

# Advance Data



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## Characteristics of Elderly Home Health Care Users: Data From the 1994 National Home and Hospice Care Survey

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### Abstract

**Objective**—This report presents the demographic characteristics, service utilization, and primary admission diagnosis of elderly current home health care patients and discharges.

**Methods**—The data used for this report are from the National Center for Health Statistics' 1994 National Home and Hospice Care Survey's (NHHCS) sample of current patients and discharges age 65 years and over. The 1994 NHHCS is the third annual survey of home health care agencies and hospices and their current patients and discharges.

**Results**—The overall results of the survey indicate that the elderly in both the current patient and discharge samples were predominantly women, 75–84 years old, white, non-Hispanic, widowed, and lived in a private residence with their family. For both elderly men and women, the most commonly used home health care service was skilled nursing services and the primary admission diagnosis was heart disease.

### Introduction

Home health care is a rapidly growing industry in today's U.S. health care system. The number of persons served by home health care agencies rose from 1,232,200 in 1992 to 1,889,400 in 1994, an increase of 53 percent in 2 years. There are primarily three factors responsible for

the rapid growth of this industry: (a) advancement in medical technology that allows for the provision of care at the patient's home at a much lower cost than in institutional settings, (b) the enactment of Medicare in 1965, which authorized payment for certain home health care services, and (c) the growth in the demand for home health care

services as the number of elderly members in the total population increases. Older patients generally prefer recovering from an illness at home instead of in a hospital or a nursing home (1).

This report, based on 1994 National Home and Hospice Care Survey (NHHCS) data, presents the demographic characteristics of elderly home health care patients and discharges, their use of services, and their primary diagnosis at admission. Service utilization information is provided for the delivery of assistance with activities of daily living (ADL) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADL), types of service received, and length of service in days. For current home health care patients, types of service received refers to services received during the 30 days prior to the survey. However, for home health care discharges, the time frame is the 30 days prior to discharge.

In this report, the ADL's, which reflect an individual's capacity for self-

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care, refer to five sociobiological functions: bathing, dressing, eating, transferring in or out of bed or chair, and using the toilet. The IADL's, which involve more complex tasks that enable an individual to live independently in the community, include doing light housework, managing money, shopping for groceries or clothes, using the telephone, preparing meals, and taking medications. This report focuses on help provided by home health care agencies in relation to ADL's and IADL's. It does not include help provided by other sources. Information is also provided on continence status.

## Methods

### Data

The data used in this report are from the 1994 National Home and Hospice Care Survey (NHHCS). The 1994 NHHCS, a segment of the Long-Term Care Component of the National Health Care Survey (2), is the third annual survey of home health care agencies and hospices, their current patients, and discharges. The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) began this nationwide sample survey in response to the rapid growth in the numbers of these agencies in the United States (3). The 1994 sample contained 1,510 agencies. Detailed description of the data set, such as information on sample design, data collection procedures, and sampling errors, have been published in a previous NCHS report (4).

Estimates in this report are based on the current patient sample and discharged patient sample. Current patients refer to those who were on the rolls of the agency as of midnight on the day immediately before the date of the survey. Discharges are defined as patients who were removed from the rolls of the agency (including those whose episodes of care ended because of death) during a designated month randomly selected for that agency from the time period October 1, 1993, through September 30, 1994. Discharges represent discharge events, not discharged patients. Thus, the same patient could be included more than

once if that person had multiple episodes of care in one or more agencies that ended during the designated month.

Data were collected by interviewing the staff member most familiar with the care provided to the patient. Although the survey included patients of all ages from hospices and home health care agencies, data presented in this report are limited to home health care patients who were 65 years of age and over at the time they began using home health care services. The estimates are based on responses for 4,018 current patients and 3,499 discharges.

## Results

### Elderly current home health care patients

At any time during 1994, there were an estimated 1.4 million elderly people age 65 years and over using home health care services. Sociodemographic characteristics of elderly current home health care patients, as measured at the time of admission, are shown in [table 1](#) in total and by sex. Elderly current patients were predominantly women (71 percent), in the age group 75–84 years (42 percent), white (68 percent), non-Hispanic (59 percent), widowed (47 percent), living in private residence (93 percent), and living with their family members (51 percent). For a large percent of elderly current patients, race and ethnicity were reported as unknown. The data also show that elderly women were more likely to be widowed (54 percent) than elderly men (28 percent), and the percent of elderly women living alone was higher than that of elderly men (45 percent vs. 28 percent).

The most frequent help received by elderly patients in ADL's was bathing or showering (54 percent), followed by dressing (46 percent), transferring to or from a bed or chair (32 percent), using the toilet (24 percent), and eating (9 percent) ([table 2](#)). Of all elderly current patients, 57 percent were reported as receiving help in at least one ADL. A greater percent of elderly women than men were reported as

receiving help in at least one ADL (60 percent vs. 49 percent).

The most common IADL activity for which assistance was received by elderly patients was doing light housework (41 percent). Preparing meals (26 percent), taking medications (25 percent), shopping for groceries or clothes (18 percent), using the telephone (3 percent), and managing money (2 percent) were the next most common types of assistance received by elderly current patients. The percent of elderly patients who received help in doing light housework was significantly greater for women than for men (46 percent vs. 29 percent). Sixty-one percent of women and 49 percent of men received help in at least one IADL. Twenty-four percent of elderly men were reported as having difficulty in controlling both bowels and bladder. Twelve percent of elderly men were reported as having had an ostomy or an indwelling catheter, and 10 percent of those with either device were reported as receiving help in caring for that device. Of all elderly women patients, over one-fourth were reported as having difficulty in controlling both bowels and bladder; 7 percent had an ostomy or an indwelling catheter, and 6 percent of those with such a device received help with it.

[Table 3](#) presents information on the types of services received by home health care current patients during the 30 days prior to the survey. In 1994, the most frequent service used by elderly current patients was skilled nursing services. Eighty-eight percent of men and 79 percent of women used these services. Personal care (49 percent of men and 60 percent of women), physical therapy (19 percent of men and 17 percent of women), homemaker/companion services (19 percent of men and 25 percent of women), and physical therapy (19 percent of men and 16 percent of women), were the next most frequently used services. Other services, such as social services, administering medications, medical equipment and medical supplies, counseling, and dietary and nutritional services were less frequently used.

For current patients, length of service was calculated from the day of

**Table 1. Number and percent distribution of elderly home health care current patients 65 years and over by selected demographic characteristics, according to sex: United States, 1994**

Demographic characteristic	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent distribution	Number	Percent distribution	Number	Percent distribution
Total . . . . .	1,379,800	100.0	399,600	100.0	980,200	100.0
Age						
65–74 years . . . . .	413,700	30.0	139,700	35.0	274,000	28.0
75–84 years . . . . .	583,600	42.3	176,300	44.1	407,300	41.5
85 years and over . . . . .	382,500	27.7	83,600	20.9	299,000	30.5
Race						
White . . . . .	943,800	68.4	274,900	68.8	668,900	68.2
Black and other . . . . .	190,700	13.8	58,300	14.6	132,400	13.5
Black . . . . .	178,800	13.0	52,800	13.2	126,000	12.9
Unknown . . . . .	245,400	17.8	66,400	16.6	179,000	18.3
Hispanic origin						
Hispanic . . . . .	50,900	3.7	13,500	3.4	37,400	3.8
Non-Hispanic . . . . .	815,200	59.1	246,100	61.6	569,100	58.1
Unknown . . . . .	513,700	37.2	140,000	35.0	373,700	38.1
Marital status						
Married . . . . .	437,500	31.7	208,500	52.2	229,000	23.4
Widowed . . . . .	641,700	46.5	112,900	28.2	528,900	54.0
Divorced or separated . . . . .	53,100	3.9	19,500	4.9	33,600	3.4
Never married/single . . . . .	86,900	6.3	36,500	9.1	50,400	5.1
Unknown . . . . .	160,600	11.6	22,300	5.6	138,300	14.1
Living quarters						
Private residence . . . . .	1,287,400	93.3	370,900	92.8	916,400	93.5
Rented room and board . . . . .	*	*	*	*	*	*
Retirement home . . . . .	36,900	2.7	12,000	3.0	24,900	2.5
Board and care or residential care facility . . . . .	20,500	1.5	6,600	1.7	13,900	1.4
Health facility . . . . .	7,400	0.5	*	*	*	*
Other or unknown . . . . .	23,400	1.7	*	*	17,300	1.8
Living arrangement						
Family members . . . . .	702,600	50.9	261,900	65.5	440,800	45.0
Nonfamily members . . . . .	63,200	4.6	17,700	4.4	45,500	4.6
Alone . . . . .	553,400	40.1	110,200	27.6	443,200	45.2
Other or unknown . . . . .	60,600	4.4	9,800	2.5	50,700	5.2

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.

their admission to the day of the interview. Thus, it does not cover the complete episode of care. [Table 4](#) indicates that 56 percent of the elderly current patients had been using the home health care service for more than 90 days. The average length of service among elderly patients was 324 days. Length of service was, on average, longer for women (350 days) than for men (261 days).

Primary admission diagnosis was collected from the current patients' medical records and coded according to the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modifications*, (ICD-9-CM) (5). [Table 5](#)

shows that, for both elderly men and women, the most frequent primary admission diagnosis was heart disease (18 percent for both men and women). For elderly men, the other most frequent primary admission diagnoses were malignant neoplasms (11 percent), diabetes (7 percent), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (4 percent), and essential hypertension (3 percent). However, for elderly women, the other most frequent primary admission diagnoses were diabetes (10 percent), essential hypertension (6 percent), malignant neoplasms (4 percent), and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (2 percent).

### Elderly home health care discharges

In this survey, as mentioned earlier, a discharge represents an event, not a person. The advantage of using discharge data is that it enables the complete episode of care, that is, from admission to discharge, to be reviewed. A discharge may occur in response to either an improvement or stabilization of a condition, or worsening of a condition that led to a hospital or nursing home admission or to death. A discharge may also occur for other reasons such as relatives resuming care of the patient. When this occurs, home health care

**Table 2. Number and percent of elderly men and women home health care current patients 65 years and over receiving help with activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living, percent distribution of number of functional activities for which help was received, and percent with continence problem, according to sex: United States, 1994**

Functional status	Both sexes	Male	Female
Number			
Total	1,379,800	399,600	980,200
Percent			
Received personal help with the following ADL's			
Bathing or showering	54.1	46.1	57.4
Dressing	45.8	39.6	48.4
Eating	9.2	7.5	9.9
Transferring in or out of bed or chair	31.6	27.7	33.2
Using toilet room	24.4	20.6	25.9
Received personal help with number of ADL's			
Percent distribution			
0	43.5	51.3	40.3
1	6.6	5.6	6.9
2	15.9	13.6	16.9
3	14.9	13.4	15.6
4	13.7	11.8	14.4
5	5.5	4.3	6.0
Received personal help with the following IADL's			
Percent			
Doing light housework	40.9	28.6	45.9
Managing money	2.0	1.8	2.1
Shopping for groceries or clothes	18.3	13.8	20.1
Using telephone	3.4	2.2	3.9
Preparing meals	25.5	21.7	27.0
Taking medications	24.7	23.6	25.1
Received personal help with number of IADL's			
Percent distribution			
0	42.8	51.3	39.4
1	24.9	23.8	25.4
2	14.6	12.6	15.4
3	12.1	7.8	13.9
4	4.0	3.3	4.3
5	1.2	*	1.2
6	*	*	*
Continence status			
Percent			
Difficulty controlling bowels	12.4	12.4	12.4
Difficulty controlling bladder	21.6	19.2	22.6
Difficulty controlling both bowels and bladder	25.2	23.7	25.7
Have an ostomy or an indwelling catheter	8.7	11.8	7.4
Received help in caring for this device	7.0	9.6	5.9

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.

NOTE: ADL is activities of daily living and IADL is instrumental activities of daily living.

services are no longer needed and are sometimes referred to as "goals met." Figure 1 shows that in 1994, 31 percent of the older men and 37 percent of the older women were discharged because of goals met. Eighteen percent of the older men and women were discharged because they recovered and/or stabilized. Twenty-one percent of the older men and 13 percent of the older women were hospitalized and 3 percent of older men and 4 percent of older women were admitted to nursing homes. The level of mortality among elderly discharges was 8 percent for men and 9 percent for women.

In 1994, there were an estimated 5.6 million discharges from home health care agencies. Of these discharges, 68 percent were aged 65 years and over at the time they began using home health care services. Persons age 75–84 years at the time of admission comprised the largest group (48 percent) among all elderly discharges (table 6). As with current home health care patients, elderly discharges were also predominantly women (62 percent), white (67 percent), non-Hispanic (49 percent), widowed (40 percent), had lived in a private residence (92 percent), and had lived with family members

(61 percent). For a large percent of elderly discharges, race and ethnicity were reported as unknown (25 percent for race, 47 percent for Hispanic origin). The proportion of discharges who were widowed and who lived alone was higher among older women than among older men.

Table 7 shows the percent of elderly home health care discharges who received help in ADL's and IADL's and their continence status. The most common ADL for which assistance was received by elderly discharges was bathing or showering (41 percent), followed by dressing (34 percent), transferring in or out of bed or chair (27 percent), using the toilet (20 percent), and eating (6 percent). A greater percent of elderly women than elderly men were reported as receiving help in bathing or showering (48 percent vs. 30 percent), dressing (40 percent vs. 24 percent), transferring in or out of bed or chair (30 percent vs. 23 percent) and using toilet room (24 percent vs. 14 percent). Similar to the current patients, elderly women discharges received more help in at least one ADL than elderly men discharges (53 percent vs. 35 percent). The most common IADL's for which assistance was received by elderly discharges were doing light housework (24 percent), taking medications (20 percent), and preparing meals (19 percent). This was followed by shopping for groceries or clothes (12 percent), managing money (1 percent), and using telephone (1 percent). Compared with men, women received more help in doing light housework (28 percent vs. 18 percent), preparing meals (24 percent vs. 11 percent), and shopping for groceries or clothes (16 percent vs. 4 percent). Forty-two percent of elderly discharges received help with at least one IADL. Twenty-one percent of all elderly discharges were reported as having difficulty with continence. Nine percent of elderly discharges had an ostomy or an indwelling catheter and 8 percent received help in caring for that device.

The most frequent home health care services used by elderly persons (during the 30 days prior to discharge) were skilled nursing services. Eighty-nine percent of men and 85 percent of

**Table 3. Number and percent of elderly men and women home health care current patients 65 years and over receiving services during the last 30 days: United States, 1994**

Service received	Both sexes	Male		Female	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	1,379,800	399,600	980,200		
Continuous home care	2.6	2.3	2.7		
Counseling	3.5	5.0	2.9		
Dietary and nutritional services	3.2	3.7	3.0		
Durable medical equipment and medical supplies	4.2	4.3	4.2		
Enterostomal therapy	1.1	*	0.9		
High-tech care (for example, intravenous therapy)	1.0	*	1.0		
Homemaker or companion services	23.3	18.5	25.3		
Meals on wheels	2.0	*	2.5		
Medications	5.4	6.0	5.2		
Occupational therapy and/or vocational therapy	2.8	2.9	2.8		
Oral hygiene and/or prevention services	1.0	*	1.2		
Personal care <sup>1</sup>	56.5	48.7	59.8		
Physical therapy	16.8	18.8	16.0		
Physician services	1.2	*	1.0		
Referral services	1.5	1.9	1.3		
Skilled nursing services	81.3	88.0	78.6		
Social services	9.0	10.9	8.3		
Speech therapy and/or audiology	1.2	1.8	1.0		
Transportation	2.5	*	3.0		
Other services	2.3	1.9	2.4		

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.

<sup>1</sup> includes people receiving help in activities of daily living who were not reported as receiving personal care.

**Table 4. Number and percent distribution of elderly current home health care patients 65 years and over by length of service, according to sex and standard error: United States, 1994**

Length of service	Both sexes (SE)	Male (SE)		Female (SE)	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	1,379,800	399,600	980,200		
Average length of service in days	324(28.6)	261(18.3)	350(37.2)		
0-14 days	9.4(1.8)	*13.0(3.2)	*8.0(1.4)		
15-30 days	11.6(1.2)	12.1(1.6)	11.4(1.6)		
31-60 days	12.8(*1.0)	12.9(1.4)	12.7(1.2)		
61-90 days	9.8(*1.0)	10.6(1.7)	9.6(1.0)		
91-180 days	15.7(1.2)	13.6(1.4)	16.6(1.5)		
181 days and more	40.6(2.1)	37.8(2.7)	41.7(2.3)		

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.

NOTE: SE is standard error

women used this service (table 8). Personal care (35 percent of men and 53 percent of women), physical therapy (22 percent of men and 26 percent of women), homemaker/companion services (7 percent of men and 21 percent of women), and social services (10 percent of men and 9 percent of women) were the next most frequently used services by the elderly. All other services, such as administering

medications, counseling, and occupational and/or vocational therapy, were less frequently used. Significant differences were noted between elderly men and women in use of personal care and homemaker/companion services.

For the discharge sample, the length of service refers to completed episodes of care, that is, from admission to discharge. The average length of service for elderly discharges was 119 days.

Two-thirds of the elderly used home health care services for 60 days or less (table 9). For men, the average length of service was 82 days and for women it was 142 days. This shorter length of service for older men may be the consequences of their marital status or living arrangements. As shown earlier, a higher percent of older men were married or living with others. Therefore, they may have received help from their spouses or from others, and thus needed less help from the home health care agency.

Table 10 presents the percent distribution of elderly home health care discharges by primary admission diagnosis. For men, the most frequent primary admission diagnosis was heart disease (32 percent), followed by malignant neoplasms (10 percent), injury and poisonings (7 percent), and diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (5 percent). For women, the most frequent primary admission diagnosis was diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (17 percent), followed by heart disease (13 percent), injury and poisonings (12 percent), and malignant neoplasms (6 percent).

## Discussion

Consistent with the previous two home and hospice care surveys, the results of this survey indicate that both the elderly home health care current users and discharges were predominantly women, 75-84 years old at the time of admission, white, non-Hispanic, widowed, and most often lived in a private residence with their family members. In both samples, a greater percent of elderly women than elderly men were widowed and living alone. This is also true in the general population (6). The living arrangements of these elderly women may be the reason for their longer length of service. Because older women are more likely to live alone, they may depend more on home health care agencies to provide services for a longer period of time following an illness.

A large increase in the estimates of both current patients and discharges was also noted. Current patients rose from

**Table 5. Number and percent distribution of elderly current home health care patients 65 years and over by primary admission diagnosis, according to sex: United States, 1994**

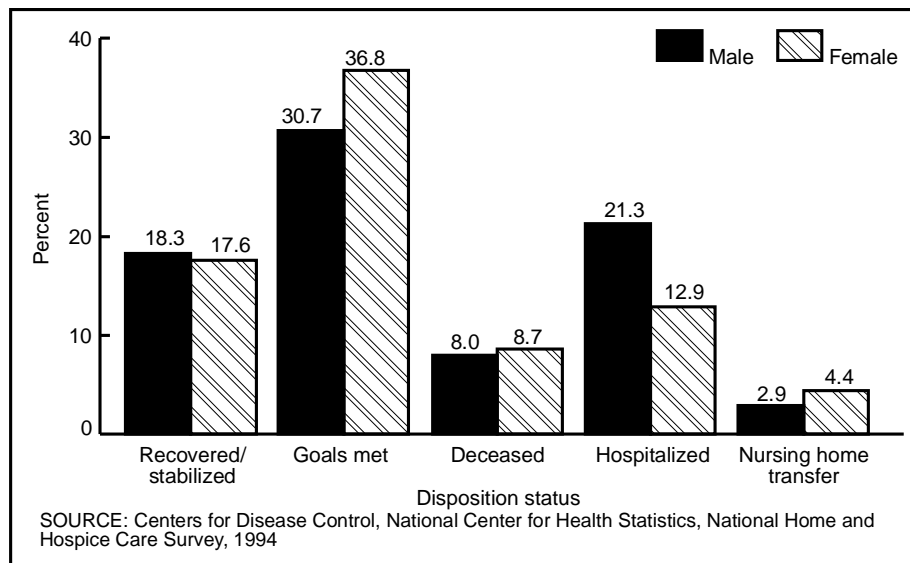
ICD-9-CM procedure category and code	Both sexes		
	Male	Female	
	Number		
Total . . . . .	1,379,800	399,600	980,200
	Percent distribution		
Total . . . . .	100	100	100
Infectious and parasitic diseases . . . . . 001-139	*0.6	*	*0.7
Neoplasms . . . . . 140-239	6.2	11.3	4.1
Malignant neoplasms . . . . . 140-208,230-234	5.9	10.9	3.8
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases, and immunity disorders . . . . . 240-279	10.4	8.2	11.3
Diabetes mellitus . . . . . 250	8.7	6.8	9.5
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs . . . . . 280-289	2.6	2.3	2.7
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs . . . . . 320-389	4.6	3.8	4.9
Diseases of the circulatory system . . . . . 390-459	32.5	32.1	32.7
Essential hypertension . . . . . 401	5.2	3.4	5.9
Heart disease . . . . . 391-392,0,393-398,402,404,410-416,420-429	18.1	17.8	18.2
Cerebrovascular disease . . . . . 430-438	1.7	*	1.8
Diseases of the respiratory system . . . . . 460-519	6.4	9.2	5.3
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease . . . . . 494-496	2.5	3.5	2.0
Diseases of the digestive system . . . . . 520-579	3.1	2.9	3.1
Diseases of the genitourinary system . . . . . 580-629	2.4	2.6	2.3
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue . . . . . 680-709	3.7	5.7	*2.9
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue . . . . . 710-739	9.4	5.7	10.9
Congenital anomalies . . . . . 740-759	*	*	*
Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions . . . . . 780-799	5.9	6.9	5.4
Injury and poisonings . . . . . 800-999	7.1	5.8	7.7
Supplementary classification and unknown . . . . . V01-V82,00	2.9	1.9	3.3

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.

1,080,200 in 1993 to 1,379,800 in 1994, an increase of 28 percent. Discharges rose from 2,622,700 in 1993 to 3,826,500 in 1994, an increase of 46 percent. This large increase may be due to the updating of the universe from which the samples were drawn. About 100 additional agencies were added to the 1994 sample. This addition to the file in the 1994 survey and the lack of such an update for the 1993 survey may have contributed to the seemingly large increases in the estimates of both current patients and discharges for this 1-year period. This increase should probably be spread over the 2-year period, 1992-94.

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**Figure 1. Disposition status of elderly home health care discharges: United States, 1994**

**Table 6. Number and percent distribution of elderly discharges 65 years and over from home health care agencies by selected demographic characteristics, according to sex: United States, 1994**

Demographic characteristic	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent distribution	Number	Percent distribution	Number	Percent distribution
Total . . . . .	3,826,500	100.0	1,438,800	100.0	2,387,700	100.0
Age						
65–74 years . . . . .	1,251,200	32.7	552,500	38.4	698,700	29.3
75–84 years . . . . .	1,843,600	48.2	684,300	47.6	1,159,300	48.5
85 years and over . . . . .	731,700	19.1	201,900	14.0	529,700	22.2
Race						
White . . . . .	2,554,400	66.8	917,500	63.8	1,636,900	68.5
Black and other . . . . .	328,800	8.6	133,400	9.3	195,400	8.2
Black . . . . .	276,000	7.2	111,700	7.8	164,300	6.9
Unknown . . . . .	943,300	24.6	387,900	27.0	555,400	23.3
Hispanic origin						
Hispanic . . . . .	153,900	4.0	44,200	3.1	109,700	4.6
Non-Hispanic . . . . .	1,891,200	49.2	631,200	43.9	1,260,000	52.8
Unknown . . . . .	1,781,400	46.6	763,400	53.1	1,018,000	42.6
Marital status						
Married . . . . .	1,455,200	38.0	929,000	64.6	526,300	22.0
Widowed . . . . .	1,534,600	40.1	254,300	17.7	1,280,300	53.6
Divorced or separated . . . . .	134,000	3.5	51,200	3.6	82,800	3.5
Never married/single . . . . .	206,200	5.4	66,100	4.6	140,100	5.9
Unknown . . . . .	496,400	13.0	138,200	9.6	358,300	15.0
Living quarters						
Private residence . . . . .	3,523,100	92.1	1,327,700	92.3	2,195,400	92.0
Rented room and board . . . . .	*	*	*	*	*	*
Retirement home . . . . .	90,000	2.3	*	*	68,400	2.9
Board and care or residential care facility . . . . .	75,600	2.0	25,300	1.8	50,200	2.1
Health facility . . . . .	43,300	1.1	*	*	28,000	1.2
Other or unknown . . . . .	77,400	2.0	44,400	3.1	33,000	1.4
Living arrangement						
Family members . . . . .	2,317,600	60.6	1,050,400	73.0	1,267,200	53.1
Nonfamily members . . . . .	182,700	4.8	70,000	4.9	112,800	4.7
Alone . . . . .	1,107,100	28.9	238,400	16.6	868,600	36.4
Other or unknown . . . . .	219,100	5.7	79,900	5.6	139,200	5.8

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.

**Table 7. Number and percent of elderly home health care discharges 65 years and over receiving help with activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living, percent distribution of number of functional activities for which help was received, and percent with continence problem, according to sex: United States, 1994**

<i>Functional status</i>	<i>Both sexes</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
		Number	
Total . . . . .	3,826,500	1,438,800	2,387,700
		Percent	
Received personal help with the following ADL's			
Bathing or showering . . . . .	41.3	30.0	48.1
Dressing . . . . .	34.2	24.3	40.2
Eating . . . . .	5.8	5.4	6.1
Transferring in or out of bed or chair . . . . .	27.4	22.5	30.3
Using toilet room . . . . .	19.9	13.8	23.5
		Percent distribution	
Received personal help with number of ADL's			
0 . . . . .	54.1	65.4	47.3
1 . . . . .	8.4	7.3	9.1
2 . . . . .	12.1	8.5	14.4
3 . . . . .	9.0	7.4	10.0
4 . . . . .	12.8	7.6	15.9
5 . . . . .	3.6	3.8	3.4
		Percent	
Received personal help with the following IADL's			
Doing light house work . . . . .	24.0	18.0	27.7
Managing money . . . . .	1.1	*	1.1
Shopping for groceries or clothes . . . . .	11.9	4.3	16.5
Using telephone . . . . .	1.1	*	1.0
Preparing meals . . . . .	19.1	10.5	24.2
Taking medications . . . . .	19.8	19.2	20.1
		Percent distribution	
Received personal help with number of IADL's			
0 . . . . .	57.5	67.8	51.2
1 . . . . .	20.2	19.2	20.8
2 . . . . .	13.9	7.0	18.1
3 . . . . .	5.9	4.2	6.9
4 . . . . .	1.6	*	2.1
5 . . . . .	0.8	*	*
6 . . . . .	*	*	*
		Percent	
Continenence status			
Difficulty controlling bowels . . . . .	11.3	8.7	12.9
Difficulty controlling bladder . . . . .	16.0	15.1	16.5
Difficulty controlling both bowels & bladder . . . . .	20.9	17.5	23.0
Have an ostomy or an indwelling catheter . . . . .	9.4	8.4	10.0
Received help in caring for this device . . . . .	7.8	6.3	8.7

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.

NOTE: ADL is activities of daily living and IADL is instrumental activities of daily living.



**Table 8. Number and percent of elderly home health care discharges 65 years and over who received services during the 30 days prior to discharge: United States, 1994**

<i>Service received</i>	<i>Both sexes</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
		Number	
Total . . . . .	3,826,500	1,438,800	2,387,700
		Percent	
Continuous home care . . . . .	1.6	1.2	1.8
Counseling . . . . .	4.3	3.9	4.6
Dietary and nutritional services . . . . .	2.0	1.7	2.2
Durable medical equipment and medical supplies . . . . .	3.9	3.6	4.0
Enterostomal therapy . . . . .	1.0	*	1.1
High tech care (for example, intravenous therapy) . . . . .	1.0	1.6	*
Homemaker/companion services . . . . .	16.0	7.2	21.3
Meals on wheels . . . . .	*	*	*
Medications . . . . .	5.0	5.0	5.0
Occupational therapy/vocational therapy . . . . .	4.3	4.0	4.5
Oral hygiene/prevention services . . . . .	*	*	*
Personal care <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	45.9	34.6	52.7
Physical therapy . . . . .	24.4	22.3	25.7
Physician services . . . . .	1.3	*	1.3
Referral services . . . . .	1.7	*	2.0
Skilled nursing services . . . . .	86.3	89.2	84.6
Social services . . . . .	9.6	10.3	9.2
Speech therapy/audiology . . . . .	1.2	2.0	*
Transportation . . . . .	*	*	*
Other services . . . . .	1.0	*	1.0

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.

<sup>1</sup>Includes people receiving help in activities of daily living who were not reported as receiving personal care.**Table 9. Number and percent of elderly home health care discharges by length of service, according to sex and standard error: United States, 1994**

<i>Length of service</i>	<i>Both sexes (SE)</i>	<i>Male (SE)</i>	<i>Female (SE)</i>
		Number	
Total . . . . .	3,826,500	1,438,800	2,387,700
Average length of service in day . . . . .	119(12.4)	82(11.5)	142(17.7)
		Percent distribution	
0–14 days . . . . .	20.7(1.4)	25.3(3.8)	18.0(1.8)
15–30 days . . . . .	17.7(1.5)	22.9(4.0)	14.6(1.5)
31–60 days . . . . .	27.2(2.5)	26.9(3.6)	27.4(2.4)
61–90 days . . . . .	6.8(0.8)	7.5(1.3)	6.3(1.0)
91–180 days . . . . .	12.1(1.2)	8.5(1.4)	14.2(2.8)
181 days and more . . . . .	15.5(1.9)	9.0(1.6)	19.5(3.0)

NOTE: SE is standard error.

**Table 10. Number and percent distribution of elderly home health care discharges 65 years and over by primary admission diagnosis, according to sex: United States, 1994**

<i>ICD-9-CM procedure category and code</i>	<i>Both sexes</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
		Number	
Total . . . . .	3,826,500	1,438,800	2,387,700
		Percent distribution	
Infectious and parasitic diseases . . . . . 001-139	0.8	*	*
Neoplasms . . . . . 140-239	8.1	10.6	6.6
Malignant neoplasms . . . . . 140-208, 230-234	7.6	9.8	6.3
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases, and immunity disorders . . . . . 240-279	5.9	5.2	6.4
Diabetes mellitus . . . . . 250	4.4	3.3	5.1
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs . . . . . 280-289	0.9	*	1.1
Mental disorders . . . . . 290-319	1.6	1.8	1.5
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs . . . . . 320-389	5.1	3.0	6.3
Diseases of the circulatory system . . . . . 390-459	30.8	42	24.1
Essential hypertension . . . . . 401	3.5	1.9	4.4
Heart disease . . . . . 391-392.0, 393-398, 402, 404, 410-416, 420-429	20.3	32.0	13.2
Cerebrovascular disease . . . . . 430-438	1.0	*	1.1
Diseases of the respiratory system . . . . . 460-519	7.6	8.0	7.4
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease . . . . . 494-496	3.0	3.7	2.6
Diseases of the digestive system . . . . . 520-579	3.9	3.4	4.1
Diseases of the genitourinary system . . . . . 580-629	1.9	2.1	1.8
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue . . . . . 680-709	2.7	1.7	3.3
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue . . . . . 710-739	12.3	4.8	16.8
Congenital anomalies . . . . . 740-759	*	*	*
Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions . . . . . 780-799	4.4	4.5	4.3
Injury and poisonings . . . . . 800-999	10.1	7.4	11.8
Supplementary classification and unknown . . . . . V01-V82, 00	3.6	3.4	3.7

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.

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