Data from the
NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY

Series 13
Number 23

Utilization of Short-Stay Hospitals

Summary of Nonmedical Statistics

United States - 1973

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) 76-1774

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

Health Resources Administration
National Center for Health Statistics
Rockville, Md. July 1976

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402 - Price $1.25

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. 23

DHEW Publication No.(HRA) 76-1774

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 67-61720

CONTENTS

SYMBOLS

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

UTILIZATION OF SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS: SUMMARY OF NONMEDICAL STATISTICS

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

INTRODUCTION

This report presents estimates on the utilization of 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 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. They are published in Series 13 of the *Vital and Health Statistics* reports and as selected supplements of *Monthly Vital Statistics Reports.*[1-23] Estimates shown in this report are for non-Federal short-stay hospital patients, excluding newborn infants, discharged during 1973. Nonmedical data are presented on the number and rate of discharges and of days of care and average length of stay for patients discharged, by age, sex, and color and by geographic region, bed size, and type of ownership (control) of hospitals.

Another program of NCHS, the Health Interview Survey (HIS), also collects information on hospitalization. The estimates provided by HIS are generally lower for number of discharges and greater for average lengths of stay than HDS estimates because of differences in collection procedures, population sampled, and definitions. Data from HIS are published in Series 10 reports.

This nonmedical report will be divided primarily into three areas: an analysis of hospital discharges, an analysis of days of care and length of stay, and some comparisons between the four regions of selected variables. Since the estimates are based on a sample of discharges from participating hospitals rather than on all discharges from all short-stay hospitals, they are subject to sampling error. Tables and graphs of approximate sampling errors and instructions for their use are given in the section "Reliability of Estimates" in appendix I.

Appendix II contains definitions of terms relating to hospitalization and the characteristics of patients and 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 32.1 million inpatients were discharged from non-Federal short-stay hospitals in 1973. These patients received an estimated 249.4 million days of care, with an average length of stay of 7.8 days per hospital episode. The annual rate of days of care per 1,000 persons in the civilian noninstitutionalized population was 1,211.6, and there was an annual discharge rate of 156.1 per 1,000 persons. Approximately three-fourths (72.3 percent) of the discharges in 1973 were from voluntary nonprofit

hospitals. State and local government hospitals accounted for 20.6 percent of the discharges and proprietary hospitals for only 7.0 percent.

Patients under 15 years of age accounted for 12.2 percent of all discharges and had a rate of discharge per 1,000 population of 70.8. This contrasted with the population 65 years of age and over, whose rate of discharge was 341.8 per 1,000 population. Differences in hospital utilization by sex were also noted. Rates of discharge and of days of care were higher for females than for males. The discharge rate for females of 180.9 per 1,000 population was 40 percent higher than that for males, 129.2 per 1,000 population, but with hospitalization for deliveries excluded the discharge rate for females was only 17 percent higher than the rate for males. For the group under 15 years of age, however, the discharge rate for males was higher than that for females, 78.8 compared to 62.4 per 1,000 population.

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

The age distribution within hospitals varied by the size of the hospital. The smallest hospitals had proportionately fewer patients 15-64 years of age than did the largest hospitals, in which only 17.6 percent of the patients were aged 65 years and over. Average length of stay increased with hospital size from 6.4 days in the smallest hospitals to 8.8 days in hospitals with 500 beds or more.

Regional differences were apparent in number of discharges, ranging from 5.0 million in the West Region to 10.0 million in the North Central Region. Average length of stay was longest in the Northeast Region, 9.0 days, and shortest in the West, where length of stay averaged only 6.4 days.

DISCHARGES AND DISCHARGE RATES

Age and Sex

Patients under 15 years of age accounted for an estimated 3.9 million discharges, or 12.2 percent of all discharged patients from short-stay hospitals in 1973. Of these, 1.8 percent were less than 1 year old, 3.8 percent were 1-4 years old, and 6.7 percent were from 5-14 years of age (figure 1). The discharge rate for the group under 15 years of age was the lowest for any age group, with a rate of 70.8 per 1,000 population (table A). In contrast, the discharge rate for persons 65 years and older was 341.8 per 1,000 population.

Males 65 years and over were discharged at a rate of 367.0 per 1,000, compared to the lower rate for females of 323.5 per 1,000. For the total of all age groups, however, discharge rates for females excluding deliveries were higher than those for males, 151.8 versus 129.2 per 1,000. There were more male than female discharges in each age bracket under 15 years of age. At under 1 year of age male discharges

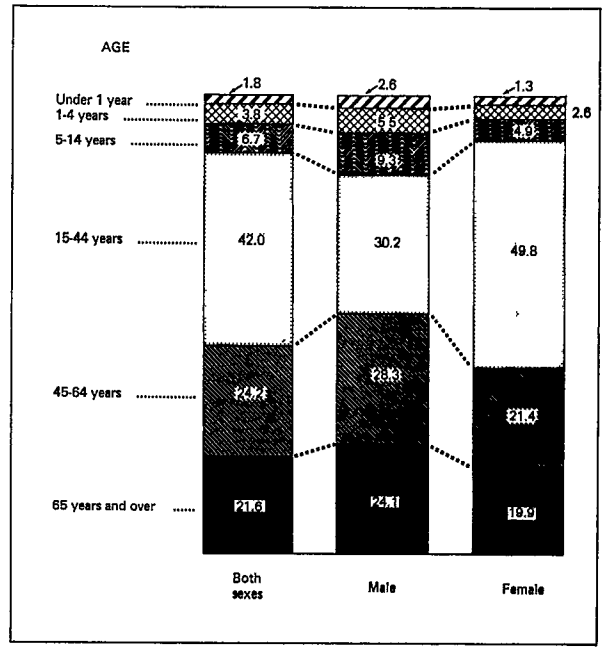


Figure 1. Percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by age, according to sex: United States, 1973.

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, 1973

Age	Both sexes[1]	Male	Female	
			Including deliveries	Excluding deliveries
	Number of discharges in thousands			
All ages	32,125	12,835	19,266	16,173
Under 15 years	3,933	2,231	1,700	1,685
15-44 years	13,482	3,873	9,598	6,524
45-64 years	7,772	3,637	4,131	4,126
65 years and over	6,937	3,094	3,837	3,837
	Rate of discharges per 1,000 population			
All ages	156.1	129.2	180.9	151.8
Under 15 years	70.8	78.8	62.4	61.8
15-44 years	154.4	91.7	212.9	144.7
45-64 years	182.2	179.1	185.0	184.8
65 years and over	341.8	367.0	323.5	323.5
	Number of days of care in thousands			
All ages	249,389	105,911	143,271	130,869
Under 15 years	17,884	10,006	7,861	7,811
15-44 years	76,732	26,337	50,324	37,989
45-64 years	70,828	33,761	37,025	37,007
65 years and over	83,944	35,807	48,061	48,061
	Rate of days of care per 1,000 population			
All ages	1,211.6	1,066.5	1,344.9	1,228.5
Under 15 years	321.9	353.4	288.5	286.7
15-44 years	878.5	623.3	1,116.1	842.6
45-64 years	1,661.0	1,662.3	1,658.0	1,657.2
65 years and over	4,136.4	4,247.1	4,051.7	4,051.7
	Average length of stay in days			
All ages	7.8	8.3	7.4	8.1
Under 15 years	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6
15-44 years	5.7	6.8	5.2	5.8
45-64 years	9.1	9.3	9.0	9.0
65 years and over	12.1	11.6	12.5	12.5

[1] Figures include data for sex not stated.

outnumbered female 337,000 to 243,000; at ages 1-4 years, 703,000 to 510,000; and at ages 5-14 years, 1,191,000 to 947,000 (table 17). Within these young age groups there was a higher percent of the total male discharges than of the female discharges (figure 1), with 17.4 percent of the male discharges in the age group under 15 years compared to 8.8 percent for females. As shown in table A, the rates for males and for females, excluding deliveries, increased with increasing age.

Color

Data for patients discharged are shown by color in table 1 according to the three categories "white," "all other," and "color not stated." An estimated 24.4 million white patients and 3.6 million patients in the all other group were discharged from short-stay hospitals in 1973, white patients outnumbering all other patients by about 7 to 1. Color was not stated on the medical record summary sheets for about 4.1 million patients, a number greater than that for patients identified as all other. The age and sex distribution of those for whom color was not stated suggests that they were proportional by color to those for whom it was stated.

There was a higher proportion of white patients than all other patients 45 years and over, 48.2 percent and 30.8 percent, respectively. Approximately 1 in 4 of the estimated white patients were age 65 and over, compared to 1 in 8 patients other than white (figure 2).

The group of white patients was composed of 41 percent males and 59 percent females, compared with 36 percent males and 64 percent females in the all other category. A smaller percentage of white females than of all other females hospitalized for deliveries accounted for most of this difference.

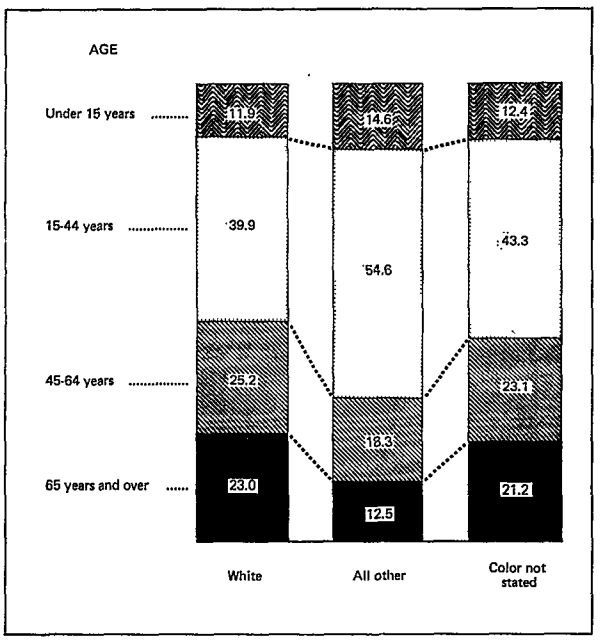


Figure 2. Percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by age, according to color: United States, 1973.

Bed Size of Hospital

For all hospital sizes the percent of discharges under 15 years of age during 1973 was approximately the same, between 11 and 13 percent; however, patients differed appreciably in the percent distributions for three age groups 15 years and older according to hospital size (table 3). The smallest hospitals had proportionately fewer discharged patients aged 15-64 years old than did the largest hospitals. On the other hand, for the age group 65 years and over, the smallest hospitals had more patients discharged (26.6 percent) than the largest hospitals had (17.6 percent). In other words, the smaller the hospital the more likely it was that a larger percent of its discharged patients would be found in the oldest age group, and the larger the hospital the larger the relative percent of patients to be found in the age group 15-64 years.

This age and hospital size trend was true for males and, with the exception of the age group 45-64 years, for females. The percents of female discharges 45-64 years old were essentially the same (21.6, 19.6, 20.9, 22.3, 22.3) for each size hospital. When deliveries were excluded, the trend of increased percent of patients 45-64 years old with increased size of hospital was only slightly apparent (24.9, 23.7, 25.0, 26.6, 27.1).

Type of Ownership of Hospital

Voluntary nonprofit hospitals (operated by church or other nonprofit organizations) cared for 23.2 million patients in 1973, or 72 percent of all patients discharged from short-stay hospitals (table 4). Government hospitals (controlled by State or local government) accounted for 6.6 million discharges, or 21 percent of all patients, and proprietary hospitals discharged 2.3 million, or 7 percent. There were differences among the ownership categories in the percent distributions by age and for each sex. The relative proportion of male to female discharges varied with the type of hospital, with government hospitals recording 45 percent more female discharges than male (3,923,000 and 2,705,000, respectively), and voluntary and proprietary hospitals both showing approximately a 51 percent difference. When deliveries are excluded, the number of discharges for females is around 26 percent greater than that for males for the total of all types of hospitals. There was a noticeable difference between voluntary and government hospitals in the proportion of their patients aged 15-44 years, with government hospitals having 45.1 percent and voluntary hospitals only 41.1 percent of their patients in this age group.

DAYS OF CARE AND LENGTH OF STAY

Age and Sex

The rates of days of care by age group ranged from 229.3 days per 1,000 population aged 5-14 years to 5,616.1 days for persons 75 years and over (table 6). Starting with age group 5-14 years, the days of care rate increased with each advance in age. Age groups under 15 years represented 7.2 percent of all days of care; ages 15-44, 30.7 percent; ages 45-64, 28.4 percent; and ages 65 and over, 33.7 percent of all days of care.

The average length of stay for patients discharged during 1973 was 7.8 days (table 9). Average length of stay increased with each successive age group from 4.5 days for patients under age 15 to 12.1 days for patients aged 65 years and over. About two-thirds of all patients 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 15-64 years of age had shorter lengths of stay than males had, and females aged 65 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 found in table 8. Patients under age 15 years in the all other group used a larger proportion (11.5 percent) of days of care than did white patients in this age group, who used 6.5 percent. Among white patients, approximately 35 percent of the days of care were provided for patients under 45 years of age; among all others about 54 percent were provided for this age group. For ages 65 years and over white patients—both men and women—used a considerably larger percent of days of care than did all other patients, 35.8 percent for white patients and 20.8 percent for all other patients.

There was little difference in the average length of stay for all discharges by color, with white patients averaging 7.8 days and all other patients 8.0 days per stay (table 9). This is because white discharges had a larger percent of older patients with longer hospital stays than the all other group had. For every age and sex group, however, the average stay was significantly shorter for white patients than for all others. Regardless of color status, males had a longer length of stay than females including deliveries had. All other males averaged approximately 1 day longer than all other females when deliveries are excluded, primarily because of the 8.5-day average length of stay for males aged 15-44 years. White males and those with

color not stated had approximately the same lengths of stay as females excluding deliveries had.

Bed Size of Hospital

Days of care in the hospital-size groups also varied by age. For patients aged 65 years and over, reported days of care ranged from 26.8 percent of total days of care in the largest hospitals to 42.4 percent in the smallest hospitals (table 12). Days of care for patients ages 15-44 was 26.0 percent of the total in hospitals with fewer than 100 beds and 34.2 percent in those with 500 beds or more.

Average length of stay increased as age and hospital size increased, ranging from 6.4 days in the smallest hospitals to 8.8 days in the largest hospitals and from 4.5 days for the youngest group to 12.1 days for the oldest group. This was true for both sexes (table 13). The shortest length of stay, 3.7 days, was for the age group under 15 discharged from hospitals with 6-99 beds. The longest length of stay was 13.4 days for the group 65 years and over discharged from hospitals with 500 beds or more.

The pattern of length of stay increasing with size of hospital was true for each of the four regions. The trend was most evident in the Northeast Region, where average length of stay in the largest hospitals exceeded that in the smallest hospitals by 2.4 days (table 16). This trend was more pronounced for males than for females, regardless of delivery status, in each of the four regions. For the male episodes in the 15-44 age group, the average length of stay in the largest hospitals was between 53 and 96 percent longer than that in the smallest hospitals in each of the regions.

Type of Ownership of Hospital

The 249.4 million days of care utilized in 1973 were distributed by ownership of hospital as follows: voluntary nonprofit hospitals provided 184.9 million days, or 74.1 percent; government hospitals 49.4 million days, or 19.8 percent; and proprietary hospitals 15.1 million days, or 6.1 percent (table 14).

The relative proportion of days of care provided to males and to females varied considerably among the three types of hospitals. In government hospitals, the number of days of care provided for females including deliveries was 22 percent greater than the number for males; in voluntary nonprofit hospitals, the number of days of care was 38 percent greater for females than for males; and in proprietary hospitals, the number of days of care was 54 percent greater for females 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 shorter than in voluntary nonprofit hospitals for all age groups except under 15 years, where average length of stay was longer in the government hospitals (table 15). For all age groups, the average length of stay in proprietary hospitals was shorter than in the other hospital ownership groups for both sexes, excluding deliveries.

The difference between length of stay for males and for 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 with deliveries excluded. In the group 15-44 years old, the average length of stay for males varied between half a day and 2 days longer than that for females, regardless of delivery status, for voluntary nonprofit and government hospitals.

GEOGRAPHIC REGION

Age and Sex

The number of discharges in 1973 for geographic regions ranged from 5.0 million in the West Region to 10.0 million in the North Central Region (table 5). The number of discharges per 1,000 population ranged from an estimated 141.4 in the West Region to 175.7 in the North Central Region; among the age groups the greatest relative difference is found in the under 15 group, with discharge rates of 59.3 and 84.8 per 1,000 population in the West and North Central Regions, respectively (table B).

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, 1973

Age	All regions	Northeast	North Central	South	West
	Rate of discharges per 1,000 population				
All ages	156.1	148.6	175.7	153.6	141.4
Under 15 years	70.8	66.6	84.8	67.8	59.3
15-44 years	154.4	145.7	170.7	155.0	139.4
45-64 years	182.3	166.8	211.7	173.7	174.1
65 years and over	341.8	310.9	374.4	345.9	325.6
	Rate of days of care per 1,000 population				
All ages	1,211.6	1,329.1	1,408.9	1,119.2	903.0
Under 15 years	321.9	339.3	383.5	312.3	217.9
15-44 years	878.5	915.2	1,006.8	843.2	655.3
45-64 years	1,661.0	1,786.6	1,992.5	1,474.9	1,275.3
65 years and over	4,136.4	4,441.3	4,653.7	3,832.1	3,344.4
	Average length of stay in days				
All ages	7.8	9.0	8.0	7.3	6.4
Under 15 years	4.5	5.1	4.5	4.6	3.7
15-44 years	5.7	6.3	6.0	5.4	4.7
45-64 years	9.1	10.7	9.4	8.5	7.3
65 years and over	12.1	14.3	12.4	11.1	10.3

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 903.0 days and 1,408.9 days, respectively, a difference of 56.0 percent. For patients under age 15 years, these two regions differed even more significantly, with the days of care per 1,000 in the North Central Region (383.5) being 76 percent higher than the rate in the West Region (217.9 days of care).

Average length of stay in days was highest in the Northeast Region and again lowest in the West Region, 9.0 days and 6.4 days, respectively. This pattern was consistent for all age groups, with the difference between the Northeast and the West Regions being greatest in age groups 45 years and over.

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

Color

Color differences in the rate of discharges were found among the regions. The Northeast Region had the highest proportion of white discharges (83.4 percent) and the North Central Region the lowest (70.1 percent) (figure 3). The South had the smallest proportion of its patients in the category of color not stated, 6.0 percent, in contrast to the North Central Region, which had 22.3 percent listed as not stated.

Deliveries represented a smaller proportion

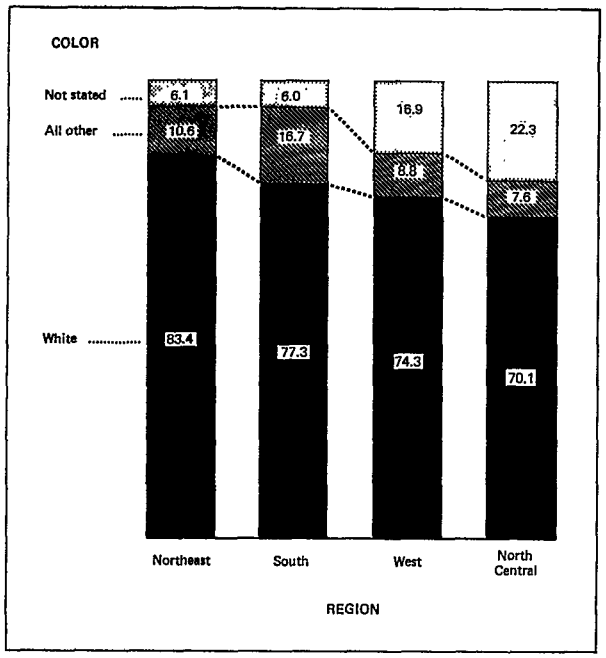


Figure 3. Percent distribution of patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by color, according to geographic region: United States, 1973.

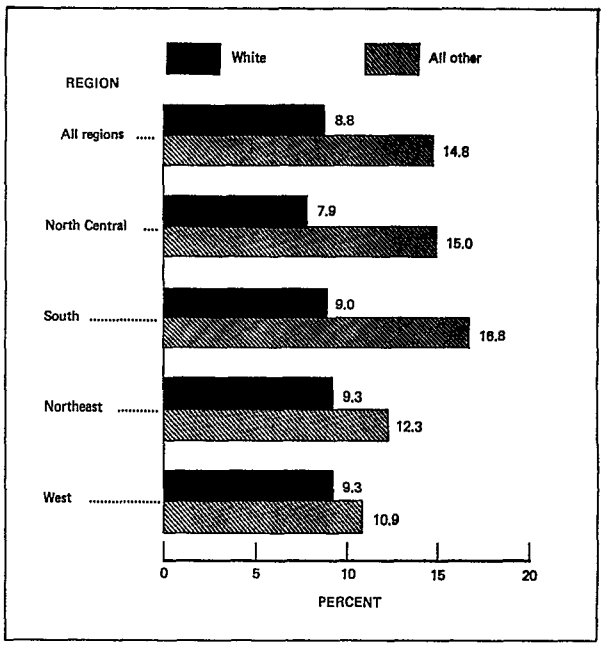


Figure 4. Deliveries as a percent of total discharges from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region and color: United States, 1973.

of white patients than of all other patients hospitalized, 8.8 percent and 14.8 percent, respectively (figure 4). For all regions, deliveries represented 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 and South Regions white patients had shorter stays than all others (figure 5), but the North Central and West Regions showed stays for whites and all others to be about the same.

Excluding deliveries, 48.2 percent of the white patients were 45 years of age and over in all regions (figure 6), whereas only 30.8 percent of all other patients were 45 years or older.

For the population 15 years and over, regional differences were found among all other discharges in the 15-44 age group. Over 65 percent of the discharges of all other patients in the Northeast and North Central Regions were in this age group, contrasted to the South and West, which had only 62.6 and 60.0 percent, respectively, of their all other discharges in this age group (table C).

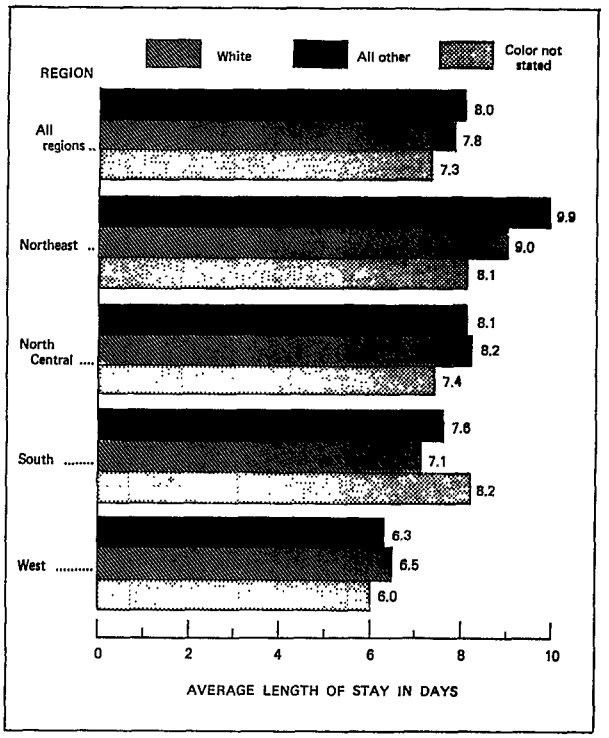


Figure 5. Average length of stay for patients discharged from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region and color: United States, 1973.

Table C. Number and percent distribution of patients 15 years of age and over discharged from short-stay hospitals by age, according to geographic region and color: United States, 1973

Geographic region and age	Total	White	All other	Color not stated	Total	White	All other	Color not stated
	Number of discharges in thousands				Percent distribution			
United States								
15 years and over-	28,191	21,503	3,092	3,597	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years----------	13,482	9,727	1,977	1,778	47.8	45.2	63.7	49.4
45-64 years----------	7,772	6,160	664	949	27.6	28.7	21.5	26.4
65 years and over----	6,937	5,616	451	870	24.6	26.1	14.6	24.2
Northeast								
15 years and over-	6,370	5,323	646	401	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years----------	2,960	2,319	424	217	46.5	43.6	65.6	54.1
45-64 years----------	1,828	1,569	150	109	28.7	29.5	23.2	27.2
65 years and over----	1,582	1,435	72	75	24.8	27.0	11.1	18.7
North Central								
15 years and over-	8,657	6,088	648	1,921	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years----------	4,109	2,716	440	954	47.4	44.6	67.9	49.7
45-64 years----------	2,438	1,792	140	506	28.1	29.4	21.6	26.3
65 years and over----	2,110	1,580	69	461	24.4	25.6	10.6	24.0
South								
15 years and over-	8,698	6,751	1,400	547	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years----------	4,243	3,130	877	236	48.8	46.4	62.6	43.1
45-64 years----------	2,250	1,846	277	127	25.9	27.3	19.8	23.2
65 years and over----	2,206	1,775	247	184	25.3	26.3	17.7	33.6
West								
15 years and over-	4,463	3,340	397	727	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-44 years----------	2,168	1,561	236	371	48.6	46.7	60.0	51.0
45-64 years----------	1,256	953	97	207	28.1	28.5	24.5	28.5
65 years and over----	1,039	826	64	149	23.3	24.7	16.1	20.5

Table D. Average length of stay for patients 15 years of age and over discharged from short-stay hospitals, by geographic region, age, and color: United States, 1973

Geographic region and age	Total	White	All other	Color not stated
	Average length of stay in days			
United States				
15 years and over	8.2	8.3	8.3	7.7
15-44 years	5.7	5.6	6.2	5.6
45-64 years	9.1	9.0	11.1	8.4
65 years and over	12.1	12.1	13.4	11.3
Northeast				
15 years and over	9.5	9.5	10.3	8.4
15-44 years	6.3	6.0	8.0	5.9
45-64 years	10.7	10.5	13.1	9.8
65 years and over	14.3	14.1	18.4	13.6
North Central				
15 years and over	8.6	8.7	8.5	7.9
15-44 years	6.0	6.1	6.4	5.8
45-64 years	9.4	9.4	12.4	8.6
65 years and over	12.4	12.6	14.4	11.7
South				
15 years and over	7.7	7.6	7.8	8.4
15-44 years	5.4	5.3	5.7	6.6
45-64 years	8.5	8.2	10.5	8.8
65 years and over	11.1	11.0	12.3	10.4
West				
15 years and over	6.7	6.9	6.5	6.2
15-44 years	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.3
45-64 years	7.3	7.3	7.8	7.0
65 years and over	10.3	10.3	10.9	10.1

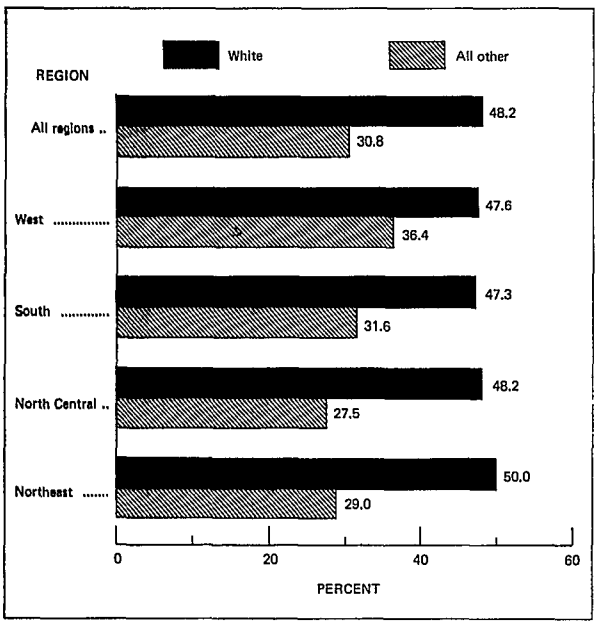


Figure 6. Patients aged 45 years and over as a percent of total discharges from short-stay hospitals, excluding deliveries, by geographic region and color: United States, 1973.

The average length of stay for all others varied considerably for the group 65 years and over among regions, with 10.9 days of care in the West and 18.4 in the Northeast (table D).

CONCLUSION

Analysis of estimates for 1973 on the utilization of short-stay hospitals in the United States in terms of age, sex, color, hospital size and ownership, and region, based on the Hospital Discharge Survey, can be summarized as follows:

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

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 under 15 and 65 years or over. Average length of stay was generally longer for males, but it was longer for female patients aged 65 years and over.

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

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

5. Voluntary nonprofit hospitals cared for almost three-quarters of all patients discharged and reported female discharges 51 percent greater than male. Voluntary nonprofit hospitals had the longest average length of stay and proprietary hospitals the shortest.

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

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

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

REFERENCES

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

[2] National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals by characteristics of discharged patients, United States, 1965. *Vital and Health Statistics.* PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 13-No. 3. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Dec. 1967.

[3] National Center for Health Statistics: Patients discharged from short-stay hospitals by size and type of ownership, United States, 1965. *Vital and Health Statistics.* PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 13-No. 4. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Dec. 1968.

[4] National Center for Health Statistics: Regional utilization of short-stay hospitals, United States, 1965. *Vital and Health Statistics.* PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 13-No. 5. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, June 1969.

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

[6] National Center for Health Statistics: Development of the design of the NCHS Hospital Discharge Survey. *Vital and Health Statistics.* PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 2-No. 39. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Sept. 1970.

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

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

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

[10] National Center for Health Statistics: Inpatient utilization of short-stay hospitals in each geographic division, United States, 1966-1968. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 10. DHEW Pub. No. (HSM) 73-1761. Health Services and Mental Health Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Nov. 1972.

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

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

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

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

[15] National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals, summary of nonmedical statistics, United States, 1970. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 14. DHEW Pub. No. (HRA) 74-1765. Health Resources Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Aug. 1973.

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

[17] National Center for Health Statistics: Development and maintenance of a national inventory of hospitals and institutions. *Vital and Health Statistics.* PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 1-No. 3. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Feb. 1965.

[18] National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals, summary of nonmedical statistics, United States, 1971. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 17. DHEW Pub. No. (HRA) 75-1768. Health Resources Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Aug. 1974.

[19] National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals, summary of nonmedical statistics, United States, 1972. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 19. DHEW Pub. No. (HRA) 75-1770. Health Resources Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, June 1975.

[20] National Center for Health Statistics: Inpatient utilization of short-stay hospitals by diagnosis: United States, 1972. *Vital and Health Statistics.* Series 13-No. 20. DHEW Pub. No. (HRA) 76-1771. Health Resources Administration. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Nov. 1975.

[21] National Center for Health Statistics: Surgery in short-stay hospitals, United States, 1972. *Monthly Vital Statistics Report.* Vol. 23, No. 7, Supplement (3), (HRA) 75-1120. Rockville, Md. Health Resources Administration, Oct. 17, 1974.

[22] National Center for Health Statistics: Surgery in short-stay hospitals, United States, 1973. *Monthly Vital Statistics Report.* Vol. 24, No. 3, Supplement, (HRA) 75-1120. Rockville, Md. Health Resources Administration, May 30, 1975.

[23] National Center for Health Statistics: Utilization of short-stay hospitals, by diagnosis, United States, 1973. *Monthly Vital Statistics Report.* Vol. 24, No. 3, Supplement (2), (HRA) 75-1120. Rockville, Md. Health Resources Administration, June 10, 1975.

LIST OF DETAILED TABLES

TABLE 1. NUMBER AND PEPCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY COLOR AND AGE OF PATIENT, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1973

(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.....	32,125	12,835	19,266	16,173	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,933	2,231	1,700	1,685	12.2	17.4	8.8	10.4
15-44 YEARS.....	13,482	3,873	9,598	6,524	42.0	30.2	49.8	40.3
45-64 YEARS.....	7,772	3,637	4,131	4,126	24.2	28.3	21.4	25.5
65 YEARS AND OVER..	6,937	3,094	3,837	3,837	21.6	24.1	19.9	23.7
WHITE								
ALL AGES.....	24,402	9,899	14,497	12,350	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,898	1,638	1,259	1,255	11.9	16.5	8.7	10.2
15-44 YEARS.....	9,727	2,864	6,862	4,723	39.9	28.9	47.3	38.2
45-64 YEARS.....	6,160	2,898	3,261	3,257	25.2	29.3	22.5	26.4
65 YEARS AND OVER..	5,616	2,499	3,116	3,116	23.0	25.2	21.5	25.2
ALL OTHER								
ALL AGES.....	3,619	1,316	2,301	1,766	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	527	305	222	214	14.6	23.2	9.7	12.1
15-44 YEARS.....	1,977	505	1,471	945	54.6	38.4	63.9	53.5
45-64 YEARS.....	664	296	367	366	18.3	22.5	16.0	20.7
65 YEARS AND OVER..	451	210	241	241	12.5	16.0	10.5	13.6
COLOR NOT STATED								
ALL AGES.....	4,105	1,619	2,467	2,056	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	508	288	218	217	12.4	17.8	8.8	10.5
15-44 YEARS.....	1,778	504	1,265	855	43.3	31.1	51.3	41.6
45-64 YEARS.....	949	443	503	503	23.1	27.3	20.4	24.5
65 YEARS AND OVER..	870	385	481	481	21.2	23.8	19.5	23.4

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, 1973

(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.....	32,125	12,835	19,266	16,173	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,933	2,231	1,700	1,685	12.2	17.4	8.8	10.4
15-44 YEARS.....	13,482	3,873	9,598	6,524	42.0	30.2	49.8	40.3
45-64 YEARS.....	7,772	3,637	4,131	4,126	24.2	28.3	21.4	25.5
65 YEARS AND OVER..	6,937	3,094	3,837	3,837	21.6	24.1	19.9	23.7
NORTHEAST								
ALL AGES.....	7,208	2,883	4,321	3,622	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	837	473	364	361	11.6	16.4	8.4	10.0
15-44 YEARS.....	2,961	823	2,135	1,439	41.1	28.6	49.4	39.7
45-64 YEARS.....	1,828	878	949	948	25.4	30.5	22.0	26.2
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,582	708	873	873	22.0	24.6	20.2	24.1
NORTH CENTRAL								
ALL AGES.....	9,975	4,019	5,947	5,068	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	1,318	735	581	578	13.2	18.3	9.8	11.4
15-44 YEARS.....	4,110	1,224	2,881	2,007	41.2	30.5	48.4	39.6
45-64 YEARS.....	2,438	1,139	1,297	1,296	24.4	28.3	21.8	25.6
65 YEARS AND OVER..	2,110	921	1,187	1,187	21.2	22.9	20.0	23.4
SOUTH								
ALL AGES.....	9,905	3,870	6,027	4,993	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	1,206	689	516	509	12.2	17.8	8.6	10.2
15-44 YEARS.....	4,243	1,169	3,071	2,044	42.8	30.2	50.9	40.9
45-64 YEARS.....	2,250	1,032	1,217	1,215	22.7	26.7	20.2	24.3
65 YEARS AND OVER..	2,206	979	1,224	1,224	22.3	25.3	20.3	24.5
WEST								
ALL AGES.....	5,036	2,064	2,970	2,490	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	573	333	239	238	11.4	16.2	8.0	9.5
15-44 YEARS.....	2,168	657	1,511	1,033	43.1	31.8	50.9	41.5
45-64 YEARS.....	1,256	588	668	667	24.9	28.5	22.5	26.8
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,039	486	552	552	20.6	23.5	18.6	22.2

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, 1973

(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.....	32,125	12,835	19,266	16,173	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,933	2,231	1,700	1,685	12.2	17.4	8.8	10.4
15-44 YEARS.....	13,482	3,873	9,598	6,524	42.0	30.2	49.8	40.3
45-64 YEARS.....	7,772	3,637	4,131	4,126	24.2	28.3	21.4	25.5
65 YEARS AND OVER..	6,937	3,094	3,837	3,837	21.6	24.1	19.9	23.7
6-99 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	6,604	2,687	3,912	3,399	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	793	450	342	340	12.0	16.7	8.8	10.0
15-44 YEARS.....	2,518	777	1,739	1,228	38.1	28.9	44.4	36.1
45-64 YEARS.....	1,535	688	846	845	23.2	25.6	21.6	24.9
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,759	772	985	985	26.6	28.7	25.2	29.0
100-199 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	5,485	2,077	3,404	2,812	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	688	391	296	293	12.5	18.8	8.7	10.4
15-44 YEARS.....	2,363	596	1,765	1,177	43.1	28.7	51.8	41.8
45-64 YEARS.....	1,215	548	666	666	22.1	26.4	19.6	23.7
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,220	542	677	677	22.2	26.1	19.9	24.1
200-299 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	5,625	2,254	3,365	2,813	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	747	424	323	320	13.3	18.8	9.6	11.4
15-44 YEARS.....	2,370	687	1,680	1,131	42.1	30.5	49.9	40.2
45-64 YEARS.....	1,317	613	703	702	23.4	27.2	20.9	25.0
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,191	531	660	660	21.2	23.5	19.6	23.5
300-499 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	8,228	3,293	4,930	4,138	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	999	565	433	431	12.1	17.2	8.8	10.4
15-44 YEARS.....	3,449	994	2,452	1,663	41.9	30.2	49.7	40.2
45-64 YEARS.....	2,104	1,004	1,100	1,099	25.6	30.5	22.3	26.6
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,676	730	945	945	20.4	22.2	19.2	22.8
500 BEDS OR MORE								
ALL AGES.....	6,183	2,523	3,655	3,011	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	707	401	305	300	11.4	15.9	8.4	10.0
15-44 YEARS.....	2,783	818	1,963	1,325	45.0	32.4	53.7	44.0
45-64 YEARS.....	1,602	785	816	815	25.9	31.1	22.3	27.1
65 YEARS AND OVER..	1,091	519	571	571	17.6	20.6	15.6	19.0

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, 1973

(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.....	32,125	12,835	19,266	16,173	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,933	2,231	1,700	1,685	12.2	17.4	8.8	10.4
15-44 YEARS.....	13,482	3,873	9,598	6,524	42.0	30.2	49.8	40.3
45-64 YEARS.....	7,772	3,637	4,131	4,126	24.2	28.3	21.4	25.5
65 YEARS AND OVER...	6,937	3,094	3,837	3,837	21.6	24.1	19.9	23.7
VOLUNTARY NONPROFIT								
ALL AGES.....	23,235	9,233	13,985	11,735	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,844	1,603	1,239	1,230	12.2	17.4	8.9	10.5
15-44 YEARS.....	9,548	2,662	6,877	4,639	41.1	28.8	49.2	39.5
45-64 YEARS.....	5,730	2,681	3,046	3,043	24.7	29.0	21.8	25.9
65 YEARS AND OVER...	5,114	2,286	2,823	2,823	22.0	24.8	20.2	24.1
GOVERNMENT								
ALL AGES.....	6,633	2,705	3,923	3,191	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	814	470	344	338	12.3	17.4	8.8	10.6
15-44 YEARS.....	2,993	917	2,073	1,348	45.1	33.9	52.8	42.3
45-64 YEARS.....	1,476	699	776	774	22.3	25.8	19.8	24.3
65 YEARS AND OVER...	1,350	619	730	730	20.4	22.9	18.6	22.9
PROPRIETARY								
ALL AGES.....	2,256	898	1,358	1,247	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	275	158	117	117	12.2	17.6	8.6	9.4
15-44 YEARS.....	941	294	647	536	41.7	32.7	47.6	43.0
45-64 YEARS.....	566	257	309	309	25.1	28.6	22.8	24.8
65 YEARS AND OVER...	474	189	284	284	21.0	21.1	20.9	22.8

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, 1973

(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	32,125	6,604	19,338	6,183	249,389	42,534	152,151	54,704
UNDER 15 YEARS	3,933	793	2,434	707	17,884	2,909	10,614	4,362
15-44 YEARS	13,482	2,518	8,181	2,783	76,732	11,044	46,964	18,724
45-64 YEARS	7,772	1,535	4,636	1,602	70,828	10,527	43,343	16,958
65 YEARS AND OVER	6,937	1,759	4,087	1,091	83,944	18,054	51,229	14,661
NORTHEAST	7,208	671	5,206	1,331	65,047	5,153	46,450	13,444
UNDER 15 YEARS	837	68	624	145	4,263	286	2,983	994
15-44 YEARS	2,961	252	2,110	599	18,603	1,179	13,042	4,382
45-64 YEARS	1,828	173	1,309	346	19,579	1,397	14,060	4,122
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,582	178	1,164	241	22,602	2,291	16,366	3,945
NORTH CENTRAL	9,975	1,448	6,269	2,258	79,985	10,080	49,846	20,060
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,318	172	867	279	5,959	614	3,735	1,610
15-44 YEARS	4,110	503	2,637	970	24,850	2,437	15,805	6,608
45-64 YEARS	2,438	347	1,467	624	22,948	2,534	13,830	6,584
65 YEARS AND OVER	2,110	426	1,298	386	26,228	4,495	16,476	5,257
SOUTH	9,905	3,091	4,822	1,992	72,185	20,109	35,169	16,907
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,206	374	595	237	5,556	1,550	2,474	1,533
15-44 YEARS	4,243	1,152	2,161	931	23,086	5,068	11,828	6,189
45-64 YEARS	2,250	689	1,094	467	19,102	4,734	9,462	4,906
65 YEARS AND OVER	2,206	877	972	357	24,441	8,757	11,405	4,279
WEST	5,036	1,394	3,040	602	32,171	7,192	20,686	4,293
UNDER 15 YEARS	573	179	348	46	2,106	459	1,423	225
15-44 YEARS	2,168	610	1,274	284	10,193	2,359	6,289	1,545
45-64 YEARS	1,256	327	765	165	9,200	1,862	5,992	1,345
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,039	278	653	107	10,672	2,511	6,982	1,179
MALE								
UNITED STATES	12,835	2,687	7,625	2,523	105,911	17,428	63,819	24,665
UNDER 15 YEARS	2,231	450	1,380	401	10,006	1,561	6,064	2,380
15-44 YEARS	3,873	777	2,278	818	26,337	3,700	15,603	7,034
45-64 YEARS	3,637	688	2,165	785	33,761	4,718	20,541	8,502
65 YEARS AND OVER	3,094	772	1,803	519	35,807	7,449	21,610	6,749
NORTHEAST	2,883	298	2,053	532	28,027	2,145	19,808	6,074
UNDER 15 YEARS	473	38	355	81	2,434	143	1,783	508
15-44 YEARS	823	88	564	171	6,458	451	4,300	1,707
45-64 YEARS	878	97	623	158	9,639	777	6,877	1,986
65 YEARS AND OVER	708	75	511	123	9,495	774	6,849	1,873

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, 1973--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	4,019	586	2,480	953	33,673	4,119	20,360	9,194
UNDER 15 YEARS	735	94	483	158	3,389	342	2,122	926
15-44 YEARS	1,224	157	773	294	8,520	825	5,232	2,463
45-64 YEARS	1,139	150	667	322	10,881	1,113	6,338	3,431
65 YEARS AND OVER	921	185	557	179	10,883	1,839	6,668	2,375
SOUTH	3,870	1,243	1,846	782	30,153	8,194	14,578	7,382
UNDER 15 YEARS	689	213	340	136	3,080	819	1,455	806
15-44 YEARS	1,169	345	562	262	7,667	1,628	3,773	2,266
45-64 YEARS	1,032	302	509	221	8,750	2,039	4,339	2,372
65 YEARS AND OVER	979	383	434	163	10,656	3,707	5,011	1,939
WEST	2,064	561	1,247	256	14,058	2,971	9,073	2,015
UNDER 15 YEARS	333	105	202	27	1,102	257	704	141
15-44 YEARS	657	187	379	91	3,692	796	2,298	598
45-64 YEARS	588	139	365	84	4,491	789	2,988	714
65 YEARS AND OVER	486	131	301	54	4,773	1,129	3,082	563
FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES								
UNITED STATES	19,266	3,912	11,699	3,655	143,271	25,053	88,222	29,996
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,700	342	1,052	305	7,861	1,346	4,535	1,981
15-44 YEARS	9,598	1,739	5,896	1,963	50,324	7,335	31,316	11,672
45-64 YEARS	4,131	846	2,469	816	37,025	5,805	22,780	8,440
65 YEARS AND OVER	3,837	985	2,282	571	48,061	10,567	29,591	7,903
NORTHEAST	4,321	374	3,150	798	36,979	3,008	26,614	7,357
UNDER 15 YEARS	364	31	269	65	1,827	143	1,198	486
15-44 YEARS	2,135	164	1,544	427	12,129	727	8,733	2,669
45-64 YEARS	949	76	685	188	9,927	620	7,178	2,129
65 YEARS AND OVER	873	103	652	118	13,095	1,517	9,505	2,073
NORTH CENTRAL	5,947	861	3,783	1,302	46,226	5,953	29,430	10,843
UNDER 15 YEARS	581	78	383	120	2,557	272	1,601	684
15-44 YEARS	2,881	346	1,861	675	16,291	1,608	10,548	4,136
45-64 YEARS	1,297	196	799	301	12,048	1,420	7,483	3,145
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,187	241	740	206	15,329	2,653	9,798	2,878
SOUTH	6,027	1,845	2,972	1,210	41,990	11,903	20,568	9,519
UNDER 15 YEARS	516	160	254	101	2,473	729	1,017	727
15-44 YEARS	3,071	806	1,597	668	15,406	3,438	8,046	3,921
45-64 YEARS	1,217	386	584	246	10,341	2,691	5,115	2,534
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,224	494	537	194	13,771	5,046	6,389	2,336

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, 1973--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	2,970	832	1,793	345	18,076	4,188	11,610	2,278
UNDER 15 YEARS	239	74	146	19	1,003	201	718	84
15-44 YEARS	1,511	423	895	192	6,498	1,562	3,989	946
45-64 YEARS	668	188	400	80	4,709	1,073	3,004	631
65 YEARS AND OVER	552	147	352	53	5,866	1,351	3,899	616
FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES								
UNITED STATES	16,173	3,399	9,763	3,011	130,869	23,368	80,271	27,230
UNDER 15 YEARS	1,685	340	1,045	300	7,811	1,340	4,510	1,961
15-44 YEARS	6,524	1,228	3,971	1,325	37,989	5,659	23,398	8,932
45-64 YEARS	4,126	845	2,466	815	37,007	5,802	22,771	8,434
65 YEARS AND OVER	3,837	985	2,282	571	48,061	10,567	29,591	7,903
NORTHEAST	3,622	322	2,620	680	33,718	2,805	24,149	6,764
UNDER 15 YEARS	361	31	267	63	1,816	143	1,193	480
15-44 YEARS	1,439	112	1,016	311	8,886	524	6,278	2,084
45-64 YEARS	948	76	684	188	9,920	620	7,173	2,128
65 YEARS AND OVER	873	103	652	118	13,095	1,517	9,505	2,073
NORTH CENTRAL	5,068	764	3,221	1,084	42,273	5,561	26,860	9,852
UNDER 15 YEARS	578	78	381	119	2,546	271	1,594	681
15-44 YEARS	2,007	248	1,301	458	12,355	1,217	7,987	3,152
45-64 YEARS	1,296	196	799	301	12,042	1,419	7,481	3,142
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,187	241	740	206	15,329	2,653	9,798	2,878
SOUTH	4,993	1,608	2,419	965	38,335	11,199	18,592	8,544
UNDER 15 YEARS	509	159	251	99	2,451	726	1,008	717
15-44 YEARS	2,044	571	1,047	427	11,777	2,739	6,081	2,957
45-64 YEARS	1,215	386	584	246	10,337	2,689	5,114	2,534
65 YEARS AND OVER	1,224	494	537	194	13,771	5,046	6,389	2,336
WEST	2,490	705	1,503	282	16,543	3,803	10,670	2,070
UNDER 15 YEARS	238	73	145	19	999	200	716	84
15-44 YEARS	1,033	297	606	130	4,971	1,179	3,052	739
45-64 YEARS	667	187	400	80	4,707	1,073	3,003	631
65 YEARS AND OVER	552	147	352	53	5,866	1,351	3,899	616

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, 1973

(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	249,389	100.0	1,211.6	331.9	7.8
UNDER 1 YEAR	3,708	1.5	1,205.2	330.2	6.4
1-4 YEARS	5,266	2.1	386.5	105.9	4.3
5-14 YEARS	8,910	3.6	229.3	62.8	4.2
15-24 YEARS	25,504	10.2	684.8	187.6	4.8
25-34 YEARS	25,994	10.4	936.0	256.4	5.5
35-44 YEARS	25,234	10.1	1,130.2	309.6	7.3
45-54 YEARS	33,408	13.4	1,417.0	388.2	8.4
55-64 YEARS	37,420	15.0	1,962.8	537.7	9.8
65-74 YEARS	42,357	17.0	3,286.5	900.4	11.4
75 YEARS AND OVER	41,587	16.7	5,616.1	1,538.7	13.0
MALE					
ALL AGES	105,911	100.0	1,066.5	292.2	8.3
UNDER 1 YEAR	2,089	2.0	1,328.3	363.9	6.2
1-4 YEARS	2,902	2.7	417.5	114.4	4.1
5-14 YEARS	5,014	4.7	253.4	69.4	4.2
15-24 YEARS	8,471	8.0	467.6	128.1	6.0
25-34 YEARS	7,992	7.5	596.0	163.3	6.6
35-44 YEARS	9,875	9.3	920.6	252.2	7.9
45-54 YEARS	14,949	14.1	1,319.4	361.5	8.7
55-64 YEARS	18,812	17.8	2,094.9	573.9	9.8
65-74 YEARS	19,735	18.6	3,524.7	965.7	11.0
75 YEARS AND OVER	16,073	15.2	5,675.3	1,554.9	12.4
FEMALE					
ALL AGES	143,271	100.0	1,344.9	368.5	7.4
UNDER 1 YEAR	1,616	1.1	1,074.4	294.4	6.7
1-4 YEARS	2,358	1.6	353.3	96.8	4.6
5-14 YEARS	3,887	2.7	203.8	55.8	4.1
15-24 YEARS	17,010	11.9	889.3	243.6	4.3
25-34 YEARS	17,997	12.6	1,253.3	343.4	5.1
35-44 YEARS	15,317	10.7	1,320.3	361.7	7.0
45-54 YEARS	18,448	12.9	1,506.3	412.7	8.3
55-64 YEARS	18,577	13.0	1,842.0	504.7	9.8
65-74 YEARS	22,578	15.8	3,097.6	848.7	11.7
75 YEARS AND OVER	25,483	17.8	5,572.5	1,526.7	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, 1973

(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.....	32,125	12,835	19,266	16,173	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	834	319	514	508	2.6	2.5	2.7	3.1
1 DAY.....	2,428	1,066	1,359	1,275	7.6	8.3	7.1	7.9
2 DAYS.....	4,713	1,821	2,889	2,450	14.7	14.2	15.0	15.2
3 DAYS.....	3,990	1,335	2,653	1,666	12.4	10.4	13.8	10.3
4 DAYS.....	3,398	1,213	2,184	1,364	10.6	9.4	11.3	8.4
5-6 DAYS.....	4,672	1,883	2,784	2,259	14.5	14.7	14.5	14.0
7-8 DAYS.....	3,316	1,330	1,985	1,825	10.3	10.4	10.3	11.3
9-10 DAYS.....	2,210	905	1,303	1,264	6.9	7.0	6.8	7.8
11-20 DAYS.....	4,456	2,003	2,449	2,424	13.9	15.6	12.7	15.0
21-30 DAYS.....	1,227	566	660	657	3.8	4.4	3.4	4.1
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	881	395	484	480	2.7	3.1	2.5	3.0
UNDER 15 YEARS								
ALL STAYS.....	3,933	2,231	1,700	1,685	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	152	90	63	63	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.7
1 DAY.....	695	394	301	300	17.7	17.7	17.7	17.8
2 DAYS.....	1,104	601	503	500	28.1	26.9	29.6	29.7
3 DAYS.....	504	296	208	202	12.8	13.3	12.2	12.0
4 DAYS.....	364	213	150	147	9.2	9.5	8.9	8.7
5-6 DAYS.....	474	274	199	197	12.0	12.3	11.7	11.7
7-8 DAYS.....	229	133	97	97	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.7
9-10 DAYS.....	125	69	56	56	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.3
11-20 DAYS.....	196	110	86	86	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1
21-30 DAYS.....	48	28	20	20	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	42	24	19	19	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
15-44 YEARS								
ALL STAYS.....	13,482	3,873	9,598	6,524	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY.....	435	111	325	318	3.2	2.9	3.4	4.9
1 DAY.....	1,168	377	789	706	8.7	9.7	8.2	10.8
2 DAYS.....	2,355	640	1,713	1,277	17.5	16.5	17.8	19.6
3 DAYS.....	2,290	492	1,797	815	17.0	12.7	18.7	12.5
4 DAYS.....	1,864	443	1,421	605	13.8	11.4	14.8	9.3
5-6 DAYS.....	2,085	630	1,453	930	15.5	16.3	15.1	14.3
7-8 DAYS.....	1,242	380	861	701	9.2	9.8	9.0	10.7
9-10 DAYS.....	661	215	445	406	4.9	5.6	4.6	6.2
11-20 DAYS.....	994	401	592	567	7.4	10.4	6.2	8.7
21-30 DAYS.....	211	99	112	109	1.6	2.6	1.2	1.7
31 DAYS OR MORE.....	177	85	91	87	1.3	2.2	0.9	1.3

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

TABLE 7. NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY AGE AND LENGTH OF STAY, ACCORDING TO SEX: UNITED STATES, 1973--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	7,772	3,637	4,131	4,126	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY	154	70	84	84	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0
1 DAY	357	188	169	168	4.6	5.2	4.1	4.1
2 DAYS	849	383	465	465	10.9	10.5	11.3	11.3
3 DAYS	733	334	399	399	9.4	9.2	9.7	9.7
4 DAYS	676	324	351	350	8.7	8.9	8.5	8.5
5-6 DAYS	1,180	565	614	614	15.2	15.5	14.9	14.9
7-8 DAYS	976	431	544	544	12.6	11.9	13.2	13.2
9-10 DAYS	753	323	430	429	9.7	8.9	10.4	10.4
11-20 DAYS	1,472	709	763	763	18.9	19.5	18.5	18.5
21-30 DAYS	382	192	191	191	4.9	5.3	4.6	4.6
31 DAYS OR MORE	240	119	120	120	3.1	3.3	2.9	2.9
65 YEARS AND OVER								
ALL STAYS	6,937	3,094	3,837	3,837	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
LESS THAN 1 DAY	92	49	43	43	1.3	1.6	1.1	1.1
1 DAY	207	106	101	101	3.0	3.4	2.6	2.6
2 DAYS	406	197	208	208	5.9	6.4	5.4	5.4
3 DAYS	463	213	249	249	6.7	6.9	6.5	6.5
4 DAYS	494	233	262	262	7.1	7.5	6.8	6.8
5-6 DAYS	933	415	518	518	13.5	13.4	13.5	13.5
7-8 DAYS	870	386	484	484	12.5	12.5	12.6	12.6
9-10 DAYS	672	298	373	373	9.7	9.6	9.7	9.7
11-20 DAYS	1,793	783	1,008	1,008	25.8	25.3	26.3	26.3
21-30 DAYS	585	247	338	338	8.4	8.0	8.8	8.8
31 DAYS OR MORE	422	167	254	254	6.1	5.4	6.6	6.6

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, 1973

(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.....	249,389	105,911	143,271	130,869	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	17,884	10,006	7,861	7,811	7.2	9.4	5.5	6.0
15-44 YEARS.....	76,732	26,337	50,324	37,989	30.8	24.9	35.1	29.0
45-64 YEARS.....	70,828	33,761	37,025	37,007	28.4	31.9	25.8	28.3
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	83,944	35,807	48,061	48,061	33.7	33.8	33.5	36.7
WHITE								
ALL AGES.....	190,331	81,304	108,968	100,335	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	12,361	7,064	5,295	5,279	6.5	8.7	4.9	5.3
15-44 YEARS.....	54,437	18,778	35,644	27,042	28.6	23.1	32.7	27.0
45-64 YEARS.....	55,467	26,464	28,991	28,976	29.1	32.5	26.6	28.9
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	68,067	28,998	39,038	39,038	35.8	35.7	35.8	38.9
ALL OTHER								
ALL AGES.....	29,082	12,380	16,694	14,572	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,331	1,810	1,521	1,492	11.5	14.6	9.1	10.2
15-44 YEARS.....	12,338	4,278	8,059	5,969	42.4	34.6	48.3	41.0
45-64 YEARS.....	7,369	3,535	3,829	3,826	25.3	28.6	22.9	26.3
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	6,043	2,757	3,285	3,285	20.8	22.3	19.7	22.5
COLOR NOT STATED								
ALL AGES.....	29,975	12,228	17,609	15,961	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,192	1,132	1,045	1,040	7.3	9.3	5.9	6.5
15-44 YEARS.....	9,957	3,282	6,621	4,979	33.2	26.8	37.6	31.2
45-64 YEARS.....	7,992	3,762	4,205	4,204	26.7	30.8	23.9	26.3
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	9,834	4,052	5,738	5,738	32.8	33.1	32.6	36.0

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, 1973

(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	7.8	8.3	7.4	8.1
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.8	5.2	5.8
45-64 YEARS	9.1	9.3	9.0	9.0
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.1	11.6	12.5	12.5
WHITE				
ALL AGES	7.8	8.2	7.5	8.1
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2
15-44 YEARS	5.6	6.6	5.2	5.7
45-64 YEARS	9.0	9.1	8.9	8.9
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.1	11.6	12.5	12.5
ALL OTHER				
ALL AGES	8.0	9.4	7.3	8.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	6.3	5.9	6.8	7.0
15-44 YEARS	6.2	8.5	5.5	6.3
45-64 YEARS	11.1	11.9	10.4	10.4
65 YEARS AND OVER	13.4	13.1	13.7	13.7
COLOR NOT STATED				
ALL AGES	7.3	7.6	7.1	7.8
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.3	3.9	4.8	4.8
15-44 YEARS	5.6	6.5	5.2	5.8
45-64 YEARS	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.4
65 YEARS AND OVER	11.3	10.5	11.9	11.9

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, 1973

(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.....	249,389	105,911	143,271	130,869	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	17,884	10,006	7,861	7,811	7.2	9.4	5.5	6.0
15-44 YEARS.....	76,732	26,337	50,324	37,989	30.8	24.9	35.1	29.0
45-64 YEARS.....	70,828	33,761	37,025	37,007	28.4	31.9	25.8	28.3
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	83,944	35,807	48,061	48,061	33.7	33.8	33.5	36.7
NORTHEAST								
ALL AGES.....	65,047	28,027	36,979	33,718	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,263	2,434	1,827	1,816	6.6	8.7	4.9	5.4
15-44 YEARS.....	18,603	6,458	12,129	8,886	28.6	23.0	32.8	26.4
45-64 YEARS.....	19,579	9,639	9,927	9,920	30.1	34.4	26.8	29.4
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	22,602	9,495	13,095	13,095	34.7	33.9	35.4	38.8
NORTH CENTRAL								
ALL AGES.....	79,985	33,673	46,226	42,273	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	5,959	3,389	2,557	2,546	7.4	10.1	5.5	6.0
15-44 YEARS.....	24,850	8,520	16,291	12,355	31.1	25.3	35.2	29.2
45-64 YEARS.....	22,948	10,881	12,048	12,042	28.7	32.3	26.1	28.5
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	26,228	10,883	15,329	15,329	32.8	32.3	33.2	36.3
SOUTH								
ALL AGES.....	72,185	30,153	41,990	38,335	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	5,556	3,080	2,473	2,451	7.7	10.2	5.9	6.4
15-44 YEARS.....	23,086	7,667	15,406	11,777	32.0	25.4	36.7	30.7
45-64 YEARS.....	19,102	8,750	10,341	10,337	26.5	29.0	24.6	27.0
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	24,441	10,656	13,771	13,771	33.9	35.3	32.8	35.9
WEST								
ALL AGES.....	32,171	14,058	18,076	16,543	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,106	1,102	1,003	999	6.5	7.8	5.6	6.0
15-44 YEARS.....	10,193	3,692	6,498	4,971	31.7	26.3	35.9	30.0
45-64 YEARS.....	9,200	4,491	4,709	4,707	28.6	31.9	26.0	28.5
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	10,672	4,773	5,866	5,866	33.2	34.0	32.5	35.5

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, 1973

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

REGION AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
UNITED STATES				
ALL AGES	7.8	8.3	7.4	8.1
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.8	5.2	5.8
45-64 YEARS	9.1	9.3	9.0	9.0
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.1	11.6	12.5	12.5
NORTHEAST				
ALL AGES	9.0	9.7	8.6	9.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0
15-44 YEARS	6.3	7.8	5.7	6.2
45-64 YEARS	10.7	11.0	10.5	10.5
65 YEARS AND OVER	14.3	13.4	15.0	15.0
NORTH CENTRAL				
ALL AGES	8.0	8.4	7.8	8.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.4
15-44 YEARS	6.0	7.0	5.7	6.2
45-64 YEARS	9.4	9.6	9.3	9.3
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.4	11.8	12.9	12.9
SOUTH				
ALL AGES	7.3	7.8	7.0	7.7
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.6	4.5	4.8	4.8
15-44 YEARS	5.4	6.6	5.0	5.8
45-64 YEARS	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5
65 YEARS AND OVER	11.1	10.9	11.2	11.2
WEST				
ALL AGES	6.4	6.8	6.1	6.6
UNDER 15 YEARS	3.7	3.3	4.2	4.2
15-44 YEARS	4.7	5.6	4.3	4.8
45-64 YEARS	7.3	7.6	7.0	7.1
65 YEARS AND OVER	10.3	9.8	10.6	10.6

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, 1973

(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.....	249,389	105,911	143,271	130,869	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	17,884	10,006	7,861	7,811	7.2	9.4	5.5	6.0
15-44 YEARS.....	76,732	26,337	50,324	37,989	30.8	24.9	35.1	29.0
45-64 YEARS.....	70,828	33,761	37,025	37,007	28.4	31.9	25.8	28.3
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	83,944	35,807	48,061	48,061	33.7	33.8	33.5	36.7
6-99 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	42,534	17,428	25,053	23,368	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,909	1,561	1,346	1,340	6.8	9.0	5.4	5.7
15-44 YEARS.....	11,044	3,700	7,335	5,659	26.0	21.2	29.3	24.2
45-64 YEARS.....	10,527	4,718	5,805	5,802	24.7	27.1	23.2	24.8
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	18,054	7,449	10,567	10,567	42.4	42.7	42.2	45.2
100-199 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	39,727	15,857	23,844	21,591	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	2,813	1,586	1,224	1,216	7.1	10.0	5.1	5.6
15-44 YEARS.....	12,103	3,557	8,537	6,294	30.5	22.4	35.8	29.1
45-64 YEARS.....	10,221	4,500	5,715	5,713	25.7	28.4	24.0	26.5
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	14,590	6,214	8,368	8,368	36.7	39.2	35.1	38.8
200-299 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	43,152	18,422	24,685	22,467	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	3,149	1,864	1,279	1,270	7.3	10.1	5.2	5.7
15-44 YEARS.....	13,568	4,649	8,892	6,685	31.4	25.2	36.0	29.8
45-64 YEARS.....	12,112	5,818	6,285	6,282	28.1	31.6	25.5	28.0
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	14,324	6,091	8,230	8,230	33.2	33.1	33.3	36.6
300-499 BEDS								
ALL AGES.....	69,271	29,540	39,693	36,212	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,652	2,614	2,032	2,024	6.7	8.8	5.1	5.6
15-44 YEARS.....	21,294	7,397	13,887	10,419	30.7	25.0	35.0	28.8
45-64 YEARS.....	21,011	10,223	10,780	10,776	30.3	34.6	27.2	29.8
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	22,315	9,305	12,993	12,993	32.2	31.5	32.7	35.9
500 BEDS OR MORE								
ALL AGES.....	54,704	24,665	29,996	27,230	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,362	2,380	1,981	1,961	8.0	9.7	6.6	7.2
15-44 YEARS.....	18,724	7,034	11,672	8,932	34.2	28.5	38.9	32.8
45-64 YEARS.....	16,958	8,502	8,440	8,434	31.0	34.5	28.1	31.0
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	14,661	6,749	7,903	7,903	26.8	27.4	26.3	29.0

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, 1973

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

BED SIZE OF HOSPITAL AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
ALL SIZES				
ALL AGES	7.8	8.3	7.4	8.1
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.8	5.2	5.8
45-64 YEARS	9.1	9.3	9.0	9.0
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.1	11.6	12.5	12.5
6-99 BEDS				
ALL AGES	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.9
UNDER 15 YEARS	3.7	3.5	3.9	3.9
15-44 YEARS	4.4	4.8	4.2	4.6
45-64 YEARS	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9
65 YEARS AND OVER	10.3	9.6	10.7	10.7
100-199 BEDS				
ALL AGES	7.2	7.6	7.0	7.7
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2
15-44 YEARS	5.1	6.0	4.8	5.3
45-64 YEARS	8.4	8.2	8.6	8.6
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.0	11.5	12.4	12.4
200-299 BEDS				
ALL AGES	7.7	8.2	7.3	8.0
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.2	4.4	4.0	4.0
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.8	5.3	5.9
45-64 YEARS	9.2	9.5	8.9	9.0
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.0	11.5	12.5	12.5
300-499 BEDS				
ALL AGES	8.4	9.0	8.1	8.8
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.7
15-44 YEARS	6.2	7.4	5.7	6.3
45-64 YEARS	10.0	10.2	9.8	9.8
65 YEARS AND OVER	13.3	12.7	13.8	13.8
500 BEDS OR MORE				
ALL AGES	8.8	9.8	8.2	9.0
UNDER 15 YEARS	6.2	5.9	6.5	6.5
15-44 YEARS	6.7	8.6	5.9	6.7
45-64 YEARS	10.6	10.8	10.3	10.3
65 YEARS AND OVER	13.4	13.0	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, 1973

(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.....	249,389	105,911	143,271	130,869	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	17,884	10,006	7,861	7,811	7.2	9.4	5.5	6.0
15-44 YEARS.....	76,732	26,337	50,324	37,989	30.8	24.9	35.1	29.0
45-64 YEARS.....	70,828	33,761	37,025	37,007	28.4	31.9	25.8	28.3
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	83,944	35,807	48,061	48,061	33.7	33.8	33.5	36.7
VOLUNTARY NONPROFIT								
ALL AGES.....	184,924	77,706	107,061	97,709	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	12,855	7,110	5,728	5,699	7.0	9.2	5.4	5.8
15-44 YEARS.....	55,065	18,087	36,921	27,610	29.8	23.3	34.5	28.3
45-64 YEARS.....	53,204	25,348	27,828	27,815	28.8	32.6	26.0	28.5
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	63,801	27,160	36,585	36,585	34.5	35.0	34.2	37.4
GOVERNMENT								
ALL AGES.....	49,377	22,261	27,068	24,415	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	4,086	2,345	1,740	1,722	8.3	10.5	6.4	7.1
15-44 YEARS.....	16,910	6,715	10,182	7,552	34.2	30.2	37.6	30.9
45-64 YEARS.....	13,214	6,407	6,793	6,788	26.8	28.8	25.1	27.8
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	15,167	6,794	8,354	8,354	30.7	30.5	30.9	34.2
PROPRIETARY								
ALL AGES.....	15,087	5,944	9,141	8,745	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
UNDER 15 YEARS.....	944	551	392	391	6.3	9.3	4.3	4.5
15-44 YEARS.....	4,758	1,535	3,222	2,827	31.5	25.8	35.2	32.3
45-64 YEARS.....	4,410	2,005	2,404	2,404	29.2	33.7	26.3	27.5
65 YEARS AND OVER.....	4,976	1,853	3,123	3,123	33.0	31.2	34.2	35.7

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, 1973

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

TYPE OF OWNERSHIP AND AGE	1/ BOTH SEXES	MALE	FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES	FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES
	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS			
ALL TYPES				
ALL AGES	7.8	8.3	7.4	8.1
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.7	6.8	5.2	5.8
45-64 YEARS	9.1	9.3	9.0	9.0
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.1	11.6	12.5	12.5
VOLUNTARY NONPROFIT				
ALL AGES	8.0	8.4	7.7	8.3
UNDER 15 YEARS	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.6
15-44 YEARS	5.8	6.8	5.4	6.0
45-64 YEARS	9.3	9.5	9.1	9.1
65 YEARS AND OVER	12.5	11.9	13.0	13.0
GOVERNMENT				
ALL AGES	7.4	8.2	6.9	7.7
UNDER 15 YEARS	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1
15-44 YEARS	5.7	7.3	4.9	5.6
45-64 YEARS	8.9	9.2	8.8	8.8
65 YEARS AND OVER	11.2	11.0	11.4	11.4
PROPRIETARY				
ALL AGES	6.7	6.6	6.7	7.0
UNDER 15 YEARS	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.3
15-44 YEARS	5.1	5.2	5.0	5.3
45-64 YEARS	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8
65 YEARS AND OVER	10.5	9.8	11.0	11.0

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, 1973

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

SEX AND AGE	TOTAL	NORTHEAST			NORTH CENTRAL			SOUTH			WEST		
		6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE	6-99 BEDS	100-499 BEDS	500 BEDS OR MORE
1/ BOTH SEXES	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN DAYS												
ALL AGES....	7.8	7.7	8.9	10.1	7.0	8.0	8.9	6.5	7.3	8.5	5.2	6.8	7.1
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.5	4.2	4.8	6.8	3.6	4.3	5.8	4.1	4.2	6.5	2.6	4.1	4.9
15-44 YEARS.....	5.7	4.7	6.2	7.3	4.8	6.0	6.8	4.4	5.5	6.6	3.9	4.9	5.4
45-64 YEARS.....	9.1	8.1	10.7	11.9	7.3	9.4	10.6	6.9	8.6	10.5	5.7	7.8	8.2
65+ YEARS.....	12.1	12.9	14.1	16.4	10.6	12.7	13.6	10.0	11.7	12.0	9.0	10.7	11.0
MALE													
ALL AGES....	8.3	7.2	9.6	11.4	7.0	8.2	9.6	6.6	7.9	9.4	5.3	7.3	7.9
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.5	3.8	5.0	6.3	3.6	4.4	5.9	3.8	4.3	5.9	2.5	3.5	5.3
15-44 YEARS.....	6.8	5.1	7.6	10.0	5.3	6.8	8.4	4.7	6.7	8.6	4.3	6.1	6.6
45-64 YEARS.....	9.3	8.0	11.0	12.6	7.4	9.5	10.7	6.8	8.5	10.7	5.7	8.2	8.5
65+ YEARS.....	11.6	10.4	13.4	15.3	10.0	12.0	13.2	9.7	11.5	11.9	8.6	10.2	10.3
FEMALE INCLUDING DELIVERIES													
ALL AGES....	7.4	8.1	8.4	9.2	6.9	7.8	8.3	6.5	6.9	7.9	5.0	6.5	6.6
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.6	4.7	4.5	7.5	3.5	4.2	5.7	4.6	4.0	7.2	2.7	4.9	4.4
15-44 YEARS.....	5.2	4.4	5.7	6.2	4.6	5.7	6.1	4.3	5.0	5.9	3.7	4.5	4.9
45-64 YEARS.....	9.0	8.2	10.5	11.3	7.2	9.4	10.4	7.0	8.8	10.3	5.7	7.5	7.8
65+ YEARS.....	12.5	14.7	14.6	17.6	11.0	13.2	13.9	10.2	11.9	12.1	9.2	11.1	11.6
FEMALE EXCLUDING DELIVERIES													
ALL AGES....	8.1	8.7	9.2	9.9	7.3	8.3	9.1	7.0	7.7	8.9	5.4	7.1	7.3
UNDER 15 YEARS...	4.6	4.7	4.5	7.6	3.5	4.2	5.7	4.6	4.0	7.2	2.7	4.9	4.4
15-44 YEARS.....	5.8	4.7	6.2	6.7	4.9	6.1	6.9	4.8	5.8	6.9	4.0	5.0	5.7
45-64 YEARS.....	9.0	8.2	10.5	11.3	7.2	9.4	10.5	7.0	8.8	10.3	5.7	7.5	7.9
65+ YEARS.....	12.5	14.7	14.6	17.6	11.0	13.2	13.9	10.2	11.9	12.1	9.2	11.1	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, 1973

(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	32,125	100.0	156.1
UNDER 1 YEAR	580	1.8	188.6
1-4 YEARS	1,214	3.8	89.1
5-14 YEARS	2,139	6.7	55.1
15-24 YEARS	5,323	16.6	142.9
25-34 YEARS	4,723	14.7	170.1
35-44 YEARS	3,436	10.7	153.9
45-54 YEARS	3,956	12.3	167.8
55-64 YEARS	3,817	11.9	200.2
65-74 YEARS	3,728	11.6	289.3
75 YEARS AND OVER	3,209	10.0	433.3
MALE			
ALL AGES	12,835	100.0	129.2
UNDER 1 YEAR	337	2.6	214.4
1-4 YEARS	703	5.5	101.1
5-14 YEARS	1,191	9.3	60.2
15-24 YEARS	1,404	10.9	77.5
25-34 YEARS	1,215	9.5	90.6
35-44 YEARS	1,254	9.8	117.0
45-54 YEARS	1,718	13.4	151.6
55-64 YEARS	1,919	15.0	213.7
65-74 YEARS	1,795	14.0	320.6
75 YEARS AND OVER	1,299	10.1	458.8
FEMALE			
ALL AGES	19,266	100.0	180.9
UNDER 1 YEAR	243	1.3	161.3
1-4 YEARS	510	2.6	76.4
5-14 YEARS	947	4.9	49.7
15-24 YEARS	3,916	20.3	204.7
25-34 YEARS	3,507	18.2	244.2
35-44 YEARS	2,175	11.3	187.5
45-54 YEARS	2,235	11.6	182.5
55-64 YEARS	1,896	9.8	188.0
65-74 YEARS	1,931	10.0	264.9
75 YEARS AND OVER	1,907	9.9	417.0

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 1973 consisted of 497 hospitals, of which 31 were ruled out of scope of the 1973 survey because they failed to meet the definition of a short-stay hospital and of which 42 refused to participate. Estimates are based on a sample of about 225,000 abstracts from the remaining 424 hospitals that participated in 1973.

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 shown in table I. Within each of these 24 primary strata, the allocation of the hospitals was made through a controlled-selection technique so that hospitals in the sample would be properly distributed with regard to ownership and geographic division. Sample hospitals were drawn with probabilities ranging from certainty for the largest hospitals to 1 in 40 for the smallest hospitals.

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

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

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

Data Collection 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 1973, 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.

NOTE: The list of references follows the text.

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, 1973

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	128	118	63
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	61	10	16	24	11
100-199 beds					
Universe	1,224	288	392	365	179
Total sample	103	26	31	32	14
Number participating	91	26	26	25	14
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	84	23	28	24	9
500-999 beds					
Universe	135	45	48	29	13
Total sample	58	19	19	13	7
Number participating	51	15	17	12	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

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."

Figure I. Medical Abstract for the Hospital Discharge Survey.

HSM-68-1
9/70

Form Approved
O.M.B. No. 68-R0520

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 _____ _____ _____

Table II. Civilian noninstitutionalized population, by age and sex: United States, July 1, 1973

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

Age	Total	Male	Female
Total--------	205,836	99,307	106,529
0-14 years-----	55,559	28,313	27,246
Under 1 year-------	3,077	1,573	1,504
1-4 years----------	13,626	6,952	6,674
5-14 years---------	38,856	19,787	19,069
15-44 years----	87,342	42,253	45,088
15-24 years--------	37,245	18,117	19,127
25-34 years--------	27,770	13,410	14,360
35-44 years--------	22,327	10,726	11,601
45-64 years----	42,641	20,310	22,331
45-54 years--------	23,577	11,330	12,247
55-64 years--------	19,065	8,980	10,085
65 years and over----------	20,294	8,431	11,862
65-74 years--------	12,888	5,599	7,289
75 years and over--	7,405	2,832	4,573

Population Estimates

The base populations used in computing rates are unpublished estimates for the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population as of July 1973 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, sex, and geographic region (table III) are consistent with the estimates of the civilian population published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25. However, they are not official population estimates of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Estimates of the regional populations by age and sex were provided by the U.S. Bureau of the Census specifically for use in the HDS for computing rates.

General Qualifications

Rounding of numbers.—Estimates of the number of discharges and number of days of care were rounded to the nearest thousand for tabular presentation. Percents 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 1973 discharges. However, color was not stated for approximately 13 percent of the patients discharged

Table III. Civilian noninstitutionalized population, by sex, geographic region, and age: United States, July 1, 1973

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

Sex and geographic region	All ages	0-14 years	15-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Both sexes					
United States----------	205,836	55,559	87,342	42,641	20,294
Northeast----------	48,940	12,565	20,327	10,959	5,089
North Central----------	56,772	15,538	24,681	11,517	5,636
South----------	64,499	17,791	27,379	12,951	6,378
West----------	35,625	9,666	15,554	7,214	3,191
Male					
United States----------	99,307	28,313	42,253	20,310	8,431
Northeast----------	23,494	6,413	9,850	5,165	2,067
North Central----------	27,640	7,926	11,811	5,540	2,363
South----------	30,878	9,049	13,072	6,102	2,655
West----------	17,294	4,925	7,520	3,503	1,346
Female					
United States----------	106,529	27,246	45,088	22,331	11,862
Northeast----------	25,444	6,151	10,478	5,793	3,022
North Central----------	29,131	7,612	12,270	5,977	3,272
South----------	33,621	8,742	14,307	6,849	3,723
West----------	18,331	4,741	8,033	3,712	1,845

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 plus and minus one standard error of the estimate, 95 out of 100 for two standard errors, and 99 out of 100 for 2 1/2 standard errors. Applying the illustration at the bottom of figure II, the chances are about 68 out of 100 that the value that would be obtained in a complete enumeration is contained in the interval 4,243,000 ± 5.0 percent of 4,243,000 (between 4,030,850 and 4,455,150); 99 out of 100 for the interval 4,243,000 ± 5.0 percent of 4,243,000, 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 standard errors that would be applicable to a wide variety of statistics and that could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, figure II and tables IV and V provide general standard

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.

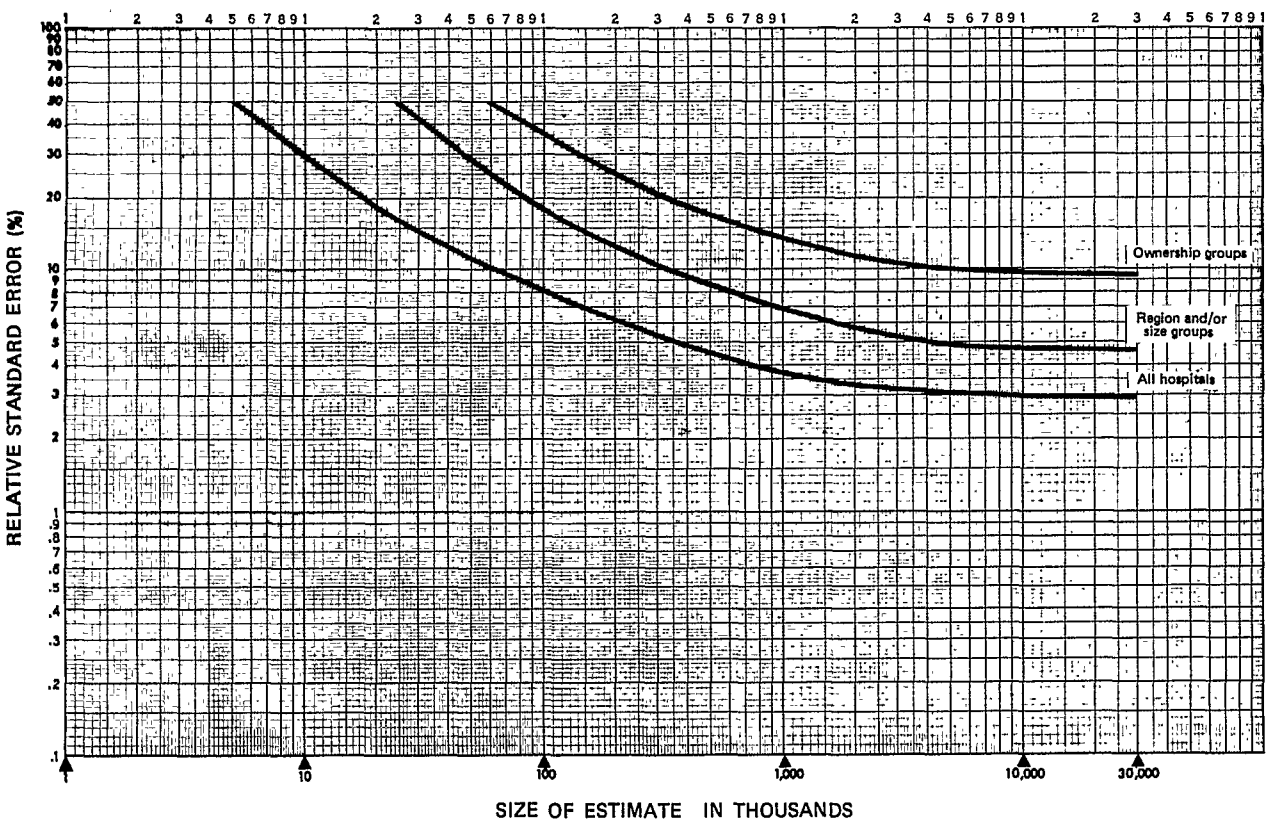


Illustration of use of figure II: As shown in table 2, an estimated 4,243,000 patients aged 15-44 years were discharged during 1973 within the South Region. The relative standard error of this estimate as read from the line "Region and/or size groups" is approximately 5.0 percent: the standard error of 4,243,000 is 212,150 (5.0 percent of 4,243,000).

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 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 $(\sigma_{\bar{R}'})$ of the average length of stay during 1973 for males aged 15-44 years for all hospitals is desired. The estimated number of discharges for this statistic is 3,873,000 (table 1) and the estimated number of days of care is 26,337,000 (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, type of ownership, and for all hospitals.

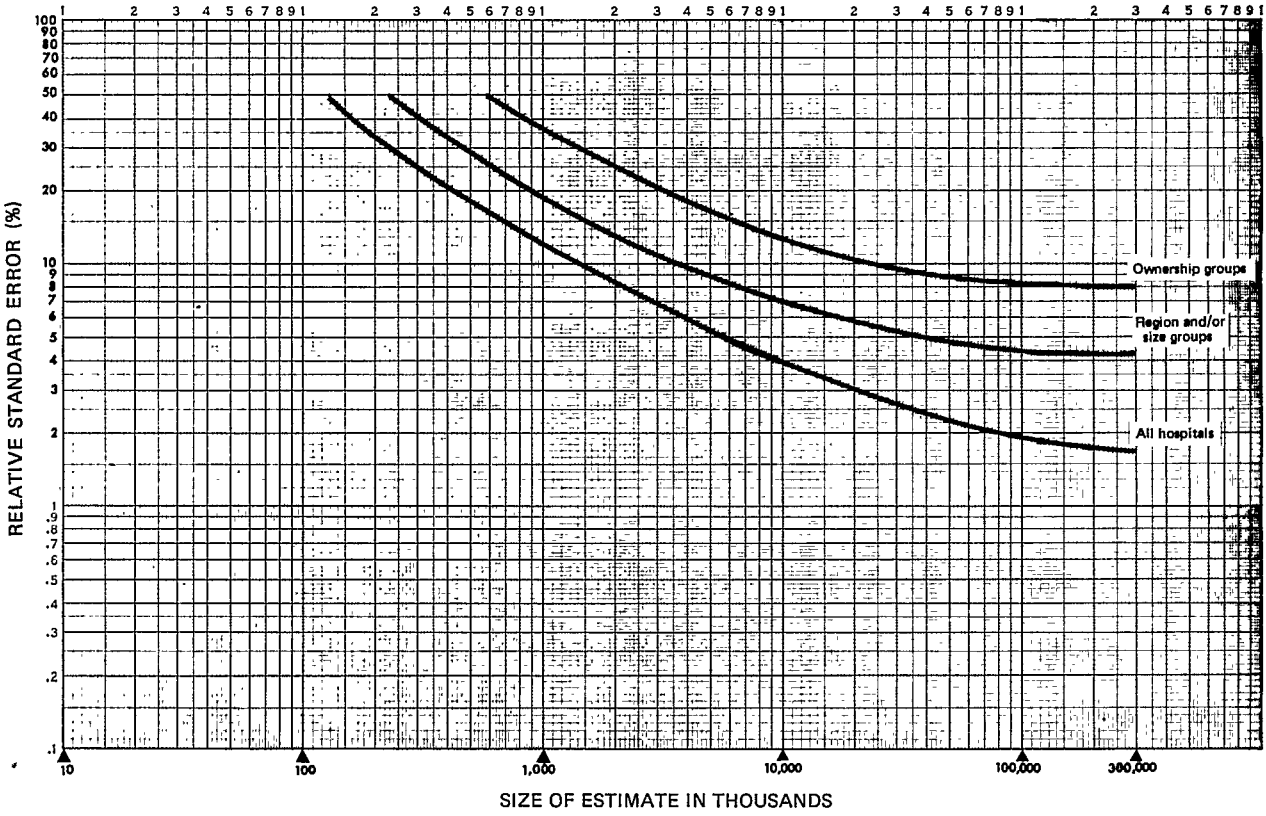


Illustration of use of figure III: As shown in table 14, an estimated 4,758,000 days of care during 1973 were provided to patients aged 15-44 years in proprietary hospitals. The relative standard error of this estimate as read from the line "Ownership groups" is approximately 17.0 percent: the standard error is 808,860 (17.0 percent of 4,758,000).

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 1 shows that 29.3 percent of the 9,899,000 white male patients discharged during 1973 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 29.3 percent with a base of 9,899,000.

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

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

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

Illustration of use of table V: Table 12 shows that of the 24,655,000 days of care provided for males discharged during 1973 from hospitals with 500 beds or more, 27.4 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 27.4 percent with a base of 24,655,000.

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

$$= \frac{X'}{Y'} = \frac{26,337,000}{3,873,000} = 6.8 \textit{ days.}$$

The relative standard error $(V_{X'})$ of 26,337,000 (from all hospitals curve in figure III) is 2.9 percent or .029; $V_{X'}^2 = .029^2$. The relative standard error $(V_{Y'})$ of 3,873,000 (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.

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

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

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

$$= .00046$$

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

$$\sigma_{R'} = R'V_{R'} = 6.8 \times .0214 = 0.15 \textit{ days.}$$

———— ○○○ ————

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 1973 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 1973. 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 1973 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.

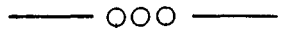
Demographic Terms

Age.—Refers to age at last birthday prior to admission to the hospital inpatient service. (Newborn infants are not included.)

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



☆U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1976—210-981:49

VITAL AND HEALTH STATISTICS PUBLICATIONS SERIES

Formerly Public Health Service Publication No. 1000

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

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

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

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

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

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

Series 12. Data from the Institutionalized Population Surveys.—Discontinued effective 1975. Future reports from these surveys will be in Series 13.

Series 13. Data on Health Resources Utilization.—Statistics on the utilization of health manpower and facilities providing long-term care, ambulatory care, hospital care, and family planning services.

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

Series 20. Data on Mortality.—Various statistics on mortality other than as included in regular annual or monthly reports. Special analyses by cause of death, age, and other demographic variables; geographic and time series analyses; and statistics on characteristics of deaths not available from the vital records, based on sample surveys of those records.

Series 21. Data on Natality, Marriage, and Divorce.—Various statistics on natality, marriage, and divorce other than as included in regular annual or monthly reports. Special analyses by demographic variables; geographic and time series analyses; studies of fertility; and statistics on characteristics of births not available from the vital records, based on sample surveys of those records.

Series 22. Data from the National Mortality and Natality Surveys.—Discontinued effective 1975. Future reports from these sample surveys based on vital records will be included in Series 20 and 21, respectively.

Series 23. Data from the National Survey of Family Growth.—Statistics on fertility, family formation and dissolution, family planning, and related maternal and infant health topics derived from a biennial survey of a nationwide probability sample of ever-married women 15-44 years of age.

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

Scientific and Technical Information Branch
National Center for Health Statistics
Public Health Service, HRA
Rockville, Md. 20852

DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 76-1774
Series 13-No. 23

NCHS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service
Health Resources Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Md. 20852

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for Private Use, $300

For information about the
Vital and Health Statistics
Series call 301-443-NCHS.

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEW

HEW 390

THIRD CLASS
BLK. RATE

U.S.MAIL