Data from the
NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY

Series 13
Number 19

Utilization of Short-Stay Hospitals

Summary of Nonmedical Statistics

United States - 1972

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

DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 75-1770

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

Health Resources Administration
National Center for Health Statistics
Rockville, Md. June 1975

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Lewis, W. Frank

Utilization of short-stay hospitals.

(Vital and health statistics. Series 13: Data from the National Health survey, no. 19) (DHEW publication no. (HRA) 75-1770

Supt. of Docs. no.: HE 20.2210: 13/19.

Includes bibliographical references.

1. Hospital utilization—United States—Statistics. I. United States. National Center for Health Statistics. II. Title. III. Series: United States. National Center for Health Statistics. Vital and health statistics. Series 13: Data from the National Health Survey. Data from the hospital discharge survey, no. 19. IV. Series: United States. Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare. Publication no. (HRA) 75-1770. [DNLM: 1. Hospitalization—Statistics. 2. Hospitals, Special—Utilization—U.S. W2A N148vm no. 2 etc.]

RA407.3.A349 no. 19 [RA981.A2] 362.1'1'0973s

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

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 - Price $1.05

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

DIVISION OF HEALTH RESOURCES UTILIZATION STATISTICS

COOPERATION OF THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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

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

Vital and Health Statistics-Series 13-No. 19

DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 75-1770

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 74-2233

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UTILIZATION OF SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS
SUMMARY OF NONMEDICAL STATISTICS

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

INTRODUCTION

This report presents estimates on the utilization of short-stay hospitals in the United States based on information collected in the Hospital Discharge Survey, a continuous nationwide survey conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics. Data were abstracted from about 225,000 hospital records of inpatients discharged from the 424 hospitals that participated in the survey.

Results of the survey permit generation of four basic types of reports—nonmedical, diagnostic, surgical, and patient charges—that are published in Series 13 of *Vital and Health Statistics* and as selected supplements of *Monthly Vital Statistics Reports.*[1-18] Data shown in this report are nonmedical data on patients, excluding newborn infants, discharged from non-Federal short-stay hospitals during 1972. Estimates are presented on the number and rate of discharges and days of care and on average length of stay for patients discharged, by age, sex, color, geographic region, bed size, and type of ownership (control) of hospitals.

This report has three focuses: (1) an analysis of hospital discharges, (2) an analysis of days of care and length of stay, and (3) some regional comparisons of the data by selected variables (tables 1-17 and figures 1-6). Since the estimates are based on a sample of discharges from participating hospitals rather than on all discharges from all short-stay hospitals, they are subject to sampling error. Tables and graphs of approximate sampling errors and instructions for their use are given in the section, "Reliability of Estimates" in appendix I.

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

SELECTED FINDINGS

An estimated 31.6 million inpatients, with an estimated 245.1 million days of care and an average length of stay of 7.7 days per hospital episode, were discharged from non-Federal short-stay hospitals in 1972. In terms of annual rates, the rate of days of care per 1,000 civilian noninstitutionalized population was 1,199.9, and the discharge rate was 154.9 per 1,000. Of the discharges in 1972, 72.8 percent were from voluntary nonprofit hospitals, 21.1 were from State and local government hospitals, and only 6.1 were from proprietary hospitals.

When compared by age, rates of discharge ranged from 73.7 per 1,000 population for patients under age 15 (13.2 percent of all discharges) to 332.9 per 1,000 for patients aged 65 years and over. A comparison by sex shows rates of discharge and of days of care to be higher for females than for males. When deliveries are included, the discharge rate for females (179.7 per 1,000 population) was 41 percent higher than that for males (127.8 per 1,000); excluding deliveries, however, the rate was only

17 percent higher. Only at the two age extremes (under 15 years and 65 years and over) was the rate for males (81.6 and 360.8, respectively) higher than that for females (65.3 and 312.3, including and excluding deliveries, respectively).

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

Age distribution within hospitals varied by size of hospital. The smallest hospitals had proportionately more patients aged 65 years and over than the largest hospitals, where only 16.7 percent of the patients were 65 years and over. Average length of stay increased with hospital size from 6.3 days in the smallest hospitals to 9.0 days in hospitals with 500 beds or more.

Regional differences were apparent in number of discharges, ranging from 4.9 million in the West Region to 10.2 million in the South. Average length of stay was longest in the Northeast Region, 9.1 days, and lowest in the West, where length of stay averaged only 6.3 days.

DISCHARGES AND DISCHARGE RATES

Age and Sex

Patients under 15 years of age accounted for an estimated 4.2 million discharges, or 13.2 percent of all patients discharged from short-stay hospitals in 1972. Of these, 2.3 percent were under 1 year, 3.9 percent were 1-4 years, and 7.0 percent were 5-14 years of age (figure 1). The discharge rate for the group under 15 years of age (73.7 discharges per 1,000 population) was lower than that for any other age group shown in table A. In contrast, the discharge rate for persons 65 years and over was 332.9 discharges per 1,000 population.

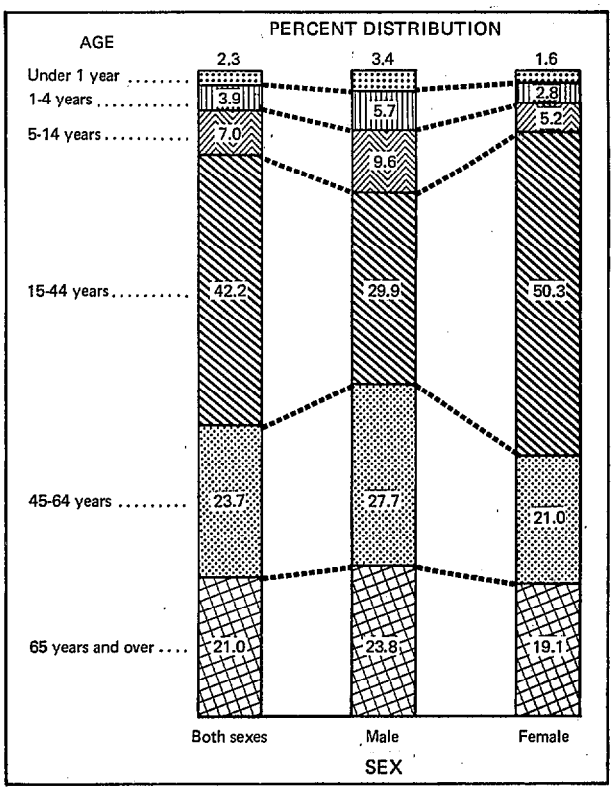

Figure 1. Percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by age, according to sex: United States, 1972.

Males 65 years and over were discharged at a rate of 360.8 per 1,000 population compared with the lower rate for females of 312.3 per 1,000. For all age groups, however, discharge rates for females (excluding deliveries) were higher than those for males, 149.2 versus 127.8 per 1,000 population. There were more male than female discharges in each age group under 15 years of age. At under 1 year of age, males outnumbered females 423,000 to 301,000; at age 1-4 years, 717,000 to 526,000; and at ages 5-14 years, 1,214,000 to 988,000 (table 17). Within these young age groups there was a higher percentage of the total male population than of the female population (figure 1), with 18.7 percent of the male discharges in the age group under 15 years compared with 9.6 percent of females.

As shown in table A, the effect of deliveries can be seen in the trend of discharge rates by age. The rates for males and for females exclud-

Table A. Number and rate of discharges and of days of care, and average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by age and sex: United States, 1972

Age	Both sexes[1]	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
	Number of discharges in thousands			
All ages	31,627	12,593	18,996	15,772
Under 15 years	4,174	2,354	1,814	1,800
15-44 years	13,331	3,759	9,557	6,353
45-64 years	7,488	3,485	3,993	3,988
65 years and over	6,634	2,995	3,631	3,631
	Rate of discharges per 1,000 population			
All ages	154.9	127.8	179.7	149.2
Under 15 years	73.7	81.6	65.3	64.8
15-44 years	156.0	91.0	216.6	144.0
45-64 years	177.2	173.8	179.9	179.7
65 years and over	332.9	360.8	312.3	312.3
	Number of days of care in thousands			
All ages	245,060	104,037	140,633	127,658
Under 15 years	18,651	10,761	7,851	7,799
15-44 years	75,770	25,261	50,393	37,488
45-64 years	69,401	32,751	36,524	36,506
65 years and over	81,238	35,264	45,865	45,865
	Rate of days of care per 1,000 population			
All ages	1,199.9	1,056.1	1,330.3	1,207.5
Under 15 years	329.5	373.1	282.8	280.9
15-44 years	886.8	611.5	1,141.8	849.4
45-64 years	1,642.7	1,633.1	1,645.7	1,644.9
65 years and over	4,076.8	4,248.7	3,944.7	3,944.7
	Average length of stay in days			
All ages	7.7	8.3	7.4	8.1
Under 15 years	4.5	4.6	4.3	4.3
15-44 years	5.7	6.7	5.3	5.9
45-64 years	9.3	9.4	9.1	9.2
65 years and over	12.2	11.8	12.6	12.6

[1] Figures include data for sex not stated.

ing deliveries increased consistently with increasing age.

Color

Discharge data for patients by color are shown in table 1 according to the categories "white," "all other," and "color not stated." An estimated 23.9 million white patients and 3.6 million all other patients for whom color was reported were discharged from short-stay hospitals in 1972. White patients outnumbered all other patients by about 7 to 1. Color was not stated in the medical record summary sheets for about 4.1 million patients, a number greater than that for patients identified as all other. The age-sex distributions of patients for whom color was not stated suggest that they were proportional in color to those for whom it was stated.

There were more white patients than all other patients 45 years and over, 47.1 percent and 29.6 percent, respectively. Approximately 1 in 5 of the estimated number of white patients was aged 65 or over compared with 1 in 8 among patients of races other than white (figure 2).

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

Bed Size of Hospital

For all hospital sizes the percent of patients under 15 years of age discharged during 1972 was approximately the same, between 13 and 14 percent; however, patients differed appreciably in the percent distributions for the three age groups 15 years and older (table 3). The smallest hospitals had proportionately fewer discharged patients aged 15-64 years than the largest hospitals. On the other hand, for the age group 65 years and over, the smallest hospitals had more patients discharged (25.2 percent) than the largest hospitals (16.7 percent). In other words, the smaller the hospital, the more likely that a larger percent of its discharged patients would be found in the oldest age group, and the larger the hospital, the larger the relative percent of patients to be found in the age group 15-64 years.

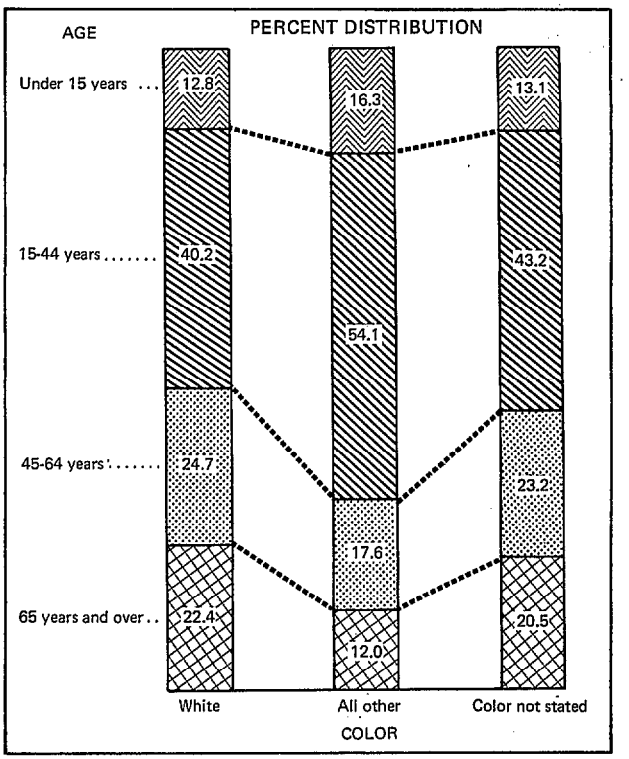

Figure 2. Percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by color and age: United States, 1972.

This trend by age and hospital size was true for males and, with the exception of the age group 45-64 years, for females. The percentages of female discharges 45-64 years old were essentially the same (19.9, 19.8, 20.8, 22.1, and 22.4 percent) for each size hospital. When deliveries were excluded, the trend of increased percentage of patients 45-64 years old with increased hospital size was only slightly apparent (23.7, 24.0, 25.1, 26.6, and 27.1 percent).

Type of Ownership of Hospital

Voluntary nonprofit hospitals (operated by a church or other nonprofit organization) cared for 23.0 million patients in 1972, accounting for 73 percent of all patients discharged from short-stay hospitals (table 4). Government hospitals (controlled by State or local government) accounted for 6.7 million discharges, or 21 percent of all patients, and proprietary hospitals discharged 1.9 million, or 6 percent. There were relatively few differences in the percent distribu-

tions by age and sex. However, the relative proportion of male to female discharges varied with the type of hospital, with government hospitals recording female discharges 44 percent greater than for males (3,940,000 and 2,736,000, respectively). Voluntary hospitals cared for 52 percent more females than males, and proprietary hospitals cared for 62 percent more females. When hospitalization for deliveries was excluded, female patients outnumbered males by 25 percent in all types of hospitals. There was a noticeable difference between voluntary and government hospitals in the distribution of patients aged 15-44 years: 44.8 percent of patients discharged from government hospitals were in this age group, while only 41.3 percent were discharged from voluntary hospitals.

DAYS OF CARE AND LENGTH OF STAY

Age and Sex

The rates of days of care by age group ranged from 231.6 days per 1,000 population aged 5-14 years to 5,326.8 days per 1,000 population aged 75 years and over (table 6). Starting with age group 5-14 years, the days of care rate increased with each advance in age. Age groups under 15 years represented 7.6 percent of all days of care; ages 15-44, 31.0 percent; ages 45-64, 28.3 percent; and ages 65 and over, 33.2 percent.

The average length of stay for patients discharged during 1972 was 7.7 days. Average length of stay increased with each successive age group from 4.5 days for patients under age 15 to 12.2 days for patients aged 65 years and over (table 9). For all age groups, about two-thirds were discharged within a week (table 7).

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

Color

Differences between the age and sex distributions of days of care utilized by white and all other patients for whom color was stated are shown in table 8. Patients under age 15 years in the all other group used a larger proportion (11.7 percent) of days of care than did white patients in this age group, who used 7.1 percent. Among white patients, approximately 36 percent of the days of care were provided for patients under 45 years of age; among all others, about 55 percent of the days of care were provided for this age group. For ages 65 years and over, white patients—both men and women—used a considerably larger percentage of days of care than did all other patients, 35.1 percent and 21.2 percent, respectively.

There was little difference in the average length of stay by color, with white patients averaging 7.8 days and all other patients 7.9 days per stay (table 9). Average length of stay for the two color groups was about the same because the white discharged patients included a larger percentage of older patients with longer hospital stays than did the all other group. For every age and sex group, however, the average stay was significantly shorter for white patients than for all others. Regardless of color, males had a longer length of stay than females including deliveries. All other males average 1½ days longer than all other females when deliveries are excluded, primarily because of the 8.7 day average length of stay for age group 15-44 years. White males and those with color not stated had approximately the same lengths of stay as females excluding deliveries.

Bed Size of Hospital

Days of care for hospital size also varied by age. For patients aged 65 years and over, days of care ranged from 25.5 percent in the largest hospitals to 41.4 percent in the smallest hospitals (table 12). Days of care of patients aged 15-44 was 27.6 percent in hospitals with fewer than 100 beds, and 34.9 percent in those with 500 beds or more.

Average length of stay increased as age and hospital size increased, ranging from 6.3 days in the smallest hospitals to 9.0 days in the largest hospitals, and from 4.5 days for the youngest group to 12.2 days for the oldest group. This was true for both sexes (table 13). The shortest length of stay, 3.5 days, was for the age group under 15 discharged from hospitals with 6-99 beds. The longest length of stay was 13.7 days for the group 65 years and over discharged from hospitals with 500 beds or more.

The pattern of length of stay increasing by size of hospital was true for each of the four regions. The trend was most evident in the Northeast and West Regions, where average length of stay in the largest hospitals exceeded that in the smallest hospitals by 3.1 days (table 16). This trend was more pronounced for males than for females in each of the four regions, regardless of delivery status. For the male episodes in the 15-44 age group, the average length of stay in the largest hospitals was between 61 and 105 percent longer than that in the smallest hospitals in each of the regions.

Type of Ownership of Hospital

The 245.1 million days of care utilized in 1972 were distributed by ownership of hospital as follows: voluntary nonprofit hospitals, 183.2 million days or 74.7 percent; government hospitals, 49.5 million days or 20.2 percent; and proprietary hospitals, 12.4 million days or 5.1 percent (table 14).

The relative proportion of males to females varied considerably among the three types of hospitals for days of care provided. In government hospitals, days of care provided for females including deliveries was 23 percent greater than the days for males; in voluntary nonprofit hospitals, days of care provided for females was 37 percent greater than for males; and in proprietary hospitals, days of care for females was 60 percent greater than for males.

Average length of stay was consistently shorter in proprietary hospitals than in voluntary nonprofit hospitals for both sexes and all age groups. Average length of stay in government hospitals was also shorter than in voluntary nonprofit hospitals for both sexes and all age groups except under 15 years, where average length of stay was longer in the government hospitals (table 15). For all age groups under 65 years, the average length of stay in proprietary hospitals was shorter than in the other hospital ownership groups for both sexes, excluding deliveries, and all age groups. The difference between lengths of stay for males and females including deliveries was small for proprietary hospitals, and approximately 1 day for voluntary nonprofit and government hospitals. The average length of stay was about the same for both sexes when deliveries are excluded. For the group 15-44 years old, the average length of stay for males varied between ½ day and 1½ days longer than that for females, regardless of delivery status, for each type of hospital.

GEOGRAPHIC REGION

Age and Sex

The number of discharges in 1972 by geographic region ranged from 4.9 million in the West Region to 10.2 million in the South Region (tables 2 and 5). The number of discharges per 1,000 population ranged from an estimated 139.3 in the West Region to 166.3 in the North Central Region. Among the age groups the greatest relative difference was found in the under 15 group, 59.7 and 86.1 per 1,000 population in the West and North Central Regions, respectively (table B).

The number of days of care per 1,000 population followed a similar pattern, being lowest in the West Region and highest in the North Central Region. The rates were 881.3 days and 1,329.1 days, respectively, a difference of 50.0 percent. For patients under 15 years, these two regions differed even more significantly, with the days of care per 1,000 in the North Central Region being 85 percent higher than those in the West Region (395.4 and 214.1 days of care).

Average length of stay in days was highest in the Northeast Region and, again, lowest in the West Region: 9.1 days and 6.3 days, respectively. This pattern was consistent for all age groups, with the difference between the Northeast and the West Regions being greatest in the 65 years and over age group, 14.8 and 10.0 days, respectively, a difference of 48.0 percent.

Table B. Rate of discharges and of days of care and average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by age and geographic region: United States, 1972

Age	All regions	Northeast	North Central	South	West
	Rate of discharge per 1,000 population				
All ages	154.9	145.3	166.3	160.7	139.3
Under 15 years	73.7	67.3	86.1	75.1	59.7
15-44 years	156.0	146.2	163.6	164.4	142.4
45-64 years	177.2	164.9	194.4	178.5	166.2
65 years and over	332.9	299.3	349.4	355.4	313.2
	Rate of days of care per 1,000 population				
All ages	1,199.9	1,319.9	1,329.1	1,168.2	881.3
Under 15 years	329.5	333.3	395.4	331.0	214.1
15-44 years	886.8	917.8	980.2	900.3	675.5
45-64 years	1,642.7	1,791.8	1,864.4	1,527.0	1,259.8
65 years and over	4,076.8	4,432.8	4,379.3	3,998.5	3,116.9
	Average length of stay in days				
All ages	7.7	9.1	8.0	7.3	6.3
Under 15 years	4.5	5.0	4.6	4.4	3.6
15-44 years	5.7	6.3	6.0	5.5	4.7
45-64 years	9.3	10.8	9.6	8.6	7.6
65 years and over	12.2	14.8	12.5	11.3	10.0

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

Color

Color differences were found among the regions in the rate of discharges. The Northeast Region had the highest proportion of white discharges (81.0 percent) and the North Central Region the lowest (70.2 percent) (figure 3). The South had the smallest proportion of its patients in the "not stated" category, 7.0 percent, in contrast to the North Central Region, which had 22.3 percent listed as not stated.

Deliveries accounted for a smaller proportion of white patients than of all other patients hospitalized, 9.3 percent and 15.8 percent, respectively (figure 4). For all regions, deliveries accounted for a smaller proportion of the total discharges for white patients than for all others.

Average length of stay by color also varied among regions. In the Northeast, South, and West Regions, white patients had shorter stays

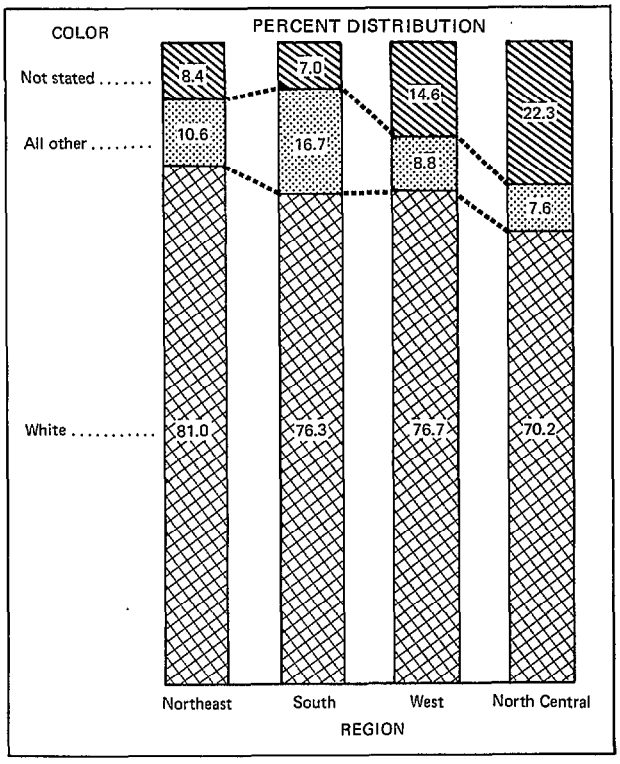

Figure 3. Percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region and color: United States, 1972.

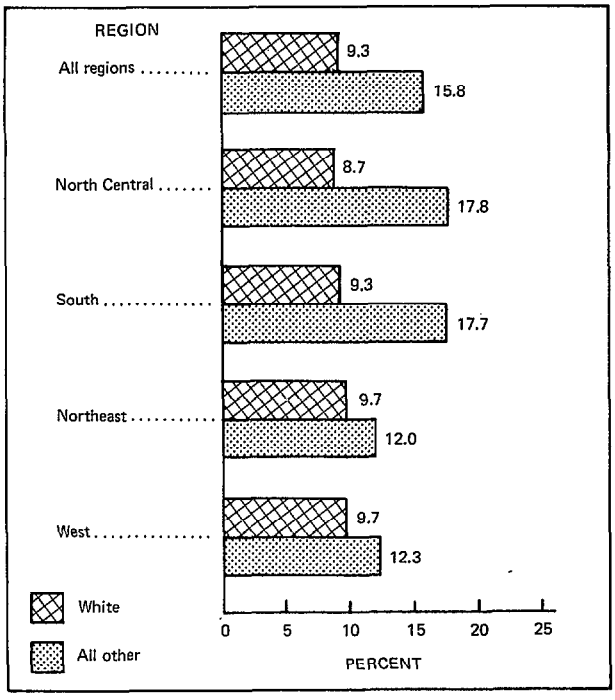

Figure 4. Percentage of deliveries of total discharges from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region and color: United States, 1972.

than all others (figure 5), but in the North Central Region white patients had longer stays. Excluding deliveries, about 51.9 percent of the white patients were 45 years of age and over in every region (figure 6), whereas only 35.1 percent of all other patients were 45 years or older.

For the population aged 15 and over, regional differences were found for patients in the all other color category aged 15-44 years. Over 65 percent of all other patients in the Northeast and North Central Regions were aged 15-44 years, compared with 62.9 percent in the South and 60 percent in the West (Table C).

Average length of stay of patients aged 65 and over in the all other color category varied considerably by region, from 11.1 days in the West to 21.0 in the Northeast (Table D).

CONCLUSION

Analysis of estimates on the utilization of short-stay hospitals in the United States for 1972 in terms of age, sex, race, hospital size and

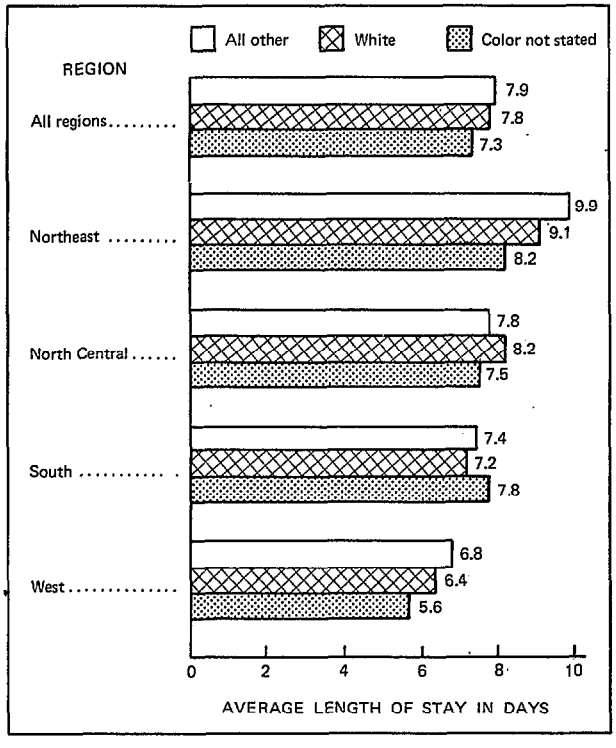

Figure 5. Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region and color: United States, 1972.

Table C. Number and percent distribution of patients 15 years and over discharged from short-stay hospitals by geographic region and age, according to color: United States, 1972

Geographic region and age	Total	White	All other colors	Color not stated	Total	White	All other colors	Color not stated
	Number in thousands				Percent distribution			
United States								
15 years and over	27,453	20,858	3,012	3,584	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years	13,331	9,602	1,948	1,781	48.6	46.0	64.7	49.7
45-64 years	7,488	5,900	632	955	27.3	28.3	21.0	26.7
65 years and over	6,634	5,356	432	847	24.2	25.7	14.3	23.6
Northeast								
15 years and over	6,248	5,075	642	532	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years	2,935	2,242	419	273	47.0	44.2	65.4	51.4
45-64 years	1,806	1,507	153	146	28.9	29.7	23.8	27.5
65 years and over	1,507	1,326	69	112	24.1	26.1	10.7	21.1
North Central								
15 years and over	8,060	5,678	80	1,802	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years	3,874	2,575	413	886	48.1	45.3	71.3	49.2
45-64 years	2,237	1,631	110	497	27.8	28.7	19.0	27.6
65 years and over	1,948	1,473	56	419	24.2	25.9	9.7	23.2
South								
15 years and over	8,836	6,787	1,411	638	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years	4,368	3,183	887	297	49.4	46.9	62.9	46.6
45-64 years	2,264	1,842	275	147	25.6	27.1	19.5	23.0
65 years and over	2,204	1,761	249	194	24.9	26.0	17.6	30.4
West								
15 years and over	4,309	3,317	379	612	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years	2,154	1,601	228	325	50.0	48.3	60.0	53.1
45-64 years	1,180	921	94	165	27.4	27.8	24.8	26.9
65 years and over	975	795	58	123	22.6	24.0	15.2	20.0

Table D. Average length of stay for patients 15 years and over discharged from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region, age, and color: United States, 1972

Geographic region and age	Total	White	All other colors	Color not stated
	Average length of stay in days			
United States				
15 years and over	8.2	8.3	8.4	7.9
15-44 years	5.7	5.6	6.3	5.5
45-64 years	9.3	9.2	11.0	8.9
65 years and over	12.2	12.2	14.0	11.7
Northeast				
15 years and over	9.7	9.7	10.4	8.7
15-44 years	6.3	6.1	7.6	5.8
45-64 years	10.9	10.7	13.4	10.0
65 years and over	14.8	14.5	21.0	14.1
North Central				
15 years and over	8.6	8.7	8.4	8.1
15-44 years	6.0	6.1	6.6	5.5
45-64 years	9.6	9.5	11.9	9.3
65 years and over	12.5	12.5	15.4	12.3
South				
15 years and over	7.7	7.6	7.8	8.2
15-44 years	5.5	5.3	5.8	6.7
45-64 years	8.6	8.3	10.1	8.6
65 years and over	11.3	11.2	12.4	10.5
West				
15 years and over	6.7	6.8	7.1	6.1
15-44 years	4.7	4.7	5.3	4.4
45-64 years	7.6	7.6	8.7	6.9
65 years and over	10.0	10.0	11.1	9.4

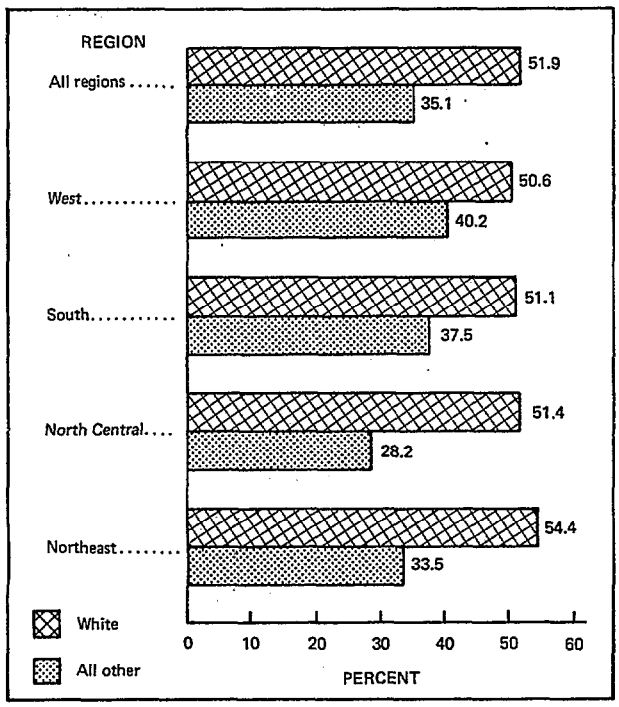

Figure 6. Percentage of patients aged 45 years and over of total inpatients discharged from short-stay hospitals, excluding deliveries, by geographic region and color: United States, 1972.

ownership, and regions, based on the Hospital Discharge Survey, can be summarized as follows:

1. Patients under 15 years of age had the lowest rates of discharges and days of care per 1,000 population and the shortest average length of stay of any age group. Rate of discharge, rate of days of care, and average length of stay increased with age.
2. Female patients overall had higher discharge and days of care rates than did male patients, but male rates were higher than those of females for age groups less than 15 and 65 years or over. Average length of stay was longer for female patients aged 65 years and over.
3. White patients were generally older than patients in the all other category, had a greater proportion of females (but with proportionally fewer deliveries), and had a shorter average length of stay for each age and sex group.
4. Small hospitals tended to have a greater proportion of patients in the oldest age group, and large hospitals had proportionately more of their patients in the 15-64 age group. Average length of stay was shortest in the smallest hospitals and increased steadily with hospital size.
5. Voluntary hospitals cared for almost three-quarters of all patients discharged and reported female discharges 52 percent greater than male discharges. Voluntary nonprofit hospitals had the longest average length of stay and proprietary hospitals had the shortest.
6. The North Central Region had the highest rate of discharges and days of care per 1,000 population, and the West Region had the lowest rates. Average length of stay was also lowest in the West Region.
7. In general, patients under 15 years of age admitted to hospitals with less than 100 beds in the West Region had the shortest hospital episodes, whereas female patients 65 years and over admitted to hospitals with 500 beds or more located in the Northeast Region had the longest average length of stay.

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

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LIST OF DETAILED TABLES

TABLE 1. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY COLOR AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

COLOR AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
TOTAL								
ALL AGES.....	31,627	12,593	18,996	15,772	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,174	2,354	1,814	1,800	13.2	18.7	9.6	11.4
15-44 YEARS.....	13,331	3,759	9,557	6,353	42.2	29.9	50.3	40.3
45-64 YEARS.....	7,488	3,485	3,993	3,988	23.7	27.7	21.0	25.3
65 YEARS AND OVER..	6,634	2,995	3,631	3,631	21.0	23.8	19.1	23.0
WHITE								
ALL AGES.....	23,907	9,671	14,229	12,004	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,049	1,708	1,340	1,336	12.8	17.7	9.4	11.1
15-44 YEARS.....	9,602	2,790	6,810	4,591	40.2	28.8	47.9	38.3
45-64 YEARS.....	5,900	2,752	3,147	3,144	24.7	28.5	22.1	26.2
65 YEARS AND OVER..	5,356	2,421	2,932	2,932	22.4	25.0	20.6	24.4
ALL OTHER								
ALL AGES.....	3,598	1,305	2,290	1,721	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	586	332	254	246	16.3	25.5	11.1	14.3
15-44 YEARS.....	1,948	474	1,473	912	54.1	36.4	64.3	53.0
45-64 YEARS.....	632	289	342	341	17.6	22.2	14.9	19.8
65 YEARS AND OVER..	432	209	222	222	12.0	16.0	9.7	12.9
COLOR NOT STATED								
ALL AGES.....	4,123	1,617	2,476	2,048	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	539	314	220	219	13.1	19.4	8.9	10.7
15-44 YEARS.....	1,781	495	1,275	850	43.2	30.6	51.5	41.5
45-64 YEARS.....	955	443	504	503	23.2	27.4	20.4	24.6
65 YEARS AND OVER..	847	365	476	476	20.5	22.6	19.2	23.3

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

TABLE 2. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION AND AGE, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

REGION AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
UNITED STATES								
ALL AGES.....	31,627	12,593	18,996	15,772	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,174	2,354	1,814	1,800	13.2	18.7	9.6	11.4
15-44 YEARS.....	13,331	3,759	9,557	6,353	42.2	29.9	50.3	40.3
45-64 YEARS.....	7,488	3,485	3,993	3,988	23.7	27.7	21.0	25.3
65 YEARS AND OVER..	6,634	2,995	3,631	3,631	21.0	23.8	19.1	23.0
NORTHEAST								
ALL AGES.....	7,120	2,839	4,272	3,559	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	871	494	376	374	12.2	17.4	8.8	10.5
15-44 YEARS.....	2,935	796	2,137	1,427	41.2	28.0	50.0	40.1
45-64 YEARS.....	1,806	850	953	952	25.4	29.9	22.3	26.8
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,507	699	805	805	21.2	24.6	18.9	22.6
NORTH CENTRAL								
ALL AGES.....	9,434	3,807	5,616	4,690	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	1,375	779	593	589	14.6	20.5	10.6	12.6
15-44 YEARS.....	3,874	1,120	2,749	1,829	41.1	29.4	49.0	39.0
45-64 YEARS.....	2,237	1,044	1,190	1,189	23.7	27.4	21.2	25.4
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,948	863	1,083	1,083	20.7	22.7	19.3	23.1
SOUTH								
ALL AGES.....	10,179	3,967	6,200	5,109	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	1,343	747	594	588	13.2	18.8	9.6	11.5
15-44 YEARS.....	4,368	1,199	3,164	2,081	42.9	30.2	51.0	40.7
45-64 YEARS.....	2,264	1,037	1,225	1,223	22.2	26.1	19.8	23.9
65 YEARS AND OVER..	2,204	984	1,217	1,217	21.6	24.8	19.6	23.8
WEST								
ALL AGES.....	4,894	1,980	2,908	2,415	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	585	334	250	248	12.0	16.9	8.6	10.3
15-44 YEARS.....	2,154	645	1,507	1,016	44.0	32.6	51.8	42.1
45-64 YEARS.....	1,180	553	625	624	24.1	27.9	21.5	25.9
65 YEARS AND OVER..	975	448	526	526	19.9	22.6	18.1	21.8

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

TABLE 3. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
ALL SIZES								
ALL AGES.....	31,627	12,593	18,996	15,772	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,174	2,354	1,814	1,800	13.2	18.7	9.6	11.4
15-44 YEARS.....	13,331	3,759	9,557	6,353	42.2	29.9	50.3	40.3
45-64 YEARS.....	7,488	3,485	3,993	3,988	23.7	27.7	21.0	25.3
65 YEARS AND OVER..	6,634	2,995	3,631	3,631	21.0	23.8	19.1	23.0
6-99 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	6,825	2,685	4,133	3,468	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	859	480	378	376	12.6	17.9	9.2	10.9
15-44 YEARS.....	2,748	767	1,977	1,315	40.3	28.6	47.8	37.9
45-64 YEARS.....	1,500	677	822	821	22.0	25.2	19.9	23.7
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,718	761	956	956	25.2	28.3	23.1	27.5
100-199 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	5,909	2,331	3,570	2,949	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	811	454	356	354	13.7	19.5	10.0	12.0
15-44 YEARS.....	2,481	678	1,802	1,185	42.0	29.1	50.5	40.2
45-64 YEARS.....	1,314	604	708	707	22.2	25.9	19.8	24.0
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,302	596	704	704	22.0	25.6	19.7	23.9
200-299 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	5,385	2,179	3,196	2,647	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	755	432	322	319	14.0	19.8	10.1	12.1
15-44 YEARS.....	2,234	641	1,589	1,044	41.5	29.4	49.7	39.4
45-64 YEARS.....	1,269	602	665	663	23.6	27.6	20.8	25.1
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,126	504	621	621	20.9	23.1	19.4	23.5
300-499 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	7,509	2,979	4,520	3,756	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	977	545	430	428	13.0	18.3	9.5	11.4
15-44 YEARS.....	3,165	892	2,269	1,507	42.1	30.0	50.2	40.1
45-64 YEARS.....	1,884	883	998	997	25.1	29.7	22.1	26.6
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,483	658	823	823	19.7	22.1	18.2	21.9
500 BEDS OR MORE								
ALL AGES.....	6,000	2,419	3,575	2,951	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	772	444	328	322	12.9	18.3	9.2	10.9
15-44 YEARS.....	2,702	781	1,920	1,302	45.0	32.3	53.7	44.1
45-64 YEARS.....	1,520	719	800	800	25.3	29.7	22.4	27.1
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,005	476	527	527	16.7	19.7	14.7	17.9

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

TABLE 4. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY TYPE OF OWNERSHIP OF HOSPITAL AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

TYPE OF OWNERSHIP AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DISCHARGED PATIENTS IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
ALL TYPES								
ALL AGES.....	31,627	12,593	18,996	15,772	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,174	2,354	1,814	1,800	13.2	18.7	9.6	11.4
15-44 YEARS.....	13,331	3,759	9,557	6,353	42.2	29.9	50.3	40.3
45-64 YEARS.....	7,488	3,485	3,993	3,988	23.7	27.7	21.0	25.3
65 YEARS AND OVER...	6,634	2,995	3,631	3,631	21.0	23.8	19.1	23.0
VOLUNTARY NONPROFIT								
ALL AGES.....	23,014	9,123	13,863	11,516	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,003	1,689	1,309	1,301	13.0	18.5	9.4	11.3
15-44 YEARS.....	9,514	2,616	6,888	4,552	41.3	28.7	49.7	39.5
45-64 YEARS.....	5,609	2,612	2,990	2,987	24.4	28.6	21.6	25.9
65 YEARS AND OVER...	4,889	2,206	2,676	2,676	21.2	24.2	19.3	23.2
GOVERNMENT								
ALL AGES.....	6,685	2,736	3,940	3,183	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	923	526	395	389	13.8	19.2	10.0	12.2
15-44 YEARS.....	2,993	907	2,082	1,332	44.8	33.1	52.8	41.9
45-64 YEARS.....	1,434	681	751	749	21.4	24.9	19.1	23.5
65 YEARS AND OVER...	1,336	623	712	712	20.0	22.8	18.1	22.4
PROPRIETARY								
ALL AGES.....	1,928	734	1,192	1,074	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	249	139	110	110	12.9	18.9	9.2	10.2
15-44 YEARS.....	824	236	587	469	42.7	32.2	49.3	43.7
45-64 YEARS.....	445	192	252	252	23.1	26.2	21.2	23.5
65 YEARS AND OVER...	409	167	242	242	21.2	22.7	20.3	22.6

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

TABLE 5. NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS AND DAYS OF CARE, BY SEX, AGE, GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AND BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

SEX, AGE, AND REGION	BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL							
	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE
1/ BOTH SEXES	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS			
UNITED STATES	31,627	6,825	18,802	6,000	245,060	43,208	147,925	53,928
UNDER 15 YEARS	4,174	859	2,543	772	18,651	3,026	11,051	4,574
15-44 YEARS	13,331	2,748	7,880	2,702	75,770	11,920	45,003	18,848
45-64 YEARS	7,488	1,500	4,468	1,520	69,401	10,393	42,270	16,737
65 YEARS AND OVER	6,634	1,718	3,911	1,005	81,238	17,869	49,601	13,768
NORTHEAST	7,120	602	5,182	1,336	64,688	4,474	46,165	14,049
UNDER 15 YEARS	871	68	644	159	4,316	261	3,048	1,007
15-44 YEARS	2,935	228	2,101	606	18,420	1,090	12,576	4,754
45-64 YEARS	1,806	146	1,317	343	19,633	1,172	14,133	4,328
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,507	160	1,120	227	22,319	1,951	16,408	3,960
NORTH CENTRAL	9,434	1,535	5,750	2,149	75,398	10,679	45,379	19,341
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,375	212	852	311	6,312	748	3,763	1,801
15-44 YEARS	3,874	548	2,413	914	23,210	2,624	14,258	6,328
45-64 YEARS	2,237	343	1,316	577	21,457	2,600	12,479	6,378
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,948	432	1,169	347	24,419	4,706	14,879	4,834
SOUTH	10,179	3,364	4,780	2,035	74,012	21,655	35,614	16,742
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,343	402	680	261	5,925	1,562	2,868	1,495
15-44 YEARS	4,368	1,385	2,043	940	23,921	6,038	11,676	6,207
45-64 YEARS	2,264	702	1,087	476	19,370	4,860	9,645	4,865
65 YEARS AND OVER	2,204	875	970	359	24,795	9,195	11,425	4,175
WEST	4,894	1,324	3,090	480	30,962	6,399	20,768	3,795
UNDER 15 YEARS	585	177	367	41	2,097	454	1,372	271
15-44 YEARS	2,154	588	1,324	242	10,219	2,168	6,493	1,558
45-64 YEARS	1,180	308	748	124	8,941	1,761	6,014	1,166
65 YEARS AND OVER	975	251	652	72	9,706	2,017	6,889	800
MALE								
UNITED STATES	12,593	2,685	7,489	2,419	104,037	17,672	62,267	24,099
UNDER 15 YEARS	2,354	480	1,430	444	10,761	1,725	6,320	2,716
15-44 YEARS	3,759	767	2,211	781	25,261	3,645	14,845	6,772
45-64 YEARS	3,485	677	2,089	719	32,751	4,704	19,844	8,203
65 YEARS AND OVER	2,995	761	1,759	476	35,264	7,598	21,259	6,408
NORTHEAST	2,839	264	2,041	534	28,228	1,971	19,675	6,582
UNDER 15 YEARS	494	39	366	89	2,530	153	1,773	604
15-44 YEARS	796	75	553	168	6,421	405	4,146	1,870
45-64 YEARS	850	80	614	157	9,394	595	6,692	2,107
65 YEARS AND OVER	699	71	509	119	9,883	818	7,065	2,001

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

TABLE 5. NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS AND DAYS OF CARE, BY SEX, AGE, GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AND BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL: UNITED STATES, 1972--CON.

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

SEX, AGE, AND REGION	BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL							
	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE
	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS			
MALE--CON.								
NORTH CENTRAL	3,807	627	2,289	890	31,674	4,421	18,805	8,448
UNDER 15 YEARS	779	116	478	185	3,603	400	2,150	1,053
15-44 YEARS	1,120	163	686	271	7,580	840	4,516	2,224
45-64 YEARS	1,044	153	615	276	10,028	1,200	5,794	3,034
65 YEARS AND OVER	863	195	511	158	10,463	1,980	6,344	2,138
SOUTH	3,967	1,275	1,898	794	30,550	8,662	14,632	7,256
UNDER 15 YEARS	747	225	377	145	3,365	913	1,584	869
15-44 YEARS	1,199	361	577	260	7,649	1,732	3,839	2,077
45-64 YEARS	1,037	310	503	224	8,954	2,147	4,401	2,406
65 YEARS AND OVER	984	379	440	165	10,582	3,870	4,808	1,903
WEST	1,980	518	1,261	201	13,586	2,618	9,155	1,813
UNDER 15 YEARS	334	100	209	24	1,263	259	813	191
15-44 YEARS	645	168	396	81	3,611	667	2,344	601
45-64 YEARS	553	134	358	61	4,375	762	2,957	656
65 YEARS AND OVER	448	115	298	35	4,336	929	3,041	365
FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES								
UNITED STATES	18,996	4,133	11,287	3,575	140,633	25,448	85,426	29,759
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,814	378	1,108	328	7,851	1,297	4,705	1,849
15-44 YEARS	9,557	1,977	5,660	1,920	50,393	8,251	30,087	12,055
45-64 YEARS	3,993	822	2,371	800	36,524	5,664	22,346	8,514
65 YEARS AND OVER	3,631	956	2,148	527	45,865	10,235	28,289	7,340
NORTHEAST	4,272	336	3,135	801	36,344	2,472	26,425	7,447
UNDER 15 YEARS	376	29	277	70	1,780	107	1,270	403
15-44 YEARS	2,137	153	1,546	438	11,968	684	8,404	2,881
45-64 YEARS	953	66	701	186	10,190	562	7,420	2,208
65 YEARS AND OVER	805	88	609	108	12,405	1,120	9,330	1,955
NORTH CENTRAL	5,616	907	3,452	1,257	43,615	6,252	26,492	10,872
UNDER 15 YEARS	593	95	372	126	2,700	348	1,604	748
15-44 YEARS	2,749	384	1,724	642	15,591	1,781	9,718	4,093
45-64 YEARS	1,190	190	699	301	11,395	1,399	6,653	3,343
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,083	237	657	188	13,929	2,724	8,518	2,688
SOUTH	6,200	2,086	2,876	1,238	43,354	12,953	20,939	9,462
UNDER 15 YEARS	594	177	302	115	2,542	648	1,275	618
15-44 YEARS	3,164	1,022	1,464	679	16,252	4,296	7,830	4,126
45-64 YEARS	1,225	392	582	251	10,388	2,704	5,229	2,454
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,217	495	528	193	14,172	5,304	6,605	2,264

TABLE 5. NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS AND DAYS OF CARE, BY SEX, AGE, GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AND BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL: UNITED STATES, 1972--CON.

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

SEX, AGE, AND REGION	BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL							
	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	ALL SIZES	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE
FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES--CON.	NUMBER OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN THOUSANDS				NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS			
WEST	2,908	805	1,825	279	17,319	3,771	11,570	1,978
UNDER 15 YEARS	250	77	157	17	829	194	555	80
15-44 YEARS	1,507	419	927	161	6,581	1,491	4,135	955
45-64 YEARS	625	173	389	63	4,551	998	3,044	509
65 YEARS AND OVER	526	135	353	37	5,357	1,087	3,836	434
FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES								
UNITED STATES	15,772	3,468	9,353	2,951	127,658	23,240	77,493	26,925
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,800	376	1,101	322	7,799	1,291	4,681	1,828
15-44 YEARS	6,353	1,315	3,736	1,302	37,488	6,052	22,191	9,245
45-64 YEARS	3,988	821	2,368	800	36,506	5,662	22,333	8,512
65 YEARS AND OVER	3,631	956	2,148	527	45,865	10,235	28,289	7,340
NORTHEAST	3,559	285	2,587	687	33,028	2,268	23,859	6,902
UNDER 15 YEARS	374	29	277	69	1,772	106	1,268	398
15-44 YEARS	1,427	103	1,000	324	8,666	480	5,845	2,341
45-64 YEARS	952	56	700	186	10,185	562	7,416	2,208
65 YEARS AND OVER	805	88	609	108	12,405	1,120	9,330	1,955
NORTH CENTRAL	4,690	777	2,861	1,052	39,569	5,729	23,938	9,901
UNDER 15 YEARS	589	95	370	124	2,685	346	1,597	742
15-44 YEARS	1,829	255	1,135	439	11,564	1,260	7,174	3,130
45-64 YEARS	1,189	190	698	300	11,391	1,399	6,650	3,341
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,083	237	657	188	13,929	2,724	8,518	2,688
SOUTH	5,109	1,737	2,392	980	39,336	11,888	19,150	8,298
UNDER 15 YEARS	588	177	299	112	2,521	646	1,266	609
15-44 YEARS	2,081	674	984	423	12,260	3,235	6,054	2,971
45-64 YEARS	1,223	391	581	251	10,382	2,703	5,226	2,454
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,217	495	528	193	14,172	5,304	6,605	2,264
WEST	2,415	669	1,513	233	15,725	3,356	10,545	1,824
UNDER 15 YEARS	248	76	155	17	822	192	550	79
15-44 YEARS	1,016	283	616	117	4,998	1,077	3,118	802
45-64 YEARS	624	173	388	63	4,548	998	3,041	509
65 YEARS AND OVER	526	135	353	37	5,357	1,087	3,836	434

TABLE 6. NUMBER, PERCENT DISTRIBUTION, AND RATE OF DAYS OF CARE, AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS OCCUPIED DAILY, AND AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS, BY SEX AND AGE: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

SEX AND AGE	DAYS OF CARE			1/ NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS OCCUPIED DAILY	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS
	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION		
2/ BOTH SEXES					
ALL AGES	245,060	100.0	1,199.9	328.7	7.7
UNDER 1 YEAR	4,293	1.8	1,285.3	352.1	5.9
1-4 YEARS	5,239	2.1	377.1	103.3	4.2
5-14 YEARS	9,119	3.7	231.6	63.5	4.1
15-24 YEARS	26,118	10.7	713.3	195.4	4.9
25-34 YEARS	25,189	10.3	949.1	260.0	5.6
35-44 YEARS	24,463	10.0	1,097.5	300.7	7.2
45-54 YEARS	32,402	13.2	1,387.8	380.2	8.5
55-64 YEARS	36,999	15.1	1,957.6	536.3	10.1
65-74 YEARS	41,799	17.1	3,337.8	914.5	11.7
75 YEARS AND OVER	39,439	16.1	5,326.8	1,459.4	12.9
MALE					
ALL AGES	104,037	100.0	1,056.1	289.3	8.3
UNDER 1 YEAR	2,533	2.4	1,482.1	406.0	6.0
1-4 YEARS	3,045	2.9	429.6	117.7	4.2
5-14 YEARS	5,183	5.0	258.6	70.8	4.3
15-24 YEARS	8,116	7.8	455.9	124.9	6.0
25-34 YEARS	7,577	7.3	591.9	162.2	6.7
35-44 YEARS	9,569	9.2	893.5	244.8	7.5
45-54 YEARS	14,021	13.5	1,253.7	343.5	8.6
55-64 YEARS	18,730	18.0	2,111.6	578.5	10.1
65-74 YEARS	19,862	19.1	3,654.4	1,001.2	11.5
75 YEARS AND OVER	15,402	14.8	5,375.9	1,472.9	12.2
FEMALE					
ALL AGES	140,633	100.0	1,330.3	364.5	7.4
UNDER 1 YEAR	1,749	1.2	1,071.4	293.5	5.8
1-4 YEARS	2,186	1.6	321.4	88.1	4.2
5-14 YEARS	3,917	2.8	202.6	55.5	4.0
15-24 YEARS	17,969	12.8	955.2	261.7	4.5
25-34 YEARS	17,592	12.5	1,280.4	350.8	5.2
35-44 YEARS	14,831	10.5	1,280.8	350.9	7.0
45-54 YEARS	18,320	13.0	1,506.1	412.6	8.4
55-64 YEARS	18,204	12.9	1,814.9	497.2	10.1
65-74 YEARS	21,899	15.6	3,089.6	846.5	11.8
75 YEARS AND OVER	23,966	17.0	5,280.0	1,446.6	13.4

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

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

TABLE 7. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY AGE AND LENGTH OF STAY, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972--CON.

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

AGE AND LENGTH OF STAY	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DISCHARGED PATIENTS IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
ALL AGES								
ALL STAYS.....	31,627	12,593	18,996	15,772	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	844	327	517	506	2.7	2.6	2.7	3.2
1 DAY.....	2,408	1,072	1,334	1,235	7.6	8.5	7.0	7.8
2 DAYS.....	4,524	1,741	2,778	2,334	14.3	13.8	14.6	14.8
3 DAYS.....	3,942	1,303	2,636	1,634	12.5	10.3	13.9	10.4
4 DAYS.....	3,368	1,159	2,206	1,349	10.6	9.2	11.6	8.6
5-6 DAYS.....	4,674	1,881	2,788	2,211	14.8	14.9	14.7	14.0
7-8 DAYS.....	3,219	1,272	1,945	1,782	10.2	10.1	10.2	11.3
9-10 DAYS.....	2,168	890	1,276	1,236	6.9	7.1	6.7	7.8
11-20 DAYS.....	4,361	1,980	2,374	2,350	13.8	15.7	12.5	14.9
21-30 DAYS.....	1,247	577	668	664	3.9	4.6	3.5	4.2
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	870	392	476	471	2.8	3.1	2.5	3.0
UNDER 15 YEARS								
ALL STAYS.....	4,174	2,354	1,814	1,800	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	159	96	62	62	3.8	4.1	3.4	3.5
1 DAY.....	710	395	314	314	17.0	16.8	17.3	17.4
2 DAYS.....	1,113	617	494	490	26.7	26.2	27.2	27.2
3 DAYS.....	534	304	230	226	12.8	12.9	12.7	12.5
4 DAYS.....	414	240	174	170	9.9	10.2	9.6	9.5
5-6 DAYS.....	544	305	239	237	13.0	12.9	13.2	13.2
7-8 DAYS.....	273	151	121	121	6.5	6.4	6.7	6.7
9-10 DAYS.....	135	74	60	60	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.3
11-20 DAYS.....	210	121	87	87	5.0	5.2	4.8	4.8
21-30 DAYS.....	46	26	20	20	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	38	25	13	13	0.9	1.1	0.7	0.7
15-44 YEARS								
ALL STAYS.....	13,331	3,759	9,557	6,353	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	432	107	325	314	3.2	2.8	3.4	4.9
1 DAY.....	1,132	375	755	657	8.5	10.0	7.9	10.3
2 DAYS.....	2,266	609	1,655	1,216	17.0	16.2	17.3	19.1
3 DAYS.....	2,303	486	1,814	817	17.3	12.9	19.0	12.9
4 DAYS.....	1,865	419	1,445	593	14.0	11.1	15.1	9.3
5-6 DAYS.....	2,126	622	1,502	928	15.9	16.6	15.7	14.6
7-8 DAYS.....	1,203	353	849	687	9.0	9.4	8.9	10.8
9-10 DAYS.....	644	213	430	390	4.8	5.7	4.5	6.1
11-20 DAYS.....	968	394	573	549	7.3	10.5	6.0	8.6
21-30 DAYS.....	215	100	115	111	1.6	2.7	1.2	1.7
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	178	82	95	91	1.3	2.2	1.0	1.4

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

TABLE 7. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY AGE AND LENGTH OF STAY, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972--CON.

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

AGE AND LENGTH OF STAY	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DISCHARGED PATIENTS IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
45-64 YEARS								
ALL STAYS	7,488	3,485	3,993	3,988	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY	161	71	90	90	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.3
1 DAY	355	193	162	162	4.7	5.6	4.0	4.1
2 DAYS	783	334	448	446	10.5	9.6	11.2	11.2
3 DAYS	690	318	372	370	9.2	9.1	9.3	9.3
4 DAYS	625	293	332	330	8.3	8.4	8.3	8.3
5-6 DAYS	1,106	539	565	564	14.8	15.5	14.1	14.1
7-8 DAYS	936	406	530	529	12.5	11.7	13.3	13.3
9-10 DAYS	763	330	432	432	10.2	9.5	10.8	10.8
11-20 DAYS	1,434	688	744	744	19.2	19.7	18.6	18.7
21-30 DAYS	388	196	190	190	5.2	5.6	4.8	4.8
31 DAYS OR MORE	248	116	131	131	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
65 YEARS AND OVER								
ALL STAYS	6,634	2,995	3,631	3,631	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY	93	53	40	40	1.4	1.8	1.1	1.1
1 DAY	212	109	103	103	3.2	3.6	2.8	2.8
2 DAYS	363	181	182	182	5.5	6.0	5.0	5.0
3 DAYS	416	195	221	221	6.3	6.5	6.1	6.1
4 DAYS	464	208	255	255	7.0	6.9	7.0	7.0
5-6 DAYS	898	415	482	482	13.5	13.8	13.3	13.3
7-8 DAYS	807	362	445	445	12.2	12.1	12.3	12.3
9-10 DAYS	627	273	354	354	9.5	9.1	9.7	9.7
11-20 DAYS	1,750	777	970	970	26.4	25.9	26.7	26.7
21-30 DAYS	598	254	343	343	9.0	8.5	9.5	9.5
31 DAYS OR MORE	406	169	237	237	6.1	5.6	6.5	6.5

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

TABLE 8. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DAYS OF CARE FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY COLOR AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

COLOR AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
TOTAL								
ALL AGES.....	245,060	104,037	140,633	127,658	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	18,651	10,761	7,851	7,799	7.6	10.3	5.6	6.1
15-44 YEARS.....	75,770	25,261	50,393	37,488	30.9	24.3	35.8	29.4
45-64 YEARS.....	69,401	32,751	36,524	36,506	28.3	31.5	26.0	28.6
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	81,238	35,264	45,865	45,865	33.2	33.9	32.6	35.9
WHITE								
ALL AGES.....	186,190	79,159	106,969	97,984	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	13,253	7,484	5,763	5,748	7.1	9.5	5.4	5.9
15-44 YEARS.....	53,668	17,934	35,716	26,759	28.8	22.7	33.4	27.3
45-64 YEARS.....	53,990	25,478	28,502	28,489	29.0	32.2	26.6	29.1
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	65,280	28,263	36,988	36,988	35.1	35.7	34.6	37.7
ALL OTHER								
ALL AGES.....	28,584	12,508	16,040	13,667	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,333	2,024	1,309	1,278	11.7	16.2	8.2	9.3
15-44 YEARS.....	12,257	4,148	8,106	5,767	42.9	33.2	50.5	42.2
45-64 YEARS.....	6,943	3,467	3,456	3,453	24.3	27.7	21.5	25.3
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	6,051	2,869	3,169	3,169	21.2	22.9	19.8	23.2
COLOR NOT STATED								
ALL AGES.....	30,287	12,371	17,624	16,008	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,066	1,254	780	774	6.8	10.1	4.4	4.8
15-44 YEARS.....	9,846	3,179	6,570	4,962	32.5	25.7	37.3	31.0
45-64 YEARS.....	8,468	3,805	4,566	4,564	28.0	30.8	25.9	28.5
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	9,908	4,133	5,708	5,708	32.7	33.4	32.4	35.7

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

TABLE 9. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY COLOR, AGE, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

COLOR AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
TOTAL				
ALL AGES	7.7	8.3	7.4	8.1
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.6	4.3	4.3
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.7	5.3	5.9
45-64 YEARS	9.3	9.4	9.1	9.2
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.2	11.8	12.6	12.6
WHITE				
ALL AGES	7.8	8.2	7.5	8.2
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3
15-44 YEARS	5.6	6.4	5.2	5.8
45-64 YEARS	9.2	9.3	9.1	9.1
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.2	11.7	12.6	12.6
ALL OTHER				
ALL AGES	7.9	9.6	7.0	7.9
UNDER 15 YEARS	5.7	6.1	5.2	5.2
15-44 YEARS	6.3	8.7	5.5	6.3
45-64 YEARS	11.0	12.0	10.1	10.1
65 YEARS AND OVER	14.0	13.8	14.3	14.3
COLOR NOT STATED				
ALL AGES	7.3	7.6	7.1	7.8
UNDER 15 YEARS	3.8	4.0	3.5	3.5
15-44 YEARS	5.5	6.4	5.2	5.8
45-64 YEARS	8.9	8.6	9.1	9.1
65 YEARS AND OVER	11.7	11.3	12.0	12.0

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

TABLE 10. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DAYS OF CARE FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION AND AGE, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

REGION AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
UNITED STATES								
ALL AGES.....	245,060	104,037	140,633	127,658	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	18,651	10,761	7,851	7,799	7.6	10.3	5.6	6.1
15-44 YEARS.....	75,770	25,251	50,393	37,488	30.9	24.3	35.8	29.4
45-64 YEARS.....	69,401	32,751	36,524	36,506	28.3	31.5	26.0	28.6
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	81,238	35,264	45,865	45,865	33.2	33.9	32.6	35.9
NORTHEAST								
ALL AGES.....	64,688	28,228	36,344	33,028	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,316	2,530	1,780	1,772	6.7	9.0	4.9	5.4
15-44 YEARS.....	18,420	6,421	11,968	8,666	28.5	22.7	32.9	26.2
45-64 YEARS.....	19,633	9,394	10,190	10,185	30.4	33.3	28.0	30.8
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	22,319	9,883	12,405	12,405	34.5	35.0	34.1	37.6
NORTH CENTRAL								
ALL AGES.....	75,398	31,674	43,615	39,569	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	6,312	3,603	2,700	2,685	8.4	11.4	6.2	6.8
15-44 YEARS.....	23,210	7,580	15,591	11,564	30.8	23.9	35.7	29.2
45-64 YEARS.....	21,457	10,028	11,395	11,391	28.5	31.7	26.1	28.8
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	24,419	10,463	13,929	13,929	32.4	33.0	31.9	35.2
SOUTH								
ALL AGES.....	74,012	30,550	43,354	39,336	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	5,925	3,365	2,542	2,521	8.0	11.0	5.9	6.4
15-44 YEARS.....	23,921	7,549	16,252	12,260	32.3	25.0	37.5	31.2
45-64 YEARS.....	19,370	8,954	10,388	10,382	26.2	29.3	24.0	26.4
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	24,795	10,582	14,172	14,172	33.5	34.6	32.7	36.0
WEST								
ALL AGES.....	30,962	13,586	17,319	15,725	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,097	1,263	829	822	6.8	9.3	4.8	5.2
15-44 YEARS.....	10,219	3,611	6,581	4,998	33.0	26.6	38.0	31.8
45-64 YEARS.....	8,941	4,375	4,551	4,548	28.9	32.2	26.3	28.9
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	9,706	4,336	5,357	5,357	31.3	31.9	30.9	34.1

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

TABLE 11. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AGE, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

REGION AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
UNITED STATES				
ALL AGES	7.7	8.3	7.4	8.1
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.6	4.3	4.3
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.7	5.3	5.9
45-64 YEARS	9.3	9.4	9.1	9.2
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.2	11.8	12.6	12.6
NORTHEAST				
ALL AGES	9.1	9.9	8.5	9.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	5.0	5.1	4.7	4.7
15-44 YEARS	6.3	8.1	5.6	6.1
45-64 YEARS	10.9	11.0	10.7	10.7
65 YEARS AND OVER	14.8	14.1	15.4	15.4
NORTH CENTRAL				
ALL AGES	8.0	8.3	7.8	8.4
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.6
15-44 YEARS	6.0	6.8	5.7	6.3
45-64 YEARS	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.5	12.1	12.9	12.9
SOUTH				
ALL AGES	7.3	7.7	7.0	7.7
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.3
15-44 YEARS	5.5	6.4	5.1	5.9
45-64 YEARS	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.5
65 YEARS AND OVER	11.3	10.8	11.6	11.6
WEST				
ALL AGES	6.3	6.9	6.0	6.5
UNDER 15 YEARS	3.6	3.8	3.3	3.3
15-44 YEARS	4.7	5.6	4.4	4.9
45-64 YEARS	7.6	7.9	7.3	7.3
65 YEARS AND OVER	10.0	9.7	10.2	10.2

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

TABLE 12. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DAYS OF CARE FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
ALL SIZES								
ALL AGES.....	245,060	104,037	140,633	127,658	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	18,651	10,761	7,851	7,799	7.6	10.3	5.6	6.1
15-44 YEARS.....	75,770	25,261	50,393	37,488	30.9	24.3	35.8	29.4
45-64 YEARS.....	69,401	32,751	36,524	36,506	28.3	31.5	26.0	28.6
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	81,238	35,264	45,865	45,865	33.2	33.9	32.6	35.9
6-99 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	43,208	17,672	25,448	23,240	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,026	1,725	1,297	1,291	7.0	9.8	5.1	5.6
15-44 YEARS.....	11,920	3,645	8,251	6,052	27.6	20.6	32.4	26.0
45-64 YEARS.....	10,393	4,704	5,664	5,662	24.1	26.6	22.3	24.4
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	17,869	7,598	10,235	10,235	41.4	43.0	40.2	44.0
100-199 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	42,945	17,528	25,254	22,863	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,401	1,865	1,532	1,523	7.9	10.6	6.1	6.7
15-44 YEARS.....	12,740	3,956	8,766	6,389	29.7	22.4	34.7	27.9
45-64 YEARS.....	11,113	4,993	6,099	6,093	25.9	28.3	24.1	26.7
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	15,692	6,814	8,857	8,857	36.5	38.7	35.1	38.7
200-299 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	42,395	17,972	24,343	22,128	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,295	1,922	1,364	1,357	7.8	10.7	5.6	6.1
15-44 YEARS.....	12,773	4,242	8,507	6,304	30.1	23.6	34.9	28.5
45-64 YEARS.....	12,029	5,791	6,203	6,199	28.4	32.2	25.5	28.0
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	14,298	6,017	8,268	8,268	33.7	33.5	34.0	37.4
300-499 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	62,585	26,667	35,829	32,502	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,355	2,533	1,809	1,801	7.0	9.5	5.0	5.5
15-44 YEARS.....	19,490	6,647	12,813	9,497	31.1	24.9	35.8	29.2
45-64 YEARS.....	19,129	9,059	10,044	10,040	30.6	34.0	28.0	30.9
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	19,612	8,428	11,163	11,163	31.3	31.6	31.2	34.3
500 BEDS OR MORE								
ALL AGES.....	53,928	24,099	29,759	26,925	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,574	2,716	1,849	1,828	8.5	11.3	6.2	6.8
15-44 YEARS.....	18,848	6,772	12,055	9,245	34.9	28.1	40.5	34.3
45-64 YEARS.....	16,737	8,203	8,514	8,512	31.0	34.0	28.6	31.6
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	13,768	6,408	7,340	7,340	25.5	26.6	24.7	27.3

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

TABLE 13. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL, AGE OF PATIENT, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
ALL SIZES				
ALL AGES	7.7	8.3	7.4	8.1
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.6	4.3	4.3
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.7	5.3	5.9
45-64 YEARS	9.3	9.4	9.1	9.2
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.2	11.8	12.6	12.6
6-99 BEDS				
ALL AGES	6.3	6.6	6.2	6.7
UNDER 15 YEARS	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.4
15-44 YEARS	4.3	4.7	4.2	4.6
45-64 YEARS	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.9
65 YEARS AND OVER	10.4	10.0	10.7	10.7
100-199 BEDS				
ALL AGES	7.3	7.6	7.1	7.8
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.3
15-44 YEARS	5.1	5.8	4.9	5.4
45-64 YEARS	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.6
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.1	11.4	12.6	12.6
200-299 BEDS				
ALL AGES	7.9	8.2	7.6	8.4
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.2
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.6	5.4	6.0
45-64 YEARS	9.5	9.6	9.3	9.3
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.7	11.9	13.3	13.3
300-499 BEDS				
ALL AGES	8.3	9.0	7.9	8.7
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.6	4.2	4.2
15-44 YEARS	6.2	7.4	5.6	6.3
45-64 YEARS	10.2	10.3	10.1	10.1
65 YEARS AND OVER	13.2	12.8	13.6	13.6
500 BEDS OR MORE				
ALL AGES	9.0	10.0	8.3	9.1
UNDER 15 YEARS	5.9	6.1	5.6	5.7
15-44 YEARS	7.0	8.7	6.3	7.1
45-64 YEARS	11.0	11.4	10.6	10.6
65 YEARS AND OVER	13.7	13.5	13.9	13.9

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

TABLE 14. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DAYS OF CARE FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY TYPE OF OWNERSHIP OF HOSPITAL AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

TYPE OF OWNERSHIP AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	NUMBER OF DAYS OF CARE IN THOUSANDS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
ALL TYPES								
ALL AGES.....	245,060	104,037	140,633	127,658	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	18,651	10,761	7,851	7,799	7.6	10.3	5.6	6.1
15-44 YEARS.....	75,770	25,261	50,393	37,488	30.9	24.3	35.8	29.4
45-64 YEARS.....	69,401	32,751	36,524	36,506	28.3	31.5	26.0	28.6
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	81,238	35,264	45,865	45,865	33.2	33.9	32.6	35.9
VOLUNTARY NONPROFIT								
ALL AGES.....	183,152	77,156	105,739	96,055	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	13,440	7,721	5,689	5,660	7.3	10.0	5.4	5.9
15-44 YEARS.....	54,946	17,817	37,059	27,417	30.0	23.1	35.0	28.5
45-64 YEARS.....	53,251	24,947	28,226	28,213	29.1	32.3	26.7	29.4
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	61,514	26,671	34,765	34,765	33.6	34.6	32.9	36.2
GOVERNMENT								
ALL AGES.....	49,517	22,124	27,284	24,485	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,376	2,574	1,795	1,772	8.8	11.6	6.6	7.2
15-44 YEARS.....	16,763	6,193	10,527	7,754	33.9	28.0	38.6	31.7
45-64 YEARS.....	12,956	6,420	6,505	6,500	26.2	29.0	23.8	26.5
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	15,422	6,937	8,458	8,458	31.1	31.4	31.0	34.5
PROPRIETARY								
ALL AGES.....	12,392	4,758	7,609	7,118	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	834	466	368	367	6.7	9.8	4.8	5.2
15-44 YEARS.....	4,061	1,252	2,807	2,317	32.8	26.3	36.9	32.5
45-64 YEARS.....	3,194	1,384	1,793	1,793	25.8	29.1	23.6	25.2
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	4,302	1,656	2,642	2,642	34.7	34.8	34.7	37.1

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

TABLE 15. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY TYPE OF OWNERSHIP OF HOSPITAL, AGE OF PATIENT, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

TYPE OF OWNERSHIP AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
ALL TYPES				
ALL AGES	7.7	8.3	7.4	8.1
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.6	4.3	4.3
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.7	5.3	5.9
45-64 YEARS	9.3	9.4	9.1	9.2
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.2	11.8	12.6	12.6
VOLUNTARY NONPROFIT				
ALL AGES	8.0	8.5	7.6	8.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.6	4.3	4.4
15-44 YEARS	5.8	6.8	5.4	6.0
45-64 YEARS	9.5	9.6	9.4	9.4
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.6	12.1	13.0	13.0
GOVERNMENT				
ALL AGES	7.4	8.1	6.9	7.7
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.7	4.9	4.5	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.6	6.8	5.1	5.8
45-64 YEARS	9.0	9.4	8.7	8.7
65 YEARS AND OVER	11.5	11.1	11.9	11.9
PROPRIETARY				
ALL AGES	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.6
UNDER 15 YEARS	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.3
15-44 YEARS	4.9	5.3	4.8	4.9
45-64 YEARS	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.1
65 YEARS AND OVER	10.5	9.9	10.9	10.9

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

TABLE 16. AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY SEX, AGE, GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AND BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

SEX AND AGE	TOTAL	NORTHEAST			NORTH CENTRAL			SOUTH			WEST		
		6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE
1/ BOTH SEXES	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS												
ALL AGES....	7.7	7.4	8.9	10.5	7.0	7.9	9.0	6.4	7.5	8.2	4.8	6.7	7.9
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.5	3.8	4.7	6.3	3.5	4.4	5.8	3.9	4.2	5.7	2.6	3.7	6.6
15-44 YEARS.....	5.7	4.8	6.0	7.8	4.8	5.9	6.9	4.4	5.7	6.6	3.7	4.9	6.4
45-64 YEARS.....	9.3	8.0	10.7	12.6	7.6	9.5	11.0	6.9	8.9	10.2	5.7	8.0	9.4
65+ YEARS.....	12.2	12.2	14.7	17.4	10.9	12.7	13.9	10.5	11.8	11.6	8.0	10.6	11.1
MALE													
ALL AGES....	8.3	7.5	9.6	12.3	7.0	8.2	9.5	6.8	7.7	9.1	5.1	7.3	9.0
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.6	4.0	4.8	6.8	3.4	4.5	5.7	4.1	4.2	6.0	2.6	3.9	7.9
15-44 YEARS.....	6.7	5.4	7.5	11.1	5.1	6.6	8.2	4.8	6.7	8.0	4.0	5.9	7.4
45-64 YEARS.....	9.4	7.5	10.9	13.4	7.9	9.4	11.0	6.9	8.7	10.7	5.7	8.3	10.7
65+ YEARS.....	11.8	11.5	13.9	16.8	10.2	12.4	13.6	10.2	10.9	11.6	8.0	10.2	10.6
FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES													
ALL AGES....	7.4	7.4	8.4	9.3	6.9	7.7	8.6	6.2	7.3	7.6	4.7	6.3	7.1
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.3	3.7	4.6	5.8	3.7	4.3	5.9	3.7	4.2	5.4	2.5	3.5	4.7
15-44 YEARS.....	5.3	4.5	5.4	6.6	4.6	5.6	6.4	4.2	5.3	6.1	3.6	4.5	5.9
45-64 YEARS.....	9.1	8.5	10.6	11.9	7.3	9.5	11.1	6.9	9.0	9.8	5.8	7.8	8.1
65+ YEARS.....	12.6	12.8	15.3	18.1	11.5	13.0	14.3	10.7	12.5	11.7	8.0	10.9	11.6
FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES													
ALL AGES....	8.1	7.9	9.2	10.1	7.4	8.4	9.4	6.8	8.0	8.5	5.0	7.0	7.8
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.3	3.7	4.6	5.8	3.7	4.3	6.0	3.7	4.2	5.4	2.5	3.5	4.8
15-44 YEARS.....	5.9	4.7	5.8	7.2	4.9	6.3	7.1	4.8	6.2	7.0	3.8	5.1	6.9
45-64 YEARS.....	9.2	8.5	10.6	11.9	7.3	9.5	11.1	6.9	9.0	9.8	5.8	7.8	8.1
65+ YEARS.....	12.6	12.8	15.3	18.1	11.5	13.0	14.3	10.7	12.5	11.7	8.0	10.9	11.6

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

TABLE 17. NUMBER, PERCENT DISTRIBUTION, AND RATE OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS, BY SEX AND AGE: UNITED STATES, 1972

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

SEX AND AGE	DISCHARGED PATIENTS		
	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION
1/ BOTH SEXES			
ALL AGES	31,627	100.0	154.9
UNDER 1 YEAR	725	2.3	217.0
1-4 YEARS	1,244	3.9	89.6
5-14 YEARS	2,205	7.0	56.0
15-24 YEARS	5,382	17.0	147.0
25-34 YEARS	4,532	14.3	170.8
35-44 YEARS	3,416	10.8	153.3
45-54 YEARS	3,825	12.1	163.8
55-64 YEARS	3,662	11.6	193.8
65-74 YEARS	3,581	11.3	286.0
75 YEARS AND OVER	3,053	9.7	412.4
MALE			
ALL AGES	12,593	100.0	127.8
UNDER 1 YEAR	423	3.4	247.5
1-4 YEARS	717	5.7	101.2
5-14 YEARS	1,214	9.6	60.5
15-24 YEARS	1,351	10.7	75.9
25-34 YEARS	1,133	9.0	88.5
35-44 YEARS	1,275	10.1	119.1
45-54 YEARS	1,636	13.0	146.3
55-64 YEARS	1,848	14.7	208.4
65-74 YEARS	1,729	13.7	318.2
75 YEARS AND OVER	1,266	10.1	441.8
FEMALE			
ALL AGES	18,996	100.0	179.7
UNDER 1 YEAR	301	1.6	184.2
1-4 YEARS	526	2.8	77.3
5-14 YEARS	988	5.2	51.1
15-24 YEARS	4,028	21.2	214.1
25-34 YEARS	3,396	17.9	247.2
35-44 YEARS	2,133	11.2	184.2
45-54 YEARS	2,184	11.5	179.5
55-64 YEARS	1,810	9.5	180.4
65-74 YEARS	1,848	9.7	260.8
75 YEARS AND OVER	1,782	9.4	392.7

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

APPENDIX I

TECHNICAL NOTES ON METHODS

Statistical Design of the Hospital Discharge Survey

Scope of the survey.—The scope of the Hospital Discharge Survey (HDS) encompasses patients discharged from noninstitutional hospitals which have six beds or more for inpatient use, are located in the 50 States and the District of Columbia, and have an average length of stay of less than 30 days. Although all discharges of inpatients from these hospitals are within the scope of the survey, all newborn infants are excluded from this report.

Sampling frame and bed size of hospital.—The universe (sampling frame) for the HDS consists of short-stay hospitals, excluding military and Veterans Administration hospitals, that are included in the Master Facility Inventory of Hospitals and Institutions (MFI). A detailed description of how the MFI was developed, its content, plans for maintaining it, and procedures for assessing the completeness of its coverage is published in an earlier report.[17]

There were 7,407 hospitals in the universe. The distribution of short-stay hospitals by bed size and region in the universe and in the HDS sample is shown in table I. The sample for 1972 consisted of 497 hospitals, of which 28 were ruled out of scope of the 1972 survey because they failed to meet the definition of a short-stay hospital and of which 45 refused to participate. Estimates are based on a sample of about 225,000 abstracts from the remaining 424 hospitals that participated in 1972.

Sample design.—All hospitals with 1,000 beds or more in the universe of short-stay hospitals were selected with certainty in the sample. All hospitals with less than 1,000 beds were stratified, the primary strata being the 24 bed-size-by-region classes, as shown in table I. Within each of these 24 primary strata, the allocation of the hospitals was made through a controlled selection technique so that hospitals in the sample would be properly distributed with regard to ownership and geographic division. Sample hospitals were drawn with probabilities ranging from certainty for the largest hospitals to 1 in 40 for the smallest hospitals.

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

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

Estimation.—Statistics produced by the HDS are derived by a complex procedure. The basic unit of estimation is the sample patient abstract.

Table I. Distribution of short-stay hospitals in the universe (MFI) and in the Hospital Discharge Survey sample, and the number of hospitals that participated in the survey, by size of hospital and geographic region: United States, 1972

Size of hospital	All regions	Northeast	North Central	South	West
	Number of hospitals				
All sizes					
Universe	7,407	1,146	2,064	2,832	1,365
Total sample	497	129	146	148	74
Number participating	424	115	131	118	60
6-49 beds					
Universe	3,304	209	865	1,549	681
Total sample	64	7	18	26	13
Number participating	43	5	15	14	9
50-99 beds					
Universe	1,746	293	467	642	344
Total sample	72	13	19	27	13
Number participating	62	12	17	24	9
100-199 beds					
Universe	1,224	288	392	365	179
Total sample	103	26	31	32	14
Number participating	92	25	28	26	13
200-299 beds					
Universe	583	191	158	140	94
Total sample	89	30	26	19	14
Number participating	76	27	23	14	12
300-499 beds					
Universe	397	111	131	102	53
Total sample	93	25	30	26	12
Number participating	83	22	28	24	9
500-999 beds					
Universe	135	45	48	29	13
Total sample	58	19	19	13	7
Number participating	50	15	17	11	7
1,000 beds or more					
Universe	18	9	3	5	1
Total sample	18	9	3	5	1
Number participating	18	9	3	5	1

Figure I. Medical abstract for the Hospital Discharge Survey.

HSM-88-1
9/70

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

CONFIDENTIAL - All information which would permit identification of an individual or of an establishment will be held confidential, will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey and will not be disclosed or released to other persons or used for any other purpose.

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

MEDICAL ABSTRACT — HOSPITAL DISCHARGE SURVEY

I. Patient Identification

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

II. Patient Characteristics

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

III. Diagnoses and Operations

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

Completed by _____ Date _____

FOR NCHS USE ONLY

Diagnoses _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

Operations _____ _____ _____

The estimating procedure used to produce essentially unbiased national estimates has three principal components: (1) inflation of reciprocals of the probabilities of sample selection, (2) adjustment for nonresponse, and (3) ratio adjustments to fixed totals. These components are described in appendix I of two earlier publications.[1,2]

Data Collection and Processing

Data collection.—Depending on the study procedure agreed upon with the hospital administrator, the sample selection and the transcription of information from the hospital records to the abstract forms were performed by

either the hospital staff or representatives of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), or by both. In more than three-fourths of the hospitals that participated in the HDS during 1972, this work was performed by the medical records department of the hospital. In the remaining hospitals, nearly all the work was performed by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census acting for NCHS.

For nearly all survey hospitals, data were transcribed from hospital records to the form shown in figure I.

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

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

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

Population Estimates

The base populations used in computing rates are unpublished estimates for the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as of July 1972 provided by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

The population estimates for the United States by age and sex (table II) and by age and geographic region (table III) are consistent with the estimates of the civilian population published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in

Table II. Civilian noninstitutional population by age and sex: United States, July 1, 1972

[Consistent with *Current Population Reports,* Series P-25, No. 500. Numbers in thousands.]

Age	Total	Male	Female
Total	204,229	98,511	105,718
0-14 years	56,609	28,844	27,764
Under 1 year	3,340	1,709	1,632
1-4 years	13,891	7,089	6,802
5-14 years	39,377	20,047	19,330
15-44 years	85,445	41,313	44,133
15-24 years	36,616	17,803	18,813
25-34 years	26,540	12,801	13,740
35-44 years	22,289	10,709	11,580
45-64 years	42,248	20,054	22,194
45-54 years	23,348	11,184	12,164
55-64 years	18,900	8,870	10,030
65 years and over	19,927	8,300	11,627
65-74 years	12,523	5,435	7,088
75 years and over	7,404	2,865	4,539

Table III. Civilian noninstitutional population by age and sex for regions: United States, July 1, 1972
[Consistent with *Current Population Reports,* Series P-25, No. 500. Numbers in thousands.]

Region and sex	All ages	Under 14 years	15-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Both sexes					
United States	204,229	56,609	85,445	42,248	19,927
Northeast	49,011	12,949	20,070	10,957	5,035
North Central	56,727	15,963	23,678	11,509	5,576
South	63,357	17,901	26,570	12,685	6,201
West	35,134	9,795	15,127	7,097	3,114
Male					
United States	98,511	28,844	41,313	20,054	8,300
Northeast	23,526	6,608	9,720	5,147	2,052
North Central	27,612	8,143	11,607	5,517	2,345
South	30,324	9,104	12,678	5,956	2,586
West	17,050	4,990	7,309	3,434	1,317
Female					
United States	105,718	27,764	44,133	22,194	11,627
Northeast	25,485	6,341	10,351	5,810	2,984
North Central	29,115	7,821	12,072	5,992	3,231
South	33,033	8,797	13,893	6,729	3,615
West	18,084	4,805	7,818	3,664	1,797

Current Population Reports, Series P-25. However, they are not official population estimates of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Estimates of the regional populations by age and sex were provided by the U.S. Bureau of the Census specifically for use in the HDS for computing rates.

General Qualifications

Rounding of numbers.—Estimates of the number of discharges and number of days of care were rounded to the nearest thousand for tabular presentation. Percents and rates were calculated on the basis of unrounded estimates. Due to rounding, detailed figures within tables do not always add to totals.

Patient characteristics not stated.—Age and/or sex was not stated for less than 1 percent of all 1972 discharges. However, color was not stated for approximately 13 percent of the patients discharged during each year. The proportion of sample hospital records with color not stated varied considerably among the sample hospitals.

Reliability of Estimates

Estimates from sample surveys such as the HDS are subject to two types of errors—measurement or nonsampling errors, and sampling errors. Measurement errors can occur in a complete count or census as well as in a sample survey. Sampling errors, on the other hand, occur because a sample instead of a complete count is taken.

Measurement errors.—These include errors due to hospital nonresponse, missing abstracts, information incompletely or inaccurately recorded on abstract forms, and processing errors. Some of these have been discussed in earlier sections.

Sampling errors.—The standard error in this survey is primarily a measure of the sampling variability that occurs by chance because the estimates are based on a sample of short-stay hospitals rather than on all discharges from all short-stay hospitals. The relative standard error of an estimate is obtained by dividing the standard error of the estimate by the estimate itself and is expressed as a percentage of the estimate.

The chances are about 68 out of 100 that the value obtained in a complete enumeration is contained in the interval represented by the estimate ±1 standard error of the estimate, 95 out of 100 for 2 standard errors, and 99 out of 100 for 2.5 standard errors. Applying the illustration at the bottom of figure II, the chances are about .68 that the value that would be obtained in a complete enumeration is contained in the interval 4,368,000 ±5.0 percent of 4,368,000 (between 4,149,600 and 4,586,400); .99 for the interval 4,368,000 ± 5.0 percent of 4,368,000, multiplied by 2.5.

The standard error of one statistic is generally different from that of another even when the two come from the same survey. To derive

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

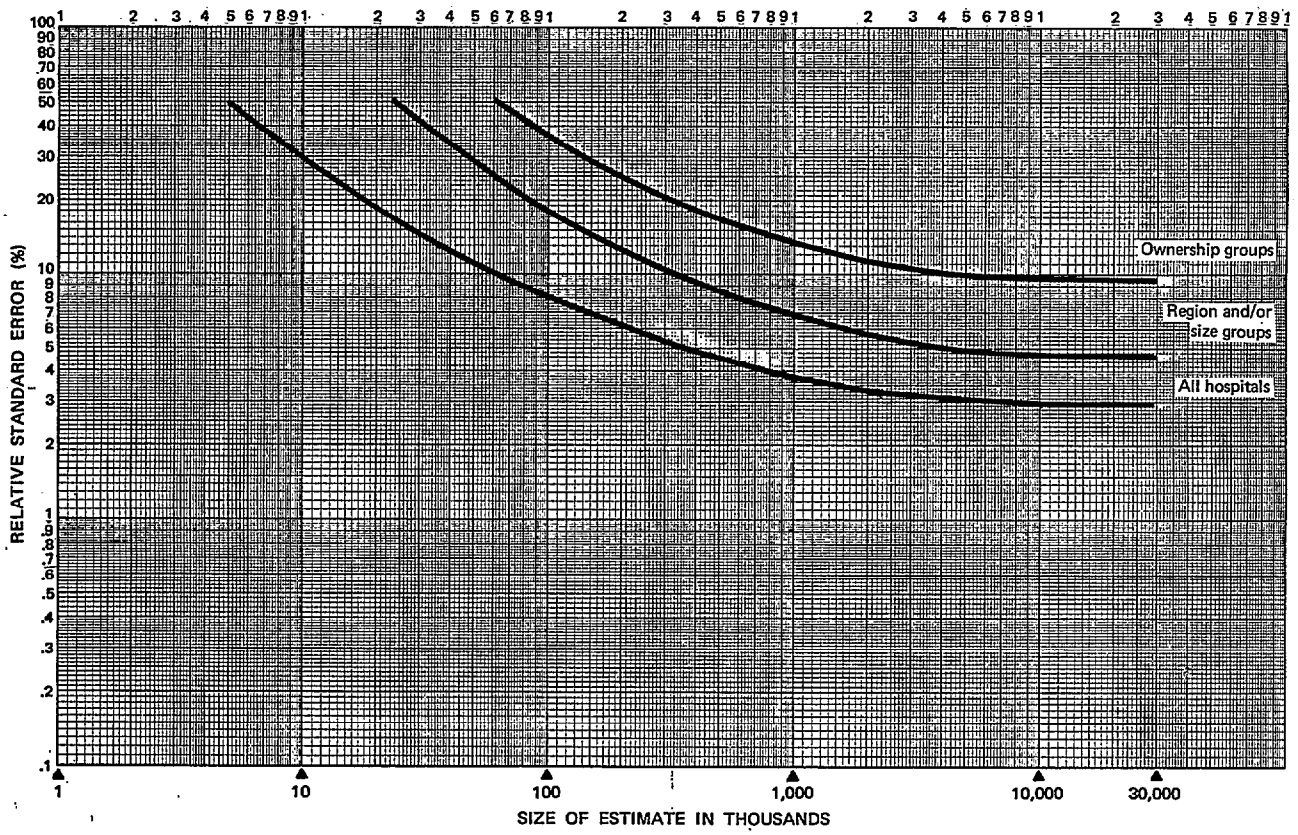

Illustration of use of figure II: As shown in table 2, an estimated 4,368,000 patients aged 15-44 years were discharged during 1972 within the South Region. The relative standard error of this estimate as read from the line "Region and/or size groups" is approximately 5.0 percent: the standard error of 4,368,000 is 218,400 (5.0 percent of 4,368,000).

standard errors that would be applicable to a wide variety of statistics and that could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, figures II and tables IV and V provide general standard errors for a wide variety of estimates rather than the specific error for any statistic.

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

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

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

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

Illustration of use of table IV: Table I shows that 28.5 percent of the 9,671,000 white male patients discharged during 1972 from all hospitals were aged 45-64 years. Linear interpolation between the values shown in table IV will yield an approximate standard error of 0.5 percent for an estimate of 28.5 percent with a base of 9,671,000.

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

[Standard errors for patient characteristics classified by size of hospital are 1½ times and by type of ownership are 2½ times the standard errors shown in this table]

Number of days of care (base of percent)	Estimate percent					
	2 or 98	4 or 96	10 or 90	20 or 80	30 or 70	50
	Standard error expressed in percentage points					
1,000,000	1.8	2.6	4.0	5.2	6.0	6.5
2,000,000	1.3	1.8	2.8	3.7	4.2	4.6
6,000,000	0.7	1.0	1.6	2.1	2.4	2.7
10,000,000	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.6	1.9	2.1
20,000,000	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.5
60,000,000	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8
100,000,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7
200,000,000	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5
300,000,000	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4

Illustration of use of table V: Table 12 shows that of the 24,099,000 days of care provided for males discharged during 1972 from hospitals with 500 beds or more, 26.6 percent of the days were utilized by patients 65 years and over. Linear interpolation between the values shown in table V will yield an approximate standard error of 1.9 percent for an estimate of 26.6 percent with a base of 29,099,000.

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

1. Approximate relative standard errors of estimated number of discharges are obtained from the curves shown in figure II.
2. Approximate relative standard errors of estimated number of days of care are obtained from the curves shown in figure III.
3. Approximate standard errors of estimated percentages of discharges when the characteristic(s) used to form the numerator of the percentage is a subclass of the denominator are shown in table IV.
4. Approximate standard errors of estimated percentages of days of care when the characteristic(s) used to form the numerator of the percentage is a subclass of the denominator are shown in table V.

Approximate standard errors of average lengths of stay can be calculated as in the following example: Suppose the standard error ($\sigma_{R'}$) of the average length of stay during 1972 for males aged 15-44 years for all hospitals is desired. The estimated number of discharges for this statistic is 3,759,000 (table I) and the estimated number of days of care is 25,261,000 (table 10).

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

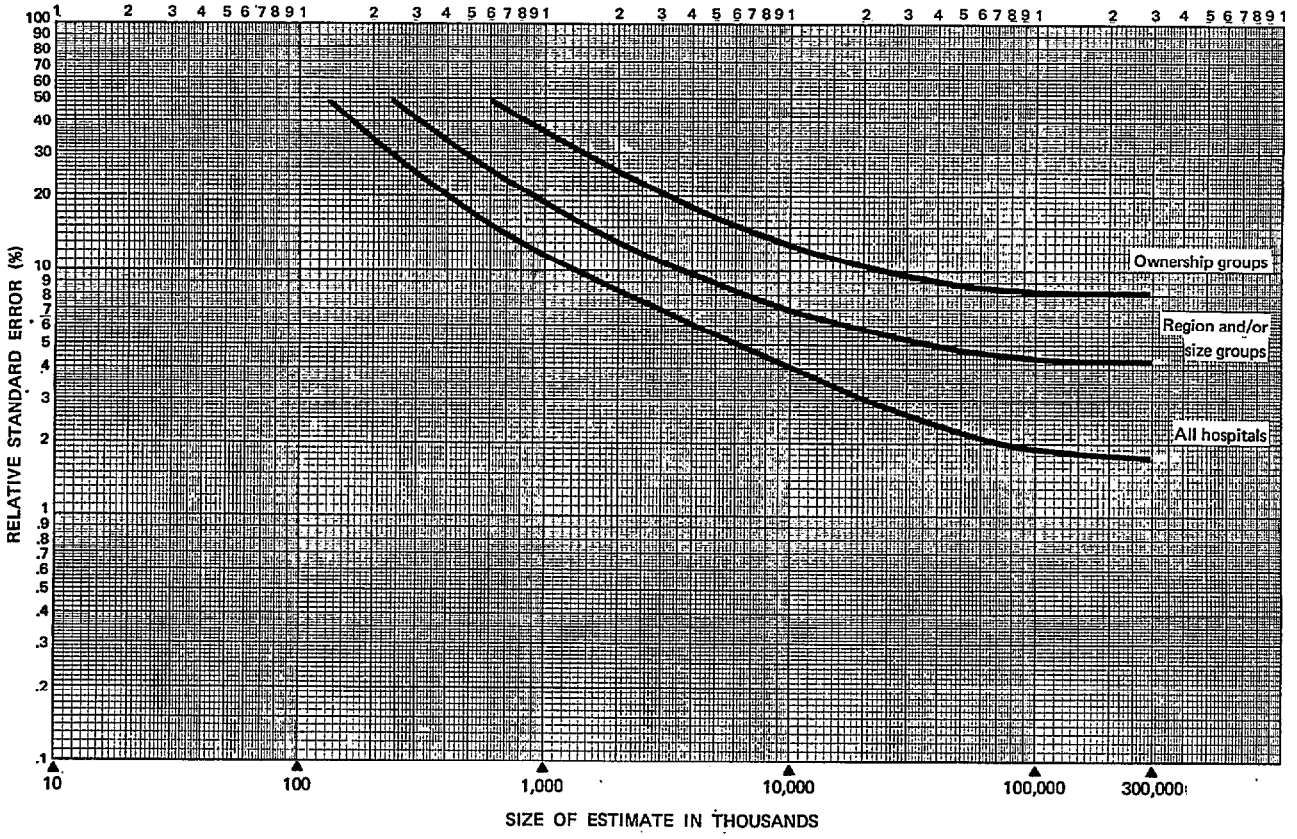

Illustration of use of figure III: As shown in table 14, an estimated 4,061,000 days of care during 1972 were provided to patients aged 15-44 years in proprietary hospitals. The relative standard error of this estimate as read from the line "Ownership groups" is approximately 18.0 percent: the standard error is 730,980 (18.0 percent of 4,061,000).

Let

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

$$= \frac{X'}{Y'} = \frac{25{,}261{,}000}{3{,}759{,}000} = 6.7 \text{ days.}$$

The relative standard error ($V_{X'}$) of 25,261,000 (from all hospitals curve in figure III) is 2.8 percent or .028; $V_{X'}{}^2 = .028^2$. The relative standard error ($V_{Y'}$) of 3,759,000 (from all hospitals curve in figure II) is 3.2 percent or .032; $V_{Y'}{}^2 = .032^2$. The sample correlation coefficient (r) which measures the closeness of the relation between the estimated number of days of care and the estimated number of discharges has been computed to be .75.

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

$$= .028^2 + .032^2 - 1.5(.028 \times .032)$$

$$= .00078 + .00102 - .00134$$

$$= \sqrt{.00046}$$

$$V_{R'} = .00046 = .0214$$

$$\sigma_{R'} = R' V_{R'} = 6.7 \times .0214 - 0.14 \text{ days.}$$

○ ○ ○

APPENDIX II

DEFINITIONS OF CERTAIN TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Terms Relating to Hospitalization

Patient.—A person who is formally admitted to the inpatient service of a short-stay hospital for observation, care, diagnosis, or treatment. In this report the number of patients refers to the number of discharges during 1972 including multiple discharges of the same individual (if any) from one short-stay hospital or more. All newborn infants, defined as those admitted by birth to the hospital, are excluded from this report. "Inpatient" and "patient" are used synonymously.

Patients under 1 year of age.—Includes infants admitted on the day of birth, directly or by transfer from another medical facility, with or without mention of a disease, disorder, or immaturity.

Discharge.—The formal release of an inpatient by a hospital, that is, the termination of a period of hospitalization by death or by disposition to place of residence, nursing home, or another hospital. In this report, "discharges" and "patients (or inpatients) discharged" are used synonymously.

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

Days of care.—The total number of inpatient days accumulated at time of discharge by patients discharged from short-stay hospitals during 1972. A stay of less than 1 day (inpatient admission and discharge on the same day) is counted as 1 day in the summation of total days of care. For patients admitted and discharged on different days, the number of days of care is computed by counting all days from (and including) the date of admission to (but not including) the date of discharge.

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

Average length of stay.—The total number of inpatient days accumulated at time of discharge by patients discharged during 1972 divided by the number of patients discharged. "Average stay," "duration of stay," and "length of stay" are used interchangeably.

Hospitals and Hospital Characteristics

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

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

Location of hospitals.—See "Geographic region."

Type of ownership of hospital.—Refers to the type of organization that controls and operates

the hospital. In this report the classification of hospitals by type of ownership is based on responses provided by sample hospitals. The hospitals are grouped as follows:

1. *Voluntary hospitals.* Hospitals operated by a church or another nonprofit organization.
2. *Government hospitals.* Hospitals operated by State and local governments.
3. *Proprietary hospitals.* Hospitals controlled by individuals, partnerships, or corporations for profit.

Demographic Terms

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

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

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

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

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