# Personal Out-of-Pocket Health Expenses 

United States, 1975

Statistics on the proportion of persons with no out-of-pocket health expenditures, those with expense by selected expense intervals, and per capita annual expense by age, sex, family income, color, education of head of family, place of residence, and geographic region. Based on data collected by self-enumeration during January-March 1976 on out-of-pocket spending for 1975. Also provided are summary data by age of out-of-pocket spending for earlier years.

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## COOPERATION OF THE U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS


#### Abstract

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 Division of Health Interview Statistics, the Bureau of the Census, under a contractual arrangement, participated in planning the survey and collecting the data.


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| SYMBOLS |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Data not available----- |  |
| Category not applicable------------------- | ... |
| Quantity zero-- | - |
| Quantity more than 0 but less than $0.05-$ | 0.0 |
| Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision (more than 30 percent relative standard error) | * |

# PERSONAL OUT-OF-POCKET HEALTH EXPENSES 

Charles S. Wilder, Division of Health Interview Statistics

## INTRODUCTION

Even though health insurance covers a substantial portion of the cost of medical care for many persons in the population, some direct out-of-pocket health expenditures remain for a large proportion of the population. The Health Interview Survey augmented by the family medical expenses supplement has attempted the measurement of out-of-pocket expenditures on three occasions covering the expenditure years 1970, 1974, and 1975. This report covers the 1975 expenditures, and some comparisons of out-of-pocket spending during the three periods are shown in the last section of the text.

During January-March 1976 a mail-in questionnaire was left with each family and/or unrelated individual interviewed in the Health Interview Survey during the first quarter of 1976. The questionnaire was designed to obtain information about direct out-of-pocket health expenditures during 1975 for each person in the family unit, that is, each family of two or more related members or each unrelated individual in the household. Information was requested on spending for hospital, doctor, dental, or optical services, prescribed medicine, and other medical expenses for each family member as well as each unrelated individual. Also obtained was the total amount of health insurance premiums (including Social Security Medicare premiums) paid directly by the family unit or deducted from paychecks during 1975.

During 1975 an annual average of $\$ 245$ per person was spent out of pocket by the family unit for members of the civilian noninstitutionalized population living in the households
interviewed during January-March 1976 for all types of health expenses, including health insurance premiums. Table A shows that the largest per capita amounts were spent for doctor bills and health insurance premiums: Each of these items cost $\$ 63$, together equaling about half of the total per capita spending.

Another way to examine the spending per person is to omit persons with no expense from the calculation. For instance about 9 persons in each 10 have no hospital expense during a year. Thus the per capita expense of $\$ 30$ per person includes many persons who had no such expense. Table $B$ takes this into account by showing the average expense for persons with expense. Instead of the per capita expense of $\$ 30$ shown in table A, persons with hospital expense averaged $\$ 264$ per person. The grand total rose only from $\$ 245$ to $\$ 285$ per person with expense, indicating that most persons have some out-of-pocket expense.

Out-of-pocket health expenditures in 1970 have been presented in two reports in Series 10, on a person basis in Number 91, and on a family-unit basis in Number 103. The Current Estimates report for 1975 (Series 10, Number 115) presents summary expenditure data for 1974.

The relationship between out-of-pocket health expense and total expense for medical and dental care is not examined in this report. It is difficult for members of family units to report the amounts paid through insurance benefits, Government programs such as Medicare and Medicaid, and other third-party payers. This relationship, however, is examined by the Social Security Administration and is reported in the Social Security Bulletin in several annual series

Table A. Per capita out-of-pocket health expenses, by type of expenses, sex, and age: United States, 1975

| Sex and age | All types of expense ${ }^{1}$ |  | Health expense |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Including insurance premium | Excluding insurance premium | Hos pital | Doctor | Dental | Prescription medicine | Optical | Heal th insurance premium | Other |
| All ages---.--- | Per capita expense in dollars |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 245 | 182 | 30 | 63 | 41 | 31 | 15 | 63 | 6 |
| Under 17 years <br> 17-44 years <br> 45-64 years - <br>  | 127 | $\begin{array}{r}90 \\ 162 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 13 | 31 | 28 | 1223 | 61424 | 375095 | 147 |
|  | 211 |  | 24 | 56 | 43 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 362 | 344 | 41 | 91 | 58 | 51 |  |  |  |
|  | 469 |  | 78 | 114 | 36 | 76 | 20 | 120 | 27 |
| All ages | 217 | 157 | 24 | 53 | 38 | 25 | 14 | 61 | 6 |
| Under 17 years- | 126 | 91 | 15 | 32 | 25 | 12 | 6 | 36 |  |
| 17-44 years-- | 175 | 124 | 15 | 39 | 39 | 16 | 13 | 51 | 3 |
| 45-64 years- | 324 | 232 | 33 | 77 | 57 | 42 | 24 | 90 | 5 |
| 65 years and over- | 481 | 358 | 77 | 124 | 33 | 70 | 20 | 118 | 35 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages------ | 271 | 205 | 36 | 72 | 44 | 37 | 16 | 65 | 6 |
| Under 17 years | 128 | 90 |  | 3072 | 30 | 12 | 7 | 37 |  |
| 17-44 years--- | 246 | 198 | 32 |  | $\begin{array}{r}47 \\ 59 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 125959 | 1525 | $\begin{array}{r}48 \\ 100 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 4821 |
| 45-64 years- | 397 | 294 | 49 | 103 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 65 years and over | 461 | 335 | 79 | 107 | 39 | 80 | 20 | 122 |  |

${ }^{1}$ Sum of expenses may not add to total because of differing levels of known data.

Table B. Average out-of-pocket health expenses for persons with such expense, by type of expense, sex, and age: United States, 1975

of reports or in the series of Social Security "Research and Statistics Notes."

Information on total health expenses, including third-party payment, is presently being collected in the National Medical Care Expenditure Survey, a joint project of the National Center for Health Statistics and the National Center for Health Services Research. In this study a national sample of households was selected as a panel and followed throughout 1977 to obtain information about health problems as well as use of medical and dental services and the total cost of such care. Providers of care and third-party payers were contacted for followup if permission was obtained from households in the panel.

Because of the many problems of collecting valid data on this topic using the questionnaire format illustrated in appendix III, the reader should consult the next two sections, which discuss the source and limitations of the data and the method of prepresentation of the data. The latter section states certain problems in interpreting the meaning of the data. The data presented in the detailed tables is highlighted in the text with the section entitled "Personal Out-of-Pocket Health Spending."

## SOURCE AND LIMITATIONS OF THE DATA

The information on health spending in 1975 that is presented in this report was obtained from reponses to a questionnaire left with the respondents to the health interviews conducted for the Health Interview Survey during JanuaryMarch 1976. Information in the regular Health Interview Survey is based on data collected in a continuing nationwide survey conducted by household interview. Each week a probability sample of households is interviewed by trained personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census to obtain information about the health and other characteristics of each member of the household in the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States. During the 13 weeks of the January-March 1976 quarter, the sample consisted of 10,394 occupied households. Of these households 10,001 containing 28,006 persons
were interviewed. These 28,006 persons were members of some 10,423 family units, defined earlier and in appendix II. The total noninterview rate was about 3.8 percent of which 2.2 percent was due to respondent and the remainder was primarily due to the failure to find an eligible respondent at home after repeated calls.

A description of the design of the Health Interview Survey, the methods used in estimation, and general qualifications of the data obtained from this survey are presented in appendix I. Since the estimates shown in this report are based on a sample of the population, they are subject to sampling error. Therefore particular attention should be paid to the section entitled "Reliability of Estimates." Sampling errors for many of the estimates are of relatively low magnitude. However, where an estimated number of the numerator or denominator of a rate or percentage is small, the sampling error may be high. Charts of relative sampling errors and instructions for their use are shown in appendix I.

Certain terms used in this report are defined in appendix II. The questionnaire used to obtain out-of-pocket health spending is illustrated in appendix III. The basic questionnaire used in the health interview is presented in the Current Estimates report for 1976 (Series 10, Number 119).

Following completion of the household interview, the interviewer entered the identification items on a copy of the family medical expenses supplement questionaire and also entered the names of related family members on separate pages of the questionnaire. The questionnaire and a self-addressed envelope were handed to the respondent with the request that the former be completed and returned to the U.S. Bureau of the Census regional office within 5 days. If there was more than one family unit (an additional family or unrelated individual) in the household, additional questionnaires were prepared. If the questionnaire was not mailed to the regional office, another copy of the questionnaire was prepared and mailed to the family unit. If the second questionnaire was not returned, a telephone followup was conducted to obtain the information.

The response to the interview technique was
such that 90.1 percent of the 10,423 family units submitted questionnaire with usable data for at least one of the seven expense items shown in Table A.

In addition to the failure of 9.9 percent of the family units to submit a questionnaire, there was item nonresponse: The respondent either did not know the answer to one or more questions or failed to complete these items on the questionnaire. Among all 28,006 persons for
whom information was obtained in the household interview, the response was most complete for the first item, "dental bills paid," with 87.7 percent of all persons with known amounts reported, that is zero dollars or one or more dollars spend during 1975. If the dental expense item for a person was completed, the remaining five expense items on that page were also completed, since the percentages with known amounts for those items vary only from 86.6 to

Table C. Percent of persons reporting known amounts of out-of-pocket health expenses, by type of health expense and selected characteristics: United States 1975


Includes persons with no out-of-pocket health expense.
Includes persons with unknown income and education.
87.7 percent. The lowest percentage with known amounts was for health insurance premiums with 83.9 percent of all person reporting a usable figure for insurance expense (table C ). Complete information on out-of-pocket expenditures for health cost was received from 80.6 percent of the total sample.

Table C indicates that, in general, within individual demographic characteristics of the respondents, the percentage of persons with known amounts do not vary to any great extent, an exception being persons other than white with family income of $\$ 5,000$ or more who reported somewhat lower percentages of known amounts than did other respondents.

When the 3.8 percent noninterview rate for the original interviews and the 9.9 percent nonresponse rate for the mail-in questionnaire are considered jointly, the total effective response rate of 86.7 percent ( 96.2 percent interview rate multiplied by the 90.1 percent response rate for the mail-in questionnaire) is considerably below that for previous mail-in questionnaires used for Health Interview Survey supplemental inquiries. Thus the problem of the validity of the estimates for the entire population is of real concern, especially in view of the fact that the data that are presented are based on the numbers of persons who knew and reported expenditure data.

Table $D$ has been prepared to examine whether persons reporting known amounts differed substantially from those not reporting
amounts in the use of medical or dental services in the year prior to interview. Since these persons were interviewed during January-March 1976, the prior year would include most of 1975, approximating the out-of-pocket spending in 1975. The table shows that there was not much variation in use of services between the two groups. Thus the data presented in this report may be representative of the out-of-pocket spending behavior of the entire civilian noninstitutionalized population.

Another problem with reports of health spending is the tendency of respondents to overestimate expenditures. This tendency has been noted in several reports, one of which is "Measurement of Personal Health Expenditures," Series 2, Number 2, of Vital and Health Statistics. As will be discussed later, one source of the overreports may be related to reimbursement from insurance at a time later than the date of completion of the out-of-pocket spending questionnaire.

In the questionnaire about out-of-pocket health expenses, each question emphasized direct out-of-pocket spending by the family for each family member listed on the questionnaire. For instance, if Mr. Jones, the husband in a typical husband-wife family with two children living at home, wrote a check in 1975 for $\$ 50$ to pay a doctor bill for his son James, this is an example of a direct out-of-pocket expenditure in 1975.

Spending by the family during 1975 does

Table D. Percent of persons utilizing selected health services by whether or not expenditure information was reported: United States, January-March 1975

| - |  | Expend- <br> itures <br> reported |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Selected service | Expend- <br> itures <br> not |  |
| reported |  |  |

not imply that the expense was incurred in 1975. It is possible that some medical expense was incurred in 1974 and was paid during 1975. This situation would be quite common during January, when bills incurred in December are received.

Toward the later part of the year there will be a tendency toward direct payment of some medical bill that may or may not be reimbursed by health insurance. For instance, suppose a health insurance plan requires payment of a deductible before reimbursement of amounts in excess of the deductible. If a bill was incurred in November and paid in December, the reimbursement in excess of the deductible may not have been received (or expected) prior to filling out the questionnaire.

In summary, the estimates of direct out-ofpocket spending for medical and dental expenses as measured in the Health Interview Survey represent direct payments by the family for medical and dental expenses incurred in 1975 or earlier. A tendency to overestimate health expendiures may be associated with future reimbursement for direct payments made by the family.

## PRESENTATION OF THE DATA

All estimates shown in this report are based only on those records for an expense item (or items) which contained known dollar or zero dollar amounts. This procedure imputes to persons with unknown amounts or to persons not responding the same distribution of health expenses as that for persons with known amounts. Each individual type of expense is based on known dollar or zero amounts. However, the sum total for all types of expense, including health insurance, is based on known amounts for all seven types of expense, that is, each person must report known data for all seven items of expenditure before the reported data are included in total personal expenditure. If a person reported a known amount of dollar expense for dental, hospital, and doctor expenses but failed to report zero or some dollar expense for prescription medicine, his reported information is used for the first three items but not for the
fourth item and not for the total expense items. For instance, in table $A$ the sum of the seven individual per capita amounts totals $\$ 249$ instead of the reported $\$ 245$ based on known amounts for all items.

The reason for following this procedure is to avoid the alternative that is, excluding all the data reported for a person merely because one item was left blank. It was noted above that complete data were received for 80.6 percent of the sample while data on dental expenses were received on 87.7 percent of the population. Excluding all data on a person when only one item was not completed would have meant the loss of presumably valid responses for out-of-pocket dental expenditures for 7.1 percent of the sample.

Each of the detailed tables shows the percent distribution of persons by intervals of out-of-pocket spending in 1975 using as the denominator all persons with known amounts. In addition there is a per capita rate of out-of-pocket expense using dollars spent as the numerator and the number of persons with known amounts (including no expense) as the denominator. Also shown is an average for persons with expense that uses the dollar amounts divided by the persons reporting a dollar expense (that is, excluding persons with no expense).

The first nine detailed tables show the seven individual expense items and two totals: the total of the six health expense items plus the health insurance premium expense and the total of the health expense items omitting the premium expense. These tables present the information about out-of-pocket spending by age and sex. The remaining tables (10-27) present the data for the expense items for a series of demographic characteristics of the population.

In the tables an asterisk has been inserted in front of a percentage or rate where the relative sampling error of the estimate is in excess of 30 percent. The reader should be cautious in the use of these estimates. In some instances instead of an age-adjusted rate or percentage, an asterisk has been inserted to indicate that the agespecific rate was unreliable and the age-adjusted rate was not computed.

## PERSONAL OUT-OF-POCKET HEALTH SPENDING

## All Persons

In 1975 an estimated average of $\$ 245$ was spent out of pocket by members of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States for hospital, doctor, dental, or optical services; prescribed medicine, other medical expense, and health insurance premiums (table A). When health insurance premiums are excluded, the per capita spending amounted to $\$ 182$ per year. Table B presents the average expense items for persons with expense. In table A the denominator for the per capita expense is the total population. In table $B$ the denominator for average expense is the number of persons with some dollar amount of out-of-pocket spending. For instance, an average of $\$ 30$ was spent in 1975 per person in the population for hospital expense (table A). However, about 88.5 percent of persons in the population reported no out-ofpocket hospital expense paid by the family for these persons in 1975. Therefore, if the population is restricted to persons with expense, the average for persons with hospital expense is actually $\$ 264$ per person.

During 1975 the per capita out-of-pocket expenditure for health insurance premiums was $\$ 63$ per person per year (table A). The amount of the health insurance premium was obtained for each family unit including the amount deducted from paychecks, the amount deducted from Social Security checks for Medicare premiums, and the amount paid directly to health insurance plans or to Social Security for Medicare by the family unit (see questionnaire in appendix III). Excluded from health insurance premiums are amounts paid for accident insurance, amounts paid by employers, and other contributions to payment of premiums. The total out-of-pocket health insurance premiums for each family unit were divided by size of family; thus each member was allocated an equal share of all health insurance premiums. When there was only one plan covering all members, this procedure would not be biased. However, when more than one plan covered several members, when one member aged 65 years and over paid Medicare premiums, or when there was
coverage by some combination of two or more health insurance plans, the equal allocation to all members may not match the actual distribution or premiums.

Figure 1 shows that 41.8 percent of all persons had no expense for health insurance premiums. An estimated 78.9 percent of persons of all ages indicated that they had private hospital insurance. This included persons 65 years and over who had Social Security Medicare or private hospital insurance. During 1974 an estimated 79.7 percent were so covered.

If it is assumed that similar proportions of the population were covered by health insurance in 1975, then about half of those with no expense for health insurance premiums had premiums paid by some party outside the immediate family. Relevant instances include parents who paid the health insurance premiums of a child away at school, employers who paid the entire cost of health insurance for his employees and immediate families, and Medicare re-


Figure 1. Percent distribution of population by intervals of annual out-of-pocket health expenses, according to type of expense: United States, 1975
cipients covered only by part A of the plan. The relatively low premiums reported by some persons reflect the situation in which the employer or some other party paid a significant amount of the premiums.

For other types of expense the proportion with no expense does not imply that the person did not use any of these health care services but rather that he did not have an out-of-pocket expenditure in 1975. Examination of the Current Estimates report for 1975 (Series 10, Number 115) shows that 89.4 percent of the population reported no inpatient care in short-stay hospitals during the year prior to interview. Also, 49.7 percent of all persons reported no dental visits in 1975 and 24.8 percent no physician visits. Thus there is some correspondence between these percentages and the proportions with no expense shown in figure 1.

Some persons have large out-of-pocket expenditures. An estimated 3.4 percent of all persons spent $\$ 1,000$ or more during 1975 on all types of expenses (table 1). About 1.4 percent of the population had expenses of $\$ 500$ or more for hospital care (table 3). Hospital care includes both inpatient and outpatient services paid for by the family for the person during 1975. An estimated 1.9 percent of persons had expenses of $\$ 500$ or more for doctors (table 4) and 1.6 percent for dental expense of $\$ 500$ or more (table 5).

## Age and Sex

In general out-of-pocket spending for health expenses in 1975 rose with advance in age (table A). For all expense items including insurance premiums, the per capita expense for persons 65 years of age and over ( $\$ 469$ ) was about 4 times greater than that for persons under 17 years of age ( $\$ 127$ ). The total average expense for persons with expense who were 65 years of age and over ( $\$ 502$ ) was about 3 times greater than that for persons under 17 years of age ( $\$ 159$ ) (table B).

The rise in per capita expense with aging was accompanied by increasing proportions of age groups with substantial sums expended. For instance, in table 1 about 3.6 percent of persons under 17 years had total expense of $\$ 500$ or more per year, while about 25.7 percent of per-
sons 65 years of age and over had health expenses in this range. This pattern is also present in the expense items in tables 2-9 for the most part.

Females spent an average of $\$ 271$ per capita per year compared with the per capita rate of $\$ 217$ for males (table A). Data for the average expense for persons with expense were comparable. Expense items with substantial sex differences in per capita rates were hospital, doctor, dental, and prescription medicine. Some of the larger sex differences were confined to 17-44 years of age, the childbearing years.

## Family Income

Tables 10-27 present percent distribution by intervals of expense, per capita rates, and average expense for persons with expense for selected demographic characteristics. Tables 10, $11,14,16,18,20,22,24$, and 26 present these data unadjusted for differences in age distribution within each variable. Tables $12,13,15$, $17,19,21,23,25$, and 27 show age-adjusted data.

The age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population for both sexes and for the four age groups shown in table 1 is the standard population used in age-adjusting the data. By using this standard population, the ageadjusted rates are not distorted from the crude rates to the extent that use of some other standard populations might change the ageadjusted rates. Age-adjusted data can be compared directly since the rates assume identical age distribution in all categories. Thus age adjustment tends to remove the necessity to compare individual age-specific rates for variables that differ substantially in age composition. However, the reader should use the age-adjusted rates only when comparing rates for a demographic characteristics. The unadjusted (crude) rates are the actual rates and should usually be used rather than the age-adjusted rates. For instance, during January-March 1976, 27.0 percent of persons with less than $\$ 3,000$ annual family income were 65 years and older, while 3.4 percent of persons with annual family income of $\$ 15,000$ or more were 65 years and older. Since older persons use medical services
more than younger persons, it is desirable to take into account these differences in age distribution when comparing rates for all ages combined. In the discussion that follows, ageadjusted rates will be used to show relationships of out-of-pocket spending within various demographic characteristics.

During 1975 total per capita expense, including health insurance premiums, rose from $\$ 168$ (age-adjusted) for persons with annual family income of less than $\$ 5,000$ to $\$ 314$ for persons with annual family income of $\$ 25,000$ or more (table E). When insurance expense is omitted, the rise in per capita expense in these income groups was smaller, with $\$ 135$ spent by the lowest income group compared with $\$ 231$ for the highest income group. A substantial portion of the persons with incomes of less than $\$ 5,000$ reported no out-of-pocket health expenses (table F ). This does not necessarily mean that these persons did not receive care but rather that they did not have to pay for services out of their available funds. Medicaid and other programs pay for medical services to the indigent in may instances.

Per capita hospital expense was twice as large for the lowest income group when compared with that for the highest income group (table E). When average expense for persons with such expense is examined in table G, this difference becomes even greater, with the expense for the lowest group being 3 times as large as that for the highest income group. Differences in levels of hospital insurance coverage and probably extent of the coverage account for differing spending patterns. In January-March 1976 as reported in the Health Interview Survey the percent of people of all ages covered by private hospital insurance or Social Security Medicare (for persons 65 years and over) was as shown below by income group.
Income group Percent

| Less than \$3,000. | 52.5 |
| :---: | :---: |
| \$3,000-\$4,999........................ | 54.3 |
| \$5,000-\$6,999................... | 59.0 |
| \$7,000-\$9,999.. | 73.9 |
| \$10,000-\$14,999..................... | 87.5 |
| \$15,000 or more.. | 92.3 |
| \$15,000-\$24,999. | 91.5 |
|  | 94. |

If these levels of insurance coverage were the same during 1975, the differences in level would account for the much larger out-of-pocket hospital expense for the lower income groups.

For other health expense items per capita expense tended to rise with advance in annual family income. This pattern was not present to the same extent for the average expense for persons with expense. This is accounted for by higher levels of proportions with no expense (table F). This suggests that if the services are used, the cost is substantially the same for all incomes levels.

## Color and Family Income

Per capita total expense, including insurance premiums, of $\$ 253$ per white person exceeded that of other races (\$172) (table E). The difference in per capita spending was much less for those with a family income of $\$ 10,000$ or more. Per capita spending differed for the two color groups for most of the expense categories, but for persons with $\$ 10,000$ or more income there was little difference for the majority of expense items.

In general, lower percentages of white persons reported no out-of-pocket health expenses than among persons of other colors (table F). This pattern was also present for most of the expense items and was present within the family income groups. For persons in each color group, however, the average expense per person with expense was quite similar for most groups and within income levels. This suggests that the price of a service is much the same regardless of color or income.

## Education of Head of Family

The per capita total out-of-pocket health expenses, including or excluding health insurance premiums, rose with increased education of the head of the family. The age-adjusted per capita expense of $\$ 294$ for persons whose head of family was college educated was about half again higher than the $\$ 200$ average per capita expense for persons who had less than 9 years of formal education (table E). For several of the individual expense items-hospital, prescription medicine,

Table E. Age-adjusted per capita out-of-pocket health expenses, by type of expense and selected characteristics of person: United States, 1975

| Characteristic | All types of expense ${ }^{1}$ |  | Health expense |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Including insurance premium | Excluding insurance premium | Hospital | Doctor | Dental | Prescription medicine | Optical | Health insurance premium | Other |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male <br> Female | 223 | 161 200 | 25 34 | 54 70 | 38 44 | 26 35 | 14 | 62 | 6 |
| Family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 168 | 135 | 41 | 47 | 15 | 22 | 10 | 35 | *3 |
| \$3,000-4,999---------------------------------- | 207 | 158 | 39 | 55 | 20 | 33 | 10 | 47 | * 5 |
| \$5,000-6,999 | 209 | 158 | 32 | 53 | 28 | 29 | 11 | 51 | 6 |
| \$7,000-9,999-. | 241 | 177 | 33 | 67 | 30 | 35 | 12 | 62 | 5 |
| \$10,000-14,999-- | 258 | 188 | 35 | 65 | 41 | 30 | 14 | 69 | 6 |
| \$15,000 or more- | 272 | 202 | 22 | 67 | 58 | 32 | 19 | 71 | 8 |
| \$15,000-24,999-- | 252 | 190 | 23 | 60 | 51 | 30 | 17 | 63 | 9 |
|  | 314 | 231 | 20 | 80 | 74 | 35 | 22 | 86 | 6 |
| Color and Eamily income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White----------------------------------- | 253 | 188 | 31 | 64 | 43 | 32 | 15 | 65 | 6 |
|  | 215 | 170 | 47 | 58 | 20 | 31 | 11 | 45 | *4 |
|  | 236 | 176 | 34 | 63 | 31 | 32 | 12 | 59 | 6 |
| \$10,000-or more-- | 268 | 197 | 27 | 67 | 53 | 32 | 17 | 71 | 6 |
| All other-- | 172 | 129 | 22 | 46 | 24 | 25 | 10 | 41 | *5 |
|  | *96 | *71 | 17 | 27 | *11 | *17 | * | 28 | * |
| \$5,000-9,999---- | *172 | *124 | *20 | 41 | *19 | 34 | * | 45 | * |
| \$10,000 or more-- | 252 | 193 | 27 | 65 | 35 | 27 | *15 | 57 | *23 |
| Education of head of family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 200 | 150 | 32 | 52 | 25 | 30 | 11 | 49 | 5 |
| 9-11 years----- | 222 | 167 | 32 | 55 | 34 | 30 | 13 | 54 | 6 |
| 12 years--------1-20. | 250 | 185 | 31 | 63 | 43 | 32 | 15 | 64 | 7 |
|  | 294 | 216 | 30 | 76 | 57 | 32 | 18 | 77 | 7 |
| Place of residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SMSA-- | 253 | 191 | 30 | 67 | 46 | 30 | 15 | 61 | 6 |
| Central city-- | 251 | 193 | 37 | 65 | 43 | 29 | 14 | 58 | 6 |
|  | 254 | 190 | 24 | 68 | 48 | 31 | 16 | 63 | 7 |
| Outside SMSA------ | 226 | 161 | 28 | 53 | 31 | 33 | 14 | 65 | 6 |
| Geographic region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 240 | 183 | 28 | 62 | 47 | 28 | 14 | 56 | 5 |
| North Central | 212 | 154 | 22 | 52 | 35 | 27 | 15 | 58 | 6 |
| South-- | 269 | 198 | 37 | 68 | 38 | 37 | 13 | 71 | 7 |
|  | 254 | 190 | 31 | 66 | 49 | 29 | 16 | 63 | 5 |

[^1]Table F. Age-adjusted percent of persons with no expense, by type of expense and selected characteristics: United States, 1975


[^2] States.

Table G. Age-adjusted average out-of-pocket health expenses for persons with such expense, by type of expense and selected characteristics: United States, 1975

${ }^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States.
and "other"-there was little difference in per capita expense among the educational levels.

The age-adjusted average expenses for persons with expense showed less variation by education of the head of family than did the per capita expenses.

## Geographic Distribution

Persons living outside the standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA) defined for the 1970 decennial census spent less out of pocket in 1975 for doctor and dental expenses than did residents of metropolitan areas, $\$ 53$ compared with $\$ 67$ per capita doctor expense and $\$ 31$ compared with $\$ 46$ per capita dental expense (table E). For the other individual expense items the levels of age-adjusted per capita expenditures showed no appreciable differences by place of residence. This same pattern was noted for averaged expense for persons with expense (table G).

Residents of the North Central Region had the lowest age-adjusted per capita expense for all type of expense including or excluding insurance premiums ( $\$ 212$ and $\$ 154$, respectively) and for hospital and doctor expenses (\$22 and \$52, respectively) (table E). These persons also reported the lowest average expense for persons
with expense tor the two totals, hospital, doctor, and dental (table G). Out-of-pocket health expenses for residents of the other three geographic regions did not vary appreciably nor did the percent of the population in each region with no out-of-pocket expense.

## COMPARISON WITH 1970 AND 1974

In 1971 a questionnaire on out-of-pocket health spending during 1970 was mailed to the households included in the sample used for the October-December quarter of 1970 for the Health Interview Survey. The information about health spending has been reported in two Series 10 reports: Personal Out-of-Pocket Health Expenses (Number 91) and Family Out-of-Pocket Health Expenses (Number 103). In JanuaryMarch 1975 a questionnaire similar to that used in 1976 shown in appendix III was left with household respondents of the interviews conducted for the Health Interview Survey. These questionnaires were to be completed and returned by mail. All three questionnaires were very similar, so it is possible to compare the results. Table $H$ shows per capita annual expenses and average expense for persons with ex-

Table H. Comparison of out-of-pocket health expenses per person per year, by type of expense: United States, 1970, 1974, 1975

pense for each type of expense. In general there is a steady increase in out-of-pocket expenditures during the three time periods. These data have not been adjusted for inflation; therefore the changes reflect difference in actual cost and the result of inflation. The overall increase from 1970 to 1975 was 36.4 percent, with individual types ranging from an increase of 13.0 percent for "other" to 48.3 percent for hospital ex-
penses. It is not known why the "other" expense in 1974 was higher than that for 1975. The difference probably reflects sampling variability.

Table J summarized expenditure interval data for the average spending for the 1974 data. Some additional information is presented in the Current Estimates Report for 1975 (Series 10, Number 115).

Table J. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket health expenses, average expenses for persons with such expense, and per capita expenses, according to type of expense and age: United States, 1975

| Age | No expense | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Less } \\ & \text { than } \end{aligned}$ $\$ 50$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 50- \\ 99 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 100- \\ 249 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250- \\ 499 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 500 \\ & \text { or } \\ & \text { more } \end{aligned}$ | Average for persons with expense | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Per } \\ & \text { capita } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All types of expense including insurance premium | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
| All ages - | 13.8 | 14.4 | 15.1 | 28.9 | 17.1 | 10.7 | 270 | 233 |
| l'nder 17 years | 19.5 | 21.3 | 19.3 | 27.6 | 8.8 | 3.5 | 152 | 122 |
| 17-44 years-- | 13.6 | 14.6 | 15.4 | 30.5 | 16.9 | 9.1 | 246 | 212 |
| 45-64 years---- | 9.5 | 7.8 | 11.4 | 28.3 | 23.9 | 19.0 | 386 | 349 |
| 65 years and over | 6.6 | 7.1 | 9.4 | 27.7 | 28.0 | 21.2 | 425 | 397 |
| All types of expense excluding insurance premium |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages - | 23.0 | 1.9.5 | 16.7 | 22.2 | 11.0 | 7.6 | 226 | 174 |
| Under 17 years | 29.3 | 26.8 | 19.0 | 16.8 | 5.5 | 2.6 | 123 | 87 |
| 17-44 years- | 21.9 | 19.8 | 17.1 | 23.1 | 10.9 | 7.2 | 211 | 165 |
| 45-64 years---- | 18.4 | 12.7 | 14.1 | 26.4 | 15.9 | 12.5 | 321 | 262 |
| 65 years and over | 18.1 | 11.3 | 13.8 | 25.9 | 17.2 | 13.6 | 350 | 287 |
| Hospital expense |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 87.4 | 5.5 | 2.5 | 2.1 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 225 | 28 |
| Under 17 years | 90.6 | 5.2 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 0.6 | 0,3 | 99 | 9 |
| 17-44 years | 86.9 | 5.9 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 195 | 26 |
| 45-64 years--- | 85.8 | 5.2 | 2.6 | 2.7 | 1.4 | 2.4 | 352 | 50 |
| 65 years and over | 83.1 | 5.2 | 4.5 | 3.4 | 1.4 | 2.4 | 293 | 49 |
| Doctor expense |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 40.4 | 29.6 | 13.7 | 11.4 | 3.4 | 1.5 | 99 | 59 |
| Under 17 years | 45.0 | 35.5 | 11.5 | 6.6 | 1.1 | *0.3 | 55 | 30 |
| 17-44 years--- | 40.3 37 | 30.2 | 13.4 | 11.2 | 3.6 | 1.4 | +99 | 59 |
| 65 years and ove | 34.7 | 22.5 | 16.9 | 16.8 | 6.3 | 2.9 | 143 | 93 |
| Dental expense |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 58.0 | 24.0 | 8.0 | 5.9 | 2.7 | 1.4 | 97 | 41 |
| Under 17 years | 61.1 | 25.5 | 6.7 | 3.8 | 2.0 | 0.9 | 75 | 29 |
| 17-44 years---- | 53.7 55.6 | 25.9 | 8.2 | 7.0 7.3 | 2.7 | 1.4 | 95 | 44 |
| $45-64$ years----- 65 years and over | 55.6 69.6 | 22.2 16.4 | 8.8 5.6 | 7.3 4.9 | 3.9 2.3 | 2.2 1.2 | 125 105 | 56 32 |
| Prescription medicine expense |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 46.5 | 35.4 | 9.5 | 6.7 | 1.5 | 0,4 | 57 | 30 |
| t'nder 17 years | 56.1 | 36.8 | 4.9 | 1.9 | *0.2 | *0.0 | 28 | 12 |
| 17-44 years- | 45.8 | 40.1 | 8.7 | 4.5 | 0.6 | *0.2 | 41 | 22 |
| 45-64 years | 40.5 | 30.0 | 13.6 | 12.0 | 3.0 | 0,8 | 83 | 50 |
| 65 years and over | 34.1 | 25.1 | 16.6 | 17.5 | 5.7 | 1.0 | 109 | 72 |
| Optical expense ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 77.6 | 9.6 | 10.0 | 2.6 |  | 0.3 | 62 | 14 |
| t'nder 17 years | 88,9 | 5.9 | 4.3 | 0.8 |  | 0.1 | 51 | 6 |
| 17-44 years-- | 77.9 | 9.1 | 9.8 | 2.7 |  | 0.5 | 65 | 14 |
| 45-64 years - - | 65.8 | 12.8 | 16.7 | 4.5 |  | 0.2 | 64 | 22 |
|  | 68.4 | 15.4 | 12.7 | 3.2 |  | 0.3 | 62 | 20 |

[^3]Table J. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket health expenses, average expenses for persons with such expense, and per capita expenses, according to type of expense and age: United States, 1975 -Con.

| Age | $\begin{gathered} \text { No } \\ \text { expense } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Less } \\ & \text { than } \\ & \$ 50 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c} \$ 50- \\ 99 \end{array}$ | $\underset{249}{\$ 100-}$ | $\underset{499}{\$ 250-}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 500 \\ & \text { or } \\ & \text { more } \end{aligned}$ | Average for persons with expense | Per capita |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Health insurance premium ${ }^{2}$ | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  | Expense indollars |  |
| All ages | 40.1 | 20.5 | 17.5 | 18.3 | 3.6 |  | 97 | 58 |
| Under 17 years - | 46.9 | 25.5 | 16.9 | 10.4 |  |  | 64 | 34 |
| 17-44 years-- | 44.0 | 21.2 | 17.3 | 25.4 | 8.7 |  | 84 | 87 |
| 45-64 years----- | $\begin{aligned} & 32.9 \\ & 20.7 \end{aligned}$ | 16.4 | 16.7 |  |  |  | 130 |  |
| 65 years and over-- |  | 12.0 | 22.3 | 35.7 |  |  | 138 | 109 |
| Other expense ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages---- | 94.0 | 3.0 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 0.6 |  | 154 | 9 |
| Under 17 years- | 97.695.2 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 0.3 | *0.2 |  | $\begin{array}{r}79 \\ 135 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 261334 |
| 17-44 years---- |  | 2.5 | 1.1 | 0.9 |  |  |  |  |
| $45-64$ years---2.0r | 90.0 86.8 | 4.6 | 2.2 | 2.2 |  |  | 127 |  |
| 65 years and over- |  | 6.1 |  |  |  |  | 25 |  |

${ }^{1}$ Based on total population in thousands as follows:
All ages---------------------------208,410


${ }^{2}$ Percents for $\$ 250-\$ 499$ and $\$ 500$ or more combined for $\$ 250$ or more.

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Table 1. Percent distribution of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expenses excluding health insurance premiums, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to sex and age: United States, 1975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix 1. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Sex and age | Totalpopulationinthousands | No expense | Health expense |  |  |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | Per capita |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Less <br> than <br> \$50 | \$50- | $\$ 100-$ | $\begin{array}{r} \$ 250- \\ 499 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 500- \\ 999 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 1,000 \\ \text { or } \\ \text { more } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
|  |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 14.2 | 13.5 | 14.6 | 28.8 | 17.4 | 8.3 | 3.4 | 285 | 245 |
| Undex 17 years | 61,305 | 20.5 | 20.2 | 18.9 | 28.0 | 8.8 | 2.8 | 0.8 | 159 | 127 |
| Under 6 years | 19,365 | 22.0 | 20.6 | 18.3 | 27.2 | 9.3 | 1.9 | *0.8 | 154 | 120 |
| 6-16 years | 41,940 | 19.8 | 20.0 | 19.1 | 28.4 | 8.6 | 3.3 | 0.8 | 162 | 130 |
| 17-44 years- | 83,984 | 13.8 | 14.1 | 15.3 | 30.9 | 16.9 | 6.4 | 2.6 | 245 | 211 |
| 45-64 years- | 43,204 | 9.7 | 7.3 | 9.3 | 28.5 | 24.6 | 14.6 | 6.1 | 401 | 362 |
| 65 years and ove | 21,617 | 6.6 | 4.6 | 10.7 | 23.8 | 28.6 | 17:7 | 8.0 | 502 | 469 |
| Male |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 101,376 | 15.3 | 15.0 | 15.5 | 29.2 | 15.7 | 6.6 | 2.6 | 256 | 217 |
| Under 17 years | 31,245 | 20.7 | 20.3 | 18.8 | 27.9 | 9.0 | 2.5 | 0.8 | 159 | 126 |
| Under 6 years | 9,830 | 23.0 | 19.7 | 17.9 | 26.4 | 10.4 | *1.8 | *0.8 | 160 | 123 |
| 6-16 years | 21,415 | 19.7 | 20.5 | 19.3 | 28.6 | 8.4 | 2.8 | *0.7 | 159 | 127 |
| 17-44 years | 40,628 | 15.2 | 16.4 | 16.5 | 30.7 | 15.0 | 4.6 | 1.5 | 206 | 175 |
| 45-64 years- | 20,606 | 11.3 | 8.2 | 10.3 | 30.7 | 21.7 | 12.5 | 5.3 | 365 | 324 |
| 65 years and over | 8,897 | 6.4 | 5.5 | 11.1 | 23.5 | 29.0 | 16.7 | 7.9 | 514 | 481 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 108,733 | 13.1 | 12.1 | 13.8 | 28.4 | 18.9 | 9.8 | 4.1 | 312 | 271 |
| Under 17 years - | 30,060 | 20.3 | 20.1 | 18.9 | 28.0 | 8.6 | 3.2 | 0.9 | 160 | 128 |
| Under 6 years | 9,534 | 20.9 | 21.5 | 18.8 | 27.9 | 8.1 | 2.0 | *0.8 | 148 | 117 |
| 6-16 years-- | 20,525 | 19.9 | 19.5 | 19.0 | 28.1 | 8.8 | 3.8 | 1.0 | 166 | 133 |
| 17-44 years- | 43,355 | 12.5 | 12.0 | 14.1 | 31.0 | 18.7 | 8.1 | 3.6 | 281 | 246 |
| 45-64 years---- | 22,598 | 8.2 | 6.4 | 8.4 | 26.5 | 27.2 | 16.5 | 6.8 | 432 | 397 |
| 65 years and over | 12,720 | 6.8 | 4.0 | 10.4 | 24.0 | 28.3 | 18.4 | 8.1 | 495 | 461. |

NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix $I$.

Table 2. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expenses excluding health insurance premiums, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to sex and age: United States, 1975
[Data are based on household intervicws of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Sex and age | Totalpopulationinthousands | No expense | Health expense |  |  |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | Per capita |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Less than \$50 | $\$ 50-$ 99 | $\begin{gathered} \$ 100- \\ 249 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250- \\ 499 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 500- \\ 999 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 1,000 \\ \text { or } \\ \text { more } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| A11 ages Both sexes |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 23.1 | 18.9 | 16.3 | 22.6 | 11.1 | 5.4 | 2.6 | 237 \| 182 |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 61,305 \\ & 19,365 \\ & 41,940 \\ & 83,984 \\ & 43,204 \\ & 21,617 \end{aligned}$ | 29.730.7 | 26.3 | 18.5 | 17.4 | 5.1 | 2.2 | 0.7$* 0.7$ | 128 | 9085 |
|  |  |  | 26.8 | 17.5 | 18.0 | 5.1 | 1.3 |  |  |  |
|  |  | 29.3 | 26.1 | 18.9 | 17.2 | 5.2 | 2.6 | 0.7 | 131 | 93 |
|  |  | 22.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 19.0 \\ & 12.3 \end{aligned}$ | 17.1 | 23.9 | 10.5 | 4.9 | 2.2 | 209162 |  |
|  |  | 18.4 |  | 13.4 | 26.2 | 16.8 | 8.5 | 4.5 | 325 265 <br> 416 344 |  |
|  |  | 17.2 | 10.9 | 13.3 | 24.6 | 18.2 | 9.9 | 5.9 |  |  |  |
| MaLe |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages----------------------------------- |  | 101,376 | 26.2 | 20.6 | 16.2 | 21.1 | 9.7 | 4.1 | 2.1 | 212 | 157 |
|  | 31,245 | 30.2 | 26.4 | 17.8 | 17.8 | 5.3 | 1.8 |  | 130130 | 9189 |
| Under 6 years | 9,830 | 31.9 | 25.5 | 16.7 | 17.9 | 5.9 | *1. 3 |  |  |  |
| 6-16 years - | 21,415 | 29.4 | 26.8 | 18.4 | 17.8 | 5.0 | 2.1 | $* 0.8$ $* 0.7$ | 130170 | 92124 |
| 17-44 years-- | 40,628 | 26.9 | 21.813.4 | 16.614.3 | 21.524.3 | 8.614.9 | 3.3 | 1.23.9 |  |  |
| 45-64 years---- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 298 | 232 |
| 65 years and over | 8,897 | 18.7 | 12.0 | 12.7 | 23.6 | 17.8 | 8.6 | 6.5 | 440 | 358 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 108,733 | 20.3 | 17.2 | 16.5 | 23.9 | 12.3 | 6.6 | 3.2 | 257 | 205 |
|  |  | 29.3 | 26.328.1 | 19.218.3 | 17.018.0 | 5.04.2 | 2.6 |  |  | 90 |
| Under 6 years | ,9,534 | 29.4 |  |  |  |  | *1. 3 | *0.6 | 115 | 8194 |
| 17-16 years-- | 20,525 | 29.2 | 25.5 16.3 | $\begin{aligned} & 19.5 \\ & 17.6 \end{aligned}$ | 16.6 | 5.4 | 3.1 | *0.7 | 242 |  |
| 45-64 years--- | 22,598 | 15.0 | 11.3 | 12.6 | $\begin{array}{r} 27.8 \\ 25.2 \end{array}$ |  | 9.7 | 5.1 | 346 | $\begin{array}{r}198 \\ 294 \\ \hline\end{array}$ |
| 65 years and over | 12,720 | $16.2$ | $10.1$ | 13.7 |  | 18.5 | 10.8 | 5.5 | 400 | 335 |

NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian popu1ation of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix $I$.

Table 3. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket hospital expense, average expenses for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to sex and age: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Sex and age | Totalpopulationinthousands | No expense | Hospital expense |  |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | Per capita |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Less than \$50 | \$50- | \$100- | $\$ 250-$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 500 \\ \text { or } \\ \text { more } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| Both sexes |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
| A11 ag | 210,109 | 88.5 | 4.7 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 264 | 30 |
|  | 61,305 | 91.7 | 4.1 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 152 | 13 |
|  | 19,365 | 88.6 | 4.8 | 2.2 | 2.5 | 1.1 | *0.8 | 166 | 19 |
| 6-16 years--- | 41,940 | 93.2 | 3.8 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.5 | *0.3 | 142 | 10 |
| 17-44 years-- | 83,984 | 87.9 | 5.3 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 197 | 24 |
| 45-64 years- | 43,204 | 87.4 | 4.6 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 330 | 41 |
| 65 years and over- | 21,617 | 84.5 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 1.4 | 3.0 | 505 | 78 |
| Male |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A11 ages- | 101,376 | 89.8 | 4.4 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 241 | 24 |
| Under 17 years. | 31,245 | 90.9 | 4.8 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 0.6 | *0.6 | 163 | 15 |
| Under 6 years | 9,830 | 88.3 | 5.2 | 2.2 | 2.0 | *1.4 | *0.9 | 186 | 22 |
| 6-16 years | 21,415 | 92.1 | 4.6 | 1.3 | 1.3 | \%0.3 | *0.4 | 147 | 12 |
| 17-44 years- | 40,628 | 90.6 | 4.5 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 159 | 15 |
| 45-64 years- | 20,606 | 89.0 | 4.0 | 1.9 | 2.6 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 304 | 33 |
| 65 years and over | 8,897 | 85.0 | 3.6 | 3.0 | 3.4 | *1.8 | 3.2 | 515 | 77 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages.. | 108,733 | 87.3 | 5.0 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 281 | 36 |
| Under 17 years- | 30,060 | 92.7 | 3.4 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 0.7 | *0.4 | 138 | 10 |
| Under 6 years | 9,534 | 89.0 | 4.3 | 2.2 | 3.0 | *0.8 | *0.7 | 143 | 16 |
| 6-16 years- | 20,525 | 94.3 | 3.0 | 0.9 | *0.8 | *0.7 | *0.3 | 134 | 8 |
| 17-44 years-- | 43,355 | 85.4 | 6.2 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 220 | 32 |
| 45-64 years- | 22,598 | 86.1 | 5.2 | 2.6 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 2.4 | 349 | 49 |
| 65 years and over | 12,720 | 84.2 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 3.4 | *1.1 | 2.9 | 498 | 79 |

NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, $\mathrm{P}-25$, and P-60.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

Table 4. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket doctor expense, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to sex and age: United States, 1975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Sex and age | TotalpopulationInthousands | No expense | Doctor expense |  |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Per } \\ & \text { capita } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Less than $\$ 50$ | \$50- | $\begin{gathered} \$ 100- \\ 249 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250- \\ 499 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 500 \\ & \text { or } \\ & \text { more } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| Aoth sexes |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 41.7 | 27.5 | 13.6 | 11.7 | 3.7 | 1.9 | 107 | 63 |
|  | 61,305 | 46.2 | 33.8 | 11.5 | 6.8 | 1.3 | 0.3 | 58 | 31 |
|  | 19,365 | 38.1 | 31.7 | 17.1 | 11.3 | 1.4 | *0.4 | 69 | 42 |
| 6-16 years--. | 41,940 | 49.9 | 34.8 | 9.0 | 4.8 | 1.3 | *0.3 | 52 | 26 |
| 17-44 years- | 83,984 | 42.2 | 28.0 | 13.2 | 11.4 | 3.6 | 1.6 | 97 | 56 |
| 45-64 years- | 43,204 | 37.9 | 21.9 | 15.2 | 16.0 | 5.7 | 3.3 | 146 | 91 |
| 65 years and ove | 21,617 | 35.6 | 19.5 | 17.1 | 17.2 | 6.1 | 4.5 | 177 | 114 |
| Male |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 101,376 | 46.7 | 27.0 | 11.7 | 10.3 | 2.8 | 1.5 | 99 | 53 |
|  | 31,245 | 46.2 | 33.7 | 11.0 | 7.3 | 1.4 | *0. 3 | 60 | 32 |
|  | 9,830 | 38.5 | 31.0 | 16.4 | 12.2 | *1.6 | *0.3 | 70 | 43 |
| 6-16 years- | 21.415 | 49.8 | 35.0 | 8.5 | 5.0 | 1.4 | *0.3 | 54 | 27 |
| 17-44 years- |  | 50.1 | 26.9 | 10.8 | 9.3 | 2.0 | 0.9 | 79 | 39 |
| 45-64 years- | 20,606 | 44.9 | 21.0 | 12.6 | 13.6 | 5.1 | 2.8 | 140 | 77 |
| 65 years and over | 8,897 | 37.5 | 19.1 | 16.3 | 16.5 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 198 | 124 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| tA11 ages---------------- | 108,733 | 37.1 | 27.9 | 15.3 | 13.0 | 4.5 | 2.2 | 114 | 72 |
| Under 17 years | 30,060 | 46.1 | 33.9 | 12.1 | 6.3 | 1.2 | *0.3 | 57 | 30 |
| Under 6 years- | 9,534 | 37.6 | 32.4 | 17.9 | 10.4 | *1.2 | *0.5 | 67 | 42 |
| 6-16 years--- | 20,525 | 50.1 | 34.5 | 9.5 | 4.5 | 1.3 | *0.2 | 51 | 25 |
| 17-44 years--- | 43,355 | 34.7 | 29.1 | 15.6 | 13.3 | 5.0 | 2.2 | 111 | 72 |
| 45-64 years---- | 22,598 | 31.6 | 22.8 | 17.6 | 18.1 | 6.2 | 3.7 | 150 | 103 |
| 65 years and over | 12,720 | 34.3 | 19.8 | 17.7 | 17.6 | 6.9 | 3.7 | 163 | 107 |

NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $P-20, P-25$, and P-60.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix $I$.

Table 5. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket dental expense, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to sex and age: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given

| Sex and age | Totalpopulationinthousands | No expense | Dental expense |  |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Per: } \\ & \text { capl.ta } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Less than \$50 | $\begin{gathered} \$ 50- \\ 99 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 100- \\ 249 \end{gathered}$ | $\underset{499}{\$ 250-}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 500 \\ & \text { or } \\ & \text { more } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| Al1 ' ${ }^{\text {Both sexes }}$ |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 58.2 | 23.3 | 8.1 | 6.2 | 2.6 | 1.6 | 99 | 41 |
|  | 61,305 | 62.0 | 25.1 | 6.4 | 3.9 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 73 | 28 |
|  | 19,365 | 86.5 | 11.1 | 1.0 | 1.2 | *0. 2 | *0.0 | 40 | 5 |
|  | 83,984 | 54.0 | 25.2 | 8.9 9.6 | 7.2 | 2.3 2.7 | 1.4 | 77 | 38 43 |
|  <br> 65 years and over----------- | 43,204 | 55.0 | 21.5 | 9.1 | 8.1 | 3.7 | 2.6 | 129 | 58 |
|  | 21,617 | 69.7 | 15.3 | 5.4 | 5.0 | 2.7 | 1.7 | 120 | 36 |
| Male <br> All ages | 101,376 | 60.6 | 22.0 | 7.7 | 6.0 | 2.4 | 1.4 | 97 | 38 |
|  | 31,245 | 62.3 | 25.4 | 6.1 | 4.1 | 1.3 | 0.8 | 67 | 25 |
|  | 91,830 | 86.7 | 10.7 | *0.8 | *1.6 | *0.2 | *0.1 | 46 | 6 |
|  | 21,415 | 51.0 | 32.2 | 8.5 | 5.3 | 1.9 | 1.1 | 70 | 34 |
| 45-64 years <br> 65 years and over <br> Female | 20,606 | 58.5 | 19.0 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 3.8 | 2.5 | 137 | 57 |
|  | 8,897 | 71.8 | 13.0 | 5.4 | 5.7 | 3.1 | *1.0 | 116 | 33 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A11 ages | 108,733 | 56.0 | 24.5 | 8.6 | 6.4 | 2.7 | 1.8 | 101 | 44 |
|  | 30,060 | 61.7 | 24.7 | 6.8 | 3.7 | 1.9 | 1.2 | 79 | 30 |
| Under 6 years | 9,534 | 86.4 | 11.5 | *1.2 | *0.7 | *0.2 | *- | 34 | 5 |
| 6-16 years-- | 20,525 | 50.4 | 30.8 | 9.4 | 5.0 | 2.7 | 1.8 | 85 | 42 |
| 17-44 years-- | 43,355 | 50.4 | 27.2 | 10.2 | 7.7 | 2.9 | 1.5 | 96 | 47 |
| 45-64 years- | 22,598 | 51.8 | 23.8 | 9.6 | 8.6 | 3.6 | 2.1 | 122 | 59 |
| 65 years and over- | 12,720 | 68.3 | 17.0 | 5.4 | 4.6 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 123 | 39 |

NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix 1 .

Table 6. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket prescription medicine expense, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to sex and age: United States, i975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I . Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Sex and age | Totalpopulationinthousands | No expense | Prescription medicine expense |  |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Per } \\ & \text { capita } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Less than \$50 | \$50- | \$100- | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250- \\ 499 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 500 \\ \text { or } \\ \text { more } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| Both sexes |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
| All ages | 210,109 | 47.3 | 34.5 | 9.1 | 6.9 | 1.7 | 0.5 | 59 | 31 |
| Under 17 years | 61,305 | 56.6 | 36.6 | 4.9 | 1.6 | *0.1 | *0.0 | 27 | 12 |
| Under 6 year | 19,365 | 46.2 | 43.8 | 7.5 | 2.3 | *0.2 | *0.1 | 30 | 16 |
| 6-16 years- | 41,940 | 61.5 | 33.3 | 3.8 | 1.3 | *0. 1 | *0.0 | 25 | 10 |
| 17-44 years- | 83,984 | 47.8 | 38.0 | 8.7 | 4.5 | 0.8 | *0.2 | 43 | 23 |
| 45-64 years- | 43,204 | 40.7 | 29.7 | 12.8 | 12.5 | 3.3 | 1.1 | 87 | 51 |
| 65 years and over | 21,617 | 33.5 | 25.2 | 14.9 | 18.5 | 6.3 | 1.7 | 114 | 76 |
| Male |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 101,376 | 52.6 | 32.7 | 7.6 | 5.4 | 1.2 | 0.4 | 53 | 25 |
| Under 17 years- | 31,245 | 56.7 | 36.0 | 5.4 | 1.9 | *0.1 | *- | 27 | 12 |
| Under 6 years | 9,830 | 46.7 | 42.3 | 7.9 | 3.0 | *0.1 | *- | 29 | 16 |
| 6-16 years | 21;415 | 61.3 | 33.0 | 4.2 | 1.4 | *0.1 | *- | 25 | 10 |
| 17-44 years- | 40,628 | 56.1 | 34.3 | 5.9 | 3.1 | 0.5 | *0.1 | 36 | 16 |
| 45-64 years | 20;606 | 47.3 | 28.4 | 10.9 | 10.0 | 2.4 | 0.9 | 80 | 42 |
| 65 years and over | 8,897 | 36.0 | 25.0 | 14.9 | 16.8 | 5.7 | *1.6 | 110 | 70 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 108,733 | 42.4 | 36.1 | 10.5 | 8.2 | 2.2 | 0.6 | 64 | 37 |
| Under 17 years- | 30,060 | 56.6 | 37.2 | 4.5 | 1.3 | *0.2 | *0. 1 | 27 | 12 |
| Under 6 years | 9,534 | 45.6 | 45.4 | 7.0 | *1.5 | *0.3 | *0.2 | 30 | 16 |
| 6-16 years- | 20,525 | 61.7 | 33.5 | 3.4 | 1.3 | *0.1 | *0.0 | 26 | 10 |
| 17-44 years-- | 43,355 | 40.0 | 41.5 | 11.2 | 5.9 | 1.1 | *0.3 | 48 | 29 |
| 45-64 years- | 22,598 | 34.7 | 30.9 | 14.4 | 14.7 | 4.1 | 1.2 | 91 | 59 |
| 65 years and ove | 12,720 | 31.7 | 25.3 | 14.9 | 19.6 | 6.7 | 1.7 | 11.7 | 80 |

NOTES; For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and P-60.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

Table 7. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket optical expense, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to sex and age: United States, 1975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix 1 . Definitions of lerms are given in appendix II]


NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

Relative standard exrors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix 1.

Table 8. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket health insurance premiums, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to sex and age: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliabiiity of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]


NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

Relative standard exrors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

Table 9. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket other medical expenses; average expense :ar persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to sex and age: United States; 1975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II


NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.
Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

Table 10. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expenses including health insurance premiums, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense; according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]


[^4]Table 11. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expenses excluding health insurance premiums, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and infurmation on the reliability of the cstimates are given


[^5]NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.
Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix $I$.

Table 12. Age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ percent distributions of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expenses including health insurance premiums, age-adjusted average expense for persons with expense and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Characteristic | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Total } \\ & \text { population } \\ & \text { in } \\ & \text { thousands } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { No } \\ \text { expense } \end{gathered}$ | Health expense |  |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | Per capita |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Less } \\ & \text { than } \\ & \$ 50 \end{aligned}$ | \$50- | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 100- \\ & 249 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250- \\ 499 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 500 \\ & o x \\ & \text { more } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| Tota1 ${ }^{2}$--------------------------------- |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 14.2 | 13.5 | 14.6 | 28.8 | 17.4 | 11.6 | 285 | 245 |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male- | 101,376 | 15.1 | 14.7 | 15.3 | 29.1 | 16.1 | 9.6 | 257 | 223 |
| Family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than \$3,000 | 13,080 | 42.1 | 15.7 | 10.9 | 15.9 | 8.8 | 6.6 | 252 | 168 |
| \$3,000-4,999-- | 16,355 18,781 | 33.6 25.6 | 15.9 | 12.4 | 18.1 | 11.5 | 10.6 10.4 | 281 | 207 |
| \$7,000-9,999 | 24,128 | 14.6 | 14.3 | 14.8 | 27.6 | 17.1 | 11.5 | 272 | 241 |
| \$10,000-14,999 | 44,416 | 8.9 | 14.1 | 16.2 | 30.5 | 18.7 | 11.6 | 279 | 258 |
| \$15,000 or more- | 75,141 51,982 | 6.5 | 11.5 | 14.5 | 33.7 34.4 | 20.5 | 13.3 | 289 | 272 |
| \$15,000-24,999- | 51,982 $\mathbf{2 3 , 1 5 8}$ | +3.4 | 9.7 | 13.6 | 32.3 | 23.8 | 17.1 | 326 | 252 314 |
| Color and family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Whit | 182,487 | 11.8 | 13.2 | 14.8 | 30.1 | 18.1 | 12.0 | 283 | 253 |
| Less than \$5,000 | 22,431 | 33.9 | 15.7 | 11.3 | 17.8 | 11.3 | 10.0 | 296 |  |
|  | $\begin{array}{r}35,854 \\ 109,324 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 17.5 6.7 | 15.2 | 14.0 | 25.0 33.1 | 20.9 | 11.3 | 275 | 236 |
|  | 109,324 | 6.7 | 12.3 | 15.1 | 33.1 | 20.1 | 12.7 | 286 |  |
|  | 27,622 | 30.0 | 16.3 | 14.1 | 20.2 | 11.9 | 8.2 | 232 | 172 |
| Less than \$5,000 <br> \$5,000-9,999-... | 7,004 | 48.4 +26.7 | *15.7 | *13.6 | 15.2 20.2 | 7.0 13.3 | * | *161 | $* 96$ $* 172$ |
| \$10,000 or more- | 10,233 | *15.3 | *14.8 | *16.1 | 26.3 | 16.5 | *11.0 | 290 | 252 |
| Education of head of family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{9-11}^{\text {Less }}$ than 9 years | 41,569 33,384 | 26.5 | 15.6 | 14.2 | 20.6 | 13.3 | 10.0 | 257 | 200 |
| 12 years | 69,103 | 12.7 | 13.7 | 14.7 | 29.5 | 17.7 | 11.7 | 281 | 250 |
| 13 years or more--------------------------------------- | 63,254 | 5.7 | 11.5 | 14.5 | 33.0 | 20.9 | 14.4 | 309 | 294 |
| Place of residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SMSA--- | 141,885 | 15.0 | 12.7 | 14.3 | 28.3 | 17.4 | 12.3 | 291 | 253 |
| Central city- | 62,156 | 19.4 | 12.9 | 13.3 | 26.2 | 16.3 | 11.9 | 300 | 251 |
|  | 79,729 68,224 | 112 | 12.6 | 15.3 | 29.9 29.8 | 178 | 12.1 | 283 255 | 254 226 |
| Geographic region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 47,733 | 15.9 | 12.2 | 14.4 | 29.6 | 16.9 | 11.0 | 279 | 240 |
| North Central | 56,993 | 13.2 |  | 16.7 | 28.5 | 16.7 | 9.3 | 241 | 212 |
| South | 68,247 | 13.4 | 12.4 | 13.7 | 28.7 | 18.8 | 12.9 | 304 | 269 |
| West | 37,136 | 14.9 | 13.9 | 13.1 | 28.4 | 16.4 | 13.4 | 292 | 254 |

[^6]Table 13. Age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ percent distributions of persons by intervals of total annual out-of-pocket health expenses excluding health insurance premiums, age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ average expense for persons with expense and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold intervicws of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

${ }^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States.
${ }^{2}$ Includes unknown income and education.
NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

Table 14. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket hospital expense, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Characteristic | Totalpopulationinthousands | No expense | Hospital expense |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | Per capita |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Less } \\ & \text { than } \\ & \$ 50 \end{aligned}$ | \$50- | $\begin{gathered} \$ 100- \\ 249 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250 \\ \text { or } \\ \text { more } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
|  |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 88.5 | 4.7 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.5 | \$264 | \$30 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 101,376 108,733 | 89.8 87.3 | 4.4 5.0 | 2.0 2.3 | 1.9 | 1.9 3.1 | 241 | 24 36 |
| Family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 13,080 | 91.6 | 2.7 | 1.7 | *1.3 | 2.7 | 714 | 60 |
| \$3,000-4,999-....-... | 16,355 | 89.7 | 2.9 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 3.4 | 457 | 47 |
| \$5,000-6,999 | 18,781 | 89.2 | 3.7 | 1.5 | 2.1 | 3.4 | 333 | 36 |
| \$7,000-9,999 | 24,128 | 87.4 | 4.4 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 3.2 | 262 239 | 33 |
| \$15,000 or more | 75,141 | 88.4 | 5.5 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 179 | 21 |
| \$15,000-24,999- | 51,982 | 88.7 | 5.4 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 186 | 21 |
| \$ $\$ 25,000$ or more | 23,158 | 87.6 | 5.6 | 2.6 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 164 | 20 |
| Color and family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White | 182,487 | 88.1 | 5.0 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 264 | 32 |
|  | 22,431 | 89.5 | 2.9 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 3.7 | 606 | 64 |
| \$5,000-9,999 | 35,854 | 87.5 | 4.3 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 3.5 | 300 | 37 |
| \$10,000 or more | 109,324 | 87.9 | 5.7 | 2.3 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 198 | 24 |
| All other | 27,622 | 91.9 | 2.8 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 258 | 21 |
|  | 7,004 | 94.1 | 2.4 | *1.1 | *1.0 | *1.4 | 286 | 17 |
| \$5,000-9,999-. | 7,055 | 92.0 | 3.3 | *1.5 | *1.2 | *2.0 | 202 | 16 |
| \$10,000 or more- | 10,233 | 89.6 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.6 | 2.8 | 260 | 27 |
| Education of head of family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 41,569 | 88.8 | 3.6 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 3.4 | 327 | 37 |
|  | 33,384 | 89.8 | 4.2 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 2.6 | 315 | 32 |
| 12 years------1. | 69,103 | 88.3 | 5.0 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 237 | 28 |
| 13 years of more---- | 63,254 | 87.9 | 5.3 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 221 | 27 |
| Place of residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 141,885 | 88.8 | 4.5 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 276 | 31 |
| Central city | 62,156 | 89.2 | 4.1 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 358 | 39 |
| Not central city | 79,729 | 88.6 | 4.9 | 2.3 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 214 | 24 |
|  | 68,224 | 87.9 | 5.0 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.8 | 239 | 29 |
| Geographic region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 47,733 | 88.7 | 5.6 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 260 | 29 |
| North Central | 56,993 | 88.6 | 5.3 | 2.3 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 194 | 22 |
| South--- | 68,247 | 87.8 | 4.4 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 3.2 | 305 | 37 |
| West--- | 37,136 | 89.5 | 3.2 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 299 | 31 |

[^7]Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix $I$.

Table 15. Age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket hospital expense, age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ average expense for persons with expense and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States; 1975
[Data are based on household intervicws of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Characteristic | $\quad$ Totalpopulationinthousands | No expense | Hospital expense |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Per } \\ & \text { capita } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Less than \$50 | \$50- | \$100- | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250 \\ \text { or } \\ \text { more } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{2}$ |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 88.5 | 4.7 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 264 | 30 |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 101,376 108,733 | 89.8 | 4.4 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 227 | 25 |
| Family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 13,080 | 93.2 | * | * | * | * | 486 | 41 |
|  | 16,355 | 90.7 | * | * | * | *3.0 | 394 | 39 |
| \$5,000-6,999- | 18;781 | 89.7 | *3.7 | * | * | *3.2 | 301 | 32 |
| \$7,000-9,999-. | 24,128 | 87.4 | 4.4 | *2.8 | *2.1 | *3.3 | 240 | 33 |
| \$10,000-14,999 | 44;416 | 87.1 | 5.5 | 2.6 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 249 | 35 |
| \$15,000 or more- | 75,141 | 87.9 | 5.5 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 170 | 22 |
| \$15,000-24, ${ }^{\text {25,000 or more }}$ | 51, 23,158 | 88.2 87.3 | 5.3 | 2.3.3 | 2.2 +2.3 | $* 2.1$ $* 2.0$ | 182 | 23 20 |
| Color and family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 182,487 | 88.2 | 5.0 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 241 | 31 |
| Less than $\$ 5,000$ <br> \$5,000-9,999- $\qquad$ <br> $\$ 10,000$ or more- $\qquad$ | 22,431 | 91.1 | *2.5 | *1.4 | *1.9 | 3.2 | 483 | 47 |
|  | 35; 854 | 87.8 | 4.3 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 3.4 | 270 | 34 |
|  | 109,324 | 87.4 | 5.7 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 200 | 27 |
|  | 27,622 | 91.6 | *2.8 | * | *1.8 | *2.3 | 254 | 22 |
| Less than $\$ 5,000$ <br> \$5,000-9,999- <br> $\$ 10,000$ or more | 7,004 | 94.3 | - \% | * | * | * | 265 | 17 |
|  | 7,055 | 91.3 | * | * | * | * | *201 | *20 |
|  | 10,233 | 89.7 | * | * | * | * | 246 | 27 |
| Education of head of family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 9 years-- | 41,569 | 89.7 | 3.6 | *1.8 | *1.8 | 3.1 | 296 |  |
| 9-11 years- | 33;384 | 89.6 | 4.3 | *1.9 | *1.6 | *2.5 | 273 | 32 |
| 12 years--- | 69,103 | 88.0 | 5.0 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 237 | 31 |
| 13 years or more- | 63,254 | 87.6 | 5.3 | 2.2 | 2.5 | 2.4 | 222 | 30 |
| Place of residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 141,885 | 88.9 | 4.5 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 253 | 30 |
| Central city- | 62,156 | 89.3 | 4.0 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 315 | 37 |
| Not central city | 79,729 | 88.6 | 4.9 | 2.3 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 202 | 24 |
| Outside SMSA---~-- | 68,224 | 87.9 | 5.0 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 2.8 | 223 | 28 |
| Geographic region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northeast- | 47,733 | 88.8 | 5.6 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 229 | 28 |
| North Central | 56,993 | 88.7 | 5.2 | 2.3 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 182 | 22 |
| South-- | 68;247 | 87.8 | 4.4 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 3.2 | 284 | 37 |
| West- | 37,136 | 89.6 | 3.2 | *2.1 | 2.4 | *2.7 | 278 | 31 |

${ }^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States.
Includes unknown income and education.

NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States, in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

Relative standard exrors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

Table 16. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket doctor expense, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized pepulation. The survey design, gencral qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]


## ${ }^{1}$ Includes unknown income and education.

NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix $I$.

Table 17. Age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket doctor expense, age-adjusted average expense for persons with expense and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975 [Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given

| Characteristic | $\quad$ Totalpopulationinthousands | No expense | Doctor expense |  |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Per } \\ & \text { capi.ta } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Less <br> than <br> $\$ 50$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 50- \\ 99 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 100- \\ 249 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250- \\ 499 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 500 \\ & \text { or } \\ & \text { more } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
|  |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 41.7 | 27.5 | 13.6 | 11.7 | 3.7 | 1.9 | 107 | 63 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male---Female-- | 101,376 108,733 | 46.6 37.3 | 26.9 28.2 | 11.8 15.2 | 10.3 12.7 | 2.8 4.3 | 1.6 2.9 | 98 109 | 54 70 |
| Family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 13,080 | 67.7 | 15.8 | 6.6 | 5.6 | * | *1. 4 | 123 | 47 |
|  | 16,355 | 58.3 | 18.3 | 9.6 | 9.0 | *2.5 | *2.4 | 118 | 55 |
| \$5,000-6,999- | 18,781 | 52.3 | 21.6 | 11.4 | 9.6 | *3.2 | *1. 8 | 104 | 53 |
| \$7,000-9,999- | 24,128 | 42.4 | 27.4 | 12.3 | 11.8 | 4.0 | *2.0 | 110 | 67 |
| \$10,000-14,999- | 44,416 | 35.9 | 31.5 | 15.0 | 11.8 | 3.8 | *1.9 | 101 | 65 |
| \$15,000 or mare- | 75,141 | 34.6 | 30.2 | 15.7 | 13.8 | 4.0 | *1. 8 | 101 | 67 |
| \$15,000-24,999 | 51,982 | 36.2 | 30.4 | 15.6 | 12.5 | 3.7 | *1.6 | 94 | 60 |
| \$25,000 or more | 23,158 | 31.2 | 29.7 | 16.0 | 16.2 | *4.5 | *2.2 | 116 | 80 |
| Color and family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White- | 182,487 | 39.0 | 29.3 | 14.2 | 12.0 | 3.7 | 1.9 | 103 | 64 |
| Less than $\$ 5,000$ | 22,431 | 58.3 | 19.3 | 9.1 | 8.4 | *2.6 | *2.2 | 124 | 58 |
| \$5,000-9,999 | 35,854 | 43.8 | 26.7 | 12.7 | 11.1 | 3.8 | 2.0 | 108 | 63 |
| \$10,000 or more | 109,324 | 33.9 | 31.8 | 15.7 | 13.0 | 3.9 | 1.8 | 99 | 67 |
| All other- | 27,622 | 60.9 | 16.4 | 9.2 | 8.8 | *3.0 | *1.7 | 111 | 46 |
| Less than \$5,000- | 7,004 | 73.8 | 12.5 | * | * | * | * | 90 | 27 |
| \$5,000-9,999 | 7,055 | 61.6 | *16.2 | *7.4 | *10.4 | * | * | 98 | 41 |
| \$10,000 or more | 10,233 | 49.6 | 19.0 | 13.4 | 12.0 | *3. 7 | * | 126 | 65 |
| Education of head of family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 41,569 | 55.6 | 20.7 |  | 8.9 | 3.4 | *1.8 | 109 | 52 |
| 9-11 years--- | 33,384 | 47.2 | 24.8 | 12.2 | 10.8 | 3.3 | *1.6 | 100 | 55 |
| 12 years---- | 69,103 | 40.1 | 28.5 | 14.3 | 11.6 | 3.6 | 1.9 | 101 | 63 |
| 13 years or more | 63,254 | 32.3 | 31.6 | 16.0 | 13.7 | 4.3 | 2.2 | 111 | 76 |
| Place of residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 41.7 | 26.1 | 13.8 | 12.5 | 3.9 | 2.0 | 112 | 67 |
|  | 62,156 | 47.1 | 22.3 | 12.9 | 11.7 | 3.9 | 1.9 | 119 | 65 |
| Not central city | 79,729 | 37.4 | 29.0 | 14.5 | 13.2 | 3.9 | 2.1 | 107 | 68 |
|  | 68,224 | 41.9 | 30.7 | 13.1 | 9.7 | 3.1 | 1.5 | 88 | 53 |
| Geographic region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 47,733 | 41.6 | 27.5 | 14.0 | 11.8 |  | 1.7 |  | 62 |
|  | 56,993 | 39.9 | 31.8 | 13.4 | 10.8 | 3.0 | 1.1 | 86 | 52 |
|  | 68,247 | 41.4 | 26.8 | 14.0 | 11.6 | 4.0 | 2.4 | 112 | 68 |
| West-- | 37,136 | 45.6 | 22.6 | 12.6 | 12.8 | 4.1 | 2.2 | 119 | 66 |

${ }^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States.

2Includes unknowni income and education.
NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix 1 .

Table 18. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket dental expense, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on household intervicws of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I . Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Characteristic | Totalpopulationinthousands | No expense | Dental expense |  |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Per } \\ & \text { capita } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Less } \\ & \text { than } \\ & \$ 50 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 50- \\ 99 \end{gathered}$ | $\$ 100-$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250- \\ 499 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 500 \\ & \text { or } \\ & \text { more } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ $\qquad$ <br> Sex |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 58.2 | 23.3 | 8.1 | 6.2 | 2.6 | 1.6 | 99 | 41 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 101,376 108,733 | 60.6 56.0 | 22.0 24.5 | 7.7 8.6 | 6.0 6.4 | 2.4 | 1.4 | 97 101 | 38 |
| Family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 13,080 | 80.9 | 11.9 | 2.3 | 3.0 | *1.2 | *0.7 | 95 | 18 |
|  | 16,355 | 78.3 | 12.4 | 3.9 | 3.0 | 1.5 | *0.9 | 97 | 21 |
| \$5,000-6,999-...- | 18,781 | 74.2 | 13.6 | 4.6 5 | 4.4 5 | 2.1 | 1.1 | 111 | 29 30 |
| \$7,000-9,999 | 24,128 | 65.1 | 20.9 | 5.4 | 5.8 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 87 | 30 |
| \$10,000-14,999--- | 44,416 | 57.6 | 24.3 | 8.0 | 6.2 | 2.6 | 1.4 | 95 | 40 |
| \$15,000 or more-- | 75,141 | 43.2 | 30.9 | 11.8 | 8.3 | 3.5 | 2.3 | 103 | 58 |
| \$15,000-24,999- | 51, 982 | 47.2 | 29.9 | 10.8 | 7.3 10.7 | 2.9 4.8 | $\frac{1}{3.9}$ | 96 114 | 51 75 |
| \$25,000 or more | 23,158 | 34.0 | 33.2 | 14.1 | 10.7 | 4.8 | 3.2 | 114 | 75 |
| Color and family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White | 182,487 | 55.4 | 24.9 | 8.7 | 6.6 | 2.7 | 1.7 | 98 | 44 |
|  | 22,431 | 76.8 | 13.7 | 3.7 | 3.4 | 1.4 | 0.9 | 97 | 22 |
| \$5,000-9,999, | 35,854 | 66.7 | 19.1 | 5.3 | 5.6 | 2.1 | 1.1 | 96 | 32 |
|  | 109,324 | 46.9 | 29.3 | 10.8 | 7.7 | 3.2 | 2.0 | 99 | 53 |
| A11 other | 27,622 | 78.6 | 12.0 | 3.8 | 3.1 | 1.6 | 0.9 | 105 | 22 |
| Less than \$5,000- | 7,004 | 88.0 | 7.1 | *1. 8 | *1.6 | *1. 1 | *0.4 | 90 | 11 |
| $\$ 5,000-9,999$ | 7,005 | 82.2 | 9.9 | 3.5 | 2.7 | *1. 2 | *0.6 | 94 | 17 |
| \$10,000 or more- | 10,233 | 67.6 | 17.7 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 2.3 | *1.5 | 114 | 37 |
| Education of head of family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 41,569 | 76.3 | 13.3 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 104 | 25 |
|  | 33,384 | 67.6 | 17.9 | 6.5 | 4.5 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 106 | 34 |
|  | 69,103 63,254 | 56.7 42.6 | 24.3 31.8 | 8.2 11.8 | 6.7 8.3 | 2.7 3.5 | 1.5 2.1 | 96 97 | 42 56 |
| 13 years or more- | 63,254 | 42.6 | 31.8 | 11.8 | 8.3 | 3.5 | 2.1 | 97 | 56 |
| Place of residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 141,885 | 56.6 | 23.0 | 8.7 | 6.8 | 2.9 | 1.9 | 107 | 47 |
| Central city- | 62,156 | 61.5 | 19.9 | 7.7 | 6.2 | 2.9 | 1.9 | 115 | 44 |
| Not central city | 79,729 | 52.6 | 25.5 23.8 | 9.5 6.9 | 7.4 | 3.0 1.9 | 1.9 0.9 | 102 80 | 48 |
| Outside SMSA--*--- | 68,224 | 61.5 | 23.8 | 6.9 | 4.9 | 1.9 | 0.9 | 80 | 31 |
| Geographic region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 47,733 | 56.0 | 22.4 | 10.0 | 6.7 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 109 | 48 |
| North Centra | 56,993 | 56.1 | 27.9 | 7.4 | 5.1 | 2.3 | 1.2 | 79 | 35 |
| South----- | 68,247 | 61.4 | 21.8 | 7.2 | 5.8 | 2.4 | 1.5 | 99 | 38 |
| West-- | 37,136 | 58.6 | 19.9 | 8.5 | 8.0 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 118 | 49 |

${ }^{1}$ Includes unknown income and education.
NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix $I$.

Table 19. Age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket dental expense, age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ average expense for persons with expense and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliabiity of the cstimates are given in appendix $[$. Definitions of terms are given in appentix II]

${ }^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States.
${ }^{2}$ Includes unknown income and education.
NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census, reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $p-20, p-25$, and $\mathrm{p}-60$.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in appendix I

Table 20. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket prescription medicine expense, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, I975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

${ }^{1}$ Includes unknown income and education.
NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

Table 21. Age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket prescription medicine expense, age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ average expense for persons with expense and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, gencral qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Characteristic | $\begin{gathered} \text { Total } \\ \text { population } \\ \text { in } \\ \text { thousands } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { No } \\ \text { expense } \end{gathered}$ | Prescription medicine expense |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | Per capita |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Less } \\ & \text { than } \\ & \$ 50 \end{aligned}$ | \$50- | \$100 | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 250 \text { or } \\ & \text { more } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{2}$---------------------------------------------- |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Expence in } \\ & \text { dollars } \end{aligned}$ |  |
|  | 210,109 | 47.3 | 34.5 | 9.1 | 6.9 | 2.2 | \$59 | \$31 |
| $\underline{\text { Sex }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 101,376 108,733 | 52.4 42.9 | 32.6 36.4 | 7.7 10.3 | 5.6 | $\frac{1}{2.7}$ | 50 58 | 26 35 |
| Family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than \$3,000 | 13,080 | 65.1 | 22.3 | *5.3 | *5.6 | *1. 8 | 53 | 22 |
| \$3,000-4,999- | 16,355 | 59.3 | 23.5 | 7.3 | 6.7 | *3.1 | 65 | 33 |
| \$5,000-6,999 | 18,781 | 54.0 | 28.9 | 8.8 | 6.3 | *2.0 | 57 | 29 |
| \$7,000-9,999-- | 24,128 44,416 | 48.7 42.2 | 31.8 <br> 3.3 | 9.4 | 7.0 6.9 | *3.1 | 63 50 | 35 30 3 |
|  | 44,416 | 42.2 43.1 | 338.4 | 9.4 | 6.9 | 2.1 | 53 | 32 |
| - $\$ 15,000-24,999$ | 51,982 | 44.5 | 38.2 | 8.7 | 6.6 | *2.0 | 52 | 30 |
| \$25,000 or more | 23,158 | 40.2 | 39.0 | 10.7 | 7.7 | *2.4 | 57 | 35 |
| Color and family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White | 182,487 | 45.5 | 36.2 | 9.3 | 6.9 | 2.2 | 55 | 32 |
| Less than \$5,000 | 22,431 | 59.1 | 24.6 | 6.6 | 6.7 | *3.0 | 64 58 |  |
|  | 35,854 109,324 | 48.6 42.0 | 32.3 39.5 | 9.7 9.6 | 7.1 | $* 2.3$ 2.0 | 58 52 | 32 |
| A11 othex | 27,622 | 60.9 | 24.5 | 7.1 | 5.7 | *2.0 | 57 | 25 |
| Less than \$5,000 | 7,004 | 71.0 | 18.5 | * | *4.3 |  | *45 | *17 |
| \$5,000-9,999-- | 7,055 | 61.8 | 22.5 308 | *8. ${ }^{\text {* }}$ |  | * | 72 53 | 34 27 |
| Education of head of family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 41,569 | 58.8 | 24.0 | 8.1 | 6.4 | *2.7 | 63 |  |
| 9-11 years--- | 33,384 69,103 | 53.6 46.5 | 28.8 35.1 | 8.7 9.3 | 6.8 7.0 | $\stackrel{* 2.1}{2.1}$ | 58 <br> 55 | 30 32 |
|  | 69,103 63,254 | 46.5 39.2 | 42.6 | 9.7 | 6.7 | 1.9 | 55 50 | 32 |
| Place of residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SMSA---------- | 141,885 | 47.5 | 35.0 | 8.9 | 6.6 | 2.1 | 53 | 30 |
| Central city | 62,156 | 51.1 | 31.8 | 8.3 | 6.7 | 2.1 | 55 | 31 |
|  | 79,729 68,224 | 44.7 | 37.5 33.8 | 9.5 | 6.4 | 2.3 | 52 58 | 33 |
| Geographic region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Noxtheast---- | 47,733 | 48.5 | 34.8 | 8.9 | 6.0 | *1.8 | 51 |  |
| North Central | 56,993 68,247 | 49.4 | 35.2 33.7 | 8.2 10.3 | 5.5 | 1.9 2.8 | 49 63 | 27 37 |
| West--- | 68,247 37,136 | 48.0 | 35.1 | 10.3 8.3 | 8.7 6.7 | *1.9 | 52 | 29 |

${ }^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution to the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States.
${ }^{2}$ Includes unknown income and education.
NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix $I$.

Table 22. Percent distributions by intervals of annual out-of-pocket optical expense, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and in formation on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]


[^8]Table 23. Age-adjusted" percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket optical expense, age-adjusted average expense for persons with expense and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

${ }^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States.
Includes unknown income and education.

NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

Table 24. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket health insurance premiums,average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the retiability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Characteristic |  | No expense | Health insurance premium |  |  |  | Average for <br> persons with expense | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Per } \\ & \text { capita } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Less <br> than <br> \$50 | \$50- | $\begin{gathered} \$ 100 \\ 249 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250 \\ \text { or } \\ \text { more } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| Tota1 ${ }^{1}$ $\qquad$ <br> Sex |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 41.8 | 17.2 | 17.1 | 19.4 | 4.6 | 108 | 63 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male- | 101,376 | 42.3 41.3 | 17.4 | 17.0 17.2 | 19.1 | 4.1 5.0 | 105 | 61 65 |
| Family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 13,080 | 63.5 | 6.6 | 13.1 | 12.6 | 4.2 | 127 | 46 |
|  | 16,355 | : 52.9 | 11.1 | 14.3 | 16.0 | 5.7 | 130 | 61 |
| \$5,000-6,999- | 18,781 | 50.2 | 15.8 | 10.8 | 18.1 | 5.1 | 117 | 58 |
| \$7,000-9,999 | 24,128 | 42.0 | 17.4 | 17.5 | 18.4 | 4.8 | 108 | 63 |
| \$10,000-14,999 | 44,416 | 38.1 | 18.6 | 19.6 | 19.5 | 4.2 | 103 | 64 |
| \$15,000 or more | 75,141 | 35.2 | 20.6 | 18.4 | 21.6 | 4.1 | 102 | 66 |
| \$15,000-24,999- | 51,982 | 36.9 | 21.2 | 19.0 | 20.3 | 2.7 | 92 | 58 |
| \$25,000 or more | 23,158 | 31.5 | 19.3 | 17.2 | 24.5 | 7.4 | 122 | 83 |
| Color and family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 182,487 | 40.0 | 16.9 | 17.7 | 20.5 | 4.9 | 111 | 66 |
| Less than $\$ 5,000$ <br>  <br> $\$ 10,000$ or more- <br> All other- | 22,431 | 54.3 | 8.4 | 15.2 | 16.2 | 6.0 | 136 | 62 |
|  | 35,854 | 44.8 | 15.7 | 14.5 | 19.7 | 5.3 | 118 | 65 |
|  | 109,324 | 35.9 | 19.5 | 19.1 | 21.2 | 4.3 | 103 | 66 |
|  | 27,622 | 54.2 | 19.1 | 13.0 | 11.3 | 2.3 | 84 | 38 |
| Less than \$5,000 | 7,004 | 68.4 | 11.6 | 9.1 | 9.1 | *1.9 | 93 | 29 |
| \$5,000-9,999 | 7;055 | 49.7 | 22.4 | 15.3 | 10.1 | *2. 5 | 74 | 37 |
| \$10,000 or more | 10,233 | 41.2 | 23.9 | 16.3 | 15.8 | 2.8 | 86 | 50 |
| Education of head of family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 41,569 | 45.6 | 14.9 | 17.0 | 17.4 | 5.1 | 114 | 62 |
|  | 33,384 | 48.2 | 17.3 | 14.0 | 16.4 | 4.2 | 106 | 55 |
| 12 years------ | 69,103 | 43.2 | 16.2 | 17.0 | 20.2 | 3.4 | 105 | 60 |
| 13 years or more | 63,254 | 34.2 | 19.7 | 19.0 | 21.4 | 5.7 | 108 | 71 |
| Place of residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 141,885 | 43.5 | 17.0 | 16.4 | 18.7 | 4.4 | 109 | 61 |
| Central city | 62,156 | 45.3 | 16.5 | 16.4 | 17.5 | 4.2 | 109 | 59 |
| Not central city | 79,729 | 42.0 | 17.4 | 16.3 | 19.7 | 4.6 | 109 | 63 |
|  | 68,224 | 38.4 | 17.4 | 18.6 | 20.7 | 4.8 | 107 | 66 |
| Geographic region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northeast | 47,733 | 45.4 | 17.3 | 15.5 | 18.0 | 3.9 | 104 | 57 |
| North Central | 56,993 | 45.9 | 16.6 | 14.9 | 18.1 | 4.4 | 107 | 58 |
| South-- | 68,247 | 34.2 | 17.8 | 20.9 | 22.2 | 4.9 | 109 | 71 |
| West-- | 37,136 | 44.1 | 16.9 | 16.0 | 18.0 | 5.0 | 113 | 63 |

${ }^{1}$ Includes unknown income and education.
NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix $I$.

Table 25. Age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket health insurance premiums, ageadjusted average expense for persons with expense and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Characteristic | Totalpopulationinthousands | No expense | Health insurance premiums |  |  |  | Average for persons with expense | Per capita |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Less than \$50 | \$50- | $\begin{gathered} \$ 100- \\ 249 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 250 \\ \text { or } \\ \text { more } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{2}$ $\qquad$ <br> Sex |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  | Expense in dollars |  |
|  | 210,109 | 41.8 | 17.2 | 17.1 | 19.4 | 4.6 | 108 | 63 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male-- | 101,376 108,733 | 41.9 | 17.3 17.3 | 17.1 | 19.4 19.1 | 4.2 | 102 104 | 62 |
| Family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 13,080 | 71.3 | *7.3 | 8.5 | 9.6 | *3.1 | 108 | 35 |
|  | 16,355 | 61.8 | 11.3 | 10.1 | 12.2 | * 4.7 | 108 | 47 |
| \$5,000-6,999- | 18,781 | 53.7 | 1.6 .5 | 9.4 | 15.7 | 4.6 | 100 | 51 |
| \$7,000-9,999 | 24,128 | 42.2 | 17.5 | 17.4 | 18.1 | *4.7 | 99 | 62 |
| \$10,000-14, 999 | 44,416 | 36.6 | 18.1 | 19.9 | 20.3 | 5.2 | 104 | 69 |
|  | 75,141 51,982 | 33.9 35.4 | 20.3 | 18.4 | 22.8 21.8 | 4.9 $\times 3.2$ | 104 95 | 71 63 |
| \$25,000 or more | 23,158 | 30.4 | 19.3 | 17.1 | 25.2 | 8.1 | 121 | 86 |
| Color and family income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 182,487 | 40.4 | 17.1 | 17.6 | 20.2 | 4.7 | 105 | 65 |
|  | 22,431 | 65.2 | 8.8 | 10.1 | 11.4 | *4.6 | 114 | 45 |
|  | 35,854 | 47.2 | 16.3 | 13.9 | 17.8 | 4.8 | 103 | 59 |
|  | 109,324 | 34.5 | 19.0 | 19.4 | 22.1 | 5.1 | 104 | 71. |
|  | 27,622 | 52.7 | 19.0 | 13.4 | 12.2 | *2.7 | 83 | 41 |
| Less than \$5,000- | 7,004 | 70.2 | *11.5 | *7.3 | *8.9 | * | 87 | 28 |
| \$5,000-9,999-. | 7,055 | 46.2 | 22.5 | *15.6 | *12.3 | * | 76 | 45 |
| \$10,000 or more- | 10,233 | 39.2 | 23.5 | 15.3 | 18.3 | * | 90 | 57 |
| Education of head of family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 9 years- | 41,569 | 51.8 | 16.2 | 14.1 | 14.1 | 3.8 | 96 | 49 |
| 9-11 years----- | 33,384 | 48.4 | 17.5 | 14.0 | 16.1 | 4.0 | 97 | 54 |
| 12 years------ | 69,103 | 41.8 | 15.9 | 17.0 | 21.4 | 4.0 | 104 | 64 |
| 13 years or more- | 63,254 | 32.7 | 18.9 | 19.1 | 22.6 | 6.8 | 111 | 77 |
| Place of residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SMSA------- | 141,885 | 43.6 | 17.1 | 16.4 | 18.5 | 4.3 | 103 | 61 |
| Central city- | 62,156 | 45.9 | 16.7 | 16.3 | 17.1 | 4.0 | 102 | 58 |
| Not central city | 79,729 | 41.9 | 17.4 | 16.4 | 19.7 | 4.7 | 104 | 63 |
| Outside SMSA----- | 68,224 | 38.7 | 17.5 | 18.6 | 20.6 | 4.7 | 102 | 65 |
| Geographic region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northeast-- | 47,733 | 45.9 | 17.5 | 15.3 | 17.6 | 3.7 | 98 | 56 |
| North Central | 56;993 | 46.0 | 16.7 | 14.8 | 18.1 | 4.4 | 102 | 58 |
| South---- | 68,247 | 34.3 | 17.8 | 20.8 | 22.2 | 4.9 | 105 | 71 |
| West- | 37,136 | 44.1 | 16.9 | 16.0 | 18.0 | 5.0 | 108 | 63 |

[^9]Table 26. Percent distributions of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket other medical expenses, average expense for persons with expense, and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics: United States, 1975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, gencral qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix I[]


[^10]Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

Table 27. Age-adjusted ${ }^{1}$ percent distribution of persons by intervals of annual out-of-pocket other medical expenses, age-adjusted average expense for persons with expense and per capita expense, according to selected characteristics; United States, 1975
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]


[^11]
## APPENDIXES

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## APPENDIX I

## TECHNICAL NOTES ON METHODS

## Background of This Report

This report is one of a scries of statistical reports prepared by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). It is based on information collected in a continuing nationwide sample of households in the Health Interview Survey (HIS).

The Health Interview Survey utilizes a questionnaire which obtains information on personal and demographic characteristics, illness, injuries, impairments, chronic conditions, and other health topics. As data relating to each of these various broad topics are tabulated and analyzed, separate reports are issued which cover one or more of the specific topics.

The population covered by the sample for the Health Interview Survey is the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States living at the time of the interview. The sample does not include members of the Armed Forces or U.S. nationals living in foreign countries. It should also be noted that the estimates shown do not represent a complete measure of any given topic during the specified calendar period since data are not collected in the interview for persons who died during the reference period. For many types of statistics collected in the survey, the reference period covers the 2 weeks prior to the interview week. For such a short period, the contribution by decedents to a total inventory of conditions or services should be very small. However, the contribution by decedents during a long reference period (e.g., 1 year) might be sizable, especially for older persons.

## Statistical Design of the Health Interview Survey

General plan.--The sampling plan of the survey follows a multistage probability design which permits a continuous sampling of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States. The sample is designed in such a way that the sample of households interviewed each week is representative of the target population and that weekly samples are additive over time. This feature of the design permits both continuous measurement of characteristics of samples and more detailed analysis of less common characteristics and smaller categories of health-related items. The continuous collection has administrative and operational advantages as well as technical assets since it permits fieldwork to be handled with an experienced, stable staff.

The overall sample was designed so that tabulations can be provided for each of the four major geographic regions and for selected places of residence in the United States.

The first stage of the sample design consists of drawing a sample of 376 primary sampling units (PSU's) from approximately 1,900 geographically defined PSU's. A PSU consists of a county, a small group of contiguous counties, or a standard metropolitan statistical area. The PSU's collectively cover the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

With no loss in general understanding, the remaining stages can be combined and treated in this discussion as an ultimate stage. Within PSU's, then, ultimate stage units called segments are defined in such a manner that each segment
contains an expected four households. Three general types of segments are used.

Area segments which are defined geographically.
List segments, using 1970 census registers as the frame.
Permit segments, using updated lists of building permits issued in sample PSU's since 1970.
Census address listings were used for all areas of the country where addresses were well defined and could be used to locate housing units. In general the list frame included the larger urban areas of the United States from which about two-thirds of the HIS sample was selected.

The usual HIS sample consists of approximately 12,000 segments containing about 50,000 assigned households, of which 9,000 were vacant, demolished, or occupied by persons not in the scope of the survey. The 41,000 eligible occupied households yield a probability sample of about 120,000 persons.

Descriptive material on data collection, field procedures, and questionnaire development in the HIS has been published ${ }^{1,2}$ as well as a detailed description of the sample design ${ }^{3}$ and a report on the estimation procedure and the method used to calculate sampling errors of estimates derived from the survey. ${ }^{4}$

[^12]Collection of data.-Field operations for the survey are performed by the U.S. Bureau of the Census under specifications established by the National Center for Health Statistics. In accordance with these specifications the Bureau of the Census participates in survey planning, selects the sample, and conducts the field interviewing as an agent of NCHS. The data are coded, edited, and tabulated by NCHS.

Estimating procedures.-Since the design of the HIS is a complex multistage probability sample, it is necessary to use complex procedures in the derivation of estimates. Four basic operations are involved:

1. Inflation by the reciprocal of the probability of selection.-The probability of selection is the product of the probabilities of selection from each step of selection in the design (PSU, segment, and household).
2. Nonresponse adjustment.-The estimates are inflated by a multiplication factor which has as its numerator the number of sample households in a given segment and as its denominator the number of households interviewed in that segment.
3. First-stage ratio adjustment.-Sampling theory indicates that the use of auxilliary information which is highly correlated with the variables being estimated improves the reliability of the estimates. To reduce the variability between PSU's within a region, the estimates are ratio adjusted to the 1970 populations within 12 color-residence classes.
4. Poststratification by age-sex-color.-The estimates are ratio adjusted within each of 60 age-sex-color cells to an independent estimate of the population of each cell for the survey period. These independent estimates are prepared by the Bureau of the Census. Both the first-stage and poststratified ratio adjustments take the form of multiplication factors applied to the weight of each elementary unit (person, household, condition, and hospitalization).

The effect of the ratio-estimating process is to make the sample more closely representative of the civilian noninstitutionalized population by age, sex, color, and residence, which thereby reduces sampling variance.

As noted, each week's sample represents the population living during that week and characteristics of the population. Consolidation of samples over a time period, e.g., a calendar quarter, produces estimates of average characteristics of the U.S. population for the calendar quarter. Similarly, population data for a year are averages of the four quarterly figures.

For prevalence statistics, such as number of persons with speech impairments or number of persons classified by time interval since last physician visit, figures are first calculated for each calendar quarter by averaging estimates for all weeks of interviewing in the quarter. Prevalence data for a year are then obtained by averaging the four quarterly figures.

For other types of statistics-namely those measuring the number of occurrences during a specified time period-such as incidence of acute conditions, number of disability days, or number of visits to a doctor or dentist, a similar computational procedure is used, but the statistics are interpreted differently. For these items, the questionnaire asks for the respondent's experience over the 2 calendar weeks prior to the week of interview. In such instances the estimated quarterly total for the statistic is 6.5 times the average 2 -week estimate produced by the 13 successive samples taken during the period. The annual total is the sum of the four quarters. Thus the experience of persons interviewed during a year-experience which actually occurred for each person in a 2 -calendar-week interval prior to week of interview-is treated as though it measured the total of such experience during the year. Such interpretation leads to no significant bias.

## General Qualifications

Nonresponse.-Data were adjusted for nonresponse by a procedure which imputes to persons in a household who were not interviewed the characteristics of persons in households in the same segment which were interviewed.

The interview process.-The statistics presented in this report are based on replies obtained in interviews with persons in the sample households. Each person 19 years of age and over present at the time of interview was interviewed individually. For children and for adults not present in the home at the time of the interview, the information was obtained from a related household member such as a spouse or the mother of a child.

There are limitations to the accuracy of diagnostic and other information collected in household interviews. For diagnostic information, the household respondent can usually pass on to the interviewer only the information the physician has given to the family. For conditions not medically attended, diagnostic information is often no more than a description of symptoms. However, other facts, such as the number of disability days caused by the condition, can be obtained more accurately from household members than from any other source since only the persons concerned are in a position to report this information.

Rounding of numbers..--The original tabulations on which the data in this report are based show all estimates to the nearest whole unit. All consolidations were made from the original tabulations using the estimates to the nearest unit. In the final published tables, the figures are rounded to the nearest thousand, although these are not necessarily accurate to that detail. Devised statistics such as rates and percent distributions are computed after the estimates on which these are based have been rounded to the nearest thousand.

Population figures.--Some of the published tables include population figures for specified categories. Except for certain overall totals by age, sex, and color, which are adjusted to independent estimates, these figures are based on the sample of households in the HIS. These are given primarily to provide denominators for rate computation, and for this purpose are more appropriate for use with the accompanying measures of health characteristics than other population data that may be available. With the exception of the overall totals by age, sex, and color mentioned above, the population figures differ from figures (which are derived from different
sources) published in reports of the Bureau of the Census. Official population estimates are presented in Bureau of the Census reports in Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

## Reliability of Estimates

Since the statistics presented in this report are based on a sample, they will differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and interviewing personnel and procedures.

As in any survey, the results are also subject to reporting and processing errors and errors due to nonresponse. To the extent possible, these types of errors were kept to a minimum by methods built into survey procedures. ${ }^{5}$ Although it is very difficult to measure the extent of bias in the Health Interview Survey, a number of studies have been conducted to study this problem. The results have been published in several reports. 6-9

[^13]The standard error is primarily a measure of sampling variability, that is, the variations that might occur by chance because only a sample of the population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also reflects part of the variation which arises in the measurement process. However, it does not include systematic biases which might be in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census by less than the standard error. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error and about 99 out of 100 that it would be less than $2 \frac{1}{2}$ times as large.

Standard error charts. - 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. For this report, asterisks are shown for any cell with more than a 30 -percent relative standard error. Included in this appendix are charts from which the relative standard errors can be determined for estimates shown in the report. In order to derive relative errors which would be applicable to a wide variety of health statistics and which could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, the charts provide an estimate of the approximate relative standard error rather than the precise error for any specific aggregate or percentage.

Three classes of statistics for the health survey are identified for purposes of estimating variances.

1. Narrow range. - This class consists of (1) statistics which estimate a population attribute, e.g., the number of persons in a particular income group, and (2) statistics for which the measure for a single individual during the reference period used in data collection is usually either 0 or 1 on occasion may take on the value 2 or very rarely 3.
2. Medium range. - This class consists of other statistics for which the measure for a single individual during the reference period used in data collection will rarely lie outside the range 0 to 5 .
3. Wide range.-This class consists of statistics for which the measure for a single individual during the reference period used in data collection can range from 0 to a number in excess of 5 , e.g., the number of days of bed disability.

In addition to classifying variables according to whether they are narrow-, medium-, or wide-range, statistics in the survey are further classified as to whether they are based on a reference period of 2 weeks, 6 months, or 12 months.

General rules for determining relative standard errors. - The following rules will enable the reader to determine approximate relative standard errors from the charts for estimates presented in this report. These charts represent standard errors of HIS data.

Rule 1. Estimates of aggregates: Approximate relative standard errors for estimates of aggregates such as the number of persons with a given characteristic are obtained from appropriate curves in figure I. The number of persons in the total U.S. population or in an age-sex-color class of the total population is adjusted to official Bureau of the Census figures and is not subject to sampling error.

Rule 2. Estimates of percentages in a percent distribution: Relative standard errors for percentages in a percent distribution of a total are obtained from appropriate curves in figure II. For values which do not fall on one of the curves presented in the chart, visual interpolattion will provide a satisfactory approximation.

Rule 3. Estimates of rates where the numerator is a subclass of the denominator: This rule applies for prevalence rates or where a unit of the numerator occurs, with few exceptions, only once in the year for any one unit in the denominator. For example, in computing the rate of visual impairments per 1,000 population, the numerator consisting of persons with the
impairment is a subclass of the denominator, which includes all persons in the population. Such rates if converted to rates per 100 may be treated as though they were percentages and the relative standard errors obtained from the percentage charts for population estimates. Rates per 1,000 , or on any other base, must first be converted to rates per 100 ; then the percentage chart will provide the relative standard error per 100.

Rule 4. Estimates of rates where the numerator is not a subclass of the denominator: This rule applies where a unit of the numerator often occurs more than once for any one unit in the denominator. For example, in the computation of the number of persons injured per 100 currently employed persons per year, it is possible that a person in the denominator could have sustained more than one of the injuries included in the numerator. Approximate relative standard errors for rates of this kind may be computed as follows:
(a) Where the denominator is the total U.S. population or includes all persons in one or more of the age-sexcolor groups of the total population, the relative error of the rate is equivalent to the relative crror of the numerator, which can be obtained directly from the appropriate chart.
(b) In other cases the relative standard error of the numerator and of the denominator can be obtained from the appropriate curve. Square each of these relative errors, add the resulting values, and extract the square root of the sum. This pro-

- cedure will result in an upper bound on the standard error and often will overstate the error.

Rule 5. Estimates of difference between two statistics (mean, rate, total, etc.): The standard error of a difference is approximately the square root of the sum of
the squares of each standard error considered separately. A formula for the standard error of a difference,

$$
d=X_{1}-X_{2}
$$

is

$$
\sigma_{d}=\sqrt{\left(X_{1} V_{x 1}^{\prime}\right)^{2}+\left(X_{2} V_{x 2}\right)^{2}}
$$

where $X_{1}$ is the estimate for class $1, X_{2}$ is the estimate for class 2, and $V_{\mathrm{x} 1}$ and
$V_{\mathrm{x} 2}$ are the relative errors of $X_{1}$ and $X_{2}$ respectively. This formula will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics although it is only a rough approximation in most other cases. The relative standard error of each estimate involved in such a difference can be determined by one of the four rules above, whichever is appropriate.


Example of use of chart: An aggregate of $60,000,000$ (on scale at bottom of chart) for (C) curve has a relative standard error of 42.4 percent, read from scale at left side of chart, or a standard error of $24,440,000$ ( 42.4 percent of $60,000,000$ ).

Figure 1I. RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS FOR PERCENTAGES BASED ON ONE QUARTER OF DATA COLLECTION FOR NUMBER OF PERSONS (TYPE A DATA, NARROW AND MEDIUM RANGE
(Base of percentage shown on curves in millions)


Example of use of chart: An estimate of 50 percent (on scale at bottom of chart) based on an estimate of $1,000,000$ has a relative standard error of 11.7 percent (read from the sclae at the left side of the chart), the point at which the curve for a base of $1,000,000$ intersects the vertical line for 50 percent. The standard error in percentage points is equal to 50 percent $\times 11.7$ percent or 5.9 percentage points.

## APPENDIX II

## DEFINITIONS OF CERTAIN TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

## Terms Relating to Out-of-Pocket Health Expenses

Out-of-pocket expense.-The amount paid directly by the individual or family member exclusive of any part paid by insurance, other person, or agency. The following definitions pertain only to out-of-pocket expenses.

Dental bills.-The amount spent for cleaning, filling, straightening, bridgework, dental laboratory fees, and other services from a dentist or hygienist.
Doctor bills.-The amount spent for rountine doctor visits, treatments, checkups, doctor fees while a patient in a hospital, operations, deliveries, pregnancy care, laboratory fees, shots, and other services by a medical doctor.
Hospital bills.-The amount spent for room and board, operating and delivery rooms, anesthesia, tests, X-rays, special treatments, and any other hospital service.

Payments for prescription medicine.-Amounts spent for only those medicines prescribed by a doctor or dentist.

Payments for optical bills.-Amounts spent for eyeglass, contact lenses, or optometrist's fees.
Payments for other medical bills.-Amounts spent for chiropractor's or podiatrist's fees, hearing aid, special brace, truss, wheelchair, artificial limbs, physical or speech therapy, special nursing care, and nursing home or convalescent home care.

Payments for health insurance premiums.Amounts spent on premiums for health insur-
ance coverage for any part of a hospital bill or doctor's bill.

## Demographic Terms

Age.-The age recorded for each person is the age at last birthday. Age is recorded in single years and grouped in a variety of distributions depending on the purpose of the table.

Color.-The population is divided into two color groups, "white" and "all other." "All other" includes Negro, American Indian, Chinese, Japanese, and any other race. Mexican persons are included with "white" unless definitely known to be Indian or of another race.

Income of family or of unrelated individuals.-Each member of a family is classified according to the total income of the family of which he is a member. Within the household all persons related to each other by blood, marriage, or adoption constitute a family. Unrelated individuals are classified according to their own income.

The income recorded is the total of all income received by members of the family (or by an unrelated individual) in the 12 -month period preceding the week of interview. Income from all sources is included, e.g., wages, salaries, rents from property, pensions, and help from relatives.

Education.-The categories of education status show the years of school completed. Only years completed in regular schools, where persons are given a formal education, are included. A "regular" school is one that advances a person toward an elementary or high school diploma or a college, university, or professional school degree. Thus education in vocational,
trade, or business schools outside the regular school system is not counted in determining the highest grade of school completed.
Education of head of family or of unrelated. individuals.-Each member of a family is classified according to the education of the head of the family of which he is a member. Within the household all persons related to each other by blood, marriage, or adoption constitute a family. Unrelated individuals are classified according to their own education.

Geographic region.-For the purpose of classifying the population by geographic area, the States are grouped into four regions. These regions, which correspond to those used by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, are shown in figure III.

Place of residence. - The place of residence of a member of the civilian noninstitutionalized population is classified as inside a standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA) or outside an SMSA and either farm or nonfarm.

Standard metropolitan statistical areas. - The definitions and titles of SMSA's are established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget with the advice of the Federal Committee on Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

The definition of an individual SMSA involves two considerations: first, a city or cities of specified population that constitute the central city and identify the county in which it is located as the central county; second, economic and social relationships with contiguous counties (except in New England) that are metropolitan in character so that the periphery of the specific metropolitan area may be determined. SMSA's are not limited by State boundaries. In New England SMSA's consist of towns and cities, rather than counties. The metropolitan population in this report is based on SMSA's as defined in the 1970 census and does not include any subsequent additions or changes.
Central cities.-Each SMSA must include at least one central city. The complete title of an SMSA

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

Figure III. Geographic regions.
identifies the central city or cities. If only one central city is designated, then it must have 50,000 inhabitants or more. The area title may include, in addition to the largest city, up to two city names on the basis and in the order of the following criteria: (1) the additional city has at least 250,000 inhabitants or (2) the additional city has a population of one-third or more of that of the largest city and a minimum population of 25,000 . An exception occurs where two cities have contiguous boundaries and constitute, for economic and social purposes, a single community of at least 50,000 , the smaller of which must have a population of at least 15,000 .

# FAMILY MEDICAL EXPENSES QUESTIONNAIRE 

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE public health service health resources administration<br>ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852<br>NATIONAL CENTER FOR<br>HEALTH STATISTICS

## Dear Friend:

Your household has just taken part in a health interview conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the U.S. Public Health Service. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in providing us with this information.

Another area of great concem today is the cost of health care in our country. We, therefore, ask you to provide us with information about the amount of money you, your family, and other relatives living with you spent for medical care during 1975 by answering the few questions on this form. Please use any records such as bills, receipts, or check stubs, that would help you in answering the questions. If you cannot supply the exact amounts from your records, give the best estimate you can.

We would appreciate your completing the attached questionnaire within FIVE DAYS, and returning it in the enclosed preaddressed envelope which requires no postage. If a delay cannot be avoided and you cannot answer and return your form during this, time, please fill in the information and return it as soon as possible. Since this study is based on a scientific sample of the total population, it is important that each household return a completed questionnaire.

Please be assured that the Bureau of the Census and the U.S. Public Health Service hold as confidential all the information you provide. Thus, the results of this voluntary survey will be issued only in the form of statistical totals from which no individual can be identified.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Sincerely yours,

> Wobent W. Fuchaleng Robert R. Fuchsberg Director Division of Health Interview Statistics

ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY: All information which would permit identification of the individual will be held in strict confidence, will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey, and will not be disclosed or released to others for any purposes.

FOR INTERVIEWER USE ONLY:


## DENTAL BILLS PAID

1. How mueh did THIS FAMILY spend on dental bills for this person during 1975, that is, from Jonuary 1,1975 , to December 31,1975?

## INCLUDE omounts spent for: $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Cleanings } & \quad \text { Straightening } \\ \text { Fillings } & X \text {-roys }\end{array}$ <br> Dental surgery <br> Bridgework <br> Dental laborar. ry fees: <br> Other services from a dentiat or hygienizt



## DOCTORS' BILLS PAID

2. How much did THIS FAMILY spend on doctor bills for this parson during 1975?


HOSPITAL BILLS PAID
3. How much did THIS FAMILY spend on hospital bilis for this person during 1975 ?

NCLUDE omount* spent for: Room and boord
Pporating and
delivery rooms

## Anesthesia

 Testa:PAYMENTS MADE FOR PRESCRIPTION MEDICINE
4. About how much did THIS FAMILY spend on medicine for this person during1975 that was purchased on a DOCTOR'S OR DENTIST'S PRESCRIPTION?

INCLUDE amounts spant for:
Medicines only if they were prescribed by a doctor or dentist


## PAYMENTS MADE FOR EYEGLASSES, CONTACT LENSES OR OPTOMETRIST'S BILLS

5. During 1975 how much did THIS FAMILY spend on eyeglasses, cantact lenses, or optometrists' fees for this person?

## PAYMENTS MADE FOR ''OTHER' MEDICAL BILLS

60. How much did THIS FAMILY spend on other medical expenses for this person during 1975?

Do not includf ony expmeses which you have already recorded. Denetinclude amounts apent for
$\frac{\text { Do not includf any }}{\text { medicines of ony kind. }}$



6b. What type of medical expense did this person have?

## Type of Medical Expense <br> REFERRED TO RECORDS

7. Check one of the following boxes:

1 Referred to recordz for all dollar amounts enfered on this page.
2 Reforred to records for some but nat all dollar amounte entered on this page.
3 Did not refer to ony records.

 HEALTH INSURANCE


1. During 1975, how much did THIS FAMILY spend on health insurance premiums for plans that pay for any part of a hospital bill or a doctor's bill?


Include:
Amount deducted from paycheck for heal th insurance premiums
Amount deducted from Social Security check for Medicare
Amount paid directly to health insurance plans or to Social Security for Medicare

Do not include:
Health insurance plans that pay only in the cast of accidents Employer or union contributions

## 

2. During 1975, did THIS FAMILY pay any medical expenses for anyone whose name does NOT appear on this questionnaire?

This might include expenses for childzen now away at school or parents, other relatives or friends now in nursing homes or elsewhere, of who are deraased.

These expenses may include bills from doctors, dentists, optometrisis, hospisals, nursing homes, healih insurance premilums, cost of prescripition medicine, eyeglasses, and so farth.
(Check ono box)

TYPE OF MEDICAL EXPENSE
3. Please print below the name of the person or persons who completed this form
$\qquad$
Nome

NOTE: Before returning this questionnaire, please check to see that you have filled in an answer for EACH question for EACH person listed on the questionnaire, even though the person did not have any medical or dental expenses during 1975

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[^0]:    U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE Public Health Service
    Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
    National Center for Health Statistics
    Hyattsville, Md. November 1978

[^1]:    $\frac{1}{2}$ Sum of expenses may not add to total because of differing levels of known data.
    ${ }^{2}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States.

[^2]:    ${ }^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the united

[^3]:    See footnotes at end of table.

[^4]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes unknown income and education.
    NoTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U. S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

    Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix 1 .

[^5]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes unknown income and education.

[^6]:    ${ }^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United Statesiudes unknown income and education.

    NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $P-20, P-25$, and $p-60$.

    Relative standard errors of estimates of this table are found in Appendix $I$.

[^7]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes unknown income and education.
    NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and P-60.

[^8]:    ${ }^{\text {I Includes unknown income and education. }}$
    NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

    Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

[^9]:    ${ }_{2}^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age of the total civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United states.
    ${ }^{2}$ Includes unknown income and education.
    NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.
    Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix $I$.

[^10]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes unknown income and education.
    NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25$, and $\mathrm{P}-60$.

[^11]:    ${ }^{1}$ Adjusted by the direct method to the age distribution of the total civilian, noninstitutionalized population of the United States.
    ${ }^{2}$ Includes unknown income and education.
    NOTES: For official population estimates for more general use, see U.S. Bureau of the Census reports on the civilian population of the United States in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, P-25, and P-60.

    Relative standard errors of estimates for this table are found in Appendix I.

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