Data from the
NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY

Series 13
Number 17

Utilization of Short-Stay Hospitals

Summary of Nonmedical Statistics

United States - 1971

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.

DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 75-1768

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service

Health Resources Administration
National Center for Health Statistics
Rockville, Md. August 1974

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Lewis, W. Frank

Utilization of short-stay hospitals.

(Vital and health statistics. Series 13: Data from the National Health survey, no. 17) (DHEW publication no. (HRA) 75-1768)

Supt. of Docs. no.: HE 20.2210: 13/17.

Bibliography: p.

1. Hospital utilization—United States—Statistics. I. United States. National Center for Health Statistics. II. Title. III. Series: United States. National Center for Health Statistics. Vital and health statistics. Series 13: Data from the National Health Survey. Data from the hospital discharge survey, no. 17. IV. Series: United States. Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare. Publication no. (HRA) 75-1768. [DNLM: 1. Hospitalization—Statistics. 2. Hospitals, Special—Utilization—U.S. W2A N148vm no. 2 etc.]

RA407.3.A349 no. 17 [RA981.A2] 362.1'1'0973s

ISBN 0-8406-0003-8 [362.1'1'0973] 74-2233

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 - Price 85 cents

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

DIVISION OF HEALTH RESOURCES UTILIZATION STATISTICS

COOPERATION OF THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Under the legislation establishing the National Health Survey, the Public Health Service is authorized to use, insofar as possible, the services or facilities of other Federal, State, or private agencies.

In accordance with specifications established by the National Center for Health Statistics, the Bureau of the Census, under a contractual arrangement, participated in planning the survey and collecting the data.

Vital and Health Statistics-Series 13-No. 17

DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 75-1768

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 74-2233

CONTENTS

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	*

UTILIZATION OF SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS,
SUMMARY OF NONMEDICAL STATISTICS

W. Frank Lewis, *Division of Health Resources Utilization Statistics*

INTRODUCTION

This report presents estimates on the utilization of non-Federal short-stay hospitals in the United States based on information collected in the Hospital Discharge Survey, a continuous nationwide survey conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics. Data were abstracted from about 200,000 hospital records of inpatients discharged from 379 hospitals that participated in the survey.

Results of the survey permit generation of four basic types of reports: nonmedical, diagnostic, surgical, and patient charges. Reports are published in Series 13 of the *Vital and Health Statistics* reports and as selected supplements of *Monthly Vital Statistics Reports*.[1-16] Estimates shown in this report are for patients in non-Federal short-stay hospitals, excluding newborn infants, discharged during 1971. Nonmedical data are presented on the number and rate of discharges and of days of care, and average length of stay for patients discharged, by age, sex, and color and by geographic region, bed size, and type of ownership (control) of hospitals.

This nonmedical report will be divided primarily into three areas: an analysis of hospital discharges, an analysis of days of care and length of stay, and some comparisons between the four regions on selected variables. Since the estimates are based on a sample of discharges from participating hospitals rather than on all discharges 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 the characteristics of patients and hospitals surveyed. Since several of these terms have specialized meaning in the Hospital Discharge Survey, familiarity with the definitions will aid in interpreting the data.

SELECTED FINDINGS

An estimated 29.5 million inpatients were discharged from non-Federal short-stay hospitals in 1971. These patients received an estimated 231.0 million days of care, with an average length of stay of 7.8 days per hospital episode. In terms of annual rates, the rate of days of care per 1,000 persons in the civilian noninstitutionalized population was 1,143.1, and there was a discharge rate of 145.8 per 1,000 persons. Approximately three-fourths (73.3 percent) of the discharges in 1971 were from voluntary nonprofit hospitals. State and local government hospitals accounted for 22.5 percent of the discharges and proprietary hospitals for only 4.2 percent.

Patients under 15 years of age accounted for 13.7 percent of all discharges and had a rate of discharge per 1,000 population of 70.2. This contrasted with the population 65 years of age and over, whose rate of discharge was 305.7 per 1,000 population. Differences in hospital utilization by sex were also noted. Rates of discharge and of days of care were higher for females than for males. The discharge rate for females of 169.6 per 1,000 population was 42 percent higher than that for males, 119.6 per 1,000 population, but with hospitalization for deliveries excluded the discharge rate for females was only 15 per-

cent higher than the rate for males. For the group 1-14 years of age, however, the discharge rate for males was higher than for females, 76.9 compared to 63.0 per 1,000 population.

Hospitalization utilization figures by color are grouped in the categories "white," "all other," and "color not stated." Since the number of discharged patients for whom color was not stated is slightly larger than the all other group, data analysis by color must be interpreted with caution. Based on the estimates of patients discharged for whom color was stated, those identified as white outnumbered the all other group by about 7 to 1. As a group white patients were older than all other patients but each age-sex group had shorter average lengths of stay than did all other patients.

The age distribution within hospitals varied by the size of the hospital. The smallest hospitals had proportionately fewer patients 15-64 years of age than did the largest hospitals, in which only 15.9 percent of the patients were age 65 years and over. Average length of stay increased with hospital size from 6.5 days in the smallest hospitals to 9.1 days in hospitals with 500 beds or more.

Regional differences were apparent in number of discharges, ranging from 4.2 million in the West Region to 9.2 million in the North Central Region. Average length of stay was longest in the Northeast Region, 9.0 days, and lowest in the West, where length of stay averaged only 6.5 days.

DISCHARGES AND DISCHARGE RATES

Age and Sex

Patients under 15 years of age accounted for an estimated 4.0 million or 13.7 percent of all discharged patients from short-stay hospitals in 1971. Of these, 2.4 percent were less than 1 year old, 3.8 percent were 1-4 years old, and 7.5 percent were from 5-14 years of age (figure 1). The discharge rate for the group under 15 years of age was the lowest for any age group with a rate of 70.2 per 1,000 population (table A). In contrast, the discharge rate for persons 65 years and older was 305.7 discharges per 1,000 population.

Males 65 years and over were discharged at a rate of 328.9 per 1,000 compared to the lower

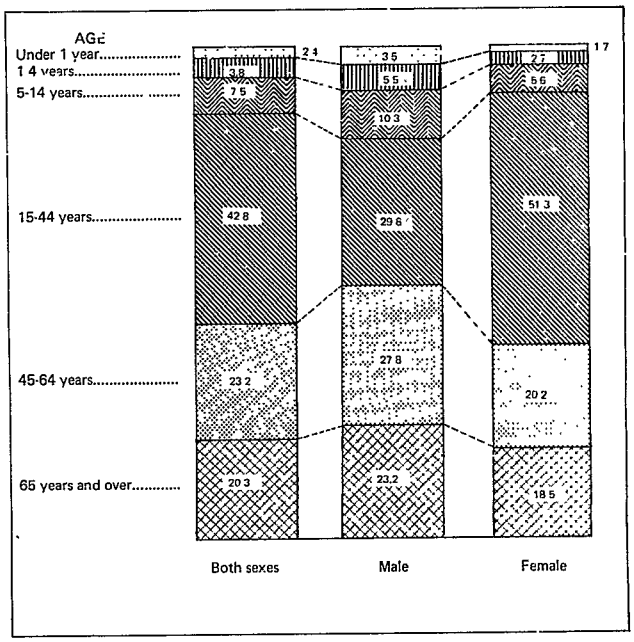

Figure 1. Percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by age, according to sex: United States, 1971.

rate for females of 288.2 per 1,000. For all age groups, however, discharge rates for females excluding deliveries was higher than for males, 137.7 versus 119.6 per 1,000. There were more male than female discharges in each age bracket under 15 years of age. At under 1 year of age males outnumbered females 409,000 to 294,000; ages 1-4 years, 644,000 to 488,000; and ages 5-14 years, 1,196,000 to 992,000 (table B). Within these young age groups there was a higher percent of the total male population than of the female population (figure 1) with 19.3 percent of the male discharges in the age group under 15 years compared to 10.0 percent for females.

As shown in table A, the effect of deliveries can be seen in the trend of discharge rates by age. The rates for males and for females excluding deliveries increased consistently with increasing age.

Color

Data for patients discharged by color are shown in table 1 according to the three categories "white," "all other," and "color not stated." An estimated 22.5 million white patients and 3.3 million all other patients for whom color was reported were discharged from short-stay hos-

Table A. Number and rate of discharges and of days of care and average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by age and sex: United States, 1971

Age	Both sexes[1]	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
	Number of discharges in thousands			
All ages	29,459	11,644	17,767	14,431
Under 15 years	4,029	2,249	1,773	1,759
15-44 years	12,605	3,467	9,118	5,801
45-64 years	6,840	3,232	3,596	3,590
65 years and over	5,986	2,696	3,280	3,280
	Rate of discharges per 1,000 population			
All ages	145.8	119.6	169.6	137.7
Under 15 years	70.2	76.9	63.0	62.5
15-44 years	151.4	86.7	210.8	134.1
45-64 years	163.3	162.3	163.6	163.4
65 years and over	305.7	328.9	288.2	288.2
	Number of days of care in thousands			
All ages	231,017	97,723	132,906	119,374
Under 15 years	18,773	10,565	8,183	8,130
15-44 years	72,359	23,866	48,339	34,887
45-64 years	64,304	30,595	33,606	33,580
65 years and over	75,581	32,696	42,778	42,778
	Rate of days of care per 1,000 population			
All ages	1,143.1	1,004.0	1,268.7	1,139.5
Under 15 years	327.2	361.5	290.8	288.9
15-44 years	869.2	596.8	1,117.4	806.5
45-64 years	1,535.0	1,536.5	1,529.0	1,527.8
65 years and over	3,860.3	3,987.8	3,759.0	3,759.0
	Average length of stay in days			
All ages	7.8	8.4	7.5	8.3
Under 15 years	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6
15-44 years	5.7	6.9	5.3	6.0
45-64 years	9.4	9.5	9.3	9.4
65 years and over	12.6	12.1	13.0	13.0

[1] Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

Table B. Number of patients under 15 years of age discharged from short-stay hospitals, by age and sex: United States, 1971

Age	Both sexes[1]	Male	Female including deliveries
	Number in thousands		
Under 15 years-----	4,029	2,249	1,773
Under 1 year---	705	409	294
1-4 years------	1,133	644	488
5-14 years-----	2,192	1,196	992

[1] Includes discharge data for which sex was not stated.

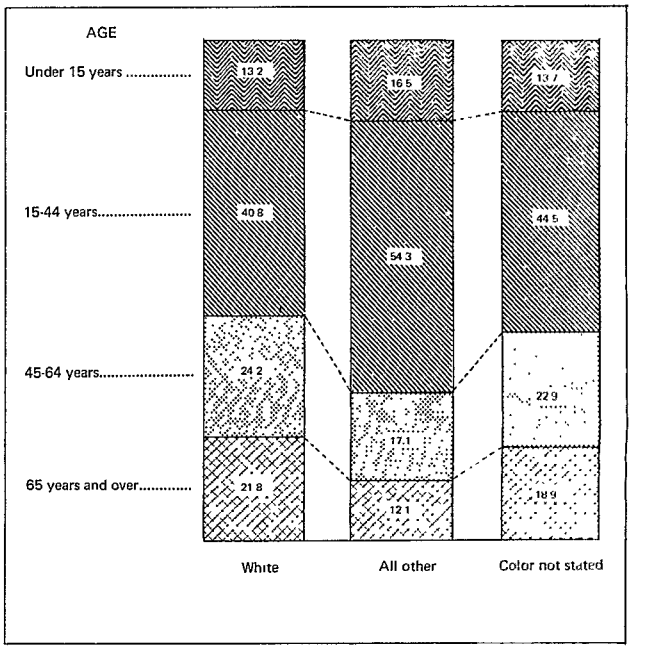

Figure 2. Percent of discharges from short-stay hospitals, by color and age: United States, 1971.

pitals in 1971, white patients outnumbering all other patients by about 7 to 1. Color was not stated in the medical record summary sheets for about 3.7 million patients, a number greater than that for patients identified as all other. The distribution for those for whom color was not stated suggests that they were proportional by color to those for whom it was stated.

There were more white patients than all other patients 45 years and over, 46.0 percent and 29.2 percent, respectively. Approximately 1 in 5 of the estimated white patients were age 65 and over as compared to 1 in 8 among patients of races other than white (figure 2).

White patients included 40 percent males and 60 percent females compared with 36 percent males and 64 percent females in the all other category. A smaller percentage of white females hospitalized for deliveries than all other patients accounted for most of this difference.

Bed Size of Hospital

For all hospital sizes the percent of patients discharged during 1971 under 15 years of age was approximately the same, between 13 and 15 percent; however, they differed appreciably in the percent distributions for the three age groups 15 years and older (table 3). The smallest hospitals had proportionately fewer discharged patients 15-64 years old than did the largest hospitals. On the other hand, for the age group 65 years and over, the smallest hospitals had more patients discharged (26.6 percent) than the largest hospitals (15.9 percent). In other words, the smaller the hospital the more likely it was that a larger percent of its discharged patients would be found in the oldest age group, and the larger the hospital the larger the relative percent of patients to be found in the age group 15-64 years.

This age and hospital size trend was true for males and, with the exception of the age group 45-64 years, for females. The percents of female discharges 45-64 years old were essentially the same (19.2, 19.7, 19.9, 21.6, 20.7) for each size hospital. When deliveries were excluded, the trend of increased percent of patients with increased size of hospital was still not very apparent for this age group (23.0, 24.2, 24.8, 26.4, 26.0).

Type of Ownership of Hospital

Voluntary nonprofit hospitals (operated by church or other nonprofit organizations) cared for 21.6 million patients in 1971, or 73 percent

of all patients discharged from short-stay hospitals (table 4). Government hospitals (controlled by State or local government) accounted for 6.6 million discharges, or 23 percent of all patients, and proprietary hospitals discharged 1.2 million, or 4 percent. There were relatively few differences in the percent distributions by age and sex. However, the relative proportion of male to female discharges varied with the type of hospital, government hospitals recording female discharges 49 percent greater than for males (3,961,000 and 2,660,000, respectively), and voluntary and proprietary hospitals showing approximately a 58-percent difference. When deliveries are excluded, the number of discharges for females is around 24 percent greater than for males for all types of hospitals. There was a noticeable difference between voluntary and government hospitals in the distribution of their patients aged 15-44 years, with government hospitals having 45.6 percent and voluntary hospitals only 41.9 percent of their patients in this age group.

DAYS OF CARE AND LENGTH OF STAY

Age and Sex

The rates of days of care by age groups ranged from 234.0 days per 1,000 population aged 5-14 years to 5,119.8 days for persons 75 years and over (table 6). Starting with age group 5-14 years, the days of care rate increased with each advance in age. Age groups under 15 years represented 8.2 percent of all days of care; ages 15-44, 31.4 percent; ages 45-64, 27.9 percent; and ages 65 and over, 32.7 percent of all days of care.

The average length of stay for patients discharged during 1971 was 7.8 days. Average length of stay increased with each successive age group from 4.7 days for patients under age 15 to 12.6 days for patients aged 65 years and over. For all age groups, about two-thirds were discharged within a week (table 7).

The days of care rates per 1,000 population were lower for females than for males under 15 and over 54 years of age (table 6). Deliveries exerted less influence on the days of care rate than on the rate of discharges for females because of the relatively short average length of stay. The average length of stay for females aged 15-44 years is lowered by approximately two-thirds of a day when deliveries are included. Generally speaking, females under 65 years of age had shorter lengths of stay than males, and females over 64 years had longer lengths of stay (table 9).

Color

Differences between the age and sex distributions of days of care utilized by white and all other patients for whom color was stated are found in table 8. Patients under age 15 years in the all other group used a larger proportion (13.1 percent) of days of care than did white patients in this age group, who used 7.4 percent. Among white patients, approximately 36 percent of the days of care were provided for patients under 45 years of age; among all others about 55 percent were provided for this age group. For ages 65 years and over white patients—both men and women—used a considerably larger percent of days of care than did all other patients, 34.9 percent and 21.1 percent, respectively.

There was little difference in the average length of stay for all discharges by color, with white patients averaging 7.9 days and all other patients 8.1 days per stay (table 9). Average length of stay for the two groups was about the same because the white discharged patients included a larger percent of older patients with longer hospital stays than did the all other group. For every age and sex group, however, the average stay was significantly shorter for white patients than for all others. Regardless of color status, males had a longer length of stay than did females including deliveries. When deliveries are excluded, all other males average 1 day longer than all other females, primarily because of the 8.4 average length of stay for age group 15-44 years. White males and those with color not stated had approximately the same lengths of stay as did females excluding deliveries.

Bed Size of Hospital

Days of care for hospital size also varied by age. For patients aged 65 years and over, reported days of care ranged from 25.0 percent

in the largest hospitals to 43.8 percent in the smallest hospitals (table 12). Days of care for patients of ages 15-44 was 25.7 percent in hospitals with fewer than 100 beds and 36.3 percent in those with 500 beds or more.

Average length of stay increased as age and hospital size increased, ranging from 6.5 days in the smallest hospitals to 9.1 days in the largest hospitals and from 4.7 days for the youngest group to 12.6 days for the oldest group. This was true for both sexes (table 13). The shortest length of stay, 3.8 days, was for the age group under 15 discharged from hospitals with 6-99 beds. The longest length of stay was 14.3 days for the group 65 years and over discharged from hospitals with 500 beds or more.

The pattern of length of stay increasing by size of hospital was true for each of the four regions. The trend was most evident in the Northeast and West Regions, where average length of stay in the largest hospitals exceeded that in the smallest hospitals by 3.5 days (table 16). This trend was more pronounced for males than for females in each of the four regions, regardless of delivery status. For the male episodes in the 15-44 age group, the average length of stay in the largest hospitals was 74 percent longer or more than that in the smallest hospitals in each of the regions.

Type of Ownership of Hospital

The 231.0 million days of care utilized in 1971 were distributed by ownership of hospital as follows: voluntary nonprofit hospitals provided 173.5 million days, or 75.1 percent; government hospitals provided 49.0 million days, or 21.2 percent; and proprietary hospitals provided 8.5 million days, or 3.7 percent (table 14).

The relative proportion of males to females varied considerably among the three types of hospitals for days of care provided. In government hospitals days of care provided for females including deliveries was 27 percent greater than the days for males, for voluntary nonprofit hospitals days of care provided for females was 38 percent greater than for males, and for proprietary hospitals days of care for females was 50 percent greater than for males.

Average length of stay was consistently shorter in proprietary hospitals than in voluntary nonprofit hospitals for both sexes and all age groups. Average length of stay in government hospitals was also shorter than in voluntary nonprofit hospitals for both sexes and all age groups except under 15 years, where average length of stay was longer in the government hospitals (table 15). For all age groups under 65 years, the average length of stay in proprietary hospitals was shorter than in the other hospital ownership groups for both sex groups and all age groups. The difference between length of stay for male and female including deliveries was also smallest for proprietary hospitals, about half a day compared to approximately 1 day for voluntary nonprofit and government hospitals. The average length of stay is about the same for both sexes when deliveries are excluded. For the group 15-44 years old, the average length of stay for males varied between half a day and 2 days longer than that for females, regardless of delivery status, for each type of hospital.

GEOGRAPHIC REGION

Age and Sex

The number of discharges in 1971 by geographic region ranged from 4.2 million in the West Region to 9.2 million in the North Central Region (table 5). The number of discharges per 1,000 population ranged from an estimated 122.6 in the West Region to 162.9 in the North Central Region; among the age groups the greatest relative difference is found in the group less than 15 years, 85.1 in the North Central and 54.4 in the West per 1,000 population (table C).

The number of days of care per 1,000 population followed a similar pattern, again being lowest in the West Region and highest in the North Central Region. The rates were 790.9 days and 1,304.4 days, respectively, a difference of 65.0 percent. For patients under age 15 years, these two regions differed even more significantly, with the days of care per 1,000 in the North Central Region being 99 percent higher than those in the West Region (393.2 and 197.4 days of care).

Average length of stay in days was highest in the Northeast Region and again lowest in the West

Table C. Rate of discharges and of days of care and average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by age and geographic region: United States, 1971

Age	All regions	Northeast	North Central	South	West
	Rate of discharge per 1,000 population				
All ages	145.8	141.6	162.9	146.5	122.6
Under 15 years	70.2	64.4	85.1	69.8	54.4
15-44 years	151.4	152.5	166.3	150.7	127.7
45-64 years	163.3	153.3	186.4	162.3	142.6
65 years and over	305.7	276.2	328.4	325.3	274.9
	Rate of days of care per 1,000 population				
All ages	1,143.1	1,275.8	1,304.4	1,089.0	790.9
Under 15 years	327.2	336.7	393.2	332.1	197.4
15-44 years	869.2	934.5	993.7	857.3	606.4
45-64 years	1,535.0	1,681.3	1,789.9	1,417.1	1,102.7
65 years and over	3,860.3	4,204.4	4,278.3	3,668.6	2,905.5
	Average length of stay in days				
All ages	7.8	9.0	8.0	7.4	6.5
Under 15 years	4.7	5.2	4.6	4.8	3.6
15-44 years	5.7	6.1	6.0	5.7	4.7
45-64 years	9.4	11.0	9.6	8.7	7.7
65 years and over	12.6	15.2	13.0	11.3	10.6

Region, being 9.0 days and 6.5 days, respectively. This pattern was consistent for all age groups, with the difference between the Northeast and the West Regions being again greatest in the group under 15 years, 5.2 and 3.6 days, respectively, a difference of 44.4 percent.

The average length of stay showed the same age and regional trends, with length of stay for both sexes being longest in the Northeast Region for the age group over 65 years, and shortest in the West Region for the group less than 15 years. Average length of stay for males was slightly longer than for females in all regions. Females 65 years and over in each of the four regions had longer stays than did males in this age group (table 11).

Color

When color is considered, differences were found among the regions in the rate of discharges. The Northeast Region had the highest proportion of white discharges (82.7 percent) and the North Central Region the lowest (71.0 percent) (figure 3). The South had the smallest proportion of its patients in the not stated category, 6.4 percent, in contrast to the North Central Region, which had 21.2 percent listed as not stated.

Deliveries represented a smaller proportion of white patients than of all other patients hospitalized, 10.5 percent and 17.4 percent, respectively (figure 4). With the exception of the West Region, deliveries represented a smaller proportion of the total discharges for white patients than for all others.

Average length of stay by color was also not consistent among regions. In the Northeast, South, and West Regions white patients had shorter stays than all others (figure 5), whereas the North Central Region showed no apparent color variation. Excluding deliveries, about half the white

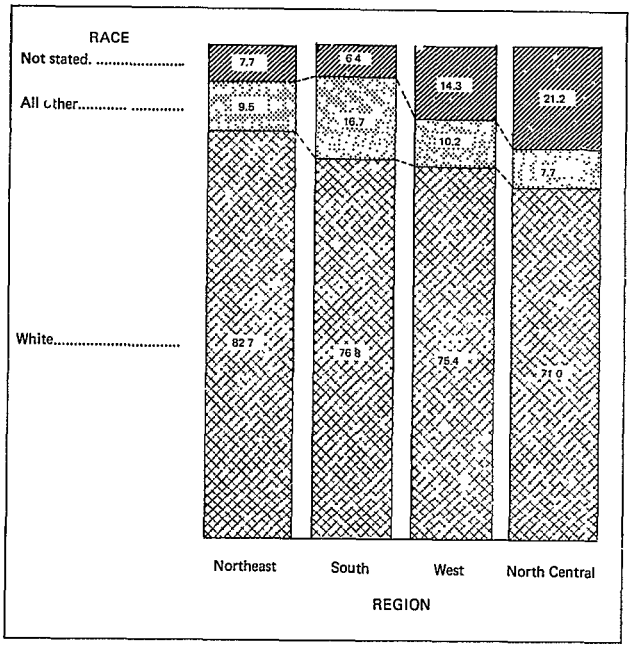

Figure 3. Percent of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region and color: United States, 1971.

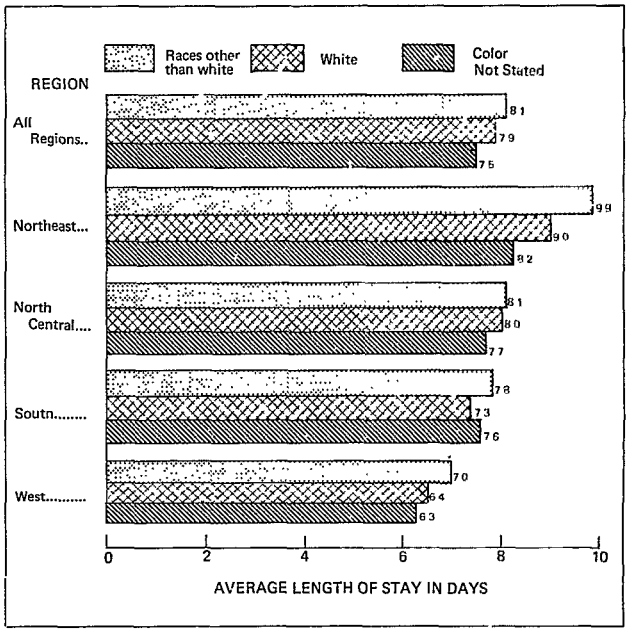

Figure 5. Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region and color: United States, 1971.

patients hospitalized were 45 years of age and over in every region (figure 6), whereas only 35 percent of all other patients were 45 years or older.

For the population 15 years and over, regional differences were found in the all other groups. Over 70 percent of the Northeast and North Central discharges were in the 15-44 age group contrasted to the South and West, which had only 62.2 and 56.5 percent, respectively, of their discharges in this age group (table D).

The average length of stay for all others varied considerably for the group 65 years and over among regions, with 11.6 days of care in the West and 21.7 in the Northeast (table E).

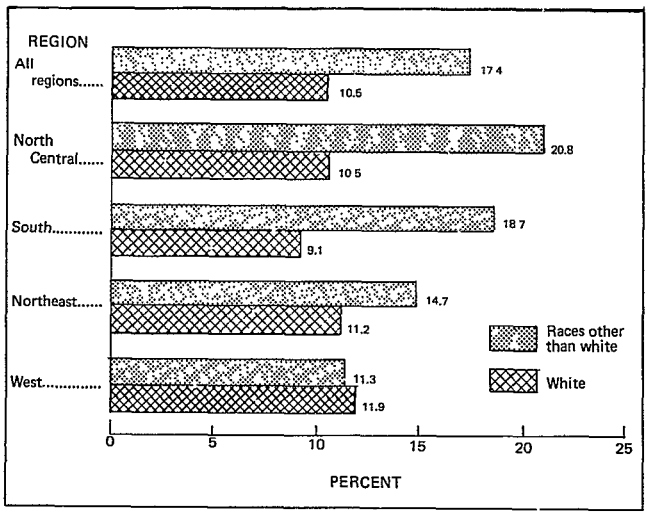

Figure 4. Percent of deliveries of total discharges from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region and color: United States, 1971.

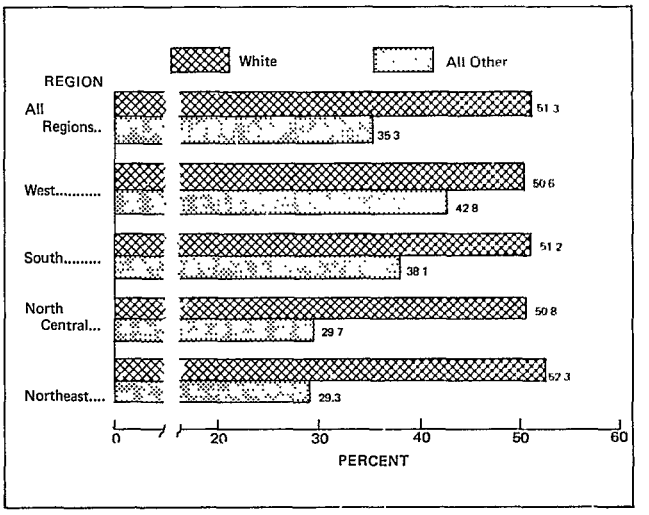

Figure 6. Percent of patients aged 45 years and over of total inpatients discharged from short-stay hospitals, excluding deliveries, by geographic region and color: United States, 1971.

Table D. Number and percent distribution of patients 15 years of age and over discharged from short-stay hospitals by geographic region and age, according to color: United States, 1971

Geographic region and age	Total	White	All other	Color not stated	Total	White	All other	Color not stated
	Number in thousands				Percent distribution			
United States								
15 years and over-	25,431	19,477	2,787	3,166	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years	12,605	9,159	1,812	1,633	50.0	47.0	65.0	51.6
45-64 years	6,840	5,430	570	840	26.9	27.9	20.5	26.5
65 years and over	5,986	4,888	405	693	23.5	25.1	14.5	21.9
Northeast								
15 years and over	6,061	5,020	562	479	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years	3,006	2,362	397	247	49.6	47.1	70.7	51.5
45-64 years	1,665	1,429	108	128	27.5	28.5	19.2	26.7
65 years and over	1,390	1,229	57	104	22.9	24.5	10.1	21.7
North Central								
15 years and over	7,785	5,556	583	1,648	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years	3,838	2,593	415	830	49.3	46.7	71.2	50.4
45-64 years	2,132	1,583	110	440	27.4	28.5	18.9	26.7
65 years and over	1,815	1,380	58	378	23.3	24.8	9.9	22.9
South								
15 years and over	7,882	6,098	1,262	521	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years	3,887	2,829	785	273	49.3	46.4	62.2	52.4
45-64 years	2,046	1,673	251	122	26.0	27.4	19.9	23.3
65 years and over	1,949	1,596	226	126	24.7	26.2	17.9	24.2
West								
15 years and over	3,702	2,802	381	520	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years	1,873	1,375	215	284	50.6	49.1	56.5	54.6
45-64 years	996	744	101	151	26.9	26.6	26.5	29.0
65 years and over	833	683	65	85	22.5	24.4	17.0	16.4

CONCLUSION

Analysis of estimates on the utilization of short-stay hospitals in the United States for 1971 in terms of age, sex, race, hospital size and ownership, and regions based on the Hospital Discharge Survey can be summarized as follows:

1. Patients under 15 years of age had the lowest rates of discharges and days of care per 1,000 population and the shortest average length of stay of any age group. Rates of discharges and days of care and average length of stay increased with age.

Table E. Average length of stay for patients 15 years of age and over discharged from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region, age, and color: United States, 1971

Geographic region and age	Total	White	All other	Color not stated
	Average length of stay in days			
United States				
15 years and over	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.0
15-44 years	5.7	5.6	6.3	5.9
45-64 years	9.4	9.3	11.5	8.9
65 years and over	12.6	12.6	14.1	12.1
Northeast				
15 years and over	9.5	9.6	10.2	8.6
15-44 years	6.1	6.0	7.3	5.8
45-64 years	11.0	10.8	14.7	9.5
65 years and over	15.2	15.0	21.7	14.4
North Central				
15 years and over	8.6	8.7	8.5	8.3
15-44 years	6.0	5.9	6.5	5.9
45-64 years	9.6	9.5	12.6	9.2
65 years and over	13.0	13.1	15.0	12.6
South				
15 years and over	7.9	7.8	8.1	8.0
15-44 years	5.7	5.5	5.9	6.8
45-64 years	8.7	8.5	10.7	8.3
65 years and over	11.3	11.2	12.8	10.1
West				
15 years and over	6.9	6.8	7.3	6.6
15-44 years	4.7	4.6	5.4	5.0
45-64 years	7.7	7.6	8.6	7.7
65 years and over	10.6	10.6	11.6	9.9

2. Female patients overall had higher discharge and days of care rates than did male, but male rates were higher than those of females for age groups less than 15 and over 64 years old. Average length of stay was longer for female patients aged 65 years and over.

3. White patients were generally older than patients in the all other category, had a greater proportion of female patients (but with proportionally fewer deliveries), and had a shorter average length of stay for each age and sex group.

4. Small hospitals tended to have a greater proportion of their patients in the oldest age group, and large hospitals had proportionately more of their patients in the 15-64 age group. Average length of stay was shortest in the smallest hospitals and increased steadily with hospital size.

5. Voluntary hospitals cared for almost three-quarters of all patients discharged and reported female discharges 53 percent greater than for male. Voluntary nonprofit hospitals had the longest average length of stay and proprietary hospitals the shortest.

6. The North Central Region had the highest rate of discharges and days of care per 1,000 population, and the West Region had the lowest rates. Average length of stay was also lowest in the West Region.

7. In general, patients under 15 years of age admitted to hospitals with less than 100 beds in the West Region had the shortest hospital episodes, whereas female patients 65 years old and over admitted to hospitals with 500 beds or more located in the Northeast Region had the longest average length of stay.

A more complete analysis of the interrelationships among these variables and their effects on reported estimates is not possible due to the sampling errors inherent in the statistical design.

———○○○———

REFERENCES

[1]National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals, summary of nonmedical statistics, United States, 1965. *Vital and Health Statistics.* PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 13-No. 2. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Aug. 1967.

[2]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.

[3]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.

[4]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.

[5]National Center for Health Statistics: Inpatient utilization of short-stay hospitals by diagnosis, United States, 1965. *Vital and Health Statistics.* PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 13-No. 6. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, May 1970.

[6]National Center for Health Statistics: Surgical operations in short-stay hospitals for discharged patients, United States, 1965. *Vital and Health Statistics.* PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 13-No. 7. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Apr. 1971.

[7]National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals, summary of nonmedical statistics, United States, 1966. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 8. DHEW Pub. No. (HSM) 72-1006. Health Services and Mental Health Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Sept. 1971.

[8] National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals, summary of nonmedical statistics, United States, 1967. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 9. DHEW Pub. No. (HSM) 72-1058. Health Services and Mental Health Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, May 1972.

[9]National Center for Health Statistics: Inpatient utilization of short-stay hospitals in each geographic division, United States, *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 10. DHEW Pub. No. (HSM) 73-1761. Health Services and Mental Health Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Nov. 1972.

[10]National Center for Health Statistics: Surgical operations in short-stay hospitals, United States, 1968. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 11. DHEW Pub. No. (HSM) 73-1762. Health Services and Mental Health Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Jan. 1973.

[11]National Center for Health Statistics: Inpatient utilization of short-stay hospitals by diagnosis, United States, 1968. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 12. DHEW Pub. No. (HSM) 73-1763. Health Services and Mental Health Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Mar. 1973.

[12]National Center for Health Statistics: Average length of stay in short-stay hospitals: demographic factors, United States, 1968. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 13. DHEW Pub. No. (HSM) 73-1764. Health Services and Mental Health Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Apr. 1973.

[13]National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals, summary of nonmedical statistics: United States, 1969, *Monthly Vital Statistics Reports.* Vol. 21, No. 6, Supplement (HSM) 73-1126. Rockville, Md. Health Services and Mental Health Administration, Sept. 19, 1972.

[14]National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals, summary of nonmedical statistics, United States, 1973. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13, No. 14. DHEW Pub. No. (HRA) 74-1765. Rockville, Md. Health Resources Administration, Aug. 1973.

[15]National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals, summary of nonmedical statistics: United States, 1971, *Monthly Vital Statistics Reports.* Vol. 22, No. 4, Supplement (HSM) 73-1134. Rockville, Md. Health Services and Mental Health Administration, July 5, 1973.

[16]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 Services. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Feb. 1965.

LIST OF DETAILED TABLES

TABLE 1. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY COLOR AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

COLOR AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
TOTAL								
ALL AGES.....	29,459	11,644	17,767	14,431	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,029	2,249	1,773	1,759	13.7	19.3	10.0	12.2
15-44 YEARS.....	12,605	3,467	9,118	5,801	42.8	29.8	51.3	40.2
45-64 YEARS.....	6,840	3,232	3,596	3,590	23.2	27.8	20.2	24.9
65 YEARS AND OVER..	5,986	2,696	3,280	3,280	20.3	23.2	18.5	22.7
WHITE								
ALL AGES.....	22,451	9,011	13,435	11,086	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,974	1,652	1,322	1,317	13.2	18.3	9.8	11.9
15-44 YEARS.....	9,159	2,585	6,571	4,231	40.8	28.7	48.9	38.2
45-64 YEARS.....	5,430	2,568	2,861	2,858	24.2	28.5	21.3	25.8
65 YEARS AND OVER..	4,888	2,206	2,680	2,680	21.8	24.5	20.0	24.2
ALL OTHER								
ALL AGES.....	3,338	1,198	2,138	1,558	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	551	321	230	222	16.5	26.8	10.8	14.2
15-44 YEARS.....	1,812	422	1,389	819	54.3	35.3	65.0	52.6
45-64 YEARS.....	570	266	303	302	17.1	22.2	14.2	19.4
65 YEARS AND OVER..	405	189	215	215	12.1	15.8	10.1	13.8
COLOR NOT STATED								
ALL AGES.....	3,670	1,435	2,195	1,786	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	504	276	221	221	13.7	19.2	10.1	12.4
15-44 YEARS.....	1,633	460	1,157	751	44.5	32.1	52.7	42.0
45-64 YEARS.....	840	397	432	431	22.9	27.7	19.7	24.1
65 YEARS AND OVER..	693	301	384	384	18.9	21.0	17.5	21.5

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 2. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION AND AGE, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

REGION AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
UNITED STATES								
ALL AGES.....	29,459	11,644	17,767	14,431	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,029	2,249	1,773	1,759	13.7	19.3	10.0	12.2
15-44 YEARS.....	12,605	3,467	9,118	5,801	42.8	29.8	51.3	40.2
45-64 YEARS.....	6,840	3,232	3,596	3,590	23.2	27.8	20.2	24.9
65 YEARS AND OVER..	5,986	2,696	3,280	3,280	20.3	23.2	18.5	22.7
NORTHEAST								
ALL AGES.....	6,912	2,716	4,180	3,378	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	851	483	365	363	12.3	17.8	8.7	10.7
15-44 YEARS.....	3,006	788	2,212	1,413	43.5	29.0	52.9	41.8
45-64 YEARS.....	1,665	810	852	851	24.1	29.8	20.4	25.2
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,390	635	752	752	20.1	23.4	18.0	22.3
NORTH CENTRAL								
ALL AGES.....	9,171	3,611	5,545	4,508	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	1,385	772	609	605	15.1	21.4	11.0	13.4
15-44 YEARS.....	3,838	1,050	2,783	1,752	41.9	29.1	50.2	38.9
45-64 YEARS.....	2,133	986	1,143	1,141	23.3	27.3	20.6	25.3
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,815	803	1,009	1,009	19.8	22.2	18.2	22.4
SOUTH								
ALL AGES.....	9,136	3,629	5,495	4,501	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	1,255	698	556	550	13.7	19.2	10.1	12.2
15-44 YEARS.....	3,887	1,096	2,786	1,800	42.5	30.2	50.7	40.0
45-64 YEARS.....	2,046	962	1,081	1,079	22.4	26.5	19.7	24.0
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,949	873	1,072	1,072	21.3	24.1	19.5	23.8
WEST								
ALL AGES.....	4,241	1,689	2,547	2,043	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	538	295	243	242	12.7	17.5	9.5	11.8
15-44 YEARS.....	1,873	533	1,338	835	44.2	31.6	52.5	40.9
45-64 YEARS.....	996	474	519	519	23.5	28.1	20.4	25.4
65 YEARS AND OVER..	833	385	447	447	19.6	22.8	17.6	21.9

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 3. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
ALL SIZES								
ALL AGES.....	29,459	11,644	17,767	14,431	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,029	2,249	1,773	1,759	13.7	19.3	10.0	12.2
15-44 YEARS.....	12,605	3,467	9,118	5,801	42.8	29.8	51.3	40.2
45-64 YEARS.....	6,840	3,232	3,596	3,590	23.2	27.8	20.2	24.9
65 YEARS AND OVER..	5,986	2,696	3,280	3,280	20.3	23.2	18.5	22.7
6-99 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	5,829	2,310	3,510	2,921	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	781	438	341	339	13.4	19.0	9.7	11.6
15-44 YEARS.....	2,253	623	1,627	1,041	38.6	27.0	46.4	35.6
45-64 YEARS.....	1,244	569	672	672	21.3	24.6	19.2	23.0
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,552	680	870	870	26.6	29.4	24.8	29.8
100-199 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	6,054	2,354	3,692	3,004	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	852	462	389	386	14.1	19.6	10.5	12.9
15-44 YEARS.....	2,519	657	1,859	1,175	41.6	27.9	50.3	39.1
45-64 YEARS.....	1,371	641	727	726	22.6	27.2	19.7	24.2
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,312	593	717	717	21.7	25.2	19.4	23.9
200-299 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	5,186	2,039	3,137	2,517	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	772	425	346	344	14.9	20.9	11.0	13.7
15-44 YEARS.....	2,244	603	1,637	1,019	43.3	29.6	52.2	40.5
45-64 YEARS.....	1,197	570	624	624	23.1	28.0	19.9	24.8
65 YEARS AND OVER..	973	441	530	530	18.8	21.6	16.9	21.1
300-499 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	6,877	2,762	4,100	3,347	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	918	522	394	391	13.4	18.9	9.6	11.7
15-44 YEARS.....	2,985	857	2,121	1,373	43.4	31.0	51.7	41.0
45-64 YEARS.....	1,701	814	884	882	24.7	29.5	21.6	26.4
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,272	570	700	700	18.5	20.6	17.1	20.9
500 BEDS OR MORE								
ALL AGES.....	5,513	2,178	3,328	2,642	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	705	400	304	299	12.8	18.4	9.1	11.3
15-44 YEARS.....	2,604	728	1,873	1,194	47.2	33.4	56.3	45.2
45-64 YEARS.....	1,326	637	688	686	24.1	29.3	20.7	26.0
65 YEARS AND OVER..	877	413	463	463	15.9	18.9	13.9	17.5

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 4. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY TYPE OF OWNERSHIP OF HOSPITAL AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

TYPE OF OWNERSHIP AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DISCHARGED PATIENTS IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
ALL TYPES								
ALL AGES.....	29,459	11,644	17,767	14,431	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,029	2,249	1,773	1,759	13.7	19.3	10.0	12.2
15-44 YEARS.....	12,605	3,467	9,118	5,801	42.8	29.8	51.3	40.2
45-64 YEARS.....	6,840	3,232	3,596	3,590	23.2	27.8	20.2	24.9
65 YEARS AND OVER...	5,986	2,696	3,280	3,280	20.3	23.2	18.5	22.7
VOLUNTARY NONPROFIT								
ALL AGES.....	21,589	8,502	13,048	10,667	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,959	1,634	1,320	1,312	13.7	19.2	10.1	12.3
15-44 YEARS.....	9,049	2,456	6,577	4,207	41.9	28.9	50.4	39.4
45-64 YEARS.....	5,182	2,445	2,728	2,725	24.0	28.8	20.9	25.5
65 YEARS AND OVER...	4,399	1,968	2,423	2,423	20.4	23.1	18.6	22.7
GOVERNMENT								
ALL AGES.....	6,629	2,660	3,961	3,120	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	909	528	381	376	13.7	19.8	9.6	12.0
15-44 YEARS.....	3,023	867	2,153	1,318	45.6	32.6	54.3	42.3
45-64 YEARS.....	1,390	662	727	724	21.0	24.9	18.3	23.2
65 YEARS AND OVER...	1,306	603	701	701	19.7	22.7	17.7	22.5
PROPRIETARY								
ALL AGES.....	1,241	481	758	644	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	160	87	72	72	12.9	18.2	9.5	11.2
15-44 YEARS.....	533	144	389	275	43.0	29.9	51.3	42.7
45-64 YEARS.....	267	125	141	141	21.5	26.0	18.6	21.9
65 YEARS AND OVER...	281	125	156	156	22.6	26.0	20.5	24.2

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 5. NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS AND DAYS OF CARE, BY SEX, AGE, GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AND BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

SEX, AGE, AND REGION	BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL							
	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE
1/ BOTH SEXES	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS			
UNITED STATES	29,459	5,829	18,118	5,513	231,017	37,792	143,213	50,012
UNDER 15 YEARS	4,029	781	2,543	705	18,773	2,958	11,265	4,550
15-44 YEARS	12,605	2,253	7,748	2,604	72,359	9,722	44,459	18,179
45-64 YEARS	6,840	1,244	4,270	1,326	64,304	8,542	40,976	14,785
65 YEARS AND OVER	5,986	1,552	3,558	877	75,581	16,570	46,513	12,498
NORTHEAST	6,912	568	5,060	1,283	62,283	4,033	44,634	13,615
UNDER 15 YEARS	851	67	643	141	4,450	258	3,116	1,075
15-44 YEARS	3,006	220	2,160	626	18,417	1,007	12,831	4,579
45-64 YEARS	1,665	139	1,225	301	18,264	1,031	13,205	4,028
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,390	143	1,031	215	21,152	1,737	15,482	3,933
NORTH CENTRAL	9,171	1,500	5,885	1,785	73,449	10,597	46,828	16,025
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,385	207	907	271	6,396	788	3,982	1,626
15-44 YEARS	3,838	556	2,511	771	22,930	2,619	14,809	5,502
45-64 YEARS	2,133	331	1,340	462	20,477	2,393	13,039	5,046
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,815	407	1,126	282	23,646	4,798	14,997	3,851
SOUTH	9,136	2,707	4,431	1,998	67,930	17,875	33,465	16,590
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,255	351	647	257	5,972	1,460	2,866	1,646
15-44 YEARS	3,887	998	1,916	974	22,115	4,464	11,242	6,409
45-64 YEARS	2,046	568	1,025	452	17,864	3,936	9,308	4,619
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,949	790	844	315	21,979	8,014	10,049	3,916
WEST	4,241	1,053	2,741	446	27,355	5,287	18,286	3,781
UNDER 15 YEARS	538	157	345	37	1,954	452	1,300	202
15-44 YEARS	1,873	480	1,161	233	8,897	1,632	5,576	1,689
45-64 YEARS	996	206	679	111	7,699	1,182	5,425	1,092
65 YEARS AND OVER	833	212	556	65	8,804	2,020	5,985	798
MALE								
UNITED STATES	11,644	2,310	7,156	2,178	97,723	15,174	60,100	22,449
UNDER 15 YEARS	2,249	438	1,410	400	10,565	1,716	6,259	2,591
15-44 YEARS	3,467	623	2,117	728	23,866	2,826	14,336	6,704
45-64 YEARS	3,232	569	2,025	637	30,595	3,742	19,458	7,395
65 YEARS AND OVER	2,696	680	1,604	413	32,696	6,890	20,047	5,760
NORTHEAST	2,716	243	1,979	493	26,546	1,641	18,689	6,216
UNDER 15 YEARS	483	38	368	78	2,493	158	1,753	581
15-44 YEARS	788	72	559	158	6,012	337	4,006	1,669
45-64 YEARS	810	75	589	146	8,928	498	6,344	2,086
65 YEARS AND OVER	635	59	464	112	9,113	648	6,585	1,880

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 5. NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS AND DAYS OF CARE, BY SEX, AGE, GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AND BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL: UNITED STATES, 1971--CON.

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

SEX, AGE, AND REGION	BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL							
	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE
MALE--CON.	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS			
NORTH CENTRAL	3,611	584	2,289	738	30,370	4,073	19,033	7,264
UNDER 15 YEARS	772	119	501	152	3,644	442	2,268	933
15-44 YEARS	1,050	146	677	227	7,315	696	4,571	2,048
45-64 YEARS	986	141	617	228	9,498	1,007	5,964	2,527
65 YEARS AND OVER	803	178	494	131	9,913	1,928	6,230	1,756
SOUTH	3,629	1,091	1,770	767	28,674	7,268	14,246	7,160
UNDER 15 YEARS	698	197	351	150	3,358	834	1,565	958
15-44 YEARS	1,096	286	542	268	7,291	1,348	3,750	2,194
45-64 YEARS	962	258	492	212	8,381	1,649	4,447	2,284
65 YEARS AND OVER	873	351	385	138	9,645	3,436	4,485	1,724
WEST	1,689	391	1,118	179	12,132	2,192	8,131	1,809
UNDER 15 YEARS	295	85	190	20	1,072	281	672	119
15-44 YEARS	533	119	339	76	3,248	445	2,010	793
45-64 YEARS	474	95	328	51	3,788	587	2,703	497
65 YEARS AND OVER	385	92	261	32	4,025	878	2,747	400
FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES								
UNITED STATES	17,767	3,510	10,929	3,328	132,906	22,564	82,823	27,519
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,773	341	1,129	304	8,183	1,236	4,994	1,953
15-44 YEARS	9,118	1,627	5,617	1,873	48,339	6,882	30,002	11,455
45-64 YEARS	3,596	672	2,235	688	33,606	4,786	21,436	7,384
65 YEARS AND OVER	3,280	870	1,947	463	42,778	9,660	26,390	6,727
NORTHEAST	4,180	323	3,070	788	35,568	2,376	25,817	7,375
UNDER 15 YEARS	365	28	274	62	1,949	99	1,359	492
15-44 YEARS	2,212	147	1,597	468	12,332	664	8,771	2,897
45-64 YEARS	852	64	634	155	9,291	529	6,821	1,940
65 YEARS AND OVER	752	84	565	103	11,996	1,084	8,866	2,046
NORTH CENTRAL	5,545	913	3,586	1,045	42,973	6,507	27,713	8,753
UNDER 15 YEARS	609	87	404	118	2,743	343	1,707	692
15-44 YEARS	2,783	409	1,830	544	15,572	1,921	10,201	3,451
45-64 YEARS	1,143	189	722	233	10,951	1,380	7,053	2,518
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,009	228	631	150	13,706	2,862	8,751	2,092
SOUTH	5,495	1,612	2,654	1,228	39,172	10,588	19,163	9,420
UNDER 15 YEARS	556	153	296	107	2,608	623	1,300	685
15-44 YEARS	2,786	711	1,371	704	14,801	3,110	7,479	4,212
45-64 YEARS	1,081	310	531	240	9,465	2,284	4,849	2,333
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,072	438	456	177	12,297	4,571	5,535	2,190

TABLE 5. NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS AND DAYS OF CARE, BY SEX, AGE, GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AND BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL: UNITED STATES, 1971--CON.

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

SEX, AGE, AND REGION	BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL							
	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE
FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES--CON.	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS			
WEST	2,547	562	1,619	267	15,193	3,093	10,130	1,970
UNDER 15 YEARS	245	72	155	16	882	171	628	83
15-44 YEARS	1,338	360	820	157	5,633	1,187	3,552	895
45-64 YEARS	519	110	349	61	3,899	593	2,712	594
65 YEARS AND OVER	447	120	295	32	4,779	1,142	3,238	399
FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES								
UNITED STATES	14,431	2,921	8,867	2,642	119,374	20,486	74,332	24,556
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,759	339	1,121	299	8,130	1,231	4,964	1,935
15-44 YEARS	5,801	1,041	3,567	1,194	34,887	4,812	21,556	8,518
45-64 YEARS	3,590	672	2,232	686	33,580	4,783	21,421	7,376
65 YEARS AND OVER	3,280	870	1,947	463	42,778	9,660	26,390	6,727
NORTHEAST	3,378	268	2,481	630	31,882	2,138	23,160	6,585
UNDER 15 YEARS	363	28	274	61	1,938	98	1,353	487
15-44 YEARS	1,413	92	1,009	312	8,664	427	6,124	2,113
45-64 YEARS	851	64	633	154	9,285	529	6,817	1,939
65 YEARS AND OVER	752	84	565	103	11,996	1,084	8,866	2,046
NORTH CENTRAL	4,508	768	2,889	851	38,401	5,928	24,589	7,884
UNDER 15 YEARS	605	87	401	117	2,727	342	1,695	690
15-44 YEARS	1,752	265	1,137	350	11,025	1,346	7,093	2,586
45-64 YEARS	1,141	188	720	233	10,943	1,378	7,049	2,515
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,009	228	631	150	13,706	2,862	8,751	2,092
SOUTH	4,501	1,376	2,177	948	35,546	9,824	17,412	8,310
UNDER 15 YEARS	550	152	293	105	2,586	621	1,288	676
15-44 YEARS	1,800	475	898	427	11,208	2,348	5,745	3,116
45-64 YEARS	1,079	310	530	239	9,454	2,284	4,844	2,327
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,072	438	456	177	12,297	4,571	5,535	2,190
WEST	2,043	510	1,321	213	13,545	2,596	9,171	1,778
UNDER 15 YEARS	242	71	154	16	879	169	627	82
15-44 YEARS	835	209	522	104	3,989	692	2,594	704
45-64 YEARS	519	110	349	61	3,898	592	2,712	594
65 YEARS AND OVER	447	120	295	32	4,779	1,142	3,238	399

TABLE 6. NUMBER, PERCENT DISTRIBUTION, AND RATE OF DAYS OF CARE, AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS OCCUPIED DAILY, AND AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS, BY SEX AND AGE: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

SEX AND AGE	DAYS OF CARE			1/ NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS OCCUPIED DAILY	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS
	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION		
2/ BOTH SEXES					
ALL AGES.....	231,017	100.0	1,143.1	313.2	7.8
UNDER 1 YEAR.....	4,610	2.0	1,266.8	347.1	6.5
1-4 YEARS.....	4,781	2.1	350.6	96.0	4.2
5-14 YEARS.....	9,381	4.1	234.0	64.1	4.3
15-24 YEARS.....	25,096	10.9	700.4	191.9	4.8
25-34 YEARS.....	23,749	10.3	950.3	260.3	5.6
35-44 YEARS.....	23,515	10.2	1,048.4	287.2	7.4
45-54 YEARS.....	30,380	13.2	1,309.0	358.6	8.7
55-64 YEARS.....	33,924	14.7	1,815.8	497.5	10.2
65-74 YEARS.....	38,518	16.7	3,121.7	855.3	12.0
75 YEARS AND OVER.....	37,063	16.0	5,119.8	1,402.7	13.3
MALE					
ALL AGES.....	97,723	100.0	1,004.0	275.1	8.4
UNDER 1 YEAR.....	2,620	2.7	1,406.9	385.5	6.4
1-4 YEARS.....	2,635	2.7	378.9	103.8	4.1
5-14 YEARS.....	5,311	5.4	260.2	71.3	4.4
15-24 YEARS.....	7,797	8.0	452.5	124.0	6.1
25-34 YEARS.....	7,048	7.2	586.9	160.8	6.9
35-44 YEARS.....	9,021	9.2	838.9	229.8	7.7
45-54 YEARS.....	13,625	13.9	1,225.0	335.6	8.8
55-64 YEARS.....	16,970	17.4	1,930.6	528.9	10.1
65-74 YEARS.....	17,870	18.3	3,328.4	911.9	11.7
75 YEARS AND OVER.....	14,826	15.2	5,238.8	1,435.3	12.6
FEMALE					
ALL AGES.....	132,906	100.0	1,268.7	347.6	7.5
UNDER 1 YEAR.....	1,980	1.5	1,114.5	305.3	6.7
1-4 YEARS.....	2,144	1.6	320.7	87.9	4.4
5-14 YEARS.....	4,058	3.1	206.2	56.5	4.1
15-24 YEARS.....	17,285	13.0	929.3	254.6	4.4
25-34 YEARS.....	16,662	12.5	1,283.5	351.6	5.2
35-44 YEARS.....	14,392	10.8	1,232.5	337.7	7.3
45-54 YEARS.....	16,701	12.6	1,382.0	378.6	8.6
55-64 YEARS.....	16,905	12.7	1,708.6	468.1	10.3
65-74 YEARS.....	20,581	15.5	2,952.4	808.9	12.3
75 YEARS AND OVER.....	22,196	16.7	5,034.3	1,379.3	13.8

1/ EXPRESSED AS DAILY NUMBER OF BEDS OCCUPIED PER 100,000 CIVILIAN, NONINSTITUTIONALIZED POPULATION.

2/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 7. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY AGE AND LENGTH OF STAY, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971--CON.

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

AGE AND LENGTH OF STAY	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DISCHARGED PATIENTS IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
ALL AGES								
ALL STAYS.....	29,459	11,644	17,767	14,431	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	720	297	421	412	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.9
1 DAY.....	2,205	957	1,245	1,134	7.5	8.2	7.0	7.9
2 DAYS.....	4,221	1,622	2,593	2,165	14.3	13.9	14.6	15.0
3 DAYS.....	3,717	1,209	2,504	1,504	12.6	10.4	14.1	10.4
4 DAYS.....	3,221	1,049	2,168	1,254	10.9	9.0	12.2	8.7
5-6 DAYS.....	4,325	1,726	2,588	1,968	14.7	14.8	14.6	13.6
7-8 DAYS.....	2,959	1,204	1,752	1,581	10.0	10.3	9.9	11.0
9-10 DAYS.....	1,978	825	1,147	1,105	6.7	7.1	6.5	7.7
11-20 DAYS.....	4,063	1,819	2,238	2,209	13.8	15.6	12.6	15.3
21-30 DAYS.....	1,199	554	642	637	4.1	4.8	3.6	4.4
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	852	383	468	462	2.9	3.3	2.6	3.2
UNDER 15 YEARS								
ALL STAYS.....	4,029	2,249	1,773	1,759	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	149	80	69	69	3.7	3.5	3.9	3.9
1 DAY.....	675	381	294	293	16.8	16.9	16.6	16.7
2 DAYS.....	1,082	589	491	489	26.9	26.2	27.7	27.8
3 DAYS.....	524	294	229	224	13.0	13.1	12.9	12.7
4 DAYS.....	392	220	170	168	9.7	9.8	9.6	9.6
5-6 DAYS.....	500	288	212	210	12.4	12.8	12.0	11.9
7-8 DAYS.....	263	148	115	114	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.5
9-10 DAYS.....	143	83	60	60	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.4
11-20 DAYS.....	211	120	90	90	5.2	5.3	5.1	5.1
21-30 DAYS.....	46	23	23	23	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.3
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	44	25	19	19	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
15-44 YEARS								
ALL STAYS.....	12,605	3,467	9,118	5,801	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	382	111	270	261	3.0	3.2	3.0	4.5
1 DAY.....	1,032	320	710	600	8.2	9.2	7.8	10.4
2 DAYS.....	2,082	569	1,511	1,085	16.5	16.4	16.6	18.7
3 DAYS.....	2,175	438	1,735	742	17.3	12.6	19.0	12.8
4 DAYS.....	1,840	365	1,473	563	14.6	10.5	16.2	9.7
5-6 DAYS.....	2,044	577	1,461	843	16.2	16.6	16.0	14.5
7-8 DAYS.....	1,120	338	781	611	8.9	9.7	8.6	10.5
9-10 DAYS.....	611	201	409	367	4.9	5.8	4.5	6.3
11-20 DAYS.....	947	378	568	539	7.5	10.9	6.2	9.3
21-30 DAYS.....	213	94	117	112	1.7	2.7	1.3	1.9
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	160	76	83	77	1.3	2.2	0.9	1.3

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 7. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY AGE AND LENGTH OF STAY, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971--CON.

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

AGE AND LENGTH OF STAY	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DISCHARGED PATIENTS IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
45-64 YEARS								
ALL STAYS.....	6,840	3,232	3,596	3,590	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	103	60	43	43	1.5	1.9	1.2	1.2
1 DAY.....	309	158	150	150	4.5	4.9	4.2	4.2
2 DAYS.....	733	315	417	416	10.7	9.8	11.6	11.6
3 DAYS.....	642	299	341	340	9.4	9.3	9.5	9.5
4 DAYS.....	567	272	294	293	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.2
5-6 DAYS.....	1,014	516	496	495	14.8	16.0	13.8	13.8
7-8 DAYS.....	865	395	469	469	12.6	12.2	13.0	13.1
9-10 DAYS.....	663	291	369	369	9.7	9.0	10.3	10.3
11-20 DAYS.....	1,332	623	707	707	19.5	19.3	19.7	19.7
21-30 DAYS.....	381	192	189	188	5.6	5.9	5.2	5.2
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	232	111	121	121	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
65 YEARS AND OVER								
ALL STAYS.....	5,986	2,696	3,280	3,280	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	86	46	40	40	1.4	1.7	1.2	1.2
1 DAY.....	188	98	91	91	3.1	3.6	2.8	2.8
2 DAYS.....	325	149	174	174	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.3
3 DAYS.....	377	177	199	199	6.3	6.6	6.1	6.1
4 DAYS.....	422	191	230	230	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.0
5-6 DAYS.....	767	346	420	420	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8
7-8 DAYS.....	711	323	387	387	11.9	12.0	11.8	11.8
9-10 DAYS.....	560	250	308	308	9.4	9.3	9.4	9.4
11-20 DAYS.....	1,573	699	872	872	26.3	25.9	26.6	26.6
21-30 DAYS.....	559	245	314	314	9.3	9.1	9.6	9.6
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	416	171	245	245	6.9	6.3	7.5	7.5

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 8. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DAYS OF CARE FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY COLOR AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

COLOR AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
TOTAL								
ALL AGES.....	231,017	97,723	132,906	119,374	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	18,773	10,565	8,183	8,130	8.1	10.8	6.2	6.8
15-44 YEARS.....	72,359	23,866	48,339	34,887	31.3	24.4	36.4	29.2
45-64 YEARS.....	64,304	30,595	33,606	33,580	27.8	31.3	25.3	28.1
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	75,581	32,696	42,778	42,778	32.7	33.5	32.2	35.8
WHITE								
ALL AGES.....	176,252	75,036	101,183	91,740	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	13,083	7,285	5,796	5,776	7.4	9.7	5.7	6.3
15-44 YEARS.....	51,375	17,118	34,240	24,833	29.1	22.8	33.8	27.1
45-64 YEARS.....	50,339	24,005	26,331	26,315	28.6	32.0	26.0	28.7
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	61,454	26,628	34,816	34,816	34.9	35.5	34.4	38.0
ALL OTHER								
ALL AGES.....	27,184	11,451	15,720	13,378	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,556	2,065	1,488	1,458	13.1	18.0	9.5	10.9
15-44 YEARS.....	11,377	3,567	7,807	5,502	41.9	31.1	49.7	41.1
45-64 YEARS.....	6,523	3,140	3,381	3,374	24.0	27.4	21.5	25.2
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	5,728	2,680	3,044	3,044	21.1	23.4	19.4	22.8
COLOR NOT STATED								
ALL AGES.....	27,581	11,235	16,002	14,257	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,134	1,215	899	896	7.7	10.8	5.6	6.3
15-44 YEARS.....	9,607	3,182	6,292	4,552	34.8	28.3	39.3	31.9
45-64 YEARS.....	7,442	3,450	3,894	3,891	27.0	30.7	24.3	27.3
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	8,398	3,388	4,918	4,918	30.4	30.2	30.7	34.5

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 9. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY COLOR, AGE, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

COLOR AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
TOTAL				
ALL AGES	7.3	7.4	7.5	8.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.9	5.3	6.0
45-64 YEARS	9.4	9.5	9.3	9.4
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.6	12.1	13.0	13.0
WHITE				
ALL AGES	7.9	8.3	7.5	8.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
15-44 YEARS	5.6	6.6	5.2	5.9
45-64 YEARS	9.3	9.3	9.2	9.2
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.6	12.1	13.0	13.0
ALL OTHER				
ALL AGES	8.1	9.6	7.4	8.6
UNDER 15 YEARS	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.6
15-44 YEARS	6.3	8.4	5.6	6.7
45-64 YEARS	11.5	11.8	11.1	11.2
65 YEARS AND OVER	14.1	14.2	14.1	14.1
COLOR NOT STATED				
ALL AGES	7.5	7.8	7.3	8.0
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.1
15-44 YEARS	5.9	6.9	5.4	6.1
45-64 YEARS	8.9	8.7	9.0	9.0
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.1	11.2	12.8	12.8

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 10. 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, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

REGION AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
UNITED STATES								
ALL AGES.....	231,017	97,723	132,906	119,374	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	18,773	10,565	8,183	8,130	8.1	10.8	6.2	6.8
15-44 YEARS.....	72,359	23,866	48,339	34,887	31.3	24.4	36.4	29.2
45-64 YEARS.....	64,304	30,595	33,606	33,580	27.8	31.3	25.3	28.1
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	75,581	32,696	42,778	42,778	32.7	33.5	32.2	35.8
NORTHEAST								
ALL AGES.....	62,283	26,546	35,568	31,882	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,450	2,493	1,949	1,938	7.1	9.4	5.5	6.1
15-44 YEARS.....	18,417	6,012	12,332	8,664	29.6	22.6	34.7	27.2
45-64 YEARS.....	18,264	8,928	9,291	9,285	29.3	33.6	26.1	29.1
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	21,152	9,113	11,996	11,996	34.0	34.3	33.7	37.6
NORTH CENTRAL								
ALL AGES.....	73,449	30,370	42,973	38,401	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	6,396	3,644	2,743	2,727	8.7	12.0	6.4	7.1
15-44 YEARS.....	22,930	7,315	15,572	11,025	31.2	24.1	36.2	28.7
45-64 YEARS.....	20,477	9,498	10,951	10,943	27.9	31.3	25.5	28.5
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	23,646	9,913	13,706	13,706	32.2	32.6	31.9	35.7
SOUTH								
ALL AGES.....	67,930	28,674	39,172	35,546	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	5,972	3,358	2,608	2,586	8.8	11.7	6.7	7.3
15-44 YEARS.....	22,115	7,291	14,801	11,208	32.6	25.4	37.8	31.5
45-64 YEARS.....	17,864	8,381	9,465	9,454	26.3	29.2	24.2	26.6
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	21,979	9,645	12,297	12,297	32.4	33.6	31.4	34.6
WEST								
ALL AGES.....	27,355	12,132	15,193	13,545	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	1,954	1,072	882	879	7.1	8.8	5.8	6.5
15-44 YEARS.....	8,897	3,248	5,633	3,989	32.5	26.8	37.1	29.5
45-64 YEARS.....	7,699	3,788	3,899	3,898	28.1	31.2	25.7	28.8
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	8,804	4,025	4,779	4,779	32.2	33.2	31.5	35.3

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 11. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AGE, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

REGION AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
UNITED STATES				
ALL AGES	7.8	8.4	7.5	8.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.9	5.3	6.0
45-64 YEARS	9.4	9.5	9.3	9.4
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.6	12.1	13.0	13.0
NORTHEAST				
ALL AGES	9.0	9.8	8.5	9.4
UNDER 15 YEARS	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.3
15-44 YEARS	6.1	7.6	5.6	6.1
45-64 YEARS	11.0	11.0	10.9	10.9
65 YEARS AND OVER	15.2	14.4	16.0	16.0
NORTH CENTRAL				
ALL AGES	8.0	8.4	7.8	8.5
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.5
15-44 YEARS	6.0	7.0	5.6	6.3
45-64 YEARS	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6
65 YEARS AND OVER	13.0	12.4	13.6	13.6
SOUTH				
ALL AGES	7.4	7.9	7.1	7.9
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.7	5.3	6.2
45-64 YEARS	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.8
65 YEARS AND OVER	11.3	11.0	11.5	11.5
WEST				
ALL AGES	6.5	7.2	6.0	6.6
UNDER 15 YEARS	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
15-44 YEARS	4.7	6.1	4.2	4.8
45-64 YEARS	7.7	8.0	7.5	7.5
65 YEARS AND OVER	10.6	10.4	10.7	10.7

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 12. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DAYS OF CARE FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
ALL SIZES								
ALL AGES.....	231,017	97,723	132,906	119,374	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	18,773	10,565	8,183	8,130	8.1	10.8	6.2	6.8
15-44 YEARS.....	72,359	23,866	48,339	34,887	31.3	24.4	36.4	29.2
45-64 YEARS.....	64,304	30,595	33,606	33,580	27.8	31.3	25.3	28.1
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	75,581	32,696	42,778	42,778	32.7	33.5	32.2	35.8
6-99 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	37,792	15,174	22,564	20,486	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,958	1,716	1,236	1,231	7.8	11.3	5.5	6.0
15-44 YEARS.....	9,722	2,826	6,882	4,812	25.7	18.6	30.5	23.5
45-64 YEARS.....	8,542	3,742	4,786	4,783	22.6	24.7	21.2	23.3
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	16,570	6,890	9,660	9,660	43.8	45.4	42.8	47.2
100-199 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	44,274	18,142	26,062	23,348	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,656	1,958	1,695	1,682	8.3	10.8	6.5	7.2
15-44 YEARS.....	12,777	3,729	9,029	6,333	28.9	20.6	34.6	27.1
45-64 YEARS.....	11,642	5,523	6,095	6,089	26.3	30.4	23.4	26.1
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	16,198	6,932	9,242	9,242	36.6	38.2	35.5	39.6
200-299 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	40,775	16,822	23,872	21,346	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,351	1,860	1,489	1,483	8.2	11.1	6.2	6.9
15-44 YEARS.....	12,554	3,917	8,605	6,085	30.8	23.3	36.0	28.5
45-64 YEARS.....	12,050	5,618	6,406	6,404	29.6	33.4	26.8	30.0
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	12,820	5,427	7,373	7,373	31.4	32.3	30.9	34.5
300-499 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	58,165	25,136	32,889	29,638	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,259	2,441	1,810	1,798	7.3	9.7	5.5	6.1
15-44 YEARS.....	19,128	6,691	12,368	9,138	32.9	26.6	37.6	30.8
45-64 YEARS.....	17,284	8,317	8,935	8,928	29.7	33.1	27.2	30.1
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	17,494	7,688	9,775	9,775	30.1	30.6	29.7	33.0
500 BEDS OR MORE								
ALL AGES.....	50,012	22,449	27,519	24,556	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,550	2,591	1,953	1,935	9.1	11.5	7.1	7.9
15-44 YEARS.....	18,179	6,704	11,455	8,518	36.3	29.9	41.6	34.7
45-64 YEARS.....	14,785	7,395	7,384	7,376	29.6	32.9	26.8	30.0
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	12,498	5,760	6,727	6,727	25.0	25.7	24.4	27.4

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 13. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL, AGE OF PATIENT, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
ALL SIZES				
ALL AGES	7.8	8.4	7.5	8.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.9	5.3	6.0
45-64 YEARS	9.4	9.5	9.3	9.4
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.6	12.1	13.0	13.0
6-99 BEDS				
ALL AGES	6.5	6.6	6.4	7.0
UNDER 15 YEARS	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.6
15-44 YEARS	4.3	4.5	4.2	4.6
45-64 YEARS	6.9	6.6	7.1	7.1
65 YEARS AND OVER	10.7	10.1	11.1	11.1
100-199 BEDS				
ALL AGES	7.3	7.7	7.1	7.8
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.4
15-44 YEARS	5.1	5.7	4.9	5.4
45-64 YEARS	8.5	8.6	8.4	8.4
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.3	11.7	12.9	12.9
200-299 BEDS				
ALL AGES	7.9	8.2	7.6	8.5
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3
15-44 YEARS	5.6	6.5	5.3	6.0
45-64 YEARS	10.1	9.9	10.3	10.3
65 YEARS AND OVER	13.2	12.3	13.9	13.9
300-499 BEDS				
ALL AGES	8.5	9.1	8.0	8.9
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	6.4	7.8	5.8	6.7
45-64 YEARS	10.2	10.2	10.1	10.1
65 YEARS AND OVER	13.7	13.5	14.0	14.0
500 BEDS OR MORE				
ALL AGES	9.1	10.3	8.3	9.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.5
15-44 YEARS	7.0	9.2	6.1	7.1
45-64 YEARS	11.1	11.6	10.7	10.7
65 YEARS AND OVER	14.3	14.0	14.5	14.5

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 14. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DAYS OF CARE FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY TYPE OF OWNERSHIP OF HOSPITAL AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

TYPE OF OWNERSHIP AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
ALL TYPES								
ALL AGES.....	231,017	97,723	132,906	119,374	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	18,773	10,565	8,183	8,130	8.1	10.8	6.2	6.8
15-44 YEARS.....	72,359	23,866	48,339	34,887	31.3	24.4	36.4	29.2
45-64 YEARS.....	64,304	30,595	33,606	33,580	27.8	31.3	25.3	28.1
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	75,581	32,696	42,778	42,778	32.7	33.5	32.2	35.8
VOLUNTARY NONPROFIT								
ALL AGES.....	173,457	72,715	100,430	90,441	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	13,571	7,514	6,039	6,004	7.8	10.3	6.0	6.6
15-44 YEARS.....	53,162	17,096	35,933	25,997	30.6	23.5	35.8	28.7
45-64 YEARS.....	49,711	23,606	26,024	26,006	28.7	32.5	25.9	28.8
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	57,013	24,499	32,435	32,435	32.9	33.7	32.3	35.9
GOVERNMENT								
ALL AGES.....	49,024	21,597	27,366	24,262	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,629	2,737	1,887	1,870	9.4	12.7	6.9	7.7
15-44 YEARS.....	16,638	5,967	10,651	7,573	33.9	27.6	38.9	31.2
45-64 YEARS.....	12,475	6,034	6,427	6,419	25.4	27.9	23.5	26.5
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	15,283	6,860	8,400	8,400	31.2	31.8	30.7	34.6
PROPRIETARY								
ALL AGES.....	8,535	3,411	5,109	4,671	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	572	315	256	256	6.7	9.2	5.0	5.5
15-44 YEARS.....	2,559	804	1,755	1,317	30.0	23.6	34.3	28.2
45-64 YEARS.....	2,118	954	1,155	1,155	24.8	28.0	22.6	24.7
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	3,285	1,338	1,943	1,943	38.5	39.2	38.0	41.6

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 15. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY TYPE OF OWNERSHIP OF HOSPITAL, AGE OF PATIENT, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

TYPE OF OWNERSHIP AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
ALL TYPES				
ALL AGES	7.8	8.4	7.5	8.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.9	5.3	6.0
45-64 YEARS	9.4	9.5	9.3	9.4
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.6	12.1	13.0	13.0
VOLUNTARY NONPROFIT				
ALL AGES	8.0	8.6	7.7	8.5
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.9	7.0	5.5	6.2
45-64 YEARS	9.6	9.7	9.5	9.5
65 YEARS AND OVER	13.0	12.4	13.4	13.4
GOVERNMENT				
ALL AGES	7.4	8.1	6.9	7.8
UNDER 15 YEARS	5.1	5.2	5.0	5.0
15-44 YEARS	5.5	6.9	4.9	5.7
45-64 YEARS	9.0	9.1	8.8	8.9
65 YEARS AND OVER	11.7	11.4	12.0	12.0
PROPRIETARY				
ALL AGES	6.9	7.1	6.7	7.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
15-44 YEARS	4.8	5.6	4.5	4.8
45-64 YEARS	7.9	7.6	8.2	8.2
65 YEARS AND OVER	11.7	10.7	12.5	12.5

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX WAS NOT STATED.

TABLE 16. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY SEX, AGE, GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AND BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL: UNITED STATES, 1971

(DISCHARGES FROM NONFEDERAL SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS. EXCLUDES NEWBORN INFANTS)

SEX AND AGE	TOTAL	NORTHEAST			NORTH CENTRAL			SOUTH			WEST		
		6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE
1/ BOTH SEXES	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS												
ALL AGES....	7.8	7.1	8.8	10.6	7.1	8.0	9.0	6.6	7.6	8.3	5.0	6.7	8.5
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.7	3.9	4.8	7.6	3.8	4.4	6.0	4.2	4.4	6.4	2.9	3.8	5.5
15-44 YEARS.....	5.7	4.6	5.9	7.3	4.7	5.9	7.1	4.5	5.9	6.6	3.4	4.8	7.2
45-64 YEARS.....	9.4	7.4	10.8	13.4	7.2	9.7	10.9	6.9	9.1	10.2	5.8	8.0	9.8
65+ YEARS.....	12.6	12.1	15.0	18.3	11.8	13.3	13.7	10.1	11.9	12.4	9.5	10.8	12.3
MALE													
ALL AGES....	8.4	6.7	9.4	12.6	7.0	8.3	9.8	6.7	8.0	9.3	5.6	7.3	10.1
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.7	4.2	4.8	7.5	3.7	4.5	6.1	4.2	4.5	6.4	3.3	3.5	5.8
15-44 YEARS.....	6.9	4.7	7.2	10.6	4.8	6.7	9.0	4.7	6.9	8.2	3.7	5.9	10.5
45-64 YEARS.....	9.5	6.7	10.8	14.3	7.1	9.7	11.1	6.4	9.0	10.8	6.2	8.2	9.8
65+ YEARS.....	12.1	11.0	14.2	16.8	10.8	12.6	13.4	9.8	11.6	12.5	9.5	10.5	12.3
FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES													
ALL AGES....	7.5	7.4	8.4	9.4	7.1	7.7	8.4	6.6	7.2	7.7	4.7	6.3	7.4
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.6	3.5	5.0	7.9	3.9	4.2	5.9	4.1	4.4	6.4	2.4	4.1	5.1
15-44 YEARS.....	5.3	4.5	5.5	6.2	4.7	5.6	6.3	4.4	5.5	6.0	3.3	4.3	5.7
45-64 YEARS.....	9.3	8.3	10.8	12.5	7.3	9.8	10.8	7.4	9.1	9.7	5.4	7.8	9.8
65+ YEARS.....	13.0	13.0	15.7	19.8	12.5	13.9	13.9	10.4	12.1	12.4	9.6	11.0	12.3
FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES													
ALL AGES....	8.3	8.0	9.3	10.5	7.7	8.5	9.3	7.1	8.0	8.8	5.1	6.9	8.3
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.6	3.5	4.9	8.0	3.9	4.2	5.9	4.1	4.4	6.5	2.4	4.1	5.2
15-44 YEARS.....	6.0	4.6	6.1	6.8	5.1	6.2	7.4	4.9	6.4	7.3	3.3	5.0	6.7
45-64 YEARS.....	9.4	8.3	10.8	12.6	7.3	9.8	10.8	7.4	9.1	9.7	5.4	7.8	9.8
65+ YEARS.....	13.0	13.0	15.7	19.8	12.5	13.9	13.9	10.4	12.1	12.4	9.6	11.0	12.3

1/ INCLUDES DISCHARGE DATA FOR WHICH SEX 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 patients discharged from noninstitutional hospitals which have six beds or more for inpatient use, are located in the 50 States and the District of Columbia, and have an average length of stay of less than 30 days. Although all discharges of inpatients from these hospitals are within the scope of the survey, all newborn infants are excluded from this report.

Sampling frame and size of hospital.—The universe (sampling frame) for the Hospital Discharge Survey consists of the short-stay hospitals excluding 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.[16]

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. The sample for 1971 consisted of 465 hospitals, of which 26 were ruled out of scope of the survey because they failed to meet the definition of a short-stay hospital and 60 refused to participate. Estimates are based on 198,223 abstracts received from the remaining 379 hospitals that participated during 1971.

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 fewer than 1,000 beds were stratified, the primary strata being the 24 size-by-region classes 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 size class and to assure that the overall probability of selecting a discharge would be approximately the same in all hospitals.

In 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 a 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 Kth discharge thereafter.

Estimation.—Statistics produced by the HDS are derived by a complex procedure. The basic unit of estimation is the sample patient abstract. The estimating procedure used to produce essentially unbiased national estimates has three principal components: (1) inflation of reciprocals of the probabilities of sample selection, (2) adjustment for nonresponse, and (3) ratio adjustments to fixed totals. These components are described in appendix I of two earlier publications.[1,2]

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 forms 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-fourths of the hospitals that participated in the HDS during 1971, this work was performed by the medical records department of the hospital. In the remaining hospitals, nearly all the work was performed by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census acting for NCHS.

Nearly all survey hospitals transcribed data from hospital records to the form shown in figure I.

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

NOTE: The list of references follows the text.

Table I. Distribution of short-stay hospitals in the universe (MFI), in the Hospital Discharge Survey sample, and participating in the survey, by bed size of hospital and geographic region: United States, 1971

Bed size of hospital	All regions	Northeast	North Central	South	West
	Number of hospitals				
All sizes					
Universe	6,965	1,107	1,979	2,620	1,259
Total sample	465	123	139	135	68
Survey participants	379	108	121	102	48
6-49 beds					
Universe	3,113	199	830	1,438	646
Total sample	59	7	17	23	12
Survey participants	35	5	13	11	6
50-99 beds					
Universe	1,623	288	442	587	306
Total sample	66	12	18	24	12
Survey participants	56	10	17	20	9
100-199 beds					
Universe	1,144	277	378	332	157
Total sample	95	24	30	29	12
Survey participants	80	23	26	24	7
200-299 beds					
Universe	552	182	151	134	85
Total sample	83	29	24	18	12
Survey participants	68	27	21	12	8
300-499 beds					
Universe	386	110	129	96	51
Total sample	89	24	29	24	12
Survey participants	75	19	25	21	10
500-999 beds					
Universe	129	42	46	28	13
Total sample	55	18	18	12	7
Survey participants	47	15	16	9	7
1,000 beds or more					
Universe	18	9	3	5	1
Total sample	18	9	3	5	1
Survey participants	18	9	3	5	1

abstracts was reviewed; each abstract form was checked for completeness; and when necessary, problems were referred to the hospitals for clarification and correction.

Final editing was done by computer inspection of the demographic data compared with the category code assigned each abstract. If the patient's sex was left blank, it was coded and tabulated as "not stated," except in those cases known to be deliveries.

Very few rejects were encountered; those found were corrected by inspection of data on the computer tape. If age was left blank, it was imputed by assigning the patient an age consistent with the ages of other patients with the same category code. If the dates of admission or discharge were not given and if they could not be obtained from the monthly sample listing sheet transmitted by the sample hospital, a length of stay was imputed by assigning the patient a stay consistent with the stays of other patients of the same age. Other

HSM-88-1
9/70

Form Approved
O.M.B. No. 68-R0620

CONFIDENTIAL - All information which would permit identification of an individual or of an establishment will be held 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.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service
Health Services and Mental Health Administration
National Center for Health Statistics

MEDICAL ABSTRACT — HOSPITAL DISCHARGE SURVEY

I. Patient Identification

1. Hospital number..... _____
2. HDS number..... _____
3. Medical record number..... _____
4. Date of admission _____ _____ _____ (Month / Day / Year)
5. Date of discharge _____ _____ _____ (Month / Day / Year)

II. Patient Characteristics

1. Date of birth: _____ _____ _____ (Month / Day / Year)
2. Age (complete ONLY if date of birth not given): _____ (Units) { 1 ☐ years, 2 ☐ months, 3 ☐ days }
3. Sex: 1 ☐ Male 2 ☐ Female
4. Race or color: 1 ☐ White 2 ☐ Negro 3 ☐ Other nonwhite 4 ☐ "Nonwhite" 5 ☐ Not stated
5. Marital status: 1 ☐ Married 2 ☐ Single 3 ☐ Widowed 4 ☐ Divorced 5 ☐ Separated 6 ☐ Not stated
6. Discharge status: 1 ☐ Alive 2 ☐ Dead

III. Diagnoses and Operations

1. Final diagnoses: _____
   ☐ see reverse side
2. Operations: _____
   ☐ see reverse side

Completed by _____ Date _____

FOR NCHS USE ONLY

Diagnoses _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

Operations _____ _____ _____

GPO : 1971 O - 450-549

Figure I. Medical abstract for the Hospital Discharge Survey.

Table II. Civilian noninstitutional population by age and sex: United States, July 1, 1971

[Consistent with *Current Poulation Reports*, Series P-25, No.-490]

Age group	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total--------	202,090	97,330	104,760
0-14 years-----	57,368	29,227	28,141
Under 1 year------	3,639	1,862	1,777
1-4 years---------	13,639	6,953	6,686
5-14 years--------	40,089	20,412	19,678
15-44 years----	83,252	39,992	43,259
15-24 years-------	35,830	17,229	18,600
25-34 years-------	24,992	12,010	12,982
35-44 years-------	22,430	10,753	11,677
45-64 years----	41,891	19,912	21,979
45-54 years-------	23,208	11,123	12,085
55-64 years-------	18,683	8,790	9,894
65 years and over----------	19,579	8,199	11,380
65-74 years-------	12,339	5,369	6,971
75 years and over----------	7,239	2,830	4,409

missing demographic items were coded and tabulated as not stated.

Population Estimates

The base populations used in computing rates are unpublished estimates for the U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population as of July 1, 1971, provided by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

The population estimates for the United States by age and sex (table II) and by age and geographic region (table III) are consistent with the estimates of the civilian population published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25. However, they are not official population estimates of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Estimates of the regional populations by age and sex were provided by the U.S. Bureau of the Census specifically for use in the HDS for computing rates.

General Qualifications

Rounding of numbers.--Estimates of the number of discharges and number of days of care were rounded to the nearest thousand for tabular presentation. Percents

Table III. Civilian noninstitutional population by geographic region, sex, and age: United States, July 1, 1971

Sex and age	All regions	Northeast	North Central	South	West
Total	In thousands				
All ages----------	202,090	48,818	56,310	62,376	34,586
Under 65 years----------	182,511	43,787	50,783	56,385	31,555
Under 15 years----------	57,368	13,216	16,267	17,984	9,900
15-44 years----------	83,252	19,708	23,076	25,795	14,673
45-64 years----------	41,891	10,863	11,440	12,606	6,982
65 years and over----------	19,579	5,031	5,527	5,991	3,030
Male					
All ages----------	97,330	23,400	27,358	29,818	16,754
Under 65 years----------	89,131	21,341	25,024	27,302	15,464
Under 15 years----------	29,227	6,744	8,296	9,145	5,042
15-44 years----------	39,992	9,486	11,237	12,228	7,041
45-64 years----------	19,912	5,111	5,491	5,929	3,381
65 years and over----------	8,199	2,059	2,334	2,516	1,290
Female					
All ages----------	104,760	25,418	28,952	32,558	17,832
Under 65 years----------	93,379	22,446	25,759	29,083	16,091
Under 15 years----------	28,141	6,472	7,971	8,839	4,858
15-44 years----------	43,259	10,222	11,839	13,567	7,632
45-64 years----------	21,979	5,752	5,949	6,677	3,601
65 years and over----------	11,380	2,972	3,193	3,475	1,741

and rates were calculated on the basis of unrounded estimates. Due to rounding, detailed figures within tables do not always add to totals.

Patient characteristics not stated.—Age and/or sex was not stated for less than 1 percent of all discharges. However, color was not stated for approximately 12 percent of the patients discharged. The proportion of sample hospital records with color not stated varied considerably among the sample hospitals.

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 can occur in a complete count or census as well as in a sample survey.

Sampling errors, on the other hand, occur because a sample instead of a complete count is taken.

Measurement errors.—Measurement errors include those 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.

Sampling errors.—The standard error in this survey is primarily a measure of the sampling variability that occurs by chance because the estimates are based on subsamples of discharges within 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 3,887,000 + 5.1 percent of 3,887,000 (between 3,688,163 and 4,085,237); 99 out of 100 for the interval 3,887,000 + 5.1 percent of 3,887,000 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, figure II and tables IV and V provide general

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

[Standard errors for patient characteristics classified by size of hospital are 1½ times and by type of ownership are 3½ times the standard errors shown in this table]

Number of discharges (base of percent)	Estimate percent					
	2 or 98	4 or 96	10 or 90	20 or 80	30 or 70	50
	Standard error expressed in percentage points					
100,000--------	1.4	2.0	3.1	4.2	4.8	5.2
200,000--------	1.0	1.4	2.2	3.0	3.4	3.7
600,000--------	0.6	0.8	1.3	1.7	2.0	2.1
1,000,000------	0.5	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.7
2,000,000------	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.2
6,000,000------	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7
10,000,000-----	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5
20,000,000-----	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4
30,000,000-----	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3

Illustration of use of table IV. Table 1 shows that 28.5 percent of the 9,011,000 white male patients discharged during 1971 from all hospitals were aged 45-64 years. Linear interpolation between the values shown in table IV will yield an approximate standard error of 0.5 percent for an estimate of 28.5 percent with a base of 9,011,000.

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

[Standard errors for patient characteristics classified by size of hospital are 1½ times and by type of ownership are 2½ 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					
1,000,000-------	1.8	2.6	4.0	5.2	6.0	6.5
2,000,000-------	1.3	1.8	2.8	3.7	4.2	4.6
6,000,000-------	0.7	1.0	1.6	2.1	2.4	2.7
10,000,000------	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.6	1.9	2.1
20,000,000------	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.5
60,000,000------	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8
100,000,000-----	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7
200,000,000-----	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5
300,000,000-----	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4

Illustration of use of table V: Table 12 shows that of the 22,449,000 days of care provided for males discharged during 1971 from hospitals with 500 beds or more 25.7 percent of the days were utilized by patients 65 years and over. Linear interpolation between the values shown in table V will yield an approximate standard error of 1.9 percent for an estimate of 25.7 percent with a base of 22,449,000.

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

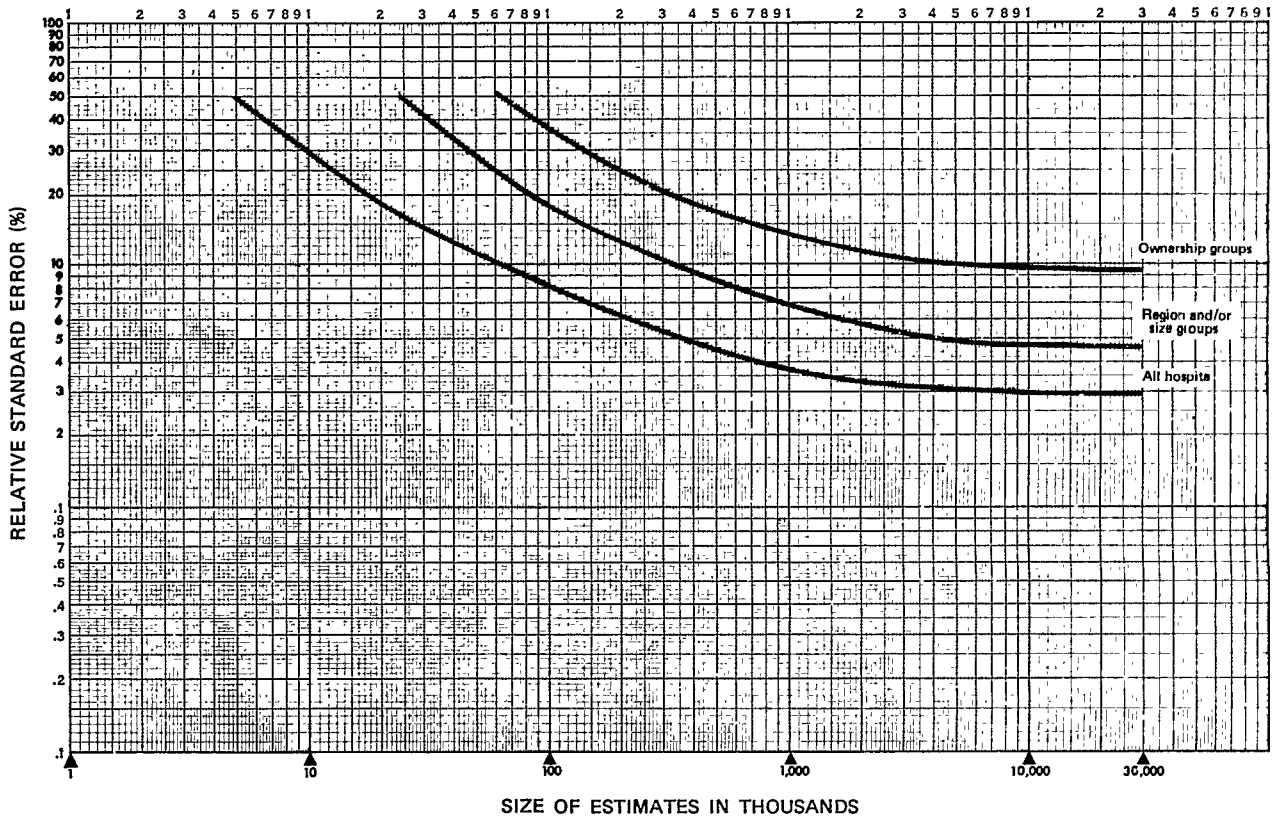

Illustration of use of figure II: As shown in table 2, an estimated 3,887,000 patients aged 15-44 years were discharged during 1971 within the South Region. The relative standard error of this estimate as read from the line "Region and/or size groups" is approximately 5.1 percent: the standard error of 3,887,000 is 198,237 (5.1 percent of 3,887,000).

standard erors 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 for patient characteristics (age, sex, color, and discharge status, and cross-classifications, e.g., age by sex) cross-classified by one of three hospital groupings as follows: (1) by region (e.g., Northeast) and/or size (e.g., 6-99 beds), (2) by type of ownership (e.g., government), or (3) by hospitals summed over all regions, 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 with which the patient characteristic(s) is cross-classified. The procedures that apply are as follows:

1. Approximate relative standard errors of estimated number of discharges are obtained from the curves shown on figure II.
2. Approximate relative standard errors of number of days of care are obtained from the curves shown in figure III.
3. 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.
4. 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.

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

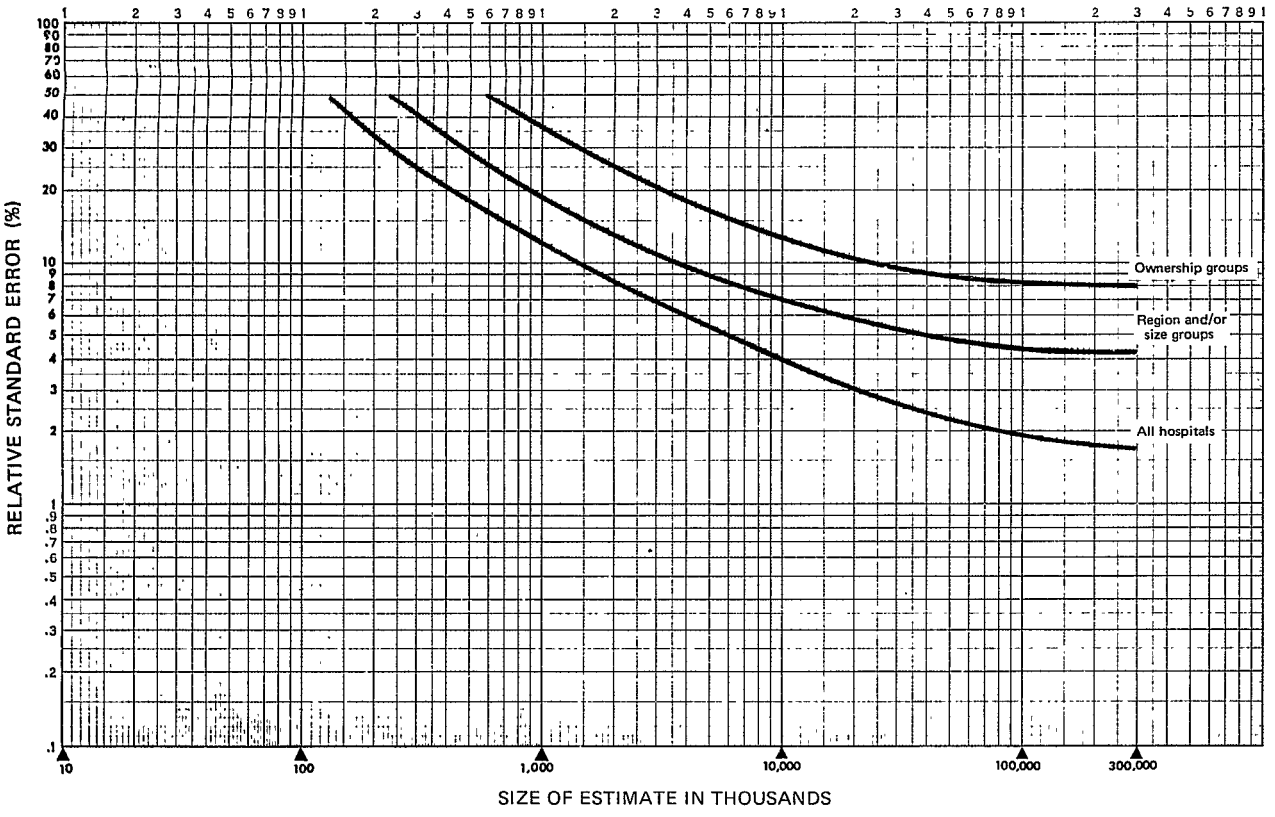

Illustration of use of figure III: As shown in table 14, an estimated 2,559,000 days of care during 1971 were provided to patients aged 15-44 years in proprietary hospitals. The relative standard error of this estimate as read from the line "Ownership groups" is approximately 22.0 percent: the standard error is 562,980 (22.0 percent of 2,559,000).

Approximate standard errors of average lengths of stay can be calculated as in the following example:

Suppose the standard error ($\sigma_{R'}$) of the average length of stay during 1971 for males aged 15-44 years for all hospitals is desired. The estimated number of discharges for this statistic is 3,467,000 (table 1) and the estimated number of days of care is 23,866,000 (table 10).

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

$$= \frac{X'}{Y'} = \frac{23,866,000}{3,467,000} = 6.9 \text{ days}$$

The relative standard error ($V_{X'}$) of 23,866,000 (from all hospitals curve in figure III) is 2.9 percent, or .029 $V_{X'}^2 (.029)^2$. The relative standard error ($V_{Y'}$) of 3,467,000 (from all hospitals curve in figure II) is 3.2 percent, or .032; $V_{Y'} = (.032)^2$. The sample correlation coefficient (r) which measures the closeness of the relation between the estimated number of days of care and the estimated number of discharges has been computed to be 0.75.

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

$$= (.029)^2 + (.032)^2 - 1.5(.029 \times .032)$$

$$= .00084 + .00102 - .00139 = .00047$$

$$V_{R'} = \sqrt{.00047} = .022$$

$$\sigma_{R'} = R' \times V_{R'} = 6.9 \times .022 = 0.15 \text{ days}$$

APPENDIX II

DEFINITIONS OF CERTAIN TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Terms Relating to Hospitalization

Patient.—A person who is formally admitted to the inpatient service of a short-stay hospital for observation, care, diagnosis, or treatment. In this report the number of patients refers to the number of discharges during 1971 including any multiple discharges of the same individual from one short-stay hospital or more. All newborn infants, defined as those admitted by birth to the hospital, are excluded from this report. "Inpatient" and "patient" are used synonymously.

Patient under 1 year of age.—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, "discharges" and "patients (or inpatients) discharged" are used synonymously.

Discharge rate.—The ratio of the number of hospital discharges during a year to the number of persons in the civilian, noninstitutionalized population July 1 of that year.

Days of care.—The total number of inpatient days accumulated at time of discharge by patients discharged from short-stay hospitals during a year. 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 a year to the number of persons in the civilian, noninstitutionalized population July 1 of that year.

Average length of stay.—The total number of inpatient days accumulated at time of discharge by patients discharged during 1971 divided by the number of patients discharged. "Average stay," "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. Federal 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 of hospital.—Refers to the type of organization that controls and operates the hospital. The hospitals are grouped as follows:

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

Government hospitals.—Hospitals operated by State or local governments.

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

Demographic Terms

Age.—Refers to age at birthday prior to admission to the hospital inpatient service.

Color.—In this report patients are classified into two groups, "white" and "all other." The all other classification includes all categories other than white; some groups are too small to be presented separately for statistical purposes. White includes Mexican and Puerto Rican unless specifically identified as all other.

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

Region	*States Included*
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

———— ○○○ ————

VITAL AND HEALTH STATISTICS PUBLICATION SERIES

Originally Public Health Service Publication No. 1000

Series 1. Programs and collection procedures.—Reports which describe the general programs of the National Center for Health Statistics and its offices and divisions, data collection methods used, definitions, and other material necessary for understanding the data.

Series 2. Data evaluation and methods research.—Studies of new statistical methodology including: experimental tests of new survey methods, studies of vital statistics collection methods, new analytical techniques, objective evaluations of reliability of collected data, contributions to statistical theory.

Series 3. Analytical studies.—Reports presenting analytical or interpretive studies based on vital and health statistics, carrying the analysis further than the expository types of reports in the other series.

Series 4. Documents and committee reports.—Final reports of major committees concerned with vital and health statistics, and documents such as recommended model vital registration laws and revised birth and death certificates.

Series 10. Data from the Health Interview Survey.—Statistics on illness, accidental injuries, disability, use of hospital, medical, dental, and other services, and other health-related topics, based on data collected in a continuing national household interview survey.

Series 11. Data from the Health Examination Survey.—Data from direct examination, testing, and measurement of national samples of the civilian, noninstitutional population provide the basis for two types of reports: (1) estimates of the medically defined prevalence of specific diseases in the United States and the distributions of the population with respect to physical, physiological, and psychological characteristics; and (2) analysis of relationships among the various measurements without reference to an explicit finite universe of persons.

Series 12. Data from the Institutional Population Surveys —Statistics relating to the health characteristics of persons in institutions, and their medical, nursing, and personal care received, based on national samples of establishments providing these services and samples of the residents or patients.

Series 13. Data from the Hospital Discharge Survey.—Statistics relating to discharged patients in short-stay hospitals, based on a sample of patient records in a national sample of hospitals.

Series 14. Data on health resources: manpower and facilities.—Statistics on the numbers, geographic distribution, and characteristics of health resources including physicians, dentists, nurses, other health occupations, hospitals, nursing homes, and outpatient facilities.

Series 20. Data on mortality.—Various statistics on mortality other than as included in regular annual or monthly reports—special analyses by cause of death, age, and other demographic variables, also geographic and time series analyses.

Series 21. Data on natality, marriage, and divorce.—Various statistics on natality, marriage, and divorce other than as included in regular annual or monthly reports—special analyses by demographic variables, also geographic and time series analyses, studies of fertility.

Series 22. Data from the National Natality and Mortality Surveys.—Statistics on characteristics of births and deaths not available from the vital records, based on sample surveys stemming from these records, including such topics as mortality by socioeconomic class, hospital experience in the last year of life, medical care during pregnancy, health insurance coverage, etc.

For a list of titles of reports published in these series, write to:

Office of Information
National Center for Health Statistics
Public Health Service, HRA
Rockville, Md. 20852

DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 75-1768
Series 13 - No. 17

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Public Health Service

HEALTH RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Md. 20852

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for Private Use, $300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF H.E.W.

HEW 390

THIRD CLASS
BLK. RATE