

# National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey

## ABOUT NAMCS

The National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) produces statistics that represent the experience of the U.S. population at visits to office-based physicians. The survey provides information on office visits in terms of physician practice, patient, and visit characteristics.

## PSYCHIATRY

During 2014–2015, an estimated **44 million visits per year** were made to nonfederally employed, office-based physicians specializing in psychiatry in the United States. More than one-half of the visits were by persons aged 45 and under.

## CONTACT US

Ambulatory and Hospital Care  
Statistics Branch:

301-458-4600

[https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/namcs\\_participant.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/namcs_participant.htm)



## MAJOR REASON FOR VISIT

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| CHRONIC PROBLEM, ROUTINE  | 75% |
| CHRONIC PROBLEM, FLARE-UP | 10% |
| NEW PROBLEM               | 10% |

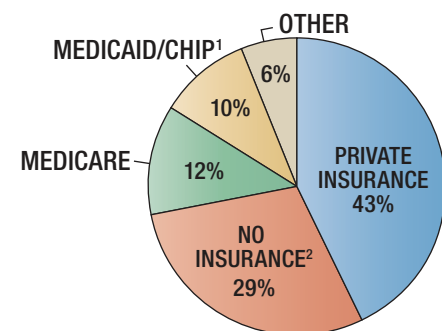
## PATIENTS' TOP 4 REASONS FOR VISIT

- DEPRESSION
- ANXIETY AND NERVOUSNESS
- PROGRESS VISIT
- MEDICATION

## TOP 5 DIAGNOSES

- DEPRESSIVE DISORDER
- ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER
- MAJOR DEPRESSIVE DISORDER, SINGLE EPISODE
- MANIC DEPRESSIVE PSYCHOSIS
- GENERAL ANXIETY DISORDER

## EXPECTED SOURCE OF PAYMENT



<sup>1</sup>Children's Health Insurance Program.

<sup>2</sup>Having only self-pay, no charge, or charity visits as payment sources.

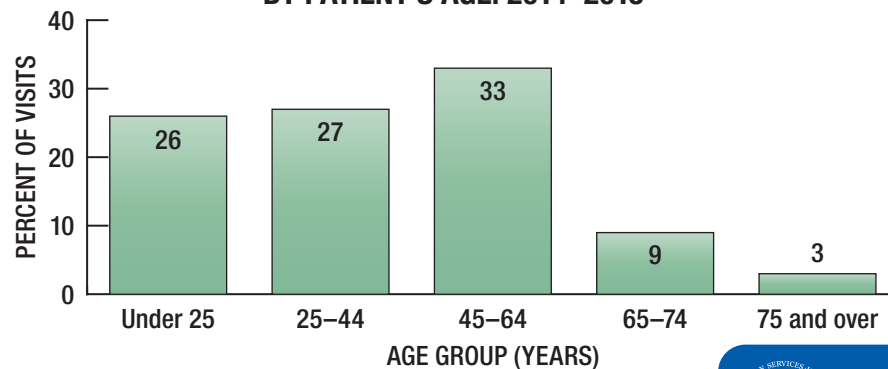
MEDICATIONS WERE PRESCRIBED OR CONTINUED AT **85%** OF OFFICE VISITS.

## TOP 5 ACTIVE INGREDIENTS

- BUPROPION
- FLUOXETINE
- CLONAZEPAM
- AMPHETAMINE/ DEXTROAMPHETAMINE
- TRAZODONE



PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PSYCHIATRY OFFICE VISITS, BY PATIENT'S AGE: 2014–2015



NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Psychiatry Fact Sheet *from the*

# National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey

**NAMCS data are widely used in research studies appearing in nationally recognized medical journals. Below is a selection of psychiatric articles in recent publications citing NAMCS data:**

Bhattacharjee S, Vadieli N, Goldstone L, Alrabiah Z, Sherman SJ. **Patterns and predictors of depression treatment among older adults with Parkinson's disease and depression in ambulatory care settings in the United States.** *Parkinson's Dis* 2018;34(2):2983. 2018.

Keller AO, Hooker RS, Jacobs EA. **Visits for depression to physician assistants and nurse practitioners in the USA.** *J Behav Health Serv Res* 45(2):310–9. 2018.

Mojtabai R, Olfson M. **Management of common medical conditions by office-based psychiatrists.** *Psychiatr Serv* 69(4):410–23. 2018.

Safer DJ, Rajakannan T, Burcu M, Zito JM. **Trends in subthreshold psychiatric diagnoses for youth in community treatment.** *JAMA Psychiatry* 72(1):75–83. 2015.

Maust DT, Oslin DW, Marcus SC. **Effect of age on the profile of psychotropic users: Results from the 2010 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey.** *J Am Geriatr Soc* 62(2):358–64. 2014.

Patel SR, Humensky JL, Olfson M, Simpson HB, Myers R, Dixon LB. **Treatment of obsessive-compulsive disorder in a nationwide survey of office-based physician practice.** *Psychiatr Serv* 65(5):681–4. 2014.

Stensland MD, Netzer LM. **Outpatient visits for schizophrenia in the United States: A nationally representative analysis using NAMCS and NHAMCS data.** *Value Health* 16(3):A203–4. 2013.

Netzer LM, Stensland MD. **Outpatient treatment patterns for schizophrenia in the United States: a nationally representative analysis using NAMCS and NHAMCS data.** *Value Health* 16(3):A67. 2013.

Tran AR, Zito JM, Safer DJ, Hundley SD. **National trends in pediatric use of anticonvulsants.** *Psychiatr Serv* 63(11):1095–101. 2012.

Payne TJ, Chen CI, Baker CL, Shah SN, Pashos CL, Boulanger L. **National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: Tobacco intervention practices in outpatient clinics.** *Psychol Addict Behav* 26(3):644–8. 2012.

A complete list of publications using NAMCS data, which includes articles and reports, can be found at: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd\\_products.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd_products.htm).

