.02	1.25	0.76	0.71
Other.....	10.57	9.52	8.09	11.16	12.55	10.28

Table 4. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years who talked with doctor at private doctor's office during the past 12 months, by race, sex, age, and annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Annual family income group	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
		Percent of persons								
Total.....	63.2	63.9	58.4	53.6	72.0	62.7	61.0	61.0	65.5	68.7
Less than \$4,000.....	61.6	63.0	57.0	49.9	68.2	57.8	57.4	52.4	61.6	69.7
\$4,000-\$6,999.....	62.4	63.8	54.2	53.2	69.5	62.0	60.0	58.1	62.9	67.7
\$7,000-\$9,999.....	61.3	62.1	56.0	52.4	69.1	57.6	61.3	57.1	66.6	69.0
\$10,000-\$14,999.....	62.4	62.5	61.6	52.3	73.1	61.4	59.7	62.3	67.6	67.2
\$15,000 or more.....	66.9	67.0	71.3	57.3	77.9	70.3	63.1	66.5	67.9	68.4

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 5. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years who talked with doctor at clinic or hospital emergency room but who have not talked with doctor at private doctor's office during the past 12 months, by race, sex, age, and annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Annual family income group	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
		Percent of persons								
Total.....	8.2	7.1	16.8	10.2	6.3	10.8	7.8	8.2	6.9	4.7
Less than \$4,000.....	10.6	8.5	17.6	13.6	8.9	19.3	14.8	11.8	8.0	5.7
\$4,000-\$6,999.....	9.6	8.0	19.0	12.9	7.1	14.0	13.6	9.7	7.1	4.5
\$7,000-\$9,999.....	9.7	8.2	21.6	12.6	7.1	12.6	8.2	14.2	6.3	2.8
\$10,000-\$14,999.....	6.2	6.0	9.5	7.6	4.7	9.2	6.0	3.4	5.6	3.1
\$15,000 or more.....	6.6	6.2	10.2	8.4	4.5	6.4	6.0	6.7	7.6	7.5

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 6. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time from decision to visit doctor until visit, by time from appointment made until visit, and percent considering wait too long, according to reason for last visit to doctor: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Reason for last visit						
	Sickness or illness	Injury	Followup	Regular checkup	Injection	Prescription	Other
<u>Time from decision until visit</u>							
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 1 day	17.48	50.88	7.25	8.77	23.59	8.88	10.68
1-6 days	35.16	25.27	11.77	12.88	30.76	26.90	20.38
1 week	12.84	6.84	15.06	10.89	7.87	15.83	14.78
2-3 weeks	10.22	4.97	16.22	10.21	5.99	8.90	11.08
1-2 months	10.41	3.32	28.33	17.69	21.23	30.90	16.16
3 months or more	10.35	4.90	16.67	35.20	7.32	4.57	19.10
Do not remember	3.55	3.82	4.71	4.35	3.23	4.01	7.82
<u>Time from appointment made until visit</u>							
Total	68.94	48.32	88.74	89.75	61.21	53.95	83.07
Less than 1 day	23.39	22.43	6.85	5.02	16.35	9.95	11.11
1-6 days	29.59	15.54	18.36	22.53	20.93	22.79	30.22
1 week	6.22	4.73	16.10	17.53	2.96	6.59	15.90
2-3 weeks	4.49	2.18	13.65	13.72	2.63	11.83	8.97
1-2 months	3.29	1.21	23.18	15.19	9.82	2.29	7.27
3 months or more	0.97	0.56	9.41	14.53	2.77	0.49	6.30
Do not remember	1.00	2.46	1.19	1.23	5.77	-	3.41
Percent							
Considered wait too long	10.23	4.12	5.97	7.26	0.86	5.76	10.17

Table 7. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by place left to visit doctor, means of transportation, and travel time, according to reason for last visit to doctor: United States, 1971-75

Place left to visit doctor, means of transportation, and travel time	Reason for last visit						
	Sickness or illness	Injury	Followup	Regular checkup	Injection	Prescription	Other
	Percent distribution						
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Place left to visit doctor:							
Home	80.36	63.82	84.47	78.87	87.97	86.14	74.68
Work	17.82	27.13	15.04	20.40	11.79	12.69	21.32
Some other place	1.81	9.05	0.49	0.73	0.24	1.17	4.00
Means of transportation:							
Walked	7.59	4.98	7.27	7.83	6.22	10.32	7.50
Bus	2.89	1.97	5.06	3.92	0.22	5.10	3.74
Own car	75.40	65.56	76.57	78.30	86.94	68.85	79.52
Another's car	9.74	22.69	7.99	7.50	5.85	14.09	6.02
Other	4.37	4.80	3.10	2.45	0.78	1.63	3.22
Travel time:							
Less than 15 minutes	50.92	54.75	45.66	45.11	59.69	39.36	48.29
15-29 minutes	29.90	28.48	32.57	32.87	27.26	30.18	30.41
30 minutes or more	18.95	15.94	21.76	21.85	12.31	28.61	20.23
Do not remember	0.23	0.83		0.16	0.74	1.84	1.07

Table 8. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by length of wait before seeing doctor, by degree of satisfaction, and percent considering wait too long, according to reason for last visit to doctor: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Reason for last visit						
	Sickness or illness	Injury	Followup	Regular checkup	Injection	Prescription	Other
	Percent distribution						
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Length of wait:							
Less than 16 minutes	42.79	52.75	35.98	45.07	48.65	43.77	46.81
16-30 minutes	27.06	23.04	32.45	29.61	29.77	30.39	26.67
31 minutes or more	30.15	24.22	31.57	25.31	21.57	25.84	26.52
Degree of satisfaction:							
Satisfactory	87.26	86.43	91.18	91.59	94.00	90.60	88.53
Not completely satisfactory	8.67	9.30	4.33	5.28	5.78	4.23	6.87
Not satisfactory	3.63	4.13	3.35	2.46	0.21	4.69	3.91
No opinion	0.43	0.14	1.14	0.68		0.48	0.70
	Percent						
Considered wait too long	22.22	19.00	23.90	19.75	20.51	16.19	23.95

Table 9. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for sickness or illness by time from decision to visit doctor until visit, by time from appointment made until visit, and percent considering wait too long, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
<u>Time from decision until visit</u>		Percent distribution								
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 1 day	17.48	17.69	15.11	18.59	16.33	16.34	17.62	17.83	18.65	17.29
1-6 days	35.16	35.27	35.33	37.27	32.98	41.12	35.52	31.86	29.95	35.50
1 week	12.84	13.10	10.93	11.63	14.08	13.40	12.49	13.05	13.70	10.47
2-3 weeks	10.22	10.04	11.60	9.18	11.30	9.77	9.04	9.58	13.13	9.94
1-2 months	10.41	10.36	11.07	8.87	12.00	9.26	11.09	11.16	9.04	12.49
3 months or more	10.35	10.32	10.24	10.23	10.46	7.97	11.58	11.32	11.63	9.65
Do not remember	3.55	3.23	5.71	4.23	2.85	2.14	2.66	5.19	3.90	4.67
<u>Time from appointment made until visit</u>										
Total	68.94	71.47	49.67	67.91	70.01	67.56	69.01	68.68	69.83	70.96
Less than 1 day	23.39	24.82	13.90	24.29	22.46	23.73	25.90	23.55	21.40	21.04
1-6 days	29.59	30.48	21.60	29.24	29.95	31.16	26.78	29.16	31.30	29.18
1 week	6.22	6.61	3.67	6.17	6.27	5.52	8.25	5.96	4.97	6.59
2-3 weeks	4.49	4.31	5.49	3.74	5.27	4.15	4.84	2.57	5.89	5.97
1-2 months	3.29	3.41	1.86	2.27	4.35	1.87	2.65	4.14	3.76	5.29
3 months or more	0.97	0.88	1.77	0.94	1.01	0.24	0.55	1.72	1.13	1.69
Do not remember	1.00	0.95	1.44	1.28	0.70	0.89	0.05	1.58	1.37	1.25
		Percent								
Considered wait too long	10.23	10.55	8.68	10.25	10.21	12.48	9.51	10.81	9.24	7.03

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 10. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for sickness or illness by time from decision to visit doctor until visit, by time from appointment made until visit, and percent considering wait too long, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
<u>Time from decision until visit</u>		Percent distribution				
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 1 day	17.58	16.30	16.62	14.59	18.52	20.66
1-6 days.....	35.64	32.20	30.68	42.54	36.34	34.91
1 week.....	12.55	11.93	15.32	10.94	13.32	11.56
2-3 weeks	9.99	9.18	10.80	9.25	9.45	11.06
1-2 months.....	10.30	13.76	12.38	8.67	9.26	8.97
3 months or more.....	10.49	10.11	10.95	11.62	8.87	11.00
Do not remember	3.47	6.53	3.25	2.40	4.25	1.84
<u>Time from appointment made until visit</u>		Percent				
Total	68.93	59.00	61.96	67.33	75.59	75.12
Less than 1 day	23.64	15.50	18.29	22.86	31.12	26.11
1-6 days.....	29.38	28.49	27.69	31.06	28.05	31.02
1 week.....	6.04	5.57	5.98	5.09	6.94	6.31
2-3 weeks	4.66	4.77	4.25	3.79	3.30	6.92
1-2 months.....	3.31	2.21	3.55	3.51	3.50	3.47
3 months or more.....	0.99	1.62	1.24	0.84	0.82	0.69
Do not remember	0.91	0.86	0.97	0.19	1.86	0.61
		Percent				
Considered wait too long.....	10.30	10.31	7.82	8.81	9.43	14.10

Table 11. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for sickness or illness by place left to visit doctor, means of transportation, and travel time, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Place left to visit doctor, means of transportation, and travel time	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Place left to visit doctor:										
Home	80.36	79.24	89.20	75.58	85.34	78.10	75.41	78.64	83.27	92.59
Work	17.82	18.81	9.98	22.74	12.70	19.66	22.91	20.64	14.87	4.40
Some other place	1.81	1.96	0.83	1.67	1.96	2.24	1.68	0.72	1.87	3.01
Means of transportation:										
Walked	7.59	6.95	12.03	7.37	7.82	7.29	5.42	8.26	8.24	9.85
Bus	2.89	2.03	9.38	1.73	4.10	1.93	3.26	3.14	2.28	4.87
Own car	75.40	79.17	46.17	81.65	68.89	80.33	80.85	75.29	73.36	58.44
Another's car	9.74	8.63	19.70	5.75	13.90	6.39	6.18	9.86	9.69	23.20
Other	4.37	3.21	12.72	3.49	5.29	4.06	4.29	3.45	6.43	3.65
Travel time:										
Less than 15 minutes	50.92	51.27	48.17	50.35	51.51	54.04	50.36	54.32	45.75	46.97
15-29 minutes	29.90	29.95	30.32	30.50	29.27	28.26	29.70	29.51	30.70	33.30
30 minutes or more	18.95	18.58	21.03	18.87	19.03	17.70	19.94	15.88	23.15	18.92
Do not remember	0.23	0.21	0.48	0.28	0.19	-	-	0.28	0.40	0.81

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 12. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for sickness or illness by place left to visit doctor, means of transportation, and travel time, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Place left to visit doctor, means of transportation, and travel time	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000- \$6,999	\$7,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent distribution						
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Place left to visit doctor:						
Home	80.21	90.56	85.18	81.93	75.55	73.15
Work	17.95	5.57	14.33	15.52	23.88	24.76
Some other place	1.84	3.87	0.49	2.55	0.57	2.10
Means of transportation:						
Walked	7.77	10.42	10.05	7.32	5.30	7.22
Bus	2.96	5.91	5.80	3.29	1.05	0.63
Own car	74.93	48.00	64.45	76.75	88.37	85.08
Another's car	9.90	25.38	14.55	8.55	3.49	4.03
Other	4.44	10.29	5.15	4.09	1.79	3.04
Travel time:						
Less than 15 minutes	51.08	43.67	47.53	52.00	58.19	50.76
15-29 minutes	29.90	28.92	31.52	30.95	26.74	31.47
30 minutes or more	18.78	26.34	20.76	17.05	15.07	17.57
Do not remember	0.24	1.07	0.18	-	-	0.20

Table 13. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for sickness or illness by length of wait before seeing doctor, by degree of satisfaction, and percent considering wait too long, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Length of wait:										
Less than 16 minutes.....	42.79	44.41	28.41	42.13	43.49	46.45	46.61	37.70	39.59	42.07
16-30 minutes.....	27.06	27.03	28.09	28.41	25.66	24.51	25.04	28.70	30.22	28.44
31 minutes or more.....	30.15	28.56	43.50	29.46	30.86	29.04	28.35	33.61	30.20	29.49
Degree of satisfaction:										
Satisfactory.....	87.26	87.17	87.56	85.33	89.27	84.50	85.23	89.54	89.97	88.67
Not completely satisfactory.....	8.67	8.87	7.35	9.85	7.45	11.01	9.50	7.14	7.74	6.22
Not satisfactory.....	3.63	3.57	4.20	4.50	2.74	3.95	4.85	2.94	2.22	4.21
No opinion.....	0.43	0.38	0.88	0.33	0.54	0.54	0.42	0.37	0.07	0.90
Percent										
Considered wait too long.....	22.22	20.73	35.08	22.96	21.45	26.96	19.08	24.84	17.02	20.66

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 14. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for sickness or illness by length of wait before seeing doctor, by degree of satisfaction, and percent considering wait too long, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent distribution						
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Length of wait:						
Less than 16 minutes.....	43.00	40.78	39.41	39.08	44.73	48.51
16-30 minutes.....	27.34	25.48	28.50	29.79	30.67	22.54
31 minutes or more.....	29.66	33.73	32.09	31.12	24.59	28.95
Degree of satisfaction:						
Satisfactory.....	87.49	85.41	87.32	89.58	89.13	85.63
Not completely satisfactory.....	8.67	10.19	7.46	7.46	7.52	10.64
Not satisfactory.....	3.39	4.26	4.60	2.63	2.67	3.33
No opinion.....	0.45	0.15	0.62	0.33	0.68	0.41
Percent						
Considered wait too long.....	21.82	26.85	21.00	22.14	18.78	21.83

Table 15. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for regular checkup by time from decision to visit doctor until visit, by time from appointment made until visit, and percent considering wait too long, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
<u>Time from decision until visit</u>										
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 1 day	8.77	8.65	10.92	10.98	7.50	10.19	7.69	8.89	8.67	7.79
1-6 days	12.88	13.24	8.67	15.56	11.35	13.57	12.52	13.02	14.03	10.49
1 week	10.89	10.56	14.55	13.07	9.64	15.43	12.61	9.29	6.63	8.50
2-3 weeks	10.21	10.43	8.68	9.70	10.51	11.01	10.65	10.49	10.33	7.59
1-2 months	17.69	17.63	18.66	15.72	18.82	16.66	18.10	14.68	16.94	24.78
3 months or more	35.20	35.17	34.48	28.38	39.12	29.84	33.45	39.32	39.76	34.56
Do not remember	4.35	4.32	4.04	6.59	3.07	3.29	4.97	4.30	3.65	6.29
<u>Time from appointment made until visit</u>										
Total	89.75	90.24	84.08	85.83	92.00	91.36	92.22	88.72	85.27	90.76
Less than 1 day	5.02	5.03	4.41	6.63	4.10	4.93	4.86	5.19	4.26	6.12
1-6 days	22.53	22.27	25.24	25.76	20.67	24.42	23.24	21.15	21.86	21.28
1 week	17.53	17.57	18.92	16.88	17.90	18.87	20.89	18.01	14.06	13.91
2-3 weeks	13.72	14.02	11.65	9.50	16.15	17.32	15.72	13.64	10.55	8.74
1-2 months	15.19	15.44	12.44	12.50	16.73	14.50	13.72	16.08	15.29	16.95
3 months or more	14.53	14.60	11.41	12.65	15.61	9.87	12.47	13.66	18.37	22.24
Do not remember	1.23	1.30		1.91	0.84	1.46	1.32	1.00	0.88	1.51
Percent										
Considered wait too long	7.26	7.50	3.67	6.47	7.71	8.63	7.75	9.56	4.32	4.18

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 16. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for regular checkup by time from decision to visit doctor until visit, by time from appointment made until visit, and percent considering wait too long, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
<u>Time from decision until visit</u>		Percent distribution				
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 1 day	8.77	6.49	9.53	9.14	7.06	10.32
1-6 days.....	12.98	13.10	14.96	14.89	14.24	10.12
1 week.....	10.96	12.03	8.87	7.96	11.22	12.92
2-3 weeks	10.00	6.48	9.11	10.58	10.42	11.07
1-2 months.....	17.77	28.50	19.07	15.33	16.57	15.42
3 months or more.....	35.25	26.81	35.62	35.80	36.56	37.00
Do not remember.....	4.26	6.59	2.85	6.30	3.93	3.14
<u>Time from appointment made until visit</u>		Percent				
Total	89.85	84.27	86.06	88.18	90.31	94.18
Less than 1 day	5.13	6.03	5.95	6.53	5.31	3.53
1-6 days.....	22.55	20.90	23.02	24.06	21.11	23.17
1 week.....	17.44	12.76	16.67	13.14	15.51	23.27
2-3 weeks	13.79	8.19	8.56	17.44	15.94	14.61
1-2 months.....	15.20	21.31	12.92	13.88	14.23	15.36
3 months or more.....	14.54	13.26	18.19	11.74	16.51	13.53
Do not remember.....	1.20	1.81	0.77	1.39	1.69	0.71
		Percent				
Considered wait too long.....	7.42	4.91	8.07	9.35	7.46	6.98

Table 17. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for regular checkup by place left to visit doctor, means of transportation, and travel time, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Place left to visit doctor, means of transportation, and travel time	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Place left to visit doctor:										
Home	78.87	78.84	79.98	71.38	83.14	70.92	78.77	75.44	85.79	89.56
Work	20.40	20.36	20.02	27.48	16.36	27.61	20.29	23.92	14.21	10.20
Some other place	0.73	0.80		1.14	0.50	1.46	0.94	0.65		0.24
Means of transportation:										
Walked	7.83	7.67	8.99	9.37	6.95	7.59	6.88	10.16	6.07	8.06
Bus	3.92	3.19	12.86	3.19	4.34	2.41	3.31	3.25	5.90	6.02
Own car	78.30	80.28	55.11	79.35	77.71	82.50	84.71	76.49	76.23	67.23
Another's car	7.50	6.86	14.91	6.02	8.34	4.69	3.31	8.52	8.26	15.87
Other	2.45	2.00	8.13	2.07	2.66	2.81	1.79	1.57	3.54	2.83
Travel time:										
Less than 15 minutes	45.11	46.00	32.61	45.49	44.90	39.31	48.27	51.39	43.05	42.86
15-29 minutes	32.87	32.34	40.25	31.81	33.48	39.02	32.33	29.38	30.04	32.36
30 minutes or more	21.85	21.49	27.03	22.70	21.37	21.67	19.27	19.06	26.91	24.07
Do not remember	0.16	0.17	0.11		0.26		0.14	0.16		0.71

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 18. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for regular checkup by place left to visit doctor, means of transportation, and travel time, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Place left to visit doctor, means of transportation, and travel time	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent distribution						
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Place left to visit doctor:						
Home	78.86	88.73	80.34	80.24	79.10	73.55
Work	20.38	9.53	18.53	19.54	20.37	25.75
Some other place	0.76	1.74	1.12	0.22	0.53	0.70
Means of transportation:						
Walked	7.87	11.20	10.34	4.41	7.61	7.61
Bus	3.73	6.91	5.81	2.39	2.96	2.92
Own car	78.27	54.36	70.50	81.60	83.44	85.12
Another's car	7.58	22.44	11.86	8.61	5.09	1.34
Other	2.55	5.09	1.49	3.00	0.90	3.01
Travel time:						
Less than 15 minutes	45.00	32.43	42.96	48.20	45.79	48.32
15-29 minutes	32.72	36.81	33.93	29.78	32.14	32.67
30 minutes or more	22.11	30.59	22.84	21.55	21.94	19.01
Do not remember	0.17	0.18	0.27	0.46	0.12	-

Table 19. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for regular checkup by length of wait before seeing doctor, by degree of satisfaction, and percent considering wait too long, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Length of wait:										
Less than 16 minutes.....	45.07	45.59	38.50	47.70	43.56	45.62	54.85	45.21	39.20	36.92
16-30 minutes.....	29.61	29.70	29.04	29.69	29.57	28.32	24.54	30.13	30.57	37.35
31 minutes or more.....	25.31	24.71	32.46	22.60	26.87	26.06	20.51	24.66	30.23	25.73
Degree of satisfaction:										
Satisfactory.....	91.59	91.69	90.54	90.35	92.29	91.46	90.19	90.60	93.35	93.23
Not completely satisfactory.....	5.28	5.27	5.40	5.44	5.19	5.64	4.91	6.53	4.13	4.60
Not satisfactory.....	2.46	2.38	3.68	3.34	1.95	2.55	4.17	1.61	2.02	1.70
No opinion.....	0.68	0.67	0.39	0.86	0.57	0.34	0.72	1.26	0.50	0.48
Percent										
Considered wait too long.....	19.75	19.13	26.78	18.63	20.39	22.05	18.85	17.15	20.40	20.50

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 20. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited doctor for regular checkup by length of wait before seeing doctor, by degree of satisfaction, and percent considering wait too long, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent distribution						
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Length of wait:						
Less than 16 minutes.....	44.94	28.68	39.74	40.57	49.75	52.14
16-30 minutes.....	29.74	36.31	29.01	35.12	23.85	28.95
31 minutes or more.....	25.32	35.02	31.24	24.31	26.40	18.91
Degree of satisfaction:						
Satisfactory.....	91.56	88.99	89.37	92.18	92.20	92.66
Not completely satisfactory.....	5.25	6.46	7.89	3.44	4.86	4.92
Not satisfactory.....	2.49	3.64	2.33	3.21	2.50	1.73
No opinion.....	0.71	0.91	0.41	1.17	0.44	0.70
Percent						
Considered wait too long.....	20.02	25.95	20.47	17.51	20.65	18.53

Table 21. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years who had a health problem during the past 12 months about which they would have liked to have seen a doctor but did not, by race, sex, age, and reason for not seeing doctor: United States, 1971-75

Reason for not seeing doctor	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent of persons										
Total.....	14.79	14.44	18.28	13.05	16.37	17.50	15.55	14.15	12.88	11.59
Lack of confidence.....	2.03	1.97	2.43	1.86	2.18	1.97	2.44	2.20	1.34	2.18
Did not have time.....	3.37	3.51	2.25	4.00	2.81	4.49	3.71	3.04	3.29	1.09
Would have cost too much.....	3.33	3.02	6.45	2.78	3.83	4.23	2.70	2.80	4.01	2.44
Afraid of finding out what was wrong....	1.75	1.55	3.28	1.52	1.96	2.83	2.37	1.29	0.48	1.07
Just did not go.....	1.41	1.40	1.69	1.36	1.46	1.10	1.57	1.57	1.77	1.00
Other.....	13.32	12.99	16.38	11.64	14.83	16.28	13.92	12.69	10.95	10.49

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 22. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years who had a health problem during the past 12 months about which they would have liked to have seen a doctor but did not, by annual family income and reason for not seeing doctor: United States, 1971-75

Reason for not seeing doctor	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent of persons						
Total.....	14.88	21.20	16.50	12.74	12.27	14.58
Lack of confidence.....	2.01	2.48	1.82	2.80	1.43	1.80
Did not have time.....	3.37	2.98	3.26	2.21	3.49	4.42
Would have cost too much.....	3.45	8.20	6.54	2.51	1.70	1.41
Afraid of finding out what was wrong.....	1.72	2.36	2.17	1.88	0.69	1.94
Just did not go.....	1.45	2.58	2.00	0.57	1.59	1.07
Other.....	13.37	18.50	14.42	12.11	10.59	13.51

Table 23. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time since last general examination and location, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Time since last general examination and location	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Time since last general examination:										
Less than 6 months.....	18.12	18.05	18.69	14.78	21.17	17.41	17.39	16.66	19.60	21.42
6-11 months.....	13.44	13.57	11.85	10.81	15.82	13.04	16.20	13.12	12.38	11.67
1 but less than 2 years.....	17.18	17.10	17.25	16.84	17.49	19.17	16.68	16.60	17.25	14.61
2 years or more.....	34.55	35.72	25.88	43.55	26.37	35.23	35.26	38.17	33.38	27.09
Never.....	15.45	14.30	25.50	13.21	17.50	13.33	13.32	14.65	16.70	23.38
Do not remember.....	1.25	1.26	0.83	0.81	1.65	1.83	1.15	0.80	0.68	1.83
Location:										
Private doctor's office.....	56.98	59.04	39.58	49.65	63.64	56.68	60.74	56.82	55.71	53.30
Hospital clinic.....	17.24	16.75	22.00	22.13	12.80	16.84	15.12	19.03	18.21	17.15
Some other place.....	10.15	9.73	12.81	14.85	5.88	12.95	10.67	9.44	9.11	5.97
Do not remember.....	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.15	0.11	0.04	0.15	0.06	0.27	0.20

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 24. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time since last general examination and location, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Time since last general examination and location	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent distribution						
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Time since last general examination:						
Less than 6 months.....	18.21	14.52	18.95	16.38	18.51	20.91
6-11 months.....	13.28	11.85	13.52	10.74	13.38	15.79
1 but less than 2 years.....	17.16	14.43	14.39	17.93	17.04	19.77
2 years or more.....	34.63	30.73	31.15	37.61	36.70	34.56
Never.....	15.48	26.17	21.06	16.09	13.23	8.06
Do not remember.....	1.24	2.32	0.94	1.26	1.14	0.91
Location:						
Private doctor's office.....	57.00	43.31	51.31	53.82	59.75	67.63
Hospital clinic.....	17.25	21.22	18.88	20.15	16.09	12.99
Some other place.....	10.10	9.08	8.40	9.89	10.67	11.29
Do not remember.....	0.12	0.22	0.35	0.05	0.07	0.04

Table 25. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years by race, sex, age, and selected tests or procedures received during checkup: United States, 1971-75

Selected tests or procedures	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent of persons										
Cardiogram.....	34.06	33.62	37.30	40.97	27.44	15.39	29.72	39.71	48.84	53.90
Blood pressure check.....	97.45	97.31	98.62	98.77	96.18	96.92	97.24	97.14	98.31	98.37
Chest X-ray.....	51.02	49.76	60.51	62.04	40.47	44.14	48.72	53.40	57.45	57.49
Blood tests.....	77.08	76.49	81.92	81.71	72.64	73.68	76.61	77.77	80.44	79.65
Urinalysis.....	83.31	83.28	83.29	87.10	79.68	83.01	85.34	82.03	84.41	80.90
Vision tests.....	30.94	30.09	40.23	45.49	17.03	36.37	33.81	29.96	25.88	21.96
Hearing tests.....	21.43	20.97	25.58	33.97	9.43	24.69	22.50	20.70	19.83	15.21
Rectal examination.....	48.57	48.43	50.07	52.46	44.85	45.04	48.24	52.11	49.01	50.19
Internal examination (women).....	67.54	68.43	60.25	...	67.54	75.71	75.88	64.09	58.32	54.67

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 26. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years by annual family income and selected tests or procedures received during checkup: United States, 1971-75

Selected tests or procedures	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent of persons						
Cardiogram.....	33.91	38.58	33.63	32.58	29.95	36.42
Blood pressure check.....	97.43	97.69	96.22	97.40	97.61	97.78
Chest X-ray.....	50.68	53.91	51.75	51.17	48.76	50.08
Blood tests.....	76.80	74.53	76.62	78.01	75.30	78.32
Urinalysis.....	83.07	80.56	80.15	83.35	83.54	85.01
Vision tests.....	30.88	26.03	28.66	30.61	32.51	32.83
Hearing tests.....	21.23	17.54	23.38	20.65	21.27	22.13
Rectal examination.....	48.51	40.60	48.66	46.62	49.12	52.67
Internal examination (women).....	67.74	55.12	62.47	68.53	71.58	74.62

Table 27. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time since last shots, immunizations, or vaccinations to prevent illness, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Time since last shots, immunizations, or vaccinations	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 6 months	7.23	7.14	8.16	7.06	7.39	6.11	5.48	7.33	9.15	9.62
6-11 months	5.75	5.79	4.94	6.85	4.75	5.56	5.58	4.69	6.40	7.38
1-2 years	12.85	12.82	11.71	15.46	10.49	15.97	12.93	11.67	11.79	9.59
3-5 years	14.36	14.88	10.27	16.43	12.49	19.52	14.18	13.51	11.63	9.01
6-9 years	9.88	10.25	6.31	10.87	8.99	13.78	11.07	9.62	6.49	4.87
10 years or more	29.11	29.38	27.82	27.21	30.83	24.57	31.77	33.08	29.22	27.17
Never	8.33	7.51	15.78	6.49	10.00	4.02	5.53	7.56	11.55	19.15
Do not remember	12.49	12.22	15.01	9.64	15.06	10.47	13.45	12.53	13.78	13.21

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 28. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time since last shots, immunizations, or vaccinations to prevent illness, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Time since last shots, immunizations, or vaccinations	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent distribution						
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 6 months	7.25	7.65	7.30	7.12	8.70	5.75
6-11 months	5.66	5.46	4.74	4.40	5.28	7.62
1-2 years	12.72	11.15	12.70	12.35	12.60	14.00
3-5 years	14.32	8.26	10.67	13.28	14.77	20.14
6-9 years	9.97	6.07	8.31	9.93	12.20	11.01
10 years or more	29.29	29.77	31.48	29.54	30.52	26.42
Never	8.41	16.46	13.68	7.74	4.95	4.68
Did not remember	12.38	15.18	11.12	15.64	10.97	10.38

Table 29. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years by race, sex, age, and selected health care practices and preferences: United States, 1971-75

Selected health care practices and preferences	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent of persons										
Usually see a particular doctor.....	85.24	86.18	78.63	80.76	89.28	79.95	85.32	87.24	88.36	88.36
Need an appointment except in an emergency.....	69.79	71.55	53.72	66.45	72.80	70.59	71.59	69.70	67.08	69.17
Like doctor to talk about condition.....	89.96	90.20	88.96	87.52	92.16	90.29	91.17	90.66	88.30	88.42
Doctor usually talks about condition.....	83.76	84.01	81.66	82.75	84.67	83.79	87.04	85.07	80.72	80.26
Often try home remedies.....	8.75	8.53	10.83	8.21	9.24	10.10	9.49	8.13	6.89	8.43
Sometimes try home remedies.....	33.56	33.15	38.56	33.70	33.44	36.47	33.86	32.23	31.34	32.42

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 30. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years by annual family income and selected health care practices and preferences: United States, 1971-75

Selected health care practices and preferences	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent of persons						
Usually see a particular doctor.....	85.24	80.97	83.61	86.11	87.24	86.00
Need an appointment except in an emergency.....	69.84	57.91	63.25	67.60	73.19	78.89
Like doctor to talk about condition.....	89.89	85.37	87.58	90.67	90.70	92.35
Doctor usually talks about condition.....	83.76	76.43	79.68	84.66	87.26	86.23
Often try home remedies.....	8.75	11.30	9.47	8.32	8.81	7.21
Sometimes try home remedies.....	33.77	34.12	32.90	32.34	33.00	35.93

Table 31. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time since last visit or talk with dentist, according to location: United States, 1971-75

Location	Total	Time since last visit or talk with dentist					
		Never	Less than 6 months	6-11 months	1 but less than 2 years	2-4 years	5 years or more
Percent distribution							
Private dentist's office.....	100.00	3.84	29.37	13.60	17.50	15.60	20.09
Elsewhere.....	100.00	85.59	2.42	0.89	1.71	2.73	6.65

Table 32. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years who visited dentist at private dentist's office during the past 12 months, by race, sex, age, and annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Annual family income group	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent of persons										
Total.....	42.2	44.6	21.0	39.2	44.9	45.8	47.4	45.7	35.1	29.5
Less than \$4,000.....	21.8	23.8	14.5	19.2	23.3	25.9	24.1	27.6	17.0	19.7
\$4,000-\$6,999.....	31.0	34.4	13.6	25.6	35.1	38.9	39.9	28.1	22.6	26.7
\$7,000-\$9,999.....	38.5	40.1	24.2	32.3	43.9	41.2	39.6	37.2	33.1	40.3
\$10,000-\$14,999.....	44.6	45.5	30.0	39.1	50.5	44.9	44.4	47.8	42.6	32.2
\$15,000 or more.....	60.4	61.4	38.0	57.7	63.6	61.0	61.4	62.9	55.1	55.2

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 33. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years who visited dentist elsewhere than at a private dentist's office during the past 12 months, by race, sex, age, and annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Annual family income group	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent of persons										
Total.....	3.3	3.2	3.8	3.4	3.2	3.7	4.5	3.8	1.9	1.2
Less than \$4,000.....	2.6	2.4	2.9	4.1	1.8	5.1	1.7	2.5	1.2	2.7
\$4,000-\$6,999.....	2.2	2.2	2.1	3.0	1.6	2.4	3.8	3.6	1.9	0.1
\$7,000-\$9,999.....	3.9	3.6	7.3	4.1	3.7	4.1	6.8	4.0	2.1	0.8
\$10,000-\$14,999.....	2.3	2.3	2.9	2.0	2.6	2.5	3.3	2.1	1.3	0.7
\$15,000 or more.....	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.0	5.5	5.0	4.9	5.8	2.9	-

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 34. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time since last dental visit at an office or clinic and reason if visit was during the past 12 months, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Time since last visit and reason	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Time since last dental visit:										
During past 12 months.....	44.34	46.55	23.98	41.30	47.08	47.36	49.92	47.92	37.64	31.56
13 months or more.....	55.66	53.45	76.02	58.70	52.92	52.64	50.08	52.08	62.36	68.44
Reason for visit during past 12 months:										
Adjustment or repair of dental plate.....	2.50	2.48	2.54	2.20	2.77	0.85	1.64	3.44	3.77	4.01
To have dental plate made.....	1.75	1.76	1.71	1.78	1.72	0.86	1.60	2.21	2.85	1.48
Toothache.....	1.38	1.43	1.05	1.24	1.50	1.58	1.77	1.52	0.39	1.47
Tooth pulled or other surgery.....	4.58	4.34	6.81	5.09	4.11	5.39	5.60	3.94	3.50	3.79
Trouble with gums.....	0.99	1.00	1.03	0.75	1.21	0.71	1.14	1.30	0.96	0.81
Regular checkup or teeth cleaning.....	21.95	23.82	4.77	19.98	23.72	23.67	26.93	23.50	17.67	13.14
To have teeth filled.....	7.67	8.20	2.50	7.18	8.11	10.26	7.46	8.48	4.97	4.91
Other.....	3.52	3.54	3.56	3.07	3.93	4.03	3.77	3.53	3.54	1.94

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 35. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time since last dental visit at an office or clinic and reason if visit was during the past 12 months, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Time since last visit and reason	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent distribution						
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Time since last dental visit:						
During past 12 months.....	44.10	24.56	32.51	41.25	45.59	61.54
13 months or more.....	55.90	75.44	67.49	58.75	54.41	38.46
Reason for visit during past 12 months:						
Adjustment or repair of dental plate.....	2.54	2.00	4.30	2.41	2.14	2.27
To have dental plate made.....	1.76	2.21	2.06	1.90	1.46	1.51
Toothache.....	1.34	1.05	1.54	1.58	1.63	0.91
Tooth pulled or other surgery.....	4.51	6.30	4.94	4.63	4.64	3.12
Trouble with gums.....	0.99	1.91	0.68	0.55	1.13	0.91
Regular checkup or teeth cleaning.....	22.03	5.85	9.76	20.22	23.15	37.71
To have teeth filled.....	7.49	3.54	6.70	6.81	8.46	9.58
Other.....	3.44	1.71	2.52	3.14	2.97	5.53

Table 36. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time from decision to visit dentist until visit, by time from appointment made until visit, and percent considering wait too long, according to reason for last dental visit: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Reason for last visit							
	Adjustment or repair of dental plate	To have dental plate made	Toothache	Tooth pulled or other surgery	Regular checkup	To have teeth cleaned	To have teeth filled	Other
<u>Time from decision until visit</u>	Percent distribution							
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 1 day.....	14.70	4.60	30.52	17.04	6.47	6.07	8.15	13.72
1-6 days.....	27.53	12.30	33.80	26.09	10.00	8.16	19.21	23.97
1 week.....	10.98	11.02	10.80	11.16	11.13	13.66	14.16	9.75
2-3 weeks.....	8.28	7.59	4.69	6.41	9.40	10.63	14.27	7.77
1-2 months.....	10.30	11.55	6.57	8.82	12.47	13.47	17.49	9.26
3 months or more.....	14.70	26.74	7.51	18.85	47.40	42.31	21.14	13.22
Do not remember.....	13.51	26.20	6.10	11.61	3.00	5.69	5.58	6.28
<u>Time from appointment made until visit</u>	Percent							
Total.....	72.30	85.24	73.71	64.33	96.13	94.88	93.13	67.93
Less than 1 day.....	10.81	6.20	25.35	14.63	3.93	4.17	7.73	9.92
1-6 days.....	28.21	24.17	32.39	27.07	15.60	18.60	27.15	26.94
1 week.....	12.16	18.29	7.04	8.97	16.87	17.27	20.49	13.06
2-3 weeks.....	7.60	9.84	3.76	4.75	17.60	17.08	17.17	8.60
1-2 months.....	3.89	5.03	1.41	2.56	13.07	12.33	12.23	4.79
3 months or more.....	1.52	3.85	0.94	0.98	26.73	23.34	6.12	2.48
Do not remember.....	7.94	17.54	2.35	5.13	2.13	1.71	2.25	1.98
Considered wait too long.....	7.94	8.24	11.27	10.11	10.73	12.33	17.92	9.92

Table 37. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by length of wait before seeing dentist, by degree of satisfaction, and percent considering wait too long, according to reason for last dental visit: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Reason for last visit							
	Adjustment or repair of dental plate	To have dental plate made	Toothache	Tooth pulled or other surgery	Regular checkup	To have teeth cleaned	To have teeth filled	Other
	Percent distribution							
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Length of wait:								
Less than 10 minutes.....	37.08	31.22	37.07	34.04	36.19	35.71	37.98	37.96
10-19 minutes.....	30.58	29.58	28.29	28.87	41.53	38.22	34.93	34.69
20 minutes or more	32.34	39.20	34.63	37.09	22.28	26.06	27.09	27.35
Degree of satisfaction:								
Satisfactory	89.28	90.96	86.83	94.44	95.00	92.47	93.36	87.76
Not completely satisfactory.....	5.62	5.63	6.83	2.11	2.90	4.63	3.37	6.33
Not satisfactory	4.92	3.29	5.37	3.05	1.76	2.90	2.94	4.69
No opinion	0.18	0.12	0.98	0.39	0.34	-	0.33	1.22
	Percent							
Considered wait too long.....	7.91	10.33	13.17	12.36	8.10	11.20	7.62	8.16

Table 38. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited dentist for regular checkup or teeth cleaning by time from decision to visit dentist until visit, by time from appointment made until visit, and percent considering wait too long, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Time from decision until visit										
Percent distribution										
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 1 day	6.61	6.83	3.09	7.85	5.58	4.53	7.40	6.85	8.70	8.28
1-6 days	9.00	8.75	13.19	10.29	7.94	7.92	11.36	7.46	9.31	9.50
1 week	12.14	12.05	11.27	12.43	11.90	15.04	10.04	11.36	14.11	5.52
2-3 weeks	10.12	9.96	16.19	11.85	8.68	10.83	10.26	10.79	7.54	9.24
1-2 months	12.82	12.97	11.45	10.18	15.01	19.11	12.89	9.12	5.88	9.30
3 months or more	45.91	46.53	29.27	43.38	48.01	39.90	44.08	50.95	51.87	52.33
Do not remember	3.34	2.84	15.54	4.03	2.76	2.55	3.97	3.47	2.43	5.84
Time from appointment made until visit										
Total	96.57	97.31	80.04	95.58	97.39	96.60	97.95	95.37	96.56	95.22
Less than 1 day	3.38	3.45	2.27	3.54	3.24	2.51	2.99	3.43	5.85	3.76
1-6 days	16.04	15.28	32.05	16.32	15.80	15.72	13.57	16.38	18.38	20.86
1 week	18.28	18.05	22.57	17.45	18.97	21.61	16.69	17.81	16.96	13.25
2-3 weeks	18.39	18.90	9.31	18.94	17.93	18.44	21.15	16.72	19.16	11.87
1-2 months	13.37	13.78	5.51	12.42	14.16	18.16	14.69	10.19	6.68	9.87
3 months or more	24.54	25.19	7.17	24.77	24.35	17.80	26.38	28.51	27.98	29.04
Do not remember	2.16	2.22	1.16	1.75	2.49	1.74	1.80	2.32	1.23	6.57
Percent										
Considered wait too long	12.17	12.45	7.09	11.39	12.82	14.15	14.14	9.71	11.42	5.29

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 39. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited dentist for regular checkup or teeth cleaning by time from decision to visit dentist until visit, by time from appointment made until visit, and percent considering wait too long, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
<u>Time from decision until visit</u>		Percent distribution				
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 1 day	6.65	3.99	4.92	7.06	4.12	8.83
1-6 days.....	9.22	15.72	10.97	7.63	11.28	7.42
1 week.....	12.23	11.11	9.08	13.89	12.52	12.04
2-3 weeks	9.99	9.45	10.62	11.06	9.29	9.92
1-2 months.....	13.13	11.69	12.76	12.13	12.19	14.47
3 months or more.....	45.34	39.66	44.99	42.14	48.61	45.36
Do not remember	3.38	8.37	6.15	5.97	1.99	1.95
<u>Time from appointment made until visit</u>		Percent				
Total	96.68	89.77	91.29	96.25	97.68	98.14
Less than 1 day	3.32	7.43	3.29	3.51	2.84	3.07
1-6 days.....	16.19	27.01	17.54	16.14	14.88	15.49
1 week.....	18.43	18.09	21.66	17.86	20.96	16.38
2-3 weeks	18.34	7.44	15.29	20.06	16.98	20.42
1-2 months.....	13.43	7.19	11.88	13.63	14.11	13.97
3 months or more.....	24.31	17.56	18.83	20.64	24.90	27.54
Do not remember	2.22	4.15	2.79	4.42	1.61	1.28
		Percent				
Considered wait too long.....	12.22	4.93	14.65	10.21	12.25	13.52

Table 40. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited dentist for regular checkup or teeth cleaning by length of wait before seeing dentist, by degree of satisfaction, and percent considering wait too long, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Length of wait:										
Less than 10 minutes.....	35.35	36.02	19.49	37.69	33.42	33.58	31.96	39.78	37.93	36.79
10-19 minutes.....	42.42	42.47	42.61	39.29	45.00	42.81	44.84	42.05	38.13	41.31
20 minutes or more.....	22.23	21.51	37.91	23.02	21.57	23.62	23.20	18.17	23.94	21.90
Degree of satisfaction:										
Satisfactory.....	93.99	94.50	84.55	94.04	93.94	90.55	96.17	95.68	96.06	92.34
Not completely satisfactory.....	3.74	3.36	9.32	3.46	3.96	6.23	2.57	2.16	2.73	3.54
Not satisfactory.....	2.04	1.89	6.13	2.20	1.91	2.85	1.25	1.78	1.20	3.67
No opinion.....	0.23	0.24		0.29	0.18	0.37		0.38		0.44
Percent										
Considered wait too long.....	9.42	8.87	23.32	10.00	8.94	10.84	11.57	6.39	8.04	7.44

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 41. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited dentist for regular checkup or teeth cleaning by length of wait before seeing dentist, by degree of satisfaction, and percent considering wait too long, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent distribution						
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Length of wait:						
Less than 10 minutes.....	35.32	27.84	33.23	30.09	32.90	40.65
10-19 minutes.....	42.51	36.03	41.40	45.69	45.23	40.25
20 minutes or more.....	22.17	36.13	25.37	24.22	21.87	19.10
Degree of satisfaction:						
Satisfactory.....	94.03	85.71	90.04	91.42	94.92	96.42
Not completely satisfactory.....	3.64	9.50	5.46	6.59	1.95	2.35
Not satisfactory.....	2.09	4.79	3.15	1.99	2.76	1.16
No opinion.....	0.24		1.36		0.37	0.07
Percent						
Considered wait too long.....	9.39	15.09	4.61	13.11	8.42	8.62

Table 42. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited dentist for reason other than regular checkup or teeth cleaning by time from decision to visit dentist until visit, by time from appointment made until visit, and percent considering wait too long, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
<u>Time from decision until visit</u>										
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 1 day	13.36	12.91	16.91	15.76	11.11	13.80	11.81	15.43	14.18	10.39
1-6 days	21.74	22.15	17.95	22.05	21.44	22.38	23.46	20.57	20.92	21.38
1 week	11.65	11.72	11.55	10.72	12.51	12.06	12.77	11.32	11.56	10.17
2-3 weeks	8.68	8.83	6.99	8.56	8.80	8.19	10.36	7.36	8.96	8.97
1-2 months	11.55	11.80	10.03	11.47	11.62	13.92	14.64	11.26	8.68	8.16
3 months or more	20.01	20.10	19.92	18.42	21.51	21.90	18.10	22.82	18.87	16.68
Do not remember	10.97	10.75	12.35	10.36	11.54	5.42	6.66	10.25	14.57	21.58
<u>Time from appointment made until visit</u>										
Total	78.30	81.22	58.17	73.23	83.06	79.73	80.65	78.01	75.75	76.96
Less than 1 day	11.83	12.01	10.90	12.19	11.49	11.21	12.61	12.54	11.37	11.44
1-6 days	27.48	27.79	23.90	26.69	28.23	27.05	29.77	25.95	26.56	28.89
1 week	14.47	15.49	8.00	12.29	16.52	13.38	15.46	15.32	15.04	12.94
2-3 weeks	9.71	10.45	4.76	7.76	11.54	11.30	10.53	10.48	8.57	6.46
1-2 months	6.08	6.61	2.64	6.13	6.03	10.31	6.42	5.14	3.80	3.31
3 months or more	2.69	2.85	1.56	2.64	2.73	3.32	2.80	3.19	1.69	2.13
Do not remember	5.90	5.88	6.26	5.39	6.37	3.09	2.80	5.32	8.48	11.67
Percent										
Considered wait too long	12.72	13.28	8.45	12.42	13.00	16.67	15.82	12.74	9.06	7.36

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 43. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited dentist for reason other than regular checkup or teeth cleaning by time from decision to visit dentist until visit, by time from appointment made until visit, and percent considering wait too long, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
<u>Time from decision until visit</u>		Percent distribution				
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 1 day	13.28	11.05	11.84	12.63	15.71	14.57
1-6 days.....	21.88	18.20	20.85	23.93	21.76	24.25
1 week.....	11.50	12.05	11.97	11.56	10.19	12.01
2-3 weeks	8.43	5.62	9.38	8.97	9.49	8.30
1-2 months.....	11.61	10.94	8.70	11.86	12.00	14.31
3 months or more.....	20.12	20.55	20.24	18.53	20.49	20.83
Do not remember	11.13	18.57	14.85	9.64	8.70	5.07
<u>Time from appointment made until visit</u>						
Total	78.33	69.16	74.28	77.12	82.14	87.53
Less than 1 day	11.63	10.56	11.03	12.49	11.91	11.94
1-6 days.....	27.81	23.69	24.40	30.24	30.62	29.03
1 week.....	14.35	12.96	15.25	11.36	15.15	17.00
2-3 weeks	9.59	5.86	8.42	10.35	9.42	13.60
1-2 months.....	6.18	3.71	5.33	5.84	7.55	8.05
3 months or more.....	2.76	2.11	2.04	1.94	3.01	4.64
Do not remember	5.89	10.15	7.65	4.90	4.37	3.11
		Percent				
Considered wait too long.....	12.81	8.01	9.10	13.42	14.49	18.21

Table 44. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited dentist for reason other than regular checkup or teeth cleaning by length of wait before seeing dentist, by degree of satisfaction, and percent considering wait too long, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Length of wait:										
Less than 10 minutes.....	35.86	37.19	26.53	35.64	36.07	36.19	31.92	37.43	37.61	35.47
10-19 minutes.....	31.56	32.44	25.69	29.88	33.14	33.92	32.92	30.31	30.40	29.36
20 minutes or more.....	32.58	30.37	47.78	34.48	30.79	29.89	35.16	32.26	32.00	35.17
Degree of satisfaction:										
Satisfactory.....	91.47	91.86	88.94	91.59	91.36	88.18	91.72	94.57	92.47	90.42
Not completely satisfactory.....	4.56	4.54	4.32	4.18	4.92	5.51	5.03	3.10	3.99	5.42
Not satisfactory.....	3.54	3.27	5.72	3.78	3.31	5.39	3.15	2.20	3.16	3.55
No opinion.....	0.43	0.34	1.01	0.45	0.41	0.91	0.10	0.12	0.38	0.61
Percent										
Considered wait too long.....	9.39	8.01	19.67	10.28	8.55	11.31	10.35	10.03	6.57	7.76

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 45. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years who last visited dentist for reason other than regular checkup or teeth cleaning by length of wait before seeing dentist, by degree of satisfaction, and percent considering wait too long, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Length of wait and degree of satisfaction	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent distribution						
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Length of wait:						
Less than 10 minutes.....	35.54	31.65	34.50	34.98	35.37	40.59
10-19 minutes.....	31.83	29.77	30.03	31.83	32.98	33.90
20 minutes or more.....	32.63	38.58	35.47	33.20	31.66	25.51
Degree of satisfaction:						
Satisfactory.....	91.35	90.20	90.87	91.32	92.23	91.80
Not completely satisfactory.....	4.59	5.25	4.83	4.99	4.39	3.64
Not satisfactory.....	3.61	4.06	3.71	2.95	3.04	4.44
No opinion.....	0.45	0.50	0.59	0.74	0.34	0.11
Percent						
Considered wait too long.....	9.41	10.62	9.43	8.27	10.29	8.48

Table 46. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years who had a regular dentist and who had a dental problem during the past 12 months but did not see dentist and reason dentist not seen, by race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Item	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent of persons										
Persons who had:										
Regular dentist	68.41	70.86	47.53	63.96	72.42	69.83	76.39	72.72	61.67	53.77
Problem during past 12 months but did not see dentist.....	22.13	20.42	37.43	21.65	22.56	28.75	23.00	22.55	16.85	13.22
Reason dentist not seen:										
Did not have time	5.43	5.41	5.69	7.20	3.82	7.85	6.76	5.78	2.43	1.67
Would cost too much.....	7.55	6.71	15.53	6.26	8.72	10.65	6.52	7.39	6.41	4.58
Other	8.56	7.92	13.99	8.05	9.03	10.23	9.47	8.28	6.46	7.01
Not stated.....	2.64	2.32	5.24	2.22	3.02	3.32	2.71	2.55	2.61	1.23

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 47. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years who had a regular dentist and who had a dental problem during the past 12 months but did not see dentist and reason dentist not seen, by annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Item	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent of persons						
Persons who had:						
Regular dentist	68.34	44.03	58.56	65.08	74.56	83.93
Problem during past 12 months but did not see dentist.....	22.32	26.91	26.50	22.56	22.50	17.06
Reason dentist not seen:						
Did not have time.....	5.45	3.87	4.92	5.14	6.80	5.60
Would cost too much	7.71	12.59	11.45	9.12	6.11	3.29
Other.....	8.59	10.69	9.92	8.51	8.43	6.88
Not stated	2.67	2.46	3.02	1.41	3.33	2.94

Table 48. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time since last hospital stay overnight or longer, according to race, sex, and age: United States, 1971-75

Time since last hospital stay overnight or longer	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent distribution										
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 6 months.....	5.97	5.87	7.14	4.97	6.88	5.91	4.55	6.02	6.17	8.18
6-11 months.....	6.58	6.27	9.50	5.03	7.98	6.83	6.35	6.08	6.41	7.54
1 year or more.....	75.15	76.37	67.14	70.85	79.04	70.78	77.42	76.77	78.21	73.33
Never.....	11.14	10.40	14.53	17.78	5.13	15.52	10.68	9.45	8.53	9.29
Do not remember.....	1.16	1.09	1.70	1.38	0.97	0.96	1.00	1.68	0.67	1.66

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 49. Percent distribution of persons ages 25-74 years by time since last hospital stay overnight or longer, according to annual family income: United States, 1971-75

Time since last hospital stay overnight or longer	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
Percent distribution						
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 6 months.....	6.00	7.88	6.43	7.54	5.79	3.75
6-11 months.....	6.58	8.05	7.79	6.27	6.04	5.84
1 year or more.....	75.18	72.25	74.34	74.83	75.49	77.25
Never.....	11.09	10.38	10.51	10.02	11.58	12.19
Do not remember.....	1.14	1.44	0.93	1.35	1.10	0.97

Table 50. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years by race, sex, age, and medical insurance coverage from selected sources: United States, 1971-75

Medical insurance coverage from selected sources	Total ¹	Race		Sex		Age in years				
		White	Black	Men	Women	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Percent of persons										
Medicare (for elderly).....	10.63	10.94	8.65	9.70	11.47	-	0.11	0.42	1.08	84.49
Private medical insurance.....	21.69	22.22	17.40	19.30	23.86	13.22	16.19	19.14	29.74	42.31
Place of work.....	61.34	62.70	49.42	66.33	56.82	70.61	73.08	67.56	53.91	20.71
Medicaid (for all ages).....	3.09	2.34	9.99	2.34	3.77	3.34	1.70	2.00	2.52	7.74
Retired military privileges.....	1.60	1.63	1.44	1.85	1.37	0.83	1.71	2.12	2.01	1.53
Veterans' medical care.....	4.52	4.49	5.05	8.63	0.79	4.38	3.33	6.89	4.94	1.95
Other government assistance.....	1.89	1.65	3.70	1.04	2.67	2.34	1.47	1.77	1.70	2.17
Other.....	2.53	2.65	1.54	1.85	3.14	2.47	3.40	2.44	1.86	2.30
None.....	10.72	9.80	17.99	9.68	11.66	12.20	9.67	10.45	14.29	4.46

¹Includes races other than white and black.

Table 51. Percent of persons ages 25-74 years by annual family income and medical insurance coverage from selected sources: United States, 1971-75

Medical insurance coverage from selected sources	Total	Annual family income group				
		Less than \$4,000	\$4,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000 or more
		Percent of persons				
Medicare (for elderly).....	10.58	27.82	18.04	11.11	3.41	3.15
Private medical insurance	21.59	25.50	27.52	22.01	18.63	18.47
Place of work	61.39	19.75	42.02	64.61	75.90	79.21
Medicaid (for all ages)	3.14	12.42	5.19	1.82	0.34	0.52
Retired military privileges	1.60	0.35	0.79	2.31	2.25	1.60
Veterans' medical care.....	4.52	3.36	4.88	4.59	4.28	5.12
Other government assistance	1.97	4.73	3.42	1.68	0.80	0.95
Other.....	2.58	2.05	3.88	2.11	2.30	2.74
None	10.47	25.00	16.08	9.93	5.86	4.05

APPENDIXES

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APPENDIX I

NHANES I DATA TAPE SUMMARY OF HEALTH CARE NEEDS

	<u>Tape position</u>
CATALOG NUMBER—4091	201
HEALTH CARE NEEDS QUESTIONNAIRE	
When was the last time you talked to a doctor about your health...	
At a private doctor's office?.....	225
At a hospital outpatient clinic?.....	226
At a city clinic?.....	227
At a clinic at work?.....	228
At another type clinic?	229
At a hospital emergency room?.....	230
At home?.....	231
Over the telephone?.....	232
In another way?	233
What was the main reason for your last visit with a doctor?.....	
For this last visit, how long was it from the time you decided you should see a doctor until you actually saw him?	234
Did you have an appointment to see him?	235
How long was it from the time you made the appointment until you saw him?.....	236
Was this time longer than you would have liked?.....	237
From what place did you leave to go to the doctor?.....	
How did you get from there to the doctor?	238
How long did it take to get there?.....	239
At this last visit, about how many minutes did you have to wait before being seen by the doctor?	240
Do you think this wait was too long?.....	241
How well satisfied were you with this visit?	242
During the past 12 months have you had a health problem which you would have liked to see a doctor about but did not for some reason?	
243	
What was the reason you did not see a doctor...	
Lack of confidence in available doctors?.....	248
Didn't have the time?.....	249
Would cost too much?	250
Couldn't get an appointment?.....	251
Would have to travel too far?	252
Didn't have a way to get there?.....	253
Was afraid of finding out what was wrong?	254
Didn't have anyone to care for children or other family members?.....	255
Other?.....	256
When did you last have a general checkup or examination, not counting exams made during a visit for an illness?.....	
257	
Where did you get this general examination?	
258	
During this last general examination, were you given...	
A cardiogram?.....	259
A blood pressure check?	260
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Blood tests?	262

A urinalysis?	263
Vision tests?.....	264
Hearing tests?.....	265
A rectal examination?.....	266
An internal examination? (females only)	267
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Why did you get this shot?.....	269
Is there a particular doctor you see regularly or whom you would go to if something were bothering you?	270
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When was the last time you visited or talked with a dentist about yourself...	
At a dentist's office?	277
At a hospital dental clinic?.....	278
At a hospital emergency clinic?.....	279
At another clinic?	280
Over the telephone?.....	281
In another way?	282
What was the main reason for your last visit or talk with a dentist at either his office or at a clinic?	283
For this last visit, how long was it from the time you decided you needed or wanted to see a dentist until you actually saw him?.....	284
At the time of this last visit or talk with a dentist did you have an appointment?.....	285
How long was it from the time you made the appointment until you saw him?.....	286
Was this wait longer than you would have liked it?	287
How did you get to the dentist's office?	288
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Does your dentist or dental clinic call you or send you a note to remind you when your next regular checkup is due?.....	295
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Was this stay in the hospital on account of an emergency or was it planned in advance?	305
What was the main reason you went into the hospital that time?	306
How long was it from the time it was decided you needed to go into the hospital until you went in?	307
What part of the doctor's bill did you or your family have to pay out of your own pocket for treatment the doctor gave you while you were in the hospital?	308
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Some other way	333

APPENDIX II

STATISTICAL NOTES

Survey Design

The first National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey has six partly overlapping samples that have different target populations or different survey components. The samples are basically three-stage, stratified, national probability samples of loose clusters of civilian noninstitutionalized persons in land-based segments of the coterminous United States. Because of time and economic constraints, persons living in Alaska, Hawaii, and on American Indian reservations were excluded. The sample on which this report is based was designed to be representative of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population ages 25-74 years, excluding those in Alaska, Hawaii, and on American Indian reservations.

At the first stage of the design, 90 primary sampling units (PSU's) were selected with probability proportional to size from the approximately 1,900 PSU's into which the United States has been divided by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. A PSU consists of a county, a group of small contiguous counties, or a standard metropolitan statistical area. Before selecting the 90 PSU's for inclusion in NHANES I, the 1,900 PSU's were first grouped into strata to assure the representativeness of the sample in terms of region and of relative population density. Some of the strata contained only one PSU; i.e., a large metropolitan area with a population of 2 million or more. PSU's were selected within strata using a controlled selection technique to assure the representativeness of the sample in terms of geographic area and relative rates of population change within PSU's.

At the second stage of the design, a sample of segments consisting of approximately six or eight households was systematically selected

within each selected PSU. In some PSU's a systematic sample of segments was drawn, but in others the segments were stratified as to whether they were considered poverty or nonpoverty segments, and then a sample was drawn in which a larger proportion of the poverty than the nonpoverty segments was selected.

Although 1970 census data were used as the frame for sampling within PSU's when the data became available, the schedule of the survey required that 1960 census data be used for the first 44 PSU's surveyed. Generally three types of segments were used:

1. Segments from the decennial census listing books.
2. Area segments that are defined geographically.
3. Permit segments, using updated lists of building permits issued in sample PSU's since the decennial census.

At the third stage of sampling, a list of all eligible persons was made within each selected segment. From this list, persons were systematically selected for inclusion in NHANES I. In some PSU's eligible persons were selected for inclusion in the sample with equal probability, but in other PSU's the probability of selection was dependent on age.

A more complete description of the survey design is included in *Vital and Health Statistics*, Series 1, Nos. 10a and 14.^{1,2} The data collection for this survey began in April 1971 and was completed in October 1975.

Of the 9,881 persons selected in the sample, 6,913 persons completed the examination, a response rate of 70 percent.

NOTE: A list of references follows the text.

Computation of Estimates

Since the design of NHANES I is a complex multistage probability sample, it is necessary to use complex procedures in the derivation of national estimates from the sample data. Three basic operations are involved.

Inflation by the reciprocal of the probability of selection.—The probability of selection is the product of the probabilities of selection from each step of selection in the design (PSU, segment, and sample person).

Nonresponse adjustment.—The estimates are inflated by a multiplication factor calculated within each PSU for each of five selected income groups. The numerator of these factors is the sum of the weights for *sample persons*, and the denominator is the sum of the weights for *examined persons*. The weights are the reciprocal of the probability of selection calculated above.

Poststratification by age-sex-race.—The estimates are ratio adjusted within each of 60 age-sex-race cells to an independent estimate, provided by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, of the population of each cell as of the midpoint of the survey. The effect of this ratio-estimating process is to make the sample more closely representative of the civilian noninstitutionalized population by age, sex, and race, which thereby reduces sampling variance.

In the detailed tables of this report, percent statistics are truncated after the second decimal place.

Reliability of Estimates

Since the estimates presented in this report are based on a sample, they are subject to sampling variability. In other words, they differ from the figures that would have been obtained if the survey had been conducted on the total population. They are also subject to nonsampling errors: bias introduced by faulty execution of the survey design, weakness in data collection procedures, incomplete responses, and errors in data processing. It is difficult to measure the amount of nonsampling errors; however, every effort was made in the conduct of the survey and the data processing to reduce them to a minimum.¹

The sampling variability of the statistics in this report may be estimated by the standard error. The chances are 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census by less than the standard error. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error and about 99 out of 100 that it would be less than 2.5 times as large.

Standard errors for most of the statistics in this report may be roughly estimated from the following equation:

$$\text{Standard error} = \text{antilog}(2.385 + 0.505(pq/N))$$

where p is the percent estimate, q is $100 - p$, and N is the weighted denominator of the percent. Estimates for the weighted denominators can be obtained from table I. The param-

Table I. Number of examined persons and estimated population in thousands, by race, sex, age, and annual family income group: United States, 1971-75

Race, sex, age, and annual family income group	Number of examined persons	Estimated population in thousands ¹
Total.....	6,913	106,639
<u>Race</u>		
White.....	5,968	94,886
Black.....	873	10,656
<u>Sex</u>		
Male.....	3,171	50,587
Female.....	3,742	56,052
<u>Age in years</u>		
25-34.....	1,573	28,460
35-44.....	1,214	22,343
45-54.....	1,620	23,576
55-64.....	1,280	19,196
65-74.....	1,226	13,064
<u>Annual family income group</u>		
Less than \$4,000.....	1,217	14,779
\$4,000-\$6,999.....	1,037	15,481
\$7,000-\$9,999.....	1,202	20,728
\$10,000-\$14,999.....	1,519	24,668
\$15,000 or more.....	1,663	26,703

¹The numbers in this table constitute estimates and closely approximate the U.S. population as estimated by the U.S. Bureau of the Census as of February 1, 1974.

eters for this equation were obtained by fitting estimates of the standard errors of the percents in tables 2, 3, 23, 24, 29, and 30 with a linear least squares regression.³ The estimates of the standard errors used in the fitting were calculated using a balanced repeated replication method that takes into account the complex sampling design of the survey.⁴ The fit of this model to the estimates is quite good, as indicated by the fact that the correlation coefficient r equals 0.96. The fit is illustrated in figure 1.

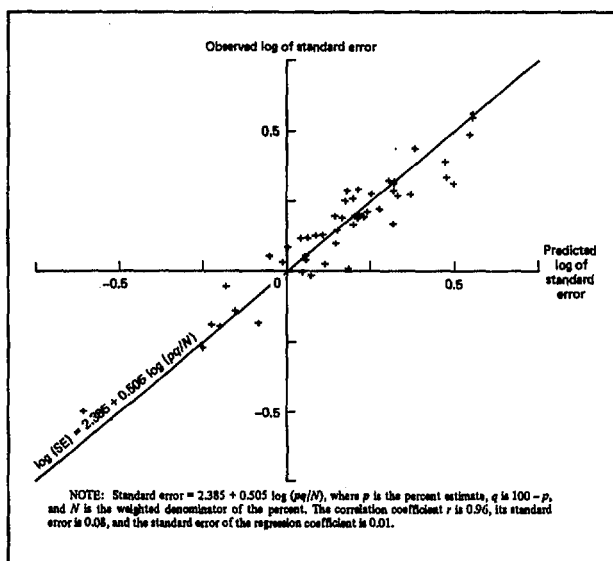


Figure 1. Observed log of the estimated standard errors versus predicted log of the standard errors

For this example, the standard error of r is 0.08 and the standard error of the coefficient is 0.01.

The model⁵ assumes (1) that the relative variance of the numerator and the denominator are decreasing functions of their size:

$$V^2 = a + b/X$$

and (2) that the relative variance of a rate r is the difference between the relative variance of the numerator n and the relative variance of the denominator d :

$$\begin{aligned} V_r^2 &= V_n^2 - V_d^2 \\ &= b(q/pN) \end{aligned}$$

and (3) that the covariance of the numerator and denominator is zero. The relative variance is the variance divided by the estimate squared, so the standard error is estimated by multiplying the equation above by the percent squared and taking the square root:

$$\text{Standard error} = \sqrt{b(pq/N)}$$

Logarithms of the standard error and (pq/N) were taken to make the distributions more nearly normal and to linearize the relationship. Then the latter term was regressed on the former with a linear model.



APPENDIX III

DEMOGRAPHIC TERMS

Age.—Two ages were recorded for each examinee: age at last birthday at the time of examination and age at the time of the census interview. The age criterion for inclusion in the sample used in this survey was defined as age at time of census interview. The adjustment and weighting procedures used to produce national estimates were based on the age at interview. Data in the detailed tables and text of the report are shown by age at the time of the examination, except that those few who became 75 years by the time of the examination are included in the 65-74-year group.

Race.—Race was recorded as “white,” “black,” or “other.” “Other” includes Japanese, Chinese, American Indian, Korean, Eskimo, and all races other than white and black. Mexicans

were included with “white” unless definitely known to be American Indian or of another race. Blacks and persons of mixed black and other parentage were recorded as “black.” When a person of mixed racial background was uncertain about his or her race, the race of the father was recorded.

Sex.—Sex was recorded by the interviewers and examiners.

Family income group.—The respondent was given a card listing categories and was instructed to select the one that represented his or her total combined family income for the past 12 months. Respondents were asked to include income from all sources such as wages, salaries, social security or retirement benefits, help from relatives, rent from property, and so forth.



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